

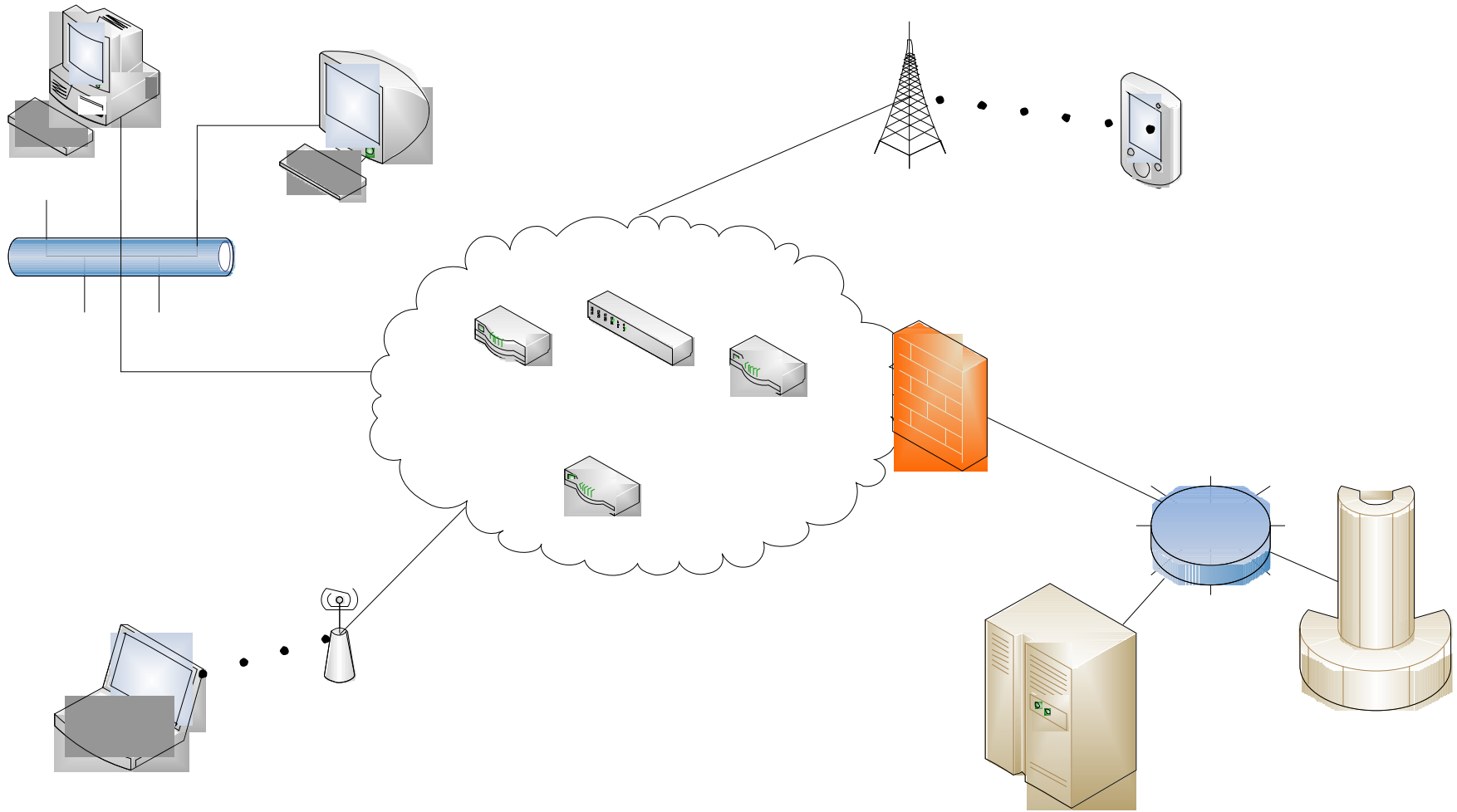
Network Technology Review and Security Concerns

Information Assurance
CS461/ECE422
Fall 2007

Outline

- Overview Issues and Threats in Network Security
- Review basic network technology
 - TCP/IP in particular
 - Attacks specific to particular technologies

Security Issues in Networks



Increased Security Complexity

- Different operating systems
 - Computers, Servers, Network Devices
- Multiple Administrative Domains
- Need to open access
- Multiple Paths and shared resources
- Anonymity

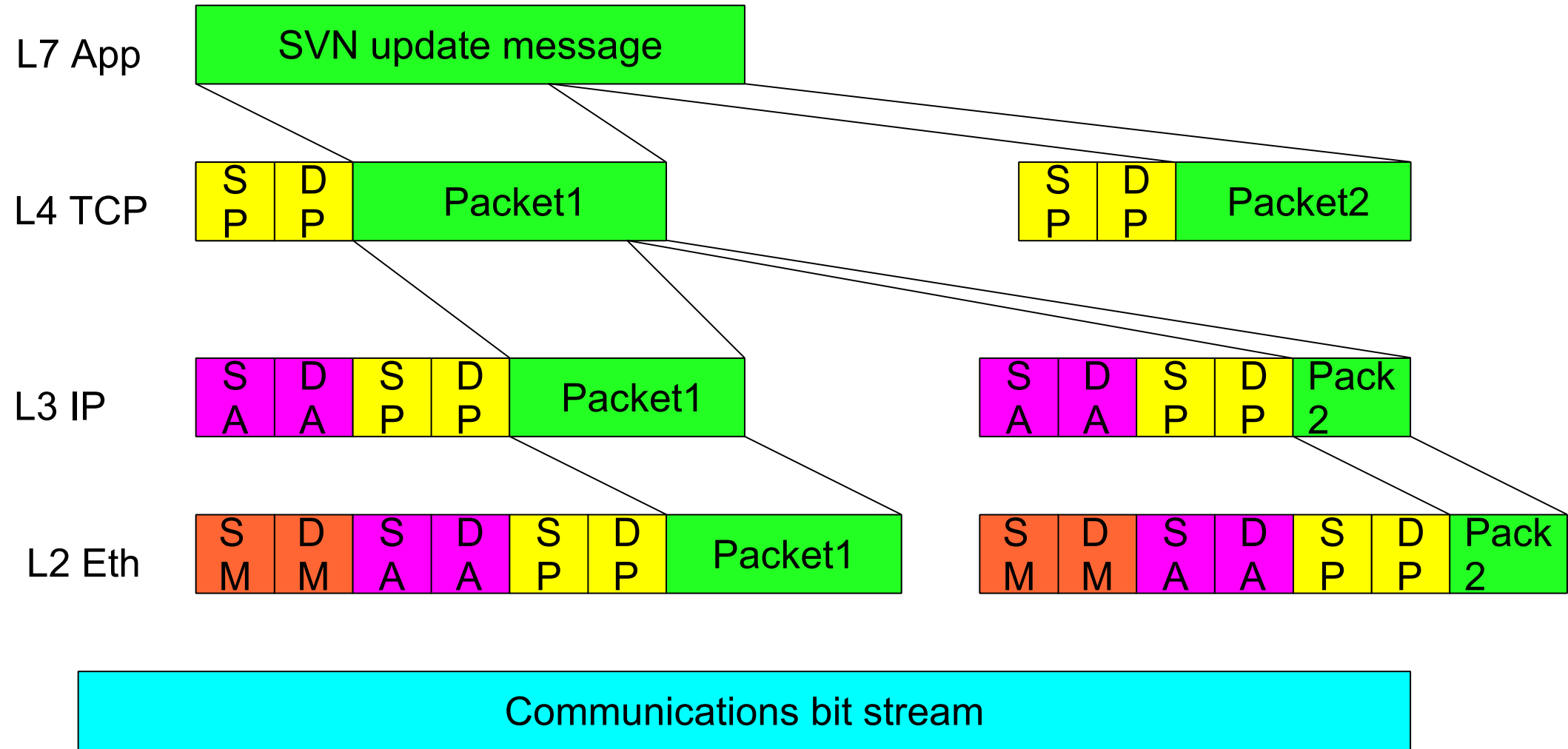
Classic Threats

- Wiretapping
 - Unauthorized entities see your communications
 - Traffic Flow Analysis
- Tampering/Man-in-the-middle
 - Communication changed in transit
- Spoofing or Masquerading
 - Communication with an entity posing as someone else
- Denial of Service
- Session Hijacking

OSI Reference Model

- The layers
 - 7: Application, e.g., HTTP, SMTP, FTP
 - 6: Presentation
 - 5: Session
 - 4: Transport, e.g. TCP, UDP
 - 3: Network, e.g. IP, IPX
 - 2: Data link, e.g., Ethernet frames, ATM cells
 - 1: Physical, e.g., Ethernet media, ATM media
- Standard software engineering reasons for thinking about a layered design

Message mapping to the layers



Confidentiality/Integrity Physical Layer

- Radio waves
 - Just listen
- Microwave
 - Point-to-point sort of
 - Dispersal
- Ethernet
 - Inductance of cables
 - Tapping into ethernet cables
 - Promiscuous sniffing

Switches

- Original ethernet broadcast all packets
- Layer two means of passing packets
 - Learn or config which MAC's live behind which ports
 - Only pass traffic to the appropriate port
- Span ports
 - Mirror all traffic

Physical Denial of Service

- Radio
 - Jamming
- Cables
 - Cutting or mutilating

Network Layer - IP

- Moves packets between computers
 - Possibly on different physical segments
 - Best effort
- Technologies
 - Routing
 - Lower level address discovery (ARP)
 - Error Messages (ICMP)

IPv4

- See Wikipedia for field details
 - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IPv4>

Version	IHL	Type of service	Total length		
Identification			DF	MF	Frag Offset
Time to live	Protocol		Header checksum		
Source address					
Destination Address					
0 or more words of options					

Ipv4 Addressing

- Each entity has at least one address
- Addresses divided into subnetwork
 - Address and mask combination
 - 192.168.1.0/24 or 10.0.0.0/8
 - 192.168.1.0 255.255.255.0 or 10.0.0.0 255.0.0.0
 - 192.168.1.0-192.168.1.255 or 10.0.0.0-10.255.255.255
- Addresses in your network are “directly” connected
 - Broadcasts should reach them
 - No need to route packets to them

Address spoofing

- Sender can put any source address in packets he sends:
 - Can be used to send unwelcome return traffic to the spoofed address
 - Can be used to bypass filters to get unwelcome traffic to the destination
- Reverse Path verification can be used by routers to broadly catch some spoofers

Address Resolution Protocol (ARP)

- Used to discover mapping of neighboring ethernet MAC to IP addresses.
 - Need to find MAC for 192.168.1.3 which is in your interface's subnetwork
 - Broadcast an ARP request on the link
 - Hopefully receive an ARP reply giving the correct MAC
 - The device stores this information in an ARP cache or ARP table

ARP cache poisoning

- Bootstrap problem with respect to security. Anyone can send an ARP reply
 - The Ingredients to ARP Poison,
<http://www.governmentsecurity.org/articles/TheIngredientsToARPPoison>.
- Classic Man-in-the-middle attack
 - Send ARP reply messages to device so they think your machine is someone else
 - Better than simple sniffing because not just best effort.
- Solutions
 - Encrypt all traffic
 - Monitoring programs like arpwatch to detect mapping changes
 - Which might be valid due to DHCP

Basic IPv4 Routing

- Static routing. Used by hosts, firewalls and routers.
 - Routing table consists of entries of
 - Network, Next hop address, metric, interface
 - May have routing table per incoming interface
 - To route a packet, take the destination address and find the best match network in the table. In case of a tie look at the metric
 - Use the corresponding next hop address and interface to send the packet on.
 - The next hop address is on the same link as this device, so you use the next hop's data-link address, e.g. ethernet MAC address
 - Decrement “time to live” field in IP header at each hop. Drop packet when it reaches 0
 - Attempt to avoid routing loops
 - As internet got bigger, TTL fields got set bigger. 255 maximum

Routing example

- Receive a packet destined to 192.168.3.56 on inside interface
- Local routing table for inside interface
 1. 192.168.2.0/30, 127.0.0.1, 1, outside
 2. 192.168.5.0/29, 127.0.0.1, 1, dmz
 3. 192.168.3.0/24, 192.168.5.6, 1, dmz
 4. 192.168.3.0/24, 192.168.1.2, 3, outside
 5. 0.0.0.0/0, 192.168.1.2, 1, outside
- Entries 3 and 4 tie. But metric for 3 is better
- Entries 1 and 2 are for directly connected networks

Source Based Routing

- In the IP Options field, can specify a source route
 - Was conceived of as a way to ensure some traffic could be delivered even if the routing table was completely screwed up.
- Can be used by the bad guy to avoid security enforcing devices
 - Most folks configure routers to drop packets with source routes set

IP Options in General

- Originally envisioned as a means to add more features to IP later
- Most routers drop packets with IP options set
 - Stance of not passing traffic you don't understand
 - Therefore, IP Option mechanisms never really took off
- In addition to source routing, there are security Options
 - Used for DNSIX, a MLS network encryption scheme

Dynamic Routing Protocols

- For scaling, discover topology and routing rather than statically constructing routing tables
 - Open Shortest Path First (OSPF): Used for routing within an administrative domain
 - RIP: not used much anymore
 - Border Gateway Protocol (BGP): Used for routing between administrative domains. Can encode non-technical transit constraints, e.g. Domain X will only carry traffic of paying customers
 - Receives full paths from neighbors, so it avoids counts to infinity.

Dynamic Routing

- Injecting unexpected routes a security concern.
 - BGP supports peer authentication
 - BGP blackholing is in fact used as a mechanism to isolate “bad” hosts
 - Filter out route traffic from unexpected (external) points
 - OSPF has MD5 authentication, and can statically configure neighbor routers, rather than discover them.
- Accidents are just as big of a concern as malicious injections

Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP)

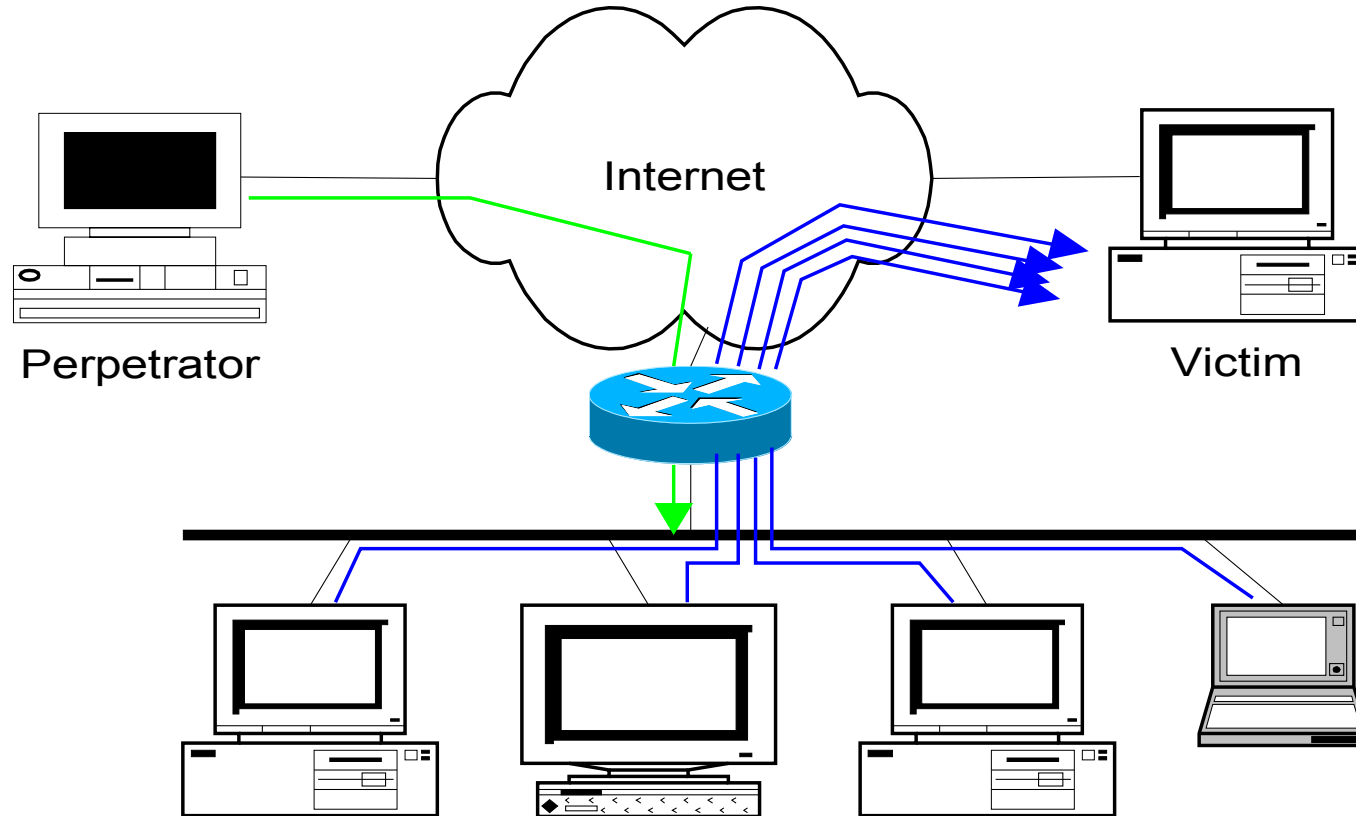
- Used for diagnostics
 - Destination unreachable
 - Time exceeded, TTL hit 0
 - Parameter problem, bad header field
 - Source quench, throttling mechanism rarely used
 - Redirect, feedback on potential bad route
 - Echo Request and Echo reply, ping
 - Timestamp request and Timestamp reply, performance ping
 - Packet too big
- Can use information to help map out a network
 - Some people block ICMP from outside domain

Smurf Attack

- An amplification DoS attack
 - A relatively small amount of information sent is expanded to a large amount of data
- Send ICMP echo request to IP broadcast addresses. Spoof the victim's address as the source
- The echo request receivers dutifully send echo replies to the victim overwhelming it
- Fraggle is a UDP variant of the same attack

“Smurf”

- ICMP echo (spoofed source address of victim)
Sent to IP broadcast address
- ICMP echo reply



Transport Level – TCP and UDP

- Service to service communication.
 - Multiple conversations possible between same pair of computers
- Transport flows are defined by source and destination ports
- Applications are associated with ports (generally just destination ports)
 - IANA organizes port assignments <http://www.iana.org/>
- Source ports often dynamically selected
 - Ports under 1024 are considered well-known ports
 - Would not expect source ports to come from the well-known range

Reconnaissance

- Port scanning
 - Send probes to all ports on the target
 - See which ones respond
- Application fingerprinting
 - Analyze the data returned
 - Determine type of application, version, basic configuration
 - Traffic answering from port 8080 is HTTP, Apache or Subversion

Datagram Transport

- User Datagram Protocol (UDP)
 - A best-effort delivery, no guarantee, no ACK
 - Lower overhead than TCP
 - Good for best-effort traffic like periodic updates
 - No long lived connection overhead on the endpoints
- Some folks implement their own reliable protocol over UDP to get “better performance” or “less overhead” than TCP
 - Such efforts don’t generally pan out
- TFTP and DNS protocols use UDP
- Data channels of some multimedia protocols, e.g., H.323 also use UDP

UDP Header

Source Port	Destination Port
UDP Length	UDP checksum

DHCP

- Built on older BOOTP protocol (which was built on even older RARP protocol)
 - Used by diskless Suns
- Enables dynamic allocation of IP address and related information
- Runs over UDP
- No security considered in the design, obvious problems
 - Bogus DHCP servers handing out addresses of attacker's choice
 - Bogus clients grabbing addresses
- IETF attempted to add DHCP authentication but rather late in the game to do this.
- Other solutions
 - Physically secure networks
 - Use IPSec

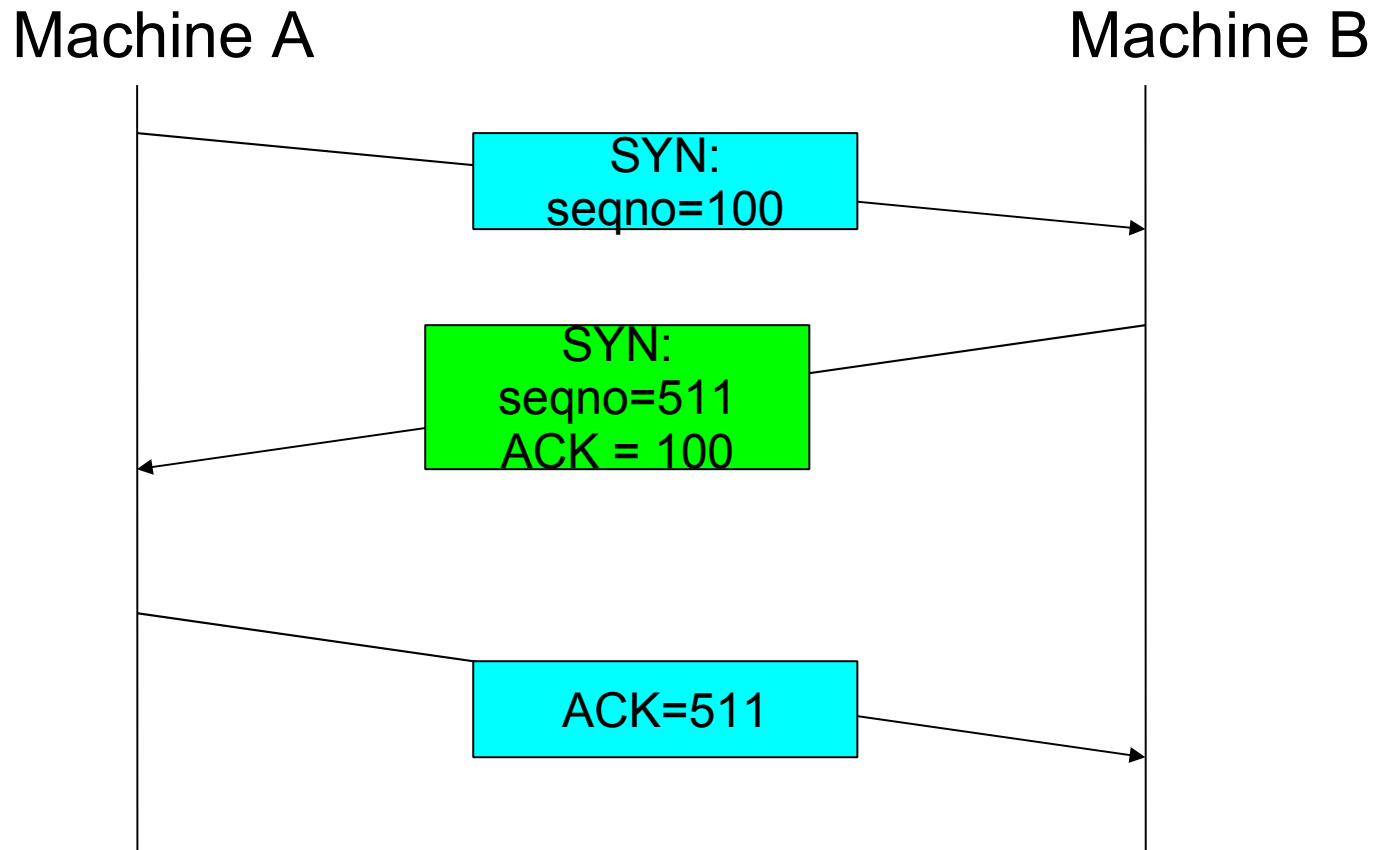
Reliable Streams

- Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)
 - Guarantees reliable, ordered stream of traffic
 - Such guarantees impose overhead
 - A fair amount of state is required on both ends
- Most Internet protocols use TCP, e.g., HTTP, FTP, SSH, H.323 control channels

TCP Header

Source Port				Destination Port					
Sequence Number									
Acknowledgement number									
HDR Len		U R G	A C K	P S H	R S T	S Y N	F I N	Window Size	
Checksum				Urgent Pointer					
Options (0 or more words)									

Three way handshake



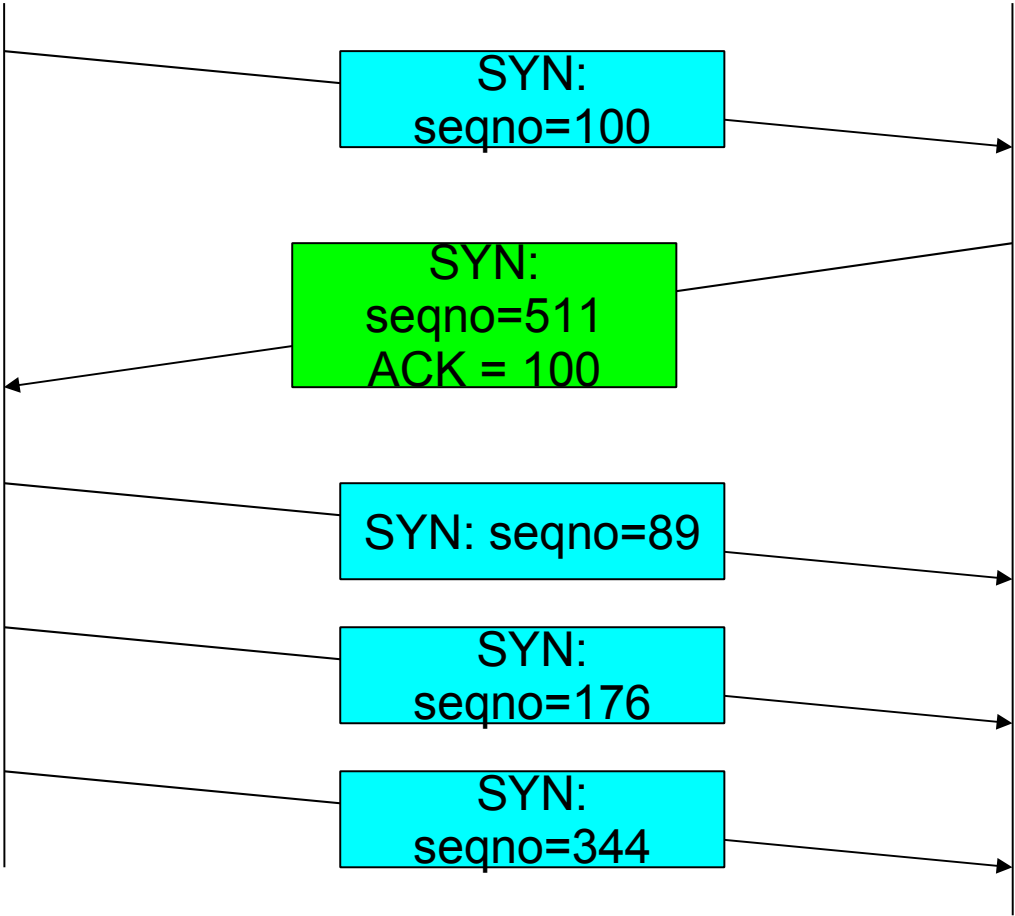
Syn flood

- A resource DoS attack focused on the TCP three-way handshake
- Say A wants to set up a TCP connection to B
 1. A sends SYN with its sequence number X
 2. B replies with its own SYN and sequence number Y and an ACK of A's sequence number X
 3. A sends data with its sequence number X and ACK's B's sequence number Y
- Send many of the first message to B. Never respond to the second message.
 - This leaves B with a bunch of half open (or embryonic) connections that are filling up memory
 - Firewalls adapted by setting limits on the number of such half open connections.

SYN Flood

Machine A

Machine B

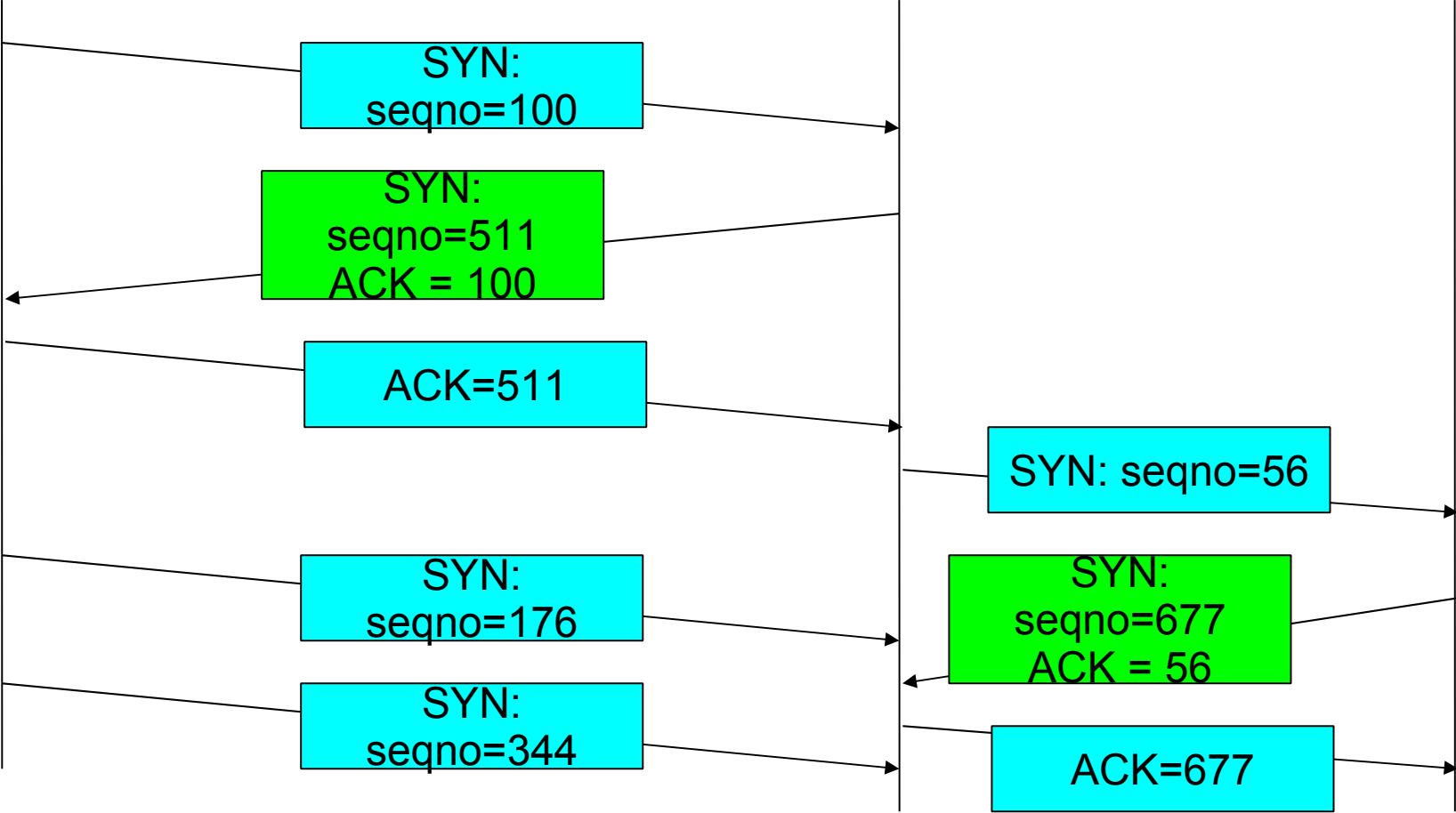


SYN Flood Constrainer

Machine A

FW

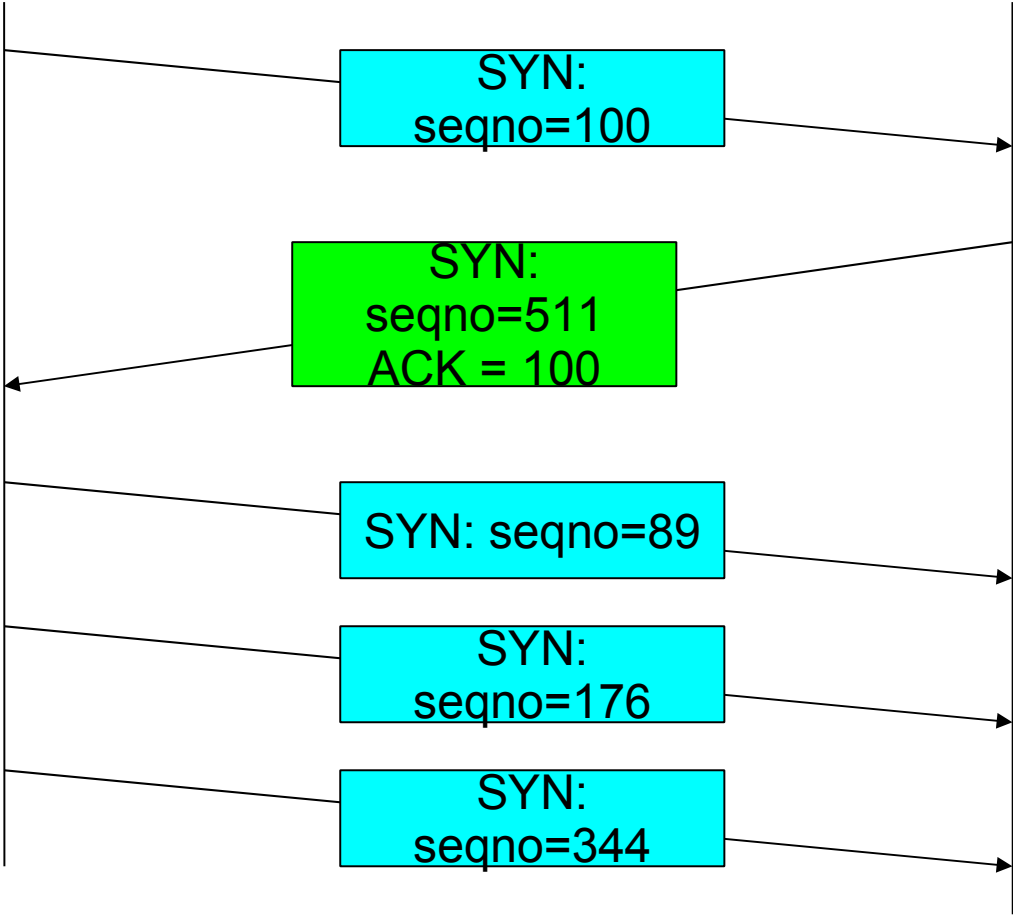
Machine B



SYN Flood

Machine A

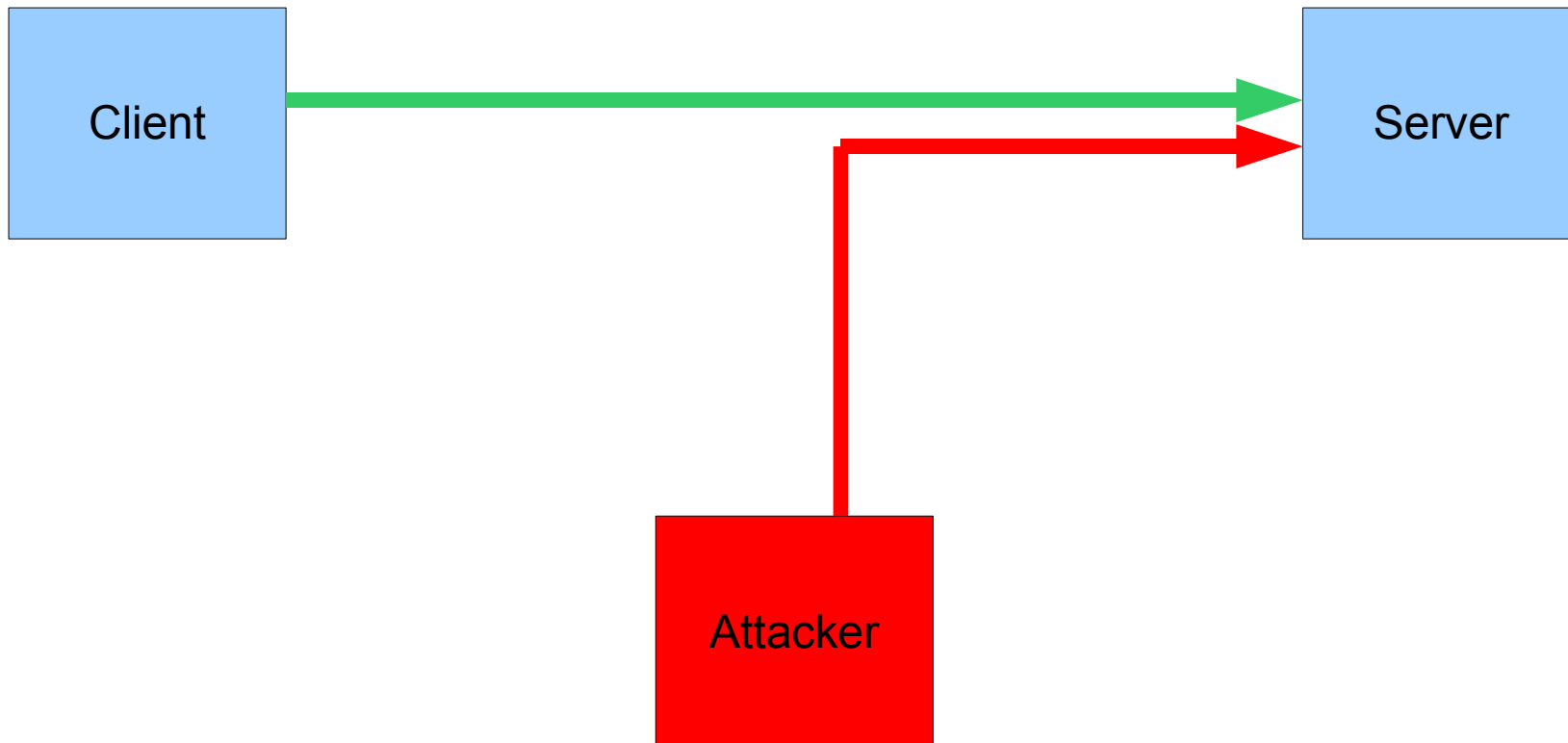
Machine B



Session Hijacking

- Take over a session after the 3 way handshake is performed
 - After initial authentication too
- Local
 - Can see all traffic.
 - Simply inject traffic at a near future sequence number
- Blind
 - Cannot see traffic
 - Must guess the sequence number

Session Hijacking



Application Protocols

- Single connection protocols
 - Use a single connection, e.g. HTTP, SMTP
- Dynamic Multi-connection Protocols, e.g. FTP and H.323
 - Have a well known control channel
 - Negotiate ports and/or addresses on the control channel for subsidiary data channels
 - Dynamically open the negotiated data channels
- Protocol suites, e.g. Netbios and DNS

Spoofting Applications

- Often times ridiculously easy
- Fake Client
 - Telnet to an SMTP server and enter mail from whoever you want
 - Authenticating email servers
 - Require a password
 - Require a mail download before server takes send requests
- Fake server
 - Phishing: misdirect user to bogus server

Default Settings

- Many applications installed with default users and passwords
 - Wireless routers, SCADA systems
- Default passwords for many of these systems are easily found on the Internet
 - <http://www.cirt.net/cgi-bin/passwd.pl>

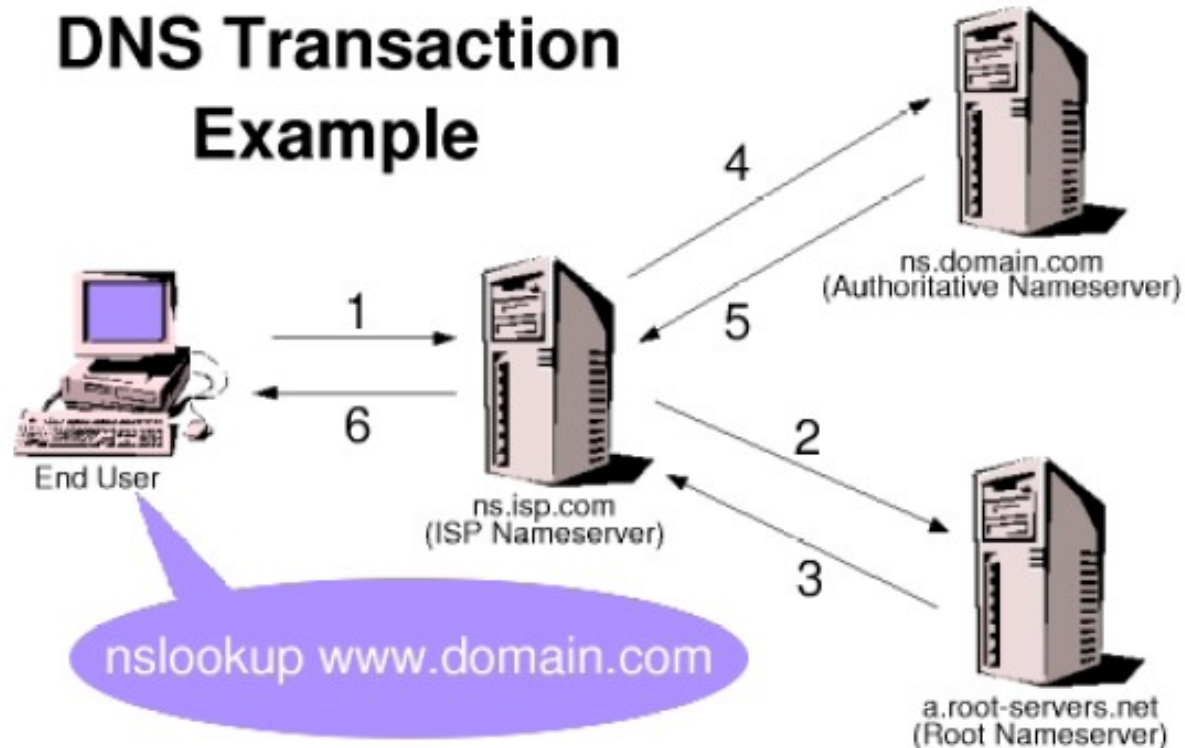
Domain Name System (DNS)

- Hierarchical service to resolve domain names to IP addresses.
 - The name space is divided into non-overlapping zones
 - E.g., consider shinrich.cs.uiuc.edu.
 - DNS servers in the chain. One for .edu, one for .uiuc.edu, and one for .cs.uiuc.edu
- Can have primary and secondary DNS servers per zone. Use TCP based zone transfer to keep up to date
- Like DHCP, no security designed in
 - But at least the DNS server is not automatically discovered
 - Although this information can be dynamically set via DHCP

DNS Problems

- DNS Open relays
 - Makes it look like good DNS server is authoritative server to bogus name
 - Enables amplification DoS attack
 - http://www.us-cert.gov/reading_room/DNS-recursion
- DNS Cache Poisoning
 - Change the name to address mapping to something more desirable to the attacker
 - <http://www.lurhq.com/dnscache.pdf>

DNS Transaction

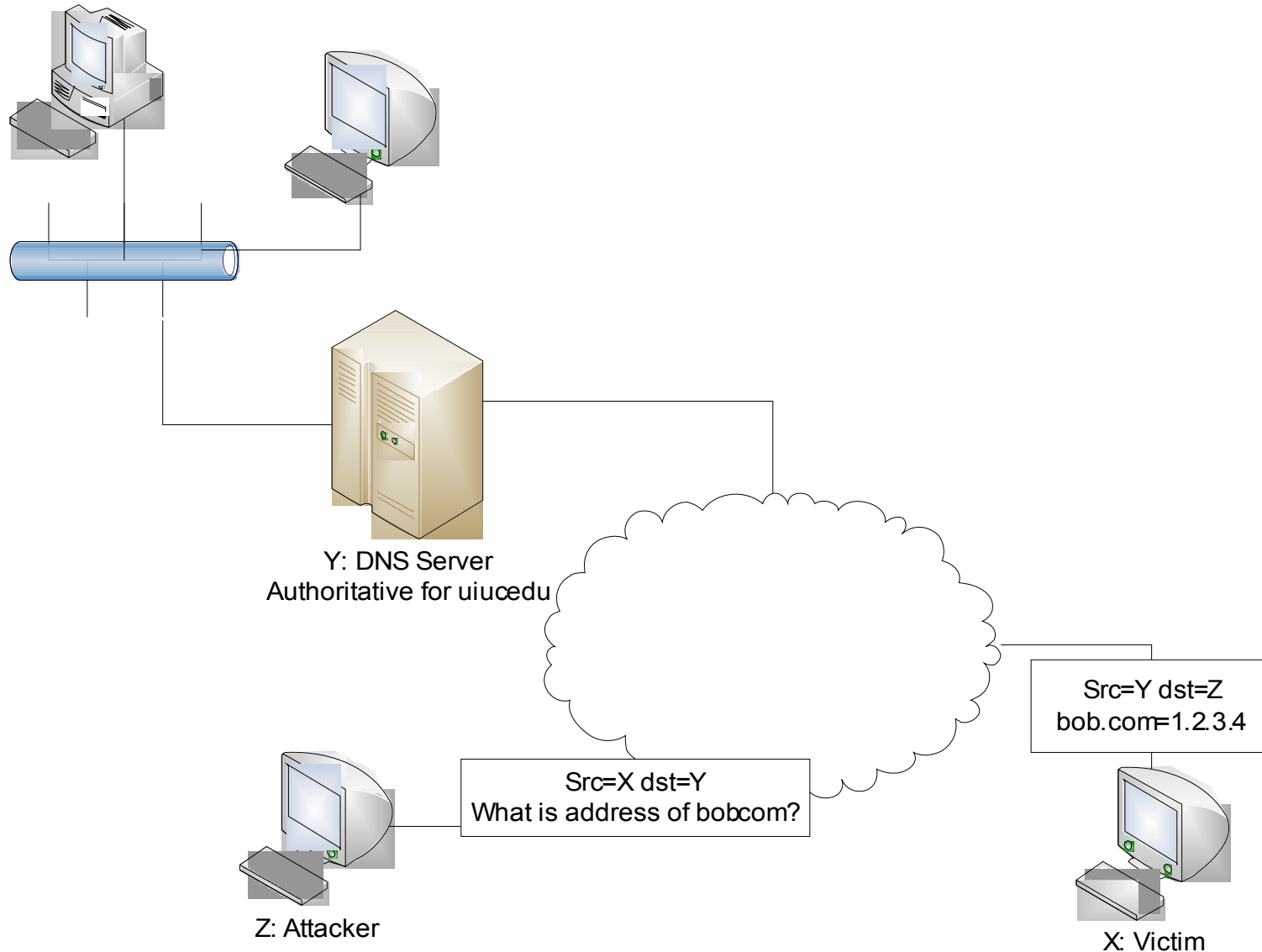


- Step 1 - User asks ISP nameserver to look up the IP address of `www.domain.com`
- Step 2 - ISP nameserver queries root nameserver to find out who is authoritative for `domain.com`
- Step 3 - Root nameserver answers: `ns.domain.com` is authoritative for `domain.com`
- Step 4 - ISP nameserver queries `ns.domain.com` for IP address of `www.domain.com`
- Step 5 - `ns.domain.com` answers "`www.domain.com` is at 1.2.3.4"
- Step 6 - ISP nameserver sends reply to user - "`www.domain.com` is at 1.2.3.4"

DNS Communication

- Use UDP
- Requests and responses have matching 16 bit transaction Ids
- Servers can be configured as
 - Authoritative Nameserver
 - Officially responsible for answering requests for a domain
 - Recursive
 - Pass on requests to other authoritative servers
 - Both (this can be the problem)

DNS Open Relay

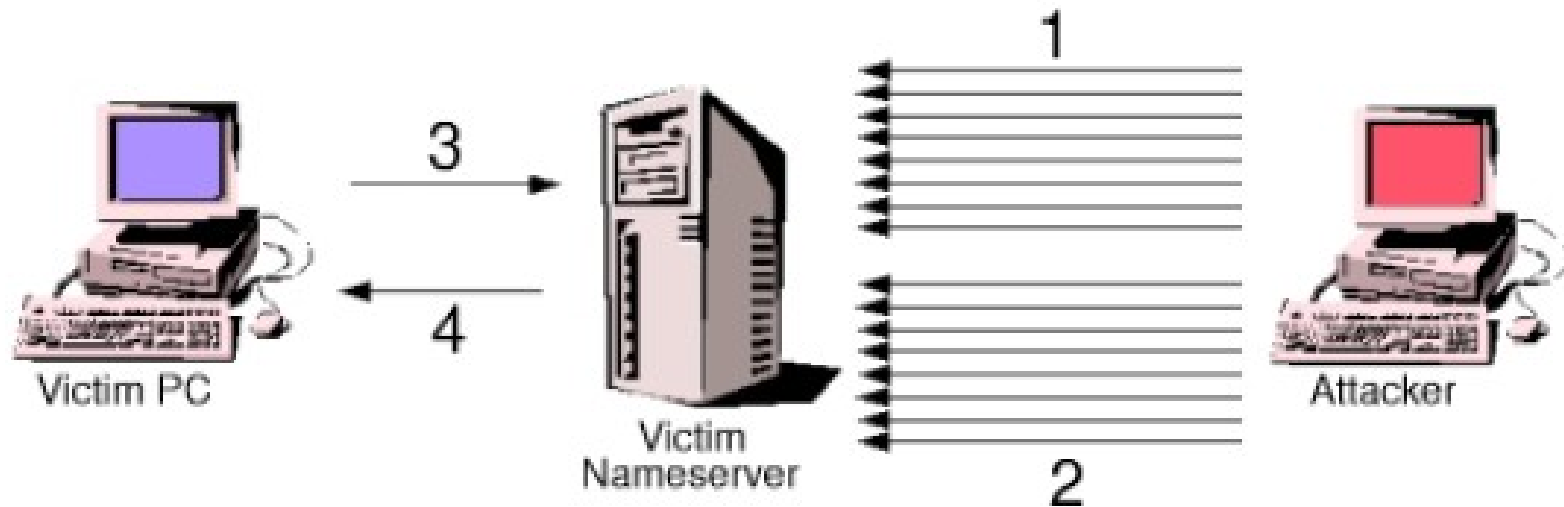


DNS Cache Poisoning

- Older implementations would just accept additional information in a reply
 - e.g. A false authoritative name server
- Now to spoof a reply must anticipate the correct transaction ID
 - Only 16 bits
 - Random selection of ID isn't always the greatest

Tricking the Transaction ID's

The BIND Birthday Attack



Step 1 - Attacker sends a large number of queries to the victim nameserver, all for the same domain name

Step 2 - Attacker sends spoofed replies giving fake answers for the queries it made

Step 3 - At a later time, victim PC sends a request for the spoofed domain name

Step 4 - Victim nameserver returns fake information to victim PC

DNSSEC

- Seeks to solve the trust issues of DNS
- Uses a key hierarchy for verification
- Has been under development for a decade and still not really deployed
- Provides authentication, not confidentiality
- DNS Threat Analysis in RFC 3833.

Key Points

- Network is complex and critical
- Many flaws have been simple implementation problems
- Poor configuration also can cause widespread problems
- Other guys problems can affect me
- Next, what can you do about it?