DIGITAL IDENTIFICATION & ITS CIRCUMVENTION

The internet was built without an essential **identity** layer. This anonymity makes it difficult to optimise digital services and enables an array of **cybercrimes**. To counter this, an increasing number of services ask users to digitally verify their identity before authorising **access**. Meanwhile, our hyperconnected society is experiencing a **crisis of trust**. Whether for nefarious or innocent purposes, some people will **bypass digital identity verification**. This research is motivated by the desire to understand the **reasons for** and **consequences of** such behaviour.

ACTION PLAN

1 Conduct a **literature review**
To find out what we already know about digital identity systems, and what we need to find out

2 **Collaborate** with industry
To make sure my research is responsive to industry and policy needs

3 Conduct **qualitative** and **quantitative** research
Focus groups and interviews will provide qualitative insight into user perceptions and experiences of digital identity, and the related trust and privacy concerns. A large-scale survey will provide quantitative insights into the same.

4 Conduct **experimental** research
Most likely into the affects of using Privacy Enhancing Technologies to circumvent digital indentification.

5 Science-fiction writing workshop
Aimed at creating short stories depicting a utopian or dystopian future relating to digital identification. To further **engage the public** in anticipatory discussions, one story will be made into an online comic.

If you're an industry partner, read this...

Good news! You're in the nick of time. My research questions aren't set in stone yet; they are malleable, ready to be shaped to your needs. I'm all ears - plus a few questions.

- How do you 'know your user or client'?
- What is interesting about digital identity, from your perspective?
- (How) do you get users or clients to trust you with their personal information?
- What question keeps you up at night?

If you're an academic, read this...

My background is in Psychology and Forensic Psychology. Presumably, that's why I'm approaching digital identification and its circumvention by scientifically studying the mental and environmental processes that it involves, with a focus on identity, trust and privacy.

- What's your background in?
- What does the problem and solution look like from your disciplinary perspective?

And either way, take note of this

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