



The bridge to possible

# Peeling an onion

a short travel into the Darknet

Frederic Detienne

# Cisco Webex App

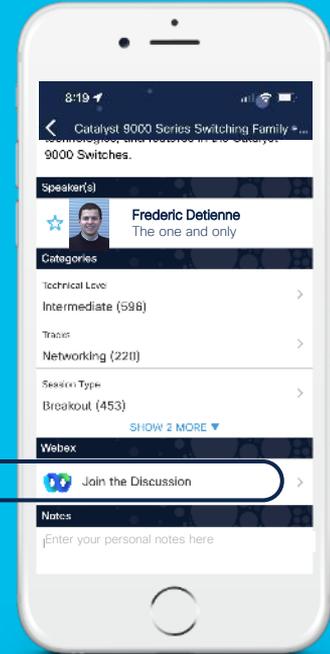
## Questions?

Use Cisco Webex App to chat with the speaker after the session

## How

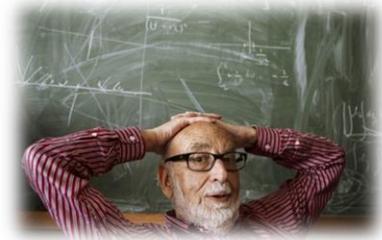
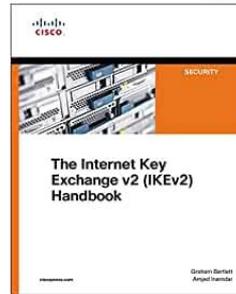
- 1 Find this session in the Cisco Live Mobile App
- 2 Click “Join the Discussion”
- 3 Install the Webex App or go directly to the Webex space
- 4 Enter messages/questions in the Webex space

Webex spaces will be moderated until February 24, 2023.



# Who's Frederic ?

- Belgian
  - lives in Aywaille (NOT Hawaii)
- Joined Cisco on January 1, 1997
  - fd@cisco.com
- Distinguished Engineer (TAC)
  - Web Content, AAA, Firewalls, VPNs, IPTV
  - Bit of everything (stuff nobody else wanted)
  - Invented DMVPN, FlexVPN
  - Focus on Serviceability
  - Invented RADKit



# Session Objectives

- Shed light on the Dark Web
  - A little
- Technical TOR understanding
  - A lot
- Buy drugs, weapons, shop for body parts...
  - Not at all



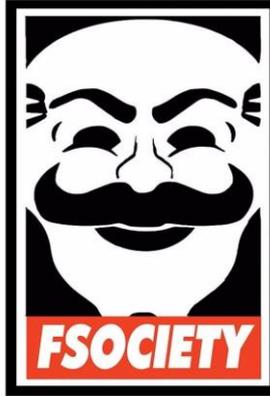
# Agenda

- Introduction
- About Tor
  - Onion Routing
  - Obfuscation
- Integration of Tor in other Apps
- Conclusion

# History of the Darknet

- **1991:** Internet becomes publicly available
- **2000s:** Release of Freenet:
  - Thesis project of the university of Edingburgh student Ian Clarke
  - Goal: create a new distributed information storage and retrieval system to autonomously communicate and share files
  - Freenet lays the ground for the Tor Project (different sources)
- **2002:** Launch of TOR:
  - Researchers at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory release an early version of Tor ("The Onion Router")
  - The U.S. government's Naval Research Laboratory developed Tor for members of the U.S. intelligence community to use the Internet without risk of identification
- **2004:** Open Source Release of Tor by the US government:
  - Continued maintenance through a non profit project named the Tor Project

# The Deep Web / The Dark Web



**Level 0**  
"Clearnet"

- Social Networks
- Search Engines
- "Wired" Encyclopedias
- E-mail Services
- Common Internet Content

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**Level 1**  
"Surface Web"

- Blogs & Essays
- Temp E-Mail Services
- Closed Social Networks
- Simple AI
- Hosting Services
- Newgrounds
- Reddit
- Forums
- University Databases
- Alexa Ranking
- Tumblr
- Amazon & eBay

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**Level 2**  
"Bergie Web"

- Ad Pop-Ups
- Google Locked Results
- Web Archives
- Anon boards [4chan]
- Torrents & P2P
- Restricted Access Content
- Honeypots
- Antivirus Databases
- Wikileaks
- Streaming Services
- Intermediate AI [Cleverbot]
- Robots.txt

**\*Proxy service required after this point.**

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**Level 3**  
"Deep Web"

- Spambots & Spiders
- Celebrity Scandals
- Virtual Reality
- Hacking Guides
- Script Kiddies
- Visual Processing
- Gore
- Advanced AI Researchers
- Computer Security
- Sensitive content
- Distributed Denial of Service [DDoS]
- Microsoft Database

**\*TOR-like services required after this point.**

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**Level 4**  
"Darknet"

- Banned Media
- Hacking Groups
- Rare Animal Trade
- Corporate Exchange
- The Hidden Wiki
- Most .onion Addresses
- Node Transfers
- I2chan
- Drug Dealers [SilkRoad]
- Shell Networking
- Extremely Illegal Content

**\*Closed Shell System required after this point.**

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**Level 4B**  
"Private Web"

- Hyper-Intelligent Bots
- FBI Mid-Classified Archive
- Geometric-Algorithmic Research
- Particle Beam Weapons
- Supercomputing
- Gadolinium Gallium Garnet Quantum Electronic Processing

**\*Polymetric Falcihgol Derivation required after this point.**

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Oh shi... I don't know anymore. All I know is that you need to solve some advanced programming language in order to access this content.

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**Level 5**  
"Marianas Web"

Also known as the "Final Boss of The Internet."  
Stay away please. Curiosity killed the cat. :)  
The day you get here, is the day you've turned into Chuck Norris.

# Surface Web vs. Deep Web vs. Darknet

## In Summary

### Dark Web / Darknet:

- Encrypted portion of the internet not indexed by search engines
- Requires specific configurations or authorization to access; allows users to remain anonymous



### Surface Web:

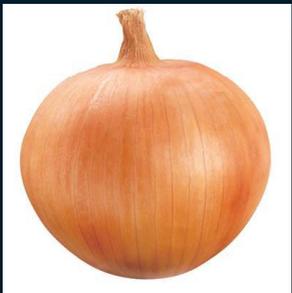
- Public websites and content available on search engines (indexed)
- Accessible by anyone

### Deeb Weeb:

- Content not available on search engines (not indexed), e.g. bank data, cloud data
- Private databases, which require access authorization, e.g. intranet site, online forums/marketplaces



# About Tor



# The Onion router

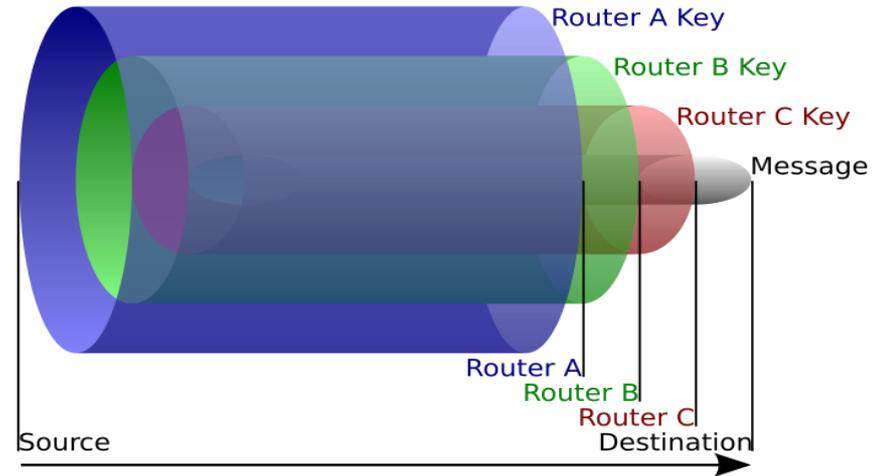
Open source SW / public design specs

Data is constantly encrypted at multiple layers

Sent through multiple routers.  
Each router decrypts the outer layer and finds routing instructions

Sends the data to the next router

Result is a completely encrypted path using random routers



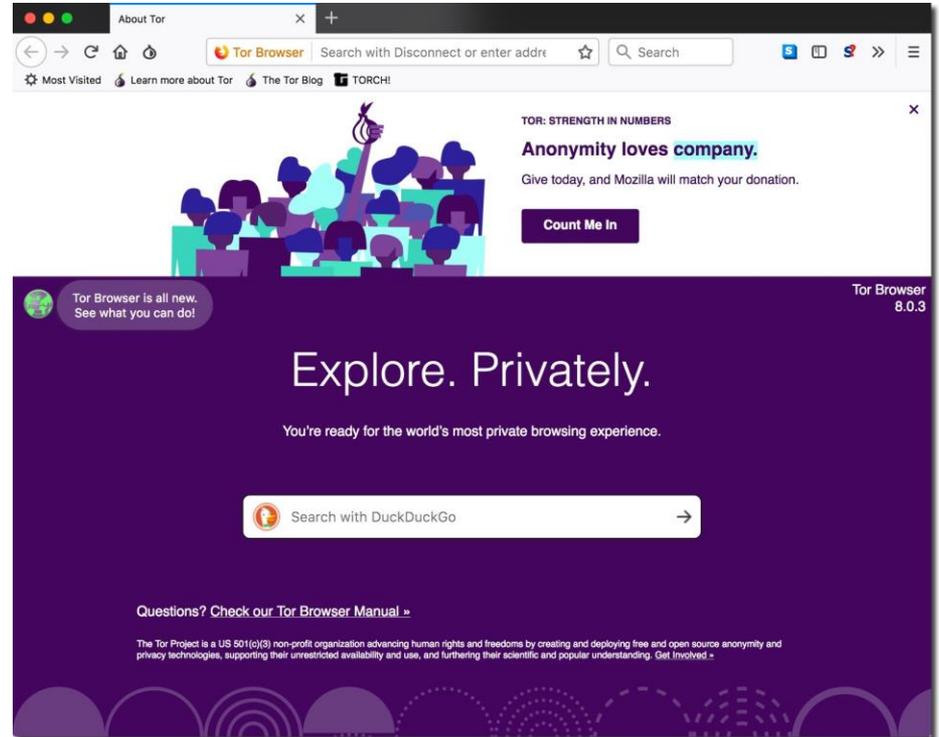
# How is the Tor Network built?

- The Tor network consists of relays
- Relays are just nodes where the Tor software is installed
- They build encrypted connections to other relays, forming an overlay network
- Everyone can run a Tor relay and contribute to the network...

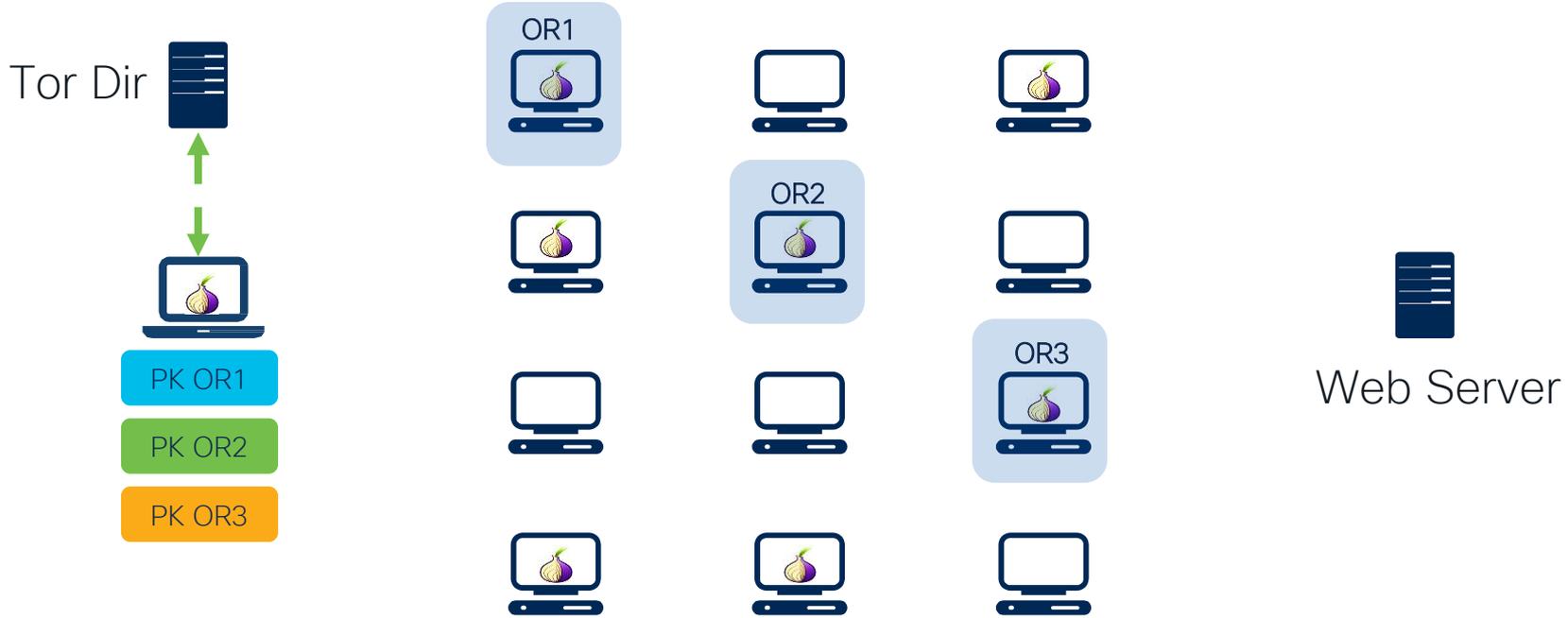


# The Tor Browser – Connecting to the Tor Network

- Goal: Provide anonymity and access to censored and/or hidden resources
- Special browser based on mozilla firefox to establish a circuit through the Tor network
- Can connect directly or through proxies
- Often used in combination with VPNs



# Tor Relay



Tor Client selects 3 random Routers out of all Tor Relays and get their public keys

# Tor Relay



Tor Client sends DH Handshake to OR1, encrypted with public key of OR1, called “relay\_create”

# Tor Relay



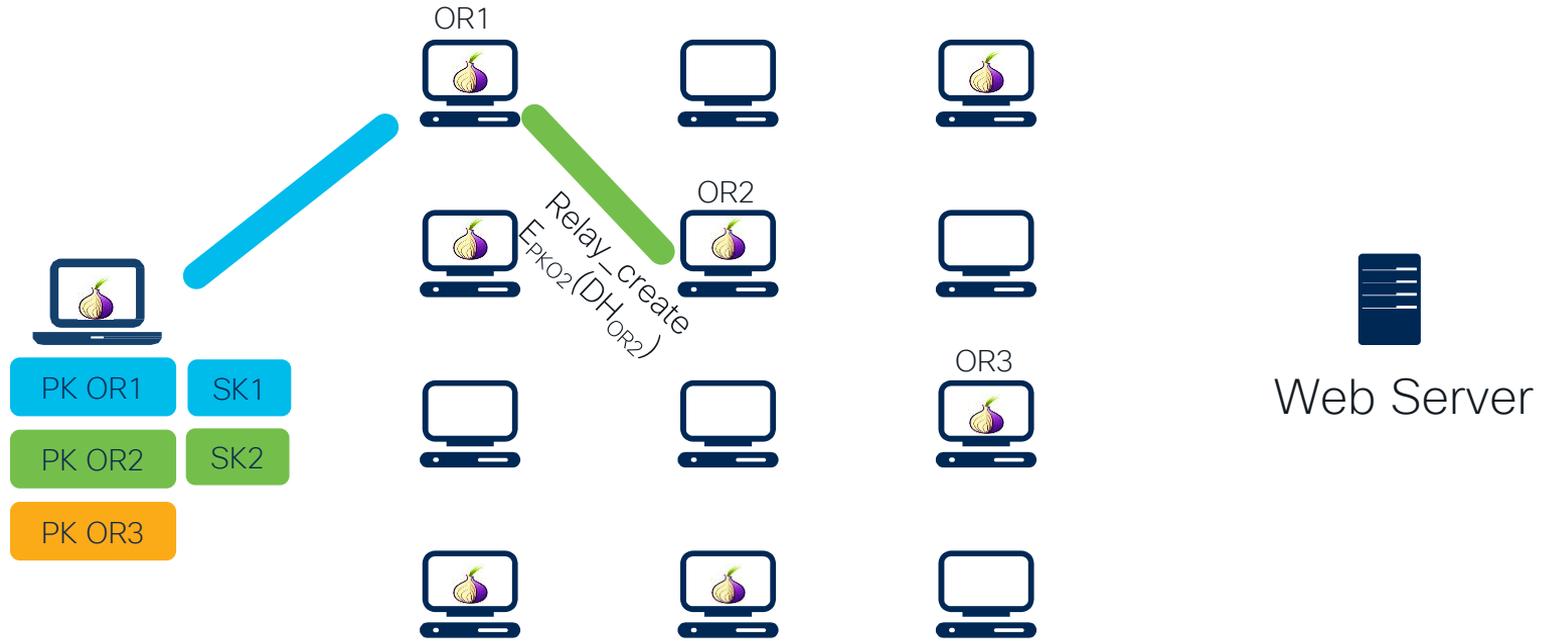
OR1 completes handshake, symmetric key is created

# Tor Relay



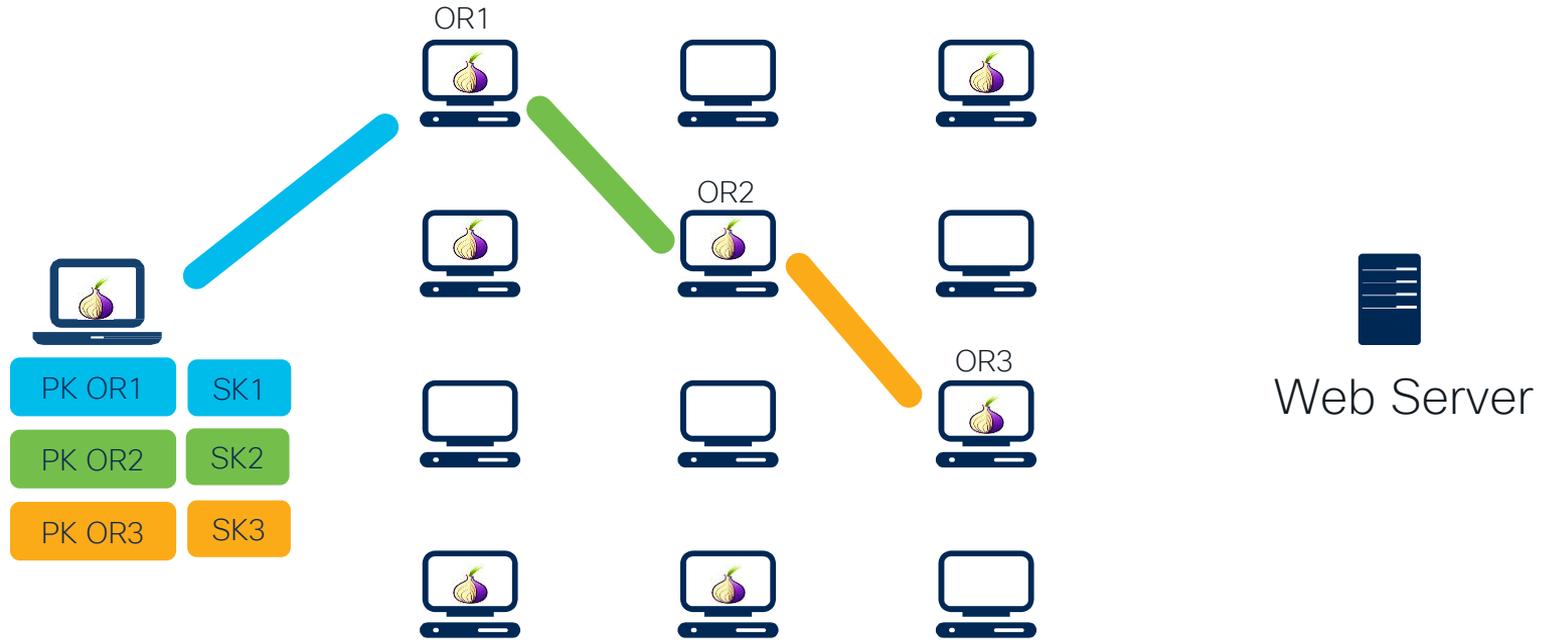
Tor Client sends “relay\_extend” to OR1, requesting to extend the circuit to OR2. Keyshare for OR2 is protected by the public key of OR2

# Tor Relay



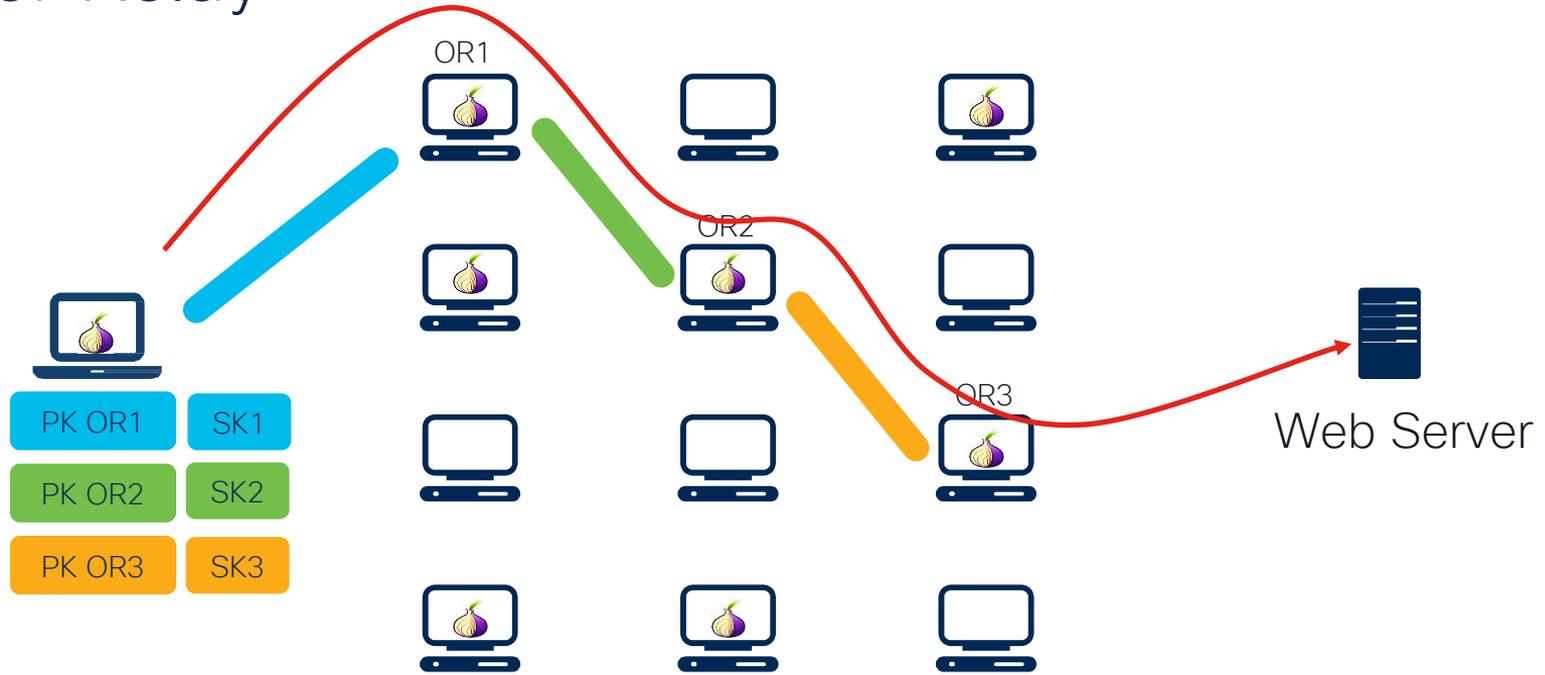
OR1 send “relay\_create” to OR2, OR2 responds and circuit with symmetric key is created to OR2

# Tor Relay



“relay\_extend” to OR3, create a circuit

# Tor Relay



Web Request follow the circuits

# Tor Directory Authorities

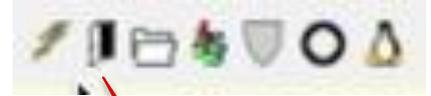
<https://atlas.torproject.org/#search/flag:authority>

	Nickname	Bandwidth	Uptime	Country	IP	Flags	Properties	ORPort	DirPort	Type
●	dannenber	2.95 MiB/s	5d 7h		193.23.244.244			443	80	Relay
●	longclaw	38 KiB/s	19h 23m		199.58.81.140			443	80	Relay
●	dizum	3.4 MiB/s	14d 1h		194.109.206.212			443	80	Relay
●	gabelmoo	40 KiB/s	4d 7h		131.188.40.189			443	80	Relay
●	tor26	75 KiB/s	6d 7h		86.59.21.38			443	80	Relay
●	Bifroest	890.19 KiB/s	29d 17h		37.218.247.217			443	80	Relay
●	Faravahar	1 MiB/s	13h 4m		154.35.175.225			443	80	Relay
●	moria1	500 KiB/s	7d 20h		128.31.0.34			443	80	Relay
●	maatuska	50 KiB/s	45d 19h		171.25.193.9			443	80	Relay

Every hour all Authorities calculate a common status document called the “consensus”

# List of all Tor Relays

<https://torstatus.rueckgr.at/>

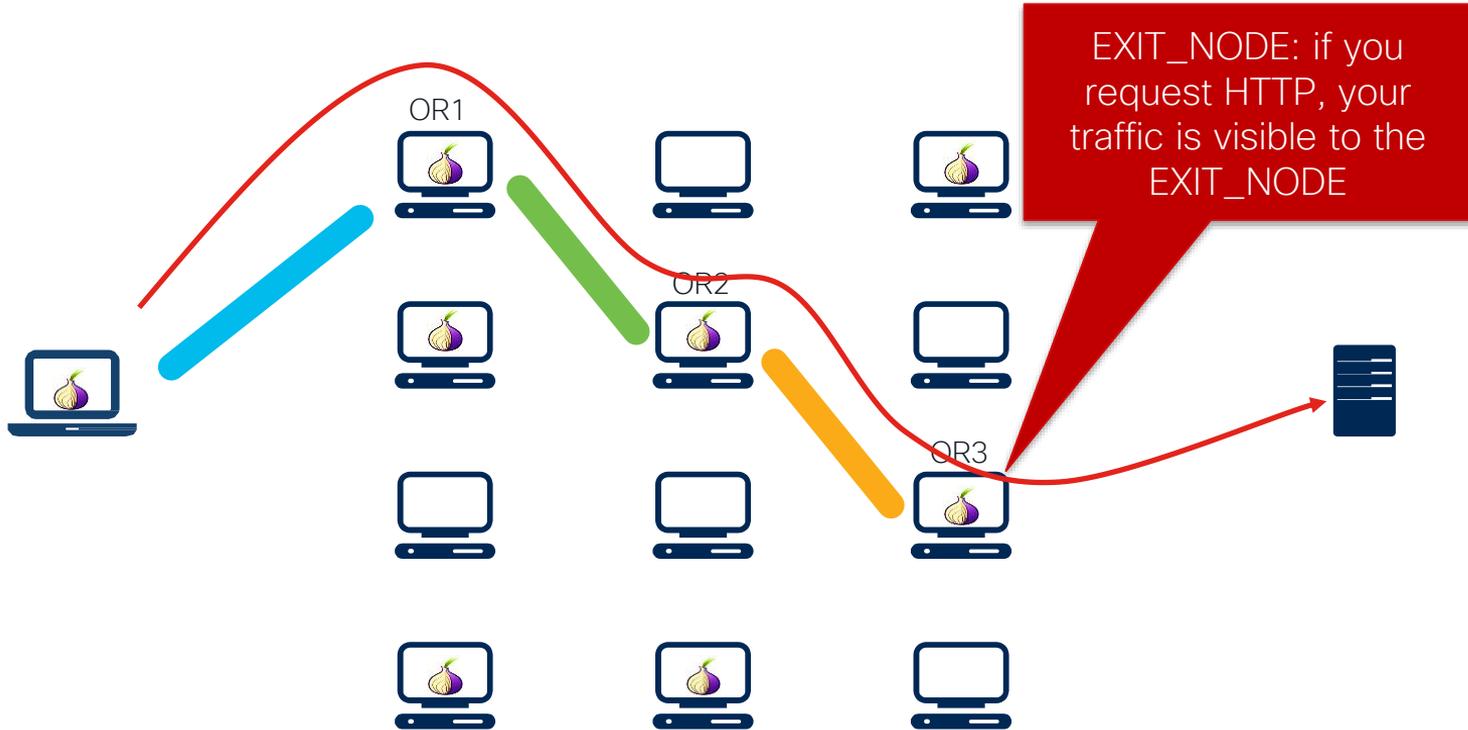


View the Legend

Router Name	Bandwidth (KB/s)	Uptime	Hostname	ORPort	DirPort
0000001dxx	914	9 d 17 h	mail.dxx.co [78.159.99.85]	9001	9030
0001	7919	67 d 17 h	insight.firstnetwork.cf [91.92.109.43]	443	80
0x112B6D0	2649	7 d 5 h	hosted-by-hostdzire.com [5.79.90.24]	443	80
0x1ea7deadbeef	10158	30 d 20 h	188.68.45.180 [188.68.45.180]	9001	80
0x3d003	21874	21 d 3 h	ip-83-99-5-45.dyn.luxdsl.pt.lu [83.99.5.45]	19001	19030
0x3d008	19543	21 d 3 h	neo.0x3d.lu [188.165.220.34]	9001	9030
0x3d009	22177	21 d 3 h	neo.0x3d.lu [188.165.220.34]	8001	8030
0x3d069	1212	40 d 7 h	sonix.dk [37.48.120.47]	2195	None
0x616e6f6e	1646	39 d 7 h	178-17-171-78.static.as43289.net [178.17.171.78]	443	80
0x616e6f6e	9121	213 d 12 h	178-17-170-88.static.as43289.net [178.17.170.88]	443	80
0x616e6f6e	4373	304 d 13 h	178-17-170-91.static.as43289.net [178.17.170.91]	443	80
0x616e6f6e	3870	304 d 13 h	178-17-170-112.static.as43289.net [178.17.170.112]	80	80
0x616e6f6e	3961	56 d 13 h	178-175-148-165.static.as43289.net [178.175.148.165]	80	80
0x616e6f6e	9107	213 d 12 h	178-17-170-116.static.as43289.net [178.17.170.116]	80	80
0x64657573	6750	96 d 6 h	vmd33204.contaboserver.net [207.180.251.11]	80	80
0xbaddad	4912	37 d 7 h	roof.rlogin.net [46.101.9.51]	9001	None
0xdeadbad	5840	21 d 19 h	sink.rlogin.net [95.216.198.252]	9001	None
0xdeadbeef	4682	33 d 14 h	mail.my-mail.rocks [37.187.96.183]	9001	9030
0xDEADBEEF	3651	0 d 8 h	p5DE752C8.dip0.t-ipconnect.de [93.231.82.200]	9001	9030
0xFE31x00	14010	26 d 16 h	ip59.ip-51-68-186.eu [51.68.186.59]	9001	None
0ZQIX7g6	3940	12 d 2 h	broadband-77-37-142-179.moscow.r.ru [77.37.142.179]	9749	None
1001nybrgsvgn17	1345	0 d 17 h	c83-250-200-92.bredband.comhem.se [83.250.200.92]	64511	64520
123456	81	0 d 5 h	pD9F6847D.dip0.t-ipconnect.de [217.246.132.125]	9020	9021
148a25f0fe29	7901	2 d 3 h	225-219-15-51.rev.cloud.scaleway.com [51.15.219.225]	80	443
1505192200300605	5244	1 d 21 h	5.2.72.101 [5.2.72.101]	9001	None

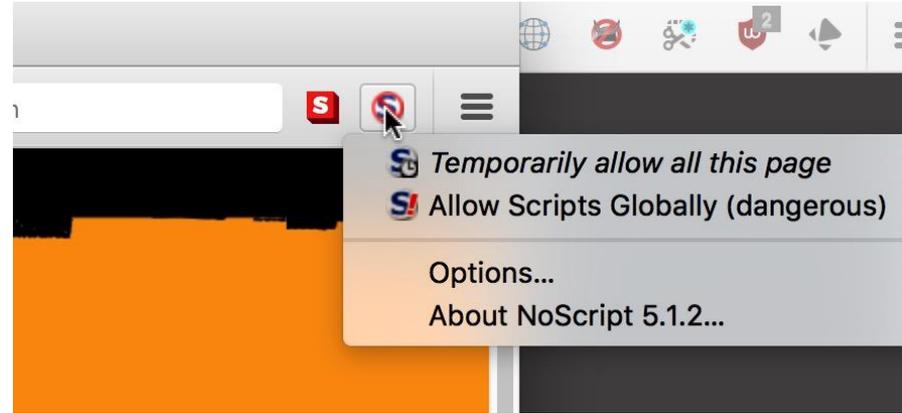
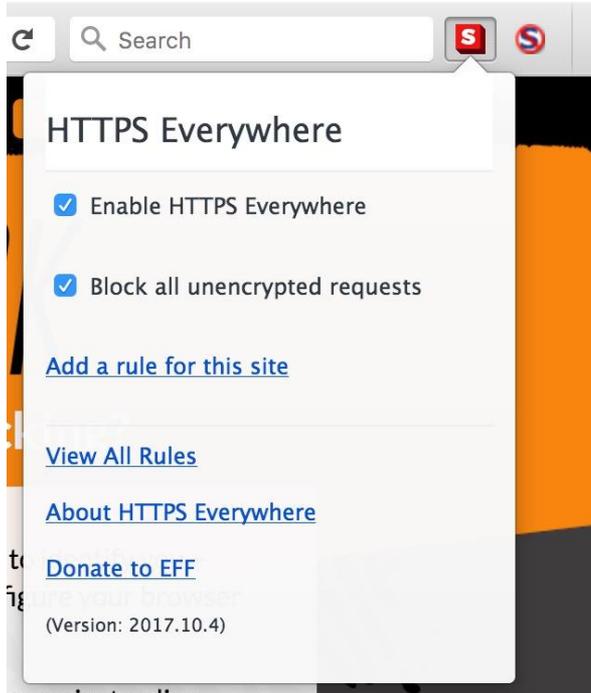
Flags

# Tor Relay





# Tor Browser - Don't leak information!



# Do your own spylink 😊

New click on [http://bit.ly/2\[REDACTED\]R](http://bit.ly/2[REDACTED]R)

From: Spylink <noreply@spylink.net>

Date: 2018-10-29 17:15

Hello,

Someone has clicked on one of your spy links!  
Here is the information we could obtain on that person:

#### Network information

Host : static.89.172.201.138.clients.your-server.de

#### Browser information

Browser name and version : Chrome 63.0.3239.108

#### System information

Screen resolution : 1440 x 900

Local date and time : 10/29/2018, 5:15:30 PM

You are receiving this email because you or someone else asked to receive information.

If you do not wish to receive emails, please delete the spylinks by clicking here: [t4vz3k7m4b@yopmail.com](mailto:t4vz3k7m4b@yopmail.com)

If you continue to receive emails, please advise us using our contact form: <http://>

## OPTIONS

Check the information you want to know about your victim. **Choose very few options** (only the ones you really need) so that they are redirected quickly.

You need to buy Premium Spy Links to select the gray information.

#### Network information

- IP address
- Host
- Access Provider Name
- Proxy detection

#### Geographical informations

- Continent
- Country
- Region
- City
- Latitude/Longitude

#### Browser information

- Browser name and version
- Cookies activated or not
- Flash installed + version
- Java activated or not
- Installed Plug ins

#### System information

- OS name and version
- Screen resolution
- Local date and time
- Time zone

SUBMIT

# Tor Exit Relay List

<https://check.torproject.org/cgi-bin/TorBulkExitList.py>



**Welcome to the Tor Bulk Exit List exporting tool.**

If you are a service provider and you wish to build a list of possible Tor nodes that might contact one of your servers, enter that single server address below. Giving you the whole list means you can query the list privately, rather than telling us your users' IP addresses. This list allows you to have a nearly real time authoritative source for Tor exits that allow contacting your server on port 80. We don't log the IP address that queries for a given list. If you'd like, you're free to run your own copy of this program. It's Free Software and can be downloaded from the [git repository](#).

IP:  Port:

Get the current list of [exit addresses](#) outputted by TorDNSSEL. Past data can be obtained from the [CollectTor service](#).

The Tor Project is a US 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to the research, development, and education of online anonymity and privacy. [Learn More »](#)

# Setting up a TOR Relay or Bridge

# Customizing Tor

```
/Users/tmayer/Library/Application Support/TorBrowser-Data/Tor
```

```
[TMAYER-M-P1LG:Tor tmayer$ ls -la
```

```
total 16944
```

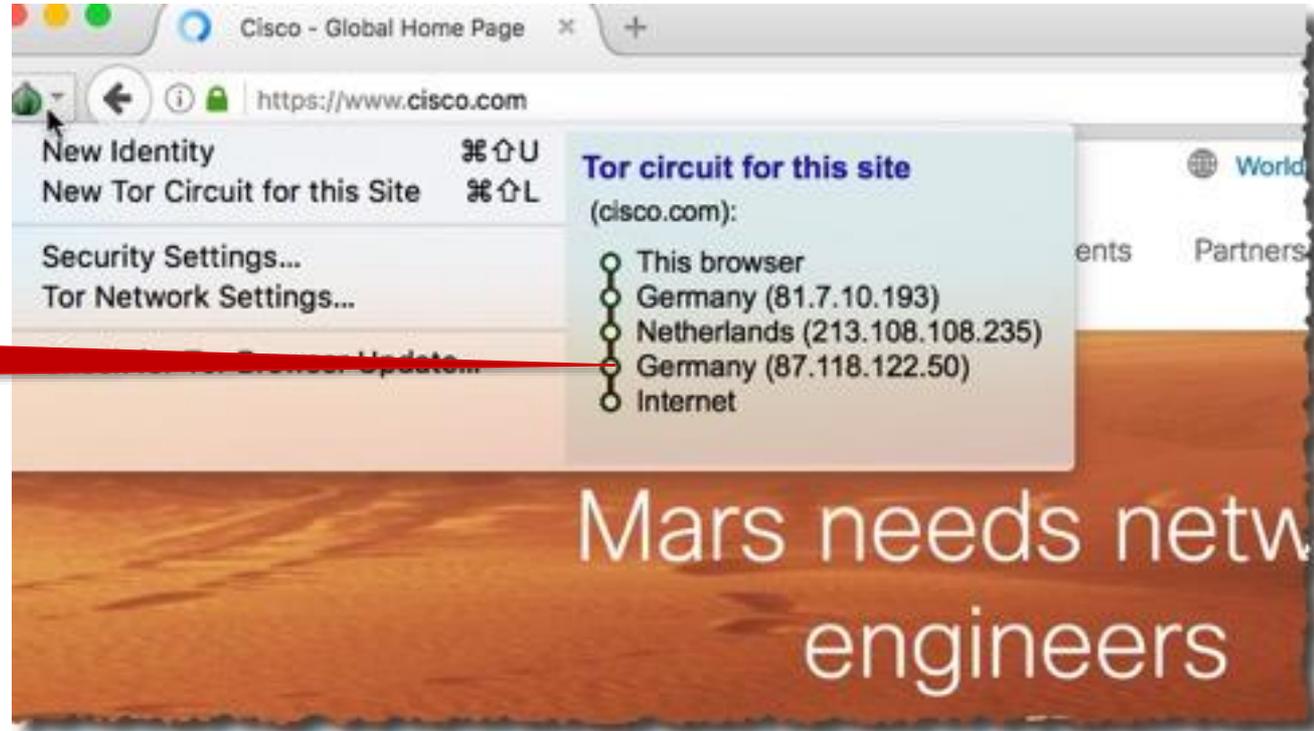
```
drwx----- 14 tmayer staff    476 Oct  8 11:28 .
drwx-----  5 tmayer staff    170 Aug 17 2016 ..
-rw-----@  1 tmayer staff  18209 Oct  8 11:18 cached-certs
-rw-----  1 tmayer staff  23186 May 21 10:55 cached-descriptors
-rw-----  1 tmayer staff     0 May 21 10:55 cached-descriptors.new
-rw-----@  1 tmayer staff 2028523 Oct  8 11:17 cached-microdesc-consensus
-rw-----  1 tmayer staff 3707199 Oct  1 08:46 cached-microdescs
-rw-----  1 tmayer staff 2864543 Oct  8 11:17 cached-microdescs.new
-rw-----@  1 tmayer staff    32 Oct  8 11:17 control_auth_cookie
-rw-----  1 tmayer staff     0 Oct  8 11:17 lock
drwx-----  2 tmayer staff    68 May 20 21:59 pt_state
-rw-----@  1 tmayer staff   8851 Oct  8 11:28 state
-rw-----@  1 tmayer staff    535 Oct  8 11:17 torrc
-rw-r--r--  1 tmayer staff     0 Aug 17 2016 torrc.orig.1
```

```
TMAYER-M-P1LG:Tor tmayer$
```

“torrc” = config file



# Customizing Tor (3)



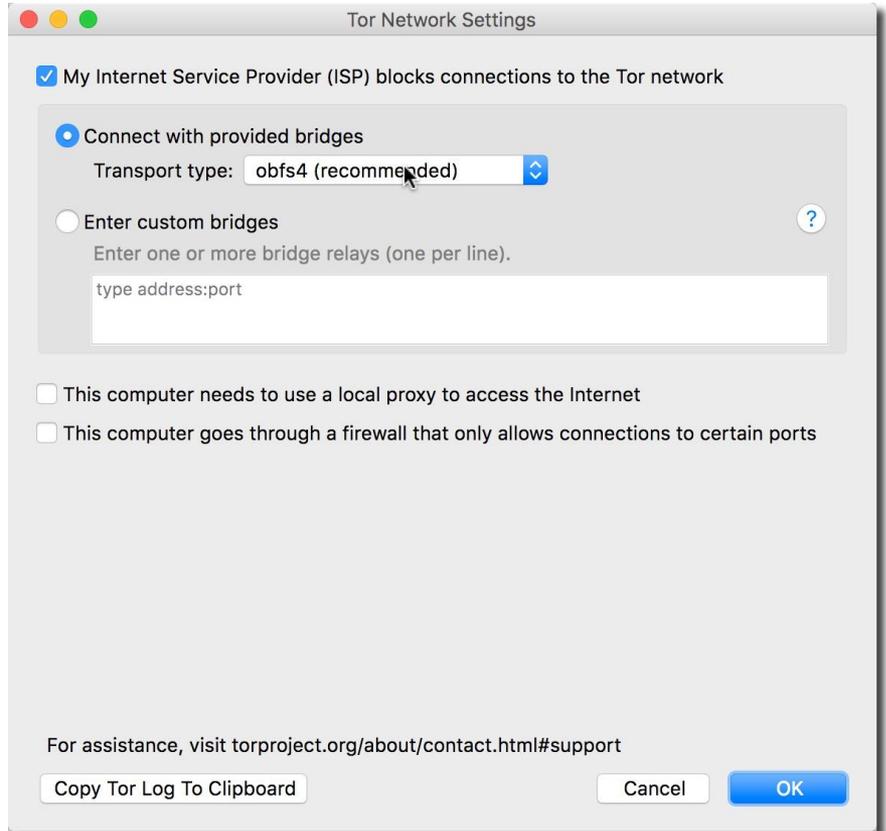
ExitNode from Germany

# Bridges

Bridges are relays that are not announced in the directory servers

You can request bridges but will not get the full list

3 bridges are provided



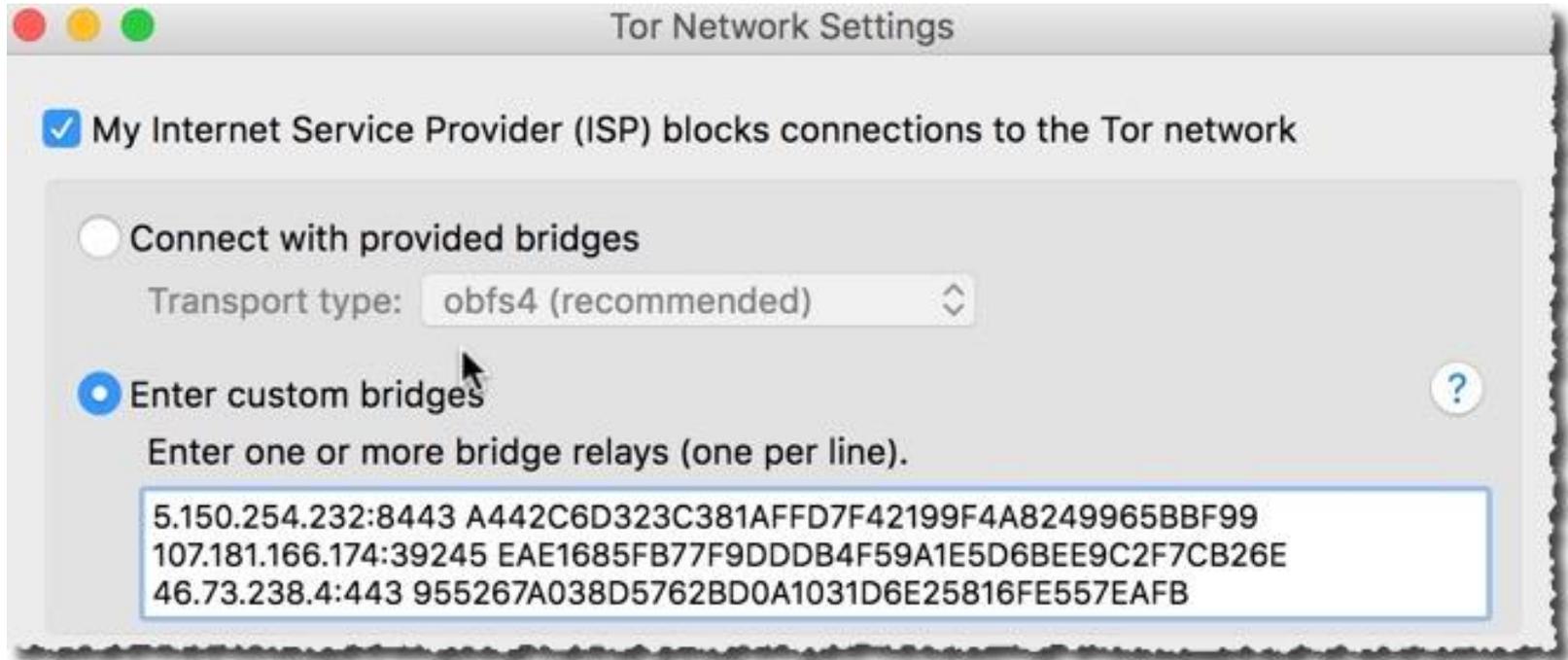
# Custom Bridges

The screenshot shows the BridgeDB website interface. At the top, the browser address bar displays `https://bridges.torproject.org/bridges`. The page header includes the text "BridgeDB" on the left and "The Tor Project" on the right. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area features the heading "Here are your bridge lines:" followed by a light gray box containing three lines of bridge data:

```
5.150.254.232:8443 A442C6D323C381AFFD7F42199F4A8249965BBF99  
107.181.166.174:39245 EAE1685FB77F9DDDB4F59A1E5D6BEE9C2F7CB26E  
46.73.238.4:443 955267A038D5762BD0A1031D6E25816FE557EAFB
```

Two red callout boxes are overlaid on the image. One points to the first line of the bridge data and is labeled "IP & Port". The other points to the fingerprint part of the first line and is labeled "Fingerprint". At the bottom of the page, there are two dark blue buttons: "Select All" and "Show QRCode".

# Custom Bridges



# Hidden Websites - ".onion" links

<http://xmh57jrknzkhv6y3ls3ubitzfqnrwxhopf5aygthi7d6rplyvk3noyd.onion>



Let's go  
shopping!

**NOT**

# Darknet: Use Cases

## Criminal Activities

- **Financial crime**
- **Sexual abuse**
- Illegal goods and services, e.g. drugs, guns
- Cyber crime: hacking services, malware as a service
- Human trafficking
- Extremism

## Legitimate Activities

- Intelligence community
- Whistleblowing and journalism to protect the the sources' identity
- Ordinary citizens evading restrictions by their government
- Privacy-cautious individuals who value anonymity

# Activities on the Darknet



Torbox - [torbox36ijlcevuix7mjb4oiusvwgvmue7jfn2cvutwa6kl6to3uyqad.onion](mailto:torbox36ijlcevuix7mjb4oiusvwgvmue7jfn2cvutwa6kl6to3uyqad.onion)  
Mail2Tor - [mail2torjgmxgexntbrmhvgluavhj7ouul5yar6ylbvjkxwqf6ixkwyd.onion](mailto:mail2torjgmxgexntbrmhvgluavhj7ouul5yar6ylbvjkxwqf6ixkwyd.onion)

- Shops and Markets
- File Sharing
- Messaging Services:
  - Mail Services, e.g., ProtonMail, TorBox/[Mail2Tor](#) (darknet exclusive)
- Forums:
  - Some hacking forums are available on the darknet and surface web, e.g., XSS , others can only be accessed from the darknet, e.g., Dread
  - Focus of cyber crime: Social engineering, malware selling, requests for hacking, hacking tutorials, etc.

# Darknet Price Index 2022

Service	Price
Cloned American Express with PIN	\$25
Credit card details, account balance up to \$5 000	\$120
Stolen online banking logins (min \$100 in account)	\$35
Hacked facebook account	\$45
Hacked Gmail account	\$65
Netflix Account - 1 year subscription	\$25
Netherlands Passport	\$3 800
Email database dumps (10 million US email addresses)	\$120
Malware (depending on quality, etc.)	\$500-5 000
DDoS attack (unprotected website 10-50k requests per second, 1 week)	\$450

All right! I got it!  
Show me now...





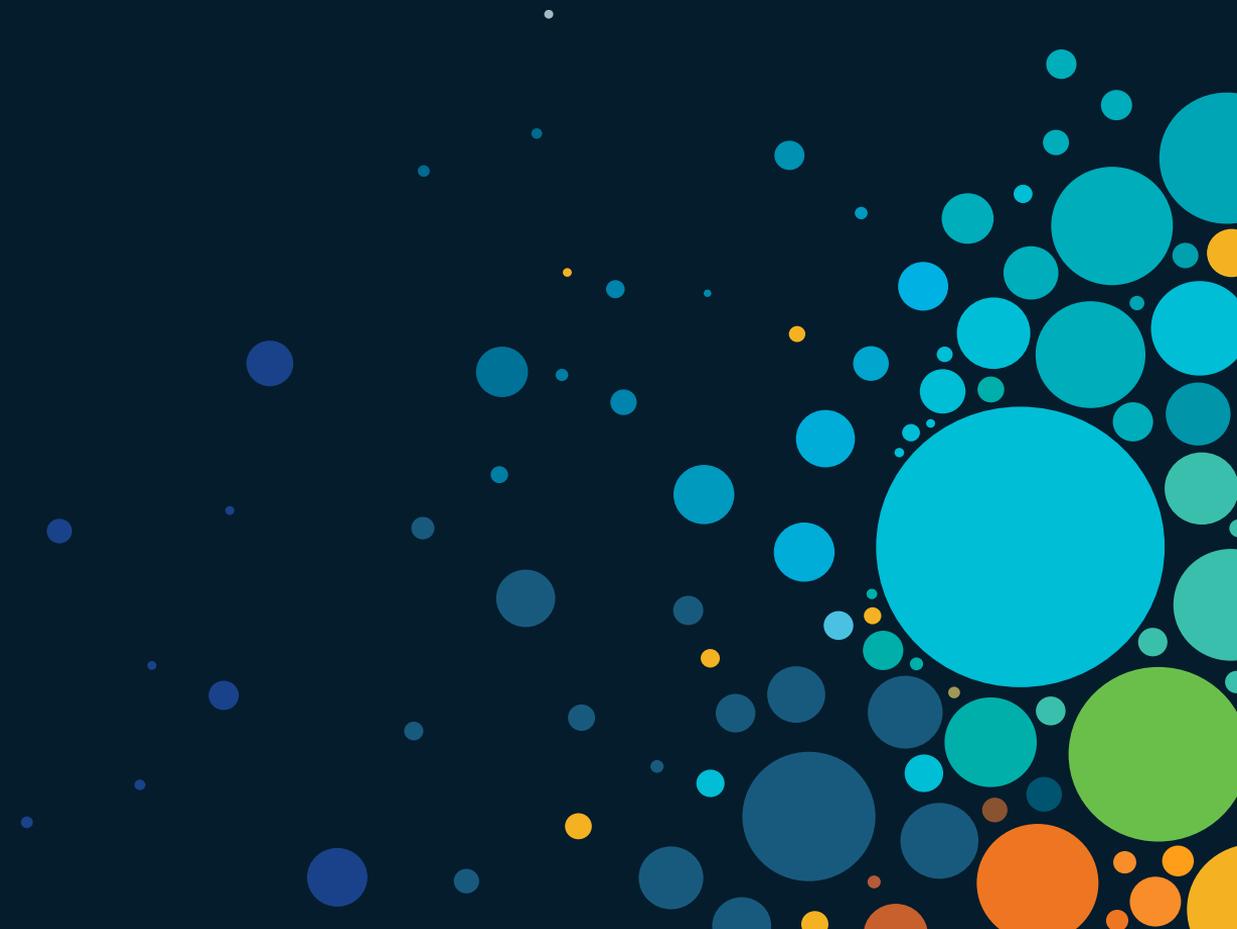
# My Secret Identity

TheMaskedCucumber@mail2tor.com

(do not forget your hoodie and mask)



# Running your own relay



# The Ultimate Ubuntu TOR Installation Guide

```
curl -sS https://deb.torproject.org/torproject.org/A3C4F0F979CAA22CDBA8F512EE8CBC9E886DDD89.asc |  
sudo gpg --dearmor -o /etc/apt/trusted.gpg.d/torproject.gpg
```

```
sudo add-apt-repository deb http://deb.torproject.org/torproject.org/ `(lsb_release -c -s)` main  
lsb_release gets the proper OS release name (the fancy Ubuntu release name like Jammy, Kinetic, ...)
```

```
sudo apt update  
sudo apt upgrade  
sudo apt install tor  
sudo apt install nyx
```

# Steps for becoming a relay

- service tor stop
- vi /etc/tor/torrc
  - ORPort 9001
  - ORPort [insert your IPv6 Address]:9001
  - Address [own IP or Domain]
  - Nickname [some name]
  - ControlPort 9051
  - CookieAuthentication 1
  - RelayBandwidthRate 100 KB # Throttle traffic to 100KB/s (800Kbps)
  - RelayBandwidthBurst 200 KB # But allow bursts up to 200KB/s (1600Kbps)
  - ContactInfo toby < TheMaskedCucumber AT mail2tor DOT com>
  - ExitPolicy reject \*:\*

Do not participate as an Exit Gateway

# After installation

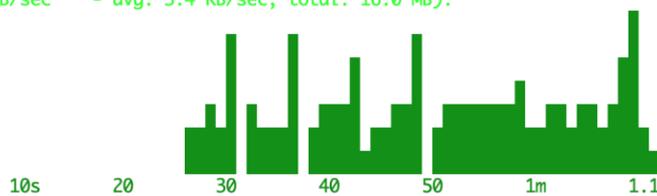
■ About these Buttons   ■ Unix Commands   ■ Run Sample Script   ■ Call Host from Host Directory   ● Purchase License

```
nyx - ip-172-31-25-85 (Linux 5.15.0-...) Tor 0.4.7.8 (recommended)
weisswurschttr - 3.91.76.227:9001, Control Port (cookie): 9051
Flags: Running, V2Dir, Valid
```

cpu: 0.4% tor, 0.8% nyx   mem: 226 MB (2.8%) pid: 7294   uptime: 01:20:34  
fingerprint: 880289F2B63292058540DCB76403B48B3C2DA4E5  
exit policy: reject \*\*

page 1 / 5 - m: menu, p: pause, h: page help, q: quit  
Bandwidth (limit: 200 KB/s, burst: 400 KB/s):

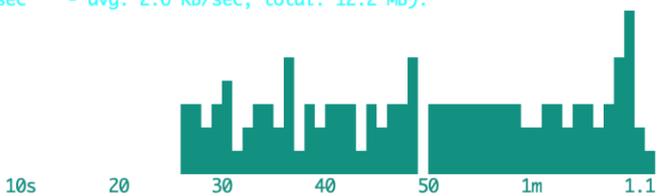
Download (4.2 KB/sec - avg: 3.4 KB/sec, total: 16.0 MB):  
378 KB



252 KB  
126 KB  
0 B

10s   20   30   40   50   1m   1.1

Upload (5.9 KB/sec - avg: 2.6 KB/sec, total: 12.2 MB):  
385 KB



256 KB  
128 KB  
0 B

10s   20   30   40   50   1m   1.1

Events (TOR/NYX NOTICE-ERR):

```
13:27:07 [NOTICE] Auto-discovered IPv6 address [2600:1f18:452a:fc03:9323:da54:e44c:4e2]:9001 has not been found reachable. However, IPv4 address is reachable.
Publishing server descriptor without IPv6 address. [2 similar message(s) suppressed in last 2400 seconds]
13:26:11 [NOTICE] No circuits are opened. Relaxed timeout for circuit 232 (a Measuring circuit timeout 4-hop circuit in state doing handshakes with channel state
open) to 60000ms. However, it appears the circuit has timed out anyway.
13:20:31 [NYX_NOTICE] Nyx is currently running with root permissions. This isn't a good idea, nor should it be necessary.
13:20:31 [NYX_NOTICE] No nyxrc loaded, using defaults. You can customize nyx by placing a configuration file at /root/.nyx/config (see
https://nyx.torproject.org/nyxrc.sample for its options).
```

# My relay

https://metrics.torproject.org

Home » Services » Relay Search » Details for RoyalPITA

## Relay Search

### Details for: RoyalPITA

#### Configuration

##### Nickname

RoyalPITA

##### OR Addresses

52.59.130.106:9052

#### Contact

Uwish Toknow

##### Dir Address

none

##### Exit Addresses

none

##### Advertised Bandwidth

1018 KiB/s

##### IPv4 Exit Policy Summary

reject  
1-65535

##### IPv6 Exit Policy Summary

reject  
1-65535

##### Exit Policy

reject \*:\*

##### Effective Family Members

##### Alleged Family Members

none

RoyalPITA

#### Properties

##### Fingerprint

DE4E4BE8438E9E7D9A499B4C92C68B972C5B32CC

##### Uptime

23 hours 6 minutes and 14 seconds

##### Flags

Fast Running V2Dir Valid

##### Additional Flags

none

##### Host Name

ec2-52-59-130-106.eu-central-1.compute.amazonaws.com

##### Country

Germany

##### AS Number

AS16509

##### AS Name

AMAZON-02

##### First Seen

2023-01-06 14:00:00 (31 days 20 hours 34 minutes and 30 seconds)

##### Last Restarted

2023-02-06 11:28:16

##### Consensus Weight

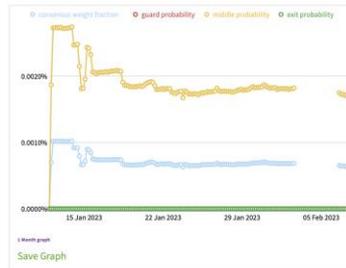
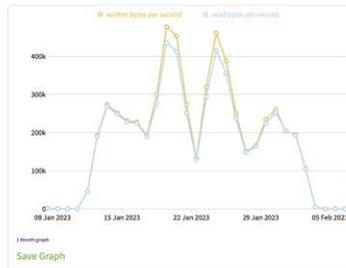
700

##### Platform

Tor 0.4.7.12 on Linux

#### History

1 Month 6 Months 1 Year 5 Years



Information for relays was published: 2023-02-07 09:00:00 UTC.

Onionoo version: 8.0/75b41be

# Torstatus

<https://torstatus.rueckgr.at/>

Nearly no flags assigned

▼ Router Name	▲ Bandwidth (KB/s)	▲ Uptime	▼ Hostname	▼ ORPort	▼ DirPort
 RoyalPITA	<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background-color: gray;"></div> 1018	1 d 0 h	ec2-52-59-130-106.eu-central-1.compute.amazonaws.com [52.59.130.106]	9052	None

Got the "stable" flag

    	9001	None
---	------	------

Got the "fast" flag

Got the "HS Dir Server" flag

# Phases of becoming a relay

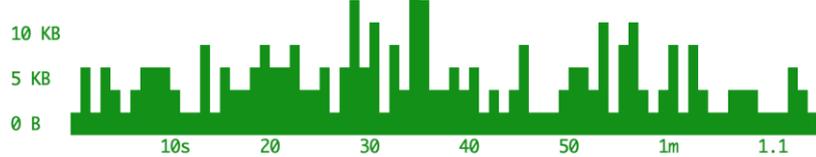
- Days 0-3: the unmeasured phase.
- Days 3-8: network authorities start the remote measurement phase (the ramp-up guard phase).
- Days 8-68: guard phase (where load counter intuitively drops and then rises higher).

# Torstatus

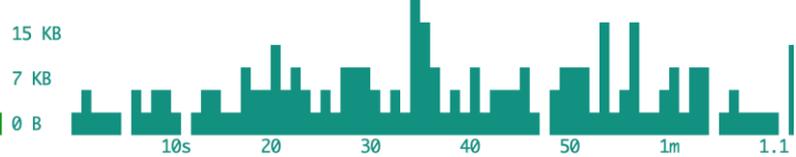
nyx - ip-172-31-25-85 (Linux 5.15.0-...) Tor 0.4.7.10 (recommended)  
weisswurschtor - 3.91.76.227:9001, Control Port (cookie): 9051  
flags: Running, Stable, V2Dir, Valid

cpu: 0.8% tor, 2.1% nyx mem: 262 MB (3.3%) pid: 437656 uptime: 47:27  
fingerprint: 880289F2B63292058540DCB76403B48B3C2DA4E5  
exit policy: reject \*\*

page 1 / 5 - m: menu, p: pause, h: page help, q: quit  
Bandwidth (limit: 800.0 KB/s, burst: 1.6 MB/s, observed: 247.6 KB/s):  
Download (4.2 KB/sec - avg: 36.3 KB/sec, total: 101.2 MB):  
16 KB



Upload (4.7 KB/sec - avg: 39.8 KB/sec, total: 110.7 MB):  
22 KB



## Events (TOR/NYX NOTICE-ERR, CIRC, ORCONN):

```
07:37:15 [ORCONN] 46.30.188.236:45354 CLOSED REASON=DONE ID=3274
07:37:15 [ORCONN] 185.228.83.21:51220 CLOSED REASON=DONE ID=3248
07:37:14 [ORCONN] $3540A4DD39DCF318842B295CDD49118924F2A57~imherefortheparty CONNECTED ID=3527
07:37:14 [ORCONN] 185.228.83.155:57350 CLOSED REASON=DONE ID=3369
07:37:14 [ORCONN] 212.7.160.190:35858 NEW ID=3527
07:37:10 [ORCONN] 46.30.188.198:55466 CONNECTED ID=3526
07:37:10 [ORCONN] 185.243.113.7:53594 CLOSED REASON=DONE ID=3357
07:37:10 [ORCONN] 46.30.188.198:55466 NEW ID=3526
07:37:08 [ORCONN] $32EE911D968BE3E016ECA572BB1ED0A9EE43FC25~nd4f4 CONNECTED ID=3525
07:37:08 [ORCONN] 2001:948:7:2::163:341~ NEW ID=3525
07:37:07 [ORCONN] $CD5CF125FED4BE5DA5F259F75AF3D4DD182C54D0~AllieRoscoe CONNECTED ID=3524
07:37:07 [ORCONN] 45.56.162.90:43346 CLOSED REASON=DONE ID=3360
07:37:07 [ORCONN] 217.12.203.242:40382 NEW ID=3524
07:37:07 [ORCONN] 185.243.112.222:53034 CLOSED REASON=DONE ID=3322
07:37:05 [ORCONN] 161.129.64.101:42174 CLOSED REASON=DONE ID=3328
07:37:05 [ORCONN] 185.243.112.222:53652 CLOSED REASON=DONE ID=3332
07:37:04 [ORCONN] 185.228.83.155:50660 CLOSED REASON=DONE ID=3334
07:37:03 [ORCONN] $00D2CE3C2153EA09786F2105F26B138CF759424F~tried CONNECTED ID=3523
07:37:03 [ORCONN] 107.155.81.178:58468 NEW ID=3523
07:37:03 [ORCONN] 185.243.112.249:33012 CONNECTED ID=3522
07:37:03 [ORCONN] 185.243.112.222:42338 CLOSED REASON=DONE ID=3292
```

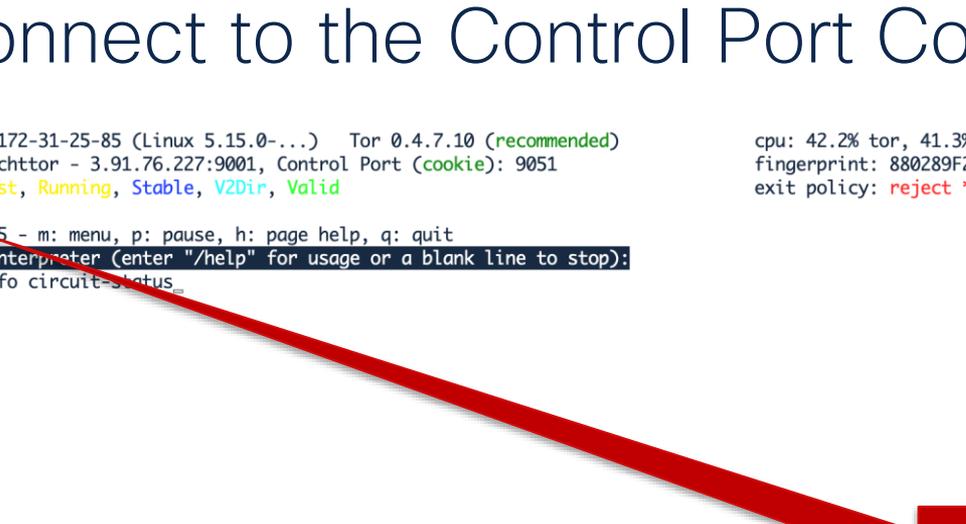
Onion Connections are being established

# Connect to the Control Port Console

```
nyx - ip-172-31-25-85 (Linux 5.15.0-...) Tor 0.4.7.10 (recommended)
weisswurschtor - 3.91.76.227:9001, Control Port (cookie): 9051
flags: Fast, Running, Stable, V2Dir, Valid
```

```
cpu: 42.2% tor, 41.3% nyx mem: 759 MB (9.6%) pid: 437656 uptime: 5-07:44:08
fingerprint: 880289F2B63292058540DCB76403B48B3C2DA4E5
exit policy: reject *:*
```

```
page 5 / 5 - m: menu, p: pause, h: page help, q: quit
Control Interpreter (enter "/help" for usage or a blank line to stop):
>>> getinfo circuit-status
```



Switch pages by using  
the arrow keys left and  
right

# Detailed Circuit view via Tor Control Port

```
nyx - ip-172-31-25-85 (Linux 5.15.0-...) Tor 0.4.7.10 (recommended)
weisswrschttr - 3.91.76.227:9001, Control Port (cookie): 9051
Flags: Fast, HSDir, Running, Stable, V2Dir, Valid
```

```
cpu: 35.1% tor, 0.4% nyx mem: 704 MB (8.9%) pid: 437656 uptime: 5-07:31:37
fingerprint: 880289F2B63292058540DCB76403B48B3C2DAE5
exit policy: reject **:
```

```
page 5 / 5 - m: menu, p: pause, h: page help, q: quit
```

```
Control Interpreter (enter "/help" for usage or a blank line to stop):
```

```
dltmfocptmses2msyj72r6w2kaslytuwzt6kqo2xrzxbvqd TIME_CREATED=2022-10-16T14:30:28.872380
7141 EXTENDED $CC701FCE86D6AF95FC3D5B71645D3430794910C1~sutsuj,$479524AEFDD60FA6911E5A9553FBDDCE3EF2E5AD~ToolHaven718,$D6D67701A4583E6F783A03F52A6C5DC2F6347D1~m
ttelerde BUILD_FLAGS=IS_INTERNAL,NEED_CAPACITY,NEED_UPTIME PURPOSE=HS_SERVICE_HSDIR HS_STATE=HSSI_CONNECTING TIME_CREATED=2022-10-16T14:30:42.120574
7134 EXTENDED $CC701FCE86D6AF95FC3D5B71645D3430794910C1~sutsuj,$C31413C323DB2BD55B4371A5D46880D9EBD2FA80~0x766c6164,$6856BC9E77AA0E72C4E0F8FC4C8E1BAD7007F92~nevr
lands0nWgTYg BUILD_FLAGS=IS_INTERNAL,NEED_CAPACITY PURPOSE=MEASURE_TIMEOUT TIME_CREATED=2022-10-16T14:30:40.322270
7147 BUILT $CC701FCE86D6AF95FC3D5B71645D3430794910C1~sutsuj,$479524AEFDD60FA6911E5A9553FBDDCE3EF2E5AD~ToolHaven718,$40FA3FFCA70EE82ADE9D2A7E1844BF4B0C6DBEA1~fatam
organa,$14A1D6B6F417DEC388B05A3FFA0566F6E003E0D9~quartzrelay BUILD_FLAGS=IS_INTERNAL,NEED_CAPACITY PURPOSE=HS_SERVICE_HSDIR HS_STATE=HSSI_CONNECTING TIME_CREAT
ED=2022-10-16T14:30:49.180576
7111 BUILT $CC701FCE86D6AF95FC3D5B71645D3430794910C1~sutsuj,$479524AEFDD60FA6911E5A9553FBDDCE3EF2E5AD~ToolHaven718,$8F59C1B5539328D11ECBDC22FE0E8ED3BBE6FC40~opose
rider,$D70A5E01EC14D078164D5E58760894F85FD771B~leaders2 BUILD_FLAGS=IS_INTERNAL,NEED_CAPACITY,NEED_UPTIME PURPOSE=HS_SERVICE_HSDIR HS_STATE=HSSI_CON
E_CREATED=2022-10-16T14:30:33.016893
7098 BUILT $CC701FCE86D6AF95FC3D5B71645D3430794910C1~sutsuj,$037B6C600AD4DF32FDA29BF458D5C8C16AA8F3E~SLOG,$778DCB9DB6CDD5FF2F1A85571308B492D6DFF962~T
82A9559D482E1ACFEABD89FDC3F2991005~defconorg BUILD_FLAGS=IS_INTERNAL,NEED_UPTIME PURPOSE=HS_SERVICE_INTR0 HS_STATE=HSSI_ESTABLISHED RE
tpmses2msyj72r6w2kaslytuwzt6kqo2xrzxbvqd TIME_CREATED=2022-10-16T14:30:27.096207
7122 BUILT $CC701FCE86D6AF95FC3D5B71645D3430794910C1~sutsuj,$C31413C323DB2BD55B4371A5D46880D9EBD2FA80~0x766c6164,$1C86DB698C49965D3C75A09B8D9EBFD0E3B5603~k1etnbu
s,$7EEDD54E54570A009E46C91B8F1F443DCE0E1968~BEEzar BUILD_FLAGS=IS_INTERNAL,NEED_CAPACITY PURPOSE=HS_SERVICE_HSDIR HS_STATE=HSSI_CONNECTING TIME_CREATED=2022-10-
16T14:30:39.239589
7097 BUILT $CC701FCE86D6AF95FC3D5B71645D3430794910C1~sutsuj,$C31413C323DB2BD55B4371A5D46880D9EBD2FA80~0x766c6164,$2717355D1ED1C421E3F8930F721B2FDABA35CDA~0xdeadb
eef,$EC0ABAB811E4EB33DAD8B8C8B7037D862BF4F3AA28~mortimerAtx BUILD_FLAGS=IS_INTERNAL,NEED_UPTIME PURPOSE=HS_SERVICE_INTR0 HS_STATE=HSSI_ESTABLISHED RE
ae3afdltmfocptmses2msyj72r6w2kaslytuwzt6kqo2xrzxbvqd TIME_CREATED=2022-10-16T14:30:27.084604
7094 EXTENDED $16706AAFD259D143E07B0967EBE50D18EC0DC11~nimb1ebear,$479524AEFDD60FA6911E5A9553FBDDCE3EF2E5AD~ToolHaven718 BUILD_FLAGS=IS_INTERNAL,NEED_UPTIME PURP
OSE=MEASURE_TIMEOUT RE
ND_QUERY=ke4fae3afdltmfocptmses2msyj72r6w2kaslytuwzt6kqo2xrzxbvqd TIME_CREATED=2022-10-16T14:30:27.050761
7144 BUILT $CC701FCE86D6AF95FC3D5B71645D3430794910C1~sutsuj,$C31413C323DB2BD55B4371A5D46880D9EBD2FA80~0x766c6164,$276847FB06DF473F44FDA0DA5C727384F659419A~greenpo
nd,$73AG62B590C4F29D0068FA20A12D6408A038B60~torcow BUILD_FLAGS=IS_INTERNAL,NEED_CAPACITY PURPOSE=HS_SERVICE_HSDIR HS_STATE=HSSI_CONNECTING TIME_CREATED=2022-10-
16T14:30:48.172223
7112 BUILT $CC701FCE86D6AF95FC3D5B71645D3430794910C1~sutsuj,$C31413C323DB2BD55B4371A5D46880D9EBD2FA80~0x766c6164,$438F3EA4CF9B0DB6F5377A3271AB5435FAD7E04~dolemit
e,$211E4E6FF37E3AC908BD9352F247556269063319~Rlyeh BUILD_FLAGS=IS_INTERNAL,NEED_CAPACITY,NEED_UPTIME PURPOSE=HS_SERVICE_HSDIR HS_STATE=HSSI_CONNECTING TIME_CREAT
ED=2022-10-16T14:30:34.058056
```

```
250 OK
```

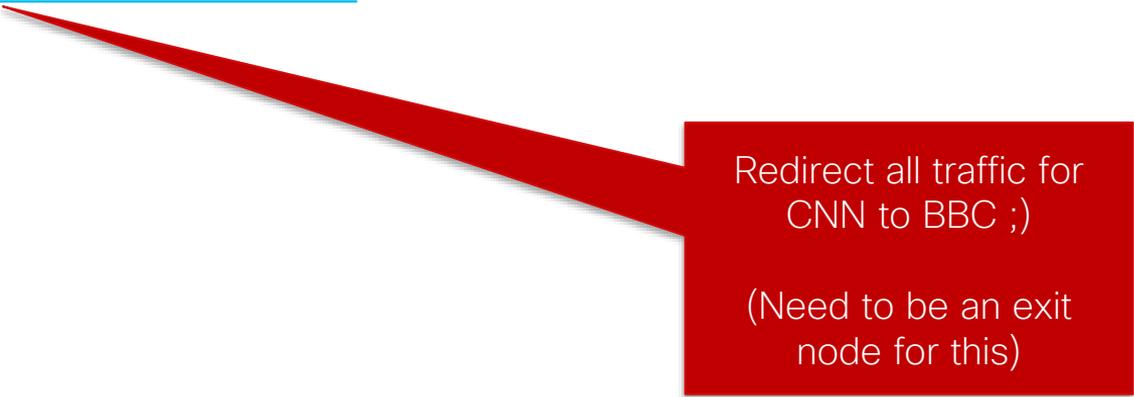
```
>>>
```

Detailed view on the circuits

# Some Control fun ;)

<https://iphelix.medium.com/hacking-the-tor-control-protocol-fb844db6a606>

mapaddress [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)=[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)



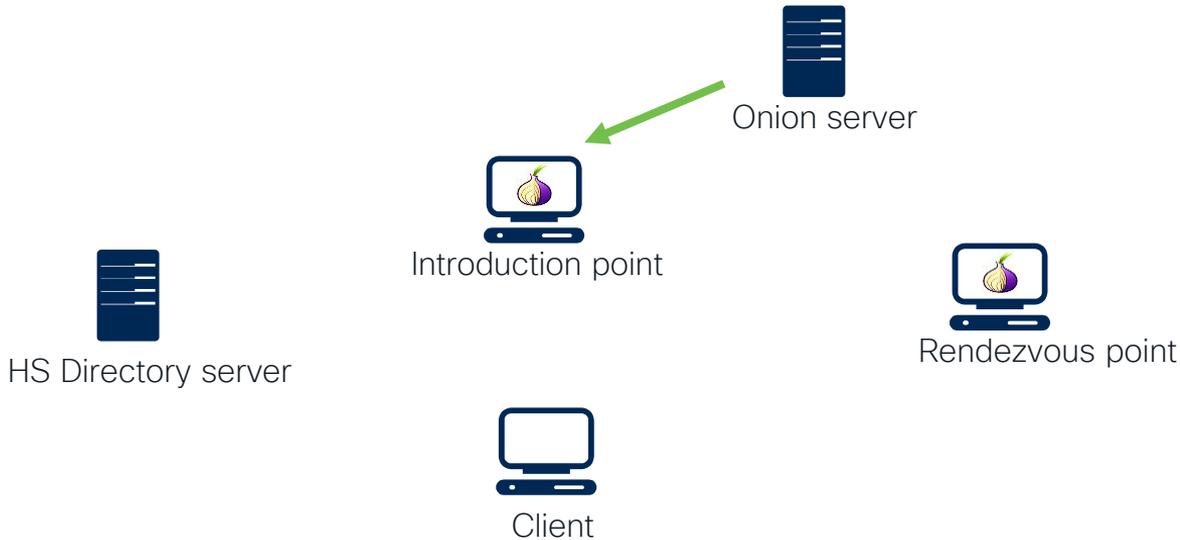
Redirect all traffic for  
CNN to BBC ;)

(Need to be an exit  
node for this)

# Onionrouting & Hidden Services

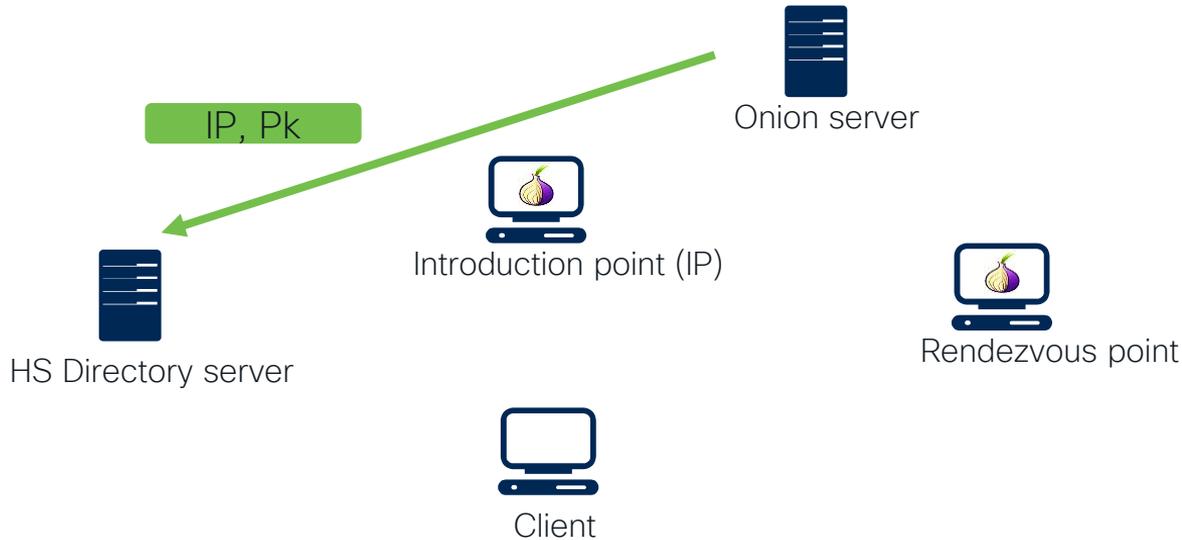


# Onionrouting



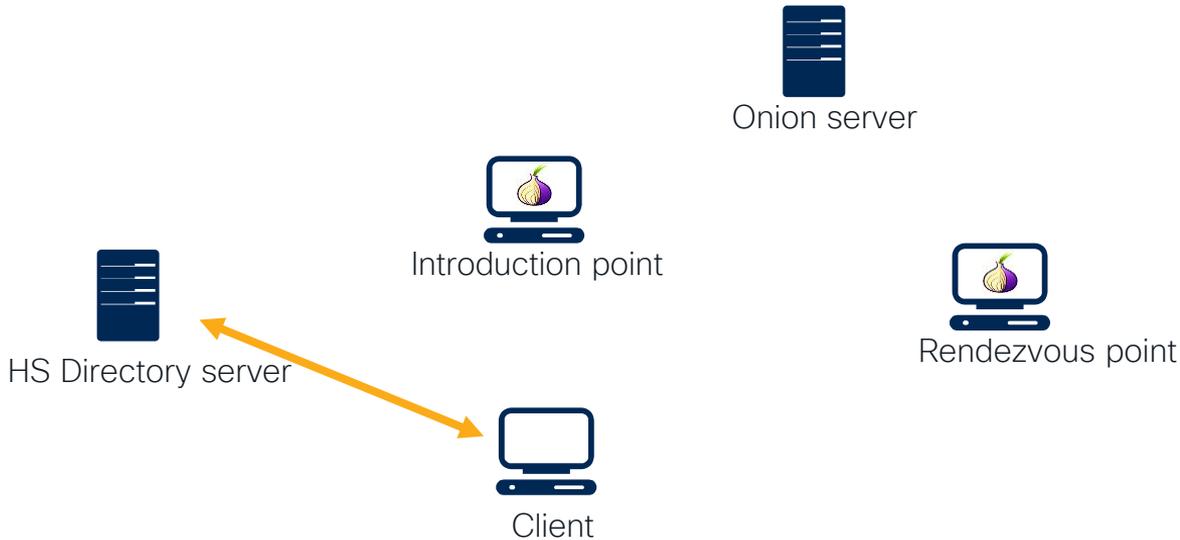
Setup hidden service (create public and private key) and create a circuit to chosen Introduction point(s)

# Onionrouting (2)



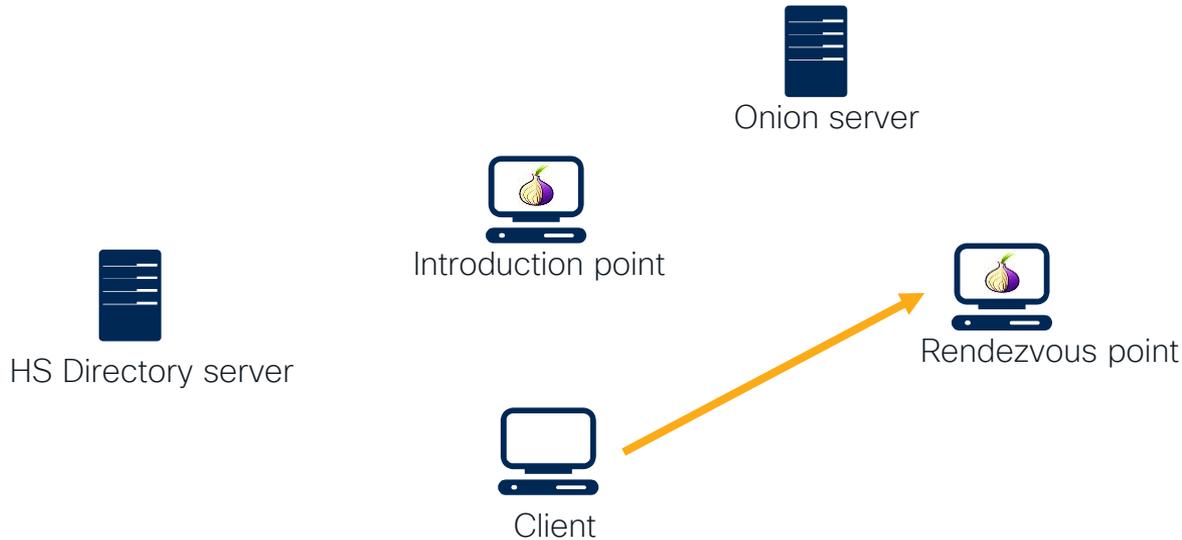
Publish hidden service in six of the directory servers. The servers are calculated based on a function including the consensus status document and the “.onion” address. Repeat once a day (different HSDirs...)

# Onionrouting (3)



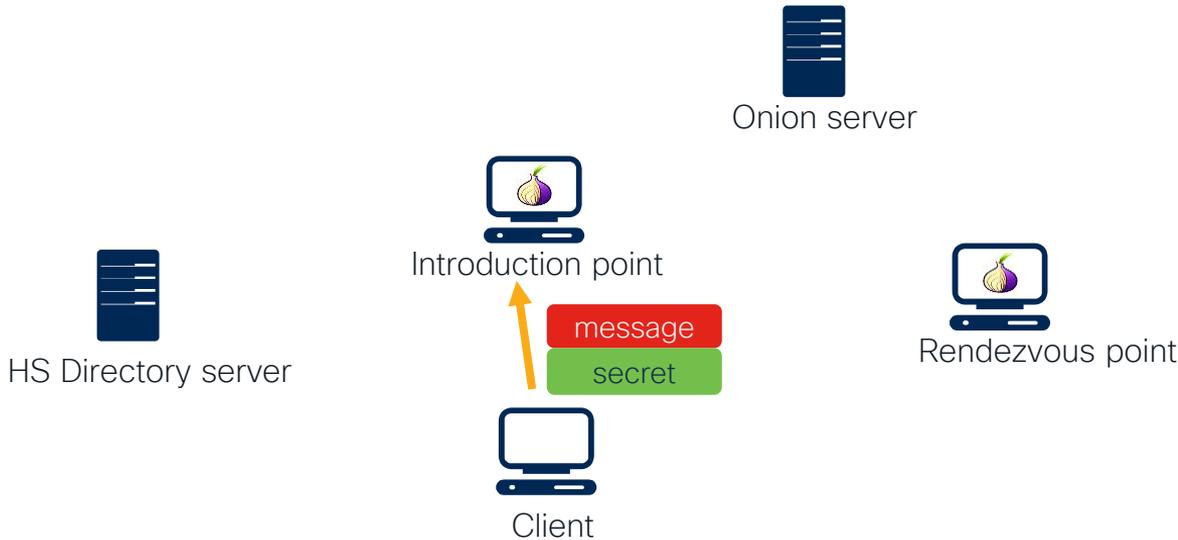
Client asks one of the directory server for the hidden service.  
Client gets the public key and the Introduction Points for that service.

# Onionrouting (4)



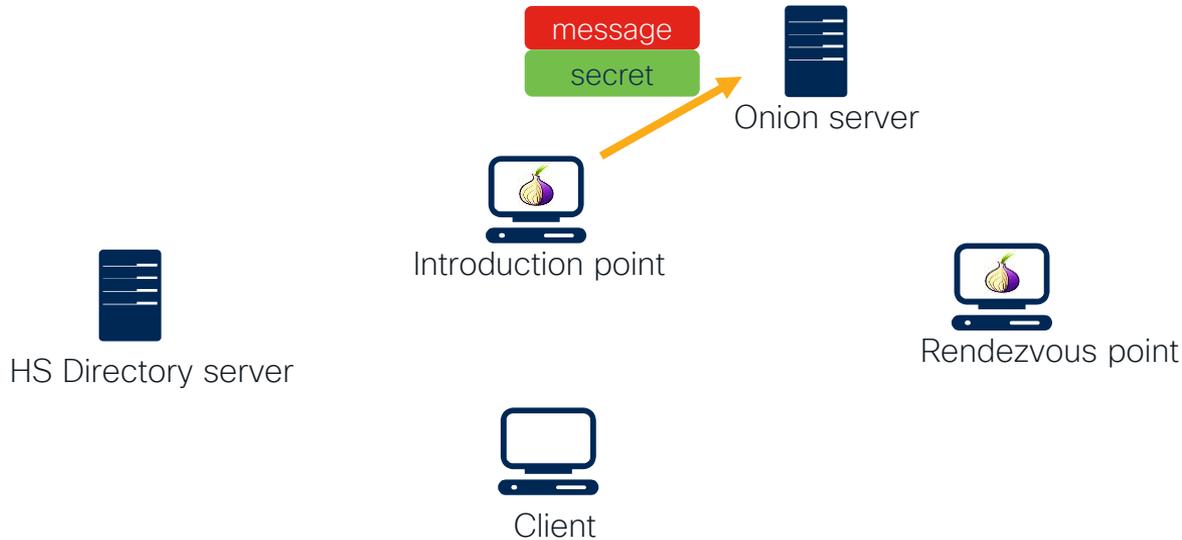
Client selects a random relay node as a rendezvous point

# Onionrouting (5)



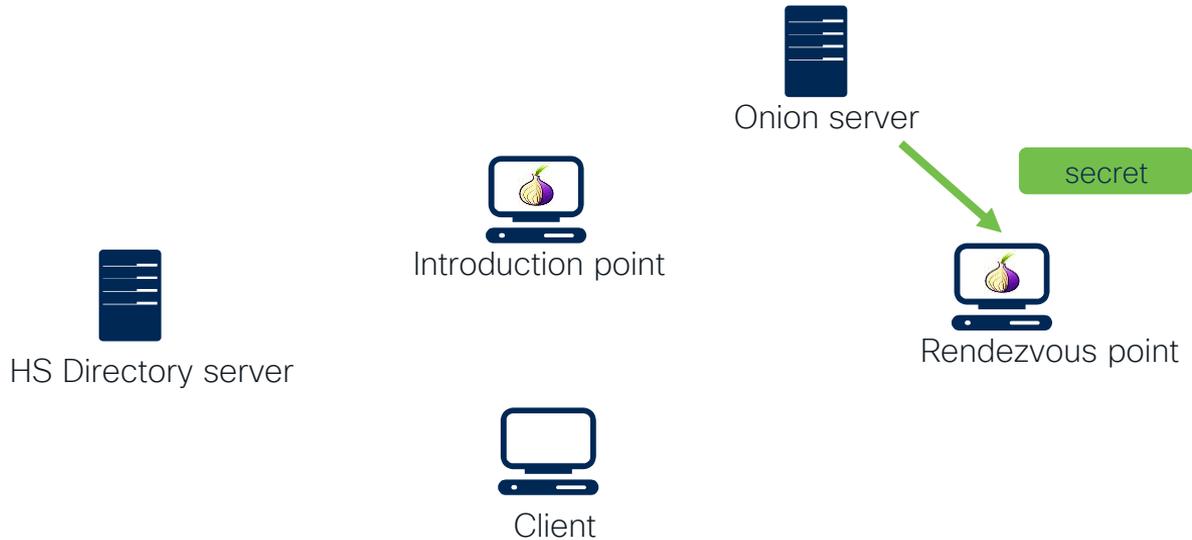
Client contacts the introduction point, requesting to forward the information about the rendezvous point to the hidden server. Message includes a one-time secret

# Onionrouting (6)



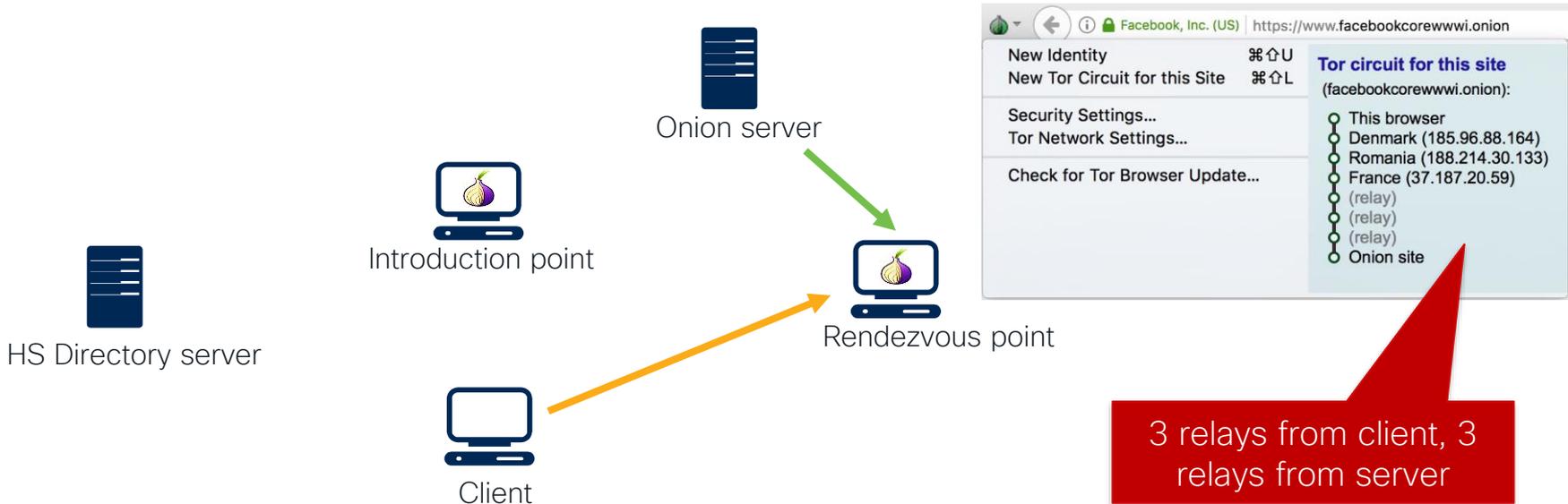
IP contacts the hidden server, telling him about the RP

# Onionrouting (7)



Server builds a circuit to the RP, providing the one-time secret from the client

# Onionrouting (8)



Client communicates to the hidden server via the rendezvous point

A decorative graphic in the top right corner consisting of a cluster of circles in various sizes and colors, including shades of blue, green, orange, red, and yellow. The circles are arranged in a way that they appear to be floating or expanding from the right side of the frame.

# DEMO: Onionshare

# Obfuscation



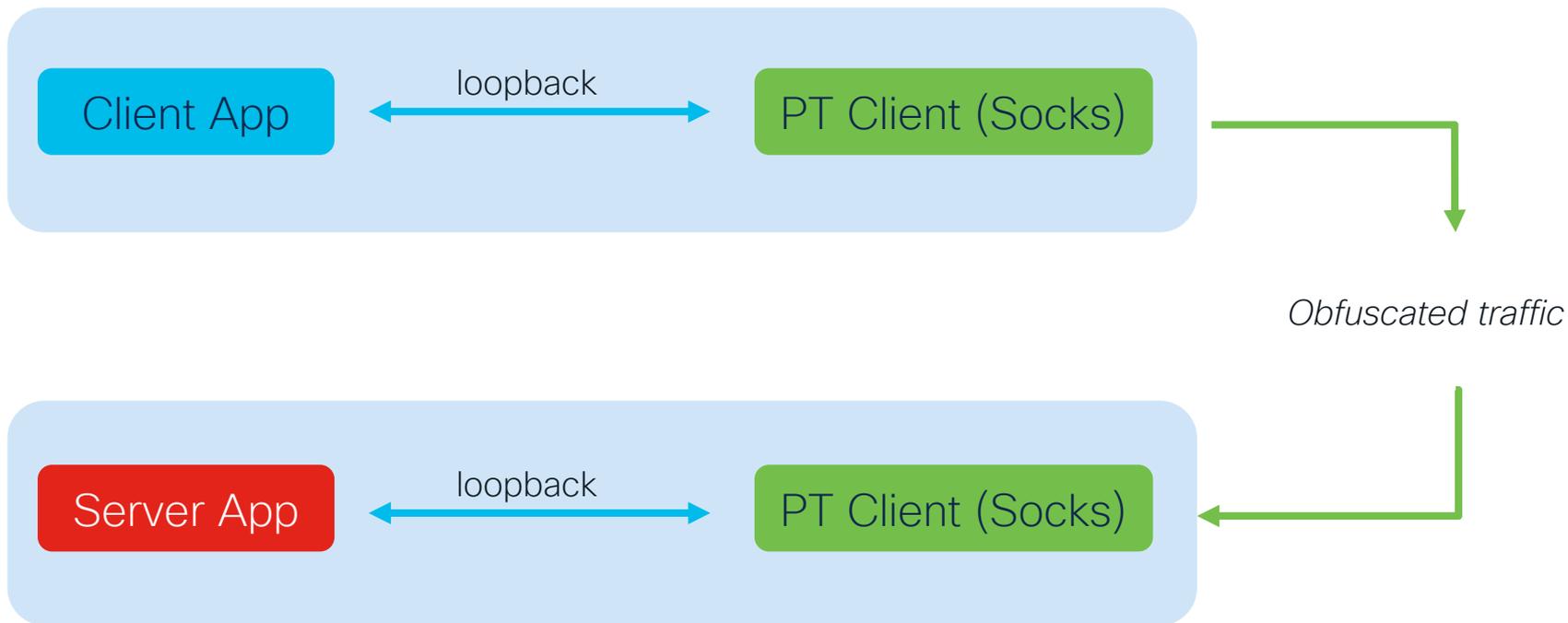
# Pluggable Transport

<https://www.pluggabletransports.info/>

The screenshot shows a Tor Browser window with the following elements:

- Address Bar:** TORCH search results for: ...
- URL:** xmh57jrznw6insl.onion/4a1f6b371c/search.cgi?q=detecting+bitc
- Menu:** A dropdown menu is open, showing options: New Identity, New Tor Circuit for this Site, Security Settings..., Tor Network Settings..., and Check for Tor Browser Update...
- Tor Circuit Diagram:** A vertical diagram titled "Tor circuit for this site (xmh57jrznw6insl.onion):" showing the path of traffic through the network:
  - This browser
  - Bridge: obfs4 (Germany)
  - Germany (5.9.61.207)
  - Ukraine (217.12.223.217)
  - (relay)
  - (relay)
  - (relay)
  - Onion site

# Tor Pluggable Transport (PT)



# Tor Pluggable Transport (PT)

<https://www.torproject.org/docs/pluggable-transport.html.en>

- Obfs2
  - Use a additional encryption layer to obfuscate. Key is exchanged in cleartext.
- Obfs3
  - Negotiation of a DH Key for obfuscation. Not resistant for active probing.
- Obfs4
  - Authenticate with a pre-shared key, distributed out-of-band. Resistant against active probing. Obfuscate with DHE.
- Meek
  - Obfuscate in http and TLS, leveraging domain fronting

A decorative graphic in the top right corner consisting of a dense cluster of circles in various sizes and colors, including shades of blue, green, orange, red, and yellow. The circles are arranged in a way that they appear to be floating or overlapping, creating a vibrant, abstract pattern.

# DEMO: SSH over Tor

Let's get caught!  
Eventually...



# Law Enforcement Efforts

One of the world's biggest hacker forums taken down

## DARK WEB | Ireland helps FBI take down illegal ransomware server used by cyber criminals

The operation dismantled servers of the HIVE ransomware infrastructure on Thursday, 26 January.



Dina Temple-Raston and Kendra Hanna  
September 6, 2022

### Q & A: What comes after Hydra, the darknet marketplace that changed everything?

The illegal marketplace 'RaidForums' has been shut down and its infrastructure seized as a result of Operation TOURNIQUET, a complex law enforcement effort coordinated by Europol to support independent investigations of the United States, United Kingdom, Sweden, Portugal, and Romania. The forum's administrator and two of his accomplices have also been arrested.



# Darknet Monitoring

- Monitoring of the darknet for information leaks, e.g. passwords, intellectual property, databases and other potential threats
- Continuous monitoring and alerts based on specific criteria:
  - Corporate email addresses
  - Company name and industry
- Cisco also monitors TOR relays
- General trend: Professionalization/industrialization of cyber crime economy



# How SILK ROAD owner was revealed

- Ross Ulbricht, the mastermind behind Silk Road
- On October 11, 2011, an account named “altoid” posted on bitcointalk.org a thread titled “a venture backed bitcoin startup company”, looking for partners for a bitcoin startup. Altoid referred people to contact him at rossulbricht@gmail.com. He also discussed the “Silk Road” marketplace in the thread. Shortly after, Silk Road was advertised on the forum “shroomery.org” by a user also named “altcoin”.
- Ross’s Youtube channel and Google Plus page included links to [Mises Institute](#), an Austrian blog that published content related to the economic theory. On the Silk Road forum, DRP also backlinked to Mises Institute and shared the site’s content there. Through one of these posts, he mentioned that his time zone is the (PT), i.e. the Pacific Time zone.
- Ross posted on [Stakoverflow](#) this question “How can I connect to a Tor hidden service using curl in PHP?”. Initially, Ross posted the question using an account aliased with his real name, yet less than a minute later, the account’s alias was changed to “frosty”.
- Ross bought 9 fake identification documents that included his real picture, yet different names. The US border customs intercepted the package which had been shipped from Canada to Ross’s apartment in San Francisco.

# Meet Saskia

- This is Saskia Laura Schröer 
- She would like to hear from you about cyber attacks and how her research can help. Your needs for protective or reactive detection, your industry specificities...
- Security Consulting Engineer at the Cisco EMEA Security Centre of Excellence
- Background in Networking, Security and Artificial Intelligence
- PhD Candidate at the University of Liechtenstein - Focus: Offensive use of AI in Cyber Attacks
- Feel free to reach out on [LinkedIn](#) or via [sschroer@cisco.com](mailto:sschroer@cisco.com)
- She's probably in the room... reach out!



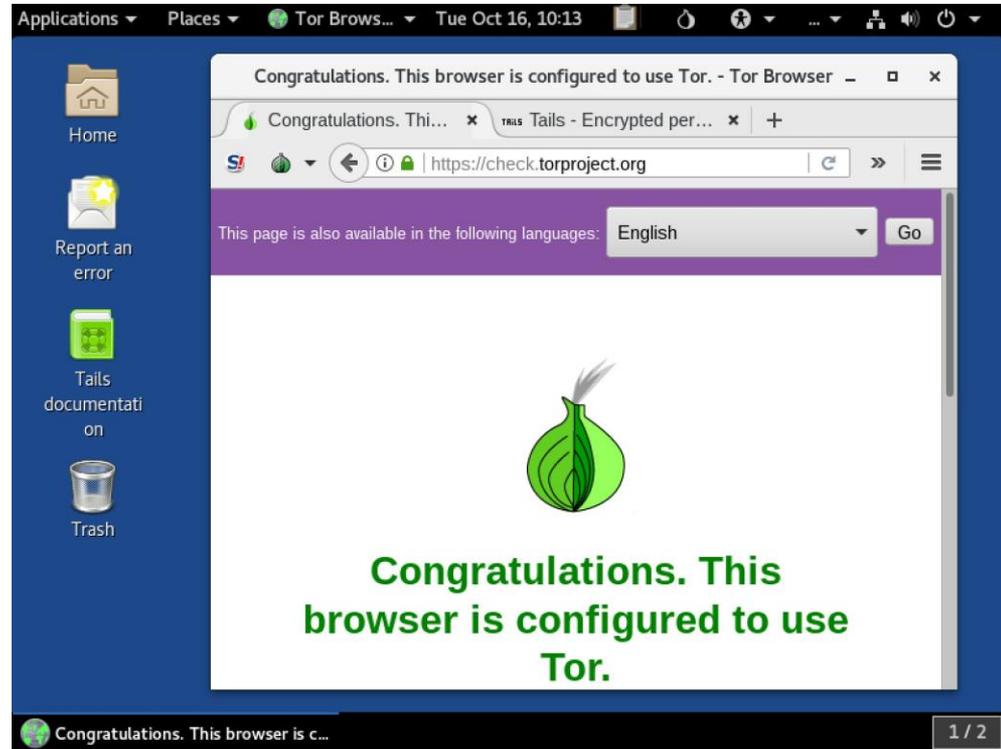
# Wrapping up



# Tails



- <https://tails.boum.org>
- Secure OS based on modified Linux
- Only communicates outside via Tor
  - Has Thunderbird, Pidgin IM, etc. already preconfigured
- Can be run from USB Stick



# Summary of Tor usage guidelines

## Basic security:

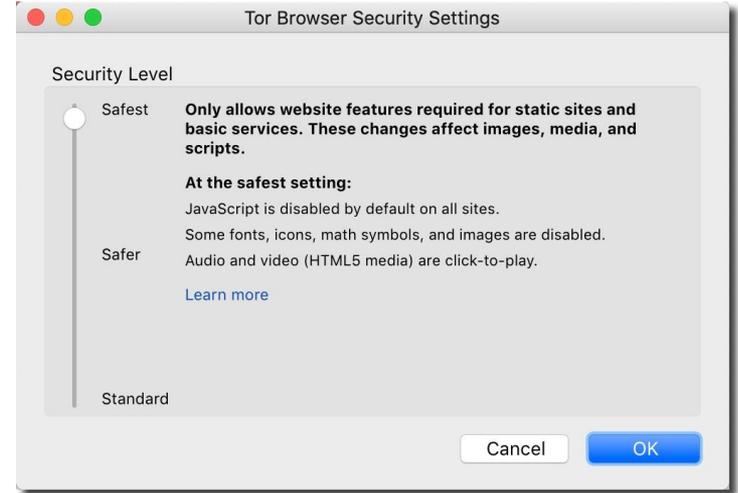
- Disable automatic launch of scripts by using setting of “safest”
- Avoid darknet sites that do not offer HTTPS
- Do not reuse same logins on darknet and clearnet! (Silk Road..)
- Communicate using PGP (email, IM, etc...)

## Intermediate security = Basic security plus

- Use Tor over VPN
- Learn to use bridges with Tor
- Use a safe OS like “Tails”

## High Security = Intermediate security plus

- Dedicated, trusted hardware (no virtual image)
- Use Qubes <https://www.qubes-os.org/>



# Continue your security journey



Feb 9 | 10:00

## **IBOSEC-2006**

Empty Threats - Building Your Own Cyber Threat Picture



Feb 9 | 10:30

## **BRKSEC-2101**

Malware Execution As A Service: a Deep Dive into CSMA Advanced File Analysis



Feb 10 | 09:00

## **BRKSEC-3129**

Public Key Cryptography - from RSA and EC to post-quantum



FINISH

Feb 10 | 09:00

## **LTRSEC-2006**

Breach Defense Technologies



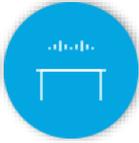
# Complete your Session Survey

- Please complete your session survey after each session. Your feedback is important.
- Complete a minimum of 4 session surveys and the Overall Conference survey (open from Thursday) to receive your Cisco Live t-shirt.
- All surveys can be taken in the Cisco Events Mobile App or by logging in to the Session Catalog and clicking the "Attendee Dashboard" at



<https://www.ciscolive.com/emea/learn/sessions/session-catalog.html>

# Continue Your Education



Visit the Cisco Showcase for related demos.



Book your one-on-one Meet the Engineer meeting.



Attend any of the related sessions at the DevNet, Capture the Flag, and Walk-in Labs zones.



Visit the On-Demand Library for more sessions at [ciscolive.com/on-demand](https://ciscolive.com/on-demand).



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Thank you

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