

Computer System Design and Administration

Topic 5. Network naming translation service: ISC DNS



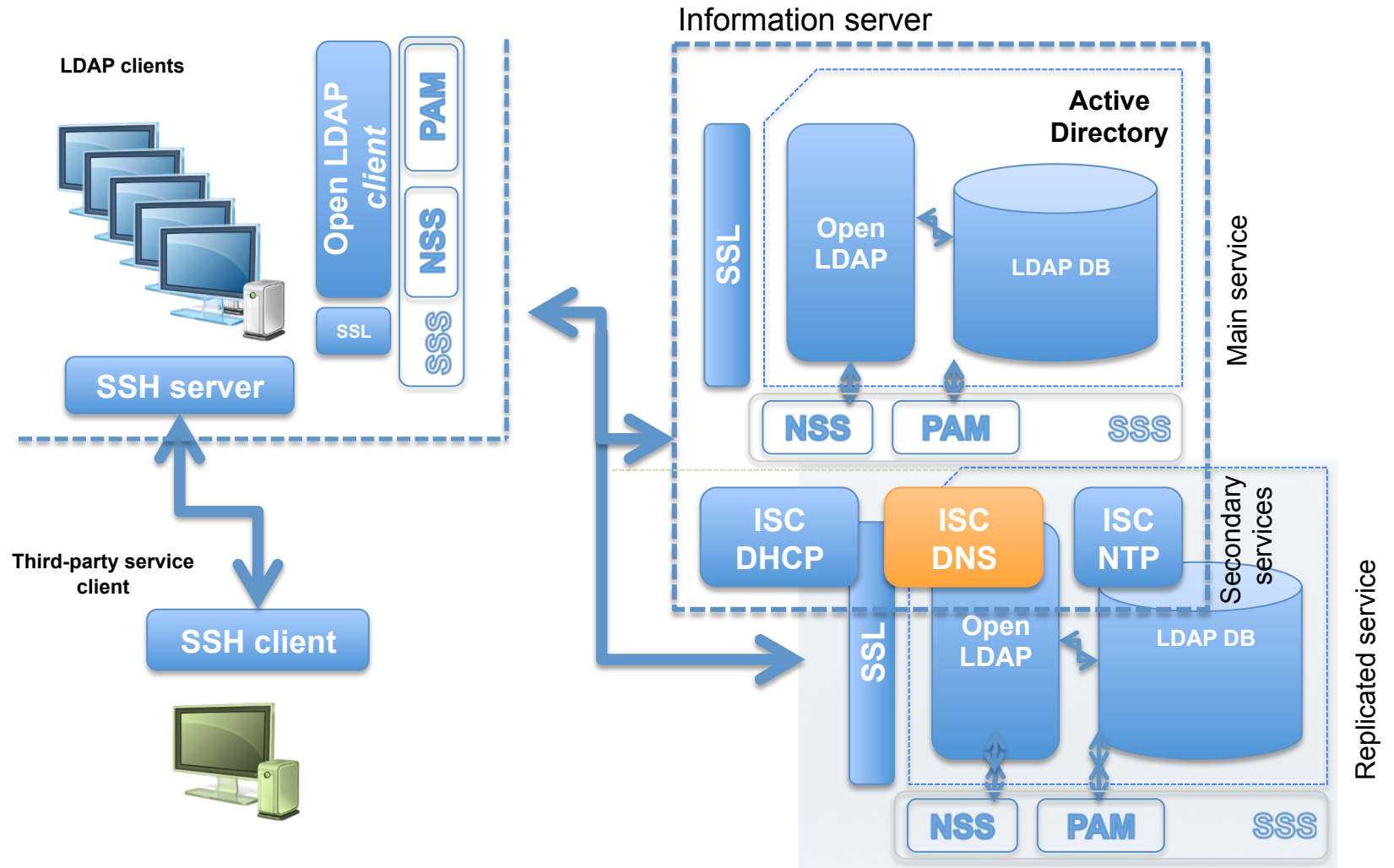
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Secure information service: Puzzle



Target: ...server convergence

- Installation, configuration and deployment of ***third-party network services*** for local *networking* management on the INTRANET:
 - Dynamic configuration service (DHCP): *ISC dhcpd*.
 - Domain name service (DNS): *ISC bind9*:
 - Network naming translation:
 - IP ↔ domain name.
 - ...and more.
 - Network time service (NTP): *ISC ntpd*.

DNS: Internet domain name service

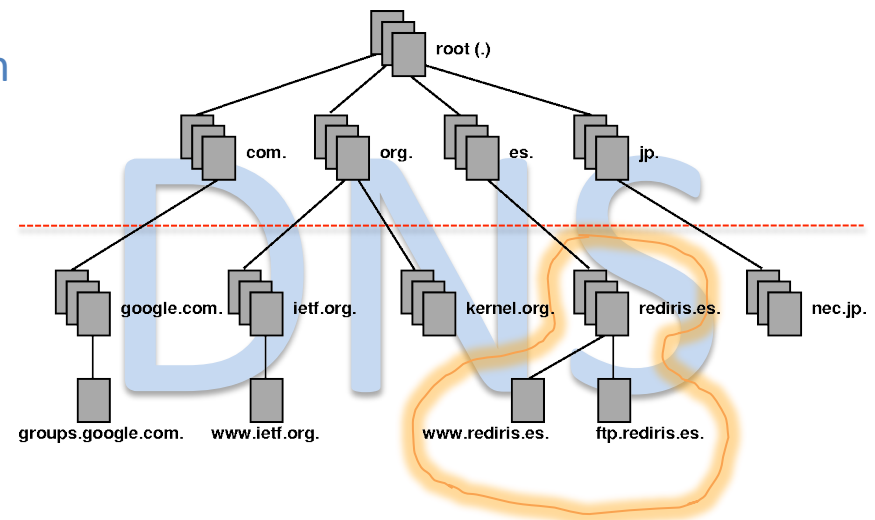
- There are 2 key systems (pieces) on the **Internet**:
 - **Domain naming** system (DNS).
 - **Internet routing** system (Routing).
- Usually both systems are **NOT greatly** considered in network environments:
 - We assume that others “*above*” are in charge → ISPs.
- However, they are two **critical** aspects for our subnet (network):
 - The subnet might become *inoperative* because of **link cuts**:
 - *Hosts* won't be able to use DNS.
 - We won't even be able to use a simple network service such as *ssh* or “*browse*” on web if router failures happen.
- There are 2 main mechanisms for naming resolution:
 - **Local** → `/etc/hosts`.
 - ...very **limited**.
 - **Global** → (3party) **DNS servers**.

→ Both of them can be used (together).

DNS: Motivation

- There are currently millions of computers (hosts) interconnected on the Internet:
 - Originally, every host had to know each other's IP/hostname:
 - `/etc/hosts` (synchronized).
 - In the early 80's, the number of hosts interconnected on the *pre-Internet* (ARPANET – TCP/IP) became enormous...:
 - That issue was causing continuous updating all the time.
- High **locality in space and time** for DNS translations:
 - [IP \leftrightarrow Hostname].
- Solution:

- **Distribute** *hierarchically* this information throughout the whole network (**tree**):
 - Huge distributed DB.
 - **Decentralized** translations.
- Every node of that tree has a **group of servers** which manages the domain translation for that node.



DNS: Roles

- The DNS service has actually many **jobs** (roles or tasks):
 - The main roles are:
 - To translate between hostname and IP address:
 - **“FOWARD” DNS lookups:**
 - » Hostname (*FQHN*¹) → Network address (*IP*).
 - **“REVERSE” DNS lookups:**
 - » Network address (*IP*) → Hostname (*FQHN*¹).
 - To play an essential role in routing of email, web server access and other internet services:
 - From a hostname (FQDN), it returns the IP(s) of the domain mail server.
 - It helps to route the mail data.
 - Other roles:
 - Management of public keys in asymmetric cryptography and **mailing validation (SPF)**.
 - It can deploy **load balance** and **quality of service (QoS)** mechanisms:
 - **Google clusters.**
 - **“On line” newspapers.**
 - **Load balance for LDAP requests on replication environments (N-way master/master).**
- One *servername* ↔ Several **IPs**:
 - **Each DNS request will be answered with an IP/hostname:**
 - » Geographical location.
 - » Computational load.
 - **\$ host -t a www.elpais.es:**
 - » Run that command repeatedly...:
 - Load balance algorithm → “Round robin”.

¹ Fully Qualified Host Name

DNS: Some keys...

- Conceptually, a system administrator may define a **sub-domain**:
 - Groups of *hosts*.
 - Geographical, organizational (company) reasons.
- Once created, it is possible **to assign** naming management to a **dedicated server**:
 - Then, the **authoritative unit** is created:
 - That sub-domain and its owner are managed separately.
- This unit is called **zone**:
 - The name of a **zone** will be the same as its subnet **domain name**:
 - Sequence of concatenated names.
 - P.e: www.unican.es.
 - Each **dedicated server** has information on every *host* in its domain:
 - Unless these hosts belong to sub-domain (sub-zone) and it had been **delegated**:
 - P.e: *ce.unican.es*.
 - Each zone is usually managed by one **DNS server** (at least):
 - **Authoritative zone** → *authoritative* server.
 - **If more than one server exists, then the DNS service can provide HA and LB to clients:**
 - » Primary and secondary server...
 - DNS servers may manage more than one zone simultaneously.

DNS: DNS hierarchy on the Internet

→ The **DNS service** on the Internet is composed of a suite of DNS servers. This suite has a **hierarchical tree structure**:

→ Domain name space:

- Each level (leaf) has:
 - A label.
 - 0 or more RR (Resource Records).

• **Root zone:**

- **Root level servers:**
 - `a.root.servers.net...`

• **Top level domain (TLD) zones:**

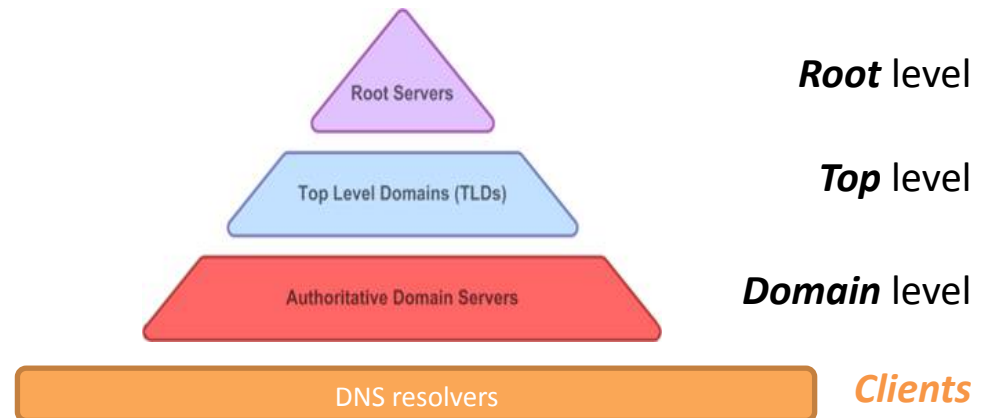
- **Top Level Domain servers:**
 - **ccTLD** (country/international code).
 - **gTLD** (generic).
 - → <http://www.iana.org/domains/root/servers>.

• **Domain/sub-domain zones:**

- **Authoritative/delegated servers.**

• **DNS resolvers:**

- **The client side.**



DNS: Server types (Administrative servers)

• Root Servers (<http://www.iana.org/domains/root/servers>):

– There are **13 Root DNS servers** on the Internet...:

- To be exact, there are **many more**:
 - **9 of them are multiple distributed servers (anycast).**
- Names:
 - **Letters: A ... M.**

letra.root-server.net:

– They hold a list of **TOP LEVEL domain servers** for the top-level domains on the Internet:

- It contains around 1058 TLDs:
 - **.es, .org, .com...**

→ E.g.: TLD servers for **.es** generic domain:

```

es.      70262      IN      NS      f.nic.es.
es.      70262      IN      NS      ns15.communitydns.net.
es.      70262      IN      NS      sns-pb.isc.org.
es.      70262      IN      NS      ns1.cesca.es.
es.      70262      IN      NS      ns3.nic.fr.
es.      70262      IN      NS      ns-ext.nic.cl.
es.      70262      IN      NS      a.nic.es.
    
```



Letra	Dirección IPv4	Dirección IPv6	Número de sistema autónomo	Nombre antiguo	Operador	Ubicación #altos (global/local)	Software
A	198.41.0.4	2001:503:ba3e:2:30	AS26415	ns.internic.net	Verisign	distribuido (anycast) 4/0	BIND
B	192.228.79.201 (desde Enero 2004, originalmente era 128.9.0.107) ¹	2001:478:65:53 (no en la zona raíz todavía)	AS4	ns1.isi.edu	USC-ISI	Marina Del Rey, California, U.S. 1/0	BIND
C	192.33.4.12	2001:500:2::c (no en la zona raíz todavía)	AS2149	c.psi.net	Cogent Communications	distribuido (anycast) 8/0	BIND
D	199.7.91.13 (desde el 3 de enero de 2013, originalmente era 128.9.10.90) ²	2001:500:2d:d	AS27	terp.umd.edu	Universidad de Maryland	College Park, Maryland, U.S. 1/0	BIND
E	192.203.250.10	No disponible	AS297	ns.nasa.gov	NASA	Mountain View, California, U.S. 1/1	BIND
F	192.5.5.241	2001:500:2f:f	AS3557	ns.isc.org	Internet Systems Consortium	distribuido (anycast) 4/1	BIND 9 ³
G	192.112.36.4	No disponible	AS5927	ns.nic.ddn.mil	Defense Information Systems Agency	distribuido (anycast) 6/0	BIND
H	128.63.2.53	2001:500:1:803f:235	AS13	aos.arl.army.mil	U.S. Army Research Lab	Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, U.S. 2/0	NSD
I	192.36.148.17	2001:7fe::53	AS29216	nic.nordu.net	Nordu (antes Autónoma)	distribuido (anycast) 4/10	BIND
J	192.58.128.30 (desde Noviembre 2002, originalmente era 198.41.0.10)	2001:503:c27::2:30	AS26415		Verisign	distribuido (anycast) 62/13	BIND
K	193.0.14.129	2001:7fd::1	AS25152		RIPE NCC	distribuido (anycast) 5/12	NSD ⁷
L	199.7.83.42 (desde Noviembre 2007, originalmente era 198.32.64.12) ⁸	2001:500:3::42	AS20144		ICANN	distribuido (anycast) 130/0	NSD ⁹
M	202.12.27.33	2001:dc3::35	AS7500		Proyecto WIDE	distribuido (anycast) 4/1	BIND

• Top-Level domain (TLD) Servers (<http://www.iana.org/domains/root/db/es.html>):

- They manage information about **AUTHORITATIVE domain servers** for a particular domain (**zone**):
 - They are installed in the root zone of a **name space**.
- For each DNS request, they return a *list of authoritative domain servers*:
 - For that zone.

• Authoritative/delegated domain Servers:

- They hold the **naming information** [IP \leftrightarrow FQDN] for translation of a **zone**.
- They give **answers** in response to DNS requests from DNS clients.
- **Also, a part of the zone (sub-zone) can be delegated** → **Transfer zone**:
 - Then, the authoritative domain server contains the IPs of delegated servers for that particular sub-domain.

Roots servers → ccTLD and gTLD



Source: www.root-servers.org.

DNS: Server types (operational servers)

– Primary servers:

- Store data of a subnet (domain) **within their local files**.
- Provide their own **authority services** to respond to translation queries.

– Secondary servers (slave mode):

- Contain copies of DNS data:
 - **It is usually obtained from synchronization directly with the master server.**
- Provide:
 - **Improved performance.**
 - **Backup mechanisms.**

– Recursive or cache servers (cache mode):

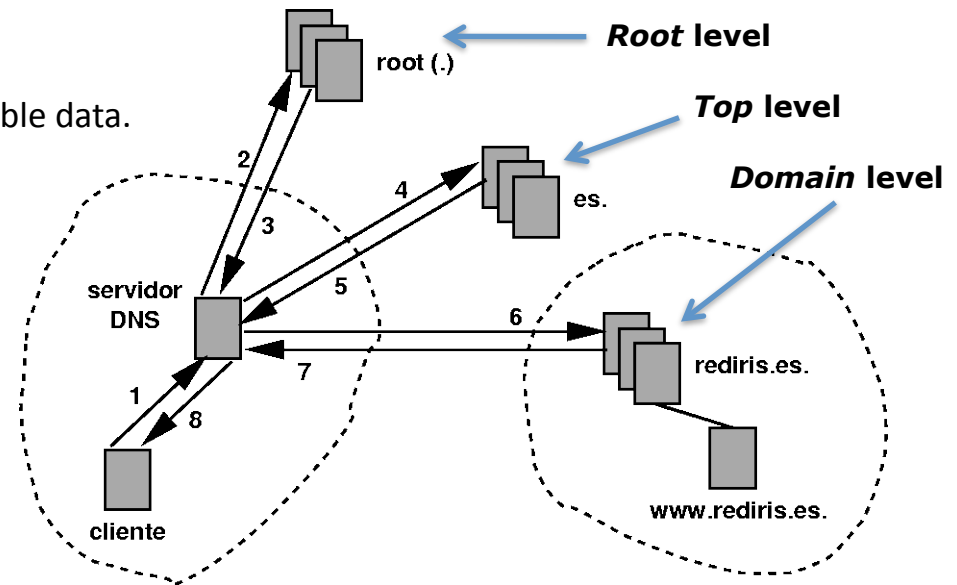
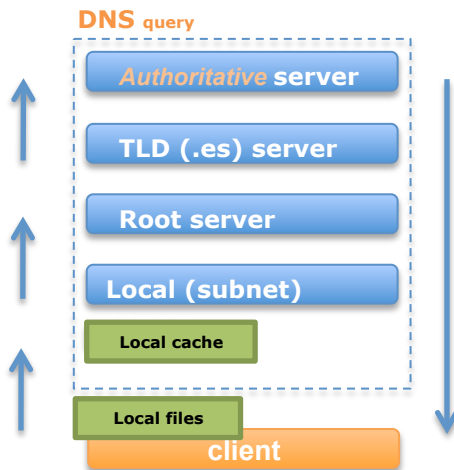
- They use the same software as primary/secondary DNS servers.
- They **cache** the query results in RAM memory (no disk):
 - **When an address query is done, this server resends it to a primary/secondary domain server which answers the client.**
 - **Then, this server caches the result into memory (RAM):**
 - » This data has an **expiration time**: TTL.
 - **If clients asks the same query, the “cache server” answers itself.**

– Forwarding servers:

- They only act as “*relay*”. They don’t hold any data!!
- Resend EVERY query to registered servers.

DNS: Operation; How does it work?

- DNS works over **UDP** protocol (port 53).
- The lookups **are delegated** (up...) → “Recursive” query:
 - Each DNS server only contains the data of its **immediately lower level**.
- DNS server *administrative* types:
 - **Roots servers:**
 - The rest of DNS servers on the Internet know them.
 - **TLD (Top Level Domain) servers:**
 - They hold information about other DNS servers (**zones/sub-zones**).
 - Internationalized domains → **ccTLD**:
 - **.es, .ti, .fr...** → **ISO-3166**.
 - Generic domains → **gTLD**:
 - **.com, .net, .org...**
 - **Authoritative domain servers:**
 - Manage their own “zones” → 100% reliable data.



BIND9: A DNS protocol deployment

- **BIND: *Berkeley Internet Name Domain*:**
 - Client/server architecture:
 - Server: **BIND**.
 - Client: **Resolver (OS internals)**:
 - **Clients send queries about hostname/IP.**
 - **Server answers...**
 - Implementation initially developed at California University (Berkeley) in the late 80's:
 - UNIX BSD 4.3.
 - Nowadays, it is maintained by the *Internet Systems Consortium*.
 - It is the most widely used implementation on Internet (Unix/**Linux**).
- Versions:
 - **BIND v4 (1985)**:
 - 4.9 y 4.9.1 → Developed by “Digital” ← HP.
 - 4.9.2 → Developed by “Vixie Enterprises”.
 - 4.9.3 onwards → ISC (Internet Software Consortium).
 - **BIND v8 (1997)**.
 - **BIND v9 (2000): Fully rewritten.**

BIND9: A DNS protocol deployment

- Main features:
 - BSD license.
 - Important safety aspects.
 - DNSSEC, TSIG, Nsupdat:
 - .NS; it is one of the weakest points of the Internet:
 - **Typical attack: DNS cache poisoning.**
 - **Soporte IPv6.**
 - Protocol improvements:
 - IXFR, DDNS, Notify, EDNS0.
 - Multiprocessor support.
 - DNS service:
 - A stand-alone *daemon* listens on **TCP/UDP port 53.**
- Software and current version of BIND 9:
 - ISC BIND, version 9.10.2...

BIND9: Service installation (ISC DNS)



Source: www.isc.org.

- **Server & tools installation**

BIND9 (Server):

```
$ apt-get update
```

```
$ apt-get install bind9
```

```
$ apt-get install bind9-doc host dnsutils whois
```

```
$ dpkg-reconfigure bind9
```



Review of the
default configuration.

```
$ update-rc.d bind9 defaults
```

- **Lab 2:** we will deploy a **primary (local) and cache DNS server.**



BIND9: Service main configuration

<https://ftp.isc.org/isc/bind9/cur/9.11/doc/arm/Bv9ARM.ch06.html>

• **Service primary** configuration files

(Main entries):

- Modular architecture:
 - Well segmented and organized in a group of files.
- The bind9 configuration is based on a set of **clauses** and **statements**:
 - **Clauses** group together statements:
 - (acl, controls, include, logging, options, zone,...).
 - **Statements** are defined by { } :
 - They control the functionality and security of the BIND server.
 - It can contain comments too → (// and /***/).

```
$ vi /etc/bind/named.conf:
```

→ **Include** statement:

- It integrates the configuration from **3 different files**:
 - » /etc/bind/named.conf.options :
 - Service Configuration Options and Settings.
 - » /etc/bind/named.conf.local :
 - Local zones definition.
 - » /etc/bind/named.conf.default-zones :
 - Default root zone definition.
- The format (*formal grammars*) of these files is the same.

BIND9: Service main configuration

- **zone** statement
 - **zone zone_name [class] { ... }:**
 - Defines the specific zones that your DNS server will support:
 - » Zone type: it defines the *server role* for that zone:
 - Master.
 - Slave.
 - Hint (root).
 - Forward.
 - ...
 - » File: PATH to the **configuration zone file**:
 - Files which define the “**forward**” lookups:
 - [FQDN → IP address].
 - One file per authority **domain/zone**.
 - Files which define the “**reverse**” lookups:
 - [IP address → FQDN].
 - One file per authority **IP range**.
 - These statements are included in:
 - /etc/bind/**named.conf.local**.
 - » And more options...

BIND9: Service main configuration

- More options:

- **acl statement**

- `acl acl-name { ... }:`

- » Access control statement.

- » It defines:

- The host groups for which access is allowed/denied.
 - Their **access modes**.

- **options statement**

- `options { []...[] }:`

- » Defines a large number of **global options** to be used by BIND:

- `$ man named.conf.`

- **logging statement**

- `logging { ... }`

- » Configures a wide variety of logging options for the name server:

- Format options and **severity levels**.

- ...

BIND9: Specific options configuration

- Configuration of **particular options** in **DNS service** (main entries):

```
$ vi /etc/bind/named.conf.options.
```

- It establishes **extra options**:

- `options` statement:

- Defines a large number of **global options** to be used by BIND.
- We can use it to define the work directory PATH (named) and more and more...

DNS cache/
forwarding

- `forward`:

- **Specifies the forwarding behavior.**
- **first** → DNS cache.
- **only** → DNS forwarding.

- `forwarders`:

- **Specifies the IP addresses list to be used for forwarding:**
 - » DNS server where the DNS requests must be sent.

BIND9: DNS zone definition (default)

- Configuration of **root zones** → Root-servers:

```
$ vi /etc/bind/named.conf.default-zones.
```

- Keeps the same syntax and grammar as `named.conf`:

- Defines the “**Root**” zones:

- Also specifies the one dedicated to *localhost*.

- Definition only:

- **Server type**:

- » Type **hint** for root servers.
- » Type **master** for *localdomain* zone and *broadcast*.

- **Root zone files**:

- It does NOT hold neither local zone definitions nor **zone data**:

- That is in a group of a *particular zone*:

- **/etc/bind/db.root:**

- » The same file for every DNS server.

- **/etc/bind/db.0.**

- **/etc/bind/db.255.**

- **/etc/bind/db.local.**

- **/etc/bind/db.127.**

Don't touch these files!
Keep as default

BIND9: DNS zone definition (local)

- Configuration of *local zones* → **subnet (intranet)**:

```
$ vi /etc/bind/named.conf.local.
```
- Keeps the same syntax and grammar as `named.conf`:
 - Defines and describes the “**local**” zones.
 - Definition only:
 - **Server type**:
 - » Type hint for root servers.
 - » Type master for *localdomain* zone.
 - **Root zone files**.
 - It does NOT hold either local zone definitions or zone data:
 - That is in a group of a *particular zone*:
 - `/etc/bind/<name_zone>.zone.`
 - `/etc/bind/<IP-domain_zone>.zone.`

BIND9: DNS zone configuration (local)

- **Zone files (Forward DNS lookup):**

```
$ vi /etc/bind/<name_zone>.zone:
```

- These files hold the **local domain (zone) data** to do the forward lookups:

- [FQDN → IP address].

- **Resource Record (types):**

- **SOA** (Start of Authority): identifies the start of a zone of authority:

- **Serial number (to record information updates).**

- **Times for retry and update of information.**

- **Expiration time.**

- **Minimum TTL (time-to-live).**

- **CNAME** – Identifies the canonical name of an *alias*:

- **hostname → alias_hostname:**

```
» server-01 IN CNAME www.
```

- **MX, LOC, SRV, TXT.**

- **A** – A host address (In the IN class, this is a 32-bit IP address):

- **[FQDN → IP address]:**

```
» server-01 IN A 172.16.118.11.
```

—————> **Forward DNS lookup.**

BIND9: DNS zone configuration (local)

- **Zone files (Reverse DNS lookup):**

```
$ vi /etc/bind/<IP-domain_zone>.zone:
```

- These files hold the **local domain (zone) data** to do the reverse lookups:

- [IP address → FQDN].

- **Resource Record (types):**

- Common RRs as previous slide.
- **PTR** – A pointer to another part of the domain name space:

- **[IP address → FQDN]:**

```
» 232 IN PTR server-01.localdomain.
```



BIND9: DNS zone configuration (default)

- **Zone files(default):**

These files are made available by InterNIC

- \$ vi /etc/bind/db.root:
 - This file holds the information on **root name servers**:
 - **Root DNS (“.” zone)** for everyone:
 - **TOP levels.**
 - **Needed to initialize cache of Internet domain name servers.**
 - Root servers can change → File should be updated.
 - \$ vi /etc/bind/db.0:
 - It holds:
 - BIND data file for **broadcast** zone.
 - \$ vi /etc/bind/db.255:
 - It holds:
 - BIND reverse data file for **broadcast** zone.
 - \$ vi /etc/bind/db.local:
 - It holds:
 - BIND data file for local **loopback** interface:
 - **Forward DNS lookup.**
 - \$ vi /etc/bind/db.127:
 - It holds:
 - BIND reverse data file for local **loopback** interface:
 - **Reverse DNS lookup.**

Configuration files included in Bind as default. (Don't touch!!!).

BIND9: Daemon main configuration

- DNS *daemon* (server) **options** configuration:

```
$ vi /etc/default/bind9:
```

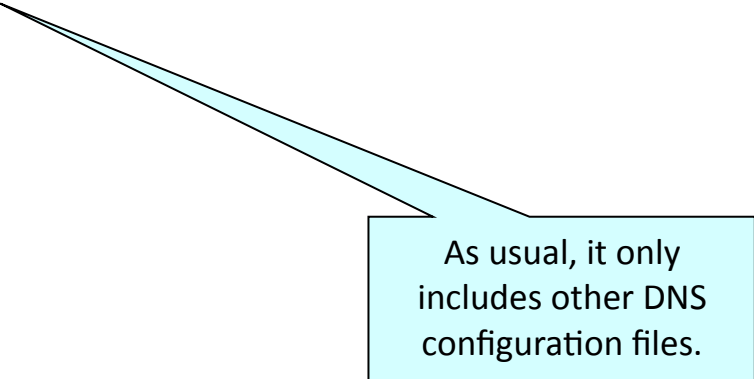
- It holds variables for bind9 server parametrization:
 - **named** daemon.
- Those (variables) are used by the startup **service script**:
 - /etc/init.d/bind9.
- Variables:
 - `OPTIONS='-u bind'`:
 - **Run resolvconf?**
 - `RESOLVCONF=yes`:
 - **Startup options for the server.**

Instances: Cache primary server

Sample

- /etc/bind/named.conf:

```
include "/etc/bind/named.conf.options";  
include "/etc/bind/named.conf.local";  
include "/etc/bind/named.conf.default-zones";
```



As usual, it only includes other DNS configuration files.

Instances: Cache primary server

Sample

- /etc/bind/named.conf.default-zones:

```
zone "." {  
    type hint;  
    file "/etc/bind/db.root";  
};  
  
zone "localhost" {  
    type master;  
    file "/etc/bind/db.local";  
};  
  
zone "127.in-addr.arpa" {  
    type master;  
    file "/etc/bind/db.127";  
};  
  
zone "0.in-addr.arpa" {  
    type master;  
    file "/etc/bind/db.0";  
};  
  
zone "255.in-addr.arpa" {  
    type master;  
    file "/etc/bind/db.255";  
};
```



Root-servers file.

Instances: Cache primary server

Sample

- /etc/bind/named.conf.local:

```
/* direct & reverse lookups of localdomain: */
```

```
zone "localdomain" {
    type master;
    file "/etc/bind/localdomain";
    allow-query { any; };
};
```

```
zone "0.168.192.in-addr.arpa" {
    type master;
    file "/etc/bind/db.192.168.0";
};
```

Zone/domain name.

Zone defined as primary (authoritative).

ASCII file where we define the zone.

Everyone is allowed.

Instances: Cache primary server

Sample

- /etc/bind/named.conf.options:

```
options {  
    directory "/var/cache/bind";  
  
    forward first;  
    forwarders {  
        8.8.8.8;  
        8.8.4.4;  
    };  
  
    auth-nxdomain no;    # conform to RFC1035  
    listen-on-v6 { any; };  
};
```

Directory in which
we can define
"secondary" zones.

DNS server IPs
from the upper
level to DNS
request resolution

Instances: Cache primary server

Sample

- /etc/bind/localdomain.zone:

```

; BIND file for localdomain zone
;
$TTL      604800
@         IN      SOA      localdomain.  server-01.localdomain. (
                        1          ; Serial
                        86400      ; Refresh
                        7200       ; Retry
                        1209600    ; Expire
                        10800 )   ; Negative Cache TTL
;
localdomain.      IN      NS       server-01.
localdomain.      IN      MX       20      mail-01.
;
server-01         IN      A        192.168.0.11
server-02         IN      A        192.168.0.12
server-03         IN      A        192.168.0.13
server-04         IN      A        192.168.0.14
client           IN      A        192.168.0.20
mail-01          IN      CNAME     server-04

```

Instances: Cache primary server

Sample

- /etc/bind/db.192.168.0:

```

; BIND reverse data file for local loopback interface
;
$TTL 604800
@ IN SOA localdomain. server-01.localdomain. (
        1      ; Serial
        604800 ; Refresh
        86400  ; Retry
        2419200 ; Expire
        604800 ) ; Negative Cache TTL
;
@ IN NS localdomain.

11      IN      PTR      server-01.localdomain.
12      IN      PTR      server-02.localdomain.
13      IN      PTR      server-03.localdomain.
14      IN      PTR      server-04.localdomain.
20      IN      PTR      cliente.localdomain.

```

Resolver: The DNS Client

- **Resolver:**

- It is a suite of routines in the **C library** that provide access to the Internet Domain Name System (DNS).

```
$ vi /etc/resolv.conf
```

- **Resolver** configuration file.

- It holds:

- `search:`

- **The domain names that must be used *automatically*:**

- » The FQDN is determined from the hostname and the domain search path.

- `nameserver:`

- **IP address of the DNS servers that will be consulted:**

- » One line, one server.

- » Descending order search.

DNS: More Client configuration

```
$ vi /etc/hosts
```

- For local use only!:

- It is the **first** “DB” that is consulted (*)...
- If a DNS request is resolved by it, the DNS request ends.

- For our local network, always keep updated with FQDN/IPs of our **local servers** at least.

```
$ vi /etc/nsswitch.conf
```

- (*) This file configures **the order** in which the resolution/translation systems will be used.
- **NSS**.

DND: Checking

```
$ named-checkconf, named-checkzone
```

- Check the BIND configuration.

```
$ whois <domain> #client/server
```

- Obtains information about the domain.
- The **whois** service is required.
- `alias whois='whois -h <whoisServer>'`

```
$ dig <name/IP> [server]
```

- Obtains DNS records:

```
# dig @server-01 . ns
```

- Several parameters can be accessed:
 - Server, type of record, translation, etc...

```
$ nslookup <name/IP> [server] -
```