# CS 3001-C: Computing, Society, and Professionalism

Munmun De Choudhury | Associate Professor | School of Interactive Computing

# Week 7: Privacy and Governmental Surveillance
# February 20, 2023

# Midterm

- Next Wednesday!
  - March 1, 2023
  - In-class
  - Closed book, notes, and Internet
  - Syllabus – all material through last Wednesday (Feb 19, 2023)

- This Wednesday's lecture is recorded; but won't be in midterm

- This week's recitation – write midterm questions

- Next Monday's lecture – virtual office hours; example questions to work on will be made available

- No recitation sections next week

# Big data meets Big Brother as China moves to rate its citizens

*Rachel Botsman*

23-29 minutos

On June 14, 2014, the State Council of China published an ominous-sounding document called "Planning Outline for the Construction of a Social Credit System". In the way of Chinese policy documents, it was a lengthy and rather dry affair, but it contained a radical idea. What if there was a national trust score that rated the kind of citizen you were?

# A Balancing Act

- Federal, state, and local governments in United States have had significant impact on privacy of individuals
- Government must balance competing desires of citizens
  - desire to be left alone
  - desire for safety and security

Two case examples of this balancing act…

# Solove's Taxonomy of Privacy

- **Information collection:** Activities that gather personal information

- **Information processing:** Activities that store, manipulate, and use personal information that has been collected

- **Information dissemination:** Activities that spread personal information

- **Invasion:** Activities that intrude upon a person's daily life, interrupt someone's solitude, or interfere with decision-making

# Information Collection by the Government (Direct)

- Purpose: accountability and fairness

# Census Records

- Census required to ensure every state has fair representation
- Number of questions steadily rising
- Sometimes Census Bureau has broken confidentiality requirement
  - World War I: draft resistors
  - World War II: Japanese-Americans

# FBI National Crime Information Center

- ## NCIC
  - Collection of databases related to various crimes
  - Contains > 39 million records

- ## Successes
  - Helps police solve hundreds of thousands of cases every year
  - Helped FBI tie James Earl Ray to assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
  - Helped FBI apprehend Timothy McVeigh for bombing of federal building in Oklahoma City

*Discussion Point:* What are the downsides of maintaining the NCIC database?

# Closed Circuit Television Cameras

- First use in Olean, New York in 1968
- Now more than 30 million cameras in US
- New York City's effort in lower Manhattan
  - $201 million for 3,000 new cameras
  - License plate readers
  - Radiation detectors

*Discussion Point:* Are surveillance cameras worthwhile? Mixed opinion: ACLU opposition; London bombings in subway in 2005

# Challenges of government information collection

# Surveillance Camera Images of Boston Marathon Bombing Suspects

**MOTHERBOARD**
TECH BY VICE

# Airbnb, Lyft, Uber 'Expressed Interest' in Using Clearview AI

The tech companies expressed internet is using Clearview AI's technology for identity verification, according to Clearview AI CEO Hoan Ton-That.

POLICY \ POLITICS \ PRIVACY \

# Lawmakers call on feds to drop Clearview AI facial recognition contracts

*The Pentagon and Department of Justice have active contracts with the controversial company*

By Russell Brandom | Feb 9, 2022, 8:12am EST

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# Covert Government Surveillance

# Wiretapping – J. Edgar Hoover



© Bettmann/CORBIS

First Director of FBI

# Privacy Post 9/11

- National security concerns increased significantly after 9/11 attacks

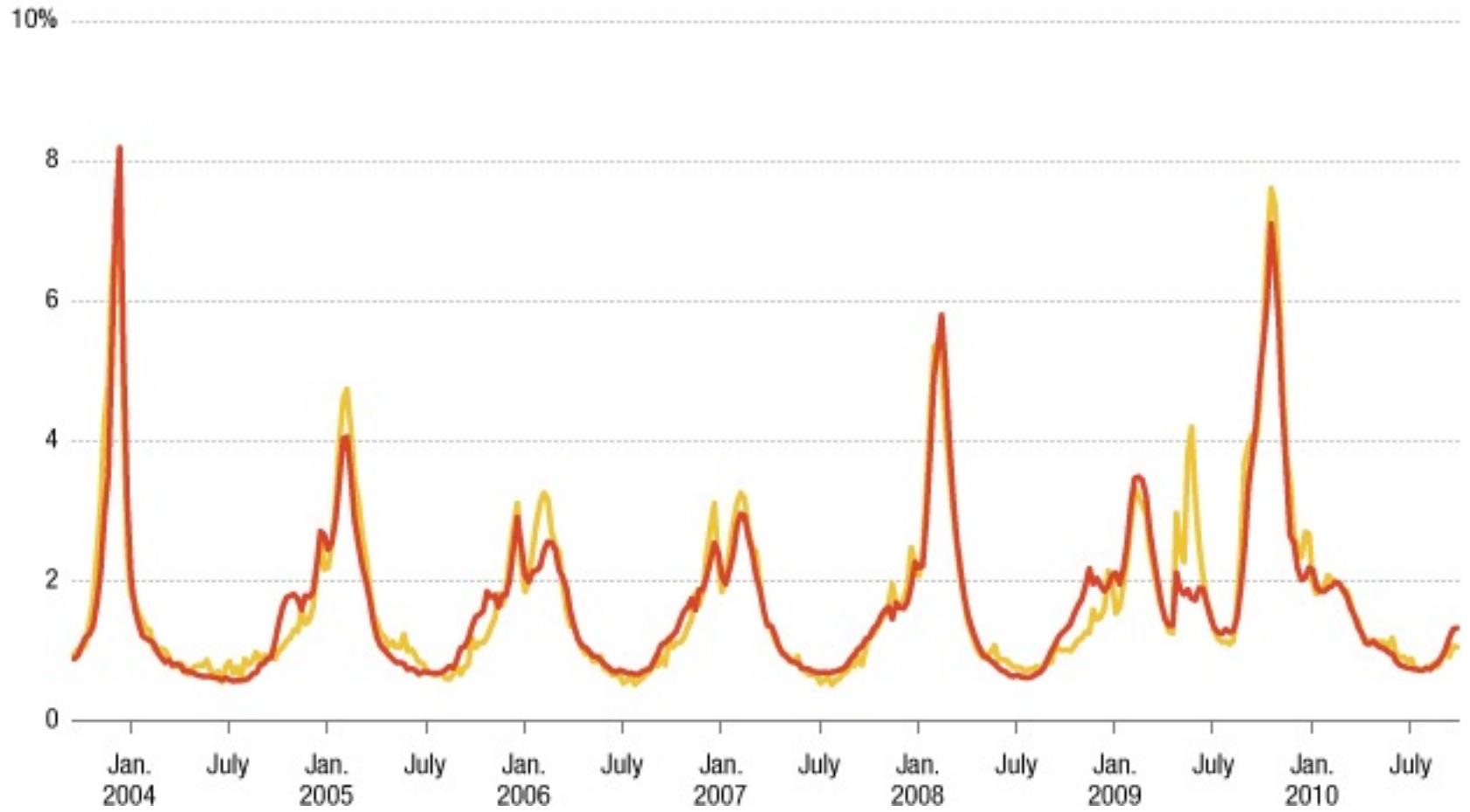# Privacy Post 9/11

# NSA Wiretapping Post 9/11

# Information Processing/Mining by the Government

# Syndromic Surveillance Systems

Google Flu Tracker ——— Official report

# Contact Tracing: Using Digital Tools

Technology can support case investigation and contact tracing but cannot take the place of the staff who interview, counsel, and provide support for those impacted by COVID-19. There are two key types of technology that can contribute to the contact tracing process: case management tools and proximity tracing/exposure notification tools. This technology guide serves as a companion to the case investigation workflow and contact tracing workflow.

## Types Of Digital Contact Tracing Tools

### Case Management

Make the traditional contact tracing process faster and more efficient:

- Streamline the electronic capture and management of data on patients and contacts

- Integrate workflows with surveillance systems or other workforce management tools

### Proximity Tracing/Exposure Notification

Identify more contacts than traditional contact tracing alone:

- Use voluntary, opt-in tools in addition to case management tools to augment traditional contact tracing

- Use Bluetooth or GPS technologies to estimate the proximity and duration of an individual's exposure to patients diagnosed with COVID-19

When can information processing/data mining by the Government go wrong?

# THE NSA'S SECRET ROLE IN THE U.S. ASSASSINATION PROGRAM

# Government Legislation restricting information dissemination

# Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

# Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)