Snort++ User Manual

Snort++ User Manual

Snort++ User Manual ii

REVISION HISTORY				
NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME	

Snort++ User Manual iii

Contents

1	Over	rview	1
	1.1	Configuration	2
	1.2	Modules	2
	1.3	Plugins and Scripts	3
	1.4	New Http Inspector	3
	1.5	Binder and Wizard	4
	1.6	Packet Processing	5
_	~		
2		ing Started	6
	2.1	Dependencies	
	2.2	Building	
	2.3	Run	
	2.4	Tips	
	2.5	Help	
	2.6	Common Errors	10
	2.7	Gotchas	11
3	Basi	c Modules	12
	3.1	active	
	3.2	alerts	
	3.3	attribute_table	
	3.4	classifications	
	3.5	daq	
	3.6	decode	
	3.7	detection	
	3.8	event_filter	
	3.9	21	
		file_id	
		hosts	
		ips	
		network	
		output	
		packets	
		ppm	
	3.17	process	19
	3.18	profile	19
	3.19	rate_filter	19

Snort++ User Manual iv

	3.20	references	20
	3.21	rule_state	20
	3.22	search_engine	20
	3.23	snort	21
	3.24	suppress	25
4	Cod	ec Modules	25
4	4.1	arp	
	4.1	auth	
		eapol	
	4.3	erspan2	
	4.4	erspan3	
	4.5	esp	
	4.6	•	
	4.7	eth	
	4.8	fabricpath	
		gre	
		gtp	
		icmp4	
		icmp6	
		igmp	
		ipv4	
		ipv6	
	4.16	mpls	30
	4.17	pgm	31
	4.18	pppoe	31
	4.19	tcp	31
	4.20	udp	32
	4.21	vlan	33
	4.22	wlan	33
_	D 4		22
5	Data	a Modules	33
6	Insp	vector Modules	33
	6.1	arp_spoof	33
	6.2	back_orifice	34
	6.3	binder	34
	6.4	dns	35
	6.5	ftp_client	35
	6.6	ftp_data	35
	6.7	ftp_server	35

Snort++ User Manual

	6.8	http_global	37
	6.9	http_inspect	39
	6.10	imap	41
	6.11	new_http_inspect	41
	6.12	normalizer	43
	6.13	perf_monitor	46
	6.14	pop	46
	6.15	port_scan	47
	6.16	port_scan_global	48
	6.17	rpc_decode	48
	6.18	ssh	48
	6.19	stream	49
		stream_icmp	
	6.21	stream_ip	50
		stream_tcp	
		stream_udp	
	6.24	telnet	54
	6.25	wizard	54
7	IPS	Action Modules	55
	7.1	react	
	7.2		
	7.3	rewrite	
8	IPS	Option Modules	55
	8.1	ack	55
	8.2	asn1	
	8.3	base64_decode	56
	8.4	bufferlen	56
	8.5	byte_extract	
	8.6	byte_jump	57
	8.7	byte_test	57
	8.8	classtype	58
	8.9	content	58
	8.9	••	58
	8.9 8.10 8.11	content	58 58 59
	8.9 8.10 8.11 8.12	content	58 58 59 59
	8.9 8.10 8.11 8.12 8.13	content	58 59 59 59

Snort++ User Manual vi

8.15	flow	59
8.16	flowbits	60
8.17	fragbits	60
8.18	fragoffset	60
8.19	$gid \dots \dots$	60
8.20	http_client_body	60
8.21	http_cookie	61
8.22	http_header	61
8.23	http_method	61
8.24	http_raw_cookie	61
8.25	http_raw_header	61
8.26	http_raw_uri	61
8.27	http_stat_code	61
8.28	http_stat_msg	61
8.29	http_uri	61
8.30	$icmp_id \ \dots $	62
8.31	icmp_seq	62
8.32	icode	62
8.33	$id \dots $	62
8.34	ip_proto	62
	ipopts	62
8.36	isdataat	63
8.37	itype	63
8.38	$md5 \ldots \ldots$	63
8.39	metadata	63
8.40	msg	63
8.41	pcre	64
8.42	pkt_data	64
8.43	priority	64
8.44	raw_data	64
8.45	reference	64
8.46	rem	64
8.47	replace	65
8.48	rev	65
8.49	rpc	65
8.50	seq	65
8.51	session	65
8.52	sha256	66
8.53	sha512	66

Snort++ User Manual vii

	8.54 sid	66
	8.55 so	66
	8.56 soid	66
	8.57 stream_reassemble	67
	8.58 stream_size	67
	8.59 tag	67
	8.60 tos	67
	8.61 ttl	67
	8.62 window	68
9	Search Engine Modules	68
10	SO Rule Modules	68
11	Logger Modules	68
	11.1 alert_csv	
	11.2 alert_fast	
	11.3 alert_full	
	11.4 alert_syslog	
	11.5 alert_test	
	11.6 alert_unixsock	
	11.7 log_codecs	
	11.8 log_pcap	
	11.9 unified2	70
12	2 Snort++ vs Snort	70
	12.1 Build Options	70
	12.2 Command Line	71
	12.3 Conf File	71
	12.4 Rules	72
	12.5 Output	73
	12.6 HTTP Profiles	73
13	3 Snort2Lua	74
	13.1 Snort2Lua Command Line	75
	13.1.1 Usage: snort2lua [OPTIONS]c <snort_conf></snort_conf>	75
	Options:	75
	Required option:	76
	Default values:	76
	13.2 Known Problems	76
	13.3 Usage	77

Snort++ User Manual viii

14	Reference	78
	14.1 Terminology	. 78
	14.2 Usage	. 78
	14.2.1 Environment	. 79
	14.2.2 Help	. 79
	14.2.3 Sniffing and Logging	. 79
	14.2.4 Configuration	. 80
	14.2.5 IDS mode	. 80
	14.3 Plugins	. 81
	14.4 Output Files	. 81
	14.4.1 Shell	. 82
	14.4.2 Signals	. 82
	14.5 Optional Features	. 83
	14.6 Environment Variables	. 83
	14.7 Command Line Options	. 83
	14.8 Parameters	. 85
	14.9 Configuration	. 87
	14.10Counts	. 106
	14.11 Generators	. 112
	14.12Builtin Rules	. 113
	14.13Command Set	. 123
	14.14Signals	. 123
	14.15Configuration Changes	. 124
	14.16Module Listing	. 128
	14.16.1 Plugin Listing	. 132
	14.17Extending Snort++	. 137
	14.17.1 Plugins	. 137
	14.17.2 Modules	. 137
	14.17.3 Inspectors	. 138
	14.17.4 Codecs	. 138
	14.17.5 IPS Actions	. 141
	14.17.6 Coding Style	. 141
	General	. 141
	Naming	. 141
	Comments	. 141
	Logging	. 142
	Types	. 142
	Macros (aka defines)	. 142
	Formatting	. 142

Snort++ User Manual ix

Headers	143
Warnings	14
Other	144
Uncrustify	14/

Snort++ User Manual 1 / 144



```
-*> Snort++ <*-
o" )~ Version 3.0.0-a1 (Build 150) from 2.9.7-177

''' By Martin Roesch & The Snort Team
    http://snort.org/contact#team
    Copyright (C) 2014-2015 Cisco and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.
    Copyright (C) 1998-2013 Sourcefire, Inc., et al.</pre>
```

1 Overview

Snort++ is an updated version of the Snort IPS (intrusion prevention system). This document assumes you have some familiarity with Snort and are looking to see what Snort++ has to offer. Here are some of the basic goals for Snort++:

- Support multiple packet processing threads
- Use a shared configuration and attribute table
- Use a simple, scriptable configuration
- Make key components pluggable
- Autogenerate reference documentation
- Autodetect services for portless configuration
- Support sticky buffers in rules
- Provide better cross platform support

The above goals are met with this first alpha release. Additional, longer-term goals are:

- Use a shared network map
- Support pipelining of packet processing
- Support hardware offload and data plane integration

Snort++ User Manual 2 / 144

- Rewrite critical modules like TCP reassembly and HTTP inspection
- Support proxy mode
- Facilitate component testing
- · Simplify memory management
- Provide all of Snort's functionality

This first alpha release is based on Snort 2.9.6-9 and excludes all but one of Snort's dynamic preprocessors. Work is underway to port that functionality and additions will be rolled out as they become available.

1.1 Configuration

Note that retaining backwards compatibility is not a goal. While Snort++ leverages some of the Snort code base, a lot has changed. The configuration of Snort++ is done with Lua, so your old conf won't work as is. Rules are still text based but nonetheless incompatible. However, Snort2Lua will help you convert your conf and rules to the new format.

The original Snort manual may be useful for some background information not yet documented for Snort++. The configuration differences are given in this manual.

1.2 Modules

Snort++ is organized into a collection of builtin and plugin modules. If a module has parameters, it is configured by a Lua table of the same name. For example, we can see what the active module has to offer with this command:

```
$ snort --help-module active
What: configure responses

Type: basic

Configuration:
int active.attempts = 0: number of TCP packets sent per response (with varying sequence numbers) { 0:20 }

string active.device: use 'ip' for network layer responses or 'eth0' etc for link layer

string active.dst_mac: use format '01:23:45:67:89:ab'
int active.max_responses = 0: maximum number of responses { 0: }

int active.min_interval = 255: minimum number of seconds between responses { 1: }
```

This says active is a basic module that has several parameters. For each, you will see:

```
type module.name = default: help { range }
```

For example, the active module has a max_responses parameter that takes non-negative integer values and defaults to zero. We can change that in Lua as follows:

Snort++ User Manual 3 / 144

```
active = { max_responses = 1 }
or:
active = { }
active.max_responses = 1
```

If we also wanted to limit retries to at least 5 seconds, we could do:

```
active = { max_responses = 1, min_interval = 5 }
```

1.3 Plugins and Scripts

There are several plugin types:

- Codec to decode and encode packets
- Inspector like the prior preprocessors, for normalization, etc.
- IpsOption for detection in Snort++ IPS rules
- IpsAction for custom rule actions
- · Logger for handling events
- Mpse for fast pattern matching
- So for dynamic rules

Most plugins can be built statically or dynamically. By default they are all static. There is no difference in functionality between static or dynamic plugins but the dynamic build generates a slightly lighter weight binary. Either way you can add dynamic plugins with --plugin-path and newer versions will replace older versions, even when built statically.

The power of plugins is that they have a very focused purpose and can be created with relative ease. For example, you can extend the rule language by writing your own IpsOption and it will plug in and function just like existing options. The extra directory has examples of each type of plugin.

Some things just need to be tweaked or prototyped quickly. In addition to the Lua conf, which is a script that can contain functions to compute settings, etc., you can also script Loggers and IpsOptions.

1.4 New Http Inspector

One of the major undertakings for Snort 3.0 is developing a completely new HTTP inspector. It is incomplete right now but you can examine the work-in-progress. You can configure it by adding:

```
new_http_inspect = {}
```

to your snort.lua configuration file. Or you can read it in the source code under src/service_inspectors/nhttp_inspect.

The classic HTTP preprocessor is still available in the alpha release as http_inspect. It's probably the better choice for now if you just want to do some work and do not feel like experimenting. Be sure not to configure both old and new HTTP inspectors at the same time.

So why a new HTTP inspector?

For starters it is object-oriented. That's good for us because we maintain this software. But it should also be really nice for open-source developers. You can make meaningful changes and additions to HTTP processing without having to understand the whole thing. In fact much of the new HTTP inspector's knowledge of HTTP is centralized in a series of tables where it can be easily reviewed and modified. Many significant changes can be made just by updating these tables.

Snort++ User Manual 4 / 144

New_http_inspect is the first inspector written specifically for the new Snort 3.0 architecture. That provides access to one of the very best features of Snort 3.0: purely PDU-based inspection. Classic http_inspect processes HTTP messages, but even while doing so it is constantly aware of IP packets and how they divide up the TCP data stream. The same HTTP message might be processed differently depending on how the sender (bad guy) divided it up into IP packets.

New_http_inspect is free of this burden and can focus exclusively on HTTP. That makes it much more simple, easier to test, and less prone to false positives. It also greatly reduces the opportunity for adversaries to probe the inspector for weak spots by adjusting packet boundaries to disguise bad behavior.

Dealing solely with HTTP messages also opens the door for developing major new features. The new_http_inspect design supports true stateful processing. Want to ask questions that involve both the client request and the server response? Or different requests in the same session? These things are possible.

Another new feature on the horizon is HTTP/2 analysis. HTTP/2 derives from Google's SPDY project and is in the process of being standardized. Despite the name, it is better to think of HTTP/2 not as a newer version of HTTP/1.1, but rather a separate protocol layer that runs under HTTP/1.1 and on top of TLS or TCP. It's a perfect fit for the new Snort 3.0 architecture because a new HTTP/2 inspector would naturally output HTTP/1.1 messages but not any underlying packets. Exactly what the new_http_inspect wants to input.

New_http_inspect is taking a very different approach to HTTP header fields. Classic http_inspect divides all the HTTP headers following the start line into cookies and everything else. It normalizes the two pieces using a generic process and puts them in buffers that one can write rules against. There is some limited support for examining individual headers within the inspector but it is very specific.

The new concept is that every header should be normalized in an appropriate and specific way and individually made available for the user to write rules against it. If for example a header is supposed to be a date then normalization means put that date in a standard format.

1.5 Binder and Wizard

One of the fundamental differences between Snort and Snort++ concerns configuration related to networks and ports. Here is a brief review of Snort's configuration for network and service related components:

- Snort's configuration has a default policy and optional policies selected by VLAN or network (with config binding).
- Each policy contains a user defined set of preprocessor configurations.
- Each preprocessor has a default configuration and some support non-default configurations selected by network.
- Most preprocessors have port configurations.
- The default policy may also contain a list of ports to ignore.

In Snort++, the above configurations are done in a single module called the binder. Here is an example:

```
binder =
{
    -- allow all tcp port 22:
    -- (similar to snort 2.X config ignore_ports)
    { when = { proto = 'tcp', ports = '22' }, use = { action = 'allow' } },

-- select a config file by vlan
    -- (similar to snort 2.X config binding by vlan)
{ when = { vlans = '1024' }, use = { file = 'vlan.lua' } },

-- use a non-default HTTP inspector for port 8080:
    -- (similar to a snort 2.X targeted preprocessor config)
{ when = { nets = '192.168.0.0/16', proto = 'tcp', ports = '8080' },
    use = { name = 'alt_http', type = 'http_inspect' } },
```

Snort++ User Manual 5 / 144

```
-- use the default inspectors:
-- (similar to a snort 2.X default preprocessor config)
{ when = { proto = 'tcp' }, use = { type = 'stream_tcp' } },
{ when = { service = 'http' }, use = { type = 'http_inspect' } },
-- figure out which inspector to run automatically:
    { use = { type = 'wizard' } }
}
```

Bindings are evaluated when a session starts and again if and when service is identified on the session. Essentially, the bindings are a list of when-use rules evaluated from top to bottom. The first matching network and service configurations are applied. binder.when can contain any combination of criteria and binder.use can specify an action, config file, or inspector configuration.

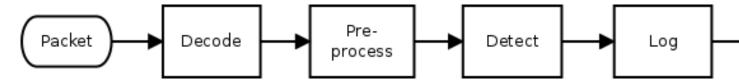
Using the wizard enables port-independent configuration and the detection of malware command and control channels. If the wizard is bound to a session, it peeks at the initial payload to determine the service. For example, *GET* would indicate HTTP and *HELO* would indicate SMTP. Upon finding a match, the service bindings are reevaluated so the session can be handed off to the appropriate inspector. The wizard is still under development; if you find you need to tweak the defaults please let us know.

Additional Details:

- If the wizard and one or more service inspectors are configured w/o explicitly configuring the binder, default bindings will be generated which should work for most common cases.
- Also note that while Snort 2.X bindings can only be configured in the default policy, each Snort 3.0 policy can contain a binder leading to an arbitrary hierarchy.
- The entire configuration can be reloaded and hot-swapped during run-time via signal or command in both Snort 2.X and 3.0. Ultimately, Snort 3.0 will support commands to update the binder on the fly, thus enabling incremental reloads of individual inspectors.
- Both Snort 2.X and 3.0 support server specific configurations via a hosts table (XML in Snort 2.X and Lua in Snort 3.0). The table allows you to map network, protocol, and port to a service and policy. This table can be reloaded and hot-swapped separately from the config file.
- You can find the specifics on the binder, wizard, and hosts tables in the manual or command line like this: snort --help-module binder, etc.

1.6 Packet Processing

One of the goals of Snort++ is to provide a more flexible framework for packet processing by implementing an event-driven approach. Another is to produce data only when needed, to minimize expensive normalizations. To help explain these concepts, let's start by examining how Snort processes packets. The key steps are given in the following figure:



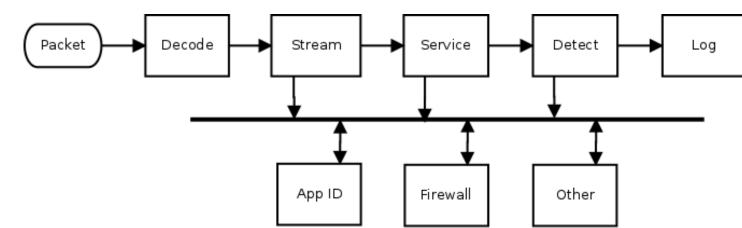
The preprocess step is highly configurable. Arbitrary preprocessors can be loaded dynamically at startup, configured in snort.conf, and then executed at runtime. Basically, the preprocessors are put into a list which is iterated for each packet. Recent versions have tweaked the list handling some, but the same basic architecture has allowed Snort to grow from a sniffer, with no preprocessing, to a full-fledged IPS, with lots of preprocessing.

While this "list of plugins" approach has considerable flexibility, it hampers future development when the flow of data from one preprocessor to the next depends on traffic conditions, a common situation with advanced features like application identification. In this case, a preprocessor like HTTP may be extracting and normalizing data that ultimately is not used, or app ID may be repeatedly checking for data that is just not available.

Snort++ User Manual 6 / 144

Callbacks help break out of the preprocess straightjacket. This is where one preprocessor supplies another with a function to call when certain data is available. Snort has started to take this approach to pass some HTTP and SIP preprocessor data to app ID. However, it remains a peripheral feature and still requires the production of data that may not be consumed.

The basic processing steps Snort takes are similar to Snort's as seen in the following diagram. The preprocess step employs specific inspector types instead of a generalized list, but the basic procedure includes stateless packet decoding, TCP stream reassembly, and ser vice specific analysis in both cases. (Snort provides hooks for arbitrary inspectors, but they are not central to basic flow processing and are not shown.)



However, Snort++ also provides a more flexible mechanism than callback functions. By using inspection events, it is possible for an inspector to supply data that other inspectors can process. This is known as the observer pattern or publish-subscribe pattern.

Note that the data is not actually published. Instead, access to the data is published, and that means that subscribers can access the raw or normalized version(s) as needed. Normalizations are done only on the first access, and subsequent accesses get the previously normalized data. This results in just in time (JIT) processing.

A basic example of this in action is provided by the extra data_log plugin. It is a passive inspector, ie it does nothing until it receives the data it subscribed for (*other* in the above diagram). By adding data_log = { key = http_raw_uri } to your snort.lua configuration, you will get a simple URI logger.

Inspection events coupled with pluggable inspectors provide a very flexible framework for implementing new features. And JIT buffer stuffers allow Snort to work smarter, not harder. These capabilities will be leveraged more and more as Snort development continues.

2 Getting Started

The following pointers will help you get started:

2.1 Dependencies

Required:

- autotools or cmake to build from source
- g++>=4.8 or other recent C++11 compiler
- daq from http://www.snort.org for packet IO
- dnet from http://code.google.com/p/libdnet/ for network utility functions
- LuaJIT from http://luajit.org for configuration and scripting

Snort++ User Manual 7 / 144

- pcap from http://www.tcpdump.org for tcpdump style logging
- pcre from http://www.pcre.org for regular expression pattern matching
- zlib from http://www.zlib.net for decompression
- pkgconfig from http://www.freedesktop.org to build the example plugins

Optional:

- asciidoc from http://www.methods.co.nz/asciidoc/ to build the HTML manual
- dblatex from http://dblatex.sourceforge.net to build the pdf manual (in addition to asciidoc)
- w3m from http://sourceforge.net/projects/w3m/ to build the plain text manual
- check from http://check.sourceforge.net to build unit tests

2.2 Building

- Optionally built features are listed in the reference section.
- Create an install path:

```
export my_path=/path/to/snorty
mkdir -p $my_path
```

• If you are using a github clone with autotools, do this:

```
autoreconf -isvf
```

- Now do one of the following:
 - a. To build with autotools, simply do the usual from the top level directory:

```
./configure --prefix=$my_path
make -j 8
make install
```

b. To build with cmake and make, run configure_cmake.sh. It will automatically create and populate a new subdirectory named *build*.

```
./configure_cmake.sh --prefix=$my_path
cd build
make -j 8
make install
ln -s $my_path/conf $my_path/etc
```

c. You can also specify a cmake project generator:

```
./configure_cmake.sh --generator=Xcode --prefix=$my_path
```

d. Or use ccmake directly to configure and generate from an arbitrary build directory like one of these:

```
ccmake -G Xcode /path/to/Snort++/tree
open snort.xcodeproj

ccmake -G "Eclipse CDT4 - Unix Makefiles" /path/to/Snort++/tree
run eclipse and do File > Import > Existing Eclipse Project
```

Snort++ User Manual 8 / 144

2.3 Run

First set up the environment:

```
export LUA_PATH=$my_path/include/snort/lua/\?.lua\;\;
export SNORT_LUA_PATH=$my_path/etc
```

Then give it a go:

• Get some help:

```
$my_path/bin/snort --help
$my_path/bin/snort --help-module suppress
$my_path/bin/snort --help-config | grep thread
```

• Examine and dump a pcap:

```
$my_path/bin/snort -r <pcap>
$my_path/bin/snort -K text -d -e -q -r <pcap>
```

• Verify config, with or w/o rules:

```
$my_path/bin/snort -c $my_path/etc/snort.lua
$my_path/bin/snort -c $my_path/etc/snort.lua -R $my_path/etc/sample.rules
```

• Run IDS mode. To keep it brief, look at the first n packets in each file:

```
my_path/bin/snort -c my_path/etc/snort.lua -R my_path/etc/sample.rules -r <pcap> -A alert_test -n 100000
```

• Let's suppress 1:2123. We could edit the conf or just do this:

```
$my_path/bin/snort -c $my_path/etc/snort.lua -R $my_path/etc/sample.rules \
    -r <pcap> -A alert_test -n 100000 --lua "suppress = { { gid = 1, sid = 2123 } ←
    }"
```

• Go whole hog on a directory with multiple packet threads:

```
$my_path/bin/snort -c $my_path/etc/snort.lua -R $my_path/etc/sample.rules \
    --pcap-filter \*.pcap --pcap-dir <dir> -A alert_fast -n 1000 --max-packet- ←
    threads 8
```

2.4 Tips

One of the goals of Snort++ is to make it easier to configure your sensor. Here is a summary of tips and tricks you may find useful.

General Use

- Snort tries hard not to error out too quickly. It will report multiple semantic errors.
- Snort always assumes the simplest mode of operation. Eg, you can omit the -T option to validate the conf if you don't provide a packet source.
- Warnings are not emitted unless --warn-* is specified. --warn-all enables all warnings, and --pedantic makes such warnings fatal.
- You can process multiple sources at one time by using the -z or --max-threads option.

Snort++ User Manual 9 / 144

- To make it easy to find the important data, zero counts are not output at shutdown.
- Load plugins from the command line with --plugin-path/path/to/install/lib.
- You can process multiple sources at one time by using the -z or --max-threads option.
- Unit tests are configured with --enable-unit-tests (libcheck is required). They can then be run with snort --unit-test [<mode>] where mode is a libcheck print_mode (silent, minimal, normal, etc.).

Lua Configuration

- Configure the wizard and default bindings will be created based on configured inspectors. No need to explicitly bind ports in this case.
- You can override or add to your Lua conf with the --lua command line option.
- The Lua conf is a live script that is executed when loaded. You can add functions, grab environment variables, compute values, etc.
- You can also rename symbols that you want to disable. For example, changing normalizer to Xnormalizer (an unknown symbol) will disable the normalizer. This can be easier than commenting in some cases.
- By default, symbols unknown to Snort++ are silently ignored. You can generate warnings for them with --warn-unknown. To ignore such symbols, export them in the environment variable SNORT_IGNORE.

Writing and Loading Rules

Snort++ rules allow arbitrary whitespace. Multi-line rules make it easier to structure your rule for clarity. There are multiple ways to add comments to your rules:

- Like Snort, the # character starts a comment to end of line. In addition, all lines between #begin and #end are comments.
- The rem option allows you to write a comment that is conveyed with the rule.
- C style multi-line comments are allowed, which means you can comment out portions of a rule while testing it out by putting the options between /* and */.

There are multiple ways to load rules too:

- Set ips.rules or ips.include.
- Snort 2.X include statements can be used in rules files.
- Use -R to load a rules file.
- Use --stdin-rules with command line redirection.
- Use --lua to specify one or more rules as a command line argument.

Output Files

To make it simple to configure outputs when you run with multiple packet threads, output files are not explicitly configured. Instead, you can use the options below to format the paths:

```
<logdir>/[<run_prefix>][<id#>][<X>]<name>
```

- · logdir is set with -l and defaults to ./
- run_prefix is set with --run-prefix else not used
- id# is the packet thread number that writes the file; with one packet thread, id# (zero) is omitted without --id-zero
- X is / if you use --id-subdir, else _ if id# is used
- name is based on module name that writes the file
- all text mode outputs default to stdout

Snort++ User Manual 10 / 144

2.5 Help

```
Snort has several options to get more help:
-? list command line options (same as --help)
--help this overview of help
--help-commands [<module prefix>] output matching commands
--help-config [<module prefix>] output matching config options
--help-counts [<module prefix>] output matching peg counts
--help-module <module> output description of given module
--help-modules list all available modules with brief help
--help-plugins list all available plugins with brief help
--help-options [<option prefix>] output matching command line options
--help-signals dump available control signals
--list-buffers output available inspection buffers
--list-builtin [<module prefix>] output matching builtin rules
--list-gids [<module prefix>] output matching generators
--list-modules [<module type>] list all known modules
--list-plugins list all known modules
--show-plugins list module and plugin versions
--help* and --list* options preempt other processing so should be last on the
command line since any following options are ignored. To ensure options like
--markup and --plugin-path take effect, place them ahead of the help or list
options.
Options that filter output based on a matching prefix, such as --help-config
won't output anything if there is no match. If no prefix is given, everything
matches.
Report bugs to bugs@snort.org.
```

2.6 Common Errors

FATAL: snort_config is required

• add this line near top of file:

```
require('snort_config')
```

PANIC: unprotected error in call to Lua API (cannot open snort defaults.lua: No such file or directory)

• export SNORT_LUA_PATH to point to any dofiles

ERROR can't find xyz

• if xyz is the name of a module, make sure you are not assigning a scalar where a table is required (e.g. xyz = 2 should be xyz = { }).

ERROR can't find x.y

• module x does not have a parameter named y. check --help-module x for available parameters.

ERROR invalid x.y = z

• the value z is out of range for x.y. check --help-config x.y for the range allowed.

Snort++ User Manual 11 / 144

ERROR: $x = \{ y = z \}$ is in conf but is not being applied

• make sure that $x = \{ \}$ isn't set later because it will override the earlier setting. same for x.y.

FATAL: can't load lua/errors.lua: lua/errors.lua:68: = expected near ';'

• this is a syntax error reported by Lua to Snort on line 68 of errors.lua.

ERROR: rules(2) unknown rule keyword: find.

• this was due to not including the --script-path.

WARNING: unknown symbol x

• if you any variables, you can squelch such warnings by setting them in an environment variable SNORT_IGNORE. to ignore x, y, and z:

```
export SNORT_IGNORE="x y z"
```

2.7 Gotchas

• A nil key in a table will not caught. Neither will a nil value in a table. Neither of the following will cause errors, nor will they actually set http_server.post_depth:

```
http_server = { post_depth }
http_server = { post_depth = undefined_symbol }
```

• It is not an error to set a value multiple times. The actual value applied may not be the last in the table either. It is best to avoid such cases.

```
http_server =
{
    post_depth = 1234,
    post_depth = 4321
}
```

- Snort can't tell you the exact filename or line number of a semantic error but it will tell you the fully qualified name.
- The dump DAQ will not work with multiple threads unless you use --daq-var file=/dev/null. This will be fixed in at some point to use the Snort log directory, etc.
- Variables are currently processed in an order determined by the Lua hash table which is effectively random. That means you will need to use Lua string concatenation to ensure Snort doesn't try to use a variable before it is defined (even when it is defined ahead of use in the file):

```
-- this may fail:

MY_SERVERS = [[ 172.20.0.0/16 172.21.0.0/16 ]]

EXTERNAL_NET = '!$MY_SERVERS'

-- this will work:

MY_SERVERS = [[ 172.20.0.0/16 172.21.0.0/16 ]]

EXTERNAL_NET = '!' .. MY_SERVERS
```

Snort++ User Manual 12 / 144

3 Basic Modules

Internal modules which are not plugins are termed "basic". These include configuration for core processing.

3.1 active

What: configure responses

Type: basic Configuration:

- int active.attempts = 0: number of TCP packets sent per response (with varying sequence numbers) { 0:20 }
- string active.device: use ip for network layer responses or eth0 etc for link layer
- string active.dst_mac: use format 01:23:45:67:89:ab
- int active.max responses = 0: maximum number of responses { 0: }
- int active.min_interval = 255: minimum number of seconds between responses { 1: }

3.2 alerts

What: configure alerts

Type: basic

Configuration:

- bool alerts.alert_with_interface_name = false: include interface in alert info (fast, full, or syslog only)
- bool alerts.default_rule_state = true: enable or disable ips rules
- int alerts.detection_filter_memcap = 1048576: set available memory for filters { 0: }
- int alerts.event_filter_memcap = 1048576: set available memory for filters { 0: }
- int alerts.flowbits_size = 1024: maximum number of allowed unique flowbits { 0:2048 }
- string alerts.order = pass drop alert log: change the order of rule action application
- int alerts.rate_filter_memcap = 1048576: set available memory for filters { 0: }
- string alerts.reference_net: set the CIDR for homenet (for use with -1 or -B, does NOT change \$HOME_NET in IDS mode)
- bool **alerts.stateful** = false: don't alert w/o established session (note: rule action still taken)
- string alerts.tunnel_verdicts: let DAQ handle non-allow verdicts for GTP|Teredol6in4|4in6 traffic

3.3 attribute_table

What: configure hosts loading

Type: basic Configuration:

- int attribute_table.max_hosts = 1024: maximum number of hosts in attribute table { 32:207551 }
- int attribute_table.max_services_per_host = 8: maximum number of services per host entry in attribute table { 1:65535 }
- int attribute_table.max_metadata_services = 8: maximum number of services in rule metadata { 1:256 }

Snort++ User Manual 13 / 144

3.4 classifications

What: define rule categories with priority

Type: basic Configuration:

• string classifications[].name: name used with classtype rule option

• int **classifications**[].**priority** = 1: default priority for class { 0: }

• string classifications[].text: description of class

3.5 dag

What: configure packet acquisition interface

Type: basic Configuration:

• string daq.dir: directory where to search for DAQ plugins

• select daq.mode: set mode of operation { passive | inline | read-file }

- bool daq.no_promisc = false: whether to put DAQ device into promiscuous mode
- string daq.type: select type of DAQ
- string daq.vars: comma separated list of name=value DAQ-specific parameters
- int daq.snaplen = deflt: set snap length (same as -P) { 0:65535 }
- bool daq.decode_data_link = false: display the second layer header info

Peg counts:

• daq.pcaps: total files processed

• daq.received: total packets received from DAQ

• daq.analyzed: total packets analyzed from DAQ

• daq.dropped: packets dropped

• daq.filtered: packets filtered out

• daq.outstanding: packets unprocessed

• daq.injected: active responses or replacements

• daq.allow: total allow verdicts

• daq.block: total block verdicts

• daq.replace: total replace verdicts

• daq.whitelist: total whitelist verdicts

• daq.blacklist: total blacklist verdicts

• daq.ignore: total ignore verdicts

• daq.internal blacklist: packets blacklisted internally due to lack of DAQ support

• daq.internal whitelist: packets whitelisted internally due to lack of DAQ support

• daq.skipped: packets skipped at startup

• daq.fail open: packets passed during initialization

• daq.idle: attempts to acquire from DAQ without available packets

Snort++ User Manual 14 / 144

3.6 decode

What: general decoder rules

Type: basic

Rules:

- 116:450 (decode) BAD-TRAFFIC bad IP protocol
- 116:293 (decode) two or more IP (v4 and/or v6) encapsulation layers present
- 116:459 (decode) fragment with zero length
- 116:150 (decode) bad traffic loopback IP
- 116:151 (decode) bad traffic same src/dst IP
- 116:449 (decode) BAD-TRAFFIC unassigned/reserved IP protocol
- 116:468 (decode) too many protocols present

3.7 detection

What: configure general IPS rule processing parameters

Type: basic

Configuration:

- int **detection.asn1** = 256: maximum decode nodes { 1: }
- bool **detection.pcre_enable** = true: disable pcre pattern matching
- int **detection.pcre_match_limit** = 1500: limit pcre backtracking, -1 = max, 0 = off { -1:1000000 }
- int **detection.pcre_match_limit_recursion** = 1500: limit pcre stack consumption, -1 = max, 0 = off { -1:10000 }

Peg counts:

- detection.analyzed: packets sent to detection
- detection.alerts: alerts not including IP reputation
- detection.total alerts: alerts including IP reputation
- detection.logged: logged packets
- detection.passed: passed packets
- detection.match limit: fast pattern matches not processed
- detection.queue limit: events not queued because queue full
- detection.log limit: events queued but not logged
- detection.event limit: events filtered
- detection.alert limit: events previously triggered on same PDU

Snort++ User Manual 15 / 144

3.8 event filter

```
What: configure thresholding of events
Type: basic
Configuration:
• int event_filter[].gid = 1: rule generator ID { 0: }
• int event_filter[].sid = 1: rule signature ID { 0: }
• enum event_filter[].type: 1st count events | every count events | once after count events { limit | threshold | both }
• enum event_filter[].track: filter only matching source or destination addresses { by_src | by_dst }
• int event_filter[].count = 0: number of events in interval before tripping; -1 to disable { -1: }
• int event_filter[].seconds = 0: count interval { 0: }
• string event_filter[].ip: restrict filter to these addresses according to track
3.9
      event_queue
What: configure event queue parameters
Type: basic
Configuration:
• int event_queue.max_queue = 8: maximum events to queue { 1: }
• int event_queue.log = 3: maximum events to log { 1: }
• enum event_queue.order_events = content_length: criteria for ordering incoming events { prioritylcontent_length }
• bool event_queue.process_all_events = false: process just first action group or all action groups
3.10 file id
What: configure file identification
Type: basic
Configuration:
• int file_id.type_depth = 1460: stop type ID at this point { 0: }
• int file_id.signature_depth = 10485760: stop signature at this point { 0: }
• int file_id.block_timeout = 86400: stop blocking after this many seconds { 0: }
• int file_id.lookup_timeout = 2: give up on lookup after this many seconds { 0: }
• bool file_id.block_timeout_lookup = false: block if lookup times out
• bool file_id.enable_type = false: enable type ID
• bool file_id.enable_signature = false: enable signature calculation
```

• int file_id.show_data_depth = 100: print this many octets { 0: }

• int file id.file rules[].rev = 0: rule revision { 0: }

Snort++ User Manual 16 / 144

- string file_id.file_rules[].msg: information about the file type
- string file_id.file_rules[].type: file type name
- int file_id.file_rules[].id = 0: file type id { 0: }
- string file_id.file_rules[].category: file type category
- string file_id.file_rules[].version: file type version
- string file_id.file_rules[].magic[].content: file magic content
- int file_id.file_rules[].magic[].offset = 0: file magic offset { 0: }

3.11 hosts

What: configure hosts

Type: basic

Configuration:

- addr hosts[].ip = 0.0.0.0/32: hosts address / cidr
- enum hosts[].frag_policy: defragmentation policy { first | linux | bsd | bsd_right | last | windows | solaris }
- enum **hosts[].tcp_policy**: tcp reassembly policy { first | last | linux | old_linux | bsd | macos | solaris | irix | hpux11 | hpux10 | windows | win_2003 | vista | proxy }
- string hosts[].services[].name: service identifier
- enum **hosts**[].services[].proto = tcp: ip protocol { tcp | udp }
- port hosts[].services[].port: port number

3.12 ips

What: configure IPS rule processing

Type: basic

Configuration:

- bool **ips.enable_builtin_rules** = false: enable events from builtin rules w/o stubs
- int **ips.id** = 0: correlate unified2 events with configuration { 0:65535 }
- string ips.include: legacy snort rules and includes
- enum **ips.mode**: set policy mode { tap | inline | inline-test }
- string ips.rules: snort rules and includes

Snort++ User Manual 17 / 144

3.13 network

What: configure basic network parameters

Type: basic

Configuration:

• multi **network.checksum_drop** = none: drop if checksum is bad { all | ip | noip | tcp | notcp | udp | noudp | icmp | noicmp | none }

- multi **network.checksum_eval** = none: checksums to verify { all | ip | noip | tcp | notcp | udp | noudp | icmp | noicmp | none }
- bool **network.decode_drops** = false: enable dropping of packets by the decoder
- int **network.id** = 0: correlate unified2 events with configuration { 0:65535 }
- int **network.min_ttl** = 1: alert / normalize packets with lower ttl / hop limit (you must enable rules and / or normalization also) { 1:255 }
- int **network.new_ttl** = 1: use this value for responses and when normalizing { 1:255 }
- int **network.layers** = 40: The maximum number of protocols that Snort can correctly decode { 3:255 }
- int **network.max_ip6_extensions** = 0: The number of IP6 options Snort will process for a given IPv6 layer. If this limit is hit, rule 116:456 may fire. 0 = unlimited { 0:255 }
- int **network.max_ip_layers** = 0: The maximum number of IP layers Snort will process for a given packet If this limit is hit, rule 116:293 may fire. 0 = unlimited { 0:255 }

3.14 output

What: configure general output parameters

Type: basic

Configuration:

- bool **output.dump_chars_only** = false: turns on character dumps (same as -C)
- bool **output.dump_payload** = false: dumps application layer (same as -d)
- bool **output.dump_payload_verbose** = false: dumps raw packet starting at link layer (same as -X)
- bool output.log_ipv6_extra_data = false: log IPv6 source and destination addresses as unified2 extra data records
- int output.event_trace.max_data = 0: maximum amount of packet data to capture { 0:65535 }
- bool **output.quiet** = false: suppress non-fatal information (still show alerts, same as -q)
- string **output.logdir** = .: where to put log files (same as -l)
- bool **output.nolog** = false: turn off logging (alerts still work, same as -N)
- bool **output.obfuscate** = false: obfuscate the logged IP addresses (same as -O)
- bool **output.show_year** = false: include year in timestamp in the alert and log files (same as -y)
- int output.tagged_packet_limit = 256: maximum number of packets tagged for non-packet metrics { 0: }
- bool **output.verbose** = false: be verbose (same as -v)

Snort++ User Manual 18 / 144

3.15 packets

What: configure basic packet handling

Type: basic

Configuration:

• bool **packets.address_space_agnostic** = false: determines whether DAQ address space info is used to track fragments and connections

- string **packets.bpf_file**: file with BPF to select traffic for Snort
- bool packets.enable_inline_init_failopen = true: whether to pass traffic during later stage of initialization to avoid drops
- int packets.limit = 0: maximum number of packets to process before stopping (0 is unlimited) { 0: }
- int **packets.skip** = 0: number of packets to skip before before processing { 0: }
- bool packets.vlan_agnostic = false: determines whether VLAN info is used to track fragments and connections

3.16 ppm

What: packet and rule latency monitoring and control (requires --enable-ppm)

Type: basic

Configuration:

- int **ppm.max_pkt_time** = 0: enable packet latency thresholding (usec), 0 = off { 0: }
- bool **ppm.fastpath_expensive_packets** = false: stop inspection if the max_pkt_time is exceeded
- enum **ppm.pkt_log** = none: log event if max_pkt_time is exceeded { none | log | alert | both }
- int **ppm.max_rule_time** = 0: enable rule latency thresholding (usec), 0 = off { 0: }
- int **ppm.threshold** = 5: number of times to exceed limit before disabling rule { 1: }
- bool **ppm.suspend_expensive_rules** = false: temporarily disable rule if threshold is reached
- int **ppm.suspend_timeout** = 60: seconds to suspend rule, 0 = permanent { 0: }
- enum **ppm.rule log** = none: enable event logging for suspended rules { nonelloglalertlboth }

Rules:

- 134:1 (ppm) rule options disabled by rule latency
- 134:2 (ppm) rule options re-enabled by rule latency
- 134:3 (ppm) packet aborted due to latency

Snort++ User Manual 19 / 144

3.17 process

What: configure basic process setup

Type: basic Configuration:

- string **process.chroot**: set chroot directory (same as -t)
- int **process.threads**[].cpu = 0: pin the associated source/thread to this cpu { 0:127 }
- string process.threads[].source: set cpu affinity for this source (either pcap or <iface>
- int **process.threads**[].thread = 0: set cpu affinity for the <cur_thread_num> thread that runs { 0: }
- bool **process.daemon** = false: fork as a daemon (same as -D)
- bool **process.dirty_pig** = false: shutdown without internal cleanup
- string **process.set_gid**: set group ID (same as -g)
- string **process.set_uid**: set user ID (same as -u)
- string **process.umask**: set process umask (same as -m)
- bool **process.utc** = false: use UTC instead of local time for timestamps

3.18 profile

What: configure profiling of rules and/or modules (requires --enable-perf-profiling)

Type: basic

Configuration:

- int **profile.rules.count** = -1: print results to given level $(-1 = all, 0 = off) \{ -1: \}$
- enum **profile.rules.sort** = avg_ticks: sort by given field { checks | avg_ticks | total_ticks | matches | no_matches | avg_ticks_per_match | avg_ticks_per_no_match }
- int **profile.modules.count** = -1: print results to given level $(-1 = all, 0 = off) \{ -1: \}$
- enum **profile.modules.sort** = avg_ticks: sort by given field { checks | avg_ticks | total_ticks }

3.19 rate_filter

What: configure rate filters (which change rule actions)

Type: basic

Configuration:

- int rate_filter[].gid = 1: rule generator ID { 0: }
- int rate_filter[].sid = 1: rule signature ID { 0: }
- enum rate_filter[].track = by_src: filter only matching source or destination addresses { by_src | by_dst | by_rule }
- int rate_filter[].count = 1: number of events in interval before tripping { 0: }
- int rate_filter[].seconds = 1: count interval { 0: }
- select rate_filter[].new_action = alert: take this action on future hits until timeout { alert | drop | log | pass | | reject | sdrop }
- int rate_filter[].timeout = 1: count interval { 0: }
- string rate_filter[].apply_to: restrict filter to these addresses according to track

Snort++ User Manual 20 / 144

3.20 references

What: define reference systems used in rules

Type: basic Configuration:

• string references[].name: name used with reference rule option

• string references[].url: where this reference is defined

3.21 rule_state

What: enable/disable specific IPS rules

Type: basic Configuration:

- int rule_state.gid = 0: rule generator ID { 0: }
- int rule_state.sid = 0: rule signature ID { 0: }
- bool rule_state.enable = true: enable or disable rule in all policies

3.22 search_engine

What: configure fast pattern matcher

Type: basic Configuration:

- int **search_engine.bleedover_port_limit** = 1024: maximum ports in rule before demotion to any-any port group { 1: }
- bool **search_engine.bleedover_warnings_enabled** = false: print warning if a rule is demoted to any-any port group
- bool **search_engine.enable_single_rule_group** = false: put all rules into one group
- bool **search_engine.debug** = false: print verbose fast pattern info
- bool **search_engine.debug_print_nocontent_rule_tests** = false: print rule group info during packet evaluation
- bool **search_engine.debug_print_rule_group_build_details** = false: print rule group info during compilation
- bool **search_engine.debug_print_rule_groups_uncompiled** = false: prints uncompiled rule group information
- bool **search_engine.debug_print_rule_groups_compiled** = false: prints compiled rule group information
- bool **search_engine.debug_print_fast_pattern** = false: print fast pattern info for each rule
- int search_engine.max_pattern_len = 0: truncate patterns when compiling into state machine (0 means no maximum) { 0: }
- int search_engine.max_queue_events = 5: maximum number of matching fast pattern states to queue per packet
- bool search_engine.no_stream_inserts = false: don't inspect reassembled payload good for performance, bad for detection
- string **search_engine.search_method** = ac_bnfa_q: set fast pattern algorithm choose available search engine
- bool search_engine.split_any_any = false: evaluate any-any rules separately to save memory
- bool search engine.search optimize = false: tweak state machine construction for better performance

Snort++ User Manual 21 / 144

3.23 snort

What: command line configuration and shell commands

Type: basic

Configuration:

- string **snort.-?**: <option prefix> output matching command line option quick help (same as --help-options) { (optional) }
- string **snort.-A**: <mode> set alert mode: none, cmg, or alert_*
- implied snort.-B: <mask> obfuscated IP addresses in alerts and packet dumps using CIDR mask
- implied **snort.-C**: print out payloads with character data only (no hex)
- string **snort.-c**: <conf> use this configuration
- implied snort.-D: run Snort in background (daemon) mode
- implied **snort.-d**: dump the Application Layer
- implied **snort.-E**: enable daemon restart
- implied snort.-e: display the second layer header info
- implied snort.-f: turn off fflush() calls after binary log writes
- int **snort.-G**: <0xid> (same as --logid) { 0:65535 }
- string **snort.-g**: <gname> run snort gid as <gname> group (or gid) after initialization
- implied **snort.-H**: make hash tables deterministic
- string **snort.-i**: <iface>... list of interfaces
- port **snort.-j**: <port> to listen for telnet connections
- select **snort.-K** = none: <mode> logging mode { noneltextlpcap }
- enum **snort.-k** = all: <mode> checksum mode (all,noip,notcp,noudp,noicmp,none) { all|noip|notcp|noudp|noicmp|none }
- string snort.-l: <logdir> log to this directory instead of current directory
- implied **snort.-M**: log messages to syslog (not alerts)
- int **snort.-m**: <umask> set umask = <umask> { 0: }
- implied **snort.-N**: ignored for REG_TEST only
- int **snort.-n**: <count> stop after count packets { 0: }
- implied **snort.-O**: obfuscate the logged IP addresses
- implied **snort.-Q**: enable inline mode operation
- implied snort.-q: quiet mode Don't show banner and status report
- string **snort.-R**: <rules> include this rules file in the default policy
- string **snort.-r**: <pcap>... (same as --pcap-list)
- string **snort.-S**: <n=v> set rules file variable n equal to value v
- int **snort.-s** = 1514: <snap> (same as --snaplen) { 68:65535 }
- implied **snort.-T**: test and report on the current Snort configuration

Snort++ User Manual 22 / 144

- string **snort.-t**: <dir> chroots process to <dir> after initialization
- implied **snort.-U**: use UTC for timestamps
- string **snort.-u**: <uname> run snort as <uname> or <uid> after initialization
- implied **snort.-V**: (same as --version)
- implied **snort.-v**: be verbose
- implied snort.-W: lists available interfaces
- implied **snort.-w**: dump 802.11 management and control frames
- implied snort.-X: dump the raw packet data starting at the link layer
- implied **snort.-x**: same as --pedantic
- implied **snort.-y**: include year in timestamp in the alert and log files
- int **snort.-z** = 1: <count> maximum number of packet threads (same as --max-packet-threads) 0 gets the number of CPU cores reported by the system { 0: }
- implied snort.--alert-before-pass: process alert, drop, sdrop, or reject before pass; default is pass before alert, drop,...
- string **snort.--bpf**: <filter options> are standard BPF options, as seen in TCPDump
- string **snort.--c2x**: output hex for given char (see also --x2c)
- implied snort.--create-pidfile: create PID file, even when not in Daemon mode
- string **snort.--daq**: <type> select packet acquisition module (default is pcap)
- string **snort.--daq-dir**: <dir> tell snort where to find desired DAQ
- implied snort.--daq-list: list packet acquisition modules available in optional dir, default is static modules only
- string **snort.--daq-mode**: <mode> select the DAQ operating mode
- string **snort.--daq-var**: <name=value> specify extra DAQ configuration variable
- implied snort.--dirty-pig: don't flush packets on shutdown
- implied snort.--dump-builtin-rules: [<module prefix>] output stub rules for selected modules
- implied snort.--dump-dynamic-rules: output stub rules for all loaded rules libraries
- string **snort.--dump-defaults**: [<module prefix>] output module defaults in Lua format { (optional) }
- string **snort.--dump-version**: output the version, the whole version, and only the version { (optional) }
- implied snort.--enable-inline-test: enable Inline-Test Mode Operation
- implied **snort.--help**: list command line options
- string **snort.--help-commands**: [<module prefix>] output matching commands { (optional) }
- string **snort.--help-config**: [<module prefix>] output matching config options { (optional) }
- string **snort.--help-counts**: [<module prefix>] output matching peg counts { (optional) }
- string snort.--help-module: <module> output description of given module
- implied snort.--help-modules: list all available modules with brief help
- string **snort.--help-options**: <option prefix> output matching command line option quick help (same as -?) { (optional) }
- implied **snort.--help-plugins**: list all available plugins with brief help

Snort++ User Manual 23 / 144

- implied **snort.--help-signals**: dump available control signals
- implied snort.--id-subdir: create/use instance subdirectories in logdir instead of instance filename prefix
- implied snort.--id-zero: use id prefix / subdirectory even with one packet thread
- implied snort.--list-buffers: output available inspection buffers
- string **snort.--list-builtin**: <module prefix> output matching builtin rules { (optional) }
- string **snort.--list-gids**: [<module prefix>] output matching generators { (optional) }
- string **snort.--list-modules**: [<module type>] list all known modules of given type { (optional) }
- implied snort.--list-plugins: list all known plugins
- string snort.--lua: <chunk> extend/override conf with chunk; may be repeated
- int snort.--logid: <0xid> log Identifier to uniquely id events for multiple snorts (same as -G) { 0:65535 }
- implied snort.--markup: output help in asciidoc compatible format
- int **snort.--max-packet-threads** = 1: <count> configure maximum number of packet threads (same as -z) 0 gets the number of CPU cores reported by the system { 0: }
- implied snort.--nostamps: don't include timestamps in log file names
- implied snort.--nolock-pidfile: do not try to lock Snort PID file
- implied snort.--pause: wait for resume/quit command before processing packets/terminating
- string snort.--pcap-file: <file> file that contains a list of pcaps to read read mode is implied
- string **snort.--pcap-list**: < list> a space separated list of pcaps to read read mode is implied
- string snort.--pcap-dir: <dir> a directory to recurse to look for pcaps read mode is implied
- string **snort.--pcap-filter**: <filter> filter to apply when getting pcaps from file or directory
- int snort.--pcap-loop: <count> read all pcaps <count> times; 0 will read until Snort is terminated { -1: }
- implied snort .- pcap-no-filter: reset to use no filter when getting pcaps from file or directory
- implied snort.--pcap-reload: if reading multiple pcaps, reload snort config between pcaps
- implied **snort.--pcap-reset**: ignored for REG_TEST only
- implied snort.--pcap-show: print a line saying what pcap is currently being read
- implied snort.--pedantic: warnings are fatal
- string **snort.--plugin-path**: <path> where to find plugins
- implied snort.--process-all-events: process all action groups
- string **snort.--rule**: <rules> to be added to configuration; may be repeated
- implied snort.--rule-to-hex: output so rule header to stdout for text rule on stdin
- implied snort.--rule-to-text: output plain so rule header to stdout for text rule on stdin
- string **snort.--run-prefix**: <pfx> prepend this to each output file
- string **snort.--script-path**: <path> where to find luajit scripts
- implied **snort.--shell**: enable the interactive command line
- implied **snort.--show-plugins**: list module and plugin versions

Snort++ User Manual 24 / 144

- int **snort.--skip**: <n> skip 1st n packets { 0: }
- int **snort.--snaplen** = 1514: <snap> set snaplen of packet (same as -s) { 68:65535 }
- implied snort.--stdin-rules: read rules from stdin until EOF or a line starting with END is read
- implied snort.--treat-drop-as-alert: converts drop, sdrop, and reject rules into alert rules during startup
- implied snort.--treat-drop-as-ignore: use drop, sdrop, and reject rules to ignore session traffic when not inline
- implied **snort.--version**: show version number (same as -V)
- implied **snort.--warn-all**: enable all warnings
- implied snort.--warn-conf: warn about configuration issues
- implied snort.--warn-daq: warn about DAQ issues, usually related to mode
- implied snort.--warn-flowbits: warn about flowbits that are checked but not set and vice-versa
- implied **snort.--warn-hosts**: warn about host table issues
- implied snort.--warn-rules: warn about duplicate rules and rule parsing issues
- implied snort.--warn-scripts: warn about issues discovered while processing Lua scripts
- implied snort.--warn-symbols: warn about unknown symbols in your Lua config
- implied snort.--warn-vars: warn about variable definition and usage issues
- int **snort.--x2c**: output ASCII char for given hex (see also --c2x)

Commands:

- snort.show plugins(): show available plugins
- snort.dump_stats(): show summary statistics
- snort.rotate stats(): roll perfmonitor log files
- snort.reload_config(): load new configuration
- snort.pause(): suspend packet processing
- snort.resume(): continue packet processing
- snort.detach(): exit shell w/o shutdown
- **snort.quit**(): shutdown and dump-stats
- snort.help(): this output

Peg counts:

- snort.local commands: total local commands processed
- snort.remote commands: total remote commands processed
- snort.signals: total signals processed
- snort.conf reloads: number of times configuration was reloaded
- snort.attribute table reloads: number of times hosts table was reloaded
- snort.attribute table hosts: total number of hosts in table

Snort++ User Manual 25 / 144

3.24 suppress

What: configure event suppressions

Type: basic Configuration:

• int **suppress[].gid** = 0: rule generator ID { 0: }

• int **suppress**[].**sid** = 0: rule signature ID { 0: }

- enum **suppress**[].track: suppress only matching source or destination addresses { by_src | by_dst }
- string suppress[].ip: restrict suppression to these addresses according to track

4 Codec Modules

Codec is short for coder / decoder. These modules are used for basic protocol decoding, anomaly detection, and construction of active responses.

4.1 arp

What: support for address resolution protocol

Type: codec

Rules:

• 116:109 (arp) truncated ARP

4.2 auth

What: support for IP authentication header

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:465 (auth) truncated authentication header
- 116:466 (auth) bad authentication header length

4.3 eapol

What: support for extensible authentication protocol over LAN

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:110 (eapol) truncated EAP header
- 116:111 (eapol) EAP key truncated
- 116:112 (eapol) EAP header truncated

Snort++ User Manual 26 / 144

4.4 erspan2

What: support for encapsulated remote switched port analyzer - type 2

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:462 (erspan2) ERSpan header version mismatch
- 116:463 (erspan2) captured < ERSpan type2 header length

4.5 erspan3

What: support for encapsulated remote switched port analyzer - type 3

Type: codec

Rules:

• 116:464 (erspan3) captured < ERSpan type3 header length

4.6 esp

What: support for encapsulating security payload

Type: codec

Configuration:

• bool **esp.decode_esp** = false: enable for inspection of esp traffic that has authentication but not encryption

Rules:

• 116:294 (esp) truncated encapsulated security payload header

4.7 eth

What: support for ethernet protocol (DLT 1) (DLT 51)

Type: codec

Rules:

• 116:424 (eth) truncated eth header

4.8 fabricpath

What: support for fabricpath

Type: codec

Rules:

• 116:467 (fabricpath) truncated FabricPath header

Snort++ User Manual 27 / 144

4.9 gre

What: support for generic routing encapsulation

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:160 (gre) GRE header length > payload length
- 116:161 (gre) multiple encapsulations in packet
- 116:162 (gre) invalid GRE version
- 116:163 (gre) invalid GRE header
- 116:164 (gre) invalid GRE v.1 PPTP header
- 116:165 (gre) GRE trans header length > payload length

4.10 gtp

What: support for general-packet-radio-service tunnelling protocol

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:297 (gtp) two or more GTP encapsulation layers present
- 116:298 (gtp) GTP header length is invalid

4.11 icmp4

What: support for Internet control message protocol v4

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:105 (icmp4) ICMP header truncated
- 116:106 (icmp4) ICMP timestamp header truncated
- 116:107 (icmp4) ICMP address header truncated
- 116:250 (icmp4) ICMP original IP header truncated
- 116:251 (icmp4) ICMP version and original IP header versions differ
- 116:252 (icmp4) ICMP original datagram length < original IP header length
- 116:253 (icmp4) ICMP original IP payload < 64 bits
- 116:254 (icmp4) ICMP original IP payload > 576 bytes
- 116:255 (icmp4) ICMP original IP fragmented and offset not 0
- 116:415 (icmp4) ICMP4 packet to multicast dest address
- 116:416 (icmp4) ICMP4 packet to broadcast dest address
- 116:418 (icmp4) ICMP4 type other

Snort++ User Manual 28 / 144

- 116:434 (icmp4) ICMP ping NMAP
- 116:435 (icmp4) ICMP icmpenum v1.1.1
- 116:436 (icmp4) ICMP redirect host
- 116:437 (icmp4) ICMP redirect net
- 116:438 (icmp4) ICMP traceroute ipopts
- 116:439 (icmp4) ICMP source quench
- 116:440 (icmp4) broadscan smurf scanner
- 116:441 (icmp4) ICMP destination unreachable communication administratively prohibited
- 116:442 (icmp4) ICMP destination unreachable communication with destination host is administratively prohibited
- 116:443 (icmp4) ICMP destination unreachable communication with destination network is administratively prohibited
- 116:451 (icmp4) ICMP path MTU denial of service attempt
- 116:452 (icmp4) BAD-TRAFFIC Linux ICMP header DOS attempt
- 116:426 (icmp4) truncated ICMP4 header

Peg counts:

• icmp4.bad checksum: non-zero icmp checksums

4.12 icmp6

What: support for Internet control message protocol v6

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:427 (icmp6) truncated ICMP6 header
- 116:431 (icmp6) ICMP6 type not decoded
- 116:432 (icmp6) ICMP6 packet to multicast address
- 116:285 (icmp6) ICMPv6 packet of type 2 (message too big) with MTU field < 1280
- 116:286 (icmp6) ICMPv6 packet of type 1 (destination unreachable) with non-RFC 2463 code
- 116:287 (icmp6) ICMPv6 router solicitation packet with a code not equal to 0
- 116:288 (icmp6) ICMPv6 router advertisement packet with a code not equal to 0
- 116:289 (icmp6) ICMPv6 router solicitation packet with the reserved field not equal to 0
- 116:290 (icmp6) ICMPv6 router advertisement packet with the reachable time field set > 1 hour
- 116:457 (icmp6) ICMPv6 packet of type 1 (destination unreachable) with non-RFC 4443 code
- 116:460 (icmp6) ICMPv6 node info query/response packet with a code greater than 2

Peg counts:

- icmp6.bad checksum (ip4): nonzero ipcm4 checksums
- icmp6.bad checksum (ip6): nonzero ipcm6 checksums

Snort++ User Manual 29 / 144

4.13 igmp

What: support for Internet group management protocol

Type: codec

Rules:

• 116:455 (igmp) DOS IGMP IP options validation attempt

4.14 ipv4

What: support for Internet protocol v4

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:1 (ipv4) Not IPv4 datagram
- 116:2 (ipv4) hlen < minimum
- **116:3** (ipv4) IP dgm len < IP Hdr len
- 116:4 (ipv4) Ipv4 Options found with bad lengths
- 116:5 (ipv4) Truncated Ipv4 Options
- 116:6 (ipv4) IP dgm len > captured len
- 116:404 (ipv4) IPV4 packet with zero TTL
- 116:405 (ipv4) IPV4 packet with bad frag bits (both MF and DF set)
- 116:407 (ipv4) IPV4 packet frag offset + length exceed maximum
- 116:408 (ipv4) IPV4 packet from current net source address
- 116:409 (ipv4) IPV4 packet to current net dest address
- 116:410 (ipv4) IPV4 packet from multicast source address
- 116:411 (ipv4) IPV4 packet from reserved source address
- 116:412 (ipv4) IPV4 packet to reserved dest address
- 116:413 (ipv4) IPV4 packet from broadcast source address
- 116:414 (ipv4) IPV4 packet to broadcast dest address
- 116:428 (ipv4) IPV4 packet below TTL limit
- 116:430 (ipv4) IPV4 packet both DF and offset set
- 116:448 (ipv4) BAD-TRAFFIC IP reserved bit set
- 116:444 (ipv4) MISC IP option set
- 116:425 (ipv4) truncated IP4 header

Peg counts:

• ipv4.bad checksum: nonzero ip checksums

Snort++ User Manual 30 / 144

4.15 ipv6

What: support for Internet protocol v6

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:270 (ipv6) IPv6 packet below TTL limit
- 116:271 (ipv6) IPv6 header claims to not be IPv6
- 116:272 (ipv6) IPV6 truncated extension header
- 116:273 (ipv6) IPV6 truncated header
- 116:274 (ipv6) IP dgm len < IP Hdr len
- 116:275 (ipv6) IP dgm len > captured len
- 116:276 (ipv6) IPv6 packet with destination address ::0
- 116:277 (ipv6) IPv6 packet with multicast source address
- 116:278 (ipv6) IPv6 packet with reserved multicast destination address
- 116:279 (ipv6) IPv6 header includes an undefined option type
- 116:280 (ipv6) IPv6 address includes an unassigned multicast scope value
- 116:281 (ipv6) IPv6 header includes an invalid value for the next header field
- 116:282 (ipv6) IPv6 header includes a routing extension header followed by a hop-by-hop header
- 116:283 (ipv6) IPv6 header includes two routing extension headers
- 116:292 (ipv6) IPv6 header has destination options followed by a routing header
- 116:291 (ipv6) IPV6 tunneled over IPv4, IPv6 header truncated, possible Linux kernel attack
- 116:295 (ipv6) IPv6 header includes an option which is too big for the containing header
- 116:296 (ipv6) IPv6 packet includes out-of-order extension headers
- 116:429 (ipv6) IPV6 packet has zero hop limit
- 116:453 (ipv6) BAD-TRAFFIC ISATAP-addressed IPv6 traffic spoofing attempt
- 116:458 (ipv6) bogus fragmentation packet, possible BSD attack
- 116:461 (ipv6) IPV6 routing type 0 extension header
- 116:456 (ipv6) too many IP6 extension headers

4.16 mpls

What: support for multiprotocol label switching

Type: codec

Configuration:

- bool mpls.enable_mpls_multicast = false: enables support for MPLS multicast
- bool **mpls.enable_mpls_overlapping_ip** = false: enable if private network addresses overlap and must be differentiated by MPLS label(s)

Snort++ User Manual 31 / 144

- int mpls.max_mpls_stack_depth = -1: set MPLS stack depth { -1: }
- enum mpls.mpls_payload_type = ip4: set encapsulated payload type { eth | ip4 | ip6 }

Rules:

- 116:170 (mpls) bad MPLS frame
- 116:171 (mpls) MPLS label 0 appears in non-bottom header
- 116:172 (mpls) MPLS label 1 appears in bottom header
- 116:173 (mpls) MPLS label 2 appears in non-bottom header
- 116:174 (mpls) MPLS label 3 appears in header
- 116:175 (mpls) MPLS label 4, 5,.. or 15 appears in header
- 116:176 (mpls) too many MPLS headers

4.17 pgm

What: support for pragmatic general multicast

Type: codec

Rules:

• 116:454 (pgm) BAD-TRAFFIC PGM nak list overflow attempt

4.18 pppoe

What: support for point-to-point protocol over ethernet

Type: codec

Rules:

• 116:120 (pppoe) bad PPPOE frame detected

4.19 tcp

What: support for transmission control protocol

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:45 (tcp) TCP packet len is smaller than 20 bytes
- 116:46 (tcp) TCP data offset is less than 5
- 116:47 (tcp) TCP header length exceeds packet length
- 116:54 (tcp) TCP options found with bad lengths
- 116:55 (tcp) truncated TCP options
- 116:56 (tcp) T/TCP detected
- 116:57 (tcp) obsolete TCP options found

Snort++ User Manual 32 / 144

- 116:58 (tcp) experimental TCP options found
- 116:59 (tcp) TCP window scale option found with length > 14
- 116:400 (tcp) XMAS attack detected
- 116:401 (tcp) Nmap XMAS attack detected
- 116:419 (tcp) TCP urgent pointer exceeds payload length or no payload
- 116:420 (tcp) TCP SYN with FIN
- 116:421 (tcp) TCP SYN with RST
- 116:422 (tcp) TCP PDU missing ack for established session
- 116:423 (tcp) TCP has no SYN, ACK, or RST
- 116:433 (tcp) DDOS shaft SYN flood
- 116:446 (tcp) BAD-TRAFFIC TCP port 0 traffic
- 116:402 (tcp) DOS NAPTHA vulnerability detected
- 116:403 (tcp) bad traffic SYN to multicast address

Peg counts:

- tcp.bad checksum (ip4): nonzero tcp over ip checksums
- tcp.bad checksum (ip6): nonzero tcp over ipv6 checksums

4.20 udp

What: support for user datagram protocol

Type: codec Configuration:

- bool **udp.deep_teredo_inspection** = false: look for Teredo on all UDP ports (default is only 3544)
- bool **udp.enable_gtp** = false: decode GTP encapsulations
- bit_list **udp.gtp_ports** = 2152 3386: set GTP ports { 65535 }

Rules:

- 116:95 (udp) truncated UDP header
- 116:96 (udp) invalid UDP header, length field < 8
- 116:97 (udp) short UDP packet, length field > payload length
- 116:98 (udp) long UDP packet, length field < payload length
- 116:406 (udp) invalid IPv6 UDP packet, checksum zero
- 116:445 (udp) misc large UDP Packet
- 116:447 (udp) BAD-TRAFFIC UDP port 0 traffic

Peg counts:

- udp.bad checksum (ip4): nonzero udp over ipv4 checksums
- udp.bad checksum (ip6): nonzero udp over ipv6 checksums

Snort++ User Manual 33 / 144

4.21 vlan

What: support for local area network

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:130 (vlan) bad VLAN frame
- 116:131 (vlan) bad LLC header
- 116:132 (vlan) bad extra LLC info

4.22 wlan

What: support for wireless local area network protocol (DLT 105)

Type: codec

Rules:

- 116:133 (wlan) bad 802.11 LLC header
- 116:134 (wlan) bad 802.11 extra LLC info

5 Data Modules

Data modules are adjunct configurations for use with certain inspectors.

no match no match

6 Inspector Modules

These modules perform a variety of functions, including analysis of protocols beyond basic decoding.

6.1 arp_spoof

What: detect ARP attacks and anomalies

Type: inspector Configuration:

- ip4 arp_spoof.hosts[].ip: host ip address
- mac arp_spoof.hosts[].mac: host mac address

Rules:

- 112:1 (arp_spoof) unicast ARP request
- 112:2 (arp_spoof) ethernet/ARP mismatch request for source
- 112:3 (arp_spoof) ethernet/ARP mismatch request for destination
- 112:4 (arp_spoof) attempted ARP cache overwrite attack

Peg counts:

• arp_spoof.packets: total packets

Snort++ User Manual 34 / 144

6.2 back_orifice

What: back orifice detection

Type: inspector

Rules:

- 105:1 (back_orifice) BO traffic detected
- 105:2 (back_orifice) BO client traffic detected
- 105:3 (back_orifice) BO server traffic detected
- 105:4 (back_orifice) BO Snort buffer attack

Peg counts:

• back_orifice.packets: total packets

6.3 binder

What: configure processing based on CIDRs, ports, services, etc.

Type: inspector Configuration:

- int binder[].when.policy_id = 0: unique ID for selection of this config by external logic { 0: }
- bit_list binder[].when.ifaces: list of interface indices { 255 }
- bit_list binder[].when.vlans: list of VLAN IDs { 4095 }
- addr_list binder[].when.nets: list of networks
- enum binder[].when.proto: protocol { any | ip | icmp | tcp | udp }
- bit_list binder[].when.ports: list of ports { 65535 }
- enum binder[].when.role = any: use the given configuration on one or any end of a session { client | server | any }
- string binder[].when.service: override default configuration
- enum **binder[].use.action** = inspect: what to do with matching traffic { block | allow | inspect }
- string binder[].use.file: use configuration in given file
- string binder[].use.service: override automatic service identification
- string binder[].use.type: select module for binding
- string binder[].use.name: symbol name (defaults to type)

Peg counts:

• binder.packets: initial bindings

• binder.blocks: block bindings

• binder.allows: allow bindings

• binder.inspects: inspect bindings

Snort++ User Manual 35 / 144

6.4 dns

What: dns inspection

Type: inspector

Rules:

• 131:1 (dns) Obsolete DNS RR Types

• 131:2 (dns) Experimental DNS RR Types

• 131:3 (dns) DNS Client rdata txt Overflow

Peg counts:

• dns.packets: total packets

6.5 ftp_client

What: FTP client configuration module for use with ftp_server

Type: inspector Configuration:

- bool **ftp_client.bounce** = false: check for bounces
- addr ftp_client.bounce_to[].address = 1.0.0.0/32: allowed ip address in CIDR format
- port **ftp_client.bounce_to[].port** = 20: allowed port { 1: }
- port **ftp_client.bounce_to[].last_port**: optional allowed range from port to last_port inclusive { 0: }
- bool **ftp_client.ignore_telnet_erase_cmds** = false: ignore erase character and erase line commands when normalizing
- int ftp_client.max_resp_len = -1: maximum ftp response accepted by client { -1: }
- bool **ftp_client.telnet_cmds** = false: detect telnet escape sequences on ftp control channel

6.6 ftp data

What: FTP data channel handler

Type: inspector Peg counts:

• ftp_data.packets: total packets

6.7 ftp_server

What: main FTP module; ftp_client should also be configured

Type: inspector Configuration:

- string ftp_server.chk_str_fmt: check the formatting of the given commands
- string ftp_server.data_chan_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands

Snort++ User Manual 36 / 144

- string ftp_server.data_xfer_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- string ftp_server.directory_cmds[].dir_cmd: directory command
- int ftp_server.directory_cmds[].rsp_code = 200: expected successful response code for command { 200: }
- string ftp_server.file_put_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- string ftp_server.file_get_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- string ftp_server.encr_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- string ftp_server.login_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- bool ftp_server.check_encrypted = false: check for end of encryption
- string ftp_server.cmd_validity[].command: command string
- string ftp_server.cmd_validity[].format: format specification
- int ftp_server.cmd_validity[].length = 0: specify non-default maximum for command { 0: }
- int ftp_server.def_max_param_len = 100: default maximum length of commands handled by server; 0 is unlimited { 1: }
- bool ftp server.encrypted traffic = false: check for encrypted telnet and ftp
- string ftp_server.ftp_cmds: specify additional commands supported by server beyond RFC 959
- bool ftp_server.ignore_data_chan = false: do not inspect ftp data channels
- bool ftp_server.ignore_telnet_erase_cmds = false: ignore erase character and erase line commands when normalizing
- bool ftp_server.print_cmds = false: print command configurations on start up
- bool ftp_server.telnet_cmds = false: detect telnet escape sequences of ftp control channel

Rules:

- 125:1 (ftp server) TELNET cmd on FTP command channel
- 125:2 (ftp_server) invalid FTP command
- 125:3 (ftp_server) FTP command parameters were too long
- 125:4 (ftp_server) FTP command parameters were malformed
- 125:5 (ftp_server) FTP command parameters contained potential string format
- 125:6 (ftp_server) FTP response message was too long
- 125:7 (ftp_server) FTP traffic encrypted
- 125:8 (ftp_server) FTP bounce attempt
- 125:9 (ftp_server) evasive (incomplete) TELNET cmd on FTP command channel

Peg counts:

• ftp_server.packets: total packets

Snort++ User Manual 37 / 144

6.8 http_global

What: http inspector global configuration and client rules for use with http_server

Type: inspector

Configuration:

- int http_global.compress_depth = 65535: maximum amount of packet payload to decompress { 1:65535 }
- int http_global.decode.b64_decode_depth = 0: single packet decode depth { -1:65535 }
- int http_global.decode.bitenc_decode_depth = 0: single packet decode depth { -1:65535 }
- int http_global.decode.max_mime_mem = 838860: single packet decode depth { 3276: }
- int http_global.decode.qp_decode_depth = 0: single packet decode depth { -1:65535 }
- int http_global.decode.uu_decode_depth = 0: single packet decode depth { -1:65535 }
- int http_global.decompress_depth = 65535: maximum amount of decompressed data to process { 1:65535 }
- bool http_global.detect_anomalous_servers = false: inspect non-configured ports for HTTP bad idea
- int http_global.max_gzip_mem = 838860: total memory used for decompression across all active sessions { 3276: }
- int http_global.memcap = 150994944: limit of memory used for logging extra data { 2304: }
- bool http_global.proxy_alert = false: alert on proxy usage for servers without allow_proxy_use
- int http_global.unicode_map.code_page = 1252: select code page in map file { 0: }
- string http_global.unicode_map.map_file: unicode map file

Rules:

- 119:1 (http_global) ascii encoding
- 119:2 (http_global) double decoding attack
- 119:3 (http_global) u encoding
- 119:4 (http_global) bare byte unicode encoding
- 119:5 (http_global) base36 encoding
- 119:6 (http_global) UTF-8 encoding
- 119:7 (http_global) IIS unicode codepoint encoding
- 119:8 (http_global) multi_slash encoding
- 119:9 (http_global) IIS backslash evasion
- 119:10 (http_global) self directory traversal
- 119:11 (http_global) directory traversal
- 119:12 (http_global) apache whitespace (tab)
- 119:13 (http_global) non-RFC http delimiter
- 119:14 (http_global) non-RFC defined char
- 119:15 (http_global) oversize request-URI directory
- 119:16 (http_global) oversize chunk encoding

Snort++ User Manual 38 / 144

- 119:17 (http_global) unauthorized proxy use detected
- 119:18 (http_global) webroot directory traversal
- 119:19 (http_global) long header
- 119:20 (http_global) max header fields
- 119:21 (http_global) multiple content length
- 119:22 (http global) chunk size mismatch detected
- 119:23 (http_global) invalid ip in true-client-IP/XFF header
- 119:24 (http_global) multiple host hdrs detected
- 119:25 (http_global) hostname exceeds 255 characters
- 119:26 (http_global) header parsing space saturation
- 119:27 (http_global) client consecutive small chunk sizes
- 119:28 (http_global) post w/o content-length or chunks
- 119:29 (http_global) multiple true IPs in a session
- 119:30 (http_global) both true-client-IP and XFF hdrs present
- 119:31 (http_global) unknown method
- 119:32 (http_global) simple request
- 119:33 (http_global) unescaped space in http URI
- 119:34 (http_global) too many pipelined requests

Peg counts:

- http_global.packets: total packets processed
- http_global.gets: GET requests
- http global.posts: POST requests
- http_global.request headers: total requests
- http_global.response headers: total responses
- http_global.request cookies: requests with Cookie
- http_global.response cookies: responses with Set-Cookie
- http_global.post params: POST parameters extracted
- http_global.unicode: unicode normalizations
- http_global.double unicode: double unicode normalizations
- http_global.non-ascii: non-ascii normalizations
- http_global.paths with ../: directory traversal normalizations
- http_global.paths with //: double slash normalizations
- http_global.paths with ./: relative directory normalizations
- http_global.gzip packets: packets with gzip compression
- http_global.compressed bytes: total comparessed bytes processed
- http_global.decompressed bytes: total bytes decompressed

Snort++ User Manual 39 / 144

6.9 http_inspect

What: http inspection and server rules; also configure http_inspect

Type: inspector Configuration:

- bool http_inspect.allow_proxy_use = false: don't alert on proxy use for this server
- bool http_inspect.decompress_pdf = false: enable decompression of the compressed portions of PDF files
- bool http_inspect.decompress_swf = false: enable decompression of SWF (Adobe Flash content)
- bool http_inspect.enable_cookies = true: extract cookies
- bool http_inspect.enable_xff = false: log True-Client-IP and X-Forwarded-For headers with unified2 alerts as extra data
- bool http_inspect.extended_ascii_uri = false: allow extended ASCII codes in the request URI
- bool http_inspect.extended_response_inspection = true: extract response headers
- string http_inspect.http_methods = GET POST PUT SEARCH MKCOL COPY MOVE LOCK UNLOCK NOTIFY POLL
 BCOPY BDELETE BMOVE LINK UNLINK OPTIONS HEAD DELETE TRACE TRACK CONNECT SOURCE SUBSCRIBE UNSUBSCRIBE PROPFIND PROPPATCH BPROPFIND BPROPPATCH RPC_CONNECT PROXY_SUCCESS
 BITS_POST CCM_POST SMS_POST RPC_IN_DATA RPC_OUT_DATA RPC_ECHO_DATA: request methods allowed in
 addition to GET and POST
- bool http_inspect.inspect_gzip = true: enable gzip decompression of compressed bodies
- bool http_inspect.inspect_uri_only = false: disable all detection except for uricontent
- bool http_inspect.log_hostname = false: enable logging of Hostname with unified2 alerts as extra data
- bool http_inspect.log_uri = false: enable logging of URI with unified2 alerts as extra data
- bool http_inspect.no_pipeline_req = false: don't inspect pipelined requests after first (still does general detection)
- bit_list http_inspect.non_rfc_chars = 0x00 0x01 0x02 0x03 0x04 0x05 0x06 0x07: alert on given non-RFC chars being present in the URI { 255 }
- bool http_inspect.normalize_cookies = false: normalize cookies similar to URI
- bool http_inspect.normalize_headers = false: normalize headers other than cookie similar to URI
- int http_inspect.oversize_dir_length = 500: alert if a URL has a directory longer than this limit { 0: }
- bool http_inspect.profile.apache_whitespace = false: don't alert if tab is used in lieu of space characters
- bool http_inspect.profile.ascii = false: enable decoding ASCII like %2f to /
- bool http_inspect.profile.bare_byte = false: decode non-standard, non-ASCII character encodings
- int http_inspect.profile.chunk_length = 500000: alert on chunk lengths greater than specified { 1: }
- int http_inspect.profile.client_flow_depth = 0: raw request payload to inspect { -1:1460 }
- bool http_inspect.profile.directory = false: normalize . and .. sequences out of URI
- bool http_inspect.profile.double_decode = false: iis specific extra decoding
- bool http_inspect.profile.iis_backslash = false: normalize directory slashes
- bool http inspect.profile.iis delimiter = false: allow use of non-standard delimiter
- bool http_inspect.profile.iis_unicode = false: enable unicode code point mapping using unicode_map settings

Snort++ User Manual 40 / 144

- int http inspect.profile.iis unicode map.code page = 1252: select code page in map file { 0: }
- string http_inspect.profile.iis_unicode_map.map_file: unicode map file
- int http_inspect.profile.max_header_length = 750: maximum allowed client request header field { 0:65535 }
- int http_inspect.profile.max_headers = 100: maximum allowed client request headers { 0:1024 }
- int http inspect.profile.max spaces = 200: maximum allowed whitespaces when folding { 0:65535 }
- bool http_inspect.profile.multi_slash = false: normalize out consecutive slashes in URI
- bool http inspect.profile.non strict = true: allows HTTP 0.9 processing
- int http_inspect.profile.max_javascript_whitespaces = 200: maximum number of consecutive whitespaces { 0: }
- bool http_inspect.profile.normalize_utf = true: normalize response bodies with UTF content-types
- bool http_inspect.profile.normalize_javascript = true: normalize javascript between <script> tags
- int http inspect.profile.post depth = 65495: amount of POST data to inspect { -1:65535 }
- enum http_inspect.profile_type = default: set defaults appropriate for selected server { default | apache | iis | iis 40 | iis 50 }
- int http_inspect.profile.server_flow_depth = 0: response payload to inspect; includes headers with extended_response_inspection { -1:65535 }
- bool http_inspect.profile.u_encode = true: decode %uXXXX character sequences
- bool http_inspect.profile.utf_8 = false: decode UTF-8 unicode sequences in URI
- bool http_inspect.profile.webroot = false: alert on directory traversals past the top level (web server root)
- bit_list http_inspect.profile.whitespace_chars: allowed white space characters { 255 }
- int http_inspect.small_chunk_count = 5: alert if more than this limit of consecutive chunks are below small_chunk_length { 0:255 }
- int http_inspect.small_chunk_length = 10: alert if more than small_chunk_count consecutive chunks below this limit { 0:255 }
- bool http_inspect.tab_uri_delimiter = false: whether a tab not preceded by a space is considered a delimiter or part of URI
- bool http_inspect.unlimited_decompress = true: decompress across multiple packets
- bool **http_inspect.xff_headers** = false: not implemented

Rules:

- 120:1 (http_inspect) anomalous http server on undefined HTTP port
- 120:2 (http inspect) invalid status code in HTTP response
- 120:3 (http_inspect) no content-length or transfer-encoding in HTTP response
- 120:4 (http_inspect) HTTP response has UTF charset which failed to normalize
- 120:5 (http_inspect) HTTP response has UTF-7 charset
- 120:6 (http_inspect) HTTP response gzip decompression failed
- 120:7 (http_inspect) server consecutive small chunk sizes
- 120:8 (http_inspect) invalid content-length or chunk size
- 120:9 (http_inspect) javascript obfuscation levels exceeds 1

Snort++ User Manual 41 / 144

- 120:10 (http_inspect) javascript whitespaces exceeds max allowed
- 120:11 (http_inspect) multiple encodings within javascript obfuscated data
- 120:12 (http_inspect) HTTP response SWF file zlib decompression failure
- 120:13 (http_inspect) HTTP response SWF file LZMA decompression failure
- 120:14 (http_inspect) HTTP response PDF file deflate decompression failure
- 120:15 (http_inspect) HTTP response PDF file unsupported compression type
- 120:16 (http_inspect) HTTP response PDF file cascaded compression
- 120:17 (http_inspect) HTTP response PDF file parse failure

6.10 imap

What: imap inspection

Type: inspector Configuration:

- int imap.b64_decode_depth = 1460: base64 decoding depth { -1:65535 }
- int imap.bitenc_decode_depth = 1460: Non-Encoded MIME attachment extraction depth { -1:65535 }
- int imap.qp_decode_depth = 1460: Quoted Printable decoding depth { -1:65535 }
- int imap.uu_decode_depth = 1460: Unix-to-Unix decoding depth { -1:65535 }

Rules:

- 141:1 (imap) Unknown IMAP3 command
- 141:2 (imap) Unknown IMAP3 response
- 141:4 (imap) Base64 Decoding failed.
- 141:5 (imap) Quoted-Printable Decoding failed.
- 141:7 (imap) Unix-to-Unix Decoding failed.

Peg counts:

• imap.packets: total packets

6.11 new_http_inspect

What: new HTTP inspector

Type: inspector Configuration:

- bool **new_http_inspect.test_input** = false: read HTTP messages from text file
- bool new_http_inspect.test_output = false: print out HTTP section data

Rules:

Snort++ User Manual 42 / 144

- 219:1 (new_http_inspect) ascii encoding
- 219:2 (new_http_inspect) double decoding attack
- 219:3 (new_http_inspect) u encoding
- 219:4 (new_http_inspect) bare byte unicode encoding
- 219:5 (new_http_inspect) obsolete event—should not appear
- 219:6 (new_http_inspect) UTF-8 encoding
- 219:7 (new http inspect) IIS unicode codepoint encoding
- 219:8 (new_http_inspect) multi_slash encoding
- 219:9 (new_http_inspect) IIS backslash evasion
- 219:10 (new_http_inspect) self directory traversal
- 219:11 (new_http_inspect) directory traversal
- 219:12 (new_http_inspect) apache whitespace (tab)
- 219:13 (new_http_inspect) non-RFC http delimiter
- 219:14 (new_http_inspect) non-RFC defined char
- 219:15 (new_http_inspect) oversize request-uri directory
- 219:16 (new_http_inspect) oversize chunk encoding
- 219:17 (new_http_inspect) unauthorized proxy use detected
- 219:18 (new_http_inspect) webroot directory traversal
- 219:19 (new_http_inspect) long header
- 219:20 (new_http_inspect) max header fields
- 219:21 (new_http_inspect) multiple content length
- 219:22 (new_http_inspect) chunk size mismatch detected
- 219:23 (new_http_inspect) invalid IP in true-client-IP/XFF header
- 219:24 (new_http_inspect) multiple host hdrs detected
- 219:25 (new_http_inspect) hostname exceeds 255 characters
- 219:26 (new_http_inspect) header parsing space saturation
- 219:27 (new_http_inspect) client consecutive small chunk sizes
- 219:28 (new_http_inspect) post w/o content-length or chunks
- 219:29 (new_http_inspect) multiple true ips in a session
- 219:30 (new_http_inspect) both true-client-IP and XFF hdrs present
- 219:31 (new_http_inspect) unknown method
- 219:32 (new_http_inspect) simple request
- 219:33 (new_http_inspect) unescaped space in HTTP URI
- 219:34 (new_http_inspect) too many pipelined requests
- 219:35 (new_http_inspect) anomalous http server on undefined HTTP port

Snort++ User Manual 43 / 144

- 219:36 (new_http_inspect) invalid status code in HTTP response
- 219:37 (new_http_inspect) no content-length or transfer-encoding in HTTP response
- 219:38 (new_http_inspect) HTTP response has UTF charset which failed to normalize
- 219:39 (new_http_inspect) HTTP response has UTF-7 charset
- 219:40 (new_http_inspect) HTTP response gzip decompression failed
- 219:41 (new_http_inspect) server consecutive small chunk sizes
- 219:42 (new_http_inspect) invalid content-length or chunk size
- 219:43 (new_http_inspect) javascript obfuscation levels exceeds 1
- 219:44 (new_http_inspect) javascript whitespaces exceeds max allowed
- 219:45 (new_http_inspect) multiple encodings within javascript obfuscated data
- 219:46 (new_http_inspect) SWF file zlib decompression failure
- 219:47 (new_http_inspect) SWF file LZMA decompression failure
- 219:48 (new_http_inspect) PDF file deflate decompression failure
- 219:49 (new_http_inspect) PDF file unsupported compression type
- 219:50 (new_http_inspect) PDF file cascaded compression
- 219:51 (new_http_inspect) PDF file parse failure
- 219:52 (new_http_inspect) HTTP misformatted or not really HTTP

6.12 normalizer

What: packet scrubbing for inline mode

Type: inspector Configuration:

- bool **normalizer.ip4.base** = true: clear options
- bool **normalizer.ip4.df** = false: clear don't frag flag
- bool **normalizer.ip4.rf** = false: clear reserved flag
- bool **normalizer.ip4.tos** = false: clear tos / differentiated services byte
- bool normalizer.ip4.trim = false: truncate excess payload beyond datagram length
- bool **normalizer.tcp.base** = true: clear reserved bits and option padding and fix urgent pointer / flags issues
- bool normalizer.tcp.block = true: allow packet drops during TCP normalization
- bool **normalizer.tcp.urp** = true: adjust urgent pointer if beyond segment length
- bool **normalizer.tcp.ips** = false: ensure consistency in retransmitted data
- select **normalizer.tcp.ecn** = off: clear ecn for all packets | sessions w/o ecn setup { off | packet | stream }
- bool **normalizer.tcp.pad** = true: clear any option padding bytes
- bool **normalizer.tcp.trim_syn** = false: remove data on SYN
- bool **normalizer.tcp.trim_rst** = false: remove any data from RST packet

Snort++ User Manual 44 / 144

- bool **normalizer.tcp.trim_win** = false: trim data to window
- bool **normalizer.tcp.trim_mss** = false: trim data to MSS
- bool **normalizer.tcp.trim** = false: enable all of the TCP trim options
- bool **normalizer.tcp.opts** = true: clear all options except mss, wscale, timestamp, and any explicitly allowed
- bool **normalizer.tcp.req_urg** = true: clear the urgent pointer if the urgent flag is not set
- bool **normalizer.tcp.req** pay = true: clear the urgent pointer and the urgent flag if there is no payload
- bool **normalizer.tcp.rsv** = true: clear the reserved bits in the TCP header
- bool **normalizer.tcp.req_urp** = true: clear the urgent flag if the urgent pointer is not set
- multi **normalizer.tcp.allow_names**: don't clear given option names { sack | echo | partial_order | conn_count | alt_checksum | md5 }
- string normalizer.tcp.allow_codes: don't clear given option codes
- bool **normalizer.ip6** = false: clear reserved flag
- bool **normalizer.icmp4** = false: clear reserved flag
- bool **normalizer.icmp6** = false: clear reserved flag

Peg counts:

- normalizer.ip4 trim: eth packets trimmed to datagram size
- normalizer.test ip4 trim: During inline mode, would have eth packets trimmed to datagram size
- normalizer.ip4 tos: type of service normalizations
- normalizer.test ip4 tos: During inline mode, would have type of service normalizations
- normalizer.ip4 df: don't frag bit normalizations
- normalizer.test ip4 df: During inline mode, would have don't frag bit normalizations
- normalizer.ip4 rf: reserved flag bit clears
- normalizer.test ip4 rf: During inline mode, would have reserved flag bit clears
- normalizer.ip4 ttl: time-to-live normalizations
- normalizer.test ip4 ttl: During inline mode, would have time-to-live normalizations
- normalizer.ip4 opts: ip4 options cleared
- normalizer.test ip4 opts: During inline mode, would have ip4 options cleared
- normalizer.icmp4 echo: icmp4 ping normalizations
- normalizer.test icmp4 echo: During inline mode, would have icmp4 ping normalizations
- normalizer.ip6 hops: ip6 hop limit normalizations
- normalizer.test ip6 hops: During inline mode, would have ip6 hop limit normalizations
- normalizer.ip6 options: ip6 options cleared
- normalizer.test ip6 options: During inline mode, would have ip6 options cleared
- normalizer.icmp6 echo: icmp6 echo normalizations
- normalizer.test icmp6 echo: During inline mode, would have icmp6 echo normalizations

Snort++ User Manual 45 / 144

- normalizer.tcp syn options: SYN only options cleared from non-SYN packets
- normalizer.test tcp syn options: During inline mode, would have SYN only options cleared from non-SYN packets
- normalizer.tcp options: packets with options cleared
- normalizer.test tcp options: During inline mode, would have packets with options cleared
- normalizer.tcp paddding: packets with padding cleared
- normalizer.test tcp paddding: During inline mode, would have packets with padding cleared
- normalizer.tcp reserved: packets with reserved bits cleared
- · normalizer.test tcp reserved: During inline mode, would have packets with reserved bits cleared
- normalizer.tcp nonce: packets with nonce bit cleared
- normalizer.test tcp nonce: During inline mode, would have packets with nonce bit cleared
- normalizer.tcp urgent ptr: packets without data with urgent pointer cleared
- normalizer.test tcp urgent ptr: During inline mode, would have packets without data with urgent pointer cleared
- normalizer.tcp ecn pkt: packets with ECN bits cleared
- normalizer.test tcp ecn pkt: During inline mode, would have packets with ECN bits cleared
- normalizer.tcp ts ecr: timestamp cleared on non-ACKs
- normalizer.test tcp ts ecr: During inline mode, would have timestamp cleared on non-ACKs
- normalizer.tcp req urg: cleared urgent pointer when urgent flag is not set
- normalizer.test tcp req urg: During inline mode, would have cleared urgent pointer when urgent flag is not set
- normalizer.tcp req pay: cleared urgent pointer and urgent flag when there is no payload
- normalizer.test tcp req pay: During inline mode, would have cleared urgent pointer and urgent flag when there is no payload
- normalizer.tcp req urp: cleared the urgent flag if the urgent pointer is not set
- normalizer.test tcp req urp: During inline mode, would have cleared the urgent flag if the urgent pointer is not set
- normalizer.tcp trim syn: tcp segments trimmed on SYN
- normalizer.test tcp trim syn: During inline mode, would have tcp segments trimmed on SYN
- normalizer.tcp trim rst: RST packets with data trimmed
- · normalizer.test tcp trim rst: During inline mode, would have RST packets with data trimmed
- normalizer.tcp trim win: data trimed to window
- normalizer.test tcp trim win: During inline mode, would have data trimed to window
- normalizer.tcp trim mss: data trimmed to MSS
- normalizer.test tcp trim mss: During inline mode, would have data trimmed to MSS
- normalizer.tcp ecn session: ECN bits cleared
- normalizer.test tcp ecn session: During inline mode, would have ECN bits cleared
- normalizer.tcp ts nop: timestamp options cleared
- normalizer.test tcp ts nop: During inline mode, would have timestamp options cleared
- normalizer.tcp ips data: normalized segments
- normalizer.test tcp ips data: During inline mode, would have normalized segments
- normalizer.tcp block: blocked segments
- normalizer.test tcp block: During inline mode, would have blocked segments

Snort++ User Manual 46 / 144

6.13 perf_monitor

What: performance monitoring and flow statistics collection

Type: inspector Configuration:

- int **perf_monitor.packets** = 10000: minim packets to report { 0: }
- int **perf_monitor.seconds** = 60: report interval; 0 means report at exit only { 0: }
- int **perf_monitor.flow_ip_memcap** = 52428800: maximum memory for flow tracking { 8200: }
- int **perf monitor.max file size** = 4096: files will be rolled over if they exceed this size { 4096: }
- int **perf_monitor.flow_ports** = 1023: maximum ports to track { 0: }
- bool **perf_monitor.reset** = true: reset (clear) statistics after each reporting interval
- bool **perf_monitor.max** = false: calculate theoretical maximum performance
- bool **perf_monitor.console** = false: output to console
- bool **perf_monitor.events** = false: report on qualified vs non-qualified events
- bool **perf_monitor.file** = false: output base stats to perf_monitor.csv instead of stdout
- bool **perf_monitor.flow** = false: enable traffic statistics
- bool **perf_monitor.flow_file** = false: output traffic statistics to a perf_monitor_flow.csv instead of stdout
- bool **perf_monitor.flow_ip** = false: enable statistics on host pairs
- bool perf_monitor.flow_ip_file = false: output host pair statistics to perf_monitor_flow_ip.csv instead of stdout

Peg counts:

• perf_monitor.packets: total packets

6.14 pop

What: pop inspection

Type: inspector Configuration:

- int **pop.b64_decode_depth** = 1460: base64 decoding depth { -1:65535 }
- int pop.bitenc_decode_depth = 1460: Non-Encoded MIME attachment extraction depth { -1:65535 }
- int **pop.qp_decode_depth** = 1460: Quoted Printable decoding depth { -1:65535 }
- int **pop.uu_decode_depth** = 1460: Unix-to-Unix decoding depth { -1:65535 }

Rules:

- 142:1 (pop) Unknown POP3 command
- 142:2 (pop) Unknown POP3 response
- 142:4 (pop) Base64 Decoding failed.
- 142:5 (pop) Quoted-Printable Decoding failed.
- 142:7 (pop) Unix-to-Unix Decoding failed.

Peg counts:

• pop.packets: total packets

Snort++ User Manual 47 / 144

6.15 port_scan

What: port scan inspector; also configure port_scan_global

Type: inspector Configuration:

- multi **port_scan.protos** = all: choose the protocols to monitor { tcp | udp | icmp | ip | all }
- multi **port_scan.scan_types** = all: choose type of scans to look for { portscan | portsweep | decoy_portscan | distributed_portscan | all }
- enum **port_scan.sense_level** = medium: choose the level of detection { low | medium | high }
- string port_scan.watch_ip: list of CIDRs with optional ports to watch
- string port_scan.ignore_scanners: list of CIDRs with optional ports to ignore if the source of scan alerts
- string port_scan.ignore_scanned: list of CIDRs with optional ports to ignore if the destination of scan alerts
- bool port_scan.include_midstream = false: list of CIDRs with optional ports
- bool **port scan.logfile** = false: write scan events to file

Rules:

- 122:1 (port_scan) TCP portscan
- 122:2 (port_scan) TCP decoy portscan
- 122:3 (port_scan) TCP portsweep
- 122:4 (port_scan) TCP distributed portscan
- 122:5 (port_scan) TCP filtered portscan
- 122:6 (port_scan) TCP filtered decoy portscan
- 122:7 (port_scan) TCP filtered portsweep
- 122:8 (port_scan) TCP filtered distributed portscan
- 122:9 (port_scan) IP protocol scan
- 122:10 (port_scan) IP decoy protocol scan
- 122:11 (port_scan) IP protocol sweep
- 122:12 (port_scan) IP distributed protocol scan
- 122:13 (port_scan) IP filtered protocol scan
- 122:14 (port_scan) IP filtered decoy protocol scan
- 122:15 (port_scan) IP filtered protocol sweep
- 122:16 (port_scan) IP filtered distributed protocol scan
- 122:17 (port_scan) UDP portscan
- 122:18 (port_scan) UDP decoy portscan
- 122:19 (port_scan) UDP portsweep
- 122:20 (port_scan) UDP distributed portscan

Snort++ User Manual 48 / 144

- 122:21 (port_scan) UDP filtered portscan
- 122:22 (port_scan) UDP filtered decoy portscan
- 122:23 (port_scan) UDP filtered portsweep
- 122:24 (port_scan) UDP filtered distributed portscan
- 122:25 (port_scan) ICMP sweep
- 122:26 (port_scan) ICMP filtered sweep
- 122:27 (port_scan) open port

6.16 port_scan_global

What: shared settings for port_scan inspectors for use with port_scan

Type: inspector Configuration:

• int port_scan_global.memcap = 1048576: maximum tracker memory { 1: }

Peg counts:

• port_scan_global.packets: total packets

6.17 rpc_decode

What: RPC inspector

Type: inspector

Rules:

- 106:1 (rpc_decode) fragmented RPC records
- 106:2 (rpc_decode) multiple RPC records
- 106:3 (rpc_decode) large RPC record fragment
- 106:4 (rpc_decode) incomplete RPC segment
- 106:5 (rpc_decode) zero-length RPC fragment

Peg counts:

• rpc_decode.packets: total packets

6.18 ssh

What: ssh inspection
Type: inspector
Configuration:

• int ssh.max_encrypted_packets = 25: ignore session after this many encrypted packets { 0:65535 }

Snort++ User Manual 49 / 144

• int **ssh.max_client_bytes** = 19600: number of unanswered bytes before alerting on challenge-response overflow or CRC32 { 0:65535 }

• int ssh.max_server_version_len = 80: limit before alerting on secure CRT server version string overflow { 0:255 }

Rules:

- 128:1 (ssh) Challenge-Response Overflow exploit
- 128:2 (ssh) SSH1 CRC32 exploit
- 128:3 (ssh) Server version string overflow
- 128:5 (ssh) Bad message direction
- 128:6 (ssh) Payload size incorrect for the given payload
- 128:7 (ssh) Failed to detect SSH version string

Peg counts:

• ssh.packets: total packets

6.19 stream

What: common flow tracking

Type: inspector Configuration:

- int **stream.icmp_cache.memcap** = 0: maximum cache memory { 0: }
- int **stream.icmp_cache.idle_timeout** = 60: maximum inactive time before retiring session tracker { 1: }
- int stream.icmp_cache.pruning_timeout = 30: minimum inactive time before being eligible for pruning { 1: }
- int stream.icmp_cache.max_sessions = 262144: maximum simultaneous tcp sessions tracked before pruning { 0: }
- int **stream.ip_cache.memcap** = 0: maximum cache memory { 0: }
- int **stream.ip_cache.idle_timeout** = 60: maximum inactive time before retiring session tracker { 1: }
- int **stream.ip_cache.pruning_timeout** = 30: minimum inactive time before being eligible for pruning { 1: }
- int **stream.ip_cache.max_sessions** = 262144: maximum simultaneous tcp sessions tracked before pruning { 0: }
- int stream.tcp_cache.memcap = 0: maximum cache memory { 0: }
- int **stream.tcp_cache.idle_timeout** = 60: maximum inactive time before retiring session tracker { 1: }
- int **stream.tcp_cache.pruning_timeout** = 30: minimum inactive time before being eligible for pruning { 1: }
- int stream.tcp_cache.max_sessions = 262144: maximum simultaneous tcp sessions tracked before pruning { 0: }
- int **stream.udp_cache.memcap** = 0: maximum cache memory { 0: }
- int **stream.udp_cache.idle_timeout** = 60: maximum inactive time before retiring session tracker { 1: }
- int **stream.udp_cache.pruning_timeout** = 30: minimum inactive time before being eligible for pruning { 1: }
- int **stream.udp_cache.max_sessions** = 262144: maximum simultaneous tcp sessions tracked before pruning { 0: }

Peg counts:

Snort++ User Manual 50 / 144

• stream.tcp flows: total tcp sessions

• stream.tcp prunes: tcp sessions pruned

• stream.udp flows: total udp sessions

• stream.udp prunes: udp sessions pruned

• stream.icmp flows: total icmp sessions

• stream.icmp prunes: icmp sessions pruned

• stream.ip flows: total ip sessions

• stream.ip prunes: ip sessions pruned

6.20 stream_icmp

What: stream inspector for ICMP flow tracking

Type: inspector Configuration:

• int **stream_icmp.session_timeout** = 30: session tracking timeout { 1:86400 }

Peg counts:

• stream_icmp.created: icmp session trackers created

• stream_icmp.released: icmp session trackers released

6.21 stream ip

What: stream inspector for IP flow tracking and defragmentation

Type: inspector Configuration:

- int **stream_ip.max_frags** = 8192: maximum number of simultaneous fragments being tracked { 1: }
- int **stream_ip.max_overlaps** = 0: maximum allowed overlaps per datagram; 0 is unlimited { 0: }
- int **stream_ip.min_frag_length** = 0: alert if fragment length is below this limit before or after trimming { 0: }
- int **stream_ip.min_ttl** = 1: discard fragments with ttl below the minimum { 1:255 }
- enum **stream_ip.policy** = linux: fragment reassembly policy { first | linux | bsd | bsd_right | last | windows | solaris }
- int **stream_ip.session_timeout** = 30: session tracking timeout { 1:86400 }

Rules:

- 123:1 (stream_ip) inconsistent IP options on fragmented packets
- 123:2 (stream_ip) teardrop attack
- 123:3 (stream_ip) short fragment, possible DOS attempt
- 123:4 (stream_ip) fragment packet ends after defragmented packet
- 123:5 (stream_ip) zero-byte fragment packet

Snort++ User Manual 51 / 144

- 123:6 (stream ip) bad fragment size, packet size is negative
- 123:7 (stream_ip) bad fragment size, packet size is greater than 65536
- 123:8 (stream_ip) fragmentation overlap
- 123:11 (stream_ip) TTL value less than configured minimum, not using for reassembly
- 123:12 (stream_ip) excessive fragment overlap
- 123:13 (stream_ip) tiny fragment

Peg counts:

• stream ip.fragments: total fragments

• stream_ip.reassembled: reassembled datagrams

• stream_ip.discards: fragments discarded

• stream_ip.memory faults: memory faults

• stream_ip.frag timeouts: datagrams abandoned

• stream_ip.overlaps: overlapping fragments

• stream_ip.anomalies: anomalies detected

• stream_ip.alerts: alerts generated

• stream_ip.drops: fragments dropped

• stream_ip.trackers added: datagram trackers created

• stream_ip.trackers freed: datagram trackers released

• stream_ip.nodes inserted: fragments added to tracker

• stream ip.nodes deleted: fragments deleted from tracker

6.22 stream tcp

What: stream inspector for TCP flow tracking and stream normalization and reassembly

Type: inspector

Configuration:

- int **stream_tcp.flush_factor** = 0: flush upon seeing a drop in segment size after given number of non-decreasing segments { 0: }
- bool **stream_tcp.ignore_any_rules** = false: process tcp content rules w/o ports only if rules with ports are present
- int **stream_tcp.max_window** = 0: maximum allowed tcp window { 0:1073725440 }
- int **stream_tcp.overlap_limit** = 0: maximum number of allowed overlapping segments per session { 0:255 }
- int **stream_tcp.max_pdu** = 16384: maximum reassembled PDU size { 1460:63780 }
- enum **stream_tcp.policy** = bsd: determines operating system characteristics like reassembly { first | last | linux | old_linux | bsd | macos | solaris | irix | hpux11 | hpux10 | windows | win_2003 | vista | proxy }
- bool stream_tcp.reassemble_async = true: queue data for reassembly before traffic is seen in both directions

Snort++ User Manual 52 / 144

• int **stream_tcp.require_3whs** = -1: don't track midstream sessions after given seconds from start up; -1 tracks all { -1:86400 }

- bool stream_tcp.show_rebuilt_packets = false: enable cmg like output of reassembled packets
- int stream_tcp.queue_limit.max_bytes = 1048576: don't queue more than given bytes per session and direction { 0: }
- int **stream_tcp.queue_limit.max_segments** = 2621: don't queue more than given segments per session and direction { 0: }
- int stream_tcp.small_segments.count = 0: limit number of small segments queued { 0:2048 }
- int stream_tcp.small_segments.maximum_size = 0: limit number of small segments queued { 0:2048 }
- bit_list stream_tcp.small_segments.ignore_ports: limit number of small segments queued { 65535 }
- int **stream_tcp.session_timeout** = 30: session tracking timeout { 1:86400 }
- int **stream_tcp.footprint** = 0: use zero for production, non-zero for testing at given size { 0: }

Rules:

- 129:1 (stream tcp) SYN on established session
- 129:2 (stream_tcp) data on SYN packet
- 129:3 (stream_tcp) data sent on stream not accepting data
- 129:4 (stream_tcp) TCP timestamp is outside of PAWS window
- 129:5 (stream_tcp) bad segment, adjusted size $\Leftarrow 0$
- 129:6 (stream_tcp) window size (after scaling) larger than policy allows
- 129:7 (stream_tcp) limit on number of overlapping TCP packets reached
- 129:8 (stream_tcp) data sent on stream after TCP Reset sent
- 129:9 (stream_tcp) TCP client possibly hijacked, different ethernet address
- 129:10 (stream_tcp) TCP Server possibly hijacked, different ethernet address
- 129:11 (stream_tcp) TCP data with no TCP flags set
- 129:12 (stream_tcp) consecutive TCP small segments exceeding threshold
- 129:13 (stream tcp) 4-way handshake detected
- 129:14 (stream_tcp) TCP timestamp is missing
- 129:15 (stream tcp) reset outside window
- 129:16 (stream_tcp) FIN number is greater than prior FIN
- 129:17 (stream_tcp) ACK number is greater than prior FIN
- 129:18 (stream_tcp) data sent on stream after TCP Reset received
- 129:19 (stream_tcp) TCP window closed before receiving data
- 129:20 (stream_tcp) TCP session without 3-way handshake

Peg counts:

- stream_tcp.sessions: total sessions
- stream_tcp.timeouts: sessions timed out

Snort++ User Manual 53 / 144

- stream_tcp.resyns: SYN received on established session
- stream_tcp.discards: tcp packets discarded
- stream_tcp.events: events generated
- stream_tcp.ignored: tcp packets ignored
- stream_tcp.untracked: tcp packets not tracked
- stream_tcp.syn trackers: tcp session tracking started on syn
- stream_tcp.syn-ack trackers: tcp session tracking started on syn-ack
- stream_tcp.3way trackers: tcp session tracking started on ack
- stream_tcp.data trackers: tcp session tracking started on data
- stream_tcp.trackers created: tcp session trackers created
- stream_tcp.trackers released: tcp session trackers released
- stream_tcp.segs queued: total segments queued
- stream_tcp.segs released: total segments released
- stream_tcp.segs split: tcp segments split when reassembling PDUs
- stream_tcp.segs used: queued tcp segments applied to reassembled PDUs
- stream_tcp.rebuilt packets: total reassembled PDUs
- stream_tcp.rebuilt buffers: rebuilt PDU sections
- stream_tcp.overlaps: overlapping segments queued
- stream_tcp.gaps: missing data between PDUs
- stream tcp.max segs: number of times the maximum queued segment limit was reached
- stream_tcp.max bytes: number of times the maximum queued byte limit was reached
- stream_tcp.internal events: 135:X events generated
- stream_tcp.client cleanups: number of times data from server was flushed when session released
- stream_tcp.server cleanups: number of times data from client was flushed when session released

6.23 stream_udp

What: stream inspector for UDP flow tracking

Type: inspector Configuration:

- int **stream_udp.session_timeout** = 30: session tracking timeout { 1:86400 }
- bool **stream_udp.ignore_any_rules** = false: process udp content rules w/o ports only if rules with ports are present

Peg counts:

- stream_udp.sessions: total udp sessions
- stream udp.created: udp session trackers created
- stream_udp.released: udp session trackers released
- stream_udp.timeouts: udp session timeouts

Snort++ User Manual 54 / 144

6.24 telnet

What: telnet inspection and normalization

Type: inspector Configuration:

- int telnet.ayt_attack_thresh = -1: alert on this number of consecutive telnet AYT commands { -1: }
- bool **telnet.check_encrypted** = false: check for end of encryption
- bool **telnet.encrypted_traffic** = false: check for encrypted telnet and ftp
- bool **telnet.normalize** = false: eliminate escape sequences

Rules:

- 126:1 (telnet) consecutive telnet AYT commands beyond threshold
- 126:2 (telnet) telnet traffic encrypted
- 126:3 (telnet) telnet subnegotiation begin command without subnegotiation end

Peg counts:

• telnet.packets: total packets

6.25 wizard

What: inspector that implements port-independent protocol identification

Type: inspector Configuration:

- string wizard.hexes[].service: name of service
- select wizard.hexes[].proto = tcp: protocol to scan { tcp | udp }
- bool wizard.hexes[].client_first = true: which end initiates data transfer
- string wizard.hexes[].to_server[].hex: sequence of data with wild chars (?)
- string wizard.hexes[].to_client[].hex: sequence of data with wild chars (?)
- string wizard.spells[].service: name of service
- select wizard.spells[].proto = tcp: protocol to scan { tcp | udp }
- bool wizard.spells[].client_first = true: which end initiates data transfer
- string wizard.spells[].to_server[].spell: sequence of data with wild cards (*)
- $\bullet \ \ \text{string wizard.spells[].to_client[].spell: sequence of data with wild cards (*)}\\$

Peg counts:

• wizard.tcp scans: tcp payload scans

• wizard.tcp hits: tcp identifications

• wizard.udp scans: udp payload scans

• wizard.udp hits: udp identifications

Snort++ User Manual 55 / 144

7 IPS Action Modules

IPS actions allow you to perform custom actions when events are generated. Unlike loggers, these are invoked before thresholding and can be used to control external agents.

Externally defined actions must be configured to become available to the parser. For the reject rule, you can set reject = { } to get the rule to parse.

7.1 react

What: send response to client and terminate session

Type: ips_action Configuration:

• bool **react.msg** = false: use rule msg in response page instead of default message

• string react.page: file containing HTTP response (headers and body)

7.2 reject

What: terminate session with TCP reset or ICMP unreachable

Type: ips_action Configuration:

• enum **reject.reset**: send tcp reset to one or both ends { sourceldestlboth }

• enum **reject.control**: send icmp unreachable(s) { networklhostlportlall }

7.3 rewrite

What: overwrite packet contents

Type: ips_action

8 IPS Option Modules

IPS options are the building blocks of IPS rules.

8.1 ack

What: rule option to match on TCP ack numbers

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string ack.~range: check if packet payload size is size | min<>max | <max | >min

Snort++ User Manual 56 / 144

8.2 asn1

What: rule option for asn1 detection

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• implied asn1.bitstring_overflow: Detects invalid bitstring encodings that are known to be remotely exploitable.

- implied asn1.double_overflow: Detects a double ASCII encoding that is larger than a standard buffer.
- implied asn1.print: <>max | <max | >min
- int asn1.oversize_length: Compares ASN.1 type lengths with the supplied argument. { 0: }
- int asn1.absolute_offset: Absolute offset from the beginning of the packet. { 0: }
- int asn1.relative_offset: relative offset from the cursor.

8.3 base64_decode

What: rule option to decode base64 data - must be used with base64_data option

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

- int base64_decode.bytes: Number of base64 encoded bytes to decode. { 1: }
- int base64_decode.offset = 0: Bytes past start of buffer to start decoding. { 0: }
- implied base64_decode.relative: Apply offset to cursor instead of start of buffer.

8.4 bufferlen

What: rule option to check length of current buffer

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string **bufferlen.~range**: len | min<>max | <max | >min

8.5 byte extract

What: rule option to convert data to an integer variable

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

- int byte_extract.~count: number of bytes to pick up from the buffer { 1:10 }
- int byte_extract.~offset: number of bytes into the buffer to start processing { -65535:65535 }
- string byte_extract.~name: name of the variable that will be used in other rule options
- implied byte_extract.relative: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer
- int **byte_extract.multiplier =** 1: scale extracted value by given amount { 1:65535 }

Snort++ User Manual 57 / 144

- int byte_extract.align = 0: round the number of converted bytes up to the next 2- or 4-byte boundary { 0:4 }
- implied byte_extract.big: big endian
- implied byte_extract.little: little endian
- implied byte_extract.dce: dcerpc2 determines endianness
- implied byte_extract.string: convert from string
- implied byte_extract.hex: convert from hex string
- implied byte_extract.oct: convert from octal string
- implied byte_extract.dec: convert from decimal string

8.6 byte_jump

What: rule option to move the detection cursor

Type: ips_option Configuration:

- int byte_jump.~count: number of bytes to pick up from the buffer { 1:10 }
- string byte_jump.~offset: variable name or number of bytes into the buffer to start processing
- implied byte_jump.relative: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer
- implied byte_jump.from_beginning: jump from start of buffer instead of cursor
- int byte_jump.multiplier = 1: scale extracted value by given amount { 1:65535 }
- int byte jump.align = 0: round the number of converted bytes up to the next 2- or 4-byte boundary { 0:4 }
- int **byte_jump.post_offset** = 0: also skip forward or backwards (positive of negative value) this number of bytes { -65535:65535 }
- implied byte_jump.big: big endian
- implied byte_jump.little: little endian
- implied byte_jump.dce: dcerpc2 determines endianness
- implied byte_jump.string: convert from string
- implied byte_jump.hex: convert from hex string
- implied byte_jump.oct: convert from octal string
- implied byte_jump.dec: convert from decimal string

8.7 byte_test

What: rule option to convert data to integer and compare

Type: ips_option Configuration:

- int **byte_test.~count**: number of bytes to pick up from the buffer { 1:10 }
- string byte_test.~operator: variable name or number of bytes into the buffer to start processing

Snort++ User Manual 58 / 144

- string byte_test.~compare: variable name or value to test the converted result against
- string byte_test.~offset: variable name or number of bytes into the payload to start processing
- implied byte_test.relative: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer
- implied byte_test.big: big endian
- implied byte_test.little: little endian
- implied byte_test.dce: dcerpc2 determines endianness
- implied byte_test.string: convert from string
- implied byte_test.hex: convert from hex string
- implied byte_test.oct: convert from octal string
- implied byte_test.dec: convert from decimal string

8.8 classtype

What: general rule option for rule classification

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string **classtype.~**: classification for this rule

8.9 content

What: payload rule option for basic pattern matching

Type: ips_option Configuration:

- string content.~data: data to match
- implied content.nocase: case insensitive match
- implied content.fast_pattern: use this content in the fast pattern matcher instead of the content selected by default
- int **content.fast_pattern_offset** = 0: number of leading characters of this content the fast pattern matcher should exclude { 0: }
- int content.fast_pattern_length: maximum number of characters from this content the fast pattern matcher should use { 1: }
- string content.offset: var or number of bytes from start of buffer to start search
- string content.depth: var or maximum number of bytes to search from beginning of buffer
- string content.distance: var or number of bytes from cursor to start search
- string content.within: var or maximum number of bytes to search from cursor

8.10 cvs

What: payload rule option for detecting specific attacks

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• implied cvs.invalid-entry: looks for an invalid Entry string

Snort++ User Manual 59 / 144

8.11 detection_filter

What: rule option to require multiple hits before a rule generates an event

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• enum **detection_filter.track**: track hits by source or destination IP address { by_src | by_dst }

• int **detection_filter.count**: hits in interval before allowing the rule to fire { 1: }

• int **detection_filter.seconds**: length of interval to count hits { 1: }

8.12 dsize

What: rule option to test payload size

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string **dsize.~range**: check if packet payload size is *size* | *min*<>*max* | <*max* | >*min*

8.13 file_data

What: rule option to set detection cursor to file data

Type: ips_option

8.14 flags

What: rule option to test TCP control flags

Type: ips_option Configuration:

- string flags.~test_flags: these flags are tested
- string flags.~mask_flags: these flags are don't cares

8.15 flow

What: rule option to check session properties

Type: ips_option Configuration:

- implied **flow.to_client**: match on server responses
- implied flow.to_server: match on client requests
- implied flow.from_client: same as to_server
- implied flow.from_server: same as to_client
- implied flow.established: match only during data transfer phase
- implied flow.not_established: match only outside data transfer phase

Snort++ User Manual 60 / 144

- implied flow.stateless: match regardless of stream state
- implied flow.no_stream: match on raw packets only
- implied flow.only_stream: match on reassembled packets only
- implied flow.no_frag: match on raw packets only
- implied flow.only_frag: match on defragmented packets only

8.16 flowbits

What: rule option to set and test arbitrary boolean flags

Type: ips_option Configuration:

- string flowbits.~command: setlresetlissetletc.
- string flowbits.~arg1: bits or group
- string flowbits.~arg2: group if arg1 is bits

8.17 fragbits

What: rule option to test IP frag flags

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string fragbits.~flags: these flags are tested

8.18 fragoffset

What: rule option to test IP frag offset

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string **fragoffset.~range**: check if packet payload size is *size* | *min*<>*max* | <*max* | >*min*

8.19 gid

What: rule option specifying rule generator

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• int **gid.~**: generator id { 1: }

8.20 http_client_body

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the request body

Type: ips_option

Snort++ User Manual 61 / 144

8.21 http_cookie

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP cookie

Type: ips_option

8.22 http_header

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the normalized header(s)

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string http_header.~name: restrict to given header

8.23 http_method

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP request method

Type: ips_option

8.24 http_raw_cookie

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the unnormalized cookie

Type: ips_option

8.25 http_raw_header

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the unnormalized headers

Type: ips_option

8.26 http_raw_uri

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the unnormalized URI

Type: ips_option

8.27 http_stat_code

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP status code

Type: ips_option

8.28 http stat msg

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP status message

Type: ips_option

8.29 http_uri

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the normalized URI buffer

Type: ips_option

Snort++ User Manual 62 / 144

8.30 icmp_id

What: rule option to check ICMP ID

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string icmp_id.~range: check if icmp id is id | min<>max | <max | >min

8.31 icmp_seq

What: rule option to check ICMP sequence number

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string icmp_seq.~range: check if icmp sequence number is seq | min<>max | <max | >min

8.32 icode

What: rule option to check ICMP code

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string icode.~range: check if ICMP code is code | min<>max | <max | >min

8.33 id

What: rule option to check the IP ID field

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string id.~range: check if the IP ID is id | min<>max | <max | >min

8.34 ip_proto

What: rule option to check the IP protocol number

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string **ip_proto.~proto**: [!|>|<] name or number

8.35 ipopts

What: rule option to check for IP options

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• select **ipopts.~opt**: output format { rrleollnopltslseclesecllsrrllsrrelssrrlsatidlany }

Snort++ User Manual 63 / 144

8.36 isdataat

What: rule option to check for the presence of payload data

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string isdataat.~length: num | !num

• implied isdataat.relative: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer

8.37 itype

What: rule option to check ICMP type

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string **itype.~range**: check if icmp type is *type* | *min*<>*max* | <*max* | >*min*

8.38 md5

What: payload rule option for hash matching

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string md5.~hash: data to match

• int **md5.length**: number of octets in plain text { 1:65535 }

• string md5.offset: var or number of bytes from start of buffer to start search

• implied **md5.relative** = false: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer

8.39 metadata

What: rule option for conveying arbitrary name, value data within the rule text

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string metadata.service: service name

• string metadata.*: additional parameters not used by snort

8.40 msg

What: rule option summarizing rule purpose output with events

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string msg.~: message describing rule

Snort++ User Manual 64 / 144

8.41 pcre

What: rule option for matching payload data with regex

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string pcre.~regex: Snort regular expression

8.42 pkt_data

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the normalized packet data

Type: ips_option

8.43 priority

What: rule option for prioritizing events

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• int **priority.~**: relative severity level; 1 is highest priority { 1: }

8.44 raw_data

What: rule option to set the detection cursor to the raw packet data

Type: ips_option

8.45 reference

What: rule option to indicate relevant attack identification system

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string reference.~scheme: reference scheme

• string reference.~id: reference id

8.46 rem

What: rule option to convey an arbitrary comment in the rule body

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string rem.~: comment

Snort++ User Manual 65 / 144

8.47 replace

What: rule option to overwrite payload data; use with rewrite action

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string replace.~: byte code to replace with

8.48 rev

What: rule option to indicate current revision of signature

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• int **rev.~**: revision { 1: }

8.49 rpc

What: rule option to check SUNRPC CALL parameters

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string rpc.~app: application number

• string **rpc.~ver**: version number or * for any

• string **rpc.~proc**: procedure number or * for any

8.50 seq

What: rule option to check TCP sequence number

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

• string **seq.~range**: check if packet payload size is *size* | *min*<>*max* | <*max* | >*min*

8.51 session

What: rule option to check user data from TCP sessions

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• enum **session.~mode**: output format { printablelbinarylall }

Snort++ User Manual 66 / 144

8.52 sha256

What: payload rule option for hash matching

Type: ips_option Configuration:

- string sha256.~hash: data to match
- int sha256.length: number of octets in plain text { 1:65535 }
- string sha256.offset: var or number of bytes from start of buffer to start search
- implied **sha256.relative** = false: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer

8.53 sha512

What: payload rule option for hash matching

Type: ips_option
Configuration:

- string sha512.~hash: data to match
- int sha512.length: number of octets in plain text { 1:65535 }
- string sha512.offset: var or number of bytes from start of buffer to start search
- implied **sha512.relative** = false: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer

8.54 sid

What: rule option to indicate signature number

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• int sid.~: signature id { 1: }

8.55 so

What: rule option to call custom eval function

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string so.~func: name of eval function

8.56 soid

What: rule option to specify a shared object rule ID

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string soid.~: SO rule ID has <gid>|<sid> format, like 3|12345

Snort++ User Manual 67 / 144

8.57 stream_reassemble

What: detection option for stream reassembly control

Type: ips_option Configuration:

- enum **stream_reassemble.action**: stop or start stream reassembly { disablelenable }
- enum **stream_reassemble.direction**: action applies to the given direction(s) { clientlserverlboth }
- implied **stream_reassemble.noalert**: don't alert when rule matches
- implied stream_reassemble.fastpath: optionally whitelist the remainder of the session

8.58 stream_size

What: detection option for stream size checking

Type: ips_option Configuration:

- string stream_size.~range: size for comparison
- enum **stream_size.~direction**: compare applies to the given direction(s) { eitherIto_serverIto_clientIboth }

8.59 tag

What: rule option to log additional packets

Type: ips_option Configuration:

- enum tag.~: log all packets in session or all packets to or from host { sessionlhost_srclhost_dst }
- int tag.packets: tag this many packets { 1: }
- int tag.seconds: tag for this many seconds { 1: }
- int tag.bytes: tag for this many bytes { 1: }

8.60 tos

What: rule option to check type of service field

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string tos.~range: check if packet payload size is size | min<>max | <max | >min

8.61 ttl

What: rule option to check time to live field

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string **ttl.~range**: check if packet payload size is *size* | *min*<>*max* | <*max* | >*min*

Snort++ User Manual 68 / 144

8.62 window

What: rule option to check TCP window field

Type: ips_option Configuration:

• string window.~range: check if packet payload size is size | min<>max | <max | >min

9 Search Engine Modules

Search engines perform multipattern searching of packets and payload to find rules that should be evaluated. There are currently no specific modules, although there are several search engine plugins. Related configuration is done with the basic detection module.

10 SO Rule Modules

SO rules are dynamic rules that require custom coding to perform detection not possible with the existing rule options. These rules typically do not have associated modules.

11 Logger Modules

All output of events and packets is done by Loggers.

11.1 alert_csv

What: output event in csv format

Type: logger Configuration:

- bool alert_csv.file = false: output to alert_csv.txt instead of stdout
- multi alert_csv.csv = timestamp gid sid rev src_addr src_port dst_addr dst_port: selected fields will be output in given order left to right { timestamp | gid | sid | rev | msg | proto | src_addr | dst_addr | src_port | dst_port | eth_src | eth_dst | eth_type | eth_len | ttl | tos | id | ip_len | dgm_len | icmp_type | icmp_code | icmp_id | icmp_seq | tcp_flags | tcp_seq | tcp_ack | tcp_len | tcp_win | udp_len }
- int **alert_csv.limit** = 0: set limit (0 is unlimited) { 0: }
- enum alert_csv.units = B: bytes | KB | MB | GB { B | K | M | G }

11.2 alert fast

What: output event with brief text format

Type: logger Configuration:

- bool alert_fast.file = false: output to alert_fast.txt instead of stdout
- bool **alert_fast.packet** = false: output packet dump with alert
- int alert_fast.limit = 0: set limit (0 is unlimited) { 0: }
- enum alert_fast.units = B: bytes | KB | MB | GB { B | K | M | G }

Snort++ User Manual 69 / 144

11.3 alert_full

What: output event with full packet dump

Type: logger Configuration:

• bool alert_full.file = false: output to alert_full.txt instead of stdout

• int alert_full.limit = 0: set limit (0 is unlimited) { 0: }

• enum alert full.units = B: limit is in bytes | KB | MB | GB { B | K | M | G }

11.4 alert syslog

What: output event to syslog

Type: logger Configuration:

- enum **alert_syslog.facility** = auth: part of priority applied to each message { auth | authpriv | daemon | user | local0 | local1 | local2 | local3 | local4 | local5 | local6 | local7 }
- enum **alert_syslog.level** = info: part of priority applied to each message { emerg | alert | crit | err | warning | notice | info | debug }
- multi alert_syslog.options: used to open the syslog connection { cons | ndelay | perror | pid }

11.5 alert_test

What: output event in custom tsv format

Type: logger Configuration:

- bool alert_test.file = false: output to alert_test.txt instead of stdout
- bool alert_test.rebuilt = false: include type:count where type is S for stream and F for frag
- bool **alert_test.session** = false: include src-dst each of form -addr:port
- bool alert_test.msg = false: include alert msg

11.6 alert_unixsock

What: output event over unix socket

Type: logger

11.7 log_codecs

What: log protocols in packet by layer

Type: logger Configuration:

- bool **log_codecs.file** = false: output to log_codecs.txt instead of stdout
- bool log_codecs.msg = false: include alert msg

Snort++ User Manual 70 / 144

11.8 log_pcap

What: log packet in pcap format

Type: logger Configuration:

• int log_pcap.limit = 0: set limit (0 is unlimited) { 0: }

• enum log_pcap.units = B: bytes | KB | MB | GB { B | K | M | G }

11.9 unified2

What: output event and packet in unified2 format file

Type: logger Configuration:

- int **unified2.limit** = 0: set limit (0 is unlimited) { 0: }
- enum unified2.units = B: limit multiplier $\{ B \mid K \mid M \mid G \}$
- bool **unified2.nostamp** = true: append file creation time to name (in Unix Epoch format)
- bool unified2.mpls_event_types = false: include mpls labels in events
- bool unified2.vlan_event_types = false: include vlan IDs in events

12 Snort++ vs Snort

Snort++ differs from Snort in the following ways:

- command line and conf file syntax made more uniform
- removed unused and deprecated features
- remove as many barriers to successful run as possible (e.g.: no upper bounds on memcaps)
- assume the simplest mode of operation (e.g.: never assume input from or output to some hardcoded filename)
- all Snort config options are grouped into Snort++ modules

12.1 Build Options

- configure --with-lib{pcap,pcre}-* → --with-{pcap,pcre}-*
- control socket, cs_dir, and users were deleted
- POLICY_BY_ID_ONLY code was deleted
- hardened --enable-inline-init-failopen / INLINE_FAILOPEN

Snort++ User Manual 71 / 144

12.2 Command Line

- --pause loads config and waits for resume before processing packets
- --require-rule-sid is hardened
- · --shell enables interactive Lua shell
- -T is assumed if no input given
- added --help-config prefix to dump all matching settings
- added --script-path
- added -K text; -K text/pcap is old dump/log mode
- added -z <#> and --max-packet-threads <#>
- delete --enable-mpls-multicast, --enable-mpls-overlapping-ip, --max-mpls-labelchain-len, --mpls-payload-type
- deleted --pid-path and --no-interface-pidfile
- deleting command line options which will be available with --lua or some such including: -I, -h, -F, -p, --disable-inline-init-failopen
- hardened -n < 0
- · removed --search-method
- replaced "unknown args are bpf" with --bpf
- replaced --dynamic-*-lib[-dir] with --plugin-path (with : separators)
- removed -b, -N, -Z and, --perfmon-file options

12.3 Conf File

- Snort++ has a default unicode.map
- Snort++ will not enforce an upper bound on memcaps and the like within 64 bits
- Snort++ will supply a default *_global config if not specified (Snort would fatal; e.g. http_inspect_server w/o http_inspect_global)
- address list syntax changes: [[and]] must be [[and]] to avoid Lua string parsing errors (unless in quoted string)
- because the Lua conf is live code, we lose file:line locations in app error messages (syntax errors from Lua have file:line)
- · changed search-method names for consistency
- delete config include_vlan_in_alerts (not used in code)
- delete config so_rule_memcap (not used in code)
- · deleted --disable-attribute-table-reload-thread
- deleted config decode_*_{alerts,drops} (use rules only)
- · deleted config dump-dynamic-rules-path
- deleted config ipv6_frag (not actually used)
- deleted config threshold and ips rule threshold (→ event_filter)
- eliminated ac-split; must use ac-full-q split-any-any
- $\bullet \ \ frag3 \rightarrow defrag, arpspoof \rightarrow arp_spoof, sfportscan \rightarrow port_scan, perfmonitor \rightarrow perf_monitor, bo \rightarrow back_orifice$

Snort++ User Manual 72 / 144

- limits like "1234K" are now "limit = 1234, units = K"
- lua field names are (lower) case sensitive; snort.conf largely wasn't
- module filenames are not configurable: always <log-dir>/<module-name><suffix> (suffix is determined by module)
- no positional parameters; all name = value
- perf_monitor configuration was simplified
- portscan.detect_ack_scans deleted (exact same as include_midstream)
- removed various run modes now just one
- frag3 default policy is Linux not bsd
- lowmem* search methods are now in snort_examples
- · deleted unused http_inspect stateful mode
- deleted stateless inspection from ftp and telnet
- deleted http and ftp alert options (now strictly rule based)
- preprocessor disabled settings deleted since no longer relevant
- · sessions are always created; snort config stateful checks eliminated
- stream5_tcp: prune_log_max deleted; to be replaced with histogram
- stream5_tcp: max_active_responses, min_response_seconds moved to active.max_responses, min_interval

12.4 Rules

- all rules must have a sid
- · deleted activate / dynamic rules
- · deleted metadata engine shared
- deleted metadata: rule-flushing (with PDU flushing rule flushing can cause missed attacks, the opposite of its intent)
- · deleted unused rule_state.action
- fastpattern_offset, fast_pattern_length
- no; separated content suboptions
- offset, depth, distance, and within must use a space separator not colon (e.g. offset:5; becomes offset 5;)
- rule option sequence: <stub> soid <hidden>
- sid == 0 not allowed
- soid is now a non-metadata option
- content suboptions http_* are now full options and should be place before content
- the following pcre options have been deleted: use sticky buffers instead B, U, P, H, M, C, I, D, K, S, Y
- deleted uricontent ips rule option. uricontent: "foo" --> http_uri; content: "foo"
- deleted urilen raw and norm; must use http raw uri and http uri instead
- deleted unused http_encode option
- urilen replaced with generic bufferlen which applies to current sticky buffer
- added optional selector to http_header, e.g. http_header:User-Agent;
- multiline rules w/o \n
- #begin ... #end comments

Snort++ User Manual 73 / 144

12.5 Output

- alert_fast includes packet data by default
- all text mode outputs default to stdout
- changed default logging mode to -K none
- deleted layer2resets and flexresp2_*
- · deleted log_ascii
- general output guideline: don't print zero counts
- Snort++ queues decoder and inspector events to the main event queue before ips policy is selected; since some events may not be enabled, the queue needs to be sized larger than with Snort which used an intermediate queue for decoder events.
- deleted the intermediate http and ftp_telnet event queues
- alert_unified2 and log_unified2 have been deleted

12.6 HTTP Profiles

This section describes the changes to the Http Inspect config option "profile".

Snort 2.X allows users to select pre-defined HTTP server profiles using the config option "profile". The user can choose one of five predefined profiles. When defined, this option will set defaults for other config options within Http Inspect.

With Snort++, the user has the flexibility of defining and fine tuning custom profiles along with the five predefined profiles.

Snort 2.X conf

Note

The "profile" option now that points to a table "http profile apache" which is defined in "snort defaults.lua" (as follows).

```
http_profile_apache =
{
    profile_type = 'apache',
    server_flow_depth = 300,
    client_flow_depth = 300,
    post_depth = -1,
    chunk_length = 500000,
```

Snort++ User Manual 74 / 144

```
ascii = true,
multi_slash = true,
directory = true,
webroot = true,
utf_8 = true,
apache_whitespace = true,
non_strict = true,
normalize_utf = true,
normalize_javascript = false,
max_header_length = 0,
max_headers = 0,
max_spaces = 200,
max_javascript_whitespaces = 200,
whitespace_chars ='0x9 0xb 0xc 0xd'
}
```

Note

The config option "max_headers" is set to 0 in the profile, but overwritten by "http_inspect.profile.max_headers = 200".

Conversion

Snort2lua can convert the existing snort.conf with the "profile" option to Snort3.0 compatible "profile". Please refer to the Snort2Lua post for more details.

Examples

```
"profile all" ==> "profile = http_profile_default"
"profile apache" ==> "profile = http_profile_apache"
"profile iis" ==> "profile = http_profile_iis"
"profile iis_40" ==> "profile = http_profile_iis_40"
"profile iis_50" ==> "profile = http_profile_iis_50"
```

Defining custom profiles

The complete set of Http Inspect config options that a custom profile can configure can be found by running the following command:

```
snort --help-config http_inspect | grep http_inspect.profile
```

The new Http Inspect (new_http_inspect) implementation of config options is still under development.

13 Snort2Lua

One of the major differences between Snort 2.9.X and Snort 3.0 is the configuration. Snort 2.9.X configuration files are written in Snort-specific syntax while Snort 3.0 configuration files are written in Lua. Snort2Lua is a program specifically designed to convert Snort 2.9.X configuration files into Lua files that Snort 3.0 can understand.

Snort2Lua reads your legacy Snort conf file(s) and generates Snort\++ Lua and rules files. When running this program, the only mandatory option is to provide Snort2Lua with a Snort configuration file. The default output file file is snort.lua, the default error file will be snort.rej, and the default rule file is the output file (default is snort.lua). When Snort2Lua finishes running, the resulting configuration file can be successfully run as the Snort3.0 configuration file. The sole exception to this rule is when Snort2Lua cannot find an included file. If that occurs, the file will still be included in the output file and you will need to manually adjust or comment the file name. Additionally, if the exit code is not zero, some of the information may not be successfully converted. Check the error file for all of the conversion problems.

Snort++ User Manual 75 / 144

Those errors can occur for a multitude of reasons and are not necessarily bad. For instance, Snort2Lua will only convert preprocessors that are currently supported. Therefore, any unsupported preprocessors or configuration options including DCERP, SIP, and SMTP, will cause an error in Snort2Lua since Snort3.0 does not support those preprocessors. Additionally, any rule options associated with those preprocessors are also not supported. Finally, Snort2Lua expects a valid Snort configuration. Therefore, if the configuration is invalid or has questionable syntax, Snort2Lua may fail to parse the configuration file or create an invalid Snort3.0 configuration file.

There are a also few peculiarities of Snort2Lua that may be confusing to a first time user. Specifically, aside from an initial configuration file (which is specified from the command line or as the file in 'config binding'), every file that is included into Snort3.0 must be either a Lua file or a rule file; the file cannot contain both rules and Lua syntax. Therefore, when parsing a file specified with the 'include' command, Snort2Lua will output both a Lua file and a rule file. Additionally, any line that is a comment in a configuration file will be added in to a comments section at the bottom of the main configuration file. Finally, rules that contain unsupported options will be converted to the best of Snort2Lua's capability and then printed as a comment in the rule file.

13.1 Snort2Lua Command Line

By default, Snort2Lua will attempt to parse every 'include' file and every 'binding' file. There is an option to change this functionality.

When specifying a rule file with one of the command line options, Snort2Lua will output all of the converted rules to that specified rule file. This is especially useful when you are only interesting in converting rules since there is no Lua syntax in rule files. There is also an option that tells Snort2Lua to output every rule for a given configuration into a single rule file. Similarly, there is an option pull all of the Lua syntax from every 'include' file into the output file.

There are currently three output modes: default, quiet, and differences. As expected, quiet mode produces a Snort++ configuration. All errors (aside from Fatal Snort2Lua errors), differences, and comments will omitted from the final output file. Default mode will print everything. That mean you will be able to see exactly what changes have occurred between Snort and Snort\++ in addition to the new syntax, the original file's comments, and all errors that have occurred. Finally, differences mode will not actually output a valid Snort3.0 configuration. Instead, you can see the exact options from the input configuration that have changed.

13.1.1 Usage: snort2lua [OPTIONS]... -c <snort_conf> ...

Converts the Snort configuration file specified by the -c or --conf-file options into a Snort++ configuration file

Options:

- -? show usage
- -h this overview of snort2lua
- -a default option. print all data
- -c <snort_conf> The Snort <snort_conf> file to convert
- -d print the differences, and only the differences, between the Snort and Snort++ configurations to the <out_file>
- -e <error_file> output all errors to <error_file>
- -i if <snort_conf> file contains any <include_file> or <policy_file> (i.e. include path/to/conf/other_conf), do NOT parse those files
- -m add a remark to the end of every converted rule
- -o <out_file> output the new Snort++ lua configuration to <out_file>
- -q quiet mode. Only output valid confiration information to the <out_file>
- -r <rule_file> output any converted rule to <rule_file>

Snort++ User Manual 76 / 144

- -s when parsing <include_file>, write <include_file>'s rules to <rule_file>. Meaningles if -i provided
- -t when parsing <include_file>, write <include_file>'s information, excluding rules, to <out_file>. Meaningles if -i provided
- -V Print the current Snort2Lua version
- --conf-file Same as -c. A Snort <snort_conf> file which will be converted
- --dont-parse-includes Same as -p. if <snort_conf> file contains any <include_file> or <policy_file> (i.e. include path/to/con-f/other_conf), do NOT parse those files
- --error-file=<error_file> Same as -e. output all errors to <error_file>
- --help Same as -h. this overview of snort2lua
- --markup print help in asciidoc compatible format
- --output-file=<out_file> Same as -o. output the new Snort++ lua configuration to <out_file>
- --print-all Same as -a. default option. print all data
- --print-differences Same as -d. output the differences, and only the differences, between the Snort and Snort++ configurations to the <out file>
- --quiet Same as -q. quiet mode. Only output valid confiration information to the <out_file>
- --remark same as -m. add a remark to the end of every converted rule
- --rule-file=<rule_file> Same as -r. output any converted rule to <rule_file>
- --single-conf-file Same as -t. when parsing <include_file>, write <include_file>'s information, excluding rules, to <out_file>
- --single-rule-file Same as -s. when parsing <include_file>, write <include_file>'s rules to <rule_file>.
- --version Same as -V. Print the current Snort2Lua version

Required option:

• A Snort configuration file to convert. Set with either -c or --conf-file

Default values:

- <out_file> = snort.lua
- <rule_file> = <out_file> = snort.lua. Rules are written to the *local_rules* variable in the <out_file>
- <error_file> = snort.rej. This file will not be created in quiet mode.

13.2 Known Problems

- · Any Snort 'string' which is dependent on a variable will no longer have that variable in the Lua string.
- Snort2Lua currently does not handle variables well. First, that means variables will not always be parsed correctly. Second, sometimes a variables value will be outoput in the lua file rather than a variable For instance, if Snort2Lua attempted to convert the line <code>include \$RULE_PATH/example.rule</code>, the output may ouput <code>include /etc/rules/example.rule</code> instead.
- When Snort2Lua parses a 'binding' configuration file, the rules and configuration will automatically be combined into the same file. Also, the new files name will automatically become the old file's name with a .lua extension. There is currently no way to specify or change that files name.
- If a rule's action is a custom ruletype, that rule action will be silently converted to the rultype's *type*. No warnings or errors are currently emmitted. Additionally, the custom ruletypes outputs will be silently discarded.
- If the original configuration contains a binding that points to another file and the binding file contains an error, Snort2Lua will output the number of rejects for the binding file in addition to the number of rejects in the main file. The two numbers will eventually be combined into one output.

Snort++ User Manual 77 / 144

13.3 Usage

Snort2Lua is included in the Snort 3.0 distribution. The Snort2Lua source code is located in the tools/snort2lua directory. The program is automatically built and installed.

Translating your configuration

To run Snort2Lua, the only requirement is a file containing Snort 2.9.X syntax. Assuming your configuration file is named snort.conf, run the command

```
snort2lua -c snort.conf
```

Snort2Lua will output a file named snort.lua. Assuming your snort.conf file is a valid Snort 2.9.X configuration file, than the resulting snort.lua file will always be a valid Snort 3.0 configuration file; any errors that occur are because Snort 3.0 currently does not support all of the Snort 2.9.X options.

Every keyword from the Snort configuration can be found in the output file. If the option or keyword has changed, then a comment containing both the option or keyword's old name and new name will be present in the output file.

Translating a rule file

Snort2Lua can also accommodate translating individual rule files. Assuming the Snort 2.9.X rule file is named snort.rules and you want the new rule file to be name updated.rules, run the command

```
snort2lua -c snort.rules -r updated.rules
```

Snort2Lua will output a file named updated.rules. That file, updated.rules, will always be a valid Snort 3.0 rule file. Any rule that contains unsupported options will be a comment in the output file.

Understanding the Output

Although Snort2Lua outputs very little to the console, there are several things that occur when Snort2Lua runs. This is a list of Snort2Lua outputs.

The console. Every line that Snort2Lua is unable to translate from the Snort 2.9.X format to the Snort 3.0 format is considered an error. Upon exiting, Snort2Lua will print the number of errors that occurred. Snort2Lua will also print the name of the error file.

The output file. As previously mentioned, Snort2Lua will create a Lua file with valid Snort 3.0 syntax. The default Lua file is named snort.lua. This file is the equivalent of your main Snort 2.9.X configuration file.

The rule file. By default, all rules will be printed to the Lua file. However, if a rule file is specified on the command line, any rules found in the Snort 2.9.X configuration will be written to the rule file instead

The error file. By default, the error file is snort.rej. It will only be created if errors exist. Every error referenced on the command line can be found in this file. There are two reasons an error can occur.

- The Snort 2.9.X configuration file has invalid syntax. If Snort 2.9.X cannot parse the configuration file, neither can Snort2Lua. In the example below, Snort2Lua could not convert the line *config bad_option*. Since that is not valid Snort 2.9.X syntax, this is a syntax error.
- The Snort 2.9.X configuration file contains preprocessors and rule options that are not supported in Snort 3.0. If Snort 2.9.X can parse a line that Snort2Lua cannot parse, than Snort 3.0 does not support something in the line. As Snort 3.0 begins supporting these preprocessors and rule options, Snort2Lua will also begin translating these lines. One example of such an error is dcerpc2.

Additional .lua and .rules files. Every time Snort2Lua parses the include or binding keyword, the program will attempt to parse the file referenced by the keyword. Snort2Lua will then create one or two new files. The new files will have a .lua or .rules extension appended to the original filename.

Snort++ User Manual 78 / 144

14 Reference

14.1 Terminology

- basic module: a module integrated into Snort that does not come from a plugin.
- binder: inspector that maps configuration to traffic
- builtin rules: codec and inspector rules for anomalies detected internally.
- codec: short for coder / decoder. These plugins are used for basic protocol decoding, anomaly detection, and construction of
 active responses.
- data module: an adjunct configuration plugin for use with certain inspectors.
- dynamic rules: plugin rules loaded at runtime. See SO rules.
- fast pattern: the content in an IPS rule that must be found by the search engine in order for a rule to be evaluated.
- fast pattern matcher: see search engine.
- hex: a type of protocol magic that the wizard uses to identify binary protocols.
- inspector: plugin that processes packets (similar to the legacy Snort preprocessor)
- IPS: intrusion prevention system, like Snort.
- **IPS action**: plugin that allows you to perform custom actions when events are generated. Unlike loggers, these are invoked before thresholding and can be used to control external agents or send active responses.
- **IPS option**: this plugin is the building blocks of IPS rules.
- logger: a plugin that performs output of events and packets. Events are thresholded before reaching loggers.
- module: the user facing portion of a Snort component. Modules chiefly provide configuration parameters, but may also provide
 commands, builtin rules, profiling statistics, peg counts, etc. Note that not all modules are plugins and not all plugins have
 modules.
- **peg count**: the number of times a given event or condition occurs.
- plugin: one of several types of software components that can be loaded from a dynamic library when Snort starts up. Some plugins are coupled with the main engine in such a way that they must be built statically, but a newer version can be loaded dynamically.
- search engine: a plugin that performs multipattern searching of packets and payload to find rules that should be evaluated. There are currently no specific modules, although there are several search engine plugins. Related configuration is done with the basic detection module. Aka fast pattern matcher.
- **SO rule**: a IPS rule plugin that performs custom detection that can't be done by a text rule. These rules typically do not have associated modules. SO comes from shared object, meaning dynamic library.
- spell: a type of protocol magic that the wizard uses to identify ASCII protocols.
- **text rule**: a rule loaded from the configuration that has a header and body. The header specifies action, protocol, source and destination IP addresses and ports, and direction. The body specifies detection and non-detection options.
- wizard: inspector that applies protocol magic to determine which inspectors should be bound to traffic absent a port specific binding. See hex and spell.

14.2 **Usage**

For the following examples "\$my_path" is assumed to be the path to the Snort++ install directory. Additionally, it is assumed that "\$my_path/bin" is in your PATH.

Snort++ User Manual 79 / 144

14.2.1 Environment

LUA_PATH is used directly by Lua to load and run required libraries. SNORT_LUA_PATH is used by Snort to load supplemental configuration files.

```
export LUA_PATH=$my_path/include/snort/lua/\?.lua\;\;
export SNORT_LUA_PATH=$my_path/etc/snort
```

14.2.2 Help

Print the help summary:

```
snort --help
```

Get help on a specific module ("stream", for example):

```
snort --help-module stream
```

Get help on the "-A" command line option:

```
snort --help-options A
```

Grep for help on threads:

```
snort --help-config | grep thread
```

Output help on "rule" options in AsciiDoc format:

```
snort --markup --help-options rule
```

Note

Snort++ stops reading command-line options after the "--help-" and "--list-" options, so any other options should be placed before them.

14.2.3 Sniffing and Logging

Read a pcap:

```
snort -r /path/to/my.pcap
```

Dump the packets to stdout:

```
snort -r /path/to/my.pcap -K text
```

Dump packets with application data and layer 2 headers

```
snort -r /path/to/my.pcap -K text -d -e
```

Note

Command line options must be specified separately. "snort -de" won't work. You can still concatenate options and their arguments, however, so "snort -Ktext" will work.

Dump packets from all peaps in a directory:

Snort++ User Manual 80 / 144

```
snort --pcap-dir /path/to/pcap/dir --pcap-filter '*.pcap' -K text -d -e
```

Log packets to a directory:

```
snort --pcap-dir /path/to/pcap/dir --pcap-filter '*.pcap' -K pcap -l /path/to/log/ \leftarrow dir
```

14.2.4 Configuration

Validate a configuration file:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua
```

Validate a configuration file and a separate rules file:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua -R $my_path/etc/snort/sample.rules
```

Read rules from stdin and validate:

```
snort -c my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua --stdin-rules < my_path/etc/snort/sample.  
rules
```

Enable warnings for Lua configurations and make warnings fatal:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua --warn-all --pedantic
```

Tell Snort++ where to look for additional Lua scripts:

```
snort --script-path /path/to/script/dir
```

14.2.5 IDS mode

Run Snort++ in IDS mode, reading packets from a pcap:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua -r /path/to/my.pcap
```

Log any generated alerts to the console using the "-A" option:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua -r /path/to/my.pcap -A alert_full
```

Add or modify a configuration from the command line using the "--lua" option:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua -r /path/to/my.pcap -A cmg \
    --lua 'ips = { enable_builtin_rules = true }'
```

Note

The "--lua" option can be specified multiple times.

Run Snort++ in IDS mode on an entire directory of pcaps, processing each input source on a separate thread:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua --pcap-dir /path/to/pcap/dir \
    --pcap-filter '*.pcap' --max-packet-threads 8
```

Snort++ User Manual 81 / 144

14.3 Plugins

Load external plugins and use the "ex" alert:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua \
    --plugin-path $my_path/lib/snort_extra \
    -A alert_ex -r /path/to/my.pcap
```

Test the LuaJIT rule option find loaded from stdin:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua \
    --script-path $my_path/lib/snort_extra \
    --stdin-rules -A cmg -r /path/to/my.pcap << END
alert tcp any any -> any 80 (
    sid:3; msg:"found"; content:"GET";
    find:"pat='HTTP/1%.%d'"; )
END
```

14.4 Output Files

To make it simple to configure outputs when you run with multiple packet threads, output files are not explicitly configured. Instead, you can use the options below to format the paths:

```
<logdir>/[<run_prefix>][<id#>][<X>]<name>
```

Log to unified in the current directory:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua -r /path/to/my.pcap -A unified2
```

Log to unified in the current directory with a different prefix:

Log to unified in /tmp:

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua -r /path/to/my.pcap -A unified2 -l /tmp
```

Run 4 packet threads and log with thread number prefix (0-3):

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua --pcap-dir /path/to/pcap/dir \
    --pcap-filter '*.pcap' -z 4 -A unified2
```

Run 4 packet threads and log in thread number subdirs (0-3):

```
snort -c $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua --pcap-dir /path/to/pcap/dir \
    --pcap-filter '*.pcap' -z 4 -A unified2 --id-subdir
```

Note

subdirectories are created automatically if required. Log filename is based on module name that writes the file. All text mode outputs default to stdout. These options can be combined.

Snort++ User Manual 82 / 144

14.4.1 Shell

You must build with --enable-shell to make the command line shell available.

Enable shell mode:

```
snort --shell <args>
```

You will see the shell mode command prompt, which looks like this:

```
o")~
```

(The prompt can be changed with the SNORT_PROMPT environment variable.)

You can pause immediately after loading the configuration and again before exiting with:

```
snort --shell --pause <args>
```

In that case you must issue the resume() command to continue. Enter quit() to terminate Snort or detach() to exit the shell. You can list the available commands with help().

To enable local telnet access on port 12345:

```
snort --shell -j 12345 <args>
```

The command line interface is still under development. Suggestions are welcome.

14.4.2 Signals

Note

The following examples assume that Snort++ is currently running and has a process ID of <pid>.

Modify and Reload Configuration:

```
echo 'suppress = { { gid = 1, sid = 2215 } }' >> $my_path/etc/snort/snort.lua
kill -hup <pid>
```

Dump stats to stdout:

```
kill -usr1 <pid>
```

Shutdown normally:

```
kill -term <pid>
```

Exit without flushing packets:

```
kill -quit <pid>
```

List available signals:

```
snort --help-signals
```

Note

The available signals may vary from platform to platform.

Snort++ User Manual 83 / 144

14.5 Optional Features

Listed below are the features that must be explicitly enabled so they are built into the Snort binary. For a full list of build features, run ./configure --help.

- --enable-ppm: enable packet and rule performance monitoring and coarse latency enforcement.
- --enable-perf-profiling: enable module and rule performance profiling.
- --enable-shell: enable local and remote command line shell support.

14.6 Environment Variables

- HOSTTYPE: optional string that is output with the version at end of line.
- LUA_PATH: you must export as follows so LuaJIT can find required files.

```
LUA_PATH=$install_dir/include/snort/lua/\?.lua\;\;
```

- **SNORT_IGNORE**: the list of symbols Snort should ignore when parsing the Lua conf. Unknown symbols not in SNORT_IGNORE will cause warnings with --warn-unknown or fatals with --warn-unknown --pedantic.
- SNORT_LUA_PATH: an optional path where Snort can find supplemental conf files such as classification.lua.
- **SNORT_PROMPT**: the character sequence that is printed at startup, shutdown, and in the shell. The default is the mini-pig: o")~.
- **SNORT_PLUGIN_PATH**: an optional path where Snort can find supplemental shared libraries. This is only used when Snort is building manuals. Modules in supplemental shared libraries will be added to the manuals.

14.7 Command Line Options

```
O gets the number of CPU cores reported by the system
        O gets the number of CPU cores reported by the system
 *--alert-before-pass* process alert, drop, sdrop, or reject before pass; default ←
    is pass before alert, drop, ...
 *--bpf* <filter options> are standard BPF options, as seen in TCPDump
* *--c2x* output hex for given char (see also --x2c)
* *--create-pidfile* create PID file, even when not in Daemon mode
* *--dag* <type> select packet acquisition module (default is pcap)
* *--daq-dir* <dir> tell snort where to find desired DAQ
* *--daq-list* list packet acquisition modules available in optional dir, default \ \hookleftarrow
   is static modules only
* *--daq-mode* <mode> select the DAQ operating mode
* *--daq-var* <name=value> specify extra DAQ configuration variable
* *--dirty-pig* don't flush packets on shutdown
* *--dump-builtin-rules* [<module prefix>] output stub rules for selected modules
* *--dump-defaults* [<module prefix>] output module defaults in Lua format
* *--dump-dynamic-rules* output stub rules for all loaded rules libraries
\star \star--dump-version\star output the version, the whole version, and only the version
* *--enable-inline-test* enable Inline-Test Mode Operation
* *--help* list command line options
* *--help-commands* [<module prefix>] output matching commands
* *--help-config* [<module prefix>] output matching config options
* *--help-counts* [<module prefix>] output matching peg counts
* *--help-module* <module> output description of given module
* *--help-modules* list all available modules with brief help
```

Snort++ User Manual 84 / 144

```
* *--help-options* <option prefix> output matching command line option quick help \,\,\leftrightarrow\,
   (same as -?)
* *--help-plugins* list all available plugins with brief help
* *--help-signals* dump available control signals
* *--id-subdir* create/use instance subdirectories in logdir instead of instance \ \hookleftarrow
   filename prefix
* *--id-zero* use id prefix / subdirectory even with one packet thread
* *--list-buffers* output available inspection buffers
* *--list-builtin* <module prefix> output matching builtin rules
* *--list-gids* [<module prefix>] output matching generators
* *--list-modules* [<module type>] list all known modules of given type
* *--list-plugins* list all known plugins
* *--logid* <0xid> log Identifier to uniquely id events for multiple snorts (same \ \leftarrow
   as -G)
* *--lua* <chunk> extend/override conf with chunk; may be repeated
* *--markup* output help in asciidoc compatible format
* *--max-packet-threads* <count> configure maximum number of packet threads (same
   as -z)
* *--nolock-pidfile* do not try to lock Snort PID file
* *--nostamps* don't include timestamps in log file names
* *--pause* wait for resume/quit command before processing packets/terminating
* *--pcap-dir* <dir> a directory to recurse to look for pcaps - read mode is
   implied
* *--pcap-file* <file> file that contains a list of pcaps to read - read mode is \,\,\hookleftarrow
   implied
* *--pcap-filter* <filter> filter to apply when getting pcaps from file or \ \hookleftarrow
   directory
* *--pcap-list* <list> a space separated list of pcaps to read - read mode is \,\,\leftrightarrow\,
   implied
* *--pcap-loop* <count> read all pcaps <count> times; 0 will read until Snort is
   terminated
* *--pcap-no-filter* reset to use no filter when getting pcaps from file or \ \hookleftarrow
   directory
* *--pcap-reload* if reading multiple pcaps, reload snort config between pcaps
* *--pcap-reset* ignored - for REG_TEST only
* *--pcap-show* print a line saying what pcap is currently being read
* *--pedantic* warnings are fatal
* *--plugin-path* <path> where to find plugins
* *--process-all-events* process all action groups
* *--rule* <rules> to be added to configuration; may be repeated
* *--rule-to-hex* output so rule header to stdout for text rule on stdin
* *--rule-to-text* output plain so rule header to stdout for text rule on stdin
* *--run-prefix* <pfx> prepend this to each output file
* *--script-path* <path> where to find luajit scripts
* *--shell* enable the interactive command line
* *--show-plugins* list module and plugin versions
* *--skip* <n> skip 1st n packets
* *--snaplen* <snap> set snaplen of packet (same as -s)
* *--stdin-rules* read rules from stdin until EOF or a line starting with END is \ \hookleftarrow
   read
* *--treat-drop-as-alert* converts drop, sdrop, and reject rules into alert rules
   during startup
\star \star--treat-drop-as-ignore\star use drop, sdrop, and reject rules to ignore session \,\leftrightarrow\,
   traffic when not inline
* *--version* show version number (same as -V)
* *--warn-all* enable all warnings
```

* *--warn-conf* warn about configuration issues

Snort++ User Manual 85 / 144

```
* *--warn-dag* warn about DAQ issues, usually related to mode
* *--warn-flowbits* warn about flowbits that are checked but not set and vice- \hookleftarrow
   versa
* *--warn-hosts* warn about host table issues
* *--warn-rules* warn about duplicate rules and rule parsing issues
* *--warn-scripts* warn about issues discovered while processing Lua scripts
* *--warn-symbols* warn about unknown symbols in your Lua config
* *--warn-vars* warn about variable definition and usage issues
* *--x2c* output ASCII char for given hex (see also --c2x)
* *-?* <option prefix> output matching command line option quick help (same as -- \hookleftarrow
   help-options)
* *-A* <mode> set alert mode: none, cmg, or alert_*
* *-B* <mask> obfuscated IP addresses in alerts and packet dumps using CIDR mask
* *-C* print out payloads with character data only (no hex)
* *-D* run Snort in background (daemon) mode
* *-E* enable daemon restart
* *-G* <0xid> (same as --logid)
* *-H* make hash tables deterministic
* *-K* <mode> logging mode
* *-M* log messages to syslog (not alerts)
* *-N* ignored - for REG_TEST only
* *-O* obfuscate the logged IP addresses
* *-Q* enable inline mode operation
* *-R* <rules> include this rules file in the default policy
* *-S* <n=v> set rules file variable n equal to value v
* *-T* test and report on the current Snort configuration
* *-U* use UTC for timestamps
* *-V* (same as --version)
* *-W* lists available interfaces
* *-X* dump the raw packet data starting at the link layer
* *-c* <conf> use this configuration
* *-d* dump the Application Layer
* *-e* display the second layer header info
* *-f* turn off fflush() calls after binary log writes
* *-g* <gname> run snort gid as <gname> group (or gid) after initialization
* *-i* <iface>... list of interfaces
* \star-j\star <port> to listen for telnet connections
* *-k* <mode> checksum mode (all,noip,notcp,noudp,noicmp,none)
* *-l* <logdir> log to this directory instead of current directory
* *-m* <umask> set umask = <umask>
* *-n* <count> stop after count packets
* *-q* quiet mode - Don't show banner and status report
* *-r* <pcap>... (same as --pcap-list)
* *-s* <snap> (same as --snaplen)
* *-t* <dir> chroots process to <dir> after initialization
* *-u* <uname> run snort as <uname> or <uid> after initialization
* *-v* be verbose
\star \star-w\star dump 802.11 management and control frames
* *-x* same as --pedantic
\star \star-\gamma\star include year in timestamp in the alert and log files
* *-z* <count> maximum number of packet threads (same as --max-packet-threads)
```

14.8 Parameters

Parameters are given with this format:

Snort++ User Manual 86 / 144

```
type name = default: help { range }
```

The following types are used:

• addr: any valid IP4 or IP6 address or CIDR

• addr_list: a space separated list of addr values

• bit_list: a list of consecutive integer values from 1 to the range maximum

• bool: true or false

• enum: a string selected from the given range

• implied: a IPS rule option that takes no value but means true

• int: a whole number in the given range

• ip4: an IP4 address or CIDR

• mac: an ethernet address with the form 01:02:03:04:05:06

• multi: one or more space separated strings from the given range

• port: an int in the range 0:65535 indicating a TCP or UDP port number

• real: a real number in the given range

• select: a string selected from the given range

The parameter name may be adorned in various ways to indicate additional information about the type and use of the parameter:

- For Lua configuration (not IPS rules), if the name ends with [] it is a list item and can be repeated.
- For IPS rules only, names starting with ~ indicate positional parameters. The names of such parameters do not appear in the rule.
- IPS rules may also have a wild card parameter, which is indicated by a *. Only used for metadata that Snort ignores.
- The snort module has command line options starting with a -.

Some additional details to note:

- Table and variable names are case sensitive; use lower case only.
- String values are case sensitive too; use lower case only.
- Numeric ranges may be of the form low:high where low and high are bounds included in the range. If either is omitted, there is no hard bound. E.g. 0: means any x where x >= 0.
- Strings may have a numeric range indicating a length limit; otherwise there is no hard limit.
- bit_list is typically used to store a set of byte, port, or VLAN ID values.

Snort++ User Manual 87 / 144

14.9 Configuration

- string ack.~range: check if packet payload size is size | min<>max | <max | >min
- int active.attempts = 0: number of TCP packets sent per response (with varying sequence numbers) { 0:20 }
- string active.device: use ip for network layer responses or eth0 etc for link layer
- string active.dst mac: use format 01:23:45:67:89:ab
- int active.max_responses = 0: maximum number of responses { 0: }
- int active.min_interval = 255: minimum number of seconds between responses { 1: }
- multi alert_csv.csv = timestamp gid sid rev src_addr src_port dst_addr dst_port: selected fields will be output in given order left to right { timestamp | gid | sid | rev | msg | proto | src_addr | dst_addr | src_port | dst_port | eth_src | eth_dst | eth_type | eth_len | ttl | tos | id | ip_len | dgm_len | icmp_type | icmp_code | icmp_id | icmp_seq | tcp_flags | tcp_seq | tcp_ack | tcp_len | tcp_win | udp_len }
- bool alert_csv.file = false: output to alert_csv.txt instead of stdout
- int alert_csv.limit = 0: set limit (0 is unlimited) { 0: }
- enum alert_csv.units = B: bytes | KB | MB | GB { B | K | M | G }
- bool alert_fast.file = false: output to alert_fast.txt instead of stdout
- int alert_fast.limit = 0: set limit (0 is unlimited) { 0: }
- bool **alert_fast.packet** = false: output packet dump with alert
- enum alert_fast.units = B: bytes | KB | MB | GB { B | K | M | G }
- bool **alert_full.file** = false: output to alert_full.txt instead of stdout
- int **alert_full.limit** = 0: set limit (0 is unlimited) { 0: }
- enum alert_full.units = B: limit is in bytes | KB | MB | GB { B | K | M | G }
- enum **alert_syslog.facility** = auth: part of priority applied to each message { auth | authpriv | daemon | user | local0 | local1 | local2 | local3 | local4 | local5 | local6 | local7 }
- enum **alert_syslog.level** = info: part of priority applied to each message { emerg | alert | crit | err | warning | notice | info | debug }
- multi alert_syslog.options: used to open the syslog connection { cons | ndelay | perror | pid }
- bool alert test.file = false: output to alert test.txt instead of stdout
- bool alert_test.msg = false: include alert msg
- bool alert test.rebuilt = false: include type:count where type is S for stream and F for frag
- bool **alert_test.session** = false: include src-dst each of form -addr:port
- bool alerts.alert_with_interface_name = false: include interface in alert info (fast, full, or syslog only)
- bool alerts.default_rule_state = true: enable or disable ips rules
- int alerts.detection_filter_memcap = 1048576: set available memory for filters { 0: }
- int alerts.event_filter_memcap = 1048576: set available memory for filters { 0: }
- int alerts.flowbits_size = 1024: maximum number of allowed unique flowbits { 0:2048 }
- string **alerts.order** = pass drop alert log: change the order of rule action application

Snort++ User Manual 88 / 144

- int alerts.rate filter memcap = 1048576: set available memory for filters { 0: }
- string alerts.reference_net: set the CIDR for homenet (for use with -l or -B, does NOT change \$HOME_NET in IDS mode)
- bool **alerts.stateful** = false: don't alert w/o established session (note: rule action still taken)
- string alerts.tunnel_verdicts: let DAQ handle non-allow verdicts for GTP/Teredol6in4/4in6 traffic
- ip4 arp_spoof.hosts[].ip: host ip address
- mac arp_spoof.hosts[].mac: host mac address
- int asn1.absolute offset: Absolute offset from the beginning of the packet. { 0: }
- implied asn1.bitstring_overflow: Detects invalid bitstring encodings that are known to be remotely exploitable.
- implied asn1.double_overflow: Detects a double ASCII encoding that is larger than a standard buffer.
- int asn1.oversize_length: Compares ASN.1 type lengths with the supplied argument. { 0: }
- implied asn1.print: <>max | <max | >min
- int asn1.relative_offset: relative offset from the cursor.
- int attribute_table.max_hosts = 1024: maximum number of hosts in attribute table { 32:207551 }
- int attribute_table.max_metadata_services = 8: maximum number of services in rule metadata { 1:256 }
- int attribute_table.max_services_per_host = 8: maximum number of services per host entry in attribute table { 1:65535 }
- int base64_decode.bytes: Number of base64 encoded bytes to decode. { 1: }
- int **base64_decode.offset** = 0: Bytes past start of buffer to start decoding. { 0: }
- implied base64_decode.relative: Apply offset to cursor instead of start of buffer.
- enum **binder[].use.action** = inspect: what to do with matching traffic { block | allow | inspect }
- string binder[].use.file: use configuration in given file
- string binder[].use.name: symbol name (defaults to type)
- string binder[].use.service: override automatic service identification
- string binder[].use.type: select module for binding
- bit_list binder[].when.ifaces: list of interface indices { 255 }
- addr_list binder[].when.nets: list of networks
- int binder[].when.policy_id = 0: unique ID for selection of this config by external logic { 0: }
- bit_list binder[].when.ports: list of ports { 65535 }
- enum binder[].when.proto: protocol { any | ip | icmp | tcp | udp }
- enum binder[].when.role = any: use the given configuration on one or any end of a session { client | server | any }
- string binder[].when.service: override default configuration
- bit_list binder[].when.vlans: list of VLAN IDs { 4095 }
- string **bufferlen.~range**: len | min<>max | <max | >min
- int byte_extract.align = 0: round the number of converted bytes up to the next 2- or 4-byte boundary { 0:4 }
- implied byte_extract.big: big endian
- implied byte_extract.dce: dcerpc2 determines endianness

Snort++ User Manual 89 / 144

- implied byte_extract.dec: convert from decimal string
- implied byte_extract.hex: convert from hex string
- implied byte_extract.little: little endian
- int **byte_extract.multiplier** = 1: scale extracted value by given amount { 1:65535 }
- implied byte_extract.oct: convert from octal string
- implied byte_extract.relative: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer
- implied byte_extract.string: convert from string
- int byte_extract.~count: number of bytes to pick up from the buffer { 1:10 }
- string byte_extract.~name: name of the variable that will be used in other rule options
- int byte_extract.~offset: number of bytes into the buffer to start processing { -65535:65535 }
- int byte_jump.align = 0: round the number of converted bytes up to the next 2- or 4-byte boundary { 0:4 }
- implied byte_jump.big: big endian
- implied byte jump.dce: dcerpc2 determines endianness
- implied byte_jump.dec: convert from decimal string
- implied byte_jump.from_beginning: jump from start of buffer instead of cursor
- implied byte_jump.hex: convert from hex string
- implied byte_jump.little: little endian
- int byte_jump.multiplier = 1: scale extracted value by given amount { 1:65535 }
- implied byte_jump.oct: convert from octal string
- int **byte_jump.post_offset** = 0: also skip forward or backwards (positive of negative value) this number of bytes { -65535:65535 }
- implied byte_jump.relative: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer
- implied byte_jump.string: convert from string
- int byte_jump.~count: number of bytes to pick up from the buffer { 1:10 }
- string byte_jump.~offset: variable name or number of bytes into the buffer to start processing
- implied byte_test.big: big endian
- implied byte_test.dce: dcerpc2 determines endianness
- implied byte_test.dec: convert from decimal string
- implied byte_test.hex: convert from hex string
- implied byte_test.little: little endian
- implied byte_test.oct: convert from octal string
- implied byte_test.relative: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer
- implied byte_test.string: convert from string
- string byte_test.~compare: variable name or value to test the converted result against
- int byte_test.~count: number of bytes to pick up from the buffer { 1:10 }

Snort++ User Manual 90 / 144

- string byte_test.~offset: variable name or number of bytes into the payload to start processing
- string byte_test.~operator: variable name or number of bytes into the buffer to start processing
- string classifications[].name: name used with classtype rule option
- int **classifications[].priority** = 1: default priority for class { 0: }
- string classifications[].text: description of class
- string classtype.~: classification for this rule
- string **content.depth**: var or maximum number of bytes to search from beginning of buffer
- string content.distance: var or number of bytes from cursor to start search
- implied content.fast_pattern: use this content in the fast pattern matcher instead of the content selected by default
- int content.fast_pattern_length: maximum number of characters from this content the fast pattern matcher should use { 1: }
- int **content.fast_pattern_offset** = 0: number of leading characters of this content the fast pattern matcher should exclude { 0: }
- implied content.nocase: case insensitive match
- string content.offset: var or number of bytes from start of buffer to start search
- string content.within: var or maximum number of bytes to search from cursor
- string content.~data: data to match
- implied cvs.invalid-entry: looks for an invalid Entry string
- bool daq.decode_data_link = false: display the second layer header info
- string daq.dir: directory where to search for DAQ plugins
- select daq.mode: set mode of operation { passive | inline | read-file }
- bool daq.no promisc = false: whether to put DAQ device into promiscuous mode
- int daq.snaplen = deflt: set snap length (same as -P) { 0:65535 }
- string daq.type: select type of DAQ
- string daq.vars: comma separated list of name=value DAQ-specific parameters
- int **detection.asn1** = 256: maximum decode nodes { 1: }
- bool **detection.pcre** enable = true: disable pcre pattern matching
- int **detection.pcre_match_limit** = 1500: limit pcre backtracking, -1 = max, 0 = off { -1:1000000 }
- int **detection.pcre_match_limit_recursion** = 1500: limit pcre stack consumption, -1 = max, 0 = off { -1:10000 }
- int **detection_filter.count**: hits in interval before allowing the rule to fire { 1: }
- int **detection_filter.seconds**: length of interval to count hits { 1: }
- enum **detection_filter.track**: track hits by source or destination IP address { by_src | by_dst }
- string **dsize.~range**: check if packet payload size is *size* | *min*<>*max* | <*max* | >*min*
- bool **esp.decode_esp** = false: enable for inspection of esp traffic that has authentication but not encryption
- int event_filter[].count = 0: number of events in interval before tripping; -1 to disable { -1: }
- int event_filter[].gid = 1: rule generator ID { 0: }

Snort++ User Manual 91 / 144

- string event filter[].ip: restrict filter to these addresses according to track
- int event filter[].seconds = 0: count interval { 0: }
- int event_filter[].sid = 1: rule signature ID { 0: }
- enum event_filter[].track: filter only matching source or destination addresses { by_src | by_dst }
- enum event_filter[].type: 1st count events | every count events | once after count events { limit | threshold | both }
- int event_queue.log = 3: maximum events to log { 1: }
- int event queue.max queue = 8: maximum events to queue { 1: }
- enum **event_queue.order_events** = content_length: criteria for ordering incoming events { prioritylcontent_length }
- bool event_queue.process_all_events = false: process just first action group or all action groups
- int **file_id.block_timeout** = 86400: stop blocking after this many seconds { 0: }
- bool file_id.block_timeout_lookup = false: block if lookup times out
- bool **file_id.enable_signature** = false: enable signature calculation
- bool file_id.enable_type = false: enable type ID
- string file_id.file_rules[].category: file type category
- int file_id.file_rules[].id = 0: file type id { 0: }
- string file_id.file_rules[].magic[].content: file magic content
- int file_id.file_rules[].magic[].offset = 0: file magic offset { 0: }
- string file_id.file_rules[].msg: information about the file type
- int file_id.file_rules[].rev = 0: rule revision { 0: }
- string file_id.file_rules[].type: file type name
- string file_id.file_rules[].version: file type version
- int file_id.lookup_timeout = 2: give up on lookup after this many seconds { 0: }
- int file_id.show_data_depth = 100: print this many octets { 0: }
- int file_id.signature_depth = 10485760: stop signature at this point { 0: }
- int file_id.type_depth = 1460: stop type ID at this point { 0: }
- string flags.~mask_flags: these flags are don't cares
- string flags.~test_flags: these flags are tested
- · implied flow.established: match only during data transfer phase
- implied flow.from_client: same as to_server
- implied flow.from_server: same as to_client
- implied flow.no_frag: match on raw packets only
- implied flow.no_stream: match on raw packets only
- implied flow.not_established: match only outside data transfer phase
- implied flow.only_frag: match on defragmented packets only
- implied flow.only_stream: match on reassembled packets only

Snort++ User Manual 92 / 144

- implied flow.stateless: match regardless of stream state
- implied flow.to_client: match on server responses
- implied flow.to_server: match on client requests
- string flowbits.~arg1: bits or group
- string flowbits.~arg2: group if arg1 is bits
- string flowbits.~command: setlresetlissetletc.
- string fragbits.~flags: these flags are tested
- string **fragoffset.~range**: check if packet payload size is *size* | *min<>max* | *<max* | *>min*
- bool **ftp_client.bounce** = false: check for bounces
- addr ftp_client.bounce_to[].address = 1.0.0.0/32: allowed ip address in CIDR format
- port ftp_client.bounce_to[].last_port: optional allowed range from port to last_port inclusive { 0: }
- port ftp_client.bounce_to[].port = 20: allowed port { 1: }
- bool **ftp_client.ignore_telnet_erase_cmds** = false: ignore erase character and erase line commands when normalizing
- int ftp_client.max_resp_len = -1: maximum ftp response accepted by client { -1: }
- bool ftp_client.telnet_cmds = false: detect telnet escape sequences on ftp control channel
- bool **ftp_server.check_encrypted** = false: check for end of encryption
- string ftp_server.chk_str_fmt: check the formatting of the given commands
- string ftp server.cmd validity[].command: command string
- string **ftp_server.cmd_validity**[].**format**: format specification
- int ftp_server.cmd_validity[].length = 0: specify non-default maximum for command { 0: }
- string ftp_server.data_chan_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- string ftp_server.data_xfer_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- int ftp_server.def_max_param_len = 100: default maximum length of commands handled by server; 0 is unlimited { 1: }
- string ftp_server.directory_cmds[].dir_cmd: directory command
- int ftp_server.directory_cmds[].rsp_code = 200: expected successful response code for command { 200: }
- string ftp_server.encr_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- bool **ftp_server.encrypted_traffic** = false: check for encrypted telnet and ftp
- string ftp_server.file_get_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- string ftp_server.file_put_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- string ftp_server.ftp_cmds: specify additional commands supported by server beyond RFC 959
- bool **ftp_server.ignore_data_chan** = false: do not inspect ftp data channels
- bool ftp_server.ignore_telnet_erase_cmds = false: ignore erase character and erase line commands when normalizing
- string ftp_server.login_cmds: check the formatting of the given commands
- bool ftp_server.print_cmds = false: print command configurations on start up
- bool **ftp_server.telnet_cmds** = false: detect telnet escape sequences of ftp control channel

Snort++ User Manual 93 / 144

- int **gid.~**: generator id { 1: }
- enum hosts[].frag_policy: defragmentation policy { first | linux | bsd | bsd_right | last | windows | solaris }
- addr hosts[].ip = 0.0.0.0/32: hosts address / cidr
- string hosts[].services[].name: service identifier
- port hosts[].services[].port: port number
- enum hosts[].services[].proto = tcp: ip protocol { tcp | udp }
- enum **hosts[].tcp_policy**: tcp reassembly policy { first | last | linux | old_linux | bsd | macos | solaris | irix | hpux11 | hpux10 | windows | win_2003 | vista | proxy }
- int http_global.compress_depth = 65535: maximum amount of packet payload to decompress { 1:65535 }
- int http_global.decode.b64_decode_depth = 0: single packet decode depth { -1:65535 }
- int http_global.decode.bitenc_decode_depth = 0: single packet decode depth { -1:65535 }
- int http_global.decode.max_mime_mem = 838860: single packet decode depth { 3276: }
- int http global.decode.qp decode depth = 0: single packet decode depth { -1:65535 }
- int http_global.decode.uu_decode_depth = 0: single packet decode depth { -1:65535 }
- int http_global.decompress_depth = 65535: maximum amount of decompressed data to process { 1:65535 }
- bool http_global.detect_anomalous_servers = false: inspect non-configured ports for HTTP bad idea
- int http_global.max_gzip_mem = 838860: total memory used for decompression across all active sessions { 3276: }
- int http_global.memcap = 150994944: limit of memory used for logging extra data { 2304: }
- bool http_global.proxy_alert = false: alert on proxy usage for servers without allow_proxy_use
- int http_global.unicode_map.code_page = 1252: select code page in map file { 0: }
- string http_global.unicode_map.map_file: unicode map file
- string http_header.~name: restrict to given header
- bool http_inspect.allow_proxy_use = false: don't alert on proxy use for this server
- bool http_inspect.decompress_pdf = false: enable decompression of the compressed portions of PDF files
- bool http_inspect.decompress_swf = false: enable decompression of SWF (Adobe Flash content)
- bool http_inspect.enable_cookies = true: extract cookies
- bool http_inspect.enable_xff = false: log True-Client-IP and X-Forwarded-For headers with unified2 alerts as extra data
- bool http_inspect.extended_ascii_uri = false: allow extended ASCII codes in the request URI
- bool http_inspect.extended_response_inspection = true: extract response headers
- string http_inspect.http_methods = GET POST PUT SEARCH MKCOL COPY MOVE LOCK UNLOCK NOTIFY POLL BCOPY BDELETE BMOVE LINK UNLINK OPTIONS HEAD DELETE TRACE TRACK CONNECT SOURCE SUBSCRIBE UNSUBSCRIBE PROPFIND PROPPATCH BPROPFIND BPROPPATCH RPC_CONNECT PROXY_SUCCESS BITS_POST CCM_POST SMS_POST RPC_IN_DATA RPC_OUT_DATA RPC_ECHO_DATA: request methods allowed in addition to GET and POST
- bool http_inspect.inspect_gzip = true: enable gzip decompression of compressed bodies
- bool http_inspect.inspect_uri_only = false: disable all detection except for uricontent
- bool http_inspect.log_hostname = false: enable logging of Hostname with unified2 alerts as extra data

Snort++ User Manual 94 / 144

- bool http_inspect.log_uri = false: enable logging of URI with unified2 alerts as extra data
- bool http_inspect.no_pipeline_req = false: don't inspect pipelined requests after first (still does general detection)
- bit_list http_inspect.non_rfc_chars = 0x00 0x01 0x02 0x03 0x04 0x05 0x06 0x07: alert on given non-RFC chars being present in the URI { 255 }
- bool http_inspect.normalize_cookies = false: normalize cookies similar to URI
- bool http_inspect.normalize_headers = false: normalize headers other than cookie similar to URI
- int http_inspect.oversize_dir_length = 500: alert if a URL has a directory longer than this limit { 0: }
- bool http_inspect.profile.apache_whitespace = false: don't alert if tab is used in lieu of space characters
- bool http inspect.profile.ascii = false: enable decoding ASCII like %2f to /
- bool http_inspect.profile.bare_byte = false: decode non-standard, non-ASCII character encodings
- int http_inspect.profile.chunk_length = 500000: alert on chunk lengths greater than specified { 1: }
- int http_inspect.profile.client_flow_depth = 0: raw request payload to inspect { -1:1460 }
- bool http_inspect.profile.directory = false: normalize . and .. sequences out of URI
- bool http_inspect.profile.double_decode = false: iis specific extra decoding
- bool http_inspect.profile.iis_backslash = false: normalize directory slashes
- bool http_inspect.profile.iis_delimiter = false: allow use of non-standard delimiter
- bool http_inspect.profile.iis_unicode = false: enable unicode code point mapping using unicode_map settings
- int http_inspect.profile.iis_unicode_map.code_page = 1252: select code page in map file { 0: }
- string http_inspect.profile.iis_unicode_map.map_file: unicode map file
- int http inspect.profile.max header length = 750: maximum allowed client request header field { 0:65535 }
- int http_inspect.profile.max_headers = 100: maximum allowed client request headers { 0:1024 }
- int http_inspect.profile.max_javascript_whitespaces = 200: maximum number of consecutive whitespaces { 0: }
- int http_inspect.profile.max_spaces = 200: maximum allowed whitespaces when folding { 0:65535 }
- bool http_inspect.profile.multi_slash = false: normalize out consecutive slashes in URI
- bool http_inspect.profile.non_strict = true: allows HTTP 0.9 processing
- bool http_inspect.profile.normalize_javascript = true: normalize_javascript between <script> tags
- bool http_inspect.profile.normalize_utf = true: normalize response bodies with UTF content-types
- int http_inspect.profile.post_depth = 65495: amount of POST data to inspect { -1:65535 }
- enum http_inspect.profile_type = default: set defaults appropriate for selected server { default | apache | iis | iis_40 | iis_50 }
- int http_inspect.profile.server_flow_depth = 0: response payload to inspect; includes headers with extended_response_inspection { -1:65535 }
- bool http_inspect.profile.u_encode = true: decode %uXXXX character sequences
- bool http_inspect.profile.utf_8 = false: decode UTF-8 unicode sequences in URI
- bool http_inspect.profile.webroot = false: alert on directory traversals past the top level (web server root)
- bit_list http_inspect.profile.whitespace_chars: allowed white space characters { 255 }

Snort++ User Manual 95 / 144

• int http_inspect.small_chunk_count = 5: alert if more than this limit of consecutive chunks are below small_chunk_length { 0:255 }

- int http_inspect.small_chunk_length = 10: alert if more than small_chunk_count consecutive chunks below this limit { 0:255 }
- bool http_inspect.tab_uri_delimiter = false: whether a tab not preceded by a space is considered a delimiter or part of URI
- bool http_inspect.unlimited_decompress = true: decompress across multiple packets
- bool http_inspect.xff_headers = false: not implemented
- string icmp_id.~range: check if icmp id is id | min<>max | <max | >min
- string icmp_seq.~range: check if icmp sequence number is seq | min<>max | <max | >min
- string icode.~range: check if ICMP code is code | min<>max | <max | >min
- string id.~range: check if the IP ID is id | min<>max | <max | >min
- int imap.b64_decode_depth = 1460: base64 decoding depth { -1:65535 }
- int imap.bitenc decode depth = 1460: Non-Encoded MIME attachment extraction depth { -1:65535 }
- int imap.qp_decode_depth = 1460: Quoted Printable decoding depth { -1:65535 }
- int imap.uu_decode_depth = 1460: Unix-to-Unix decoding depth { -1:65535 }
- string **ip_proto.~proto**: [!|>|<] name or number
- select **ipopts.~opt**: output format { rrleollnoplts|sec|esec|lsrr|lsrre|ssrr|satid|any }
- bool ips.enable_builtin_rules = false: enable events from builtin rules w/o stubs
- int **ips.id** = 0: correlate unified2 events with configuration { 0:65535 }
- string ips.include: legacy snort rules and includes
- enum **ips.mode**: set policy mode { tap | inline | inline-test }
- string ips.rules: snort rules and includes
- implied isdataat.relative: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer
- string isdataat.~length: num | !num
- string **itype.~range**: check if icmp type is type | min<>max | <max | >min
- bool **log_codecs.file** = false: output to log_codecs.txt instead of stdout
- bool **log_codecs.msg** = false: include alert msg
- int log pcap.limit = 0: set limit (0 is unlimited) { 0: }
- enum log pcap.units = B: bytes | KB | MB | GB { B | K | M | G }
- int **md5.length**: number of octets in plain text { 1:65535 }
- string md5.offset: var or number of bytes from start of buffer to start search
- implied **md5.relative** = false: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer
- string md5.~hash: data to match
- string **metadata.***: additional parameters not used by snort
- string metadata.service: service name
- bool mpls.enable_mpls_multicast = false: enables support for MPLS multicast

Snort++ User Manual 96 / 144

• bool **mpls.enable_mpls_overlapping_ip** = false: enable if private network addresses overlap and must be differentiated by MPLS label(s)

- int mpls.max_mpls_stack_depth = -1: set MPLS stack depth { -1: }
- enum mpls.mpls_payload_type = ip4: set encapsulated payload type { eth | ip4 | ip6 }
- string msg.~: message describing rule
- multi **network.checksum_drop** = none: drop if checksum is bad { all | ip | noip | tcp | notcp | udp | noudp | icmp | noicmp | none }
- multi **network.checksum eval** = none: checksums to verify { all | ip | noip | tcp | notcp | udp | noudp | icmp | noicmp | none }
- bool **network.decode_drops** = false: enable dropping of packets by the decoder
- int **network.id** = 0: correlate unified2 events with configuration { 0:65535 }
- int **network.layers** = 40: The maximum number of protocols that Snort can correctly decode { 3:255 }
- int **network.max_ip6_extensions** = 0: The number of IP6 options Snort will process for a given IPv6 layer. If this limit is hit, rule 116:456 may fire. 0 = unlimited { 0:255 }
- int **network.max_ip_layers** = 0: The maximum number of IP layers Snort will process for a given packet If this limit is hit, rule 116:293 may fire. 0 = unlimited { 0:255 }
- int **network.min_ttl** = 1: alert / normalize packets with lower ttl / hop limit (you must enable rules and / or normalization also) { 1:255 }
- int **network.new_ttl** = 1: use this value for responses and when normalizing { 1:255 }
- bool **new_http_inspect.test_input** = false: read HTTP messages from text file
- bool **new_http_inspect.test_output** = false: print out HTTP section data
- bool **normalizer.icmp4** = false: clear reserved flag
- bool **normalizer.icmp6** = false: clear reserved flag
- bool **normalizer.ip4.base** = true: clear options
- bool **normalizer.ip4.df** = false: clear don't frag flag
- bool **normalizer.ip4.rf** = false: clear reserved flag
- bool **normalizer.ip4.tos** = false: clear tos / differentiated services byte
- bool **normalizer.ip4.trim** = false: truncate excess payload beyond datagram length
- bool **normalizer.ip6** = false: clear reserved flag
- string normalizer.tcp.allow_codes: don't clear given option codes
- multi **normalizer.tcp.allow_names**: don't clear given option names { sack | echo | partial_order | conn_count | alt_checksum | md5 }
- bool **normalizer.tcp.base** = true: clear reserved bits and option padding and fix urgent pointer / flags issues
- bool **normalizer.tcp.block** = true: allow packet drops during TCP normalization
- select **normalizer.tcp.ecn** = off: clear ecn for all packets | sessions w/o ecn setup { off | packet | stream }
- bool **normalizer.tcp.ips** = false: ensure consistency in retransmitted data
- bool **normalizer.tcp.opts** = true: clear all options except mss, wscale, timestamp, and any explicitly allowed
- bool **normalizer.tcp.pad** = true: clear any option padding bytes

Snort++ User Manual 97 / 144

- bool **normalizer.tcp.req** pay = true: clear the urgent pointer and the urgent flag if there is no payload
- bool **normalizer.tcp.req_urg** = true: clear the urgent pointer if the urgent flag is not set
- bool **normalizer.tcp.req_urp** = true: clear the urgent flag if the urgent pointer is not set
- bool **normalizer.tcp.rsv** = true: clear the reserved bits in the TCP header
- bool **normalizer.tcp.trim** = false: enable all of the TCP trim options
- bool **normalizer.tcp.trim_mss** = false: trim data to MSS
- bool **normalizer.tcp.trim_rst** = false: remove any data from RST packet
- bool **normalizer.tcp.trim_syn** = false: remove data on SYN
- bool **normalizer.tcp.trim_win** = false: trim data to window
- bool **normalizer.tcp.urp** = true: adjust urgent pointer if beyond segment length
- bool **output.dump chars only** = false: turns on character dumps (same as -C)
- bool **output.dump_payload** = false: dumps application layer (same as -d)
- bool **output.dump payload verbose** = false: dumps raw packet starting at link layer (same as -X)
- int output.event_trace.max_data = 0: maximum amount of packet data to capture { 0:65535 }
- bool output.log_ipv6_extra_data = false: log IPv6 source and destination addresses as unified2 extra data records
- string **output.logdir** = .: where to put log files (same as -l)
- bool **output.nolog** = false: turn off logging (alerts still work, same as -N)
- bool **output.obfuscate** = false: obfuscate the logged IP addresses (same as -O)
- bool **output.quiet** = false: suppress non-fatal information (still show alerts, same as -q)
- bool **output.show_year** = false: include year in timestamp in the alert and log files (same as -y)
- int output.tagged_packet_limit = 256: maximum number of packets tagged for non-packet metrics { 0: }
- bool **output.verbose** = false: be verbose (same as -v)
- bool packets.address_space_agnostic = false: determines whether DAQ address space info is used to track fragments and connections
- string packets.bpf_file: file with BPF to select traffic for Snort
- bool packets.enable_inline_init_failopen = true: whether to pass traffic during later stage of initialization to avoid drops
- int **packets.limit** = 0: maximum number of packets to process before stopping (0 is unlimited) { 0: }
- int **packets.skip** = 0: number of packets to skip before before processing { 0: }
- bool packets.vlan_agnostic = false: determines whether VLAN info is used to track fragments and connections
- string pcre.~regex: Snort regular expression
- bool **perf_monitor.console** = false: output to console
- bool **perf_monitor.events** = false: report on qualified vs non-qualified events
- bool **perf_monitor.file** = false: output base stats to perf_monitor.csv instead of stdout
- bool **perf_monitor.flow** = false: enable traffic statistics
- bool **perf_monitor.flow_file** = false: output traffic statistics to a perf_monitor_flow.csv instead of stdout

Snort++ User Manual 98 / 144

- bool **perf monitor.flow ip** = false: enable statistics on host pairs
- bool **perf_monitor.flow_ip_file** = false: output host pair statistics to perf_monitor_flow_ip.csv instead of stdout
- int **perf_monitor.flow_ip_memcap** = 52428800: maximum memory for flow tracking { 8200: }
- int **perf_monitor.flow_ports** = 1023: maximum ports to track { 0: }
- bool **perf_monitor.max** = false: calculate theoretical maximum performance
- int perf_monitor.max_file_size = 4096: files will be rolled over if they exceed this size { 4096: }
- int **perf_monitor.packets** = 10000: minim packets to report { 0: }
- bool **perf_monitor.reset** = true: reset (clear) statistics after each reporting interval
- int **perf_monitor.seconds** = 60: report interval; 0 means report at exit only { 0: }
- int **pop.b64_decode_depth** = 1460: base64 decoding depth { -1:65535 }
- int pop.bitenc_decode_depth = 1460: Non-Encoded MIME attachment extraction depth { -1:65535 }
- int **pop.qp_decode_depth** = 1460: Quoted Printable decoding depth { -1:65535 }
- int **pop.uu_decode_depth** = 1460: Unix-to-Unix decoding depth { -1:65535 }
- string port_scan.ignore_scanned: list of CIDRs with optional ports to ignore if the destination of scan alerts
- string port_scan.ignore_scanners: list of CIDRs with optional ports to ignore if the source of scan alerts
- bool port_scan.include_midstream = false: list of CIDRs with optional ports
- bool **port_scan.logfile** = false: write scan events to file
- multi port_scan.protos = all: choose the protocols to monitor { tcp | udp | icmp | ip | all }
- multi **port_scan.scan_types** = all: choose type of scans to look for { portscan | portsweep | decoy_portscan | distributed_portscan | all }
- enum port scan.sense level = medium: choose the level of detection { low | medium | high }
- string port_scan.watch_ip: list of CIDRs with optional ports to watch
- int port_scan_global.memcap = 1048576: maximum tracker memory { 1: }
- bool **ppm.fastpath_expensive_packets** = false: stop inspection if the max_pkt_time is exceeded
- int **ppm.max_pkt_time** = 0: enable packet latency thresholding (usec), 0 = off { 0: }
- int **ppm.max rule time** = 0: enable rule latency thresholding (usec), 0 = off { 0: }
- enum **ppm.pkt_log** = none: log event if max_pkt_time is exceeded { none | log | alert | both }
- enum **ppm.rule_log** = none: enable event logging for suspended rules { nonelloglalertlboth }
- bool ppm.suspend_expensive_rules = false: temporarily disable rule if threshold is reached
- int **ppm.suspend_timeout** = 60: seconds to suspend rule, 0 = permanent { 0: }
- int **ppm.threshold** = 5: number of times to exceed limit before disabling rule { 1: }
- int **priority.~**: relative severity level; 1 is highest priority { 1: }
- string **process.chroot**: set chroot directory (same as -t)
- bool **process.daemon** = false: fork as a daemon (same as -D)
- bool **process.dirty_pig** = false: shutdown without internal cleanup

Snort++ User Manual 99 / 144

- string **process.set_gid**: set group ID (same as -g)
- string **process.set_uid**: set user ID (same as -u)
- int **process.threads**[].cpu = 0: pin the associated source/thread to this cpu { 0:127 }
- string process.threads[].source: set cpu affinity for this source (either pcap or <iface>
- int **process.threads**[].thread = 0: set cpu affinity for the <cur_thread_num> thread that runs { 0: }
- string **process.umask**: set process umask (same as -m)
- bool **process.utc** = false: use UTC instead of local time for timestamps
- int **profile.modules.count** = -1: print results to given level $(-1 = all, 0 = off) \{ -1: \}$
- enum **profile.modules.sort** = avg_ticks: sort by given field { checks | avg_ticks | total_ticks }
- int **profile.rules.count** = -1: print results to given level $(-1 = all, 0 = off) \{ -1: \}$
- enum **profile.rules.sort** = avg_ticks: sort by given field { checks | avg_ticks | total_ticks | matches | no_matches | avg_ticks_per_match | avg_ticks_per_no_match }
- string rate_filter[].apply_to: restrict filter to these addresses according to track
- int rate_filter[].count = 1: number of events in interval before tripping { 0: }
- int rate_filter[].gid = 1: rule generator ID { 0: }
- select rate_filter[].new_action = alert: take this action on future hits until timeout { alert | drop | log | pass | | reject | sdrop }
- int rate_filter[].seconds = 1: count interval { 0: }
- int rate_filter[].sid = 1: rule signature ID { 0: }
- int rate filter[].timeout = 1: count interval { 0: }
- enum rate_filter[].track = by_src: filter only matching source or destination addresses { by_src | by_dst | by_rule }
- bool **react.msg** = false: use rule msg in response page instead of default message
- string **react.page**: file containing HTTP response (headers and body)
- string reference.~id: reference id
- string reference.~scheme: reference scheme
- string references[].name: name used with reference rule option
- string **references**[].url: where this reference is defined
- enum **reject.control**: send icmp unreachable(s) { networklhostlportlall }
- enum **reject.reset**: send tcp reset to one or both ends { sourceldestlboth }
- string rem.~: comment
- string replace.~: byte code to replace with
- int **rev.~**: revision { 1: }
- string rpc.~app: application number
- string **rpc.~proc**: procedure number or * for any
- string **rpc.~ver**: version number or * for any
- bool rule_state.enable = true: enable or disable rule in all policies

Snort++ User Manual 100 / 144

- int rule state.gid = 0: rule generator ID { 0: }
- int rule_state.sid = 0: rule signature ID { 0: }
- int search_engine.bleedover_port_limit = 1024: maximum ports in rule before demotion to any-any port group { 1: }
- bool search_engine.bleedover_warnings_enabled = false: print warning if a rule is demoted to any-any port group
- bool **search_engine.debug** = false: print verbose fast pattern info
- bool **search_engine.debug_print_fast_pattern** = false: print fast pattern info for each rule
- bool search engine.debug print nocontent rule tests = false: print rule group info during packet evaluation
- bool **search_engine.debug_print_rule_group_build_details** = false: print rule group info during compilation
- bool search_engine.debug_print_rule_groups_compiled = false: prints compiled rule group information
- bool search_engine.debug_print_rule_groups_uncompiled = false: prints uncompiled rule group information
- bool **search_engine.enable_single_rule_group** = false: put all rules into one group
- int search_engine.max_pattern_len = 0: truncate patterns when compiling into state machine (0 means no maximum) { 0: }
- int search_engine.max_queue_events = 5: maximum number of matching fast pattern states to queue per packet
- bool **search_engine.no_stream_inserts** = false: don't inspect reassembled payload good for performance, bad for detection
- string search_engine.search_method = ac_bnfa_q: set fast pattern algorithm choose available search engine
- bool search_engine.search_optimize = false: tweak state machine construction for better performance
- bool **search_engine.split_any_any** = false: evaluate any-any rules separately to save memory
- string seq.~range: check if packet payload size is size | min<>max | <max | >min
- enum session.~mode: output format { printable|binary|all }
- int **sha256.length**: number of octets in plain text { 1:65535 }
- string sha256.offset: var or number of bytes from start of buffer to start search
- implied sha256.relative = false: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer
- string sha256.~hash: data to match
- int sha512.length: number of octets in plain text { 1:65535 }
- string sha512.offset: var or number of bytes from start of buffer to start search
- implied sha512.relative = false: offset from cursor instead of start of buffer
- string sha512.~hash: data to match
- int sid.~: signature id { 1: }
- implied snort.--alert-before-pass: process alert, drop, sdrop, or reject before pass; default is pass before alert, drop,...
- string **snort.--bpf**: <filter options> are standard BPF options, as seen in TCPDump
- string **snort.--c2x**: output hex for given char (see also --x2c)
- implied snort.--create-pidfile: create PID file, even when not in Daemon mode
- string **snort.--daq**: <type> select packet acquisition module (default is pcap)
- string snort.--daq-dir: <dir> tell snort where to find desired DAQ
- implied snort.--daq-list: list packet acquisition modules available in optional dir, default is static modules only

Snort++ User Manual 101 / 144

- string **snort.--daq-mode**: <mode> select the DAQ operating mode
- string **snort.--daq-var**: <name=value> specify extra DAQ configuration variable
- implied snort.--dirty-pig: don't flush packets on shutdown
- implied snort.--dump-builtin-rules: [<module prefix>] output stub rules for selected modules
- string **snort.--dump-defaults**: [<module prefix>] output module defaults in Lua format { (optional) }
- implied snort.--dump-dynamic-rules: output stub rules for all loaded rules libraries
- string **snort.--dump-version**: output the version, the whole version, and only the version { (optional) }
- implied snort.--enable-inline-test: enable Inline-Test Mode Operation
- implied **snort.--help**: list command line options
- string **snort.--help-commands**: [<module prefix>] output matching commands { (optional) }
- string **snort.--help-config**: [<module prefix>] output matching config options { (optional) }
- string **snort.--help-counts**: [<module prefix>] output matching peg counts { (optional) }
- string **snort.--help-module**: <module> output description of given module
- implied **snort.--help-modules**: list all available modules with brief help
- implied snort.--help-plugins: list all available plugins with brief help
- implied snort.--help-signals: dump available control signals
- implied snort.--id-subdir: create/use instance subdirectories in logdir instead of instance filename prefix
- \bullet implied snort.--id-zero: use id prefix / subdirectory even with one packet thread
- implied **snort.--list-buffers**: output available inspection buffers
- string **snort.--list-builtin**: <module prefix> output matching builtin rules { (optional) }
- string **snort.--list-gids**: [<module prefix>] output matching generators { (optional) }
- string **snort.--list-modules**: [<module type>] list all known modules of given type { (optional) }
- implied snort.--list-plugins: list all known plugins
- int snort.--logid: <0xid> log Identifier to uniquely id events for multiple snorts (same as -G) { 0:65535 }
- string snort.--lua: <chunk> extend/override conf with chunk; may be repeated
- implied snort.--markup: output help in asciidoc compatible format
- int snort,--max-packet-threads = 1: <count> configure maximum number of packet threads (same as -z)
- implied snort.--nolock-pidfile: do not try to lock Snort PID file
- implied snort.--nostamps: don't include timestamps in log file names
- implied snort.--pause: wait for resume/quit command before processing packets/terminating
- string snort.--pcap-dir: <dir> a directory to recurse to look for pcaps read mode is implied
- string snort.--pcap-file: <file> file that contains a list of pcaps to read read mode is implied
- string snort.--pcap-filter: <filter> filter to apply when getting pcaps from file or directory
- string **snort.--pcap-list**: string **snort.--pcap-list**: a space separated list of pcaps to read read mode is implied

Snort++ User Manual 102 / 144

- int snort.--pcap-loop: <count> read all pcaps <count> times; 0 will read until Snort is terminated { -1: }
- implied snort.--pcap-no-filter: reset to use no filter when getting pcaps from file or directory
- implied snort.--pcap-reload: if reading multiple pcaps, reload snort config between pcaps
- implied **snort.--pcap-reset**: ignored for REG_TEST only
- implied snort.--pcap-show: print a line saying what pcap is currently being read
- implied snort.--pedantic: warnings are fatal
- string **snort.--plugin-path**: <path> where to find plugins
- implied snort.--process-all-events: process all action groups
- string snort.--rule: <rules> to be added to configuration; may be repeated
- implied snort.--rule-to-hex: output so rule header to stdout for text rule on stdin
- implied snort.--rule-to-text: output plain so rule header to stdout for text rule on stdin
- string **snort.--run-prefix**: <pfx> prepend this to each output file
- string **snort.--script-path**: <path> where to find luajit scripts
- implied **snort.--shell**: enable the interactive command line
- implied **snort.--show-plugins**: list module and plugin versions
- int **snort.--skip**: <n> skip 1st n packets { 0: }
- int **snort.--snaplen** = 1514: <snap> set snaplen of packet (same as -s) { 68:65535 }
- implied snort.--stdin-rules: read rules from stdin until EOF or a line starting with END is read
- implied snort.--treat-drop-as-alert: converts drop, sdrop, and reject rules into alert rules during startup
- implied snort.--treat-drop-as-ignore: use drop, sdrop, and reject rules to ignore session traffic when not inline
- implied **snort.--version**: show version number (same as -V)
- implied snort.--warn-all: enable all warnings
- implied **snort.--warn-conf**: warn about configuration issues
- implied snort.--warn-daq: warn about DAQ issues, usually related to mode
- implied snort.--warn-flowbits: warn about flowbits that are checked but not set and vice-versa
- implied snort.--warn-hosts: warn about host table issues
- implied snort.--warn-rules: warn about duplicate rules and rule parsing issues
- implied snort.--warn-scripts: warn about issues discovered while processing Lua scripts
- implied snort.--warn-symbols: warn about unknown symbols in your Lua config
- implied snort.--warn-vars: warn about variable definition and usage issues
- int **snort.--x2c**: output ASCII char for given hex (see also --c2x)
- string snort.-?: <option prefix> output matching command line option quick help (same as --help-options) { (optional) }
- string **snort.-A**: <mode> set alert mode: none, cmg, or alert_*
- implied snort.-B: <mask> obfuscated IP addresses in alerts and packet dumps using CIDR mask
- implied **snort.-C**: print out payloads with character data only (no hex)

Snort++ User Manual 103 / 144

- implied snort.-D: run Snort in background (daemon) mode
- implied snort.-E: enable daemon restart
- int **snort.-G**: <0xid> (same as --logid) { 0:65535 }
- implied snort.-H: make hash tables deterministic
- select **snort.-K** = none: <mode> logging mode { noneltextlpcap }
- implied **snort.-M**: log messages to syslog (not alerts)
- implied snort.-N: ignored for REG TEST only
- implied snort.-O: obfuscate the logged IP addresses
- implied **snort.-Q**: enable inline mode operation
- string **snort.-R**: <rules> include this rules file in the default policy
- string **snort.-S**: <n=v> set rules file variable n equal to value v
- implied **snort.-T**: test and report on the current Snort configuration
- implied **snort.-U**: use UTC for timestamps
- implied **snort.-V**: (same as --version)
- implied snort.-W: lists available interfaces
- implied snort.-X: dump the raw packet data starting at the link layer
- string **snort.-c**: <conf> use this configuration
- implied **snort.-d**: dump the Application Layer
- implied **snort.-e**: display the second layer header info
- implied snort.-f: turn off fflush() calls after binary log writes
- string snort.-g: <gname> run snort gid as <gname> group (or gid) after initialization
- string **snort.-i**: <iface>... list of interfaces
- port **snort.-j**: <port> to listen for telnet connections
- enum **snort.-k** = all: <mode> checksum mode (all,noip,notcp,noudp,noicmp,none) { alllnoiplnotcplnoudplnoicmplnone }
- string snort.-l: <logdir> log to this directory instead of current directory
- int **snort.-m**: <umask> set umask = <umask> { 0: }
- int **snort.-n**: <count> stop after count packets { 0: }
- implied snort.-q: quiet mode Don't show banner and status report
- string **snort.-r**: <pcap>... (same as --pcap-list)
- int **snort.-s** = 1514: <snap> (same as --snaplen) { 68:65535 }
- string **snort.-t**: <dir> chroots process to <dir> after initialization
- string **snort.-u**: <uname> run snort as <uname> or <uid> after initialization
- implied **snort.-v**: be verbose
- implied snort.-w: dump 802.11 management and control frames
- implied **snort.-x**: same as --pedantic

Snort++ User Manual 104 / 144

- implied **snort.-y**: include year in timestamp in the alert and log files
- int **snort.-z** = 1: <count> maximum number of packet threads (same as --max-packet-threads)
- string so.~func: name of eval function
- string soid.~: SO rule ID has <gid>|<sid> format, like 3|12345
- int **ssh.max_client_bytes** = 19600: number of unanswered bytes before alerting on challenge-response overflow or CRC32 { 0:65535 }
- int ssh.max_encrypted_packets = 25: ignore session after this many encrypted packets { 0:65535 }
- int ssh.max_server_version_len = 80: limit before alerting on secure CRT server version string overflow { 0:255 }
- int **stream.icmp_cache.idle_timeout** = 60: maximum inactive time before retiring session tracker { 1: }
- int stream.icmp_cache.max_sessions = 262144: maximum simultaneous tcp sessions tracked before pruning { 0: }
- int stream.icmp_cache.memcap = 0: maximum cache memory { 0: }
- int stream.icmp_cache.pruning_timeout = 30: minimum inactive time before being eligible for pruning { 1: }
- int stream.ip_cache.idle_timeout = 60: maximum inactive time before retiring session tracker { 1: }
- int stream.ip_cache.max_sessions = 262144: maximum simultaneous tcp sessions tracked before pruning { 0: }
- int **stream.ip_cache.memcap** = 0: maximum cache memory { 0: }
- int **stream.ip_cache.pruning_timeout** = 30: minimum inactive time before being eligible for pruning { 1: }
- int **stream.tcp_cache.idle_timeout** = 60: maximum inactive time before retiring session tracker { 1: }
- int stream.tcp_cache.max_sessions = 262144: maximum simultaneous tcp sessions tracked before pruning { 0: }
- int stream.tcp cache.memcap = 0: maximum cache memory { 0: }
- int stream.tcp_cache.pruning_timeout = 30: minimum inactive time before being eligible for pruning { 1: }
- int **stream.udp cache.idle timeout** = 60: maximum inactive time before retiring session tracker { 1: }
- int **stream.udp_cache.max_sessions** = 262144: maximum simultaneous tcp sessions tracked before pruning { 0: }
- int **stream.udp_cache.memcap** = 0: maximum cache memory { 0: }
- int **stream.udp_cache.pruning_timeout** = 30: minimum inactive time before being eligible for pruning { 1: }
- int **stream_icmp.session_timeout** = 30: session tracking timeout { 1:86400 }
- int stream ip.max frags = 8192: maximum number of simultaneous fragments being tracked { 1: }
- int **stream_ip.max_overlaps** = 0: maximum allowed overlaps per datagram; 0 is unlimited { 0: }
- int **stream_ip.min_frag_length** = 0: alert if fragment length is below this limit before or after trimming { 0: }
- int **stream_ip.min_ttl** = 1: discard fragments with ttl below the minimum { 1:255 }
- enum **stream_ip.policy** = linux: fragment reassembly policy { first | linux | bsd | bsd_right | last | windows | solaris }
- int **stream_ip.session_timeout** = 30: session tracking timeout { 1:86400 }
- enum **stream_reassemble.action**: stop or start stream reassembly { disablelenable }
- enum **stream_reassemble.direction**: action applies to the given direction(s) { clientlserverlboth }
- implied stream_reassemble.fastpath: optionally whitelist the remainder of the session
- implied stream_reassemble.noalert: don't alert when rule matches

Snort++ User Manual 105 / 144

- enum **stream size.~direction**: compare applies to the given direction(s) { eitherIto serverIto clientIboth }
- string stream_size.~range: size for comparison
- int **stream_tcp.flush_factor** = 0: flush upon seeing a drop in segment size after given number of non-decreasing segments { 0: }
- int **stream_tcp.footprint** = 0: use zero for production, non-zero for testing at given size { 0: }
- bool stream_tcp.ignore_any_rules = false: process tcp content rules w/o ports only if rules with ports are present
- int **stream_tcp.max_pdu** = 16384: maximum reassembled PDU size { 1460:63780 }
- int **stream_tcp.max_window** = 0: maximum allowed tcp window { 0:1073725440 }
- int stream tcp.overlap limit = 0: maximum number of allowed overlapping segments per session { 0:255 }
- enum **stream_tcp.policy** = bsd: determines operating system characteristics like reassembly { first | last | linux | old_linux | bsd | macos | solaris | irix | hpux11 | hpux10 | windows | win_2003 | vista | proxy }
- int stream_tcp.queue_limit.max_bytes = 1048576: don't queue more than given bytes per session and direction { 0: }
- int stream_tcp.queue_limit.max_segments = 2621: don't queue more than given segments per session and direction { 0: }
- bool stream_tcp.reassemble_async = true: queue data for reassembly before traffic is seen in both directions
- int **stream_tcp.require_3whs** = -1: don't track midstream sessions after given seconds from start up; -1 tracks all { -1:86400 }
- int **stream_tcp.session_timeout** = 30: session tracking timeout { 1:86400 }
- bool stream_tcp.show_rebuilt_packets = false: enable cmg like output of reassembled packets
- int stream_tcp.small_segments.count = 0: limit number of small segments queued { 0:2048 }
- bit_list stream_tcp.small_segments.ignore_ports: limit number of small segments queued { 65535 }
- int stream_tcp.small_segments.maximum_size = 0: limit number of small segments queued { 0:2048 }
- bool stream_udp.ignore_any_rules = false: process udp content rules w/o ports only if rules with ports are present
- int **stream_udp.session_timeout** = 30: session tracking timeout { 1:86400 }
- int suppress[].gid = 0: rule generator ID { 0: }
- string suppress[].ip: restrict suppression to these addresses according to track
- int **suppress**[].**sid** = 0: rule signature ID { 0: }
- enum **suppress**[].**track**: suppress only matching source or destination addresses { by_src | by_dst }
- int tag.bytes: tag for this many bytes { 1: }
- int tag.packets: tag this many packets { 1: }
- int tag.seconds: tag for this many seconds { 1: }
- enum tag.~: log all packets in session or all packets to or from host { sessionlhost_srclhost_dst }
- int telnet.ayt_attack_thresh = -1: alert on this number of consecutive telnet AYT commands { -1: }
- bool **telnet.check_encrypted** = false: check for end of encryption
- bool **telnet.encrypted_traffic** = false: check for encrypted telnet and ftp
- bool **telnet.normalize** = false: eliminate escape sequences
- string tos.~range: check if packet payload size is size | min<>max | <max | >min

Snort++ User Manual 106 / 144

- string **ttl.~range**: check if packet payload size is *size* | *min*<>*max* | <*max* | >*min*
- bool udp.deep_teredo_inspection = false: look for Teredo on all UDP ports (default is only 3544)
- bool **udp.enable_gtp** = false: decode GTP encapsulations
- bit_list **udp.gtp_ports** = 2152 3386: set GTP ports { 65535 }
- int **unified2.limit** = 0: set limit (0 is unlimited) { 0: }
- bool **unified2.mpls_event_types** = false: include mpls labels in events
- bool **unified2.nostamp** = true: append file creation time to name (in Unix Epoch format)
- enum **unified2.units** = B: limit multiplier { B | K | M | G }
- bool unified2.vlan_event_types = false: include vlan IDs in events
- string window.~range: check if packet payload size is size | min<>max | <max | >min
- bool wizard.hexes[].client_first = true: which end initiates data transfer
- select wizard.hexes[].proto = tcp: protocol to scan { tcp | udp }
- string wizard.hexes[].service: name of service
- string wizard.hexes[].to_client[].hex: sequence of data with wild chars (?)
- string wizard.hexes[].to_server[].hex: sequence of data with wild chars (?)
- bool wizard.spells[].client_first = true: which end initiates data transfer
- select wizard.spells[].proto = tcp: protocol to scan { tcp | udp }
- string wizard.spells[].service: name of service
- string wizard.spells[].to_client[].spell: sequence of data with wild cards (*)
- string wizard.spells[].to_server[].spell: sequence of data with wild cards (*) 0 gets the number of CPU cores reported by the system { 0: } 0 gets the number of CPU cores reported by the system { 0: }

14.10 Counts

- arp_spoof.packets: total packets
- back_orifice.packets: total packets
- binder.allows: allow bindings
- binder.blocks: block bindings
- binder.inspects: inspect bindings
- binder.packets: initial bindings
- daq.allow: total allow verdicts
- daq.analyzed: total packets analyzed from DAQ
- · daq.blacklist: total blacklist verdicts
- daq.block: total block verdicts
- daq.dropped: packets dropped
- daq.fail open: packets passed during initialization

Snort++ User Manual 107 / 144

- daq.filtered: packets filtered out
- daq.idle: attempts to acquire from DAQ without available packets
- daq.ignore: total ignore verdicts
- daq.injected: active responses or replacements
- daq.internal blacklist: packets blacklisted internally due to lack of DAQ support
- daq.internal whitelist: packets whitelisted internally due to lack of DAQ support
- daq.outstanding: packets unprocessed
- daq.pcaps: total files processed
- daq.received: total packets received from DAQ
- daq.replace: total replace verdicts
- daq.skipped: packets skipped at startup
- daq.whitelist: total whitelist verdicts
- detection.alert limit: events previously triggered on same PDU
- detection.alerts: alerts not including IP reputation
- detection.analyzed: packets sent to detection
- detection.event limit: events filtered
- detection.log limit: events queued but not logged
- detection.logged: logged packets
- detection.match limit: fast pattern matches not processed
- detection.passed: passed packets
- detection.queue limit: events not queued because queue full
- detection.total alerts: alerts including IP reputation
- dns.packets: total packets
- ftp_data.packets: total packets
- ftp_server.packets: total packets
- http_global.compressed bytes: total comparessed bytes processed
- http_global.decompressed bytes: total bytes decompressed
- http_global.double unicode: double unicode normalizations
- http_global.gets: GET requests
- http_global.gzip packets: packets with gzip compression
- http_global.non-ascii: non-ascii normalizations
- http_global.packets: total packets processed
- http_global.paths with ../: directory traversal normalizations
- http_global.paths with ./: relative directory normalizations
- http_global.paths with //: double slash normalizations

Snort++ User Manual 108 / 144

- http_global.post params: POST parameters extracted
- http_global.posts: POST requests
- http_global.request cookies: requests with Cookie
- http_global.request headers: total requests
- http_global.response cookies: responses with Set-Cookie
- http_global.response headers: total responses
- http global.unicode: unicode normalizations
- icmp4.bad checksum: non-zero icmp checksums
- icmp6.bad checksum (ip4): nonzero ipcm4 checksums
- icmp6.bad checksum (ip6): nonzero ipcm6 checksums
- imap.packets: total packets
- ipv4.bad checksum: nonzero ip checksums
- normalizer.icmp4 echo: icmp4 ping normalizations
- normalizer.icmp6 echo: icmp6 echo normalizations
- normalizer.ip4 df: don't frag bit normalizations
- normalizer.ip4 opts: ip4 options cleared
- normalizer.ip4 rf: reserved flag bit clears
- normalizer.ip4 tos: type of service normalizations
- normalizer.ip4 trim: eth packets trimmed to datagram size
- normalizer.ip4 ttl: time-to-live normalizations
- normalizer.ip6 hops: ip6 hop limit normalizations
- normalizer.ip6 options: ip6 options cleared
- normalizer.tcp block: blocked segments
- normalizer.tcp ecn pkt: packets with ECN bits cleared
- normalizer.tcp ecn session: ECN bits cleared
- normalizer.tcp ips data: normalized segments
- normalizer.tcp nonce: packets with nonce bit cleared
- normalizer.tcp options: packets with options cleared
- normalizer.tcp paddding: packets with padding cleared
- normalizer.tcp req pay: cleared urgent pointer and urgent flag when there is no payload
- normalizer.tcp req urg: cleared urgent pointer when urgent flag is not set
- normalizer.tcp req urp: cleared the urgent flag if the urgent pointer is not set
- normalizer.tcp reserved: packets with reserved bits cleared
- normalizer.tcp syn options: SYN only options cleared from non-SYN packets
- normalizer.tcp trim mss: data trimmed to MSS

Snort++ User Manual 109 / 144

- normalizer.tcp trim rst: RST packets with data trimmed
- normalizer.tcp trim syn: tcp segments trimmed on SYN
- normalizer.tcp trim win: data trimed to window
- normalizer.tcp ts ecr: timestamp cleared on non-ACKs
- normalizer.tcp ts nop: timestamp options cleared
- normalizer.tcp urgent ptr: packets without data with urgent pointer cleared
- normalizer.test icmp4 echo: During inline mode, would have icmp4 ping normalizations
- normalizer.test icmp6 echo: During inline mode, would have icmp6 echo normalizations
- normalizer.test ip4 df: During inline mode, would have don't frag bit normalizations
- normalizer.test ip4 opts: During inline mode, would have ip4 options cleared
- normalizer.test ip4 rf: During inline mode, would have reserved flag bit clears
- normalizer.test ip4 tos: During inline mode, would have type of service normalizations
- normalizer.test ip4 trim: During inline mode, would have eth packets trimmed to datagram size
- normalizer.test ip4 ttl: During inline mode, would have time-to-live normalizations
- normalizer.test ip6 hops: During inline mode, would have ip6 hop limit normalizations
- normalizer.test ip6 options: During inline mode, would have ip6 options cleared
- normalizer.test tcp block: During inline mode, would have blocked segments
- normalizer.test tcp ecn pkt: During inline mode, would have packets with ECN bits cleared
- normalizer.test tcp ecn session: During inline mode, would have ECN bits cleared
- normalizer.test tcp ips data: During inline mode, would have normalized segments
- normalizer.test tcp nonce: During inline mode, would have packets with nonce bit cleared
- normalizer.test tcp options: During inline mode, would have packets with options cleared
- normalizer.test tcp paddding: During inline mode, would have packets with padding cleared
- normalizer.test tcp req pay: During inline mode, would have cleared urgent pointer and urgent flag when there is no payload
- normalizer.test tcp req urg: During inline mode, would have cleared urgent pointer when urgent flag is not set
- normalizer.test tcp req urp: During inline mode, would have cleared the urgent flag if the urgent pointer is not set
- normalizer.test tcp reserved: During inline mode, would have packets with reserved bits cleared
- normalizer.test tcp syn options: During inline mode, would have SYN only options cleared from non-SYN packets
- normalizer.test tcp trim mss: During inline mode, would have data trimmed to MSS
- normalizer.test tcp trim rst: During inline mode, would have RST packets with data trimmed
- normalizer.test tcp trim syn: During inline mode, would have tcp segments trimmed on SYN
- normalizer.test tcp trim win: During inline mode, would have data trimed to window
- normalizer.test tcp ts ecr: During inline mode, would have timestamp cleared on non-ACKs
- normalizer.test tcp ts nop: During inline mode, would have timestamp options cleared
- normalizer.test tcp urgent ptr: During inline mode, would have packets without data with urgent pointer cleared

Snort++ User Manual 110 / 144

• perf_monitor.packets: total packets

• pop.packets: total packets

• port_scan_global.packets: total packets

• rpc_decode.packets: total packets

• snort.attribute table hosts: total number of hosts in table

• snort.attribute table reloads: number of times hosts table was reloaded

• snort.conf reloads: number of times configuration was reloaded

• snort.local commands: total local commands processed

• snort.remote commands: total remote commands processed

• snort.signals: total signals processed

• ssh.packets: total packets

• stream.icmp flows: total icmp sessions

• stream.icmp prunes: icmp sessions pruned

• stream.ip flows: total ip sessions

• stream.ip prunes: ip sessions pruned

• stream.tcp flows: total tcp sessions

• stream.tcp prunes: tcp sessions pruned

• stream.udp flows: total udp sessions

• stream.udp prunes: udp sessions pruned

• stream_icmp.created: icmp session trackers created

• stream_icmp.released: icmp session trackers released

• stream_ip.alerts: alerts generated

• stream_ip.anomalies: anomalies detected

• stream_ip.discards: fragments discarded

• stream_ip.drops: fragments dropped

• stream_ip.frag timeouts: datagrams abandoned

• **stream_ip.fragments**: total fragments

• stream_ip.memory faults: memory faults

• stream_ip.nodes deleted: fragments deleted from tracker

• stream_ip.nodes inserted: fragments added to tracker

• **stream_ip.overlaps**: overlapping fragments

• stream_ip.reassembled: reassembled datagrams

• stream_ip.trackers added: datagram trackers created

• stream_ip.trackers freed: datagram trackers released

• stream_tcp.3way trackers: tcp session tracking started on ack

Snort++ User Manual 111 / 144

• stream_tcp.client cleanups: number of times data from server was flushed when session released

• stream_tcp.data trackers: tcp session tracking started on data

• stream_tcp.discards: tcp packets discarded

• stream_tcp.events: events generated

• stream_tcp.gaps: missing data between PDUs

• stream_tcp.ignored: tcp packets ignored

• stream_tcp.internal events: 135:X events generated

• stream_tcp.max bytes: number of times the maximum queued byte limit was reached

• stream_tcp.max segs: number of times the maximum queued segment limit was reached

• stream_tcp.overlaps: overlapping segments queued

• stream_tcp.rebuilt buffers: rebuilt PDU sections

• stream_tcp.rebuilt packets: total reassembled PDUs

• stream tcp.resyns: SYN received on established session

• stream_tcp.segs queued: total segments queued

• stream_tcp.segs released: total segments released

• stream_tcp.segs split: tcp segments split when reassembling PDUs

• stream_tcp.segs used: queued tcp segments applied to reassembled PDUs

• stream_tcp.server cleanups: number of times data from client was flushed when session released

• stream_tcp.sessions: total sessions

• stream_tcp.syn trackers: tcp session tracking started on syn

• stream_tcp.syn-ack trackers: tcp session tracking started on syn-ack

• stream_tcp.timeouts: sessions timed out

• stream_tcp.trackers created: tcp session trackers created

• stream_tcp.trackers released: tcp session trackers released

• stream_tcp.untracked: tcp packets not tracked

• stream_udp.created: udp session trackers created

• stream_udp.released: udp session trackers released

• stream_udp.sessions: total udp sessions

• stream_udp.timeouts: udp session timeouts

• tcp.bad checksum (ip4): nonzero tcp over ip checksums

• tcp.bad checksum (ip6): nonzero tcp over ipv6 checksums

• telnet.packets: total packets

• udp.bad checksum (ip4): nonzero udp over ipv4 checksums

• udp.bad checksum (ip6): nonzero udp over ipv6 checksums

• wizard.tcp hits: tcp identifications

• wizard.tcp scans: tcp payload scans

• wizard.udp hits: udp identifications

• wizard.udp scans: udp payload scans

Snort++ User Manual 112 / 144

14.11 Generators

- 105: back_orifice
- 106: rpc_decode
- 112: arp_spoof
- 116: arp
- 116: auth
- 116: decode
- 116: eapol
- 116: erspan2
- 116: erspan3
- 116: esp
- 116: eth
- 116: fabricpath
- 116: gre
- 116: gtp
- 116: icmp4
- 116: icmp6
- 116: igmp
- **116**: ipv4
- **116**: ipv6
- 116: mpls
- 116: pgm
- 116: pppoe
- 116: tcp
- 116: udp
- 116: vlan
- 116: wlan
- 119: http_global
- 120: http_inspect
- 122: port_scan
- **123**: stream_ip
- 125: ftp_server
- 126: telnet
- 128: ssh
- **129**: stream_tcp

Snort++ User Manual 113 / 144

- 131: dns
- 134: ppm
- 141: imap
- 142: pop
- 219: new_http_inspect

14.12 Builtin Rules

- 105:1 (back_orifice) BO traffic detected
- 105:2 (back_orifice) BO client traffic detected
- 105:3 (back_orifice) BO server traffic detected
- 105:4 (back_orifice) BO Snort buffer attack
- 106:1 (rpc_decode) fragmented RPC records
- 106:2 (rpc_decode) multiple RPC records
- 106:3 (rpc_decode) large RPC record fragment
- 106:4 (rpc_decode) incomplete RPC segment
- 106:5 (rpc_decode) zero-length RPC fragment
- 112:1 (arp_spoof) unicast ARP request
- 112:2 (arp_spoof) ethernet/ARP mismatch request for source
- 112:3 (arp_spoof) ethernet/ARP mismatch request for destination
- 112:4 (arp_spoof) attempted ARP cache overwrite attack
- 116:1 (ipv4) Not IPv4 datagram
- 116:2 (ipv4) hlen < minimum
- 116:3 (ipv4) IP dgm len < IP Hdr len
- 116:4 (ipv4) Ipv4 Options found with bad lengths
- 116:5 (ipv4) Truncated Ipv4 Options
- 116:6 (ipv4) IP dgm len > captured len
- 116:45 (tcp) TCP packet len is smaller than 20 bytes
- 116:46 (tcp) TCP data offset is less than 5
- 116:47 (tcp) TCP header length exceeds packet length
- 116:54 (tcp) TCP options found with bad lengths
- 116:55 (tcp) truncated TCP options
- 116:56 (tcp) T/TCP detected
- 116:57 (tcp) obsolete TCP options found
- 116:58 (tcp) experimental TCP options found
- 116:59 (tcp) TCP window scale option found with length > 14

Snort++ User Manual 114 / 144

- 116:95 (udp) truncated UDP header
- 116:96 (udp) invalid UDP header, length field < 8
- 116:97 (udp) short UDP packet, length field > payload length
- 116:98 (udp) long UDP packet, length field < payload length
- 116:105 (icmp4) ICMP header truncated
- 116:106 (icmp4) ICMP timestamp header truncated
- 116:107 (icmp4) ICMP address header truncated
- 116:109 (arp) truncated ARP
- 116:110 (eapol) truncated EAP header
- 116:111 (eapol) EAP key truncated
- 116:112 (eapol) EAP header truncated
- 116:120 (pppoe) bad PPPOE frame detected
- 116:130 (vlan) bad VLAN frame
- 116:131 (vlan) bad LLC header
- 116:132 (vlan) bad extra LLC info
- 116:133 (wlan) bad 802.11 LLC header
- 116:134 (wlan) bad 802.11 extra LLC info
- 116:151 (decode) bad traffic same src/dst IP
- 116:160 (gre) GRE header length > payload length
- 116:161 (gre) multiple encapsulations in packet
- 116:162 (gre) invalid GRE version
- 116:163 (gre) invalid GRE header
- 116:164 (gre) invalid GRE v.1 PPTP header
- 116:165 (gre) GRE trans header length > payload length
- 116:170 (mpls) bad MPLS frame
- 116:171 (mpls) MPLS label 0 appears in non-bottom header
- 116:172 (mpls) MPLS label 1 appears in bottom header
- 116:173 (mpls) MPLS label 2 appears in non-bottom header
- 116:174 (mpls) MPLS label 3 appears in header
- 116:175 (mpls) MPLS label 4, 5,.. or 15 appears in header
- 116:176 (mpls) too many MPLS headers
- 116:250 (icmp4) ICMP original IP header truncated
- 116:251 (icmp4) ICMP version and original IP header versions differ
- 116:252 (icmp4) ICMP original datagram length < original IP header length

Snort++ User Manual 115 / 144

- 116:253 (icmp4) ICMP original IP payload < 64 bits
- 116:254 (icmp4) ICMP original IP payload > 576 bytes
- 116:255 (icmp4) ICMP original IP fragmented and offset not 0
- 116:270 (ipv6) IPv6 packet below TTL limit
- 116:271 (ipv6) IPv6 header claims to not be IPv6
- 116:272 (ipv6) IPV6 truncated extension header
- 116:273 (ipv6) IPV6 truncated header
- 116:274 (ipv6) IP dgm len < IP Hdr len
- 116:275 (ipv6) IP dgm len > captured len
- 116:276 (ipv6) IPv6 packet with destination address ::0
- 116:277 (ipv6) IPv6 packet with multicast source address
- 116:278 (ipv6) IPv6 packet with reserved multicast destination address
- 116:279 (ipv6) IPv6 header includes an undefined option type
- 116:280 (ipv6) IPv6 address includes an unassigned multicast scope value
- 116:281 (ipv6) IPv6 header includes an invalid value for the next header field
- 116:282 (ipv6) IPv6 header includes a routing extension header followed by a hop-by-hop header
- 116:283 (ipv6) IPv6 header includes two routing extension headers
- 116:285 (icmp6) ICMPv6 packet of type 2 (message too big) with MTU field < 1280
- 116:286 (icmp6) ICMPv6 packet of type 1 (destination unreachable) with non-RFC 2463 code
- 116:287 (icmp6) ICMPv6 router solicitation packet with a code not equal to 0
- 116:288 (icmp6) ICMPv6 router advertisement packet with a code not equal to 0
- 116:289 (icmp6) ICMPv6 router solicitation packet with the reserved field not equal to 0
- 116:290 (icmp6) ICMPv6 router advertisement packet with the reachable time field set > 1 hour
- 116:291 (ipv6) IPV6 tunneled over IPv4, IPv6 header truncated, possible Linux kernel attack
- 116:292 (ipv6) IPv6 header has destination options followed by a routing header
- 116:293 (decode) two or more IP (v4 and/or v6) encapsulation layers present
- 116:294 (esp) truncated encapsulated security payload header
- 116:295 (ipv6) IPv6 header includes an option which is too big for the containing header
- 116:296 (ipv6) IPv6 packet includes out-of-order extension headers
- 116:297 (gtp) two or more GTP encapsulation layers present
- 116:298 (gtp) GTP header length is invalid
- 116:400 (tcp) XMAS attack detected
- 116:401 (tcp) Nmap XMAS attack detected
- 116:402 (tcp) DOS NAPTHA vulnerability detected
- 116:403 (tcp) bad traffic SYN to multicast address

Snort++ User Manual 116 / 144

- 116:404 (ipv4) IPV4 packet with zero TTL
- 116:405 (ipv4) IPV4 packet with bad frag bits (both MF and DF set)
- 116:406 (udp) invalid IPv6 UDP packet, checksum zero
- 116:407 (ipv4) IPV4 packet frag offset + length exceed maximum
- 116:408 (ipv4) IPV4 packet from current net source address
- 116:409 (ipv4) IPV4 packet to current net dest address
- 116:410 (ipv4) IPV4 packet from multicast source address
- 116:411 (ipv4) IPV4 packet from reserved source address
- 116:412 (ipv4) IPV4 packet to reserved dest address
- 116:413 (ipv4) IPV4 packet from broadcast source address
- 116:414 (ipv4) IPV4 packet to broadcast dest address
- 116:415 (icmp4) ICMP4 packet to multicast dest address
- 116:416 (icmp4) ICMP4 packet to broadcast dest address
- 116:418 (icmp4) ICMP4 type other
- 116:419 (tcp) TCP urgent pointer exceeds payload length or no payload
- 116:420 (tcp) TCP SYN with FIN
- 116:421 (tcp) TCP SYN with RST
- 116:422 (tcp) TCP PDU missing ack for established session
- 116:423 (tcp) TCP has no SYN, ACK, or RST
- 116:424 (eth) truncated eth header
- 116:425 (ipv4) truncated IP4 header
- 116:426 (icmp4) truncated ICMP4 header
- 116:427 (icmp6) truncated ICMP6 header
- 116:428 (ipv4) IPV4 packet below TTL limit
- 116:429 (ipv6) IPV6 packet has zero hop limit
- 116:430 (ipv4) IPV4 packet both DF and offset set
- 116:431 (icmp6) ICMP6 type not decoded
- 116:432 (icmp6) ICMP6 packet to multicast address
- 116:433 (tcp) DDOS shaft SYN flood
- 116:434 (icmp4) ICMP ping NMAP
- 116:435 (icmp4) ICMP icmpenum v1.1.1
- 116:436 (icmp4) ICMP redirect host
- 116:437 (icmp4) ICMP redirect net
- 116:438 (icmp4) ICMP traceroute ipopts
- 116:439 (icmp4) ICMP source quench

Snort++ User Manual 117 / 144

- 116:440 (icmp4) broadscan smurf scanner
- 116:441 (icmp4) ICMP destination unreachable communication administratively prohibited
- 116:442 (icmp4) ICMP destination unreachable communication with destination host is administratively prohibited
- 116:443 (icmp4) ICMP destination unreachable communication with destination network is administratively prohibited
- 116:444 (ipv4) MISC IP option set
- 116:445 (udp) misc large UDP Packet
- 116:446 (tcp) BAD-TRAFFIC TCP port 0 traffic
- 116:447 (udp) BAD-TRAFFIC UDP port 0 traffic
- 116:448 (ipv4) BAD-TRAFFIC IP reserved bit set
- 116:449 (decode) BAD-TRAFFIC unassigned/reserved IP protocol
- 116:450 (decode) BAD-TRAFFIC bad IP protocol
- 116:451 (icmp4) ICMP path MTU denial of service attempt
- 116:452 (icmp4) BAD-TRAFFIC Linux ICMP header DOS attempt
- 116:453 (ipv6) BAD-TRAFFIC ISATAP-addressed IPv6 traffic spoofing attempt
- 116:454 (pgm) BAD-TRAFFIC PGM nak list overflow attempt
- 116:455 (igmp) DOS IGMP IP options validation attempt
- 116:456 (ipv6) too many IP6 extension headers
- 116:457 (icmp6) ICMPv6 packet of type 1 (destination unreachable) with non-RFC 4443 code
- 116:458 (ipv6) bogus fragmentation packet, possible BSD attack
- 116:459 (decode) fragment with zero length
- 116:460 (icmp6) ICMPv6 node info query/response packet with a code greater than 2
- 116:461 (ipv6) IPV6 routing type 0 extension header
- 116:462 (erspan2) ERSpan header version mismatch
- 116:463 (erspan2) captured < ERSpan type2 header length
- 116:464 (erspan3) captured < ERSpan type3 header length
- 116:465 (auth) truncated authentication header
- 116:466 (auth) bad authentication header length
- 116:467 (fabricpath) truncated FabricPath header
- 116:468 (decode) too many protocols present
- 119:1 (http_global) ascii encoding
- 119:2 (http_global) double decoding attack
- 119:3 (http_global) u encoding
- 119:4 (http_global) bare byte unicode encoding
- 119:5 (http_global) base36 encoding
- 119:6 (http_global) UTF-8 encoding

Snort++ User Manual 118 / 144

- 119:7 (http_global) IIS unicode codepoint encoding
- 119:8 (http_global) multi_slash encoding
- 119:9 (http_global) IIS backslash evasion
- 119:10 (http_global) self directory traversal
- 119:11 (http_global) directory traversal
- 119:12 (http_global) apache whitespace (tab)
- 119:13 (http global) non-RFC http delimiter
- 119:14 (http_global) non-RFC defined char
- 119:15 (http_global) oversize request-URI directory
- 119:16 (http_global) oversize chunk encoding
- 119:17 (http_global) unauthorized proxy use detected
- 119:18 (http_global) webroot directory traversal
- 119:19 (http_global) long header
- 119:20 (http_global) max header fields
- 119:21 (http_global) multiple content length
- 119:22 (http_global) chunk size mismatch detected
- 119:23 (http_global) invalid ip in true-client-IP/XFF header
- 119:24 (http_global) multiple host hdrs detected
- 119:25 (http_global) hostname exceeds 255 characters
- 119:26 (http_global) header parsing space saturation
- 119:27 (http_global) client consecutive small chunk sizes
- 119:28 (http_global) post w/o content-length or chunks
- 119:29 (http_global) multiple true IPs in a session
- 119:30 (http_global) both true-client-IP and XFF hdrs present
- 119:31 (http_global) unknown method
- 119:32 (http_global) simple request
- 119:33 (http_global) unescaped space in http URI
- 119:34 (http_global) too many pipelined requests
- 120:1 (http_inspect) anomalous http server on undefined HTTP port
- 120:2 (http_inspect) invalid status code in HTTP response
- 120:3 (http_inspect) no content-length or transfer-encoding in HTTP response
- 120:4 (http_inspect) HTTP response has UTF charset which failed to normalize
- 120:5 (http_inspect) HTTP response has UTF-7 charset
- 120:6 (http_inspect) HTTP response gzip decompression failed
- 120:7 (http_inspect) server consecutive small chunk sizes

Snort++ User Manual 119 / 144

- 120:8 (http_inspect) invalid content-length or chunk size
- 120:9 (http_inspect) javascript obfuscation levels exceeds 1
- 120:10 (http_inspect) javascript whitespaces exceeds max allowed
- 120:11 (http_inspect) multiple encodings within javascript obfuscated data
- 120:12 (http_inspect) HTTP response SWF file zlib decompression failure
- 120:13 (http_inspect) HTTP response SWF file LZMA decompression failure
- 120:14 (http inspect) HTTP response PDF file deflate decompression failure
- 120:15 (http_inspect) HTTP response PDF file unsupported compression type
- 120:16 (http_inspect) HTTP response PDF file cascaded compression
- 120:17 (http_inspect) HTTP response PDF file parse failure
- 122:1 (port_scan) TCP portscan
- 122:2 (port_scan) TCP decoy portscan
- 122:3 (port_scan) TCP portsweep
- 122:4 (port_scan) TCP distributed portscan
- 122:5 (port_scan) TCP filtered portscan
- 122:6 (port_scan) TCP filtered decoy portscan
- 122:7 (port_scan) TCP filtered portsweep
- 122:8 (port scan) TCP filtered distributed portscan
- 122:9 (port_scan) IP protocol scan
- 122:10 (port_scan) IP decoy protocol scan
- 122:11 (port_scan) IP protocol sweep
- 122:12 (port_scan) IP distributed protocol scan
- 122:13 (port_scan) IP filtered protocol scan
- 122:14 (port_scan) IP filtered decoy protocol scan
- 122:15 (port_scan) IP filtered protocol sweep
- 122:16 (port_scan) IP filtered distributed protocol scan
- 122:17 (port_scan) UDP portscan
- 122:18 (port_scan) UDP decoy portscan
- 122:19 (port_scan) UDP portsweep
- 122:20 (port_scan) UDP distributed portscan
- 122:21 (port_scan) UDP filtered portscan
- 122:22 (port_scan) UDP filtered decoy portscan
- 122:23 (port_scan) UDP filtered portsweep
- 122:24 (port_scan) UDP filtered distributed portscan
- 122:25 (port_scan) ICMP sweep

Snort++ User Manual 120 / 144

- 122:26 (port_scan) ICMP filtered sweep
- 122:27 (port_scan) open port
- 123:1 (stream_ip) inconsistent IP options on fragmented packets
- 123:2 (stream_ip) teardrop attack
- 123:3 (stream_ip) short fragment, possible DOS attempt
- 123:4 (stream_ip) fragment packet ends after defragmented packet
- 123:5 (stream_ip) zero-byte fragment packet
- 123:6 (stream_ip) bad fragment size, packet size is negative
- 123:7 (stream_ip) bad fragment size, packet size is greater than 65536
- 123:8 (stream_ip) fragmentation overlap
- 123:11 (stream_ip) TTL value less than configured minimum, not using for reassembly
- 123:12 (stream_ip) excessive fragment overlap
- 123:13 (stream_ip) tiny fragment
- 125:1 (ftp_server) TELNET cmd on FTP command channel
- 125:2 (ftp_server) invalid FTP command
- 125:3 (ftp_server) FTP command parameters were too long
- 125:4 (ftp_server) FTP command parameters were malformed
- 125:5 (ftp_server) FTP command parameters contained potential string format
- 125:6 (ftp_server) FTP response message was too long
- 125:7 (ftp_server) FTP traffic encrypted
- 125:8 (ftp_server) FTP bounce attempt
- 125:9 (ftp_server) evasive (incomplete) TELNET cmd on FTP command channel
- 126:1 (telnet) consecutive telnet AYT commands beyond threshold
- 126:2 (telnet) telnet traffic encrypted
- 126:3 (telnet) telnet subnegotiation begin command without subnegotiation end
- 128:1 (ssh) Challenge-Response Overflow exploit
- 128:2 (ssh) SSH1 CRC32 exploit
- 128:3 (ssh) Server version string overflow
- 128:5 (ssh) Bad message direction
- 128:6 (ssh) Payload size incorrect for the given payload
- 128:7 (ssh) Failed to detect SSH version string
- 129:1 (stream_tcp) SYN on established session
- 129:2 (stream_tcp) data on SYN packet
- 129:3 (stream_tcp) data sent on stream not accepting data
- 129:4 (stream_tcp) TCP timestamp is outside of PAWS window

Snort++ User Manual 121 / 144

- 129:5 (stream_tcp) bad segment, adjusted size $\Leftarrow 0$
- 129:6 (stream_tcp) window size (after scaling) larger than policy allows
- 129:7 (stream_tcp) limit on number of overlapping TCP packets reached
- 129:8 (stream_tcp) data sent on stream after TCP Reset sent
- 129:9 (stream_tcp) TCP client possibly hijacked, different ethernet address
- 129:10 (stream_tcp) TCP Server possibly hijacked, different ethernet address
- 129:11 (stream tcp) TCP data with no TCP flags set
- 129:12 (stream_tcp) consecutive TCP small segments exceeding threshold
- 129:13 (stream_tcp) 4-way handshake detected
- 129:14 (stream_tcp) TCP timestamp is missing
- 129:15 (stream_tcp) reset outside window
- 129:16 (stream_tcp) FIN number is greater than prior FIN
- 129:17 (stream_tcp) ACK number is greater than prior FIN
- 129:18 (stream_tcp) data sent on stream after TCP Reset received
- 129:19 (stream_tcp) TCP window closed before receiving data
- 129:20 (stream_tcp) TCP session without 3-way handshake
- 131:1 (dns) Obsolete DNS RR Types
- 131:2 (dns) Experimental DNS RR Types
- 131:3 (dns) DNS Client rdata txt Overflow
- 134:1 (ppm) rule options disabled by rule latency
- 134:2 (ppm) rule options re-enabled by rule latency
- 134:3 (ppm) packet aborted due to latency
- 141:1 (imap) Unknown IMAP3 command
- 141:2 (imap) Unknown IMAP3 response
- 141:4 (imap) Base64 Decoding failed.
- 141:5 (imap) Quoted-Printable Decoding failed.
- 141:7 (imap) Unix-to-Unix Decoding failed.
- 142:1 (pop) Unknown POP3 command
- 142:2 (pop) Unknown POP3 response
- 142:4 (pop) Base64 Decoding failed.
- 142:5 (pop) Quoted-Printable Decoding failed.
- 142:7 (pop) Unix-to-Unix Decoding failed.
- 219:1 (new_http_inspect) ascii encoding
- 219:2 (new_http_inspect) double decoding attack
- 219:3 (new_http_inspect) u encoding

Snort++ User Manual 122 / 144

- 219:4 (new http inspect) bare byte unicode encoding
- 219:5 (new_http_inspect) obsolete event—should not appear
- 219:6 (new_http_inspect) UTF-8 encoding
- 219:7 (new_http_inspect) IIS unicode codepoint encoding
- 219:8 (new_http_inspect) multi_slash encoding
- 219:9 (new_http_inspect) IIS backslash evasion
- 219:10 (new http inspect) self directory traversal
- 219:11 (new_http_inspect) directory traversal
- 219:12 (new_http_inspect) apache whitespace (tab)
- 219:13 (new_http_inspect) non-RFC http delimiter
- 219:14 (new_http_inspect) non-RFC defined char
- 219:15 (new_http_inspect) oversize request-uri directory
- 219:16 (new_http_inspect) oversize chunk encoding
- 219:17 (new_http_inspect) unauthorized proxy use detected
- 219:18 (new_http_inspect) webroot directory traversal
- 219:19 (new_http_inspect) long header
- 219:20 (new_http_inspect) max header fields
- 219:21 (new_http_inspect) multiple content length
- 219:22 (new_http_inspect) chunk size mismatch detected
- 219:23 (new_http_inspect) invalid IP in true-client-IP/XFF header
- 219:24 (new_http_inspect) multiple host hdrs detected
- 219:25 (new_http_inspect) hostname exceeds 255 characters
- 219:26 (new_http_inspect) header parsing space saturation
- 219:27 (new_http_inspect) client consecutive small chunk sizes
- 219:28 (new_http_inspect) post w/o content-length or chunks
- 219:29 (new_http_inspect) multiple true ips in a session
- 219:30 (new_http_inspect) both true-client-IP and XFF hdrs present
- 219:31 (new_http_inspect) unknown method
- 219:32 (new_http_inspect) simple request
- 219:33 (new_http_inspect) unescaped space in HTTP URI
- 219:34 (new_http_inspect) too many pipelined requests
- 219:35 (new_http_inspect) anomalous http server on undefined HTTP port
- 219:36 (new_http_inspect) invalid status code in HTTP response
- 219:37 (new_http_inspect) no content-length or transfer-encoding in HTTP response
- 219:38 (new_http_inspect) HTTP response has UTF charset which failed to normalize

Snort++ User Manual 123 / 144

- 219:39 (new_http_inspect) HTTP response has UTF-7 charset
- 219:40 (new_http_inspect) HTTP response gzip decompression failed
- 219:41 (new_http_inspect) server consecutive small chunk sizes
- 219:42 (new_http_inspect) invalid content-length or chunk size
- 219:43 (new_http_inspect) javascript obfuscation levels exceeds 1
- 219:44 (new_http_inspect) javascript whitespaces exceeds max allowed
- 219:45 (new_http_inspect) multiple encodings within javascript obfuscated data
- 219:46 (new_http_inspect) SWF file zlib decompression failure
- 219:47 (new_http_inspect) SWF file LZMA decompression failure
- 219:48 (new_http_inspect) PDF file deflate decompression failure
- 219:49 (new_http_inspect) PDF file unsupported compression type
- 219:50 (new_http_inspect) PDF file cascaded compression
- 219:51 (new_http_inspect) PDF file parse failure
- 219:52 (new_http_inspect) HTTP misformatted or not really HTTP

14.13 Command Set

- snort.detach(): exit shell w/o shutdown
- snort.dump_stats(): show summary statistics
- **snort.help**(): this output
- snort.pause(): suspend packet processing
- snort.quit(): shutdown and dump-stats
- snort.reload_config(): load new configuration
- snort.resume(): continue packet processing
- snort.rotate_stats(): roll perfmonitor log files
- snort.show_plugins(): show available plugins

14.14 Signals



Important

Signal numbers are for the system that generated this documentation and are not applicable elsewhere.

- hosts(16): reload hosts file
- **int**(2): shutdown normally
- quit(3): shutdown as if started with --dirty-pig
- reload(1): reload config file
- rotate(31): rotate stats files
- stats(30): dump stats to stdout
- **term**(15): shutdown normally

Snort++ User Manual 124 / 144

14.15 Configuration Changes

```
change -> dynamicdetection ==> 'snort.--plugin_path=<path>'
change -> dynamicengine ==> 'snort.--plugin_path=<path>'
change -> dynamicpreprocessor ==> 'snort.--plugin_path=<path>'
change -> dynamicsidechannel ==> 'snort.--plugin_path=<path>'
change -> alertfile: 'config alertfile:' ==> 'alert_fast.file'
change -> alertfile: 'config alertfile:' ==> 'alert_full.file'
change -> attribute_table: 'STREAM_POLICY' ==> 'hosts: tcp_policy'
change -> attribute_table: 'filename <file_name>' ==> 'hosts[]'
change -> config ' addressspace_agnostic' ==> ' packets. address_space_agnostic'
change -> config ' checksum_mode' ==> ' network. checksum_eval'
change -> config ' daq' ==> ' daq. type'
change -> config ' daq_dir' ==> ' daq. dir'
change -> config ' daq_mode' ==> ' daq. mode'
change -> config ' daq_var' ==> ' daq. var'
change -> config ' detection_filter' ==> ' alerts. detection_filter_memcap'
change -> config ' enable_deep_teredo_inspection' ==> ' udp. deep_teredo_inspection'
change -> config ' event_filter' ==> ' alerts. event_filter_memcap'
change -> config ' max_attribute_hosts' ==> ' attribute_table. max_hosts'
change \rightarrow config 'max_attribute_services_per_host' ==> 'attribute_table. \leftrightarrow
   max_services_per_host'
change -> config ' nopcre' ==> ' detection. pcre_enable'
change -> config ' pkt_count' ==> ' packets. limit'
change -> config ' rate_filter' ==> ' alerts. rate_filter_memcap'
change -> config ' react' ==> ' react. page'
change -> config ' threshold' ==> ' alerts. event_filter_memcap'
change -> csv: 'dgmlen' ==> 'dgm_len'
change -> csv: 'dst' ==> 'dst_addr'
change -> csv: 'dstport' ==> 'dst_port'
change -> csv: 'ethdst' ==> 'eth_dst'
change -> csv: 'ethlen' ==> 'eth_len'
change -> csv: 'ethsrc' ==> 'eth_src'
change -> csv: 'ethtype' ==> 'eth_type'
change -> csv: 'icmpcode' ==> 'icmp_code'
change -> csv: 'icmpid' ==> 'icmp_id'
change -> csv: 'icmpseq' ==> 'icmp_seq'
change -> csv: 'icmptype' ==> 'icmp_type'
change -> csv: 'iplen' ==> 'ip_len'
change -> csv: 'sig_generator' ==> 'gid'
change -> csv: 'sig_id' ==> 'sid'
change -> csv: 'sig_rev' ==> 'rev'
change -> csv: 'src' ==> 'src_addr'
change -> csv: 'srcport' ==> 'src_port'
change -> csv: 'tcpack' ==> 'tcp_ack'
change -> csv: 'tcpflags' ==> 'tcp_flags'
change -> csv: 'tcplen' ==> 'tcp_len'
change -> csv: 'tcpseq' ==> 'tcp_seq'
change -> csv: 'tcpwindow' ==> 'tcp_win'
change -> csv: 'udplength' ==> 'udp_len'
change -> detection: 'ac' ==> 'ac_full_q'
change -> detection: 'ac-banded' ==> 'ac_banded'
change -> detection: 'ac-bnfa' ==> 'ac_bnfa_q'
change -> detection: 'ac-bnfa-nq' ==> 'ac_bnfa'
change -> detection: 'ac-bnfa-q' ==> 'ac_bnfa_q'
change -> detection: 'ac-nq' ==> 'ac_full'
change -> detection: 'ac-q' ==> 'ac_full_q'
change -> detection: 'ac-sparsebands' ==> 'ac_sparse_bands'
change -> detection: 'ac-split' ==> 'ac_full_q'
change -> detection: 'ac-split' ==> 'split_any_any'
change -> detection: 'ac-std' ==> 'ac_std'
change -> detection: 'acs' ==> 'ac_sparse'
```

Snort++ User Manual 125 / 144

```
change -> detection: 'bleedover-port-limit' ==> 'bleedover_port_limit'
change -> detection: 'intel-cpm' ==> 'intel_cpm'
change -> detection: 'lowmem' ==> 'lowmem_q'
change -> detection: 'lowmem-nq' ==> 'lowmem'
change -> detection: 'lowmem-q' ==> 'lowmem_q'
change -> detection: 'max-pattern-len' ==> 'max_pattern_len'
change -> detection: 'search-method' ==> 'search_method'
change -> detection: 'search-optimize' ==> 'search_optimize'
change -> detection: 'split-any-any' ==> 'split_any_any'
change -> dns: 'ports' ==> 'bindings'
change -> event_filter: 'gen_id' ==> 'gid'
change -> event_filter: 'sig_id' ==> 'sid'
change -> event_filter: 'threshold' ==> 'event_filter'
change -> file: 'config file: file_block_timeout' ==> 'block_timeout'
change -> file: 'config file: file_type_depth' ==> 'type_depth'
change -> file: 'config file: signature' ==> 'enable_signature'
change -> file: 'config file: type_id' ==> 'enable_type'
change -> frag3_engine: 'min_fragment_length' ==> 'min_frag_length'
change -> frag3_engine: 'overlap_limit' ==> 'max_overlaps'
change -> frag3_engine: 'policy bsd-right' ==> 'policy = bsd_right'
change -> frag3_engine: 'timeout' ==> 'session_timeout'
change -> ftp_telnet_protocol: 'alt_max_param_len' ==> 'cmd_validity'
change -> ftp_telnet_protocol: 'data_chan' ==> 'ignore_data_chan'
change -> ftp_telnet_protocol: 'ports' ==> 'bindings'
change -> gtp: 'ports' ==> 'gtp_ports'
change -> http_inspect: 'http_inspect' ==> 'http_global'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'apache_whitespace' ==> 'profile.apache_whitespace'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'ascii' ==> 'profile.ascii'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'bare_byte' ==> 'profile.bare_byte'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'chunk_length' ==> 'profile.chunk_length'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'client_flow_depth' ==> 'profile.client_flow_depth'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'directory' ==> 'profile.directory'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'double_decode' ==> 'profile.double_decode'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'enable_cookie' ==> 'enable_cookies'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'flow_depth' ==> 'server_flow_depth'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'http_inspect_server' ==> 'http_inspect'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'iis_backslash' ==> 'profile.iis_backslash'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'iis_delimiter' ==> 'profile.iis_delimiter'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'iis_unicode' ==> 'profile.iis_unicode'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'max_header_length' ==> 'profile.max_header_length'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'max_headers' ==> 'profile.max_headers'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'max_spaces' ==> 'profile.max_spaces'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'multi_slash' ==> 'profile.multi_slash'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'non_rfc_char' ==> 'non_rfc_chars'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'non_strict' ==> 'profile.non_strict'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'normalize_utf' ==> 'profile.normalize_utf'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'ports' ==> 'bindings'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'u_encode' ==> 'profile.u_encode'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'utf_8' ==> 'profile.utf_8'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'webroot' ==> 'profile.webroot'
change -> http_inspect_server: 'whitespace_chars' ==> 'profile.whitespace_chars'
change -> paf_max: 'paf_max [0:63780]' ==> 'max_pdu [1460:63780]'
change -> perfmonitor: 'accumulate' ==> 'reset = false'
change -> perfmonitor: 'flow-file' ==> 'flow_file = true'
change -> perfmonitor: 'flow-ip' ==> 'flow_ip'
change -> perfmonitor: 'flow-ip-file' ==> 'flow_ip_file = true'
change -> perfmonitor: 'flow-ip-memcap' ==> 'flow_ip_memcap'
change -> perfmonitor: 'flow-ports' ==> 'flow_ports'
change -> perfmonitor: 'pktcnt' ==> 'packets'
change -> perfmonitor: 'snortfile' ==> 'file = true'
change -> perfmonitor: 'time' ==> 'seconds'
change -> policy_mode: 'inline_test' ==> 'inline-test'
```

Snort++ User Manual 126 / 144

```
change -> ppm: 'max-pkt-time' ==> 'max_pkt_time'
change -> ppm: 'max-rule-time' ==> 'max_rule_time'
change -> ppm: 'pkt-log' ==> 'pkt_log'
change -> ppm: 'rule-log' ==> 'rule_log'
change -> ppm: 'suspend-timeout' ==> 'suspend_timeout'
change -> preprocessor 'normalize_ icmp4' ==> 'normalize. icmp4'
change -> preprocessor 'normalize_ icmp6' ==> 'normalize. icmp6'
change -> preprocessor 'normalize_ ip6' ==> 'normalize. ip6'
change -> profile: 'print' ==> 'count'
change -> rate_filter: 'gen_id' ==> 'gid'
change -> rate_filter: 'sig_id' ==> 'sid'
change -> rule_state: 'disabled' ==> 'enable'
change -> rule_state: 'enabled' ==> 'enable'
change -> sfportscan: 'proto' ==> 'protos'
change -> sfportscan: 'scan_type' ==> 'scan_types'
change -> ssh: 'server_ports' ==> 'bindings'
change -> stream5_global: 'max_active_responses' ==> 'max_responses'
change -> stream5_global: 'max_icmp' ==> 'max_sessions'
change -> stream5_global: 'max_ip' ==> 'max_sessions'
change -> stream5_global: 'max_tcp' ==> 'max_sessions'
change -> stream5_global: 'max_udp' ==> 'max_sessions'
change -> stream5_global: 'min_response_seconds' ==> 'min_interval'
change -> stream5_global: 'prune_log_max' ==> 'histogram'
change -> stream5_global: 'tcp_cache_nominal_timeout' ==> 'pruning_timeout'
change -> stream5_global: 'tcp_cache_pruning_timeout' ==> 'idle_timeout'
change -> stream5_global: 'udp_cache_nominal_timeout' ==> 'idle_timeout'
change -> stream5_global: 'udp_cache_pruning_timeout' ==> 'pruning_timeout'
change -> stream5_ip: 'timeout' ==> 'session_timeout'
change -> stream5_tcp: 'bind_to' ==> 'bindings'
change -> stream5_tcp: 'dont_reassemble_async' ==> 'reassemble_async'
change -> stream5_tcp: 'max_queued_bytes' ==> 'queue_limit.max_bytes'
change -> stream5_tcp: 'max_queued_segs' ==> 'queue_limit.max_segments'
change -> stream5_tcp: 'policy hpux' ==> 'stream_tcp.policy = hpux11'
change -> stream5_tcp: 'timeout' ==> 'session_timeout'
change -> stream5_tcp: 'use_static_footprint_sizes' ==> 'footprint'
change -> stream5_udp: 'timeout' ==> 'session_timeout'
change -> suppress: 'gen_id' ==> 'gid'
change -> suppress: 'sig_id' ==> 'sid'
change -> syslog: 'log_alert' ==> 'level = alert'
change -> syslog: 'log_auth' ==> 'facility = auth'
change -> syslog: 'log_authpriv' ==> 'facility = authpriv'
change -> syslog: 'log_cons' ==> 'options = cons'
change -> syslog: 'log_crit' ==> 'level = crit'
change -> syslog: 'log_daemon' ==> 'facility = daemon'
change -> syslog: 'log_debug' ==> 'level = debug'
change -> syslog: 'log_emerg' ==> 'level = emerg'
change -> syslog: 'log_err' ==> 'level = err'
change -> syslog: 'log_info' ==> 'level = info'
change -> syslog: 'log_local0' ==> 'facility = local0'
change -> syslog: 'log_local1' ==> 'facility = local1'
change -> syslog: 'log_local2' ==> 'facility = local2'
change -> syslog: 'log_local3' ==> 'facility = local3'
change -> syslog: 'log_local4' ==> 'facility = local4'
change -> syslog: 'log_local5' ==> 'facility = local5'
change -> syslog: 'log_local6' ==> 'facility = local6'
change -> syslog: 'log_local7' ==> 'facility = local7'
change -> syslog: 'log_ndelay' ==> 'options = ndelay'
change -> syslog: 'log_notice' ==> 'level = notice'
change -> syslog: 'log_perror' ==> 'options = perror'
change -> syslog: 'log_pid' ==> 'options = pid'
change -> syslog: 'log_user' ==> 'facility = user'
change -> syslog: 'log_warning' ==> 'level = warning'
```

Snort++ User Manual 127 / 144

```
change -> threshold: 'ips_option: threshold' ==> 'event_filter'
change -> unified2: ' alert_unified2' ==> 'unified2'
change -> unified2: ' log_unified2' ==> 'unified2'
change -> unified2: ' unified2' ==> 'unified2'
deleted -> arpspoof: 'unicast'
deleted -> attribute_table: '<FRAG_POLICY>hpux</FRAG_POLICY>'
deleted -> attribute_table: '<FRAG_POLICY>irix</FRAG_POLICY>'
deleted -> attribute_table: '<FRAG_POLICY>old-linux</FRAG_POLICY>'
deleted -> attribute_table: '<FRAG_POLICY>unknown</FRAG_POLICY>'
deleted -> attribute_table: '<STREAM_POLICY>noack</STREAM_POLICY>'
deleted -> attribute_table: '<STREAM_POLICY>unknown</STREAM_POLICY>'
deleted -> config ' cs_dir'
deleted -> config ' disable_attribute_reload_thread'
deleted -> config ' disable_decode_alerts'
deleted -> config ' disable_decode_drops'
deleted -> config ' disable_ipopt_alerts'
deleted -> config ' disable_ipopt_drops'
deleted -> config ' disable_tcpopt_alerts'
deleted -> config ' disable_tcpopt_drops'
deleted -> config ' disable_tcpopt_experimental_alerts'
deleted -> config ' disable_tcpopt_experimental_drops'
deleted -> config ' disable_tcpopt_obsolete_alerts'
deleted -> config ' disable_tcpopt_obsolete_drops'
deleted -> config ' disable_tcpopt_ttcp_alerts'
deleted -> config ' disable_ttcp_alerts'
deleted -> config ' disable_ttcp_drops'
deleted -> config ' dump_dynamic_rules_path'
deleted -> config ' enable_decode_drops'
deleted -> config ' enable_decode_oversized_alerts'
deleted -> config ' enable_decode_oversized_drops'
deleted -> config ' enable_ipopt_drops'
deleted -> config ' enable_tcpopt_drops'
deleted -> config ' enable_tcpopt_experimental_drops'
deleted -> config ' enable_tcpopt_obsolete_drops'
deleted -> config ' enable_tcpopt_ttcp_drops'
deleted -> config ' enable_ttcp_drops'
deleted -> config ' flexresp2_attempts'
deleted -> config ' flexresp2_interface'
deleted -> config ' flexresp2_memcap'
deleted -> config ' flexresp2_rows'
deleted -> config ' include_vlan_in_alerts'
deleted -> config ' interface'
deleted -> config ' layer2resets'
deleted -> config ' policy_version'
deleted -> config ' so_rule_memcap'
deleted -> csv: '<filename> can no longer be specific'
deleted -> csv: 'default'
deleted -> csv: 'trheader'
deleted -> detection: 'mwm'
deleted -> dns: 'enable_experimental_types'
deleted -> dns: 'enable_obsolete_types'
deleted -> dns: 'enable_rdata_overflow'
deleted -> fast: '<filename> can no longer be specific'
deleted -> frag3_engine: 'detect_anomalies'
deleted -> frag3_global: 'disabled'
deleted -> ftp_telnet_protocol: 'detect_anomalies'
deleted -> full: '<filename> can no longer be specific'
deleted -> http_inspect: 'disabled'
deleted -> http_inspect_server: 'no_alerts'
deleted -> perfmonitor: 'atexitonly'
deleted -> perfmonitor: 'atexitonly: base-stats'
deleted -> perfmonitor: 'atexitonly: events-stats'
```

Snort++ User Manual 128 / 144

```
deleted -> perfmonitor: 'atexitonly: flow-ip-stats'
deleted -> perfmonitor: 'atexitonly: flow-stats'
deleted -> ppm: 'debug-pkts'
deleted -> react: 'block'
deleted -> react: 'warn'
deleted -> rpc_decode: 'alert_fragments'
deleted -> rpc_decode: 'no_alert_incomplete'
deleted -> rpc_decode: 'no_alert_large_fragments'
deleted -> rpc_decode: 'no_alert_multiple_requests'
deleted -> rule_state: 'action'
deleted -> sfportscan: 'detect_ack_scans'
deleted -> sfportscan: 'disabled'
deleted -> sfportscan: 'logfile'
deleted -> ssh: 'autodetect'
deleted -> ssh: 'enable_badmsgdir'
deleted -> ssh: 'enable_paysize'
deleted -> ssh: 'enable_protomismatch'
deleted -> ssh: 'enable_recognition'
deleted -> ssh: 'enable_respoverflow'
deleted -> ssh: 'enable_srvoverflow'
deleted -> ssh: 'enable_ssh1crc32'
deleted -> stream5_global: 'disabled'
deleted -> stream5_global: 'flush_on_alert'
deleted -> stream5_global: 'no_midstream_drop_alerts'
deleted -> stream5_tcp: 'check_session_hijacking'
deleted -> stream5_tcp: 'detect_anomalies'
deleted -> stream5_tcp: 'dont_store_large_packets'
deleted -> stream5_tcp: 'policy noack'
deleted -> stream5_tcp: 'policy unknown'
deleted -> tcpdump: '<filename> can no longer be specific'
deleted -> test: 'file'
deleted -> test: 'stdout'
deleted -> unified2: 'filename'
```

14.16 Module Listing

- ack (ips_option): rule option to match on TCP ack numbers
- active (basic): configure responses
- alert_csv (logger): output event in csv format
- alert_fast (logger): output event with brief text format
- alert_full (logger): output event with full packet dump
- alert_syslog (logger): output event to syslog
- alert_test (logger): output event in custom tsv format
- alert_unixsock (logger): output event over unix socket
- alerts (basic): configure alerts
- arp (codec): support for address resolution protocol
- arp_spoof (inspector): detect ARP attacks and anomalies
- asn1 (ips option): rule option for asn1 detection
- attribute_table (basic): configure hosts loading
- auth (codec): support for IP authentication header

Snort++ User Manual 129 / 144

- back orifice (inspector): back orifice detection
- base64_decode (ips_option): rule option to decode base64 data must be used with base64_data option
- binder (inspector): configure processing based on CIDRs, ports, services, etc.
- bufferlen (ips_option): rule option to check length of current buffer
- byte_extract (ips_option): rule option to convert data to an integer variable
- byte_jump (ips_option): rule option to move the detection cursor
- byte test (ips option): rule option to convert data to integer and compare
- classifications (basic): define rule categories with priority
- classtype (ips_option): general rule option for rule classification
- content (ips_option): payload rule option for basic pattern matching
- cvs (ips_option): payload rule option for detecting specific attacks
- daq (basic): configure packet acquisition interface
- decode (basic): general decoder rules
- detection (basic): configure general IPS rule processing parameters
- detection_filter (ips_option): rule option to require multiple hits before a rule generates an event
- dns (inspector): dns inspection
- dsize (ips_option): rule option to test payload size
- eapol (codec): support for extensible authentication protocol over LAN
- erspan2 (codec): support for encapsulated remote switched port analyzer type 2
- erspan3 (codec): support for encapsulated remote switched port analyzer type 3
- esp (codec): support for encapsulating security payload
- eth (codec): support for ethernet protocol (DLT 1) (DLT 51)
- event_filter (basic): configure thresholding of events
- event_queue (basic): configure event queue parameters
- fabricpath (codec): support for fabricpath
- file_data (ips_option): rule option to set detection cursor to file data
- file_id (basic): configure file identification
- flags (ips_option): rule option to test TCP control flags
- flow (ips_option): rule option to check session properties
- flowbits (ips_option): rule option to set and test arbitrary boolean flags
- fragbits (ips_option): rule option to test IP frag flags
- fragoffset (ips_option): rule option to test IP frag offset
- ftp_client (inspector): FTP client configuration module for use with ftp_server
- ftp_data (inspector): FTP data channel handler
- ftp_server (inspector): main FTP module; ftp_client should also be configured

Snort++ User Manual 130 / 144

- gid (ips_option): rule option specifying rule generator
- gre (codec): support for generic routing encapsulation
- gtp (codec): support for general-packet-radio-service tunnelling protocol
- hosts (basic): configure hosts
- http_client_body (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the request body
- http_cookie (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP cookie
- http global (inspector): http inspector global configuration and client rules for use with http server
- http_header (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the normalized header(s)
- http_inspect (inspector): http inspection and server rules; also configure http_inspect
- http_method (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP request method
- http_raw_cookie (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the unnormalized cookie
- http_raw_header (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the unnormalized headers
- http_raw_uri (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the unnormalized URI
- http_stat_code (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP status code
- http_stat_msg (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP status message
- http_uri (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the normalized URI buffer
- icmp4 (codec): support for Internet control message protocol v4
- icmp6 (codec): support for Internet control message protocol v6
- icmp_id (ips_option): rule option to check ICMP ID
- icmp_seq (ips_option): rule option to check ICMP sequence number
- icode (ips_option): rule option to check ICMP code
- id (ips_option): rule option to check the IP ID field
- igmp (codec): support for Internet group management protocol
- imap (inspector): imap inspection
- ip_proto (ips_option): rule option to check the IP protocol number
- **ipopts** (ips_option): rule option to check for IP options
- ips (basic): configure IPS rule processing
- ipv4 (codec): support for Internet protocol v4
- ipv6 (codec): support for Internet protocol v6
- isdataat (ips_option): rule option to check for the presence of payload data
- itype (ips_option): rule option to check ICMP type
- log_codecs (logger): log protocols in packet by layer
- log_pcap (logger): log packet in pcap format
- md5 (ips_option): payload rule option for hash matching
- metadata (ips_option): rule option for conveying arbitrary name, value data within the rule text

Snort++ User Manual 131 / 144

- mpls (codec): support for multiprotocol label switching
- msg (ips_option): rule option summarizing rule purpose output with events
- network (basic): configure basic network parameters
- new_http_inspect (inspector): new HTTP inspector
- normalizer (inspector): packet scrubbing for inline mode
- output (basic): configure general output parameters
- packets (basic): configure basic packet handling
- pcre (ips_option): rule option for matching payload data with regex
- perf_monitor (inspector): performance monitoring and flow statistics collection
- pgm (codec): support for pragmatic general multicast
- pkt_data (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the normalized packet data
- pop (inspector): pop inspection
- port_scan (inspector): port scan inspector; also configure port_scan_global
- port_scan_global (inspector): shared settings for port_scan inspectors for use with port_scan
- ppm (basic): packet and rule latency monitoring and control (requires --enable-ppm)
- pppoe (codec): support for point-to-point protocol over ethernet
- priority (ips_option): rule option for prioritizing events
- process (basic): configure basic process setup
- profile (basic): configure profiling of rules and/or modules (requires --enable-perf-profiling)
- rate_filter (basic): configure rate filters (which change rule actions)
- raw_data (ips_option): rule option to set the detection cursor to the raw packet data
- react (ips_action): send response to client and terminate session
- reference (ips_option): rule option to indicate relevant attack identification system
- references (basic): define reference systems used in rules
- reject (ips_action): terminate session with TCP reset or ICMP unreachable
- rem (ips_option): rule option to convey an arbitrary comment in the rule body
- replace (ips_option): rule option to overwrite payload data; use with rewrite action
- rev (ips option): rule option to indicate current revision of signature
- rewrite (ips_action): overwrite packet contents
- rpc (ips_option): rule option to check SUNRPC CALL parameters
- rpc_decode (inspector): RPC inspector
- rule_state (basic): enable/disable specific IPS rules
- search_engine (basic): configure fast pattern matcher
- seq (ips_option): rule option to check TCP sequence number
- session (ips_option): rule option to check user data from TCP sessions

Snort++ User Manual 132 / 144

- sha256 (ips option): payload rule option for hash matching
- sha512 (ips_option): payload rule option for hash matching
- sid (ips_option): rule option to indicate signature number
- snort (basic): command line configuration and shell commands
- so (ips_option): rule option to call custom eval function
- soid (ips_option): rule option to specify a shared object rule ID
- ssh (inspector): ssh inspection
- stream (inspector): common flow tracking
- stream_icmp (inspector): stream inspector for ICMP flow tracking
- stream_ip (inspector): stream inspector for IP flow tracking and defragmentation
- stream_reassemble (ips_option): detection option for stream reassembly control
- stream_size (ips_option): detection option for stream size checking
- stream_tcp (inspector): stream inspector for TCP flow tracking and stream normalization and reassembly
- stream_udp (inspector): stream inspector for UDP flow tracking
- suppress (basic): configure event suppressions
- tag (ips_option): rule option to log additional packets
- tcp (codec): support for transmission control protocol
- telnet (inspector): telnet inspection and normalization
- tos (ips_option): rule option to check type of service field
- ttl (ips_option): rule option to check time to live field
- udp (codec): support for user datagram protocol
- unified2 (logger): output event and packet in unified2 format file
- vlan (codec): support for local area network
- window (ips_option): rule option to check TCP window field
- wizard (inspector): inspector that implements port-independent protocol identification
- wlan (codec): support for wireless local area network protocol (DLT 105) :leveloffset: 0

14.16.1 Plugin Listing

- codec::arp: support for address resolution protocol
- codec::auth: support for IP authentication header
- codec::eapol: support for extensible authentication protocol over LAN
- codec::erspan2: support for encapsulated remote switched port analyzer type 2
- codec::erspan3: support for encapsulated remote switched port analyzer type 3
- codec::esp: support for encapsulating security payload
- codec::eth: support for ethernet protocol (DLT 1) (DLT 51)

Snort++ User Manual 133 / 144

- codec::fabricpath: support for fabricpath
- codec::gre: support for generic routing encapsulation
- codec::gtp: support for general-packet-radio-service tunnelling protocol
- codec::i4l_rawip: support for I4L IP
- codec::icmp4: support for Internet control message protocol v4
- codec::icmp4_ip: support for IP in ICMPv4
- codec::icmp6: support for Internet control message protocol v6
- codec::icmp6_ip: support for IP in ICMPv6
- codec::igmp: support for Internet group management protocol
- codec::ipv4: support for Internet protocol v4
- codec::ipv6: support for Internet protocol v6
- codec::ipv6_dst_opts: support for ipv6 destination options
- codec::ipv6_frag: support for IPv6 fragment decoding
- codec::ipv6_hop_opts: support for IPv6 hop options
- codec::ipv6_mobility: support for mobility
- codec::ipv6_no_next: sentinel codec
- codec::ipv6_routing: support for IPv6 routing extension
- codec::linux_sll: support for Linux SLL (DLT 113)
- codec::llc: support for logical link control
- codec::mpls: support for multiprotocol label switching
- codec::null: support for null encapsulation (DLT 0)
- codec::pflog: support for OpenBSD PF log (DLT 117)
- codec::pgm: support for pragmatic general multicast
- codec::ppp: support for point-to-point encapsulation (DLT DLT_PPP)
- codec::ppp_encap: support for point-to-point encapsulation
- codec::pppoe_disc: support for point-to-point discovery
- codec::pppoe_sess: support for point-to-point session
- codec::raw4: support for unencapsulated IPv4 (DLT 12) (DLT 228)
- codec::raw6: support for unencapsulated IPv6 (DLT 229)
- codec::sun_nd: support for Sun ND
- codec::swipe: support for Swipe
- codec::tcp: support for transmission control protocol
- codec::teredo: support for teredo
- codec::trans_bridge: support for trans-bridging
- codec::udp: support for user datagram protocol

Snort++ User Manual 134 / 144

- · codec::vlan: support for local area network
- codec::wlan: support for wireless local area network protocol (DLT 105)
- inspector::arp_spoof: detect ARP attacks and anomalies
- inspector::back orifice: back orifice detection
- inspector::binder: configure processing based on CIDRs, ports, services, etc.
- inspector::dns: dns inspection
- inspector::ftp client: FTP inspector client module
- inspector::ftp_data: FTP data channel handler
- inspector::ftp_server: FTP inspector server module
- inspector::http_global: shared HTTP inspector settings
- inspector::http_inspect: main HTTP inspector module
- inspector::imap: imap inspection
- inspector::new_http_inspect: the new HTTP inspector!
- inspector::normalizer: packet scrubbing for inline mode
- inspector::perf_monitor: performance monitoring and flow statistics collection
- inspector::pop: pop inspection
- inspector::port_scan: port scan inspector; also configure port_scan_global
- inspector::port_scan_global: shared settings for port_scan inspectors for use with port_scan
- inspector::rpc_decode: RPC inspector
- inspector::ssh: ssh inspection
- inspector::stream: common flow tracking
- inspector::stream_icmp: stream inspector for ICMP flow tracking
- inspector::stream_ip: stream inspector for IP flow tracking and defragmentation
- inspector::stream_tcp: stream inspector for TCP flow tracking and stream normalization and reassembly
- inspector::stream_udp: stream inspector for UDP flow tracking
- inspector::telnet: telnet inspection and normalization
- inspector::wizard: inspector that implements port-independent protocol identification
- ips_action::react: send response to client and terminate session
- ips_action::reject: terminate session with TCP reset or ICMP unreachable
- ips_action::rewrite: overwrite packet contents
- ips_option::ack: rule option to match on TCP ack numbers
- ips_option::asn1: rule option for asn1 detection
- ips_option::base64_data: set detection cursor to decoded Base64 data
- ips_option::base64_decode: rule option to decode base64 data must be used with base64_data option
- ips_option::bufferlen: rule option to check length of current buffer

Snort++ User Manual 135 / 144

- ips option::byte extract: rule option to convert data to an integer variable
- ips_option::byte_jump: rule option to move the detection cursor
- ips_option::byte_test: rule option to convert data to integer and compare
- ips_option::classtype: general rule option for rule classification
- ips option::content: payload rule option for basic pattern matching
- ips_option::cvs: payload rule option for detecting specific attacks
- ips option::detection filter: rule option to require multiple hits before a rule generates an event
- ips_option::dsize: rule option to test payload size
- ips_option::file_data: rule option to set detection cursor to file data
- ips_option::flags: rule option to test TCP control flags
- ips_option::flow: rule option to check session properties
- ips option::flowbits: rule option to set and test arbitrary boolean flags
- ips_option::fragbits: rule option to test IP frag flags
- ips_option::fragoffset: rule option to test IP frag offset
- ips_option::gid: rule option specifying rule generator
- ips_option::http_client_body: rule option to set the detection cursor to the request body
- ips_option::http_cookie: rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP cookie
- ips option::http header: rule option to set the detection cursor to the normalized header(s)
- ips_option::http_method: rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP request method
- ips_option::http_raw_cookie: rule option to set the detection cursor to the unnormalized cookie
- ips_option::http_raw_header: rule option to set the detection cursor to the unnormalized headers
- ips_option::http_raw_uri: rule option to set the detection cursor to the unnormalized URI
- ips_option::http_stat_code: rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP status code
- ips_option::http_stat_msg: rule option to set the detection cursor to the HTTP status message
- ips_option::http_uri: rule option to set the detection cursor to the normalized URI buffer
- ips_option::icmp_id: rule option to check ICMP ID
- ips option::icmp seq: rule option to check ICMP sequence number
- ips option::icode: rule option to check ICMP code
- ips_option::id: rule option to check the IP ID field
- ips_option::ip_proto: rule option to check the IP protocol number
- ips_option::ipopts: rule option to check for IP options
- ips_option::isdataat: rule option to check for the presence of payload data
- ips_option::itype: rule option to check ICMP type
- ips_option::md5: payload rule option for hash matching
- ips_option::metadata: rule option for conveying arbitrary name, value data within the rule text

Snort++ User Manual 136 / 144

- ips option::msg: rule option summarizing rule purpose output with events
- ips_option::pcre: rule option for matching payload data with regex
- ips_option::pkt_data: rule option to set the detection cursor to the normalized packet data
- **ips_option::priority**: rule option for prioritizing events
- ips_option::raw_data: rule option to set the detection cursor to the raw packet data
- ips_option::reference: rule option to indicate relevant attack identification system
- ips option::rem: rule option to convey an arbitrary comment in the rule body
- ips_option::replace: rule option to overwrite payload data; use with rewrite action
- ips_option::rev: rule option to indicate current revision of signature
- ips_option::rpc: rule option to check SUNRPC CALL parameters
- ips_option::seq: rule option to check TCP sequence number
- ips_option::session: rule option to check user data from TCP sessions
- ips_option::sha256: payload rule option for hash matching
- ips_option::sha512: payload rule option for hash matching
- ips_option::sid: rule option to indicate signature number
- ips_option::so: rule option to call custom eval function
- ips option::soid: rule option to specify a shared object rule ID
- ips option::stream reassemble: detection option for stream reassembly control
- ips_option::stream_size: detection option for stream size checking
- ips_option::tag: rule option to log additional packets
- ips_option::tos: rule option to check type of service field
- ips_option::ttl: rule option to check time to live field
- ips_option::window: rule option to check TCP window field
- logger::alert_csv: output event in csv format
- logger::alert_fast: output event with brief text format
- logger::alert_full: output event with full packet dump
- logger::alert_syslog: output event to syslog
- logger::alert test: output event in custom tsv format
- logger::alert_unixsock: output event over unix socket
- logger::log_codecs: log protocols in packet by layer
- logger::log_null: support for null encapsulation
- logger::log_pcap: log packet in pcap format
- logger::unified2: output event and packet in unified2 format file
- search_engine::ac_banded: Aho-Corasick Banded (high memory, moderate performance)
- search_engine::ac_bnfa: Aho-Corasick Binary NFA (low memory, high performance) MPSE

Snort++ User Manual 137 / 144

- search_engine::ac_bnfa_q: Aho-Corasick Binary NFA (low memory, high performance) with queued events
- search_engine::ac_full: Aho-Corasick Full (high memory, best performance), implements search_all()
- search_engine::ac_full_q: Aho-Corasick Full (high memory, best performance) with queued events, implements search_all()
- search_engine::ac_sparse: Aho-Corasick Sparse (high memory, moderate performance) MPSE
- search_engine::ac_sparse_bands: Aho-Corasick Sparse-Banded (high memory, moderate performance) MPSE
- search_engine::ac_std: Aho-Corasick Full (high memory, best performance) MPSE

14.17 Extending Snort++

14.17.1 Plugins

Snort++ uses a variety of plugins to accomplish much of its processing objectives, including:

- Codec to decode and encode packets
- Inspector like the prior preprocessors, for normalization, etc.
- IpsOption for detection in Snort++ rules
- · IpsAction for custom actions
- · Logger for handling events
- · Mpse for fast pattern matching
- So for dynamic rules

Plugins have an associated API defined for each type, all of which share a common *header*, called the BaseApi. A dynamic library makes its plugins available by exporting the snort_plugins symbol, which is a null terminated array of BaseApi pointers.

The BaseApi includes type, name, API version, plugin version, and function pointers for constructing and destructing a Module. The specific API add various other data and functions for their given roles.

14.17.2 Modules

The Module is pervasive in Snort. It is how everything, including plugins, are configured. It als o provides access to builtin rules. And as the glue that binds functionality to Snort, the capabilities of a Module are expected to grow to include statistics support, etc.

Module configuration is handled by a list of Parameters. Most parameters can be validated by the framework, which means for example that conversion from string to number is done in exactly one place. Providing the builtin rules allows the documentation to include them automatically and also allows for autogenerating the rules at startup.

If we are defining a new Inspector called, say, gadget, it might be configured in snort.lua like this:

```
gadget =
{
    brain = true,
    claw = 3
}
```

When the gadget table is processed, Snort++ will look for a module called gadget. If that Module has an associated API, it will be used to configure a new instance of the plugin. In this case, a GadgetModule would be instantiated, brain and claw would be set, and the Module instance would be passed to the GadgetInspector constructor.

Module has three key virtual methods:

Snort++ User Manual 138 / 144

• **begin()** - called when Snort++ starts processing the associated Lua table. This is a good place to allocate any required data and set defaults.

- set() called to set each parameter after validation.
- end() called when Snort++ finishes processing the associated Lua table. This is where additional integrity checks of related parameters should be done.

The configured Module is passed to the plugin constructor which pulls the configuration data from the Module. For non-trivial configurations, the working paradigm is that Module hands a pointer to the configured data to the plugin instance which takes ownership.

Note that there is at most one instance of a given Module, even if multiple plugin instances are created which use that Module. (Multiple instances require Snort++ binding configuration.)

14.17.3 Inspectors

There are several types of inspector, which determines which inspectors are executed when:

- IT_BINDER determines which inspectors apply to given flows
- IT_WIZARD determines which service inspector to use if none explicitly bound
- IT_PACKET used to process all packets before session and service processing (e.g. normalize)
- IT_NETWORK processes packets w/o service (e.g. arp_spoof, back_orifice)
- IT_STREAM for flow tracking, ip defrag, and tcp reassembly
- IT SERVICE for http, ftp, telnet, etc.
- IT_PROBE process all packets after all the above (e.g. perf_monitor, port_scan)

14.17.4 Codecs

The Snort3.0 Codecs decipher raw packets. These Codecs are now completely pluggable; almost every Snort3.0 Codec can be built dynamically and replaced with an alternative, customized Codec. The pluggable nature has also made it easier to build new Codecs for protocols without having to touch the Snort3.0 code base.

The first step in creating a Codec is defining its class and protocol. Every Codec must inherit from the Snort3.0 Codec class defined in "framework/codec.h". The following is an example Codec named "example" and has an associated struct that is 14 bytes long.

```
#include <cstdint>
#include <arpa/inet.h>
#include "framework/codec.h"
#include "main/snort_types.h"

#define EX_NAME "example"
#define EX_HELP "example codec help string"

struct Example
{
    uint8_t dst[6];
    uint8_t src[6];
    uint16_t ethertype;
```

Snort++ User Manual 139 / 144

```
static inline uint8_t size()
    { return 14; }
}

class ExCodec : public Codec
{
public:
    ExCodec() : Codec(EX_NAME) { }
    ~ExCodec() { }

bool decode(const RawData&, CodecData&, DecodeData&) override;
    void get_protocol_ids(std::vector<uint16_t>&) override;
};
```

After defining ExCodec, the next step is adding the Codec's decode functionality. The function below does this by implementing a valid decode function. The first parameter, which is the RawData struct, provides both a pointer to the raw data that has come from a wire and the length of that raw data. The function takes this information and validates that there are enough bytes for this protocol. If the raw data's length is less than 14 bytes, the function returns false and Snort3.0 discards the packet; the packet is neither inspected nor processed. If the length is greater than 14 bytes, the function populates two fields in the CodecData struct, next_prot_id and lyr_len. The lyr_len field tells Snort3.0 the number of bytes that this layer contains. The next_prot_id field provides Snort3.0 the value of the next EtherType or IP protocol number.

```
bool ExCodec::decode(const RawData& raw, CodecData& codec, DecodeData&)
{
  if ( raw.len < Example::size() )
    return false;

  const Example* const ex = reinterpret_cast<const Example*>(raw.data);
  codec.next_prot_id = ntohs(ex->ethertype);
  codec.lyr_len = ex->size();
  return true;
}
```

For instance, assume this decode function receives the following raw data with a validated length of 32 bytes:

```
00 11 22 33 44 55 66 77 88 99 aa bb 08 00 45 00 00 38 00 01 00 00 40 06 5c ac 0a 01 02 03 0a 09
```

The Example struct's EtherType field is the 13 and 14 bytes. Therefore, this function tells Snort that the next protocol has an EtherType of 0x0800. Additionally, since the lyr_len is set to 14, Snort knows that the next protocol begins 14 bytes after the beginning of this protocol. The Codec with EtherType 0x0800, which happens to be the IPv4 Codec, will receive the following data with a validated length of 18 (== 32 - 14):

```
45 00 00 38 00 01 00 00 40 06 5c ac 0a 01 02 03 0a 09
```

How does Snort3.0 know that the IPv4 Codec has an EtherType of 0x0800? The Codec class has a second virtual function named get_protocol_ids(). When implementing the function, a Codec can register for any number of values between 0x0000 - 0xFFFF. Then, if the next_proto_id is set to a value for which this Codec has registered, this Codec's decode function will be called. As a general note, the protocol ids between [0, 0x00FF] are IP protocol numbers, [0x0100, 0x05FF] are custom types, and [0x0600, 0xFFFF] are EtherTypes.

For example, in the get_protocol_ids function below, the ExCodec registers for the protocols numbers 17, 787, and 2054. 17 happens to be the protocol number for UDP while 2054 is ARP's EtherType. Therefore, this Codec will now attempt to decode UDP and ARP data. Additionally, if any Codec sets the next_protocol_id to 787, ExCodec's decode function will be called. Some custom protocols are already defined in the file "protocols/protocol_ids.h"

Snort++ User Manual 140 / 144

```
void ExCodec::get_protocol_ids(std::vector<uint16_t>&v)
{
    v.push_back(0x0011); // == 17 == UDP
    v.push_back(0x1313); // == 787 == custom
    v.push_back(0x0806); // == 2054 == ARP
}
```

To register a Codec for Data Link Type's rather than protocols, the function get_data_link_type() can be similarly implemented.

The final step to creating a pluggable Codec is the snort_plugins array. This array is important because when Snort3.0 loads a dynamic library, the program only find plugins that are inside the snort_plugins array. In other words, if a plugin has not been added to the snort_plugins array, that plugin will not be loaded into Snort3.0.

Although the details will not be covered in this post, the following code snippet is a basic CodecApi that Snort3.0 can load. This snippet can be copied and used with only three minor changes. First, in the function ctor, ExCodec should be replaced with the name of the Codec that is being built. Second, EX_NAME must match the Codec's name or Snort will be unable to load this Codec. Third, EX_HELP should be replaced with the general description of this Codec. Once this code snippet has been added, ExCodec is ready to be compiled and plugged into Snort3.0.

```
static Codec* ctor(Module*)
{ return new ExCodec; }
static void dtor(Codec *cd)
{ delete cd; }
static const CodecApi ex_api =
{
        PT CODEC,
        EX_NAME,
        EX_HELP,
        CDAPI_PLUGIN_V0,
        Ο,
        nullptr,
        nullptr,
    },
    nullptr, // pointer to a function called during Snort's startup.
    nullptr, // pointer to a function called during Snort's exit.
    nullptr, // pointer to a function called during thread's startup.
    nullptr, // pointer to a function called during thread's destruction.
    ctor, // pointer to the codec constructor.
    dtor, // pointer to the codec destructor.
};
SO_PUBLIC const BaseApi* snort_plugins[] =
{
    &ex_api.base,
    nullptr
};
```

Two example Codecs are available in the extra directory on git and the extra tarball on the Snort3.0 page. One of those examples is the Token Ring Codec while the other example is the PIM Codec.

As a final note, there are four more virtual functions that a Codec should implement: encode, format, update, and log. If the functions are not implemented Snort will not throw any errors. However, Snort may also be unable to accomplish some of its basic functionality.

Snort++ User Manual 141 / 144

• encode is called whenever Snort actively responds and needs to builds a packet, i.e. whenever a rule using an IPS ACTION like react, reject, or rewrite is triggered. This function is used to build the response packet protocol by protocol.

- format is called when Snort is rebuilding a packet. For instance, every time Snort reassembles a TCP stream or IP fragment, format is called. Generally, this function either swaps any source and destination fields in the protocol or does nothing.
- update is similar to format in that it is called when Snort is reassembling a packet. Unlike format, this function only sets length fields.
- log is called when either the log_codecs logger or a custom logger that calls PacketManager::log_protocols is used when running Snort3.0.

14.17.5 IPS Actions

Action plugins specify a builtin action in the API which is used to determine verdict. (Conversely, builtin actions don't have an associated plugin function.)

14.17.6 Coding Style

All new code should try to follow these style guidelines. These are not yet firm so feedback is welcome to get something we can live with.

General

• Generally try to follow http://google-styleguide.googlecode.com/svn/trunk/cppguide.xml, but there are a few differences.

Naming

- Use camel case for namespaces, classes, and types like WhizBangPdfChecker.
- Use lower case identifiers with underscore separators, e.g. some_function() and my_var.
- Use lower case filenames with underscores.

Comments

- Write comments sparingly with a mind towards future proofing. Often the comments can be obviated with better code. Clear code is better than a comment.
- Function comment blocks are generally just noise that quickly becomes obsolete. If you absolutely must comment on parameters, put each on a separate line along with the comment. That way changing the signature may prompt a change to the comments too.
- Use FIXIT (not FIXTHIS or TODO or whatever) to mark things left for a day or even just a minute. That way we can find them easily and won't lose track of them.
- Presently using FIXIT-X where X = P | H | M | L, indicating perf, high, med, or low priority. For now, H, M, or L can indicate alpha 1, 2, or 3. Perf changes fall between alpha 1 and 2.
- Put the copyright(s) and license in a comment block at the top of each source file (.h and .cc). Don't bother with trivial scripts and make foo. Some interesting Lua code should get a comment block too. Copy and paste exactly from src/main.h (don't reformat).
- Put author, description, etc. in separate comment(s) following the license. Do not put such comments in the middle of the license foo.

Snort++ User Manual 142 / 144

Logging

• Messages intended for the user should not look like debug messages. Eg, the function name should not be included.

- Most debug messages should just be deleted.
- Don't bang your error messages (no !). The user feels bad enough about the problem already w/o you shouting at him.

Types

- Use logical types to make the code clearer and to help the compiler catch problems. typedef uint16_t Port; bool foo(Port) is way better than int foo(int port).
- Use forward declarations (e.g. struct SnortConfig;) instead of void*.
- Try not to use extern data unless absolutely necessary and then put the extern in an appropriate header.
- Use const liberally. In most cases, const char* s = "foo" should be const char* const s = "foo". The former goes in the initialized data section and the latter in read only data section.
- But use const char s[] = "foo" instead of const char* s = "foo" when possible. The latter form allocates a pointer variable and the data while the former allocates only the data.
- · Use static wherever possible to minimize public symbols and eliminate unneeded relocations.
- Declare functions virtual only in the parent class introducing the function (not in a derived class that is overriding the function). This makes it clear which class introduces the function.
- Declare functions as override if they are intended to override a function. This makes it possible to find derived implementations that didn't get updated and therefore won't get called due a change in the parent signature.

Macros (aka defines)

- In many cases, even in C++, use #define name "value" instead of a const char* const name = "value" because it will eliminate a symbol from the binary.
- Use inline functions instead of macros where possible (pretty much all cases except where stringification is necessary). Functions offer better typing, avoid re-expansions, and a debugger can break there.
- All macros except simple const values should be wrapped in () and all args should be wrapped in () too to avoid surprises upon expansion. Example:

```
\#define SEQ_LT(a,b) ((int)((a) - (b)) < 0)
```

• Multiline macros should be blocked (i.e. inside { }) to avoid if-else type surprises.

Formatting

- Indent 4 space chars ... no tabs!
- If you need to indent many times, something could be rewritten or restructured to make it clearer. Fewer indents is generally easier to write, easier to read, and overall better code.
- Braces go on the line immediately following a new scope (function signature, if, else, loop, switch, etc.
- Use consistent spacing and line breaks. Always indent 4 spaces from the breaking line. Keep lines less than 100 chars; it
 greatly helps readability.

Snort++ User Manual 143 / 144

```
Yes:
    calling_a_func_with_a_long_name(
          arg1, arg2, arg3);
```

• Put function signature on one line, except when breaking for the arg list:

```
No:
    inline
    bool foo()
    { // ...

Yes:
    inline bool foo()
    { // ...
```

• Put conditional code on the line following the if so it is easy to break on the conditional block:

```
No:
    if ( test ) foo();
Yes:
    if ( test )
        foo();
```

Headers

- Don't hesitate to create a new header if it is needed. Don't lump unrelated stuff into an header because it is convenient.
- Write header guards like this (leading underscores are reserved for system stuff). In my_header.h:

```
#ifndef MY_HEADER_H
#define MY_HEADER_H
// ...
#endif
```

• Includes from a different directory should specify parent directory. This makes it clear exactly what is included and avoids the primordial soup that results from using -I this -I that -I the_other_thing . . .

```
// given:
src/foo/foo.cc
src/bar/bar.cc
src/bar/baz.cc

// in baz.cc
#include "bar.h"

// in foo.cc
#include "bar/bar.h"
```

- Just because it is a #define doesn't mean it goes in a header. Everything should be scoped as tightly as possible. Shared implementation declarations should go in a separate header from the interface. And so on.
- A .cc should include its own .h before any others (including system headers). This ensures that the header stands on its own and can be used by clients without include prerequisites.

Snort++ User Manual 144 / 144

Include required headers, all required headers, and nothing but required headers. Don't just clone a bunch of headers because
it is convenient.

• Any file depending of #ifdefs should include config.h as shown below. A .h should include it before any other includes, and a .cc should include it immediately after the include of its own .h.

```
#ifdef HAVE_CONFIG_H
#include "config.h"
#endif
```

• Do not put using statements in headers.

Warnings

• With g++, use at least these compiler flags:

```
-Wall -Wextra -pedantic -Wformat -Wformat-security -Wunused-but-set-variable -Wno-deprecated-declarations
```

• Then Fix All Warnings. None Allowed.

Other

• Prefer and over && and or over || for new source files.

Uncrustify

Currently using uncrustify from at https://github.com/bengardner/uncrustify to reformat legacy code and anything that happens to need a makeover at some point.

The working config is crusty.cfg in the top level directory. It does well but will munge some things. Specially formatted INDENT-OFF comments were added in 2 places to avoid a real mess.