

Drink: implementation details

Who? Stéphane Bortzmeyer
`stephane+fosdem@bortzmeyer.org`

When? FOSDEM, 4 february 2023

What is Drink

A tramway station in Antwerp



Demo

```
% dig @2001:4860:4860::8888 2+2.op.dyn.bortzmeyer.fr TXT
...
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 4199
;; flags: qr rd ra ad; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 2, AUTHORITY: 0
...
;; ANSWER SECTION:
2+2.op.dyn.bortzmeyer.fr. 21600 IN TXT "4"
2+2.op.dyn.bortzmeyer.fr. 21600 IN RRSIG TXT 8 5 86400 (
                                20230208040000 202302031
                                rnCWshkZl11lQInUPnahx1WjU
...
;; WHEN: Sat Feb 04 10:09:13 CET 2023
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 276
```

A dynamic authoritative name server

A dynamic authoritative name server

- Services: returns the IP address of the client,

A dynamic authoritative name server

- Services: returns the IP address of the client,
- and a few others, probably less useful (well, ECS echo could be useful).

A dynamic authoritative name server

- Services: returns the IP address of the client,
- and a few others, probably less useful.
- Goals: learn, have fun, implement a lot of DNS stuff (TCP, NSID, cookies, DNSSEC), test ideas at IETF hackathons.

Implementation

Implementation

- Written in Elixir (with the Erlang runtime),

Implementation

- Written in Elixir,
- Relies on some libraries: many interesting issues (no perfect DNS library, unlike Go or Python).

Implementation

- Written in Elixir,
- Relies on some libraries: many interesting issues.
- Can itself call remote microservices (so can be slow and unreliable),

Implementation

- Written in Elixir,
- Relies on some libraries: many interesting issues.
- Can itself call remote microservices,
- Free software at <https://framagit.org/bortzmeyer/drink>.

Parallelism

Parallelism

- Elixir/Erlang favor massive parallelism,

Parallelism

- Elixir/Erlang favor massive parallelism,
- Every DNS request is a process (an Erlang one, not an OS one),

Parallelism

- Elixir/Erlang favor massive parallelism,
- Every DNS request is a process,
- Every TCP connection is a process,

Parallelism

- Elixir/Erlang favor massive parallelism,
- Every DNS request is a process,
- Every TCP connection is a process,
- Ancillary stuff such as logging periodic statistics is a process,

Parallelism

- Elixir/Erlang favor massive parallelism,
- Every DNS request is a process,
- Every TCP connection is a process,
- Ancillary stuff is a process,
- Consequences: a crashed or stuck request does not block the server,

Parallelism

- Elixir/Erlang favor massive parallelism,
- Every DNS request is a process,
- Every TCP connection is a process,
- Ancillary stuff is a process,
- Consequences: a crashed or stuck request does not block the server,
- For TCP, pipelining and out-of-order replies worked without even thinking of it.

Parallelism

- Elixir/Erlang favor massive parallelism,
- Every DNS request is a process,
- Every TCP connection is a process,
- Ancillary stuff is a process,
- Consequences: a crashed or stuck request does not block the server,
- For TCP, pipelining and out-of-order replies worked without even thinking of it.
- Unlike what many people say, parallel programming is simpler.

Spawning the TCP processes

```
Enum.map(addresses, fn address ->
  socket_result = Socket.TCP.listen(config()["port"],
    [version: version,
     packet: 2, # Automatically add/read a 2-bytes
                # length before data.
     mode: :binary,
     local: [address: address]])
  socket = socket_open(socket_result)
  tcp_pid = spawn_link(Drink.Server,
    :tcp_loop_acceptor,
    [socket, config()["bases"]])
  Process.monitor(tcp_pid)
end)
```

Robustness

Robustness

- Everybody loves RFC 9267,

Robustness

- Everybody loves RFC 9267,
- The Internet is a jungle,

Robustness

- Everybody loves RFC 9267,
- The Internet is a jungle,
- Don't trust the integrity of the incoming packets,

Robustness

- Everybody loves RFC 9267,
- The Internet is a jungle,
- Don't trust the integrity of the incoming packets,
- Compression pointers are a great source of security bugs,

Robustness

- Everybody loves RFC 9267,
- The Internet is a jungle,
- Don't trust the integrity of the incoming packets,
- Compression pointers are a great source of security bugs,
- EDNS can be fun, too (had to be done from scratch for Drink).

Parsing EDNS

```
def extract_edns_opt(bin) do
  <<code::unsigned-integer-size(16)>> =
    Binary.part(bin, 0, 2)
  code_txt =
    case code do
      Drink.EdnsCodes.nsid -> :nsid
      ...
      other -> other
    end
  # Read RFC 6891
  <<length::unsigned-integer-size(16)>> =
    Binary.part(bin, 2, 2)
  data = Binary.part(bin, 4, length)
  [{code_txt, length, data} |
    extract_edns_opt(Binary.part(bin, 4+length, byte_size(bin) - 4+length))]
rescue
  e ->
    raise Drink.EdnsError, inspect(e)
end
```

DNSSEC

DNSSEC

- A dynamic server requires dynamic signing,

DNSSEC

- A dynamic server requires dynamic signing,
- Cryptography is fun: one forgotten bit and everything is wrong,

DNSSEC

- A dynamic server requires dynamic signing,
- Cryptography is fun: one forgotten bit and everything is wrong,
- Example of a problem: the default encoding of DNS replies compresses names in NS and SOA messages (no way to disable it, I had to rewrite the encoding from scratch).

Signing

```
# RFC 4034, section 3.1.8.1
owner_bin = Binary.from_list(Drink.Utils.encode(String.d
short_rrsig = <<ntype::unsigned-integer-size(16),
                @algorithm::unsigned-integer-size(8),
                num_labels::unsigned-integer-size(8),
                ttl::unsigned-integer-size(32),
                expiration::unsigned-integer-size(32),
                inception::unsigned-integer-size(32),
                tag::unsigned-integer-size(16)>>
  |> Binary.append(owner_bin)
encoded_rrset = Drink.Encoding.encode(data)
{:ok, sig} = ExPublicKey.sign(Binary.append(short_rrsig,
                                           encoded_rrset
                                           key)
short_rrsig |> Binary.append(sig)
```

Thou shall not lie

Thou shall not lie

- Dynamic signing of negative answers requires to ignore the 9th commandment,

Thou shall not lie

- Dynamic signing of negative answers requires to ignore the 9th commandment,
- Drink uses the white lies of RFC 4470 (generating NSEC records going from “a bit before” to “a bit after”),

Thou shall not lie

- Dynamic signing of negative answers requires to ignore the 9th commandment,
- Drink uses the white lies of RFC 4470,
- Hard to get right and the behaviour of resolvers vary.

Generating NSEC bitmaps

```
block = floor(Enum.min(1)/256)
todo = Enum.filter(1, fn type -> type < (256*(block+1))
todo = Enum.map(todo, fn type -> type - (256*block) end)
bits = bits_of(todo, 0)
remainder = rem(length(bits), 8)
pad_size =
  if remainder == 0 do
    0
  else
    8 - remainder
  end
```

Tests

Tests

- Internal tests with the Elixir framework,

Tests

- Internal tests with the Elixir framework,
- External tests from a Python program (for diversity),

Tests

- Internal tests with the Elixir framework,
- External tests from a Python program,
- Important: tests with broken requests.

Generating broken requests

```
edns_option = struct.pack(">H", nsid) + \  
                struct.pack(">H", 14) # Wrong length  
additional_section = struct.pack("B", 0) + \  
                struct.pack(">H", opt) + \  
                struct.pack(">H", bufsize) + \  
                struct.pack(">L", 0) + struct.pack(">H", 4) + \  
                edns_option  
data = struct.pack(">HHHHHHH", id, misc, 1, 0, 0, 1) + \  
        encode_name(domain) + struct.pack(">H", txt) + \  
        struct.pack(">H", in_class) + \  
        additional_section  
s.sendto(data, sockaddr)  
rdata, remote_server = s.recvfrom(4096)  
resp = dns.message.from_wire(rdata)  
assert resp.rcode() == formerr
```