

Take advantage of randomness

Frank Tse

Nexusguard



Agenda

- 1 What is random
- 2 Some applications of random
- 3 Detecting anomalies from randomness
- 4 Mitigating 'random' attacks
- 5 Visualizing randomness

About::me

From Hong Kong
Researcher in DDoS

I like RFC



General IT security vs DDoS

IT Security

Identify them correctly
Take actions accordingly

Block the known bad
Verify the known good
Track the uncertain
Challenge the suspicious

DDoS:

Good Human

> Adult, Kid, Infant

Bad Human

> Smart, not-so-smart

Good Bot (inhuman)

Bad bot (inhuman)



/dev/random

```
int getRandomNumber()  
{  
    return 4; // chosen by fair dice roll.  
              // guaranteed to be random.  
}
```

Entropy: initial seeds for random number generation

Initializing seed for random during boot up (HW)

```
[ 0.000000] e820: [mem 0x40000000-0xdfffffff] available for PCI devices
[ 0.000000] Booting paravirtualized kernel on bare hardware
[ 0.000000] setup_percpu: NR_CPUS:512 nr_cpumask_bits:512 nr_cpu_ids:64 nr_node_ids:1
[ 0.000000] PERCPU: Embedded 28 pages/cpu @ffff88003e200000 s85888 r8192 d20608 u131072
```

kern.random.sys.seeded	non-blocking while reading
kern.random.sys.harvest.ethernet	LAN traffic
kern.random.sys.harvest.point_to_point	P2P interface
kern.random.sys.harvest.interrupt	HW interrupt (Mouse, keyboard)
kern.random.sys.harvest.swi	SW interrupt (exceptions)

Entropy: initial seeds for random number generation

If I'm running on VM

[0.000000] Booting paravirtualized kernel on KVM

virtio-rng: a driver for feeding entropy between VM guest and host

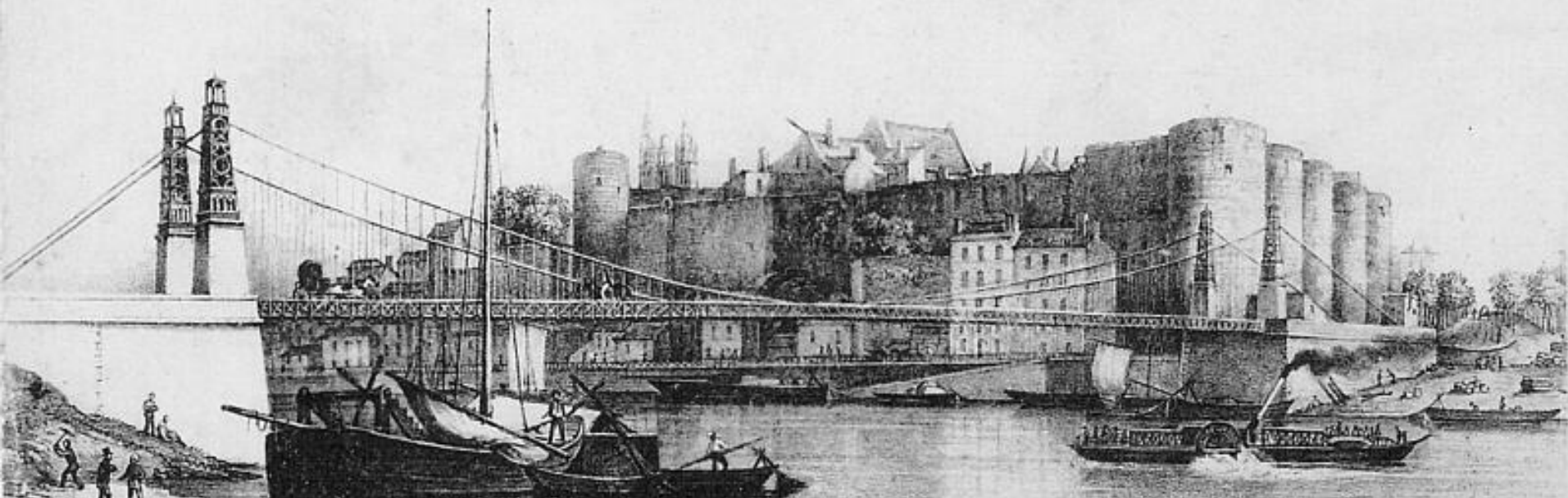
Problem: I don't trust virtio-rng

Solution: entropy from remote server

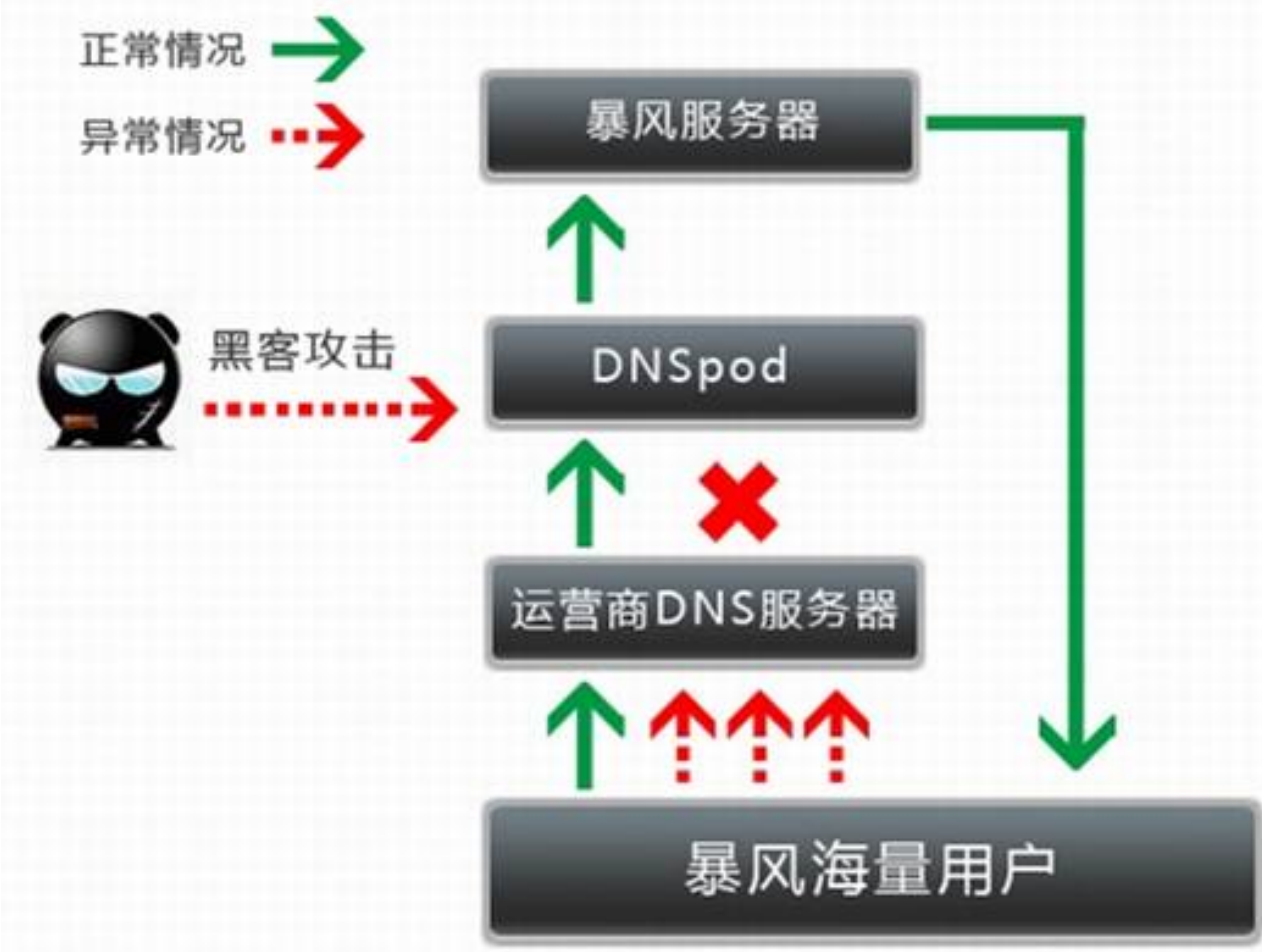
entropy.ubuntu.com

Angers Bridge, collapsed on Apr-16, 1850, due to soldiers marching across it.
aka. “Stuck in synchronization”

75 ANGERS (M.-et-L.). — Ancien Pont suspendu de la Basse-Chaine
avant la Catastrophe du 16 avril 1850. — LL.



2009 MAY 19, Storm Codec [Baofeng] (暴风影音) brings down DNSpod.
Due to lack of random back-off and sleep mechanism



Routing protocol randomized hello timers to avoid ‘stuck in synchronization’

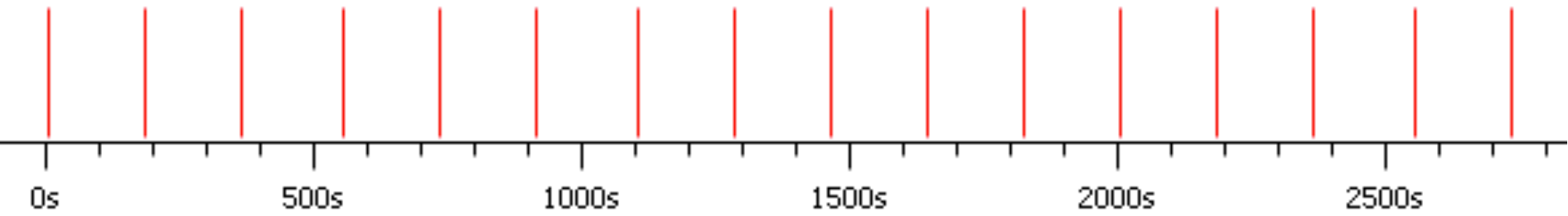
No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000	10.0.0.1	224.0.0.10	EIGRP	60	Hello
2	4.688281	10.0.0.1	224.0.0.10	EIGRP	60	Hello
3	4.420263	10.0.0.1	224.0.0.10	EIGRP	60	Hello
4	4.356262	10.0.0.1	224.0.0.10	EIGRP	60	Hello
5	4.788305	10.0.0.1	224.0.0.10	EIGRP	60	Hello
6	4.664273	10.0.0.1	224.0.0.10	EIGRP	60	Hello
7	4.266695	10.0.0.1	224.0.0.10	EIGRP	60	Hello
8	4.393835	10.0.0.1	224.0.0.10	EIGRP	60	Hello

RFC4271 – Border Gateway Protocol v4

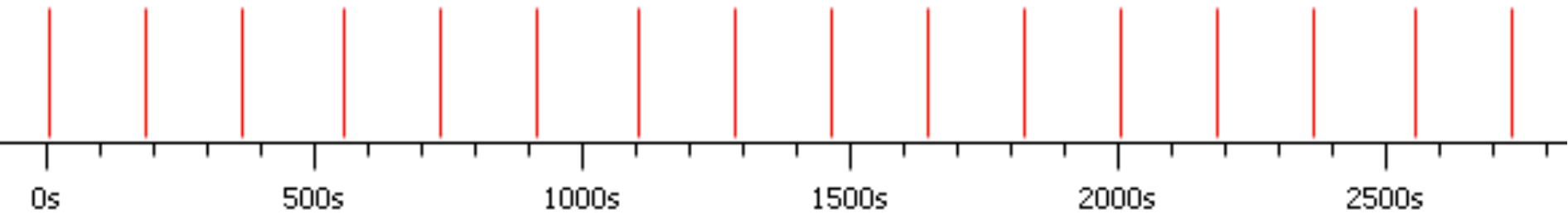
To minimize the likelihood that the distribution of BGP messages by a given BGP speaker will contain peaks, jitter SHOULD be applied to the timers associated with MinASOriginationIntervalTimer, KeepaliveTimer, MinRouteAdvertisementIntervalTimer, and ConnectRetryTimer. A given BGP speaker MAY apply the same jitter to each of these quantities, regardless of the destinations to which the updates are being sent; that is, jitter need not be configured on a per-peer basis.

The suggested default amount of jitter SHALL be determined by multiplying the base value of the appropriate timer by a **random factor**, which is **uniformly distributed** in the range from 0.75 to 1.0. A new random value SHOULD be picked each time the timer is set. The range of the jitter's random value MAY be configurable.

C&C Communication



Software update check



Generating Randomart from SSH host key fingerprint

```
$ ssh root@myhost -o VisualHostKey=yes
```

```
Host key fingerprint is ce:7f:ee:de:c0:87:bb:63:8b:ae:d3:6d:08:4d:d4:8f
```

```
+--[ RSA 2048]-----+
|           .           |
|           . .         |
|           .  o         |
|           . E .       |
|          So           |
|         o . . . .      |
|        oo o+ .        |
|       . . o . * =     |
|      . ++BB+.        |
+-----+

```

Without randomness

CVE-2008-1447: DNS Cache Poisoning Issue

allow remote attackers to spoof DNS traffic via a birthday attack that uses in-bailiwick referrals to conduct cache poisoning against recursive resolvers, related to insufficient **randomness** of **DNS transaction IDs** and source ports, aka "DNS Insufficient Socket Entropy Vulnerability" or "the Kaminsky bug."

Without randomness

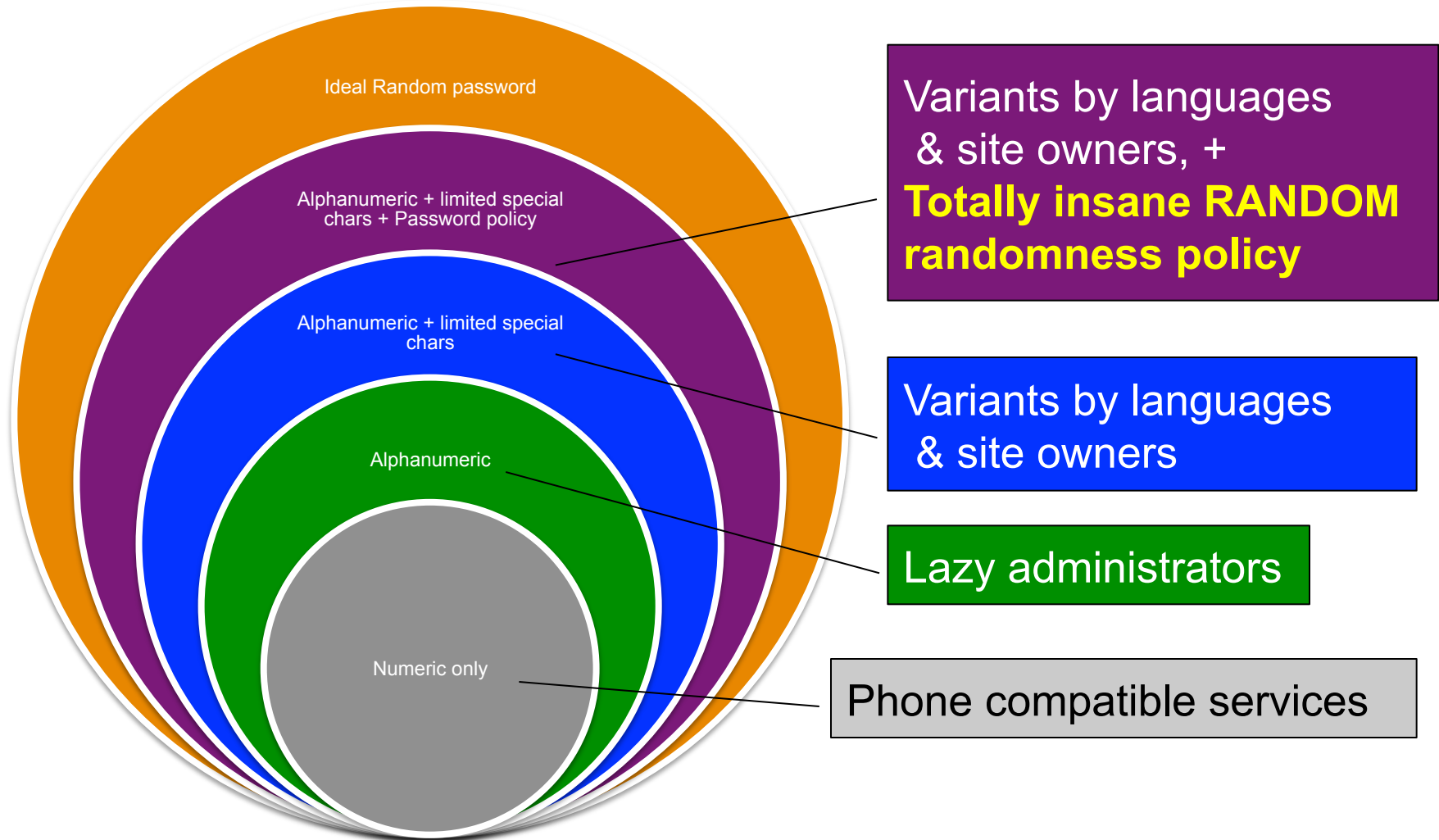
TCP Reset attacks / predictable TCP source port

The easiest way to implement 'random TCP src port' is counter++

OSX keep TCP source port++ for each new request, same as Windows

293	0.000101000	10.2.45.15	72.21.202.183	TCP	62241	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=4097806945	Win=65535	Len=0	M
294	0.000048000	10.2.45.15	72.21.202.183	TCP	62242	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=1631722621	Win=65535	Len=0	M
295	0.000034000	10.2.45.15	72.21.202.183	TCP	62243	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=4046561166	Win=65535	Len=0	M
303	0.000216000	10.2.45.15	176.32.103.111	TCP	62244	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=353198172	Win=65535	Len=0	M
304	0.000068000	10.2.45.15	176.32.103.111	TCP	62245	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=1562545554	Win=65535	Len=0	M
306	0.000001000	10.2.45.15	176.32.103.111	TCP	62246	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=4232495449	Win=65535	Len=0	M
307	0.000036000	10.2.45.15	176.32.103.111	TCP	62247	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=1673477838	Win=65535	Len=0	M
308	0.000057000	10.2.45.15	176.32.103.111	TCP	62248	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=2960773473	Win=65535	Len=0	M
309	0.000177000	10.2.45.15	54.230.85.29	TCP	62249	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=3229015903	Win=65535	Len=0	M
310	0.000057000	10.2.45.15	54.230.85.29	TCP	62250	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=106953361	Win=65535	Len=0	M
311	0.000061000	10.2.45.15	54.230.85.29	TCP	62251	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=3239052700	Win=65535	Len=0	M
313	0.000021000	10.2.45.15	54.230.85.29	TCP	62252	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=2774669737	Win=65535	Len=0	M
314	0.000042000	10.2.45.15	54.230.85.29	TCP	62253	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=35904795	Win=65535	Len=0	MS
315	0.000043000	10.2.45.15	54.230.85.29	TCP	62254	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=67609313	Win=65535	Len=0	MS
317	0.000146000	10.2.45.15	54.230.84.204	TCP	62255	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=3899784881	Win=65535	Len=0	M
318	0.000050000	10.2.45.15	54.230.84.204	TCP	62256	>	80	[SYN]	Seq=3416634072	Win=65535	Len=0	M

How online services support random password



DDoS attacks – the art of evasion

Attack goes undetected is getting harder

- 0-days on protocol are getting harder to dig out

- Detections are implementing closer to bots

- Security awareness increased by site owners

- DDoS tools are mostly open sources

- Signatures of DDoS tools can be easily implemented

- Websites are behind mitigation filters or CDNs

A successful DDoS attacks is

- Make as many false possible as possible

- Detection and mitigation filter never trigger

- Real server believes it is from a legitimate user

Level 0.0 – Bandwidth attacks

100% stateless, even initiated in TCP

99.99% chance of being block since the port is not open

99% chance of being block from source

Your botnet may disconnect from command updates



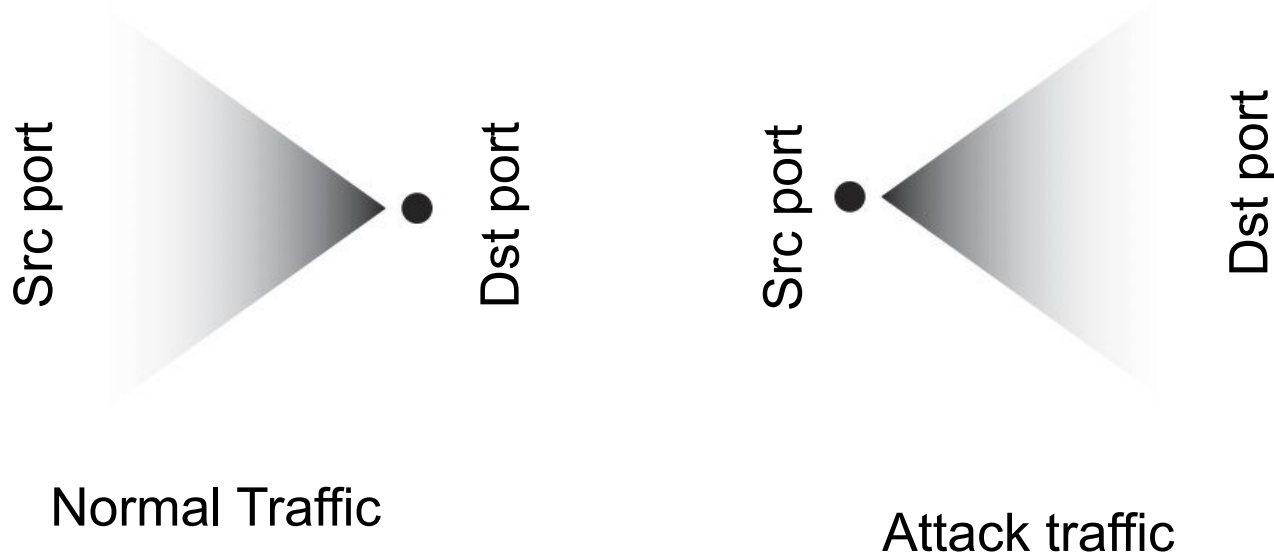
Level 0.1 – Bandwidth attacks *Reflected*

100% stateless, mostly works with UDP

Attack power relies on intermediate victim servers

Attack efficiency relies on amplification factor

It's easy to detect, and it's from fixed source port 😊



Level 1.0 – TCP SYN Flood

100% stateless

99.99% using spoof IP

99% complies with RFC but not exists in real world

RFC 793 (TCP) is 33 years old

- it didn't say what you should not spoof
- it didn't say what TCP ACK you should pick during TCP handshake
- It didn't say how many TCP Options you should include during handshake



Level 1.0 – TCP SYN Flood

```
Sendtcp.c (hping3-20051105)
```

```
/* sequence number and ack are random if not set */  
tcp->th_seq = (set_seqnum) ? htonl(tcp_seqnum) : htonl(rand());  
tcp->th_ack = (set_ack) ? htonl(tcp_ack) : htonl(rand());
```

```
sequence++;    /* next sequence number */  
    if (!opt_keepstill)  
        src_port = (sequence + initsport) % 65536;
```

```
Main.c
```

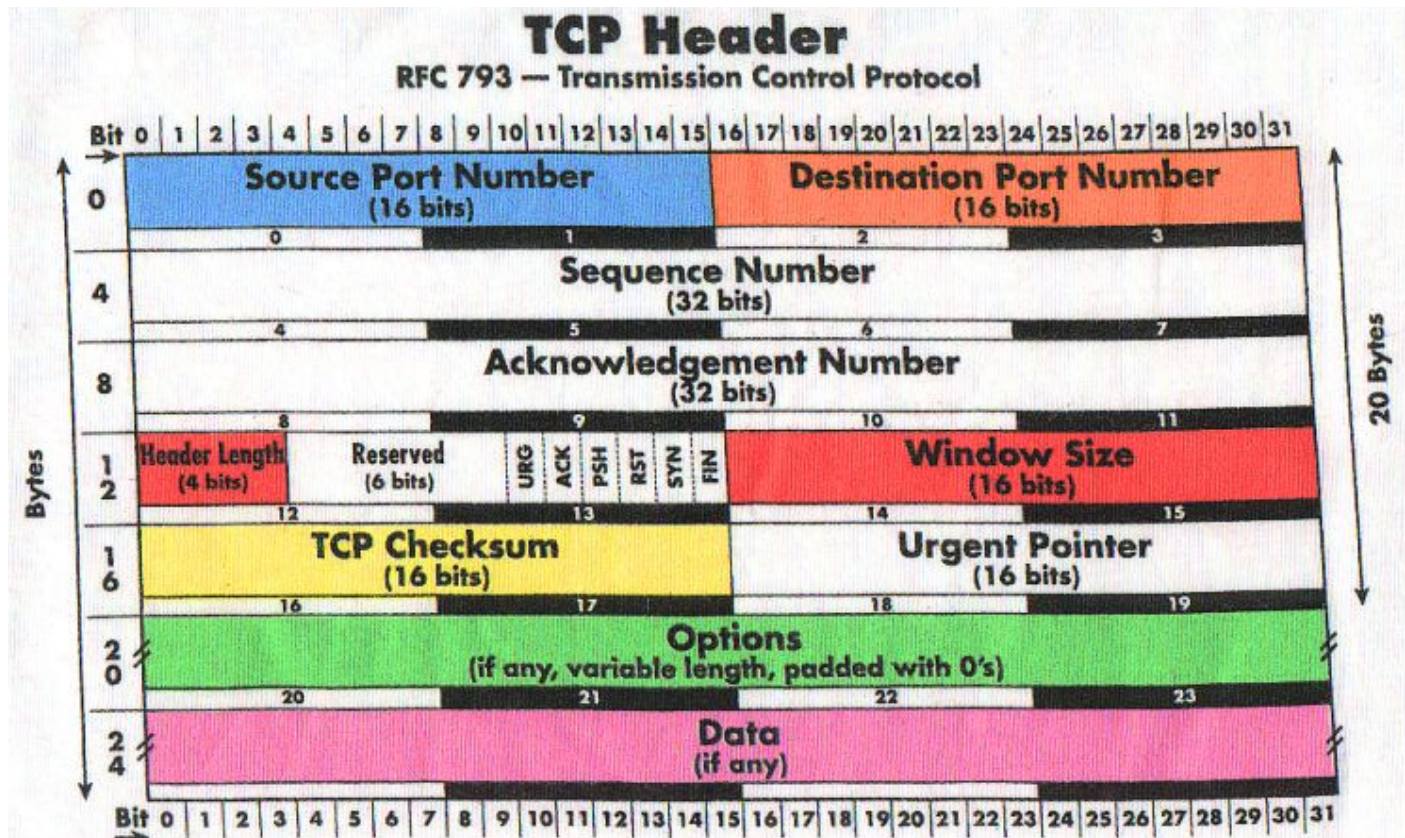
```
/* set initial source port */  
    if (initsport == -1)  
        initsport = src_port = 1024 + (rand() % 2000);
```

It's easy to spot HPING from source port and non-zero tcp_ack #

Level 1.0 – TCP SYN Flood

Randomness detection can be based on COMBINATION of fields

Insane packet can be dropped: `tcp.flags == 0x02 && (ip.len - 40)%4 != 0`



Level 2.0 – HTTP GET Flood - static

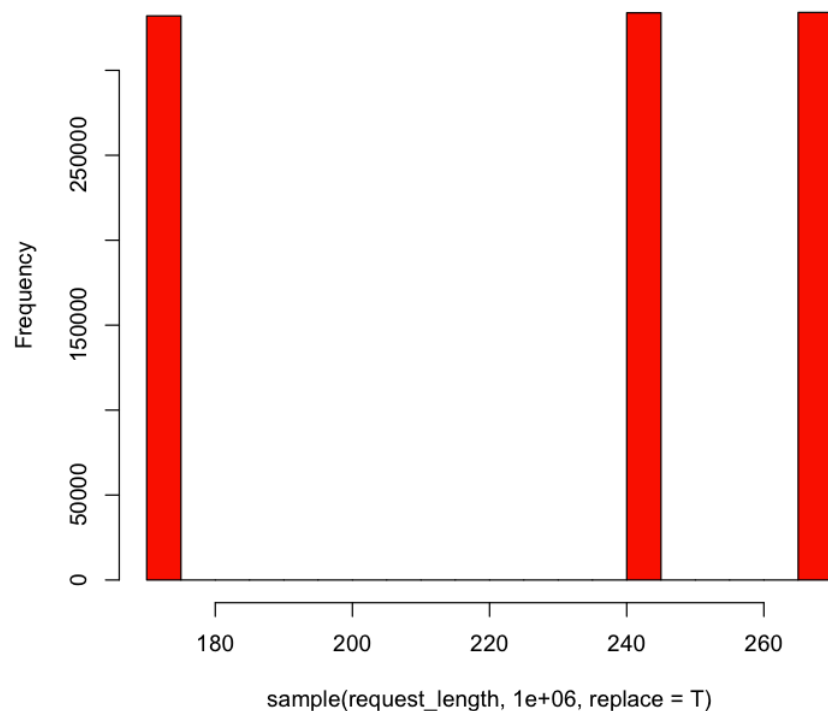
```
for ((i=0;i<100;i++)) do `wget target.com &`; done
```

It's is legitimate but
it's dummy and static
it's HTTP/1.0
lack of HTTP headers

Distribution of requests are
spectrum like
not as random as expected

How to mitigate
block `tcp.flags == 0x18` and `ip.len < 100` and `tcp.dstport == 80`

Histogram of `sample(request_length, 1e+06, replace = T)`



Level 2.1 – HTTP GET Flood – static random

This is legitimate request

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: www.nexusguard.com
Connection: keep-alive
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_7_5)
AppleWebKit/537.31 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/26.0.1410.65 Safari/537.31
Referer: https://www.facebook.com/
Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate,sdch
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.8
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,*;q=0.3
```


Level 2.1 – HTTP GET Flood – static random

This is how attacker try to variety

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: www.nexusguard.com
Connection: keep-alive
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
User-Agent: $VARIABLE
```

```
Referer: https://www.facebook.com/
Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate, sdch
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.8
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,*;q=0.3
```

Hulk.py

```
#builds random ascii string
```

```
def buildblock(size):
    out_str = ''
    for i in range(0, size):
        a = random.randint(65, 90)
        out_str += chr(a)
    return(out_str)
```

Level 2.1 – HTTP GET Flood – static random

```
Hulk.py
# generates a user agent array
def useragent_list():
    global headers_useragents
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/5.0 (X11; U; Linux x86_64; en-US; rv:1.9.1.3) Gecko/
20090913 Firefox/3.5.3')
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 6.1; en; rv:1.9.1.3)
Gecko/20090824 Firefox/3.5.3 (.NET CLR 3.5.30729)')
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 5.2; en-US; rv:1.9.1.3)
Gecko/20090824 Firefox/3.5.3 (.NET CLR 3.5.30729)')
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 6.1; en-US; rv:1.9.1.1)
Gecko/20090718 Firefox/3.5.1')
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 5.1; en-US) AppleWebKit/
532.1 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/4.0.219.6 Safari/532.1')
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 8.0; Windows NT 6.1; WOW64;
Trident/4.0; SLCC2; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; InfoPath.2)')
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 8.0; Windows NT 6.0; Trident/
4.0; SLCC1; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; .NET CLR 1.1.4322; .NET CLR 3.5.30729; .NET CLR 3.0.30729)')
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 8.0; Windows NT 5.2; Win64;
x64; Trident/4.0)')
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 8.0; Windows NT 5.1; Trident/
4.0; SV1; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; InfoPath.2)')
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 6.0; en-US)')
    headers_useragents.append('Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 6.1; Windows XP)')
    headers_useragents.append('Opera/9.80 (Windows NT 5.2; U; ru) Presto/2.5.22 Version/10.51')
    return(headers_useragents)
```

Level 2.1 – HTTP GET Flood – static random

DirtJumper v5 User Agent selector

```
CODE:004283E8 aMozilla5_0Wi_5 db 'Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 5.1; fr; rv:1.8.1) VoilaBot B'  
CODE:004283E8 ; DATA XREF: sub_4225C8+1DD2io  
CODE:004283E8 db 'ETA 1.2 (support.voilabot@orange-ftgroup.com) ',0  
CODE:00428458 dd 0FFFFFFFh, 7Bh  
CODE:00428460 aMozilla5_0Wi_6 db 'Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U;XMPP Tiscali Communicator v.10.0.1; Windo'  
CODE:00428460 ; DATA XREF: sub_4225C8+1DE0io  
CODE:00428460 db 'ws NT 5.1; it; rv:1.8.1.3) Gecko/20070309 Firefox/2.0.0.3 ',0  
CODE:004284DC dd 0FFFFFFFh, 75h  
CODE:004284E4 aMozilla5_0Wi_7 db 'Mozilla/5.0 (Windows;) NimbleCrawler 1.12 obeys UserAgent NimbleC'  
CODE:004284E4 ; DATA XREF: sub_4225C8+1DEEio  
CODE:004284E4 db 'rawler For problems contact: crawler@healthline.com ',0  
CODE:0042855A align 4  
CODE:0042855C dd 0FFFFFFFh, 53h  
CODE:00428564 aMozilla5_0X11U db 'Mozilla/5.0 (X11; U; Linux 2.4.2-2 i586; en-US; m18) Gecko/200101'  
CODE:00428564 ; DATA XREF: sub_4225C8+1DFCio  
CODE:00428564 db '31 Netscape6/6.01 ',0  
CODE:004285B8 dd 0FFFFFFFh, 70h  
CODE:004285C0 aMozilla5_0X1_0 db 'Mozilla/5.0 (X11; U; Linux i686; en-GB; rv:1.7.6) Gecko/20050405 '  
CODE:004285C0 ; DATA XREF: sub_4225C8+1E0Aio  
CODE:004285C0 db 'Epiphany/1.6.1 (Ubuntu) (Ubuntu package 1.0.2) ',0  
CODE:00428631 align 4  
CODE:00428634 dd 0FFFFFFFh, 41h  
CODE:0042863C aMozilla5_0X1_1 db 'Mozilla/5.0 (X11; U; Linux i686; en-US; rv:0.9.3) Gecko/20010801 '  
CODE:0042863C ; DATA XREF: sub_4225C8+1E18io  
CODE:0042863C db 0  
CODE:0042867E align 10h  
CODE:00428680 dd 0FFFFFFFh, 4Ch
```

Level 2.2 – HTTP GET Flood – dynamic random

```
#http request
def httpcall(url):

    request = urllib2.Request(url + param_joiner + buildblock(random.randint(3,10)) + '=' +
buildblock(random.randint(3,10)))
    request.add_header('User-Agent', random.choice(headers_useragents))
    request.add_header('Cache-Control', 'no-cache')
    request.add_header('Accept-Charset', 'ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,*;q=0.7')
    request.add_header('Referer', random.choice(headers_referers) +
buildblock(random.randint(5,10)))
    request.add_header('Keep-Alive', random.randint(110,120))
    request.add_header('Connection', 'keep-alive')
    request.add_header('Host',host)
```

Don't do **unreasonable** random for the sake of randomness confusion
Normal HTTP keep-alive range doesn't fall in this range

Level 2.2 – HTTP GET Flood – dynamic random

```
Uagent.php // random user-agent generator
```

```
function nt_version()  
    return rand(5, 6) . '.' . rand(0, 1);  
  
function ie_version() // IE  
    return rand(7, 9) . '.0';  
  
function osx_version() // need to add support for OSX10.10 ☺  
    return "10_" . rand(5, 7) . '_' . rand(0, 9);  
  
function chrome_version()  
    return rand(13, 15) . '.0.' . rand(800, 899) . '.0';
```

Hint: Predict next version by time (build-in script)

Level 2.2 – HTTP GET Flood – dynamic random

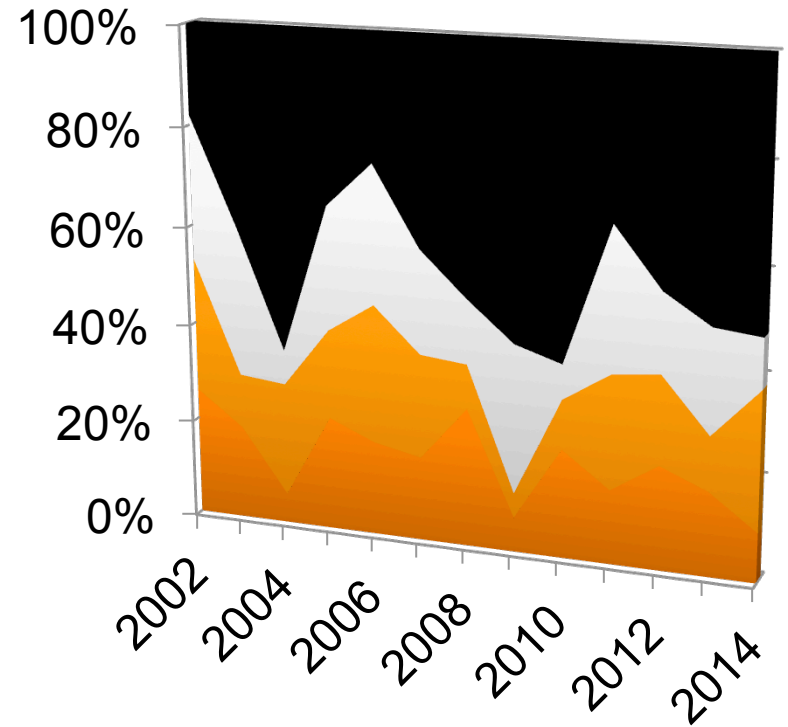
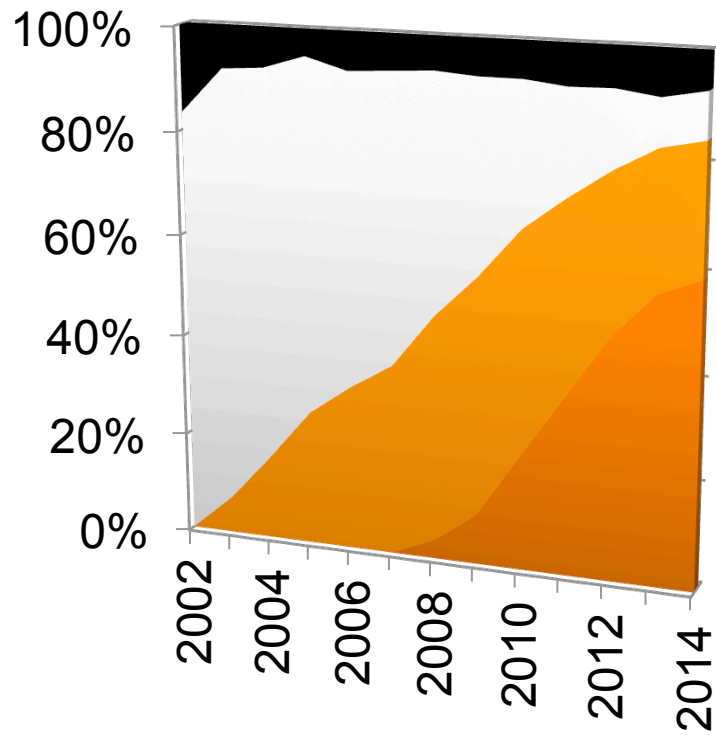
Uagent.php // random user-agent generator

```
function firefox($arch) {
    $ver = array_random(array(
        'Gecko/' . date('Ymd', rand(strtotime('2011-1-1'), time())) . ' Firefox/' . rand(5,
7) . '.0',
        'Gecko/' . date('Ymd', rand(strtotime('2011-1-1'), time())) . ' Firefox/' . rand(5,
7) . '.0.1',
        'Gecko/' . date('Ymd', rand(strtotime('2010-1-1'), time())) . ' Firefox/3.6.' .
rand(1, 20),
        'Gecko/' . date('Ymd', rand(strtotime('2010-1-1'), time())) . ' Firefox/3.8'
    ));

    switch ($arch) { // firefox for Linux, Mac and Win with different processors
    case 'lin':
        return "(X11; Linux {proc}; rv:" . rand(5, 7) . ".0) $ver";
    case 'mac':
        $osx = osx_version();
        return "(Macintosh; {proc} Mac OS X $osx rv:" . rand(2, 6) . ".0) $ver »;";
    case 'win':
    default:
        $nt = nt_version();
        return "(Windows NT $nt; {lang}; rv:1.9." . rand(0, 2) . ".20) $ver »;";
    }
}
```

Level 2.3 – HTTP GET Flood – smart random

User-agents are not randomly distributed



Attack UA distribution by year

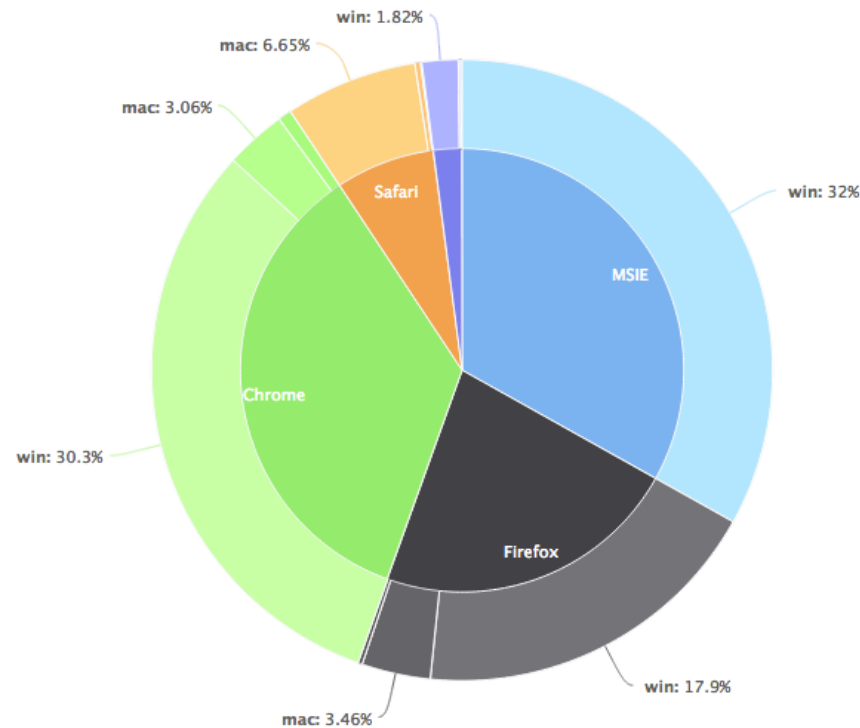
- Others
- IE
- Firefox/Mozilla
- Chrome

Legitimate UA distribution by year

Level 2.3 – HTTP GET Flood – smart random

User-agents are not randomly distribute

```
function chooseRandomBrowserAndOS() {  
    $frequencies = array(  
        34 => array(  
            89 => array('chrome', 'win'),  
            9 => array('chrome', 'mac'),  
            2 => array('chrome', 'lin') ),  
        32 => array(  
            100 => array('iexplorer', 'win')),  
        25 => array(  
            83 => array('firefox', 'win'),  
            16 => array('firefox', 'mac'),  
            1 => array('firefox', 'lin')),  
        7 => array(  
            95 => array('safari', 'mac'),  
            4 => array('safari', 'win'),  
            1 => array('safari', 'lin')),  
        2 => array(  
            91 => array('opera', 'win'),  
            6 => array('opera', 'lin'),  
            3 => array('opera', 'mac'))  
    );  
}
```



Level 2.3 – HTTP GET Flood – dynamic random

100% predictable URL and parameter

100% predictable HTTP header order

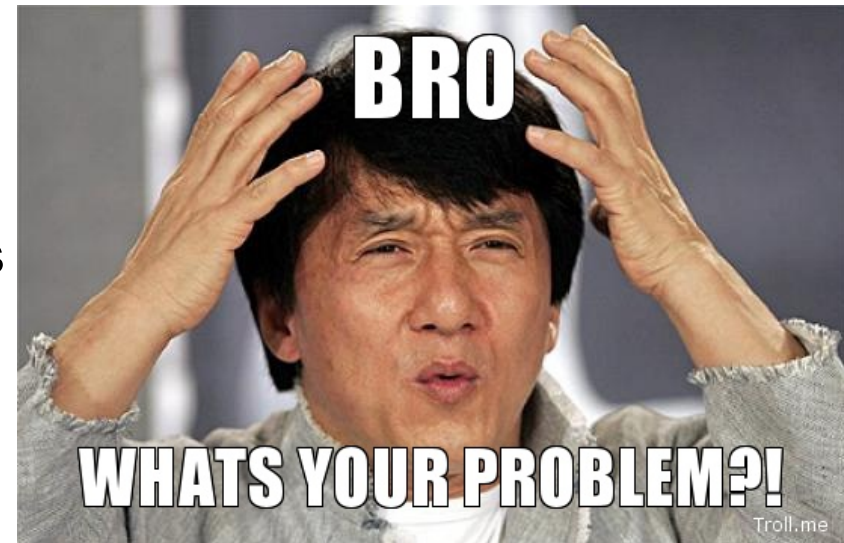
99% purely randomize in pre-defined character space

ADDRESS ORDERS MATTERS

- because RFC2616 HTTP/1.1 only specific required headers, not orders
- implementation of HTTP header order is depending on OS
- Orders can be normalized / corrected by CDN, thank you CDN 😊

CHARACTER SPACE MATTERS

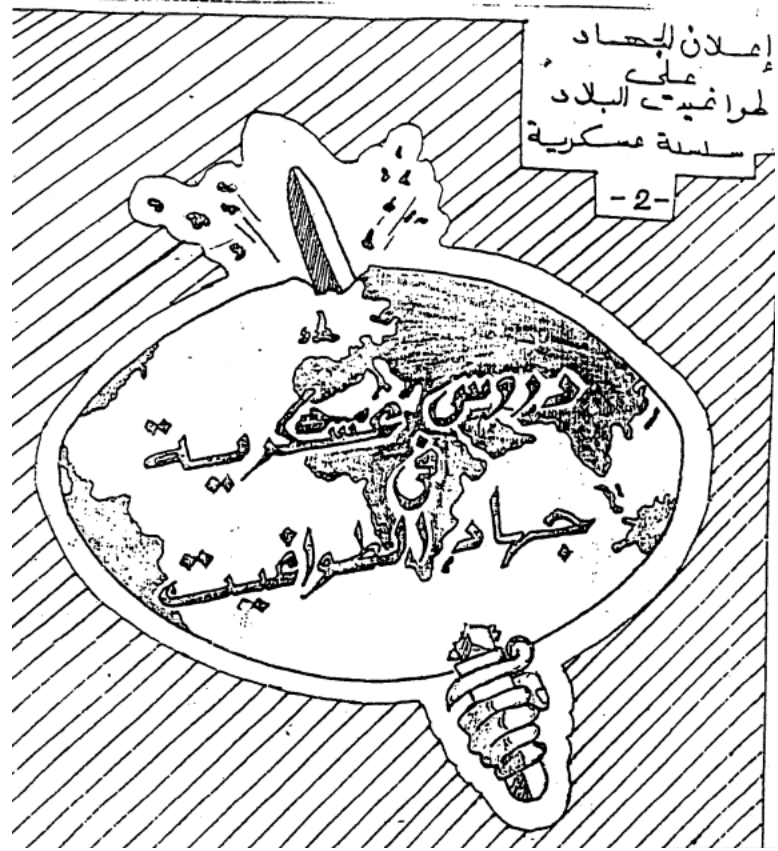
- Pure random is easy to be detected
- Attack character space didn't fit with distribution of normal request



Level 3.0 – HTTP GET Flood – emulated random

Al Qaeda Handbook
- The Manchester Manual

Lesson 3
Forged Documents
(Identity Cards, Records Books, Passports)



Level 3.0 – HTTP GET Flood – emulated random

Forged Documents (Identity Cards, Records Books, Passports)

The following security precautions should be taken:

1. Keeping the passport in a **safe** place so it would not be seized by the security apparatus, and the brother it belongs to would have to negotiate its return (I'll give you your passport if you give me information)

2. All documents of the undercover brother, such as identity cards and passport, **should be falsified**.

3. When the undercover brother is traveling with a certain identity card or passport, he should know **all pertinent** [information] such as the name, profession, and place of residence.

Use Proxy

X-forwarded-IP

X-Client-IP

Always spoof User-agent

Behave and react
as claimed, real UA

Level 3.0 – HTTP GET Flood – emulated random

4. The brother who has special work status (commander, **communication** link, ...) should have more than one identity card and passport. He should learn the contents of each, the nature of the [indicated] profession, and the dialect of the residence area listed in the document.

5. The photograph of the brother in these documents should be without a beard. It is preferable that the brother's public photograph [on these documents] be also without a beard. If he already has one [document] showing a photograph with a beard, he should **replace** it.

6. When using an identity document in **different names**, no more than one such document should be carried at one time.

Use anonymous proxy
Use anonymous network (TOR)

Never use real IP to send
C&C command or send attack

Don't send too much traffic
from a single machine

Level 3.0 – HTTP GET Flood – emulated random

Now attacks are emulating from real users, with

- Low request rate
- From normally distributed source IP (GEO-IP)
- Totally valid TCP and IP headers
- Legitimate user-agents
- Legitimate user-agents with up-to-date distribution
- Correct HTTP headers and orders



Level 3.0 – HTTP GET Flood – emulated random

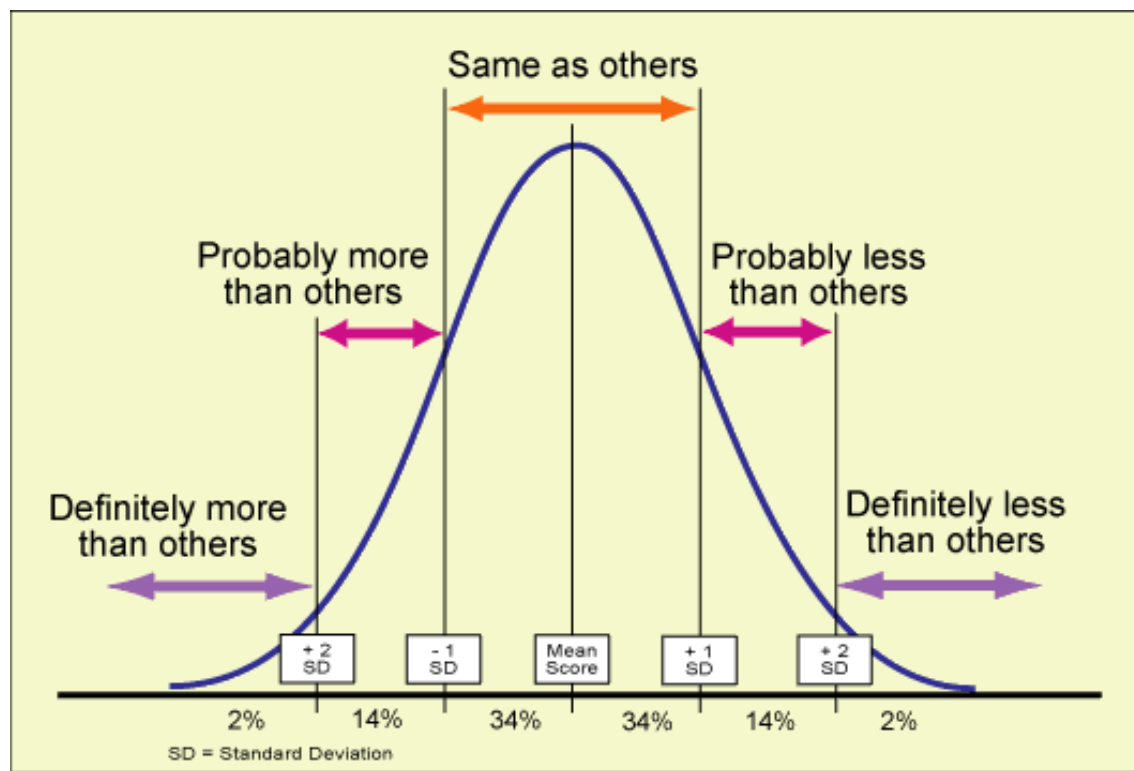
p0f



Passive, progressive, layered validation

Level 3.0 – HTTP GET Flood – emulated random

behavior



Progressive, application specific challenge,

Level BOSS – DDoS the legitimate client

Attacker knows your clients' IPs

Attacker knows your detection policies

Attacker knows your mitigation filters

Attacker can launch 'targeted' DDoS by spoofing legitimate client

Proudly Present
“APT Style” DDoS

Level BOSS – DDoS the legitimate client

False
Positive



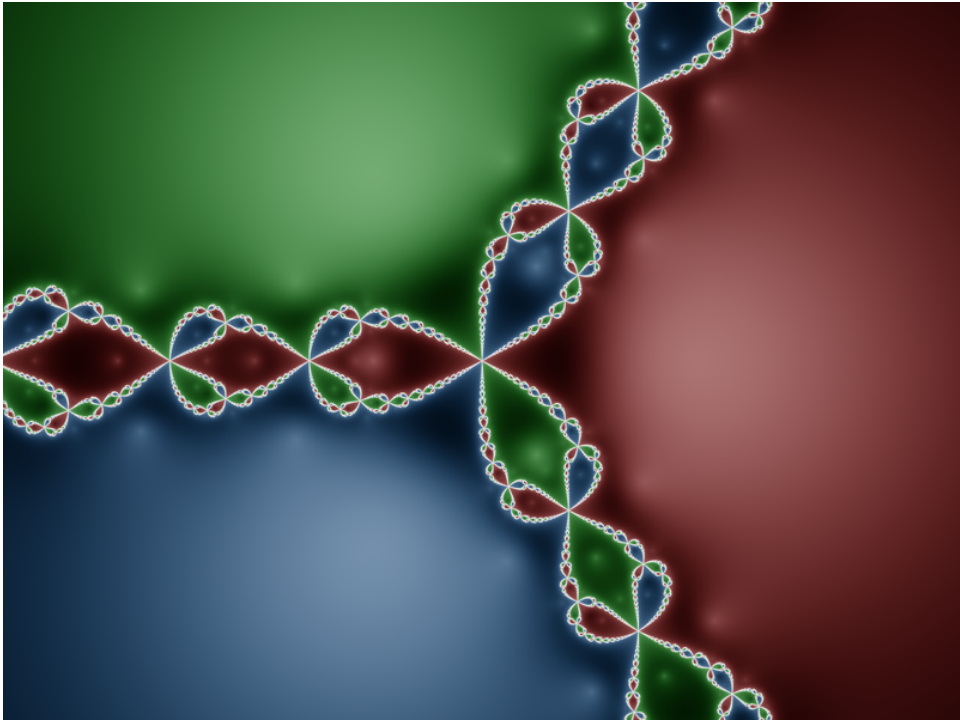
False
Negative

$$A + B = \text{Constant}$$

Level BOSS – DDoS the legitimate client



OR



One of the acceptable sample output:
bhvbdjmnmbfjnfghjbnvghvbv

Draw this fractal with 2 lines of code
Max. string 200



Questions?



Contact me via 'random' e-mail above