
The Dark Side of Certificate Transparency

How to abuse 'em for phun and profit

Aan Wahyu

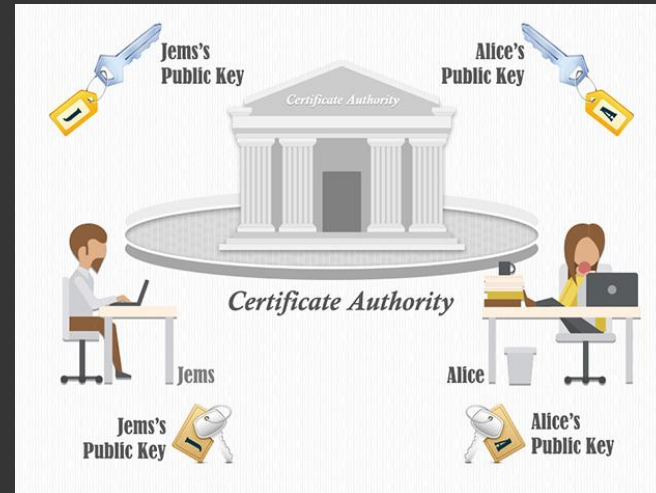
<https://petruknisme.com>

Certificate Authorities



Definition of CA

A Certificate Authority is a trusted third party entity that issues digital certificates and manages the public keys and credentials for data encryption for the end user.





SSL-Chain-of-Trust is Broken & Abused

Symantec Issues Rogue EV Certificate for Google.com

BY BILL BUDINGTON | SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

On Friday, Google [reported](#) on its online security blog the faulty issuance of a certificate for google.com and www.google.com by Symantec, a prominent Certificate Authority. This misissuance is significant not only because it represents a breach in the core Internet trust model, but also because it represents a breach in the core Internet trust model.

threat post

COMODO SAYS TWO MORE REGISTRATION AUTHORITIES COMPROMISED

threat post

FINAL REPORT ON DIGINOTAR HACK SHOWS TOTAL COMPROMISE OF CA SERVERS

- <https://threatpost.com/comodo-says-two-more-registration-authorities-compromised-033011/75083/>
- <https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2015/09/symantec-issues-rogue-ev-certificate-google-com>
- <https://threatpost.com/final-report-diginotar-hack-shows-total-compromise-ca-servers-103112/77170/>

Government involved

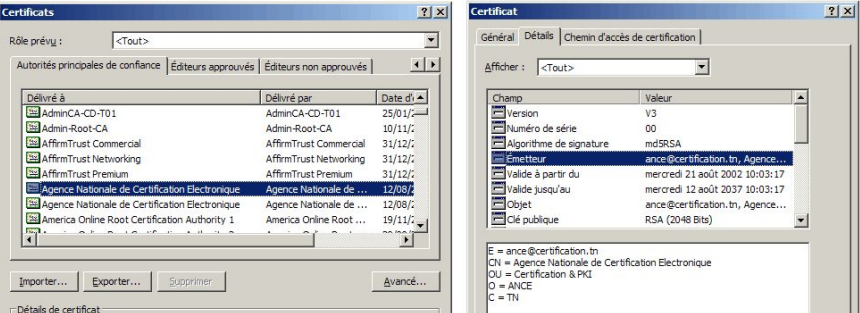
Hey, look who invited himself

Friday, March 18, 2011

Well, that's a curious information. And one more reason (if he still had one) to keep me away from Internet Explorer (and Chrome at the same time).

Did you about the [SSL certificate problem](#) and that "anyone" with a root certificate can intercept your HTTPS communication without raising any alarm in your browser.

Some browser vendors, it seems that only Microsoft has agreed to install the root certificate ... I give you a thousand ... **the Tunisian government!**



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://sebsauvage.net/rhaa/index.php?2011/03/18/16/00/02-tiens-regardez-qui-s-est-invite>. The page displays a list of certificates under the heading 'Certificats'. The 'Agence Nationale de Certification Electronique' is highlighted in the list. Below the list, there are buttons for 'Importer...', 'Exporter...', 'Supprimer', and 'Avancé...'. The 'Détails de certificat' section is visible at the bottom.

- <http://sebsauvage.net/rhaa/index.php?2011/03/18/16/00/02-tiens-regardez-qui-s-est-invite>
- <https://blog.instantssl.com/technology/french-govt-a-gency-fakes-google-certificates/>
- <https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2013/01/turkish-government-agency-spoofed-google-certificate-accidentally/>

Comodo Group Inc. (US) | <https://blog.instantssl.com/technology/french-govt-a-gency-fakes-google-certificates/>

French Govt Agency Fakes Google Certificates For Multiple Domains

February 20, 2014 | By Editor

In recent news, it has been identified that a firm in association with the French government has been exploiting the concept of **SSL Certificates**. They were continuously issuing multiple rogue certificates for different Google domains without proper authorization or license. The intermediate certificate authority was associated with the French Ministry of Finance. For some found began Official engineering company. The again author



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2013/01/turkish-government-agency-spoofed-google-certificate-accidentally/>. The page displays a list of certificates under the heading 'Certificat'. The 'Agence Nationale de Certification Electronique' is highlighted in the list. Below the list, there are buttons for 'Importer...', 'Exporter...', 'Supprimer', and 'Avancé...'. The 'Détails de certificat' section is visible at the bottom.

Turkish government agency spoofed Google certificate "accidentally"

CA mistakenly gave Ankara's transit authority even more authority.

SEAN GALLAGHER - 1/5/2013, 3:44 AM



Microsoft has released a [security advisory](#) concerning a fraudulent digital certificate for all Google domains apparently created by the Turkish government. The certificate, which was created by a subsidiary Certificate Authority issued to the transportation directorate of the [city government of Ankara](#), could have been used to intercept SSL traffic as part of a "man in the middle" attack to spoof Google's encryption certificate and decrypt secure Web sessions to Google Plus and Gmail.

According to a statement from the Turkish certificate authority Turktrust, the organization mistakenly issued two organizations subsidiary CA certificates in 2011—created during testing of Turktrust's certificate production system—instead of the standard SSL certificates they were supposed to receive. Subsidiary CA certificates give the holder the ability to issue SSL certificates with the original CA's authority.

**Can we trust Certificate
Authorities?**

Blindly?

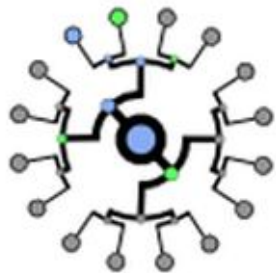
I think, No

CERTIFICATE TRANSPARENCY



TO THE RESCUE

imgflip.com



Certificate
Transparency

Definition

Certificate Transparency is an open framework for monitoring and auditing the certificates issued by Certificate Authorities in near real-time.

How CT works

Certificate Transparency adds three new functional components to the current SSL certificate system:

- Certificate logs
- Certificate monitors
- Certificate auditors

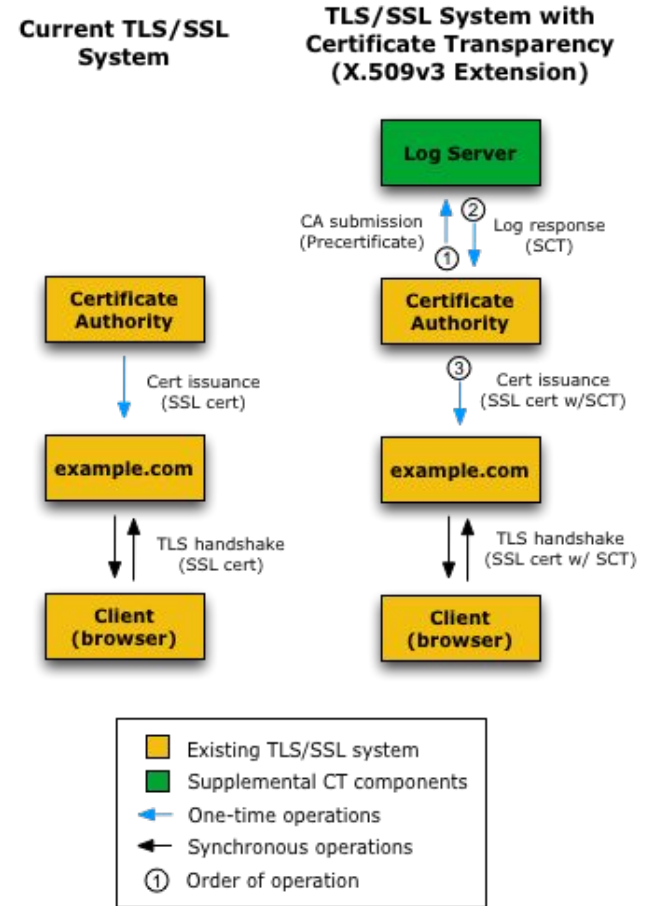


Figure 1

Typical System Configuration

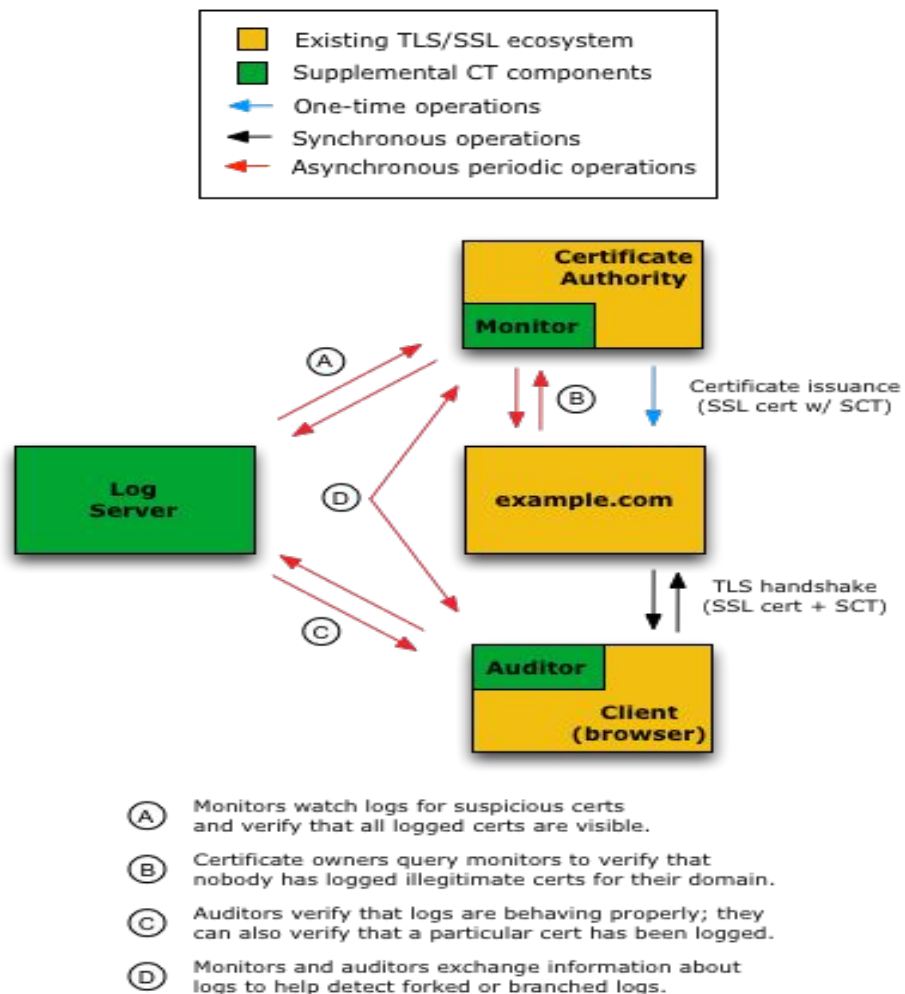


Figure 3

RFC 6962

- Public accessible and append-only certificate logging
- Cryptography assured
- Open to All

<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6962>

Goals

- Detect, audit, monitor rogue certificates
- Quickly identify fraudulent certificates
- Protect users from being duped by certs
- Chain of trust

Server Logger

- Google:
 - 3 open for all
 - 1 let's encrypt
 - 1 non let's encrypt
 - Cloudflare, DigiCert, Comodo
 - Symantec, WoSign, CNNIC, StartCom = caught cheating
 - Some smaller company
-
- https://www.gstatic.com/ct/log_list/log_list.js
on
 - <https://lab.dsst.io/slides/33c3/slides/8167.pd>

CT logs by design contain all the certificates and logs are available publicly so anyone can look through these logs.

Disadvantage

Privacy:

- People can mapping internal or external host
- Gather a lot of information about an organisation's infrastructure such as internal domains, email addresses.
- Great for reconnaissance(bug bounty? :P)

So, CT will becomes our source of data(?)

CT Search Engine

- <https://crt.sh/>
- <https://censys.io/>
- <https://developers.facebook.com/tools/ct/>
- <https://www.google.com/transparencyreport/https/ct/>

crt.sh

crt.sh Identity Search



[Group by Issuer](#)

Criteria

Identity LIKE '%petrknisme.com'

crt.sh ID	Logged At	Not Before	Not After	Identity	Issuer Name
353650208	2018-03-12	2018-03-12	2018-06-10	mail.petrknisme.com	C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=Let's Encrypt Authority X3
353650208	2018-03-12	2018-03-12	2018-06-10	www.petrknisme.com	C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=Let's Encrypt Authority X3
344566831	2018-03-01	2018-03-01	2018-09-07	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
344540893	2018-03-01	2018-03-01	2018-09-07	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
344537126	2018-03-01	2018-03-01	2018-09-07	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
343628930	2018-02-28	2018-02-28	2018-09-06	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
343612445	2018-02-28	2018-02-28	2018-09-06	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
323162274	2018-02-05	2018-02-05	2018-08-14	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
320536581	2018-02-03	2018-02-03	2018-08-12	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
298621159	2018-01-09	2018-01-09	2018-04-09	mail.petrknisme.com	C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=Let's Encrypt Authority X3
298621159	2018-01-09	2018-01-09	2018-04-09	www.petrknisme.com	C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=Let's Encrypt Authority X3
250805020	2017-11-09	2017-11-09	2018-02-07	mail.petrknisme.com	C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=Let's Encrypt Authority X3
250805020	2017-11-09	2017-11-09	2018-02-07	www.petrknisme.com	C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=Let's Encrypt Authority X3
246415443	2017-11-03	2017-11-03	2018-05-12	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
235074589	2017-10-19	2017-10-19	2018-04-27	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
234844096	2017-10-19	2017-10-19	2018-04-27	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
223070373	2017-10-03	2017-10-03	2018-04-11	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2
215714421	2017-09-22	2017-09-22	2018-03-31	*.petrknisme.com	C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO ECC Domain Validation Secure Server CA 2

crt.sh**CA Search****Criteria**

CA ID = '16418'

crt.sh CA ID 16418**CA Name/Key**

Subject:

commonName = Let's Encrypt Authority X3
organizationName = Let's Encrypt
countryName = US

Subject Public Key Info:

Public Key Algorithm: rsaEncryption

Public-Key: (2048 bit)

Modulus:

00:9c:d3:0c:f0:5a:e5:2e:47:b7:72:5d:37:83:b3:
68:63:30:ea:d7:35:26:19:25:e1:bd:be:35:fl:70:
92:2f:b7:b8:4b:41:05:ab:a9:9e:35:08:58:ec:b1:
2a:c4:68:87:0b:a3:e3:75:e4:e6:f3:a7:62:71:ba:
79:81:60:1f:d7:91:9a:9f:f3:d0:78:67:71:c8:69:
0e:95:91:cf:fe:e6:99:e9:60:3c:48:cc:7e:ca:4d:
77:12:24:9d:47:1b:5a:eb:b9:ec:1e:37:00:1c:9c:
ac:7b:a7:05:ea:ce:4a:eb:bd:41:e5:36:98:b9:cb:
fd:6d:3c:96:68:df:23:2a:42:90:0c:86:74:67:c8:
7f:a5:9a:b8:52:61:14:13:3f:65:e9:82:87:cb:db:
fa:0e:56:f6:86:89:f3:85:3f:97:86:af:b0:dc:1a:
ef:6b:0d:95:16:7d:c4:2b:a0:65:b2:99:04:36:75:
80:6b:ac:4a:f3:1b:90:49:78:2f:a2:96:4f:2a:20:
25:29:04:c6:74:c0:d0:31:cd:8f:31:38:95:16:ba:
a8:33:b8:43:f1:bl:lf:c3:30:7f:a2:79:31:13:3d:
2d:36:f8:e3:fc:f2:33:6a:b9:39:31:c5:af:c4:8d:
0d:ld:64:16:33:aa:fa:84:29:b6:d4:0b:c0:d8:7d:
c3:93

Exponent: 65537 (0x10001)

Certificates

crt.sh ID	Not Before	Not After	Issuer Name
47997543	2016-10-06	2021-10-06	C=US, O=Internet Security Research Group, CN=ISRG Root X1
15706126	2016-03-17	2021-03-17	O=Digital Signature Trust Co., CN=DST Root CA X3

crt.sh

Let's talk about something else

**How about finding interesting subdomain and
Hack 'em before public release ? :)**



Maybe we found git, dev, storage, firewall, etc?
:)

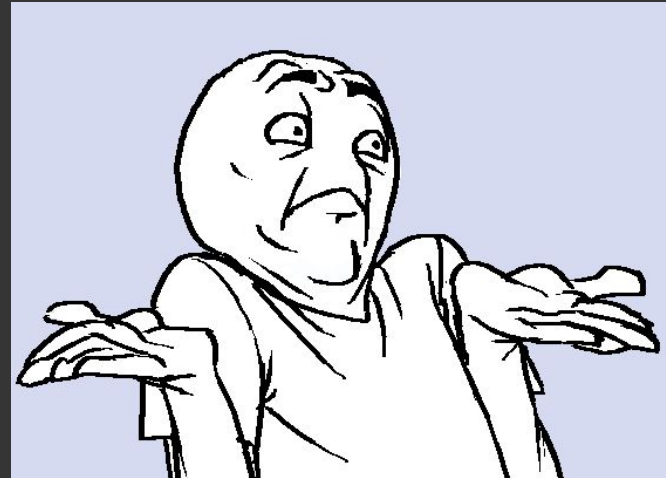
Public exploit available? Default/weak credential?

Or Attacking Content Management Systems?



I mean, CMS installer system

With no authentication



Thanks to Hanno Böck for the automation script called 'ctgrab'

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for `hannob/ctgrab`. The browser address bar shows the URL `https://github.com/hannob/ctgrab`. The repository is currently on the `master` branch. The page displays the repository's metadata, including 4 commits, 1 branch, 0 releases, and 1 contributor. A table lists the files in the repository, including `hijack`, `LICENSE`, `README.md`, `ctgrab`, `findwebinstaller`, and `genctloglist`. The `ctgrab` file is highlighted, and its commit history is shown. The `README.md` file is also visible, showing the title `ctgrab` and a description: "These scripts are a proof of concept of an attack monitoring hosts from Certificate Transparency for unprotected web installers."

GitHub, Inc. (US) | <https://github.com/hannob/ctgrab>

<> Code | Issues 1 | Pull requests 0 | Projects 0 | Wiki | Insights

No description, website, or topics provided.

4 commits | 1 branch | 0 releases | 1 contributor | Unlicense

Branch: master | New pull request | Create new file | Upload files | Find file | Clone or download

hannob fix links | Latest commit 42e5cee on Jul 30, 2017

hijack	add hijack plugin	9 months ago
LICENSE	Initial commit	9 months ago
README.md	fix links	9 months ago
ctgrab	initial commit	9 months ago
findwebinstaller	initial commit	9 months ago
genctloglist	initial commit	9 months ago

README.md

ctgrab

These scripts are a proof of concept of an attack monitoring hosts from Certificate Transparency for unprotected web installers.

Or finding S3 buckets from CT logs?

Watch 'em with bucket-stream

This tool simply listens to various certificate transparency logs (via certstream) and attempts to find public S3 buckets from permutations of the certificates domain name.

bucket-stream

Waiting for Certstream events - this could take a few minutes to queue up...

```
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by 'keith'. ACLs = AllUsers: (none) | AuthenticatedUsers: READ, WRITE, READ_ACP
Found bucket '[REDACTED].amazonaws.com'. Owned by 'keith'. ACLs = AllUsers: (none) | AuthenticatedUsers: READ, WRITE, READ_ACP
Found bucket '[REDACTED].amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by 'alexalvarez'. ACLs = AllUsers: FULL_CONTROL | AuthenticatedUsers: (none)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
Found bucket '[REDACTED].s3.amazonaws.com'. Owned by '(unknown)'. ACLS = (could not read)
```


So, is your server secured?

Conclusions

- Secure your servers and application end points better. Put everything sensitive behind authentication
- Restrict IP from accessing server
- Using wildcard certificates, so you are not revealing sub-domain(Not recommended)
- Accept the fact that all your SSL/TLS protected domains/sub-domains will get listed in a public CT log file.
- Deploy your own Public Key Infrastructure(PKI), to avoid CT log by public CA.
- Redact sub-domain information from CT logs when your CA support for name redaction.
<https://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-strad-trans-redaction-01>
- Opt-out of Certificate Transparency, if your CA supports it

Thanks for your attentions!