



# DDoS Tutorial

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NANOG 65

# Introduction and overview



# Introduction

- Who am I?
- What is the target audience of this tutorial?
- Let's make it interactive!

# Overview

- Discuss what DDoS is, general concepts, adversaries, etc.
- What is currently fashionable?
  - DDoS, NTP, SSDP
  - SYN Flood (Prince quote here)
- Go through a networking technology overview, in particular the OSI layers, sockets and their states
- Look at popular attack types at the different layers
- Discuss reflection and amplification
- Challenges
- Mitigations

What is DoS/DDoS?



## What is Denial of Service?

- Resource exhaustion... which leads to lack of availability
- Consider:
  - How is it different from CNN pointing to somebody's web site?
  - How is that different from company's primary Internet connection going down?

## What is Denial of Service?

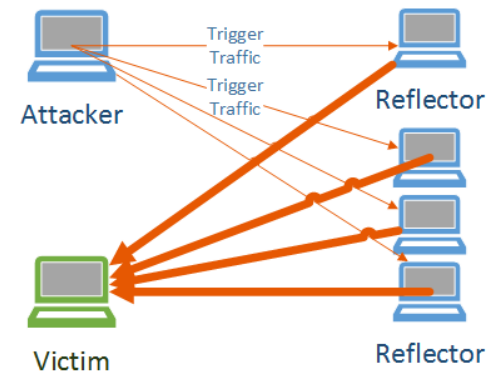
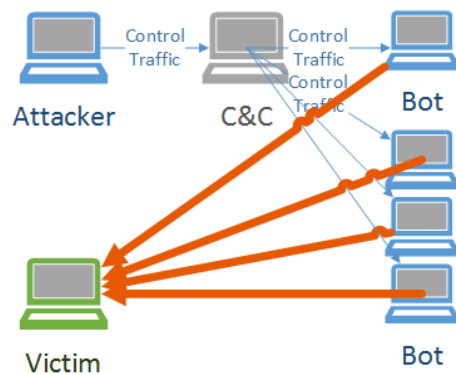
- From security point of view?
  - Decreased availability
- From operations point of view?
  - An outage
- From business point of view?
  - Financial losses

## DDoS is an Outage!

- Well, as service providers, we all know how to deal with outages

## DoS vs. DDoS?

- One system is sending the traffic vs many systems are sending the traffic
- In the past it usually meant difference in volume
  - Over the past 3 years, due to reflective attacks, this has been changing rapidly





The problem?



## Let's look at attack bandwidth

- Bandwidth in 2010 – little over 100 Gbps?
- 2013 – over 300 Gbps
- 2014 – over 400 GBps

Source: Arbor Networks Yearly Report

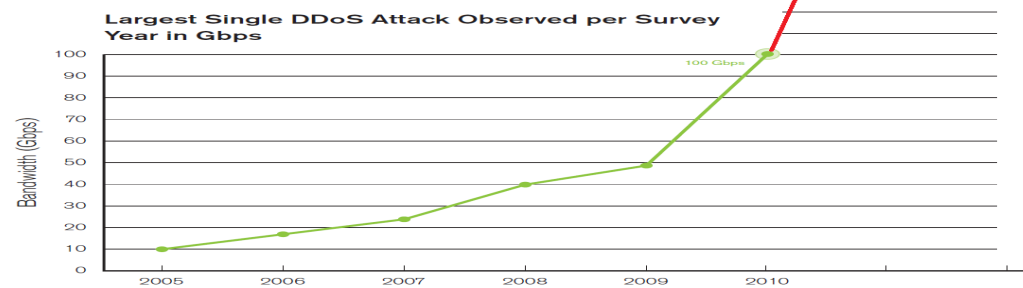


Figure 1  
Source: Arbor Networks, Inc.

## Contributing factors

- Embedded devices (mostly home routers)
- Available reflectors (DNS, NTP, SSDP)  
...with ability to amplify
- Outdated Content Management Systems (CMSes)

Who is the adversary?



## Adversary

- Wide range of attackers
  - Gamers – on the rise!!! ☺
  - Professional DDoS operators and booters/stressors
  - Some of the attacks have been attributed to nation states
  - Hacktivists – not recently

...and more

## Motivation

- Wide range of motivating factors as well
  - Financial gain
    - extortion (DD4BC)
    - taking the competition offline during high-gain events
  - Political statement
  - Divert attention (seen in cases with data exfiltration)
  - Immature behavior

## Skill level

- Wide range of skills
  - Depending on the role in the underground community
  - Mostly segmented between operators and tool-smiths
  - Tool-smiths are not that sophisticated (at this point) and there is a large reuse of code and services
  - This leads to clear signatures for some of the tools
- Increasing complexity
  - DirtJumper
  - xnote.1
  - XOR Botnet

What is new(-ish)?





## What is new?

- Booters/Stressors
- Embedded home and SOHO devices
- Content management systems – in the past

## Booters/Stressors

- Inexpensive
- Tools are sold for cheap on the black market (forums)
- Range 5-10 Gbps and more
- Usually short duration
- Popular among gamers

## Booters/Stressors

- What are the booter services?
- A picture is worth a thousand words:
  - Think about the audience they are trying to attract
- Google: “Gwapo’s Professional DDOS”



Gwapo's Professional DDOS Service.mp4



Gwapo's Professional DDOS Service ( Take down websites for long term ).mp4



Gwapo's Professional.mp4

## Home routers

- Embedded home and SOHO devices
  - Krebs on security:  
<http://krebsonsecurity.com/2015/01/lizard-stresser-runs-on-hacked-home-routers/>
- XBOX and Sony attacks over Christmas
  - Default username password
  - Open DNS recursive resolvers
  - NetUSB bug (from last week)
- Is that intentional? – “follow the money”

# Technology and Terminology Overview



## Technology Overview

- The purpose of this section is to level set
- Topics we'll cover
  - OSI and Internet models
  - TCP and sockets
  - Look at the operation of tools like netstat, netcat, tcpdump and wireshark
  - DNS operation and terminology
  - NTP, SNMP, SSDP operation
  - Some terminology and metrics
- Let me know if the pace is too slow or too fast

# Attack types and terminology



## Attack classification classifications (pun intended) ;)

- By volume
  - Volumetric
  - Logic/Application
- Symmetry
  - Asymmetric
  - Symmetric
- Direction
  - Direct
  - Reflected
- Source
  - Single source
  - Distributed
- State change
  - Permanent
  - Recoverable
- Based on network layer



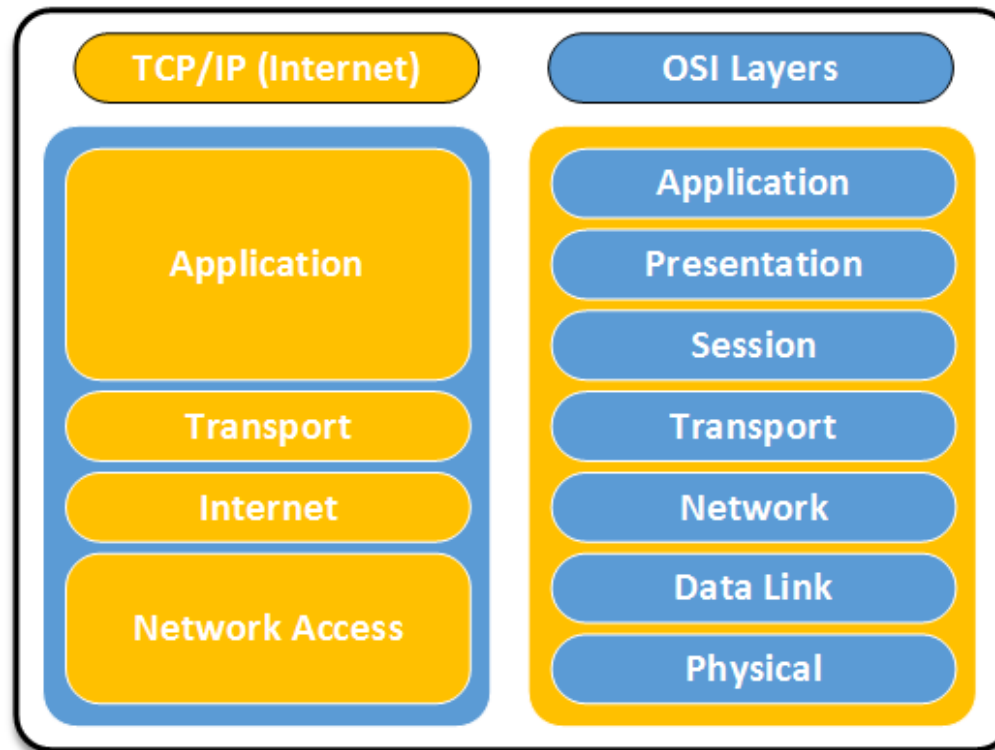
## Metrics

- Bandwidth (Kbps, Gbps)
- PPS
- QPS
- Storage
- CPU
- Application specific – usually latency

Attack surface

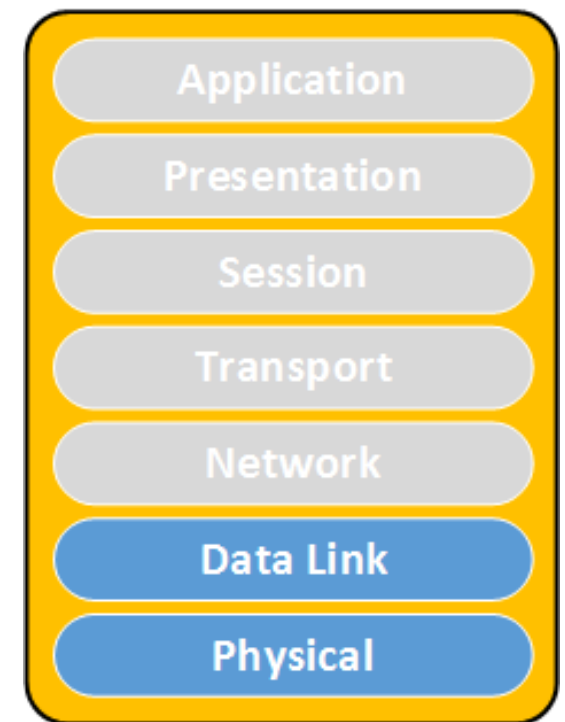


## Network Layers – OSI vs Internet Model



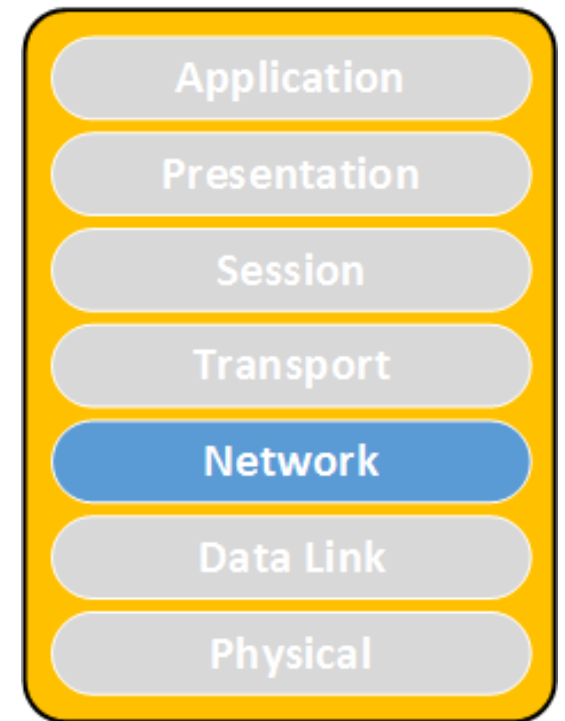
## Physical and Data-link Layers

- Cut cables
- Jamming
- Power surge
- EMP
  
- MAC Spoofing
- MAC flood



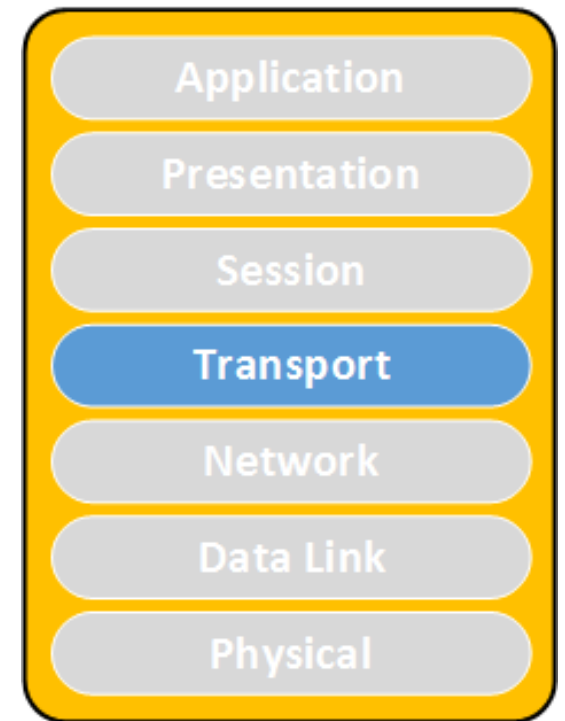
## Network Layer

- Floods (ICMP)
- Teardrop  
(overlapping IP segments)



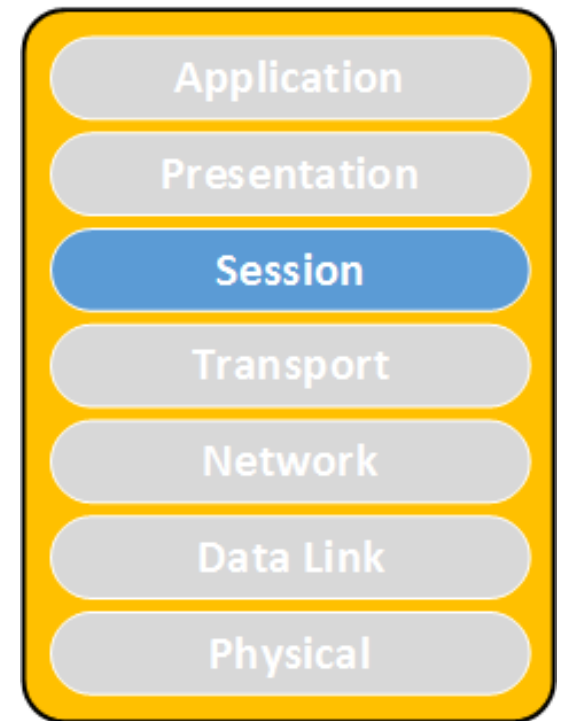
## Transport Layer

- SYN Flood
- RST Flood
- FIN Flood
- You name it...
  
- Window size 0  
(looks like Slowloris)
- Connect attack
- LAND (same IP as src/dst)



## Session Layer

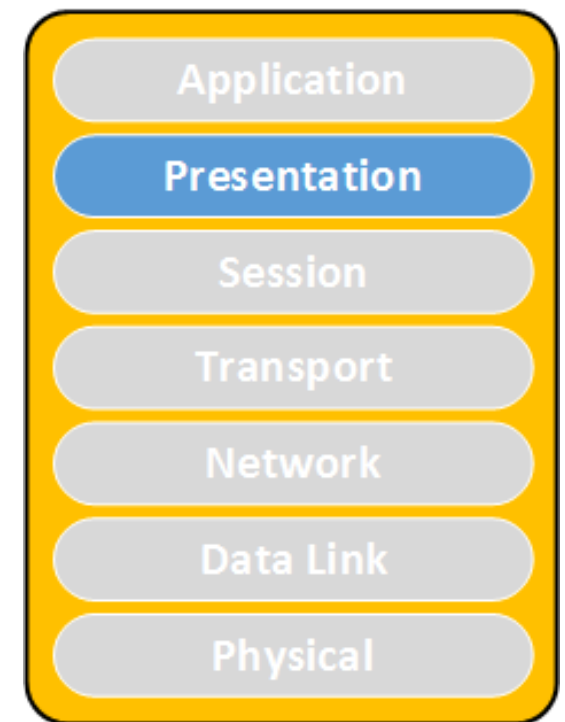
- Slowloris
- Sending data to a port with no NL in it (long headers, long request lines)
- Send data to the server with no CR



## Presentation Layer

- Expensive queries (repeated many times)
- XML Attacks  

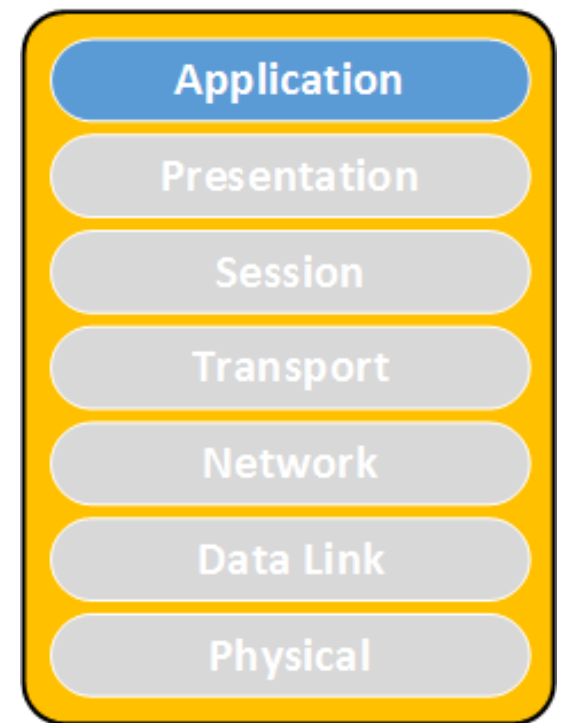
```
<!DOCTYPE lolz  
[  
  <!ENTITY lol1 "&lol2;">  
  <!ENTITY lol2 "&lol1;">  
]>  
<lolz>&lol1;</lolz>
```



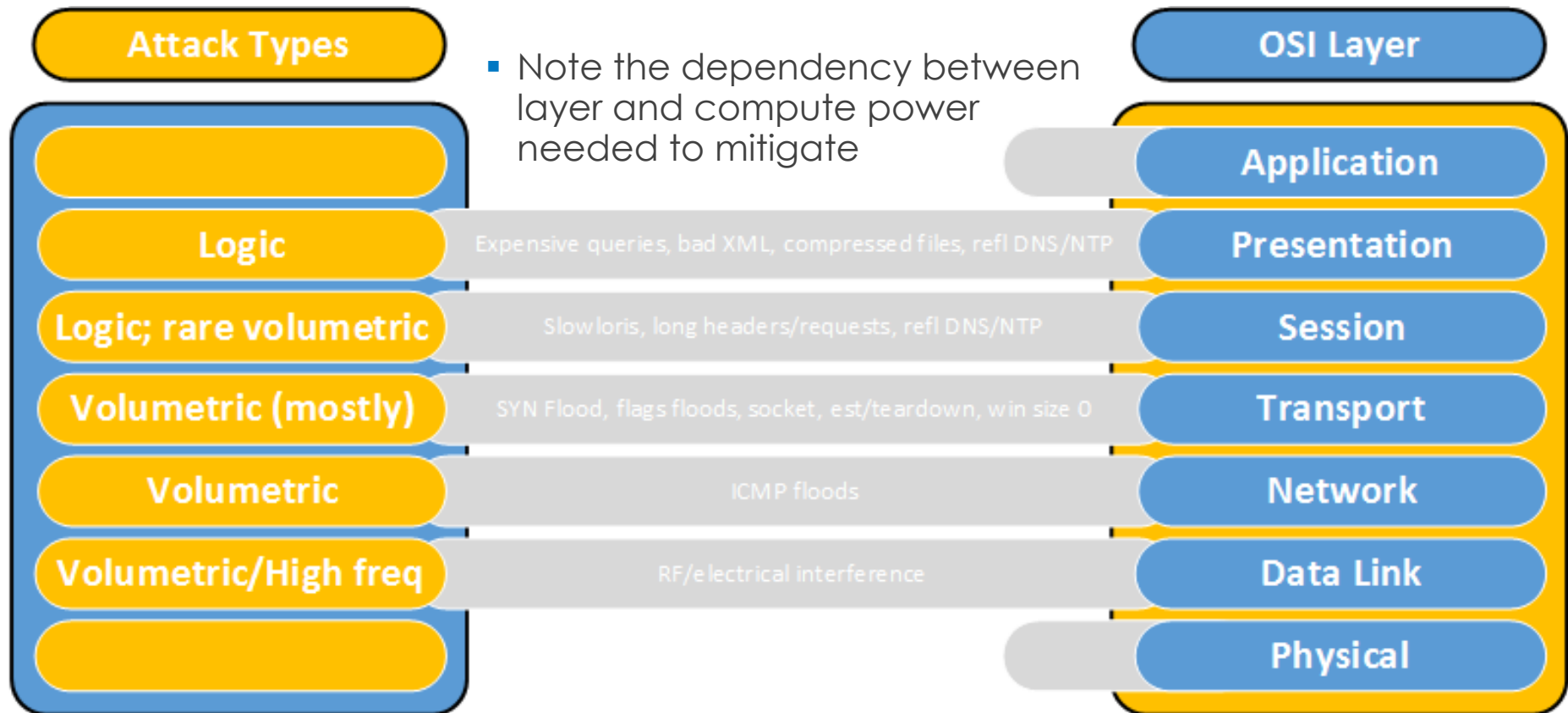


# Application Layer

- SPAM?
- DNS queries
- Black fax



## Attack summary by layer



# Attack types and terminology



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# Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)

## Sockets

- Socket is an abstraction allowing an application to bind to a transport layer address (aka network port)
- It is described by a state machine
- Throughout its life time it goes through a number of states

## Socket States

- Here are some of the socket states of importance:
  - LISTEN – waiting for a connection request
  - SYN\_RECV – received request still negotiating
  - ESTABLISHED – connection working OK
  - FIN-WAIT1/2 – one side closed the connection
  - TIME-WAIT – waiting for a while...
    - What is MSL?
- In most of the states a socket is characterized by:
  - IP address
  - TCP/UDP address

## Use of netstat for troubleshooting

```
[root@knight ghost]# netstat -nap | grep 12345
```

```
tcp    0    0 0.0.0.0:12345      0.0.0.0:*          LISTEN  2903/nc
```

```
[root@knight ghost]# netstat -nap | grep 12345
```

```
tcp    0    0 127.0.0.1:12345    127.0.0.1:49188     ESTABLISHED 2903/nc
```

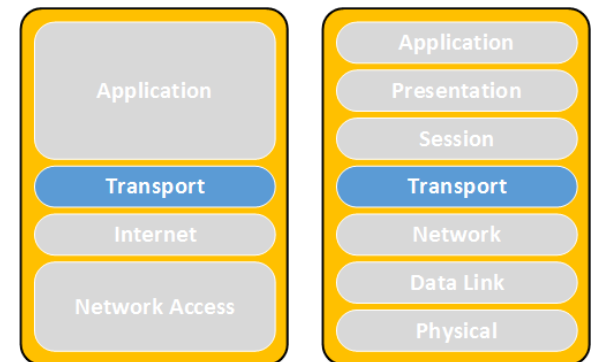
```
[root@knight ghost]# netstat -nap | grep 12345
```

```
tcp    0    0 127.0.0.1:49188    127.0.0.1:12345     TIME_WAIT   -
```

```
[root@knight ghost]# netstat -nap | grep 12345
```

```
[root@knight ghost]#
```

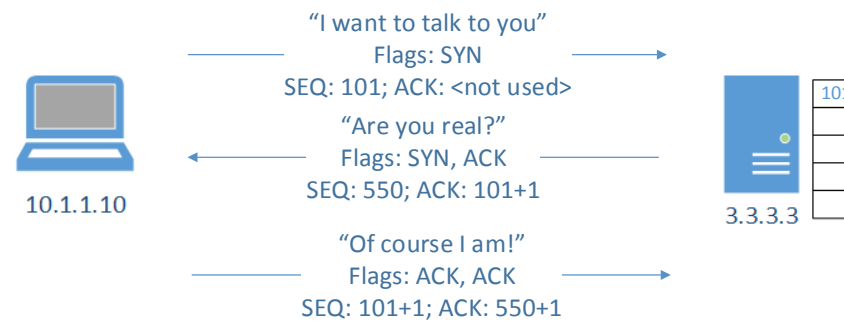
# SYN Flood





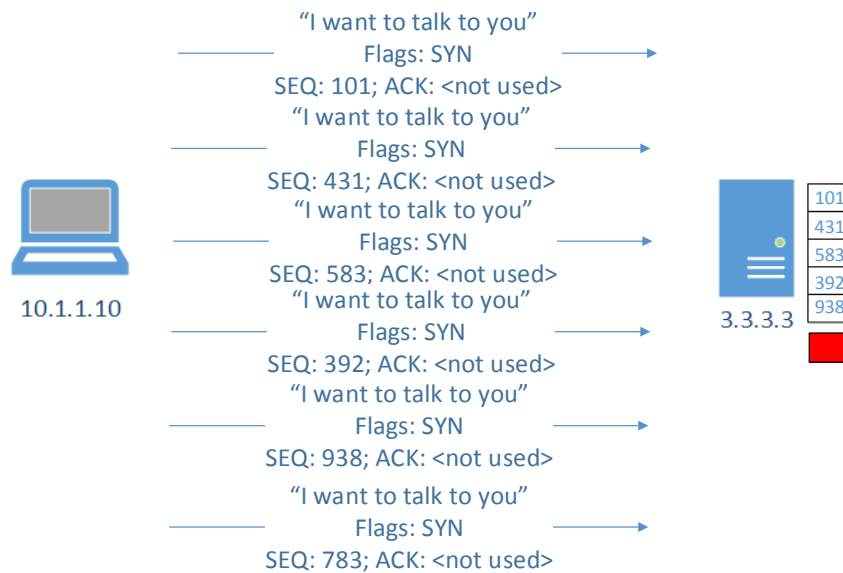
# What is a SYN flood?

- What is a 3-way handshake?



# SYN flood

- Exploits the limited slots for pending connections
- Overloads them



## SYN flood through the eyes of netstat

- netstat -anp

Active Internet connections (servers and established)

Proto	Recv-Q	Send-Q	Local Address	Foreign Address	State	PID/Program name
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:111	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1339/rpcbind
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:33586	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1395/rpc.statd
tcp	0	0	192.168.122.1:53	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1962/dnsmasq
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:631	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1586/cupsd
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	2703/sendmail: acce
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:49718</b>	<b>SYN_RECV</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:49717</b>	<b>SYN_RECV</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:49722</b>	<b>SYN_RECV</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:49720</b>	<b>SYN_RECV</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:49719</b>	<b>SYN_RECV</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:49721</b>	<b>SYN_RECV</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:49716</b>	<b>SYN_RECV</b>	<b>-</b>

# SYN flood mitigation

- Technology
  - SYN Cookies
  - Whitelists
  - TCP Proxy (TCP Intercept – active mode)
  - TCP Resets (TCP Intercept – passive)
  - Nowadays – volumetric
- Device stack optimization
- Dedicated devices

## What is a SYN cookie?

- Hiding information in ISN (initial seq no)

- SYN Cookie:

**Timestamp % 32 + MSS + 24-bit hash**

- Components of 24-bit hash:
  - server IP address
  - server port number
  - client IP address
  - client port
  - timestamp >> 6 (64 sec resolution)

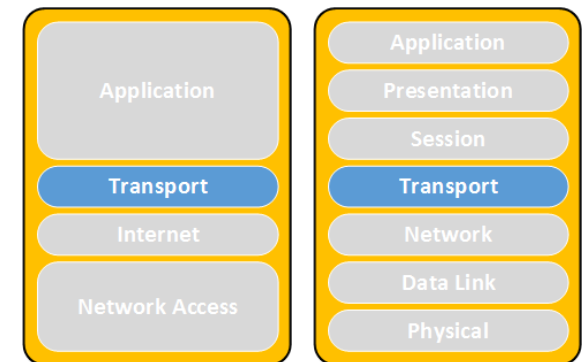
## Enabling SYN-coockie

- To enable SYN cookies:

```
echo 1 > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/tcp_syncookies
```

- All TCP related settings are located in /proc/sys/net/ipv4/
  - tcp\_max\_syn\_backlog
  - tcp\_synack\_retries
  - tcp\_syn\_retries

# Socket Exhaustion



# Socket Exhaustion

- What is a socket?
- What is Maximum Segment Lifetime (MSL)?
  - How old is the Internet?
  - What is Time To Live (TTL) measured in?
- What is socket exhaustion?



# Socket Exhaustion through the eyes of netstat

- Socket exhaustion would look likethis:

Active Internet connections (servers and established)

Proto	Recv-Q	Send-Q	Local Address	Foreign Address	State	PID/Program name
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:111	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1339/rpcbind
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:33586	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1395/rpc.statd
tcp	0	0	192.168.122.1:53	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1962/dnsmasq
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:631	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1586/cupsd
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	2703/sendmail: acce
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:1241	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1851/nessusd: waiti
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60365</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60240</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60861</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60483</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60265</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60618</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60407</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60423</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60211</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60467</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>tcp</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:25</b>	<b>127.0.0.1:60213</b>	<b>TIME_WAIT</b>	<b>-</b>

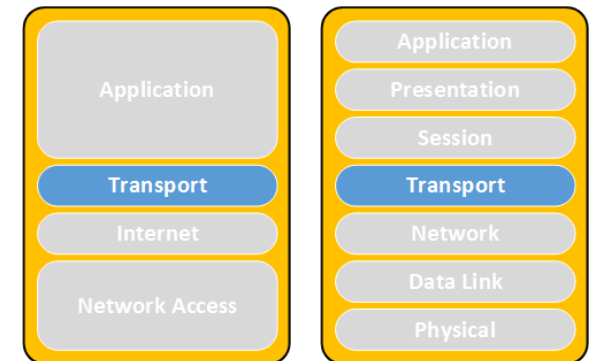
## How to enable socket reuse

- Enable socket reuse

```
echo 1 > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/tcp_tw_recycle
```

```
echo 1 > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/tcp_tw_reuse
```

# Slowloris



# Connection handling architectures

- Process based connection handling?
  - Think “Apache”
- Event based connection handling?
  - Think “nginx”

## Slowloris

- Exploits the process based model but opening a number of concurrent connections and holds them open for as long as possible with the least amount of bandwidth possible

## Slowloris mitigation

- Change of the software architecture
- Use of event driven reverse proxy to protect the server (like nginx)
- Dedicated hardware devices

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# Reflection and amplification attacks

## Two different terms

- Reflection – using an intermediary to deliver the attack traffic
- Amplification – ability to deliver larger response than the trigger traffic



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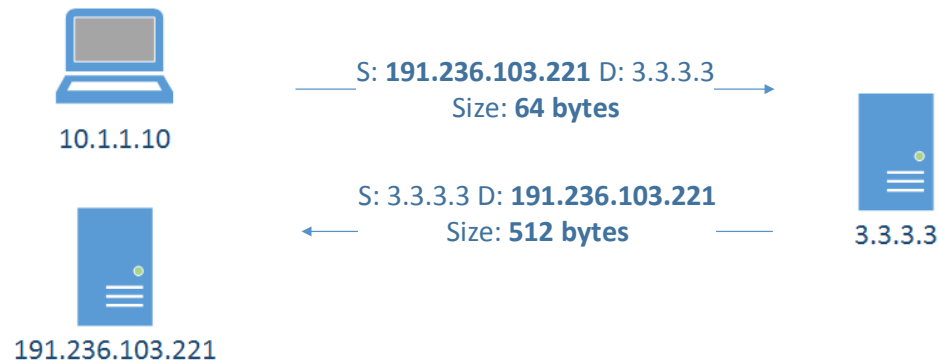
# Reflection

## Reflective attacks

- Attacks where the an unwilling intermediary is used to deliver the attack traffic
- The attacker would normally send a packet with a forged source IP address to the intermediary. The forged address is going to be the one of the target. The intermediary will deliver a response which will go to the target instead of the attacker
- Note to audience: think what protocols we can use for that?

## What is reflection(ed) attack

- Attacks where the an unwilling intermediary is used to deliver the attack traffic
- Attacker sends a packet with a spoofed source IP set to the victim's
- Reflectors respond to the victim



## Reflector types

The ones that are of interest are:

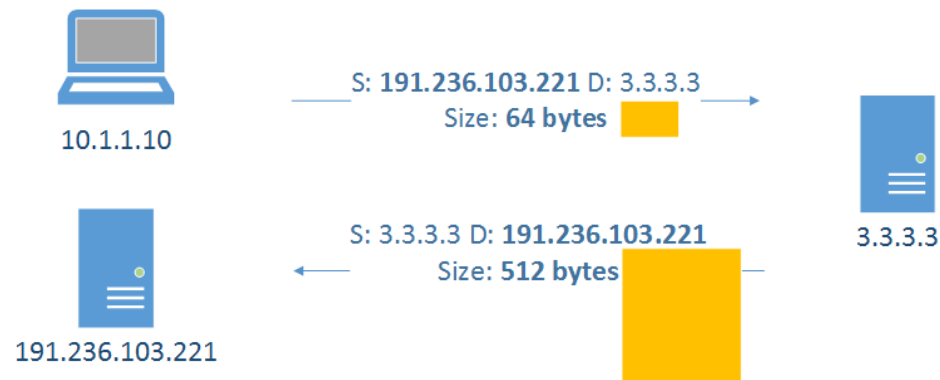
- DNS
- NTP
- SSDP
- SNMP
- RPC (reported lately but not really large)

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# Amplification

## What is amplification attack?

- Asymmetric attack where response is much larger than the original query



## Amplifiers types

- The ones that are of interest and provide amplifications are:
  - DNS
  - SSDP
  - NTP
  - SNMP
- Amplification factors:  
<https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/alerts/TA14-017A>

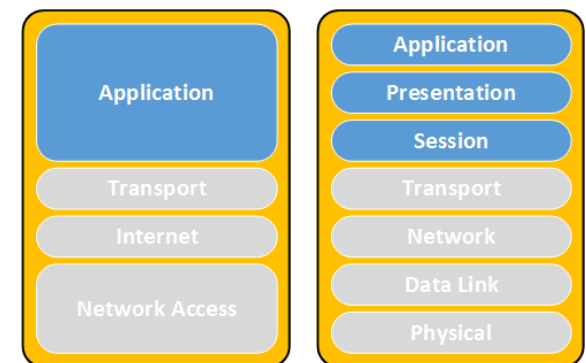
## Amplification quotients

Protocol	Bandwidth Amplification Factor	Vulnerable Command
DNS	28 to 54	Multiple
NTP	556.9	Multiple
SNMPv2	6.3	GetBulk request
NetBIOS	3.8	Name resolution
SSDP	30.8	SEARCH request
CharGEN	358.8	Character generation request
QOTD	140.3	Quote request
BitTorrent	3.8	File search
Kad	16.3	Peer list exchange
Quake Network Protocol	63.9	Server info exchange
Steam Protocol	5.5	Server info exchange

- Source: US-CERT: <https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/alerts/TA14-017A>

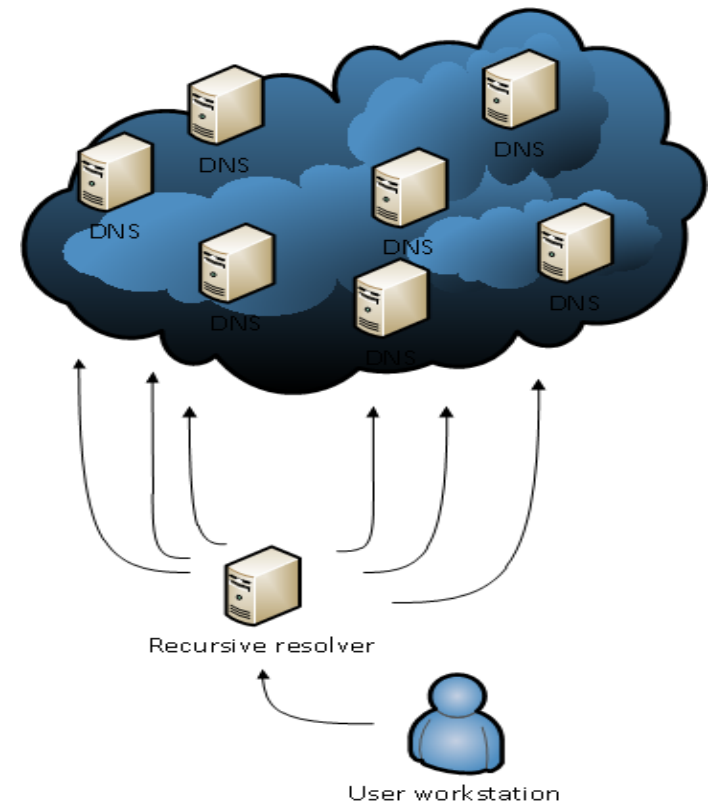


# DNS Resolution



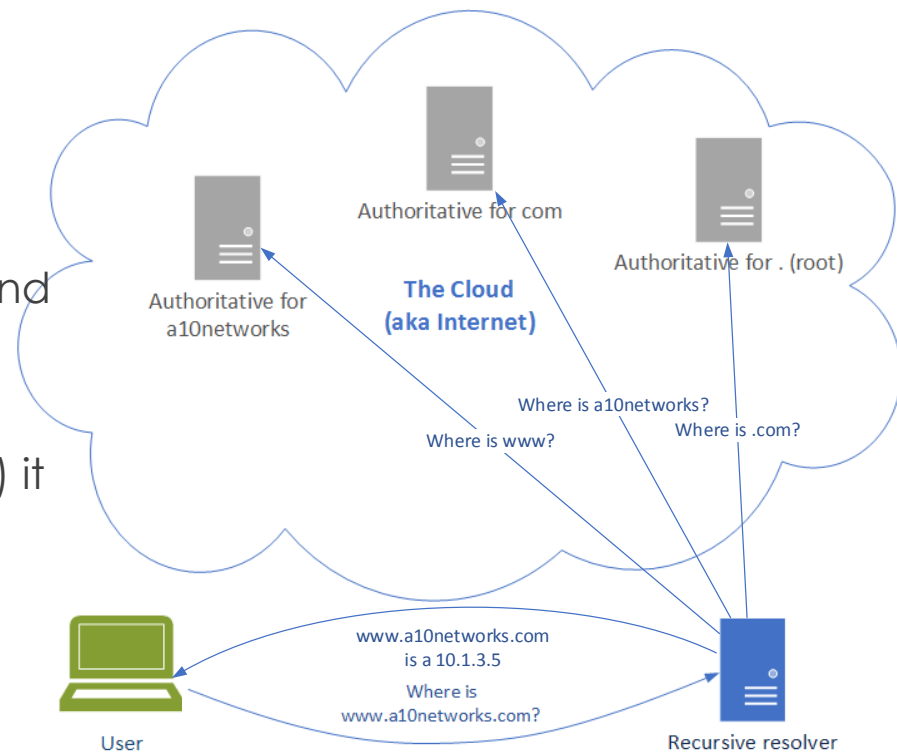
# DNS resolution

- Authoritative
- Recursive



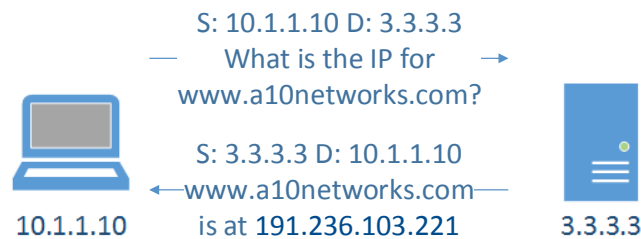
# DNS resolution

- How does DNS work?
- User talks to recursive resolver
- The recursive goes on the Internet and talks to the authoritative servers
- When an answer is obtained (or not) it reports back to the user

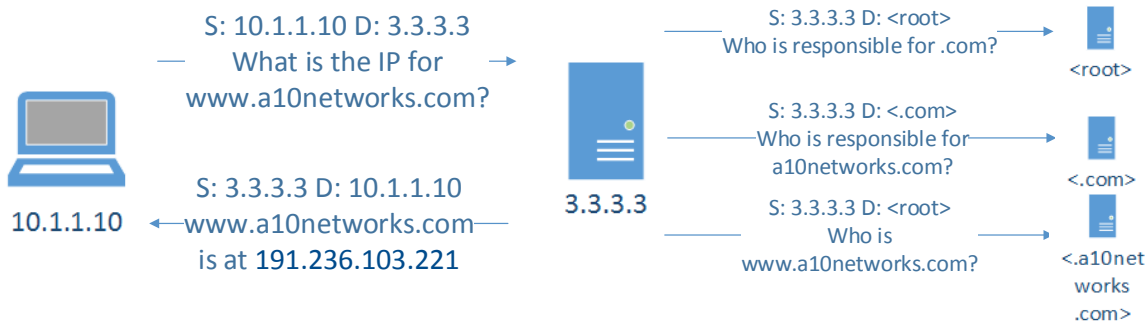


## DNS resolution at the packet level

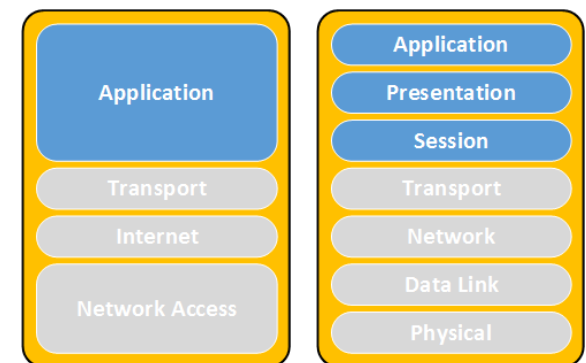
- The process of mapping:  
www.a10networks.com => 191.236.103.221



...if the answer  
was cached

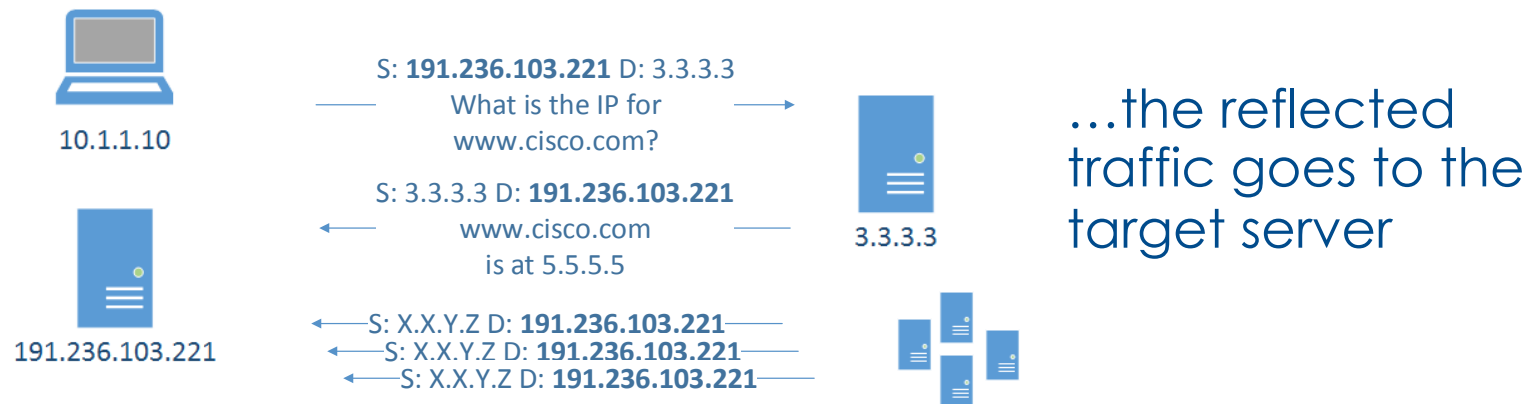


# DNS Reflection



## What is DNS reflection attack?

- What happens if an attacker forges the victim address as its source?



- ... and what if hundreds of misconfigured open DNS resolvers are used?

## Consider this query

- Triggered by something like:
  - `dig ANY isc.org @3.3.3.3`
- Example: `~$ dig ANY isc.org @172.20.1.1 # My home lab`
- Flip over for answer

## Consider this (cont'd)

```
ghostwood@sgw:~$ dig ANY isc.org @172.20.1.1
```

```
:: ANSWER SECTION:
```

```
isc.org.      481  IN    RRSIG  DS 7 2 86400 20130607155725 20130517145725 42353 org. KHM509DaFMx416/7xXhaD9By0NrQCiQ4k8nqi6oq2VocZRREAbUHHrAY  
KydlgKO5vOaw6l1Fy86/oiODk3yyHspciwdJvjlefu4PktUnd1IQxW 791q/jWgHBL5iQQigBYv7Z5lfY1ENn+6fPOchAywWqEBYcdqW8pzzOjz zIU=
```

```
isc.org.      481  IN    DS      12892 5 2 F1E184C0E1D615D20EB3C223ACED3B03C773DD952D5F0EB5C777586D E18DA6B5
```

```
isc.org.      481  IN    DS      12892 5 1 982113D08B4C6A1D9F6AEE1E2237AEF69F3F9759
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    RRSIG  A 5 2 7200 20130620134150 20130521134150 50012 isc.org. iCBy1Jj9P6mXVYjaSc62JClrZW+hvYAUGHo7WwRmxGRaipS8I9+LCvRI  
2erglomkBP79m9ahnFOxWEAaueA6TIHCIGxOkgrk3hBtMFjUB9rhvklm uxO2D8gc1DJDLI5egfpJCF2fITfEvWzeMt6QGNwicWMxBsFHCxM7Fms D8I=
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    A      149.20.64.42
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    RRSIG  DNSKEY 5 2 7200 20130620130130 20130521130130 12892 isc.org. dfxTGA/f6vdhulqojp+Konkdt8c4y3WiU+Vs5TjznvhdEyH14qPh/cHh  
+y1vA6+gAwTHI4X+GpzctNxiElwaSwVu3m9Nocniwl/AZQoL/SyDgEsl bJM/X+ZY5qrgQrV2grOcKAAA91Bus3behYQZTsdaH2TSfAKjKINEgvm  
yQ5xWEo6zE3p0ygtPq4eMNO4fRT9UQDhTRD3v3ztXFINXKvBsQWZGBH0 5tQcbC6xnGyn1bBptJEEGhCBG01ncJt1MCyEf98VGHKJFeowORIirDQ3  
cjJRFPTCCkA8n4j8vnsimlUP/TGI+Mg4ufAZpE96jJnvFBsdcC/iOo6i XkQVIA==
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    RRSIG  DNSKEY 5 2 7200 20130620130130 20130521130130 50012 isc.org. o18F3KIFkYedFRw1e5MP4qDo3wSg0XK9I5WCYD75aGhs9RI5eyc/  
6KEW Se4lZXRh6d77xXlerMYCrsfh/GHdjPRoE1xL/nzH/hTBJAI9XDbC5l/ EUpFIGVLvdQy43XKtywm0j2nyc5MdGa2VeLko+hHTmH3Sf3pGRVJp2IK 5Z0=
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    DNSKEY 257 3 5 BEAAAAOhHQDBRhQbtphgq2wQUpEQ5t4DtUHxoMVfu2hWLDmvoOMRjGr hhCeFvAZih7yJHf8ZGfW6hd38hXG/  
xylYCO6Krpbdjwx8YMXLA5/kA+ u50WIL8ZR1R6KTbsYVMf/Qx5RiNbPClw+vT+U8eXEJmO20jIS1ULgqy3 47cBB1zMnnz/4LJpA0da9CbKj3A254T515sNIMcwsB8/2+2E63/zZrQz  
Bkj0BrN/9Bexjpiks3jRhZatEsXn3dTy47R09Uix5WcJt+xzqZ7+ysyl KOOedS39Z7SDmsn2eA0FKtQpwA6LXeG2w+jxmw3oA8IVUgEf/rzeC/bB yBNsO70aEFTd
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    DNSKEY 256 3 5 BQAAAAABwuHz9Cem0BJ0JQTO7C/a3McR6hMaufljs1dfG/inaJpYv7vH XTrAOm/MeKp+/  
x6eT4QLru0KoZkvZJnqTl8JyaFTw2OM/ItBfh/hL2lm Cft2O7n3MfeqYfvjPnY7dWghYW4sVfh7VVEGm958o9nfi79532Qeklxh x8pXWdeAaRU=
```

```
a.root-servers.net. 297269 IN    A      198.41.0.4
```

```
a.root-servers.net. 415890 IN    AAAA   2001:503:ba3e::2:30
```

```
b.root-servers.net. 298007 IN    A      192.228.79.201
```





# Reflection and Amplification



S: 191.236.103.221 D: 3.3.3.3

What is ANY isc.org

S: 3.3.3.3 D: 191.236.103.221

```
ghostwood@gwv-3 dig ANY isc.org @172.20.1.1
; ANSWER SECTION:
isc.org. 481 IN RRSIG DS 7 2 86400 20130607165725 20130517145725 42553
org. KCH A09 DdFJAel 8/770x0dP8j0NqCQ4u8nq8oqVoc1RREAbUHhAY
KjdgKQD9-Oawd11F8/siODkdy/HqclvdJyJefu4PcdUhd11GwV791q/
jVgH8LUGG8YV7Z8F1BNh4PFOchAyWagE8YcdqV8paxQjxLz
isc.org. 481 IN DS 12892 2 2
F1E184Q2E1DslSD20E83C22BA0E0580C773DD952D5F0E85C777586D E18DA485
isc.org. 481 IN DS 12892 2 1
982173D08B4C6A1D9F6AE1E2237AEF9F93F759
isc.org. 5725 IN RRSIG A 5 27200 20130520134150 20130521134150 50012
isc.org. iCSylJPPAmVYpSe62CQ2UvhwVhUGm71WdmmGRapSSP+Qv8
2ergl0k8P79m9hnpOwME AoueA6THCIGxQkgn3h8f/FJL6hnmkm
uxQD8gc1DJOUs9tpJCF2FHEvWae1HqGQNWicVMk5eRHOtWfms D8te
isc.org. 5725 IN A 149.20.34.42
isc.org. 5725 IN RRSIG DNSKEY 5 27200 20130520130130 20130521130130
12892 isc.org. dhfTGA/BvdhulqojtKekd8c4yQWuHv4dFamvndyHl4gPh/cHh
ty1vA8hgkVwH4XGpactN8Eve8Wu3mPNoonVw/AZGoU5yDgEalBjJW/
XhDY8grQrV2grOeKAAAP1BualbeHqGZadchQTHAKQKNSgym
yGdWVEed82pdyP8eetN0uHRTJUGDh1RQD3v8mFNKk8d4XQGBH0
5HGQcC6mGym1b8pU8E GhC8G01 nclH1VCJ/ER8VGHKJfe oviOR1DQ3
cjJRPfCOCA8n4BvnmLUP/TG/Hf/g4vRZpE8jJm/F8dcC/IOs1XkGVIA==
isc.org. 5725 IN RRSIG DNSKEY 5 27200 20130520130130 20130521130130
50012 isc.org. o18P3KRyEdRwied8fR4pDob4d9D1Wp8VWCYD5oGhR88eyc/sKEV
Se4DZRhfd77XxM/Ozh/GhdPRoE1x/nat/H8JA8XDeCS1/
EupF1GVLdQy4XKlyvm0Znyc5fM/Ga2VleKamHmH8889GRVJp2IK520e
isc.org. 5725 IN DNSKEY 257 3 5
SEAAJAOnHQD6mQdtpng2vQLp8584DhUhoM/Fu2HMDAvoOM/RXGQr
hhCeFuA3h7vJH8ZGAMnd38hXG/xy/COdKpbdajw8YtXLA5/ka+
u8VLE81R1R4KtbzVfM/Gx5RNBPClvm+T+L8eXEImQ20B1Ugqy3 47c8B1st/mre/
4LpA8da9CbKQA254f815eNfJevab58/2z2551j2rGx8epBNV/
P8eapkdjR2eE8ln0d7y47809Uk8VhJmqa27+vy1
KOed3PZ7SDm2eAOfKQpva8LVkQWjmmV8a81VqBf/rac/b8y8NaO70aEfd
isc.org. 5725 IN DNSKEY 258 3 5 SGEAAAABvuh9P Ce m05J0GTOTC/
a3MERshlbuflg/inoJpTv7vH XfAOMvUeKp+kd eT4QLuOK6ZekZhqT8JyaRv8OMV/
H8Fm12lmChQOTndMeqThjPn7TdVgnVWwHtVVEGm958o9n879532Gexch
xSpVWdeAoRLu
isc.org. 5725 IN DNSKEY 258 3 5 SGEAAAABvuh9P Ce m05J0GTOTC/
a3MERshlbuflg/inoJpTv7vH XfAOMvUeKp+kd eT4QLuOK6ZekZhqT8JyaRv8OMV/
H8Fm12lmChQOTndMeqThjPn7TdVgnVWwHtVVEGm958o9n879532Gexch
xSpVWdeAoRLu
croachserver.net. 297269 IN A 193.41.0.4
croachserver.net. 415890 IN AAAA 2001:500:20:290
croachserver.net. 298007 IN A 192.228.79.201
croachserver.net. 297370 IN A 192.20.4.12
croachserver.net. 297555 IN A 199.7.91.13
croachserver.net. 417505 IN AAAA 2001:500:2d:d
croachserver.net. 297707 IN A 192.203.220.10
croachserver.net. 297544 IN A 192.5.5.41
croachserver.net. 416152 IN AAAA 2001:500:2f:f
croachserver.net. 297708 IN A 192.112.36.4
croachserver.net. 295308 IN A 128.69.2.53
croachserver.net. 416776 IN AAAA 2001:500:1:803f225
croachserver.net. 297617 IN A 192.34.148.17
```

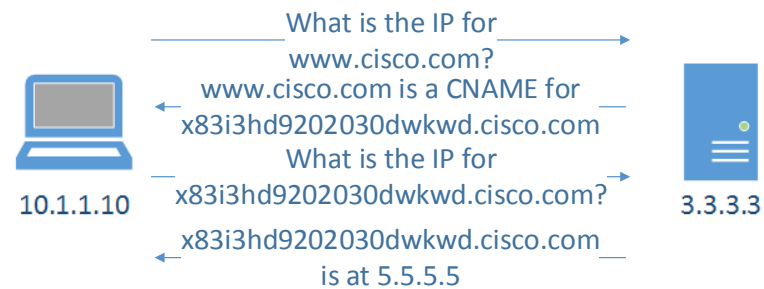


## DNS attacks mitigation (victim)

- Validate packet and query structure
- Whitelisting
- Challenges\*
- High performance equipment
  - Variety of techniques
  - Vendor dependent
- Drop known reflector traffic:  
<http://openresolverproject.org/>

## DNS attacks mitigation (victim - DNS challenge)

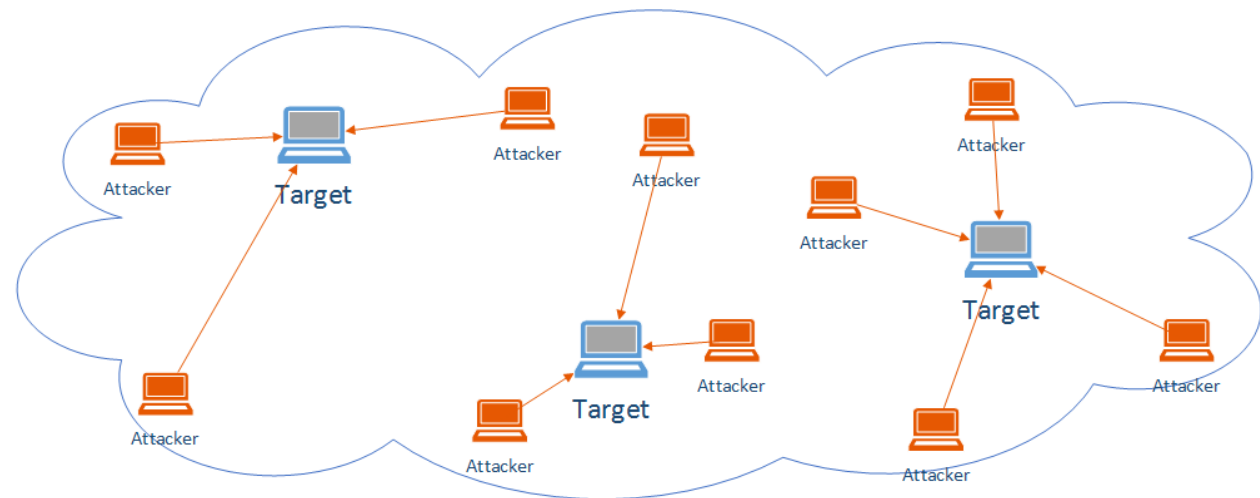
- What is a DNS challenge?



- Challenges with DNS challenge?
  - Two times the amount of traffic
  - Two times the packet rate
  - Computational resources

## Large scale mitigation and load distribution: Anycast

- Multiple points of presence advertise the same address space
- Network ensures user is routed to the “closest” instance



## DNS Rate limits (reflector)

- Not specified for recursive but you can still tweak it to something that works for you

- Configuration example:

```
rate-limit {  
    responses-per-second 5;  
    window 5;  
};
```

- Reference:

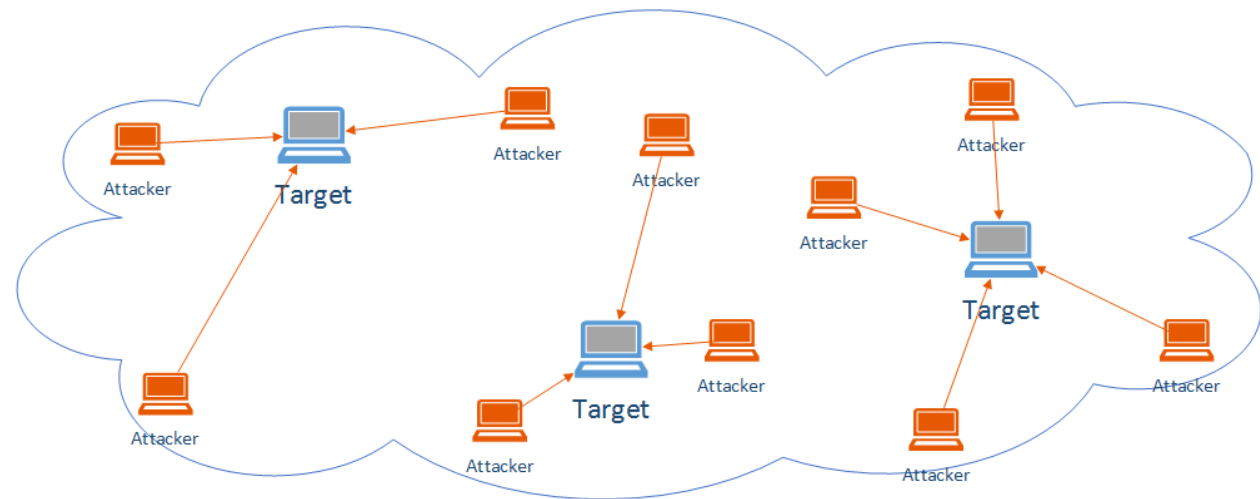
<http://www.redbarn.org/dns/ratelimits>

## Proper resolver configuration (reflector)

```
acl "trusted" {  
    192.168.0.0/16;  
    10.153.154.0/24;  
    localhost;  
    localnets;  
};  
  
options {  
    ...  
    allow-query { trusted; }; // allow-query { any; };  
    allow-recursion { trusted; };  
    allow-query-cache { trusted; };  
    ...  
};
```

## Large scale mitigation and load distribution: Anycast

- Multiple points of presence advertise the same address space
- Network ensures user is routed to the “closest” instance

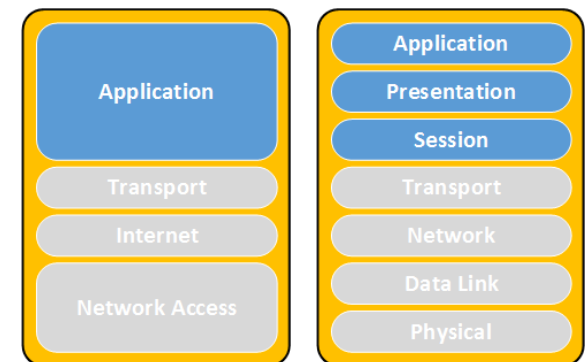


## IPS/DDoS mitigation gear

- Depends on vendor
- Different techniques
- Different mitigation rates for different packet types

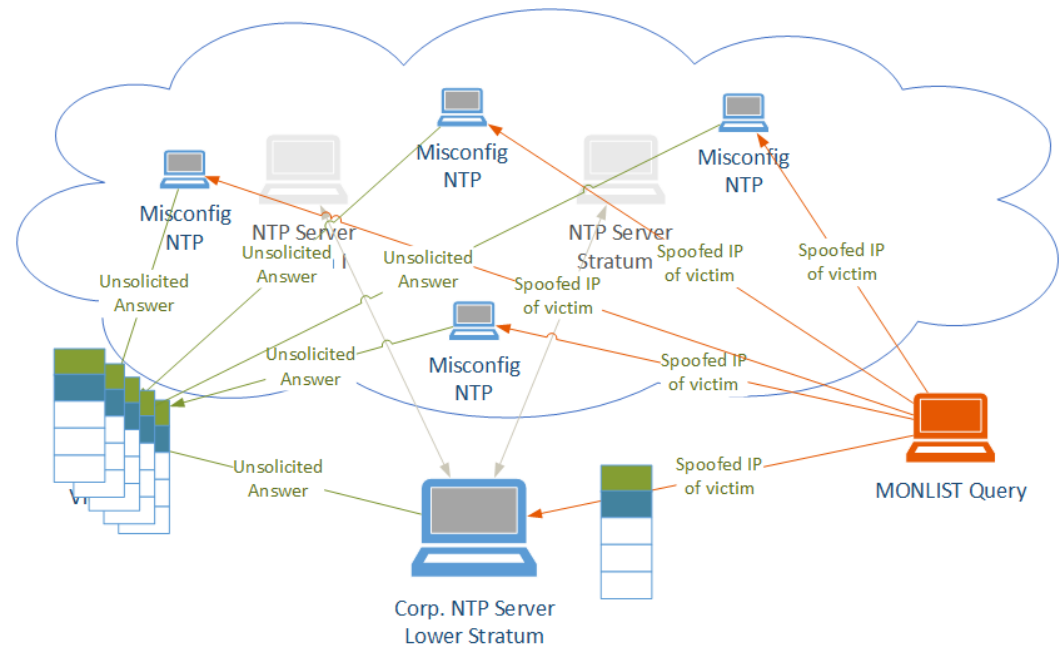


# Network Time Protocol (NTP)



## NTP servers

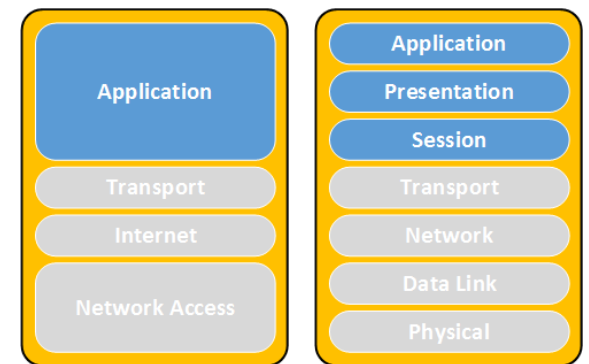
- Stratum servers
- NTP queries
- MONLIST command
  - provides a list of clients that have time readings



## NTP server configuration

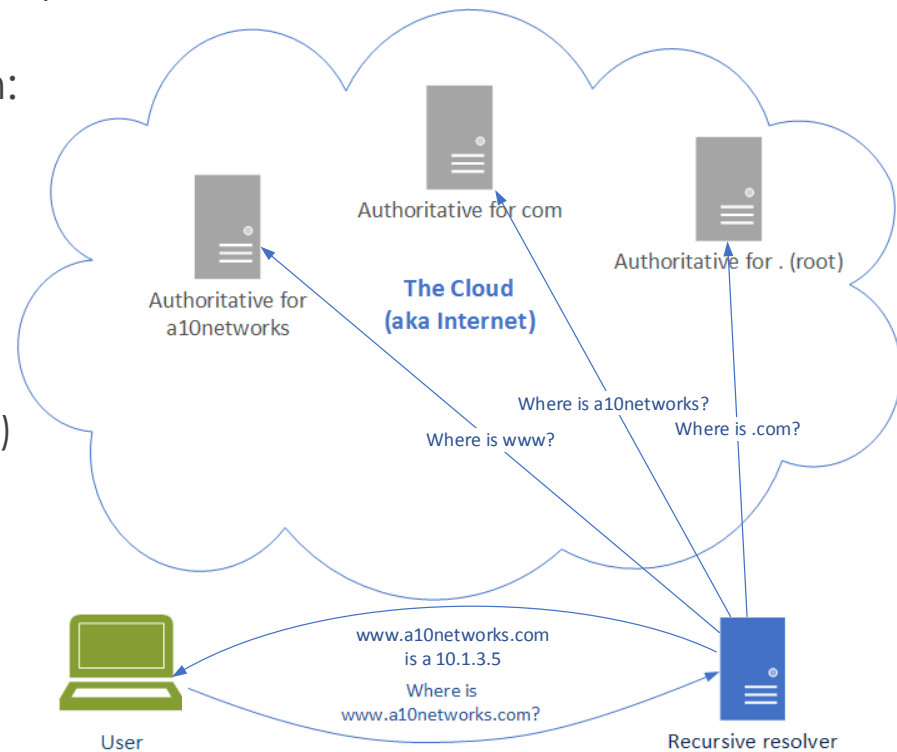
- Access lists
- NTP authentication
- Disable the MONLIST command
- Useful hints:  
<http://www.team-cymru.org/secure-ntp-template.html>
- List of open NTP reflectors:  
<http://openntpproject.org/>

# Cache busting (back to DNS)



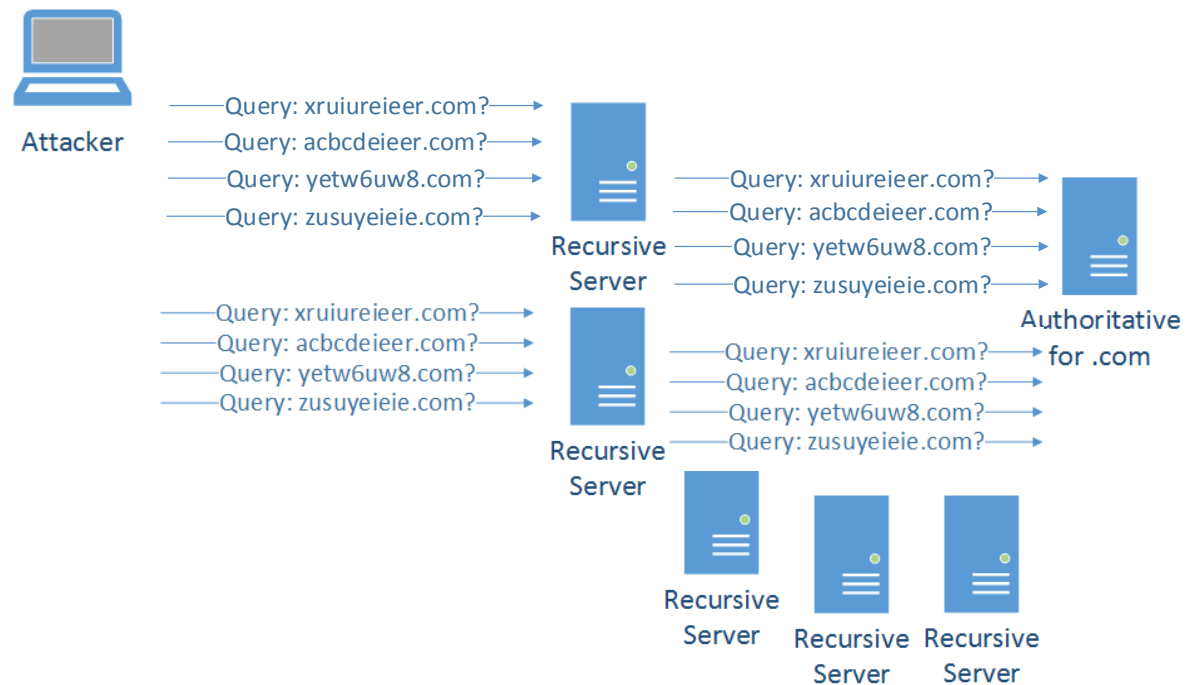
## DNS resolution (rehash)

- Let's focus on the number of requests per second
- User talks to recursive resolver, which:
  - Caches answers
  - Answers a large number of requests
- The recursive talks to different level of authoritative servers, which:
  - Do not cache answers (they are auths)
  - Relatively lower number of queries
- Consider caching and authoritative capacity

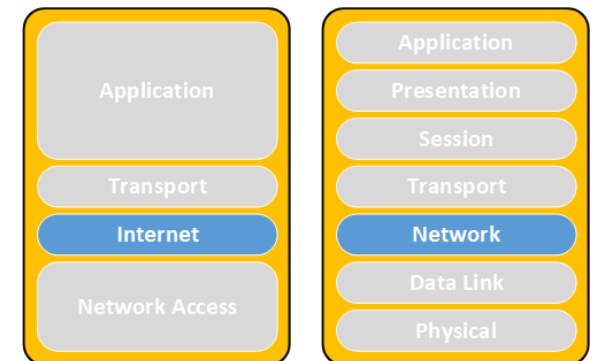


## What cache busting?

- Attacker sends a query to recursive/reflector
- Recursive forwards the query
- And so on...
- Imagine one more recursive resolver
- Rinse and repeat...



# Backscatter



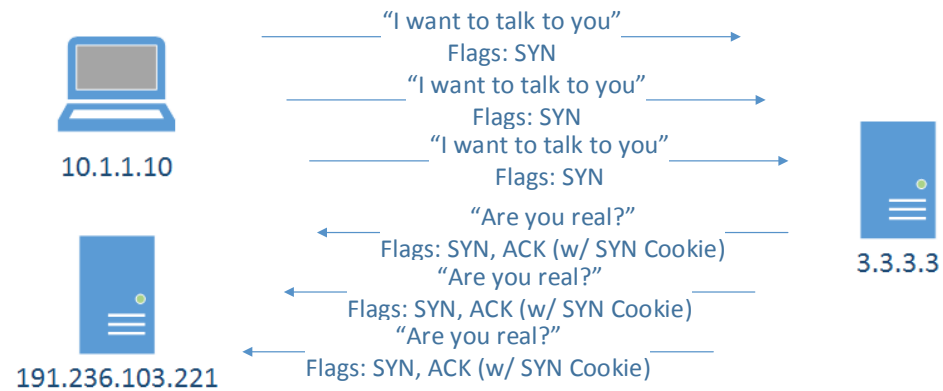
## Backscatter

- Traffic that is a byproduct of the attack
- Why is that interesting?
  - It is important to distinguish between the actual attack traffic and unintended traffic sent by the victim
  - Imagine a SYN flood against a “victim” protected by a major scrubbing provider spoofed from IP address X
    - What is the traffic to X going to look like?



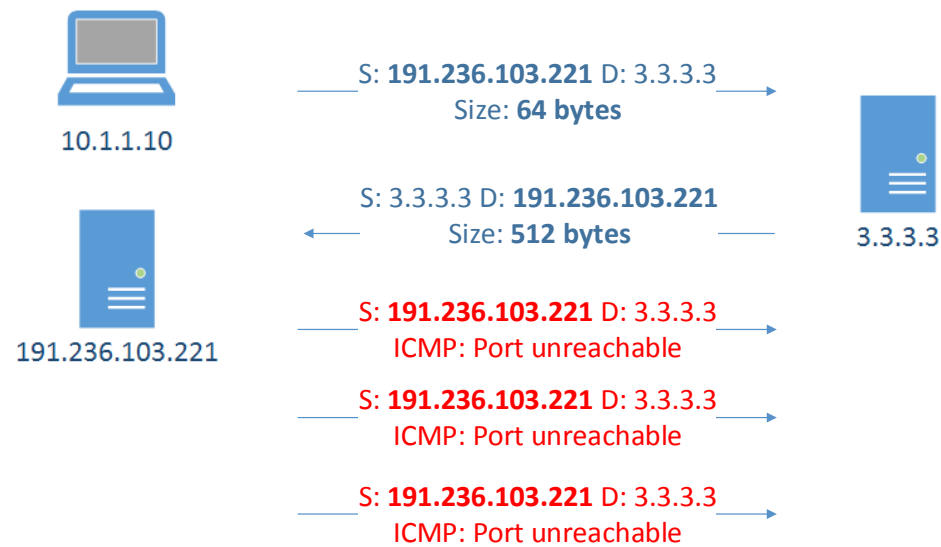
## SYN Flood Backscatter?

- Cookie flood 😊



## Are you a reflector? (Backscatter)

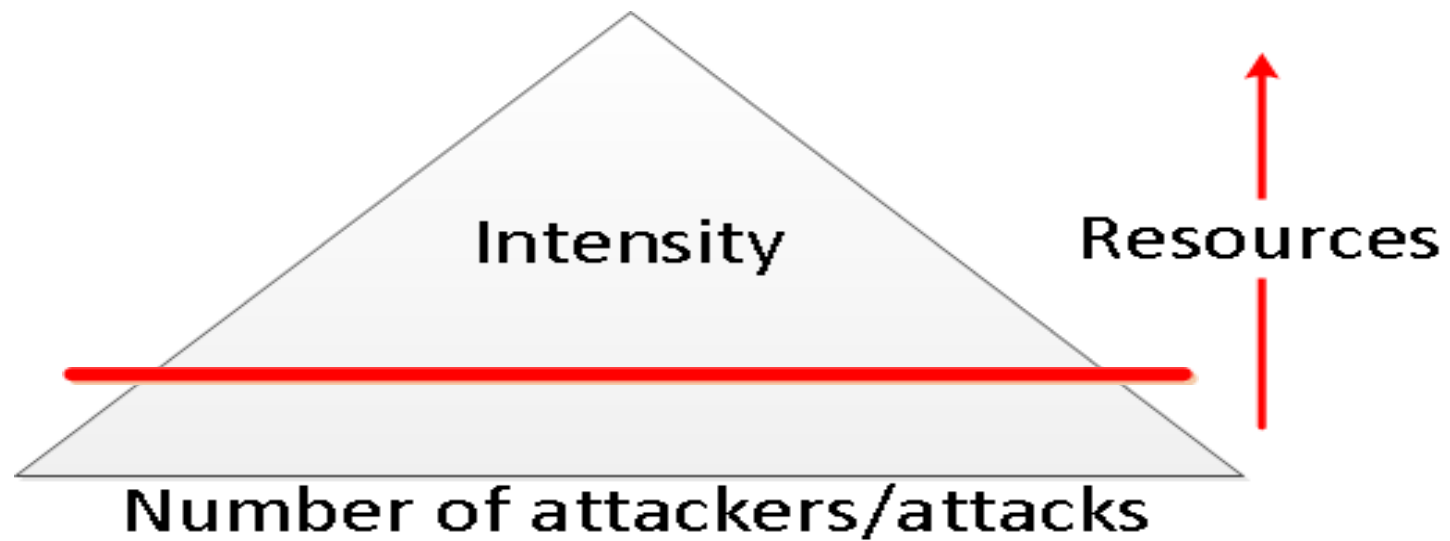
- In some cases return traffic/backscatter



---

# Mitigation

## Risk Pyramid



## The cost of a minute?

- How much does a minute of outage cost to your business?
- Are there other costs associated with it? Reputation?
- Are you in a risk category?
- How much is executive management willing to spend to stay up?
- Are there reasons you need to mitigate on-site vs offsite? Latency?

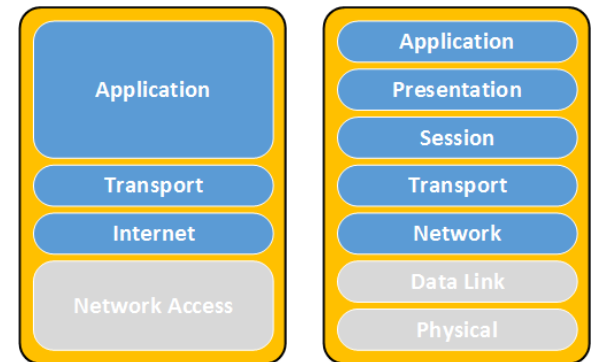
## On-site / DIY

- Bandwidth
- Equipment
- Qualified personnel
- More expensive overall but cheaper per MB
- Need for a backup plan

## Outsource / scrubbing center

- Limited protocol support (usually HTTP/S)
- Added latency
- May lose visibility to source IP of the client
- Pay per MB of clean traffic (usually)
- Fast setup/Lower overhead
- More expensive per MB

# Good Internet citizenship





## Mitigations

- Defend yourself
  - Anycast
  - Some form of IPS/DDoS mitigation gear
  - Overall network architecture
- Defend the Internet
  - Rate-limiting
  - BCP38/140 (outbound filtering) source address validation
  - Securely configured DNS, NTP and SNMP servers
  - No open resolvers
- Talk to the professionals

## Are you noticing the imbalance?

### Defend yourself

- Anycast (DNS)
- Some form of IPS/DDoS mitigation gear

- **Lots of money**

### Defend the Internet

- Rate-limiting
- BCP38/140 (outbound filtering) source address validation
- Securely configured authoritative DNS servers
- No open resolvers

- **Somewhat cheap**

## What's the point I'm trying to make?

- It's not feasible to mitigate those attacks single handedly
- We need cooperation
- Companies need to start including “defending the Internet from themselves” as a part of their budget – not only “defending themselves from the Internet”

## What can I do about it?

- RFC 2827/BCP 38 – Paul Ferguson
  - If possible filter all outgoing traffic and use proxy
  - uRPF
- 
- BCP 140: “Preventing Use of Recursive Nameservers in Reflector Attacks”
  - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/bcp140>
  - Aka RFC 5358

## Resources

- DNS
  - <http://openresolverproject.org/>
- NTP
  - <http://openntpproject.org/>
- If you see your IP space in the lists provided by those sites – resolve it

## Summary

- Discuss what DDoS is, general concepts, adversaries, etc.
- Went through a networking technology overview, in particular the OSI layers, sockets and their states, tools to inquire system state or capture and review network traffic
- Dove into specifics what attack surface the different layers offer
- Discussed different attack types
- Terminology
- Tools



Thank you