



# whoami

Patrick Perry

Technical Account Manager, Gigamon Insight

## Old stuff

- 4x
- CompSci / Fuzzyvaults
- Paillier / Crypto Enthusiast
- IR consulting / GE-CIRT
- Federal Agent

## Current stuff

- General Hero
- Helping customers
- Dabble in lots of things

# whoami

TJ Biehle

Sr. Technical Account Manager, Gigamon Insight

Old stuff

- CompSci / parallel computing research
- IR consulting

Current stuff

- Hunt across network data
- Write code for integrations / analytics
- Write product training



# Outline

1. Everything is encrypted
2. What's a security practitioner to do?
3. Metadata?
4. Use Cases!





# Stranger Things?

- Evil below the surface
- Bad things start to happen, most don't know when or why
- You can spot the signals once you know what to look for
- ~~We were~~ Our boss was really excited about season 3 when we wrote this talk

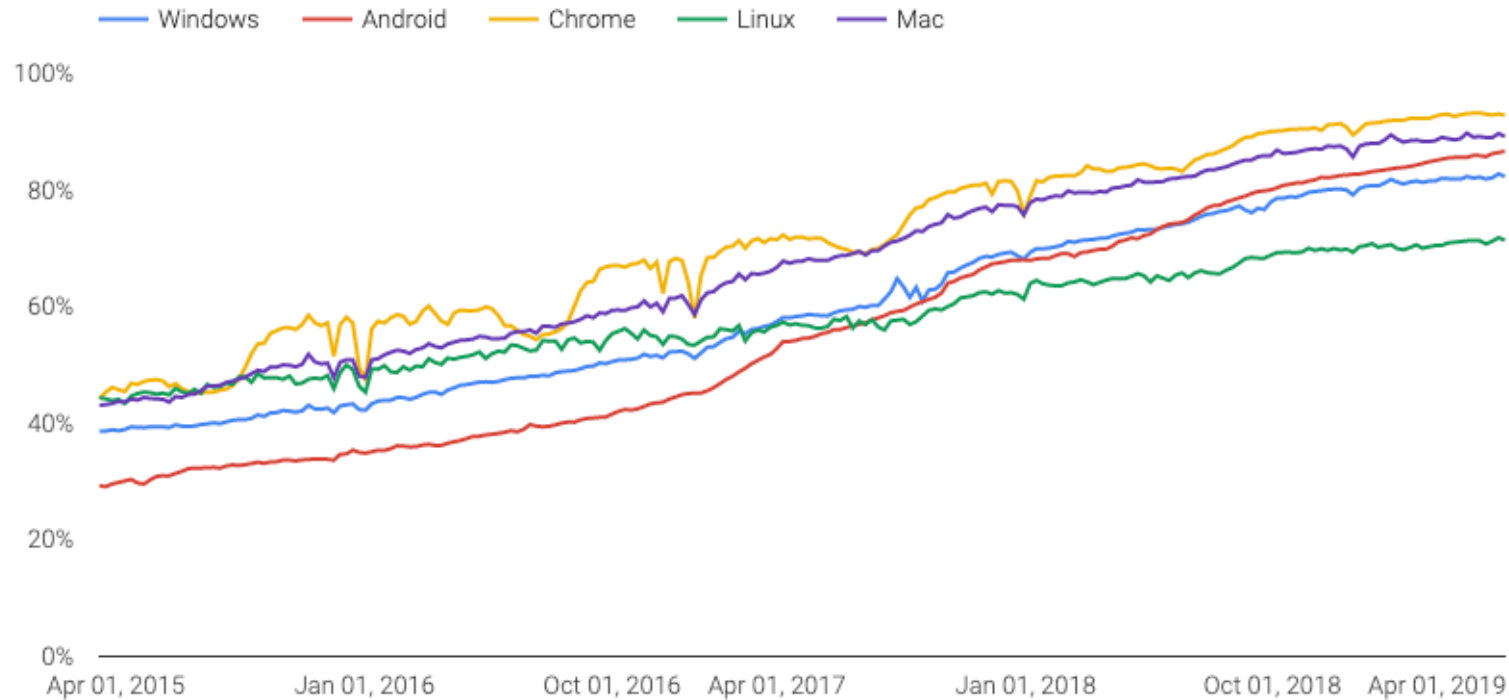


*This talk is an update to “Network Forensics in an Encrypted World” by Will Peteroy & Justin Warner  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=APHlvFaUEKE>*

**(Mostly) Everything is  
Encrypted**

# Encryption Trends

Percentage of pages loaded over HTTPS in Chrome by platform



- 2015 = 40-45%
- 2019 = 80-90%
- 19% growth YoY
- 2020 = 99.5%?

<sup>1</sup> <https://transparencyreport.google.com/https/overview?hl=en>

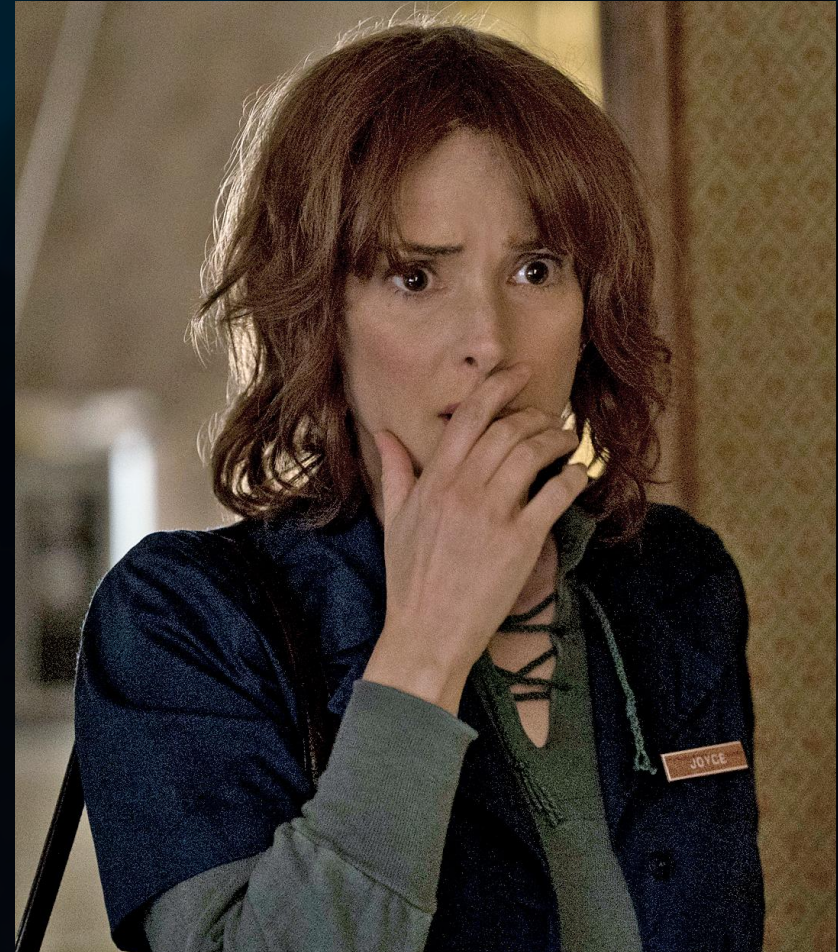


# Yay privacy ...right?

Attackers can encrypt stuff too

- Payloads
- C2 channels
- Exfil / stolen goods

APT laughs at your Suri/Snort rules



# Win some, lose some

## WIN

Protect from prying eyes	C
Ensure data isn't changed	I
Verify Bob is actually Bob	Au
Prove it was actually Alice	NR

## LOSE

Can't see malware coming in	
Can't see data going out	
Don't lose your keys!	Av







**What's a practitioner to do?**

??



# Decryption?

## PROS

Everything works again

Encrypted and unencrypted streams =  
interesting analysis

## CONS

(Potential) Loss of user privacy

Certificate management ~~can be~~ *IS* a PITA

Things can break, badly

# Metadata-based analysis?

## PROS

SSL/TLS metadata isn't encrypted

Smaller = less storage \$\$\$ / more capacity

Netflow is still a thing!\*

\*Netflow is still difficult to hunt with

## CONS

Requires infrastructure to parse, store, and analyze data

Storage costs can still be really big with modern networks

Analysts have to know how to analyze network metadata

# Decrypt or Metadata, which one?

Both!

- Metadata for HTTP + TLS
- Payload-level visibility and detection
- More data points == more analysis
- We know, we know... it's hard

Each has its own set of challenges – there is no easy or better answer

The value of decryption / inspection is (hopefully) pretty clear

We'll focus now on what you can do without decrypting





# Analyzing TLS Metadata

# TLS Metadata

These fields can be parsed from TLS traffic using ~~Bro~~ ~~Zeek~~ Bro

Field	Description
version	server's choice of SSL/TLS
cipher suite	server's choice of cipher suite
ja3	hash of Client Hello fields
ja3s	hash of Server Hello fields
SNI	host / domain client wants
server subject	server certificate attributes
server issuer	attributes of the server cert issuer
client subject	client certificate attributes
client issuer	attributes of the client cert issuer

A dramatic night scene featuring a large, intense fire or explosion in the background, with bright orange and yellow flames. A powerful lightning bolt strikes the fire, creating a bright white flash. The foreground is dark, with some silhouettes of trees or structures visible. The overall atmosphere is one of destruction and power.

**TLS v1.3 Will Ruin  
Some of This**



# Data Source

- ~100 billion SSL/TLS sessions
- Covers 2 months of traffic
- ~50 organizations
  - All sizes
  - All industries

# Version

## WHAT IS IT?

String specifying SSL/TLS version used

Client suggests versions -> server chooses

NO ONE SHOULD BE USING SSLv2,3

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH IT?

Posture ✓

Detection ?

Hunting ✗

## WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

timestamp ▼ 🔒	type 🔒	src 🔒	dst 🔒	version
2019-07-10 07:04:25 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49232 (FUI	★ 124.108.101.10:443	TLSv12
2019-07-10 07:04:25 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49231 (FUI	★ 124.108.101.10:443	TLSv12
2019-07-10 07:04:22 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49336 (Jenr	🇺🇸 23.0.202.138:443	TLSv12
2019-07-10 07:04:22 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49335 (Jenr	🇺🇸 23.0.202.138:443	TLSv12

# Version

- 7 unique versions observed
- 99.95% of sessions used TLS
- No TLSv1.3 yet

Version	Avg. Unique Domains	Sessions (%)
TLSv12	4,823,086	92.797
TLSv10	62,036	6.598
TLSv11	28,025	0.552
SSLv3	95	0.052
DTLSv10	15	0.0006
DTLSv12	5	0.0007
SSLv2	0	0.00003

# Version

## WHAT IS IT?

String specifying SSL/TLS version used

Client suggests versions -> server chooses

NO ONE SHOULD BE USING SSLv2,3

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH IT?

Posture ✓

Detection ?

Hunting ✗

## WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

timestamp ▼ 🔒	type 🔒	src 🔒	dst 🔒	version	
2019-07-10 07:04:25 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49232 (FUI	★ 124.108.101.10:443	TLSv12	
2019-07-10 07:04:25 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49231 (FUI	★ 124.108.101.10:443	TLSv12	
2019-07-10 07:04:22 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49336 (Jenr	🇺🇸 23.0.202.138:443	TLSv12	
2019-07-10 07:04:22 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49335 (Jenr	🇺🇸 23.0.202.138:443	TLSv12	



# Cipher Suite

## WHAT IS IT?

Determines how connection is encrypted

Client suggests versions -> server chooses

Connection fails if hosts can't agree

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH IT?

Posture ✓

Detection ?

Hunting ?

## WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

timestamp ▼ 🔒	type 🔒	src 🔒	dst 🔒	cipher
2019-07-10 07:04:25 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49232 (FUI	🌐 124.108.101.10:443	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
2019-07-10 07:04:25 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49231 (FUI	🌐 124.108.101.10:443	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
2019-07-10 07:04:22 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49336 (Jenr	🇺🇸 23.0.202.138:443	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA
2019-07-10 07:04:22 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49335 (Jenr	🇺🇸 23.0.202.138:443	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA

# Cipher Suite

- 226 unique ciphers observed
- ~66% of ciphers had <10 domains
  - Tiny portion of sessions
- ~47% of ciphers had 1 domain
  - Even tinier portion of sessions

## Unique Domains Over a 7-day Period

Median	Ciphers (#)	Sessions (%)
1000+	27	99.253
100+	16	0.723
10+	33	0.006
1+	48	0.003
1	102	0.000

Average	Ciphers (#)	Sessions (%)
1000+	27	99.253
100+	16	0.723
10+	34	0.013
1+	39	0.009
1	110	0.000

# Cipher Suite

## WHAT IS IT?

Determines how connection is encrypted

Client suggests versions -> server chooses

Connection fails if hosts can't agree

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH IT?

Posture ✓

Detection ?

Hunting ?

## WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

timestamp ▼ 🔒	type 🔒	src 🔒	dst 🔒	cipher
2019-07-10 07:04:25 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49232 (FUI	🌐 124.108.101.10:443	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
2019-07-10 07:04:25 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49231 (FUI	🌐 124.108.101.10:443	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
2019-07-10 07:04:22 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49336 (Jenr	🇺🇸 23.0.202.138:443	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA
2019-07-10 07:04:22 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49335 (Jenr	🇺🇸 23.0.202.138:443	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA



# JA3 / JA3S

## WHAT IS IT?

MD5 hash of a \$string

\$string is decimal values of the Hello bytes

JA3 == client / JA3S == server

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH IT?

Posture ✗

Detection ✓

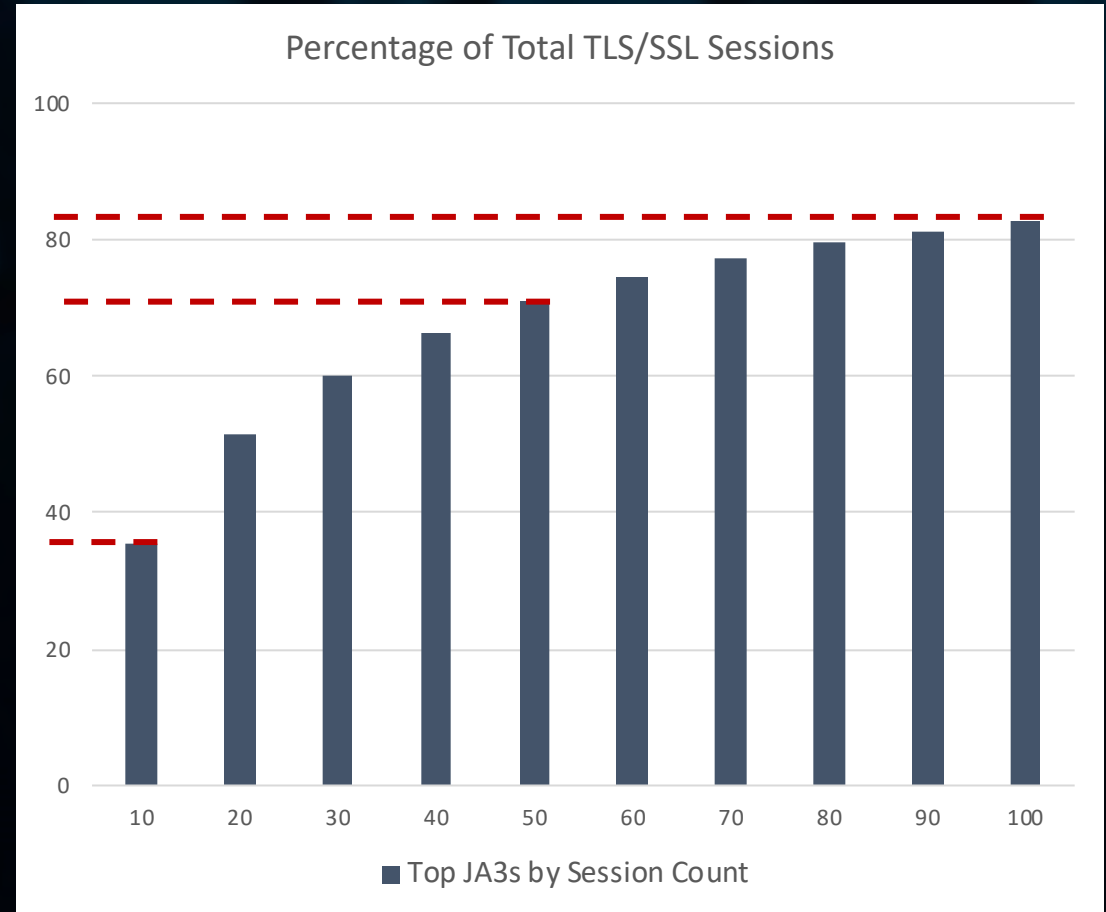
Hunting ✓

## WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

timestamp	type	src	dst	ja3	server_name_indication
2019-07-10 07:01:04 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49158 (Jenr	🇺🇸 119.160.243.163:443	4d7a28d6f2263ed61de88ca66eb011e3	search.yahoo.com
2019-07-10 07:01:04 Z	SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49159 (Jenr	🇺🇸 119.160.243.163:443	4d7a28d6f2263ed61de88ca66eb011e3	search.yahoo.com
2019-07-09 08:19:30 Z	SSL	🏠 10.1.70.200:51613 (Develope	🇺🇸 74.119.119.66:443	10ee8d30a5d01c042afd7b2b205facc4	gum.criteo.com
2019-07-09 08:19:30 Z	SSL	🏠 10.1.70.200:51610 (Develope	🇺🇸 74.119.119.66:443	10ee8d30a5d01c042afd7b2b205facc4	gum.criteo.com
2019-07-09 08:19:29 Z	SSL	🏠 10.1.70.200:51609 (Develope	🇺🇸 74.119.119.66:443	10ee8d30a5d01c042afd7b2b205facc4	gum.criteo.com

# JA3

- 215,803 unique ja3 observed
- Small number of ja3 observed in large portion of sessions
  - Top 10 = 36%
  - Top 50 = 71%
  - Top 100 = 83%
- Modest amount of intel work yields a significant enrichment



# JA3

- Quick and dirty intel process
  - ja3er.com
  - useragentstring.com
- Yields results for 51 of the top 100
- Not-too-much python™ yields helpful context
  - “Weird” ja3
  - Powershell / LOLbin talking out

**User Agent String.Com**

[Home](#) | [List of User Agent Strings](#) | [Links](#) | [API](#) |

**User Agent String explained :**

Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10.14; rv:69.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/69.0

Copy/paste any user agent string in this field and click 'Analyze' Analyze

**Firefox 69.0**

<b>Mozilla</b>	MozillaProductSlice. Claims to be a Mozilla based user agent, which is only true for Gecko browsers like <a href="#">Firefox</a> and Netscape. For all other user agents it means 'Mozilla-compatible'. In modern browsers, this is only used for historical reasons. It has no real meaning anymore
<b>5.0</b>	Mozilla version
<b>Macintosh</b>	Platform
<b>Intel Mac OS X 10.14</b>	Operating System: <a href="#">OS X</a> Version 10.14 : running on a Intel CPU
<b>rv:69.0</b>	CVS Branch Tag The version of Gecko being used in the browser
<b>Gecko</b>	Gecko engine inside
<b>20100101</b>	Build Date: the date the browser was built
<b>Firefox</b>	Name : <a href="#">Firefox</a>



# JA3S

- 424 unique ja3s observed
- ~69% of ja3s had <10 domains
  - Tiny portion of sessions
- ~40% of ja3s had 1 domain
  - Even tinier portion of sessions

## Unique Domains Over a 7-day Period

Median	JA3S (#)	Sessions (%)
1000+	47	99.142
100+	37	0.779
10+	46	0.038
1+	145	0.038
1	149	0.003

Average	JA3S (#)	Sessions (%)
1000+	47	99.142
100+	37	0.779
10+	46	0.038
1+	119	0.038
1	175	0.003

# JA3 / JA3S

## WHAT IS IT?

MD5 hash of a \$string

\$string is decimal values of the Hello bytes

JA3 == client / JA3S == server

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH IT?

Posture ✗

Detection ✓

Hunting ✓

## WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

timestamp	▼ 🔒	type 🔒	src 🔒	dst 🔒	ja3	server_name_indication
2019-07-10 07:01:04 Z		SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49158 (Jenr	🇺🇸 119.160.243.163:443	4d7a28d6f2263ed61de88ca66eb011e3	search.yahoo.com
2019-07-10 07:01:04 Z		SSL	🏠 192.168.122.52:49159 (Jenr	🇺🇸 119.160.243.163:443	4d7a28d6f2263ed61de88ca66eb011e3	search.yahoo.com
2019-07-09 08:19:30 Z		SSL	🏠 10.1.70.200:51613 (Develope	🇺🇸 74.119.119.66:443	10ee8d30a5d01c042afd7b2b205facc4	gum.criteo.com
2019-07-09 08:19:30 Z		SSL	🏠 10.1.70.200:51610 (Develope	🇺🇸 74.119.119.66:443	10ee8d30a5d01c042afd7b2b205facc4	gum.criteo.com
2019-07-09 08:19:29 Z		SSL	🏠 10.1.70.200:51609 (Develope	🇺🇸 74.119.119.66:443	10ee8d30a5d01c042afd7b2b205facc4	gum.criteo.com

# Server Name Indication (SNI)

## WHAT IS IT?

How a client specifies which host

It's a domain – you  
would normally

## WITH IT?

ing ✓

## LIKE?

timestamp		dst	server_name_indication
2019-07-10 07:04:22 Z	SSL 192.168.122.52:49335 (Jenn)	🇺🇸 23.0.202.138:443	static.tacdn.com
2019-07-10 07:04:22 Z	SSL 192.168.122.52:49334 (Jenn)	🇺🇸 104.97.224.191:443	www.tripadvisor.co.nz
2019-07-10 07:04:11 Z	SSL 🏠 192.168.122.52:49309 (Jenn)	🇺🇸 103.2.116.79:443	www.google.com
2019-07-10 07:04:11 Z	SSL 🏠 192.168.122.52:49308 (Jenn)	🇺🇸 103.2.116.79:443	www.google.com



# SNI + TLS 1.3

- SNI was always an optional extension – common, but optional
- TLS 1.3 gives the option to encrypt the SNI
  - Via DNS (it's always DNS)

## Why encrypt the SNI?

- Privacy
- ISPs, coffee shop sniffers, etc. shouldn't get to snoop

# Certificate attributes

## WHAT IS IT?

Contents of the Subject and Issuer fields

Server cert is usually required

Client cert is usually not required

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH IT?

Posture ✓

Detection ✓

Hunting ✓

## WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

timestamp	▼ 🔒	type 🔒	src 🔒	dst 🔒	subject	issuer
2019-07-10 07:02:02 Z		SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49191 (FUI)	🌟 203.84.197.9:443	CN=www.yahoo.com,O=Yahoo Inc.,L=Sunnyvale,ST=California,C=US 📄	CN=Symantec Class 3 Secure Server CA - G4
2019-07-10 07:02:02 Z		SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49189 (FUI)	🇺🇸 68.232.45.200:443	CN=*.vo.msecnd.net	CN=Microsoft IT SSL SHA2,OU=Microsoft IT
2019-07-10 07:02:02 Z		SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49190 (FUI)	🇺🇸 68.232.45.200:443	CN=*.vo.msecnd.net	CN=Microsoft IT SSL SHA2,OU=Microsoft IT
2019-07-10 07:02:00 Z		SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49188 (FUI)	🇺🇸 119.160.254.215:443	CN=*.yimg.com,O=Yahoo Inc.,L=Sunnyvale,ST=California,C=US	CN=Symantec Class 3 Secure Server CA - G4
2019-07-10 07:01:59 Z		SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49187 (FUI)	🇺🇸 119.160.254.215:443	CN=*.yimg.com,O=Yahoo Inc.,L=Sunnyvale,ST=California,C=US	CN=Symantec Class 3 Secure Server CA - G4
2019-07-10 07:01:59 Z		SSL	🏠 192.168.122.130:49186 (FUI)	🇺🇸 119.160.254.215:443	CN=*.yimg.com,O=Yahoo Inc.,L=Sunnyvale,ST=California,C=US	CN=Symantec Class 3 Secure Server CA - G4

# Certificate attributes + TLS 1.3

- Why encrypt the certificates?
  - Same reasons as SNI, namely privacy
  - Not encrypting certs would undermine encrypting the SNI

# TLS Metadata and You



# Use Cases!

Let's divide analysis work into three categories

- Detection
- Hunting
- Posture

The next few slides will explore use cases for each



# Detection

Best applies to tracking known compromises

- Careful with lists of “OSINT”

Is the value unique / uncommon

- If yes, detect!
- If no, false-positives galore!



Upside: JA3/cipher suites focus on how instead of who

# Detection

timestamp ▼ 🔒	type 🔒	src 🔒	dst 🔒
2019-07-08 07:01:37 Z	SSL	🏠 10.10.10.209:49250 (Batiste-	🇵🇪 86.61.160.50:443

server_name_indication	subject	issuer
	CN=sd-97597.dedibox.fr	CN=sd-97597.dedibox.fr

ja3	ja3s	cipher
6734f37431670b3ab... ↗	5e4e5596180ebd0a... ↗	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES... ↗

# Detection - GREENCAT

- Known useragents
- Specific uri patterns
- Requires decrypted HTTP proxy traffic.





# Detection – MACKTRUCK / ROADHOUSE

- Specific certsubject
- Specific issuersubject
- Specific SHA1
- Specific serial
- Leveraging metadata



# Detection - Powershell

- Powershell SSL traffic
- Issuer = Let's Encrypt
- JA3 Hash



# Detection - Reductor

- <https://securelist.com/compfun-successor-reductor/93633/>
- Watermarking TLS handshake
- Subverted PRNG
- SHA1 fingerprint

```
Certificate:
Data:
  Version: 3 (0x2)
  Serial Number:
    fa:9b:b7:53:21:86:97:bd:ed:1a:8c:85:59:fb:f6:94
  Signature Algorithm: sha1WithRSAEncryption
  Issuer: C = EN, CN = GeoTrust Rsa CA, O = GeoTrust Rsa CA
  Validity
    Not Before: Oct 23 22:56:10 2011 GMT
    Not After : Nov 17 22:56:10 2031 GMT
  Subject: C = EN, CN = GeoTrust Rsa CA, O = GeoTrust Rsa CA
  Subject Public Key Info:
    Public Key Algorithm: rsaEncryption
    RSA Public-Key: (2048 bit)
    Modulus:
      00:d1:02:fa:c5:94:71:f2:45:4e:80:b9:ee:08:61:
      ed:6b:c6:2c:3a:df:c7:99:48:a7:4c:ab:64:31:22:
```





# Hunting

The purpose of hunting is to find things you didn't know about

Typically looking for attackers / compromises

- Who are we interacting with?
- How are we interacting with them?

May (probably will) uncover some security posture / hygiene issues










# Hunting

	WHO ARE WE INTERACTING WITH?	HOW ARE WE INTERACTING
Fields	SNI Certificate Attributes	Cipher Suite JA3 / JA3S
Q's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How many hosts are talking to this entity?</li><li>• When was the first time we saw this entity?</li><li>• When was this entity registered?</li><li>• Who owns the entity?</li><li>• Is there anything odd about this entity?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Uncommon TLD</li><li>• Random-looking</li><li>• Name/typo squatting</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How many hosts are showing this entity?</li><li>• What software is related to this entity?</li></ul>

# Hunting

```
ja3 <> null group by ja3, min(timestamp)
```

ja3	min(timestamp)
0512f612d3d51fbafda36ffb6310482a 	2019-07-09 18:52:08
043a5d2d936910298e36e34acd8da818 	2019-07-09 18:52:06
de598a1957d57cbc201ca2655b808b27 	2019-06-24 22:53:06
bcac05401eaa3573485983e846dd7217 	2019-06-24 22:52:47
7189a3919e2935485d9cc4012eca1883 	2019-06-14 19:16:22
4056657a50a8a4e5cfac40ba48becfa2 	2019-06-14 16:16:40
32926ca3e59f0413d0b98725454594f5 	2019-06-13 22:21:19

# Hunting

Here's how we parse the user agent:

```
Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:60.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/60.0 (count: 13, last  
seen: 2019-06-12 12:27:54)
```



Firefox 60 on Linux

Here's detailed information about it:

## Simplified readout

Clear, human readable descriptions of the software & platform

Simple Software String

[Firefox 60 on Linux](#)

Simple Sub-description

-----

Simple Operating Platform

## Software

Information about the web software

Software

[Firefox 60](#)

Software Name

[Firefox](#)

Software Name Code

## Operating System

Information about the Operating System

Operating System

[Linux](#)

Operating System Name

[Linux](#)

Operating System Name Code

<https://developers.whatismybrowser.com/useragents/parse/>

# Hunting

## JA3 SSL Fingerprint

Sorry the hash





















**0512f612d3d51fbafda36ffb6310482a**

was not found in the database. If you have further info to this hash please comment below.



# Hunting

```
ja3 = '0512f612d3d51fbafda36ffb6310482a' group by dst.asn.asn_org
```

dst.asn.asn_org	count
Google LLC 	1,020 
Rochester Institute of Technology 	552 
Akamai Technologies, Inc. 	320 
Amazon.com, Inc. 	232 
Integral Ad Science, Inc. 	156 
Cloudflare, Inc. 	140 
Fastly 	106 
Highwinds Network Group, Inc. 	104 
Facebook, Inc. 	86 
AppNexus, Inc 	38 

Google / Amazon +

Advertising +

CDNs +

Social Media +

-----

...workstation web browser?

...recently updated web browser?

# Hunting Recap

Quick look at new JA3 hashes

- Only covered 30 days of data
- We could have seen those hashes 40 days ago

Better way: Intel team tracks all observed JA3 hashes and alerts on hashes never seen before

- Software updates = new hashes (maybe)
- Prevalence is important

Same could be done for certificates / domains

# Posture

No one should be using any version of SSL

- Do you have internal systems that support it?
- Do you have externally-facing systems that support it?
- Do any of your vendors support it?

Could also look at deprecated cipher suites

# Posture

```
ssl:version IN ('SSLv2', 'SSLv3') AND dst.internal = false group by server_name, version
```

server_name	version	count
cm2.████████.com <a href="#">↗</a>	SSLv3 <a href="#">↗</a>	21 <a href="#">↗</a>
www.ssllabs.com <a href="#">↗</a>	SSLv3 <a href="#">↗</a>	2 <a href="#">↗</a>



**Wrap Up**

# Takeaways

- Encryption is here to stay
- Decryption + metadata is ideal, both have pros/cons
- There is plenty of analysis to be done on TLS metadata
  - TLS v1.3 will hinder analysis on who
  - But, it won't hinder analysis on how
- We need to put in some work on JA3 intel

# Questions?