Haibin Lai Computer Network Assignment 1

TSNA- A Telnet like Service with simplified NTLM Authentication

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Structure

Introduction

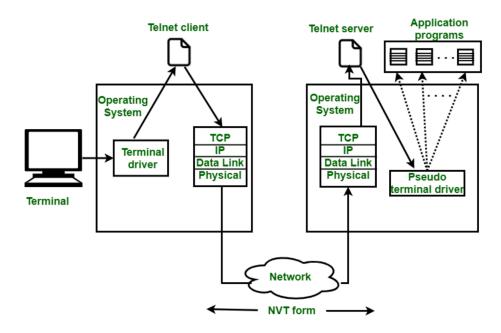
Command Output

Task1
Task2
Task3
Task4
Task5

Exception

Introduction on Telnet

Telnet is a network protocol primarily used to establish text-based, bidirectional communication between a local computer and a remote server. It operates over a TCP/IP connection, allowing users to remotely control servers via command-line interface. Telnet is often used to manage devices, servers, or network equipment, but due to its lack of encryption, it poses security risks and has largely been replaced by encrypted protocols like SSH.



Command Output

The following figure shows the output of each command in system.

Task1: Connection Establishment

The client can try to connect server.

Note:

Not Allowed IP:

- 1. not in 32bits.(inet_aton convert an IP address in string format (123.45.67.89) to the 32-bit packed binary format used in low-level network functions.
- 2. 0.0.0.0: it represents "all network interfaces" or "local address" but cannot be used to connect to a remote host. **Special Allowed IP**:
- 3. localhost

When we first start our sesrver, it starts a Thread TCP Server. It can handle multiple clients.

```
if __name__ == '__main__':
    server_address = host
    server_port = port
    # Create the server
    with socketserver.ThreadingTCPServer((host, port), TSNAServerHandler) as server:
        print("serving at host", server_address, "with port: ", server_port)
        # Activate the server;
        try:
            server.serve_forever()
        except KeyboardInterrupt:
            print("Shutting down by keyboard")
```

The server will wait for TCP connection. It will listen for the specfic host and port. When the data is got, it will enter main_loop with client_address and login_user.

```
class TSNAServerHandler(socketserver.BaseRequestHandler):
    def handle(self):
        print('Got connection from', self.client_address)
        sc_socket = self.request
        if sc_socket is not None:
            sc_socket.send("success".encode('UTF-8'))
        else:
            print("Fail to catch a socket")
        login_user = ''
        is_continue = True

# get data
    while is_continue:
        is_continue, login_user = (
            main_loop(socket_conn=sc_socket, client_address=self.client_address, login_user=login_user))
```

Now the client can be able to send a ip:port to establish a TCP connection.

```
(.venv) PS D:\MyProject\NetworkAss1\TSNA> python .\client.py
    欢迎使用Telnet服务
    请输入要登录的主机{IP:port} or {exit} to leave: exit
次 迎下次使用
    (.venv) PS D:\MyProject\NetworkAss1\TSNA> python .\client.py
次迎使用Telnet服务
    请输入要登录的主机{IP:port} or {exit} to leave: 127.0.0.1:6016
    127.0.0.1:6016:ls
$\text{127.0.0.1:6016:}
    200:Available commends:
           help
>_
           login {name} {password}
①
           register {name} {password}
   127.0.0.1:6016:
```

Next, on the main_loop, it will handle recv data and save it into data_log.txt.

```
def main_loop(socket_conn: socket, client_address, login_user):
            :param socket_conn: socket connection
            # TODO: finish the codes
            try:
                receive_data = socket_conn.recv(1024).decode('utf-8')
            except ConnectionAbortedError:
                print("Connection aborted from "+client_address)
            print("Received data:", receive_data, " from ", client_address)
            data_log = str(client_address)
            with open("data_log.txt", 'a') as file:
                file.write(data_log+","+str(receive_data)+","+str(time.time())+"\n")
            file.close()
            if not login_user:
                if receive_data == '?' or receive_data == 'help' or receive_data == 'ls':
                    feedback_data = 'Available commends: \n\t' + '\n\t'.join(commands)
                    feedback_data = SUCCESS(feedback_data)
                elif receive_data == 'exit':
                    feedback_data = 'disconnected'
        ('127.0.0.1', 41852),login haibin 910f4aff69c6c642b3756489bb81a945,1731163555.6838896
        ('127.0.0.1', 49117), ls, 1731165889.9536746
224
```

Task 2: User Authentication

At the beginning of initializing server, it will load user-password from user_records_txt.

```
def load_users(user_records_txt):
    """
    Task 2.1 Load saved user information (username and password) :param user_records_txt: a txt
file containing username and password records :return users: dict {'username':'password'}
"""    # Done: finish the codes
    users = {} # Initialize

if not os.path.exists(user_records_txt):
    file = open(user_records_txt, 'w')
```

```
file.close()

with open(user_records_txt, 'r') as user_r:
    for line in user_r:
        line = line.strip()
        if line: # Ensure the line is not empty
            username, password = line.split(':', 1) # Split
        users[username] = password # Store
return users
```

And client can register a new user with new password.

```
def user_register(cmd, users):
    Task 2.2 Register command processing :param cmd: Instruction string
                                                                            :param users: The
dict to hold information about all users
                                           :return feedback message: str
                                                                            """ # done: finish
the codes
    new_username = cmd[1]
   new_password = cmd[2]
    # Attempt to register a user that is already registered
    if new_username in users:
        print("Username is already in users!")
        return FAILURE("Username is already in users!")
   users[new_username] = new_password
    with open(user_inf_txt, 'a') as user_r:
        user_r.write(new_username+":"+new_password+"\n")
   return SUCCESS("Your Registered Username is " + new_username)
```

And it will be registered in server.

```
127.0.0.1:6016:register HaibinLai 123456
registering
127.0.0.1:6016:
200:Your Registered Username is HaibinLai
127.0.0.1:6016:
```

Both the data log and user file will not record the password in plaintext . Instead, they will be recorded as Ciphertext.

Now the user can login to its record.

```
    127.0.0.1:6016:login HaibinLai 123456

    logining
    Server challenge
    127.0.0.1:6016:
    200:login is successful
    127.0.0.1:6016:
    127.0.0.1:6016:
    127.0.0.1:6016:
    127.0.0.1:6016:
    127.0.0.1:6016:
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    127.0.0.1:6016:
    127.0.0.1:6016:
    127.0.0.1:6016:
    127.0.0.1:6016:
    127.0.0.1:
```

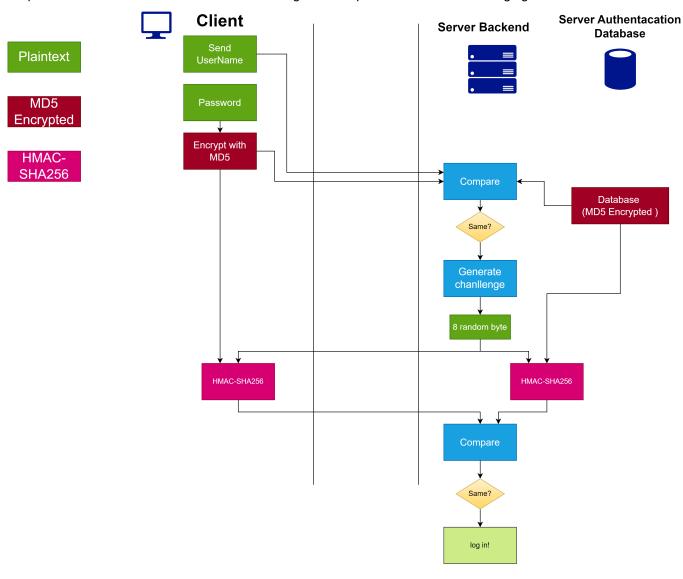
The server side shows the logging procedure. We will explain this logs on NTLM Authentication.

```
送行 ・ server ×

D:\MyProject\NetworkAss1\TSNA\A\.venv\Scripts\python.exe D:\MyProject\NetworkAss1\TSNA\server.py
users and their passwords
{'bb': 'b3358c3dc3c4b063dd668b7f6620c3d2', 'haibin': '910f4aff69c6c642b3756489bb81a945', 'bin': '398a9e7f3e20dc9ffef104303826ed6d'}
serving at host localhost with port: 6016
Got connection from ('127.0.0.1', 49117)
Received data: ls from ('127.0.0.1', 49117)
Received data: ls from ('127.0.0.1', 49117)
Received data: register HaibinLai 910f4aff69c6c642b3756489bb81a945 from ('127.0.0.1', 49117)
Received data: login HaibinLai 910f4aff69c6c642b3756489bb81a945 from ('127.0.0.1', 49117)
Random bytes for challenge: b'\xeb\xda\xe8X\xe6C\xa9\xca'
Logged in successfully!
```

Task 3: NTLM Authentication

The procedure of NTLM authenrication as the assignment request is shown as following figure.



```
D:\MyProject\NetworkAss1\TSNA\A\.venv\Scripts\python.exe D:\MyProject\NetworkAss1\TSNA\server.py
users and their passwords
{'bb': 'b3358c3dc3c4b063dd668b7f6620c3d2', 'haibin': '910f4aff69c6c642b3756489bb81a945', 'bin': '398a9e7f3e26
serving at host localhost with port: 6016
Got connection from ('127.0.0.1', 54022)
Received data: ls from ('127.0.0.1', 54022)
Received data: login HaibinLai 910f4aff69c6c642b3756489bb81a945 from ('127.0.0.1', 54022)
Random bytes for challenge: b'\x9c\x0c$\xa6\xca\xafLY'
Logged in successfully!
```

So, when first send the message, password will be encrypted in function <code>ntlm_hash_func</code> .

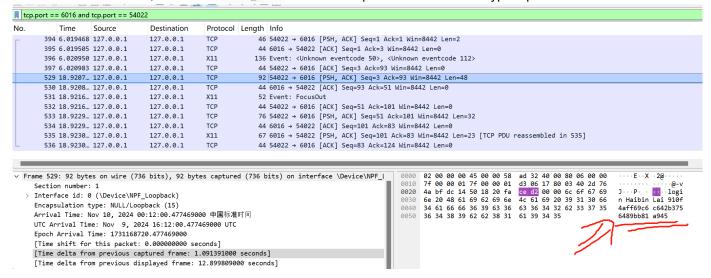
```
def ntlm_hash_func(password):
    """
    This function is used to encrypt passwords by the MD5 algorithm """ # 1. Convert
password to hexadecimal format
    hex_password = ''.join(format(ord(char), '02x') for char in password)

# 2. Unicode encoding of hexadecimal passwords
    unicode_password = hex_password.encode('utf-16le')
```

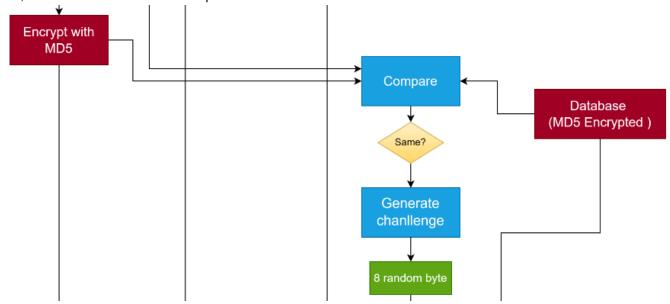
```
# 3. The MD5 digest algorithm is used to Hash the Unicode encoded data
md5_hasher = hashlib.md5()
md5_hasher.update(unicode_password)

# Returns the MD5 Hash
return md5_hasher.hexdigest()
```

As the wireshark shows, it contains user_name HaibinLai in plain context and encrypted password.



Then, the server will determine if the password in MD5 are the same in Database MD5:



```
def login_authentication(conn, cmd, users):
    login_user = cmd[1]
    login_password = cmd[2]
    if login_user in users:
        if users[login_user] == login_password:
            challenge = generate_challenge() # a challenge
            conn.send(challenge)

        calcu = conn.recv(1024)
        ans = calculate_response(login_password, challenge)
        if ans == calcu:
```

```
print("Logged in successfully!")
    return SUCCESS("login is successful"), login_user
    else:
        print("Authentication Failed!")
        return FAILURE("Authentication Failed!"), None
    else:
        return FAILURE("Wrong password!"), None
else:
    return FAILURE("The user does not exist!"), None
```

Next, both client and server will check the HMAC-SHA256 encrypted code with encrypted password with 8 random byte sent by Server.

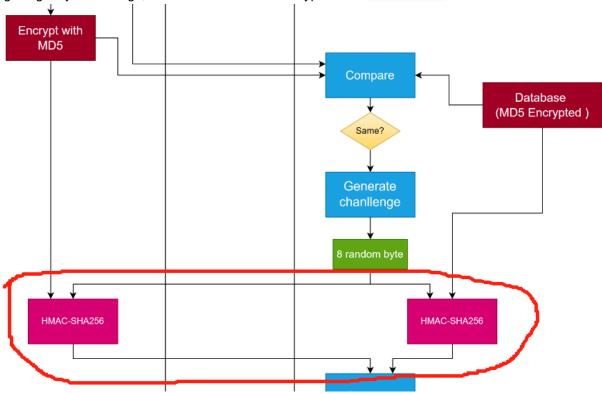
```
def generate_challenge():
    """
    Task 3.2 :return information: bytes random bytes as challenge message """  # done:
finish the codes
    random_bytes = os.urandom(8)
    print("Random bytes for challenge: ", random_bytes)
    return random_bytes
```

Here we find the 8 byte: $9c \ 0c \ 24 \ a6 \ ca \ af \ 4c \ 59$. (Here \xafLY means $4c \ 59$ are LY in ASCII). As for X11 in Wireshark, it's because it's it default detecting protocol.

```
531 18.9216... 127.0.0.1
                           127.0.0.1
                                        X11
                                                    52 Event: FocusOut
     532 18.9216... 127.0.0.1
                            127.0.0.1
                                         TCP
                                                    44 54022 → 6016 [ACK] Seq=51 Ack=101 Win=8442 Len=0
     533 18.9229... 127.0.0.1
                            127.0.0.1
                                         TCP
                                                    76 54022 \rightarrow 6016 [PSH, ACK] Seq=51 Ack=101 Win=8442 Len=32
     534 18.9229... 127.0.0.1
                            127.0.0.1
                                         TCP
                                                    44 6016 → 54022 [ACK] Seq=101 Ack=83 Win=8442 Len=0
     535 18.9230... 127.0.0.1
                            127.0.0.1
                                         X11
                                                    67 6016 → 54022 [PSH, ACK] Seq=101 Ack=83 Win=8442 Len=23 [TCP PDU reassembled in 535]
                                                    44 54022 → 6016 [ACK] Seq=83 Ack=124 Win=8442 Len=0
     536 18.9230... 127.0.0.1
                           127.0.0.1
                                                                                    0000 02 00 00 045 00 00 30 ad 34 40 00 80 06 00 00 0010 7f 00 00 01 7f 00 00 01 17 80 d3 06 4a bf dc 14
   Source Address: 127.0.0.1
   Destination Address: 127.0.0.1
                                                                                        03 40 2d a6 50 18 20 fa 76 cb 00 00 9c 0c 24 a6
   [Stream index: 3]
                                                                                    0030 ca af 4c 59
Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 6016, Dst Port: 54022, Seq: 93, Ack: 51, Len: 8
 Null/Loopback
 0000
          02 00 00 00 45 00 00 30 ad 34 40 00 80 06 00 00
                                                                                                             ----E--0 -4@----
            7f 00 00 01 7f 00 00 01
                                                           17 80 d3 06 4a bf dc 14
                                                                                                                             . . . . ] . . .
 0010
                                                                                                             -@--P- - v---
 0020 03 40 2d a6 50 18 20 fa 76 cb 00 00 9c 0c 24 a6
 0030 ca af 4c 59
                                                                                                             - - LY
```

```
Got connection from ('127.0.0.1', 54022)
Received data: ls from ('127.0.0.1', 54022)
Received data: login HaibinLai 910f4aff69c6c642b3756489bb81a945 from ('127.0.0.1', 54022)
Random bytes for challenge: b'\x9c\x0c$\xa6\xca\xafLY'
Logged in successfully!
```

After getting 8 byte challenge, both client and server encrypted with HMAC-SHA256.



```
def calculate_response(ntlm_hash: str, challenge: bytes):
# 假设 ntlm_hash 是一个字符串,使用 utf-8 编码转换为字节
ntlm_hash_bytes = ntlm_hash.encode('utf-8') if isinstance(ntlm_hash, str) else
bytes(ntlm_hash)

# 假设 challenge 是字节串,直接使用
# 如果 challenge 也是字符串,需要转换为字节
challenge_bytes = challenge if isinstance(challenge, bytes) else challenge.encode('utf-8')
return hmac.new(ntlm_hash_bytes, msg=challenge_bytes, digestmod=hashlib.sha256).digest()
```

Then the encrypted code in client side will send to Server to check whether it pass the challenge.

	533 18.9229 127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	76 54022 → 6016 [PSH, ACK] Seq=51 Ack=101 Win=8442 Len=32
	534 18.9229 127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	44 6016 → 54022 [ACK] Seq=101 Ack=83 Win=8442 Len=0
	535 18.9230 127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	X11	67 6016 → 54022 [PSH, ACK] Seq=101 Ack=83 Win=8442 Len=23 [TCP PDU reassembled in 535]
L	536 18.9230 127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	44 54022 → 6016 [ACK] Seq=83 Ack=124 Win=8442 Len=0

```
Source Address: 127.0.0.1

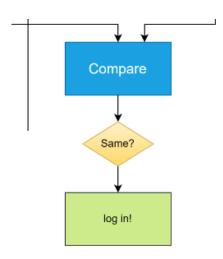
Destination Address: 127.0.0.1

[Stream index: 3]

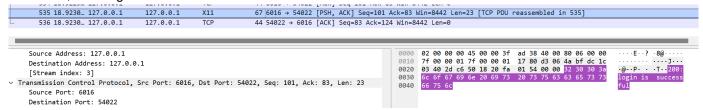
> Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 54022, Dst Port: 6016, Seq: 51, Ack: 101, Len: 32

Source Port: 54022
```

0000 02 00 00 00 45 00 00 48 ad 36 40 00 80 06 00 00 0010 7f 00 00 01 7f 00 00 01 d3 06 17 80 03 40 2d a6 0020 4a bf dc 1c 50 18 20 fa d2 36 00 00 7a b4 af b2 0030 b4 0a eb f9 13 3f 29 al 10 5c 7a 58 12 49 ee 16 0040 16 a0 51 f8 4a a7 d7 b2 6c c3 f2 19



If success, it will login.



Task 4: Command Processing

sum \$(num1) \$(num2) ...
note that it's limited to float format.

```
127.0.0.1:6016:sum 1 2 3 4 5
127.0.0.1:6016:
200:15.0
127.0.0.1:6016:sum 1.4 2.5
127.0.0.1:6016:
200:3.9
127.0.0.1:6016:sum -45 15.34
127.0.0.1:6016:
200:-29.66
127.0.0.1:6016:sum 0.2 0.1
127.0.0.1:6016:
200:0.3000000000000004
127.0.0.1:6016:
```

```
multiply $(num1) $(num2) ...

127.0.0.1:6016:multiply 2 3

127.0.0.1:6016:
200:6.0

127.0.0.1:6016:multiply 2 0

127.0.0.1:6016:
200:0.0

127.0.0.1:6016:multiply -1 -1

127.0.0.1:6016:
200:1.0

127.0.0.1:6016:multiply 223.4 5.3

127.0.0.1:6016:
200:1184.02

127.0.0.1:6016:
```

```
sub $(num1) $(num2)
subtract $(num1) $(num2)
```

```
127.0.0.1:6016:sub 3 5

127.0.0.1:6016:
200:-2.0

127.0.0.1:6016:sub 123 24

127.0.0.1:6016:
200:99.0

127.0.0.1:6016:sub 123 23 45

127.0.0.1:6016:
400:Please enter Valid number! subtract $(number1) $(number2)

127.0.0.1:6016:subtract 23 45

127.0.0.1:6016:
```

login logout help, changepwd

```
127.0.0.1:6016:login HaibinLai 123456
logining
Server challenge
127.0.0.1:6016:
200:login is successful
127.0.0.1:6016:help
127.0.0.1:6016:
200:Available commands:
        help
        exit
        logout
        changepwd {newpassword}
        sum [a] [b] ...
        sub [a] [b]
        multiply [a] [b] ...
        divide [a] [b]
127.0.0.1:6016:changepwd 123
changepwding
127.0.0.1:6016:
200:Successfully changed password
127.0.0.1:6016:logout
127.0.0.1:6016:
200:Logout from current user: HaibinLai
127.0.0.1:6016:login HaibinLai 123
logining
Server challenge
127.0.0.1:6016:
200:login is successful
127.0.0.1:6016:
```

```
Received data: ls from ('127.0.0.1', 6805)
Received data: login HaibinLai 910f4aff69c6c642b3756489bb81a945 from ('127.0.0.1', 6805)
Random bytes for challenge: b'\x18\xf0\x001%\x8d\xb5\xa5'
Logged in successfully!
Received data: help from ('127.0.0.1', 6805)
Received data: changepwd b3358c3dc3c4b063dd668b7f6620c3d2 from ('127.0.0.1', 6805)
Trying to change password
Received data: logout from ('127.0.0.1', 6805)
Logging out
Received data: login HaibinLai b3358c3dc3c4b063dd668b7f6620c3d2 from ('127.0.0.1', 6805)
Random bytes for challenge: b'\x914f[\x18\xfa&\xfe'
Logged in successfully!
```

Exception

1. TCP Connection

IP Address

Not Allowed IP:

1. not in 32bits.(inet_aton convert an IP address in string format (123.45.67.89) to the 32-bit packed binary format used in low-level network functions.

```
Invalid IP Port: ", server_port
```

- 2. 0.0.0.0: it represents "all network interfaces" or "local address" but cannot be used to connect to a remote host. Invalid IP for 0.0.0.0, it represent all network interfaces.
- Invalid ip without correct form of "ip:port"

```
Invalid IP and port format. Please use ip:port with ipv4 form: ", ip_p
```

Special Allowed IP:

1. localhost

Connection Refused

Connection fail!

NTLM and User Authentication

Register an already registered user

return FAILURE("Username is already in users!")

```
# Attempt to register a user that is already registered
if new_username in users:
    print("Username is already in users!")
    return FAILURE("Username is already in users!")
```

Success case:

```
SUCCESS("Your Registered Username is " + new_username)
```

Login parameter less than 2

FAILURE(Please re-enter the login command with your username and password)

Login parameter more than 2

FAILURE(Password shouldn't include spaces)

Register parameter less than 2

FAILURE(Please re-enter the command with username and password)

Register parameterMore than 3

FAILURE(Username or password shouldn't include spaces)

Login after being logged in

FAILURE("You have logged in "+login_user+", please logout before you want to change to other user"), login_user

```
elif msg[0] == 'login':
    print("try to login at the same time!")
    return FAILURE("You have logged in "+login_user+", please logout before you want to change to
other user"), login_user
```

Register when logged in

return FAILURE("The register command can only be done when not logging!"), login_user

The user don't exist while log in

FAILURE("The user does not exist!")

The user's MD5 encrypt password doesn't match with DB log

FAILURE("Wrong password!")

Challenge failed

FAILURE("Authentication Failed!")

Register, changepwd, login with blanks

```
Error on format!
FAILURE("Invalid password, please don't contain blank on password")
```

Same Password

FAILURE("Same password, please don't take same password!")

Telnet Service

More number in sub and divide

return FAILURE("Please enter Valid number! subtract \$(number1) \$(number2) "), login_user return FAILURE("Please enter Valid number! divide \$(number1) \$(number2) "), login_user

Divide 0

return FAILURE("The dividend cannot be zero!"), login user

Input NAN

FAILURE("Please enter Valid number!")

Others

Exit with more parameters

return FAILURE("What are you doing?"), login_user

for example:

exit 1 DROP TABLE ALL

Disconnect

200:disconnected

Reference

Li, Y., Chard, R., Babuji, Y., Chard, K., Foster, I., & Li, Z. (2024). UniFaaS: Programming across distributed cyberinfrastructure with federated function serving (arXiv:2403.19257). https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.19257