



# DNSSEC Training Workshop





# Why DNSSEC?

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- **DNS is not secure**
  - Known vulnerabilities
  - People depend more and more on DNS
- **DNSSEC protects against data spoofing and corruption**
- **Why this course:**
  - To raise awareness on DNSSEC
  - To provide handles for deployment to meet Federal mandates



# Why Worry About DNS Security?

- **Forged DNS data breaks most applications:**
  - Web site can be replaced with a false site without ever touching the victim site
  - EMail can be re-routed or mis-delivered
  - Login compromise through man in the middle attack
- **DNS attacks are often a precursor to other attacks**
- **DNS attack tools are readily available on the Internet**
- **All parts of the DNS hierarchy are vulnerable to attack, i.e., root level to lowest lever resolver and client**



# Why is This Important?

- **Infrastructure problems present a unique challenge**
  - New capabilities must not disrupt old implementations
    - ‘Backward Compatibility’ essential to successful fielding
  - Difficult for applications to counter infrastructure attack
    - Typically, there is no alternative if DNS fails
- **For most applications and end users, when their DNS service is not working correctly, the “INTERNET IS DOWN”**



# What Does DNSSEC Do?

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- **Provides an approach so DNS users can:**
  - Validate that data they receive came from the correct originator, i.e., Source Authenticity
  - Validate that data they receive is the data the originator put into the DNS, i.e., Data Integrity
- **Approach integrates with existing server infrastructure and user clients**
- **Maximize benefit when application software can determine if DNS data was received with authenticity and integrity**



# Course Outline

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- **Introduction**
- **DNSSEC mechanisms**
  - New RRs
  - Signing a single zone
  - Building chains of trust
  - Key exchange and key rollovers
  - Show how each of these things can be simplified with new tools.
    - References to NIST Guide 800-81 will be listed.
- **DNSSEC-Capable Applications**
- **Operational concerns**
- **Conclusions**



# DNS: Known Concepts

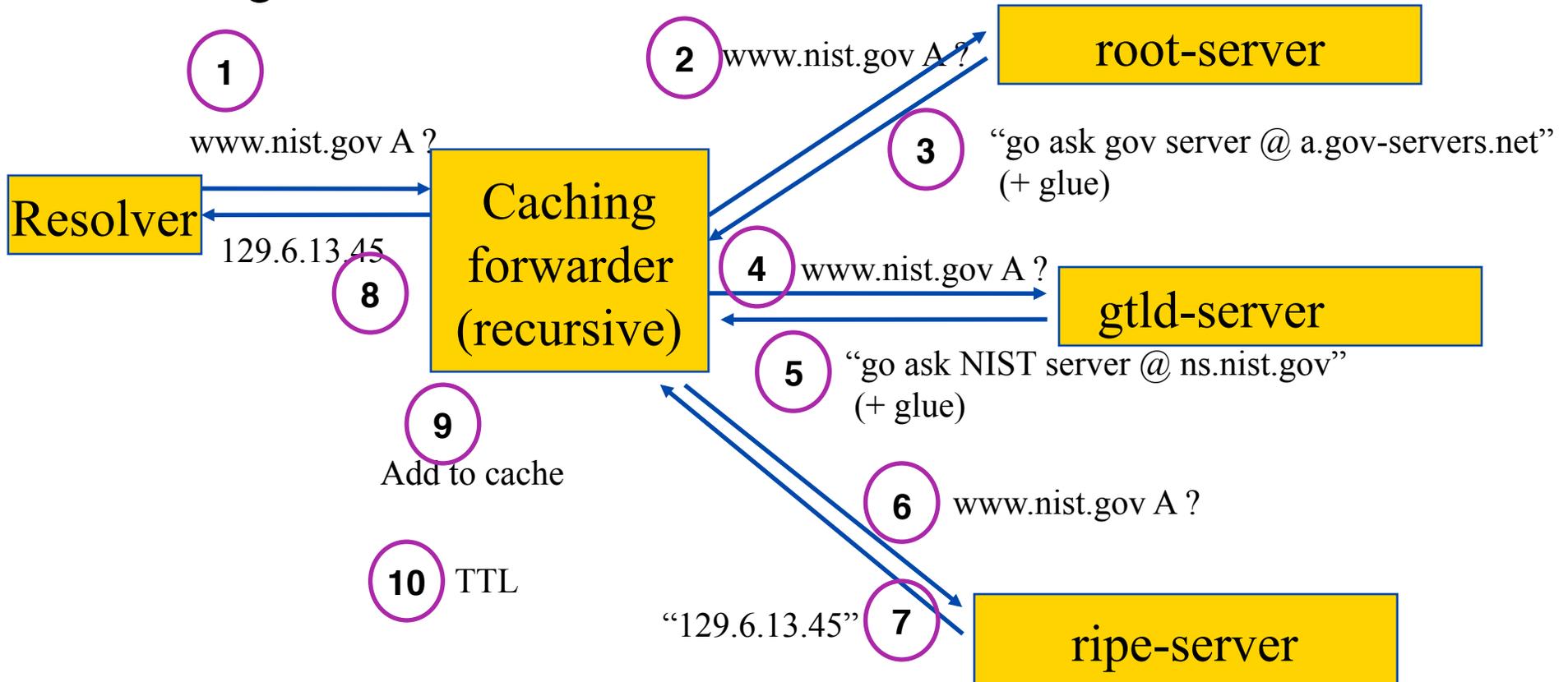
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- **Known DNS concepts:**
  - Delegation, Referral, Zone, RRs, label, RDATA, authoritative server, caching forwarder, stub and full resolver, SOA parameters, etc
  - Don't know? Do ask!
  
- **Operational knowledge with BIND**
  - BIND 9 named.conf, writing zone files
  - All examples based on IPv4

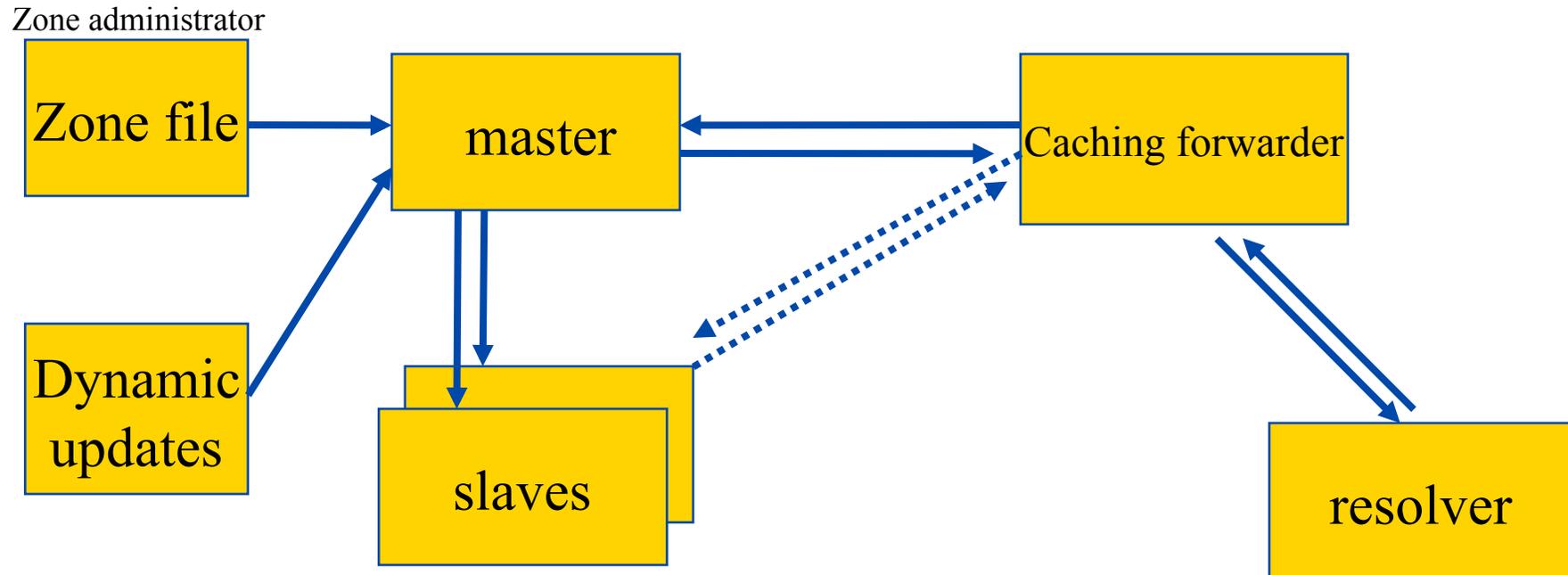
# Reminder: DNS Resolving

Question:

www.nist.gov A



# DNS: Data Flow





# DNS Protocol Vulnerability

- **DNS data can be spoofed and corrupted between authoritative servers and resolvers or forwarders**
- **The DNS protocol does not allow you to check the validity of DNS data**
  - Polluted caching forwarders can cause harm for quite some time (TTL)
  - Corrupted DNS data might end up in caches and stay there for a long time



# DNSSEC protects..

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- **DNSSEC protects against data spoofing and corruption**
  - TSIG/SIG0: provides mechanisms to authenticate communication between servers
  - DNSKEY/RRSIG/NSEC: provides mechanisms to establish authenticity and integrity of data
  - DS: provides a mechanism to delegate trust to public keys of third parties
- **A secure DNS will be used as an infrastructure with public keys**
  - However it is **NOT** a PKI



# DNSSEC Current State

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- **RFC 4033**
  - DNS Security Introduction and Requirements
- **RFC 4034**
  - Resource Records for the DNS Security Extensions
- **RFC 4035**
  - Protocol Modifications for the DNS Security Extensions
- **NIST SP 800-81 (Deployment guide for DNSSEC)**
  - Reference for FIMSA controls on DNS Security



# Configuration & Installation

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- **BIND 9.3 or later supports current DNSSEC**
  - BUT: BIND 9.4.1 has support for TSIG with SHA-1
    - <ftp://ftp.isc.org/isc/bind9/>
- **TSIG requires servers to sync time (time zone!)**
- **Openssl libraries required for crypto parts**
  - <http://www.openssl.org/>
- **Any FIPS 140-2 compliant libraries should be acceptable**



# Bind DNSSEC Tools

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- **named**
- **dnssec-keygen**
  - Generate keys of various types
- **dnssec-signzone**
  - Sign a zone
- **dig**
  - Troubleshoot:                      Usage: dig +dnssec @...
- **named-checkzone & named-checkconf**
  - syntax check for zone files and named.conf



# Server/Named Configuration

- **The configuration file is called “named.conf”**
- **Documentation in `<src>/doc/arm/Bv9ARM.html`**
- **Turn on DNSSEC in “options” statement**
  - `dnssec-enable yes;`
- **Turn on logging for troubleshooting**
  - Several categories
  - Categories are processed in one or more channels
  - Channels specify where the output goes

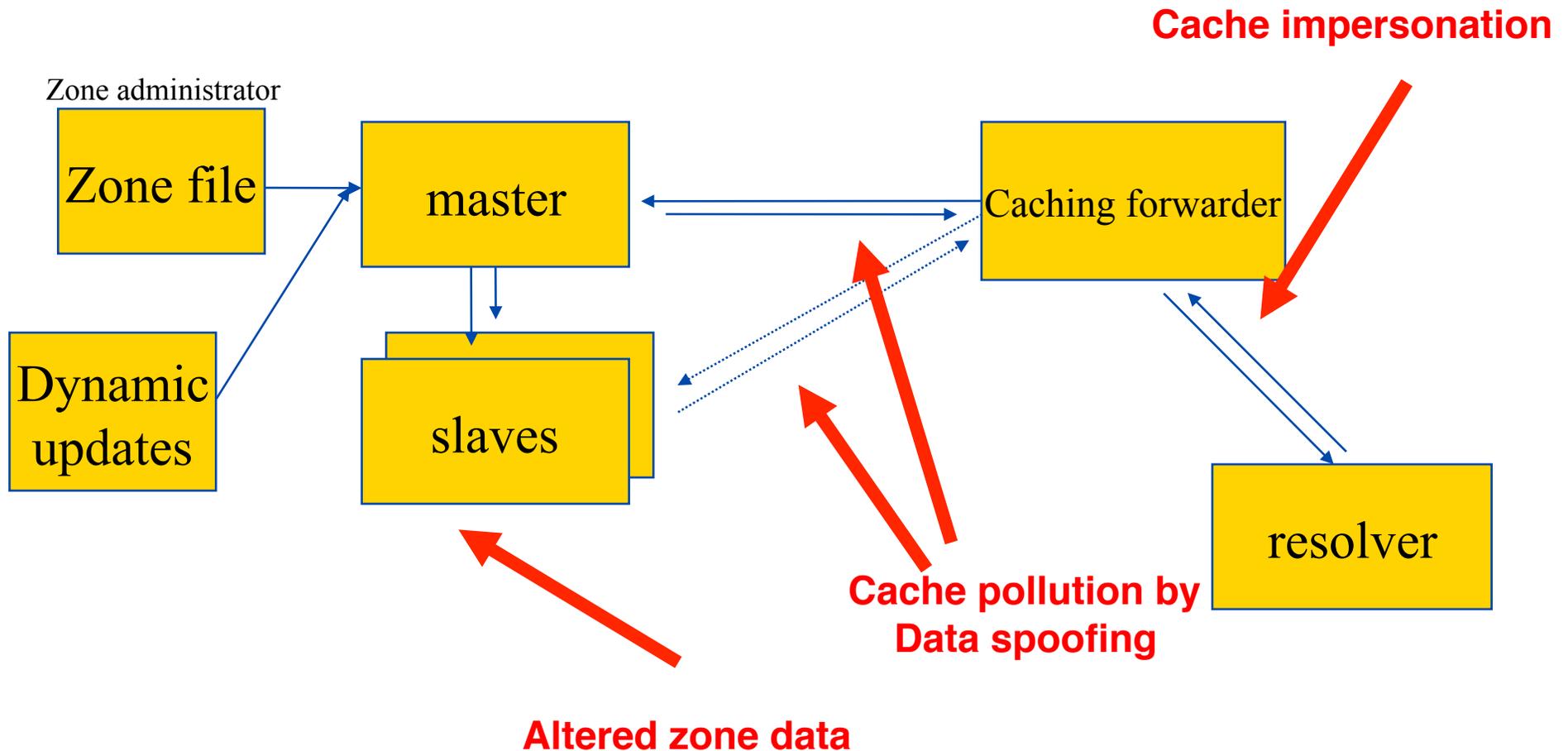


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## DNSSEC Mechanisms

- New Resource Records
  - Setting up a Secure Zone
  - Delegating Signing Authority
  - Key Rollovers
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# Vulnerabilities protected by DNSKEY / RRSIG / NSEC





# DNSSEC hypersummary

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- **Data authenticity and integrity by signing the Resource Records Sets with private key**
- **Public DNSKEYs used to verify the RRSIGs**
- **Children sign their zones with their private key**
  - Authenticity of that key established by signature/checksum by the parent (DS)
- **Ideal case: one public DNSKEY distributed**



# The DNS is not a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)



- All key procedures are based on local policy
- A PKI is as strong as its weakest link
  - Certificate Authorities control this by SLAs
- The DNS does not have Certificate Revocation Lists
- If the domain is under one administrative control you might be able to enforce policy



# Zone Status Terminology

- **Verifiably Secure**
  - RRset and its RRSIG can be verified with a DNSKEY that can be chased back to a trusted key, the parent has a DS record
- **Verifiably Insecure**
  - RRset sits in a zone that is not signed and for which the parent has no DS record
- **BAD (or BOGUS)**
  - RRset and its RRSIG can not be verified (somebody messed with the sig, the RRset, or the RRSIG expired)
  - A zone and its subzones are BAD when the parent's signature over the Child's key (DS) is BAD

# New Resource Records

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- **3 Public key crypto related RRs**
  - RRSIG: Signature over RRset made using private key
  - DNSKEY: Public key, needed for verifying a RRSIG
  - DS: Delegation Signer; 'Pointer' for building chains of authentication
- **One RR for internal consistency**
  - NSEC: Indicates which name is the next one in the zone and which typecodes are available for the current name
  - NSEC3: NSEC RR using hashed names (variant)

# RR's and RRsets

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- **Resource Record:**

- name TTL class type rdata

- `www.dnsops.gov. 7200 IN A 129.6.100.200`

- **RRset: RRs with same name, class and type:**

- `dnsops.gov. 7200 IN NS snip1.dnsops.gov`

- `IN NS snip2.dnsops.gov`

- **RRsets are signed, not the individual RRs**



# DNSKEY RDATA

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- 16 bits: FLAGS
- 8 bits: protocol
- 8 bits: algorithm
- N\*32 bits: public key

Example:

```
dnsops.gov. 3600 IN DNSKEY 256 3 5 (  
  AQOvhvXXU61Pr8sCwELcqqq1g4JJ  
  CALG4C9EtraBKVd+vGIF/unwigfLOA  
  O3nHp/cgGrG6gJYe8OWKYNgq3kDChN)
```



## RRSIG RDATA

- 16 bits - type covered
- 8 bits - algorithm
- 8 bits - nr. labels covered
- 32 bits - original TTL

```
dnsops.gov. 3600 IN RRSIG A 5 2 3600 (  
20031104144523 20031004144523 3112 dnsops.gov.  
VJ+8ijXvbrTLeoAiEk/qMrdudRnYZM1VlqhN  
vhYuAcYKe2X/jqYfMfjfSURmhPo+0/GOZjW  
66DJubZPmNSYXw== )
```

- 32 bit - signature expiration
- 32 bit - signature inception
- 16 bit - key tag
- signers name

# Delegation Signer (DS)

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- **Delegation Signer (DS) RR indicates that:**
  - delegated zone is digitally signed
  - indicated key is used for the delegated zone
- **Parent is authoritative for the DS of the child's zone**
  - Not for the NS record delegating the child's zone!
  - DS **should not** be in the child's zone

# DS RDATA

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- 16 bits: key tag
- 8 bits: algorithm
- 8 bits: digest type
- 20 bytes: SHA-1 Digest

```
$ORIGIN .gov.  
dnsops.gov. 3600 IN NS snip1.dnsops.gov.  
dnsops.gov. 3600 IN DS 3112 5 1 (  
    239af98b923c023371b11g23b92da12f42162b1a9  
    )
```



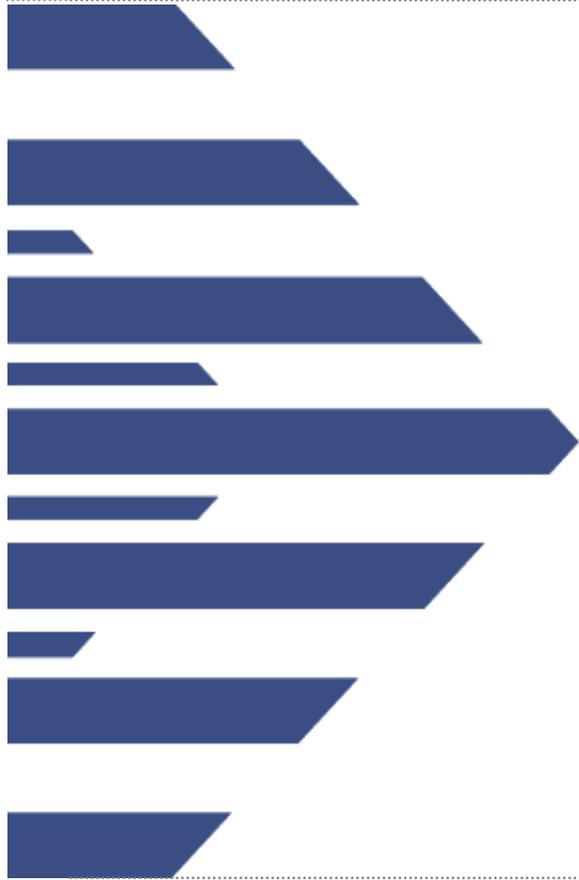
# NSEC RDATA

- **Points to the next domain name in the zone**
  - also lists what are all the existing RRs for “name”
  - NSEC record for last name “wraps around” to first name in zone
- **N\*32 bit type bit map**
- **Used for authenticated denial-of-existence of data**
  - authenticated non-existence of TYPEs and labels
- **Example:**

```
www.dnsops.gov. 3600 IN NSEC dnsops.gov. A RRSIG  
NSEC
```

# NSEC & NSEC3 Records

- **If your query for data does not exist in a zone, the NSEC RR provides proof of non-existence**
- **If after a query the response is:**
  - NXDOMAIN: One or more NSEC RRs indicate that the name or a wildcard expansion does not exist
  - NOERROR and empty answer section: The NSEC TYPE array proves that the QTYPE did not exist
- **More than 1 NSEC may be required in response**
  - wildcards
- **NSEC records are generated by tools**
  - they also lexicographically order the zone
- **NSEC3 replaces domain names with hashed names.**
  - To reduce the threat of zone enumeration



# Signing a Zone



# Getting the Working Files

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- <http://www.dnsops.gov/downloads/configfiles.zip>
- **Extract in a working directory that will be easy to remember**
  - named.conf A sample BIND configuration file
  - root.hint The root hints file (used by recursive servers)
  - zonefile The zone database file we will use

# Securing a Zone

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## 1. Generate keypair

- include public key (DNSKEY) in zone file

## 2. Sign your zone; signing will:

- sort the zone
- Insert:
  - NSEC records
  - RRSIG records (signature over each RRset)
  - DS records (optional)
- generate key-set file (can be used later)



# Securing a Zone - continued

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**3. Publish Signed Zone**

**4. Configure Resolvers (Recursive Servers)**

**5. Test**

**6. Distribute your public key (DNSKEY) to those that need to be able to trust your zone**

- Key-set or DS-set for Parent

# Toolbag: dnssec-keygen

- **dnssec-keygen to generate keys**

```
dnssec-keygen -a alg -b bits -n type [options]  
name
```

- **algorithm:** RSASHA1
  - **Bitsize:** size of the key (1024 bits for example)
  - **type:** “zone”
  - **Name:** zone name – the name for the key
- 
- **‘-r /dev/urandom’ might be needed**



# Generating keys

```
$dnssec-keygen -a RSASHA1 -b 1024 -n zone  
dnsops.gov.
```

```
Kdnsops.gov.+005+20704
```

```
$
```

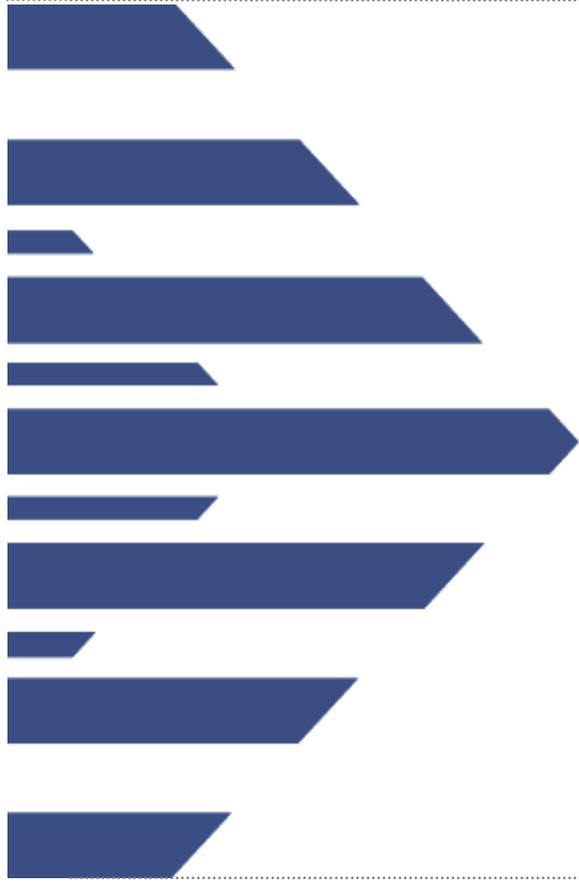
- **2 files are created:**
  - Kdnsops.gov.+005+20704.key
    - contains the public key
    - should go into the zone file
  - Kdnsops.gov.+005+20704.private
    - contains the private key
    - **should be kept secret!!!**



## Now Create 2 Keys

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- **The Zone Signing Keys (ZSK)**
  - Used to sign the zone
  - -a RSASHA1 -b 1024 bits -n ZONE name = your domain
- **The Key Signing Key (KSK)**
  - Used to sign the ZSK (less frequently used)
  - Used to link security from parent to you
  - -a RSASHA1 -b 2048 bits -n ZONE key -f KSK name= your domain
- **Write down the footprints of each key so you can tell them apart later!**



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# Signing and Serving a Zone



# Only Authoritative Records are Signed

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- **NS records for the zone itself are signed**
  - I “own” them, I sign them
- **NS records for delegations are not signed**
  - DS RRs are signed!
- **Glue is not signed**



# Preparing the Zonefile

- **Include the public keys in the zone file:**
  - `cat Kdnsops.gov.+005+20704.key >> dnsops.gov`
  - NOTE – might want to edit zone file to add in footprint as a comment (helpful)
- **Use named-checkzone (optional)**
- **Increase the SOA serial number**
  - Always increase the SOA serial before signing!



# Sign the Zone

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`dnssec-signzone [options] zonefile [ZSK's]`

- **If zone file name is not zone name:**
  - use `-o <origin>` option
- **Signed zone file is called “*zonefilename.signed*”**
- **Keyset and DSset files are created as a bonus...**
  - ready to go to parent



# Now Sign the Zone

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- **Example**

```
dnssec-signzone -k <KSK> "zone" <ZSK>
```

- KSK is the 2048 bit key generated with the “-f KSK”
- ZSK is the 1024 bit key

- **Often done on separate machine, then transferred to servers.**

# Publishing the signed zone

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- **Edit named.conf:**

```
zone "dnsops.gov." {  
    type master;  
    file "zones/dnsops.gov.signed";  
    allow-transfer { 10.1.2.3 ;  
                    key mstr-slave.; };  
    notify yes;  
};
```

- **Use named-checkconf (optional)**
- **Reload zone**
- **Test**

# Testing the Signed Zone

```
dig +dnssec [@server] record [TYPE]
```

- **Answer Flags are relevant**
- **Example query to an authoritative name server**

```
; <<>> DiG 9.1.1 <<>> +dnssec @127.0.0.1  
www.dnsops.gov  
;; global options: printcmd  
;; Got answer:  
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id:  
1947  
;; flags: qr aa rd; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 4, AUTHORITY: 3,  
ADDITIONAL: 4
```

- **Authoritative Answer (not Validated)**



# Testing Through a Validator

- `dig +dnssec [@server] record [TYPE]`
- **Answer Flags are relevant**
- **Example query to a recursive name server**

```
; <<>> DiG 9.1.1 <<>> +dnssec @127.0.0.1
www.dnsops.gov
;; global options:  printcmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id:
1947
;; flags: qr ad rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 4,
AUTHORITY: 3, ADDITIONAL: 4
```

- **AD bit indicates it has been validated**



# Troubleshooting (Client Side)

- **Dig returns status: SERVFAIL**
- **First try without +dnssec**
- **Also try with +dnssec +cdf1ag**
  - Checking is disabled. Data directly forwarded
- **Be ready for some interesting troubleshooting**



# Troubleshooting (Server Side)

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- Turn on logging. Category “dnssec” with severity debug 3 gives you appropriate hints
- Debug output is a little detailed 😊



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# Delegation Signer (DS) RR's

*Securing the delegation*

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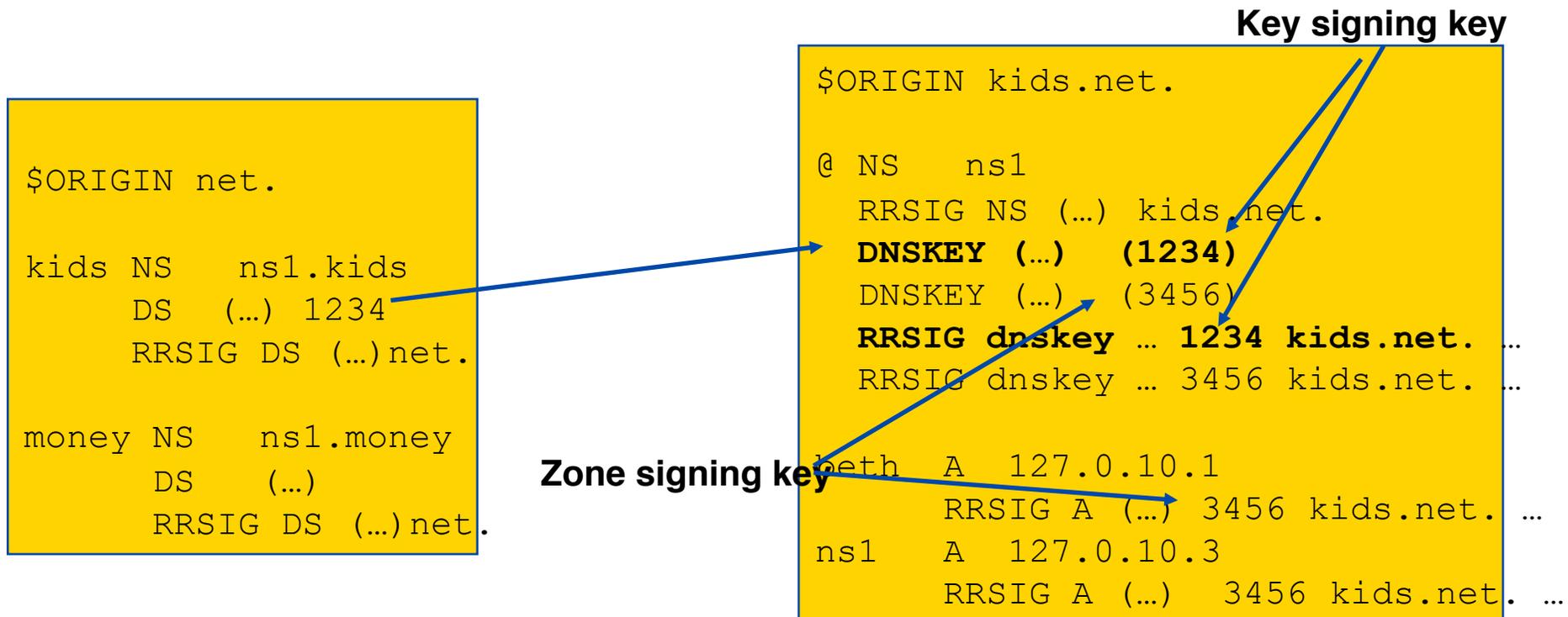
# DS RRs for Delegations

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- **Parent is authoritative for the DS record**
  - It should not appear in the child's zone file
- **DS resource records are used for Delegation of Security**
  - Parent zone can indicate absence of DS RR as well
- **Eases resigning**
  - parent can sign often => short signature lifetime => shorter impact time when key gets compromised
- **Simplifies key distribution problem**
  - Push problem up to parent and reduce the number of keys needed to validate entire DNS tree.

# Delegating Signing Authority

- Parent signs the DS record pointing to the key signing key

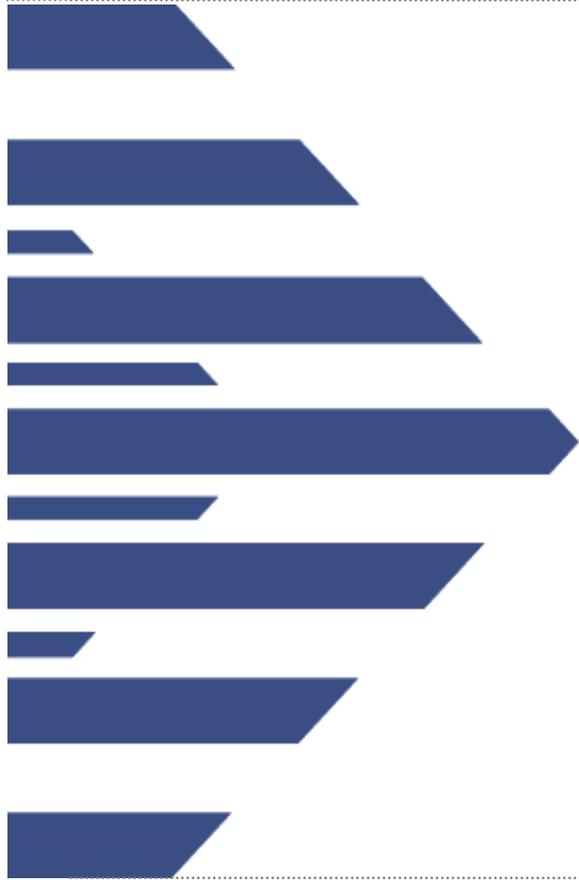


- The parent is authoritative for the DS RR of its children



# Chain of Trust Verification, Summary

- **Data in zone can be trusted if signed by a Zone-Signing-Key**
- **Zone-Signing-Keys can be trusted if signed by a Key-Signing-Key**
- **Key-Signing-Key can be trusted if pointed to by trusted DS record**
- **DS record can be trusted**
  - if signed by the parents Zone-Signing-Key
  - or
  - DS or DNSKEY records can be trusted if exchanged out-of-band and locally stored (Secure entry point)



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# Setting up a Secure Resolver

## *Setup and Configuration*



# Setting up a Validating Name Server

- **To verify the content of a zone:**
  - Get the public (key signing) key and check that this key belongs to the zone owner
- **Configure the keys you trust as secure entry points in named.conf**

```
trusted-keys {  
    "dnsops.gov." 257 3 1 "AQ...QQ===";  
};
```

# End User Side

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- **Local verifying/recursive server trusted?**
  - TSIG for queries?
  - IPsec?
  - Use local validation?
- **How much information needed?**
  - AD bit enough?
  - Local validation using the (draft) validator API is able to return detail information about the validation results to the end application.



# Server Operational Considerations

*Key Rollovers*





# Key Rollover

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- **Try to minimize impact**
  - Short validity of signatures
  - Regular key-rollover
- **Remember: DNSKEYs do not have timestamps**
  - the RRSIG over the DNSKEY has the timestamp
- **Key rollover involves 2nd party or parties:**
  - State to be maintained during rollover
  - operationally expensive
  - Refer to NIST SP 800-81r1 for full details

# ZSK Rollover

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## 1. Generate new ZSK

- 1024 bit RSASHA1 key

## 2. Add key to zone

- Remember to increase the serial number

## 3. Re-sign zone (using old key and KSK)

```
dnsops.gov SOA
           RRSIG (old-zsk)

           DNSKEY old-zsk
           DNSKEY new-zsk
           DNSKEY KSK
           RRSIG (old-zsk)
           RRSIG (KSK)
```

# ZSK Rollover

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4. Time passes... (TTL)
5. Now re-sign (again) with the new key

```
dnsops.gov SOA
           RRSIG (new-zsk)

           DNSKEY old-zsk
           DNSKEY new-zsk
           DNSKEY KSK
           RRSIG (new-zsk)
           RRSIG (KSK)
```

# ZSK Rollover

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6. Remove old key\*
7. Resign one last time

```
dnsops.gov SOA
           RRSIG (new-zsk)

           DNSKEY new-zsk
           DNSKEY KSK
           RRSIG (new-zsk)
           RRSIG (KSK)
```

**\* Wouldn't it be nice to add a new future key here  
(like in step 1-2 before)? ☺**



# KSK Rollover

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## 1. Generate new KSK

- 2048 bit with the “-f KSK” option

## 2. Add new KSK to the zone and resign keyset/zone

```
dnsops.gov SOA
           RRSIG (ZSK)

           DNSKEY KSK
           DNSKEY new-KSK
           DNSKEY ZSK
           RRSIG (new-KSK)
           RRSIG (KSK)
```

## 3. Wait TTL of the zone





# KSK Rollover

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4. Upload new DS or Keyset to parent zone.
5. When new DS RR appears in the zone, wait TTL of the DS RRset (to be safe)
6. Pull old KSK and resign zone

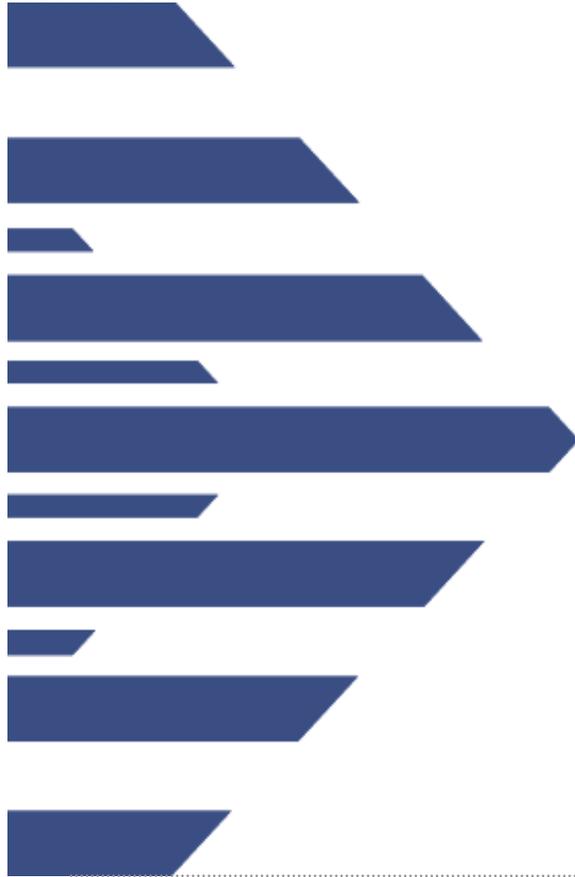
```
dnsops.gov SOA
```

```
RRSIG (zsk)
```

```
DNSKEY new-KSK
```

```
RRSIG (new-KSK)
```





# Conclusions



# What Did We Cover

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- **DNSSEC provides a mechanism to protect DNS**
- **DNSSEC implementation:**
  - RRSIG, DNSKEY and NSEC/NSEC3 for data
  - DS for delegating trust
- **DNSSEC main difficulties:**
  - Key distribution
  - Time now a factor in operations



# When You Get Back Home

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- **Have a plan before deployment**
  - Make sure everything is documented
  - Identify areas where upgrades are needed
- **Consider testing with a non-production zone (using the SNIP for example)**
- **Chose one zone as the pilot program**
  - Expand from there
- **Look at entire network for weak points**
  - older Firewalls and routers may not handle larger DNS packets



# Additional Resources

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- **NIST Secure Naming Infrastructure Pilot (SNIP)**
  - <http://www.dnsops.gov/>
    - Contains links to NIST Guidance documents and DNSSEC testbed
- **DNSSEC Deployment Initiative**
  - <http://www.dnssec-deployment.org/>
- **DNSSEC.NET**
  - <http://www.dnssec.net/>