

Evaluating Network Security Using Internet-wide Measurements

Oliver Gasser

Ph. D. Defense, Friday 24th May, 2019

Chairman: Prof. Dr. Jörg Ott
Examiners: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Georg Carle
Prof. Anja Feldmann, Ph. D.



Motivation

SYDNEY, Australia, August 15, 2018

Gartner Forecasts Worldwide Information Security Spending to Exceed \$124 Billion in 2019

Detection, Response and Privacy Driving Demand for Security Products and Services

TLS Certs Outliving Domain Ownership Open Door to MitM and DoS

By [Ionut Ilascu](#)

August 21, 2018 11:04 AM 0

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Memcached DDoS: The biggest, baddest denial of service attacker yet

Distributed denial of service attacks just got turned up to 11 with Memcrashed, an internet assault that can slam a website with over a terabyte of bad traffic.



By [Steven J. Vaughan-Nichols](#) for [Networking](#) | March 1, 2018 -- 23:38 GMT (23:38 GMT) | Topic: [Security](#)

The Internet

- Internet measurements can be leveraged to empirically assess security of
 - protocols,
 - devices,
 - implementations, and
 - configurations
- Vast IPv6 address space poses big challenge for Internet measurements

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Goals

- Improve measurement methodology for Internet-wide security measurements
 - IPv4 and IPv6
- Empirically assess security of three different protocols
 - HTTPS
 - BACnet
 - IPMI

Research questions

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RQ I

RQ II

RQ III

RQ IV

RQ V

RQ I: How can we perform Internet-scale IPv6 measurements?

ZMapv6

goscanner

RQ II

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Passive sources

Active sources

Biases in sources

IPv6 Hitlist Service

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Motivation

- IPv6 address space too large to perform brute-force measurements
- Assemble lists of IPv6 target addresses: IPv6 hitlists

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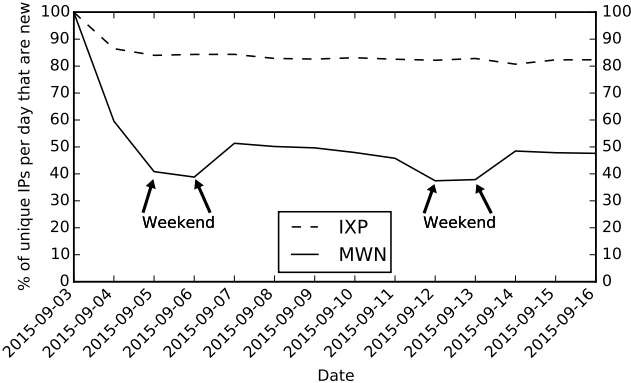
Measurements & analyses

- Passive and active measurements
- Empirical analysis of different types of biases
 - Weekly patterns
 - Different host populations
 - Different number of addresses
 - Over-representation of certain prefixes

RQ II: How biased are address sources for IPv6 hitlists?



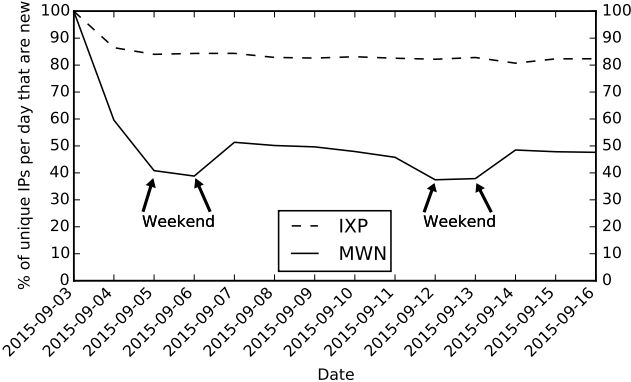
IPv6 hitlist passive sources: new IPv6 addresses per day



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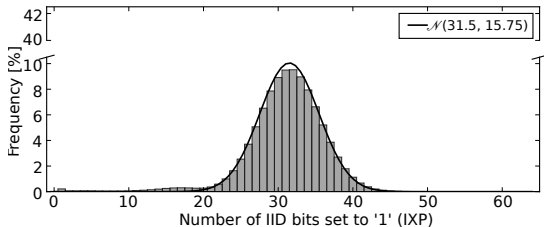
IPv6 hitlist passive sources: new IPv6 addresses per day



- Large share of new addresses each day hints at privacy extensions

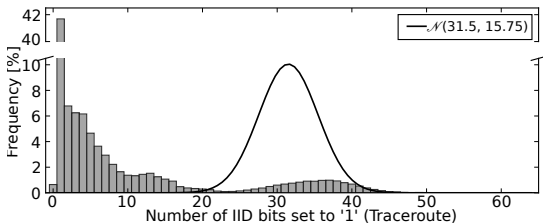
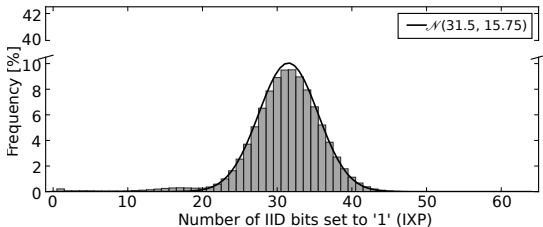
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IPv6 hitlist passive vs. active sources: Hamming weight distribution



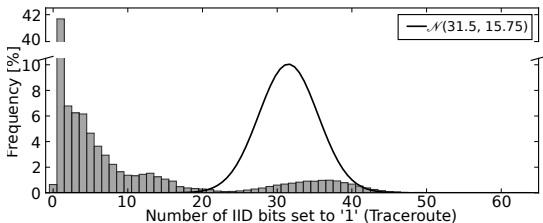
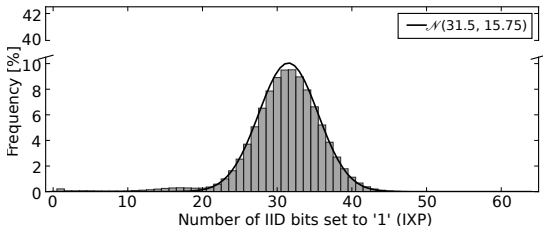
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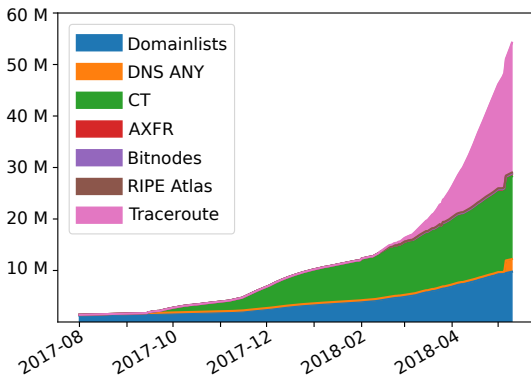
IPv6 hitlist passive vs. active sources: Hamming weight distribution



- Different host populations: clients at IXP (privacy extensions) vs. routers (manually assigned addresses)

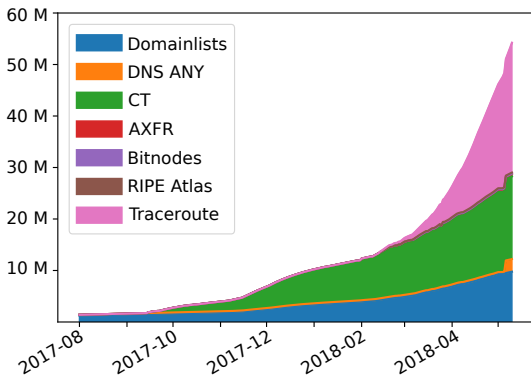
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IPv6 hitlist active sources: Cumulative address runup



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IPv6 hitlist active sources: Cumulative address runup



- Many addresses from domainlists, CT, and traceroutes
- Rapid increase of traceroute addresses due to CPE routers

Taxonomy

- Alias: another address of the same host
- Aliased prefix: whole prefix bound to the same host
- Bias: some hosts overrepresented due to aliased prefixes

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Aliased prefix detection

2001:0db8:0407:8000: 0 151:2900:77e9:03a8

2001:0db8:0407:8000: 1 5ab:3855:92a0:2341

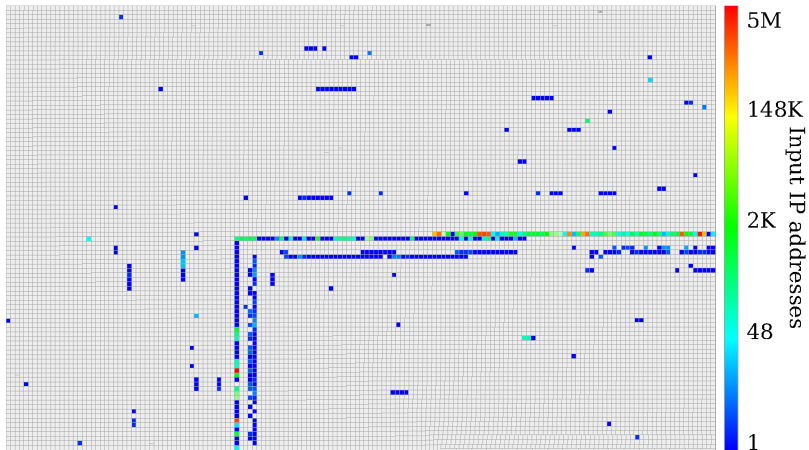
2001:0db8:0407:8000::/64  **16 branches (random IPs)**

2001:0db8:0407:8000: e aae:cb10:9321:ba76

2001:0db8:0407:8000: f 693:2443:915e:1d2e

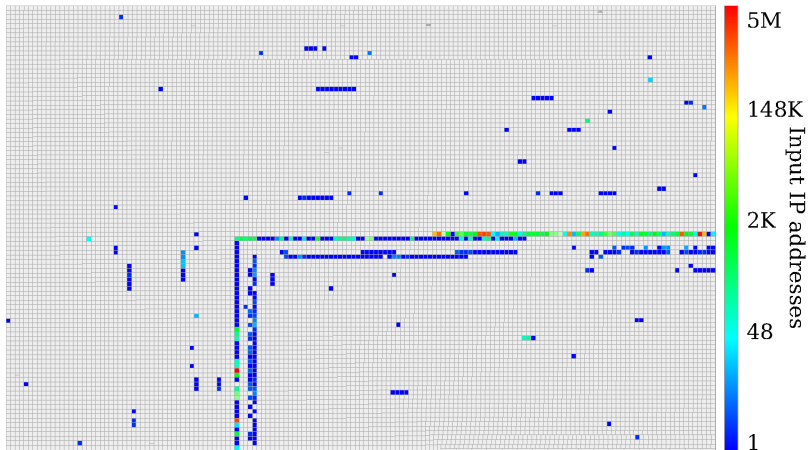
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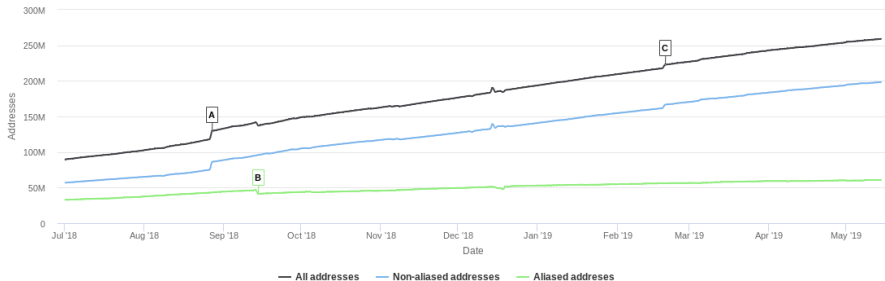


- Only 3.2% of prefixes are aliased
- But 46.6% of addresses are in aliased prefixes → bias

IPv6 Hitlist Service

We provide an IPv6 Hitlist Service where we publish **responsive IPv6 addresses, aliased prefixes, and non-aliased prefixes** to interested researchers. The IPv6 Hitlist Service consists of an openly accessible one and a registration-first service.

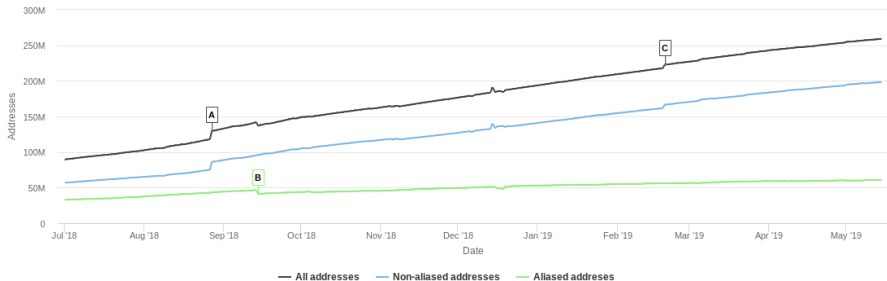
Addresses in IPv6 Hitlist



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Addresses in IPv6 Hitlist



- Daily publication
 - Responsive IPv6 addresses for 5 protocol-port combinations
 - Aliased and non-aliased IPv6 prefixes
- Dozens of fellow researchers have access

Summary

- Identified different types of biases in IPv6 hitlist sources
 - Distort targets by almost 50 %
 - Biases can be detected
- IPv6 Hitlist Service provides fellow researchers with access to daily IPv6 address data

Publications (this research question)

- *Oliver Gasser, Quirin Scheitle, Pawel Foremski, Qasim Lone, Maciej Korczynski, Stephen D. Strowes, Luuk Hendriks, and Georg Carle*, "Clusters in the Expanse: Understanding and Unbiasing IPv6 Hitlists", **IMC'18**.
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Warning: Potential Security Risk Ahead

Firefox detected a potential security threat and did not continue to untrusted-root.badssl.com. If you visit this site, attackers could try to steal information like your passwords, emails, or credit card details.

What can you do about it?

The issue is most likely with the website, and there is nothing you can do to resolve it.

If you are on a corporate network or using anti-virus software, you can reach out to the support teams for assistance. You can also notify the website's administrator about the problem.

[Learn more...](#)

[Go Back \(Recommended\)](#)

[Advanced...](#)

Report errors like this to help Mozilla identify and block malicious sites

Motivation

- HTTPS ecosystem experienced many security issues which allow for MitM attacks (e.g., misissued certificates, weak keys, CA breaches)
- A number of HTTPS security extensions have been proposed to make the HTTPS ecosystem more secure

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Measurements & analyses

- Active measurements
- Empirical analysis of different HTTPS ecosystem weaknesses
 - Insecure certificates
 - Downgrade from HTTPS to HTTP
 - Misissued certificates

Baseline Requirements (BRs)

- Rules regarding certificates and issuing processes which CAs adhere to
- Devised within the CA/Browser Forum
- Each requirement has an enforcement date

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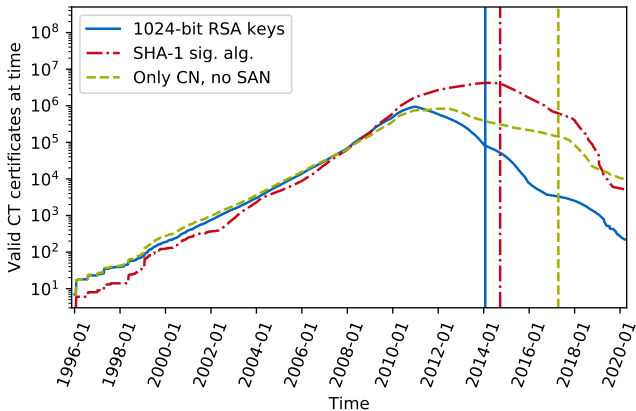
- Rules regarding certificates and issuing processes which CAs adhere to
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Analyze BR adherence of all certificates in Certificate Transparency (CT) logs

- Must not use 1024 bit keys
- Must not use SHA-1 signature algorithm
- Must contain SAN in addition to CN

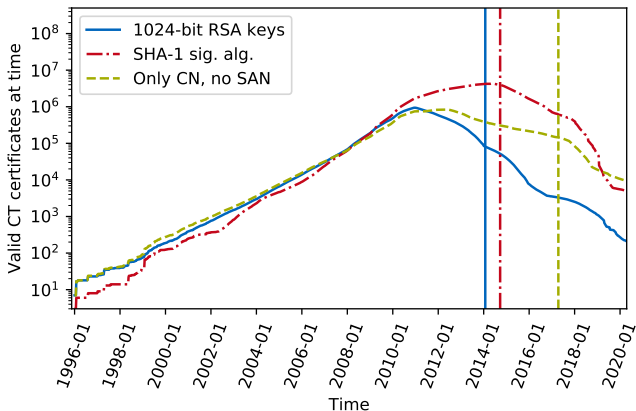
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BR violations of certificates in CT logs



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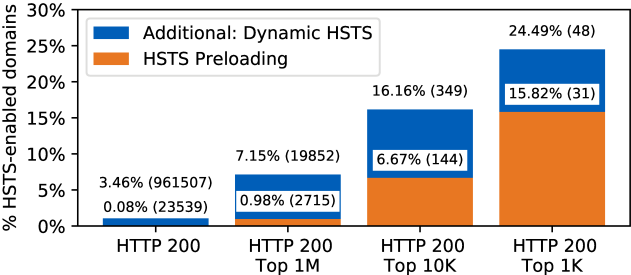


- Enforcement of stricter rules helps curb the number of insecure certificates
- But: Many valid insecure certificates are found in CT logs

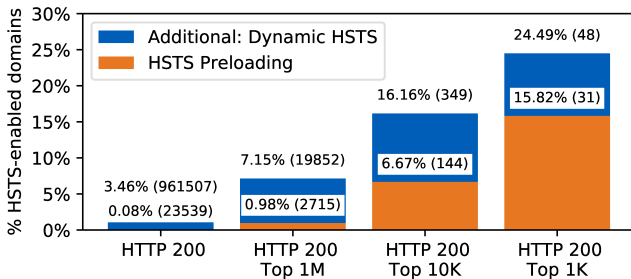
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HTTP Strict Transport Security (HSTS) deployment



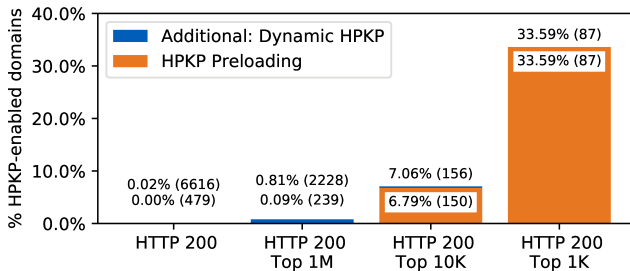
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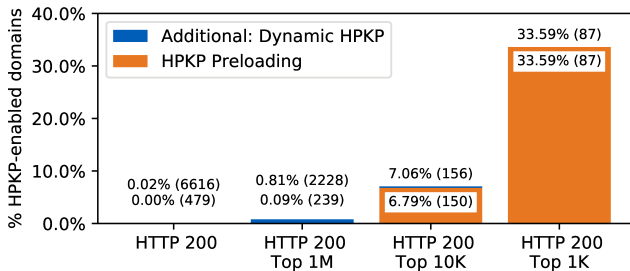
- Significant usage among top domains
- Preloading highly used among top domains, smaller usage among general population

RQ III: Are HTTPS servers still vulnerable to MitM attacks?

HTTP Public Key Pinning (HPKP) deployment



HTTP Public Key Pinning (HPKP) deployment



- Low usage among general population
- High usage through preloading among top domains

Summary

- Thousands of insecure certificates are still valid
- High usage of HSTS and HPKP among top domains, mostly due to preloading
- Insecure certificates and lack of HTTPS security techniques make hosts vulnerable to Man-in-the-Middle attacks

Publications (this research question)

- *Oliver Gasser, Benjamin Hof, Max Helm, Maciej Korczynski, Ralph Holz, and Georg Carle*, "In Log We Trust: Revealing Poor Security Practices with Certificate Transparency Logs and Internet Measurements", **PAM'18**.
- *Quirin Scheitle, Oliver Gasser, Theodor Nolte, Johanna Amann, Lexi Brent, Georg Carle, Ralph Holz, Thomas C. Schmidt, and Matthias Wählisch*, "The Rise of Certificate Transparency and Its Implications on the Internet Ecosystem", **IMC'18**.
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Comparison to related work

	Holz (2014) [8]	Durumeric (2017) [2]	Fiebig (2017) [3]	Hendriks (2019) [7]
IPv6 measurements	✗	✗	✓	✓
Bias analyses	✗	✗	✓	✗
HTTPS security analyses	✓	✓	✗	✗
Reproducibility efforts	✗	✗	✓	✗
Measurement service	✗	✓	✗	✗

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Key contributions

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- Internet measurement methodology
 - Largest IPv6 hitlist to date
 - Extensive bias analyses in hitlist sources
 - IPv6 Hitlist Service
- HTTPS security
 - Thousands of insecure certificates
 - Millions of domains lacking HTTPS security extensions
 - Man-in-the-Middle attacks still possible

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- [2] Zakir Durumeric. “Fast Internet-Wide Scanning: A New Security Perspective”. PhD thesis. University of Michigan, 2017.
- [3] Tobias Fiebig. “An Empirical Evaluation of Misconfiguration in Internet Services”. PhD thesis. Technische Universität Berlin, 2017.
- [4] Oliver Gasser, Benjamin Hof, Max Helm, Maciej Korczynski, Ralph Holz, and Georg Carle. “In Log We Trust: Revealing Poor Security Practices with Certificate Transparency Logs and Internet Measurements”. In: *PAM’18. Best Paper Award*. Springer. Berlin, Germany, Mar. 2018, pp. 173–185.
- [5] Oliver Gasser, Quirin Scheitle, Pawel Foremski, Qasim Lone, Maciej Korczynski, Stephen D. Strowes, Luuk Hendriks, and Georg Carle. “Clusters in the Expanse: Understanding and Unbiasing IPv6 Hitlists”. In: *IMC’18*. ACM. Boston, MA, USA, Nov. 2018. DOI: 10.1145/3278532.3278564.
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- [7] Luuk Hendriks. “Measuring IPv6 Resilience and Security”. PhD thesis. University of Twente, 2019.
- [8] Ralph-Günther Holz. “Empirical Analysis of Public Key Infrastructures and Investigation of Improvements”. PhD thesis. Technical University of Munich, 2014.

- [9] IMC'18. ACM. Boston, MA, USA, Nov. 2018.
- [10] Quirin Scheitle, Oliver Gasser, Theodor Nolte, Johanna Amann, Lexi Brent, Georg Carle, Ralph Holz, Thomas C. Schmidt, and Matthias Wählisch. "The Rise of Certificate Transparency and Its Implications on the Internet Ecosystem". In: *IMC'18*. ACM. Boston, MA, USA, Nov. 2018, pp. 343–349. ISBN: 978-1-4503-5619-0. DOI: 10.1145/3278532.3278562.