



The bridge to possible

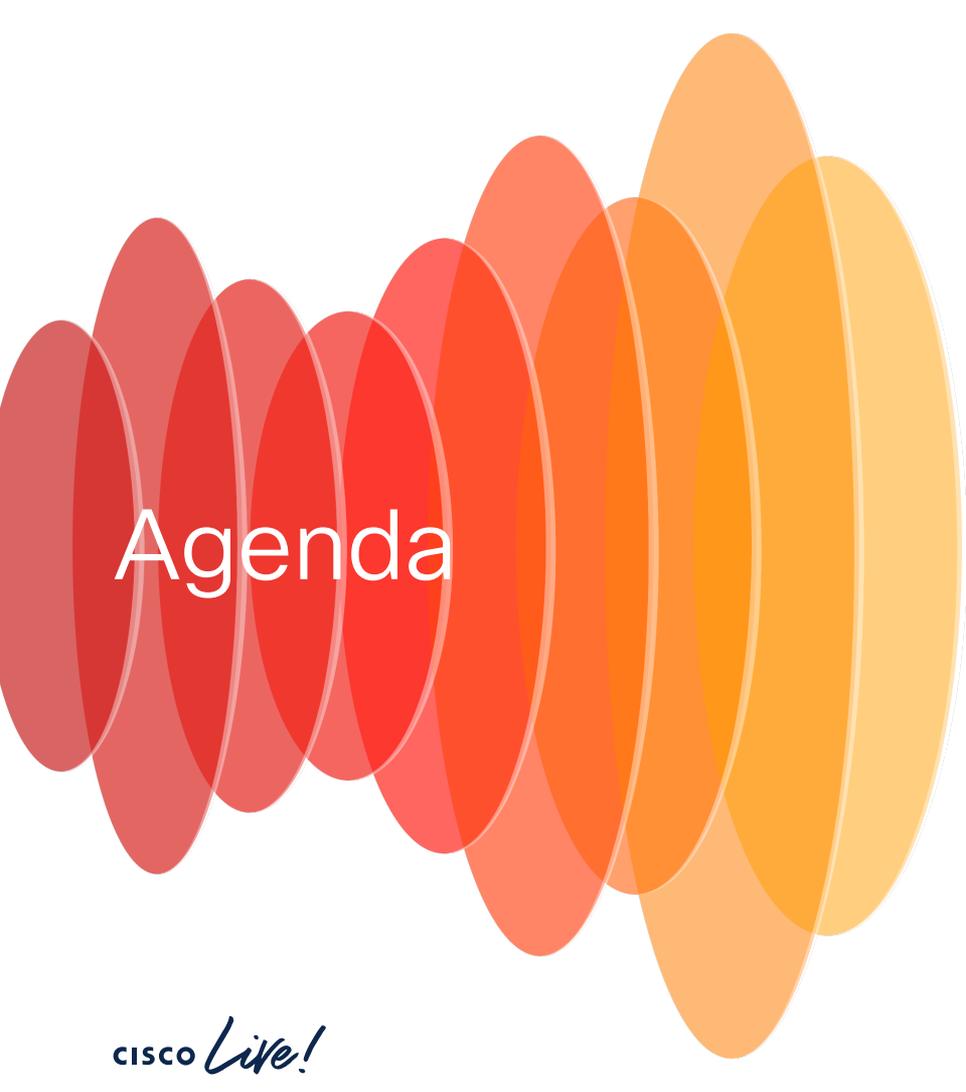
# Capturing Tools for Cat9k Troubleshooting

## Case Studies

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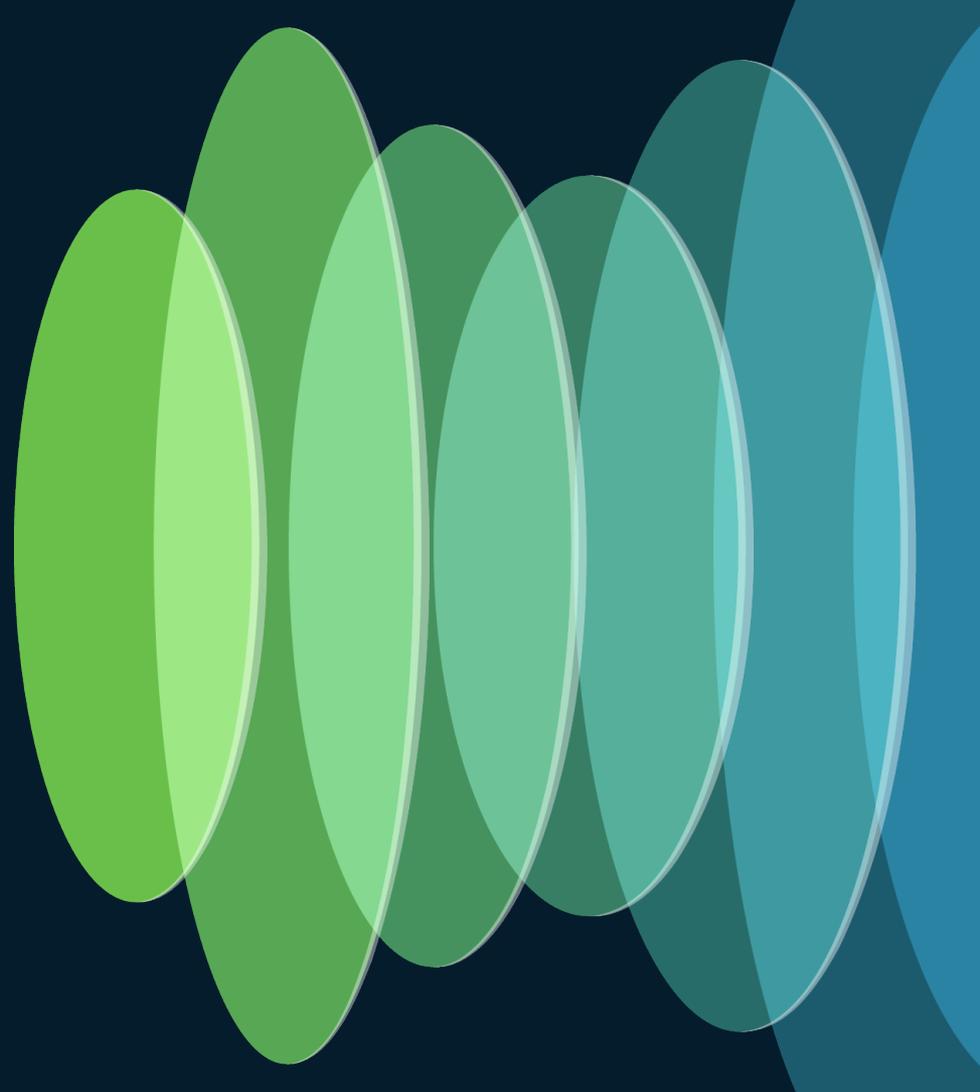
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# Agenda

- Capturing Tools
  - SPAN
  - EPC
- Case Studies
  - Slowness
  - DHCP issues
- Conclusion

# Capturing Tools



# Switched Port Analyzer (SPAN)

What is it?

- Is a monitoring tool that mirrors traffic from a source port or VLAN to a destination port.

How does it work?

- SPAN configures a destination index port to direct the traffic towards the mirrored port.

What restrictions does it have?

- SPAN sessions capture only DHCP ingress packets when DHCP snooping is enabled on the device.
- EPC does not capture egress packets when egress span is active.
- SPAN doesn't disrupt device function, but oversubscribed destination can lose packets.
- A maximum of 8 source sessions can be configured.

What platforms support it?

- Cisco IOS-XE.



# Switched Port Analyzer (SPAN)

## Configuration

1

```
Switch(config)# monitor session 1 source interface {interface-id | vlan}[rx|tx|both]
Switch(config)# monitor session 1 destination interface {interface-id}
                  [encapsulation replicate]
Switch(config)# monitor session 1 filter {ip|ipv6|mac|vlan}
```

## Verification

2

```
Switch#show monitor session 1
Session 1
-----
Type                : Local Session
Source Ports        :
    Both            : Te1/0/48
Destination Ports   : Te1/0/47
Encapsulation       : Native
    Ingress          : Disabled
IP Access-group     : test
```

```
Switch#show platform software monitor session 1
Span Session 1 (FED Session 0):
Type:                Local SPAN
Prev type:           Local SPAN
Ingress Src Ports: Te1/0/48
Egress Src Ports:  Te1/0/48
Destination Ports:  Te1/0/47
Ingress Src Vlans:
Egress Src Vlans:
IP FSPAN ACL: test
<snip>
```

# Embedded Packet Capture (EPC)

What is it?

- Built-in feature for data or control plane packets.
- Facilitates troubleshooting.

How does it work?

- Traffic is copied and punted to CPU.
- On box analysis.
- Export to PCAP.

What restrictions does it have?

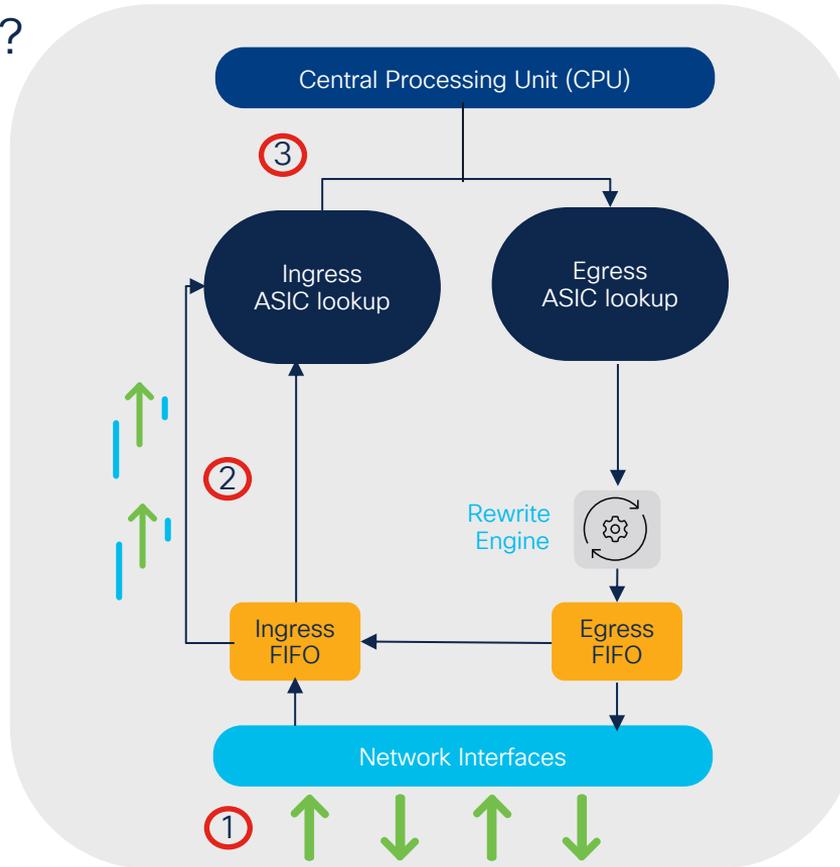
- No EtherChannels
- TX does not reflect rewrite changes.
- Some CPU-injected packets not seen.
- 8 captures supported, only 1 active.
- Limit to 1000 packets per second.

What platforms support it?

- Cisco IOS-XE.

# Embedded Packet Capture (EPC)

How does it work?



# Embedded Packet Capture (EPC)

## Configuration

1

```
switch# monitor capture {name} interface {interface-id} {in | out | both} | control-plane {in | out | both}
switch# monitor capture {name} buffer [circular] size {size}
```

Privileged  
exec mode

## Filters

2

```
switch# monitor capture {name} match {any}
or
switch# monitor capture {name} access-list {acl-name}
```

IPv4  
IPv6  
MAC

3

```
switch# monitor capture {name} start
switch# monitor capture {name} stop
```

```
ip access-list extended
ACL1
10 permit icmp any any
20 permit udp any any
```

# Embedded Packet Capture (EPC)

## Verification

`show monitor capture {name}`  
`show monitor capture {name} parameter`

```
switch# show monitor capture CAP parameter
monitor capture CAP interface GigE1/0/1 BOTH
monitor capture CAP match any
monitor capture CAP buffer size 100
```

## Display

`show monitor capture {name} buffer brief`  
`show monitor capture {name} buffer detail`  
`show monitor capture {name} buffer display-filter {"wireshark-filter"} brief`

`monitor capture {name} export file location flash:cap.pcap`

`show monitor capture file flash:cap.pcap brief`  
`show monitor capture file flash:cap.pcap detail`  
`show monitor capture file flash:cap.pcap display-filter {"wireshark-filter"} brief`

# Embedded Packet Capture (EPC)

## Display examples

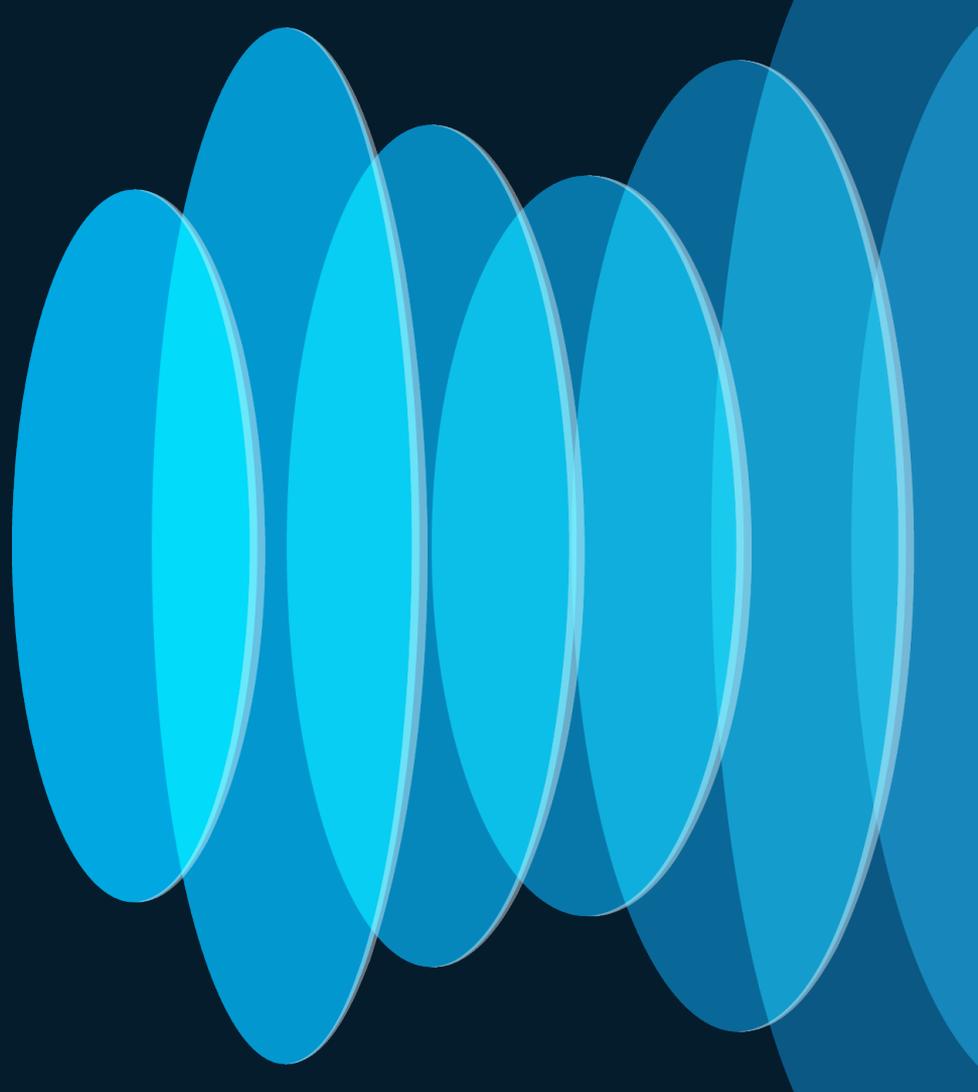
```
switch# show monitor capture CAP buffer brief
```

```
 1  0.000000 78:02:b1:07:bf:05 -> 01:00:0c:cc:cc:cc DTP 60 Dynamic Trunk Protocol
 2  0.636135 192.168.0.1 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 368 DHCP Discover
 3  7.658671 4c:5d:3c:bf:03:25 -> 4c:5d:3c:bf:03:25 LOOP 60 Reply
```

```
switch# show monitor capture cap buffer detail
```

```
    Frame 1: 60 bytes on wire (480 bits), 60 bytes captured (480 bits)
<snippet>
    Arrival Time: May 14, 2024 18:19:08.087844000 UTC
<snippet>
    Frame Length: 60 bytes (480 bits)
    [Protocols in frame: eth:llc:dtp]
IEEE 802.3 Ethernet
    Destination: 01:00:0c:cc:cc:cc (01:00:0c:cc:cc:cc)
    Source: 4c:5d:3c:bf:03:25 (4c:5d:3c:bf:03:25)
<snippet>
```

# Case Study 1: Slowness



# Problem Statement



Isolate the problem



## Site 1:

User A at site 1 experience slow file transfers over Ethernet.

Downloading a 10 GB file required 15 minutes, compared to 7 minutes at other sites.

# Troubleshooting



## Resources



## Network



- ✓ Application
- ✓ Presentation
- ✓ Session
- ✓ Transport
- ✓ Network
- ✓ Data Link
- ✓ Physical



# What capture do I select?



Embedded Packet Capture (EPC)

vs

Switched port Analyzer (SPAN)

Rate limit

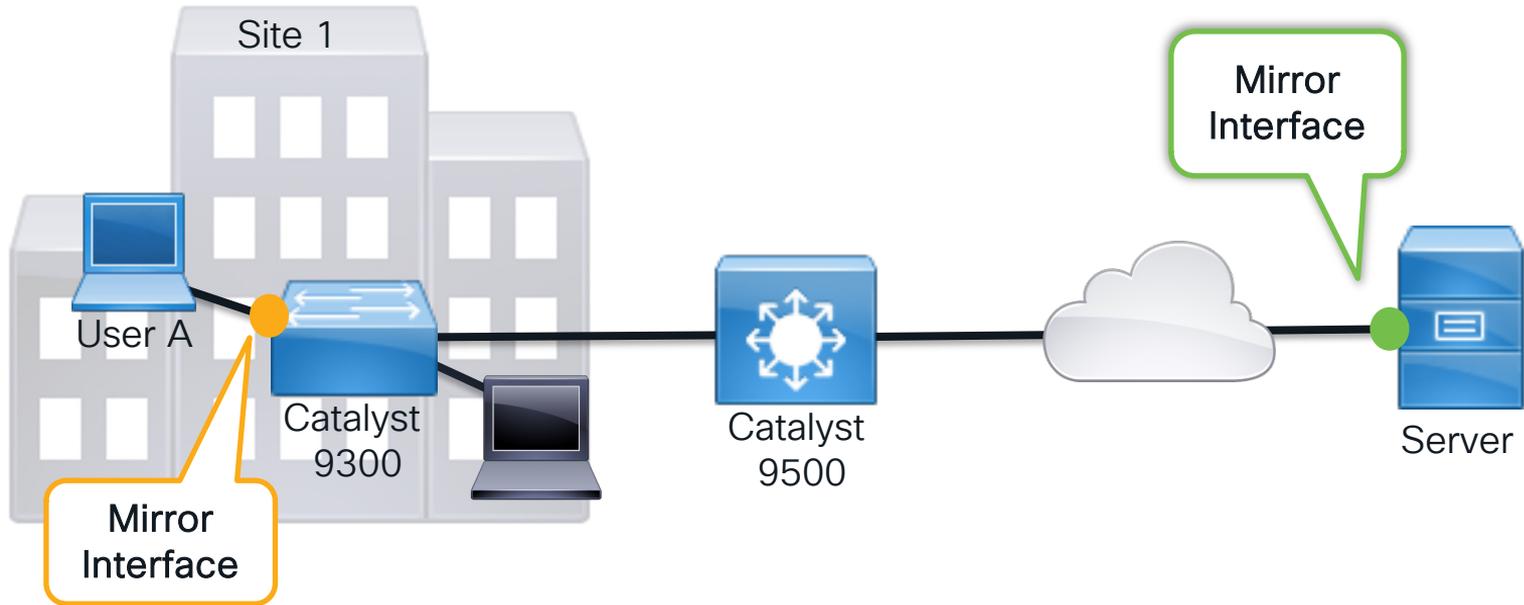


Restrictions



Benefits

# Capture Configuration: Where and How?



# Common Issues



What is next?



Connection Establishment Three-Way Handshake

Congestion Control

Flow Control

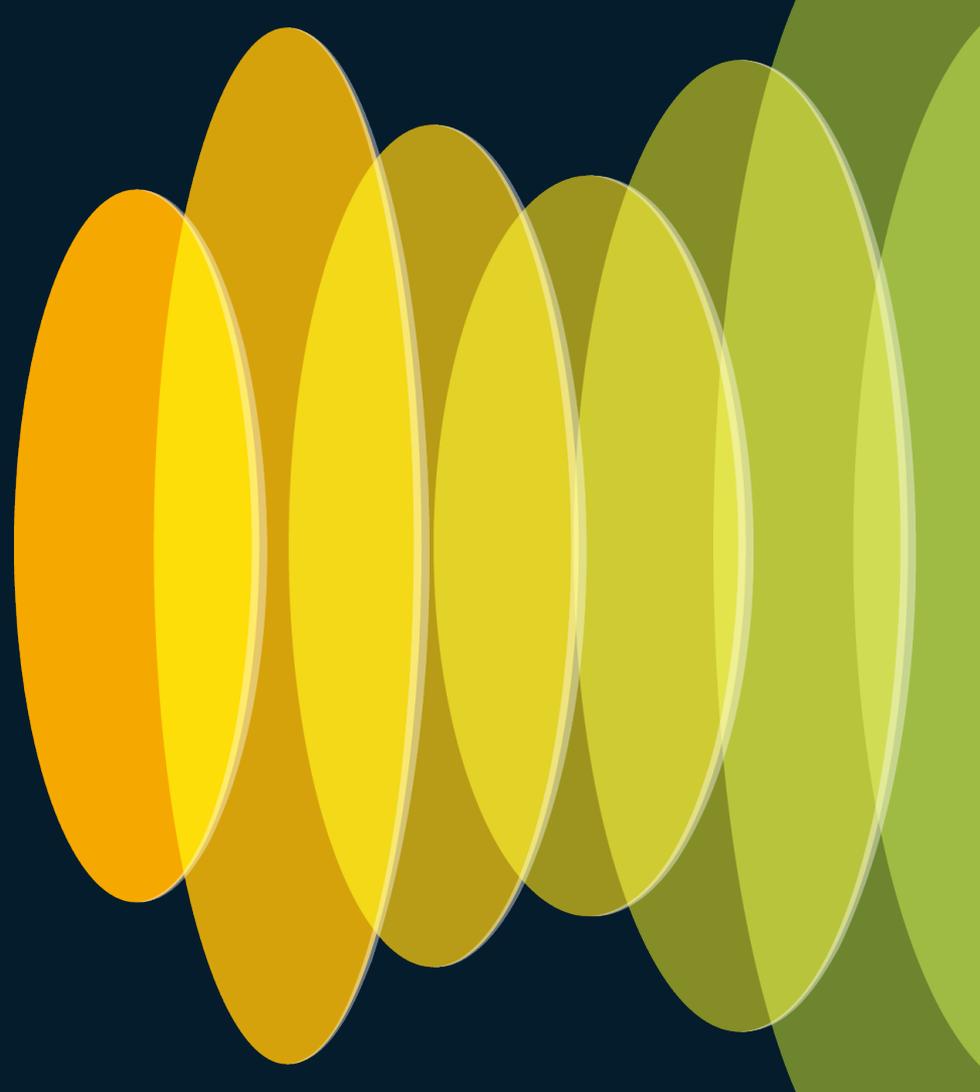
Non-Working

```
[SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM  
[SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=8192 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=1 SACK_PERM  
[ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262656 Len=0
```

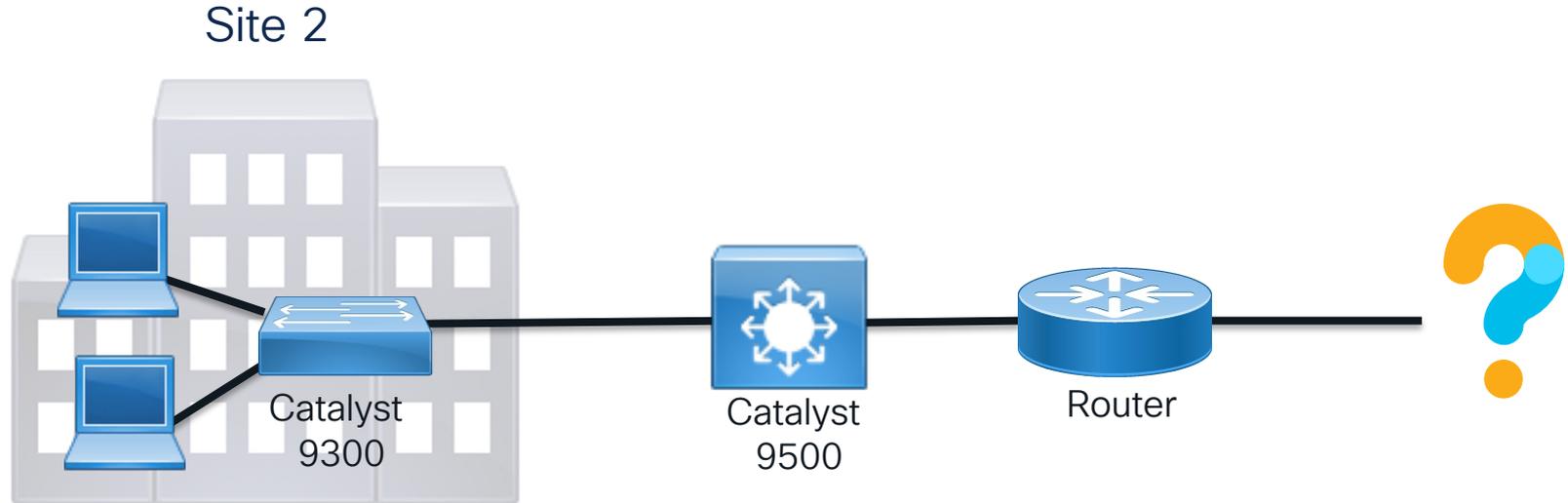
Working

```
[SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=64 TSval=1781208375 TSecr=0  
[SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=64000 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=1 SACK_PERM TSval  
[ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=131712 Len=0 TSval=1781208423 TSecr=512401
```

# Case Study 2: DHCP issues



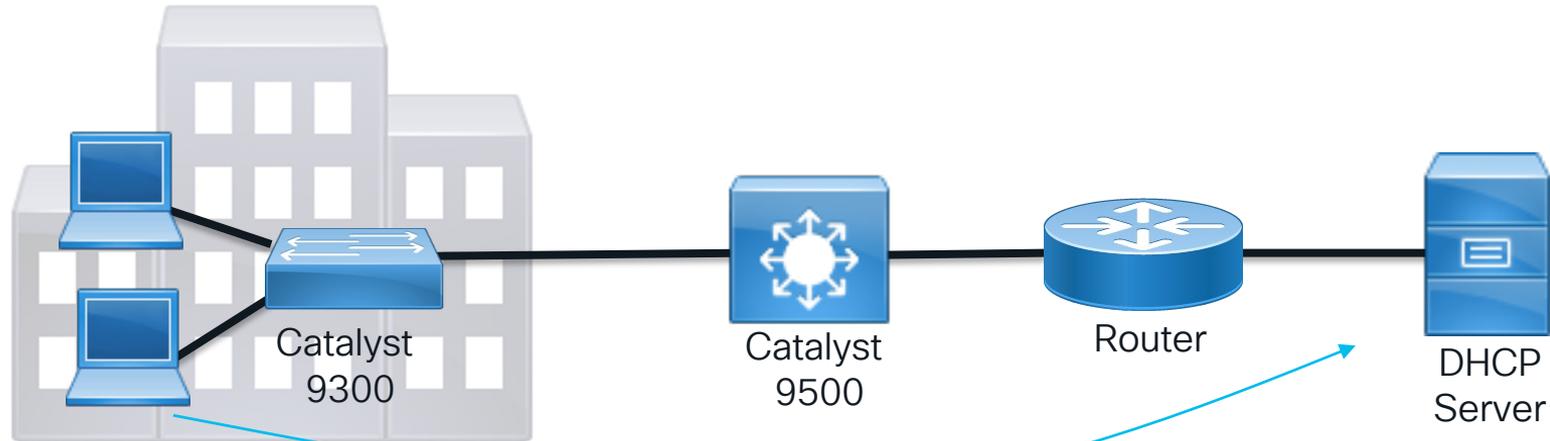
# Problem statement



# Problem statement



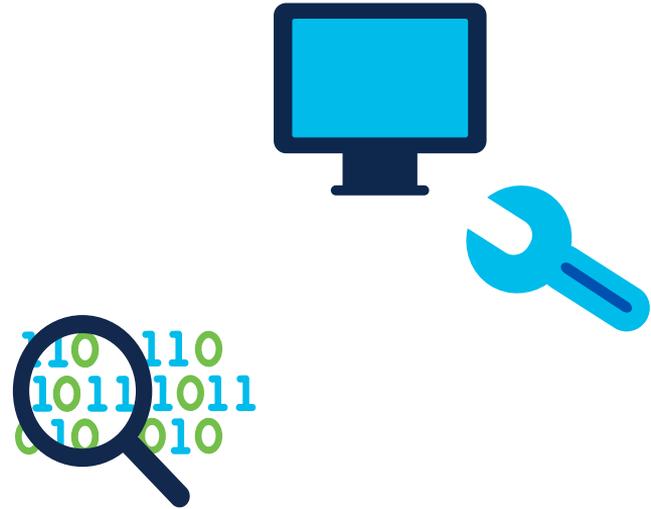
Users at the office are taking around 10 minutes to get an ip address.  
(it has been working fine for years).



# Network Health Check



- ✓ DHCP Server Overload or Malfunction
- ✓ Physical connectivity
- ✓ End user issues



# What capture do I select?



Embedded Packet Capture (EPC)

vs

Switched Port Analyzer (SPAN)



Benefits

CPU captures

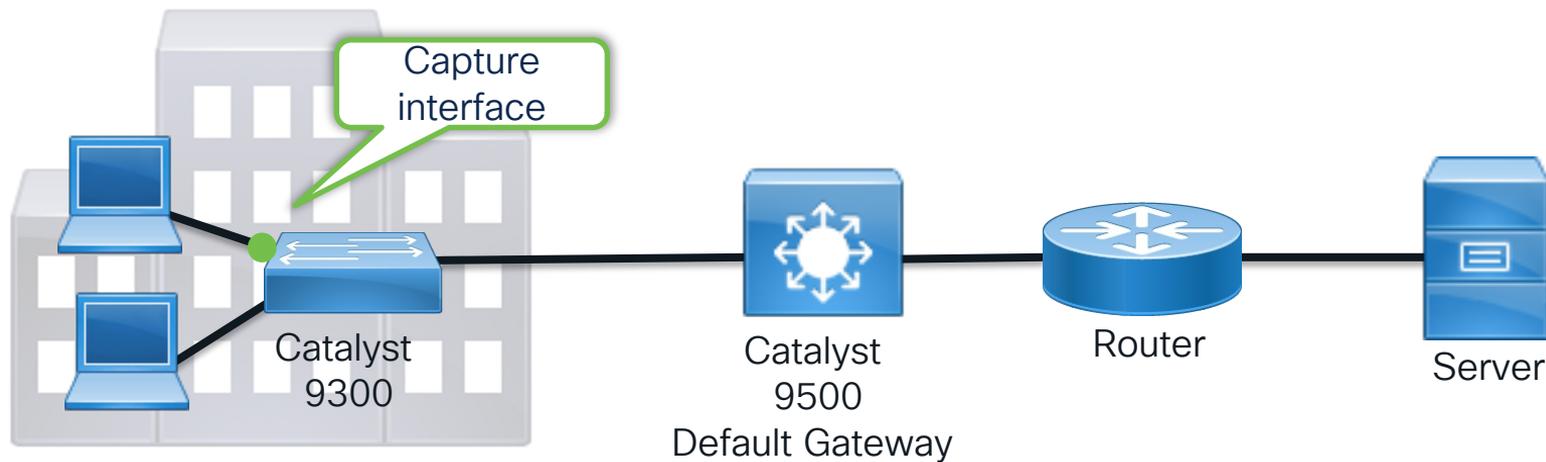
No need to have physical access



Restrictions

1000 packets per second

# Configuring Embedded Packet Capture



```
9300_access#monitor capture Port1 interface g1/0/1 both
9300_access#monitor capture Port1 access-list ACL1
9300_access#monitor capture Port1 buffer size 100
9300_access#monitor capture Port1 start
```

ACL for filtering  
DHCP packets

# Displaying Embedded Packet Capture

```
9300_access#show monitor capture Port1 buffer brief
```

```
Starting the packet display ..... Press Ctrl + Shift + 6 to exit
```

```
 1  0.000000      0.0.0.0 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 362 DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x11d9
 2  3.284655      0.0.0.0 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 362 DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x11d9
 3 15.368499      0.0.0.0 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 362 DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0xb9c
 4 19.285600      0.0.0.0 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 362 DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0xb9c
```

```
9300_access#show monitor capture Port1 buffer detail
```

```
Ethernet II, Src: 9c:54:16:b7:ff:46 (9c:54:16:b7:ff:46), Dst: ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff (ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff)
```

```
802.1Q Virtual LAN, PRI: 0, DEI: 0, ID: 10
```

```
    000. .... = Priority: Best Effort (default) (0)
```

```
    ...0 .... = DEI: Ineligible
```

```
    .... 0000 0000 1010 = ID: 10
```

```
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 0.0.0.0, Dst: 255.255.255.255
```

```
Differentiated Services Field: 0x00 (DSCP: CS0, ECN: Not-ECT)
```

```
User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 68, Dst Port: 67
```

```
Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (Discover)
```

```
Bootp flags: 0x8000, Broadcast flag (Broadcast)
```

```
Client IP address: 0.0.0.0
```

```
    Your (client) IP address: 0.0.0.0
```

```
Client MAC address: 9c:54:16:b7:ff:46 (9c:54:16:b7:ff:46)
```

# Displaying Embedded Packet Capture

```
9300_access#monitor capture Port1 export location flash:9500Port1.pcap
Export Started Successfully
```

```
9300_access#copy flash:9500Port1.pcap tftp:
Address or name of remote host []? 192.168.0.1
Destination filename [9500Port1.pcap]?
!!
2648 bytes copied in 1.009 secs (2624 bytes/sec)
```

Capture in buffer  
not available  
anymore!

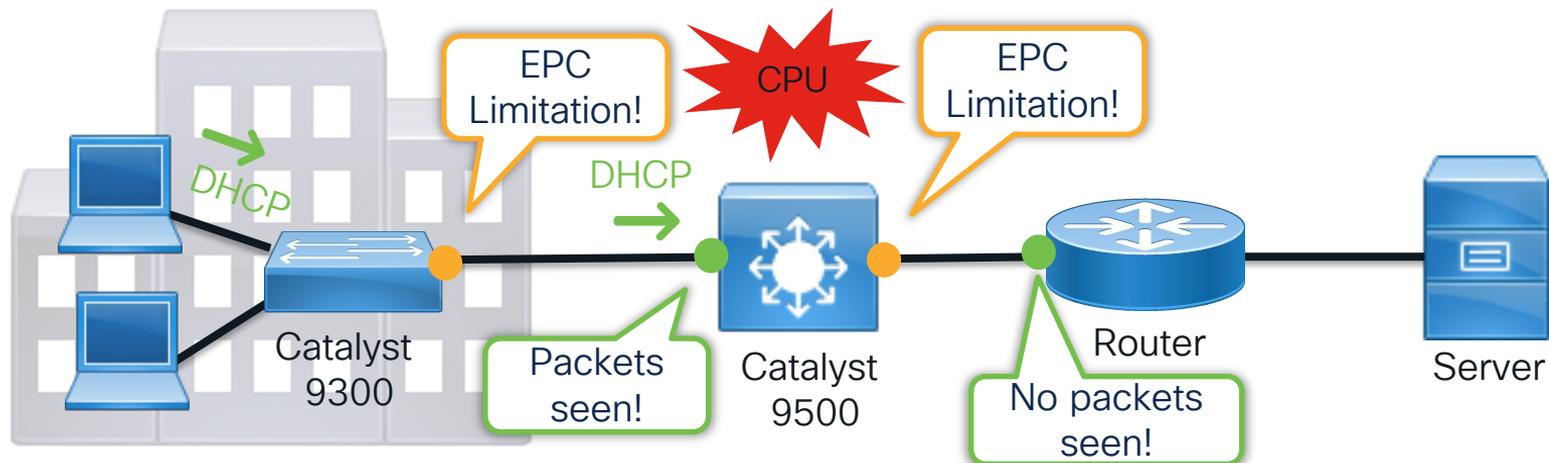
```
9300_access# show monitor capture file flash:9500Port1.pcap brief
Starting the packet display ..... Press Ctrl + Shift + 6 to exit
```

```
 1  0.000000    0.0.0.0 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 366 DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x125b
 2  3.849494    0.0.0.0 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 366 DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x125b
 3  7.850675    0.0.0.0 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 366 DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x125b
```

```
9300_access# show monitor capture file flash:9500Port1.pcap display-filter "eth.addr==9c54.16b7.ff46" brief
```

```
 1  0.000000    0.0.0.0 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 366 DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x125b
 2  3.849494    0.0.0.0 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 366 DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x125b
 3  7.850675    0.0.0.0 -> 255.255.255.255 DHCP 366 DHCP Discover - Transaction ID 0x125b
```

# Configuring Embedded Packet Capture



```
9500_Gateway#monitor capture CPU control-plane in  
9500_Gateway#monitor capture CPU match any  
9500_Gateway#monitor capture CPU buffer size 100  
9500_Gateway#monitor capture CPU start
```

# Displaying Embedded Packet Capture

```
9500_Gateway#monitor capture CPU stop
Capture statistics collected at software:
```

```
Capture duration - 2 seconds
Packets received - 9715
Packets dropped - 0
Packets oversized - 0
```

```
Bytes dropped in ASIC - 672640
```

Thousands of packets to the CPU per second

Drops seen after +1000 pps

TAC Tip



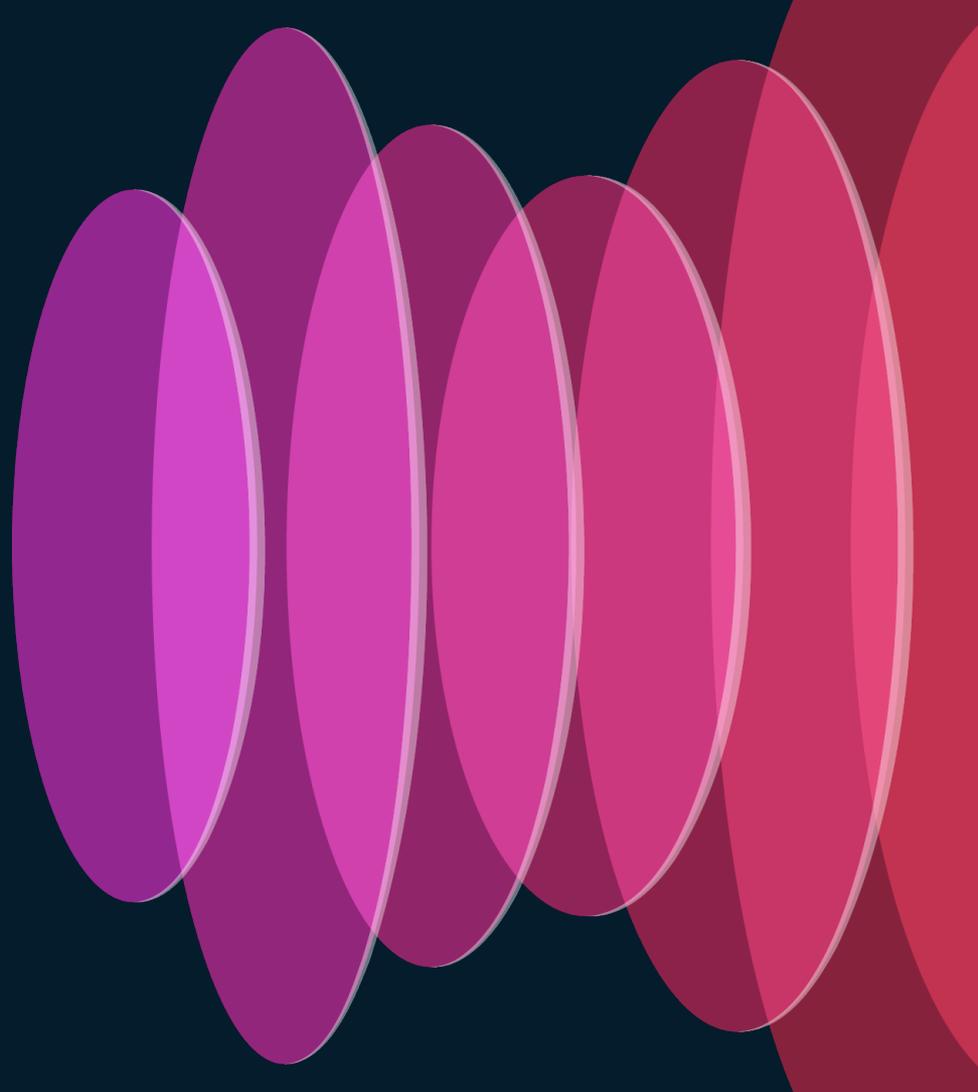
show mac address-table address  
XXXX.XXXX.XXXX

```
9500_Gateway#show monitor capture CPU buffer brief
```

```
Starting the packet display ..... Press Ctrl + Shift + 6 to exit
```

```
1  0.000000 70:7d:b9:be:11:d9 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff ARP 60 Who has 10.10.10.2? Tell 10.10.10.1
2  0.000007 70:7d:b9:be:11:d9 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff ARP 60 Who has 10.10.10.2? Tell 10.10.10.1
3  0.000009 70:7d:b9:be:11:d9 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff ARP 60 Who has 10.10.10.2? Tell 10.10.10.1
4  0.000011 70:7d:b9:be:11:d9 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff ARP 60 Who has 10.10.10.2? Tell 10.10.10.1
5  0.000014 70:7d:b9:be:11:d9 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff ARP 60 Who has 10.10.10.2? Tell 10.10.10.1
6  0.000016 70:7d:b9:be:11:d9 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff ARP 60 Who has 10.10.10.2? Tell 10.10.10.1
7  0.000096 70:7d:b9:be:11:d9 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff ARP 60 Who has 10.10.10.2? Tell 10.10.10.1
8  0.000129 70:7d:b9:be:11:d9 -> ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff ARP 60 Who has 10.10.10.2? Tell 10.10.10.1
```

# Conclusion



# Key Session Takeaways

- 1 Know the benefits and restrictions of each capturing tool to use it according to the nature of the issue.
- 2 Understand how to analyze information in a capture.
- 3 If you are lost... Take a packet capture.

3

# References

SPAN configuration guide 17.9.x for 9300 switches:

[https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/td/docs/switches/lan/catalyst9300/software/release/17-9/configuration\\_guide/nmgmt/b\\_179\\_nmgmt\\_9300\\_cg/configuring\\_span\\_and\\_rspan.html](https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/td/docs/switches/lan/catalyst9300/software/release/17-9/configuration_guide/nmgmt/b_179_nmgmt_9300_cg/configuring_span_and_rspan.html)

EPC configuration guide 17.9.x for 9300 switches:

[https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/td/docs/switches/lan/catalyst9300/software/release/17-9/configuration\\_guide/nmgmt/b\\_179\\_nmgmt\\_9300\\_cg/configuring\\_packet\\_capture.html](https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/td/docs/switches/lan/catalyst9300/software/release/17-9/configuration_guide/nmgmt/b_179_nmgmt_9300_cg/configuring_packet_capture.html)

9300 Architecture White Paper:

<https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/collateral/switches/catalyst-9300-series-switches/nb-06-cat9300-architecture-cte-en.html>

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