



DDoS Tutorial

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NANOG 65

Introduction and overview



Introduction

- Who am I?
- What is the target audience of this tutorial?
- Let's make it interactive!

Overview

- Discuss what DDoS is, general concepts, adversaries, etc.
- What is currently fashionable?
 - DDoS, NTP, SSDP
 - SYN Flood (Prince quote here)
- Go through a networking technology overview, in particular the OSI layers, sockets and their states
- Look at popular attack types at the different layers
- Discuss reflection and amplification
- Challenges
- Mitigations

What is DoS/DDoS?



What is Denial of Service?

- Resource exhaustion... which leads to lack of availability
- Consider:
 - How is it different from CNN pointing to somebody's web site?
 - How is that different from company's primary Internet connection going down?

What is Denial of Service?

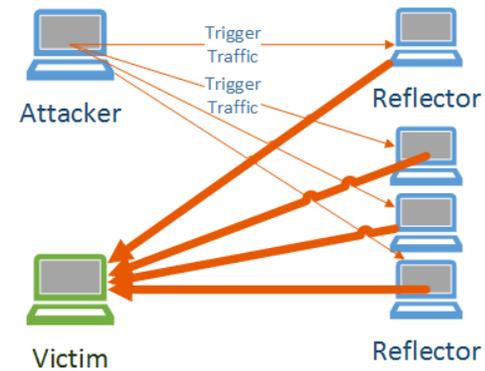
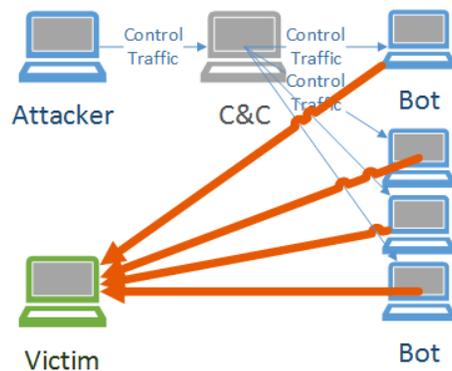
- From security point of view?
 - Decreased availability
- From operations point of view?
 - An outage
- From business point of view?
 - Financial losses

DDoS is an Outage!

- Well, as service providers, we all know how to deal with outages

DoS vs. DDoS?

- One system is sending the traffic vs many systems are sending the traffic
- In the past it usually meant difference in volume
 - Over the past 3 years, due to reflective attacks, this has been changing rapidly

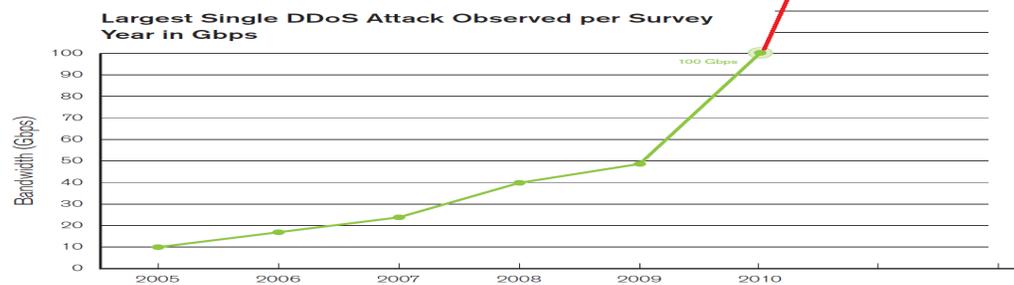


The problem?



Let's look at attack bandwidth

- Bandwidth in 2010 – little over 100 Gbps?
- 2013 – over 300 Gbps
- 2014 – over 400 GBps



Source: Arbor Networks Yearly Report

Figure 1
Source: Arbor Networks, Inc.

Contributing factors

- Embedded devices (mostly home routers)
- Available reflectors (DNS, NTP, SSDP)
...with ability to amplify
- Outdated Content Management Systems (CMSes)

Who is the adversary?



Adversary

- Wide range of attackers
 - Gamers – on the rise!!! 😊
 - Professional DDoS operators and booters/stressors
 - Some of the attacks have been attributed to nation states
 - Hacktivists – not recently

...and more

Motivation

- Wide range of motivating factors as well
 - Financial gain
 - extortion (DD4BC)
 - taking the competition offline during high-gain events
 - Political statement
 - Divert attention (seen in cases with data exfiltration)
 - Immature behavior

Skill level

- Wide range of skills
 - Depending on the role in the underground community
 - Mostly segmented between operators and tool-smiths
 - Tool-smiths are not that sophisticated (at this point) and there is a large reuse of code and services
 - This leads to clear signatures for some of the tools
- Increasing complexity
 - DirtJumper
 - xnote.1
 - XOR Botnet

What is new(-ish)?



What is new?

- Booters/Stressors
- Embedded home and SOHO devices
- Content management systems – in the past

Booters/Stressors

- Inexpensive
- Tools are sold for cheap on the black market (forums)
- Range 5-10 Gbps and more
- Usually short duration
- Popular among gamers

Booters/Stressors

- What are the booter services?
- A picture is worth a thousand words:
 - Think about the audience they are trying to attract
- Google: “Gwapo’s Professional DDOS”



Gwapo's Professional DDOS Service.mp4



Gwapo's Professional DDOS Service (Take down websites for long term).mp4



Gwapo's Professional.mp4

Home routers

- Embedded home and SOHO devices
 - Krebs on security:
<http://krebsonsecurity.com/2015/01/lizard-stresser-runs-on-hacked-home-routers/>
- XBOX and Sony attacks over Christmas
 - Default username password
 - Open DNS recursive resolvers
 - NetUSB bug (from last week)
- Is that intentional? – “follow the money”

Technology and Terminology Overview



Technology Overview

- The purpose of this section is to level set
- Topics we'll cover
 - OSI and Internet models
 - TCP and sockets
 - Look at the operation of tools like netstat, netcat, tcpdump and wireshark
 - DNS operation and terminology
 - NTP, SNMP, SSDP operation
 - Some terminology and metrics
- Let me know if the pace is too slow or too fast

Attack types and terminology



Attack classification classifications (pun intended) ;)

- By volume
 - Volumetric
 - Logic/Application
- Symmetry
 - Asymmetric
 - Symmetric
- Direction
 - Direct
 - Reflected
- Source
 - Single source
 - Distributed
- State change
 - Permanent
 - Recoverable
- Based on network layer

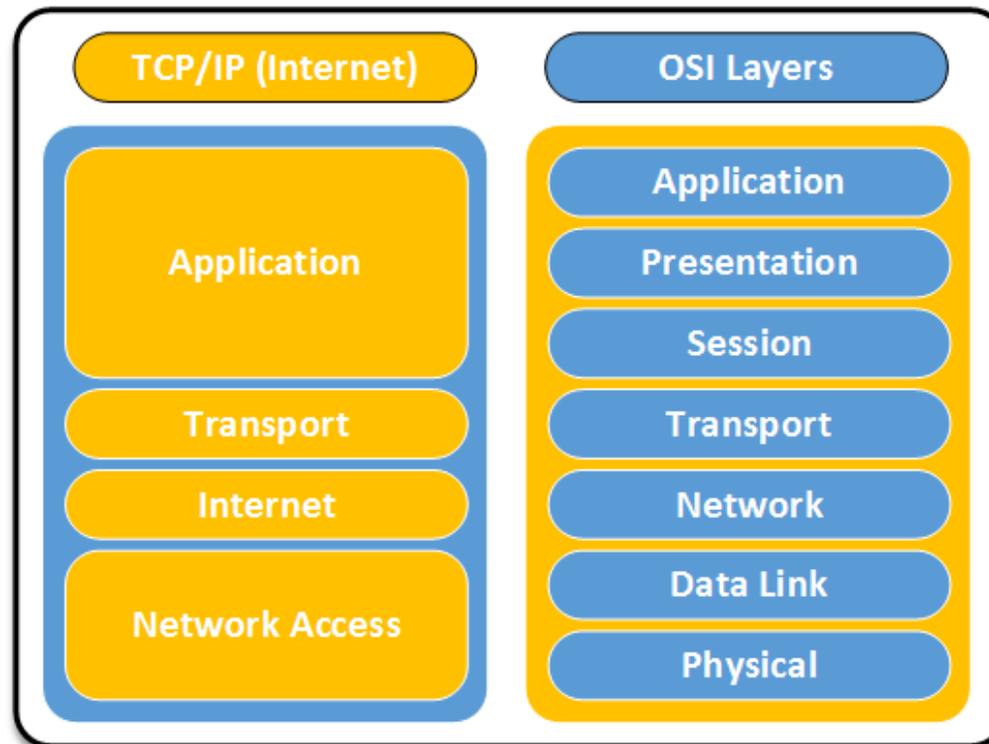
Metrics

- Bandwidth (Kbps, Gbps)
- PPS
- QPS
- Storage
- CPU
- Application specific – usually latency

Attack surface



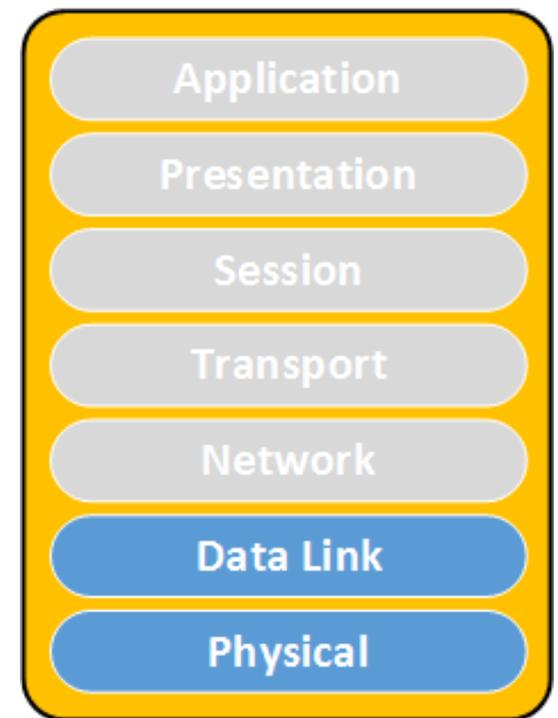
Network Layers – OSI vs Internet Model



Physical and Data-link Layers

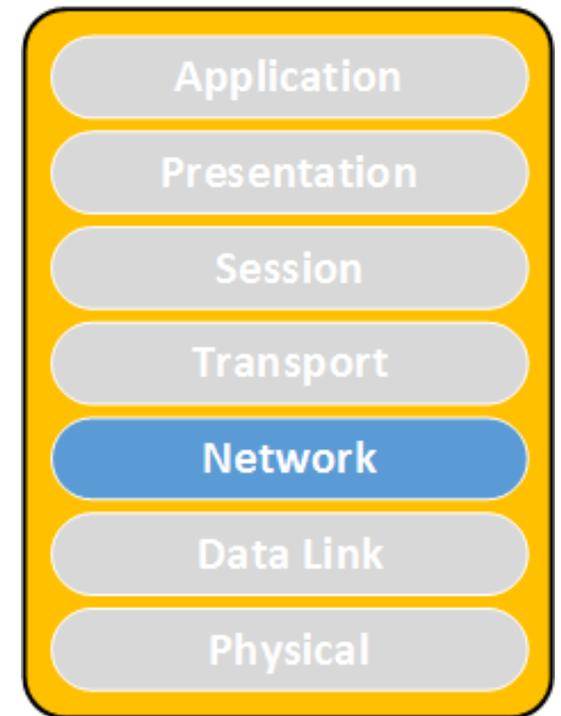
- Cut cables
- Jamming
- Power surge
- EMP

- MAC Spoofing
- MAC flood



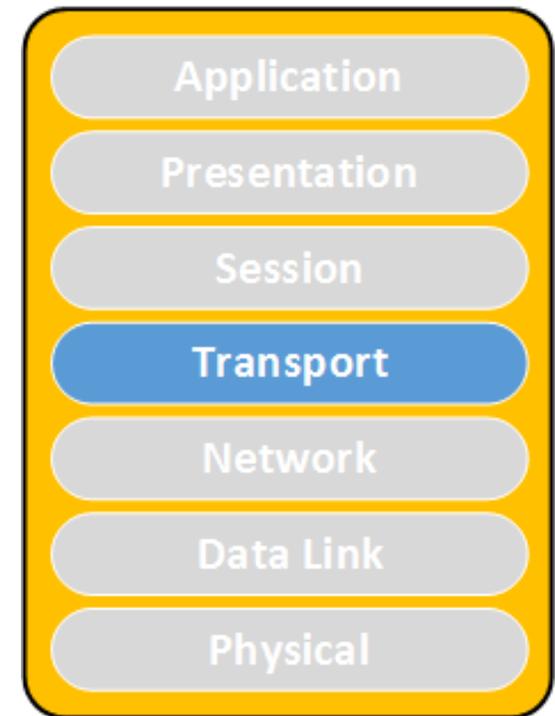
Network Layer

- Floods (ICMP)
- Teardrop
(overlapping IP segments)



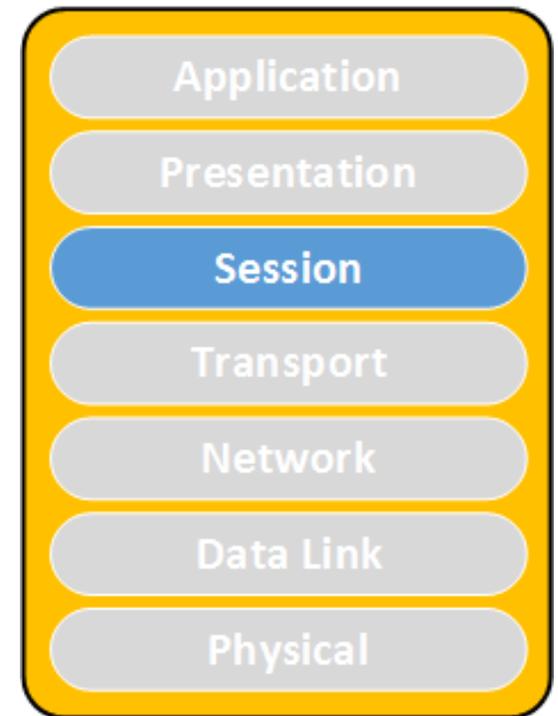
Transport Layer

- SYN Flood
 - RST Flood
 - FIN Flood
 - You name it...
-
- Window size 0
(looks like Slowloris)
 - Connect attack
 - LAND (same IP as src/dst)



Session Layer

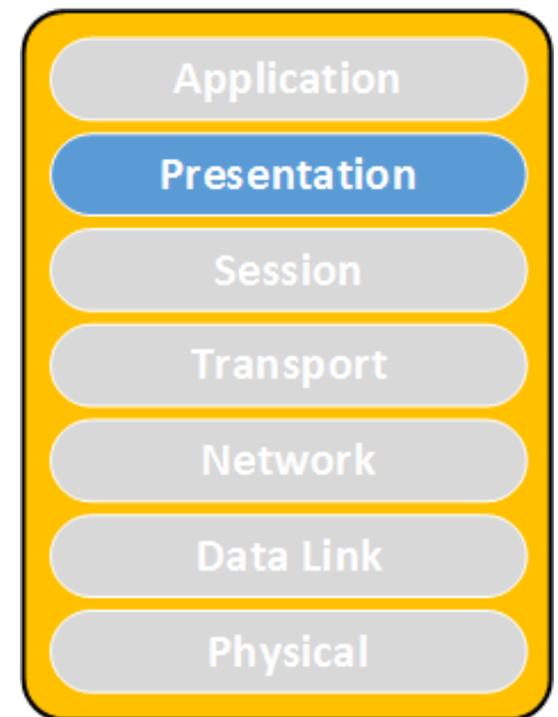
- Slowloris
- Sending data to a port with no NL in it (long headers, long request lines)
- Send data to the server with no CR



Presentation Layer

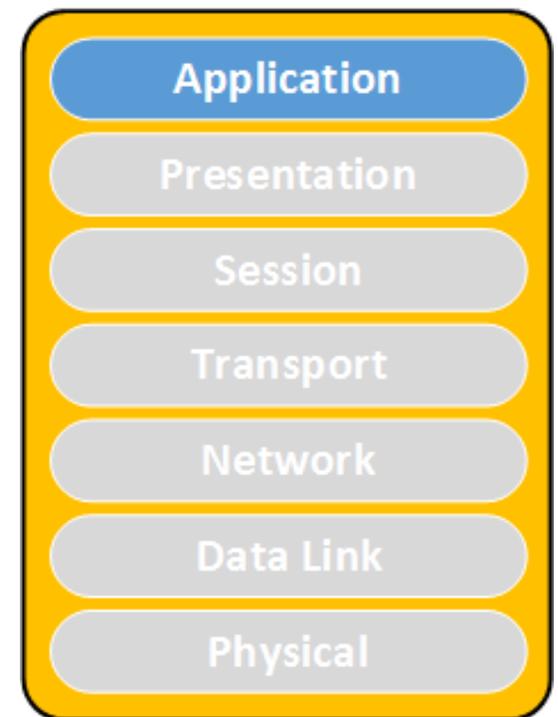
- Expensive queries (repeated many times)
- XML Attacks

```
<!DOCTYPE lolz  
[  
<!ENTITY lol1 "&lol2;">  
<!ENTITY lol2 "&lol1;">  
]>  
<lolz>&lol1;</lolz>
```

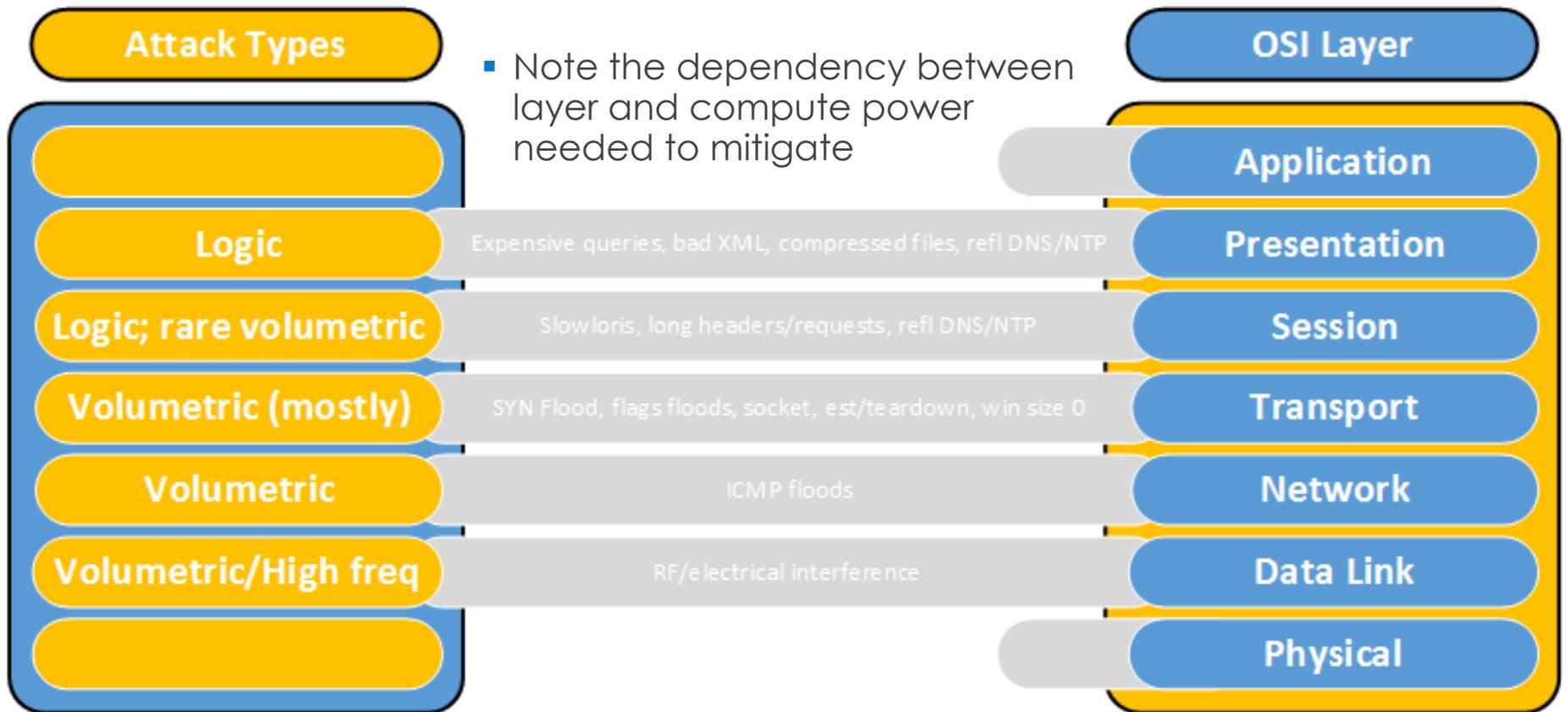


Application Layer

- SPAM?
- DNS queries
- Black fax



Attack summary by layer



Attack types and terminology



Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)

Sockets

- Socket is an abstraction allowing an application to bind to a transport layer address (aka network port)
- It is described by a state machine
- Throughout its life time it goes through a number of states

Socket States

- Here are some of the socket states of importance:
 - LISTEN – waiting for a connection request
 - SYN_RECV – received request still negotiating
 - ESTABLISHED – connection working OK
 - FIN-WAIT1/2 – one side closed the connection
 - TIME-WAIT – waiting for a while...
 - What is MSL?
- In most of the states a socket is characterized by:
 - IP address
 - TCP/UDP address

Use of netstat for troubleshooting

```
[root@knight ghost]# netstat -nap | grep 12345
```

```
tcp    0    0 0.0.0.0:12345      0.0.0.0:*          LISTEN  2903/nc
```

```
[root@knight ghost]# netstat -nap | grep 12345
```

```
tcp    0    0 127.0.0.1:12345    127.0.0.1:49188    ESTABLISHED 2903/nc
```

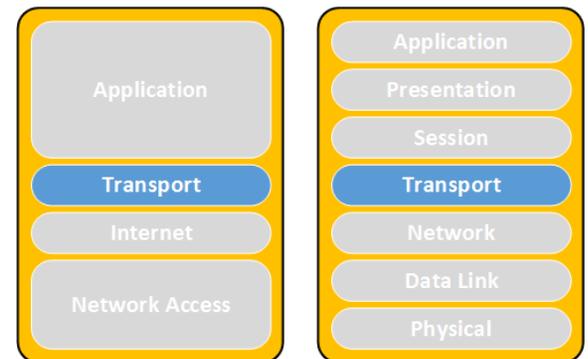
```
[root@knight ghost]# netstat -nap | grep 12345
```

```
tcp    0    0 127.0.0.1:49188    127.0.0.1:12345    TIME_WAIT  -
```

```
[root@knight ghost]# netstat -nap | grep 12345
```

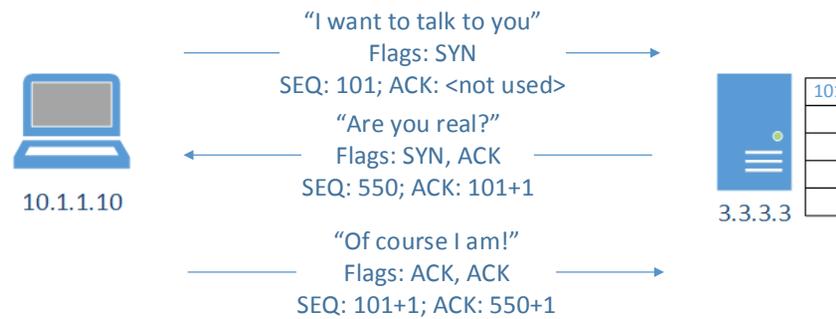
```
[root@knight ghost]#
```

SYN Flood



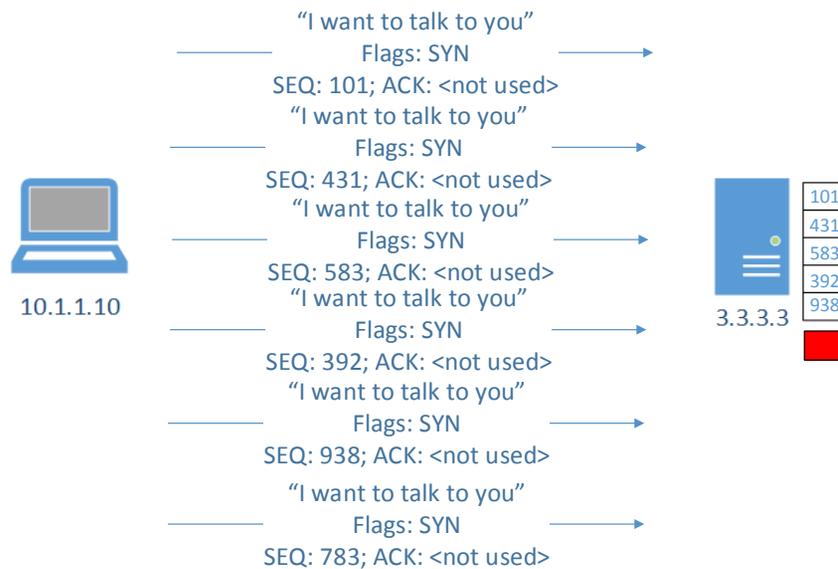
What is a SYN flood?

- What is a 3-way handshake?



SYN flood

- Exploits the limited slots for pending connections
- Overloads them



SYN flood through the eyes of netstat

- netstat -anp

Active Internet connections (servers and established)

Proto	Recv-Q	Send-Q	Local Address	Foreign Address	State	PID/Program name
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:111	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1339/rpcbind
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:33586	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1395/rpc.statd
tcp	0	0	192.168.122.1:53	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1962/dnsmasq
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:631	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1586/cupsd
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	2703/sendmail: acce
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:49718	SYN_RECV	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:49717	SYN_RECV	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:49722	SYN_RECV	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:49720	SYN_RECV	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:49719	SYN_RECV	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:49721	SYN_RECV	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:49716	SYN_RECV	-

SYN flood mitigation

- Technology
 - SYN Cookies
 - Whitelists
 - TCP Proxy (TCP Intercept – active mode)
 - TCP Resets (TCP Intercept – passive)
 - Nowadays – volumetric
- Device stack optimization
- Dedicated devices

What is a SYN cookie?

- Hiding information in ISN (initial seq no)
- SYN Cookie:
Timestamp % 32 + MSS + 24-bit hash
- Components of 24-bit hash:
 - server IP address
 - server port number
 - client IP address
 - client port
 - timestamp >> 6 (64 sec resolution)

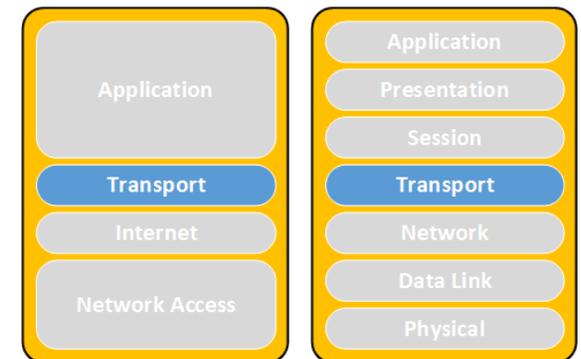
Enabling SYN-cookie

- To enable SYN cookies:

```
echo 1 > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/tcp_syncookies
```

- All TCP related settings are located in /proc/sys/net/ipv4/
 - tcp_max_syn_backlog
 - tcp_synack_retries

Socket Exhaustion



Socket Exhaustion

- What is a socket?
- What is Maximum Segment Lifetime (MSL)?
 - How old is the Internet?
 - What is Time To Live (TTL) measured in?
- What is socket exhaustion?

Socket Exhaustion through the eyes of netstat

- Socket exhaustion would look likethis:

Active Internet connections (servers and established)

Proto	Recv-Q	Send-Q	Local Address	Foreign Address	State	PID/Program name
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:111	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1339/rpcbind
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:33586	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1395/rpc.statd
tcp	0	0	192.168.122.1:53	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1962/dnsmasq
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:631	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1586/cupsd
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	2703/sendmail: acce
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:1241	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN	1851/nessusd: waiti
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60365	TIME_WAIT	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60240	TIME_WAIT	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60861	TIME_WAIT	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60483	TIME_WAIT	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60265	TIME_WAIT	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60618	TIME_WAIT	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60407	TIME_WAIT	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60423	TIME_WAIT	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60211	TIME_WAIT	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60467	TIME_WAIT	-
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:25	127.0.0.1:60213	TIME_WAIT	-

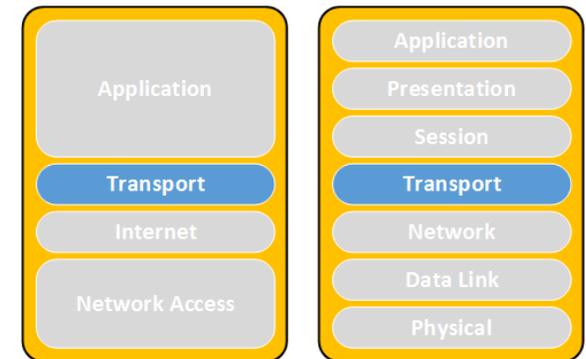
How to enable socket reuse

- Enable socket reuse

```
echo 1 > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/tcp_tw_recycle
```

```
echo 1 > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/tcp_tw_reuse
```

Slowloris



Connection handling architectures

- Process based connection handling?
 - Think “Apache”

- Event based connection handling?
 - Think “nginx”

Slowloris

- Exploits the process based model but opening a number of concurrent connections and holds them open for as long as possible with the least amount of bandwidth possible

Slowloris mitigation

- Change of the software architecture
- Use of event driven reverse proxy to protect the server (like nginx)
- Dedicated hardware devices

Reflection and amplification attacks

Two different terms

- Reflection – using an intermediary to deliver the attack traffic
- Amplification – ability to deliver larger response than the trigger traffic

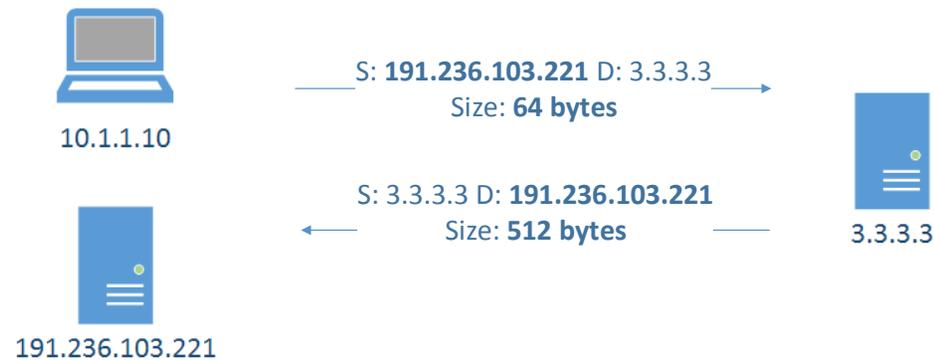
Reflection

Reflective attacks

- Attacks where the an unwilling intermediary is used to deliver the attack traffic
- The attacker would normally send a packet with a forged source IP address to the intermediary. The forget address is going to be the one of the target. The intermediary will deliver a response which will go to the target instead of the attacker
- Note to audience: think what protocols we can use for that?

What is reflection(ed) attack

- Attacks where the an unwilling intermediary is used to deliver the attack traffic
- Attacker sends a packet with a spoofed source IP set to the victim's
- Reflectors respond to the victim



Reflector types

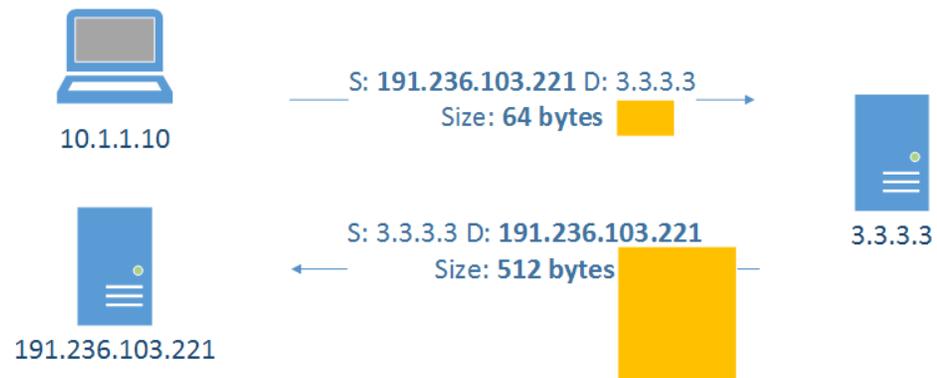
The ones that are of interest are:

- DNS
- NTP
- SSDP
- SNMP
- RPC (reported lately but not really large)

Amplification

What is amplification attack?

- Asymmetric attack where response is much larger than the original query



Amplifiers types

- The ones that are of interest and provide amplifications are:
 - DNS
 - SSDP
 - NTP
 - SNMP

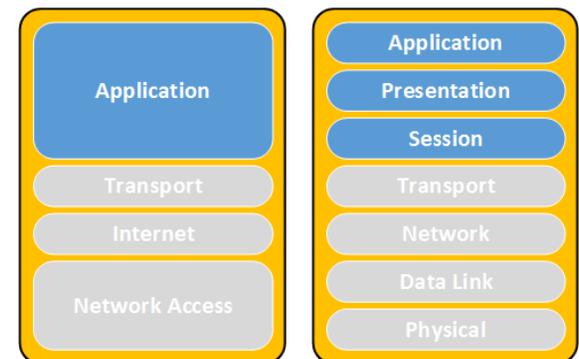
- Amplification factors:
<https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/alerts/TA14-017A>

Amplification quotients

Protocol	Bandwidth Amplification Factor	Vulnerable Command
DNS	28 to 54	Multiple
NTP	556.9	Multiple
SNMPv2	6.3	GetBulk request
NetBIOS	3.8	Name resolution
SSDP	30.8	SEARCH request
CharGEN	358.8	Character generation request
QOTD	140.3	Quote request
BitTorrent	3.8	File search
Kad	16.3	Peer list exchange
Quake Network Protocol	63.9	Server info exchange
Steam Protocol	5.5	Server info exchange

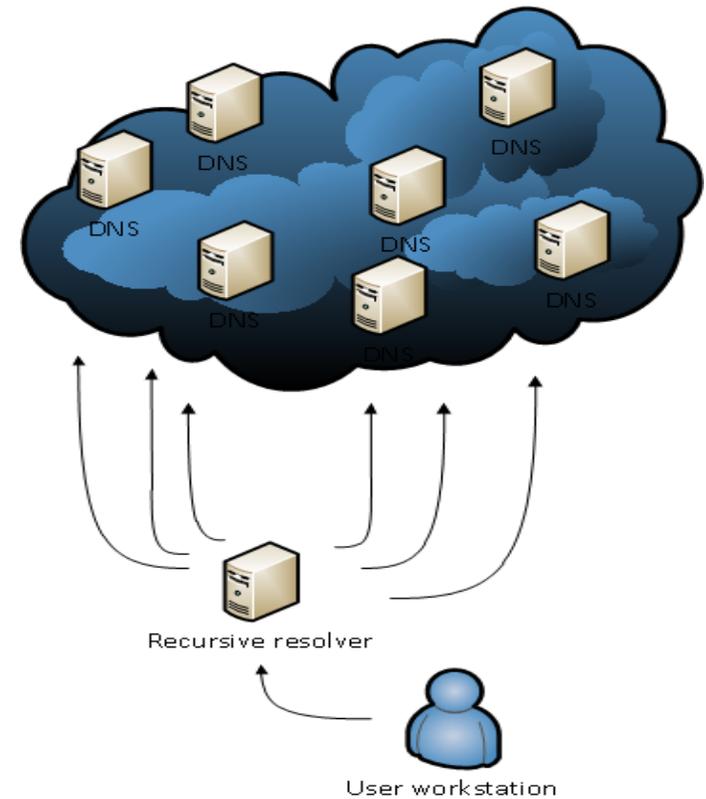
- Source: US-CERT: <https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/alerts/TA14-017A>

DNS Resolution



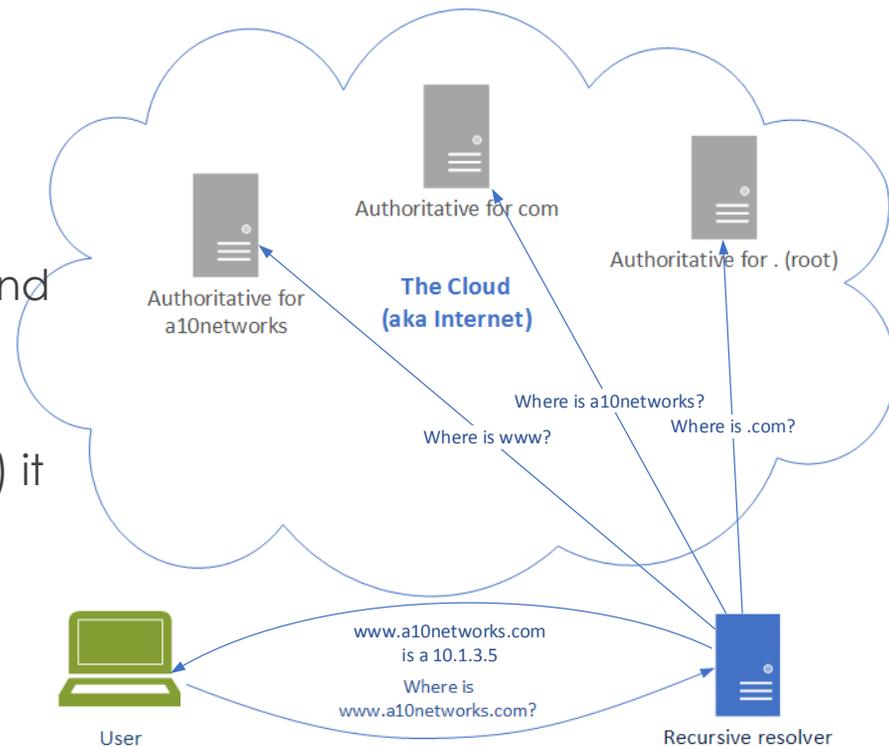
DNS resolution

- Authoritative
- Recursive



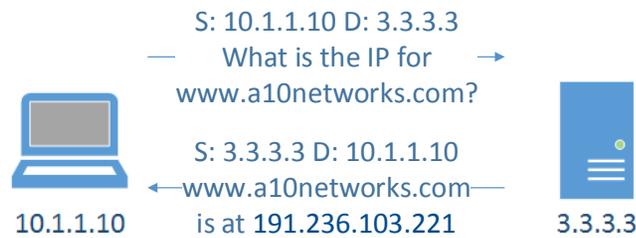
DNS resolution

- How does DNS work?
- User talks to recursive resolver
- The recursive goes on the Internet and talks to the authoritative servers
- When an answer is obtained (or not) it reports back to the user



DNS resolution at the packet level

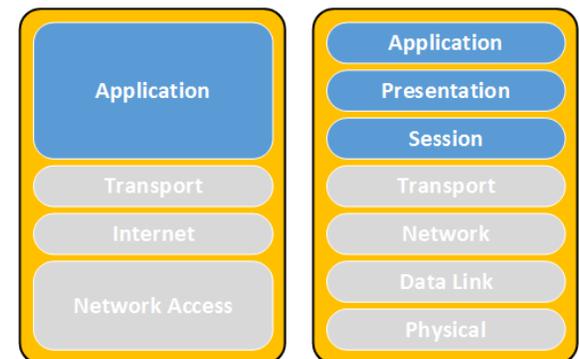
- The process of mapping:
www.a10networks.com => 191.236.103.221



...if the answer was cached

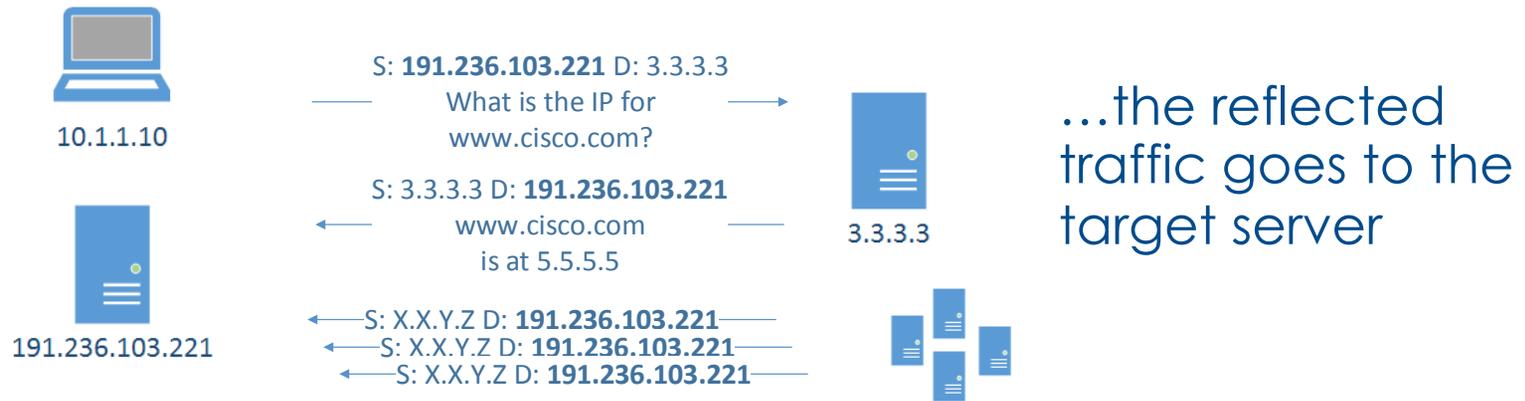


DNS Reflection



What is DNS reflection attack?

- What happens if an attacker forges the victim address as its source?



- ... and what if hundreds of misconfigured open DNS resolvers are used?

Consider this query

- Triggered by something like:
 - `dig ANY isc.org @3.3.3.3`
- Example: `~$ dig ANY isc.org @172.20.1.1 # My home lab`
- Flip over for answer

Consider this (cont'd)

```
ghostwood@sgw:~$ dig ANY isc.org @172.20.1.1
```

```
:: ANSWER SECTION:
```

```
isc.org.      481  IN    RRSIG  DS 7 2 86400 20130607155725 20130517145725 42353 org. KHM509DaFMx416/7xXhaD9By0NrqCiQ4kbnqj6oq2VocZRREAbUHHrAY  
KydIlgKO5vOaw6l1Fy86/oiODdk3yyHspciwdJvjlefu4PktUnd1IQxW 791q/jWgHBL5iQQigBYv7Z5lfY1ENn+6fPOchAywWqEBYcdqW8pzzOjz zIU=
```

```
isc.org.      481  IN    DS     12892 5 2 F1E184C0E1D615D20EB3C223ACED3B03C773DD952D5F0EB5C777586D E18DA6B5
```

```
isc.org.      481  IN    DS     12892 5 1 982113D08B4C6A1D9F6AEE1E2237AEF69F3F9759
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    RRSIG  A 5 2 7200 20130620134150 20130521134150 50012 isc.org. iCBy1Jj9P6mXVYjaSc62JClrZW+hvYAUGHo7WwRmxGRaipS8I9+LCvRI  
2erglomkBP79m9ahnFOxWEAaueA6TIHCIGxOkgrk3hBtMFjUB9rhvklm uxO2D8gc1DJDLI5egfpJCF2fITfHEvWzeMt6QGNwicWMxBsFHCxM7Fms D8I=
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    A      149.20.64.42
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    RRSIG  DNSKEY 5 2 7200 20130620130130 20130521130130 12892 isc.org. dfxTGA/f6vdhulqojp+Konkdt8c4y3WiU+Vs5TjznvhdEyH14qPh/cHh  
+y1vA6+gAwTHI4X+GpzctNxiElwaSwVu3m9NocniwI/AZQoL/SyDgEsl bJM/X+ZY5qrgQrV2grOckAAA91Bus3behYQZTsdaiH2TSfAKjKINEgvm  
yQ5xWEo6zE3p0ygtPq4eMNO4fRT9UQDhTRD3v3ztXFINXKvBsQWZGBH0 5tQcbC6xnGyn1bBptJEEGhCBG01ncJt1MCyEf98VGHKJFeowORiirDQ3  
cjJRFPTCCkA8n4j8vnsimlUP/TGI+Mg4ufAZpE96jJnvFBsdC/iOo6i XkQVIA==
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    RRSIG  DNSKEY 5 2 7200 20130620130130 20130521130130 50012 isc.org. o18F3KIFkYedFRw1e5MP4qDo3wSg0XK9I5WCYD75aGhs9RI5eyc/  
6KEW Se4lZXRhf6d77xXlerMYCrsfh/GHdjPRoE1xL/nzH/hTBJAI9XDbC5l/ EUpFIGVLvdQy43XKtywm0j2nyc5MdGa2VeLko+hHTmH3Sf3pGRVJp2IK 5Z0=
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    DNSKEY 257 3 5 BEAAAAOhHQDBrhQbtphgq2wQUpEQ5t4DtUHxoMVFu2hWLDmvoOMRjGr hhCeFvAZih7yJHf8ZGfW6hd38hXG/  
xyIYCO6Krpbdjwx8YMXLA5/kA+ u50WIL8ZR1R6KTbsYVMf/Qx5RiNbPClw+vT+U8eXEJmO20jIS1ULgqy3 47cBB1zMnnz/4LJpA0da9CbKj3A254T515sNIMcwsB8/2+2E63/zZrQz  
Bkj0BrN/9Bexjpioks3jRhZatEsXn3dTy47R09Uix5WcJt+xzqZ7+ySYL KOoEdS39Z7SDmsn2eA0FKtQpwA6LXeG2w+jxmw3oA8IVUgEf/rzeC/bB yBNsO70aEFTd
```

```
isc.org.      5725 IN    DNSKEY 256 3 5 BQEAAAABwuHz9Cem0BJ0JQTO7C/a3McR6hMaufljs1dfG/inaJpYv7vH XTrAOm/MeKp+/  
x6eT4QLru0KozkvZJnqTl8JyaFTw2OM/ItBfh/hL2lm Cft2O7n3MfeqYtvjPhY7dWghYW4sVfh7VVEGm958o9nfi79532Qeklxh x8pXWdeAaRU=
```

```
a.root-servers.net. 297269 IN    A      198.41.0.4
```

```
a.root-servers.net. 415890 IN    AAAA   2001:503:ba3e::2:30
```

```
b.root-servers.net. 298007 IN    A      192.228.79.201
```



Reflection and Amplification



S: 191.236.103.221 D: 3.3.3.3

What is ANY isc.org

S: 3.3.3.3 D: 191.236.103.221

```
ghostwood@gwv-3 dig ANY isc.org @172.20.1.1
;; ANSWER SECTION:
isc.org. 481 IN RRSIG DS 7 286400 20130520 20130517 145725 42535
org. 481 IN RRSIG DS 7 286400 20130520 20130517 145725 42535
KdGgK05-Qoawd1Ff8j/g0D0c3yVjHqclvdJvjeFu4PcdLhd1GxW791qj
jVgH8L5GQg8Yv7Z5FfY1EhN+9FOchAyywMaEBYcdqV8paxOjzrLh
isc.org. 481 IN DS 12892 2 2
F1E14COE1DslSD20ES0C22DA CED0580C773DD952D5FD586C777568D E18DA485
isc.org. 481 IN DS 12892 2 1
9821T3D08B4C6A1DFFAEE1E2237AEF9F93F9759
isc.org. 5725 IN RRSIG A 5 27200 20130520 20130521 134150 30012
isc.org. 5725 IN RRSIG A 5 27200 20130520 20130521 134150 30012
2ergl0mk8F77m9ahhFOVME Aouea4THICGvOkgndh8MfJLEPhvkm
uxQD8gc1DJD05egfbjCP2FHEwMaefH9GQGNvicVMk5eFHOMVFrw D8te
isc.org. 5725 IN A 149.20.34.42
isc.org. 5725 IN RRSIG DNSKEY 5 27200 20130520 20130521 130130
12892 isc.org. dhvTGA /Bvdhulqojp+Kendh8c4yVUwHv6TjanvdyHl4gPhcHh
ty1vA 4hgAvvH4XGpccN8Eve8Wu3m9Nooniv/A2Gou3yDgEalBjW/
XhXy5arQrV2grOeKAAAP1BualbeHYGTadpH2S+KQIN8ym
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5KQbcC6vGym1b8pU8E8hC8G01ncJH1VDCERR5GHKJLfeouDRYDQ3
cJRPPTCC6A8n4BvnmLUP/TG+Hfjg4vRZpE6jhyvF8dcC/O61XkGVIA==
isc.org. 5725 IN RRSIG DNSKEY 5 27200 20130520 20130521 130130
50012 isc.org. o1893KRYedRvied81RqDobv8d90K9B1WCD75oGmR8eeycJK8V
Se4ZVrhfd77XerMYOzh/GhdFRoE1xlnh/H8JIA9XDeCSj/
EUpF1GVLdQy43XKlyvm0ZnycsfMGo2VleK0mHmH838pGRVJp2IK5Z0e
isc.org. 5725 IN DNSKEY 257 3 5
BEAAhAOhHG06mGd8p8ng2vUqL8B064DuhcM/Fz2HMLDAvoCMRXGr
hhCeFvAZh7yJH8ZGRVhd88hXGjyYCO4Kpbdajw8YVXLA5/kA+
u0VL8Z1R4KtbzVfMfGx5RnbPClvh+L6eXEm020jE1Llqgy347cBB1stVnre/
4Ljpa0da9CbKga254f815pNllvwa85/2h285jzDzGx8qB8vV
P8eqk8jRZcE8n5d747809Lk8MeJm8qz77y1
KOOed59Z7SDman2eAOfKQpva6LVeGQwjmym6A81VUgEfrreC/bb y8Na070eEfd
isc.org. 5725 IN DNSKEY 258 3 5 GEA AAA BvuH9 Ce m05 J0GTOT C/
d3lERshlvbUglafG/inoJpFv7vH XFAOmVUeKp+X6eT4GLu0K6ZcZJhJ8 JyaRv4OMV
H8FmJ2lmChQDThdMeq1yJm7dVgnVNeVhVVEGm958oPm579532Gexch.
xSpXWdeAoRLe
isc.org. 5725 IN DNSKEY 257 3 5
BEAAhAOhHG06mGd8p8ng2vUqL8B064DuhcM/Fz2HMLDAvoCMRXGr
hhCeFvAZh7yJH8ZGRVhd88hXGjyYCO4Kpbdajw8YVXLA5/kA+
u0VL8Z1R4KtbzVfMfGx5RnbPClvh+L6eXEm020jE1Llqgy347cBB1stVnre/
4Ljpa0da9CbKga254f815pNllvwa85/2h285jzDzGx8qB8vV
P8eqk8jRZcE8n5d747809Lk8MeJm8qz77y1
KOOed59Z7SDman2eAOfKQpva6LVeGQwjmym6A81VUgEfrreC/bb y8Na070eEfd
isc.org. 5725 IN DNSKEY 258 3 5 GEA AAA BvuH9 Ce m05 J0GTOT C/
d3lERshlvbUglafG/inoJpFv7vH XFAOmVUeKp+X6eT4GLu0K6ZcZJhJ8 JyaRv4OMV
H8FmJ2lmChQDThdMeq1yJm7dVgnVNeVhVVEGm958oPm579532Gexch.
xSpXWdeAoRLe
oro-o-server.net. 297269 IN A 192.34.148.17
oro-o-server.net. 415890 IN A AAAA 2001:502b03e:230
oro-o-server.net. 293007 IN A 192.228.79.201
oro-o-server.net. 297370 IN A 192.34.112
oro-o-server.net. 297555 IN A 192.7.91.13
oro-o-server.net. 417505 IN A AAAA 2001:5002ad:d
oro-o-server.net. 297707 IN A 192.203.210.10
fro-o-server.net. 297544 IN A 192.5.5241
fro-o-server.net. 416152 IN A AAAA 2001:5002f:f
gro-o-server.net. 297708 IN A 192.1.2.36.4
hro-o-server.net. 295306 IN A 128.63.2.53
hro-o-server.net. 416776 IN A AAAA 2001:5001:500f225
lro-o-server.net. 297617 IN A 192.34.148.17
```

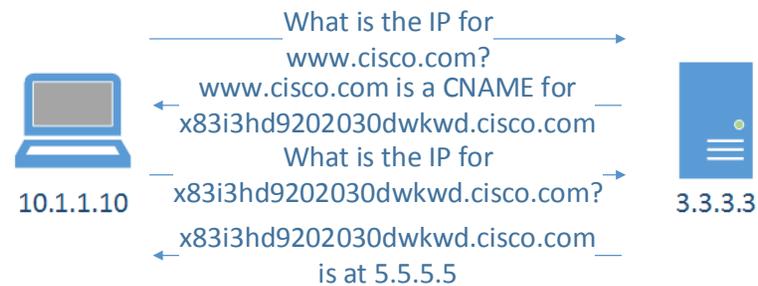


DNS attacks mitigation (victim)

- Validate packet and query structure
- Whitelisting
- Challenges*
- High performance equipment
 - Variety of techniques
 - Vendor dependent
- Drop known reflector traffic:
<http://openresolverproject.org/>

DNS attacks mitigation (victim - DNS challenge)

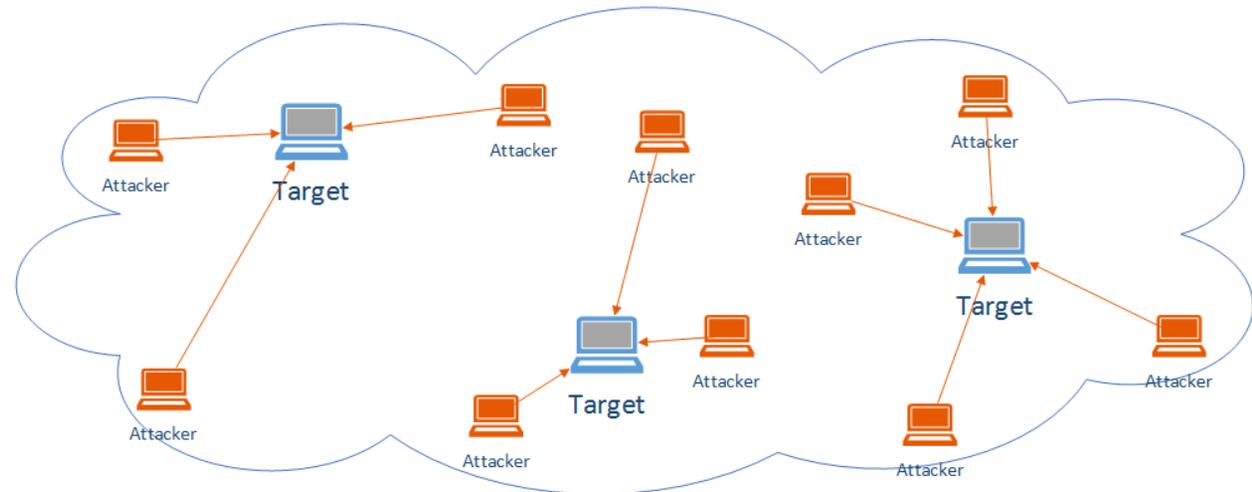
- What is a DNS challenge?



- Challenges with DNS challenge?
 - Two times the amount of traffic
 - Two times the packet rate
 - Computational resources

Large scale mitigation and load distribution: Anycast

- Multiple points of presence advertise the same address space
- Network ensures user is routed to the “closest” instance



DNS Rate limits (reflector)

- Not specified for recursive but you can still tweak it to something that works for you

- Configuration example:

```
rate-limit {  
    responses-per-second 5;  
    window 5;  
};
```

- Reference:

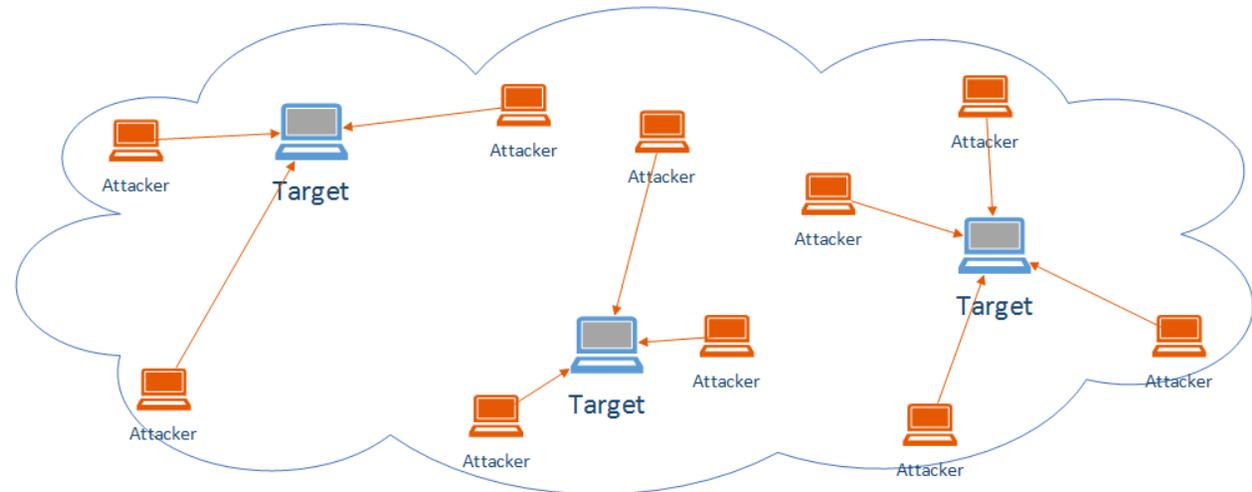
<http://www.redbarn.org/dns/ratelimits>

Proper resolver configuration (reflector)

```
acl "trusted" {  
    192.168.0.0/16;  
    10.153.154.0/24;  
    localhost;  
    localnets;  
};  
  
options {  
    ...  
    allow-query { trusted; }; // allow-query { any; };  
    allow-recursion { trusted; };  
    allow-query-cache { trusted; };  
    ...  
};
```

Large scale mitigation and load distribution: Anycast

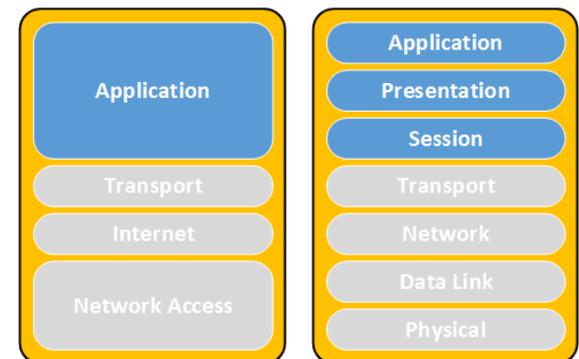
- Multiple points of presence advertise the same address space
- Network ensures user is routed to the “closest” instance



IPS/DDoS mitigation gear

- Depends on vendor
- Different techniques
- Different mitigation rates for different packet types

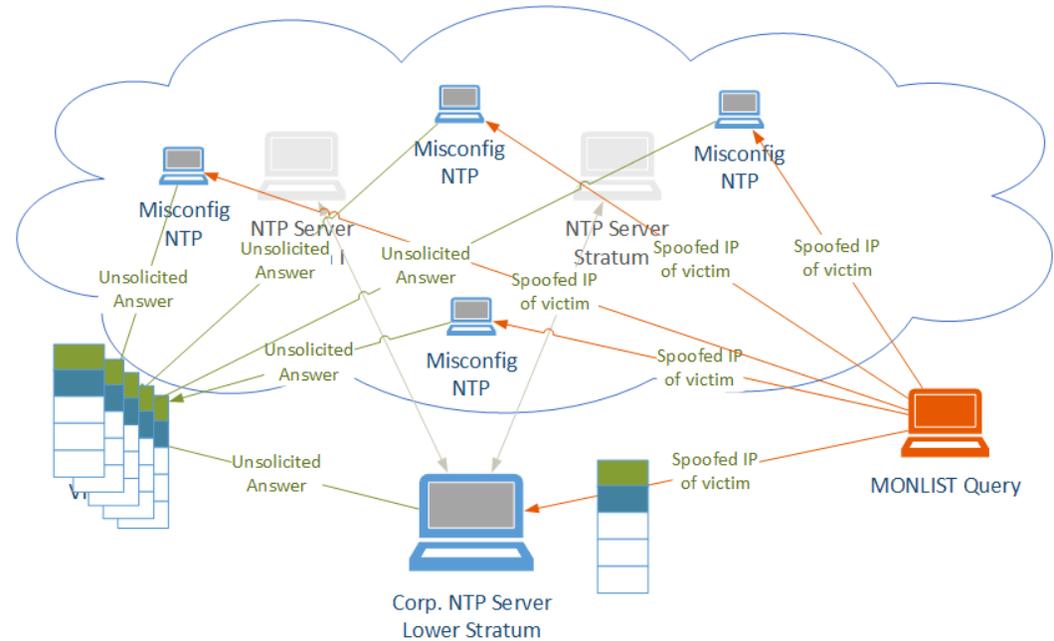
Network Time Protocol (NTP)



NTP servers

- Stratum servers
- NTP queries

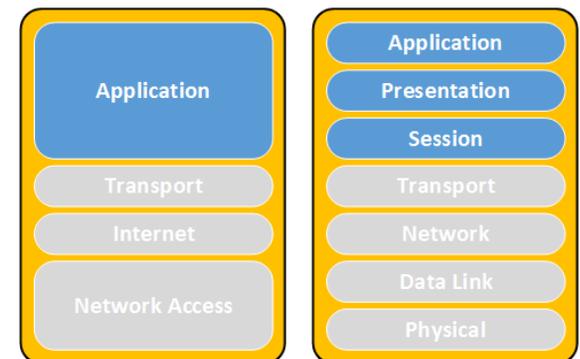
- MONLIST command
 - provides a list of clients that have time readings



NTP server configuration

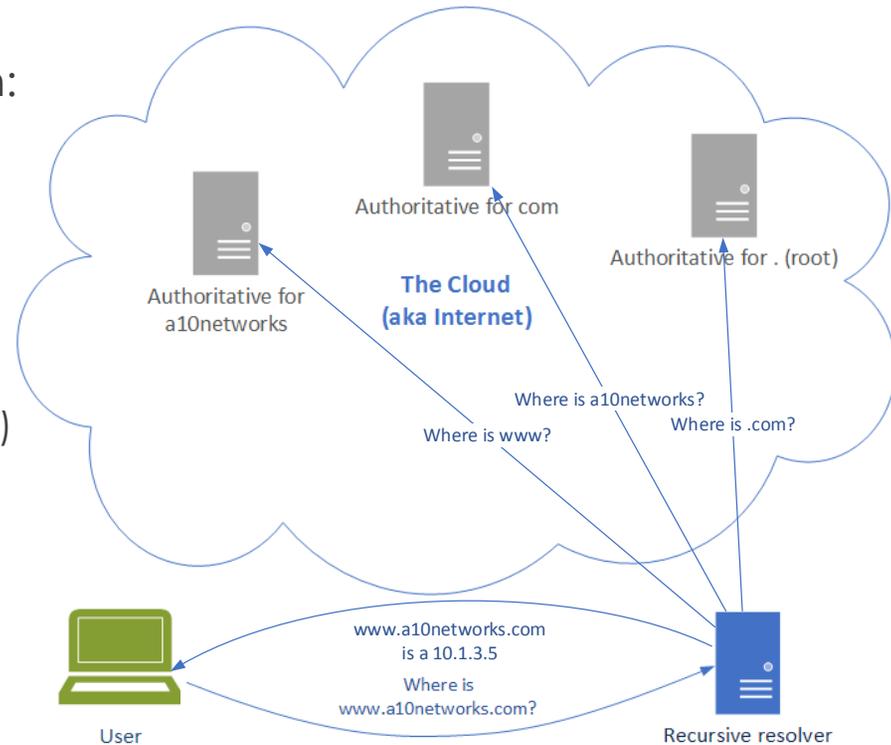
- Access lists
- NTP authentication
- Disable the MONLIST command
- Useful hints:
<http://www.team-cymru.org/secure-ntp-template.html>
- List of open NTP reflectors:
<http://openntpproject.org/>

Cache busting (back to DNS)



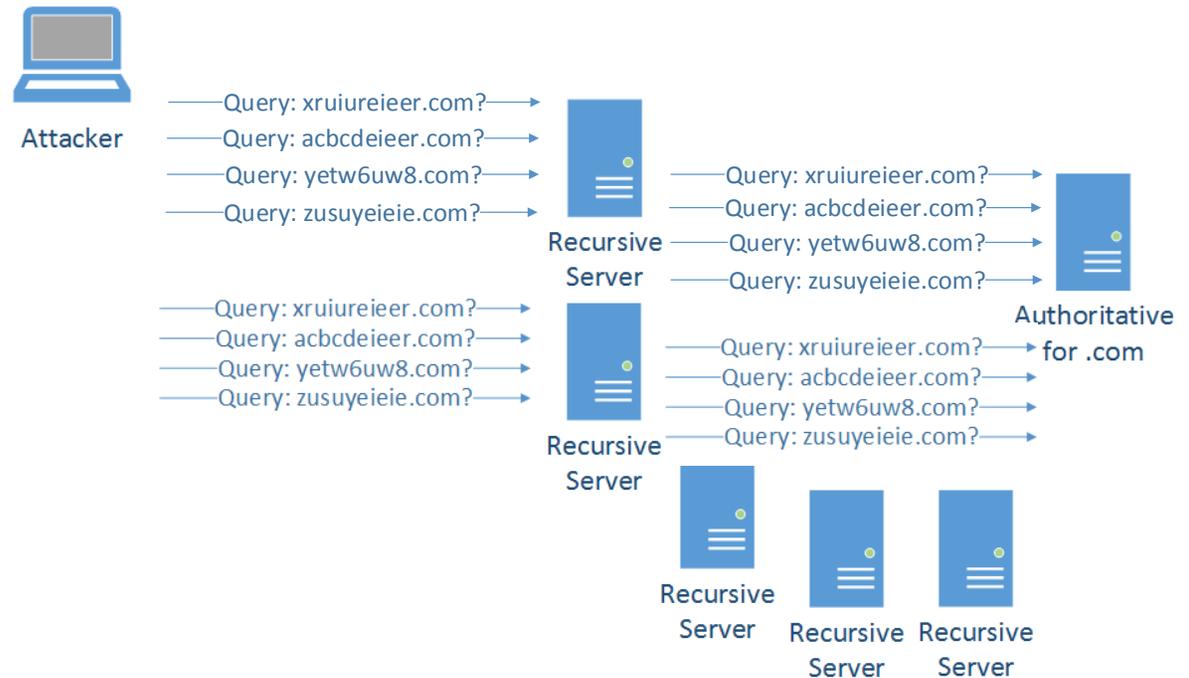
DNS resolution (rehash)

- Let's focus on the number of requests per second
- User talks to recursive resolver, which:
 - Caches answers
 - Answers a large number of requests
- The recursive talks to different level of authoritative servers, which:
 - Do not cache answers (they are auths)
 - Relatively lower number of queries
- Consider caching and authoritative capacity

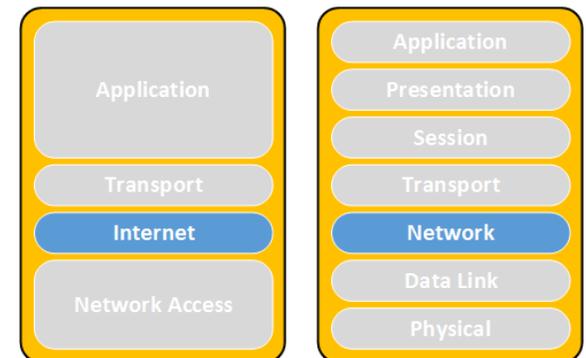


What cache busting?

- Attacker sends a query to recursive/reflector
- Recursive forwards the query
- And so on...
- Imagine one more recursive resolver
- Rinse and repeat...



Backscatter

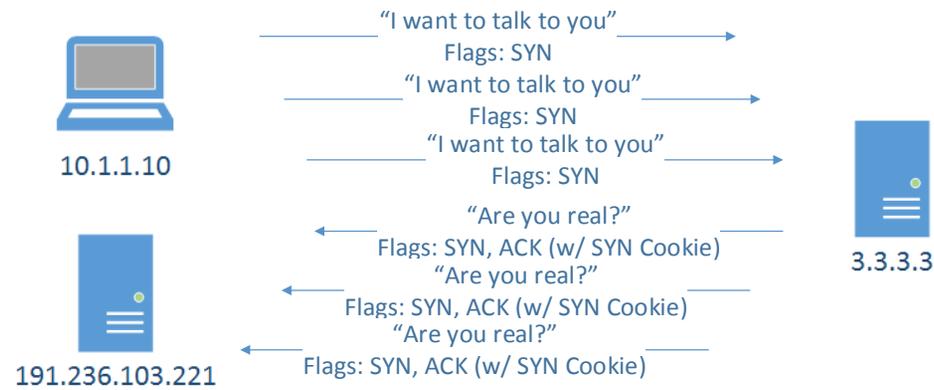


Backscatter

- Traffic that is a byproduct of the attack
- Why is that interesting?
 - It is important to distinguish between the actual attack traffic and unintended traffic sent by the victim
 - Imagine a SYN flood against a “victim” protected by a major scrubbing provider spoofed from IP address X
 - What is the traffic to X going to look like?

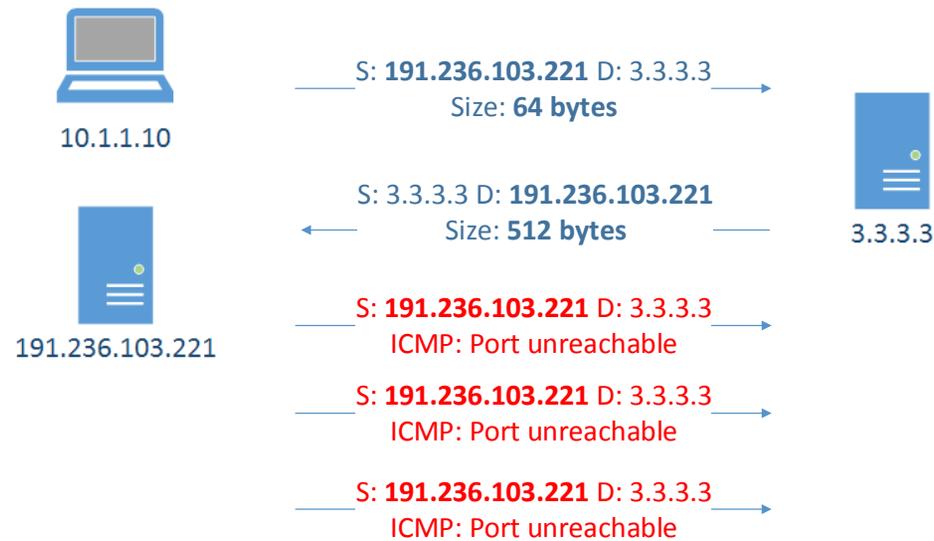
SYN Flood Backscatter?

- Cookie flood 😊



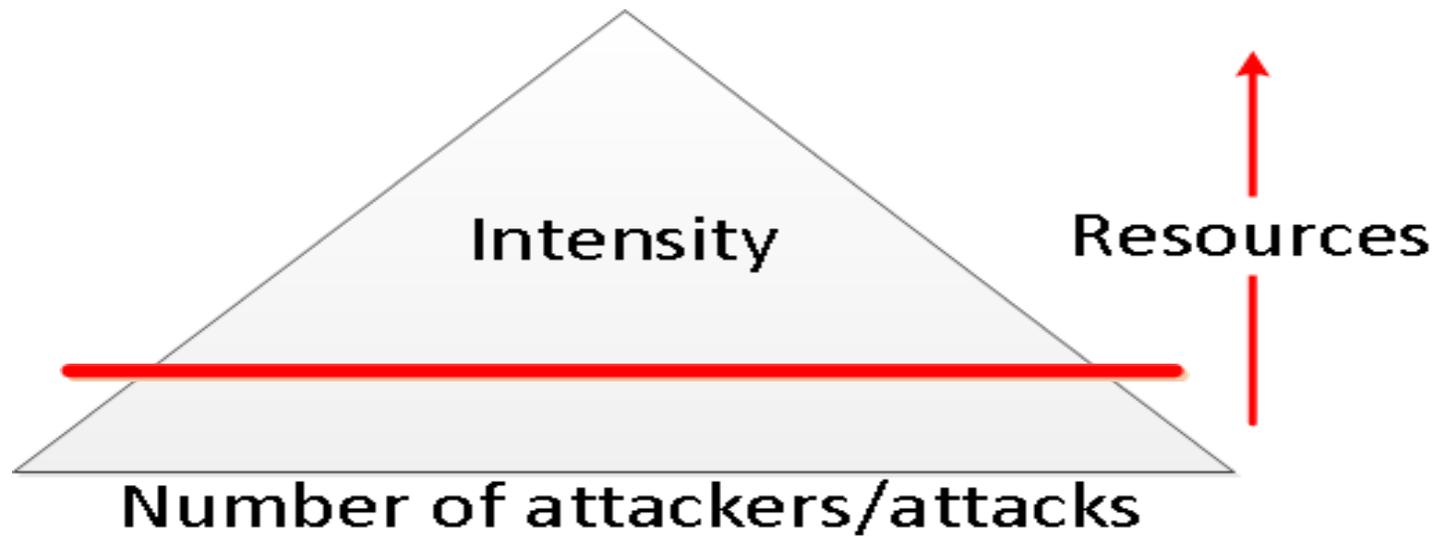
Are you a reflector? (Backscatter)

- In some cases return traffic/backscatter



Mitigation

Risk Pyramid



The cost of a minute?

- How much does a minute of outage cost to your business?
- Are there other costs associated with it? Reputation?
- Are you in a risk category?
- How much is executive management willing to spend to stay up?

- Are there reasons you need to mitigate on-site vs offsite? Latency?

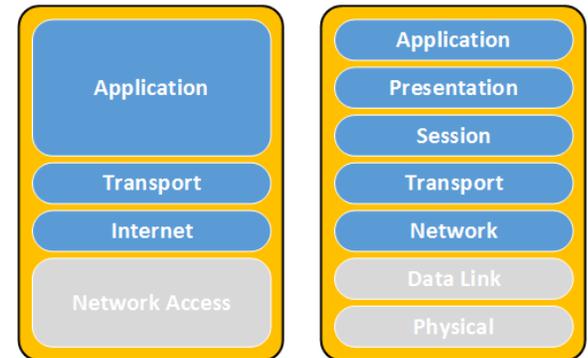
On-site / DIY

- Bandwidth
- Equipment
- Qualified personnel
- More expensive overall but cheaper per MB
- Need for a backup plan

Outsource / scrubbing center

- Limited protocol support (usually HTTP/S)
- Added latency
- May lose visibility to source IP of the client
- Pay per MB of clean traffic (usually)
- Fast setup/Lower overhead
- More expensive per MB

Good Internet citizenship



Mitigations

- Defend yourself
 - Anycast
 - Some form of IPS/DDoS mitigation gear
 - Overall network architecture
- Defend the Internet
 - Rate-limiting
 - BCP38/140 (outbound filtering) source address validation
 - Securely configured DNS, NTP and SNMP servers
 - No open resolvers
- Talk to the professionals

Are you noticing the imbalance?

Defend yourself

- Anycast (DNS)
- Some form of IPS/DDoS mitigation gear

- **Lots of money**

Defend the Internet

- Rate-limiting
- BCP38/140 (outbound filtering) source address validation
- Securely configured authoritative DNS servers
- No open resolvers

- **Somewhat cheap**

What's the point I'm trying to make?

- It's not feasible to mitigate those attacks single handedly
- We need cooperation
- Companies need to start including “defending the Internet from themselves” as a part of their budget – not only “defending themselves from the Internet”

What can I do about it?

- RFC 2827/BCP 38 – Paul Ferguson
- If possible filter all outgoing traffic and use proxy
- uRPF

- BCP 140: “Preventing Use of Recursive Nameservers in Reflector Attacks”
- <http://tools.ietf.org/html/bcp140>
- Aka RFC 5358

Resources

- DNS
- <http://openresolverproject.org/>

- NTP
- <http://openntpproject.org/>

- If you see your IP space in the lists provided by those sites – resolve it

Summary

- Discuss what DDoS is, general concepts, adversaries, etc.
- Went through a networking technology overview, in particular the OSI layers, sockets and their states, tools to inquire system state or capture and review network traffic
- Dove into specifics what attack surface the different layers offer
- Discussed different attack types
- Terminology
- Tools



Thank you