NETWORK EXPLOITATION

PROFILING SSL AND ATTRIBUTING PRIVATE NETWORKS

An introduction to FLYING PIG and HUSH PUPPY

ICTR - Network Exploitation GCHQ





Outline

- NETWORK EXPLOITATION
- Two separate prototypes FLYING PIG and HUSH PUPPY
- Both are cloud analytics which work on bulk unselected data
- FLYING PIG is a knowledge base for investigating TLS/ SSL traffic
- HUSH PUPPY is a tool for attributing private network traffic





FLYING PIG - TLS/SSL Background

- TLS/SSL (Transport Layer Security / Secure Sockets Layer) provides encrypted communication over the internet
- Simple TLS/SSL handshake:

Server Client hello Server hello Certificate Server hello done Client key exchange Change cipher spec Handshake finished Change cipher spec Handshake finished **Application data** TOP SECRET//SI//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, GBR, NZL



Client



Motivations for FLYING PIG

- - More and more services used by GCHQ targets are moving to TLS/SSL to increase user confidence, e.g. Hotmail, Yahoo, Gmail, etc.
 - Terrorists and cyber criminals are common users of TLS/SSL to hide their comms (not necessarily using the big providers).
 - A TLS/SSL knowledge base could provide a means to extract as much information from the unencrypted traffic as possible.





FLYING PIG implementation

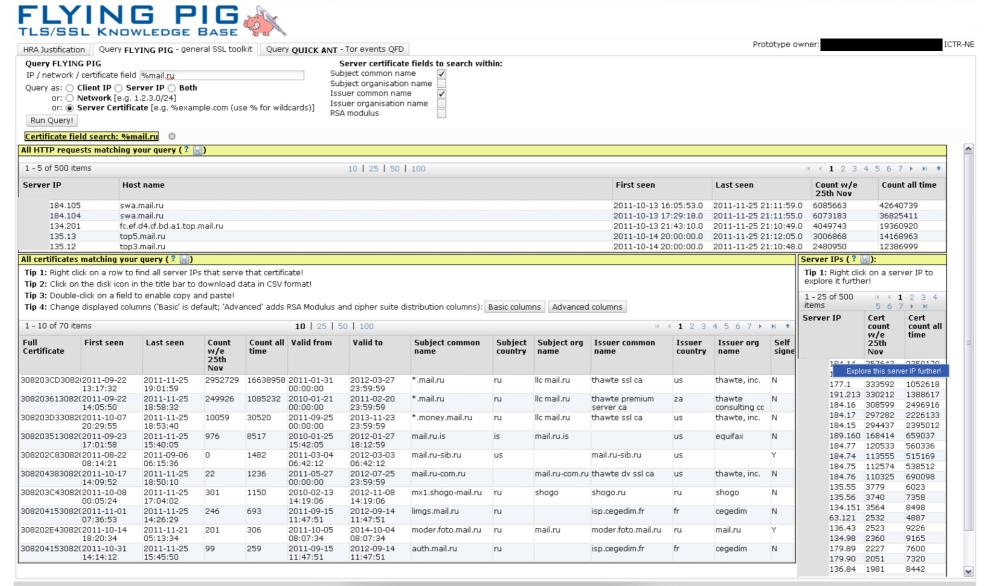
Federated QFD approach

- Multiple separate cloud analytics, each of which produce a QFD (Query Focussed Dataset).
- Analytics are run once a week, on approximately 20 billion events.
- A single query in the web interface results in calls to multiple QFDs, which are returned to the user in separate panels.
- Results in:
 - (a) fast queries,
 - (b) easy-to-maintain modular code, and importantly
 - (c) easy to add future TLS/SSL QFDs.





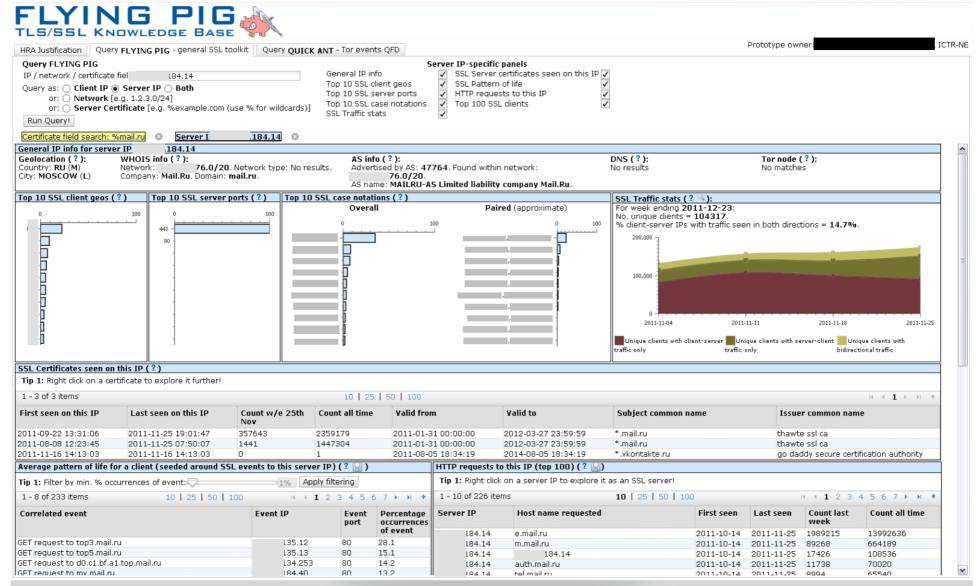
Query by certificate metadata







Query by server IP



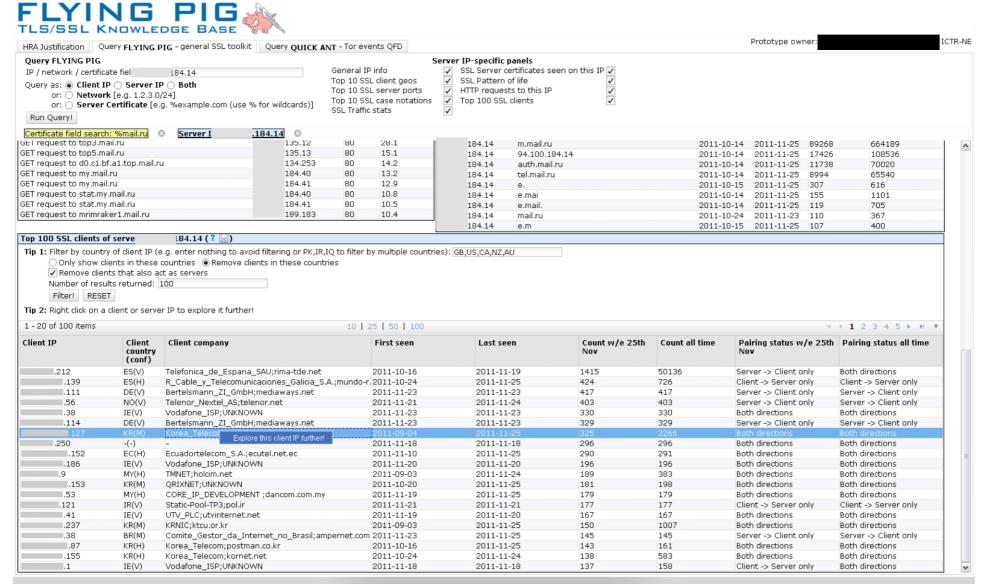




GCHQ

Query by server IP



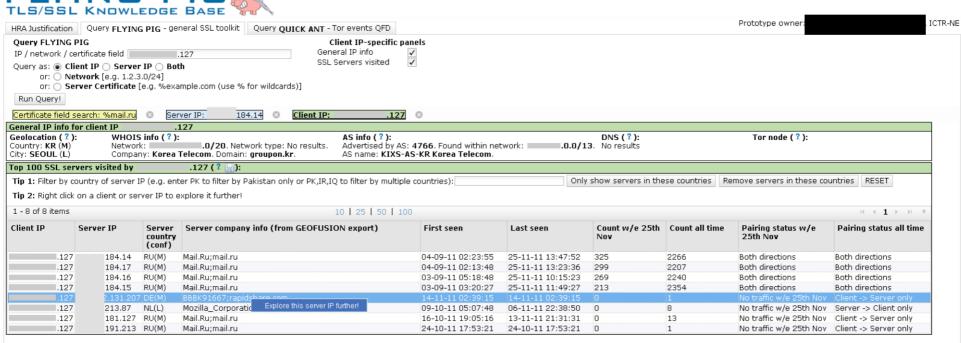






Query by client IP

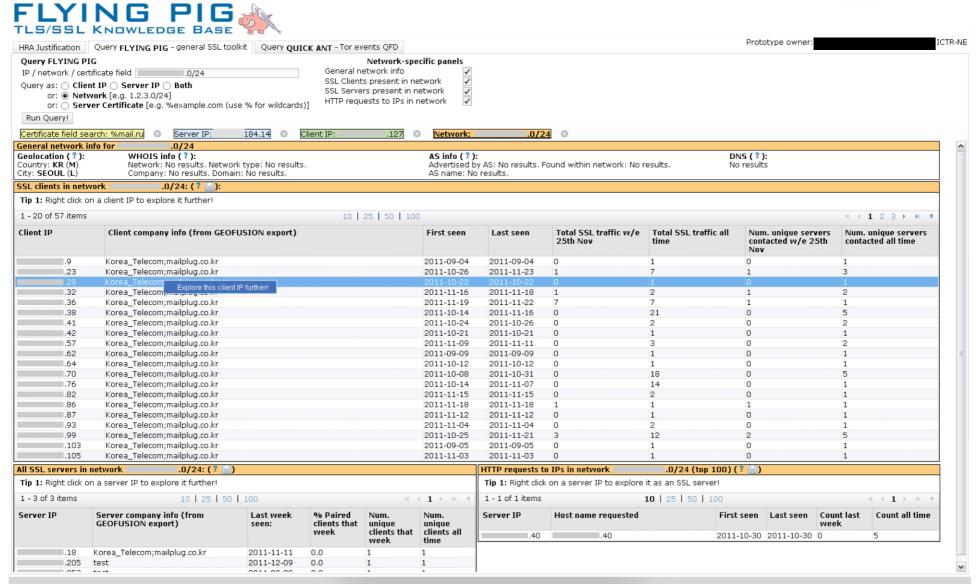








Query by network range



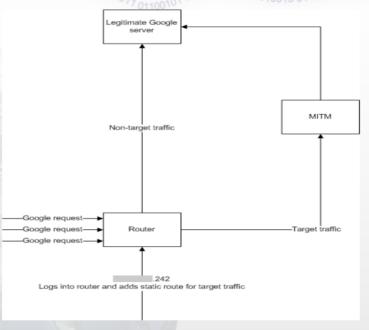




Cyber applications

- Diginotar certificate authority compromise :
 - Private keys of legitimate certificate authority, Diginotar, stolen by hacker.
 - FLYING PIG was used to identify a FIS using them to launch a MITM against their own citizens.

How the attack was done:



FLYING PIG screenshot showing fake certificate:

3082043030820392011-09-16 20:54:29	2011-10-20 17:14:05	0	3154	2011-09-05 06:05:49	2012-09-05 06:15:49	*.google.com	us	google inc	zscaler	us	www.zscaler.com	Υ
3082052A3082049 2011-10-11 16:56:45	2011-11-25 15:41:29	5	1214	2011-09-20 06:07:12	2012-09-20 06:17:12	*.google.com			google internet authority	1		N
30820452308203B 2011-11-11 02:30:27	2011-11-25 06:20:50	26	572	2011-11-02 21:08:36	2012-11-02 21:18:36	*.google.com	us	google inc	zscaler	us	www.zscaler.com	Υ
308202DA30820242011-11-01 01:23:06	2011-11-25 17:48:58	71	547	2010-09-02 07:56:28	2011-09-02 08:06:28	*.google.com	us	google inc	sfibluecoat.sficorp.com	us	is	N
308204303082039 2011-08-25 13:03:12	2011-10-13 07:51:24	0	467	2011-08-12 03:49:02	2012-08-12 03:59:02	*.google.com	us	google inc	zscaler	us	www.zscaler.com	Υ
3082052830820412011-08-19 21:04:42	2011-08-26 19:51:50	0	441	2011-07-10 19:06:30	2013-07-09 19:06:30	*.google.com	us	google inc	diginotar public ca 2025	nl	diginotar	N
308204AA30820392011-11-08 09:35:22	2011-11-25 15:00:37	173	440	2011-09-20 06:07:12	2012-09-20 06:17:12	*.google.com	us	google inc	lorealinternetbrowsing	fr	loreal	N
80820464308203C2011-11-17	2011-11-25	436	438	2011-11-10	2012-11-10	*.google.com	us	google inc	zscaler	us	www.zscaler.com	Υ





Cyber applications

Other Cyber applications:

- Multiple examples of FIS data exfiltration using SSL have been found using FLYING PIG.
- In particular, certificates related to LEGION JADE, LEGION RUBY, and MAKERSMARK activity were found on FLYING PIG using known signatures
- These were then used to find previously unknown servers involved in exfiltration from US companies.
- FLYING PIG has also been used to identify events involving a mail server used by Russian Intelligence.





Identification of malicious TLS/SSL

- - Can identify malicious TLS/SSL using signatures if known
 - However this approach generally does not allow discovery of new threats
 - Alternative is to use "behavioural" features to automatically identify potentially malicious traffic
 - Features currently being investigated include:
 - Certificates with same subject but different issuers may be indicative of Diginotar-style attack
 - Beaconing in TLS/SSL (indicative of botnets/FIS implants)
 - Number of client cipher suites offered
 - Repeated identical random challenges





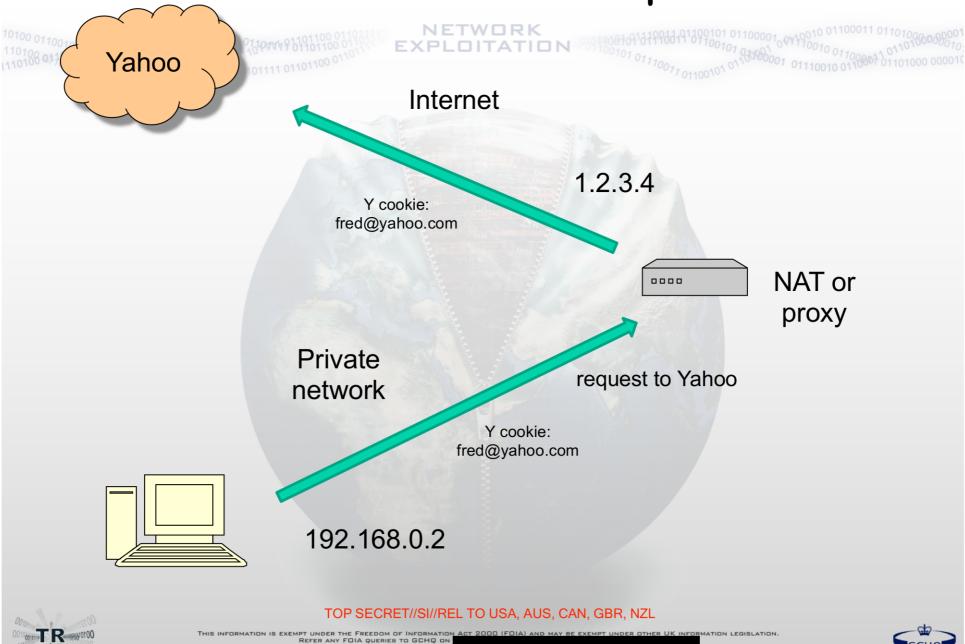
HUSH PUPPY – motivation

- NETWORK EXPLOITATION
- Much private network traffic seen but previously discarded
- If traffic could be attributed, potential high value close access
- HUSH PUPPY is a bulk private network identification Cloud analytic
- Basic idea is to look for the same TDI being seen coming from a private address and then from a public address within a short time
- The private traffic can then be attributed to the owner of the public address
- Works for SSE & COMSAT





HUSH PUPPY – example







Other HUSH PUPPY datasets

- HUSH PUPPY also makes use of Yahoo T-cookies to do correlations
- A T-cookie contains the IP address of the client as Yahoo sees it
- Hence a T cookie coming from a private IP can give the public IP of the NAT or proxy
- In addition, HUSH PUPPY uses the following data to help verify results
 - Kerberos & Lotus Notes: Domains, organisations, departments, countries, machine names, user names
 - HTTP: Heuristic detection of Intranet web servers
 - SSL: Issuers, subjects, countries
 - SMTP: From & to domains





Results - what do we find?

- NETWORK EXPLOITATION
- Foreign government networks
- Airlines
- Energy companies
- Financial organisations
- In cases of good collection, 50-80% of collected private network traffic has been attributed
- Some false positives can arise if few events correlated, due to factors such as TDIs not being completely unique and public internet proxies giving misleading public IP results
- Results can frequently be verified using Kerberos etc data





Examples of operational successes

- A large private network related to the Afghan government was identified, with ~800,000 events correlated.
- Examination of the case notations suggested it belonged to the Afghan MOD
 - A Kerberos domain mod.local
 - HTTP servers *.mod.local & mail
 - SSL certificates with the subject "Ministry of Defense" and the geo "AF"
- Results confirmed by analysis of content on XKEYSCORE
- A VSAT private network belonging to a Ministry of Foreign Affairs was identified
- NOSEY PARKER events were correlated with SSE





Contacts

EXPLOITATION FLYING PIG - HUSH PUPPY – TOP SECRET//SI//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, GBR, NZL

