

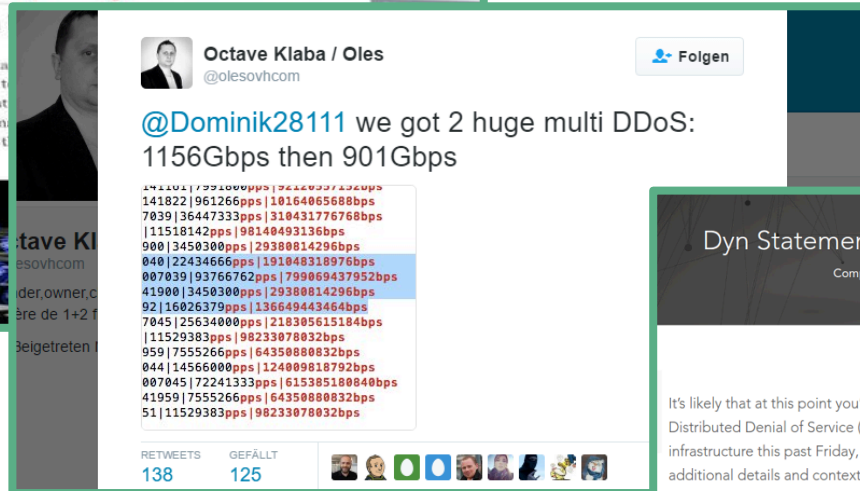
# Inferring BGP Blackholing Activity in the Internet

*NANOG 72, Atlanta*

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# Motivation

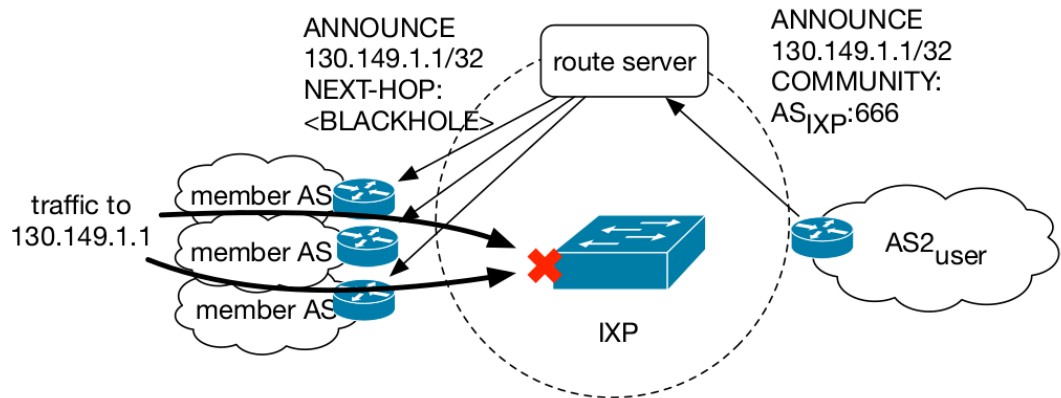


# Blackholing

Blackholing [RFC1997, RFC7999]



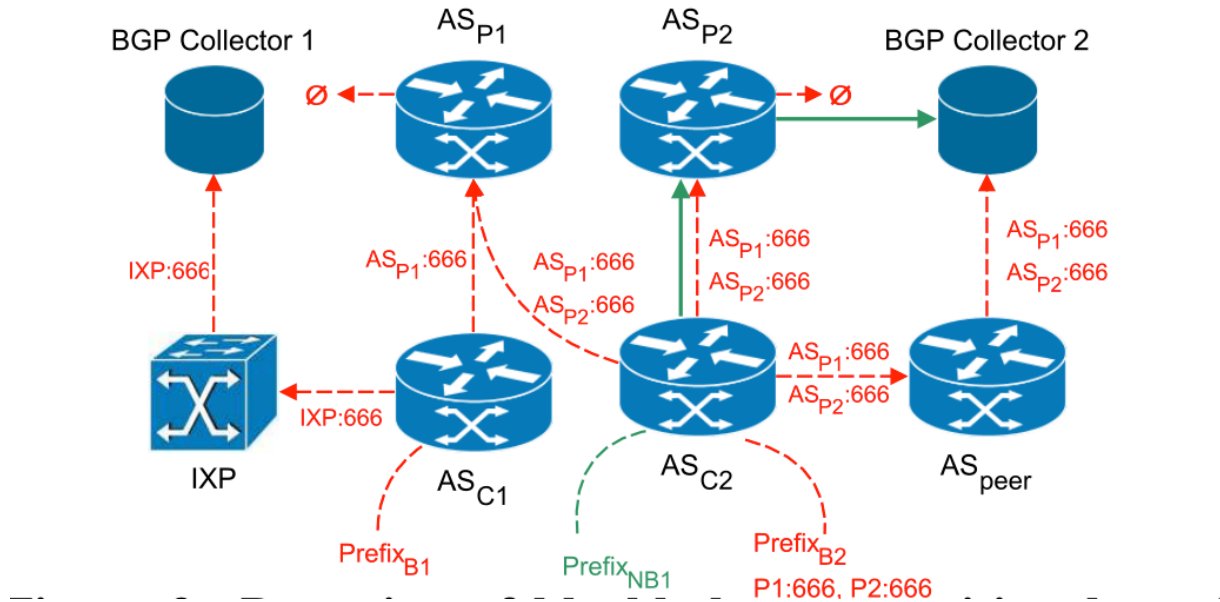
Blackholing at IXPs



# Research Goals

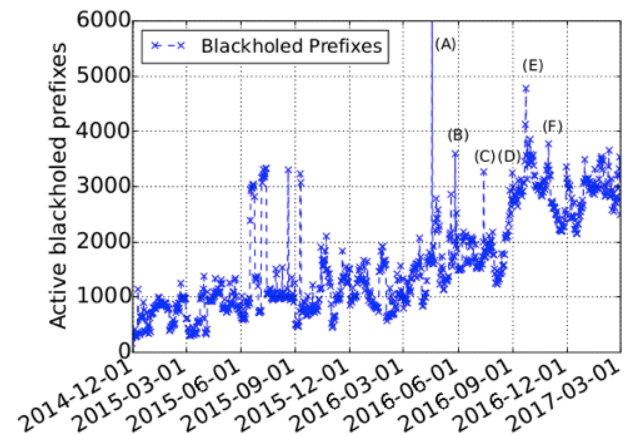
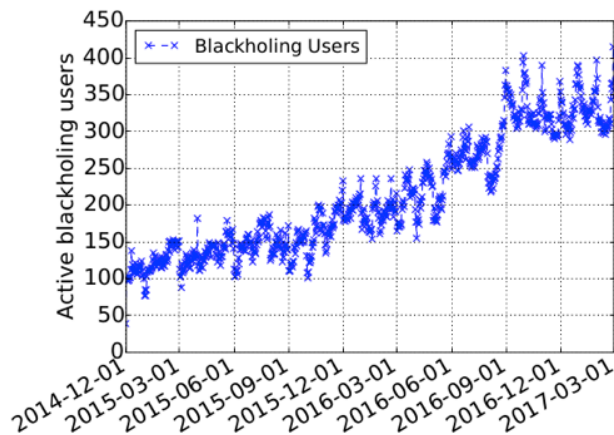
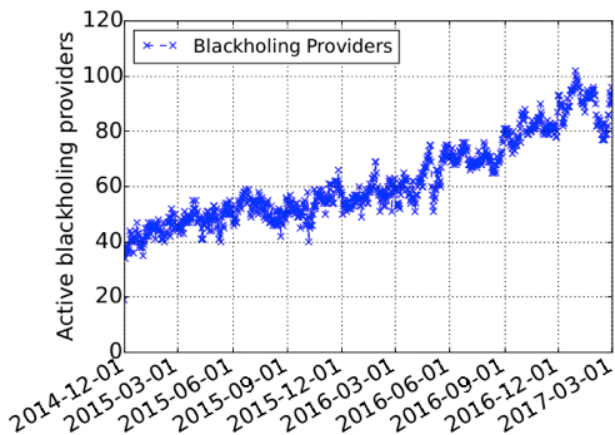
- Internet wide-adoption
- Profile the targets using blackholing
- Blackholing practices
- Network efficacy

# Blackhole Communities, Vantage Points

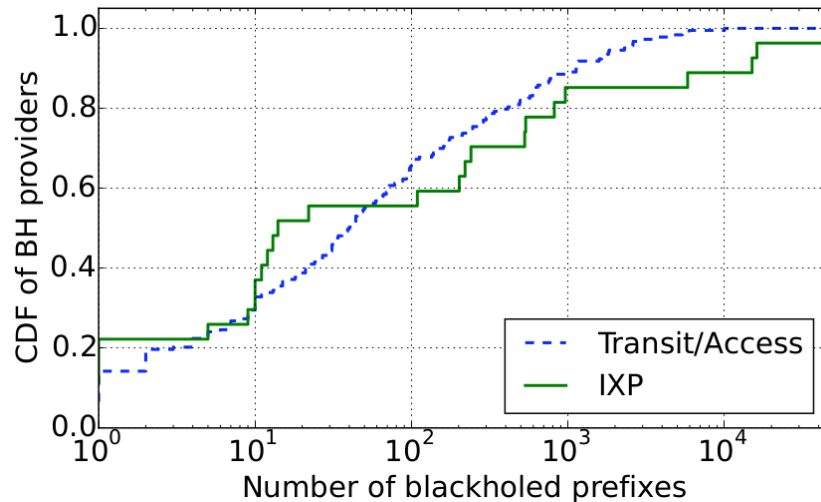
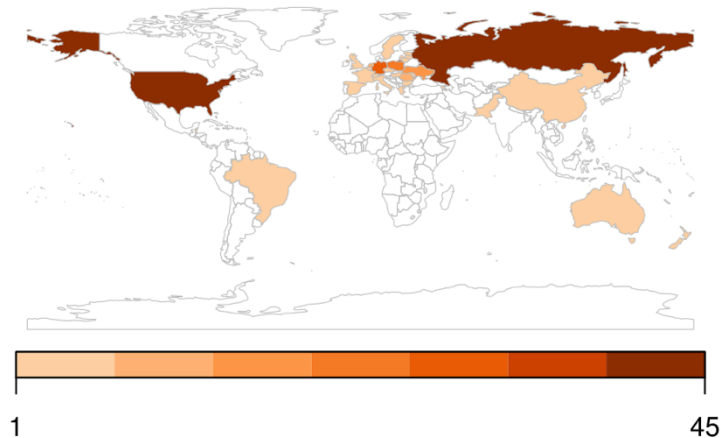


# Inferring BGP Blackholing Activity

- BH providers: 100% increase, transit ASes only 18%
- BH users: 600% increase
- BH prefixes: 485 → 4,683 and 161,031 different uniques
- A) Attack on Russian gov, D) Olympic Games, E) “Kerbs on Security”

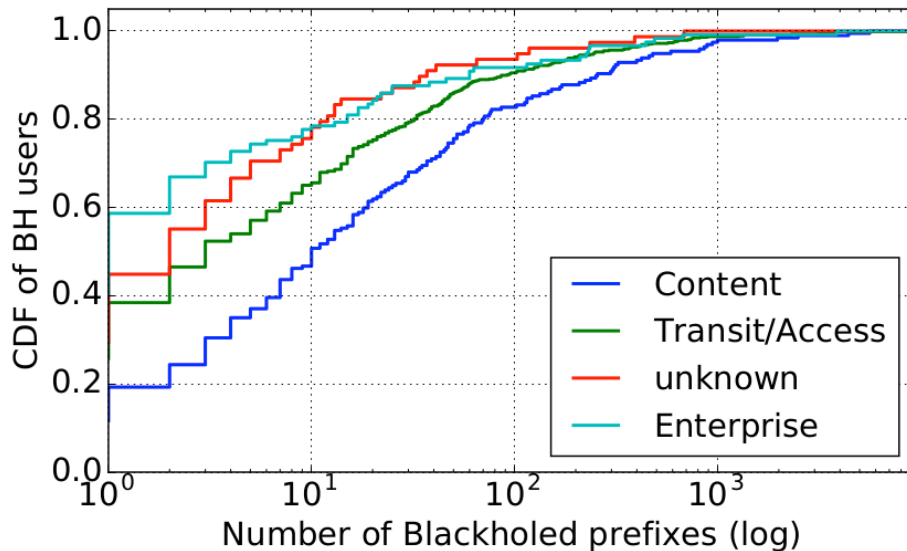
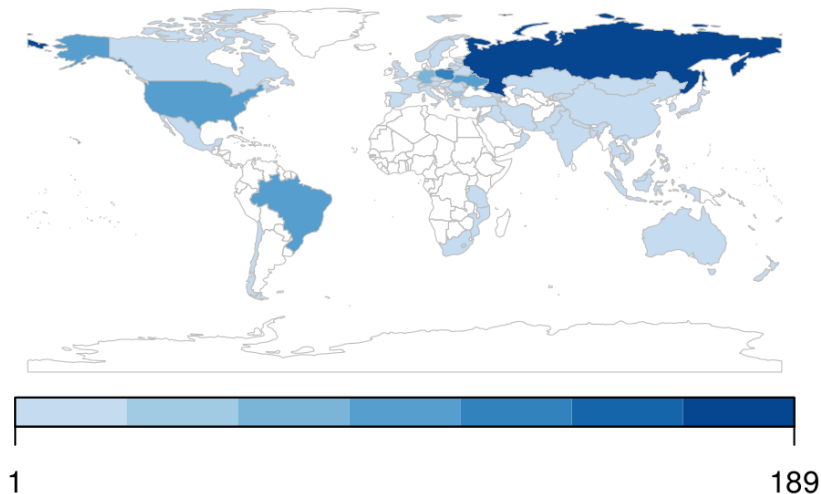


# Blackholing Provider ASes



- USA, Russia, Central Europe-centric
- 184 ASes out of 242 are transit/access providers, ~10% IXPs
- Prefixes for transit/access: a few to more than 1,000, only 20 with 1000+

# Blackholing User ASES

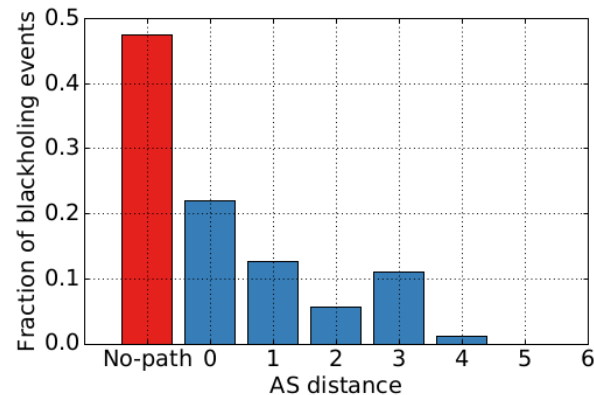
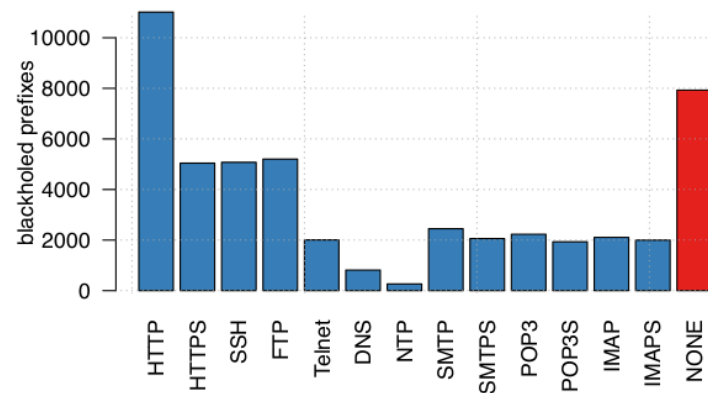


- Obviously Russia, US, and central Europe, but also Brazil and Ukraine
- Content providers dominant, 18% of users account for 43% prefixes
- Mostly small cloud providers and hosters

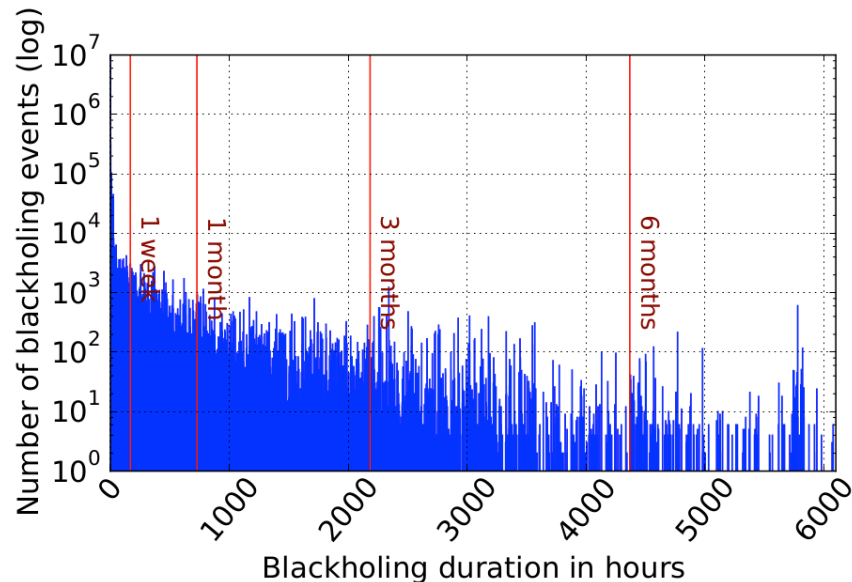
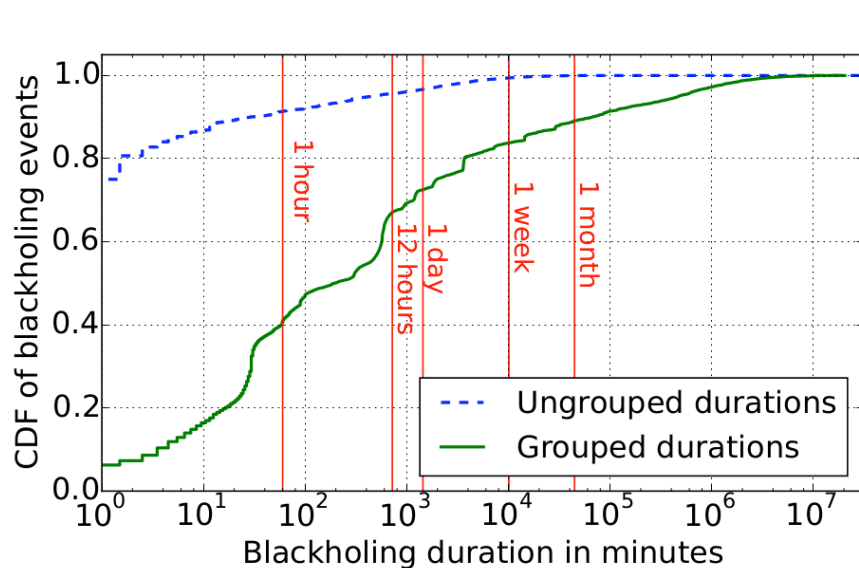


# Blackholed Services and AS Distance

- Open host ports for 60%
  - http dominant with 53%, 61% replied to HTTP GET
  - https, ssh, ftp
- -1: BH provider does not appear in AS path
- 0: First hop (~10%)
- 1 → 6: At least one hop (~30%)



# Blackholing “Events” - Durations



# Conclusion

- First Internet-wide study of the state and adoption of blackholing
- Significantly increased adoption, more cyber-attacks and threats(?)
- Rise of blackholing users and prefixes, but limited geographical spread
- 400 users and up to 5K prefixes per day
- Need for more fine-grained blackholing?

## Inferring BGP Blackholing Activity in the Internet

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### ABSTRACT

The Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) has been used for decades as the de facto protocol to *exchange* reachability information among networks in the Internet. However, little

Internet is an uncoordinated global communication system [32], it took a substantial effort to achieve stable global connectivity in the face of outages and disasters [24,61], independent routing decisions [38], attacks [54], and mis-configuration

