# Internet security of is it and where is it ang?

A 54 Northwick

Cristian Hesselman

Nacht van de digitale veiligheid, Seiden University

May 26, 2025

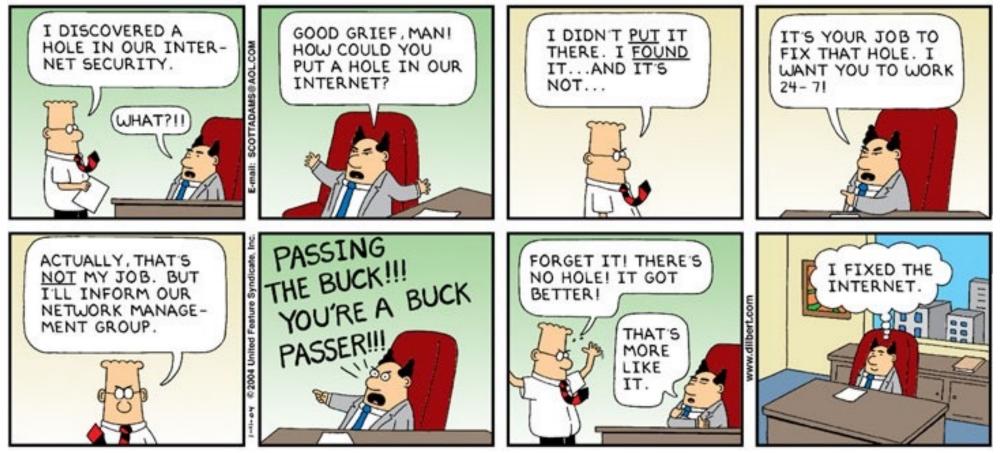
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### How difficult can Internet security be? ③



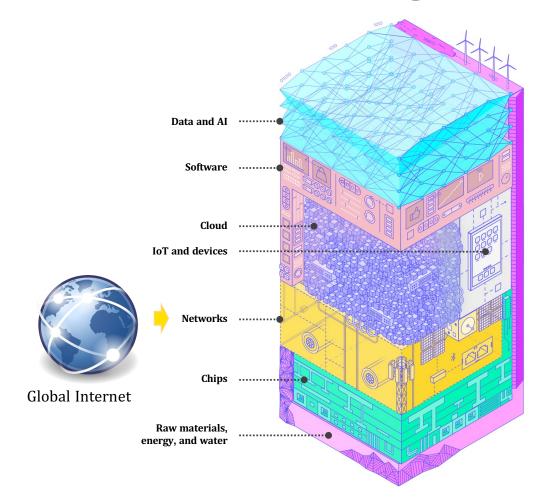


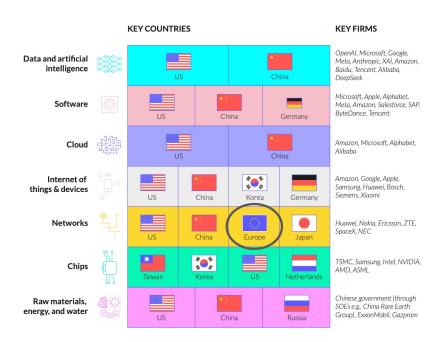
# Today's objective

- Understand what Internet security is and where it might be going
- Enable you to impress your friends :-)



### The Internet in our digital infrastructure







https://www.euro-stack.info

# Agenda

- What is the Internet and what is Internet security?
- Two current threats: routing hijacks and quantum computers
- Internet security measurements
- Two future Internet security concepts
- Key takeaways



# What *is* the Internet?



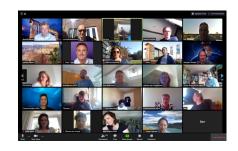
### Today's dependence on the Internet





BACHELOR	Bekijk de opleidingen per studierich	ting.	
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MASTER	INFORMATIETECHNOLOGIE (IT)	LIFE SCIENCES & GENEESKUNDE	NATUURWETENSCHA
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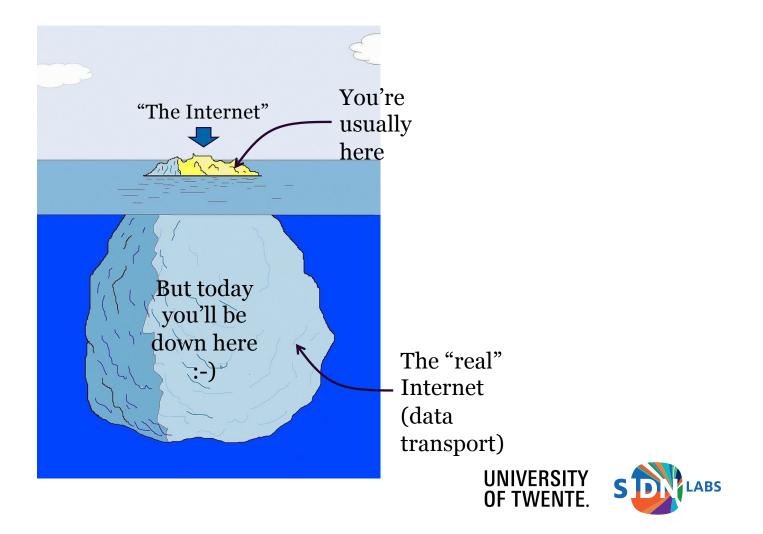








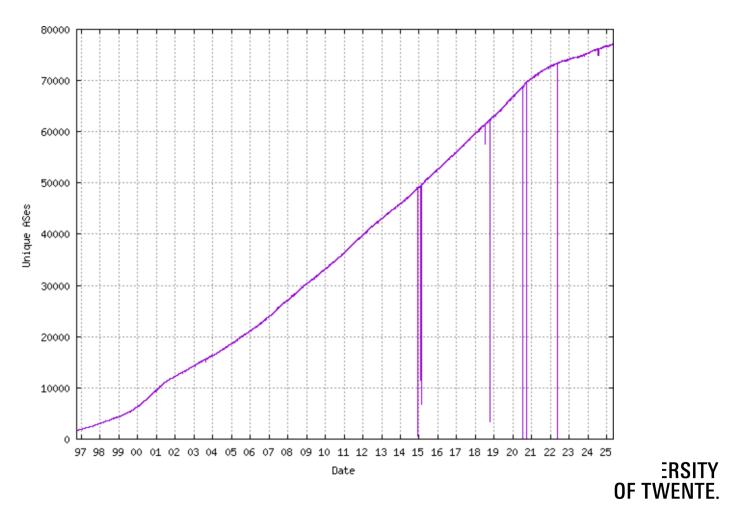
# But that's just the tip of the iceberg



Barrett Lyon / The Opte Project Visualization of the routing paths of the Internet https://www.opte.org/the-internet

### A complex and ever-changing network of networks (hence *inter*net)

### Internet growth 1996-2025



LABS

S

https://www.cidr-report.org/as2.0/

### First packet ever: Oct 29, 1969





### The tangible Internet in the 1960s/70s



Birthplace of the Internet @UCLA



# The tangible Internet today



Nokia router



GL-iNet mini router



https://www.submarinecablemap.com/



Nikhef data center, Amsterdam



# The Internet is our newest civil infrastructure

- Large, built over multiple generations
- Continual improvement, no replacement
- Interacting components with interfaces
- Foundation for other civil infrastructures

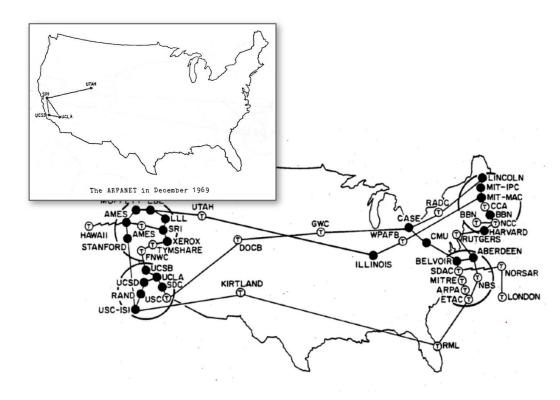








### Early days: personal trust and no "bad actors"



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ARPANET https://www.internethalloffame.org/





Vint Cerf







Robert Kahn

Jon Postel









Louis Pouzin







Daniel Karrenberg









Paul Mockapetris Kc Claffy













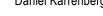








Erik Huizer











# Example: .nl delegation (April 25, 1986)

Mathematisch Centrum Kruislaan 413 1098 SJ Amsterdam Kruislaan		CARACA Erret, Aksgord Numbers, Authority	E
		Delegation Record for .NL	
An adventer Mana : Mana : M	Technical Contact 0 Organization : Centrum voor Wiskunde en Informatica Name : Pier Bestram Title : Communications Consintator Mail Address : Contrum voor Wiskunde en Informatica 1098 32 1008 1008 1008 1008 1008 1008 1008 100	amin Names     (Curtry code top-level domain)       verveie     Curtry code top-level domain)       verveie     Curtry code top-level domain)       verveie     Curtry Cu	
<ol><li>The name, title, mailing address, phone number and organization of the administrative head of the organization</li></ol>	(same as the Domain Technical Contact above)	HOST MAKE IP ADDRESS(ES) ns1.dns.nl 194.0.28.53 2001:678:2c:0:194:0:28:53	1
Administrator Organization : Centrum voor Wiskunde en Informatica Nammi P C. Bayen Title : Director	<ul> <li>The name of the domain. This is the name that will be used in tables and lists associating the domain and the domain server addresses.</li> <li>The top level domain NL.</li> </ul>	ns3.dns.nl 194.0.2524 2001:678:20:00:0:0:24 ns4.dns.nl 185.159.199.200 2620:10.a80ac:0:0:0:0:20	J
<pre>inite : Director Mail Address : Centrum voor Wiskunde en Informatica Kruislaan 413 1090 so AMSTERLOAM THE NETHERLANDS Phone Number : 431 20 522333 Net Mailbox : pletësaismo.cas.gov (will forward) NiC-Ident : (none at present)</pre>	(NL is the two letter (alpha-2) country code for The Netherlands as specified by ISO standard 3166) A description of the servers that provide the domain service for trans- lating make to address for hosts in this domain, and the date they will be operational.	Registry Information URL for registration services: https://www.sidn.nl/ WHOIS Server: whois.domain-registry.nl Record lots updated 2023-07-18. Registration date: 1986-004-25	
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ols Numbers About

### Initial design focused on survivability

### The Design Philosophy of the DARPA Internet Protocols

David D. Clark\* Massachusetts Institute of Technology Laboratory for Computer Science Cambridge, MA. 02139

### (Originally published in Proc. SIGCOMM '88, Computer Communication Review Vol. 18, No. 4, August 1988, pp. 106-114)

-1-

### Abstract

The Internet protocol suite, TCP/IP, was first proposed fifteen years ago. It was developed by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), and has been used widely in military and commercial systems. While there have been papers and specifications that describe how the protocols work, it is sometimes difficult to deduce from these why the protocol is as it is. For example, the Internet protocol is based on a connectionless or datagram mode of service. The motivation for this has been greatly misunderstood. This paper attempts to capture some of the early reasoning which shaped the Internet protocols.

### 1. Introduction

For the last 15 years1, the Advanced Research Projects Agency of the U.S. Department of Defense has been developing a suite of protocols for packet switched networking. These protocols, which include the Internet Protocol (IP), and the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), are now U.S. Department of Defense standards for internetworking, and are in wide use in the commercial networking environment. The ideas developed in this effort have also influenced other protocol suites, most importantly the connectionless configuration of the ISO protocols<sup>2,3,4</sup>.

While specific information on the DOD protocols is fairly generally available<sup>5,6,7</sup>, it is sometimes difficult to determine the motivation and reasoning which led to the design.

In fact, the design philosophy has evolved considerably from the first proposal to the current standards. For example, the idea of the datagram, or connectionless service, does not receive particular emphasis in the first paper, but has come to be the defining characteristic of the protocol. Another example is the layering of the This work was supported in part by the Defense Advanced Research Proj.

ACM SIGCOMM

architecture into the IP and TCP layers. This seems basic to the design, but was also not a part of the original proposal. These changes in the Internet design arose through the repeated pattern of implementation and testing that occurred before the standards were set.

The Internet architecture is still evolving. Sometimes a new extension challenges one of the design principles. but in any case an understanding of the history of the design provides a necessary context for current design extensions. The connectionless configuration of ISO protocols has also been colored by the history of the Internet suite, so an understanding of the Internet design philosophy may be helpful to those working with ISO.

This paper catalogs one view of the original objectives of the Internet architecture, and discusses the relation between these goals and the important features of the protocols.

### 2. Fundamental Goal

The top level goal for the DARPA Internet Architecture was to develop an effective technique for multiplexed utilization of existing interconnected networks. Some elaboration is appropriate to make clear the meaning of that goal.

The components of the Internet were networks, which were to be interconnected to provide some larger service. The original goal was to connect together the original ARPANET8 with the ARPA packet radio network9,10, in order to give users on the packet radio network access to the large service machines on the ARPANET. At the time it was assumed that there would be other sorts of networks to interconnect, although the local area network had not vet emerged.

An alternative to interconnecting existing networks would have been to design a unified system which A incorporated a wariety of different transmission media, a

Computer Communication Review

multi-media network. While this might have permitted a higher degree of integration, and thus better performance, it was felt that it was necessary to incomorate the then existing network architectures if Internet was to be useful in a practical sense. Further, networks represent administrative boundaries of control, and it was an ambition of this project to come to grips with the problem of integrating a number of separately administrated entities into a common utility.

The technique selected for multiplexing was packet switching. An alternative such as circuit switching could have been considered, but the applications being supported, such as remote login, were naturally served by the packet switching paradigm, and the networks which were to be integrated together in this project were packet switching networks. So packet switching was accepted as a fundamental component of the Internet architecture.

The final aspect of this fundamental goal was the assumption of the particular technique for interconnecting these networks. Since the technique of store and forward packet switching as demonstrated in the previous DARPA project, the ARPANET, was well understood, the top level assumption was that networks would be interconnected by a layer of Internet nacket switches, which were called gateways.

From these assumptions comes the fundamental structure of the Internet: a packet switched communications facility in which a number of distinguishable networks are connected together using packet communications processors called gateways which implement a store and forward packet forwarding algorithm.

### 3. Second Level Goals

The top level goal stated in the previous section contains the word "effective," without offering any definition of what an effective interconnection must achieve. The following list summarizes a more detailed set of goals which were established for the Internet architecture.

### met communication must continue despite loss

- 2. The Internet must support multiple types of communications service.
- 3. The Internet architecture must accommodate a variety of networks
- 4. The Internet architecture must permit distributed management of its resources.
- 5. The Internet architecture must be cost effective

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-2-

- 6. The Internet architecture must permit host attachment with a low level of effort 7. The resources used in the internet architecture must
- be accountable

This set of goals might seem to be nothing more than a checklist of all the desirable network features. It is important to understand that these goals are in order of importance, and an entirely different network architecture would result if the order were changed. For example, since this network was designed to operate in a military context, which implied the possibility of a hostile environment, survivability was put as a first goal, and accountability as a last goal. During wartime, one is less concerned with detailed accounting of resources used than with mustering whatever resources are available and rapidly deploying them in an operational manner. While the architects of the Internet were mindful of accountability, the problem received very little attention during the early stages of the design. and is only now being considered. An architecture primarily for commercial deployment would clearly place these goals at the opposite end of the list.

Similarly, the goal that the architecture he cost effective is clearly on the list, but below certain other goals, such as distributed management, or support of a wide variety of networks. Other protocol suites, including some of the more popular commercial architectures, have been optimized to a particular kind of network, for example a long haul store and forward network built of medium speed telephone lines, and deliver a very cost effective solution in this context, in exchange for dealing somewhat poorly with other kinds of nets, such as local area nets.

The reader should consider carefully the above list of goals, and recognize that this is not a "motherhood" list, but a set of priorities which strongly colored the design decisions within the Internet architecture. The following sections discuss the relationship between this list and the features of the Internet

### 4. Survivability in the Face of Failure

The most important goal on the list is that the Internet should continue to supply communications service, even though networks and gateways are failing. In particular, this goal was interpreted to mean that if two entities are communicating over the Internet, and some failure causes the Internet to be temporarily disrupted and reconfigured to reconstitute the service, then the entities communicating should be able to continue without having to reestablish or reset the high level state of their conversation. More concretely, at the service interface of the transport layer, this architecture provides no

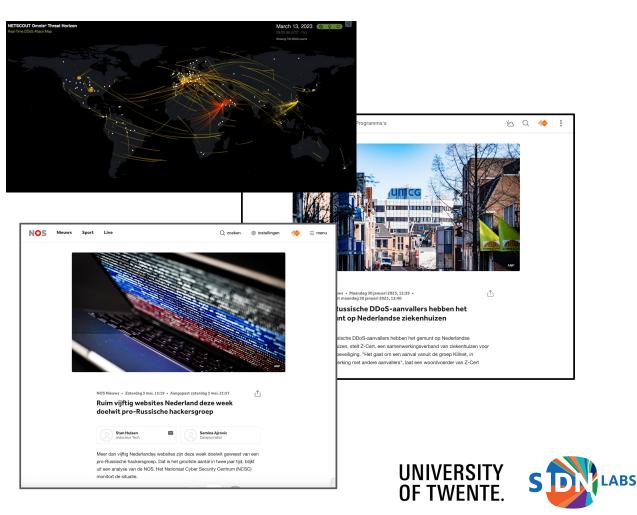
Computer Communication Review

OF TWENTE.



# But growth introduced new security risks

- Phishing
- Fake webshops
- DDoS attacks
- Malware
- Routing hijacks



# So, the community had to increase system trust

- Encryption so that only the receiver can read a message and not an adversary
- Signatures so that receivers can validate the source and message integrity
- Additional availability mechanisms, such as redundancy and "DDoS scrubbing"



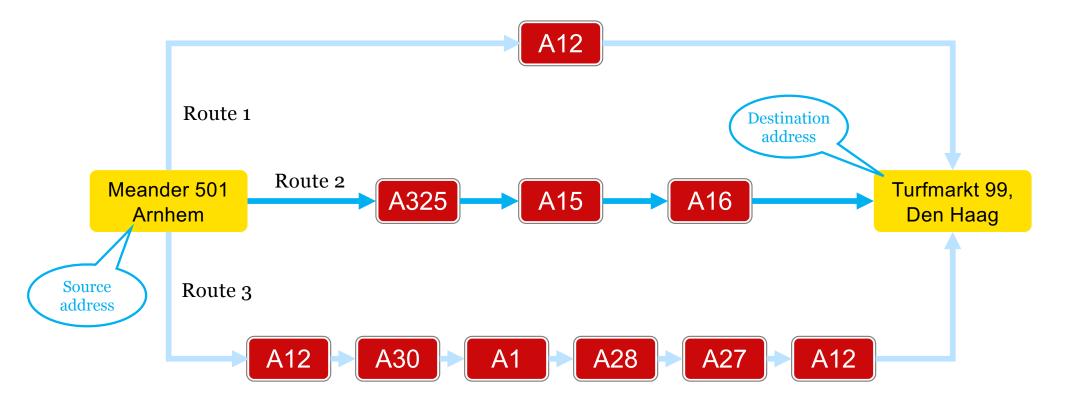


025/04/internet-trust-why-we-need-itand-how-to-achieve-it/



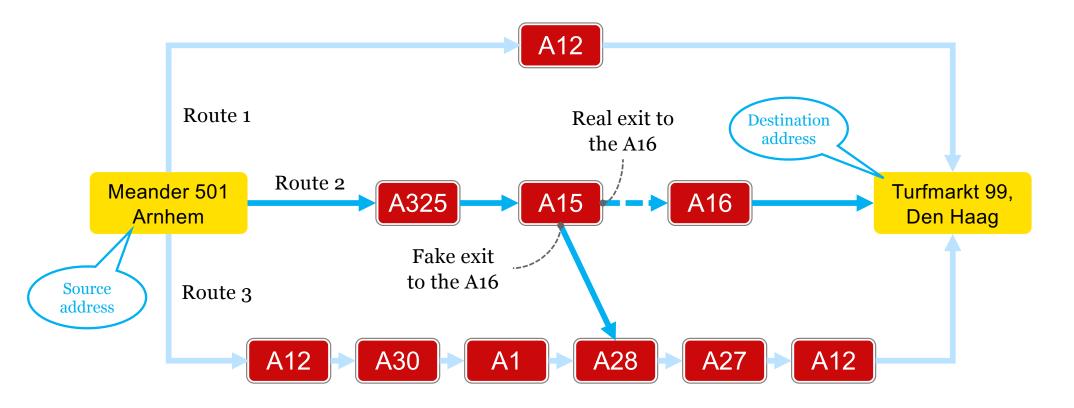


# The Internet's <u>routing</u> system as a highway network



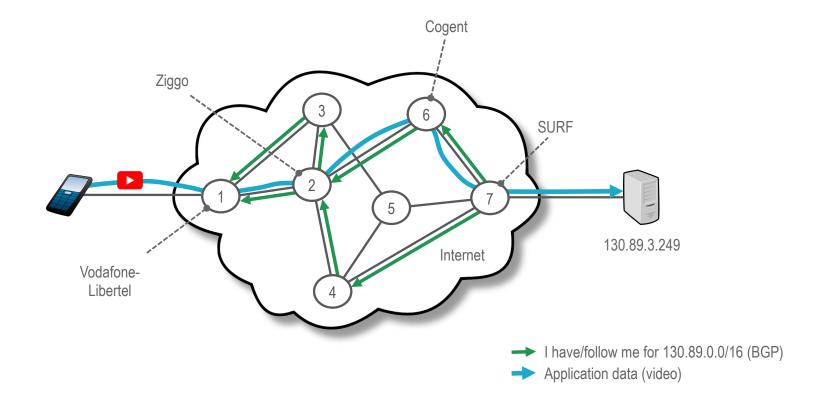


# "Routing hijacks" in a highway network





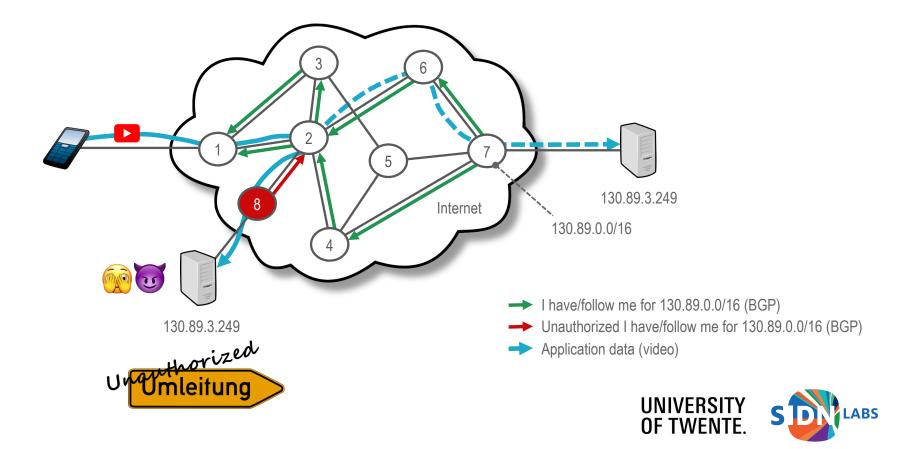
# Toy example of Internet routing



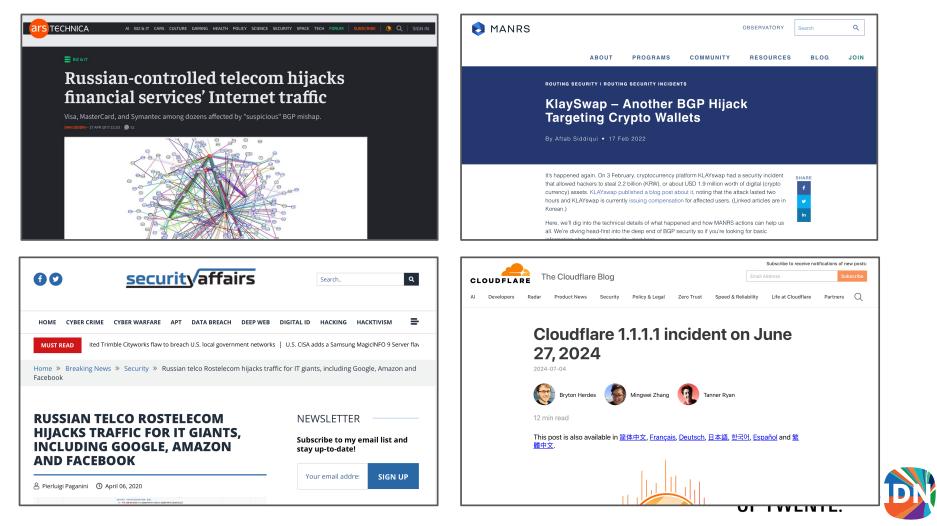
BGP = Border Gateway Protocol



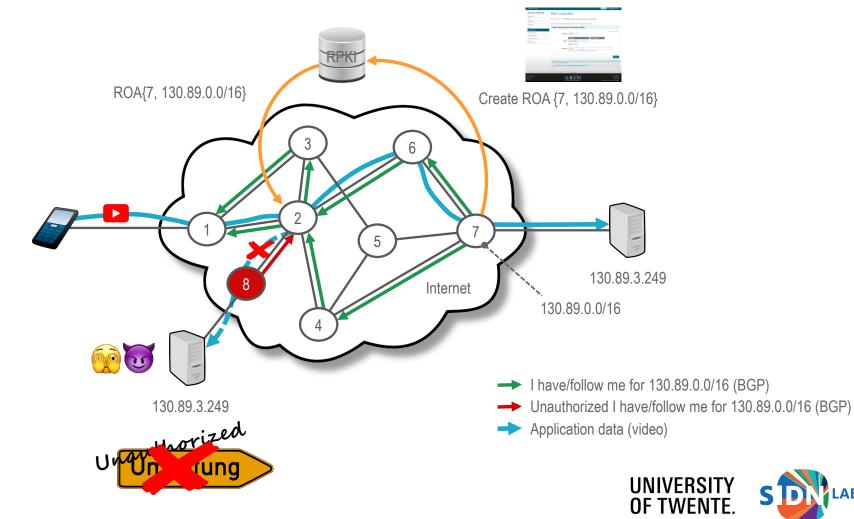
### Routing hijacks: tricking traffic into taking a "detour"



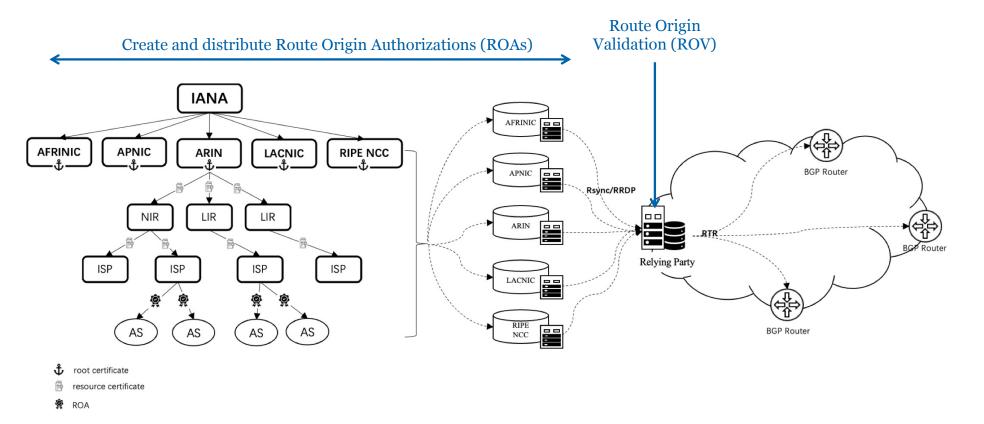
# Routing hijacks "in the wild"



### Solution: Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI)



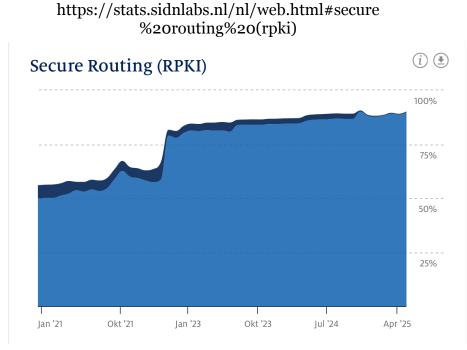
# How does the RPKI work?





Source: https://2025.apricot.net/assets/files/APAC945/rpki-monitor-modelin\_1740438360.pdf

### RPKI deployment levels: ROAs and ROV



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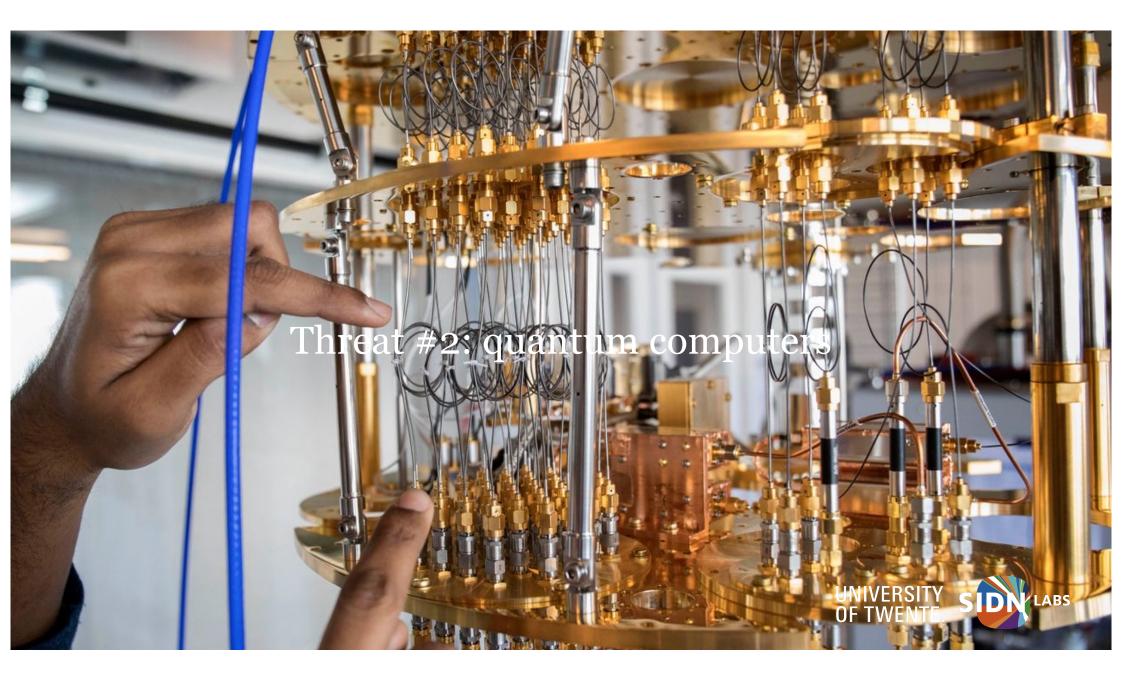
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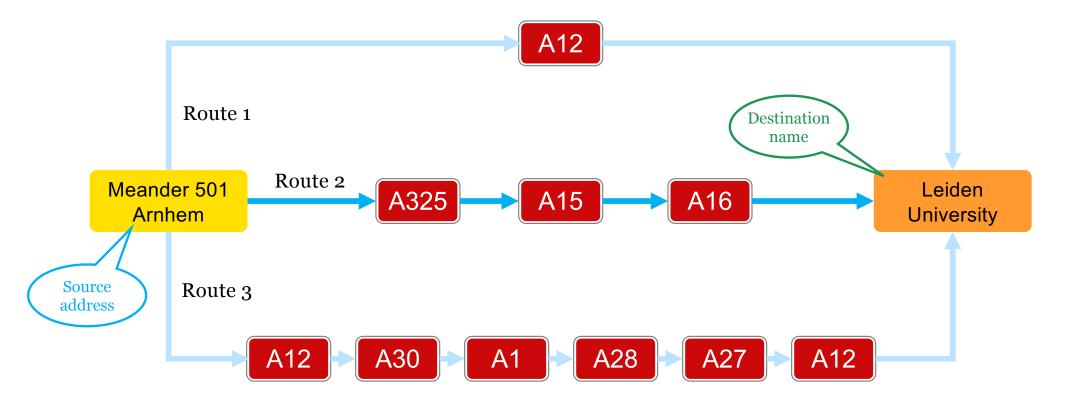
# Challenges ahead

- Incentivize adoption of ROA and ROV, such as for critical infrastructure
- Increase user demand through internet.nl, for example
- Further develop technologies such as BGPsec and ASPA as well as entirely new concepts such as "risk-based routing" and "zones of trust"





# The Internet's <u>naming</u> system in a highway network





### From names to numbers

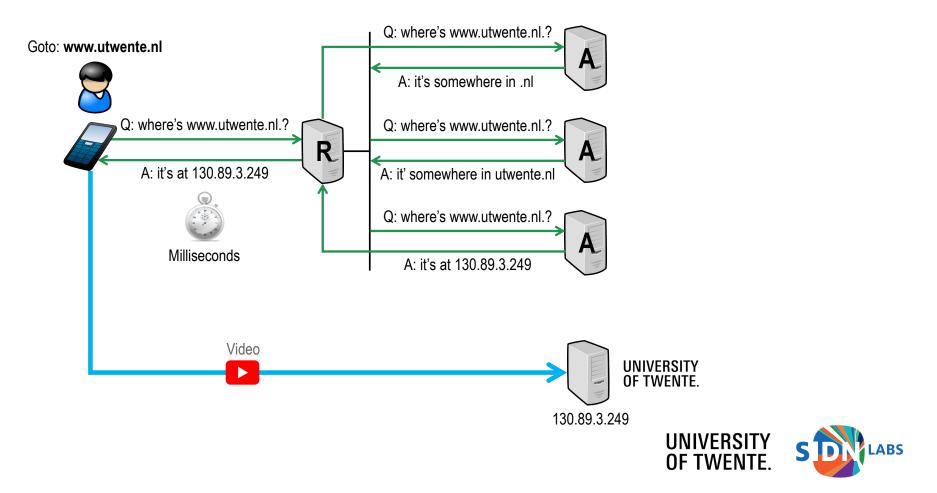
**e** search www.utwente.nl. root net nl uk COM ac gov example example utwente wales cam cl smtp WWW WWW WWW WWW WWW

DNS = Domain Name System

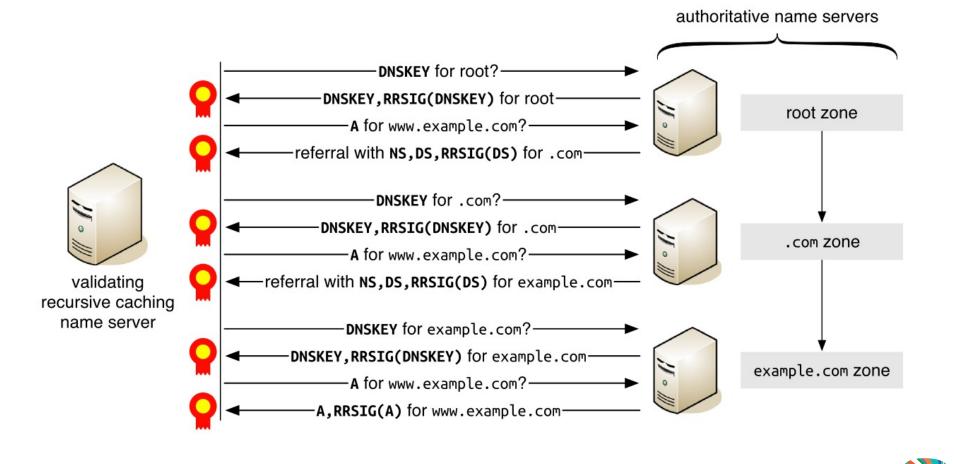


[Toorn22]

# **Underlying DNS interactions**



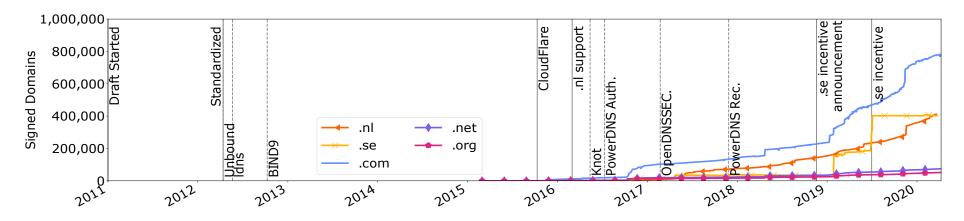
### DNSSEC keys and signatures need PQC



O. van der Toorn, M. Müller, S. Dickinson, C. Hesselman, A. Sperotto & R. van Rijswijk-Deij, "Add Asing WENTE, the challenges of modern DNS: a comprehensive tutorial", Computer Science Review, June 2022

UNIVERSITY

### Why work on PQC in DNSSEC now?



Domains signed with ECDSA256 and resolvers able validating this algorithm



M. Müller, "Making DNSSEC Future Proof", Ph.D. thesis, University of Twente, Sep 2021

#### **Requirements for quantum-safe algoritms**

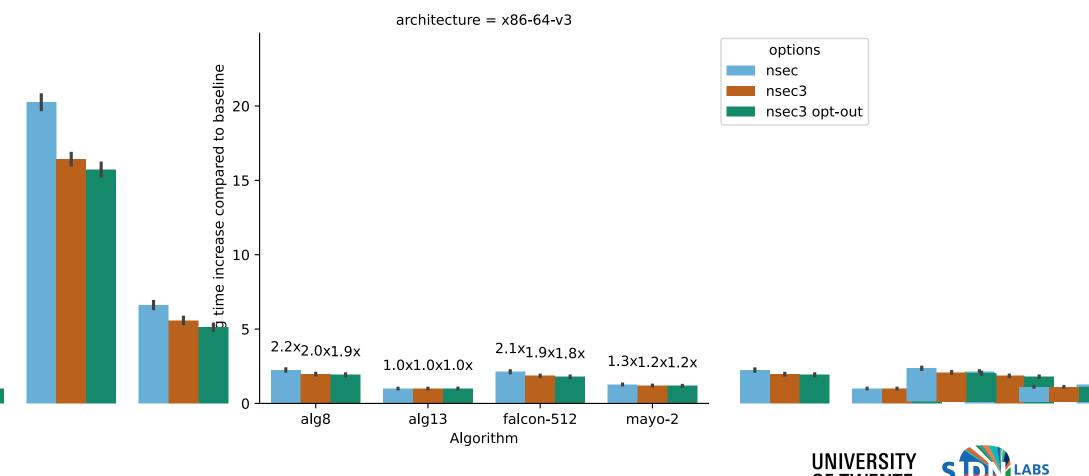
Prio	Requirement	Good	Accepted Conditionally
#1	Signature Size	$\leq$ 1,232 bytes	—
#2	Validation Speed	$\geq$ 1,000 sig/s	—
#3	Key Size	$\leq$ 64 kilobytes	> 64 kilobytes
#4	Signing Speed	$\geq$ 100 sig/s	

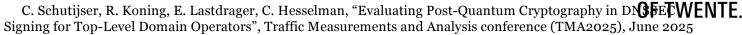
*M. Müller et al, "Retrofitting Post-Quantum Cryptography in Internet Protocols:* 

A Case Study of DNSSEC", ACM SIGCOMM Computer Communication Review, vol. 50, no. 4, 2020.

PQC algorithm	ECC	MAYO	SQSign	Falcon
Signature size			•••	<b>x</b>
Validation speed		$\bigcirc$	99	$\bigcirc$
Key size		w	<b>e</b> e	
Signing speed		$\bigcirc$	99	<b>e</b>
Post-qua	ntum signatures zoo:	https://pqshield.gitl	nub.io/nist-sigs-zoo	OF TWEN

## Signing performance looks good





# Challenges ahead

- Standardization at NIST and in the IETF
- Assess operational impact of PQC algorithms on the DNS and its operators
- Create user awareness, such as through internet.nl
- Develop software, such as via NLnet Labs, NLnet, Sovereign Tech Fund

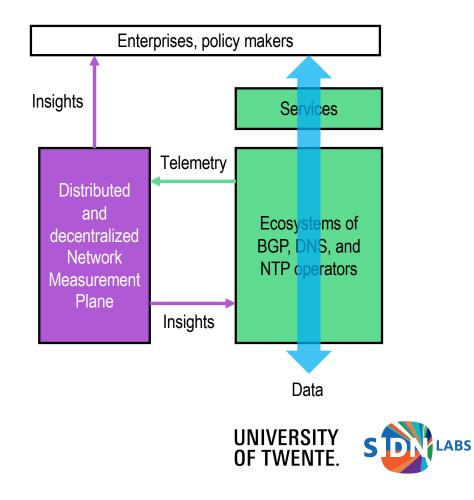


## Internet security measurements



### Vision: a measurement plane for Internet security

- Continually map the Internet's behavior and evolution: routing, DNS, time, certificates
- Input for (collaborative) incident response handling, infrastructure engineering, and policy making
- Ideally discover and share data across operators and researchers in an interoperable and federated way



## Case study #1: security of network paths

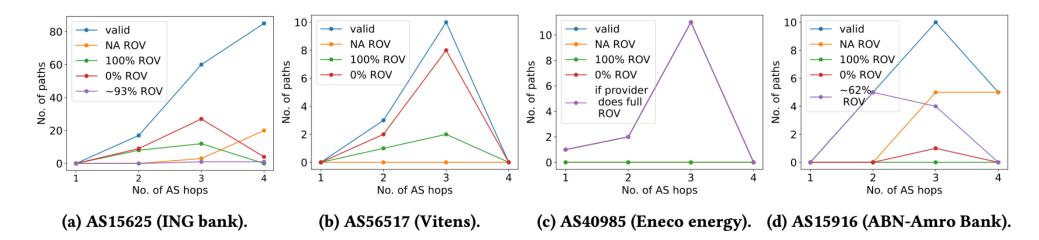


Figure 3: Number of paths for different numbers of AS hops between the four CIs and Microsoft mail service.

S. Krishna Khadka, S. Bayhan, R. Holz, and C. Hesselman, "Assessing the security of Internet paths: A case study of Dutch critical infrastructures", ACM/IRTF Applied Networking Research Workshop 2024 (ANRW'24), Vancouver, Canada, July 2024



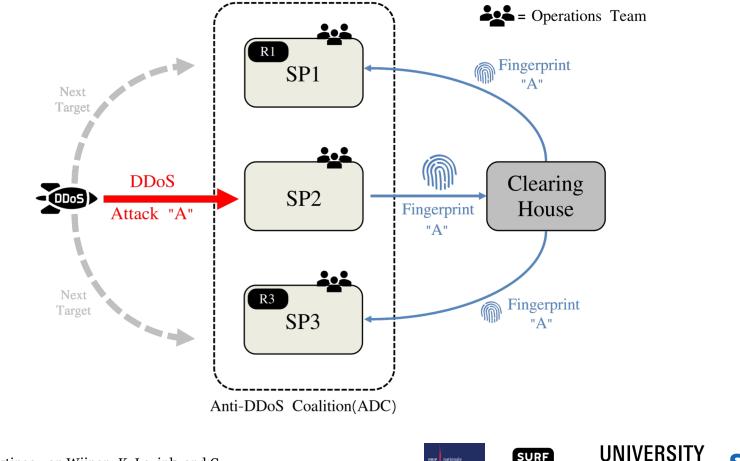
## Case study #2: measuring DNS "catchments" for .nl





https://www.sidnlabs.nl/en/news-and-blogs/our-dns-infrastructure-in-focus

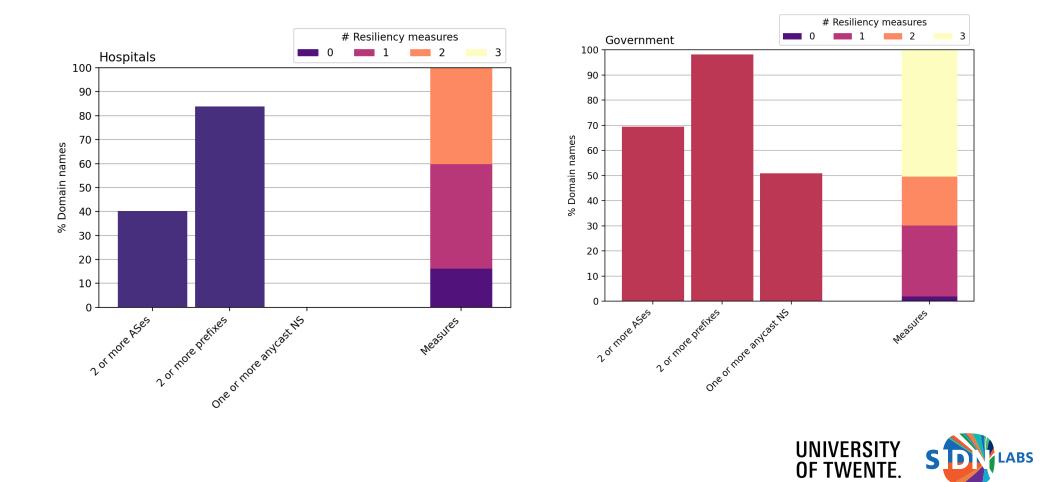
### Case study #3: mitigate DDoS attacks collaboratively



R. Yazdani, T. van den Hout, R. Poortinga-van Wijnen, K. Lovink, and C. Hesselman, "Collaboratively Increasing the DDoS-Resilience of Digital Societies Through Anti-DDoS Coalitions", IEEE Communications Magazine, June 2024

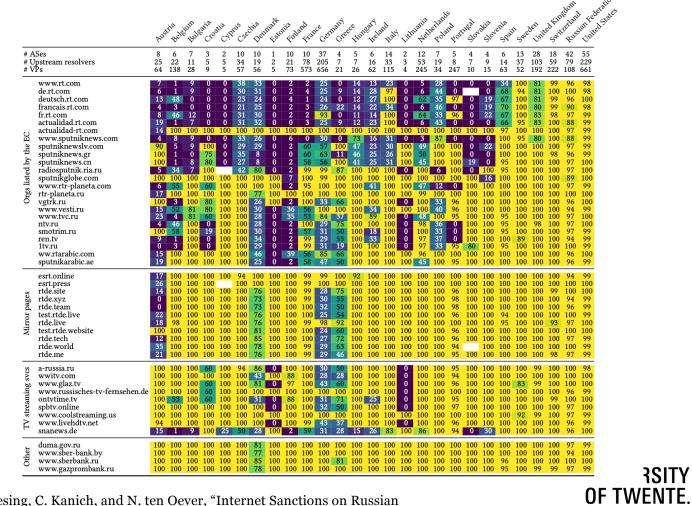


## Case study #4: DNS resilience in the Netherlands



https://www.sidnlabs.nl/en/news-and-blogs/can-the-netherlands-digital-infrastructure-with stand-a-knock-line stand-a-knock-li

### Case study #5: evaluation of Internet sanctions



LABS

J. Kristoff, M. Müller, A. Filastò, M. Resing, C. Kanich, and N. ten Oever, "Internet Sanctions on Russian Media: Actions and Effects", Free and Open Communications on the Internet, February 2024

# Challenges ahead

- Mindset change: securing the Internet is a joint responsibility
- Interoperability of network measurements and analyses
- Make measurements an integral part of the Internet architecture
- Data-driven design and evaluation of security-related policies



# Future Internet security concepts

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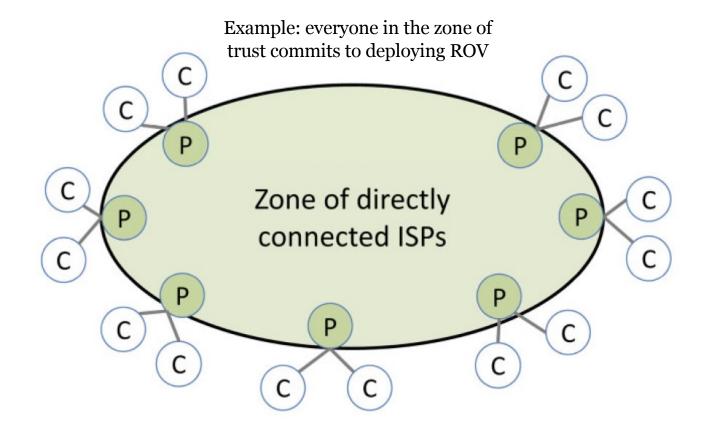


## Concept #1: policy zones

- Groups of networks that agree on a "networking regime"
  - While staying fully connected to the rest of the Internet
  - Protect against routing hijacks, path hijacks, quantum computers
  - Deploy entirely new security-related features such path-aware networking
- Increased security levels at a "regional" level
  - New applications, such as remote train driving and intelligent transport systems
  - Verify that traffic is staying within certain jurisdictions
  - Might be more realistic than making BGP globally secure



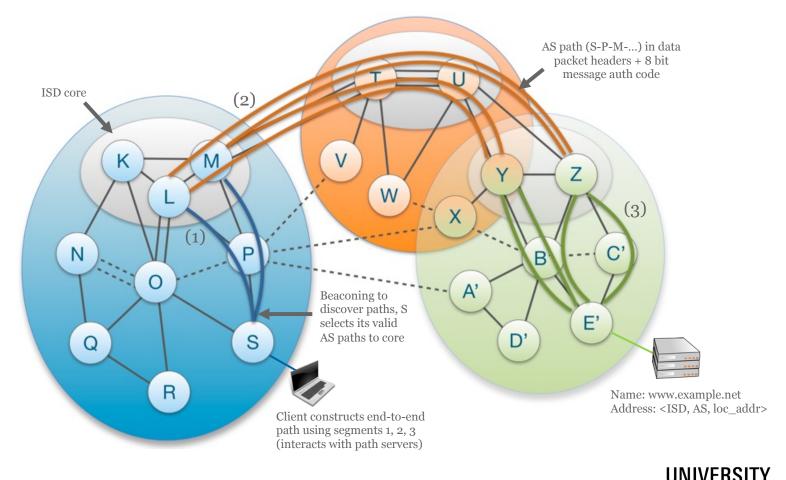
### Example #1: zones of trust



D. Clark, C. Testart, M. Luckie, kc claffy, "A path forward: improving Internet routing security by enabling zones of trust", Journal of Cybersecurity, Volume 10, Issue 1, December 2024, https://doi.org/10.1093/cybsec/tyae023



## Example #2: isolation domains in SCION

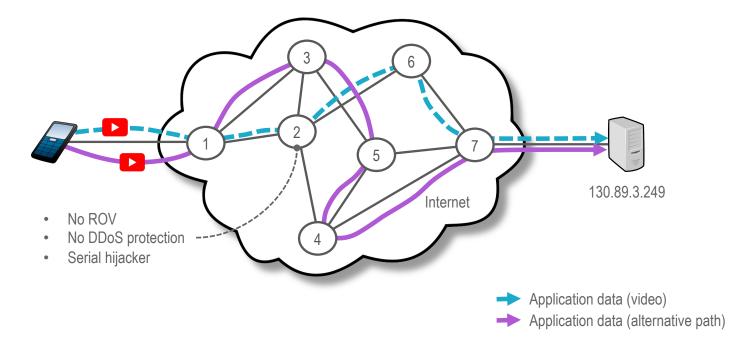




LABS

https://www.sidnlabs.nl/en/news-and-blogs/new-internet-infrastructures-an-introduction-to-scion

#### Concept #2: risk-based routing

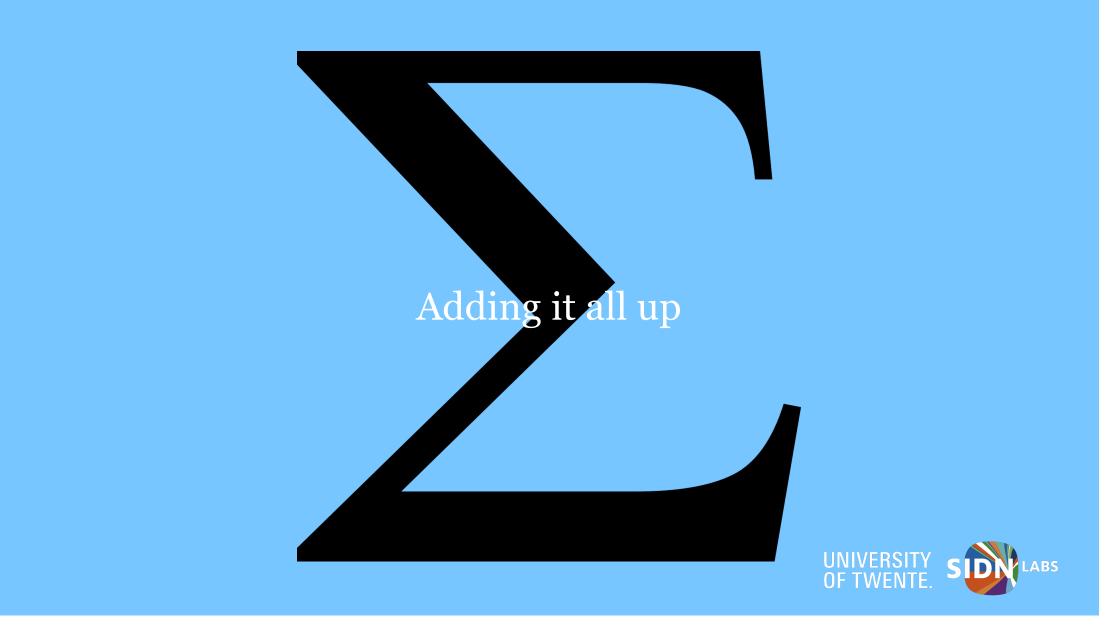




# Challenges ahead

- Develop required measurement methodologies, such as
  - Demonstrate that the routers in a zone conform to the zone's rules
  - Create risk profiles of Autonomous Systems
- Experimentation and evaluation
  - Assess scalability, privacy, among others
  - Projects UPIN and CATRIN project and its demonstrator (under development)
- How could upper layers in the technology stack benefit? Example: Ecofed





## Key takeaways

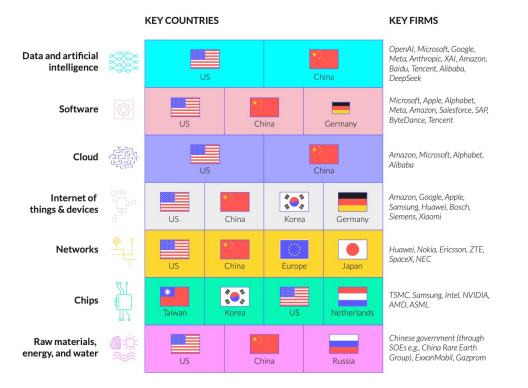
- The Internet is our newest civil infrastructure, but this time it's a global one
- Internet security is a joint responsibility (BGP, DNS)
- Internet measurements and analysis should be part of the Internet architecture
- Future applications might require new Internet security concepts
- Education, academic and applied research are essential to make all that happen



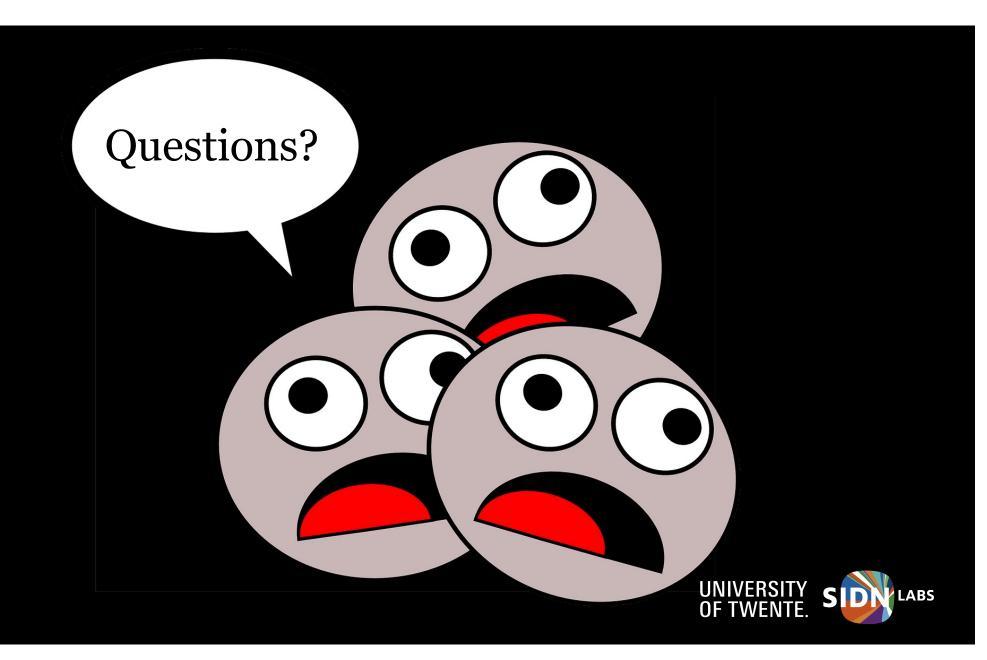
## Reinforce global Internet and European infrastructure



**Global Internet** 







To what extent will you be able to impress your friends with your knowledge on Internet security and where it might be going?



## www.sidnlabs.nl | stats.sidnlabs.nl



**Cristian Hesselman** Directeur SIDN Labs cristian.hesselman@sidn.nl +31 6 25 07 87 33

