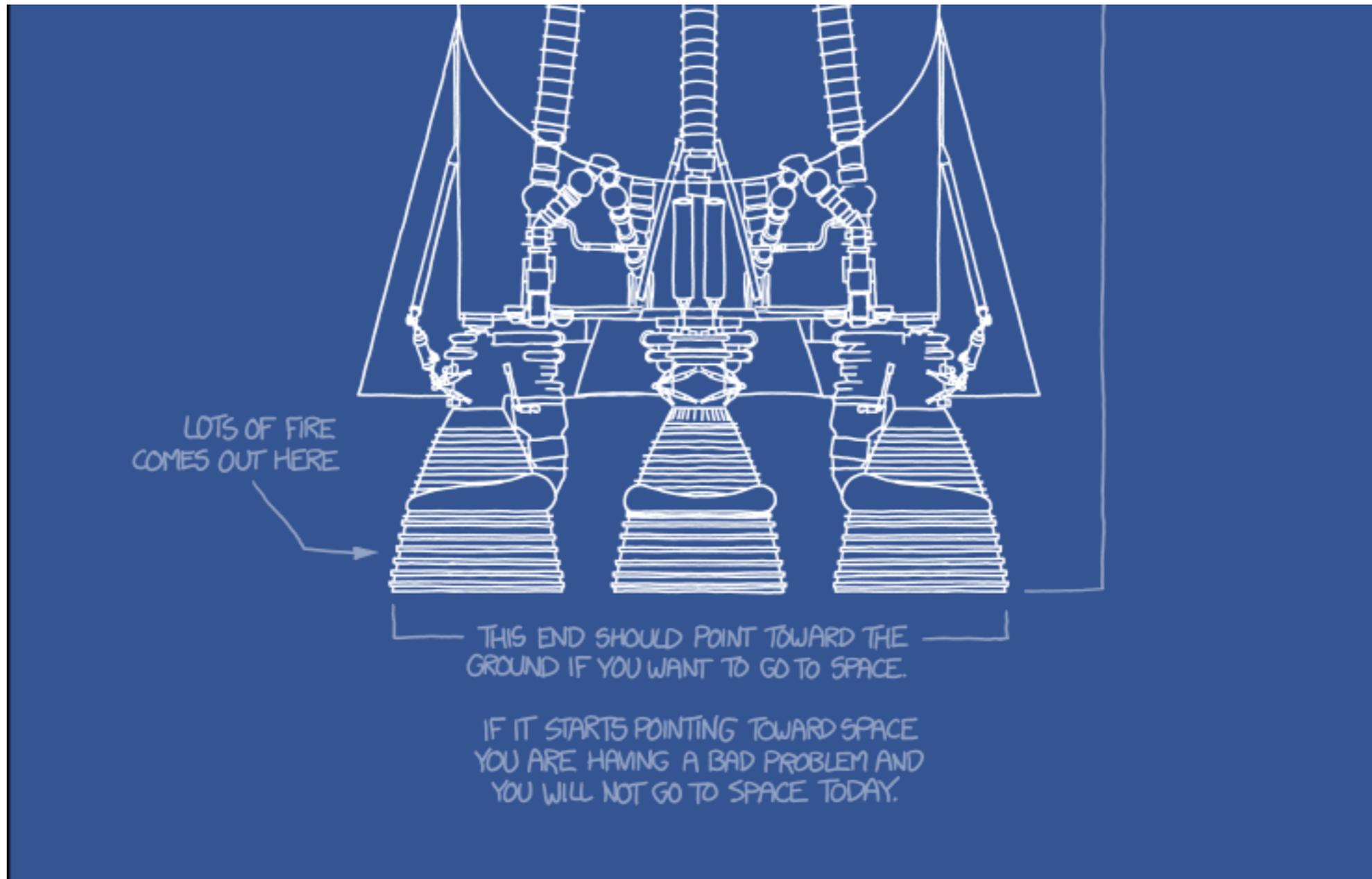


DNS FLUSH

Joe Abley

Problem Statement



State of the Art

- “I saw on another list that the domain below is having some kind of bad problem, and they are asking people to flush their caches.”
- “I restarted the cache a few times and I don’t know if it’s fixed. I’ll restart it a few more times.”

Operational Cost

- **27 person-years per domain**
 - completely non-scientific estimate with no quantitative basis in reality
 - contents may have settled in transit
 - your statutory rights are not affected

Potential Approach

- Invest the time in building arrangements with significant cache operators to facilitate an authenticated, non-manual mechanism to request cache flushes for particular domains
- Perhaps there is value in an intermediary clearing-house type function, or something

Disgusting Hack

- NOTIFY kind of does what we want
 - “new zone here, come get it”
- Let's abuse that to avoid protocol work
 - NOTIFY to auth server: invitation to [AI]XFR
 - NOTIFY to recursive server: suggestion to flush cache for indicated domain

Note!

- I am not suggesting that authoritative servers would NOTIFY a herd of caches every time a new zone is published
- This is a big red panic button for authoritative servers
 - careful with that button

Questions

- Do others see value in some kind of automated mechanism to indicate that we will not go to space today?
- Disgusting hack: too disgusting?
- Adopt, or think harder?