

xRAC: Execution and Access Control for Restricted Application Containers on Managed Hosts

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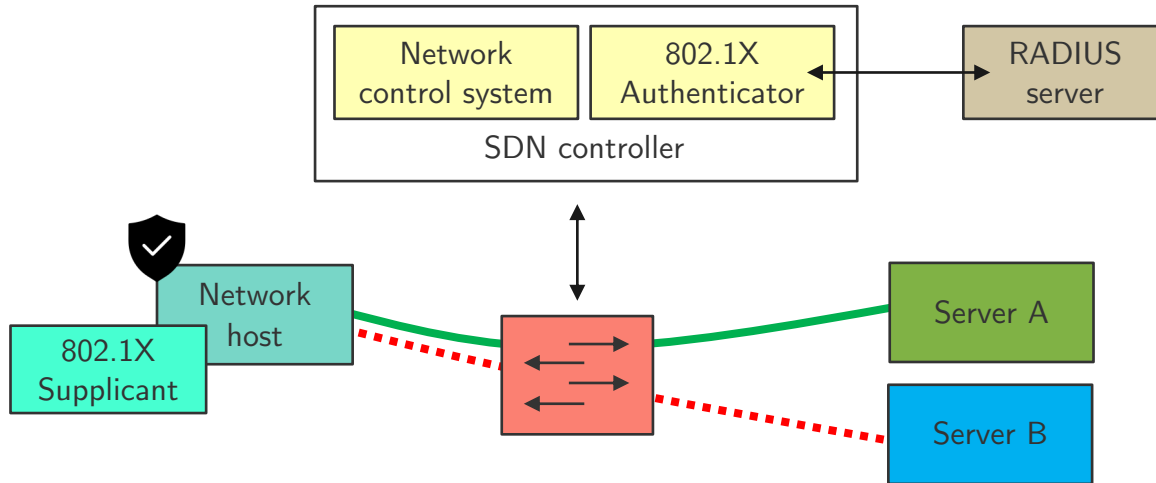
<http://kn.inf.uni-tuebingen.de>



- ▶ Full paper accepted at NOMS 2020 (main session)
 - <https://atlas.informatik.uni-tuebingen.de/~menth/papers/Menth20a.pdf>

- ▶ Demo paper accepted at NOMS 2020
 - <https://atlas.informatik.uni-tuebingen.de/~menth/papers/Menth20b.pdf>

- ▶ Outline
 - Motivation
 - Concept
 - Prototypical implementation

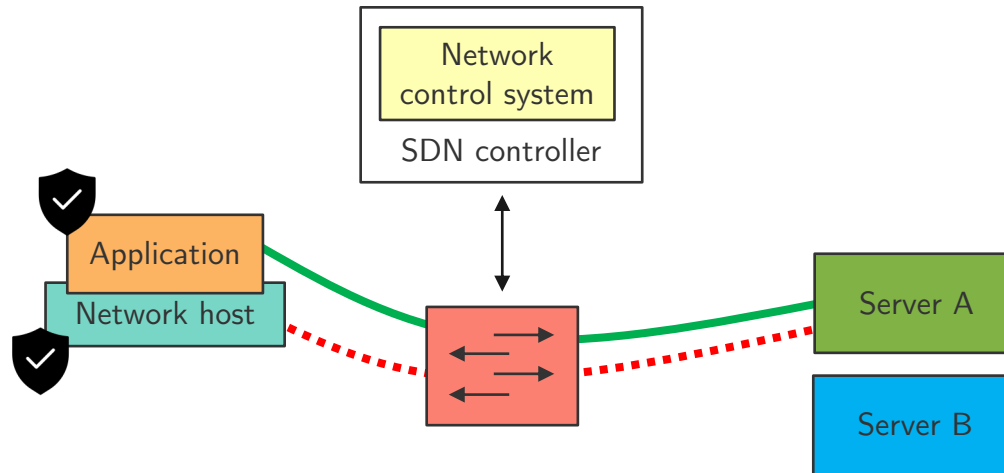


► Previous work: 802.1X in SDN

- Authentication of user / network host
- Fine-granular network control of host traffic



- **Desirable:** Fine-granular network control of application traffic

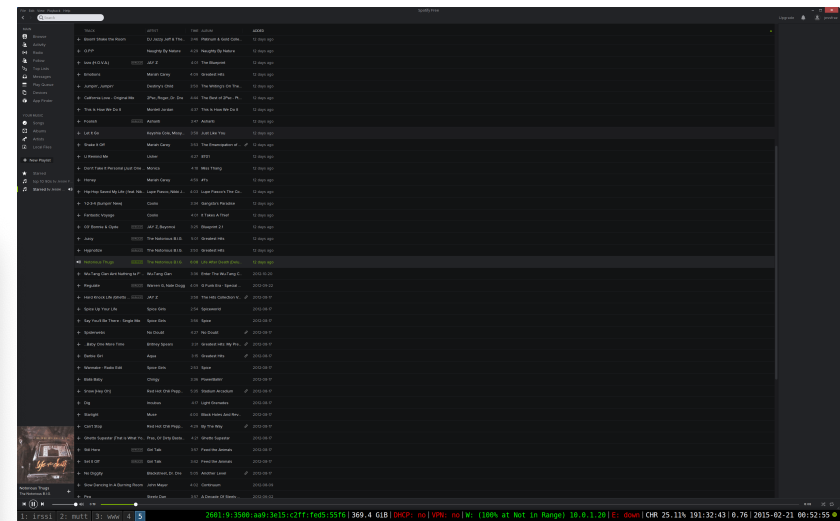
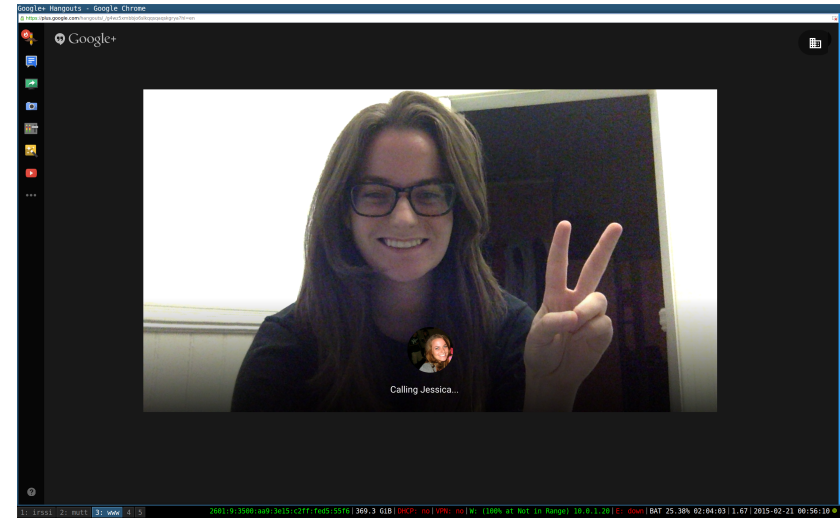


- Status quo: end-to-end encryption (TLS)
- How to solve it?
 - Traffic identification via ML
 - Traffic identification via host agent (control channel)
 - Authentication and authorization on application layer



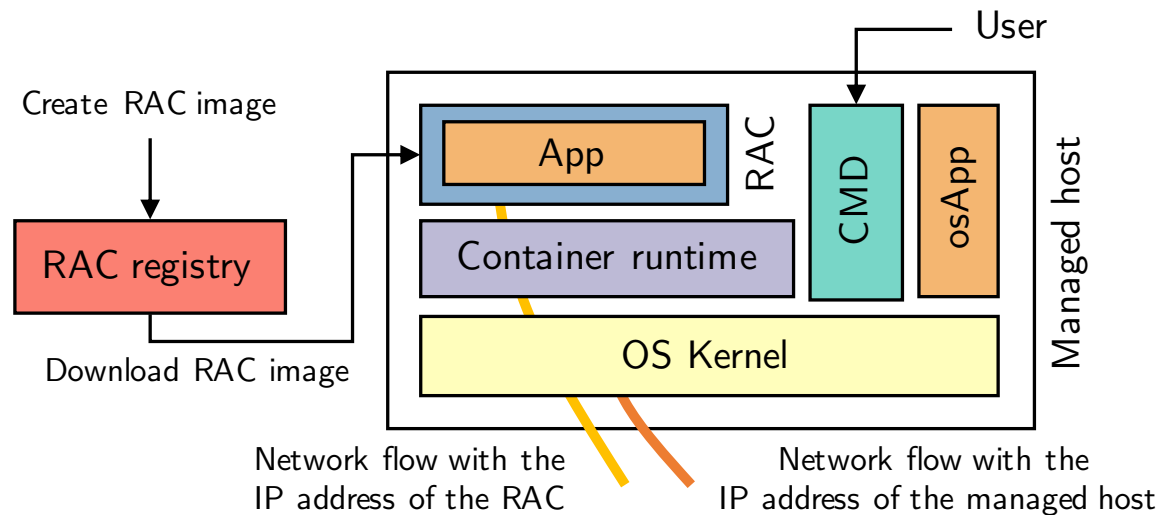
„Most people use Docker for containing applications to deploy into production or for building their applications in a contained environment. This is all fine & dandy, and saves developers & ops engineers huge headaches, but I like to use Docker in a not-so-typical way. I use Docker to run all the desktop apps on my computers.“

<https://blog.jessfraz.com/post/docker-containers-on-the-desktop/>





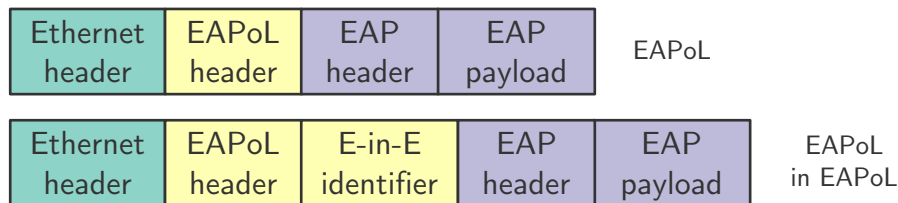
- ▶ Restricted Application Containers (RACs)
 - Docker container (application, dependencies, configuration)
 - Networking: unique IPv6 address
 - Execution: managed host





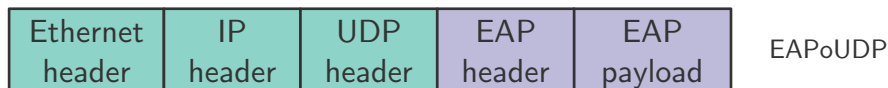
► FlowNAC (*Matias et al., 2014*)

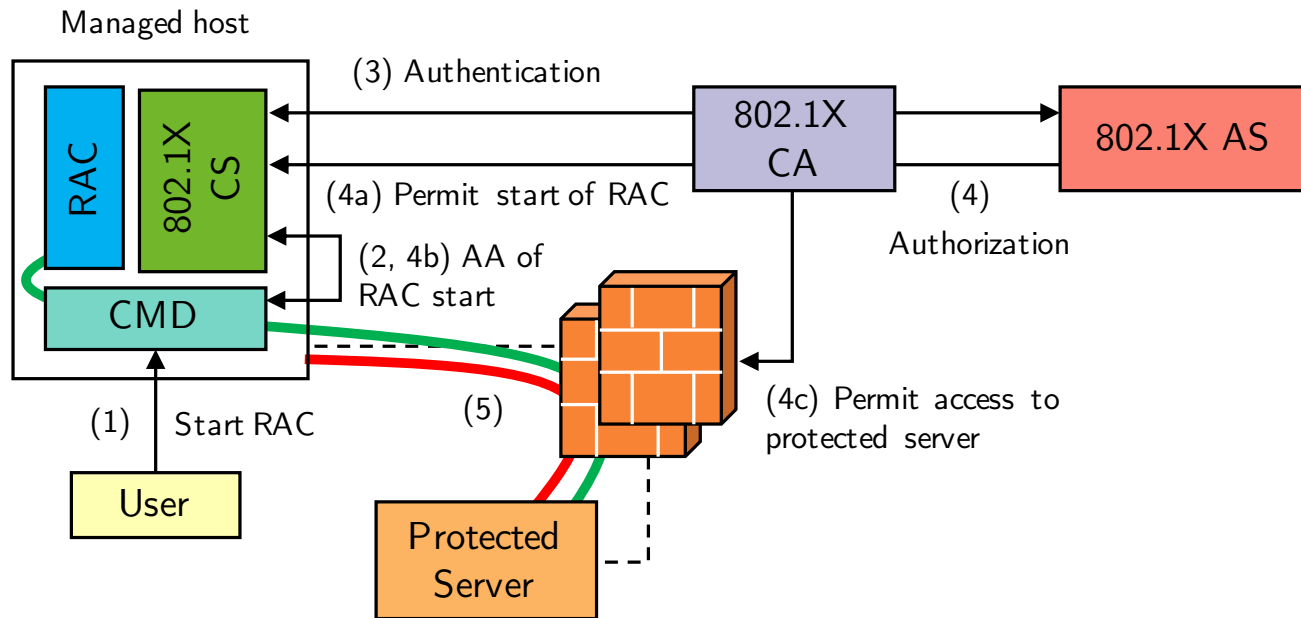
- SDN-based NAC for applications
- EAPoL-over-EAPoL



► EAPoUDP

- Expired draft from PANA WG
- Adopted by Cisco Trust Agent (deprecated)



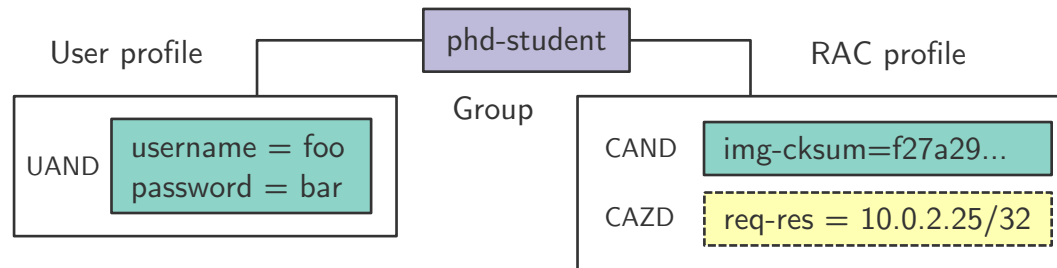


Idea: Adopt 802.1X AA for RACs



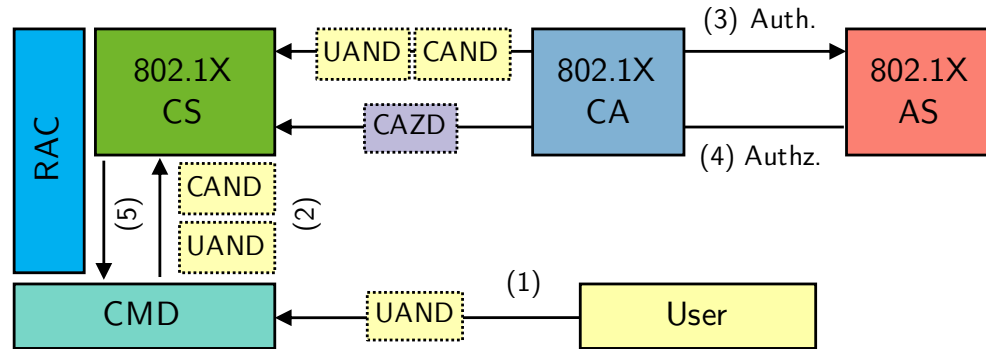
► 802.1X Authentication Server (802.1X AS)

- Task I: authenticate user
 - User Authentication Data (UAND)
- Task II: authenticate RAC
 - Container Authentication Data (CAND)
- Task III: perform authorization decision for user + RAC
 - Container Authorization Data (CAZD)

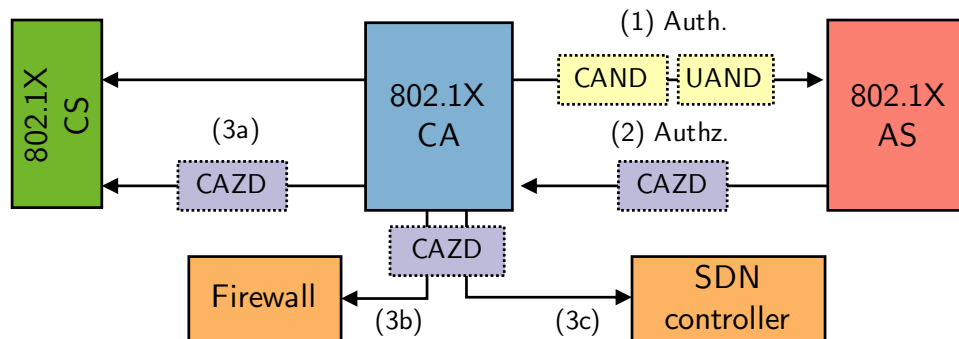




AA of Applications with xRAC (2/2)



Perspective of the 802.1X Container Supplicant (802.1X CS)



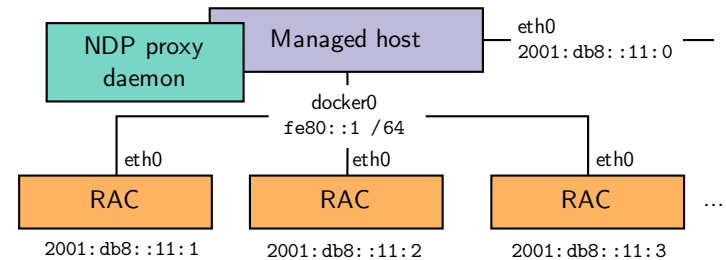
Perspective of the 802.1X Container Authenticator (802.1X CA)



▶ Prototypical implementation (Linux hosts + OpenFlow SDN)

▶ RAC networking

- IPv6 subnet for managed host
- Dedicated IPv6 global unicast address for every RAC



▶ 802.1X components

- **802.1X CS:** Python plugin for Docker authorization (AuthZ) framework
- **802.1X CA:** SDN application for Ryu SDN controller
- **802.1X AS:** Vendor-specific attributes on FreeRADIUS server

▶ Sourcecode available on GitHub

<https://github.com/uni-tue-kn/xrac>