



Adding new DNSSEC algorithms: reality check

Ólafur Guðmundsson olafur at CloudFlare dot com

Disclaimer: we have done this

- First major DNSSEC user of ECDSA P256
- Working on getting others to support it
- ICANN Registration model is defective



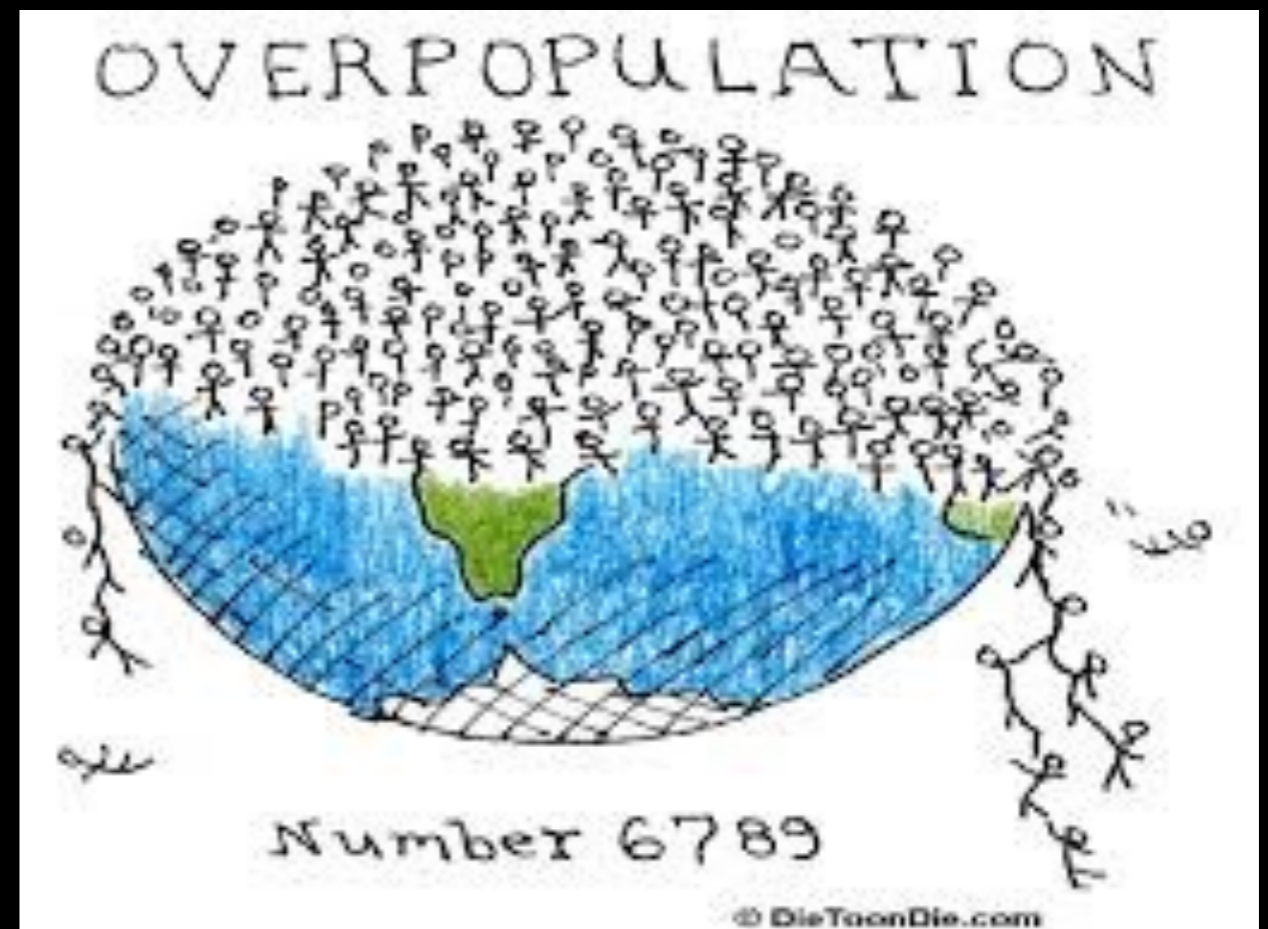
Simple DNS world view

- DNS consists of
 - Authoritative servers: like KNOT, NSD, BIND.....
 - Resolvers: like BIND, Unbound,
 - Clients: Applications and stub resolvers



Zone files are last century

- Provision systems include more than [emacs/vi/SubLime/](#)
...
- Alternatives
 - scripts
 - UI/API to DB
 - Dynamic update
 - EPP
 - Calculated answers



Non DNS factors

- DSP says what is allowed in DS
- Software is not maintained
- HSM does not support
- Management does not provide resources
- No benefit to support new stuff
- Not our problem



Crypto timeline

- Algorithm proposed: year 0
- Algorithm gains traction: year 7+
- Algorithm gets standardized by IETF: year 10+
- Algorithm included in libraries: year 2-12
- DNSSEC specification: after IETF standard
- Release cycles for DNS software: 2+ years
- Release cycle for: DNS stuff ==> what release cycle?

Think hard before adding

- Getting everyone's attention is hard
- Motivating for limited benefit change is **HARDER**
- Stop assuming that people know what they are doing
- Ignore naysayers



Change is possible



- Only once in a while
- Assume it will take time
- Show benefits upfront
- Educate people that there will be “regular” changes

TODO's



- No vanity algorithms
- Educate people about deployment costs of algorithms
- Retire old ones
- Better tools to measure what is validated