Scalability

- Background
  - W3C discovers that HTML DTD, etc. are being accessed up to 500M times/day, often from same client
- Architectural issue
  - There is no normative specification that prohibits or even discourages repeated access to the same, cacheable, Web resource
  - RFC 2616: *"provide an explicit expiration time […] indicating that a response <u>MAY</u> be used to satisfy subsequent requests"*
- Practical issues:
  - Large organizations can't find the software that's doing it, may not be in a position to rewrite/reconfigure code
  - Blocking miscreants: can disable access from entire organizations
  - Tell them to proxy: large corporations report expense of proxying all Web access can be >> savings
  - "Tarpitting": when repeated access to a given resource is seen from given source, delay before responding – W3C server team reports this is the best compromise so far