# Overlay Architectures enabling Cloud Computing for Multi-Level Security Environments

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#### Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Motivation Cloud-centric Usage Management
- 3 System Architecture
- 4 Progress
- 6 Conclusions
- **6** References

Our group has roots in digital rights management, machine learning and neural networks, and semantic analysis.

We are working on how to manage sensitive content in computer networks. We are looking at three areas at this point:

- Routing How can we control how sensitive information is routed over the internet? When and why is this appropriate, how can we do it. and where?
- Redaction If we dynamically redact information from transmitted content, what are the implications? how can we go about doing this?
- Usage Management After content has been redacted, how can
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This is a sample of our preliminary work. The accepted paper is six months old, and we've progressed since then.

Today I'm going to cover the submitted paper and touch on current progress as well. This will involve:

- Covering Motivation and Current Work
- Describing Shortcomings of Current State
- Discussing Characteristics of Future Solutions
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- Expensive They do not use current commercial resources and use costly partitioning schemes
- Unreliable Too reliant on outmoded security approaches
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They need to be re-imagined to take advantage of radical shifts in computational provisioning.

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### The Problems — Customer Perspectives

Current policy-centric systems are being forced to move to cloud environments and build much more open systems. Usage management is a key problem in this domain — information needs to be delivered to those who need it as soon as possible:

- "...It is imperative to effectively exchange information among components, Federal agencies, coalition partners, foreign governments and international organizations as a critical element of our efforts to defend the nation and execute national strategy..." [1]
- DoD Information Sharing Strategy
- "...The CIO of the National Security Agency is focusing on IT architecture and a cloud-centric approach to sharing information..." [4]
- Informationweek

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  policy concerns for agencies; Data owners have no technical control
  over secondary use; providers may use offshore development; data
  can be routed across sensitive countries or secondarily stored on
  CDNs; data privacy on bankruptcy is ill-defined
- Are Less Secure Controlling data access, data may not be wiped in all XaaS scenarios, availability/backup leads to possible data proliferation, lack of standardization in intercloud communication and data transfer, multi-tenancy and side-channel attacks, difficult logging/auditing
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#### **Current Solutions**

How are these problems being addressed by impacted organizations?

They're just starting to be actively addressed and are an open research question [2].

Cross-domain architectures are currently the standard for monitoring and information dissemination in an effort lead by the *Unified Cross Domain Management Office*, associated with the Department of Defense (DoD) and the National Security Agency (NSA).

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#### Current Solutions — NSA

Legacy cross-domain notional architecture [6]

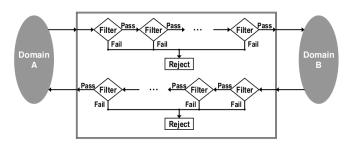


Figure: NSA Legacy Model

Domain A — Private cloud managed by the Air Force Domain B — A public operational network



### Current Solutions — NSA (SoA)

Future cross-domain notional architecture [6]

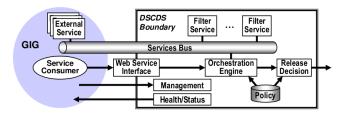


Figure: NSA Service-Oriented Model

GiG — Global Information Grid; a large public cloud operated by the DoD DSCDS — Distributed Service-oriented Cross Domain Solution

### Current Solutions — Raytheon

Raytheon's notional architecture supporting cross-domain information flow [7]:

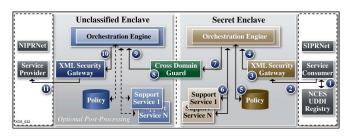


Figure: Raytheon Model

...still uses a single perimeter guard...

#### Current Solutions — BAH

Booz|Allen|Hamilton presented a service-centric cross domain solution in 2009 [5]:

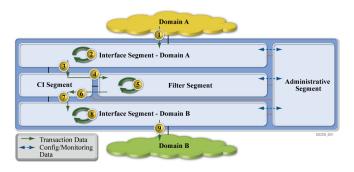


Figure: Booz—Allen—Hamilton Model

...still uses a single perimeter guard (called a filter segment)...



#### **Future Solution**

Organizations are falling back on what they know in the scope of new problems.

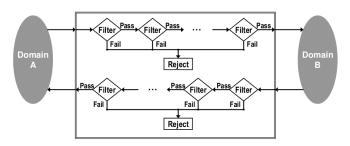


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Even though we know they don't work [9].



#### Characteristics of Current Solutions

- Centralized Policy They use centralized policy injection into communication flow. Note that in each sample model, policy is only evaluated at guard points.
- Physical to Compartment Mapping In each of these cases, users are only allowed to exchange one type of information per domain.
   The physical domain systems are locked (by operational policy) to a single classification level limit. Users cannot, for example, have Top Secret material on a network accredited for Secret material.
- Perimeter Protection The use of a single policy enforcement point at domain interconnects supplies a crunchy exterior to the creamy interior data filling.

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- Centralized Policy A centralized policy enforcement system simplifies infrastructural attacks. Adversaries know exactly where to focus efforts to compromise policy enforcement, lowering overall system trustworthiness and reliability.
- Physical to Compartment Mapping The traditional model for multi-level security, enforced in this scheme, is that the network is classified at the level of the most sensitive data that transits it.
   Ergo, those that have clearances at a level to view sensitive data are unable to view that data generally without extensive swivel-chair integration.
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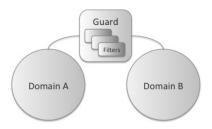
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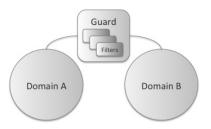
#### System Architecture - Level $\phi$



This is a baseline cross-domain solution. It is filter based and does not have any external policy sources. These are primarily:

- Filter-centric They use content filters of some sort against submitted information
- Blacklist-oriented They use hard-wired blacklists to filter and redact.

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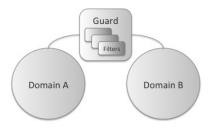


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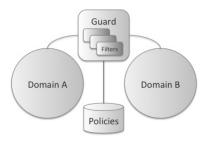


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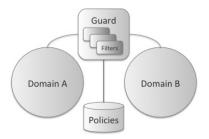
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This is a more advanced cross-domain solution featuring distributed policy management. Characteristics include:

 Generalized Control — No longer required to use fixed blacklist-centric solutions, these kinds of systems process policies defined over a more general ontology <sup>1</sup>.



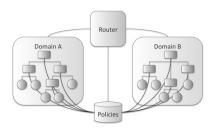


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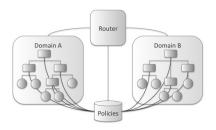
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Ontological impedance now a problem



We are beginning to inject usage management into the fabric of the network, linking content routing elements to policy information <sup>2</sup>.

- Content-based Routing We can start to implement content based routing at this point with available policy information.
- *Dynamic Context* We can also start to take advantage of changing network context with respect to routing data.



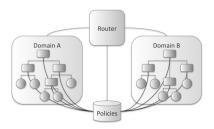


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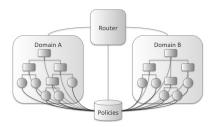
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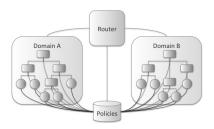
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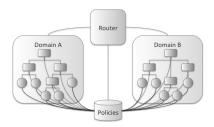
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- Mobile Licenses are small programs that move along the overlay and are run at various policy enforcement points [3]
- Integrated Content, Policies, Usage Management Mechanism all packaged in Smart License
- Contained Content and Policies are never exposed, all access to content is through specific interfaces

Advantages

Potentially more secure for content, provides finest-grained control; simpler routers and nodes

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#### Disadvantages

Mobile code requires uniform execution environments, which have their own security problems complex license

Here, we introduce the concept of a *Smart License*:

- Mobile Licenses are small programs that move along the overlay and are run at various policy enforcement points [3]
- Integrated Content, Policies, Usage Management Mechanism all packaged in Smart License
- Contained Content and Policies are never exposed, all access to content is through specific interfaces

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So we have integrated usage management into a content network taking a very information-centric perspective. At what cost?

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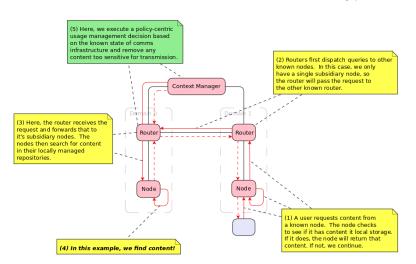
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# Initial Prototype



- Ruby We use Ruby and the Ruby runtime as our base runtime engine. We use associated tools like RVM, Gem, and Bundler to manage our projects.
- Sinatra Sintara is a simple but powerful HTTP engine
- Capistrano Capistrano simplifies deployment of software on large numbers of nodes.
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### **Future Work**

We are in the process of configuring infrastructure to begin work with Openflow-enabled hardware. We will use Ruby and Ruby tools in this environment as well, with the addition of Trema, a Ruby and C based environment for building Openflow controllers.

### Conclusions

#### Contribution of Work

The contribution of this work is a quantitative analysis of policy-centric overlay network options, associated taxonomies of use, and prototypical technology proofs-of-concept.

- Network Control Options This includes various types networks and associated strengths and weaknesses addressing centralized and decentralized models.
- Taxonomies of Use Depending on the specific usage management requirements and context, different overlays have different applicability; this work will provide guidance on suitability; it will eventually lead to how to manage data flow within SDN-capable infrastructure.
- *Prototypical Technologies* Examples and proofs-of-concept will be required to appropriately analyze various architectural alternatives.



#### **Questions?** Comments?

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