

# tracebox

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WP1/WP2  
Oslo, July 2017



measurement and architecture for a middleboxed internet

measurement

architecture

experimentation

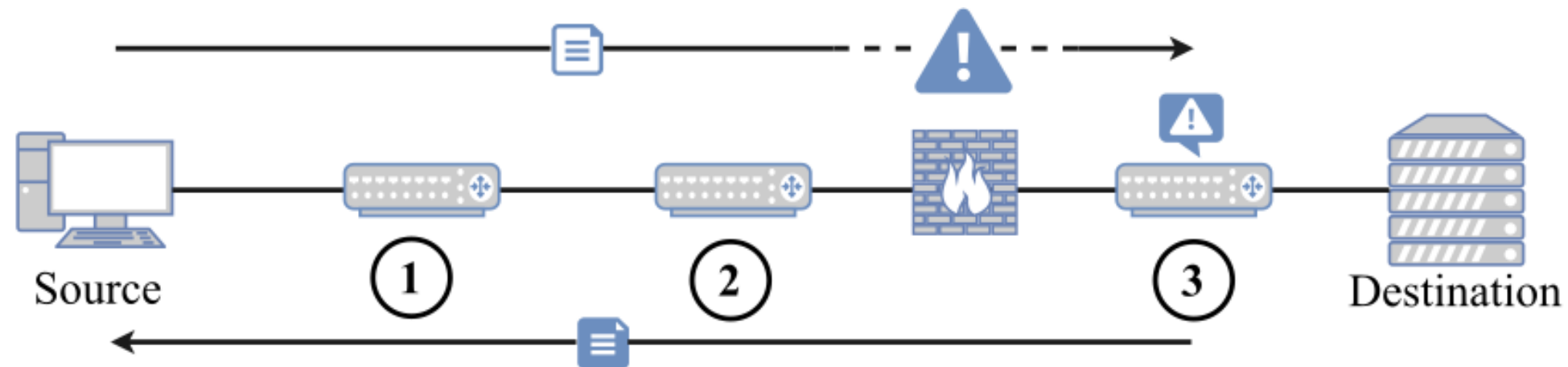
*This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme*

*under grant agreement No 688421. The opinions expressed and arguments employed reflect only the authors'*

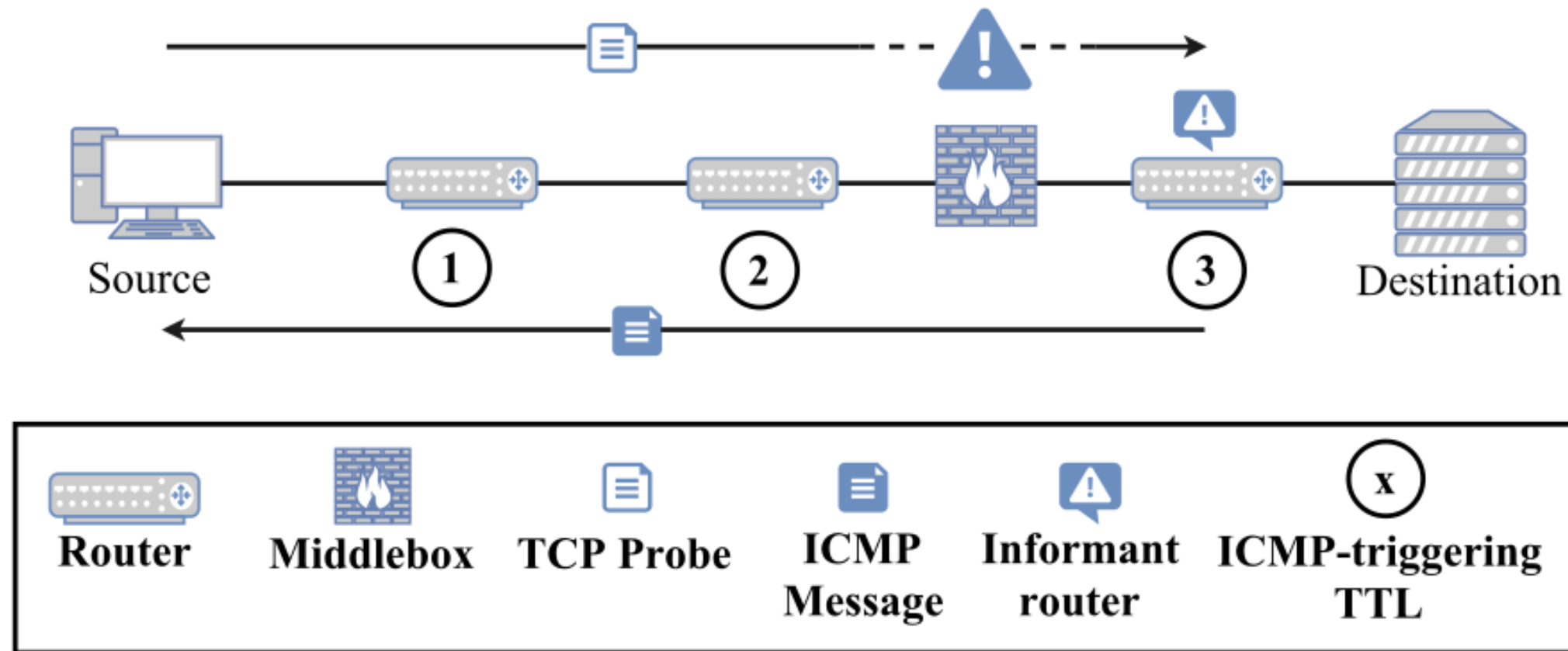
*view. The European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of that information.*



# tracebox



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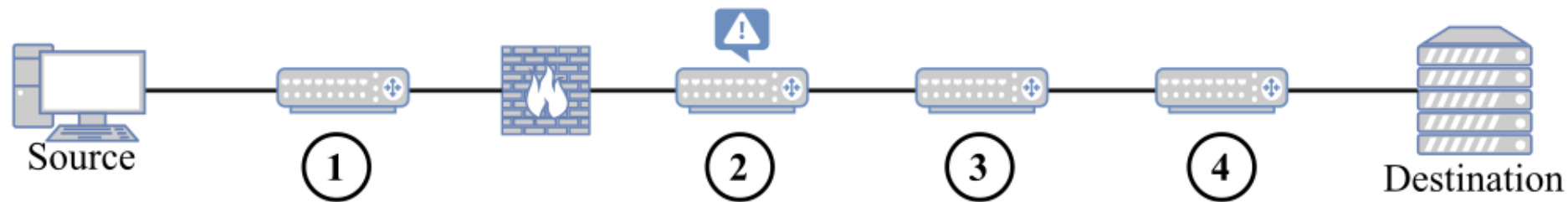
- RFC 792 : “The internet header plus the first 64 bits”
- RFC 1812 : “as much [...] as possible” (< 576 B)



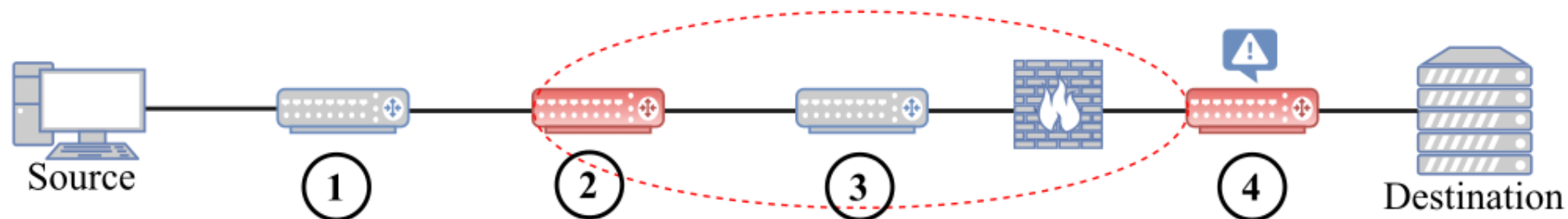
# Dataset

- 14 Campaigns, one every ~5 day over 70 days.
- From 89 nodes to 594,241 destinations
- 948,457 responsive intermediate hops overall (59,861 HTTP(S)-only)
- 2,978 ASs crossed

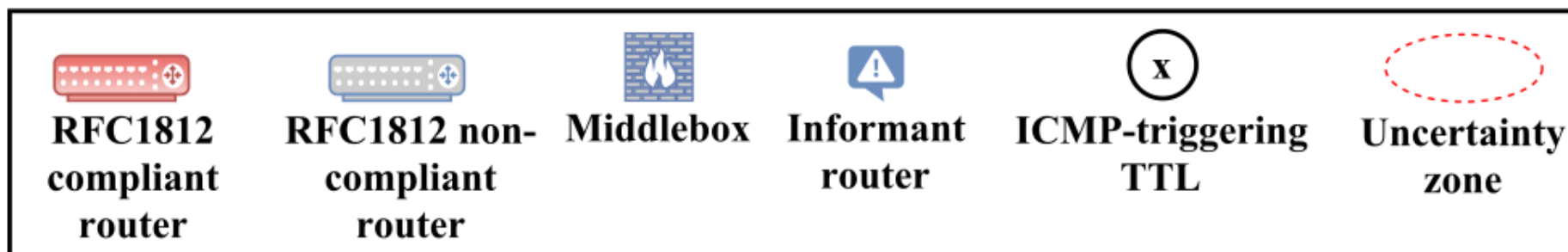
# tracebox



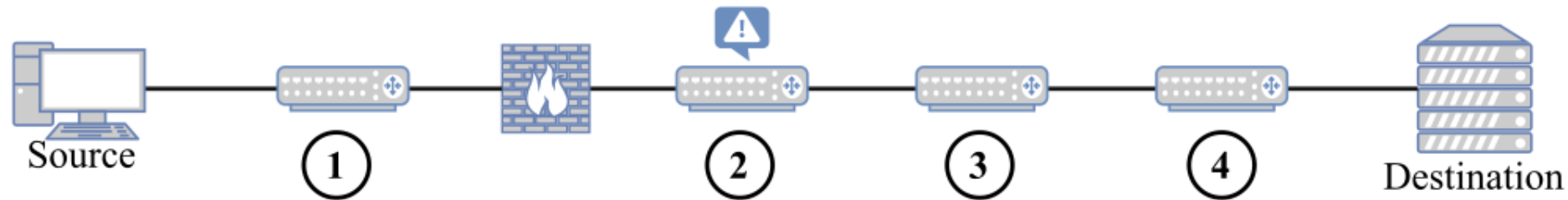
1. Modified field is within the first 48 bytes



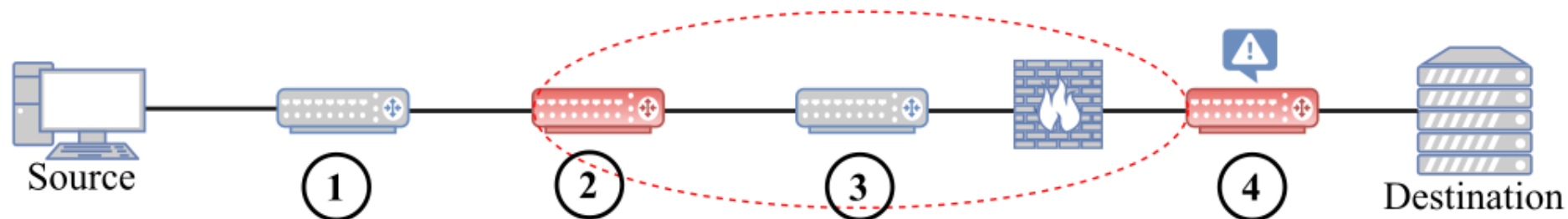
2. Modified field is outside the first 48 bytes



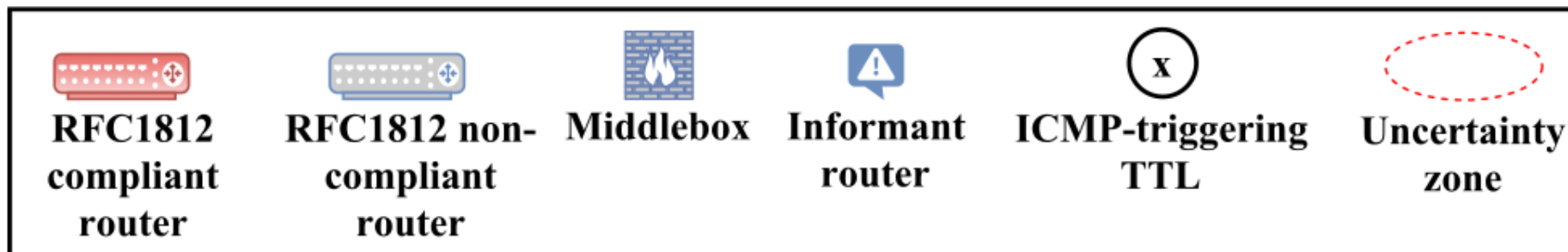
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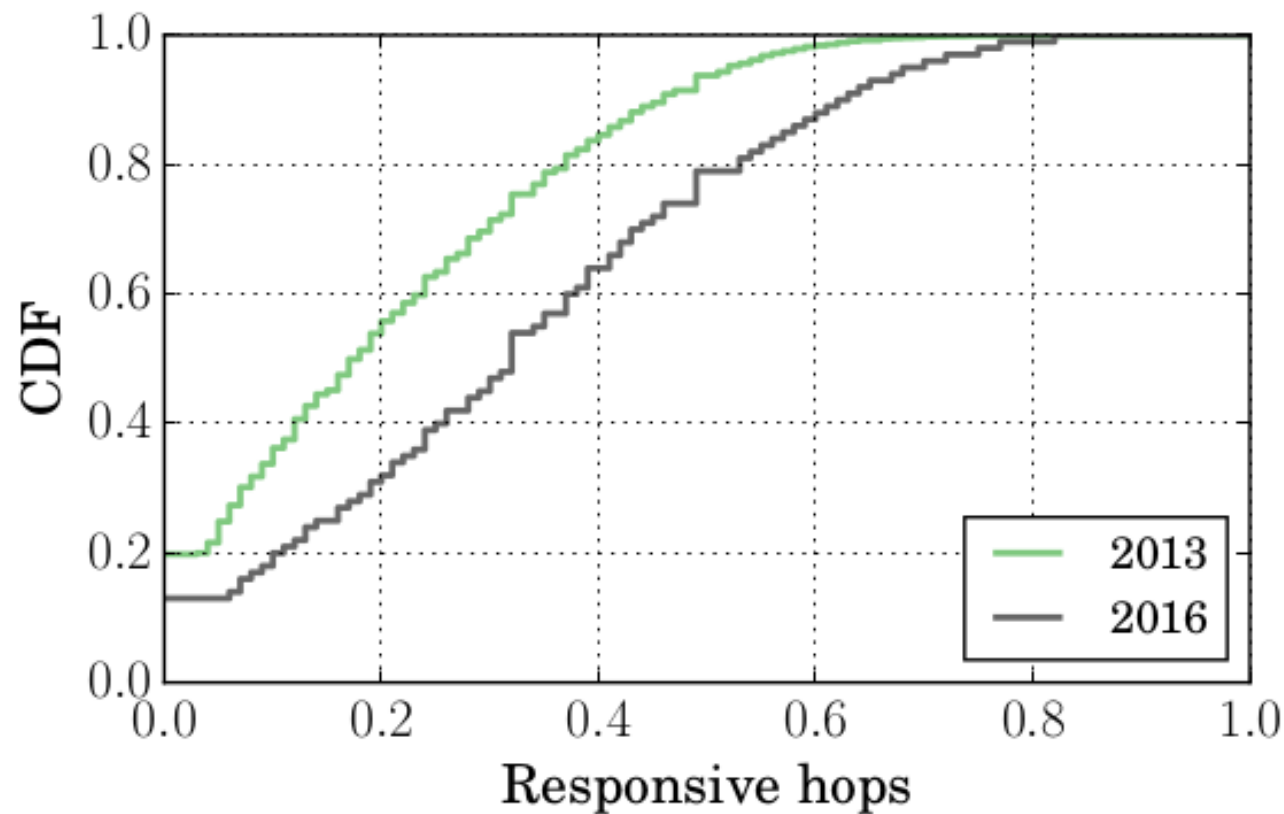
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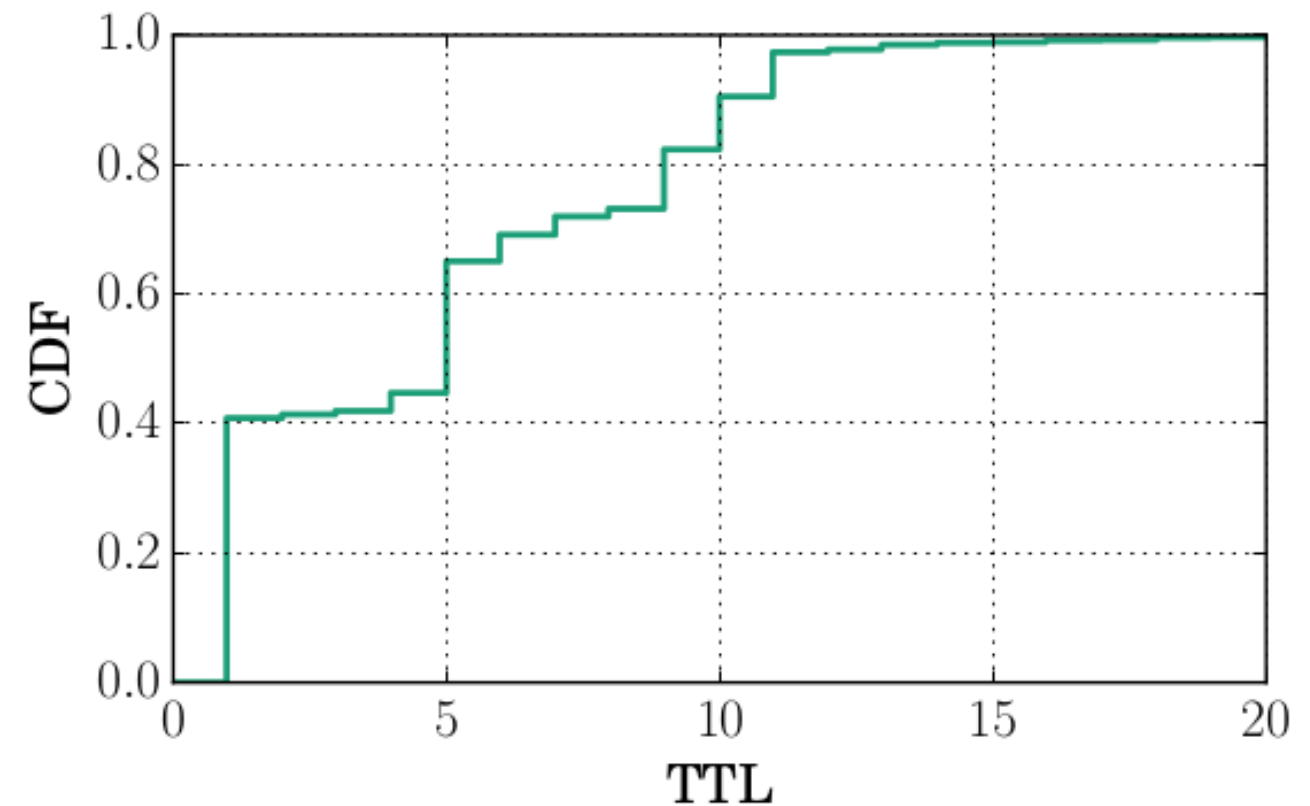
- U Zone : Observed sizes ? Workaround ?



# U Zone



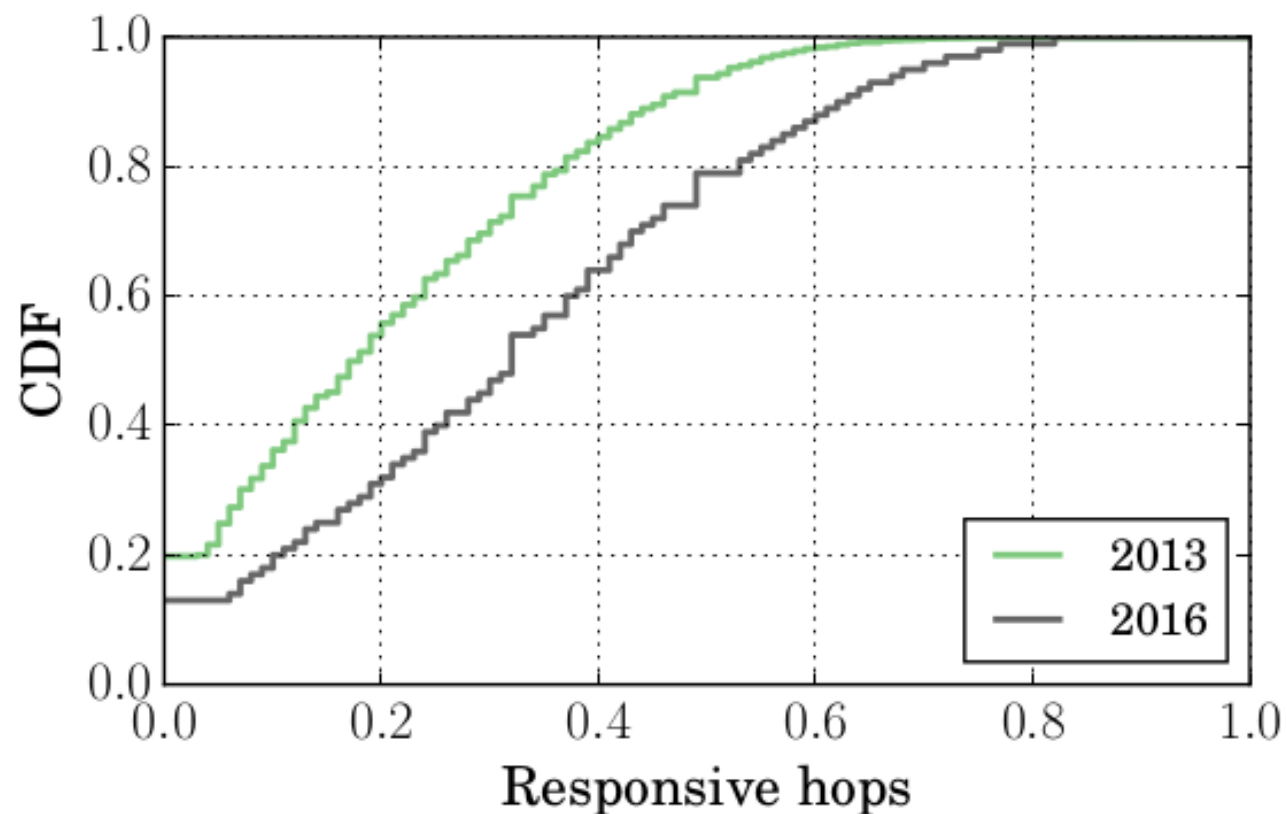
Proportion of RFC 1812  
routers on observed paths



Sizes of U Zones

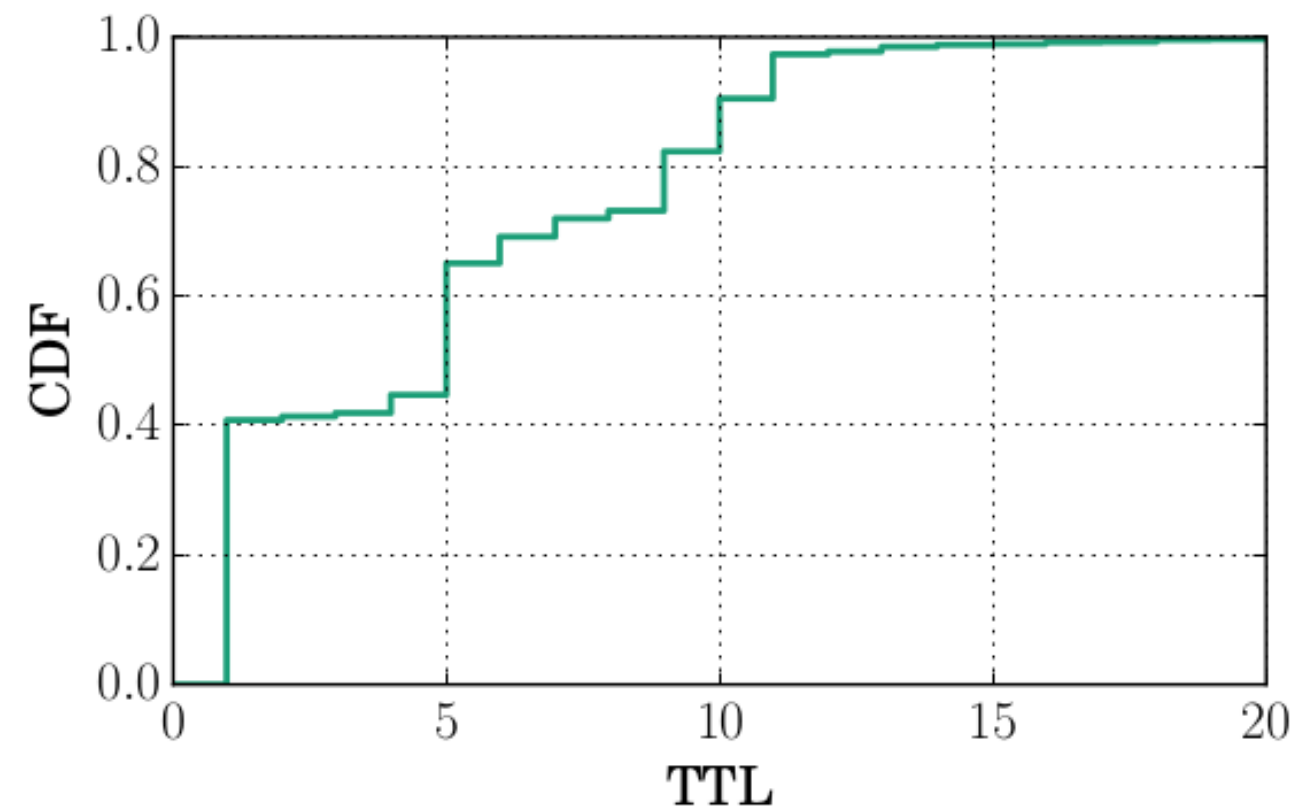


# U Zone



Proportion of RFC 1812  
routers on observed paths

- Increases over time



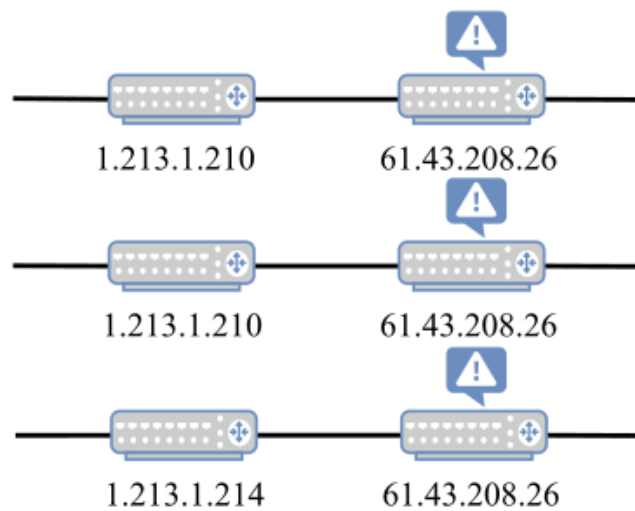
Sizes of U Zones

- None for 15.5M obs. (41%)
- $\leq 5$  for 23M obs. (60%)

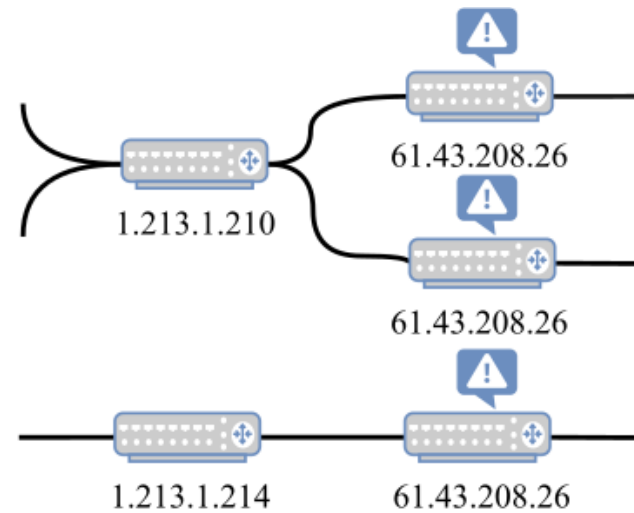




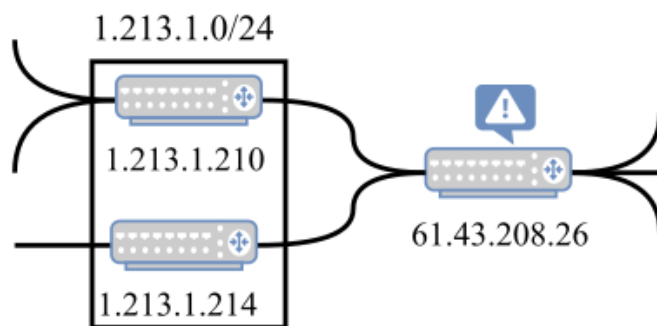
# Pre-processing: summary



a. Offenders derivation

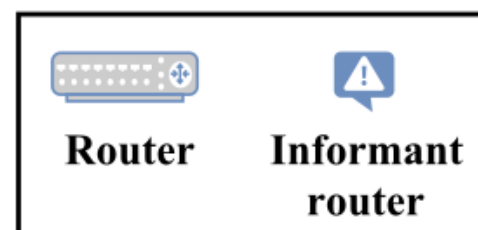


b. Offenders grouping



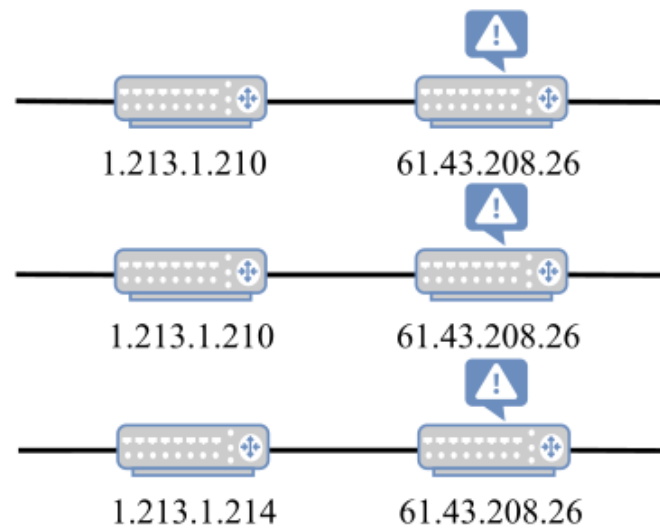
c. Offenders merging

- a. Label observations
- b. Aggregate observations
- c. Merge offenders into middleboxes

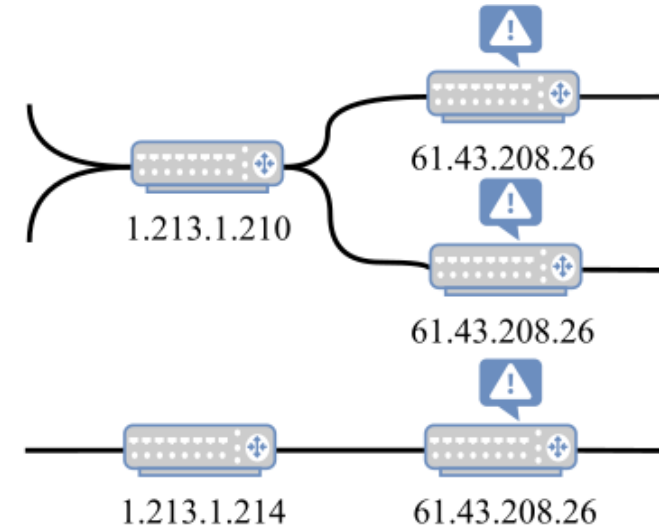




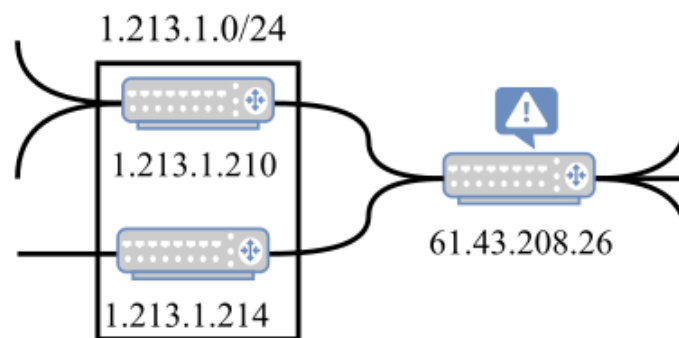
# Pre-processing: derivation (Step 1)



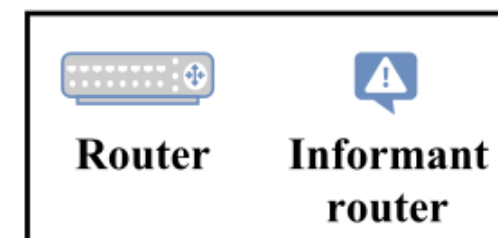
**a. Offenders derivation**



**b. Offenders grouping**



**c. Offenders merging**





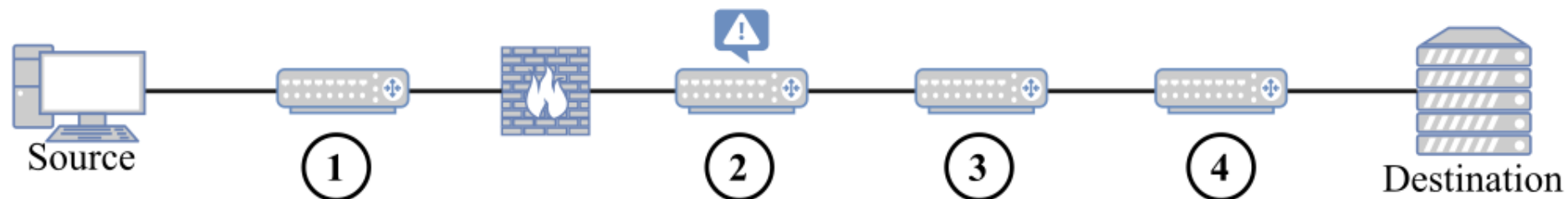
# Pre-processing: derivation (Step 1)

- Offender : *The router preceding the middlebox on a given path*

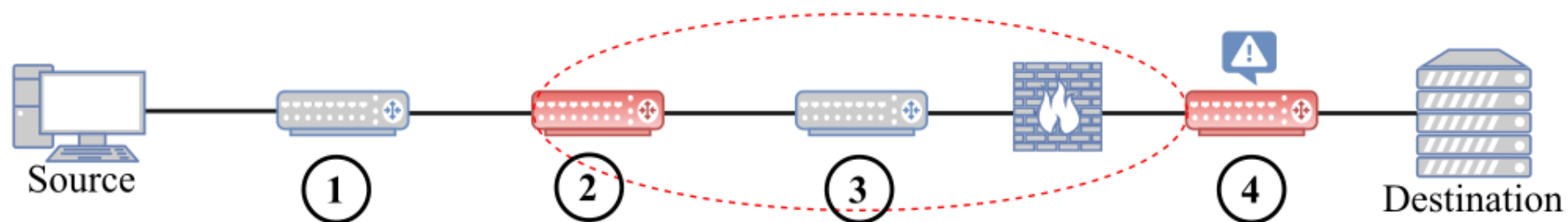


# Pre-processing: derivation (Step 1)

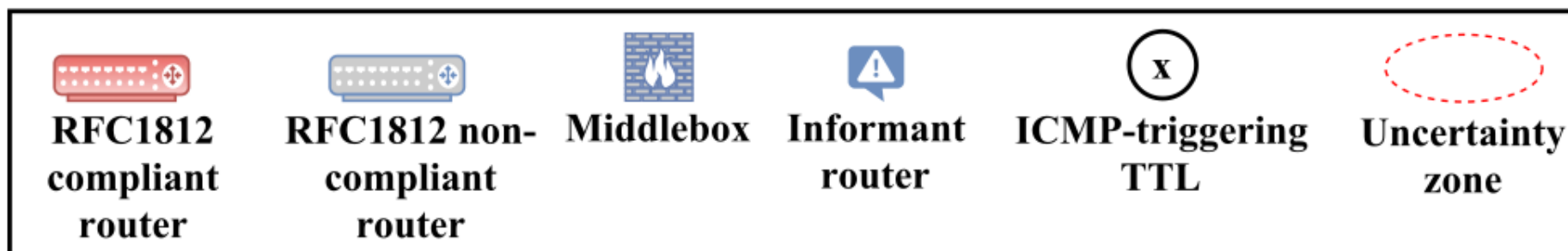
- Offender : *The router preceding the middlebox on a given path*



1. Modified field is within the first 48 bytes



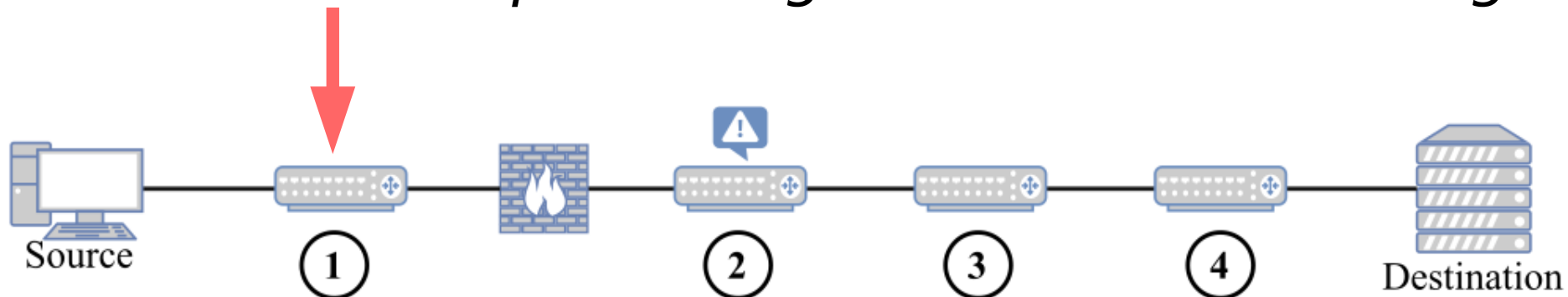
2. Modified field is outside the first 48 bytes



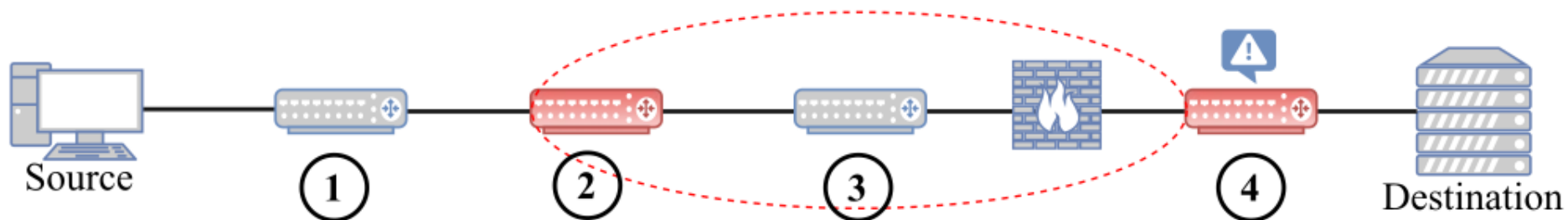


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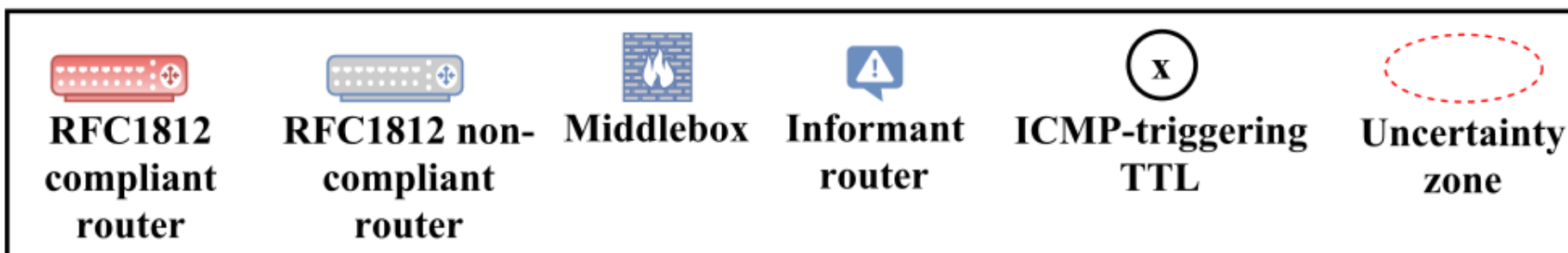
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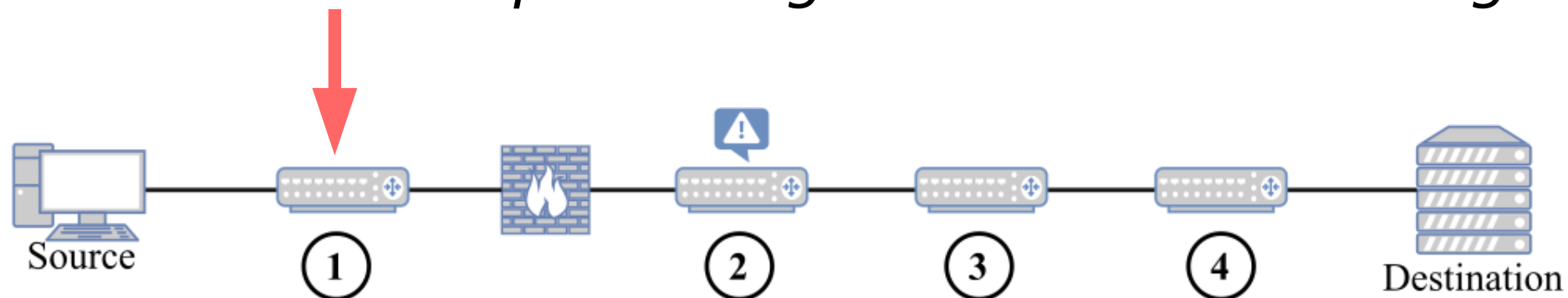
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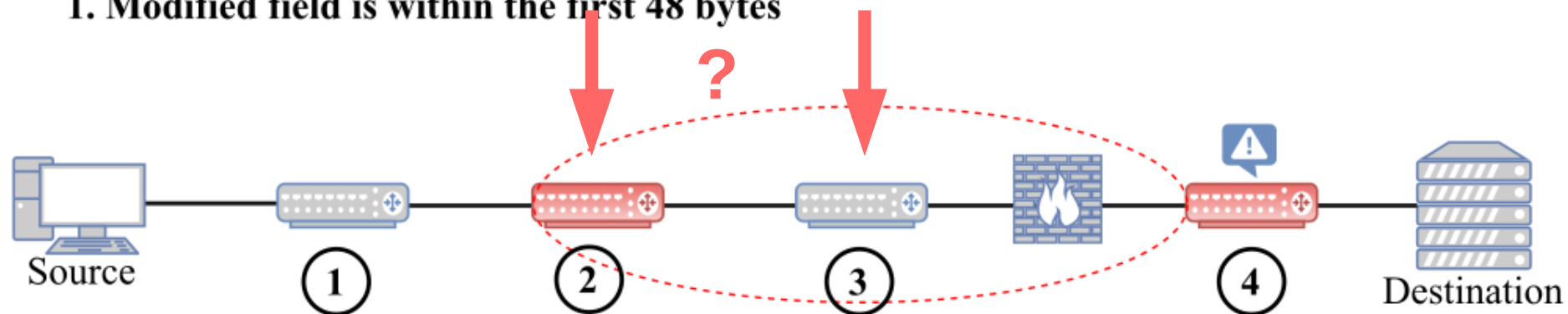


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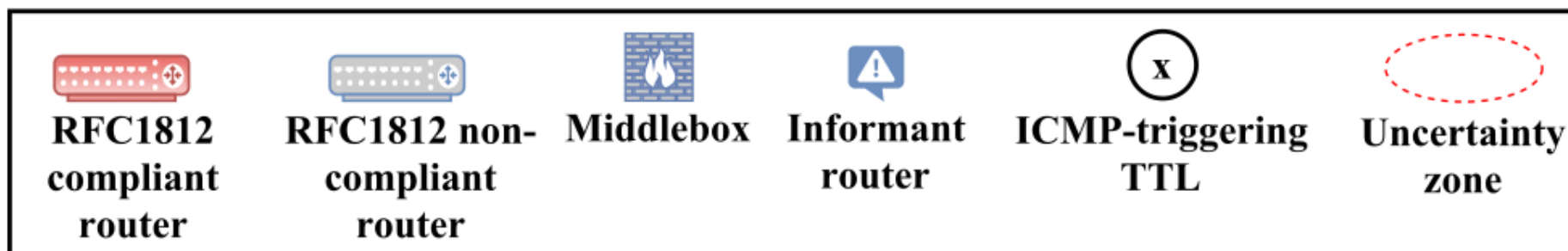
- Offender : *The router preceding the middlebox on a given path*



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2. Modified field is outside the first 48 bytes





# Pre-processing: derivation (Step 1)

```
def offender(probe):
```



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def offender(probe):

- No U zone: the router that precedes the informant router
- U zone: Heuristics





# Pre-processing: derivation (Step 1)

def offender(probe):

- No U zone: the router that precedes the informant router
- U zone: Heuristics
  1. \* at informant\_TTL-1 : offender at informant\_TTL-2
  2. \* at informant\_TTL-2 : offender at informant\_TTL-3
  3. a) Major AS in U zone, b) If a router was used for labeling, pick it
  4. First router of U zone (if used for labeling)



# Pre-processing: derivation (Step 1)

- 948,457 addresses observed

Unresolved addresses:

- 21,330 (2.25%) from 10.0.0.0/8, 172.16.0.0/12 or 192.168.0.0/16
- 905 (0.1%) from 100.64.0.0/10
- 20,669 (2.18%) no AS (cymru)



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- 905 (0.1%) from 100.64.0.0/10
- 20,669 (2.18%) no AS (cymru)
- Keep if ends of unresolved zone are mapped to same AS.



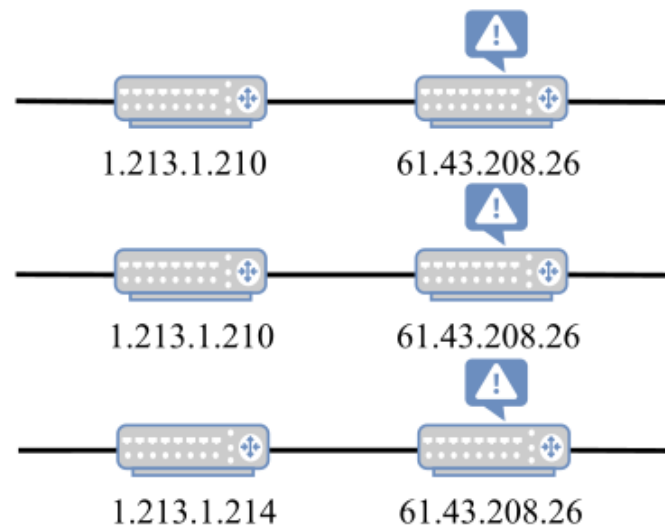
# Pre-processing: derivation (Step 1)

Output:

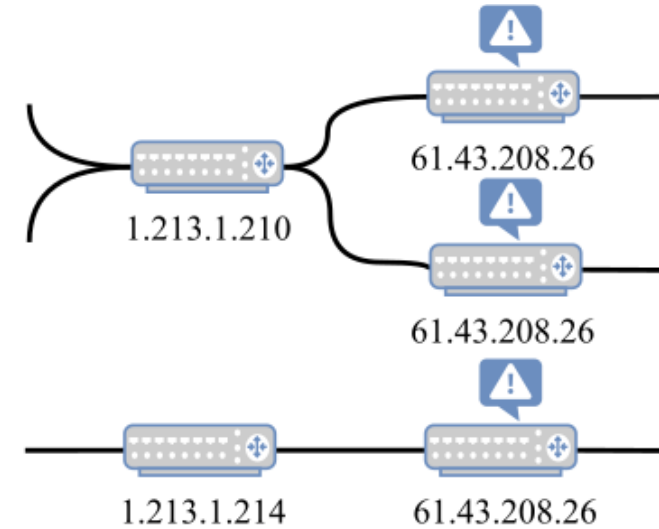
- Offender AS for 99% obs.
- Offender IP for 52% obs. (20M)



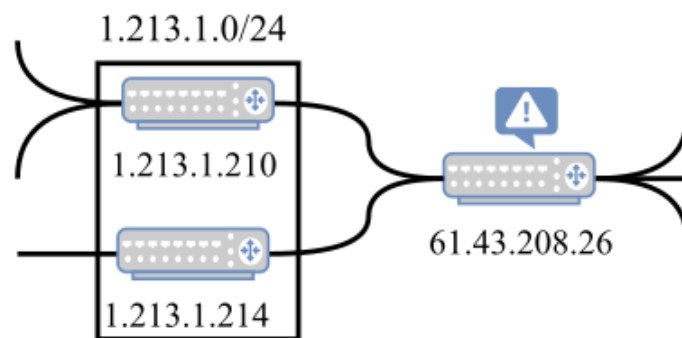
# Pre-processing: grouping (Step 2)



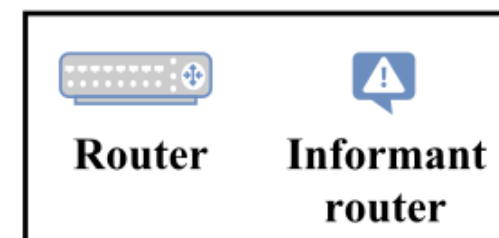
**a. Offenders derivation**



**b. Offenders grouping**



**c. Offenders merging**





## Pre-processing: grouping (Step 2)

- MB profiles
- Cross-check heuristics: at least one trival case or Heuristic#1 per offender
- 5% threshold:
- inconsistent modifications: drop all obs.
- inconsistent positions: mark as conflict



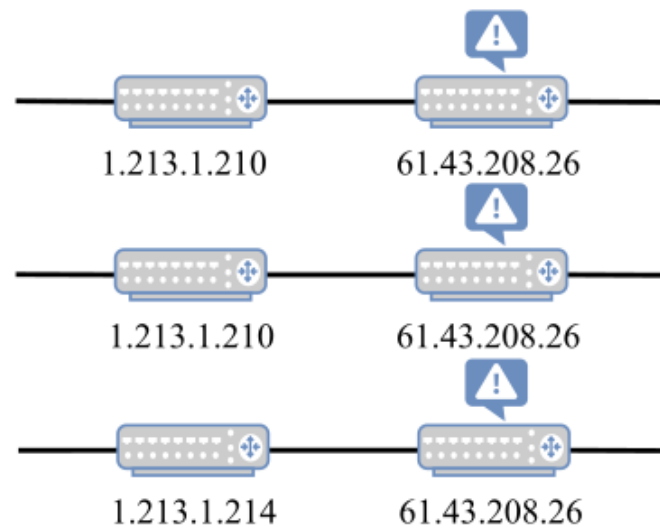
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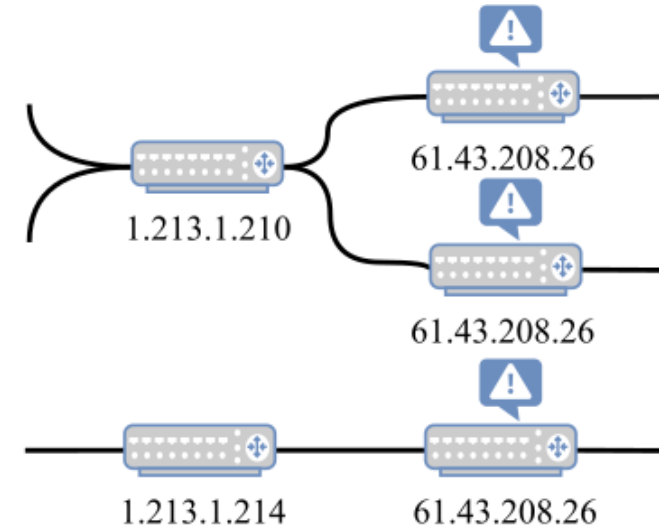
- 8,322 offenders



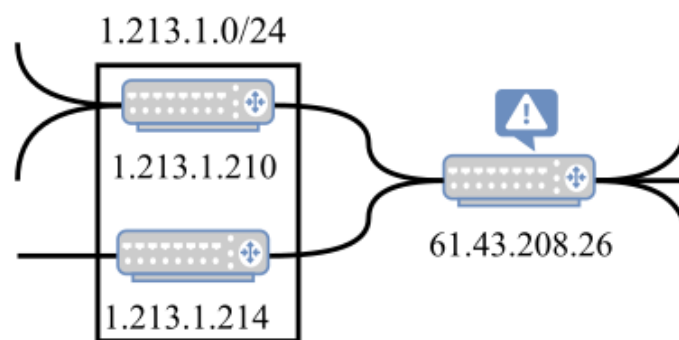
# Pre-processing: merging (Step 3)



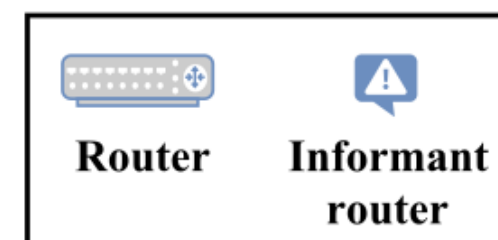
**a. Offenders derivation**



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# Pre-processing: merging (Step 3)

Merge offenders if:

1. Same subnet (/24)
2. Consistent modifications
3. Same set of next hops (offender\_TTL+1)



# Pre-processing: merging (Step 3)

Merge offenders if:

1. Same subnet (/24)
  2. Consistent modifications
  3. Same set of next hops (offender\_TTL+1)
- 505 merged into 198
  - (7 cases of Multi-Origin AS Conflicts)



# Pre-processing: merging (Step 3)

Output:

- 8,005 offenders

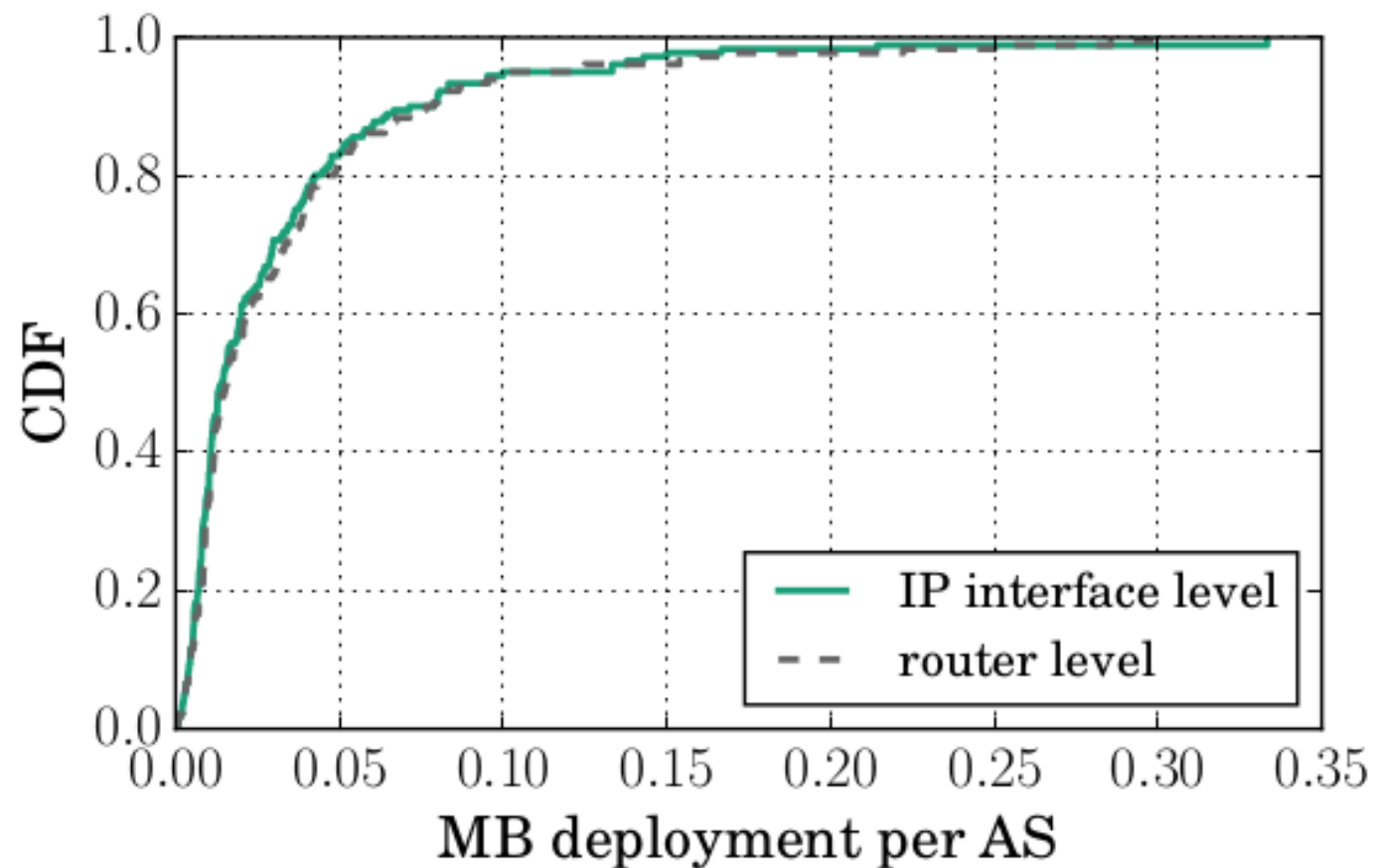


# Results: prevalence

- Deployment: Proportion of MBs in AS
- Popularity: Paths affected by MB
- Position: Location of MB in AS topology



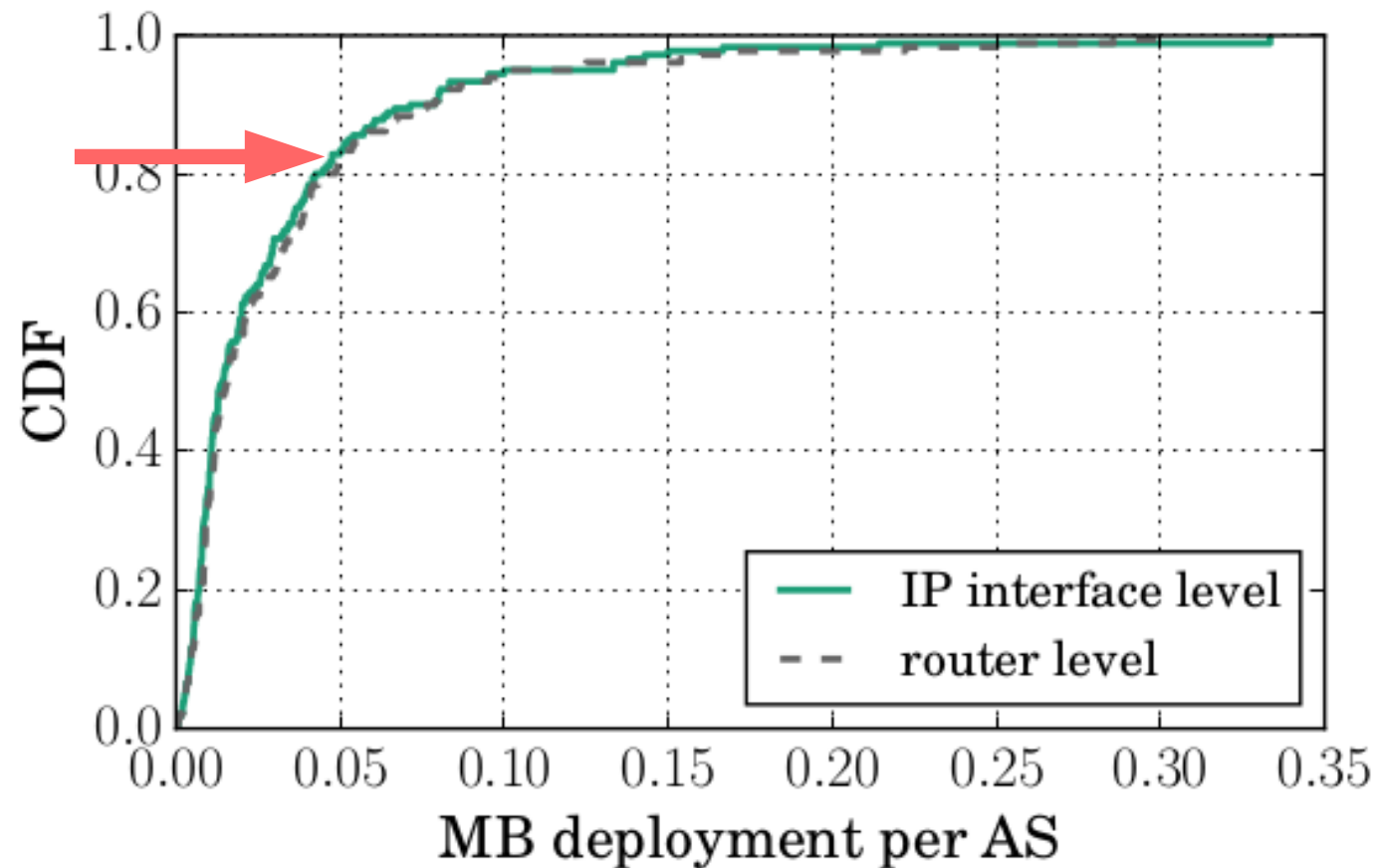
# Prevalence: deployment



Deployed MB / IP interfaces, per AS. Alias resolution using CAIDA ITDK dataset.



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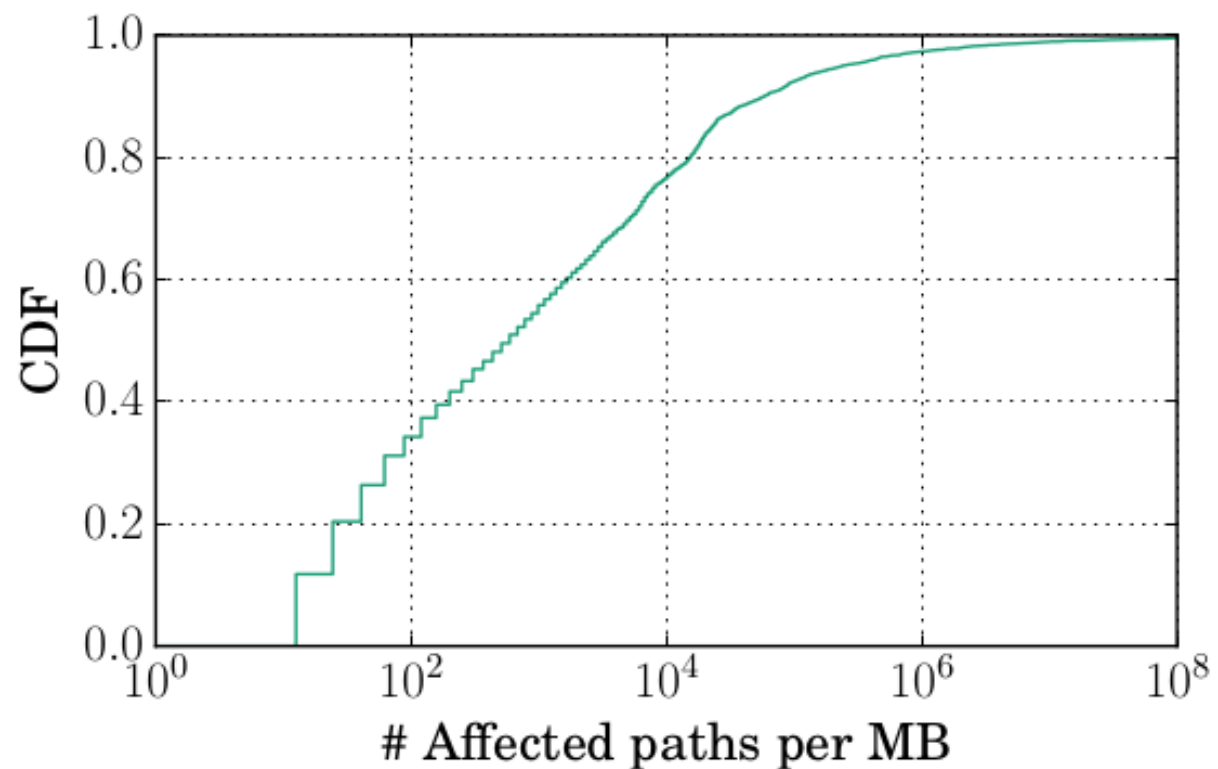


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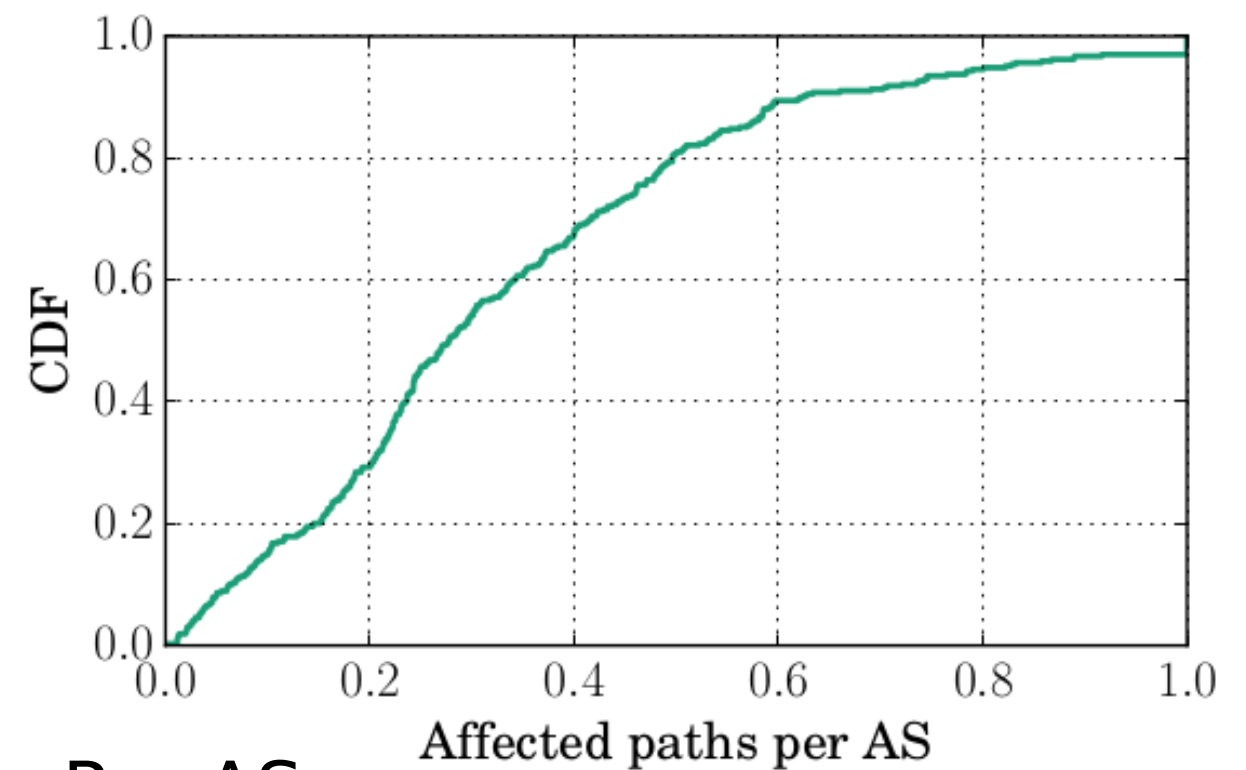
- In general, less than 5%
- Cogent: 1 - 1.5%



# Prevalence: popularity



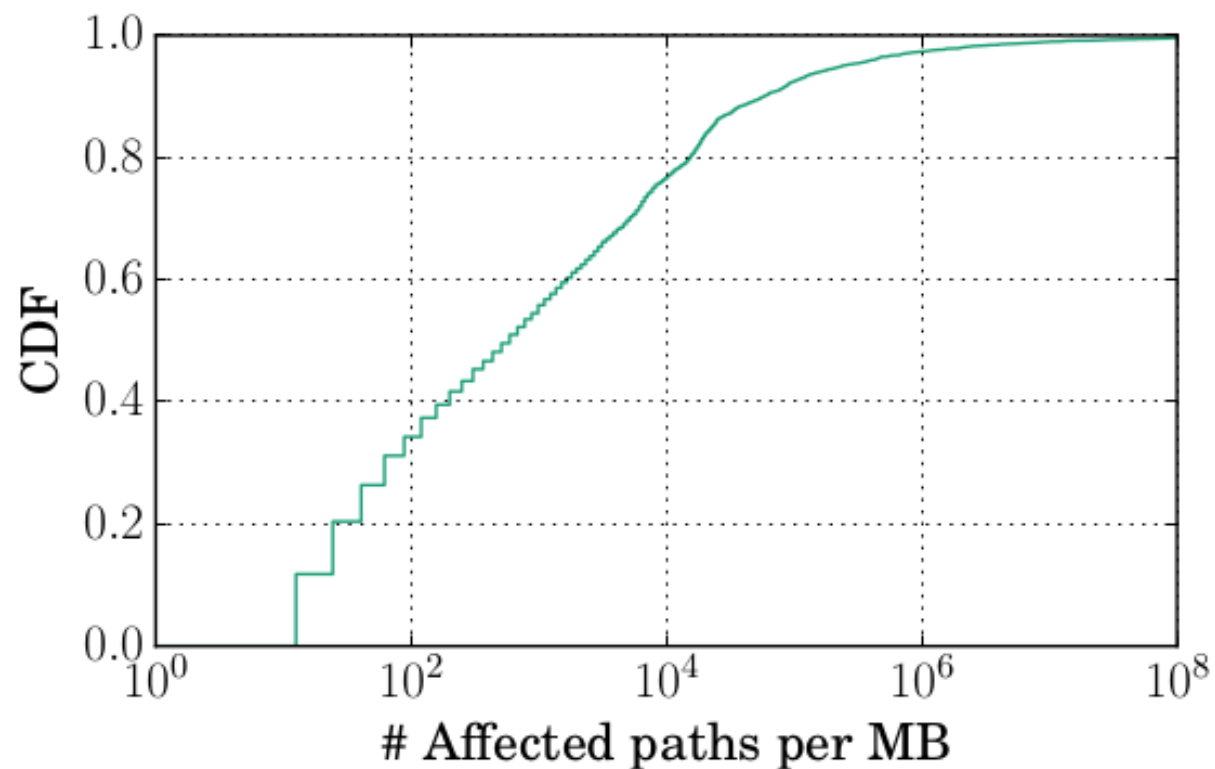
Per MB



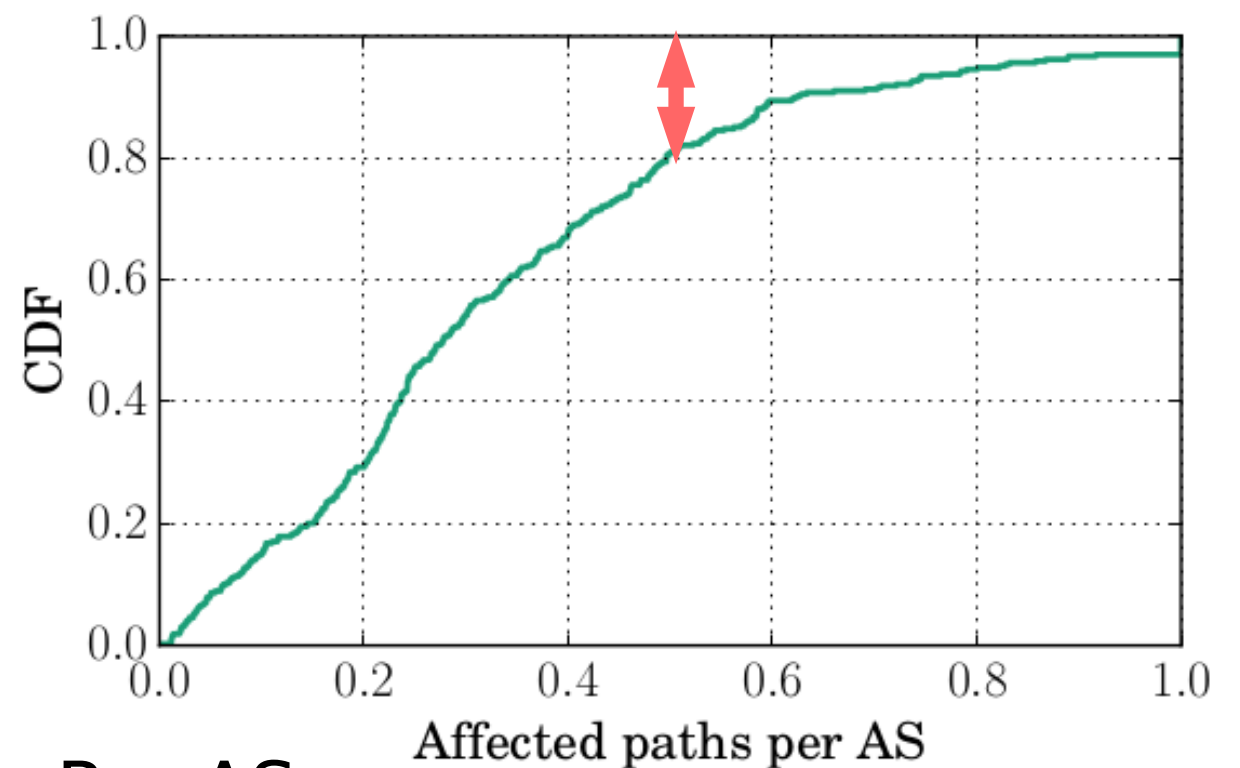
Per AS



# Prevalence: popularity



Per MB



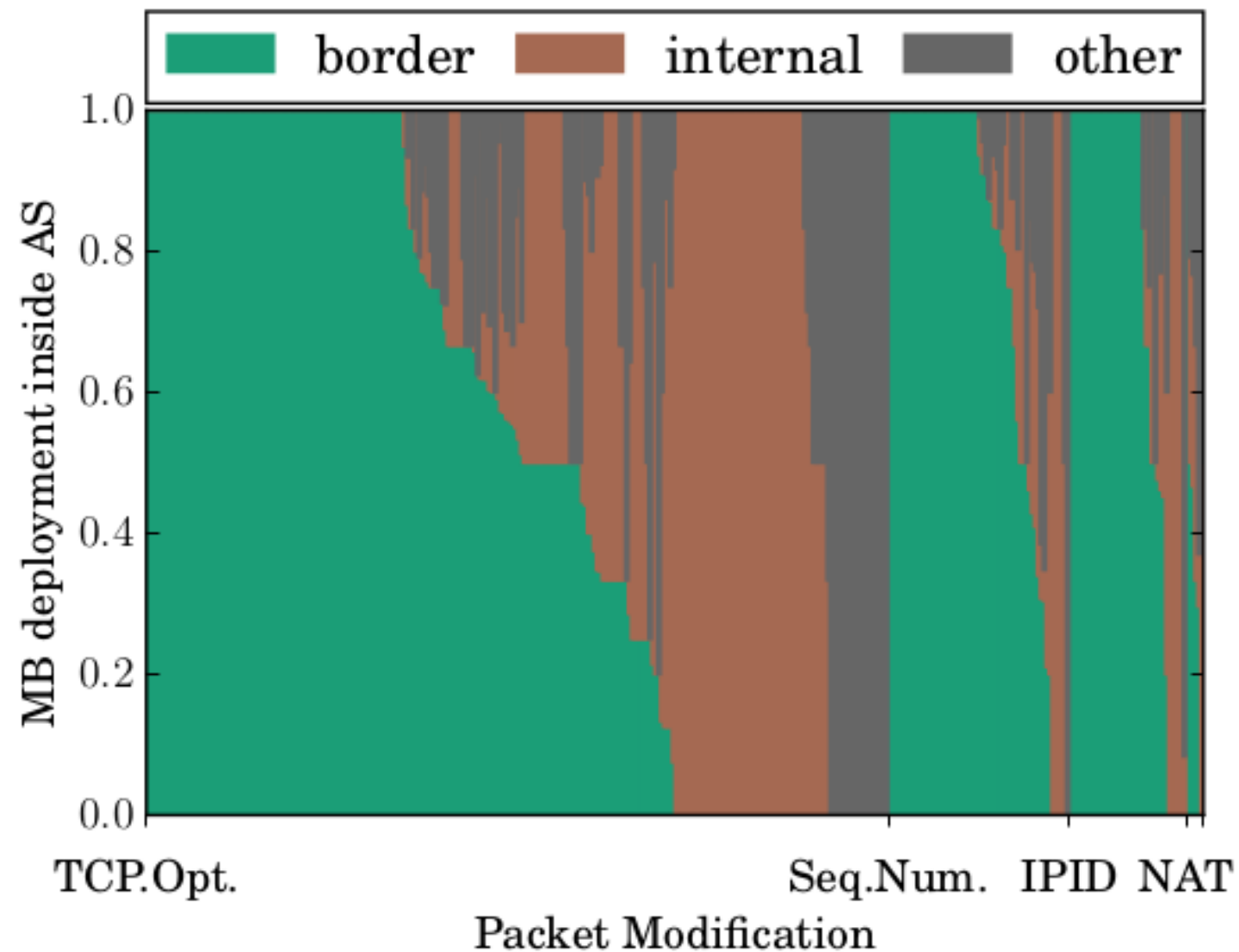
Per AS

- For 20% of the ASes, more than 50% of path crossing it are affected by 1+ MB(s)
- Cogent: 44M paths, 2.1M affected: 5%





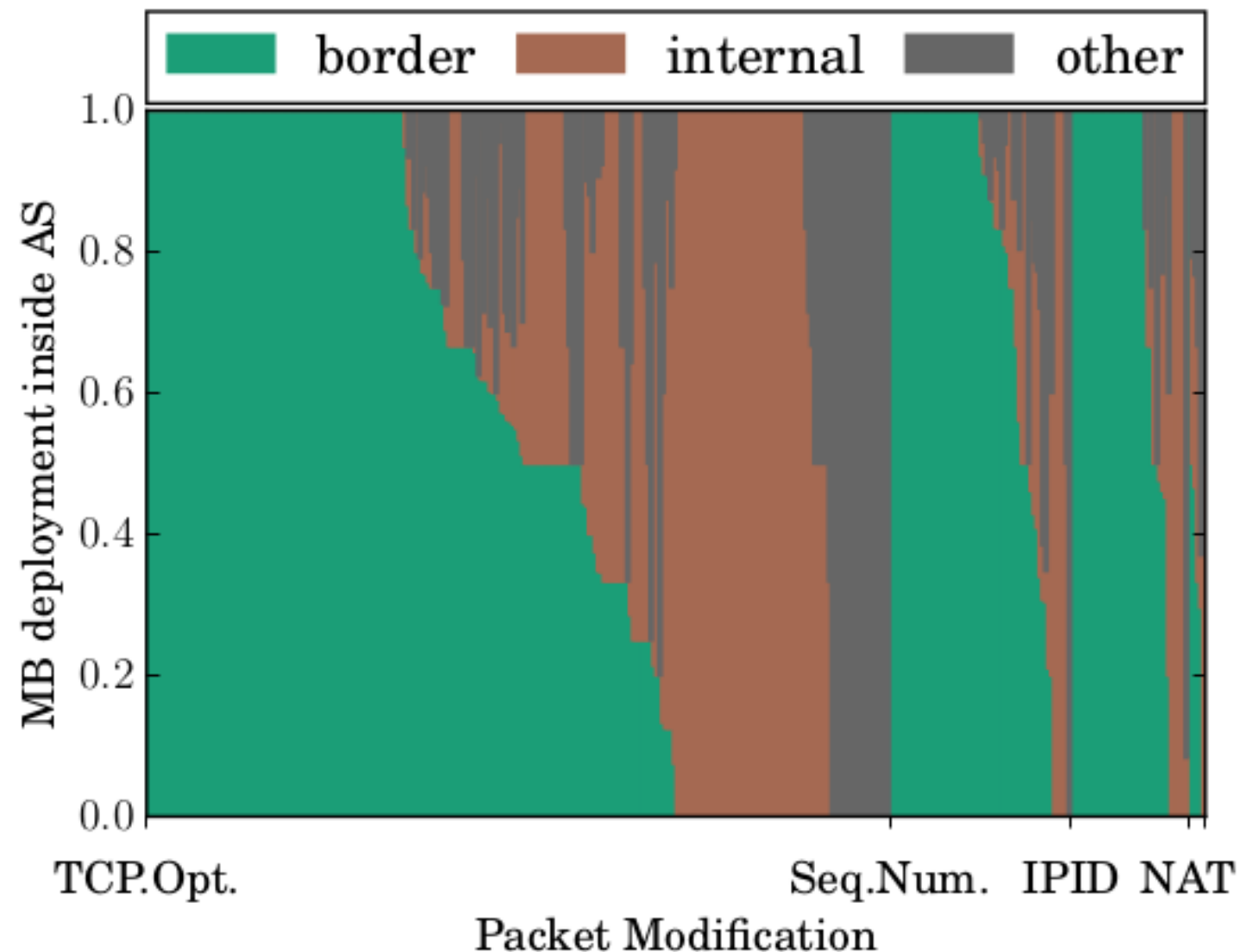
# Prevalence: position



MB Positions, per categories  
of modif., per AS



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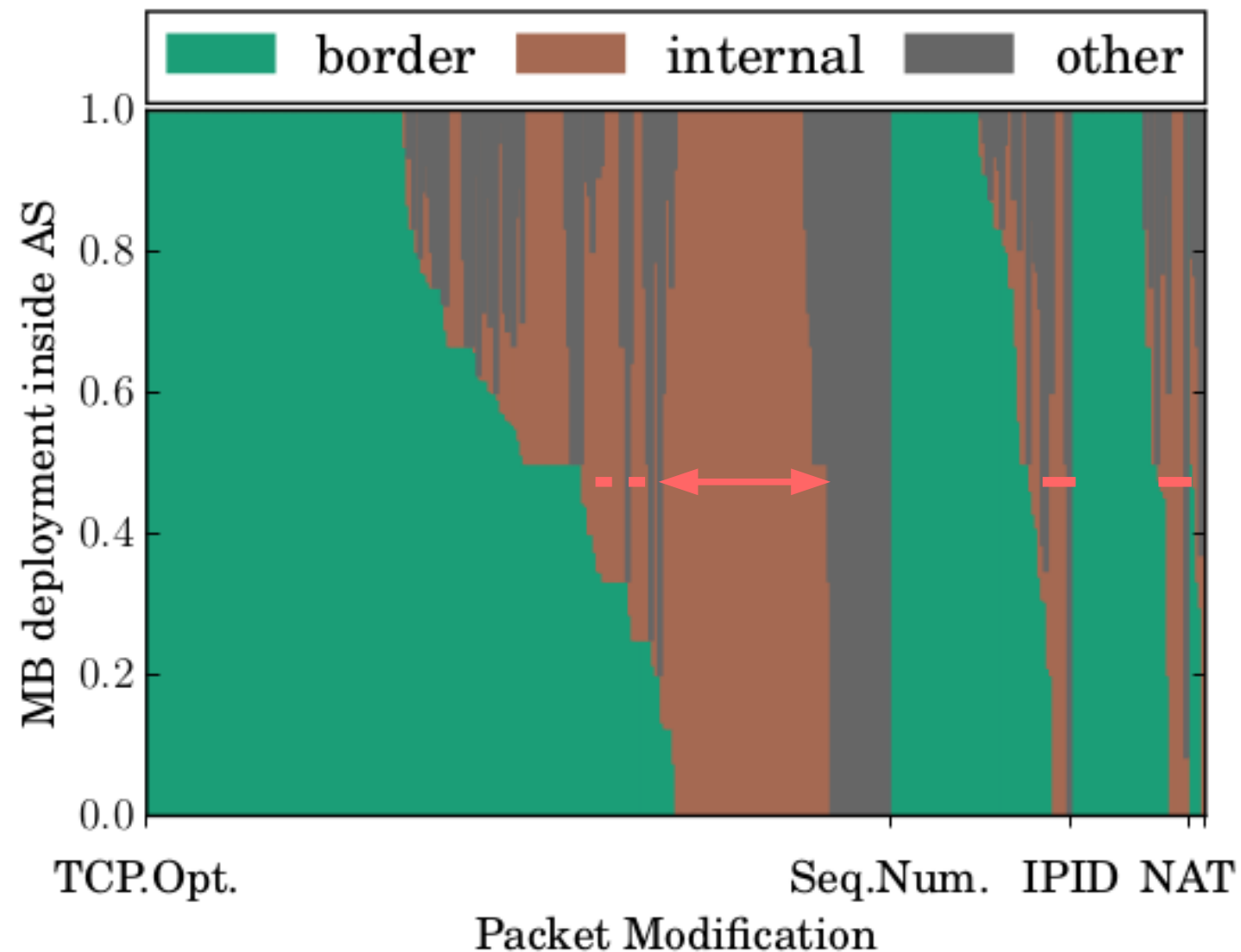


- border: 4,210 (52.6%)
- internal: 2,931 (36.6%)
- Other: conflict or unable to derive position (9.1%), or moved ? (1.7%)

MB Positions, per categories  
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# Prevalence: position



MB Positions, per categories of modif., per AS

- border: 4,210 (52.6%)
- internal: 2,931 (36.6%)
- Other: conflict or unable to derive position (9.1%), or moved ? (1.7%)
- At the exception of 65 ASes (19%) that deploys the majority of their MBs in their core, *most ASes tend to deploy most of their MBs at their border.*



# Results: persistence

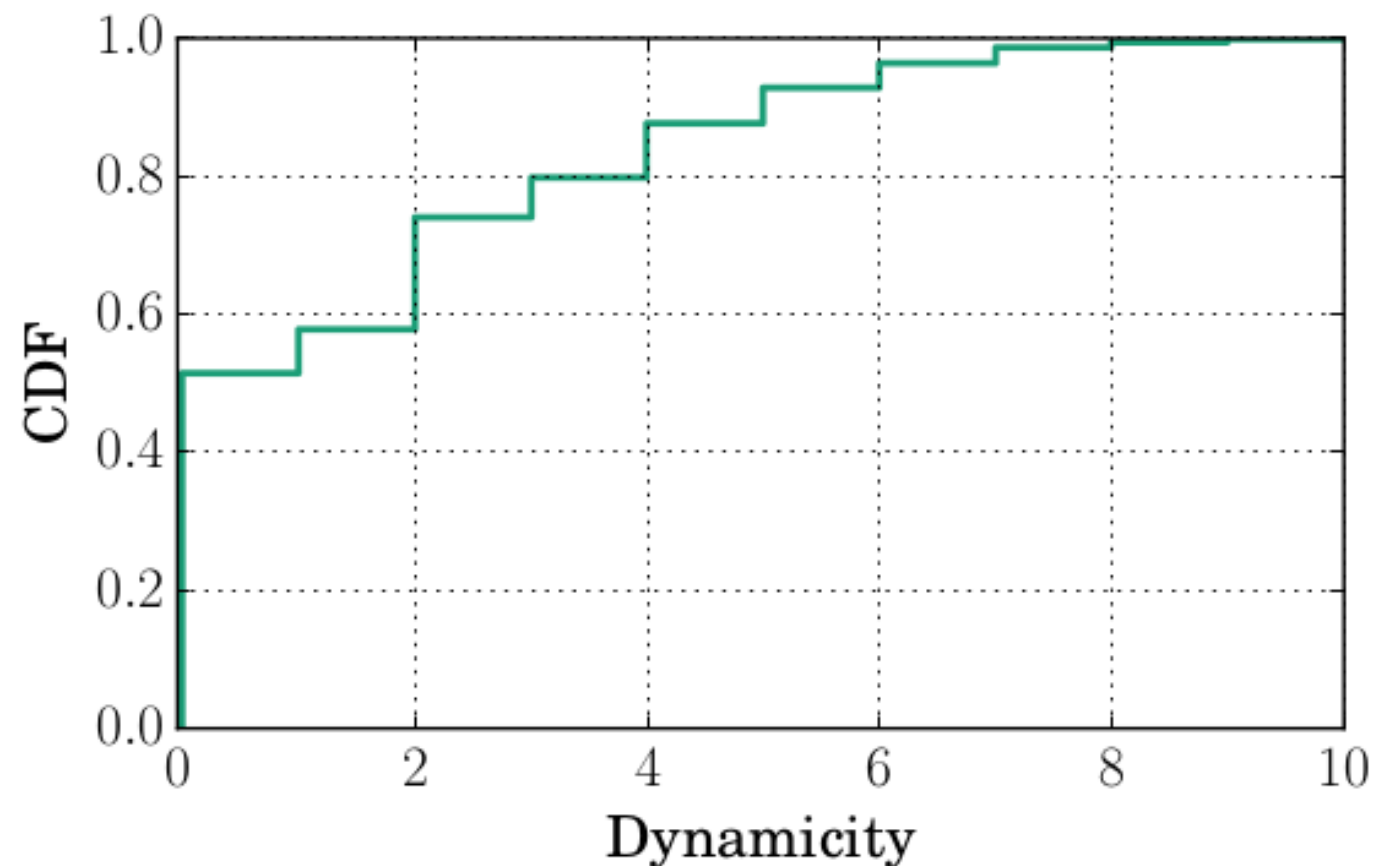


# Results: persistence

- Keep sub-paths visible with HTTP and non-HTTP probes
- 5,888 offenders
- Active: if it was used for labeling
- Inactive: if it was responsive, but not used for labeling
- Offline/invisible: it was not observed



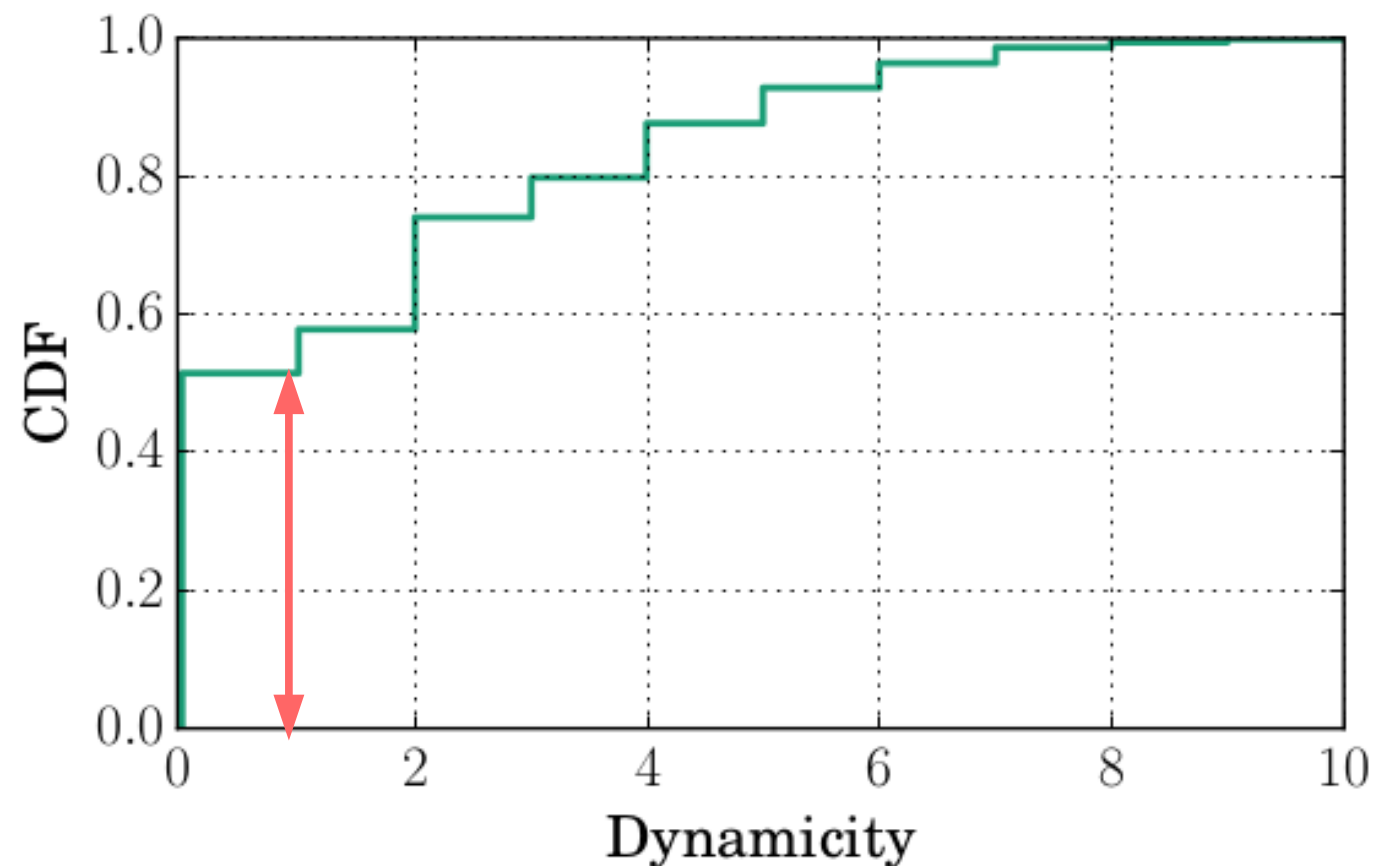
# Results: persistence



State changes per MB, Invisible == Active. 14 campaigns over 70 days.



# results: persistence

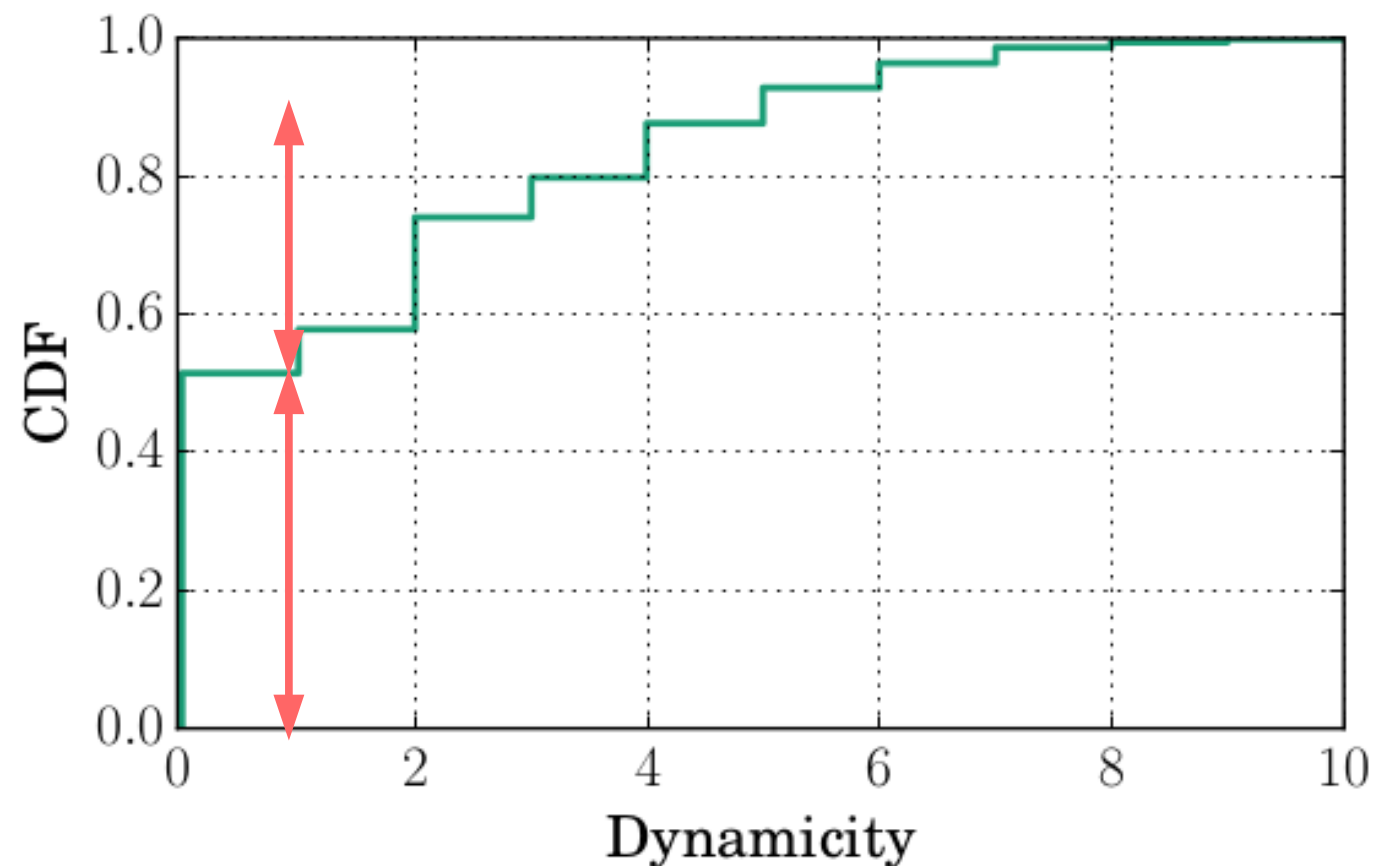


State changes per MB, Invisible == Active. 14 campaigns over 70 days.

- 51% are stable



# results: persistence



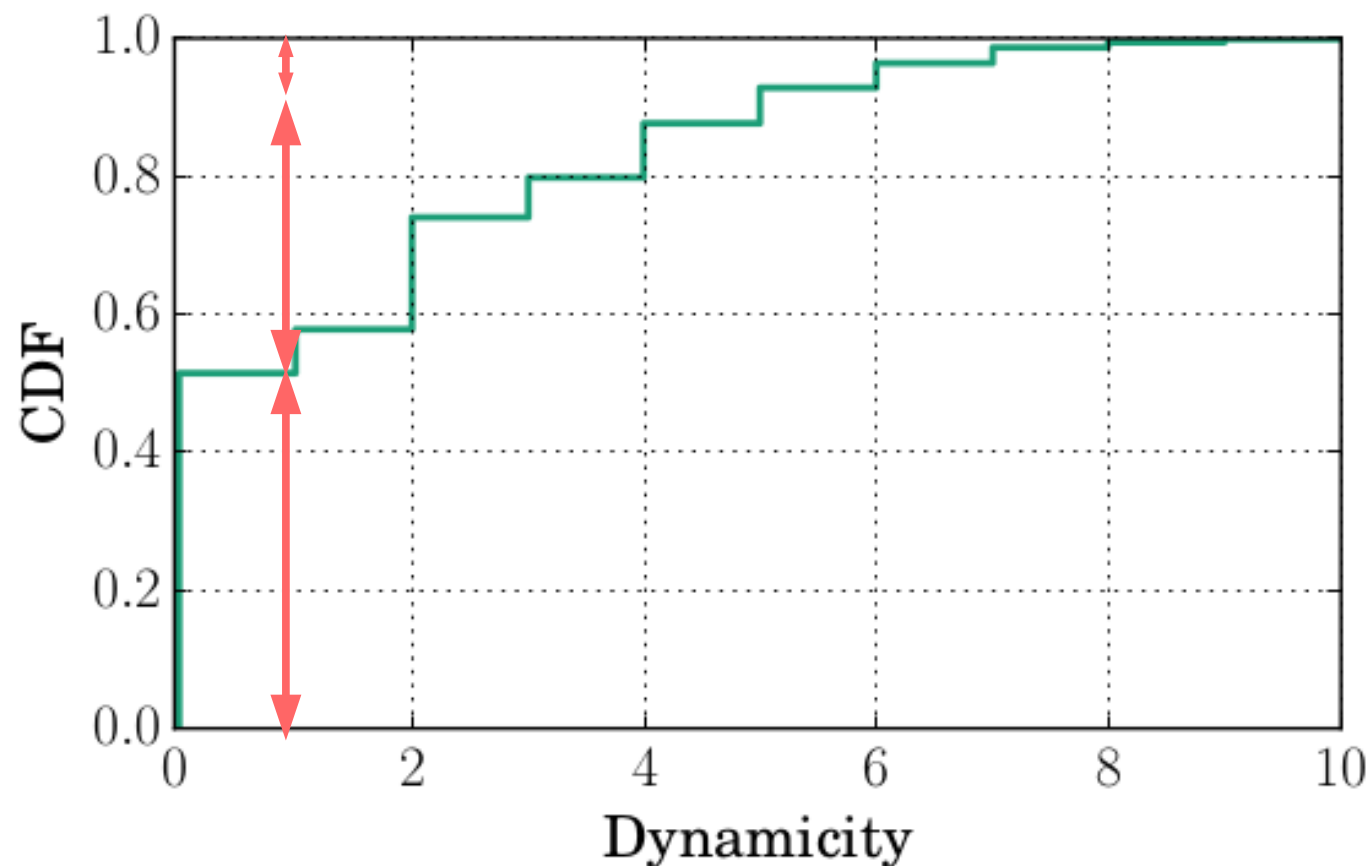
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- 51% are stable
- 38% are slightly intermittent/dynamic ([1;4])





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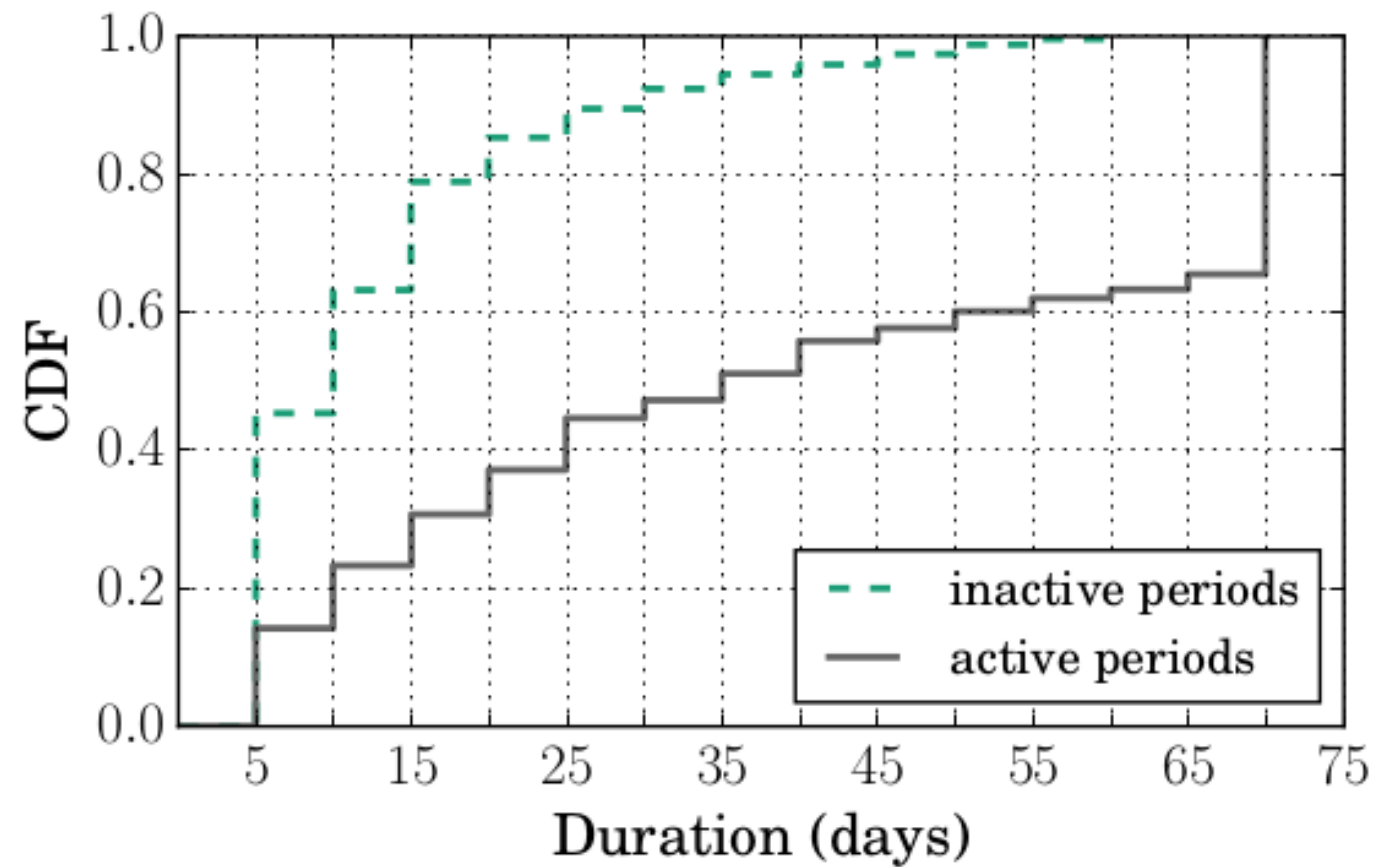


State changes per MB, Invisible == Active. 14 campaigns over 70 days.

- 51% are stable
- 38% are slightly intermittent/dynamic ([1;4])
- 11% are highly intermittent ([4;10])



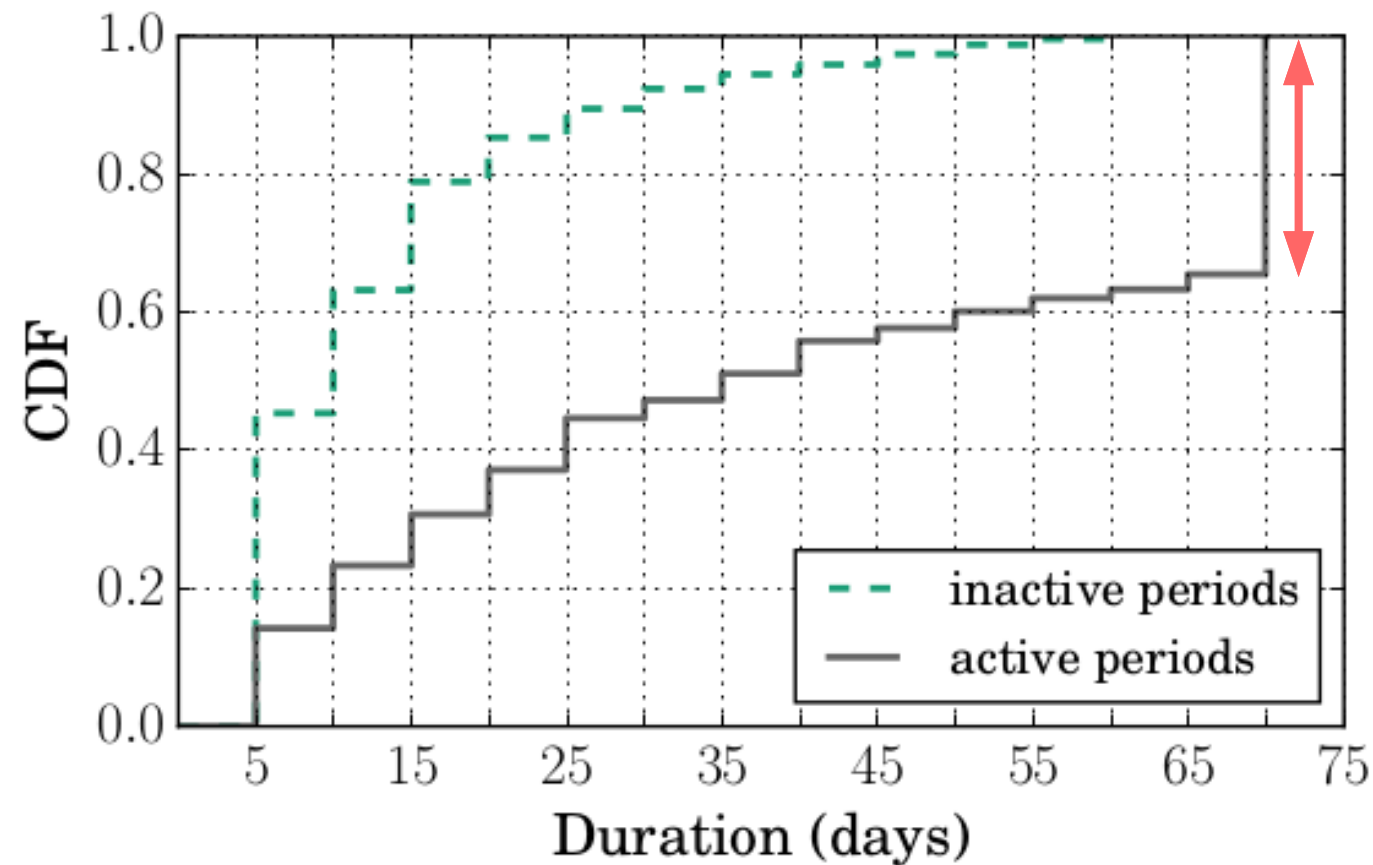
## results: persistence



state durations (max 70 days)



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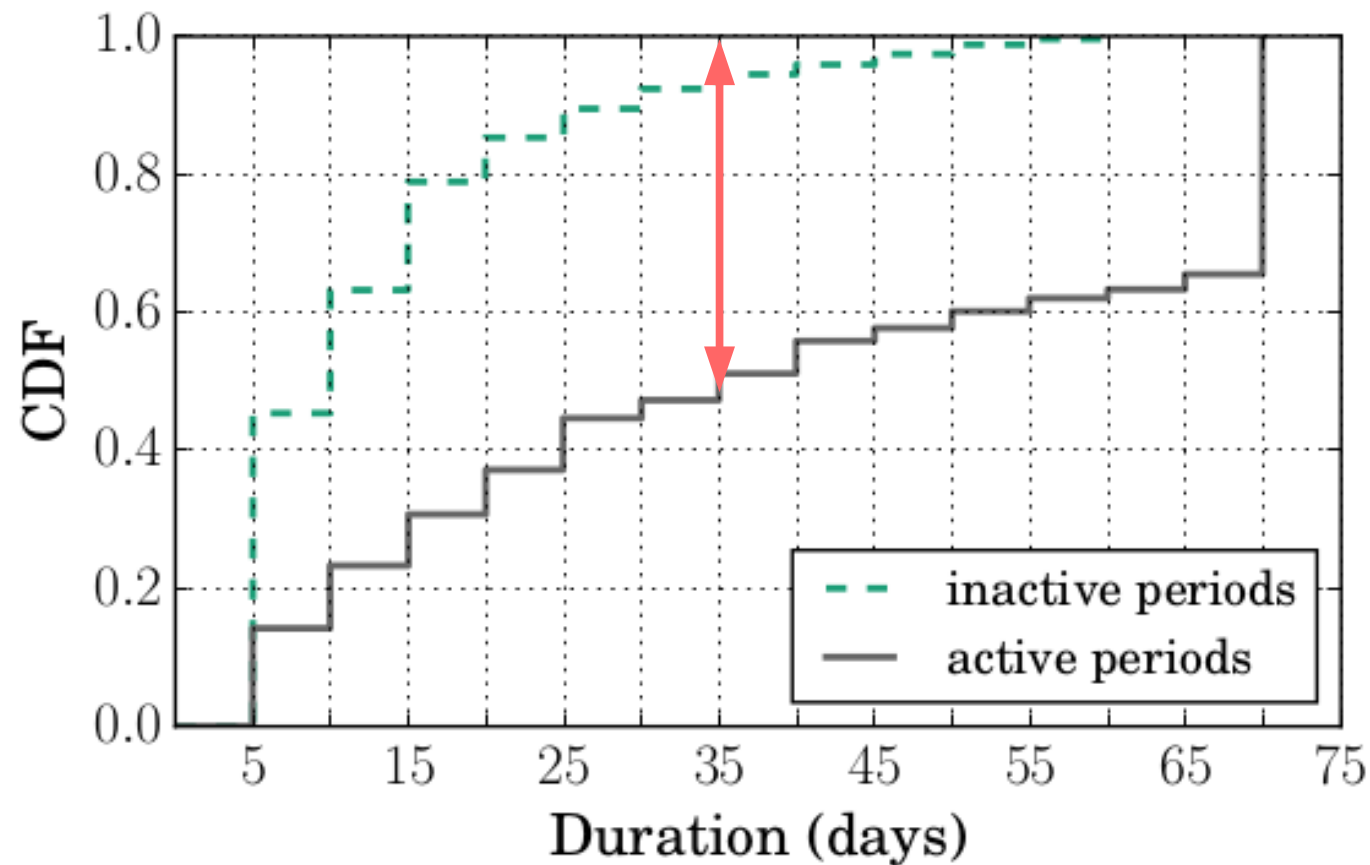


state durations (max 70 days)

- 38% of periods are 70 days (the 51% stable MBs)



## results: persistence

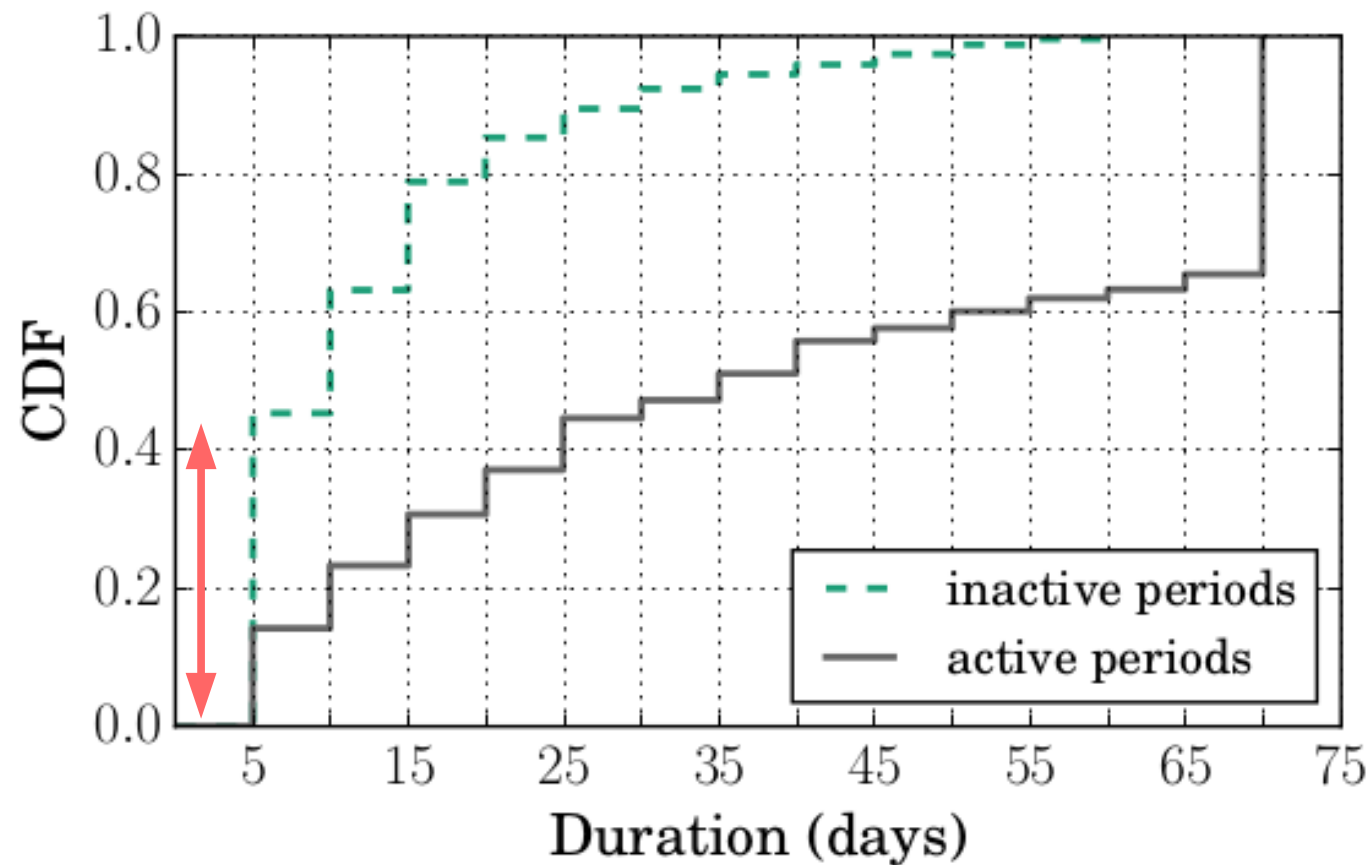


state durations (max 70 days)

- 38% of periods are 70 days (the 51% stable MBs)
- 50% of active periods lasts more than 35 day



## results: persistence

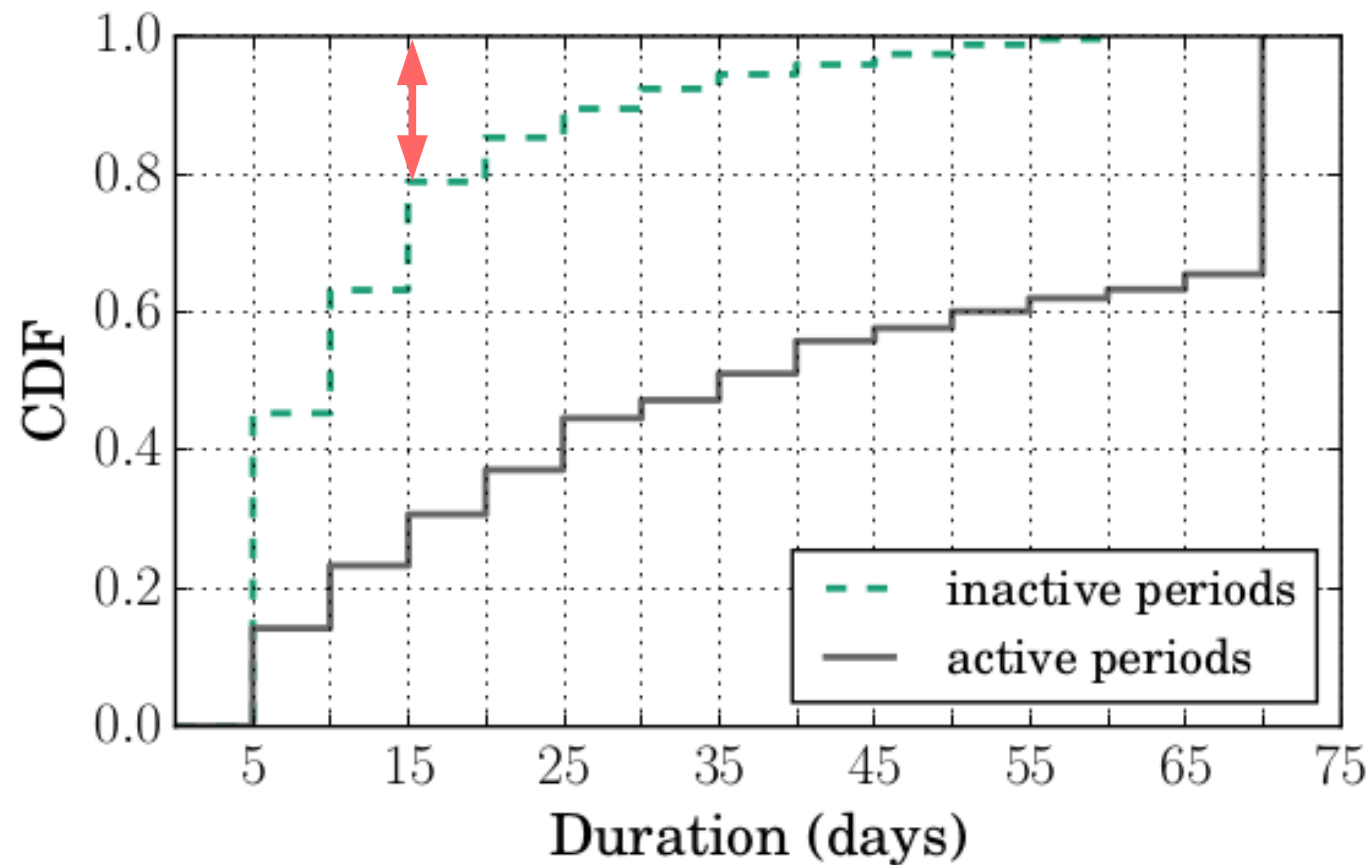


state durations (max 70 days)

- 38% of periods are 70 days (the 51% stable Mbs)
- 50% of active periods lasts more than 35 days
- 44% of inactive periods are short-lived (5 days)



## results: persistence



state durations (max 70 days)

- 38% of periods are 70 days (the 51% stable Mbs)
- 50% of active periods lasts more than 35 days
- 44% of inactive periods are short-lived (5 days)
- 20% are longer than 15 days



# summary

- Compared to Layer-3 devices, MB deployment is marginal
- MBs don't affect a large portion of paths crossing its AS
- most ASes tend to deploy most of their MBs at their border
- MBs are relatively stable



# Future works

- Investigate dynamicity
- NATs (MNM paper)
- 2-way tracebox-TCPExposure
- IPv6
- Mobile networks





## Future works: NAT trick (MNM)

- **RFC 792** : “The internet header plus the first 64 bits”
- **RFC 1812** : “as much [...] as possible” (< 576 B)
- **RFC 5508** : “Revert the IP and transport headers [...] to their original form”
- **RFC 5508**: “SHOULD NOT validate the transport checksum”



## Future works: NAT trick (MNM)

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- **RFC 5508** : “Revert the IP and transport headers [...] to their original form”
- **RFC 5508**: “SHOULD NOT validate the transport checksum”
- Correlation in transport checksums offsets == NATS ?



Comments ?