

# Unmasking Data Leaks

A Guide to Finding, Fixing, and  
Preventing

**DUO LABS**

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now part of Cisco.



# Hi there, I'm Jordan.

- Tech lead for Duo Labs
- Open-Source software author

 @jw\_sec

 jordan-wright



Today, we're going to  
talk about **research.**

# A Flashback

- Presented at LASCON 2016 about data leaks

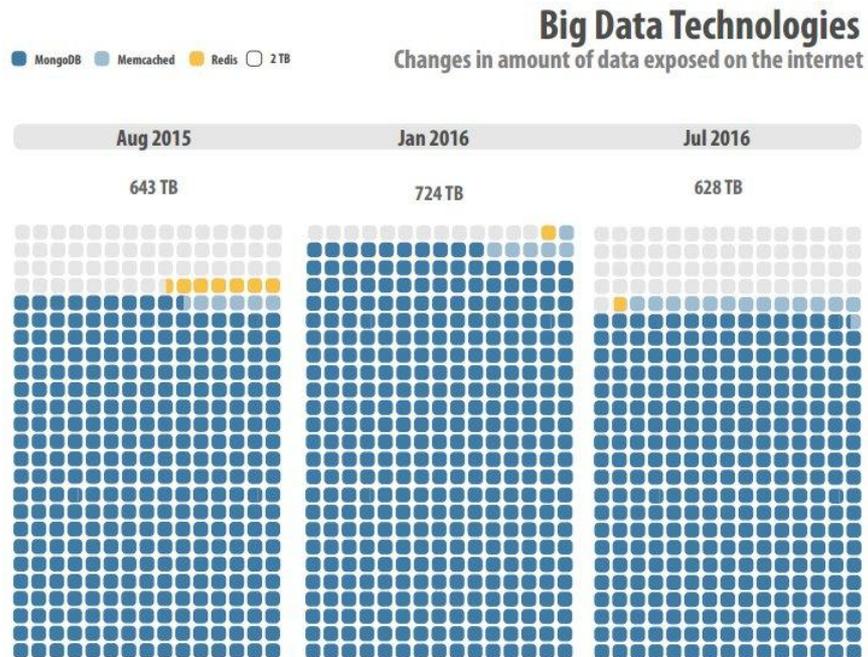
## Scanning IPv4 for Free Data and Free Shells

Jordan Wright  
@jw\_sec

BTE

# A Flashback

- Presented at LASCON 2016 about data leaks
- Discussed the results of research exploring data leaks
  - What types of databases are available
  - How much data is exposed
  - What types of data are exposed



# Agenda

- The security research process
- Identifying a problem: data leaks
- How to find data leaks
- Live coding a scanner
- Preventing data leaks

Disrupt.

Derisk.

Democratise.



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# What is Security Research?



Identify a  
Problem



Explore  
the  
Problem



Recommend  
Solutions

# Identifying a problem

[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Security](#) > [Over 275 Million Records Exposed by Unsecured MongoDB Database](#)

## Over 275 Million Records Exposed by Unsecured MongoDB Database

By [Sergiu Gatlan](#)

 May 8, 2019  06:35 PM

## 14 13 Million MacKeeper Users Exposed

DEC 15

# ElasticSearch server exposed the personal data of over 57 million US citizens

Leaky database taken offline, but not after leaking user details for nearly two weeks.



By [Catalin Cimpanu](#) for Zero Day | November 28, 2018 -- 15:00 GMT (07:00 PST) | Topic: Security



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January 24, 2019

## 24 million credit and mortgage records exposed on Elasticsearch database

Doug Olenick

## 798M email addresses found exposed on misconfigured MongoDB database



BY DUNCAN RILEY

## Data of nearly 700,000 Amex India customers exposed via unsecured MongoDB server

Over 2.3 million user records were encrypted, but data for 700,000 customers was not.



By Catalin Cimpanu for Zero Day | November 7, 2018 -- 14:00 GMT (06:00 PST) | Topic: Security

NEWS

## MongoDB configuration error exposed 93 million Mexican voter records

According to Mexican law, it's illegal to use voter records for personal gain

Rapid7 Blog

## Rsunk your Battleship: An Ocean of Data Exposed through Rsync

NEWS

## Thousands of Unprotected Kibana Instances Exposing Elasticsearch Databases

📅 April 01, 2019 👤 Wang Wei



By Catalin Cimpanu for Zero Day | November 28, 2018 | 15:00 GMT (07:00 PST) | Topic: Security



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NEWS

January 24, 2019

MongoDB configuration error exposed 193 million credit and mortgage records  
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Over 275 Million Records Exposed by Unsecured MongoDB  
According to Mexican law, it's illegal to use voter records for personal gain.

# Fortune 500 company leaked 264GB in client, payment data

Updated: The data leak impacted [REDACTED] client servers, SAP systems, and more.



By Charlie Osborne for Zero Day | June 7, 2019 -- 10:39 GMT (03:39 PDT) | Topic: Security

ElasticSearch server exposed the personal data of over 57 million US citizens  
Databases  
customers exposed via unsecured MongoDB server  
April 01, 2019 Wang Wei  
Leaky database taken offline, but not after leaking user details for nearly two weeks  
Over 23 million user records were encrypted, but data for 700,000 customers was not



By Catalin Cimpanu for Zero Day | November 28, 2018 -- 12:00 GMT (07:00 PST) | Topic: Security



By Catalin Cimpanu for Zero Day | November 28, 2018 -- 12:00 GMT (07:00 PST) | Topic: Security



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By Charlie Osborne for Zero Day | June 7, 2019 -- 10:39 GMT (03:39 PDT) | Topic: Security

ElasticSearch server exposed the personal data of over 1000 Amex India customers was not secured  
Databases  
data of over  
on April 01, 2019 - A Wang  
Leaky database taken offline



By Caitlin Cimaru for Zero Day

June 7, 2019 -- 10:39 GMT

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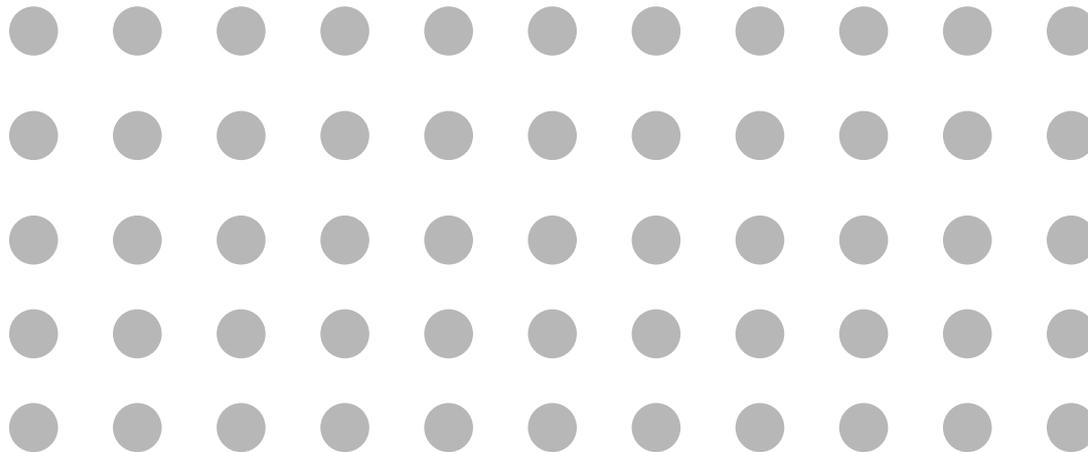
# Potential Open “Databases”

- MongoDB
- Elasticsearch (and Kibana)
- CouchDB
- Rsync
- S3 buckets
- Redis
- Memcached
- Cassandra
- Graylog

# Exploring a problem

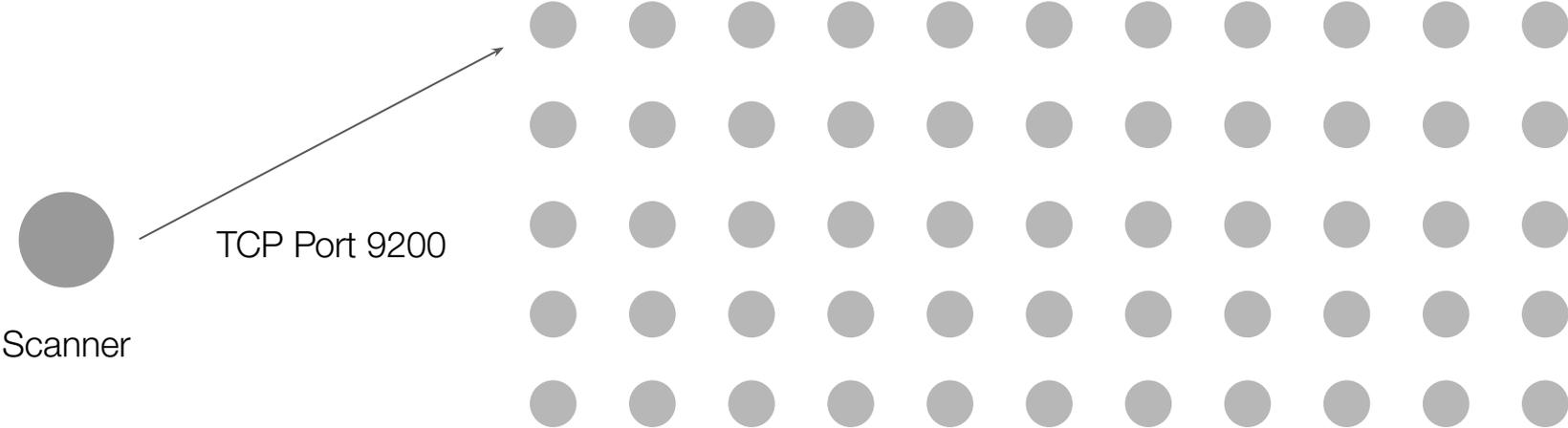
Remember:  
The goal of our  
research is remediation.

# How to Find Data Leaks



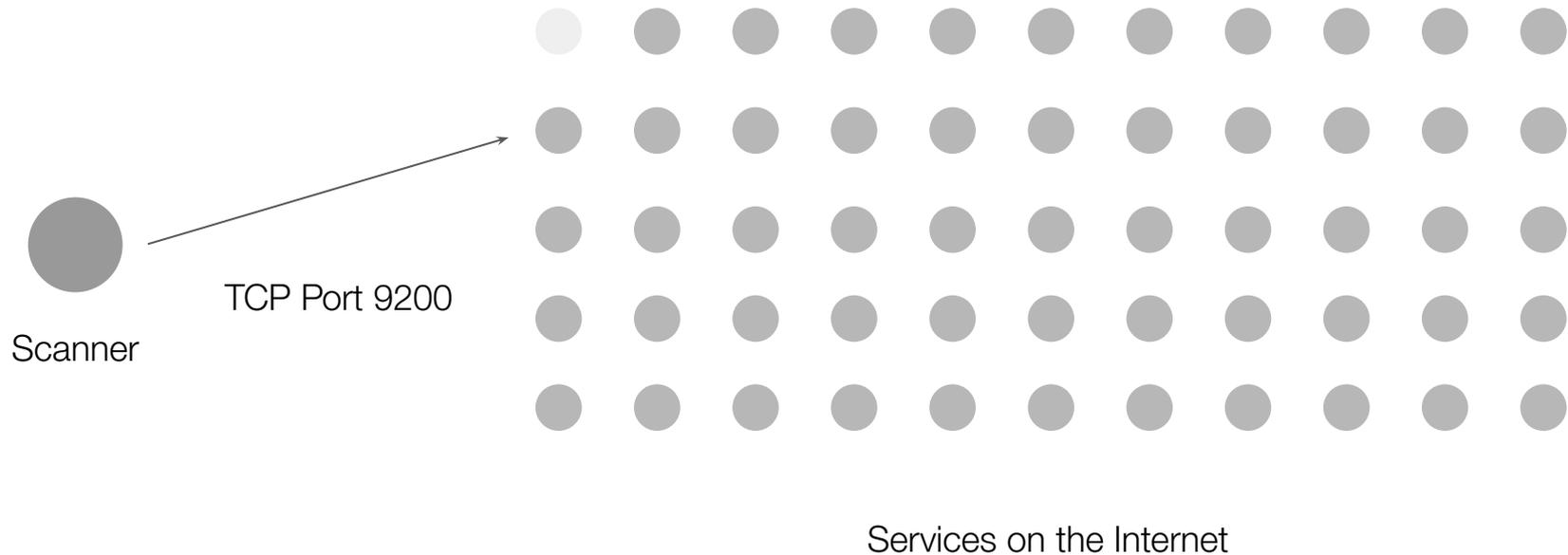
Services on the Internet

# How to Find Data Leaks

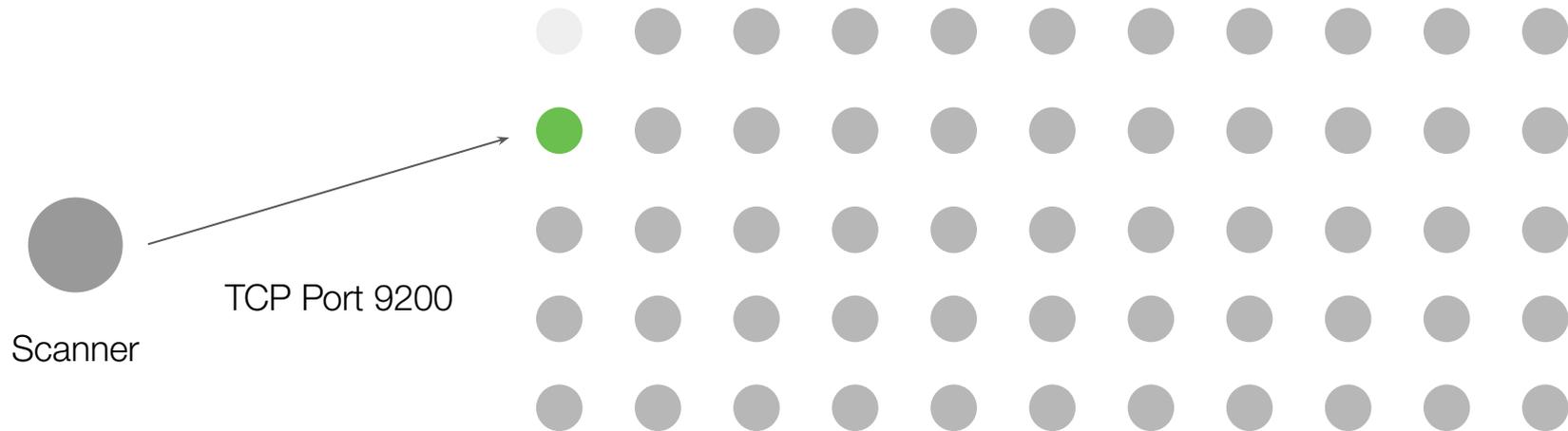


Services on the Internet

# How to Find Data Leaks

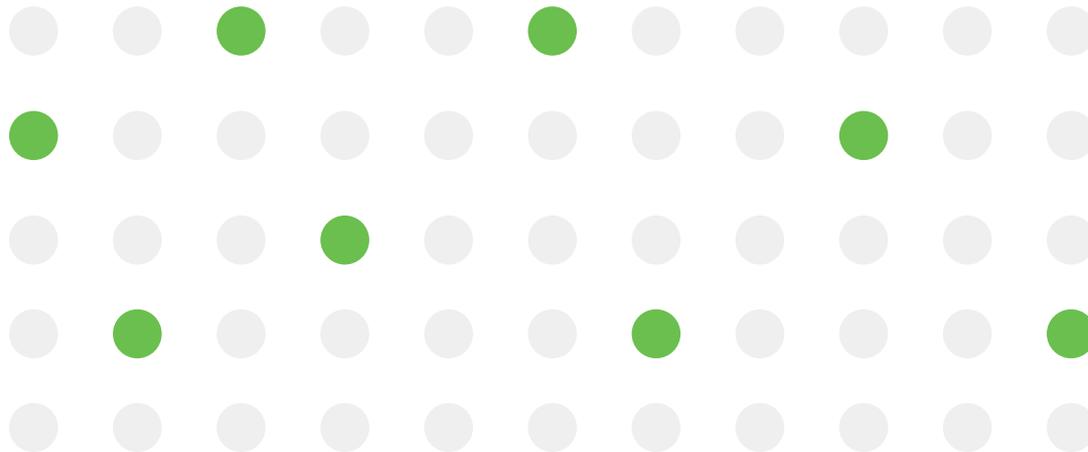


# How to Find Data Leaks



Services on the Internet

# How to Find Data Leaks



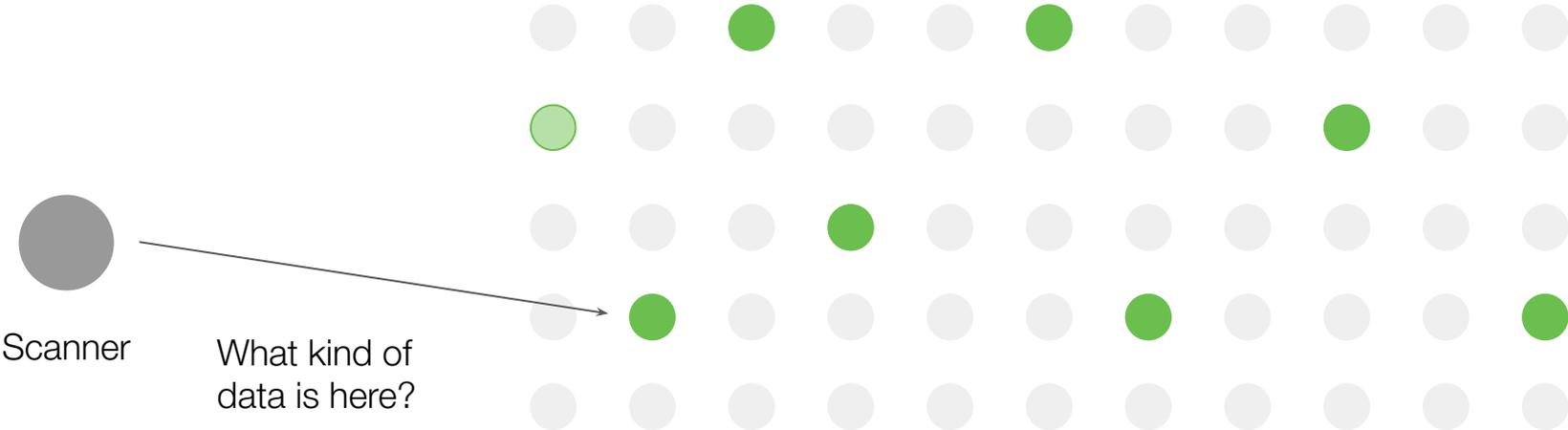
Services on the Internet

# How to Find Data Leaks



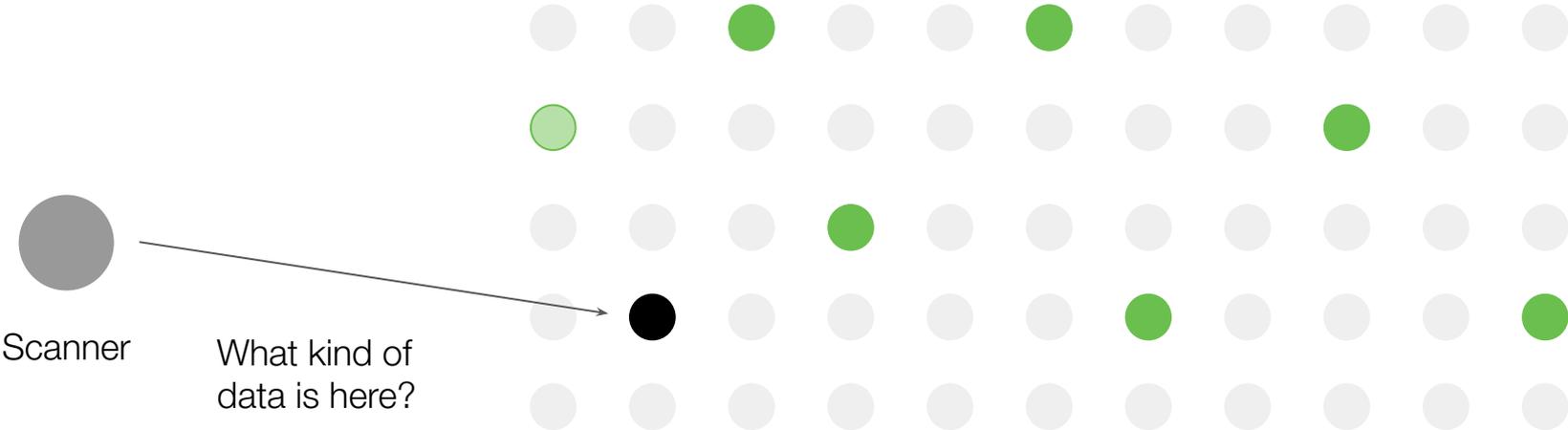
Services on the Internet

# How to Find Data Leaks



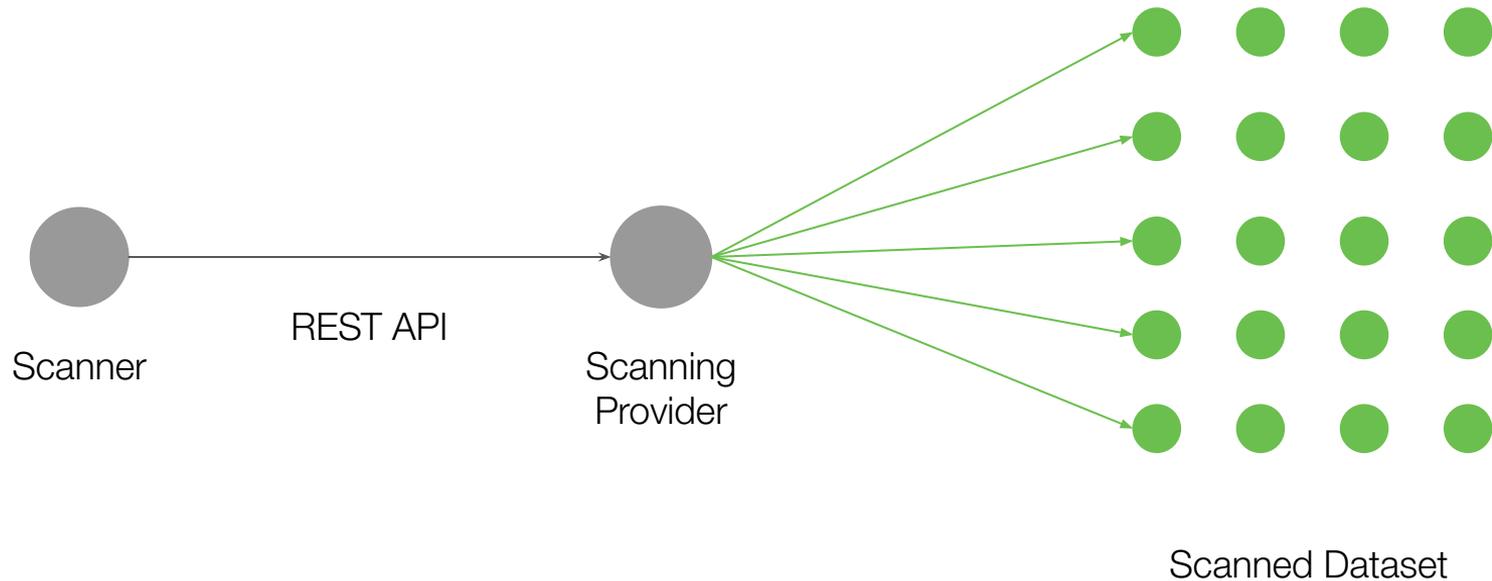
Services on the Internet

# How to Find Data Leaks



Services on the Internet

# How to Find Data Leaks: Another Approach



There are quite a few scanning providers to choose from.

**RAPID7**

Open Data

 SHODAN

 **censys**

 BE

# The Game Plan

- Get a list of hosts with open databases
- For every host:
  - Determine if there's potentially sensitive information exposed
  - If so:
    - Keep a record of the host
    - **(Manual)** Try and contact the owner for remediation

...I really hope this works

# Let's Code.



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# Next Steps

- Limited querying to determine sensitive information
- Add new data sources
- Set up daily alerts to see new hits
- When sensitive information is found, we can alert the owner
- Create regular reports on the state of the problem

# Recommending solutions



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# Preventing Data Leaks

- Only accept connections from authorized hosts
- Enable authentication, where possible
  - Plus RBAC
- Disable unused features

# Security Guides

- [MongoDB](#)
- [CouchDB](#)
- [Elasticsearch](#) (and [Kibana!](#))
- [Rsync](#)
- [S3](#) (and don't forget other storage services!)
- [Redis](#)

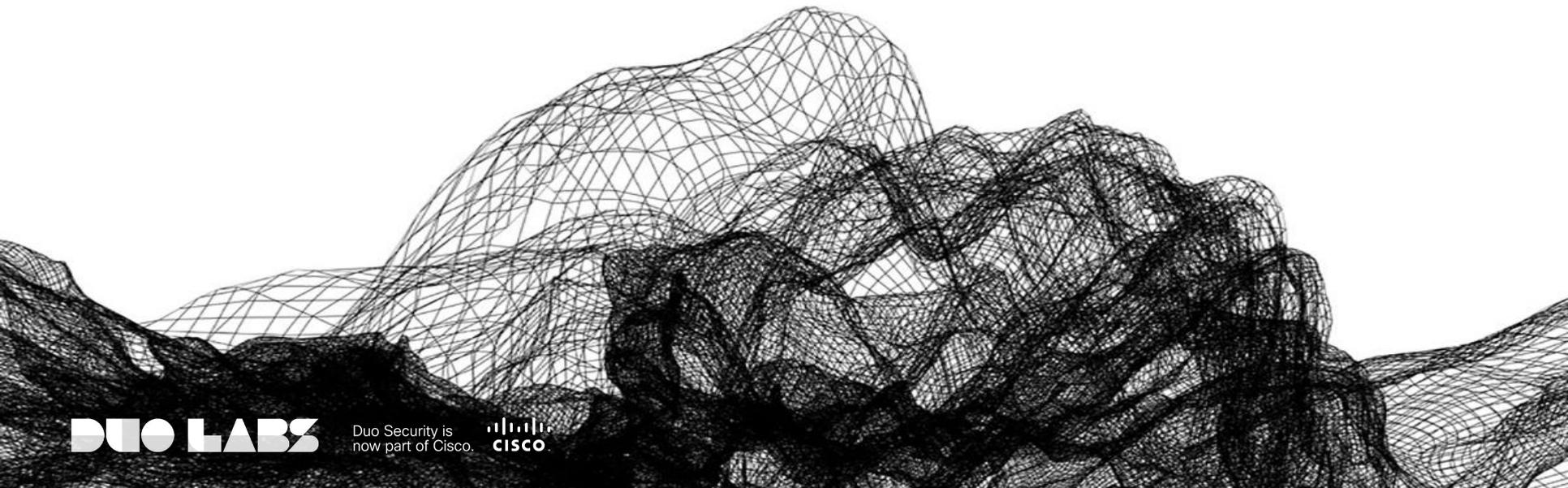
# More Tools

| Database                                | Tool Name          | URL   |
|---|--------------------|---|
| S3                                      | S3Scanner          | <a href="https://github.com/sa7mon/S3Scanner">https://github.com/sa7mon/S3Scanner</a>               |
| S3                                      | Bucket Stream      | <a href="https://github.com/eth0izzle/bucket-stream">https://github.com/eth0izzle/bucket-stream</a> |
| S3 (Dataset)                            | N/A                | <a href="https://buckets.grayhatwarfare.com/">https://buckets.grayhatwarfare.com/</a>               |
| Elasticsearch, CouchDB, RSync, and more | Leak Looker        | <a href="https://github.com/woj-ciech/LeakLooker">https://github.com/woj-ciech/LeakLooker</a>       |
| Elasticsearch                           | Stretcher          | <a href="https://github.com/6IX7ine/stretcher">https://github.com/6IX7ine/stretcher</a>             |
| Redis                                   | Redis Key Analysis | <a href="https://github.com/achillean/redis-keys">https://github.com/achillean/redis-keys</a>       |

# Conclusion

- **You can do impactful security research**
- Open databases still exist today
- Measuring the problem gives insight into the scale of the issue
- Remediation and prevention are the goals of our work

# Questions?



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**CISCO**

# Thank you!

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