Discovering Obscure Looking Glass Sites on the Web to Facilitate Internet Measurement Research

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Shuying Zhuang, Jessie Hui Wang, Jilong Wang, Zujiang Pan, Tianhao Wu, Fenghua Li, Zhiyong Zhang





Measurement VPs are important

- Vantage points (VPs) are critical for Internet measurement researches
 - ✓ Inter-domain topology discovery
 - ✓ Link-level congestion detection
 - ✓ Cyber-attack detection
 - ✓
- Measurement platforms have spent effort in deploying VPs
 - The number and coverage of the VPs are still limited





Looking Glass (LG) VPs

- Actively deployed by ISPs
 - \checkmark Observe their networks
 - ✓ Troubleshoot connectivity and performance issues
- Beneficial for measurement researches
 - Hosted in critical infrastructures
 - Likely offer both data and control plane views

• LG pages

- Web interfaces to LG VPs that allow the execution of different types of measurement commands
- E.g. <u>http://lg.as8932.net</u>



⊖ trace		
IPv4 🗸		
	Submit Reset	

Disclaimer: All commands will be logged for possible later analysis and statistics. If you don't like this policy, please disconnect now!

Please email questions or comments to <u>core-network@ucom.am</u>.



Well-known and obscure LG pages

Researchers usually find and use LG pages from several well-known portal pages

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Maintained by <u>Thomas Kernen</u> Please feel free to send me updates, links, corrections, extra info Note that I'm unable to provide support for the linked web pages Looking Glass • <u>GARR (AS137)</u> • CenturyLink (AS209)		UCOM AS8932 UCOM LLC 超界 UCOM CJSC 长名称 公司网站 http://www.ucom.am ASN 8932 IRR as-set/route-set 对象 • AS8932:AS-ALL 始合服务者 UPL http://in.es8932.ndt		
		Traceroute.org	F	PeerinaDB
ASN Who	e send LG additions and	updates to webmaster@bgp4.as. Including NOC whitelist requests	Welcomen the biggest and the solution of the Servers updated at 04/04/2020. If you find a b send us an email to info2 @ bgplookingglass.c	P Looking Glass and Traceroute list in internet You'll find out 1150 Looking Glass roken link, or you want to announce a new looking glass site, please feel free to om. You can also check now our new route servers list site: www.routeservers.or
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Many other available LG pages cannot be found and exploited easily !

LookingG	ass - Open source PHP looking glass . Test IPv4: 23.95.242.173. Test files: 10N
103.253	.27.204 - Cheapwindowsvps_LG - Looking Glass
103.253.2	7.204 -
Server Locat	ion: Singapore Tent IPv4: 103.253.27.204, Test files: 25MB 50MB 100MB 1000MB You
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Riven (Cloud - Looking Glass
Server Lo	cation: Osaka, Japan. IPv4 Address: 103.88.47.47. IPv6 Address:



How to discover and exploit these obscure LG pages



• The goal of our paper: develop a method to discover obscure LG pages

How to efficiently discover LG pages? LG focused crawler





Nearly two billion active websites Traditional web crawler: crawl and judge every page infeasible!

cover as many LGs as possible, while avoiding resource consumption on irrelevant pages



Crawling procedure



Q1: how to design a crawling procedure to discover more candidate URLs





Many LGs do not connect to other LG pages



LG pages are usually similar in some aspects

Similarity-guided search: use search engines to collect pages similar to known LGs



Crawling procedure

Similarity-guided search

• Mine common features shared by known LGs and transform them into search terms





Classification procedure



To achieve both accuracy and efficiency: a two-step classifier





Classification procedure



imes Supervised algorithms: require positive and negative labeled samples

imes Unsupervised algorithms: classification results may be unsatisfactory

 Lack labeled negatives: PU (Positive and unlabeled) learning Avoid labeling training samples and achieve good performance





Summarize and evaluate





Automate the use of LG VPs

- It will be more practical if we automatically use VPs of the relevant URLs!
- Develop an automation tool: retrieve automatable LG VPs



VPs in LG page http://lg.infortek.net.br

Programmatically fill in required input fields

60%

- Results
 - 1,446 known automatable VPs from the well-known LG pages
 - *910 obscure automatable VPs* from the relevant pages



The obscure VPs can bring significant coverage improvements



1,446 known LG VPs in 386 cities of 75 countries 910 obscure LG VPs in 282 cities in 55 countries ✓ The 910 obscure VPs cover 8 exclusive countries and 160 exclusive cities, where no known LG VPs have been found before

✓ The 8 countries are mainly distributed in East Africa and South Asia



Network coverage improvements

The obscure VPs can bring significant coverage improvements



✓ The 910 obscure VPs cover
 288 exclusive ASes

✓ 287 of the 288 exclusive ASes are in the stub tier

✓ The 910 VPs are valuable for improving the completeness of Internet topology



A case study

• Use obscure LG VPs to improve the completeness of AS-level topology

Collect AS paths from LG VPs

RUB Looking Glass - show bgp ipv4 unicast neighbors 10.12.1.163 advertised-routes



Automatically collect AS paths from 14 known LG VPs and **8 obscure VPs**

Improve AS-level topology completeness

		Known LG VPs	Obscure LG VPs	RIPE RIS	RouteViews	ALL
ASes	Observed Exclusive	44,955 247	44,355 10	44,9 52 12	45,339 271	45,635 -
AS links	Observed Exclusive	100,356 8,318	76,907 1,428	154,828 37,383	204,889 85,450	253,719

Table 6: The number of observed and exclusive ASes, AS links extracted from each dataset.

Compare with AS topologies collected from known LG VPs, RIPE RIS and RouteViews

Show their potential values in facilitating Internet measurement research



Update the list of LG VPs

- The full experiments were carried out last year (2020)
- Some of the obscure VPs that are previously found may disappear

Re-conduct the automation tool and find about 70% of the VPs are still available

• Some newly created LG pages may appear on the web

Repeat our method recently and find 518 new obscure automatable VPs





Conclusion & Future Work

Conclusion

- Design a focused crawler to discover obscure LG sites
- Find **910** obscure automatable LG VPs
- Artifacts of our paper
 - https://github.com/zhuangshuying18/discover_obscure_LG

Future work

- Regularly **update the list** of LG VPs
- Explore potential methods to **expand the list** of LG VPs
- Use the LG VPs to conduct large-scale measurements

Thanks for your attention! Q & A

Contact: <u>zhuangsy18@mails.tsinghua.edu.cn</u>

