



#### Talk at Entropia/CCC Karlsruhe, 01. Mar. 2009

## Thoughts and Experiments about **Privacy 2.0: Towards Collaborative Data-Privacy Protection**

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#### **Universität Karlsruhe (TH)** Forschungsuniversität • gegründet 1825

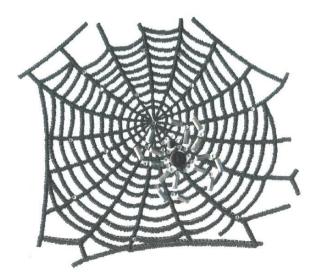
# Outline

- Motivation
- Our vision: Web2.0 for privacy protection
- Realization issues
- Call for Study Volunteers

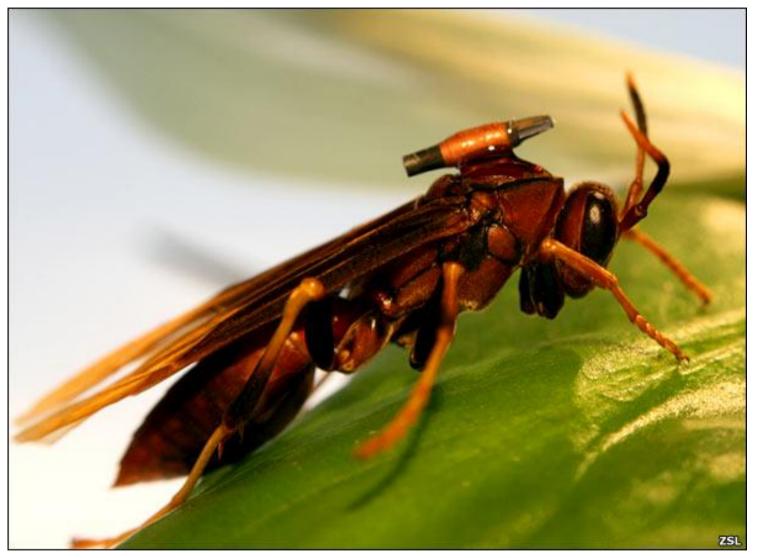


#### **Classical Data-Privacy Protection**

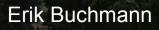
- Two historical building blocks:
  - protect the citicen from the gouvernment
    - right of free speech is meaningless if gouvernment can trace (and punish) the speaker
      - $\rightarrow$  privacy protection is important for democracy
  - protect the customer from private enterprises
    - problem: customer can be remotely controlled if his deepest wishes, intentions and needs are known
       → privacy protection is consumer protection



#### **Today: New Challenges**



Wasp with RFID-Tag, Picture: Zoological Society of London





#### What has Changed?

- Omnipresent, personalized IT devices and applications penetrate our daily lives
  - Sensor Networks
  - Ubiquitous Computing
  - Location-based Services
  - RFID

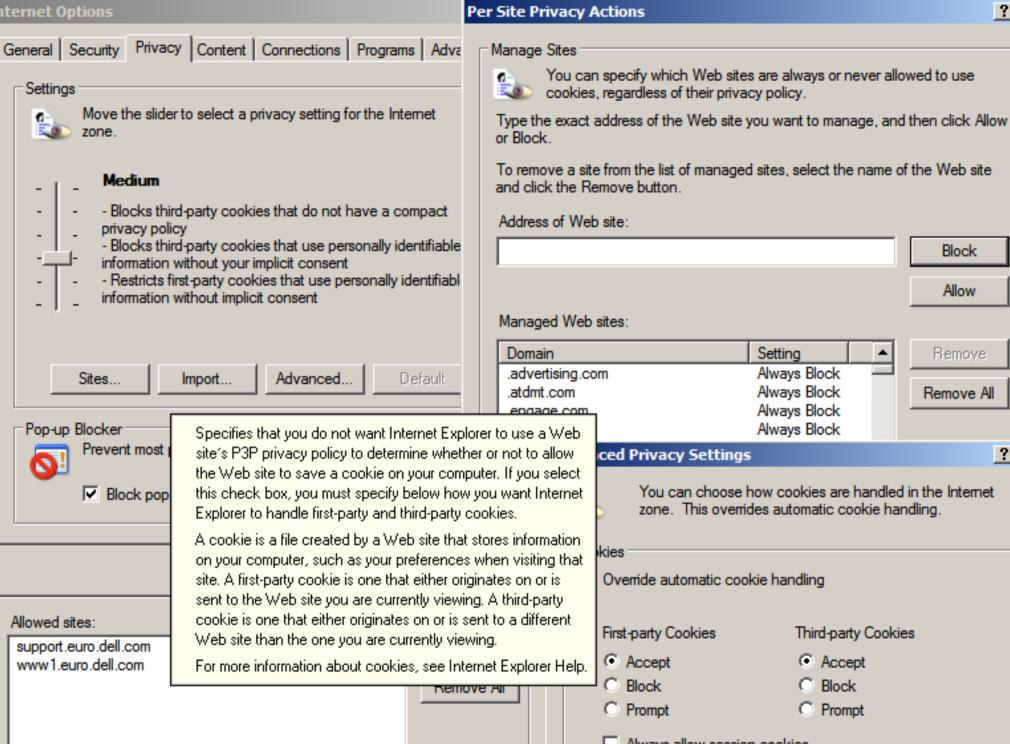


- Increasing complexity of IT infrastructure
- Loss of privacy as unavoidable secondary effect
- People disclose data voluntarily/unintentionally
- Personal information with an amazing level of detail

# Existing Approaches for Privacy Protection

- Laws and regulations EU directives (95/46/EC et al.), national laws
  - e.g., german law has ~1,500 regulations, vague terms  $\rightarrow$  execution is challenging
- Self-regulation Safe Harbor, Privacy Code of Conduct, Trust-Seals
  - many intransparent approaches
     → too nebulous for many users
- Privacy enhancement technologies P3P, Spatio-temporal Cloaking, TOR-Networks
  - − complex, isolated technologies for different protocols
     → impossible to realize consistent privacy goals

#### ? ×



Block Allow Settina Remove Always Block Always Block Remove All Always Block Always Block ? X You can choose how cookies are handled in the Internet zone. This overrides automatic cookie handling. Override automatic cookie handling Third-party Cookies Accept Block O Prompt

Always allow session cookies



#### What is Needed Tomorrow?

- Holistic Approaches
  - it must be possible to realize privacy goals across the borders of technologies and protocols
- Social Standards
  - ethics about handling private data disclosed voluntarily
- Compatibility with Ubiquitous Computing
  - approaches must not consume much user attention
- Transparency
  - any flows of personal data must be traceable
- Simple use
  - users don't want to bother technological details

# Our Vision: Web2.0 Technology for Privacy

- Users provide tags for potential privacy threats in a folksonomy
  - many people observe the data collectors
  - simple use
  - best-effort-approach
- "Proximity Alarm" when privacy is in danger
  - "collective intelligence" evaluates privacy threats
  - user receives a warning when his awareness is required



#### What can we Tag?

#### Locations

 malls using RFID technology but don't kill the tags



- hidden surveillance cameras
- road toll stations where license plates are scanned

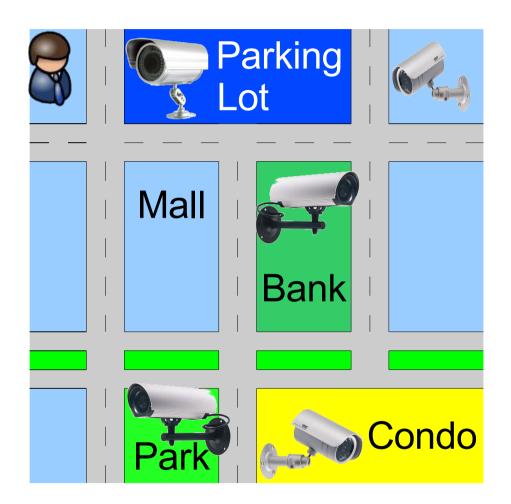
#### URLs in the Internet

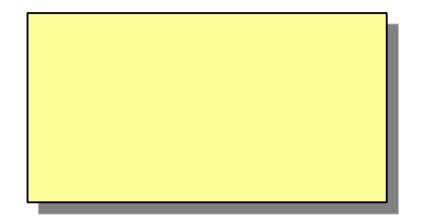
- search engines with improper data handling practices
- social sites where personal information are displayed

#### Physical items equipped with RFID labels

- networked Ubicomp devices that monitor the user without his explicit consent
- personalized identification cards with RFID tags inside

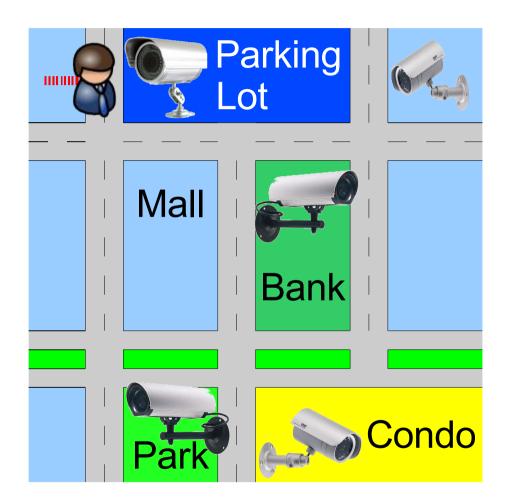


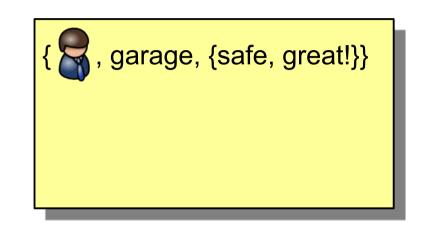




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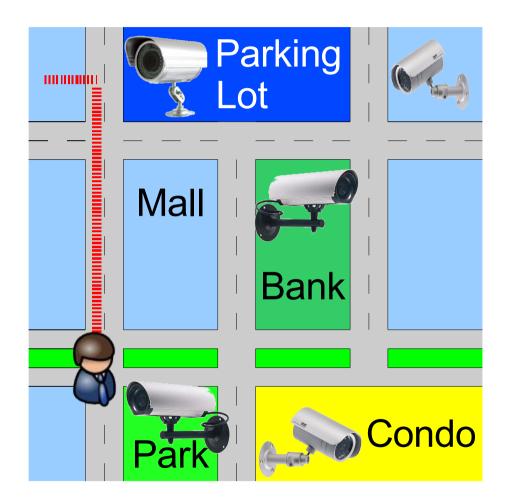


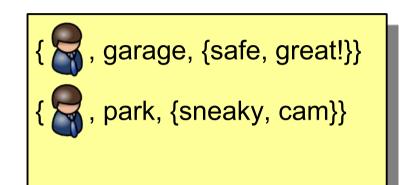




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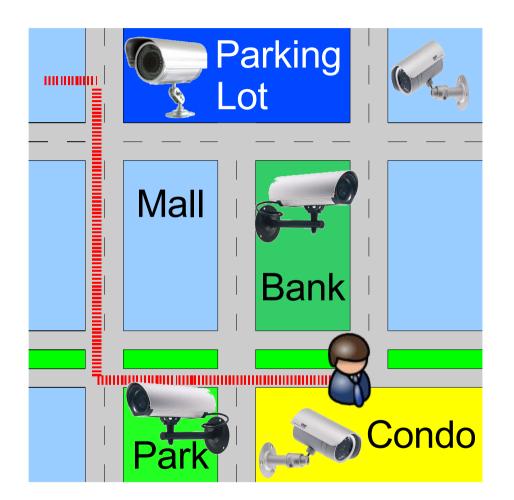


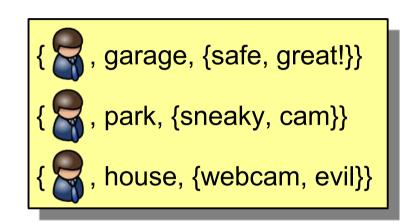




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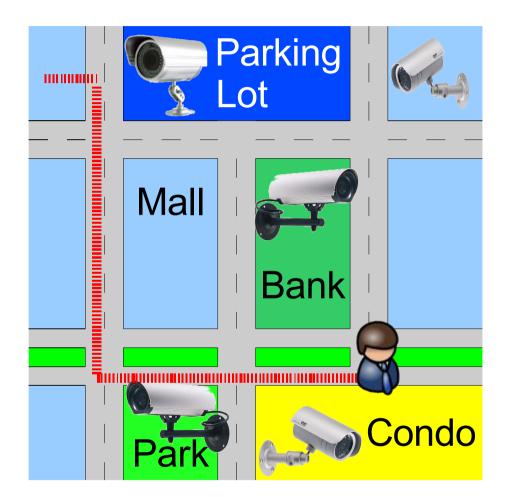


### The Folksonomy of Privacy Tags

- Folksonomy contains tags from many users
  - uncritical items, urls or locations remain untagged: folksonomy converges against social standards
  - community **prevents misuse**, e.g., spoof tags
- <tag, user, object> tuples allow to evaluate
  - user preferences: tags, objects from one user
  - quality of a threat: semantic of the tags related to one object
  - similar threats: related objects, objects connected over similar tags
- Our goal: inform the user if he has to consider threats



#### **Proximity Alarm**

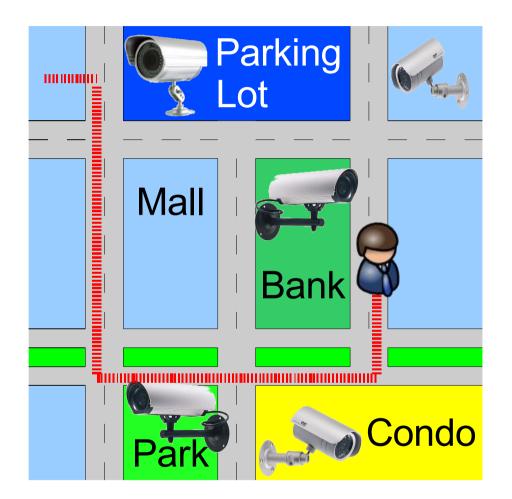




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#### **Proximity Alarm**

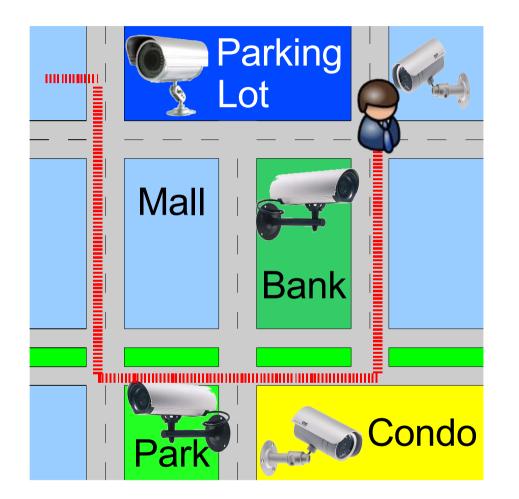




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#### **Proximity Alarm**





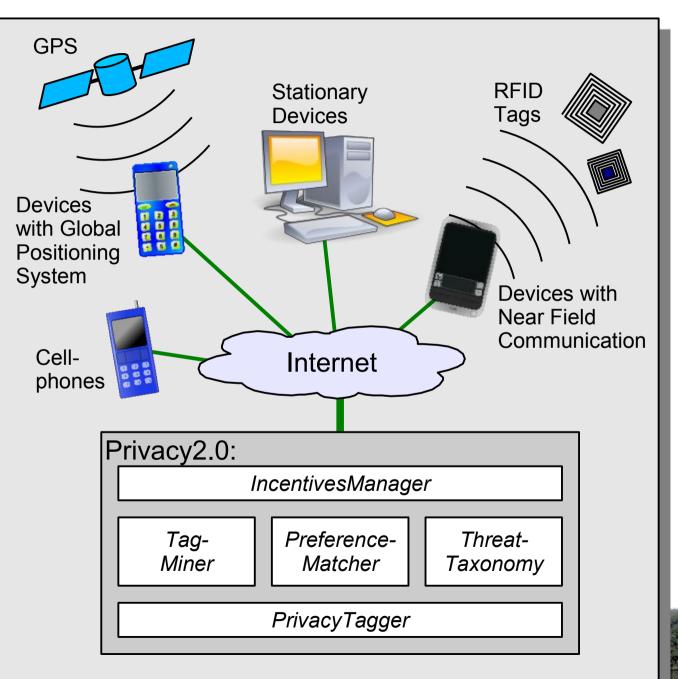
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#### How Does it Work?

#### 1. Collecting tags

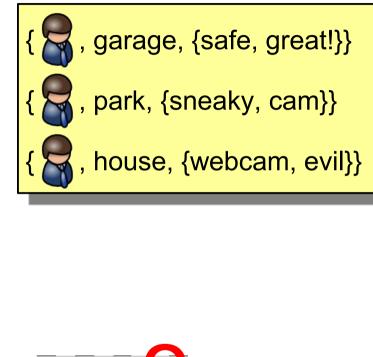
#### 2. Evaluating threats

- identify similar objects
- identify tag semantics
- identify similar users
- if similar users find similar objects threatening, alert the user





# **Evaluating a Query**

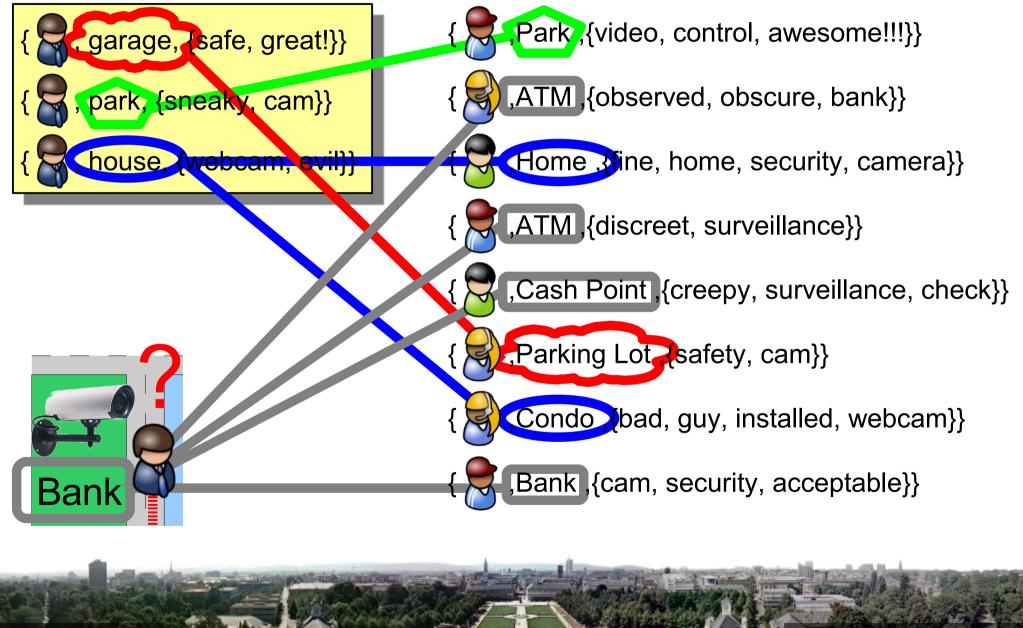




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- ,Park ,{video, control, awesome!!!}}
- ATM ,{observed, obscure, bank}}
- ,Home ,{fine, home, security, camera}}
- ,ATM ,{discreet, surveillance}}
- ,Cash Point ,{creepy, surveillance, check}}
- Parking Lot ,{safety, cam}},
- ,Condo ,{bad, guy, installed, webcam}}
  - Bank ,{cam, security, acceptable}}

## 1. Identifying Similar Objects



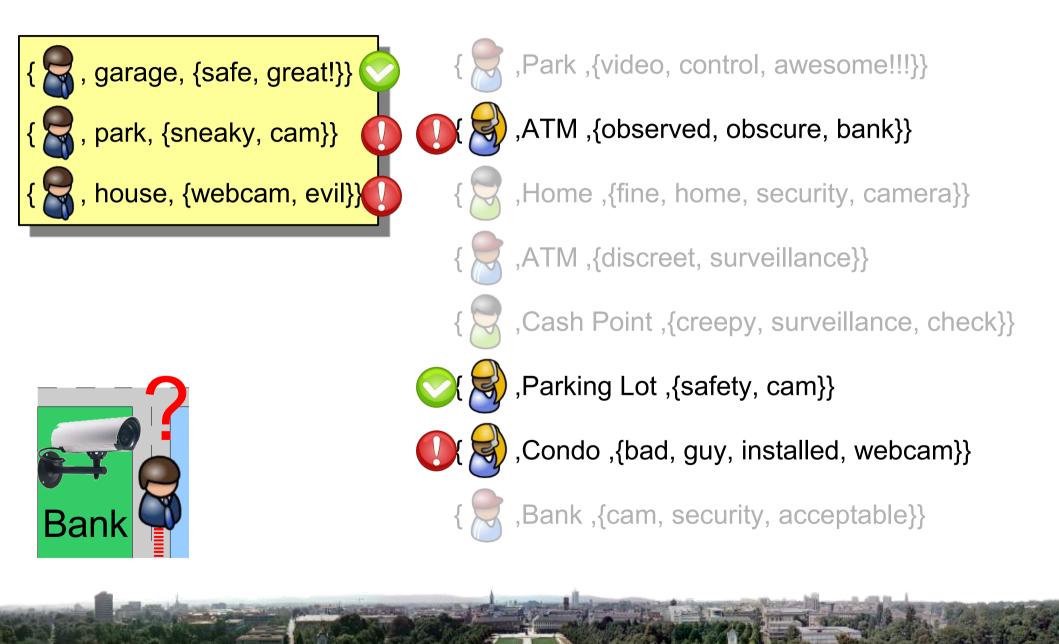
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# 2. Identifying Tag Semantics

,Park ,{video, control, awesome!!!}} , garage, {safe, great!}} ATM ,{observed, obscure, bank}} park, {sneaky, cam}} , house, {webcam, evil}} ,Home ,{fine, home, security, camera}} ,ATM ,{discreet, surveillance}} ,Cash Point ,{creepy, surveillance, check}} Parking Lot ,{safety, cam}} [] (Condo ,{bad, guy, installed, webcam}] ,Bank ,{cam, security, acceptable}} Bank

# 3. Identifying Similar Users

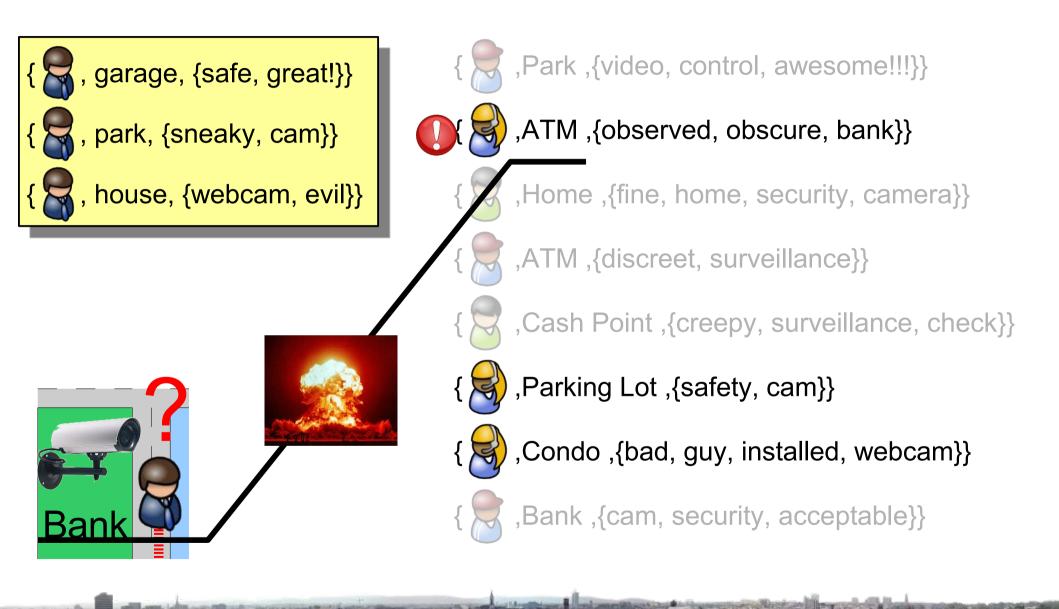


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### 4. Come to a Descision



## A Vision With Many Open Challenges

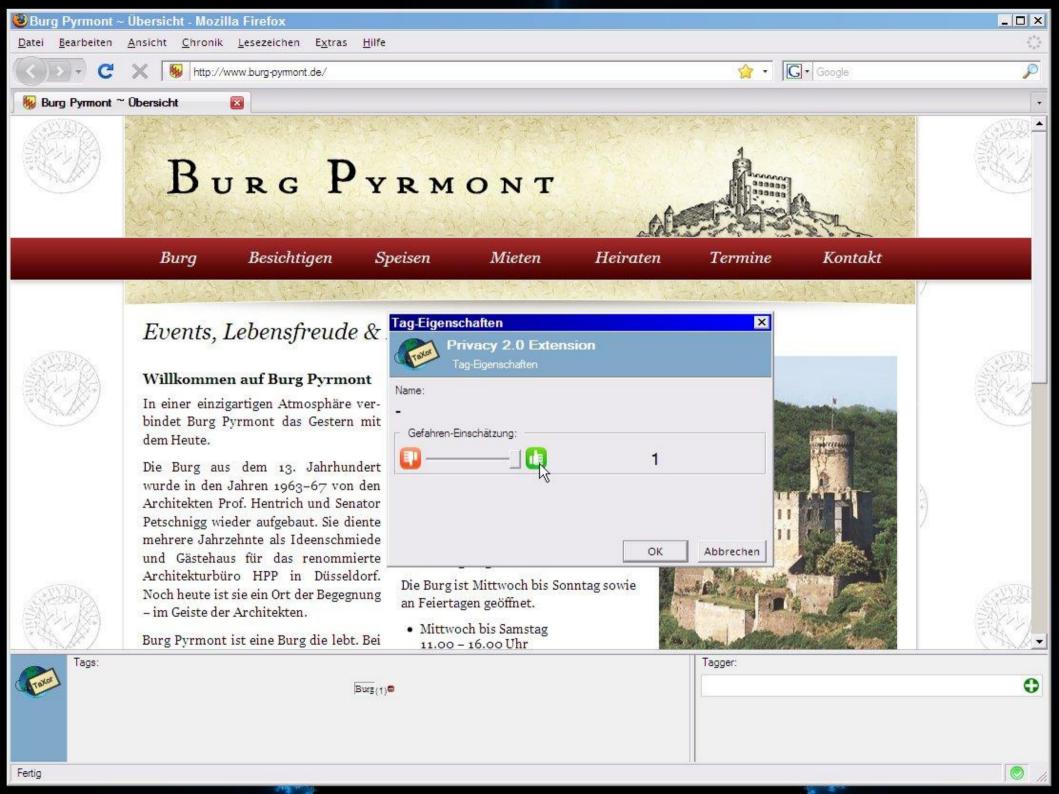
- Legal aspects
  - slander, gossip, opinions without reason
    - cf. eBay reviews: many existing lawsuits
- Social issues
  - interactions of many people
    - representativeness, amplification of misjudges?
  - vulnerability against misuse?
    - existing Web2.0 approaches work fine
- Technical aspects
  - Does the system induce new privacy threats?
    - obviously yes, but we think the benefits outweigh
  - how to implement the system, performance issues

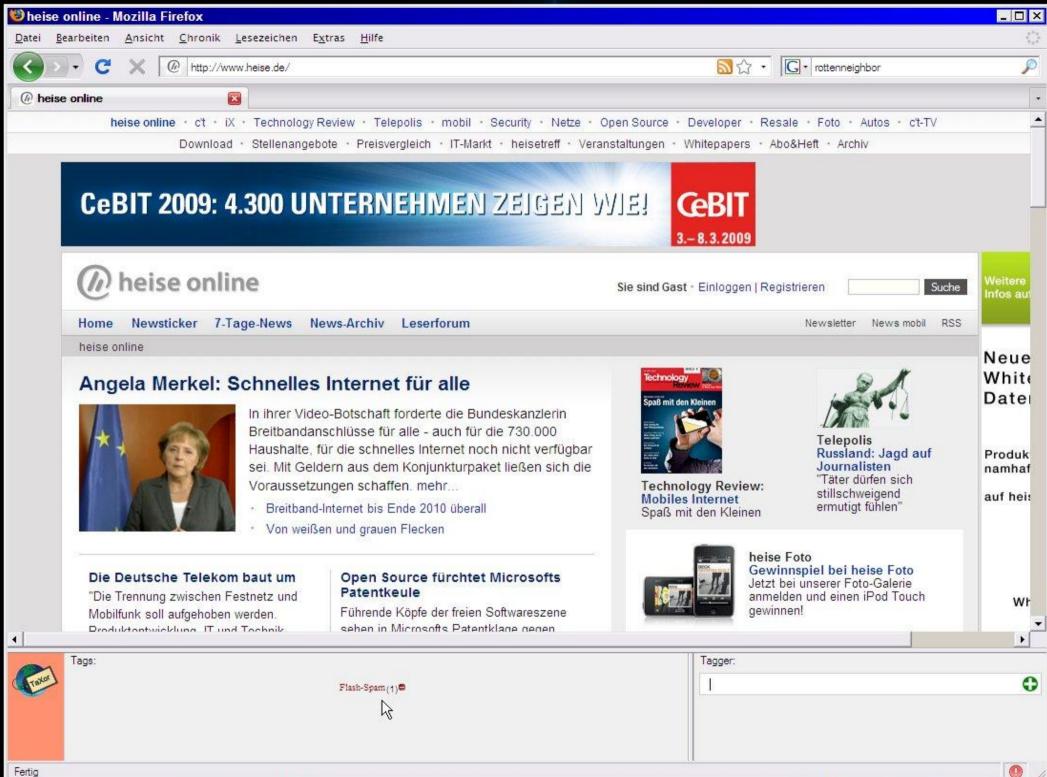


#### **Evaluation by User Studies**

- We have implemented
  - a TaXor server that allows to assign tags to URLs
  - a Firefox 3 plugin which connects to the TaXor server
- We want to know
  - how do people perceive our approach?
  - which kind of tags will be generated on privacy-relevant issues?
  - is the approach generally considered helpful w.r.t. privacy?
- On the following slides: screenshots of our plugin

🕲 TaXor :: Login - Mo	ozilla Firefox	_ D ×
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Cor c x	K 💽 http://localhost:8080/taxor/login!input?login=	G * Google
C TaXor :: Login		
	ALPHA TaXor di	
Login	Java Quick Starter 1.0 JavaScript Debugger 0.9.87.4	
Logir	in-Name:	
	Passwort: JSONovich 0.9.2 Pretty prints JSON content. Uses json2.js to parse the JSON and google-code-prettify to	
TaXor Version 0.9 alph	TaXor Privacy2.0 0.1         This extension allows to tag web sites and offers privacy enhancing technologies calculated using folksonomy data.         Einstellungen       Deaktivieren         wha (Build 55	







#### Conclusion

- Integration of future technologies into the everyday life requres holistic, simple approaches that reflect social standards
- Vision: Web2.0 technologies for data privacy protection
  - community observes violations against privacy
  - best-effort approach, tags consider things of interest
  - ubicomp-compatible approach requires user awareness if necessary only
- Evaluation by user studies:
  - Please register at http://experiments.ipd.uka.de



#### References

- Referee: Dr.-Ing. Erik Buchmann, Uni Karlsruhe (TH), IPD, Lehrstuhl f
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  - http://www.erikbuchmann.de
- Project Homepage
  - http://taxor.ipd.uka.de
- Experiment Homepage
  - http://experiments.ipd.uka.de
- Literature
  - Erik Buchmann, Klemens Böhm, and Oliver Raabe.
     Privacy2.0: Towards Collaborative Data-Privacy
     Protection. In Proceedings of the IFIPTM'08, 2008.