

# spamHINTS (and some more)

**Dr Richard Clayton**

**joint work with Tyler Moore**

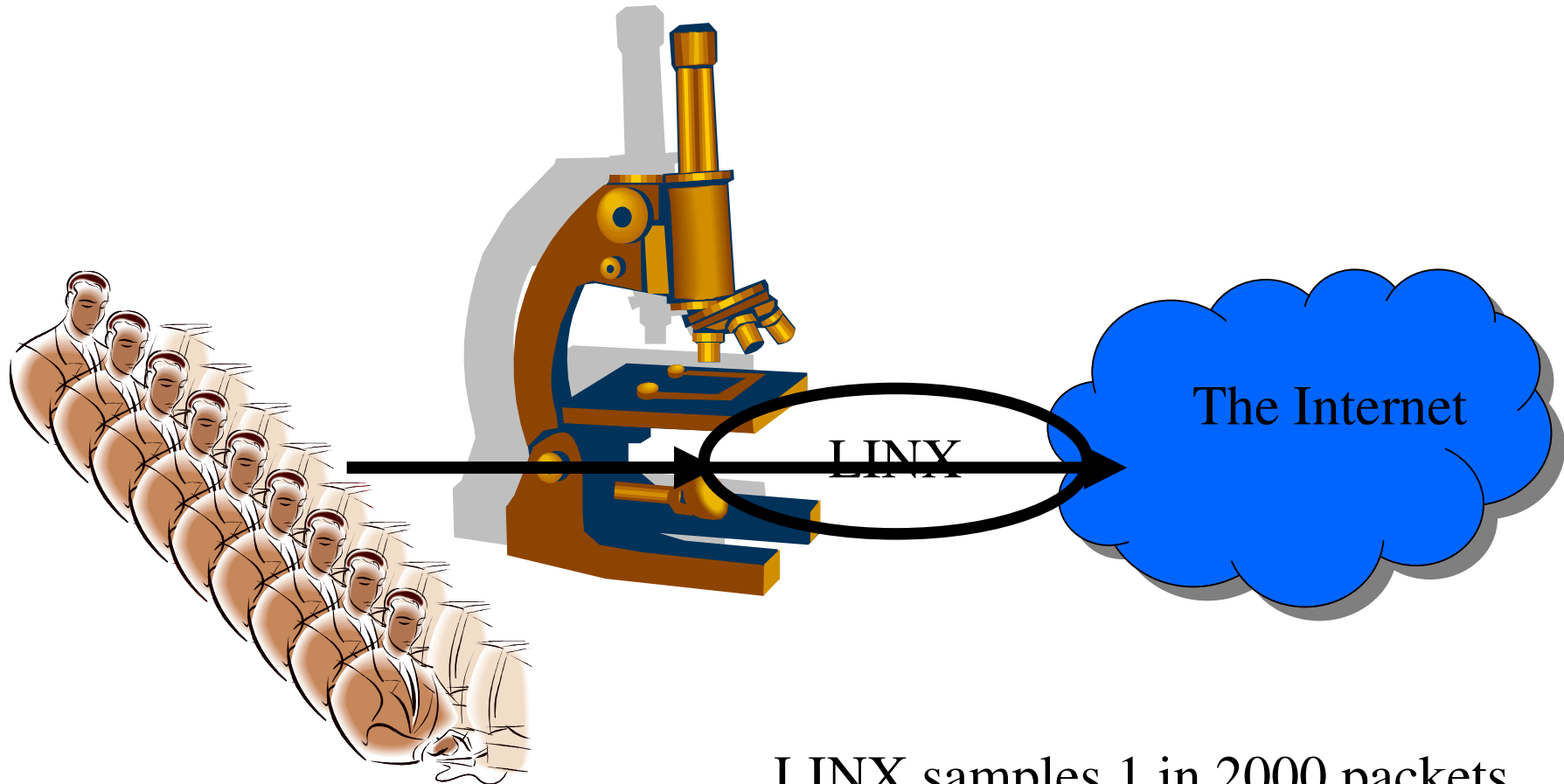


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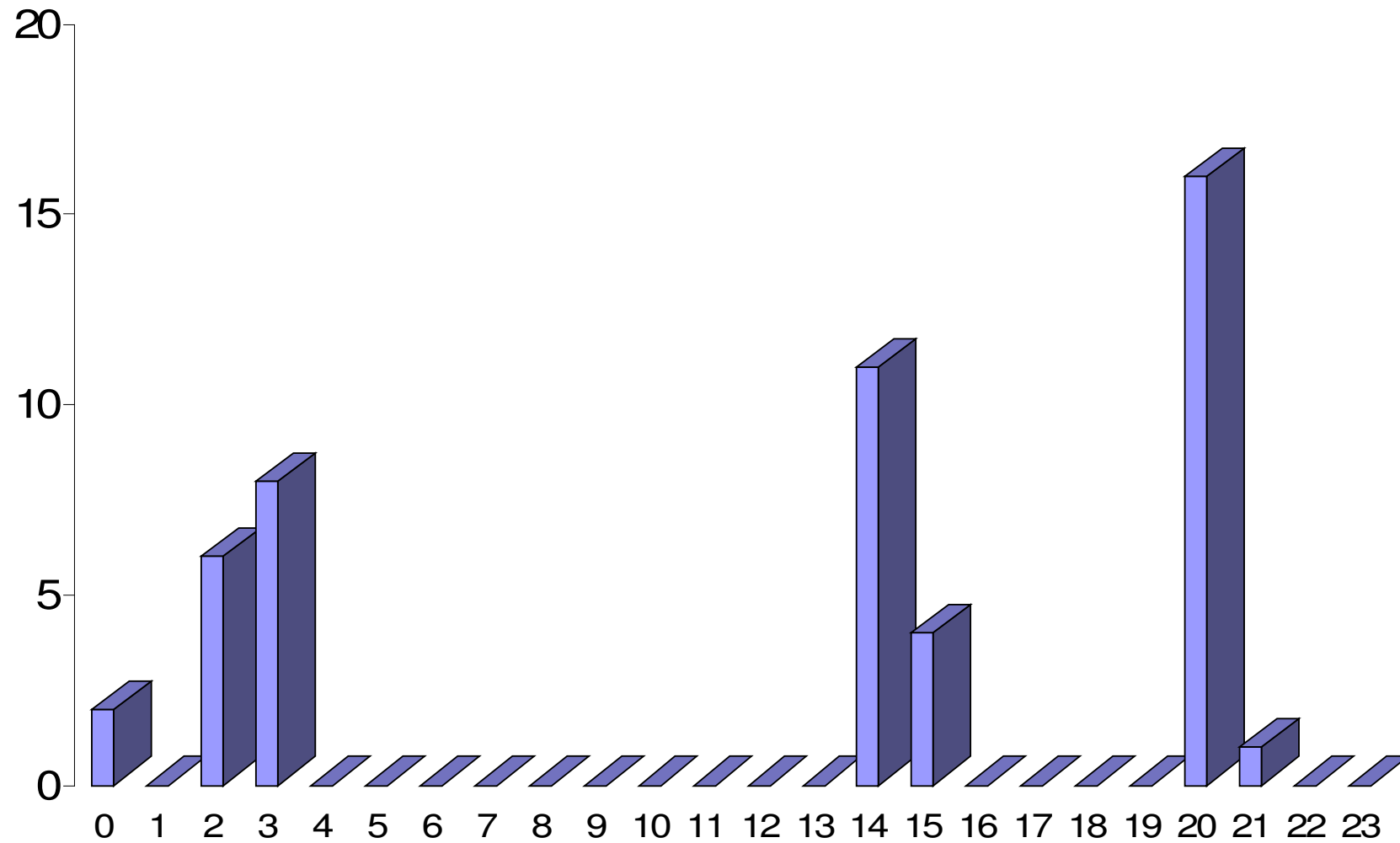
LINX 58  
21<sup>st</sup> August 2007

# spamHINTS research project

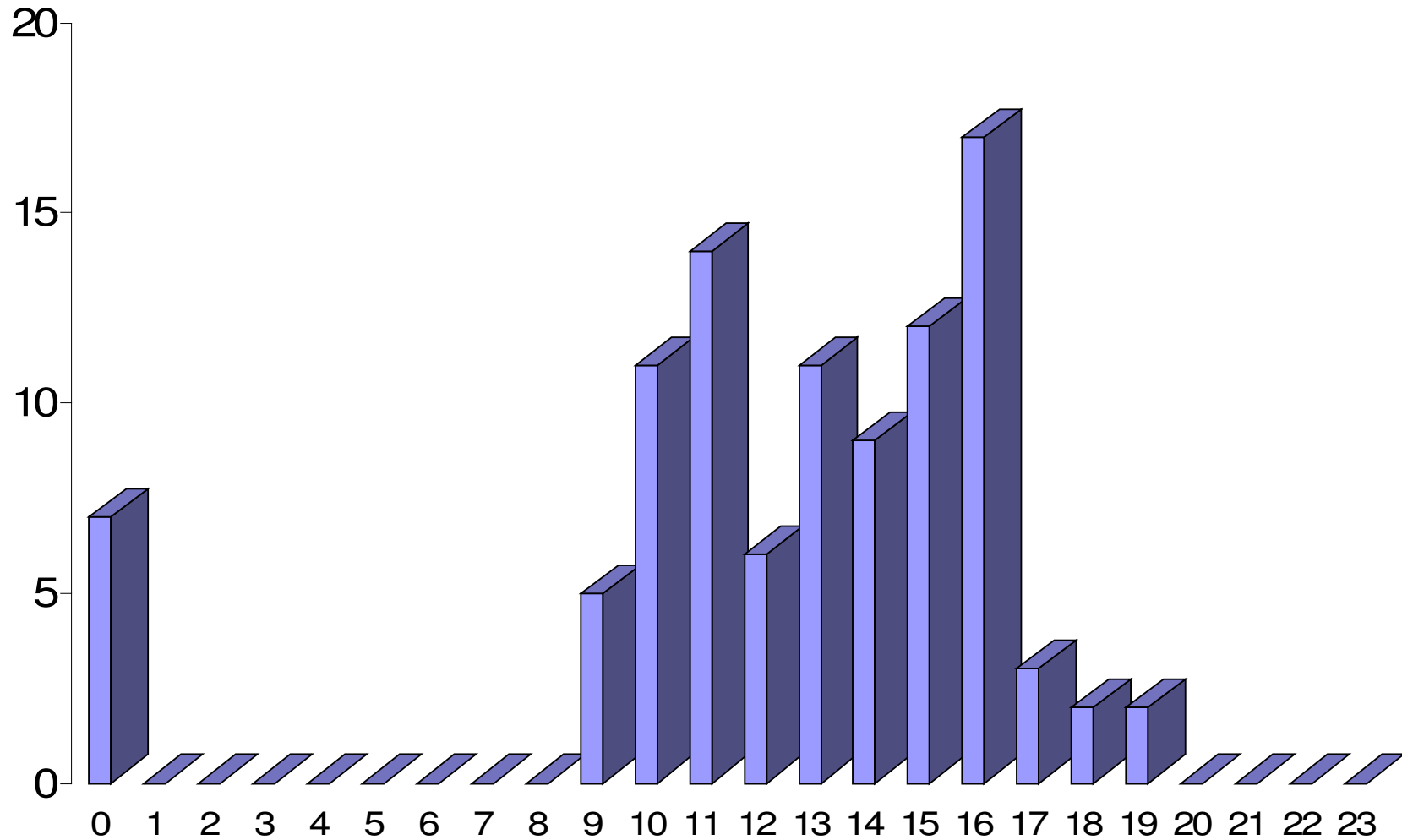


LINX samples 1 in 2000 packets  
(using sFlow) and makes the port 25  
traffic available for analysis...

# Known “open server”

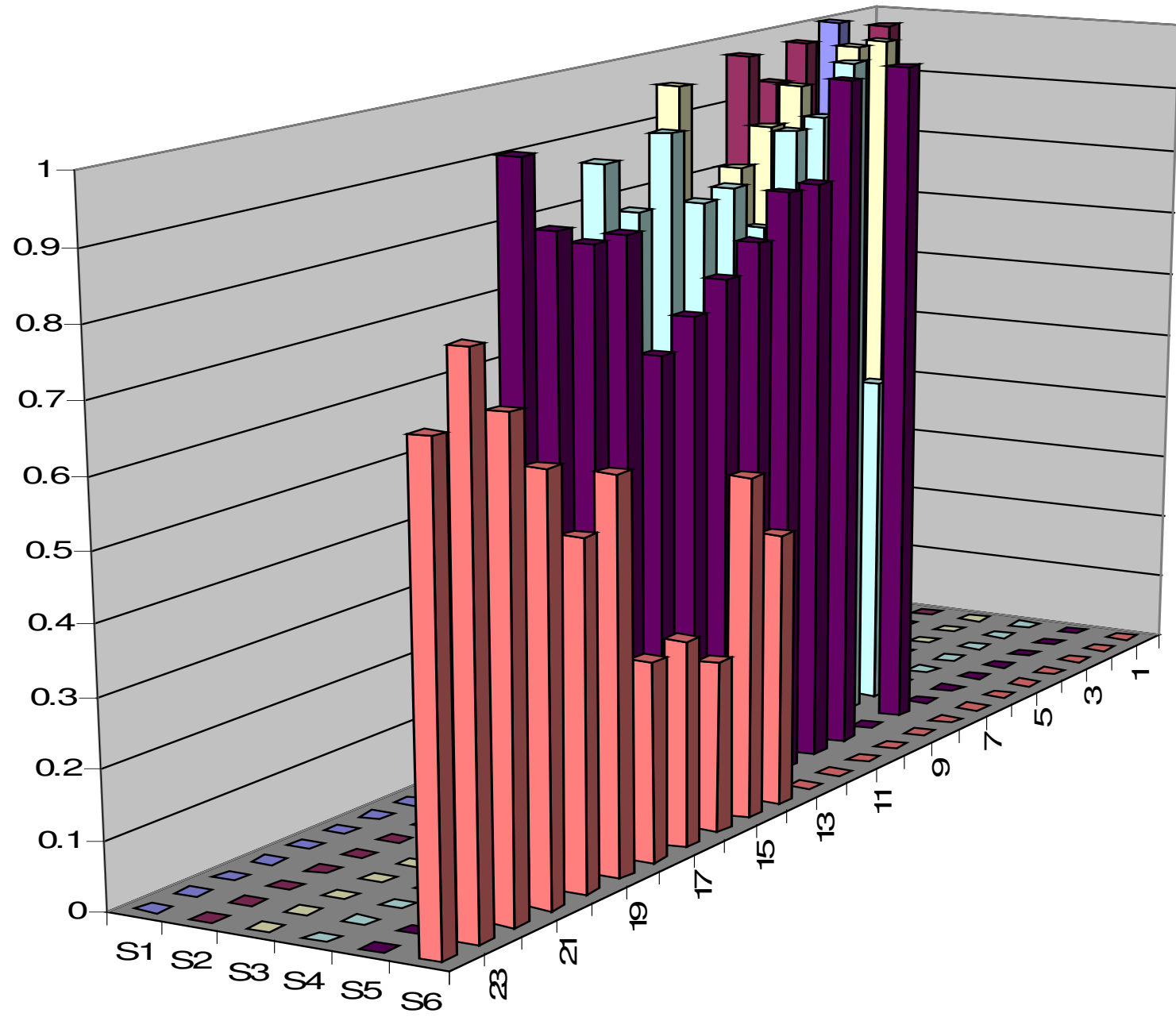


# Another known “open server”

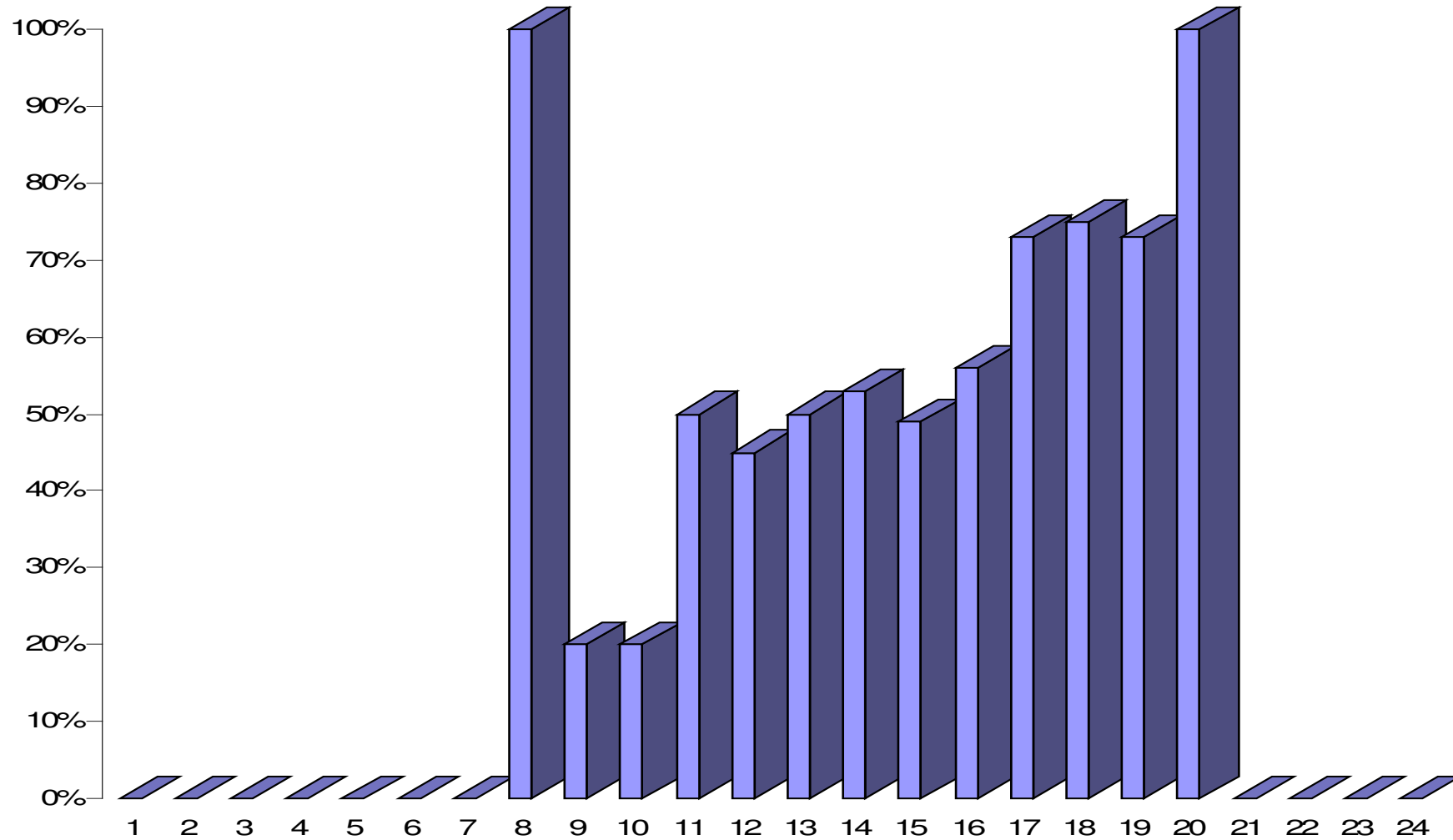


# Look for excessive variation

- Look at number of hours active compared with number of four hour blocks active
- Use incoming email to Demon to pick out senders of spam and hence annotate them as good or bad...
- ... did this for a large ISP, but problem is that “if it sends, it’s bad”. Nevertheless...



# Spamminess vs hours of activity for IPs active in 5 of 6 possible 4 hour periods



# Work continues...

- sFlow data will always be useful to feed back ongoing activity to abuse teams
- Analysis may improve when both rings instrumented and data processed in real-time (so can compare historic data)
- Still to consider variations (and lack of variations) in destination as well as time



## ... and some more

- This year have looked at phishing websites and the effectiveness of “take-down” regimes
  - not worrying about lawfulness, paperwork etc, but just whether take-down actually occurs
- Has led to a well-regarded paper written with Tyler Moore (Cambridge grad student)
- Starting to look at related wickedness which pose interesting challenges for abuse@ teams

# Types of phishing website

- Misleading domain name

`http://www.banckname.com/`

`http://www.bankname.xtrasecuresite.com/`

- Insecure end user

`http://www.example.com/~user/www.bankname.com/`

- Insecure machine

`http://www.example.com/bankname/login/`

`http://49320.0401/bankname/login/`

- Free web hosting

`http://www.bank.com.freespacesitename.com/`

# Rock-phish is different!

- Compromised machines run a proxy
- Domains do not infringe trademarks
  - name servers usually done in similar style
- Distinctive URL style  
`http://session9999.bank.com.1of80.info/signon/`
- Some usage of “fast-flux” from Feb’07 onwards
  - viz: resolving to 5 (or 10...) IP addresses at once

# Fast-flux

- Domains mapping changes every few minutes
- Usually multiple machines (for resilience)

```
$ dig www.platinway-inc.org
```

```
;; ANSWER SECTION:
```

```
www.platinway-inc.org. 3M IN A      83.144.106.80
www.platinway-inc.org. 3M IN A      84.121.235.215
www.platinway-inc.org. 3M IN A      163.121.136.75
www.platinway-inc.org. 3M IN A      58.106.156.48
www.platinway-inc.org. 3M IN A      59.150.200.85
```

# Double fast-flux

- Name server(s) also moves around
- Difficult to persuade registrars of this

**;; AUTHORITY SECTION:**

`diazate.com. 5M IN NS ns0.chitionkdetunlionpsa.com.`

`diazate.com. 5M IN NS ns0.gedsactunjerion.com.`

`diazate.com. 5M IN NS ns0.fionkunjerunhedase.com.`

`diazate.com. 5M IN NS ns0.piotiongandesunkdes.com.`

<b>Phishing website lifetimes (hours)</b>	<b># sites (8 weeks)</b>	<b>Mean lifetime</b>	<b>Median lifetime</b>
Non-rock	1695	62	20
Rock-phish domains	421	95	55
Rock-phish IP addresses	125	172	26
Fast-flux rock-phish domains	72	252	114
Fast-flux rock-phish IP addresses	4287	139	18

# Free web-hosting take-down data

Site lifetime (in hours)	# sites	mean	median
<code>yahoo.com</code>	174	23.8	6.9
<code>doramail</code>	155	32.8	18.1
<code>pochta.ru</code>	1253	33.8	16.8
<code>alice.it</code>	159	52.4	18.8
<code>by.ru</code>	254	53.1	38.2

BUT: almost all sites (except on Yahoo!) were eBay (65 hour average; this is 1/3 of their total)

# Coming soon...

- Are there significant differences between registrars, ISPs, countries etc?
- Can we demonstrate a “life cycle” for compromised end-user machines?
  - hosting, spamming, DDoS
- Are the machines we still track (hundreds, many in the UK) still “dangerous” ?



# Fast-flux has other uses

- Used for “mule” recruitment sites
- Used for “bullet-proof” hosting

... and doubtless more ...



# Sydney Car Centre

Used Car Specialists

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## Vacancies .....

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#### Job description:

As an Engineering Manager you will be responsible for managing a portfolio of car maintenance contracts, maximizing customer satisfaction, and ensuring delivery of quality services while achieving set goals through effective management & coordination of personnel, equipment & facility resources, and employee training & development.

#### Primary responsibilities:

- Responsible for ensuring delivery of quality services and customer satisfaction;
- Develop long-term relationships with clients to ensure open-line of communication;
- Schedule car breakdown crews and conduct inspections to evaluate services performed;
- Responsible for monitoring operation expenses. Review financial reports & seek avenues to improve the branch's bottom line;
- Develop and coordinate plans for the efficient use of personnel and resources.

#### Requirements:

- Experience with Windows, MS Office, Unix, SQL;
- Engineering Management System experience and understanding of basic networking;
- Excellent Customer Service skills;
- Assist in diagnosing and resolving car condition;
- Must be a good problem solver and have excellent written and oral communication skills;
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work as a unified team member.



## REGIONAL ASSISTANT

### Job description:

A regional assistant is a part time position, which will require only about 1-2 free hours a day from you. You will be responsible for dealing with the payments for the orders from our regional customers and fastening the process of payment delivery to the suppliers by means of Western Union. The peculiarity of the position is that your principal salary will be coming out of the fee that you get from each payment you dealt with (Net 10%).

### Primary responsibilities:

- Communicate closely with the head office;
- Be available to receive 2-3 payments on your bank account from the customers every week;
- Make calculations regarding every transaction;
- Withdraw the funds from the bank account (less your 10% fee);
- Make transactions via Western Union to the suppliers;
- Inform the head office about every payment received and dealt with at the earliest convenience.

### Requirements:

- Availability of a bank account;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Computer literacy;
- Excellent calculation skills;
- Industrious & goal-oriented.

# Mule recruitment

- Proportion of spam devoted to recruitment shows that this is a significant bottleneck
- Aegis, Lux Capital, Sydney Car Centre, etc, etc
  - mixture of real firms and invented ones
  - some “fast-flux” hosting involved
- Only the vigilantes are taking these down
  - impersonated are clueless and/or unmotivated



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Trans World Delivery protects buyers and sellers from fraud. The lowest exchange rates available. Exchange service **fees** as low as 0.70% of the purchase price.

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### What we offer

- Customer service 7 days a week
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- Providing faster payment for online transactions
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### Secure Transaction

Trans World Delivery, an accredited exchange company, acts as a secure third party to protect the Buyer and Seller.



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Lookup

**\*\*\*NOTE:** Tracking No. must be entered



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# Fake escrow sites

- Large number (a dozen or so) of sets of fake escrow sites used for auction scams
- Tracked by “AA419” and taken down by amateur “vigilantes”
- We are tracking the speed of removal to indicate contribution being made by financial institutions



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#1 Internet Online Drugstore



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All natural male enhancement patch designed to increase overall male sexual desire ...

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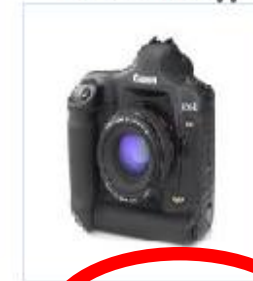
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[forum.aa419.org/viewtopic.php?p=56817&sid=4d72aad00e2127c7fcad49e75470ad9b](http://forum.aa419.org/viewtopic.php?p=56817&sid=4d72aad00e2127c7fcad49e75470ad9b) - 28k -

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### [Artists Against 419 - Fake Bank Database](#)

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# Pills, Penises and Photography

- Canadian Pharmacy &c
  - hosted on same fast-flux pools as some of the phishing sites. Links remain unclear
- Google picking up a proportion of these sites, but by no means all
- Some fake shopping sites, which fool some reputation systems, though Google searches show complaints on the first page.



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Our long-term strategy is to remain a financial services company. We will continue to grow in Europe, and build our business in retail and commercial banking outside Europe, with a bias towards Continental Western Europe. We will develop our services and products for wealthy customers, and we will build our global businesses, such as investment banking and credit cards.

### How we'll do it

Our strategy also determines the way in which we will achieve our goals. This includes the way we're organised, our management beliefs and practices, and the way we behave towards our customers and each other. Foremost among our practices is the use of a management framework that shapes the way in which we make business decisions, and ties all of our planning and operations to the creation of economic value.

#### WHO WE ARE

[About Us](#)  
[Benefits](#)  
[Structure](#)  
[Career](#)  
[Financials](#)

#### WHAT WE DO

[Product & Services](#)  
[Private Banking](#)  
[Corporate Banking](#)  
[e- Banking](#)

# Treasure Credit Bank

- [About Us](#) >>
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## Contact Us

[Click here for detailed office contact information.](#)

## Overview

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[Fees & Charges](#)

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## Client Login

CLIENT LOGIN



### About Us

>>

TCB is one of the leading global asset management, securities and corporate finance firms. It provides a range of specialty financial services to a client base that includes Government, corporates, financial institutions, (semi-) governmental organisations and high net worth individuals. Founded in 1983, TCB has developed a tradition to combine high quality advice with personal, long-term relationships.

In a world of abundant global information flows, the TCB-crew attempts to be selective and edictic, in particular by focussing it's services in areas where in-depth research and advice can really add value, such as smaller capitalised companies and property companies TCB is a truly global institution. It operates in more than 41 locations across more than 12 countries on five continents. Powered by a strong local presence, global vision and a seamless ability to execute transactions in and across all markets, TCB deploys its capital base and global perspective to offer a full range of products, services and capabilities.

The Firm is a business unit of ECB. In addition to the business unit of TCB, TCB also includes the TCB Financial Services business unit, which provides private clients and small and medium-sized companies with private banking and financial advisory services, banking products, and pension and insurance solutions from Winterthur.

# Fake banks

- These are not “phishing”
  - but note well that there’s no-one to take them down, apart from the vigilantes
- Usual pattern of repeated phrases on each new site, so googling finds more examples
  - sometimes old links left in (hand-edited!)
- Often a part of a “419” scheme
  - inconvenient to show existence of dictator’s \$millions in a real bank account!

**Members Login**

**Username:**

**Password:**

2268

**LogMeIn**

[Register An Account](#)

[Password Recovery](#)

**Stats**

[Paid Outs](#)

[Investors Top 20](#)

[Investors Last 20](#)

[Referrers Top 20](#)

**Info**

**Started:** Jun 30, 2007

**Running Days:** 42

**Total Members:** 908

**Total Deposited:** \$ 66,861.33

**Today Deposited:** \$ 2,459.50

**Total Withdrawn:** \$ 33,062.72

**Visitors Online:** 68

**Last update:** Aug 11, 2007

**News**

Welcome to Paramount Vista. We are strong team of traders and have been working successfully together for almost 10 years. We run this unique program off-line prior to launching it on the internet. After those years of running a successful operation, with each passing day we were even more convinced of the necessity of an Online Investment Program like ParamountVista.com. Now we are open for your ONLINE investments and ready to manage your funds. You can be certain that your investment will be handled by a group of qualified professionals. Generate income with these powerful returns.

We have 3 profitable program for our members. See tables below:

**10-12% Daily for 15 Days! (Totally 150-180%)**

Plan	Spent Amount (US\$)	Daily Return (%)
Silver	\$10 - \$999	10.00
Gold	\$1,000 - \$4,999	11.00
V.I.P	\$5,000 and more	12.00

[Calculate your profit >>](#)

**85-100% Weekly for 2 Weeks! (Totally 170-200%)**

Plan	Spent Amount (US\$)	Weekly Return (%)
Silver	\$10 - \$999	85.00
Gold	\$1,000 - \$4,999	92.50
V.I.P	\$5,000 and more	100.00

[Calculate your profit >>](#)

**200-240% After 15 Days!**

Plan	Spent Amount (US\$)	Return (%)
Silver	\$10 - \$999	200.00
Gold	\$1,000 - \$4,999	220.00
V.I.P	\$5,000 and more	240.00



**Paying**

# Post-modern Ponzi schemes

- High Yield Investment Program (HYIP)
  - propose returns of  $x\%$  per DAY
- Basically Ponzi (pyramid) schemes that pay initial investors from newly joined mugs
- Often splash out for HTTPS certificates !
- Now some are up-front about Ponzi nature
- Reputation sites document their status

[premium listing](#)

**Paramount Vista**  status:  **PAYING**  
[payout statistics](#)  
 Total return: 360.00% *in profit*  
 rating: 11.50 [rate now](#)



10-12% daily for 15 days  
 85-100% weekly for 2 weeks  
 200-240% after 15 days  
[program details](#)

minimum spend: **10 USD**  
 maximum spend: **N/A USD**  
 referral: **5-10%**

We've Provided Everything That Is Needed To Run A Successful Program For Many Times! Customized & 100% Hack Proof Script! Dedicated Server DDoS Protected! Backup Servers & Domains With Different Companies For A Force-Majeur Situations! MySQL Auto Backup System Every 15 Minutes!! Fast Payment! Friendly Support! For More Info Visit Our Website Today!

 added: 2007-06-30

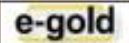

[premium listing](#)

**triton-hyip**  status:  **PAYING**  
[payout statistics](#)  
 Total return: 555.00% *in profit*  
 rating: 17.40 [rate now](#)




29%-59% for 4 days  
[program details](#)

minimum spend: **5 USD**  
 maximum spend: **N/A USD**  
 referral: **5**

ICInvestment Company The Company was established in Geneva (Switzerland) in February 2006 as an investment advisor and financial markets analyst Over the years the Company gained experience in market analysis as well as in managing funds for its own account and for various international clients. Since 1995 it has also become advisor to an offshor

  added: 2007-07-16

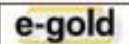

[premium listing](#)

**Relax Business**   status:  **PAYING**  
[payout statistics](#)  
 Total return: 298.50% *in profit*  
 rating: 18.60 [rate now](#)

25% weekly  
[program details](#)

minimum spend: **1 USD**  
 maximum spend: **no maximum USD**  
 referral: **10%**

Up to 25% weekly. E-gold and E-bullion accepted. 10% referral bonus.

  added: 2007-06-20



premium listing

### Paramount Vista

status:  **PAYING**

[payout statistics](#)

Total return: 360.00% *in profit*

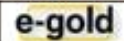
rating: 11.50 [rate now](#)

10-12% daily for 15 days  
85-100% weekly for 2 weeks

200-240% after 15 days

minimum spend: **10 USD**  
maximum spend: **N/A USD**  
referral: **5-10%**

We've Provided Everything That Is Needed To Run A Successful Program For Many Times! Customized & 100% Hack Proof Script! Dedicated Server DDoS Protected! Backup Servers & Domains With Different Companies For A Force-Majeur Situations! MySQL Auto Backup System Every 15 Minutes!! Fast Payment! Friendly Support! For More Info Visit Our Website Today!



added: 2007-06-30

#### Ratings stats









  
very good  
**56 votes**

  
good  
**3 votes**

  
bad  
**0 votes**

  
very bad  
**0 votes**

#### Latest users ratings:

rating	user host	user email	date
	69.226.96.xxx	xxxxx@compuserve.com	2007-08-11
	86.42.43.xxx	xxxxx@gmail.com	2007-08-10
	vote comment: <i>Received my first payout today</i>		
	217.117.6.xxx	xxxxx@gmail.com	2007-08-10
	vote comment: <i>got paid today. userid nosmaxwell</i>		
	67.111.87.xxx	xxxxx@netzero.net	2007-08-09
	67.180.218.xxx	xxxxx@juno.com	2007-08-09
	67.181.82.xxx	xxxxx@msn.com	2007-08-09
	vote comment: <i>paid every day</i>		
	203.115.171.xxx	xxxxx@gmail.com	2007-08-09
	vote comment: <i>i received my payment! hyiprater</i>		
	60.53.188.xxx	xxxxx@gmail.com	2007-08-08
	vote comment: <i>&amp;quot;payment received. thanks admin. username MYPAY&amp;quot;</i>		

**Foxboro Invensys** 📄  
[rate now](#)

1%-3% daily  
[program details](#)

status: ● **PAYING**  
[payout statistics](#)

**Minvestment** 📄  
[rate now](#)

1.4%-2.3% daily for 150  
days  
[program details](#)

status: ● **PAYING**  
[payout statistics](#)

**Kale Trading** 📄  
[rate now](#)

2.5-4% daily  
[program details](#)

status: ● **PAYING**  
[payout statistics](#)

**Forex trade group** 📄  
[rate now](#)

125% after 1 day  
160% after 3 days  
[program details](#)

status: ● **PAYING**  
[payout statistics](#)

**Proficient Funds** 📄  
[rate now](#)

2% Daily  
12% Daily  
140% After 5 Days  
[program details](#)

status: ● **WAITING**

**Lop Invest** 📄  
[rate now](#)

150% after 15 days  
200% after 20 days  
300% after 30 days  
500% after 40 days  
[program details](#)

status: ● **WAITING**

**Gold Empire** 📄  
[rate now](#)

1.6-3% daily for lifetime  
[program details](#)

status: ● **PROBLEM**  
[payout statistics](#)

**Suprema Trade Fund** 📄

2%-13% daily

status: ● **PROBLEM**



"exempt from the U.S. Securities Act of 1933"

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Web

Results 1 - 10 of about 17,200 for

[TrustWallet Ltd -\[TrustWallet.Biz\]- YOU can trust us & WE will ...](#)

As a private transaction, this program is **exempt from the US Securities Act of 1933**, the US Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the US Investment Club Act ...

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[Italinvestment -](#)

This program is a PRIVATE BUSINESS TRANSACTION **exempt from the U.S. Securities Act of 1933** and all amendments; and, you acknowledge and agree under penalty ...

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[Italinvestment -](#)

This program is a PRIVATE BUSINESS TRANSACTION **exempt from the U.S. Securities Act of 1933** and all amendments... Rules and Agreements ...

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[www.goldrush7.com/disclaimer.htm](http://www.goldrush7.com/disclaimer.htm) - 16k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

[Cubex Finance](#)

And absolutely **exempt from the U.S. Securities Act of 1933**, the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the U.S Investment Company Act of 1940 and all other ...

[cubexfinance.com/rules.php](http://cubexfinance.com/rules.php) - 8k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

# Our research goals

- Continue with the spamHINTS work !!
- How many phishers are there ?
- How do we fix the incentives to prevent phishing from being effective ?
- Find more groups of sites trading in reputation
- Evaluate community reputation sites
- Determine if advertising is distorting the web
- Do lots more cool things ☺

# spamHINTS (and some more)

<http://www.lightbluetouchpaper.org>



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE  
Computer Laboratory

