

Corona-Warn-App

Behind the scenes: Invisible, yet important

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PUBLIC

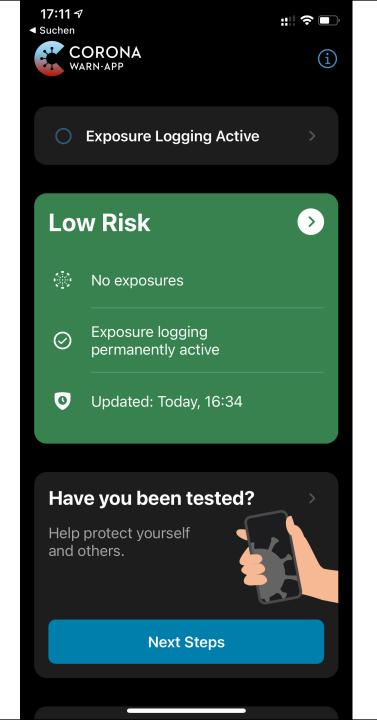


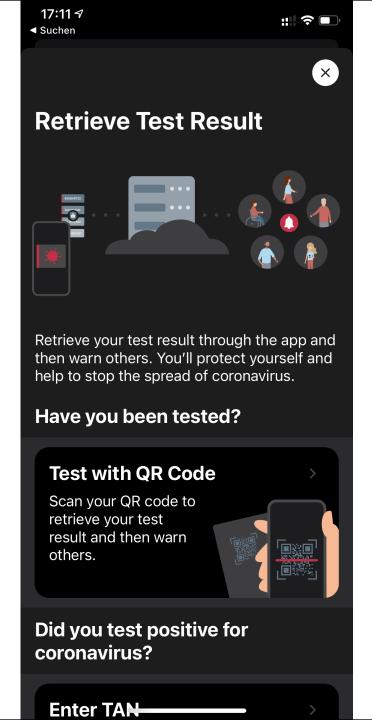
Agenda

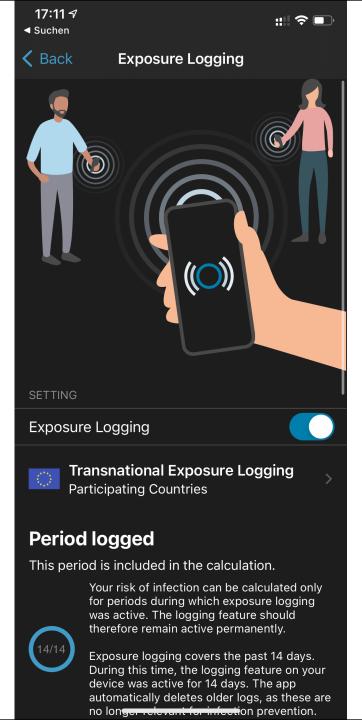
- Introduction to the app and its architecture
- Communication with the backend
- Risk calculation

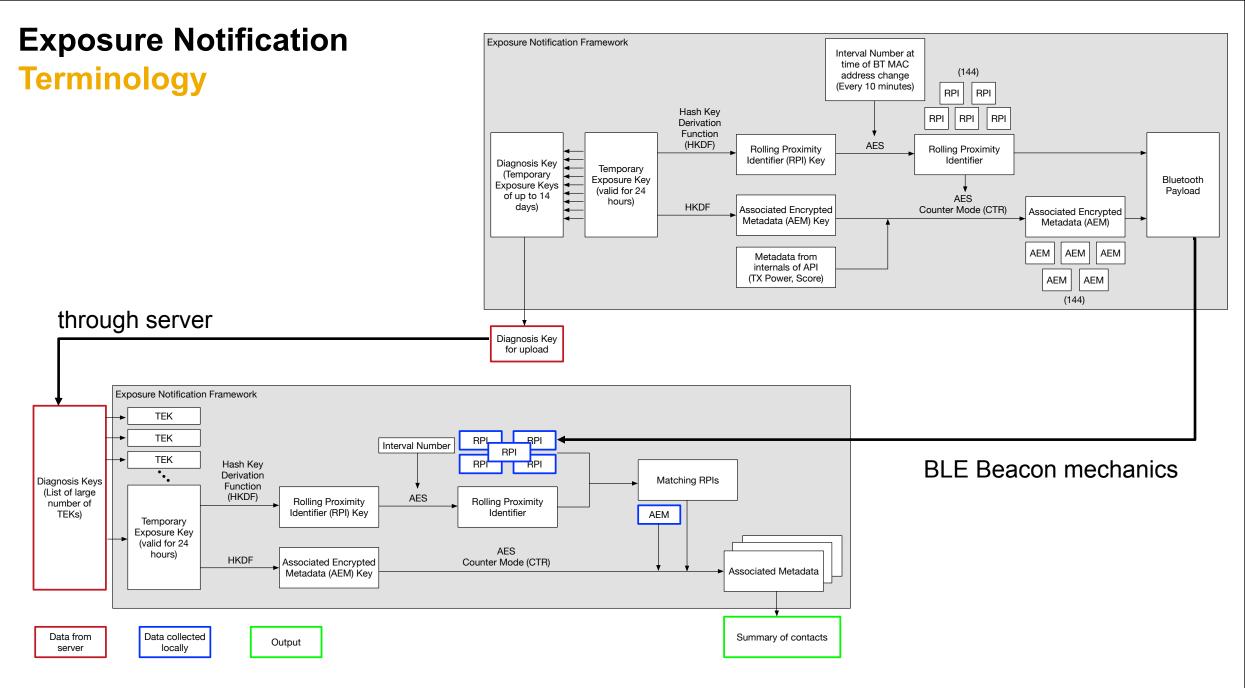
Introduction:

Corona-Warn-App? What's that?

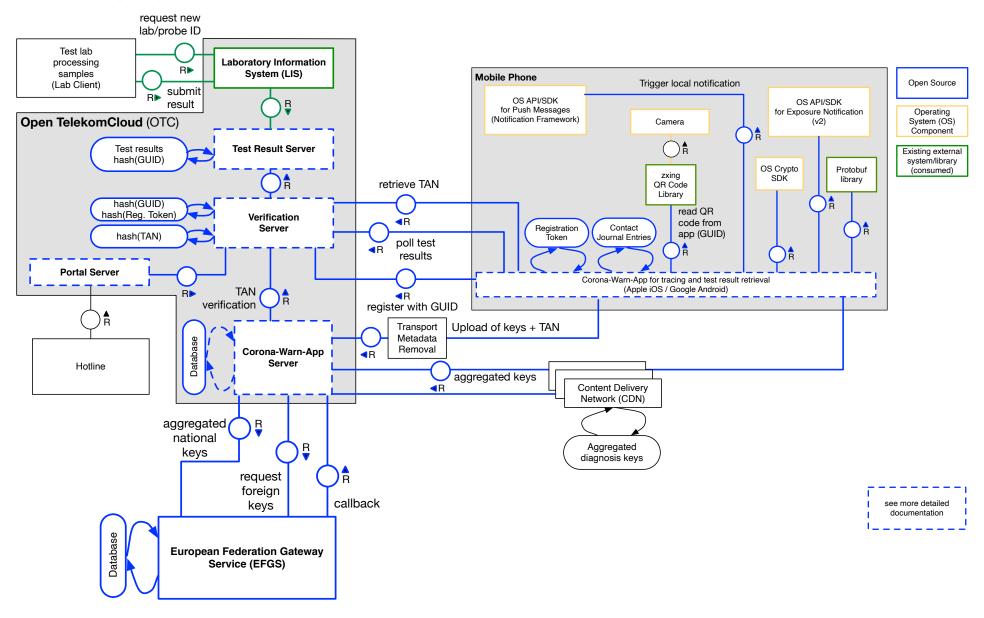






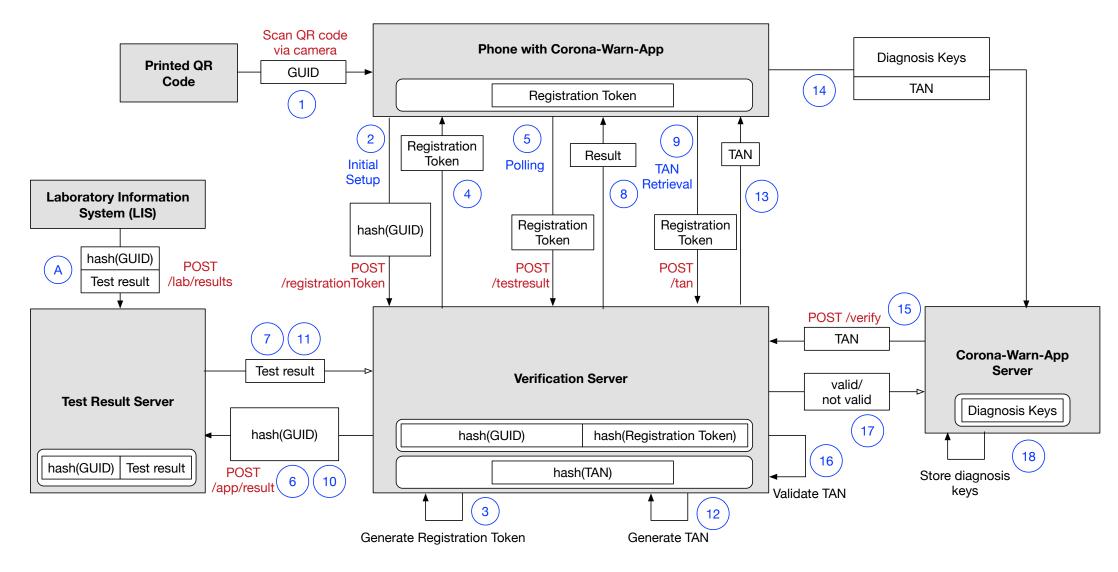


Architecture Overview



Communication with the backend What happens if someone is listening?

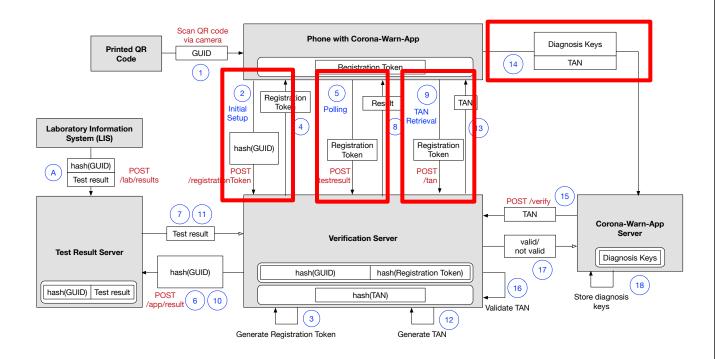
Data flow for test result retrieval using QR codes



What could be found out by observing the network traffic

Assumption: The content of the messages is secure, only connections and size of transfer are observable

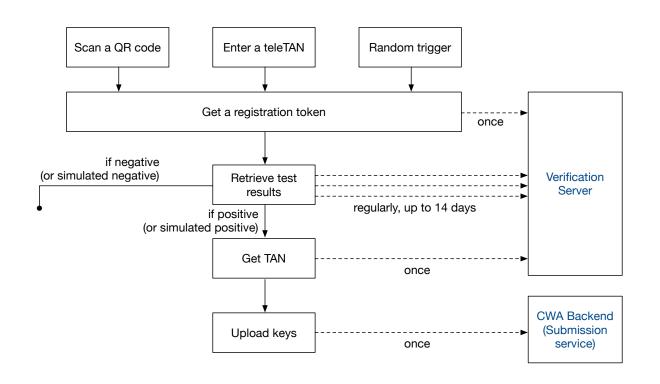
- (2) The person has been tested
- (5) The person has been tested and still has not received the test result yet
- (9) The person has been tested positive
- (14) The person has been tested positive and is in the process of sharing keys
- + Keys could be related to an origin address



We need to establish plausible deniability

How to prevent extraction of information through observation

- Apps simulate backend traffic by sending "fake" or "dummy" requests
 - Either triggered by a real event or randomly
 - Apply padding to requests
- Special header field informs backend to react accordingly
 - Do not interact with underlying database
 - Delay response according to real behaviour
 - Apply padding, so size does not give away content of response
- No extra cost for mobile data → zero rating



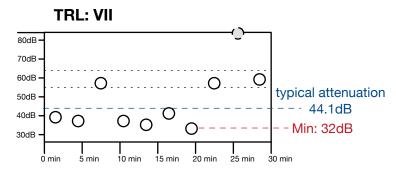
How to prevent extraction of information through metadata

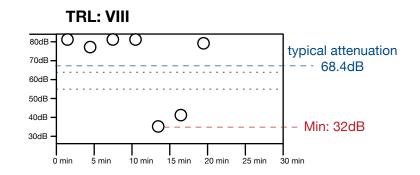
- When uploading keys, the HTTP(S) request from the mobile phone carries metadata
 - Source IP address
 - User agent (Operating System, possibly also OS version)
- Before the request reaches the backend server, the metadata is removed
- only the content is forwarded to the backend service

Risk calculation

How the risk is being calculated

- Information about encounters (calculated at device receiving the RPI), provided in 30 minute exposure windows
 - number of scan instances (=duration of the encounter)
 - signal attenuation (minimum/average per scan instance)
 - reported TX power RX = attenuation
 - low attenuation → close
 - higher attenuation → farther away
- Information provided within the uploaded keys
- Transmission Risk Level (= infectiousness)

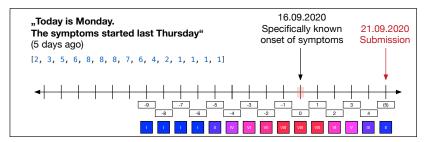




Transmission Risk Level - based on symptom status

Deriving the Transmission Risk Level from Days since Onset of Symptoms (specific date is known)

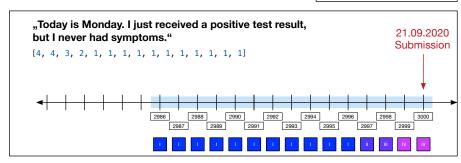
Value range (EFGS): -14 to 21



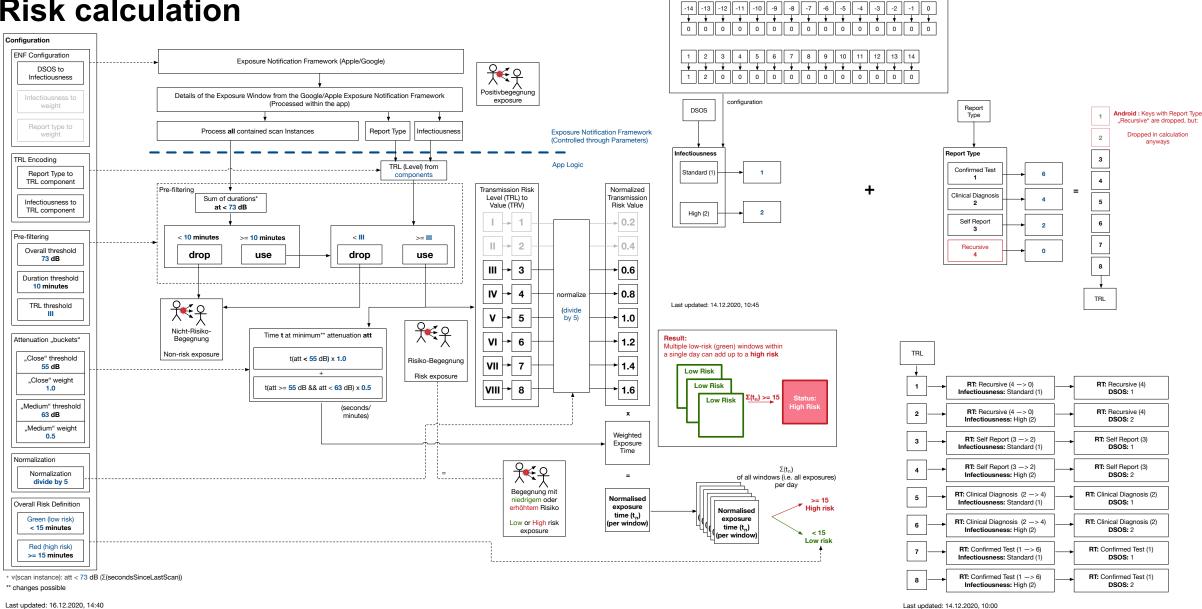
Transmission Risk Level - based on symptom status

Deriving the Transmission Risk Level from Days since Onset of Symptoms (explicitly no symptoms) —> technically "days since submission" Value range (EFGS): 2986 to 3000





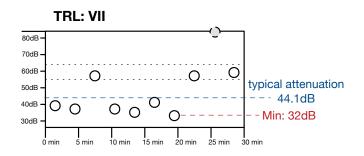
Risk calculation



nfectiousnessForDaysSinceOnsetOfSymptoms

Last updated: 16.12.2020, 14:40

High or low risk for those windows? Red or Green?



- Pre-Filtering
 - At least 10 minutes <73dB? Yes.
 - At least TRL III? Yes.

- Pre-Filtering
 - At least 10 minutes <73dB? No.
 → Dropped

- Calculation:
 - 18 minutes at low attenuation → 18.0 minutes
 - 9 minutes at medium attenuation → 4.5 minutes
 - TRL VII \rightarrow (=7/5) \rightarrow x1.4
 - $(18.0+4.5) \times 1.4 = 31.5 \text{ minutes } \rightarrow \text{red!}$

- Pre-Filtering
 - At least 10 minutes <73dB? Yes.
 - At least TRL III? Yes.

- Calculation:
 - 6 minutes at low attenuation → 6.0 minutes
 - 0 minutes at medium attenuation → 0.0 minutes
- TRL VIII \rightarrow (=8/5) \rightarrow x1.6
- $(6.0+0.0) \times 1.6 = 9.6 \text{ minutes } \rightarrow \text{green}.$

Thank you!

Learn more at

www.coronawarn.app

https://github.com/corona-warn-app



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