

# Postfix

---

lctseng

# Postfix

---

## ❑ Postfix v3.5.0

- /usr/ports/mail/postfix
- pkg install postfix

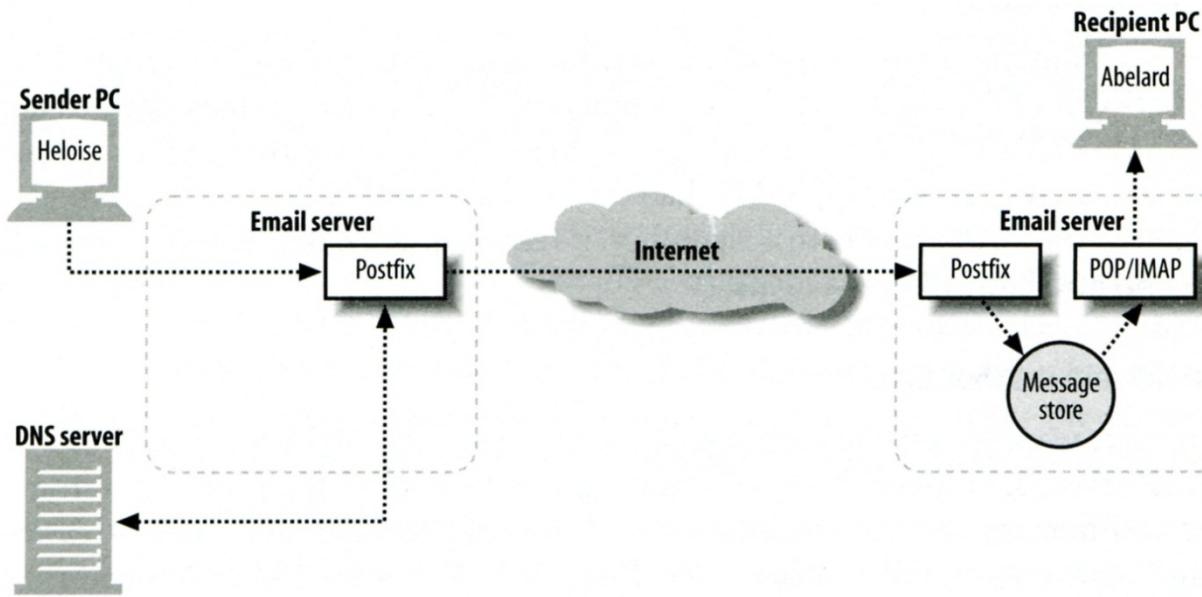
## ❑ <http://www.postfix.org>

- <http://www.postfix.org/documentation.html>

# Role of Postfix

## □ MTA that

- Receive and deliver email over the network via SMTP
- Local delivery directly or use other mail delivery agent



- <http://www.postfix.org/OVERVIEW.html>

# Postfix Architecture

## □ Modular-design MTA

- Not like sendmail of monolithic system
- Decompose into several individual program that each one handle specific task
- The most important daemon: master daemon
  - Reside in memory
  - Get configuration information from `master.cf` and `main.cf`
  - Invoke other process to do jobs

## □ Major tasks

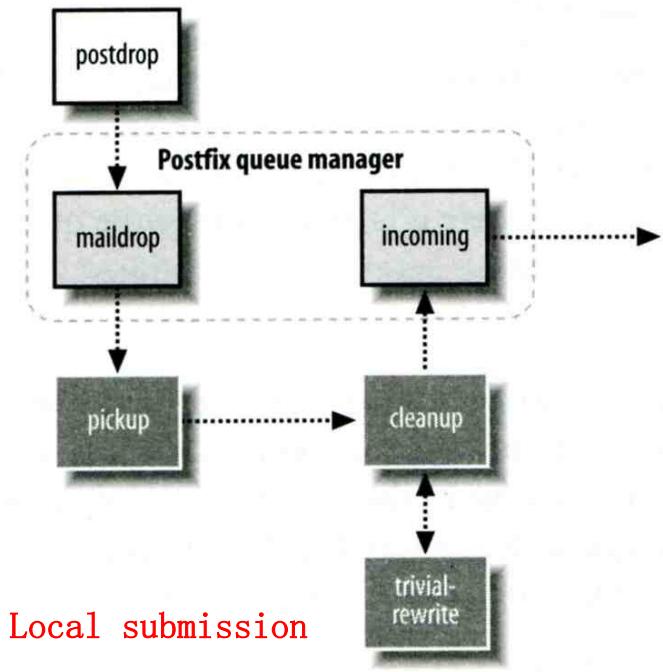
- Receive mail and put in **queue**
- Queue management
- Delivery mail from queue



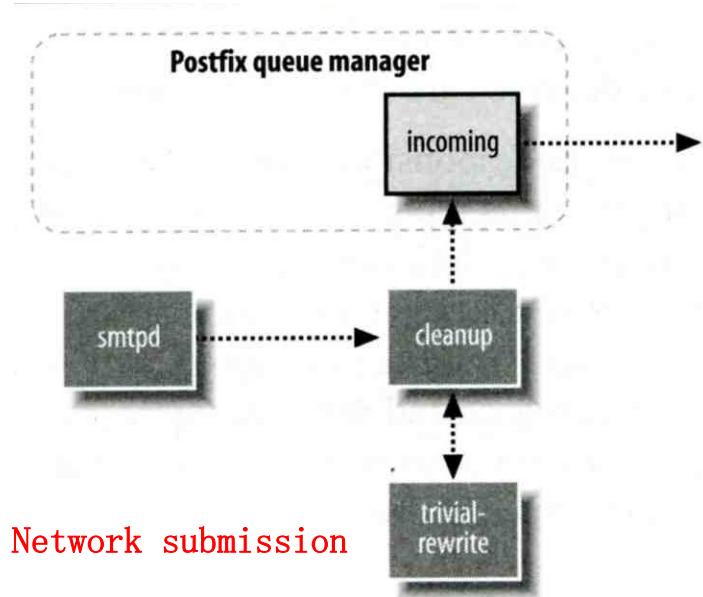
# Postfix Architecture – Message IN

## □ Four ways

- Local submission
  - postdrop command
  - maildrop queue
  - pickup daemon
  - cleanup daemon
    - Header validation
    - address translation
  - incoming queue
- Network submission
  - smtpd daemon
- Local forwarding
  - Resubmit for such as .forward
  - Envelope “to” is changed
- Notification
  - Notify admin when error happens



Local submission



Network submission

# Postfix Architecture – Queue

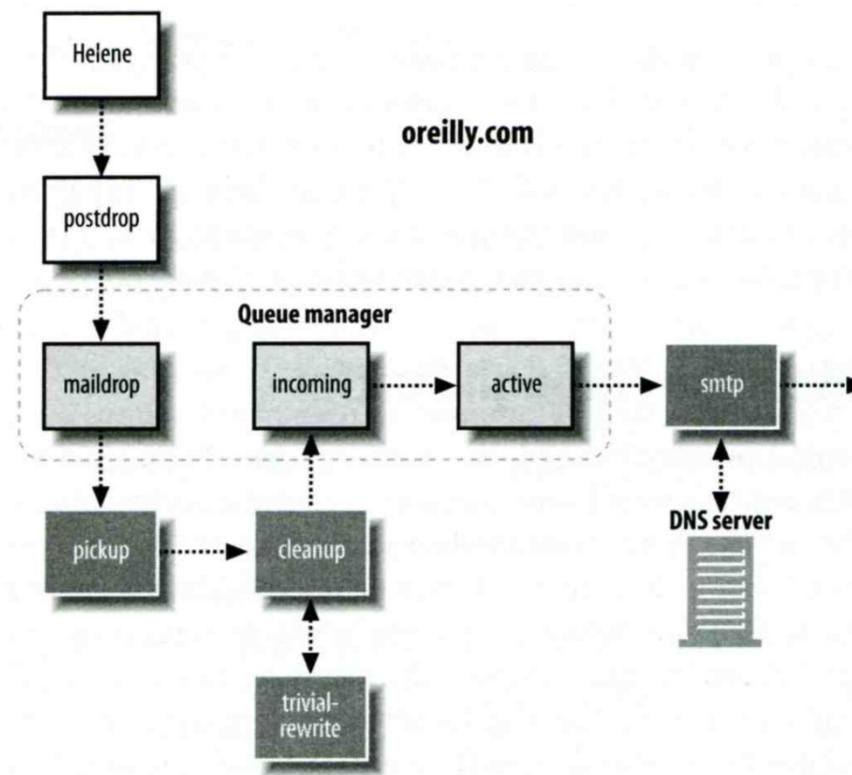
- Five different queues
  - incoming
    - The first queue that every incoming email will stay
  - active
    - Queue manager will move message into active queue whenever there is enough system resources
    - Queue manager then invokes suitable DA to delivery it
  - deferred
    - Messages that cannot be delivered are moved here
    - These messages are sent back either with bounce or defer daemons
  - corrupt
    - Used to store damaged or unreadable message
  - hold
    - Requested by admin (manually or automatically)
    - Stay in queue until admin intervenes

# Message Flow in Postfix (1)

## □ Example

- helene@oreilly.com → frank@postfix.org (doel@onlamp.com)
- Phase1:
  - Helene compose mail using her MUA, and then call postfix's sendmail command to send it

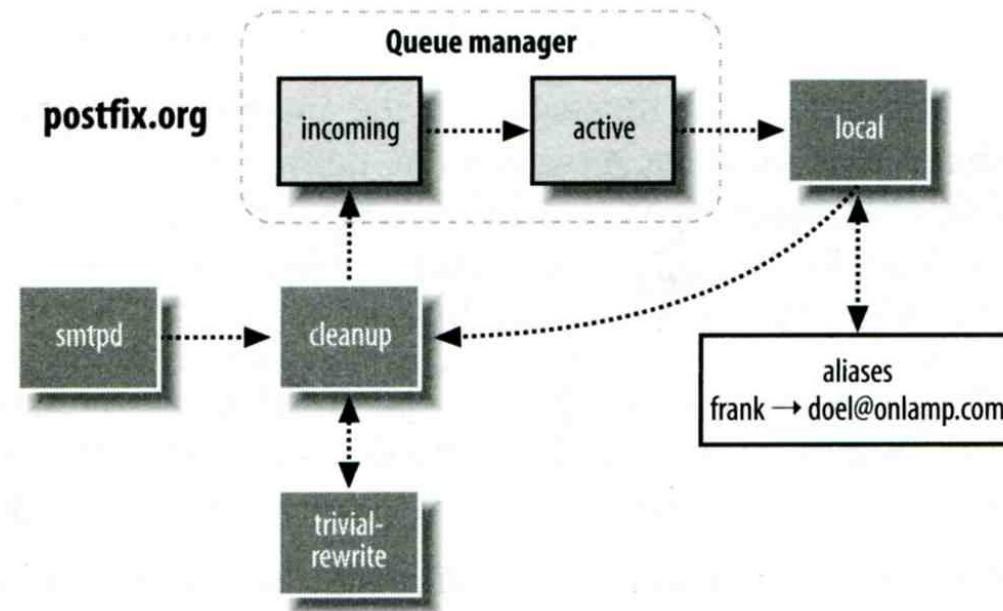
alias



# Message Flow in Postfix (2)

## □ Example

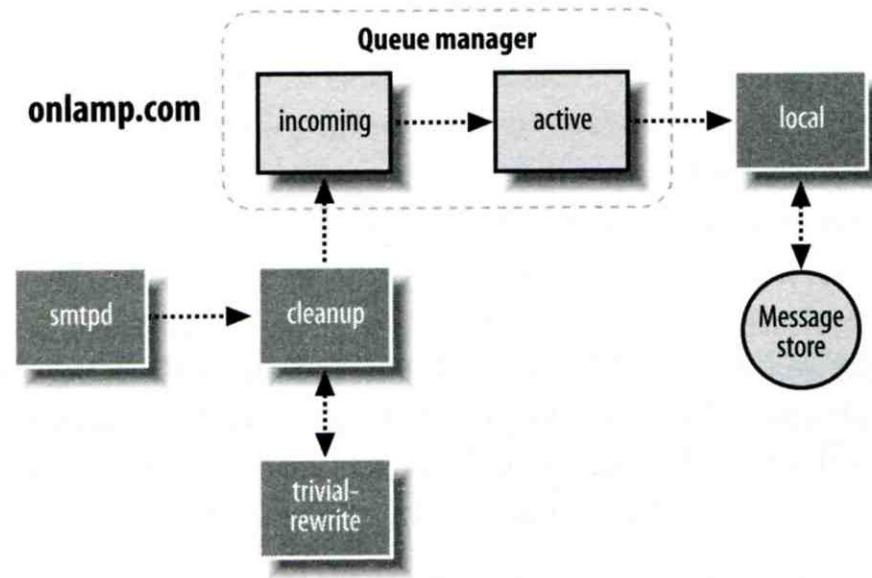
- frank@postfix.org → doel@onlamp.com
- Phase2:
  - The smtpd on postfix.org takes this message and invoke cleanup then put in incoming queue
  - The local DA find that frank is an alias, so it resubmits it through cleanup daemon for further delivery



# Message Flow in Postfix (3)

## □ Example

- frank@postfix.org → doel@onlamp.com
- Phase3
  - The smtpd on onlamp.com takes this message and invoke cleanup then put in incoming queue
  - Local delivery to message store



# Message Store Format

- The Mbox format
  - Store messages in **single file** for each user
  - Each message start with “**From** ” line and continued with message headers and body
  - Mbox format has **file-locking** problem (performance)
- The Maildir format
  - Use **structure of directories** to store email messages
  - Each message is in its owned file
  - Three subdirectories - cur, new, and tmp
  - Maildir format has **scalability** problem
    - locate and delete mails quickly, but waste amounts of fd, inodes, space
    - Problems of quota and backup
- Related parameters (in main.cf)
  - mail\_spool\_directory = /var/mail (Mbox)
  - mail\_spool\_directory = /var/mail/ (Maildir)

# Read your mail from terminal

---

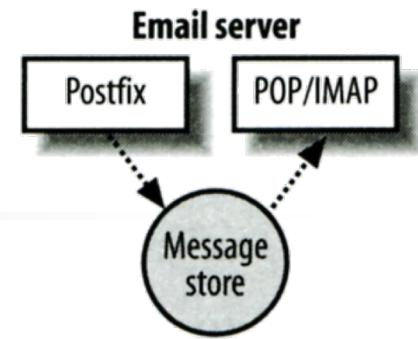
## ❑ To read mails, you must login via ssh

- Built-in command to read mail: “mail”
- Friendly command-line MUA: “mutt”
  - Pkg: mutt
  - Port: mail/mutt

## ❑ To read from remote host

- Supports MUA like Outlook, Thunderbird, or even Gmail
- You need MAA (supports IMAP/POP3)
- Dovecot
  - Pkg: dovecot
  - Port: mail/dovecot

# Postfix & POP3/IMAP

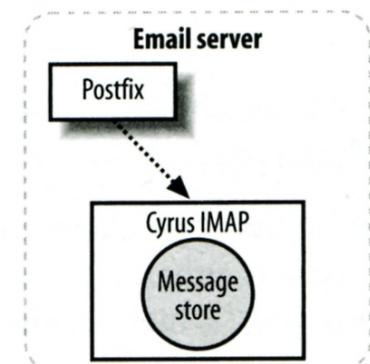


## □ POP3 vs. IMAP

- Both are used to retrieve mail from server for remote clients
- POP3 has to download entire message, while IMAP can download headers only
- POP3 can download only single mailbox, while IMAP can let you maintain multiple mailboxes and folders on server

## □ Postfix works together with POP3/IMAP

- Postfix and POP3/IMAP must agree on the type of **mailbox format** and style of **locking**
  - Standard message store
  - Non-standard message store (using LMTP)
    - Such as Cyrus IMAP or Dovecot



# Postfix Configuration

---

## □ Two most important configuration files

- /usr/local/etc/postfix/main.cf – postconf(5)
  - Core configuration
- /usr/local/etc/postfix/master.cf – master(5)
  - Which postfix service should invoke which program

## □ Edit main.cf

- Using text editor
- postconf
  - % postconf [-e] "myhostname=nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw"
  - % postconf -d myhostname (print default setting)
  - % postconf myhostname (print current setting)

## □ Reload postfix whenever there is a change

- # postfix reload

# Postfix Configuration – Lookup tables (1)

- Parameters that use external files to store values
  - Such as mydestination, mynetwork, relay\_domains
  - Text-based table is ok, but time-consuming when table is large

- Lookup tables syntax

- Key            values

- Database format

- % postconf -m
    - List all available database format
  - In main.cf
    - default\_database\_type

```
% postconf default_database_type
default_database_type = hash
% postconf -h default_database_type
hash
```

```
% postconf -m
btree
cidr
environ
hash
internal
proxy
regexp
static
tcp
texthash
unix
```

- [http://www.postfix.org/DATABASE\\_README.html](http://www.postfix.org/DATABASE_README.html)

# Postfix Configuration – Lookup tables (2)

- Use databased-lookup table in main.cf
  - syntax  
parameter = type:name
  - Ex:
    - In main.cf  
canonical\_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/canonical
    - After execute postmap  
/usr/local/etc/postfix/canonical.db
- postmap command
  - Generate database
    - \$ postmap hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/canonical
  - Query
    - \$ postmap -q nctu.edu.tw hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/canonical



don't need to add “.db” here

# Postfix Configuration – Lookup tables (3)

## □ Regular expression tables

- More flexible for matching keys in lookup tables
  - Sometimes you cannot list all the possibilities
- Two regular expression libraries used in Postfix
  - POSIX extended regular expression (regexp, default)
  - Perl-Compatible regular expression (PCRE)
- Usage
  - /pattern/                                  value
  - Do some content checks, such as
    - header\_checks
    - body\_checks
  - Design some features
    - $(\S+)\.(\S+)@cs\.nctu\.edu\.tw/$      \$1@cs.nctu.edu.tw

# Postfix Configuration – Categories

---

## □ Categories

- Server identities
  - my...
- Mail rewriting
  - for incoming/outgoing mails
- Access control
  - restrictions
- Mail processing
  - filter
- Operation details
  - ...

# Postfix Configuration – MTA Identity

## □ Four related parameters

- myhostname
  - myhostname = nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - If un-specified, postfix will use 'hostname' command
- mydestination
  - List all the domains that postfix should accept for local delivery
  - mydestination = \$myhostname, localhost.\$mydomain \$mydomain
    - This is the CS situation that MX will route mail to mailgate
  - mydestination = \$myhostname www.\$mydomain, ftp.\$mydomain
- mydomain
  - mydomain = cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - If un-specified, postfix use myhostname minus the first component
- myorigin
  - myorigin = \$mydomain                (default is \$myhostname)

# Postfix Configuration – System-wide aliases files

## □ Using aliases in Postfix (**first-matching**)

- alias\_maps = hash:/etc/aliases
- alias\_maps = hash:/etc/aliases, nis:mail.aliases
- alias\_database = hash:/etc/aliases

## □ alias\_map vs alias\_database

- alias\_map
  - Which map to use (lookup table)
  - Not all of them is controlled by Postfix
    - E.g. nis
- alias\_database
  - Which (local) database files are built by “newaliases”

# Postfix Configuration – System-wide aliases files

- To Build alias database file
  - \$ postalias /etc/aliases
    - Can be used on other files
  - \$ newaliases
    - For /etc/aliases
- Alias file format (same as sendmail)
  - Value can be
    - Email address, filename, |command, :include:
- Alias restriction
  - allow\_mail\_to\_commands = alias, forward
  - allow\_mail\_to\_files = alias, forward

# Postfix Configuration –

## Virtual Alias Maps

### □ Virtual Alias Map

- It recursively rewrites **envelope recipient** addresses for all local, all virtual, and all remote mail destinations.
- **virtual\_alias\_domains** = \$virtual\_alias\_maps (default)
- **virtual\_alias\_maps** = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual
  - src-address
  - lctseng@csie.nctu.edu.tw
  - lctseng
  - @csie.nctu.edu.tw
  - dst-address
  - @chbsd.cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - ch0nsi@gmail.com
  - @cs.nctu.edu.tw
- Applying regular expression
  - virtual\_alias\_maps = pcre:/usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual
    - /^root(..+)?@(t)?(cs|np)?bsd\d\*\.\cs\.\nctu\.\edu\.\tw\$/      bsdta@cs.nctu.edu.tw
    - /^root(..+)?@(t)?(cs|np)?linux\d\*\.\cs\.\nctu\.\edu\.\tw\$/      linuxta@cs.nctu.edu.tw
    - /^root(..+)?@(t)?csmail\w\*\d\*\.\cs\.\nctu\.\edu\.\tw\$/      mailta@cs.nctu.edu.tw

# Postfix Configuration –

## Virtual Alias Maps vs Alias Map

---

### □ alias\_map

- Used by local(8) delivery
- Key must be local recipients
- Value can be email/file/command/...

### □ virtual\_alias\_maps

- Used by virtual(5) delivery
- Higher priority than alias\_map
- Key can be
  - user@domain
  - user
  - @domain
- Value must be valid email addresses or local recipients

# Postfix Configuration – Relay Control (1)

---

## □ Open relay

- A mail server that permit anyone to relay mails
  - Neither originates or ends with a user from its domain
  - Spam
- By default, postfix is not an open relay

## □ A mail server should

- Relay mail for trusted user
  - Such as lctseng@smtp.cs.nctu.edu.tw
- Relay mail for trusted domain
  - Ex. *smtp.cs.nctu.edu.tw* trusts *nctu.edu.tw*

# Postfix Configuration – Relay Control (2)

---

## □ Restricting relay access by mynetworks\_style

- mynetworks\_style = subnet
  - Allow relaying from other hosts in the same `subnet`, configured in this machine
- mynetworks\_style = host
  - Allow relaying for only local machine
- mynetworks\_style = class
  - Any host in the same class A, B or C
  - Usually we don't use this - your server may trust the whole subnet from your provider

# Postfix Configuration – Relay Control (3)

- Restricting relay access by mynetworks (override mynetworks\_style)
  - List individual IP or subnets in network/netmask notation
  - Ex: in /usr/local/etc/postfix/mynetworks
    - 127.0.0.0/8
    - 140.113.0.0/16
    - 10.113.0.0/16
- Relay depends on the type of your mail server
  - smtp.cs.nctu.edu.tw will be different from csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw
    - Outgoing: usually accepts submission from local domain
    - Incoming: may relay mails for trusted domains

# Postfix Configuration – Rewriting address (1)

---

## □ For unqualified address

- To append “myorigin” to local name
  - lctseng → lctseng@**nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw**
  - append\_at\_myorigin = yes
- To append “mydomain” to address that contain only host.
  - lctseng@nasa → lctseng@**nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw**
  - append\_dot\_mydomain = yes

# Postfix Configuration – Rewriting address (2)

## □ Masquerading hostname

- Hide the names of internal hosts to make all addresses appear as if they come from the same mail server
- It is often used in out-going mail gateway
  - masquerade\_domains = cs.nctu.edu.tw
    - lctseng@subdomain.cs.nctu.edu.tw → lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - masquerade\_domains = !chairman.cs.nctu.edu.tw cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - masquerade\_exceptions = admin, root
- Rewrite to all envelope and header address **excepts envelope recipient** address (the default)
  - masquerade\_class = envelope\_sender, header\_sender, header\_recipient
  - This allows incoming messages can be filtered based on their recipient address

# Postfix Configuration – Rewriting address (3)

## □ Canonical address – canonical(5)

- Rewrite both **header** and **envelope** **recursively** invoked by **cleanup** daemon
- In main.cf
  - canonical\_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/canonical
  - canonical\_classes = envelope\_sender, envelope\_recipient, header\_sender, header\_recipient
- In canonical

```
/^(.*)(@(t)?(cs)?(bsd|linux|sun)\d*\.\cs\.\nctu\.\edu\.\tw$)/ $1@cs.nctu.edu.tw
```
- Similar configurations
  - sender\_canonical\_maps , sender\_canonical\_classes
  - recipient\_canonical\_maps , recipient\_canonical\_classes

# Postfix Configuration – Rewriting address (4)

## ❑ Relocated users

- Used to inform sender that the recipient is moved
- In main.cf
  - `relocated_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/relocated`
- In relocated

<code>andy@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>	<code>andyliu@abc.com</code>
<code>lctseng</code>	EC319, NCTU, Hsinchu, ROC
<code>@nbsd.cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>	<code>zfs.cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>

Value can be anything: phone number, street address, ...

## ❑ Unknown users

- Not local user and not found in maps
- Default action: reject

# Postfix Configuration – master.cf (1)

## ❑ /usr/local/etc/postfix/master.cf (master(5))

- Define services that **master** daemon can invoke
- Each row defines a service and
- Each column contains a specific configuration option

```
# =====
# service type  private unpriv  chroot  wakeup  maxproc command + args
#           (yes)   (yes)    (yes)   (never) (100)
# =====
smtp      inet  n      -       n       -       -       smtpd
pickup    unix  n      -       n       60      1       pickup
cleanup   unix  n      -       n       -       0       cleanup
rewrite   unix  -      -       n       -       -       trivial-rewrite
smtp      unix  -      -       n       -       -       smtp
local    unix  -      n      n       -       -       local
virtual  unix  -      n      n       -       -       virtual
relay    unix  -      -       n       -       -       smtp
                           -o smtp_fallback_relay=
lsmtp     unix  -      -       n       -       -       lsmtp
maildrop  unix  -      n      n       -       -       pipe
                           flags=DRhu user=vmail argv=/usr/local/bin/maildrop -d ${recipient}
```

# Postfix Configuration – master.cf (2)

## □ Configuration options

- Service name
- Service type
  - inet, unix, fifo (obsolete), or pass
- Private
  - Access to this component is restricted to the Postfix system
    - “inet” type cannot be private
- Unprivileged
  - Run with the least amount of privilege required
    - y will run with the account defined in “mail\_owner”
    - n will run with root privilege
      - » local, pipe, spawn, and virtual

# Postfix Configuration – master.cf (3)

## □ Configuration options

- Chroot
  - chroot location is defined in “queue\_directory”
- Wake up time
  - Automatically wake up the service after the number of seconds
- Process limit
  - Number of processes that can be executed simultaneously
  - Default count is defined in “default\_process\_limit”
- command + args
  - Default path is defined in “daemon\_directory”
    - /usr/libexec/postfix

# Postfix Architecture – Message OUT

---

- ❑ Local delivery
- ❑ Relay to the destinations
- ❑ Other delivery agent (MDA)
  - Specify in /usr/local/etc/postfix/master.cf
    - How a client program connects to a service and what daemon program runs when a service is requested
  - lmtp
    - Local Mail Transfer Protocol (Limited SMTP)
      - No queue
      - One recipient at once
    - Used to deliver to mail systems on the same network or even the same host
  - pipe
    - Used to deliver message to external program

# Mail Relaying – Transport Maps (1)

## □ Transport maps – transport(5)

- It **override default** transport method to deliver messages
- In main.cf
  - `transport_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/transport`
- In transport file
  - `domain_or_address transport:nexthop`  
  
“Service” defined in master.cf

csie.nctu.edu.tw

`smtp:[mailgate.csie.nctu.edu.tw]`

cs.nctu.edu.tw

`smtp:[csmailgate.cs.nctu.edu.tw]`

cis.nctu.edu.tw

`smtp:[mail.cis.nctu.edu.tw]`

example.com

`smtp:[192.168.23.56]:20025`

orillynet.com

`smtp`

ora.com

`maildrop`

kdent@ora.com

`error:no mail accepted for kdent`

# Mail Relaying – Transport Maps (2)

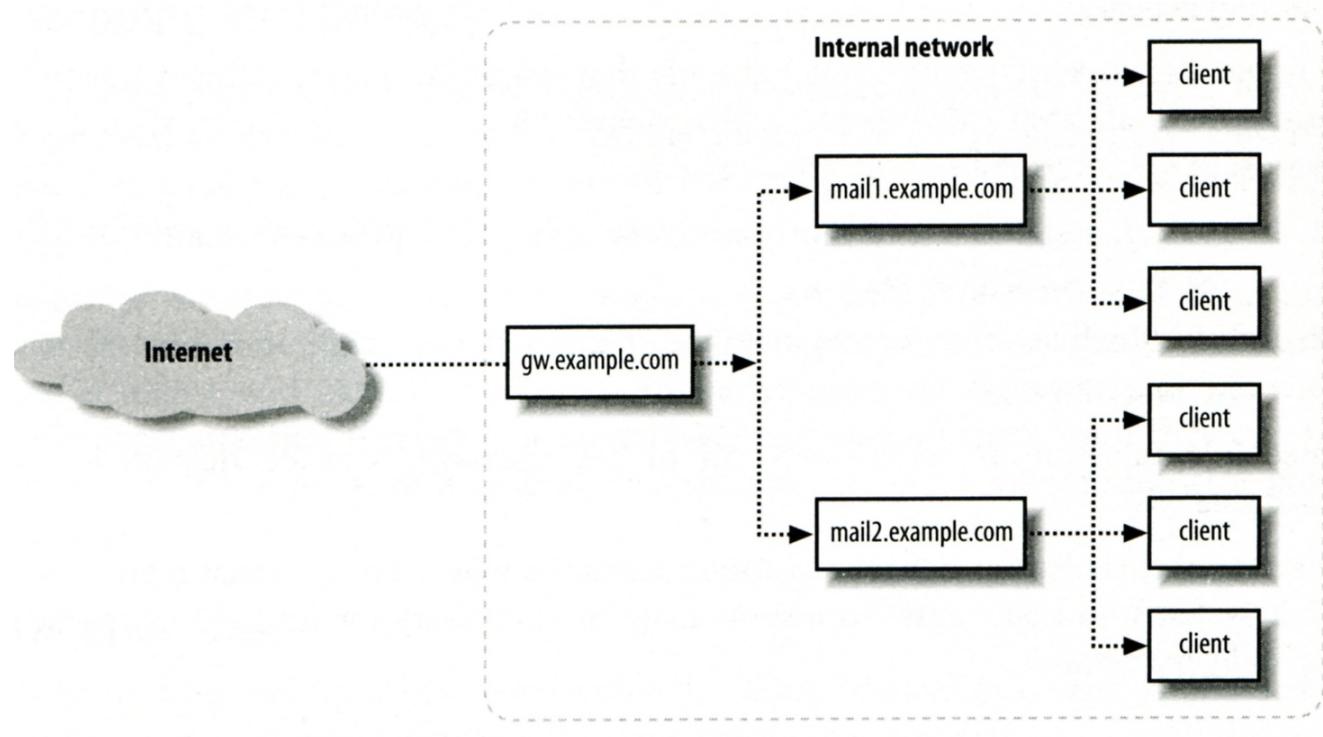
## □ Usage in transport map

- MX → Local delivery mail server
- mailpost to bbs/news
- Postponing mail relay
  - Such as ISP has to postpone until customer network is online
  - In transport map:  
`abc.com ondemand`
  - In /usr/local/etc/postfix/master.cf  
`ondemand unix - - n - - smtp`
  - In /usr/local/etc/postfix/main.cf  
`defer_transports = ondemand` “ondemand” transport  
should trigger by postqueue  
`transport_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/transport`
  - Whenever the customer network is online, do
    - # postqueue -s abc.com

# Mail Relaying – Inbound Mail Gateway (1)

## ❑ Inbound Mail Gateway (IMG, MX)

- Accept all mail for a network from the Internet and relays it to internal mail systems
- Ex:
  - csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw is a IMG
  - csmailto.cs.nctu.edu.tw is internal mail system



# Mail Relaying – Inbound Mail Gateway (2)

## □ To be IMG, suppose

- You are administrator for cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - Hostname is csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - You have to be the IMG for secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw and javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw
    - Firewall only allow outsource connect to IMG port 25
1. The MX record for secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw and javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw should point to csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw
  2. In csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw,  
`relay_domains = secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw`  
`transport_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/transport`  
`secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw relay:[secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw]`  
`javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw relay:[javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw]`
  3. In secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw ( and so do javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw)  
`mydestination = secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw`

# Mail Relaying – Outbound Mail Gateway

- Outbound Mail Gateway
  - Accept mails from inside network and relay them to Internet hosts
- To be OMG, suppose
  - You are administrator for cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - Hostname is csmailer.cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - You have to be the OMG for secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw and javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - 1. In main.cf of csmailer.cs.nctu.edu.tw
    - `mynetworks = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/mynetworks`
      - `secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw`
      - `javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw`
  - 2. All students in secureLab/javaLab will configure their MUA to use secureLab/javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw to be the SMTP server
  - 3. In main.cf of secureLab/javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw,
    - `relayhost = [csmailer.cs.nctu.edu.tw]`

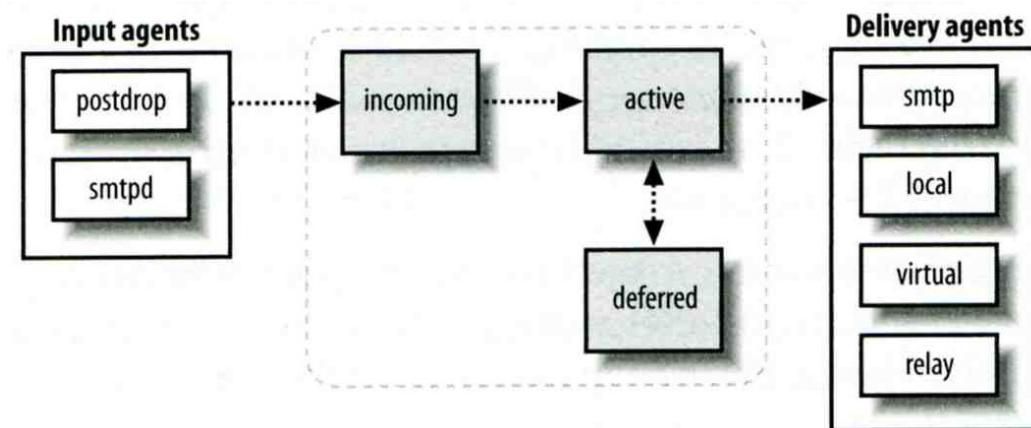
# Queue Management

## □ The queue management daemon

- qmgr daemon
- Unique queue ID
- Queue directories (`/var/spool/postfix/*`)
  - active, bounce, corrupt, deferred, hold

## □ Message movement between queues

- Temporary problem → deferred queue
- qmgr takes messages alternatively between incoming and deferred queue to active queue



# Queue Management – Queue Scheduling

---

- Double delay in deferred messages
  - Between
    - `minimal_backoff_time = 300s`
    - `maximal_backoff_time = 4000s`
  - qmgr daemon periodically scan deferred queue for reborn messages
    - `queue_run_delay = 300s`
- Deferred → bounce
  - `maximal_queue_lifetime = 5d`

# Queue Management – Message Delivery

## □ Controlling outgoing messages

- When there are lots of messages in queue for the same destination, it should be careful not to overwhelm it
- If concurrent delivery is success, postfix can increase concurrency between:
  - initial\_destination\_concurrency = 5
  - default\_destination\_concurrency\_limit = 20
  - Under control by
    - maxproc in /usr/local/etc/postfix/master.cf
  - You can override the default\_destination\_concurrency\_limit for any transport mailer:
    - smtp\_destination\_concurrency\_limit = 25
    - local\_destination\_concurrency\_limit = 10
- Control how many recipients for a single outgoing message
  - default\_destination\_recipient\_limit = 50
  - You can override it for any transport mailer in the same idea:
    - smtp\_destination\_recipient\_limit = 100

# Queue Management – Error Notification

## □ Sending error messages to administrator

- Set `notify_classes` parameter to list error classes that should be generated and sent to administrator
  - Ex: `notify_classes = resource, software`
- Error classes

Error Class	Description	Noticed Recipient (all default to postmaster)
bounce	Send headers of bounced mails	<code>bounce_notice_recipient</code>
2bounce	Send undeliverable bounced mails	<code>2bounce_notice_recipient</code>
delay	Send headers of delayed mails	<code>delay_notice_recipient</code>
policy	Send transcript when mail is reject due to anti-spam restrictions	<code>error_notice_recipient</code>
protocol	Send transcript that has SMTP error	<code>error_notice_recipient</code>
resource	Send notice because of resource problem	<code>error_notice_recipient</code>
software	Send notice because of software problem	<code>error_notice_recipient</code>

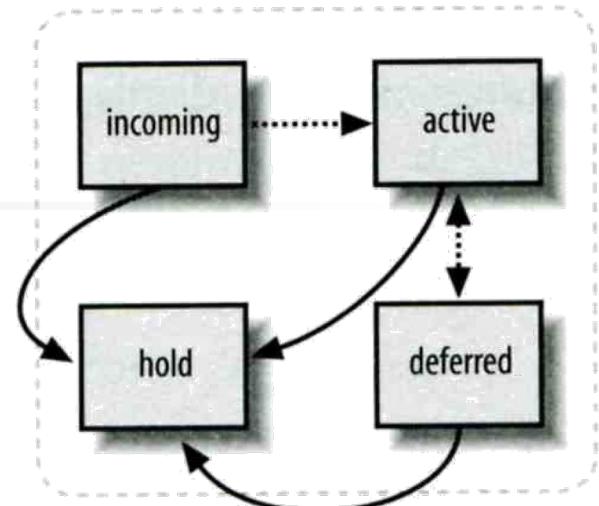
# Queue Management – Queue Tools (1)

## ❑ postqueue command

- postqueue -p
  - Generate sendmail mailq output
- postqueue -f
  - Attempt to flush(deliver) all queued mail
- postqueue -s cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - Schedule immediate delivery of all mail queued for site

## ❑ postsuper command

- Delete queued messages
  - postsuper -d E757A3428C6 (from incoming, active, deferred, hold)
  - postsuper -d ALL
- Put messages “on hold” so that no attempt is made to deliver it
  - postsuper -h E757A3428C6 (from incoming, active, deferred)
- Release messages in hold queue
  - postsuper -H ALL
- Requeue messages into maildrop queue (maildrop → pickup → cleanup → incoming)
  - postsuper -r E757A3428C6
  - postsuper -r ALL



# Queue Management – Queue Tools (2)

## □ postcat

- Display the contents of a queue file

```
nasa [/home/lctseng] -lctseng- mailq
-Queue ID- --Size-- ----Arrival Time---- -Sender/Recipient-----
3314234284A    602 Sat May 19 04:16:20 root@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw
                  (connect to csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw[140.113.235.104]:25: Operation timed out)
                  lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw
```

```
nasa [/home/lctseng] -lctseng- sudo postcat -q 3314234284A
*** ENVELOPE RECORDS deferred/3/3314234284A ***
message_size:      602       214       1       0       602
message_arrival_time: Sat May 19 04:16:20 2012
create_time: Sat May 19 04:16:20 2012
sender: root@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw
named_attribute: rewrite_context=local
original_recipient: root
recipient: lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw
*** MESSAGE CONTENTS deferred/3/3314234284A ***
Received: by nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw (Postfix)
          id 3314234284A; Sat, 19 May 2012 04:16:20 +0800 (CST)
Delivered-To: root@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw
Received: by nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw (Postfix, from userid 0)
          id 2CB713427A5; Sat, 19 May 2012 04:16:20 +0800 (CST)
To: root@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw
Subject: nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw weekly run output
Message-Id: <20120518201620.2CB713427A5@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw>
Date: Sat, 19 May 2012 04:16:20 +0800 (CST)
From: root@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw (NASA Root)
```

Rebuilding locate database:

Rebuilding whatis database:

...

# Multiple Domains

---

## ❑ Use single system to host many domains

- Ex:
  - We use csmailto.cs.nctu.edu.tw to host both
    - cs.nctu.edu.tw
    - csie.nctu.edu.tw
- Purpose
  - Can be used for final delivery on the machine or
  - Can be used for forwarding to destination elsewhere

## ❑ Important considerations

- Does the same user id with different domain should go to the same mailbox or different mailbox ?
  - YES (shared domain)
  - NO (Separate domain)
- Does every user require a system account in /etc/passwd ?
  - YES (system account)
  - NO (virtual account)

# Multiple Domains –

## Shared Domain with System Account

### □ Situation

- The mail system should accept mails for both canonical and virtual domains and
- The same mailbox for the same user id

### □ Procedure

- Modify “mydomain” to canonical domain
- Modify “mydestination” parameter to let mails to virtual domain can be local delivered
- Ex:

- mydomain = cs.nctu.edu.tw
- mydestination = \$myhostname, \$mydomain, csie.nctu.edu.tw

※ In this way, mail to both [lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw](mailto:lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw) and [lctseng@csie.nctu.edu.tw](mailto:lctseng@csie.nctu.edu.tw) will go to csmailgate:/var/mail/lctseng

### □ Limitation

- Can not separate [lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw](mailto:lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw) from [lctseng@csie.nctu.edu.tw](mailto:lctseng@csie.nctu.edu.tw)

# Multiple Domains –

## Separate Domains with System Accounts

### ❑ Situation

- The mail system should accept mails for both canonical and virtual domains and
- Mailboxes are not necessarily the same for the same user id

### ❑ Procedure

- Modify “mydomain” to canonical domain
- Modify “virtual\_alias\_domains” to accept mails to virtual domains
- Create “virtual\_alias\_maps” map
- Ex:
  - mydomain = cs.nctu.edu.tw
  - virtual\_alias\_domains = abc.com.tw, xyz.com.tw
  - virtual\_alias\_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual
  - In /usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual
    - CEO@abc.com.tw                            andy
    - @xyz.com.tw                                jack

### ❑ Limitation

- Need to maintain UNIX account for virtual domain user

# Multiple Domains –

## Separate Domains with Virtual Accounts (1)

- ❑ Useful when users in virtual domains:
  - Do not need to login to system
  - Only need to retrieve mail through POP/IMAP server
- ❑ Procedure
  - Modify “virtual\_mailbox\_domains” to let postfix know what mails it should accept
  - Modify “virtual\_mailbox\_base” and create related directory to put mails
  - Create “virtual\_mailbox\_maps” map
  - Ex:
    - virtual\_mailbox\_domain = abc.com.tw, xyz.com.tw
    - virtual\_mailbox\_base = /var/vmail
    - Create /var/vmail/abc-domain and /var/vmail/xyz-domain
    - virtual\_mailbox\_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/vmailbox
    - In /usr/local/etc/postfix/vmailbox
      - [CEO@abc.com.tw](mailto:CEO@abc.com.tw) abc-domain/CEO (Mailbox format)
      - [CEO@xyz.com.tw](mailto:CEO@xyz.com.tw) xyz-domain/CEO/ (Maildir format)

# Multiple Domains –

## Separate Domains with Virtual Accounts (2)

### ❑ Ownerships of virtual mailboxes

- Simplest way:
  - The same owner of POP/IMAP Servers
- Flexibility in postfix
  - virtual\_uid\_maps and virtual\_gid\_maps
  - Ex:
    - virtual\_uid\_maps = static:1003
    - virtual\_gid\_maps = static:105
    - virtual\_uid\_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual\_uids
    - virtual\_uid\_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual\_uids static:1003
    - In /usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual\_uids
      - » CEO@abc.com.tw 1004
      - » CEO@xyz.com.tw 1008

# Step by Step Examples

---

Let's learn from examples

# Step by Step Examples

---

## □ Build a Basic MTA

- Send test mails to verify your MTA
- Check whether your mail is sent or not

## □ MTA Authentication

## □ MTA Encryption

## □ MAA for POP3 and IMAP

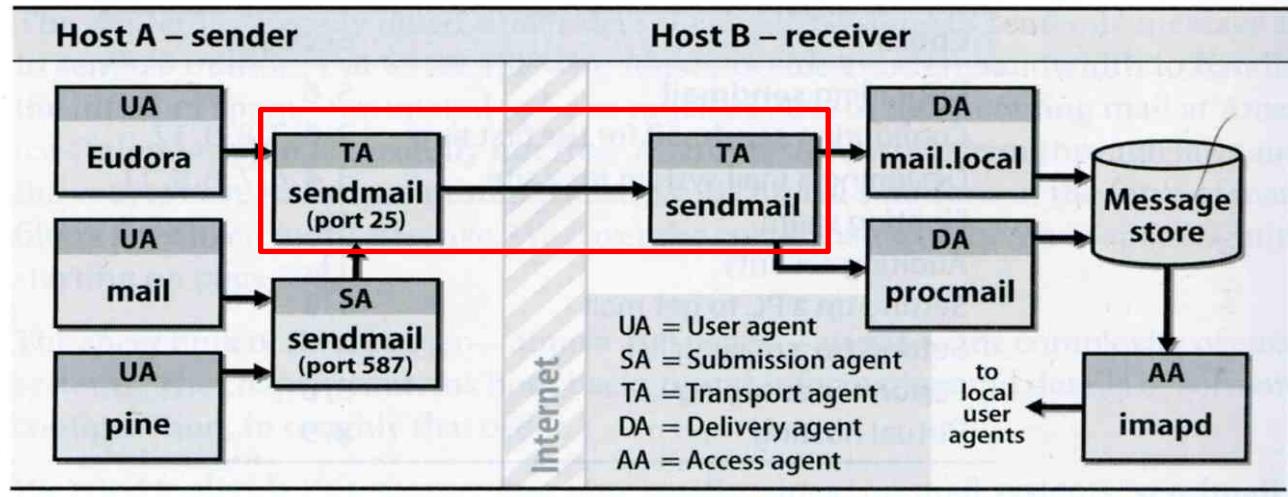
## □ Note

- In this example, we assume you have public IP/domain

# Build a Basic MTA

Can send mails to other domain

## Mail system components



# Build a basic MTA(1)

---

□ Can send mails to other domain

□ Install Postfix

- Pkg: postfix
- Port: mail/postfix

□ After installation

- Disable “sendmail” program

➤ service sendmail stop

➤ In /etc/rc.conf

`sendmail_enable="NONE"`

➤ In /etc/periodic.conf (create if not exists)

```
daily_clean_hoststat_enable="NO"
daily_status_mail_rejects_enable="NO"
daily_status_include_submit_mailq="NO"
daily_submit_queuerun="NO"
```

# Build a basic MTA(2)

---

## □ Replace sendmail by Postfix modified version

- Edit /etc/mail/mailer.conf

```
Sendmail    /usr/local/sbin/sendmail
send-mail   /usr/local/sbin/sendmail
Mailq       /usr/local/sbin/sendmail
newaliases  /usr/local/sbin/sendmail
```

# Build a basic MTA(3)

---

## □ After installation

- Enable postfix

➤ Edit /etc/rc.conf

```
postfix_enable="YES"
```

➤ service postfix start

## □ Set up DNS records

- Some domains will reject mails from hosts without DNS record
- Suppose the hostname is “demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net”
- Set up these records
  - (A record) demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
  - (A record) nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
  - (MX record) nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
    - Points to “demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net”

# Build a basic MTA(4)

---

## □ Set up MTA identity

- See [Postfix Configuration: MTA identity](#)
- In main.cf

```
myhostname = demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
mydomain = nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
myorigin = $myhostname
mydestination = $myhostname, localhost.$mydomain,
                localhost, $mydomain
```

## □ Reload or restart postfix to apply changes

- postfix reload

# Send test mails to verify your MTA(1)

- “telnet” or “mail” command

```
> telnet localhost 25
Trying 127.0.0.1...
Connected to localhost.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ESMTP Postfix
EHLO localhost
250-demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250-PIPELINING
250-SIZE 10240000
250-VRFY
250-ETRN
250-ENHANCEDSTATUSCODES
250-8BITMIME
250 DSN
MAIL FROM: lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250 2.1.0 Ok
RCPT TO: lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw
250 2.1.5 Ok
DATA
354 End data with <CR><LF>.<CR><LF>
Subject: This is test mail

DATA
.
250 2.0.0 Ok: queued as 3C868150
```

telnet

# Send test mails to verify your MTA(2)

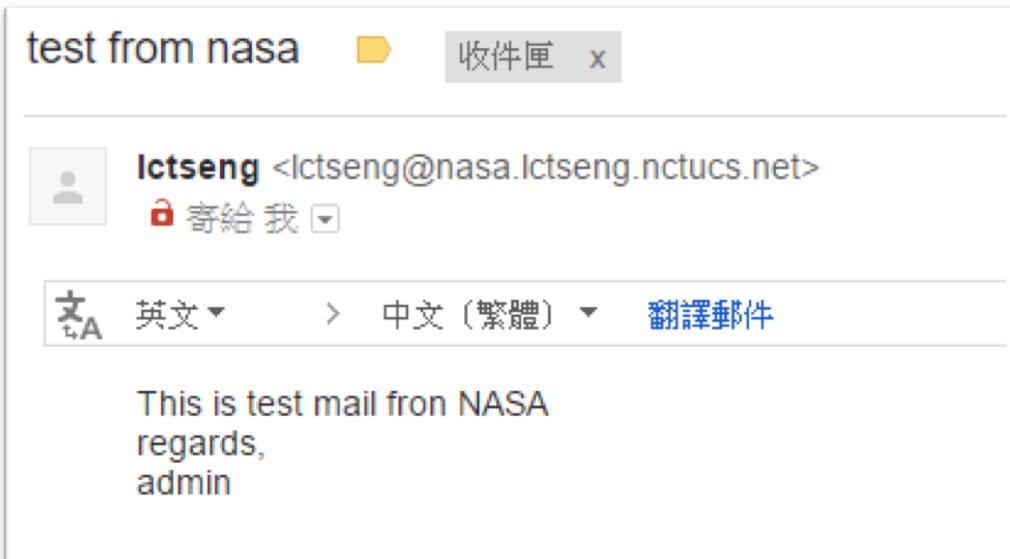
## □ The “mail” command

```
> mail -s "test from nasa" lctseng@gmail.com
This is test mail from NASA
regards,
admin
(Press Ctrl+D)
```

mail

- See man page for more details

## □ Result (gmail)



# Send test mails to verify your MTA(3)

## □ Mail source text of last example

```
Delivered-To: lctseng@gmail.com
Received: by 10.129.125.135 with SMTP id y129csp874822ywc;
          Sun, 6 Mar 2016 02:39:22 -0800 (PST)
X-Received: by 10.98.87.90 with SMTP id 187mr25639644pfb.70.1457260762400;
          Sun, 06 Mar 2016 02:39:22 -0800 (PST)
Return-Path: <lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net>
Received: from demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ...(omitted)
          by mx.google.com with ESMTP id bz6si20406744pad.30.2016.03.06.02.39.21
          for <lctseng@gmail.com>;
          Sun, 06 Mar 2016 02:39:21 -0800 (PST)
Received-SPF: neutral (google.com: 140.113.168.238 is neither permitted ...)(omitted)
Authentication-Results: mx.google.com;
          spf=neutral (google.com: 140.113.168.238 is neither permitted ...)(omitted)
Received: by demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net (Postfix, from userid 1001)
          id 6D916162; Sun, 6 Mar 2016 18:38:04 +0800 (CST)
To: lctseng@gmail.com
Subject: test from nasa
Message-Id: <20160306103804.6D916162@demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net>
Date: Sun, 6 Mar 2016 18:38:04 +0800 (CST)
From: lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net (lctseng)

This is test mail from NASA
regards,
admin
```

# Check whether your mail is sent or not (1)

---

- Sometimes, we do not receive mails immediately
- There may be some errors when your MTA sending mails to other domain
- Mails will stay in queues
  - Contain information about each mail
- Tools to management mail queues
  - See [Postfix Configuration: Queue Management - Queue Tools](#)

# Check whether your mail is sent or not (2)

## □ Example for rejected mails

```
-Queue ID: --Size-- ----Arrival Time---- -Sender/Recipient-----  
3C868150          377 Sun Mar  6 18:23:11 lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net  
(host csmx3.cs.nctu.edu.tw[140.113.235.119] said: 450 4.1.8  
<lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net>: Sender address rejected: Domain not found  
(in reply to RCPT TO command)) lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw  
  
-- 0 Kbytes in 1 Request.
```

- Problem
  - The destination MX cannot verify the **domain of sender host**
- Reason
  - You may forget to set up correct DNS record
- This mail will **NOT** be delivered until you set up your DNS record

# Check whether your mail is sent or not (3)

## □ Example for deferred mails

```
-Queue ID: --Size-- ----Arrival Time---- -Sender/Recipient-----  
3C868150          377 Sun Mar  6 18:23:11 lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net  
(host csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw[140.113.235.104] said: 450 4.2.0  
<lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw>: Recipient address rejected: Greylisted,  
see http://postgrey.schweikert.ch/help/cs.nctu.edu.tw.html  
(in reply to RCPT TO command))    lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw  
  
-- 0 Kbytes in 1 Request.
```

- Problem
  - The mail is deferred for a short time
- Reason
  - Destination host wants to examine our server is a spamming host or not
- The mail will be delivered after a short time
  - Generally within 30 minutes

# MTA Authentication

---

We don't want unauthorized user to access our MTA

# MTA authentication(1)

- In previous example, only localhost can send mail to other domain
- If you try telnet on other host, when you try to send mails to other domain, you will get:

```
> telnet demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net 25
Trying 140.113.168.238...
Connected to demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ESMTP Postfix
MAIL FROM: lctseng@demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250 2.1.0 Ok
RCPT TO: lctseng@gmail.com
454 4.7.1 <lctseng@gmail.com>: Relay access denied
```

- That is because you have following lines in main.cf

```
mynetworks_style = host
```

- So Postfix only trust clients from localhost
- See [Postfix Configuration: Relay Control](#)

# MTA authentication(2)

---

- How to let SMTP clients outside from trust networks get the same privileges as trusted hosts?
  - Can send mails to other domain, not only **\$mydestination**
  - We need authentication (account and password)
- SASL Authentication
  - Simple Authentication and Security Layer
  - RFC 2554, RFC 4954
- To configure SASL for Postfix, we need another daemon
  - Dovecot SASL (we use it in our example)
  - Cyrus SASL (need to enable it by port)
- References
  - <http://wiki2.dovecot.org/>
  - [http://www.postfix.org/SASL\\_README.html](http://www.postfix.org/SASL_README.html)

# MTA authentication(3)

## - Dovecot SASL

### □ Installation

- Pkg: dovecot
- Port: mail/dovecot

### □ Enable Dovecot SASL daemon

- In /etc/rc.conf

```
dovecot_enable="YES"
```

- Copy configuration files

```
cp -R /usr/local/etc/dovecot/example-config/* \
      /usr/local/etc/dovecot
```

- Create SSL keys for Dovecot (self-signed or use Let's Encrypt)
  - Change path for SSL files in `/usr/local/etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-ssl.conf`
  - In fact, these are mainly for POP3s and IMAPs, not SASL in Postfix
- service dovecot start

# MTA authentication(4)

## - Postfix with Dovecot SASL

- Set up Dovecot SASL authenticate (using system account)

- In /usr/local/etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-master.conf:

```
service auth {  
    ...  
    # Postfix smtp-auth  
    unix_listener /var/spool/postfix/private/auth {  
        mode = 0666  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

- In /usr/local/etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-auth.conf

```
auth_mechanisms = plain login
```

# MTA authentication(5)

## - Postfix with Dovecot SASL

### □ Set up Dovecot SASL in Postfix

- In main.cf

```
# Set SASL to Dovecot
smtpd_sasl_type = dovecot
# Specify the UNIX socket path
smtpd_sasl_path = private/auth
# Enable SASL
smtpd_sasl_auth_enable = yes
# For client capability
broken_sasl_auth_clients = yes
# Allow SASL authenticated clients
smtpd_recipient_restrictions = permit_mynetworks,
                                permit_sasl_authenticated,
                                reject_unauth_destination
```

### □ Restart/Reload Dovecot and Postfix

# MTA authentication(6)

- Now you can authenticate your identity in SMTP

```
> telnet demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net 25
Trying 140.113.168.238...
Connected to demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ESMTP Postfix
EHLO linuxhome.cs.nctu.edu.tw
250-demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250-PIPELINING
250-SIZE 10240000
250-VRFY
250-ETRN
250-AUTH PLAIN LOGIN
250-AUTH=PLAIN LOGIN
250-ENHANCEDSTATUSCODES
250-8BITMIME
250 DSN
```

# MTA authentication(7)

## □ The account and password are encoded in Base64

- If you have perl installed, suggest your account is **test** and password is **testpassword**

```
perl -MMIME::Base64 -e 'print encode_base64("\000test\000testpassword");'
```

- It will generate encoded account and password
  - For example: AHRlc3QAdGVzdHBhc3N3b3Jk

# MTA authentication(8)

- Use the encoded account and password to authenticate it

```
> telnet demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net 25
Trying 140.113.168.238...
Connected to demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ESMTP Postfix
AUTH PLAIN AHRlc3QAdGVzdHBhc3N3b3Jk
235 2.7.0 Authentication successful
MAIL FROM: lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250 2.1.0 Ok
RCPT TO: lctseng@gmail.com
250 2.1.5 Ok
DATA
354 End data with <CR><LF>.<CR><LF>
To: lctseng@gmail.com
Subject: This is authenticated client
Message-Id: <20160307120109.861A9154@demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net>
Date: Mon, 7 Mar 2016 15:01:09 +0800 (CST)
From: lctseng@demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net (lctseng)

Test Mail
.
250 2.0.0 Ok: queued as F3D59171
```

# MTA Encryption

---

The Internet is dangerous.  
We need to protect ourselves from sniffing.

# MTA encryption(1)

- In previous example, all SMTP sessions are in **plain text**
  - Your encoded authentication information is in danger!
- We need encryption over SSL/TLS
  - Like HTTP can be enhanced to HTTPS
  - Postfix supports two kinds of encryption
    - SMTP over TLS
    - SMTPs
- Before we enable SMTP over TLS (or SMTPs), you need SSL keys and certificates
  - Again, just like HTTPS
  - Self-signed or use Let's Encrypt
  - You can use the same certificates/keys as Dovecot's
    - In main.cf

```
smtpd_tls_cert_file = /path/to/cert.pem
smtpd_tls_key_file = /path/to/key.pem
```

# MTA encryption(2-1)

## - Set up SMTP over TLS

- Recommended for SMTP encryption
- Use the same port as SMTP (port 25)
- No force encryption
  - Client can choose whether to encrypt mails or not
  - But server can configured to force encryption
- In main.cf
  - No force encryption

```
smtpd_tls_security_level = may
```
  - Force encryption

```
smtpd_tls_security_level = encrypt
```
- Reload Postfix

# MTA encryption(2-2)

## - Set up SMTP over TLS

- Now your server supports SMTP over TLS

```
> telnet demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net 25
Trying 140.113.168.238...
Connected to demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ESMTP Postfix
EHLO linuxhome.cs.nctu.edu.tw
250-demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250-PIPELINING
250-SIZE 10240000
250-VRFY
250-ETRN
250-STARTTLS
250-ENHANCEDSTATUSCODES
250-8BITMIME
250 DSN
```

- If you use force encryption, you must STARTTLS before sending mails

```
MAIL FROM: lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
530 5.7.0 Must issue a STARTTLS command first
```

# MTA encryption(2-3)

## - Set up SMTP over TLS

### □ Send mail with STARTTLS

- You cannot use telnet (plain-text client) anymore
- Connection becomes encrypted after STARTTLS
- telnet cannot read encrypted text

### □ OpenSSL client

```
openssl s_client -connect demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net:25 -starttls smtp
```

# MTA encryption(3-1)

## - Set up SMTPs

- Alternative way to encrypt SMTP sessions
- Use different port: 465
- Force encryption
- Can coexist with SMTP over TLS
- In master.cf

- Uncomment these lines

```
smt�      inet  n      -      n      -      -      -      smt�  
        -o syslog_name=postfix/smt�  
        -o smt3d_tls_wrappermode=yes
```

- This will open port 465 for SMTPs and use “smt�” as syslog name

- Reload Postfix

# MTA encryption(3-2)

## - Set up SMTPs

□ Now you can use SSL clients to use SMTPs

- telnet may not work in encrypted sessions
- SSL client:

```
openssl s_client -connect host:port
```

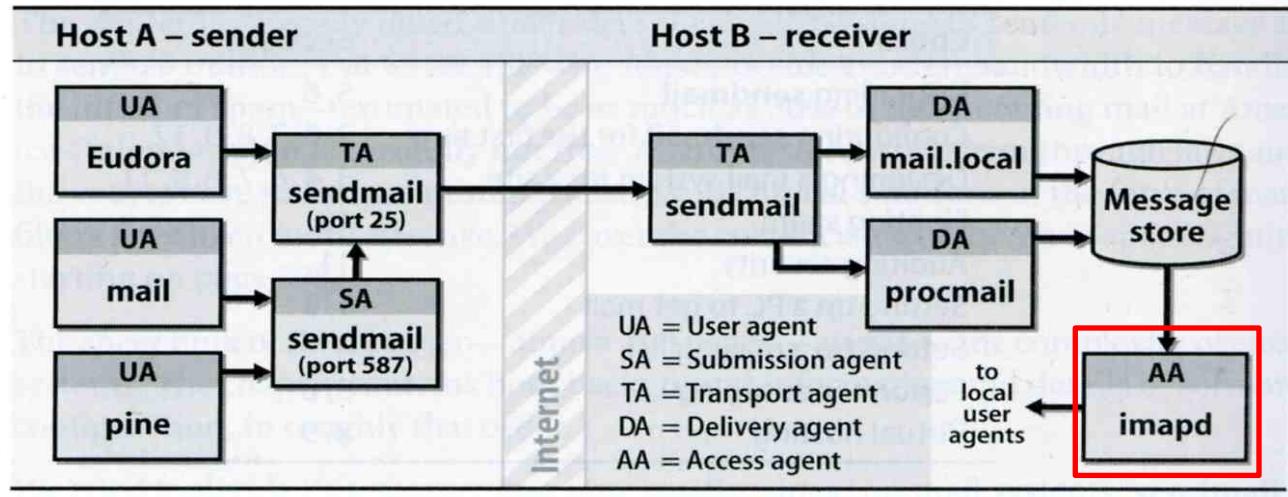
- **Important note**
  - In openssl s\_client, DO NOT use capital character “R”
    - “R” is a special command in openssl s\_client (for renegotiating)
  - So use “mail from/rcpt to” instead of “MAIL FROM/RCPT TO”
    - For SMTP, they are all the same
  - If you use “R”, you will see following output (NOT a part of SMTP)

```
RENEGOTIATING
depth=2 0 = Digital Signature Trust Co., CN = DST Root CA X3
verify return:1
depth=1 C = US, O = Let's Encrypt, CN = Let's Encrypt Authority X1
verify return:1
depth=0 CN = nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
verify return:1
```

# MAA for POP3 and IMAP

Read mails from remote host

## Mail system components



# MAA for POP3 and IMAP (1)

---

- Dovecot already provides POP3 and IMAP services
  - Include SSL versions: POP3s, IMAPs
    - That why we need SSL certificates and keys for Dovecot
- When you activate Dovecot service, these MAA services are also brought up.
- But you cannot access mail directly, you need some configuration
  - Configuration files are in : /usr/local/etc/dovecot/
  - There are many files included by dovecot.conf
    - In conf.d directory
    - Splitting configuration files is easier to management
  - Reference:  
[https://doc.dovecot.org/configuration\\_manual/quick\\_configuration/](https://doc.dovecot.org/configuration_manual/quick_configuration/)

# MAA for POP3 and IMAP (2)

## - Dovecot Configuration

### □ Allow GID = 0 to access mail (optional)

- By default, Dovecot do not allow users with GID = 0 to access mail.  
If your users are in wheel group, you need following settings
- In dovecot.conf

```
first_valid_gid = 0
```

### □ Specify the mail location (must agrees with Postfix)

- In conf.d/10-mail.conf

```
mail_location = mbox:~/mail:INBOX=/var/mail/%u
```

### □ Add authenticate configuration to use PAM module

- Dovecot use system PAM module to authenticate
- Allow system users to access mails
- Create a new file: /etc/pam.d/dovecot

auth required pam_unix.so	account required pam_unix.so
---------------------------	------------------------------

# MAA for POP3 and IMAP (3)

---

- After restart Dovecot, your MAA is ready
- To check these services, you can use “telnet” or “openssl s\_client”
  - POP3: 110
  - POP3s: 995
  - IMAP: 143
  - IMAPS: 993

# MAA for POP3 and IMAP (4)

## ❑ IMAP + STARTTLS

```
openssl s_client -connect host.example.com:143 -starttls imap
```

## ❑ POP3 + STARTTLS

```
openssl s_client -connect host.example.com:110 -starttls pop3
```

## ❑ IMAPs

```
openssl s_client -connect host.example.com:993
```

## ❑ POP3s

```
openssl s_client -connect host.example.com:995
```

## ❑ Sample message from Dovecot when succeed

- POP 

```
+OK Dovecot ready.
```
- IMAP

```
* OK [CAPABILITY IMAP4rev1 LITERAL+ SASL-IR LOGIN-REFERRALS
ID ENABLE IDLE AUTH=PLAIN AUTH=LOGIN] Dovecot ready.
```

# MAA for POP3 and IMAP (5)

## □ Set up MUAs like Outlook or Thunderbird

- You can see the tutorial in CS mail server, they should be similar to set up your server
- Settings for Gmail is also available
- <https://mail.cs.nctu.edu.tw/>

