

# Can we enforce a Security Policy in an IPv6 World?

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# Security Myths

# IPv6 Myths: Better, Faster, More Secure



Sometimes, newer means better and more secure

Sometimes, experience IS better and safer!



# Reconnaissance in IPv6

## Subnet Size Difference

- Default subnets in IPv6 have  $2^{64}$  addresses  
10 Mpps = more than 50 000 years
- NMAP doesn't even support ping sweeps on IPv6 networks
- But, attackers can still find potential targets:
  - DNS enumeration
  - Log files, connection tables on cracked nodes
  - P2P registration
  - ....



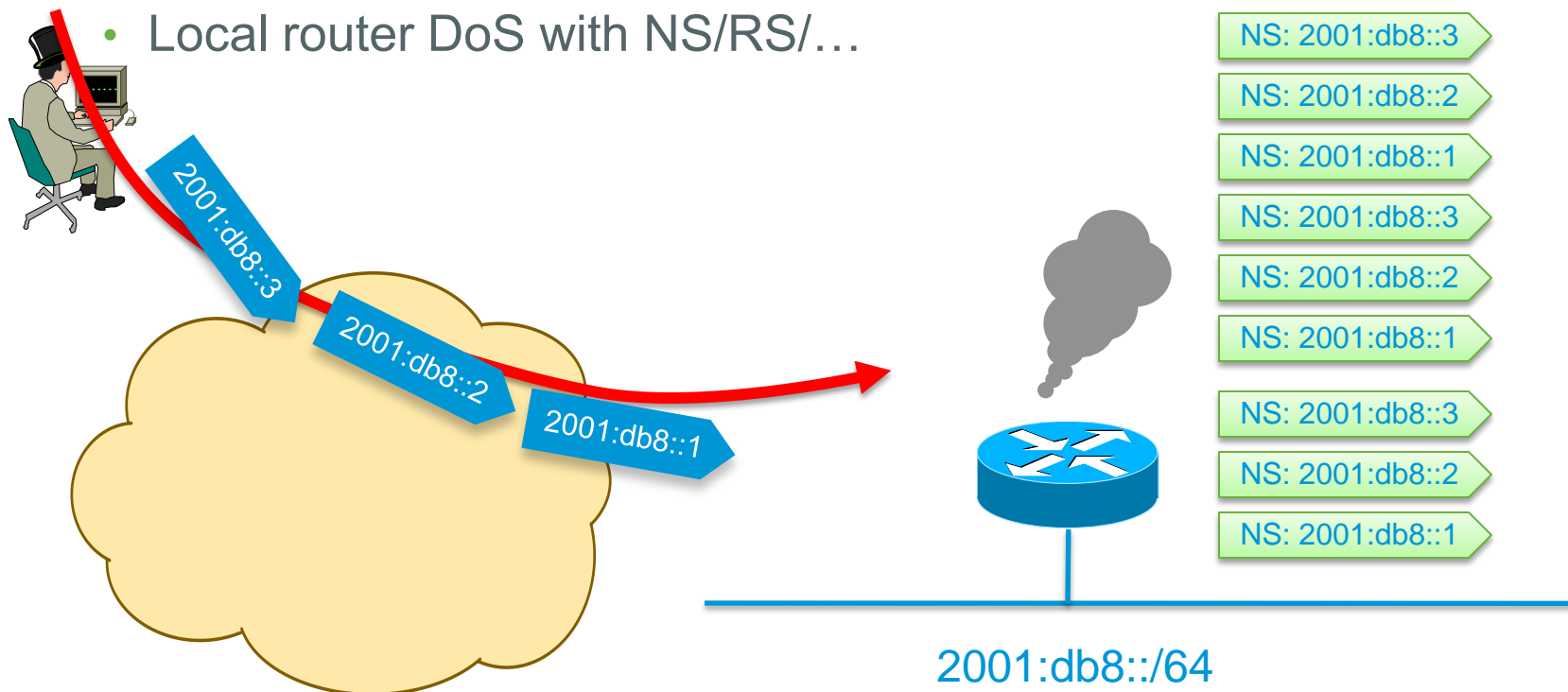
# Scanning Can be Good

- Multiple organizations scan their network for inventory and compliance checks...
- Doable in IPv6 but with different techniques:
  - Gather addresses from Netflow
  - Gather addresses from neighbor cache in all routers (SNMP, ssh, ...)

# Scanning Made Bad for CPU

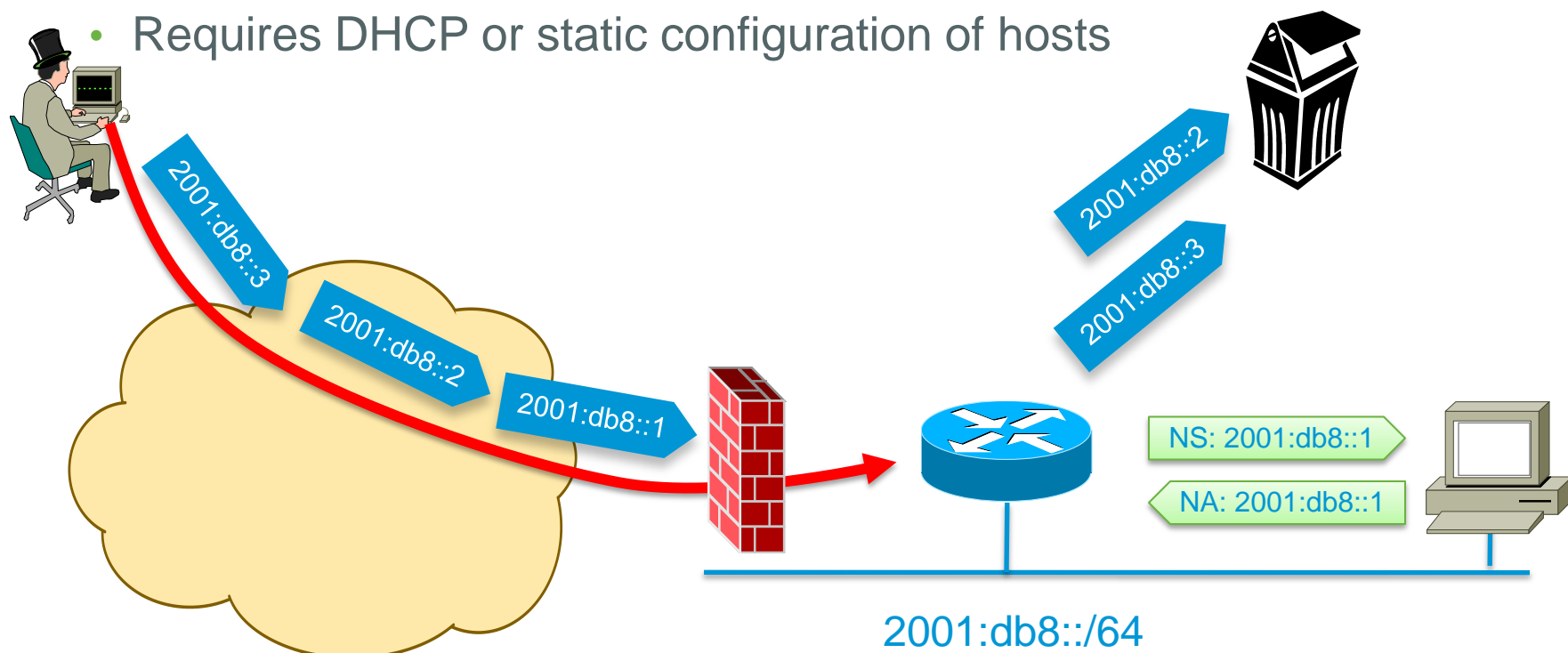
## Remote Neighbor Cache Exhaustion

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



# 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



More complex cases (users LAN) require good implementation

# The IPsec Myth: IPsec End-to-End will Save the World

- “IPv6 mandates the implementation of IPsec”
- Some organizations believe that IPsec should be used to secure all flows...

***“Security expert, W., a professor at the University of <foo> in the UK, told <newspaper> the new protocol system – IPv6 – comes with a security code known as IPSEC that would do away with anonymity on the web.***

***If enacted globally, this would make it easier to catch cyber criminals, Prof W. said.”***



# The IPsec Myth: IPsec End-to-End will Save the World

- IPv6 originally mandated the implementation of IPsec (but not its use)
- Now, RFC 6434 “*IPsec SHOULD be supported by all IPv6 nodes*”
- Some organizations still believe that IPsec should be used to secure all flows...

Interesting **scalability** issue ( $n^2$  issue with IPsec)

Need to **trust endpoints and end-users** because the network cannot secure the traffic: no IPS, no ACL, no firewall

IOS 12.4(20)T can parse the AH

Network **telemetry is blinded**: NetFlow of little use

Network **services hindered**: what about QoS?

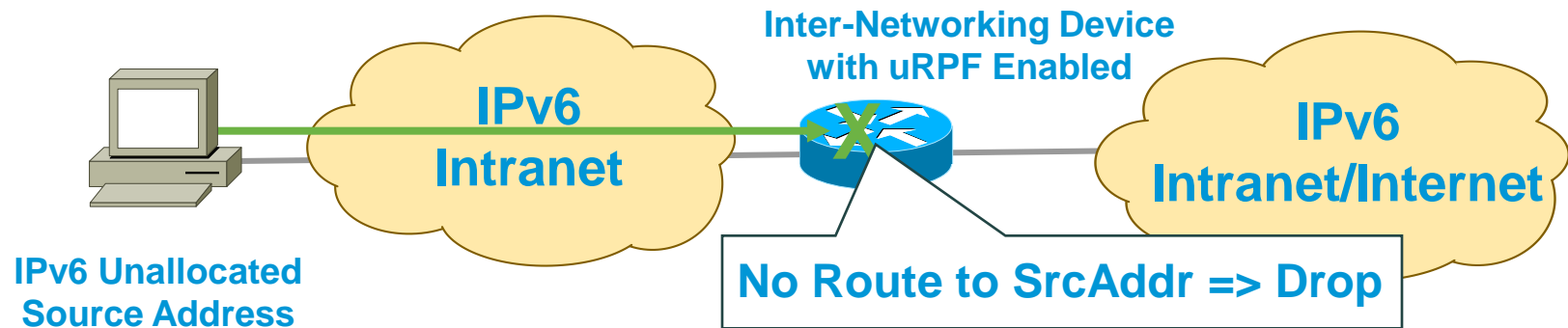
**Recommendation:** do not use IPsec end to end within an administrative domain.

**Suggestion:** Reserve IPsec for residential or hostile environment or high profile targets EXACTLY as for IPv4

# Shared Issues

# IPv6 Bogon and Anti-Spoofing Filtering

- Same as in IPv4
- Bogon filtering (data plane & BGP route map):  
<http://www.cymru.com/Bogons/ipv6.txt>
- Anti-spoofing: uRPF

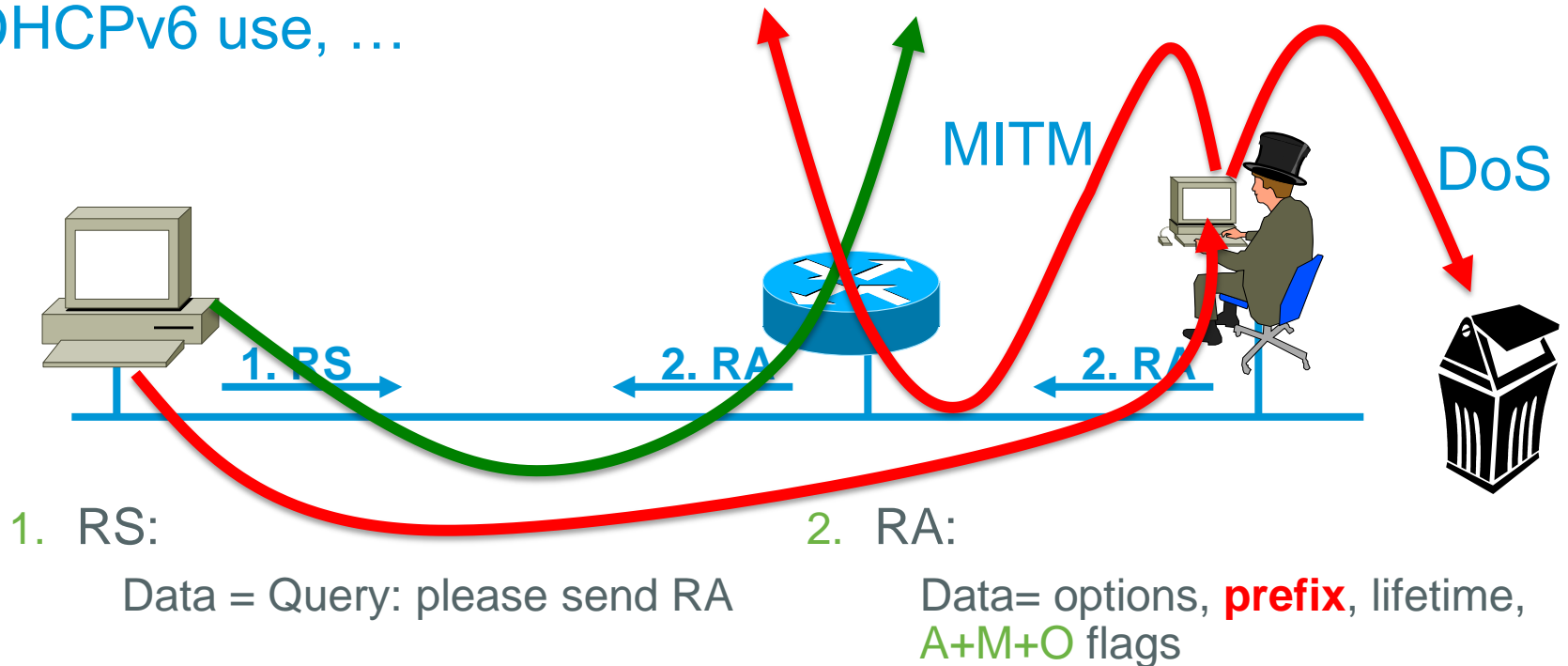


# Rogue Router Advertisement

Router Advertisements contains:

- Prefix to be used by hosts
- Data-link layer address of the router
- Miscellaneous options: MTU, DHCPv6 use, ...

RA w/o Any Authentication Gives Exactly Same Level of Security as DHCPv4 (None)



# Effect of Rogue Router Advertisements

- Devastating:
  - Denial of service: all traffic sent to a black hole
  - Man in the Middle attack: attacker can intercept, listen, modify unprotected data
- Also affects legacy IPv4-only network with IPv6-enabled hosts
- Most of the time from non-malicious users
- Requires layer-2 adjacency (some relief...)
- The major blocking factor for enterprise IPv6 deployment

# 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

- **MOSTLY GOOD NEWS:** dynamic ARP inspection for IPv6 is available (but not yet on all platforms)
  - 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)
- **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
  - Crypto means slower...
- Other **GOOD NEWS:**
  - Private VLAN works with IPv6
  - Port security works with IPv6
  - IEEE 801.X works with IPv6 (except downloadable ACL)

# Securing Link Operations: First Hop Trusted Device

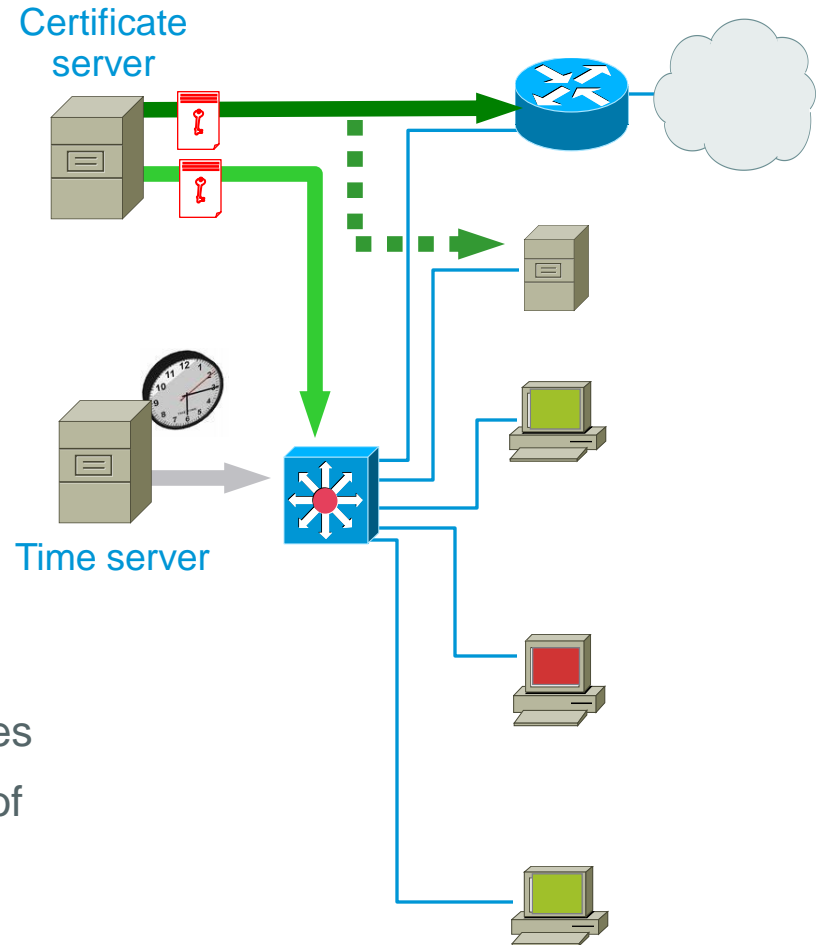
- **Advantages**

- central administration, central operation
- Complexity limited to first hop
- Transitioning lot easier
- Efficient for threats coming from the link
- Efficient for threats coming from outside

- **Disadvantages**

- Applicable only to certain topologies
- Requires first-hop to learn about end-nodes
- First-hop is a bottleneck and single-point of failure

Cisco Short  
Term Roadmap  
IETF SAVI WG





# Mitigating Rogue RA: RFC 6101

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

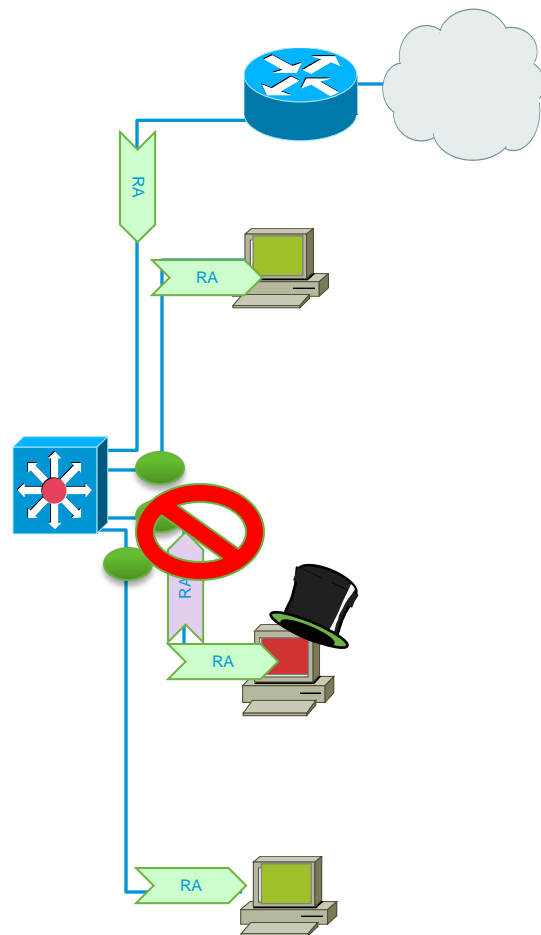
```
interface FastEthernet0/2
  ipv6 traffic-filter ACCESS_PORT in
  access-group mode prefer port
```

- **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)

```
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
```



# IPv6 Attacks with Strong IPv4 Similarities

Good news  
IPv4 IPS signatures can be re-used

- **Application layer attacks**

The majority of vulnerabilities on the Internet today are at the application layer, something that IPsec will do nothing to prevent

- **Rogue devices**

Rogue devices will be as easy to insert into an IPv6 network as in IPv4

- **Man-in-the-Middle Attacks (MITM)**

Without strong mutual authentication, any attacks utilizing MITM will have the same likelihood in IPv6 as in IPv4

- **Flooding**

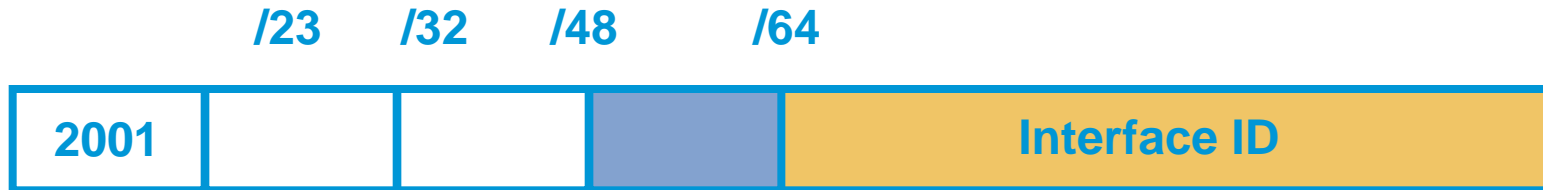
Flooding attacks are identical between IPv4 and IPv6

- **Sniffing**

IPv6 is no more or less likely to fall victim to a sniffing attack than IPv4

# Specific IPv6 Issues

# IPv6 Privacy Extensions (RFC 4941)



- Temporary addresses for IPv6 host client application, e.g. web browser
  - Inhibit device/user tracking
  - Random 64 bit interface ID, then run Duplicate Address Detection before using it
  - Rate of change based on local policy
- Enabled by default in Windows, Android, iOS 4.3, Mac OS/X 10.7

**Recommendation: Use Privacy Extensions for External Communication but not for Internal Networks (Troubleshooting and Attack Trace Back)**

*IETF Work in progress: unpredictable and stable addresses*

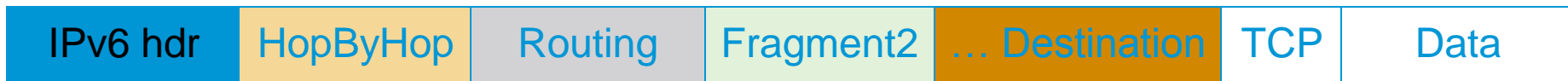
# Parsing the Extension Header Chain

- 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**



# Parsing the Extension Header Chain Fragments and Stateless Filters

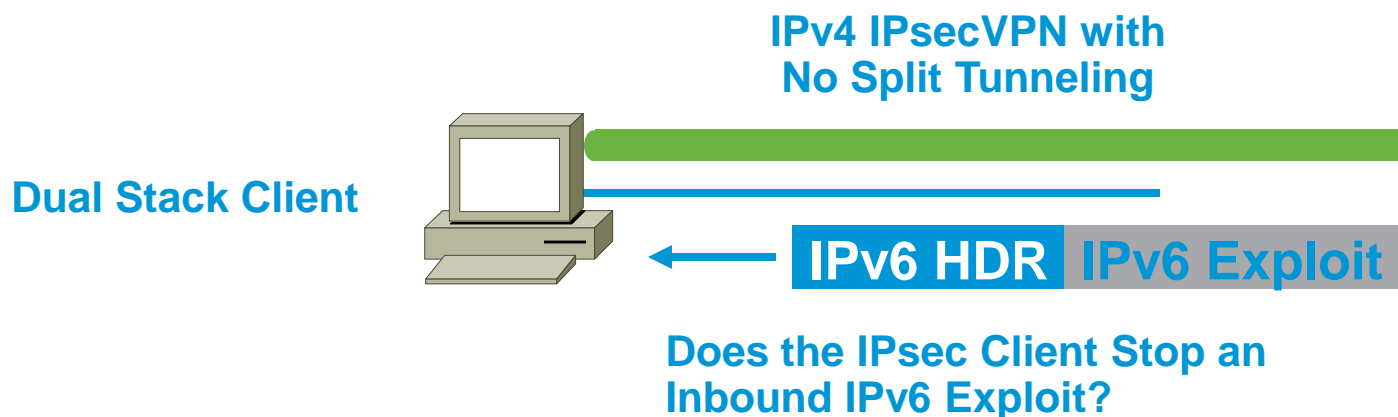
- RFC 3128 is not applicable to IPv6
- Layer 4 information could be in 2<sup>nd</sup> fragment
- But, stateless firewalls could not find it if a previous extension header is fragmented
- **Important to have ACL able to drop those fragmented packets (even if valid)**  
Undetermined-transport in Cisco ACL



Layer 4 header is in 2<sup>nd</sup> fragment,  
Stateless filters have no clue  
where to find it!

# Dual Stack Host Considerations

- Host security on a dual-stack device
  - Applications can be subject to attack on both IPv6 and IPv4
  - Fate sharing**: as secure as the least secure stack...
- Host security controls should block and inspect traffic from both IP versions
  - Host intrusion prevention, personal firewalls, VPN clients, etc.



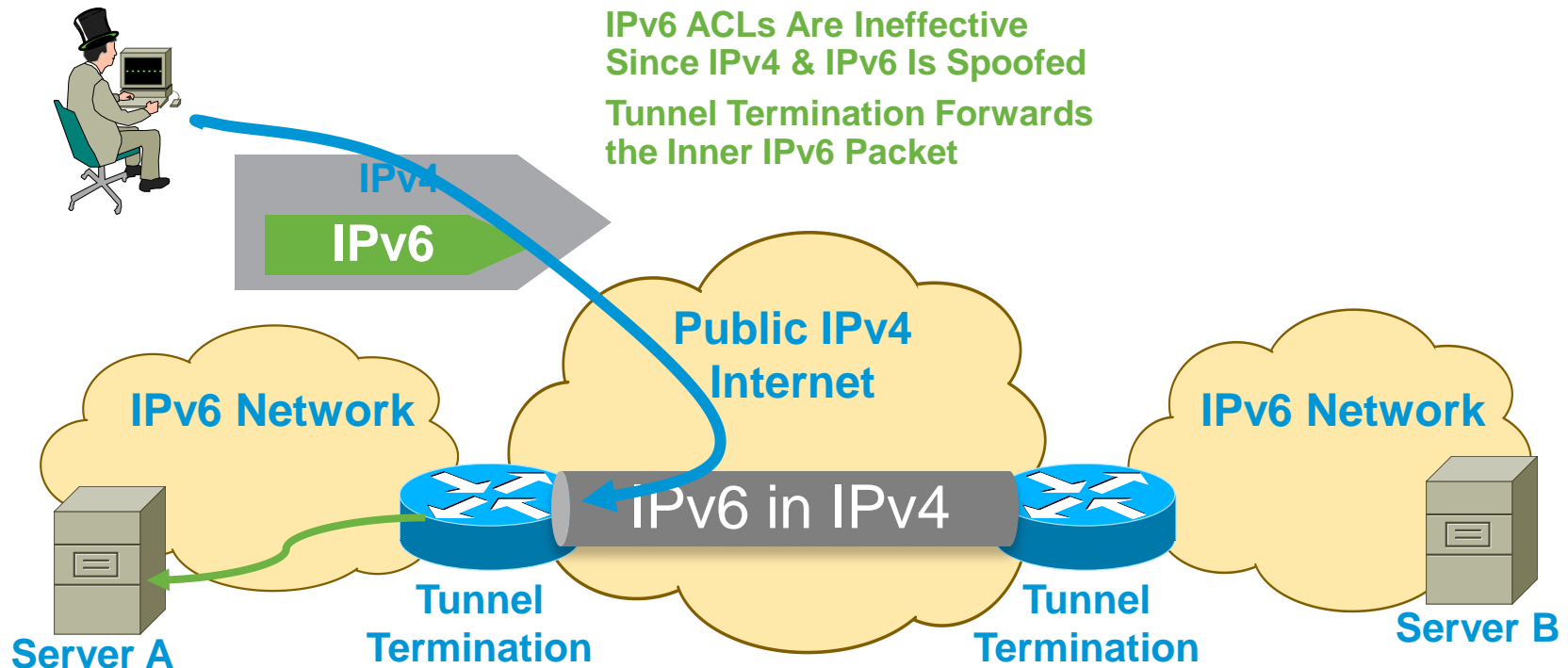
# Dual Stack with Enabled IPv6 by Default

- Your host:
  - IPv4 is protected by your favorite personal firewall...
  - IPv6 is enabled by default (Vista, Linux, Mac OS/X, ...)
- Your network:
  - Does not run IPv6
- Your assumption:
  - I'm safe
- Reality
  - You are **not** safe
  - Attacker sends Router Advertisements
  - Your host configures silently to IPv6
  - You are now under IPv6 attack
- => Probably time to think about IPv6 in your network



# L3-L4 Spoofing in IPv6 When Using IPv6 over IPv4 Tunnels

- Most IPv4/IPv6 transition mechanisms have no authentication built in
- => an IPv4 attacker can inject traffic if spoofing on IPv4 and IPv6 addresses



# TEREDO?

- **Teredo navalis**  
A shipworm drilling holes  
in boat hulls
- **Teredo Microsoftis**  
IPv6 in IPv4 punching holes  
in NAT devices

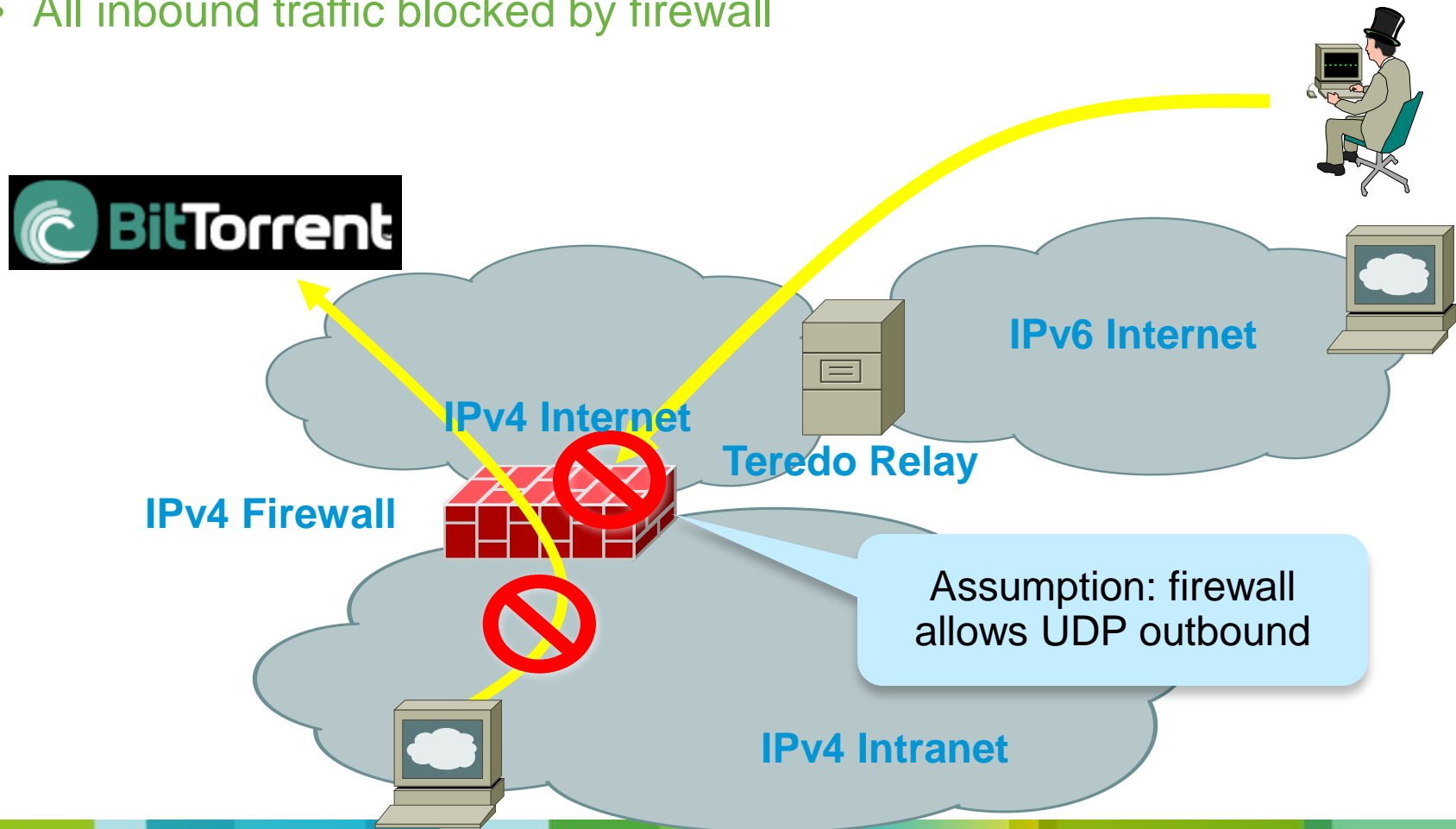


Source: United States Geological Survey

# Teredo Tunnels (1/3)

## Without Teredo: Controls Are in Place

- All outbound traffic inspected: e.g., P2P is blocked
- All inbound traffic blocked by firewall

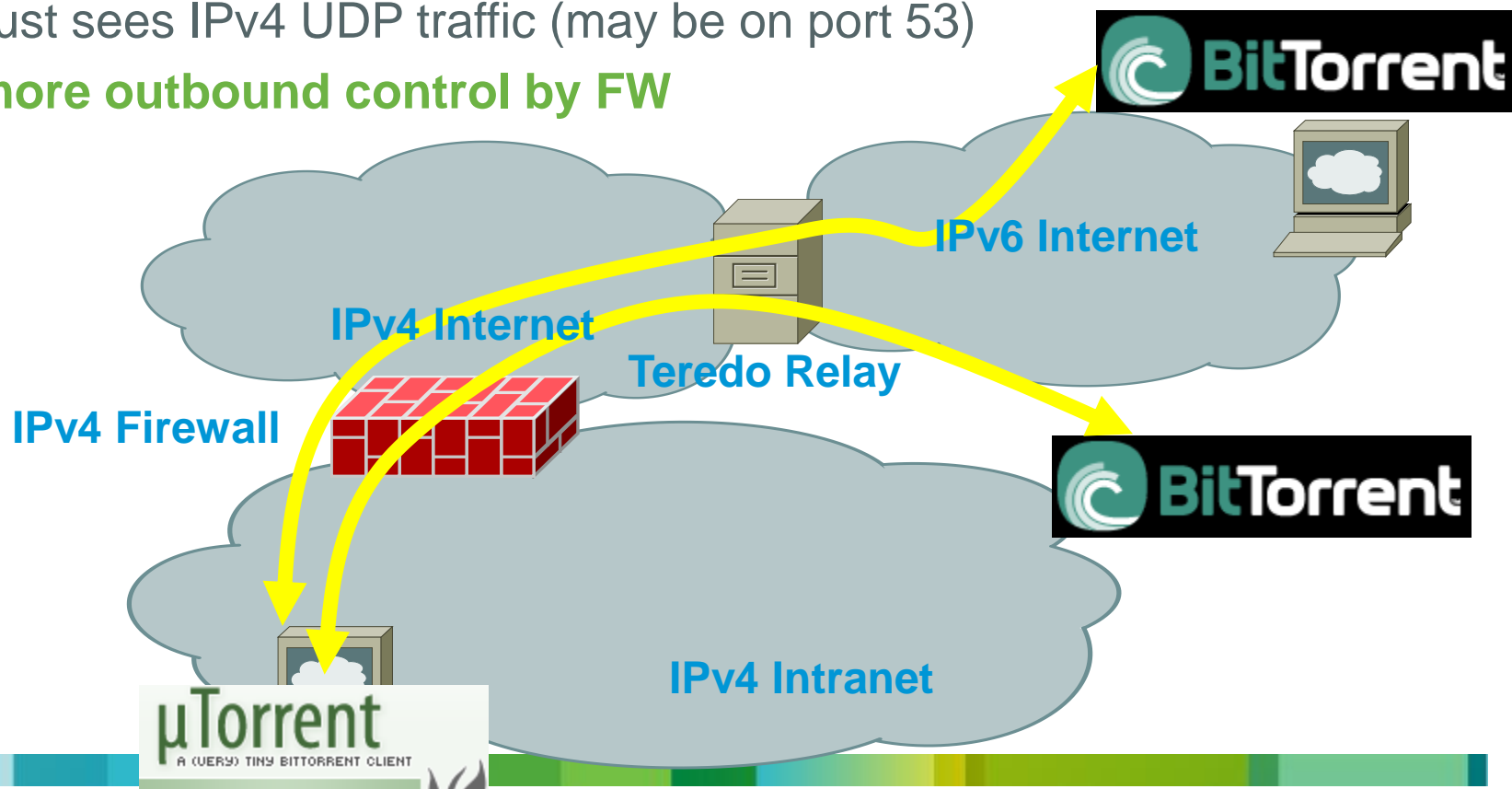


# Teredo Tunnels (2/3)

## No More Outbound Control

Teredo threats—IPv6 over UDP (port 3544)

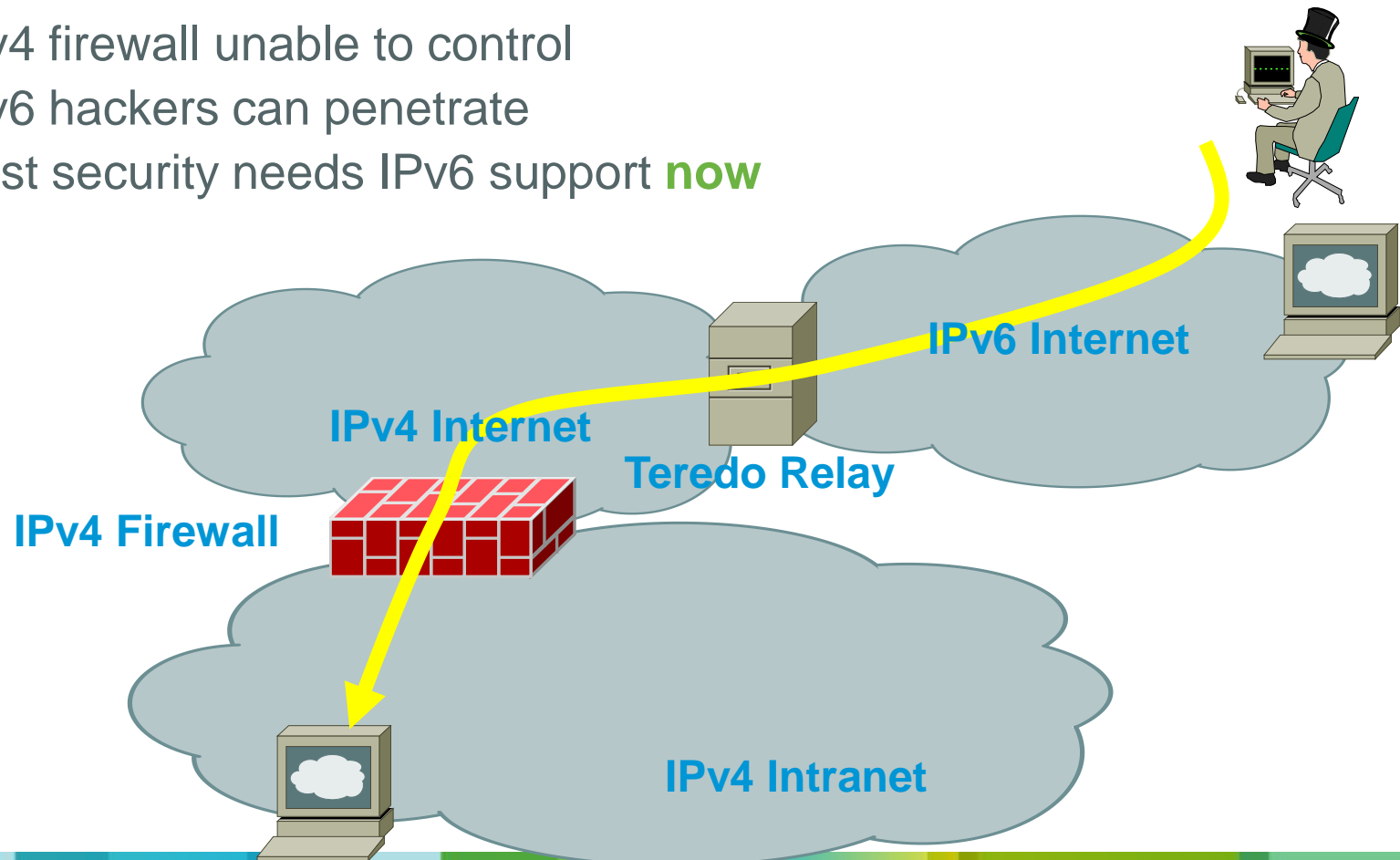
- Internal users want to get P2P over IPv6
- Configure the Teredo tunnel (already enabled by default!)
- FW just sees IPv4 UDP traffic (may be on port 53)
- **No more outbound control by FW**



# Teredo Tunnels (3/3)

## No More Outbound Control Once Teredo Configured

- **Inbound** connections are allowed
- IPv4 firewall unable to control
- IPv6 hackers can penetrate
- Host security needs IPv6 support **now**



# Enforcing a Security Policy

# Firewall Policies

- CONGRUENCE between IPv4 and IPv6 is paramount
  - Same policy whether IPv4 or IPv6
    - except RFC 4890 for ICMP
  - Easier if ACLs are dual-stack or use DNS or use object grouping
  - Privacy extension **MUST** be disabled for servers (usually ACE per host)
  - Privacy extension **MAY** be used for clients (usually ACE per LAN)
- IEEE 802.1X or VPN downloadable per-user ACL are useful
- Stateful firewalls **MUST** understand extension headers & fragments
- Stateless firewalls **CANNOT** handle fragments
  - If possible, drop all 'undetermined transport' fragments
- Usually, Security Incident and Event Managers (SIEM) do not understand the 'multiple addresses per host' ...

# Dual-Stack IPS Engines Service HTTP

The screenshot shows the Cisco IPS Manager Express 7.0.1 interface. The main window is titled "Event Monitoring > Event Monitoring > Event Views". The "View Settings" panel is open, showing filter criteria for Packet Parameters and Rating and Action Parameters. Below the settings is a table of events with columns for Severity, Date, Time, Device, Sig. Name, Sig. ID, Attacker IP, Victim IP, Victim Port, and Threat Rating. Two rows are highlighted with a green box.

Severity	Date	Time	Device	Sig. Name	Sig. ID	Attacker IP	Victim IP	Victim Port	Threat Rating
low	06/11/2009	17:06:56	4240-munsec	Dot Dot Slash in URI	5256/0	192.168.200.46	192.168.200.38	80	52
low	06/11/2009	17:07:14	4240-munsec	Dot Dot Slash in URI	5256/0	2001:db8:0:0:0:0:0:46	2001:db8:0:0:0:0:0:38	80	42

	Sig. Name	Sig. ID	Attacker IP	Victim IP	Victim Port	Threat Rating
c	Dot Dot Slash in URI	5256/0	192.168.200.46	192.168.200.38	80	
c	Dot Dot Slash in URI	5256/0	2001:db8:0:0:0:0:0:46	2001:db8:0:0:0:0:0:38	80	



# Dual-Stack Engine String TCP with Custom Signature

- Yet another example of an engine supporting both IPv4 and IPv6

Severity	Date	Time	Host ID	Signature Name	Signature ID	Signature Sub-ID	Event Date	Event Time	Virtual Sensor	VLAN Id	Interface	Host ID	App Name	OS	Risk Rating	Threat Rating	Reputation	Attacker IP / Port	Victim IP / Port	Protocol
high	06/12/2009	07:38:49	4240-munsec	TCP Drop - Segment out of window	1330/18	0	06/12/2009	07:38:49	vs1	0	ge0_1	4240-munsec	sensorApp	OS	75	40	0	192.168.200.41 / 0.0.0.0	192.168.200.38	tcp
high	06/12/2009	07:42:14	4240-munsec	My fubar Sig	60003/0	0	06/12/2009	07:42:14	vs1	0	ge0_1	4240-munsec	sensorApp	OS	75	40	0	192.168.200.46	192.168.200.38	tcp
high	06/12/2009	07:42:23	4240-munsec	My fubar Sig	60003/0	0	06/12/2009	07:42:23	vs1	0	ge0_1	4240-munsec	sensorApp	OS	75	40	0	2001:db8:0:0:0:0:0:46	2001:db8:0:0:0:0:0:38	tcp

Event ID	Signature Name	Signature ID	Signature Sub-ID	Event Date	Event Time	Virtual Sensor	VLAN Id	Interface	Host ID	App Name	OS	Risk Rating	Threat Rating	Reputation	Attacker IP / Port	Victim IP / Port	Protocol
1240824110409414046	My fubar Sig	60003	0	06/12/2009	07:42:23	vs1	0	ge0_1	4240-munsec	sensorApp	OS	75	40	0	2001:db8::46 / 1028	2001:db8::38 / 23	tcp

60003/0

192.168.200.46

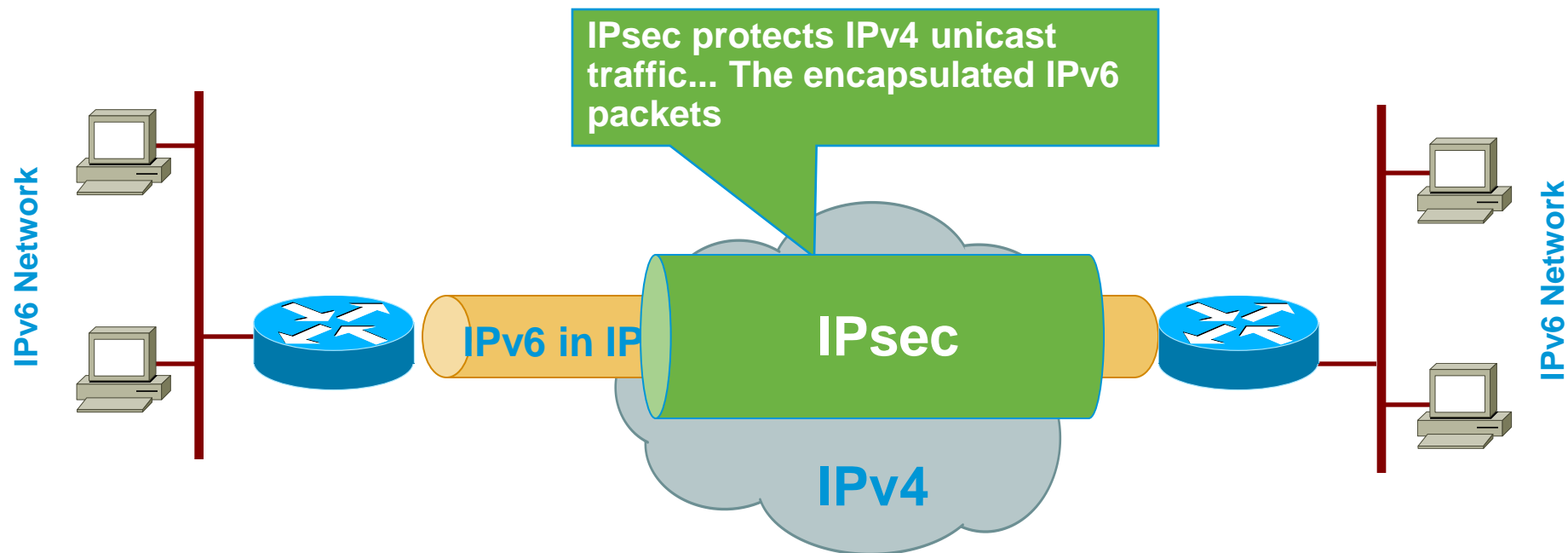
192.168.200.38

60003/0

2001:db8:0:0:0:0:0:46

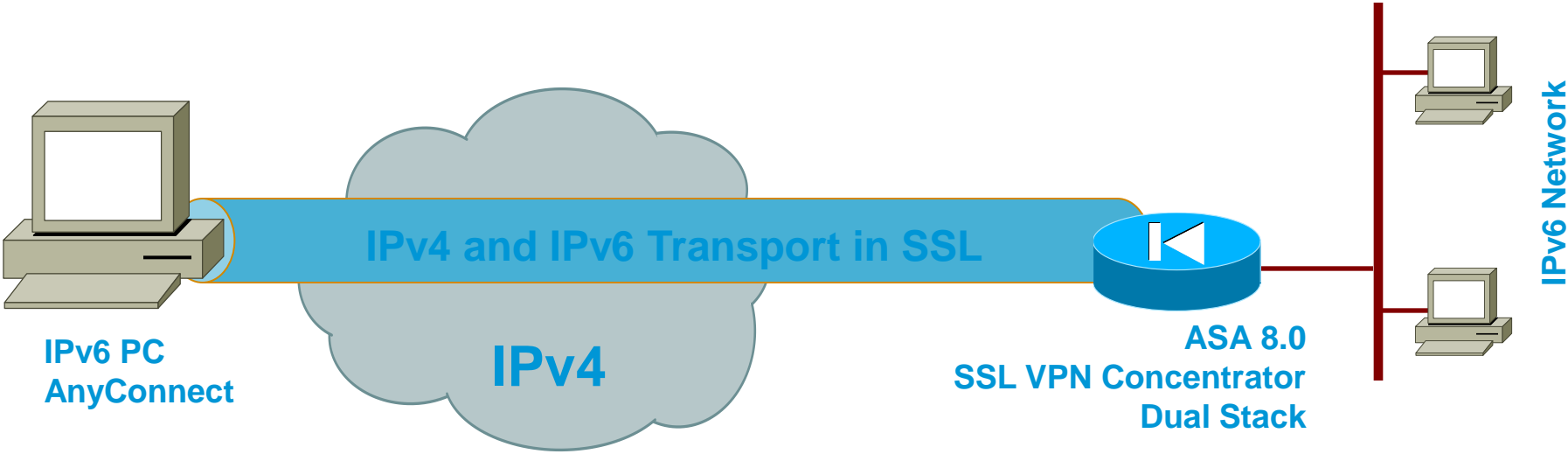
2001:db8:0:0:0:0:0:38

# Secure Site to Site IPv6 Traffic over IPv4 Public Network with GRE IPsec



GRE tunnel can be used to transport both IPv4 and IPv6 in the same tunnel

# Secure RA IPv6 Traffic over IPv4 Public Network: AnyConnect SSL VPN Client



# IPv6 Security Controls EXIST!

## USE THEM 😊

- Using Cisco as an example
- ASA Firewall
  - Since version 7.0 (released 2005)
  - Flexibility: Dual stack, IPv6 only, IPv4 only
  - SSL VPN for IPv6 (ASA 8.0)
  - Stateful-Failover (ASA 8.2.2)
  - Extension header filtering and inspection (ASA 8.4.2)
- IOS Firewall
  - IOS 12.3(7)T (released 2005)
  - Zone-based firewall on IOS-XE 3.6 (2012)
- IPS
  - Since 6.2 (released 2008)
- Email Security Appliance (ESA) under beta testing since 2010, IPv6 support since 7.6.1 (May 2012)
- Web Security Appliance (WSA) with explicit proxy then transparent mode, work in progress
- ScanSafe expected to be available in 2012

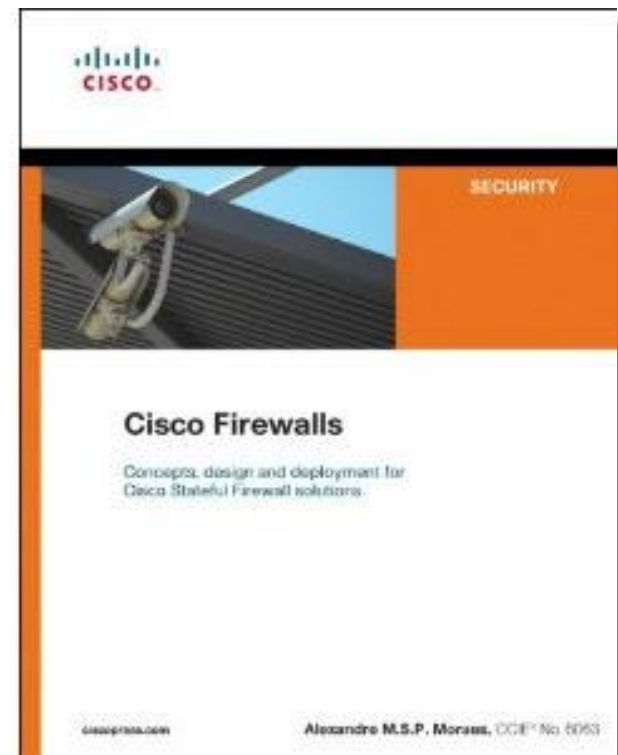
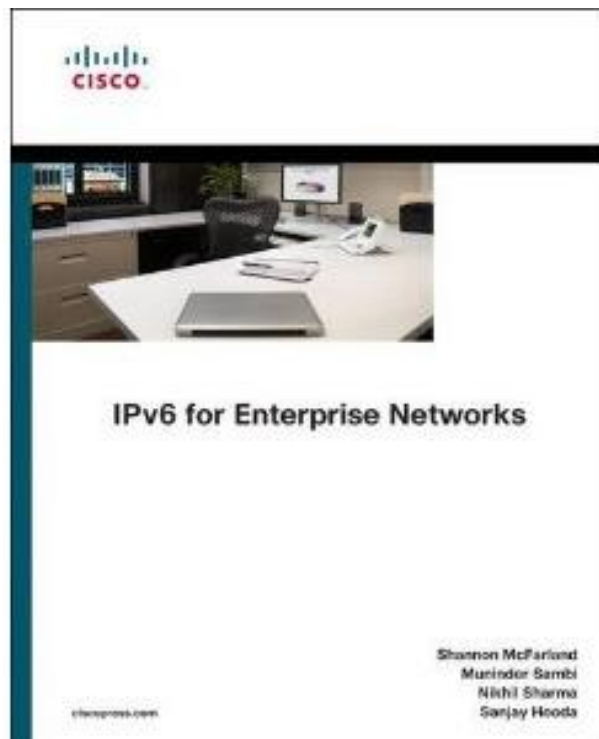
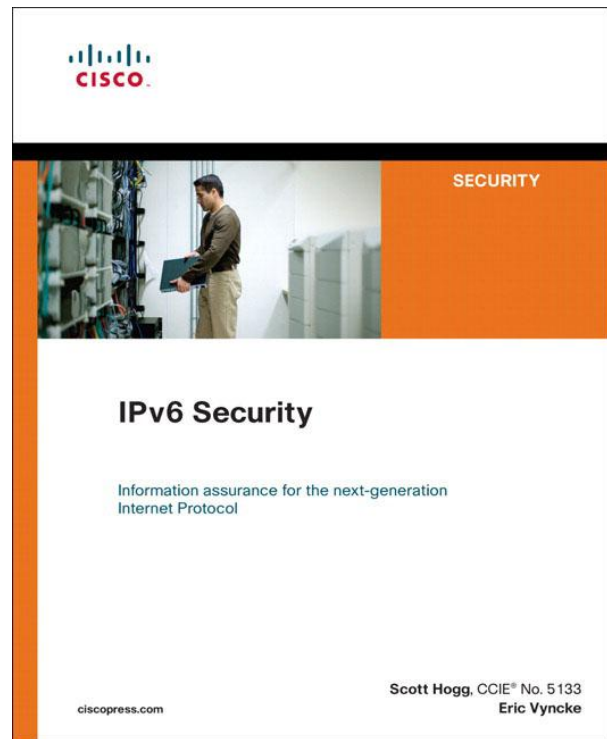
# Summary

# Key Take Away Security is not a reason to delay IPv6

- So, nothing really new in IPv6
  - Reconnaissance: address enumeration replaced by DNS enumeration
  - Spoofing & bogons: uRPF is our IP-agnostic friend
  - NDP spoofing: RA guard and more features coming
  - ICMPv6 firewalls need to change policy to allow NDP
  - Extension headers: firewall & ACL can process them
  - Fragmentation: undetermined-transport is your friend
- Lack of operation experience may hinder security for a while: **training is required**
- **Security enforcement is possible**
  - Control your IPv6 traffic as you do for IPv4
- Leverage IPsec to secure IPv6 when suitable

# Questions and Answers?

# Recommended Reading





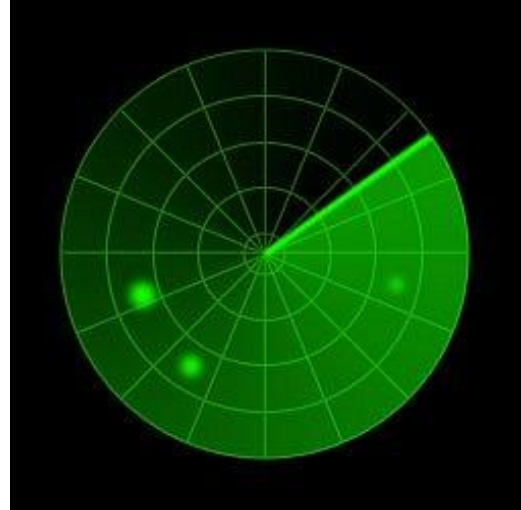
Thank you.



# Back-up (for reference) slides

# Reconnaissance in IPv6

## Scanning Methods Are Likely to Change



- Public servers will still need to be DNS reachable
  - ⇒ More information collected by Google...
- Increased deployment/reliance on dynamic DNS
  - ⇒ More information will be in DNS
- Using peer-to-peer clients gives IPv6 addresses of peers
- Administrators may adopt easy-to-remember addresses (`:::10`, `:::20`, `:::F00D`, `:::C5C0`, `:ABBA:BABE` or simply IPv4 last octet for dual stack)
- By compromising hosts in a network, an attacker can learn new addresses to scan

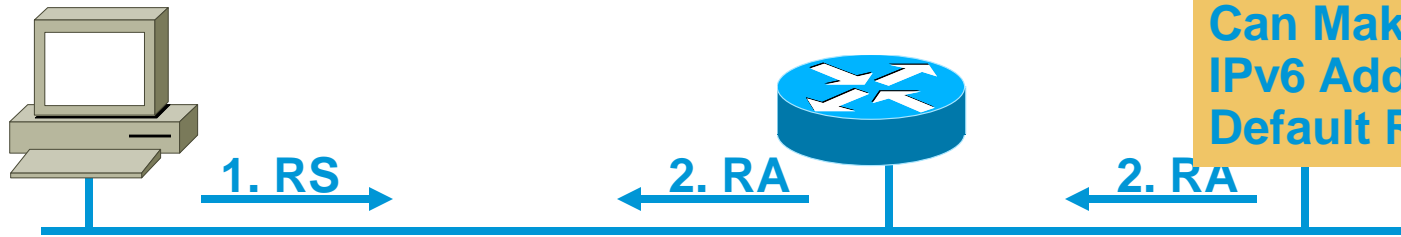
# Neighbor Discovery Issue#1 Stateless Autoconfiguration

Router Solicitations Are Sent by Booting Nodes to Request Router Advertisements for Stateless Address Auto-Configuring

RA/RS w/o Any Authentication Gives Exactly Same Level of Security as ARP for IPv4 (None)

Attack Tool:  
`fake_router6`

Can Make Any IPv6 Address the Default Router



## 1. RS:

Src = ::

Dst = All-Routers  
multicast Address

ICMP Type = 133

Data = Query: please send RA

## 2. RA:

Src = Router Link-local  
Address

Dst = All-nodes multicast  
address

ICMP Type = 134

Data = options, prefix, lifetime,  
`autoconfig` flag

# Preventing IPv6 Routing Attacks

## Protocol Authentication

- BGP, ISIS, EIGRP no change:
  - An MD5 authentication of the routing update
- OSPFv3 has changed and pulled MD5 authentication from the protocol and instead is supposed to rely on transport mode IPsec (for authentication and confidentiality)
  - IPsec means crypto image
  - But see draft-ietf-ospf-auth-trailer-ospfv3
- IPv6 routing attack best practices
  - Use traditional authentication mechanisms on BGP and IS-IS
  - Use IPsec to secure protocols such as OSPFv3



# Disabling Privacy Extension

- Microsoft Windows

Deploy a Group Policy Object (GPO)

Or

```
netsh interface ipv6 set global randomizeidentifiers=disabled
netsh interface ipv6 set global randomizeidentifiers=disabled store=persistent
netsh interface ipv6 set privacy state=disabled store=persistent
```

- Alternatively disabling stateless autoconfiguration for DHCP

Send Router Advertisements with

all prefixes with A-bit set to 0 (disable SLAAC)

M-bit set to 1 to force stateful DHCPv6

Use DHCP to a specific pool + ingress ACL allowing only this pool

```
interface fastEthernet 0/0
  ipv6 nd prefix default no-autoconfig
  ipv6 dhcp server . . . (or relay)
  ipv6 nd managed-config-flag
```