

Microsoft Cloud Computing Research Centre

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Cloud Panopticon: Legal frameworks

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1

Introductory remarks

- From organised crime to law enforcement
 - The 'Snowden' problem
- Cloud Service providers
 - Forensic goldmine
 - As 'critical infrastructure'?
- An exercise of powers
 - Not all LEAs are equal
 - Jurisdictional reach
- Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?
 - Rights protection & discrimination



2

Investigative powers

- Covert and coercive techniques
 - Obtaining data: 'at rest' & 'in transmission'
- Modes of collection
 - Targeted & mass surveillance
- Different justifications
 - National security, 'conduct of the foreign affairs of the US'
- Differential procedures
 - Content & communications data
- legality ≠ enforceability
 - As intelligence & as evidence

LEA co-operation

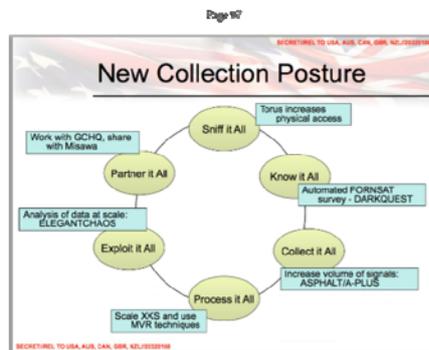
- Mutual legal assistance
 - Harmonisation of substantive criminal offences
 - e.g. Convention on Cybercrime (2001)
 - Improving procedures & enhance resources
- Mutual recognition
 - TFEU, Art. 82
 - Directive 2014/41/EU 'European Investigation Order'
- Informal co-operation between LEAs
 - Proactive disclosure & 24/7 networks
 - Extending territorial jurisdiction

Dealing with law enforcement

- Obligations to assist
 - Capture data: 'LI capability'
 - Retain data
 - Decrypt protected data
 - Disclose data
- Voluntary assistance
 - National
 - Immunity from liability
 - International
 - "obtains the lawful and voluntary consent of the person who has lawful authority to disclose the data.." (Cybercrime Convention, Art. 32b)

Not dealing with law enforcement

- Engage directly with the material sought
 - 'Publicly available'
 - NSA's 'Tailored Access Operations'
- Unmediated access
 - Black boxes
- LEA Co-operation
 - 'Five Eyes'



Jurisdictional reach

- Territorial jurisdiction & extraterritorial effects
 - e.g. Rackspace (2004)
- Domestic service provider & foreign data
 - Search & seizure, e.g. Microsoft (2014)
 - Subpoena: ‘in its ‘possession or control’, e.g. Verizon (2014)
- Foreign service provider & domestic services
 - e.g. Google ‘Transparency Report
 - Data Retention and Investigatory Powers Act 2014
- Clouds & the ‘loss of location’
 - “where it is uncertain where the data are located”

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Cloud Panopticon: Technical response

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Brief History of Surveillance Immune System

- We've been here before
 - mid 1990s lawful intercept agencies pressured Internet Community to weaken its tech
 - Response was (aptly numbered) rfc1984
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc1984>
 - IAB/IESG/Internet Society/IETF
- Attacks included
 - Weakened keys, Key escrow
- Weaknesses included
 - “Conflicting International Policies
 - Use of multiple layered encryption

What happened next?

IETF “won”

1. TLS/HTTPS started to become routine
2. DNSSec & Certificates
3. Cryptography
4. Better securing of infrastructure

Surveillance and DPI

- Tech for deep packet inspection, e.g. Endace
 - Initially developed for traffic engineering
 - to reveal popular application sets and traffic matrix
 - Became widely used for full packet capture at IXPs
 - Port mirrors all the data to security agency
- Response: accelerate default use of HTTPs/TLS
 - Together with NATs, makes network intercept worthless
 - Even for “meta-data”

What happens next?

- Around this time, dominant traffic became
- Mobile Device (many) <-> Cloud provider (few)
- Key changes are:
 - Even more obfuscated (and secure) end points, but
 - Far far less, highly visible end points
- instead of 100M NATd desktops talking to 100M websites,
 - we have a billion smart phones talking to a dozen cloud providers, almost all of latter in the US
 - Attack surface very very obvious

Surveillance on Cloud

- Was easy because:
 - Easy to find cloud data centers
 - Data stored in plain, so that analytics can work
 - Data between cloud machines was txferred in plain
 - Data is processed in the plain, so that targeted adverts can work
- i.e. the main (2 sided) business model of cloud makes them idea to be weaponised.

What happened next

- Those revelations...
- Embarrassed & annoyed “libertarian” tech cloudsters
- Vancouver IETF plenary response vehement
- Tech “solutions”
 1. Crypt data between data centers (google)
 2. Crypt data in storage (most)
 3. Client side decrypt (apple)
 4. Research in cryptic processing is ongoing

Future

- Securing key distribution (see RFC1984)
- Viable solutions for cloud service on crypted data
- Search, targeted ads, solutions exist
- Analytics – could use trusted 3rd party now
- Later, we'll see

What happens to lawful intercept?

- Two extremes
 1. They lose
 2. They have to do their job properly and
 1. Have probable cause
 2. get warrants
 3. Do intelligence...☺
 3. Law mandates client side trapdoors (against RFC1984)

Conclusion

- The arms race between
 - security agencies and bad guys on the one hand
 - And the public on the other
- Is not new
- Is not over

- Is not transparent
- or informed by good cost benefit analysis;
- see for example this Cato report
 - Responsible Counterterrorism Policy
 - <http://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/>