Knot DNS
Independent high-performance DNS server

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What is Knot DNS?

- https://www.knot-dns.cz
- Authoritative-only DNS server
- High-performance and scalable
- Designed for universal use
  - Master and slave features
  - Root servers, TLDs, webhosters, single domains
Knot DNS and The Others

- Knot DNS
- Yadifa
- NSD
- BIND
- PowerDNS

Features vs. Performance
Knot DNS history and near future

- 0.8 2011 first stable release
- 1.6 2014 LTS version
- 1.99.0 2014/12 new DNSSEC
- 1.99.1 2015/02 DNSSEC with KASP
- 2.0-rc1 2015/02 new configuration
Knot DNS outstanding features

- Non-stop operation (RCU, Read-Copy-Update)
- AXFR/IXFR zone transfers
- DDNS dynamic updates
- DNSSEC, including automatic signing
- RRL (Response Rate Limitting)
- Pluggable modules
PTR/A/AAAA synthesis module

- IPv6 address space is vast
- some services require matching reverse record

example.org. {
    query_module {
        synth_record "forward gen- 400 2620:0:b61::/52";
    }
}

1.6.b.0.0.0.0.0.0.2.6.2.ip6.arpa {
    query_module {
        synth_record "reverse gen- example.org. 400 2620:0:b61::/52";
    }
}"
PTR/A/AAAA synthesis module

- Non-live demo:

```
$ kdig +short PTR \
  2.4.0...0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.1.6.b.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.2.6.2.ip6.arpa
gen-2620-0000-0b61-0000-0000-0000-0000-0042.example.org.

$ kdig +short AAAA \
  gen-2620-0000-0b61-0000-0000-0000-0000-0042.example.org
2620:0:b61::42
```
DNSSEC in Knot DNS 1.6

- Technology Preview (but rock stable)
- Depends on BIND or ldns utilities
  - dnssec-keygen
  - dnssec-settime
- Some signing parameters are hardcoded
- Not how we think DNSSEC should be done
DNSSEC in Knot DNS 2.0

- Technology Preview
- KASP (Key And Signature Policy) based automatic key management
- New management utility (keymgr)
- libdnssec
  - Build you custom DNSSEC solution
  - GnuTLS replaces OpenSSL as a crypto backend
  - Future support for PKCS #11, offline keys, etc.
DNSSEC in Knot DNS 2.0

• Non-live demo:

$ cd keys
$ keymgr init
$ keymgr zone add example.com
$ knotc reload

reloading configuration
DNSSEC, starting
DNSSEC, executing event 'generate initial keys'
DNSSEC, loaded key 43786, RSA-SHA256, KSK, public, active
DNSSEC, loaded key 57770, RSA-SHA256, ZSK, public, active
DNSSEC, signing started
DNSSEC, successfully signed
DNSSEC, next signing on 2015-01-30T23:56:24
News in Knot DNS 2.x (where x > 0)

- New configuration format (binary storage)
- Remote provisioning
- On-line DNSSEC signing
- Additional modules (GeoIP, statistics, …)
- Just tell us what you need...
Benchmarking

Response Rate
Linux 3.13.0, TLD, Intel X520, (2015-01-28)

Queries per second

Answers per second

BIND 9.10.0-P1  Knot DNS 1.6.1  Knot DNS 1.4.6  NSD 3.2.17  NSD 4.1.1  PowerDNS 3.3
Benchmarking

Startup Time and Memory Usage
Linux 3.13.0, Hosting (100k), (2014-06-10)

Startup time [s]
- BIND 9.10.0-P1: 245 s
- Knot DNS 1.5.0-rc2: 95 s
- Knot DNS 1.4.6: 55 s
- NSD 3.2.17: 135 s
- NSD 4.0.4: 132 s
- PowerDNS 3.3: 30 s

Memory Usage [MB]
- BIND 9.10.0-P1: 1469 MB
- Knot DNS 1.5.0-rc2: 984 MB
- Knot DNS 1.4.6: 3267 MB
- NSD 3.2.17: 531 MB
- NSD 4.0.4: 720 MB
- PowerDNS 3.3: 337 MB

Legend:
- Zone compilation
- Server startup
- Memory usage (Rss)
- Memory usage (Swap)
Significant Users (who told us)

- ICANN (L-root)
- RIPE NCC (K-root, various TLDs)
- TLD operators (.cz, .dk, .cl)
- Netriplex
- Telefonica O2 in Czech Republic
- various webhosters in Czech Republic
- ...
Thank You

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