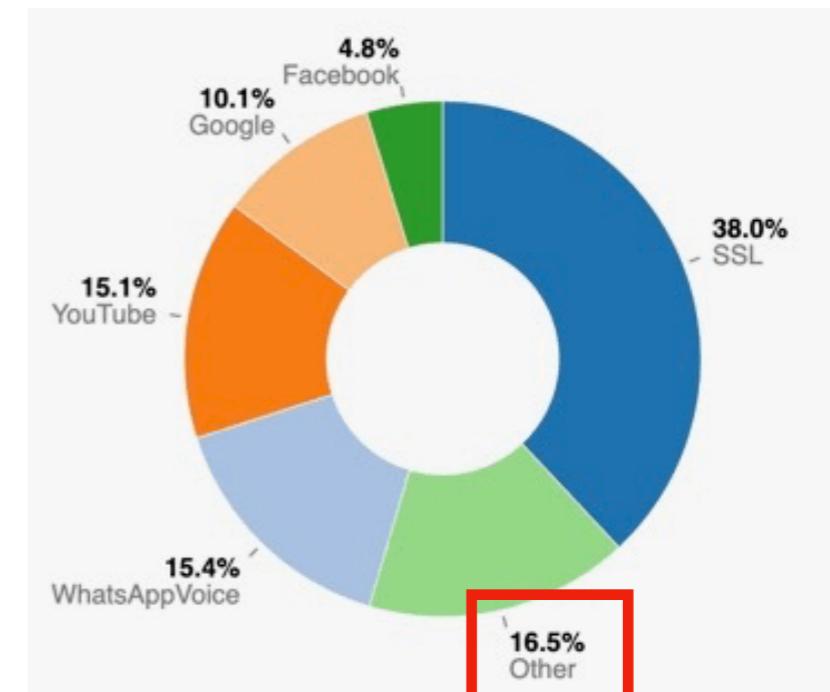


Encrypted Traffic Analysis: A Primer

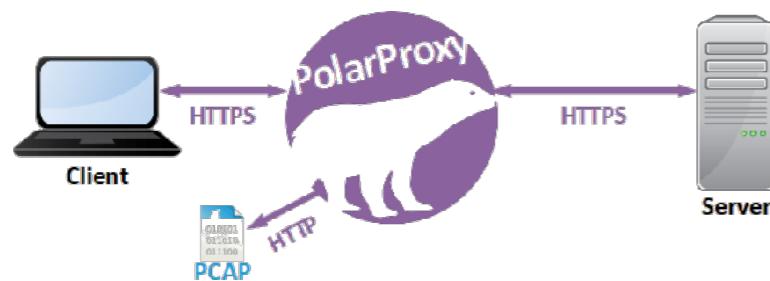
Luca Deri <deri@ntop.org>
@lucaderi

Trends in Network Traffic

- Zero Trust Architectures require permanent traffic inspection to guarantee operations and prevent malicious activities to take place.
- Internet traffic is mostly encrypted thus limiting visibility and introspection (malware are migrating to TLS).
- Security based on clear-text payload inspection doesn't look a great idea...



MITM (Man in The Middle)



<https://www.netresec.com/?page=PolarProxy>

<https://mitmproxy.org>

The screenshot shows the mitmproxy browser extension interface. It displays a list of network flows in a table. One specific request is selected for inspection, showing its details. The request is a GET to https://clients5.google.com with a status of 204 No Content. The response headers include Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8, Date: Tue, 20 Dec 2016 15:57:48 GMT, Server: gws, Content-Length: 0, and X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block. The X-Frame-Options header is set to SAMEORIGIN.

The screenshot shows the Charles proxy interface. It displays a session for https://www.charlesproxy.com. The Headers tab is selected, showing the full HTTP request and response. The request is a GET to https://www.charlesproxy.com with various headers like Host, User-Agent, and Accept-Language. The response is a 200 OK status with the content "Charles Web Debugging Proxy - Official Site".

<https://www.charlesproxy.com>



MITM? No Thanks

- MITS is the wrong answer (decryption) to a valid question (visibility). Beside legal issue or GDPR:
 - It's not possible to decode all TLS traffic unless I inject to all my clients a fake certificate authority.
 - Not all encrypted traffic is TLS (e.g. QUIC, VPN, SSH, BitTorrent...) so it's a lost battle.
 - Ethical reasons: if traffic is encrypted there should be a reason.
 - Decryption+Re-Encryption will be detected.



How MITM Works [1/2]

Charles does this by becoming a man-in-the-middle. Instead of your browser seeing the server's certificate, Charles dynamically generates a certificate for the server and signs it with its own root certificate (the Charles CA Certificate). Charles receives the server's certificate, while your browser receives Charles's certificate. Therefore you will see a security warning, indicating that the root authority is not trusted. If you add the Charles CA Certificate to your trusted certificates you will no longer see any warnings – see below for how to do this.

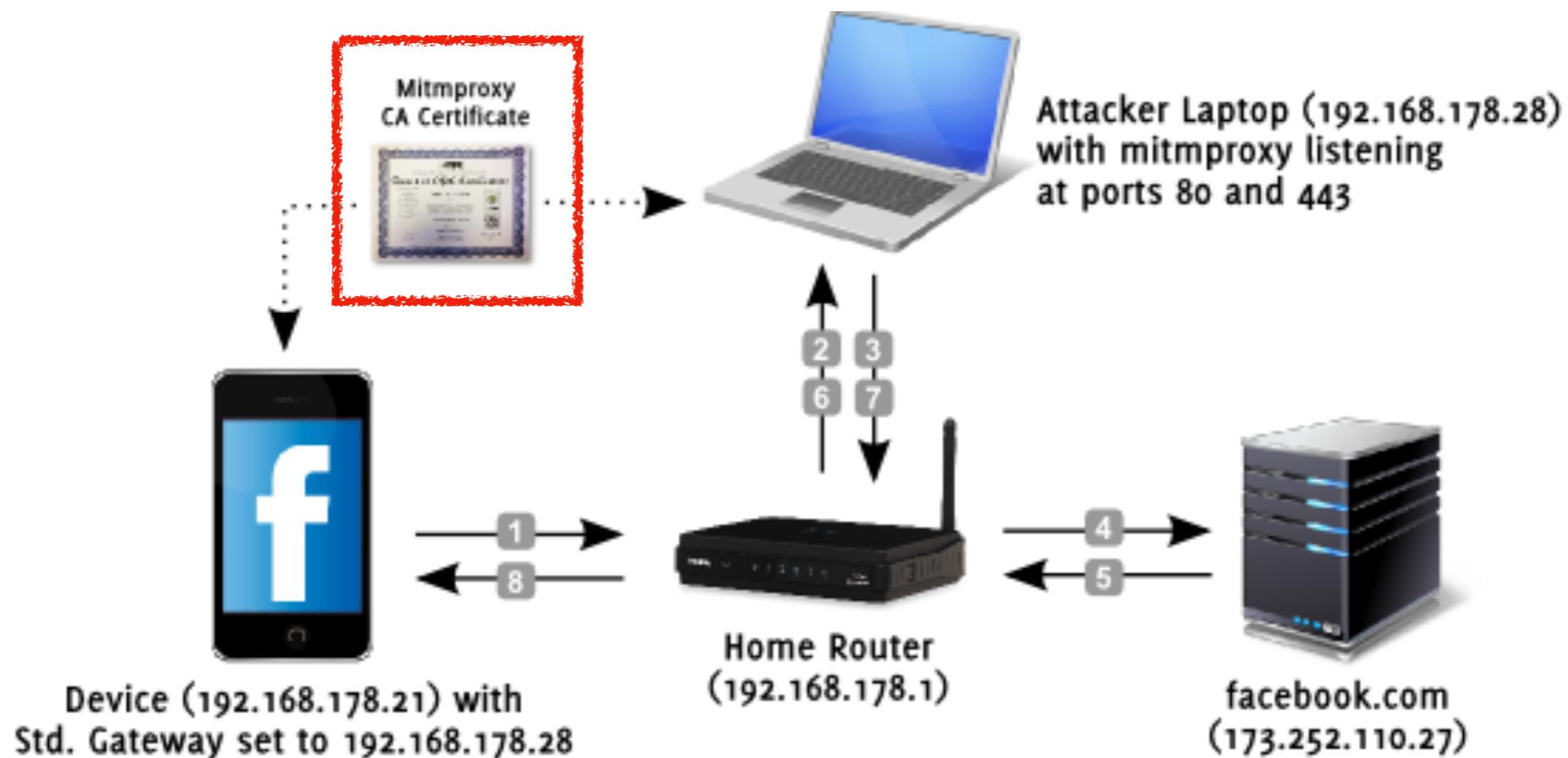
Charles still communicates via SSL to the web server. The communication is SSL (encrypted) from web browser to Charles and also SSL (encrypted) from Charles to the web server.

This functionality is essential for debugging secure (SSL) web applications.

<https://www.charlesproxy.com/documentation/proxying/ssl-proxying/>



How MITM Works [2/2]



<https://medium.com/testvagrant/intercept-ios-android-network-calls-using-mitmproxy-4d3c94831f62>



HTTP Public Key Pinning

HTTP Public Key Pinning (HPKP) [RFC 7469] is a security feature that tells a web client to associate a specific cryptographic public key with a certain web server to decrease the risk of MITM attacks with forged certificates.

Public-Key-Pins:

```
pin-sha256="d6qzRu9zOECb90Uez27xWltNsj0e1Md7GkYYkVoZWmM=";  
pin-sha256="E9CZ9INDbd+2eRQozYqqbQ2yXLVKB9+xcprMF+44U1g=";  
pin-sha256="LPJNul+wow4m6DsqxbninhSWHlwfp0JecwQzYpOLmCQ=";  
max-age=2592000 includeSubDomains; report-uri="http://example.com/pkp-report"
```

 For 365 Days (2592000 / 86400)
do not accept new certificates: too long!

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTTP/Public_Key_Pinning



Is HPKP a Good Idea?

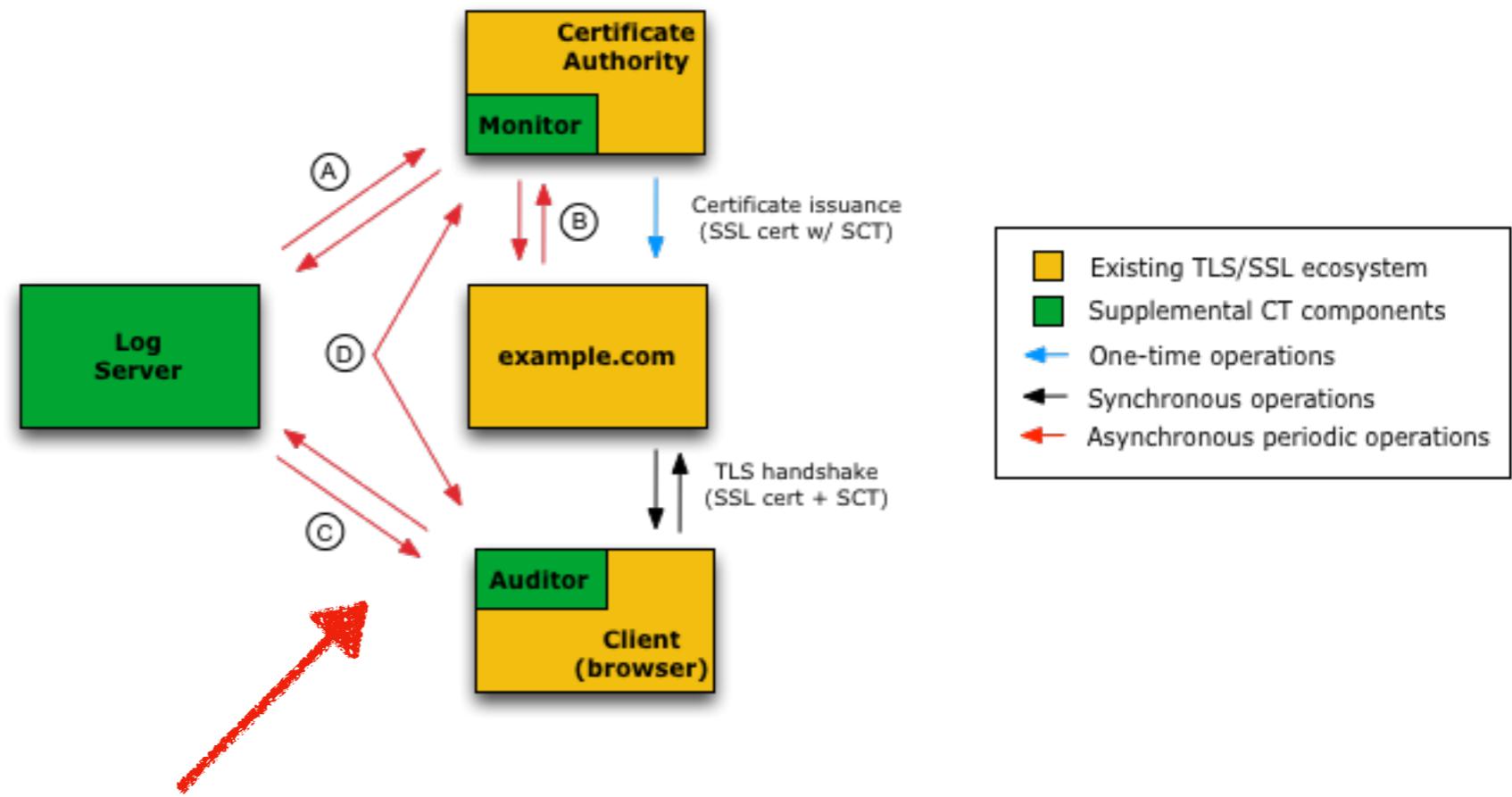
Yes. However: “If your expectations don’t match reality your users suffer from not being able to access your app or website. Smashing Magazine learnt about this the hard way in late 2016 when they blocked users access for up to a year because of a mismatch between the pins and the certificates. On mobile fixing an invalid pin means pushing out a new version of an app which can still take a while to reach every user.”

<https://medium.com/babylon-engineering/android-security-certificate-transparency-601c18157c44>



What is Certificate Transparency? [1/3]

- (A) Monitors watch logs for suspicious certs and verify that all logged certs are visible.
- (B) Certificate owners query monitors to verify that nobody has logged illegitimate certs for their domain.
- (C) Auditors verify that logs are behaving properly; they can also verify that a particular cert has been logged.
- (D) Monitors and auditors exchange information about logs to help detect forked or branched logs.



Certificate Transparency (CT) is an [Internet security standard](#) and [open source framework](#) for monitoring and auditing [digital certificates](#).^[1] The standard creates a system of public [logs](#) that seek to eventually record all certificates issued by publicly trusted [certificate authorities](#), allowing efficient identification of mistakenly or maliciously issued certificates

<https://www.certificate-transparency.org/how-ct-works>



What is Certificate Transparency? [2/3]

The screenshot shows a Safari browser window with the URL <https://packages.ntop.org>. The page content is from the ntop website, which contains binary packages for Ubuntu. The browser's status bar indicates an encrypted connection. A certificate details dialog is open, showing the certificate chain:

- DST Root CA X3
- Let's Encrypt Authority X3
- packages.ntop.org

The certificate for **packages.ntop.org** is issued by Let's Encrypt Authority X3, valid until Tuesday, 24 March 2020 at 19:21:39 Central European Standard Time. The serial number is highlighted with a red box.

For a list of all supported platforms and available licenses, go to the [Downloads](#) section.

Most software works without licenses. However, some components require a license key:

- PF_RING ZC user-space libraries
- nProbe, nProbe Agent, and nProbe Collector
- n2disk (packet to disk application)
- ntopng (web-based network traffic analysis)
- ntopng Edge (web-based traffic police)
- nScrub (Software-based DDoS Mitigation)
- n2n (Peer-to-peer VPN)

You can find more info on the [ntop site](#), or purchase a license key.

We remind you that all ntop products are available at no cost to universities and research.



What is Certificate Transparency? [3/3]

The screenshot shows a browser window for the Facebook for Developers website, specifically the Certificate Transparency Monitoring tool at developers.facebook.com/tools/ct/search/. The main interface has a dark header with "facebook for developers" and a search bar. A modal window titled "Certificate Details" is open, containing fields for "Serial Number" (with value `0x039CC895E32BECFBD23A56048A11002445AA` highlighted by a red box), "Signature (sha256WithRSAEncryption)" (with value `5f208e8368592b55ae1a20c7b83f9766105cf1793efe6b2aa129dfc2a3c080e4e44`), and "Certificate PEM" (with the beginning of the certificate text shown). The background shows a list of domains under "Domains" and some UI elements related to certificate transparency.



Motivation

These first few slides should be enough to motivate:

- Encrypted traffic analysis (without decryption), from the network standpoint, in order to detect issues invisible to users.
- Network behaviour analysis: detect if network traffic behaves as we expect or if something has changed.

0000	00 50 56 c0 00 08 00 0c	29 a5 45 e0 08 00 45 00	PV.....) E .. E
0010	03 04 54 d4 40 00 40 06	ae 54 ac 10 ee a8 ac 10	T @ @ .. T ..
0020	ee 01 00 16 e4 1b 42 a2	79 f4 37 5e 83 f0 80 18 B .. y 7^ ..
0030	00 93 a6 0f 00 00 01 01	08 0a 00 13 23 13 1c 95 # ..
0040	b0 03 00 00 02 bc 09 21	00 00 01 15 00 00 00 07 ! ..
0050	73 73 68 2d 72 73 61 00	00 00 01 23 00 00 01 01	ssh-rsa .. # ..
0060	00 bf a4 02 3b 0d e2 c5	11 89 44 45 45 31 fb 97 ; .. DEE1 ..
0070	62 9f da ff 2b 37 03 7f	4c 9d fd 56 44 0c 7f 30	b .. +7 .. L .. VD .. 0
0080	2b 6e ff ca d7 61 cf 01	d4 1a 8f 98 3a 38 91 7a	+n .. a .. :8 .. z ..
0090	d9 ee 1f 4f 87 dd 9d 05	db c9 7a 53 2a c8 33 da	.. 0 .. zS* .. 3 ..
00a0	bb 00 88 f0 97 06 47 15	a5 d2 b5 b9 ef 82 55 bc G .. U ..
00b0	49 ce 69 09 24 1b 45 84	89 72 d2 2a 08 2c a9 8e	I .. i .. \$.. E .. r .. * .. , ..
00c0	24 93 47 0a ff 50 08 5c	c2 d4 03 89 f3 36 0e f1	\$.. G .. P .. \ .. 6 ..
00d0	22 41 e1 e2 6e 9c 02 19	b8 15 c0 02 4c 8a b2 b1	"A .. n .. L ..



**On a nutshell:
Is this encrypted traffic
good or bad ?**



Monitoring Requirements

- Network administrators need to enforce network policies hence:
 - Limit the bandwidth of specific protocols (e.g. BitTorrent).
 - Block malicious communications that might travel over encrypted traffic channels.
 - Prioritise specific traffic protocols (e.g. WhatsApp/Skype) or cloud protocols.
 - As previously stated, traffic decryption is not an option for many reasons, in particular as it is useless in many reason while violating privacy.



What Do We Want to Accomplish?

- Fingerprint network traffic to detect if both the protocol (e.g. the certificate) has changed or its behaviour.
- Prevent specific traffic flows (e.g. unsafe TLS communications) to happen on our network.
- Provide metrics for measuring the nature of specific communications (e.g. HTTPS) while not being able to inspect the content.
- Identify malware in network communications.



Monitoring Strategies

- Analyse protocol messages to detect if we can report changes in protocol communication “aesthetics” (i.e. protocol messages).
- Develop algorithms for monitoring traffic overtime and spot changes in behaviour that might indicate changes in the remote peers configuration or a malware infection.



SSH (Secure Shell) Protocol Monitoring

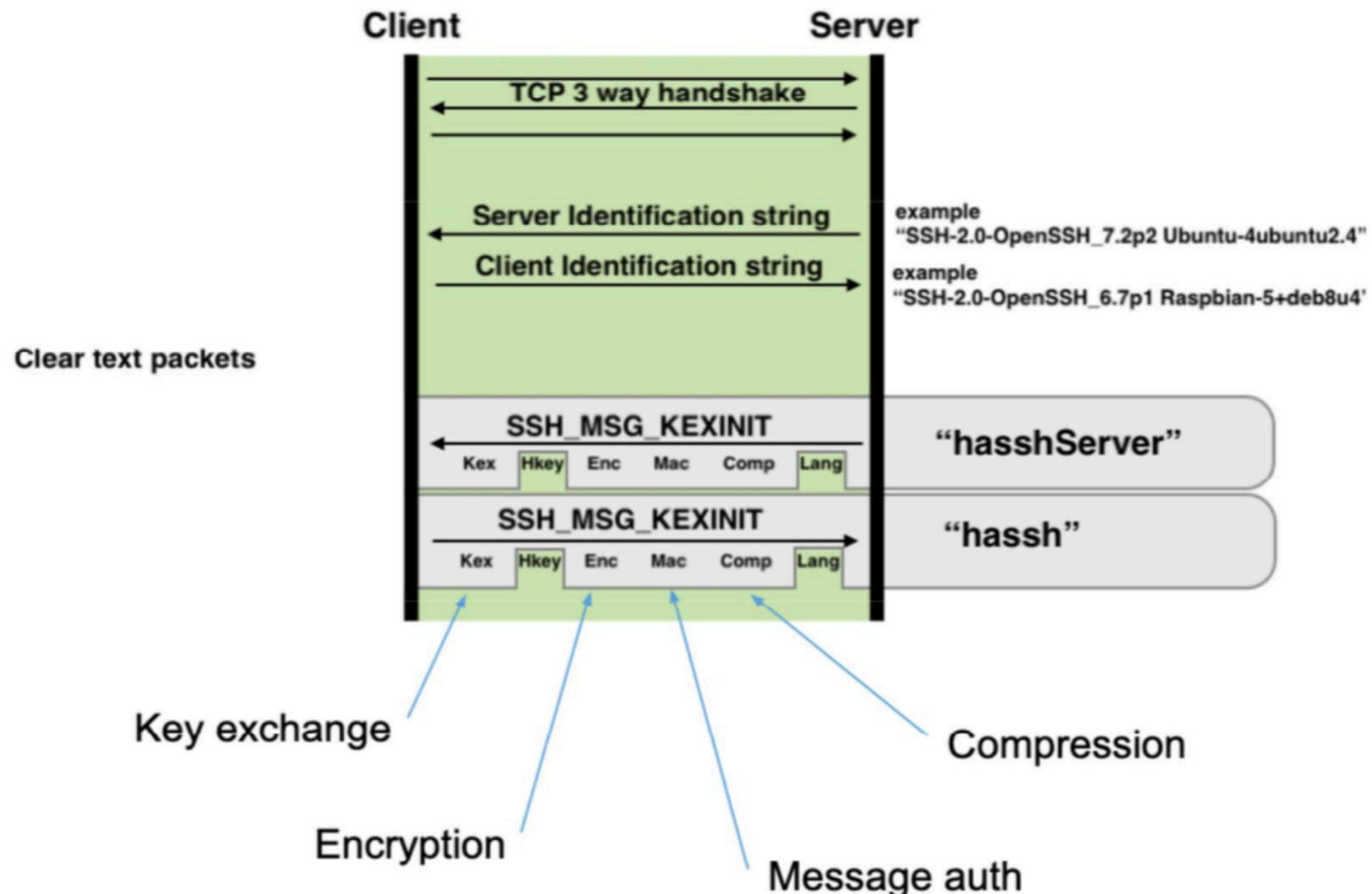


SSH Fingerprinting: HASSH

- HASSH is a network fingerprinting standard created by Salesforce which can be used to identify specific client and server SSH implementations.
- Fingerprints can be easily stored, searched and shared in the form of an MD5 fingerprint.
- They can be computed for both client and server and are useful to detect changes in SSH client software/configuration.



HASSH Client [1/2]



HASSH Client [2/2]

Function	Algorithms seen in SSH_MSG_KEXINIT packets
Key Exchange methods	curve25519-sha256@libssh.org,diffie-hellman-group-exchange-sha256,ecdh-sha2-nistp521,ecdh-sha2-nistp384,ecdh-sha2-nistp256,diffie-hellman-group-exchange-sha1,diffie-hellman-group1-sha1,diffie-hellman-group14-sha1,diffie-hellman-group14-sha256,diffie-hellman-group15-sha512,diffie-hellman-group16-sha512,diffie-hellman-group17-sha512,diffie-hellman-group18-sha512,diffie-hellman-group14-sha256@ssh.com,diffie-hellman-group15-sha256,diffie-hellman-group15-sha256@ssh.com,diffie-hellman-group15-sha384@ssh.com,diffie-hellman-group16-sha256,diffie-hellman-group16-sha384@ssh.com,diffie-hellman-group16-sha512@ssh.com,diffie-hellman-group18-sha512@ssh.com
Encryption	aes128-cbc,aes128-ctr,aes192-cbc,aes192-ctr,aes256-cbc,aes256-ctr,blowfish-cbc,blowfish-ctr,cast128-cbc,cast128-ctr,idea-cbc,idea-ctr,serpent128-cbc,serpent128-ctr,serpent192-cbc,serpent192-ctr,serpent256-cbc,serpent256-ctr,3des-cbc,3des-ctr,twofish128-cbc,twofish128-ctr,twofish192-cbc,twofish192-ctr,twofish256-cbc,twofish256-ctr,twofish-cbc,arcfour,arcfour128,arcfour256
Message Authentication	hmac-sha1,hmac-sha1-96,hmac-md5,hmac-md5-96,hmac-sha2-256,hmac-sha2-512
Compression	zlib@openssh.com,zlib,none

HASSH Client Examples

de30354b88bae4c2810426614e1b6976 Powershell Renci.SshNet.SshClient.0.0.1 (used by Empire exploit modules)
fafc45381bfde997b6305c4e1600f1bf Ruby/Net::SSH_5.0.2 x86_64-linux (used by Metasploit exploit modules)
b5752e36ba6c5979a575e43178908adf Python Paramiko_2.4.1 (used by Metasploit exploit modules)
16f898dd8ed8279e1055350b4e20666c Dropbear_2012.55 (used in IOT embedded systems)
8a8ae540028bf433cd68356c1b9e8d5b CyberDuck Version 6.7.1 (28683)
06046964c022c6407d15a27b12a6a4fb OpenSSH_7.7p1 Ubuntu-4



HASSH Server

Function	Algorithms seen in SSH_MSG_KEXINIT packets
Key Exchange methods	diffie-hellman-group-exchange-sha256, diffie-hellman-group-exchange-sha1, diffie-hellman-group14-sha1, diffie-hellman-group1-sha1
Encryption	aes128-ctr, aes192-ctr, aes256-ctr, arcfour256, arcfour128, aes128-cbc, 3des-cbc, blowfish-cbc, cast128-cbc, aes192-cbc, aes256-cbc, arcfour, rijndael-cbc@lysator.liu.se
Message Authentication	hmac-md5, hmac-sha1, umac-64@openssh.com, hmac-ripemd160, hmac-ripemd160@openssh.com, hmac-sha1-96, hmac-md5-96
Compression	none, zlib@openssh.com

HASSH Server Examples

c1c596caaeb93c566b8ecf3cae9b5a9e SSH-2.0-dropbear_2016.74
d93f46d063c4382b6232a4d77db532b2 SSH-2.0-dropbear_2016.72
2dd9a9b3dbebfafec8b8aab689e75d2 SSH-2.0-AWSCodeCommit
696e7f84ac571fdf8fa5073e64ee2dc8 SSH-2.0-FTP



What Problems does HASSH Addresses ? [1/2]

- HASSH adds contextual information to packet header information.
- The HASSH client is used to fingerprint the client, and thus:
 - Allow blocking clients outside of the "allowed set".
 - Detect exfiltration if data when using SSH clients with multiple distinct hashes.
 - NAT won't shield different SSH clients as they can now be detected with this technique.
 - Identify specific client versions.



What Problems does HASSH Addresses ? [2/2]

- The HASSH server can be used to detect if the server configuration is insecure or different from the past.
- In IoT or datacenter where configurations are static (or at least under strict control) administrators, fingerprint should be predictable.
- Same as HASSH client it can be used to block insecure servers, or detect unexpected changes in server configuration.



HASSH Server Database

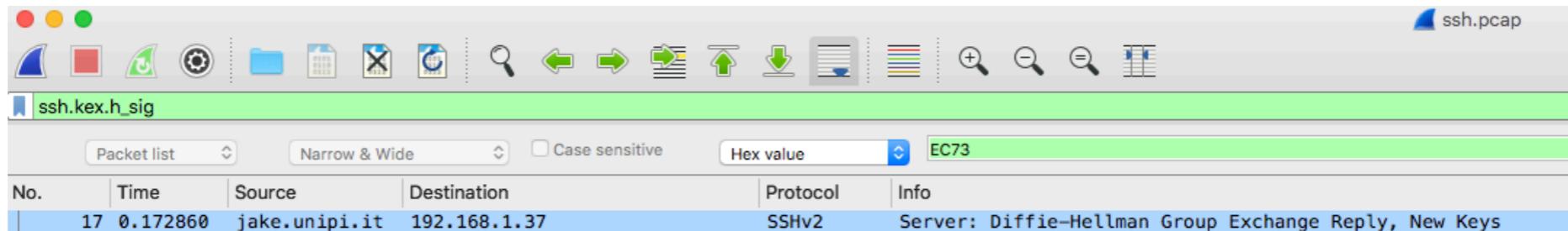
The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for '0x4D31/hassh-utils'. The repository has 3 stars and 7 forks. The 'Code' tab is selected. The file 'hasshdb' contains 1474 lines (1474 sloc) and is 156 KB. The file content is a list of SSH fingerprints and their details:

```
1 00885509c9f043998c3d66fb9add68b3 SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.4 (100%)
2 009f6d712179bd0c25fc41248dec0f39 SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.2p2 Ubuntu-4ubuntu2.8 (76%) || SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.2p2 Ubuntu-4ubuntu2.6 (23%)
3 00d352967f27037847ef46466c07c06b SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.4p1 Debian-10+deb9u7 (85%) || SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.4p1 Debian-10+deb9u6 (14%)
4 00e3c6a18a2236eebb2f0b00df6c9397 SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.9 (100%)
5 010d61593035422f8a1a5db0f14943ea SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.2p2-hpn14v10 (57%) || SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.2 (35%) || SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.2p2 Ubu
6 0126b201f99decf00268f18f50720029 SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.2p2 Ubuntu-4ubuntu2.4 (100%)
7 0134c54c020d31261e5c4d3c8678f79e SSH-2.0-CerberusFTPServer_10.0 (40%) || SSH-2.0-CerberusFTPServer_9.0 (31%) || SSH-2.0-Cerberu
8 0155ef1eb685120d32592340369ec87e SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.2p2 Ubuntu-4ubuntu2.8 (88%) || SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.2p2 Ubuntu-4ubuntu2.6 (7%)
9 01a18ff46c29417870cc2a675226f582 SSH-2.0-JSCAPE (100%)
10 01afc3399d31a69e3577fa696e9a8583 SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.6p1 Ubuntu-4ubuntu0.3 (100%)
11 01b495a1a6f604e2873a75762bc85714 SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_7.4 (100%)
```

<https://github.com/0x4D31/hassh-utils/blob/master/hasshdb>



Other SSH Contextual Info [1/2]



```
▶ Frame 17: 1042 bytes on wire (8336 bits), 1042 bytes captured (8336 bits)
▶ Ethernet II, Src: Technico_f1:39:76 (10:13:31:f1:39:76), Dst: Apple_06:49:fe (c4:2c:03:06:49:fe)
▶ Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: jake.unipi.it (131.114.18.19), Dst: 192.168.1.37 (192.168.1.37)
▶ Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: EtherNet-IP-1 (2222), Dst Port: 51388 (51388), Seq: 4061018342, Ack: 2678031444, Len: 976
▼ SSH Protocol
    ▼ SSH Version 2 (encryption:aes128-ctr mac:umac-64@openssh.com compression:none)
        Packet Length: 956
        Padding Length: 7
    ▼ Key Exchange
        Message Code: Diffie-Hellman Group Exchange Reply (33)
        ▼ KEX host key (type: ssh-rsa)
            Host key length: 279
            Host key type length: 7
            Host key type: ssh-rsa
            Multi Precision Integer Length: 3
            RSA public exponent (e): 010001
            Multi Precision Integer Length: 257
            RSA modulus (N): 00d0e38720f8a7baa1a278a1ea3d41679b900badb2b53ae5...
            Multi Precision Integer Length: 385
            DH server f: 009103a639f79e3a614a4a65438387e...ode0a5d9c1d926...
            KEX H signature length: 271
            KEX H signature: 000000077373682d727361000001001546b4d3161d50b6fb...
            Padding String: 00000000000000
    ▶ SSH Version 2 (encryption:aes128-ctr mac:umac-64@openssh.com compression:none)
```

ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256 of ssh.kex.h_sig

```
$ ssh 210.172.195.202
The authenticity of host '210.172.195.202 (210.172.195.202)' can't be established.
RSA key fingerprint is SHA256:oM1N0BCQLu1paUX3MY8lqgicbMsHEof04F6XsHQVNNU.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)?
```



Other SSH Contextual Info [2/2]

The screenshot shows a Wireshark capture of an SSH session. Frame 4, which is highlighted, contains the protocol string "Server: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_5.3)". This string is highlighted with a red box, and a red arrow points from this box to the explanatory text below.

Frame 4: 87 bytes on wire (696 bits), 87 bytes captured (696 bits)
Ethernet II, Src: Vmware_a5:45:e0 (00:0c:29:a5:45:e0), Dst: Vmware_c0:00:08 (00:50:56:c0:00:08)
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 172.16.238.168 (172.16.238.168), Dst: 172.16.238.1 (172.16.238.1)
Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: ssh (22), Dst Port: 58395 (58395), Seq: 1117943351, Ack: 928939947, Len: 21
SSH Protocol
Protocol: SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_5.3

0000 00 50 56 c0 00 08 00 0c 29 a5 45 e0 08 00 45 00 ·PV.....)·E··E·
0010 00 49 54 cf 40 00 40 06 b1 14 ac 10 ee a8 ac 10 ·IT@@.....
0020 ee 01 00 16 e4 1b 42 a2 76 37 37 5e 7f ab 80 18B· v77^....
0030 00 5b 3d 1d 00 00 01 01 08 0a 00 13 23 01 1c 95 ·[=.....#...#...
0040 af f5 53 53 48 2d 32 2e 30 2d 4f 70 65 6e 53 53 ..SSH-2. 0-OpenSS
0050 48 5f 35 2e 33 0d 0a H_5.3..



TLS (Transport Layer Security) Protocol Monitoring



Welcome to TLS [1/2]

TLS is a cryptographic protocol designed to provide both privacy and security between computers.

Most Popular →
Latest Version →

Protocol	Published	Status
SSL 1.0	Unpublished	Unpublished
SSL 2.0	1995	Deprecated in 2011 (RFC 6176)
SSL 3.0	1996	Deprecated in 2015 (RFC 7568)
TLS 1.0	1999	Deprecation planned in 2020 ^[11]
TLS 1.1	2006	Deprecation planned in 2020 ^[11]
TLS 1.2	2008	
TLS 1.3	2018	

SSL For Dummies:

- <https://www.wst.space/ssl-part1-ciphersuite-hashing-encryption/>
- <https://www.wst.space/ssl-part2-diffie-hellman-key-exchange/>
- <https://www.wst.space/ssl-part3-certificate-authority/>
- <https://www.wst.space/ssl-part4-tls-handshake-protocol/>



Welcome to TLS [2/2]

Frame 6: 451 bytes on wire (3608 bits), 451 bytes captured (3608 bits)
Ethernet II, Src: SamsungE_0f:87:f0 (58:b1:0f:0f:87:f0), Dst: ChiconyE_b7:13:25 (b0:c0:90:b7:13:25)
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.14.57 (192.168.14.57), Dst: edge-star-shv-01-mxp1.facebook.com (31.13.86.8)
Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 54813 (54813), Dst Port: https (443), Seq: 1569520040, Ack: 1957092080, Len: 385
▼ Transport Layer Security
 ▼ TLSv1.3 Record Layer: Handshake Protocol: Client Hello
 Content_Type: Handshake (22)
 Version: TLS 1.0 (0x0301) TLS 1.0 (0x0301)
 Length: 385
 ▼ Handshake Protocol: Client Hello
 Handshake Type: Client Hello (1)
 Length: 385
 Version: TLS 1.2 (0x0303) TLS 1.2 (0x0303)
 Random: 017455600b14037c00a60b02a052e4577a08238d4fac3f96...
 Session ID Length: 32
 Session ID: d965ae13e20ecedcdb218cbc415bf07a8ea8bea5dfa0c183...
 Cipher Suites Length: 6
 Cipher Suites (3 suites)
 Compression Methods Length: 1
 Compression Methods (1 method)
 Extensions Length: 297
 ▼ Extension: supported_versions (len=5)
 Type: supported_versions (43)
 Length: 5
 Supported Versions length: 4
 Supported Version: TLS 1.3 (0x0304) TLS 1.3 (0x0304)
 Supported Version: Unknown (0x101010)
 ► Extension: supported_groups (len=6)
 ► Extension: key_share (len=32)



JA3: TLS Fingerprinting

- Similar to HASSH but for TLS/SSL, it has been designed for malware detection.
- JA3 fingerprints the way that a client application communicates over TLS.
- JA3S fingerprints the server response.
- They essentially create a fingerprint of the cryptographic negotiation between client and server.

<https://engineering.salesforce.com/tls-fingerprinting-with-ja3-and-ja3s-247362855967>



JA3: TLS Fingerprinting [1/2]

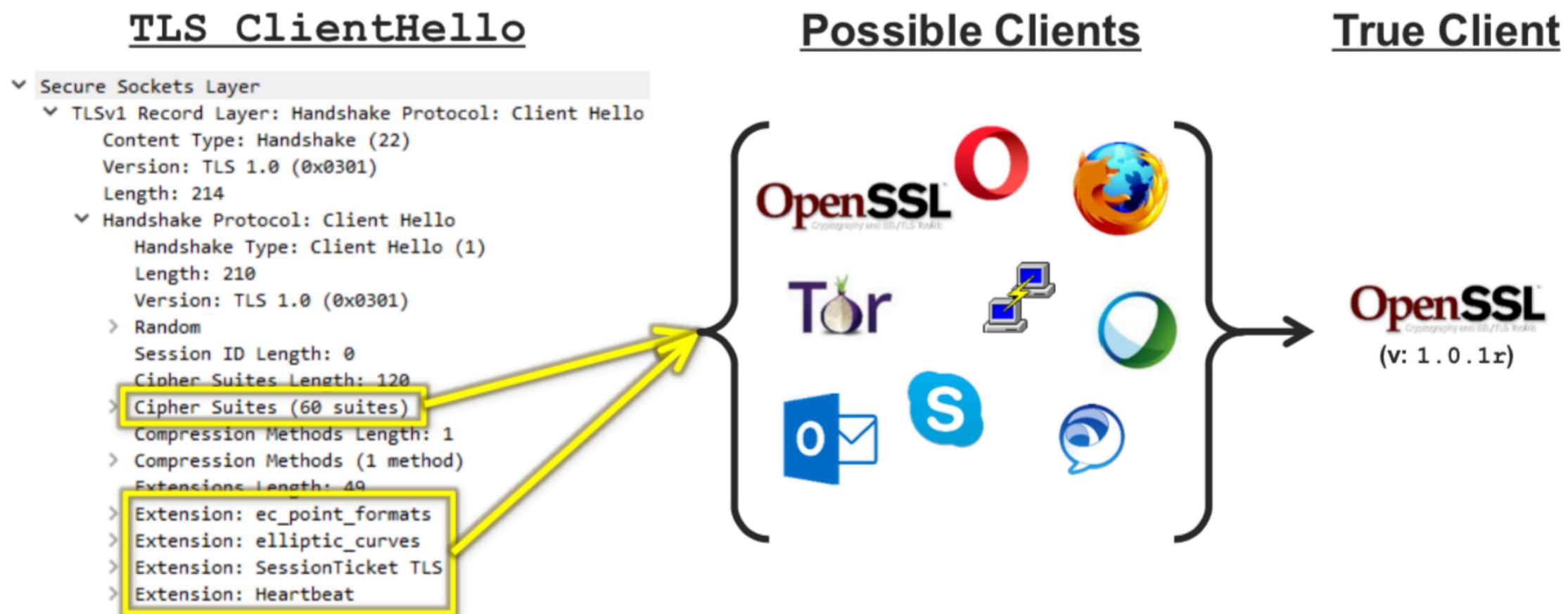
```
▼ TLSv1.2 Record Layer: Handshake Protocol: Client Hello
  Content Type: Handshake (22)
  Version: TLS 1.0 (0x0301)
  Length: 224
▼ Handshake Protocol: Client Hello
  Handshake Type: Client Hello (1)
  Length: 220
  Version: TLS 1.2 (0x0303) ←
▶ Random
  Session ID Length: 0
  Cipher Suites Length: 38
▶ Cipher Suites (19 suites) ←
  Compression Methods Length: 1
  Compression Methods (1 method)
  Extensions Length: 141 ←
  ▶ Extension: server_name
  ▶ Extension: elliptic_curves ←
  ▶ Extension: ec_point_formats ←
  ▶ Extension: signature_algorithms
  ▶ Extension: next_protocol_negotiation
  ▶ Extension: Application Layer Protocol Negotiation
  ▶ Extension: status_request
  ▶ Extension: signed_certificate_timestamp
  ▶ Extension: Extended Master Secret
0060 1a e1 15 00 00 26 00 ff c0 2c c0 2b c0 24 c0 23 .....&.. ,..+.$.#.
0070 c0 0a c0 09 c0 30 c0 2f c0 28 c0 27 c0 14 c0 13 .....0./ .(. '.....
0080 00 9d 00 9c 00 3d 00 3c 00 35 00 2f 01 00 00 8d .....=. < .5./.....
0090 00 00 00 18 00 16 00 00 13 63 6c 69 65 6e 74 73 .....clients
00a0 31 2e 67 6f 6f 67 6c 65 2e 63 6f 6d 00 0a 00 08 1.google .com....
00b0 00 06 00 17 00 18 00 19 00 0b 00 02 01 00 00 0d .....
00c0 00 12 00 10 04 01 02 01 05 01 06 01 04 03 02 03 .....
```

JA3C TLSVersion, Ciphers, Extensions, EllipticCurves, EllipticCurvePointFormats

JA3S TLSVersion, Cipher, Extensions



JA3: TLS Fingerprinting [2/2]



<https://engineering.salesforce.com/tls-fingerprinting-with-ja3-and-ja3s-247362855967>

<https://blogs.cisco.com/security/detecting-encrypted-malware-traffic-without-decryption>



Using JA3 and TLS Fingerprint

ntop

Flows Hosts Interface System { eth0 } Search

Flow: :47722 ↔ 162.125.19.9:443 Overview

Flow Peers [Client / Server]	:47722 [64:00:6A:63:35:CC] ↔ 162.125.19.9 [F4:B5:2F:FC:AF:F0]	
Protocol / Application	TCP / TLS.Dropbox (Cloud) [TLS v1.2]	
First / Last Seen	24/01/2020 00:47:33 [00:47 ago]	24/01/2020 00:47:34 [00:46 ago]
Total Traffic	Total: 3.6 KB	Goodput: 2.5 KB (70.9 %)
	Client → Server: 9 Pkts / 2.7 KB	Client ← Server: 7 Pkts / 933 Bytes
		
Round-Trip Time Breakdown	50.298 ms (server)	
Client/Server Estimated Distance	10,108 Km	6,271 Miles
Application Latency	100.82 ms	
Packet Inter-Arrival Time [Min / Avg / Max]	Client → Server: < 1 ms / 50.12 ms / 100 ms	Client ← Server: < 1 ms / 73.67 ms / 141 ms
TLS Certificate	Client Requested: telemetry.dropbox.com ↗ +	
JA3	60efcb8db48448eabf4aa50e4afb28af ↗ 2de81c22ea32a57162df5cb08d4a2795 ↗	
Max (Estimated) TCP Throughput	Client → Server: 5.09 kbit/s	Client ← Server: 79.64 kbit/s
TCP Flags	Client → Server: SYN PUSH ACK	Client ← Server: SYN PUSH ACK
	Flow is active.	
Flow Score	0	



<https://github.com/ntop/ntopng>

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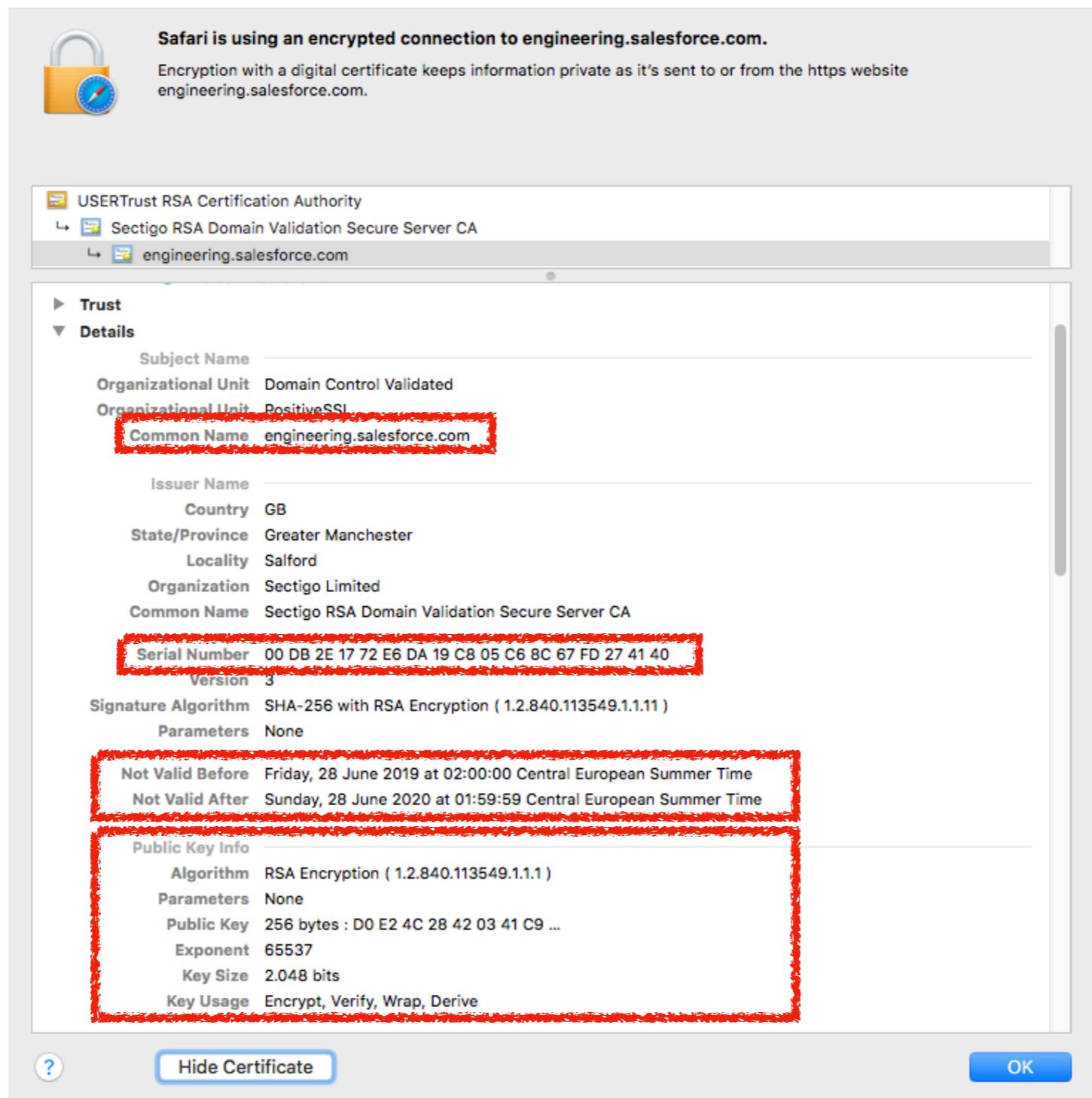
32

SSL Certificate Fingerprint [1/3]

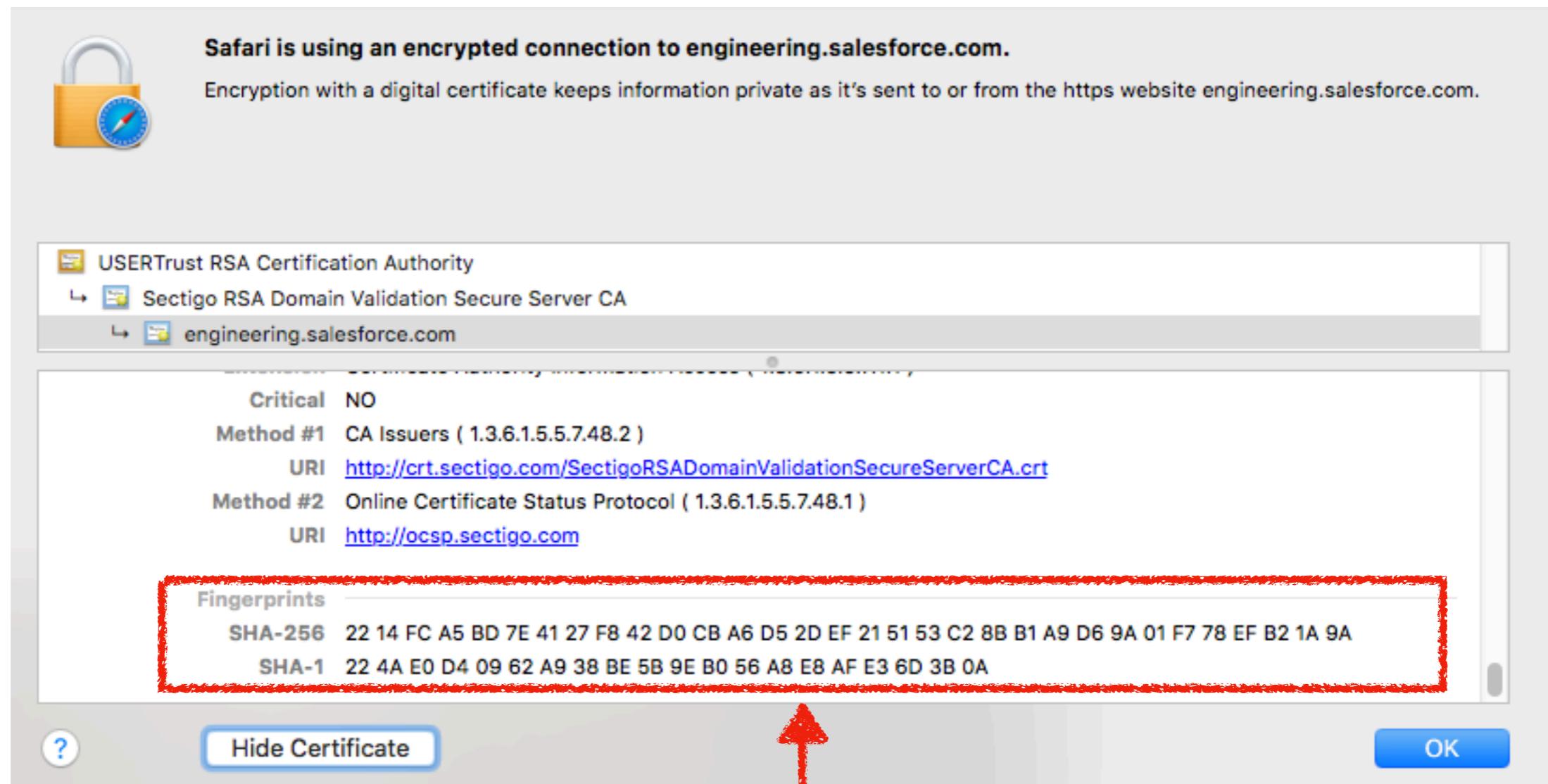
- Similar to HASSH, JA3 does not take into account the certificate that instead fingerprints the server identity.
- The certificate contains the server name, the trusted certificate authority (CA) that asserts for the authenticity of the certificate, and the server's public encryption key.
- In essence, the certificate is a seal used to guarantee the authenticity of the source of the information.



SSL Certificate Fingerprint [2/3]



SSL Certificate Fingerprint [3/3]



When this changes, the HTTP server configuration has been modified



Fingerprinting Everything



Features

- Protocol support: SSL/TLS, SSH, RDP, HTTP, gQUIC.
 - To be added soon: IETF QUIC, MySQL, MSSQL, etc.
- Fingerprinting
 - JA3: TLS client/server fingerprint
 - HASSH: SSH client/server fingerprint
 - RDFP: my experimental RDP fingerprint for standard RDP security protocol (note that other RDP security modes use TLS and can be fingerprinted with JA3)
 - HTTP header fingerprint
 - gQUIC/iQUIC fingerprint will be added soon
- JSON output

<https://github.com/0x4D31/fatt>



Fingerprints Databases

- Once fingerprints are computed, they can be matched against known signatures.

The screenshot shows the SSL Blacklist (SSLBL) website. The header is dark blue with the text "SSL blacklist" and "by ABUSE.ch". The main title "SSLBL" is large and bold. Below it, a paragraph explains the project's goal: detecting malicious SSL connections by identifying and blacklisting SSL certificates used by botnet C&C servers. It also mentions JA3 fingerprints for malware detection. A prominent button labeled "Download SSL Blacklist »" is visible. The footer contains links for "SSL Certificates", "JA3 Fingerprints", "Blacklist", "Statistics", and "About".

SSL Certificates

Identify botnet command&control (C&C) infrastructure. Browse the list of malicious SSL certificates identified by SSLBL.

[View details »](#)

JA3 Fingerprints

Detect botnet command&control (C&C) communication. Browse the list of JA3 fingerprint to find malware in your network.

[View details »](#)

Statistics

Get insights into botnet C&C operations that are leveraging SSL to encrypt botnet C&C traffic. Take a look at the SSLBL statistics.

[View details »](#)



<https://sslbl.abuse.ch>

Are Fingerprint Databases Reliable? [1/2]

- Answer: it depends.
 - SSL Certificate Blacklist can be reliably used to identify for Command&Control or other types of malware.

SSL Certificates

Here you can browse all malicious SSL certificates identified by SSLBL. An SSL certificate is identified by a unique *SHA1 hash* (aka *SSL certificate fingerprint*). You can find more information about how to leverage SSLBL to spot botnet C&C traffic [here](#).

Show 50 entries

Search:

Listing Date (UTC)	SSL Certificate	Listing Reason	Malware Samples
2018-11-30 12:38:23	7669103ea0a2e900179e5220a13bf3415438b665	Dridex C&C	3'092
2014-07-09 07:14:48	eb84133c8978541c09ace6044728e621add30726	Shylock C&C	1'420
2015-04-01 13:40:30	d62e065311dffcecad9f8e92c316aafb6019394b	Adwind C&C	1'264
2018-11-18 16:50:32	c17c2bb738627e819e9339f57e8b98967e09f3cb	Gozi C&C	1'219
2018-03-21 15:07:55	e9fbf9ce3a3eea7ba2bdadbab163cff2148dc9e7	TrickBot C&C	1'046



Are Fingerprint Databases Reliable? [2/2]

- JA3 Fingerprint is not reliable as it does NOT identify a specific malware but rather the TLS library used by the malware (e.g. OpenSSL) that can also be used by other apps.

JA3 Fingerprint Blacklist (CSV)

JA3 is an [open source tool](#) used to fingerprint SSL/TLS client applications. In the best case, you can use JA3 to identify malware and botnet C2 traffic that is leveraging SSL/TLS. The CSV format is useful if you want to process the JA3 fingerprints further, e.g. loading them into your SIEM. The CSV contains the following values:

- JA3 Fingerprint
- First seen (UTC)
- Last seen (UTC)
- Listing reason

The JA3 Fingerprint Blacklist (CSV) gets generated every 5 minutes. Please do not fetch it more often than every 5 minutes.



Catching Unexpected Behaviour



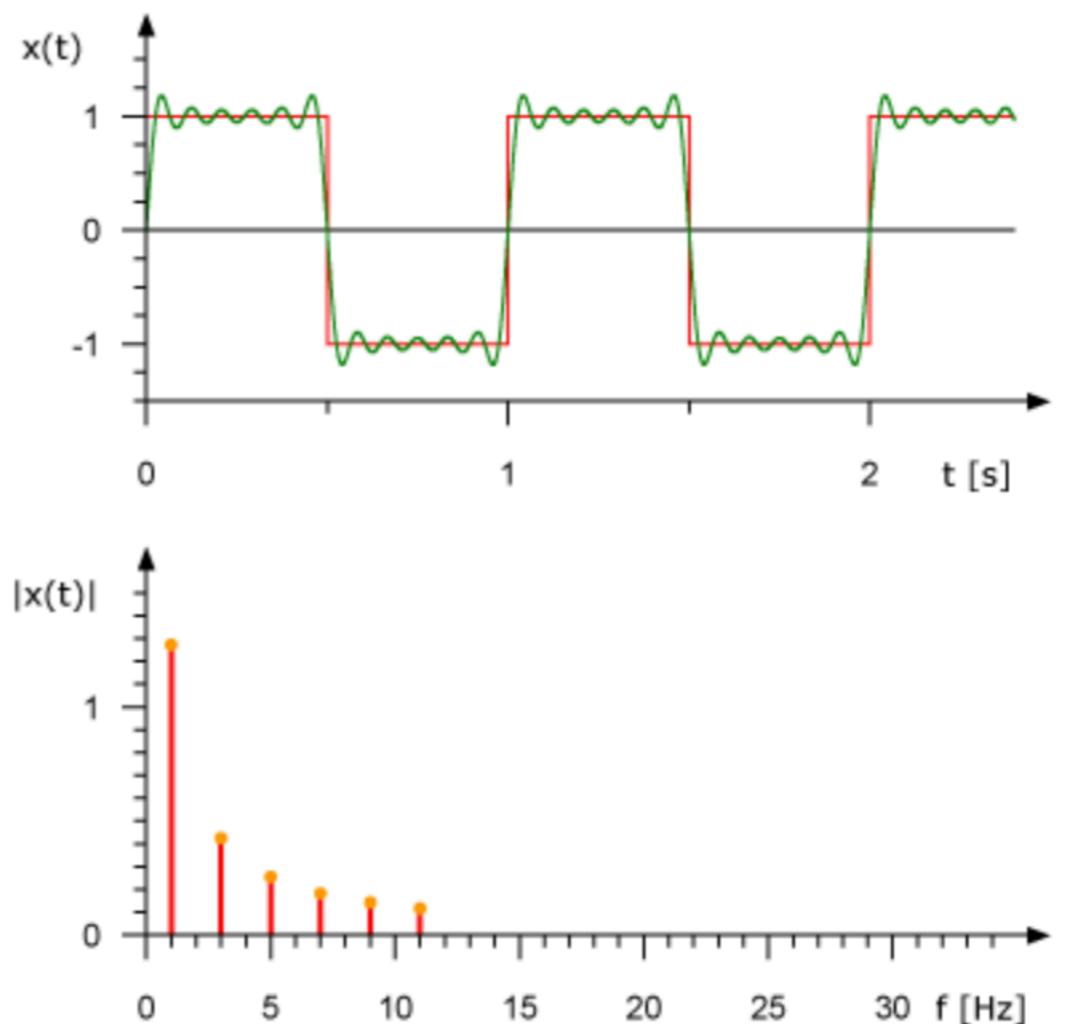
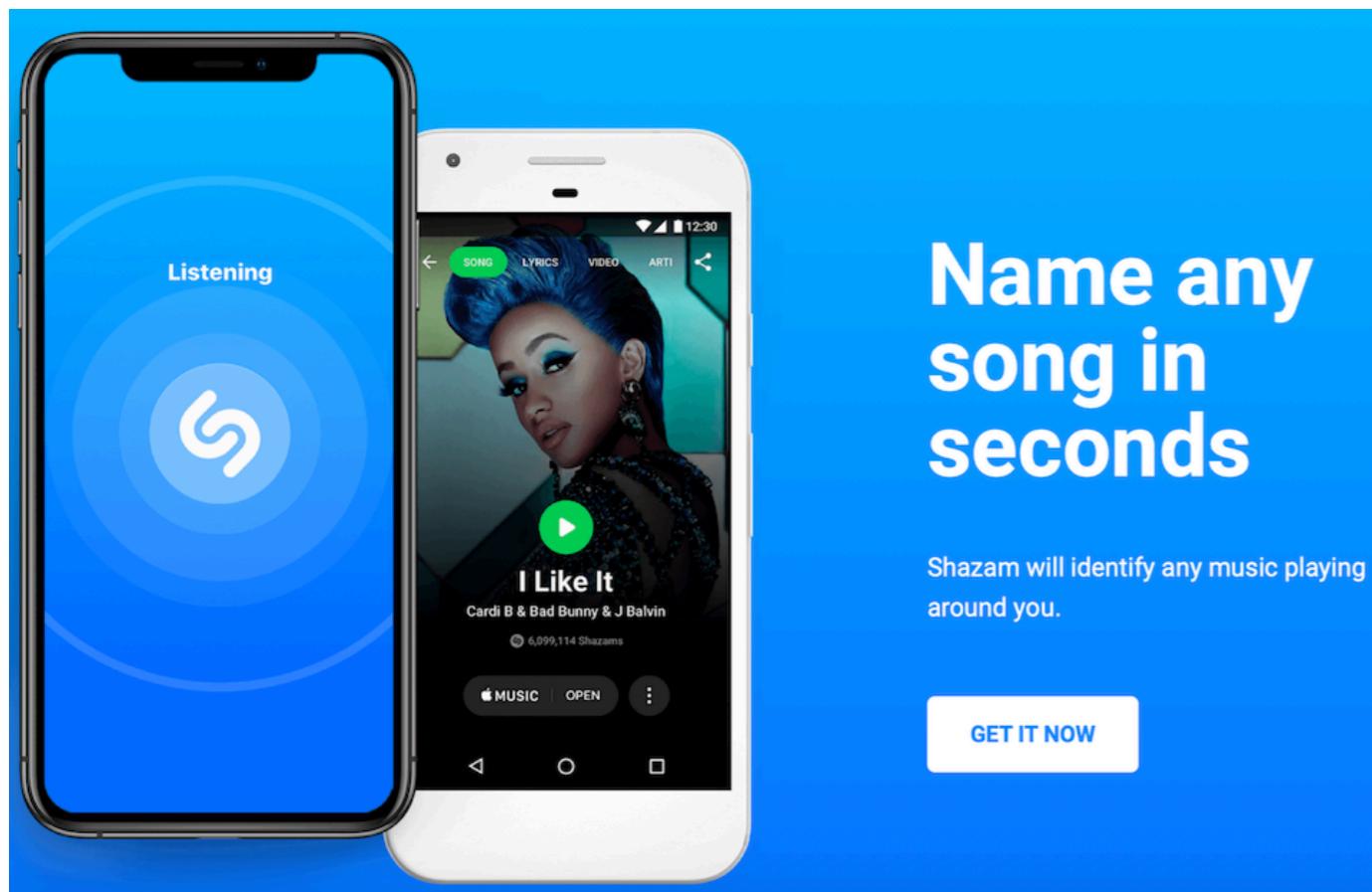
© 2020 - Luca Deri <deri@ntop.org>

Options for Behaviour Analysis

- Option A: Classify good (normal operations) and bad behaviour (malware) and match the current behaviour against the model.
 - Limitations:
 - You will be limited to what you already know (i.e. you won't detect a new malware).
 - You need to annotate traffic for training them model, and this is not what people like to do.
- Option B: Cluster the traffic you have, and check if current traffic matches an existing cluster (good, it's a déjà vu) or if not (bad, as it looks we've something new to handle).
 - Drawback: you might misclassify malware traffic.



Have You Ever Heard of Shazam? [1/2]



<https://www.toptal.com/algorithms/shazam-it-music-processing-fingerprinting-and-recognition>

<http://www.ee.columbia.edu/~dpwe/papers/Wang03-shazam.pdf>



Have You Ever Heard of Shazam? [2/2]

Introduce some
Fuzzy Logic

```
public final int[] RANGE = new int[] { 40, 80, 120, 180, 300 };

// find out in which range is frequency
public int getIndex(int freq) {
    int i = 0;
    while (RANGE[i] < freq)
        i++;
    return i;
}

// result is complex matrix obtained in previous step
for (int t = 0; t < result.length; t++) {
    for (int freq = 40; freq < 300 ; freq++) {
        // Get the magnitude:
        double mag = Math.log(results[t][freq].abs() + 1);

        // Find out which range we are in
        int index = getIndex(freq);

        // Save the highest magnitude and corresponding frequency:
        if (mag > highscores[t][index]) {
            points[t][index] = freq;
        }
    }
}

// return hash tag
long h = hash(points[t][0], points[t][1], points[t][2], points[t][3]);
}

private static final int FUZ_FACTOR = 2;

private long hash(long p1, long p2, long p3, long p4) {
    return (p4 - (p4 % FUZ_FACTOR)) * 1000000000 + (p3 - (p3 % FUZ_FACTOR))
        * 100000 + (p2 - (p2 % FUZ_FACTOR)) * 100
        + (p1 - (p1 % FUZ_FACTOR));
}
```

(1) Create bins

(2) Hash bins



Have You Ever Heard of Shazam? [3/3]

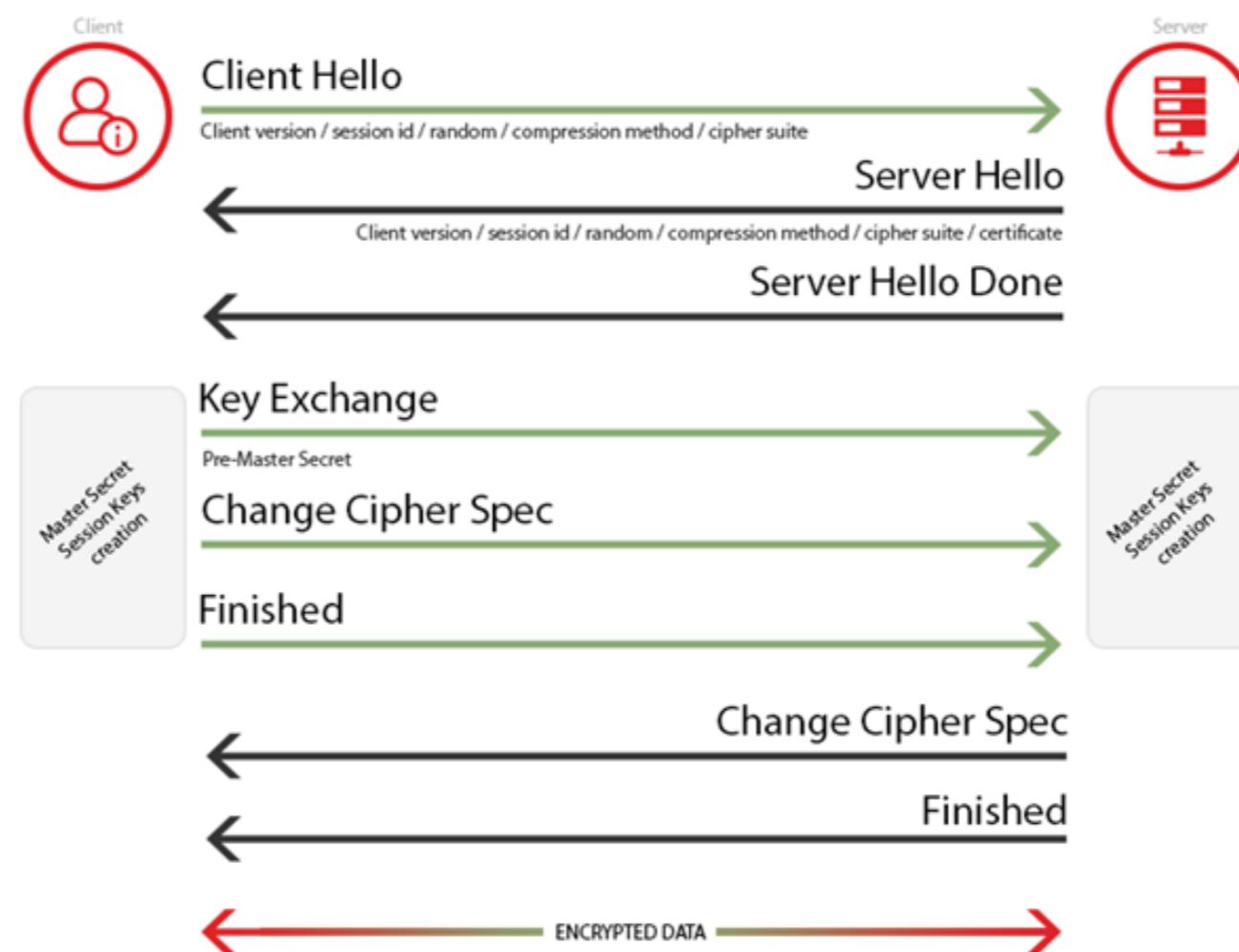
Hash Tag	Time in Seconds	Song
30 51 99 121 195	53.52	Song A by artist A
33 56 92 151 185	12.32	Song B by artist B
39 26 89 141 251	15.34	Song C by artist C
32 67 100 128 270	78.43	Song D by artist D
30 51 99 121 195	10.89	Song E by artist E
34 57 95 111 200	54.52	Song A by artist A
34 41 93 161 202	11.89	Song E by artist E

**(3) Compare hashes
to guess the
played song**



Catching Malware with Fingerprints [1/3]

- Some malware randomise the clientHello (and thus JA3C) trying to deceive security tools.
- Question: is this a good idea?



Catching Malware with Fingerprints [2/3]

- Answer: no it is not a good idea because a monitoring tool will easily detect cases where one IP address features many JA3C fingerprints.
- Question: how JA3C can be used to fingerprint application behaviour?

Host:	Traffic	Packets	Ports	Peers	ICMP	Applications	DNS	TLS	SSH	HTTP	Flows	Sites	Processes	Global	Alert	Logs	File	Settings
JA3 Fingerprint	Application Name											Num Uses						
839868ad711dc55bde0d37a87f14740d	/snap/core/8268/usr/lib/snapd/snapd															12		
054c9f9d304b7a2add3d6fa75bc20ae4	/home/deri/.dropbox-dist/dropbox-Inx.x86_64-88.4.172/dropbox															6		
60efcb8db48448eabf4aa50e4afb28af	/home/deri/.dropbox-dist/dropbox-Inx.x86_64-88.4.172/dropbox															5		
456523fc94726331a4d5a2e1d40b2cd7	/usr/bin/curl															4		
c50d3f7a28fdbb5ed254ce01876abd6e	/usr/lib/git-core/git-remote-http															1		

<https://www.ntop.org/ntop/introducing-nprobe-agent-packetless-system-introspected-network-visibility/>



Catching Malware with Fingerprints [3/3]

- Fingerprints leverage only on the initial flow bytes and thus are lightweight and predictable in cost.
- They can be used for
 - Hunting malware.
 - Profiling attackers and their tools.
 - Spotting new connections between the attackers/IPs.
 - Detecting evasion techniques that can be instead more evident with fingerprints.
- They can be used together with traffic fingerprint (Similar to Shazam that samples the whole song in 20 sec batches) for the best of both worlds.



Modelling Behaviour

- Fingerprints are used to understand if something “aesthetic” has changed.
- We need more than that:
 - Understand if the behaviour of each connection as well the overall host behaviour is acceptable or at least steady with respect to the known behaviour.
 - Detect unexpected behaviour in encrypted communications.



nDPI Traffic Analysis

- \$./example/ndpiReader -J -i ./tests/pcap/instagram.pcap -v 2 -f "port 49355"

```
TCP 192.168.2.17:49355 <-> 31.13.86.52:443 [byte dist mean:  
125.398474] [byte_dist_std: 67.665465] [entropy: 0.997011]  
[total_entropy: 5609.185931] [score: 1.0000] [proto: 91.211/  
TLS.Instagram] [cat: SocialNetwork/6] [456 pkts/33086 bytes <->  
910 pkts/1277296 bytes] [Goodput ratio: 9.0/95.3] [14.29 sec]  
[bytes ratio: -0.950 (Download)] [IAT c2s/s2c min/avg/max/  
stddev: 0/0 37.7/0.7 10107/274 546.6/11.8] [Pkt Len c2s/s2c  
min/avg/max/stddev: 66/66 72.6/1403.6 657/1454 57.2/231.0]  
[TLSv1.3 (Fizz)] [Client: scontent-mxp1-1.cdninstagram.com]  
[JA3C: 7a29c223fb122ec64d10f0a159e07996] [JA3S:  
f4febcb55ea12b31ae17cfb7e614afda8] [Cipher:  
TLS_AES_128_GCM_SHA256]
```

Behaviour

Fingerprint



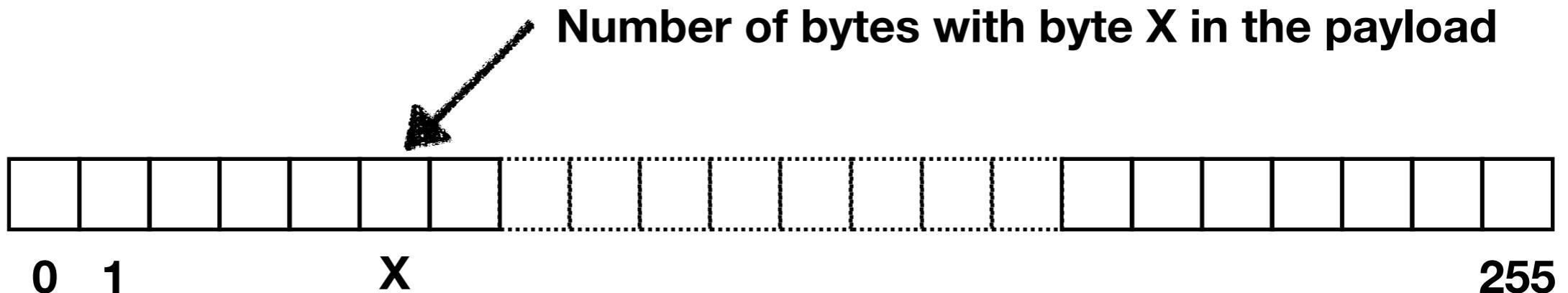
Bytes Entropy [1/4]

- Metric used to measure how bytes are distributed: the larger the entropy, the greater the uncertainty in predicting the value of an observation.
- Formula: the entropy of X is determined by computing the sum of $-p(x)\log_2(p(x))$, where x varies over all possible values for an observation of X and $p(x)$ is the (a priori) probability that an observation will have value x .

<https://csrc.nist.gov/csrc/media/publications/sp/800-90b/draft/documents/draft-sp800-90b.pdf>



Bytes Entropy [2/4]



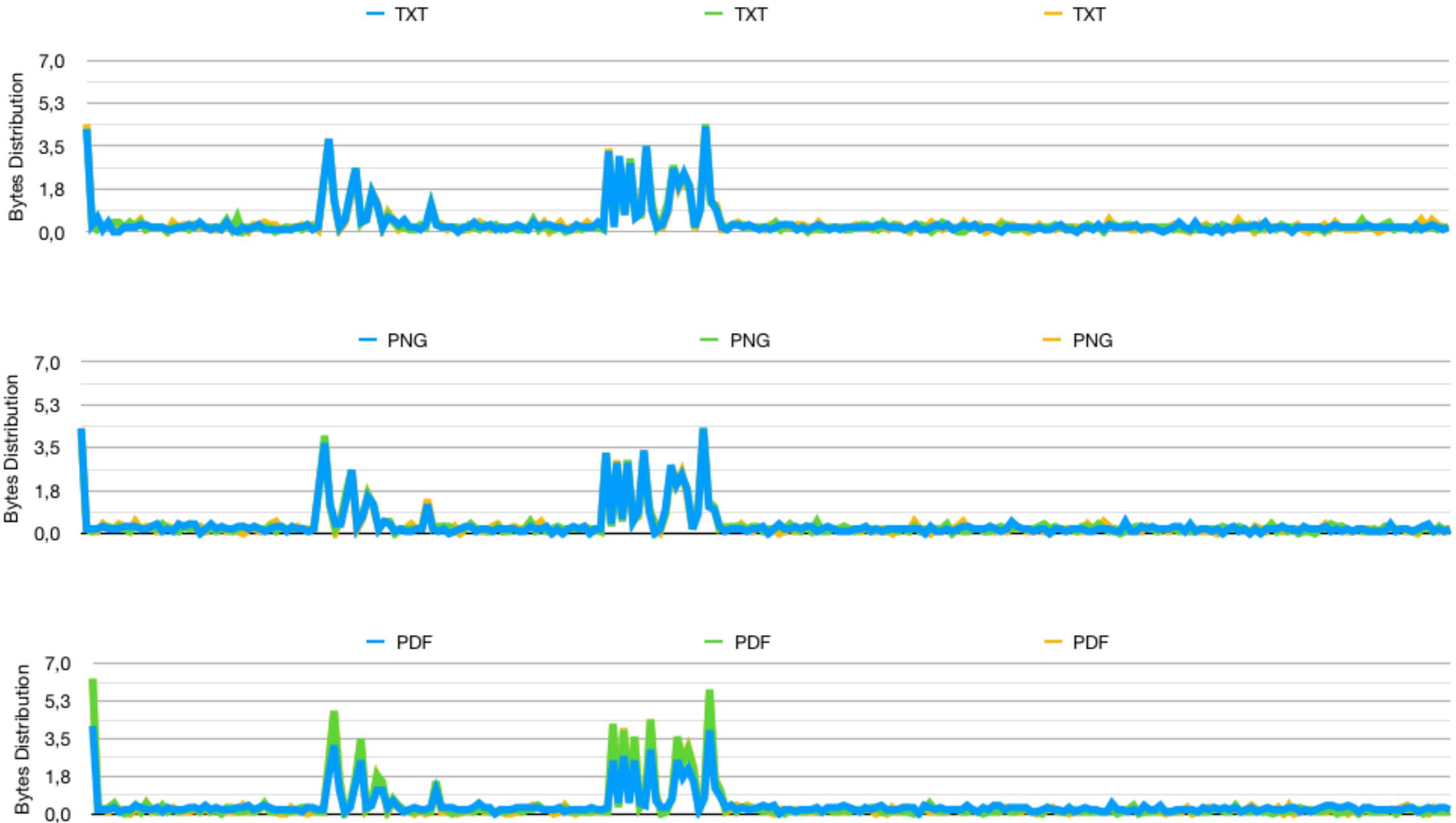
- Entropy of raw data before and after encryption (TLS) changes but is it within limited boundaries for homogeneous data.

Server Entropy (SCP)

PDF	PNG	TEXT	
6,418	7,014	7,008	
6,431	7,019	7,007	
6,428	6,994	7,011	
6,426	7,009	7,009	Average
0,007	0,013	0,002	StdDev



Bytes Entropy [3/4]



Bytes Entropy [4/4]

Client Entropy (TLS)

Instagram	Skype	Belkin	DNS
6,702	6,497	6,497	3,493
6,701	5,429	5,429	3,131
6,338	7,698	7,698	3,74
7,868	7,135	7,135	3,363
6,747	4,817	4,817	3,363
4,798	7,157	7,157	3,106
6,730	7,308	7,308	3,160
6,555	6,577	6,577	3,337
0,910	1,069	1,069	0,229

Server Entropy (TLS)

Instagram	Skype	Belkin	DNS
7,975	7,512	7,973	4,375
7,964	7,649	7,987	4,153
7,964	7,378	7,991	4,159
7,949	7,682	7,995	4,625
7,983	7,574	7,894	4,496
7,937	7,503	7,995	4,494
7,983	7,691	7,913	4,262
7,965	7,570	7,964	4,366
0,017	0,114	0,042	0,182

Average

StdDev

- Entropy is “nice to have” but it cannot be used alone to check protocol compliancy.



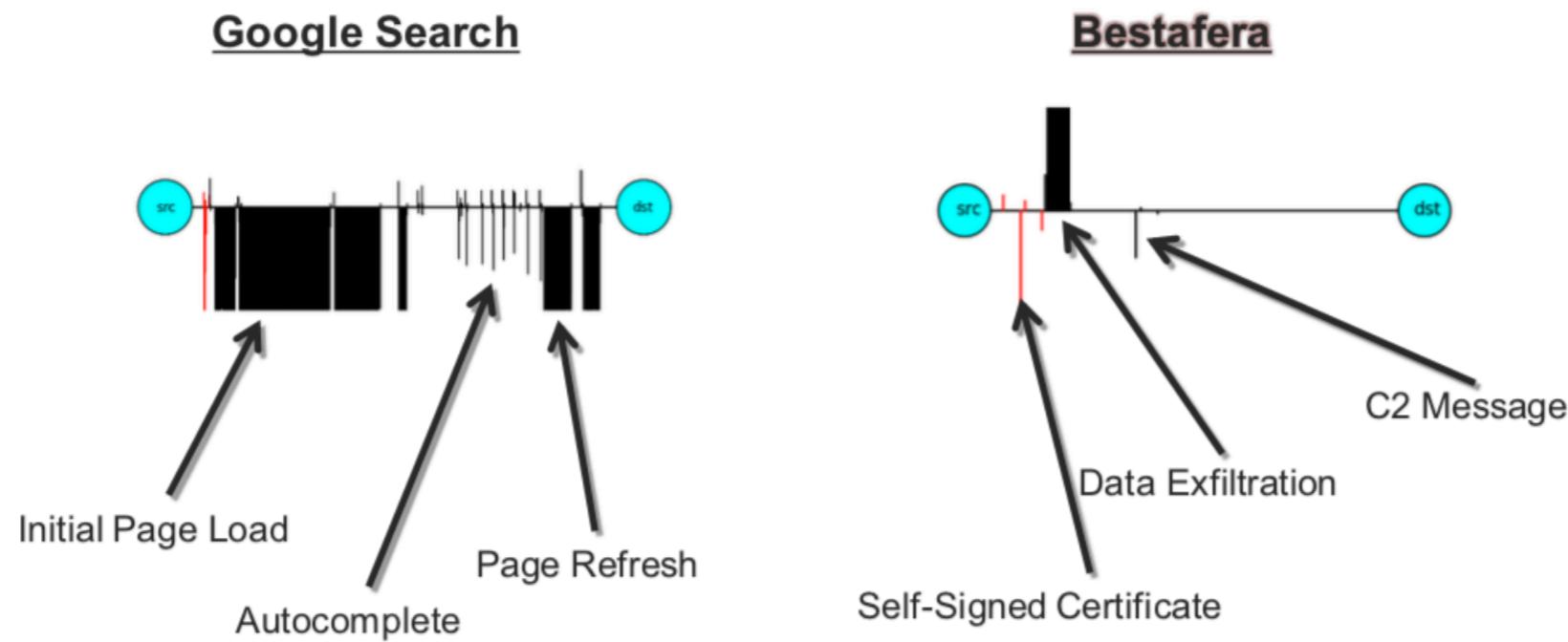
SPLT [1/3]

- SPLT (Sequence of Packet Length and Time) is a metric also used by Cisco Joy (<https://github.com/cisco/joy>) to fingerprint malware.
- For the first 50 packets, payload len and time are divided in 10 bins (i.e. 0-149 bytes, 150-299...).
- Then a matrix 10×10 is created: in each cell (i,j) there's a number that represents the number of times that a packet x in bin i , has as packed $x+1$ packet in bin j . In essence this is a Markov chain with cells representing the transition probability.



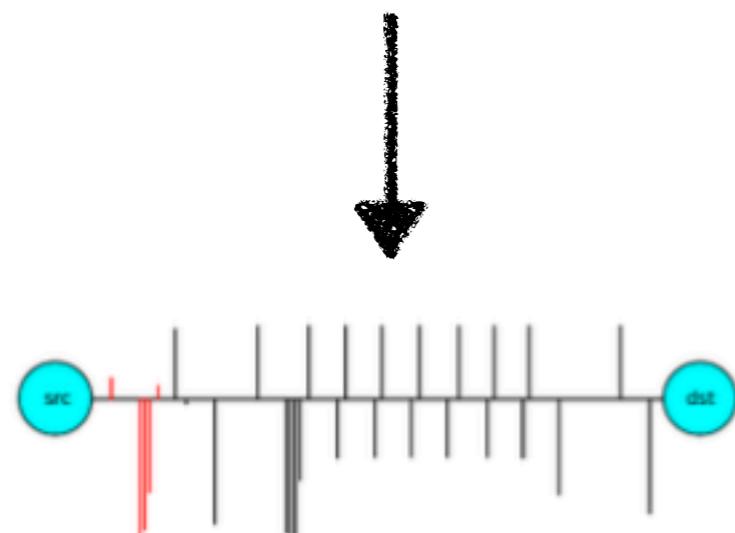
SPLT [2/3]

- SPLT is similar to Google PageRank (probability to go from site X to site Y).
- SPLT is used as a set of 100 (10×10) features for a ML (Machine Learning) algorithm for identifying malware.



SPLT [3/3]

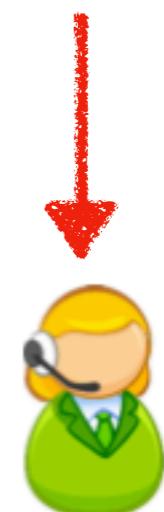
SPLT



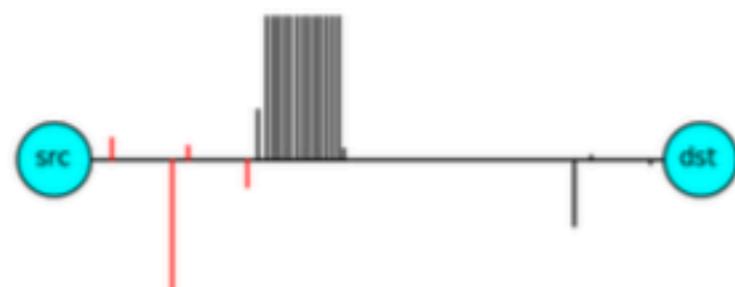
Fingerprint



Malware ?



+

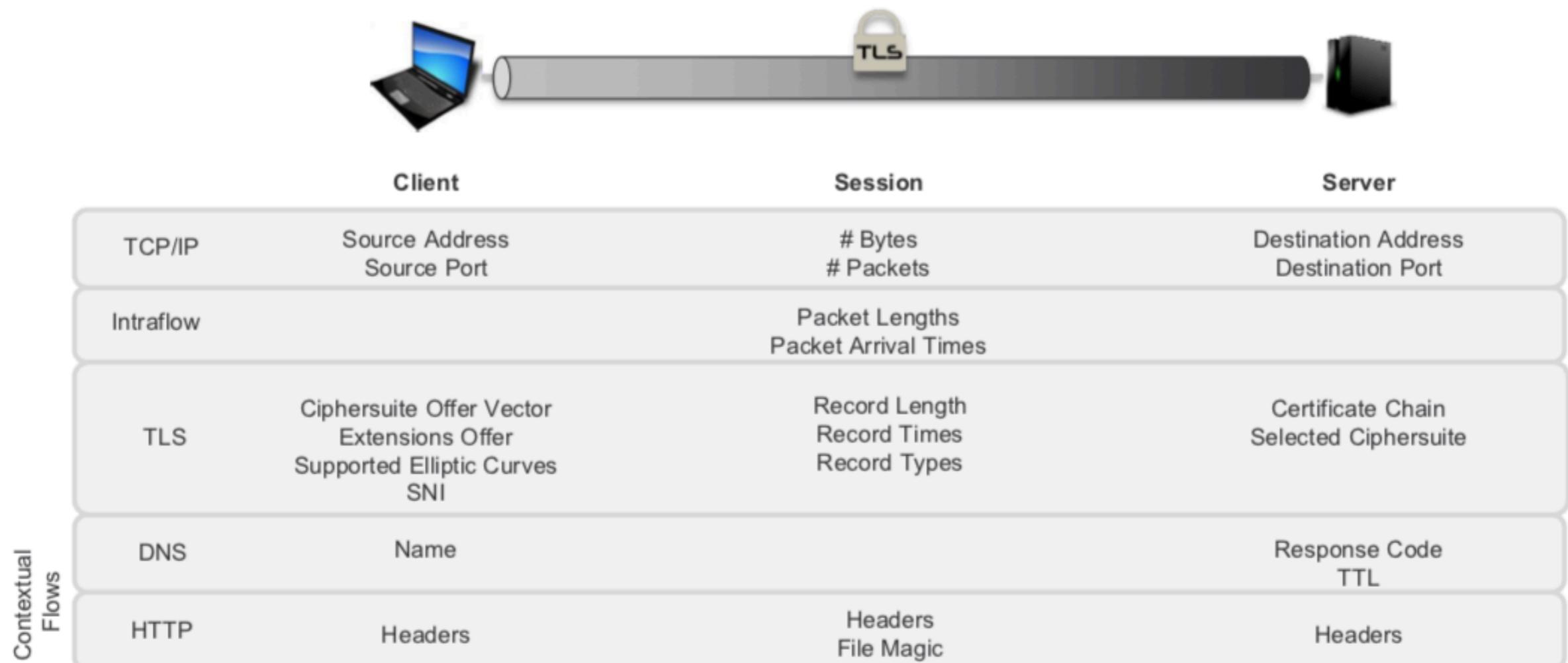


+

OpenSSL
(v: 1.0.1r)

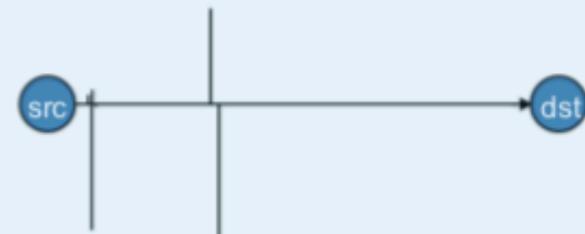


Malware Traffic Analysis [1/5]



Malware Traffic Analysis [2/5]

- SPLT – Sequence of Packet Lengths and Arrival Times



- Byte Distribution
- Byte Entropy



- TLS unencrypted header data
 - Certificates, SNI, Ciphersuites, Extensions

**TLS
metadata**

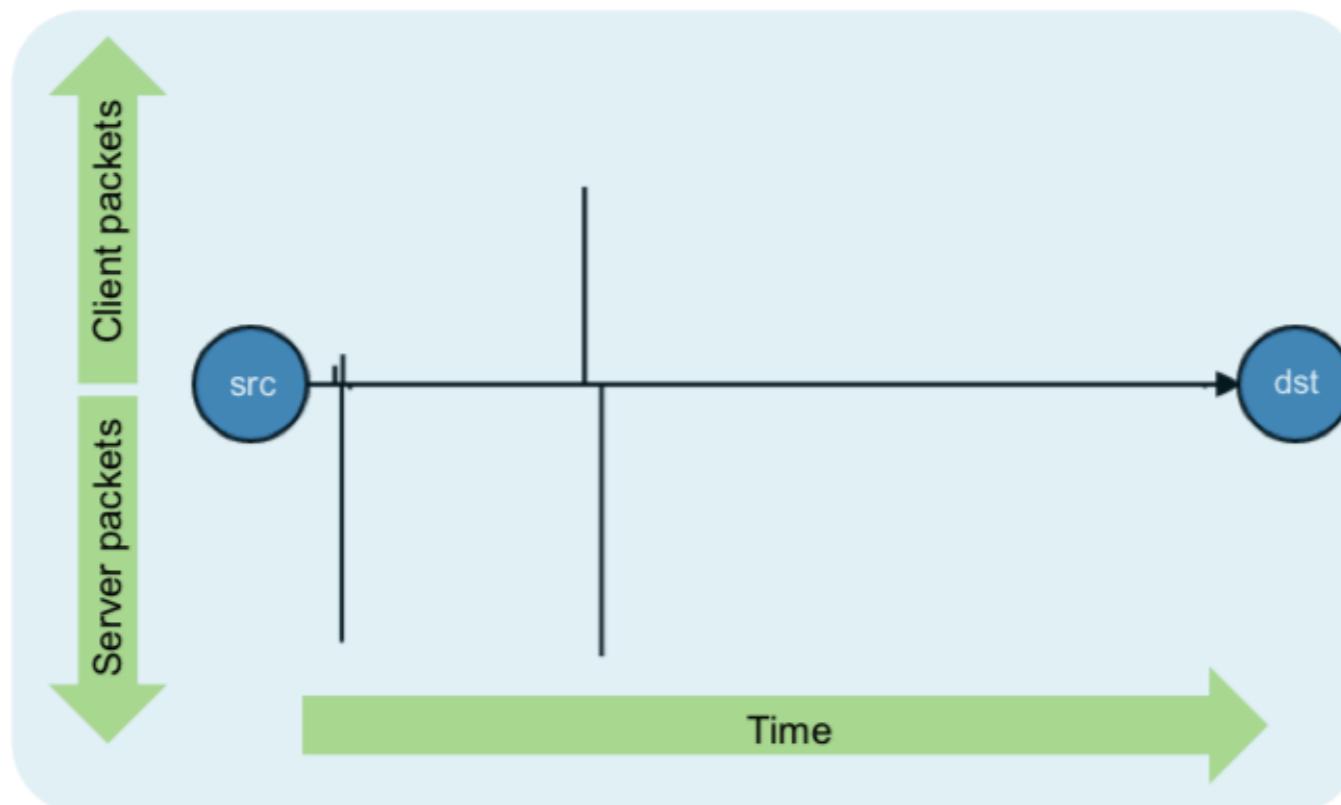
- DNS linked flows
- HTTP linked flows

DNS

HTTP

Malware Traffic Analysis [3/5]

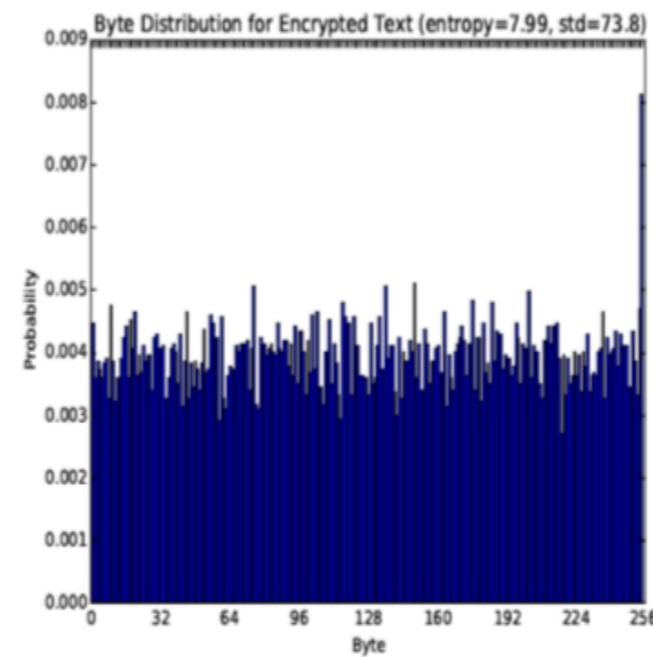
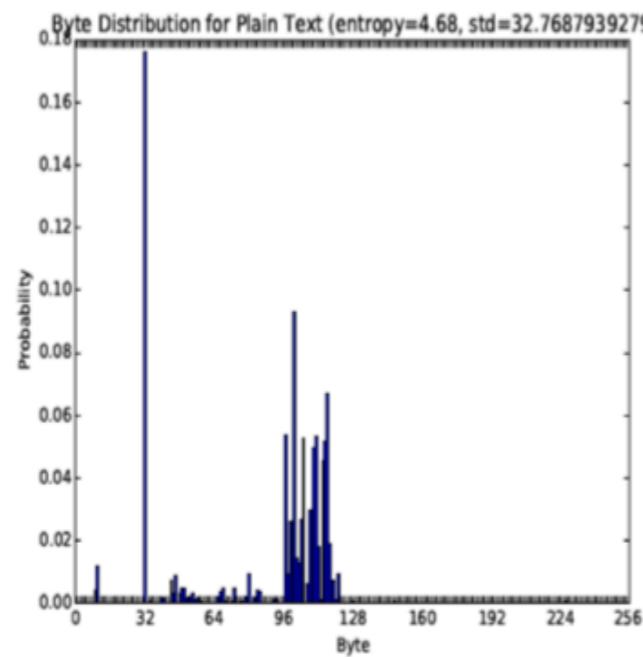
Sequence of Packet Lengths and Times



```
"packets": [  
    { "b": 22, "ipt": 33, "dir": ">" },  
    { "b": 1432, "ipt": 4, "dir": "<" },  
    { "b": 30, "ipt": 1, "dir": ">" },  
    { "b": 4, "ipt": 145, "dir": "<" },  
    ...  
]
```

Malware Traffic Analysis [4/5]

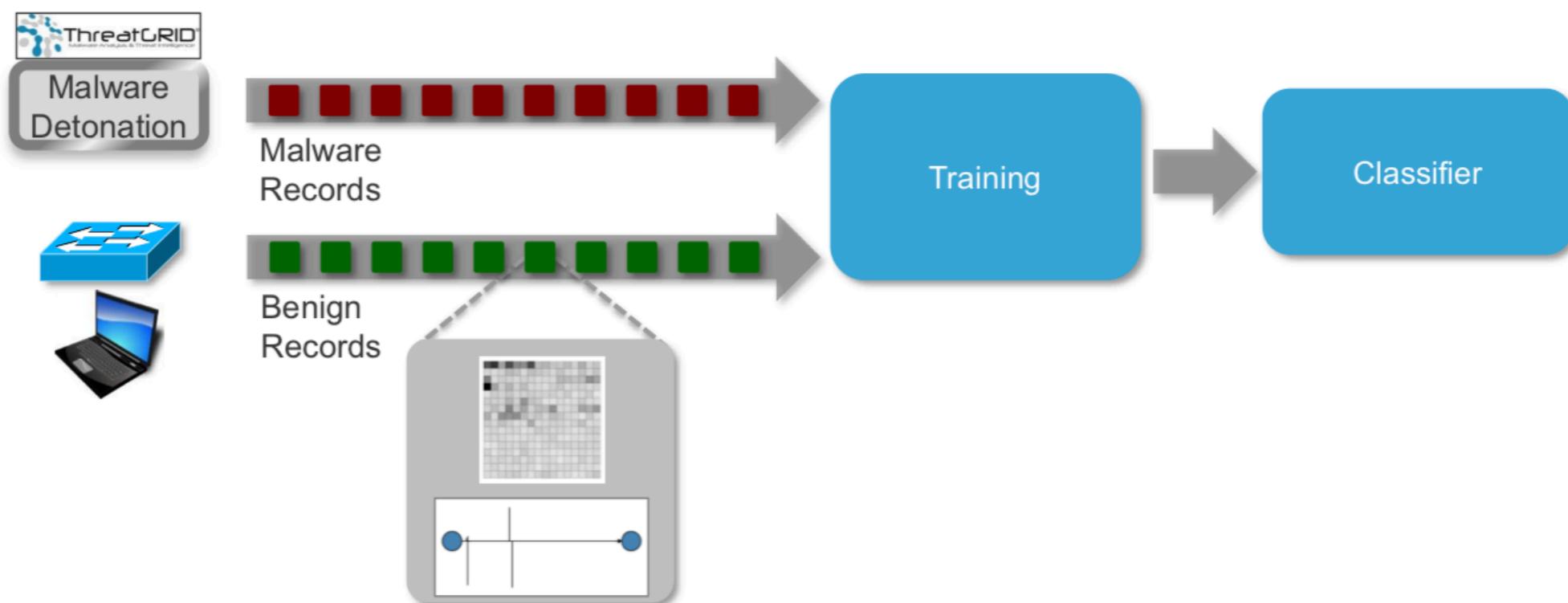
Byte Distribution and entropy



"entropy": 7.165,
"bd": [
23, 7, 4, 8, 4, 12, 7, 4,
12, 5, 98, 6, 5, 101, 14, 8,
9, 9, 6, 8, 10, 6, 10, 6,
16, 8, 3, 16, 7, 7, 3, 11,
189, 6, 24, 9, 10, 10, 5, 7,
19, 8, 16, 8, 34, 79, 61, 90,
102, 91, 56, 47, 35, 47, 30, 25,
...
]



Malware Traffic Analysis [5/5]



In Summary...

- New trends in Internet traffic make traditional payload-inspection-based monitoring tools useless as traffic is now encrypted.
- Encryption does not mean that we have to be blind, but rather that we need to change the approach to the problem.
- We have shown what are the techniques used to fingerprint and characterise network traffic.
- nDPI is an open-source toolkit able to implement all the algorithms covered in this talk.



What's Next? [1/3]

- Flow-based analysis (DPI, fingerprint...) is the baseline for traffic analysis, but it is not sufficient to detect all the flaws as it is unable to model the overall host behaviour.
- Host misbehaving with respect to its “known” behaviour can be an indication of issues such as a scan, a malware, multiple login failures, or changes in behaviour due to a software update or reconfiguration.
- These facts are invisible at flow level, unfortunately.



What's Next? [2/3]

Active Alerted Flows

10 ▾ Hosts ▾ Status ▾ Direction ▾ Applications ▾ Categories ▾ IP Version ▾ Protocol ▾ VLAN ▾

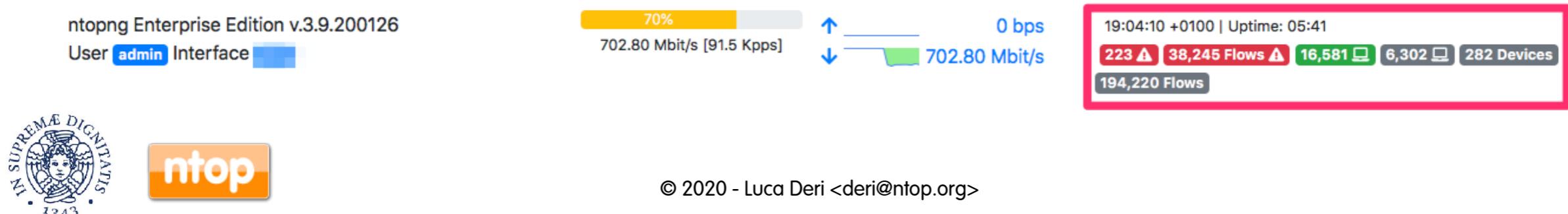
	Application	Protocol	VLAN	Client	Server	Duration	Score	Breakdown	Actual Thpt	Total Bytes	Info
Info	? Unknown	⚠️ TCP	125		:32319 → :5500	< 1 sec	180		0 bit/s —	64 Bytes	
Info	? Unknown	⚠️ TCP	125		:44184 → :52869	< 1 sec	180		0 bit/s —	64 Bytes	
Info	? Unknown	⚠️ TCP	125		:44184 → :52869	< 1 sec	180		0 bit/s —	64 Bytes	
Info	SMBv23	⚠️ TCP	125		:53501 → :microsoft-ds	< 1 sec	180		0 bit/s —	64 Bytes	
Info	? Unknown	⚠️ TCP	125		:44743 → :81	< 1 sec	180		0 bit/s —	64 Bytes	
Info	MsSQL-TDS	⚠️ TCP	125		:7869 → :ms-sql-s	< 1 sec	180		0 bit/s —	128 Bytes	
Info	? Unknown	⚠️ TCP	125		:32953 → :81	< 1 sec	180		0 bit/s —	64 Bytes	
Info	? Unknown	⚠️ TCP	125		:40940 → :81	< 1 sec	180		0 bit/s —	64 Bytes	
Info	? Unknown	⚠️ TCP	125		:48095 → :81	< 1 sec	180		0 bit/s —	64 Bytes	
Info	? Unknown	⚠️ TCP	125		:50096 → :81	< 1 sec	180		0 bit/s —	64 Bytes	

Showing 1 to 10 of 37747 rows. Idle flows not listed.

« < 1 2 3 4 5 > »

NOTES:

- Check out the [online documentation](#) for a description of the misbehaving flows.



What's Next? [3/3]

All Hosts



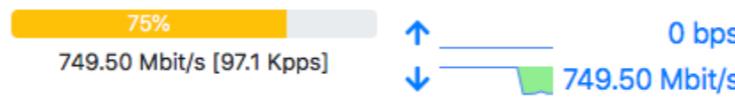
	IP Address	VLAN	Location	Flows	Score	Name	Seen Since	Breakdown	Throughput	Total Bytes
Flows	[REDACTED] 2 ! 🇺🇸	125	Remote	1619	32,871	[REDACTED]	08:24	Sent Rcvd	41.6 kbit/s ↓	2.21 MB
Flows	[REDACTED] ! 🇫🇷 ⊖	125	Remote	280	29,400	[REDACTED]	08:23	Sent	1.43 kbit/s ↓	74.12 KB
Flows	[REDACTED]	125	Remote	2180	17,908	[REDACTED]	08:38	Sent	179.15 kbit/s ↑	11.19 MB
Flows	[REDACTED] ! 🇷🇺 ⊖	125	Remote	35522	15,350	[REDACTED]	08:38	Sent	197.27 kbit/s ↑	10.49 MB
Flows	[REDACTED]	125	Remote	22085	13,073	[REDACTED]	08:38	Sent	661.49 kbit/s ↑	32.62 MB
Flows	[REDACTED] 4 ! 🇩🇪 ⊖	125	Remote	117	6,005	[REDACTED]	08:22	Sent	511.85 bit/s ↓	27.19 KB
Flows	[REDACTED] ! 🇮🇹	125	Remote	27	5,500	[REDACTED]	08:38	Sent	13.79 kbit/s ↓	1.41 MB
Flows	[REDACTED] ! 🇪🇸	125	Remote	36	5,450	[REDACTED]	08:23	Sent	1.78 kbit/s ↓	247.51 KB
Flows	[REDACTED] ! 🇮🇹	125	Local	107	5,356	[REDACTED]	08:38	Sent Rcvd	31.2 kbit/s ↑	1.62 MB
Flows	[REDACTED] ! 🇮🇹	125	Local	1856	4,765	[REDACTED]	08:38	Rcvd	60.71 Mbit/s ↑	3.13 GB

Showing 1 to 10 of 22785 rows. Idle hosts not listed.

« < 1 2 3 4 5 > »



ntopng Enterprise Edition v.3.9.200126
User admin Interface [REDACTED]



19:07:13 +0100 | Uptime: 08:44
1,683 ! 51,256 Flows ! 16,578 🖥 6,375 📱 285 Devices
185,878 Flows

thank
you
gracias
danke
merci
teşekkür ederim
ngiyabonga
grazie
dank je
go raibh maith agat
arigatō takk
dakujem
merci
mochchakkeram
djiere dieuf
sulpay
akun dankon aktiū
gracias
gracies
gratias ago
chnorakaloutioun
terima kasih
sukriya kop khun krap
xiexie
dankmat
spas
marsi
vinaka
blaqodaram
welalin
tack
dank je
misaotra
matondo
paldies
grazzi
mahlo
kia ora
barka
danyavad
dankie
dank
nandi
kiitos
spasib
dank
nandi
danyavad
dank
nandi
dank
<span style="font-size: 100px;