

ROTOROUTER: Router Support for Endpoint-Authorized Decentralized Traffic Filtering to Prevent DoS Attacks

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Jonathan Smith² André DeHon²

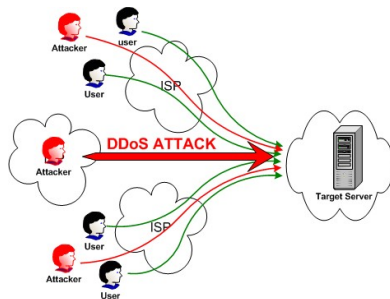
¹MIT

²University of Pennsylvania

December 12, 2014

Denial-of-Service (DoS) Attacks

- Denial-of-service is an attack that makes network or server unavailable
- Overload the network with junk messages so that valid traffic can't make through



DoS in Real Life

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Existing Solutions for DoS



- Software firewalls
 - Non-solution

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- Hardware firewalls
 - Inflexible

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- Replication
 - Expensive

ROTOROUTER Idea

Routers cooperate to only route desired traffic

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- Enable the end points to “program” the routers
 - Similar to OpenFlow, but decentralized
- Both protocol change and hardware support

Outline

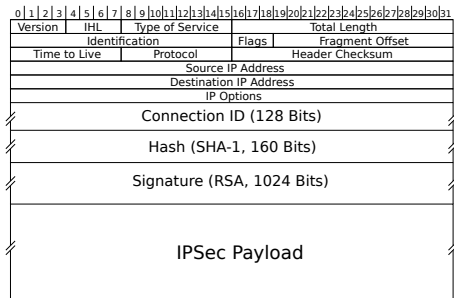
- 1 Motivation
- 2 ROTOROUTER Network Protocol
- 3 ROTOROUTER Architecture
- 4 ROTOROUTER Evaluation
- 5 Conclusion

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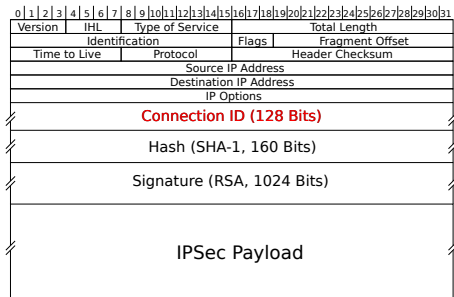
Network Protocol

- Extend TCP/IP



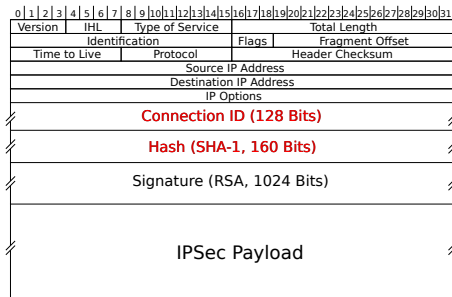
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 - IPv4 source + destination, and random number



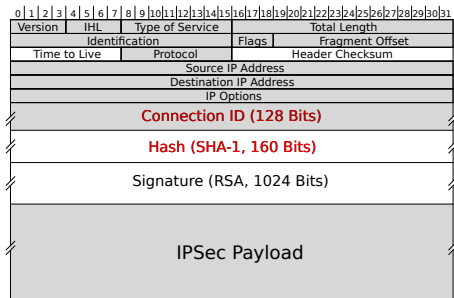
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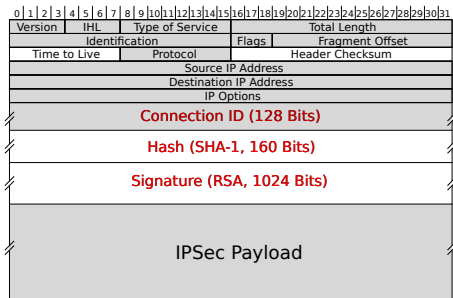
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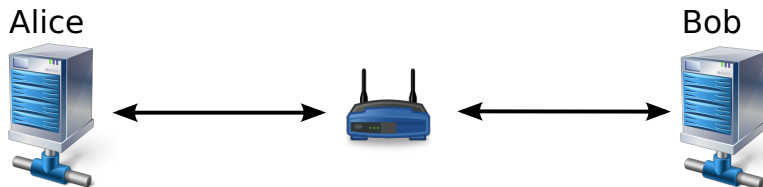


Network Protocol

- Extend TCP/IP
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- Public key signature
 - Prevents spoofing
 - Assume that public keys of end points are distributed

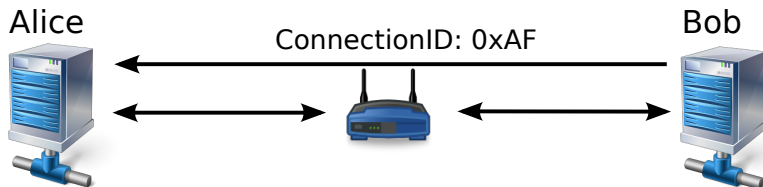


Router Enforceable Protocol: Setup



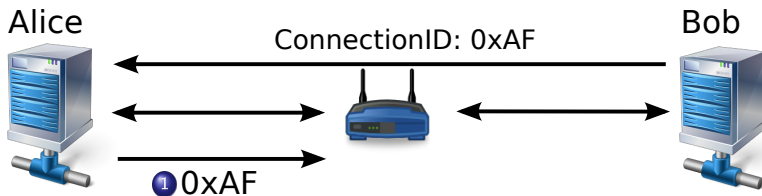
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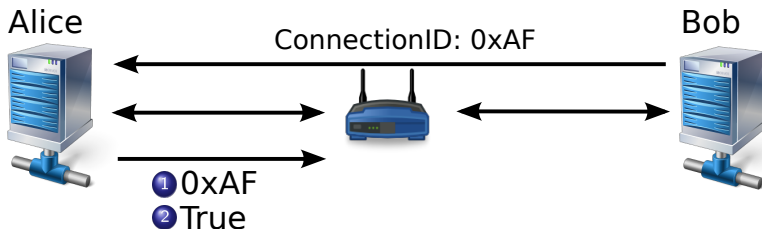
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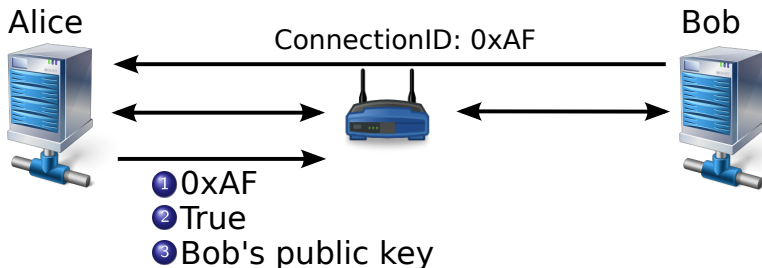
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Router Enforceable Protocol: Setup

- Receiving end point sends:
 - 1 ConnectionID corresponding to the flow
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 - 3 Source node's public key



Router Enforceable Protocol: Filter

Alice



Bob



Router Enforceable Protocol: Filter

- Router performs:

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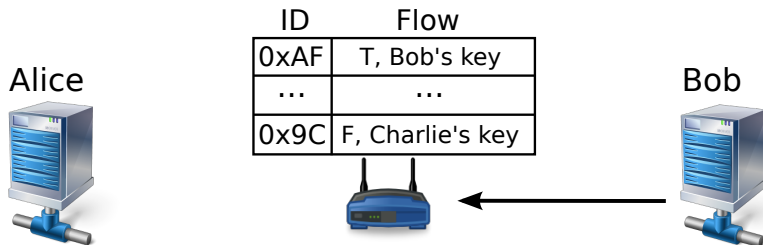


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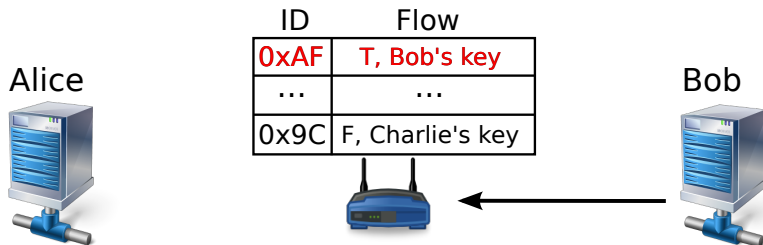
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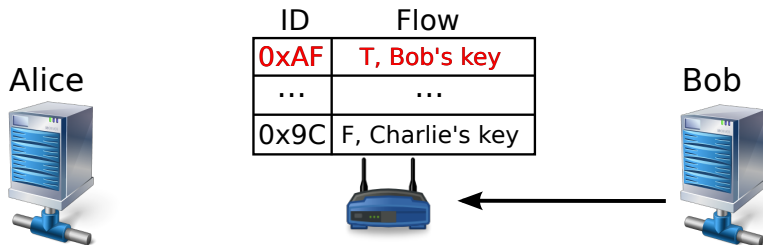
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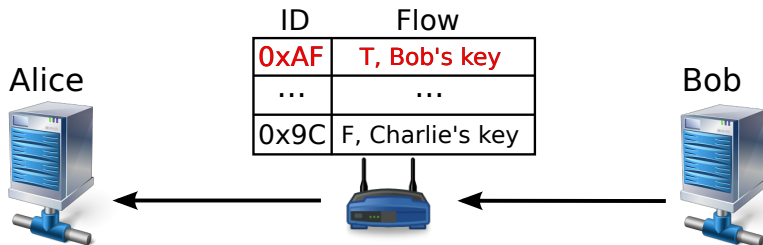
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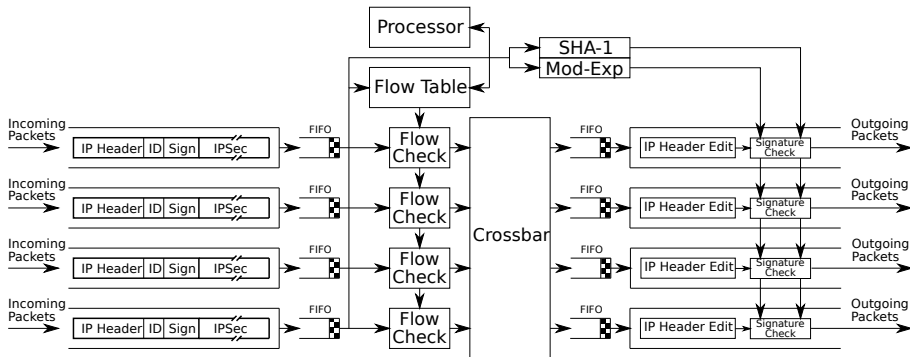
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 - 4 Drop or relay the packet



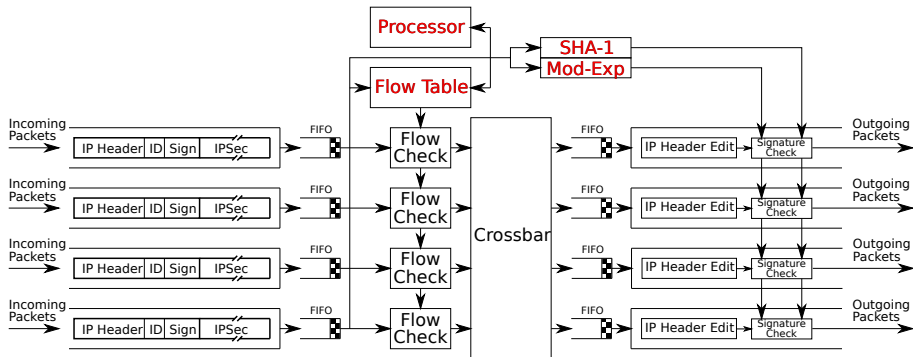
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ROTOROUTER Architecture

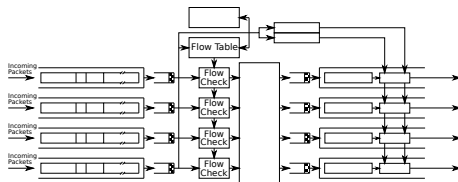


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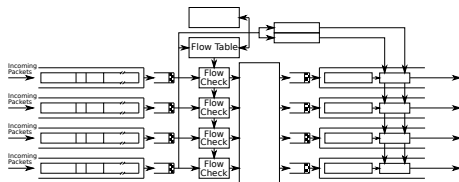
Flow Table

- Dictionary mapping connection ID to source public key, and a valid flow boolean



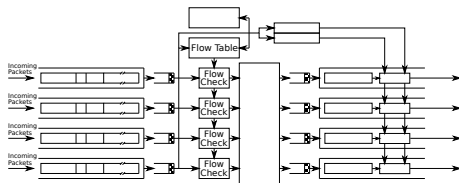
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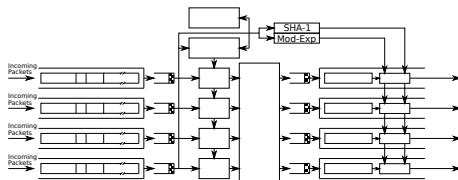
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- Small cache (on BRAM) backed by larger memory
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- Crucial for router performance
 - (Near) Associative memory ¹



¹Udit Dhawan and André DeHon. Area-Efficient Near-Associative Memories on FPGAs. FPGA 2013

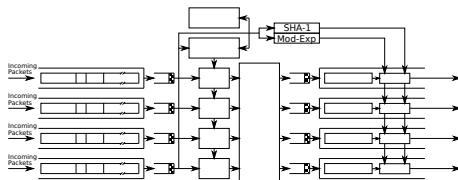
Crypto Modules

- Cryptographic hash and signature verification



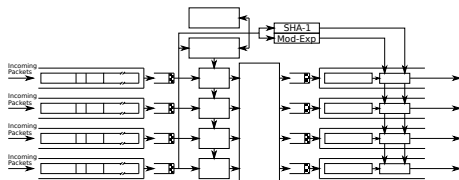
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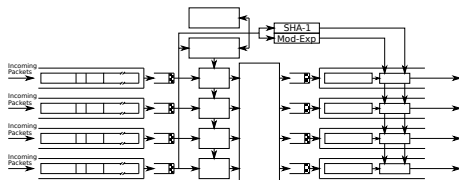
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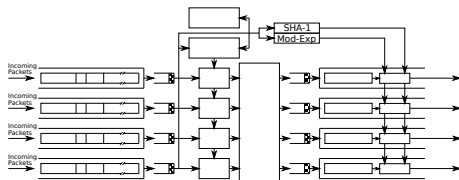
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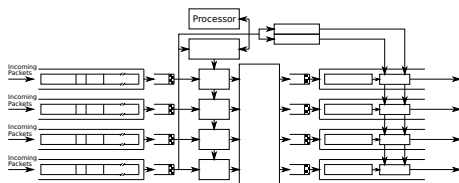
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 - Okay to use small exponent for verification



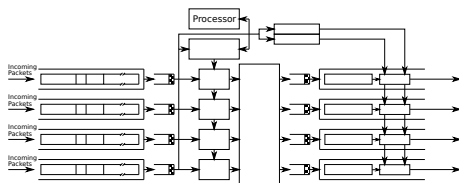
On-chip Processor

- Communicates with the end points to setup new flows



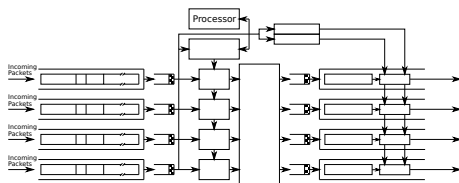
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On-chip Processor

- Communicates with the end points to setup new flows
 - Only impacts initial latency
- Manages the flow table entries

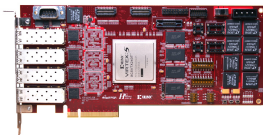


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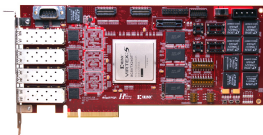
Prototype Implementation

- Hardware prototype on NetFPGA-10G platform



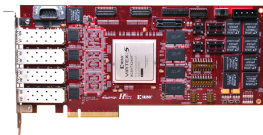
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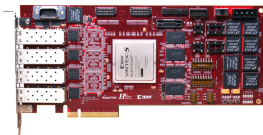
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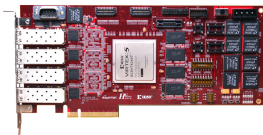
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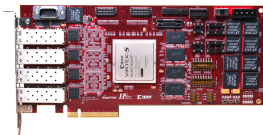
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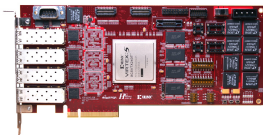
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 - OpenCore: SHA-1
 - NetFPGA-10G library: Gigabit ethernet, PCIe, etc



Implementation

Module	Area		Clock (MHz)
	LUTs	BRAMs	
Crossbar w/ Buffers	8249	16	300
Flow Table	38	74	350
Processor	26985	52	200
SHA-1 Module	4×1005	0	125
Mod-Exp	73591	0	200
RotoRouter	112883	142	125
IPv4 Router	22523	35	150
Total available	149760	324	-

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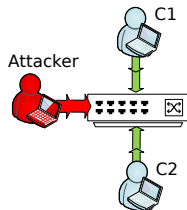
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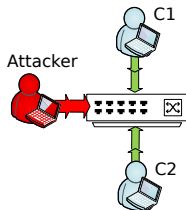
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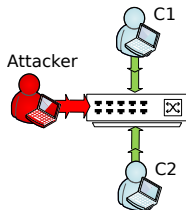
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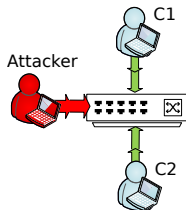
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Individual Throughput (Gbps)	19.2	515	4×0.8	4×1.2
Effective Throughput @ 125 MHz (Gbps)	8	184	3.2	4.8

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Scalability

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- Newer FPGAs support high speeding switching (> 160 Gbps) ²
- Crypto could be replicated
 - Hash and signature primitives could be switched to faster primitives (e.g., elliptical curve)

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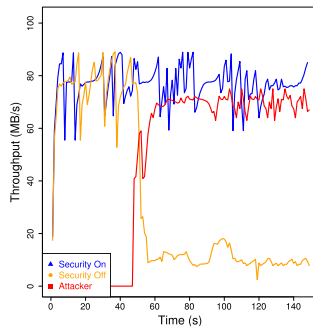
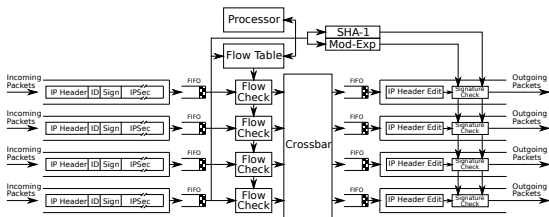
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Conclusion

- Router assisted DoS protection shows great promise
 - Line-rate public key verification is possible!
- Proof-of-concept router demonstrates low-overhead
- Software and hardware co-design leads to better solutions



Thanks!

Future Work

- Characterizing dynamic behaviors
 - Flow setup, router setup, etc
- Throughput impact on larger scale systems
- Incremental deployment