# **Intrusion Detection Using Network Monitoring Tools**

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**ABSTRACT-** This paper is mainly concern about how network monitoring, using software tools can be helpful for protection of our communication network, how different kind of network attacks is perform. Now these days network security is main concern for each organization due to this, network monitoring has become an important part of computer security to prevent the attack. There are several other ways to protect communication network such as firewalls, VPN (Virtual Private Network), encryption techniques after all these techniques some time intruder can intrude our communication network. So in this condition network monitoring tools such as Wireshark and Snort play important role in intrusion detection. Wireshark and Snort is capable to monitor network processes or movements in a graphical way to detect intrusion. Network monitoring through IDS and IPS, is increasing the performance and security of the network infrastructure.

**KEYWORDS**- IDS, IPS, Wireshark, Snort, SQL Injection, Cross Site Scripting, Social Engineering.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

These days technology changing its way to process new way to perform attack is being come in our knowledge some time existing security parameters is bypass by these novel attacks. So that time, network monitoring plays a significant role in intrusion detection. Tools such as Wireshark and Snort provide graphical view of network processes so that by analyzing these network processes or traffic intrusion can be detected in a easy way.

Today by the use of internet global access is possible, and intruders are making effort to access their malicious intent so Intrusion Detection System is too important to protect our communication network or network system against the outsider attacks as well as insider, to execute their malicious intent in digital environment. Although Wireshark is not a dedicated IDS but its provide feature to detect intruder.

Network monitoring is defined as, "Network monitoring is spying for a good cause. Actually, it's something you want at least one of your systems to be doing. While your other systems are performing their vital functions, you need to set aside at least one computer or set of computers to monitor network activity. Think of this as policing your network traffic". 1

# II. REVIEW OF LITERATURES

A number of papers have been presented by distinguish authors in this area. Some important contributions are given below.

Day by day technology is growing, new kind of tools and techniques are being introduce, in the same way new types of malicious codes are also being invented. D. Stiawan [1], et al. have discussed about that at the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Network monitoring definition available at: <a href="http://www.wisegeek.org/what-is-network-monitoring.htm">http://www.wisegeek.org/what-is-network-monitoring.htm</a> Visited on 17/03/2014

very earlier in 1990s when hackers or attackers, started to intrude the network and computer system that time IDS was only capable to detect hostile traffic and sent alert message or signal, but there was no prevention mechanism of attack, also not able to detect all malicious programmes.

Intrusion is a combination of actions aimed at compromising the basic network security pillars confidentiality, integrity, availability of a computing or networking resource. Although IDS is only limited up to intrusion reporting to administrator while IPS is advance version of IDS, which is capable to prevent intrusion as well as detection. A. S. Ashoor [2], et al. have discussed, IDS and IPS are mainly developed for lacking requirements of devices such as firewalls. IDS is mainly used to detecting the intrusion or threat in the network.

What should be parameters to select an IDS?, there are mainly two types of IDS, one is host based and another is network based and available as freeware and commercial also difficult to decide to use whether freeware or commercial. This selection of the IDS also depend on the cost effectiveness and how it is going to secure an organization. D. Mathew [3], have discussed Although by implementing an IDS we cannot say that an organization is fully secure but, yes it will be integral part of the particular section of the organization's security. With the combination of IDS and strong organizational policies and procedures, vulnerability assessments at particular interval of time, secure configuration of routers and firewalls can produce effective results and also can mitigate the risk which an organization facing.

Security is a big issue for all networks in present organization environment. Different methods have been developed to secure the network communications and communication over the Internet, between them the use of firewalls, encryption, and VPN (Virtual Private Networks). Intrusion detection is a comparatively new against the all such techniques. IDS can protect a system from attack, misuse, and compromise, also monitor network activity. R. S. Shirbhate in [4], et al. have discussed, Network process monitoring is increasingly observed as an important function for understanding and improving the processes and security of our cyber infrastructure. The IDS mix the use of pattern matching, stateful pattern matching for rectifying the intruder. The IDS techniques should be economical, practical, cost-efficient, and commercially possible.

Prevention is better than cure, with keeping this in mind combination of both IDS and IPS can provide defense in depth means layered security for the network or system, if in case intrusion is not prevented by the IPS so it's detection will be possible to mitigate the network risks. T. Holland [5], have discussed, Security = visibility + control, IDS technology offers the visibility and provide many other advantages directly related to monitoring the networks. These include the live visibility of what is going on in our networks also as well as the ability to store this information for analysis and reporting at a later point of time. Visibility is prime to decision making. Visibility makes it possible to create a security policy based on quantifiable, real world data.

Conventional intrusion detection systems had some limitations and do not provide a complete solution for the problem. A. Youssef [6], et al. have discussed, Data Mining (DM), Network Behavior Analysis (NBA) for intrusion detection. According to the researcher combination of both DM and NBA potential to detect intrusions in networks more successfully. In this, there are two types of Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS) which is misuse detection systems and anomaly detection systems. Almost commercial IDS utilize the misuse approach in which known intrusions are stored in the systems as signatures. The IDS searches network traffics for intrusive patterns or user behaviors which match the stored signatures, if a pattern matched with a stored signature then an alarm or signal is raised to a security analyst who take decision that what action should be taken based on the type of attack. In anomaly detection, in difference with misuse

detection, can identify novel intrusions. It makes models for normal network behavior also called profiles and also detect patterns that much deviate from the stored profiles. These patterns may be suspicious represent as actual intrusions or could basically be a new behavior that need to add in profile for future references.

T. Lappas [7], et al. have discussed, about off line and real time processing in data mining where in off line processing data mining techniques in IDSs, means analysis of the collected data in off line mode by using this way real time detection tasks will be effective. Detection rule analysis, provide good future analysis of intruder and off line mode provide ability to transfer logs from remote sites to centralized system for analysis. In real time analysis of data mining in IDS also develop resourceful approaches that use data on packet header values for network anomaly detection.

Although an IDS is not a fully solution for security but after all, by configuring an IDS in well manner a system administrators can protect their system or network up to the mark. T. Sharma [8], et al. have discussed, some features must have an IDS, discussed by the researcher which is, there should not any human supervisory requirement for regular processing of an IDS, an IDS should be fault tolerant and survivable, it should impose minimal overhead, good observer of deviations from normal behavior network traffic, should be difficult to fool.

Snort is an open source network intrusion prevention and detection system (IDS/IPS) developed by Sourcefire. Combining the benefits of signature, protocol, and anomaly-based inspection, Snort is the most widely deployed IDS/IPS technology worldwide. J. Gomez et al. [9] have discussed, H-Snort concept before going further basic of snort working. Snort is an IDPS (Intrusion Detection and Prevention System) which is mainly works on the principle of signature based detection and anomaly based detection and they have their own limitations. In signature based detection, Snort matches the network traffic signature with predefined signature which is present in the library or database of the snort which can continuously updated. Signature based detection gives better performance when it matches the pattern but it is not able to detect new kind of attacks which is not present in the database of snort.

Wireshark is the world's foremost network protocol analyzer. It lets you see what's happening on your network at a microscopic level. It is the de facto (and often de jure) standard across many industries and educational institutions. Although wireshark is not either an IDS or IPS but, It can be consider as intrusion detection. S. Gupta et al. [10], the expert info's is a kind of log of the anomalies found by Wireshark in a capture file. Each expert info will contain the following things, Chat (grey): information about usual workflow e.g. a TCP packet with the SYN flag set, Note (cyan): notable things e.g. an application returned a "usual" error code like HTTP 404, Warn (yellow): warning e.g. application returned an "unusual" error code like a connection problem, Error (red): serious problem e.g. [Malformed Packet]. Intrusion detection can be possible in chat section of the wireshark in which the TCP connection should contain sequence of SYN, SYN+ACK and ACK messages. With the analysis of chat section we can identify the DOS attack and its originating IP. By using firewall ACL Rules which is present in the wireshark firewall can be applied for any of the IP address which we want to deny/allow packet from that particular IP address. Also by using Flow Graph part of the wireshark flow graph shows the communication between two or more different IP's. If TCP flow graph in which only SYN message is transmitted from client to server using various port number and no any other message mean (SYN+ACK and ACK) is transmitted between the two IP so, on the basis of this we can say connection is not established and DOS attack detected. Another one is by analysis of conversation section intrusion cab be identify. A network conversation is the traffic between two specific endpoints. For example, an IP conversation is all the traffic between two IP addresses.

Network monitoring is the best way to rectify the intruder, there are some software tools which is useful for network monitoring according to research. Sujindar S. et al. [11], have discussed about different monitoring tools which are following: AirWave, Cisco WCS (Wireless control system), 7Signal Sapphire, Big Sister, Cacti, Cricket, MRTG (Multi Router Traffic Grapher), RRDTOOL, Kiwi syslog, Splunk, Nagios, RANCID (Really Awesome New Cisco Config Differ), SNORT, NFDUMP/NFSEN, SmokePing, Munin, NetDisco, WhatsUp Gold, ZABBIX, NAV (Network Administration Visualized), NetXMS, ZENOSS. Apart from these other open source intrusion detection tools are SURICATA, Bro, KISMET, OSSEC, Samhain, Open DLP (Data Loss Prevention).

### III. POSSIBLE ATTACKS

SQL Injection Attack, Cross Site Scripting Attack, Brute force and dictionary, Attack, Denial of Service Attack/ Distributed DOS (DOS/DDOS), Social Engineering Attack. Apart from these attacks there are also other attacks such as Zero day attacks, Spoofing, Man in the middle attacks, Spamming, Virus, Worms and Trojans attack, Buffer overflows attack, Spyware, Botnets attack, Advanced Persistent Threats (APT).

**SQL Injection Attack:** A SQL injection attack consists of insertion or "injection" of a SQL query by means of the input data from the client to the application. In result of successful SQL injection exploit can read sensitive data from the database, change database data (Insert/Update/Delete), can perform administration operations on the database, recover the content of a given file present on the DBMS file system and in some cases issue commands to the operating system.<sup>2</sup>

**Cross Site Scripting Attack:** Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) attacks are a type of insertion problem, in which malicious scripts/codes are injected into the otherwise benign and trusted web sites. XSS attacks occur when an attacker uses a web application to send malicious code, generally in the form of a browser side script, to a different end user <sup>3</sup>

**Brute force and dictionary:** Brute forcing consists of systematically enumerating all possible candidates for the solution and checking whether each candidate satisfies the problem's statement. In web application testing, the problem we are going to face with the most is very often connected with the need of having a valid user account to access the inner part of the application.<sup>4</sup>

**Denial of Service Attack/ Distributed DOS (DOS/DDOS):** In a denial-of-service (DoS) attack, an attacker attempts to prevent legitimate users from accessing information or services. By targeting your computer and its network connection, or the computers and network of the sites you are trying to use, an attacker may be able to prevent you from accessing email, websites, online accounts (banking, etc.), or other services that

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> SQL (Structured Query Language) Injection attack, threat modeling and example. Available at <a href="https://www.owasp.org/index.php/SQL">https://www.owasp.org/index.php/SQL</a> Injection> Visited on 19/03/2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Cross-Site Scripting, Available at <a href="https://www.owasp.org/index.php/XSS">https://www.owasp.org/index.php/XSS</a> Visited on 19/03/2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <a href="https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Testing">https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Testing</a> for Brute Force (OWASP-AT-004) Visited on 19/03/2014

rely on the affected computer. The most common and obvious type of DoS attack occurs when an attacker "floods" a network with information.<sup>5</sup>

**Social Engineering Attack:** Social engineering is an 'art' of utilizing human behavior to breach security without the observer (or victim) even understanding that they have been operated. Although social engineering attack is possible through software tool such as Nmap and via internet. [12]

The social engineering is mainly classified in two categories first is computer or technology based deception and second is human based deception. In technological based social engineering it includes impersonation, dumpster diving, shoulder surfing, reverse social engineering. In human based social engineering popup windows, email attachment, online social engineering. In case of successful social engineering attack primary result will be security triad CIA (Confidentiality, Integrity, Availability) breach and the secondary result will be commercial, reputational harm. [13]

## IV. INTRUSION DETECTION USING NETWORK MONITORING TOOL

Here in this paper, we are taking Wireshark and Snort for intrusion detection. Below giving brief details of tools respectively.

Wireshark is an open source network packet analyzer tool that captures data packets flowing over the wire (network) and presents them in an understandable form. Wireshark can be considered as a Swiss army knife as it can be used under different circumstances such as network troubleshoot, security operations, and learning protocol internals. This one tool does it all with ease.[14]

Snort is a modern security application with three main functions: it can serve as a packet sniffer, a packet logger, or a Network-based Intrusion Detection System (NIDS). There are also many add-on programs to Snort to provide different ways of recording and managing Snort logfiles, fetching and maintaining current Snort rule sets, and alerting to let your admin know when potentially malicious traffic has been seen. Although not part of the core Snort suite, the add-ons provide a rich variety of features to the security administrator. As you will see, there are many ways to use Snort as part of your company's security design.[15]

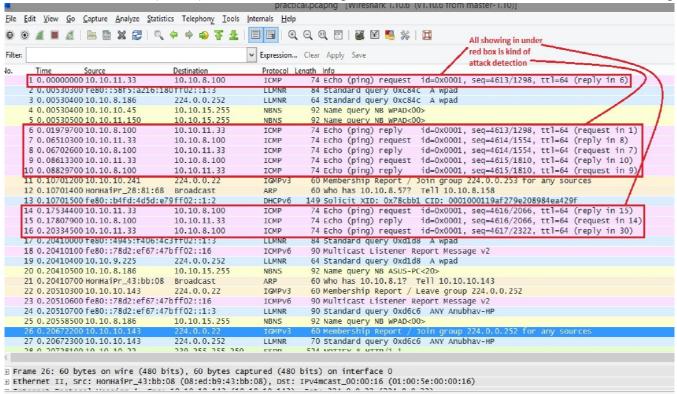
Intrusion Detection Practical Approach Through Wireshark: Although Wireshark is not either an IDS or IPS but due to its functionality and features, up to certain limit it can be consider as an IDS. Wireshark has a coloring rule which can be configure or edit according to users instruction. Default coloring rule tells about bad packet, checksum error, and other common packet errors that may occur in a network on the basis of color categorization. Wireshark has some feature which can be helpful for intrusion detection. Using wireshark firewall can be applied for any of the IP address to deny/allow packet from that particular IP. Apart from this, there is a expert info in wireshark, which tells about malformed packet and severity of the packets (error) with packet number. Detection can be done through other means such as graph analysis where we can find which (IP) is communicating with which (IP). This can also be detected by conversation where we can see numbers of packets and bytes which being transferred between two system.

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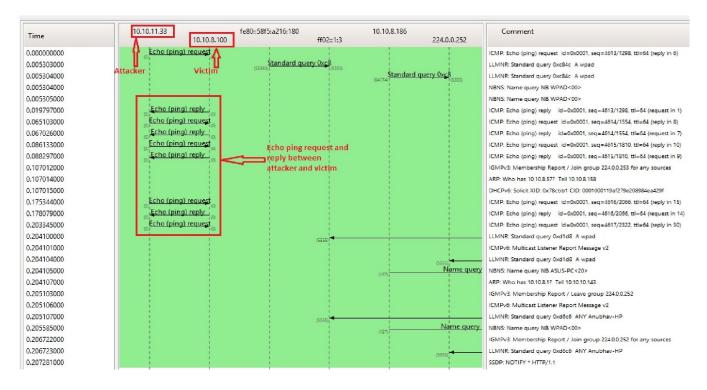
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> DOS/DDOS, Available at <a href="http://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/tips/ST04-015">http://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/tips/ST04-015</a> Visited on 20/03/2014

In this whole scenario some where a IP is sending flood of ping request which can be a form of DOS or DDOS attact.

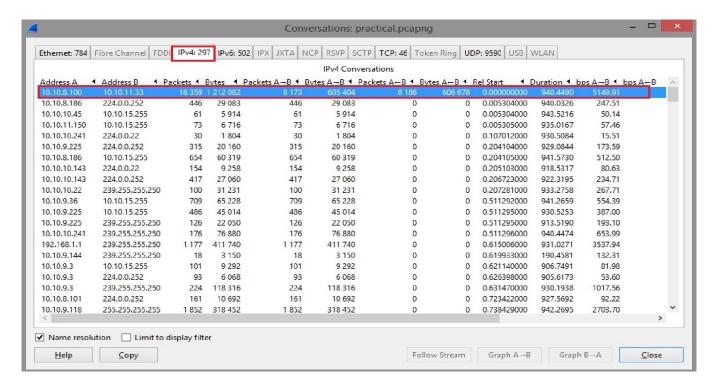
In the below screen short we can see a IP address 10.10.11.33 (attacker) is regularly sending ping request to IP address 10.10.8.100 (victim) which can affect the performance of the victim machine. Below showing



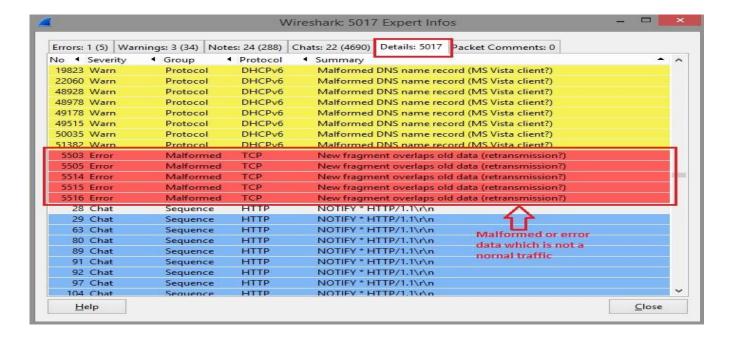
The same thing we can see in the graph analysis which is showing below in screen short.



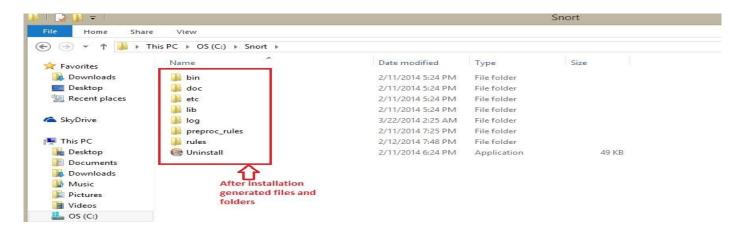
Again in conversation part we can see who is communicating with whom and it will also show that how many packets and bytes is transferred between the communication parties.



Now in expert info we can see or analyze malformed packets with red color which can be a reason of suspect. When go through the expert info then there is an error details. Talk about coloring rule in which it differentiate the packets on the basis of string in packets with respective color for example bad TCP uses black color as default color in Wireshark.



**Intrusion Detection Practical Approach Through Snort:** For configuring the Snort first of all we need to download Snort by going through <a href="http://www.snort.org/">http://www.snort.org/</a> there we will get download Snort and get rules we download it. When we are going to install snort in windows machine then we will have need of Winpcap software to understand the capture packets. When we install and configure all these things then we get the folders showing below.



There is no such mandatory guideline for Snort configuration but here giving a way to configure Snort Then for performing configuration we go through the C:\Snort\etc ,where we get the "snort.conf" file we open this file with wordPad where we find the nine sections which is given below: You should take the following steps to create your own custom configuration.

- 1) Set the network variables.
- 2) Configure the decoder.
- 3) Configure the base detection engine.
- 4) Configure dynamic loaded libraries.
- 5) Configure preprocessors.
- 6) Configure output plugins.
- 7) Customize your rule set.
- 8) Customize preprocessor and decoder rule set.
- 9) Customize shared object rule set.

In first section we configure in such a way that we can protect our network Setup the network addresses you are protecting var HOME\_NET 10.10.11.33 this is the IP address which we want to protect we can put another IP as per requirement to protect. Set up the external network addresses. Leave as "any" in most situations var EXTERNAL\_NET 10.10.12.1/24. List of DNS servers on your network var DNS\_SERVERS 10.10.8.1. Here, researcher configuring as per requirement. If there is any SMTP server, HTTP server, SQL server, TELNET server and FTP server then its address we will have to specify. If there is no requirement of other rule set then we will leave as it is. We have to change the rule file "c:\Snort\rules"

In section four we have to make some changes such as: path to dynamic preprocessor libraries

dynamicpreprocessor directory c:\Snort\lib\snort\_dynamicpreprocessor, path to base preprocessor engine dynamicengine c:\Snort\lib\snort\_dynamicengine\sf\_engine.dll, path to dynamic rules libraries dynamicdetection directory /usr/local/lib/snort dynamicrules.

Apart from this we have to create a "alert.ids" with note pad file in log folder. Now we have rule file which we had downloaded earlier that we have to extract in the C:\Snort\rules. In C:\Snort\rules, we can create white.list and black.list file where we can specify the IP addresses according to requirement to which IP we want to allow or to which IP we don't want to allow. In the rule folder there is a file "local" where we create the test rules by opening and specify: alert icmp any any -> any any (msg:"ICMP testing rule"; sid:1000001;), alert udp any any -> any any (msg:"UDP testing rule"; sid:1000002;), alert tcp any any -> any 80 (msg:"TCP testing rule"; sid:1000003;). After configuring all rules we check the snort whether it is working or not. To check, first of all we check the version which is showing below in screen short by using command C:\Snort\bin>snort -V.

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\CMD.exe

Microsoft Windows [Version 6.3.9600]
(c) 2013 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\GOPAL>cd\

C:\Scd snort\bin

C:\Snort\bin>snort -U

-*> Snort! (*-

0"' > Uersion 2.9.6.0-WIN32 GRE (Build 47)

By Martin Roesch & The Snort Team: http://www.snort.org/snort/snort-team

Copyright (C) 2014 Cisco and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

Copyright (C) 1998-2013 Sourcefire, Inc., et al.

Using PCRE version: 8.10 2010-06-25

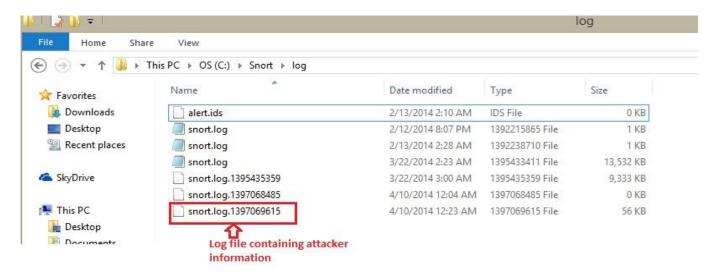
Using ZLIB version: 1.2.3
```

Then we check the interface at which packet capturing will be done which is showing below by using command C:\Snort\bin>snort -W.

```
100.00
                                         C:\WINDOWS\system32\CMD.exe
C:\Snort\bin>snort -W
                     Snort! <<del>x-</del>
sion 2.9.6.0-WIN32 GRE (Build 47)
Martin Roesch & The Snort Team: http://www.snort.org/snort/snort-t
                         ight (C) 2014 Cisco and/or its affiliates.
ight (C) 1998-2013 Sourcefire, Inc., et al.
PCRE version: 8.10 2010-06-25
ZLIB version: 1.2.3
Index
           Physical Address
                                                IP Address
                                                                                                Description
                                                                        Device Name
1 74:86:7A:15:3E:37 0000:0000:
NPF_{0BE69307-13EE-438F-8413-EA9789BB6677)
                                                0000:0000:fe80:0000:0000:0000:b4ca:1967 \Device
                                                                        Realtek PCIe FE Family Controlle
           00:00:00:00:00:00
                                                0000:0000:fe80:0000:0000:0000:851c:4102 \Device
     6B7DDCA0-C2C9-4B77-9
3 00:00:00:00:00:00
                                           C5E7649921E9} Microsoft
0000:0000:fe80:0000:0000:0000:00e5:e2ef \Device\
     CD9CC1908-8CBD-416B-BF62-
4 00:00:00:00:00:00
CD9D5EDB1-DD2C-4394-9E85-
                                           99757A45AF36> Microsoft
0000:0000:fe80:0000:0000:0000:6166:d609 \Device
                                                                        Microsoft
0000:0000:fe80:0000:0000:0000:4df1:e7bb
69BDDE446} UMware Virtual Ethernet
0000:0000:fe80:0000:0000:0000:683e:f529
                                                                                                            \Device'
                                                                                                            Adapter
\Device
                                                                                  Virtual Ethernet Adapter
C:\Snort\bin>
```

Here we are using interface 4 for packet capturing. Now we will start the snort by simply typing a command which is "C:\Snort\bin>snort -i 4 -c c:\Snort\etc\snort.conf -A console". As we execute this command snort starts working and generate the logs in C:\Snort\log. Below showing screen shorts of packet capturing.

When we analyzed the log file using the wireshark then we get some results between IP 10.10.11.33 and IP 10.10.8.75 below showing in screen short .



In above screen short last log file is being analyze through wireshark and get the results.

#### V. CONCLUSION

It's an era of technology where technology is playing a main role in human life and the dependency on technology is being increase every day. Technology is double edge sword where in one side peoples are enjoying technology as service such as remote communication, home shop, internet banking, e-education, e-ticketing etc and another side some of them is using technology for wrong full gain or unauthorized access. So it is very important to protect technology as well as network communication system or technology.

Wireshark and Snort are the efficient tools for intrusion detection. Network monitoring through wireshark can be very useful for intrusion detection and firewall ACL rule can be used for intrusion prevention, coloring rules and expert info can play important role in intrusion detection. Where Snort tool is also a powerful intrusion detection and prevention system in which by defining security (Snort.conf file) policy we can modulate our security policy according to requirement.

The main role of an IDS and IPS is to protect CIA and other security parameters. It is not possible to make fully secured system but, by deploying an IDS and IPS we can protect our system or network up to certain or maximum limit. By the use of hybrid, IDS and IPS, network and system security can be increase. In the same way integration of IDS and IPS with other network devices such as, routers, firewall, honeypots, SIEM can also increase the efficiency. IDS and IPS is very useful to protect SCADA (Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition) systems. There are some major issues which is false alarm in behavior-based detection and difficult to detect zero day attacks, although by deploying an IDS and IPS at the perimeter of the network this attacks can be mitigate. Social engineering attacks is also the one of the major issue which can also mitigate by providing proper training and awareness.

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