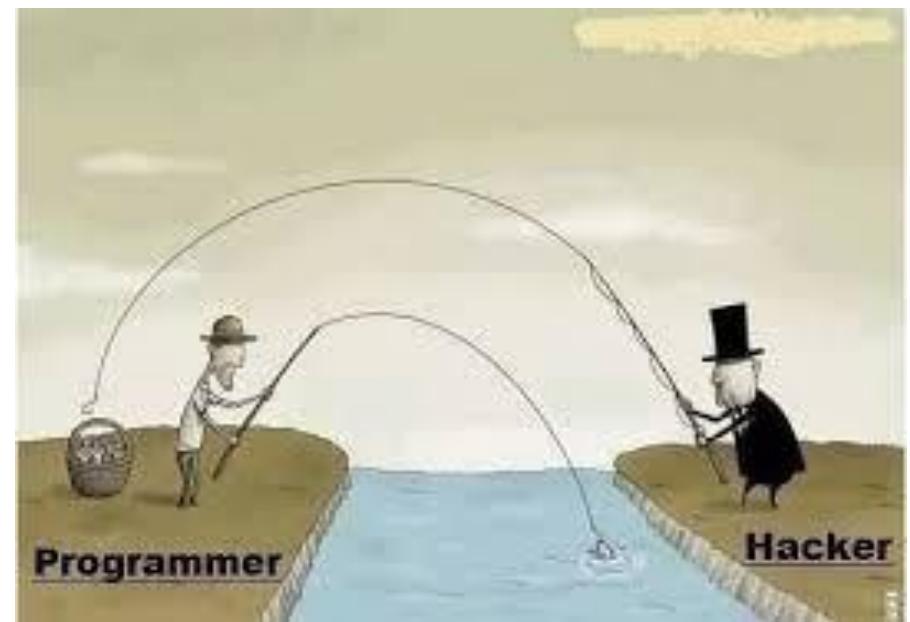


SECURITY IN COMPUTING, FIFTH EDITION

Chapter 6: Networks



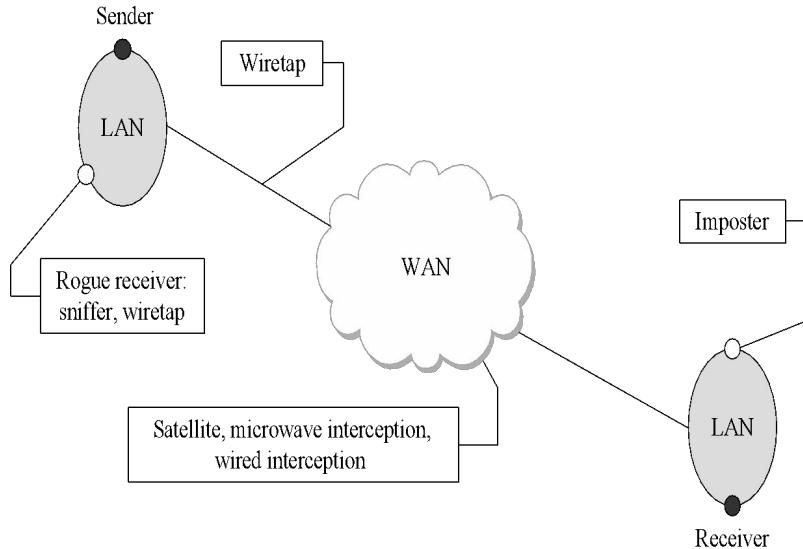
Network Transmission Media

There are vulnerabilities in each of these media.

The purpose of introducing them here is to understand that they all have different physical properties, and those properties will influence their susceptibility to different kinds of attack.

- Cable
- Optical fiber
- Microwave
- WiFi
- Satellite communication

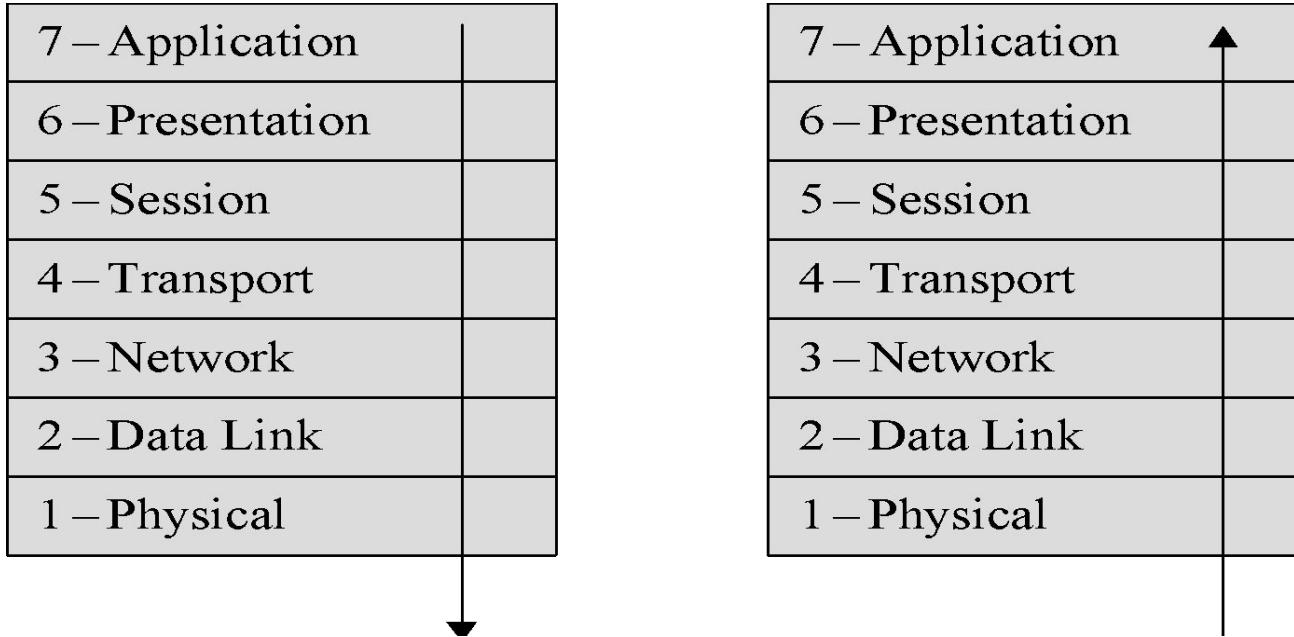
Communication Media Vulnerability



Medium	Strengths	Weaknesses
Wire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widely used • Inexpensive to buy, install, maintain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susceptible to emanation • Susceptible to physical wiretapping
Optical fiber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immune to emanation • Difficult to wiretap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potentially exposed at connection points
Microwave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong signal, not seriously affected by weather 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exposed to interception along path of transmission • Requires line of sight location • Signal must be repeated approximately every 30 miles (50 kilometers)
Wireless (radio, WiFi)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widely available • Built into many computers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signal degrades over distance; suitable for short range • Signal interceptable in circular pattern around transmitter
Satellite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong, fast signal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay due to distance signal travels up and down • Signal exposed over wide area at receiving end

Different touch points where attackers can take advantage of communication media:
wiretaps, sniffers and rogue receivers,
interception, and impersonation.

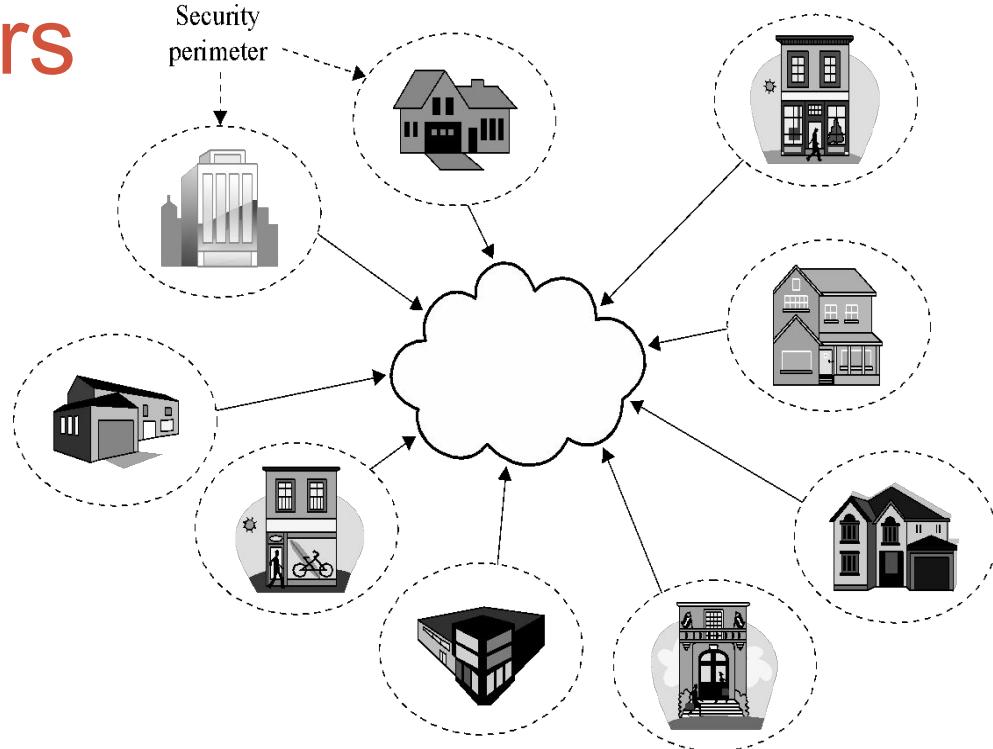
The OSI Model



Threats to Network Communications

- *Interception*, or unauthorized viewing
- *Modification*, or unauthorized change
- *Fabrication*, or unauthorized creation
- *Interruption*, or preventing authorized access

Security Perimeters



- Each of these places is a security perimeter in and of itself. Within each perimeter, you largely have control of your cables, devices, and computers because of physical controls, so you do not need to worry as much about protection.
- However, to do anything useful, you have to make connections between security perimeters, which exposes you to all sort of cables, devices, and computers you can't control.
- Encryption is the most common and useful control for addressing this threat.

What Makes a Network Vulnerable to Interception?

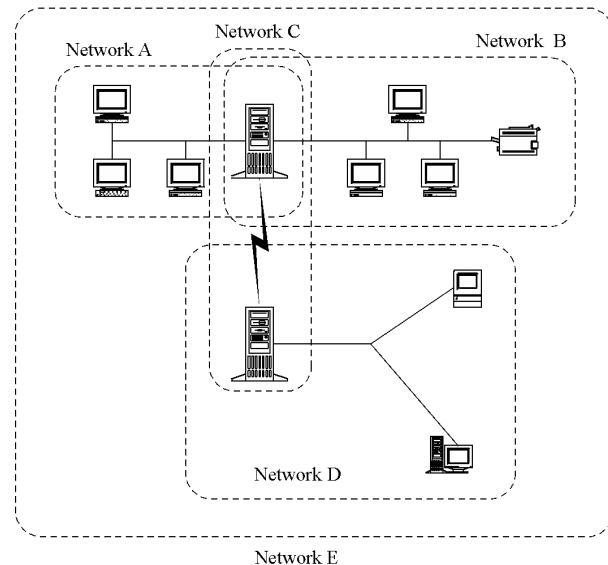
- Anonymity
 - An attacker can attempt many attacks, anonymously, from thousands of miles away
- Many points of attack
 - Large networks mean many points of potential entry
- Sharing
 - Networked systems open up potential access to more users than do single computers
- System complexity
 - One system is very complex and hard to protect; networks of many different systems, with disparate OSs, vulnerabilities, and purposes are that much more complex
- **Unknown perimeter (next slide)**
 - Networks, especially large ones, change all the time, so it can be hard to tell which systems belong and are behaving, and impossible to tell which systems bridge networks
- **Unknown path (next slide)**
 - There may be many paths, including untrustworthy ones, from one host to another

Network Perimeter

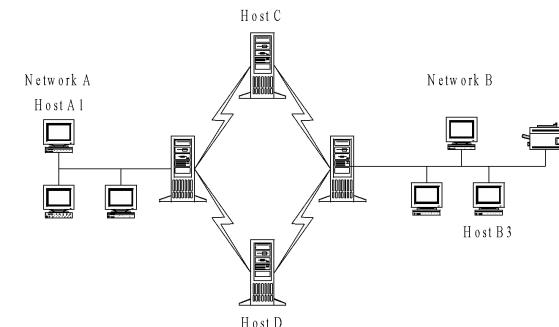
A network perimeter is the secured boundary between the private & locally managed side of a network. A network perimeter includes:

- **Border Routers:** Routers serve as the traffic signs of networks. They direct traffic into, out of, and throughout networks. The border router is the final router under the control of an organization before traffic appears on an untrusted network, such as the Internet.
- **Firewalls:** A firewall is a device that has a set of rules specifying what traffic it will allow or deny to pass through it. A firewall typically picks up where the border router leaves off and makes a much more thorough pass at filtering traffic.
- **Intrusion Detection System (IDS):** This functions as an alarm system for your network that is used to detect and alert on suspicious activity. This system can be built from a single device or a collection of sensors placed at strategic points in a network.
- **Intrusion Prevention System (IPS):** Compared to a traditional IDS which simply notifies administrators of possible threats, an IPS can attempt to automatically defend the target without the administrator's direct intervention.
- **De-Militarized Zones / Screened Subnets:** DMZ and screened subnet refer to small networks containing public services connected directly to and offered protection by firewall or other filtering device.

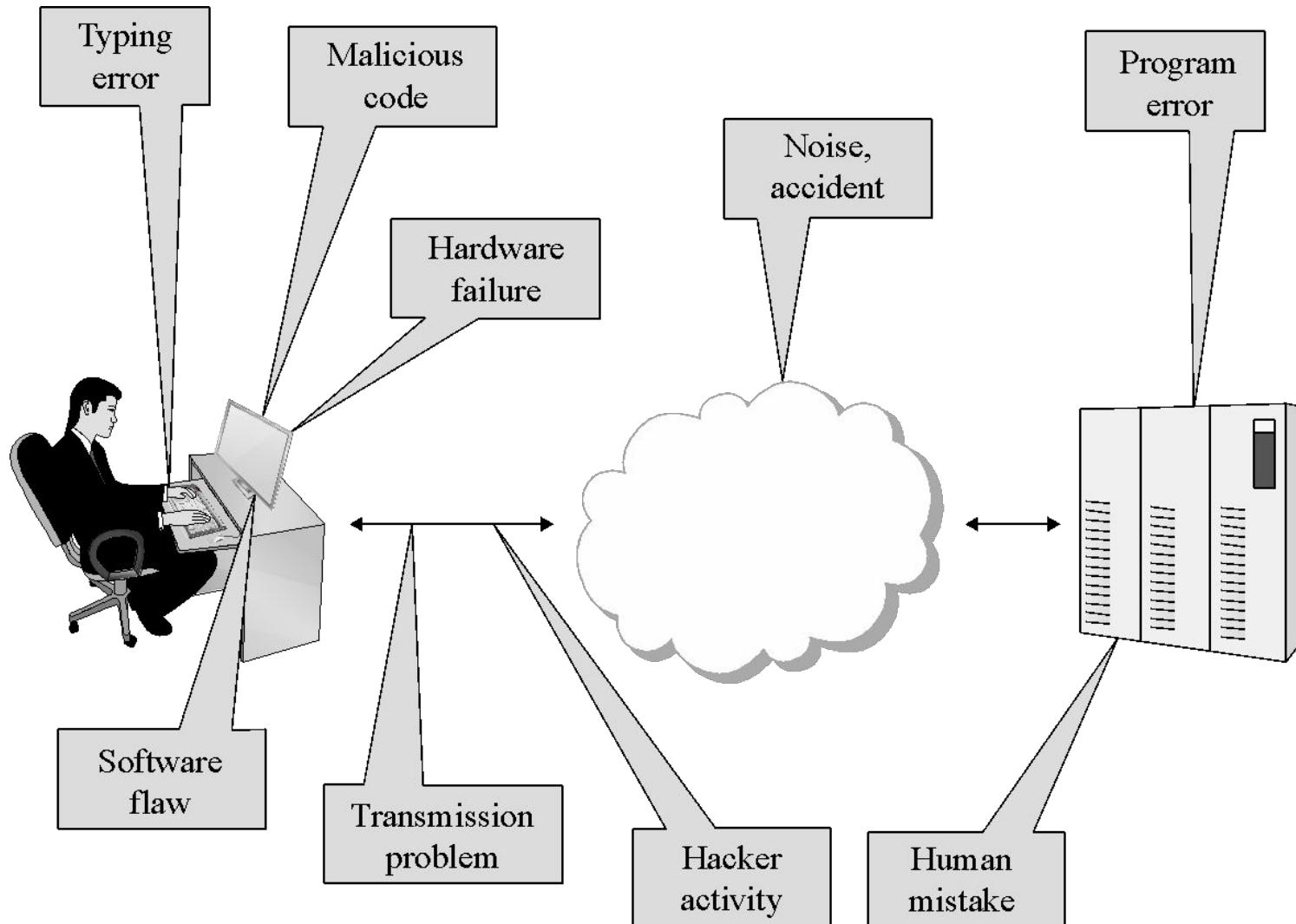
Unknown Perimeter



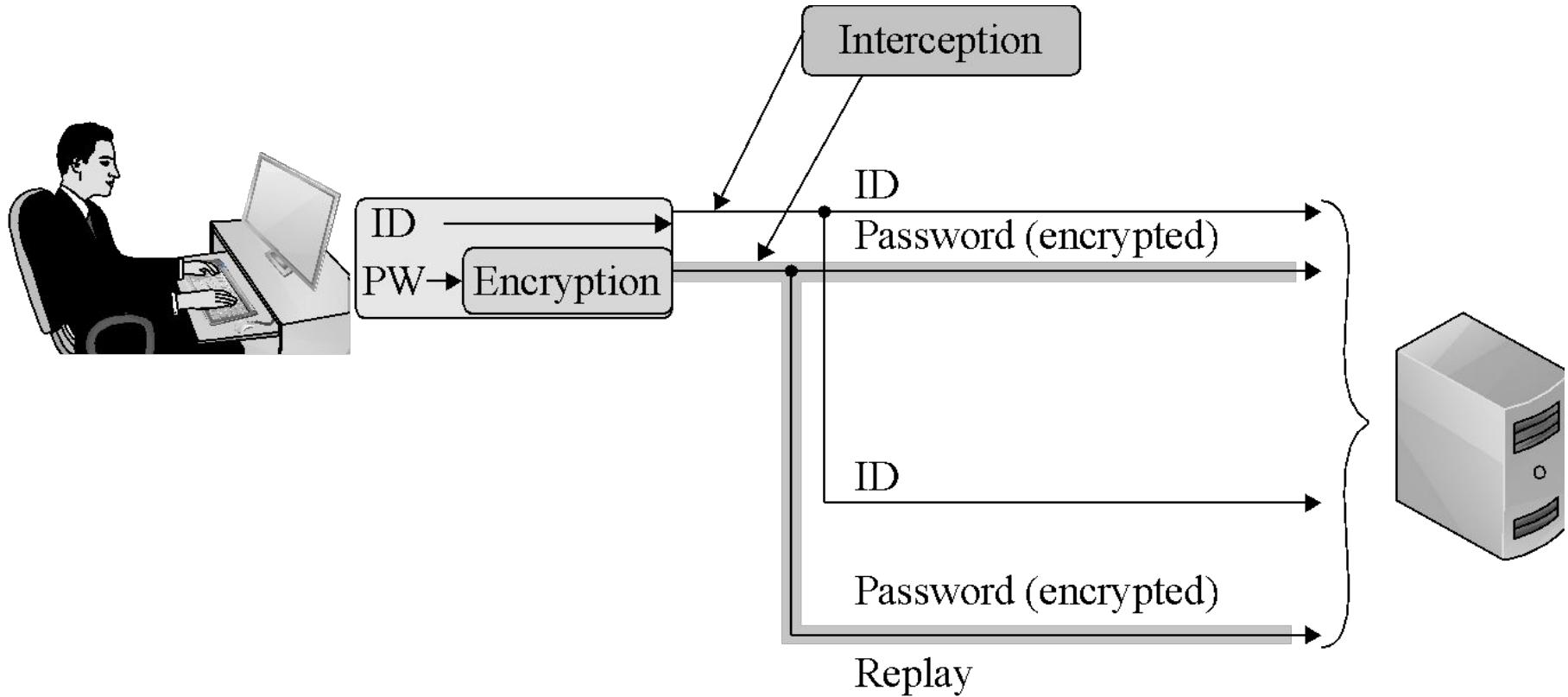
Unknown Path



Sources of Data Corruption



Simple Replay Attack



Interruption: Loss of Service

- Routing
 - Internet routing protocols are complicated, and one misconfiguration can poison the data of many routers
- Excessive demand
 - Network capacity is finite and can be exhausted; an attacker can generate enough demand to overwhelm a critical part of a network
- Component failure
 - Component failures tend to be sporadic and unpredictable, and will cause loss of service if not planned for

Port Scanning

```
Nmap scan report
192.168.1.1 / somehost.com (online) ping results
address: 192.168.1.1 (ipv4)
hostnames: somehost.com (user)
The 83 ports scanned but not shown below are in state: closed
Port      State    Service Reason          Product   Version Extra info
21        open     ftp     syn-ack       ProFTPD   1.3.1
22        filtered ssh    no-response
25        filtered smtp   no-response
80        open     http   syn-ack       Apache    2.2.3   (Centos)
106       open     pop3pw syn-ack       poppassd
110       open     pop3   syn-ack       Courier   pop3d
111       filtered rpcbind no-response
113       filtered auth   no-response
143       open     imap   syn-ack       Courier   Imapd   released
2004
443       open     http   syn-ack       Apache    2.2.3   (Centos)
465       open     unknown syn-ack
646       filtered ldp    no-response
993       open     imap   syn-ack       Courier   Imapd   released
2004
995       open     unknown syn-ack
2049      filtered nfs    no-response
3306      open     mysql  syn-ack       MySQL    5.0.45
8443      open     unknown syn-ack
34 sec. scanned
1 host(s) scanned
1 host(s) online
0 host(s) offline
```

Port scanning can best be described as a reconnaissance—and as such doesn't fit cleanly into the category of attack, threat, or vulnerability.

However....note the kind of data that is available: port, protocol, state, service, product, and version.

Vulnerabilities in Wireless Networks

- Confidentiality—Every message in WiFi is a broadcast, unencrypted messages can be read by anyone who's listening and within range
- Integrity—When WiFi access points receive two streams of communication claiming to be the same computer, they necessarily accept the one with greater signal strength. This allows attackers to take over and forge sessions by spoofing legitimate computers and boosting signal strength.
- Availability—In addition to the obvious availability issues, WiFi creates new availability problems, such as session hijacking, forced disassociation, and jamming.
- Unauthorized WiFi access—Some form of cryptographic control is necessary to address this

Vulnerabilities in Wireless Networks

- *Picking up the beacon—Hidden SSIDs can easily be discovered by monitoring client requests for SSIDs in the absence of SSID beacons from the access point
- SSID in all frames—Similar to picking up the beacon, once a client connects to an access point, the SSID is stored in all communication frames and can be sniffed that way
- Association issues—WiFi clients generally have preferred associations—networks they know and trust to connect to automatically—and these may include very common SSID names, such as AT&Twifi and Apple. Without additional security measures, attackers can spoof these trusted SSIDs and trick devices into connecting to rogue access points.

Failed Countermeasures for WiFi security: Wired Equivalent Privacy

Why WEP failed as a security measure:

- **Weakness in Encryption Algorithm:** WEP uses the RC4 stream cipher for encryption, which encrypts data with a static key. However, the way WEP uses this cipher is flawed, making it vulnerable to various attacks.
- **Short Key Length:** WEP typically uses either 64-bit or 128-bit keys. However, due to limitations in the design, these keys are not effectively utilized, resulting in significantly weaker security than the key length would suggest.
- **Predictable Initialization Vectors (IVs):** WEP uses a small, 24-bit Initialization Vector (IV) to initialize the encryption process. Due to the limited size of the IV, it repeats frequently, leading to patterns that attackers can exploit to crack the encryption.

Failed Countermeasures for WiFi security: Wired Equivalent Privacy

Why WEP failed as a security measure:

- **Weaknesses in Key Scheduling Algorithm:** WEP's key scheduling algorithm is vulnerable to statistical attacks, allowing attackers to deduce the key from observing enough encrypted packets.
- **Packet Injection and Replay Attacks:** WEP does not provide protection against packet injection and replay attacks. Attackers can capture and re-transmit encrypted packets, potentially gaining access to the network.
- **Lack of Authentication Mechanism:** WEP lacks a robust mechanism for client authentication, making it susceptible to unauthorized access by attackers.
- **Ineffective Key Management:** WEP relies on manual key management, making it challenging to update keys regularly and increasing the risk of compromised keys.

WEP

- Wired equivalent privacy, or WEP, was designed at the same time as the original 802.11 WiFi standards as the mechanism for securing those communications
- Weaknesses in WEP were first identified in 2001, four years after release
- More weaknesses were discovered over the course of years, until any WEP-encrypted communication could be cracked in a matter of minutes

How it works:

- Client and access point (AP) have a pre-shared key
- AP sends a random number to the client, which the client then encrypts using the key and returns to the AP
- The AP decrypts the number using the key and checks that it's the same number to authenticate the client
- Once the client is authenticated, the AP and client communicate using messages encrypted with the key

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WEP Weaknesses

- Weak encryption key
 - WEP allows to be either 64- or 128-bit, but 24 of those bits are reserved for initialization vectors (IV), thus reducing effective key size to 40 or 140 bits
 - Keys were either alphanumeric or hex phrases that users typed in and were therefore vulnerable to dictionary attacks
- Static key
 - Since the key was just a value the user typed in at the client and AP, and since users rarely changed those keys, one key would be used for many months of communications
- Faulty integrity check
 - WEP messages included a checksum to identify transmission errors but did not use one that could address malicious modification
- No authentication
 - Any client that knows the AP's SSID and MAC address is assumed to be legitimate

Stronger Protocol Suite for WiFi security: WPA (WiFi Protected Access)

- WPA was designed in 2003 as a replacement for WEP, followed in 2004 by WPA2, algorithm remains standard today
- Non-static encryption key
 - WPA uses a hierarchy of keys: New keys are generated for confidentiality and integrity of each session, and the encryption key is automatically changed on each packet
 - This way, the keys that are most important are used in very few places and indirect ways, protecting them from disclosure
- Authentication
 - WPA allows authentication by password, token, or certificate

Stronger Protocol Suite for WiFi security: WPA (WiFi Protected Access)

WPA2 is adequately secure if configured well: Choose a strong encryption algorithm (AES without TKIP), and use a long, random passphrase.

- Strong encryption
 - WPA adds support for AES, a much more reliably strong encryption algorithm
- Integrity protection
 - WPA includes a 64-bit cryptographic integrity check
- Session initiation
 - WPA sessions begin with authentication and a four-way handshake that results in separate keys for encryption and integrity on both ends

While there are some attacks against WPA, they are either of very limited effectiveness or require weak passwords

WEP Vs WPA

- **Encryption Strength:**
 - WEP: Uses the RC4 stream cipher with either a 64-bit or 128-bit static encryption key. However, WEP's encryption is weak due to its susceptibility to various attacks, such as key cracking and packet injection.
 - WPA: Utilizes TKIP (Temporal Key Integrity Protocol) for encryption, which dynamically generates encryption keys for each packet. WPA2, an improvement over WPA, uses AES (Advanced Encryption Standard), which is much stronger than TKIP and resistant to most known attacks.
- **Authentication:**
 - WEP: Typically relies on a simple shared key authentication method where all devices on the network share the same encryption key. It lacks robust authentication mechanisms, making it vulnerable to unauthorized access.
 - WPA: Supports stronger authentication methods, including WPA-PSK (Pre-Shared Key) and WPA-Enterprise. WPA-PSK allows for the use of a passphrase to generate encryption keys, while WPA-Enterprise utilizes an authentication server (e.g., RADIUS) for individualized user authentication.

WEP Vs WPA

- **Key Management:**
 - WEP: Relies on manual key management, where network administrators must configure and distribute encryption keys to all devices on the network. The same static key is used for both encryption and decryption until it is changed manually.
 - WPA: Provides more robust key management mechanisms, dynamically generating encryption keys (TKIP) or using AES for encryption (WPA2). Additionally, WPA supports key refreshing to mitigate the risk of key compromise.
- **Security Features:**
 - WEP: Lacks effective security features, making it susceptible to various attacks, including key cracking, packet injection, and replay attacks.
 - WPA: Implements additional security features, such as the Message Integrity Check (MIC) to detect data tampering during transmission, and the Group Key Handshake to periodically refresh encryption keys for multicast and broadcast traffic.

WEP Vs WPA

- **Overall Security:**
 - WEP: Considered highly insecure and obsolete due to its numerous vulnerabilities. It provides minimal security and is easily compromised.
 - WPA: Offers significantly stronger security compared to WEP, especially when using WPA2 with AES encryption. WPA/WPA2 is the preferred choice for securing wireless networks today.
- Thus, WPA/WPA2 provides stronger encryption, more robust authentication mechanisms, and better key management compared to WEP, making it a far more secure option for wireless network security.

Distributed Denial of Service- DDoS

- DDoS stands for Distributed Denial of Service.
- Multiple compromised systems- often infected with malware and controlled remotely by hackers-flood a target system or network with an overwhelming amount of traffic, requests, or data.
- The flood of incoming traffic overwhelms the target's resources
- Makes it difficult or impossible for legitimate users to access the targeted system or network.

DoS vs DDoS

- A Denial of Service (DoS) attack includes many kinds of attacks all designed to disrupt services.
- In addition to DDoS, you can have application layer DoS, advanced persistent DoS, and DoS as a service.
- Companies will use DoS as a service to stress test their networks.
- In short, DDoS is one type of DoS attack – however, DoS can also mean that the attacker used a single node to initiate the attack, instead of using a botnet. Both definitions are correct.

Denial of Service (DoS)

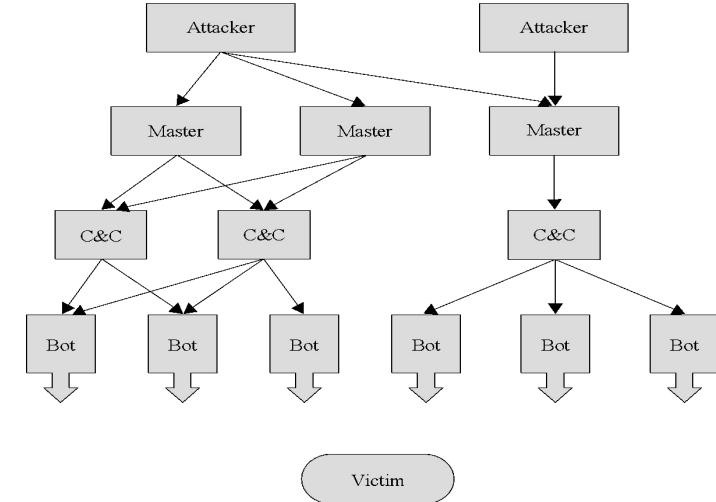
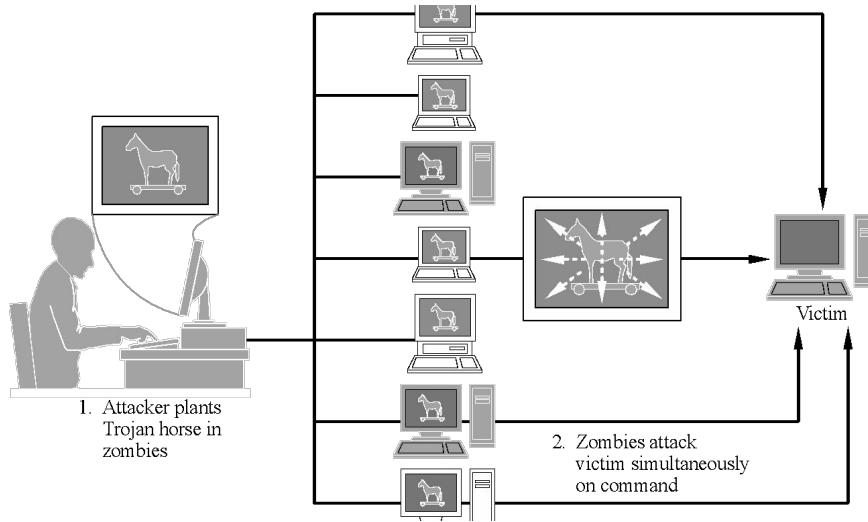
DoS attacks are attempts to defeat a system's availability:

- Volumetric attacks
- Application-based attacks
- Disabled communications
- Hardware or software failure

How DDoS works?

- **Compromise of Computers:**
 - The attackers first compromise a large number of computers or devices by infecting them with malware or by exploiting vulnerabilities.
 - Compromised devices are often referred to as "bots" or "zombies."
- **Controlled by a Command and Control (C&C) Server:**
 - The compromised devices are then controlled remotely by the attackers using a command and control (C&C) server.
 - The attackers use this control to orchestrate the attack.
- **Initiation of Attack:**
 - Once the botnet (network of compromised devices) is established and under the attackers' control, they initiate the DDoS attack by instructing the compromised devices to send a flood of traffic to the target system or network.
- **Overwhelm the Target:**
 - The target system or network becomes overwhelmed by the flood of incoming traffic, which consumes its resources such as bandwidth, processing power, or memory.

Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS)

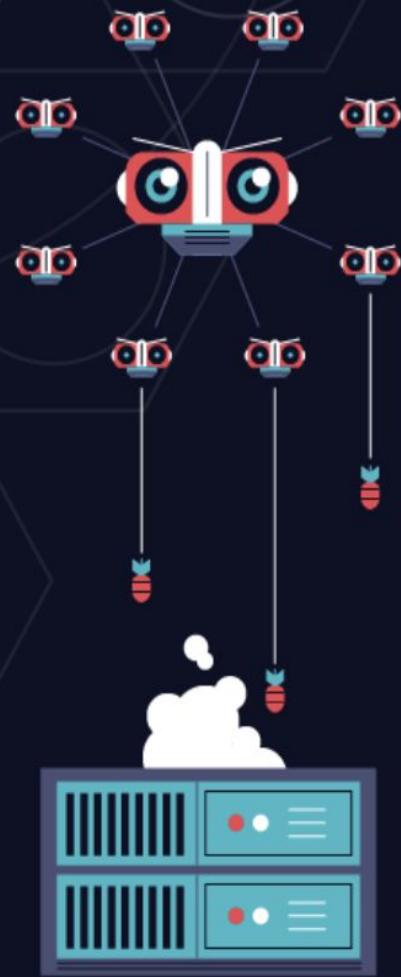


- 1) Conscript an army of compromised machines to attack a victim.
- 2) Choose a victim, and have the whole army unleash a DoS attack at once.

DDoS attacks are much more effective than traditional DoS attacks, employing a multiplied version of the same methods.

- Botnets are machines running malicious code under remote control.
- They often go undetected because they do little harm to the machines they run on.
- Attacker separated from bots by multiple layers, making attacker difficult to trace. Redundancy built in so that if one master or C&C node is down, the bots can continue....

How a Botnet is Used in DDoS



1. Attackers use flaws or malware to install C2 software on **user's systems to create a botnet.**
2. Once the botnet is ready, the **attackers send the start command** to all of their botnet nodes.
3. The botnet will then send its **programmed requests to the target server.**
4. If the attack makes it past the outer defenses, it quickly **overwhelms most systems.**
5. It usually **causes service outages**, and in some cases, crashes the server.
6. This causes a **loss in productivity or service interruption.**

Example: Denial of Service (DoS)

- The DYNDNS attack exploited WIFI cameras with default passwords to create a huge botnet.
- Once they have the botnet ready, the attackers send the start command to all of their botnet nodes, and the botnets will then send their programmed requests to the target server.
- If the attack makes it past the outer defenses, it quickly overwhelms most systems, causes service outages, and in some cases, crashes the server.

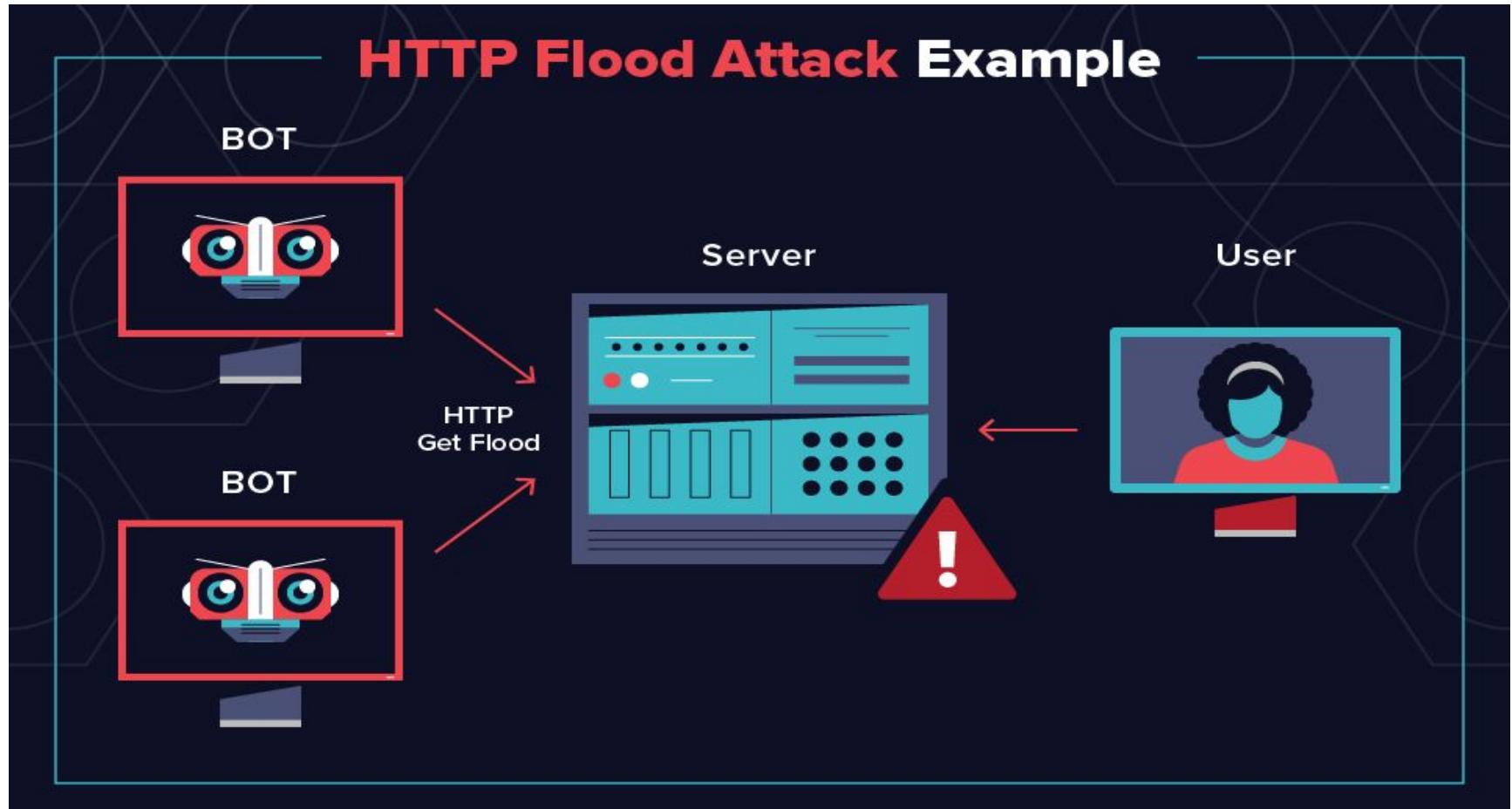
Common Types of DDoS Attacks

- Application Layer Attacks
- Protocol Attacks
- Volumetric Attacks

Application Layer Attacks

- Aim to exhaust the resources of the target and disrupt access to the target's service.
- Attackers load the bots with a complicated request that taxes the target server as it tries to respond.
- The request might require database access or large downloads.
- If the target gets several million of those requests in a short time, it can very quickly get overwhelmed and either slowed to a crawl or locked up completely.
- E.g. An HTTP Flood attack is an application layer attack that targets a web server on the target and uses many fast HTTP requests to bring the server down.

Application Layer Attacks



Protocol Attacks

- Protocol DDoS attacks target the networking layer of the target systems.
- Their goal is to overwhelm the tablespaces of the core networking services, the firewall, or load balancer that forwards requests to the target.
- Network services work off a first-in, first-out (FIFO) queue.
- The first request comes in, the computer processes the request, and then it goes and gets the next request in the queue so on.
- There are a limited number of spots on this queue, and in a DDoS attack, the queue could become so huge that there aren't resources for the computer to deal with the first request.
- E.g. A SYN flood attack is a specific protocol attack.
- In a standard TCP/IP network transaction, there is a 3-way handshake-SYN, ACK, and tSYN-ACK.
 - The SYN is a request of some kind,
 - ACK is the response from the target, and
 - SYN-ACK is the original requester saying "thanks, I got the information I requested."
- In a SYN flood attack, the attackers create SYN packets with fake IP addresses.
- The target then sends an ACK to the dummy address, which never responds, and it then sits there and waits for all those responses to time out, which in turn exhausts the resources to process all of these fake transactions.

Protocol Attacks

SYN Flood Attack Example

SYN =
Synchronization

1. SYN

2. SYN/ACK

3. ACK

ACK =
Acknowledgement

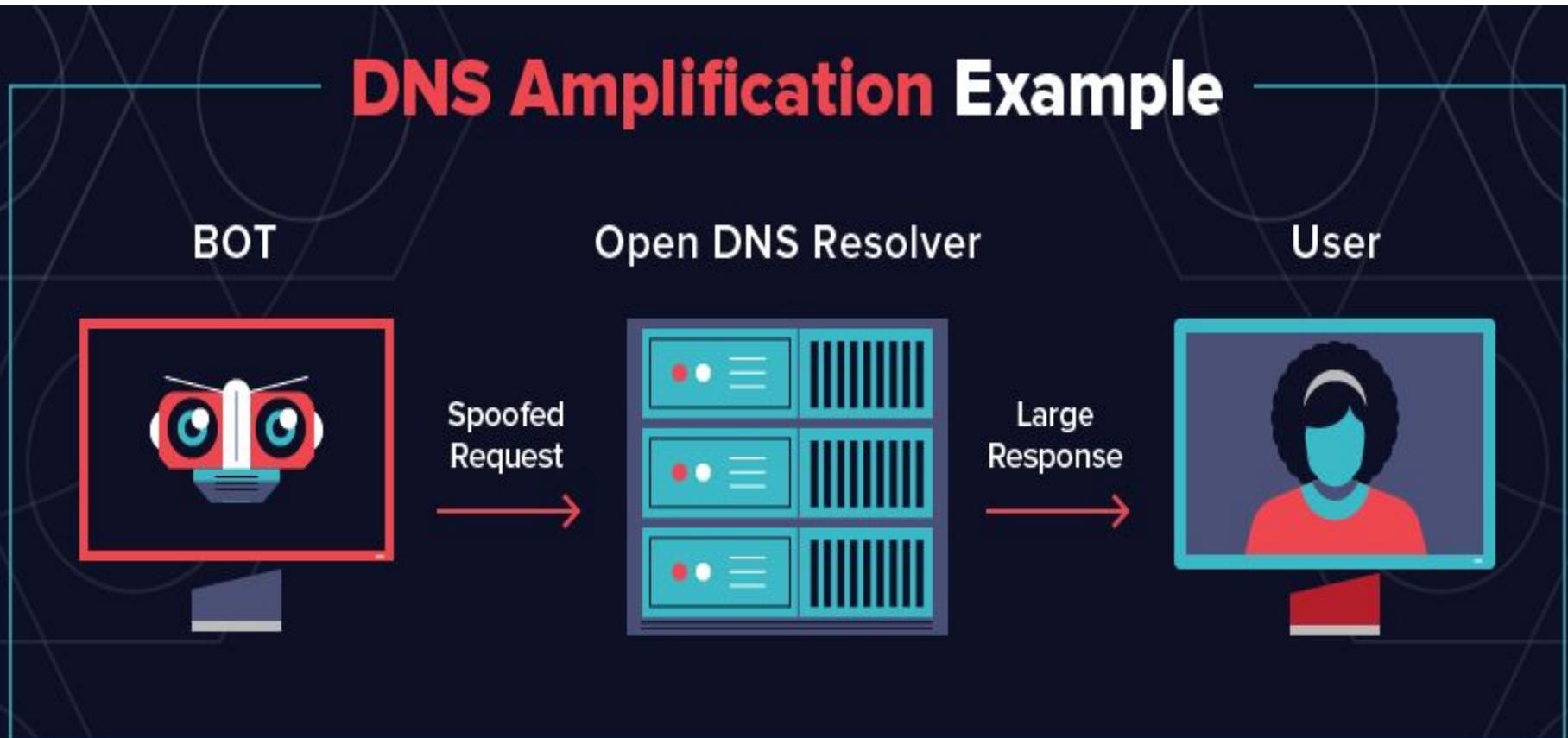


Volumetric Attacks

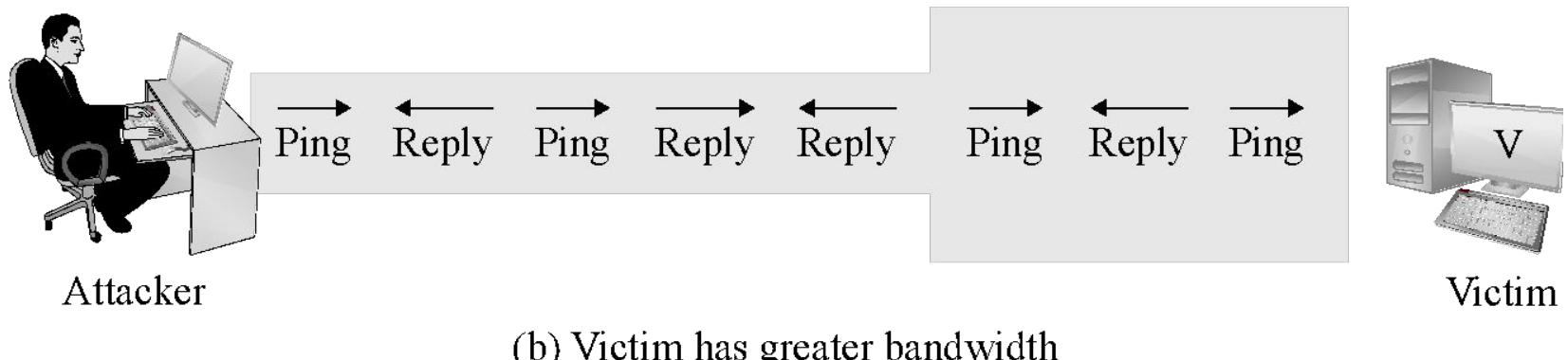
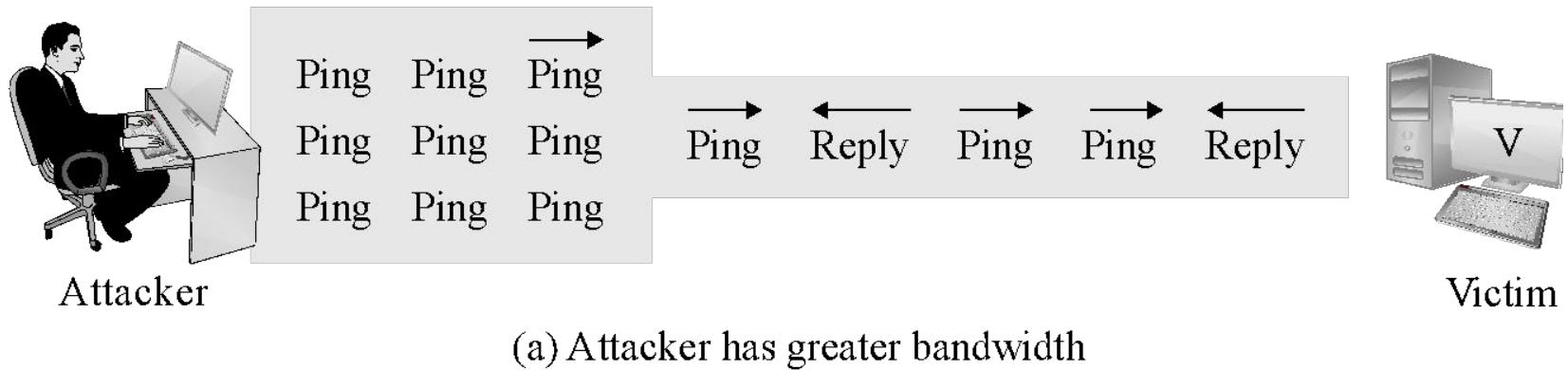
- The goal of a volumetric attack is to use the botnet to generate a major amount of traffic and clog up the works on the target.
- E.g. HTTP Flood attack, but with an added exponential response component.
- Volumetric attacks request something from the target that will vastly increase the size of the response, and the amount of traffic explodes and clogs up the server.
- E.g. DNS Amplification is a volumetric attack.
- In this case, they are attacking the DNS server directly and requesting a large amount of data back from the DNS server, which can bring the DNS server down and cripple anyone that is using that DNS server for name resolution services.

Volumetric Attacks

DNS Amplification Example



DoS Attack: Ping Flood



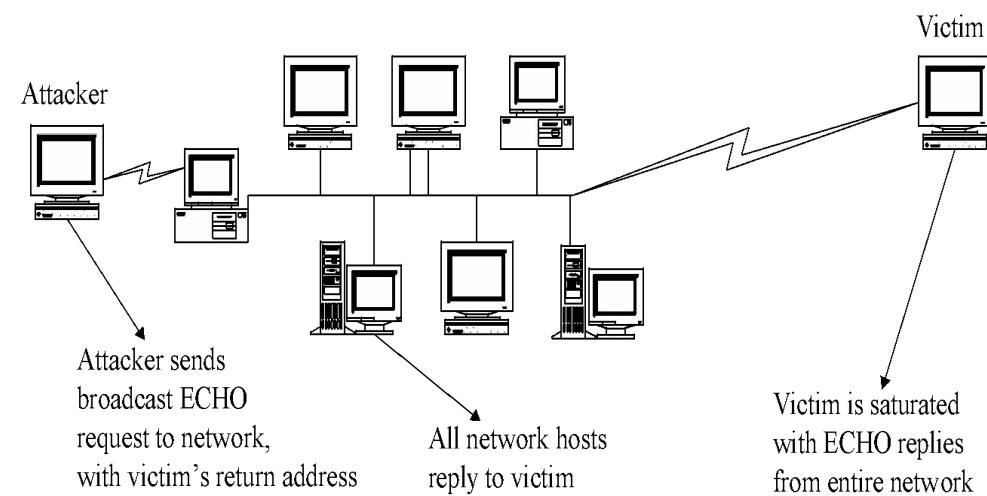
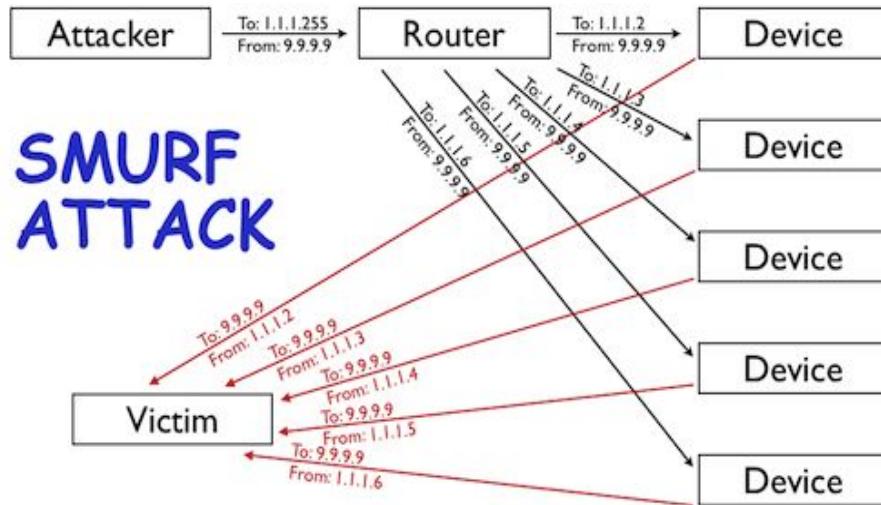
DDoS Attack: Ping Flood

- Volumetric cum Protocol DDoS attack
- Also known as an ICMP flood,
- The attacker overwhelms the targeted device or network with continuous request packets (pings).
- This can cause network congestion and prevent legitimate users from accessing network resources.
- The attacker must know the IP address of the target.

Types of ICMP flood attack

- Targeted local disclosed –
 - Targets a specific computer on a local network.
 - The attacker must obtain the IP address of the destination beforehand.
- Router disclosed –
 - Targets routers with the objective of interrupting communications between computers on a network.
 - The attacker must have the internal IP address of a local router.
- Blind ping –
 - Involves using an external program to reveal the IP address of the target computer or router before launching a DDoS attack.

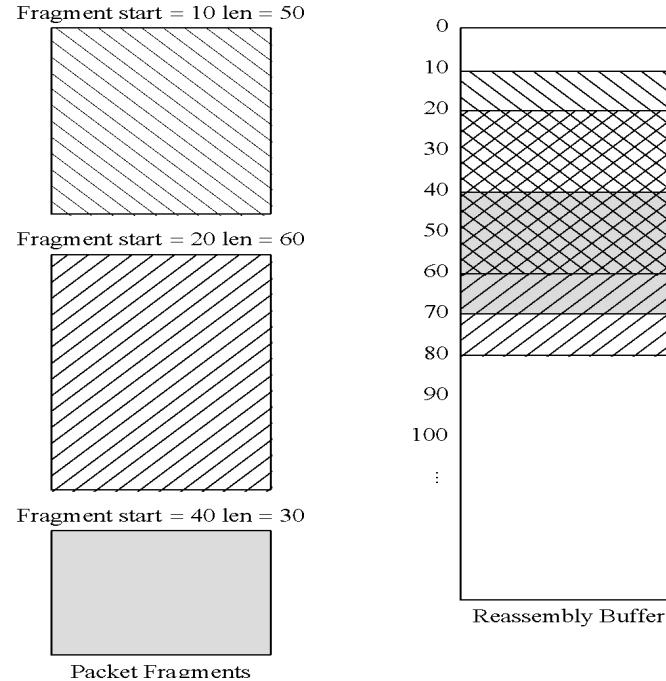
DDoS Attack: Smurf Attack



DoS Attack: Smurf Attack

- Volumetric cum Protocol DDoS attack
- The original amplification attack involves an attacker sending ICMP requests (i.e., ping requests) to the network's broadcast address (i.e., X.X.X.255) of a router configured to relay ICMP to all devices behind the router.
- The attacker spoofs the source of the ICMP request to be the IP address of the intended victim.
- Since ICMP does not include a handshake, the destination has no way of verifying if the source IP is legitimate.
- The router receives the request and passes it on to all the devices that sit behind it.
- All those devices then respond back to the ping.
- The attacker is able to amplify the attack by a multiple of how ever many devices are behind the router (i.e., if you have 5 devices behind the router then the attacker is able to amplify the attack 5x).

DoS Attack: Teardrop Attack

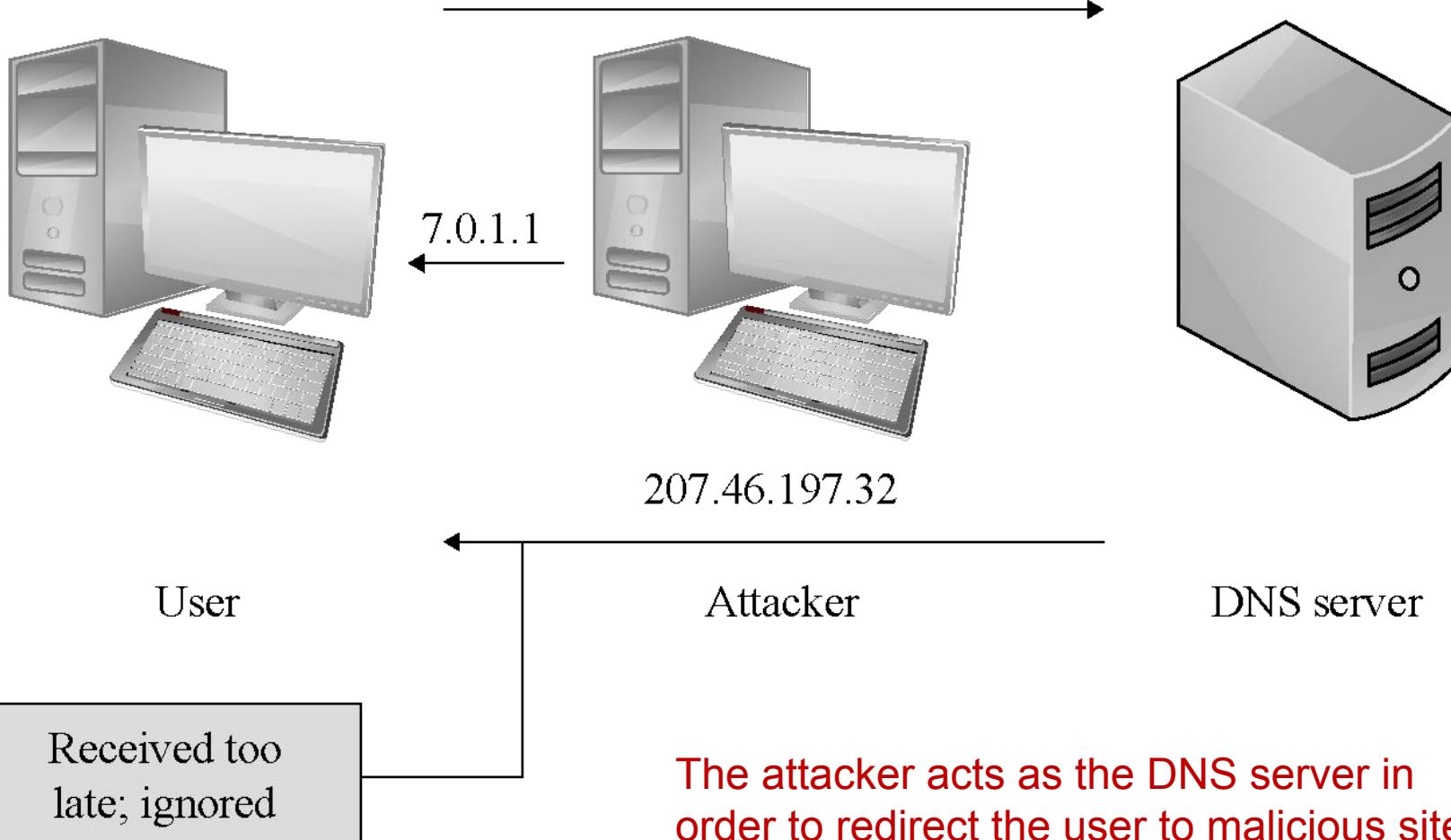


The attacker sends packets that cannot possibly be reassembled (conflicting reassembly instructions).

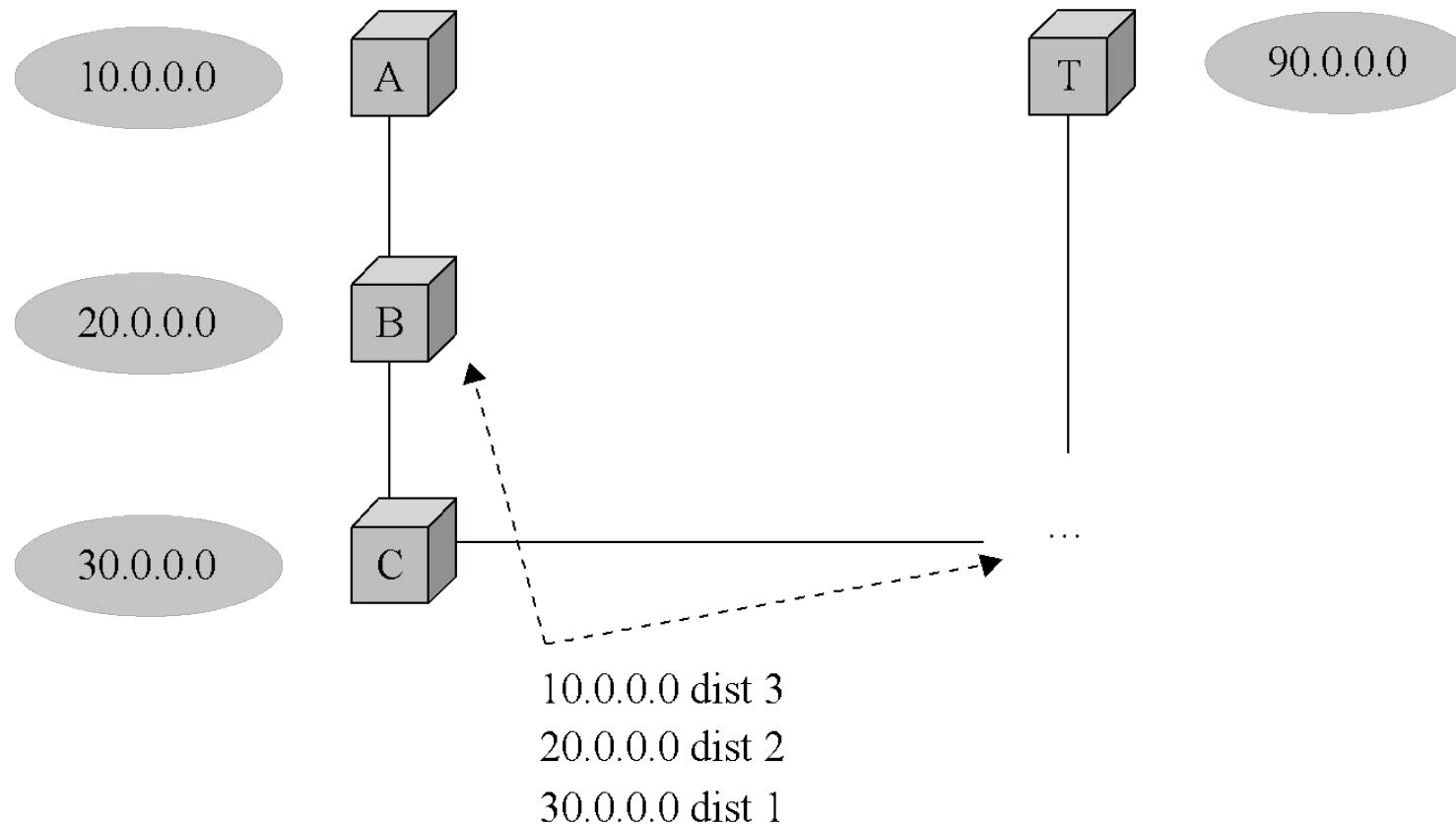
In extreme cases, this can cause the entire OS to lock up.

DoS Attack: DNS Spoofing

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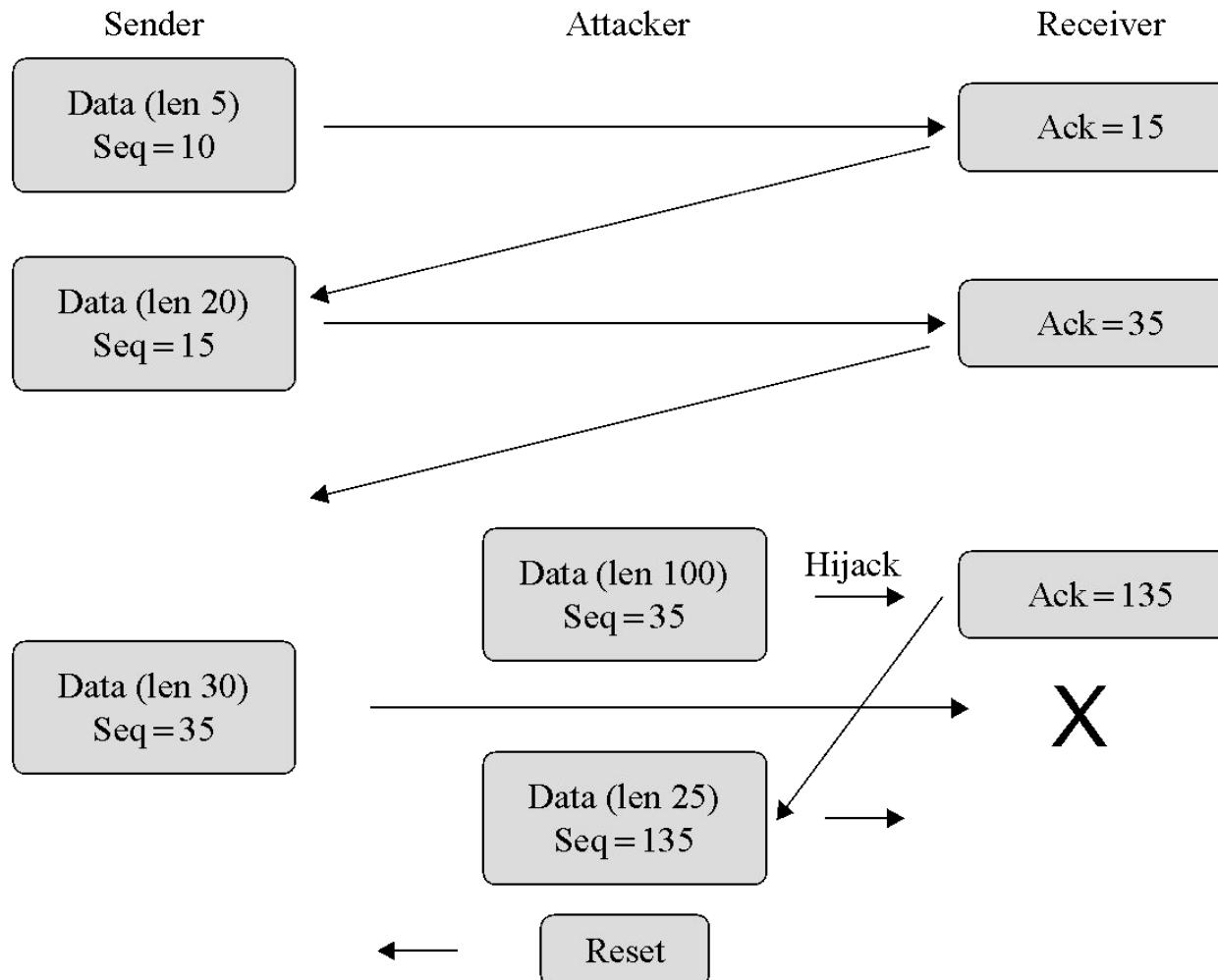


DoS Attack: Rerouting Routing



This picture doesn't show anything malicious happening. It just shows how one router, C, advertises the routes it knows about to the routers adjacent to it. Routers rely on these advertising messages to be accurate; when they aren't, DoS can ensue.

DoS Attack: Session Hijacking



In this image of TCP session hijacking, an attacker is able to synchronize with a receiver while breaking synchronization with the sender and resetting the sender's connection.

The attacker continues the TCP session while the sender thinks the connection just broke off.

Countermeasures to DoS attacks

- **Network Firewalls:**
 - filter incoming traffic and block packets that appear to be part of an attack, such as those coming from known malicious IP addresses or with suspicious characteristics.
- **Intrusion Detection/Prevention Systems (IDS/IPS):**
 - IDS/IPS solutions monitor network traffic for signs of suspicious activity or known attack patterns.
 - They can automatically block or alert administrators about potential DoS attacks in real-time.
- **Traffic Filtering and Rate Limiting:**
 - Implementing traffic filtering and rate limiting mechanisms can help mitigate the impact of DoS attacks by limiting the amount of incoming traffic to a manageable level.
 - involves setting bandwidth limits, filtering out certain types of traffic, or using rate-limiting algorithms to control the flow of packets.

Countermeasures to DoS attacks

- **Load Balancers:**
 - Load balancers distribute incoming traffic across multiple servers or network devices, ensuring that no single device becomes overwhelmed.
 - This can help prevent a single point of failure and mitigate the impact of DoS attacks by spreading the load.
- **Content Delivery Networks (CDNs):**
 - CDNs cache and distribute content across geographically distributed servers, which can help absorb and mitigate the impact of DoS attacks by distributing traffic across multiple points of presence.
- **DDoS Mitigation Services:**
 - Specialized DDoS mitigation services offered by third-party providers can help detect and mitigate large-scale DDoS attacks in real-time.
 - These services often employ a combination of network monitoring, traffic analysis, and filtering techniques to block malicious traffic before it reaches the target network.

Countermeasures to DoS attacks

- **Scalable Architecture:**
 - Designing systems with scalability in mind can help mitigate the impact of DoS attacks as they allow dynamic allotment of additional resources in response to increased demand or traffic spikes.
- **Incident Response Plans:**
 - Having a well-defined incident response plan in place can help organizations respond effectively to DoS attacks when they occur.
 - This includes procedures for identifying, mitigating, and recovering from the attack, as well as communicating with stakeholders and law enforcement if necessary.
- **Regular Security Audits and Updates:**
 - ensures that systems and software are up-to-date with the latest security patches and configurations, reducing the likelihood of vulnerabilities that could be exploited in DoS attacks.
- **User Authentication and Access Control:**
 - Can help prevent unauthorized users from launching DoS attacks from within the network or gaining access to sensitive resources that could be targeted.

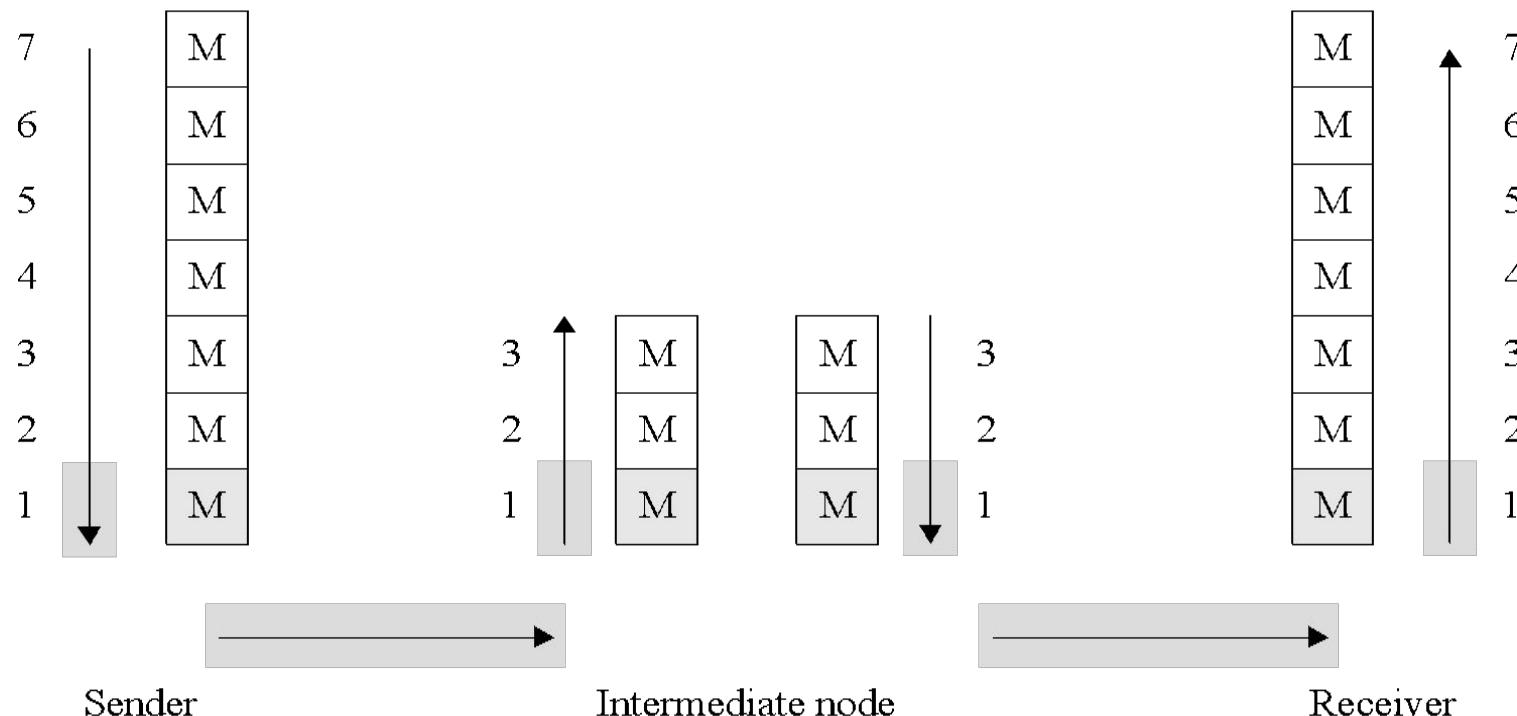
Network Security Essentials

1. Encryption
2. Cryptographic protocols
3. Secure Routing approaches to protect traffic and routing information
4. VPN
5. Firewall
6. DMZs

1. Encryption : Link-to-Link encryption

- Link-to-link encryption is commonly used where securing the physical transmission medium is crucial
- In link encryption, data are encrypted just before the system places them on the physical communications link and are decrypted just as they arrive at the destination system.
- The data are encrypted only at layer 1 of the OSI stack.
- If the data is communicated through an intermediate node, that intermediate node will decrypt the data when it arrives, and then may re-encrypt it for the next link.
- Link encryption is appropriate when the transmission line is the point of greatest vulnerability, such as in wireless scenarios.

Link-to-Link encryption



M Encrypted

M Plaintext

Link-to-Link encryption applications

- **Fiber-Optic Communication Networks**
- **Ethernet Networks:**
 - protect data as it travels between network devices, such as switches, routers, and servers.
 - helps prevent eavesdropping and unauthorized access to network traffic within the LAN and WAN
- **Satellite Communication Systems:**
 - used to secure data transmission between ground stations and satellites or between satellites.
 - protects sensitive information transmitted over the satellite links from interception or jamming by adversaries.
- **Wireless Communication Networks:**
 - Used in Wi-Fi, cellular, and microwave links.
 - enhances the security of wireless transmissions and helps mitigate risks such as eavesdropping, man-in-the-middle attacks, and signal interception.

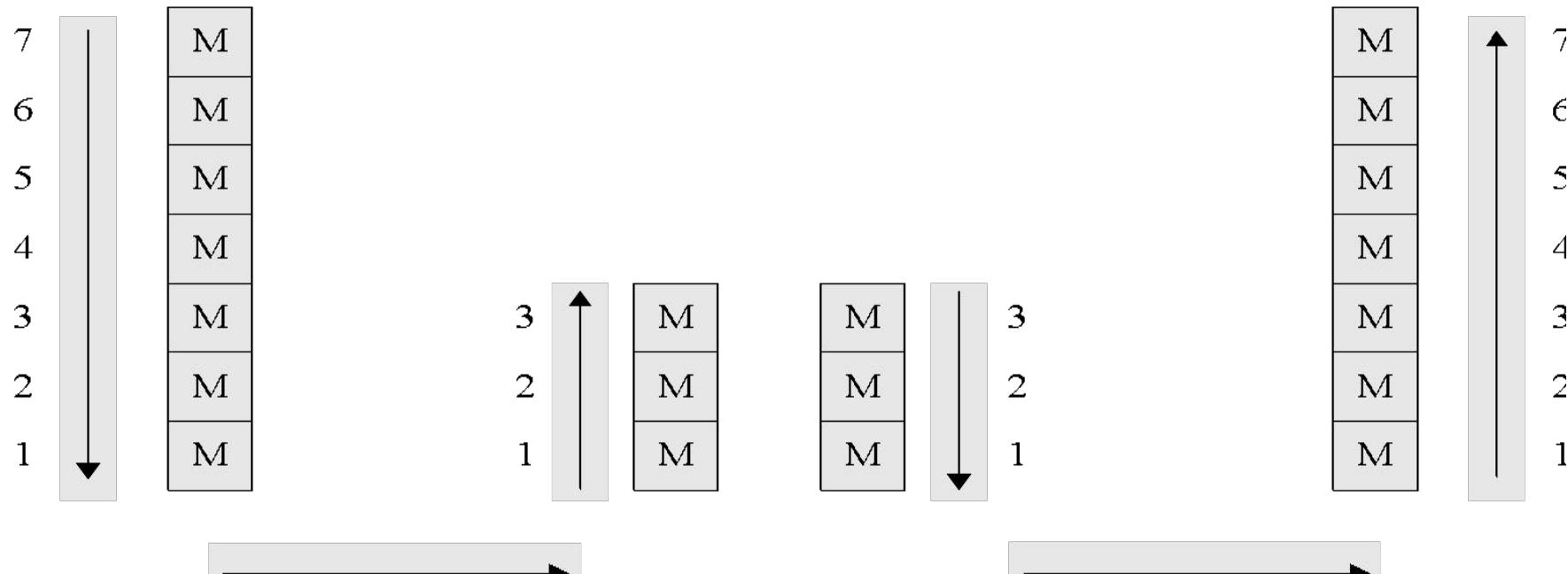
Link-to-Link encryption applications

- **Industrial Control Systems (ICS):**
 - secures communication between control systems, sensors, actuators, and other devices.
 - protects industrial networks from cyber threats and ensures the integrity and confidentiality of data exchanged within the system.
- **Military and Defense Networks:**
 - protects classified and sensitive information transmitted over communication links, including terrestrial, aerial, and maritime networks.
- **Undersea Communication Cables:**
 - secures data transmission over undersea communication cables used for international telecommunications and internet connectivity.
 - helps safeguard submarine cable systems from interception, tapping, and sabotage.

1. Encryption : End-to-End Encryption

- The data are encrypted all the way up to OSI layer 7, the application layer.
- In real-world end-to-end encryption, such as those that use SSL, the data often isn't encrypted all the way to layer 7; the important element is that intermediate nodes cannot decrypt the data.
- End-to-end encryption is appropriate whenever sending sensitive data through untrustworthy intermediate nodes, such as over the Internet.

End-to-End Encryption



M Encrypted

M Plaintext

End-to-End Encryption applications

1. Messaging Apps:

- **Signal:** Signal is a messaging app known for its strong focus on privacy and security. It uses end-to-end encryption for all messages, voice calls, and video calls, ensuring that only the intended recipients can access the content.
- **WhatsApp:** WhatsApp, owned by Facebook, implements end-to-end encryption for its messages, calls, photos, and videos. This means that only the sender and receiver can decrypt and read the messages, providing a high level of privacy.
- **Telegram (Secret Chats):** Telegram offers a feature called "Secret Chats" which uses end-to-end encryption. Messages sent in Secret Chats can only be accessed on the devices of the sender and the recipient, and they are not stored on Telegram's servers.

End-to-End Encryption applications

2. Email Services:

- **ProtonMail:** ProtonMail is an email service that provides end-to-end encryption for emails. Messages sent between ProtonMail users are encrypted on the sender's device and can only be decrypted by the recipient.
- **Tutanota:** Tutanota is another email provider that offers end-to-end encryption. It encrypts emails and contacts automatically, ensuring that only the sender and receiver can access the content.

End-to-End Encryption applications

3. File Storage and Sharing:

- **MEGA**: MEGA is a cloud storage service that offers end-to-end encryption for files stored on its servers. Users can upload files securely and share them with others while ensuring that only authorized users can decrypt and access the files.
- **Sync.com**: Sync.com is another cloud storage provider that utilizes end-to-end encryption for file storage and sharing. It ensures that files are encrypted on the user's device before being uploaded to the cloud, preventing unauthorized access.

4. Collaboration Platforms:

- **Keybase**: Keybase offers end-to-end encrypted messaging, file sharing, and collaboration tools. It allows users to securely communicate and share files with others while ensuring that the content remains private and secure.

End-to-End Encryption applications

5. Voice and Video Calling:

- **Apple FaceTime:** FaceTime, Apple's video and voice calling service, uses end-to-end encryption for communication between Apple devices. This ensures that calls remain private and cannot be intercepted by third parties.
- **Signal:** In addition to messaging, Signal also offers end-to-end encryption for voice and video calls, providing users with a secure way to communicate in real-time.
- **Skype (Private Conversations):** Skype offers a feature called "Private Conversations" that utilizes end-to-end encryption for voice calls, video calls, and text messages. This ensures that only the participants can access the content of their conversations.
- **Zoom (End-to-End Encryption):** Zoom introduced end-to-end encryption for its meetings, ensuring that only the meeting participants can access the audio, video, and shared content. This feature provides an added layer of security for sensitive discussions.
- Microsoft Teams

Link vs. End-to-End

Link Encryption	End-to-End Encryption
Security within hosts	
Data partially exposed in sending host	Data protected in sending host
Data partially exposed in intermediate nodes	Data protected through intermediate nodes
Role of user	
Applied by sending host	Applied by user application
Invisible to user	User application encrypts
Host administrators select encryption	User selects algorithm
One facility for all users	Each user selects
Can be done in software or hardware	Usually software implementation; occasionally performed by user add-on hardware
All or no data encrypted	User can selectively encrypt individual data items
Implementation considerations	
Requires one key per pair of hosts	Requires one key per pair of users
Provides node authentication	Provides user authentication

2. Cryptographic protocols

- SSL/TSL
- IPSec
- SSH (Secure Shell)

Network security layers: SSL and TLS

- Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) was designed in 1990s to protect communication between browser & server
- In a 1999 upgrade to SSL, it was renamed Transport Layer Security (TLS)
- Though still commonly called SSL, TLS is the modern, and much more secure protocol
- SSL is implemented at OSI layer 4 (transport)
- SSL provides
 - Server authentication
 - Client authentication (optional)
 - Encrypted communication

Network security layers: SSL and TLS

- At start of an SSL session, the client & server negotiate encryption algorithms, known as the “cipher suite”
- The server sends a list of cipher suite options, and the client chooses an option from that list
- The cipher suite consists of
 - A digital signature algorithm for authentication
 - An encryption algorithm for confidentiality
 - A hash algorithm for integrity

Network security layers: SSL and TLS

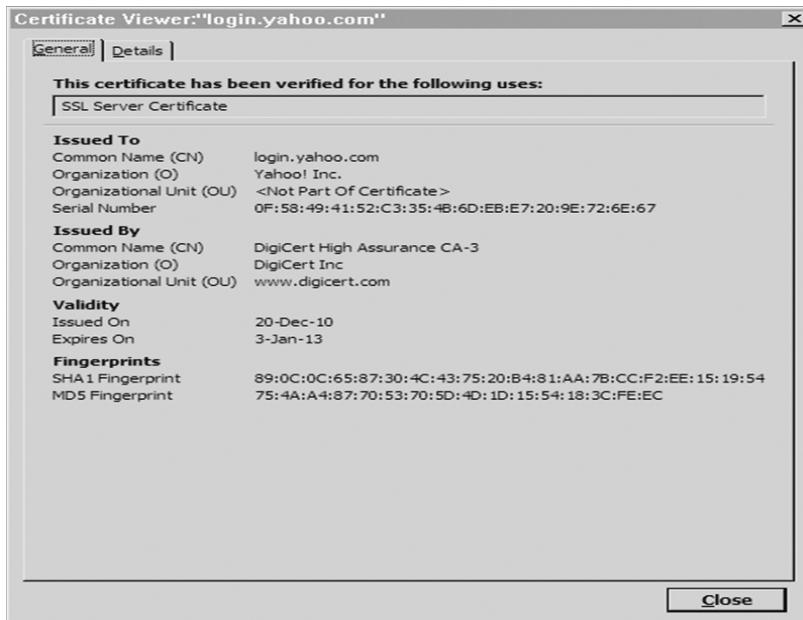
Cipher suite negotiation is at the center of a very common SSL configuration vulnerability.

It is very common for servers to be configured to offer as many cipher suites as possible to provide broad compatibility.

However, if a server offers cipher suite options that have significant known vulnerabilities (many do), it presents the opportunity for a man-in-the-middle to negotiate on the client's behalf for a weak cipher suite that the attacker can break.

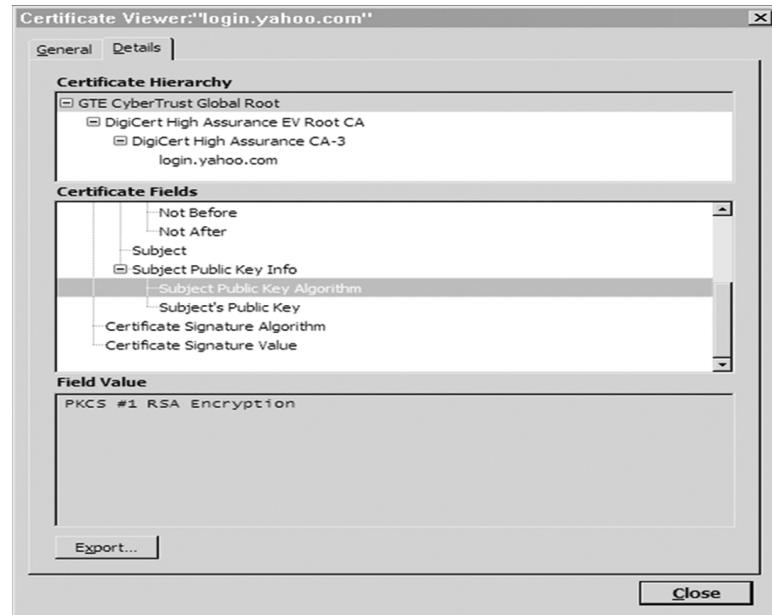
Cipher Suite Identifier	Algorithms Used
TLS_NULL_WITH_NULL_NULL	No authentication, no encryption, no hash function
TLS_RSA_WITH_NULL_MD5	RSA authentication, no encryption, MD5 hash function
TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_RC4_40_MD5	RSA authentication with limited key length, RC4 encryption with a 40-bit key, MD5 hash function
TLS_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	RSA authentication, triple DES encryption, SHA-1 hash function
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA	RSA authentication, AES with a 128-bit key encryption, SHA-1 hash function
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA	RSA authentication, AES with a 256-bit key encryption, SHA-1 hash function
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256	RSA authentication, AES with a 128-bit key encryption, SHA-256 hash function
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA256	RSA authentication, AES with a 256-bit key encryption, SHA-256 hash function
TLS_DH_DSS_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	Diffie-Hellman digital signature standard, triple DES encryption, SHA-1 hash function
TLS_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA http://www.iana.org/go/rfc5932	RSA digital signature, Camellia encryption with a 256-bit key, SHA-1 hash function
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_ARIA_256_CBC_SHA384	Elliptic curve cryptosystem digital signature algorithm, Aria encryption with a 256-bit key, SHA-384 hash function

SSL Certificate



In this dialog, we see the certificate details: the domain name being certified, the company that owns the site, the CA that issued the certificate, and the relevant dates.

Chain of Certificates



The chain of certificates, starting with GTE CyberTrust Global Root. This dialog also shows the algorithm used for signing the certificate.

If GTE CyberTrust is trusted by my browser, and it, or one of the CAs it authorizes, signs a certificate, then that certificate is valid as far as my browser is concerned.

Applications those use TSL

- **Web Browsing**
Email: Gmail, Outlook, etc
- **Instant Messaging:** WhatsApp, Signal, and Telegram
- **File Transfer:** FTPS (FTP over TLS) and SFTP (SSH File Transfer Protocol).
- **Virtual Private Networks (VPNs):** OpenVPN and
- **Voice over IP (VoIP):**
- **Secure APIs:** Many web-based APIs (Application Programming Interfaces) use TLS to secure the communication between clients and servers.
- **Secure IoT Communication:** TLS is used to secure communication between IoT devices and servers or other devices.

Reading assignment

- IPSec
- SSH

3. Secure Routing and traffic protection: Onion Routing

- A technique used for anonymous communication over a computer network.
- enables users to transmit data anonymously by encrypting it multiple times and sending it through a series of network nodes called onion routers.
- Each onion router removes a layer of encryption, revealing the address of the next node to which the data should be sent.
- This process is akin to peeling off layers of an onion, hence the name "onion routing."
- commonly used in applications:
 - anonymous web browsing (e.g., Tor),
 - secure messaging systems, and
 - other scenarios where preserving user privacy and anonymity are important.
- while onion routing provides strong anonymity guarantees, it may introduce latency and performance overhead due to the multiple layers of encryption and the routing through multiple nodes.

Onion Routing

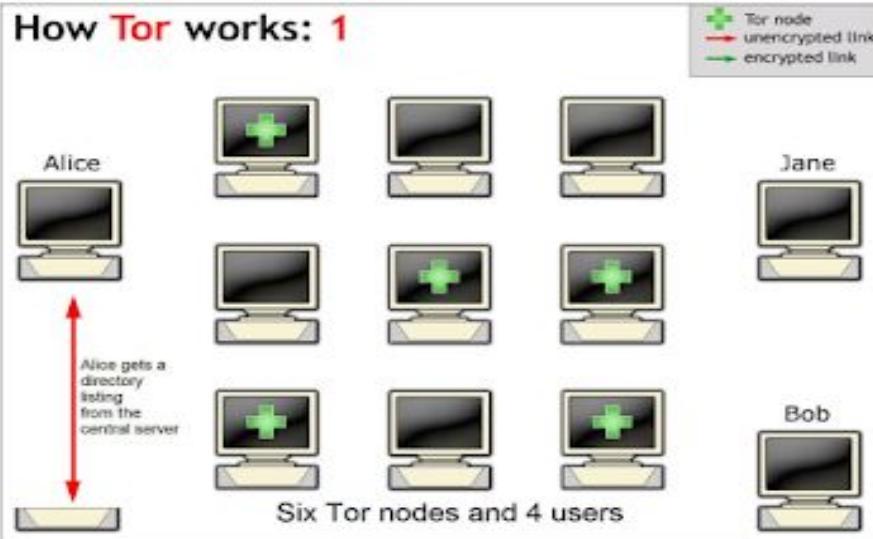
- Onion routing prevents an eavesdropper from learning source, destination, or content of data in transit in a network
- This is particularly helpful for evading authorities, such as when users in oppressive countries want to communicate freely with the outside world
- Uses asymmetric cryptography, as well as layers of intermediate hosts, so that
 - The intermediate host that sends the message to the ultimate destination cannot determine the original sender, and
 - The host that received the message from the original sender cannot determine the ultimate destination

How onion routing typically works?

- **Encryption Layers:**
 - The data is encrypted multiple times, with each layer of encryption corresponding to a different onion router in the network.
 - Each layer is encrypted in such a way that only the corresponding onion router can decrypt it.
- **Routing through Nodes:**
 - The encrypted data packet, resembling an "onion" with multiple layers, is then transmitted through the network of onion routers.
 - Each onion router only knows the address of the previous node and the next node in the sequence.
 - This prevents any single onion router from knowing both the original source and the final destination of the data.
- **Decryption at Each Node:**
 - As the data packet passes through each onion router, one layer of encryption is removed, revealing the address of the next node in the sequence.
 - This process continues until the packet reaches its final destination.
- **Anonymous Communication:**
 - Since each onion router only knows the addresses of the adjacent nodes, it is difficult for any single node or observer to trace the origin and destination of the data.
 - This provides a high level of anonymity for users communicating over the network.

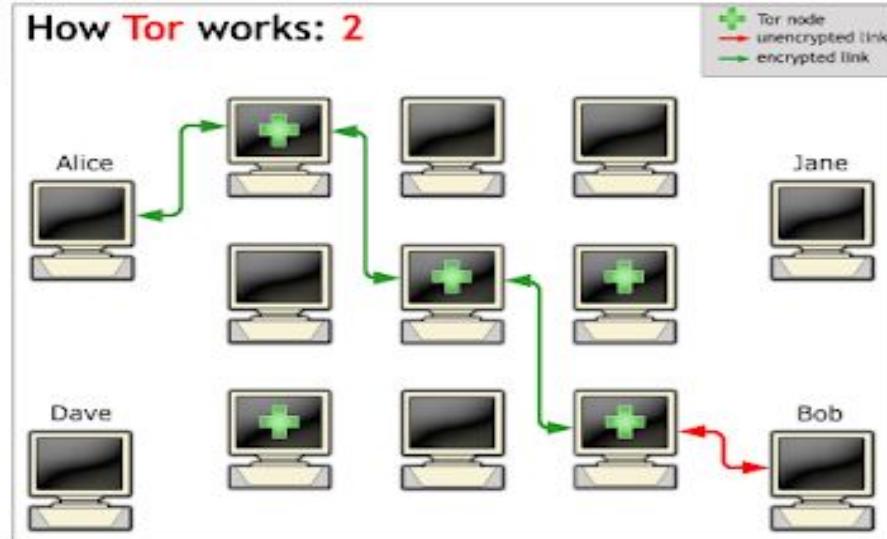
Connection set up

How Tor works: 1



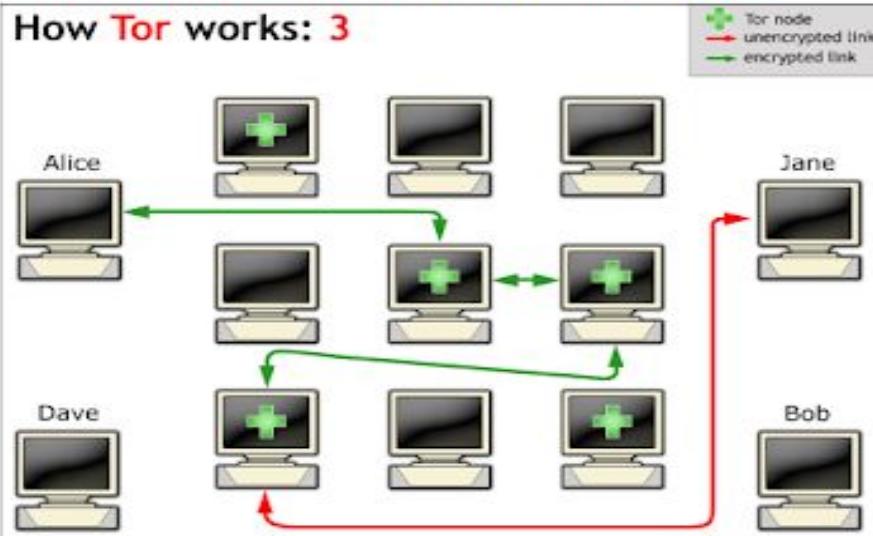
Connection

How Tor works: 2



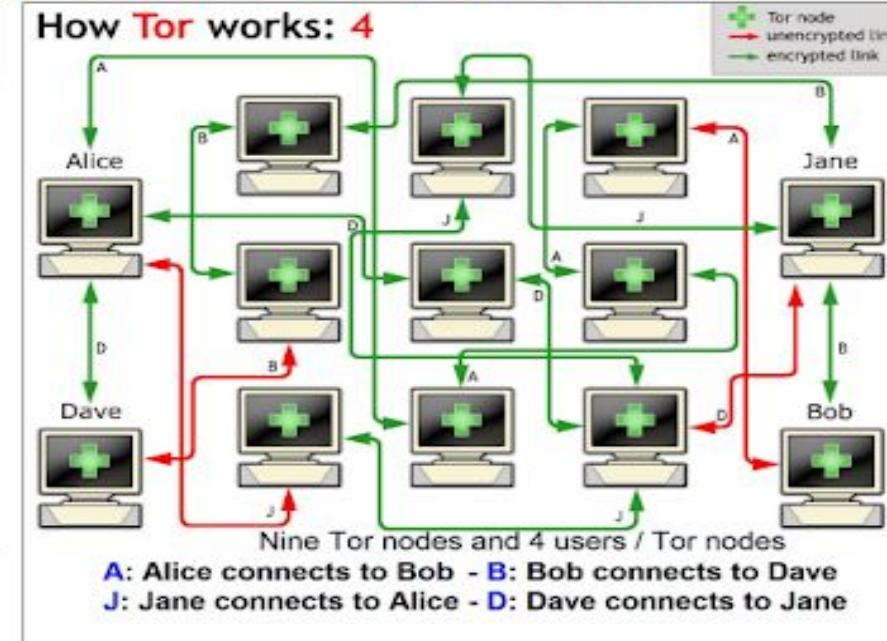
Connection Timeout - entry node change

How Tor works: 3



A real scenario - multi purpose node

How Tor works: 4



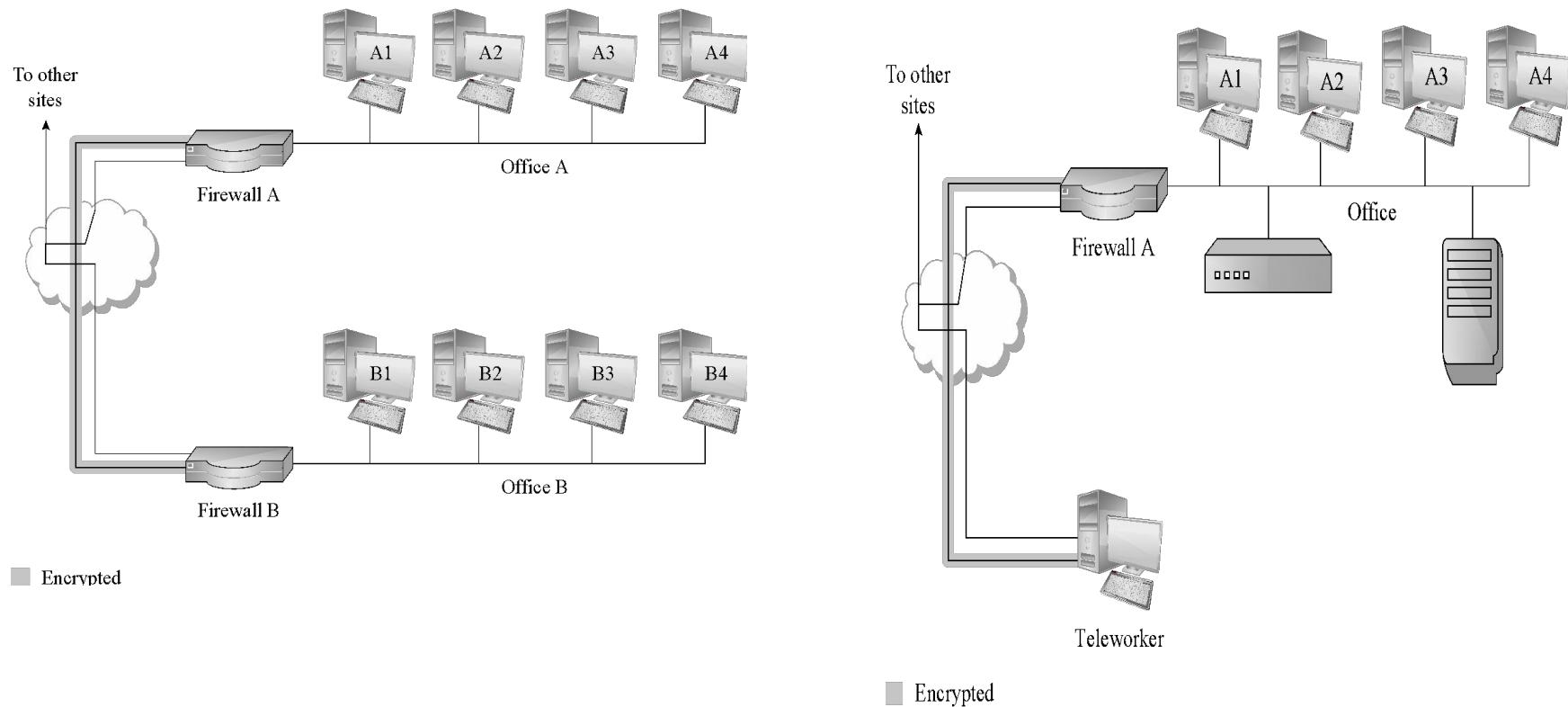
3. Secure Routing and traffic protection: Traffic Padding

- Provides anonymity and confidentiality
- Enhances privacy and security by obfuscating the true patterns and volume of data being transmitted.
- It involves adding extra data (padding) to network packets to make them appear larger or more regular than they actually are.
- This can help conceal the true size and timing of transmitted messages, making it more difficult for attackers to perform traffic analysis and infer sensitive information about the communication.
- commonly employed in anonymity networks, such as Tor, where it helps to conceal the true origin, destination, and content of network traffic.

4. Virtual Private Networks (VPN)

- VPNs are tools that provide a secure and private connection between a device (such as a computer, smartphone, or tablet) and the internet.
- VPNs encrypt the data transmitted over the internet, ensuring that it remains confidential and secure from interception or surveillance by third parties
- A VPN—an encrypted tunnel that provides confidentiality and integrity for communication between two sites over public networks—connects Office A to Office B over the Internet so they appear to their users as one seamless, private network.
- The VPN is terminated by firewalls at both ends, which is often the case in the real world.

4. Virtual Private Networks (VPN)



In this VPN scenario, a teleworker uses a VPN to connect to a remote office.

She authenticates to the firewall (that's acting as a VPN server), and the firewall passes that authentication information to the servers in the office so she can be appropriately access controlled.

Why VPN are used?

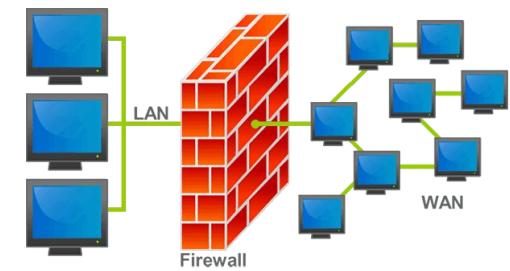
- **Encryption:**
 - Encrypts all data transmitted between the user's device and the internet.
 - Encryption ensures that interception doesn't give easy access to hackers
- **Privacy:**
 - VPNs hide the user's IP address by routing their internet traffic through servers located in different geographic locations.
 - Makes it difficult for websites, advertisers, and other third parties to track the user's online activities and identify their location.
- **Security:**
 - VPNs protect users from hackers, malware, and phishing attacks.
 - Prevents unauthorized access to sensitive information and provide a secure browsing experience.
- **Bypassing Geo-restrictions:**
 - Many websites and online services restrict access based on the user's location.
 - VPNs allow users to bypass these geo-restrictions by connecting to servers in different countries, thereby accessing content that may be blocked or unavailable in their region.
- **Public Wi-Fi Security:**
 - VPNs encrypt data transmitted over public Wi-Fi networks, protecting users from eavesdropping and other security threats.
- **Anonymity:**
 - VPNs provide users with a greater degree of anonymity online by masking their IP address and encrypting their internet traffic.
 - This can be particularly important for journalists, activists, and individuals living in countries with strict internet censorship and surveillance.

VPN applications

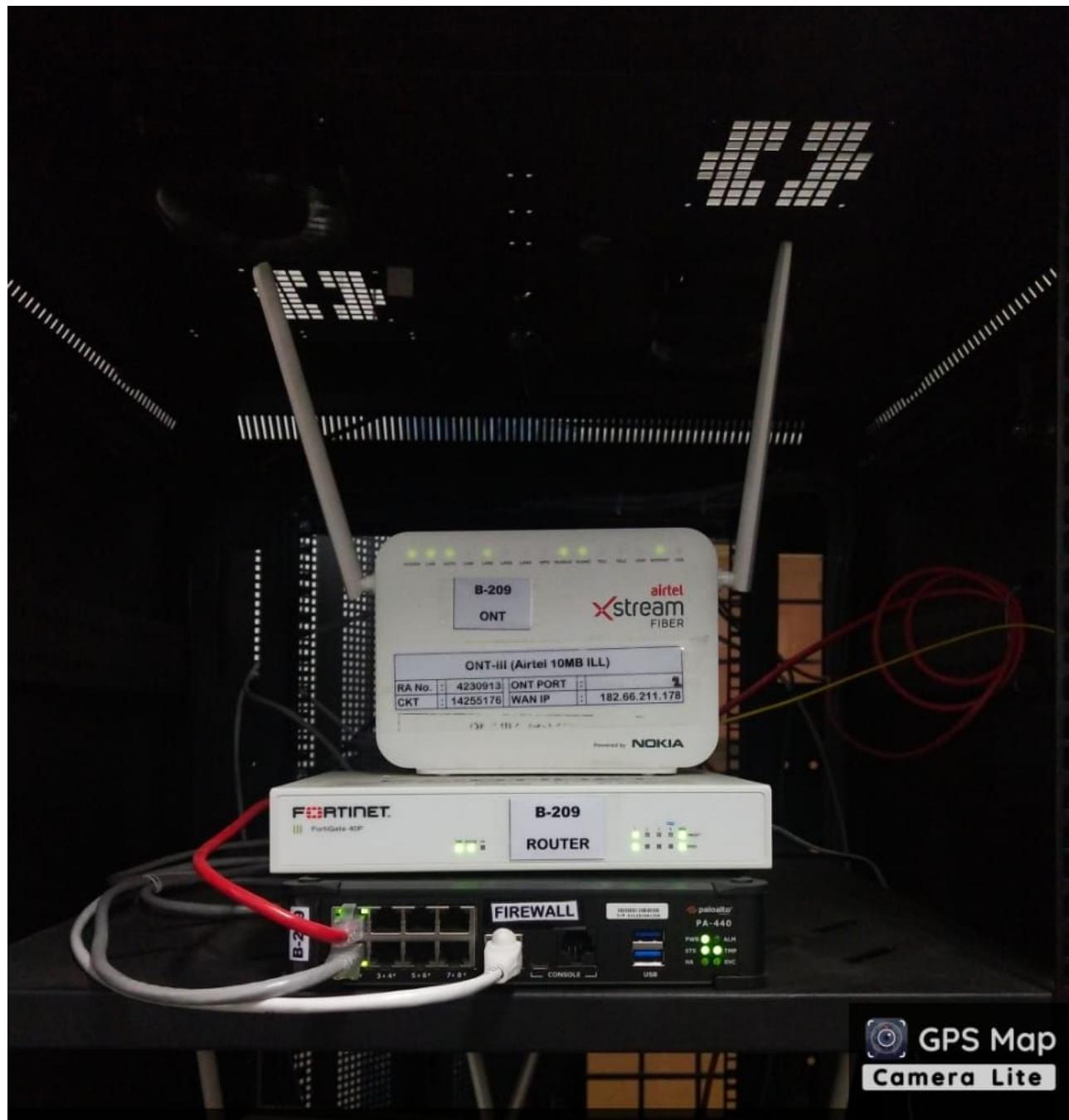
- **Remote Access**
- **Securing Public Wi-Fi**
- **Bypassing Geo-restrictions**
- **Enhancing Privacy**
- **File Sharing and Torrenting**
- **Circumventing Censorship**
- **Online Gaming**
- **Secure Communication**

Firewalls

- A device that filters all traffic between a protected or “inside” network and less trustworthy or “outside” network
- Most firewalls run as dedicated devices
 - Easier to design correctly and inspect for bugs
 - Easier to optimize for performance
- Firewalls implement security policies, or set of rules that determine what traffic can or cannot pass through
- A firewall is an example of a reference monitor, which means it should have three characteristics:
 - Always invoked (cannot be circumvented)
 - Tamperproof
 - Small and simple enough for rigorous analysis



Firewalls



Types of Firewalls

- Packet filtering gateways or screening routers
- Stateful inspection firewalls
- Application-level gateways, also known as proxies
- Circuit-level gateways
- Guards
- Personal or host-based firewalls

Firewall Security Policy sample

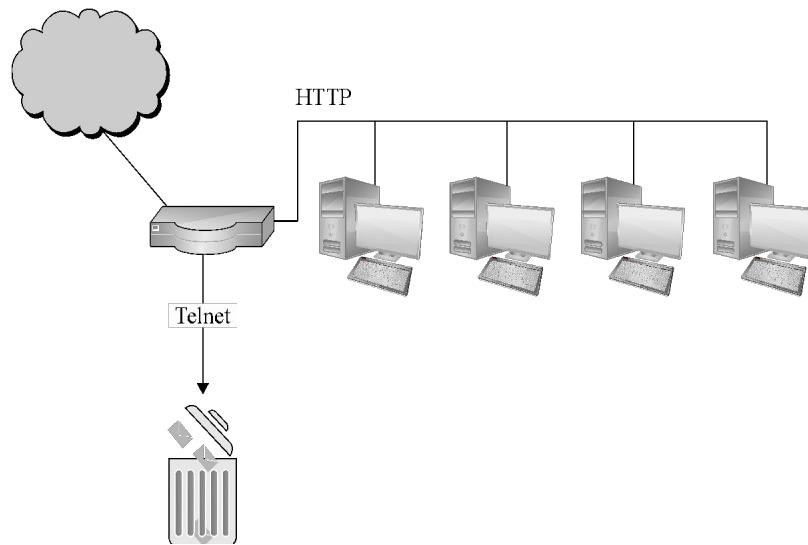
Rule	Type	Source Address	Destination Address	Destination Port	Action
1	TCP	*	192.168.1.*	25	Permit
2	UDP	*	192.168.1.*	69	Permit
3	TCP	192.168.1.*	*	80	Permit
4	TCP	*	192.168.1.18	80	Permit
5	TCP	*	192.168.1.*	*	Deny
6	UDP	*	192.168.1.*	*	Deny

In this example firewall configuration...

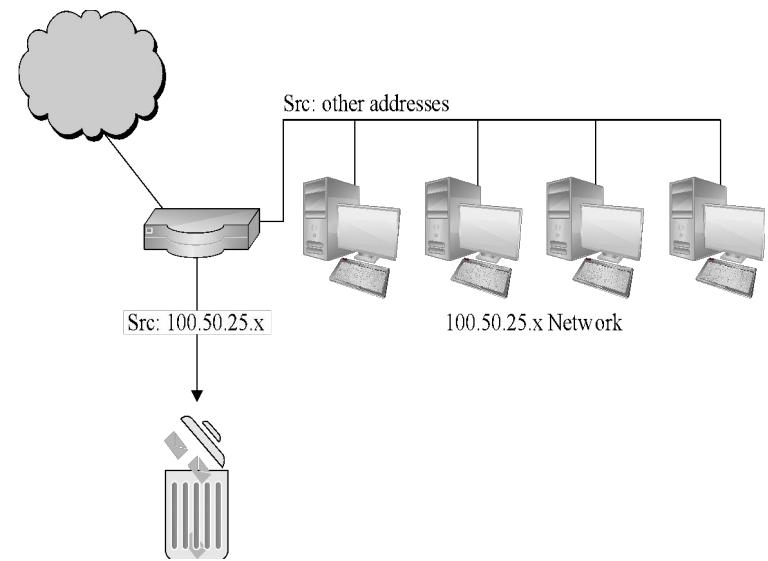
- External traffic can reach the entire internal network on TCP/25 and UDP/69.
- Internal traffic can go out to port 80 on the external network.
- External traffic can reach TCP/80 on one internal server.
- All other traffic from external to internal is disallowed.

Packet-Filtering Gateways

A packet-filtering gateway controls access on the basis of packet address and specific transport protocol type (e.g., HTTP traffic).



The firewall is filtering out Telnet traffic but allowing HTTP traffic in.



The firewall is filtering traffic on the basis of source IP rather than port. Filtering rules can also be based on combinations of addresses and ports/protocols.

Packet-Filtering Gateways

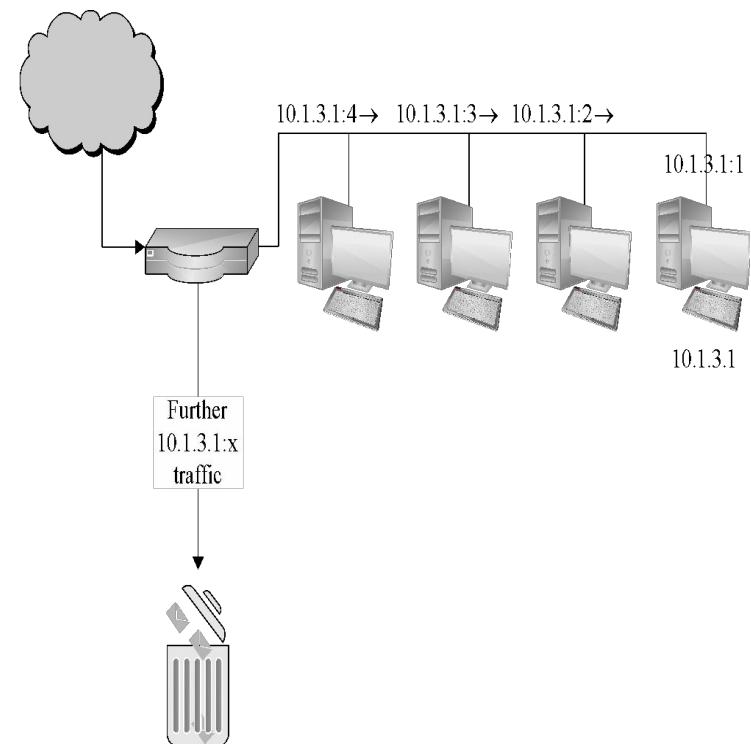
- Packet-filtering gateways maintain no state from one packet to the next.
- They simply look at each packet's IP addresses and ports and compare them to the configured policies.

Stateful Inspection Firewall

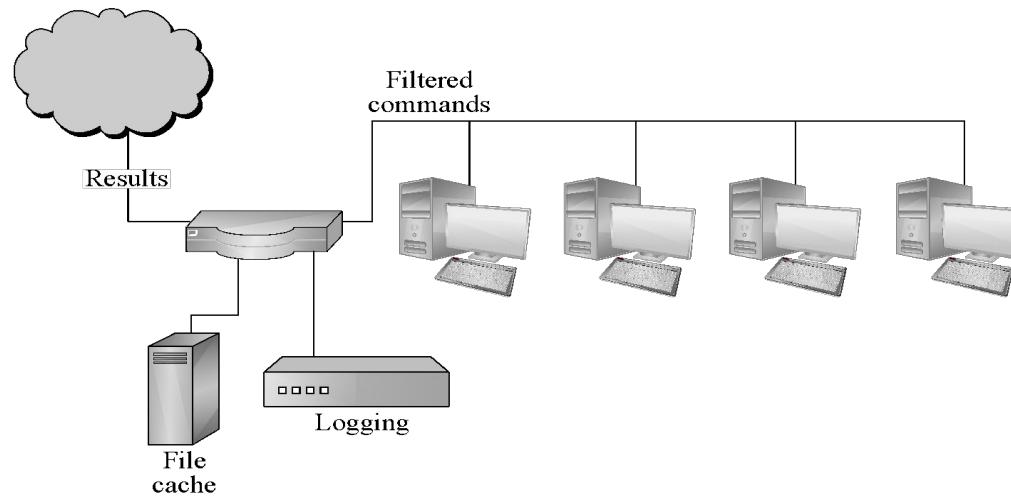
Stateful inspection firewalls maintain state information from one packet to the next.

In the example in the image, the firewall is counting the number of systems coming from external IP 10.1.3.1; after the external system reaches out to a fourth computer, the firewall hits a configured threshold and begins filtering packets from that address.

In real life, it can be difficult to define rules that require state/context and that attackers cannot circumvent.



Application Proxy

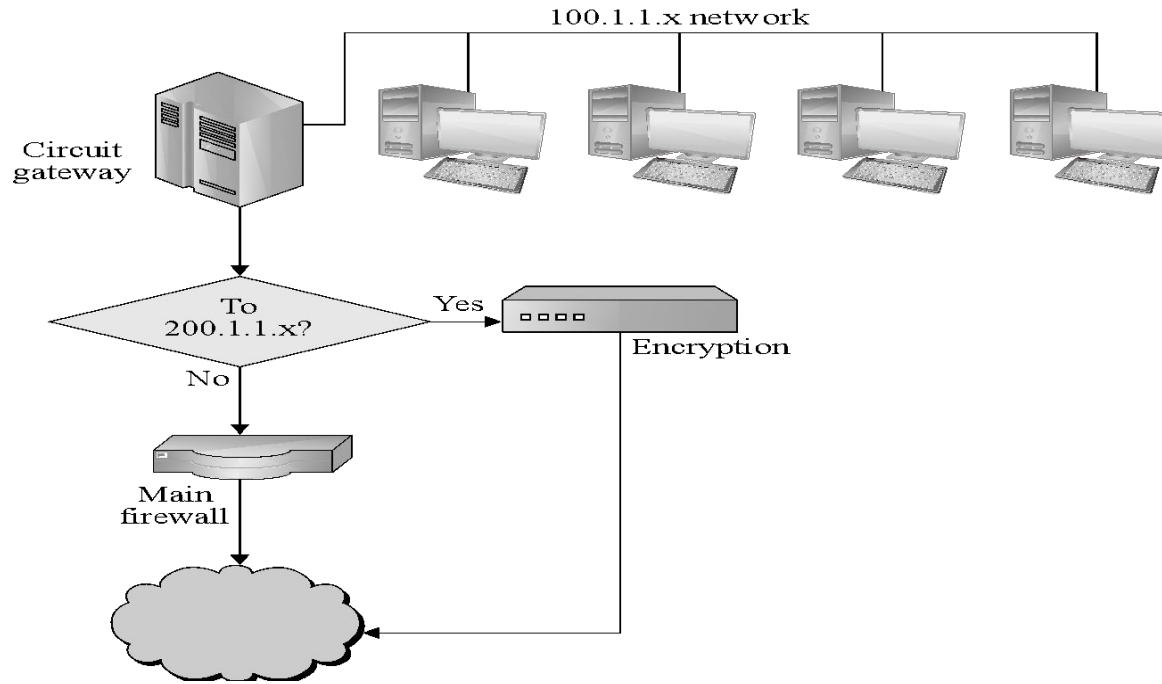


An application proxy simulates the behavior of an application at OSI layer 7 so that the real application receives only requests to act properly. Application proxies can serve several purposes:

- Filtering potentially dangerous application-layer requests
- Log requests/accesses
- Cache results to save bandwidth

Perhaps the most common form of application proxies in the real world is a web proxy, which companies often use to monitor and filter employee Internet use.

Circuit-Level Gateway



A circuit-level gateway is a firewall that essentially allows one network to be an extension of another. It operates at OSI layer 5, the session layer, and it functions as a virtual gateway between two networks. One use of a circuit-level gateway is to implement a VPN.

Personal Firewalls



A personal firewall runs on a workstation or server and can enforce security policy like other firewalls. In addition to restricting traffic by source IP and destination port, personal firewalls can restrict which applications are allowed to use the network.

In this example Windows firewall configuration dialog, an administrator can select which protocols and applications should be allowed to communicate to and from the host.

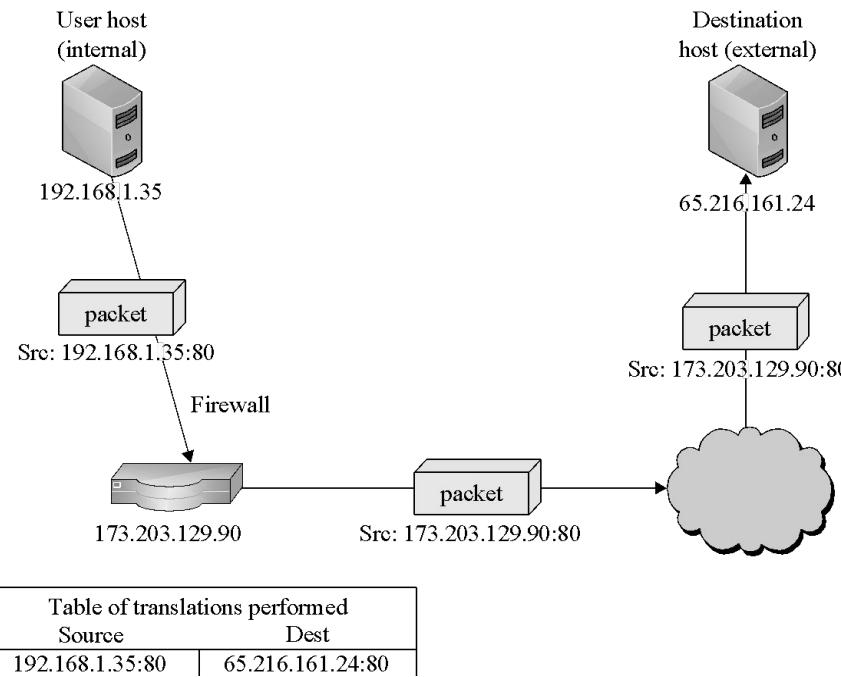
Comparison of Firewall Types

Packet Filter	Stateful Inspection	Application Proxy	Circuit Gateway	Guard	Personal Firewall
Simplest decision-making rules, packet by packet	Correlates data across packets	Simulates effect of an application program	Joins two subnetworks	Implements any conditions that can be programmed	Similar to packet filter, but getting more complex
Sees only addresses and service protocol type	Can see addresses and data	Sees and analyzes full data portion of pack	Sees addresses and data	Sees and analyzes full content of data	Can see full data portion
Auditing limited because of speed limitations	Auditing possible	Auditing likely	Auditing likely	Auditing likely	Auditing likely
Screens based on connection rules	Screens based on information across multiple packets—in either headers or data	Screens based on behavior of application	Screens based on address	Screens based on interpretation of content	Typically, screens based on content of each packet individually, based on address or content
Complex addressing rules can make configuration tricky	Usually preconfigured to detect certain attack signatures	Simple proxies can substitute for complex decision rules, but proxies must be aware of application's behavior	Relatively simple addressing rules; make configuration straightforward	Complex guard functionality; can be difficult to define and program accurately	Usually starts in mode to deny all inbound traffic; adds addresses and functions to trust as they arise

What Firewalls Can and Cannot Do

- Firewalls can protect an environment only if they control the entire perimeter
- Firewalls do not protect data outside the perimeter
- Firewalls are the most visible part of an installation to the outside, so they are an attractive target for attack
- Firewalls must be correctly configured, that configuration must be updated as the environment changes, and firewall activity reports must be reviewed periodically for evidence of attempted or successful intrusion
- Firewalls exercise only minor control over the content admitted to the inside, meaning that inaccurate or malicious code must be controlled by means inside the perimeter

Network Address Translation (NAT)



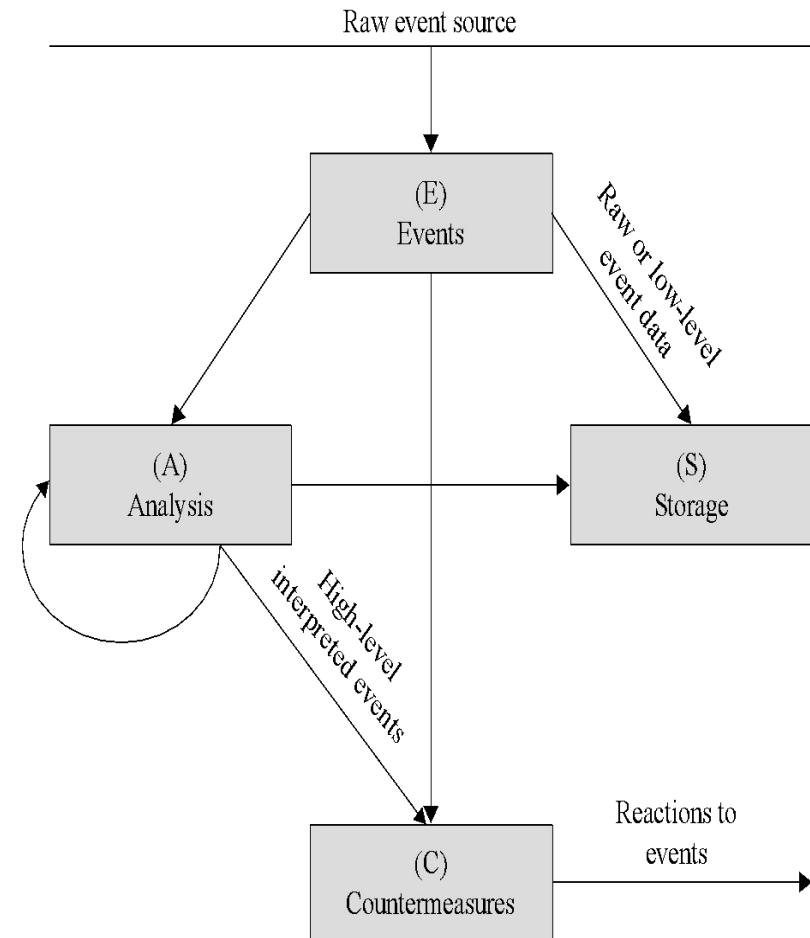
With NAT, the source firewall converts the source address in the packet into the firewall's own address. The firewall also makes an entry in a translation table showing the destination address, the source port & the original source address to be able to forward any replies to the original source address. The firewall then converts the address back on any return packets.

This has the effect of concealing the true address of the internal host and prevents the internal host from being reached directly.

Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS)

IDSs complement preventative controls as a next line of defense. IDSs monitor activity to identify malicious or suspicious events. IDSs may:

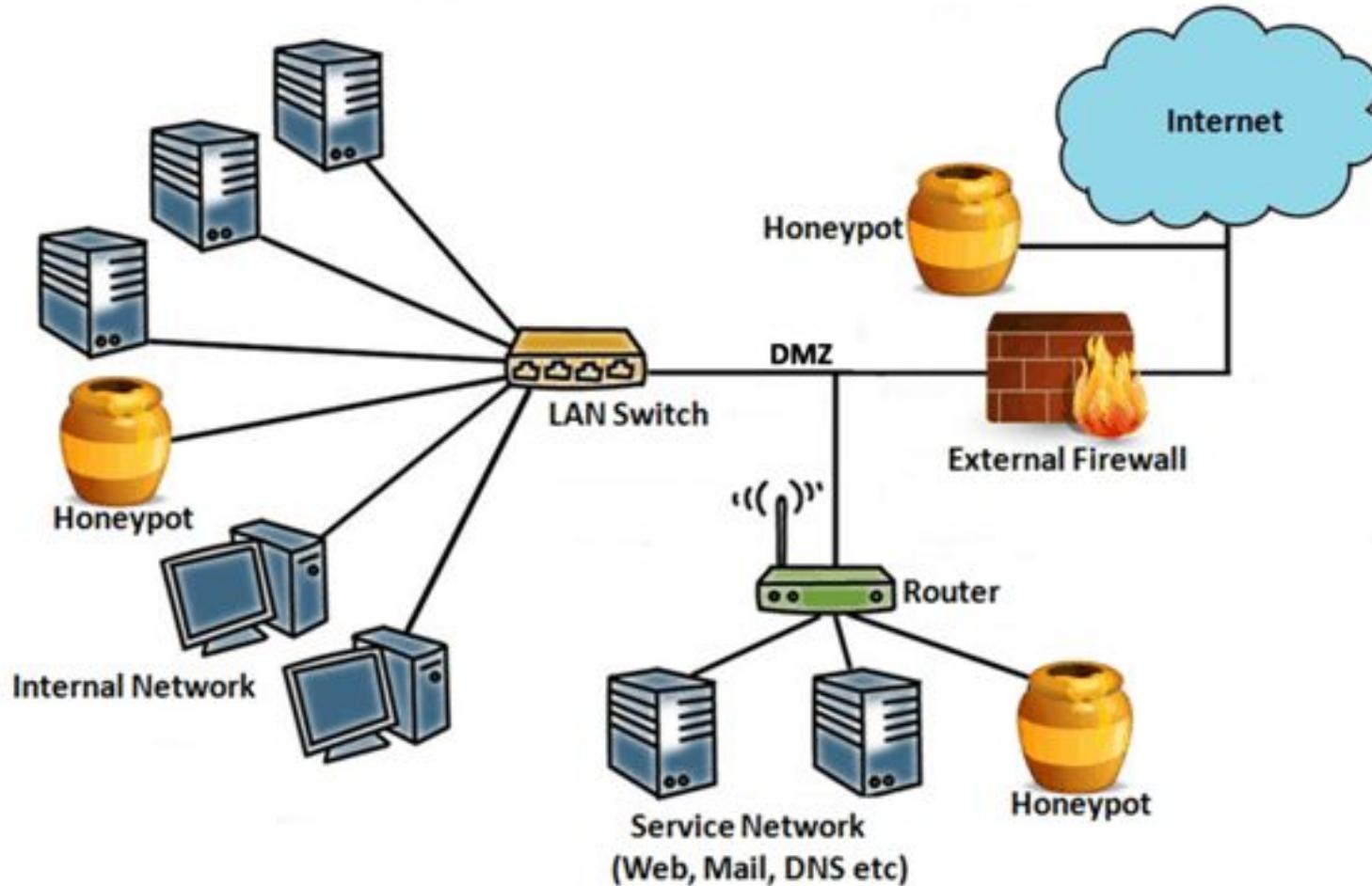
- Monitor user and system activity
- Audit system configurations for vulnerabilities and misconfigurations
- Assess integrity of critical system and data files
- Recognize known attack patterns in system activity
- Identify abnormal activity through statistical analysis
- Manage audit trails and highlight policy violations
- Install and operate traps to record information about intruders



Types of IDS

- Detection method
 - Signature-based, Heuristic
 - Location
 - Front end, Internal
 - Scope
 - Host-based IDS (HIDS), Network-based IDS (NIDS)
 - Capability
 - Passive, Active, also known as intrusion prevention systems (IPS)
-
- A signature-based IDS can only detect known patterns.
 - A heuristic IDS looks for patterns of behavior that are out of the ordinary.
 - A front-end IDS looks at traffic as it enters the network, while an internal IDS monitors traffic within the network.
 - A host-based IDS protects a single host by monitoring traffic from the OS.
 - A network-based IDS is a server or appliance that monitors network traffic.
 - An IPS is an IDS that tries to block or otherwise prevent suspicious or malicious behavior once it is detected.

Honeypot

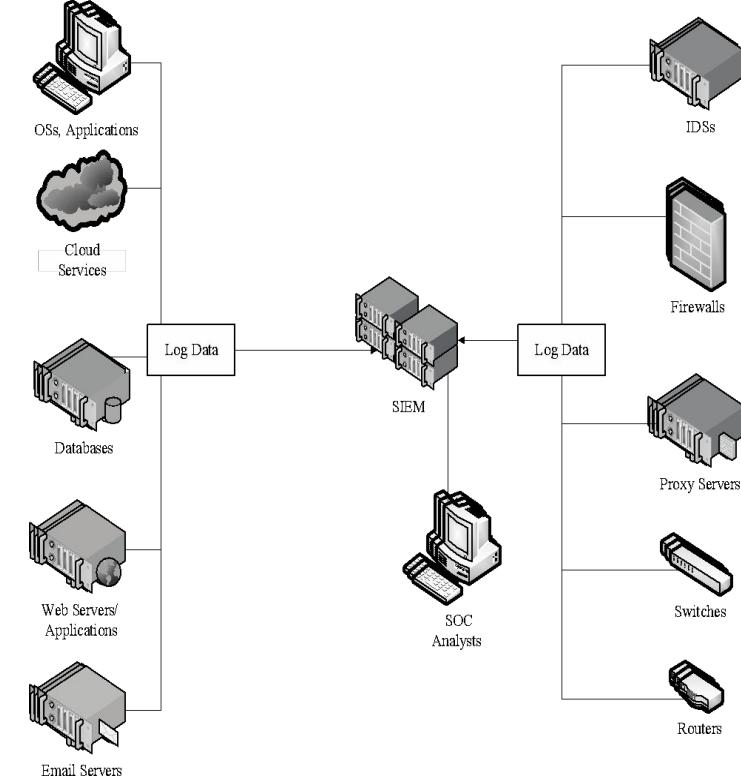


Security Information and Event Management (SIEM)

SIEMs are software systems that collect security-relevant data—usually audit logs—from a variety of hardware and software products to create a unified security dashboard for security operations center personnel.

Without an SIEM, analysts would need to log into each device individually on a constant basis and would have to manually correlate events on one system against events on another, which is impossible on any reasonably sized system.

SIEMs range in functionality from simple ones that allow for basic search and alerting to complex platforms that allow for completely custom dashboards, reports, alerts, and correlation.

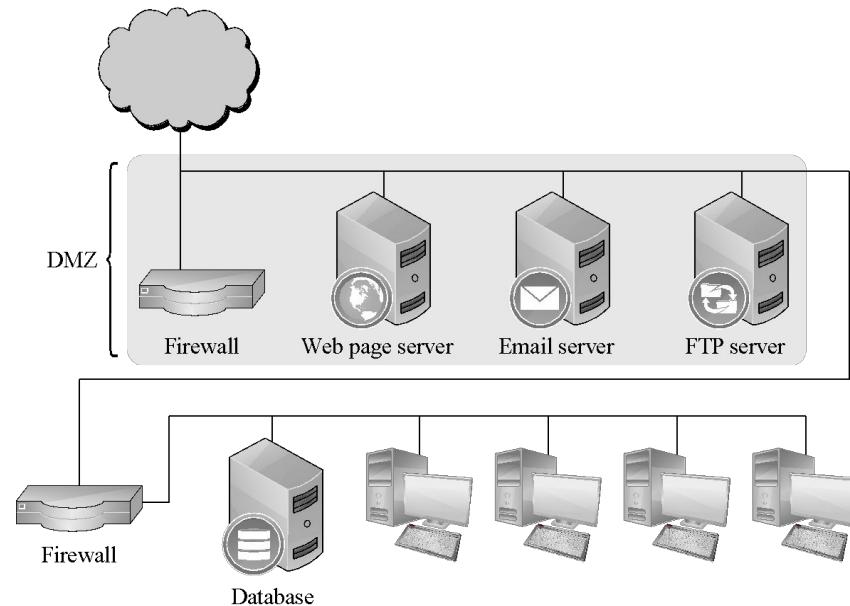


Data Loss Prevention (DLP)

- DLP is a set of technologies that can detect and possibly prevent attempts to send sensitive data where it is not allowed to go
- Can be implemented as
 - Agent installed as an OS rootkit
 - Guard
- Indicators DLP looks for:
 - Keywords
 - Traffic patterns
 - Encoding/encryption
- DLP is best for preventing accidental incidents, as malicious users will often find ways to circumvent it

Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)

A DMZ is a form of network architecture in which a network enclave is dedicated to services that should be somewhat accessible from the outside.



In this example, a firewall protects a DMZ that contains web, email, and FTP servers, and a second firewall protects an internal network—that should not be reachable from the Internet—from the DMZ in case a DMZ host becomes compromised.

The benefit of such a configuration is that the hosts that need to be accessible from the Internet—and are therefore most at risk from outside attack—can only do limited damage to the internal hosts that do not need to be reachable from the Internet.

An even more careful option would separate web, email & FTP servers with further firewalls.

Summary

- Networks are threatened by attacks aimed at interception, modification, fabrication, and interruption
- WPA2 has many critical security advantages over WEP
- DoS attacks come in many flavors, but malicious ones are usually either volumetric in nature or exploit a bug
- Network encryption can be achieved using specialized tools—some for link encryption and some for end-to-end—such as VPNs, SSH, and the SSL/TLS protocols
- A wide variety of firewall types exist, ranging from very basic IP-based functionality to complex application-layer logic, and both on networks and hosts
- There are many flavors of IDS, each of which detects different kinds of attacks in very different parts of the network

References

- “What is a DDoS Attack? Identifying Denial-of-Service Attacks”,
<https://www.varonis.com/blog/what-is-a-ddos-attack#:~:text=The%20DYNDNS%20attack%20exploited%20WIFI.requests%20to%20the%20target%20server.>, last accessed on March 03,2024