Privacy-preserving network monitoring at high-speed

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Privacy-preserving network monitoring at high-speed
Thomas Favale (thomas.favale@polito.it)
Supervisors: Marco Mellia, Idilio Drago, Martino Trevisan

Motivation and background

The analysis of network traffic is essential for many applications, such as cyber-security and traffic engineering, but...

Privacy is a critical point

Traffic analyzers must respect Privacy Regulations e.g., GDPR

The goal is to perform analysis without leaking sensitive information.

Requirements & Configuration

Our solution satisfies three requirements:
- It automatically searches for protocol fields that can be linked to particular users;
- It anonymizes at different layers (e.g., employing k-anonymization algorithms);
- Stateful approach is needed;
- It is light-weight and scales with the number of cores.

Architecture

Our prototype is deployed in a campus network. It is able to:
- handle multiple 10–Gb/s links with zero packet loss;
- Packet capture based on DPDK;
- performing several anonymization steps on packets.

Performance

• Cores required for 20Gb/s and 40Gb/s output:

Conclusions and future work

• We are implementing k-anonymization approaches to perform selective anonymization of sensitive fields;
• Obfuscate only cases where the information helps to uncover users behind the traffic;
• Increase scalability;
• Distributed architecture.