

# Testing QUIC with packetdrill

**Vidhi Goel**, Rui Paulo, Christoph Paasch

Apple Inc

SIGCOMM EPIQ

August 14 2020

# Is QUIC ready to ship?



- Unit testing
- Inter-op testing between ~20 implementations
- Performance sanity of HTTP/3 vs HTTP/2
- Initial deployment for experimentation
- Is the industry ready?

# Transport protocols are complex

Connection  
lifecycle

Flow Control

Loss Recovery

Congestion  
Control

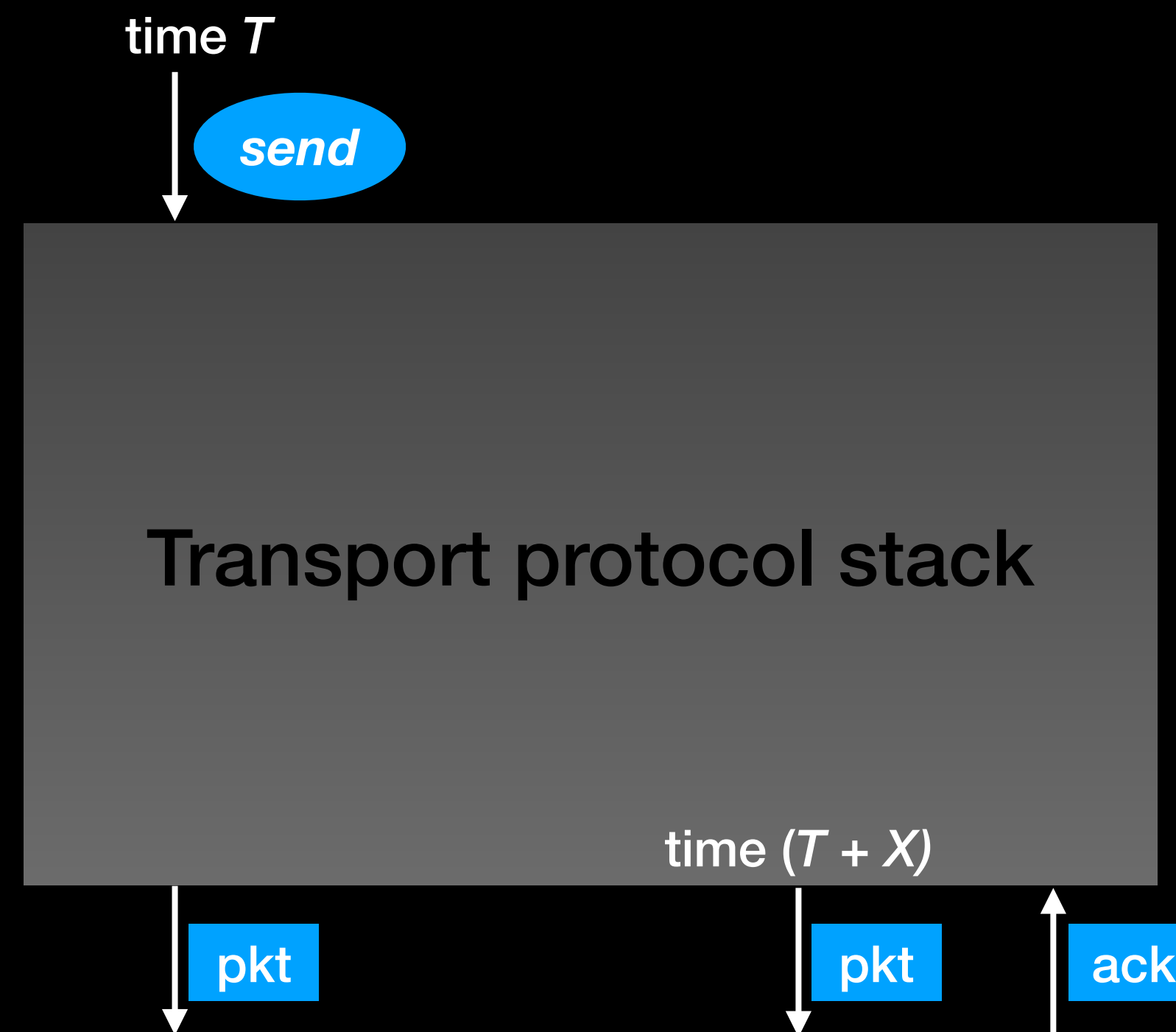
## QUIC is even harder

- Header and packet protection
- Authenticated handshake
- Multiple streams within a connection
- Large set of transport parameters and frames
- Built-in mobility; and more ...

# Testing Methods

- Interoperability / Performance testing
- Protocol fuzzing
- Failure testing
- Conformance testing
- Longevity / Stress testing
- **Reproducible integration testing**

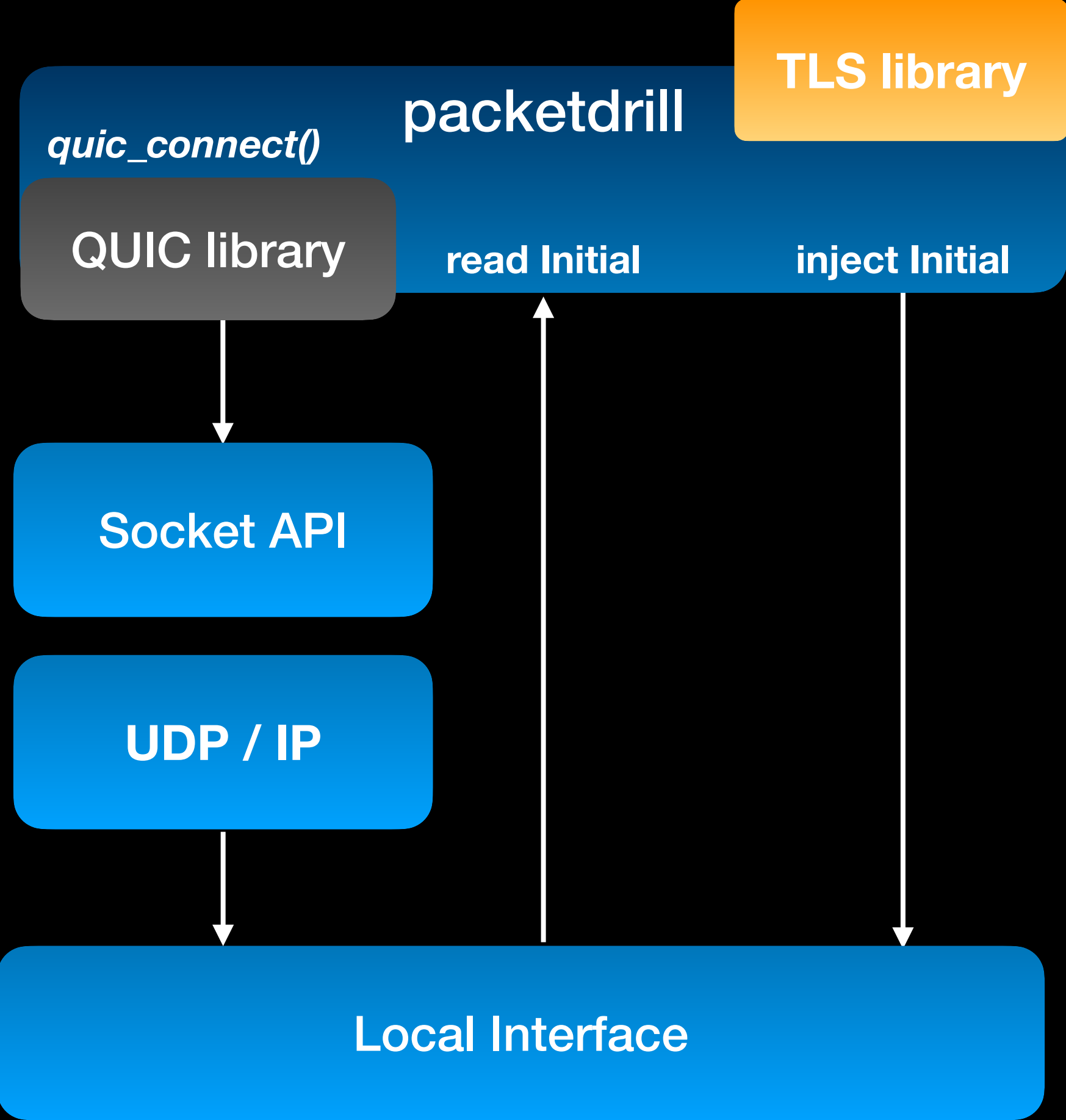
# Reproducible & precise Integration testing



# packetdrill

- Scripting tool developed by Google
- Specify a set of events with timestamps
  - system calls, packets, shell commands, python script
- Write precise, reproducible and automated scripts
- Easy integration of new protocol options

# packetdrill for QUIC



# Example script for QUIC handshake

+0 quic\_create (... , IPPROTO\_QUIC) = 3

+0 quic\_connect (3, ..., ...) = 0

+0  quic (initial, dcid=0x1, pn=0 [...])

+0.1  quic (initial, dcid=0x2, pn=0 [...])

+0 < quic (handshake, dcid=0x02, pn = 0 [...])

+0 < quic (handshake, dcid=0x02, pn = 1 [...])

+0 > quic (handshake, dcid=0x1, pn=0 [...])

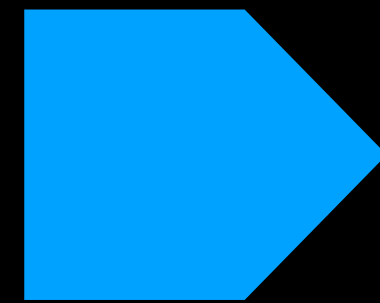
+0 > quic (application, dcid=0x1, pn=0)

 QUIC library

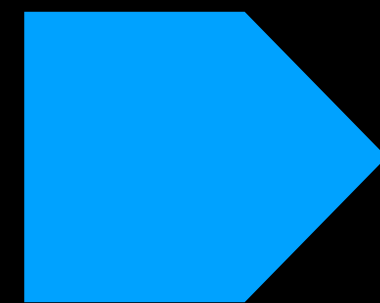
 packetdrill



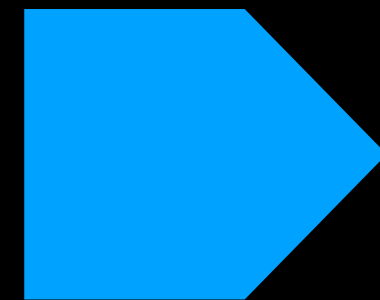
# Integrating QUIC into packetdrill



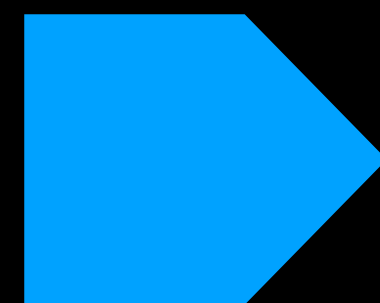
QUIC packet grammar



TLS handshake



Packet parsing and verification



Packet injection

# QUIC packet grammar

packet

packet\_prefix **QUIC** ( **q\_header** ): **q\_frame\_list**

**q\_header**

q\_packet\_type, header\_field1=<value> [,...]

**q\_frame\_list**

q\_frame [; q\_frame[...]]

q\_frame

q\_frame\_type [field1=<value> [,...]]

# QUIC packet examples

// Client Initial packet

+0 > quic (initial, dcid=0x1, scid=0x2, pn=0):

CRYPTO[offset=0, length=512];

PADDING[length=640]

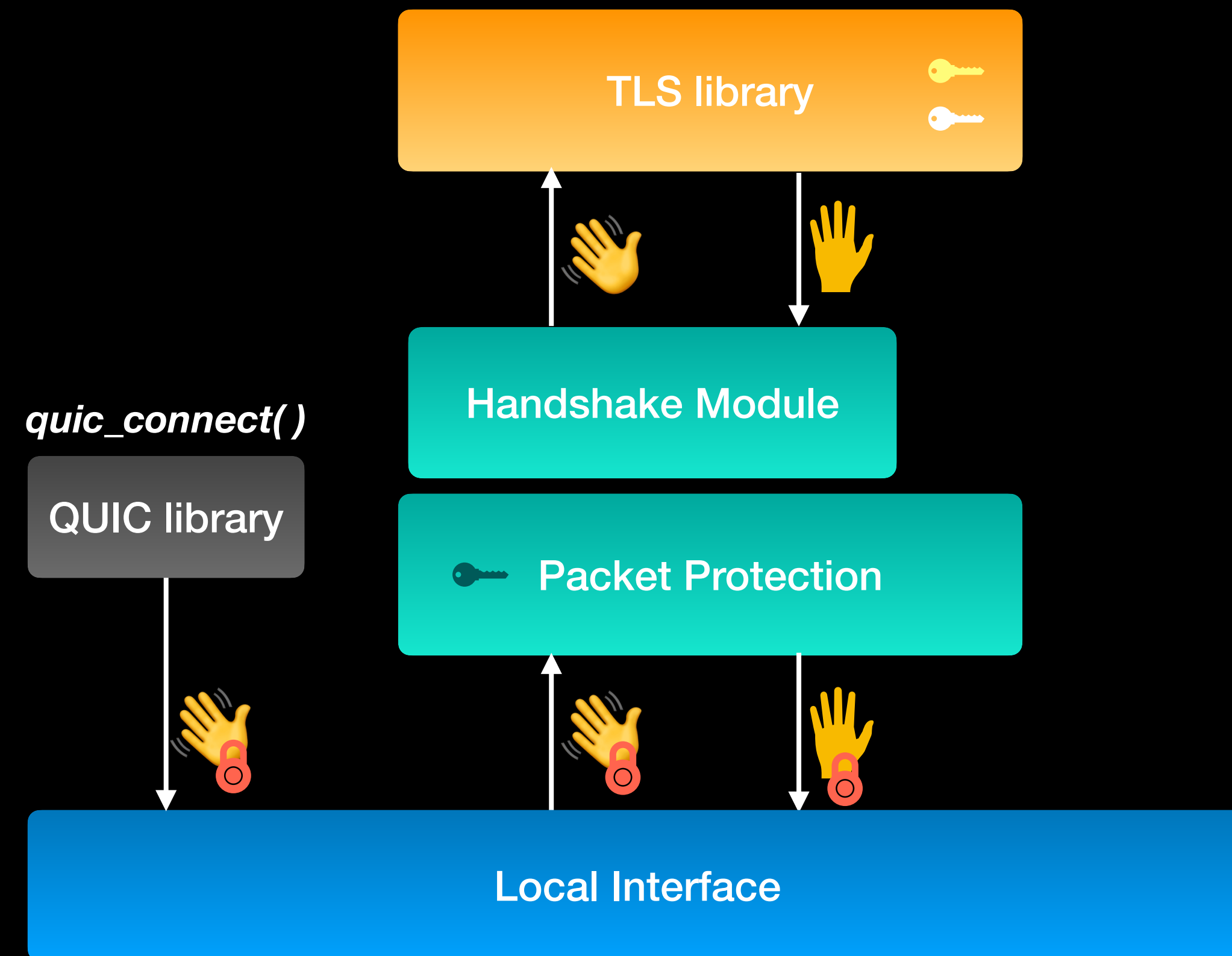
// Injected server initial, transport params are specified in CRYPTO frame

+0.1 < quic (initial, dcid=0x2, scid=0x1, pn=0):

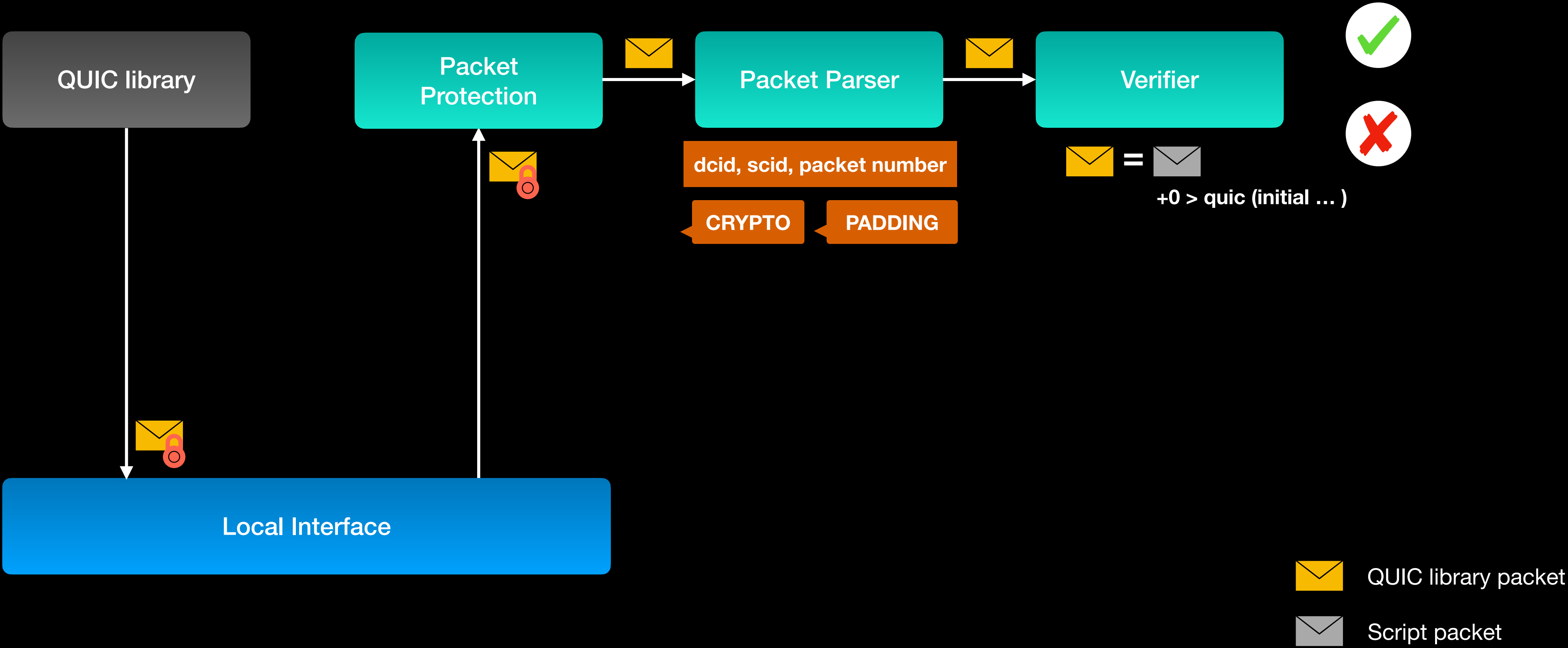
CRYPTO[offset=0, length=122, initial\_max\_stream\_data\_bidi\_remote=5000];

ACK[largest=0, delay=10, range\_count=0, range0=0]

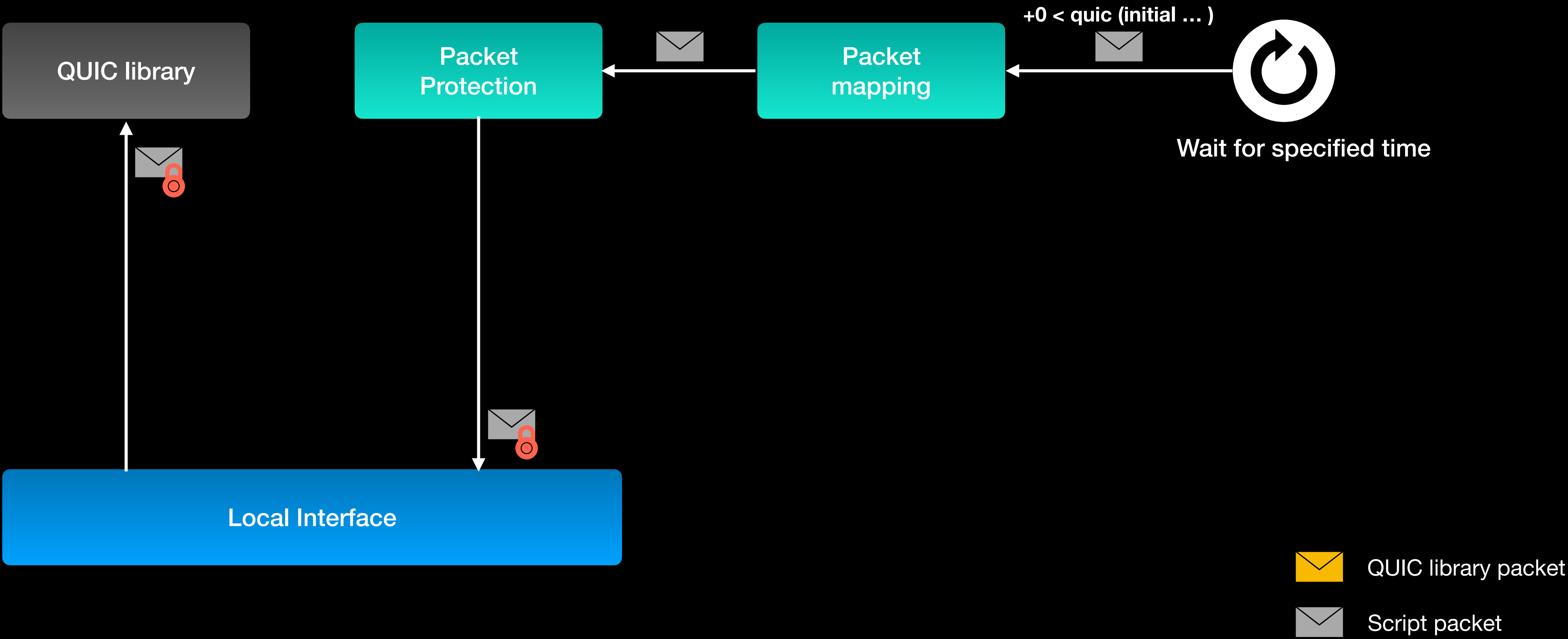
# TLS handshake



# Packet parsing and verification



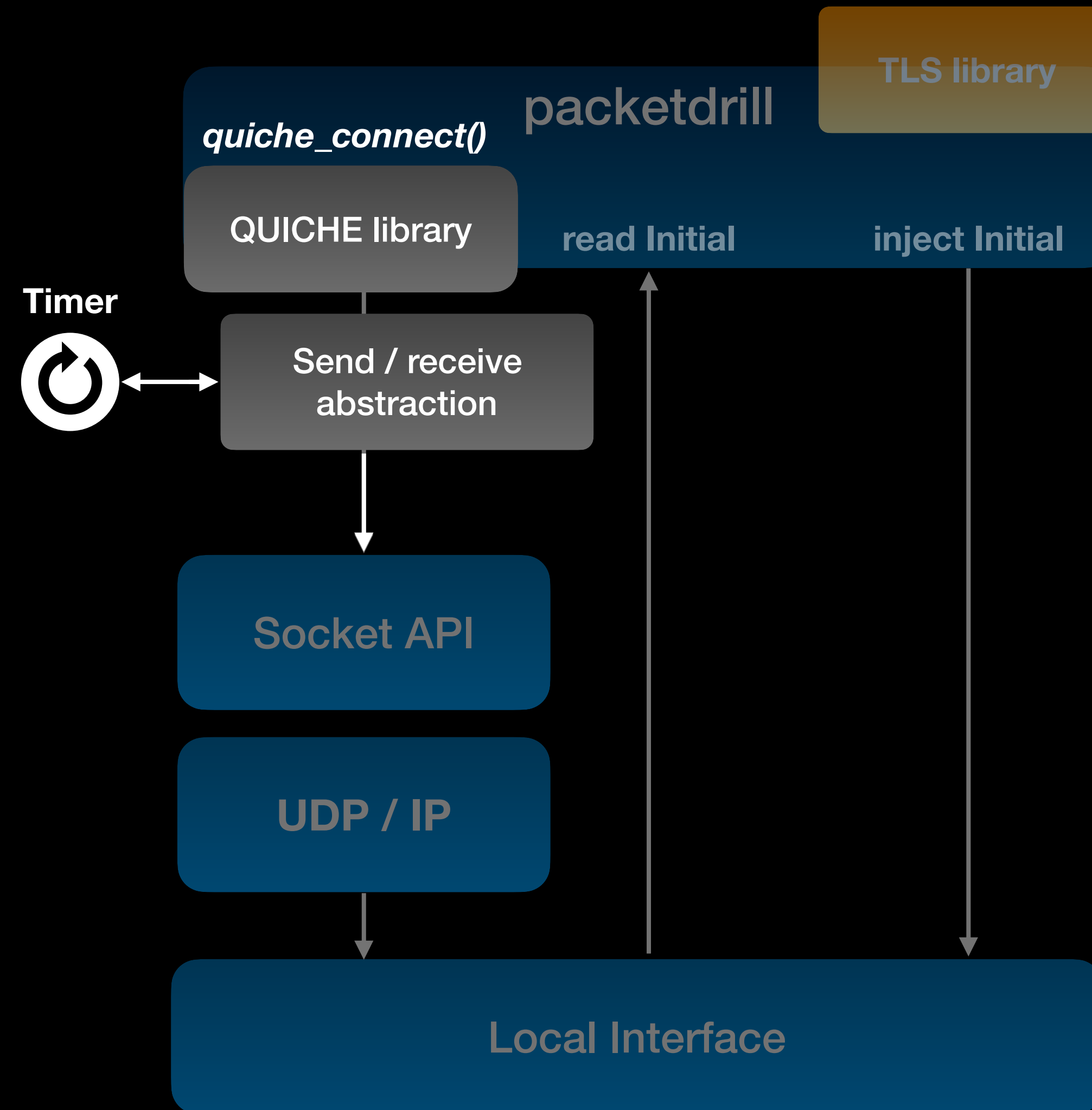
# Packet injection



# QUIC test scripts

- Over 50 scripts and growing
- Scripts for handshake, flow control, streams, loss recovery, congestion control, PMTU discovery...
- Continuous integration and automation testing
- Use during development, regression testing & troubleshooting

# Adopting a second QUIC library





# Experience with QUICHE

- Easy to integrate, less than 300 lines of source code
- Reuse same test scripts for a different library
- Found issues and worked with Cloudflare to fix them

# Challenges

- **CPU time for TLS handshake may be variable**
  - ✎ Variance introduces instability in test results
  - ✔ Use tolerance and time intervals
- **Script MUST start with QUIC handshake**
  - ✎ QUIC handshake is lengthy to write - can create inconsistencies
  - ✔ Include a handshake template
- **Multiple draft versions**
  - ✎ Continue to add support for newer draft
  - ✔ Specify ALPN through QUIC library API to set client version

# Conclusion

- Packetdrill provides us an opportunity to test the complex protocol state machines.
- Reuse code & scripts for any QUIC library
- Testing QUIC with packetdrill will help us achieve higher quality for our QUIC implementations



# Thank You!

*Any questions ?*