

Towards a Science of Censorship Resistance

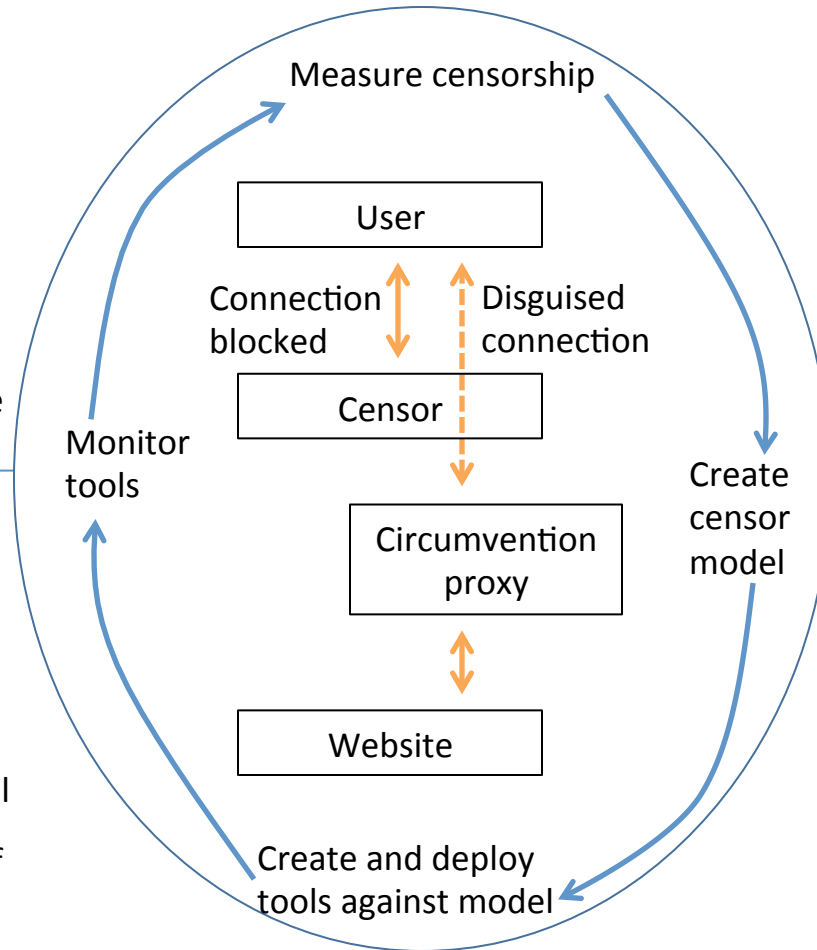
Vern Paxson (ICSI), Mark Allman (ICSI), Jedidiah R. Crandall (UNM), Nick Feamster (Princeton), Phillipa Gill (UMass), Nicholas Weaver (ICSI)

Challenge:

- Ground censorship circumvention in empiricism
- Understand Internet censors
- Enable users to reach websites of their choice

Solution:

- Empirically measure real censorship
- Develop evidence-based evaluation methods for circumvention tools
- Design & deploy practical circumvention tools exploiting weaknesses of real censors



Scientific Impact:

- Develop methodologies for understanding censors
- Align academic research on censorship circumvention with real-world censors

Broader Impact:

- Empower people living under repressive regimes
- Work with Tor to deploy real-world systems
- Educate students and the community regarding empirical perspectives