

GNU Anubis

An SMTP message submission daemon.
GNU Anubis Version 4.1.1
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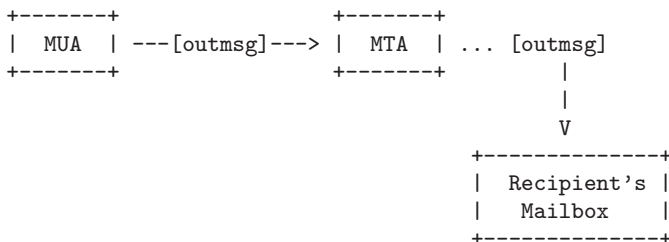
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1 Overview

GNU Anubis is an SMTP message submission daemon. Its purpose is to receive the outgoing message, perform some manipulations over its contents, and to forward the altered message to the mail transport agent.

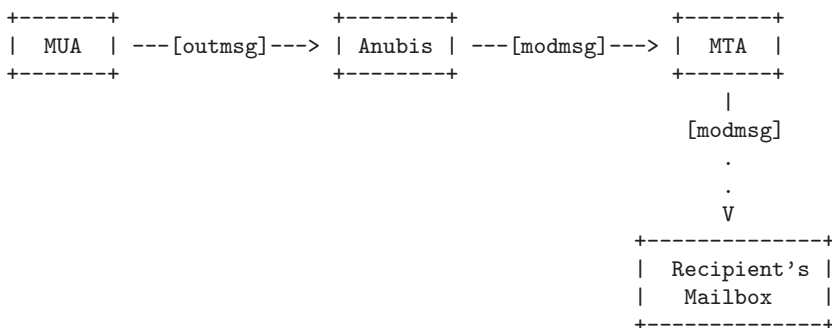
The usual mail sending scheme looks as follows: a user composes his message using *mail user agent* (*MUA* for short). Once the message is composed, the user sends it. When the MUA receives the send command it connects to the *mail transport agent* (*MTA* for short) and passes it the message for delivery. The figure below illustrates this interaction:



As shown in this figure, the outgoing message (*outmsg*), reaches the recipient's mailbox unaltered.

However, there are situations where it may be necessary to modify the outgoing message before it reaches MTA. As the simplest example, the user might wish to sign outgoing messages with his PGP key, but his MUA does not support this operation or supports it unconditionally.

In such cases, installing GNU Anubis between the MUA and MTA allows the user to perform any additional processing on the sent message. The figure below illustrates this concept:



The outgoing message is modified by GNU Anubis, and it is the resulting message (*modmsg*) that reaches the MTA.

GNU Anubis is able to perform a wide set of operations on messages, such as modifying headers or body, encrypting or signing messages with GPG (GNU Privacy Guard) keys, installing secure tunnels to MTA using TLS/SSL encryption, tunneling messages through SOCKS proxies, etc.

When the set of built-in operations is not enough, the user can define his own operations using Guile, a *GNU's Ubiquitous Intelligent Language for Extensions*.

Apart from configurable operations, GNU Anubis always performs *SMTP session normalization*, a process that ensures that the SMTP stream coming out of Anubis complies with the RFC 2821, even if the incoming stream does not. In particular, Anubis removes any extra whitespace appearing between 'MAIL FROM:' or 'SMTP TO' command and its argument.

Message processing is controlled by system-wide and per-user configuration files written in a flexible and easy to use command scripting language, specially designed for this purpose.

2 Glossary of Frequently Used Terms

Authentication

A process whereby Anubis determines the authenticity of the connecting party, its user name and configuration settings.

Protocol

Any standard for the exchange of information. A protocol defines the specific wording and control flow for communications between two or more programs, devices, or systems.

SMTP

Simple Mail Transport Protocol is a common mechanism for exchanging mail across a network. This protocol is described in the RFC 821 document.

Daemon

We use a term *daemon* to define a process that runs in the background, doing automated processing.

Server

A server provides information or other services for its clients. Most network protocols are client-server based. This term usually refers to an entire machine, but it can refer (and we're doing that) also to the particular program or process, on that machine, that provides the service.

Proxy

We use a term *proxy* to define a program, which goes between the MUA and the MTA (it makes a tunnel). It can be used as a gateway to the outside world, while using a firewall. In this case the host under the firewall sends data to the proxy server, which in turn forwards it to the real server outside, receives the response, and passes it back to the internal host.

Guile

GNU's Ubiquitous Intelligent Language for Extensions. It provides a Scheme interpreter conforming to the R4RS language specification. GNU Anubis uses Guile as its extension language. For more information about Guile, [Section "Overview" in *The Guile Reference Manual*](#).

GPG

GNU Privacy Guard, a tool compatible with the Pretty Good Privacy.

3 Authentication

When GNU Anubis accepts an incoming connection, it first has to identify the remote party, i.e. determine whether it has the right to use Anubis resources and, if so, what configuration settings should be used during the session. We call this process *authentication*. The exact method of authentication depends on Anubis *operation mode*. Currently there are two modes: transparent

This is the default mode. It is compatible with versions of GNU Anubis up to 3.6.2. In this mode, Anubis relies on AUTH service (`identd`) to authenticate users.

`auth` This mode uses SMTP AUTH mechanism to authenticate incoming connections. See [Appendix A \[Pixie-Dixie\], page 57](#), this is the first draft description of this mode.

Both modes have their advantages and deficiencies, which you have to weigh carefully before choosing which one to use. These are discussed below:

Transparent (‘traditional’) mode.

Deficiencies:

1. The user must have `identd` installed on his machine.
2. Each user must have a system account on the machine where GNU Anubis runs (though the system administrator may relax this limitation using user name translation, see [Section 4.3 \[TRANSLATION Section\], page 23](#)).

Advantages:

1. Relative simplicity. You don’t have to create your users database.
2. Authentication is performed immediately after the connection.

Auth mode.

Deficiencies:

1. You have to maintain your users database
2. User’s MUA must be able to perform ESMTP AUTH.¹

Advantages:

1. Better reliability.
2. Users do not have to run `identd` on their machines.
3. Users are not required to have accounts on the machine where Anubis runs.
4. Users can remotely modify their configuration files.

¹ It is not a serious restriction, however. The user may install Anubis on his machine for the sole purpose of SMTP authentication, as Pixie-Dixie suggests.

3.1 User Database

User Database is a place where GNU Anubis uses keeps *user credentials*, i.e. data used to authenticate and authorize users. The exact way of storing these data does not matter here, it will be addressed further in this manual. In this section we treat user database as an abstraction layer.

The user database consists of *records*. Each record keeps information about a particular *user*. A record consists of four *fields*. A field may contain some value, or be empty, in which case we say that the field has *null* value.

The record fields are:

SMTP AUTHID

SMTP authentication ID of the user.

AUTH PASSWORD

SMTP password.

ACCOUNT System user name to be used.

CONFIG Path to the configuration file.

The first two fields are mandatory and must always have non-null values. No two records in the database may have the same value of **SMTP AUTHID** field. When **anubis** is trying to authenticate a user, it first looks up in the database a record with the value of **SMTP AUTHID** field matching **AUTHID** given by the user. If no such entry is found, authentication fails. Otherwise, **anubis** goes on and compares the password supplied by the user with that from **AUTH PASSWORD** column. If these match, authentication succeeds and **anubis** passes to authorization state.

In this state, it first determines the user ID (UID) to switch to. If the **ACCOUNT** field is not null, its value is used as a login name of the system account to use. If it is null, **anubis** switches to the privilege level of a *default not privileged user*, specified by **user-notprivileged** statement in the global configuration file (see [Section 4.2.6 \[Security Settings\]](#), page 22).

The final step is to parse *user configuration file*. If **CONFIG** field is not null, its value is used as absolute path to the configuration file. Otherwise, **anubis** searches for file `~/.anubisrc` (where `~` denotes home directory for the system account obtained on the previous step) and if such a file exists, loads it.

3.2 Database URL

Anubis database is identified by its *URL*, or *Universal Resource Locator*. A URL consists of following elements (square brackets enclose optional elements):

```
proto://[[user[:password]@]host]/path[params]
```

The detailed description of each URL part follows:

<i>proto</i>	Specifies a database <i>protocol</i> . The protocol describes how the database is to be accessed. In a way, it may be regarded as specifying the database <i>type</i> . Currently, GNU Anubis supports following database protocols: <table> <tr> <td>‘text’</td> <td>A plain text file, containing users’ credentials.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>‘gdbm’</td> <td>GDBM database</td> </tr> <tr> <td>‘mysql’</td> <td>MySQL database</td> </tr> <tr> <td>‘pgsql’</td> <td>PostgreSQL database</td> </tr> <tr> <td>‘postgres’</td> <td>Alias for ‘pgsql’.</td> </tr> </table> These protocols are described in detail below.	‘text’	A plain text file, containing users’ credentials.	‘gdbm’	GDBM database	‘mysql’	MySQL database	‘pgsql’	PostgreSQL database	‘postgres’	Alias for ‘pgsql’.
‘text’	A plain text file, containing users’ credentials.										
‘gdbm’	GDBM database										
‘mysql’	MySQL database										
‘pgsql’	PostgreSQL database										
‘postgres’	Alias for ‘pgsql’.										
<i>user</i>	User name necessary to access the database.										
<i>password</i>	User password necessary to access the database.										
<i>host</i>	Domain name or IP address of a machine running the database.										
<i>path</i>	A <i>path</i> to the database. The exact meaning of this element depends on the database protocol. It is described in detail when discussing particular database protocols.										
<i>params</i>	A list of protocol-dependent parameters. Each parameter is of the form <i>keyword=name</i> , parameters are separated by semi-colons.										

3.2.1 Plain text databases

This is the simplest database possible. It is kept in a plain text file. Each line in this file represents a single *record*, empty lines and lines beginning with ‘#’ (*comments*) sign are ignored. Records consist of *fields*, each field being a sequence of characters. Fields are separated by colons (‘:’, ASCII 58). If ‘:’ character occurs in a field, it is preceded by a single backslash character (‘\’, ASCII 92). A record must contain at least two fields.

1. SMTP ‘AUTHID’.
2. SMTP password.
3. Account name.
4. Path to user configuration file.

URL syntax

The URL syntax for this type of databases is quite simple:

`text:path`

where *path* specifies absolute file name of the database file.

3.2.2 Databases in GDBM format

The protocol value ‘gdbm’ specifies a *GDBM database*. For the detailed description of GDBM system [Section “Introduction” in *The GNU DBM Manual*](#).

URL syntax for GDBM databases is:

`gdbm:path`

where *path* specifies absolute file name of the database file.

3.2.3 MySQL and PostgreSQL

This is the most flexible database format. GNU Anubis 4.1.1 supports MySQL² and PostgreSQL³ interfaces. No matter which of them you use, the implementation details are hidden behind a single consistent Anubis interface.

GNU Anubis supposes that all user data are kept in a single database table. This table must have at least four columns for storing SMTP ‘AUTHID’, SMTP password, system account name and path to user configuration file. Among those, only the last two may have NULL values. There is no restriction on the name of the database or the authentication table, nor on its column names. This information may be specified in URL as discussed below.

URL syntax

`proto://[[user[:password]@host/dbname [params]`

Proto describes the exact database type to use. Use ‘mysql’ for MySQL databases and ‘pgsql’ or ‘postgres’ for PostgreSQL databases.

Optional *user* and *password* specify authentication credentials used to access the database.

Host sets domain name or IP address of the machine running the database. It may be omitted if the database resides on ‘localhost’.

The database name is specified by *dbname* element.

Finally, further details needed for connecting to the database may be given by URL parameters. All of them have reasonable default values, so you’ll have to specify only those parameters that does not match the default values. Known parameters are:

port=number

Specifies the port number to be used when connecting to the database. If it is not specified, the behavior depends on the value of *socket* parameter: if *socket* is not present, the program will use the default port number for the given protocol (i.e. 3306 for ‘mysql’ and 5432 for ‘pgsql’).

socket=string

Specifies UNIX name of the socket to connect to. This parameter cannot be used together with *port* (see above).

bufsize=number

Sets the length of the buffer used to create SQL queries. Default is 1024 bytes.

² See <http://www.mysql.com>.

³ See <http://www.postgres.org>.

table=string

Specifies the name of database table keeping where the authentication data are stored. Default is ‘users’.

authid=string

Specifies the name of a column in *table* which holds ‘AUTHID’ value. Default is ‘authid’.

passwd=string

Specifies the name of a column in *table* which holds user password. Default is ‘passwd’.

account=string

Specifies the name of a column in *table* which holds the name of system account to be used for this ‘AUTHID’. Default is ‘account’.

rcfile=string

Specifies the name of a column in *table* which holds path to the user’s configuration file. Default is ‘rcfile’.

3.3 Managing the Database

Managing the user database is a complex task, which looks differently from administrator’s and user’s point of view. The administrator have full rights on the database, it can add new records and delete or modify existing ones. A user, of course, does not have such ample rights. The only thing he is able to do is to maintain his own record in the database, provided that he already has one. If he does not, he should contact the system administrator and arrange for the creation of his record.

3.3.1 Administrators

All administrative tasks are done using `anubisadm` command — a multipurpose tool for Anubis administrator.

The command usage syntax is:

```
anubisadm command [options] database-url
```

where *command* specifies the operation to be performed on the database, *options* give additional operation-specific parameters, and *database-url* specifies the database to operate upon.

All administrative tasks can be subdivided into the following five categories:

- Creating the Database
- Listing Database Records
- Adding New Records
- Removing Existing Records
- Modifying Existing Records

These operations are described in detail in the following subsections.

3.3.1.1 Creating the Database

To create a database use `anubisadm --create` (or `anubisadm -c`) command. `Anubisadm` will read database entries from the standard input and write them to the database. The standard input is supposed to be formatted as `text` database (see [Section 3.2.1 \[text\]](#), page 7).

Thus to create a GDBM database from plain text file ‘`userlist`’, use the following command

```
anubisadm --create gdbm:/etc/anubis.db < userlist
```

Similarly, to create an initially empty database, type

```
anubisadm --create gdbm:/etc/anubis.db < /dev/null
```

Notice, that if you use SQL database format, ‘`--create`’ command does not imply creating the database structure! So, before running

```
anubisadm --create mysql://localhost/dbname < userlist
```

make sure you create the underlying database structure (including granting privileges to the `anubis` user), via the usual procedure. Please refer to corresponding database manual for the detailed instructions on this.

It is sometimes necessary to convert the existing user database from one format (protocol) to another. For example, suppose you have been running GDBM database (`text:/etc/anubis.db`) for some time, but now it has grown considerably and you decided to switch to PostgreSQL database to improve performance. To do so, first create the database using postgres utilities. Then run

```
anubisadm --list text:/etc/anubis.db | \
anubisadm --create pgsq://localhost/dbname
```

That’s all there is to it!

3.3.1.2 Listing Database Records

The command ‘`--list`’ (or ‘`-l`’) lists the existing database. When run without additional options, it will display all records from the database, e.g.:

```
anubisadm --list gdbm:/etc/anubis.db
```

Among its other uses, such invocation is handy for converting user database to another format (see [Section 3.3.1.1 \[Create\]](#), page 10).

If you wish to list only a particular record, specify the AUTHID using ‘`--authid`’ (‘`-i`’) option. For example, to list record of the user with AUTHID ‘`test`’, type:

```
example$ anubisadm --list --authid test gdbm:/etc/anubis.db
```

3.3.1.3 Adding New Records

To add a new record use command ‘`--add`’ (‘`-a`’). Additional data are specified via the following options:

```

'-i string'
'--authid=string'
    Specify the user SMTP AUTHID.

'-p string'
'--password=string'
    Specify user password password.

'-u string'
'--user=string'
    Specify system user name corresponding to the given AUTHID.

'-f string'
'--rcfile=string'
    Specify configuration file to be used for this user.

```

For example, the following command adds a record with SMTP AUTHID 'test', password 'guessme' and maps it to the system account 'gray':

```

anubisadm --add --authid test --password guessme \
    --user gray gdbm:/etc/anubis.db

```

3.3.1.4 Removing Existing Records

Removing a record is quite straightforward: use '--remove' ('-r') command and specify AUTHID using '--authid' option. For example, to remove the record created in the previous subsection, run:

```

anubisadm --remove --authid test gdbm:/etc/anubis.db

```

3.3.1.5 Modifying Existing Records

To modify an existing record use command '--modify' ('-m'). The record is identified via '--authid' option. The fields to be changed are given with the following options:

```

'-p string'
'--password=string'
    Specify user password password.

'-u string'
'--user=string'
    Specify system user name corresponding to the given AUTHID.

'-f string'
'--rcfile=string'
    Specify configuration file to be used for this user.

```

For example, the following command sets new configuration file name for the user 'smith':

```

anubisadm --authid smith \
    --rcfile=/var/spool/anubis/common gdbm:/etc/anubis.db

```

3.3.1.6 Summary of All Administrative Commands

- Usage

`anubisadm command [options] database-url`

- Commands:

`'-c'`

`'--create'`

Create the database.

`'-l'`

`'--list'`

List the contents of an existing database.

`'-a'`

`'--add'`

Add a new record.

`'-m'`

`'--modify'`

Modify an existing record.

`'-r'`

`'--remove'`

Remove an existing record.

`'--version'`

Display program version number and exit.

`'--help'`

Display short usage summary and exit.

- Options:

`'-i string'`

`'--authid=string'`

Specify the authid to operate upon. This option is mandatory for `'--add'`, `'--modify'` and `'--remove'` commands. It may also be used with `'--list'` command.

`'-p string'`

`'--password=string'`

Specify the password for the authid. This option is mandatory for `'--add'`, `'--modify'` and `'--remove'` commands.

`'-u string'`

`'--user=string'`

Specify the system user name corresponding to the given authid. It may be used with `'--add'`, `'--modify'`, and `'--remove'` commands.

`'-f string'`

`'--rcfile=string'`

Specify the rc file to be used for this authid. The option may be used with `'--add'`, `'--modify'`, and `'--remove'` commands.

3.3.2 Users

Users maintain their database records using `anubisusr` command. Main purpose of this command is to keep the copy of your configuration on GNU Anubis server up to date. . We recommend to invoke `anubisusr` from your `~/.profile`, which will make sure that your configuration file is up to date when you log in.⁴.

Usage

```
anubisusr [options] [smtp-url]
```

where `smtp-url` is a URL of your GNU Anubis server. Notice that if it lacks user name and password, then `anubisusr` will first try to retrieve them from your `~/.netrc` file (See *netrc(5)* for more info), and if not found it will prompt you to supply them.

Options

```
'-m mech'
```

```
'--mechanism mech'
```

Only use SASL mechanism *mech*. Use this option several times to set a list of allowed mechanisms.

```
'-v'
```

```
'--verbose'
```

Verbose output. Multiple options increase the verbosity. Maximum verbosity level is 3.

```
'--version'
```

Display program version number and exit.

```
'--help'
```

Display short usage summary and exit.

⁴ Make sure to run `anubisusr` in background, so it does not slow down your normal login sequence

4 Configuration

The behavior of GNU Anubis is controlled by two configuration files. The *system configuration file*, `/etc/anubisrc`, specifies system-wide options that affect all users. This file is usually owned by root. The *user configuration file* specifies what GNU Anubis should do for a particular user. By default it is located in `~/anubisrc`. This location can be changed in auth mode. To protect your passwords in the configuration files, use the 0600 (u=rw,g=,o=) permissions, otherwise GNU Anubis won't accept them.

Lexical Structure

Both configuration files use simple line-oriented syntax. Each line introduces a single statement. A statement consists of *words*, each word being defined as a contiguous sequence of non-whitespace symbols. A word may be composed of alphanumeric characters and any of the following punctuation symbols: `'_'`, `'.'`, `'/'`, `'-'`. Any arbitrary sequence of characters enclosed in a pair of double quotes is also recognized as a word. Such a sequence is called *quoted string*.

Quoted strings follow the same syntax rules as in C language. A backslash character `'\'` alters the meaning of the character following it. This special construct is called *escape sequence*. When processing an escape sequence, Anubis removes it from the string and replaces it with a single character as described in the following table:

<code>\a</code>	Audible bell character (ASCII 7)
<code>\b</code>	Backspace (ASCII 8) ¹
<code>\e</code>	Escape character (ASCII 27)
<code>\f</code>	Form feed (ASCII 12)
<code>\n</code>	Newline (ASCII 10)
<code>\r</code>	Carriage return (ASCII 13)
<code>\t</code>	Horizontal tab (ASCII 9)
<code>\d</code>	(where <code>'d'</code> represents a single decimal digit) Reproduced verbatim.

A backslash followed by any character not listed above is replaced by the character alone. This can be used for inserting `"` character within a string, as in the example below:

```
"This string contains \"quoted string\"."
```

Similarly, backslash followed by a newline is replaced by the newline itself. Thus, the following two strings are equivalent:

¹ This escape is not supported by Anubis 4.0

```
"This string is split\nover two lines"
```

```
"This string is split\  
over two lines"
```

The familiar shell *here document* syntax may be used to produce a word containing several lines of text. The syntax is:

```
<<[-]delimiter  
text  
delimiter
```

If “here document” starts with ‘<<-’, then all leading tab characters are stripped from input lines and the line containing *delimiter*. This allows to indent here-document in a natural fashion.

To summarize all the above, let’s consider the example:

```
first-word "second word" <<-EOT  
Third word  
containing several  
lines of text  
EOT
```

This line contains three words: ‘first-word’, ‘second word’ and the third one composed of the three lines between the ‘EOT’ markers.

If a statement is very long, it may be split among several lines of text. To do so, precede the newline characters with a backslash ‘\’, e.g.:

```
a very long statement\  
occupying several lines\  
of text
```

A ‘#’ in a line starts a *comment*. It and the rest of the line are ignored. Comments may appear on any of the lines in the configuration file, except on a commands and within a “here-document” construction. A line containing just a comment (with perhaps spaces before it) is effectively blank, and is ignored. For example:

```
# This is a comment  
if header[Subject] :re "No.*" # This is also a comment  
guile-process action-name This # is not a comment!!!  
fi
```

Logical Structure

The statements within a configuration file are grouped into *sections*. Each section has its name. A section begins with one of the following constructs:

```
BEGIN name  
---BEGIN name---
```

and ends with one of the following constructs:

```
END  
---END---
```

Notice, that both ‘BEGIN’ and ‘END’ must be uppercase. When using the second form, any amount of whitespace is allowed between the three dashes and the word.

The sections cannot be nested.

There are five predefined sections, whose names are uppercase. The user may define his own sections, which may then be referred to from the `RULE` section as subroutines (see [Section 5.6.2 \[Call Action\]](#), page 30).

The predefined section names are:

AUTH Controls authentication mechanisms.

CONTROL

This section specifies the basic GNU Anubis behavior. Its presence is required in the system configuration file. It may be used in the user configuration file to override the system-wide settings.

TRANSLATION

This section specifies a translation map for remapping remote or local users. It may be used only in the system-wide configuration file.

GUILE Contains the settings of the Guile interpreter. The section is allowed in both configuration files.

RULE Defines the rules that are used to alter the contents of the messages (conditional and unconditional rules).

4.1 AUTH Section

AUTH session controls various aspects of authentication mode.

smtp-greeting-message *text* [Option]
Configures the greeting message issued by GNU Anubis upon accepting the connection.

smtp-help-message *help-text* [Option]
Sets the text of the message issued by Anubis in response to SMTP HELP command. *Help-text* is a list of strings. Each string from the list will be displayed at a separate response line.

sasl-password-db *url* [Option]
Sets the user database URL (see [Section 3.1 \[User Database\]](#), page 6).

sasl-allowed-mech *mech-list* [Option]
Defines the list of allowed authentication methods.

sasl-service *name* [Option]
Set SASL *service name*. It is used, among others, with GSSAPI authentication method. Default is 'anubis'.

sasl-hostname *name* [Option]
Set SASL hostname. By default, the server determines it automatically. If, however, it makes a wrong guess, you can fix it using this directive.

`sasl-realm name` [Option]
 Set SASL realm. By default, the domain part of the current hostname is used as SASL realm.

4.2 CONTROL Section

The ‘CONTROL’ section specifies the basic GNU Anubis behavior. Specified in the system configuration file, it applies to all users on the machine, but each user can specify its own ‘CONTROL’ section, to customize own settings. Of course, not all options can be set or changed by user. Some options can only be set in the system configuration file, and some only in user configuration file. By default, options specified in user configuration file have a **higher** priority that those specified in system configuration file.

All option names are case insensitive, so you can use for instance: `bind` or `BIND` or `BiNd`, and so on.

4.2.1 Basic Settings

(This message will disappear, once this node revised.)

`bind [host:]port` [Option]
 Specify the TCP port on which GNU Anubis listens for connections. The default *host* value is ‘INADDR_ANY’, which means that anyone can connect to GNU Anubis. The default *port* number is 24 (private mail system). This option is available only in the system configuration file. If you would like, for instance, to bind GNU Anubis to port 25 (SMTP) and limit its clients only to those from ‘localhost’, then set the following in your system configuration file:

```
bind localhost:25
```

`remote-mta host[:port]` [Option]
 Specify a remote SMTP host name or IP address, which GNU Anubis will connect and forward mail to (after processing). The default *port* number is 25. This option is available in both configuration files.

`local-mta file-name [args]` [Option]
 Execute a local SMTP server, which works on standard input and output (inetd-type program). This option excludes the ‘remote-mta’ keyword (or ‘--remote-mta’ command line option). For example:

```
local-mta /usr/sbin/sendmail -bs
```

`mode mode-name` [Option]
 Selects Anubis operation mode. Allowed values for *mode-name* are:

```
transparent
auth
```

See [Chapter 3 \[Authentication\]](#), page 5, for the detailed discussion of GNU Anubis operation modes.

read-entire-body *yes-or-no* [Option]

When processing a multi-part message using an external filter (see [Section 5.6.8 \[External Processor\], page 34](#)) Anubis normally feeds to it only the first part. The rest of the message is copied verbatim. To alter this behavior so that your external program sees the entire message body, set **read-entire-body** *yes* in your control section.

incoming-mail-rule *string* [Option]

Declares name of processing sections for incoming mail. Default is ‘INCOMING’. This option is available only for system configuration file. See [Chapter 10 \[MDA Mode\], page 49](#), for detailed description of incoming mail processing.

outgoing-mail-rule *string* [Option]

Declares name of processing sections for outgoing mail. Default is ‘RULE’. This option is available only for system configuration file.

4.2.2 Output Settings

termlevel *level* [Option]

This is a logging level for **syslogd** or a terminal (if using the ‘**--foreground**’ command line option). *level* can be one of the following:

- normal Only errors are logged. This is the default level.
- verbose Produce more diagnostic output.
- debug Produce debugging output.
- silent Do not log anything.

This command may be used only in system configuration file.

logfile *file-name* [Option]

This command specifies an additional file, where GNU Anubis can log its information, but only those information available for a client. Only in user configuration file. For example:

```
logfile "anubis.log"
```

This will log to the ‘~/anubis.log’ file in a client’s home directory.

loglevel *level* [Option]

This option specifies an output level for an additional file (‘logfile’). It can be used only in user configuration file. *level* is one of the following:

- none
- fails
- all

`tracefile yes-or-no` [Option]
`tracefile file-name` [Option]

This option instructs `anubis` to log the execution of tests and actions from the `RULE` sections. This is useful for debugging the configuration files.

When this option is used in the system-wide configuration file, only its first form is allowed. Using `'tracefile yes'` enables logging of the actions and tests to the default `syslog` channel. Using `'tracefile no'` disables it.

When used in the user configuration file, a filename is allowed as an argument to this option. This allows you to explicitly specify to which file the tracing output should go. Otherwise, using `'tracefile yes'` enables logging to the same file as `'logfile'` (if possible).

`HANG delay` [Option]

Do not use this option, unless you are developing or debugging Anubis!
 This option instructs a child process to hang for the given number of seconds. Before hanging, the process will issue the following diagnostic message, no matter what the settings of `termlevel` variable were:

```
Child process suspended for delay seconds
```

This option is useful for Anubis developers who wish to attach to a child process with debugger. After attaching, set the variable `_anubis_hang` to zero to continue processing. It is useful to add the following statement to your `'.gdbinit'` file:

```
set variable _anubis_hang=0
```

4.2.3 Proxy Settings

`socks-proxy host[:port]` [Option]

This option enables tunneling the connections through a `SOCKS` proxy server, specified as an argument `host`. The `port` default value is 1080, which is a common port number for `SOCKS` proxies.

`socks-v4 yes-or-no` [Option]

This specifies a `SOCKS` protocol version 4. By default it is turned off, and a default mode is `SOCKS` protocol version 5.

`socks-auth username:password` [Option]

Specify a user name and a password, if a `SOCKS` proxy server requires them. A `username` and a `password` are separated with a colon (`':'`).

4.2.4 ESMTP Authentication Settings

The following options set authentication credentials for `ESMTP` authentication. You may use this option, for example, if your `MTA` requires such an authentication, but your `MUA` does not support it.

esmtplib-allowed-mech *mech-list* [Option]

Defines the list of allowed authentication mechanisms. *Mech-list* is a list of valid authentication mechanism names separated by whitespace.

Anubis selects the authentication method using following algorithm: The MTA presents the list of authentication methods it supports. For each element in *mech-list*, Anubis tests whether it is available in the list presented by MTA. If found, this method is selected. For example, suppose that the MTA supports following mechanisms:

```
PLAIN LOGIN CRAM-MD5 ANONYMOUS
```

and you have following statement in your configuration file

```
esmtplib-allowed-mech DIGEST-MD5 CRAM-MD5 LOGIN
```

In this case Anubis will select CRAM-MD5.

esmtplib-require-encryption *mech-list* [Option]

This statement declares the list of mechanisms that can be used only over a TLS encrypted channel. By default Anubis uses

```
esmtplib-require-encryption LOGIN PLAIN
```

This prevents sending user password over an unencrypted connection.

esmtplib-auth-id *authentication-id* [Option]

Sets authentication ID (user name).

esmtplib-authz-id *authorization-id* [Option]

Sets authorization ID (user name).

esmtplib-password *password* [Option]

Sets password to be used in authentication.

esmtplib-auth *username:password* [Option]

This option sets both authentication and authorization IDs and the password. It is equivalent to

```
esmtplib-auth-id username
esmtplib-authz-id username
esmtplib-password password
```

The following options specify authentication credentials for GSSAPI, DIGEST-MD5 and KERBEROS_V5 authentication mechanisms:

esmtplib-service *service-name* [Option]

Sets the name of GSSAPI service.

esmtplib-hostname *hostname* [Option]

Sets hostname of the machine.

esmtplib-generic-service *service-name* [Option]

Sets generic service name.

esmtplib-passcode *passcode* [Option]

Sets passcode.

esmtplib-realm *realm-name* [Option]
Sets GSSAPI realm.

Following option is useful with ANONYMOUS authentication mechanism:

esmtplib-anonymous-token *token* [Option]
Sets the token to be used with ANONYMOUS authentication mechanism

4.2.5 Encryption Settings

ssl *yes-or-no* [Option]
This option enables the TLS/SSL encryption between the MUA and the MTA. Value ‘no’ is the default, but using the TLS/SSL encryption is recommended. You should also specify a private key and a certificate using the ‘ssl-key’ and ‘ssl-cert’ keywords (defined below). See [Chapter 8 \[TLS/SSL\], page 45](#), for details.

ssl-ow *yes-or-no* [Option]
This option enables the *ONEWAY* encryption. Use this mode, when you want to use the TLS/SSL, but your MUA doesn’t provide a support for ESMTP TLS/SSL. Using this option doesn’t require using the ‘ssl-key’ and ‘ssl-cert’ keywords.

ssl-cert *file-name* [Option]
Specify a certificate for the TLS/SSL encryption. Value ‘anubis.pem’ is the default.

ssl-key *file-name* [Option]
Specify a private key for the TLS/SSL encryption. Value ‘anubis.pem’ is the default.

ssl-cafile *file-name* [Option]
Specify a CA certificate file (supported only by GnuTLS).

4.2.6 Security Settings

The following options control various security settings.

allow-local-mta *yes-or-no* [Option]
For security reasons, this option is set to ‘no’, but the ‘yes’ value enables the ‘local-mta’ keyword (or ‘--local-mta’ command line option), so if you want to use a local mail server, which works on standard input and output, a supervisor must set this option to ‘yes’. The option is available only in system configuration file.

drop-unknown-user *yes-or-no* [Option]
This option drops an unknown user, i.e. a client which has not been verified by IDENT service. Value ‘no’ is the default.

user-notprivileged *username* [Option]

For security reasons, it is recommended to create an unprivileged user, which the server runs as most of the time, when doing unprivileged operations. The option is available only in system configuration file. For example:

```
user-notprivileged "anubis.unprivileged"
```

Caution: Create a user account named ‘`anubis.unprivileged`’ in the ‘`/etc/passwd`’, if necessary. Add this user name also to the ‘`/etc/anubis.allow`’, if using GNU Anubis with PAM support.

rule-priority *value* [Option]

This statement defines the order of execution of the system and user **RULE** sections (See [Chapter 5 \[Rule System\]](#), page 25, for detailed description). It is available only in system configuration file.

system The system section is executed first, then the user section is executed.

user The user section is executed first, next the system section is executed.

system-only
Only the system **RULE** section is executed.

user-only
Only the user **RULE** section is executed.

control-priority *value* [Option]

Sets the order of processing the **CONTROL** sections. The option is available only in system configuration file. Its possible values are:

system The system **CONTROL** section is processed first. Notice, that this means that the user may override the system settings in his configuration file. This is the default setting.

user The user **CONTROL** section is processed first. Thus, the system-wide settings always override the user private settings.

4.3 TRANSLATION Section

The ‘**TRANSLATION**’ section specifies how to translate remote or local user names, or host names or addresses, to local user names. The ‘**TRANSLATION**’ section is available *only* in the system configuration file. Syntax:

```
---BEGIN TRANSLATION---
translate [user@]address into username
...
---END---
```

address means host name or IP address. You can also specify ‘`0.0.0.0`’, and it means any address (‘`INADDR_ANY`’).

An example:

```

---BEGIN TRANSLATION---
translate jack@somewhere.net into john
---END---

```

The rule above will allow a remote user ‘jack’ at ‘somewhere.net’ to use the configuration file of the local user ‘john’. Or you can write: ‘translate somewhere.net into john’, and this means that *all* users at ‘somewhere.net’ are allowed to use the local john’s configuration file.

4.4 GUILE Section

`guile-output file` [Command]
 Specifies the name of the file to bind to the Scheme standard error and output ports. This option has no effect if GNU Anubis is started with either of ‘--foreground’ or ‘--stdio’ command line options.

`guile-debug yes-or-no` [Command]
 When set to ‘yes’ enables Guile stack traces and debugging output.

`guile-load-path-append path` [Command]
 Appends the given *path* to the list of Guile load paths (see [Section “Build Config”](#) in *The Guile Reference Manual*).

`guile-load-program file` [Command]
 Reads the given Scheme program.

5 The Rule System

The rule system is a core part of GNU Anubis. It can be regarded as a program that is executed for every outgoing message.

Throughout this chapter, when showing syntax definitions, the optional parts of these will be enclosed in a pair of square brackets, e.g.:

```
keyword [optional-part] mandatory-part
```

When the square braces are required symbols, they will be marked as such, e.g.:

```
remove ['key']
```

The rule system is defined in *RULE* section. The statements within this section are executed sequentially. Each statement is either an *action* or a *conditional statement*.

5.1 Actions

An *action* is a statement defining an operation to be performed over the message. Syntactically, each action is

```
command [=] right-hand-side
```

Where *command* specifies a particular operation and *right-hand-side* specifies the arguments for it. The equal sign is optional.

5.2 Conditional Statements

A *conditional statement* defines the control flow in a section. It allows to execute arbitrary actions depending on whether a certain condition is met. The conditional statement in its simplest form is:

```
if condition
  action-list-1
fi
```

If *condition* evaluates to true, then the list of statements *action-list-1* is executed.

A simple *condition* has the following syntax:

```
part [sep] [op] [pattern-match-flags] regex
```

(where the square brackets denote optional parts). Its parts are:

part The *part* specifies which part of the input should be considered when evaluating the condition. It is either **‘command’**, meaning the text of an smtp command issued while sending the message, or **‘header’**, meaning the value of an RFC822 header. Either of the two may be followed by the name of the corresponding command or header enclosed in square brackets. If this part is missing, all command or headers will be searched.

sep Optional *concatenation separator*. See [Section 5.2.1 \[Concatenations\]](#), page 27, for its meaning.

op Either '=', meaning "match", or '!=', meaning "does not match". Missing *op* is equivalent to '='.

pattern-match-flags

Optional *pattern-match-flags* alter the pattern matching type used in subsequent conditional expression. It will be described in detail in the section [Section 5.5 \[Regular Expressions\]](#), page 29.

regex The *regex* is a regular expression enclosed in double quotes.

The condition yields true if the requested part of the input matches the given regular expression (if *op* is '='), or does not match it (if *op* is '!=').

The simplest example:

```
if header [Subject] "^ *Re:"
...
fi
```

The actions represented by ... will be executed only if the 'Subject:' header of the message starts with 'Re:' optionally preceded by any amount of whitespace.

The more elaborate form of a conditional allows you to choose among the two different action sets depending on a given condition. The syntax is:

```
if condition
  action-list-1
else
  action-list-2
fi
```

Here, the *action-list-1* is executed if the *condition* is met. Otherwise, *action-list-2* is executed.

```
if condition
  action-list-1
else
  action-list-2
fi
```

Note also, that in the examples above any of the statements *action-list* may contain conditionals, so that the conditional statements may be nested. This allows to create very sophisticated rule sets. As an example, consider the following statement:

```
if [List-Id] :re ".*<anubis-commit@gnu.org>"
  modify [Subject] "[Anubis Commit Notice] &"
else
  if [List-Id] :re ".*<bug-anubis@gnu.org>"
    modify [Subject] "[Anubis Bug Notice] &"
  else
    add [X-Passed] "Subject checking"
  fi
fi
```

This statement, depending on the value of `List-Id` header, will prepend the `Subject` header with an identification string, or add an `X-Passed` header if no known `List-Id` was found.

5.2.1 Concatenations

It is important to understand that conditional expressions choose the first match. To illustrate this, let's suppose you need to store values of all recipients from the envelope in the 'X-Also-Delivered-To' header. A naive way to do so is:

```
if command [rcpt to:] = "(.*)"
  add header [X-Also-Delivered-To] "\1"
fi
```

However, this will store only the very first RCPT TO value, so you will not achieve your goal.

To help you in this case, `anubis` offers a *concatenation* operator, whose effect is to concatenate the values of all requested keys prior to matching them against the regular expression. Syntactically, the concatenation operator is a string enclosed in parentheses, placed right after the key part of a condition. This string is used as a separator when concatenating values. For example:

```
if command [rcpt to:] (" , ") = "(.*)"
  add header [X-Also-Delivered-To] "\1"
fi
```

This fragment will first create a string consisting of all RCPT TO addresses, separated by a comma, and then will match it against the regular expression on the right hand side. Since this expression matches any string, the '\1' will contain a comma-separated list of addresses.

5.3 Triggers

Triggers are conditional statements that use the value of the 'Subject' header to alter the control flow. Syntactically, a trigger is:

```
trigger [flags] pattern
  action-list
done
```

Here, *pattern* is the pattern against which the 'Subject' header is checked, *flags* are optional flags controlling the type of regular expression used (see [Section 5.5 \[Regular Expressions\], page 29](#)). For backward compatibility, the keyword `rule` may be used instead of `trigger`.

The triggers act as follows: First, the value of the 'Subject' header is matched against the pattern '@@*pattern*'. If it matches, then the matched part is removed from the 'Subject', and the *action-list* is executed.

Basically, putting aside the possibility to use different flavors of regular expressions, a trigger is equivalent to the following statement:

```
if header[Subject] :posix "(.*)@@pattern"
  modify header [Subject] "\1"
  action-list
fi
```

Thus, adding the ‘*@@rule-name*’ code to the ‘Subject’ header of your message, triggers a rule named *rule-name*, specified in a user configuration file. For example:

```
---BEGIN RULE---
trigger :basic "^gpg-encrypt-john"
        gpg-encrypt "john's_gpg_key"
done
---END---
```

Now you can simply send an email with the following subject: ‘hello John!@@gpg-encrypt-john’ to process an outgoing message with the rule specified above—encrypt message with a John’s public key. Moreover, the trigger will remove the ‘@@’, so John will only receive a message with a subject ‘hello John!’.

Another example shows an even more dynamic trigger, that is using a substitution and back-references:

```
---BEGIN RULE---
trigger :extended "^gpg-encrypt:(.*)"
        gpg-encrypt "\1"
        add [X-GPG-Comment] "Encrypted for \1"
done
---END---
```

To encrypt a message to user e.g. ‘John’, simply send an email with a subject ‘hello John!@@gpg-encrypt:john’s_gpg_key’. This way, you decide at a run time which public key should be used, without creating separate rules for each user; thanks to back-references, those 3—4 lines are enough.

5.4 Boolean Operators

The following table lists the three boolean operators that can be used in Anubis conditional expressions in the order of increasing binding strength:

- ‘OR’
- ‘AND’
- ‘NOT’

As an example, let’s consider the following statement:

```
if header[X-Mailer] "mutt" or header[X-Mailer] "mail" \
    and not header[Content-Type] "^multipart/mixed;.*"
    action
fi
```

In this case the *action* will be executed if the X-Mailer header contains the word ‘mutt’. The same *action* will also be executed if the X-Mailer header contains the word ‘mail’ *and* the value of the Content-Type header does not begin with the string ‘multipart/mixed’.

Now, if we wished to execute the *action* for any message sent using mail or mutt whose Content-Type header does not begin with the string ‘multipart/mixed’, we would write the following:

```

if (header[X-Mailer] "mutt" or header[X-Mailer] "mail") \
    and not header[Content-Type] "^multipart/mixed;.*"
    action
fi

```

Notice the use of parentheses to change the binding strength of the boolean operators.

5.5 Regular Expressions

GNU Anubis supports two types of regular expressions: POSIX (both basic and extended), and Perl-style regular expressions. Among this, the former are always supported, whereas the support for the latter depends on the configuration settings at compile time. The default type of regular expressions is POSIX Extended.

Notice, that regular expressions often contain characters, prefixed with backslash (e.g. ‘\`’ in basic POSIX or ‘\s’ in perl-style regexp). Due to escape substitution (see Chapter 4 \[Configuration\], page 15), you will have to escape the backslash character, e.g. write:`

```
modify :perl body ["\\stext"] "text"
```

instead of

```
# WRONG!
modify :perl body ["\stext"] "text"
```

However, this rule does not apply to back references, i.e. “\`1” is OK.`

A number of modifiers is provided to change the type of regular expressions. These are described in the following table.

<code>:regex</code>	
<code>:re</code>	Indicates that the following pattern should be considered a regular expression. The default type for this expression is assumed.
<code>:perl</code>	
<code>:perlre</code>	The regular expression is a Perl-style one.
<code>:exact</code>	
<code>:ex</code>	Disables regular expression matching, all patterns will be matched as exact strings.
<code>:scase</code>	Enables case-sensitive comparison.
<code>:icase</code>	Enables case-insensitive comparison.
<code>:basic</code>	Switches to the POSIX Basic regular expression matching.
<code>:extended</code>	Switches to the POSIX Extended regular expression matching.

The special statement `regex` allows you to alter the default regular expression type. For example, the following statement

```
regex :perl :scase
```

sets the default regular expression types to Perl-style, case-sensitive. The settings of `regex` statement regard only those patterns that appear after it in the configuration file and have force until the next occurrence of the `regex` statement.

A couple of examples:

```
if header[Subject] :perlre "(?<=(?!foo)bar)baz"
...
fi
```

This will match any `Subject` header whose value matches an occurrence of ‘baz’ that is preceded by ‘bar’ which in turn is not preceded by ‘foo’.

```
if header[Subject] :scase "^Re"
```

will match a `Subject` header whose value starts with ‘Re’, but will not match it if it starts with ‘RE’ or ‘re’.

When using POSIX regular expressions, the extended syntax is enabled by default. If you wish to use a basic regular expression, precede it with the `:basic` flag.

For the detailed description of POSIX regular expressions, See [Section “Regular Expression Library”](#) in *Regular Expression Library*. For information about Perl-style regular expressions, refer to the Perl documentation.

5.6 Action List

An *action list* is a list of action commands, which control processing of an outgoing messages. All action command names are case insensitive, so you can use for instance: ‘add’ or ‘ADD’ or ‘Add’, and so on.

5.6.1 Stop Action

The `stop` command stops immediately the processing of the section. It may be used in the main `RULE` section as well as in any user-defined section. For example:

```
if not header[Content-Type] "text/plain; .*"
stop;
fi
```

5.6.2 Call Action

The `call` command allows to invoke a user-defined section much in the same manner as a subroutine in a programming language. The invoked section continues to execute until its end or the `stop` statement is encountered, whichever the first.

```
BEGIN myproc
if header[Subject] "Re: .*"
stop;
fi
trigger "pgp"
  gpg-encrypt "my_gpg_key"
done
```

```

END

BEGIN RULE
call myproc
END

```

5.6.3 Adding Headers or Text

The `add` command allows you to add arbitrary headers or text to the message. To add a header, use the following syntax:

```

add header ['name'] string [Command]
add ['name'] string [Command]

```

For example:

```

add header[X-Comment-1] "GNU's Not Unix!"
add [X-Comment-2] "Support FSF!"

```

```

add body text [Command]

```

Adds the *text* to the message body. Use of this command with ‘`here document`’ syntax allows to append multi-line text to the message, e.g.:

```

add body <<-EOT
  Regards,
  Hostmaster
EOT

```

5.6.4 Removing Headers

The command `remove` removes the specified header from the message. The syntax is:

```

remove [flags] header ['string'] [Command]
remove [flags] ['string'] [Command]

```

The name of the header to delete is given by *string* parameter. By default only those headers are removed whose names match it exactly. Optional *flags* allow to change this behavior. See [Section 5.5 \[Regular Expressions\], page 29](#), for the detailed description of these.

An example:

```

remove ["X-Mailer"]
remove :regex ["^X-*"]

```

The first example will remove the ‘`X-Mailer:`’ header from an outgoing message, and the second one will remove all “`X-*`” headers.

5.6.5 Modifying Messages

The action command `modify` allows to alter the headers or the body of the message.

```

modify [flags] header ['key'] ['new-key'] [Command]
modify [flags] ['key'] ['new-key'] [Command]

```

For each header whose name matches *key*, replaces its name with *new-key*. If *key* is a regular expressions, *new-key* may contain back references.

For example, the following statement will select all headers whose names start with ‘X-’ and change their names to begin with ‘X-Old-’:

```
modify header :re ["X-\(.*\)"] ["X-Old-\1"]
```

```
modify [flags] header ['key'] value [Command]
modify [flags] ['key'] value [Command]
```

For each header whose name matches *key*, changes its value to *value*. For example:

```
modify [Subject] "New subject"
```

This statement sets the new value to the **Subject** header.

Every occurrence of unescaped ‘&’ in the new value will be replaced by the old header value. To enter the ‘&’ character itself, escape it with two backslash characters (‘\\’). For example, the following statement

```
modify [Subject] "[Anubis \\& others] &"
```

prepends the Subject header with the string ‘[Anubis & others]’. Thus, the header line

```
Subject: Test subject
```

after having been processed by Anubis, will contain:

```
Subject: [Anubis & others] Test subject
```

```
modify [flags] header ['key'] ['new-key'] value [Command]
modify [flags] ['key'] ['new-key'] value [Command]
```

Combines the previous two cases, i.e. changes both the header name and its value, as shown in the following example:

```
modify header [X-Mailer] [X-X-Mailer] "GNU Anubis"
```

```
modify [flags] body ['key'] [Command]
```

Removes all occurrences of *key* from the message body. For example, this statement will remove every occurrence of the word ‘old’:

```
modify body ["old"]
```

```
modify [flags] body ['key'] string [Command]
```

Replaces all occurrences of *key* with *string*. For example:

```
modify body :extended ["the old \([[[:alnum:]]+\)"] "the new \1"
```

5.6.6 Inserting Files

```
signature-file-append yes-or-no [Command]
```

This action command adds at the end of a message body the ‘--’ line, and includes a client’s ‘~/signature’ file. Value ‘no’ is the default.

```
body-append file-name [Command]
```

This action command includes at the end of a message body the contents of the given file. If ‘*file-name*’ does not start with a ‘/’ character, it is taken relative to the current user home directory

```
body-clear [Command]
```

Removes the body of the message

`body-clear-append file-name` [Command]

Replaces the message body with the contents of the specified file. The action is equivalent to the following command sequence:

```
body-clear
body-append file-name
```

5.6.7 Mail Encryption

`gpg-passphrase passphrase` [Command]

Specifies your private key's pass phrase for signing an outgoing message using the GNU Privacy Guard (a tool compatible with the Pretty Good Privacy). Of course, to protect your passwords in the configuration file use the 0600 (u=rw,g=,o=) permissions, otherwise GNU Anubis won't accept them. We recommend setting the 'gpg-passphrase' once in your configuration file, e.g. at the start of `RULE` section.

GNU Anubis supports the GNU Privacy Guard via the *GnuPG Made Easy* library, available at <http://www.gnupg.org/gpgme.html>.

`gpg-encrypt gpg-keys` [Command]

This command enables encrypting your outgoing message with the GNU Privacy Guard (Pretty Good Privacy) public key(s). `gpg-keys` is a comma separated list of keys (with no space between commas and keys).

```
gpg-encrypt "John's public key"
```

`gpg-sign gpg-signer-key` [Command]

`gpg-sign 'yes-or-default'` [Command]

This command signs the outgoing message with your GNU Privacy Guard private key. Specify a *passphrase* with `gpg-passphrase`. Value 'default' means your default private key, but you can change it if you have more than one private key.

For example:

```
gpg-sign default
```

or

```
gpg-passphrase "my office key passphrase"
gpg-sign office@example.key
```

`gpg-sign-encrypt gpg-keys[:gpg-signer-key]` [Command]

`gpg-se gpg-keys[:gpg-signer-key]` [Command]

This command simultaneously signs and encrypts your outgoing message. It has the same effect as `gpg` command line switch '-se'. The argument before the colon is a comma-separated list of PGP keys to encrypt the message with. This argument is mandatory. The second argument is optional and is separated from the first one by a colon (':'). This argument specifies the signer key. In the absence of the second argument your default private key is used.

For example:

```
gpg-sign-encrypt John@example.key
```

or

```
gpg-se John@example.key:office@example.key
```

5.6.8 Using an External Processor

`external-body-processor program [args]` [Command]

Pipes the message body through *program*. *program* should be a filter program, that reads the text from the standard input and prints the transformed text on the standard output. The output from the *program* replaces the body of the message. *args* are any additional arguments the program may require.

The amount of data fed to the external program depends on the message. For plain messages, the entire body is passed. For multi-part messages, only the first part is passed by default. This is based on the assumption that in most multi-part messages the first part contains textual data, while the rest contains various (mostly non-textual) attachments. There is a special configuration variable `read-entire-body` that controls this behavior (see [Section 4.2.1 \[Basic Settings\], page 18](#)). Setting `read-entire-body yes` in CONTROL section of your configuration file instructs Anubis to pass the entire contents of multi-part messages to your external processor.

There is a substantial difference between operating in `read-entire-body no` (the default) and `read-entire-body yes` modes. When operating in `read-entire-body no`, the first part of the message is decoded and then passed to the external program. In contrast, when `read-entire-body` is set to `yes`, the message is not decoded. Thus, your external processor must be able to cope with MIME messages.

5.6.9 Quick Example

Here is a quick example of using an action list:

```
---BEGIN RULE---
if header [X-Mailer] :re ".*"
  remove [X-Mailer]
  add [X-Comment] "GNU's Not Unix!"
  gpg-sign "my password"
  signature-file-append yes
fi
---END---
```

The example above will remove (on-the-fly) the ‘X-Mailer:’ line from an outgoing message, add an extra header line (‘X-Comment:’), sign your message with your private key, and add a simple signature file from your home directory.

5.7 Using Guile Actions

The name Guile stands for *GNU's Ubiquitous Intelligent Language for Extensions*. It provides a Scheme interpreter conforming to the R4RS language specification. GNU Anubis uses Guile as its extension language.

This section describes how to write GNU Anubis actions in Scheme. It assumes that the reader is sufficiently familiar with the Scheme language. For information about the language, refer to [Section “Top” in Revised\(4\) Report on the Algorithmic Language Scheme](#). For more information about Guile, See [Section “Overview” in The Guile Reference Manual](#).

5.7.1 Defining Guile Actions

A Guile action is defined as follows:

```
(define (function-name header body . rest)
  ...)
```

Its arguments are:

- header* List of message headers. Each list element is a cons
 (*name* . *value*)
 where *name* is the name of the header field, and *value* is its value with final CRLF stripped off. Both *name* and *value* are strings.
- body* A string containing the message body.
- rest* Any additional arguments passed to the function from the configuration file (see [Section 5.7.2 \[Invoking Guile Actions\], page 36](#)). This argument may be absent if the function is not expected to take optional arguments.

The function must return a cons whose car contains the new message headers, and cdr contains the new message body. If the car is `#t`, it means that no headers are changed. If the cdr is `#t`, it means that the body has not changed. If the cdr is `#f`, Anubis will delete the entire message body.

As the first example, let's consider a *no-operation* action, i.e. an action that does not alter the message in any way. It can be written in two ways:

```
(define (noop-1 header body)
  (cons header body))
```

```
(define (noop-2 header body)
  (cons #t #t))
```

The following example is a function that deletes the message body and adds an additional header:

```
(define (proc header body)
  (cons (append header
                (cons "X-Body-Deleted" "yes"))
        #f))
```

Let's consider a more constructive example. The following function checks if the Subject header starts with string 'ODP:' (a Polish equivalent

to ‘Re:’), and if it does, the function replaces it with ‘Re:’. It always adds to the message the header

```
X-Processed-By: GNU Anubis
```

Additionally, if the optional argument is given, it is appended to the body of the message.

```
(define (fix-subject hdr body . rest)
  "If the Subject: field starts with characters \"ODP:\", replace
  them with \"Re:\".
  If REST is not empty, append its car to BODY"
  (cons (append
        (map (lambda (x)
              (if (and (string-ci=? (car x) "subject")
                      (string-ci=? (substring (cdr x) 0 4) "ODP:"))
                  (cons (car x)
                        (string-append "Re:"
                                       (substring (cdr x) 4))))
              x))
        hdr)
        (list (cons "X-Processed-By" "GNU Anubis"))))
  (if (null? rest)
      #t
      (string-append body "\n" (car rest)))))
```

5.7.2 Invoking Guile Actions

The Guile actions are invoked from the RULE section using the `guile-process` command. Its syntax is:

function *args* [Scheme Function]
Arguments:

function The name of the Guile function to be invoked.

args Additional arguments. These are passed to the *function* as its third argument (*rest*).

To pass keyword arguments to the function, use the usual Scheme notation: ‘#:key’.

As an example, let’s consider the invocation of the `fix-subject` function, defined in the previous subsection:

```
guile-process fix-subject <<-EOT
                        -----
                        Kind regards,
                        Antonius Block
EOT
```

In this example, the additional argument (a string of three lines) is passed to the function, which will add it to the message of the body.

5.7.3 Support for ROT-13

The ROT-13 transformation is a simple form of encryption where the letters A-M are transposed with the letters L-Z. It is often used in Usenet postings/ mailing lists to prevent people from accidentally reading a disturbing message.

GNU Anubis supports ROT-13 via a loadable Guile function. To enable this support, you will have to add the following to your **GUILE** section:

```
guile-load-program rot-13.scm
```

Then, in your **RULE** section use:

rot-13 *keyword-arguments* [Scheme Function]
The command accepts the following *keyword-arguments*:

#:body Encrypt the entire body of the message

#:subject
Encrypt the ‘Subject’ header.

For example:

```
trigger "rot-13.*body"
  guile-process rot-13 #:body
done

trigger "rot-13.*subj"
  guile-process rot-13 #:subject
done
```

5.7.4 Remailers Type-I

GNU Anubis supports remailers of type I. The support is written entirely in Scheme. To enable it you need to specify the following in the **GUILE** section of your configuration file:

```
guile-load-program remailer.scm
```

To send the message via a remailer, use the following command in the **RULE** section:

remailer-I *keyword-arguments* [Scheme Function]
The *keyword-arguments* specify the various parameters for the remailer. These are:

#:rrt *string*
This is the only required keyword argument. It sets the value for the *Request Remailing To* line. *string* should be your actual recipient’s email address.

#:post *news-group*
Adds the ‘Anon-Post-To: *news-group*’ line, and prepares the message for sending it to the Usenet via a remailer. Note, that this is only possible with remailers that support ‘Anon-Post-To:’ header.

- #:latent *time*** Adds the ‘Latent-Time:’ line, that causes a remailer to keep your message for specified *time* before forwarding it.
- #:random** Adds random suffix to the latent time.
- #:header *string*** Adds an extra header line to the remailed message.

Example:

```
trigger "remai:(.*/(.*)"
  guile-process remailer-I \
    #:rrt antonius_block@helsingor.net \
    #:post \1 \
    #:latent \2 \
    #:header "X-Processed-By: GNU Anubis & Remailer-I"
done
```

Some remailers require the message to be GPG encrypted or signed. You can achieve this by placing `gpg-encrypt` or `gpg-sign` statement right after the invocation of `remailer-I`, for example:

```
trigger "remai:(.*/(.*)"
  guile-process remailer-I \
    #:rrt antonius_block@helsingor.net \
    #:post \1 \
    #:latent \2 \
    #:header "X-Processed-By: GNU Anubis & Remailer-I"
  gpg-sign mykey
done
```

See [Section 5.6.7 \[Mail Encryption\], page 33](#), for more information on mail encryption in GNU Anubis.

5.7.5 Entire Message Filters

There may be some cases when you need to use an external filter that processes the entire message (including headers). You cannot use `external-body-processor`, since it feeds only the message body to the program. To overcome this difficulty, GNU Anubis is shipped with ‘`entire-msg.scm`’ module. This module provides Scheme function `entire-msg-filter`, which is to be used in such cases.

entire-msg-filter *program* [*args*] [Scheme Function]

Feeds entire message to the given program. The output from the program replaces message headers and body.

progname Full pathname of the program to be executed.

args Any additional arguments it may require.

Suppose you have a program `/usr/libexec/myfilter`, that accepts entire message as its input and produces on standard output a modified version of this message. The program takes as its argument the name of a di-

rectory for temporary files. The following example illustrates how to invoke this program:

```
BEGIN GUILE
  guile-load-program entire-msg.scm
END

BEGIN RULE
  guile-process entire-msg-filter /usr/libexec/myfilter /tmp
END
```

Another function defined in this module is `openssl-filter`:

`openssl-filter` *program* [*args*] [Scheme Function]

This function is provided for use with `openssl` program. `openssl` binary attempts to rewind its input and fails if the latter is a pipe, so `openssl` cannot be used with `entire-msg-filter`. Instead, you should use `openssl-filter`. Its arguments are:

program Path to `openssl` binary.

args Its arguments

See [Chapter 9 \[S/MIME\]](#), page 47, for an example of use of this function.

6 Invoking GNU Anubis

The `anubis` executable acts like a daemon. The behavior of program is controlled by two configuration files, which have a **higher** priority than command line options. See [Chapter 4 \[Configuration\]](#), [page 15](#), for details.

GNU `anubis` supports the following command line options:

- '--altrc *file*'
Specify alternate system configuration file.
- '--bind [*host*]:*port*'
'-b' Specify the TCP port on which GNU Anubis listens for connections. The default *host* value is 'INADDR_ANY', and default *port* number is 24 (private mail system).
- '--check-config[=*level*]'
'-c[*level*]'
Run the configuration file syntax checker. Optional *level* specifies the verbosity level. The following levels are allowed:
 - 0 Display only errors. This is the default.
 - 1 Print the syntax tree after parsing the file.
 - 2 As '1', but also prints the parser traces.
 - 3 As '2', but also prints the lexical analyzer traces.
- '--debug'
'-D' Debug mode.
- '--foreground'
'-f' Foreground mode.
- '--help' Print short usage summary and exit.
- '--local-mta *file*'
'-l' Execute a local SMTP server, which works on standard input and output (inetd-type program). This option excludes the '--remote-mta' option.
- '--mode *mode-name*'
'-m *mode-name*'
Selects Anubis operation mode. Allowed values for *mode-name* are 'transparent' (default) and 'auth'. See [Chapter 3 \[Authentication\]](#), [page 5](#), for the detailed discussion of Anubis operation modes.
- '--norc' Ignore system configuration file.
- '--relax-perm-check'
Do not check a user config file permissions.

```

'--remote-mta host[:port]'
'-r'      Specify a remote SMTP host name or IP address, which GNU
          Anubis will connect and forward mail to (after a processing).
          The default port number is 25.

'--silent'
'-s'      Work silently.

'--show-config-options'
          Print a list of configuration options used to build GNU Anubis.

'--stdio'
'-i'      Use the SMTP protocol (OMP/Tunnel) as described in RFC 821
          on standard input and output.

'--verbose'
'-v'      Work noisily.

'--version'
          Print version number and copyright.

```

Examples:

```
$ anubis --remote-mta smtp-host:25
```

Run GNU Anubis on port number 24 (private mail system). Note that you must have root privileges to use port number lower than 1024. Make the tunnel between your localhost:24 and *smtp-host:25*.

```
$ anubis -f --remote-mta smtp-host:25
```

Same as above, but run GNU Anubis in a foreground mode.

```
$ anubis -f --local-mta /usr/sbin/sendmail -- sendmail -bs
```

Similar to above, but create a tunnel between localhost:24 and a local program (local MTA). In this example local program is `sendmail` with `'-bs'` command line option. The `'-bs'` option forces `sendmail` to work on standard input and output.

```
$ anubis --norc --remote-mta smtp-host:25
```

Do not read the system configuration file, make the tunnel between localhost:24 and *smtp-host:25*.

```
$ anubis --bind localhost:1111 --remote-mta smtp-host:25
```

Create the tunnel between localhost:1111 and *smtp-host:25*.

```
$ anubis -i
```

Use the SMTP protocol (OMP/Tunnel) as described in RFC 821 on standard input and output.

7 Sample Beginning

By default, GNU Anubis binds to port number 24 (private mail system), so there shouldn't be any conflict with your local MTA (Mail Transport Agent). You just have to reconfigure your MUA (Mail User Agent) to make it talk to GNU Anubis directly on port number 24. All MUAs are normally set up to talk directly to the MTA, so you must change their settings and specify GNU Anubis' port number as their target. This makes GNU Anubis to work as an outgoing mail processor between your MUA and the MTA. Read your MUA's documentation for more information.

Now you must choose whether you want to connect GNU Anubis with a remote or local SMTP host via TCP/IP or a local SMTP program, which works on standard input and output. In the first case, specify the following option:

```
REMOTE-MTA smtp-host:25
```

In the second case (local SMTP program), specify this:

```
LOCAL-MTA /path/to/your/mta/mta-executable -bs
```

Please note that the '-bs' command line option is a common way to run MTAs on standard input and output, but it is not a rule. Read your local MTA's documentation, how to get it working on standard input and output.

If you would like to run GNU Anubis on port number 25 (which is a default value for the SMTP) or any other port number, then you must specify the 'bind' keyword. For instance, the following code will bind GNU Anubis to 'localhost:25':

```
BIND localhost:25
```

This can make a conflict between GNU Anubis and your local MTA, which usually listens on port number 25. To solve this problem, you can for instance disable the MTA and specify the 'local-mta' keyword, or run MTA on port number different than GNU Anubis' port number (e.g. 1111). Please read your local MTA's documentation about this topic. For example:

```
BIND localhost:25
```

```
REMOTE-MTA localhost:1111
```

Caution: Make sure that your local machine doesn't accept any incoming mail (i.e. it is *not* a POP or IMAP server), otherwise you cannot disable your MTA or change its port number!

All Mutt users, who would like to set up GNU Anubis between their MUA and MTA, should consider using the 'msg2smtp.pl' Perl script from the 'contrib' directory (part of the distribution).

8 Using the TLS/SSL Encryption

According to the RFC 2246 document, the TLS (Transport Layer Security) protocol provides communications privacy over the Internet. The protocol allows client/server applications to communicate in a way that is designed to prevent eavesdropping, tampering, or message forgery. The primary goal of the TLS Protocol is to provide privacy and data integrity between two communicating applications. The TLS protocol itself is based on the SSL 3.0 (Secure Socket Layer) protocol specification.

GNU Anubis supports the TLS/SSL (via the GnuTLS, a Transport Layer Security Library available at <http://www.gnutls.org/>), but your MTA must provide the STARTTLS command first. This can be checked by:

```
$ telnet your-smtp-host 25
ehlo your-domain-name
```

The server will response with all its available commands. If you see the STARTTLS, then you can use the TLS/SSL encryption. If your MUA doesn't support the TLS/SSL encryption, but your MTA does, then you should use the 'oneway-ssl' keyword in your configuration file. Before using the TLS/SSL encryption, you must generate a proper private key and a certificate. You can do it simply with:

```
$ cd anubis-directory
$ ./build/keygen.sh
```

This will create the 'anubis.pem' file. For example copy this file to '/usr/share/ssl/certs/'. Next, edit your configuration file by adding:

```
ssl yes
ssl-key path-to-the-private-key
ssl-cert path-to-the-certificate
```

For example:

```
ssl-key /usr/share/ssl/certs/anubis.pem
ssl-cert /usr/share/ssl/certs/anubis.pem
```

Caution: Each client can specify its own private key and a certificate by adding the 'ssl-key' and 'ssl-cert' keywords in its own user configuration file.

See [Section 4.2.5 \[Encryption Settings\]](#), page 22, for details.

9 Using S/MIME Signatures

Anubis version 4.1.1 does not yet provide built-in support for S/MIME encryption or signing. To encrypt or sign messages using S/MIME, you will have to use external programs. Usually such programs require the whole message as their input, so simply using `external-body-processor` will not work. GNU Anubis distribution includes a special Guile program, `'entire-msg.scm'`, designed for use with such programs. For its detailed description, please refer to [Section 5.7.5 \[Entire Message Filters\]](#), page 38. This chapter addresses a special case of using it with `openssl` to sign outgoing messages.

To use `openssl` for S/MIME signing, invoke it using `openssl-filter` function defined in `'entire-msg.scm'`. You will have to supply at least `-sign` and `-signer` arguments to the program. Notice, that you should not specify any input or output files.

The following example illustrates this approach:

```
BEGIN GUILÉ
guile-load-program entire-msg.scm
END

BEGIN RULE
guile-process openssl-filter /usr/local/ssl/bin/openssl \
    smime -sign -signer FILE
END
```


10 Using Anubis to Process Incoming Mail

Historically Anubis was designed to process outgoing mail. Support for processing incoming mail was added in version 4.1.

To process incoming mail, Anubis must be started as *mail delivery agent* from your MTA configuration file. The invocation line must contain `--mode=mda` option, that tells Anubis to act in *mail delivery mode*. In this mode, Anubis receives the message from standard input, processes it using configuration file sections named `incoming-mail-rule` finally calls local mailer to actually deliver the modified message. The local mailer must be given using `--local-mta` option.

Let's summarize the special features of mail delivery mode :

1. The mode is triggered by `--mode=mda` in the command line. It cannot be specified in configuration file.
2. Anubis uses local mailer to actually deliver messages. The invocation line of the local mailer must be given via `--local-mta` command line option. The settings of `local-mta` (see [Section 4.2.1 \[Basic Settings\]](#), [page 18](#)) is ignored.

The local mailer invocation line may contain meta-variables `%sender` and `%recipient`, which will be replaced by the actual sender and recipient email addresses before starting the mailer.

3. Special option `--from` may be used in Anubis command line. This option sets sender email address (see `%sender` meta variable above). It implies `--mode=mda`. If the option is not given, GNU Anubis will deduce sender address from UNIX `'From'` header or, if it is not present, from the value of `From` SMTP header.
4. In MDA mode, Anubis takes names of the recipients from the command line.
5. Anubis uses a separate rule section for processing incoming mails. The default section name is `INCOMING`. It may be overridden in system configuration file using `incoming-mail-rule` (see [Section 4.2.1 \[Basic Settings\]](#), [page 18](#)).

Following discussion explains how to configure Anubis in MDA mode with different mail transport agents.

- Sendmail

If you use `mc` file to generate `'sendmail.cf'`, use `LOCAL_MAILER_PATH` and `LOCAL_MAILER_ARGS` as shown in the following example:

```
define('LOCAL_MAILER_PATH', '/usr/local/sbin/anubis')
define('LOCAL_MAILER_ARGS',
      'mail --mode=mda -l '/libexec/mail.local -f %sender %recipient')
```

If you prefer to directly edit `'sendmail.cf'`, use `M` macro to declare Anubis as a local mailer. Following example illustrates this:

```
Mlocal, P=/usr/local/sbin/anubis,
F=lsDFMAw5:/|@qSPfhn9,
S=EnvFromL/HdrFromL, R=EnvToL/HdrToL,
T=DNS/RFC822/X-Unix,
A=mail --mode=mda -l '/libexec/mail.local -f %sender %recipient' $u
```

- Exim

With `exim`, you will need to declare appropriate transport and director in `'exim.conf'`:

```
# transport
mail_local_pipe:
  driver = pipe
  command = /usr/local/sbin/anubis --mode=mda \
            -l '/libexec/mail.local -f %sender %recipient' $local_part
  return_path_add
  delivery_date_add
  envelope_to_add

# director
mail_local:
  driver = localuser
  transport = mail_local_pipe
```

11 Using Mutt with Anubis

At the time of this writing `mutt`¹ is not able to send mail via SMTP channel, instead it invokes local mailer program to transmit the message. There are at least three possible ways to overcome this difficulty:

1. Using `mail.remote` from GNU mailutils
2. Using `msg2smtp.pl` script provided with Anubis
3. Using a patch by Steven Engelhardt (`patch-version.sde.libesmtp.3`) that enables `mutt` to use SMTP.

The following sections discuss each method in detail.

11.1 Using GNU mailutils as an interface to mutt

GNU Mailutils is a collection of utilities for handling electronic mail. It includes lots of programs necessary for dealing with e-mail messages. One of them is `mail.remote`, which is designed as a drop-in replacement for `sendmail` to forward all mail directly to an SMTP gateway. Its interface is compatible with `sendmail` which makes the program especially useful as an interface between `mutt` and `anubis`. The package can be downloaded from <ftp://ftp.gnu.org/gnu/mailutils> or any of the mirrors (See <http://www.gnu.org/order/ftp.html> for a complete list of these. Please, select the mirror closest too you). The complete information about the package is available from its home page at <http://www.gnu.org/software/mailutils/>

To use `mail.remote`, first download and install GNU mailutils (as usual the package is shipped with files ‘README’ and ‘INSTALL’ which provide the necessary guidelines). Then add to your ‘.muttrc’ file the following line:

```
set sendmail="mail.remote smtp://hostname[:port]"
```

where `mail.remote` stands for the full file name of `mail.remote` utility, `hostname` and optional `port` specify the host name (or IP address) of the machine running `anubis` and the port it listens on. Notice, that default port value for `mail.remote` is 25, which means that in most cases you will have to specify it explicitly.

For example, suppose you run `anubis` on machine ‘`anubis.domain.org`’ and that it listens on port 24. Let’s also assume you have installed mailutils in the default location, so that full file name of `mail.remote` is ‘`/usr/local/libexec/mail.remote`’. Then, your ‘.muttrc’ will contain:

```
set sendmail="/usr/local/libexec/mail.remote \  
smtp://anubis.domain.org:24"
```

(the line being split for readability).

¹ versions 1.4.1 and 1.5.3

11.2 Using msg2smtp.pl as an interface to mutt

GNU Anubis is shipped with `msg2smtp.pl` — a perl script designed as an interface between it and `mutt`. The script is kindly contributed by Michael de Beer.

The script is located in the subdirectory ‘`contrib`’ of GNU Anubis distribution. To use it:

1. Make sure its first line correctly refers to the full file name of the `perl` interpreter on your system. By default the first line reads

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
```

If the file name after ‘!’ differs from the actual file name of the `perl` interpreter, update it. For example, if `perl` is installed in ‘`/usr/local/bin/perl`’, the first line of `msg2smtp.pl` should read

```
#!/usr/local/bin/perl
```

2. Copy the script to any convenient location. Simply running `cp` will do, e.g.

```
cp anubis-4.1.1/contrib/msg2smtp.pl /usr/local/libexec
```

3. Add to your ‘`.muttrc`’ the following line:

```
set sendmail="/usr/local/libexec/msg2smtp.pl -h hostname -p port"
```

where `hostname` and `port` specify the host name (or IP address) of the machine running `anubis` and the port it listens on, respectively.

Complete description of `msg2smtp.pl` and a discussion of its command line switches can be found in file ‘`contrib/msg2smtp.txt`’.

11.3 Patching mutt

Steven Engelhardt modified `mutt` so that it is able to use SMTP to transfer messages. For the time being the patch is not accepted by the mainline `mutt` distribution, but one of the authors of GNU Anubis², has tested it extensively and has found it to be quite adequate for interfacing between `anubis` and `mutt`. The patch is described in detail at <http://www.deez.info/sengelha/projects/mutt/libesmtplib/> and is available for `mutt` versions 1.4.x and 1.5.3.

To use it, follow the instructions on the page mentioned above. Once you compile the patched `mutt` you will be able to use the following new keywords in its configuration file:

```
set smtp_host = hostname
```

Sets the hostname or IP address of the remote SMTP host.

```
set smtp_port = port
```

Sets the port number to use.

```
set smtp_auth_username = user-name
```

Sets the username to use with SMTP AUTH command (optional).

² Sergey Poznyakoff, blame it on him:~)

So, assuming you run `anubis` on machine `'anubis.domain.org'` and it is listening on port 24, you will add to your `'.muttrc'` the following two lines:

```
set smtp_host = anubis.domain.org
set smtp_port = 24
```

11.4 Comparison of the Three Interface Methods

The following short discussion summarizes the advantages and deficiencies of the three interface methods described in the previous sections. It could serve you as a guideline on which interface method to choose.

Using `mail.remote`

Advantages:

1. Does not require modifying `mutt`.
2. Is compatible with any version of `mutt`.
3. Runs faster than `msg2smtp.pl`

Deficiencies:

1. Running an external program to transmit the message is not the best idea. However, it is `mutt` default, anyway...
2. Runs slower than directly connecting to `anubis` using SMTP

Using `msg2smtp.pl`

Advantages:

1. Does not require modifying `mutt`.
2. Is compatible with any version of `mutt`.

Deficiencies:

1. See [\[extprog\]](#), page 53.
2. Runs slower than the other two methods (sending each message requires loading `perl` interpreter, which is rather expensive).

Using `patch.sde.libesmtp.3`

Advantages:

1. Is the fastest of the three methods.
2. Does not require any intermediate programs.

Deficiencies:

1. Requires patching `mutt`, which is not always possible or acceptable.
2. May not work for versions of `mutt` newer than 1.5.3 (but then, again, not necessarily so).

12 Reporting Bugs

Please send any bug reports, improvements, comments, suggestions, or questions to bug-anubis@gnu.org.

Before reporting a bug, make sure you have actually found a real bug. Carefully reread the documentation and see if it really says you can do what you are trying to do. If it is not clear whether you should be able to do something or not, report that too; it's a bug in the documentation!

Appendix A Pixie & Dixie

- Introduction

This document describes a new scheme for client authentication and authorization in GNU Anubis 4.x.

- Task Description

So far the only authentication method used by Anubis was based on the [AUTH protocol \(RFC 1413\)](#), and thus required client party to use a popular daemon `identd`, which listens on TCP port 113 for authentication requests. As its primary advantage, this method allows to quickly identify whom the server had to deal with, i.e. to obtain user name or his UID. Actually, the authentication process finishes before the client sends over his first byte. Besides, this method allows to process the entire SMTP envelope. It has, however, several drawbacks, first of them being the requirement to run `identd` on the client machine, which is not always possible (e.g. on mobile devices), and may be considered harmful for the system security (due to sending user ID over the wire).

- The Proposed Solution

Proposed are two operation modes:

1. *Traditional* or *transparent* (also known as *Pixie* ;-)
2. *Authentication first* (also known as *Dixie* ;-)

A short description of each mode follows:

- ‘**Pixie**’ mode
 - Server requires the remote party to authenticate itself using [SMTP AUTH \(RFC 2554\)](#).
 - Early processing of SMTP envelope is possible.
 - Connections between MUA and MTA are tunneled “on the fly”
- ‘**Dixie**’ mode In this mode GNU Anubis runs its own user database, additionally translating logins (see [[login translation](#)], page 58). It also is able to keep users’ configuration files (an additional option and an advantage — see [[anubis database](#)], page 58).

Users are authenticated using ESMTP AUTH protocol. Early processing of SMTP envelope is not possible in this mode, instead it becomes possible only after the authentication is finished successfully. This mode also delays connecting to the MTA, since Anubis first has to perform ESMTP AUTH, and only after finishing authentication, does it read and process the user’s configuration file and connects to the selected MTA. Of course, the client is not able to begin sending messages until he is authenticated and accepted by Anubis.

- Details

There is a great difference between the two modes. To begin with, ‘**Pixie**’ mode provides a tunnel (or proxy), in the sense that Anubis

connects user's MUA to the remote MTA without requiring any special actions from the user.

Let's consider a simple interaction between 'Machine-A', which runs Anubis 4, and 'Machine-B', where MUA is run.

```
A: 220 Machine-A (GNU Anubis vX.X [Dixie]) ESMTP time; send your identity!
B: EHLO Machine-B
A: 250-Machine-A Hello ID
250-STARTTLS
250-AUTH DIGEST-MD5 CRAM-MD5 LOGIN
250-XDATABASE
250 HELP
B: STARTTLS
A: 220 2.0.0 Ready to start TLS
<TLS>
B: AUTH <METHOD>
[method-specific authentication interchange follows]
```

Now, the Anubis server has authenticated the client using data from Anubis database! I'd like this database to contain, beside the user name and password, the name and password of this user on Machine-A.

Confusing? Let's suppose that the database contains following record:

```
JohnSmith encrypted-pass-1 John
```

The user has authenticated himself as 'JohnSmith' with password 'encrypted-pass-1', using ESMTP AUTH, and the given credentials matched those from the Anubis database. Now, Anubis, which has been running with super-user privileges, switches to UID of the user 'John'.

Such solution will allow for a very flexible database, that would ease the administration tasks, since users will be able to update their corresponding records (of course, if the system administrator grants them such privileges). For instance, ODBC, SQL?

Let's return to our sample session. After successful authentication and switching to the user's privileges, Anubis parses file '~/.anubisrc'. Then, based on user's configuration settings, it connects to the MTA and from then on operates as SMTP tunnel and mail processor :-). It sends the following response to 'Machine-B':

```
A: 220 OK, Welcome. Continue sending your mail!
```

- Further details

The above description shows that it is impossible to use both 'Pixie' and 'Dixie' simultaneously. It is the responsibility of the system administrator to decide which operation mode to use. We could probably provide for a smooth switching between the two modes, without requiring to restart the daemon... However, it is not critical. Restarting the daemon in order to switch to another operation mode is also a feasible solution.

Now, let me describe for what kind of users each mode is intended.

The traditional ('Pixie') mode is intended for those users who use Anubis on a single machine or within a local network that allows to use `identd`. In short, 'Pixie' is useful when the use of `identd` is possible and safe.

In contrast, the new mode 'Dixie' is intended for more complex setups, where a single machine running GNU Anubis serves a number of clients connecting from different machines and networks. It is supposed that no client machine is running `identd`. The only recommendation for this mode is that each user have a system account on the machine running Anubis. But then, even this is not required!

That's a feature I haven't described yet :~) As described above, Anubis database must contain second login name in order for Anubis to be able to switch to the user's privileges and parse his '`~/anubisrc`' file. Now, I supposed that the database is able to keep user configuration files as well. So, each database record must contain an additional flag informing Anubis whether it should read the local file '`~/anubisrc`', or read the configuration file stored in the database. Sure enough, GNU Anubis still will have to switch to the user's privileges, for security reasons, but this can be done using usual `user-notprivileged` configuration (see [Section 4.2.6 \[Security Settings\], page 22](#)).

Surely you have noticed that in its response to EHLO command Dixie returned 250-XDATABASE capability. Yes, this is exactly that command that I'd like to be used for remote management of the database records (after having successfully passed ESMTP AUTH).

Available operations are: `ADD`, `MODIFY`, `REMOVE`, meaning addition, modification and removal of a user record, and `UPLOAD`, providing a way to upload the user's configuration file '`~/anubisrc`'.

This solution will free the users from the obligation to have '`~/anubisrc`' on the server machine, so they, for the first time since early Anubis versions, will be able to have their *own* configuration files. Current versions () require that the user configuration file be stored on the server machine before the user is able to use the service. This approach requires a certain attention from the system administrator. Should the user wish to change something in his configuration file, he would have to install the modified file on 'Machine-A' (that's how it works now, and that's how it will continue to work for 'Pixie' mode). The new 'Dixie' mode solves this and frees the user from necessity to contact the system administrator of 'Machine-A'. The Anubis database engine is supposed to check the correctness of the uploaded configuration file and inform the client about the result. It also should compute MD5 hash of the file and compare it to the one sent by the user... What for?

- A program sending user's configuration file

Well, we're almost finished. The user will have a small program, `config-sender`, written in whatever language (C, Java, C#), whose main purpose is to send user's configuration file to the database. Such a program could even be installed on a mobile device! Notice also, that this program is optional, the user is not required to use it. I envision a situation where:

1. A user logs in to his account on 'Machine-B'
2. His '~/.profile' invokes `config-sender` program. This program, in turn, computes MD5 sum of the local '~/.anubisrc' file and sends it to Anubis. There it will be compared to the sum kept in the Anubis database, and if the two sums differ, the `config-sender` will upload the contents of '~/.anubisrc'...¹
3. The `config-sender` program will, of course, connect to the Anubis database using ESMTP (TLS/AUTH) and XDATABASE.

Such a program will be an additional advantage, since no existing MUA is, of course, able to use XDATABASE command to manage Anubis database. Notice however, that GNU Hydrant will probably support XDATABASE in the future...

- The End.

Thus, the user will simply use his MUA, no identd, no hassle :)

Actually, the only requirement for the MUA is that it support ESMTP AUTH. Unfortunately, some MUA, even on UNIX-like systems, are still not able to use ESMTP AUTH. But in this case, the user can install Anubis on his machine and use it to perform authentication ;-)))

And the last detail: what to do if the remote MTA also requires ESMTP AUTH? The answer is quite simple: GNU Anubis is already able to handle this (see [Section 4.2.1 \[Basic Settings\], page 18](#)).

- Summary ('Dixie' mode)
 - a little slower than 'Pixie', in the sense that the actual connection to the MTA is established only after successful authentication
 - does not require `identd`!
 - allows the user full control over his configuration settings
 - delays processing of SMTP envelope until after successful authentication.
- PS: A couple of words about storing configuration files in the database... These can be stored in a special directory as usual files, then each database record will have an additional field with the name of the configuration file for the given user.

¹ The scheme implemented currently is a bit different. First, the `config-sender` program issues an EXAMINE command that fetches the contents of the user configuration file from the server. Then, it compares it with the local copy kept on the client machine. If the copies differ, `config-sender` issues UPLOAD and thus updates the configuration on the server.

— THE END —

Appendix B Multi-Part Message Processing

0. PREFACE

In its current state (as of Anubis version 4.1.1) Anubis has proven to be a useful tool for processing plain text outgoing messages. However, its use with MIME messages creates several problems despite of a flexible ruleset supported by the program.

This RFC proposes a new mode of operation that should make processing of MIME messages more convenient.

1. INTRODUCTION

In general, Anubis processes a message using a set of user-defined rules, called *user program*, consisting of *conditional statements* and *actions*. Both of them may operate on message body as well as on its headers. This mode of operation suites excellently for plain text messages, however it does have its drawbacks when processing multi-part messages.

To begin with, only the first part of multi-part messages is processed, the rest of message is usually passed to the MTA verbatim. Thus, this part can be processed by the user program only if it is in plain text: parts encoded by quoted-printable or, worse yet, base-64 encoding cannot be processed this way. The only way for the user to process non plain-text multi-part messages is by using some extension procedures (usually external scripts).

A special configuration setting `read-entire-body` (see [Section 4.2.1 \[Basic Settings\], page 18](#)) is provided that forces Anubis to process the entire body of a multi-part message (among other effects it means passing entire body to the external scripts as well). However, it does not help solve the problem, since no attempt is being made to decode parts of the message, so the user is left on his own when processing such messages.

The solution proposed by this memo boils down to the following: process each part of the multi-part message as a message on its own allowing user to define different RULE sections for processing different MIME types. The following sections describe the approach in more detail.

2. MULTI-PART MESSAGE PROCESSING

When processing a multi part message, Anubis first determines its MIME type. A user is allowed to define several RULE sections¹ that are supposed to handle different MIME types. Anubis keeps a `type <-> section` association table (a *dispatcher table*) which is used to determine the entry point for processing of each particular part. If the dispatcher table does not contain an entry for the given MIME type,

¹ This is already possible, See [Section 5.6.2 \[Call Action\], page 30](#).

the contents of the part is passed verbatim. Otherwise, Anubis decodes the part body and passes it for further processing to the `RULE` section. When invoking this particular section, MIME headers act as a message headers and MIME body acts as its body. After the code section finishes processing of the message part, it is encoded again² and then passed to the output.

3. RECURSIVE NATURE

MIME standards allow multi-part messages to be nested to arbitrary depth, therefore the described above process is inherently recursive. This brings following implications:

1. The dispatcher table must contain several built-in entries that will handle recursive descent to the messages of determined MIME type. At least messages having `multipart/*` and `message/rfc822` contents must be handled. These entries must be configurable, thus giving final user a possibility to disable some of any of them. Preferably there should exist a way of specifying new recursive types as well.
2. A configuration parameter must be provided that will limit the maximum recursion depth for such messages.

4. MIME DISPATCHER TABLE

The structure of MIME dispatcher table should allow for flexible search of user program entries depending on MIME type of the part being processed. It is important also that it allows for a *default entry*, i.e. an entry that will be used for processing a part whose type is not explicitly mentioned in the table. An absence of such default entry should be taken as indication that the part must be transferred verbatim.

Thus, each entry of the dispatcher table must contain at least following members.

type Specifies regular expressions describing MIME type this entry handles. For the sake of clarity this memo uses shell-style regular expressions (see `glob(7)` or `fnmatch(3)`). However, Anubis implementation may use any other regular expression style it deems appropriate.

entry point Specifies an entry point to the code section that handles MIME parts of given type. The entry point is either `nil`, meaning default processing (thus the default entry can be represented as `"*" . nil`) *at the end of the table*, or one of predefined entry points serving for recursive procession of

² Note that the code section could have modified the `Content-Type` header and, particularly, its `encoding` part, therefore it is not necessary that the resulting part is encoded using the same method as the original one

message parts, or, finally, it is a code index of a user-defined rule section.

Dispatcher table may contain several entries matching a given MIME type. In this case, the `entry point` of each of them must be invoked in turn. For example, consider this dispatcher table:

```
TEXT/PLAIN ⇒ plaintext
TEXT/X-PATCH ⇒ patchfile
TEXT/* ⇒ anytext
```

When processing a part of type `text/plain` using this dispatcher table, first section named `plaintext` is called, then its output is gathered and used as input while calling section named `anytext`. Such approach allows for building flexible structured user programs.

5. CONFIGURATION ENTITIES

This memo proposes addition of following configuration entities to `CONTROL` section of Anubis configuration file. These entries may be used in both system-wide and user-specific configuration files, the order of their priority being determined as usual by `rule-priority` statement (see [Section 4.2.6 \[Security Settings\]](#), page 22).

`clear-dispatch-table` [Option]

This option discards from the dispatcher table all entries gathered so far.

`dispatch-mime-type section-id regexp-list` [Option]

This option adds or modifies entries in MIME dispatcher table. *Section-id* specifies the *section identifier*, i.e. either the name of a user-defined rule section, or one of the keywords `none` and `recurse`. In the former case, Anubis must make sure the named section is actually defined in the configuration file and issue an error message otherwise.

Regexp-list is whitespace-separated list of regular expressions specifying MIME types that are to be handled by *section-id*.

The effect of this option is that for each regular expression *re* from the list *regexp-list*, the dispatcher table is searched for an entry whose `type` field is exactly the same as *re*³. If such an entry is found, its `entry code` field is replaced with *section-id*. Otherwise, if no matching entry was found a new one is constructed:

```
(section-id . re)
```

and appended to the end of the list.

For example:

```
dispatch-mime-type recurse "multipart/*" "message/rfc822"
dispatch-mime-type Text "text/*"
dispatch-mime-type none "*"

```

³ Byte-for-byte comparison

This example specifies that messages (or parts) with types matching `multipart/*` and `message/rfc822` must be recursed into, those of type `text/*` must be processed by user-defined section `Text` and the rest of parts must be transferred verbatim. The section `Text` must be declared somewhere in the configuration file as

```
BEGIN Text
...
END
```

Notice that the very first `dispatch-mime-type` specifies a built-in entry. This memo does not specify whether such a built-in entry must be present by default, or it should be explicitly declared as in the example above. The explicit declaration seems to have advantage of preserving backward compatibility with versions 4.0 and earlier of Anubis (see [\[COMPATIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS\]](#), page 67).

Notice also that when encountering the very first `dispatch-mime-type` (or `dispatch-mime-type-prepend`, see below) statement *in the user configuration file*, Anubis must remove the default entry (if any) from the existing dispatcher table. Such entry should be added back after processing user's `CONTROL` section, unless `clear-dispatch-table` has been used.

`dispatch-mime-type-prepend` *section-id* [Option]
regexp-list

Has the same effect as `dispatch-mime-type` except that the entries are prepended to the dispatcher table.

`recursion-depth` *number* [Option]

This option limits the maximum recursion depth when processing multi-part messages to *number*.

6. TEXT vs BINARY MIME PARTS

This memo does not determine how exactly is Anubis supposed to discern between text and binary messages. The simplest way is possibly using `Content-Type` header: if it contains `charset=` then it describes a text part. Otherwise it describes a binary part. Probably some more sophisticated methods should be provided.

To avoid dependency on any particular charset, text parts must be decoded to UTF-8. Correspondingly, any literals used in Anubis configuration files must represent valid UTF-8 strings. However, this memo does not specify whether Anubis implementation should enforce UTF-8 strings in its configuration files.

It is possible to specify processing rules for binary MIME parts. However, Anubis does not provide any mechanism for binary processing, not is it supposed to provide any. This memo maintains that the existing `external-body-processor` and `guile-process` statements are quite sufficient for processing any binary message parts.

7. SAMPLE CONFIGURATION FILE

```

BEGIN CONTROL
    dispatch-mime-type recurse "multipart/*" "message/rfc822"
    dispatch-mime-type plaintext "text/plain"
    dispatch-mime-type image "img/*"
END CONTROL

SECTION plaintext
    modify body ["now"] "then"
END

SECTION image
    external-body-processor resize-message
END

```

This sample configuration shows the idea of using `external-body-processor` statement for binary part processing. Following version of `resize-message` script uses `convert` program for reducing image size to 120x120 pixels:

```

#!/bin/sh
TMP=$HOME/tmp/$$
cat - > $TMP
convert -size 120x120 $TMP.jpg -resize 120x120 +profile '*' out-$TMP
rm $TMP
cat out-$TMP
rm out-$TMP

```

8. COMPATIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS

In the absense of any `dispatch-mime-type` statements, Anubis should behave exactly as version 4.0 did. Specifying

```
clear-dispatch-table
```

in the user configuration file should produce the same effect. This can be useful if system-wide configuration file contained some `dispatch-mime-type` statements.

9. SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS

This specification is believed to not introduce any special security considerations.

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Concept Index

A

Action List.....	30
actions defined.....	25
add.....	31
allow-local-mta.....	22
AUTH section.....	17
authentication.....	5

B

Back References.....	31
basic, flag.....	29
bind.....	18
body-append.....	32
body-clear.....	32
body-clear-append.....	33
bugs.....	55

C

call.....	30
clear-dispatch-table.....	65
client.....	1
command line.....	41
Concatenation.....	27
Conditional statements.....	25
configuration.....	15
CONTROL section.....	18
control-priority.....	23

D

daemon.....	1
dispatch-mime-type.....	65
dispatch-mime-type-prepend.....	66
drop-unknown-user.....	22

E

else, conditional statements.....	25
encryption.....	45
entire message, filtering.....	38
entire-msg-filter.....	38
entire-msg-filter, Scheme function.....	38
entire-msg.scm.....	38
Escape Sequences.....	15

ESMTP authentication.....	20
esmtplib-allowed-mech.....	21
esmtplib-anonymous-token.....	22
esmtplib-auth.....	21
esmtplib-auth-id.....	21
esmtplib-authz-id.....	21
esmtplib-generic-service.....	21
esmtplib-hostname.....	21
esmtplib-passcode.....	21
esmtplib-password.....	21
esmtplib-realm.....	22
esmtplib-require-encryption.....	21
esmtplib-service.....	21
ex, flag.....	29
exact, flag.....	29
extended, flag.....	29
extension language.....	24
external-body-processor.....	34

F

FDL, GNU Free Documentation License.....	69
fi, conditional statements.....	25
function.....	36

G

GNU mailutils.....	51, 53
GNU Privacy Guard, GnuPG.....	33
GnuTLS.....	45
gpg-encrypt.....	33
gpg-passphrase.....	33
gpg-se.....	33
gpg-sign.....	33
gpg-sign-encrypt.....	33
GPG/PGP private key.....	33
GPG/PGP public key.....	33
Guile.....	24, 35
Guile Actions, defining.....	35
GUILE section.....	24
guile-debug.....	24
guile-load-path-append.....	24
guile-load-program.....	24
guile-output.....	24
guile-process.....	36

H

HANG 20

I

icase, flag 29
 if, conditional statements 25
 incoming mail, processing 49
 incoming-mail-rule 19

L

local-mta 18
 logfile 19
 loglevel 19

M

mail-remote 51, 53
 mailutils 51, 53
 MDA mode 49
 message submission daemon 1
 mode 18
 modify 31, 32
 msg2smtp.pl 52, 53
 MTA, Mail Transport Agent 1
 MUA, Mail User Agent 1
 Multi-part Messages, Processing with
 External Programs 34
 mutt 51
 mutt, using SMTP gateways 52, 53

O

openssl 47
 openssl-filter 39
 openssl-filter, Scheme function 38
 outgoing mail processor 1
 outgoing-mail-rule 19
 overview 1

P

perl, flag 29
 perlre, flag 29
 Pretty Good Privacy, PGP 33
 problems 55
 proxy 1

Q

Quoted Strings 15

R

re, flag 29
 read-entire-body 19
 read-entire-body 34
 recursion-depth 66
 regex, flag 29
 remailer 37
 remailer-I 37
 remailer-I, Scheme function 37
 remote-mta 18
 remove 31
 rot-13 37
 rot-13, Scheme function 37
 rule system 25
 rule-priority 23

S

sasl-allowed-mech 17
 sasl-hostname 17
 sasl-password-db 17
 sasl-realm 18
 sasl-service 17
 scase, flag 29
 Scheme 24
 Secure Socket Layer, SSL 45
 server 1
 settings 15
 signature-file-append 32
 Simple Mail Transport Protocol, SMTP
 1
 smime 47
 SMTP normalization 2
 smtp-greeting-message 17
 smtp-help-message 17
 SOCKS proxy 20
 socks-auth 20
 socks-proxy 20
 socks-v4 20
 ssl 22
 ssl-cafile 22
 ssl-cert 22
 ssl-key 22
 ssl-oneway 22
 stop 30
 system configuration file 15

T

termlevel 19
tracefile 20
TRANSLATION section 23
Transport Layer Security, TLS 45
Triggers..... 27

tunnel 1

U

user configuration file 15
user-notprivileged..... 23

Short Contents

1	Overview	1
2	Glossary of Frequently Used Terms	3
3	Authentication	5
4	Configuration	15
5	The Rule System	25
6	Invoking GNU Anubis	41
7	Sample Beginning	43
8	Using the TLS/SSL Encryption	45
9	Using S/MIME Signatures	47
10	Using Anubis to Process Incoming Mail	49
11	Using Mutt with Anubis	51
12	Reporting Bugs	55
A	Pixie & Dixie	57
B	Multi-Part Message Processing	63
C	GNU Free Documentation License	69
	Concept Index	77

Table of Contents

1	Overview	1
2	Glossary of Frequently Used Terms	3
3	Authentication	5
3.1	User Database	6
3.2	Database URL	6
3.2.1	Plain text databases	7
3.2.2	Databases in GDBM format	7
3.2.3	MySQL and PostgreSQL	8
3.3	Managing the Database	9
3.3.1	Administrators	9
3.3.1.1	Creating the Database	10
3.3.1.2	Listing Database Records	10
3.3.1.3	Adding New Records	10
3.3.1.4	Removing Existing Records	11
3.3.1.5	Modifying Existing Records	11
3.3.1.6	Summary of All Administrative Commands	12
3.3.2	Users	13
4	Configuration	15
4.1	AUTH Section	17
4.2	CONTROL Section	18
4.2.1	Basic Settings	18
4.2.2	Output Settings	19
4.2.3	Proxy Settings	20
4.2.4	ESMTP Authentication Settings	20
4.2.5	Encryption Settings	22
4.2.6	Security Settings	22
4.3	TRANSLATION Section	23
4.4	GUILE Section	24
5	The Rule System	25
5.1	Actions	25
5.2	Conditional Statements	25
5.2.1	Concatenations	27
5.3	Triggers	27
5.4	Boolean Operators	28
5.5	Regular Expressions	29
5.6	Action List	30

5.6.1	Stop Action	30
5.6.2	Call Action	30
5.6.3	Adding Headers or Text	31
5.6.4	Removing Headers	31
5.6.5	Modifying Messages	31
5.6.6	Inserting Files	32
5.6.7	Mail Encryption	33
5.6.8	Using an External Processor	34
5.6.9	Quick Example	34
5.7	Using Guile Actions	35
5.7.1	Defining Guile Actions	35
5.7.2	Invoking Guile Actions	36
5.7.3	Support for ROT-13	37
5.7.4	Remailers Type-I	37
5.7.5	Entire Message Filters	38
6	Invoking GNU Anubis	41
7	Sample Beginning	43
8	Using the TLS/SSL Encryption	45
9	Using S/MIME Signatures	47
10	Using Anubis to Process Incoming Mail ...	49
11	Using Mutt with Anubis	51
11.1	Using GNU mailutils as an interface to mutt	51
11.2	Using msg2smtp.pl as an interface to mutt	52
11.3	Patching mutt	52
11.4	Comparison of the Three Interface Methods	53
12	Reporting Bugs	55
Appendix A	Pixie & Dixie	57
Appendix B	Multi-Part Message Processing	
	63

Appendix C	GNU Free Documentation License	
	69
C.1	ADDENDUM: How to use this License for your documents....	76
Concept Index	77

