

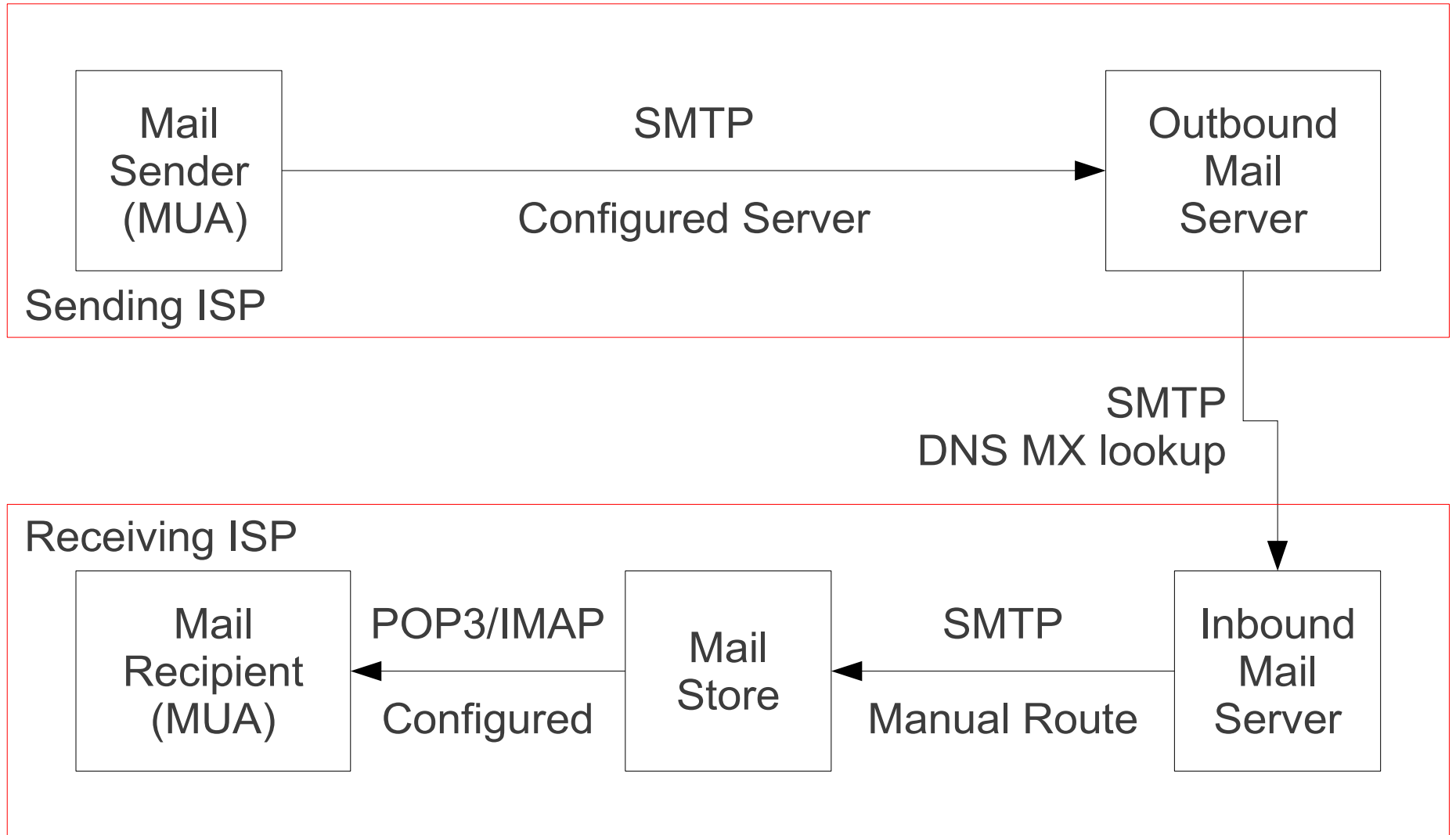
Exim and Internet Mail

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How Internet Email Works

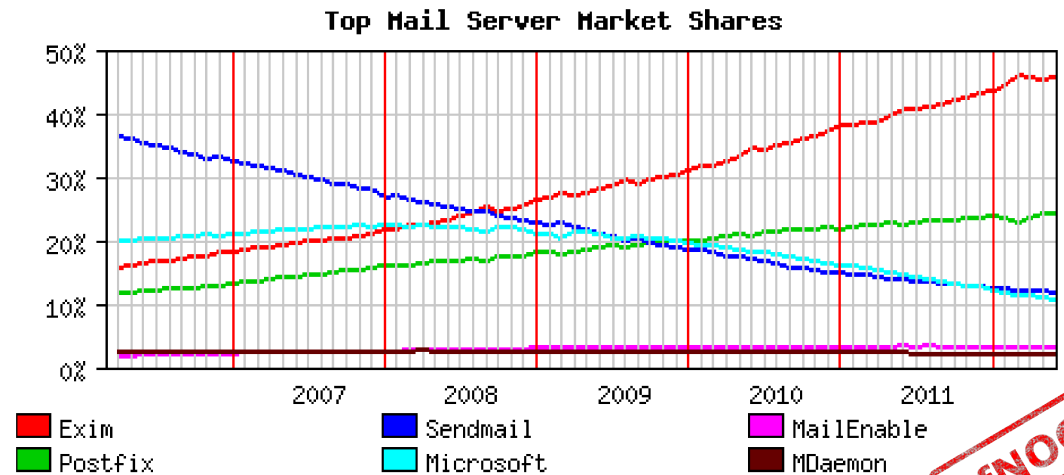
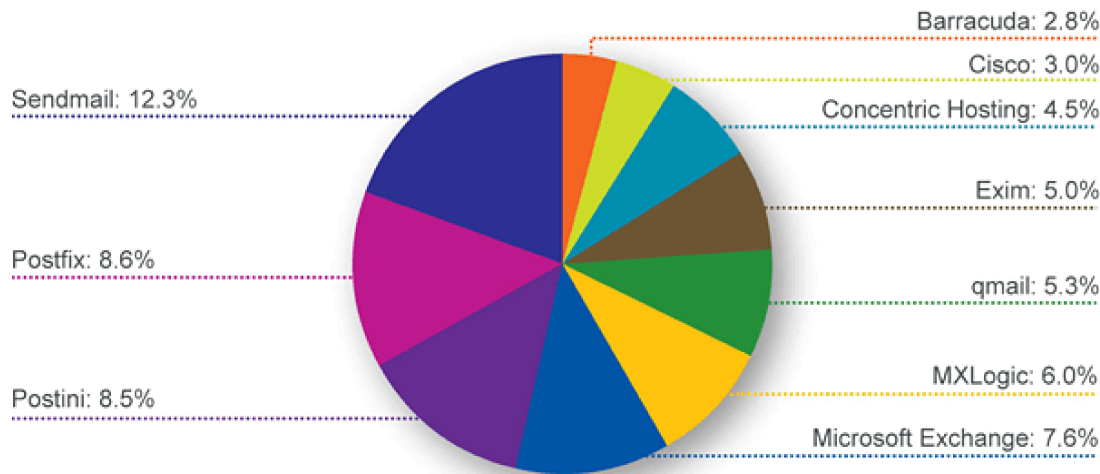


What is Exim

- Listens on port 25 (smtp)
- Accepts mail
- Queues mail
- Delivers it somewhere
 - Using SMTP, LMTP, LDA, mbox or maildir
- No POP, IMAP, calendars, to-do lists, Crackberry!

Who uses Exim

- Most popular public-facing MX in the world!
 - According to one company, results differ!



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Why use Exim

- Flexible (lots of features)
- Reasonably secure
- Reasonably scalable
- Good debugging options
- Sane (but complex) configuration syntax

Why not to use Exim

- Not every problem is a nail
- Simplicity? Use postfix or qmail
- Top security? Use qmail
- Faster delivery? Use postfix or sendmail
- Insane configuration file? Use sendmail
- Note: Exim is not designed for spooling large amounts of mail and not very good at it

Conventions

- File names and technical terms are in *italics*
- Commands to type are shown in monospaced bold italic purple type:
 - ***cat /etc/monospaced/bold/italic/purple***
- Long command lines are wrapped, but with a single bullet point at the start:
 - ***cat /usr/local/etc/foo/bar | less | more |
grep | sed | awk > /usr/local/tmp/foo/bar***
- Text that is output by a program, or should already be in a file, is shown in plain monospaced type:
 - `sshd_enable="YES"`



Root and Sudo

- We will use “sudo” wherever *root* access is required
- Please work through this tutorial as a normal user, not as *root*
- If you use *root*, some error messages from Exim will be different and this may confuse you

Installing Exim (1)

- Install some dependencies as packages, not ports:
 - *sudo -E pkg_add -r libspf2 cyrus-sasl-saslauthd perl pcre mysql51-client*
- Compile Exim from the ports tree:
 - *cd /usr/ports/mail/exim*
 - *sudo make config*
- Enable the following options:
 - *AUTH_RADIUS*
 - *CONTENT_SCAN*
 - *MYSQL*
 - *SASLAUTHD*
 - *SPF*

Installing Exim (2)

- Now compile Exim:
 - *sudo make SUBDIR=old WITH_RADIUS_TYPE=RADLIB EXTRALIBS_EXIM=/usr/lib/libradius.so install clean*
 - All on one line!
 - Should take a while compiling, and end with:
 - ==> Cleaning for exim-4.80.1

Checking Exim Installation

- ***/usr/local/sbin/exim -bV***
- Exim version 4.80.1 ...
- Support for: crypteq iconv() IPv6 use_setclassresources
PAM Perl Expand_dlfunc OpenSSL **Content_Scanning**
Old_Demime **Experimental_SPF**
- Lookups: lsearch wildlsearch nwildlsearch iplsearch cdb
dbm dbmnz dnsdb dsearch **mysql** nis nis0 passwd
- Authenticators: cram_md5 dovecot plaintext spa
- If you don't have these options:
 - ***cd /usr/ports/mail/exim***
 - ***make deinstall clean***
 - Go back to *Installing Exim (1)*



Replacing Sendmail with Exim

- Stop Sendmail:
 - ***sudo /etc/rc.d/sendmail stop***
- Edit */etc/rc.conf* and add these lines:
 - ***sendmail_enable="NONE"***
 - ***sendmail_submit_enable="NO"***
 - ***exim_enable="YES"***
- Edit */etc/mail/mailer.conf* and change these lines:
 - ***sendmail /usr/local/sbin/exim***
 - ***send-mail /usr/local/sbin/exim***
 - ***mailq /usr/local/sbin/exim -bp***
 - ***newaliases /bin/true***



Starting Exim

- Try the following commands:
 - **`sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/exim start`**
Starting exim.
 - **`sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/exim status`**
exim is running as pid XXX
 - **`sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/exim restart`**
Stopping exim.
Starting exim.
- Create `/etc/periodic.conf.local` and add these lines:
 - **`daily_status_include_submit_mailq="NO"`**
 - **`daily_clean_hoststat_enable="NO"`**

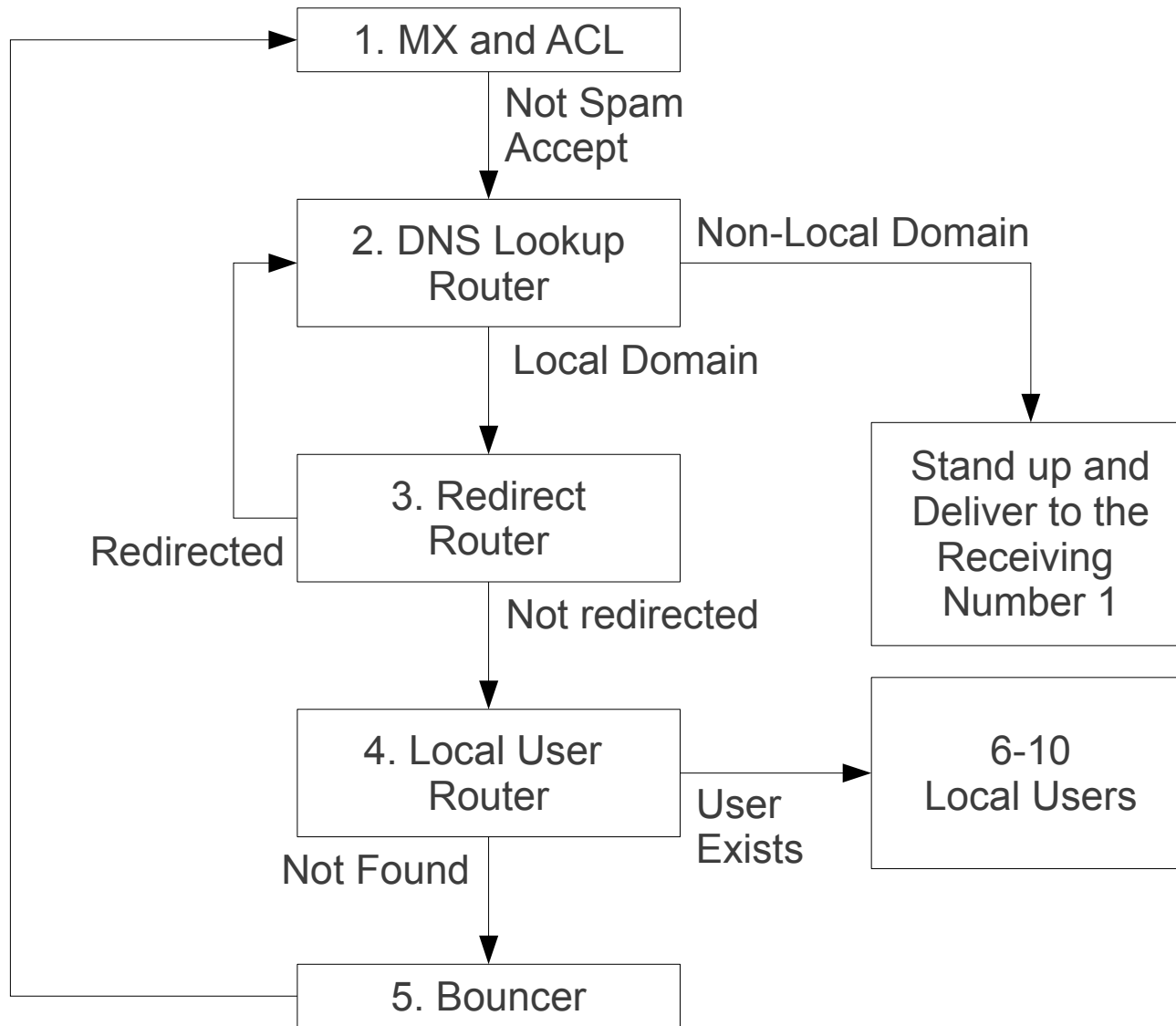


The Exim Game: Preparation

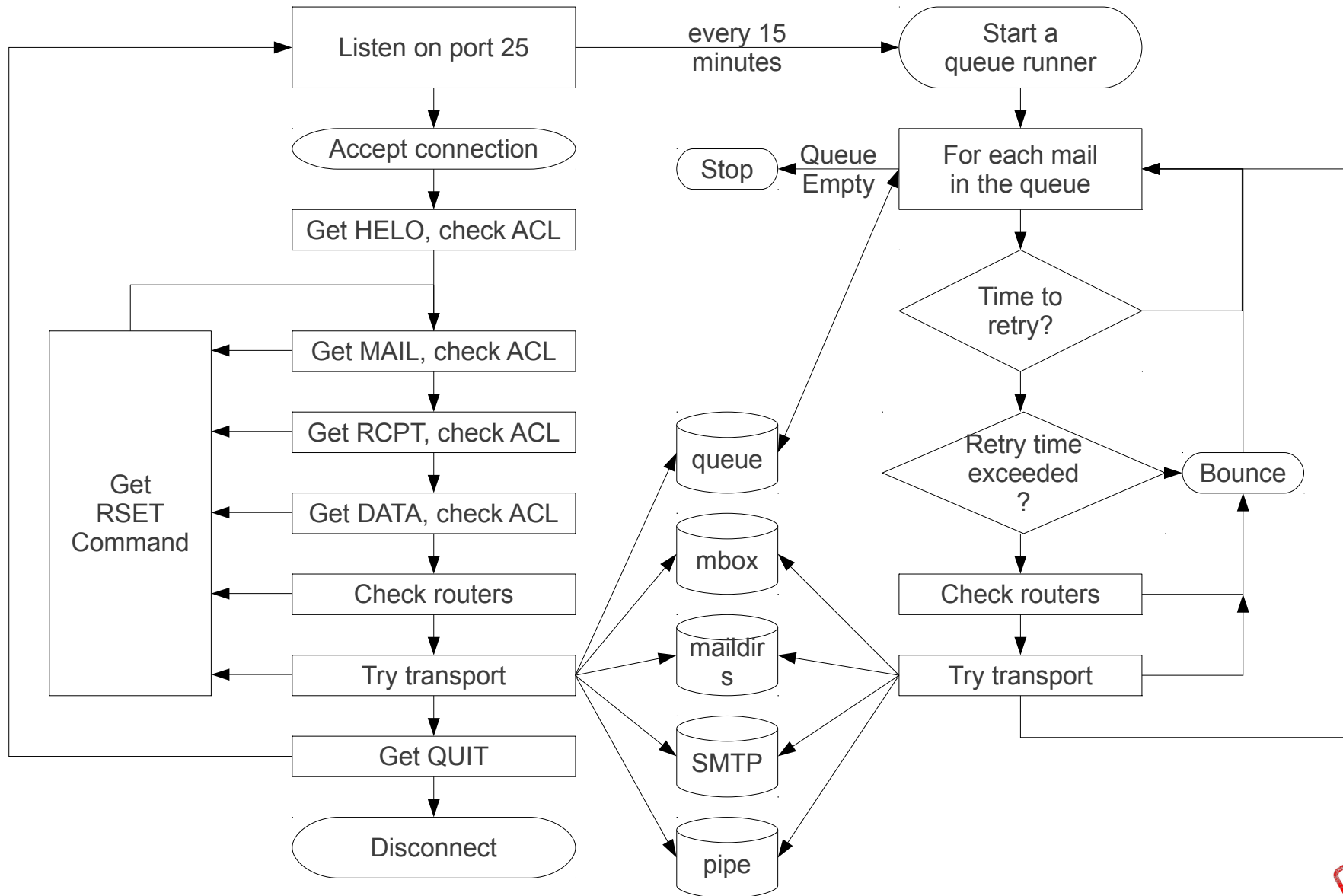
- Divide into groups (e.g. by table)
- Assign a domain name to each group
 - Write these up at the front in the “DNS”
 - Make a public list of valid email addresses
- Each group has at least one person in every role:
 - MX and ACL, DNS Lookup, Redirect, Local Delivery, Bouncer
- Each group creates at least one redirect rule
- Everyone writes an email to someone



The Exim Game



Exim Overview



Basic Configuration

- Configuration file is */usr/local/etc/exim/configure*
- First section has global options
- Other sections start with the word “begin”
- What are they?

Configuration Sections

- **Global** (no name)
 - ACL (access control lists, allow or deny mail)
 - Routers (decide what to do with mail)
 - Transports (control how exactly it is delivered)
 - × Retry rules (advanced feature)
 - × Rewrite (advanced feature)
 - Authenticators (will cover this later)
 - × Local Scan (advanced feature)

Global Settings

- The most important default settings:
 - `# primary_hostname =`
 - `domainlist local_domains = @`
 - `domainlist relay_to_domains =`
 - `hostlist relay_from_hosts = localhost`
 - `acl_smtp_rcpt = acl_check_rcpt`
 - `acl_smtp_data = acl_check_data`
 - `host_lookup = *`
 - `rfc1413_hosts = *`
 - `rfc1413_query_timeout = 5s`
 - `ignore_bounce_errors_after = 2d`
 - `timeout_frozen_after = 7d`
- See Exim manual, chapter 7 for more details



Testing the defaults

- Send email to `afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org`:
 - **telnet localhost 25**
Trying 127.0.0.1...
Connected to localhost.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org ESMTP Exim 4.69 ...
 - **mail from:<afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org>**
250 OK
 - **rcpt to:<afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org>**
250 Accepted
 - **data**
354 Enter message, ending with "." on a line by itself
 - **hello world**
.
250 OK id=1M3RuH-0006WJ-Ia
 - **quit**
221 pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org closing connection



Did it work?

- Check your mailbox:

```
cat /var/mail/afnog
```

```
From afnog@vm56.sse.ws.afnog.org Mon May 07 11:13:10 2012
```

```
Return-path: <afnog@vm56.sse.ws.afnog.org>
```

```
Envelope-to: afnog@vm56.sse.ws.afnog.org
```

```
Delivery-date: Mon, 07 May 2012 11:13:10 +0000
```

```
Received: from localhost (:::1)
```

```
by vm56.sse.ws.afnog.org with smtp (Exim 4.77 (FreeBSD))
```

```
(envelope-from <afnog@vm56.sse.ws.afnog.org>)
```

```
id 1SRLsI-0000FL-Hr
```

```
for afnog@vm56.sse.ws.afnog.org; Mon, 07 May 2012 11:13:10
```

```
+0000
```

```
Message-Id: <E1SRLsI-0000FL-Hr@vm56.sse.ws.afnog.org>
```

```
From: afnog@vm56.sse.ws.afnog.org
```

```
Date: Mon, 07 May 2012 11:13:10 +0000
```

```
hello world
```



Terminology

- In the email address *joe@example.com*:
 - *joe* is the **local part**
 - *example.com* is the **mail domain** (or just **domain**)
- Exim tends to split them apart, so it's easier to treat them separately in the Exim config

Adding another local domain

- Tell Exim to accept mail for *mydomain.example.com*
- Use a domain that doesn't exist yet (no MX records), otherwise Exim will try to deliver it by SMTP (why?)
- How will we know when we've done it?
 - Use an “address test” to see what Exim will do with the mail:
 - ***exim -bt afnog@mydomain.example.com***
afnog@mydomain.example.com is undeliverable
 - Let's make it deliverable!



Adding another local domain

- Add a new entry to the domain list, using the “:” character to separate it from the previous entry:
 - **`sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure`**
 - `domainlist local_domains = @ :`
`mydomain.example.com`
- Now what does the address test say?
 - **`exim -bt afnog@mydomain.example.com`**
`afnog@mydomain.example.com`
`router = localuser, transport = local_delivery`



Testing the new local domain

- Send email to `afnog@mydomain.example.com`:
 - › ***exim -bs***
220 `vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org` ESMTP Exim 4.69 ...
 - › ***mail from:<afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org>***
250 OK
 - › ***rcpt to:<afnog@mydomain.example.com>***
250 Accepted
 - › ***data***
354 Enter message, ending with "." on a line by itself
 - › ***hello my lovely new domain!***
.
250 OK id=1M3RuH-0006WJ-Ia
 - › ***quit***
221 `vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org` closing connection
 - › ***tail /var/mail/afnog***
...
hello my lovely new domain!



Testing Notes

- **exim -bs** is “command-line SMTP mode”
 - similar to connecting to port 25
 - can quit with Control+C
 - no need to restart exim in this case
 - useful for testing new configurations
- we did not restart Exim, so the daemon listening on port 25 is still running the old configuration
 - ***sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/exim restart***
Stopping exim.
Starting exim.

Relay Testing

- `exim -bs` and `telnet localhost 25` both connect “from” localhost
- localhost has special privileges:
 - `hostlist relay_from_hosts = localhost`
 - `accept hosts = +relay_from_hosts`
- try using `exim -bh` to simulate mail relaying by an untrusted server, with IP address `1.2.3.4`:
 - **`exim -bh 1.2.3.4`**
220 noc.sse.ws.afnog.org ESMTP Exim 4.69 ...
 - **`mail from:<afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org>`**
250 OK
 - **`rcpt to:<afnog@anotherdomain.example.com>`**
550 relay not permitted



Allow Relaying

- Change hostlist relay_from_hosts:
 - `hostlist relay_from_hosts = localhost : 1.2.3.0/24`
- Try exim -bh again:
 - `exim -bh 1.2.3.4`
220 noc.sse.ws.afnog.org ESMTP Exim 4.69 ...
 - `mail from:<afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org>`
250 OK
 - `rcpt to:<afnog@anotherdomain.example.com>`
250 Accepted
- What would you expect to happen with:
 - `exim -bh 1.2.3.19`
 - `exim -bh 1.2.5.4`



Types of Lists

- domainlist
 - `*.mydomain.com : @`
- hostlist
 - `192.168.1.0/24 : hostname.domain.com`
- addresslist
 - `*@example.com : example.com : *.example.com :`
- local parts list (not covered here)
- string list (simple)
- see Exim manual chapter 10 for more details



Next up: Routers

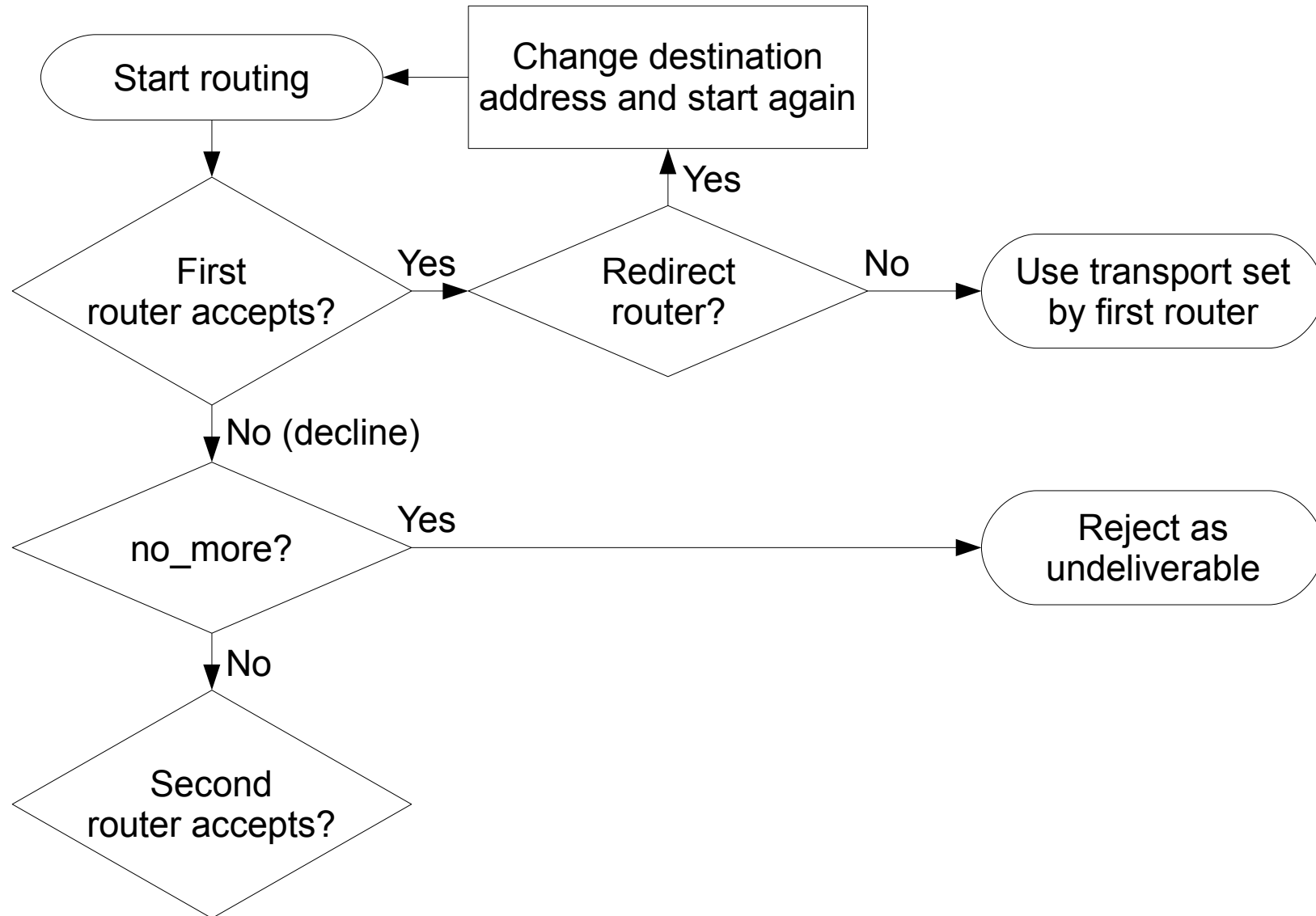
- ✓ Global (no name)
- **Routers (decide what to do with mail)**
 - Transports (control how exactly it is delivered)
 - ◆ Access Control (who is allowed to send mail)
 - ◆ Authenticators (logging in to relay mail)
 - ◆ Troubleshooting (when things go wrong)

Routers

- Decide where to deliver mail to
 - Run in order until one accepts the mail
 - Accepting router sets the transport for the mail
- Can also redirect mail (change the destination)
- Can check whether mail is deliverable:
 - local recipients exist
 - remote domains are routable
- Reject mail in Access Control instead of Routers if possible
 - Router failure → bounce email → Joe Job spam!



Routing Overview



Anatomy of a Router

- Conditions control whether the driver runs:
 - `address_test`, `check_local_user`, `condition`
 - `domains = +local_domains`
 - `user = mail`
 - `transport = trotro` (or `matatu`)
- A driver is specified:
 - `driver = accept`, `redirect`, `manualroute`
- Options control what the driver does (if run)
- Specified driver is run
 - Result may be *accept*, *decline* or *fail*



Types of Routers (drivers)

- A router is a configuration item
- A driver is a piece of code within Exim
 - *accept*: enqueue mail to a transport
 - incoming email, to a file or program (*appendfile* or *pipe*)
 - *dnslookup*: enqueue if domain exists
 - outgoing email, delivery to MX (an *smtp* transport)
 - *manualroute*: enqueue if domain in list
 - outgoing email, delivery to a smarthost (an *smtp* transport)
 - *redirect*: change the destination address
 - used for forwarding, aliases, virtual domains



The Default Routers

- `dnslookup` (for outbound email via SMTP)
- `system_aliases` (lookup in `/etc/aliases`, redirect)
- `userforward` (local user `.forward` files, redirect)
- `localuser` (deliver to local mbox or maildir)

The *dnslookup* Router

- **domains = ! +local_domains** ← *condition*
 - only if destination domain is not in *local_domains*
- **driver = dnslookup** ← *driver*
 - check that the destination domain has MX or A
- **ignore_target_hosts = 0.0.0.0 : 127.0.0.0/8** ← *option*
- **no_more** ← *option*
 - if conditions match but router declines then bounce
- **transport = remote_smtp** ← *option*
 - if router accepts, then use *remote_smtp* to deliver



The *system_aliases* Router

- **driver = redirect**
- allow_fail
- allow_defer
- **data = `{lookup {local_part} lsearch {/etc/aliases}}`**
- user = mailnull
- group = mail
- file_transport = address_file
- pipe_transport = address_pipe



The *userforward* Router

- driver = redirect
 check_local_user
 file = \$home/.forward
 no_verify
 no_expn
 check_ancestor
 file_transport = address_file
 pipe_transport = address_pipe
 reply_transport = address_reply
 condition = \${if exists{\$home/.forward} {yes} {no} }
- The contents of \$home/.forward is read and used as “data” for the redirect router driver
- The condition could be replaced by:
 require_files = \$home/.forward



The *localuser* Router

- `localuser:`
 - `driver = accept`
 - `check_local_user`
 - `transport = local_delivery`
 - `cannot_route_message = Unknown user`
- This is the last router, so if it does not accept, the message is bounced as undeliverable
- This driver always accepts, if the conditions are met
- `check_local_user` means that the local user must exist
- `cannot_route_message` sets the message that will be returned to the SMTP client when this happens



The Redirect Driver

- Tells Exim to call an internal router module called *redirect* to do the routing
- *redirect* is used for aliases files, virtual domains, .forward files... anything that redirects mail
- In the manual this driver is called the “redirect router” (chapter 22)
- Not the same as a router called “redirect”, which could use any driver you like
- I prefer to call it “the redirect driver”
- The data option is expanded to the new destination



The system_aliases Router

- Redirect root's mail to the afnog user
 - ***exim -bt root***
root@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org
router = localuser, transport = local_delivery
 - ***sudo vi /etc/aliases***
 - ***root: afnog***
 - ***exim -bt root***
afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org
<-- root@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org
router = localuser, transport = local_delivery
- Did it work? How do you know?



Simple Redirecting Router

- Redirect a single local part to another local part
 - ***exim -bt foo@mydomain.example.com***
foo@mydomain.example.com is undeliverable
 - ***sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure***
 - begin routers
 - ***redirect_foo_to_afnog:***
 - ***driver = redirect***
 - ***domains = mydomain.example.com***
 - ***local_parts = foo***
 - ***data = afnog***
 - ***exim -bt foo@mydomain.example.com***
afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org
 <-- foo@mydomain.example.com
 router = localuser, transport = local_delivery
- Did it work? How do you know?



Adding a Virtual Domain

- Tell Exim what to do with the mail domain *virtual.example.com*:
 - ***exim -bt foo@virtual.example.com***
foo@virtual.example.com is undeliverable
 - ***sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure***
 - begin routers
 - ***virtual_domain_router:***
 - ***driver = redirect***
 - ***domains = virtual.example.com***
 - ***data = \${lookup {\$local_part} lsearch
{/usr/local/etc/exim/virtual.example.com}}***
 - ***exim -bt foo@virtual.example.com***
foo@virtual.example.com **cannot be resolved at this time**
- What's wrong?



Debugging Routers

➤ `sudo exim -bt -d-all+route foo@virtual.example.com`

- `routing foo@virtual.example.com`
- `-----> virtual_domain_router router <-----
local_part=foo domain=virtual.example.com`
- `virtual_domain_router router: defer for
foo@virtual.example.com`
- `message: failed to expand "${lookup {$local_part} lsearch
{/usr/local/etc/exim/virtual.example.com}}": failed to open
/usr/local/etc/exim/virtual.example.com for linear search:
No such file or directory`
- Exim tried to open
`/usr/local/etc/exim/virtual.example.com`
- The file did not exist
- So the router deferred the message.



Fixing the Problem

- Create the file */usr/local/etc/exim/virtual.example.com*:
 - ***sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/virtual.example.com***
 - ***foo: afnog***
- Test again:
 - ***exim -bt foo@virtual.example.com***
afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org
 <-- foo@virtual.example.com
 router = localuser, transport = local_delivery
- Note that we did not add *virtual.example.com* to our `local_domains` list. Why did it work?



Running many Virtual Domains

- ***exim -bt john@toomany.example.com***
john@toomany.example.com is undeliverable
- ***sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure***
 - begin routers
 - virtual_domain_router:
driver = redirect
require_files = /usr/local/etc/exim/\$domain
data = \${lookup {\$local_part} lsearch \
{/usr/local/etc/exim/***\$domain***}}
 - don't forget to remove the "domains" line!
- ***sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/toomany.example.com***
 - ***john: afnog***
- ***exim -bt john@toomany.example.com***
afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org
 <-- john@toomany.example.com
router = localuser, transport = local_delivery



Manual Routing a Domain

- ***exim -bt foo@manual.example.com***
foo@manual.example.com is undeliverable
- ***sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure***
 - begin routers
 - ***manual_router:***
 - driver = manualroute***
 - domains = manual.example.com***
 - route_data = noc.mtg.afnog.org***
 - transport = remote_smtp***
- ***exim -bt foo@manual.example.com***
foo@manual.example.com
router = manual_router, transport = remote_smtp
host noc.mtg.afnog.org [196.200.223.10]



Manual Routing all Domains

- ***exim -bt foo@example.com***
foo@example.com
router = dnslookup, transport = remote_smtp
host example.com [208.77.188.166]
- ***sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure***
 - # replace the default dnslookup router
smarthost:
driver = ***manualroute***
route_data = noc.mtg.afnog.org
domains = ! +local_domains
transport = remote_smtp
ignore_target_hosts = 0.0.0.0 : 127.0.0.0/8
no_more
- ***exim -bt foo@example.com***
foo@example.com
router = ***smarthost***, transport = remote_smtp
host ***noc.mtg.afnog.org [196.200.223.1]***



Delivering to RADIUS users (1)

- No local account, so *localuser* router won't work
- Edit */usr/local/etc/exim/configure*
- Add the MySQL login details to global section, before `begin acl:`
 - ***hide mysql_servers = localhost/radius/radius/radpass***
- Add a new router, before the *localuser* router:
 - ***radius:***
 - ***driver = accept***
 - ***local_parts = mysql;SELECT 1 FROM radcheck WHERE username = '\${quote_mysql:\$local_part}';***
 - ***transport = local_delivery***



Delivering to RADIUS users (2)

- Edit */usr/local/etc/exim/configure*, find the *local_delivery* transport, and comment out this line:
 - **#** user = \$local_part
- Test with `exim -bt`:
 - ***sudo exim -bt afnog@vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org***
 - afnog@vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org
 - router = **localuser**, transport = local_delivery
 - ***sudo exim -bt fred@vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org***
 - fred@vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org
 - router = **radius**, transport = local_delivery
 - ***sudo exim -bt fredd@vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org***
 - fredd@vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org is undeliverable:
Unknown user



Delivering to RADIUS users (3)

- Restart Exim
- Test with SWAKS (thanks Joost!)
 - ***sudo -E pkg_add -r swaks***
 - ***swaks -t afnog@vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org***
<- 250 OK id=10Hduc-0005Qx-C0
 - ***grep -A2 "Message-Id.*10Hduc-0005Qx-C0"***
/var/mail/afnog
This is a test mailing
 - ***swaks -t fred@vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org***
<- 250 OK id=10HdxG-0005RH-HC
 - ***sudo grep -A2 "Message-Id.*10HdxG-0005RH-HC"***
/var/mail/fred
This is a test mailing
 - ***swaks -t fredd@vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org***



Aptivate's Routers

- **net4dev** (manualroute)
- dnslookup
- **domain_aliases** (redirect, virtual domains)
- **domain_aliases_suffixed** (ditto)
- **default_aliases** (renamed system_aliases)
- **no_more_aliases** (not local_domains)
- user_forward
- **procmail** (user ~/.procmailrc files)
- **localuser_nosuffix** (renamed localuser)



Local Part Suffixes

- Allows you to send mail to afnog-anything and have it delivered to afnog
- Users can filter mail to different boxes
- Configured in the router:
 - `local_part_suffix = +* : -*`
 - `local_part_suffix_optional`
- If user names contain a suffix character, that part of the username will be removed!
 - Put a router without suffixes before the one with suffixes
- Prefix is possible as well



Next up: Transports

- ✓ Global (no name)
- ✓ Routers (decide what to do with mail)
- **Transports (control how exactly it is delivered)**
- ◆ Access Control (who is allowed to send mail)
- ◆ Authenticators (logging in to relay mail)
- ◆ Troubleshooting (when things go wrong)

Transports

- Control how messages are delivered
- Only used when referenced from routers
 - Order does not matter
- Always have a *driver* (type of transport)
- Standard transports:
 - remote_smtp
 - local_delivery
 - address_pipe
 - address_file
 - address_reply



The *remote_smtp* Transport

- `remote_smtp:`
 `driver = smtp`
- no options or conditions
- driver specifies a chunk of Exim code
- this time a transport driver (not a router driver)
- the *smtp* driver delivers mail to another server using SMTP
- the remote server is set by the *dnslookup* or *manualroute* driver

The *local_delivery* Transport

- `local_delivery`:
 - `driver = appendfile`
 - `file = /var/mail/$local_part`
 - `delivery_date_add`
 - `envelope_to_add`
 - `return_path_add`
 - `group = mail`
 - `user = $local_part`
 - `mode = 0660`
 - `no_mode_fail_narrower`
- Delivers mail to a file in mbox format
 - One large file, bad for scalability



Procmail Router

- *sudo -E pkg_add -r procmail*
- Create or edit */home/afnog/.procmailrc*:
 - *:0f*
| sed -e 's/foo/bar/'
 - *echo food | mail afnog*
 - *tail -2 /var/mail/afnog*
food
- Sudo edit */usr/local/etc/exim/configure*:
 - ◆ begin routers
 - *procmail_router:*
driver = accept
check_local_user
transport = procmail_pipe
require_files = \${home}/.procmailrc
no_verify



Procmail Transport

- *sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure*
 - ◆ begin transports
 - *procmail_pipe:*
 - driver = pipe*
 - command = "/usr/local/bin/procmail"*
 - return_path_add*
 - delivery_date_add*
 - envelope_to_add*
- *sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/exim restart*
- *echo food | mail afnog*
- *tail -2 /var/mail/afnog*
bard
- *rm ~/.procmailrc*



Switch to Maildirs

➤ *sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure*

- local_delivery:
 - driver = appendfile
 - # file = /var/mail/\$local_part
 - maildir_format*
 - directory = \$home/mail*
 - delivery_date_add
 - envelope_to_add
 - return_path_add
 - group = mail
 - user = \$local_part
 - mode = 0660
 - no_mode_fail_narrower

➤ *sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/exim restart*

➤ *ls /home/afnog/mail*

➤ *echo test | mail afnog*

➤ *ls /home/afnog/mail*



Next up: Access Control

- ✓ Global (no name)
- ✓ Routers (decide what to do with mail)
- ✓ Transports (control how exactly it is delivered)
- **Access Control (who is allowed to send mail)**
- ◆ Authenticators (logging in to relay mail)
- ◆ Troubleshooting (when things go wrong)

Access Control

- Controls who is allowed to send you mail, or not
- Most useful weapon in the war against spam
- Most SMTP commands are subject to an Access Control List (ACL) (see chapter 40 of the manual)
- Most commonly used are RCPT and DATA ACLs
 - Why not MAIL?
- DATA ACL applies at the end of the DATA command, after the message body has been sent
 - Too late to reject individual recipients
 - Too late to save bandwidth



Using Access Control Lists

- ACLs are named followed by a colon : and usually start with *acl_*
 - which ACLs does Exim include by default?
- ACLs can appear in any order in the “acl” section
- ACLs are not used unless:
 - referenced in the global configuration, or
 - called by another ACL
- Look for *acl_** statements in the global section
 - which ACLs does Exim use by default?

Anatomy of an ACL

- Every ACL consists of Access Control Entries
- Every entry starts with a **verb**
 - every verb ends the previous entry and starts a new one
- Other lines are **conditions** and **options**
 - Conditions control **whether** the verb is executed
 - Options control **what** the verb does when executed
- Order of entries and lines in an ACL is important
 - Processing of an entry stops as soon as a condition fails
 - Options after a condition that fails are not used
 - Can change the options and then apply more conditions



Access Control Verbs

- **accept:** the command is allowed
- **defer:** command refused, returns a temporary error
- **deny:** command refused, returns a permanent error
- **discard:** returns success but throws away the recipient or message
- **drop:** like deny, but drops the connection too
- **require:** opposite of deny, denies the message if not all conditions are met
- **warn:** writes a warning message to the logs, but allows command to proceed



The *acl_check_rcpt* ACL

- `accept hosts = :`
- `deny message = Restricted characters in address`
`domains = +local_domains`
`local_parts = ^[.] : ^.*[!@%|/|]`
- `accept local_parts = postmaster`
`domains = +local_domains`
- `require verify = sender`
- `accept hosts = +relay_from_hosts`
`control = submission`
- `accept authenticated = *`
`control = submission`
- `require message = relay not permitted`
`domains = +local_domains : +relay_to_domains`
- `require verify = recipient`



Address Verification

- *verify = sender* or *verify = recipient*
- \$sender_verify_failure or \$recipient_verify_failure will contain one of the following words:
 - **qualify** (the address was unqualified (no domain), and the message was neither local nor came from an exempted host)
 - **route** (routing failed)
 - **mail** (routing succeeded, and a callout was attempted; rejection occurred at or before the MAIL command)
 - **recipient** (the RCPT command in a callout was rejected)
 - **postmaster** (the postmaster check in a callout was rejected)



Callouts

- Standard address verification only uses the Exim configuration file and the DNS
- Callouts make a pretend SMTP connection
 - Sender callouts connect to the sender domain's MX
 - Recipient callouts connect to the recipient domain's MX
- Callouts can reduce spam by rejecting invalid addresses
- Callouts do block some legitimate email
- Callouts are controversial, some consider them abuse

Configuring Callouts

- Sudo edit */usr/local/etc/exim/configure*:
 - domainlist relay_to_domains = *rl.example.com*
 - acl_check_rcpt:
 - require *message = Sender verify failed*
verify = sender/*callout=120s*
 - require *message = Recipient verify failed*
verify = recipient/*callout=120s*



Testing Callouts

- *exim -bhc 1.2.3.4*
 - *mail from:<nonexist@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org>*
 - *rcpt to:<afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org>*
550 Sender verify failed
 - *rset*
 - *mail from:<afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org>*
 - *rcpt to:<nonexist@rl.example.com>*
550 Recipient verify failed



Blocking Senders and Recipients

- deny senders = naNaijaadmin@list.nanaija.com
- deny senders = *@web-performers.com
message = Get lost, you lying link exchange \ spammers
- deny hosts = *.mailserve.net
message = Get lost, you lying link exchange \ spammers
- deny senders = bfsummit@bfsummit.com
message = I hope you catch bird flu and die
- deny senders = \N^.*mission2007.*@dgroups.org\$\N
recipients = info@aidworld.org
message = Please remove me from your list.



Hate your neighbour?

- Add to your RCPT ACL:
 - `acl_check_rcpt:`
 - ***deny hosts = pcYY.sse.ws.afnog.org***
message = I don't like your socks
- ***sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/exim restart***
- Ask your neighbour to test it:
 - ***telnet pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org 25***
 - ***mail from:<afnog@pcYY.sse.ws.afnog.org>***
 - ***rcpt to:<afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org>***
550 I don't like your socks
- How would you block everyone in the classroom?
- What do you see in the logs?



Sender Policy Framework

- Allows you to say which IPs are allowed to send from your domain (prevent spammers from using it)
- Useful when you want to block all mail from a domain, or only participate in SRS mailing lists
- Only works when people reject mails that fail SPF
- Causes problems for mailing lists not using SRS
- Many people complain, but it works for me!



Enable SPF for your domain

- Generate your SPF record for your domain using *www.openspf.org* that only allows your PC to send:
 - e.g. "v=spf1 a:pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org -all"
- Edit the zone file for XXXX.bogus.gh and add:
 - **@ IN TXT "v=spf1 a:pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org ~all"**
- Reload the zone and query the TXT record using *dig*
- Add an SPF check high up in your RCPT ACL:
 - `acl_check_rcpt:`
 - **deny spf = fail**
message = SPF check failed: \$spf_smtp_comment
log_message = SPF check failed: \$spf_result



Testing SPF on your domain

- Decide who will be the recipient
 - SPF protects recipients against forged senders
 - Ideally cooperate with someone else to test each other
- You need to pass sender verification:
 - Either add `xxxx.bogus.gh` to `local_domains` on the MX
 - Or remove `verify = sender` from the recipient's `exim`
- ***exim -bh 1.2.3.4***
 - ***mail from:<afnog@bogus.gh>***
 - ***rcpt to:<afnog@pcXX.sse.ws.afnog.org>***
 - ***550 Sender verify failed***



Blackmail

- deny ! hosts = +relay_from_hosts
 ! authenticated = *
 dnslists = zen.spamhaus.org
 message = \$sender_host_address \
 blacklisted by Spamhaus\
 (http://www.spamhaus.org/query/bl?
ip=\$sender_host_address)\
 \$dnslist_text
- warn ! hosts = +relay_from_hosts
 ! authenticated = *
 dnslists = bl.spamcop.net
 message = X-Warning: \
 \$sender_host_address blacklisted \
 by \$dnslist_domain (\$dnslist_text)



Name Calling

- deny condition = `${if match \`
 `{${lookup dnsdb \`
 `{zns=${sender_address_domain}}}` `\`
 `{.*\.ip4dns\.com}}`
 message = You look like a spammer to me
- Searches for nameservers for the sender's mail domain, and recursively up until it finds some
- Pattern match against `.*\.ip4dns\.com`
 - `ns1.ip4dns.com`
 - `ns2.ip4dns.com`



Don't Pretend to be Me

- Catch people who say HELO (my own IP address):
 - Global section:
 - ***acl_smtp_helo = acl_check_helo***
 - begin acl section:
 - acl_check_helo:
 - ***drop ! hosts = :***
 - ***! hosts = 80.248.178.170***
 - ***condition = \${if eq ***
 - ***{smtp_command_argument} ***
 - ***{80.248.178.170}}***
 - ***message = You are SO lying***
 - acl_check_rcpt: ...



Ignore people who don't say HELO

- `acl_smtp_helo = acl_check_helo`
- `acl_check_helo:`

```
drop condition = ${if or { \  
    {!match{$smtp_command_argument} \  
        {\\\.}} \  
    { match{$smtp_command_argument} \  
        {\\d+[\.-]\\d+[\.-]\\d+[\.-]\\d+}} \  
    }}  
message = Please configure your mail \  
server with a real hostname  
log_message = Invalid HELO  
accept
```
- `acl_check_rcpt:`

```
deny condition = ${if eq {$sender_helo_name}{}}  
message = Please say HELO first
```



Assassinating Spam(mers)

- `sudo -E pkg_add -r p5-Mail-SpamAssassin`
- `cd /usr/local/etc/mail/spamassassin`
- `sudo cp local.cf.sample local.cf`
- `sudo sa-update`
- `sudo vi /etc/rc.conf`
 - `spamd_enable="YES"`
- `sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/sa-spamd start`
 - Starting spamd.
- `fetch http://www.ws.afnog.org/afnog2012/sse/exim/spam.txt`
- `spamc -R < spam.txt`
 - Spam detection software, running on the system "vm56.sse.ws.afnog.org", has identified this incoming email as possible spam...



Filtering Mail through SpamAssassin

- Uncomment and modify the following lines:
 - `acl_check_data`
 - **deny** `spam` = `nobody`
 `message` = `Possible spam detected`
 `add_header` = `X-Spam_score: $spam_score\n\`
 `X-Spam_score_int: $spam_score_int\n\`
 `X-Spam_bar: $spam_bar\n\`
 `X-Spam_report: $spam_report`
- Test with *swaks*:
 - **`swaks -t afnog@localhost --body - < spam.txt`**
 - `<** 550 Administrative prohibition`



Installing Clam Antivirus (1)

- Install and enable ClamAV software:
 - ***sudo -E pkg_add -r clamav***
 - ***sudo pw usermod clamav -G mail***
 - ***sudo vi /etc/rc.conf***
 - ***clamav_clamd_enable="YES"***
 - ***clamav_freshclam_enable="YES"***
- Add the following lines to */usr/local/etc/freshclam.conf*:
 - ***HTTPProxyServer 196.200.223.1***
 - ***HTTPProxyPort 3128***

Installing Clam Antivirus (2)

- Download the latest definitions:
 - ***sudo freshclam***
- This will take a long time, and then output:
 - Database updated (1212167 signatures) from database.clamav.net
 - WARNING: Clamd was NOT notified: Can't connect to clamd through /var/run/clamav/clamd.sock
- Start the ClamAV daemon:
 - ***sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/clamav-clamd start***
 - Starting clamav_clamd.

Testing Clam Antivirus

- Test that it works!
 - **fetch**
<http://www.ws.afnog.org/afnog2012/sse/exim/eicar>
 - **clamscan eicar**
 - `/usr/home/afnog/eicar: Eicar-Test-Signature
FOUND`
 - `----- SCAN SUMMARY -----`
 - `Infected files: 1`



Filtering Mail through ClamAV

- Edit */usr/local/etc/exim/configure*:
 - Uncomment and change these lines:
 - ***av_scanner = clamd:/var/run/clamav/clamd.sock***
 - `deny malware = *`
 - `message = This message contains a virus \ ($malware_name).`
- Restart Exim
- Test with *swaks*:
 - ***swaks -t afnog@localhost -d - < eicar***
 - `<** 550 This message contains a virus (Eicar-Test-Signature).`



Next up: Authenticators

- ✓ Global (no name)
- ✓ Routers (decide what to do with mail)
- ✓ Transports (control how exactly it is delivered)
- ✓ Access Control (who is allowed to send mail)
- **Authenticators (logging in to relay mail)**
- ◆ Troubleshooting (when things go wrong)

Why use SMTP Authentication?

- Your boss wants to send outbound mail from home
- You want to reduce spam from your customers
- You want to use the same server for inbound and outbound mail
- **Warning:** it's easy to enable SMTP authentication and not use SSL, resulting in plain text passwords being sent over the Internet
- PAM doesn't work directly from Exim on FreeBSD, so we'll install *saslauthd* for PAM authentication

Installing *saslauthd*

- Install the binary package (may already be installed):
 - ***sudo -E pkg_add -r cyrus-sasl-saslauthd***
- Enable and start it:
 - ***sudo vi /etc/rc.conf***
 - ***saslauthd_enable="YES"***
 - ***sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/saslauthd start***
- Test that it authenticates properly:
 - ***sudo testsaslauthd -u afnog -p afnog***
0: OK "Success."
 - ***sudo testsaslauthd -u afnog -p wrong***
0: NO "authentication failed"



Enabling SMTP Authentication

➤ *sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure*

- After begin authenticators, uncomment and change this:

➤ LOGIN:

```
driver = plaintext
server_set_id = $auth1
server_prompts = <| Username: | Password:
server_condition = `${if saslauthd}{{ $auth1 } |
  { $auth2 } {smtp}}}
```

- But leave this line commented out:

➤ `# server_advertise_condition = ...`

➤ *exim -bs*

```
220 vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org ESMTP Exim 4.69 ...
```

```
ehlo 1.2.3
```

```
250-vmXX.sse.ws.afnog.org Hello afnog at 1.2.3
```

```
250-AUTH LOGIN
```



Testing SMTP Authentication

- ***sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/exim restart***
Stopping exim.
Starting exim.
- ***swaks -t afnog@localhost -a LOGIN -au afnog -ap afnog***
<- 235 Authentication succeeded
-> MAIL FROM:<afnog@freebsd82>
<- 250 OK
- ***swaks -t afnog@localhost -a LOGIN -au afnog -ap wrong***
<** 535 Incorrect authentication data
*** No authentication type succeeded
-> QUIT



Using RADIUS for Authentication

- *sudo radtest afnog afnog localhost 0 afnog*
rad_recv: Access-Accept packet ...
- *vi /etc/radius.conf*
 - *auth localhost afnog*
- *sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure*
 - LOGIN:
 - server_condition = *#{if radius {\$auth1:\$auth2}}*
- *sudo -u mailnull exim -bh 1.2.4.5*
220 noc.sse.ws.afnog.org ESMTP Exim 4.69 ...
- *ehlo 0*
... 250-AUTH LOGIN ...
- *auth login*
334 VXNlcm5hbWU6
- *YWZub2c=*
- *YWZub2c=*
235 Authentication succeeded



Testing Authenticated Relaying

- ***sudo -u mailnull exim -bh 1.2.4.5***
220 noc.sse.ws.afnog.org ESMTP Exim 4.69 ...
- ***mail from:<afnog@mydomain.example.com>***
250 OK
- ***rcpt to:<example@example.com>***
550 relay not permitted
- ***ehlo 0***
- ***auth login***
- ***YWZub2c=***
- ***c3Nl***
235 Authentication succeeded
- ***mail from:<afnog@mydomain.example.com>***
- ***rcpt to:<example@example.com>***
250 Accepted



Encrypting SMTP Sessions

- Sending password without encryption is a bad idea!
- SSL encryption requires a certificate for the server
- We will re-use the self-signed SSL certificate we generated for Apache earlier
- In production you should use a purchased SSL certificate, to avoid man-in-the-middle attacks
- Encryption on port 25 uses STARTTLS to start encryption
- Port 465 forces encryption without STARTTLS, but conflicts with some Cisco routers



Enabling SSL Encryption

- Copy the certificates from Apache:
 - *cd /usr/local/etc/apache22*
 - *sudo cp server.* ../exim*
- Edit the Exim configuration and uncomment:
 - *sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure*
 - `tls_advertise_hosts = *`
 - `tls_certificate = /usr/local/etc/exim/server.crt`
 - `tls_privatekey = /usr/local/etc/exim/server.key`
 - `daemon_smtp_ports = 25 : 465 : 587`
 - `tls_on_connect_ports = 465`
- Restart Exim to activate the changes
 - *sudo /usr/local/etc/rc.d/exim restart*



Testing SSL Encryption

- Use swaks again to test that TLS encrypted connections work:
 - *swaks --helo 1.2.3 --to afnog@localhost --auth LOGIN --auth-user afnog --auth-password afnog -tls*
...
<~ 235 Authentication succeeded
<~ 250 OK id=1QR1DN-0000LL-0h
- Also test the SMTPS service on port 465:
 - *swaks --helo 1.2.3 --to afnog@localhost --auth LOGIN --auth-user afnog --auth-password afnog -tls***c**
...
<~ 235 Authentication succeeded
<~ 250 OK id=1QR1DN-0000LL-0h



Requiring SSL for Authentication

- Disable advertising the SMTP AUTH command when the session is not encrypted (chapter 33)
 - *sudo vi /usr/local/etc/exim/configure*
- Uncomment this line:
 - LOGIN
 - ...
 - ```
server_advertise_condition = \
 ${if def:tls_cipher}
```
- ```
swaks --helo 1.2.3 --to afnog@localhost --auth LOGIN  
--auth-user afnog --auth-password afnog  
*** Host did not advertise authentication
```
- ```
swaks --helo 1.2.3 --to afnog@localhost --auth LOGIN
--auth-user afnog --auth-password afnog -tls
<~ 235 Authentication succeeded
<~ 250 OK id=1QRlDN-0000LL-0h
```





# Next up: Troubleshooting

---

- ✓ Global (no name)
- ✓ Routers (decide what to do with mail)
- ✓ Transports (control how exactly it is delivered)
- ✓ Access Control (who is allowed to send mail)
- ✓ Authenticators (logging in to relay mail)
- **Troubleshooting (when things go wrong)**



# Logs and Debugging

---

- The main Exim log files are:
  - `/var/log/exim/mainlog` (everything)
  - `/var/log/exim/rejectlog` (rejected messages only)
  - `/var/log/exim/paniclog` (errors about lost messages)
- What do the logs say for a successful mail?
- Use `exigrep` to find messages matching an address, user or message ID:
  - `sudo exigrep john /var/log/exim/mainlog`
- What does it output? Why is it better than `grep`?



# The Mail Queue

---

- When Exim accepts a message that it cannot deliver immediately, it is placed in the queue
- Stored in */var/spool/exim/input*
- Two files per message: *id-D* and *id-H*
- What do they contain? Have a look:
  - Put a message in the queue:
    - *exim -odq afnog@mydomain.example.com*  
*This is a test*  
.
  - ♦ Run *sudo mailq* or *sudo exim -bp* to see the message ID



# The Mail Queue

---

- Viewing messages on the queue:
  - ***sudo exim -Mvb <message-id>*** (view body only)
  - ***sudo exim -Mvh <message-id>*** (view headers only)
  - ***sudo exim -Mvc <message-id>*** (view whole message)
  - ***sudo exim -Mvl <message-id>*** (view logs)
- Force a queue run, to see why the message is failing:
  - ***sudo exim -v -qf <message-id>***

# Where to Get Help

---

- The Exim Book
  - You should get a free copy this week
- The Exim Manual
  - <http://www.exim.org/docs.html>
- AfNOG Mailing List
  - <http://www.afnog.org/maillinglist.html>
  - Please subscribe to this list!
- Exim Users Mailing List
  - <http://lists.exim.org/mailman/listinfo/exim-users>
- The Aptivate Team!

