Intrusion Detection & Prevention System Using Snort on Ubuntu



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Introduction:

Snort is a widely used open-source intrusion detection system (IDS) designed to analyze network traffic in real-time and identify potential threats by matching traffic patterns against predefined rules. For this project, we installed and configured Snort on Ubuntu, a user-friendly Linux distribution, to serve as the platform for implementing a basic IDS and IPS. The setup involved configuring Snort rules to specifically detect ICMP packets, such as ping requests, and SSH login attempts, which are common in network reconnaissance and unauthorized access attempts. By customizing Snort's rule set and optimizing its configuration on Ubuntu, the system was fine-tuned to monitor network activity effectively and log potential security events for analysis.

Commands used:

```
To install snort:

sudo apt-get install snort

Change snort.conf home_net directory to:

ipvar HOME_NET 192.168.0.0/24

To configure Snort:

cd/ etc/snort

ls

sudo cp snort.conf snort.conf.backup

ls

sudo nano snort.conf

sudo snort -T -I enp0s8 -c etc/snort/snort.conf

Setting up custom rules on Snort:

sudo nano local.rules

alert icmp any any -> $HOME_NET any (msg: "ICMP Detected"; sid: 1000001; rev: 1)
```

```
alert tcp any any -> any443 (msg: "SSH Detected"; sid: 1000002; rev: 1)

Is

sudo snort -A console -q -i enp0s8 -c etc/snort/snort.conf -K ascii

On new terminal: -For ICMP packet detection

sudo nano /var/log/snort/snort.alert.fast

ping google.com

On new terminal: -For SSH login attempt detection

sudo su

sudo nano /var/log/snort/snort.alert.fast

sudo snort -A console -q -i enp0s8 -c etc/snort/snort.conf -K ascii
```

Ping google.com results:

```
sarah@sarah-VirtualBox
sarah@sarah-VirtualBox:~$ ping google.com
PING google.com (142.250.181.78) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=1 ttl=60 time=30.9 ms 64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=2 ttl=60 time=28.6 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=3 ttl=60 time=30.0 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=4 ttl=60 time=28.7 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=5 ttl=60 time=28.7 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=6 ttl=60 time=32.2 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=7 ttl=60 time=31.8 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=8 ttl=60 time=44.3 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=9 ttl=60 time=28.7 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=10 ttl=60 time=29.0 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=11 ttl=60 time=29.6 ms 64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=12 ttl=60 time=29.1 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=13 ttl=60 time=29.2 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=14 ttl=60 time=29.4 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=15 ttl=60 time=39.6 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=16 ttl=60 time=32.6 ms 64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=17 ttl=60 time=27.3 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=18 ttl=60 time=44.3 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=19 ttl=60 time=33.4 ms 64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=20 ttl=60 time=30.0 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=21 ttl=60 time=28.5 ms 64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=22 ttl=60 time=27.3 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp_seq=23 ttl=60 time=27.5 ms
64 bytes from fjr04s07-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.181.78): icmp seq=24 ttl=60 time=28.6 ms
     google.com ping statistics ---
24 packets transmitted, 24 received, 0% packet loss, time 23022ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 27.275/31.212/44.332/4.699 ms
sarah@sarah-VirtualBox:~$
```

ICMP packet & SSH login attempt detection:

```
root@sarah-VirtualBox: /home/sarah
root@sarah-VirtualBox:/home/sarah# sudo snort -A console -q -i enp0s8 -c /etc/snort/snort.conf -K ascii
11/17-20:36:06.083863 [**] [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.100.43:49878 -> 138.199.14.80:443
11/17-20:36:06.087228 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {IPV6-ICMP} fe80::a666:1be6:e03e:be66 -> fe80::1
11/17-20:36:06.092648 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {IPV6-ICMP} fe80::1 -> fe80::a666:1be6:e03e:be66
11/17-20:36:06.398046 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {IPV6-ICMP} fe80::1ba:bf51:41b0:2a9f -> fe80::1
11/17-20:36:06.404791 [**] [1:1000001:1] ICMP Detected [**] [Priority: 0] {IPV6-ICMP} fe80::1 -> fe80::1ba:bf51:41b0:2a9f
                                                                                                                                                                              [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.100.43:60042 -> 172.217.21.54:443
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
[1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
 11/17-20:36:14.550537
 11/17-20:36:15.662532
 11/17-20:36:15.698600
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
 11/17-20:36:15.700145
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
 11/17-20:36:15.700413
                                                                                                                           SSH Detected
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**] [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
 11/17-20:36:15.702025
 11/17-20:36:15.707086
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
 11/17-20:36:15.757906
                                                                                                                           SSH Detected
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1]
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
[1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
 11/17-20:36:15.759744
 11/17-20:36:15.761502
 11/17-20:36:15.762070
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
 11/17-20:36:15.762572
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
 11/17-20:36:15.763921
                                                                                                                                                                               [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.100.43:60042 -> 172.217.21.54:443
                                                                                   [1:1000002:1]
 11/17-20:36:15.764684
                                                                                                                           SSH Detected
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
 11/17-20:36:15.765145
 11/17-20:36:15.765417
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
 11/17-20:36:15.765779
 11/17-20:36:15.766582
                                                                                   [1:1000002:1]
                                                                                                                           SSH Detected
 11/17-20:36:15.766939
                                                                                   [1:1000002:1]
 11/17-20:36:15.767216
                                                                                   [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
 11/17-20:36:15.769073
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
                                                                                                                                                                                [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.100.43:60042 -> 172.217.21.54:443
[Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.100.43:60042 -> 172.217.21.54:443
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
 11/17-20:36:15.769873
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
 11/17-20:36:15.770036
                                                                                                                                                                               [Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.100.43:60042 -> 172.217.21.34:34343
[Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.100.43:49878 -> 138.199.14.80:443
[Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.100.43:60501 -> 74.125.98.202:443
[Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.100.43:60501 -> 74.125.98.202:443
[Priority: 0] {TCP} 192.168.100.43:60501 -> 74.125.98.202:443
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [ **]
[1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
[1:1000002:1] SSH Detected [**]
 11/17-20:36:16.197490
 11/17-20:36:16.288600
 11/17-20:36:16.424404
                                                                                   [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
 11/17-20:36:16.457875
 11/17-20:36:16.494947
                                                                                  [1:1000002:1] SSH Detected
```

