

A Feasible IP Traceback Framework through Dynamic Deterministic Packet Marking

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Abstract—DDoS attack source traceback is an open and challenging problem. Deterministic packet marking (DPM) is a simple and effective traceback mechanism, but the current DPM based traceback schemes are not practical due to their scalability constraint. We noticed a factor that only a limited number of computers and routers are involved in an attack session. Therefore, we only need to mark these involved nodes for traceback purpose, rather than marking every node of the Internet as the existing schemes doing. Based on this finding, we propose a novel marking on demand (MOD) traceback scheme based on the DPM mechanism. In order to traceback to involved attack source, what we need to do is to mark these involved ingress routers using the traditional DPM strategy. Similar to existing schemes, we require participated routers to install a traffic monitor. When a monitor notices a surge of suspicious network flows, it will request a unique mark from a globally shared MOD server, and mark the suspicious flows with the unique marks. At the same time, the MOD server records the information of the marks and their related requesting IP addresses. Once a DDoS attack is confirmed, the victim can obtain the attack sources by requesting the MOD server with the marks extracted from attack packets. Moreover, we use the marking space in a round-robin style, which essentially addresses the scalability problem of the existing DPM based traceback schemes. We establish a mathematical model for the proposed traceback scheme, and thoroughly analyze the system. Theoretical analysis and extensive real-world data experiments demonstrate that the proposed traceback method is feasible and effective.

Index Terms—Cybersecurity, IP traceback, packet marking, scalability

1 INTRODUCTION

DISTRIBUTED DDoS (DDoS) attacks have become a major threat to the Internet. IP traceback is a key technology for identifying the source of DDoS attacks. Deterministic packet marking (DPM) is a simple and effective traceback mechanism, but the current DPM based traceback schemes are not practical due to their scalability constraint. We noticed a factor that only a limited number of computers and routers are involved in an attack session. Therefore, we only need to mark these involved nodes for traceback purpose, rather than marking every node of the Internet as the existing schemes doing. Based on this finding, we propose a novel marking on demand (MOD) traceback scheme based on the DPM mechanism. In order to traceback to involved attack source, what we need to do is to mark these involved ingress routers using the traditional DPM strategy. Similar to existing schemes, we require participated routers to install a traffic monitor. When a monitor notices a surge of suspicious network flows, it will request a unique mark from a globally shared MOD server, and mark the suspicious flows with the unique marks. At the same time, the MOD server records the information of the marks and their related requesting IP addresses. Once a DDoS attack is confirmed, the victim can obtain the attack sources by requesting the MOD server with the marks extracted from attack packets. Moreover, we use the marking space in a round-robin style, which essentially addresses the scalability problem of the existing DPM based traceback schemes. We establish a mathematical model for the proposed traceback scheme, and thoroughly analyze the system. Theoretical analysis and extensive real-world data experiments demonstrate that the proposed traceback method is feasible and effective.

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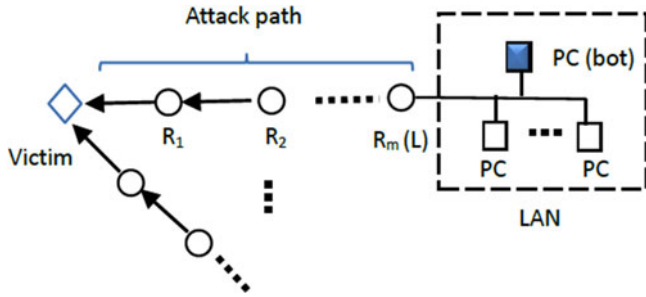


Fig. 1. An attack diagram and terms of distributed denial of service attack.

T 5 DPM 5
 5 5 5 5 . A 5 DPM
 I 5 5 5 5
 T , I 5 ID 5
 IP 4 5 I , 5
 5 5 5 DD S 5 : 1) I 5
 2', 11', 12', DD S 5
 T 5 , 5
 5 5
 DD S 5 . 2) I 5
 23'. B 5
 5 5
 5 5
 DPM 5 , DD S 5 55 . D
 5 5 5 DD S 5 . T
 5 5 5 5 . E 5 , -
 5 5 5 5 , IP
 1', 24', 5 5 , 5
 25', 26', 5 5 5 24', 26',
 27'. T 5 , 5 DD S 5 5
 5 5 DD S 5 .
 I 5 (MOD) 5
 5 5 ID DD S 5
 5 5 . I (MOD) . A
 5 DD S 5 5 I ,
 W DD S 5 5
 ID MOD , 5
 ID MOD IP . A
 MOD 5 . H , 5
 MOD 5 5 5 5 1'.

5 . O 5 DD S 5 5 5 ,
 W 5 5 MOD 5 5 5 IP
 W 5 5 5 5 5
 MOD 5 5 5 , . C 5
 DPM 5 5 5 5 5 5
 5 , 5 5 5 5 , 5 5
 . O 5 5 5
 5 . M , 5 5 5 , 5 , -
 W 5 5 5 5 55
 5 . I , 5 5 5
 T 5 :
 • W 5 5 5 5 5 5
 5 DD S 5 5 5 5 . C -
 MOD 5
 5 . F , 5 5 5 -
 5 DPM 5 5 5 5 5
 5 5 5 . S 5 , 5 5
 T 5 DD S 5 5 5 5
 • W 5 5 5 5 -
 • T 5 5 5 5 5 ,
 5 5 5 5 5 5
 T 5 . W
 MOD 5 S 5 2. I S 5 3, -
 5 5 5 5 5 S 5 4, -
 S 5 5. F 5 MOD 5
 S 5 6. F , MOD 5
 S 5 7.

2 RELATED WORK

T 5 DD S 5 5 5
 5 5 5 5 5 5
 5 5 5 5 5 5
 DD S 5 5 5 5 5 . E
 5 5 5 5 5 5 2000,
 CNN, A ,
 5 5 5 . T 5 -
 5 . H , 5 5 5 -
 5 5 5 5 5 5 1'.

C , DD S 5 5 B . R R 5
H 5 5 I 5 , 16, 19
5 5 . A , 24 R R R 5
() 5 5 M , - R R R
5 5 5 5 - 55 R
A DD S 5 5 R 1', 28'. FDPM R 5 5 . T
R 5 5 5 . A 5 5 . F FDPM-19
5 DD S 5 FDPM-24 5 5 5 8,192 262,144 -
5 5 5 10'. 5 . W R DPM 5 5
T 5 5 5 5 5 2,048 5 . A
R 5 5 5 R : PPM DPM. I 5 5
IP 4 5 , 5 R . W R . 19'
16, 17, 19 24 5 5 IP 5 -
6'. N 5 5 5 ID 5 . O 5 5
5 5 5 . B 5 5 5
, 5 5 5 5 7. A 5 . J . 20' R -
5 , 5 5 5 5 5
T PPM R 13', 30' 5 5 -
, 5 5 16'. T 5 DD S 5 R I -
PPM 5 5 , 5 DD S ¹/₂₅₆ IP 4 5 . T 5 5
5 5 5 5 R 5 5 . B 5 22 -
5 5 5 5 . A 5- I 5 5 5
5 , 5 5 5 5 5 6,272 (24.5 × 256) . A 5
5 5 5 5 5 5 5 : 60 -
5 , 5 55 5 R R 10 80 5
5 R , 5 5 5 R R 30 . A R 5 , R
5 5 5 5 . M , PPM 5) 10 (9.7 5 5). W
5 5 5 5 5 I 5 5 DD S 5 ,
D PPM , DPM 5 . H , 5
5 5 5 5 (, . S -
LAN) . T 5 T R 182,800,
PPM 5 5 A 17'. T 5 R T R 49,272
5 5 5 5 5 48,532, 5 28'. O 5 5 5
5 . T , 5 5 5 2,201,183. A , 5 5 -
R IP 5 5 . T 5 5 (R ,) ,
IP 5 5 5 R IP 5 5 5
R 17 5 5 (16 R . R . 22'
5 5 1 5 5) . A , 5 5 R
5 S5 5 5 5 5 DPM . W
5 . J 5 5 R 29' ID 5 R
5 5 5 IP . F IP
0-13 , 9-22 , 18-31 , R 5 5 M D
. T R R R 5 5 5
R R 5 IP R 5 5 -
F , R . 6' 5 5 -
R R DPM 5 ,
FDPM 5 5 5 5 . T 5 5 5

3 THE PROPOSED TRACEBACK METHOD

3.1 The Marking On Demand Traceback Scheme

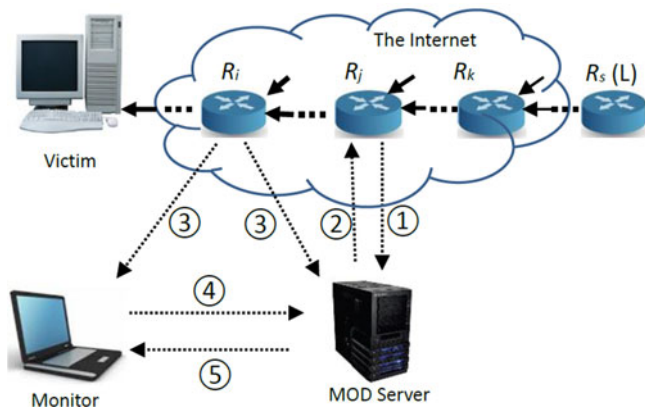


Fig. 2. The framework of the marking on demand scheme for DDoS attack traceback.

A network flow f is a sequence of nodes R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n connected by edges. A flow f is an l -flow if it has l flows.

The marking process is as follows:

- 1) The MOD Server sends a marking request to router R_j .
- 2) Router R_j marks the packets from the attack source.
- 3) The packets are forwarded to the victim.
- 4) The victim captures the packets and sends them to the monitor.
- 5) The monitor identifies the attack source.

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3.2 Comparison on the Marking Schemes

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$$T \quad 5 \quad 5 \quad \text{MOD } 5$$

$$d,$$

$$\max\{N_{tr}\} = 2^l = 2^d. \quad (5)$$

$$C \quad \mathbb{R}, \quad (1), (4) \quad (2), \quad \text{MOD}$$

$$5 \quad 2^{a+s}$$

$$5 \quad 5$$

$$A \quad \mathbb{R}, \quad 5 \quad \mathbb{R} \quad \text{MOD}$$

$$5 \quad , \quad \text{DPM } 5 \quad \text{FDPM } 5 \quad -$$

$$T \quad 1.$$

4 SYSTEM ANALYSIS ON THE MOD SCHEME

$$I \quad 5 \quad , \quad 5 \quad 5 \quad , \quad 5$$

$$W \quad 5 \quad \mathbb{R} \quad \text{DD } 5 \quad 5 \quad .$$

$$\mathbb{R} \quad 5 \quad .$$

4.1 Traceable Sources

$$T \quad 5 \quad 5 \quad 5 \quad 5 \quad -$$

$$5 \quad 2^l \quad . \quad H \quad , \quad 5 \quad \mathbb{R}$$

$$5 \quad 5 \quad \text{MOD } 5 \quad , \quad 5 \quad -$$

$$\mathbb{R} \quad . \quad I \quad 5 \quad \mathbb{R} \quad , \quad 5 \quad -$$

$$5 \quad 5 \quad 5 \quad -$$

$$F \quad \mathbb{R} \quad I \quad , \quad t,$$

$$A \quad \mathbb{R} \quad 3, \quad \mathbb{R} \quad \mathbb{R} \quad 5 \quad l,$$

$$\text{DPM} \quad \text{FDPM } 5 \quad , \quad \mathbb{R}$$

$$5 \quad : d' (d' \quad \text{ID})$$

$$\text{ID} \quad \mathbb{R} \quad , \quad a' (a \quad)$$

$$5 \quad \mathbb{R} \quad \text{IP} \quad ,$$

$$, \quad s' (s \quad 5)$$

$$5 \quad \text{IP} \quad . I$$

$$l = a' + d' + s'. \quad (1)$$

$$T \quad 5 \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{cases} a' \geq 1 \\ d' \geq 1 \\ s' \geq 2 \\ 2^{s'} \geq a'. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$T \quad 5 \quad 5 \quad N_{tr} \quad 5$$

$$d' \quad :$$

$$\max\{N_{tr}\} = 2^d = 2^{l-a'-s'}. \quad (3)$$

$$F \quad \text{DPM} \quad , \quad l = 17, \quad \max N_{tr} =$$

$$2,048 \quad d' = 11, a' = 1, \quad s' = 5 \quad \mathbb{R} \quad 5$$

$$(2). \quad I \quad 5 \quad 5 \quad 32 \quad 5 -$$

$$5 \quad .$$

$$I \quad \text{MOD } 5 \quad , \quad \mathbb{R} \quad \mathbb{R} \quad 5$$

$$5 \quad 5 \quad , \quad . A \quad \mathbb{R} \quad 3,$$

$$5 \quad . A \quad \mathbb{R} \quad 3,$$

$$l = d. \quad (4)$$

TABLE 2
Statistics for Conficker Distribution in Terms of Domain Names at the Three Top Level Domains

	N	L	S
	462	2,201,183	1
1	20,104	1,718,306	1
2	96,756	1,714,283	1

TABLE 3
The Approximation of α and C in Three Top Level Domains

	T	L	1	L	2
α	1.140		1.112		1.091
n	462		20104		96756
C	0.2164		0.1567		0.1320

$$Pr\{x = i\} = C \cdot i^{-\alpha}, \tag{6}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n C \cdot j^{-\alpha} = 1. \tag{7}$$

$$Pr\{X = |K(t)|\} = C \cdot |K(t)|^{-\alpha} = \frac{M(t)}{B(t)}. \tag{8}$$

$$|K(t)| = e^{-\frac{1}{\alpha} \ln \frac{M(t)}{CB(t)}}. \tag{9}$$

$$M(t) = 1, \tag{9}$$

$$|K(t)| = e^{\frac{1}{\alpha} \ln CB(t)}. \tag{10}$$

$$B(t) = \frac{M(t)}{|K(t)|^\alpha} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{|K(t)|} \frac{1}{i^\alpha}. \tag{11}$$

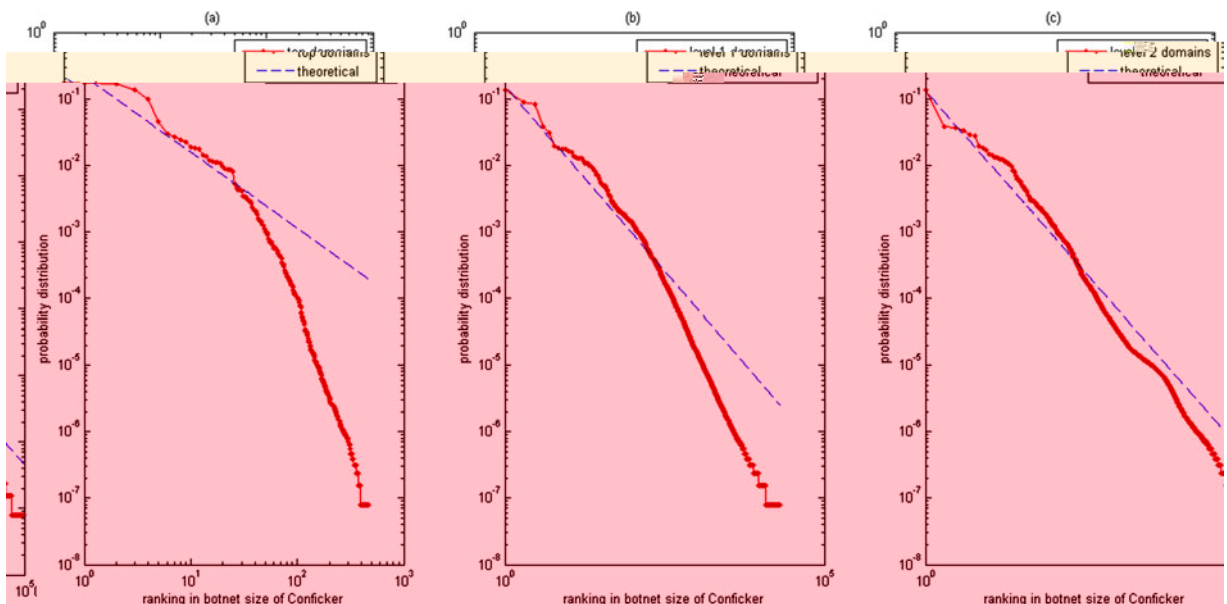


Fig. 4. Power law distribution of Conficker botnet in the top three levels of domain names with theoretical comparison.

$$D(t) = \dots$$

$$N_{tr}(t) = A(t) \times K(t). \tag{12}$$

$$T_I(t) = \frac{2^l}{A(t) \cdot K(t)} \cdot D(t) \tag{13}$$

$$E[T_I(t)] = \frac{2^l}{E[A(t)] \cdot E[K(t)]} \cdot E[D(t)], \tag{14}$$

$$D_j(t) < T_I(t), \forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, J\}. \tag{15}$$

4.2 Storage Analysis

$$n \left(\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n-1} + \dots + \frac{1}{2} + 1 \right). \tag{16}$$

$$N_s = 2^{s'} \left(\frac{1}{2^{s'}} + \frac{1}{2^{s'-1}} + \dots + \frac{1}{2} + 1 \right). \tag{17}$$

TABLE 4
Quantity Comparison Among the Proposed MOD Scheme with the DPM Scheme and the FDPM Scheme

	M	M	S
DPM-17	2 ¹¹	32	129.87
FDPM-16	2 ¹⁰	32	129.87
FDPM-24	2 ¹⁸	32	129.87
MOD-16	unlimited	1	1
MOD-17	unlimited	1	1
MOD-24	unlimited	1	1

5 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Figure 1 shows the performance evaluation of the proposed MOD scheme compared with the DPM and FDPM schemes. The figure is divided into two parts: (a) and (b). Part (a) shows the performance of the MOD scheme for different values of the parameter l (16, 17, 24) and the number of storage nodes N_s (1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32). The performance is measured in terms of the number of storage nodes required to store a given amount of data. The MOD scheme is shown to require significantly fewer storage nodes than the DPM and FDPM schemes for the same amount of data. Part (b) shows the performance of the MOD scheme for different values of the parameter l and the number of storage nodes N_s for a given amount of data. The MOD scheme is shown to require significantly fewer storage nodes than the DPM and FDPM schemes for the same amount of data. The performance of the MOD scheme is compared with the DPM and FDPM schemes for different values of the parameter l and the number of storage nodes N_s . The MOD scheme is shown to require significantly fewer storage nodes than the DPM and FDPM schemes for the same amount of data. The performance of the MOD scheme is compared with the DPM and FDPM schemes for different values of the parameter l and the number of storage nodes N_s . The MOD scheme is shown to require significantly fewer storage nodes than the DPM and FDPM schemes for the same amount of data.

TABLE 5
Key Statistics on DDoS Attack Characteristics

F	A	5	5	23'	A	5	23'	A	5	23'	B	5	22'
V		105/			5			500	/			1000 - 2000	

6 FURTHER DISCUSSION

DDoS attacks are characterized by their high volume and distributed nature. The relationship between the number of total bots in an attack session and the number of routers to be traced is a critical factor in determining the effectiveness of traceback frameworks. This section discusses the relationship between the number of total bots in an attack session and the number of routers to be traced, focusing on the impact of domain hierarchy and the number of hops between the attacker and the victim.

The number of bots in an attack session is denoted as N_b , and the number of routers to be traced is denoted as N_r . The relationship between N_b and N_r is influenced by the domain hierarchy and the number of hops between the attacker and the victim. The number of hops is denoted as h , and the number of routers to be traced is denoted as N_r . The relationship between N_b and N_r is given by the equation:

$$N_b = N_r \cdot T_I \cdot \alpha \quad (14)$$

where T_I is the number of hops between the attacker and the victim, and α is the number of bots per router. The number of hops T_I is determined by the domain hierarchy and the number of hops between the attacker and the victim. The number of bots per router α is determined by the number of bots in the domain and the number of routers in the domain.

For example, if the number of hops T_I is 20, the number of bots per router α is 1.140, and the number of routers to be traced N_r is 300, then the number of total bots in an attack session N_b is approximately 6840. This relationship is illustrated in Figure 5, which shows the relationship between the number of total bots in an attack session and the number of routers to be traced for different domain hierarchies.

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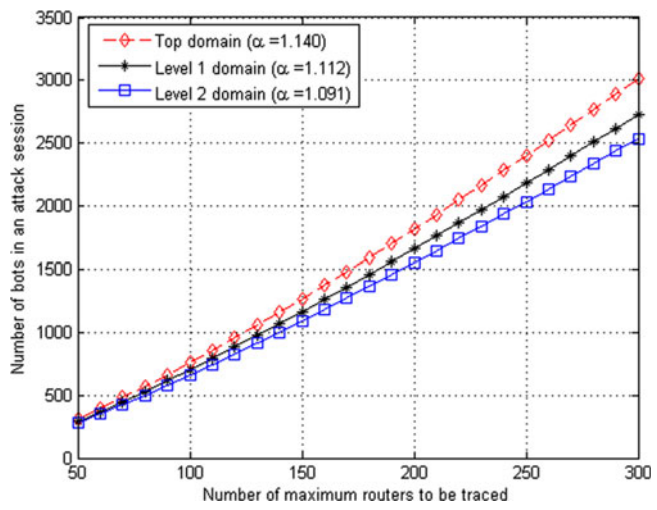


Fig. 5. The relationship between the number of total bots in an attack session and the number of routers to be traced.

7 SUMMARY AND FUTURE WORK

This paper presents a feasible IP traceback framework through dynamic deterministic packet marking. The framework is designed to be efficient and scalable, allowing for the traceback of DDoS attacks with a large number of bots. The framework is based on the concept of domain hierarchy and the number of hops between the attacker and the victim. The framework is able to trace back the source of the attack to the domain level, allowing for the identification of the attacker and the mitigation of the attack.

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MOD R5 R T , R R
 R MOD 5 . F ,
 5 5 5 .

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 C G N 61272099 61261160502. M. G

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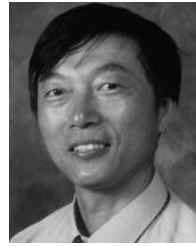
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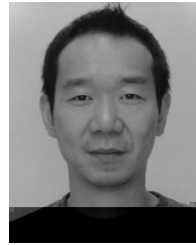


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