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DNSSEC Deployment Metrics Research

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The goal

- to perform a survey of academic and industry literature related to the deployment of DNSSEC
- to find and document the different techniques and metrics used to measure all aspects of DNSSEC deployment
- to make recommendations to ICANN org for which metrics to measure to obtain the most comprehensive view of DNSSEC deployment across the Internet [1]

• The outcome [2]

[1] https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/rfp-dnssec-deployment-metrics-research-17may21-en.pdf
[2] https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/dnssec-deployment-metrics-research-08aug22-en.pdf
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Challenge: DNSSEC deployment is a wide field



Our approach

- 1. Study a broad range of research
 - from academia
 - presented at conferences by the industry (RIPE, ICANN DNSSEC workshop, ...)
- 2. Gap analysis with identified metrics
- 3. Develop assessment framework to assess measurement techniques



- Domain name metrics
- Resolver metrics
- Client metrics
- Software metrics
- Ecosystem metrics



- Domain name metrics
 - 34 different metrics identified
 - DNSSEC signing most often measured
- Resolver metrics
- Client metrics
- Software metrics
- Ecosystem metrics





- Domain name metrics
- Resolver metrics
 - 17 different metrics identified
 - Most often: Is a resolver able to fetch and validate signatures
- Client metrics
- Software metrics
- Ecosystem metrics



- Domain name metrics
- Resolver metrics
- Client metrics
 - 3 different metrics identified
 - E.g. does a client rely on a validating resolver
- Software metrics
- Ecosystem metrics



- Domain name metrics
- Resolver metrics
- Client metrics
- Software metrics
 - 4 different metrics identified
 - E.g. default parameters
- Ecosystem metrics



- Domain name metrics
- Resolver metrics
- Client metrics
- Software metrics
- Ecosystem metrics
 - 6 different metrics identified
 - E.g. DNSSEC fees



Measurement techniques

- Not every metric can be measured with every measurement technique
- 3 main measurement categories
 - Active
 - Passive
 - Manual





Technique Assessment

- Measurement technique has large impact on each metric
- Assess each technique based on:
 - **Coverage** which parts of the ecosystem can be measured and with what bias?
 - Feasibility can the measurement run continuously, and does it rely on 3rd parties?
 - **Reproducibility** are all measurement parameters known?
- On a scale from - (double minus) to ++ (double plus)



Measurement techniques: Examples

	Coverage	Feasibility	Reproducibility
Advertising network	=	=	+
Proxy network	-	=	-



Recommendations

- What's the goal of the measurement?
- Goal 1: Protecting DNS *transactions* with DNSSEC
- Goal 2: Increasing DNSSEC *deployment quality*
- Goal 3: Making DNSSEC deployments *future-proof*



Goal 1: Protecting DNS transactions with DNSSEC

- Focus on DNS transactions instead of validating resolvers or signed domain names
- Ideally measured at resolvers
- Realistically measured indirectly



Goal 2: Increasing DNSSEC deployment quality

- Focus on conformance with standards and best common practices
- E.g.
 - Signing algorithm and key size
 - Correct rollovers
 - Cookie support



Goal 3: Making DNSSEC deployments **future-proof**

- Look at mid-term and long-term challenges of DNS and DNSSEC
 - KSK rollovers
 - Quantum computers
- E.g.
 - Support of RFC5011
 - Reliable transport of larger messages
 - Experience with KSK rollovers



Open questions and next steps

- Who should start these measurements?
- How can we address the measurement challenges?
- Can we formulate other goals?
- The report:

https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/dnssec-deployment-metricsresearch-08aug22-en.pdf

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Any questions?

