

PACKET ANALYSIS

Session 2 – Network Security and Forensics

FUNDAMENTALS AND CHALLENGES

- Fundamentals
 - Protocol analysis
 - Packet analysis
 - Multipacket stream analysis
 - Stream reconstruction
- Challenges
 - Not always possible to recover all packets
 - Packet data may be corrupted or truncated
 - Contents may be encrypted
 - Undocumented protocol
 - Sheer volume of data

PROTOCOL ANALYSIS

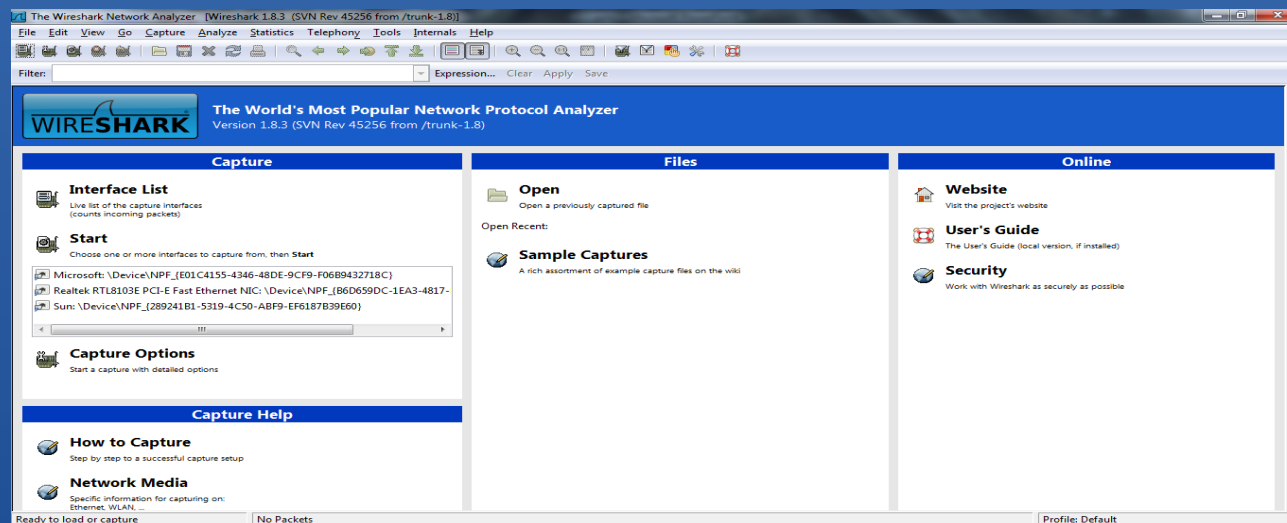
- Defined
 - “Examination of one or more fields within a protocol’s data structure. Protocol analysis is commonly conducted for the purposes of research (i.e., as in the case of an unpublished protocol specification) or network investigation.” (Davidoff & Ham, 2012)
- Best practice
 - Take cryptographic checksums of all data during collection
 - Work with an exact copy leaving original data intact

DOCUMENTATION

- Where to look
 - IETF - The Internet Engineering Task Force - <http://www.ietf.org/>
 - Large, public repository of documented protocols
 - RFCs – Requests for Comments - <http://www.rfc-editor.org>
 - Used to develop, communicate and define international standards for internetworking
 - IEEE-SA – Institute of Electrical and Electronics Standards Association
 - ISO – International Organization for Standardization
 - Vendors and researchers

PROTOCOL ANALYSIS TOOLS

- Packet Details Markup Language (PDML) and Packet Summary Markup Language (PSML)
- Wireshark
- Tshark
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PACKET DETAILS MARKUP LANGUAGE AND PACKET SUMMARY MARKUP LANGUAGE

- PDML

- Expresses packet details for Layers 2-7 in an XML format
- Example:
 - \$ tshark -r capturefile.pcap -T pdml

```
<pdml>
  <packet>
    ...
  </packet>

  <packet>
    ...
  </packet>
  ...
</pdml>
```

- PSML

- Used for most important details about a protocol also in XML
- Example:
 - \$ tshark -r capturefile.pcap -T psml

```
<psml>
  <structure>
    ...
  </structure>
  <packet>

    ...
  </packet>
  <packet>
    ...
  </packet>
  ...
</psml>
```

- Part of the NetBee library – support packet processing
- <http://www.nbee.org/doku.php>

TSHARK

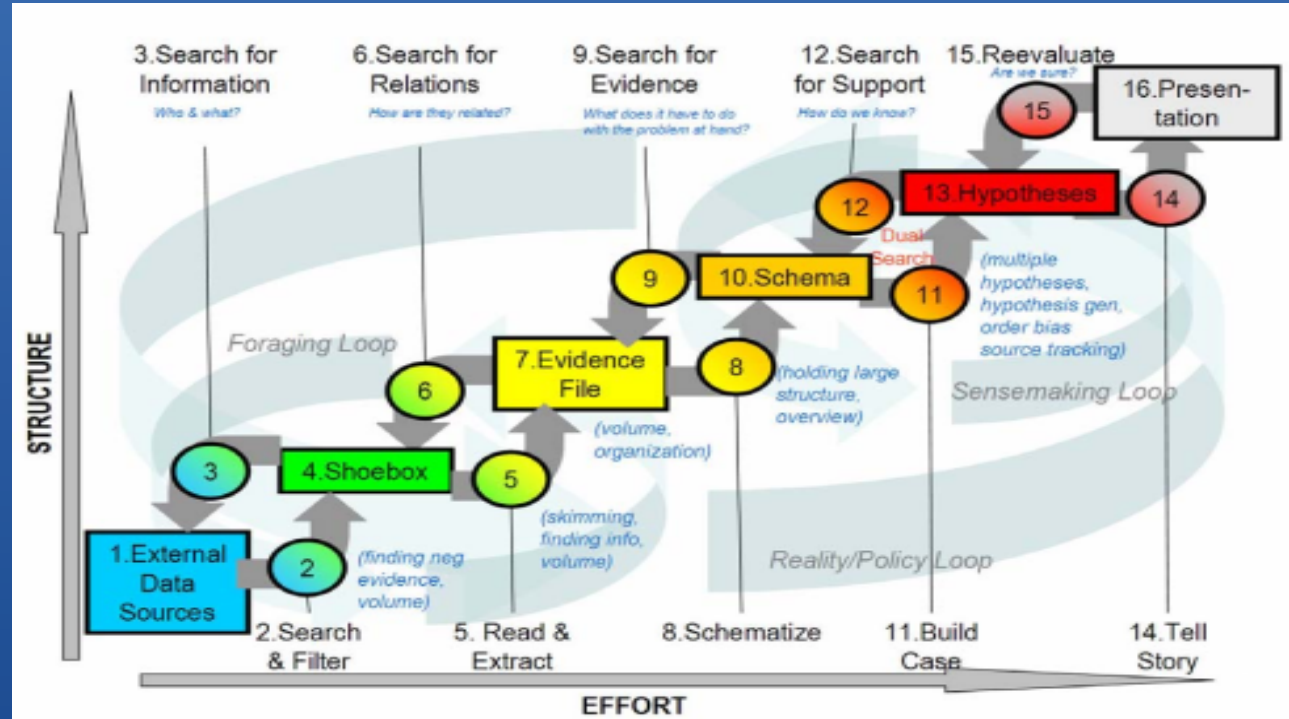
- Same functionality as Wireshark using command-line interface
- Basic commands
 - `$ tshark -r capturefile.pcap`
 - Capture file
 - `$ tshark -n -r capturefile.pcap`
 - Disable network naming resolution to show IP addresses and port numbers, -n
 - `$ tshark -r capturefile.pcap -T pdml`
 - Select output format using t flag
 - `$ tshark -r capturefile.pcap -T fields -e frame.number -e ip.addr -e udp`
 - Prints a specific field, -e flag
 - `$ tshark -r capturefile.pcap -d tcp.port ==29008 , http`
 - Decode as, -d
 - `$ tshark -r capturefile.pcap -R 'ip.addr == 192.168.1.1 '`

TSHARK DISPLAY

```
C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\PowerShell.exe
0.000000 Apple_c6:08:1d -> Broadcast ARP 52 Gratuitous ARP for 140.211.183.
238 <Request>
1.024080 Apple_8a:c1:60 -> Broadcast ARP 52 Gratuitous ARP for 140.211.183.
38 <Request>
3.379941 IntelCor_10:6c:42 -> Broadcast ARP 52 Who has 140.211.154.110? Te
11 0.0.0.0
4.403227 IntelCor_10:6c:42 -> Broadcast ARP 52 Who has 140.211.154.110? Te
11 0.0.0.0
5.427888 IntelCor_10:6c:42 -> Broadcast ARP 52 Who has 140.211.154.110? Te
11 0.0.0.0
5.939210 IntelCor_10:6c:42 -> Broadcast ARP 52 Who has 169.254.95.54? Tell
0.0.0.0
10.239936 Apple_3c:6f:5c -> Broadcast ARP 52 Gratuitous ARP for 140.211.155.
218 <Request>
10.956804 SeikoEps_2f:e0:61 -> Broadcast ARP 64 Gratuitous ARP for 140.211.1
83.168 <Request>
11.878246 SamsungE_14:96:0f -> Broadcast ARP 52 Who has 140.211.182.224? Te
11 0.0.0.0
11.879110 SamsungE_14:96:0f -> Broadcast ARP 52 Who has 140.211.182.224? Te
11 0.0.0.0
13.311881 SamsungE_14:96:0f -> Broadcast ARP 52 Who has 140.211.182.224? Te
11 0.0.0.0
13.516618 SamsungE_14:96:0f -> Broadcast ARP 52 Who has 140.211.182.224? Te
11 0.0.0.0
14.847853 SamsungE_14:96:0f -> Broadcast ARP 52 Who has 140.211.182.224? Te
11 0.0.0.0
15.257441 SamsungE_14:96:0f -> Broadcast ARP 52 Who has 140.211.182.224? Te
11 0.0.0.0
16.486224 Apple_e6:47:3c -> Broadcast ARP 52 Gratuitous ARP for 140.211.154.
60 <Request>
15 packets captured
C:\Program Files\Wireshark>
```


PROTOCOL ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES

- Protocol Identification
- Protocol Decoding
- Exporting Fields

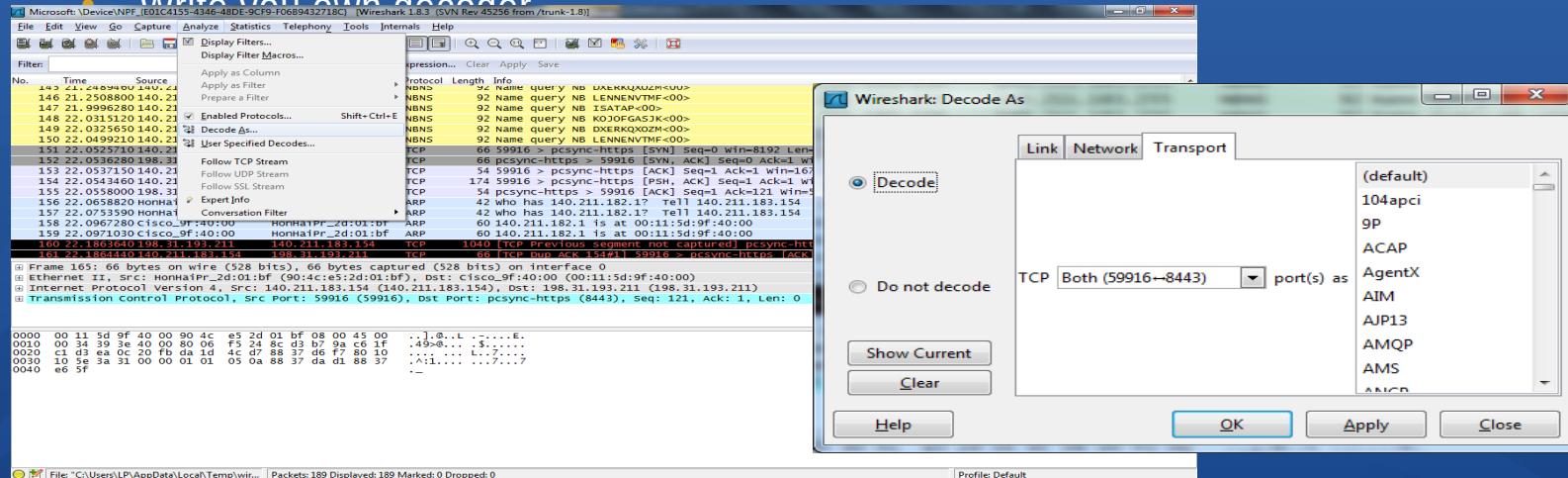


PROTOCOL IDENTIFICATION

- Look for common binary/hex/ASCII values that are associated with specific protocols
 - Ex: 0x4500 marks the beginning of an IPv4 packet
- Use information in the encapsulating protocol
 - Ex: Byte 9 of the IP header indicates protocol, 0x06 corresponds with TCP
- Use port numbers for TCP/UDP
 - Ex: port 443 indicates TLS/SSL, check to see if packet is indeed encrypted
- Analyze the function of the src or dst server
 - Use IP address and do a WHOIS lookup
- Look for recognizable protocol structures
 - Refer to RFCs

PROTOCOL DECODING

- A way to interpret frame data based on known frame structure
- To use specific protocol specs
 - Use publically available automated decoders and tools
 - Manually decode traffic with publically available documentation
 - Write your own decoder



EXPORTING FIELDS

- Wireshark
 - “Export Selected Packet Bytes”
- Tshark
 - Example:
 - `$ tshark -r evidence01.pcap -X lua_script:oft -tsk.lua -R "oft" -n -R frame.number ==112 -T pdml`
 - `$ tshark -r evidence.pcap -X lua_script:oft -tsk.lua -R "oft" -n -T fields -e "oft.filename" -e oft.totsize -R frame.number ==112`
 - `-e -T` flags will show only specific fields

PACKET ANALYSIS

- Defined
 - “Packet Analysis—Examination of contents and/or metadata of one or more packets. Packet analysis is typically conducted in order to identify packets of interest and develop a strategy for flow analysis and content reconstruction.” (Davidoff & Ham, 2012)

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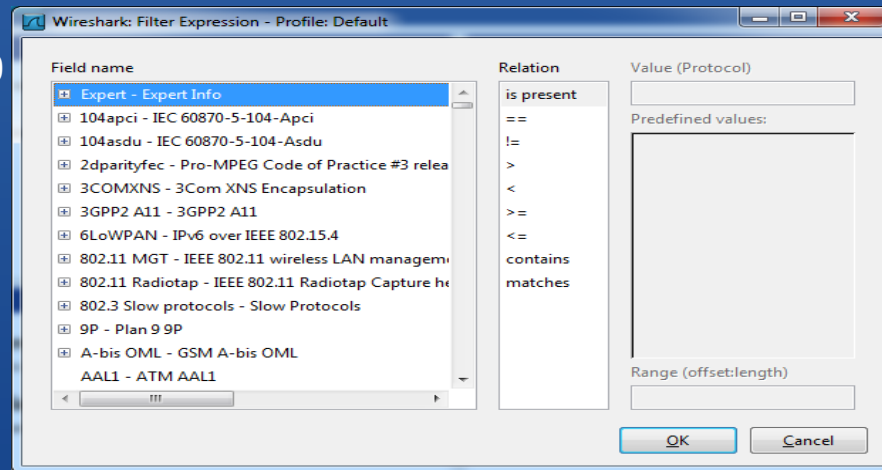
PACKET ANALYSIS TOOLS

- Wireshark And Tshark Display Filters
- Ngreg
- Hex Editors

WIRESHARK AND TSHARK DISPLAY FILTERS

- Over 105,000 display filters
- Supports open plugin architecture
 - Build your own protocol parser
- “Expressions” button to build a filter of your choice
- Tshark uses `-R` for filters
 - Example:
 - `$ tshark -r capturefile.pcap`

28. “



NGREP

- Looks for packets based on particular string, binary sequences or patterns within the packet
- Recognizes common protocols: IP, TCP, UDP, and ICMP
- No flow reconstruction
 - Will not detect if data spans multiple packets
 - Detects matching packet not matching flow
- Example:
 - `$ ngrep -l capturefile.pcap "string to search for"`
 - `$ ngrep -l capturefile.pcap "string to search for" 'src host 192.168.1.20 and dst port 80'`

HEX EDITORS

- View and manipulate raw bits of data
- Indispensable for isolation of specific packet fragments and file carving
- Sometimes regular tools are not equipped to handle data
 - Example:
 - Loki tunneling protocol is often not recognized by tools like Wireshark
 - Most tools will not see inside compressed files
- Bless, Winhex, FTK Imager
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PACKET ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES

- Pattern Matching
- Parsing Protocol Fields
- Packet Filtering

PATTERN MATCHING

- “dirty word search”
 - List of strings, names, patterns that are related to suspect activity
- ngrep is the best tool for these searches
 - Example:
 - `$ ngrep -l evidence01.pcap 'words|search|for'`
 -

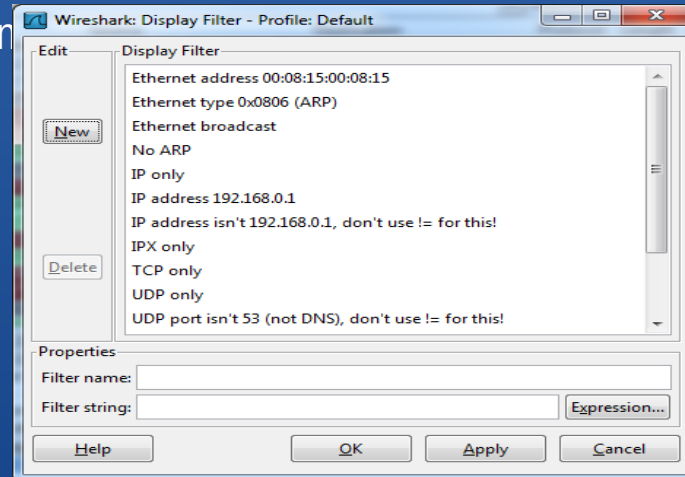
PARSING PROTOCOL FIELDS

- Application of extracting the contents of protocol fields within packets of interest.
- Example:
 - `$ tshark -r evidence01.pcap -d tcp.port ==443 , aim -T fields -n -e "aim.messageblock.message"`
- Good tshark reference
 - <http://www.packetlevel.ch/html/tshark/tshark.html>

PACKET FILTERING

- “...the art of separating packets based on the values of fields in protocol metadata or payload.”
(Davidoff & Ham, 2012)
- Use tcpdump with a BPF filter to dump out suspicious conversations
 - Example using IP addresses
 - `$ tcpdump -s 0 -r evidence01.pcap -w evidence01 -talkers.pcap 'host 64.12.24.50 and host 192.168.1.158'`
Reading from file
eviden

- Use Wireshark





Works Cited

Davidoff, S., & Ham, J. (2012). *Network Forensics Tracking Hackers Through Cyberspace*. Boston: Prentice Hall.