P1 Security
Priority One Security

Worldwide attacks on SS7 network

P1 Security – Hackito Ergo Sum 26th April 2014

Pierre-Olivier Vauboin (po@p1sec.com)

Alexandre De Oliveira (alex@p1sec.com)

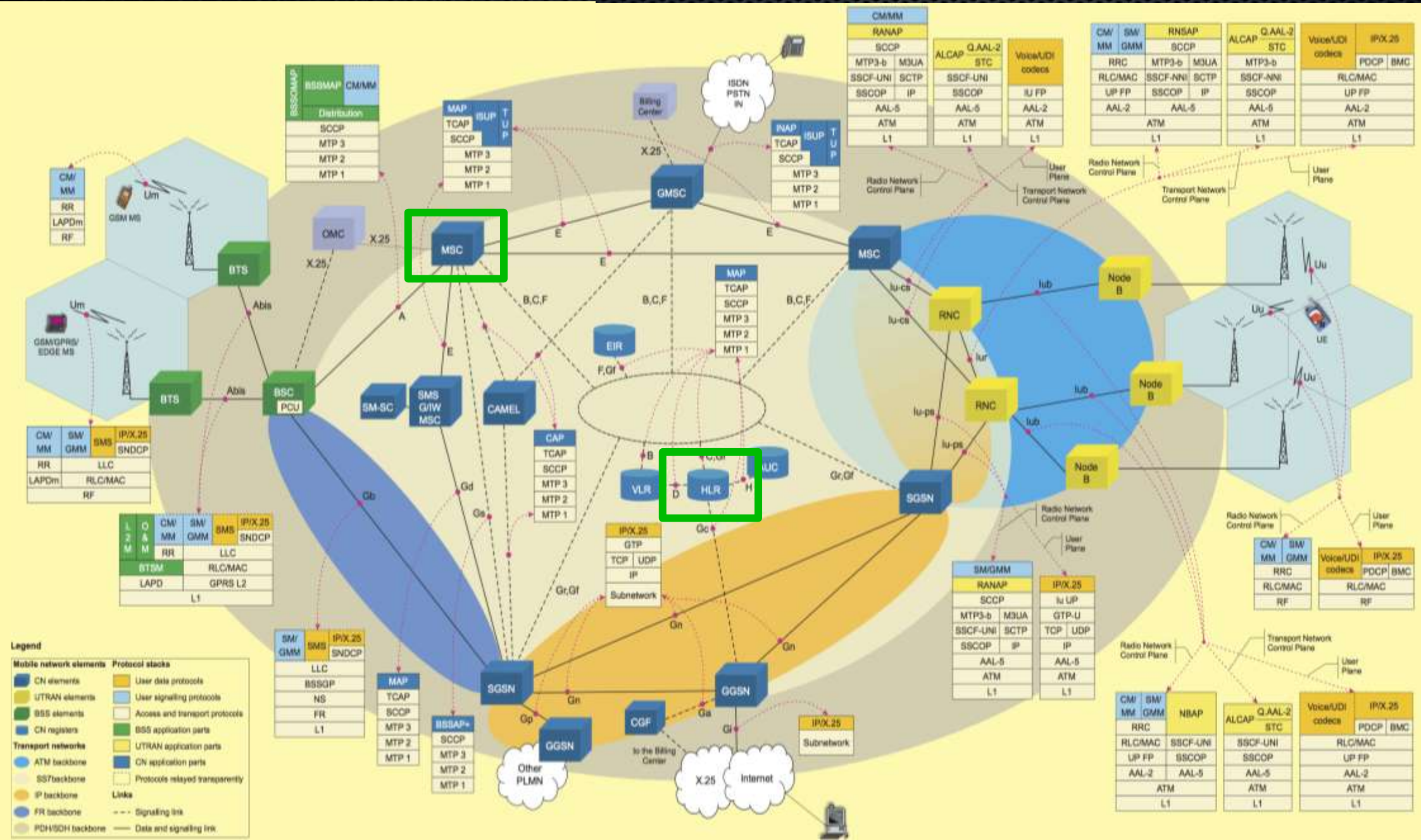
Agenda

- Overall telecom architecture
  - Architecture diagrams for 2G / 3G
  - Most important Network Elements
  - SS7 stack and interconnections
- Practical attack scenarios
  - Mapping the SS7 network
  - Tracking user location
  - Sending spoofed SMS
  - Demo

Telecom Overview

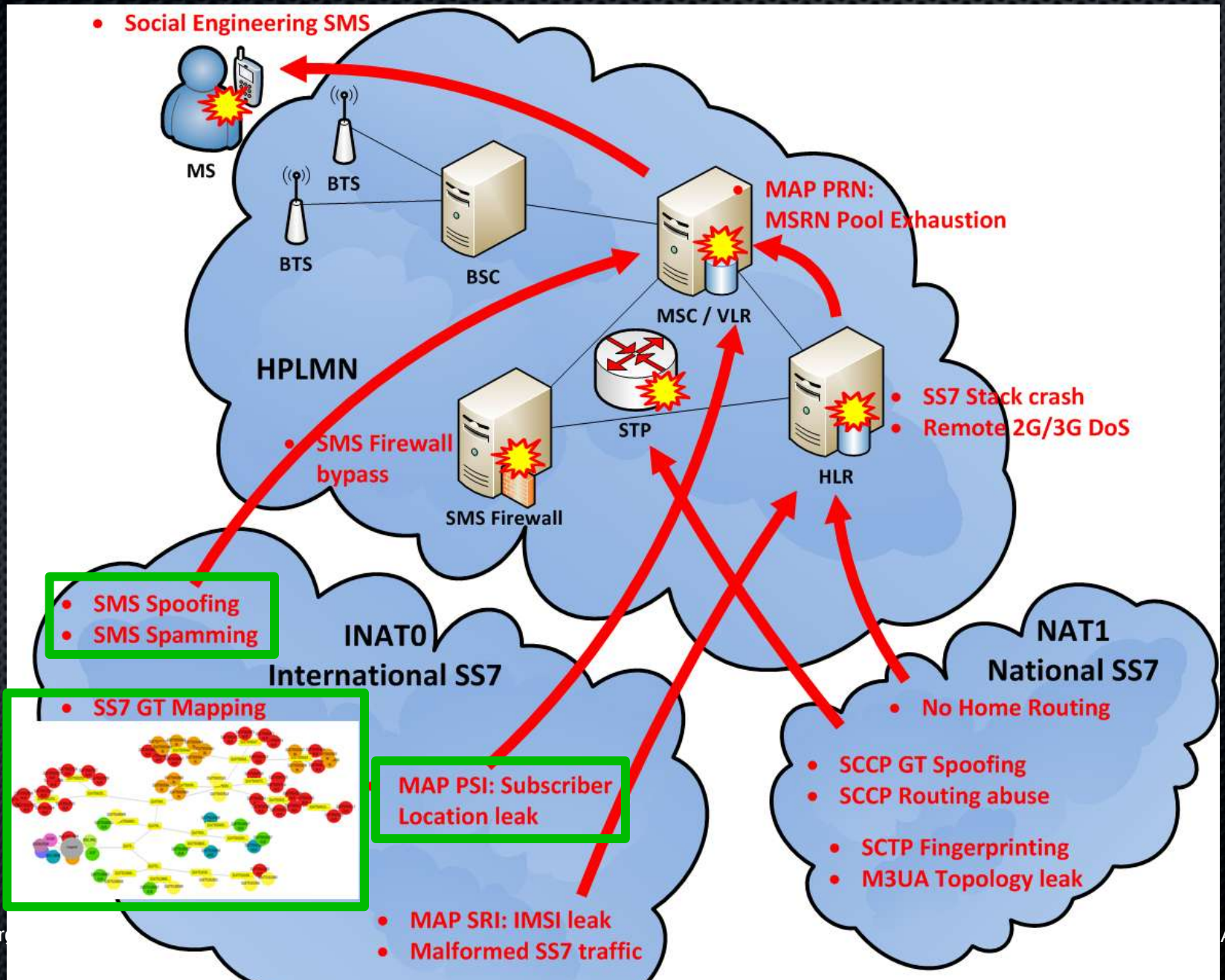
Evolution from 2G to 3G

P1 Security
Priority One Security



Practical Attack Scenarios

SS7 Attack Vectors



Agenda

- Overall telecom architecture
  - Architecture diagrams for 2G / 3G
  - Most important Network Elements
  - SS7 stack and interconnections
- Practical attack scenarios
  - Mapping the SS7 network
  - Tracking user location
  - Sending spoofed SMS
  - Demo

MSC

Mobile Switching Center

- MSC: 5-50 per MNO
- Connected to 20-50 BSC
- In charge of call establishment
- Interfaces the BSC toward the rest of the network
- Connects the calls of the mobile users
- UE is attached to one MSC
- MAP Protocol
- Generates CDR (Charging Data Record)
- Security impact: Key compromise, content compromise, regional DoS, location tracking, …

Single Rack Spatial Wireless Call Server and Media Gateway Configuration

Siemens MSC

HLR / HSS

Home Location Register
Home Subscriber Server

- HLR: 1-20 per MNO
- “Heart” of SS7 / SIGTRAN
- Subscriber database
  - IMSI
  - Authentication (AuC) : Ki
  - Current subscriber location
  - Supplementary services
- Queries from international partners (roaming)
- MAP Protocol
- Security impact: Key compromise, global DoS

NSN HLR / HSS

HLR / HSS

Home Location Register
Home Subscriber Server

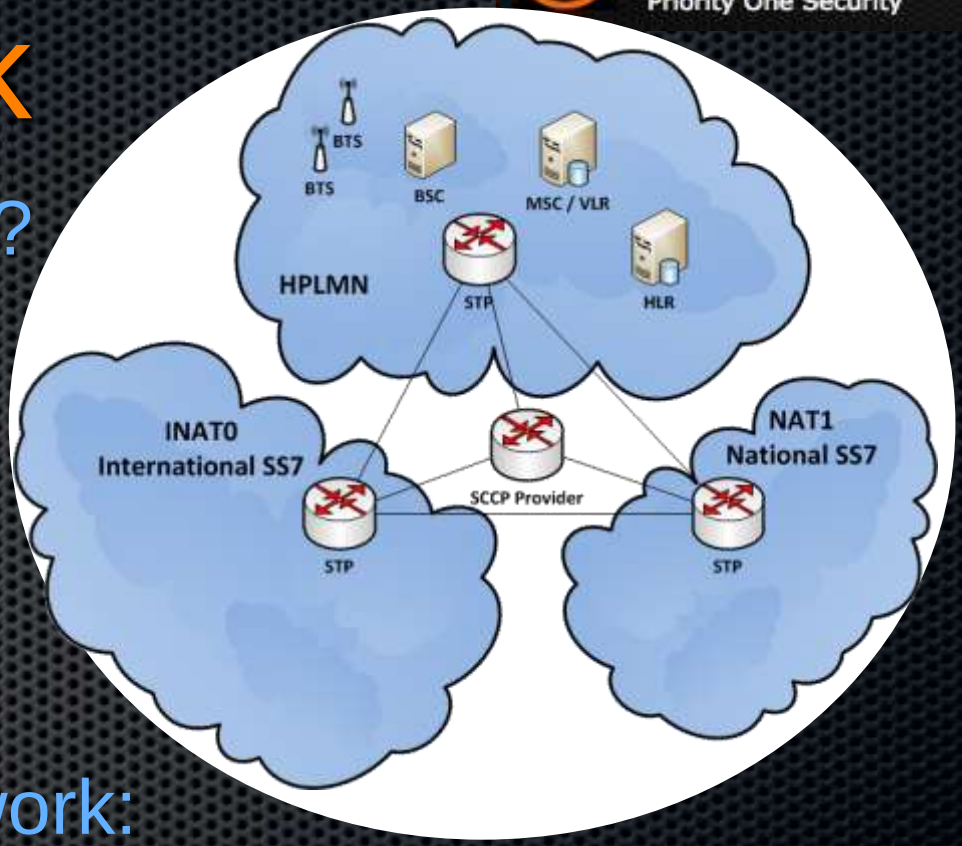
- I’m Root !

Agenda

- Overall telecom architecture
  - Architecture diagrams for 2G / 3G
  - Most important Network Elements
  - SS7 stack and interconnections
- Practical attack scenarios
  - Mapping the SS7 network
  - Tracking user location
  - Sending spoofed SMS
  - Demo

Global SS7 network

- Private and secure SS7 network ?

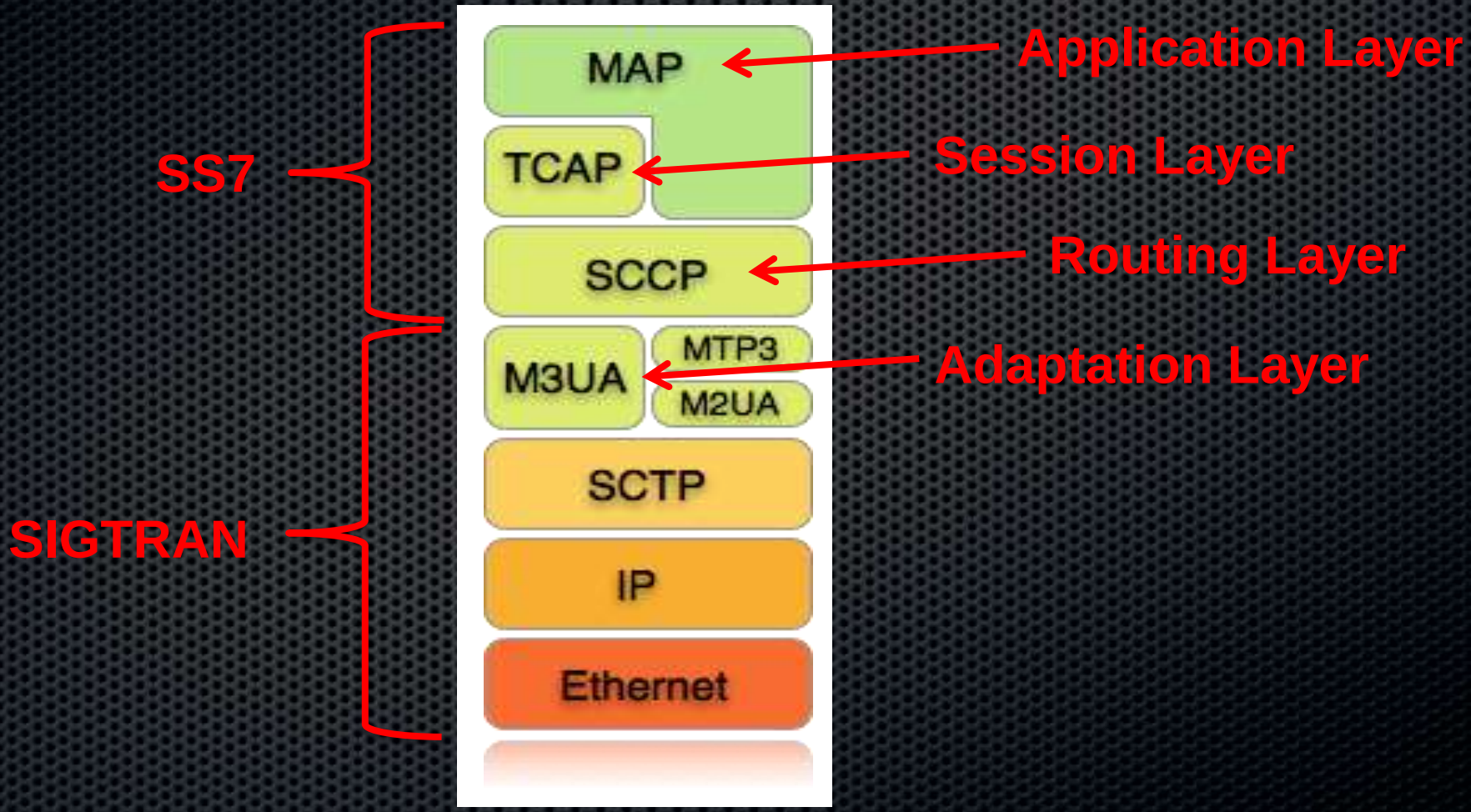


- Interconnects many actors
- Different views depending on interconnection point

- Malicious entry point to SS7 network:
  - Through any unsecure operator and attack other operators from there
  - From Network Element OAM interface exposed on Internet
  - Through compromised Femto Cell
  - … and more …

SS7 / SIGTRAN Stack

Protocol Layers



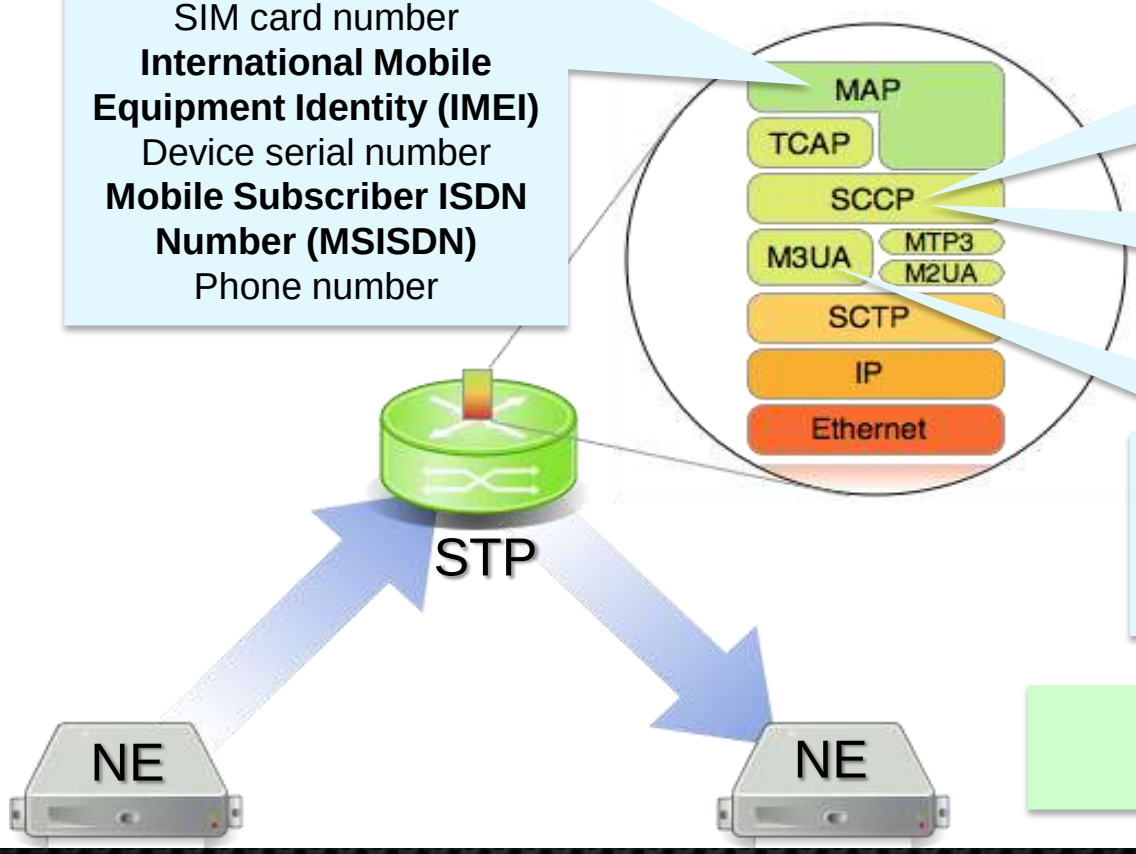
SIGTRAN MAP Stack

SS7 / SIGTRAN Stack

Addressing schemes

In Telecom networks a multitude of addressing schemes are used to identify Network Elements, subscribers, applications

International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI)
SIM card number
International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI)
Device serial number
Mobile Subscriber ISDN Number (MSISDN)
Phone number



SubSystem Number (SSN)
Identifies application or service on Network Elements.
Equivalent to TCP port.

Global Title (GT)
Length up to 15 digits.
Looks like a phone number.
Equivalent to IP address.

Point Code (PC)
14 or 24 bits address.
Equivalent to MAC address.

SS7 Routing criteria:
PC / GT / SSN or combo

Agenda

- Overall telecom architecture
  - Architecture diagrams for 2G / 3G
  - Most important Network Elements
  - SS7 stack and interconnections
- Practical attack scenarios
  - Mapping the SS7 network
  - Tracking user location
  - Sending spoofed SMS
  - Demo

Practical Attack Scenarios

Scan methodology

- Abusing legitimate messages (SRISM, SRI, ATI, …)
- Sending from any international SS7 interconnection

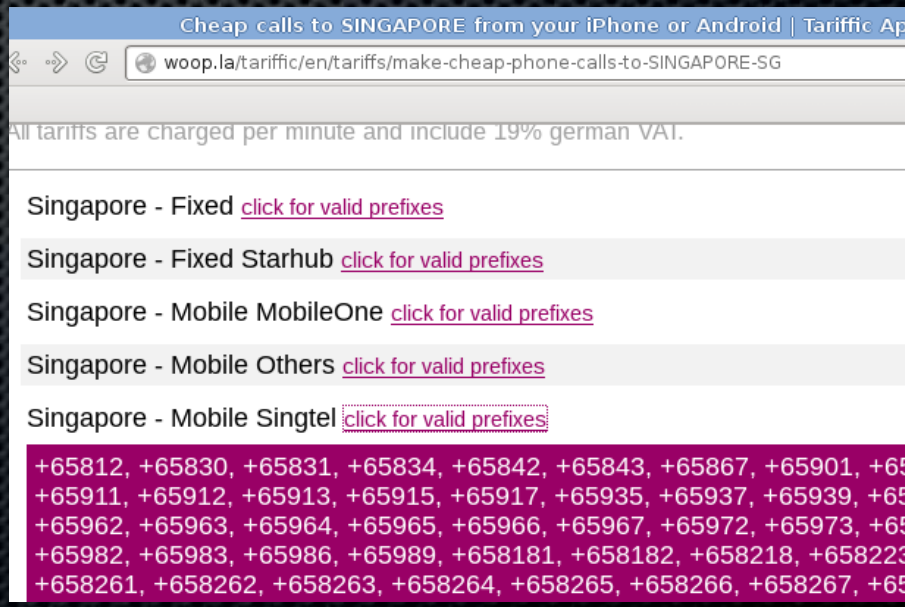
- Steps:
  - Discovery scan and GT mapping: SCCP + TCAP
  - Advanced attacks: specific MAP messages
- Targets:
  - Attacking operators infrastructure
  - Attacking subscribers

Discovery phase

Finding the first targets

- Publicly available information
  - International PC lists
  - GT prefix / country / operator
  - Subscriber MSISDN lists
- Probing from UE
  - SS codes: *#61#
  - Send SMS to your own SMSC to find your current MSC
- Changing GT prefix length
- Scan around confirmed targets

3-246-1	...	GoodWillComm Ltd.
3-246-2	...	Service Ltd.
3-246-3	...	Black Sea Telecom Ltd.
3-246-4	...	Mobitel Ltd
Germany		
2-033-0	Düsseldorf	Viaphone GmbH
2-033-1	Frankfurt	Viaphone GmbH
2-033-2	Frankfurt	Vodafone D2 GmbH
2-033-3	Düsseldorf	Vodafone D2 GmbH
2-033-4	Hamburg	Talkline GmbH
2-033-5	Haar	CompleTel GmbH
2-033-6	Stuttgart	Tesion Communikationsnetze KG
2-033-7	Frankfurt	KPN Telecom BV
2-034-0	Stuttgart	Star Telecommunications Deut
2-034-1	Frankfurt am Main	ICS Interactive Communication



Discovery phase

TCAP scan example

P1 Security
Priority One Security

Scan !

File Edit View Go Capture Analyze Statistics Telephony Tools Internals Help

Filter: sccp Expression... Clear Apply Save

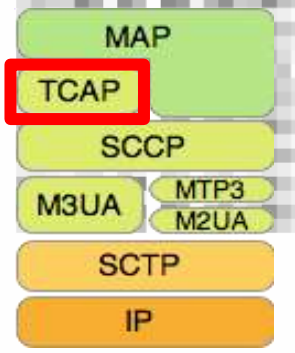
No.	Time	Dst Pc	Src GT	Src SSN	Dst GT	MSIS	Dst SSN	Protoc	Leng	Txid	Info
1759	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	99999000267	MSC (Mobile Switchi	123450050625		HLR (Home Locatior	TCAP	136	1cab9a1b	Begin otid(1cab9a1b)
1763	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	99999000267	MSC (Mobile Switchi	123450050626		HLR (Home Locatior	TCAP	136	4c28313d	Begin otid(4c28313d)
1765	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	99999000267	MSC (Mobile Switchi	123450050627		HLR (Home Locatior	TCAP	136	61472ed3	Begin otid(61472ed3)
1769	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	99999000267	MSC (Mobile Switchi	123450050628		HLR (Home Locatior	TCAP	136	710c2ae8	Begin otid(710c2ae8)
1773	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	99999000267	MSC (Mobile Switchi	123450050629		HLR (Home Locatior	TCAP	136	43434b8d	Begin otid(43434b8d)
1777	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	99999000267	MSC (Mobile Switchi	123450050630		HLR (Home Locatior	TCAP	136	d4e0163c	Begin otid(d4e0163c)
1779	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	123450001630	HLR (Home Location	99999000267		MSC (Mobile Switcl	TCAP	144	d4e0163c	Abort dtid(d4e0163c)
1781	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	99999000267	MSC (Mobile Switchi	123450050631		HLR (Home Locatior	TCAP	136	a35fe2aa	Begin otid(a35fe2aa)
1785	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	123450001630	HLR (Home Location	99999000267		MSC (Mobile Switcl	TCAP	144	a35fe2aa	Abort dtid(a35fe2aa)
1789	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	99999000267	MSC (Mobile Switchi	123450050632		HLR (Home Locatior	TCAP	136	18374c40	Begin otid(18374c40)
1791	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	123450001630	HLR (Home Location	99999000267		MSC (Mobile Switcl	TCAP	144	18374c40	Abort dtid(18374c40)
1793	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	99999000267	MSC (Mobile Switchi	123450050633		HLR (Home Locatior	TCAP	136	2c1501a5	Begin otid(2c1501a5)
1797	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	123450001630	HLR (Home Location	99999000267		MSC (Mobile Switcl	TCAP	144	2c1501a5	Abort dtid(2c1501a5)
1799	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	99999000267	MSC (Mobile Switchi	123450050634		HLR (Home Locatior	TCAP	136	1962b2bc	Begin otid(1962b2bc)
1803	2013-06-05 22:17:	2905	123450001630	HLR (Home Location	99999000267		MSC (Mobile Switcl	TCAP	144	1962b2bc	Abort dtid(1962b2bc)

HLR Found!

- Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: [redacted], Dst: [redacted]
- Stream Control Transmission Protocol, Src Port: m3ua (2905), Dst Port: m3ua (2905)
- MTP 3 User Adaptation Layer
- Signalling Connection Control Part
- Transaction Capabilities Application Part

[redacted]

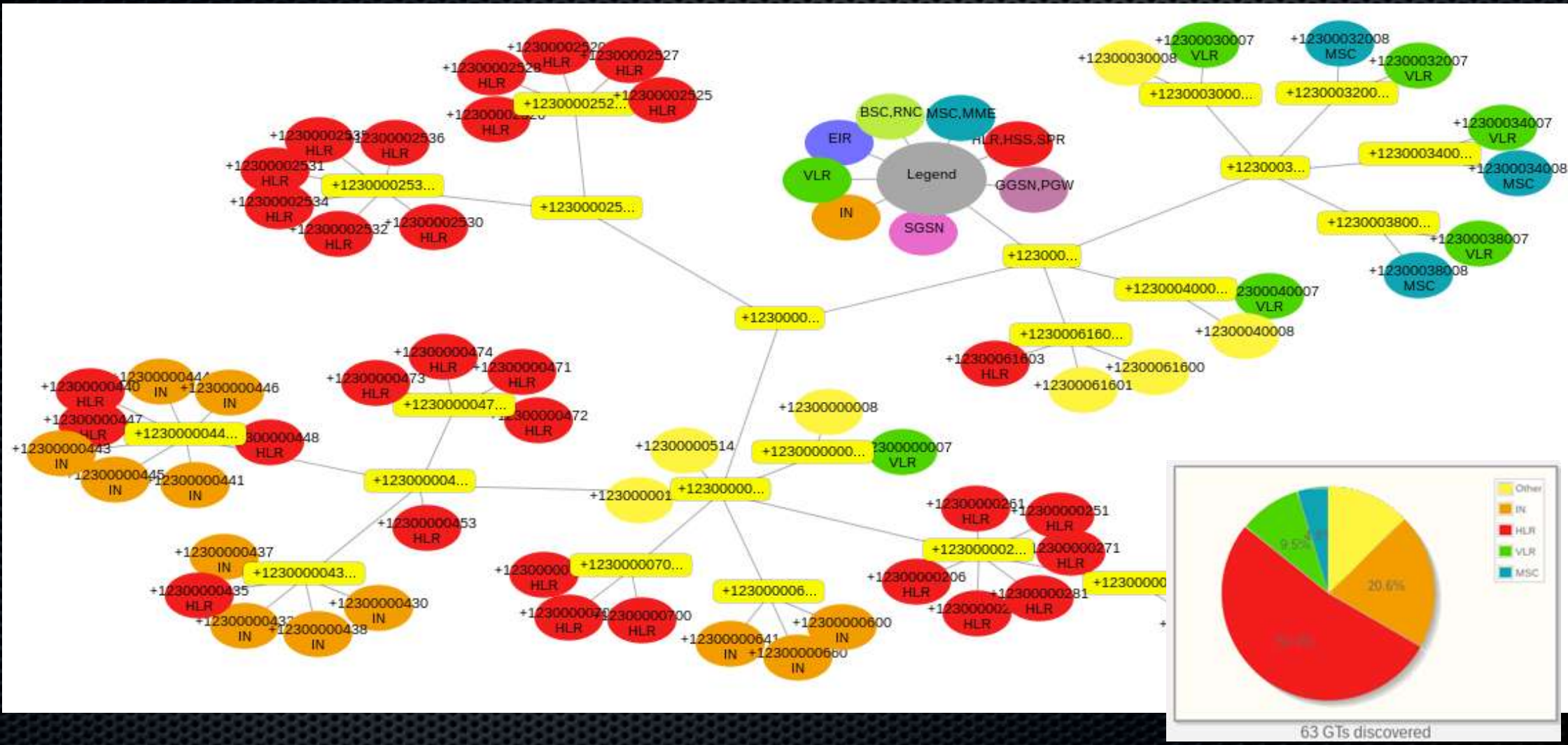
0000 [redacted]
0010
0020
0030
0040
0050
0060
0070
0080



File: "/mnt/data/p1sec/po/20140417-tcap-begin-scan.pcap" 5302 kB 03:33:08 | Packets: 50633 · Displayed: 14230 (28.1%) · Load time: 0:00.578 | Pr...

2G / 3G Network Mapping

Active Network Mapping



Agenda

- Overall telecom architecture
  - Architecture diagrams for 2G / 3G
  - Most important Network Elements
  - SS7 stack and interconnections
- Practical attack scenarios
  - Mapping the SS7 network
  - Tracking user location
  - Sending spoofed SMS
  - Demo

Spying on users

Tracking user location

- Based on non filtered MAP messages
  - SRISM / SRI
  - PSI / PSL
  - ATI …
- Targeted towards HLR or MSC / VLR
- Accuracy:
  - Depending on type of message allowed
  - MSC GT (Accuracy: City / Region)
  - CellID (Accuracy: Street)

Tracking user location

Get MSC / VLR / CellID from SS7 (Example with MAP ATI)

P1 Security
Priority One Security

File Edit View Go Capture Analyze Statistics Telephony Tools Internals Help

Filter: tcap.tid == 79:21:93:78 Expression... Clear Apply Save

No.	Time	Dst Por	Src GT	Src SSN	Dst GT	Dst SSN	Protocol	Leng	Txid	Info
1324	2013-10-08 20:06:3	2905	00267	HLR (Home Locatic	79754	HLR (Home Loc	GSM MAP	198	79219378	invoke anyTimeInterrogation
1335	2013-10-08 20:06:3	2905	00680	HLR (Home Locatic	00267	HLR (Home Loc	GSM MAP	246	79219378	returnResultLast anyTimeInterrogation

```
MTP 3 User Adaptation Layer
Signalling Connection Control Part
Transaction Capabilities Application Part
GSM Mobile Application
  Component: returnResultLast (2)
    returnResultLast
      invokeID: 1
      resultretres
        opCode: localValue (0)
          localValue: anyTimeInterrogation (71)
        subscriberInfo
          locationInformation
            ageOfLocationInformation: 39
            geographicalInformation: 1000000000000000
            vlr-number: 12345000123
              1... .... = Extension: No Extension
              .001 .... = Nature of number: International Number (0x01)
              .... 0001 = Number plan: ISDN/Telephony Numbering (Rec ITU-T E.164) (0x01)
              Address digits: 00660
              Country Code:
            cellGlobalIdOrServiceAreaIdOrLAI: cellGlobalIdOrServiceAr...h (0)
              cellGlobalIdOrServiceAreaIdFixedLength: 02f8 002c9084
            msc-Number: 12345000123
              1... .... = Extension: No Extension
              .001 .... = Nature of number: International Number (0x01)
```

VLR GT

Cell ID

MSC GT

```
$ python src/p1ss7ng/mapgsm_cellid.py 02f8xx002c9084
Mobile Country Code (MCC) : 208 (France)
Mobile Network Code (MNC) : xx (French Operator)
Location Area Code  (LAC) : 194
Cell ID                   : 23
```

cellGlobalIdOrServiceAreaIdFixedLength (gsm_map.cellGlobalIdOrServiceAreaIdFixedLength), 7 bytes

Profile: SS7

Tracking user location

Open CellID databases

P1 Security
Priority One Security

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help www.opencellid.org/

OpenCellID - OpenCellID

OpenCellID by ENAiKOON

- map...
- GPS positions of GSM base stations
- newly found base stations
- recently uploaded measurements
- measurements of a selected GSM base station
- heat map...
- statistics...
- search location...
- database...
- wiki...

search for address...

[redacted]
MCC: 208 (*France*)
MNC: [redacted]
LAC: 194
Cell ID: 2376

Latitude: *48.895941*
Longitude: *2.386086*

3 Measurements: CSV | KML

48.895675, 2.388593, z:17

Tracking user location

Low accuracy (MSC based location)

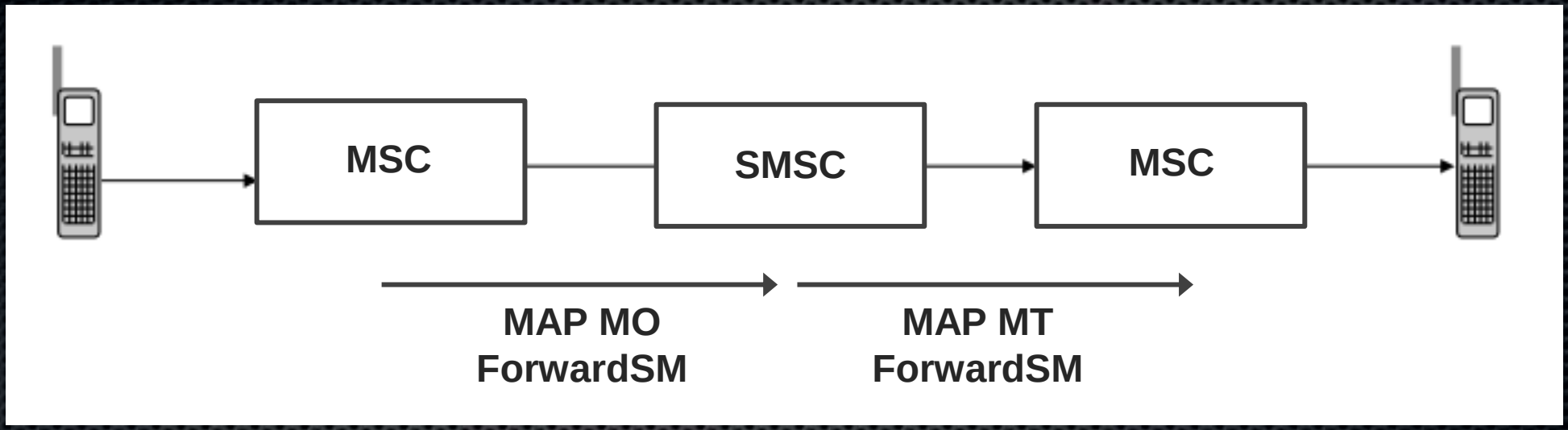
Source: Tobias Engel (CCC)

Agenda

- Overall telecom architecture
  - Architecture diagrams for 2G / 3G
  - Most important Network Elements
  - SS7 stack and interconnections
- Practical attack scenarios
  - Mapping the SS7 network
  - Tracking user location
  - Sending spoofed SMS
  - Demo

Sending SMS

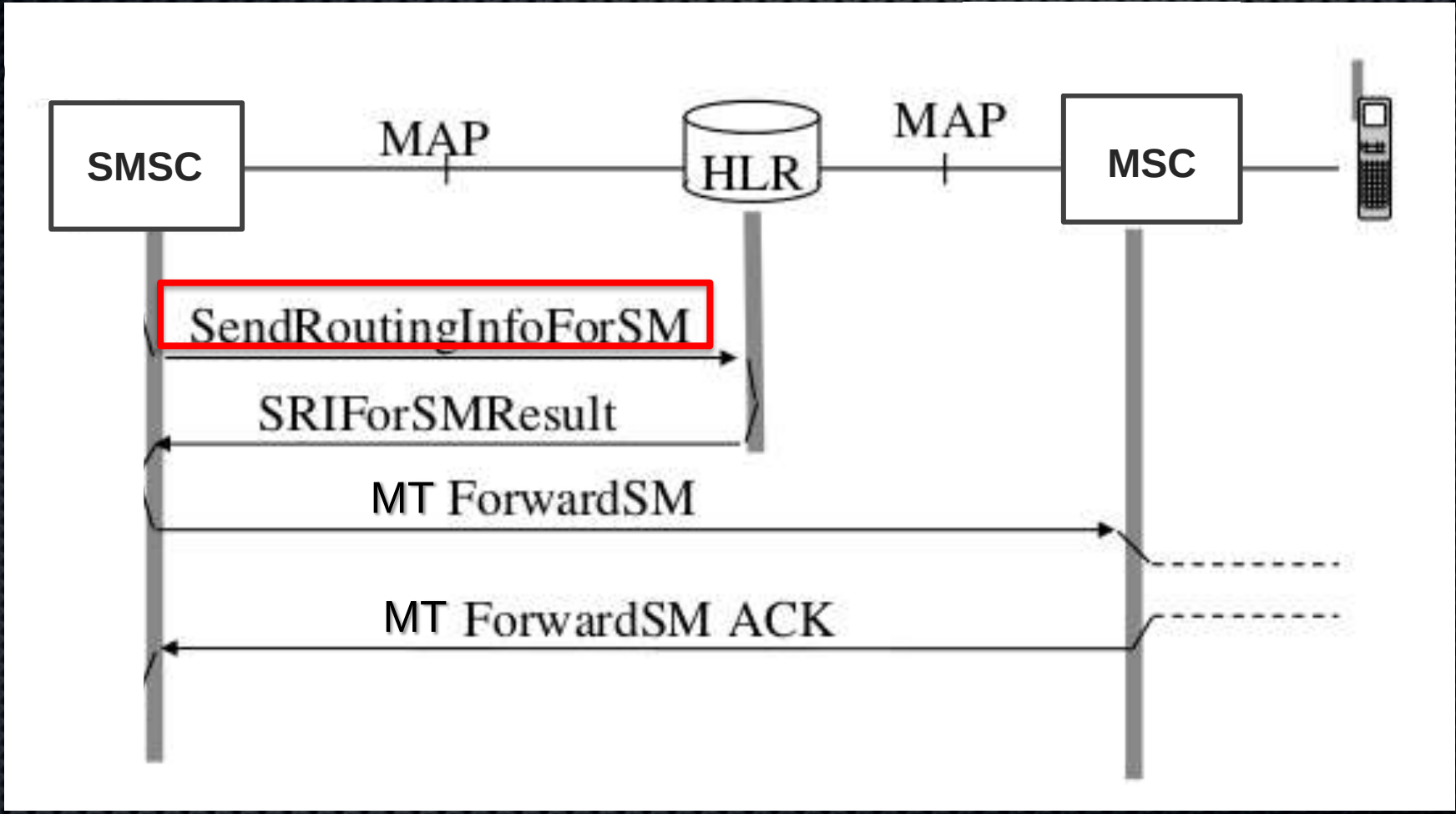
MO / MT ForwardSM



- MAP messages
- MO: Mobile Originating
- MT: Mobile Terminating
- SMSC: SMS Center (SMSC GT list is public)

Sending SMS

Prerequisite to SMS: MAP SRISM



SendRoutingInfoForSM

SS7 MAP SRISM

P1 Security
Priority One Security

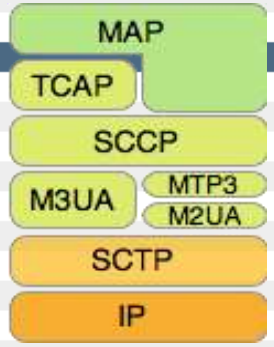
No.	Time	Src GT	Src SSN	Dst GT	Dst SSN	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000	12340000002	MSC (Mobile Switching Center)	12340000001	HLR (Home Location Register)	GSM MAP	196	invoke sendRoutingInfoForSM
2	0.057330	12340000001	HLR (Home Location Register)	12340000002	MSC (Mobile Switching Center)	GSM MAP	236	SACK returnResultLast sendRoutingInfoForSM

```
▷ Frame 1: 196 bytes on wire (1568 bits), 196 bytes captured (1568 bits)
▷ Linux cooked capture
▷ Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.0.0.1 (10.0.0.1), Dst: 10.0.0.2 (10.0.0.2)
▷ Stream Control Transmission Protocol, Src Port: m3ua (2905), Dst Port: m3ua (2905)
▷ MTP 3 User Adaptation Layer
▽ Signalling Connection Control Part
    Message Type: Unitdata (0x09)
    .... 0001 = Class: 0x01
    0000 .... = Message handling: No special options (0x00)
    Pointer to first Mandatory Variable parameter: 3
    Pointer to second Mandatory Variable parameter: 14
    Pointer to third Mandatory Variable parameter: 25
    Called Party Address length: 11
  ▽ Called Party address (11 bytes)
    ▷ Address Indicator
      SubSystem Number: HLR (Home Location Register) (6)
      [Linked to TCAP, TCAP SSN linked to GSM_MAP]
    ▽ Global Title 0x4 (9 bytes)
        Translation Type: 0x00
        0001 .... = Numbering Plan: ISDN/telephony (0x01)
        .... 0001 = Encoding Scheme: BCD, odd number of digits (0x01)
        000 0100 = Nature of Address Indicator: International number (0x04)
      ▷ Called Party Digits: 12340000001
    Calling Party Address length: 11
  ▷ Calling Party address (11 bytes)
    Data length: 69
▷ Transaction Capabilities Application Part
▽ GSM Mobile Application
  ▽ Component: invoke (1)
    ▽ invoke
        invokeID: 1
      ▽ opCode: localValue (0)
          localValue: sendRoutingInfoForSM (45)
      ▷ msisdn: 912143000000f1
        sm-RP-PRI: True
```

SSN HLR

SCCP Dst GT == MSISDN

Destination phone number (MSISDN): 12340000001



Answer to SRISM

Answer comes from HLR

Get IMSI for requested MSISDN

```
RoutingInfoForSM-Res ::= SEQUENCE {
    imsi                    IMSI,
    locationInfoWithLMSI[0] LocationInfoWithLMSI,
    extensionContainer  [4] ExtensionContainer
    OPTIONAL,
    ...,
    ip-sm-gwGuidance    [5] IP-SM-GW-Guidance
    OPTIONAL }
```

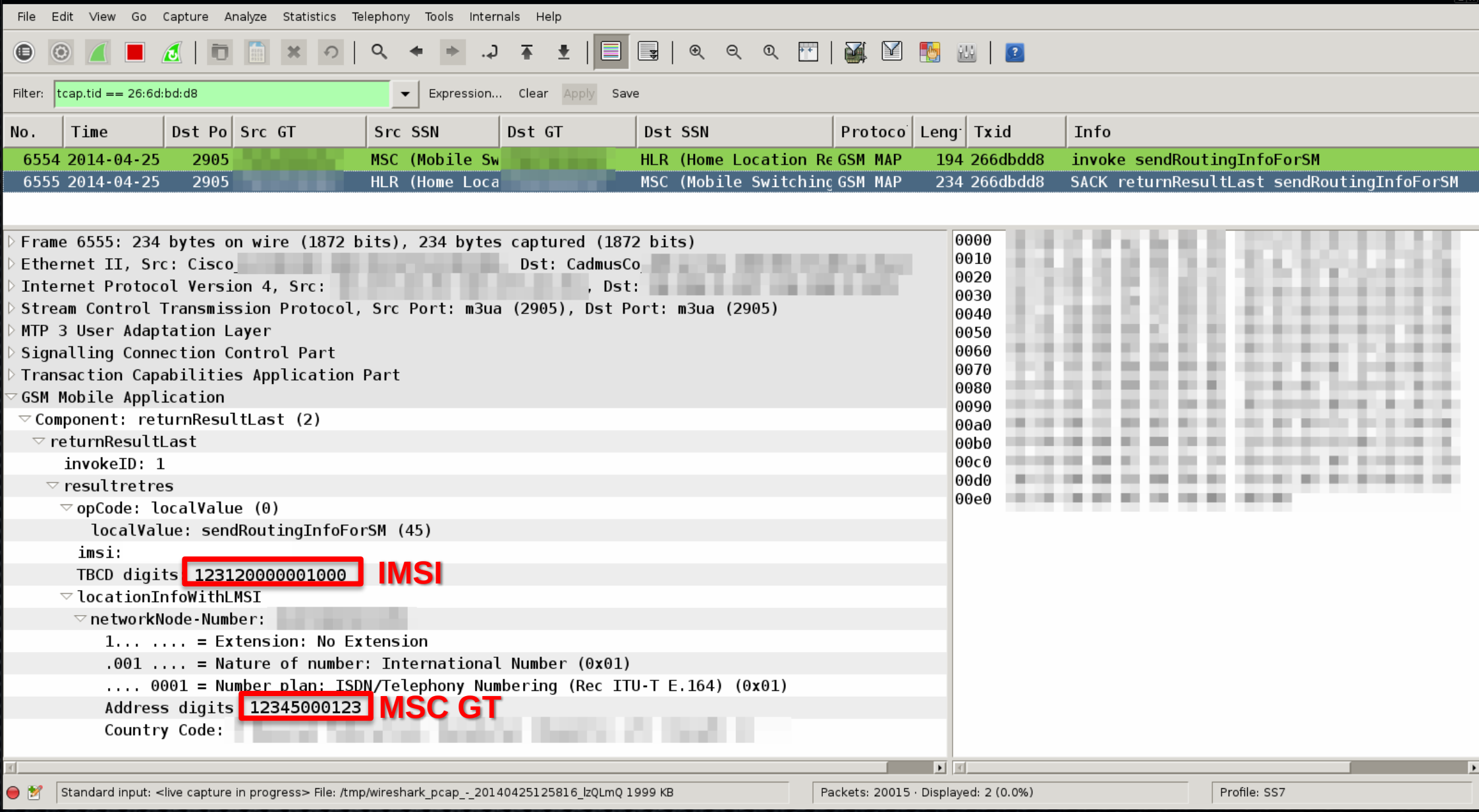
Contains MSC GT

- Both IMSI and MSC GT are required to send MAP MT Forward SM

P1 Security
Priority One Security

Answer to SRISM

SRISM answer reveals MSC GT and IMSI



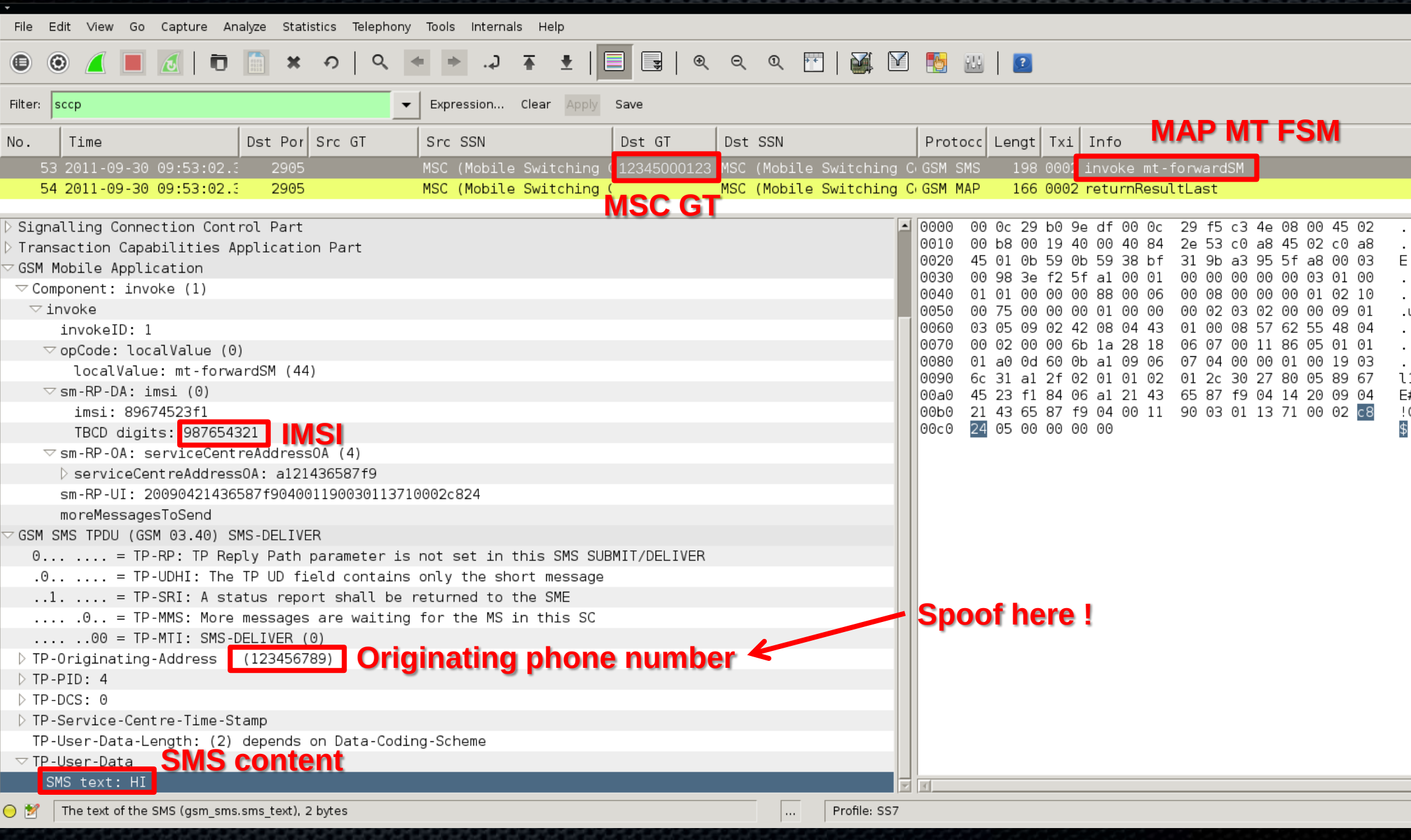
SMS attacks

- Sending spam SMS
- Sending spoof SMS
- Bypassing SMS firewall
  - Anti Spam protections
  - MT FSM directly targeting MSC
- Directly sent from signalling protocol

SMS attacks

Based on MAP MT-FSM (Mobile Terminated Forward Short Message)

P1 Security
Priority One Security



Originating Address

Try different encodings ! (Different screening rules)

P1 Security
Priority One Security

```
TP-Originating-Address
    Length: 2 address digits
    1... .... :  No extension
    .010 .... :  Type of number: (2) National
    .... 0001 :  Numbering plan: (1) ISDN/telephone (E.164/E.163)
    TP-OA Digits: 17
```

```
TP-Originating-Address
    Length: 2 address digits
    1... .... :  No extension
    .001 .... :  Type of number: (1) International
    .... 0001 :  Numbering plan: (1) ISDN/telephone (E.164/E.163)
    TP-OA Digits: 12345000001
```

```
TP-Originating-Address
    Length: 6 address digits
    1... .... :  No extension
    .101 .... :  Type of number: (5) Alphanumeric (coded according to 3GPP TS 23.038 GSM 7-bit default alphabet)
    .... 0000 :  Numbering plan: (0) Unknown
    TP-OA Digits:  Hackito
```

SMS spoofing

Spoofing police !

Also works with other special numbers:

- Emergency number
- Voice Mail number
- Operators services
- Other subscribers

Counter measures

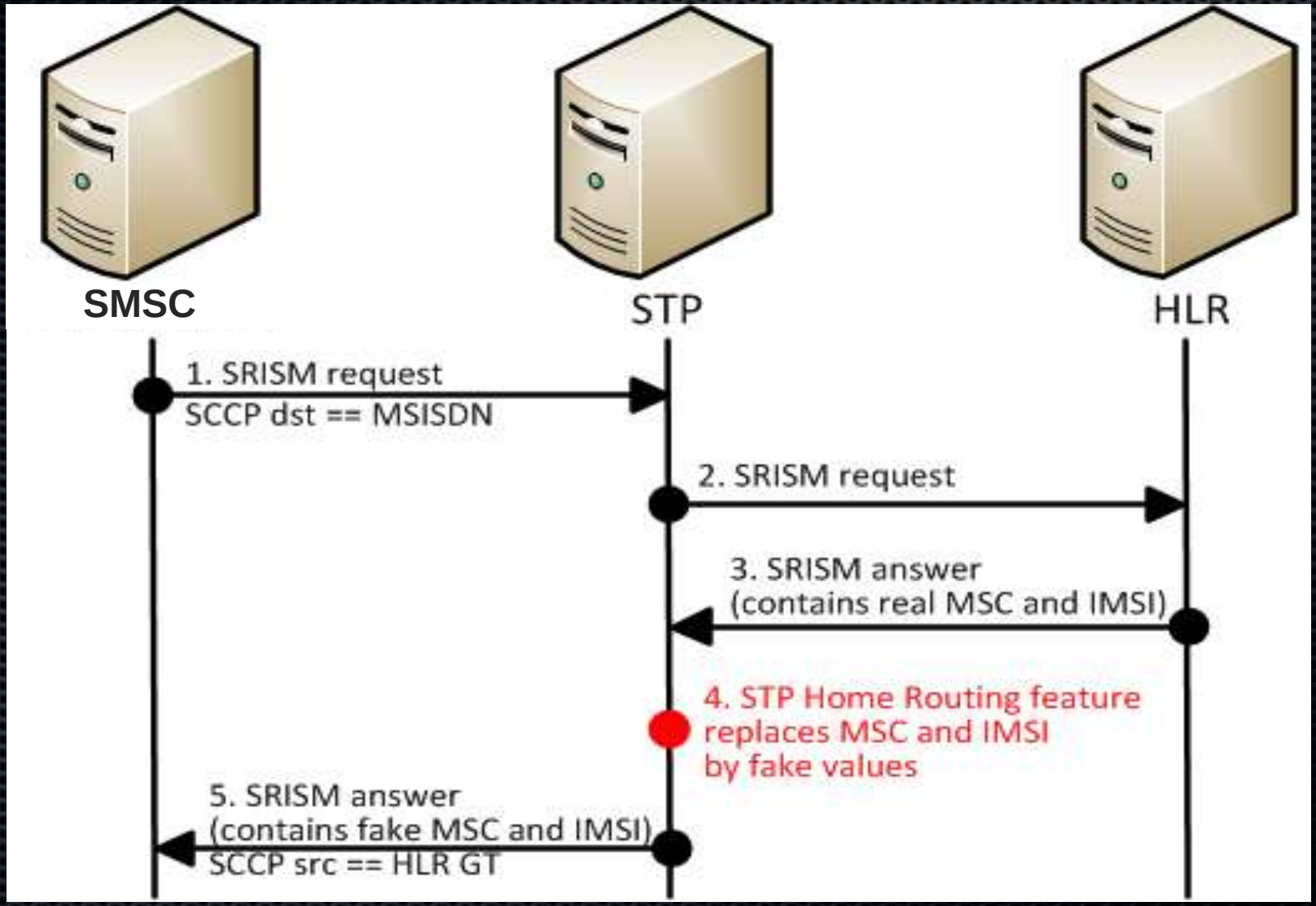
Protecting against SMS attacks

- SMS home routing
- SMS firewalls

- All incoming MAP MT Forward SM are routed to SMS firewall for inspection
- Prevents against SMS attacks:
  - SMS spam is detected and rejected
  - SMS spoofed is detected and rejected

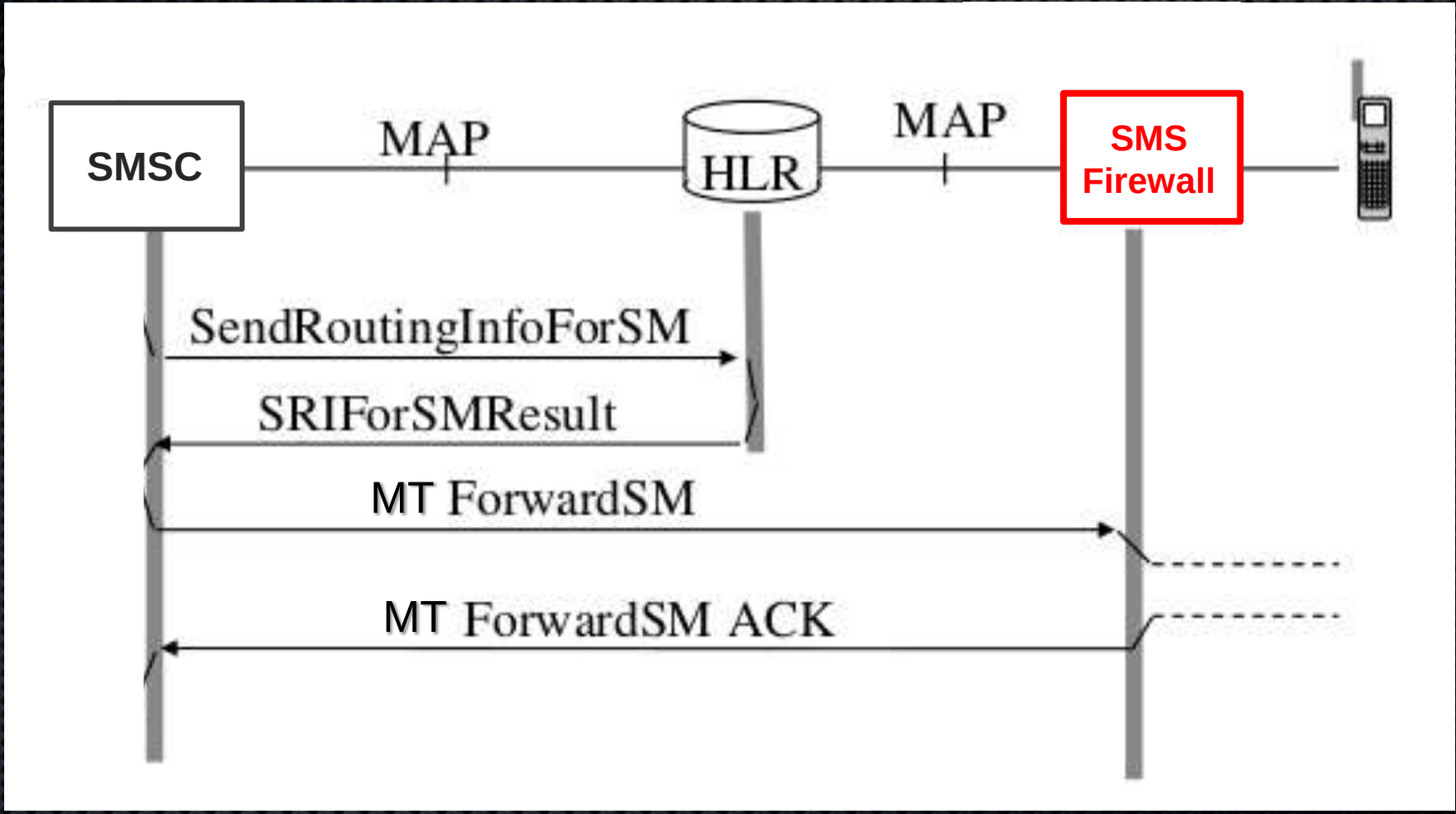
SMS Home Routing

Protecting users privacy / Protecting against spam SMS



SMS Home Routing

SMS are routed to SMS firewall for inspection



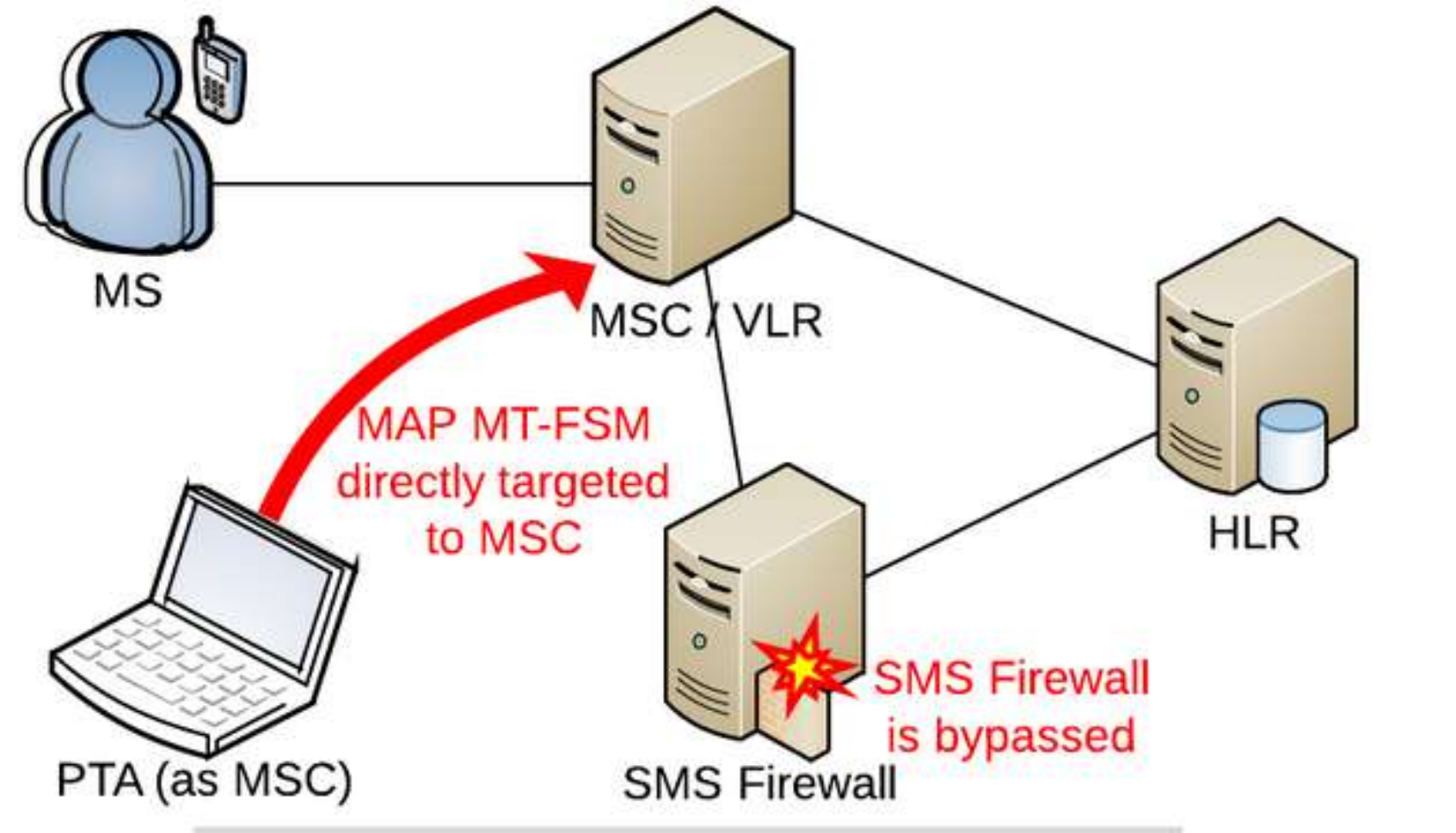
Counter Counter measures ?

How to bypass protections

- Can you actually bypass SMS firewalls ?
  - YES !
- How ?
  - Directly sending MT Forward SM to MSC
  - Route through SMS firewall is usually not enforced !
- This requires to scan and discover all available MSC prior to send SMS
  - Possible in a few hours
  - MSC number: typically < 50
- Also require target IMSI (SRI / SRISM / sendIMSI)

SMS Firewall bypassed

P1 Vulnerability Knowledge Base P1VID#112



https://saas.p1sec.com/vulns/112

P1 Security
Priority One Security

Telcomap project

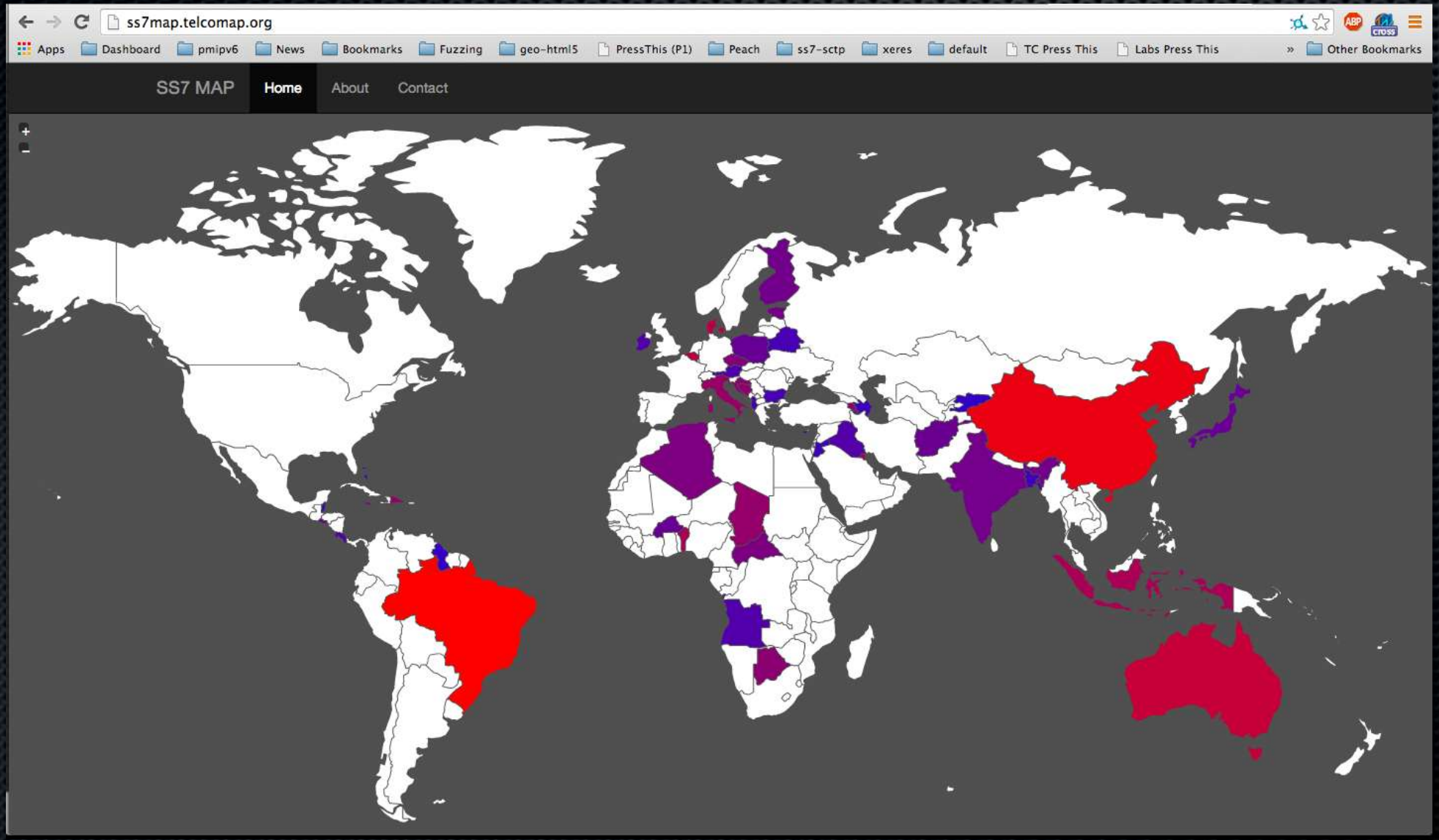
Worldwide discovery

SS7map: Scanning the worldwide SS7 network

- Discovery scan from international SS7 interconnection
- Targets: all operators / all countries
- Currently implemented testcases:
  - GT/SSN discovery scan (SCCP / TCAP)
  - MSISDN range scan (MAP SRI)
  - More to come…

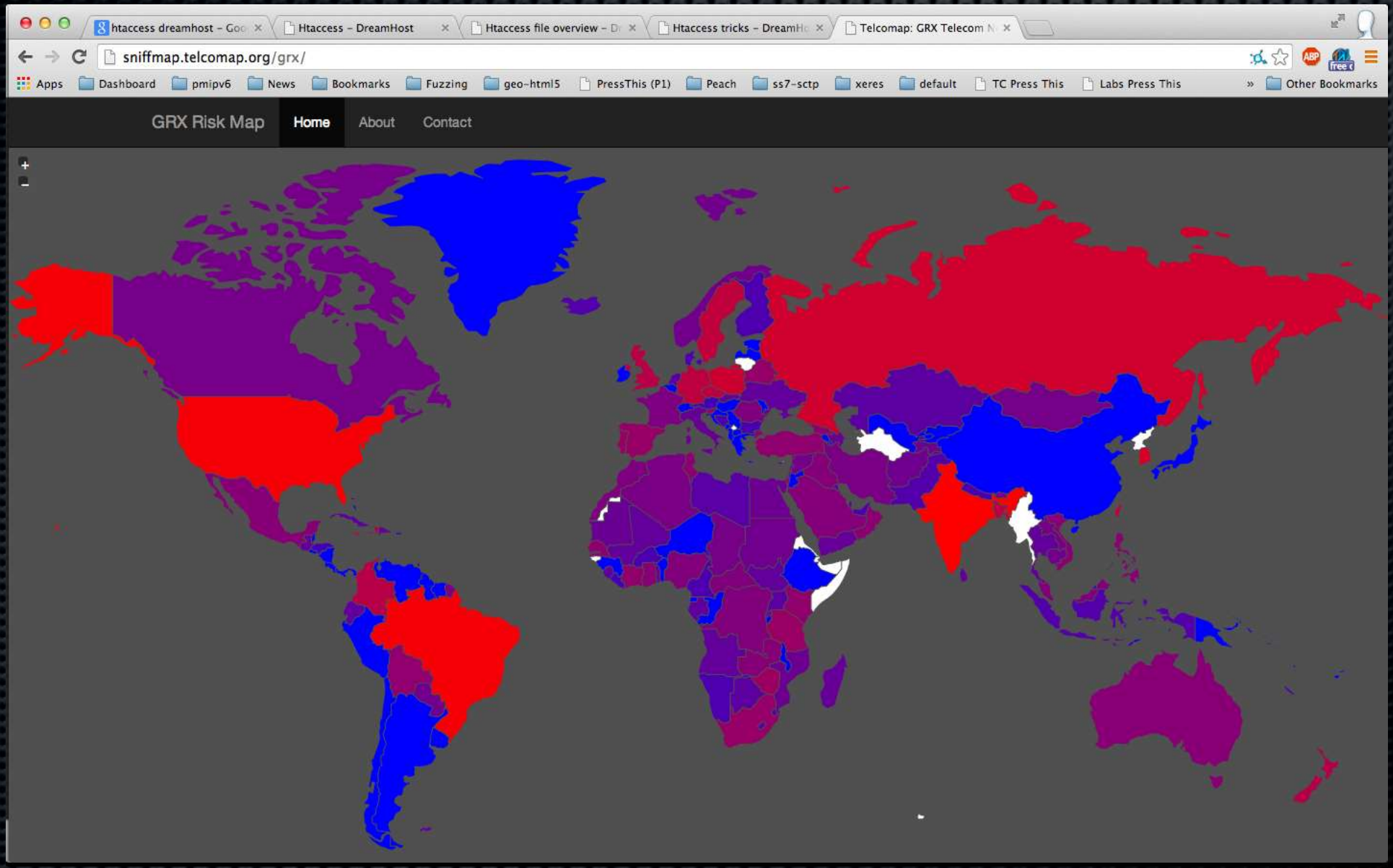
SS7 Map

Telecom Networks SS7 Exposure



GRX Map

PS, GPRS, LTE



http://sniffmap.telcomap.org/grx/

Galaxy Map

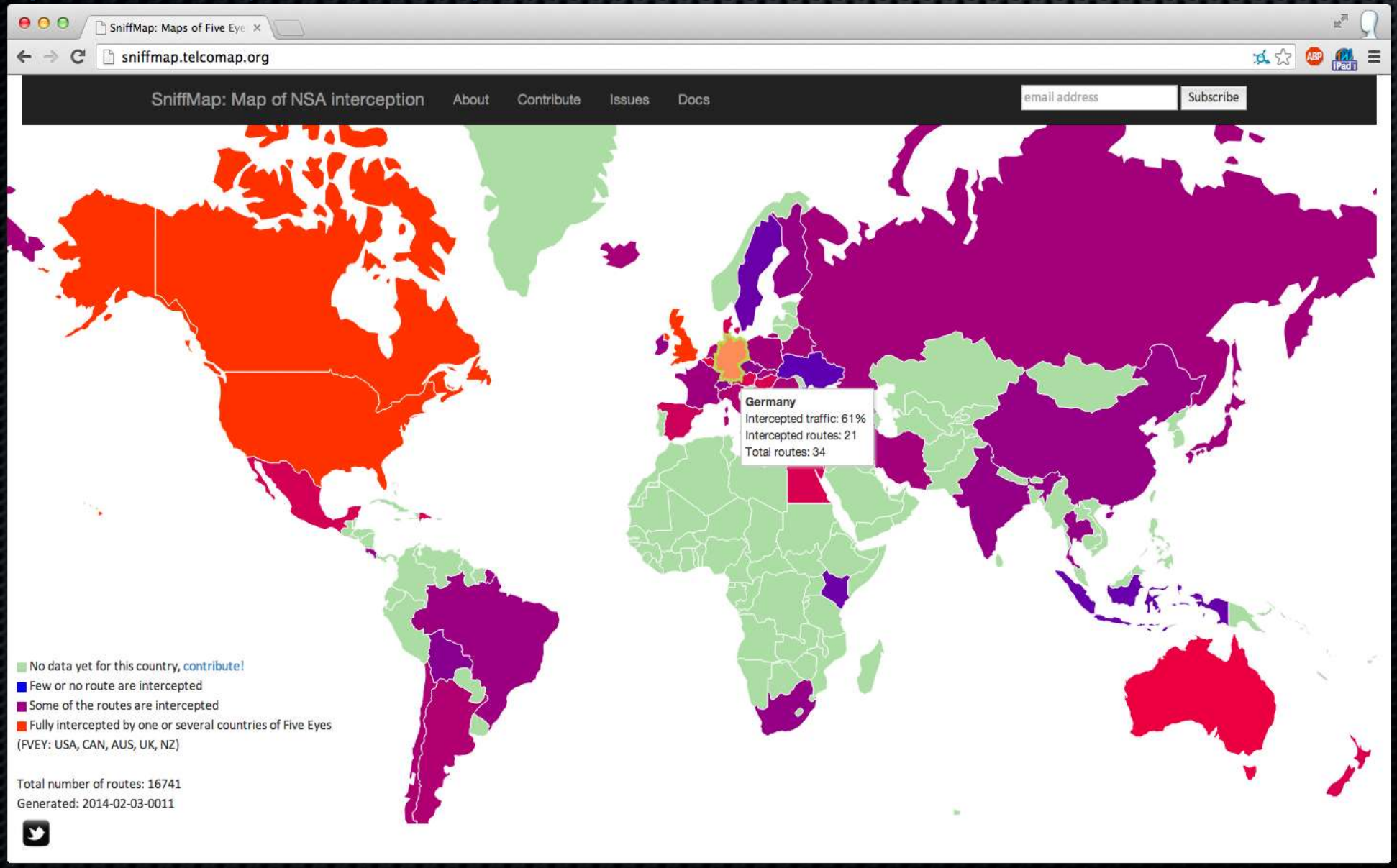
ShodanHQ-like but for Telco

Shodan is only 10% coverage of Telco OAM and Signaling

But useful to “prove” the seriousness: anyone can get access…
from Internet

Sniffmap

Map of Five Eyes interception

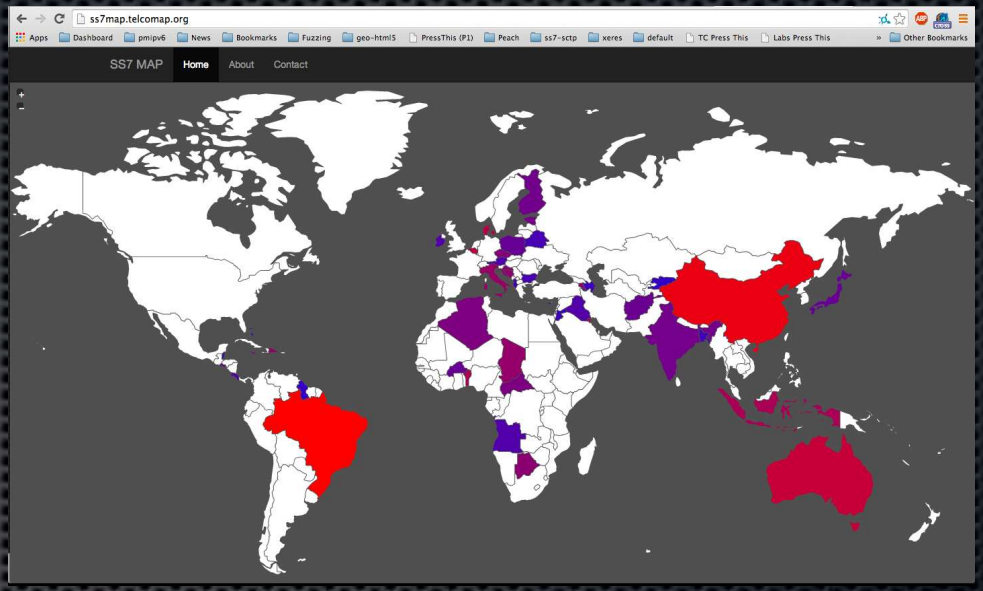


http://sniffmap.telcomap.org/

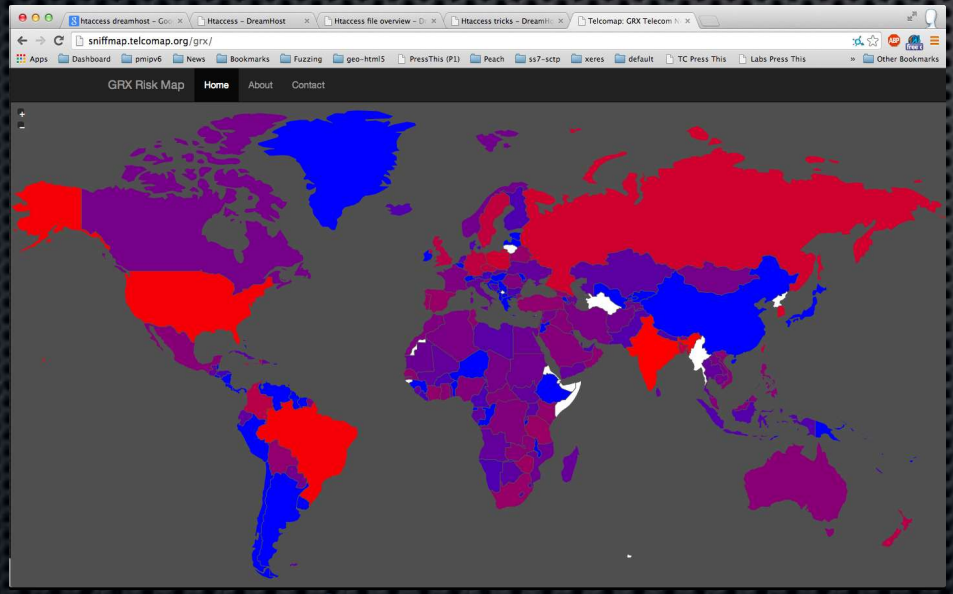
Attack surface

Telcomaps

Sniff Map



SS7 Map



GRX Map

Galaxy Map

Going further

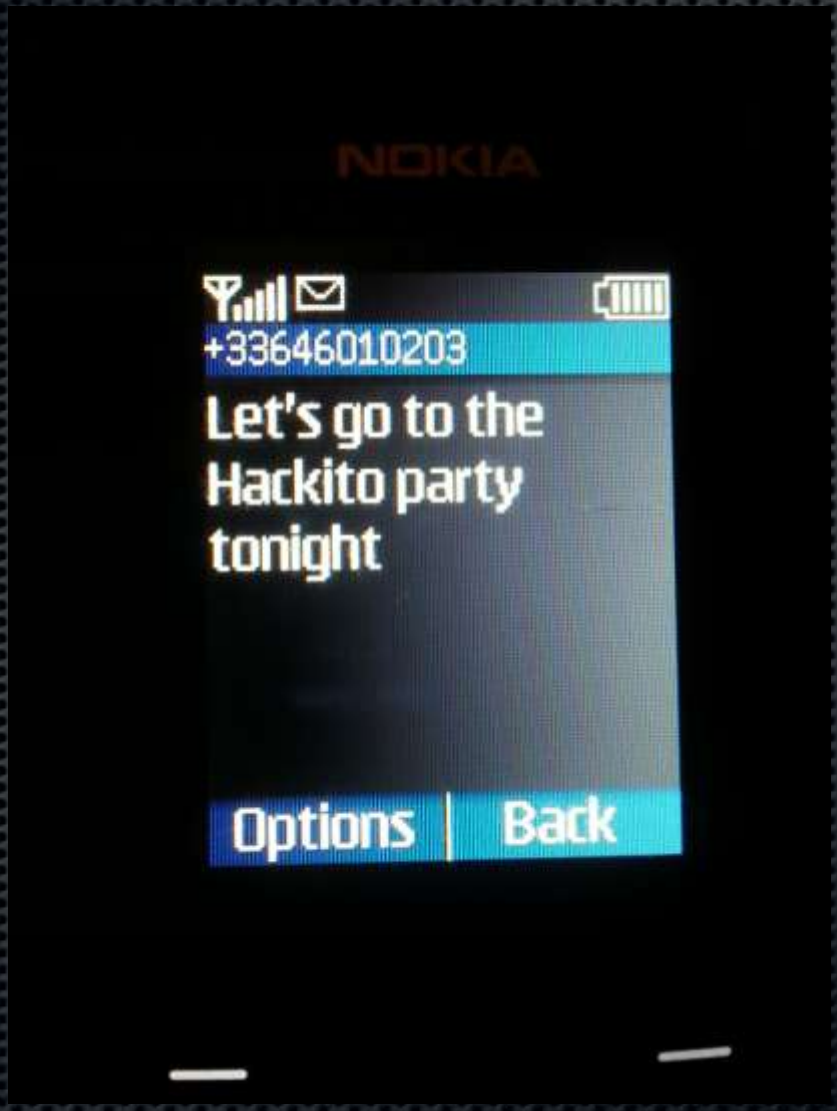
- MAP specification: 3GPP TS 29.002
  http://www.3gpp.org/DynaReport/29002.htm
- SMS specification: 3GPP TS 23.040
  http://www.3gpp.org/DynaReport/23040.htm
- SMS Home routing specification: 3GPP TS 23.840
  http://www.3gpp.org/DynaReport/23840.htm
- Locating mobile phones using MSC GT (CCC)
  http://events.ccc.de/congress/2008/Fahrplan/attachments/1262_25c3-locating-mobile-phones.pdf
- Description of MAP usual callflows
  http://www.netlab.tkk.fi/opetus/s383115/2007/kalvot/3115L7-9e.pdf
- P1 Security SaaS and Vulnerability Knowledge Base
  https://saas.p1sec.com/
- SMS Gateways
  http://www.vianett.com/
- Open Cell ID databases / API
  http://opencellids.org/

Thank you !
Questions ?

Thanks to
P1 Security team

Questions to:
po@p1sec.com
alex@p1sec.com

Back up demo



Back up demo

Back up demo