

cs3235:6: - Laboratory #6 for October 9th, 2019

Perform the laboratory individually, or in pairs (ie - a group of 2). Get comfortable using `tracert`, `nmapx`, `zenmap` and `wireshark` on the machines in the ITSEC/OS laboratory. Note that if you want you can install ALL these programs on your own machine at home to try them.

Every machine in the lab has an assigned network (IP) address, a single 32-bit integer, normally written as four numbers: 192.168.100.1. Each of the four numbers can have a value from 0 to 255 (and thus you only need 8 bits to represent each number: 11111111 in binary happens to be 255). All the machines in the lab lie between 192.168.100.0 and 192.168.100.255, and it is common to refer to the “network” as 192.168.100.*.

You will have to discover the specific IP information for your own machine for yourself, using the command `ifconfig`.

1 Lab 6, part 1: Using tools - nmap, wireshark

This section will familiarize you with `nmap`, a nugget in a network hacker’s toolchest. While doing



this laboratory, it is not absolutely necessary to wear Trinity’s dark glasses. But if you want, maybe Hugh will have some spare chocolate fish for the suitably attired.

You can find `nmap` pre-installed on the lab machines, or at the home site at <http://nmap.org/>.

The program `nmap`, short for “network mapper” probes a single computer or a whole network (ie, all the computers with addresses in a specified consecutive range) for services that run on the probed machines. The program normally runs as an administrative (root) user to get all its capabilities available. On the systems you will find a version of `nmap` called `nmapx` which will run as an administrative (root) user. You can run it in a terminal window with commands like this:

```
nmapx 192.168.100.123
nmapx 192.168.100.123 > resultofscanning.123.txt
nmapx -sP 192.168.100.0/24
```

While performing its probe, `nmap` (or `nmapx`) can take care to avoid being detected. It can also make a very good guess about the architecture and operating system of the probed computer (for example, how would you determine the operating system running on 129.128.100.123?).

Start by reading about `nmap` and try to understand as much as you can. You are not expected to be a TCP/IP wizard, and a rough understanding of how `nmap` achieves its goals is adequate. Try to understand how `nmap`/`nmapx` *stealthily* scans computers. Read `nmap`'s man page.

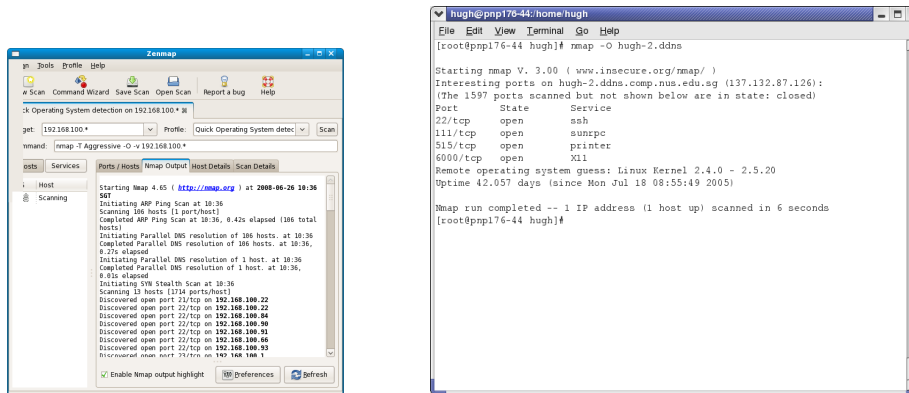


Figure 1: The program on Linux, GUI (zenmap) and command line (nmap)

Use both the GUI and command line versions of `nmap` (the GUI version is `zenmap`). The `zenmap` program actually just uses the `nmap` program, and you can see the `nmap` command it will run on the screen. Try running `nmapx` directly using the same commands, for example:

```
nmapx -T aggressive -O -v 192.168.100.105
```

Use `zenmap` or `nmapx` to scan all the machines in the lab to determine what ports are open (try the different options from the *Profile* selector). Using the information from the scans, identify possibly vulnerable machines or services¹.

1.1 Wireshark

While OS fingerprinting a machine, use `wireshark` to capture the packet flow between the two machines. This can be done by running `wireshark` (unprivileged) on the machine running `nmapx` and setting a filter to capture IP traffic to and from the target machine. Can you identify from the `wireshark` trace whether the machine is being scanned by `nmapx`? Hint: Are there funny packets that `nmapx` uses to do its fingerprinting that can be manually identified in a packet trace? Are there suddenly too many connections to the target machine from a single machine?

1.2 Capturing logins, and reconnaissance

On UNIX systems, it is relatively easy to remotely login to OTHER computers (ie other than the one you are sitting in front of), if you have an account on that other computer. Try to remotely login to the computer next to you. You will first need to find out its IP address, and then use

```
ssh -X a00**@192.168.100.***
```

¹There ARE some open machines in the lab, please do not modify them.

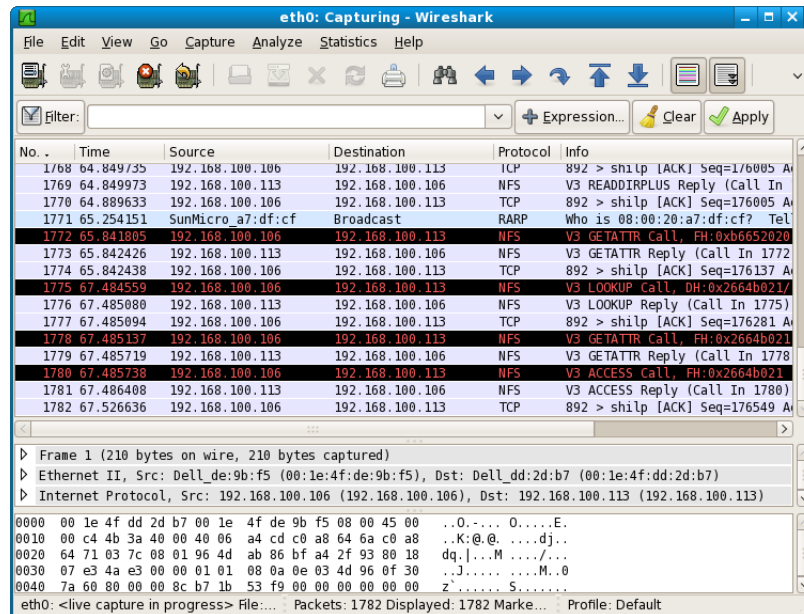


Figure 2: Wireshark on Linux

Once you have logged in to that computer, your programs will run on that computer, even though the display will be on your computer. Use the process status command to verify this: `ps`.

Use `/usr/sbin/wireshark` to capture the network traffic for the `ssh` login. Can you “see” your password?

The mysterious user `cs5` suspects that someone has discovered his/her login password and is interested in who is logging into his/her account. User `cs5` has set up an automated system which records timestamped logins to a file called `sshlogins`, and retrieves these remotely using `FTP` (A file transfer protocol) via an automated script which runs about once every minute.

Use `/usr/sbin/wireshark` to capture the network traffic for the `ftp` login. Can you “see” `cs5`’s password now?

Reconnaissance: assuming you have captured `cs5`’s password...

- Log in as user `cs5`, and look around his/her home directory. Please do not change anything (files or passwords) in `cs5`’s account. Perhaps you can discover other Really Secret Passwords by looking in places that no-one would ever think of looking in.
- Access the `cs3235` grading website, and enter your username, password, and the admin password along with whatever you want to give yourself as a mark:

<https://hugh.comp.nus.edu.sg/cs3235/lab6/gradeslab6-1.php>

You can give yourself a mark that you would be proud to have.

2 Lab 6, part 2: SEED TCP/IP attack lab

Have a look at the SEED TCP/IP attack lab, found at

https://www.cis.syr.edu/~wedu/seed/Labs_16.04/Networking/TCP_Attacks/

There is a lot in this laboratory, but I would like you to just try task 4, TCP session hijacking. As you work through it, come up with a series of clear instructions that would let others repeat your hijack.

Access the cs3235 grading website, and enter in a detailed description of how you did the TCP hijack:

<https://hugh.comp.nus.edu.sg/cs3235/lab6/gradeslab6-2.php>

3 Lab 6, part 3: Services, issues

In this part of the laboratory, you will be investigating DoS attacks. Your final goal will be to discover how difficult it is to deny people access to a web server.

The first step is to observe that there is a web server running on each of the lab machines. The web server is commonly called httpd (for the HTTP Daemon) or apache (for the apache daemon). Verify that your web server is running by running a browser against the URL `http://localhost/`, or `http://192.168.100.XXX/` (from another machine). If everything is working fine you should see an initial web page. How fast does your web server serve up the page?

You might also want to look at the processes and threads in the computer, and count the webserver threads:

```
a00XXXX@host$ ps -eLf | grep apache
```

Try out the slow loris attack

Visit the web site <https://github.com/llaera/slowloris.pl>, and download the ZIPfile. Unzip it and run the attack against your web server:

```
a00XXXX@host$ chmod +x slowloris.pl
a00XXXX@host$ ./slowloris.pl -dns localhost
or (from another host)...
a00XXXX@host$ ./slowloris.pl -dns 192.168.100.XXX
```

While the attack is going on, try to browse/refresh the web page. Look at the processes/threads in the computer running the web server, and count the processes/threads. Run wireshark while you are doing a slowloris attack.

Assessment

When you are finished, consider the following questions:

1. Why does `nmap` normally run as the root user? What security issues are raised when a normal user can run a version of `nmap` (like `nmapx`) which can run as a root user?
2. User `cs5` should be using another program (not `ftp`) to retrieve the file. What would be a suitable program, and why is it better?
3. What was the web server you attacked. Was it a recent version of the web server? Which web server has the most market share of web servers in the world?
4. The webserver was set up and started by the root user on the Ubuntu machines in the lab. Why are you (a normal unix user) not able to start a web server on port 80? What is the “security” issue?
5. Why is the web server running as `www-data`, and not as the user root? What is the “security” issue?

When you are finished with the laboratory, access the `cs3235` grading website, and enter your username, password, and the answers to the previous questions (1-5), in order:

`https://hugh.comp.nus.edu.sg/cs3235/lab6/gradeslab6-3.php`