

- Routing Security and RPKI

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The Perfect world



Prefix filters, IRR filtering, Peer lock, etc. are all In place?

- Prefix filters
- Peer lock
- “Bignetworks” filter
- Bogon ASN filtering
- Bogon Prefix filtering
- Filter long ASN path
- Filter small prefixes
- IRR filtering



The Perfect world...or not (yet)?

I know all my customers and most peers and have filters and strict IRR applied.



However,...

- Prefix filters don't care about the originating ASN or AS-PATH
- Peer Lock doesn't cover every network and is arbitrary
- Filtering small prefix outbound is an issue for DDoS mitigation
- Downstream customers might use private ASN
- IRR databases are far from correct, are incomplete or contain outdated data

BGP Hijacking is happening

June 2019 - European telecommunication networks

- Swiss datacenter hosting company **accidentally leaked over 70,000 routes** from its internal routing table to China Telecom.
- China Telecom re-announced these routes as its own and declared itself as the shortest way to reach the network of the Swiss datacenter operator and other nearby European telecommunication companies and ISPs.
- Incident lasted over two hours. Users suffered slow connections and denial of service to some servers.

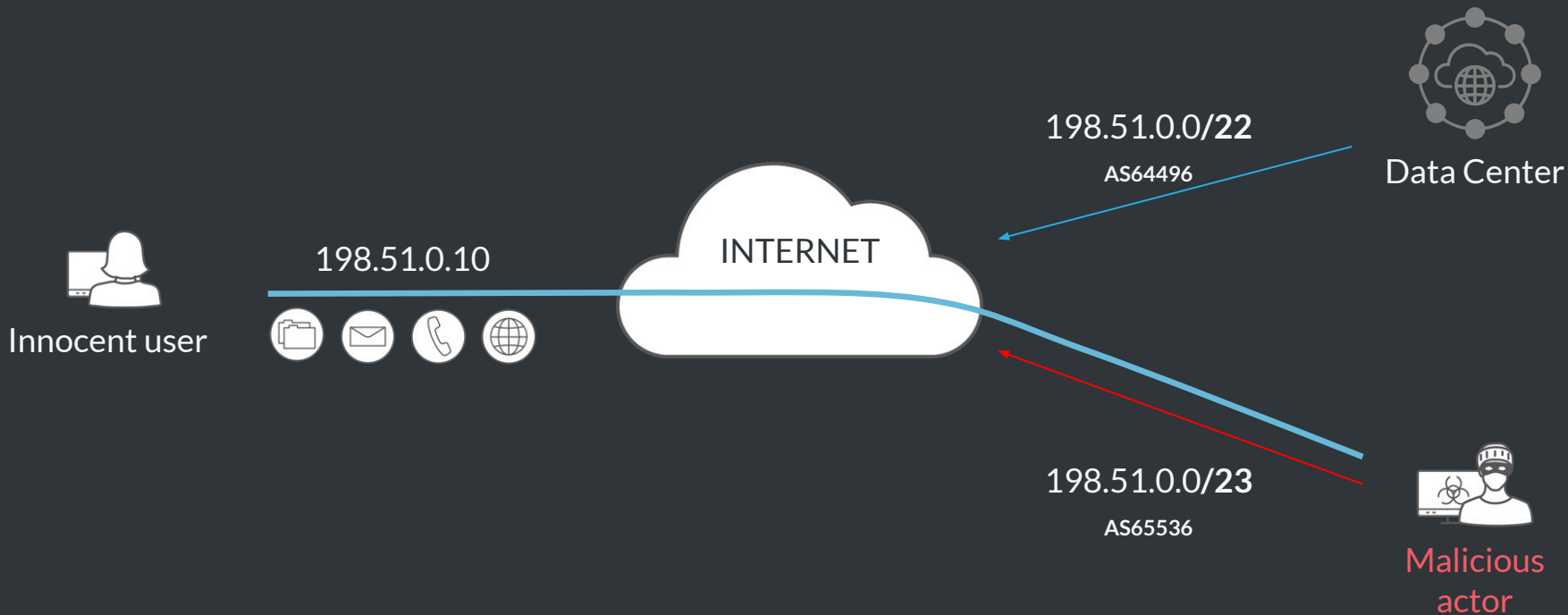
April 2020 - Akamai, Amazon and Alibaba

- A massive **BGP hijack involving over 8,800 prefixes** affected companies such as Akamai, Amazon and Alibaba on April 1, 2020.
- Initiated by a Rostelecom user, the attack caused service disruptions throughout the world.
- Stricter network filtering by Rostelecom could have prevented the attack.

September 2020 - Telstra

- **500 prefixes wrongfully advertised** as belonging to Telstra caused lengthy data detours.
- Incident was caused by post verification testing to address an unrelated software bug.

What happened to our innocent user?



So now what? Origin Validation using Resource Public Key Infrastructure



Photo by Markus Spiske on Unsplash

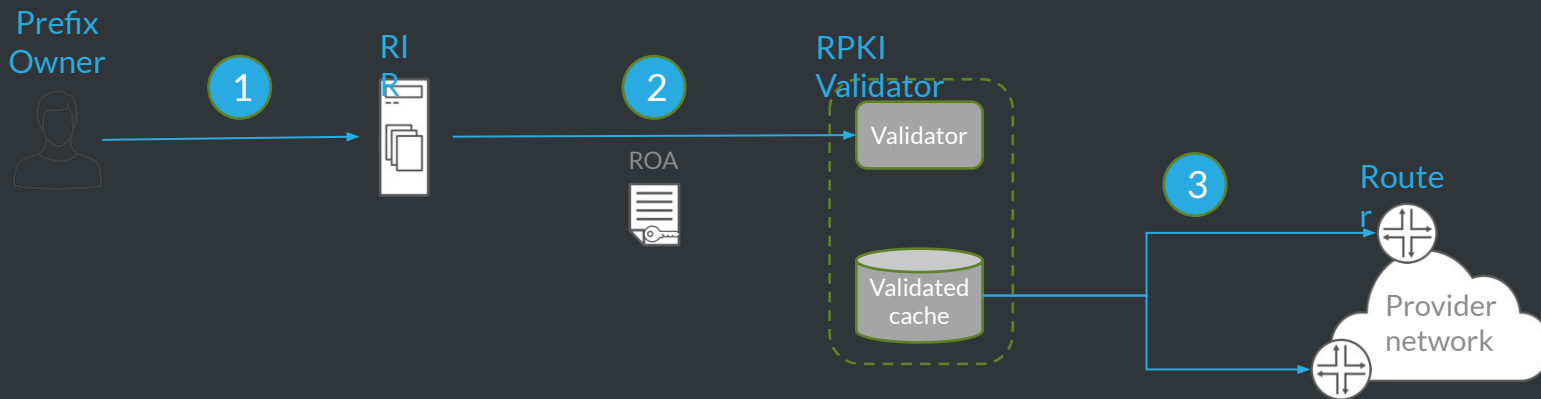
Origin Validation using RPKI

Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI) is a method of **cryptographic signing records that associate a prefix with an originating AS number.**

All the five RIRs (AFRINIC, APNIC, ARIN, LACNIC & RIPE) provide a method for members to take a prefix/ASN pair and sign those with a **Route Origin Authorization (ROA)** record.

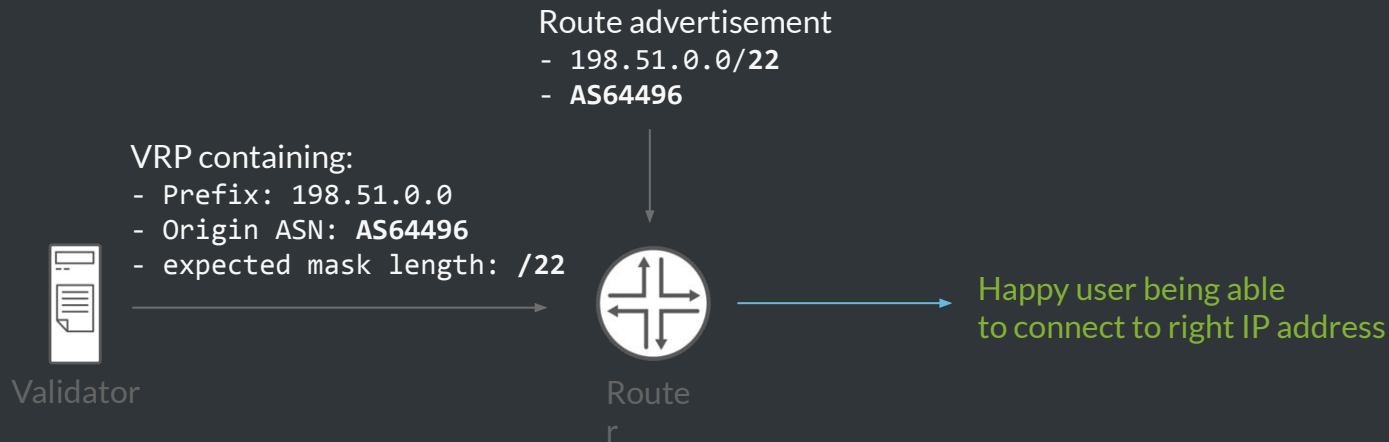
The ROA can then be used by operators to **validate route advertisements.** They can be sure a route advertisement is intended by the legitimate owner.

Origin validation explained

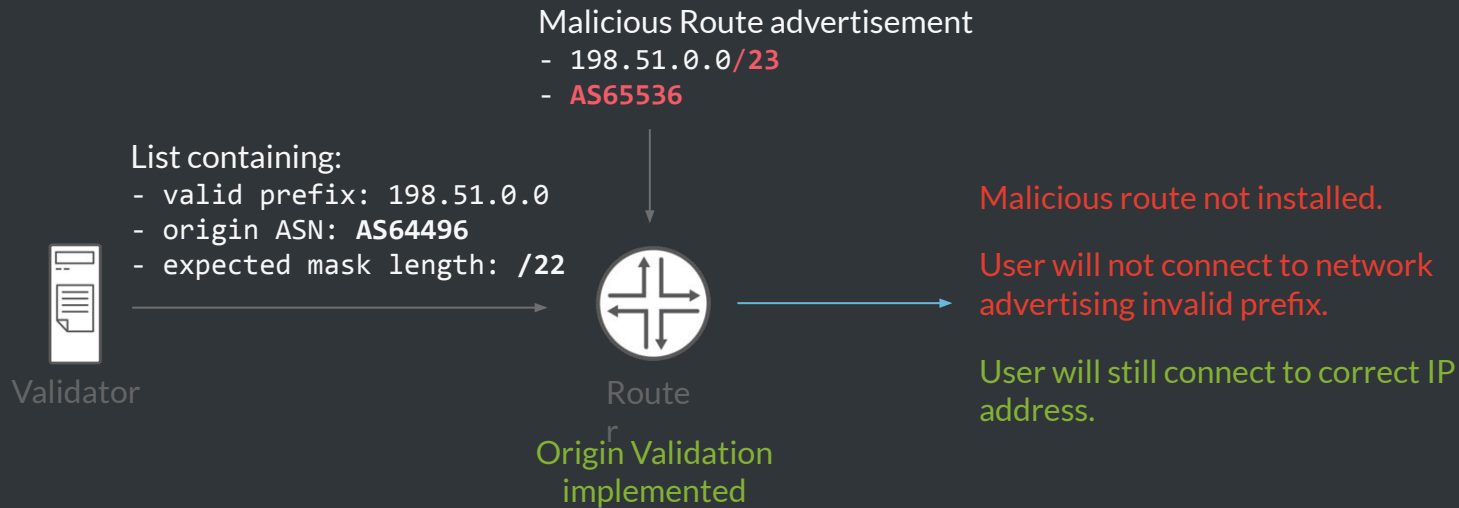


- 1 The prefix holder creates a (signed) ROA with the RIR
- 2 The RPKI validator downloads the ROAs, verifies them and builds a database with Validated ROA Payloads (VRPs)
- 3 RPKI validator sends VRP to border routers that validate the BGP routes

Perfect world routing

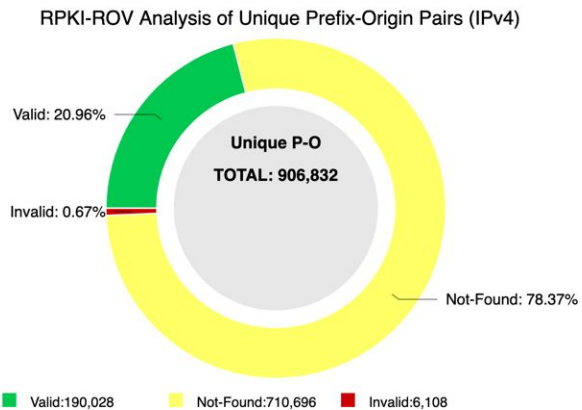


Mitigating a BGP Route Hijack



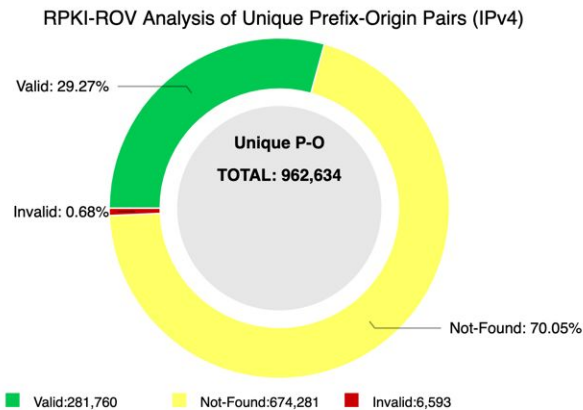
But...only if the world was perfect

June 2020
(Valid: ~21%)



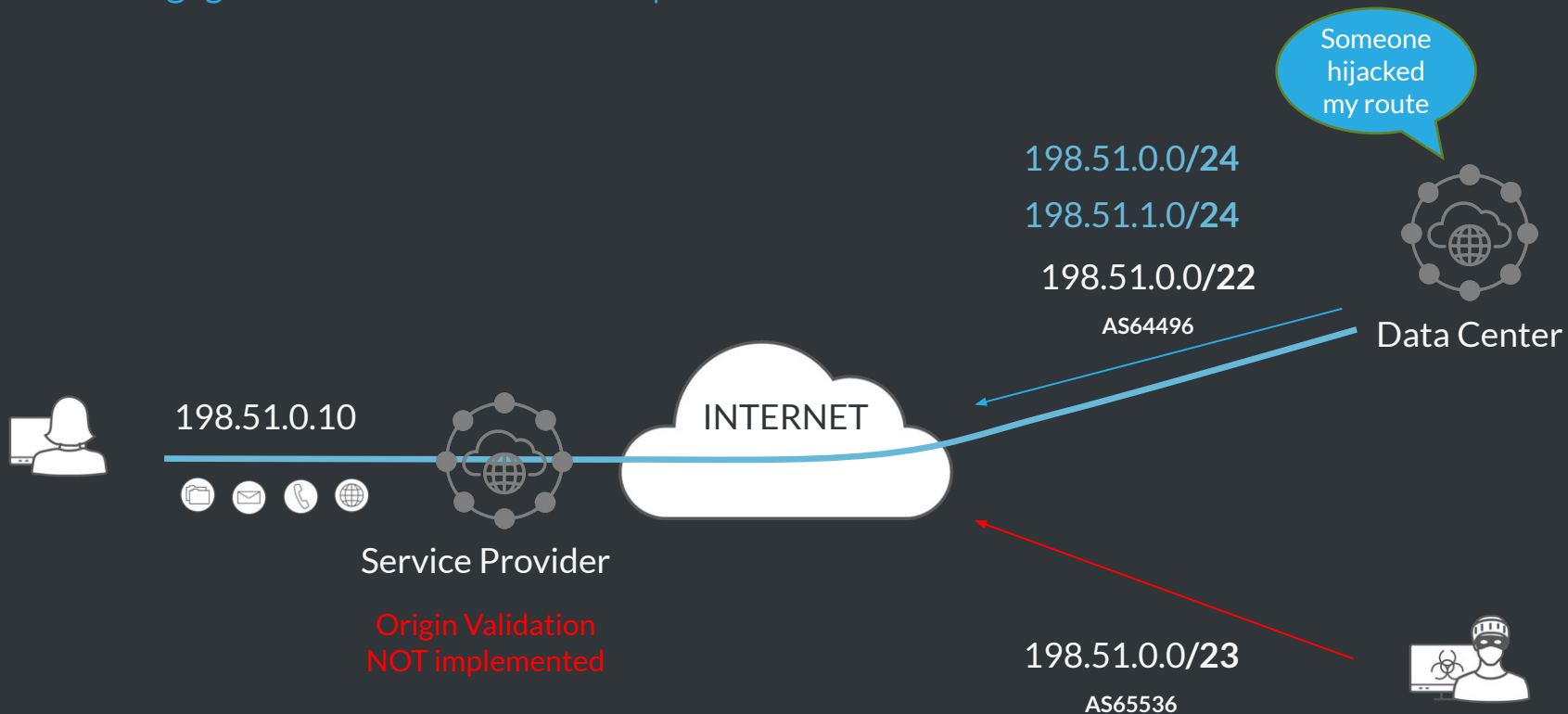
NIST RPKI Monitor: RPKI-ROV Analysis Protocol: IPv4 RIR: All Date: 2020-06-04 12:00

June 2021
(Valid: ~29%)

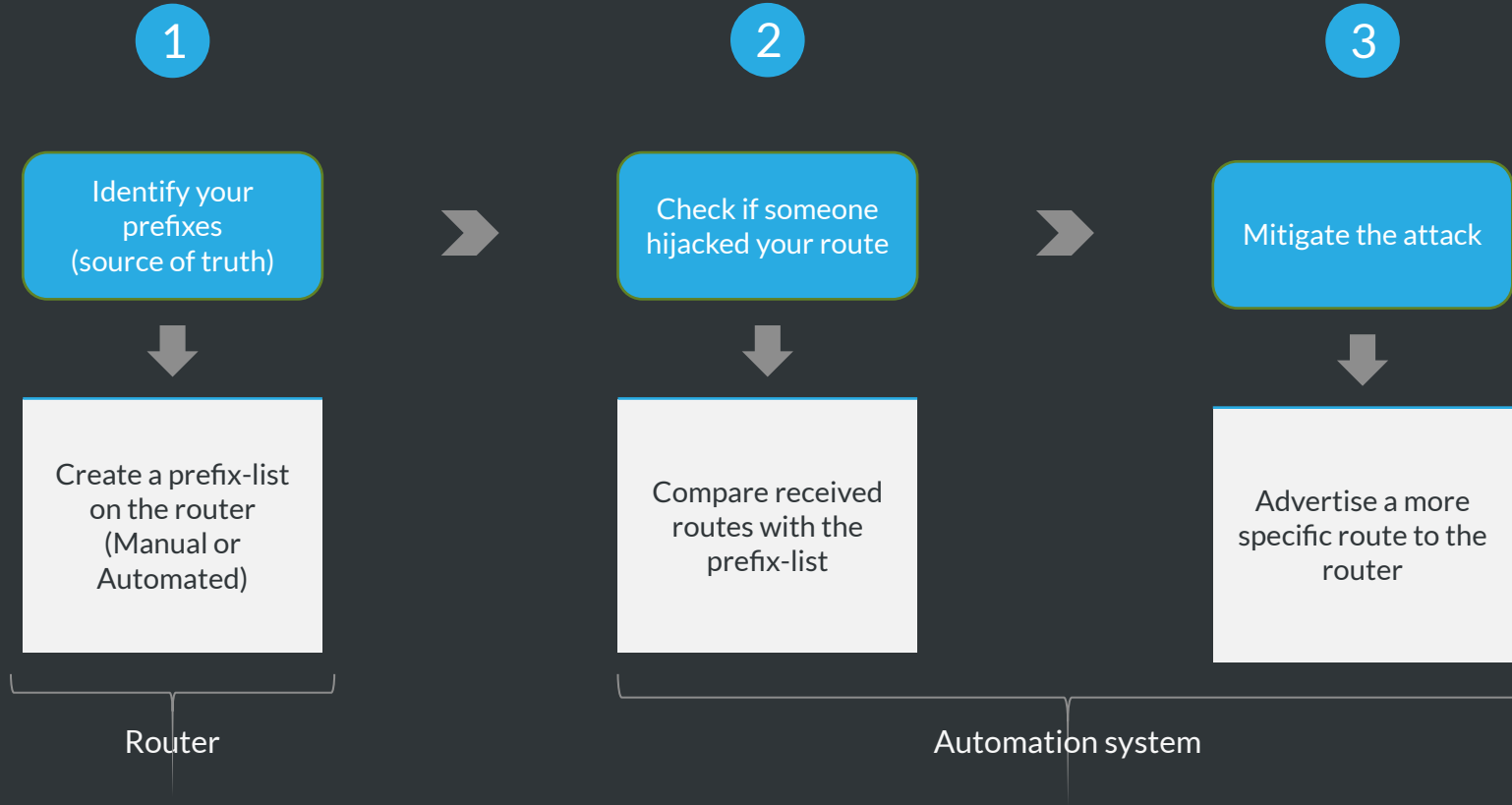


NIST RPKI Monitor: RPKI-ROV Analysis Protocol: IPv4 RIR: All Date: 2021-06-04 12:00

Protecting your network in an imperfect world



3 steps to detect & mitigate route hijacks with Automation



3 steps to detect & mitigate route hijacks with Automation

1

Identify your
prefixes
(source of truth)



Create a prefix-list
on the router
(Manual or
Automated)

Router

```
policy-options {  
    prefix-list AS64496-prefixes {  
        198.51.0.0/22;  
    }  
}
```

3 steps to detect & mitigate route hijacks with Automation

1

Identify your
prefixes
(source of truth)



Create a prefix-list
on the router
(Manual or
Automated)

Router

```
policy-options {  
  policy-statement hijack-check {  
    term invalid-myprefixes {  
      from {  
        protocol bgp;  
        prefix-list-filter AS64496-prefixes  
      }  
      then {  
        community add HIJACKED;  
        reject;  
      }  
    }  
  }  
  community HIJACKED members 64496:666;  
  community MITIGATED members 64496:2222;  
  community MYCUSTOMERS members 64496:9999;  
  community MYROUTES members 64496:1000;  
}
```

```
protocols {  
  bgp {  
    group ebgp {  
      type external;  
      import hijack-check;  
      family inet {  
        unicast;  
      }  
      export [ EXPORT-PEER deny-all ];  
      neighbor 17.8.2.2 {  
        peer-as 200;  
      }  
      neighbor 17.8.3.2 {  
        peer-as 300;  
      }  
    }  
  }  
}
```

3 steps to detect & mitigate route hijacks with Automation

2

Check if someone
hijacked your route



Compare received
routes with the
prefix-list

Automation system

```
root@isp-r1> show route community 64496:666 all
```

```
inet.0: 781928 destinations, 2345613 routes (781922 active, 0 holddown, 781864 hidden)
```

```
+ = Active Route, - = Last Active, * = Both
```

```
198.51.0.0/23
```

```
[BGP ] 00:01:17, localpref 100
```

```
AS path: 200 65535 I, validation-state: unverified
```

```
> to 17.8.2.2 via ge-0/0/2.0
```

Someone
hijacked
my route



Automation system
(for example Paragon Insights)



Provider
network

3 steps to detect & mitigate route hijacks with Automation

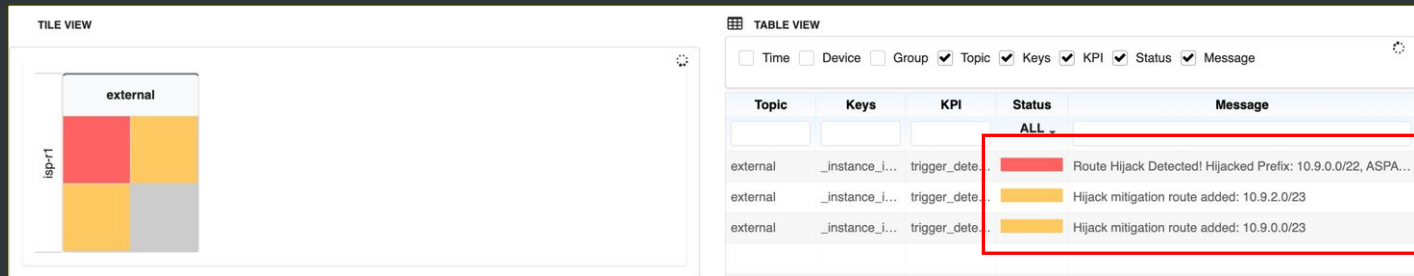
2

Check if someone hijacked your route



Compare received routes with the prefix-list

Automation system



Someone hijacked my route



Automation system



Provider network



3 steps to detect & mitigate route hijacks with Automation

3

Mitigate the attack



Advertise a more
specific route to the
router

Automation system

```
root@isp-r1# show groups __automation_routeHijack__
routing-options {
  static {
    route 198.51.0.0/24 {
      discard;
      no-install;
      community 64496:2222;
    }
    route 198.51.1.0/24 {
      discard;
      no-install;
      community 64496:2222;
    }
  }
}
```

Pushing
more-specific
route



Automation system



Provider
network

Ready? Call to action!

To Do:

- Sign your Prefixes (create ROAs)
- Setup a Validator
- Configure your routers
- Support work in IETF and the RIRs

**Start now: make the internet
more reliable and secure!**



So, are we safe now?

Unfortunately not...we still need another parachute.

Or in other words, we can now perform Origin Validation for IP prefixes but spoofing the originating ASN is still possible.

More work is to be done...

There is work in IETF addressing this problem:

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-azimov-sidrops-aspa-profile/>

...and...

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-ietf-grow-rpki-as-cones/>



Questions?

Or sent me an email:
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Or look for Melchior Aelmans on:
Twitter & LinkedIn

**Start now: make the internet
more reliable and secure!**

