

# **Module 10**

## **Sniffing and Spoofing**

**Ansh Bhawnani**



# Sniffing Concepts

# 1. Introduction



## Sniffing Concepts

- Sniffing is a process of monitoring and capturing all data packets passing through a given network using sniffing tools.
- It is a form of wiretap applied to computer networks.
- Many enterprises' switch ports are open.
- Anyone in the same physical location can plug into the network using an Ethernet cable.



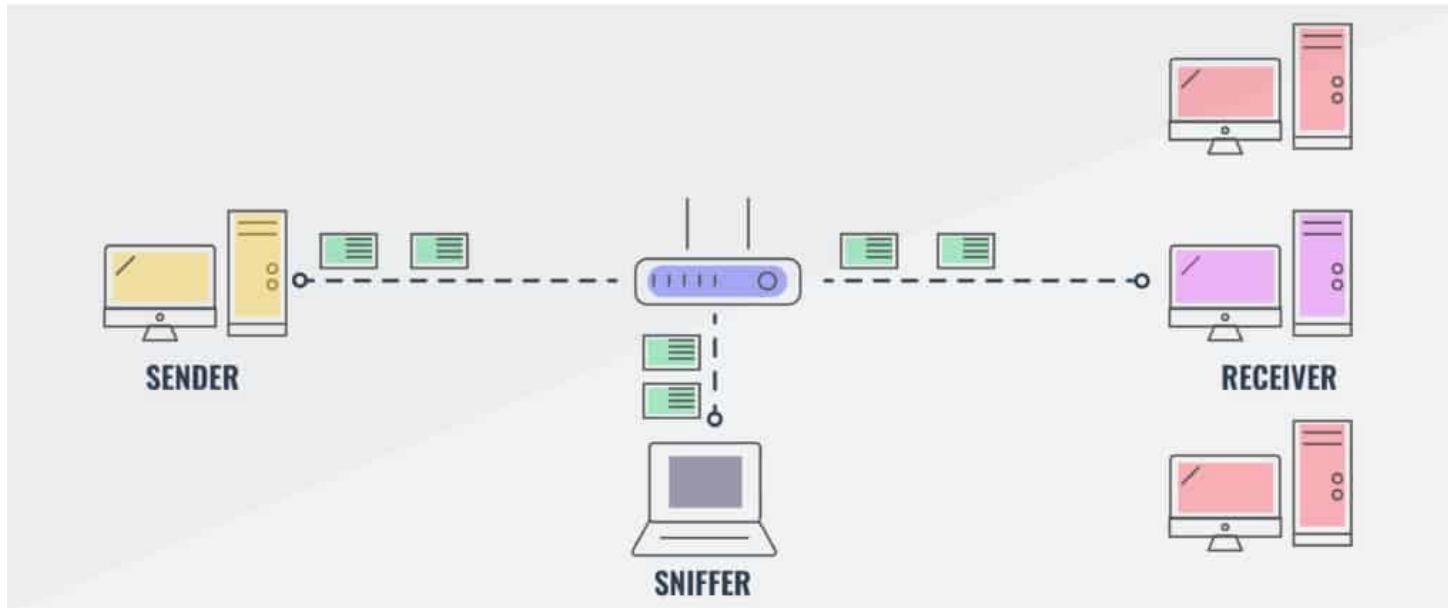
## Sniffing Concepts

### ■ How a Sniffer Works

- ▷ **Promiscuous Mode:** Sniffer turns the NIC of a system to the promiscuous mode so that it listens to all the data transmitted on its segment.
- ▷ **Decode Information:** A sniffer can constantly monitor all the network traffic to a computer through the NIC by decoding the information encapsulated in the data packet.



# Sniffing Concepts



## 2. Types of Sniffing



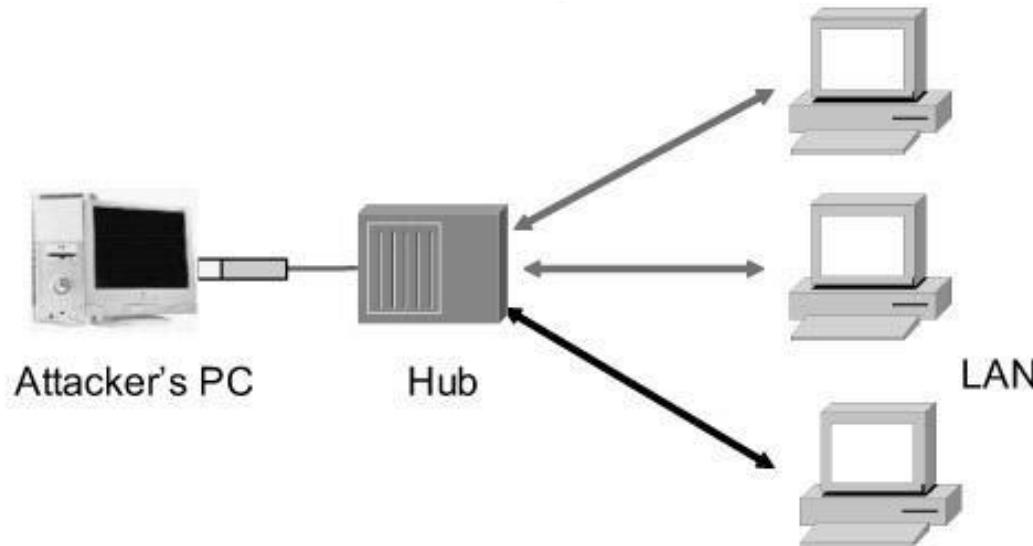
# Sniffing Concepts

## Passive Sniffing

- Passive sniffing means **sniffing through a hub**, on a hub the traffic is **sent to all ports**.
- It involves **only monitoring** of the packets sent by others **without sending** any **additional data packets** in the network traffic.
- In a network that use hubs to connect systems, **all hosts** on the network **can see all traffic** therefore attacker can easily capture traffic going through the hub.
- Hub usage is **out-dated** today. Most **modern** networks use **switches**.



## Sniffing Concepts





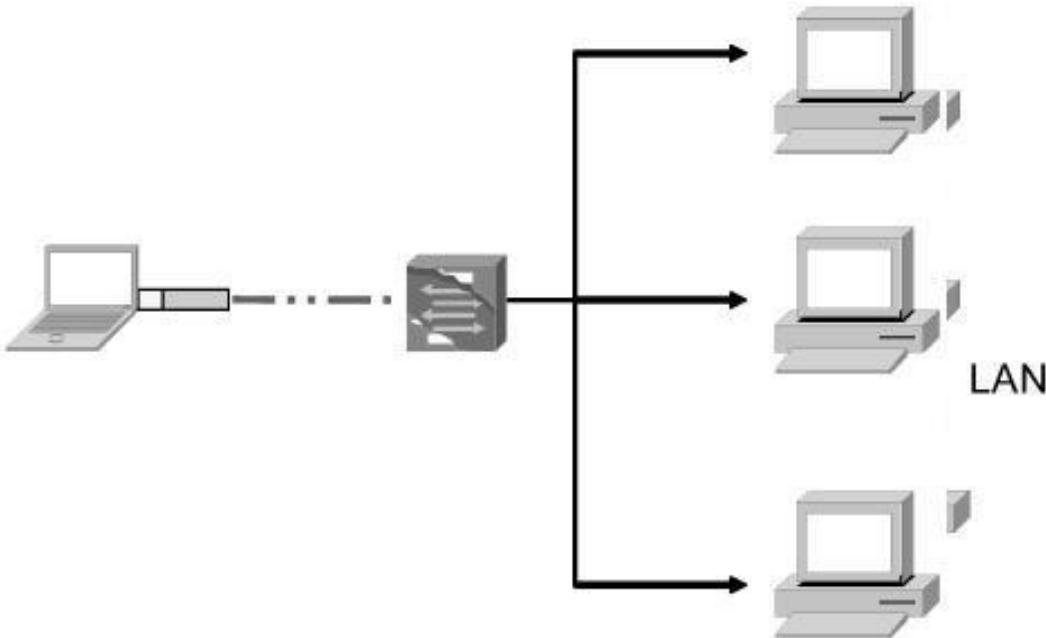
## Sniffing Concepts

### Active Sniffing

- ▷ Active sniffing is used to **sniff** a switch-based network.
- ▷ The attacker **forces** a switch to act like a hub.
- ▷ Active sniffing involves **injecting** address resolution packets (**ARP**) into the **network** to **flood** the switch's **Content Addressable Memory (CAM)** table, CAM keeps track of **which host is connected to which port**.



## Sniffing Concepts





## Sniffing Concepts

### ▷ Active Sniffing Techniques:

- ▷ MAC Flooding
- ▷ DNS Poisoning
- ▷ ARP Poisoning
- ▷ DHCP Attacks
- ▷ Switch Port Stealing
- ▷ Spoofing Attack



## Sniffing Concepts

### How an Attacker Hacks the Network Using Sniffers

- An attacker connects his laptop to a switch port.
- He runs discovery tools to learn about network topology.
- He identifies victim's machine to target his attacks.
- He poisons the victim machine by using ARP spoofing techniques.
- The traffic destined for the victim machine is redirected to the attacker.
- The hacker extracts passwords and sensitive data from the redirected traffic.



## Sniffing Concepts

### Protocol Vulnerable to Sniffing

- **HTTP:** Data sent in **clear text**
- **Telnet and Rlogin:** **Keystrokes** including user names and **passwords**
- **POP:** Passwords and data sent in **clear text**
- **IMAP:** Passwords and data sent in **clear text**
- **SMTP and NNTP:** Passwords and data sent in **clear text**
- **FTP:** Passwords and data sent in **clear text**



## Sniffing Concepts

### ■ Sniffing in the Data Link Layer of the OSI Model

- ▷ Sniffers operate at the **Data Link layer** of the OSI model.
- ▷ Networking **layers** in the OSI model are designed to work **independently** of each other; if a sniffer **sniffs** data in the Data Link layer, the **upper OSI layer** will **not be aware** of the sniffing.

# 3. Hardware Protocol Analyzer



## Sniffing Concepts

### Hardware Protocol Analyzer

- A hardware protocol analyzer is a **piece of equipment** that **captures signals** without altering the **traffic** in a cable segment.
- It can be used to **monitor network usage** and **identify malicious** network **traffic** generated by hacking software installed in the network.
- It **captures** a data **packet**, **decodes** it, and **analyzes** its content according to certain **predetermined** rules.
- It allows attacker to see **individual data bytes** of each packet passing through the cable.



# Sniffing Concepts



Keysight N2X N5540A



Keysight E2960B



RADCOM PrismLite Protocol Analyzer



RADCOM Prism UltraLite  
Protocol Analyzer



FLUKE Networks OptiView® XG  
Network Analyzer



FLUKE Networks OneTouch™  
AT Network Assistant

# 4. Wiretapping

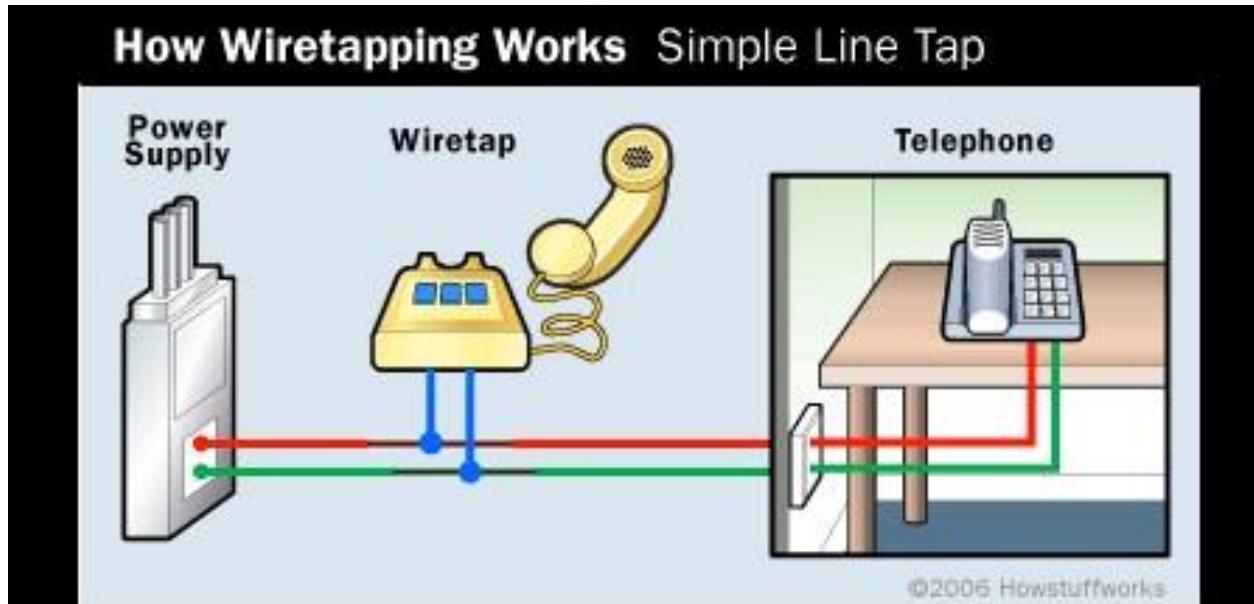


## Sniffing Concepts

- Wiretapping is the process of monitoring telephone and Internet conversations by a third party.
- Attackers connect a listening device (hardware/software) to the circuit carrying information between two phones or hosts on the Internet.
- It allows an attacker to monitor, intercept, access, and record information contained in a data flow in a communication system.
- **Types of Wiretapping:**
  - ▷ **Active Wiretapping:** It monitors, records, alters and also injects something into the communication or traffic.
  - ▷ **Passive Wiretapping:** It only monitors and records the traffic and gain knowledge of the data it contains.



## Sniffing Concepts





# Sniffing Concepts

## ■ Lawful Interception

- ▶ Lawful interception refers to **legally intercepting data communication between two end points for surveillance** on the traditional **telecommunications, VoIP, data, and multiservice networks**.

## ■ Wiretapping Case Study: PRISM

- ▶ PRISM stands for "**Planning Tool for Resource Integration, Synchronization, and Management**," and is a "**data tool**" designed to collect and process "**foreign intelligence**" that passes through American servers.
- ▶ NSA wiretaps a huge amount of **foreign internet traffic** that is **routed** through or saved on U.S. servers.

# MAC Attacks

# 1. MAC Flooding



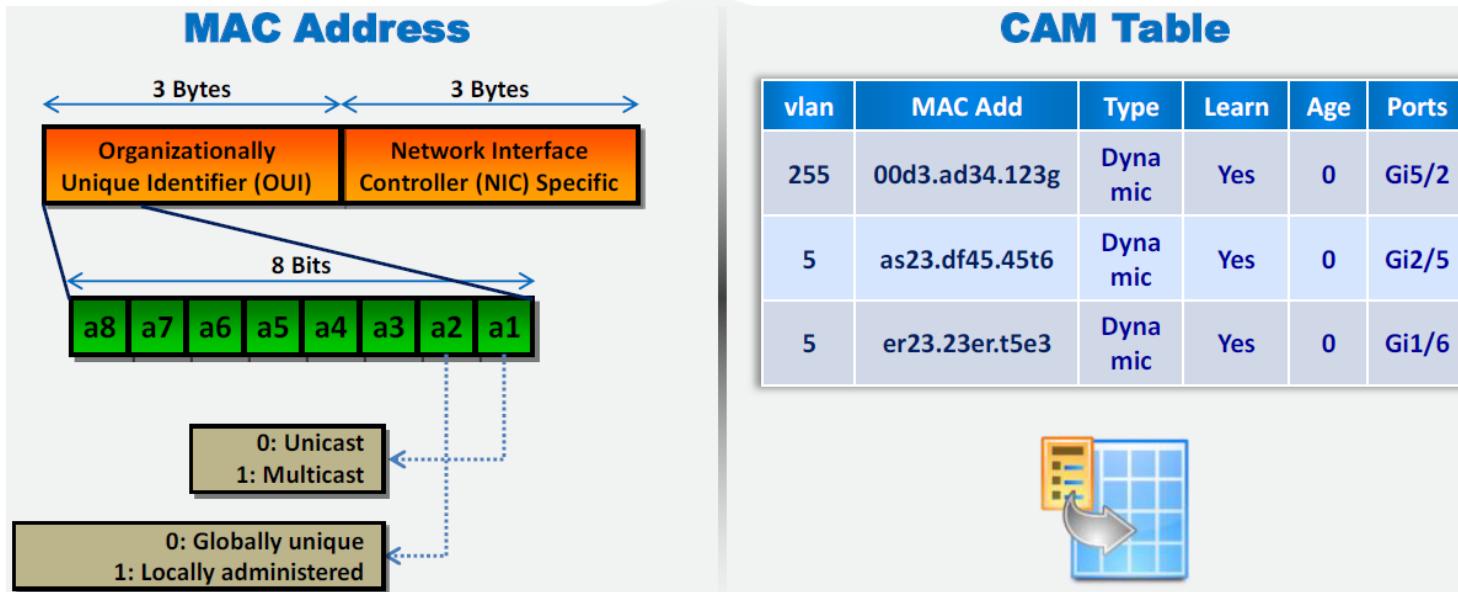
## MAC Attacks

### ■ MAC Address/CAM Table

- ▷ Each switch has a fixed size dynamic Content Addressable Memory (CAM) table.
- ▷ The CAM table stores information such as MAC addresses available on physical ports with their associated VLAN parameters.



# MAC Attacks



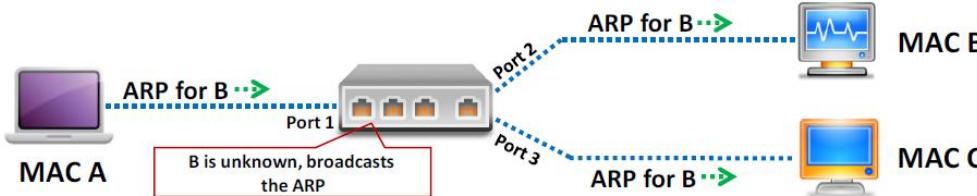


# MAC Attacks

1

| MAC | PORT |
|-----|------|
| A   | 1    |
| C   | 3    |

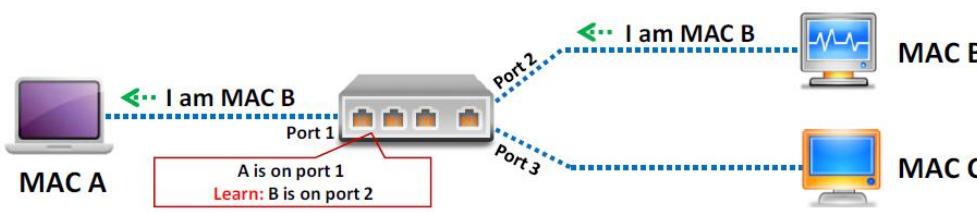
CAM Table



2

| MAC | PORT |
|-----|------|
| A   | 1    |
| B   | 2    |
| C   | 3    |

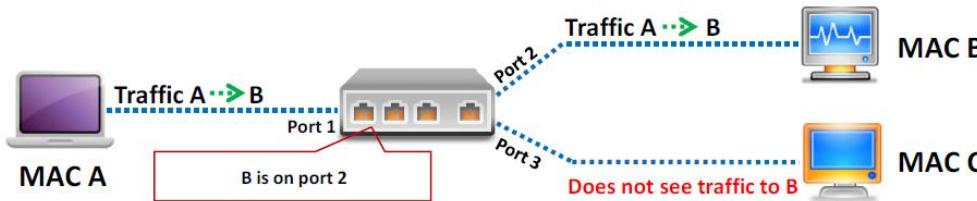
CAM Table



3

| MAC | PORT |
|-----|------|
| A   | 1    |
| B   | 2    |
| C   | 3    |

CAM Table





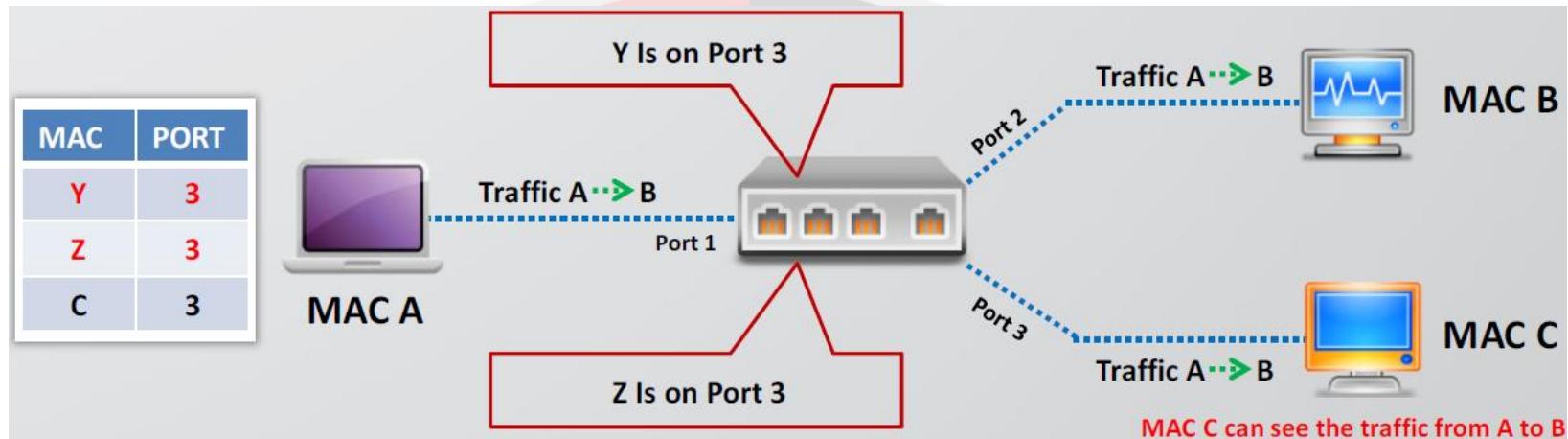
## MAC Attacks

### ■ What Happens When CAM Table Is Full?

- Once the CAM table on the switch is full, additional ARP request traffic will flood every port on the switch.
- This will change the behavior of the switch to reset to its learning mode or fail open mode, broadcasting on every port similar to a hub.
- This attack will also fill the CAM tables of adjacent switches.



## MAC Attacks





## MAC Attacks

### MAC Flooding

- ▷ MAC flooding involves **flooding of CAM table** with fake MAC address and IP pairs **until it is full**.
- ▷ Switch then **acts as a hub** by broadcasting packets to all machines on the network and **attackers can sniff** the traffic easily.

# 2. Switch Port Stealing



## MAC Attacks

- Switch Port Stealing sniffing technique **uses MAC flooding** to sniff the packets.
- Attacker floods the switch with forged gratuitous ARP packets with target MAC address as source and his own MAC address as destination.
- A race condition of attacker's flooded packets and target host packets will occur and thus **switch** has to **change his MAC address binding constantly** between two different ports.



## MAC Attacks

- In such case **if attacker is fast** enough, he will able to **direct the packets intended for the target host toward his switch port**.
- Attacker now manages to **steal the target host switch port** and **sends ARP request to stolen switch port** to discover target hosts' IP address.
- When attacker gets **ARP reply**, this indicates that **target host's switch port binding has been restored** and **attacker can now able to sniff the packets sent toward targeted host**.

# 3. Defend against MAC attacks



## MAC Attacks

- Configuring Port Security on Cisco switch.
- Port security can be used to restrict inbound traffic from only a selected set of MAC addresses and limit MAC flooding attack.

# DHCP Attacks



# 1. How DHCP works



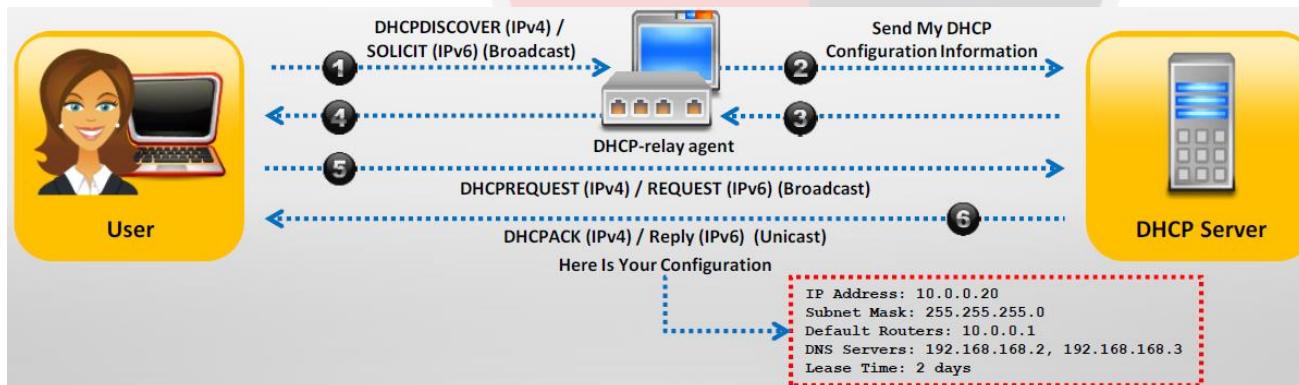
## DHCP Attacks

- DHCP servers maintain TCP/IP configuration information in a **database** such as valid TCP/IP configuration parameters, **valid IP addresses**, and **duration of the lease** offered by the server.
- It provides **address configurations** to **DHCP-enabled clients** in the form of a **lease offer**.
- Client broadcasts **DHCPDISCOVER/SOLICIT** request **asking** for **DHCP Configuration Information**.
- DHCP-relay agent captures the client request and **unicasts** it to the **DHCP servers available in the network**.
- DHCP server **unicasts DHCPOFFER/ADVERTISE**, which **contains** client and server's **MAC address**.



## DHCP Attacks

- Relay agent broadcasts **DHCPOFFER/ADVERTISE** in the client's subnet.
- Client broadcasts **DHCPREQUEST/REQUEST** asking DHCP server to provide the **DHCP configuration** information.
- DHCP server sends unicast **DHCPACK/REPLY** message to the client with the **IP config** and information.





# DHCP Attacks

| OP Code                                   | Hardware Type | Hardware Length | HOPS |  |  |
|---|---------------|-----------------|------|--|--|
| Transaction ID (XID)                      |               |                 |      |  |  |
| Seconds                                   |               | Flags           |      |  |  |
| Client IP Address (CIADDR)                |               |                 |      |  |  |
| Your IP Address (YIADDR)                  |               |                 |      |  |  |
| Server IP Address (SIADDR)                |               |                 |      |  |  |
| Gateway IP Address (GIADDR)               |               |                 |      |  |  |
| Client Hardware Address (CHADDR)—16 bytes |               |                 |      |  |  |
| Server Name (SNAME)—64 bytes              |               |                 |      |  |  |
| Filename—128 bytes                        |               |                 |      |  |  |
| DHCP Options                              |               |                 |      |  |  |

# 2. DHCP Starvation attack

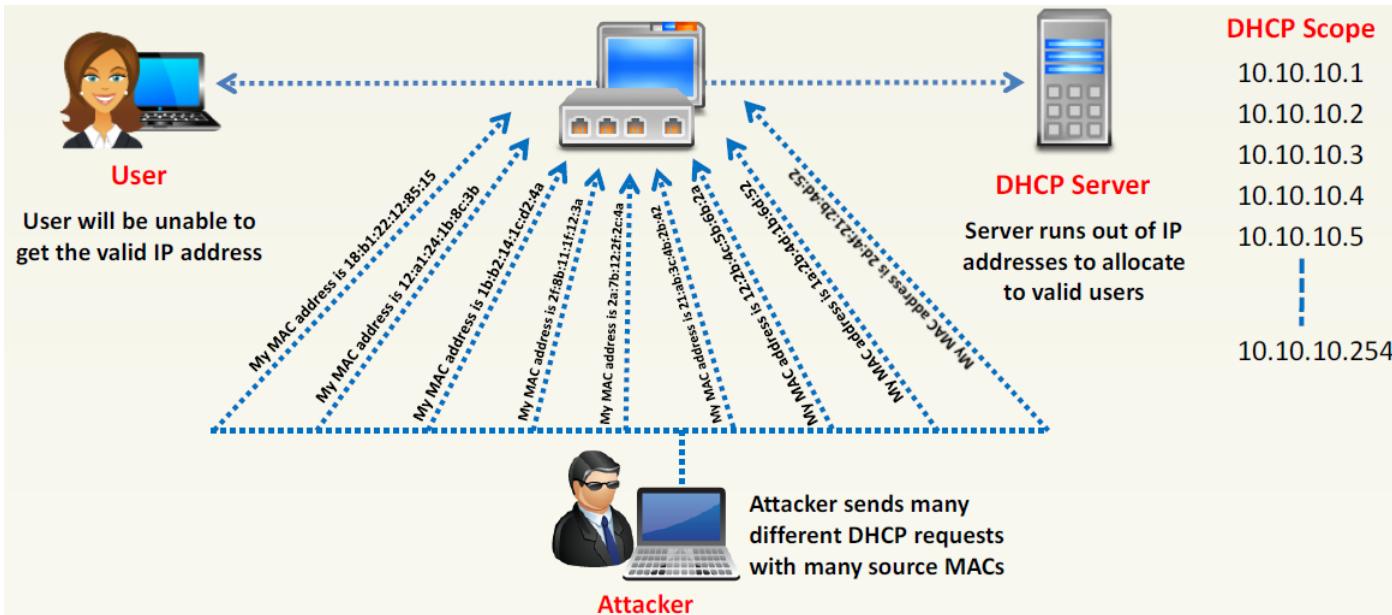


## DHCP Attacks

- This is a denial-of-service (DoS) attack on the **DHCP servers** where attacker broadcasts forged DHCP requests and tries to lease all of the **DHCP addresses available** in the DHCP scope.
- As a result **legitimate user** is **unable** to obtain or **renew** an IP address requested **via DHCP**, failing access to the **network** access. .



# DHCP Attacks





## DHCP Attacks

44

- This is a denial-of-service (DoS) attack on the **DHCP servers** where attacker broadcasts forged DHCP requests and tries to lease all of the **DHCP addresses available** in the DHCP scope.
- As a result **legitimate user** is **unable** to obtain or **renew** an IP address requested **via DHCP**, failing access to the **network** access. .

# 3. Rogue DHCP server attack

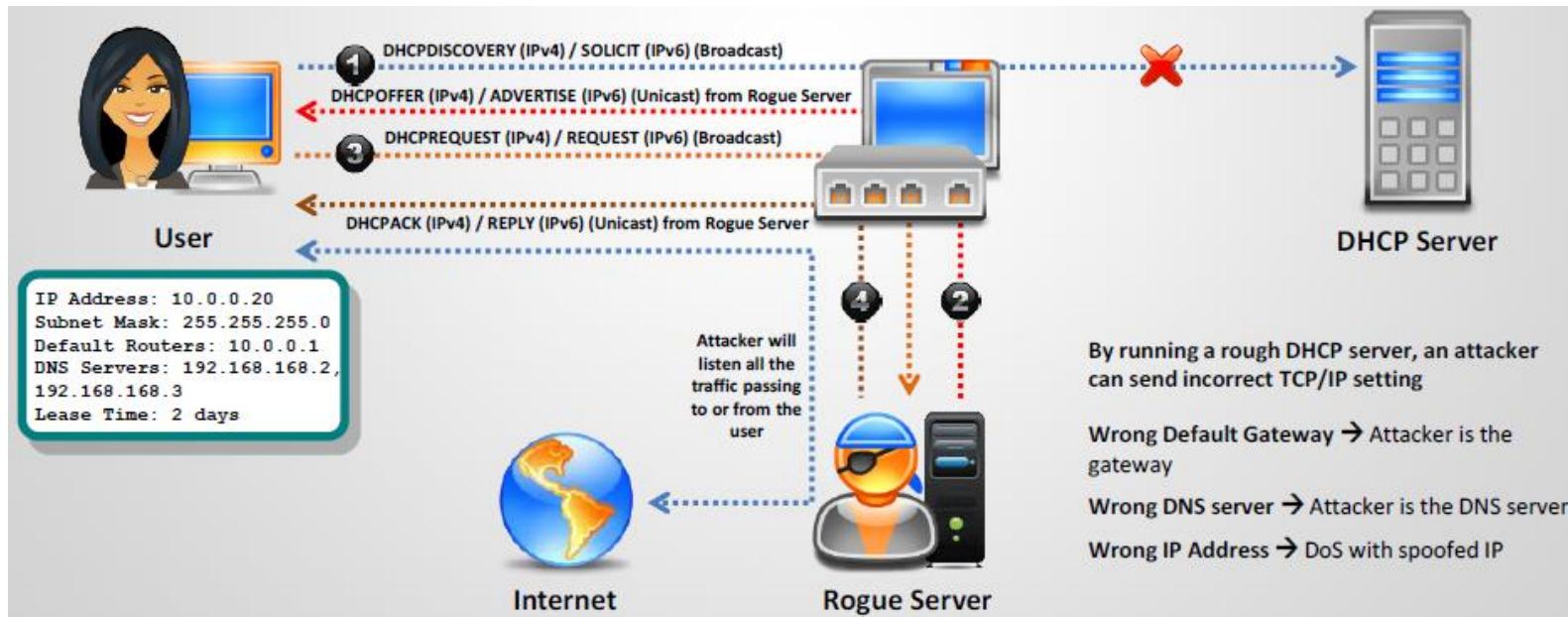


## DHCP Attacks

- Attacker sets rogue DHCP server in the network and responds to DHCP requests with bogus IP addresses; this results in compromised network access.
- This attack works in conjunction with the DHCP Starvation attack; attacker sends TCP/IP setting to the user after knocking him/her out from the genuine DHCP server.



# DHCP Attacks



# 4. Defend Against DHCP Starvation and Rogue Server Attack



## DHCP Attacks

- Enable port security to defend against DHCP starvation attack.
  - ▷ Configuring MAC limit on switch's edge ports drops the packets from further MACs once the limit is reached.
- Enable DHCP snooping that allows switch to accept DHCP transaction coming only from a trusted port.

# ARP Attacks

# 1. ARP Introduction



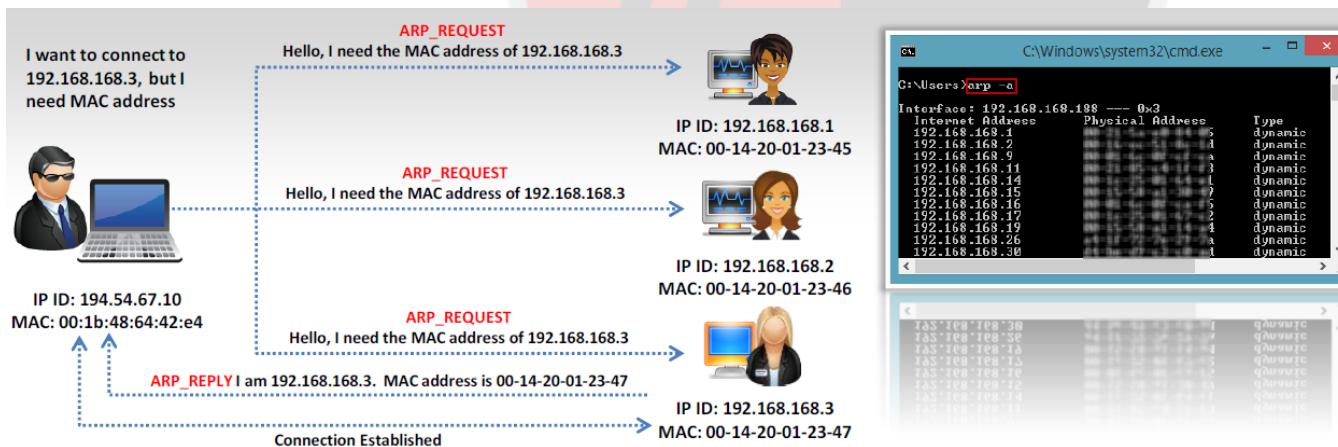
## ARP Attacks

- Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) is a **stateless protocol** used for **resolving IP addresses** **to** machine (**MAC**) addresses.
- All network devices (that needs to communicate on the network) **broadcasts ARP queries** in the network **to find out other machines' MAC** addresses.
- When one machine needs to communicate with another, it **looks up its ARP table**. If the **MAC** address is **not found** in the table, the **ARP\_REQUEST** is **broadcasted** over the network.
- All machines on the network will **compare this IP address** **to** their **MAC address**.



# ARP Attacks

- If one of the machine in the network identifies with this address, it will respond to ARP\_REQUEST with its IP and MAC address. The requesting machine will store the address pair in the ARP table and communication will take place.



# 2. ARP Spoofing Attack



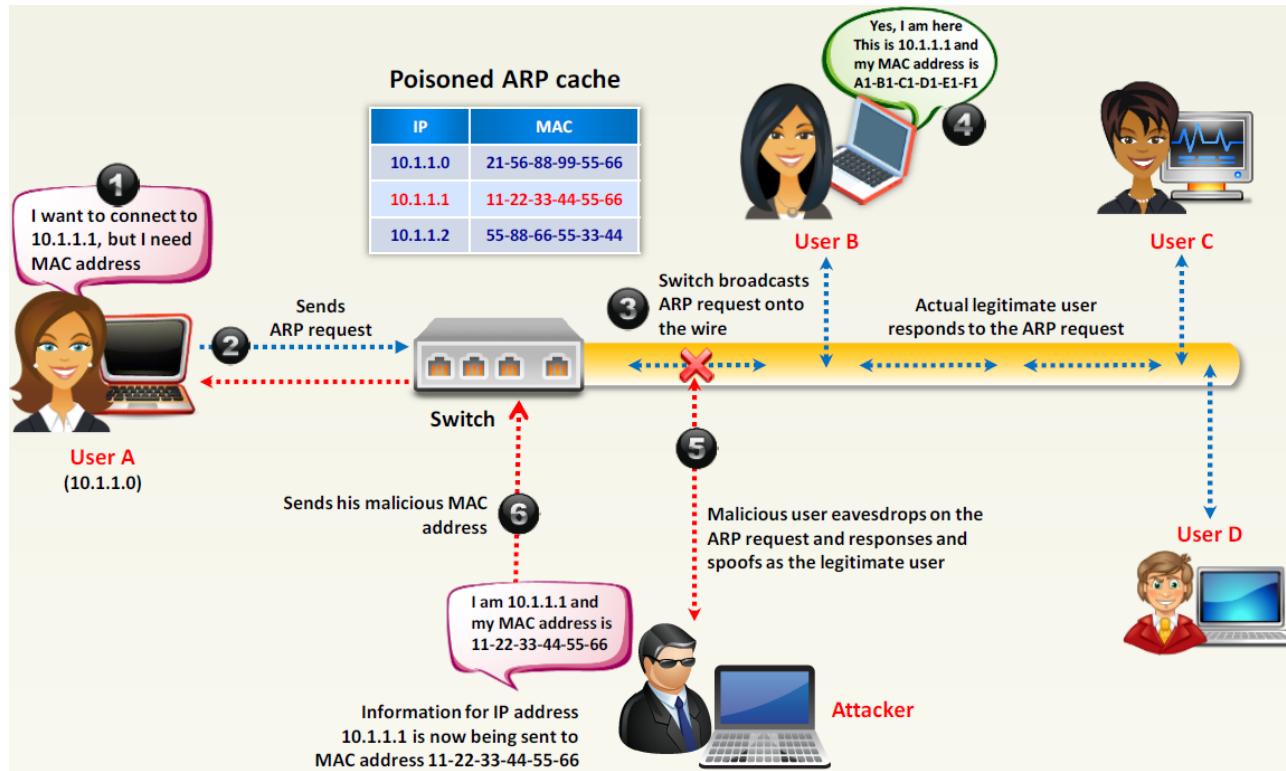
## ARP Attacks

- ARP packets can be forged to send data to the attacker's machine.
- ARP Spoofing involves constructing a large number of forged ARP request and reply packets to overload a switch.
- Switch is set in "forwarding mode" after ARP table is flooded with spoofed ARP replies and attackers can sniff all the network packets.
- Attackers flood a target computer's ARP cache with forged entries, which is also known as poisoning.

# 3. How ARP Spoofing works



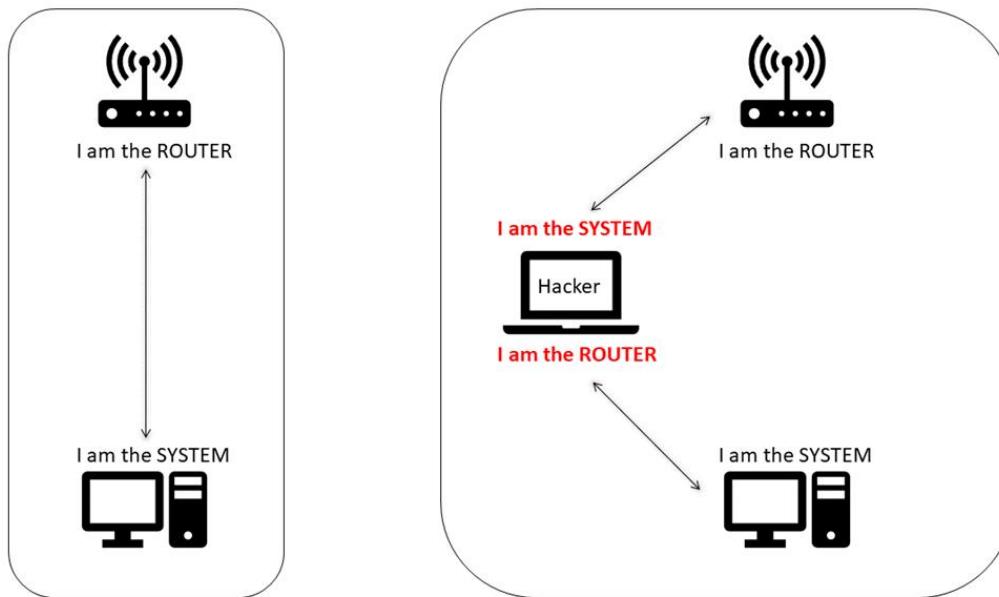
# ARP Attacks





# ARP Attacks

edureka!



ARP Spoofing



## ARP Attacks

### Threats of ARP Poisoning

- Using fake ARP messages, an attacker can divert all communications between two machines so that all traffic is exchanged via his/her PC.

### The threats of ARP poisoning include:

- Packet Sniffing
- Session Hijacking
- VoIP Call Tapping
- Man-in-the-Middle Attack (Interception and Manipulation)
- Connection Hijacking
- Connection Resetting
- Stealing Passwords
- Denial-of-Service (DoS) Attack



## ARP Attacks

### ■ ARP Poisoning Tools: Cain & Abel and WinArpAttacker

- ▷ **Cain & Abel:** Cain & Abel allows **sniffing** packets of various protocols on switched LANs by **hijacking** IP traffic of multiple hosts **concurrently**.
- ▷ **WinArpAttacker:** WinArpAttackdr sends IP conflict packets to target computers **as fast as possible** and **diverts** all communications.

# 4. Defend against ARP Poisoning



## ARP Attacks

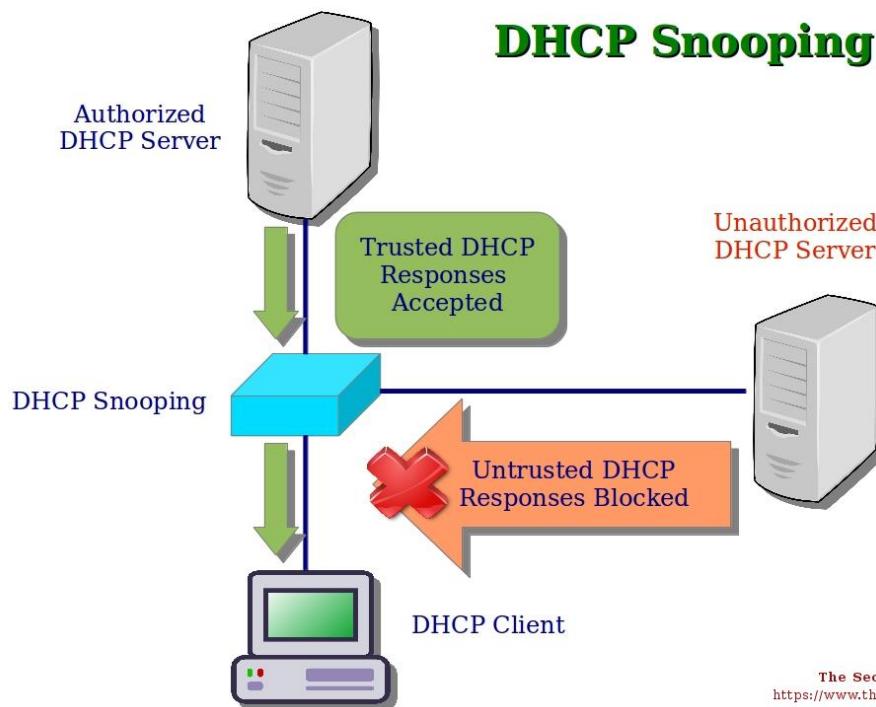
### ■ Implement **Dynamic ARP Inspection** Using **DHCP Snooping** Binding Table.

- ▷ DHCP Snooping **rejects** invalid and **malicious** ARP packets
- ▷ DAI relies on **DHCP snooping**. DHCP snooping **listens** to DHCP **message exchanges** and **builds** a **bindings database** of valid **tuples** (**MAC address**, **IP address**, **VLAN interface**).
- ▷ The switch **drops** ARP packet if the **sender MAC address** and **sender IP address** **do not match** an **entry** in the DHCP snooping **bindings database**.



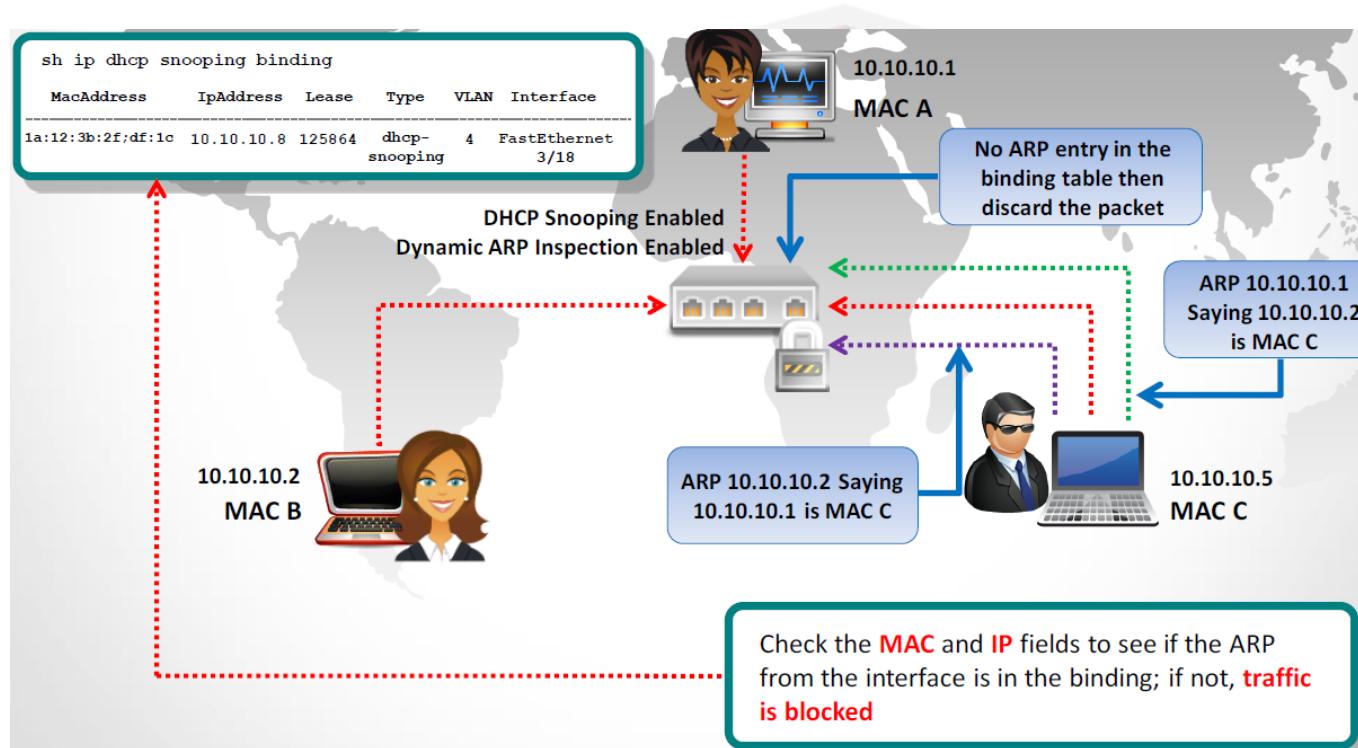
# ARP Attacks

## DHCP Snooping





# ARP Attacks





## ARP Attacks

### ■ ARP Spoofing Detection: XArp

- XArp helps users to **detect ARP attacks** and keep their data private.
- It allows **administrators** to **monitor whole subnets** for ARP attacks.
- Different **security levels** and **fine tuning** possibilities allow normal and power users to efficiently use XArp to detect ARP attacks.

# Spoofing Attacks

# 1. MAC Spoofing



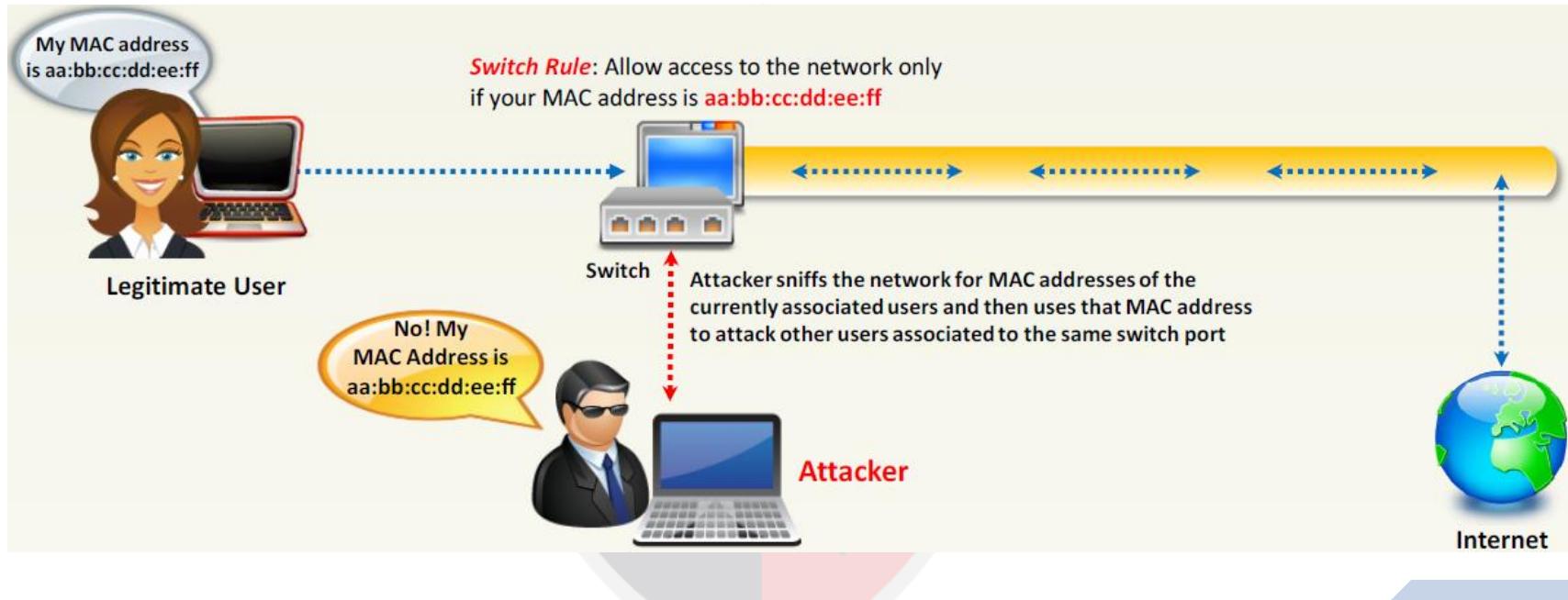
# Spoofing Attacks

## MAC Spoofing/Duplicating

- ▷ MAC **duplicating** attack is launched by **sniffing a network** for MAC addresses of **clients** who are **actively associated** with a switch port and **re-using one of those addresses**.
- ▷ By listening to the traffic on the network, a malicious user can **intercept** and **use a legitimate user's MAC** address to receive all the traffic destined for the user.
- ▷ This attack allows an attacker to gain access to the network and **take over someone's identity** already on the network.
- ▷ **Defense:** Use **DHCP Snooping Binding Table**, **Dynamic ARP Inspection**, and **IP Source Guard**.



# Spoofing Attacks



## 2. IRDP Spoofing

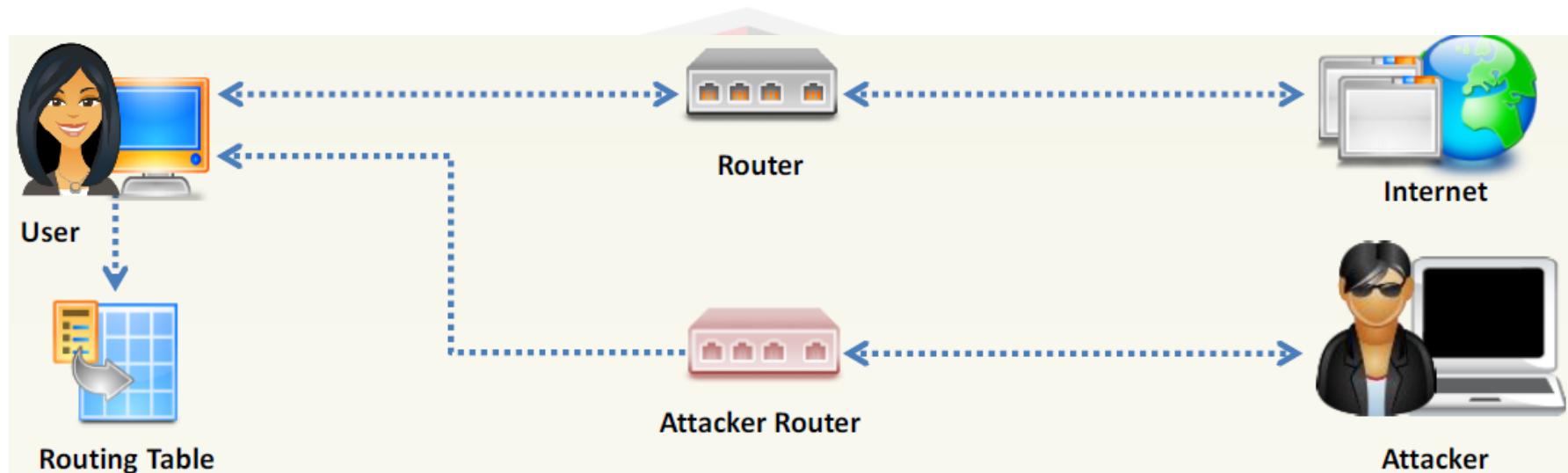


## Spoofing Attacks

- ICMP Router Discovery Protocol (IRDP) is a routing protocol that allows host to discover the IP addresses of active routers on their subnet by listening to router advertisement and solicitation messages on their network.
- Attacker sends spoofed IRDP router advertisement message to the host on the subnet, causing it to change its default router to whatever the attacker chooses.
- This attack allows attacker to sniff the traffic and collect the valuable information from the packets.
- Attackers can use IRDP spoofing to launch man-in-the-middle, denial-of-service, and passive sniffing attacks.



## Spoofing Attacks





# DNS Spoofing/ DNS Poisoning

**Module 10**

# 1. Introduction



## DNS Spoofing

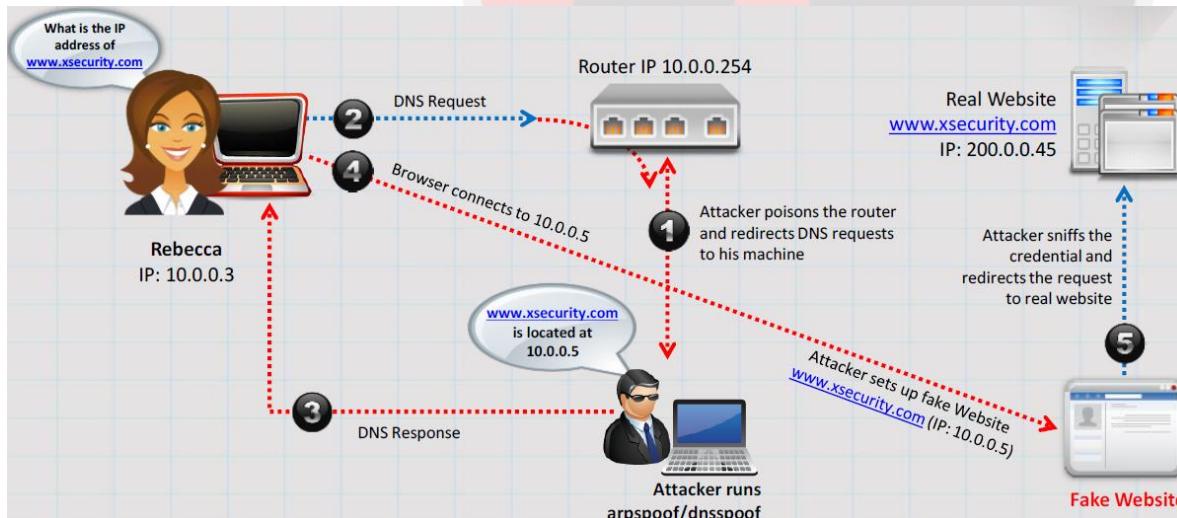
- DNS poisoning is a technique that **tricks a DNS server into believing** that it has **received authentic information** when, in **reality**, it has not.
- It results in **substitution** of a **false IP address** at the DNS level where **web addresses** are converted into numeric IP addresses.
- It allows attacker to **replace IP address entries** for a **target** site on a given DNS server **with IP address of the server** he/she controls.
- Attacker can **create fake DNS entries** for the server (containing malicious content) **with same names** as that of the target server.

# 2. Intranet DNS Spoofing



# DNS Spoofing

- For this technique, you must be connected to the local area network (LAN) and be able to sniff packets.
- It works well against switches with ARP poisoning the router.

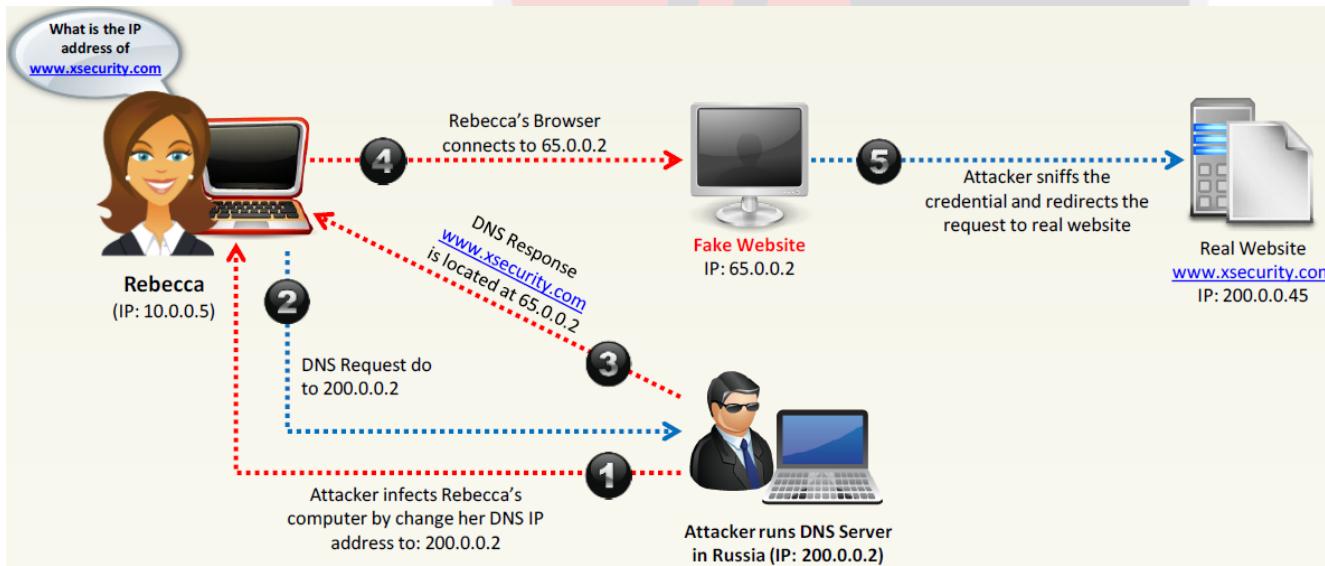


# 3. Internet DNS Spoofing



# DNS Spoofing

- Internet DNS Spoofing, attacker **infects** Rebecca's machine with a Trojan and **changes** her DNS IP address to that of the **attacker's**.





# 4. Proxy Server DNS Poisoning



# DNS Spoofing

- Attacker sends a Trojan to Rebecca's machine that changes her proxy server settings in Internet Explorer to that of the attacker's and redirects to fake website.



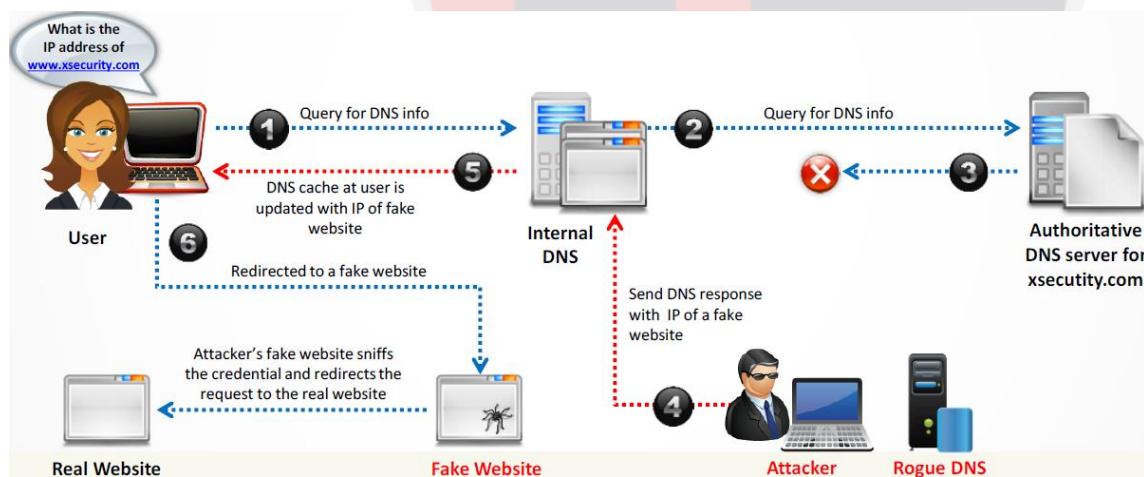


# 5. DNS Cache Poisoning



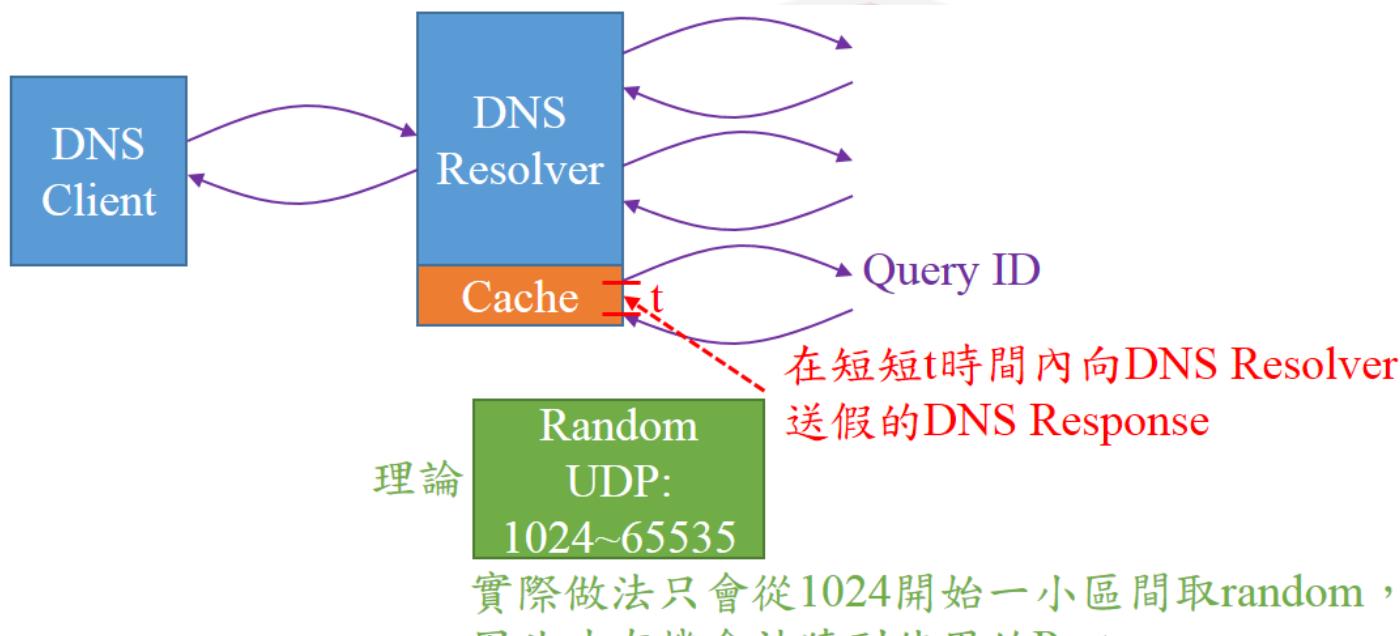
# DNS Spoofing

- DNS cache poisoning refers to **altering or adding forged DNS records** into the DNS resolver cache so that a DNS query is **redirected** to a **malicious site**.
- If the DNS **resolver** cannot validate that the DNS **responses** have come from an **authoritative source**, it will **cache the incorrect entries** locally and **serve them to users** who make the same request.





## DNS Spoofing



# 6. How to Defend Against DNS Spoofing



## DNS Spoofing

- Resolve all DNS queries to local DNS server.
- Block DNS requests from going to external servers.
- Configure firewall to restrict external DNS lookup.
- Implement IDS and deploy it correctly.
- Implement DNSSEC.
- Configure DNS resolver to use a new random source port for each outgoing query.
- Restrict DNS recurring service, either full or partial, to authorized users.
- Use DNS Non-Existent Domain (NXDOMAIN) Rate Limiting.
- Secure your internal machines.

# Sniffing Detection



## Sniffing Detection

### ■ Promiscuous Mode:

- ▷ You will need to check which machines are running in the promiscuous mode.
- ▷ Promiscuous mode allows a network device to intercept and read each network packet that arrives in its entirety.

### ■ IDS:

- ▷ Run IDS and notice if the MAC address of certain machines has changed (Example: router's MAC address)
- ▷ IDS can alert the administrator about suspicious activities.



## Sniffing Detection

### ■ Network Tools:

- ▷ Run network tools such as Capsa Network Analyzer to monitor the network for strange packets.
- ▷ It enables you to collect, consolidate, centralize and analyze traffic data across different network resources and technologies.

# 1. Ping method



## Sniffing Detection

- Send a ping request to the suspect machine with its IP address and incorrect MAC address. The Ethernet adapter reject it, as the MAC address does not match, whereas the suspect machine running the sniffer responds to it as it does not reject packets with a different MAC address.



## 2. ARP method

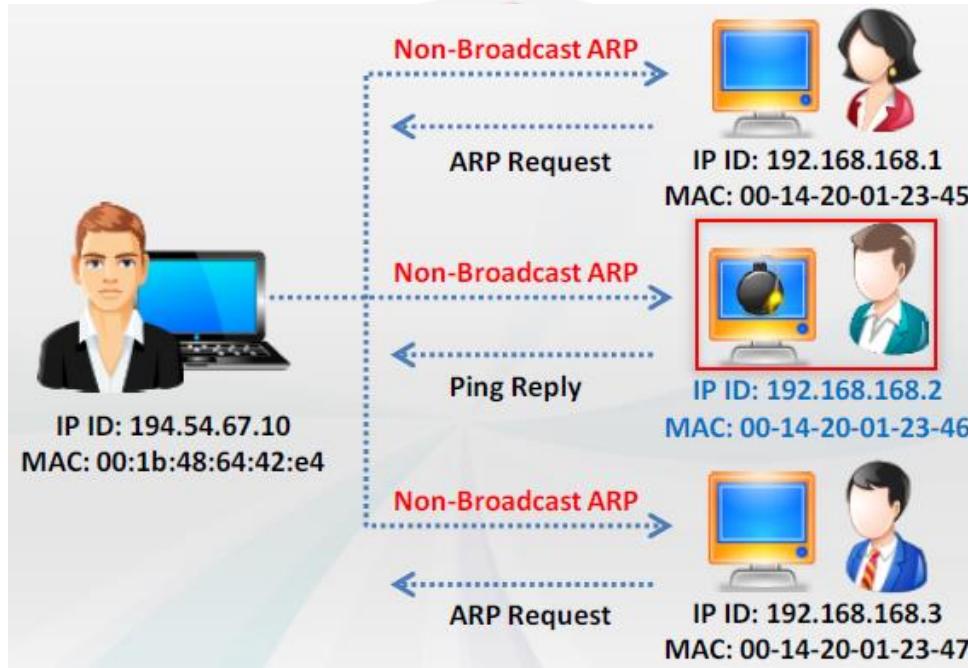


## Sniffing Detection

- Only a machine in promiscuous mode (machine C) caches the ARP information (IP and MAC address mapping).
- A machine in promiscuous mode replies to the ping message as it has correct information about the host sending ping request in its cache; rest of the machines will send ARP probe to identify the source of ping request.



# Sniffing Detection

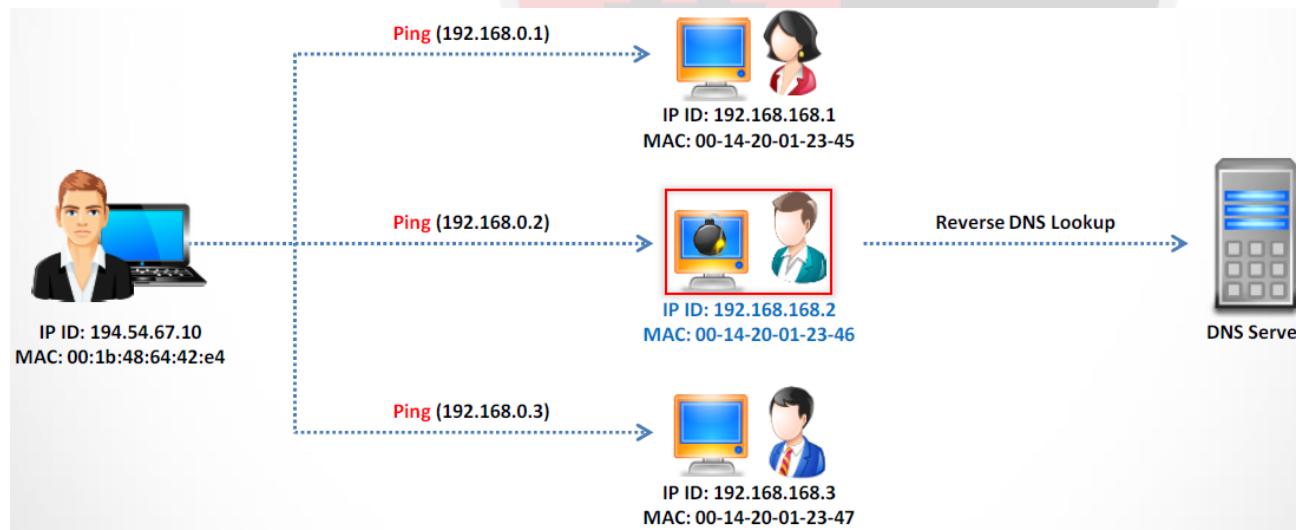


# 3. DNS method



## Sniffing Detection

- Most of the sniffers perform reverse DNS lookup to identify the machine from the IP address.
- A machine generating reverse DNS lookup traffic will be most likely running a sniffer.



# 4. Nmap method



## Sniffing Detection

- Nmap's **NSE script** allows you to check if a target on a local Ethernet has its network card in promiscuous mode.
- Command to detect NIC in promiscuous mode:
  - ▷ `nmap --script=sniffer-detect [Target IP Address/Range of IP addresses]`

```
Starting Nmap 7.12 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2016-07-31 21:07 CST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.102
Host is up (0.00060s latency).
Not shown: 999 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
111/tcp    open  rpcbind
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:42:67:5D (VMware)

Host script results:
|_sniffer-detect: Likely in promiscuous mode (tests: "11111111")

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 1.26 seconds
```

# Countermeasures



## Countermeasures

- Restrict the physical access to the network media to ensure that a packet sniffer cannot be installed.
- Use encryption to protect confidential information.
- Permanently add the MAC address of the gateway to the ARP cache.
- Use static IP addresses and static ARP tables to prevent attackers from adding the spoofed ARP entries for machines in the network.
- Turn off network identification broadcasts and if possible restrict the network to authorized users in order to protect network from being discovered with sniffing tools.



## Countermeasures

- Use tools to determine if any NICs are running in the promiscuous mode.
- Use IPv6 instead of IPv4 protocol.
- Use encrypted sessions such as SSH instead of Telnet, Secure Copy (SCP) instead of FTP, SSL for email connection, etc. to protect wireless network users against sniffing attacks.
- Use HTTPS instead of HTTP to protect user names and passwords.
- Use switch instead of hub as switch delivers data only to the intended recipient.



## Countermeasures

- Use SFTP, instead of FTP for secure transfer of files.
- Use PGP and S/MIME, VPN, IPSec, SSL/TLS, Secure Shell (SSH) and One-time passwords (OTP).
- Always encrypt the wireless traffic with a strong encryption protocol such as WPA and WPA2.
- Retrieve MAC directly from NIC instead of OS; this prevents MAC address spoofing.

# HACKING

Is an art, practised through a creative mind.

