



# The NSF Bro Center of Expertise

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<http://www.icir.org/robin>



# The Bro Network Monitor

Open Source  
BSD License

Analyses

Intrusion  
Detection

Vulnerabilit.  
Mgmt

File Analysis

Traffic  
Measure-  
ment

Traffic  
Control

Compliance  
Monitoring

Platform

Programming Language

Standard Library

Packet Processing

Tap

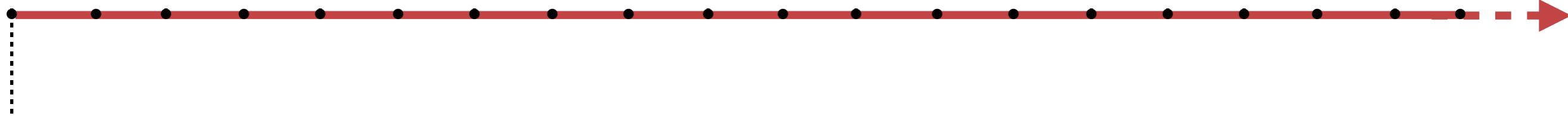
Network



# Bro History

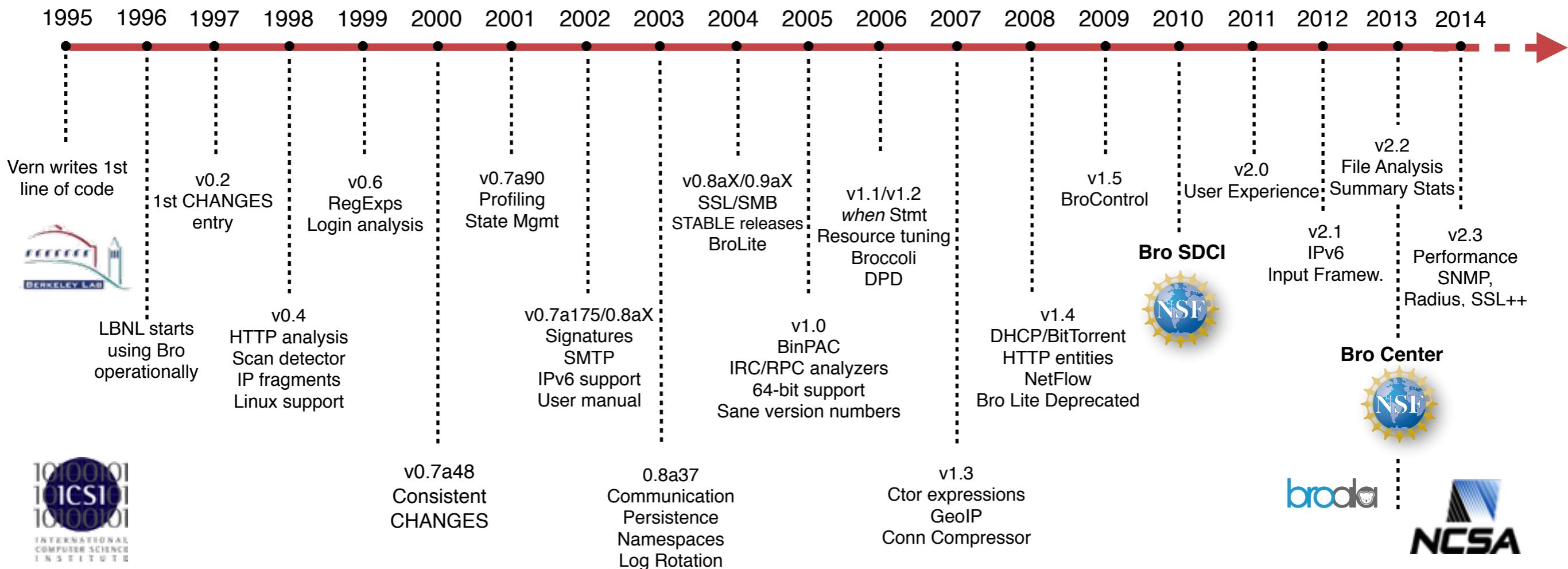


1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

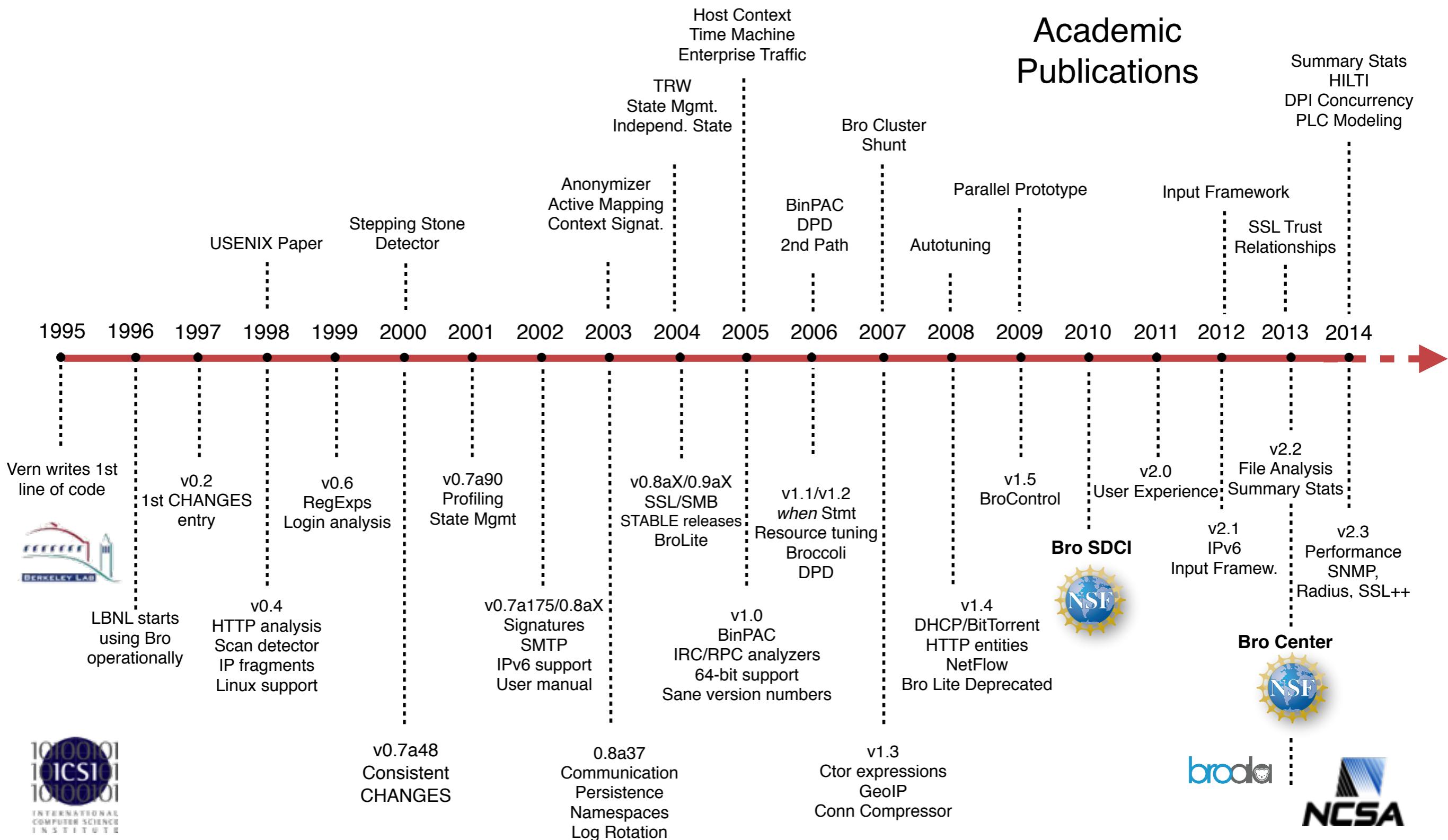




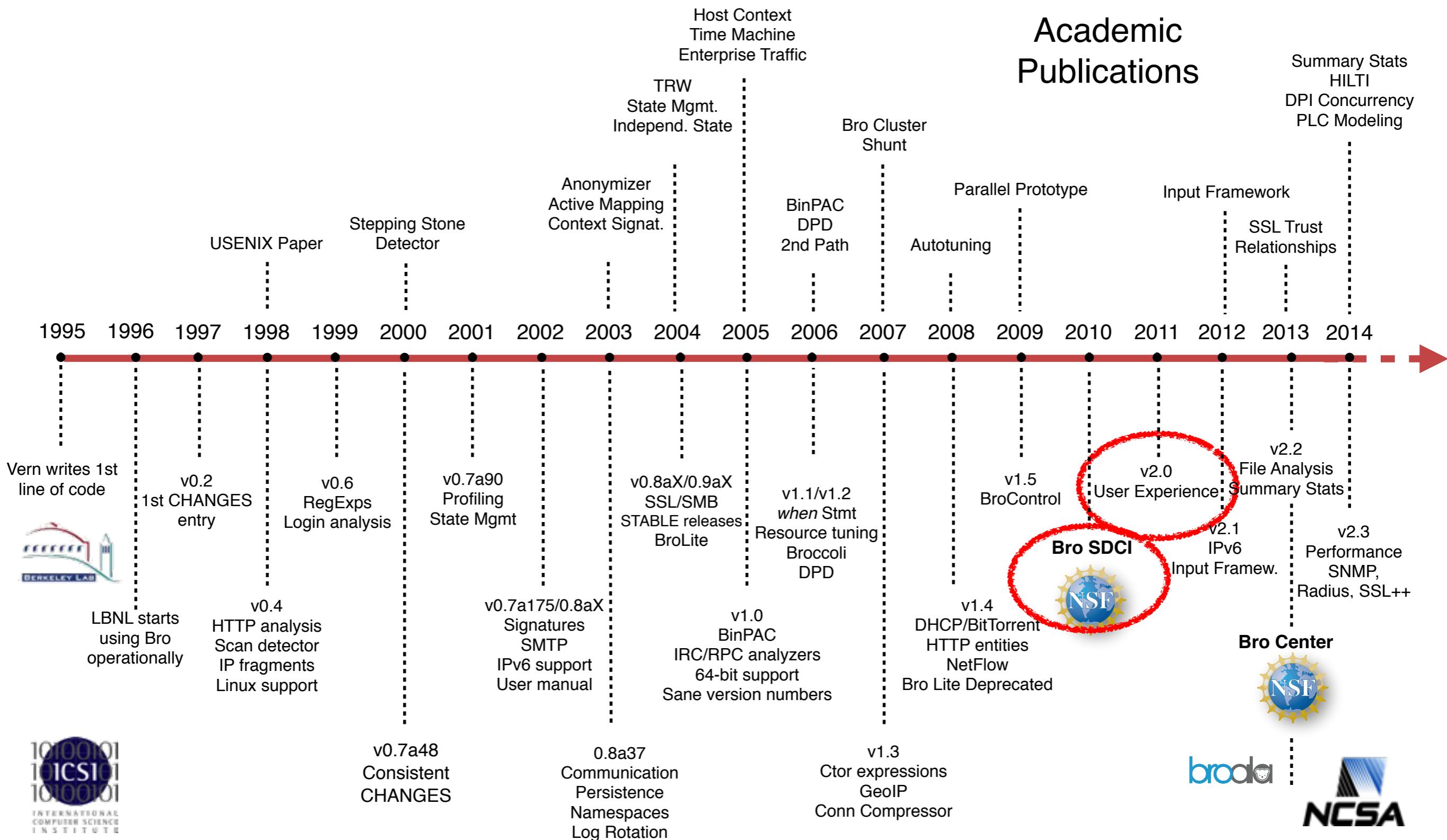
# Bro History



# Bro History



# Bro History



# Deployments

## Installations across the US

- Universities
- Research Labs
- Supercomputer Centers
- Government Organizations
- Fortune 50 Enterprises

## Examples

- Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
- National Center for Supercomputing Applications
- Indiana University
- Carnegie Mellon

National Center for Atmospheric Research

*... and many more sites I can't talk about.*

## Fully integrated into Security Onion

Popular security-oriented Linux distribution



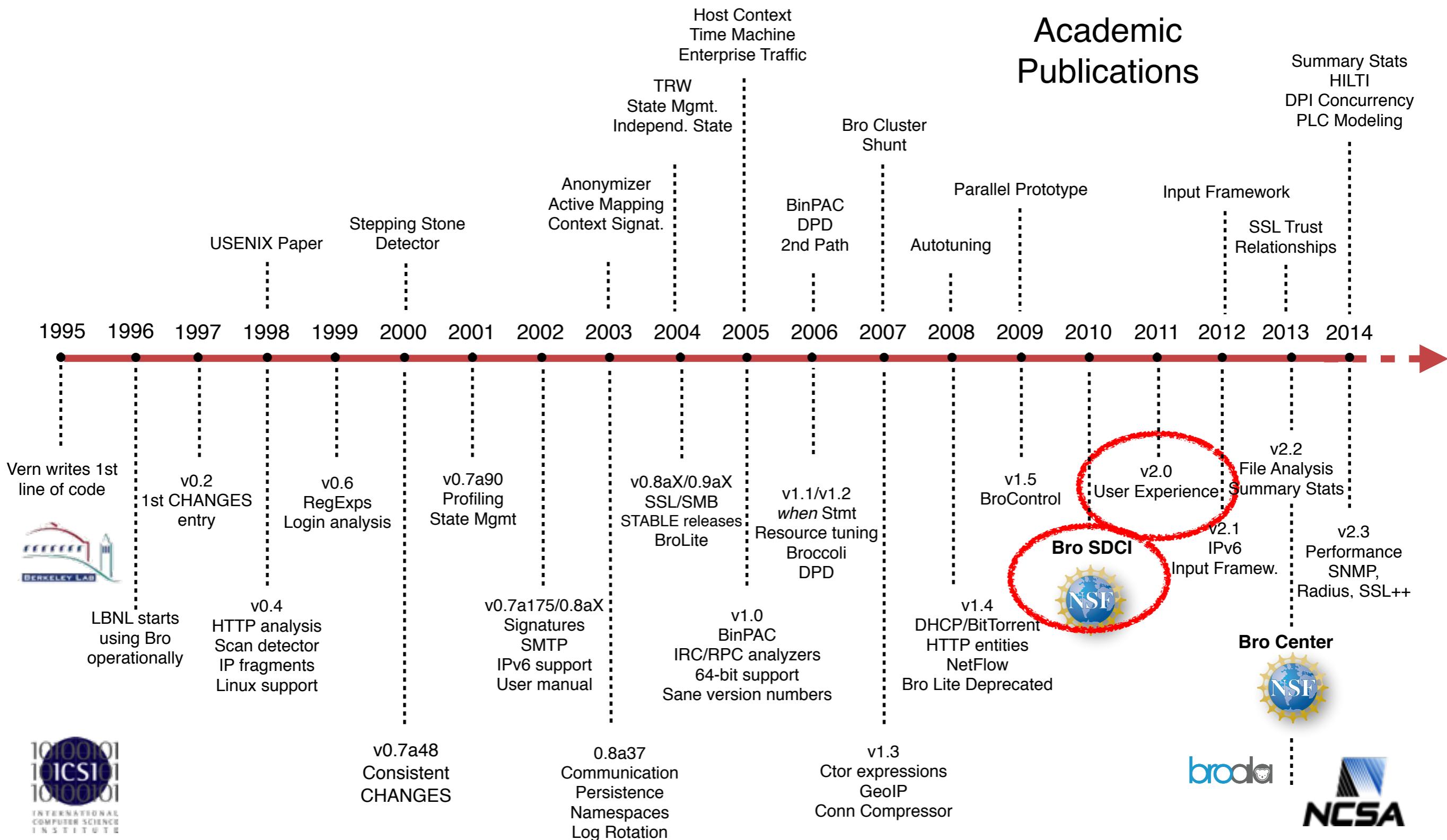
BroCon 2014, Urbana, IL

## Community

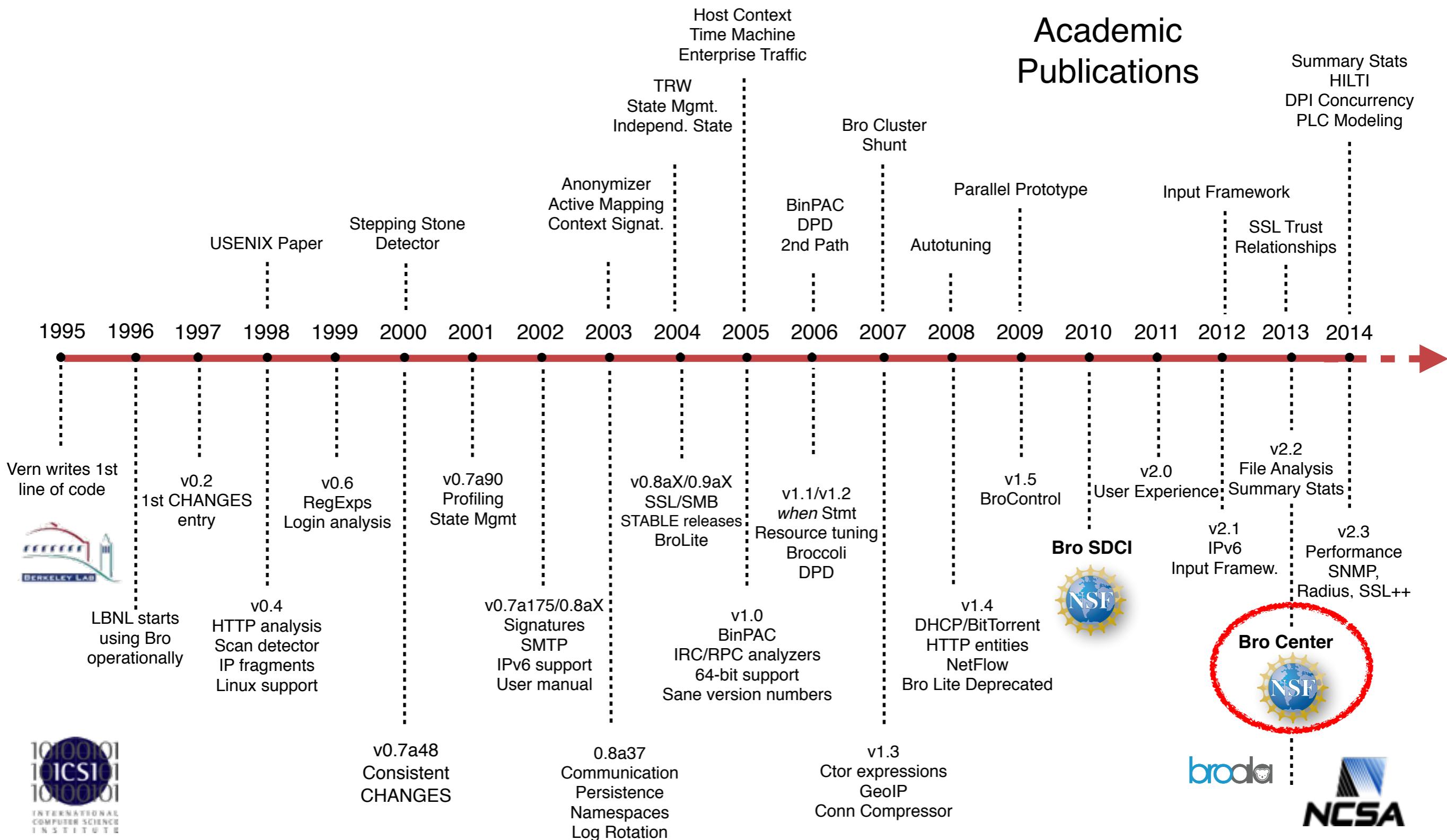
- 50/90/150 attendees at BroCon '12/'13/'14
- 60 organizations at BroCon '14
- 2,500 Twitter followers
- 800 mailing list subscribers
- 70 users average on IRC channel
- 10,000 downloads / version
- from 150 countries
- > 30,000 Onion downloads ('12)



# Bro History



# Bro History



# The NSF Bro Center of Expertise

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Promote Bro as a comprehensive, low-cost security capability for the NSF community.



<http://nsf.bro.org>

<mailto:nsf@bro.org>



# The NSF Bro Center of Expertise

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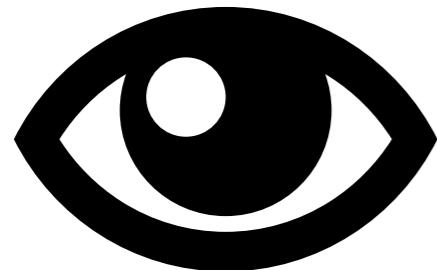
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# The NSF Bro Center of Expertise

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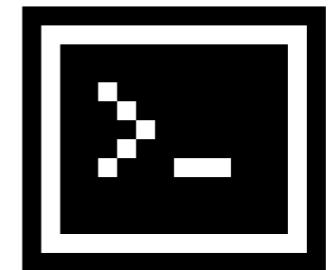
Promote Bro as a comprehensive, low-cost security capability for the NSF community.



Individual  
Advice



Training Material,  
Guidelines,  
Best Practices



Development,  
Maintenance



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# Center Team

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Located at *International Computer Science Institute*, Berkeley, CA; and  
the *National Center for Supercomputing Applications*, Urbana-Champaign, IL.



# Events

## BroCon 2014.

2.5 days, 150 attendees, 4 corporate sponsors.  
Presentations, training, demos.

## Bro Workshops.

NSF Cybersecurity Summits '13 & '14.  
DOE NSM Meeting, June '14.



## In Planing.

Advanced Workshop at ICSI.  
BroCon '15 (East coast, tentatively).  
Co-organize BoFs/demos at Internet2 & Supercomputing.

# Current Engagements & Collaborations

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## Individual Advice.

Universities, NSF MREFs, K-12 schools.

## Collaborations.

CTSC      Outreach & training, security reviews.

ESnet      SDN, Science DMZ security.

RIT      Teaching Community.

# Teaching Bro - Material

## Video Tutorials



### [The More You Bro: Basics of BroControl](#)

1 month ago • 499 views

This video is a summary of BroControl's most common and useful commands. Full command reference documentation can be found here:...

The Basics of BroControl

4:12



### [The More You Bro: Setting up a Bro Cluster](#)

2 months ago • 341 views

This video reviews some basic instructions for installing Bro as a cluster configuration. Find more documentation here: <http://bro.org/sphinx-git/configuration/index.html>...

Setting up a Bro Cluster

5:54



### [The More You Bro: Log Mining Efficiency](#)

3 months ago • 445 views

This video goes into more detail about log mining, this time focusing on efficiency. You can find the cf tool we used in the video here:...

Log Mining Efficiency

6:04

<http://www.youtube.com/user/BroPlatform>

# Teaching Bro - Material

## Video Tutorials

The Basics of BroControl **4:12**

The More You Bro: Basics of BroControl  
1 month ago • 499 views  
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Setting up a Bro Cluster **5:54**

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This video reviews some basic instructions for installing Bro. For more documentation see: [http://bro.org/sphinx-git/configure.html](#)

Log Mining Efficiency **6:04**

The More You Bro: Log Mining Efficiency  
3 months ago • 445 views  
This video goes into more detail about log mining, this time covering the cf tool we used in the video here: [http://bro.org/sphinx-git/tools.html#cf](#)

<http://www.youtube.com/user/BroProject>

## Exercises

**B) Check for weak ciphers**  
Another step in making your network more secure is to identify servers that are using certificates with unsafe key lengths.

**Exercise 2**  
**Level beginner**  
Bro ships with a policy script that can alert when encountering weak keys: `policy/protocols/ssl/weak-keys.bro`. Load the script, review the script documentation for `weak keys` and set it to alert when encountering certificates with a `key_length < 2048` bits on any host. Try your script using `exercise_traffic.pcap`.

**C) Certificate expiry**  
Another SSL pitfall to watch are expiring certificates in their network. Even big sites are sometimes bitten by one of their host certificates expiring.

**Exercise 3**  
**Level beginner**  
Bro ships with a policy script that can alert when encountering an SSL certificate that is close to expiring: `policy/protocols/ssl/expiring-certs.bro`. Load the script, review the script documentation for `expiring certs` and set it to alert when encountering a certificate expiring within the next 90 days on any host. Try your script using `exercise_traffic.pcap`.

**D) Hostnames**  
As previously stated, modern clients send the Server Name Indication (SNI) extension, which contains the hostname of the server they want to connect to. As part of a survey,

# Teaching Bro - Infrastructure

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live.bro.org

SSH into a virtual Bro environment.



# Teaching Bro - Infrastructure

live.bro.org      SSH into a virtual Bro environment.

```
Welcome to Bro Live!
=====
   / ( 0 ) \
   \ <====// /
=====

A place to try out Bro.

Are you a new or existing user? [new/existing]: new

A temporary account will be created so that you can resume your session. Account is valid for the length of the event.

Choose a username [a-zA-Z0-9]: happyuser
Your username is happyuser
Choose a password:
Verify your password:
Your account will expire on Mon 25 Aug 2014 07:33:09 PM UTC

Enjoy yourself!
Training materials are located in /exercises.
e.g. $ bro -r /exercises/beginner/http.pcap

demo@bro:~$ 
```

# Teaching Bro - Infrastructure

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try.bro.org

A web-based Bro sandbox.



# Teaching Bro - Infrastructure

try.bro.org A web-based Bro sandbox.

The screenshot shows the 'Input Files' section of the try.bro.org website. It features a code editor with the following Bro script:

```
1 event bro_init() {  
2     print "Hello, NSF!"  
3 }
```

Below the code editor are input fields for 'Load example' (set to 'hello'), 'Use example PCAP' (dropdown menu), 'Bro Version' (set to '2.3'), and a 'Run' button. To the right, there is a 'Or upload a PCAP' section with a 'Choose File' button and a message 'no file selected'. The 'Stdout' section at the bottom displays the output: 'Hello, NSF!'. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Downloads, Documentation, Support, Community, Development, Research, Contact, Site Map, and a logo featuring a stylized eye with the text 'BRO NETWORK SECURITY MONITOR'.

# The Bro Teaching Community

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People are learning Bro—and they  
are using Bro to learn.

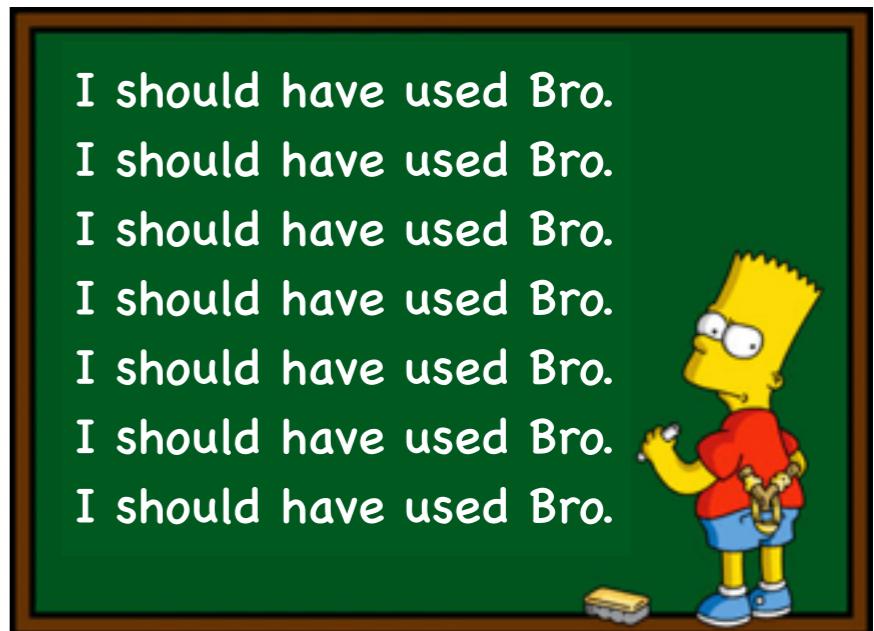
I should have used Bro.  
I should have used Bro.



# The Bro Teaching Community

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**Kick-start community of educators teaching (with) Bro.**  
Exchange experiences, methods, & material.

**We provide logistics and technical advice.**  
Weekly calls, mailing list, repository with seed material, access to team

**Our initial solicitation met broad interest.**  
Universities & colleges, corporate IT, government organizations.

The Center is promoting Bro as a comprehensive, low-cost security capability for the NSF community.

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**Bro Center of Expertise**

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**Twitter**

@Bro\_IDS

**Facebook**

TheBroPlatform

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TheBroPlatform

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