

Experiences with Conficker C Sinkhole Operation and Analysis



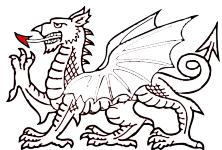
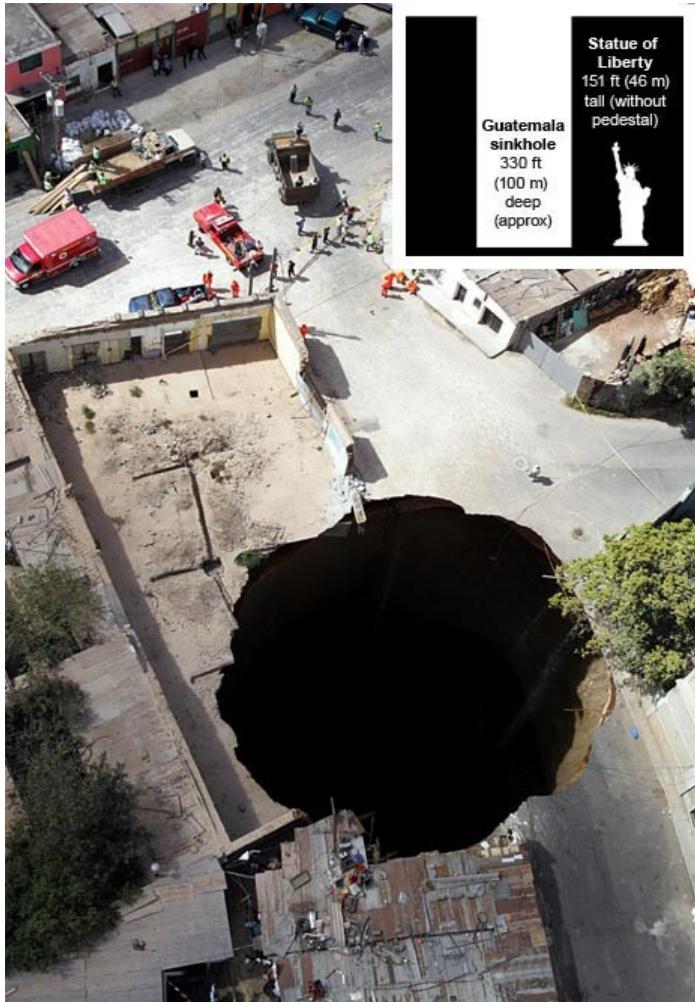
John Kristoff
Research Analyst
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John Kristoff – Team Cymru

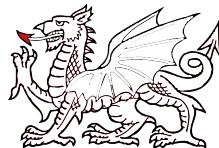
Sinkholes



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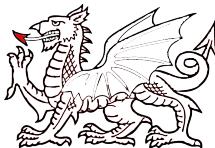
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The Great Conficker DNS Hijack of 2009?



Conficker C mitigation

- Over 100 TLDs (gTLDs and ccTLDs) contacted
- The majority participated in mitigation efforts
 - Registry/registrar outreach was significant
 - Sinkhole operators answered domains names
 - The “coordination” effort was mostly a success
 - Most credit goes to registries, ICANN, Wesson
- The absence of a **BOOM!!** is notable

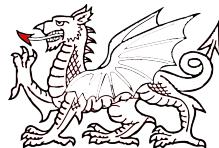


Becoming a sinkhole operator

Timing : Just do it

Friends : Who do you know?

Reputation : Build bridges, don't burn them

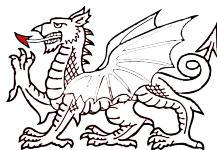


Why do this?

Fonzie : All the cool kids are doing it

Einstein : Publish or perish

Superhero : Eat, save world, sleep, repeat

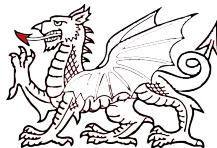


Team Cymru Conficker Sinkhole

Goal : Get data to people who can take action

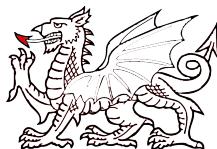
Constraint : Setup time

Challenge : Minimize false positives



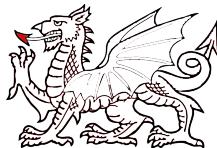
System requirements

- A Linux virtual machine (VM)
- Some memory, some disk
- No cute tricks needed



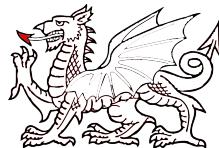
Web server requirements

- Apache httpd
- Customized LogFormat config option
- Cronolog for YYYYMMDDHH named log files
- Some performance related tweaks
 - e.g. MinSpareServers
 - e.g. disable unneeded code with ./configure
- Nothing particularly cute here either



Sinkhole addressing

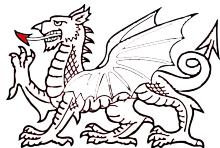
```
/sbin/ip addr add 192.0.2.0/24 dev lo
```



D'oh!

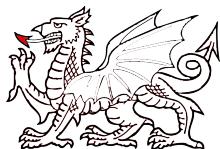
```
ip_conntrack: table full, dropping packet.  
           printk: 9 messages suppressed.
```

- Tune `net.ipv4.ip_conntrack_max`
- ...or disable netfilter/iptables



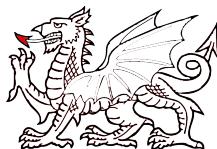
Got sockets?

```
$ netstat -an | grep :80 | wc -l  
29294
```



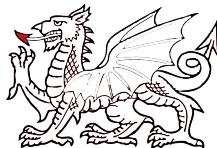
Got disk?

```
1,266,673,941 sinklogs-20090402.tar.gz
1,217,023,512 sinklogs-20090403.tar.gz
1,195,396,709 sinklogs-20090407.tar.gz
1,153,551,360 sinklogs-20090406.tar.gz
1,129,146,938 sinklogs-20090408.tar.gz
1,054,142,889 sinklogs-20090414.tar.gz
1,039,420,867 sinklogs-20090413.tar.gz
```



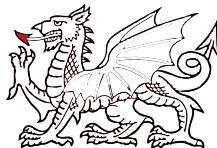
Raw “HTTP GET /” logs - hourly

71,289,550	200904011400.log.gz
68,978,096	200904021400.log.gz
68,740,712	200904021500.log.gz
67,982,356	200904011600.log.gz
67,246,989	200904021600.log.gz
67,116,856	200904021300.log.gz
67,091,407	200904011500.log.gz
67,079,419	200904020900.log.gz
66,978,650	200904071400.log.gz



Ops “HTTP GET /” logs - hourly

24,861,070	200904011400.csv.gz
24,292,611	200904021400.csv.gz
24,008,038	200904021500.csv.gz
23,884,012	200904020900.csv.gz
23,821,208	200904021300.csv.gz
23,568,062	200904020800.csv.gz
23,562,925	200904071400.csv.gz
23,489,223	200904011600.csv.gz
23,410,348	200904021000.csv.gz



Got documentation?

```
$ head README.cymru
```

```
$Id: README.cymru,v 1.8 2009/04/29 18:20:16 jtk Exp $
```

Team Cymru Conficker C Sinkhole
<http://www.team-cymru.org>

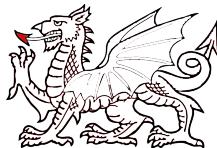
1. Sinkhole Overview
2. Repository Data Format
 - a. ops
 - b. raw
3. Operational History

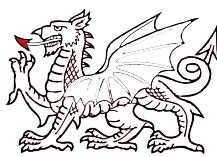
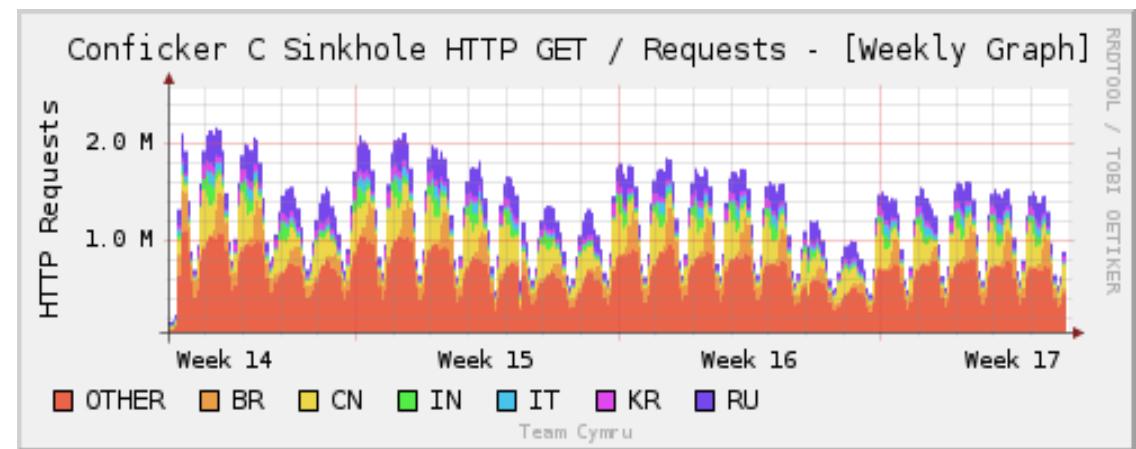
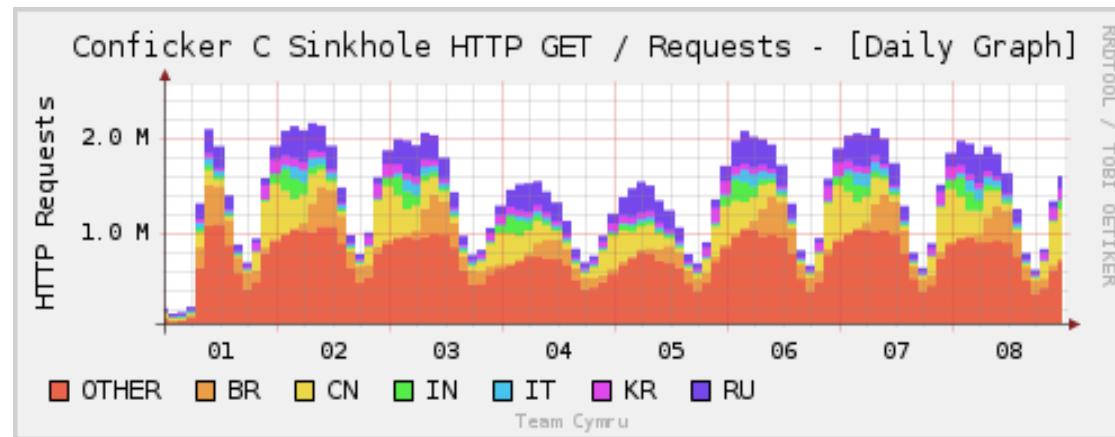
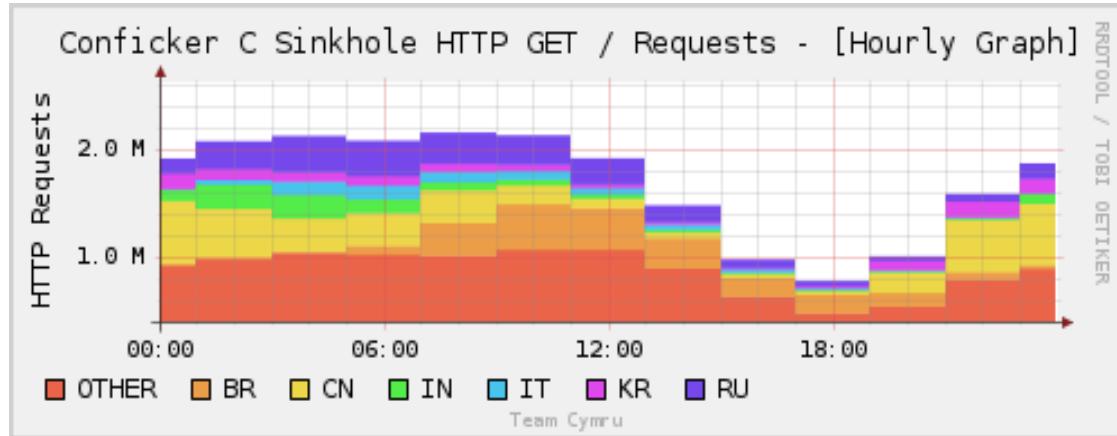


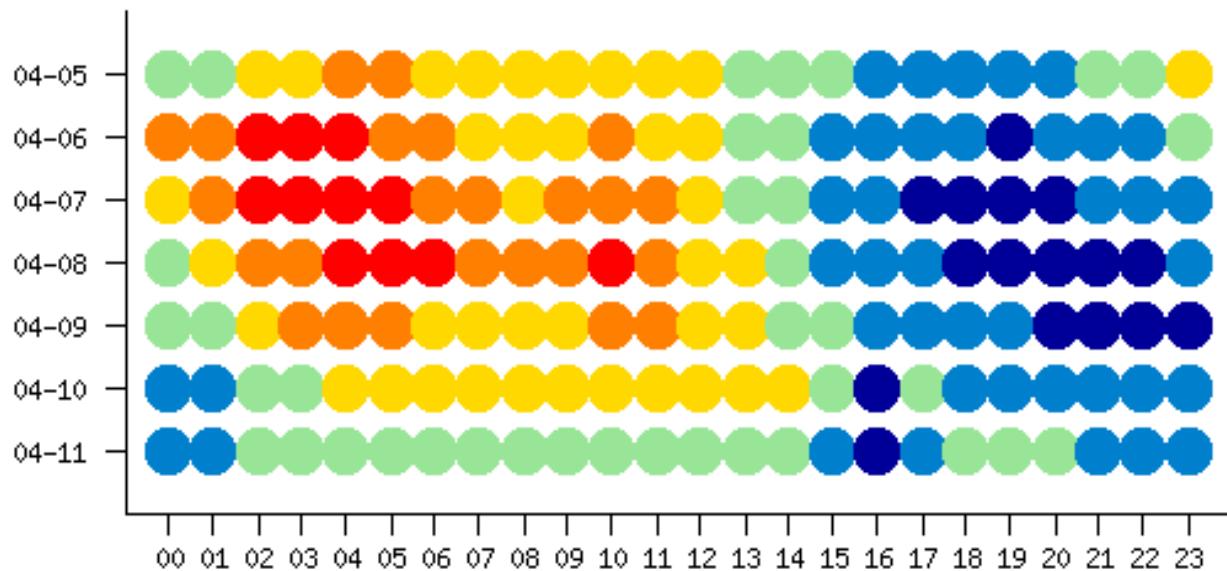
!! WARNING !!

**This is NOT a rigorous
examination of our sinkhole data.**

Just enjoy the pretty pictures. :-)

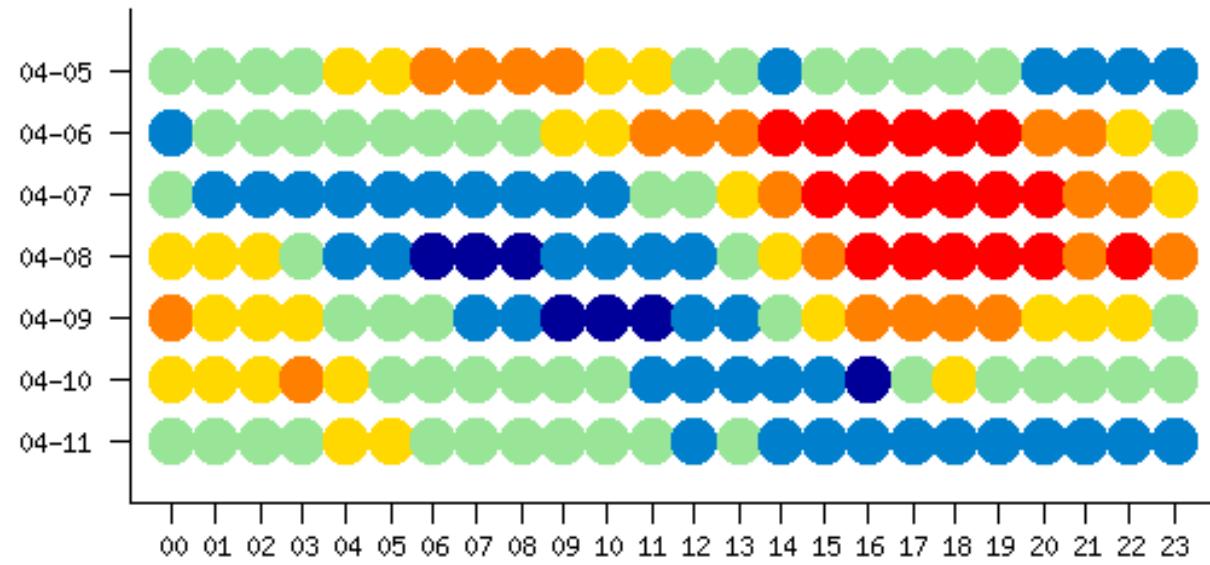






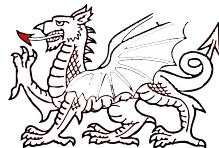
.au

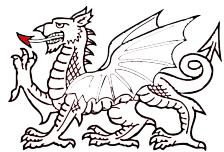
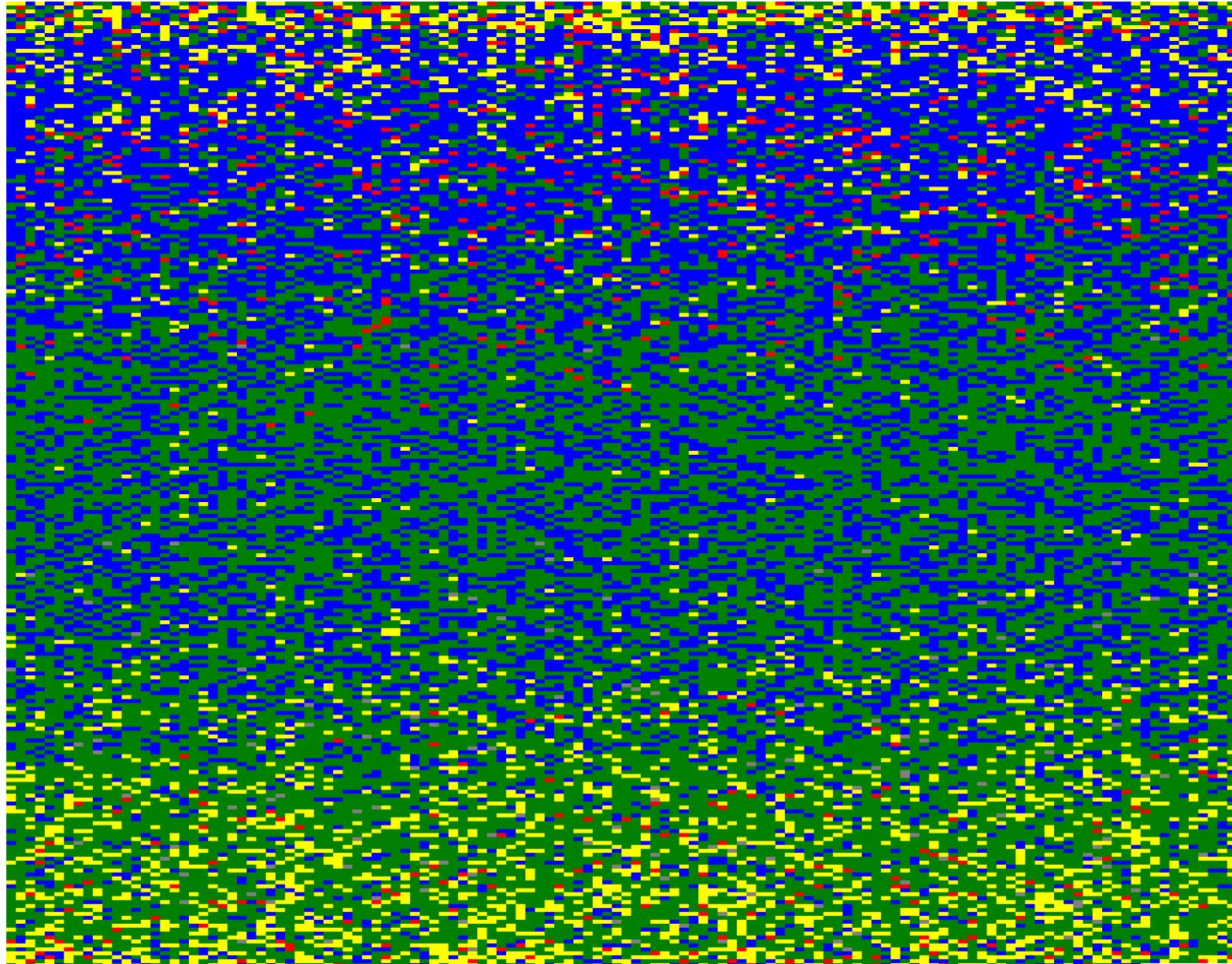
- 5000 + (Red)
- 4000 - 4999 (Orange)
- 3000 - 3999 (Yellow)
- 2000 - 2999 (Light Green)
- 1000 - 1999 (Blue)
- 0 - 999 (Dark Blue)



.us

- 60000 + (Red)
- 50000 - 59999 (Orange)
- 40000 - 49999 (Yellow)
- 30000 - 39999 (Light Green)
- 20000 - 29999 (Blue)
- 0 - 19999 (Dark Blue)



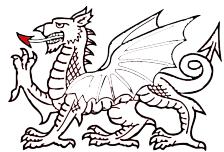
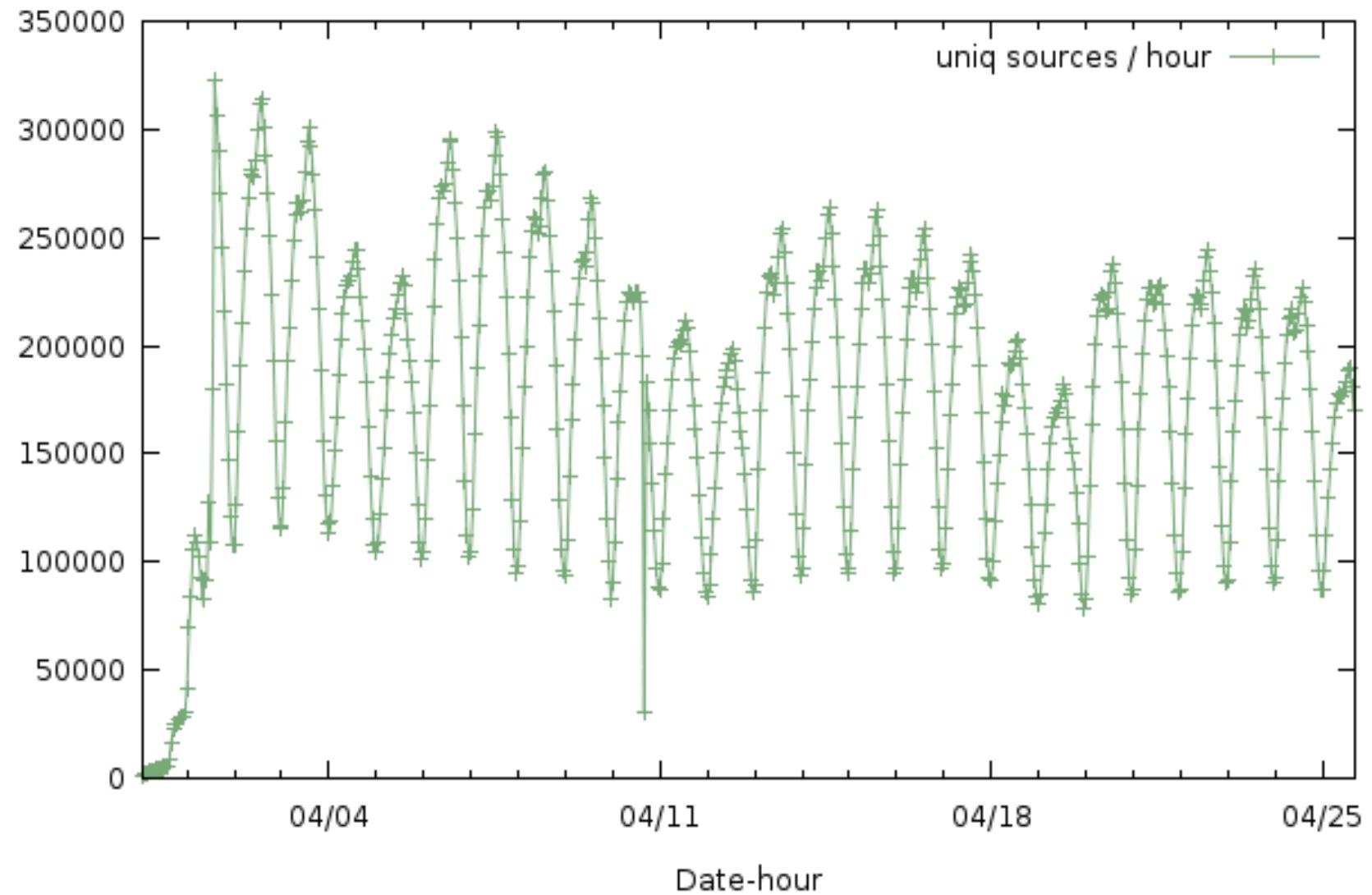


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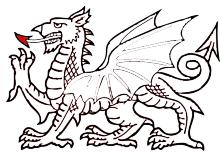
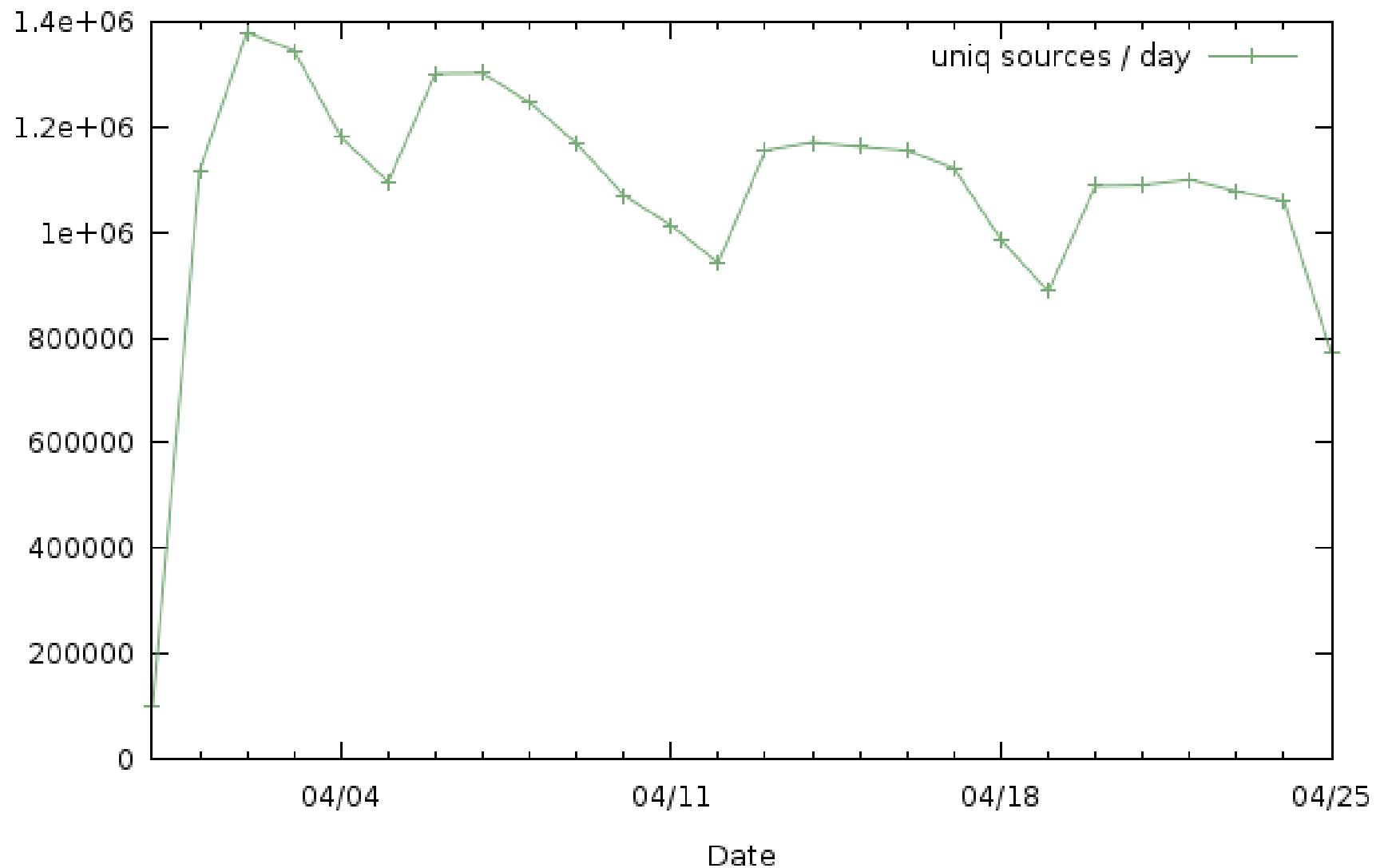
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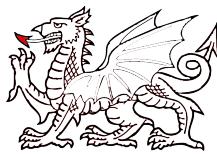
20

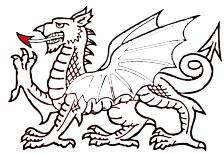
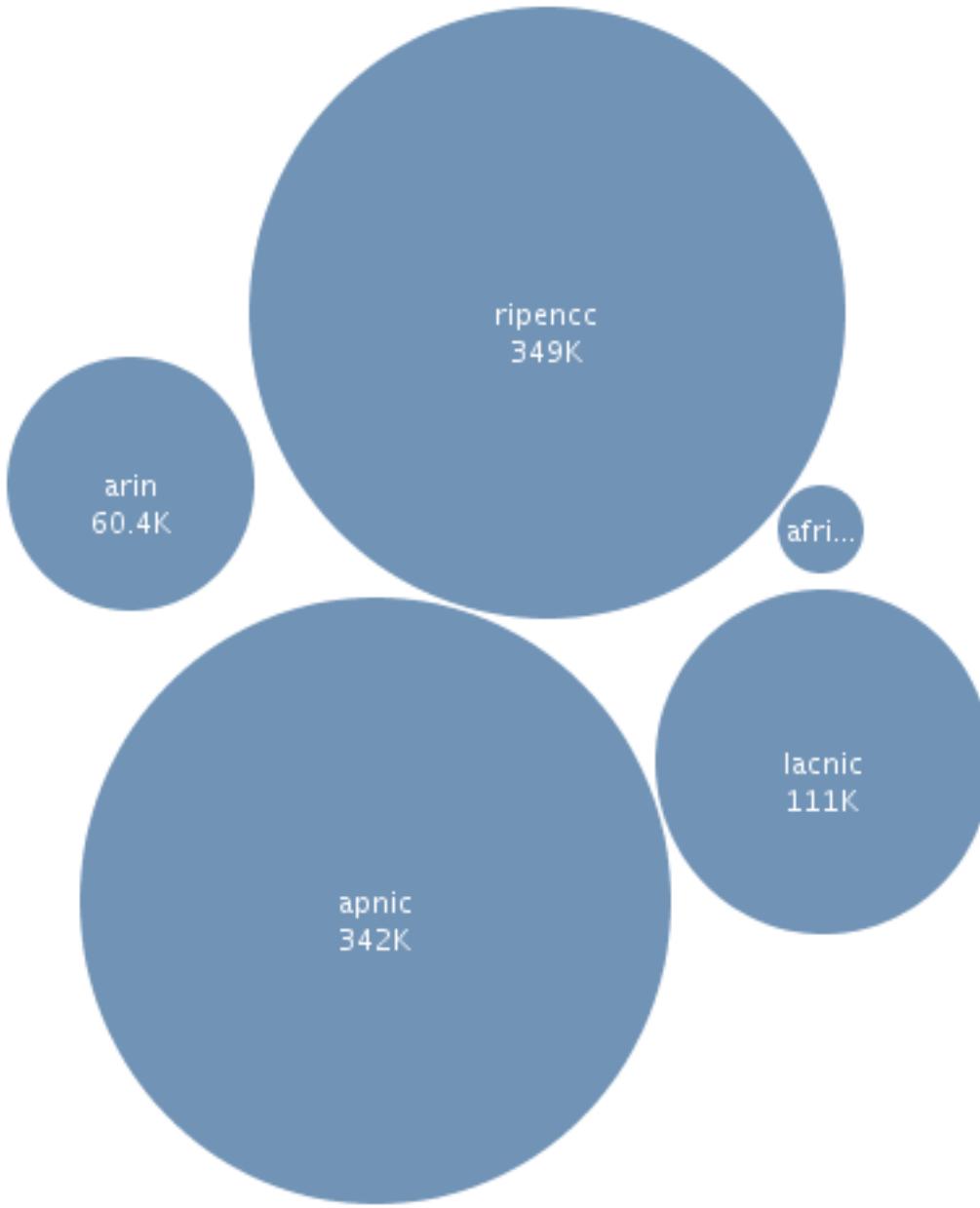
Conficker C Sinkhole HTTP GET / Requests



Conficker C Sinkhole HTTP GET / Requests



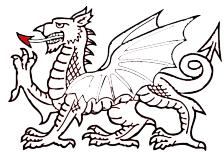
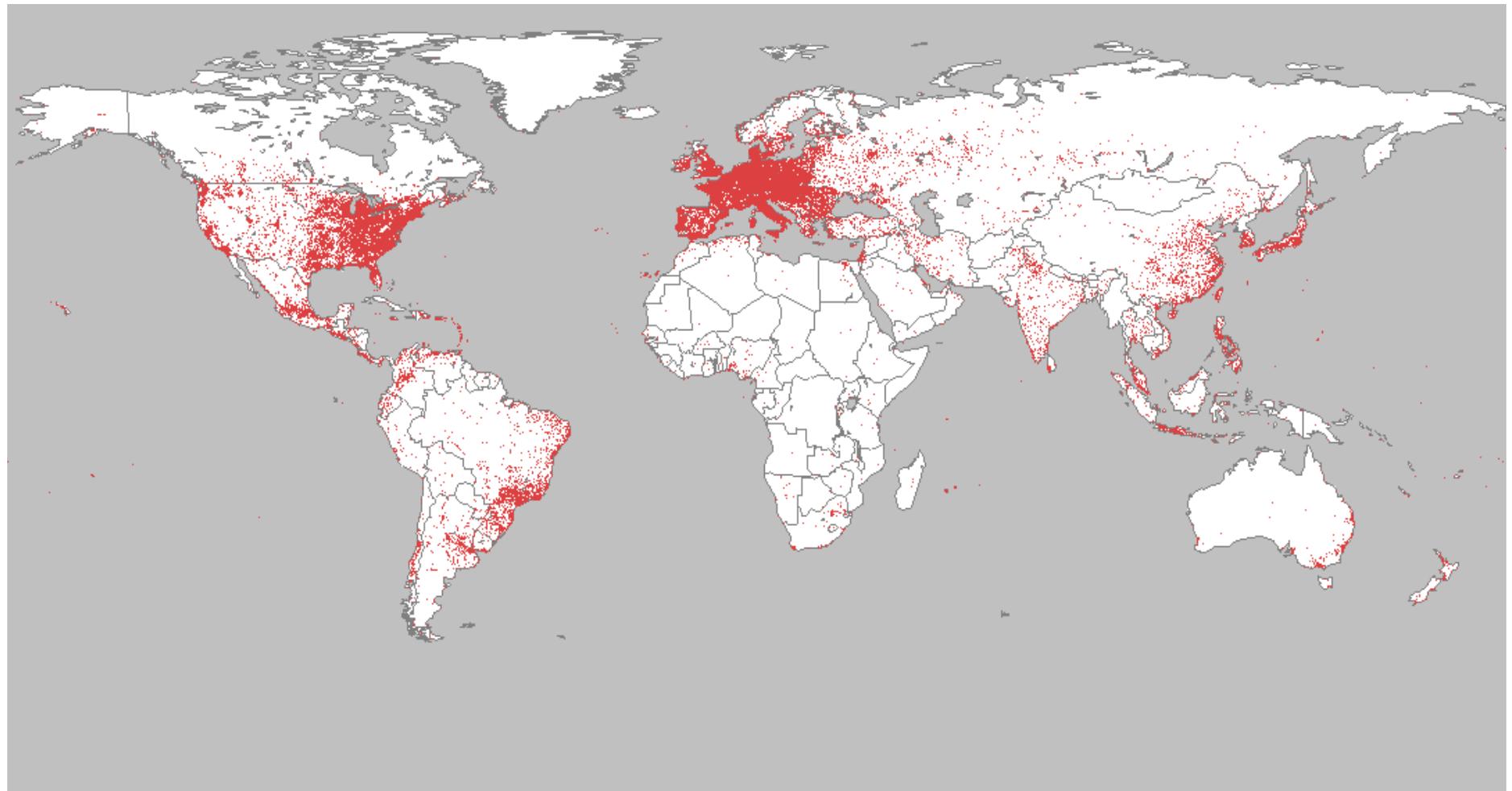




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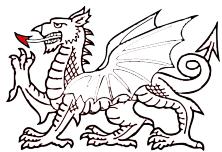
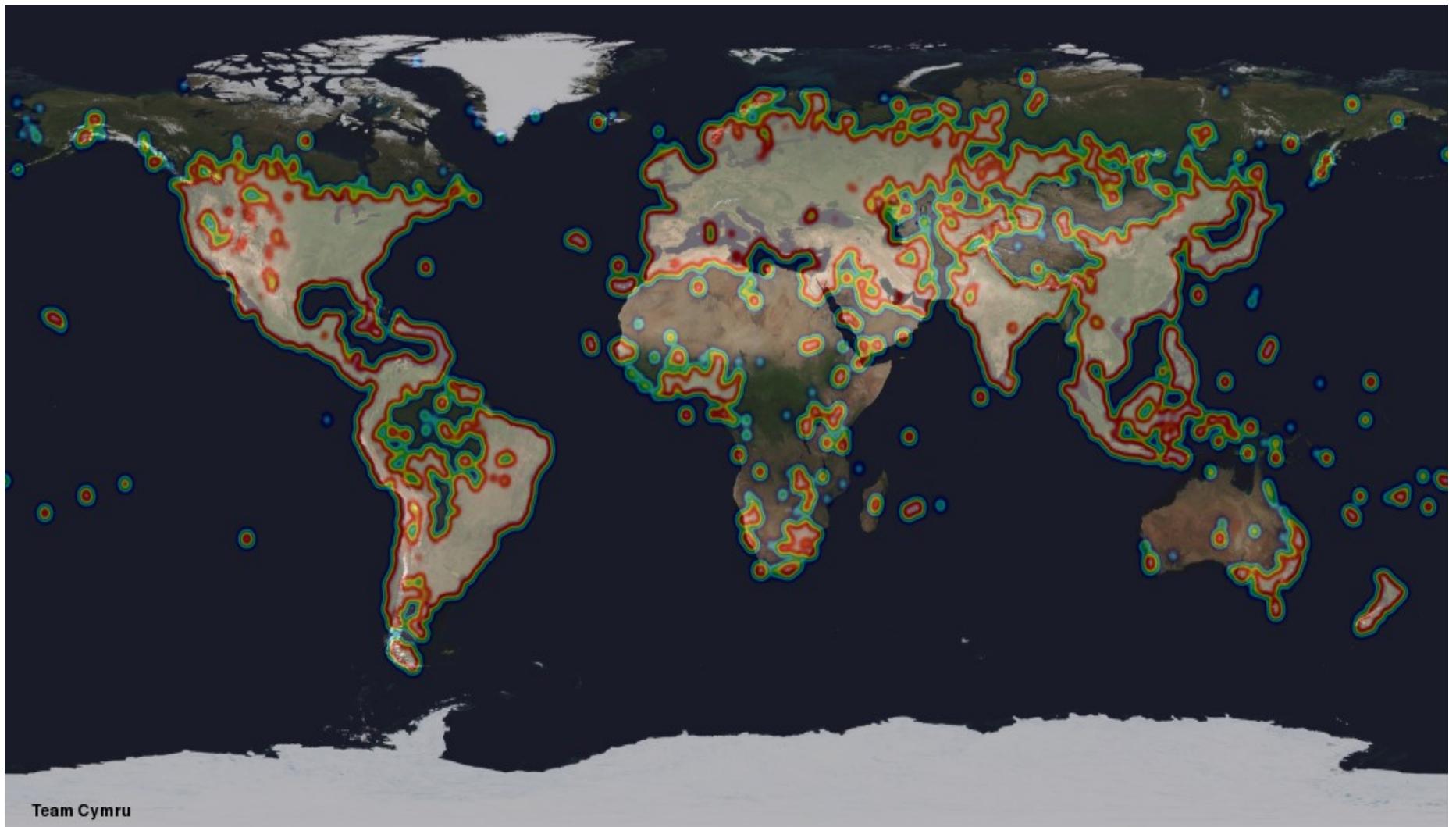
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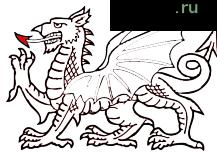
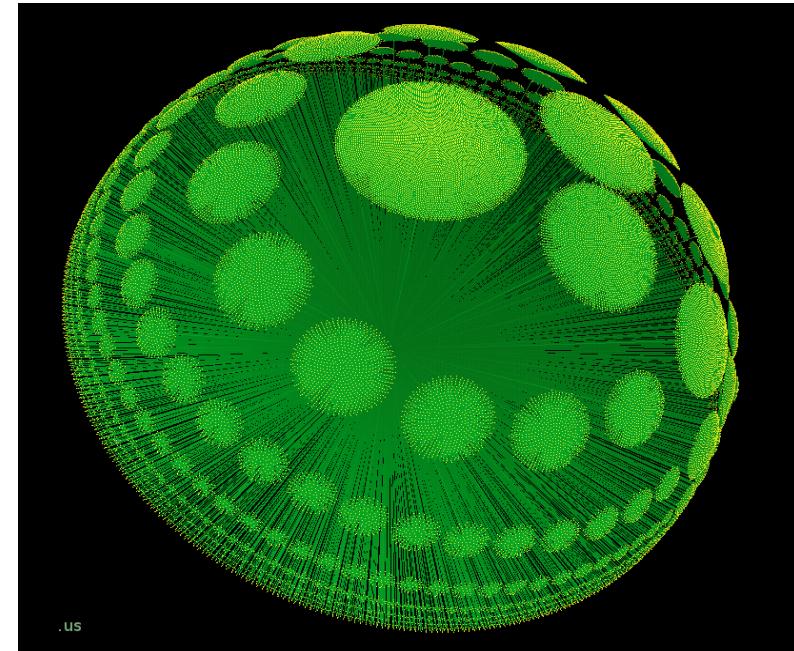
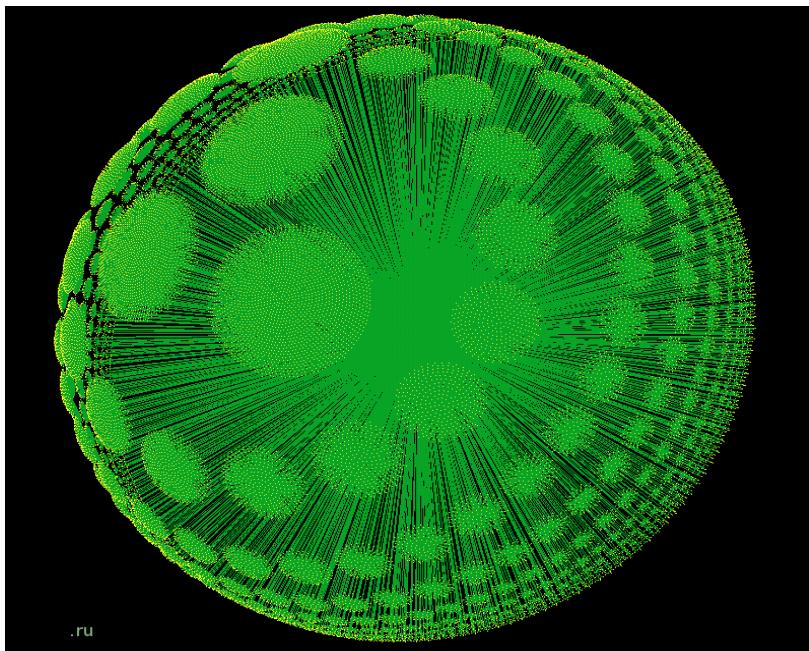
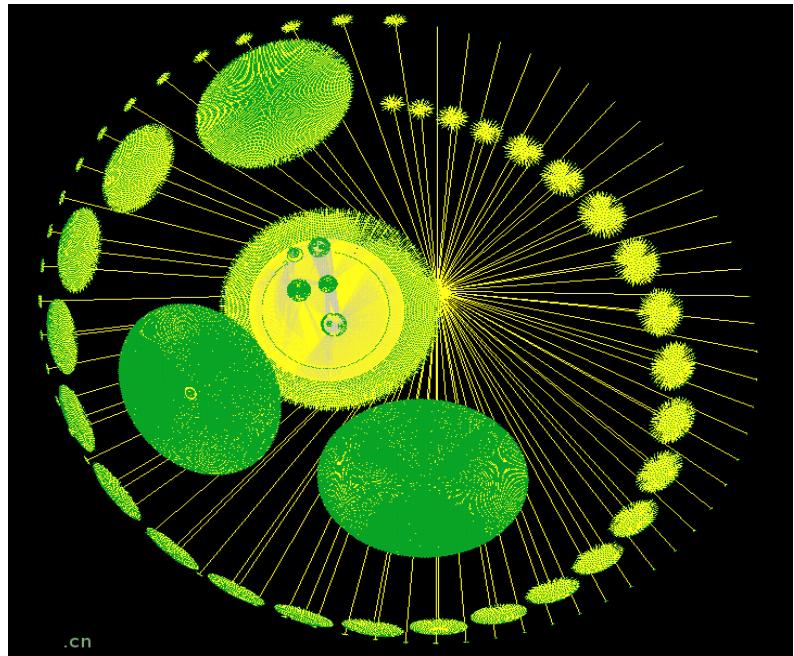
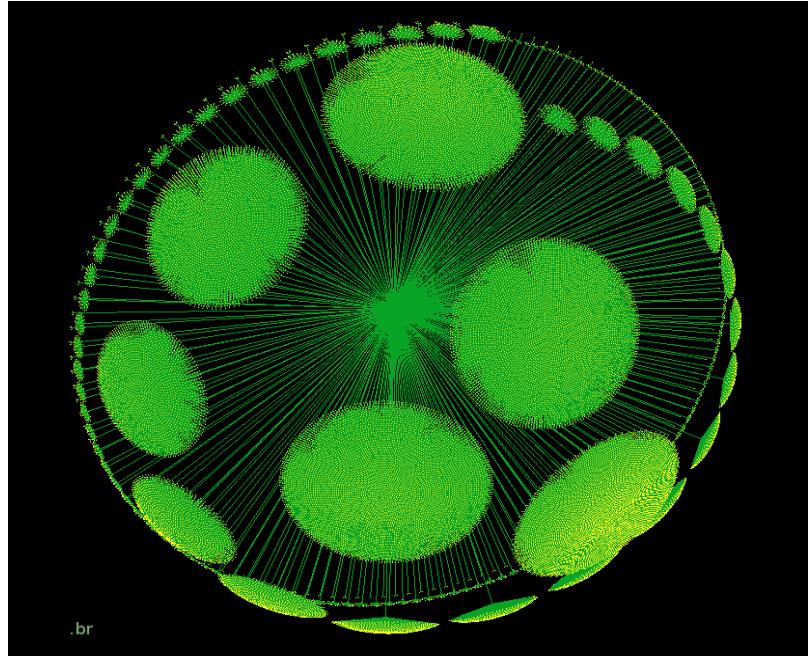
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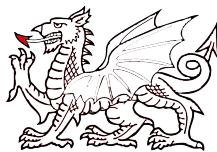
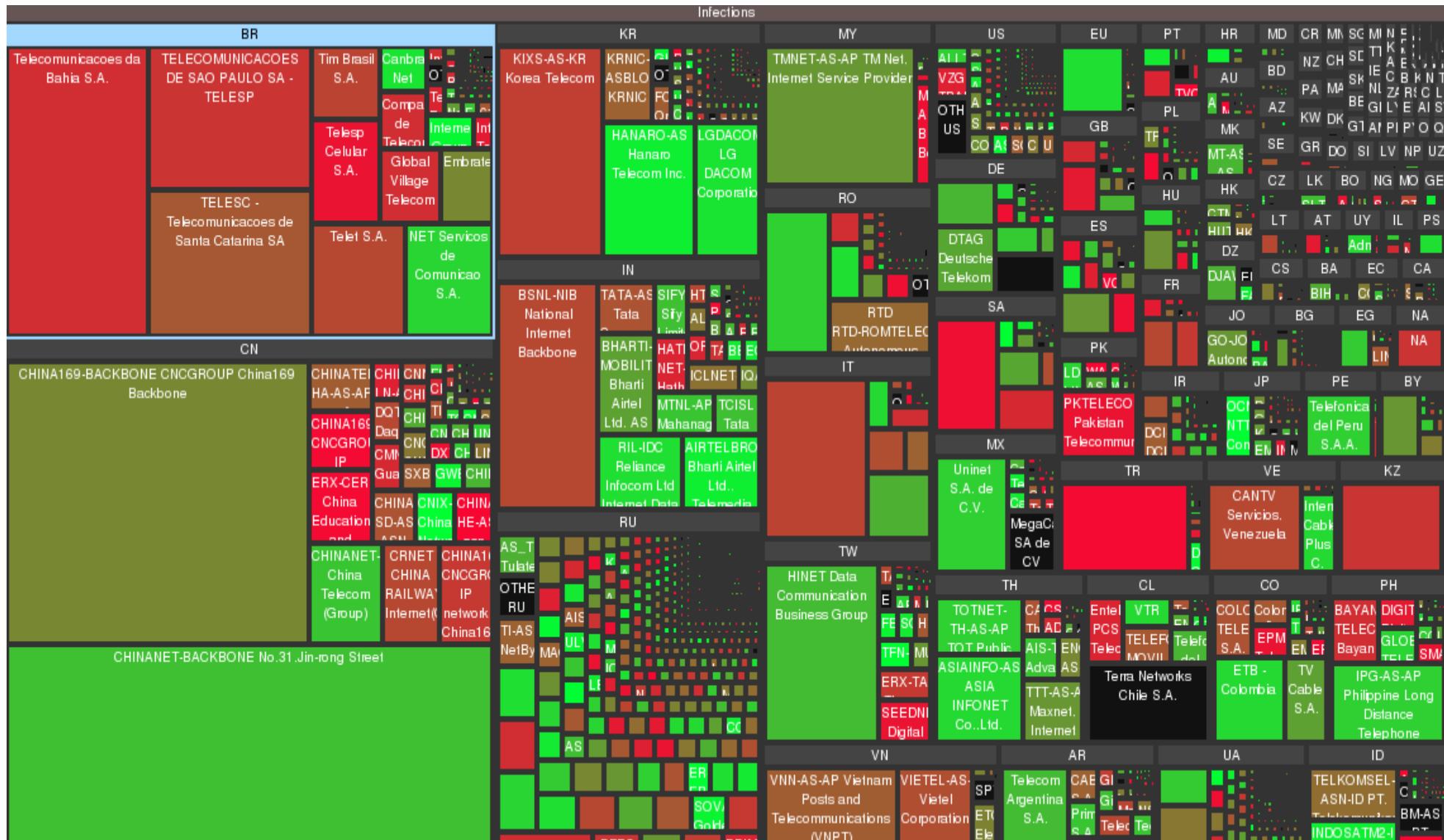
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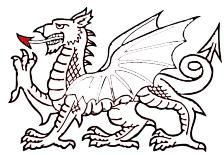
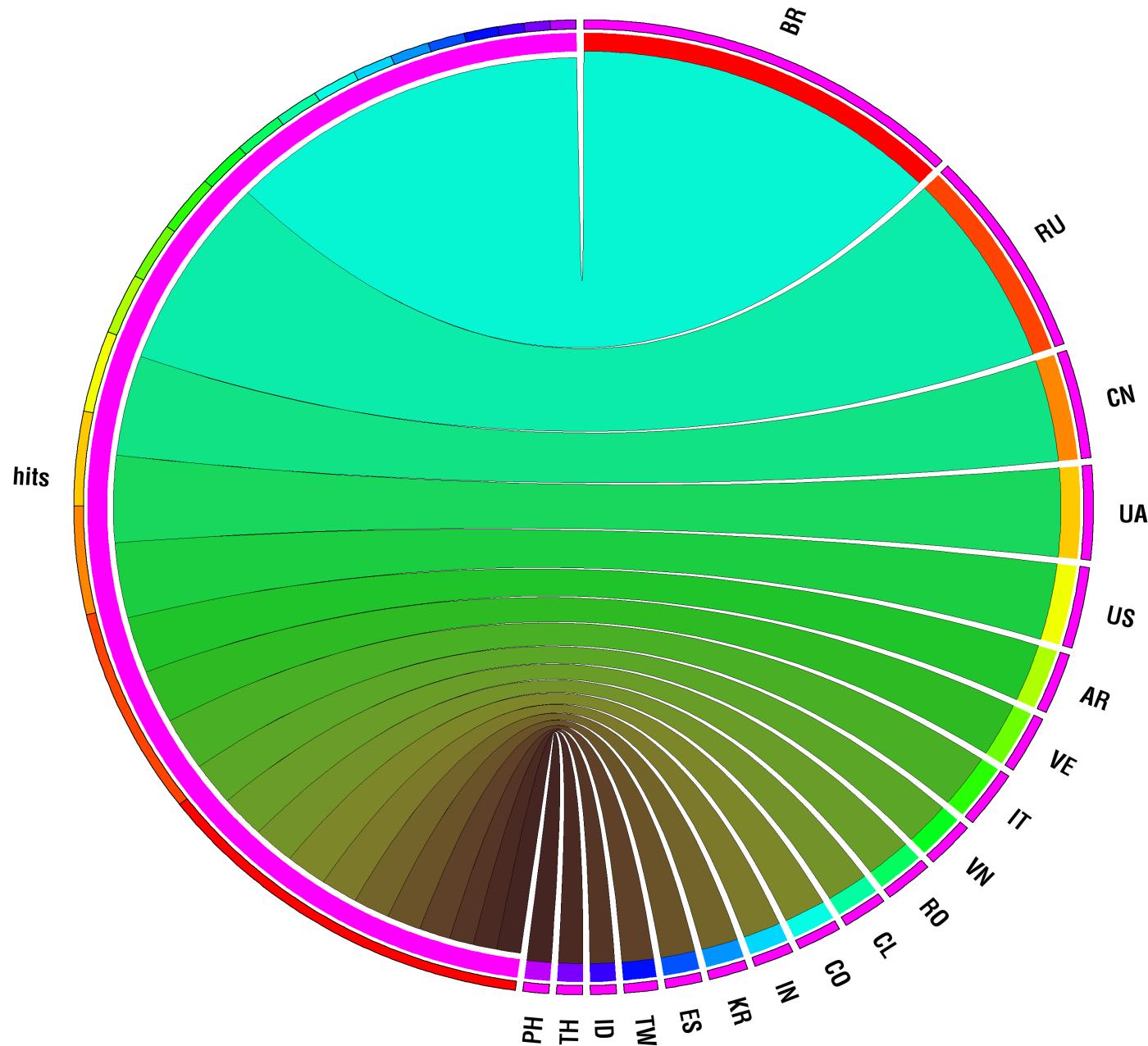


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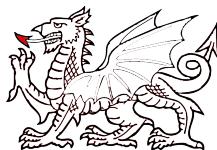
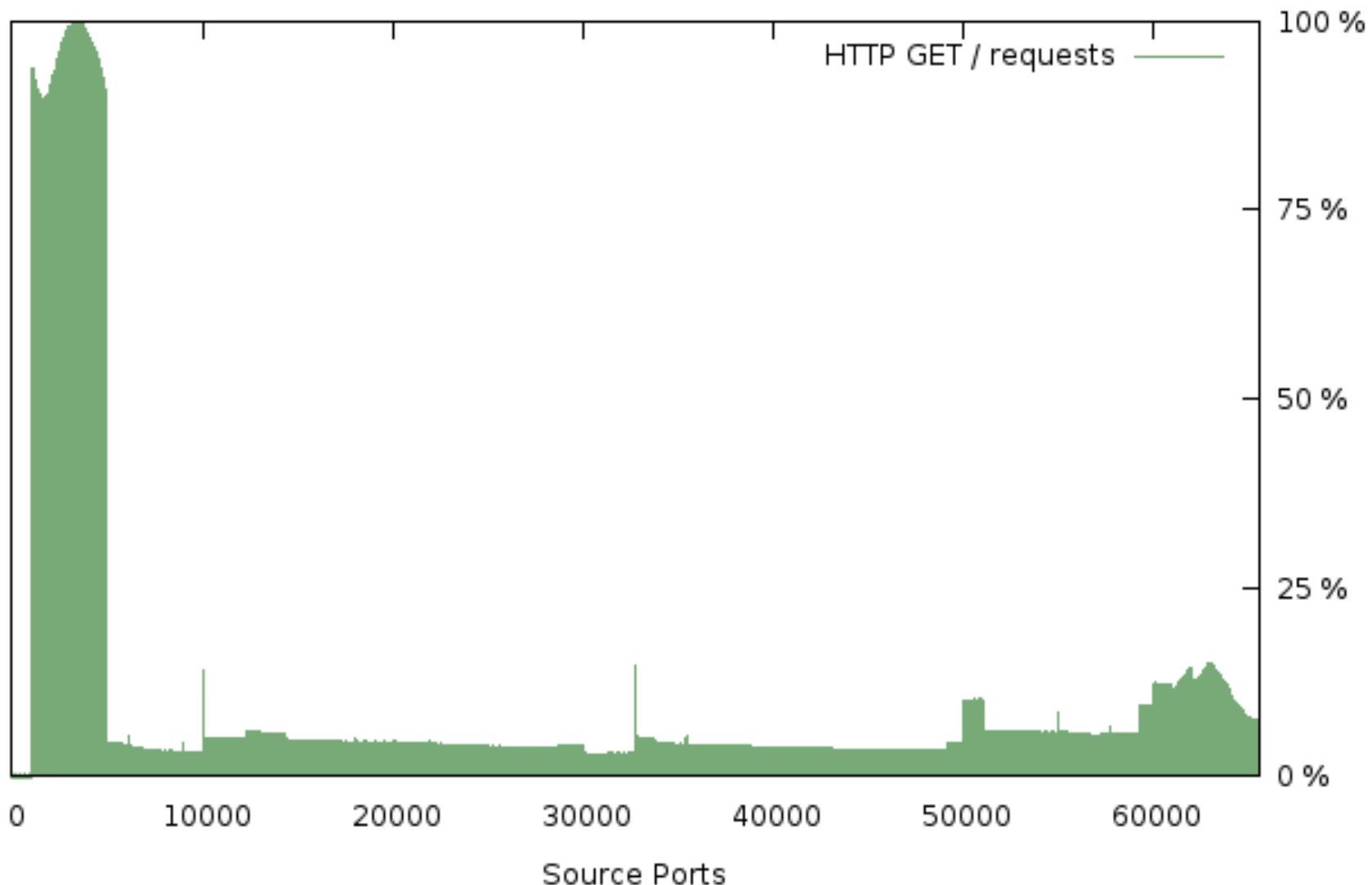
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Conficker C Sinkhole Source Port Usage



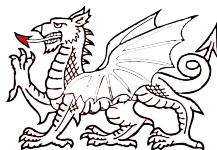
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User Agent Tokens

Mozilla/4.0
.NET CLR 2.0.50727
sv1compatible
.NET CLR 1.1.4322
Windows NT 5.1
MSIE 7.0 MSIE 6.0
<http://www.wordle.net>



Analysis cautions (aka areas for research)

- NATs, proxies, caches, filters and local sinkholes
- Transient address (e.g. DHCP, hot spots, dial)
- Researcher, human and bot false positives
- Missing, out-of-order and data parsing challenges
- Geoloc, routing and registry accuracy



Contact us

- jtk@cymru.com
- Team PGP key 0x79B109F9

<http://www.team-cymru.org/About/teamcymru-pgp.txt>

FYI... we've got data

Reports for your nets/ASNs for the asking

