

MASQUE-Proxying in User-Space

Topic

Existing proxying technology comes with drawbacks. SOCKS is unencrypted and HTTP CON-NECT is currently limited to proxying of TCP data. The MASQUE working group of IETF [1] plans to extend the current HTTP CONNECT with capabilities for proxying UDP and even IP-



layer traffic. They focus on HTTP/3 which runs on top of the new transport protocol QUIC, which offers improved performance, embedded security and multiplexing. This technology has already attracted the attention of research [2], but is still relatively unknown and has especially seen only very few implementations. Its biggest use case is Apple's iCloud Private Relay [3], their code is however closed source. This encouraged us to start working on MASQUE implementations on our own.

In recent publications we identified limited performance of QUIC libraries on highrate links [5]. Therefore, we are trying to improve QUICs performance by using the user space networking library DPDK [6].

We want to profit from those speedups by integrating a MASQUE proxy application into a QUIC-DPDK library and assess its performance.

References

- [1] https://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/masque/about/
- [2] https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3488660.3493806
- [3] https://www.apple.com/icloud/docs/iCloud Private Relay Overview Dec2021.pdf
- [4] https://github.com/cloudflare/quiche
- [5] http://www.net.in.tum.de/fileadmin/bibtex/publications/papers/jaeger2023quic.pdf
- [6] https://dpdk.org/

Requirements

- experience with systems programming in C, C++ and/or Rust
- familiarity with GNU/Linux and network protocols
- structured work style

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