



# Detecting Prefix Hijackings in the Internet with Argus

Xingang Shi   Yang Xiang   Zhiliang Wang  
Xia Yin   Jianping Wu

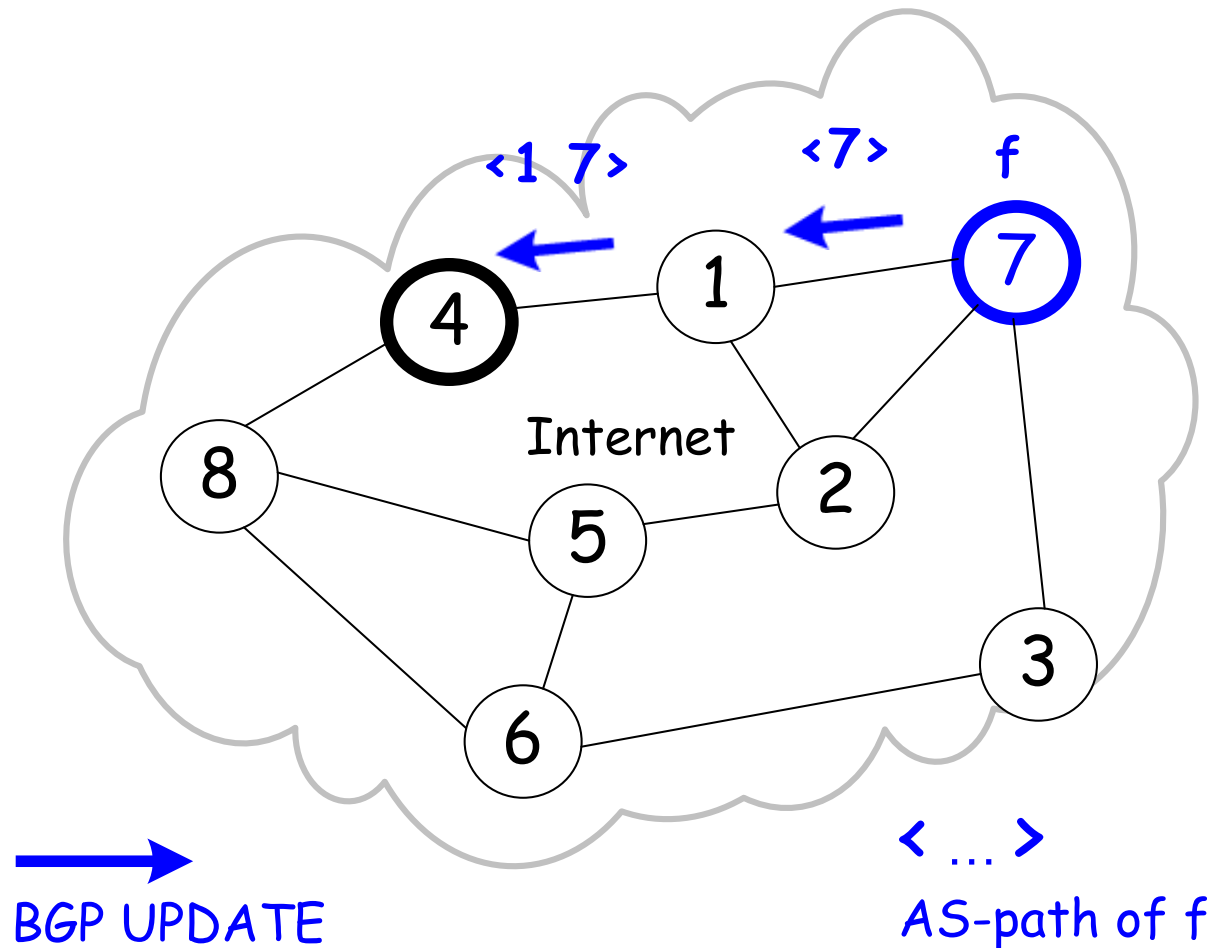
Tsinghua University

# Outline

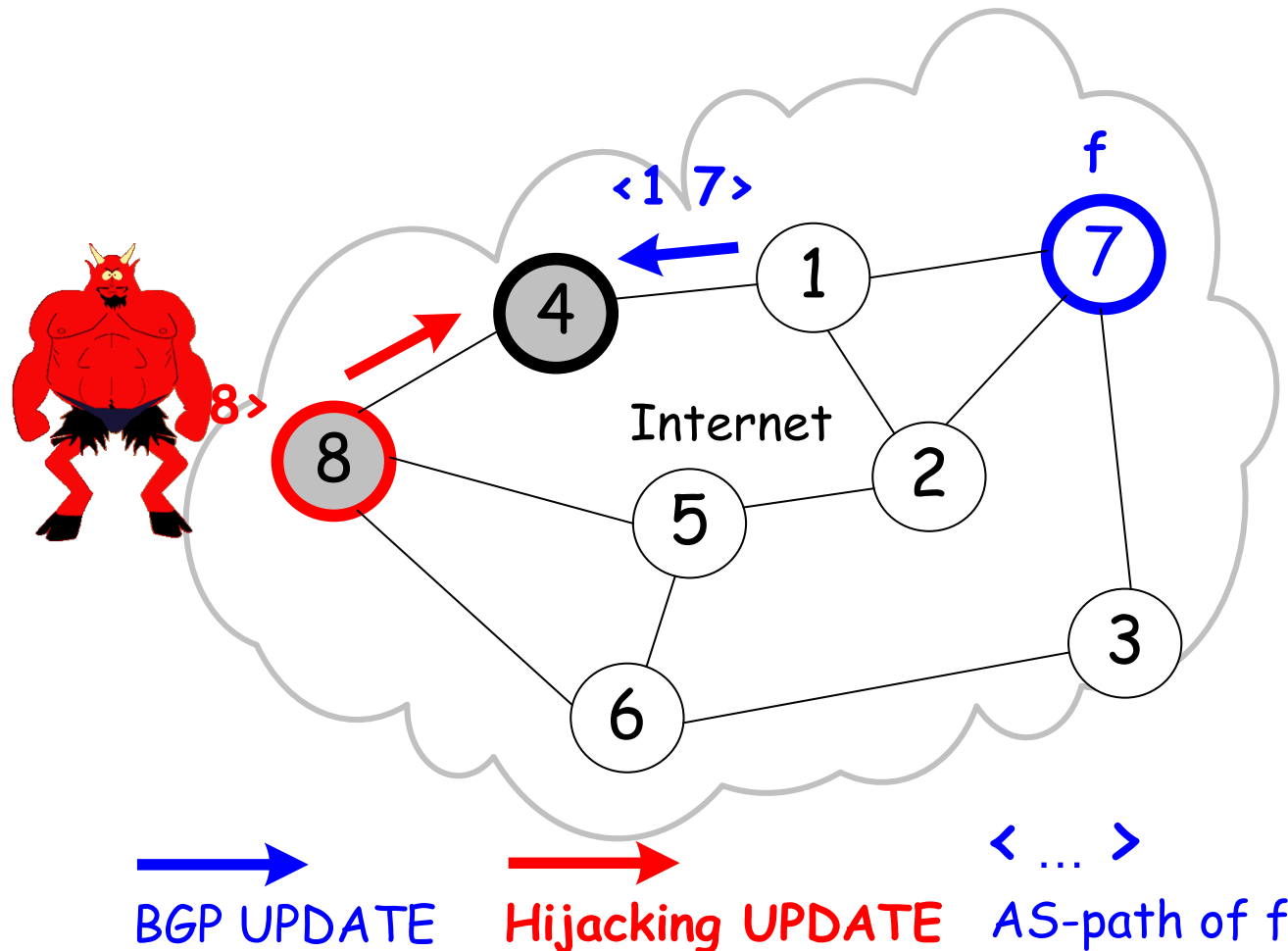
---

- Introduction
  - Prefix Hijacking
  - Existing Detection Methods
- Argus
  - Key Observation & Algorithm
  - System Architecture & Implementation
- Internet Monitoring Practice
  - Evaluation
  - Statistics
  - Case Studies
- Conclusion

# Inter-domain Routing



# Prefix Hijacking



# Black-holing Hijackings

---

- Packets dropped by the attacker
- Also caused by **unintentional mis-configurations**
  - 2010, China Tele. hijacked **15%** of Internet(prefixes)
  - 2008, Pakistan Tele. hijacked Youtube for **2 hours**

# Outline

---

- Introduction
  - Prefix Hijacking
  - Existing Detection Methods
- Argus
  - Key Observation & Algorithm
  - System Architecture & Implementation
- Internet Monitoring Practice
  - Evaluation
  - Statistics
  - Case Studies
- Conclusion

# Challenges of Hijacking Detection

---

Hijacking can pollute a large number of ASes in several seconds!

**short  
delay**

**high  
accuracy**

Multi-homing, TE,  
BGP anycast, Backup links,  
Route failure, Policy change

Real system  
or service

**easy to  
deploy**

**high  
scalability**

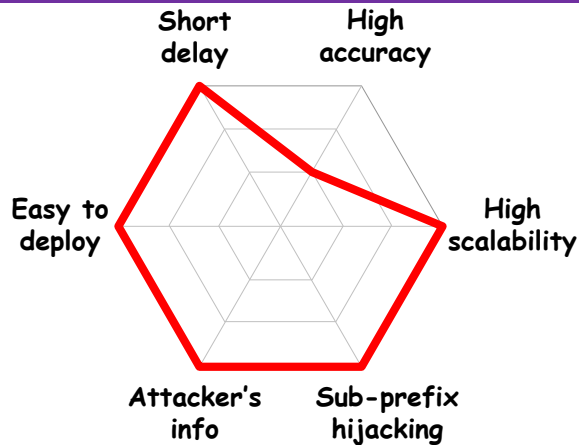
Monitoring the  
whole Internet

**attacker's  
info**

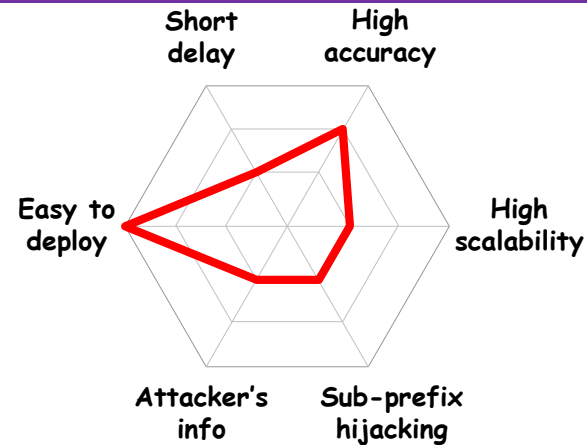
**sub-prefix  
hijacking**

# Our Approach

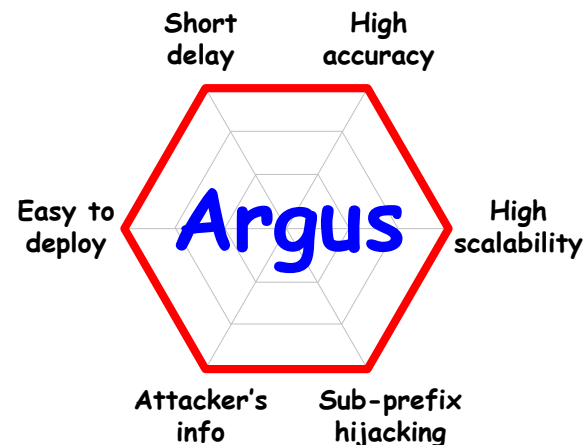
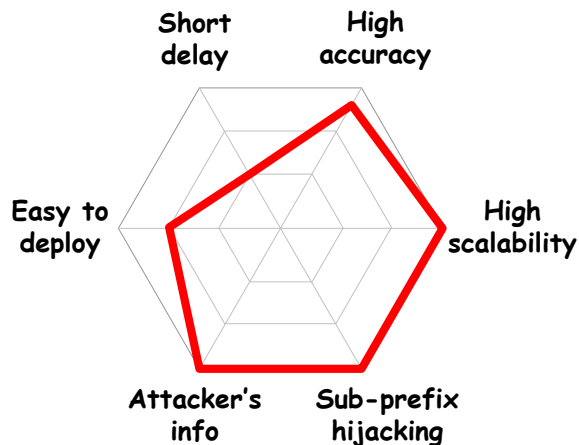
Control  
plane



Data  
plane



Hybrid



Correlation



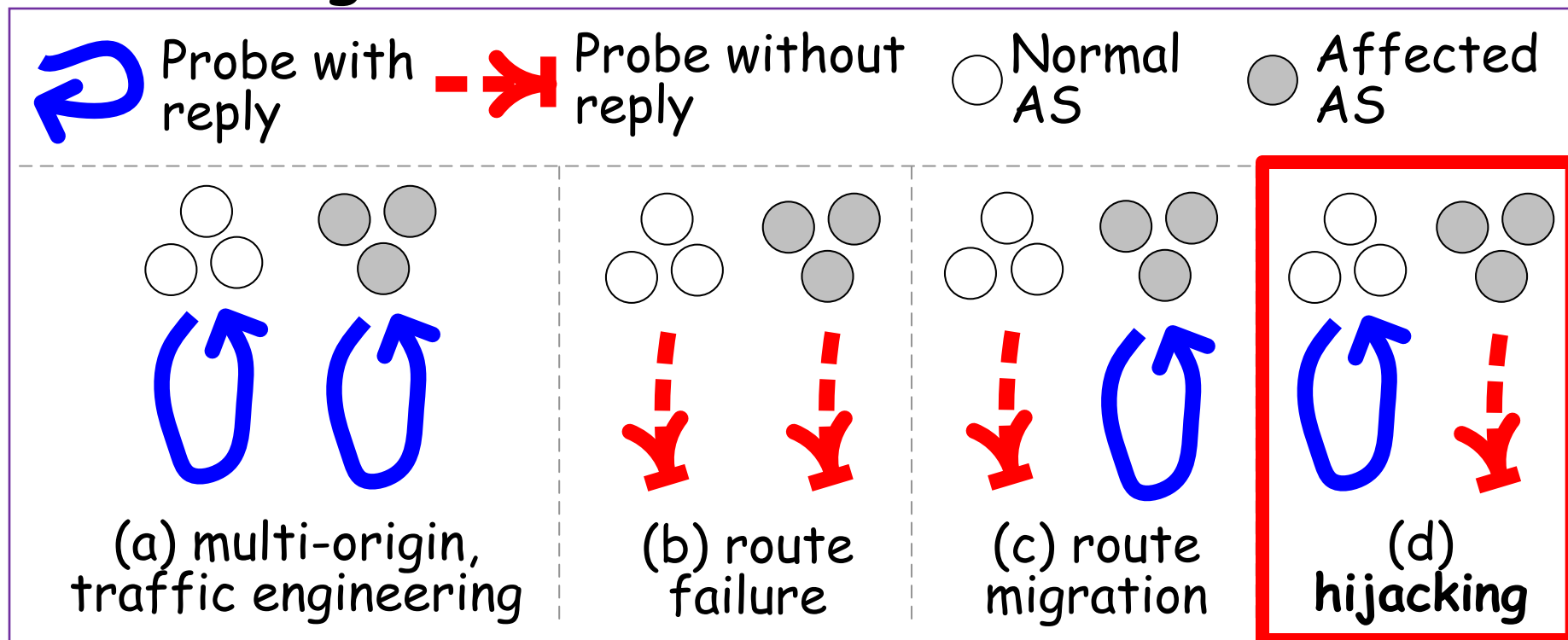
# Outline

---

- Introduction
  - Prefix Hijacking
  - Existing Detection Methods
- Argus
  - Key Observation & Algorithm
  - System Architecture & Implementation
- Internet Monitoring Practice
  - Evaluation
  - Statistics
  - Case Studies
- Conclusion

# Key Observations: Relationship between Control and Data Plane

- Only part of the Internet is polluted
- Distinguishable from other route events



# Status Matching

---

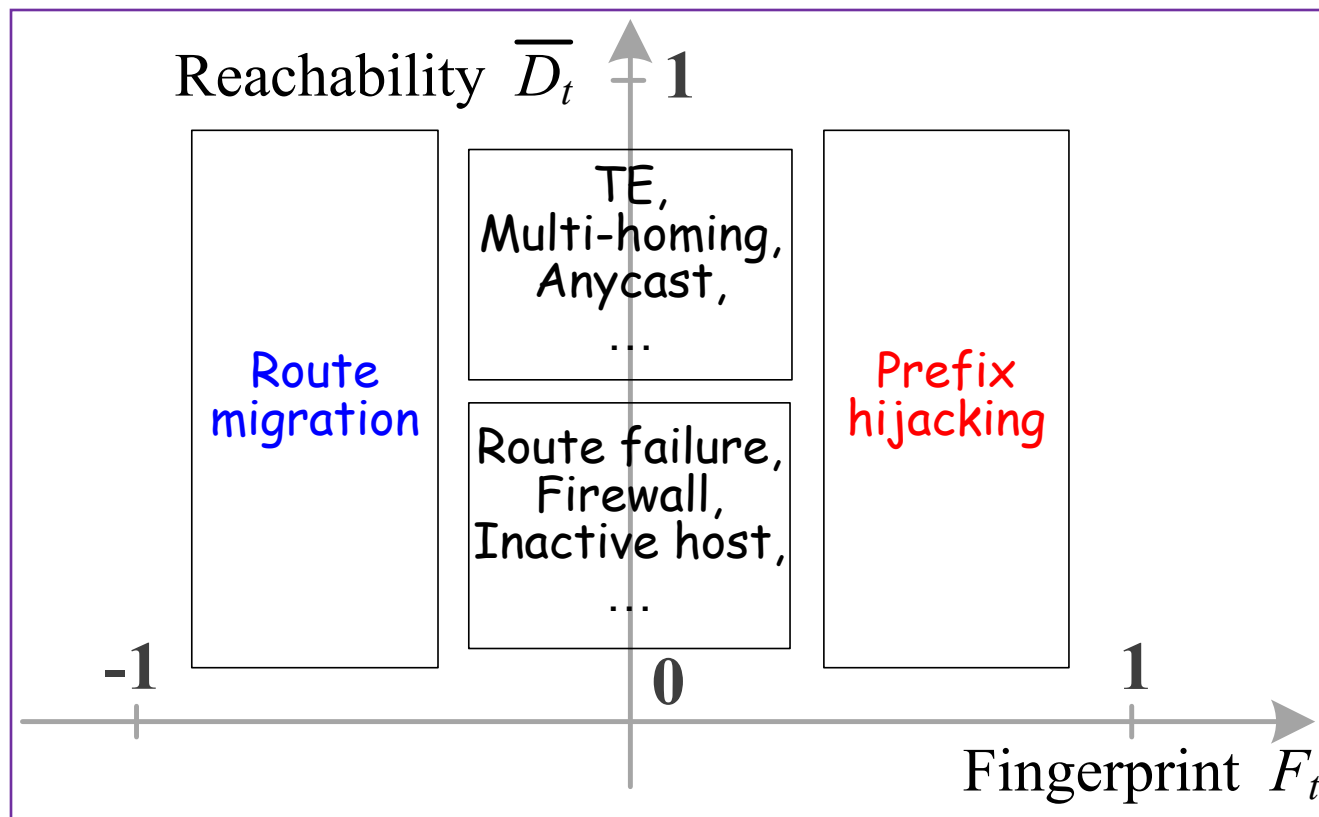
- **Eyes of Argus**: public route-servers, looking-glasses
  - Simple & fast commands: show ip bgp, ping
- **Eye<sub>j</sub>** at time **t**
  - Control plane  $C_{tj}$  : not affected by the anomalous route?
  - Data plane  $D_{tj}$  : live IP in the corresponding prefix can be reached?
  - correlation coefficient of  $D$  and  $C$  - Raise an alarm if  $F_t > \mu$

Fingerprint of a route event:

$$F_t = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^N [(C_{t,j} - \overline{C_t})(D_{t,j} - \overline{D_t})]}{\sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^N (C_{t,j} - \overline{C_t})^2 \times \sum_{j=1}^N (D_{t,j} - \overline{D_t})^2}}$$

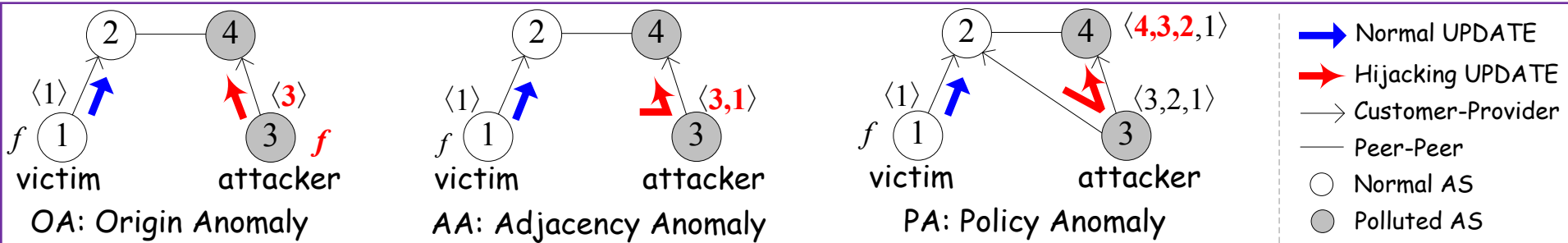
# Identification of Prefix Hijacking

- Prefix hijacking:  $F_t \rightarrow 1.0$ , ( $F_t \geq \text{threshold } \mu$ )



# Type of Anomalies

- AS-path  $p = \langle a_n, \dots, a_{i+1}, a_i, a_{i-1}, \dots, a_0 \rangle$ 
  - OA: Origin Anomaly
    - Anomalous origin AS:  $p_a = \langle a_0, f \rangle$
  - AA: Adjacency Anomaly
    - Anomalous **AS pair** in AS-path:  $p_a = \langle a_j, a_{j-1} \rangle$
  - PA: Policy Anomaly
    - Anomalous **AS triple** in AS-path:  $p_a = \langle a_{j+1}, a_j, a_{j-1} \rangle$

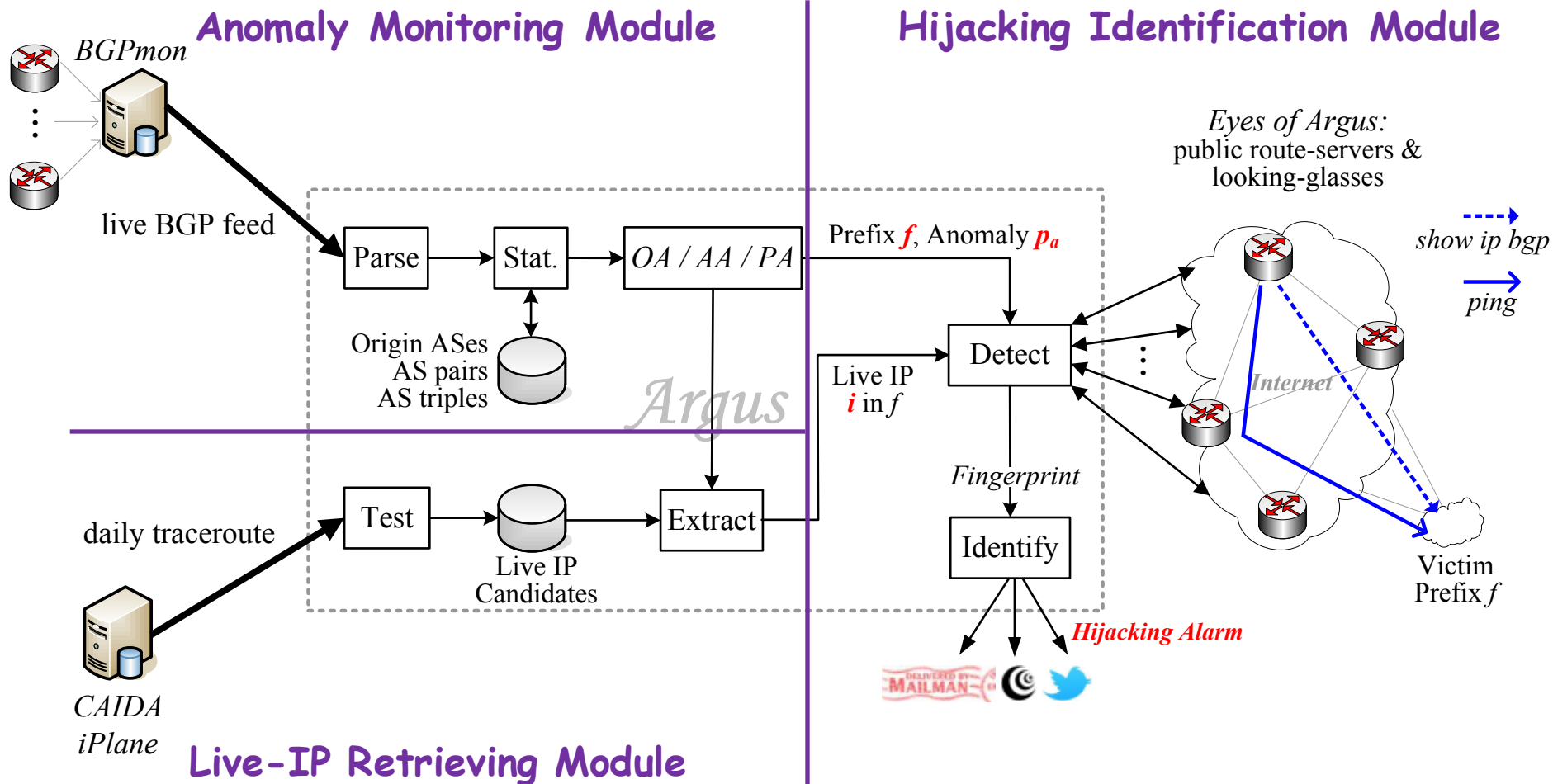


# Outline

---

- Introduction
  - Prefix Hijacking
  - Existing Detection Methods
- Argus
  - Key Observation & Algorithm
  - System Architecture & Implementation
- Internet Monitoring Practice
  - Evaluation
  - Statistics
  - Case Studies
- Conclusion

# Architecture of Argus



# System Deployment

---

- From May 2011, launched >1 years
- Live BGP feed collected from ~130 peers
  - BGPmon: <http://bgpmon.netsec.colostate.edu/>
  - 10GB BGP UPDATE /day, 20Mbps peak
- 389 eyes, in 41 transit AS
- Online notification services
  - (AS-4847) Mailing list
  - (AS-13414, AS-35995) Twitter
  - (AS-4538) Website, web service APIs



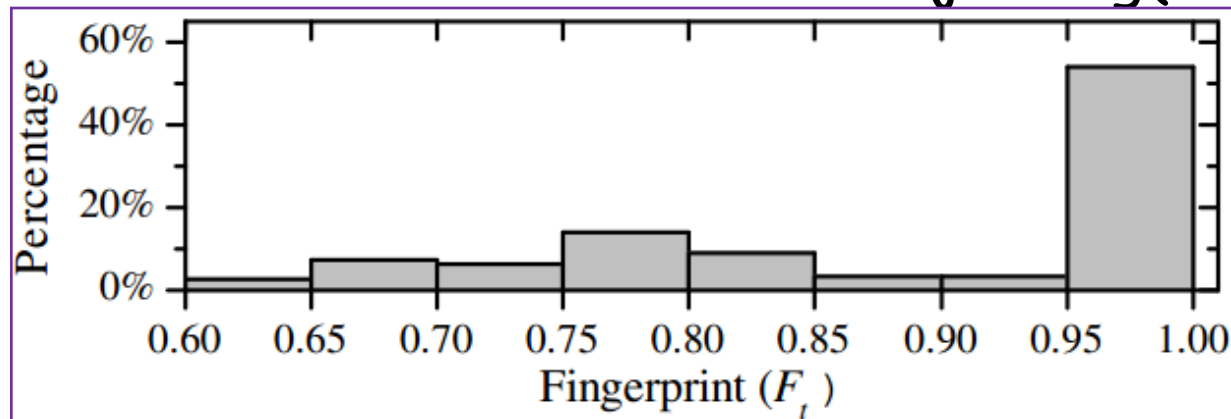
# Outline

---

- Introduction
  - Prefix Hijacking
  - Existing Detection Methods
- Argus
  - Key Observation & Algorithm
  - System Architecture & Implementation
- Internet Monitoring Practice
  - Evaluation
  - Statistics
  - Case Studies
- Conclusion

# Argus is Online

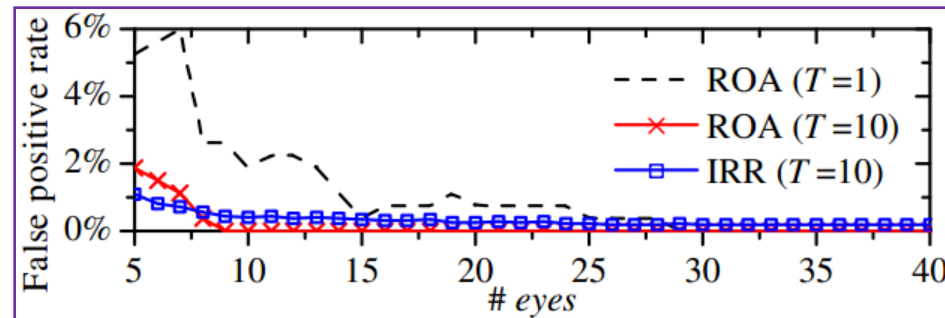
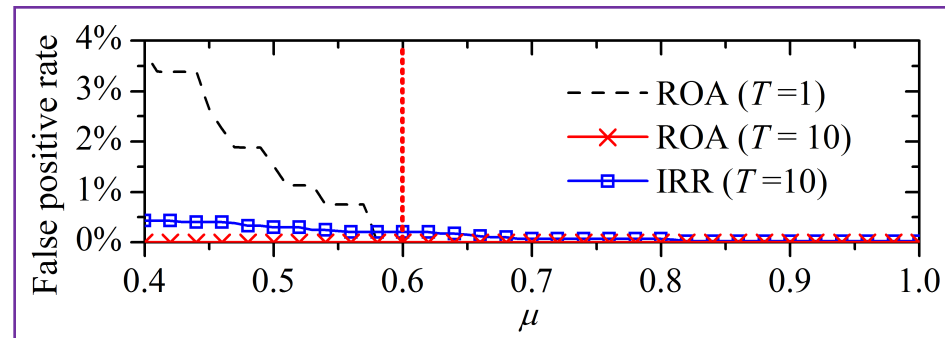
- 40k anomalous route events
- 220 stable hijackings
  - Duration of  $F_+ \geq \mu$  in more than  $T$  seconds
  - $\mu$ : fingerprint threshold of hijacking(0.6)
  - $T$ : duration threshold of stable hijacking(10sec)



Fingerprint ( $F_+$ ) distribution of all stable hijackings.

# False Positive

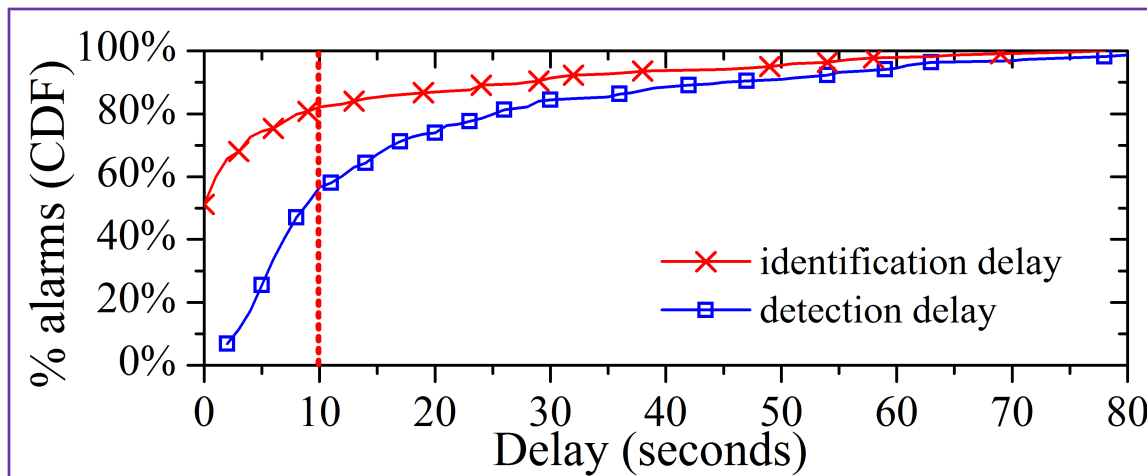
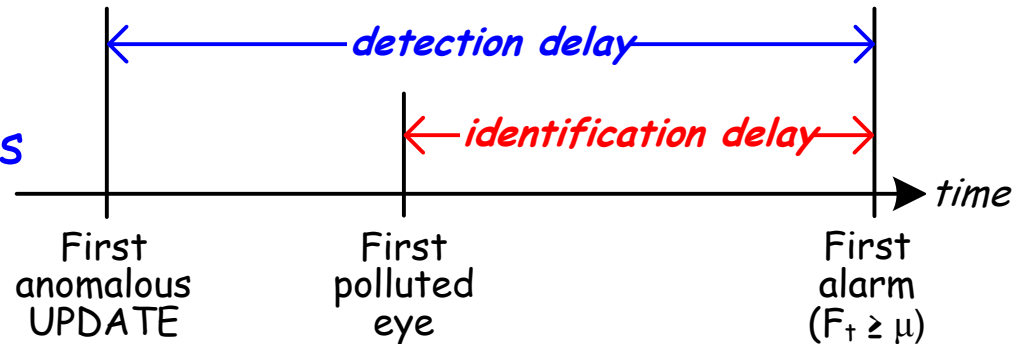
- Directly contact network operators (March-April, 2012)
  - 10/31 confirmed our hijacking alarms
  - No objection
- ROA: Route Origin Authorization
  - 266 anomalies with ROA records
  - False positive 0%  
( $\mu=0.6$ ,  $T=10$ ,  $\#eyes=40$ )
- IRR: Internet Routing Registry
  - 3988 anomalies with IRR records
  - False positive 0.2%  
( $\mu=0.6$ ,  $T=10$ ,  $\#eyes=40$ )



# Delay-220 Stable hijackings

- Detection delay
  - 60% less than 10 seconds

- Identification delay
  - 80% less than 10 seconds
  - 50% less than 1 second



# Outline

---

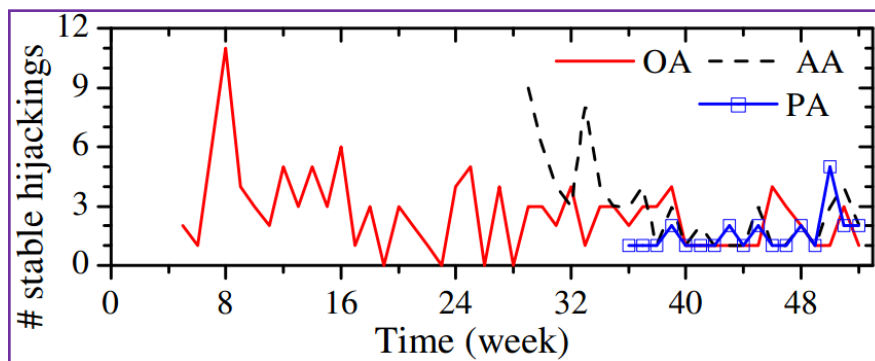
- Introduction
  - Prefix Hijacking
  - Existing Detection Methods
- Argus
  - Key Observation & Algorithm
  - System Architecture & Implementation
- Internet Monitoring Practice
  - Evaluation
  - **Statistics**
  - Case Studies
- Conclusion

# Statistics - Overview

- Adjacency/Policy based hijacking do exists

	Total	OA (origin AS)	AA (Adjacency)	PA (Policy)
Anomalies	40k	20k	6.7k	13.3k
Hijackings	220	122	71	27

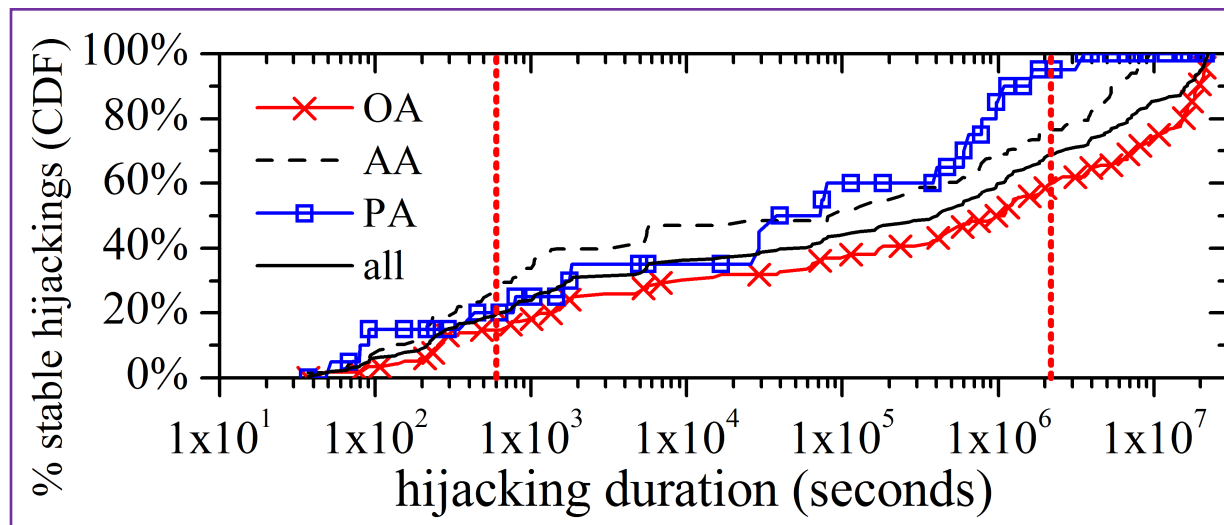
Total # of route anomalies and stable hijackings in one year.



Weekly # of stable hijackings.

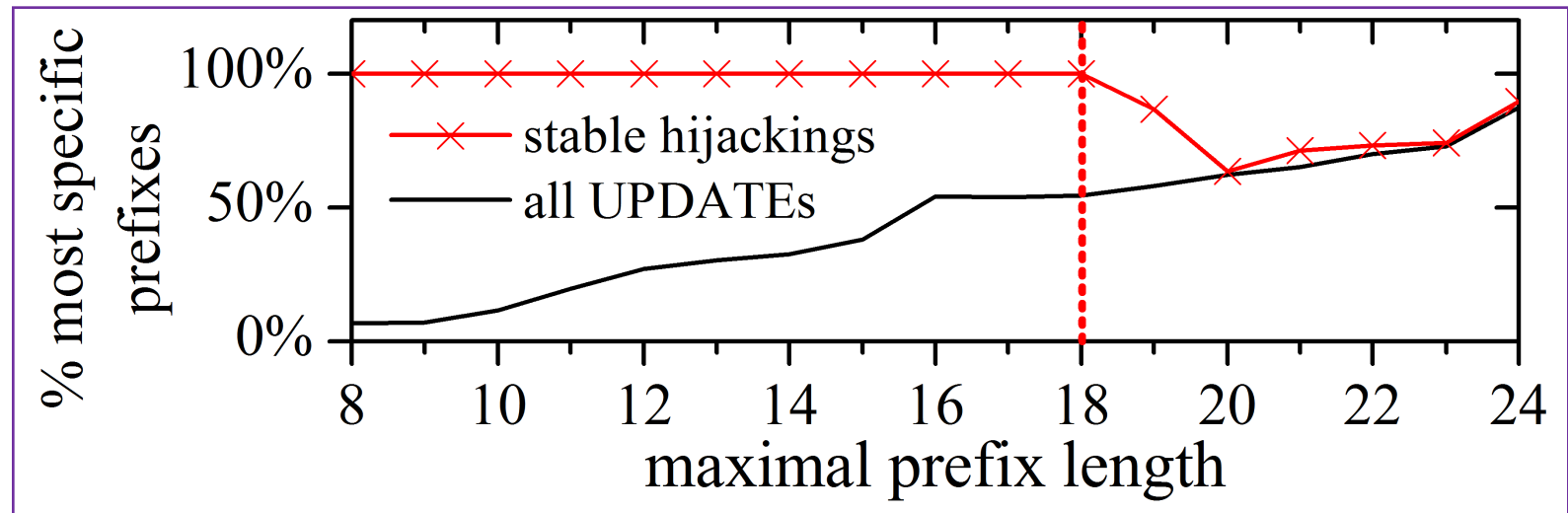
# Statistics - Hijacking duration

- Stable hijacking duration: live time of anomalous route
  - 20+% hijackings last <10 minutes
  - Long hijackings also exist



# Statistics - Prefix length

- Stable hijackings with most specific prefix
  - 91% hijacked prefixes are most specific
  - **100%** hijacked prefixes with length  $\leq 18$  are most specific

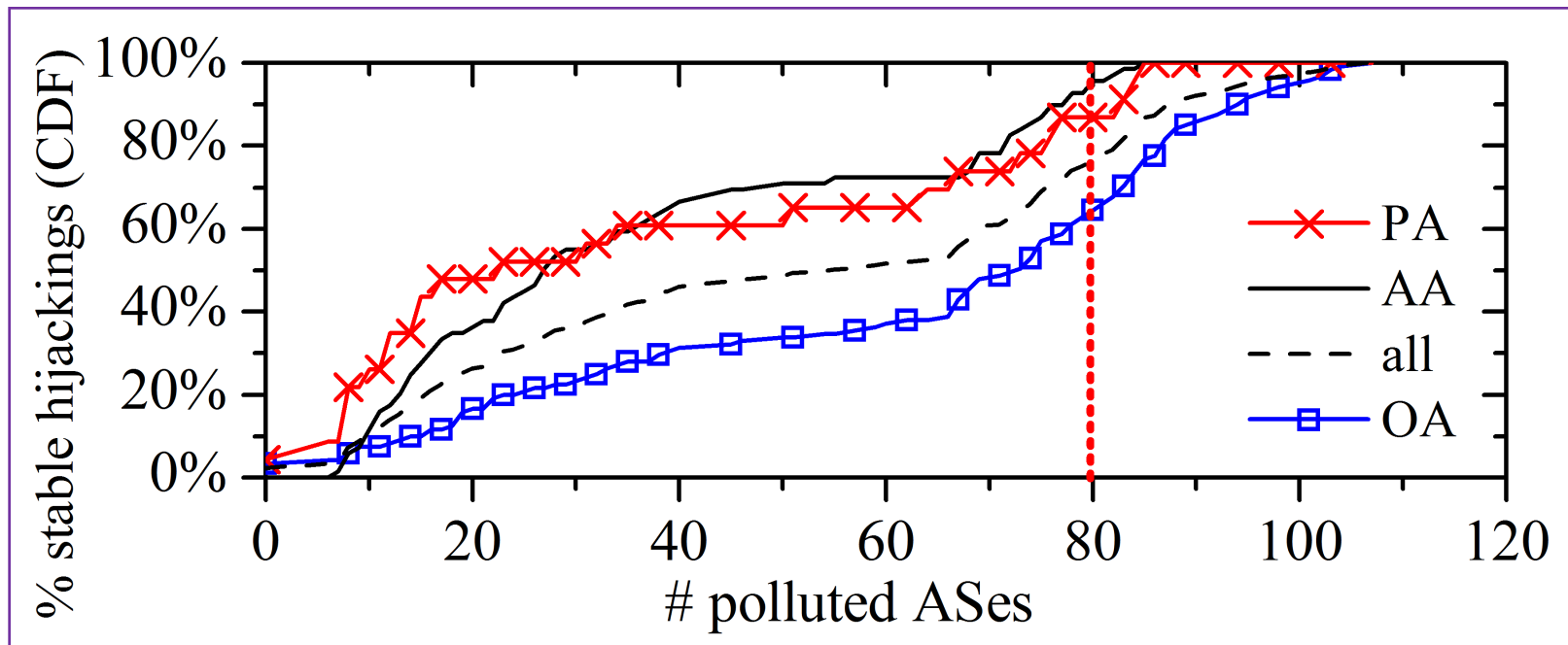


- **10%** stable hijackings are sub-prefix hijacking



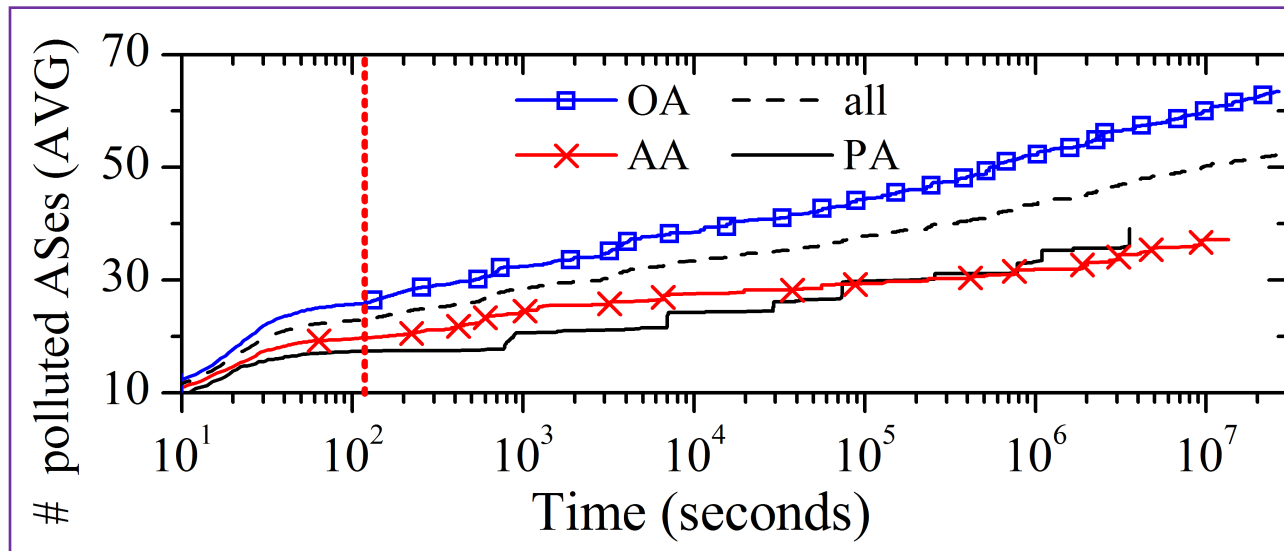
# Statistics - Pollution scale

- 20% stable hijackings could pollute 80+ transit ASes



# Statistics - Pollution speed

- 20+ transit ASes are polluted in 2 minutes



- For hijackings polluted 80+ transit ASes
  - 50% Internet are polluted within 20 seconds
  - 90% Internet are polluted within 2 minutes

# Outline

---

- Introduction
  - Prefix Hijacking
  - Existing Detection Methods
- Argus
  - Key Observation & Algorithm
  - System Architecture & Implementation
- Internet Monitoring Practice
  - Evaluation
  - Statistics
  - Case Studies
- Conclusion

# Case Studies

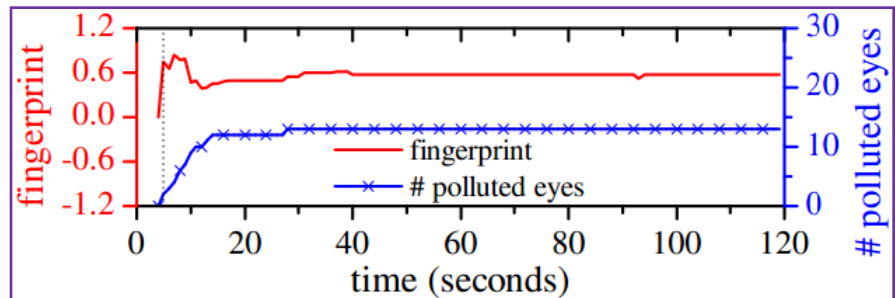
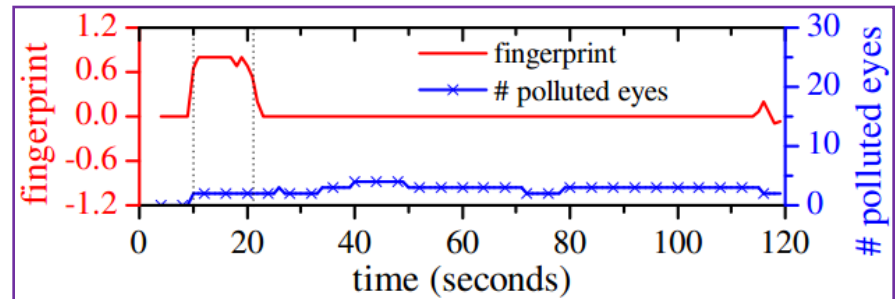
---

- OA hijackings (confirmed by email)
  - Missing route filters
  - Network maintenance misplay
  - Premature migration attempt
  - Sub-prefix hijacking
- AA hijackings (confirmed by email)
  - Mis-configuration in TE
  - AS-path poisoning experiment
- PA hijackings (verified in IRR)
  - Import policy violation
  - Export policy violation

# OA Hijackings

Time	Prefix	Normal Origin	Anomalous Origin	Duration	Delay
Nov. 27, 2011	166.111.32.0/24, ...	AS-4538 CERNET, CN	AS-23910 CERNET-2, CN	10+ sec	10 sec
Mar. 20, 2012	193.105.17.0/24	AS-50407 Douglas, DE	AS-15763 DOKOM, DE	12 min	5 sec

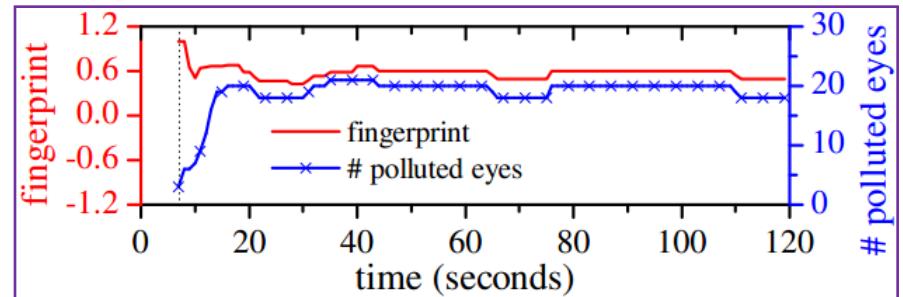
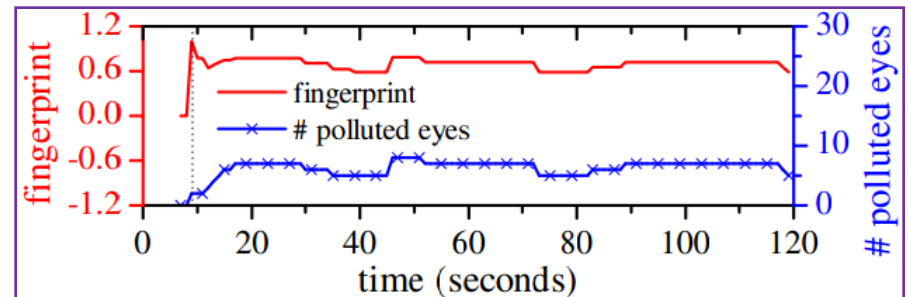
- Missing route filters
- Network maintenance misplay



# OA Hijackings

Time	Prefix	Normal Origin	Anomalous Origin	Duration	Delay
Apr. 04, 2012	91.217.242.0/24	AS-197279 WizjaNet, PL	AS-48559 Infomex, PL	17 min	9
Mar. 22, 2012	12.231.155.0/24 (in 12.128.0.0/9)	AS-7018 AT&T, US	AS-13490 Buckeye, US	16 min	7

- Premature migration attempt
- Sub-prefix hijacking



# AA Hijackings

Time	Prefix	AS-path	Delay
Apr. 12, 2012	210.138.0/24	<3043 174 38082 <b>38794 24465</b> >	12
Mar. 31, 2012	184.464.255.0/24	<4739 6939 2381 <b>47065 19782</b> 47065>	4

- Mis-configuration in TE
  - **AS-38794** (**BB-Broadband, TH**) is a new provider of AS-24465 (Kasikorn, TH)
- AS-path poisoning experiment [SIGCOMM '12]
  - BBN announces loop AS-paths **<47065, x, 47065>** for experimental purpose

# PA Hijackings

Time	Prefix	AS-path	Delay
Apr. 19, 2012	77.223.240.0/22	<4739 24709 25388 <b>21021 12741 47728</b> >	9
Apr. 16, 2012	195.10.205.0/24	<3043 174 <b>20764 31484 3267</b> 3216 35813>	5

- Import policy violation

IRR info. of

**AS-21021**

(**Multimedia, PL**) :

<b>import:</b> from AS12741 action pref=150; accept AS12741 <b>export:</b> to AS12741 announce AS21021
---

- Export policy violation

IRR info. of

**AS-31484**

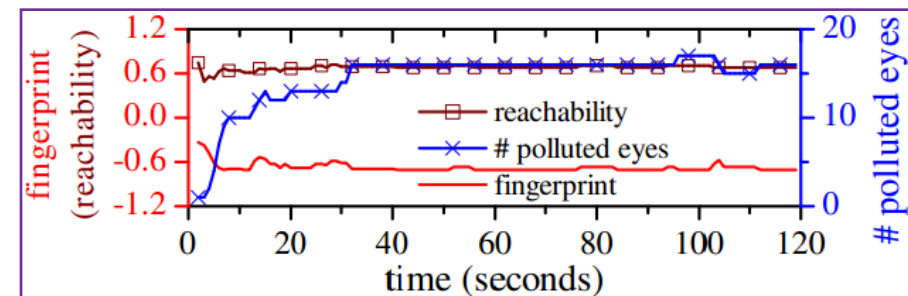
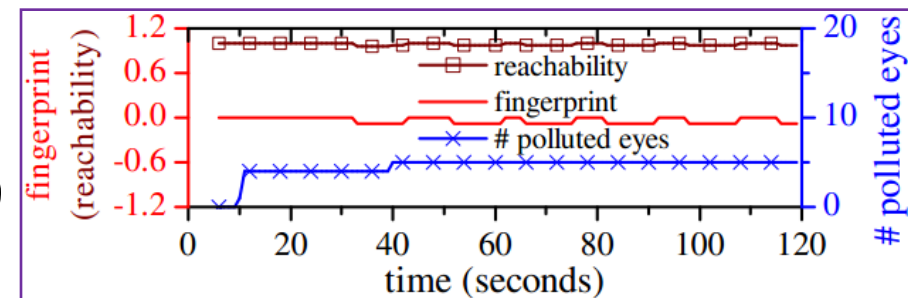
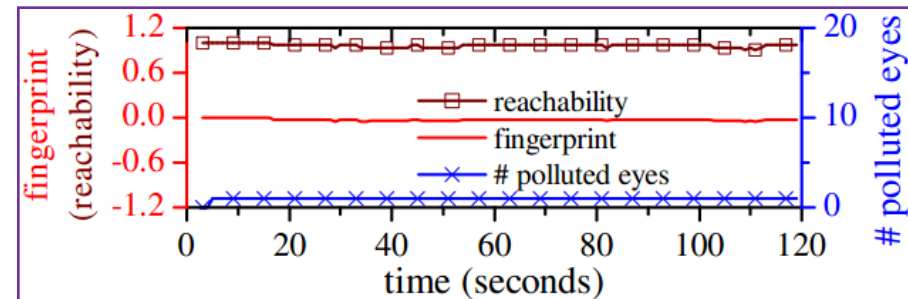
(**OOO Direct Tele., RU**):

<b>remarks:</b> --- Uplinks --- <b>import:</b> from AS3267 action pref=85; accept ANY <b>export:</b> to AS3267 announce AS31484 AND AS196931 <b>import:</b> from AS20764 action pref=85; accept ANY <b>export:</b> to AS20764 announce AS31484 AND AS196931
---



# Non-hijacking Anomalies

- TE using BGP anycast
  - 193.0.16.0/24 (DNS root-k) suddenly originated by AS-197000 (RIPE)
  - $F_+ \rightarrow 0, D_+ = 1$
- TE with backup links
  - AS-12476 (Aster, PL) announced prefix to a new provider AS-6453 (Tata, CA)
  - $F_+ \rightarrow 0, D_+ = 1$
- Route migration
  - Prefix owner changed from AS-12653 (KB Impuls, GR) to AS-7700 (Singapore Tele)
  - $F_+ \rightarrow -1$

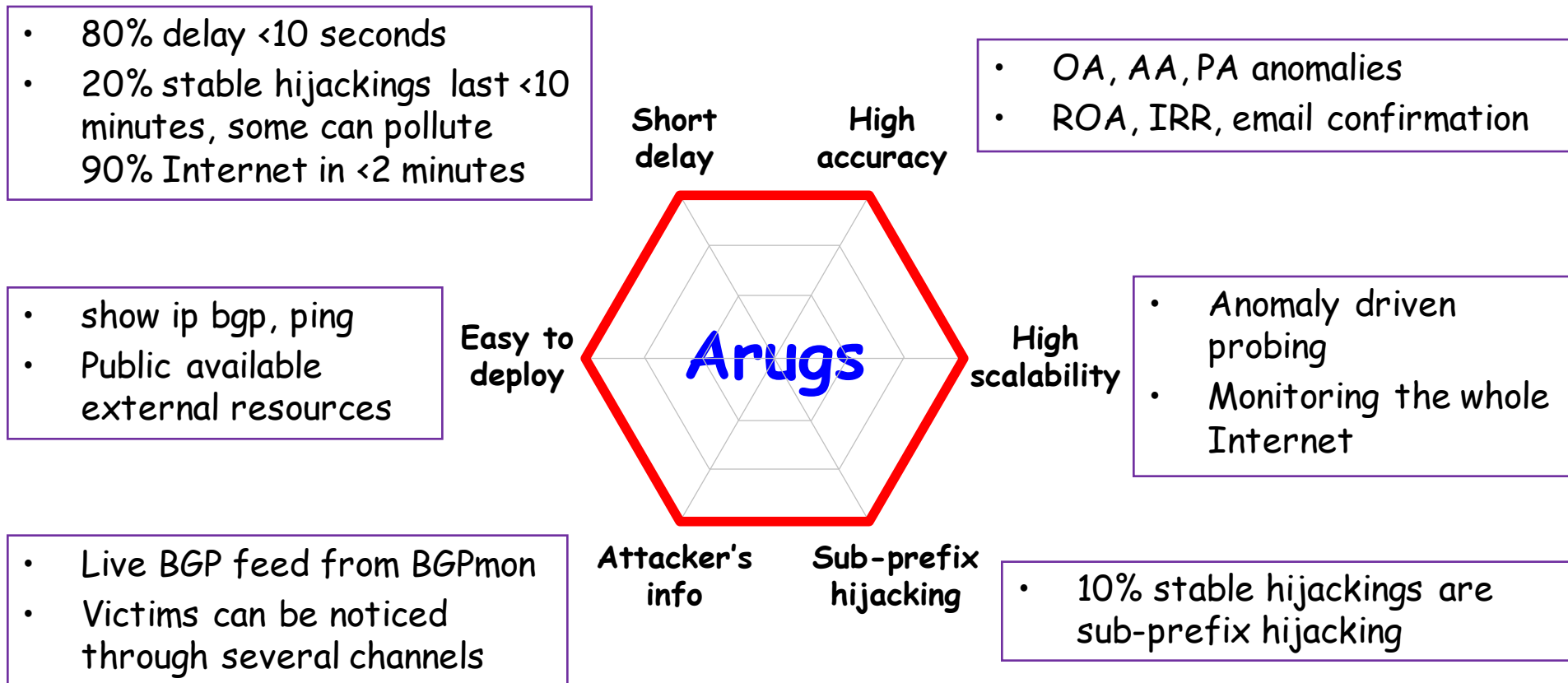


# Outline

---

- Introduction
  - Prefix Hijacking
  - Existing Detection Methods
- Argus
  - Key Observation & Algorithm
  - System Architecture & Implementation
- Internet Monitoring Practice
  - Evaluation
  - Statistics
  - Case Studies
- Conclusion

# Conclusion of Our Contributions



One year's Internet detection practice.