



# How to Securely Operate an IPv6 Network

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October 22, 2013

**Operational Security Considerations for IPv6 Networks**  
**draft-ietf-opsec-v6-04**

# Foreword

- All topics common to IPv4/IPv6 are unchanged:
  - Physical security
  - Role Base Access Control
  - ....
- I took the liberty to include Cisco configuration (as it may be useful for you) but I will not detail them

# Agenda

- Management Plane
- Control Plane
  - Routing Information
  - Neighbor Discovery
  - Control Plane Protection
- Data Plane
  - Anti-spoofing
  - Access Control List
  - Tunnel loops
- Telemetry
- Forensic
- Summary





# Management Plane

# Management over IPv6

- SSH, syslog, SNMP, NetFlow, RADIUS all work over IPv6
- Dual-stack management plane
  - More resilient: works even if one IP version is down
  - More exposed: can be attacked over IPv4 and IPv6
- As usual, infrastructure ACL is your friend (more to come) as well as out-of-band management
- So, protect all SNMP, SSH access from untrusted interfaces



## Control Plane: Routing Protocols

# Preventing IPv6 Routing Attacks

## Protocol Authentication

- BGP, IS-IS, EIGRP no change:
  - An MD5 authentication of the routing update
- OSPFv3 originally has changed and pulled MD5 authentication from the protocol and instead rely on transport mode IPsec (for authentication and confidentiality)
  - But see RFC 6506 (*not yet widely implemented*)
- IPv6 routing attack best practices
  - Use traditional authentication mechanisms on BGP and IS-IS
  - **Use IPsec** to secure protocols such as OSPFv3

# BGP Route Filters



For Your  
Reference

- Pretty obvious for customer links
- For peering, a relaxed one

```
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX deny 3ffe::/16 le 128
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX deny 2001:db8::/32 le 128
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX permit 2001::/32
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX deny 2001::/32 le 128
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX permit 2002::/16
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX deny 2002::/16 le 128
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX deny 0000::/8 le 128
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX deny fe00::/9 le 128
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX deny ff00::/8 le 128
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX permit 2000::/3 le 48
ipv6 prefix-list RELAX deny 0::/0 le 128
```

Source: <http://www.space.net/~gert/RIPE/ipv6-filters.html>



# Link-Local Addresses vs. Global Addresses

- Link-Local addresses, fe80::/10, (LLA) are isolated
  - Cannot reach outside of the link
  - **Cannot be reached from outside of the link 😊**
  - LLA can be configured statically (not the EUI-64 default) to avoid changing neighbor statements when changing MAC

```
interface FastEthernet 0/0  
  
    ipv6 address fe80::1/64 link-local
```

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**Using Only Link-Local Addressing Inside an IPv6 Network**  
**draft-ietf-opsec-lla-only-06**

# LLA-Only Pros and Cons

## Benefits:

- no remote attack against your infrastructure links: implicit infrastructure ACL\*
- Smaller routing table (links do not appear)
- Simpler configuration
- Easier to renumber

## Special case for IXP:

- Usually a specific /64 which is not routed => uRPF will drop ICMP generated (PMTUd) by routers in the IXP
- LLA-only on the IXP interfaces => ICMP are generated from a non IXP interface

## Cons:

- need to provision loopback for:
  - ICMP for Traceroute
  - ICMP for PMTUD
  - SNMP/NetFlow/syslog/ ...
- No interface ping

*\*: loopbacks are still routable/reachable*

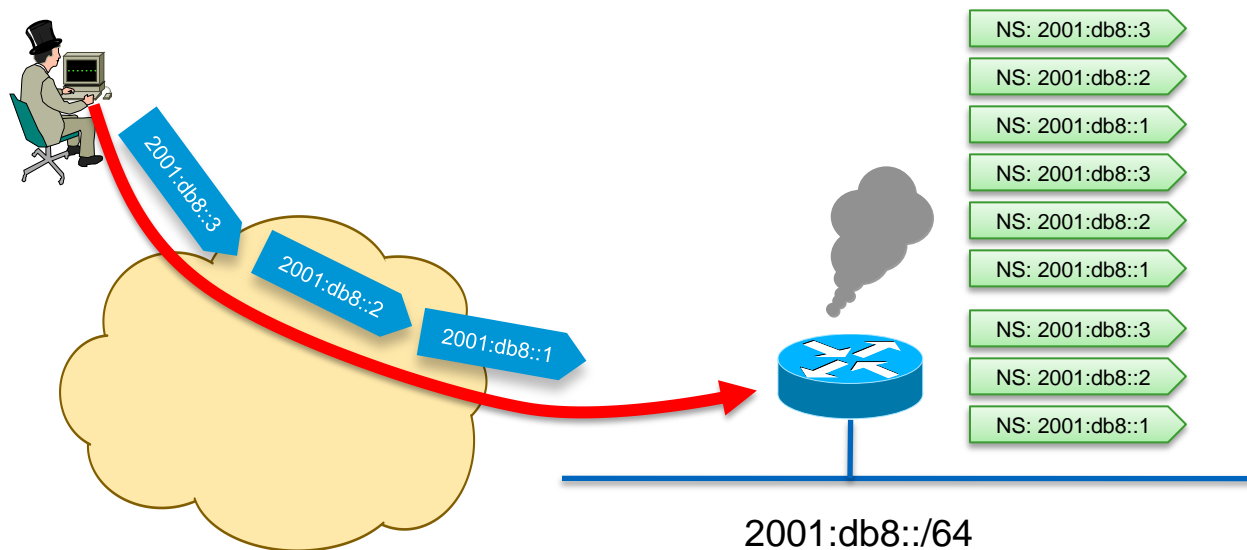


## Control Plane: Neighbor Discovery

# Scanning Made Bad for CPU

## Remote Neighbor Cache Exhaustion RFC 6583

- Potential router CPU/memory attacks if aggressive scanning
  - Router will do Neighbor Discovery... And waste CPU and memory
- **Local router** DoS with NS/RS/...

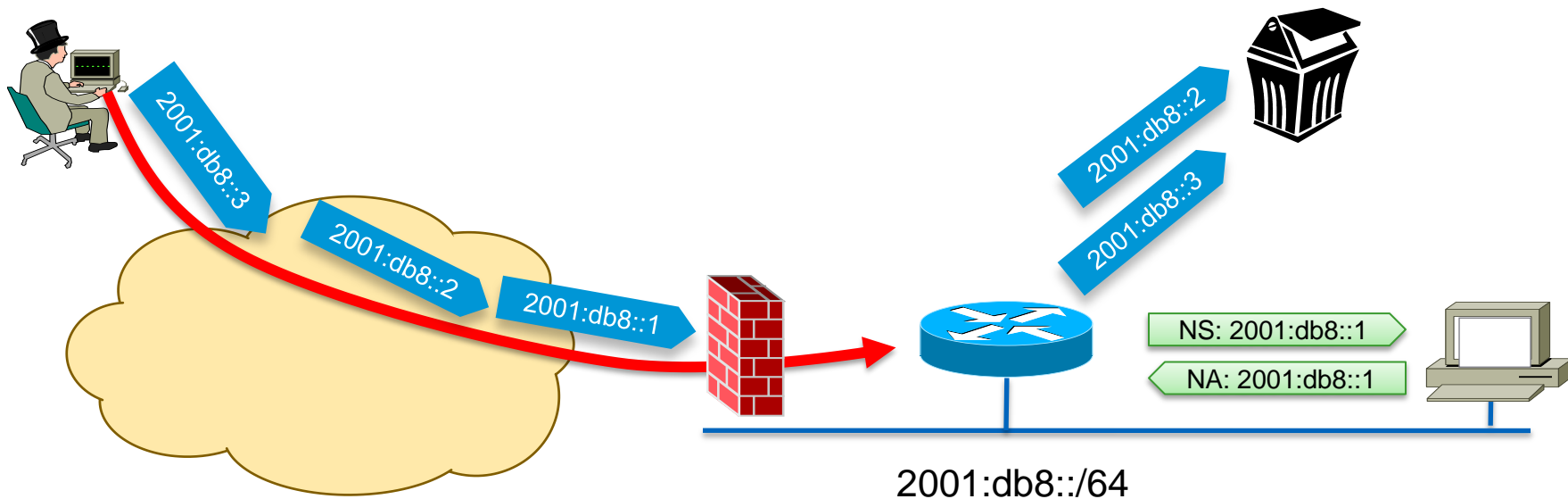


# Mitigating Remote Neighbor Cache Exhaustion

- Built-in rate limiter with options to tune it
  - Since 15.1(3)T: `ipv6 nd cache interface-limit`
  - Or IOS-XE 2.6: `ipv6 nd resolution data limit`
  - **Destination-guard** is part of First Hop Security phase 3
  - Priority given to refresh existing entries vs. discovering new ones (RFC 6583)
- Using a /64 on **point-to-point links** => a lot of addresses to scan!
  - Using /127 could help (RFC 6164)
- **Internet edge/presence**: a target of choice
  - Ingress ACL permitting traffic to specific statically configured (virtual) IPv6 addresses only
- Using infrastructure ACL prevents this scanning
  - iACL: edge ACL denying packets addressed to your routers
  - Easy with IPv6 because new addressing scheme can be done 😊

# Simple Fix for Remote Neighbor Cache Exhaustion

- Ingress ACL allowing only valid destination and dropping the rest
- NDP cache & process are safe
- Requires DHCP or static configuration of hosts



# ARP Spoofing is now NDP Spoofing: Threats

- ARP is replaced by Neighbor Discovery Protocol
  - Nothing authenticated
  - Static entries overwritten by dynamic ones
- Stateless Address Autoconfiguration
  - rogue RA (malicious or not)
  - All nodes badly configured
    - DoS
    - Traffic interception (Man In the Middle Attack)
- Attack tools exist (from THC – The Hacker Choice)
  - Parasit6
  - Fakerouter6
  - ...

**The Hacker's Choice**



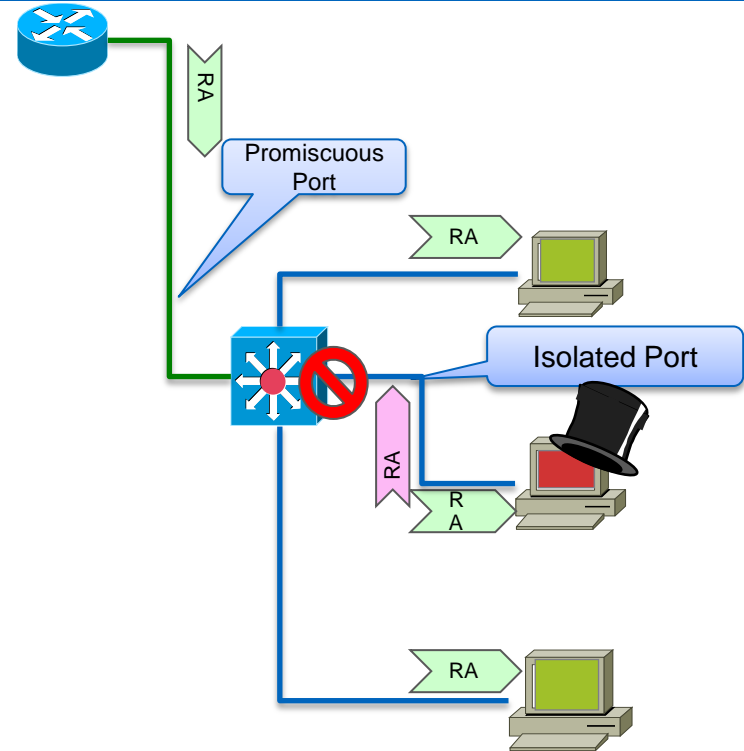
# ARP Spoofing is now NDP Spoofing: Mitigation

- **GOOD NEWS:** dynamic ARP inspection for IPv6 is available
  - First phase (Port ACL & RA Guard) available since Summer 2010
  - Second phase (NDP & DHCP snooping) starting to be available since Summer 2011
  - [http://www.cisco.com/en/US/docs/ios/ipv6/configuration/guide/ip6-first\\_hop\\_security.html](http://www.cisco.com/en/US/docs/ios/ipv6/configuration/guide/ip6-first_hop_security.html)
- **(Kind of ) GOOD NEWS:** Secure Neighbor Discovery
  - SeND = NDP + crypto
  - IOS 12.4(24)T But not in Windows Vista, 2008 and 7, Mac OS/X, iOS, Android
- **Other GOOD NEWS:**
  - Private VLAN works with IPv6
  - Port security works with IPv6
  - IEEE 801.X works with IPv6 (except downloadable ACL)



# Mitigating Rogue RA: Host Isolation

- Prevent Node-Node Layer-2 communication by using:
  - Private VLANs (PVLAN) where nodes (isolated port) can only contact the official router (promiscuous port)
  - WLAN in 'AP Isolation Mode'
  - 1 VLAN per host (SP access network with Broadband Network Gateway)
- Link-local multicast (RA, DHCP request, etc) sent only to the local official router: no harm
- Can break DAD
  - Advertise the SLAAC prefix without the on-link bit to force router to do 'proxy-ND'



# First Hop Security: RAguard since 2010

## RFC 6105

- **Port ACL** blocks all ICMPv6 RA from hosts

```
interface FastEthernet0/2
  ipv6 traffic-filter ACCESS_PORT in
  access-group mode prefer port
```

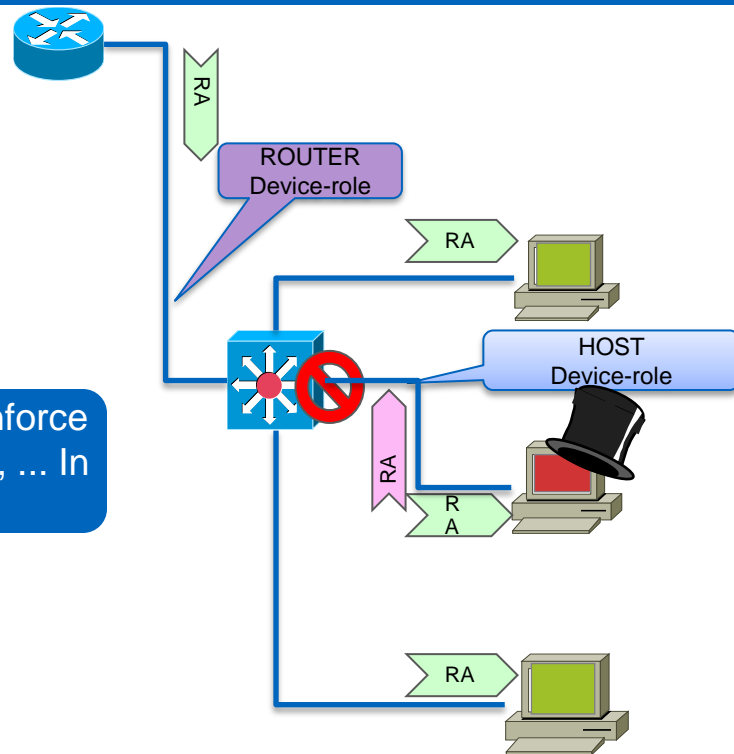
- **RA-guard lite** (12.2(33)SX14 & 12.2(54)SG ): also dropping all RA received on this port

```
interface FastEthernet0/2
  ipv6 nd raguard
  access-group mode prefer port
```

- **RA-guard** (12.2(50)SY, 15.0(2)SE)

```
ipv6 nd raguard policy HOST device-role host
ipv6 nd raguard policy ROUTER device-role router
ipv6 nd raguard attach-policy HOST vlan 100
interface FastEthernet0/0
  ipv6 nd raguard attach-policy ROUTER
```

Can also enforce  
MTU, prefix, ... In  
RA





# Control Plane Protection

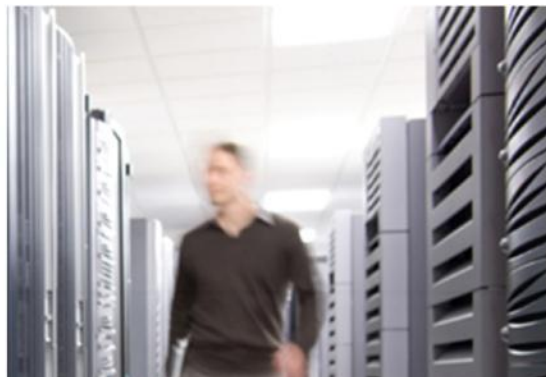
# Control Plane Policing for IPv6

## Protecting the Router CPU



For Your  
Reference

- Against DoS with NDP, Hop-by-Hop, Hop Limit Expiration...
- See also RFC 6192

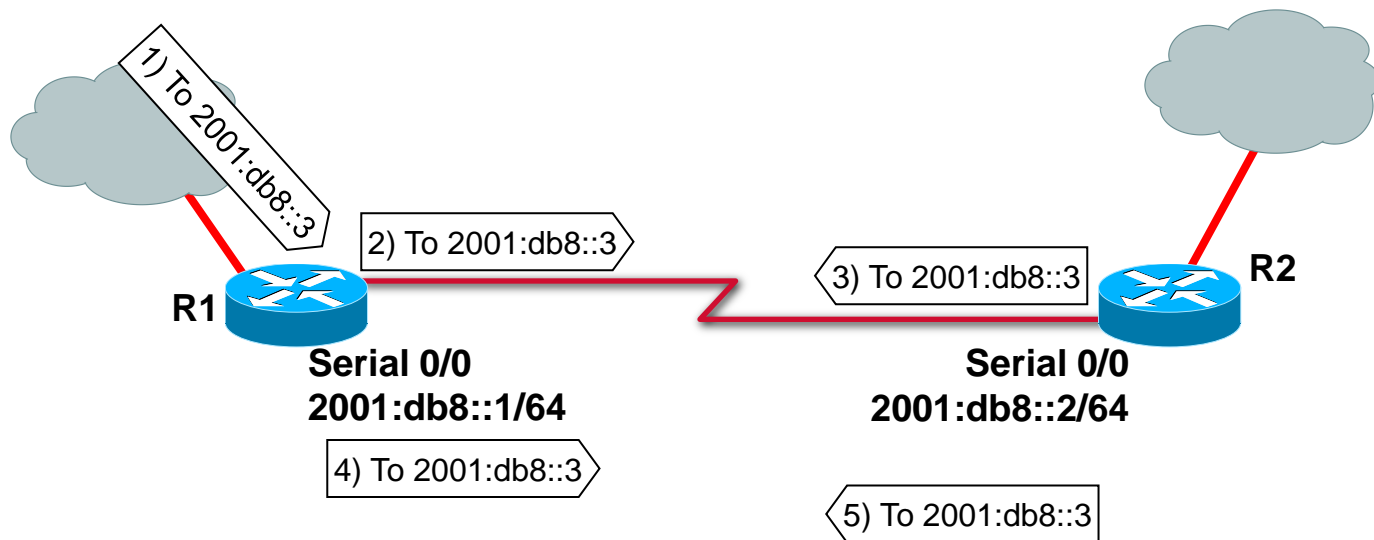


Data Plane

# DoS Example

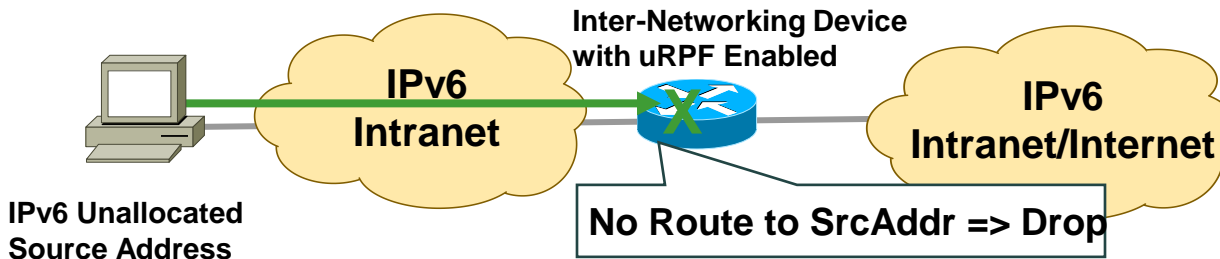
## Ping-Pong over Physical Point-to-Point

- Same as in IPv4, on real P2P without NDP, if not for me, then send it on the other side... Could produce looping traffic
- Classic IOS and IOS-XE platforms implement RFC 4443 **so this is not a threat**
  - Except on 76xx see CSCtg00387 (tunnels) and few others
  - IOS-XR see CSCsu62728
  - **Else use /127 on P2P link** (see also RFC 6164)
  - Or use infrastructure ACL or only link-local addresses



# IPv6 Bogon and Anti-Spoofing Filtering

- IPv6 nowadays has its bogons:
  - <http://www.team-cymru.org/Services/Bogons/fullbogons-ipv6.txt>
- Every network should **implement two forms of anti-spoofing** protections:
  - Prevent spoofed addresses from entering the network
  - Prevent the origination of packets containing spoofed source addresses
- Anti-spoofing in IPv6 same as IPv4
  - => Same technique for single-homed edge= uRPF



# Bogons Filtering

- Detailed & updated list at:
  - <http://www.team-cymru.org/Services/Bogons/fullbogons-ipv6.txt>
- Or simpler but more relaxed

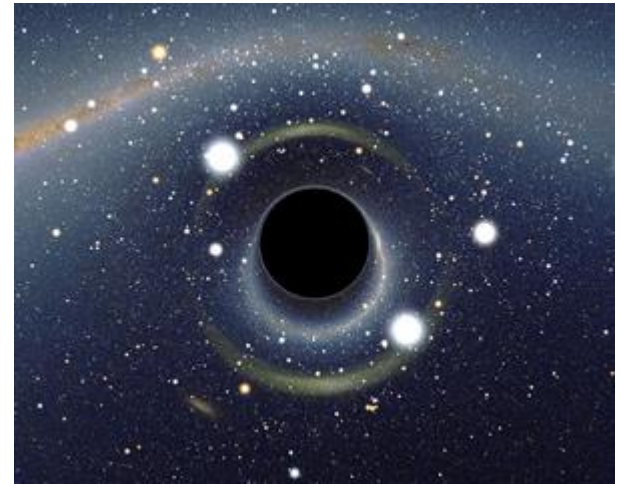
```
ipv6 access-list NO_BOGONS
  remark Always permit ICMP unreachable (Path MTU Discovery & co)
  permit icmp any any unreachable
  remark Permit only large prefix blocks from IANA
  permit ip 2001::/16 any
  permit ip 2002::/16 any
  permit ip 2003::/18 any
  permit ip 2400::/12 any
  permit ip 2600::/10 any
  permit ip 2800::/12 any
  permit ip 2a00::/12 any
  permit ip 2c00::/12 any
  Remark implicit deny at the end (but see later)
```

Source: <http://www.iana.org/assignments/ipv6-unicast-address-assignments/ipv6-unicast-address-assignments.xml>



# Remote Triggered Black Hole

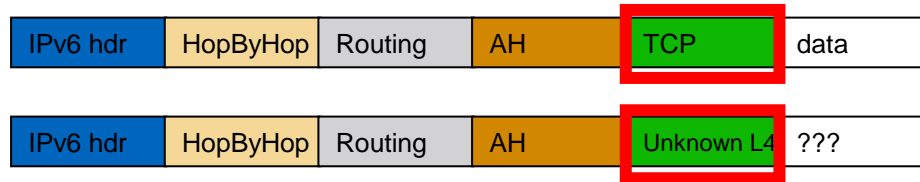
- RFC 5635 RTBH is easy in IPv6 as in IPv4
  - uRPF is also your friend for blackholing a source
  - RFC 6666 has a specific discard prefix
    - 100::/64
- 
- [http://www.cisco.com/web/about/security/intelligence/ipv6\\_rtbh.html](http://www.cisco.com/web/about/security/intelligence/ipv6_rtbh.html)



Source: Wikipedia Commons

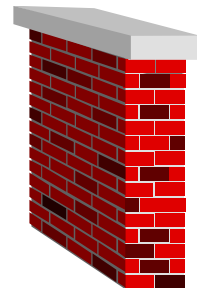
# Parsing the Extension Header Chain

- Finding the layer 4 information is not trivial in IPv6
  - Skip all known extension header
  - Until either known layer 4 header found => **MATCH**
  - Or unknown extension header/layer 4 header found... => **NO MATCH**



# IOS IPv6 Extended ACL

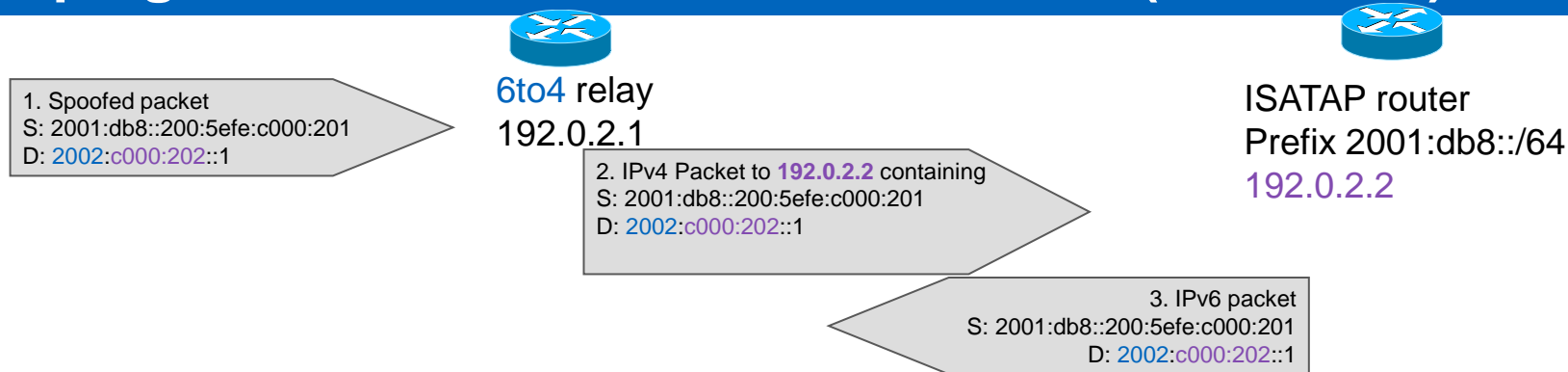
- Can match on
  - Upper layers: TCP, UDP, SCTP port numbers, ICMPv6 code and type
  - TCP flags SYN, ACK, FIN, PUSH, URG, RST
  - Traffic class (only six bits/8) = DSCP, Flow label (0-0xFFFFF)
- IPv6 extension header
  - **routing** matches any RH, **routing-type** matches specific RH
  - **mobility** matches any MH, **mobility-type** matches specific MH
  - **dest-option** matches any destination options
  - **auth** matches AH
  - **hbh** matches hop-by-hop (since 15.2(3)T)
- **fragments** keyword matches
  - Non-initial fragments
- **undetermined-transport** keyword does not match if
  - TCP/UDP/SCTP and ports are in the fragment
  - ICMP and type and code are in the fragment
  - Everything else matches (including OSPFv3, ...)
  - Only for deny ACE



CRITICAL without this, there is a way to bypass STATELESS ACL!

*Check your platform & release as your mileage can vary...*

# Looping Attack Between 6to4 and ISATAP (RFC 6324)



*Repeat until Hop Limit == 0*

- Root cause
  - Same IPv4 encapsulation (protocol 41)
  - Different ways to embed IPv4 address in the IPv6 address
- ISATAP router:
  - accepts 6to4 IPv4 packets
  - Can forward the inside IPv6 packet back to 6to4 relay
- Symmetric looping attack exists

## Mitigation:

- Easy on ISATAP routers: deny packets whose IPv6 is its 6to4
- Less easy on 6to4 relay: block all ISATAP-like local address?
- Good news: not so many open ISATAP routers on the Internet
- Do not announce the 6to4 relay address outside of your AS and accepts protocol-41 packets only from your AS

# 6rd Relay Security Issues

- 6rd is more constrained than 6to4, hence more secure
- IPv4 ACL (or IPv4 routing) can limit the 6rd packets to the 6rd domain within the ISP
  - No more open relay
  - No more looping attacks

IPv6 security is similar to IPv4 security  
No excuse to operate an insecure IPv6 network



Telemetry

# Available Tools

- Usually IPv4 telemetry is available
- **SNMP** MIB
  - Not always available yet on Cisco gears
- **Flexible Netflow** for IPv6
  - Available in : 12.4(20)T, 12.2(33)SRE
  - Public domain tools: nfsen, nfdump, nfcpad...

# IPv6 MIB Implementation

	IP FWD (ROUTES)	IP	ICMP	TCP	UDP
Original IPv4 only	2096	2011		2012	2013
IPv6 only	2465		2466	2452	2454
Protocol Version Independent (PVI)	rfc2096-update = 4292	rfc2011-update = 4293 = IP-MIB			
				rfc2012-update = 4022	rfc2013-update = 4113

- IPv4/IPv6 stats can be monitored from CLI “show interface accounting” on most platforms
- RFC 4292 and 4293 – Interface Stats table are added, also required HW support
- Tunnel MIB (RFC 4087)



# Using SNMP to Read Interfaces Traffic



For Your  
Reference

```
evyncke@charly:~$ snmpwalk -c secret -v 1 udp6:[2001:db8::1] -Cw 70 -m IP-MIB  
ipNetToPhysicalPhysAddress
```

SNMP table: IP-MIB::ipIfStatsTable

index	ipIfStatsInReceives	ipIfStatsHCInReceives	ipIfStatsInOctets
ipv4.1	683929	?	55054803
ipv4.2	1123281	?	107467461
ipv6.1	152612	?	17261398
ipv6.2	15083935	?	2131680450

```
evyncke@charly:~$ snmpwalk -c secret -v 1 udp6:[2001:db8::1] -Cw 70 ifTabl
```

SNMP table: IF-MIB::ifTable

index	ifIndex	ifDescr	ifType	ifMtu	ifSpeed
1	1	FastEthernet0/0	ethernetCsmacd	1500	100000000
2	2	FastEthernet0/1	ethernetCsmacd	1500	100000000

# Using SNMP to Read IPv4/IPv6 Neighbors Cache



For Your  
Reference

```
evyncke@charly:~$ snmpwalk -c secret -v 1 udp6:[2001:db8::1] -m IP-MIB  
ipNetToPhysicalPhysAddress
```

```
IP-MIB::ipNetToPhysicalPhysAddress.1.ipv4."192.168.0.2" = STRING: 0:13:c4:43:cf:e
```

```
IP-MIB::ipNetToPhysicalPhysAddress.1.ipv4."192.168.0.3" = STRING: 0:23:48:2f:93:24
```

```
IP-MIB::ipNetToPhysicalPhysAddress.1.ipv4."192.168.0.4" = STRING: 0:80:c8:e0:d4:be
```

```
...
```

```
IP-
```

```
MIB::ipNetToPhysicalPhysAddress.2.ipv6."2a:02:05:78:85:00:01:01:02:07:e9:ff:fe:f2:a0:c6"  
" = STRING: 0:7:e9:f2:a0:c6
```

```
IP-
```

```
MIB::ipNetToPhysicalPhysAddress.2.ipv6."2a:02:05:78:85:00:01:01:02:20:4a:ff:fe:bf:ff:5f"  
" = STRING: 0:20:4a:bf:ff:5f
```

```
IP-
```

```
MIB::ipNetToPhysicalPhysAddress.2.ipv6."2a:02:05:78:85:00:01:01:30:56:da:9d:23:91:5e:ea"  
" = STRING: 78:ca:39:e2:43:3
```

```
...
```

```
evyncke@charly:~$ snmptable -c secret -v 1 udp6:[2001:db8::1] -Ci -m IP-MIB  
ipNetToPhysicalTable
```

# Flexible Flow Record: IPv6 Key Fields



For Your  
Reference

IPv6	
IP (Source or Destination)	Payload Size
Prefix (Source or Destination)	Packet Section (Header)
Mask (Source or Destination)	Packet Section (Payload)
Minimum-Mask (Source or Destination)	DSCP
Protocol	Extension
Traffic Class	Hop-Limit
Flow Label	Length
Option Header	Next-header
Header Length	Version
Payload Length	

Routing
Destination AS
Peer AS
Traffic Index
Forwarding Status
Is-Multicast
IGP Next Hop
BGP Next Hop

Flow
Sampler ID
Direction

Interface
Input
Output

Transport	
Destination Port	TCP Flag: ACK
Source Port	TCP Flag: CWR
ICMP Code	TCP Flag: ECE
ICMP Type	TCP Flag: FIN
IGMP Type	TCP Flag: PSH
TCP ACK Number	TCP Flag: RST
TCP Header Length	TCP Flag: SYN
TCP Sequence Number	TCP Flag: URG
TCP Window-Size	UDP Message Length
TCP Source Port	UDP Source Port
TCP Destination Port	UDP Destination Port
TCP Urgent Pointer	

# Flexible Flow Record: IPv6 Extension Header Map

Bits 11-31	Bit 10	Bit 9	Bit 8	Bit 7	Bit 6	Bit 5	Bit 4	Bit 3	Bit 2	Bit 1	Bit 0
Res	ESP	AH	PAY	DST	HOP	Res	UNK	FRA0	RH	FRA1	Res

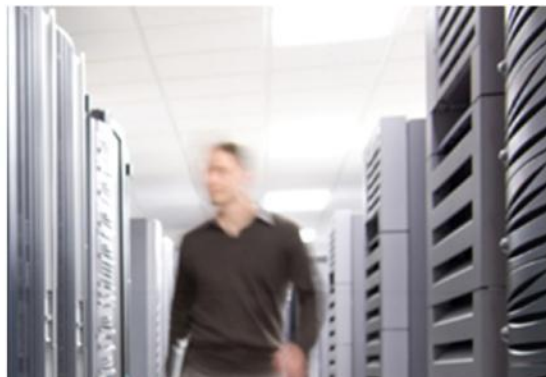
- FRA1: Fragment header – not first fragment
- RH: Routing header
- FRA0: Fragment header – First fragment
- UNK: Unknown Layer 4 header (compressed, encrypted, not supported)
- HOP: Hop-by-hop extension header
- DST: Destination Options extension header
- PAY: Payload compression header
- AH: Authentication header
- ESP: Encapsulating Security Payload header
- Res: Reserved

# Netflow Reverse Usage

- Scanning an IPv6 network is impossible (address space too large)
- **How can we run a security audit?**
- Easy
  - Get all IPv6 addresses from Netflow
  - Note: scanning link-local addresses requires layer-2 adjacency, i.e.
    - Ping6 ff02::1

# Vulnerability Scanning in a Dual-Stack World

- Finding all hosts:
  - Address enumeration does not work for IPv6
  - Need to rely on DNS or NDP caches or NetFlow
- Vulnerability scanning
  - IPv4 global address, IPv6 global address(es) (if any), IPv6 link-local address
  - Some services are single stack only (currently mostly IPv4 but who knows...)
  - Personal firewall rules could be different between IPv4/IPv6
- **IPv6 vulnerability scanning MUST be done for IPv4 & IPv6 even in an IPv4-only network**
  - IPv6 link-local addresses are active by default



Forensic

# Multiple Facets to IPv6 Addresses

- Every host can have multiple IPv6 addresses simultaneously
  - Need to do correlation!
  - Alas, no Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) supports IPv6
  - Usually, a customer is identified by its /48 ☺
- Every IPv6 address can be written in multiple ways
  - 2001:0DB8:0BAD::0DAD
  - 2001:DB8:BAD:0:0:0:0:DAD
  - 2001:db8:bad::dad (this is the canonical RFC 5952 format)
  - => Grep cannot be used anymore to sieve log files...



# Perl Grep6



For Your  
Reference

```
#!/usr/bin/perl -w
use strict ;
use Socket ;
use Socket6 ;

my (@words, $word, $binary_address, $address) ;

$address = inet_pton AF_INET6, $ARGV[0] ;
if (! $address) { die "Wrong IPv6 address passed as argument" ; }

## go through the file one line at a time
while (my $line = <STDIN>) {
    @words = split /[ \n\(\)\[\]]/, $line ;
    foreach $word (@words) {
        $binary_address = inet_pton AF_INET6, $word ;
        if ($binary_address and $binary_address eq $address) {
            print $line ;
            next ;
        }
    }
}
```

# How to Find the MAC Address of an IPv6 Address?

- Easy if EUI-64 format as MAC is embedded

– 2001:db8::0226:bbff:fe4e:9434

– (need to toggle bit 0x20 in the first MAC byte = U/L)

– Is

00:26:bb:4e:94:34

# How to Find the MAC Address of an IPv6 Address?

- DHCPv6 address or prefix... the client DHCP Unique ID (DUID) can be
  - MAC address: trivial
  - Time + MAC address: simply take the last 6 bytes
  - Vendor number + any number: no luck... next slide can help
  - No guarantee of course that DUID includes the real MAC address.

```
# show ipv6 dhcp binding
Client: FE80::225:9CFF:FEDC:7548
  DUID: 000100010000000A00259CDC7548
  Username : unassigned
  Interface : FastEthernet0/0
  IA PD: IA ID 0x0000007B, T1 302400, T2 483840
    Prefix: 2001:DB8:612::/48
           preferred lifetime 3600, valid lifetime 3600
           expires at Nov 26 2010 01:22 PM (369)
```

# DHCPv6 in Real Live...

- Not so attractive ☹
- Only supported in Windows Vista, and Windows 7, Max OS/X Lion
  - Not in Linux (default installation), ...
- Windows Vista does not place the used MAC address in DUID but any MAC address of the PC

```
# show ipv6 dhcp binding
Client: FE80::FDFA:CB28:10A9:6DD0
DUID: 0001000110DB0EA6001E33814DEE
Username : unassigned
IA NA: IA ID 0x1000225F, T1 300, T2 480
Address: 2001:DB8::D09A:95CA:6918:967
600 preferred lifetime 600, valid lifetime
seconds) expires at Oct 27 2010 05:02 PM (554
```

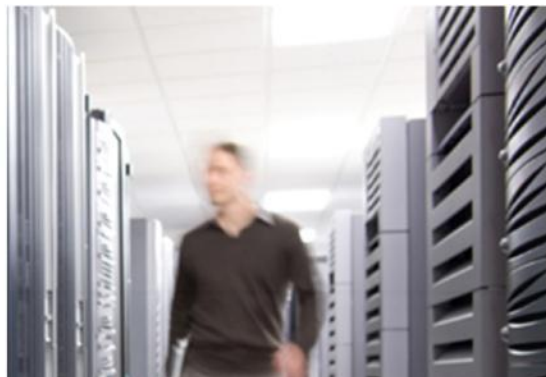
Actual MAC address:  
0022.5f43.6522

# How to Find the MAC Address of an IPv6 Address?

- Last resort... look in the live NDP cache (CLI or SNMP)

```
#show ipv6 neighbors 2001:DB8::6DD0
IPv6 Address      Age Link-layer Addr State Interface
2001:DB8::6DD0    8 0022.5f43.6522 STALE Fa0/1
```

- If no more in cache, then you should have scanned and saved the cache...
- EEM can be your friend
- First-Hop Security phase II can generate a syslog event on each new binding
  - `ipv6 neighbor binding logging`



# Summary

# Our journey...

- Management Plane
- Control Plane
  - Routing Information
  - Neighbor Discovery
  - Control Plane Protection
- Data Plane
  - Anti-spoofing
  - Access Control List
  - Tunnel loops
- Telemetry
- Forensic
- Summary

# Key Takeaway /1

- **Management plane**
  - Protect management plane with access-class
- **Control plane**
  - Authenticate IGP
  - Consider the use of link-local on P-P links?
  - Mitigate rogue-RA with RA-guard
  - Configure control plane policing
- **Data plane**
  - Beware of ping-pong on not /127 real P2P link
  - Apply anti-spoofing, anti-bogons
  - Disable source routing
  - Use ACL where applicable
    - ACL must permit NDP



# Key Takeaway /2

- Telemetry

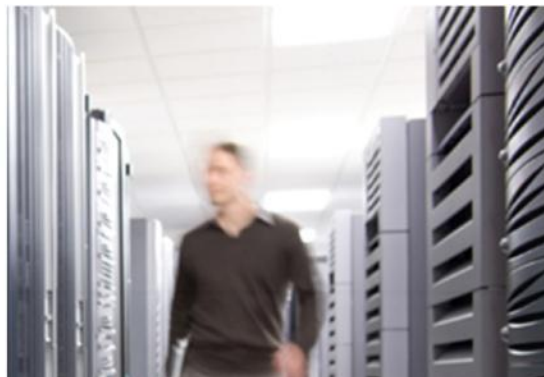
- SNMP MIB and Netflow v9 are your friends
- Netflow can be used for inventory

- Forensic

- Multiple addresses per node, multiple ways to write an IPV6 address
- Finding MAC address from IPv6:
  - EUI-64,
  - DHCPv6 (not so trivial)
  - else periodic NDP cache dumps...

- Lawful Interception

- implemented, missing mediation device



Questions and Answers?



**CISCO** <sup>TM</sup>