

# getdns

API implementation

Willem Toorop

Willem@NLnetLabs.nl



25 Jun 2014



# getdns API is:

- ▶ A *DNS API* specification
  - (for resolving)
  - (for applications)



- ▶ First implementation by **VERISIGN LABS** and **NLnet Labs**



From Verisign:

Allison Mankin, Glen Wiley,  
Neel Goyal, Angelique Finan,  
Craig Despeaux, Shuman  
Huque, Duane Wessels, Gowri  
Visweswaran

From NLnet Labs:

Willem Toorop, Wouter  
Wijngaards, Olaf Kolkman

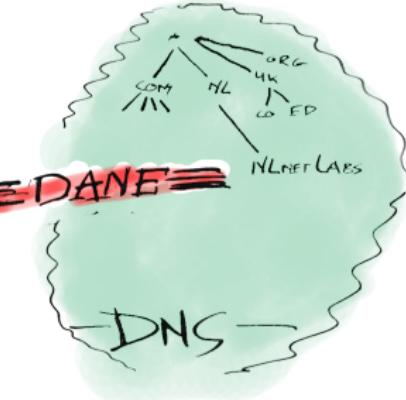
From No Mountain Software:

Melinda Shore

From Sinodun:

John & Sara Dickinson

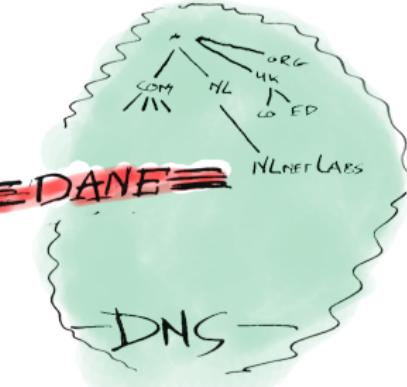
# DANE



(parry pervasive monitoring)

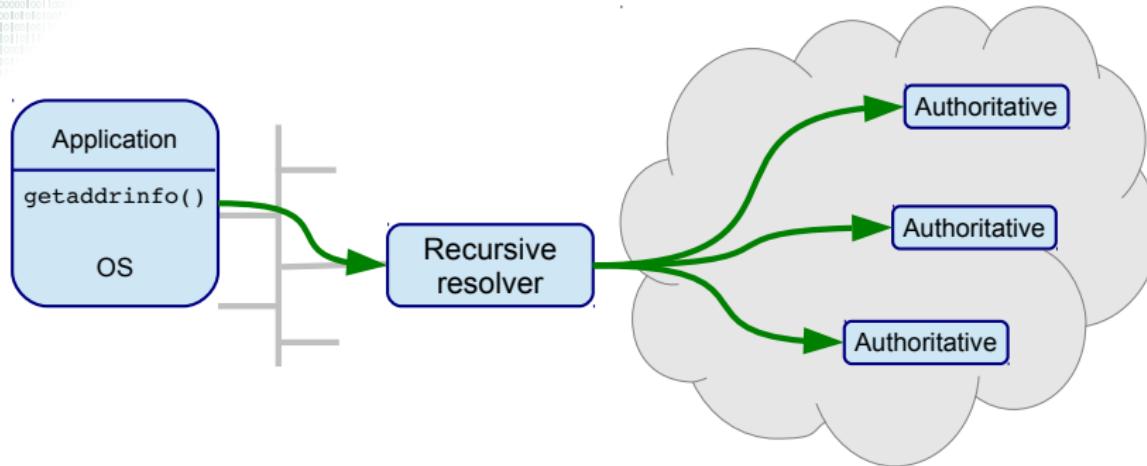
- ▶ To set up encrypted channels between applications,  
the other side needs to be authenticated. (against MiM)
- ▶ Current PKIX is clumsy.
  - ▶ Certificate Authority repository with the application (or OS)
  - ▶ All CA's are authorized to authenticate for **any** name

# DANE



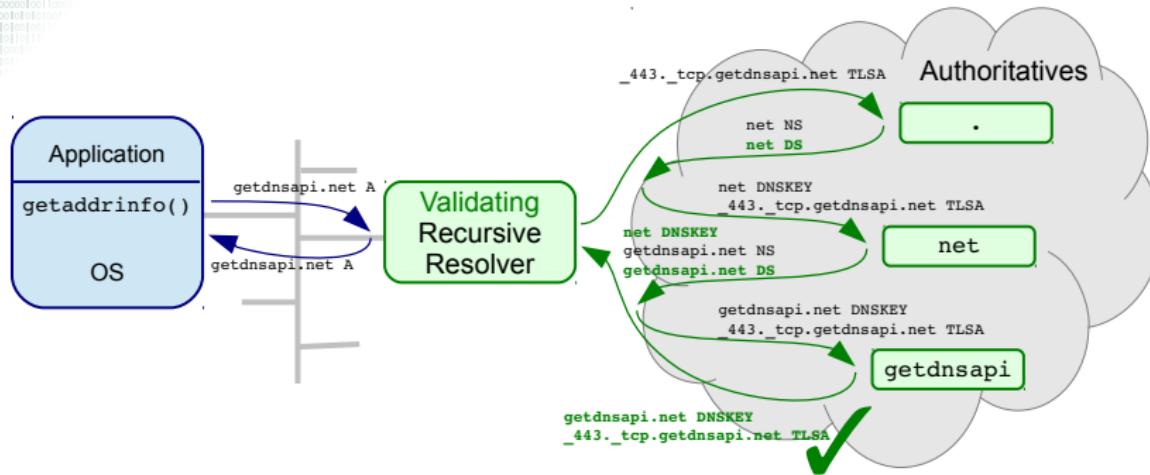
- ▶ A DNSSEC enabled resolver protects against cache poisoning by giving authenticated answers (origin authentication)
- ▶ Enabling **D**NS-based **A**uthentication of **N**amed **E**ntities
- ▶ Trust only self chosen TLD (+ the root) instead of ... 50? ... 500? ... more?

# DANE



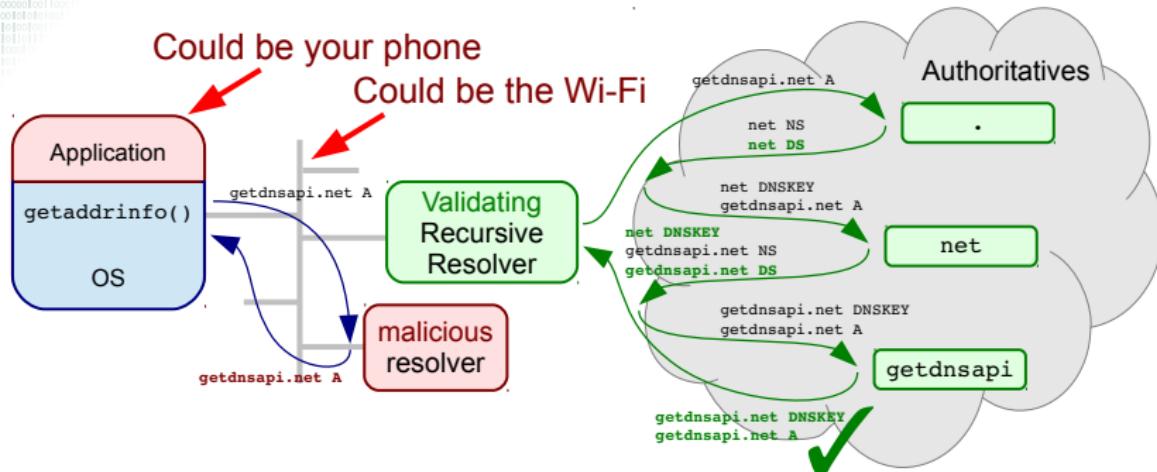
- ▶ But out of reach for applications by default  
`getaddrinfo()` returns addresses  
How to ask for TLSA or SSHFP? (or TXT or SRV)

# DANE



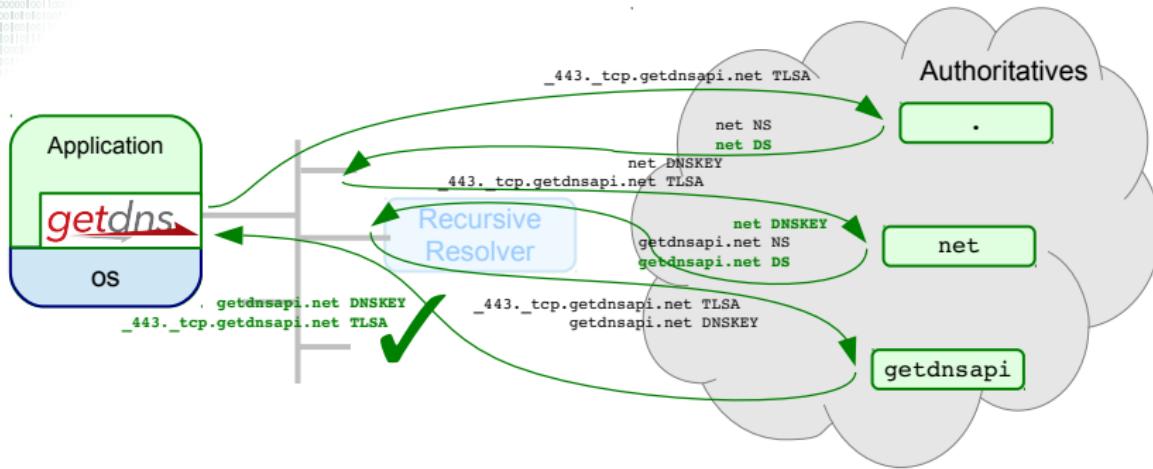
- ▶ But out of reach for applications by default  
`getaddrinfo()` returns addresses  
How to ask for TLSA or SSHFP? (or TXT or SRV)
- ▶ `getaddrinfo()` doesn't tell you if the AD bit is set

# DANE



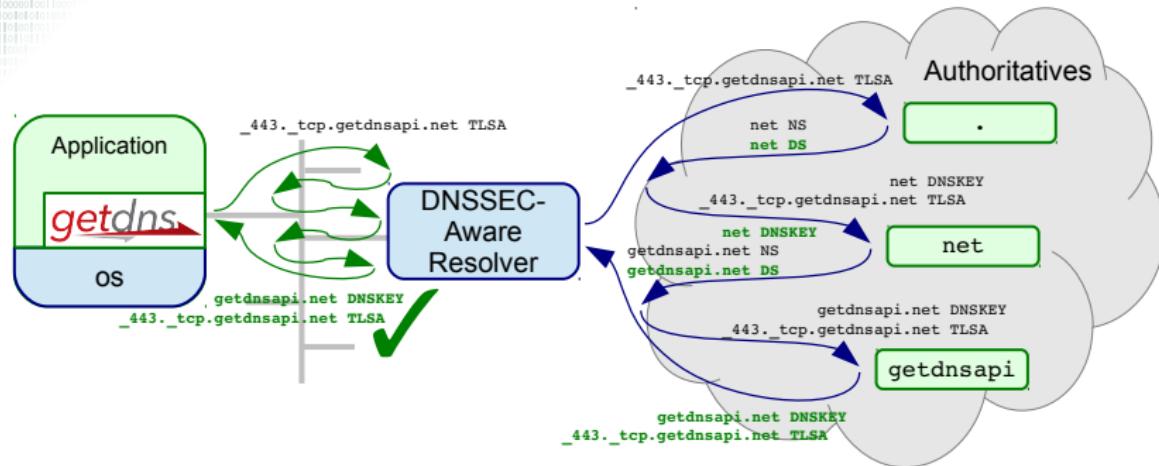
- ▶ But out of reach for applications by default  
`getaddrinfo()` returns addresses  
How to ask for TLSA or SSHFP? (or TXT or SRV)
- ▶ `getaddrinfo()` doesn't tell you if the AD bit is set
- ▶ `getaddrinfo()` Do you trust the resolver and the network?

# DANE



- ▶ Bypass resolver completely

# DANE



- ▶ Bypass resolver completely
- ▶ Or do DNSSEC iteration as a stub!

# Motivation - for a new DNS API

From API Design considerations:

- ... There are other DNS APIs available,  
but there has been very little uptake ...*
- ... talking to application developers ...*
- ... the APIs were developed by and for DNS people,  
not application developers ...*

# Motivation - for a new DNS API

## From API Design considerations:

- ... *There are other DNS APIs available, but there has been very little uptake ...*
- ... *talking to application developers ...*
- ... *the APIs were developed by and for DNS people, not application developers ...*

## Goal

- ... *API design from talking to application developers ...*
- ... *create a natural follow-on to getaddrinfo() ...*

# Motivation - for a new DNS API

## Goal

- ... API design from talking to application developers ...
- ... create a natural follow-on to getaddrinfo() ...

- ▶ <http://www.vpnc.org/getdns-api/>
- ▶ Edited by Paul Hoffman
- ▶ First publication April 2013
- ▶ Updated in February 2014  
(after extensive discussion during implementation)
- ▶ Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported License

# Motivation - for a new DNS API

## Goal

- ... *API design from talking to application developers ...*
- ... *create a natural follow-on to getaddrinfo() ...*

- ▶ Implemented by Verisign Labs & NLnet Labs together
- ▶ <http://getdnsapi.net/>
- ▶ 0.1.0 release in February 2014, 0.1.1 in March, 0.1.2 & 0.1.3 in June
- ▶ **nodejs** and **python** bindings
- ▶ BSD 3-Clause License

# Why this library - (and not one of the others)

- ▶  offers the full resolving package ...

- ▶ Full recursion ... through libunbound
- ▶ Access to the resolved data ... through ldns

... through a few simple functions.

# Why this library - (and not one of the others)

- ▶  offers the full resolving package ...

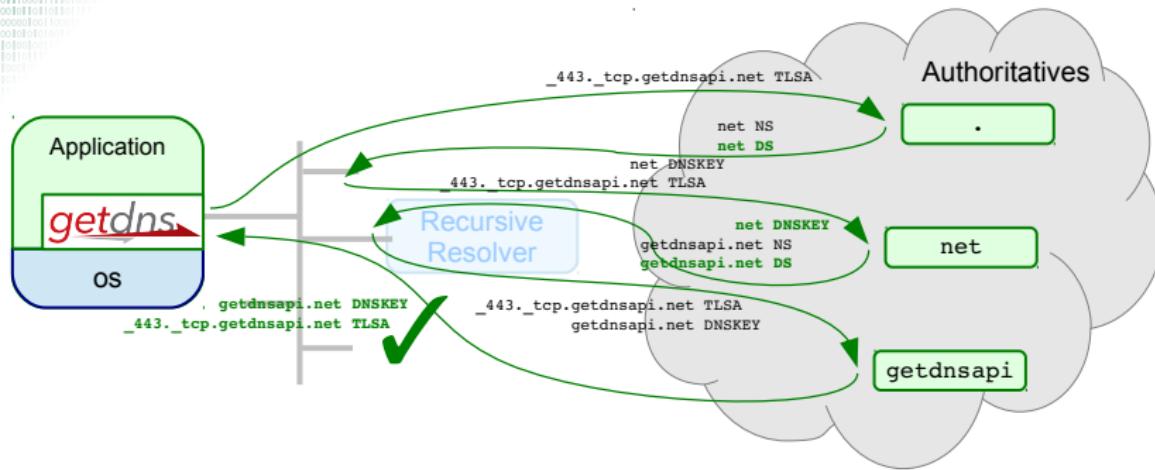
- ▶ Full recursion ... through libunbound
  - ▶ Access to the resolved data ... through ldns
- ... through a few simple functions.

- ▶  delivers a generic data structure ... (response dict)

- ▶ lists, dicts, data, integers
- ... ubiquitous in modern scripting languages.

- ▶ Very suitable for inspection
  - ▶ Trial and error style programming  
(resolve, have a look, decide how to proceed)
  - ▶ Suitable for scripting language bindings; **nodejs** and **python**

# Why - Simple functions - Full recursion

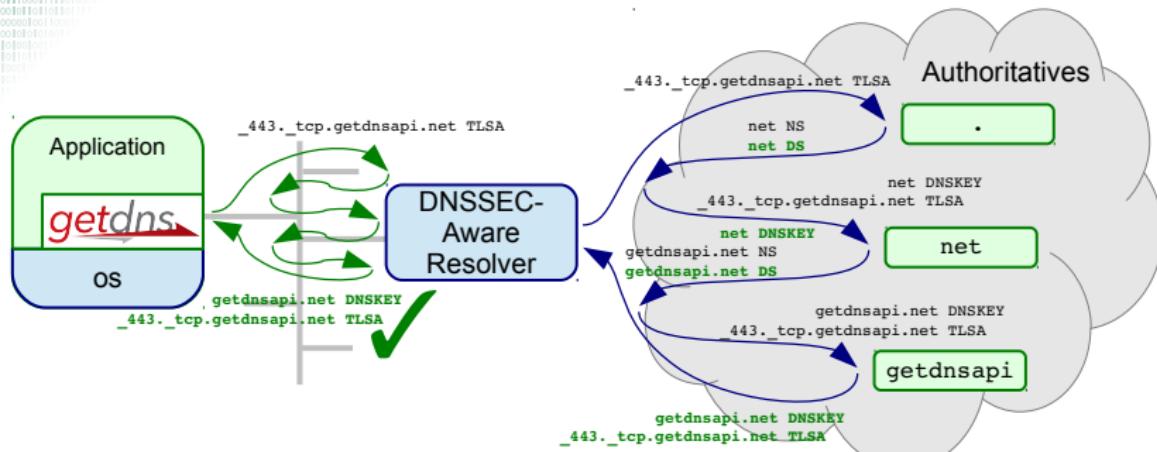


```
from getdns import *

ctx = context_create()
ext = { "dnssec_return_only_secure": GETDNS_EXTENSION_TRUE }
res = general( ctx, '_443._tcp.getdnsapi.net',
                GETDNS_RRTYPE_TLSA, ext)

if res['status'] = GETDNS_RESPSTATUS_GOOD:
    # Process TLSA RRs
```

# Why - Simple functions - Stub mode



```
from getdns import *

ctx = context_create()
context_set_resolution_type(ctx, GETDNS_RESOLUTION_STUB)

ext = { "dnssec_return_only_secure": GETDNS_EXTENSION_TRUE }
res = general( ctx, '_443._tcp.getdnsapi.net',
                GETDNS_RRTYPE_TLSA, ext)
```

# Why - Simple functions - Fall back

```
from getdns import *

ctx = context_create()
context_set_resolution_type(stub, GETDNS_RESOLUTION_STUB)

ext = { "dnssec_return_only_secure": GETDNS_EXTENSION_TRUE }
res = general(ctx, '.', GETDNS_RRTYPE_DNSKEY, ext)
if res['status'] != GETDNS_RESPSTATUS_GOOD:
    ctx = context_create()

res = general( ctx, '_443._tcp.getdnsapi.net',
                , GETDNS_RRTYPE_TLSA, ext)

if res['status'] = GETDNS_RESPSTATUS_GOOD:
    # Process TLSA RRs
    tlsas = [ answer for reply in res['replies_tree']
              for answer in reply['answer']
              if answer['type'] == GETDNS_RRTYPE_TLSA ]
```

# Why - The response dict

```
{  
    "answer_type": GETDNS_NAMETYPE_DNS,  
    "status": GETDNS_RESPSTATUS_GOOD,  
    "canonical_name": <bindata of "www.getdnsapi.net.">,  
    "just_address_answers":  
    [  
        {  
            "address_data": <bindata for 185.49.141.37>,  
            "address_type": <bindata of "IPv4">  
        },  
        {  
            "address_data": <bindata for 2a04:b900:0:100::37>,  
            "address_type": <bindata of "IPv6">  
        }  
    ],  
    "replies_full":  
    [  
        <bindata of 0x00008180000100020004000103777777...>,  
        <bindata of 0x00008180000100020004000903777777...>  
    ],  
    "replies_tree":  
    [  
        { ... first reply ... },  
        { ... second reply ... },  
    ]  
}
```

## Why - The response dict

```
"replies_tree":  
[  
  { "header" : { "qdcount": 1, "ancount": 2, "rd": 1, "ra": 1,  
                 "opcode": GETDNS_OPCODE_QUERY,  
                 "rcode" : GETDNS_RCODE_NOERROR, ... },  
  
   "question": { "qname" : <bindata for www.getdnsapi.net.>,  
                "qtype" : GETDNS_RRTYPE_A  
                "qclass": GETDNS_RRCLASS_IN, },  
  
   "answer" : [ { "name" : <bindata for www.getdnsapi.net.>,  
                 "type" : GETDNS_RRTYPE_A  
                 "class": GETDNS_RRCLASS_IN,  
                 "rdata": { "ipv4_address": <bindata for 185.49.141.37>,  
                           "rdata_raw": <bindata of 0xb9318d25> },  
                 }, ...  
   ],  
   "authority": [ ... ],  
   "additional": [],  
   "canonical_name": <bindata of "www.getdnsapi.net.">,  
   "answer_type": GETDNS_NAMETYPE_DNS  
 },  
 { "header" : { ...
```

# Why - The response dict - Have a look

<http://getdnsapi.net/query.html>

The screenshot shows a web browser interface for querying DNS records. The URL bar contains "getdnsapi.net". The dropdown menu shows "A". The "Query verzenden" button is visible. Below the form, there is a list of checked and unchecked options:

- return\_both\_v4\_and\_v6
- dnssec\_return\_status
- dnssec\_return\_only\_secure
- dnssec\_return\_validation\_chain

---

```
{  
    "answer_type": GETDNS_NAMETYPE_DNS,  
    "canonical_name": <bindata of "getdnsapi.net.">,  
    "just_address_answers":  
    [  
        {  
            "address_data": <bindata for 185.49.141.37>,  
            "address_type": <bindata of "IPv4">  
        },  
        {  
            "address_data": <bindata for 2a04:b900:0:100::37>,  
            "address_type": <bindata of "IPv6">  
        }  
    ]  
},
```

# Implementation - Supported platforms

We support

- ▶ Debian 7.0, 7.3
- ▶ FreeBSD 8.4, 9.2, 10.0
- ▶ RHEL/CentOS 6.4, 6.5
- ▶ OSX 10.8, 10.9
- ▶ Ubuntu 12.04, 13.10

Packages are available for

FreeBSD Via ports  
MacOS X Via homebrew

Packages in the make

Debian Ondřej Surý  
Fedora Paul Wouters

We provide binary packages for

- ▶ CentOS/RHEL 6.5
- ▶ MacOS X

MS-Windows and Android in the future

# Implementation - Building / Dependencies

- ▶ Get the tarball:

`http://getdnsapi.net/dist/getdns-0.1.3.tar.gz`

- ▶ or `git clone http://github.com/getdnsapi/getdns`

**libunbound** For resolving

(Currently both recursive and stub)

**libldns** For parsing and constructing wire-format DNS data

(Will do the stub resolving in future releases)

**libidn1** For `getdns_convert_ulabel_to_alabel()`

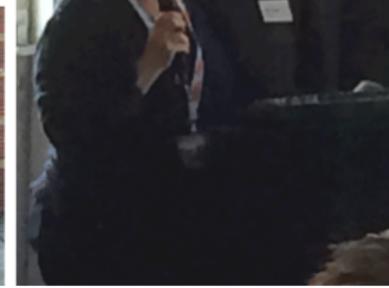
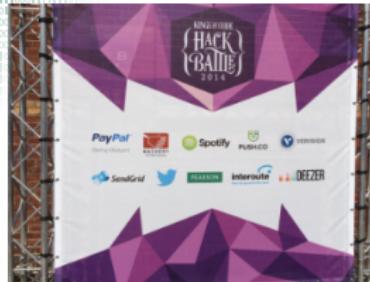
and `getdns_convert_alabel_to_ulabel()`

Pluggable event library extensions

One or more of: `libevent` 1, `libevent` 2, `libuv`, `libev`

- ▶ Build dependency: `doxygen`
- ▶ Install dependency: `unbound-anchor`

# The Next Web - Hack Battle - 23 & 24 April 2014 A'dam



# The Next Web - Hack Battle - 23 & 24 April 2014 A'dam

verify'EM

- ▶ Arvind Narayanan, Bhavna Soman & Ruslan Mavlyutov
- ▶ Plugin for Thunderbird gives information on the DNSSEC credentials of DKIM records associated with e-mail



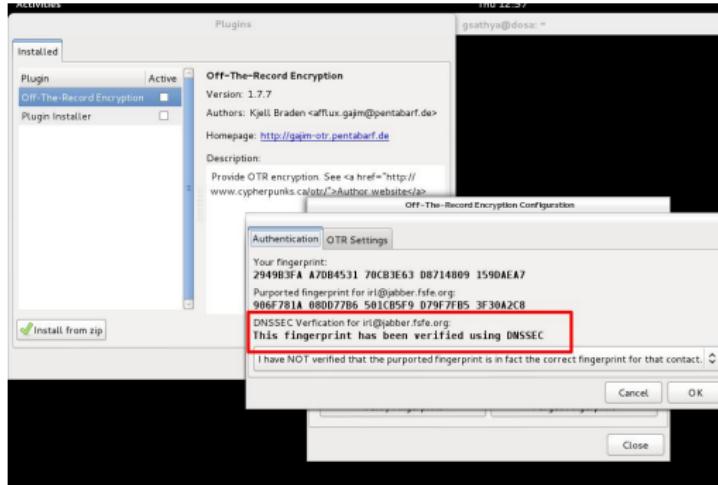
## DANE Doctor



- ▶ Hynek Schlawack and Richard Wall
- ▶ Diagnostics webapp for DANE
- ▶ DANE enabled TLS client API to the asynchronous event framework Twisted.
- ▶ <https://github.com/hynek/tnw>

# Bootstrapping Trust with DANE

- ▶ Sathya Gunasekaran and Iain Learmonth.
- ▶ Adds DNSSEC secured OTR-key lookups to Gajim XMPP client
- ▶ <https://github.com/irl/dnskeys>
- ▶ <https://github.com/gsathya/gotr>



- ▶ interview @ [tweakers.net](http://tweakers.net)
- ▶ slides deck

# DNSSEC name and shame



✗ [sendgrid.com](http://sendgrid.com)  
✗ [deezer.com](http://deezer.com)  
✓ [labs.verisigninc.com](http://labs.verisigninc.com)  
✗ [www.spotify.com](http://www.spotify.com)  
✓ [blueprint.paypal.com](http://blueprint.paypal.com)  
✗ [www.pearson.com](http://www.pearson.com)  
✗ [twitter.com](http://twitter.com)  
✗ [mashery.com](http://mashery.com)  
✗ [push.co](http://push.co)



- ▶ Joel Purra & Tom Cuddy
- ▶ Shame the non DNSSEC APIs
- ▶ <http://dnssec-name-and-shame.com/>
- ▶ <https://github.com/joelpurra/node-dnssec-name-shame>

Security starts with a name



website	<a href="http://getdnsapi.net">http://getdnsapi.net</a>
github repo	<a href="http://github.com/getdnsapi/getdns">http://github.com/getdnsapi/getdns</a>
python repo	<a href="http://github.com/getdnsapi/getdns-python-bindings">http://github.com/getdnsapi/getdns-python-bindings</a>
node repo	<a href="http://github.com/getdnsapi/getdns-node">http://github.com/getdnsapi/getdns-node</a>
mailing-list	<a href="http://getdnsapi.net/mailman/listinfo/users">http://getdnsapi.net/mailman/listinfo/users</a>
API website	<a href="http://www.vpnc.org/getdns-api">http://www.vpnc.org/getdns-api</a>
API list	<a href="http://www.vpnc.org/mailman/listinfo/getdns-api">http://www.vpnc.org/mailman/listinfo/getdns-api</a>
blog post	<a href="http://blogs.verisigninc.com/blog/entry/introducing_getdns_a_modern">http://blogs.verisigninc.com/blog/entry/introducing_getdns_a_modern</a>
TNW Hackathon	<a href="https://www.hackerleague.org/hackathons/kings-of-code-hack-battle">https://www.hackerleague.org/hackathons/kings-of-code-hack-battle</a>
TNW Videos	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF0NmkWgpSOKDHJqrWw8-5w">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF0NmkWgpSOKDHJqrWw8-5w</a>
me	Willem Toorop < <a href="mailto:willem@nlnetlabs.nl">willem@nlnetlabs.nl</a> >