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Lab 02 – Analyzing Network Traffic using Packet Capture Software

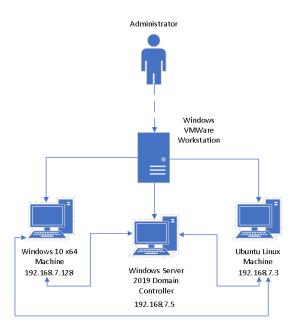
October 10, 2023

Description:

The primary objective of this lab was to set up an Ubuntu Linux virtual machine (VM) on VMware Workstation to utilize as a "Sniffer" machine where we ran our packet capture software, Wireshark. We had to make sure these virtual machines were on the same network to ensure they could communicate with each other when analyzing through network traffic between our Windows 10 client VM and Windows 10 server VM.

We then verified and traced the path a packet takes from the Windows client to the Windows server. Next, we displayed the ARP cache, which we used to verify the mac addresses of our VMs compared to the information from the ipconfig command. In addition, we opened a remote desktop connection and logged in as the administrator to map a network drive from the client machine to the server. Lastly, we generated a couple additional types of network traffic from the client to the server.

Topology:



This is an overview of the three virtual machines built and utilized in this lab within VMWare Workstation. All three of these virtual machines are interconnected as they were all configured on the same network 192.168.7.1.

Key Syntax:

We utilized Command Prompt (CMD) to check the hostname and IPv4 address, subnet mask, default gateway and DNS Servers. This was used as a second verification to see the changes have been made.

Commands:

'hostname': Provides the computer's host name.

'ipconfig /all': Provides full detailed adapter configuration information (IPv4 address, subnet mask, default gateway, DNS Servers, etc.)

'ipconfig /release': Forces the client to immediately give up its Ip address lease.

'ipconfig /renew': Allows your DHCP client to gain a new Ip address lease.

'sudo wireshark': Runs Wireshark in Ubuntu terminal.

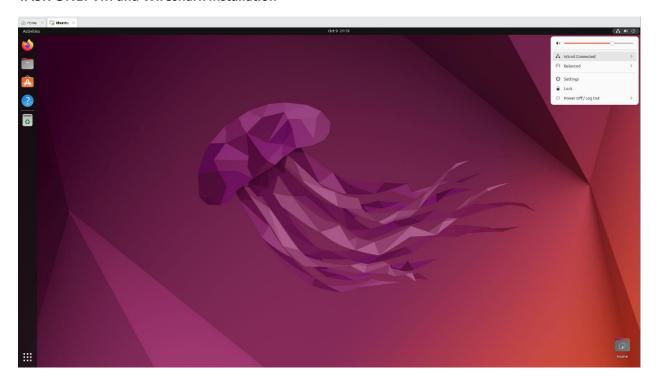
'mstsc': Pulls up windows remote desktop when run.

(\(host Ip)': Pulls up the shared folder in run.

'ping (host Ip address)': Tests ping connectivity.

Verification:

TASK ONE: VM and Wireshark Installation



This screenshot is of my Ubuntu VM connected to the internet.

```
Reading package lists... Done

jason@jason-virtual-machine:~$ sudo apt update

Hit:1 http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy InRelease

Hit:2 http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease

Hit:3 http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease

Hit:4 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease

Hit:5 https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/wireshark-dev/stable/ubuntu jammy InRelease

Reading package lists... Done

Building dependency tree... Done

Reading state information... Done

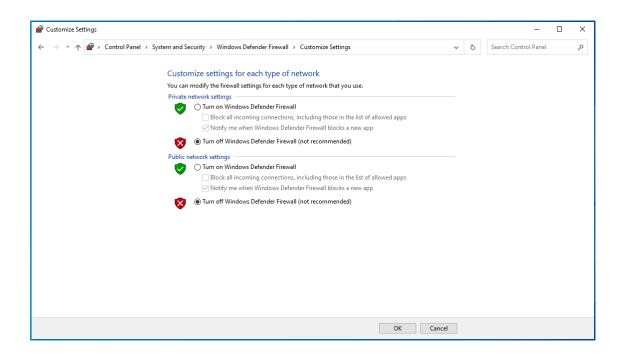
74 packages can be upgraded. Run 'apt list --upgradable' to see them.

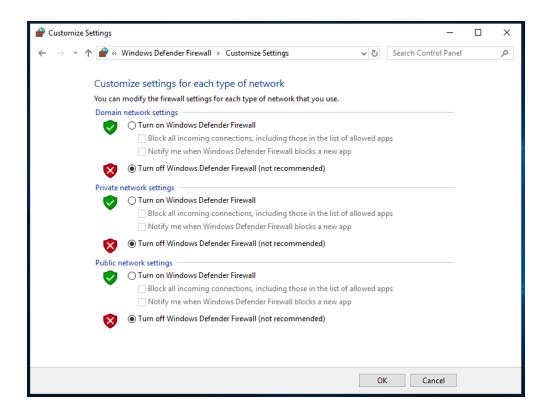
jason@jason-virtual-machine:~$
```

```
Jacobajson-Virtual-vacchiae: $ sudo apt install wireshark
Reading package lists...Done
Reading state information..Done
Reading
```

```
jason@jason-virtual-machine:~$ apt show wireshark
Package: wireshark
Version: 4.0.6-1~exp1~ubuntu22.04.0~ppa1
Priority: optional
Section: net
Maintainer: Balint Reczey <balint@balintreczey.hu>
Installed-Size: 61.4 kB
Depends: wireshark-qt (= 4.0.6-1~exp1~ubuntu22.04.0~ppa1)
Download-Size: 46.8 kB
APT-Manual-Installed: yes
APT-Sources: https://ppa.launchpadcontent.net/wireshark-dev/stable/ubuntu jammy/main amd64 Packages
Description: network traffic analyzer - meta-package
Wireshark is a network "sniffer" - a tool that captures and analyzes
packets off the wire. Wireshark can decode too many protocols to list
here.
This is a meta-package for Wireshark.
N: There is 1 additional record. Please use the '-a' switch to see it
jason@jason-virtual-machine:~$
```

These screenshots are the steps in which it takes to install the packet capture software Wireshark via Ubuntu terminal.





These screenshots show the disabling of the Windows Firewall, which is necessary for allowing remote access among other things.

TASK TWO: Generate and Capture Network Traffic

```
Connection-specific DNS Suffix :
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . : fe80::59ba:e4cc:8eab:b251%15
Default Gateway . . . . . :
Ethernet adapter Bluetooth Network Connection:

Media State . . . . . . : Media disconnected
Connection-specific DNS Suffix :

C:\Users\Jason Hodge\piconfig /renew
Windows IP Configuration
No operation can be performed on Bluetooth Network Connection while it has its media disconnected.

Ethernet adapter Ethernet0:

Connection-specific DNS Suffix : localdomain
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . : fe80::59ba:e4cc:8eab:b251%15
IPv4 Address . . . . : 192.168.7.128
Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
Default Gateway . . . . :

Ethernet adapter Bluetooth Network Connection:

Media State . . . . . : Media disconnected
Connection-specific DNS Suffix : Media disconnected
```

Here we see the Windows client address has been changed to network 7.

```
C:\Users\Administrator>ipconfig

Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Ethernet0:

Connection-specific DNS Suffix .:
    IPv4 Address. . . . . . . . . 192.168.7.5
    Subnet Mask . . . . . . . . . . . . 255.255.255.0
    Default Gateway . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 192.168.7.1

C:\Users\Administrator>_
```

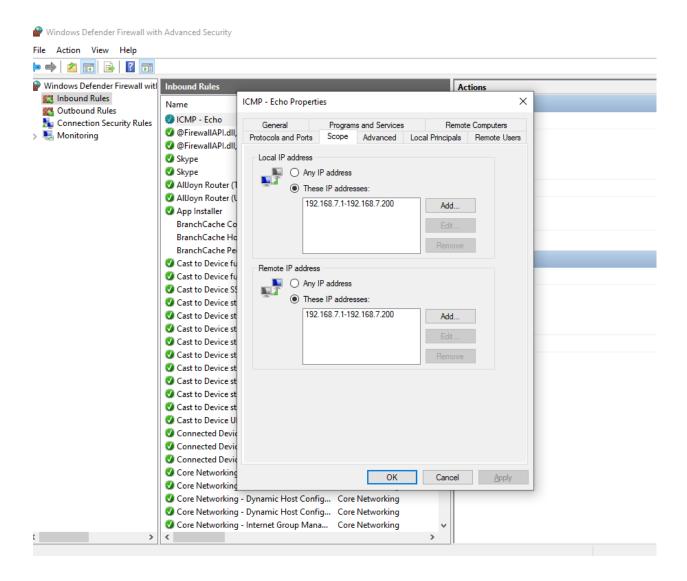
In this screenshot we see the Windows server IPv4 Address is apart of the same network as the client VM.

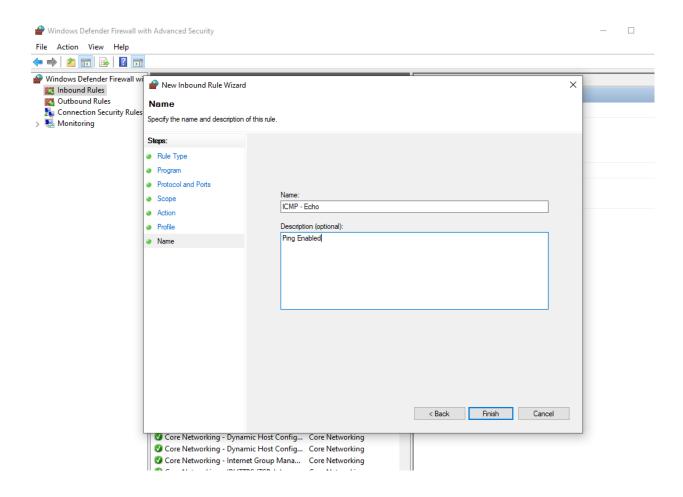
```
C:\Users\Jason Hodge>ping 192.168.7.5

Pinging 192.168.7.5 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 192.168.7.5: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=128
Ping statistics for 192.168.7.5:
Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
Minimum = 0ms, Maximum = 0ms, Average = 0ms

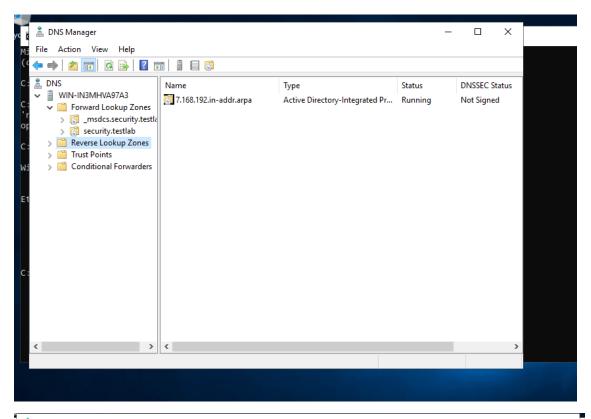
C:\Users\Jason Hodge>
```

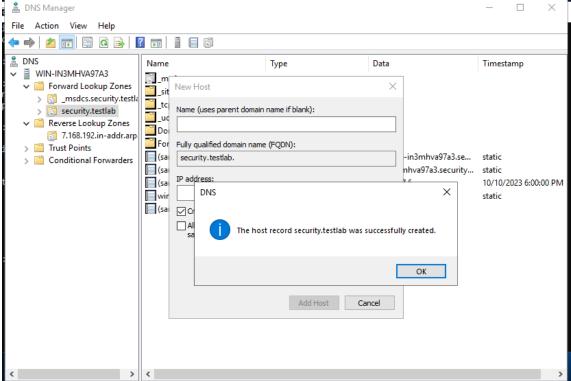
Here is a successful ping to the Windows server from the client.



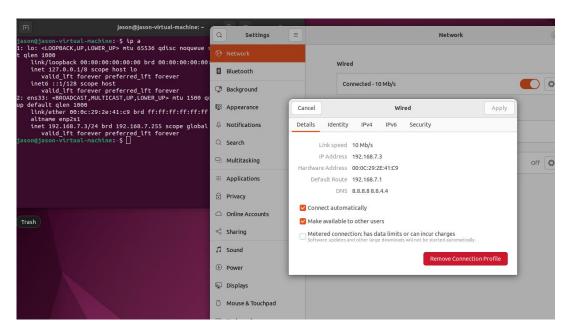


In these screenshots I added a new rule to the Windows Defender Firewall allowing for inbound ICMP Echo packets to be visible within a selected Ip address range.

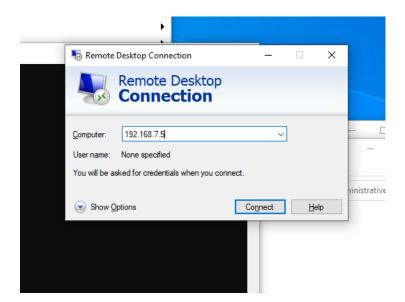




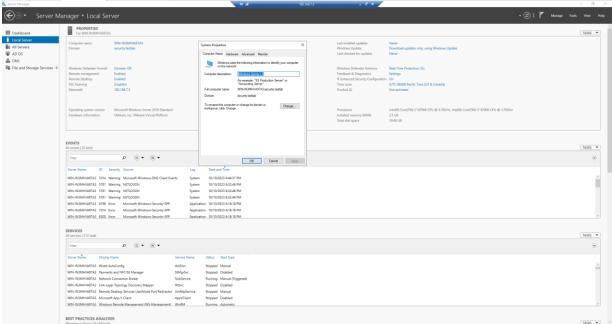
These two screenshots show the successful configuration of the DNS Windows Server with lookup zones for mapping host names to Ip addresses and vice versa.



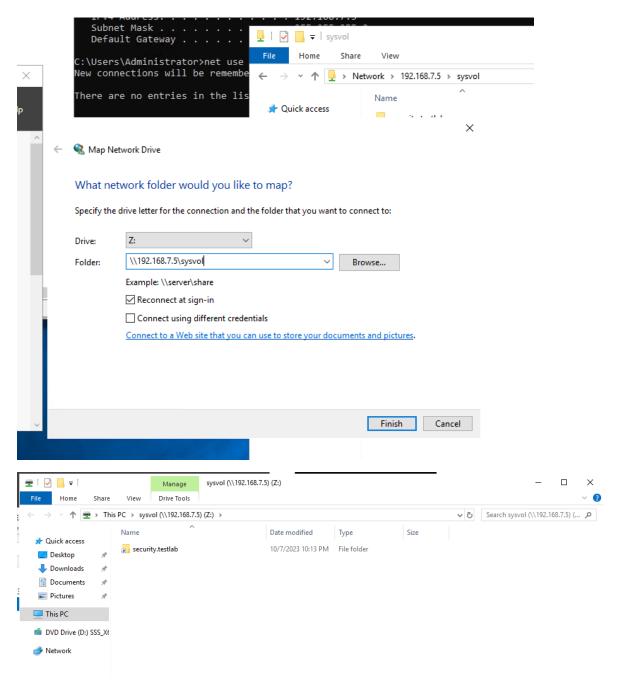
To get all three machines to exist on the same network I changed the Ip address on the 'sniffer' Ubuntu machine.





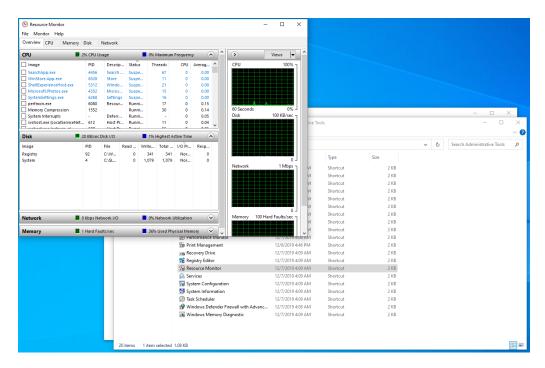


These three screenshots show how a remote desktop connection was opened from the Windows client machine to the Windows server. After the 'mstsc' command is run the initial connection page is opened where one can follow the prompts to connect to another machine.

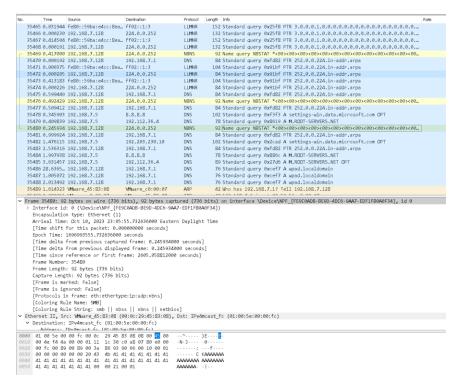


This shows the successful completion of mapping the network drive so both the client and the server can have access to the same resources. The command '\\((\text{host Ip})\)' was utilized where the host Ip was 192.168.7.5 (Server).

TASK THREE: Analyze Network Traffic:

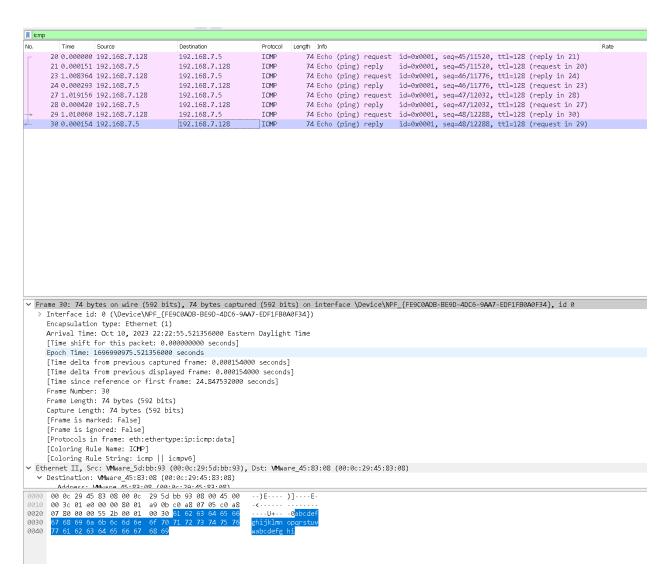


The resource monitor tool generated NBNS network traffic, or NetBIOS Name Service. I believe this appeared when I was viewing the resource monitor tool likely because it deals with internal parts and processes that are interconnected with a systems BIOS.



```
76 Standard query 0x3834 A wpad.localdomain
35434 2.001353 192.168.7.128
35435 1.712046 192.168.7.128
35436 0.000657 192.168.7.128
                                                                            192.168.7.1
                                                               DNS
                                                                          199 Name query response NBSTAT
104 Standard query 0xac2f PTR 1.7.168.192.in-addr.arpa
84 Standard query 0xac2f PTR 1.7.168.192.in-addr.arpa
86 Neighbor Solicitation for fe88:59ba:e4cc18eabib251 from 00:50:56:c0:0...
137 Standard query response 0xac2f PTR 1.7.168.192.in-addr.arpa PTR Maximu...
35437 0.000081 192.168.7.1
                                       192.168.7.128
                                                               NBNS
                                       224.0.0.252
35439 0.000194 192.168.7.128
                                                               LLMNR
35440 0.000111 fe80::9985:15ef:ae1... ff02::1:ffab:b251
35441 0.000058 192.168.7.1
                                      192.168.7.128
                                                               LLMNR
35442 0.000228 fe80::59ba:e4cc:8ea... fe80::9985:15ef:ae1... ICMPv6
35443 0.000074 fe80::9985:15ef:ae1... fe80::59ba:e4cc:8ea... LLMNR
                                                                           86 Neighbor Advertisement fe80::59ba:e4cc:8eab:b251 (sol, ovr) is at 00:0...
157 Standard query response 0xac2f PTR 1.7.168.192.in-addr.arpa PTR Maximu...
35444 0.120908 192.168.7.128
35445 0.877674 192.168.7.128
                                                                           192.168.7.1
                                       192.168.7.1
35446 0.122763 192.168.7.128
                                       192.168.7.1
                                                               DNS
                                                                           35447 1.014857 192.168.7.128
                                        192.168.7.1
                                                                           35448 0.877232 192.168.7.128
                                       192.168.7.1
35449 1.124688 192.168.7.128
                                        192.168.7.1
35450 0.148928 192.168.7.5
                                       8.8.8.8
                                                                           102 Standard query 0xb79c A settings-win.data.microsoft.com OPT
```

This is the NBNS protocol response.



Here we see the ICMP protocol response and replies to the ping between the Windows client and server machines.

Everything by this point was what I was expecting to see. I wish I played around with some more default tools and utilities in windows before ending the capture as this would have provided more data for me to work with when it came to this part of the lab. This would have likely included more data transfer protocols.

The NBNS and LLMNR protocols can be vulnerable to spoofing attacks where a bad actor could pretend to be the server and accept the incoming traffic as it comes in. (Triaxiomsecurity) According to Triaxiom Security, these packets are recommended to be disabled, if possible, with less and acuate DNS entries, as well as utilizing a WPAD. A WPAD, Web Proxy Auto-Discover, can be pointed to a corporate proxy service or can act as one. A WPAD cannot be impersonated by an attacker, so this provides a great sense of security.

Conclusion:

Throughout the course of completing this lab I hit some bumps in the road. For some reason no matter what I tried I could not get the ICMP packets to show in Wireshark within the Ubuntu client, with no success there and hours of time debugging, I ran Wireshark on my local machine and the packets and correct corresponding pings were there from the processes running on the virtual machines. I was relieved to see this and with that I was able to complete this lab.

References:

https://manage.accuwebhosting.com/knowledgebase/2609/How-to-Allow-Pingor-ICMP-Echo-Request-in-Windows-Firewall.html

https://youtu.be/6l2T7-4dJis?si=uN4V qFuvh3j64oB

https://www.triaxiomsecurity.com/vulnerability-walkthrough-nbns-and-llmnr-spoofing/