

# A bloom filter library in C to support JTAN use-cases

## TLP:CLEAR



**CIRCL**

Computer Incident  
Response Center  
Luxembourg

Jean-Louis Huynen

# Agenda

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- Filters in security
- Bloom filters
- Hashlookup introduction
- fleur
- a-ray-grass
- APK impersonation detection pipeline
- Future works

## Filters in security

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- process a stream to produce another stream following some criteria

```
cat /etc/passwd | grep foo
```

- the criteria can be:
  - a string
  - a regex
  - a yara rule
  - a snort / suricata rule
  - a sigma rule
  - etc.
- parts of these criteria usually comes in the form of lists:
  - IoC and IoA
  - maltrail's data sources
  - MISP events and warning lists
  - lists of known files
  - etc.

## Filters in security - Moving parts

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```
rule silent_banker : banker{
  strings:
    $a = {6A 40 68 00 30 00 00 6A 14 8D 91}
    $b = {8D 4D B0 2B C1 83 C0 27 99 6A 4E 59 F7 F9}
    $c = "UVODFRYSIHLNWPEJXQZAKCBGMT"
  condition:
    $a or $b or $c
}
```

- \$a, \$b, \$c definition look a lot like a list
- (and we have some really big ones)
- there is no easy way to update such lists
  - suricata's datasets is a good example of getting around such issues
  - datasets are lists that can be updated at runtime

## Filters in security - Privacy

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- These lists always expose their content
- There are use-cases where we'd rather not share openly (even hashes)
  - one can do searches to find the hash's source
  - bloom filters blind the content while keeping it usable
  - bloom filters provide deniability because of their inherent probabilistic nature

# Bloom Filters?

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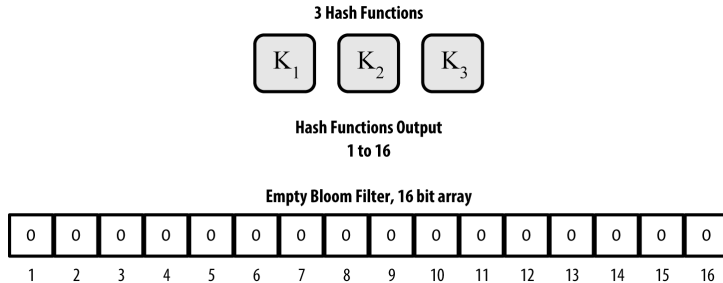


Figure 1: 16 bits array, 3 hash functions

# Bloom Filters?

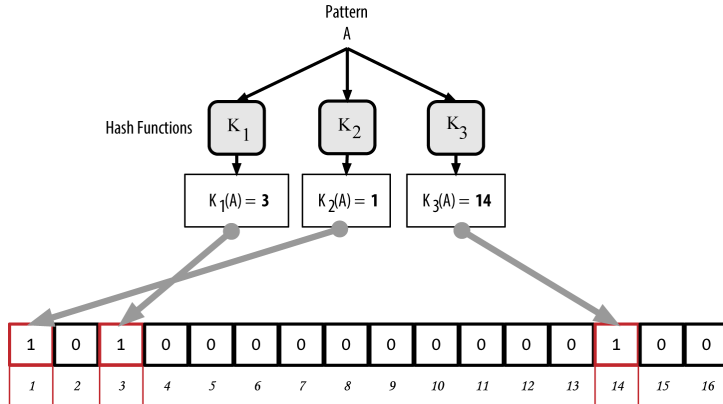


Figure 2: Inserting A

# Bloom Filters?

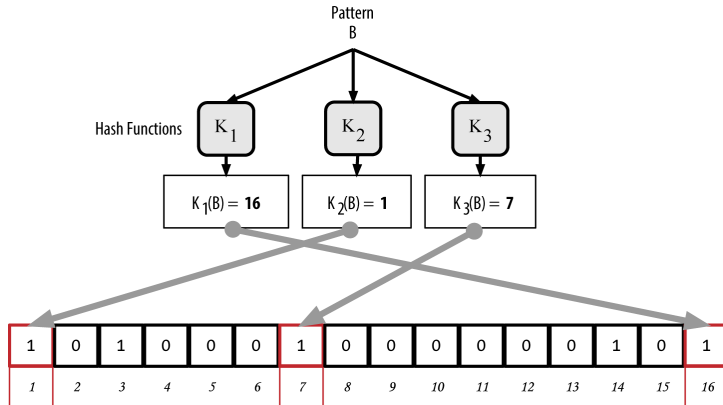


Figure 3: Inserting B



# Bloom Filters?

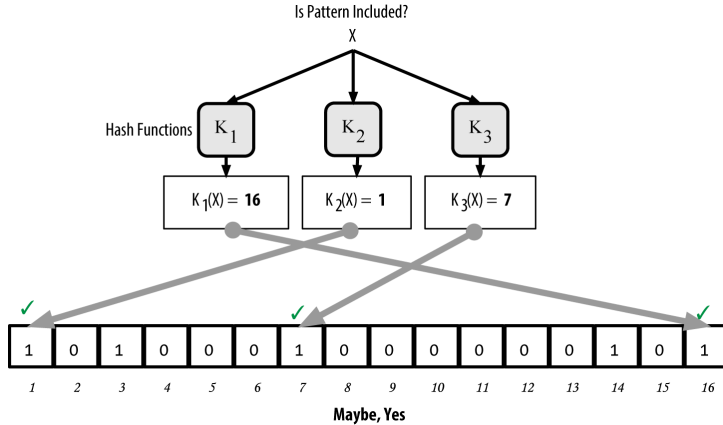


Figure 4: Testing X

# Bloom Filters?

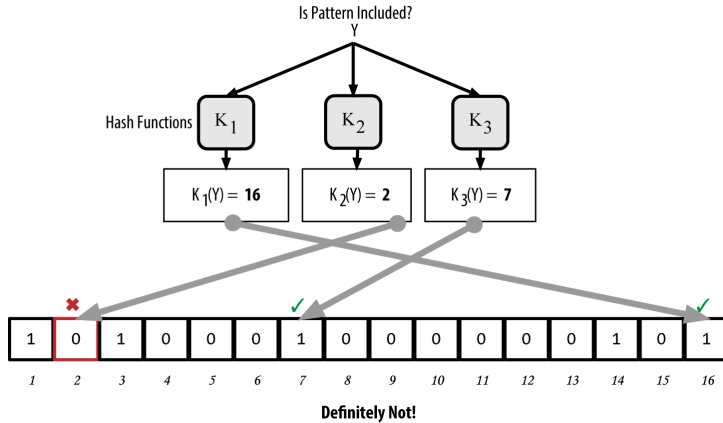


Figure 5: Testing Y

# Hashlookup introduction

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- Current Know Files Filters are failing us (NSRL)
- Hashlookup is a attempt to build decent list of known files (benign files)
- Along with the tooling for such use-cases:
  - sort out interesting files during forensics investigations
  - create list of known files in a organisation (https servers, etc.)
  - create a list of resources used by an organisation (spot reuse and impersonation)
  - keep privacy while sharing

## Hashlookup introduction

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- Given a hashlookup db containing 500.000.000 sha1 digests (20 bytes)
- the list would be 10GB
- a bloom filter with  $1.0E-4$  would be roughly 1GB
- offline:
  - almost instant response compared querying the online service
  - offline queries remain private
  - false positives can be spotted by querying the online service
- We chose DCSO's bloom filter libraries (bloom and flor):
  - OSS, simple, and easily auditable
  - CLI tools
  - serialization on disk
  - can easily merge or update filters
- <https://cra.circl.lu/hashlookup/hashlookup-full.bloom>

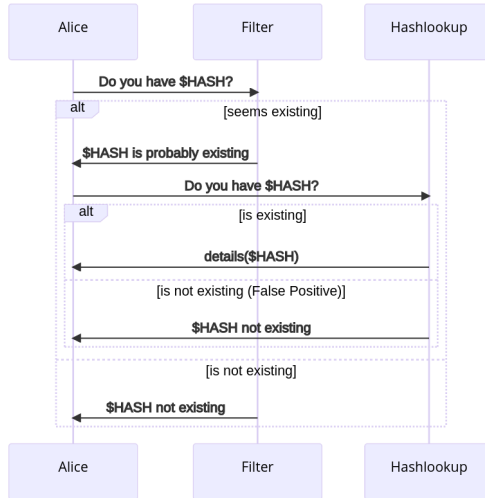
## Hashloop introduction - Offline

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```
find /usr/bin/ -type f -print0 | xargs -0 sha1sum  
| awk '{ print $1 }' | tr a-f A-F | bloom c  
/home/jlouis/hashlookup-full.bloom
```

```
curl -X 'GET' 'https://hashlookup.circl.lu/lookup/sha1/1939E2A00F90F3A  
-H 'accept: application/json' | jq .
```

# Hashlookup introduction - Online queries to check FP



# fleur

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- fleur comes from the need to use hashlookup-like filters in yara
- fleur has been developed in the frame of JTAN
- fleur is an implementation of bloom in language C
- it features:
  - the same features as bloom (only a tad faster)
  - a C API to interface with other tools like yara

## a-ray-grass / WIP

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- a-ray-grass is yara module developed in the frame of JTAN
- it allows for the query of a bloom filter in yara rules
- the primary use is filtering known files

```
import "arraygrass"
import "hash"

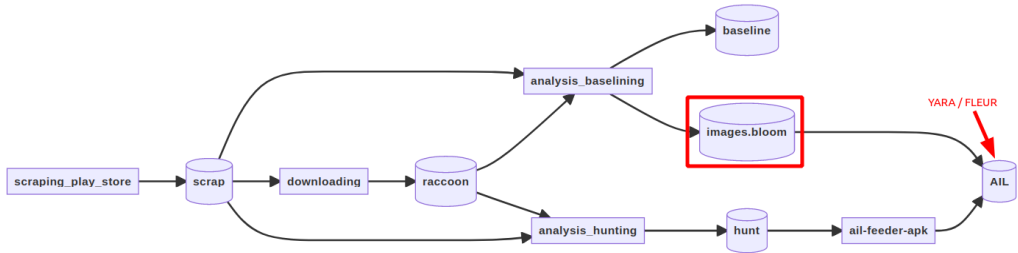
rule HashlookupMatching
{
    condition:
        arraygrass.check_string(hash.sha1(0, filesize), 1) == 1
}
```



# APK impersonation detection pipeline / WIP

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- ail-feeder-apk has been developed in the frame of JTAN
- make use of work done on hashlookup / fleur / a-ray-grass



## Future works

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- have a hashlookup filter for benign files (remove malshare)
- have hashlookup for different trust levels, and purposes
- use hashlookup services for baselining APK
- run the APK impersonation detection chain in production
- have AIL natively use yara and fleur bloom filters
- make a-ray-grass thread safe on insertion operations
- create smarter detection filters (on images for instance)
- create privacy-aware detection rules

## Credits and References

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-  Mastering Bitcoin - Second Edition by Andreas M. Antonopoulos LLC is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.
- Bloom Filter tutorial: <https://l1mllib.github.io/bloomfilter-tutorial/>
- fleur <https://github.com/hashlookup/fleur>
- flor <https://github.com/DCSO/flor>
- bloom <https://github.com/DCSO/bloom>
- a-ray-grass <https://github.com/hashlookup/a-ray-grass>
- androfleur <https://github.com/ail-project/yara/tree/androfleur>
- ail-feeder-apk <https://github.com/ail-project/ail-feeder-apk>