Hajime

And the Mainline DHT

whoami

- Kevin O’Sullivan
- Apprentice -> Network design -> Security Web Dev -> SOC analyst -> BTCERT Investigator
- National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) Industry Analyst

1,700 customers in **180** countries.

We've got a Ringside view of
cyber threats on the network.

We protect BT
from over
125,000
cyber attacks a month.

We monitor and manage over
100,000
devices
for BT and our customers.

Technology agnostic working with
20 partners and over
200 security vendors.

2,500 security practitioners.

14
follow the sun
SOCs.

108+
registered patents and
190+
security papers.

Our cyber defence operations unit
provides insight ahead of and during security incidents.

Talking Points

- What is Hajime?
- Research goals
- Bit Torrent DHT – Some Background info
- Hajime's usage of Bit Torrent DHT
- Tracking Hajime Seeders/Leechers
- Hajime Remediation Trial
- Further Reading
- Q&A

Hajime?

- Discovered by Rapidity Networks in Oct 2016 [1]
- Mirai-like IoT Worm
- Scaled at ~200-300k nodes
- Decentralized via Bit-Torrent Mainline DHT

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Just a white hat, securing some systems.
Important messages will be signed like this!
Hajime Author.
Contact CLOSED
Stay sharp!
```

[1] https://security.rapiditynetworks.com/publications/2016-10-16/hajime.pdf

Research Goals

- Scale Hajime via Bit Torrent DHT
- Build a tracker that allow us to:
  - Identify affected BT customers
  - Monitor the botnet for growth

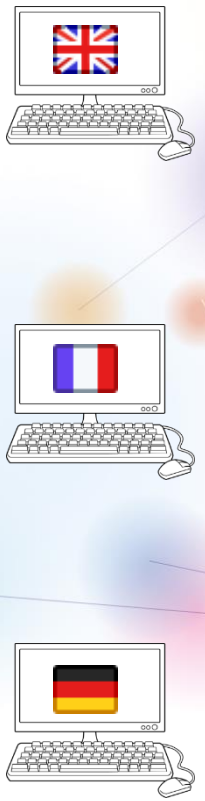
DHT
Distributed Hash Table

- Key/Value store across a number of connected devices

Key	Value
59066769B9AD42DA2E508611C33D7C4480B3857B	1.1.1.1:1001
59066769B9AD42DA2E508611C33D7C4480B3857B	2.2.2.2:2002
59066769B9AD42DA2E508611C33D7C4480B3857B	3.3.3.3:3003

Key	Value
59066769B9AD42DA2E508611C33D7C4480B3857B	4.4.4.4:4004
59066769B9AD42DA2E508611C33D7C4480B3857B	5.5.5.5:5005
59066769B9AD42DA2E508611C33D7C4480B3857B	6.6.6.6:6006

Key	Value
CFEBABC706B9BA9B1FB9D2F0A1ED7380D5D0D017	1.2.3.4:1122
CFEBABC706B9BA9B1FB9D2F0A1ED7380D5D0D017	3.4.5.6:3344
CFEBABC706B9BA9B1FB9D2F0A1ED7380D5D0D017	4.5.6.7:4455



Key	Value
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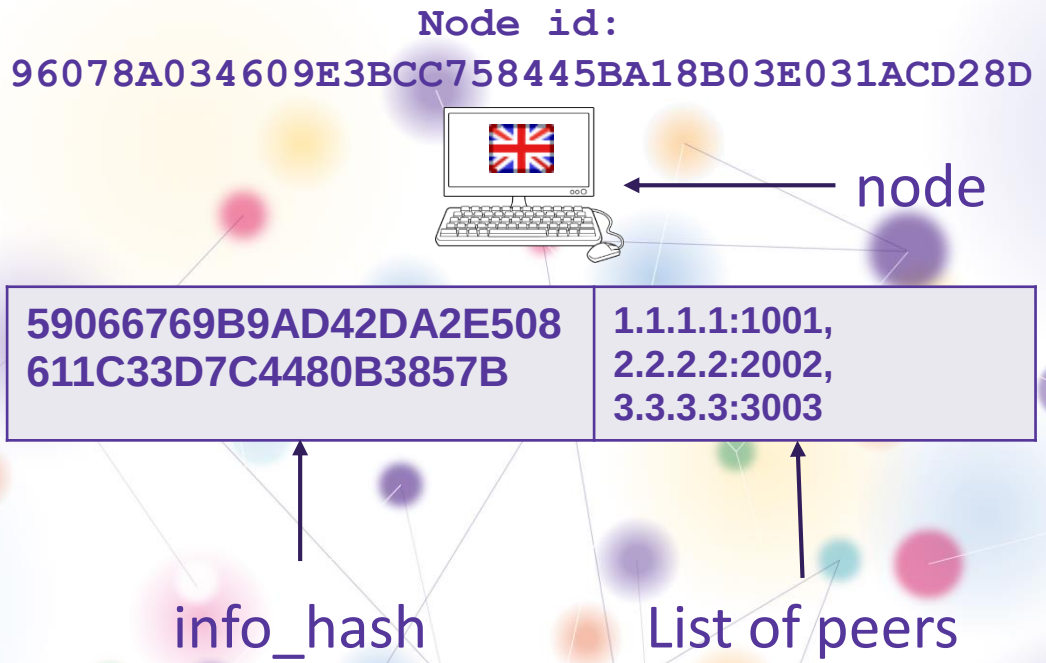
59066769B9AD42DA2E508611C33D7C4480B3857B	4.4.4.4:4004
59066769B9AD42DA2E508611C33D7C4480B3857B	5.5.5.5:5005
59066769B9AD42DA2E508611C33D7C4480B3857B	6.6.6.6:6006
CFEBABC706B9BA9B1FB9D2F0A1ED7380D5D0D017	1.2.3.4:1122
CFEBABC706B9BA9B1FB9D2F0A1ED7380D5D0D017	3.4.5.6:3344
CFEBABC706B9BA9B1FB9D2F0A1ED7380D5D0D017	4.5.6.7:4455

DHT

Distributed Hash Table

A "node" is a device listening on a UDP port implementing the DHT protocol

A “peer” is a device that is currently offering a file



- Each node in DHT has a 160-bit ‘node_id’
- Resources (e.g. files) tracked in DHT also given 160-bit ‘info_hash’
- Node_ids and info_hashes share a key-space

Hajime's Bit Torrent Usage

- Peer discovery
- Config/Module downloads via uTP (uTorrent Transport Protocol)

- New config generated daily with info_hash derived from following algorithm:
  - {Current UTC date (format D-M-Y-W-Z)}-{SHA1(filename)}

SHA1()
=
Info_hash

Information
D – Day of month
M – Month (0 for Jan, 1 for Feb…)
Y – Years since 1900
W – Day of the week (0 for Sun, 1 for Mon…)
Z – Number of days since Jan 01 of that year

Filename = 'config'

How nodes find peers in DHT

‘Closeness’

96078a034609e3bcc758445ba18b03e031acd28d

⊕

96078a034609e3bcc758445ba18b03e031acd28d

=

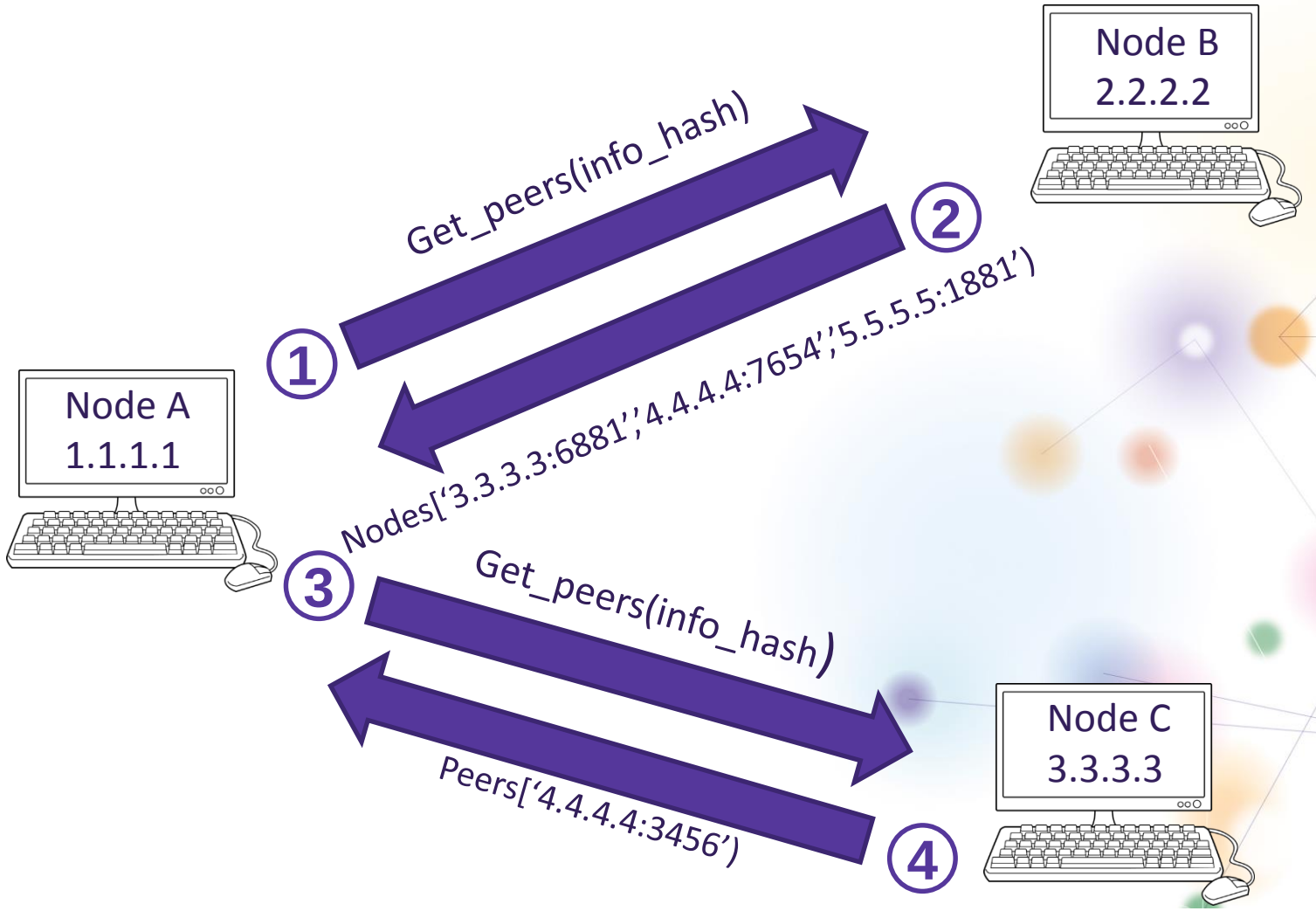
cbe4c390d83fcf705ea7f874c10454c94ad540b1

=

116402673256636650451154860514683427614434470504204 01

Not Pretty close at all

How nodes find peers in DHT



1. **Node A sends a get_peers request for a resource to Node B.**
   He sends the request to Node B because Node B's Node_id is the closest Node_id to the info_hash that Node A has in his routing table.

2. **Node B doesn't know of any peers for that info_hash.**
   So he returns a list of closest nodes from his routing table that are closes to the info_hash.

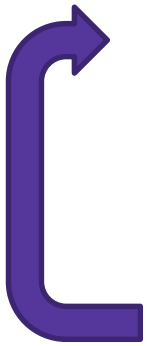
3. **Node A now queries the newly acquired nodes in the same way as he did in step 1.**
   In this case, Node C is queried.

4. **Node C is naturally 'closer' to the info_hash and therefore more likely to know of any peers for that resource.**
   In this case, Node C has returned a peer – 4.4.4.4:3456.
   If Node C didn't know of any peers for the info_hash, he would return a list of closer nodes, just as Node B did earlier.

Scaling the botnet

Finding Seeders

- Generate today's config info_hash



- Generate a random 160-bit node_id for ourselves
- Perform a get_peers lookup for today's config info_hash
- Store unique peers
- Push data into ELK (Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana)

Sybil Attacks

- Introduce multiple fake identities into the DHT
- Assign them node_ids close to that of a target info_hash

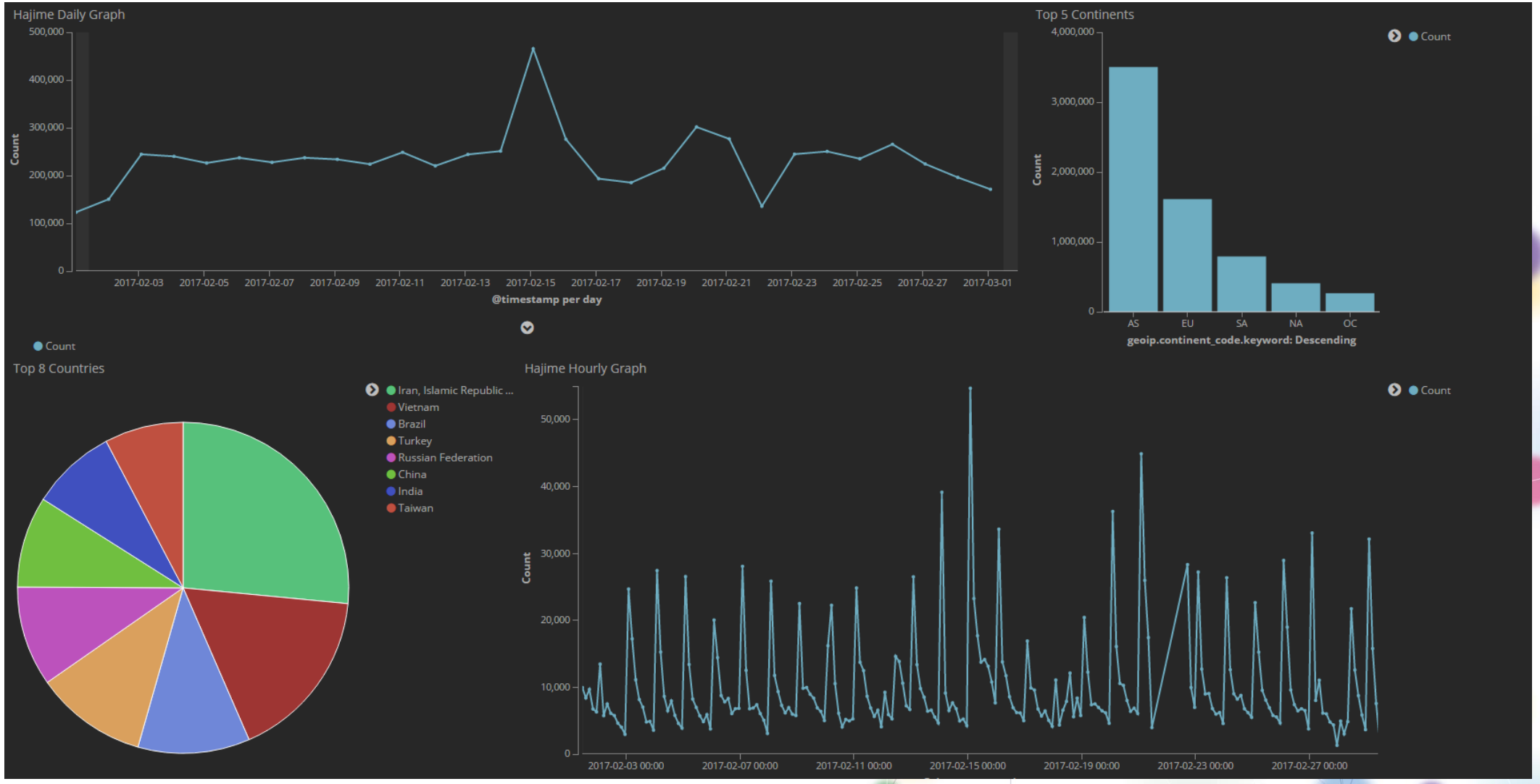
Scaling the botnet

Finding Leechers

- Generate today's config info_hash

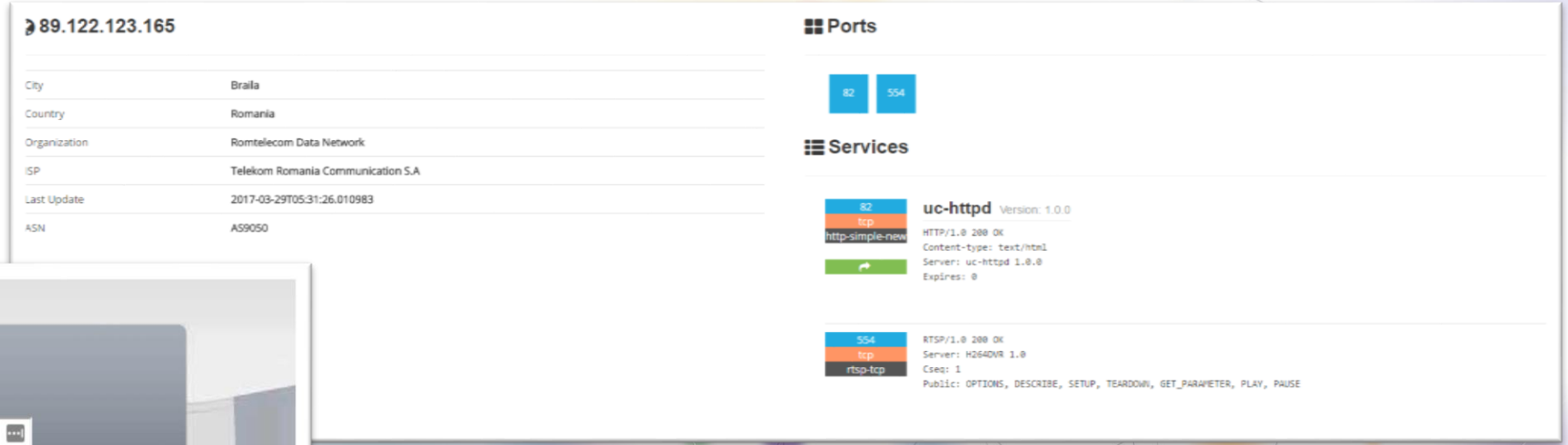
- Generate our node_id(s) 'close' to info_hash
- Sit and wait for get_peers requests to come in for today's info_hash
- Store unique querying node IP addresses
- Push data into ELK (Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana)

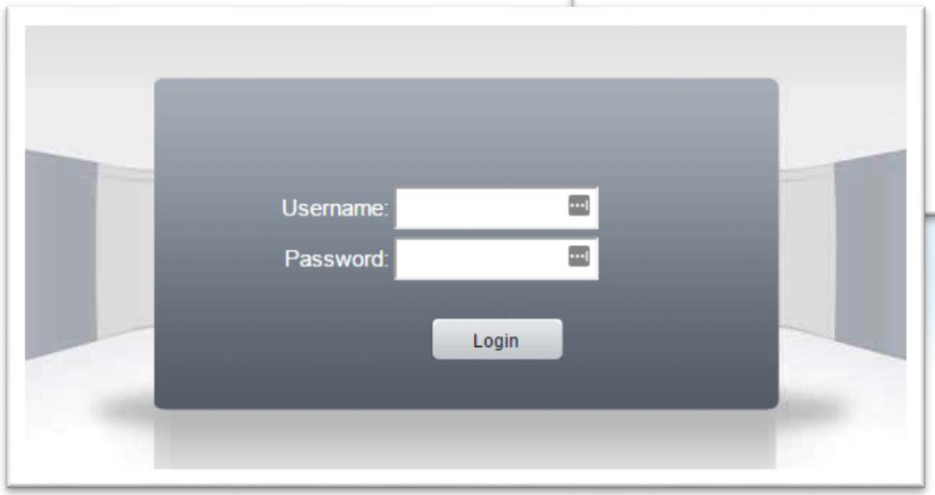
Tracker Dashboard



Example peer

Time	info_hash	ip	port	geoip.country_name
March 31st 2017, 08:38:02.000	f5171d5171b83d41b56dcfb82ffd69815adc21a0	89.122.123.165	56277	Romania

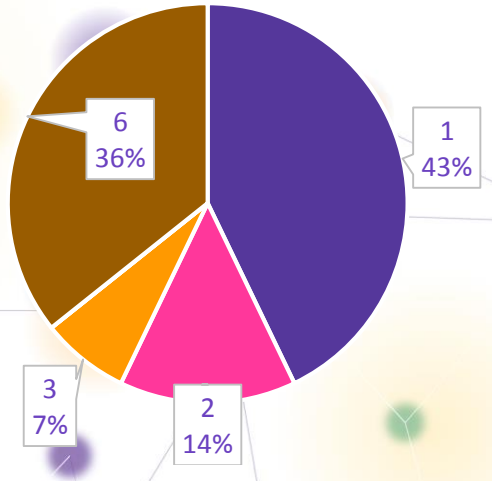




Customer Remediation Trial

- 71% not found in scans since trial
- 86% of customers appreciated the feedback

How many devices (including Sound bars, DVR & IP Cameras) do you have connected to your BB connection?



Customer Feedback:

- Very happy with BT contacting them in this way
- Happy to be contacted in this manner, customer had been witnessing poor service for the last 2 weeks (ties in with virus) & has had numerous engineer visits where engineers could find no problem
- “Great”
- “Positive”
- “Very good”
- “Good”
- “Good thing”

Now what?

- Torrent poisoning attacks?
- Denial of service to Hajime configs?

Further Reading/IoCs

- Rapidity Networks Hajime write-up
  - https://security.rapiditynetworks.com/publications/2016-10-16/hajime.pdf
- Hajime follow-up binary analysis
  - https://x86.re/blog/hajime-a-follow-up/

Questions?