

Project Rat-Trap: User Guide

Getting started

To start the client, simply execute the .jar file. There is no need to install or adding components. You should see now the connection manager. It looks like this:

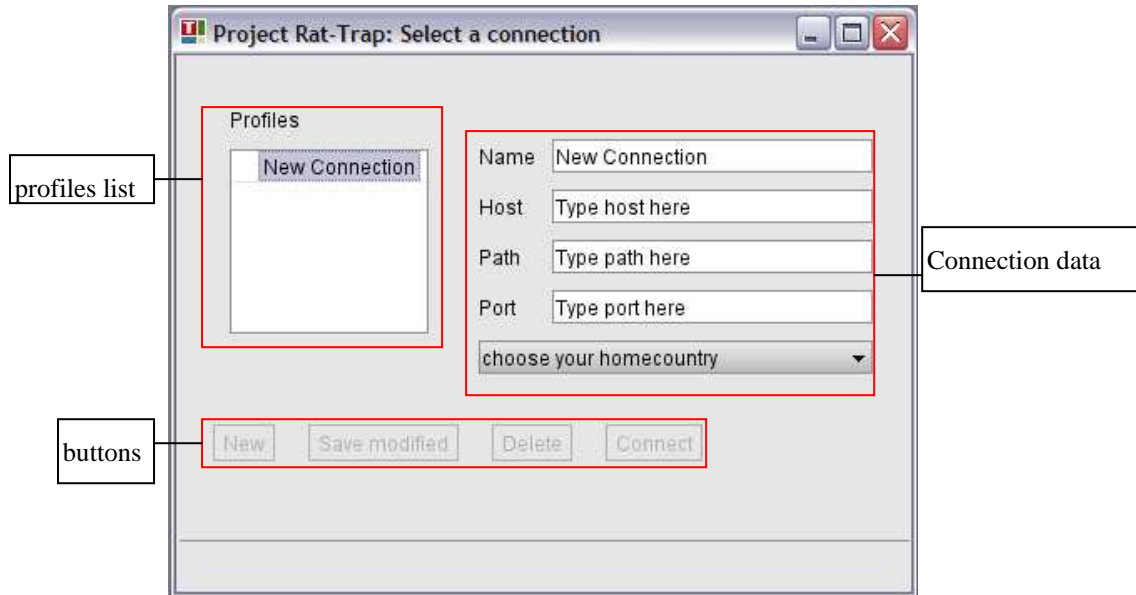


Figure 1: Connection window

Creating a connection

To create a connection, simply click on “New Connection” in the “Profiles” list on the left and fill the following fields:

- Name: The name of the connection.
- Host: IP address or URL of your server.
- Path: The path where the servlet is stored on the server.
- Port: The port, over which client and server communicate
- Home country: Your country. Default is Zweibrücken, Germany.

While filling the fields, the “New” button becomes enabled. When finished, press the “New” button to create the new connection.

Modifying a connection

If you want to modify a connection, select it in the profiles list and change the connection data fields. Once you change something, the “Save modified” button becomes enabled and you can store the modified connection.

Connecting to the server

To connect to the server, choose a connection in the profiles list and double-click or press connect. Connecting is only possible with your own connections, not with the default “New Connection”. Once the connection is established, the main window will open.

The main window

When connected correctly, the main window opens as shown below:

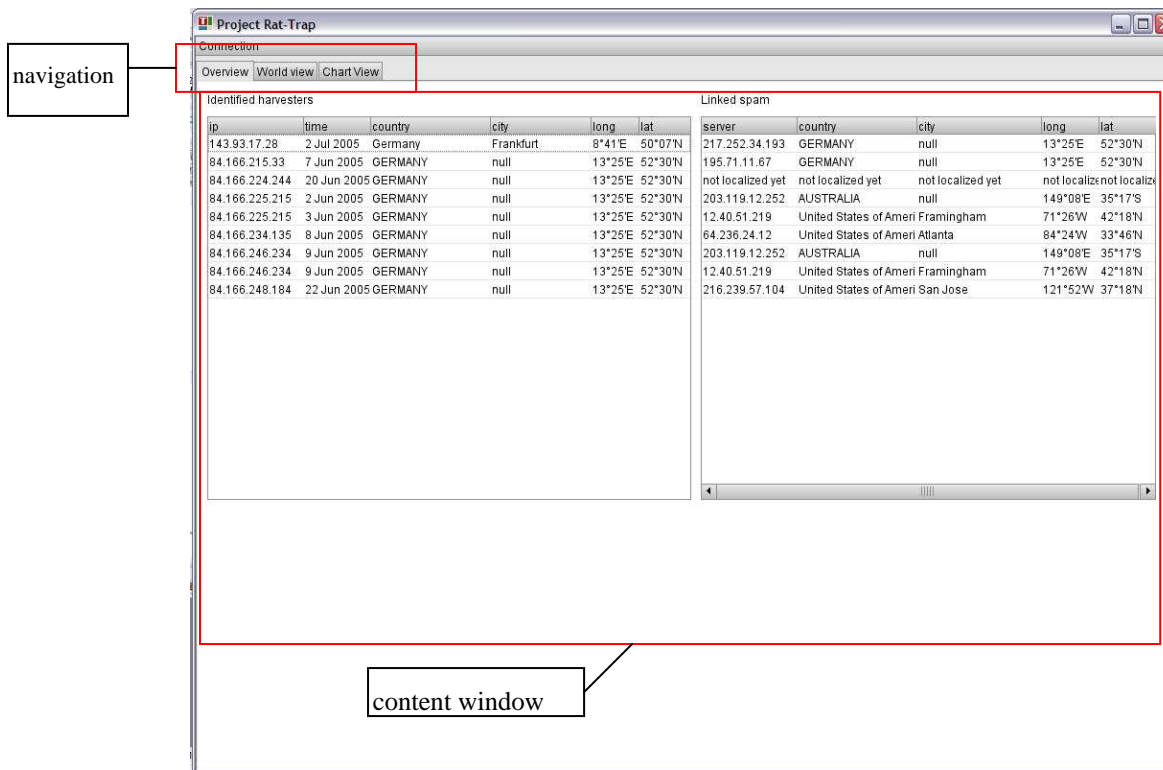


Figure 2: Main window

The client is able to show the following categories in the content window:

Linked connections – Overview

The tables show all linked connections between harvesters and spammers like in figure 2. Linked connections are pairs of harvesters and spammers, where a spammer has used the information of a harvester. This connection is displayed by showing the harvester on the left and the spammer on the right.

World view

This view visualizes the connections shown in the overview table. There are three visualization modes, which can be selected with the content navigation (s. figure 3):

1. Tracked spammers: This visualization mode shows the tracked and linked spammers. The red dots show the spammer's origin, and are connected by curves to the point, you determined, when creating your connection. One curve means one connection, many connections merge to a thicker curve.
2. Tracked harvesters: This visualization mode shows tracked and linked harvesters. The visualizations work the same way like described in 1) but harvesters are marked with green dots and curves.
3. Links between harvesters and spammers: This mode shows the origins of spammers and harvesters. Curves mark connections between the groups. A curve symbolizes one connection like shown in the overview window. The more connections in the same places appear, the more curves merge, which is shown by thicker curve lines.

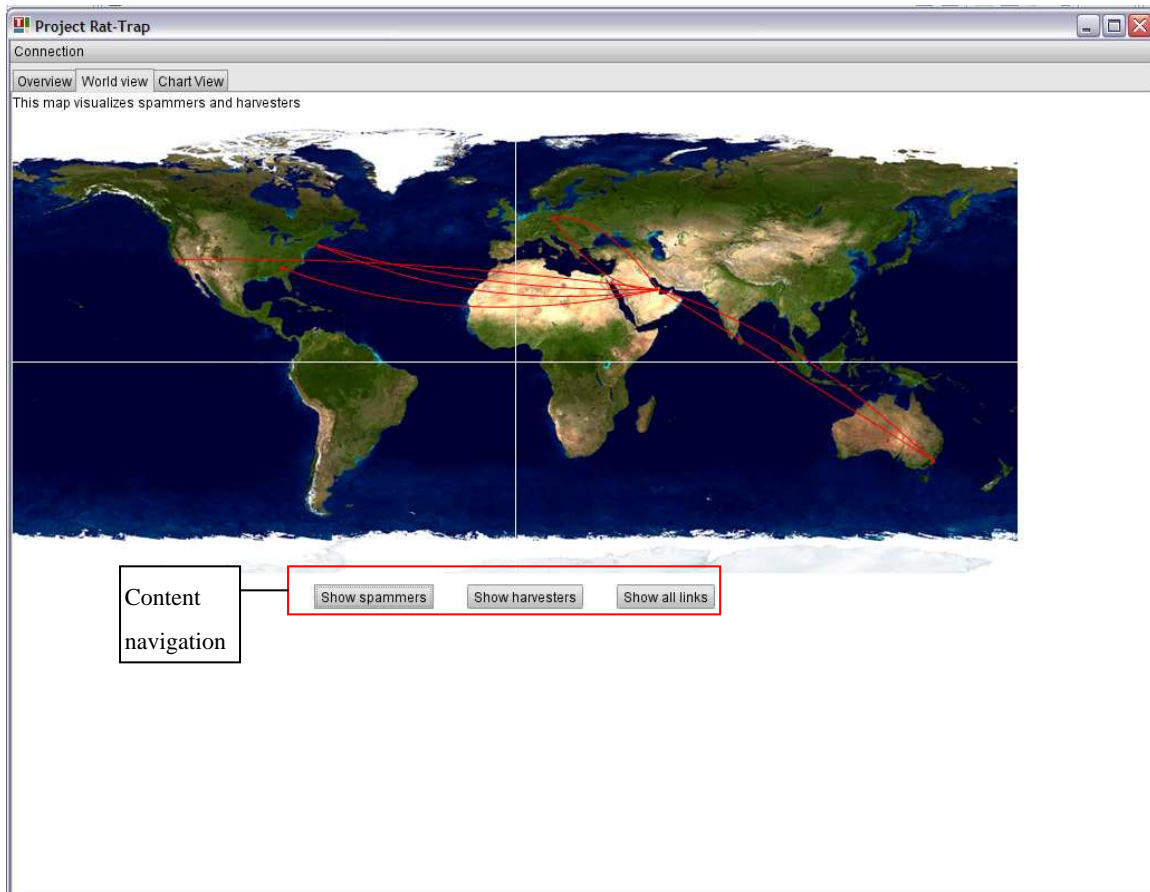


Figure 3: World view

Chart view

This view shows details of the linked spammers and harvesters, using pie chart diagrams. There are four kinds of charts, which can be selected with the content navigation (s. figure 4):

1. Origin of spam: This chart shows the countries, where spam originates.
2. Origin of harvesters: This chart shows the countries, where the harvesters come from.
3. Harvester intelligence: This chart shows the harvesters and their intelligence. A higher intelligence means that the harvester can decipher more notations of e-mail addresses.
4. User agents: This chart shows the user agents, used by the harvesters.

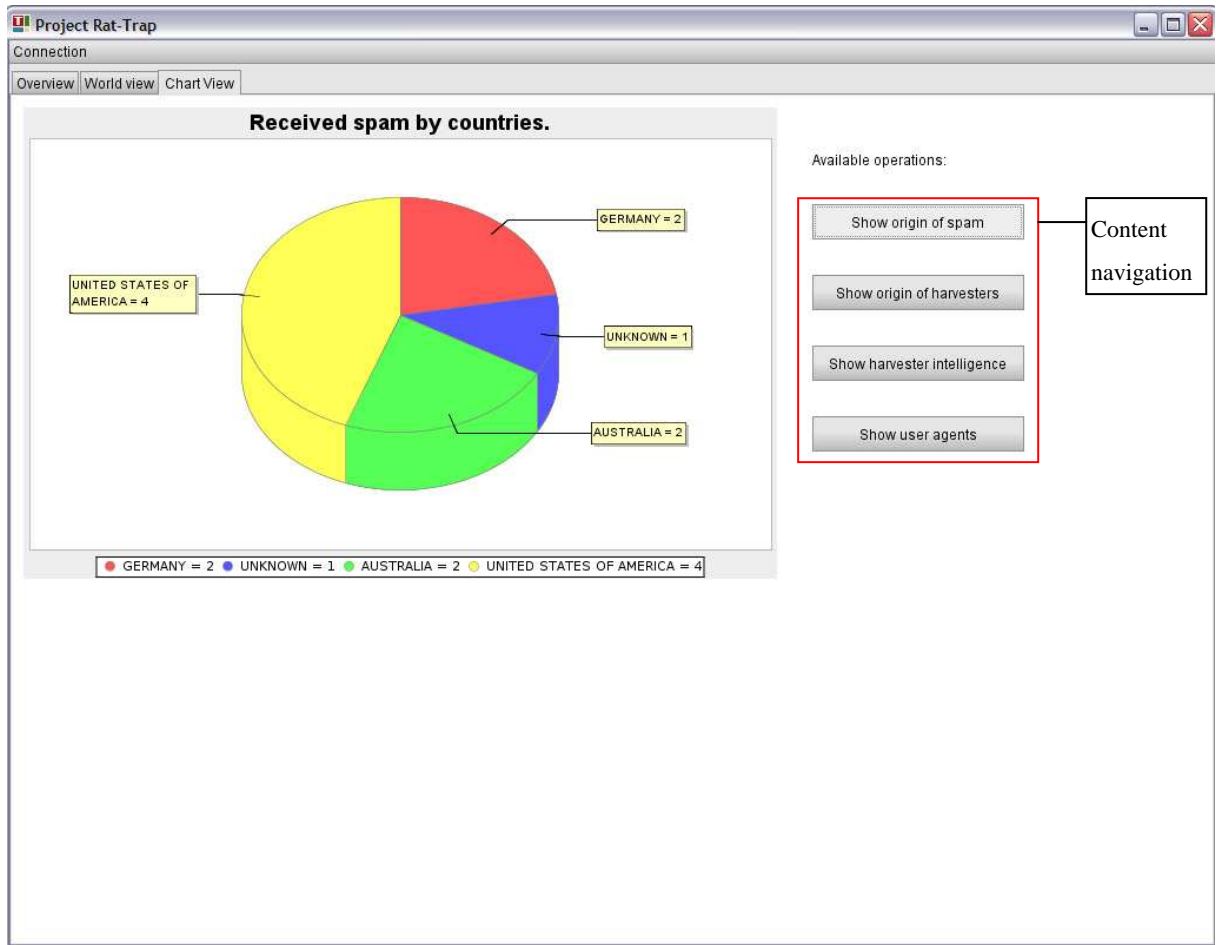


Figure 4: Chart view