Configuring Bro

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const a_setting = T &redef;
redef a_setting = F;
Change settings only at startup

But this is so painful for some settings!
Previous Solution

- **broctl update**
  - Works by sending updated redef-able consts through communication.
  - Flaky!
  - Not well supported and lots of edge cases
  - (secret, hidden feature: you can update code at runtime in very narrow cases, but that “feature” is going away)
New Solution

- Config framework!
  - base/frameworks/config
This Came From New Capabilities!

- **Now**: Input framework
- **Future**: Broker key-value store
Changes Required

- What was `const` must now change to `global`.

```cpp
-     const local_nets: set[subnet] &redef;
+     global local_nets: set[subnet];
```

- You use the config framework by handling an event that tells you a key has been updated.

```cpp
1  event Config::key_update(key: string)
2  {
3      if ( key == "bro.site.local_nets" )
4          Site::local_nets = Config::get_subnets("bro.site.local_nets");
5  }
```
What is Config::get_subnets???

• Bro’s type system limits data conversion so we have to be careful how we do it.

• There are a whole set of functions which convert data from the config store into the correct Bro type.

• API is not set in stone yet. Planned for inclusion into 2.5
There will still be edge cases!

- Some things are only settable at start up time and can’t be modified.
- Some logging framework settings are only available at start up.
- Code cannot be updated at runtime.
- Scripts and signatures cannot be loaded or unloaded at runtime.
What do we gain?

- Retain flow state!
- Zero downtime for config changes!
- Migration of configuration state out of Bro scripts.
Demo
Questions?