Topic

• IP version 6, the future of IPv4 that is now (still) being deployed



Internet Growth

- At least a billion
 Internet hosts and growing ...
- And we're using 32-bit addresses!



Internet Domain Survey Host Count

The End of New IPv4 Addresses

 Now running on leftover blocks held by the regional registries; much tighter allocation policies



IP Version 6 to the Rescue

- Effort started by the IETF in 1994
 - Much larger addresses (128 bits)
 - Many sundry improvements
- Became an IETF standard in 1998
 - Nothing much happened for a decade
 - Hampered by deployment issues, and a lack of adoption incentives
 - Big push ~2011 as exhaustion looms

IPv6 Deployment



IPv6

- Features large addresses
 - 128 bits, most of header
- New notation
 - 8 groups of 4 hex digits (16 bits)
 - Omit leading zeros, groups of zeros



Ex: 2001:0db8:0000:0000:0000:ff00:0042:8329 →

IPv6 Transition

- The Big Problem:
 - How to deploy IPv6?
 - Fundamentally incompatible with IPv4
- Dozens of approaches proposed
 - Dual stack (speak IPv4 and IPv6)
 - Translators (convert packets)
 - Tunnels (carry IPv6 over IPv4) »

Tunneling

- Native IPv6 islands connected via IPv4
 - Tunnel carries IPv6 packets across IPv4 network



Tunneling (3)

• Tunnel acts as a single link across IPv4 network

Difficulty is to set up tunnel endpoints and routing



Layering Review

- Remember how layering is meant to work?
 - "Routers don't look beyond the IP header." Well ...



Middleboxes

- Sit "inside the network" but perform "more than IP" processing on packets to add new functionality
 - NAT box, Firewall / Intrusion Detection System



Middleboxes (2)

- Advantages
 - A possible rapid deployment path when there is no other option
 - Control over many hosts (IT)
- Disadvantages
 - Breaking layering interferes with connectivity; strange side effects
 - Poor vantage point for many tasks

NAT (Network Address Translation) Box

- NAT box connects an internal network to an external network
 - Many internal hosts are connected using few external addresses
 - Middlebox that "translates addresses"
- Motivated by IP address scarcity
 Controversial at first, now accepted

NAT (2)

- Common scenario:
 - Home computers use "private" IP addresses
 - NAT (in AP/firewall) connects home to ISP using a single external IP address



How NAT Works

- Keeps an internal/external table
 - Typically uses IP address + TCP port
 - This is address and port translation

What host thinks	What ISP thinks
Internal IP:port	External IP : port
192.168.1.12 : 5523	44.25.80.3 : 1500
192.168.1.13 : 1234	44.25.80.3 : 1501
192.168.2.20 : 1234	44.25.80.3 : 1502

 Need ports to make mapping 1-1 since there are fewer external IPs



How NAT Works (2)

- Internal \rightarrow External:
 - Look up and rewrite Source IP/port



How NAT Works (3)

- External \rightarrow Internal
 - Look up and rewrite Destination IP/port



How NAT Works (4)

- Need to enter translations in the table for it to work
 - Create external name when host makes a TCP connection



NAT Downsides

- Connectivity has been broken!
 - Can only send incoming packets after an outgoing connection is set up
 - Difficult to run servers or peer-to-peer apps (Skype) at home
- Doesn't work so well when there are no connections (UDP apps)
- Breaks apps that unwisely expose their IP addresses (FTP)

NAT Upsides

- Relieves much IP address pressure
 Many home hosts behind NATs
- Easy to deploy
 - Rapidly, and by you alone
- Useful functionality
 - Firewall, helps with privacy
- Kinks will get worked out eventually

 "NAT Traversal" for incoming traffic