Firewalls

What is a Firewall?

Network security device or software that monitors and controls incoming/outgoing network traffic

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Uses security policies to verify and filter traffic

Very simple Very complex

State

Stateless Firewalls

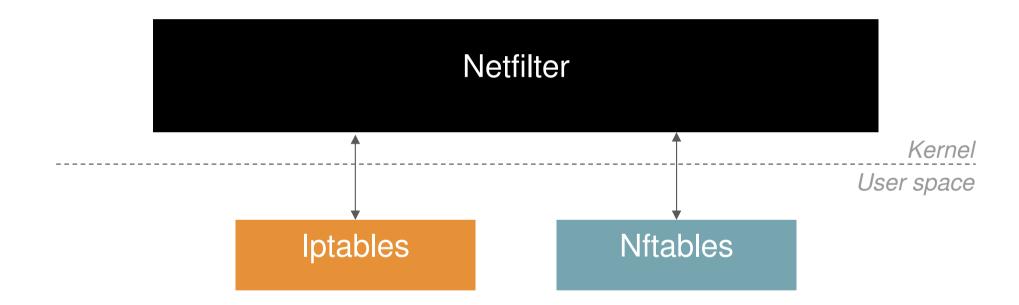
Stateful Firewalls

(Stateful Packet Inspection - SPI)

Each network connection is handled separately

Analyses each packet considering past interactions

Firewalls in Linux



Packet control points (tables)

raw

filter packets before the Kernel tracks their state

mangle

change packet headers

nat

change source or destination addresses

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... specified through the flag -t/--table

Filter Actions

ACCEPT

Allows packet to continue

REJECT

Do not accept with denial response

DROP

Silently do not accept

Packet filter moments (chains)

