Reflections on Amplifications

(Abuse of Popular Protocols)

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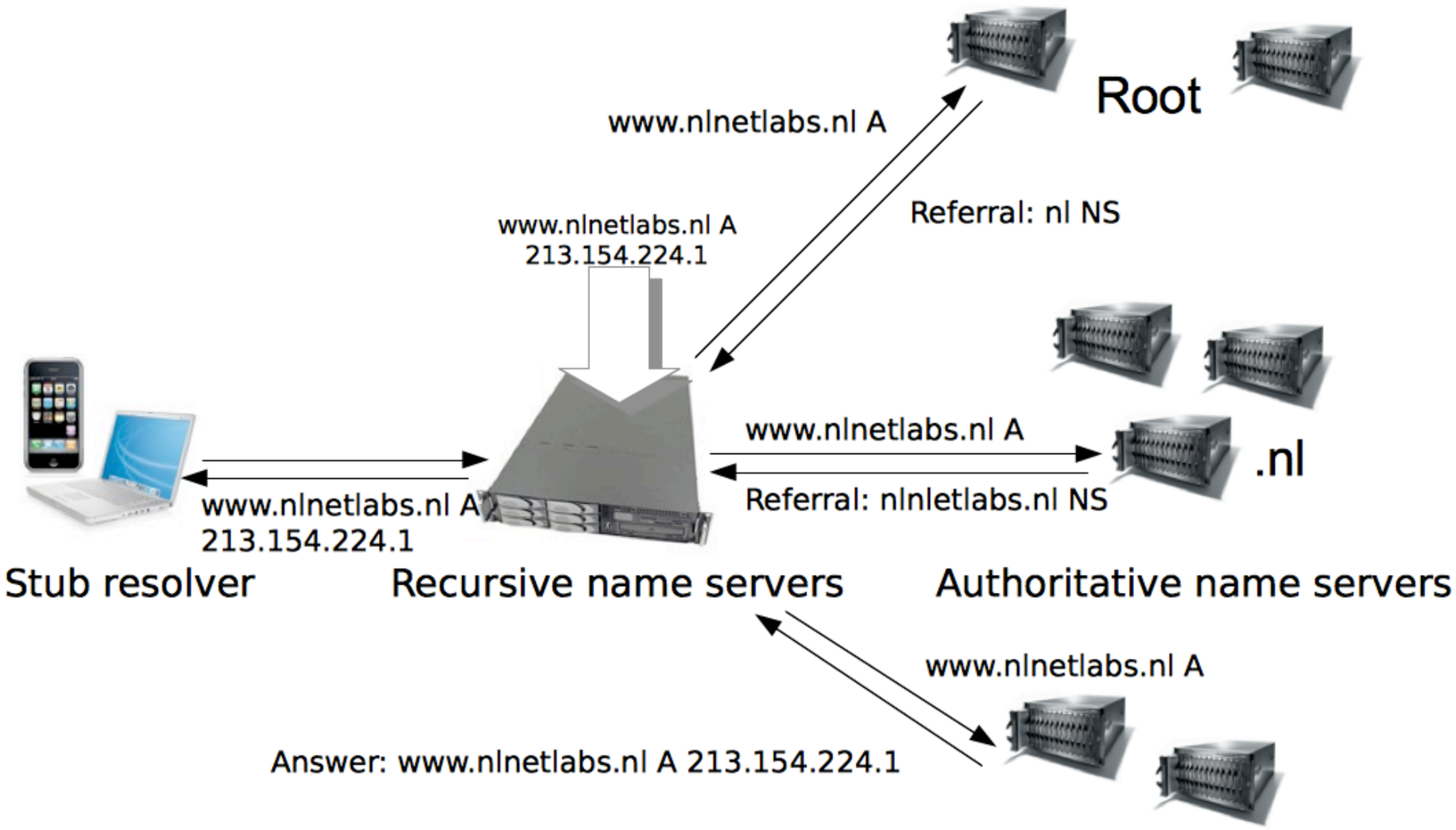
Overview

- Amplification
- Reflection
- Spoofing
- Mitigation of Attacks
- Some conclusions

DNS Overview



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Amplification

- A small question can cause big answers
- UDP has no authentication model
- "Makes DNS a hot Target"

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Amplification rates

- ANY Queries
  - Up to 80 times
- NXDomain + DNSSEC
  - NXDOMAIN, NSEC: 18x
  - NXDomain, NSEC3: 25x

Reflection & Spoofing

- Make answer go somewhere else
- Lie about origination of the question
  - Replace with victims address

"Source address spoofing"

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Mitigation, the Easy part

- Answer only to who you know
  - Close Open Resolvers
    - 21 Million of them
    - Saves bandwidth, reputation, headaches
- RFC 5358

Abusing the Authoritative

Service to many recursive name servers

Wide Audience, RFC 5358 not applicable

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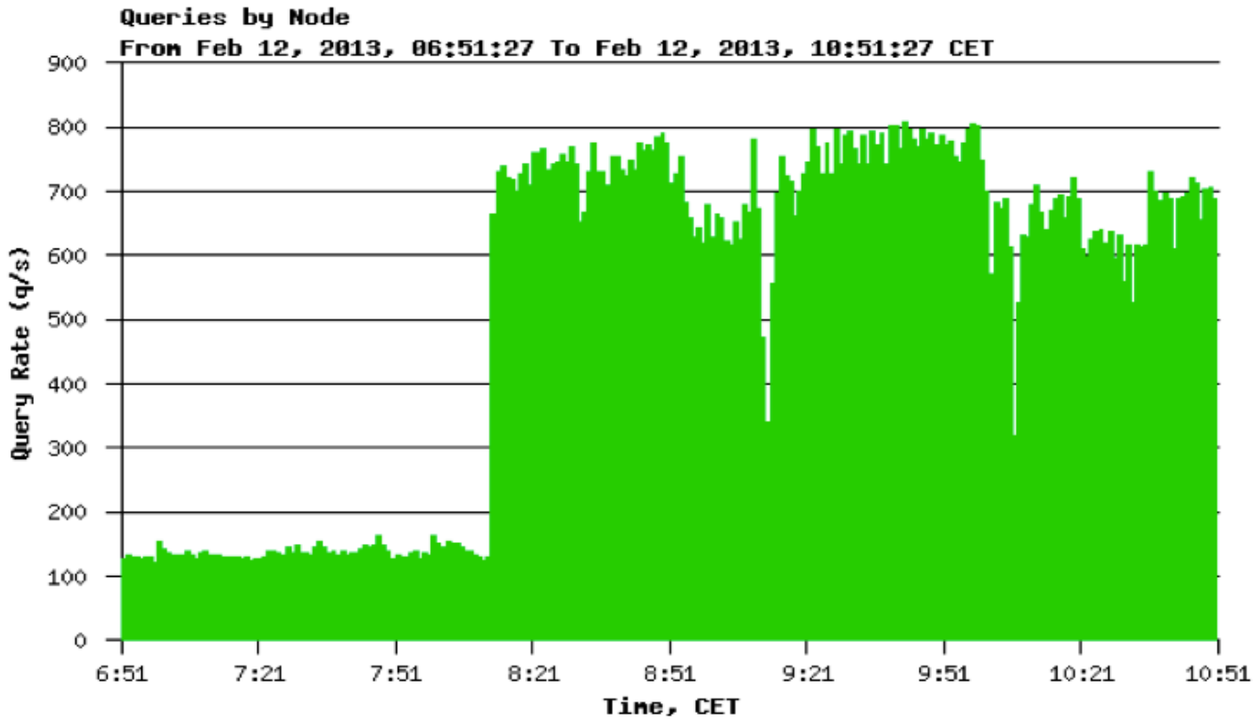
Impact of Attack



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Mitigation Principle

- Don't help the attacker
  - Keep answering some queries to well behaving clients
- No Service degrading

Mitigation Proposals

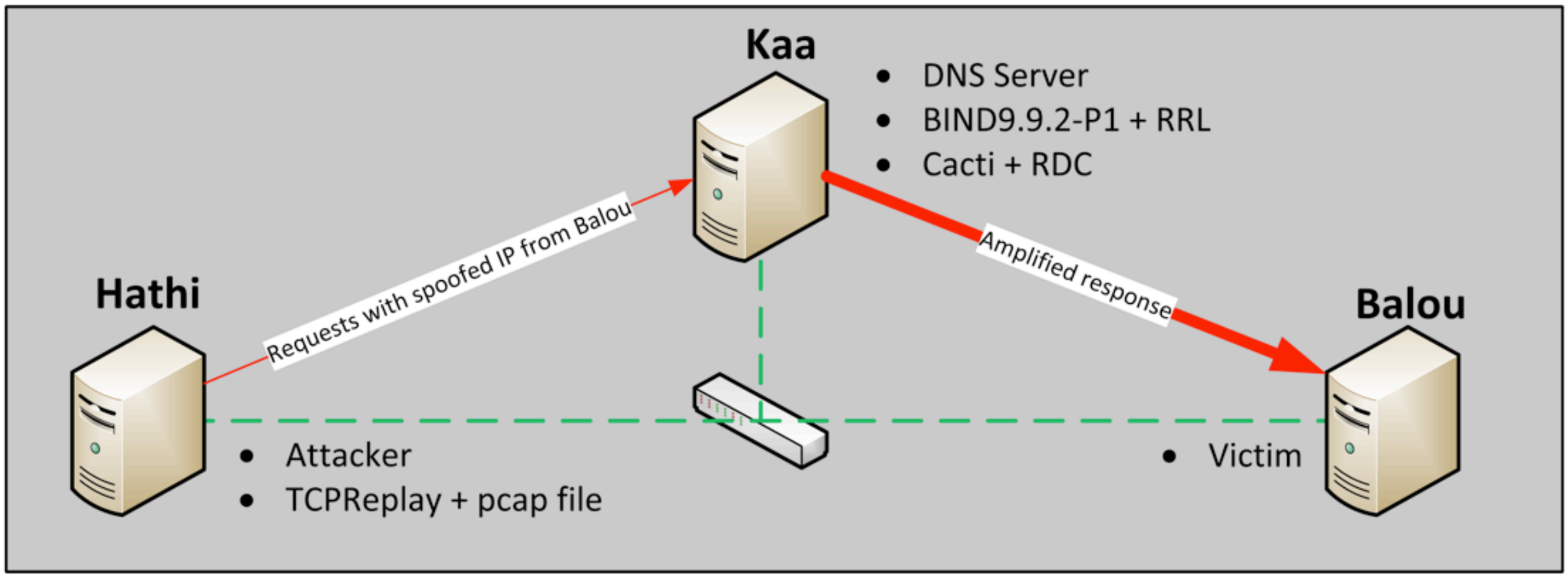
- Query limiting
  - DNS Firewalls
  - Suppress ANY Queries
- DNS Dampening
- Response Rate Limiting (RRL)

RRL

- Drop answers that exceed limits
- False positive mitigation
  - TCP fallback
    - allows victim to contact server over TCP
- Performs reasonably well

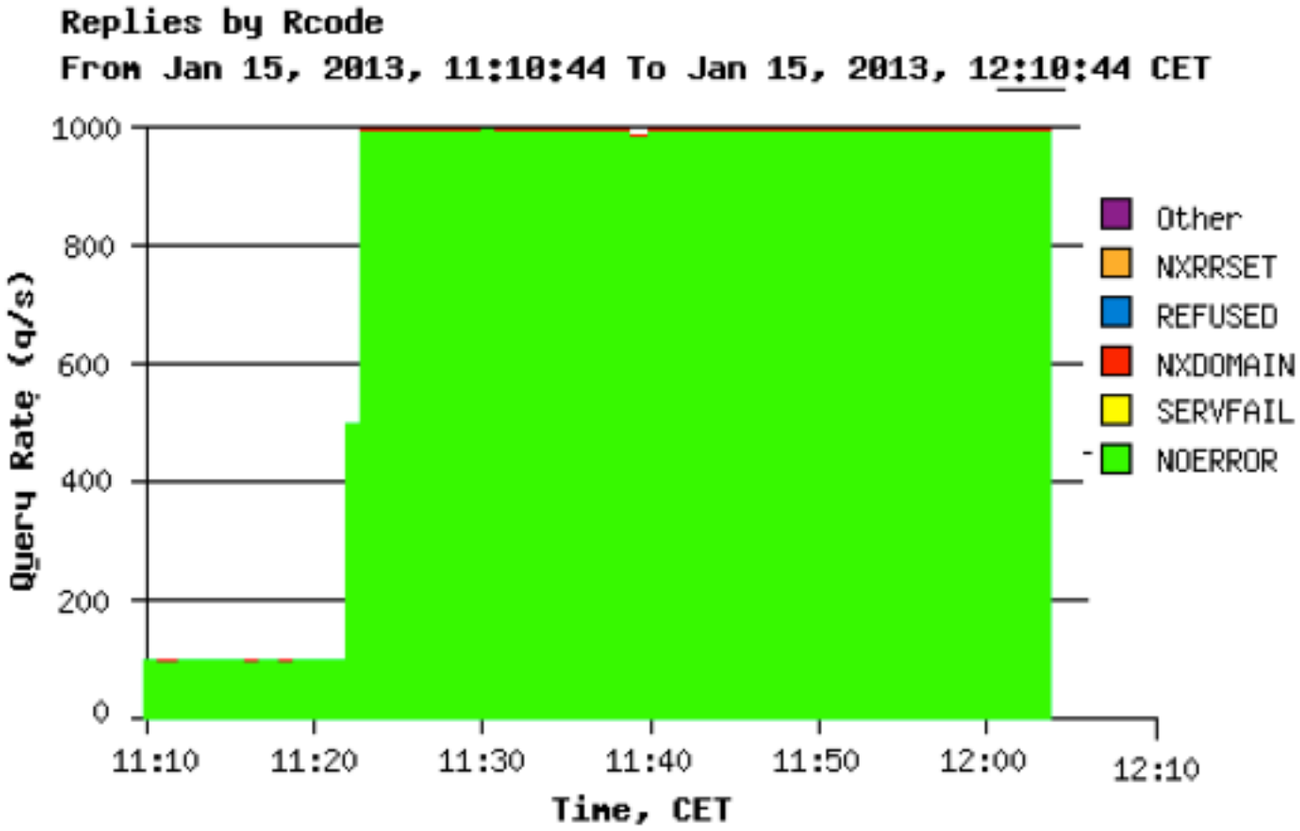
RRL Measurements

- Set up



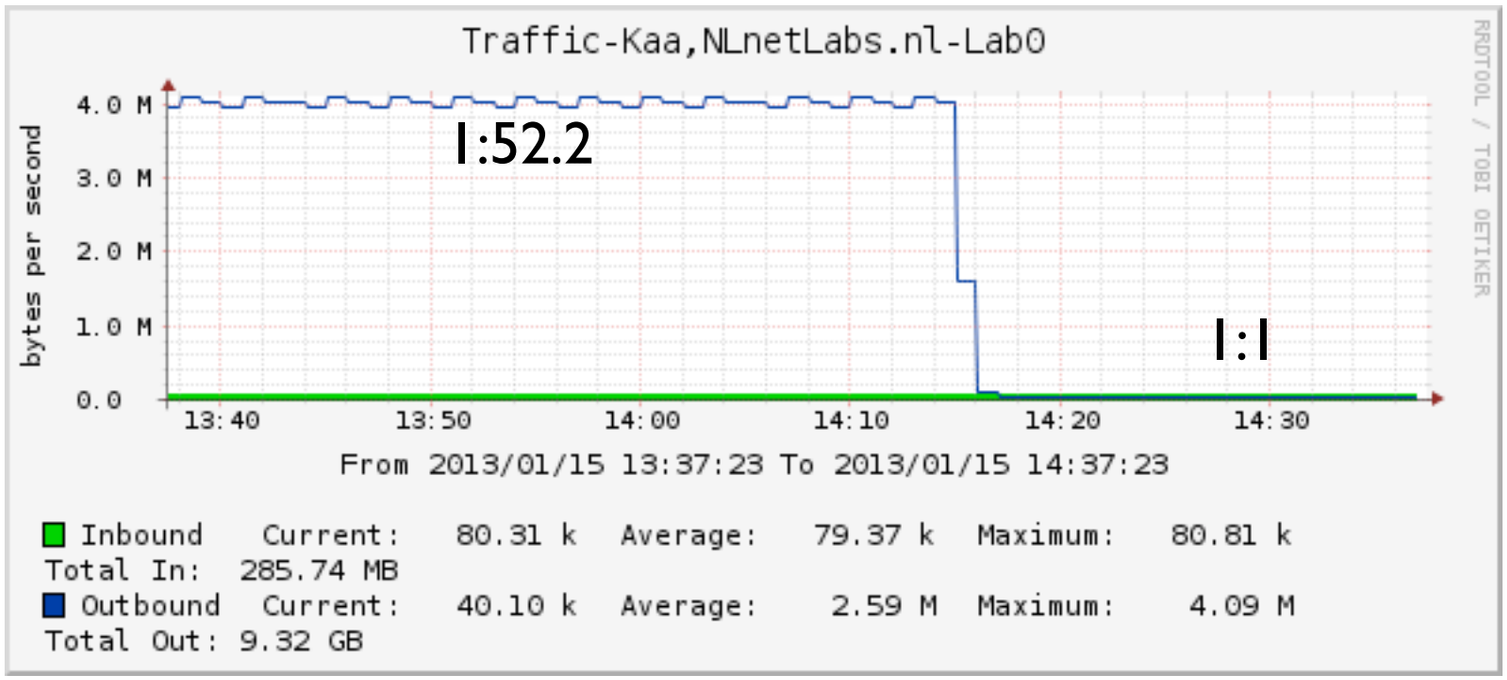
RRL Measurements

- ANY attack at 11:20



RRL Measurements

- ANY attack at 11:20, RLL enabled at 14:15



RRL Measurements

SLIP	In	Out	Amp. Ratio	False positives*	TCP responses
1	80 KB/s	81 KB/s	≈1:1	0%	100 %
2	79 KB/s	39 KB/s	≈1:0.5	50%	87.5 %
3	79 KB/s	26 KB/s	≈1:0.3	66.6%	66 %
5	80 KB/s	16 KB/s	≈1:0.2	80%	49 %
10	80 KB/s	8 KB/s	≈1:0.1	90%	27 %

* Possible fps, assuming 3 tries

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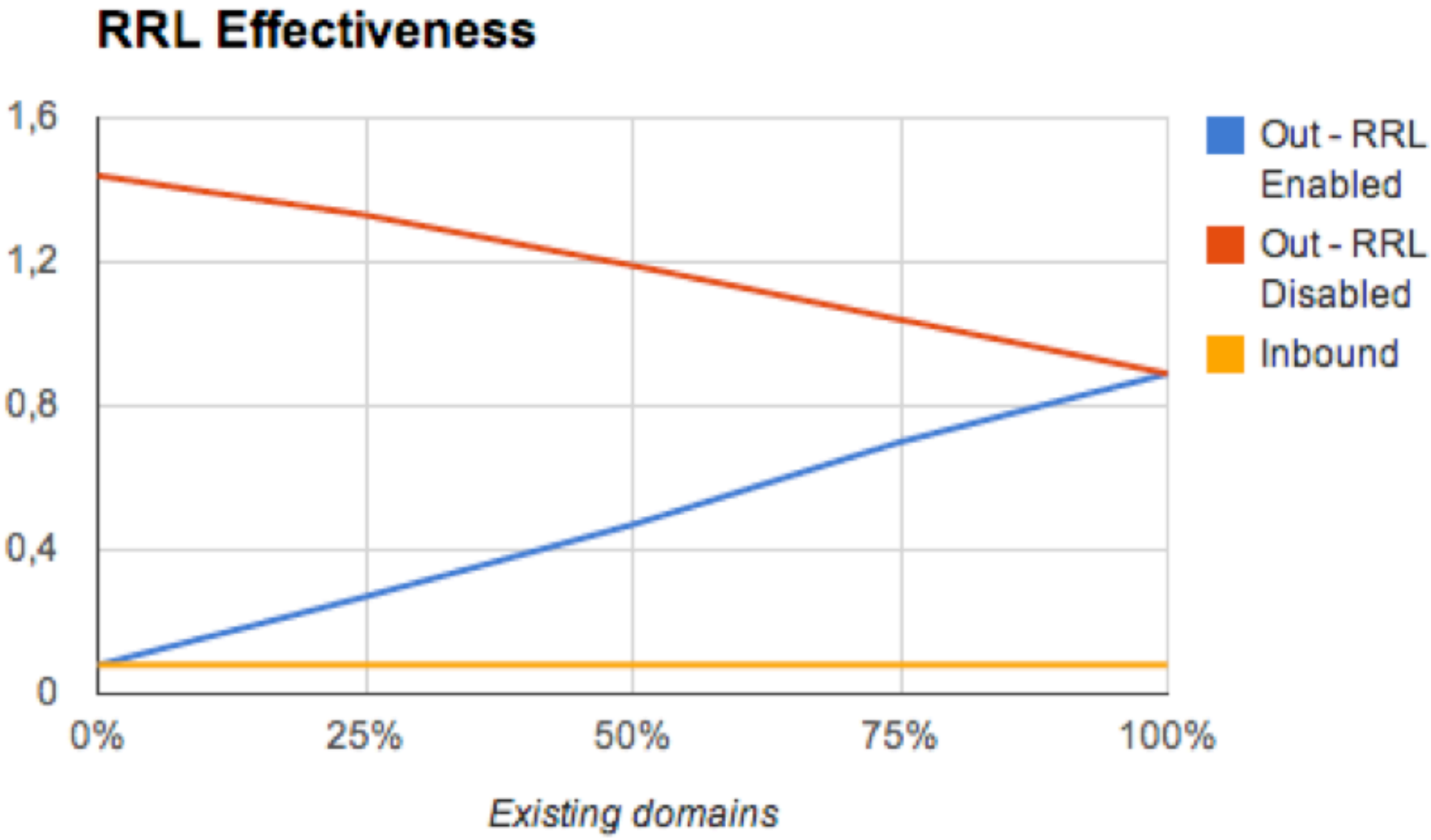
RRL Measurements



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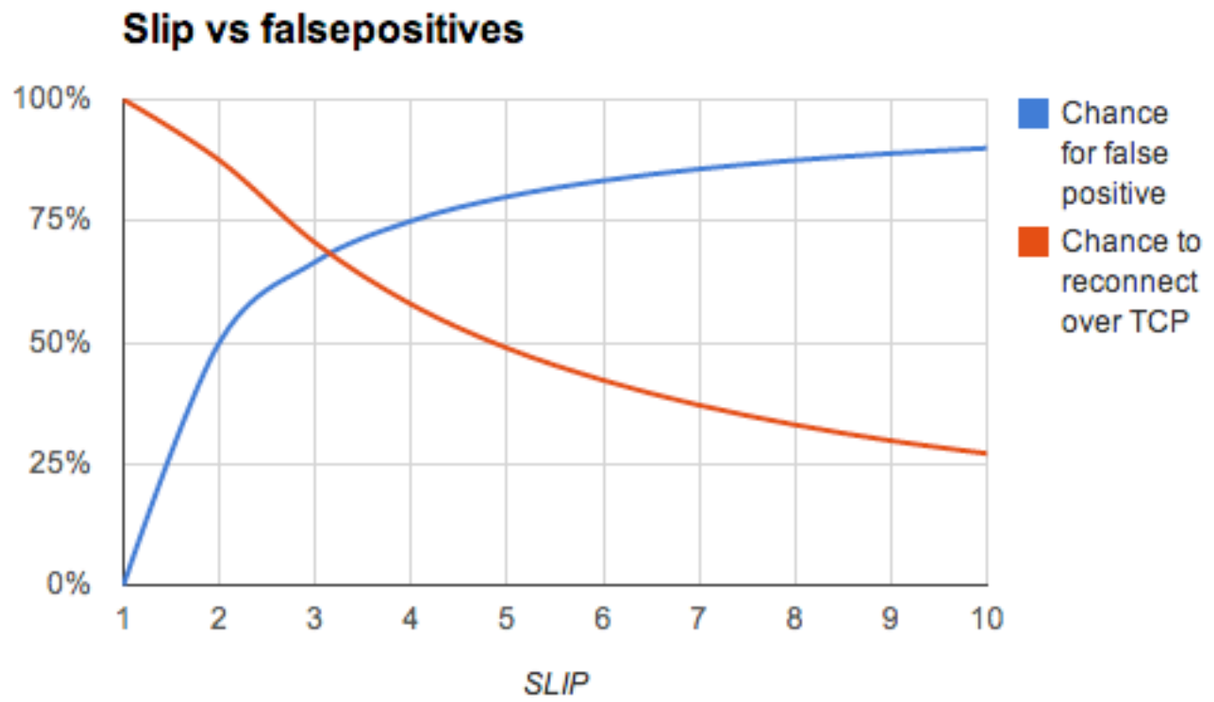
RRL Measurements

- Slip
  - Trade off between #false positives and# TCP sessions
- Default 2



Whac-A-Mole

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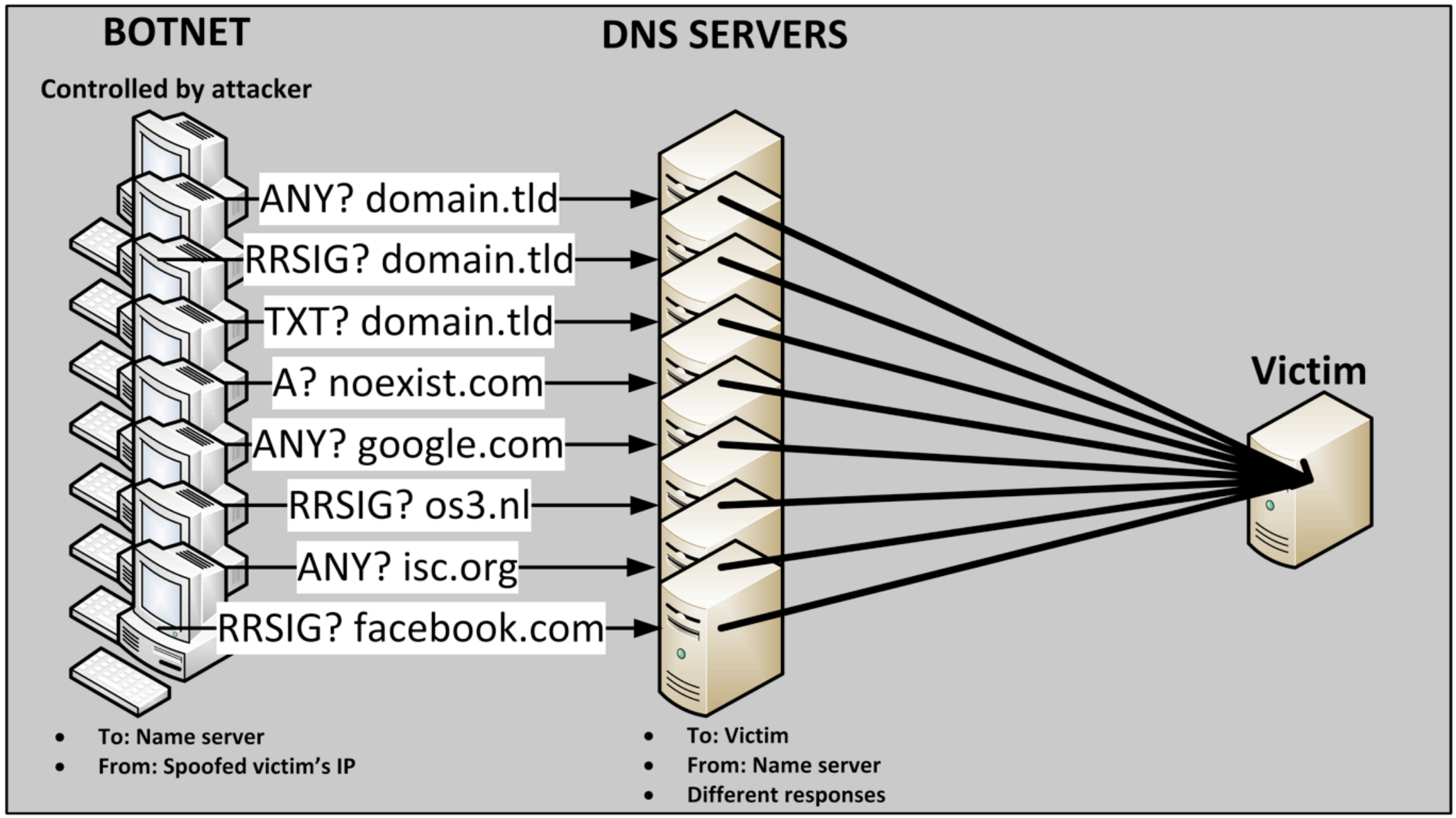
Getting sophisticated



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Other Protocols

- All UDP have similar attributes
  - NTP
  - SNMP
- DNS is the low hanging fruit of the day

Prevent Spoofing

- Implement source validation
  - Don't let fake packets leave your network
- SAC 004, 008, BCP 38, 84 and more
  - For the good of the internet
  - For the good your reputation

Further reading

- DNS Firewall rules: http://www.bortzmeyer.org/files/generate-netfilter-u32-dns-rule.py
- Dampening: http://lutz.donnerhacke.de/eng/Blog/DNS-Dampening
- Rate limiting
  - Proposal by Paul Vixie and Vernon Schryver: http://www.redbarn.org/dns/ratelimits
    - NSD Rate limiting: https://www.nlnetlabs.nl/blog/2012/10/11/nsd-ratelimit/
    - Knot Rate limiting: https://www.knot-dns.cz
- RLL Measurements: http://www.nlnetlabs.nl/downloads/publications/report-rrl-dekoning-rozekrans.pdf
- New website: http://www.bcp38.info/

Questions

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