

CISCO *Live!*



#CiscoLive



The bridge to possible

DNS and BGP Exposed

How to Monitor and Mitigate Two Notorious “Uptime Killers”

Tim Hale – Technical Solutions Architect

LinkedIn: [timlhale](#)

BRKAPP-1006



#CiscoLive

Cisco Webex App

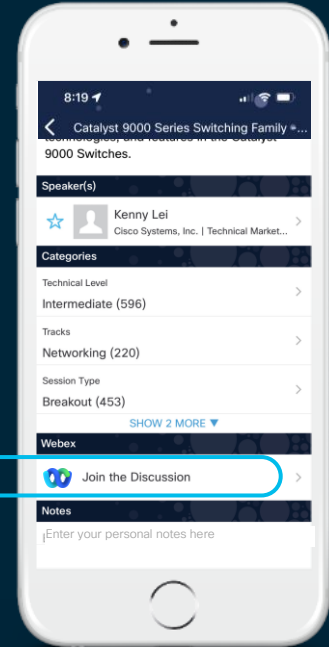
Questions?

Use Cisco Webex App to chat with the speaker after the session

How

- 1 Find this session in the Cisco Live Mobile App
- 2 Click “Join the Discussion”
- 3 Install the Webex App or go directly to the Webex space
- 4 Enter messages/questions in the Webex space

Webex spaces will be moderated by the speaker until June 17, 2022.



<https://ciscolive.ciscoevents.com/ciscolivebot/#BRKAPP-1006>

Meet your speaker



Name: Tim Hale

Role: Technical Solutions Architect

Company: Cisco ThousandEyes

Location: Brighton, UK

Eight years working with DNS and internet monitoring solutions.



Agenda

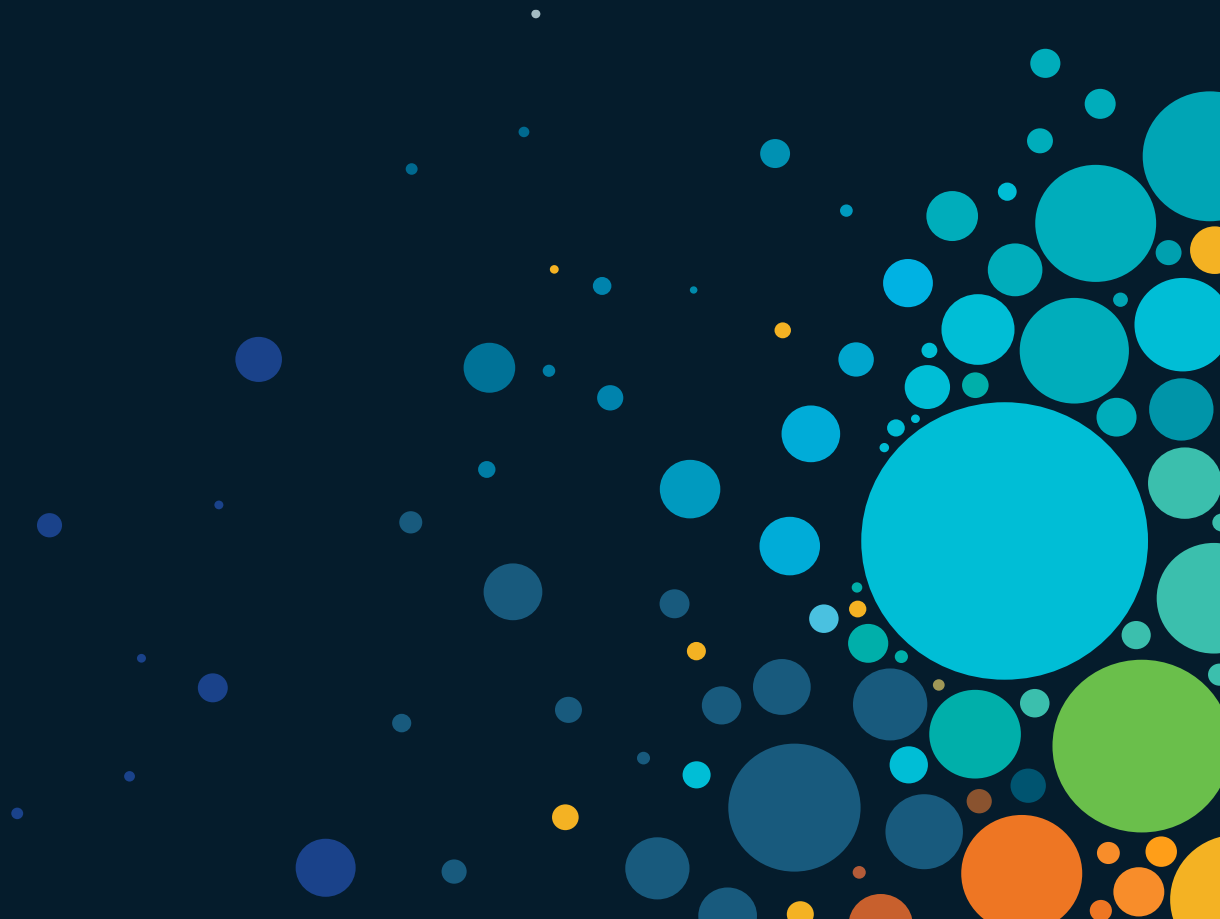
- DNS 101
- Interesting DNS outages
- Monitoring best practices
- BGP 101
- Interesting BGP outages
- Monitoring best practices

Agenda



ThousandEyes monitors network infrastructure, troubleshoots application delivery and maps Internet performance, all from a SaaS-based platform.

DNS



"It's always DNS!"

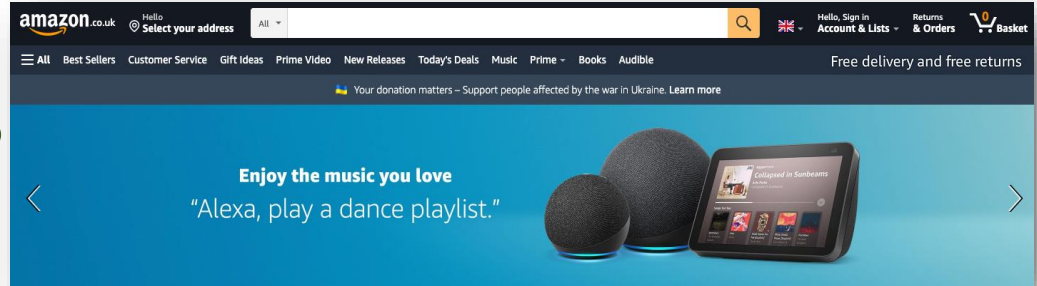
Why?



What is the IP address for www.amazon.com?

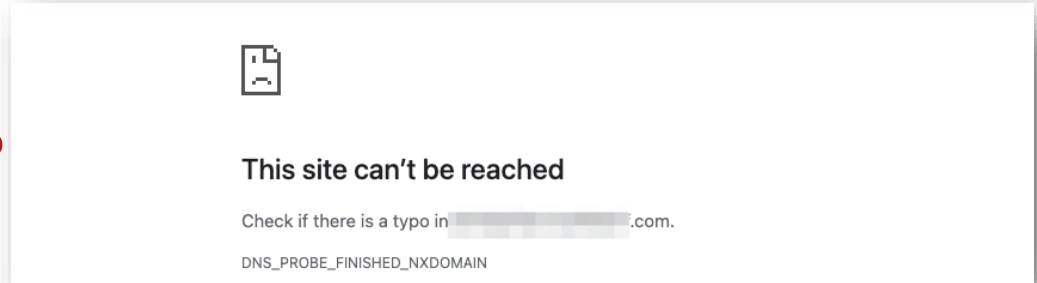
DNS ✓

205.251.242.103



DNS ✗

?



Why not use IPs For websites?



VS



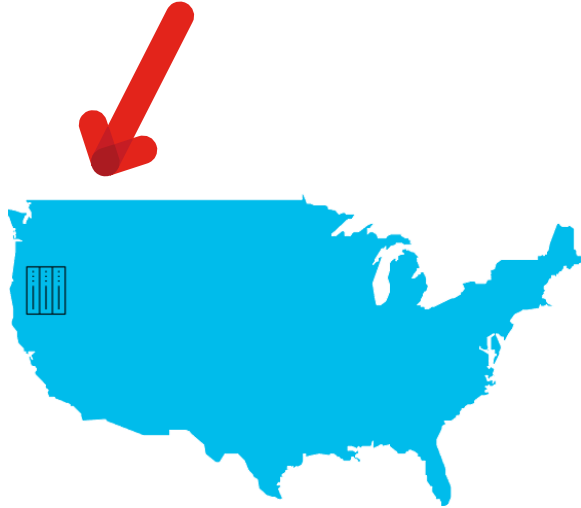
Why not use IPs in application code?

```
107 try:  
108     response = requests.get(  
109         "https://205.251.242.103/pdns/ip/" + ip_str,
```

VS

```
107 try:  
108     response = requests.get(  
109         "https://investigate.api.umbrella.com/pdns/ip/"
```

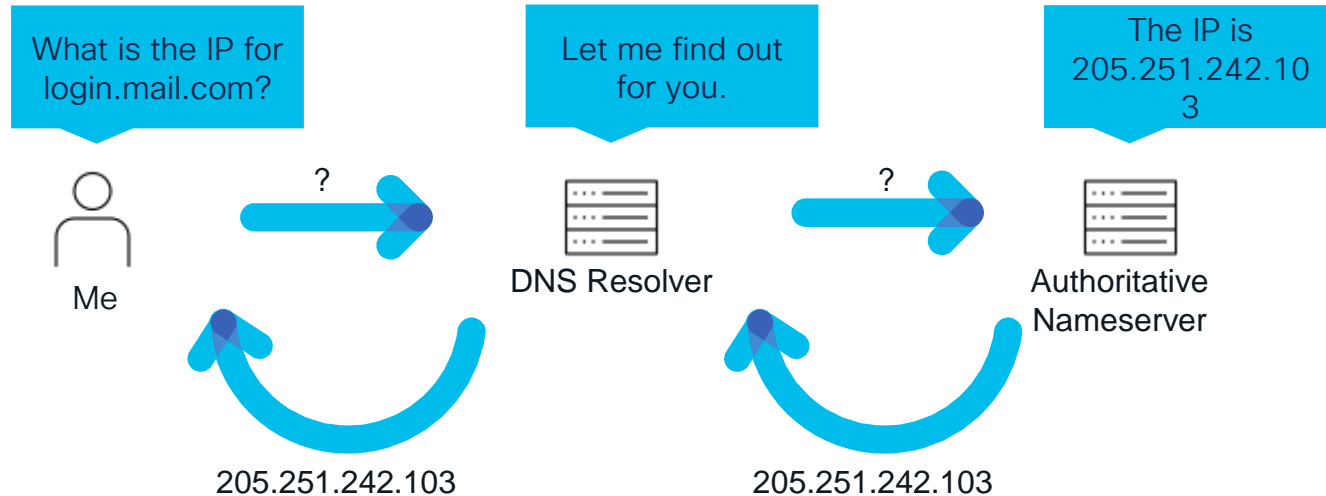
Unicast IP Address



Load Balanced Hostname



DNS Resolvers and Authoritative DNS



Is it that simple?

No!



Anatomy of a domain

login.mail.com.



Host or
subdomain



Second level
domain (sld)



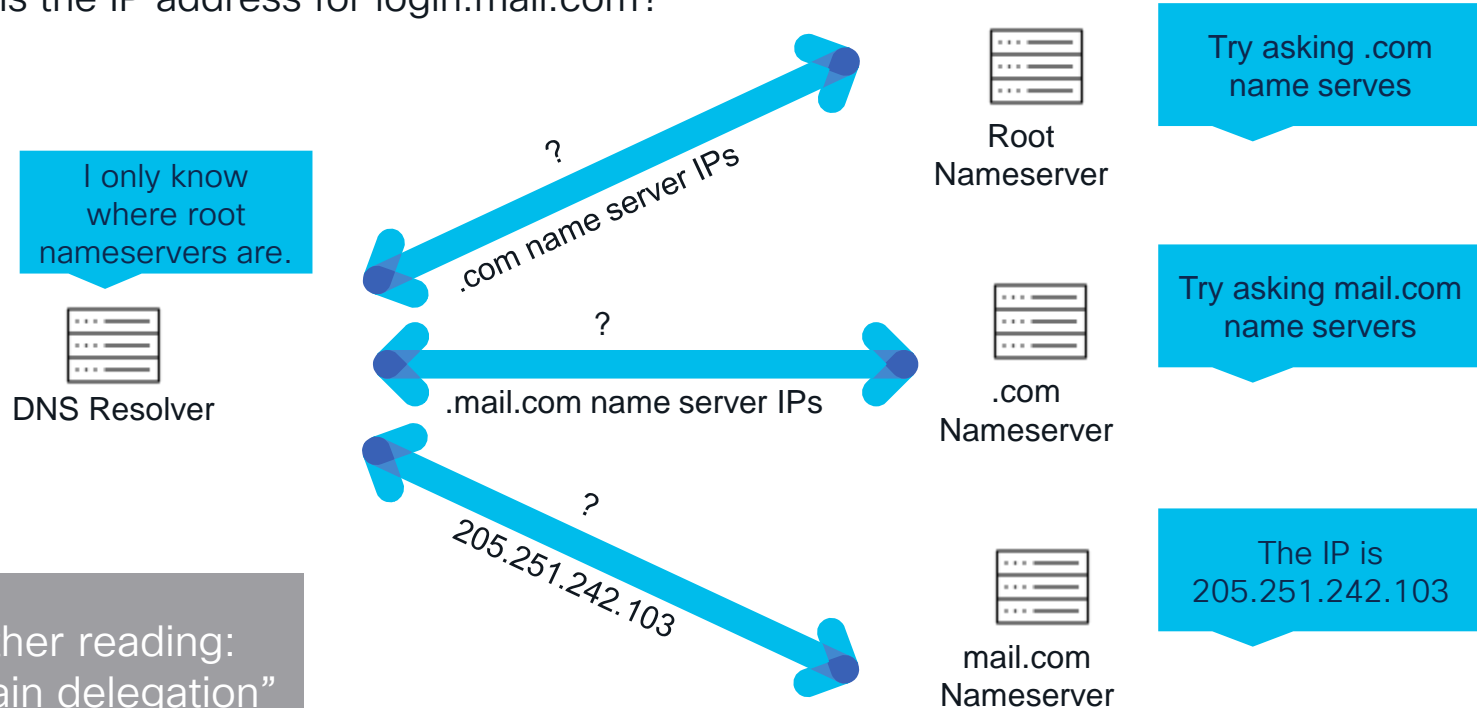
Top level
domain (tld)



root

Recursion: Root, TLD and customer authoritative

What is the IP address for login.mail.com?



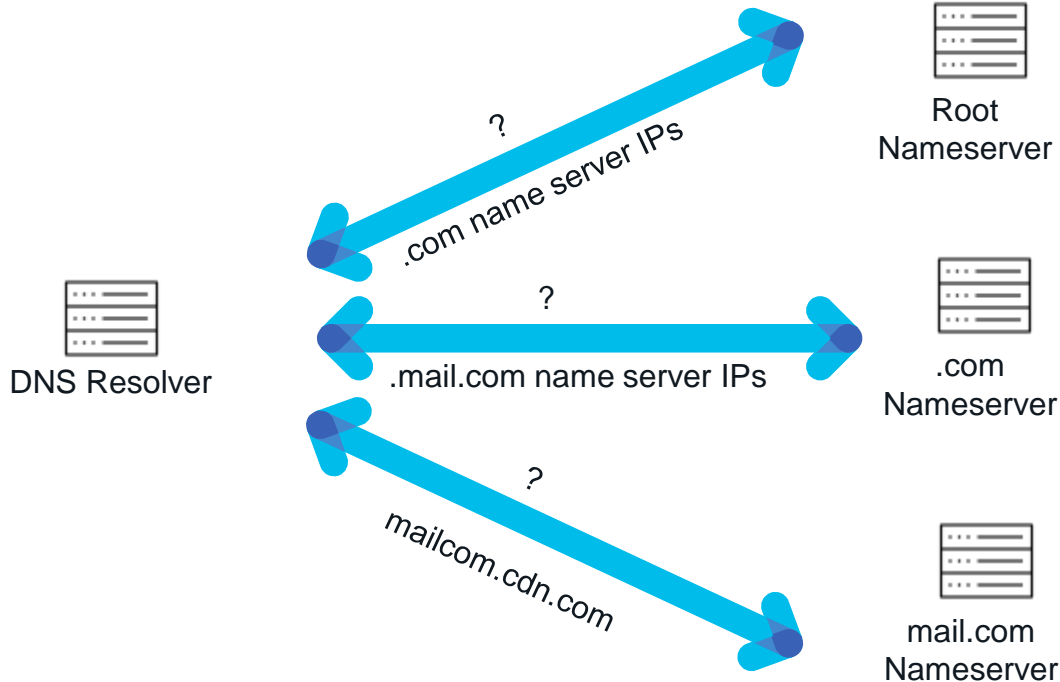
Further reading:
"domain delegation"

How do CDNs add
extra DNS
complexity?



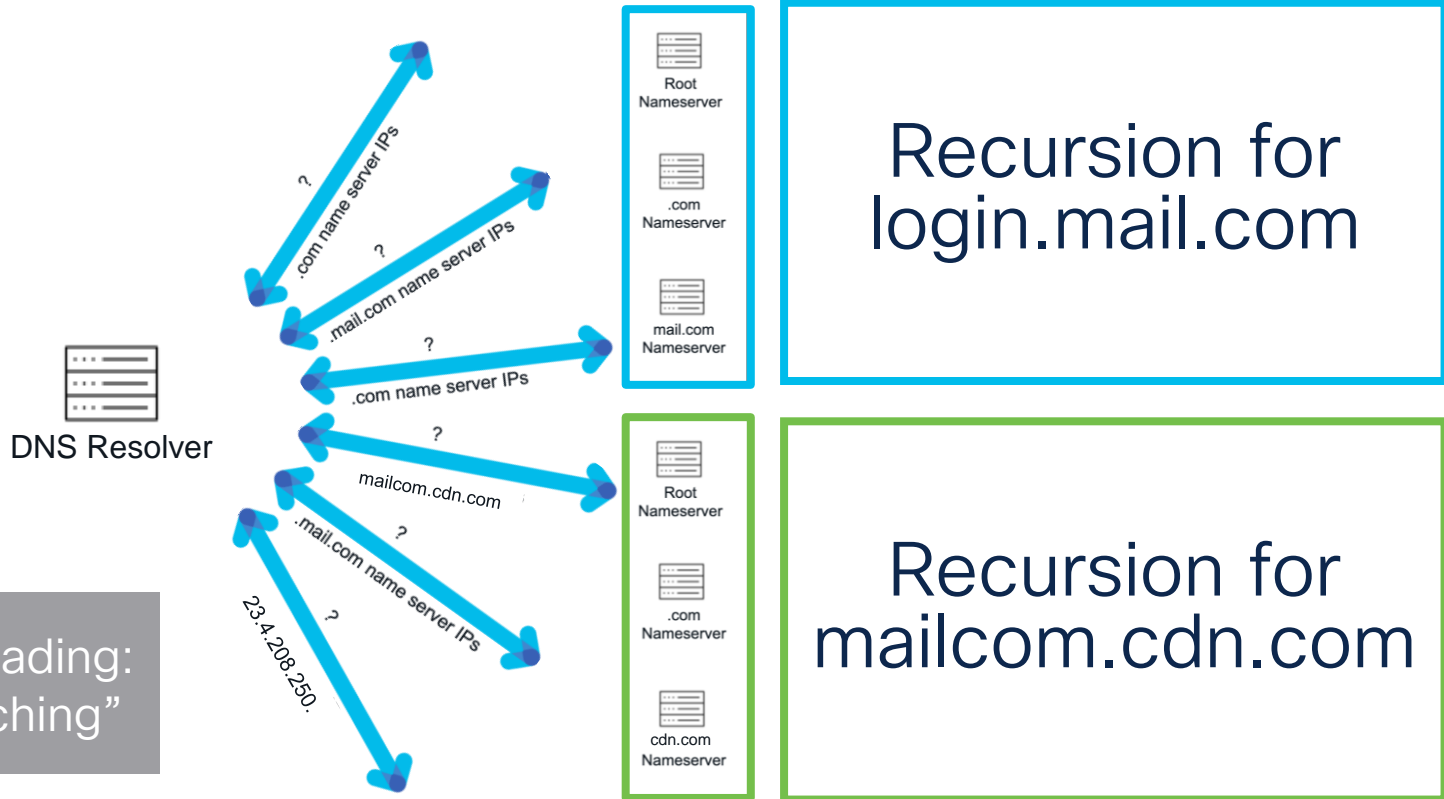
Recursion: CDNs

What is the IP address for login.mail.com?



I don't have the IP! Ask the CDN's DNS servers.

Recursion: CDNs



Further reading:
"DNS caching"

Akamai DNS Outage Analysis

Customer Portal

Thu, Jul 22, 2021 16:12 UTC – 16:52 UTC

Views

DNS

DNS Trace

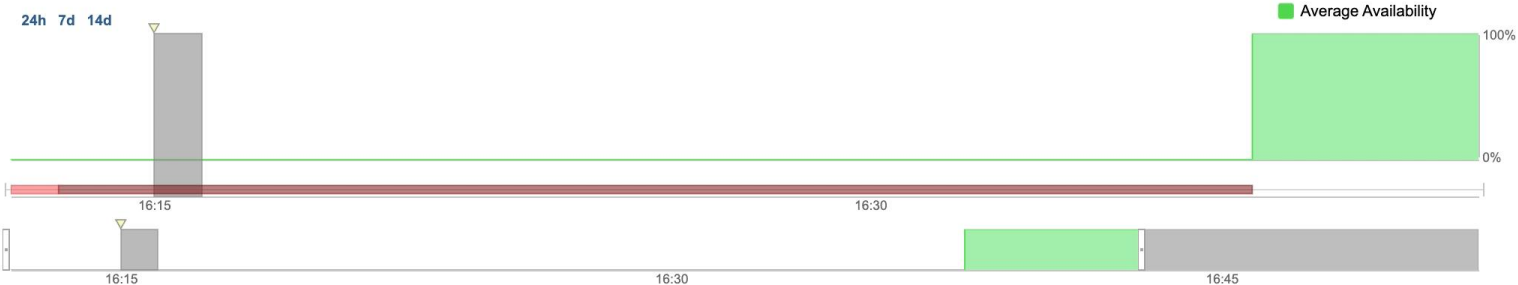
Target Domain
www.customerportal.com A · UDP

Metric

Availability

Agent

All agents



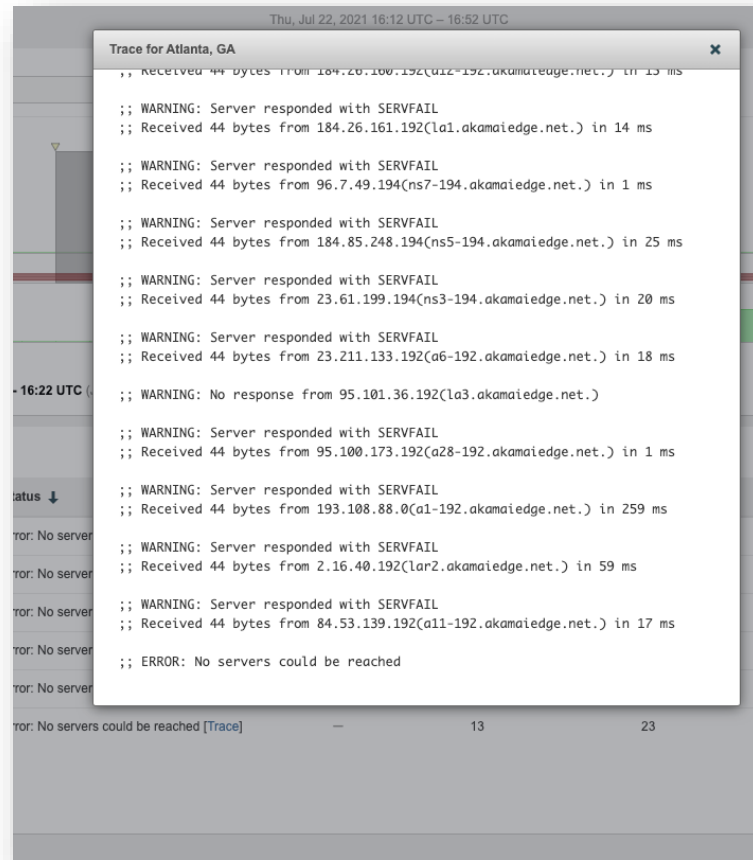
Showing data from Thu, Jul 22 16:15 - 16:16 UTC (Jul 22, 2021)

◀ ▶ Latest →

Map Table

Agent	Date (UTC)	Status ↓	Mappings	Failed Queries	Total Queries	Final Query Time (ms)	Final Server Queried
Atlanta, GA	2021-07-22 16:15:05	Error: No servers could be reached [Trace]	—	13	22	1	i.gtld-servers.net.
Buenos Aires, Argentina	2021-07-22 16:15:07	Error: No servers could be reached [Trace]	—	13	23	189	e.gtld-servers.net.
Dublin, Ireland	2021-07-22 16:15:04	Error: No servers could be reached [Trace]	—	13	24	24	b.gtld-servers.net.
Wellington, New Zealand	2021-07-22 16:15:10	Error: No servers could be reached [Trace]	—	13	23	440	k.gtld-servers.net.
Osaka, Japan (IJ)	2021-07-22 16:15:06	Error: No servers could be reached [Trace]	—	13	23	17	b.gtld-servers.net.
Johannesburg, South Africa	2021-07-22 16:15:11	Error: No servers could be reached [Trace]	—	13	22	17	j.gtld-servers.net.

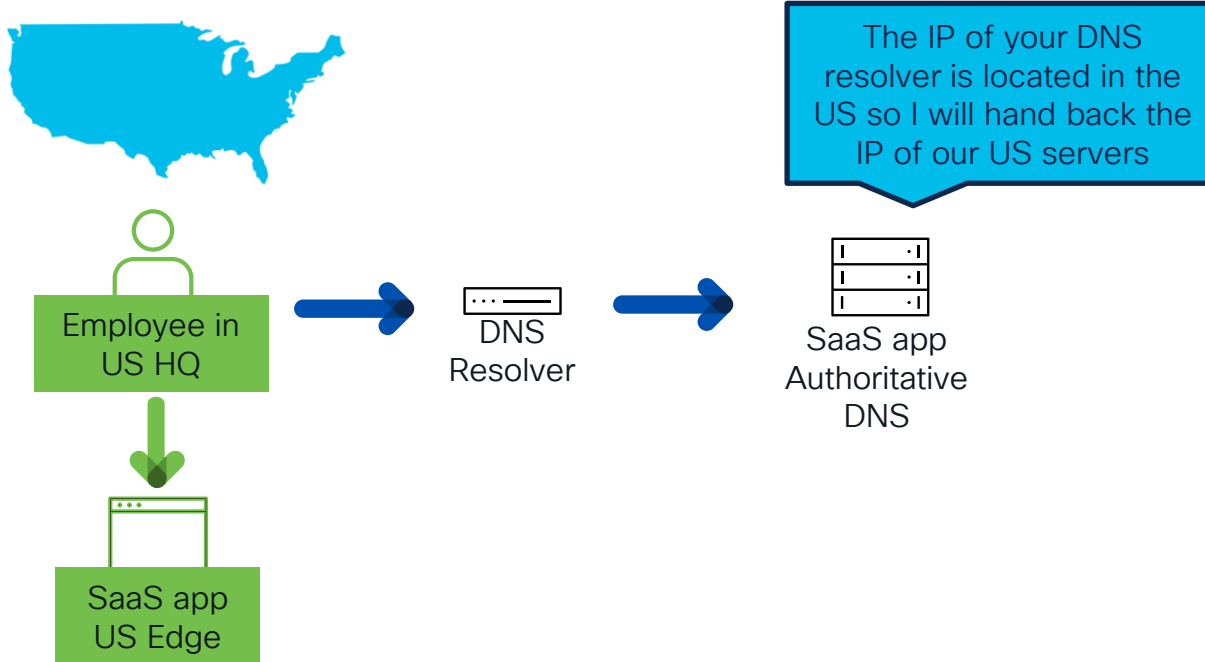
Proactive monitoring and actionable visibility across all authoritative DNS dependencies.



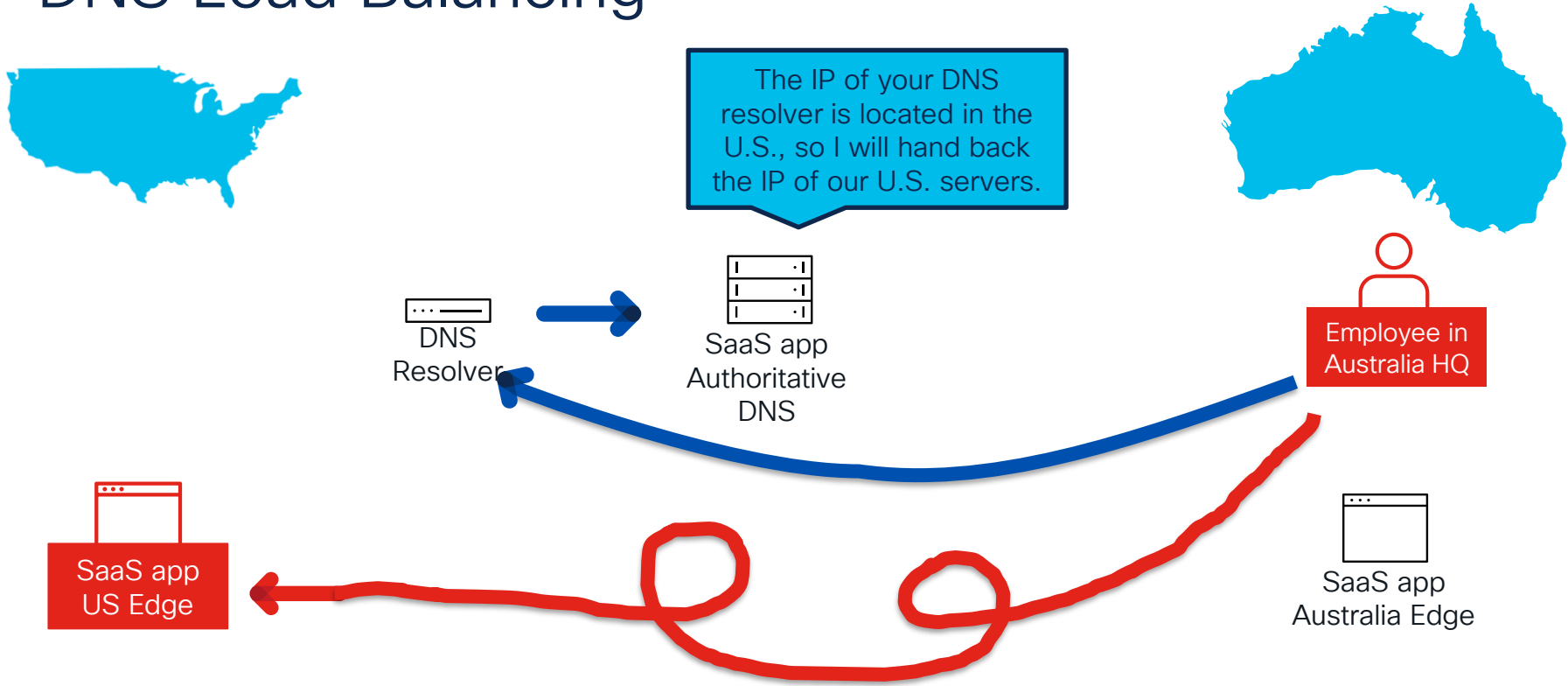
Root cause identified in secondary Akamai DNS platform

Why should you keep your
DNS resolvers close?

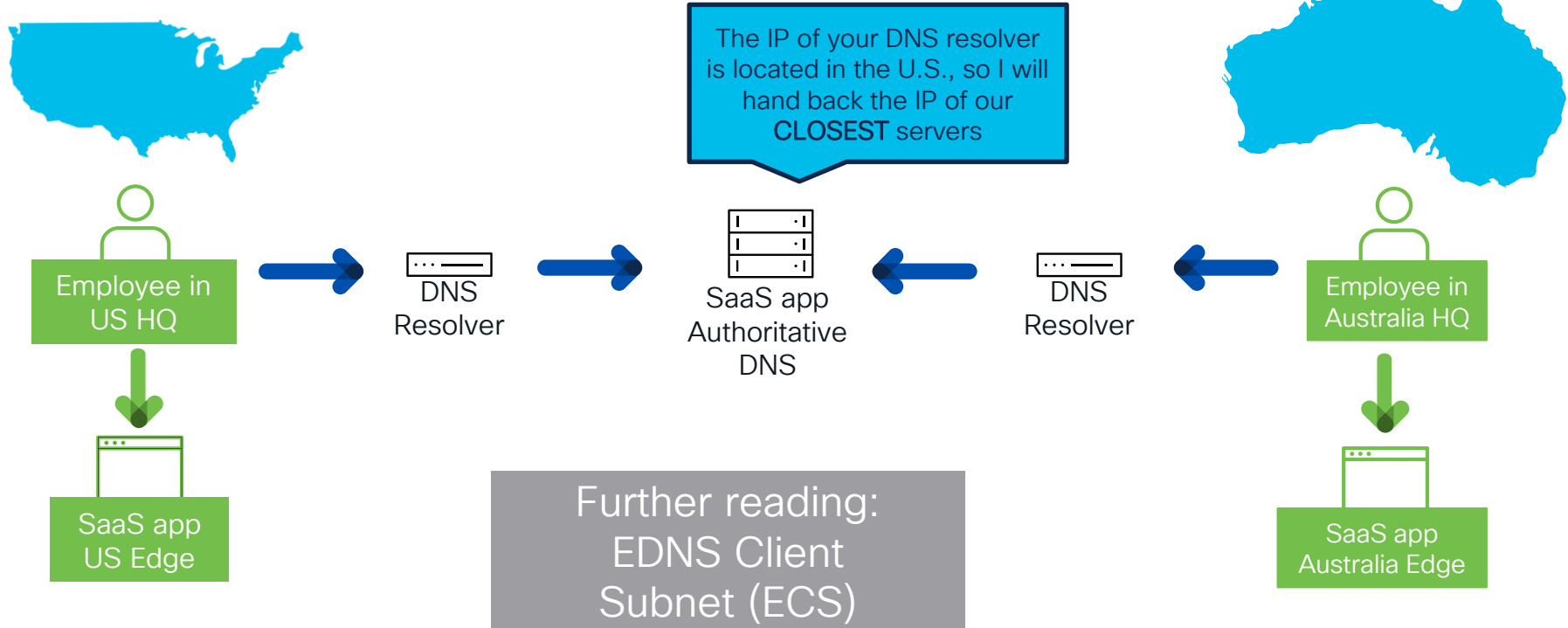
DNS Load Balancing



DNS Load Balancing



DNS Load Balancing



How can DNS can be
your best weapon against
lazy load balancers?



Intentional DNS hijacking example

API - Suboptimal routing to Akamai edge

Mon, Jan 24, 2022 05:06 +04 – Wed, Jan 26, 2022 05:08 +04

Views

WEB

HTTP Server

NETWORK

- Overview
- Path Visualization

ROUTING

BGP Route Visualization

Target URL

https://api.airlineapis.com/xmits/e1e...

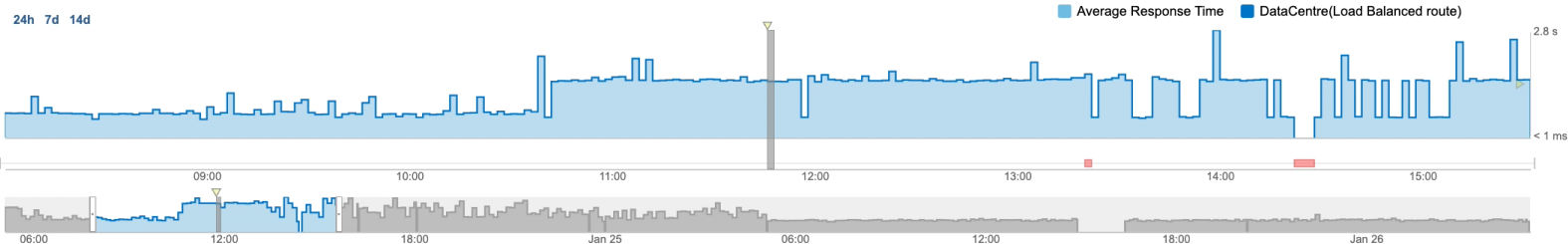
Metric

Response Time

Agent

DataCentre(Load B...

24h 7d 14d



Showing data from Mon, Jan 24 11:46 - 11:48 +04 (Jan 24, 2022)

Navigation controls: Previous, Next, Latest

Map Table

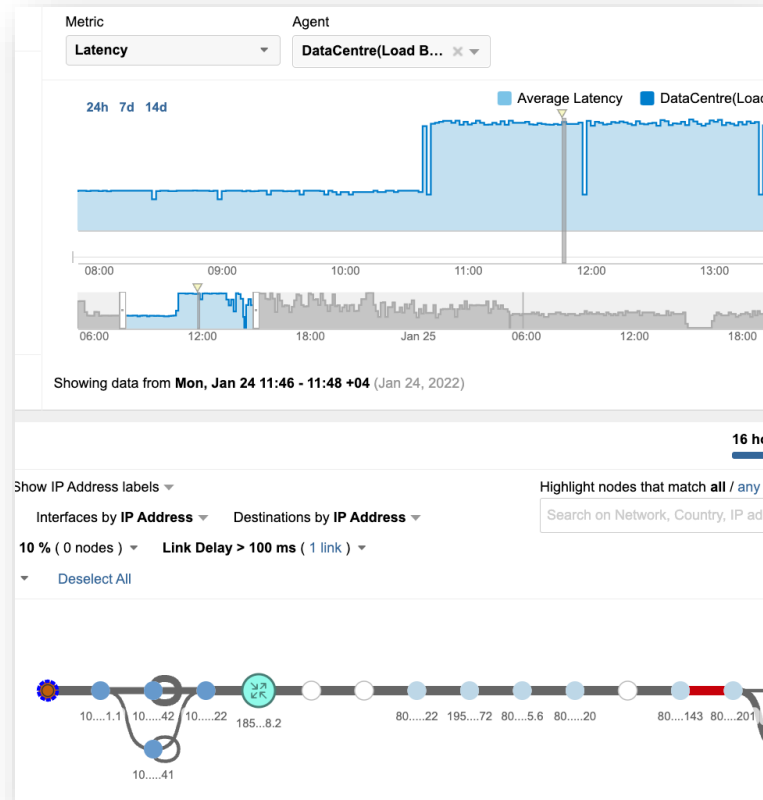
Details for DataCentre(Load Balanced route)

Response Time 1469 ms

Redirect Time 0
(No. of Redirects)



Correlate application performance with network visibility for actionable insights.




API response time increased due to
CDN routing traffic sub-optimally

What's up with China and DNS?



China DNS hijacking example

 Views

WEB

HTTP Server

NETWORK

Overview

Path Visualization

Target URL

https://www.nytimes.com


Metric

Availability

Agent

All agents

24h 7d 14d



Average Availability

100%

0%











Showing data from Wed, May 25 12:50 - 12:51 -03 (21 minutes ago)

< >

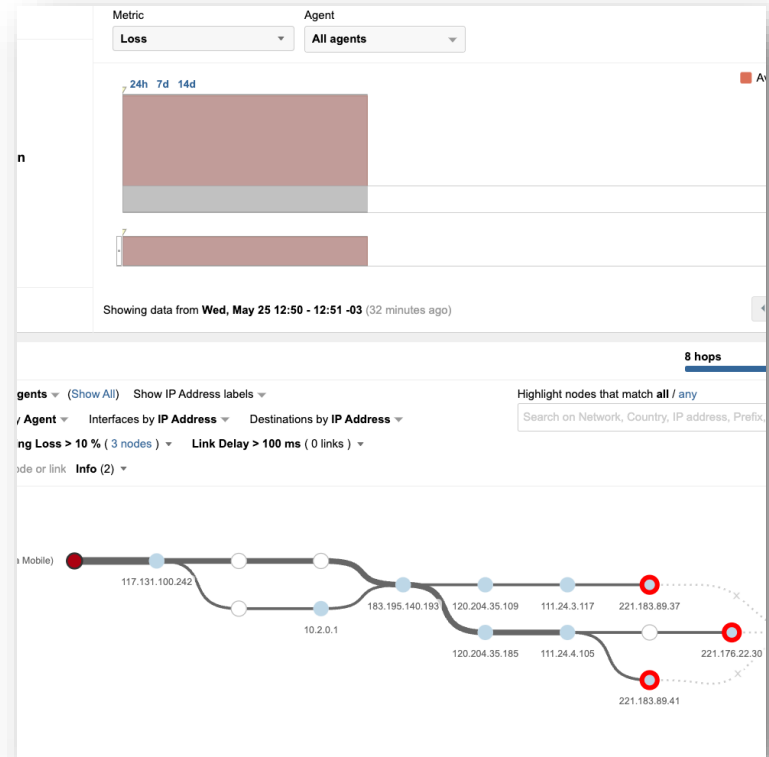
Latest→

Map Table

Search...

Agent	Target	Date (-03)	Response	Redirect Time	Error ↓
 Shanghai, China (China Unicom)	https://www.nytimes.com/ 151.101.77.164	2022-05-25 12:50:44	0	–	● SSL - Operation timed out after 4867 milliseconds with 0 out of 0 bytes received
 Shanghai, China (China Telecom)	https://www.nytimes.com/ 162.125.32.15	2022-05-25 12:50:49	0	–	● Connect - Connection timed out after 4999 milliseconds
 Beijing, China (China Telecom)	https://www.nytimes.com/ 74.86.12.173	2022-05-25 12:50:56	0	–	● Connect - Connection timed out after 4997 milliseconds
 Beijing, China (China Mobile)	https://www.nytimes.com/ 128.121.243.75	2022-05-25 12:50:46	0	–	● Connect - Connection timed out after 4996 milliseconds
 Shanghai, China (China Mobile)	https://www.nytimes.com/ 157.240.3.50	2022-05-25 12:50:45	0	–	● Connect - Connection timed out after 4994 milliseconds
 Beijing, China (China Unicom)	https://www.nytimes.com/ 154.85.102.32	2022-05-25 12:50:36	0	–	● Connect - Connection timed out after 4918 milliseconds
 New York, NY (Cogent)	https://www.nytimes.com/ 199.232.37.164	2022-05-25 12:50:25	200 [Details]	–	–
 New York, NY (CenturyLink)	https://www.nytimes.com/ 199.232.37.164	2022-05-25 12:50:30	200 [Details]	–	–
 New York, NY (Charter)	https://www.nytimes.com/ 151.101.209.164	2022-05-25 12:50:40	200 [Details]	–	–
 New York, NY (Comcast)	https://www.nytimes.com/ 151.101.117.164	2022-05-25 12:50:41	200 [Details]	–	–

Understand global connectivity and catch issues with application dependencies

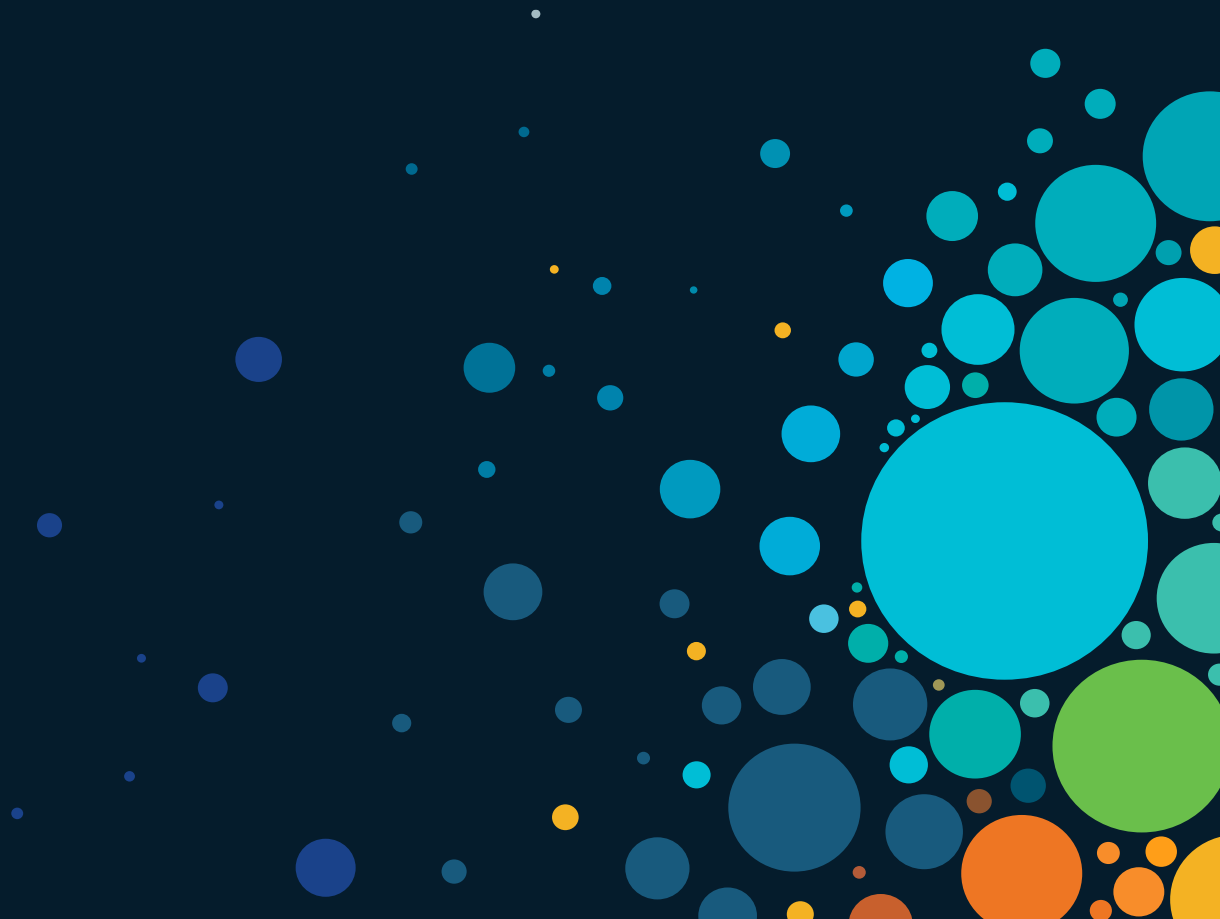


New York Times DNS queries from inside China are hijacked and IPs of SaaS platforms are handed back. Traffic to these IPs is blocked at the network layer.

Requirements for successful DNS monitoring

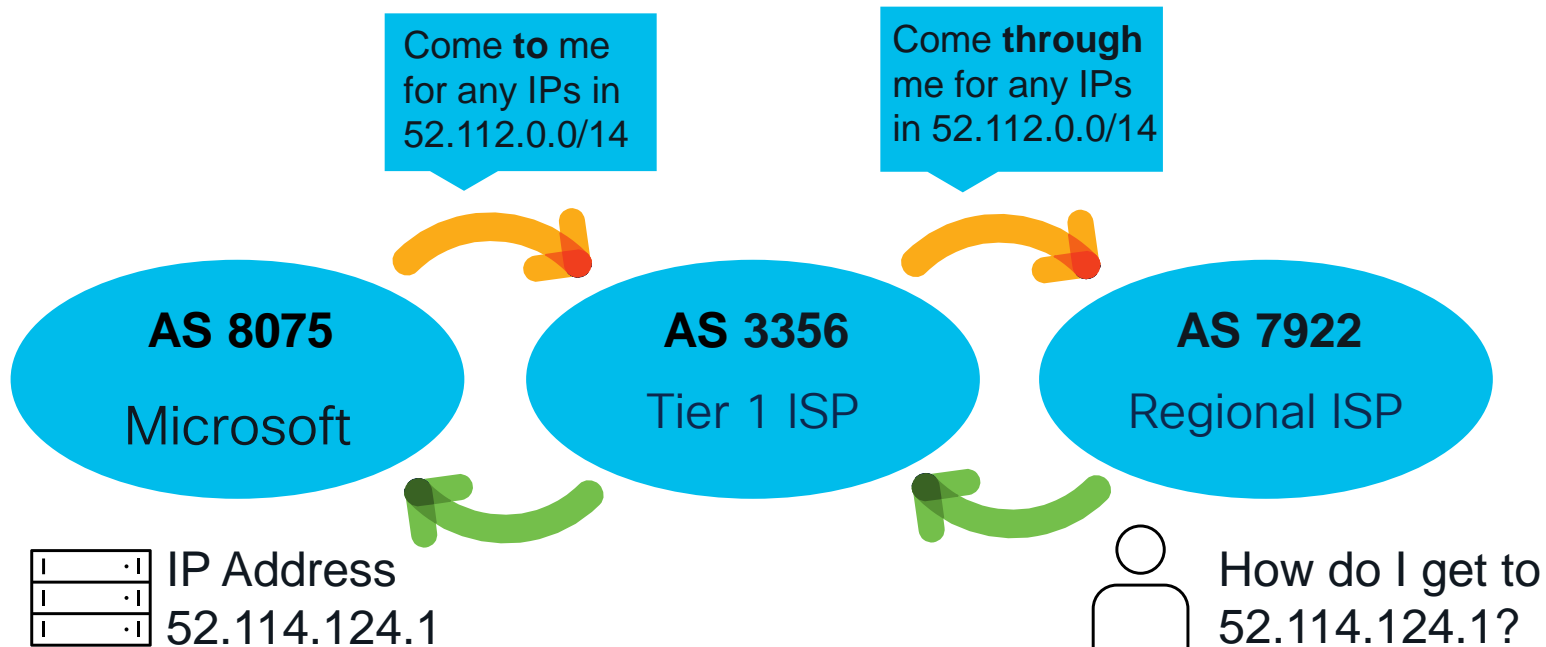
- Test full delegation chain from root all the way to an IP
- Correlate application with DNS health to make monitoring data more business relevant
- Use in protocol DNS tests, just checking port 53 is open or pinging a DNS server is no good
- Correlate DNS with other dependencies such as the network

BGP

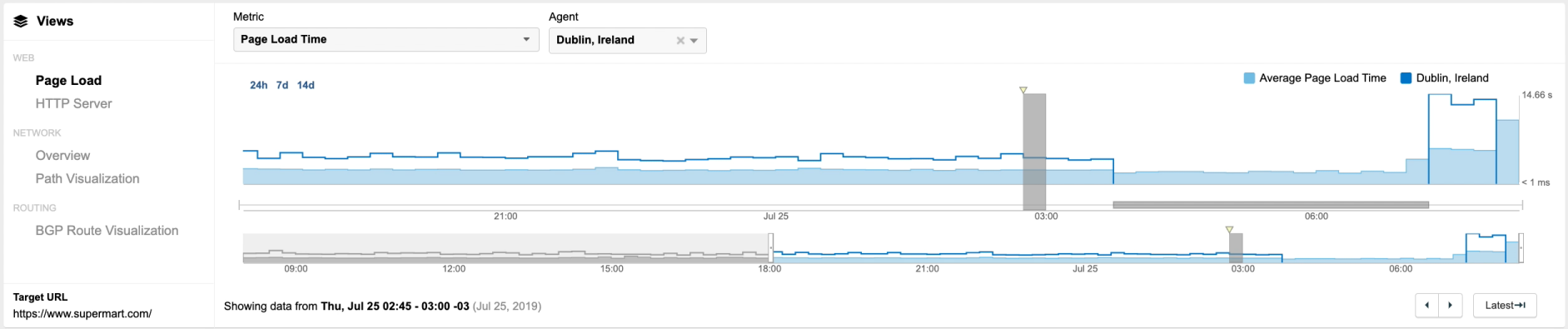


Do I need BGP monitoring?
For those who have an
ASN and those who don't.

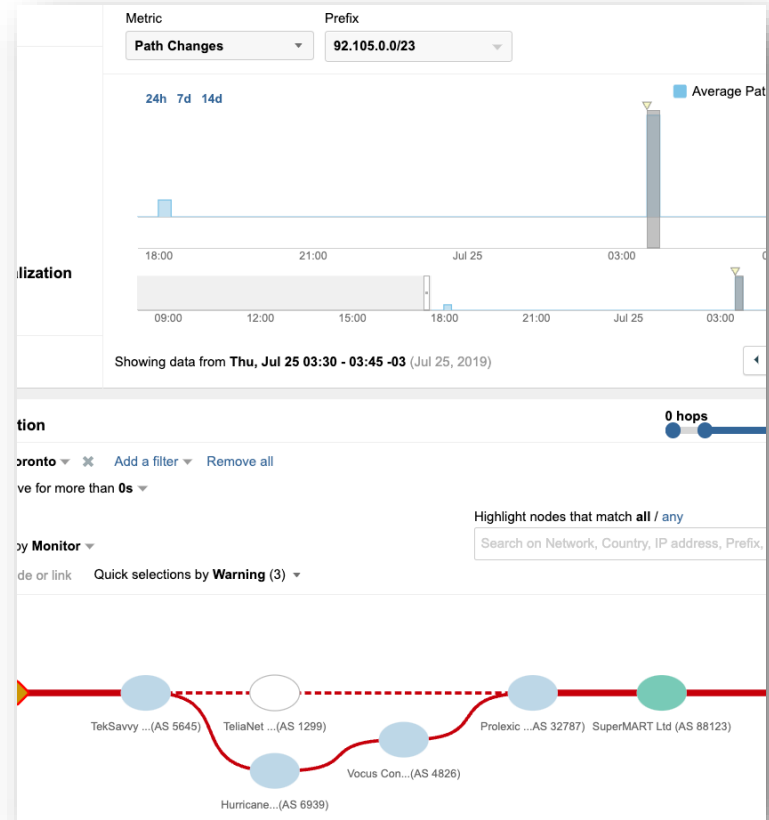
What is BGP?



CDN Suboptimal routing example



See how third party / your own BGP announcements impact application performance. Use these insights to escalate issues and lower MTTR.



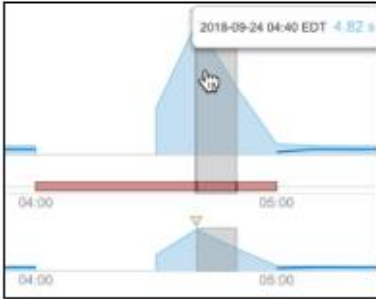
A BGP change introduced sub optimal routing and pulled traffic originating in Europe into Japan.

How to turn interesting BGP data into critical visibility



Cross Layer Correlation

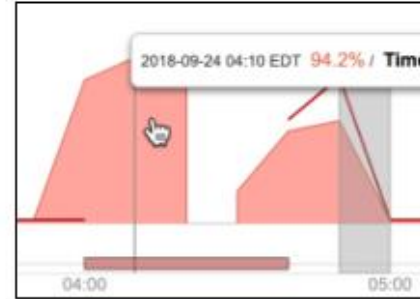
Correlate across multiple layers to show business impact and escalate to correct resolver group



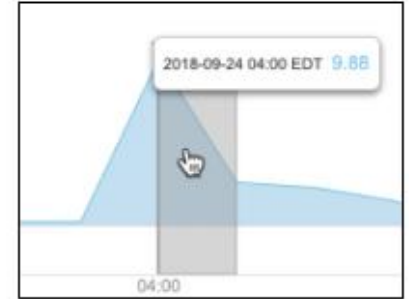
High Page Load



HTTP Availability

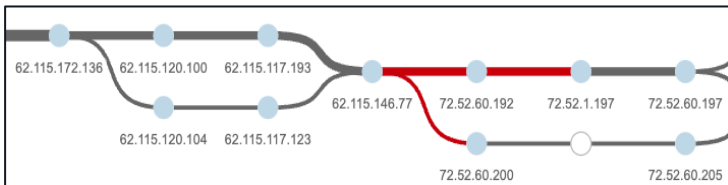


Packet Loss

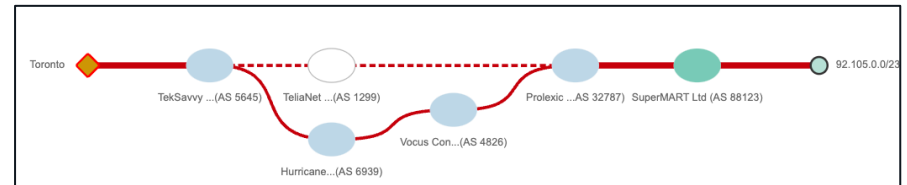


BGP Changes

Visualize network paths and BGP for effective root cause analysis and third-party escalations

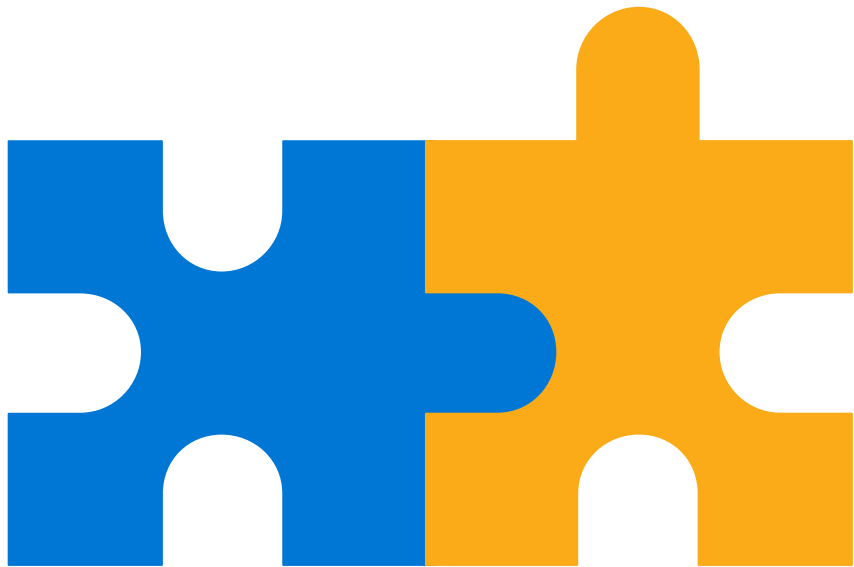


Network Path Visualization



BGP Route Visualization

Don't leave a missing piece of the puzzle



I can see packet
loss but why?

BGP Outage!



Why is US traffic
being routed via
APAC?

BGP Hijack!

Why is my traffic suddenly being routed through country XYZ?

Endpoint Agent Snapshot

Sun, Nov 11, 2020 21:30 UTC – Tue, Nov 13, 2020 21:30 UTC

Showing user sessions where

VIEWS

Domain google.com ▾ × SSID ThousandEyes ▾ × Add a filter ▾

Browser Sessions

24h 7d 14d Metric Loss ▾

Visited Pages

Network

Local Networks

Path Visualization Map Table

Showing: VPN Overlay ▾ Agent 43 selected ▾ × Add a filter ▾

Grouping: Agents by Network ▾ Interfaces by IP Address ▾ Destinations by Domain ▾

Highlighting: Forwarding Loss > 10 % (4 nodes) ▾ Link Delay > 100 ms (0 links) ▾

Selecting: Click a node or link Quick selections by Warning (2) ▾ Info (1) ▾ Deselect All

Showing data from Mon, Nov 12 21:30 - 21:35 UTC (Nov 12, 2020)



Latest

Apply to the entire view

18 hops

0 hops

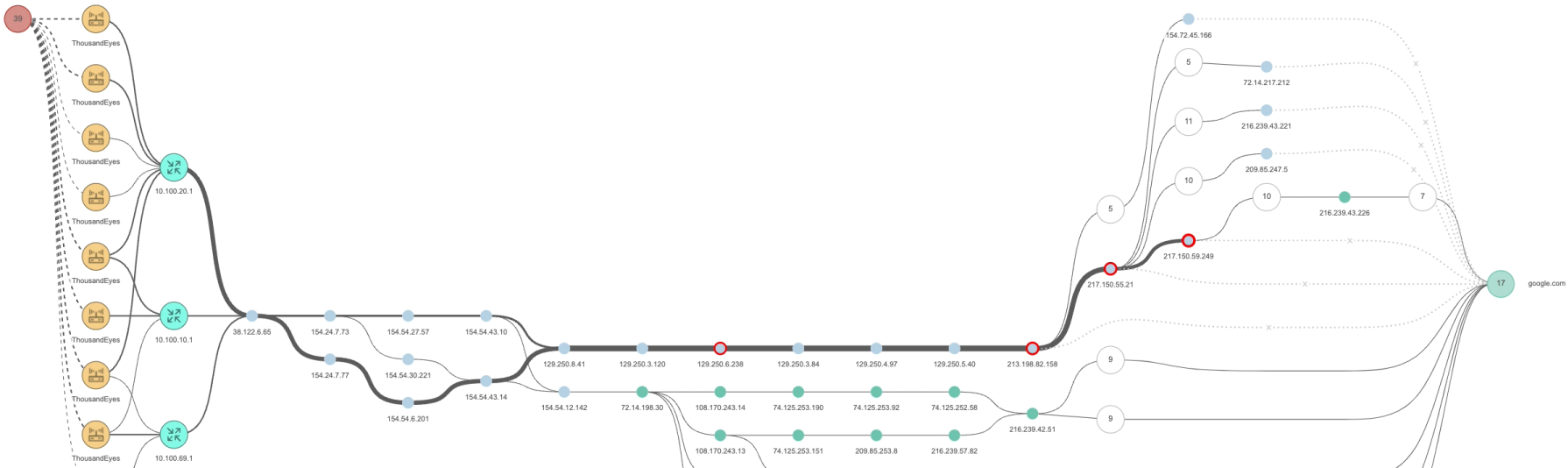
Highlight nodes that match all / any

Search on Network, Country, IP address, Prefix, or Title...



Node Labels by IP Address ▾

Unknown Network



Mon, Nov 12, 2020 18:30 UTC – Tue, Nov 13, 2020 00:25 UTC

Views

WEB

HTTP Server

NETWORK

Overview

Path Visualization

ROUTING

BGP Route Visualization

Target Prefix

216.58.204.0/23

Metric

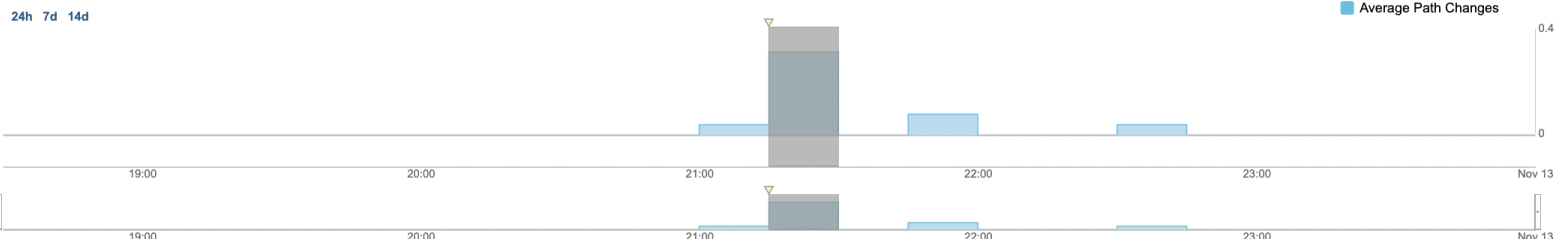
Path Changes

Prefix

216.58.204.0/23

24h 7d 14d

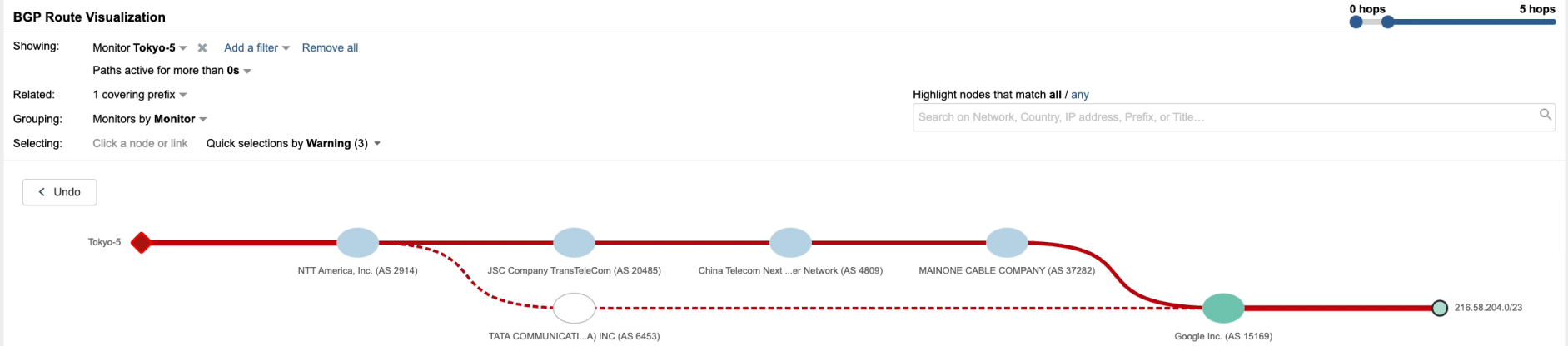
Average Path Changes



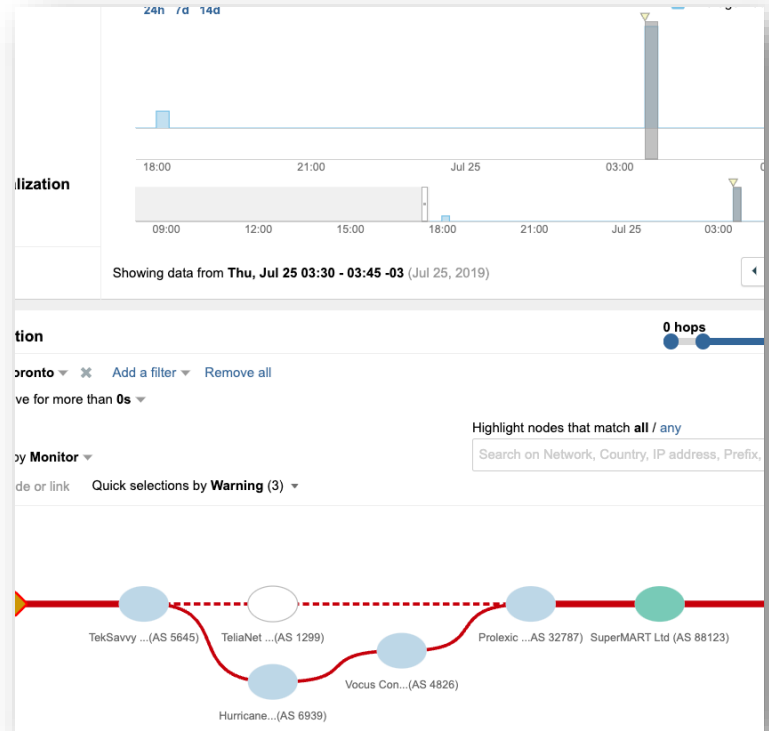
Showing data from Mon, Nov 12 21:15 - 21:30 UTC (Nov 12, 2020)

◀ ▶

Latest→H



Proactive visibility into large scale internet events and how they impact your business.



Google BGP hijack pulls G-Suite traffic into Russia, China and Nigeria.

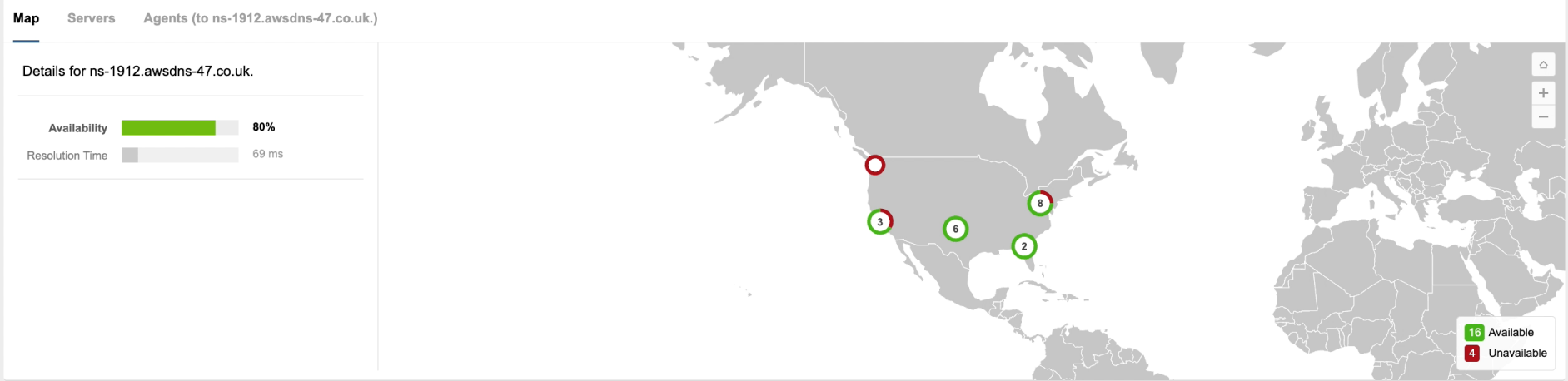
When BGP and DNS are weaponized!



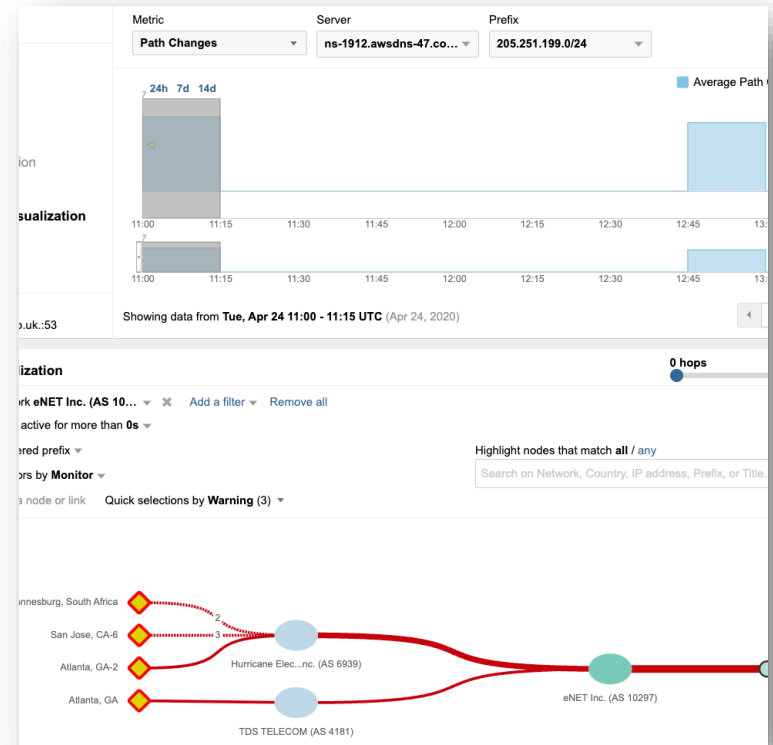
Malicious BGP Hijack Example

AWS BGP Hijack

Tue, Apr 24, 2020 09:10 UTC – 13:20 UTC



Attacks against third party networks often have major impacts on their customers. Timely data can empower you to act and mitigate sooner, reducing the impact.



Hackers hijacked an AWS Route 53 prefix pulling traffic to a compromised network where a rogue DNS server route traffic to a bogus website in order to steal cryptocurrency.

Requirements for successful BGP monitoring

Monitor the routine

- Operational policy changes
- Peering changes
- Maintenance
- Intentional handovers (DDoS)

And the unexpected

- Local misconfigurations
- Upstream ISP failures
- Route hijacking and leaks
- Instability and flapping

Correlate BGP visibility with Layer 3 network visibility and application data

Technical Session Surveys

- Attendees who fill out a minimum of four session surveys and the overall event survey will get Cisco Live branded socks!
- Attendees will also earn 100 points in the Cisco Live Game for every survey completed.
- These points help you get on the leaderboard and increase your chances of winning daily and grand prizes.



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Cisco Learning Network

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Cisco Certifications and Specialist Certifications

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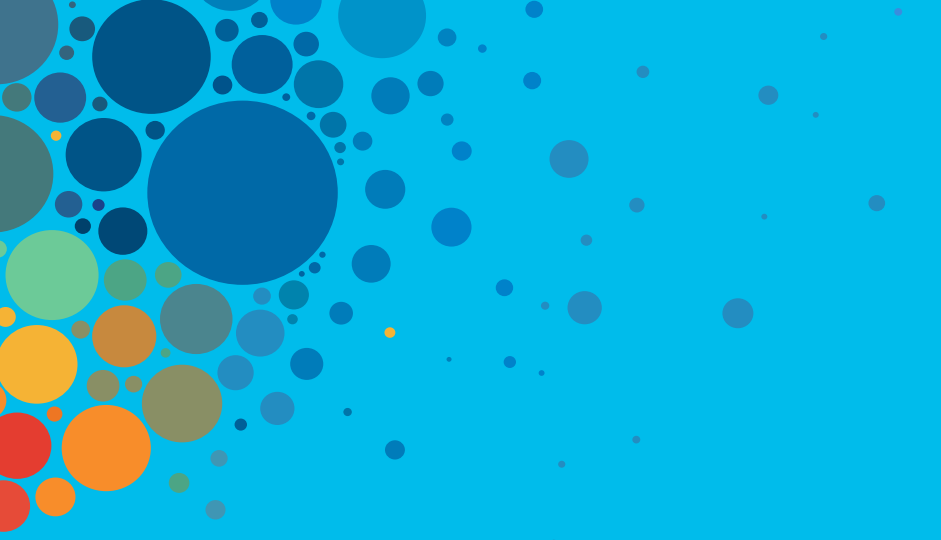
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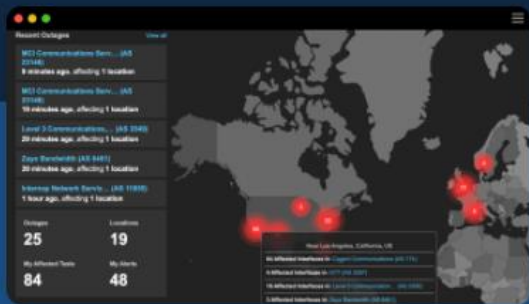
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The internet report: <https://www.thousandeyes.com/the-internet->



INTERNET OUTAGES MAP

See a global view, in real-time, of network outages across ISPs, public cloud, UCaaS and edge service providers.



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The bridge to possible

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