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Shared Darknet Development

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Who ?

- Under the auspices of the REN-ISAC
 - <http://www.ren-isac.net>
- Policy guidance and co-ordination provided by SALSA-CSI2
 - <http://security.internet2.edu/csi2/>
- Logistic, development and technical support provided by the IU's Advanced Network Management Laboratory.
 - <http://anml.iu.edu>
- Data, requirements (and additional development) provided by the community
 - For certain values of “community.”
 - Participation in development potentially driven by requirements. (Scratching your own itch.)



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What ?

- A darknet reporting, querying and analysis system.
 - spanning multiple IP spaces
 - distributed across multiple continents, countries, institutions (Multiple sensors per institution.)
 - Specific to the .edu world for now(?)
 - No technical reason for that.



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What Part 2 / Why ?

- “Wide-Aperture” sensor
- Large, distributed IP space
 - More representative data.
 - Better statistics.
 - More difficult for bad people to avoid being seen.
- More potential for sharing
 - Sharing of infrastructure.
 - Sharing of aggregated information (reports)
 - Sharing of site-specific information.



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How ?

Four components:

1. Site-specific sensors
 - Optionally/preferably with data storage, if only short-term
2. Data collection and aggregation
3. Analysis and reporting
4. Direct data access and querying (maybe)



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Site Sensors and Data Sources

- Sites have their own sensors
 - “Site” is open to interpretation
 - May have multiple sensors per site
 - Sensors can be anything that generates appropriate data
 - Netflow exports from routers
 - UMich Internet Motion Sensor
 - Firewall logs (pf, netfilter)
 - Anything else...



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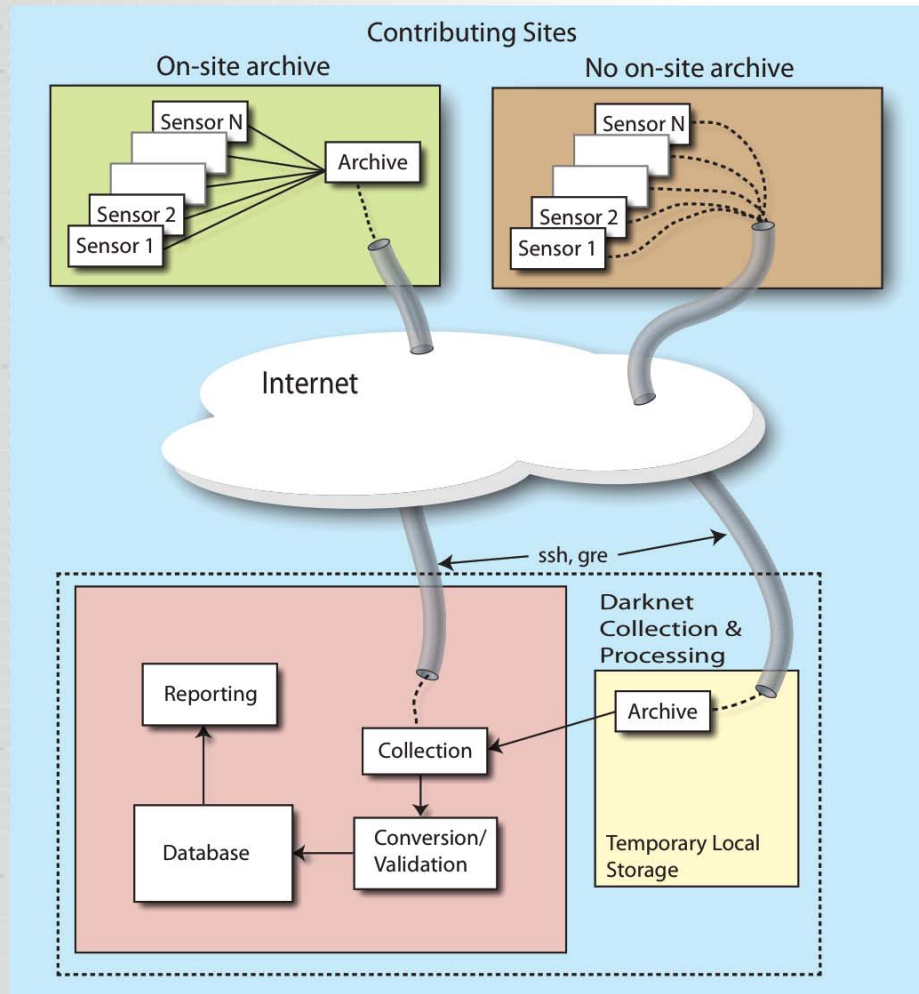
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Data Collection and Aggregation

- Central collection & Analysis host(s)
 - Collect data from individual sites
 - **Batched** or real time
 - Pushed or **pulled**
 - Protocol agnostic
 - **Batched:**
 - **ssh**, http(s) ftp(!) - authenticated or not.
 - Real-time
 - GRE, ssh port forwarding.



Data Collection and Aggregation 2





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Reporting

- Report definitions consist of scope, recipients, information to be generated
 - Modular architecture for reported information
- Automatic generation of reports
 - Based on REN-ISAC registry or similar information base.
- Manual report definition
 - Defined by individuals?



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Reporting 2

- Example of report definition generation:
- Registry ties people to netblocks, netblocks to institutions, people to institutions.
- People for a given institution receive a standard set of reports for their netblocks.
 - Per port counts, total traffic, etc.
- Depending on information in registry, all kinds of reporting relationships can be defined.



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Reporting 3

- Custom reports possible.
 - There are going to be data-sharing/administrative/technical relationships not defined by the registry.
 - Some may be temporally limited.
 - “Hey, can Bob see my stuff for the next two months?”



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Reporting 4

- Report definition (auto or manually generated) is likely to contain:
 - Recipients
 - Netblocks of interest
 - List of reporting modules
 - e.g. top ten destination ports
 - top ten hosts by # of flows
 - % change in total traffic vs. last day/week/month.
 - (This is all pluggable.)



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Querying?

- Possibility of access to raw data
 - Data sharing policies?
 - Authentication & access control
 - Masking/Anonymization (explicitly provided for already.)



The Awful Truth

- Difficult to implement, but not just for technical reasons.
- People are generally willing, but...
 - Everyone is busy
 - Hardware, operating system, data format, architecture, firewall, policies etc are *all different*.
 - Surely some sites have something in common?
 - (Not yet they don't)



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The Awful Truth

- Do we:
 - Send people hardware?
 - Try and gain access to their systems?
 - Persuade them to do more work?
 - Persuade them to change their infrastructure?



The Awful Truth Part 2

- How can we make participation desirable?
 - Even better, how can we make it compelling?
- It's not enough for it to be easy
 - Although that's a big part of the problem.



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The Awful Truth Part 3

- Making it easy to join in isn't enough.
- It has to be easy to *keep* participating.
 - Everything has to be reliable; maintenance is a drag.
 - Like I already said – everyone is busy.



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The Awful Truth Never Ends

- It's hard to make projects that rely on the participation of large numbers of people to deliver any value a compelling prospect for the early participants.



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Questions? Comments? Want to Participate?

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This could be you!