



Batch: A-4 Roll No.: 16010122151

Experiment No. 08

Signature of the Staff In-charge with date

TITLE: Illustrate and Compare network security mechanisms

 ${f AIM}$: Working with sample real life cases related to Network security and forensics using tool -

Wireshark and Network Miner.

OUTCOME: Student will be able to

CO4: Illustrate and Compare network security mechanisms

Theory: Write about wireshark and Network Miner

 \mathbf{S}

- 1. Network based attacks.
- 2. Network Security tools.
- 3. Wireshark Purpose and importance in network security.
- 4. Network Miner Purpose and importance in network security.
- 5. Case Study using Wireshark.
- 6. Implementation of same Case study using Network Miner.
- 7. Comparison of results of both tools.

Link to Case Study:

https://forensicscontest.com/2009/09/25/puzzle-1-anns-bad-aim (Evidence file part of the case study document).

Address the questions as specified in the case study.

References:

https://www.wireshark.org/docs/wsug_html_chunked/ChapterIntroduction.html

Department of Computer Engineering





https://www.netresec.com/?page=TutorialNMP https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTaOZrDnMzQ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nC5m2WO8JJk

Output(s):

1. What is the name of Ann's IM buddy?

A: Sec558user1

2. What was the first comment in the captured IM conversation?

A: Here's the secret recipe... I just downloaded it from the file server. Just copy to a thumb drive and you're good to go >:-)

3. What is the name of the file Ann transferred?

A: recipe.docx

4. What is the magic number of the file you want to extract (first four bytes)?

A: 504b0304

5. What was the MD5sum of the file?

A:8350582774e1d4dbe1d61d64c89e0ea1

6. What is the secret recipe?

Recipe for Disaster: I

1 serving

Ingredients:

4 cups sugar

2 cups water

In a medium saucepan, bring the water to a boil. Add sugar. Stir gently over low heat until sugar is fully dissolved. Remove the saucepan from heat. Allow to cool completely. Pour into gas tank. Repeat as necessary.

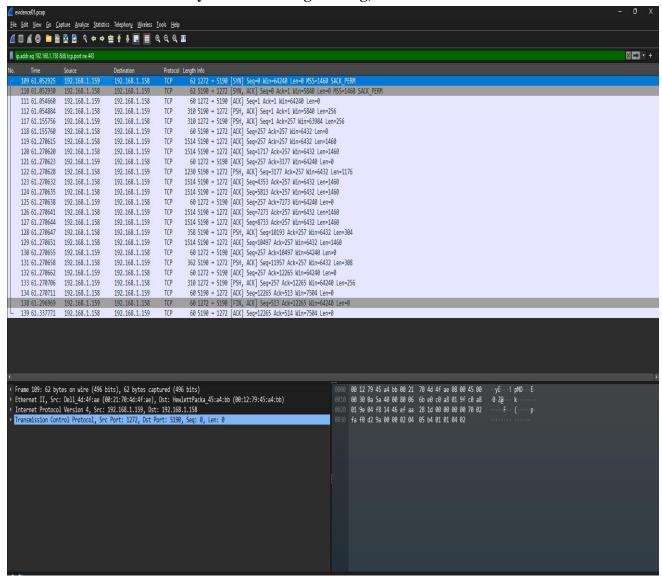






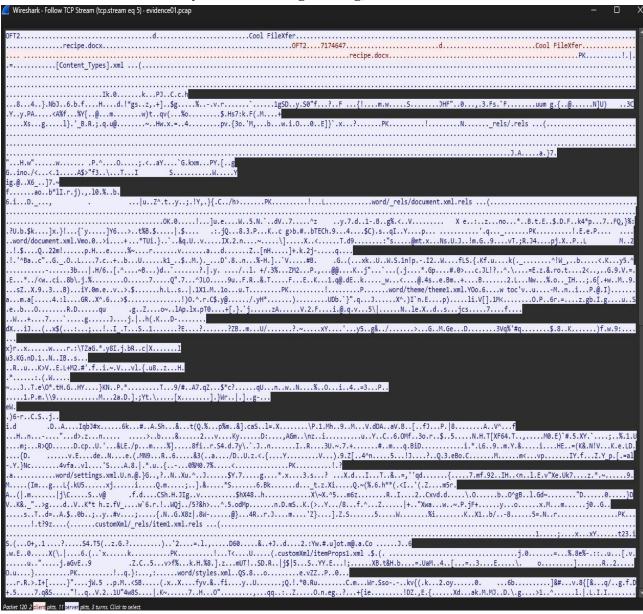






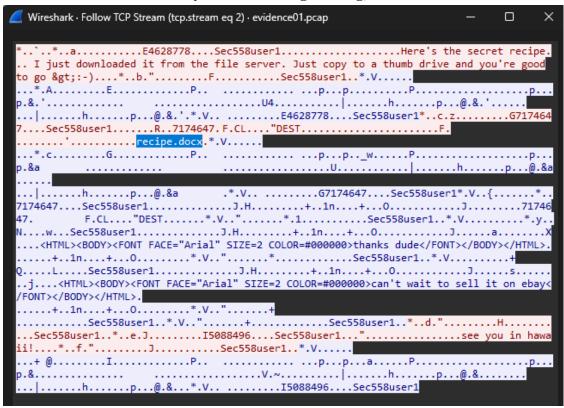






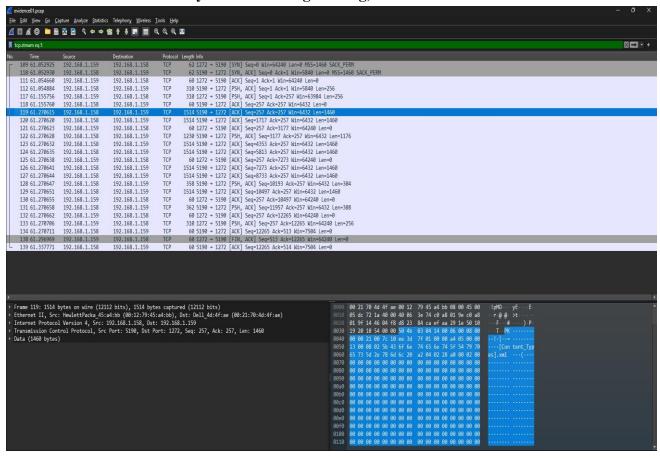








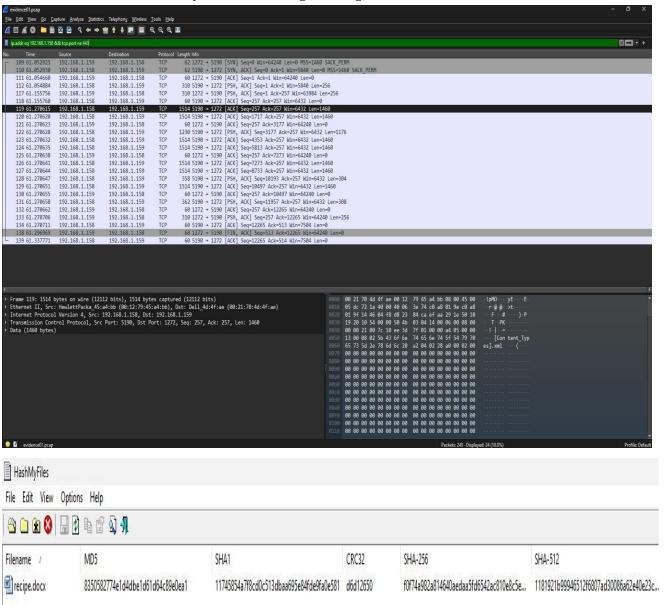












Post Lab Ouestions:

&1 Explain the different challenges in handling network based incidents.

<u>ANS:</u> Handling network-based incidents can be complex due to various factors. Some of the main challenges include:

 Scale and Complexity: Modern networks are often large and complex, involving multiple devices, protocols, and communication methods. This makes identifying the origin and scope of an incident difficult, especially in distributed networks.

Department of Computer Engineering





- 2. **Anonymity and Obfuscation:** Attackers may use techniques to mask their identity or obscure their activity. This can involve methods like IP spoofing, using VPNs or Tor, or manipulating packet headers, making it harder for network administrators to trace the attacker.
- Encrypted Traffic: The use of encryption protocols like HTTPS and VPNs can make it challenging to inspect network traffic for malicious activities. Although encryption ensures data privacy, it can also prevent security tools from analyzing the content of traffic for threats.
- 4. Volume of Data: Network traffic often involves huge amounts of data. Identifying and isolating malicious traffic from normal traffic within this volume can be overwhelming without the proper tools and methodologies.
- 5. **Time Sensitivity:** Network-based incidents may require a rapid response to prevent data breaches, loss of service, or damage to systems. This can add pressure to incident responders, requiring them to act quickly, but still accurately, to contain the issue.
- 6. **Coordination Between Teams:** Dealing with network-based incidents often requires collaboration between different departments (e.g., security, IT, legal, management). Miscommunication or delays in coordination can worsen the impact of the incident.
- 7. **False Positives and Alerts:** Network monitoring tools can sometimes produce too many alerts, making it difficult for responders to prioritize genuine threats. False positives can lead to wasted resources, and important issues may get overlooked.
- 8. **Legal and Compliance Issues:** Depending on the nature of the incident, organizations may face legal and compliance challenges. Handling sensitive data during an incident could raise concerns, especially in regulated industries like healthcare or finance.
- 8.2 Discuss the tools used for monitoring the network traffic.

 ANS.: Monitoring network traffic is essential for identifying potential issues, preventing security breaches, and maintaining optimal performance. Some common tools used for network traffic monitoring include:
 - 1. **Wireshark:** A popular packet analyzer used to capture and inspect network packets. It allows detailed examination of the protocol stack and helps troubleshoot network issues.
 - 2. **SolarWinds Network Performance Monitor:** A comprehensive network monitoring solution that helps in identifying performance





issues, outages, and other network-related incidents. It provides real-time monitoring and alerting.

- Nagios: An open-source monitoring tool that provides insights into network traffic, server performance, and uptime. It supports custom plugin integrations for monitoring various network devices and services.
- 4. **PRTG Network Monitor:** A tool that offers real-time monitoring of bandwidth, network devices, and systems. It can alert administrators to issues like high traffic volume or failures.
- 5. **Zabbix:** An open-source monitoring solution that tracks network performance, servers, and other hardware. It can alert users to potential issues with network traffic and systems.
- 6. **ntopng:** An advanced network traffic monitoring tool that provides a detailed, real-time overview of network traffic, highlighting key metrics and potential security risks.
- 7. **Tcpdump:** A command-line network packet analyzer similar to Wireshark but more lightweight. It is often used for troubleshooting network problems and analyzing network traffic.
- 8. **WiSpy:** A tool for monitoring and troubleshooting wireless network traffic. It helps network administrators identify congestion, interference, and other issues affecting Wi-Fi performance.
- 9. **Bro (Zeek):** A powerful open-source network analysis framework that provides real-time monitoring and deep analysis of network traffic, helping detect network intrusions and anomalies.

8.3 What do you understand by packet sniffing?

<u>ANS.</u>: Packet sniffing refers to the process of intercepting and analyzing packets of data that travel over a network. By capturing these packets, network administrators, security professionals, or attackers can analyze the content, identify issues, or discover vulnerabilities in the network. Packet sniffing tools can monitor traffic and capture data such as:

- **Headers:** Metadata like IP addresses, ports, and protocols used.
- Payloads: The actual data being transmitted between devices.
- **Traffic Patterns:** Which devices are communicating and how much data is being transferred.





While packet sniffing can be a legitimate method used for network troubleshooting or performance monitoring, it can also be exploited for malicious purposes, such as eavesdropping on sensitive data or intercepting communication. In a cybersecurity context, it's crucial to secure the network and employ encryption protocols to prevent unauthorized packet sniffing activities.

Packet sniffing tools, like Wireshark or Tcpdump, are commonly used for network diagnostics, analyzing network protocols, and detecting potential security threats like Man-in-the-Middle (MITM) attacks or unauthorized data access. However, their use without authorization is illegal and can lead to severe privacy violations.

Conclusion: Thus, from this experiment, we learnt about usage of some network security tools like Wireshark and Network Miner and implemented the same through a case study.