IP Security

Topics

- Network layer security
- Brief introduction of IPSec
- IPSec building blocks
  - Security association database
  - Security policy database
  - Sub-protocols
    - AH and ESP
    - Two modes of AH and ESP
  - The outline of the key management (IKE)
- Anti-replay in IPSec

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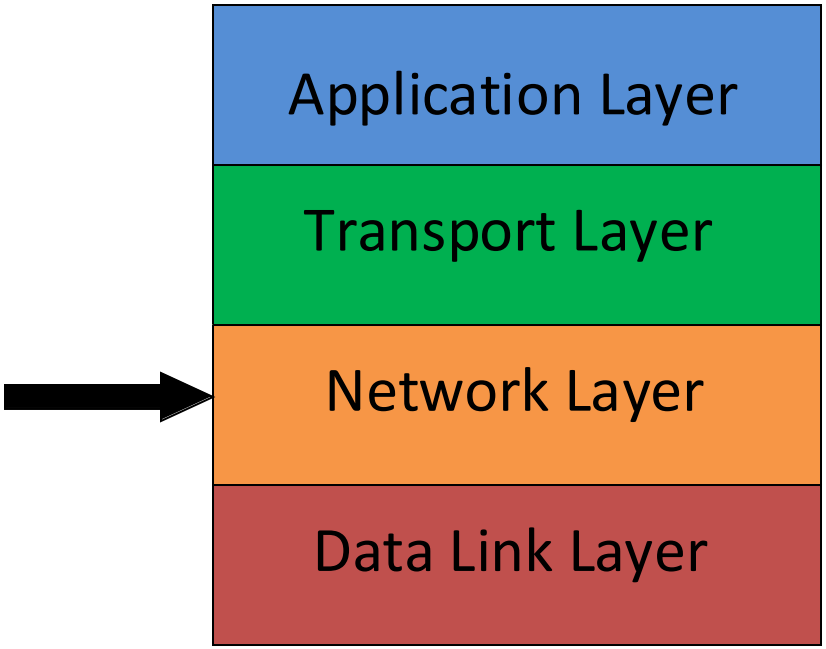
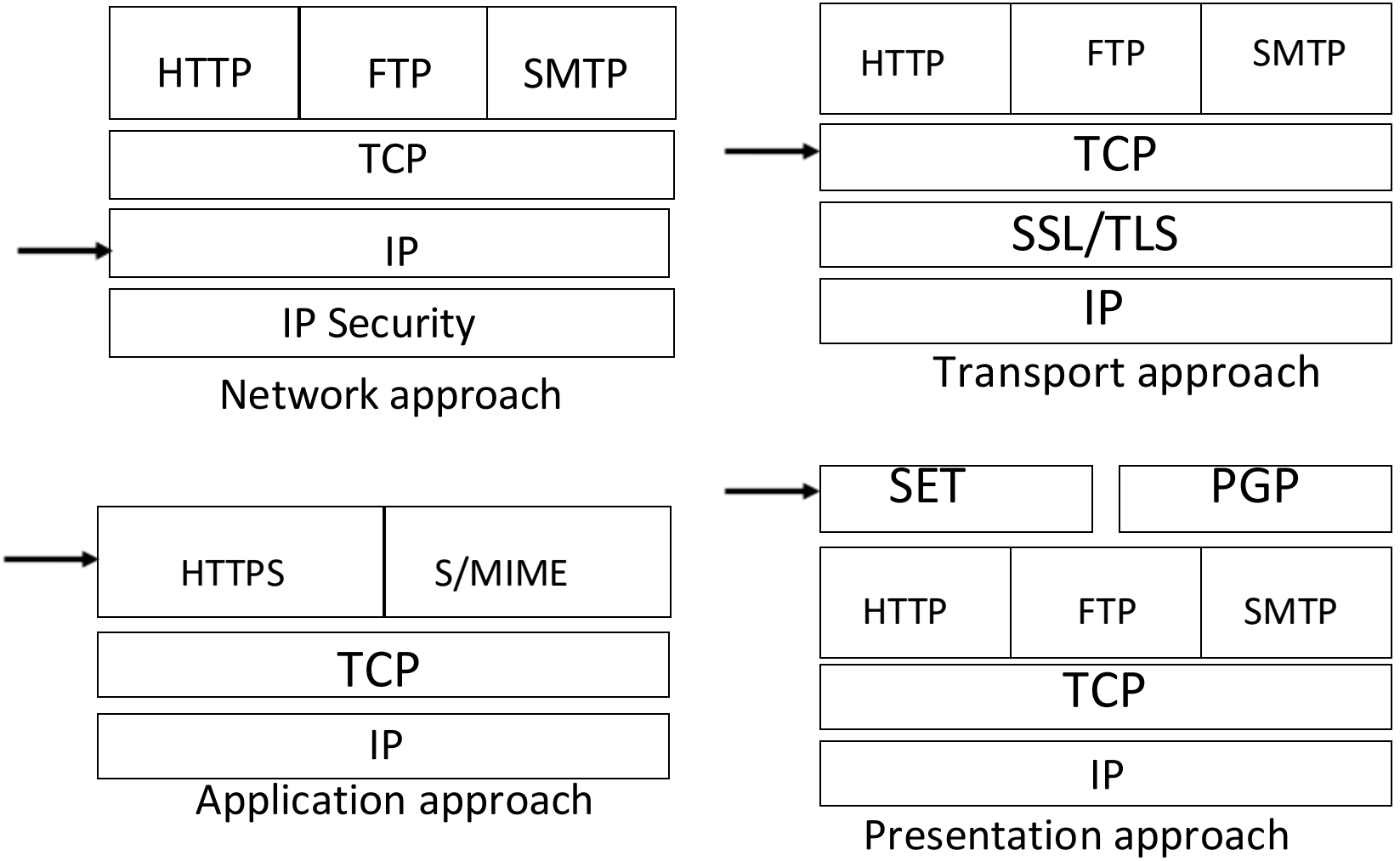
Network Layer and Its Security

TCP/IP Protocol Stack



Where can we put security?



Network Layer

- Provides connectionless service
- Routing (routers): determine the path: a path has to traverse to reach its Destination

- Defines addressing mechanism
  - Hosts should conform to the addressing mechanism

Network Layer and Security

In most network architectures and corresponding communication protocol stacks: *network layer protocol data units are transmitted in the clear*:

- Easy to inspect the data content
- Easy to forge source or destination address
- Easy to modify content
- Easy to replay data

A network layer security protocol is needed.

IPSec was designed for this purpose

Brief Introduction to IPSec

Internet Engineering Task Force Standardization

- 1992: IPSEC WG (IETF)
  - Define security architecture
  - Standardize IP Security Protocol and Internet Key Management Protocol
- **1998: revised version of IPSec Architecture**
  - *IPsec protocols* (two sub-protocols AH & ESP)
  - *Internet Key Exchange* (IKE)
- 2005: updated version (RFC4301-4306)
- Implementation: Windows 7, XP, 2000, Vista; Mac OS X, Linux, Free BSD, HP-UX

IPSec: Network Approach

- Provides security for IP and upper layer protocols
- Suit of algorithms:
  - Mandatory-to-implement
    - Assures interoperability
  - Easy to add new algorithms

IP Security Overview

IPSec provides the following:

- Data origin authentication
- Data integrity
- Data content confidentiality
- Anti-replay protection
- Limited traffic flow confidentiality

Building Blocks:

Security Association Database (SAD)

Security Association

- It is a one-way relationship between a sender and a receiver, stored in the SAD.
- It associates security services and keys with the traffic to be protected.
- It is uniquely identified by three parameters:
  - Security Parameter Index (SPI)
    - A bit string assigned to this SA
    - The SPI is carried in AH or ESP headers to enable the receiving system to select the SA under which a receiving packet will be processed.
  - IPSec protocol identifier (AH or ESP)
  - Destination address (direction, firewall, router)

Security Association

- Defines *security services* and *mechanisms* between two end points (or IPsec modules):
  - Hosts
  - Network security gateways (e.g., routers, application gateways)
  - Hosts and security gateways
- Defines parameters and mode of operation
  - e.g., Confidentiality using ESP with 3DES in CBC mode
- May use either Authentication Header (AH) or Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP).

Security Association

- **Host A Security Association (partial parameters):**

```
# ipsecadm new esp -spi 1000 -src HostA \
-dst HostB -forcetunnel -enc 3des -auth sha1 \
-key 7762d8707255d974168cbb1d274f8bed4cbd3364 \
-authkey 6a20367e21c66e5a40739db293cf2ef2a4e6659f
```

- **Host B Security Association (partial parameters):**

```
# ipsecadm new esp -spi 1001 -src HostB \
-dst HostA -forcetunnel -enc 3des -auth sha1 \
-key 7762d8707255d974168cbb1d274f8bed4cbd3364 \
-authkey 6a20367e21c66e5a40739db293cf2ef2a4e6659f
```

RemarK: src = source, dst = destination, keysize = 160 bits

spi is a binary string at most 32 bits, used to create and delete SA, the spi values between 0 and 100 are reserved.

SA Parameters

- Sequence Number counter (see Appendix 1)
- Sequence Counter Overflow (see Appendix 1)
- Anti-replay Window (see Appendix 1)
- AH information (see the previous slide)
- ESP information (see the previous slide)
- Lifetime of this SA (see next slide)
- IPSec Protocol Mode (Tunnel, Transport)
- Path MTU: maximum size of a packet that can be transmitted without fragmentation

SA -- Lifetime

- Amount of traffic protected by a key and time frame the same key is used
  - Manual creation: no lifetime
  - Dynamic creation with IKE: may have a lifetime

Building Blocks:

Security Policy Database (SPD)

Security Policy Database (SPD)

- Defines:
  - What traffic to be protected (e.g., email, Web, FTP)
  - How to protect (which SA is used for protection)
  - With whom the protection is shared (by source & destination addresses)
- For each packet entering or leaving an IPsec implementation, SPD is used to determine security mechanism to be applied (see Appendices 2 and 3)
- Actions:
  - Discard: do not let packet in or out
  - Bypass: do not apply security services
  - Protect: apply security services on packets

Building Blocks: IPSec Protocols

IPSec Protocols

- *Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)*
  - Data confidentiality and limited traffic flow confidentiality
  - Anti-replay protection
  - Data origin authentication, data integrity (optional)
- *Authentication Header (AH)*
  - Data origin authentication, data integrity
  - Anti-replay protection

Transport and Tunnel Modes

Two Possible Cases

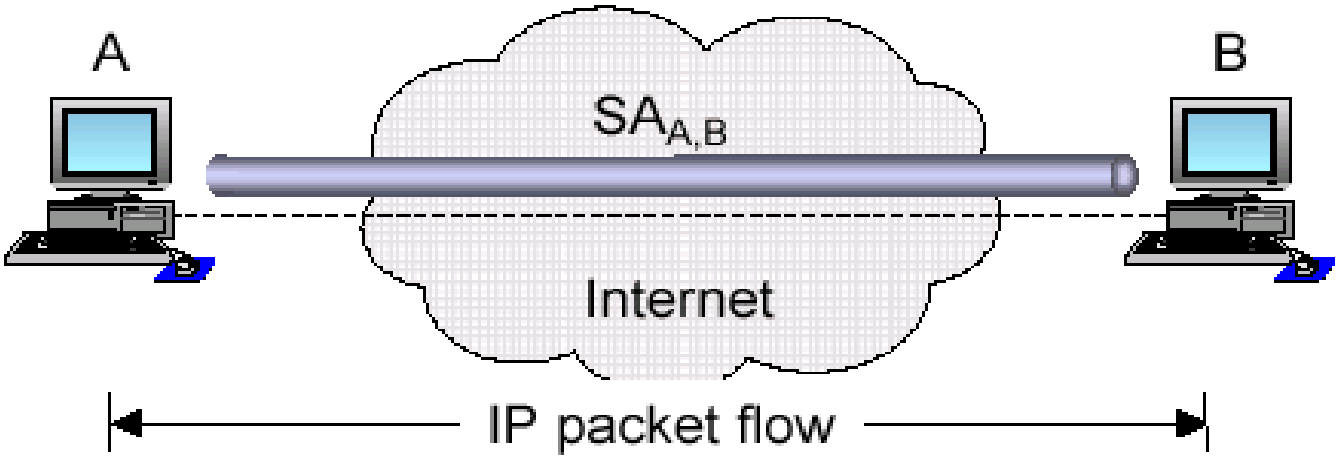
- Case I: Both communication endpoints A and B have IPSec software installed.

  A ---------- B

- Case II: At least one of A and B does not have an IPSec software, but Router A and Router B attached to A and B have IPSec software installed.

  A --- Router A --------- Router B --- B

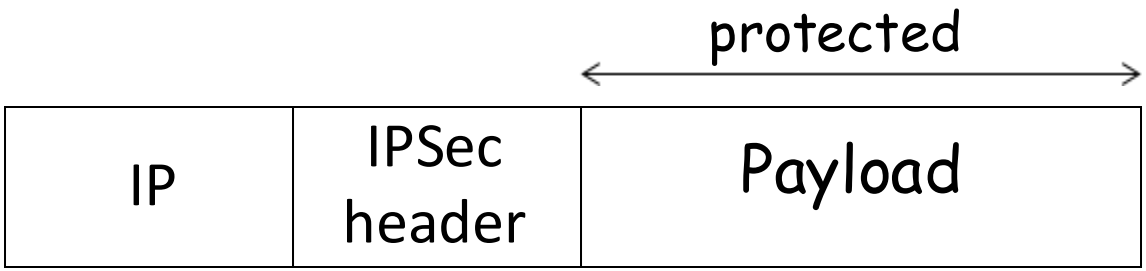
Two possible Cases: Case I



- Both endpoints A and B are cryptographic endpoints and negotiate a pair of SAs and then protect communication data without the help from any intermediate routers.
- ESP or AH used in Case I is said to be in the transport mode.

Transport Mode: AH & ESP

- Usage: protect upper layer protocols
  - IPSec header is inserted between the IP header and the upper-layer protocol header
  - The endpoints A and B generate/process IP header (AH, ESP).
  - Only data is protected, the original IP header is not protected.

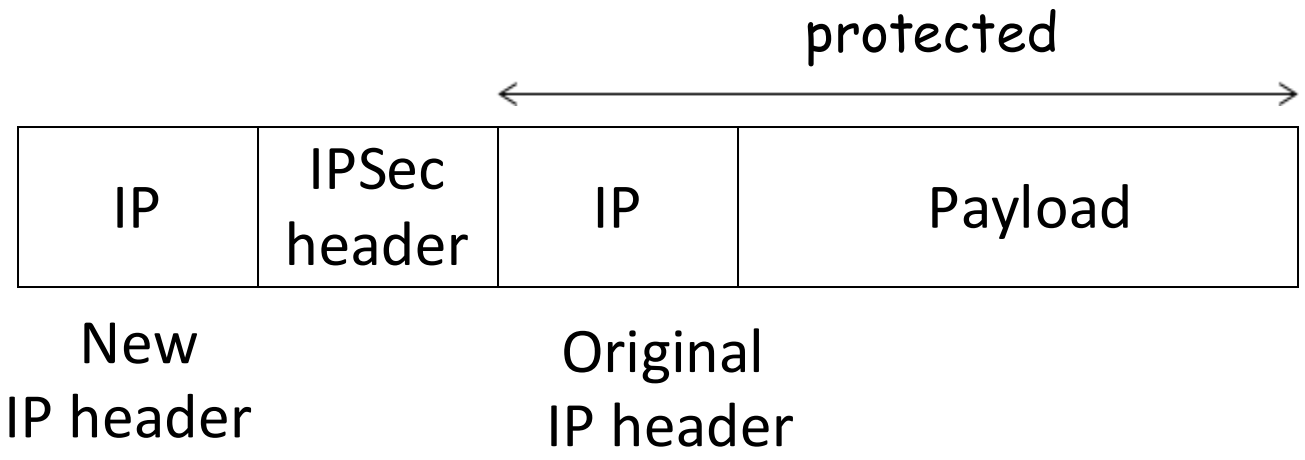


Two Possible Cases: Case II

- Case II: At least one of A and B does not have IPSec software. A --- Router A ---------- Router B --- B
  - Case II.1: A has an IPSec software, B does not. In this case, A and Router B negotiate a pair of SAs and establish a secure tunnel between A and Router B.
  - Case II.2: B has an IPSec software, A does not. In this case, Router A and B negotiate a pair of SAs and establish a secure tunnel between Router A and B.
  - Case II.3: Both A and B do not have IPSec software. In this case, Router A and Router B negotiate a pair of SAs and establish a secure tunnel between Router A and Router B.
- ESP or AH used in Case II is in the tunnel mode.

Tunnel Mode: AH & ESP

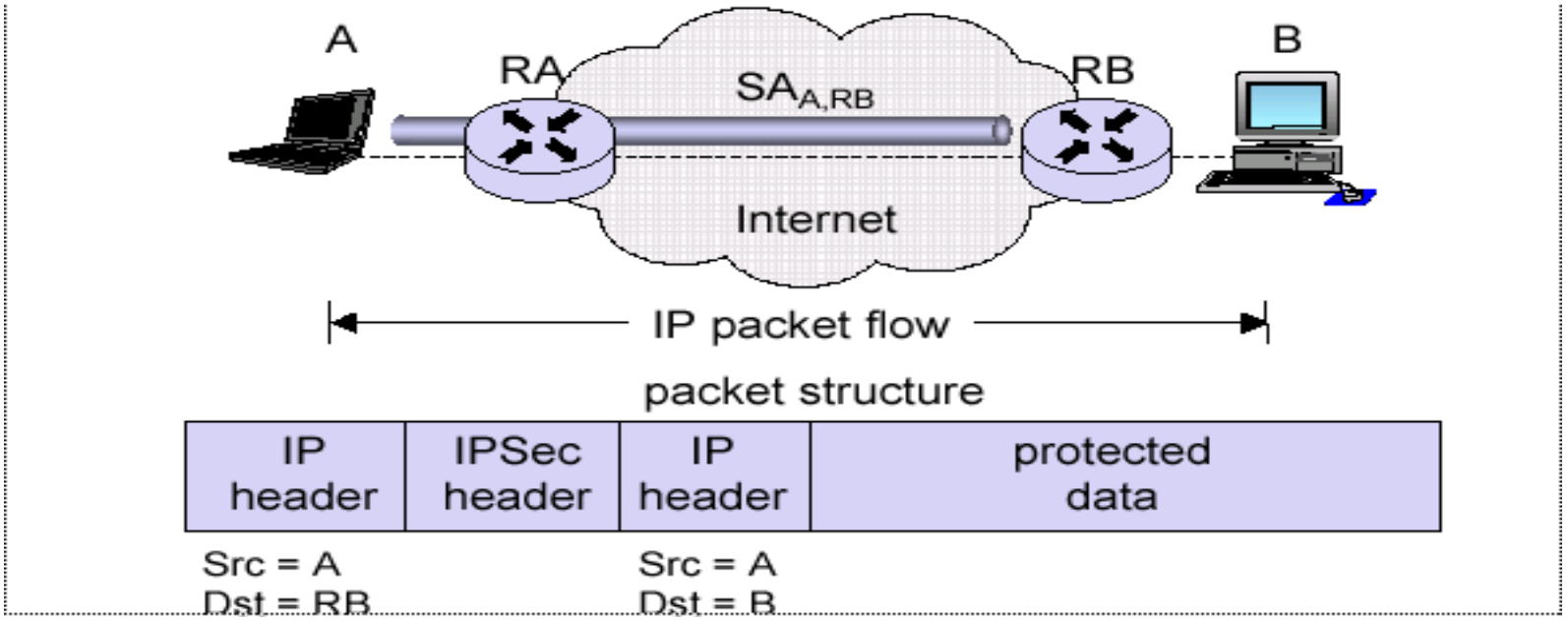
- Usage: protect entire IP datagram
  - Entire IP packet to be protected is encapsulated in another IP datagram and a new IPSec header is inserted between the outer and inner IP headers.



Tunnel Mode In Case II.1

A has IPSec software, but B does not. After negotiating a pair of

SAs, a secure tunnel between A and RB is established. If ESP is used, in the middle of transmission, ultimate destination is not visible.



Outer IP Header – Destination for the router.

Inner IP Header – Ultimate Destination

AH in Transport and Tunnel Modes

Authentication Header (AH)

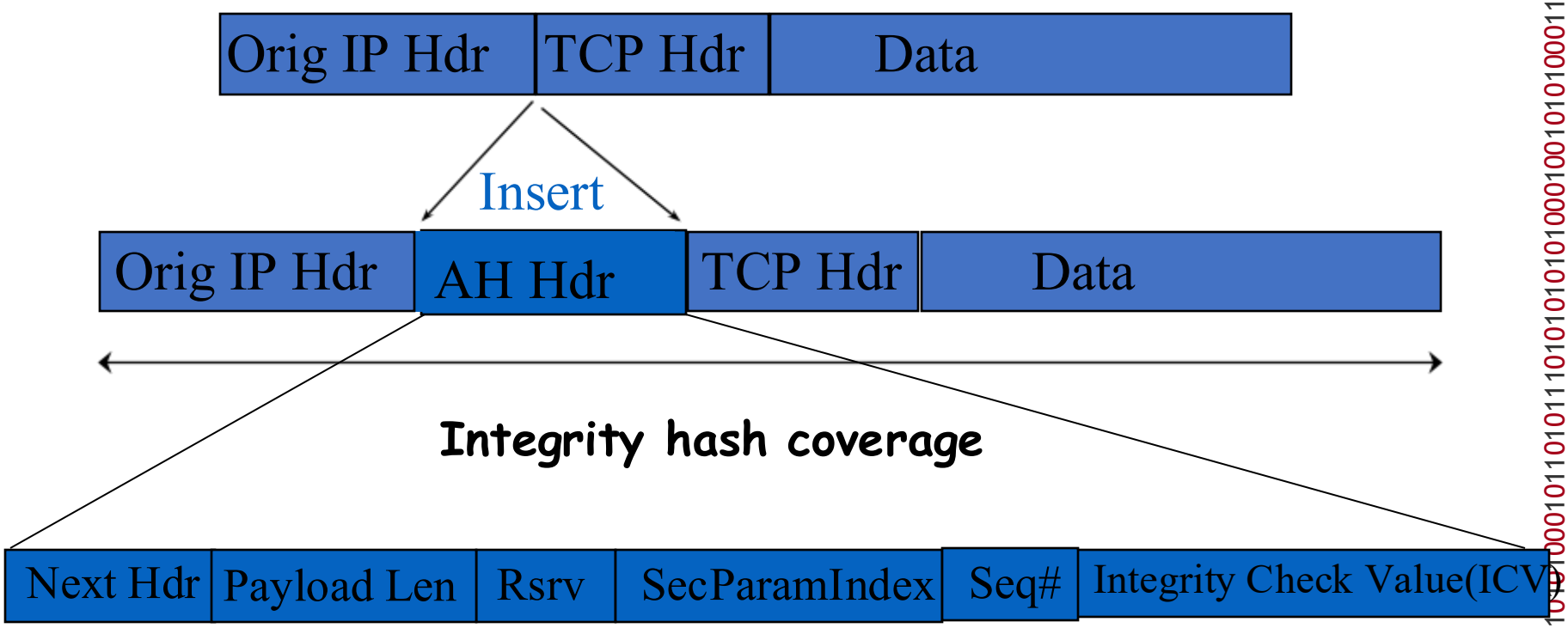
- AH uses a protocol similar as the following:

  A --> m||h_k(m) --> B

- It does not provide confidentiality
- It provides:
  - Data origin authentication
  - Data integrity
  - Anti-replay protection

IPSec AH in Transport Mode

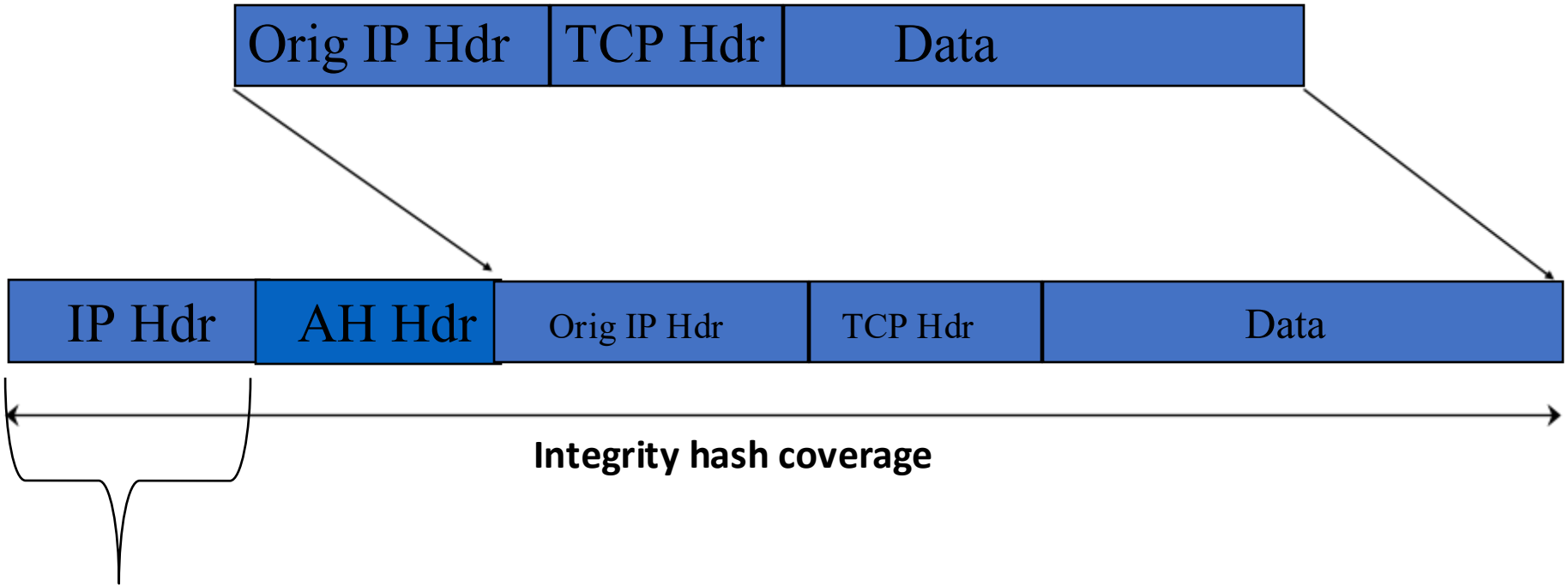
Question: Why insert AH there?



Length of AH Hdr

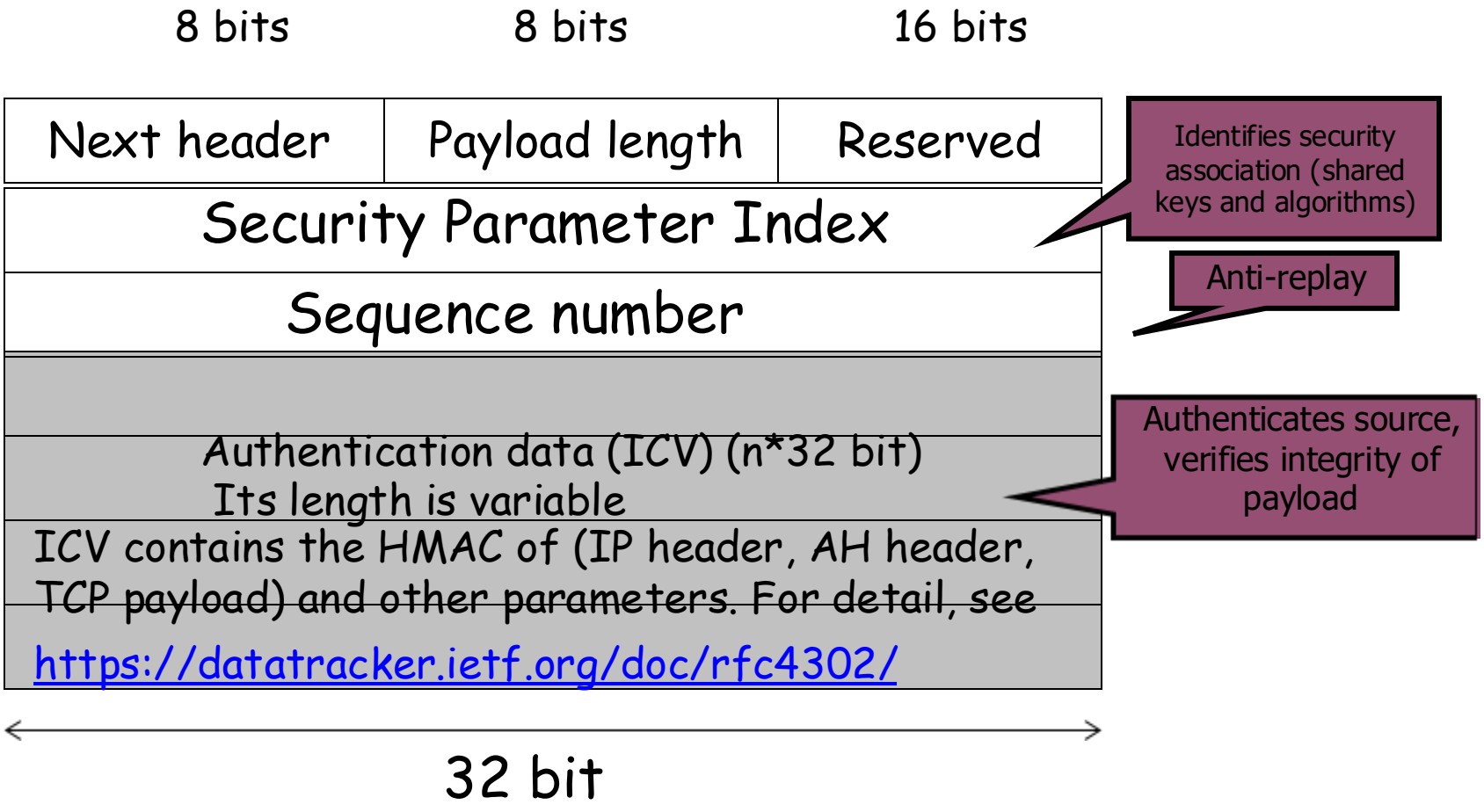
1. HMAC value based.
2. Variable length

IPSec AH in Tunnel Mode



New IP header with source & destination IP address

AH Header Format



AH Header Format

- Next Header (8 bits): identifies the type of header immediately following this head.
- Payload Length (8 bits): Length of Authentication Header in 32-bit words.
- Reserved (16 bits): For future use.
- Security Parameters Index (32 bits): identifies a security association.
- Sequence Number (32 bits): A monotonically increasing counter value, discussed earlier.
- Authentication Data (variable): 32*n.

Authentication Data

- Computed by using
  - authentication algorithm (MD5, SHA-1, SHA-2, SHA-3)
  - cryptographic key (authentication key)
- Sender: computes authentication data
- Recipient: verifies data

ESP in Transport and Tunnel Modes

Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)

- It uses a protocol similar as the protocol

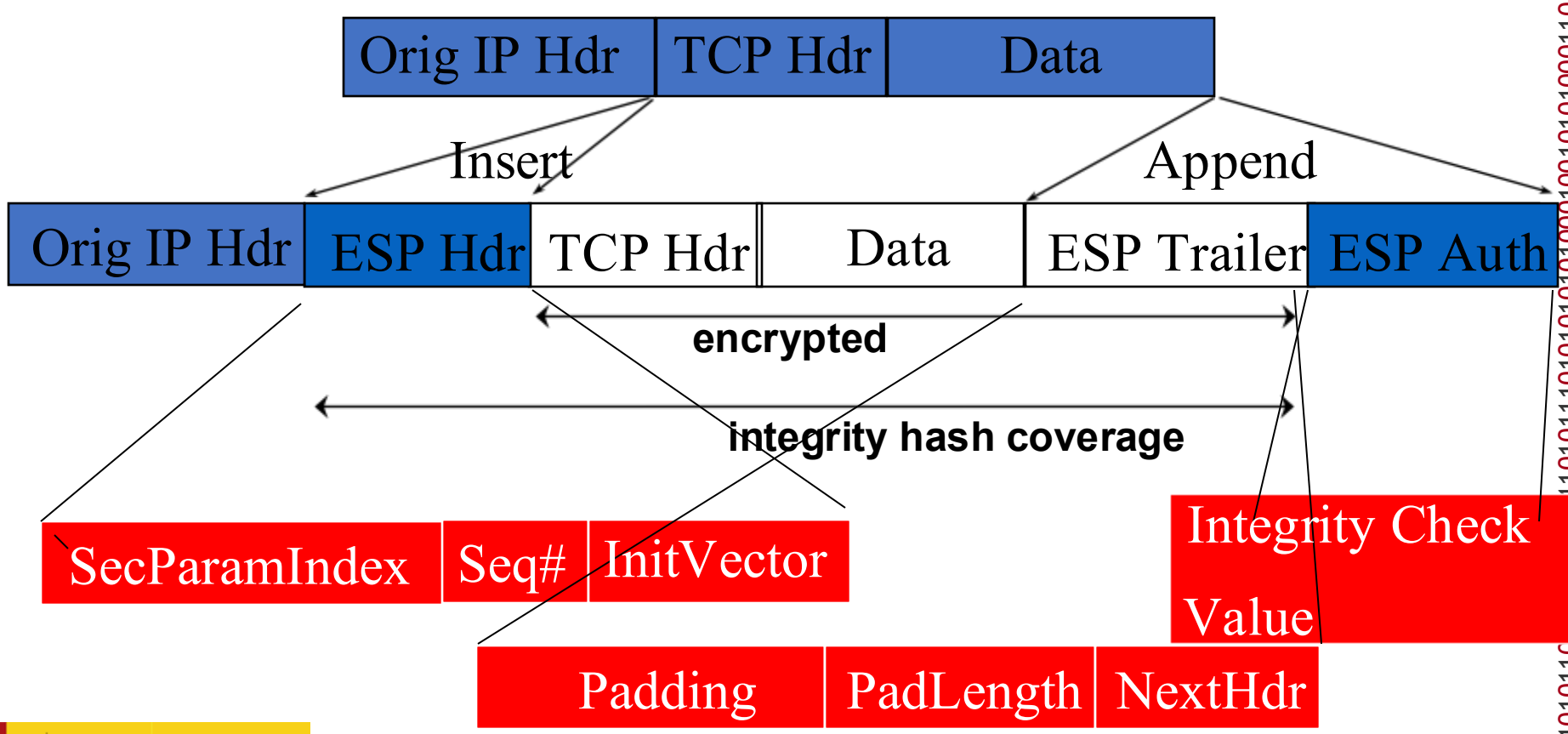
  A --> E_k1(m) --> B or

  A --> E_k1(m)||h_k2(E_k1(m)) --> B

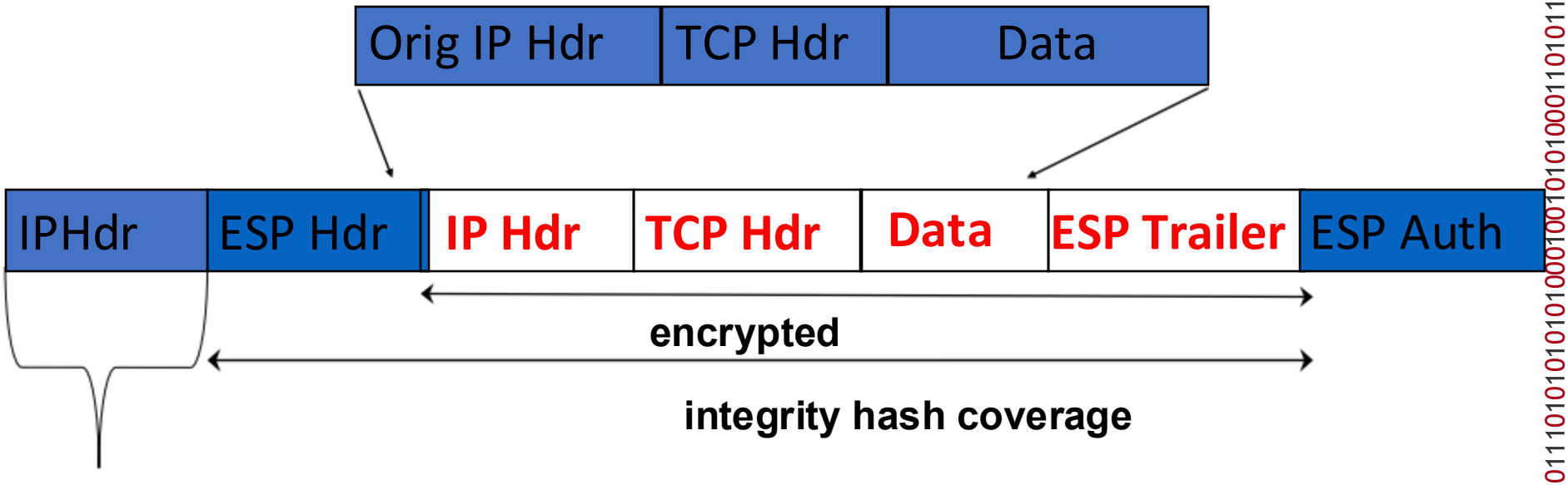
- **It provides:**
  - **Confidentiality**
  - **Authentication**
    - **optional**
  - **Limited traffic flow confidentiality (in tunnel mode only)**
  - **Anti-replay protection**

IPSec ESP in Transport Mode

Question: ESP Hdr, ESP trailer, ESP Auth. There?



IPSec ESP Tunnel Mode



New IP header with source & destination IP address

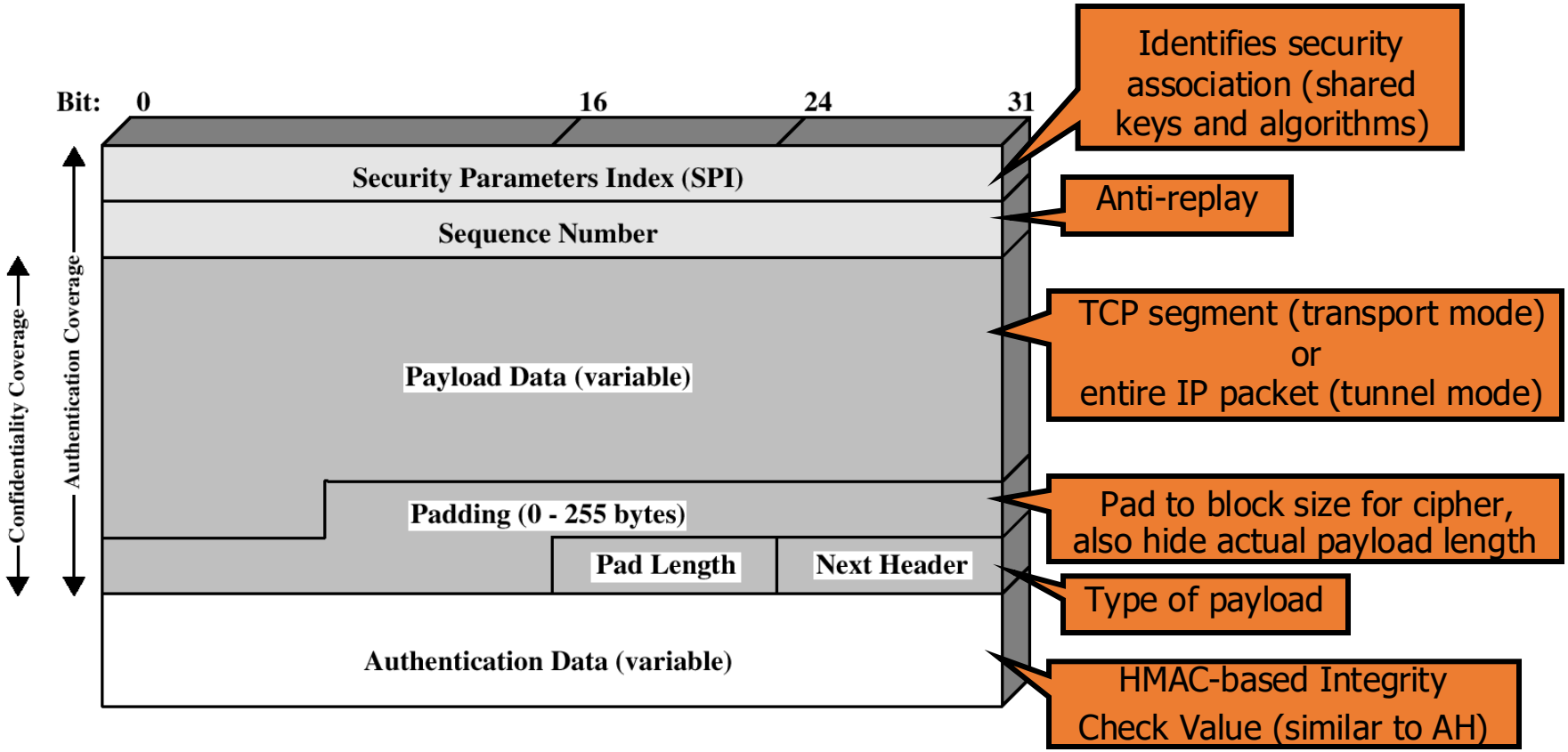
Question: Why is a new IP Hdr generated?

Attention: Limited traffic flow confidentiality is provided in this case.

ESP header and trailer

- ESP packet processing:
    1. Verify sequence number
    2. Verify integrity
    3. Decrypt
- ESP header: not encrypted (why?)
    - Contains: SPI and sequence number
- ESP trailer: usually encrypted
    - Contains: padding, length of padding, next protocol

ESP Format


Bit: 0
16
24
31
Security Parameters Index (SPI)
Sequence Number
Payload Data (variable)
Padding (0 - 255 bytes)
Pad Length
Next Header
Authentication Data (variable)
Confidentiality Coverage
Authentication Coverage
Identifies security association (shared keys and algorithms)
Anti-replay
TCP segment (transport mode) or entire IP packet (tunnel mode)
Pad to block size for cipher, also hide actual payload length
Type of payload
HMAC-based Integrity Check Value (similar to AH)

ESP Format ctd.

- Security Parameters Index (32 bits): identifies a security association.
- Sequence Number (32 bits): A monotonically increasing counter value, same as in AH.
- Payload Data (variable): A transport-level segment (transport mode) or IP packet (tunnel mode) that is protected by encryption.
- Padding (0-255 bytes): for encryption and others.
- Pad Length (8 bits): indicating the number of pad bytes immediately proceeding this field.

ESP Format ctd.

- Next Header (8 bits): Identifies the type of data contained in the payload data field by identifying the first header in that payload.

  E.g., an extension header in IPv6, or an upper layer protocol such as TCP.
- Authentication Data (variable): 32*n, i.e., the Integrity Check Value (ICV). For detail of the computation of the ICV, see https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/rfc4303

ESP

- SA has one or both of the following algorithms:
  - Cipher: for confidentiality
  - Hash function: for authenticity

- Each ESP is associated with:
  - one cipher and one hash function, or
  - one cipher and zero hash function.
  - Disallowed: zero cipher

Encryption, Authentication Algorithms

Encryption and Authentication Algorithms

- Encryption:
  - Triple DES in CBC mode (MUST)
  - AES in CBC mode (SHOULD+)
  - AES in CTR (counter) mode (SHOULD)
- Authentication:
  - HMAC-MD5-96 (MAY)
    - 96 truncated bits from 128 bits
  - HMAC-SHA-1-96 (MUST)
    - 96 truncated bites from 160 bits
  - AES-XCBC-96 (SHOULD)

Summary of IPSec Services

	AH	ESP (encrp. Only)	ESP (encrp + auth)
Data integrity	√□		√□
Data origin authentication	√□		√□
Anti-replay	√□	√□	√□
Confidentiality		√□	√□
Limited traffic flow confidentiality		√□	√□

The Outline of the Key Management Protocol

Key Management

- IPSec needs secret keys:
  - for providing security services.
- It supports two types of key management:
  - **Manual:** A system administrator manually configures each system with its own keys and with the keys of other communicating systems.
  - **Automated**: The key management protocol is used to enable the on-demand creation of keys for SAs.

Key Management Protocol

- The key management protocol is called "Internet Key Exchange (IKE)".
- It has two versions.
  - IKE 1998, IKEv2 2005, revised IKEv2 2014
- It is the most complicated sub-protocol of IPSec.
- An outline of IKE 1998 will be given in this lecture.
- LKEv2 will be covered in Lecture 20.

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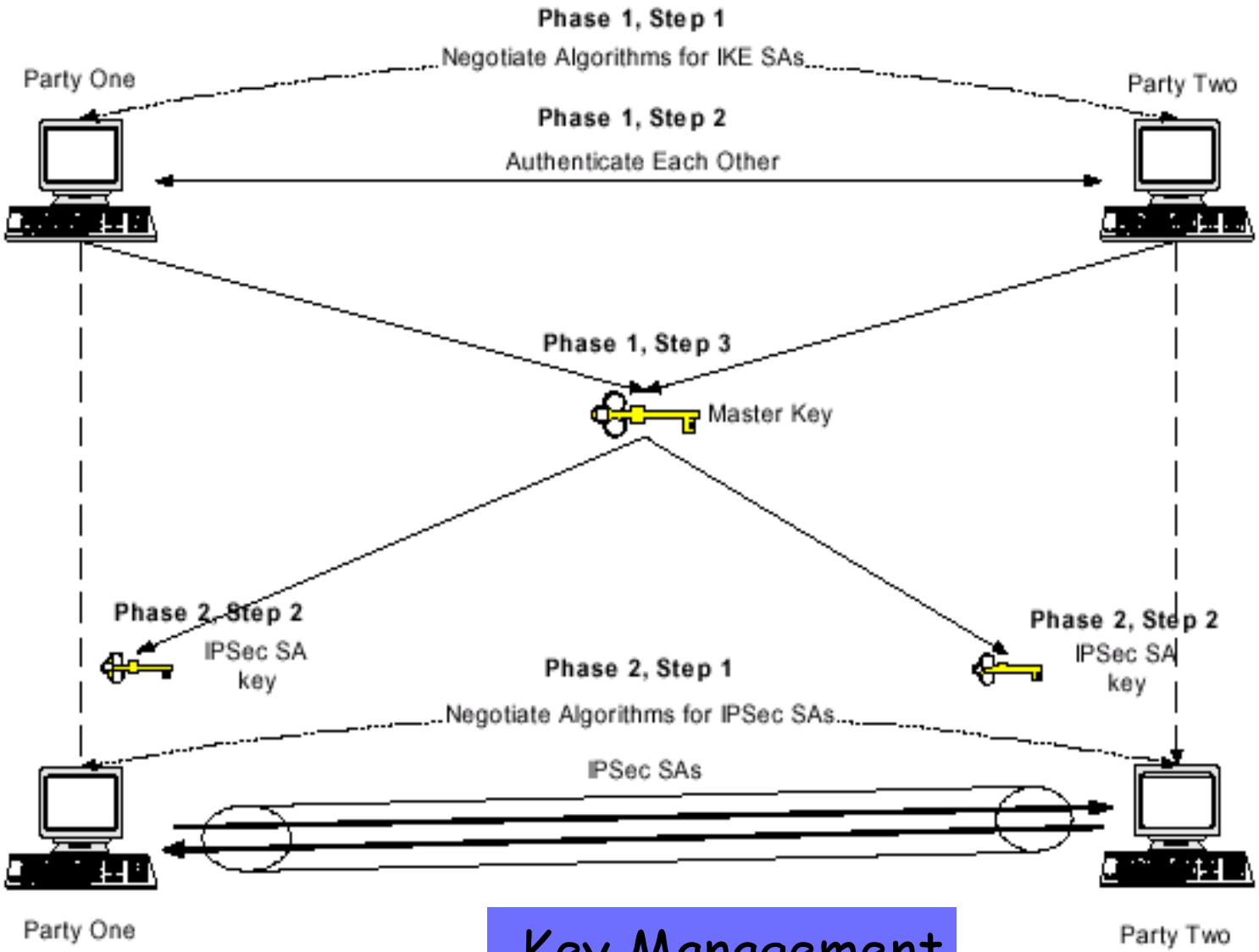
Key exchange protocol



Key Management

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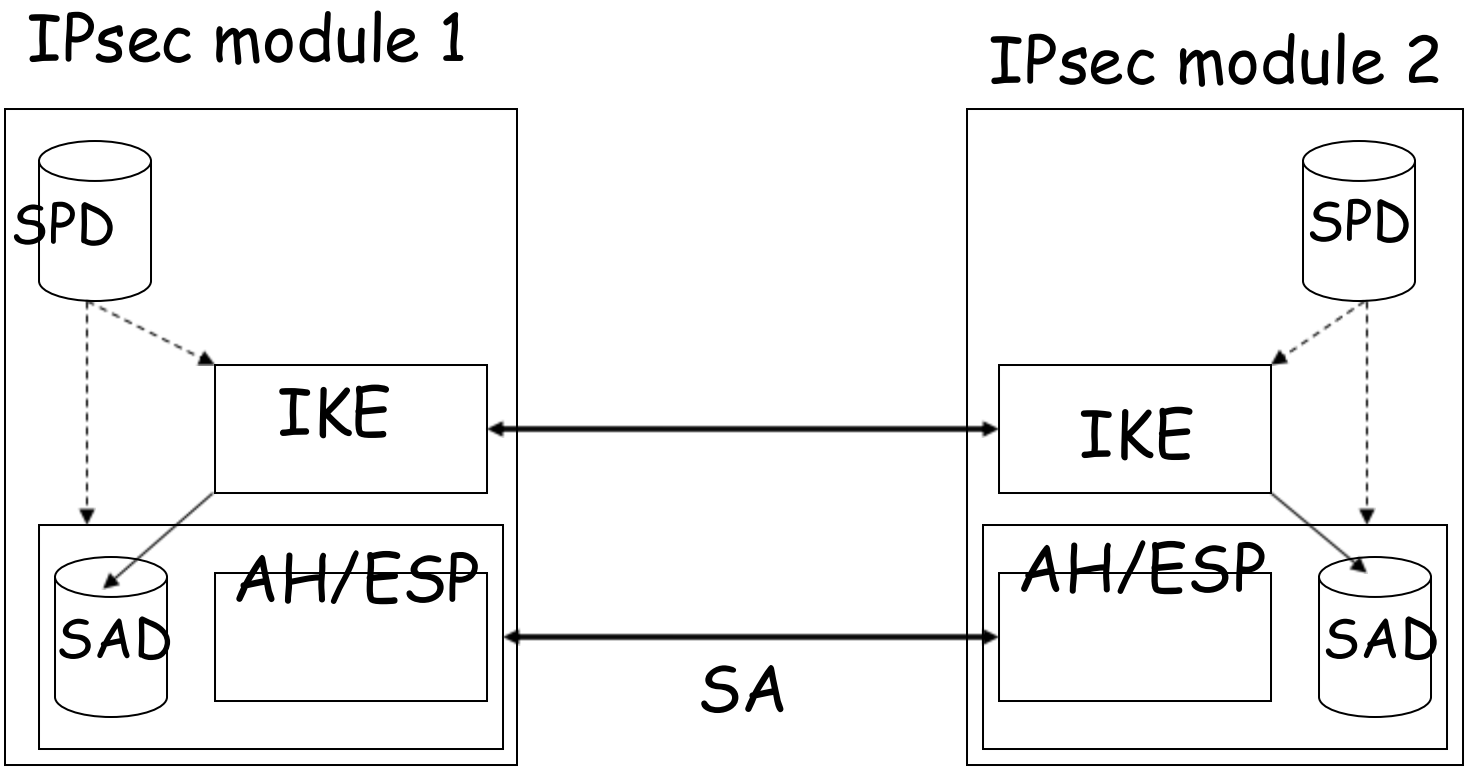
Some Entries in an IKE SA

- A mutual authentication method, which is one of:
  - A protocol based on a pre-shared secret key
  - The digital signature of each other
- A key-establishment method, which is one of:
  - The digital envelop protocol
  - The Diffie-Hellman key exchange protocol (+ a DH group)
- A cipher and a hash function
- Encryption and authentication keys

Whole Picture of IPSec

IP Security Architecture



SAD: Security Association Database

SPD: Security Policy Database

IKE: Internet Key Exchange

Applications of IPSec

- Using IPSec, all distributed applications can be secured,
  - Remote logon,
  - client/server,
  - e-mail,
  - file transfer,
  - Web access
  - etc.

Benefits of Using IPSec

- The benefits of IPSec include:
  - IPSec can be transparent to end users.
  - There is no need to train users on security mechanisms
  - IPSec can provide security for individual application
    - By configuration, IPSec is applied to only one specified application.

Appendix 1:
Anti-replay Service

SA Parameters for Anti-replay

- Sequence Number Counter
  - A 32-bit value used to generate the sequence number field in AH or ESP headers.
- Sequence Counter Overflow
  - A flag indicating whether overflow of the sequence number counter should generate an auditable event and prevent further transmission of packets on this SA
- Anti-Replay Window
  - Used to determine whether an inbound AH or ESP packet is a replay.

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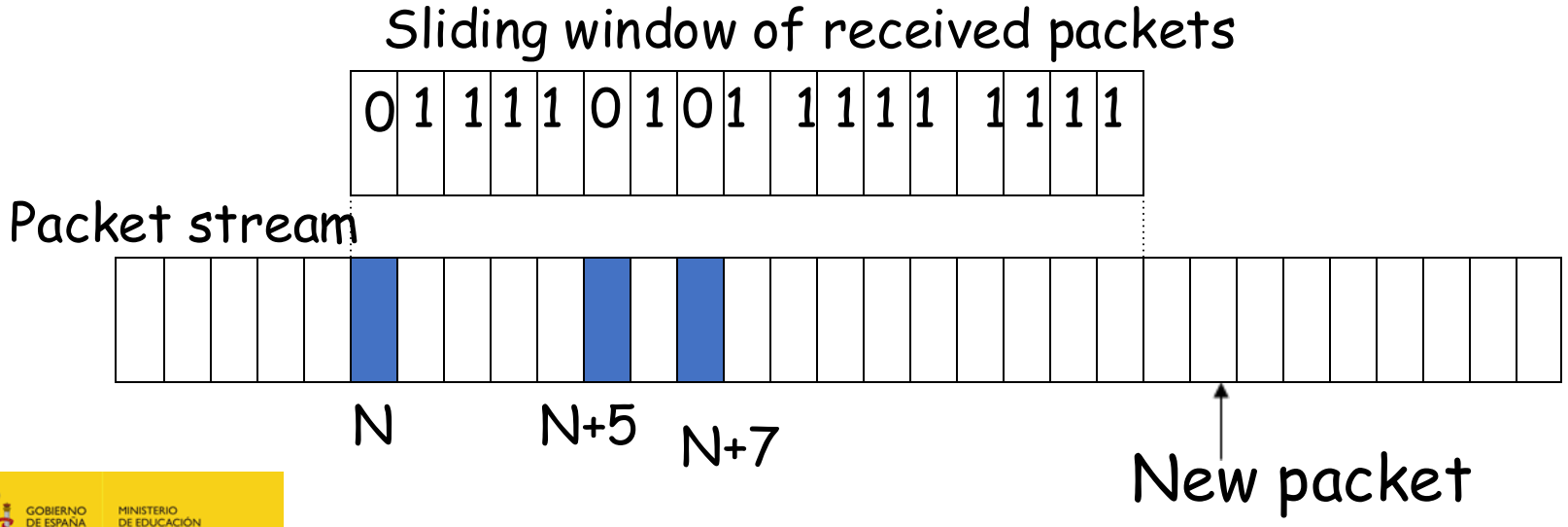
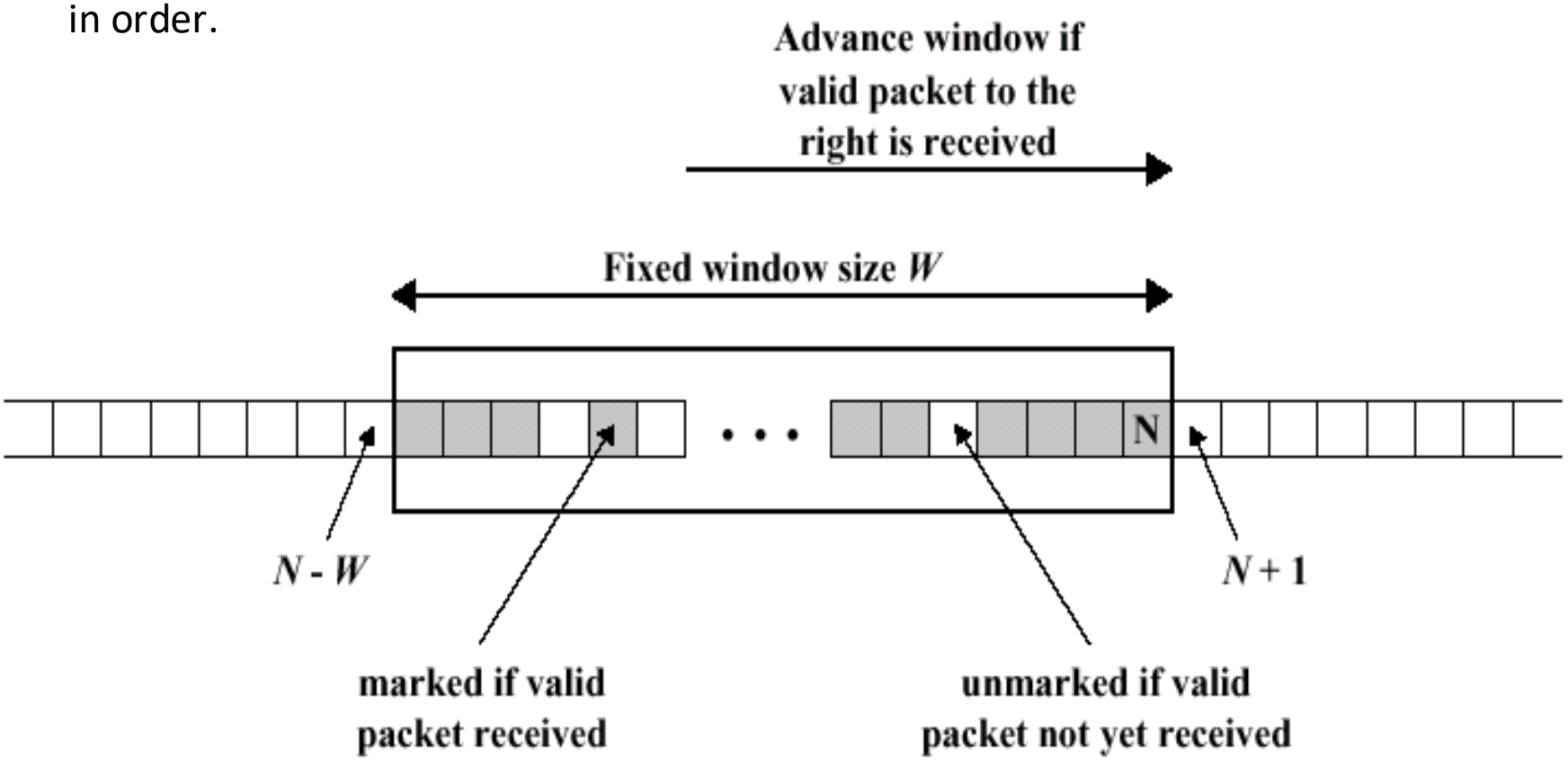
Anti-replay Protection

- Protection by sequence number (32-bits) and sliding receive window (64-bits)
- When SA is created: sequence number is initiated to 0
- Prior to IPsec output processing: sequence number is incremented. Thus, the first value to be used is 1



Problems: No guarantee that

1. all packets will be delivered;
2. packets may not be delivered in order.



GUARDS AGAINST REPLAY ATTACKS.

- **IPSec dictates that the receiver implements a window of size W, default W=64.**
  - If a received packet falls within window and is new, the MAC is checked. If not new, a replay attack. Disable it.
  - If the received packet is to the right of the window, and is authentic, window is advanced so that this packet is the right-most in this window. If not authentic, disable it.
  - If received packet is to the left of the window, the packet is disabled. [left => possible replay attack]

Appendix 2: SPD Entry

- Destination IP address
- Source IP address
- User ID: a user identifier from the operating system
- Data sensitivity level
- Transport layer protocol
- IPSec protocol (AH or ESP)
- Source and destination ports
- IPv6 class
- IPv6 flow label
- IPv4 type of service

Appendix 3: SA Selectors

- Each SPD entry is defined by a set of IP and upper-layer protocol field values, called ***selectors.***
- These selectors are used to filter outgoing traffic in order to map it into a particular SA.
- How is an outbound packet processed?
  - Compare the values of the appropriate fields in the packet (the selector fields) against the SPD to find a matching SPD entry, which will point to zero or more SAs.
  - Determine the SA if any for this packet and its associated SPI.
  - Do the required IPSec processing (i.e., AH or ESP processing).