

Experiment 07

Study the use of network reconnaissance tools like WHOIS, dig, traceroute, nslookup to gather information about networks and domain registrars.

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LO Mapped	LO3: Explore the different network reconnaissance tools to gather information about networks

Aim: Study the use of network reconnaissance tools like WHOIS, dig, traceroute, nslookup to gather information about networks and domain registrars.

Theory:

1. Whois: -

whois searches for an object in a WHOIS database. WHOIS is a query and response protocol that is widely used for querying databases that store the registered users of an Internet resource, such as a domain name or an IP address block, but is also used for a wider range of other information.

Most modern versions of whois try to guess the right server to ask for the specified object. If no guess can be made, whois will connect to whois.networksolutions.com for NIC handles or whois.arin.net for IPv4 addresses and network names.

Syntax:

```
whois [ -h HOST ] [ -p PORT ] [ -aCFHILMmrRSVx ] [ -g SOURCE:FIRST-LAST ]  
[ -i ATTR ] [ -S SOURCE ] [ -T TYPE ] object
```

Options:

- h HOST Connect to WHOIS database host HOST.
- H Suppress the display of legal disclaimers.
- p PORT When connecting, connect to network port PORT.
- verbose Operate verbosely.
- help Display a help message, and exit.

2. Dig Command: -

dig command stands for Domain Information Groper. It is used for retrieving information about DNS name servers. It is basically used by network administrators. It is used for verifying and troubleshooting DNS problems and to perform DNS lookups. Dig command replaces older tools such as nslookup and the host.

Installing dig command:-

In case of Debian/Ubuntu

```
$sudo apt-get install dnsutils
```

Working with dig command:

1. To query domain "A" record

```
dig google.com
```

This command causes dig to look up the “A” record for the domain name “geeksforgeeks.org”.

2. To query domain "A" record with +short

```
dig google.com +short
```

By default dig is verbose and by using “+short” option we can reduce the output drastically as shown.

3. To remove comment lines.

```
dig google.com +nocomments
```

This command makes a request and excludes the comment lines.

4. To set or clear all display flags.

```
dig google.com +noall
```

5. To query detailed answers.

```
dig google.com +noall +answer
```

If we want to view the answers section information in detail, we first stop the display of all section using "+noall" option and then query the answers section only by using "+answer" option with the dig command.

3. Traceroute command: -

traceroute command in Linux prints the route that a packet takes to reach the host. This command is useful when you want to know about the route and about all the hops that a packet takes. Below image depicts how traceroute command is used to reach the Google(172.217.26.206) hosts from the local machine and it also prints details about all the hops that it visits in between. The first column corresponds to the hop count. The second column represents the address of that hop and after that, you see three space-separated time in milliseconds. traceroute

command sends three packets to the hop and each of the time refers to the time taken by the packet to reach the hop.

Syntax:

tracert host_Address

eg. tracert google.com

4. nslookup command: -

nslookup (stands for "Name Server Lookup") is a useful command for getting information from the DNS server. It is a network administration tool for querying the Domain Name System (DNS) to obtain domain name or IP address mapping or any other specific DNS record. It is also used to troubleshoot DNS related problems.

Syntax:

nslookup [option]

e.g.

nslookup google.com :

nslookup followed by the domain name will display the "A Record" (IP Address) of the domain. Use this command to find the address record for a domain. It queries to domain name servers and get the details.

nslookup -type=ns google.com : Lookup for an ns record

NS (Name Server) record maps a domain name to a list of DNS servers authoritative for that domain. It will output the name services which are associated with the given domain.

nslookup 192.168.0.10 : Reverse DNS lookup

You can also do the reverse DNS look-up by providing the IP Address as argument to nslookup.

5. ping

PING (Packet Internet Groper) command is used to check the network connectivity between host and server/host. To stop pinging we should use ctrl+c otherwise it will keep on sending packets.

6. netstat

Netstat command displays various network related information such as network connections, routing tables, interface statistics, masquerade connections, multicast memberships etc.

Results:

1. whois command

```
manav@manav-virtual-machine:~$ whois google.com
Domain Name: GOOGLE.COM
Registry Domain ID: 2138514_DOMAIN_COM-VRSN
Registrar WHOIS Server: whois.markmonitor.com
Registrar URL: http://www.markmonitor.com
Updated Date: 2019-09-09T15:39:04Z
Creation Date: 1997-09-15T04:00:00Z
Registry Expiry Date: 2028-09-14T04:00:00Z
Registrar: MarkMonitor Inc.
Registrar IANA ID: 292
Registrar Abuse Contact Email: abusecomplaints@markmonitor.com
Registrar Abuse Contact Phone: +1.2086851750
Domain Status: clientDeleteProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientDeleteProhibited
Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientTransferProhibited
Domain Status: clientUpdateProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientUpdateProhibited
Domain Status: serverDeleteProhibited https://icann.org/epp#serverDeleteProhibited
Domain Status: serverTransferProhibited https://icann.org/epp#serverTransferProhibited
Domain Status: serverUpdateProhibited https://icann.org/epp#serverUpdateProhibited
Name Server: NS1.GOOGLE.COM
Name Server: NS2.GOOGLE.COM
Name Server: NS3.GOOGLE.COM
Name Server: NS4.GOOGLE.COM
DNSSEC: unsigned
URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: https://www.icann.org/wicf/
>>> Last update of whois database: 2022-09-05T03:30:49Z <<<

For more information on Whois status codes, please visit https://icann.org/epp
```

```
manav@manav-virtual-machine:~$ whois shiksha.com
Domain Name: SHIKSHA.COM
Registry Domain ID: 3070884_DOMAIN_COM-VRSN
Registrar WHOIS Server: whois.networksolutions.com
Registrar URL: http://networksolutions.com
Updated Date: 2020-02-25T04:27:05Z
Creation Date: 1997-09-02T04:00:00Z
Registry Expiry Date: 2023-09-01T04:00:00Z
Registrar: Network Solutions, LLC
Registrar IANA ID: 2
Registrar Abuse Contact Email: abuse@web.com
Registrar Abuse Contact Phone: +1.8003337680
Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientTransferProhibited
Name Server: A1-14.AKAM.NET
Name Server: A12-65.AKAM.NET
Name Server: A13-66.AKAM.NET
Name Server: A16-67.AKAM.NET
Name Server: A24-64.AKAM.NET
Name Server: A3-65.AKAM.NET
DNSSEC: unsigned
URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: https://www.icann.org/wicf/
>>> Last update of whois database: 2022-09-05T03:32:20Z <<<

For more information on Whois status codes, please visit https://icann.org/epp

NOTICE: The expiration date displayed in this record is the date the
registrar's sponsorship of the domain name registration in the registry is
currently set to expire. This date does not necessarily reflect the expiration
date of the domain name registrant's agreement with the sponsoring
registrar. Users may consult the sponsoring registrar's Whois database to
view the registrar's reported date of expiration for this registration.
```

2. dig command

```
es  Terminal  Sep 5 9:18 AM
manav@manav-virtual-machine: ~
manav@manav-virtual-machine:~$ dig google.com

; <<>> DiG 9.16.1-Ubuntu <<>> google.com
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 44559
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
; EDNS: version: 0, flags:; udp: 65494
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;google.com.                IN      A

;; ANSWER SECTION:
google.com.                5       IN      A      142.250.192.142

;; Query time: 3 msec
;; SERVER: 127.0.0.53#53(127.0.0.53)
;; WHEN: Mon Sep 05 09:03:21 IST 2022
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 55

manav@manav-virtual-machine:~$ dig facebook.com

; <<>> DiG 9.16.1-Ubuntu <<>> facebook.com
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 62206
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
; EDNS: version: 0, flags:; udp: 65494
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;facebook.com.              IN      A

;; ANSWER SECTION:
facebook.com.              5       IN      A      157.240.16.35

;; Query time: 8 msec
;; SERVER: 127.0.0.53#53(127.0.0.53)
;; WHEN: Mon Sep 05 09:09:37 IST 2022
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 57

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

3. traceroute command

```
es Terminal Sep 5 9:17 AM
manav@manav-virtual-machine: ~
manav@manav-virtual-machine:~$ traceroute google.com
traceroute to google.com (142.250.67.174), 64 hops max
 1  192.168.189.2  0.015ms  0.005ms  0.004ms
 2  * * *
 3  * * *
 4  * * *
 5  * * *
 6  * * *
 7  * * *
 8  * * *
 9  * * *
10  * * *
11  * * *
12  * * *
13  * * *
14  * * *
15  * * *
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30  * * *
31  * * *
32  * * *
33  * * *
34  * * *
35  * * *
36  * * *
37  * * *
38  * * *
39  * * *
40  * * *
41  * * *
42  * * ^C
manav@manav-virtual-machine:~$
```

4. nslookup

```
manav@manav-virtual-machine: ~
manav@manav-virtual-machine:~$ nslookup google.com
Server:      127.0.0.53
Address:     127.0.0.53#53

Non-authoritative answer:
Name:   google.com
Address: 142.250.192.142
Name:   google.com
Address: 2404:6800:4009:812::200e

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

5. ping

```
manav@manav-virtual-machine:~$ ping google.com
PING google.com (142.250.192.142) 56(84) bytes of data:
64 bytes from bom12s18-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.192.142): icmp_seq=1 ttl=128 time=69.4 ms
64 bytes from bom12s18-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.192.142): icmp_seq=2 ttl=128 time=3.13 ms
64 bytes from bom12s18-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.192.142): icmp_seq=3 ttl=128 time=2.71 ms
64 bytes from bom12s18-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.192.142): icmp_seq=4 ttl=128 time=3.25 ms
64 bytes from bom12s18-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.192.142): icmp_seq=5 ttl=128 time=3.15 ms
64 bytes from bom12s18-in-f14.1e100.net (142.250.192.142): icmp_seq=6 ttl=128 time=4.01 ms
^C
--- google.com ping statistics ---
6 packets transmitted, 6 received, 0% packet loss, time 5009ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 2.705/14.271/69.389/24.652 ms
manav@manav-virtual-machine:~$
```

6. netstat

```
manav@manav-virtual-machine:~$ netstat
Active Internet connections (w/o servers)

```

Proto	Recv-Q	Send-Q	Local Address	Foreign Address	State
tcp	0	0	manav-virtual-mac:57620	32.121.122.34.bc.g:http	FIN_WAIT2
tcp	0	0	manav-virtual-mac:44480	bom12s08-in-f13.1:https	TIME_WAIT
tcp	0	0	manav-virtual-mac:44474	bom12s08-in-f13.1:https	TIME_WAIT
tcp	0	0	manav-virtual-mac:44478	bom12s08-in-f13.1:https	TIME_WAIT
tcp	0	0	manav-virtual-mac:44476	bom12s08-in-f13.1:https	TIME_WAIT
udp	0	0	manav-virtual-ma:bootpc	192.168.189.254:bootps	ESTABLISHED

```
Active UNIX domain sockets (w/o servers)

```

Proto	RefCnt	Flags	Type	State	I-Node	Path
unix	2	[]	DGRAM		55874	/run/user/1000/systemd/notify
unix	3	[]	DGRAM	CONNECTED	27100	/run/systemd/notify
unix	2	[]	DGRAM		27114	/run/systemd/journal/syslog
unix	15	[]	DGRAM	CONNECTED	27124	/run/systemd/journal/dev-log
unix	8	[]	DGRAM	CONNECTED	27128	/run/systemd/journal/socket
unix	2	[]	DGRAM		43582	/var/spool/postfix/dev/log

Conclusion:

Thus, we have studied the use of network reconnaissance tools like WHOIS, dig, traceroute, nslookup to gather information about networks and domain registrars.