Networking Roadmap

Computer Science 161 Summer 2020

Layer	Protocols
7. Application	Web security
4.5. Secure transport	TLS
4. Transport	TCP, UDP
3. Internet	IP
2. Link	
1. Physical	

Extra protocols

	Protocols
Connect for the first time	DHCP
Convert hostname to IP address	DNS, DNSSEC

Peyrin and Ryan

You are here

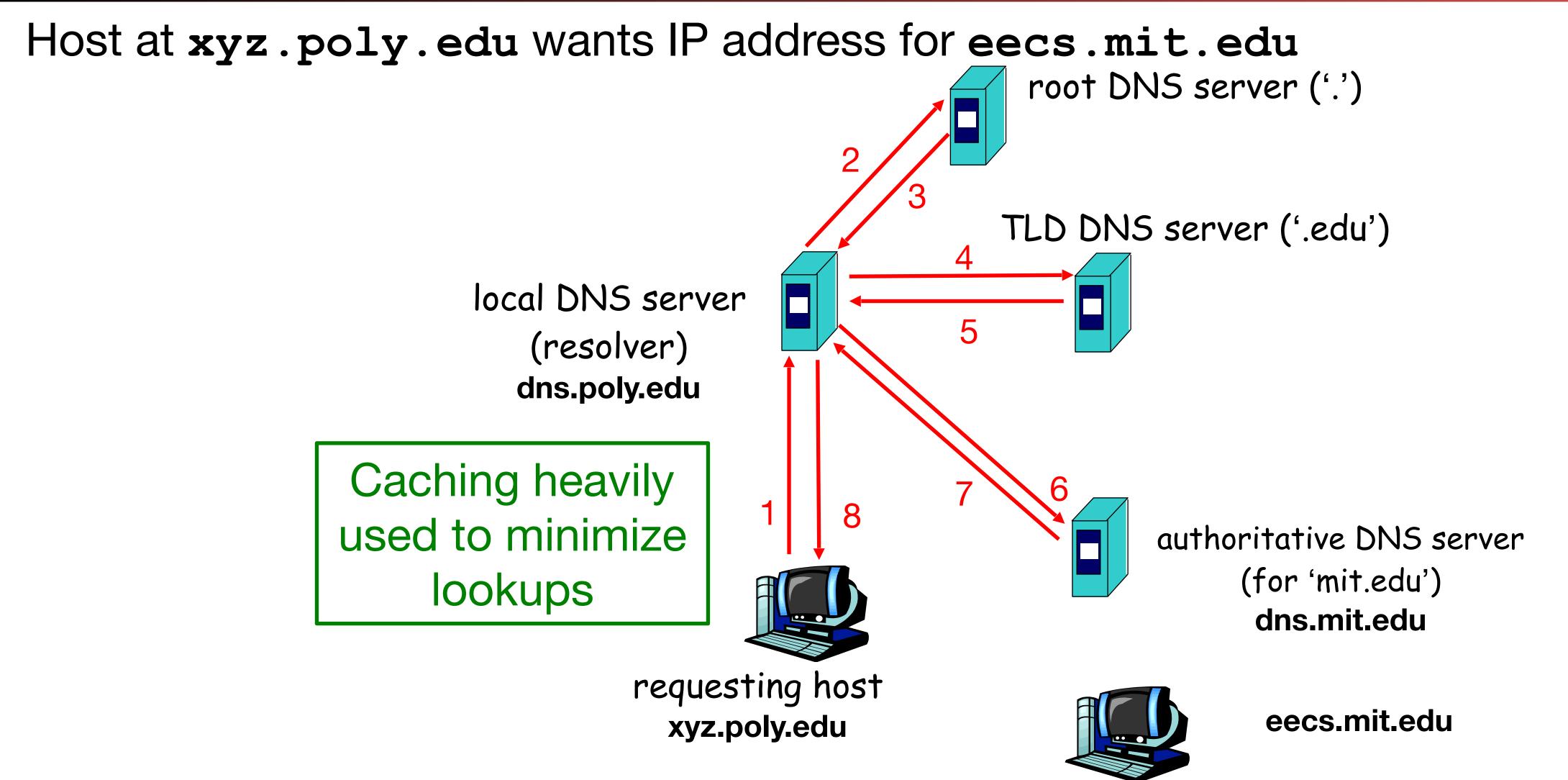
Computer Science 161 Spring 2020
Popa and Wagner

DNS translates www.google.com to 74.125.25.99

- It's a performance-critical distributed database.
- DNS security is critical for the web.
 (Same-origin policy assumes DNS is secure.)
- Analogy: If you don't know the answer to a question, ask a friend for help (who may in turn refer you to a friend of theirs, and so on).
- Based on a notion of hierarchical trust: we trust . for everything, com. for any com, google.com. for everything google...

DNS Lookups via a Resolver

Computer Science 161 Spring 2020
Popa and Wagner



Network security (DNS)

CS 161: Computer Security

Prof. Raluca Ada Popa

March 9, 2020

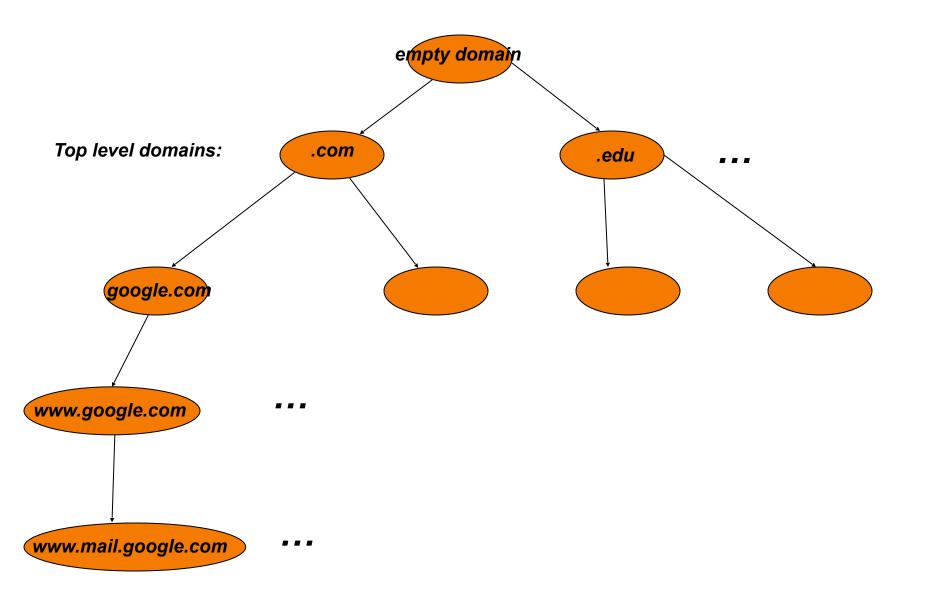
Announcements

Discussion sections online

Domain names

- Domain names are human friendly names to identify servers or services
 - Arranged hierarchically
 - www.google.com has:
 - o .com as TLD (top-level domain) is a subdomain of root
 - o google.com as a subdomain of com
 - o www.google.com a subdomain of google.com

Hierarchy of domain names



Types of domain names (TLD)

- 1. Generic TLDs: .com, .edu
- 2. Country-code TLDs: .au .de .it .us

Creating a domain name

- Domain names are registered and assigned by domain-name registrars, accredited by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), same group allocating the IP address space
- Contact the domain-name registrar to register domain space

Cybersquatting or Domain Squatting

 Entities buying a domain in advance of it becoming desirable and later selling to the agency needing it for much more

2013: Microsoft vs. MikeRoweSoft



The boy accepted an Xbox in exchange for the domain name

DNS Overview

DNS translates www.google.com to 74.125.25.99:
 resolves www.google.com

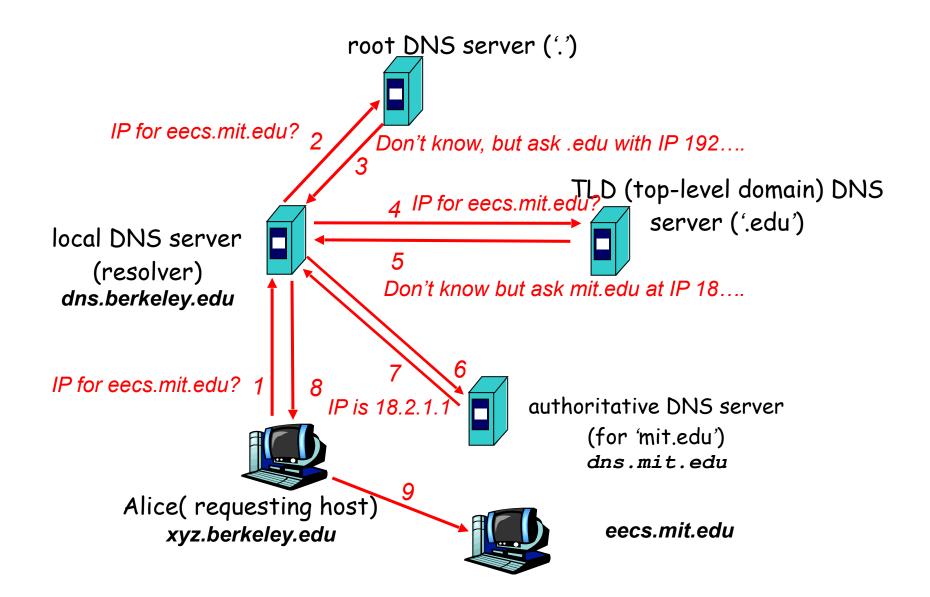
Name servers

- To resolve a domain name, a resolver queries a distributed hierarchy of DNS servers also called name servers
- At the top level are the root name servers, which resolve TLDs such as .com
 - –Store the authoritative name server for each TLD (the trusted server for the TLD)
 - Government and commercial organizations run the name servers for TLDs
 - -Name server for .com managed by Verisign

A DNS Lookup

- 1. Alice goes to eecs.mit.edu on her browser
- 2. Her machine contacts a resolver to ask for *eecs.mit.edu*'s IP address
 - The resolver can be a name server for the corporate network of Alice's machine or of her Internet service provider that her machine learned from DHCP
- 3. The resolver will try to resolve this domain name and return an IP address to Alice's machine

DNS Lookups via a Resolver



DNS caching

 Almost all DNS servers (resolver and name servers) cache entries, which improves performance significantly

dig

- A program on Unix that allows querying the DNS system
- Dumps each field in DNS responses

Use Unix "dig" utility to look up IP address ("A") for hostname eecs.mit.edu via DNS

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 19901
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 3
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                                IN
                                        A
;; ANSWER SECTION:
                        21600
                                                 18.62.1.6
eecs.mit.edu.
                                IN
                                        Α
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
mit.edu.
                        11088
                                IN
                                        NS
                                                BITSY.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                        11088 IN
                                        NS
                                                W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                        11088
                                IN
                                        NS
                                                 STRAWB.mit.edu.
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
                                                 18.71.0.151
STRAWB.mit.edu.
                        126738
                                IN
                                        A
                                                 18.72.0.3
BITSY.mit.edu.
                        166408
                                        Α
                               IN
W20NS.mit.edu.
                        126738
                                                 18.70.0.160
                               IN
```

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 19901
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 3
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                                 IN
                                         A
:: ANSWER SECTION:
                         2160 A 16-bit transaction identifier that enables
eecs.mit.edu.
                             the DNS client (dig, in this case) to match up
                             the reply with its original request
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
                         11088
mit.edu.
                                 IN
                                         NS
                                                 BITSY.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                         11088 IN
                                         NS
                                                 W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                         11088 IN
                                         NS
                                                 STRAWB.mit.edu.
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
                                                 18.71.0.151
STRAWB.mit.edu.
                        126738
                                IN
                                         Α
                        166408 IN
                                                 18.72.0.3
BITSY.mit.edu.
W20NS.mit.edu.
                        126738 IN
                                                 18.70.0.160
```

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 19901
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 3
;; QUESTION SECTION:
reecs.mit.edu.
                                 IN
                                          A
;; ANSWER SECTION:
                         21600
                                                  18.62.1.6
eecs.mit.edu.
                                 IN
                                         A
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
                         11088
mit.edu.
                                 IN
                                         NS
                                                  BITSY.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                         11088
                                 IN
                                         NS
                                                  W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                         11088
                                                  STRAWB.mit.edu.
                                 IN
                                         NS
                 The question we asked the server
;; ADDITIONAL SECTIONAL
STRAWB.mit.edu.
                         126738
                                                  18.71.0.151
                                 IN
                                          A
BITSY.mit.edu.
                         166408 IN
                                                  18.72.0.3
                                         Α
W20NS.mit.edu.
                                                  18.70.0.160
                         126738 IN
```

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 19901
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 3
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                                  IN
;; ANSWER SECTION:
                         21600
                                                   18.62.1.6
eecs.mit.edu.
                                  IN
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
                         11088
mit.edu.
                                  IN
                                                  BITSY.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                         11088
                                  IN
                                          NS
                                                  W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                         11088
                                  IN
                                                   STRAWB.mit.edu.
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
STRAWB.mit Type of response: A = IP address, NS = name server
                                                           151
BITSY.mit.euu.
W20NS.mit.edu.
                         126738 IN
                                                  18.70.0.160
```

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
; ; ->>HEADER<<- opcode "Answer" tells us the IP address associated
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUI
                                                                 CONAL: 3
                        with eecs.mit.edu is 18.62.1.6 and we
                        can cache the result for 21,600 seconds
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                                   IN
                                           A
;; ANSWER SECTION:
eecs.mit.edu.
                          21600
                                   IN
                                           A
                                                    18,62,1,6
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
                          11088
mit.edu.
                                  IN
                                           NS
                                                    BITSY.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                          11088
                                  IN
                                           NS
                                                    W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                          11088
                                  IN
                                           NS
                                                    STRAWB.mit.edu.
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
                                                    18.71.0.151
STRAWB.mit.edu.
                          126738
                                  IN
                                           A
                                                    18.72.0.3
BITSY.mit.edu.
                          166408
                                  IN
W20NS.mit.edu.
                          126738
                                                    18.70.0.160
                                  IN
```

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPTT
;; global options: +cm "Authority" tells us the name servers responsible for
                         the answer. Each RR (resource record) gives the
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode hostname of a different name server ("NS") for names in
;; flags: qr rd ra; Qu mit.edu. We should cache each record for 11,088
                         seconds.
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                         If the "Answer" had been empty, then the resolver's
                         next step would be to send the original query to one of
;; ANSWER SECTION:
                         these name servers.
eecs.mit.edu.
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
mit.edu.
                           11088
                                    IN
                                             NS
                                                      BITSY mit edu.
                           11088
mit.edu.
                                    IN
                                             NS
                                                      W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                           11088
                                             NS
                                                      STRAWB.mit.edu.
                                    IN
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
                           126738
STRAWB.mit.edu.
                                    IN
                                                      18.71.0.151
                                             Α
                                                      18.72.0.3
BITSY.mit.edu.
                           166408
                                    IN
W20NS.mit.edu.
                           126738
                                                      18.70.0.160
                                    IN
```

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 19901
;; flags: gr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 3
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                   "Additional" provides extra information to save us from
                   making separate lookups for it, or helps with bootstrapping.
:: ANSWER SECTION
eecs.mit.edu.
                   Here, it tells us the IP addresses for the hostnames of the
;; AUTHORITY SECT name servers. We add these to our cache.
mit.edu.
                                                    BITSY.MIT.edu.
                                   ΤN
                          TTO88 \
                                            NS
mit.edu.
                          11088 IN
                                           NS
                                                    W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                          11088
                                  IN
                                                    STRAWB.mit.edu.
                                           NS
:: ADDITIONAL SECTION:
                                                    18.71.0.151
STRAWB.mit.edu.
                          126738
                                   IN
                                           A
                                                    18.72.0.3
BITSY.mit.edu.
                          166408
                                  IN
                                           A
                                                    18.70.0.160
                          126738
W20NS.mit.edu.
                                  IN
```

DNS Protocol

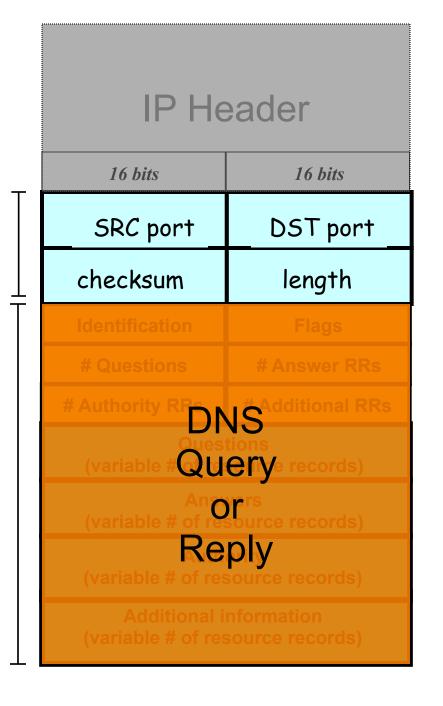
Lightweight exchange of *query* and *reply* messages, both with same message format

UDP Header

Primarily uses UDP for its transport protocol, which is what we'll assume

UDP Payload

Frequently, both clients and servers use port 53



DNS Protocol

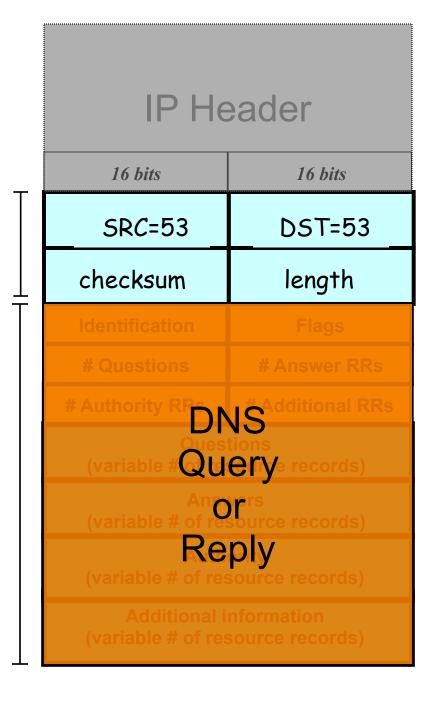
Lightweight exchange of *query* and *reply* messages, both with same message format

UDP Header

Primarily uses UDP for its transport protocol, which is what we'll assume

UDP Payload

Frequently, both clients and servers use port 53



DNS Protocol, cont.

Message header:

- Identification: 16 bit # for query, reply to query uses same #
- Along with repeating the Question and providing Answer(s), replies can include "Authority" (name server responsible for answer) and "Additional" (info client is likely to look up soon anyway)
- Each Resource Record has a Time To Live (in seconds) for caching (not shown)

IP Header

16 bits	16 bits
SRC=53	DST=53
checksum	length
Identification	Flags
# Questions	# Answer RRs
# Authority RRs	# Additional RRs

Questions (variable # of resource records)

Answers (variable # of resource records)

Authority (variable # of resource records)

Additional information (variable # of resource records)

Security risk #1: malicious DNS server

- Of course, if any of the DNS servers queried are malicious, they can lie to us and fool us about the answer to our DNS query.
- Any consequence?
 - -We talk to the incorrect server

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit
                                           its operator steal, say, all
;; global options: +cmd
                                           of our web surfing to
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NO
                                           berkeley.edu's main web
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1,
                                           server?
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                                 IN
                                          A
;; ANSWER SECTION:
eecs.mit.edu.
                         21600
                                                  18.62.1.6
                                 IN
                                         A
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
mit.edu.
                         11088
                                 IN
                                         NS
                                                  BITSY.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                         11088
                                 IN
                                         NS
                                                  W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                         11088
                                                  STRAWB.mit.edu.
                                 IN
                                         NS
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
                                                  18.71.0.151
STRAWB.mit.edu.
                         126738
                                 IN
                                          A
                                                  18.72.0.3
BITSY.mit.edu.
                         166408
                                 IN
W20NS.mit.edu.
                                                  18.70.0.160
                         126738
                                 IN
```

What if the mit.edu server

is untrustworthy? Could

```
original DNS design
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mi
                                         (since fixed)
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 19901
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 3
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                                IN
                                        A
:: ANSWER SECTION:
                        21600
                                                18.62.1.6
eecs.mit.edu.
                                IN
                                        Α
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
mit.edu.
                        11088
                                IN
                                        NS
                                                BITSY.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                        11088 IN
                                        NS
                                                W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                        11088
                                IN
                                                STRAWB.mit.edu.
                                        NS
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
                                                18.71.0.151
STRAWB.mit.edu.
                        126738
                               IN
                                        A
                                                18.72.0.3
BITSY.mit.edu.
                        166408
                               IN
W20NS.mit.edu.
                                                18.70.0.160
                        126738 IN
```

Let's look at a flaw in the

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 19901
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 3
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                           What could happen if the mit.edu server
                           returns the following to us instead?
;; ANSWER SECTION:
                        21600
                                                 18.62.1.6
eecs.mit.edu.
                                 IN
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
mit.edu.
                        11088
                                 IN
                                         NS
                                                 BITSY.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                        11088 IN
                                         NS
                                                 W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                        30000 IN
                                         NS
                                                 www.berkeley.edu.
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
www.berkeley.edu.
                        30000
                                                 18.6.6.6
                                IN
                                         Α
BITSY.mit.edu.
                        166408
                                IN
                                                 18.72.0.3
                                         Α
W20NS.mit.edu.
                        126738
                                                 18.70.0.160
                                IN
```

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 19901
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 3
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                                  IN
                      We'd dutifully store in our cache a mapping of
;; ANSWER SECTION:
                      www.berkeley.edu to an IP address under
eecs.mit.edu.
                      MIT's control. (It could have been any IP
;; AUTHORITY SECTION address they wanted, not just one of theirs.)
mit.edu.
                                                   BITSY.mit.edu.
                         11088
                                  IN
                                          NS
mit.edu.
                         11028
                                  IN
                                                   W20NS.mit.edu.
                                          NS
                          30000
mit.edu.
                                  IN
                                          NS
                                                   www.berkeley.edu.
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
www.berkeley.edu.
                         30000
                                                   18\6.6.6
                                  IN
                                          A
BITSY.mit.edu.
                         166408
                                 IN
                                                   18.72.0.3
                                          A
W20NS mit edu.
                         126738
                                  IN
```

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 19901
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 3
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                                IN
                                        A
;; ANSWER SECTION:
                        21600
                                                 18.62.1.6
eecs.mit.edu.
                                IN
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
mit.edu.
                  Later if we need to resolve www.berkeley.edu,
mit.edu.
                   we will go to the MIT IP address
mit.edu.
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
www.berkeley.edu.
                        30000 IN
                                                 18.6.6.6
                                        A
BITSY.mit.edu.
                        166408 IN
                                                 18.72.0.3
W20NS.mit.edu.
                        126738
                                                 18.70.0.160
                               IN
```

```
; ; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 19901
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 3
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu.
                               IN
                                       A
:: ANSWER SECTION:
eecs.mit.edu.
                 How do we fix such DNS cache poisoning?
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
                       11088
mit.edu.
                               IN
                                       NS
                                               BITSY.mit.edu.
                       11088 IN
mit.edu.
                                       NS
                                               W20NS.mit.edu.
mit.edu.
                       30000 IN
                                       NS
                                               www.berkeley.edu.
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
www.berkeley.edu.
                       30000
                                               18.6.6.6
                              IN
                                       A
BITSY.mit.edu.
                       166408
                              IN
                                               18.72.0.3
                                       Α
W20NS.mit.edu.
                       126738
                                               18.70.0.160
                               IN
```

```
; <<>> DiG 9.6.0-APPLE-P2 <<>> eecs.mit.edu a
   global options: +c
                       Don't accept Additional records unless
   Got answer:
   ->>нEADER<</- opcod they're for the domain we're looking up
   flags: gr rd ra; Q
                           E.g., looking up eecs.mit.edu ⇒ only accept
                           additional records from *.mit.edu
  QUESTION SECTION:
;eecs.mit.edu
                       No extra risk in accepting these since server could
;; ANSWER SECTION:
                       return them to us directly in an Answer anyway.
eecs.mit.edu.
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
mit.edu.
                          11088
                                                    BITSY.mit.edu.
                                   IN
                                           NS
mit.edu.
                          11088
                                                    W20NS.mit.edu.
                                  IN
                                           NS
mit.edu.
                          30000
                                  IN
                                           NS
                                                    www.berkeley.edu.
   ADDITIONAL SECTION:
www.berkelev.edu.
                          30000
                                   IN
                                                    18.6.6.6
BITSY mit edu
                          166408
                                  IN
                          126738
W20NS mit edu
                                   IN
                                           A
                                                    <del>18.70.0.1</del>60
```

Security risk #1: malicious DNS server

- Of course, if any of the DNS servers queried are malicious, they can lie to us and fool us about the answer to our DNS query...
- and they used to be able to fool us about the answer to other queries, too, using cache poisoning. Now fixed (phew).

Security risk #2: on-path eavesdropper

- If attacker can eavesdrop on our traffic... we're hosed.
- Why?

Security risk #2: on-path eavesdropper

- If attacker can eavesdrop on our traffic... we're hosed.
- Why? They can see the query and the 16-bit transaction identifier, and race to send a spoofed response to our query.

Security risk #3: off-path attacker

- If attacker can't eavesdrop on our traffic, can he inject spoofed DNS responses?
- Answer: It used to be possible, via blind spoofing.
 We've since deployed mitigations that makes this harder (but not totally impossible).

Blind spoofing

- Say we look up mail.google.com; how can an off-path attacker feed us a bogus A answer before the legitimate server replies?
- How can such a remote
 attacker even know we are
 looking up
 mail.google.com?
 Suppose, e.g., we visit a web
 page under their control:

16 bits	16 bits	
SRC=53	DST=53	
checksum	length	
Identification	Flags	
# Questions	# Answer RRs	
# Authority RRs	# Additional RRs	
Questions (variable # of resource records)		
Answers (variable # of resource records)		
Authority (variable # of resource records)		
Additional information (variable # of resource records)		

...<img src="http://mail.google.com" ...

Blind spoofing

 Say we look up mail.google.com; how can an off-path attacker feed us a bogus A answer before the

legitir This HTML snippet causes our browser to try to fetch an image from mail.google.com. To do that, our

even browser first has to look up the IP address associated with that name.

Suppose, e.g., we visit a web page under their control:

SRC=53

Checksum

Identification

Questions

Authority RRs

Additional RRs

estions

resource records)

nswers
resource records)

ithority
resource records)

| al information | variable # of resource records)

...<img src="http://mail.google.com" ..

Blind spoofing

Once they know we're looking it up, they just have to guess the Identification field and reply before legit server.

How hard is that?

Originally, identification field incremented by 1 for each request. How does attacker guess it?



	16 bits	16 bits	
	SR <i>C</i> =53	DST=53	
	checksum	length	
	Identification	Flags	
	# Questions	# Answer RRs	
	# Authority RRs	# Additional RRs	
	Questions (variable # of resource records)		
	Answers (variable # of resource records)		
	Authority (variable # of resource records) Additional information (variable # of resource records)		
•			

```
<img src="http://badguy.com" ...> They observe ID k here
<img src="http://mail.google.com" ...> So this will be k+1
```

DNS Blind Spoofing, cont.

Once we randomize the Identification, attacker has a 1/65536 chance of guessing it correctly.

Are we safe?

Attacker can send *lots* of replies, not just one ...

However: once reply from legit server arrives (with correct Identification), it's cached and no Unless attacker can send more opportunity to poison it. Victim is innoculated!

16 bits	16 bits	
SRC=53	DST=53	
checksum	length	
Identification	Flags	
# Questions	# Answer RRs	
# Authority RRs	# Additional RRs	
Questions (variable # of resource records)		
Answers (variable # of resource records)		
Authority (variable # of resource records)		
Additional information (variable # of resource records)		

1000s of replies before legit arrives...

Summary of DNS Security Issues

- DNS threats highlight:
 - Attackers can attack opportunistically rather than eavesdropping
 - o Cache poisoning only required victim to look up some name under attacker's control (has been fixed)
 - Attackers can often manipulate victims into vulnerable activity
 - o E.g., IMG SRC in web page to force DNS lookups
 - Crucial for identifiers associated with communication to have sufficient entropy (= a lot of bits of unpredictability)
 - "Attacks only get better": threats that appears technically remote can become practical due to unforeseen cleverness

Common Security Assumptions

- (Note, these tend to be pessimistic ... but prudent)
- Attackers can interact with our systems without particular notice
 - Probing (poking at systems) may go unnoticed …
 - ... even if highly repetitive, leading to crashes, and easy to detect
- It's easy for attackers to know general information about their targets
 - OS types, software versions, usernames, server ports, IP addresses, usual patterns of activity, administrative procedures

Common Assumptions

- Attackers can obtain access to a copy of a given system to measure and/or determine how it works
- Attackers can make energetic use of automation
 - They can often find clever ways to automate
- Attackers can pull off complicated coordination across a bunch of different elements/systems
- Attackers can bring large resources to bear if needed
 - Computation, network capacity
 - But they are not super-powerful (e.g., control entire ISPs)

The Kaminsky Blind Spoofing Attack

DNS Blind Spoofing, cont.

Once we randomize the Identification, attacker has a 1/65536 chance of guessing it correctly. Are we safe?

Attacker can send *lots* of replies, not just one ...

However: once reply from legit server arrives (with correct Identification), it's cached and no Unless attacker can send more opportunity to poison it. Victim is innoculated!

16 bits	16 bits
SRC=53	DST=53
checksum	length
Identification	Flags
# Questions	# Answer RRs
# Authority RRs	# Additional RRs
Questions (variable # of resource records)	
Answers (variable # of resource records)	
Authority (variable # of resource records)	
Additional information (variable # of resource records)	

1000s of replies before legit arrives...

DNS Blind Spoofing (Kaminsky 2008)

Two key ideas:

```
- Attacker can get around caching of legit replies by generating a series of different name lookups:
...>
<img src="http://random2.google.com"
...>
<img src="http://random3.google.com"
...>
...>
```

<img src="http://randomN.google.com"
- Trick victim into looking up a domain you don't care
about, use Additional field to spoof the domain you do
care about</pre>

Kaminsky Blind Spoofing

```
For each lookup of randomk.google.com,
                      attacker spoofs a bunch of records like this,
                      each with a different Identifier
;; QUESTION SECTION:
; random7.google.com.
                                  IN
:: ANSWER SECTION:
                                                   doesn't matter
random7.google.com
                         21600
                                  IN
  AUTHORITY SECTION:
google.com.
                         11088
                                  IN
                                          NS
                                                   mail.google.com
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
mail.google.com
                         <del>126738</del>
                                                   6 6 6 6
```

Once they win the race, not only have they poisoned mail.google.com...

Kaminsky Blind Spoofing

```
For each lookup of randomk.google.com,
                     attacker spoofs a bunch of records like this,
                     each with a different Identifier
  QUESTION SECTION:
; random7.google.com.
                                 IN
:: ANSWER SECTION:
                                                 doesn't matter
random7.google.com
                         21600
                                 IN
  AUTHORITY SECTION:
google.com.
                                                 mail.google.com
                         11088
                                 IN
                                         NS
  ADDITIONAL SECTION:
                                                 6.6.6.6
mail.google.com
                         126738
                                 IN
```

Once they win the race, not only have they poisoned mail.google.com ... but also the cached NS record for google.com's name server — so any **future**X.google.com lookups go through the attacker's machine

Central problem: all that tells a client they should accept a response is that it matches the Identification field.

With only 16 bits, it lacks sufficient entropy: even if truly random, the search space an attacker must brute force is too small.

Where can we get more entropy? (*Without* requiring a protocol change.)

16 bits	16 bits	
SR <i>C</i> =53	DST=53	
checksum	length	
Identification	Flags	
# Questions	# Answer RRs	
# Authority RRs	# Additional RRs	
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Answers (variable # of resource records)		
Authority (variable # of resource records)		
Additional information (variable # of resource records)		

For requestor to receive DNS reply, needs both correct Identification and correct ports.

On a request, DST port = 53. SRC port usually also 53 – but not fundamental, just convenient. Total entropy: 16 bits

, ,		
16 bits	16 bits	
SRC=53	DST=53	
checksum	length	
Identification	Flags	
# Questions	# Answer RRs	
# Authority RRs	# Additional RRs	
Questions (variable # of resource records)		
Answers (variable # of resource records)		
Authority (variable # of resource records)		
Additional information (variable # of resource records)		

"Fix": client uses random source port ⇒ attacker doesn't know correct dest. port to use in reply

Total entropy: ? bits

16 bits	16 bits	
SRC=53	DST=rnd	
checksum	length	
Identification	Flags	
# Questions	# Answer RRs	
# Authority RRs	# Additional RRs	
Questions (variable # of resource records)		
Answers (variable # of resource records)		
Authority (variable # of resource records)		
Additional information (variable # of resource records)		

"Fix": client uses random source port ⇒ attacker doesn't know correct dest. port to use in reply

32 bits of entropy makes it orders of magnitude harder for attacker to guess all the necessary fields and dupe victim into accepting spoof response.

This is what primarily "secures" DNS against blind spoofing today.

Total entropy: 32 bits

16 bits	16 bits
SRC=53	DST=rnd
checksum	length
Identification	Flags
# Questions	# Answer RRs
# Authority RRs	# Additional RRs
Questions (variable # of resource records)	
Answers (variable # of resource records)	
Authority (variable # of resource records)	
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