SDN-Based Stateless Firewall

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I. PROJECT OVERVIEW

In this project a software defined environment based on mininet and containernet is created. This SDN is OpenFlow-based, and a flow-based SDN firewall implementation is needed. To achieve this flow-based firewall filtering policies are set in place to regulate traffic and L2 and L3 SDN controllers are used. POX OpenFlow controllers also need to be used. Techniques to test network traffic are set in place.

II. NETWORK SETUP

A new VM has been created using the given vdi image and following lab CS-SYS-00101 again this VM has been setup with NAT network (10.0.2.0/24).

III. SOFTWARE

For the lab the following software has been used:

- Open vSwitch https://www.openvswitch.org/
- Mininet
- POX Controller
- ContainerNet
- packages installed: mininet, POX, OVS, Python & Python 3

"Mininet is a software emulator for prototyping a large network on a single machine. Mininet can be used to quickly create a realistic virtual network running actual kernel, switch and software application code on a personal computer."

Containernet is a fork of the famous Mininet network emulator and allows to use Docker containers as hosts in emulated network topologies.

```
ubuntu@ubuntu: ~
 buntu@ubuntu:~$ python --version
  ython 2.7.17
buntu@ubuntu:~$ python3 --version
Python 3.6.9
   untu@ubuntu:~$ mn --version
  .3.0d5
 ....us
ubuntugubuntu:~$ sudo mn --test pingall
[sudo] password for ubuntu:
Google Chrome network
 ** Adding hosts:
    Adding switches:
 *** Adding links:
(h1, s1) (h2, s1)
*** Configuring hosts
h1 h2
*** Starting controller
c0
*** Starting 1 switches
    Waiting for switches to connect
   * Ping: testing ping reachability
h1 -> h2
h2 -> h1
*** Results: 0% dropped (2/2 received)
*** Stopping 1 controllers
c0
*** Stopping 2 links
 ** Stopping 1 switches
 *** Stopping 2 hosts
 *** Done
completed in 5.938 seconds
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$
```

Check mininet installation

```
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ cd /home/ubuntu/pox
ubuntu@ubuntu:~/pox$ ./pox.py -verbose forwarding.hub
POX 0.5.0 (eel) / Copyright 2011-2014 James McCauley, et al.
INFO:forwarding.hub:Proactive hub running.
DEBUG:core:POX 0.5.0 (eel) going up...
DEBUG:core:Running on CPython (2.7.17/Apr 15 2020 17:20:14)
DEBUG:core:Platform is Linux-5.3.0-53-generic-x86_64-with-Ubuntu-18.04-bionic
INFO:core:POX 0.5.0 (eel) is up.
DEBUG:openflow.of_01:Listening on 0.0.0.0:6633
```

Check POX installation

IV. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Lab assessments

- 1.) (5 points) Create a mininet based topology with 4 container hosts and one controller switches and run it.
 - a. Add link from controller1 to switch 1.
 - b. Add link from controller2 to switch 1.
 - c. Add link from switch 1 to container 1.
 - d. Add link from switch 1 to container 2.
 - e. Add link from switch 1 to container 3.
 - f. Add link from switch 1 to container 4.

First, we'll need to create two controllers with POX for port 6655 and 6633.

The commands used were:

```
nohup ./pox.py openflow.of_01 --port=6655 pox.forwarding.12_learning --
13config="13firewall.config" &

nohup ./pox.py openflow.of_01 --port=6633 pox.forwarding.12_learning --
13config="13firewall.config" &
```

We can see 2 separate processes have spawned up for the two pox commands, their IDs are 29937 and 29944 which we can check easily with *ps and filter with grep*, which means two pox controllers are running as processes at the same time at port 6655 and 6633.

Next, we'll run mininet using containernet in another terminal or window. We'll create the required mininet environment consisting of 4 containernet hosts, one OVS switch and two controllers running on port 6633 & 6655 that will bind to the 2 previously created POX controllers. As described in the lab the –mac option will assign small, unique & fixed set of mac address based on host id. The command used is:

```
mn --topo=single,4 --controller=remote,port=6633 --controller=remote,port=6655
--switch=ovsk --mac
```

```
File Edit View Search Terminal Help

ubuntu@ubuntu:-5 an --topo-single,4 \
--controller=remote,port=6633 \
--controller=remote,port=6635 \
--suttchbovsk --mac

****Minint must run as root.

dubuntu@ubuntu:-5 und nm --topo=single,4 --controller=remote,port=6633 --controller=remote,port=6655 --switch=ovsk --mac

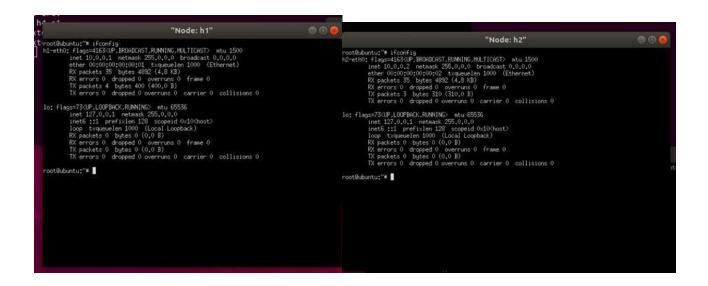
[sudo] password for ubuntu:
--controller for ubuntu:
--controller for ubuntu:
--controller for ubuntu:
--controller for ubuntu:
--controller
--contr
```

By using nodes command available nodes (or created topology) shows up:

```
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ sudo mn --topo=single,4 --control
vsk --mac
[sudo] password for ubuntu:
*** Creating network
*** Adding controller
*** Adding hosts:
h1 h2 h3 h4
*** Adding switches:
s1
*** Adding links:
(h1, s1) (h2, s1) (h3, s1) (h4, s1)
*** Configuring hosts
h1 h2 h3 h4
*** Starting controller
c0 c1
*** Starting t switches
s1 ...
*** Starting CLI:
containernet> nodes
available nodes are:
c0 c1 h1 h2 h3 h4 s1
containernet>
```

And by using xterm h1 h2 h3 h4 – for all 4 containers, we get access to the CLI of each container on which if config has been run to see network interface & IP:

```
available nodes are:
c0 c1 h1 h2 h3 h4 s1
containernet> xterm h1 h2 h3 h4
containernet>
```



We can see their IP addresses are 10.0.0.1, 10.0.0.2, 10.0.0.3 and 10.0.0.4 respectively.

- 2.) Make the interfaces up and assign IP addresses to interfaces of container hosts.
 - Assign IP address 192.168.2.10 to container host #1.
 - Assign IP address 192.168.2.20 to container host #2.
 - Assign IP address 192.168.2.30 to container host #3.
 - Assign IP address 192.168.2.40 to container host #4.

The IP addresses are configured from the containernet command line using the following commands:

```
containernet> h1 ifconfig h1-eth0 192.168.2.10
containernet> h2 ifconfig h2-eth0 192.168.2.20
containernet> h3 ifconfig h3-eth0 192.168.2.30
containernet> h4 ifconfig h4-eth0 192.168.2.40
containernet>
```

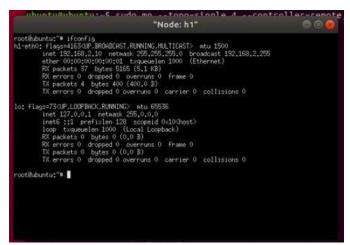
We check our containers IP's again by using xterm & ifconfig for each container CLI:

```
root@ubuntu:"# ifconfis
h2-eth0; flag==4163(UP_BROMICHST_RUNNING_MULTICRST> ntu 1500
inet 190_188_2,20 nethask 295_255_255_0 broadcast 190_188_2.295
ether 00:00:0000:0002 trageuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
RX packets 37 bytes 5155 (5.1 KB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 3 bytes 510 (310,0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo; flags=73(UP_LDOPBECK_RUNNING_ntu 55538
inet 127_0.0.1 retwask 295_0.0.0
inet8 :1. prefixien 108 occasid (0100most)
loop trageuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

root@ubuntu:"# |
```

h2: 192.168.2.20



h1: 192.168.2.10

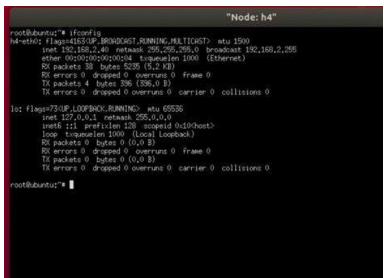
```
"Node: h3"

root@ubuntu:"# ifconfis
h3-eth0: flags=4163(UP.8800)CAST.RUNNING.MULTICAST> ntu 1500
inet 192.168.2.30 netwask 255.255.255.0 browdcast 192.168.2.255
ether 00:000:000:000:000 trapusuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
RX packets 38 bytes 5255 (5.2 k8)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 3 bytes 510 (310.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carnier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73:UP.LODPSRCK.RUNNING> ntu 65536
inet 127.0.0.1 netwask 255.0.0.0
inet6 ::1 prefulen 128 scopeid 0x104nost>
loop trapusuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carnier 0 collisions 0

root@ubuntu:"# []
```

h3: 192.168.2.30



h4: 192.168.2.40

3.) (15 points) Add new rule to l3config file for blocking ICMP traffic from source IP 192.168.2.10 and desti-

nation IP 192.168.2.30.

- 4.) (15 points) Add new rule to l3config file for blocking ICMP traffic from source IP 192.168.2.20 and desti- nation IP 192.168.2.40.
- 5.) (15 points) Add new rule to 13config file for blocking HTTP traffic from source IP 192.168.2.20.
- 6.) (15 points) Add new rule to l2config file for blocking traffic from MAC address 00:00:00:00:00:00:02 to desti- nation MAC address 00:00:00:00:00:00:04.
- 7.) (15 points) Add new rule to l3config file for blocking tcp traffic from 192.168.2.10 to 192.168.2.20.
- 8.) (15 points) Add new rule to 13config file for blocking udp traffic from 192.168.2.10 to 192.168.2.20.

The following is a screenshot of *l2firewall.config* containing rules for layer 2 at MAC address level, blocked traffic between source MAC address to destination MAC address:



The following is a screenshot of l3firewall.config containing flow rules for layer3 describing blocked traffic:

Then pox and mininet need to be restarted.

Let's now test the firewall rules one by one. First, we'll ping host3 from host1 to see if ICMP traffic has been blocked.

```
"Node: h1"

root@ubuntu:"* ifconfig
h1-eth0: flags=4183.UP.BROADCAST.RUNNINS_MULTICAST> mtu 1500
inet 192.168.2.10 netmask 255.255.550, broadcast 192.168.2.255
ether 00:00:00:00:00:00:10 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
RX packets 36 bytes 4085 (4.0 kB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 4 bytes 396 (396.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73CUP_LOOPBACK_RUNNING> mtu 85636
inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
inet6::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10xhost>
loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

root@ubuntu:"* ping 192.168.2.30
PING 192.168.2.30 (192.168.2.30) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.2.30; icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=51.6 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.2.30; icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=54.0 ms (DUP!)
C--
192.168.2.30 ping statistics ---
14 packets transmitted. 1 received, +1 duplicates, 92% packet loss, time 13273ms
rroot@ubuntu:"# |
```

We can see that starting with the second packet sent the traffic is blocked and there is 92% packet loss.

Next, pinging host4 from host2 we notice all traffic is blocked and there is 100% packet loss.

```
"Node: h2"

root@ubuntu:"# ifconfig
h2-eth0: flags=4163(UP.BEOADCAST.RUNNING.MULTICAST) mtu 1500
inet 192.168.2.20 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.2.255
ether 00:00:00:00:00:00:00 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)

RX packets 44 bytes 4710 (4.7 KB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 4 bytes 396 (396.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73KUP.LOOPBACK.RUNNING> mtu 65636
inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

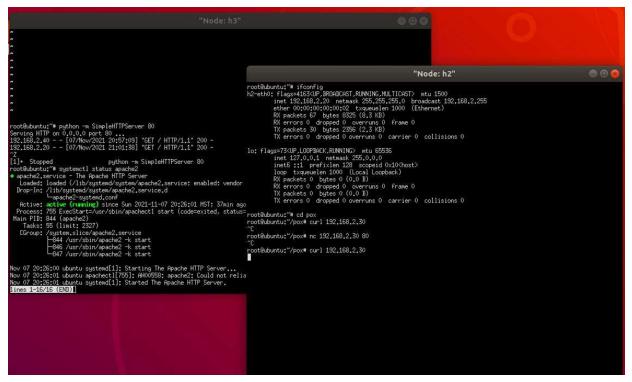
-root@ubuntu:"# ping 192.168.2.40

PING 192.168.2.40 (192.168.2.40) 56(84) bytes of data.

"C"
192.168.2.40 ping statistics ---
5 packets transmitted, 0 received, 100% packet loss, time 4112ms
root@ubuntu:"# |
```

Started a web server on host3 using python SimpleHttpServer on port 80 and retrieved content from the web server using host4 that had no problem connecting to it:

However Host2 is not able to receive any HTTP traffic and thus trying to reach the web server and access content from host 2 is not possible:



To demonstrate no traffic is allowed between Mac address of host2 and host4, host2 uses udp to ping (hping3) host4 but no traffic is allowed as visible from screenshot.



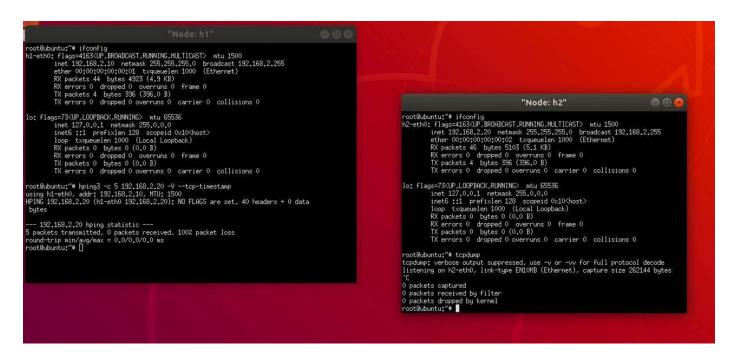
The enforced blocked traffic between the 2 MAC addresses can be found inside the nohup.out file of the pox controller:

```
rc_ip, dst_ip, src_port, dst_port 192.168.2.10 192.168.2.20 1 1
rc_ip, dst_ip, src_port, dst_port 192.168.2.10 192.168.2.20 1 1
ARNING:core:Redefined signal handler for SIGHUP
NFO:core:POX 0.5.0 (eel) is up.
NFO:openflow.of_01:[00-00-00-00-01 2] connected
0:00:00:00:00:02 00:00:00:00:04
NFO:openflow.of_01:[00-00-00-00-01 2] connected
0:00:00:00:00:02 00:00:00:00:00
```

I also tried using dump flow tables with the command: *sudo ovs-ofctl dump-tables s1* but I could not get much information out of it related to the MAC addresses, here is a screenshot:

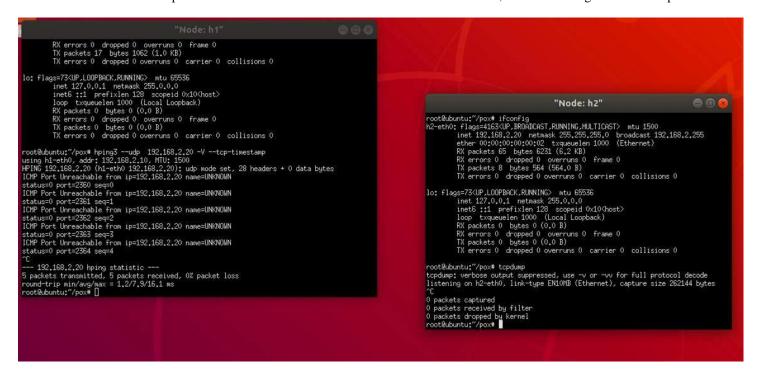
```
ubuntu@ubuntu: ~/pox
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
[3]+
                               tail -f ../nohup.out
    Stopped
ubuntu@ubuntu:~/pox$ sudo ovs-ofctl dump-tables s1
[sudo] password for ubuntu:
OFPST_TABLE reply (xid=0x2):
 table 0 ("classifier"):
   active=2, lookup=362, matched=355
max_entries=1000000
   matching:
      in_port: exact match or wildcard
      eth_src: exact match or wildcard
      eth_dst: exact match or wildcard
      eth_type: exact match or wildcard
      vlan_vid: exact match or wildcard
      vlan_pcp: exact match or wildcard
      ip_src: exact match or wildcard
      ip_dst: exact match or wildcard
      nw proto: exact match or wildcard
      nw tos: exact match or wildcard
      tcp_src: exact match or wildcard
      tcp_dst: exact match or wildcard
  table 1 ("table1"):
   active=0, lookup=0, matched=0
```

To demonstrate no tcp packet reaches host2 from host1 the following screenshot has been taken:



On host1 hping3 has been used to send host2 5 packets and none of them were sent or received, as the tcpdump run on host2 shows.

Similar to the above check-up UDP traffic between host1 and host2 has also been blocked, as the following screenshot depicts:



V. APPENDIX B: ATTACHED FILES

- Project Report 2 PDF
- 12firewall.config screenshot
- 13firewall.config screenshot

VI. REFERENCES

- 1. CONTAINERNET <u>HTTPS://CONTAINERNET.GITHUB.IO/</u>
- 2. MININET & POX TUTORIAL https://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/~tbma/teaching/cs4226y16 past/tutorial-Mininet-POX.pdf