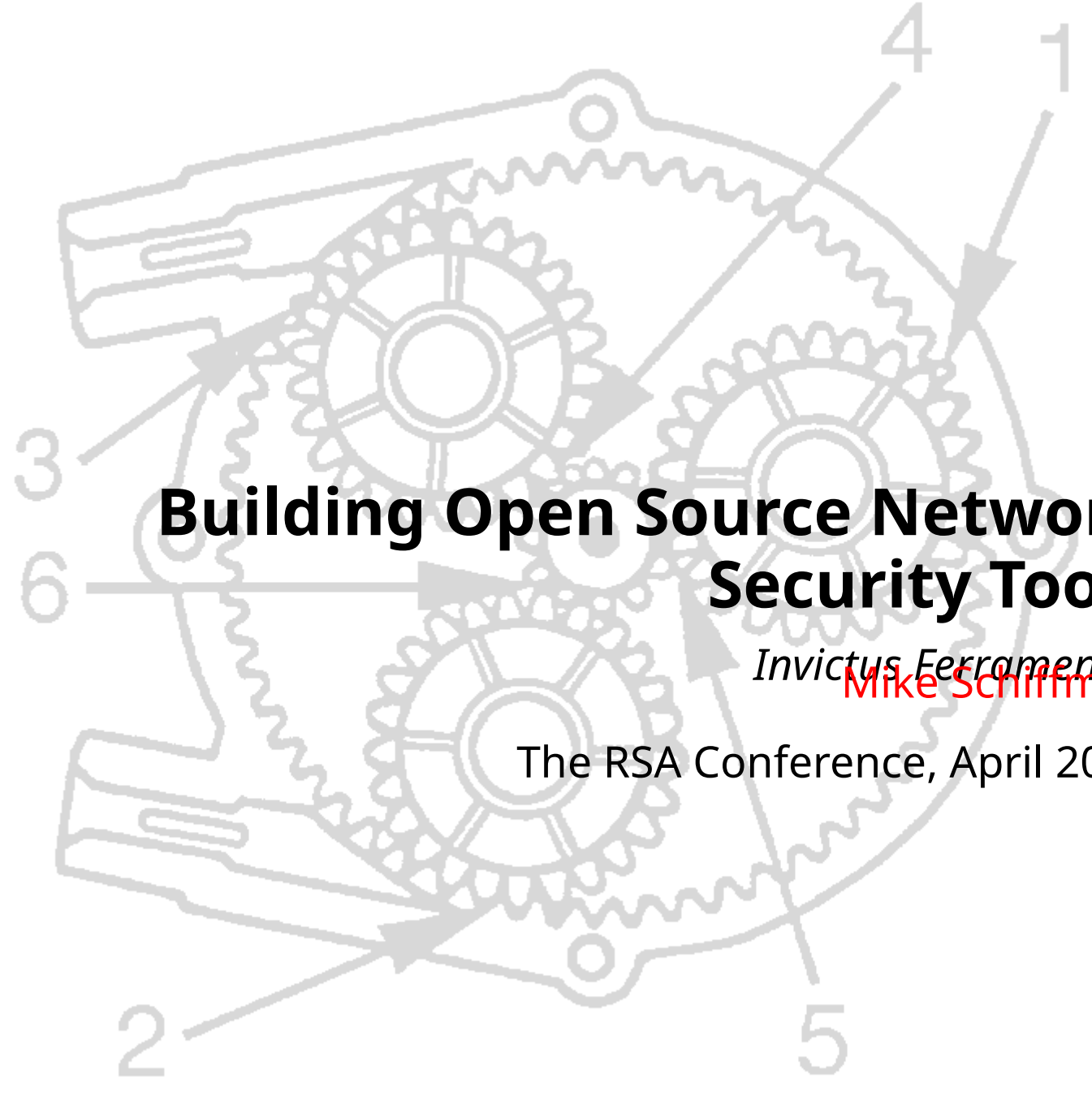


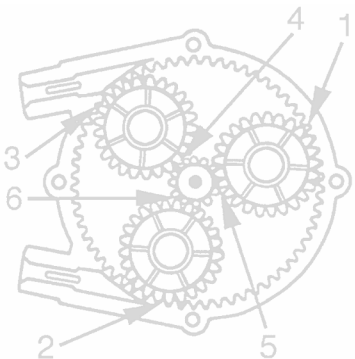
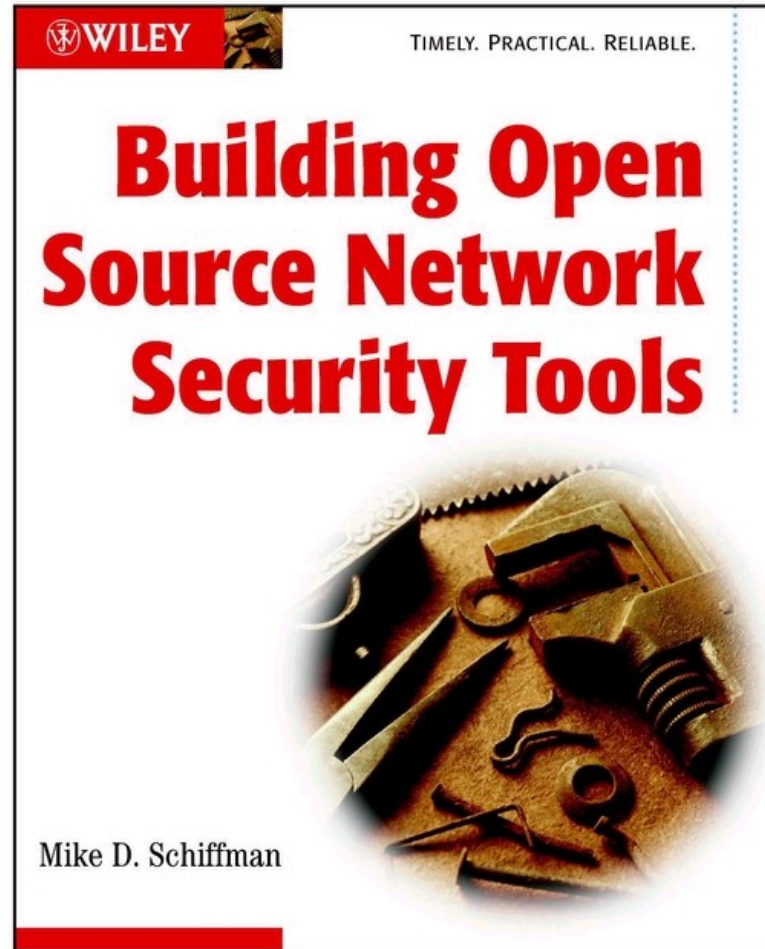


Building Open Source Network Security Tools

Invictus Ferramenta
Mike Schiffman

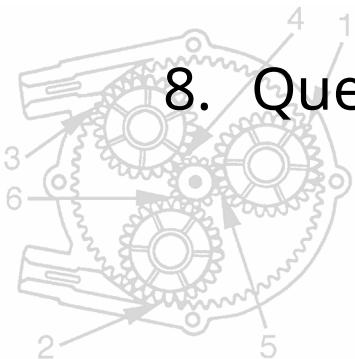
The RSA Conference, April 2003

Today's Presentation is an Overview of This:



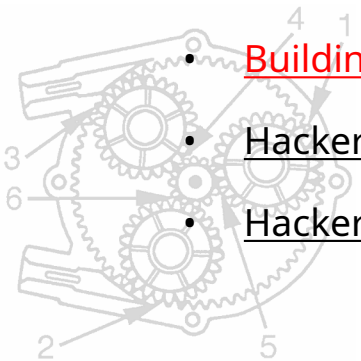
Agenda

1. Introduction and Overview
2. The Modular Model of Network Security Tools
3. The Component and Technique Layers
4. Network Security Tool Classification
5. Active and Passive Reconnaissance Technique Details
6. Modeling Existing Tools
7. Inside a Network Security Tool: Firewalk Internals
8. Questions and Comments



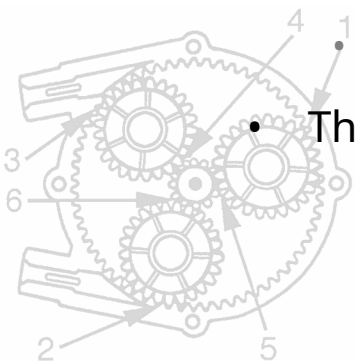
Primer on Mike Schiffman

- Researcher, Cisco Systems 
 - Critical Infrastructure Assurance Group (CIAG), Cisco Systems
- Technical Advisory Board for Qualys, IMG Universal
- Consulting Editor for Wiley & Sons
- R&D, Consulting and Speaking background:
 - [Firewalk](#), [Libnet](#), [Libsf](#), Libradiate, Various whitepapers and reports
 - Done time with: @stake, Guardent, Cambridge Technology Partners, ISS
- Author:
 - [Building Open Source Network Security Tools](#), Wiley & Sons
 - [Hacker's Challenge Book I](#), Osborne McGraw-Hill
 - [Hacker's Challenge Book II](#), Osborne McGraw-Hill



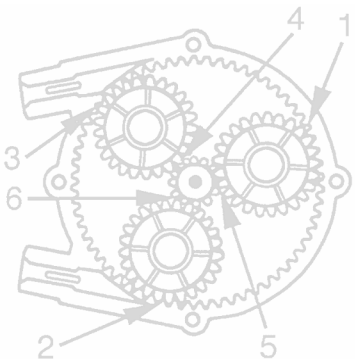
Overview

- What you will learn today
 - A new model for **conceptualizing** and **describing network security tools**
 - How to **apply** this model to existing tools
 - How to use this model to rapidly **build** new tools
 - Common network security tool techniques and how they are codified
- What you should already know
 - General understanding of the TCP/IP protocol suite
 - Primarily layers 1 – 3 (OSI layers 2 – 4)
 - General network security concepts
 - For example; the difference between packet sniffing and port scanning
 - The C programming language

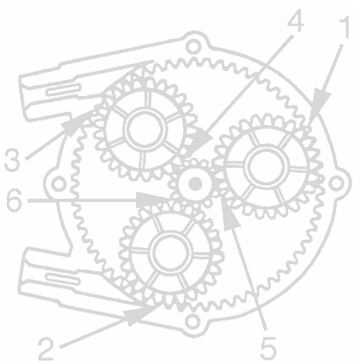


Before we start...

- Where should I spend my focus...?
 - Lots of material
- Show of hands...
 - Libnet
 - Libpcap
 - The Paradigm and NST terminology
 - Code?



Paradigm Overview



Technically
Accurate.

Not
Tangible.

What is a Network Security
Tool?

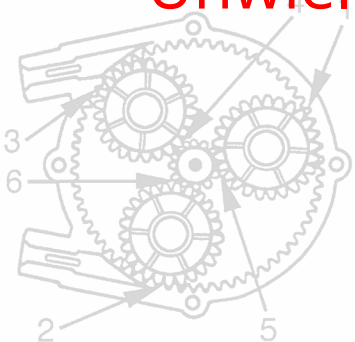
A network security tool is an algorithmic implement that is designed to probe, assess, or increase the overall safety of or mitigate risk associated with an entity across a communications medium.

We need something
better...

(there is something
better)

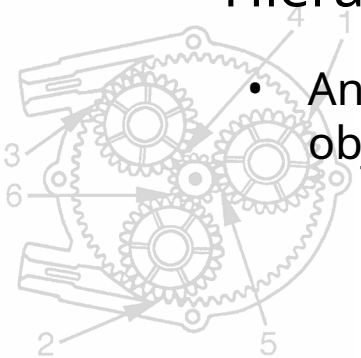
Unwieldy.

Too Clinical.



A (New) Paradigm

- Functional
- Tangible and Visual
- Specifies a **simple taxonomy** for grouping and ordering tools
 - Tool Classifications
- Separates a network security tool into **three layers** or tiers
 - Component, **Technique**, Control
- Hierarchical dependencies
 - An object at a higher layer has dependencies on one or more objects below it



The Modular Model of Network Security Tools

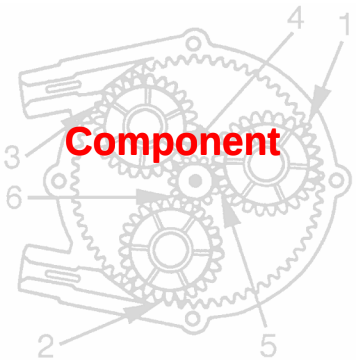
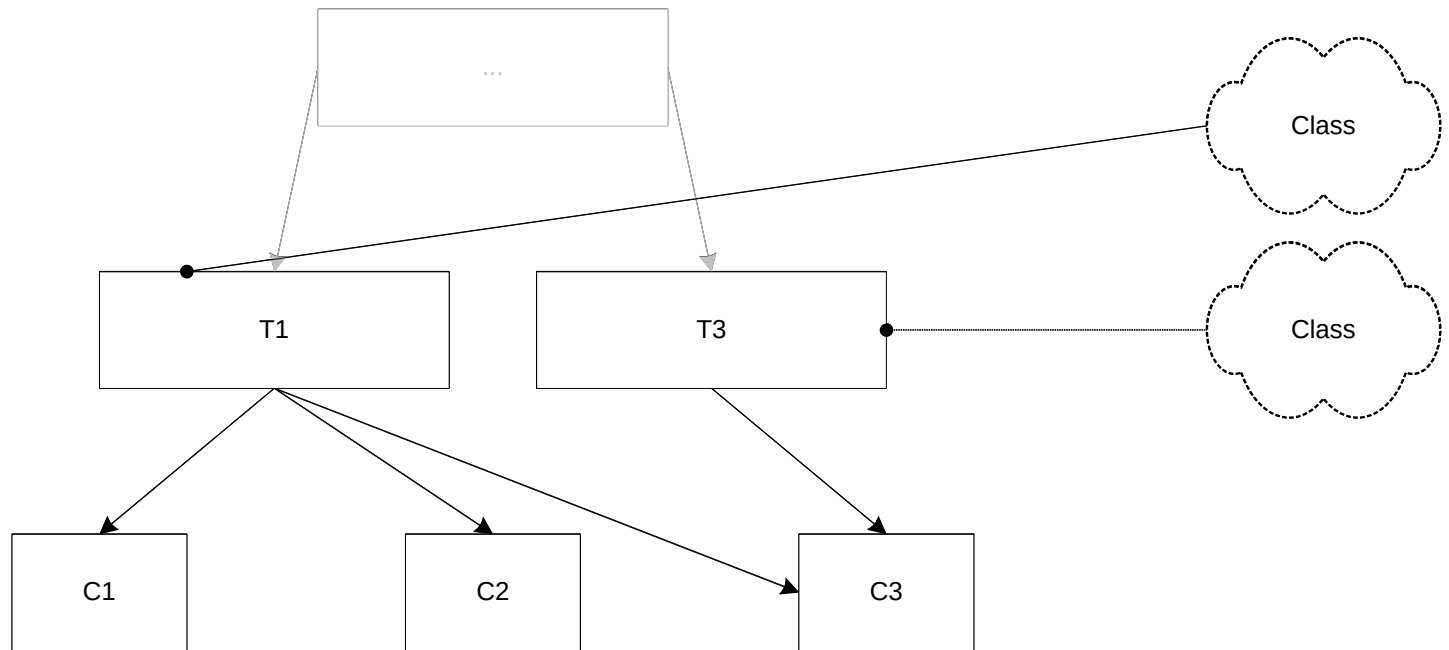
→
denotes layer dependency

●
denotes class binding

Control

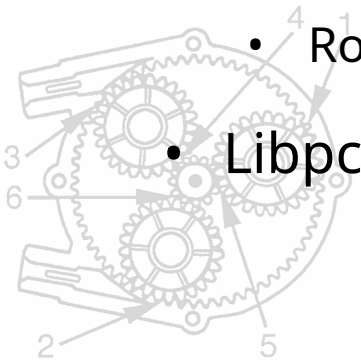
Technique

Component



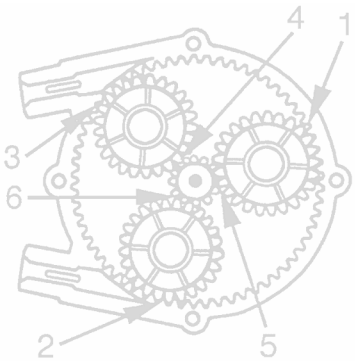
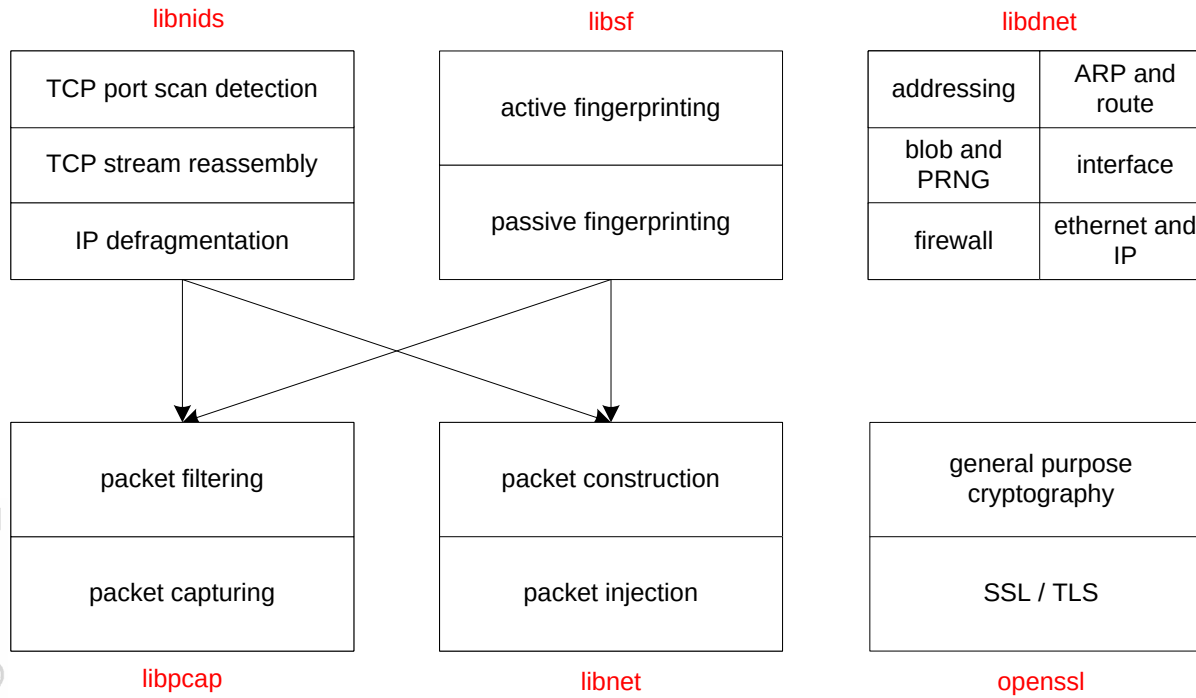
The Component Layer

- Most fundamental layer
- Answers the question “How does this tool *do what it does?*”
- Task oriented and specific
- Components tend to outlay the developmental requirements and restraints of the tool
 - Software Development Lifecycle
- C programming libraries
 - Robust, portable and generally simple APIs
 - Libpcap, Libnet, Libsf, Libnids, Libdnet, OpenSSL



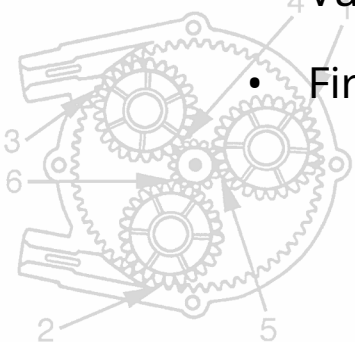
The Component Layer with Dependencies

→
denotes dependency



The Technique Layer

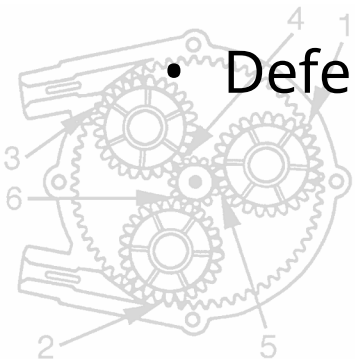
- Answers the question: “What does this tool do?”
- More abstract and solution focused
- The core essence of the tool is captured at this layer
 - When building or classifying tools, we start here
- Class taxonomy is set at this layer
 - Packet Sniffing (Passive Reconnaissance)
 - Port Scanning (Active Reconnaissance)
 - Vulnerability Testing (Attack and Penetration)
 - Firewalling (Defensive)



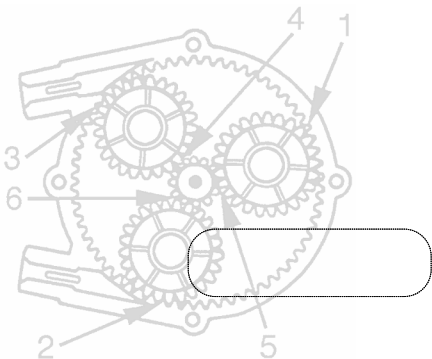
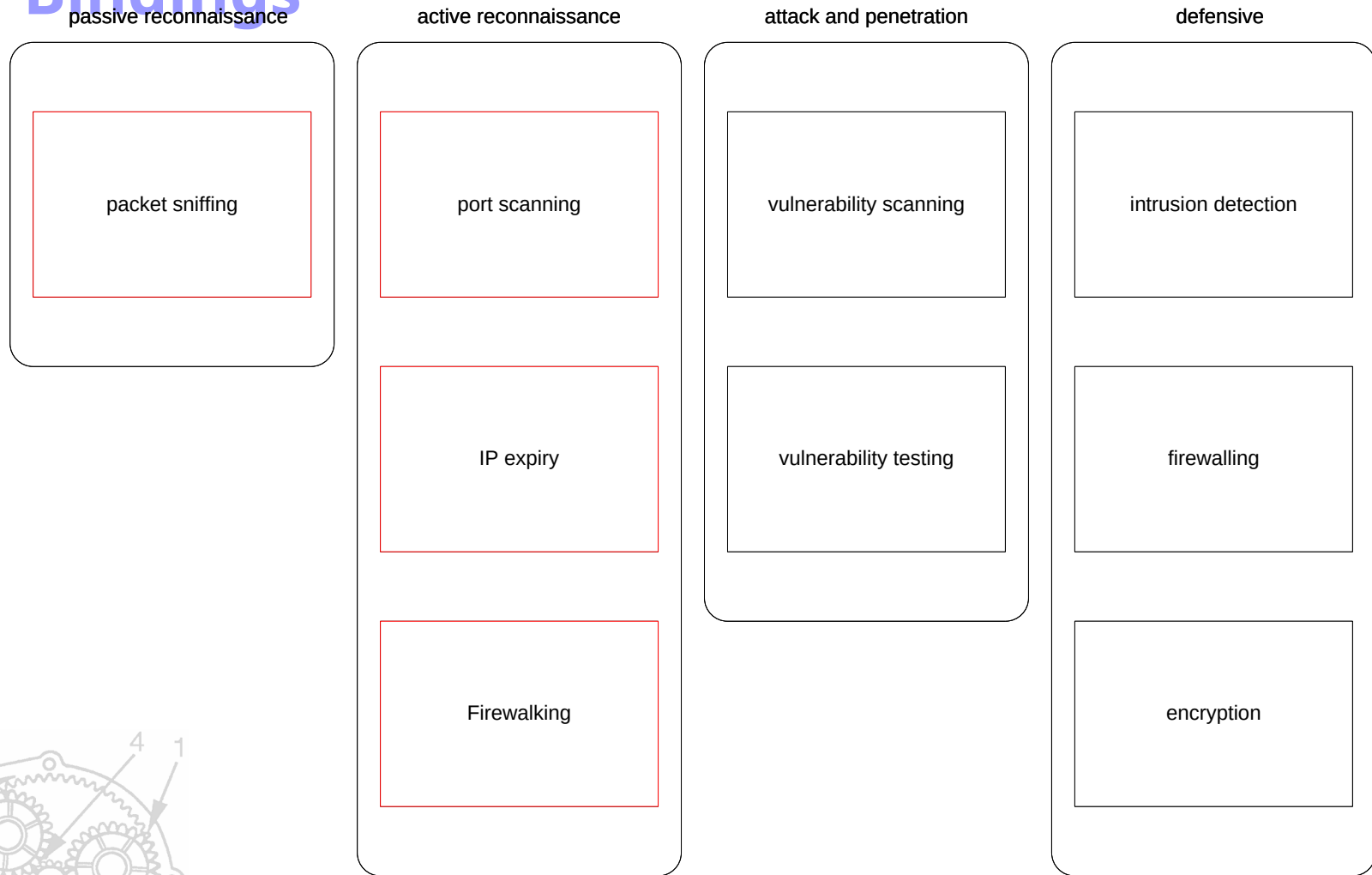
Network Security Tool Taxonomy

- Simple method allowing for tool grouping
- Tied to the Technique Layer
- Tools may certainly fit in more than one category (Venn diagram)
- Passive Reconnaissance
- Active Reconnaissance
- Attack and Penetration

- Defensive

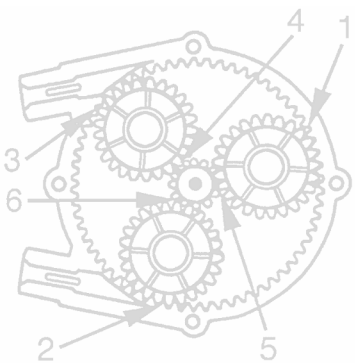


The Technique Layer with Classification Bindings



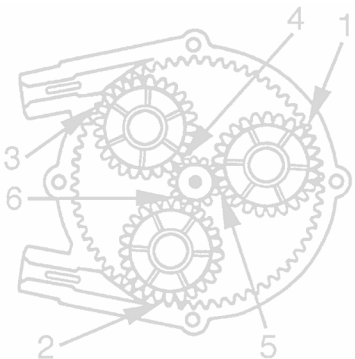
denotes tool class

Classification Overview



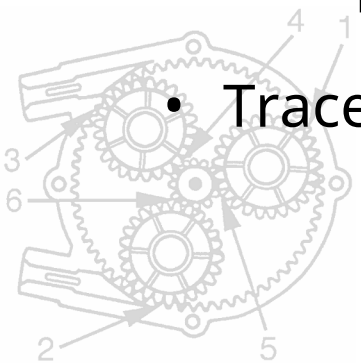
Passive Reconnaissance Tools

- **Gather information** in an ostensibly **non-detectable** or unobtrusive way
- Tend to have long lifecycles in terms of utility
- Changes no state on the entity
- Tcpdump
- Ethereal
- Mailsnarf



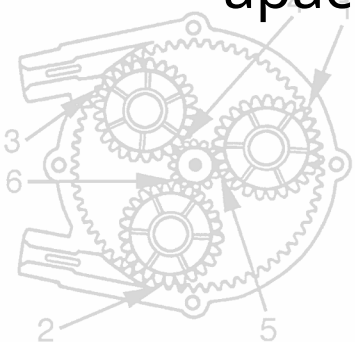
Active Reconnaissance Tools

- **Gather information** in a **detectable** way, often by sending network traffic and waiting for responses
- Tend to have long lifecycles in terms of utility
- Changes very little if any state on the entity
- Firewall
- Strobe
- Nmap
- Traceroute



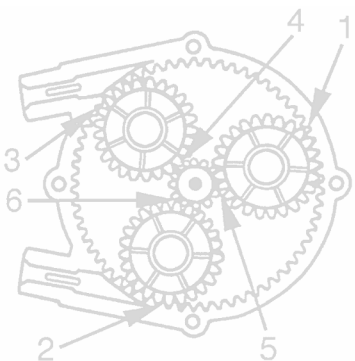
Attack and Penetration Tools

- Test for the **existence** of and/or exploit **vulnerabilities**
- Tools can have a very limited lifetime
 - i.e.: Remote overflow in IIS version 5.0
- Often supported by Reconnaissance Tools
- Nessus
- SSH CRC32 overflow exploit
- apache-scalp.c



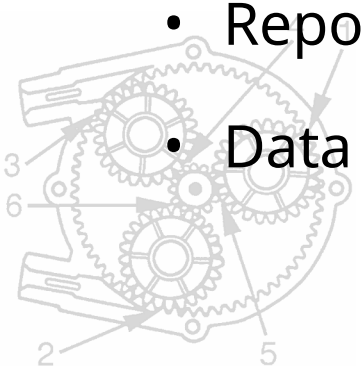
Defensive Tools

- Keeps an entity safe often by **protecting** data or **detecting** illicit activity
- Tend to be more complex and have extended execution lifetimes
- Snort
- GPG
- PF (packet filter on OpenBSD)

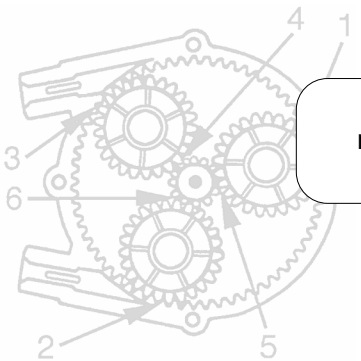
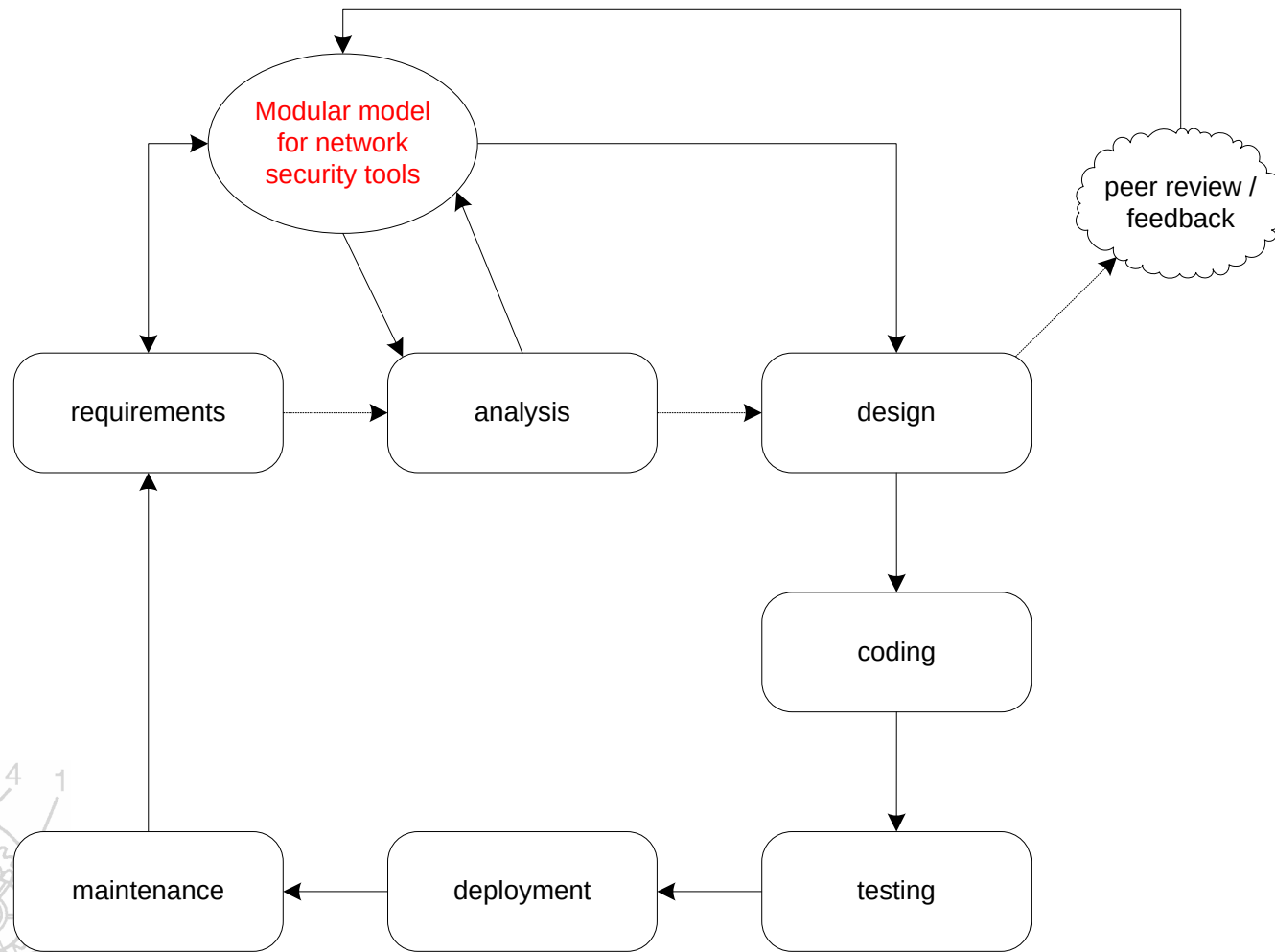


The Control Layer

- General abstract “glue layer”
- Can be thought of as a delivery mechanism for techniques
- Less concerned with security-related topics as with program cohesion
- Not the focus of this presentation
- Command and Control
- Reporting
- Data Correlation and Storage



The Model and The Software Development Lifecycle



Component Layer Details

Libpcap

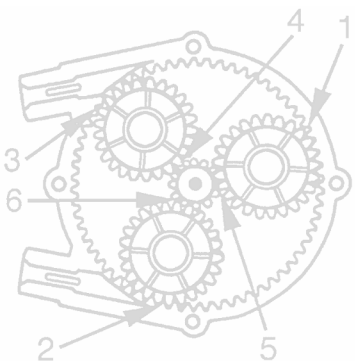
Libnet

Libnids

Libsf

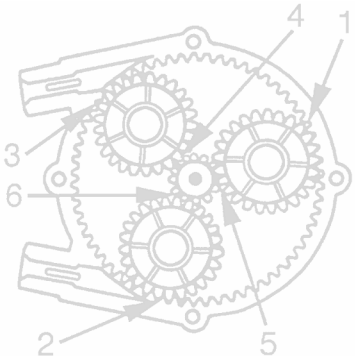
Libdnet

OpenSSL

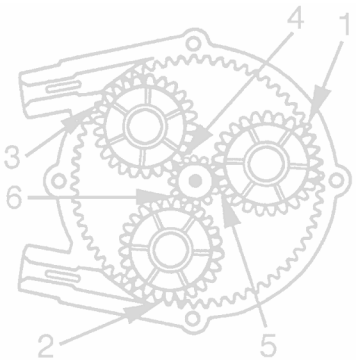
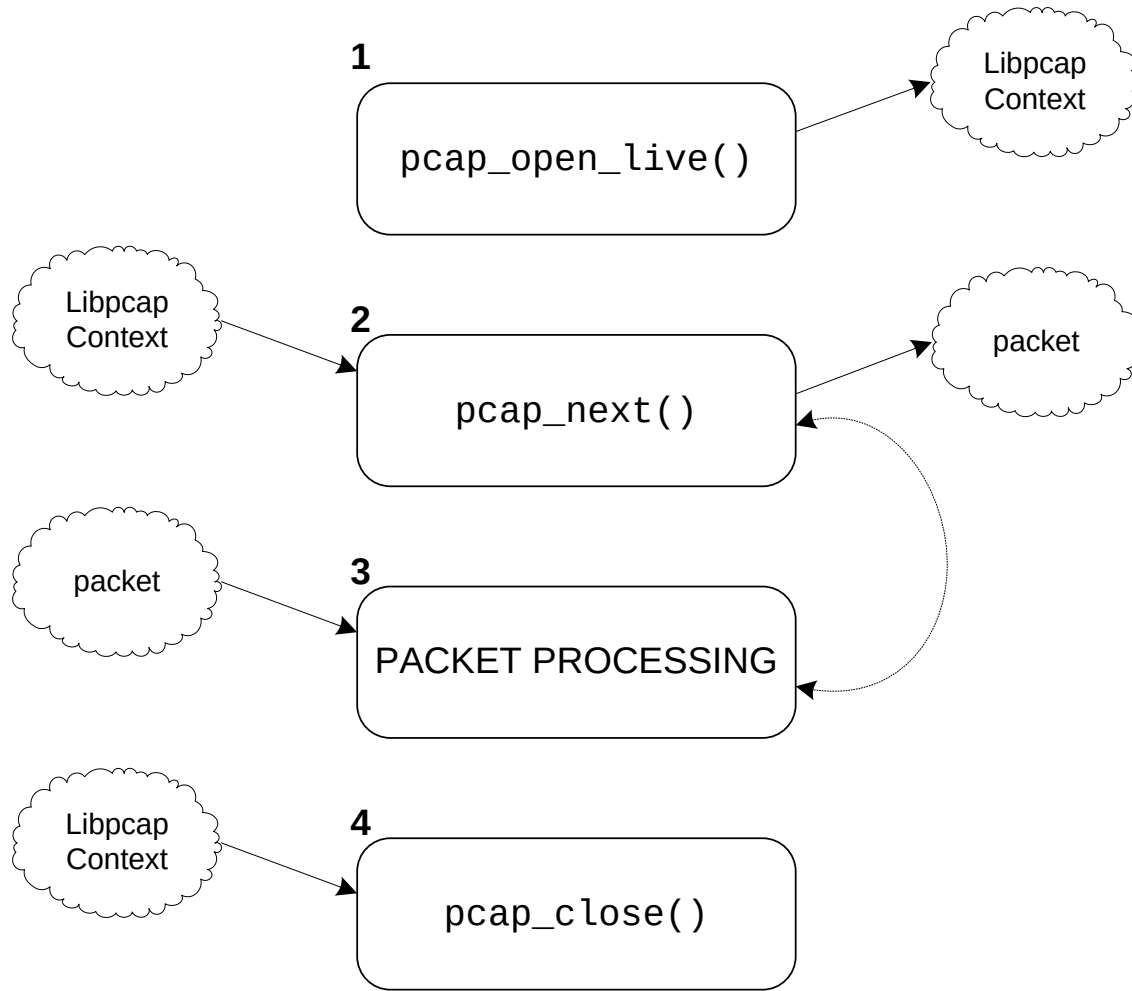


Component Layer Details: Libpcap

- Library for **packet capture** and filtering
 - Support for live capture and offline storage
- Useful for building applications that need to do the following:
 - Network statistics collection
 - Network debugging
 - Security monitoring
- Often found in active and passive reconnaissance tools

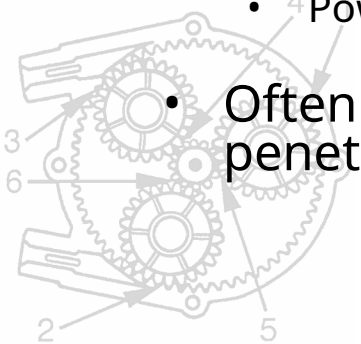


Typical Libpcap Usage

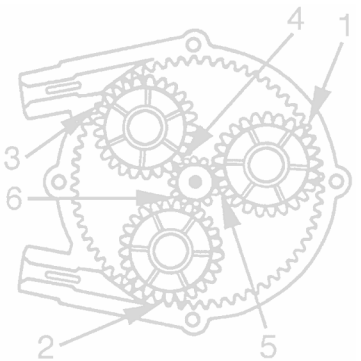
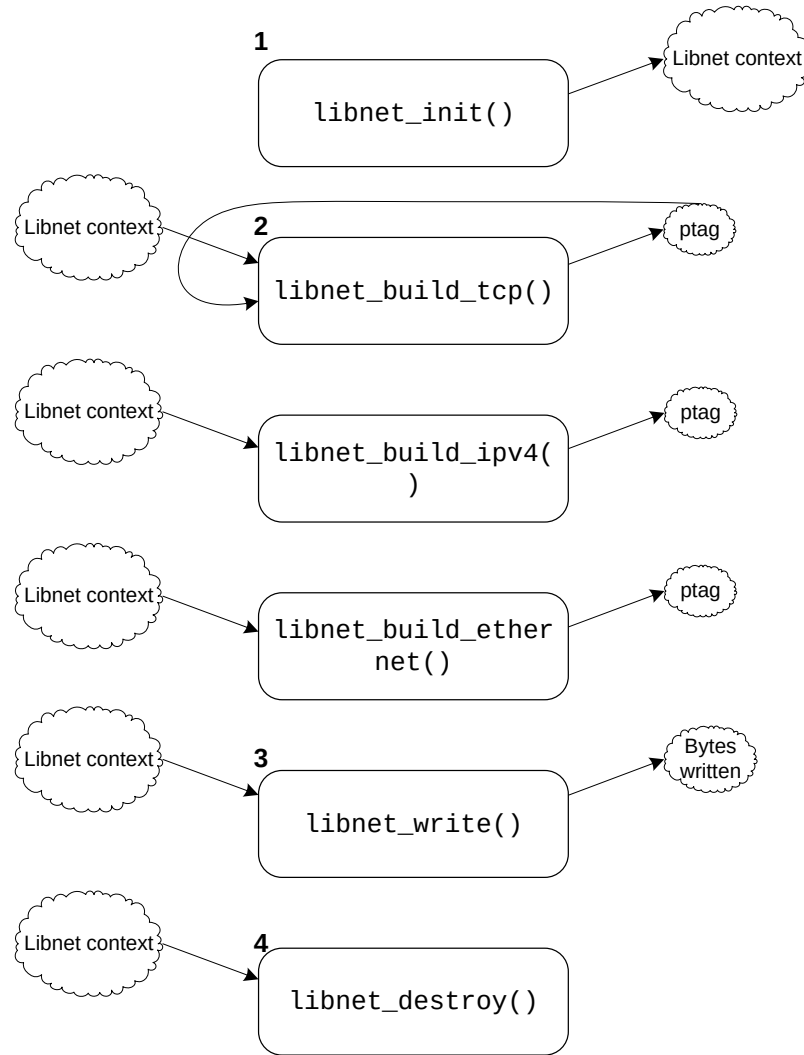


Component Layer Details: Libnet

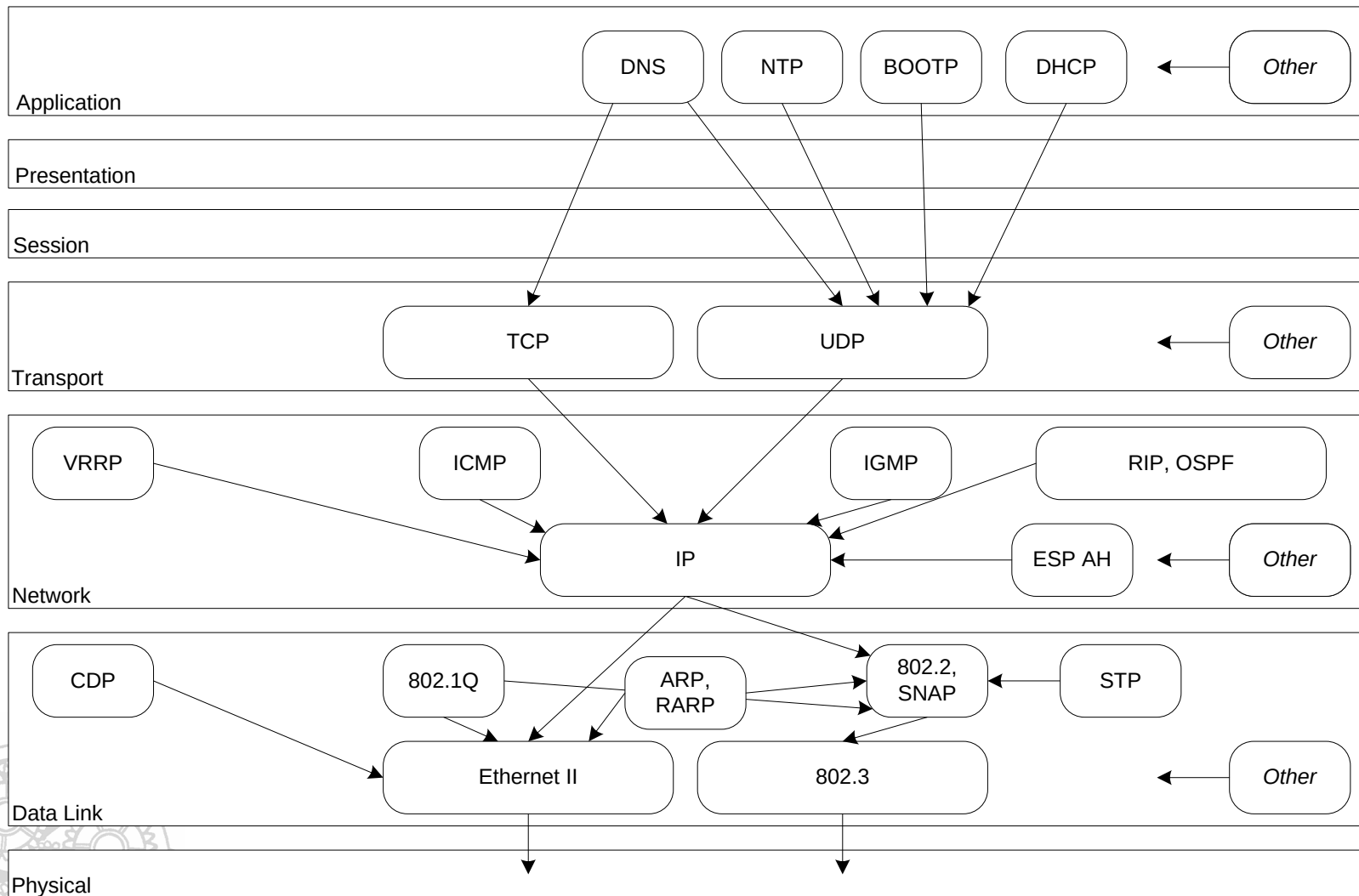
- Library for **packet construction** and **injection**
- Useful for building applications that need to do the following:
 - Network security testing
 - Network bandwidth testing
 - Network utility
- Definitely the most debonair and sophisticated of the components – truly a discriminating programmer's component
- New version (1.1.1) is much more robust than its predecessors
 - Simple interface for novice users or
 - 4 Powerful advanced interface
- Often found in active reconnaissance and attack and penetration tools



Typical Libnet Usage

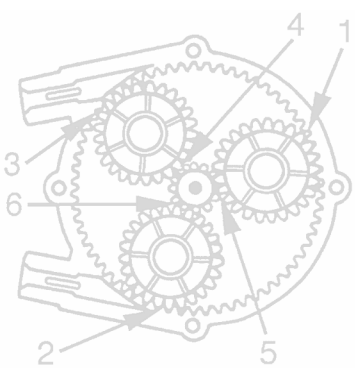


Libnet Supported Protocols



The Libnet Context

libnet_t



372 bytes

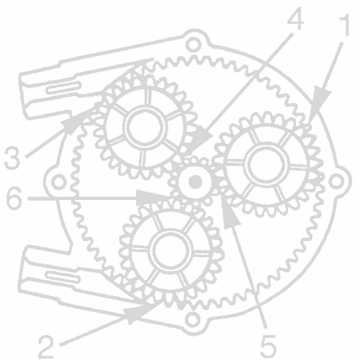
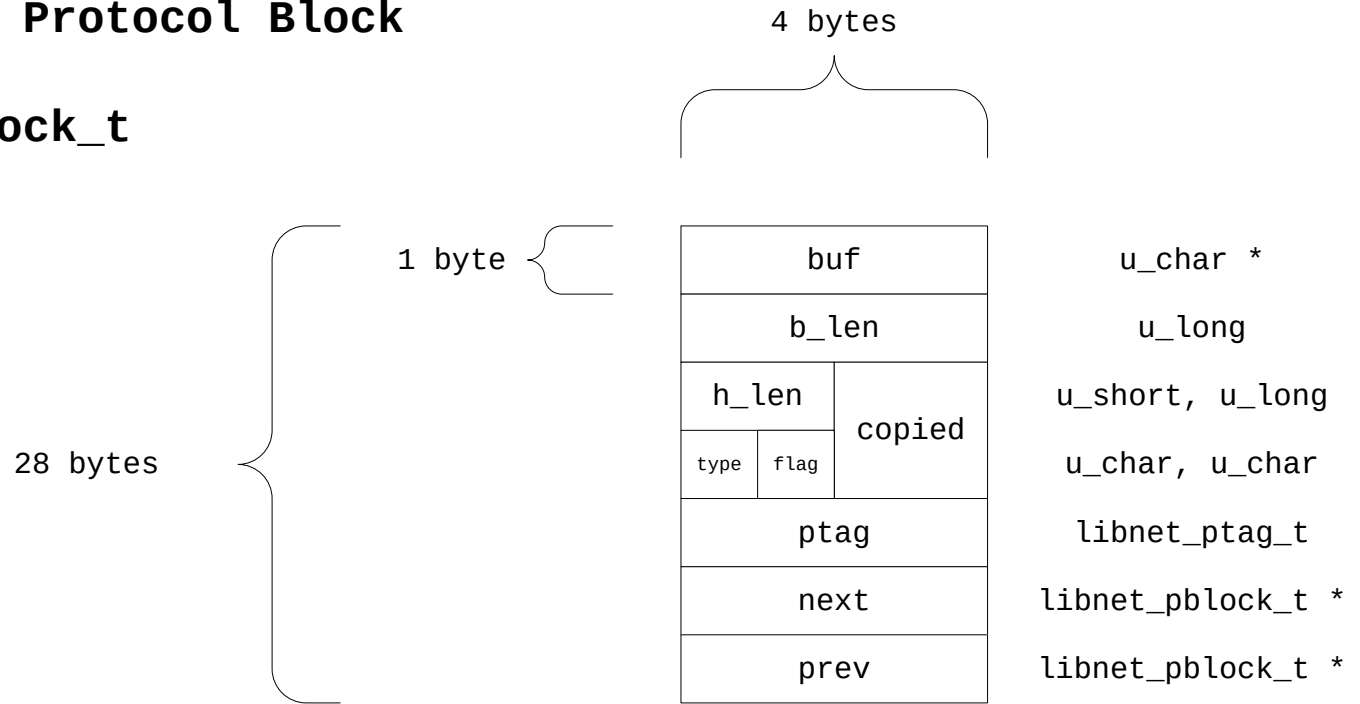
1 byte

4 bytes

fd	int
protocol	int
injection_type	int
protocol_blocks	libnet_pblock_t *
pblock_end	libnet_pblock_t *
link_type	int
link_offset	int
aligner	int
device	char *
stats	struct libnet_stats
ptag_state	libnet_ptag_t
label	char[64]
err_buf	char[256]

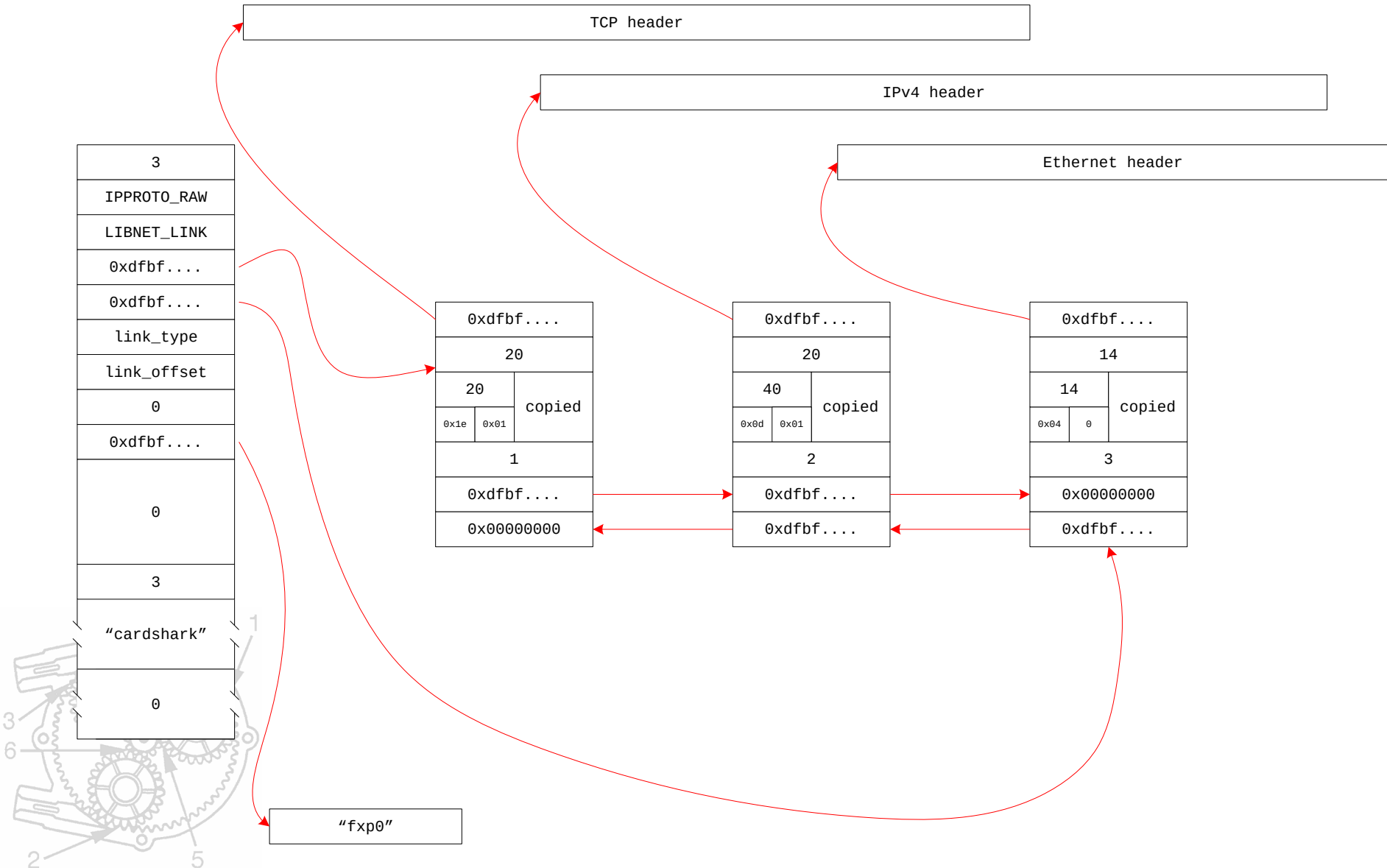
The Libnet Protocol Block

libnet_pblock_t



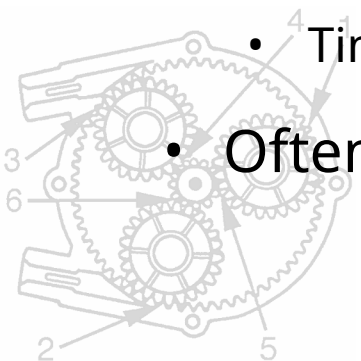
The Libnet Protocol Block

single context, standard linkage for TCP header (prior to coalesce)



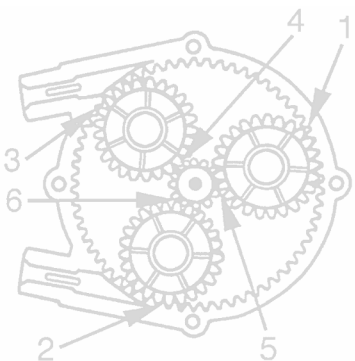
Component Layer Details: Libnids

- Library that simulates a **NIDS E-box**
 - An E-box's job is to sample the environment in which it is specialized for, and convert occurrences in the environment into standard data objects for subsequent storage and/or analysis.
- Built on top of libpcap and libnet
- Offers the following:
 - IP defragmentation
 - TCP stream reassembly
 - Time-based TCP port scan detection
- Often found in defensive tools

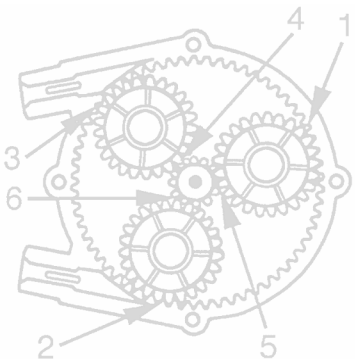
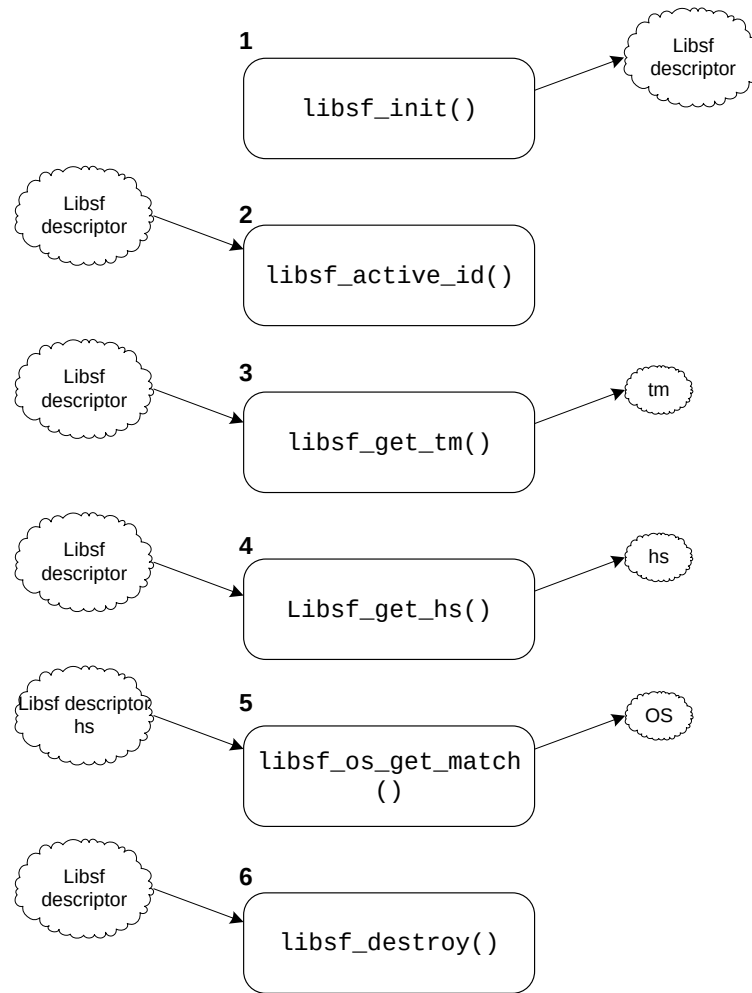


Component Layer Details: Libsf

- Library for **IP stack fingerprinting** to perform remote OS detection
- Built on top of libpcap and libnet
- active and passive fingerprinting methods
- Based off of the nmap database and P0f databases
- Often found in reconnaissance tools

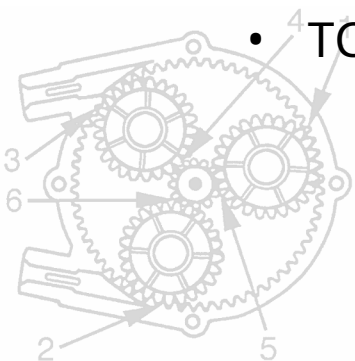


Typical Libsf Usage



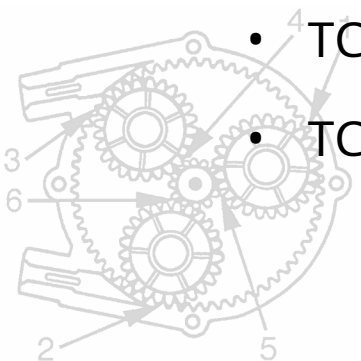
Libsf Active Fingerprinting Tests

- Seven active tests can be performed using fringe packets:
 - TCP SYN to an open port
 - TCP NULL packet to an open port
 - TCP FIN|SYN|PSH|URG packet to an open port
 - TCP ACK packet to an open port
 - TCP SYN packet to a closed port
 - TCP ACK packet to a closed port
 - TCP FIN|PSH|URG to a closed port



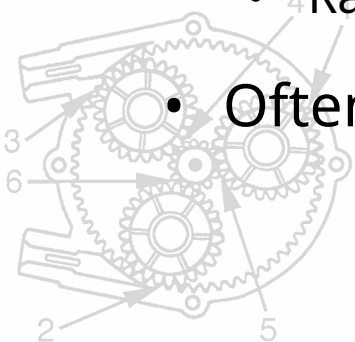
Libsf Passive Fingerprinting Tests

- Eight passive tests can be preformed across incoming TCP SYN packets:
 - Determine original IP TTL
 - IP packet size
 - IP DF bit on or off
 - TCP window scale option present
 - TCP MSS option present
 - TCP SACK option present
 - TCP NOP option present
 - TCP window size



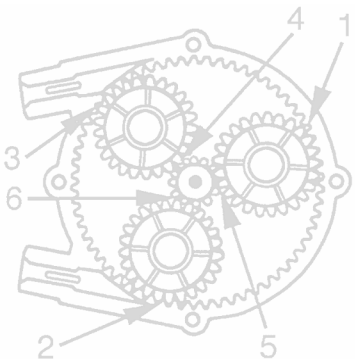
Component Layer Details: Libdnet

- Library for miscellaneous **low-level network** routines
 - Robust network address manipulation
 - Kernel ARP cache lookup and manipulation
 - Kernel route table lookup and manipulation
 - Network interface lookup and manipulation
 - Network firewall rule manipulation
 - Ethernet frame and IP packet transmission
 - Binary buffer manipulation
 - Random number manipulation
- Often found in all tools



Component Layer Details: OpenSSL

- Library for SSL / TLS and general **cryptography**
 - SSL/TLS protocols
 - Symmetric cryptographic operations (ciphers, message digests)
 - Asymmetric cryptographic operations (digital signatures, enveloping)
 - Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), including OCSP, rich X509 certificate support, certificate verification, certificate requests, and CRLs
- Often found in defensive tools



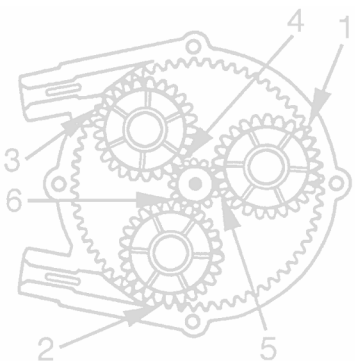
Technique Layer Details

Packet Sniffing

Port Scanning

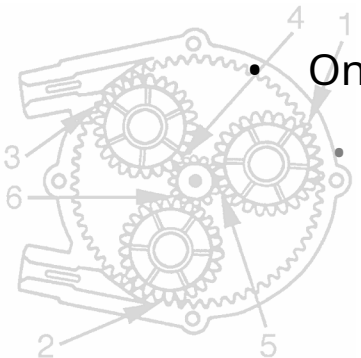
IP Expiry

Firewalking



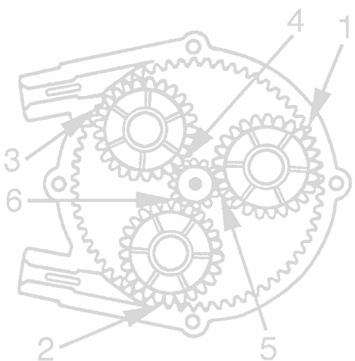
Technique Layer Details: Packet Sniffing

- Passive Reconnaissance Technique
- Used to capture packets on a network
- Very powerful and useful in its own right
 - However it is also a fundamental building block in more complex tools
- Ethernet
 - 1972, Bob Metcalfe, ALOHA became Ethernet
 - Shared medium (CSMA/CD)
 - Promiscuous mode instructs card to listen to every frame
 - Only works with stations in the same collision domain
 - Bridges, switches, routers, VLANs break sniffing



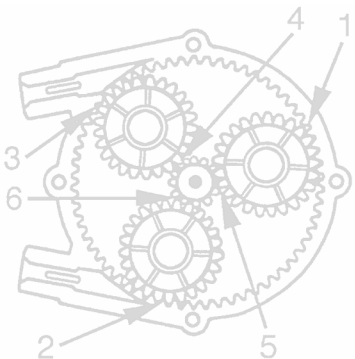
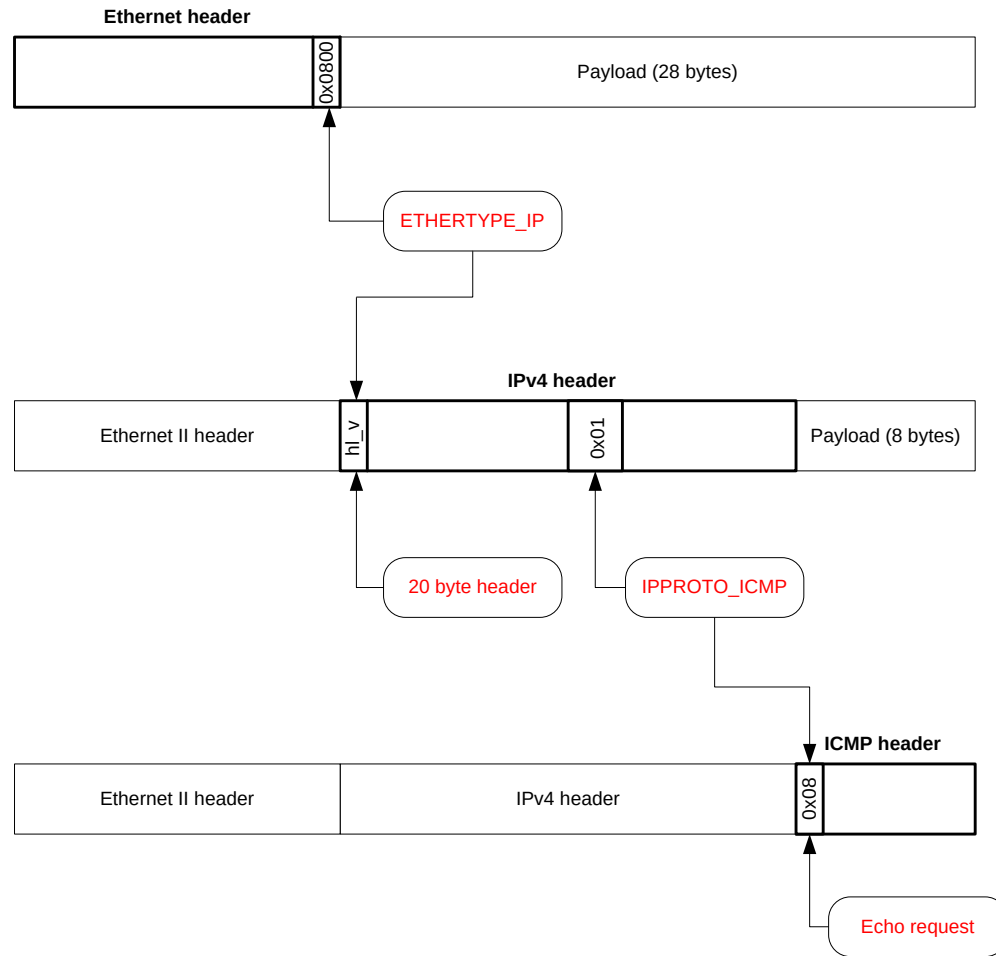
Technique Layer Details: Packet Sniffing

- Packet Demultiplexing
 - Breaking apart an Ethernet frame and passing it the protocol chain
- Protocol Decoding
 - Dissection of the packet at a given OSI layer



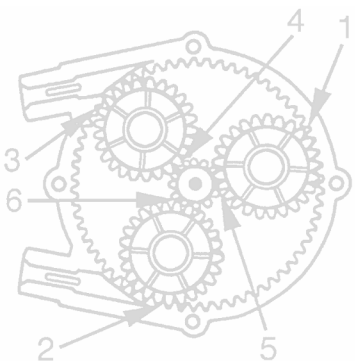
Technique Layer Details: Packet Sniffing Processing

Demultiplexing of an Ethernet Frame



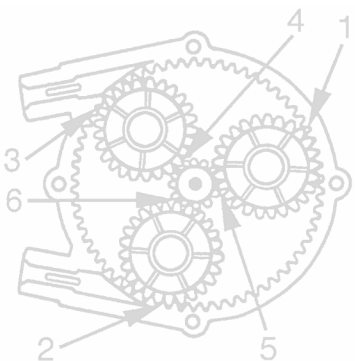
Sample Packet Sniffing Code Snippet

```
packet = (u_char *)pcap_next(vp->p, &vp->h);
/*
 * Figure out which layer 2 protocol the frame belongs to and call
 * the corresponding decoding module. The protocol field of an
 * Ethernet II header is the 13th + 14th byte. This is an endian
 * independent way of extracting a big endian short from memory. We
 * extract the first byte and make it the big byte and then extract
 * the next byte and make it the small byte.
 */
switch (vp->packet[12] << 0x08 | vp->packet[13])
{
    case 0x0800:
        /* IPv4 */
        decode_ip(&vp->packet[14], vp->flags);
        break;
    case 0x0806:
        /* ARP */
        decode_arp(&vp->packet[14], vp->flags);
        break;
    default:
        /* We're not bothering with 802.3 or anything else */
        decode_unknown(&vp->packet[14], vp->flags);
        break;
}
```



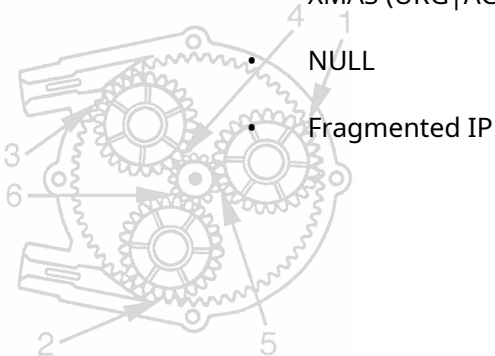
Technique Layer Details: Port Scanning

- Active Reconnaissance Technique
- Used to determine TCP and UDP port status
 - Open, Closed, and optionally what application is listening
- Many Considerations
 - Protocol
 - Detection and Filtering
 - Time and Bandwidth



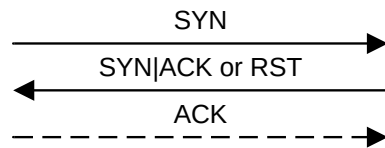
Technique Layer Details: Port Scanning Mechanics

- Full-open
- Ident
- FTP bounce
- Half-open
 - Side effect RST
- Parallel
- UDP
- Stealth
 - FIN
 - XMAS (URG | ACK | PSH)
 - NULL
 - Fragmented IP

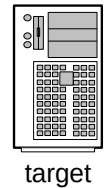
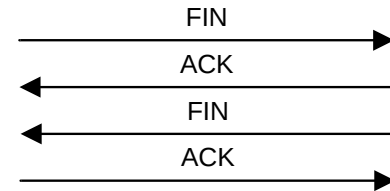
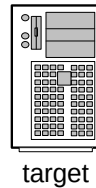


Technique Layer Details: Port Scanning

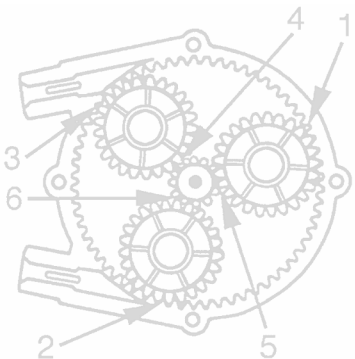
Full-open TCP port scan



Connection establishment



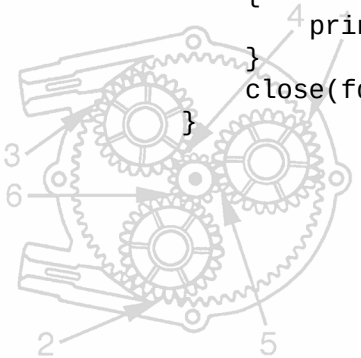
Connection teardown



Sample Port Scanning Code Snippet

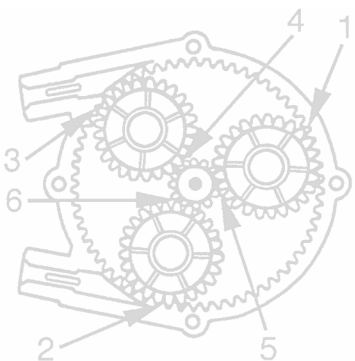
```
int fd, n, c;
struct sockaddr_in addr;
u_short port_list[] = {22, 23, 25, 80, 6000, 0};
addr.sin_family      = AF_INET;
addr.sin_addr.s_addr = 0x200a8c0; /* 192.168.0.2 in network byte order */

for (n = 0; port_list[n] != 0; n++)
{
    addr.sin_port = htons(port_list[n]);
    fd = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, IPPROTO_TCP);
    if (fd == -1)
    {
        /* error */
    }
    c = connect(fd, (struct sockaddr *)&addr, sizeof (addr));
    if (c == -1)
    {
        /* error */
    }
    else if (c == 0)
    {
        printf("port %d open\n", port_list[n]);
    }
    else
    {
        printf("port %d closed\n", port_list[n]);
    }
    close(fd);
}
```



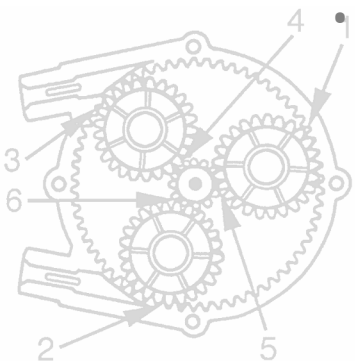
Technique Layer Details: IP Expiry

- Active Reconnaissance Technique
- Used to map network devices en route to a target host
 - Van Jacobson, 1988, Traceroute
 - Originally used to trace IP packets to a particular destination host
 - Was extended into Firewalking

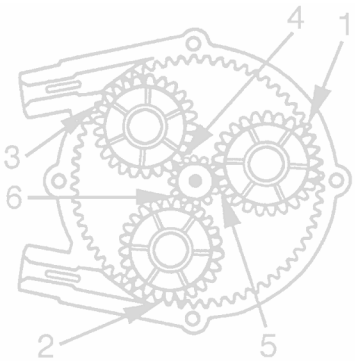
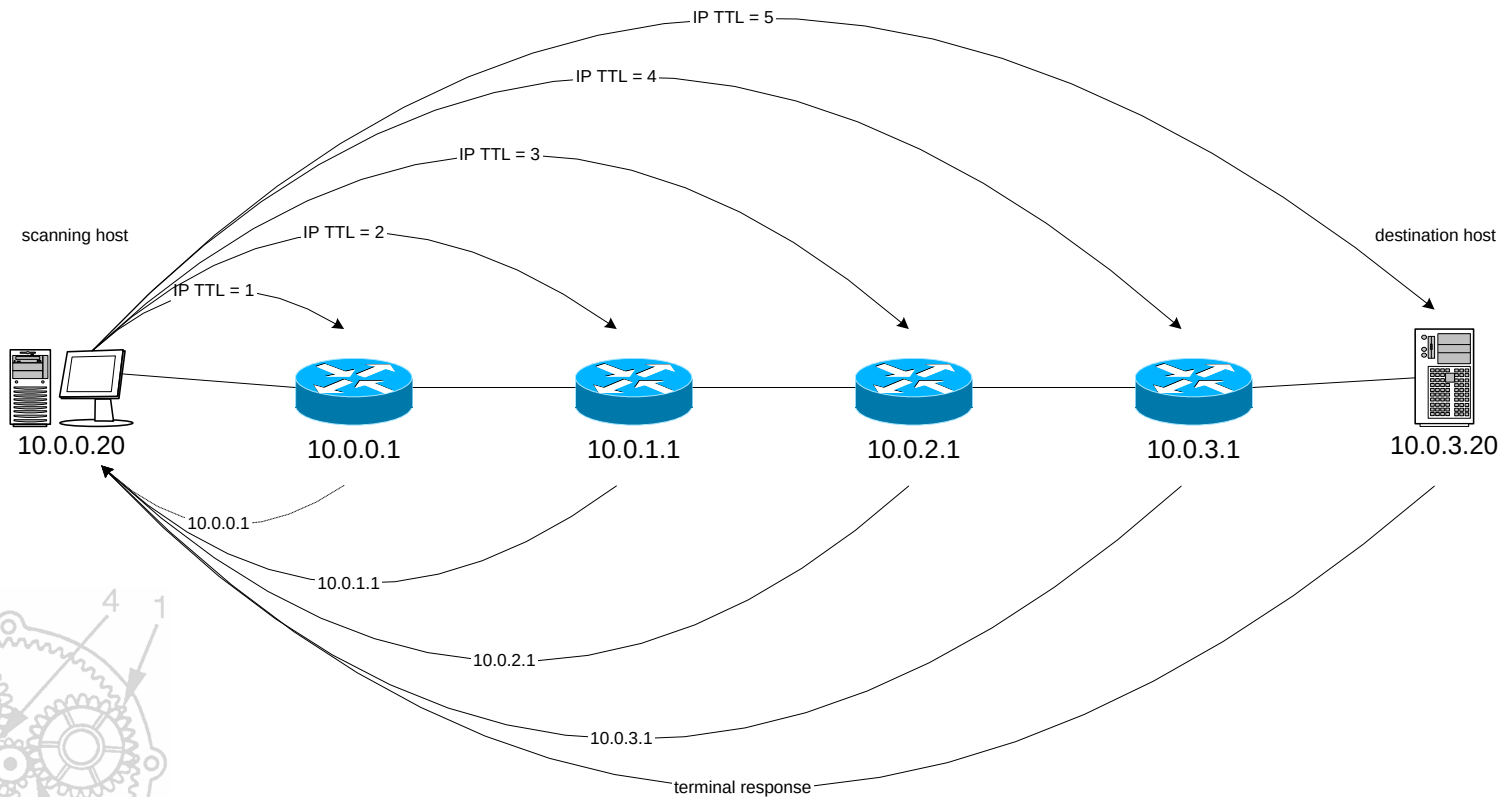
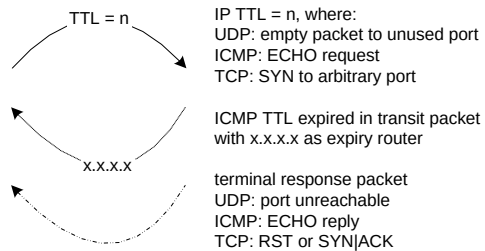


Technique Layer Details: IP Expiry Transports

- Protocol specific terminal packet semantics
 - UDP
 - Open port: undefined (no response)
 - Closed port: ICMP port unreachable
 - ICMP
 - ICMP echo reply
 - TCP SYN
 - Open port: SYN|ACK
 - Closed port: RST



Technique Layer Details: IP Expiry



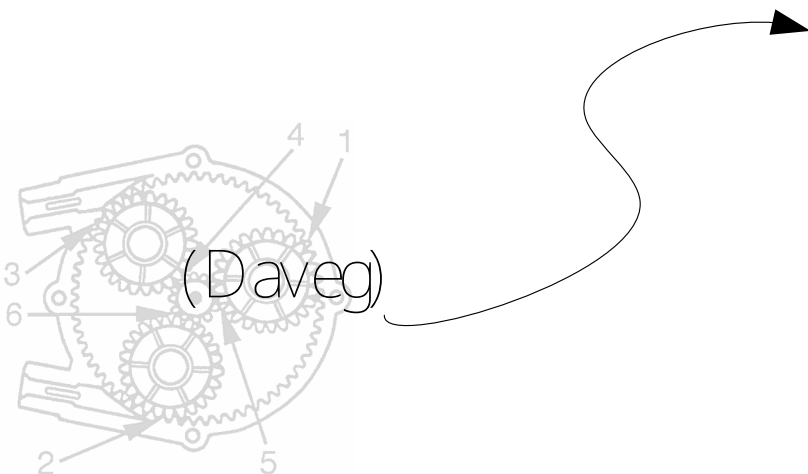
Sample IP Expiry Code Snippet

```

1  pcap_t *p;
2  for (done = 0; icmp = ip = 0, ttl = 1; ttl < 31; ++ttl) {
3      libnet_t *l;
4      time_t start;
5      u_char *packet;
6      int c, ttl, done;
7      char *device = "fxp0";
8      struct pcap_pkthdr ph;
9      libnet_ptag_t icmp, ip;
10     u_long src_ip = 0x1400000a; /* 10.0.0.20 in network byte order */
11     u_long dst_ip = 0x1403000a; /* 10.0.3.20 in network byte order */
12     struct libnet_icmpv4_hdr *icmp_h;
13     struct libnet_ipv4_hdr *ip_h, *oip_h;
14     char errbuf[LIBNET_ERRBUF_SIZE];
15     if (icmp == -1)
16     {
17         l = libnet_init(LIBNET_RAW4, NULL, errbuf);
18         if (l == NULL)
19         {
20             /* error */
21             return 0;
22         }
23         ip = libnet_build_ipv4(
24             LIBNET_IPV4_H + LIBNET_ICMPV4_ECHO_H,
25             0,
26             p = pcap_open_live(device, 60, 0, 500, errbuf);
27             if (p == NULL)
28             {
29                 /* error */
30                 return 0;
31             }
32             /* ttl */
33             IPPROTO_ICMP,
34             0,
35             src_ip,
36             dst_ip,
37             NULL,
38             0,
39             l,
40             ip);
41             if (ip == -1)
42             {
43                 /* error */
44                 return 0;
45             }
46         }
47     }
48     icmp = libnet_build_icmpv4_echo( {
49         ICMP_ECHO,
50         0,
51         0,
52         242,
53         0,
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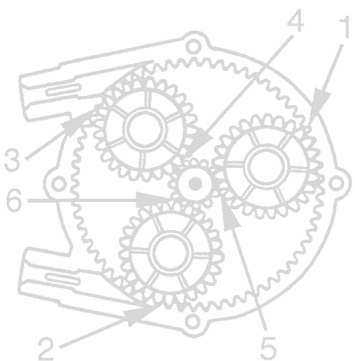
Technique Layer Details: Firewalking

- Active Reconnaissance Technique
 - Based off of IP expiry
- Used to determine ACL filtering rules on a packet forwarding device
 - Schiffman, Goldsmith, 1998



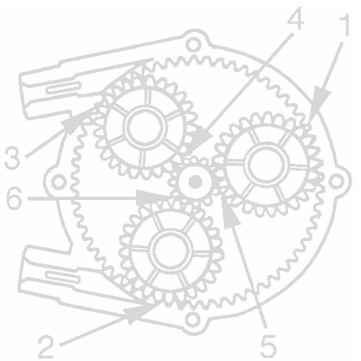
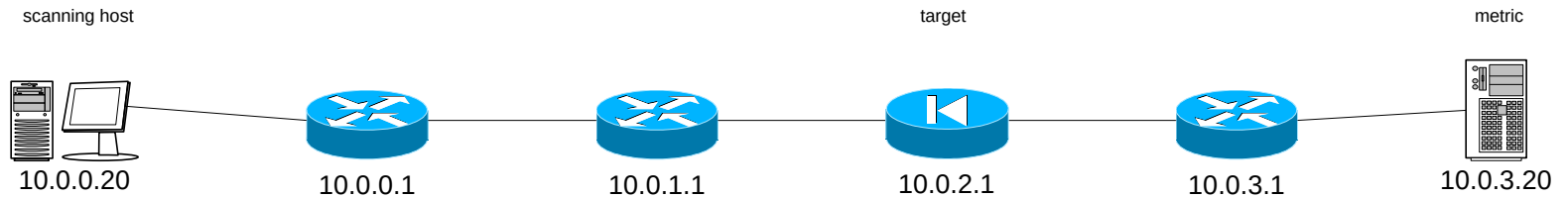
Technique Layer Details: Firewalking

- Send out a **TCP** or **UDP** packet with an IP **TTL** one greater of the **target gateway**
 - Packet passed by gateway ACL: ICMP TTL expired in transit
 - Packet denied by gateway: No response
- Requires two hosts, **target** and **metric**
 - Target is the target gateway to be scanned
 - Metric is a host or gateway downstream from the target
 - Doesn't have to be reachable



Technique Layer Details: Firewalking

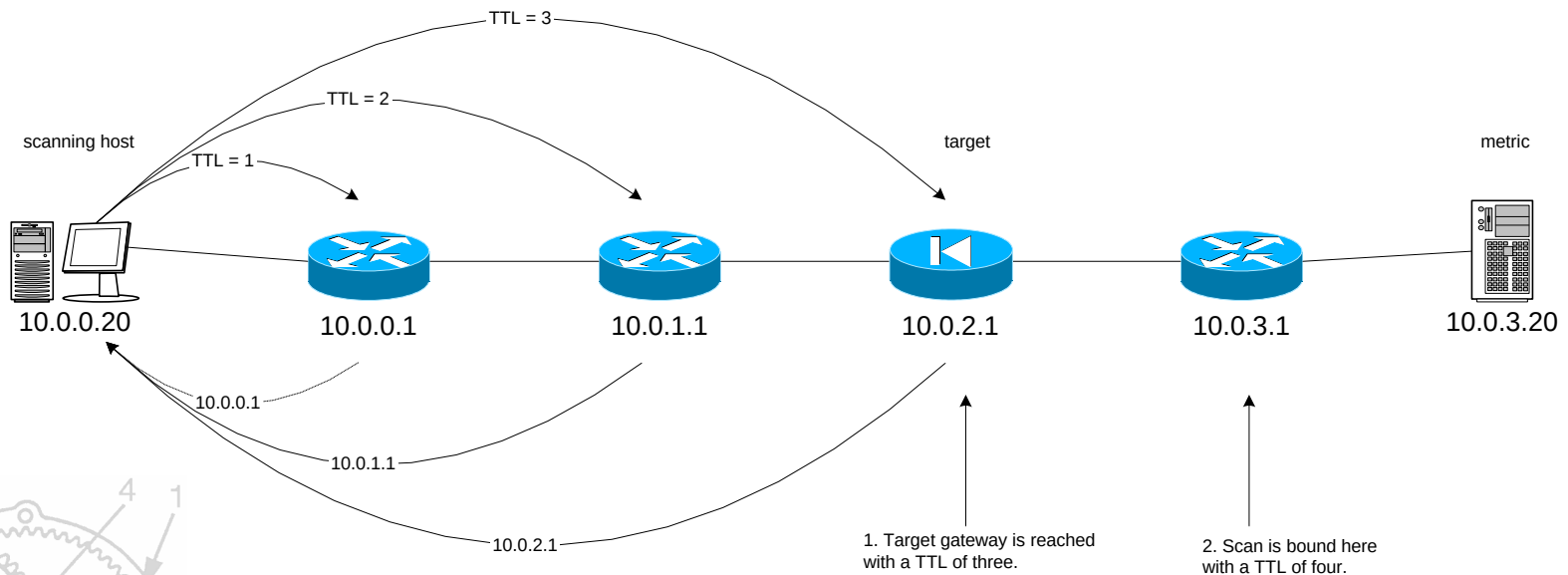
Firewalking host breakdown



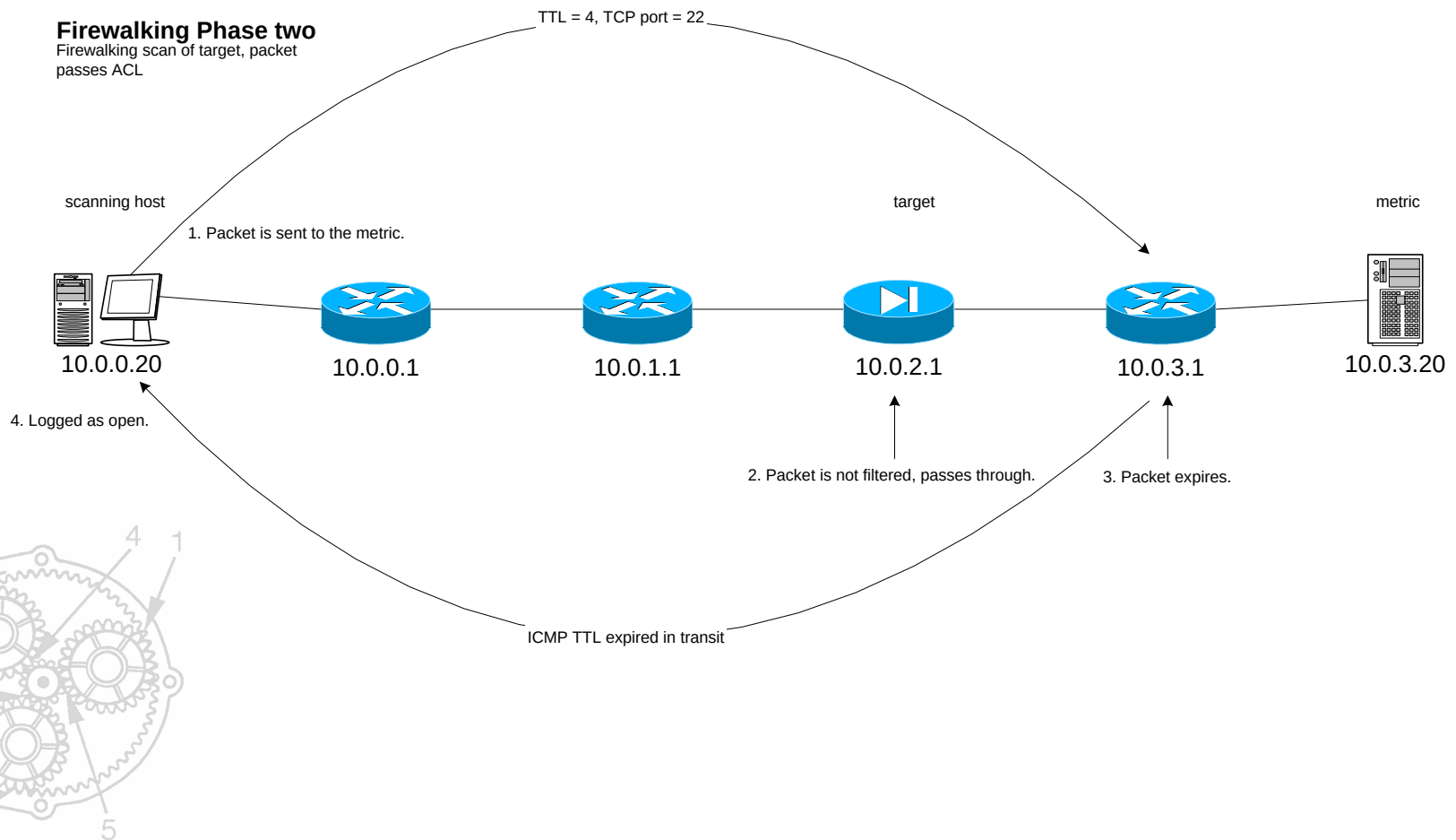
Technique Layer Details: Firewalking (Phase One: Hopcount Ramping)

Firewalking Phase one

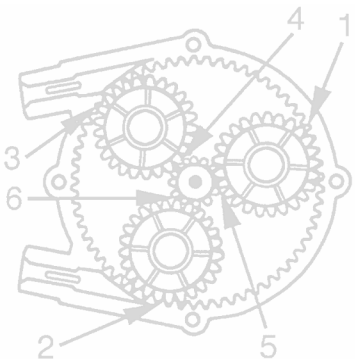
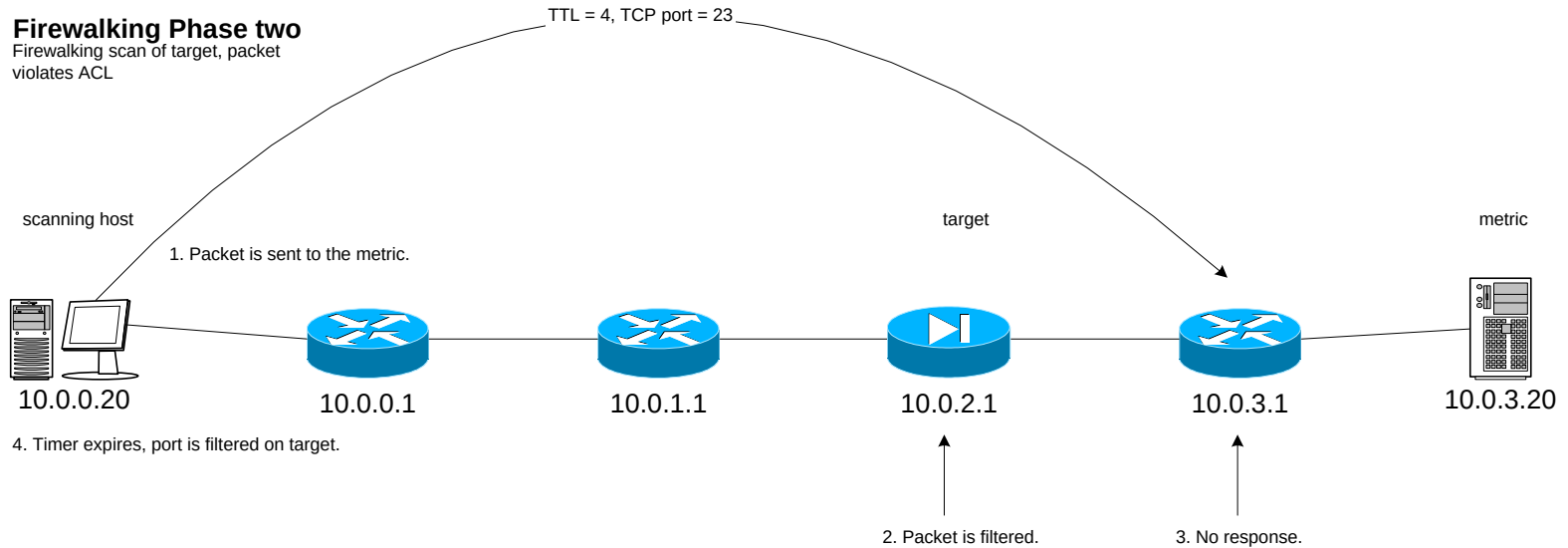
Ramping hopcounts via IP expiry.



Technique Layer Details: Firewalking (Phase Two: Scanning, Packet is not Filtered)

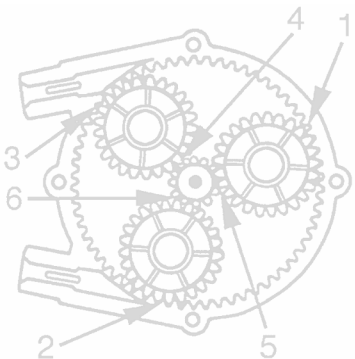


Technique Layer Details: Firewalking (Phase Two: Scanning, Packet is Filtered)

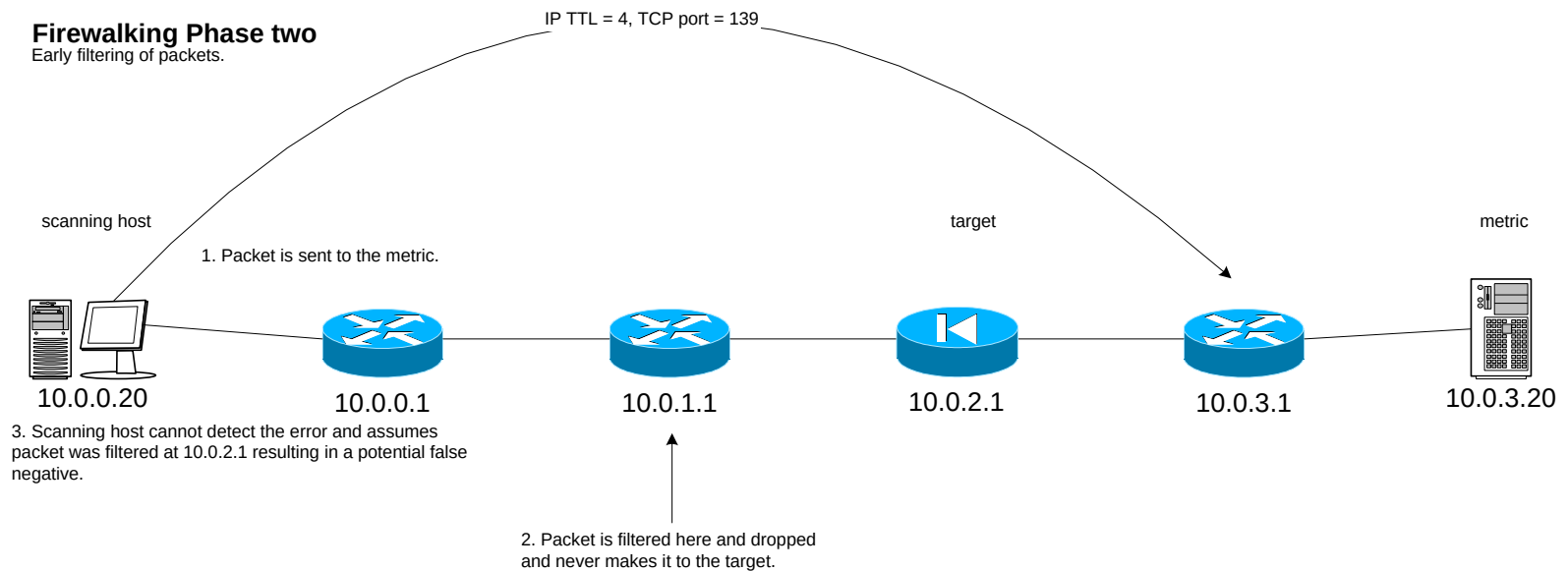


Firewalk Packet Loss

- Packets can be dropped for a variety of reasons
 - IP is an unreliable network
 - However, what if there is a prohibitive filter on a gateway prior to the target?
 - We would get false negatives reporting our packet is being filtered on the target when in fact it is being filtered by another host...

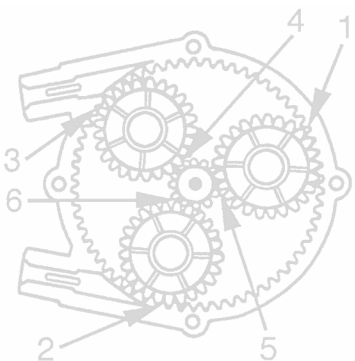


Technique Layer Details: Firewalking (Phase Two: Early Filtering of Packets)



Firewalk Early Packet Filtering Solution

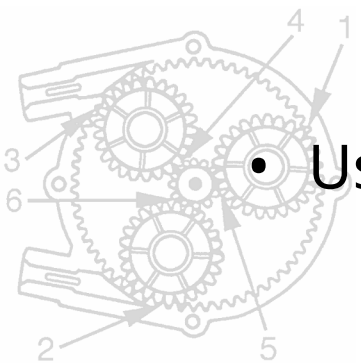
- We have two solutions:
 - Performing a “creeping walk” on each intermediate hop en route to the target. This will determine which gateway has the prohibitive filter
 - Physically relocate the scanning host to another part of the network so it no longer has to pass through the prohibitive filter in question
 - This may not always be an option



Firewalk Adjacent Target and Metric

- Target and metric and topologically adjacent
 - Metric is exactly one hop downstream from the target
- If packet violates ACL, nothing happens out of the ordinary
 - Scan times out and ACL is noted
- If packet is passed by the target, it is processed as per RFC 1122
 - Results vary, but packet is generally processed as per the protocol specific terminal packet semantics as with IP expiry

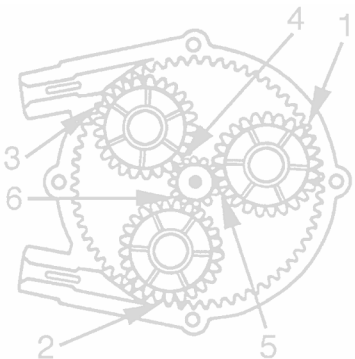
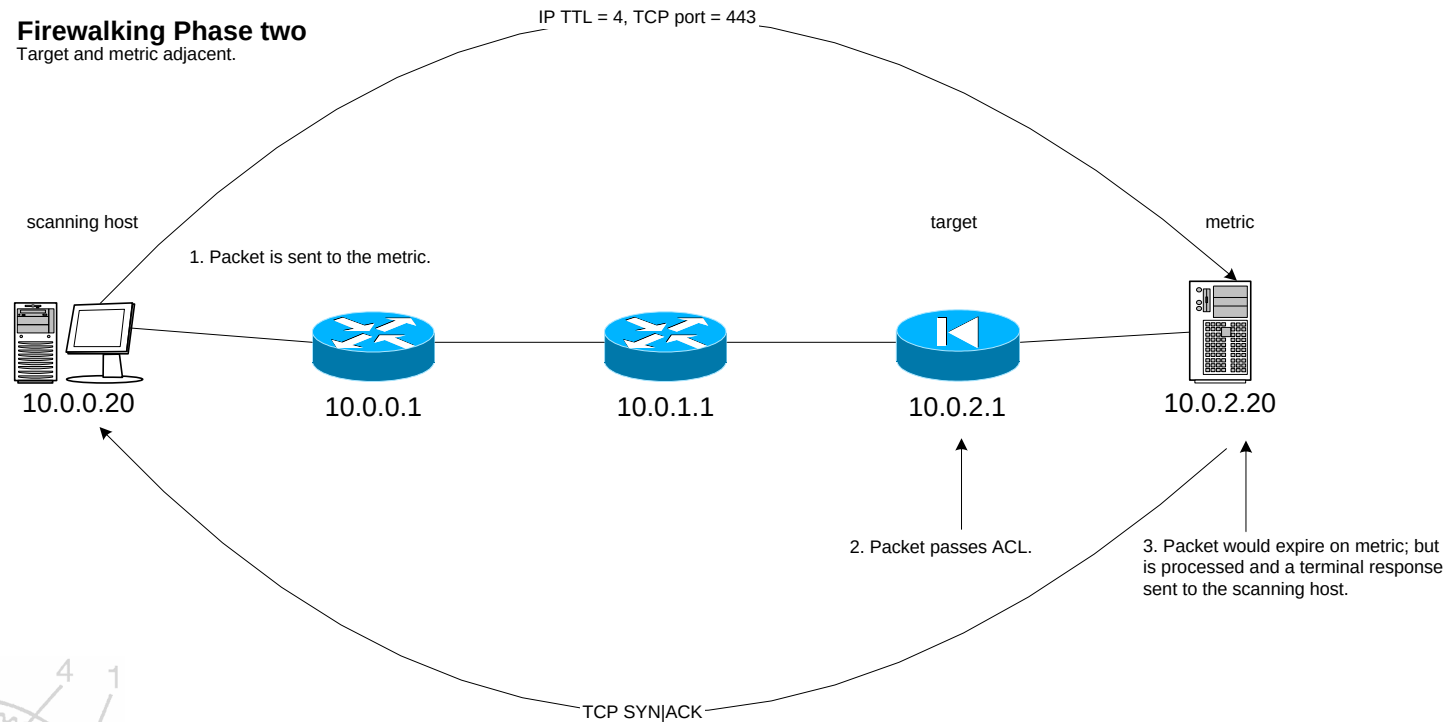
• Using this, additional scanning can be performed



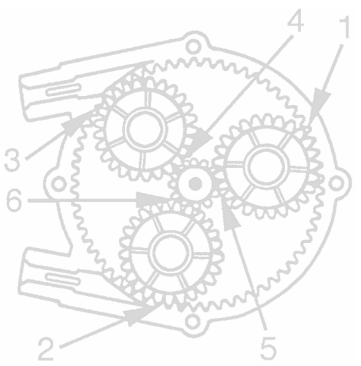
Technique Layer Details: Firewalking (Phase Two: Scanning, Adjacent Target and Metric)

Firewalking Phase two

Target and metric adjacent.



Modeling Existing Tools



Traceroute Modeled

Traceroute

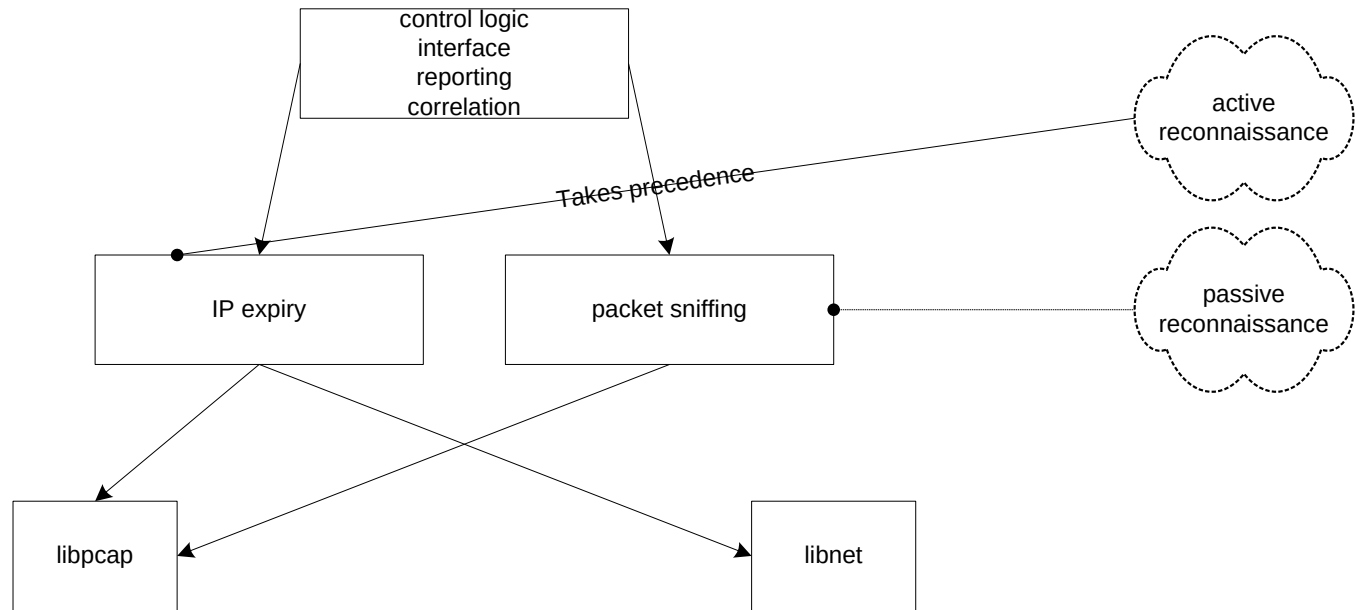
→
denotes layer dependency

•
denotes class binding

Control

Technique

Component



The Firewalk Tool Modeled

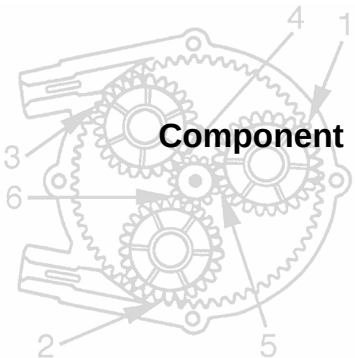
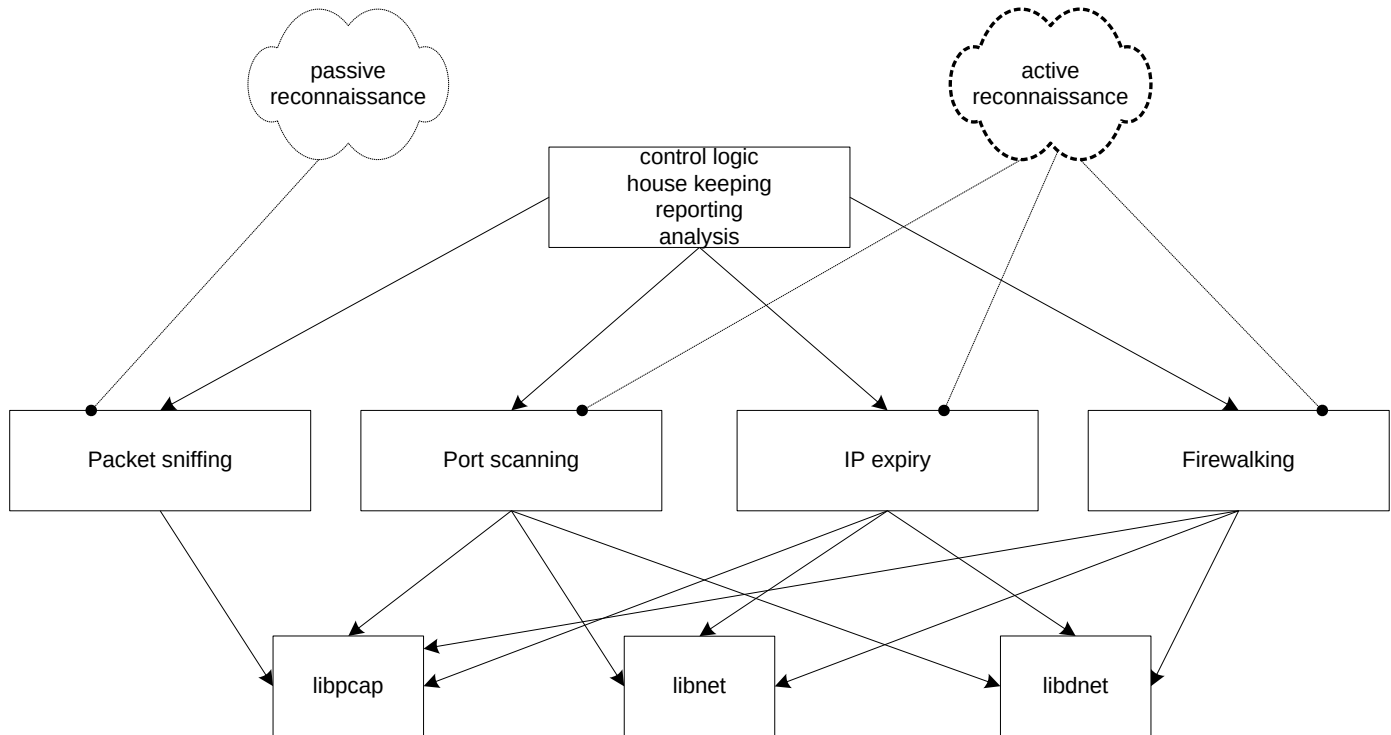
Firewalk

→
denotes layer dependency
●
denotes class binding

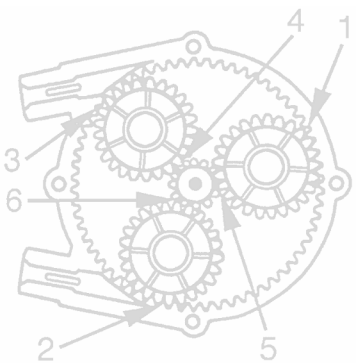
Control

Technique

Component



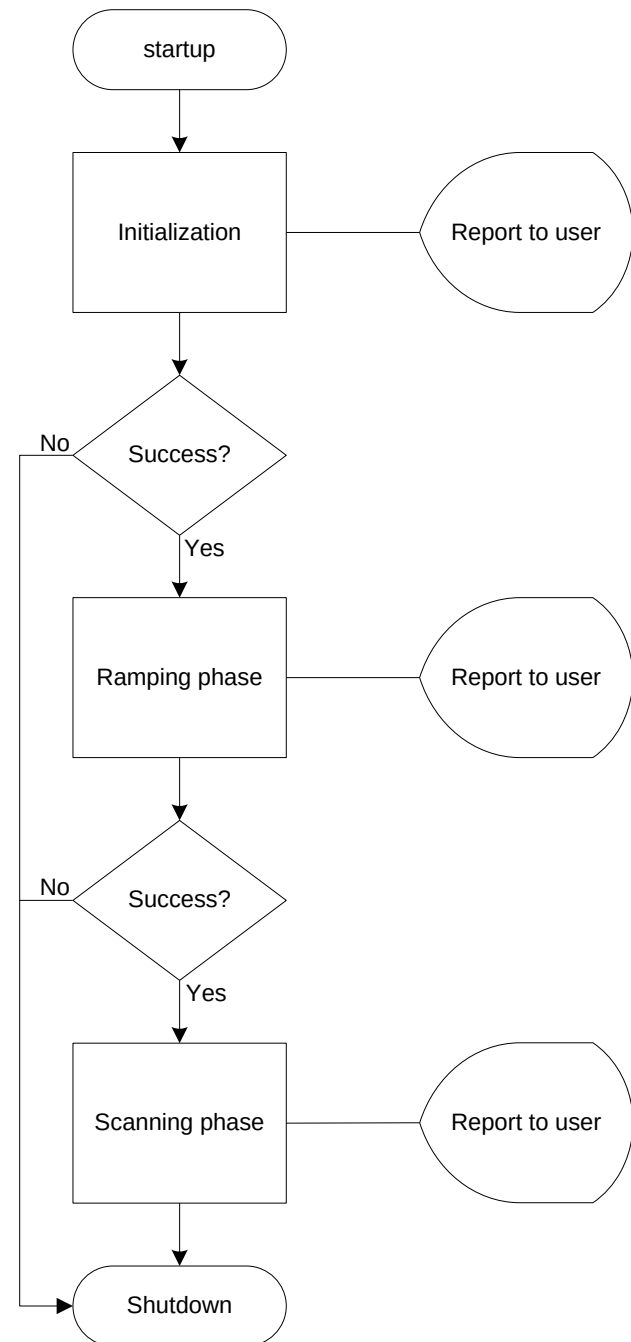
Inside a Network Security Tool: Firewall Internals



```

    */
    printf("port %d\n", port);
    {
    }
done:
    fw

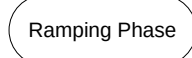
```

[illegible]

```

    }
    return (1);
}
return (0);
default:
spr
ret

```



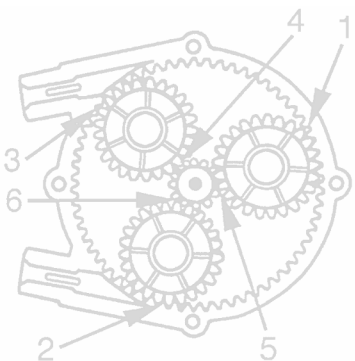
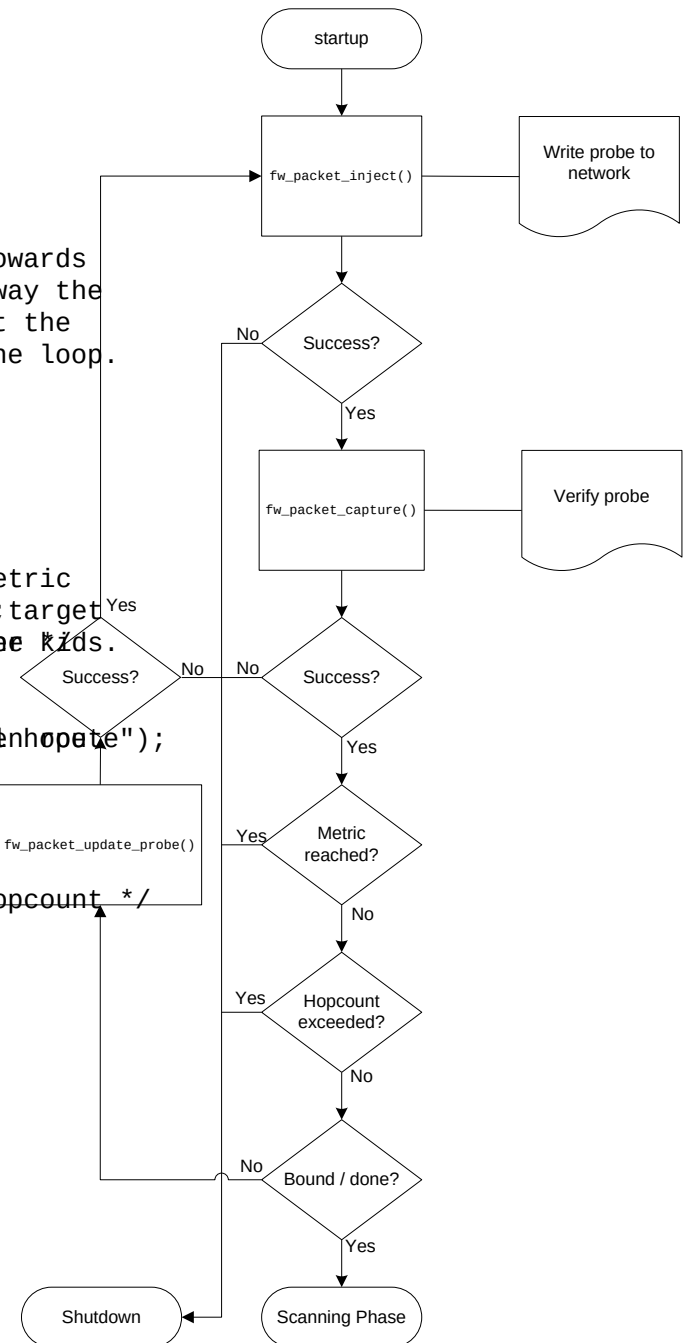
[illegible]

Firewalk Ramping Phase

```

/* if (done) (fw_packet_capture(fp))
 * PHASE ONE: Firewalk hopcount ramping
 * A standard (case FW_PACKET_IS_UNREACH, ENROUTE) initiated towards
 * the metric, with FW_PACKET_IS_UNREACH, ENROUTE: many hops away the
 * target gateway is if (onside) flags for FW_BOUND, data probe sent the
 * hopcounter and update packet template each pass through the loop.
 */
    } printf("Binding host reached.\n");
printf("Ramping Phase:\ndone = 1;
for {done = 0, i = 0} !done && i < FW_IP_HOP_MAX; i++)
{ if (done && !(*fp) & FW_BOUND))
/* send a second FW_PACKET_IS_TERMINAL_UNREACH */
for {j = 0; case FW_PACKET_IS_TERMINAL_UNREACH:
{ * If we use FW_PACKET_IS_TERMINAL_UNREACH we hit the metric
for {i = 0; case FW_PACKET_IS_TERMINAL_UNREACH: This is the target
if (gateway is single) then the phase will end phase over kids.
{*/ done = 1;
sprintf((*fp) & buf,
 * Perhaps this probe was sent out not within hopcount");
return (FW_PACKET_IS_TERMINAL_UNREACH: the user and continue.
} */ /* err msg set in fw_packet_capture() */
if (!done) printf("Warning: (FW_PACKET_IS_TERMINAL_UNREACH)\n");
{ case (FW_PACKET_IS_TERMINAL_UNREACH:
/* if we fail this enough times here, we've exceeded our hopcount */
printf((*fp) & buf, "FW_PACKET_IS_TERMINAL_UNREACH");
return (FW_PACKET_IS_TERMINAL_UNREACH);
} }

```

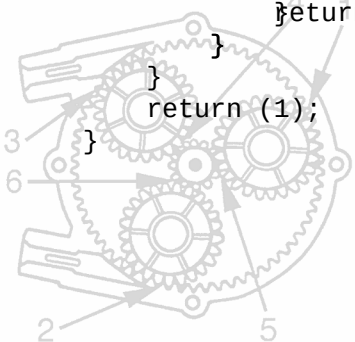
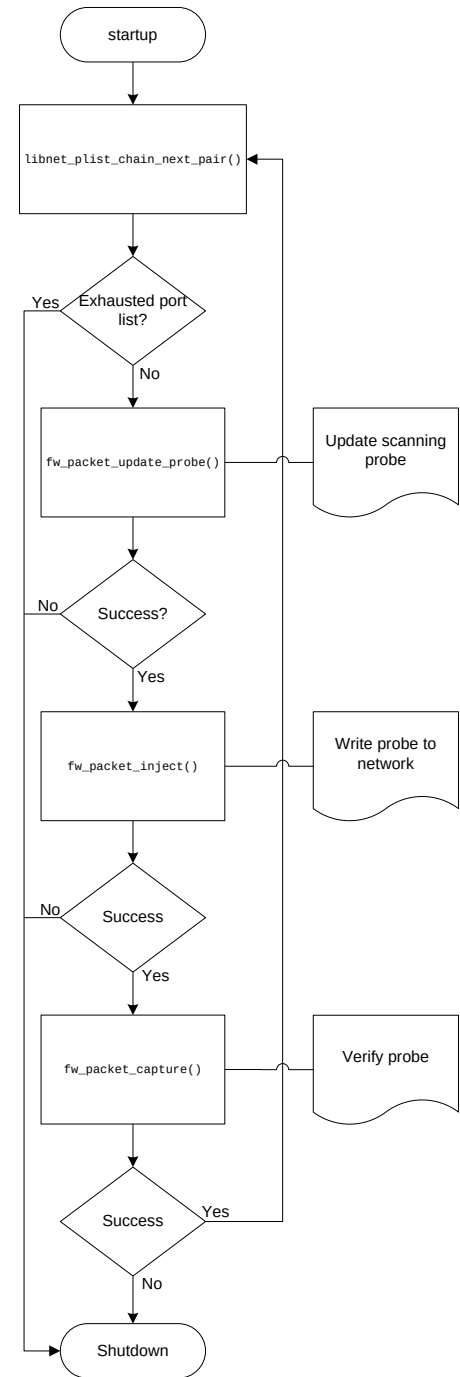


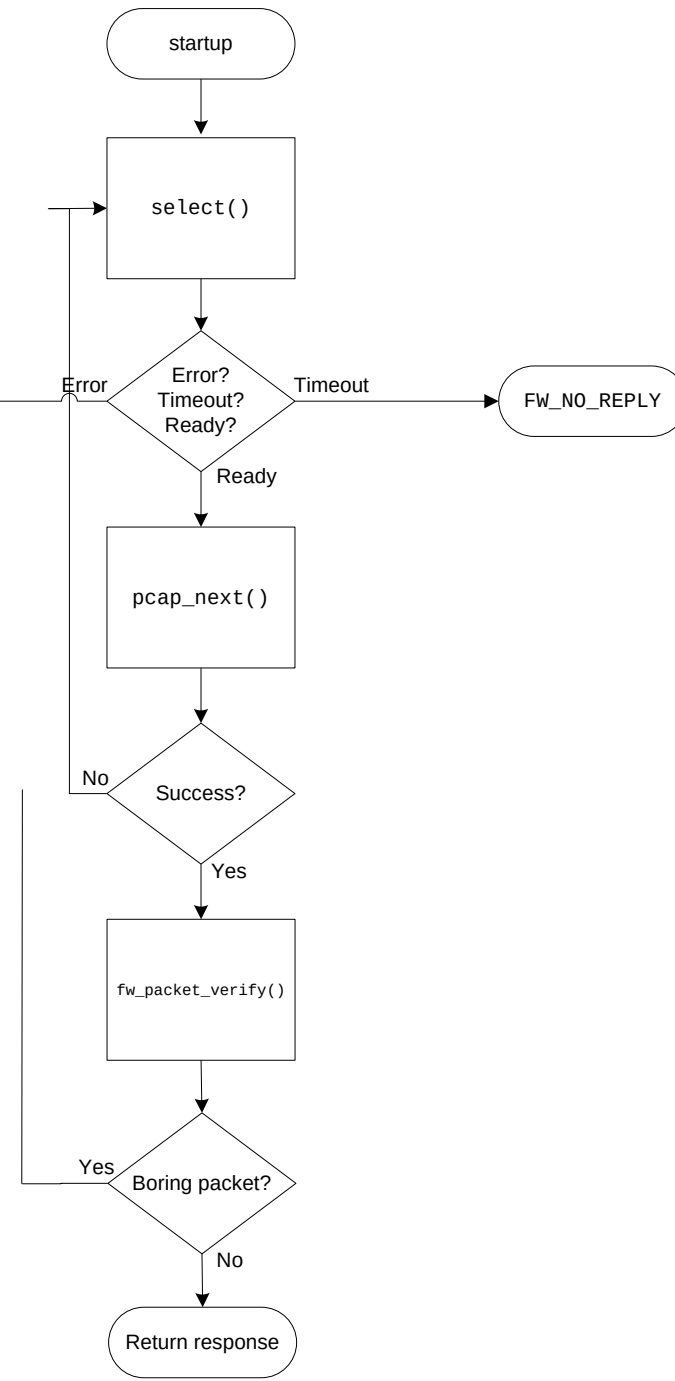
Firewalk Scanning Phase

```

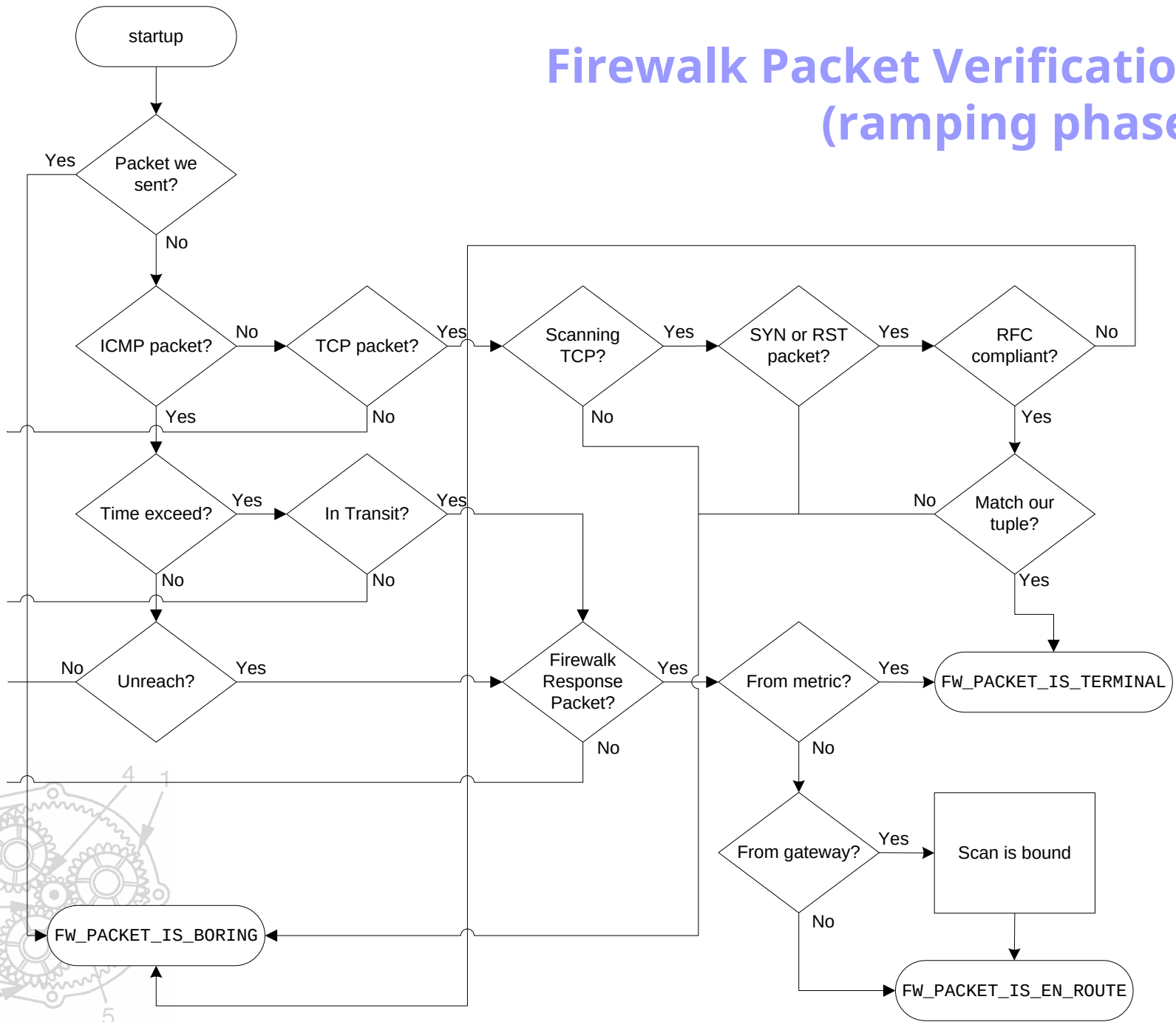
/* send a series of probes (currently only one) */
/* for (j = 0; j < 1; j++)
 * PHASE TWO: Firewalk scanning
 * A series of probes is sent from the "net" port with the bound IP
 * TTL. If a given probe is accepted through the target gateway's
 * ACL, we will life (fw_packet ICMP_TTL_Expired-1) transit from the
 * binding host{If we receive no response after the timeout expires,
 * it is assumed the probe violated the ACL on the target and was
 * dropped.
 * Perhaps this write error was transient. We'll
 */
/* hope for the best. Inform the user and continue.
(*fp)->tll += (*fp)->tll;
printf("Scan bound at %d\n", (*fp)->port);
printf("Scanning Phase: \n"){*fp}->errbuf);
for (done = 0, i = 0; done == 0; i++)
{
    if (!libnet_plist_chain_next_pair(&fp, &portlist, &spoint))*/
    {
        switch(fw_packet_capture(fp))
        /* we've exhausted our portlist and we're done */
        done = 1; case FW_USER_INTERRUPT:
        continue; return (FW_USER_INTERRUPT);
    } case -1:
    while (!(bport > cport & FW_SERIOUS_ERROR))
    {
        /* err msg set in fw_packet_capture() */
        cport = bport++; return (FW_SERIOUS_ERROR);
        if (fw_packet_update_probe(fp, cport) == -1)
        {
            /* empty */
            /* error msg set in fw_packet_update_probe */
            return (-1);
        }
    }
}
return (1);

```

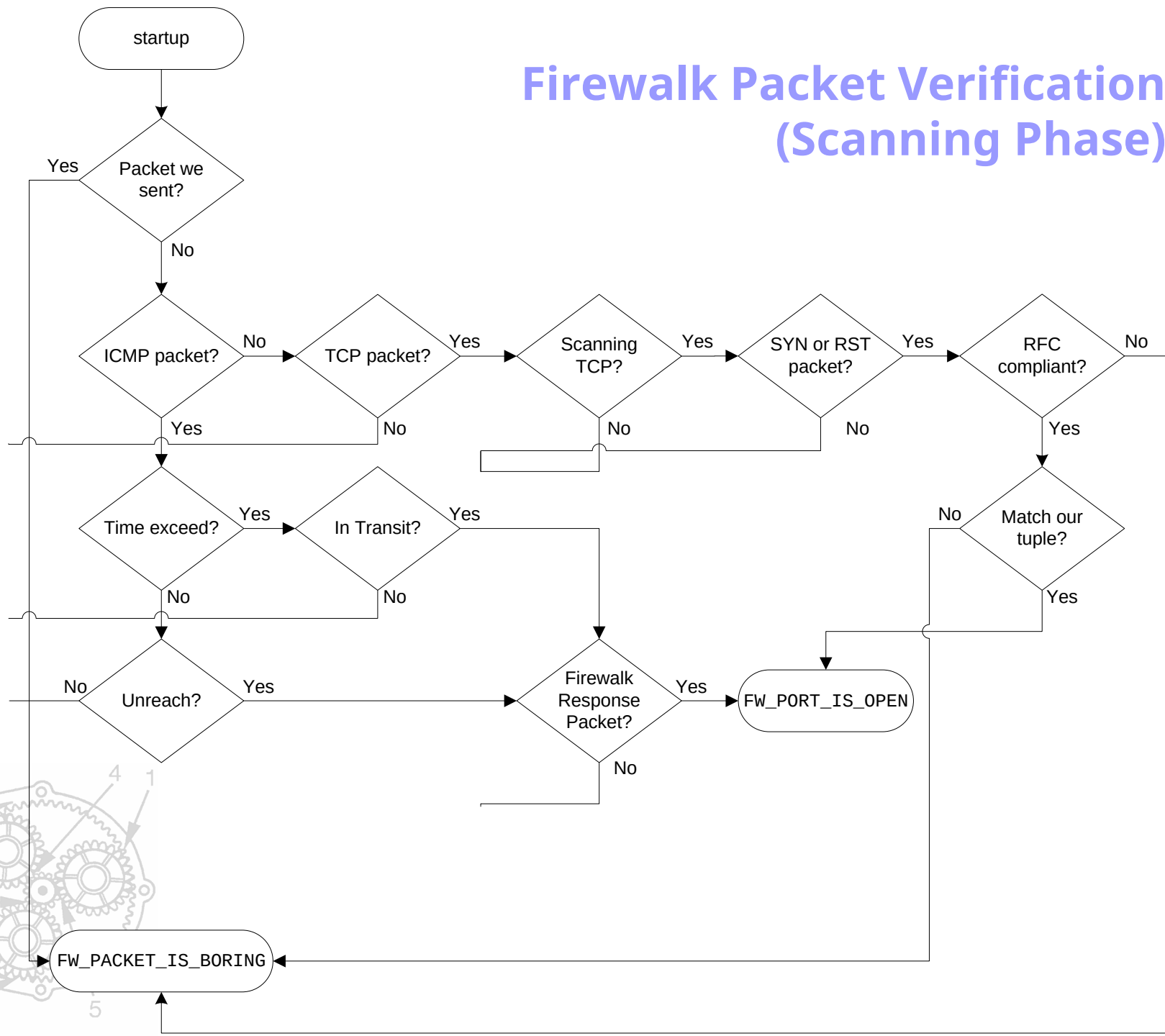




Firewalk Packet Verification (ramping phase)

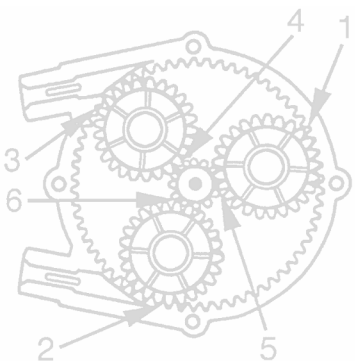


Firewalk Packet Verification (Scanning Phase)



Conclusion

- Modular Model of Network Security Tools
- Components and Techniques
 - This was not an exhaustive list of Components or Techniques...
- Examples of how to code Techniques using Components



Questions and Comments?



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