

Postfix

lctseng

Postfix

❑ Postfix v3.5.0

- /usr/ports/mail/postfix
- pkg install postfix

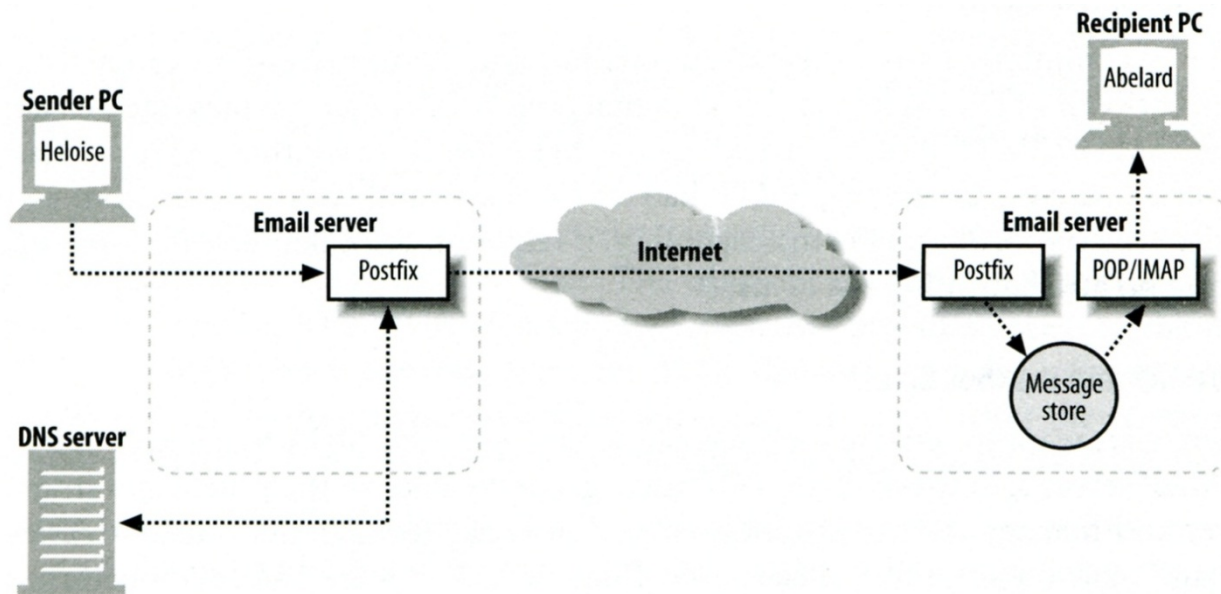
❑ <http://www.postfix.org>

- <http://www.postfix.org/documentation.html>

Role of Postfix

□ MTA that

- Receive and deliver email over the network via SMTP
- Local delivery directly or use other mail delivery agent



- <http://www.postfix.org/OVERVIEW.html>

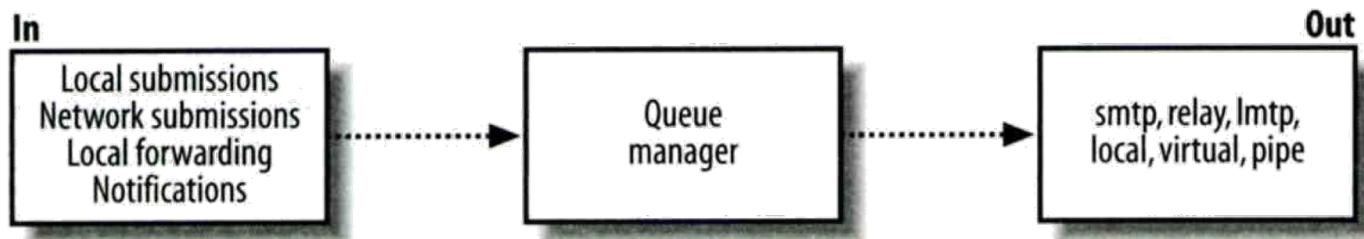
Postfix Architecture

❑ Modular-design MTA

- Not like sendmail of monolithic system
- Decompose into several individual program that each one handle specific task
- The most important daemon: `master` daemon
 - Reside in memory
 - Get configuration information from `master.cf` and `main.cf`
 - Invoke other process to do jobs

❑ Major tasks

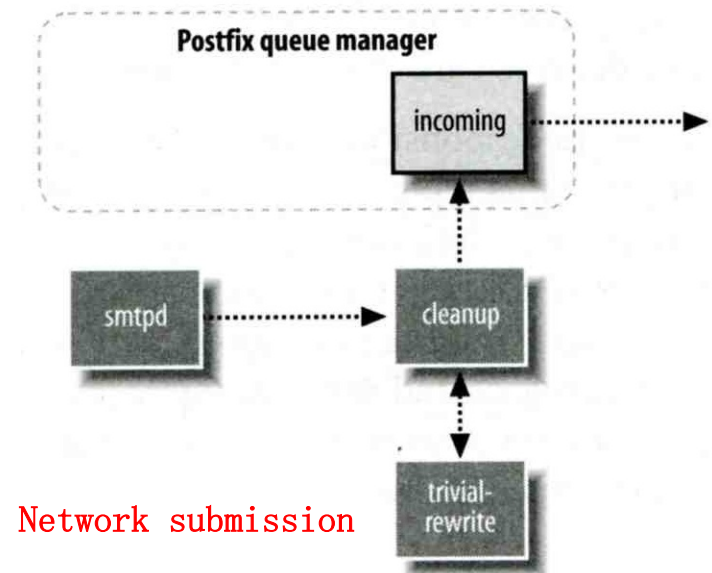
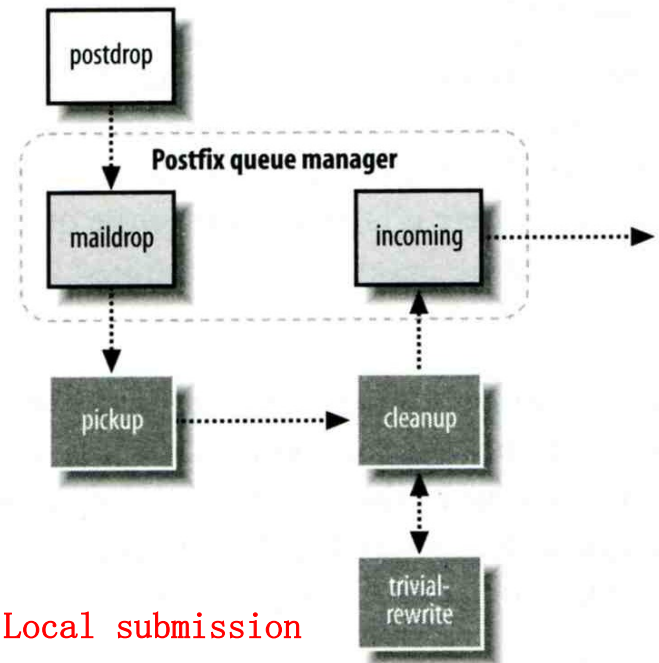
- Receive mail and put in **queue**
- Queue management
- Delivery mail from queue



Postfix Architecture – Message IN

❑ Four ways

- Local submission
 - postdrop command
 - maildrop queue
 - pickup daemon
 - cleanup daemon
 - Header validation
 - address translation
 - incoming queue
- Network submission
 - smtpd daemon
- Local forwarding
 - Resubmit for such as .forward
 - Envelope “to” is changed
- Notification
 - Notify admin when error happens



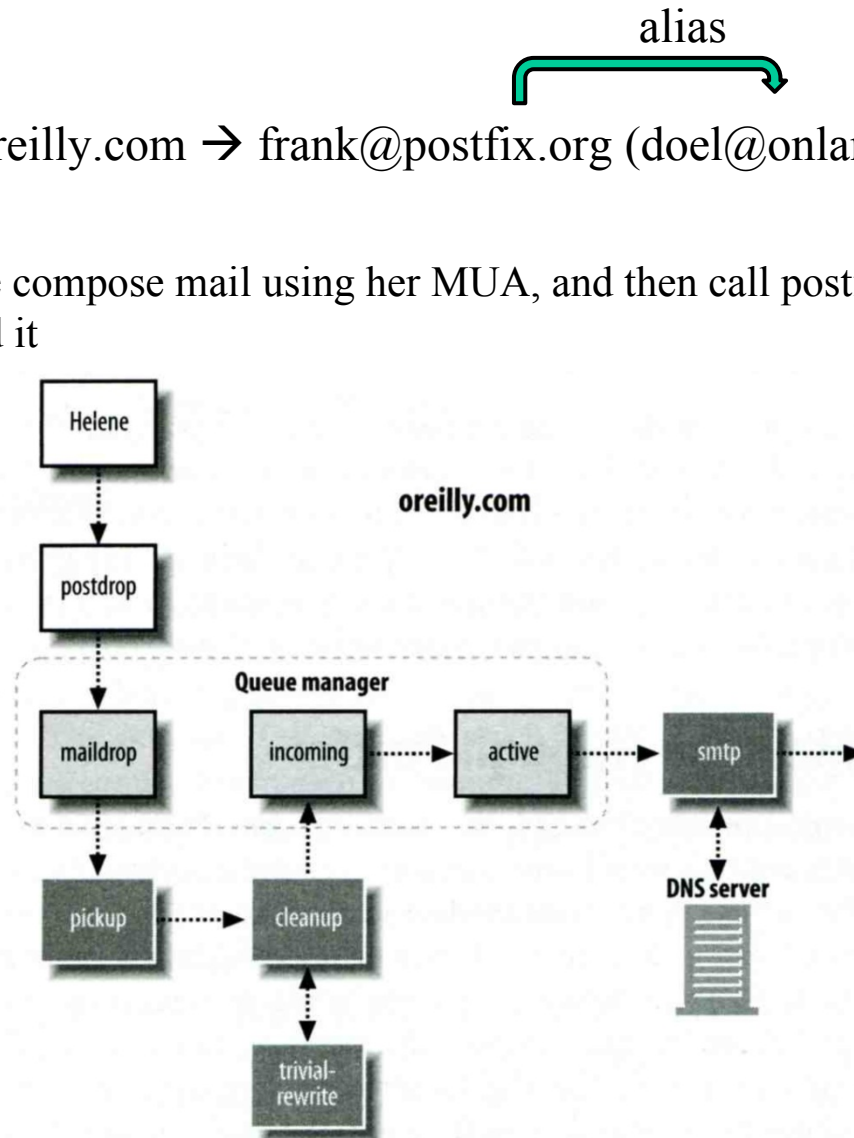
Postfix Architecture – Queue

- ❑ Five different queues
 - incoming
 - The first queue that every incoming email will stay
 - active
 - Queue manager will move message into active queue whenever there is enough system resources
 - Queue manager then invokes suitable DA to delivery it
 - deferred
 - Messages that cannot be delivered are moved here
 - These messages are sent back either with bounce or defer daemons
 - corrupt
 - Used to store damaged or unreadable message
 - hold
 - Requested by admin (manually or automatically)
 - Stay in queue until admin intervenes

Message Flow in Postfix (1)

□ Example

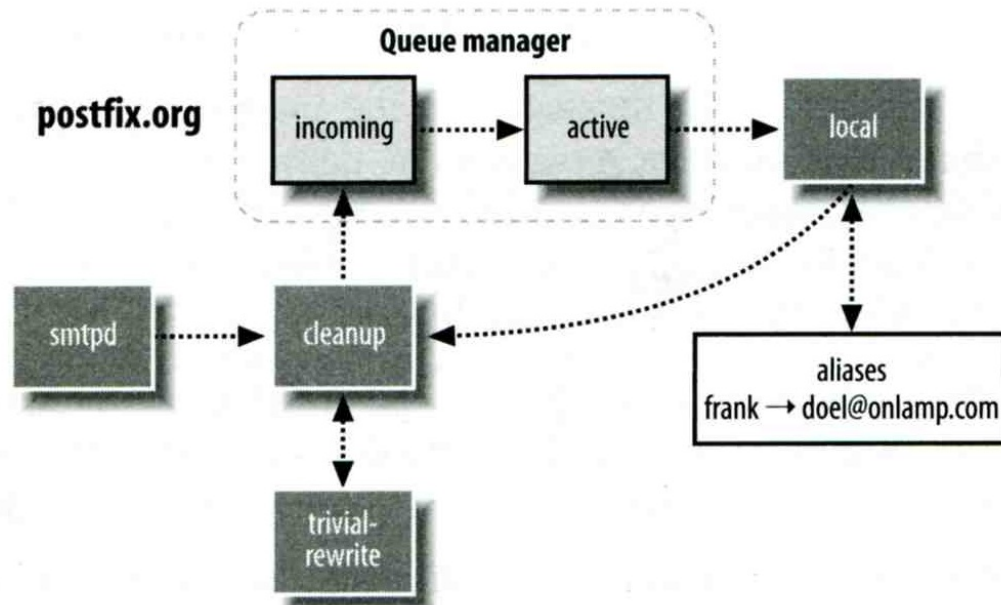
- `helene@oreilly.com` → `frank@postfix.org` (`doel@onlamp.com`)
- Phase1:
 - Helene compose mail using her MUA, and then call postfix's `sendmail` command to send it



Message Flow in Postfix (2)

□ Example

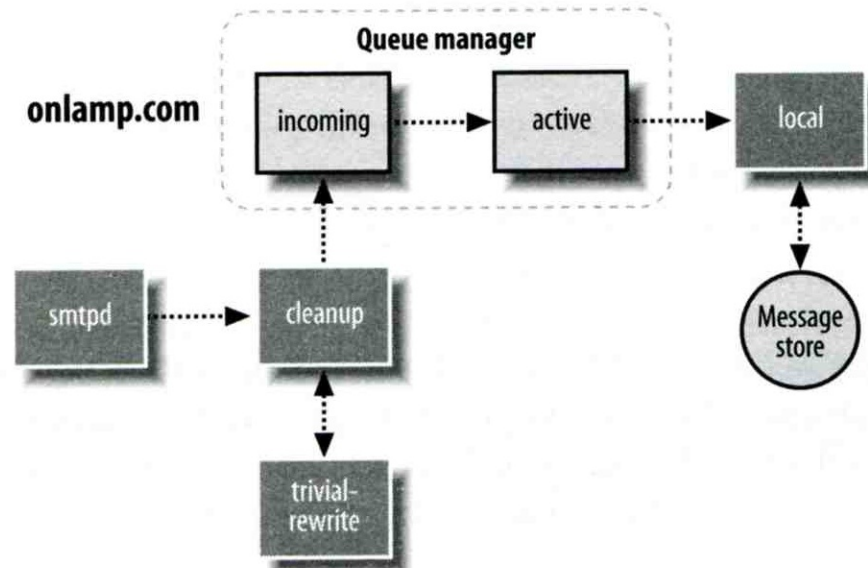
- `frank@postfix.org` → `doel@onlamp.com`
- Phase2:
 - The smtpd on postfix.org takes this message and invoke cleanup then put in incoming queue
 - The local DA find that frank is an alias, so it resubmits it through cleanup daemon for further delivery



Message Flow in Postfix (3)

□ Example

- frank@postfix.org → doel@onlamp.com
- Phase3
 - The smtpd on onlamp.com takes this message and invoke cleanup then put in incoming queue
 - Local delivery to message store



Message Store Format

❑ The Mbox format

- Store messages in **single file** for each user
- Each message start with “**From** ” line and continued with message headers and body
- Mbox format has **file-locking** problem (performance)

❑ The Maildir format

- Use **structure of directories** to store email messages
- Each message is in its owned file
- Three subdirectories - cur, new, and tmp
- Maildir format has **scalability** problem
 - locate and delete mails quickly, but waste amounts of fd, inodes, space
 - Problems of quota and backup

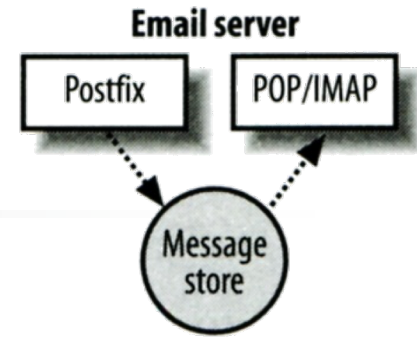
❑ Related parameters (in main.cf)

- mail_spool_directory = /var/mail (Mbox)
- mail_spool_directory = /var/mail/ (Maildir)

Read your mail from terminal

- ❑ To read mails, you must login via ssh
 - Built-in command to read mail: “mail”
 - Friendly command-line MUA: “mutt”
 - Pkg: mutt
 - Port: mail/mutt
- ❑ To read from remote host
 - Supports MUA like Outlook, Thunderbird, or even Gmail
 - You need MAA (supports IMAP/POP3)
 - Dovecot
 - Pkg: dovecot
 - Port: mail/dovecot

Postfix & POP3/IMAP

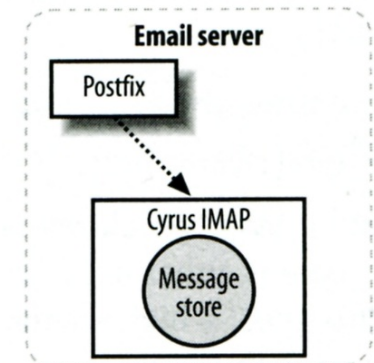


❑ POP3 vs. IMAP

- Both are used to retrieve mail from server for remote clients
- POP3 has to download entire message, while IMAP can download headers only
- POP3 can download only single mailbox, while IMAP can let you maintain multiple mailboxes and folders on server

❑ Postfix works together with POP3/IMAP

- Postfix and POP3/IMAP must agree on the type of mailbox format and style of locking
 - Standard message store
 - Non-standard message store (using LMTP)
 - Such as Cyrus IMAP or Dovecot



Postfix Configuration

❑ Two most important configuration files

- `/usr/local/etc/postfix/main.cf` – `postconf(5)`
 - Core configuration
- `/usr/local/etc/postfix/master.cf` – `master(5)`
 - Which postfix service should invoke which program

❑ Edit `main.cf`

- Using text editor
- `postconf`
 - `% postconf [-e] "myhostname=nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw"`
 - `% postconf -d myhostname(print default setting)`
 - `% postconf myhostname` (print current setting)

❑ Reload postfix whenever there is a change

- `# postfix reload`

Postfix Configuration – Lookup tables (1)

- ❑ Parameters that use external files to store values
 - Such as mydestination, mynetwork, relay_domains
 - Text-based table is ok, but time-consuming when table is large
- ❑ Lookup tables syntax
 - Key values
- ❑ Database format
 - % postconf -m
 - List all available database format
 - In main.cf
 - default_database_type

```
% postconf default_database_type
default_database_type = hash
% postconf -h default_database_type
hash
```

```
% postconf -m
btree
cidr
environ
hash
internal
proxy
regexp
static
tcp
texthash
unix
```

- http://www.postfix.org/DATABASE_README.html

Postfix Configuration – Lookup tables (2)

❑ Use databased-lookup table in main.cf

- syntax
parameter = type:name
- Ex:
 - In main.cf
canonical_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/canonical
 - After execute postmap
/usr/local/etc/postfix/canonical.db

❑ postmap command

- Generate database
 - \$ postmap hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/canonical
- Query
 - \$ postmap -q nctu.edu.tw hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/canonical

↑
don't need to add “.db” here

Postfix Configuration – Lookup tables (3)

❑ Regular expression tables

- More flexible for matching keys in lookup tables
 - Sometimes you cannot list all the possibilities
- Two regular expression libraries used in Postfix
 - POSIX extended regular expression (regexp, default)
 - Perl-Compatible regular expression (PCRE)
- Usage
 - /pattern/ value
 - Do some content checks, such as
 - header_checks
 - body_checks
 - Design some features
 - /(\S+)\.(\S+)\@cs\.nctu\.edu\.tw/ \$1@cs.nctu.edu.tw

Postfix Configuration – Categories

❑ Categories

- Server identities
 - my...
- Mail rewriting
 - for incoming/outgoing mails
- Access control
 - restrictions
- Mail processing
 - filter
- Operation details
 - ...

Postfix Configuration – MTA Identity

□ Four related parameters

- myhostname
 - myhostname = nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - If un-specified, postfix will use 'hostname' command
- mydestination
 - List all the domains that postfix should accept for local delivery
 - mydestination = \$myhostname, localhost.\$mydomain \$mydomain
 - This is the CS situation that MX will route mail to mailgate
 - mydestination = \$myhostname www.\$mydomain, ftp.\$mydomain
- mydomain
 - mydomain = cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - If un-specified, postfix use myhostname minus the first component
- myorigin
 - myorigin = \$mydomain (default is \$myhostname)

Postfix Configuration – System-wide aliases files

- ❑ Using aliases in Postfix (**first-matching**)
 - `alias_maps = hash:/etc/aliases`
 - `alias_maps = hash:/etc/aliases, nis:mail.aliases`
 - `alias_database = hash:/etc/aliases`
- ❑ `alias_map` vs `alias_database`
 - `alias_map`
 - Which map to use (lookup table)
 - Not all of them is controlled by Postfix
 - E.g. nis
 - `alias_database`
 - Which (local) database files are built by “newaliases”

Postfix Configuration – System-wide aliases files

- ❑ To Build alias database file
 - \$ postalias /etc/aliases
 - Can be used on other files
 - \$ newaliases
 - For /etc/aliases
- ❑ Alias file format (same as sendmail)
 - Value can be
 - Email address, filename, |command, :include:
- ❑ Alias restriction
 - allow_mail_to_commands = alias, forward
 - allow_mail_to_files = alias, forward

Postfix Configuration – Virtual Alias Maps

❑ Virtual Alias Map

- It recursively rewrites **envelope recipient** addresses for all local, all virtual, and all remote mail destinations.
- `virtual_alias_domains = $virtual_alias_maps` (default)
- `virtual_alias_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual`

➤ src-address	dst-address
<code>lctseng@csie.nctu.edu.tw</code>	<code>@chbsd.cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>
<code>lctseng</code>	<code>ch0nsi@gmail.com</code>
<code>@csie.nctu.edu.tw</code>	<code>@cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>
- Applying regular expression

➤ <code>virtual_alias_maps = pcre:/usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual</code>	
<code>/^root(\..+)?@(t)?(cs np)?bsd\d*\.\.cs\.nctu\.edu\.tw\$/</code>	<code>bsdta@cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>
<code>/^root(\..+)?@(t)?(cs np)?linux\d*\.\.cs\.nctu\.edu\.tw\$/</code>	<code>linuxta@cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>
<code>/^root(\..+)?@(t)?csmail\w*\d*\.\.cs\.nctu\.edu\.tw\$/</code>	<code>mailta@cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>

Postfix Configuration – Virtual Alias Maps vs Alias Map

❑ alias_map

- Used by local(8) delivery
- Key must be local recipients
- Value can be email/file/command/...

❑ virtual_alias_maps

- Used by virtual(5) delivery
- Higher priority than alias_map
- Key can be
 - user@domain
 - user
 - @domain
- Value must be valid email addresses or local recipients

Postfix Configuration – Relay Control (1)

❑ Open relay

- A mail server that permit anyone to relay mails
 - Neither originates or ends with a user from its domain
 - **Spam**
- By default, postfix is not an open relay

❑ A mail server should

- Relay mail for trusted user
 - Such as `lctseng@smtp.cs.nctu.edu.tw`
- Relay mail for trusted domain
 - Ex. `smtp.cs.nctu.edu.tw` trusts `nctu.edu.tw`

Postfix Configuration – Relay Control (2)

❑ Restricting relay access by mynetworks_style

- mynetworks_style = subnet
 - Allow relaying from other hosts in the same [subnet](#), configured in this machine
- mynetworks_style = host
 - Allow relaying for only local machine
- mynetworks_style = class
 - Any host in the same class A, B or C
 - Usually we don't use this - your server may trust the whole subnet from your provider

Postfix Configuration – Relay Control (3)

- ❑ Restricting relay access by mynetworks (override mynetworks_style)
 - List individual IP or subnets in network/netmask notation
 - Ex: in /usr/local/etc/postfix/mynetworks
 - 127.0.0.0/8
 - 140.113.0.0/16
 - 10.113.0.0/16
- ❑ Relay depends on the type of your mail server
 - smtp.cs.nctu.edu.tw will be different from csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - Outgoing: usually accepts submission from local domain
 - Incoming: may relay mails for trusted domains

Postfix Configuration – Rewriting address (1)

- ❑ For unqualified address
 - To append “myorigin” to local name
 - `lctseng` → `lctseng@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw`
 - `append_at_myorigin = yes`
 - To append “mydomain” to address that contain only host.
 - `lctseng@nasa` → `lctseng@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw`
 - `append_dot_mydomain = yes`

Postfix Configuration – Rewriting address (2)

❑ Masquerading hostname

- Hide the names of internal hosts to make all addresses appear as if they come from the same mail server
- It is often used in out-going mail gateway
 - `masquerade_domains = cs.nctu.edu.tw`
 - `lctseng@subdomain.cs.nctu.edu.tw` → `lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw`
 - `masquerade_domains = !chairman.cs.nctu.edu.tw cs.nctu.edu.tw`
 - `masquerade_exceptions = admin, root`
- Rewrite to all envelope and header address **excepts** envelope recipient address (the default)
 - `masquerade_class = envelope_sender, header_sender, header_recipient`
 - This allows incoming messages can be filtered based on their recipient address

Postfix Configuration – Rewriting address (3)

❑ Canonical address – canonical(5)

- Rewrite both `header` and `envelope` recursively invoked by `cleanup` daemon
- In `main.cf`
 - `canonical_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/canonical`
 - `canonical_classes = envelope_sender, envelope_recipient, header_sender, header_recipient`
- In `canonical`
`/^(.*)@(t)?(cs)?(bsd|linux|sun)\d*\.\cs\.\nctu\.\edu\.\tw$/ $1@cs.nctu.edu.tw`
- Similar configurations
 - `sender_canonical_maps` 、 `sender_canonical_classes`
 - `recipient_canonical_maps` 、 `recipient_canonical_classes`

Postfix Configuration – Rewriting address (4)

❑ Relocated users

- Used to inform sender that the recipient is moved
- In main.cf
 - `relocated_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/relocated`
- In relocated

<code>andy@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>	<code>andyliu@abc.com</code>
<code>lctseng</code>	EC319, NCTU, Hsinchu, ROC
<code>@nabsd.cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>	<code>zfs.cs.nctu.edu.tw</code>

Value can be anything: phone number, street address, ...

❑ Unknown users

- Not local user and not found in maps
- Default action: reject

Postfix Configuration – master.cf (1)

❑ /usr/local/etc/postfix/master.cf (master(5))

- Define services that **master** daemon can invoke
- Each row defines a service and
- Each column contains a specific configuration option

```
# =====
# service type  private unpriv  chroot  wakeup  maxproc  command + args
#              (yes)   (yes)   (yes)   (never) (100)
# =====
smtp          inet    n        -       n       -       -       smtpd
pickup       unix    n        -       n       60      1       pickup
cleanup      unix    n        -       n       -       0       cleanup
rewrite      unix    -        -       n       -       -       trivial-rewrite
smtp         unix    -        -       n       -       -       smtp
local        unix    -        n       n       -       -       local
virtual      unix    -        n       n       -       -       virtual
relay        unix    -        -       n       -       -       smtp
             -o smtp_fallback_relay=
lmtp         unix    -        -       n       -       -       lmtp
maildrop     unix    -        n       n       -       -       pipe
             flags=DRhu user=vmail argv=/usr/local/bin/maildrop -d ${recipient}
```

Postfix Configuration – master.cf (2)

❑ Configuration options

- Service name
- Service type
 - inet, unix, fifo (obsolete), or pass
- Private
 - Access to this component is restricted to the Postfix system
 - “inet” type cannot be private
- Unprivileged
 - Run with the least amount of privilege required
 - y will run with the account defined in “mail_owner”
 - n will run with root privilege
 - » local, pipe, spawn, and virtual

Postfix Configuration – master.cf (3)

❑ Configuration options

- Chroot
 - chroot location is defined in “queue_directory”
- Wake up time
 - Automatically wake up the service after the number of seconds
- Process limit
 - Number of processes that can be executed simultaneously
 - Default count is defined in “default_process_limit”
- command + args
 - Default path is defined in “daemon_directory”
 - /usr/libexec/postfix

Postfix Architecture – Message OUT

- ❑ Local delivery
- ❑ Relay to the destinations
- ❑ Other delivery agent (MDA)
 - Specify in `/usr/local/etc/postfix/master.cf`
 - How a client program connects to a service and what daemon program runs when a service is requested
 - `lmtp`
 - Local Mail Transfer Protocol (Limited SMTP)
 - No queue
 - One recipient at once
 - Used to deliver to mail systems on the same network or even the same host
 - `pipe`
 - Used to deliver message to external program

Mail Relaying – Transport Maps (1)

❑ Transport maps – transport(5)

- It **override default** transport method to deliver messages
- In main.cf
 - `transport_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/transport`
- In transport file

➤ `domain_or_address`

`transport:nextthop`

↖ “Service” defined in master.cf

`csie.nctu.edu.tw`

`smtp:[mailgate.csie.nctu.edu.tw]`

`cs.nctu.edu.tw`

`smtp:[csmailgate.cs.nctu.edu.tw]`

`cis.nctu.edu.tw`

`smtp:[mail.cis.nctu.edu.tw]`

`example.com`

`smtp:[192.168.23.56]:20025`

`orillynet.com`

`smtp`

`ora.com`

`maildrop`

`kdent@ora.com`

`error:no mail accepted for kdent`

Mail Relaying – Transport Maps (2)

□ Usage in transport map

- MX → Local delivery mail server
- mailpost to bbs/news
- Postponing mail relay
 - Such as ISP has to postpone until customer network is online
 - In transport map:


```
abc.com          ondemand
```
 - In /usr/local/etc/postfix/master.cf

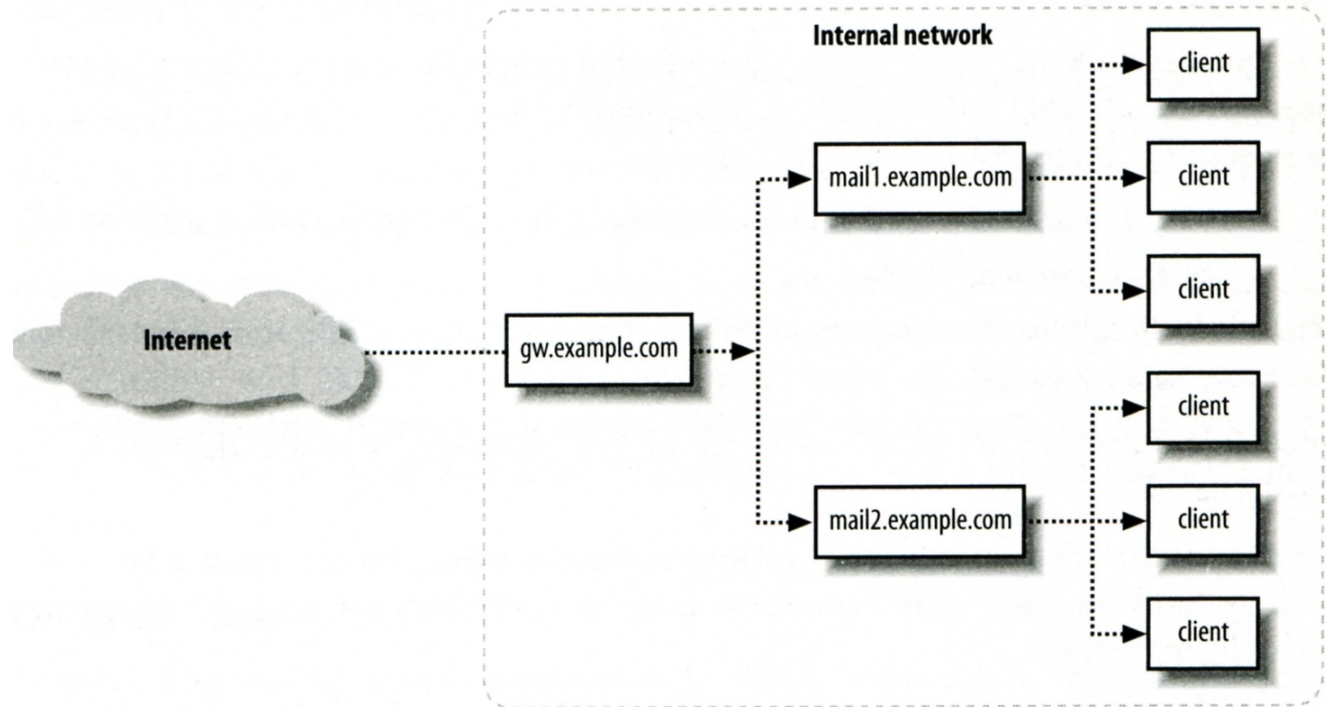

```
ondemand  unix  -  -  n  -  -  smtp
```
 - In /usr/local/etc/postfix/main.cf


```
defer_transports = ondemand ← “ondemand” transport  
transport_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/transport  
should trigger by postqueue
```
 - Whenever the customer network is online, do
 - # postqueue -s abc.com

Mail Relaying – Inbound Mail Gateway (1)

❑ Inbound Mail Gateway (IMG, MX)

- Accept all mail for a network from the Internet and relays it to internal mail systems
- Ex:
 - csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw is a IMG
 - csmailgate.cs.nctu.edu.tw is internal mail system



Mail Relaying – Inbound Mail Gateway (2)

- ❑ To be IMG, suppose
 - You are administrator for cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - Hostname is csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - You have to be the IMG for secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw and javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - Firewall only allow outsource connect to IMG port 25
- 1. The MX record for secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw and javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw should point to csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw
- 2. In csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw,
relay_domains = secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw
transport_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/transport
secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw relay:[secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw]
javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw relay:[javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw]
- 3. In secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw (and so do javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw)
mydestination = secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw

Mail Relaying – Outbound Mail Gateway

- ❑ Outbound Mail Gateway
 - Accept mails from inside network and relay them to Internet hosts
- ❑ To be OMG, suppose
 - You are administrator for cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - Hostname is csmailer.cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - You have to be the OMG for secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw and javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw
- 1. In main.cf of csmailer.cs.nctu.edu.tw

```
mynetworks = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/mynetworks
    secureLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw
    javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw
```
- 2. All students in secureLab/javaLab will configure their MUA to use secureLab/javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw to be the SMTP server
- 3. In main.cf of secureLab/javaLab.cs.nctu.edu.tw,

```
relayhost = [csmailer.cs.nctu.edu.tw]
```

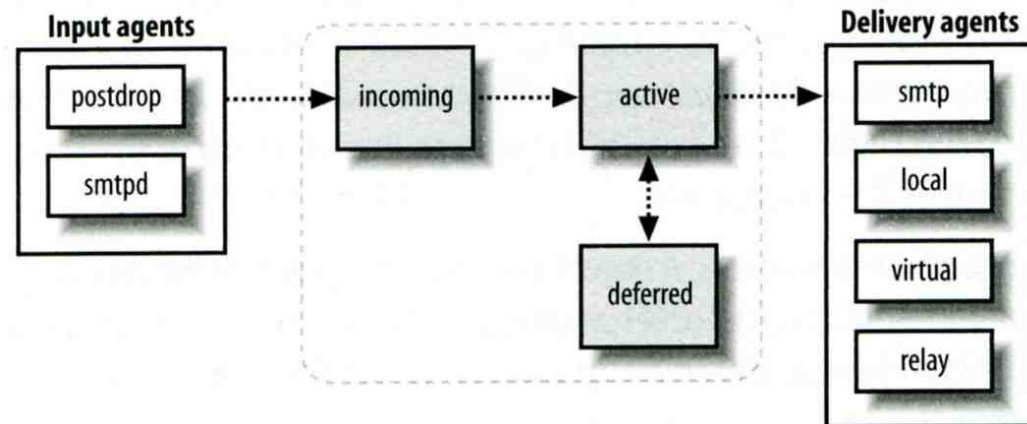
Queue Management

❑ The queue manage daemon

- qmgr daemon
- Unique queue ID
- Queue directories (/var/spool/postfix/*)
 - active, bounce, corrupt, deferred, hold

❑ Message movement between queues

- Temporary problem → deferred queue
- qmgr takes messages alternatively between incoming and deferred queue to active queue



Queue Management – Queue Scheduling

❑ Double delay in deferred messages

- Between
 - `minimal_backoff_time` = 300s
 - `maximal_backoff_time` = 4000s
- `qmgr` daemon periodically scan deferred queue for reborn messages
 - `queue_run_delay` = 300s

❑ Deferred → bounce

- `maximal_queue_lifetime` = 5d

Queue Management – Message Delivery

❑ Controlling outgoing messages

- When there are lots of messages in queue for the same destination, it should be careful not to overwhelm it
- If concurrent delivery is success, postfix can increase concurrency between:
 - `initial_destination_concurrency = 5`
 - `default_destination_concurrency_limit = 20`
 - Under control by
 - `maxproc` in `/usr/local/etc/postfix/master.cf`
 - You can override the `default_destination_concurrency_limit` for any transport mailer:
 - `smtp_destination_concurrency_limit = 25`
 - `local_destination_concurrency_limit = 10`
- Control how many recipients for a single outgoing message
 - `default_destination_recipient_limit = 50`
 - You can override it for any transport mailer in the same idea:
 - `smtp_destination_recipient_limit = 100`

Queue Management – Error Notification

❑ Sending error messages to administrator

- Set `notify_classes` parameter to list error classes that should be generated and sent to administrator
 - Ex: `notify_classes = resource, software`
- Error classes

Error Class	Description	Noticed Recipient (all default to postmaster)
bounce	Send headers of bounced mails	bounce_notice_recipient
2bounce	Send undeliverable bounced mails	2bounce_notice_recipient
delay	Send headers of delayed mails	delay_notice_recipient
policy	Send transcript when mail is reject due to anti-spam restrictions	error_notice_recipient
protocol	Send transcript that has SMTP error	error_notice_recipient
resource	Send notice because of resource problem	error_notice_recipient
software	Send notice because of software problem	error_notice_recipient

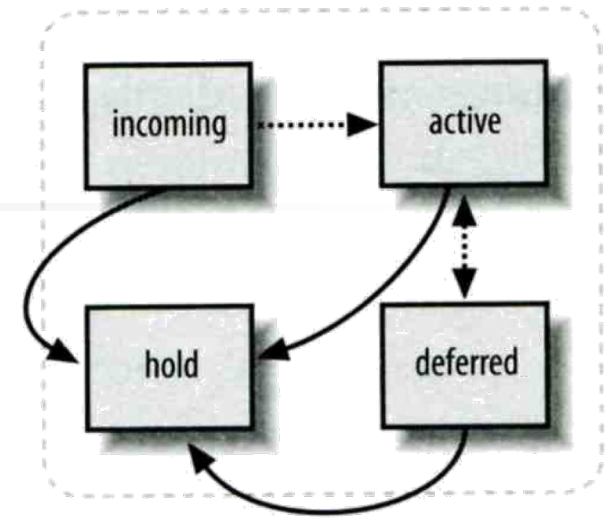
Queue Management – Queue Tools (1)

❑ postqueue command

- `postqueue -p`
 - Generate sendmail mailq output
- `postqueue -f`
 - Attempt to flush(deliver) all queued mail
- `postqueue -s cs.nctu.edu.tw`
 - Schedule immediate delivery of all mail queued for site

❑ postsuper command

- Delete queued messages
 - `postsuper -d E757A3428C6` (from incoming, active, deferred, hold)
 - `postsuper -d ALL`
- Put messages "on hold" so that no attempt is made to deliver it
 - `postsuper -h E757A3428C6` (from incoming, active, deferred)
- Release messages in hold queue
 - `postsuper -H ALL`
- Requeue messages into maildrop queue (`maildrop` → `pickup` → `cleanup` → `incoming`)
 - `postsuper -r E757A3428C6`
 - `postsuper -r ALL`



Queue Management – Queue Tools (2)

❑ postcat

- Display the contents of a queue file

```
nasa [/home/lctseng] -lctseng- mailq
-Queue ID- --Size-- ----Arrival Time---- -Sender/Recipient-----
3314234284A   602 Sat May 19 04:16:20 root@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw
      (connect to csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw[140.113.235.104]:25: Operation timed out)
      lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw
```

```
nasa [/home/lctseng] -lctseng- sudo postcat -q 3314234284A
*** ENVELOPE RECORDS deferred/3/3314234284A ***
message_size:      602      214      1      0      602
message_arrival_time: Sat May 19 04:16:20 2012
create_time: Sat May 19 04:16:20 2012
sender: root@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw
named_attribute: rewrite_context=local
original_recipient: root
recipient: lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw
*** MESSAGE CONTENTS deferred/3/3314234284A ***
Received: by nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw (Postfix)
      id 3314234284A; Sat, 19 May 2012 04:16:20 +0800 (CST)
Delivered-To: root@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw
Received: by nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw (Postfix, from userid 0)
      id 2CB713427A5; Sat, 19 May 2012 04:16:20 +0800 (CST)
To: root@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw
Subject: nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw weekly run output
Message-Id: <20120518201620.2CB713427A5@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw>
Date: Sat, 19 May 2012 04:16:20 +0800 (CST)
From: root@nasa.cs.nctu.edu.tw (NASA Root)
```

Rebuilding locate database:

Rebuilding whatis database:

...

Multiple Domains

- ❑ Use single system to host many domains
 - Ex:
 - We use csmailgate.cs.nctu.edu.tw to host both
 - cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - csie.nctu.edu.tw
 - Purpose
 - Can be used for final delivery on the machine or
 - Can be used for forwarding to destination elsewhere
- ❑ Important considerations
 - Does the same user id with different domain should go to the same mailbox or different mailbox ?
 - YES (shared domain)
 - NO (Separate domain)
 - Does every user require a system account in /etc/passwd ?
 - YES (system account)
 - NO (virtual account)

Multiple Domains –

Shared Domain with System Account

❑ Situation

- The mail system should accept mails for both canonical and virtual domains and
- The same mailbox for the same user id

❑ Procedure

- Modify “mydomain” to canonical domain
- Modify “mydestination” parameter to let mails to virtual domain can be local delivered
- Ex:
 - mydomain = cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - mydestination = \$myhostname, \$mydomain, csie.nctu.edu.tw

※ In this way, mail to both lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw and lctseng@csie.nctu.edu.tw will go to csmailgate:/var/mail/lctseng

❑ Limitation

- Can not separate lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw from lctseng@csie.nctu.edu.tw

Multiple Domains –

Separate Domains with System Accounts

❑ Situation

- The mail system should accept mails for both canonical and virtual domains and
- Mailboxes are not necessarily the same for the same user id

❑ Procedure

- Modify “mydomain” to canonical domain
- Modify “virtual_alias_domains” to accept mails to virtual domains
- Create “virtual_alias_maps” map
- Ex:
 - mydomain = cs.nctu.edu.tw
 - virtual_alias_domains = abc.com.tw, xyz.com.tw
 - virtual_alias_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual
 - In /usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual
 - [CEO@abc.com.tw](#) andy
 - [@xyz.com.tw](#) jack

❑ Limitation

- Need to maintain UNIX account for virtual domain user

Multiple Domains –

Separate Domains with Virtual Accounts (1)

- ❑ Useful when users in virtual domains:
 - Do not need to login to system
 - Only need to retrieve mail through POP/IMAP server
- ❑ Procedure
 - Modify “virtual_mailbox_domains” to let postfix know what mails it should accepts
 - Modify “virtual_mailbox_base” and create related directory to put mails
 - Create “virtual_mailbox_maps” map
 - Ex:
 - virtual_mailbox_domain = abc.com.tw, xyz.com.tw
 - virtual_mailbox_base = /var/vmail
 - Create /var/vmail/abc-domain and /var/vmail/xyz-domain
 - virtual_mailbox_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/vmailbox

 - In /usr/local/etc/postfix/vmailbox
 - CEO@abc.com.tw abc-domain/CEO (Mailbox format)
 - CEO@xyz.com.tw xyz-domain/CEO/ (Maildir format)

Multiple Domains –

Separate Domains with Virtual Accounts (2)

❑ Ownerships of virtual mailboxes

- Simplest way:
 - The same owner of POP/IMAP Servers
- Flexibility in postfix
 - virtual_uid_maps and virtual_gid_maps
 - Ex:
 - virtual_uid_maps = static:1003
 - virtual_gid_maps = static:105

 - virtual_uid_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual_uids
 - virtual_uid_maps = hash:/usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual_uids static:1003

 - In /usr/local/etc/postfix/virtual_uids
 - » CEO@abc.com.tw 1004
 - » CEO@xyz.com.tw 1008



Step by Step Examples

Let's learn from examples

Step by Step Examples

Build a Basic MTA

- Send test mails to verify your MTA
- Check whether your mail is sent or not

MTA Authentication

MTA Encryption

MAA for POP3 and IMAP

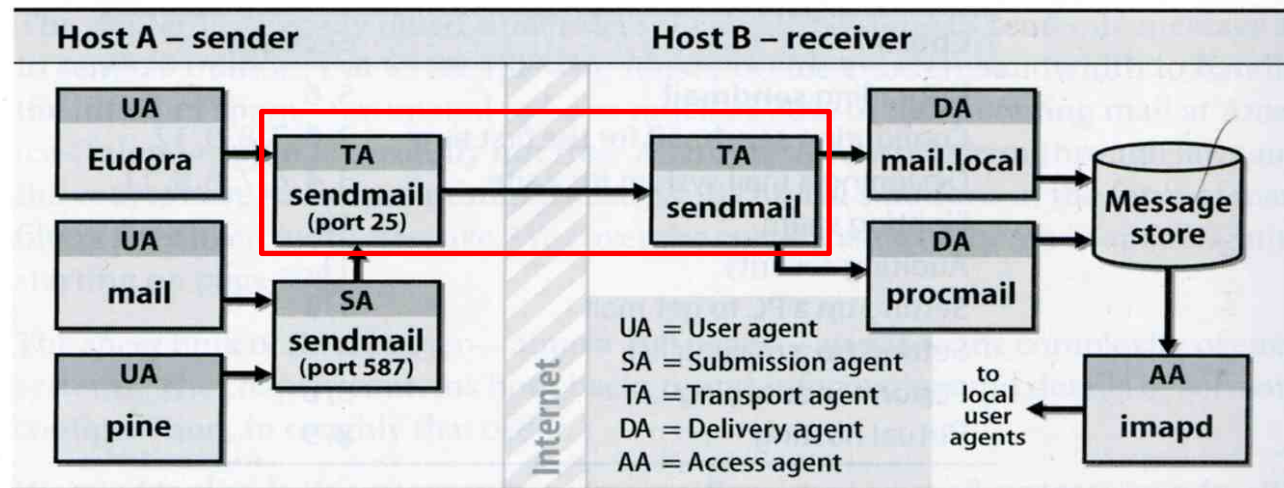
Note

- In this example, we assume you have public IP/domain

Build a Basic MTA

Can send mails to other domain

Mail system components



Build a basic MTA(1)

- ❑ Can send mails to other domain
- ❑ Install Postfix
 - Pkg: postfix
 - Port: mail/postfix
- ❑ After installation
 - Disable “sendmail” program
 - service sendmail stop
 - In /etc/rc.conf

```
sendmail_enable="NONE"
```

- In /etc/periodic.conf (create if not exists)

```
daily_clean_hoststat_enable="NO"  
daily_status_mail_rejects_enable="NO"  
daily_status_include_submit_mailq="NO"  
daily_submit_queuerun="NO"
```

Build a basic MTA(2)

- ❑ Replace sendmail by Postfix modified version
 - Edit `/etc/mail/mailer.conf`

```
Sendmail    /usr/local/sbin/sendmail
send-mail   /usr/local/sbin/sendmail
Mailq       /usr/local/sbin/sendmail
newaliases  /usr/local/sbin/sendmail
```

Build a basic MTA(3)

❑ After installation

- Enable postfix

- Edit /etc/rc.conf

```
postfix_enable="YES"
```

- service postfix start

❑ Set up DNS records

- Some domains will reject mails from hosts without DNS record
- Suppose the hostname is “demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net”
- Set up these records
 - (A record) demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
 - (A record) nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
 - (MX record) nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
 - Points to “demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net”

Build a basic MTA(4)

❑ Set up MTA identity

- See [Postfix Configuration: MTA identity](#)
- In main.cf

```
myhostname = demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
mydomain = nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
myorigin = $myhostname
mydestination = $myhostname, localhost.$mydomain,
                localhost, $mydomain
```

❑ Reload or restart postfix to apply changes

- postfix reload

Send test mails to verify your MTA(1)

❑ “telnet” or “mail” command

```
> telnet localhost 25
Trying 127.0.0.1...
Connected to localhost.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ESMTP Postfix
EHLO localhost
250-demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250-PIPELINING
250-SIZE 10240000
250-VRFY
250-ETRN
250-ENHANCEDSTATUSCODES
250-8BITMIME
250 DSN
MAIL FROM: lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250 2.1.0 Ok
RCPT TO: lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw
250 2.1.5 Ok
DATA
354 End data with <CR><LF>.<CR><LF>
Subject: This is test mail

DATA
.
250 2.0.0 Ok: queued as 3C868150
```

telnet

Send test mails to verify your MTA(2)

❑ The “mail” command

```
> mail -s "test from nasa" lctseng@gmail.com  
This is test mail from NASA  
regards,  
admin  
(Press Ctrl+D)
```

mail

- See man page for more details

❑ Result (gmail)



Send test mails to verify your MTA(3)

❑ Mail source text of last example

```
Delivered-To: lctseng@gmail.com
Received: by 10.129.125.135 with SMTP id y129csp874822ywc;
        Sun, 6 Mar 2016 02:39:22 -0800 (PST)
X-Received: by 10.98.87.90 with SMTP id l87mr25639644pfb.70.1457260762400;
        Sun, 06 Mar 2016 02:39:22 -0800 (PST)
Return-Path: <lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net>
Received: from demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ...(omitted)
        by mx.google.com with ESMTP id bz6si20406744pad.30.2016.03.06.02.39.21
        for <lctseng@gmail.com>;
        Sun, 06 Mar 2016 02:39:21 -0800 (PST)
Received-SPF: neutral (google.com: 140.113.168.238 is neither permitted ...(omitted)
Authentication-Results: mx.google.com;
        spf=neutral (google.com: 140.113.168.238 is neither permitted ...(omitted)
Received: by demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net (Postfix, from userid 1001)
        id 6D916162; Sun, 6 Mar 2016 18:38:04 +0800 (CST)
To: lctseng@gmail.com
Subject: test from nasa
Message-Id: <20160306103804.6D916162@demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net>
Date: Sun, 6 Mar 2016 18:38:04 +0800 (CST)
From: lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net (lctseng)
```

```
This is test mail from NASA
regards,
admin
```

Check whether your mail is sent or not (1)

- ❑ Sometimes, we do not receive mails immediately
- ❑ There may be some errors when your MTA sending mails to other domain
- ❑ Mails will stay in queues
 - Contain information about each mail
- ❑ Tools to management mail queues
 - See [Postfix Configuration: Queue Management - Queue Tools](#)

Check whether your mail is sent or not (2)

❑ Example for rejected mails

```
-Queue ID- --Size-- ----Arrival Time---- -Sender/Recipient-----  
3C868150      377 Sun Mar  6 18:23:11  lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net  
(host csmx3.cs.nctu.edu.tw[140.113.235.119] said: 450 4.1.8  
<lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net>: Sender address rejected: Domain not found  
(in reply to RCPT TO command)) lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw  
  
-- 0 Kbytes in 1 Request.
```

- Problem
 - The destination MX cannot verify the **domain of sender host**
- Reason
 - You may forget to set up correct DNS record
- This mail will **NOT** be delivered until you set up your DNS record

Check whether your mail is sent or not (3)

❑ Example for deferred mails

```
-Queue ID- --Size-- ----Arrival Time---- -Sender/Recipient-----  
3C868150      377 Sun Mar  6 18:23:11 lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net  
(host csmx1.cs.nctu.edu.tw[140.113.235.104] said: 450 4.2.0  
<lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw>: Recipient address rejected: Greylisted,  
see http://postgrey.schweikert.ch/help/cs.nctu.edu.tw.html  
(in reply to RCPT TO command)      lctseng@cs.nctu.edu.tw  
  
-- 0 Kbytes in 1 Request.
```

- Problem
 - The mail is deferred for a short time
- Reason
 - Destination host wants to examine our server is a spamming host or not
- The mail will be delivered after a short time
 - Generally within 30 minutes

MTA Authentication

We don't want unauthorized user to access our MTA

MTA authentication(1)

- ❑ In previous example, only localhost can send mail to other domain
- ❑ If you try telnet on other host, when you try to send mails to other domain, you will get:

```
> telnet demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net 25
Trying 140.113.168.238...
Connected to demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ESMTP Postfix
MAIL FROM: lctseng@demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250 2.1.0 Ok
RCPT TO: lctseng@gmail.com
454 4.7.1 <lctseng@gmail.com>: Relay access denied
```

- ❑ That is because you have following lines in main.cf

```
mynetworks_style = host
```

- So Postfix only trust clients from localhost
- See [Postfix Configuration: Relay Control](#)

MTA authentication(2)

- ❑ How to let SMTP clients outside from trust networks get the same privileges as trusted hosts?
 - Can send mails to other domain, not only `$mydestination`
 - We need authentication (account and password)
- ❑ SASL Authentication
 - Simple Authentication and Security Layer
 - [RFC 2554](#), [RFC 4954](#)
- ❑ To configure SASL for Postfix, we need another daemon
 - Dovecot SASL (we use it in our example)
 - Cyrus SASL (need to enable it by port)
- ❑ References
 - <http://wiki2.dovecot.org/>
 - http://www.postfix.org/SASL_README.html

MTA authentication(3)

- Dovecot SASL

❑ Installation

- Pkg: dovecot
- Port: mail/dovecot

❑ Enable Dovecot SASL daemon

- In /etc/rc.conf

```
dovecot_enable="YES"
```

- Copy configuration files

```
cp -R /usr/local/etc/dovecot/example-config/* \  
/usr/local/etc/dovecot
```

- Create SSL keys for Dovecot (self-signed or use Let's Encrypt)
 - Change path for SSL files in `/usr/local/etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-ssl.conf`
 - In fact, these are mainly for POP3s and IMAPs, not SASL in Postfix
- service dovecot start

MTA authentication(4)

- Postfix with Dovecot SASL

❑ Set up Dovecot SASL authenticate (using system account)

- In `/usr/local/etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-master.conf`:

```
service auth {  
    ...  
    # Postfix smtp-auth  
    unix_listener /var/spool/postfix/private/auth {  
        mode = 0666  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

- In `/usr/local/etc/dovecot/conf.d/10-auth.conf`

```
auth_mechanisms = plain login
```

MTA authentication(5)

- Postfix with Dovecot SASL

❑ Set up Dovecot SASL in Postfix

- In main.cf

```
# Set SASL to Dovecot
smtpd_sasl_type = dovecot
# Specify the UNIX socket path
smtpd_sasl_path = private/auth
# Enable SASL
smtpd_sasl_auth_enable = yes
# For client capability
broken_sasl_auth_clients = yes
# Allow SASL authenticated clients
smtpd_recipient_restrictions = permit_mynetworks,
                               permit_sasl_authenticated,
                               reject_unauth_destination
```

❑ Restart/Reload Dovecot and Postfix

MTA authentication(6)

- ❑ Now you can authenticate your identity in SMTP

```
> telnet demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net 25
Trying 140.113.168.238...
Connected to demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ESMTP Postfix
EHLO linuxhome.cs.nctu.edu.tw
250-demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250-PIPELINING
250-SIZE 10240000
250-VERFY
250-ETRN
250-AUTH PLAIN LOGIN
250-AUTH=PLAIN LOGIN
250-ENHANCEDSTATUSCODES
250-8BITMIME
250 DSN
```

MTA authentication(7)

- ❑ The account and password are encoded in Base64
 - If you have perl installed, suggest your account is **test** and password is **testpassword**

```
perl -MMIME::Base64 -e 'print encode_base64("\000test\000testpassword");'
```

- It will generate encoded account and password
 - For example: AHRlc3QAdGVzdHBhc3N3b3Jk

MTA authentication(8)

- ❑ Use the encoded account and password to authenticate it

```
> telnet demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net 25
Trying 140.113.168.238...
Connected to demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ESMTP Postfix
AUTH PLAIN AHRlc3QAdGVzdHBhc3N3b3Jk
235 2.7.0 Authentication successful
MAIL FROM: lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250 2.1.0 Ok
RCPT TO: lctseng@gmail.com
250 2.1.5 Ok
DATA
354 End data with <CR><LF>.<CR><LF>
To: lctseng@gmail.com
Subject: This is authenticated client
Message-Id: <20160307120109.861A9154@demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net>
Date: Mon, 7 Mar 2016 15:01:09 +0800 (CST)
From: lctseng@demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net (lctseng)

Test Mail
.
250 2.0.0 Ok: queued as F3D59171
```

MTA Encryption

The Internet is dangerous.
We need to protect ourselves from sniffing.

MTA encryption(1)

- ❑ In previous example, all SMTP sessions are in **plain text**
 - Your encoded authentication information is in danger!
- ❑ We need encryption over SSL/TLS
 - Like HTTP can be enhanced to HTTPS
 - Postfix supports two kinds of encryption
 - SMTP over TLS
 - SMTPs
- ❑ Before we enable SMTP over TLS (or SMTPs), you need SSL keys and certificates
 - Again, just like HTTPS
 - Self-signed or use Let's Encrypt
 - You can use the same certificates/keys as Dovecot's
 - In main.cf

```
smtpd_tls_cert_file = /path/to/cert.pem  
smtpd_tls_key_file = /path/to/key.pem
```

MTA encryption(2-1)

- Set up SMTP over TLS

- ❑ Recommended for SMTP encryption
- ❑ Use the same port as SMTP (port 25)
- ❑ No force encryption
 - Client can choose whether to encrypt mails or not
 - But server can configured to force encryption
- ❑ In main.cf
 - No force encryption

```
smtpd_tls_security_level = may
```
 - Force encryption

```
smtpd_tls_security_level = encrypt
```
- ❑ Reload Postfix

MTA encryption(2-2)

- Set up SMTP over TLS

- ❑ Now your server supports SMTP over TLS

```
> telnet demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net 25
Trying 140.113.168.238...
Connected to demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net ESMTP Postfix
EHLO linuxhome.cs.nctu.edu.tw
250-demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
250-PIPELINING
250-SIZE 10240000
250-VERFY
250-ETRN
250-STARTTLS
250-ENHANCEDSTATUSCODES
250-8BITMIME
250 DSN
```

- ❑ If you use force encryption, you must STARTTLS before sending mails

```
MAIL FROM: lctseng@nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
530 5.7.0 Must issue a STARTTLS command first
```

MTA encryption(2-3)

- Set up SMTP over TLS

- ❑ Send mail with STARTTLS
 - You cannot use telnet (plain-text client) anymore
 - Connection becomes encrypted after STARTTLS
 - telnet cannot read encrypted text
- ❑ OpenSSL client

```
openssl s_client -connect demo1.nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net:25 -starttls smtp
```

MTA encryption(3-1)

- Set up SMTPs

- Alternative way to encrypt SMTP sessions
- Use different port: 465
- Force encryption
- Can coexist with SMTP over TLS
- In master.cf

- Uncomment these lines

```
smtps      inet n      -       n       -       -       smtpd
  -o syslog_name=postfix/smtps
  -o smtpd_tls_wrappermode=yes
```

- This will open port 465 for SMTPs and use “smtps” as syslog name

- Reload Postfix

MTA encryption(3-2)

- Set up SMTPs

❑ Now you can use SSL clients to use SMTPs

- telnet may not work in encrypted sessions
- SSL client:

```
openssl s_client -connect host:port
```

- **Important note**

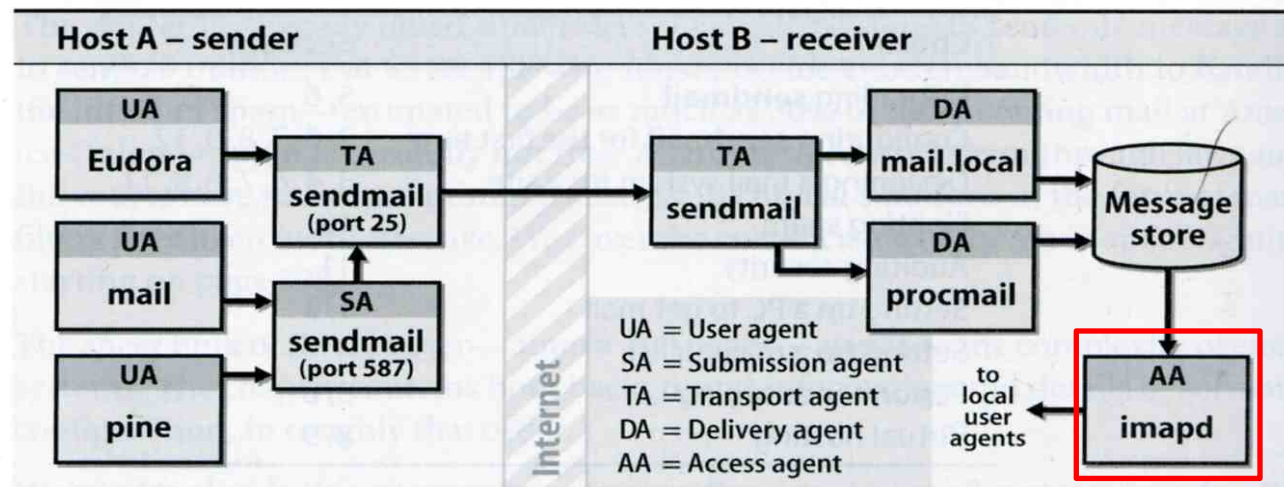
- In openssl s_client, DO NOT use capital character “R”
 - “R” is a special command in openssl s_client (for renegotiating)
- So use “mail from/rcpt to” instead of “MAIL FROM/RCPT TO”
 - For SMTP, they are all the same
- If you use “R”, you will see following output (NOT a part of SMTP)

```
RENEGOTIATING
depth=2 0 = Digital Signature Trust Co., CN = DST Root CA X3
verify return:1
depth=1 C = US, 0 = Let's Encrypt, CN = Let's Encrypt Authority X1
verify return:1
depth=0 CN = nasa.lctseng.nctucs.net
verify return:1
```

MAA for POP3 and IMAP

Read mails from remote host

Mail system components



MAA for POP3 and IMAP (1)

- ❑ Dovecot already provides POP3 and IMAP services
 - Include SSL versions: POP3s, IMAPs
 - That why we need SSL certificates and keys for Dovecot
- ❑ When you activate Dovecot service, these MAA services are also brought up.
- ❑ But you cannot access mail directly, you need some configuration
 - Configuration files are in : /usr/local/etc/dovecot/
 - There are many files included by dovecot.conf
 - In conf.d directory
 - Splitting configuration files is easier to management
 - Reference:
https://doc.dovecot.org/configuration_manual/quick_configuration/

MAA for POP3 and IMAP (2)

- Dovecot Configuration

❑ Allow GID = 0 to access mail (optional)

- By default, Dovecot do not allow users with GID = 0 to access mail. If your users are in wheel group, you need following settings
- In dovecot.conf

```
first_valid_gid = 0
```

❑ Specify the mail location (must agrees with Postfix)

- In conf.d/10-mail.conf

```
mail_location = mbox:~/mail:INBOX=/var/mail/%u
```

❑ Add authenticate configuration to use PAM module

- Dovecot use system PAM module to authenticate
- Allow system users to access mails
- Create a new file: /etc/pam.d/dovecot

```
auth    required    pam_unix.so
account required    pam_unix.so
```

MAA for POP3 and IMAP (3)

- ❑ After restart Dovecot, your MAA is ready
- ❑ To check these services, you can use “telnet” or “openssl s_client”
 - POP3: 110
 - POP3s: 995
 - IMAP: 143
 - IMAPs: 993

MAA for POP3 and IMAP (4)

❑ IMAP + STARTTLS

```
openssl s_client -connect host.example.com:143 -starttls imap
```

❑ POP3 + STARTTLS

```
openssl s_client -connect host.example.com:110 -starttls pop3
```

❑ IMAPs

```
openssl s_client -connect host.example.com:993
```

❑ POP3s

```
openssl s_client -connect host.example.com:995
```

❑ Sample message from Dovecot when succeed

- POP +OK Dovecot ready.
- IMAP

```
* OK [CAPABILITY IMAP4rev1 LITERAL+ SASL-IR LOGIN-REFERRALS  
ID ENABLE IDLE AUTH=PLAIN AUTH=LOGIN] Dovecot ready.
```

MAA for POP3 and IMAP (5)

❑ Set up MUAs like Outlook or Thunderbird

- You can see the tutorial in CS mail server, they should be similar to set up your server
- Settings for Gmail is also available
- <https://mail.cs.nctu.edu.tw/>

