

RSSAC Statement of Work and Scope for Harmonization of Anonymization Procedure for Data Collecting

2017-03-03 v0.1/Liman

Background

DNS operators (DNSOs) (in particular root server operators (RSOs)), are periodically requested to collect query data and submit it to central storage where it is accessible for future research. The typical example is the yearly DITL (Day In The Life of the Internet) collections undertaken by the DNS Operations, Analysis, and Research Center (DNS-OARC). Some operators are uncomfortable with sharing the IP address of the querying server with unknown parties. Some are even legally bound to not do that. In those cases, the compromise has been for the DNSOs in question to anonymize the source IP address of the queries. As the various DNSOs do this anonymization in their own specific way, it's difficult for researchers to compare results between the datasets of the various DNSOs. The idea has come up to harmonize the anonymization processes, so that query sources are anonymized in the same way by all involved DNSOs, thereby making it possible to cross-index between data sets and to recognize queries coming from the same source, still without divulging the exact location or identity of the source.

Scope

The work party will be asked to:

1. Consider whether harmonization of anonymization procedures is something to recommend to the RSO community (and possibly to the DNS community at large);
2. If yes to 1, recommend a preferred way to anonymize the data, specifying algorithms and procedures; and finally
3. Consider whether to recommend that anonymization be undertaken by all who submit data, or remain optional for those who see a need to do so.

It expected that the work will be carried out reaching out to a wider DNS community than only the root server community.

Deliverable

The final draft of the “RSSACXXX: Recommendations on Anonymization Processes for Query Data Submitted for Future Analysis”, numbered Draft-RSSAC-XXX.

Date of Delivery

Final draft submitted to the RSSAC no later than 2017-09-30. Submission prior to the deadline is welcome.

Guidelines

The RSSAC requests the work party leader to report progress on this work to RSSAC as appropriate. In the event of the deadline will not be realized, the work party leader should

inform RSSAC without undue delay and provide details of the work that cannot be completed by the deadline.

RSSAC support staff will assist the working party deliberation of the work, including setting up a mailing list for the work party, arranging and supporting regular teleconference calls, taking notes of meetings, drafting background materials of the work, and serving as editors for documents if needed.