

TCP Fast Open

Bypassing pigs/suricats like a synackpshtiv ninja

Presented in the 05/06/2014 During the SSTIC 2014 By Nicolas Collignon and Renaud Dubourguais



Fixing TCP to help HTTP

HTTP/1.0

1 HTTP request = 1 TCP handshake

HTTP/1.1

- "Keep-Alive" HTTP header
- Multiple HTTP requests = 1 TCP handshake

YouTube

- Still too slow!
- We need something else...



TCP Fast Open

IETF draft

- The aim is to speed up connections establishment
- Allows data transmission in the TCP handshake
- Supported since Linux 3.6
- Client-side TFO is enabled by default since Linux 3.13

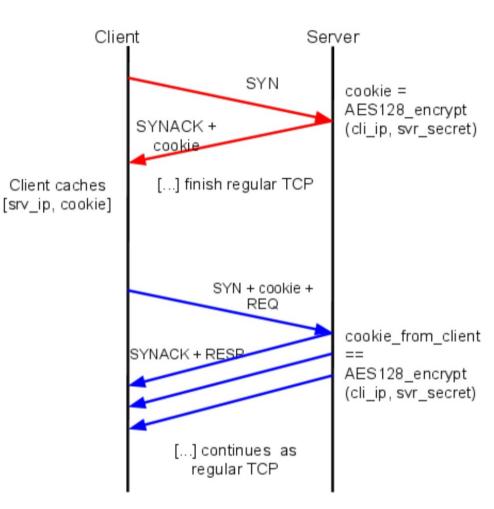
Impacts on the socket API

- Client-side: connect() \rightarrow sendto(MSG_FASTOPEN)
- Server-side : setsockopt(TCP_FASTOPEN)



TFO handshake

- The first HTTP connection requires a regular 3WHS with the TFO TCP option enabled
- The server generates a TFO cookie and send it to the client in the SYN-ACK
- Next, the client can send data during the following 3WHS





TFO vs IDS

- Data is in the SYN packet
- Intermediate devices don't care about TFO

IDS don't analyse data in SYN packets



Demo!

TFO vs SNORT = TFO winsTFO vs Suricata = TFO wins





