

**Module II. Internet Security** 

# Chapter 6 Firewall

Web Security: Theory & Applications

**School of Software, Sun Yat-sen University** 

#### 6.1 Introduction to Firewall

- What Is a Firewall
- Types of Firewall
- What Can a Firewall Do

# 6.2 Design Principles of Firewall

- Packet Filtering Firewall
- Packet Filtering Firewall Based on the state
- Application Proxy Firewall
- Bastion Host

#### 6.3 Penetration of firewall

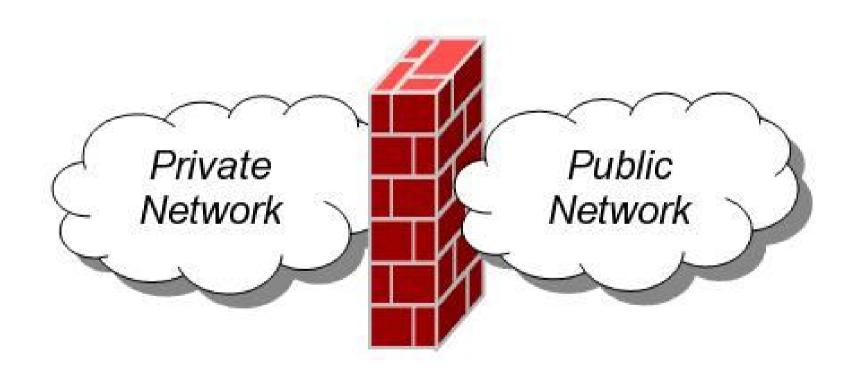
- Attack Packet Filtering Firewall
- Attack Stateful Inspection Firewall
- Attack Proxy
- 6.4 Firewall installation and Configuration
  - Iptables

#### 6.1 Introduction to Firewall

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#### 6.1.1 What Is a Firewall



# 6.1.2 Types of Firewall

- 1st gen: Packet Filters
- 2<sup>nd</sup> gen: Stateful Filters
- 3<sup>rd</sup> gen: Application Layer

#### Packet Filters

- IP Packet Filter Firewall is a firewall deciding to forward or to drop a certain packet according to the information of the packet's head. Packet filters act by inspecting the "packets" which transfer between computers on the Internet. If a packet matches the packet filter's set of rules, the packet filter will drop (silently discard) the packet, or reject it (discard it, and send "error responses" to the source).
- This type of packet filtering pays no attention to whether a packet is part of an existing stream of traffic (i.e. it stores no information on connection "state"). Instead, it filters each packet based only on information contained in the packet itself.

Google —

Packet filtering firewalls work mainly on the first three layers of the OSI reference model, which means most of the work is done between the network and physical layers, with a little bit of peeking into the transport layer to figure out source and destination port numbers.

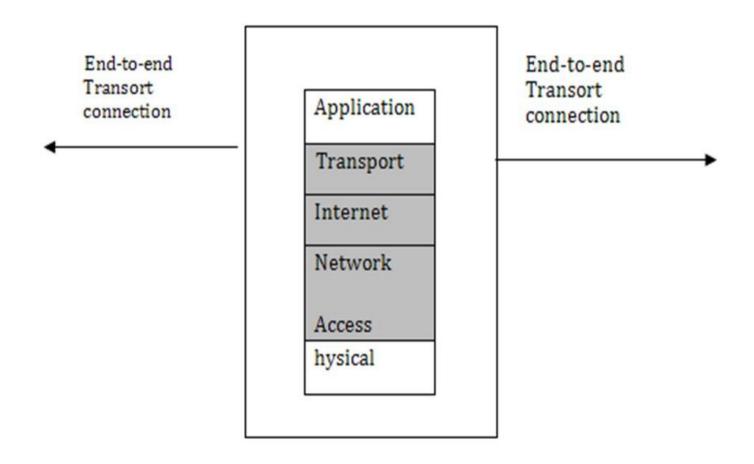
#### Stateful Filters

- Stateful filters introduce a technology of stateful inspection packet filtering.
- These firewalls perform the work of their first-generation predecessors but operate up to layer 4 (transport layer) of the OSI model. This is achieved by retaining packets until enough are available to make a judgement about its state. Known as stateful packet inspection, it records all connections passing through it and determines whether a packet is the start of a new connection, a part of an existing connection, or not part of any connection. Though static rules are still used, these rules can now contain connection state as one of their test criteria.
  - Certain DoS attacks bombard the firewall with thousands of fake connection packets to overwhelm it by filling its connection state

#### Application Layer

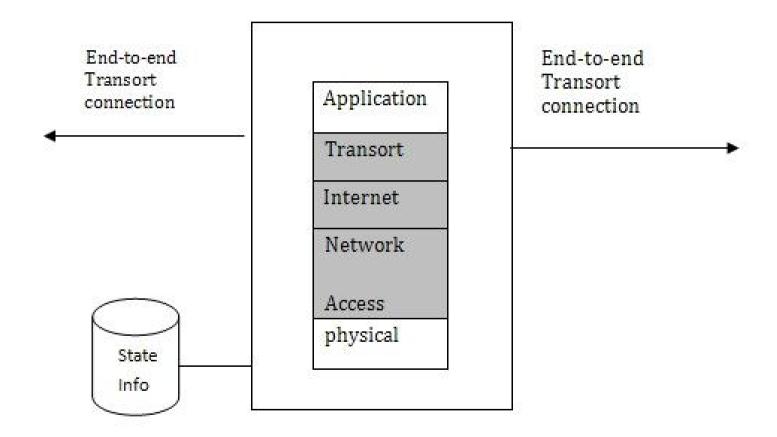
- Application layer filtering can "understand" certain applications and protocols (such as File Transfer Protocol (FTP), Domain Name System (DNS), or Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)). This is useful as it is able to detect if an unwanted protocol is attempting to bypass the firewall on an allowed port, or detect if a protocol is being abused in any harmful way.
- The existing deep packet inspection functionality of modern firewalls can be shared by Intrusion prevention systems (IPS).

# Packet Filtering Firewall



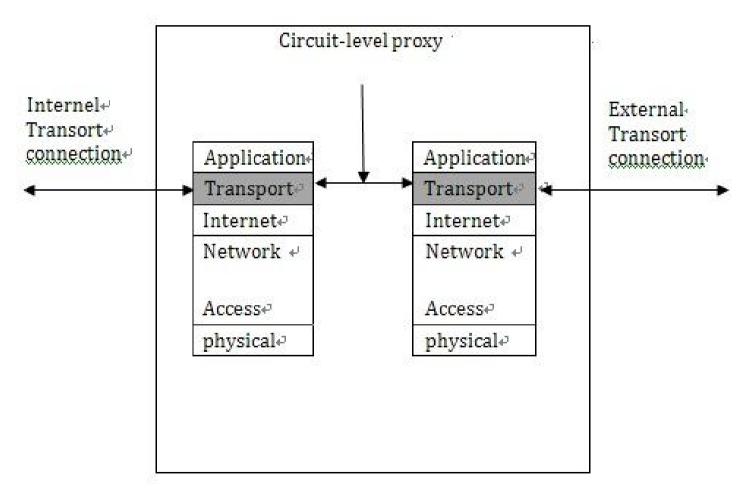


# Stateful Inspection Firewall



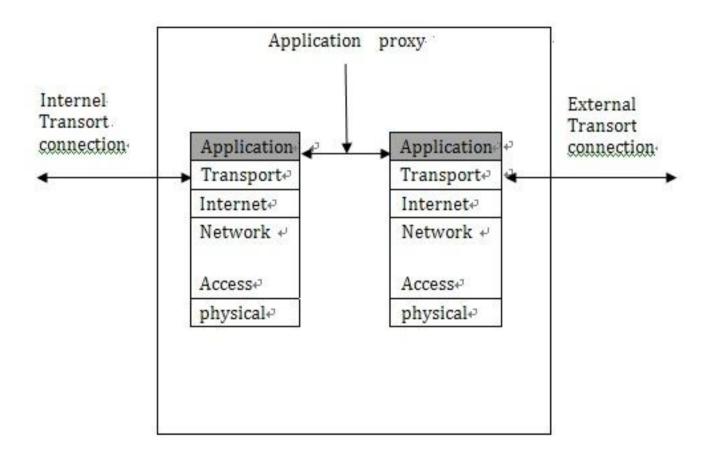


# Circuit-Level Gateway





# Application-Level Gateway





#### 6.1.3 What Can a Firewall Do

- Manage and control network traffic
  - Packet Inspection
  - Connections and State
  - Stateful Packet Inspection
- Act as an intermediary
  - protect internal host from the risk of direct interaction
  - Insulate the protected host from threats by ensuring that an external host can never directly communicate with the protected host

#### Protect resources

- To protect resources from threat
- Protected resources should always be kept patched and up-to-date
- Record and report on events
  - Record all communications especially access policy violations
  - Through system log or proprietary logging format
  - Alarm when a policy has been violated



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# 6.2.1 Packet Filtering Firewall

- What is Packet Filtering Firewall
- How Packet Filtering Firewall Works
- What to Filter
- Advantages
- Disadvantages

#### What is Packet Filtering Firewall

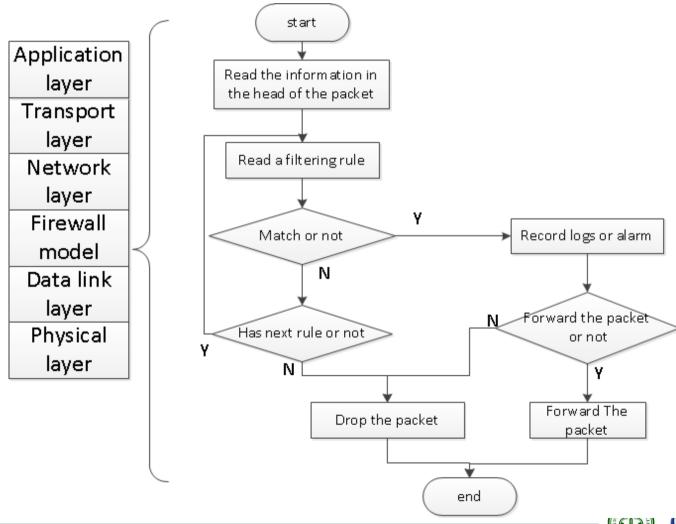
 Packet Filtering Firewall allow the packet which match the established rule set to pass and deny the packet which violate the established rule set, at the same time, it will record log message, alarm the administrator when a policy has been violated.

#### How Packet Filtering Firewall Works

- A packet filter has a set of rules with accept or deny actions
- Based on the information contained in the packet itself
- Using different field in the head of the packet to filter, include the packet's source and destination address, its protocol, port number, and so on
- When the packet filter receives a packet of information, the filter compares the packet to your pre-configured rule set
- At the first match, the packet filter either accepts or denies the packet of information



### **How Packet Filtering Firewall Works**





#### What to Filter

- IP address filtering
- TCP/UDP's port filtering
- ACK filtering
- UDP packet filtering

# Advantages

- High speed
- Transparent for the users

#### Disadvantages

- Can not filter the packet according the containing of the packet
- Only offer brief log messages
- Every port that may be used must be open to the external network, which increase the risk of attack
- Very difficult to configure ACL (Access Control List )

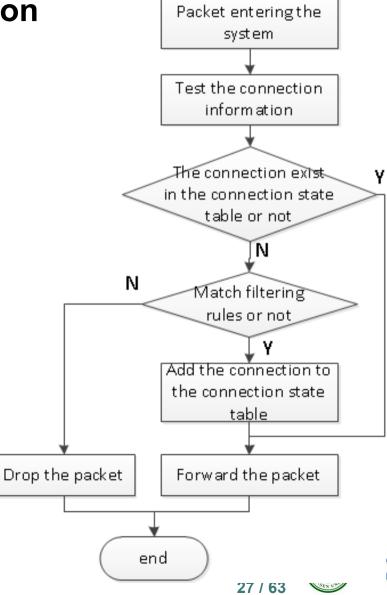
# **6.2.2 Stateful Inspection Firewall**

- What is Stateful Inspection Firewall
- How Stateful Inspection Firewall Works
- Advantages
- Disadvantages

#### What is Stateful Inspection Firewall

 A stateful inspection firewall is a firewall that monitors the state of the connection and compiles the information in a state table.

**How Stateful Inspection Firewall Works** 



#### Advantages

- Safer than static packet filtering
- Better performance than static packet filtering

#### Disadvantages

- Security is not high enough due to fewer checks on packet data
- More detections demand higher performance of the firewall

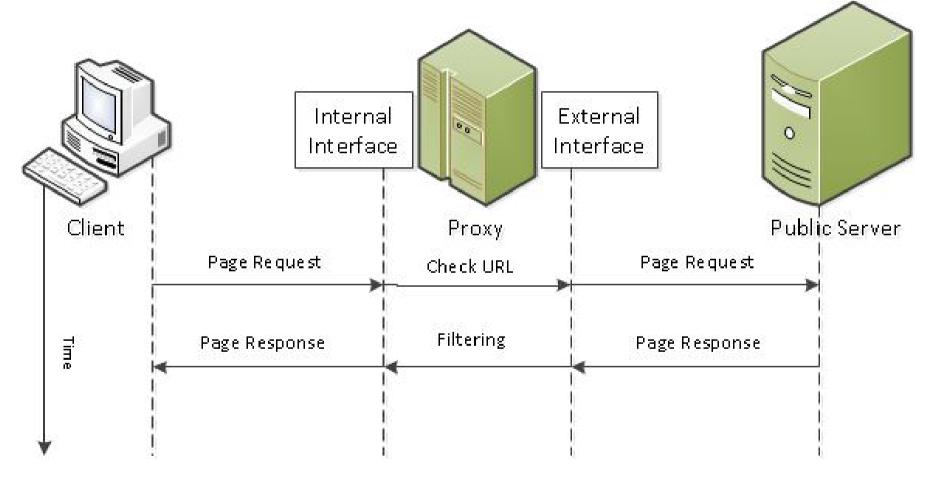
# 6.2.3 Application Layer Gateway (ALG, or Proxy Server)

- What is Proxy
- Topological Graph of Proxy
- Function Offered By Proxy
- Advantages
- Disadvantage

#### What is Proxy

- Responsible for the communication between external network and internal network
- When the users intend to communicate, they do not communicate directly, proxy will help forwarding instead

# Topological Graph





### Topological Graph

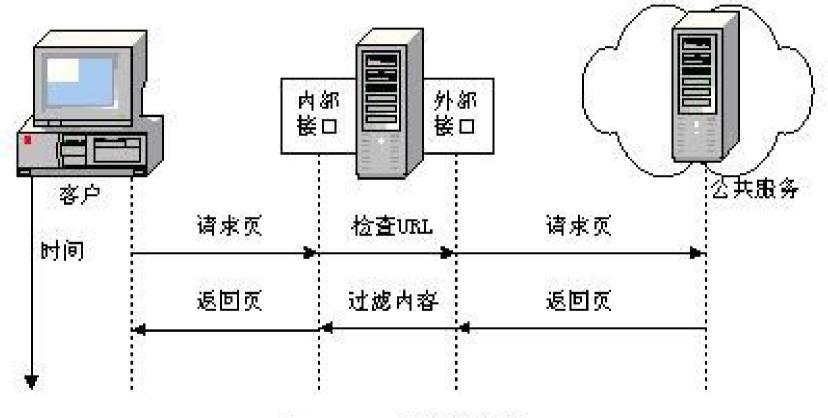


图8.4 一个服务代理





### Function Offered by Proxy

- Authentication mechanism
- Content Filtering
- Mature Log

#### Advantages

- Accelerate the network by its Cache
- Prevent any detection to internal network
- Filtering the content of the packet effectively
- Reduce direct attack to internal network
- No IP Address Spoofing Attack
- Mature Log

#### Disadvantages

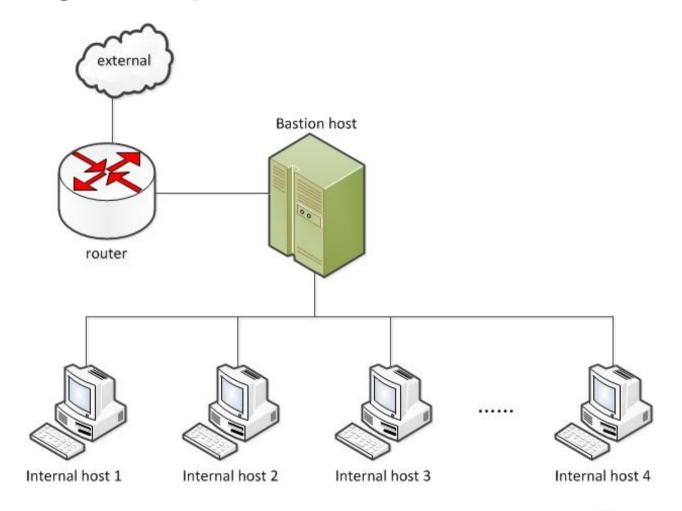
- A special service must have a special proxy
- Too much access delay when proxy server is busy
- Opaque (not transparent) for the users
- Slower than Packet Filtering firewall
- Example: H3C SecPath F1000-A-EI



#### **6.2.4 Bastion Host**

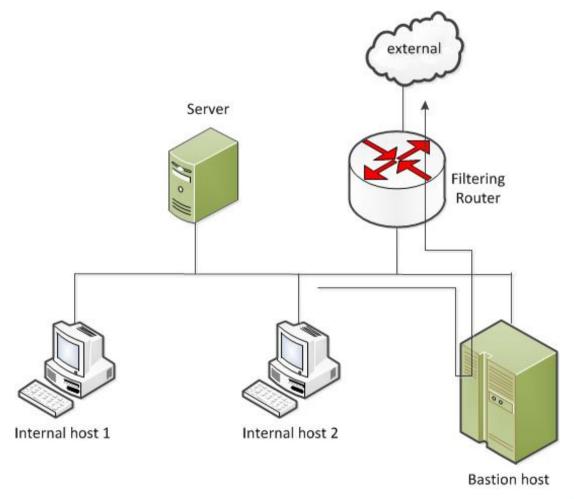
- Topological Graph
- Design Principles of Bastion Host
- Type of Bastion Host
- Physical Placement of Bastion Host

### Topological Graph





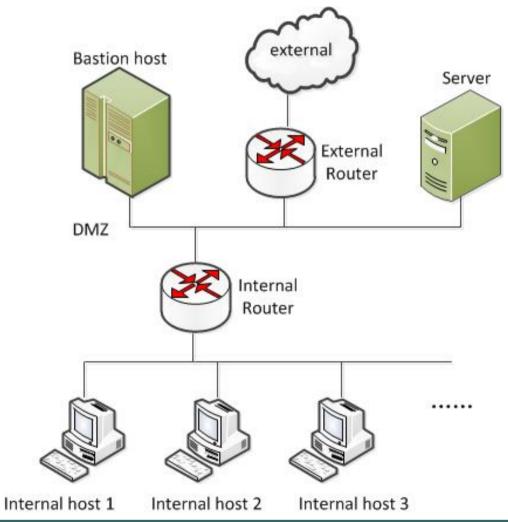
Physical placement of bastion host







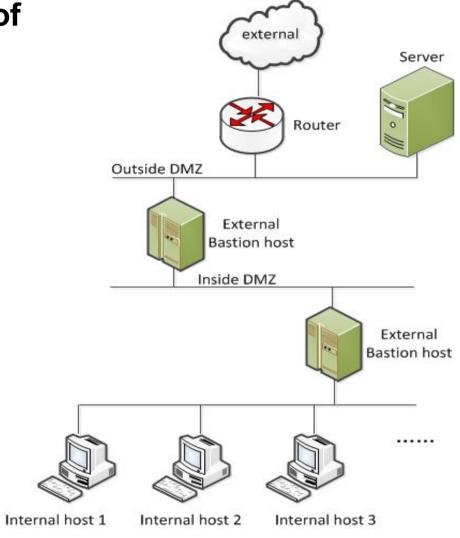
Physical placement of bastion host







 Physical placement of bastion host





### **Outline**

- 6.1 Introduction to Firewall
- 6.2 Design Principles of Firewall
- 6.3 Penetration of firewall
  - Attacking Packet Filtering Firewall
  - Attacking Stateful Inspection Firewall
  - Attacking Proxy
- 6.4 Firewall installation and Configuration

## **6.3.1 Attacking Packet Filtering Firewall**

- IP Address Spoofing Attack
- Denial-of-service Attack
- Tiny Fragment Attack
- Trojan Attack

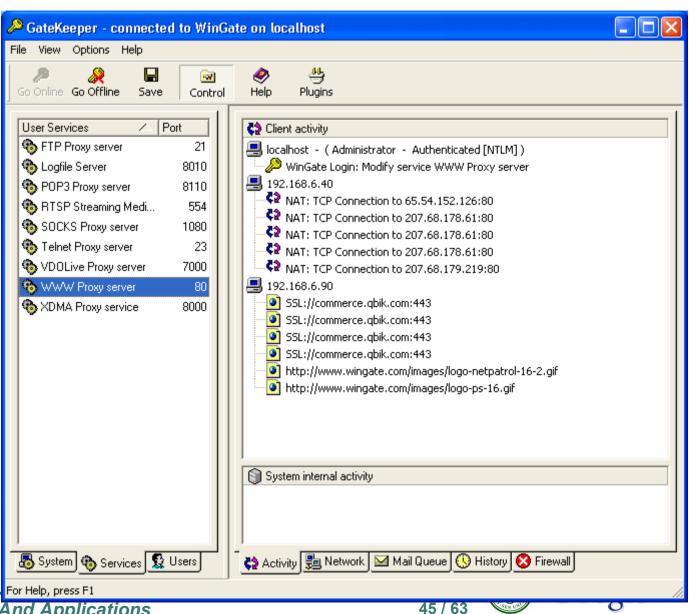
## 6.3.2 Attacking Stateful Inspection Firewall

- Protocol Tunneling
- Trojans Rebound

### **6.3.3 Attacking Proxy**

- Unauthorized Web Access
- Unauthorized Socks Access
- Unauthorized Telnet Access

WinGate



#### Hardware Firewall vs Software Firewall

- Hardware firewalls are specifically built within hardware devices like routers whereas software firewalls are software programs installed on computers.
- Hardware firewalls protect a whole network while software firewalls protect individual computers on which they are installed.
- By default, hardware firewalls filter web packets while software firewalls may not filter web packets unless web traffic filtering controls are enabled.
- A hardware firewall can be configured to use a proxy service for filtering packets while a software firewall does not use a proxy service to filter.

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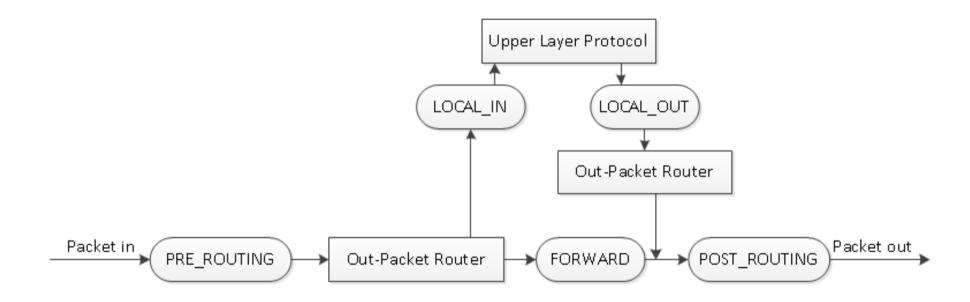


- Security on Linux Iptables
  - What is Iptables
  - Architecture of Iptables
  - Command Format
  - Examples

### What is Iptables

 Iptables is a generic table structure that defines rules and commands as part of the netfilter framework that facilitates Network Address Translation (NAT), packet filtering, and packet mangling in the Linux 2.4 and later version of linux.

### Architecture of Iptables





#### Command Format

iptables [-t table\_name] <command> [Chain\_name]
[Rule\_No.] [Rule] [-j Target\_Action]

#### Command Format – command

-A <Chain name> <Rule> Add Rule

-D <Chain name> <Rule> Delete Rule

-D <Chain name> <Rule No.>

-R <Chain\_name> <Rule No.> <Rule> Replace Rule

-I <Chain name> [Rule No.] <Rule> Insert Rule

List Rule

-F [Chain name]Delete All Rule in Chain

-N <Chain name> New Chain

-X [Chain\_name]Delete Chain

-P <Chain\_name> <Target> Default Rule

-E <Old Chain\_name> <New Chain\_name> Rename Chain



#### Command Format – Rule

- -p <Protocol Type>
- -s <IP Address/Mask>
- -d <IP Address/Mask>
- -i <Port>
- -o <Port>

**Specify Upper Protocol** 

Specify Source IP ADD

Specify Destination IP ADD

Specify Input Network Interface

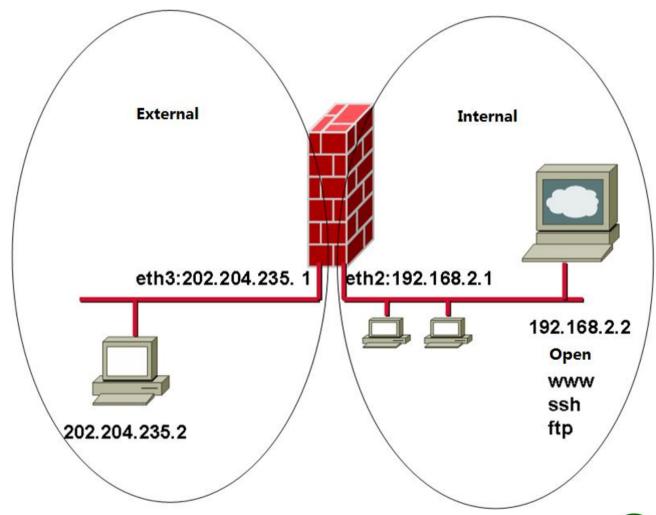
**Specify Output Network Interface** 

- Command Format Target\_Action
- -j ACCEPT
- -j REJECT
- -j DROP
- -j REDIRECT
- -j LOG
- -j <Chain\_name>

### Examples – Host Firewall

- iptables -N MYCHAIN
- iptables -A MYCHAIN -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT
- iptables -A MYCHAIN -j RETURN
- iptables -P INPUT DROP
- iptables –A INPUT –i lo –j ACCEPT
- iptables -A INPUT -j MYCHAIN
- iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j LOG --log-prefix "<--my GO ON-->"
- iptables -A OUTPUT DROP
- iptables -A OUTPUT -p tcp --sport 80 -j ACCEPT
- iptables -L

Examples – Gateway Firewall





### Examples – Gateway Firewall

- iptables -F
- iptables -F -t nat
- iptables -F -t mangle
- iptables -P FORWARD DROP
- iptables -A FORWARD -i eth3 -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT
- iptables -A FORWARD -i eth2 -p tcp --sport 80 -j ACCEPT
- iptables -A FORWARD -i eth3 -p tcp --dport 21 -j ACCEPT
- iptables -A FORWARD -m state --state RELATED, ESTABLISHED -j ACCEPT
- iptables -A FORWARD -p tcp --dport 22 -j ACCEPT

### Examples – NAT(SNAT)

- iptables -F
- iptables -t nat -F
- iptables -P FORWARD ACCEPT
- iptables -A FORWARD -i eth3 -d 192.168.2.0/24 -p tcp --syn -j DROP
- iptables -t nat -A POSTROUTING -s 192.168.2.0/24 -o eth3 -j SNAT -- to-source 202.204.235.100

### Examples – NAT(DNAT)

- iptables -F
- iptables -t nat –F
- iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i eth3 -d 192.168.2.0/24 -p tcp --syn-j DROP
- iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i eth3 -p tcp --dport 80 -j DNAT --to 192.168.2.2:80
- iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i eth3 -p tcp --dport 21 -j DNAT --to 192.168.2.2:21
- iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -i eth3 -p tcp --dport 22 -j DNAT --to 192.168.2.2:22
- iptables -P FORWARD DROP



#### Practice:

- 1. Understand IPTABLES
- 2. Try to install and configurate IPTABLES.

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