

CSNOG 2024

# Securing networks with Suricata 7

cesnet  
"...."



# Introduction

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### Roles:

- Core Suricata team member
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# Agenda

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- Suricata overview
- What is new in 7.0

# What is Suricata?

- An open-source high-performance network monitoring and security engine with active/passive monitoring, metadata logging and real-time file identification and extraction
- Produces a high-level of situational awareness and detailed application layer transaction records from network traffic.

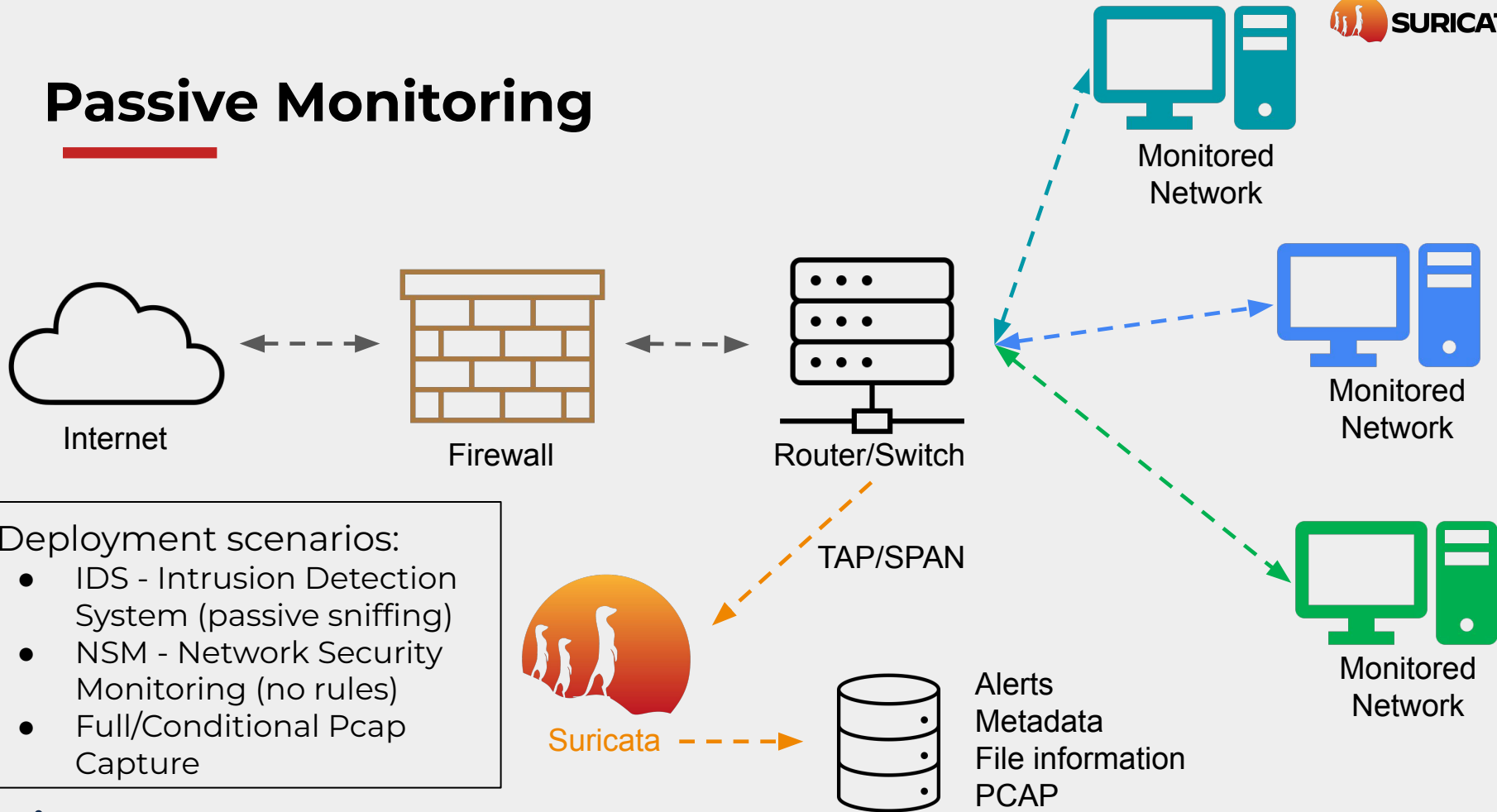


# What is OISF?

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- US 501(c)3 non-profit organization that ensures Suricata remains world-class.
- Dedicated to preserving the integrity of open source security technologies and the communities that keep them thriving. Our team and our community includes world-class security and non-profit experts, programmers, and industry leaders dedicated to open source security technologies.
- Funding for Suricata comes from donations from world-class security organizations committed to our mission. A list of these organizations is available on our [Consortium Members](#) page.

# Passive Monitoring

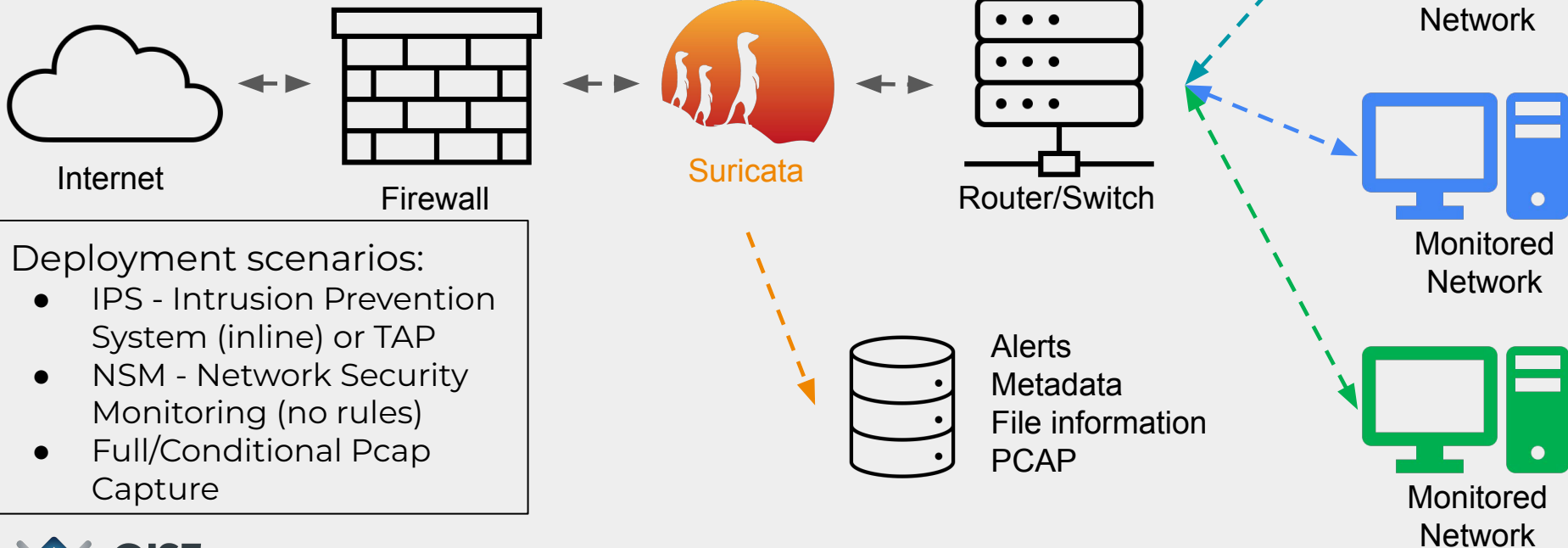


## Deployment scenarios:

- IDS - Intrusion Detection System (passive sniffing)
- NSM - Network Security Monitoring (no rules)
- Full/Conditional Pcap Capture

# Active Monitoring

DROP/REJECT Traffic



## Deployment scenarios:

- IPS - Intrusion Prevention System (inline) or TAP
- NSM - Network Security Monitoring (no rules)
- Full/Conditional Pcap Capture

Alerts  
Metadata  
File information  
PCAP

# Suricata - Major Features

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- Standards-based formats (YAML, JSON) ease integrations with SIEM tools such as Elastic and Splunk
- Multithreaded, hardware acceleration available. 100Gb+ deployments
- Network metadata and protocol logging, PCAP recording
- Advanced HTTP/2, DNS, SMTP, SMB and TLS support
- File identification and extraction - FTP/SMTP/HTTP/HTTP2/NFS/SMBv1-3
- Support for SCADA protocols - DNP3, ENIP, and CIP



IDS Alerts



Protocol Transactions



Network Flows



PCAP Recordings



Extracted Files



# Network Metadata Logging

- Provides extensive logging of protocol and other network data
- Data logged in event records: HTTP/HTTP2, DNS, FTP, TLS, SMB, SSH, RDP, KRB5...
- Default output format in **JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)**

```
{
  "timestamp": "2021-12-02T16:01:39.648123-0600",
  "flow_id": 552078355414781,
  "in_iface": "dummy0",
  "event_type": "http",
  "src_ip": "192.168.100.166",
  "src_port": 49213,
  "dest_ip": "91.211.91.69",
  "dest_port": 80,
  "proto": "TCP",
  "tx_id": 0,
  "metadata": {
    "flowbits": [
      "ET.zbot.dat",
      "http.dottedquadhost",
      "et.IE7.NoRef.NoCookie",
      "et.MS.XMLHTTP.no.exe.request",
      "et.MS.XMLHTTP.ip.request",
      "ET.http.binary"
    ]
  },
  "community_id": "1:+IAe8PnH0XoW7R2R6noc+nkPhKk=",
  "http": {
    "hostname": "91.211.91.69",
    "url": "/44285,5327891204.dat",
    "http_user_agent": "Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; CLR 3.0.30729; Media Center PC 6.0; .NET4.0C; .NET4.0E)",
    "http_content_type": "application/octet-stream",
    "http_method": "GET",
    "protocol": "HTTP/1.1",
    "status": 200,
    "length": 203808
  }
}
```

# File Identification and Extraction

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- Can perform file identification and extraction in real-time
- File information includes:
  - Content type/libmagic
  - File hashes (MD5/SHA1/SHA2)
  - File size
- Files can also be extracted and stored to the file system

```
"app_proto": "http",
"fileinfo": {
  "filename": "44285,5327891204.dat",
  "sid": [],
  "magic": "PE32+ executable (DLL) (GUI) x86-64, for MS Windows",
  "gaps": false,
  "state": "CLOSED",
  "md5": "39d1db996c96cd7f7e4639b5a4906658",
  "sha1": "657ff8aae170d3dae212f0b84ac8c6ab996bea9b",
  "sha256": "b560e2d47ad2c84f16667b570010078a3df3ef70e788fab00381",
  "stored": true,
  "file_id": 33,
  "size": 203808,
  "tx_id": 0
```

# What's new in 7.0

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- 2+ years of development
  - Total: 1375 **files changed**, 130027 insertions(+), 127626 deletions(-)
    - ▲ ■ **Rust**: 173 files changed, 39279 insertions(+), 13830 deletions(-)
    - ▼ ■ **C**: 978 files changed, 73882 insertions(+), 109446 deletions(-)
  - ▲ ○ **Docs**: 142 files changed, 6636 insertions(+), 1890 deletions(-)
- Community and consortium help
  - **75** contributors, non Suricata team members, donated/added code/reported and fixed bugs
- **Contribution leaderboard** - <https://inliniac.net/leaderboard/7/>

## Organizations

- **stamus-networks.com**: 76 commits, code +8078 -2245. Tickets 19. Score 4234
- **cyber.gc.ca**: 10 commits, code +4170 -4295. Tickets 3. Score 1296
- **corelight.com**: 14 commits, code +254 -337. Tickets 6. Score 794
- **dcso.de**: 7 commits, code +1667 -1244. Tickets 0. Score 473

## Top 11 individuals

1. 🇫🇷 **Eric Leblond** 🇫🇷: 119 commits, code +9035 -2496. Tickets 28. Score 6069
2. 🇫🇷 **Pierre Chifflier** 🇫🇷: 40 commits, code +5247 -5460. Tickets 0. Score 2099
3. 🇳🇪 **Modupe Falodun** 🇳🇪: 25 commits, code +540 -6775. Tickets 8. Score 1849
4. **jason taylor**: 58 commits, code +653 -349. Tickets 1. Score 1757

# What's new in 7.0 - Main features

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- **DPDK** IDS/IPS support for primary mode was added
- **AF\_XDP** IDS support
- **NETMAP** API 14
- **Conditional PCAP** logging (can massively reduce the captured traffic size)
  
- **HTTP/HTTP2** new keywords for header inspection
- **TLS** client certificate logging and detection
- **Bittorrent** parser
- **EVE** documented and validated with a json schema
- **HTTP/2** support is no longer considered experimental
- **VLAN** support extended from 2 to 3 layers
  
- Initial **libsuricata** support

# What's new in 7.0 - Performance improvements

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- **file.data** MPM split per app protocol
- New lighter **rule profiling** mode
- **SMB** many fixes and optimizations
- **Hash** calculation using Rust crypto library
- **Flow manager** tuning
- Improved observability - many more performance-related **counters**
- Stream buffer, which is used by stream engine, file tracking, and more, is more **memory efficient**

# What's new in 7.0 - Security/Deployment

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- **Linux Landlock** support added
- Use of **setrlimit** to prevent Suricata from creating another process
- **Lock** cargo crates
- Default to **secure settings** for Datasets and Lua
- New **Security Policies**
  - <https://github.com/OISF/suricata/blob/master/SECURITY.md>

# What's new in 7.0 - IPS

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- Exception **Policies** added to better control packet handling in such conditions as memory caps being hit
- **DPDK** support

# What's new in 7.0 - Rules/Detection/Protocols

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- Added **new** rule **keywords** for DHCP, Kerberos, SNMP, TLS, QUIC
  - To list them : ***suricata --list-keywords=all***
- JA3(s) support for **QUIC**
- New (**experimental**) class of keywords through “frames API”: NFS, SMB, DNS, telnet, SSL/TLS
- **Lua scripting**: access to more rule info
- **QUICv1, GQUIC** support added.
  - GQUIC contributed
- **PostgreSQL, VN-Tag, IKEv1, ESP, Telnet** support added
- Active flow and TCP **counters**
- **flow.age** keyword was added
- **Multiple Buffer** Matching



## More Resources

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- Read the **Docs**: <https://docs.suricata.io/en/latest/>
- More Suricata **trainings/webinars**: <https://suricata.io/learn/>
- **Youtube**: <https://www.youtube.com/@OISFSuricata/videos>
- **Forums**: <https://forum.suricata.io/>
- **Awesome Suricata** links: <https://github.com/satta/awesome-suricata>
- Suricon 2024 - annual Suricata conference is happening in Madrid!  
<https://suricon.net/>



**Call for Proposals  
Opening soon!**



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and  
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Discord  
[discord.gg/t3rV2x7MrG](https://discord.gg/t3rV2x7MrG)



# Extra slides

# What's new in 7.0 - Usefulness in Deployment

Conditional pcap - record only flows that e.g. generate alerts/are tagged

- Deduplicated
  - same alert generating 100k times has the same / one pcap
    - Not 100k pcaps
- Full session pcap
- Of any alert event >
  - ***“event\_type”:“alert”***

It is possible to do **conditional** pcap logging by using the **conditional** option in the pcap-log section. By default the variable is set to *all* so all packets are logged. If the variable is set to *alerts* then only the flow with alerts will be logged. If the variable is set to *tag* then only packets tagged by signatures using the *tag* keyword will be logged to the pcap file. Please note that if *alerts* or *tag* is used, then in the case of TCP session, Suricata will use available information from the streaming engine to log data that have triggered the alert.

```
- pcap-log:  
  enabled: yes  
  filename: log.pcap  
  
  # Limit in MB.  
  limit: 32  
  
  mode: sgul # "normal" (default) or sgul.  
  sgul base dir: /nsm_data/  
  conditional: alerts
```

# What's new in 7.0 - Usefulness in Deployment

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Conditional pcap storage savings explained

Example:

- Suricata sniffing **5Gbps traffic**
- Generating 16 million **alerts** & 500 million Suricata **protocol & flow** events
- **7 day** period
- Full packet capture **calculates** at ~369TB of space needed (not in RAID)

Conditional pcap results from an actual deployment:

- **87GB** disk usage of **deduplicated** storage
- ~0.023 % of 369TB

# What's new in 7.0 - Usefulness in Deployment

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- Threaded eve logging
- Improve writelock bottle neck

## 17.1.1.9. Threaded file output

By default, all output is written to the named filename in the outputs section. The `threaded` option enables each output thread to write to individual files. In this case, the `filename` will include a unique identifier.

With `threaded` enabled, the output will be split among many files -- and the aggregate of each file's contents must be treated together.

```
outputs:  
- eve-log:  
  filename: eve.json  
  threaded: on
```

This example will cause each Suricata thread to write to its own "eve.json" file. Filenames are constructed by adding a unique identifier to the filename. For example, `eve.7.json`.

# What's new in 7.0 - Supply chain protection

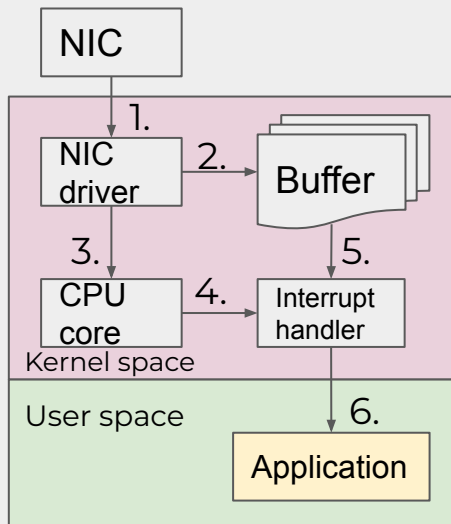
Landlock is a Linux **Security** Module that has been introduced in Linux 5.13. It allows an application to **sandbox itself** by selecting access right to directories using a **deny by default** approach.

```
Landlock :
enabled: yes
directories:
write:
- /var/log/suricata/
- /var/run/
read:
- /usr/
- /etc/
- /etc/suricata/
```

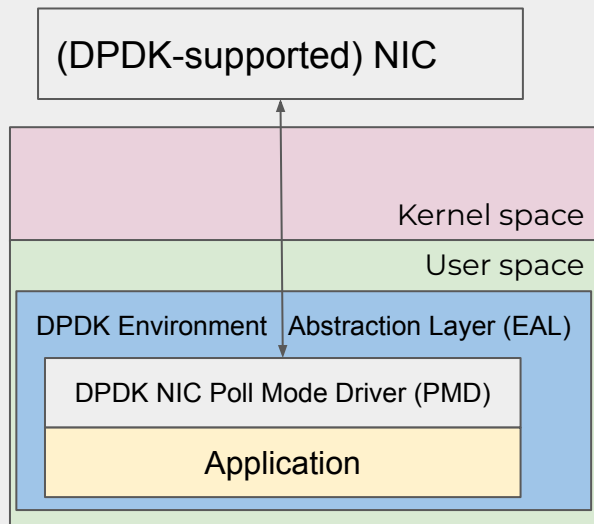
# What's new in 7.0 - Packet capture modules

- Existing AF\_PACKET eBPF/XDP implementation was extended with:
  - DPDK,
  - AF\_XDP (purely community contribution!).
- High-performance zero-copy capture modules **accelerate Suricata by ~15%**

THE USUAL WAY



THE DPDK WAY





# What's new in 7.0 - Usefulness in detection

## Multi buffer matching

For matching multiple headers in e.g. **HTTP2** traffic a rule using the new functionality would look like:

```
alert http2 any any -> any any (msg:"HTTP2 Multiple Header Buffer Example";  
flow:established,to_server; http.request_header; content:"method|3a 20|GET";  
http.request_header; content:"authority|3a 20|example.com"; classtype:misc-activity; sid:1;  
rev:1;)
```

With HTTP2 there are **multiple** headers seen in the **same** flow record. We now have a way to write a rule in a more efficient way using the multiple buffer capability.

MBM is supported in: HTTP(2), DNS, file, TLS, IKE, KRB, MQTT, QUIC

Hint: **suricata --list-keywords=all**

# What's new in 7.0 - New keywords

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(Some) new rule keywords are:

- flow.age
- tls.random\_time
- tls.random\_bytes
- tls.random
- tls.cert\_chain\_len
- dhcp.leasetime
- dhcp.rebinding\_time
- dhcp.renewal\_time
- quic.version
- quic.sni
- quic.ua
- quic.cyu.hash
- quic.cyu.string
- snmp.usm
- krb5.ticket\_encryption

Hint: ***suricata --list-keywords=all***