# Instructor: Haojin Zhu, Zhen Liu

# Tutorial 9: Mix Network, Hidden IP and DNS Posion Attack IS309 Network Security 2021 Spring

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Abstract. Mix networks¹ are routing protocols that create hard-to-trace communications by using a chain of proxy servers known as mixes which take in messages from multiple senders, shuffle them, and send them back out in random order to the next destination (possibly another mix node). This breaks the link between the source of the request and the destination, making it harder for eavesdroppers to trace end-to-end communications. Tor² is free software for anonymous communication. The name is derived from the English abbreviation of "The Onion Router". Users can use Tor to access the coverage network provided by volunteers around the world for free, including 6000+relays, so as to achieve the purpose of hiding the user's real address, avoiding network monitoring and traffic analysis. DNS spoofing³, also referred to as DNS cache poisoning, is a form of computer security hacking in which corrupt Domain Name System data is introduced into the DNS resolver's cache, causing the name server to return an incorrect result record, e.g. an IP address. This results in traffic being diverted to the attacker's computer (or any other computer).

Keywords: Mix network, Tor IP hidden, DNS posion attack

## 1 Problem 1: Mix Networks

#### 1.1 Problem Descripton

Explain why using more than one mixing servers is more useful in the mixnet? That is, why is security better for a mixnet of multiple servers instead of only one?

**Solution.** In section 1.2, we will explain the reasons why using more than one mixing servers is more useful in the mixnet.

# 1.2 Advantages of Multiple Mixing Servers in Mixnet

Mix networks use a chain of proxy servers called "mixing servers" that receives messages from multiple senders, shuffle them, and then send them back to the next destination in random order to create untraceable communications. The advantages of using multiple mixing servers in a mix network mainly include security concern. And the reasons are as follows:

- An attack against a single mixing server is much simpler than that against multiple mixing servers. Therefore, if it is a single mixing server in the network, the attacker can paralyze the network by only attack it, while it is more difficult for multiple mixing servers to be attacked at the same time, thus, the system obtains higher security.
- Compared with multiple mixing servers, it is more difficult for a single mixing server to ensure that its
  information is true and not forged. Multiple mixing servers can verify the same information through
  different servers to ensure that the information is true and not forged, with the security gets higher.
- The network topology of a single mixing server is relatively simple, and it is easy for an attacker to monitor the traffic in the network, while the network topology of multiple mixing servers is much more complicated, and it becomes very troublesome to monitor information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mix Network: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mix\_network

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Tor: https://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tor

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> DNS Spoofing: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DNS\_spoofing

#### 2 Problem 2: Tor IP Hidden

#### 2.1 Problem Description

Try to hide your real IP address with the help of Tor. You may try some popular Tor-related tools, such as Tor Browser. You need to provide evidence that the IP address is hidden successfully. (Bonus) Now we have achieved anonymous communication. However, using a static IP address with Tor is not safe enough. So, could you provide a way to occasionally change your identity (i.e., IP address) from Tor?

**Solution.** In section 2.2, we try to hide our IP address by using **Tor Browser**. In section ?? deploy our method to occasionally change the IP.

## 2.2 Try Tor Browser to IP Hidden

We can use Tor Browser on Windows, Linus, etc. After downloading the Tor Browser, we can test an IP address like below:

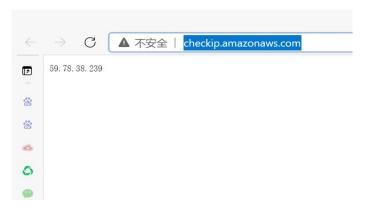


Fig. 1. browsing in Edge Browser

This is the result tested on my traditional Microsoft Edge Browser. We can find it is an IP address located in Shanghai educational network. Then we deploy the Tor Browser, shown as below:

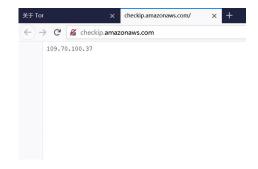


Fig. 2. Browsing in Tor Browser

We can find that the IP address has changed. After checking the details, more information can be exploited:

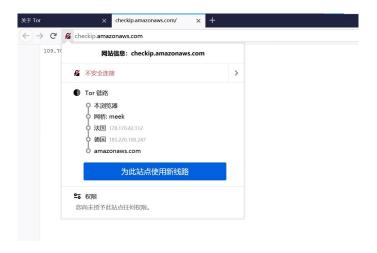


Fig. 3. Performance with Different P Values

In Tor identity is the three-hop circuit over which traffic travels through the Tor network.

Tor periodically creates new circuits. When a circuit is used it becomes dirty, and new connections will not use it. When all of the connections using an expired circuit are done the circuit is closed.

# 2.3 Occasionally Changing IP Address

After checking the official docs on the website, we can find that these mask IP will change every 10 minutes to secure the privacy. If we want to change it more frequently, We can trace into its settings.

First, we enter the files: /Tor Browser/Browser/TorBrowser/Data/Tor. then, we can adjust the attribute MaxCircuitDirtiness, the number of it means the maximum seconds it takes to refresh the circuit. We change it into 10 and reboot the browser, then the IP address will get updated much more frequently than before.

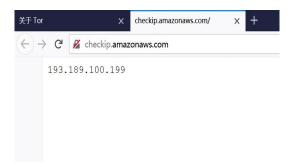


Fig. 4. IP Address changed

#### 3 Problem 3: DNS Poison Attack

#### 3.1 Problem Description

You need to implement an on-path DNS poison attack attack program, that is, to capture DNS request packets in the network, analyze related data to construct a forged response packet and send it to the victim machine. You only need to consider the DNS request based on the UDP protocol and the port number is 53.

Your program needs to be able to pass in the following parameters:

- -i: Specify the name of the network interface that the attacker is monitoring for the attack, such as "enp1s0" under Linux, and "Intel(R) Wireless-AC XXXX XXXMHz" under Windows;
- -f: specifies the mapping file of the domain name and IP to be poisoned. The content of the file, such as "www.sjtu.edu.cn,202.120.38.199", is used to indicate which domain names are only poisoned.
- (Bonus) To design a detection program for your DNS poison attack, the tasks that need to be completed:
  - Listening to a network interface, if two "A request is the same, but the response message is different" DNS response is captured in a short period of time, that is, one is forged by the attacker and the other is the real response from the DNS server, it is judged to have suffered Attack, print out relevant information;
  - The order of arrival of the attacker's response and the actual response can be arbitrary.

**Solution.** In section 3.2, we introduce the method of running our project. In section 3.3, we discuss the detailed implementation of ARP Spoofing attack on victim host. In section 3.4, we generate DNS Spoofing attack by faking DNS response packet on attacking host. Finally, in section 3.5, we detect the DNS Poison Attack by running detecting program on victim host.

#### 3.2 Operation Method

In this section, we introduce the method of running our project, including the environmental settings and running command.

# **Environmental Settings**

- Python version on MacOS (attacker): 3.6
- Python version on Linux (victim): 2.7
- **Pip version:** 21.1.1
- Scapy version: 2.4.3
- Wireshark (on MacOS) version: 3.4.5
- IP address of attacking host: 192.168.31.229
- IP address of victim: 192.168.31.108

**ARP Spoofing** First, the attacking host needs to perform ARP Spoofing on Victim and insert itself into the path from Victim to the DNS server to monitor Victim's DNS request packets. We can implement this by using **bettercap** introduced in assignment 8. Also, we can also directly open the hotspot of the attacking host for Victim connection, or simply set the DNS server of Victim to be the IP address of our attacking host.

In this project, we choose **ARP Spoofing** to insert the attacking host into the path from Victim to DNS server, the detailed introduction is given in section 3.3.

#### Attacker Method Command: sudo python3 DNS\_Spoofing.py -i en0 -h hostnames udp

- -i: Specify the name of the network interface that monitored by the attacker
- -h: Specify the mapping file of the domain name to be poisoned and the IP address. The content of the file, such as "www.sjtu.edu.cn 119.3.32.96", is used to indicate which domain names are only targeted for poisoning. Note that there is no correspondence between the IP address and the domain name, since the IP address behind is the address you want to redirect to.
- expression: the choice of filter, just use 'udp'

#### Victim Method

- DNS Spoofing Only: Run the packet capture tool Wireshark on Victim to capture the forged DNS response packet of the attacking host, and compare the DNS id to verify the correctness of the DNS Spoofing Attack.
- DNS Spoofing and Detection: Run the script DNS SPoofing Detection.py on Victim to sniff and detect forged DNS response packets and corresponding real response packets. Command: sudo python DNS\_Spoofing\_detection.py -i wlp3s0

### ARP Spoofing on Victim

In order to monitor the DNS querying packet from victim to DNS server, we choose ARP Spoofing to insert the attacking host into the path from victim to DNS server in this project.

We operate the following commands on attacking host (MacOS) to implement the ARP Spoofing attack on victim (Linux) as shown in Fig 5.

- sudo bettercap
- net.recon on
- set arp.spoof.targets 192.168.31.108
- arp.spoof on

```
workLayerAttacks) dicardo@xuechunyudeMBP DNS_Poison_Attack % sudo betterca
 ttercap v2.30.2 (built for darwin amd64 with go1.16.2) [type 'help' for a list of commands]
                                   set arp.spoof.targets 192.168.31.100
21:07:32] [sys.log] [<mark>in</mark>
```

Fig. 5. Start ARP Spoofing

Use the arp -a command to check the MAC address of the DNS server on the victim host, and find that the DNS server MAC seen by Victim has changed from the original 9c:9d:7e:51:3f:2f to f8:ff:c2:10:e4:bb, the same as the attacking host, seen in Fig 6. ARP Spoofing Attack succeeded.

At this point, run Wireshark on the attacking host and set the filter condition to ip.addr==192.168. 31.108 and dns to capture packets, and then confirm that the attacking host can monitor the DNS packets sent by victim. The result is in Fig 7.

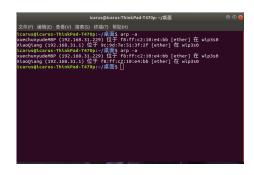


Fig. 6. MAC of DNS server seen by victim is changed

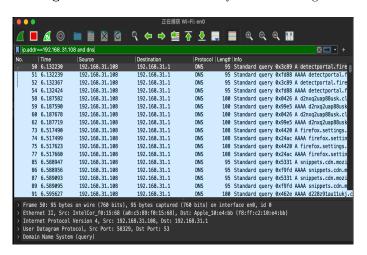


Fig. 7. DNS packet from victim monitored by attacking host

## 3.4 Generate DNS Spoofing on Attacking Host and Detected with Wireshark on Victim

In this section, we generate DNS Spoofing attack by faking DNS response packet on attacking host when DNS query packet is detected on the path from victim to DNS server.

Run *sudo python3 DNS\_Spoofing.py -i en0 -h hostnames udp* on the attacking host to enter the monitoring state. When victim visits the domain name (www.bilibili.com) on the hostnames list, the attacking host will obtain the monitoring information and forge one DNS response packet, and send to the LAN.

In order to capture the fake DNS response packet, we run Wireshark on victim to capture the packet, and set the filter condition to **ip.addr==192.168.31.108** and **dns** to monitor the receiving and sending of victim's DNS packets.

Note that the attacking host here will send two response packets with different DNS id twice. The reason is that victim will send queries pointing to IPv4 and IPv6 respectively for the same DNS id, corresponding to the A record and AAAA record, and both are detected by the attacking host, so it will be sent twice.

In Wireshark opened in victim, it is observed that the Transaction IDs of the two DNS Query are 0xd4d0 and 0x8284 respectively, and the corresponding DNS response is also the same. This proves that victim is normal and parsed the DNS response packet forged by the attacking host, DNS Poison Attack (part 1) Success. The result is seen in Fig 8 and Fig 9.

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Fig. 8. Output of attacking host about faking DNS response

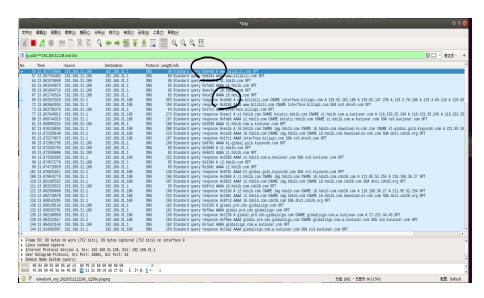


Fig. 9. Fake DNS packet received by victim

## 3.5 Detect DNS Spoofing Attack on Victim

To get better capture effect, we detect the DNS Poison Attack by running detecting program on victim host.

Run sudo python3 DNS\_Spoofing.py -i en0 -h hostnames udp on the attacking host to enter the monitoring state, and run sudo python DNS\_Spoofing\_detection.py -i wlp3s0 on victim to enter the detection state of DNS Poison attack.

When Victim visits the domain name (www.bilibili.com) on the hostnames list, the attacking host will obtain monitoring information, forge a DNS response packet, and send it to the LAN.

The detection script on Victim will compare the received response packets with the same DNS id and compare the content of the response message. If they are different, it will be determined as a DNS Poison Attack. The reason is that the content of the returned response packet forged by the attacking host and the real DNS server are still different. The former contains the IP that we redirected in hostnames, and the latter is still the correct IP corresponding to the chosen domain name.

It can be seen in Fig 10 and Fig 11 that Victim, like the attacking host, has also received the same DNS Poison Attack record twice, and its DNS id is the same as the information in the forged response packet output from the attacking host. The reason for receiving twice is that when the response packet returned by the attacking host and the DNS server is detected, a recording will be triggered respectively. From the comparison of the two packets, it can be seen that Response packet 1 contains the fake IP address

of the attacking host after redirection, and Response packet 2 contains the real IP corresponding to the domain name (www.bilibili.com) returned by the DNS server. DNS Poison Attack (part 2) succeeded.

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Fig. 10. Output of attacking host about faking DNS response

 ${f Fig.\,11.}$  Fake DNS packet received by victim

# 4 Contributions

- **Problem 1**: Juntao Shen, Chunyu Xue
- **Problem 2**: Qianfei Ren
- **Problem 3**: Chunyu Xue
- Latex Report: Chunyu Xue, Qianfei Ren