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Network Visibility as a Service

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Companies depend on Networks



e-mail, databases, shared folders, VoIP, cloud...





Downtime







Network Downtime equals Cost



"average loss per company > \$3.5M/year"



Network Visibility

To properly manage a complex system, you need to see what happens inside it



Why Network Visibility?

- Identify congested links
- Detect unwanted applications
- Locate sources of congestion / bandwidth abuse
- Analyze performance issues
- Troubleshoot network malfunctions
- Security: detect attacks & anomalies
- Forensics: incident analysis
- Network capacity planning



Two Families of Visibility Products

- Deep Packet Inspection
 - Brute-force approach: inspect all packets
 - High visibility at a very high cost
 - Full network coverage often cost-ineffective
- Flow-based (NetFlow, IPFIX, sFlow..) (
 - Use traffic statistics exported by routers
 - Lower cost but lower visibility





POLYGRAH.io - Overview

- Flow based: instant deployment (SaaS)
- Enhanced visibility: "NetFlow on steroids"
- Aims for the best user experience





https://demo.polygraph.io/#

Deployment Models: SaaS





Deployment Models: Enterprise





Enterprise: Multi-Tenancy



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POLYGRAH.io - Technology

- High visibility at the cost of software solutions best visibility-to-cost ratio
- How? NetFlow + artificial intelligence
 NetFlow on steroids: application identification, SSL domain ID, attack & anomaly detection capabilities



History

- Seed: collaboration UPC + CSUC
- Initial use case: network operation aid in a multi-tenant enviornment
- Draws on tech from research world
- 2 years ago: going comercial
- Spin-off of UPC-BarcelonaTech



Application Identification

- Issue: in flow-based monitoring, it is tough to identify applications!
- Port-based identification is not accurate

 many applications no longer use well-known ports
- Our solution: heuristic identification via machine-learning



Application Identification (2)

- 1. Capture network traffic in high-volume links
- 2. Collect NetFlow
- 3. Combine both inputs
- 4. Figure out heuristics automatically: machine learning
- 5. Apply found heuristics to all customers



Web Domain Identification

Web domains are not included in flow-level data

- only IP addresses, ports, protocol, bytes...

- Other products...
 - .. expect you to manually maintain mappings, e.g.,
 1.2.3.0/24 is Facebook
- POLYGRAPH.io:
 - does whatever it takes to figure out web services!
 - check AS numbers, DNS, even actively connections



Attack Detection

- Problems of other products:
 - Attack detection often based on "patterns"
 - -Often hard to tell why an alarm fired
 - -Huge number of false positives
 - -What flows are part of an anomaly?



Attack Detection (2)

- Our solution:
 - Behavioral analysis + continuous learning
- Continuous learning:
 - Keep a record of what is normal
- Behavioral analysis:
 - Flag clusters of connections that seem related
- Combination:
 - connections from * to 1.2.3.4:80 are normal
 - connections from * to 4.5.6.7:80 are anomalous!



Pre-Computing & Data Aggregation

- Other products take *forever* to get results
 - e.g., "top talkers for last month"? 10 min
 - severily limits their usefulness: can't drill down
- Our solution:
 - Pre-compute many results at various time scales
- Target outcome:

Be very fast for typical use cases



Our Technology: Summary

- Identification of applications & domains
 - Heuristics figured out by machine learning
 - Automatically identify web domains
- Attack detection
 - Behavioral analysis + learning about the network
- Data pre-aggregation
 - Resolve common queries fast



Website + On-Line Demo



https://polygraph.io



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Legend

O DNS

File transfer Instant Messaging

Games

World wide web File Sharing P2P

Volce and Video over IP

Encrypted and Tunneling Services and Others Mail Streaming and P2P TV

bits/s -

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traffic volume, breakdown by application

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protocol breakdown



All applications -

bits/s -

Relative -

Polygraph Demo

from LAN -

to LAN 🗸

12-04-2014 - 12-04-2014



top talkers (addresses, ports, autonomous systems)

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subnetwork-level bandwidth hogs





traffic geolocation (origins & destinations)

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anomaly and attack detection with automatic baselining



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automated downloadable reports



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