Extending Security Onion

INFO-6081 – Monitoring & Incident Response

Learning Outcomes

- Extending SO
- Track Executables with Zeek
- Extracted Executables with Zeek
- The Advanced Persistent Threat Files
- Identifying Downloads of Malicious Binaries
- Proxies
- Checksums
- How Bad Checksums Happen

Extending SO

- While SO is a very powerful tool out of the box, slight system modifications and workflow tasks can add additional features and additional visibility to the setup:
  - Compare MD5 hashes logged with Zeek (Bro) to VirusTotal, or other analysis engines
  - Submit binaries from network traffic to analysis engines
  - Integrate external intelligence from Mandiant's APT1 report with Zeek to generate alert data

Track Executables with Zeek

- It is a common occurrence that users often need access to new software to complete their work assignments
- While most of this software will come from a reputable source, this is not always the case
- The goals of a phishing campaign is to get access to the organizations systems or data, often by means of tricking a user to download a program from the internet
- Zeek can help you to identify malicious applications by comparing all executables to a known checksum

Track Executables with Zeek

- By default, Zeek calculates the MD5 checksum of every executable downloaded by HTTP
- By using hash, we can compare the value for known and unknown files to external databases to identify if a file has been tampered with, without transferring the entire file
- The notice.log file records the values of the MD5 hash

Track Executables with Zeek

Command Prompt - http.log

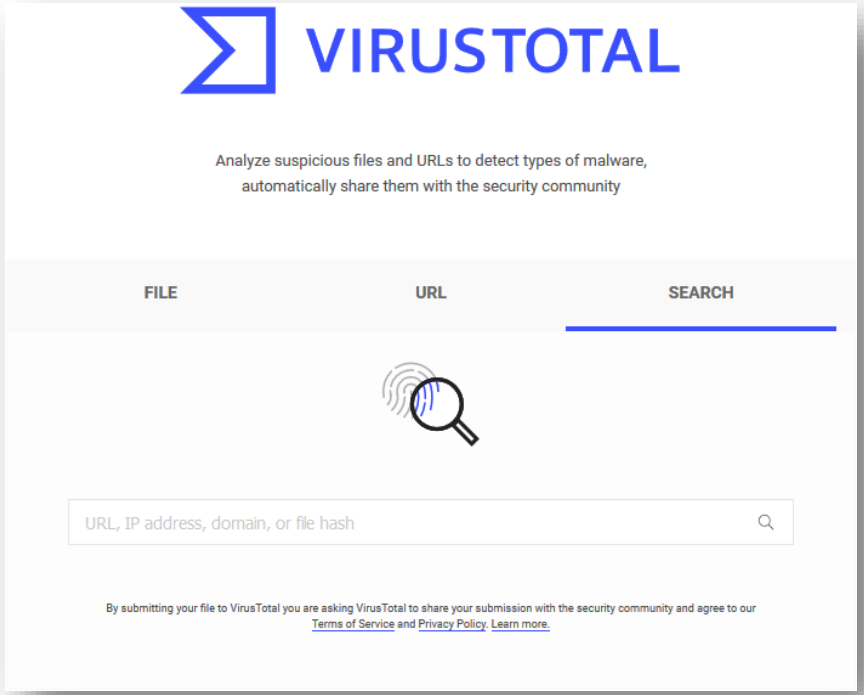
```
2013-04-12T13:33:47+0000      mBNkJTlLBfa    192.168.2.108  49630  23.62.236.50   80
1      GET    download.cdn.mozilla.net      /pub/mozilla.org/firefox/releases/20.0.1/
win32/en-US/Firefox Setup 20.0.1.exe❶   http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/products/download.
html?product=firefox-20.0&os=win&lang=en-US   Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; rv:19.0)
Gecko/20100101 Firefox/19.0   0      21036128       200    OK     -      -
-      (empty) -      --   application/x-dosexec❷   1e39efe30b02fd96b10785b49e23913b❸
-
```

Command Prompt - notice.log

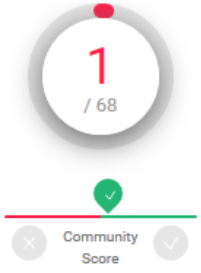
```
2013-04-12T13:34:01+0000      mBNkJTlLBfa    192.168.2.108  49630  23.62.236.50
80     tcp    HTTP::MD5❷     192.168.2.108  1e39efe30b02fd96b10785b49e23913b http://
download.cdn.mozilla.net/pub/mozilla.org/firefox/releases/20.0.1/win32/en-US/Firefox
Setup 20.0.1.exe❶     1e39efe30b02fd96b10785b49e23913b❸     192.168.2.108  23.62.236.50
80     -      sov-eth0-1     Notice::ACTION_LOG     6      3600.000000    F
-      -      -      -      -      --     -
```

Track Executables with Zeek

- VirusTotal is one of the most popular resources for additional information regarding binary files
- In addition to submitting a file by upload or URL, you can search for a hash value to see if it exists in the database
- If the hash is recognized, more information is displayed



Track Executables with Zeek



One engine detected this file

b7fce818551ca1df9a61c661a7f484a369cd610e452ff4e2a7b56393df909cc2
355764

nsis overlay peexe signed upx

20.06 MB
Size

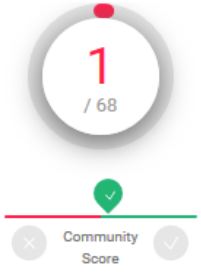
2019-11-12 12:19:34 UTC
5 months ago

EXE

DETECTION DETAILS BEHAVIOR COMMUNITY

Yandex	Trojan.Agent!WkCdGt3+aHA	Acronis	Undetected
Ad-Aware	Undetected	AegisLab	Undetected
AhnLab-V3	Undetected	Alibaba	Undetected
ALYac	Undetected	Antiy-AVL	Undetected
SecureAge APEX	Undetected	Arcabit	Undetected
Avast	Undetected	Avast-Mobile	Undetected
AVG	Undetected	Avira (no cloud)	Undetected
Baidu	Undetected	BitDefender	Undetected
BitDefenderTheta	Undetected	CAT-QuickHeal	Undetected

Track Executables with Zeek



One engine detected this file

b7fce818551ca1df9a61c661a7f484a369cd610e452ff4e2a7b56393df909cc2
355764

nsis overlay peexe signed upx

20.06 MB
Size

2019-11-12 12:19:34 UTC
5 months ago

EXE

DETECTION DETAILS BEHAVIOR COMMUNITY

Basic Properties

MD5	1e39efe30b02fd96b10785b49e23913b
SHA-1	4a4838945f99624e83b6e4366b55e5669e29c9ea
SHA-256	b7fce818551ca1df9a61c661a7f484a369cd610e452ff4e2a7b56393df909cc2
Vhash	02703e0f7d51z17z4017z15z13z1fz
Authentihash	e8e9a5c6024a25ab6f28427008b7d897833bb546f9527460b7438887a6e13c43
Imphash	67b717da9ed8a8bd9f572a5820791f0c
SSDEEP	393216:34qmE7aa4gHVX9DKizkujrxoc7G7iiBPmLdfcrD4v9H0K+/jyv8MqG3n:2MLKizkgic67i6m3Z0Hyv8MqG3
File type	Win32 EXE
Magic	PE32 executable for MS Windows (GUI) Intel 80386 32-bit
File size	20.06 MB (21036128 bytes)
F-PROT	NSIS, Unicode, appended, 7Z, UPX
PEiD	UPX 2.90 [LZMA] -> Markus Oberhumer, Laszlo Molnar & John Reiser

History

Creation Time	2012-11-15 01:36:00

Extracted Executables with Zeek

- Unlike with older versions of SO, which required modification to do so, Zeek now extracts executable files downloaded over HTTP and FTP to disk automatically
- This makes the process of submitting extracted executables to external databases much easier
- The extracted files can be found in **`/nsm/bro/extracted`**

The Advanced Persistent Threat Files - APT1

- In 2013, security consultants Mandiant released a report on a Chinese military unit known as Advanced Persistent Threat 1 (APT1)
- APT1 is the Second Bureau of the Third Department of the General Staff Directorate of the People's Liberation Army
- Also known by its Military Unit Cover Designator, 61398, this Army team targets organizations within English-speaking countries, to disrupt and steal intellectual property and trade secrets

The Advanced Persistent Threat Files - APT1

- APT1 are known for using the malware: Poision Ivy, Mimikatz, SeaSalt, etc.
- In the report, Mandaint provided 3000 IOCs used by APT1, including Ips, domains, certificate details and malware hashes
- In response, Zeek (then Bro) published a module called APT1, incorporating the information into the scanning engine

The Advanced Persistent Threat Files - APT1

Command Prompt - data.bro

```
❶module APT1;
❷const x509_serials_and_subjects: set[string, string] = {
["01", "C=US, ST=Some-State, O=www.virtuallythere.com, OU=new, CN=new"],
["0122", "C=US, ST=Some-State, O=Internet Widgits Pty Ltd, CN=IBM"],
-- snip --
};
❸const domains: set[string] = {
"advanbusiness.com",
"aoldaily.com",
"aolon1ine.com",
"applesoftupdate.com",
-- snip --
};
❹const file_md5s: set[string] = {
"001dd76872d80801692ff942308c64e6",
"002325a0a67fded0381b5648d7fe9b8e",
"00dbb9e1c09dbdafb360f3163ba5a3de",
-- snip --
};
```

Identifying Downloads of Malicious Binaries

- As discussed earlier, Zeek calculates the MD5 hash of executables downloaded over the network
- SO and Zeek use the Team Cymru Malware Hash Registry to identify files that have been reported as malware
- Team Cymru is an organization dedicated to making the internet more secure through threat intelligence and providing insight for security vendors and network defenders
- The Malware Hash Registry is offered for community use, free of charge

Identifying Downloads of Malicious Binaries

Command Prompt - shell

```
$ dig +short 733a48a9cb49651d72fe824ca91e8d00.malware.hash.cymru.com TXT❶
"1277221946❷ 79❸"

$ date -d @1277221946❹
Tue Jun 22 15:52:26 UTC 2010❺

$ dig +short 1e39efe30b02fd96b10785b49e23913b.malware.hash.cymru.com TXT❻

$ whois -h hash.cymru.com 1e39efe30b02fd96b10785b49e23913b❼
1e39efe30b02fd96b10785b49e23913b 1366297928 NO_DATA❽
```

Proxies and Checksums

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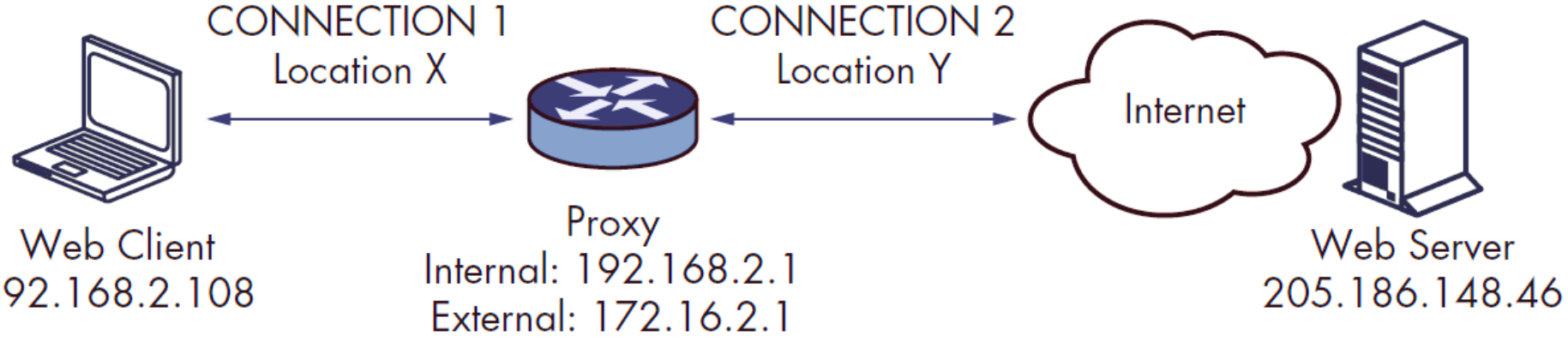
Proxies

- A web proxy is a piece of network infrastructure used to observe, control and cache HTTP traffic
- Web proxies were traditionally used primarily as a caching device that would accelerate web requests for cached pages
- In today's networks, proxies are primarily focused on filtering and security, as the dynamic content of todays websites does not cache well



Proxies and Visibility

- Proxies limit visibility when conducting NSM
- Instead of seeing source to destination visibility of IP addresses, the client speaks to the proxy, which then creates a new connection to the destination
- The analyst will require access to the proxy logs to gain full visibility of HTTP traffic
- Alternatively, if the proxy allows traffic capture, you can gain additional visibility, but this is not always the case
- The following example is based on captures from a proxy server

Proxy Example – Client to Proxy

Command Prompt - shell

```
$ tcpflow -r bej-int.pcap
$ ls -al
total 56
drwxrwxr-x 3 ds61so ds61so 4096 Apr 23 20:14 .
drwxrwxr-x 4 ds61so ds61so 4096 Apr 23 20:05 ..
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ds61so ds61so 3605 Apr 21 20:53 172.016.002.001.03128-192.168.002.108.50949❶
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ds61so ds61so 376 Apr 21 20:53 192.168.002.108.50949-172.016.002.001.03128❷



$ cat 192.168.002.108.50949-172.016.002.001.03128
GET http://www.bejtlich.net/❸ HTTP/1.1
Host: www.bejtlich.net
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Ubuntu; Linux x86_64; rv:20.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/20.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
DNT: 1
Referer: http://www.taosecurity.com/training.html
Connection: keep-alive
```

Proxy Example – Client to Proxy

Command Prompt - shell

```
$ cat 172.016.002.001.03128-192.168.002.108.50949
HTTP/1.0 200 OK
Date: Sun, 21 Apr 2013 20:53:38 GMT
Server: Apache/2
Last-Modified: Wed, 02 Jan 2013 15:49:44 GMT
ETag: "2e800ed-c713-4d25031f1f600"
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Content-Length: 3195
Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
X-Cache: MISS from localhost❶
X-Cache-Lookup: MISS from localhost:3128❷
Via: 1.1 localhost:3128 (squid/2.7.STABLE9)❸
Connection: keep-alive
Proxy-Connection: keep-alive❹
❺<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/
xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en">
-- snip --
```

Proxy Example – Proxy to Server

Command Prompt - shell

```
$ tcpflow -r bej-ext.pcap
$ ls -al
total 20
drwxrwxr-x 2 ds61so ds61so 4096 Apr 23 20:33 .
drwxrwxr-x 3 ds61so ds61so 4096 Apr 23 20:32 ..
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ds61so ds61so 461 Apr 21 20:53 192.168.001.002.02770-205.186.148.046.00080❶
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ds61so ds61so 3453 Apr 21 20:53 205.186.148.046.00080-
192.168.001.002.02770❷

$ cat 192.168.001.002.02770-205.186.148.046.00080
GET /❸ HTTP/1.0
Host: www.bejtlich.net
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Ubuntu; Linux x86_64; rv:20.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/20.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
DNT: 1
Referer: http://www.taosecurity.com/training.html
Via: 1.1 localhost:3128 (squid/2.7.STABLE9)❹
X-Forwarded-For: 192.168.2.108❺
```

Proxy Example – Proxy to Server

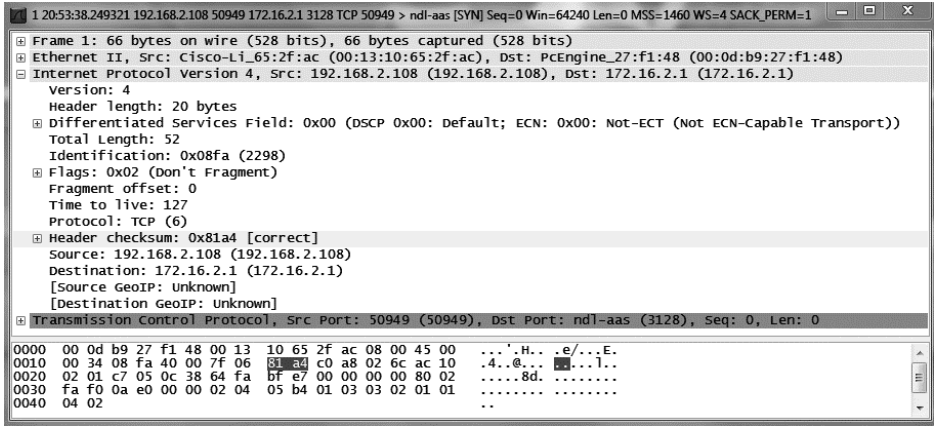
Command Prompt - shell

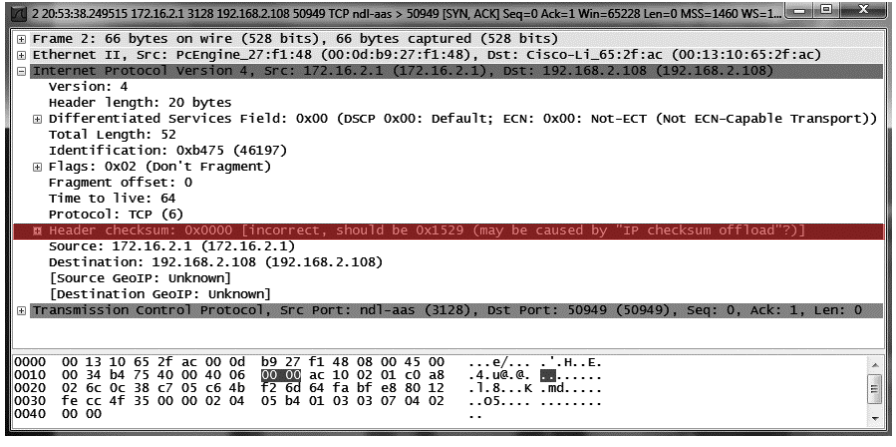
```
$ cat 205.186.148.046.00080-192.168.001.002.02770
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Sun, 21 Apr 2013 20:53:38 GMT
Server: Apache/2
Last-Modified: Wed, 02 Jan 2013 15:49:44 GMT
ETag: "2e800ed-c713-4d25031f1f600"
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Content-Length: 3195
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/
xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en">
<head>
<meta http-equiv="content-type" content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-1" />
<meta name="Richard Bejtlich" content="Home page of TaoSecurity founder Richard Bejtlich"
/>
<meta name="keywords" content="bejtlich,taosecurity,network,security" />
-- snip --
```

Checksums

- IP headers contain a checksum to detect errors or corruption in the IP header
- Network devices recalculate this checksum when the packet is processed
- If the calculated checksum does not match that listed in the packet, the packet will be dropped

Identifying Checksums with Wireshark





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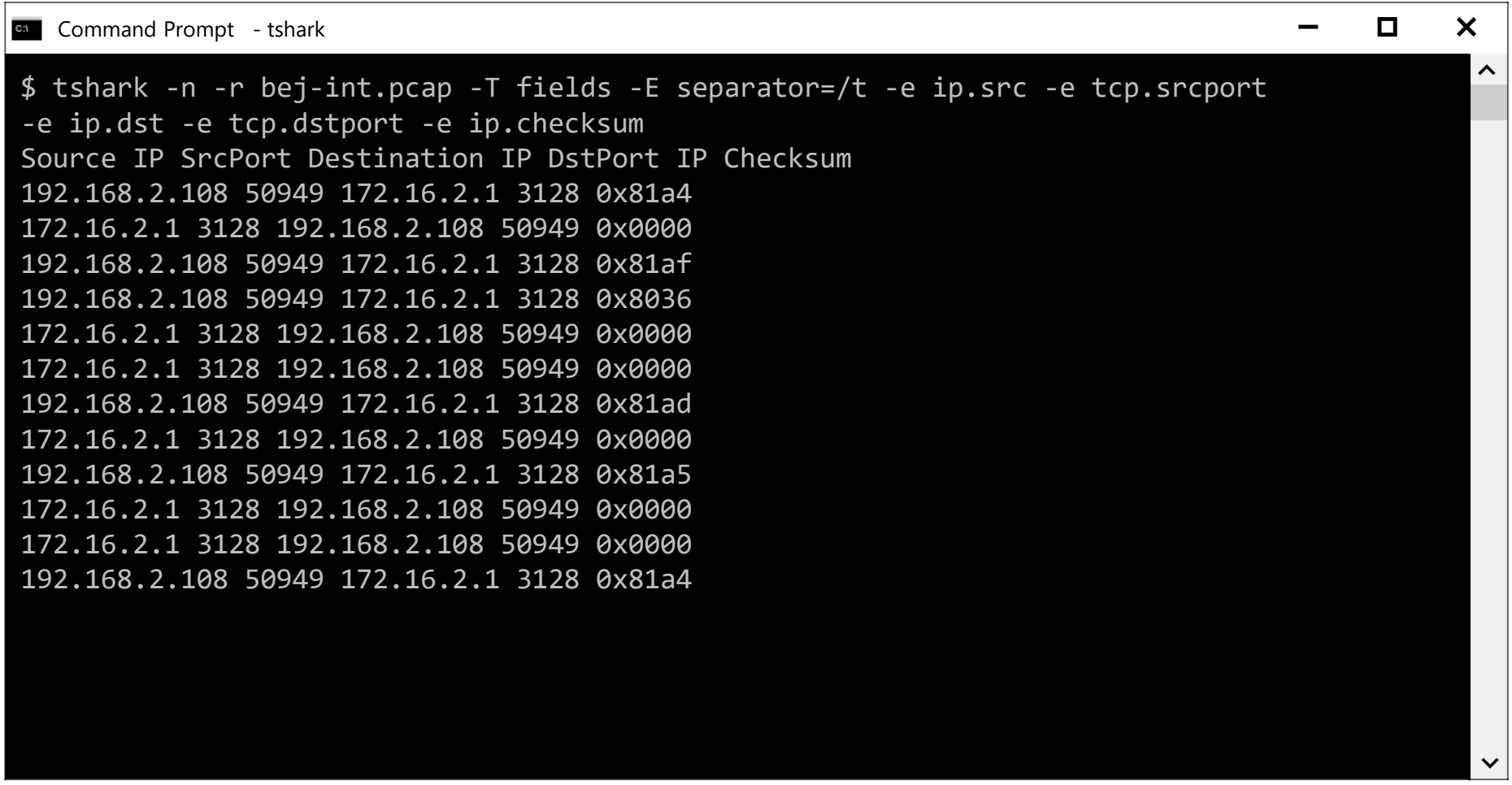
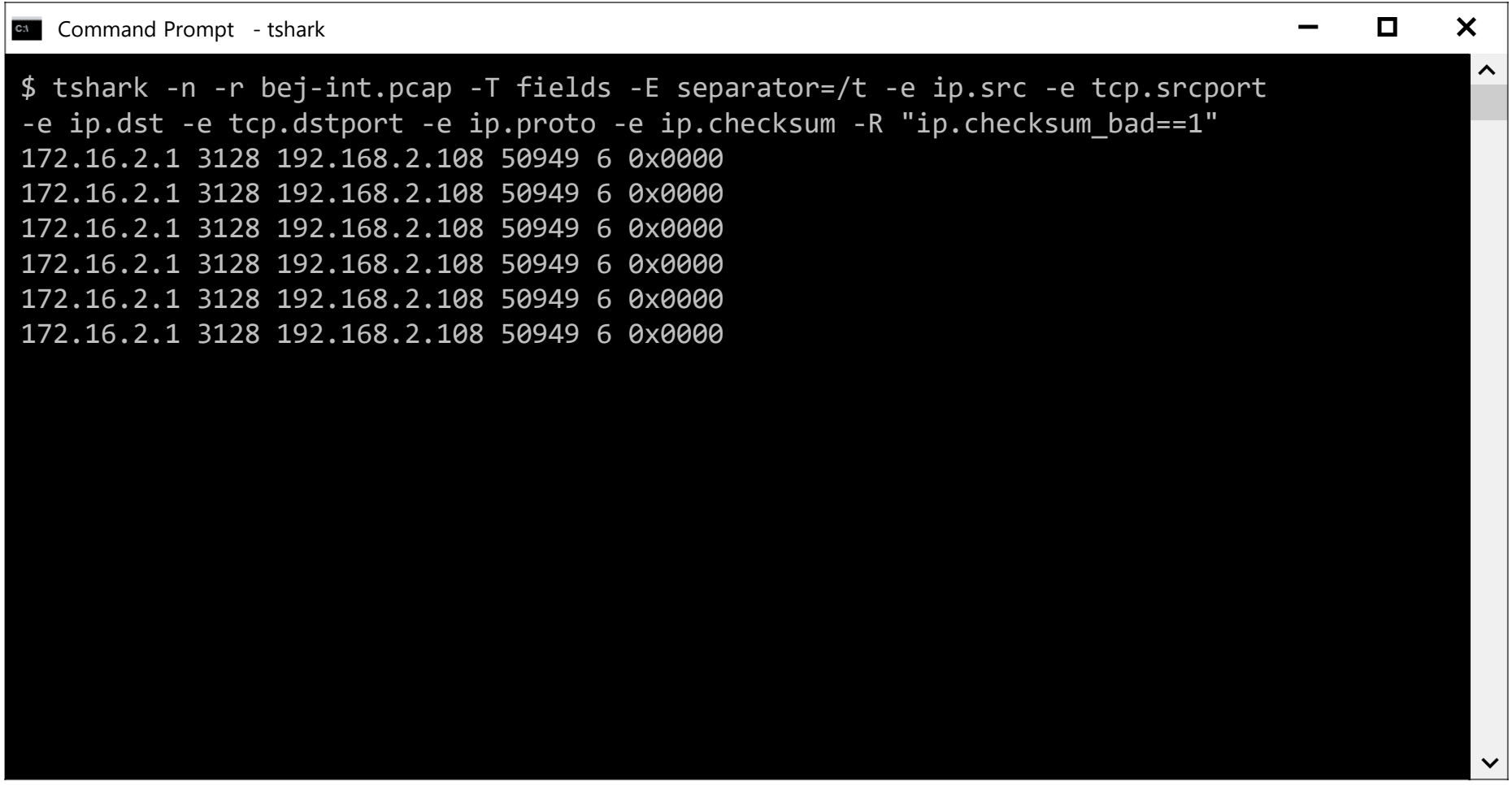
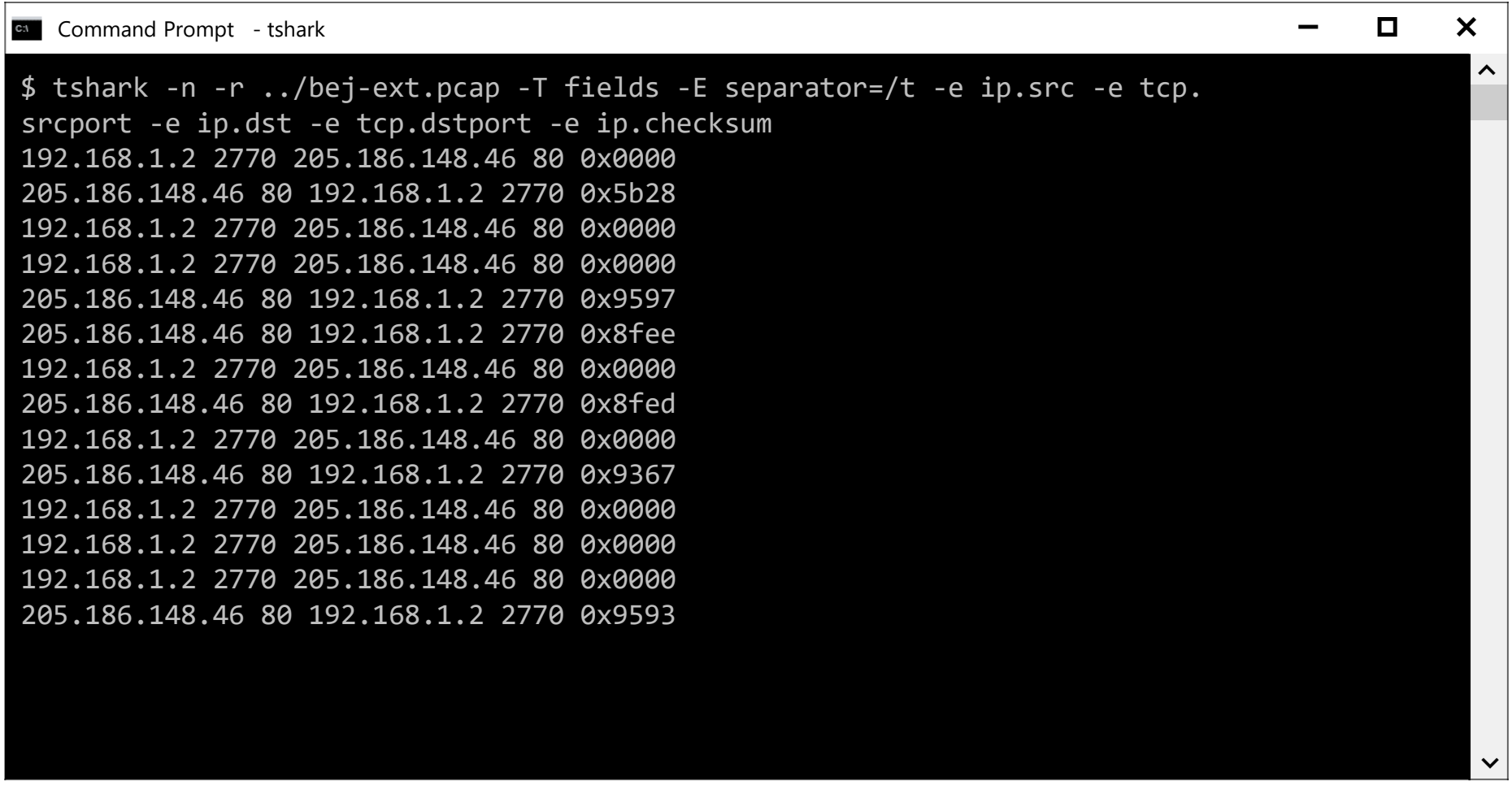
Identifying Checksums with Tshark



Identifying Checksums with Tshark



Identifying Checksums with Tshark



How Bad Checksums Happen

- Checksums occasionally fail due to errors or corruption that occur from hosts on the internet
- The errors reported by Wireshark mention IP checksum offload as a potential source
- IP checksum offload is a function of either the NIC driver, or hardware of the card in higher end models
- IP checksum offload reduces the burden of the primary CPU
- By default, SO disables driver and hardware offloading in order to avoid these issues

Zeek and Bad Checksums

- Some security tools assume that packets with a bad IP checksum will not be processed by an endpoint, and the security tool may drop the packet
- Zeek ignores traffic with bad checksums by default
- Running bro with the –C switch tells it to ignore bad checksums and process the traffic
- The best solution is to disable checksum offloading on the offending device

Summary

- Making slight modifications to the SO system and workflows can add additional visibility and improve performance
- One feature of Zeek allows the identification of malware, by comparing MD5 hash to that of known malicious files
- Submitting binary files extracted with Zeek to analysis engines provides greater context about user applications to analysts
- Zeek includes a module to identify know IoC related to APT1
- The Malware Hash Registry offers analysts a quick and easy way to identify malware by MD5 sum from the command line

Summary

- Proxies are used in corporate networks to provide filtering and security services for web traffic
- IP checksums if not configured and managed correctly can add complexity to NSM operations
- IP checksum offloading should be disabled on systems that are used to capture traffic for the purpose of NSM

References

- Bejtlich, R. (2013). Chapter 12: Extending SO. In The practice of network security monitoring understanding incident detection and response. San Francisco: No Starch Press.
- Team Cymru Inc. (n.d.). We are Team Cymru. Retrieved April 13, 2020, from https://www.team-cymru.com/aboutus.html