

Network Information System (NIS)

- Sun's Yellow Pages System
- Generic database access to distribute information to all hosts on local area network.
- For example, information in **passwd** and **groups** files.
- Network as a single system.
- Same accounts on all hosts.

- Distribute other information **/etc/hosts**
- NIS based on RPC
- Server, client-side library, administrative tools

- Database information stored in **maps** containing key-value pairs.
- Login-encrypted password
- Maps stored on central host running NIS server.
- Clients retrieve information through RPC calls.
- Maps in DBM files (hashed for speed).
- Maps from master text files.

- Many maps from one file possible.
- NIS server **ypserv**
- Can have slave servers.
- Network defined as NIS domain
- Not DNS
- To set and display **domainname**

ypbind

- Client finds server with **ypbind**
- Probes servers by broadcasting to local network.
- First responder is used.
- Can configure in local configuration file for security.

Server-Side

- Files in `/var/yp`
- `/var/yp/cssuns/passwd.byname`
- **makedbm** generates maps from flat files.
- **Makefile** in `/var/yp`
- **ypinit** initializes both master and slave servers.

- **cd /var/yp**
- **domainname foo**
- **ypinit -m**
- **ypserv**
- Prompted for slave servers, and then, on each slave
 - **cd /var/yp**
 - **ypinit -s**
 - **ypserv**

- Start **yppasswd**

Client-Side

- Set **domainname**
- Minimal **passwd**, **group**, **hosts**
- **/etc/sysconfig/network** and **NISDOMAIN**
- Enable **ypbind**, **ypserv**, and **yppasswd** with **chkconfig yp-bind on**