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Course 1 – Foundations of Cybersecurity | Instructor Toni

Week 1 – Welcome to the Exciting World of Cybersecurity

1. Cybersecurity (or security)
 - a. The practice of ensuring confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information by protecting networks, devices, people, and data from unauthorized access or criminal exploitation.
2. Threat Actor- Any person or group who presents a security risk
3. Benefits of Cybersecurity
 - a. Protects against external and internal threats
 - b. Meets regulatory compliance
 - c. Maintains and improves business productivity
 - d. Reduces expenses
 - e. Maintains brand trust
4. Common job titles
 - a. Security analysts or specialist
 - b. Cybersecurity analyst or specialist
 - c. Security operations center (SOC) analyst
 - d. Information security analyst
5. **Security Analysts** are responsible for monitoring and protecting information and systems
 - a. Responsibilities
 - i. Protecting computer and network systems
 - ii. Installing prevention software
 - iii. Conducting periodic security audits
6. Common Cybersecurity Terminology
 - a. Compliance- process of adhering to internal standards and external regulations and enables organizations to avoid fines and security breaches
 - b. Security frameworks- guidelines used for building plans to help mitigate risks and threats to data and privacy
 - c. Security controls- safeguards designed to reduce specific security risks. They are used with security frameworks to establish a strong security posture
 - d. Security posture- an organization's ability to manage its defense of critical assets and data and react to change. A strong security posture leads to lower risk for the organization
 - e. Threat actor/Malicious attacker- any person or group who presents a security risk. This risk can relate to computer, applications, networks, and data
 - f. Internal threat- a current or former employee, an external vendor, or a trust partner who poses a security risk. At times, an internal threat is accidental. For example, an employee who accidentally clicks on a malicious email link would be considered an accidental threat. Other times, the internal threat actor *intentionally* engages in risky activities, such as unauthorized data access
 - g. Network security- practice of keeping an organization's network infrastructure secure from unauthorized access. This includes data, services, systems, and devices that are stored in an organization's network
 - h. Cloud security- the process of ensuring that assets stored in the cloud are properly configured, or set up correctly, and access to those assets is limited to authorized users. The cloud is a network made up of a collection of servers or computers that store resources and data in remote physical locations known as data centers that can be accessed via the internet. Cloud security is a growing subfield of Cybersecurity that specifically focuses on the protection of data, applications, and infrastructure in the cloud
 - i. Programming- a process that can be used to create a specific set of instructions for a computer to execute tasks. They include:
 - i. Automation of repetitive tasks

- ii. Reviewing web traffic
 - iii. Alerting suspicious activity
- 7. **Transferable skills**- Skills from other areas that can apply to different careers
 - a. Communication
 - b. Problem-solving
 - c. Time management
 - d. Growth mindset
 - e. Diverse perspectives
- 8. **Technical skills**- Skills that require knowledge of specific tools, procedures, and policies
 - a. Programming languages
 - b. Security information and event management (SIEM) tools
 - c. Intrusion detection systems (IDSs)
 - d. Threat landscape knowledge
 - e. Incident response
- 9. **Personally Identifiable Information (PII)**- Any information used to infer an individual's identity
- 10. **Sensitive Personally Identifiable Information (SPII)**- A specific type of PII that falls under stricter handling guidelines
- 11. **Digital forensic investigator**- identify, analyze, and preserve criminal evidence within networks, computers, and electronic devices

Week 2 – The Evolution of Cybersecurity

- 1. **Computer virus**- Malicious code written to interfere with computer operations and cause damage to data and software
 - a. Worm- a type of virus that can multiply on its own
 - b. Brain Virus- Track illegal copies of medical software and prevent pirated licenses, infected the computer once the pirated software was inserted, spread globally over a couple of months
 - c. Morris Worm- crawled the web, installed itself on computer, continued to re-install itself, costs millions of dollars in disruptions, **led to the development of computer emergency response teams commonly referred to as computer security incident response teams (CSIRTs).**
- 2. **Malware**- Software designed to harm devices or networks, primary purpose is to obtain money or an intelligence advantage that can be used against a person/organization/territory I.E. Love Letter- steal login credentials, “love letter for you”, infected 45 million computers globally, social engineering attack
 - a. Viruses: Malicious code written to interfere with computer operations and cause damage to data, software, and hardware. A virus attaches itself to programs or documents, on a computer. It then spreads and infects one or more computers in a network.
 - b. Worms: Malware that can duplicate and spread itself across systems on its own.
 - c. Ransomware: A malicious attack where threat actors encrypt an organization's data and demand payment to restore access.
 - d. Spyware: Malware that's used to gather and sell information without consent. Can be used to access devices. Allows threat actors to collect personal data such as private emails, texts, voice and image recordings, and locations.
- 3. **Social engineering**- A manipulation technique that exploits human error to gain private information, access, or valuables. Reasons for effectiveness:
 - a. Authority: Threat actors impersonate individuals with power. This is because people, in general, have been conditioned to respect and follow authority figures.
 - b. Intimidation: Threat actors use bullying tactics. Includes persuading and intimidating victims into doing what they're told.

- c. Consensus/Social proof: Because people sometimes do things that they believe many others are doing, threat actors use others' trust to pretend they are legitimate.
 - d. Scarcity: Used to imply that goods or services are in limited supply.
 - e. Familiarity: Establish a fake emotional connection with users that can be exploited.
 - f. Trust: Establish an emotional relationship with users that can be exploited over time. Use this relationship to develop trust and gain personal information.
 - g. Urgency: Persuades others to respond quickly and without questioning.
4. **Phishing**- The use of digital communications to trick people into revealing sensitive data or deploying malicious software
- a. Business Email Compromise (BEC): A threat actor sends an email message that seems to be from a known source to make a seemingly legitimate request for information, in order to obtain a financial advantage.
 - b. Spear phishing: A malicious email attack that targets a specific user or group of users. The email seems to originate from a trusted source.
 - c. Whaling: A form of spear phishing. Threat actors target company executives to gain access to sensitive data.
 - d. Vishing: The exploitation of electronic voice communication to obtain sensitive information or to impersonate a known source.
 - e. Smishing: The use of text messages to trick users, in order to obtain sensitive information or to impersonate a known source.
5. Equifax Breach
- a. 2017
 - b. Credit report agency
 - c. Over 143 million customer records were stolen, and the breach affected approximately 40% of all Americans
 - i. PII, SSN, Birthdates, Driver's License #'s
6. Introduction to the eight CISSP security domains
- a. Security and Risk Management
 - i. Defines security goals and objectives, risk mitigation, compliance, business continuity, and the law (ex. HIPAA)
 - b. Asset Security
 - i. Secures digital and physical assets. Also related to the storage, maintenance, retention, and destruction of data.
 - ii. I.E., ensuring that company servers are configured to securely store, maintain, and retain SPII
 - c. Security Architecture and Engineering
 - i. Optimizes data security by ensuring effective tools, systems, and processes are in place
 - ii. I.E., configuring a firewall
 - d. Communication and Network Security
 - i. Manage and secure physical networks and wireless communications.
 - ii. I.E., tasked with monitoring employee interactions
 - e. Identity and Access Management
 - i. Keeps data secure by ensuring users follow established policies to control and manage physical assets, like office spaces, and logical assets, such as networks and applications
 - ii. I.E., Installing and implementing key card access to a building
 - f. Security Assessment and Testing
 - i. Conducting security control testing, collecting and analyzing data, and conducting security audits to monitor for risks, threats, and vulnerabilities

- ii. I.E., conducting user audits of permissions (access to payroll for authorized personnel)
- g. Security Operations
 - i. Conducting investigations and implementing preventative measures
 - ii. I.E., receive an alert that an unknown device has been plugged into the network and you are responsible for investigating in accordance with your company's policies
- h. Software Development Security
 - i. Secure coding practices, which are a set of recommended guidelines that are used to create secure applications and services
 - ii. I.E., working with software development teams in order to ensure proper security is implemented into the software development cycle (new mobile app and consulting on the proper creation of a password for a user)

7. Attack Types

- a. Password
 - i. attempt to access password-secured devices, systems, networks, or data. Forms include:
 - 1. brute force
 - 2. rainbow table
 - ii. Falls under Communication and Network Security domain
- b. Social Engineering
 - i. a manipulation technique that exploits human error to gain private information, access, or valuables. Forms include:
 - 1. phishing
 - 2. smishing
 - 3. vishing
 - 4. spear phishing
 - 5. whaling
 - 6. social media phishing
 - 7. business email compromise (BEC)
 - 8. watering hole attack
 - 9. USB (universal serial bus) baiting
 - 10. physical social engineering
 - ii. Falls under Security and Risk Management domain
- c. Physical
 - i. security incident that affects not only digital but also physical environments where the incident is deployed. Forms include:
 - 1. malicious USB cable
 - 2. malicious flash drive
 - 3. card cloning and skimming
 - ii. Falls under the Asset Security domain
- d. Adversarial Artificial Intelligence
 - i. Technique that manipulates AI to conduct attacks more efficiently
 - ii. Falls under both Communication and Network Security and the Identity and Access Management Domains
- e. Supply-Chain
 - i. targets systems, applications, hardware, and/or software to locate a vulnerability where malware can be deployed. A security breach can happen at any point in the supply chain between vendors.

- ii. Falls under Security and Risk Management, Security Architecture and Engineering, and Security Operations domains
- f. Cryptographic
 - i. affects secure forms of communication between a sender and intended recipient. Forms include:
 - 1. birthday
 - 2. collision
 - 3. downgrade
 - ii. Falls under the Communication and Network Security domain
- 8. Threat Actor Types
 - a. Advanced Persistent Threats
 - i. have significant expertise accessing an organization's network without authorization. Tends to research their targets in advance and can remain undetected for an extended period of time. Intentions and motivations include:
 - 1. Damaging critical infrastructure, such as the power grid and natural resources
 - 2. Gaining access to intellectual property, such as trade secrets or patents
 - b. Insider Threats
 - i. Abusing authorized access to obtain data that may harm the organization. Intentions and motivations can include:
 - 1. sabotage
 - 2. corruption
 - 3. espionage
 - 4. unauthorized data access or leaks
 - c. Hacktivists
 - i. Threat actors that are driven by a political agenda. Abusing digital technology to accomplish goals, which may include:
 - 1. demonstrations
 - 2. propaganda
 - 3. social change campaigns
 - 4. fame
 - d. Hacker
 - i. Any person who uses computer to gain access to computer systems, networks, or data.
 - ii. Three main categories
 - 1. Authorized- ethical hacker, follows code of ethics and adhere to the law to conduct organizational risk evaluations
 - 2. Semi-authorized- considered researcher, search for vulnerabilities but don't take advantage of the vulnerabilities they find
 - 3. Unauthorized- unethical, malicious threat actors who do not follow or respect the law, goal is to collect and sell confidential data for financial gain
 - iii. Multiple types that fall into one of three categories
 - 1. to learn and enhance their hacking skills
 - 2. to seek revenge
 - 3. to exploit security weaknesses by using existing malware, programming scripts and other tactics

Week 3 – Protect Against Threats, Risks, and Vulnerabilities

- 1. Security Framework
 - a. Guidelines used for building plans to help mitigate risk and threats to data and privacy
 - b. Purposes

- i. Protect PII
 - ii. Securing financial information
 - iii. Identifying security weaknesses
 - iv. Managing organizational risks
 - v. Aligning security with business goals
 - c. Components
 - i. Identifying and documenting security goals
 - 1. goal to align with EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
 - a. GDPR- data protection law established to grant European Citizens more control over their personal data
 - 2. data analyst may be assigned to find where in their organization's policies are not compliant with the GDPR
 - ii. Setting guidelines to achieve security goals
 - 1. organization's need to develop new policies for how to handle data requests from individual users
 - iii. Implementing strong security processes
 - 1. a security analyst working for a social media company may help design procedures to ensure the organization complies with verified user data requests
 - 2. I.E., when someone attempts to update or delete their profile information
 - iv. Monitoring and Communicating Results
 - 1. monitoring your organization's internal network and report a potential security issue affecting GDPR to your manager or regulatory compliance officer
 - d. Allows analysts to work alongside other members of the security team to document, implement, and use the policies and procedures that have been created
 - e. **Compliance** is the process of adhering to internal standards and external regulations
2. Security Control
 - a. Safeguards designed to reduce specific security risks
 - i. I.E., company guideline requiring all employees to complete a privacy training to reduce risk of data breaches
3. CIA Triad
 - a. A foundational model that helps inform how organizations consider risk when setting up systems and security policies
 - i. Confidentiality- Only authorized users can access specific assets or data
 - ii. Integrity- Data is correct, authentic, and reliable
 - iii. Availability- Data is accessible to those who are authorized to access it
4. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework (CSF)
 - a. NIST is a U.S.-based agency that develops multiple voluntary compliance frameworks that organizations worldwide can use to help manage risk
 - b. A voluntary framework that consists of standards, guidelines, and best practices to manage cybersecurity risk
 - i. Built for managing short and long-term risk
 - c. **Disgruntled employees can be the greatest threat to the CIA Triad**
5. NIST Risk Management Framework (RMF)
6. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission – North American Electric Reliability Corporation (FERC-NERC)
 - a. Applies to organizations that work with electricity in the U.S and North American power grid
 - b. Legally required to adhere to the Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Reliability Standards defined in the FERC

7. Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP)
 - a. U.S. federal government program that standardizes security assessment, authorization, monitoring, and handling of cloud services/product offerings
 - b. Involved with government sector and third-party cloud providers
8. Center for Internet Security (CIS)
 - a. Nonprofit with areas of emphasis on
 - i. Controls used to safeguard systems and networks against attacks
 - ii. Helping organizations establish a better plan of defense
 - iii. Provides actionable controls that security professionals follow if an incident occurs
9. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
 - a. European Union (E.U.) general data regulation that protects the processing of E.U. residents' data and their right to privacy in and out of E.U. territory
 - b. If a breach occurs, E.U. citizens must be informed within 72 hours
10. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
 - a. U.S. federal law established in 1996 to protect patient health information
 - b. Governed by three rules:
 - i. Privacy
 - ii. Security
 - iii. Breach notification
 - c. Organizations storing patient data have a legal obligation to inform patients of breach if patient Protected Health Information (PHI) is exposed
 - i. relates to past, present, or future physical or mental health/condition of an individual
11. International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
 - a. Created to establish international standards related to technology, manufacturing, and management across borders
 - b. helps improve processes and procedures for staff retention, planning, waste, and services
12. System and Organizations Controls (SOC type 1, SOC type 2)
 - a. Developed by American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
 - b. series of reports that focus on an organization's user access policies at different organizational levels such as:
 - i. Associate
 - ii. Supervisor
 - iii. Manager
 - iv. Executive
 - v. Vendor
 - vi. Others
 - c. Used to assess an organization's financial compliance and levels of risk
13. **To keep up to date with changes to frameworks, consult Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act and Sarbanes-Oxley Act.**
14. United States Presidential Executive Order 14028
 - a. Joe Biden's executive order related to improving the nation's cybersecurity to remediate the increase in threat actor activity
 - b. include ties to U.S. critical infrastructure
15. Security Ethics
 - a. Guidelines for making appropriate decisions as a security professional
 - b. Ethical principles in security
 - i. Confidentiality
 - ii. Privacy protections- Safeguarding personal Information from unauthorized use

- iii. Laws- Rules that are recognized by a community and enforce by a governing entity
 - 1. You must remain unbiased and conduct your work honestly, responsibly, and with the highest respect for the law
 - 2. Be transparent and just, and rely on evidence
 - 3. Ensure constant investment in the conducted work so all issues can be appropriately and ethically addressed
 - 4. Stay informed and strive to advance your skills so you can contribute to the cyber landscape
- c. United States standpoint on counterattacks
 - i. No counterattacking, only defend
 - ii. Only authorized U.S. personnel of the federal government or military are allowed to counterattack
- d. International standpoint on counterattacks
 - i. International Court of Justice (ICJ) states a person/group can counterattack if:
 - 1. will only affect the party that attacked first
 - 2. direct communication asking the initial attacker to stop
 - 3. does not escalate the situation
 - 4. effects can be reversed

Week 4 – Cybersecurity Tools and Programming Languages

- 1. Log
 - a. A record of events that occur within an organization's systems
- 2. Tools
 - a. Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) "Sim"
 - i. An application that collects and analyzes log data to monitor critical activities in an organization
 - ii. Examples:
 - 1. Splunk- data analysis platform
 - 2. Splunk Enterprise- retain, organize, analyze data
 - 3. Chronicle- cloud native for search and analysis
 - b. Playbook
 - i. A manual that provides details about any operational action
 - ii. Chain of Custody
 - 1. process of documenting evidence possession and control during an incident lifecycle
 - 2. document who, what, where, and why you have collected evidence
 - iii. Protecting and Preserving Evidence
 - 1. understanding what fragile and volatile digital evidence is
 - 2. consult Order of Volatility
 - a. sequence outlining the order of data that must be preserved from first to last
 - b. considers which data may be lost if power goes off
 - c. Network Protocol Analyzer (packet sniffer)
 - i. A tool designed to capture and analyze data traffic within a network
 - 1. TCPdump
 - 2. Wireshark
- 3. Linux
 - a. Open-Source operating system
 - b. Common use: Examining logs
- 4. Structured Query Language (SQL)
 - a. A programming language used to create, interact with, and request information from a database

5. Python
 - a. Used to perform tasks that are repetitive and time-consuming, and that require a high level of detail and accuracy
6. Operating System
 - a. The interface between computer hardware and the user
7. Web Vulnerability
 - a. unique flaw in a web application that a threat actor could exploit by using malicious code or behavior, to allow unauthorized access, data theft, and malware deployment
8. Antivirus Software
 - a. program used to prevent, detect, and eliminate malware and viruses/anti-malware
9. Encryption- makes data unreadable and difficult to decode for an unauthorized user, **main goal is to ensure confidentiality of private data**
 - a. Cryptographic encoding- converting plaintext into secure ciphertext
10. Penetration testing
 - a. act of participating in a simulated attack that helps identify vulnerabilities in systems, networks, websites, applications, and processes
11. Options for creating your portfolio
 - a. Documents folder
 - i. Subfolders containing: resume, education, portfolio documents, cybersecurity tools, programming
 - b. Google Drive or Dropbox
 - c. Google Sites
 - d. Git repository
 - i. Sites like: GitLab, Bitbucket, GitHub
 - e. Portfolio Projects:
 - i. Drafting a professional statement
 - ii. Conducting a security audit
 - iii. Analyzing network structure and security
 - iv. Using Linux commands to manage file permissions
 - v. Applying filters to SQL queries
 - vi. Identifying vulnerabilities for a small business
 - vii. Documenting incidents with an incident handler's journal
 - viii. Importing and parsing a text file in a security-related scenario
 - ix. Creating or revising a resume

Course 2 – Manage Security Risks | Instructor Ashley

Week 1 – Security Domains

1. Security Posture
 - a. An organization's ability to manage its defense of critical assets and data, and react to change
2. CISSP Domains – Expanded Review
 - a. Security and Risk Management
 - i. Focused on defining **(elements)** security goals and objectives, risk mitigation, compliance, business continuity, legal regulations, and professional and organizational ethics
 1. Risk Mitigation
 - a. The process of having the right procedures and rules in place to quickly reduce the impact of a risk like a breach
 2. Business Continuity

- a. An organization's ability to maintain their everyday productivity by establishing risk disaster recovery plans
- ii. Information Security (InfoSec)- refers to a set of processes established to secure information
 - 1. Incident response
 - 2. Vulnerability Management
 - 3. Application security
 - 4. Cloud security
 - 5. Infrastructure security
- b. Asset Security
 - i. Focused on securing digital and physical assets. Also related to the storage, maintenance, retention, and destruction of data
 - ii. Conducting a security impact analysis, establishing a recovery plan, and managing data exposure
- c. Security Architecture and Engineering
 - i. Focused on optimizing data security by ensuring effective tools, systems, and processes are in place to protect an organization's assets and data
 - ii. Shared Responsibility
 - 1. All individuals within an organization take an active role in lowering risk and maintaining both physical and virtual security
 - iii. Additional Principles
 - 1. Threat modeling
 - 2. Least privilege
 - 3. Defense in depth
 - 4. Fail securely
 - 5. Separation of duties
 - 6. Keep it simple
 - 7. Zero trust
 - 8. Trust but verify
- d. Communication and network security
 - i. Focused on managing and securing physical networks and wireless communications
- e. Identity and Access Management (IAM)
 - i. Focused on access and authorization to keep data secure, by making sure users follow established policies to control and manage assets
 - ii. Overall, the goal is to reduce the overall risk to systems and data
 - iii. Four main components:
 - 1. Identification- who you are via ID card/biometric data
 - 2. Authentication- verification process of someone's identity
 - 3. Authorization- relates to level of access/role in organization
 - 4. Accountability- recording of the user's activity I.E., login attempts
 - iv. Principle of Least Privilege- granting only the minimal access and authorization require to complete a task
- f. Security Assessment and Testing
 - i. Focused on conducting security control testing, collecting and analyzing data, and conducting security audits to monitor for risks, threats, and vulnerabilities
 - ii. Emphasizes the importance of conducting security audits to monitor for and reduce probability of a data breach
- g. Security Operations
 - i. Focused on conducting investigations and implementing preventative measures

- ii. How you carry out investigations in the instance of a breach
 - iii. Involves strategies such as:
 - 1. Training and awareness
 - 2. Reporting and documentation
 - 3. Intrusion detection and prevention
 - 4. SIEM tools
 - 5. Log management
 - 6. Incident management
 - 7. Playbooks
 - 8. Post-breach forensics
 - 9. Reflecting on lessons learned
 - h. Software Development Security
 - i. Focused on using secure coding practices
 - 1. recommended guidelines used to make secure applications and features
- 3. Threat
 - a. Any circumstance or event that can negatively impact assets
 - b. Example- Social Engineering
 - i. A manipulation technique that exploits human error to gain private information, access, or valuables
- 4. Risk
 - a. Anything that can impact the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of an asset
 - b. “likelihood of a threat occurring”
 - c. Low-Risk Asset
 - i. Information that would not harm the organization’s reputation or ongoing operations, and would not cause financial damage if compromised
 - d. Medium-Risk Asset
 - i. Information that’s not available to the public and may cause some damage to the organization’s finances, reputation, or ongoing operations
 - ii. I.E. Early release of company’s quarterly earnings
 - e. High-Risk Asset
 - i. Information protected by regulations or laws, which if compromised would have a severe negative impact on an organization’s finances, ongoing operations, or reputation
 - ii. I.E. SPII, PII, Intellectual property
- 5. Vulnerability
 - a. A weakness that can be exploited by a threat
 - b. I.E. Outdated firewall/software application, weak passwords, un-protected confidential data, people
- 6. Ransomware
 - a. A malicious attack where threat actors encrypt an organization’s data and demand payment to restore access
- 7. Layers of the web
 - a. Surface
 - i. layer that most people use, accessed via typical search engine
 - b. Deep
 - i. need authorization to access
 - c. Dark
 - i. accessed via special software
- 8. Key impacts of threats, risks, and vulnerabilities

- a. Financial
- b. Identity Theft (think PII)
- c. Reputation

9. NIST Risk Management Framework (RMF) – 7 Steps

- a. Prepare
 - i. Activities that are necessary to manage security and privacy risks before a breach occurs
- b. Categorize
 - i. Used to develop risk management processes and tasks
- c. Select
 - i. Choose, customize, and capture documentation of the controls that protect an organization
 - ii. I.E., keep the playbook up to date
- d. Implement
 - i. Implement security and privacy plans for the organization
- e. Assess
 - i. Determine if established controls are implemented correctly
 - ii. Identify potential weaknesses to current controls
- f. Authorize
 - i. Being accountable for the security and privacy risks that may exist in an organization
- g. Monitor
 - i. Be aware of how systems are operating

10. Risk Management – Protecting your assets

- a. Examples of digital assets: SSN, birth dates, bank account numbers, mailing addresses
- b. Examples of physical assets: payment kiosks, servers, desktop computers, office spaces
- c. Strategies to manage risk:
 - i. Acceptance- accepting a risk to avoid disrupting business continuity
 - ii. Avoidance- creating a plan to avoid the risk altogether
 - iii. Transference- transferring risk to a third party to manage
 - iv. Mitigation- lessening the impact of a known risk
- d. Common Risk Management Frameworks:
 - i. NIST RMF
 - ii. Health Information Trust Alliance (HITRUST)

11. Most common threats, risks, and vulnerabilities

- a. Threats
 - i. Insider threats- staff members or vendors abuse their authorized access
 - ii. Advanced Persistent Threats (APTs)- threat actor maintain unauthorized access to a system
- b. Risks (anything that can impact the CIA triad of an asset)
 - i. External risk
 - 1. anything outside the organization
 - ii. Internal risk
 - 1. current or former employee, vendor, or trust partner
 - iii. Legacy systems
 - 1. old systems not accounted for or update, but can still impact assets, outdated workstations or old mainframe systems
 - iv. Multiparty risk
 - 1. outsourcing work to third-party vendors can give access to intellectual property
 - v. Software compliance/licensing
 - 1. patches not installed in a timely manner

- c. Vulnerabilities (a weakness that can be exploited by a threat)
 - i. ProxyLogon
 - 1. pre-authenticated vulnerability affecting Microsoft Exchange servers, deploy malicious code from a remote location
 - ii. ZeroLogon
 - 1. Microsoft's NetLogon authentication protocol
 - iii. Log4Shell
 - 1. allows attackers to run Java code on someone else's computer or leak sensitive information, enables remote attacker to control devices connected to internet
 - iv. PetitPotam
 - 1. Windows New Technology Local Area Network (LAN) Manager (NTLM), allows LAN-based attacker to initiate an authentication request
 - v. Security logging and monitoring failures
 - 1. insufficient logging and monitoring capabilities that result in attackers exploiting vulnerabilities without the organization knowing it
 - vi. Server-side request forgery
 - 1. allows attacker to manipulate a server-side application into accessing and updating backend resources, allowing threat actors to steal data

Week 2 – Security Frameworks and Controls

1. Security Frameworks - Review
 - a. Guidelines used for building plans to help mitigate risk and threats to data and privacy
 - b. Examples such as HIPAA for medical professionals
2. Controls – Review
 - a. Safeguards designed to reduce specific security risks
 - b. Examples such as multi-factor authentication to access medical records
 - c. Three common types:
 - i. Encryption
 - ii. Authentication
 - iii. Authorization- Granting access to specific resources within a system
 - d. Physical: gates/fences/locks, security guards, cctv, access cards/badges
 - e. Technical: firewalls, MFA, antivirus software
 - f. Administrative: separation of duties, authorization, asset classification
3. Cyber Threat Framework (CTF)
 - a. developed by the U.S. government to provide “a common language for describing and communicating information about cyber threat activity
 - b. helps cybersecurity professionals analyze and share information more efficiently
4. International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Commission (ISO/IEC) 27001
 - a. “ISO/IEC 27001”
 - b. family standards enabling organization to manage security of assets, and information to 3rd parties
 - c. Outlines requirements for information security management system, best practices, and controls
5. CIA Triad – Review
 - a. A model that helps inform how organizations consider risk when setting up systems and security policies
 - b. Confidentiality
 - i. only authorized users can access specific assets or data
 - c. Integrity
 - i. data is correct, authentic, and reliable
 - d. Availability

- i. data is accessible to those who are authorized to access it
- 6. NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF)
 - a. A voluntary framework, consists of standards, guidelines, and best practices to manage cybersecurity risk
 - b. helps organizations manage cybersecurity risks, implement risk management strategies, and learn from previous mistakes
 - c. Five Elements
 - i. Identify
 - 1. management of cybersecurity risk and its effect on an organization's people and assets
 - 2. "relates to monitoring systems and devices in an organization's internal network to help security teams manage potential cybersecurity risks and their effects"
 - ii. Protect
 - 1. strategy used to protect an organization through the implementation of policies, procedures, training, and tools that help mitigate cybersecurity threats
 - iii. Detect
 - 1. identifying potential security incidents and improving monitoring capabilities to increase the speed and efficiency of detections
 - iv. Respond
 - 1. Making sure that the proper procedures are used to contain, neutralize, and analyze security incidents, and implement improvements to the security process
 - 2. "investigating an incident to determine how the threat occurred, what was affected, and where the attack originated"
 - v. Recover
 - 1. the process of returning affected systems back to normal operation
- 7. NIST S.P. 800-53
 - a. A unified framework for protecting the security of information systems within the federal government
- 8. Open Web Applications Security Project (OWASP)
 - a. Core Principles
 - i. Minimize attack surface area
 - ii. Least privilege
 - iii. Defense in depth- organization should have multiple security controls in many ways
 - iv. Separation of duties- no one should be given so many privileges that they can abuse the system
 - v. Keep security simple
 - vi. Fix security issues correctly
 - b. Additional Principles
 - i. Establish secure defaults- optimal security state is also its default state for users
 - ii. Fail securely- when a control fails/stops, it should default to its most secure option
 - iii. Don't trust services- outside partners have different security policies, don't explicitly trust
 - iv. Avoid security by obscurity- "security of an app. should not rely on keeping the code secret"
- 9. Security Audit (Internal)
 - a. A review of an organization's security controls, policies, and procedures against a set of expectations
 - b. Basic Checklist
 - i. Identify the scope of the audit
 - ii. Complete a risk assessment
 - iii. Conduct the audit
 - iv. Create a mitigation plan
 - v. Communicate results to stakeholders
 - c. Questions for an audit

- i. what is the audit meant to achieve?
 - ii. which assets are most at risk?
 - iii. are current controls sufficient to protect those assets?
 - iv. what controls and compliance regulations need to be implemented?
- d. Factors that affect audits
 - i. industry type
 - ii. organization size
 - iii. ties to the applicable government regulations
 - iv. a business' geographical location
 - v. a business decision to adhere to a specific regulatory compliance
- e. Purpose
 - i. Identify organizational risk
 - ii. Assess controls
 - iii. Correct compliance issues
- f. Common elements
 - i. (P) Establishing the scope and goals
 - 1. assets that will be assessed
 - 2. who are the stakeholders
 - 3. who is this audit for
 - 4. how the audit will help the organization achieve its desired goals
 - 5. how often an audit should be performed
 - 6. include an evaluation of organizational policies, protocols, and procedures to make sure they are working as intended and being implemented by employees
 - ii. (P) Conducting a risk assessment
 - 1. often completed by managers or stakeholders
 - 2. may provide input from team level
 - iii. Completing a controls assessment
 - 1. closely reviewing an organization existing assets
 - 2. evaluating potential risks to those assets
 - 3. controls:
 - a. Administrative- human component
 - b. Technical- hardware/software used to protect assets
 - c. Physical- measures put in place to physically protect assets
 - iv. Assessing compliance
 - 1. which regulations are they bound to follow/adhere to?
 - v. Communicating results
 - 1. summarizes scope and goals
 - 2. lists existing risks
 - 3. notes how quickly those risks need to be addressed
 - 4. identified compliance regulations

Week 3 – Introduction to SIEM Dashboard and Tools

- 1. Common log sources
 - a. Firewall
 - i. record of attempted or established connections for incoming traffic from the internet
 - ii. includes outbound request to the internet from within the network
 - b. Network
 - i. record of all computers and devices that enter and leave the network

- ii. records connections between devices and services on the network
 - c. Server
 - i. record of events related to services such as websites, emails, or file shares
 - ii. includes actions such as login, password, and username requests
- 2. Metrics
 - a. key technical attributes, such as response time, availability, and failure rate, which are used to assess the performance of a software application
- 3. Security Orchestration, Automation, and Response (SOAR)
 - a. collection of applications, tools, and workflows using automation to respond to security events
 - b. handling common security-related incidents with the use of SIEM tools
- 4. Different types of SIEM tools
 - a. Self-hosted
 - i. ideal when organization is responsible for maintaining physical control
 - b. Cloud-hosted
 - i. ideal for organizations that don't need to maintain physical control
 - c. Hybrid
- 5. Splunk Enterprise
 - a. self-hosted tool used to retain, analyze, and search an organization's log data to provide security information and alerts in real-time
- 6. Splunk Cloud
 - a. cloud-hosted tool used to collect, search and monitor log data
- 7. Chronicle
 - a. cloud-native tool designed to retain, analyze, and search data
- 8. Suricata
 - a. open-source network analysis and threat detection software
 - b. developed by the Open Information Security Foundation (OISF)
 - i. dedicated to maintaining open-source use of Suricata project
- 9. Splunk
 - a. Security posture dashboard
 - i. designed for Security Operations Centers (SOCs)
 - ii. displays last 24 hours of organization's notable security-related events and trends
 - b. Executive summary dashboard
 - i. analyzed and monitors overall health of organization over time
 - ii. provides high-level insights to stakeholders
 - c. Incident review dashboard
 - i. suspicious patterns that can occur in the event of an incident
 - ii. highlights higher risk items that need immediate review by an analyst
 - iii. provides timeline leading up to incident
 - d. Risk analysis dashboard
 - i. identify risk for each object
 - ii. shows change in risk-related activity or behavior
 - iii. used to analyze the potential impact of vulnerabilities in critical assets
- 10. Chronicle
 - a. Allows you to collect and analyze data according to:
 - i. a specific asset
 - ii. a domain name
 - iii. a user

- iv. an IP address
- b. Enterprise insights dashboard
 - i. highlights recent alerts
 - ii. identifies suspicious domain names in logs known as Indicators of Compromise (IOC)
 - iii. monitor login or data access attempts related to a critical asset
- c. Data ingestion and health dashboard
 - i. number of event logs/log sources/success rates of data being processed into Chronicle
 - ii. ensure that log sources are correctly configured and received without error
- d. IOC matches dashboard
 - i. indicates top threats, risks, and vulnerabilities to the organization
 - ii. observe domain names, IP addresses, and device IOCs over time to identify trends
 - iii. search for additional activity associated with an alert
- e. Main Dashboard
 - i. high-level summary of information related to the organization's data ingestion
 - ii. access a timeline of security events to identify threat trends across log sources
- f. Rule detections dashboard
 - i. statistics related to incidents with the highest occurrences/severities/detections over time
 - ii. access list of all alerts triggered by a specific detection rule
 - iii. helps manage recurring incidents and establish mitigation tactics to reduce organization's risk
- g. User sign in overview dashboard
 - i. provides information about user access behavior across the organization
 - ii. access a list of all user sign-in events to identify unusual user activity

Week 4 – Phases of Incident Response Playbooks and Incident Response

1. Playbook
 - a. Manual that provides details about any operational action
 - b. Ensure that people follow a consistent list of actions in a prescribed way
 - c. Clarifies what tools should be used to respond to security incidents
 - d. Often updated when:
 - i. a failure is identified, such as an oversight in the outlined policies and procedures
 - ii. there is a change in industry standards, such as changes in laws or regulatory compliance
 - iii. the cybersecurity landscape changes due to evolving threat actor tactics and techniques
 - e. **usually devised from the organization's business continuity plan**
 - f. Used for:
 - i. Open attacks
 - ii. Privacy incidents
 - iii. Data leaks
 - iv. Denial of service attacks
 - v. Service alerts
2. Incident Response
 - a. An organization's quick attempt to identify an attack, contain the damage, and correct the effects of a security breach
 - b. Six Phases
 - i. (1) Preparation
 1. sets foundation for successful incident response
 2. procedures for each role of an incident response
 - ii. (2) Detection and Analysis
 1. detect and analyze events using appropriate tools and strategies

- iii. (3) Containment
 - 1. prevent further damage and reduce immediate impact of incident
 - 2. high-priority for organization
- iv. (4) Eradication and Recovery
 - 1. complete removal of incidents artifacts in order to return to normal operation
 - 2. restore affected environment
- v. (5) Post Incident Activity
 - 1. documenting incident, informing leadership, ensure that the organization is better prepared to handle future security events
 - 2. perform full-scale analysis
 - 3. “security teams may conduct a full-scale analysis to determine the **root cause** of an incident and use what they learn to improve the company’s overall security posture”
- vi. (6) Coordination
 - 1. Reporting/recording incidents and sharing findings throughout the incident response process along with sharing with other coworkers

Course 3 – Networks and Network Security | Instructor Chris

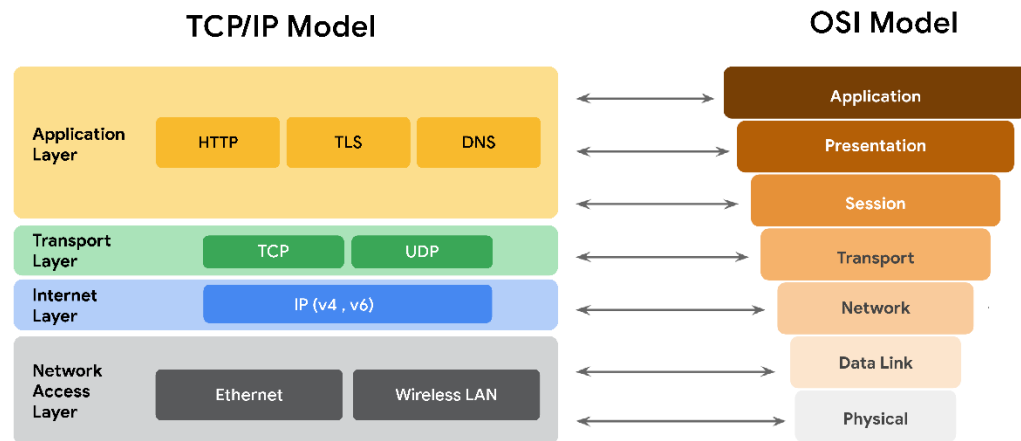
Week 1 – Intro to Networks, Network Communication, Local/Wide Network Communication

1. Network- A group of connected devices
2. Local Area Network (LAN)
 - a. A network that spans a small area like an office building, a school, or a home
3. Wide Area Network (WAN)
 - a. A network that spans a large geographic area like a city, state, or country
4. Network tools
 - a. Hub
 - i. network device that broadcasts information to every device on the network
 - b. Switch
 - i. device that makes connections between specific devices on a network by sending and receiving data between them
 - ii. **“When a switch receives a data packet, it reads the MAC address of the destination device and maps it to a port.”**
 - c. Router
 - i. network device that connects multiple networks together
 - d. Modem
 - i. device that connects your router to the internet and brings internet access to the LAN
 - ii. usually interfaces with an internet service provider
 - e. Virtualization Tools
 - i. pieces of software that perform network operations
5. Cloud Computing
 - a. the practice of using remote servers, applications, and network services that are hosted on the internet instead of on local physical devices
 - b. Cloud Network
 - i. A collection of servers or computers that stores resources and data in remote data centers that can be accessed via the internet
 - c. Services providers offer:
 - i. on-demand storage
 - ii. processing power

- iii. analytics
- d. Three main categories of Cloud Service Providers (CSP)
 - i. Software as a Service (SaaS)
 - 1. software suites operated by the CSP that a company can use remotely without hosting the software
 - ii. Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)
 - 1. use of virtual computer components offered by the CSP
 - 2. virtual containers and storage that are configured remotely through the CSP's API
 - iii. Platform as a Service (PaaS)
 - 1. tools that application developers can use to design custom applications for their company
 - 2. used for a company's specific business needs
- e. Software-defined Networks (SDN)
 - i. consists of virtual network devices and services
 - ii. provides virtual switches, routers, firewalls, etc.
- f. Three Main Benefits of cloud computing and software-defined networks
 - i. Reliability
 - 1. available cloud services/resources are
 - 2. how secure the connections are
 - 3. how effective the services are running
 - ii. Cost
 - 1. much less expensive than having to purchase your own physical infrastructure
 - iii. Scalability
 - 1. only pay for what you need according to business' growth model
- 6. Data Packet
 - a. A basic unit of information that travels from one device to another within a network
 - b. Contains: | Header | Body | Footer |
 - i. Header- ip address, MAC address, protocol number
 - ii. Body- Intended message/content
 - iii. Footer- Signature/end of packet
- 7. Bandwidth
 - a. The amount of data a device receives every second
- 8. Speed
 - a. The rate at which data packets are received or downloaded
- 9. Packet Sniffing
 - a. The practice of capturing and inspecting data packets across a network
- 10. Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)
 - a. An internet communication protocol that allows two devices to form a connection and stream data
- 11. Internet Protocol (IP)
 - a. A set of standards used for routing and addressing data packets as they travel between devices on a network.
- 12. Port
 - a. A software-based location that organizes sending and receiving of data between devices on a network
 - b. Common Port Numbers:
 - i. 25 – email
 - ii. 443 – secure internet communication
 - iii. 20 – large file transfers

13. TCP/IP Model

- a. A framework used to visualize how data is organized and transmitted across the network
- b. Four Layers:
 - i. **4. Application-** protocols determine how the data packets will interact with receiving devices
 - 3. Transport-** protocols to control the flow of traffic across a network, status of connection
 - 2. Internet-** IP addresses attached to data packets indicating the location of the sender/receiver
 - 1. Network Access-** Creation of packets and their transmission across a network



c. TCP/IP Layers in-depth

i. Application

1. similar to the application/presentation/session layers of the OSI model
2. responsible for making network requests or responding to requests
3. common protocols:
 - a. HTTP 80
 - b. SMTP 25
 - c. SSH 22
 - d. FTP 20data 21cmd
 - e. DNS 53

ii. Transport

1. responsible for reliably delivering data between two systems or networks
2. TCP/UDP are the two protocols at this layer
 - a. TCP
 - i. Ensures data is reliably transmitted to the destination service
 - ii. contains port number of intended destination service which resides in the TCP header of a TCP/IP packet
 - b. UDP
 - i. used by applications not concerned with reliability of the transmission
 - ii. used for real time applications such as video streaming

iii. Internet

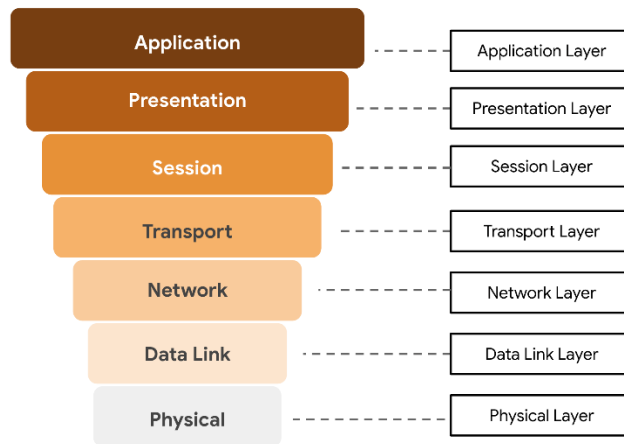
1. referred to as the “network” layer
2. ensures delivery to the destination host potentially residing on a different network
3. determines which protocol is responsible for delivering the data packets
4. common protocols
 - a. Internet Protocol (IP)
 - i. data packets to correct destination and relies on TCP/UDP

- ii. allows communication between two networks
 - b. Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP)
 - i. shares error information and status updates of data packets
 - ii. reports info. about packets that were dropped or disappeared in transit
- iv. Network Access
 - 1. Known as the “data link” layer
 - 2. organizes sending and receiving data frames within a single network
 - 3. corresponds to the physical hardware involved
 - 4. hubs, modems, cables, and wiring
 - 5. ARP (Address Resolution Protocol)
 - a. mapping IP addresses to MAC addresses on the same physical network

14. OSI Model In-Depth

- a. describes the seven layers computers use to communicate and send data over the network

OSI Model



- b. Layer 7: Application
 - i. processes that directly involve the user
 - ii. includes all of the networking protocols that software applications use to connect a user to the internet
 - iii. “user connection to the network via applications and requests”
 - iv. Protocols: HTTP, HTTPS, SMTP, DNS
- c. Layer 6: Presentation
 - i. data translation and encryption for the network
 - ii. adds to and replaces data with formats that can be understood by layer 7
 - iii. format standardization
 - iv. uses encryption such as SSL
 - 1. encrypts data between web servers and browsers as part of websites using HTTPS
- d. Layer 5: Session
 - i. when a connection is established between two devices
 - ii. terminate the session once transmission is complete
 - iii. authentication, reconnection, and setting checkpoints during a data transfer
 - iv. respond to requests for service from layer 6 and sends requests to layer 4
- e. Layer 4: Transport
 - i. responsible for delivering data between devices

- ii. handles speed of data transfer, flow of the transfer, and breaking down of data into smaller segments for easier transport
 - iii. Protocols: TCP, UDP
- f. Layer 3: Network
 - i. receiving frames from layer 2 and delivering them to the intended destination
 - 1. intended destination found based on address residing in frame of the data packet
 - ii. includes IP address
- g. Layer 2: Data Link
 - i. organizes sending and receiving data packets within a single network
 - ii. involves switches on a local network and network interface cards on local devices
 - iii. Protocols:
 - 1. Network Control Protocol (NCP) 524
 - 2. High-Level Data Link Control (HDLC)
 - 3. Synchronous Data Link Protocol (SDLC)
- h. Layer 1: Physical
 - i. hardware involved in network transmission
 - ii. involves hubs, modems, cables, and wiring
 - iii. data packet needs to be translated into stream of 0s and 1s

15. Internet Protocol (IP) Address

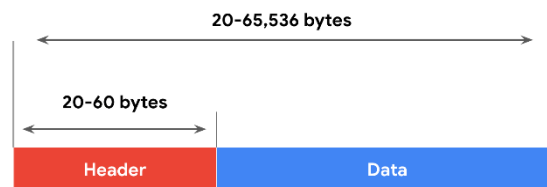
- a. A unique string of characters that identifies the location of a device on the internet
 - i. "Each device on the internet has a unique IP address, just like every house on a street has its own mailing address."
- b. Two types of IP Addresses
 - i. IP version 4 (IPv4)
 - ii. IP Version 6 (IPV6)
- c. **"A Public IP Address is assigned by an internet service provider that is shared by all devices on a local area network"**

16. MAC Address

- a. A unique alphanumeric identifier that is assigned to each physical device on a network

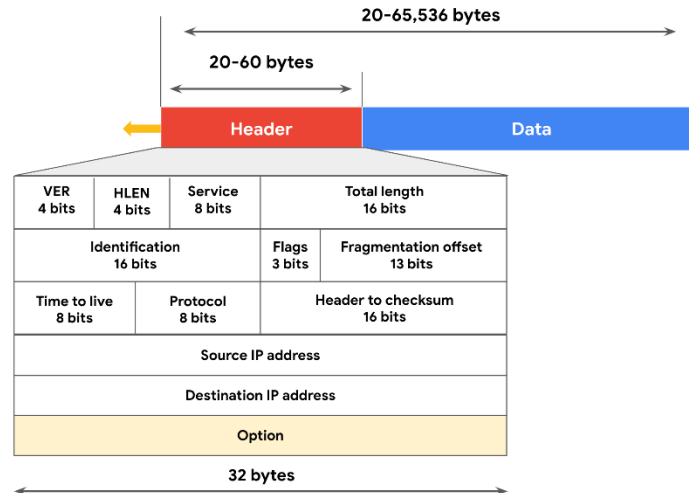
17. Format of an IPv4 Packet

- a. Basic View



- i. Header includes IP routing information that devices use to direct the packet
- ii. Format of an IP packet is determined by the IPv4 Protocol

b. In-Depth View of Header



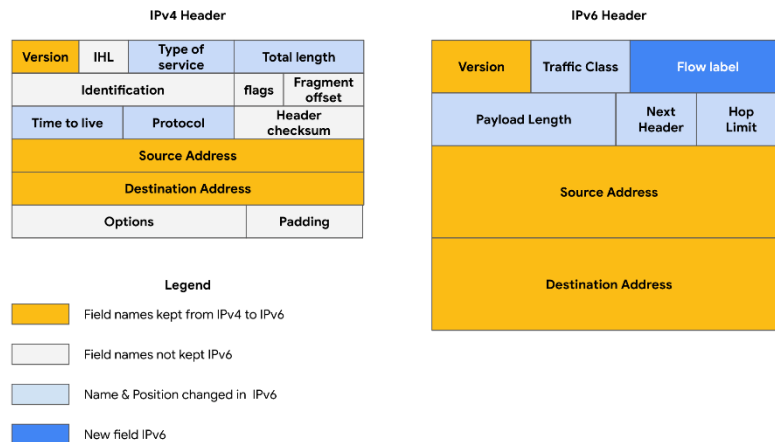
c. There are 13 fields within the header of an IPv4 packet

- i. **Version:** tells receiving devices what protocol the packet is using
- ii. **IP Header Length (HLEN):** packet's header length, indicates where packet header ends and data segment begins
- iii. **Type of Service (TOS):** prioritization of packet delivery to maintain quality of service on the network and provides this information to the router
- iv. **Total Length:** length of the entire IP packet including the header and data, max size of an IPv4 packets is 65,535 bytes
- v. **Identification:** if larger than 65,535 bytes then packets are divide/fragmented into smaller IP packets, provides unique identifier for all fragments of the original IP packet so it can be reassembled once they reach their destination
- vi. **Flags:** provides routing device with more information whether the original packet has been fragmented and if there are more in transit
- vii. **Fragmentation Offset:** tells routing devices where in the original packet the fragment belongs
- viii. **Time to Live (TTL):** prevents data packets from being forwarded by routers indefinitely, contains a counter that is set by the source, counter is decremented by one as it passes through each router along its path, when TTL reaches zero then the router holding the packet will discard it and return an ICMP Time Exceeded error message to the center
- ix. **Protocol:** tells receiving device which protocol will be used for the data portion of the packet
- x. **Header Checksum:** contains a checksum used to detect corruption of the IP header in transit
- xi. **Source IP Address:** IP address of the sending device
- xii. **Destination IP Address:** IP address of the receiving device
- xiii. **Options:** allows for security options to be applied to the packet if the HLEN value is greater than five, communicates these options to the routing device

18. Difference Between IPv4 and IPv6

- a. IPv4 is made of 4 bytes = 'ing 4.3 billion possible addresses

- b. IPv6 is hexadecimal and 16 bytes = 128 bits = 340 undecillion addresses (340×10^{36})



Week 2 – Intro to Network Protocols and System Identification

1. Network Protocols
 - a. A set of rules used by two or more devices on a network to describe the order of delivery and the structure of the data
2. Three categories of network protocols
 - a. Communication
 - i. Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)
 1. “three-way handshake process”
 - a. SYN -> server
 - SYN/ACK -> sender
 - ACK -> server
 - b. Occurs at transport layer
 - ii. User Datagram Protocol (UDP)
 1. does not establish a connection between devices before a transmission
 2. used for internet gaming transmissions
 3. occurs at transport layer
 - iii. Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) 80
 1. communication between clients and web servers
 2. occurs at the application layer
 - iv. Domain Name System (DNS) 53
 1. translates internet domain names into IP address
 2. occurs at the application layer
 - b. Management Protocols
 - i. Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) 161/162
 1. monitoring and managing devices on a network
 2. can reset a password on a network device or change its baseline configuration
 3. can send requests to network devices for a report on how much of the network’s bandwidth is in use
 4. occurs at application layer
 - ii. Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP)
 1. used by devices to tell each other about data transmission errors across the network
 2. quick way to troubleshoot network connectivity and latency issuing “ping” command

3. occurs at the internet layer

c. Security Protocols

i. Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS) 443

1. like HTTP, but secure
2. uses secure sockets layer/transport layer security (SSL/TLS) encryption
3. occurs at application layer

ii. Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) 22

1. used to transfer files from one device to another over a network
2. uses SSH through TCP port 22 and Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)
3. often used with cloud storage

3. Network Address Translation

- a. Replacing a private source IP address with a public IP address and performing the reverse operation for responses

Private IP Addresses	Public IP Addresses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned by network admins • Unique only within private network • No cost to use • Address ranges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 10.0.0.0-10.255.255.255 ◦ 172.16.0.0-172.31.255.255 ◦ 192.168.0.0-192.168.255.255 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned by ISP and IANA • Unique address in global internet • Costs to lease a public IP address • Address ranges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1.0.0.0-9.255.255.255 ◦ 11.0.0.0-126.255.255.255 ◦ 128.0.0.0-172.15.255.255 ◦ 172.32.0.0-192.167.255.255 ◦ 192.169.0.0-233.255.255.255

4. Additional Protocols

a. Dynamic Host Control Protocol (DHCP)

- i. application layer protocol
- ii. assigns a unique IP address and provides the addresses of the appropriate DNS server and default gateway for each device
- iii. Server Port: UDP 67
Client Port: UDP 68

b. Address Resolution Protocol (ARP)

- i. MAC address is permanent
- ii. internet layer protocol in the TCP/IP model
- iii. translates IP address that are found in data packets into the MAC address of the hardware device
- iv. matching IP and MAC addresses are kept in an ARP cache
- v. no specific port numbers

c. Telnet 23

- i. application layer protocol
- ii. allows communications between devices and servers
- iii. sends all information in clear text and command line prompt

- iv. used to connect to local or remote devices
 - v. uses TCP port 23
- d. Secure Shell (SSH) 22
 - i. like telnet but secure
 - ii. provides secure authentication and encrypted communication
- e. Post Office Protocol (POP) 110 or 995
 - i. application layer
 - ii. manages and retrieves email from a mail server
 - iii. Unencrypted, plaintext: TCP/UDP 110
Encrypted, SSL/TLS: TCP/UDP 995
 - iv. when using, mail has to finish downloading on a local device before it can be read
 - v. does not allow a user to sync emails
- f. Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) 587
 - i. works with Message Transfer Agent (MTA)
 - 1. searches DNS servers to resolve email addresses to IP addresses
 - ii. Unencrypted emails: TCP/UDP 25
TLS Encrypted emails: TCP/UDP 587
high-volume spam: TCP 25
 - iii. helps to filter out spam by regulating how many emails a source can send at a time
- g. Summary Table

Protocol	Port
DHCP	UDP port 67 (servers) UDP port 68 (clients)
ARP	none
Telnet	TCP port 23
SSH	TCP port 22
POP3	TCP/UDP port 110 (unencrypted) TCP/UDP port 995 (encrypted, SSL/TLS)
IMAP	TCP port 143 (unencrypted) TCP port 993 (encrypted, SSL/TLS)
SMTP	TCP/UDP port 587 (encrypted, TLS)

- 5. IEEE 802.11 (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) (WiFi)
 - a. A set of standards that define communication for wireless LANs
 - b. WiFi Protected Access (WPA)
 - i. wireless security protocol for devices to connect to the internet
 - c. Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP)
 - i. first and oldest form of wireless security standards
 - ii. high-risk security protocol
 - d. WiFi Protected Access (WPA)
 - i. developed in 2003 to improve upon WEP
 - ii. intended to be a transitional measure
 - iii. uses Temporal Key Integrity Protocol (TKIP)
 - iv. includes a message integrity check

- e. WPA2
 - i. second version of WPA
 - ii. released in 2004
 - iii. uses Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)
 - iv. uses Counter Mode Cipher Block Chain Message Authentication Code Protocol (CCMP)
 - 1. provides encapsulation and ensures message authentication and integrity
 - v. considered security standard for all WiFi transmission today
 - vi. vulnerable to KRACK attacks
 - vii. WPA2 Personal
 - 1. useful for home networks
 - 2. global passphrase needs to be applied to each individual computer and access point in a network
 - viii. WPA2 Enterprise
 - 1. best for business applications
 - 2. initial setup is more complicated than personal mode
 - 3. offers individualized and centralized control over WiFi access to a business network
 - a. network admin can grant/remove user access at any time
 - 4. users never have access to encryption keys
 - a. prevents potential attackers from recovering network keys on individual comps.
- f. WPA3
 - i. created in 2018
 - ii. addresses authentication handshake vulnerability to KRACK attacks
 - iii. uses Simultaneous Authentication of Equals (SAE)
 - 1. password-authenticated, cipher-key-sharing agreement
 - 2. prevents attackers from downloading data from wireless network connections
 - iv. increased encryption (128-bit), Enterprise version offering optional 192-bit encryption
- 6. Port Filtering
 - a. A firewall function that blocks or allows certain port numbers to limit unwanted communication
- 7. Cloud-based firewalls
 - a. software firewalls that are hosted by a cloud service provider
- 8. Stateful
 - a. A class of firewall that keeps track of information passing through it and proactively filters out threats
- 9. Stateless
 - a. A class of firewall that operates based on predefined rules and does not keep track of information from data packets
- 10. Next Generation Firewall (NGFW)
 - a. deep packet inspection
 - b. intrusion protection
 - c. threat intelligence
- 11. Virtual Private Network (VPN)
 - a. A network security service that changes your public IP address and hides your virtual location so that you can keep your data private when you are using a public network like the internet
 - b. Provides Encapsulation
 - i. process performed that protects your data by wrapping sensitive data in other data packets
- 12. Security Zone
 - a. A segment of a network that protects the internal network from the internet
 - b. involves Segmentation

- i. security technique that divides the network into segments
- c. Uncontrolled
 - i. any network outside of the organization's control
- d. Controlled
 - i. a subnet that protects the internal network from the uncontrolled zone
 - ii. Areas
 - 1. Demilitarized zone (DMZ)
 - a. contains public-facing services that can access the internet
 - b. acts as barrier to internal network
 - 2. Internal network
 - a. contains private servers and data
 - 3. Restricted zone
 - a. protects highly-confidential information
 - iii. Common flow of zones:



- 13. Subnetting
 - a. subdivision of a network into logical groups called subnets
 - b. "like a network inside a network"
- 14. Classless Inter-Domain Routing notation for subnetting (CIDR)
 - a. method of assigning subnet masks to IP addresses to create a subnet
 - b. Example: IP Address 198.51.100.0/24
 - i. encompasses all IP address between 198.51.100.0 -> 198.51.100.255
 - c. Benefits
 - i. create a network within their own network without requesting another network IP address from their internet service provider
- 15. Proxy Server
 - a. server that fulfills the requests of a client by forwarding them to other servers
 - b. sits between the internet and the rest of the network
 - c. used to block unsafe websites within an organization
 - d. Types:
 - i. Forward Proxy
 - 1. regulates and restricts a person's access to the internet
 - 2. receives outgoing traffic from an employee, approves it, then forwards it on to the dest.
 - ii. Reverse Proxy
 - 1. regulates and restricts the internet's access to an internal server
 - 2. accept traffic from external parties, approve it, and forward it to the internal servers
 - iii. Email Proxy
 - 1. filters spam email by verifying whether a sender's address was forged
 - 2. reduces risk of phishing attacks that impersonate people known to the organization

Week 3 – Intro to Network Intrusion Tactics, DoS Attacks, and Network Attack/Defense Tactics

- 1. Attacks can harm an organization by
 - a. leaking valuable or confidential information
 - b. damaging an organization's reputation
 - c. impacting customer retention
 - d. costing money and time
- 2. Types of Attacks
 - a. Network Interception

- i. Packet Sniffing
 - 1. use hardware or software tools to capture and inspect data in transit
 - ii. inserting malicious code modifications or altering the message
- b. Backdoor
 - i. weaknesses intentionally left by programmers or system and network administrators that bypass normal access control mechanisms
 - ii. DoS Attack
 - 1. targets a network or server and floods it with network traffic
- 3. Impacts of Attacks on an Organization
 - a. Financial
 - b. Reputation
 - c. Public Safety
- 4. Distributed Denial of Service Attack (DDoS)
 - a. A type of denial-of-service attack that uses multiple devices or servers in different locations to flood the target network with unwanted traffic
- 5. Syn (synchronize) flood attack
 - a. DoS attack that simulates a TCP connection and floods a server with SYN packets
- 6. Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP) Flood
 - a. DoS attack performed by an attacker repeatedly sending ICMP packets to a network server
- 7. Ping of Death
 - a. DoS attack caused when a hacker pings a system by sending it an oversized ICMP packet that is bigger than 64KB
- 8. Network Protocol Analyzer A.K.A “packet sniffer”
 - a. Most common analyzers:
 - i. SolarWinds NetFlow Traffic Analyzer
 - ii. ManageEngine OpManager
 - iii. Azure Network Watcher
 - iv. Wireshark
 - v. tcpdump
 - b. tcpdump
 - i. command-line network protocol analyzer
 - ii. output example:

```

      Timestamp      Source IP      Source port      Destination IP      Destination port
20:00:29.538395 IP 198.168.10.1.41 > 198.111.123.1.61012: Flags
[P.],seq 120:176, ack 1, win 501, options [nop,nop,TS val
4106659748 ecr 2979487360], length 144

```

- iii. Timestamp: formatted as hours, minutes, seconds, fractions of a second
- iv. Source IP: packet's origin provided by its source IP address
- v. Source port: port number where the packet originated
- vi. Destination IP: IP address of where the packet is being transmitted to
- vii. Destination port: port number where the packet is being transmitted to
- viii. Common Uses:
 - 1. Establish a baseline for network traffic patterns and network utilization metrics
 - 2. Detect and identify malicious traffic

3. Create customized alerts to send the right notifications when network issues or security threats arise
 4. Locate unauthorized instant messaging (IM), traffic, or wireless access points
9. Botnet
 - a. a collection of computers infected by malware that are under the control of a single threat actor, known as the “bot-herder”
10. Passive Packet Sniffing
 - a. where data packets are read in transit
11. Active Packet Sniffing
 - a. where data packets are manipulated in transit
12. Protecting yourself from malicious packet sniffing
 - a. VPN Tunnel
 - b. Ensure websites you use are “HTTPS”
 - c. Avoid using unprotected WiFi
13. IP Spoofing
 - a. A network attack performed when an attacker changes the source IP of a data packet to impersonate an authorized system and gain access to a network
 - b. Common Spoofing Attacks:
 - i. On-Path
 1. malicious actor places themselves in the middle of an authorized connection and intercepts or alters the data in transit
 2. when a hacker intercepts the communication between two devices or servers that have a trusted relationship
 3. referred to as a “meddler-in-the middle attack)
 - ii. Replay
 1. when a malicious actor intercepts a data packet in transit and delays it or repeats it at another time
 - iii. Smurf (combination of DoS and IP spoofing attack)
 1. when an attacker sniffs an authorized user’s IP address and floods it with packets
14. Network Interface Card (NIC)
 - a. Piece of hardware that connects the device to a network
 - b. reads data transmission, and if it contains the device’s MAC address, it accepts the packet and send it to the device to process the information based on the protocol
 - c. Can be set to **promiscuous mode**
 - i. accepts all traffic on the network, even the packets not addressed to the NIC’s device

Week 4 – Security Hardening for Operating Systems, Networks, and Cloud

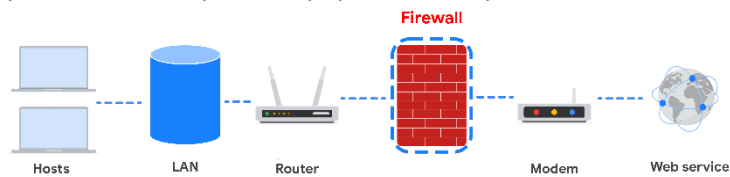
1. Security Hardening
 - a. The process of strengthening a system to reduce its vulnerability and attack surface
2. Penetration Test
 - a. A simulated attack that helps identify vulnerabilities in systems, networks, websites, apps, and processes
3. Operating System (OS)
 - a. acts as an intermediary between software applications and computer hardware
4. OS Hardening
 - a. Patch Update
 - i. A software and operating system update that addresses security vulnerabilities within a program or product
 - b. Baseline Configuration (Baseline Image)

- i. A documented set of specifications within a system that is used as a basis for future builds, releases, and updates
 - c. Multi-factor Authentication (MFA)
 - i. A security measure which requires a user to verify their identity in two or more ways to access a system or network
 - ii. Categories of MFA
 - 1. Something you know
 - 2. Something you have
 - 3. Something unique about you
- 5. Brute Force Attacks
 - a. trial-and-error process of discovering private information
 - b. two types:
 - i. Simple brute Force: when attackers try to guess a user's login credentials
 - ii. Dictionary: attackers use a list of commonly used passwords and stolen credentials
- 6. Assessing Vulnerabilities
 - a. Virtual Machines (VMs)
 - i. software versions of physical computers
 - ii. provide an additional layer of security to run code in an isolated environment
 - iii. provides ability to "revert" to a previous state of the machine
 - b. Sandbox Environment
 - i. allows you to execute software or programs separate from your network
 - ii. can be stand-alone physical computers not connected to a network
- 7. Prevention Measures
 - a. Salting and Hashing
 - i. converts information into a unique value that can then be used to determine its integrity
 - ii. one-way function (impossible to decrypt and obtain the original text)
 - iii. adds random characters to hashed passwords, increasing length and complexity of hash values
 - b. Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) and Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)
 - i. requires a user to verify their identity in two or more ways to access a system/network
 - ii. combination of authentication factors:
 - 1. username and password
 - 2. fingerprints
 - 3. facial recognition
 - 4. one-time password (OT)
 - iii. 2FA is similar to MFA, except 2FA uses only two forms of verification
 - c. CAPTCHA and reCAPTCHA
 - i. "Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart"
 - ii. asks you to complete a test to prove you're human
 - iii. reCAPTCHA is the google free version of CAPTCHA
 - d. Password Policies
 - i. standardized password policies throughout the business
 - ii. guidelines on how complex a password should be
 - iii. login limit attempts and password renewal frequency
- 8. Network Security Hardening
 - a. Port Filtering
 - i. a firewall function that blocks or allows certain port numbers to limit unwanted communication
 - b. Network Access Privilege

- c. Encryption
- d. Tasks performed:
 - i. Firewall rules maintenance
 - ii. Network log analysis
 - iii. Patch updates
 - iv. Server backups
- e. Network log analysis
 - i. the process of examining network logs to identify events of interest

9. Network Security Applications

- a. Firewall
 - i. allows or blocks traffic based on a set of rules
 - ii. only NGFWs can inspect the payload of the packet



- b. Intrusion Detection System (IDS)
 - i. monitors system activity and alerts on possible intrusions
 - ii. based on the signature of malicious traffic
 - iii. can sniff data packets as they move across the network
 - iv. can also detect anomalies that could be the sign of malicious activity
 - v. when anomaly is discovered, it sends an alert to the network admin who can investigate further
 - vi. **does not stop an attack, only alerts of one**



- c. Intrusion Prevention System (IPS)
 - i. monitors system activity for intrusive activity and **takes action to stop the activity**
 - ii. searches for signatures of known attacks and data anomalies
 - iii. sits behind the firewall in the network architecture
 - iv. if it breaks, the connection between private network and internet breaks
 - v. limitation- possibility of false positives, can results in legitimate traffic being dropped
- d. Full-Packet Capture Devices

e. Summary of Network Security Applications

Key takeaways

Devices / Tools	Advantages	Disadvantages
Firewall	A firewall allows or blocks traffic based on a set of rules.	A firewall is only able to filter packets based on information provided in the header of the packets.
Intrusion Detection System (IDS)	An IDS detects and alerts admins about possible intrusions, attacks, and other malicious traffic.	An IDS can only scan for known attacks or obvious anomalies; new and sophisticated attacks might not be caught. It doesn't actually stop the incoming traffic.
Intrusion Prevention System (IPS)	An IPS monitors system activity for intrusions and anomalies and takes action to stop them.	An IPS is an inline appliance. If it fails, the connection between the private network and the internet breaks. It might detect false positives and block legitimate traffic.
Security Information and Event Management (SIEM)	A SIEM tool collects and analyzes log data from multiple network machines. It aggregates security events for monitoring in a central dashboard.	A SIEM tool only reports on possible security issues. It does not take any actions to stop or prevent suspicious events.

10. Cloud Hardening

- a. Identity Access Management (IAM)
 - i. Collection of processes and technologies that helps organizations manage digital identities in their environment
 - ii. authorizes how users can use different cloud resources
- b. Configuration
 - i. each service must be carefully configured to meet security and compliance requirements
- c. Attack Surface
 - i. consider any possible entry point into the cloud network
- d. Zero-Day Attacks
 - i. an exploit that was previously unknown
 - ii. CSPs are more likely to know about a zero-day attack before a traditional IT organization
- e. Visibility and Tracking
 - i. admins must have access to every data packet crossing the network
 - ii. CSPs pay for third-party audits to verify how secure a cloud network is
- f. Things change fast in the cloud
 - i. connection configurations might need to be changed based on the CSP's updates
- g. Shared Responsibility Model
 - i. CSP must take responsibility for security involving the cloud infrastructure, including physical data centers, hypervisors, and host operating systems
- h. Overall:
 - i. the security team, and the cloud service provider are responsible for ensuring the safety of cloud networks
 - ii. Misconfigured cloud services are a common source of cloud security issues

Course 4 – Linux and SQL | Instructor Kim

Week 1 – The Wonderful World of Operating Systems and the User Interface

1. Common Operating Systems
 - a. Window and MacOS
 - i. Windows was introduced in 1985

1. closed-source: source code is not shared freely
 - ii. MacOS was introduced in 1984
 1. partial open-source
 - b. Linux
 - i. Released in 1991
 - ii. completely open-source
 - c. ChromeOS
 - i. launched in 2011
 - ii. partially open-source
 - iii. derived from Chromium OS
 - iv. used in education field
 - d. Android and iOS
 - i. mobile operating systems
 - ii. Android was introduced in 2008
 1. open-source
 - iii. iOS was introduced in 2007
 1. partial open-source
2. Operating systems and vulnerabilities
 - a. Legacy Operating System
 - i. outdated but still being used
 - ii. can be vulnerable to security issues because they're no longer supported or updated
 - b. Other vulnerabilities
 - i. Microsoft Security Response Center
 1. <https://msrc.microsoft.com/update-guide/vulnerability>
 - ii. Apple Security Updates
 1. <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201222>
 - iii. Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVE) Report for Ubuntu (distribution of Linux)
 1. <https://ubuntu.com/security/cves>
 - iv. Google Cloud Security Bulletin
 1. <https://cloud.google.com/support/bulletins>
 3. Requests to the operating system
 - a. "The user communicates with the operating system via an interface"
 - b. Booting the computer
 - i. when you turn on a computer, either a BIOS or UEFI microchip is activated
 1. Basic Input/Output System (BIOS)
 2. Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI)
 - a. replaces BIOS on more modern systems
 - ii. Bootloader
 1. software program that boots the operating system
 2. once operating system has finished booting, the computer is ready for use
 - c. Completing a task
 - i. four-part process



1. User
 - a. initiates the process
2. Application
 - a. software program the users interact with to complete a task
3. Operating System
 - a. receives user's request from the application
 - b. interprets the request and direct its flow
 - c. sends request to applicable components of the hardware
4. Hardware
 - a. where the processing is done to complete the tasks initiated by the user
 - b. when complete, results are sent through the OS to the application so it can be read by the user
- ii. Example: Downloading a file from an internet browser
 1. User decides they want to download a file they found online, clicks download button
 2. internet browser communicates this action to the OS
 3. OS sends the request to download the file to the appropriate hardware for processing
 4. hardware begins downloading the file, OS sends this info to the internet browser application, internet browser then informs the user when the file has been downloaded
4. OS Resource Allocation
 - a. "It is necessary for the OS to handle resource and memory management to ensure the limited capacity of the computer system is used where it is needed most"
5. Virtualization Technology
 - a. Virtual Machine (VM)
 - i. Virtual version of a physical computer
 - ii. using software to create virtual representations of various physical machines
 - iii. uses allocated RAM (Random Access Memory) in order to create new virtual machines
 - b. Benefits
 - i. Security
 1. isolated/sandbox environment
 - ii. Efficiency
 1. open multiple virtual machines at once and switch easily between them
 2. many virtual machines can be hosted on the same physical machine
 - c. Managed with a hypervisor
 - i. helps manage multiple virtual machines
 - ii. connects the virtual and physical hardware
 - iii. helps with allocating share resources of the physical host machine to the virtual machine
 - iv. Kernel-Based Virtual Machine (KVM)
 1. open-source hypervisor supported by most major Linux distributions
 2. built into the Linux kernel
 - a. can be used to create virtual machines on any machine running a Linux operating system without the need for additional software

- d. Other Forms
 - i. some do not need operating systems
 - 1. multiple virtual servers can be created from a single physical server
 - 2. virtual networks created to more efficiently use the hardware of a physical network
- 6. GUI versus CLI
 - a. User Interface
 - i. allows the user to control the functions of the operating system
 - b. Graphical User Interface (GUI)
 - i. interface that uses icons on the screen to manage different tasks on the computer
 - ii. Basic components:
 - 1. Start menu
 - 2. Task bar
 - 3. Desktop with icons and shortcuts
 - 4. Search for files or programs from the start menu
 - c. Command-Line Interface (CLI)
 - i. text-based user interface that uses commands to interact with the computer
 - ii. allows users to enter commands that can perform multiple tasks simultaneously
- 7. Advantages of a CLI in Cybersecurity
 - a. Efficiency
 - i. can be used more quickly when you know how to manage the interface
 - ii. can accept multiple requests at one time
 - b. History File
 - i. records a history file of all the commands and actions in the CLI
 - ii. may be able to trace an attacker's actions

Week 2 – All about Linux, Linux Distributions, and “The Shell”

- 1. Linux
 - a. An open-source operating system
 - b. in the early 1990s, two different people were working separately on projects to improve computer engineering, first person was Linus Torvalds, at the time UNIX operating system was already in use, Linus wanted to improve it and make it open source and accessible to anyone- this was the introduction of the Linux kernel. At the same time Richard Stallman started working on GNU- an operating system based on UNIX. Stallman shared Torvalds' goal of creating software that was free and open to anyone. After working on GNU for a few years, the missing element for the software was a kernel. Together they made what is commonly referred to as Linux.
 - c. There are over 600 distributions of Linux
 - d. Security Analysts use Linux for three common use cases:
 - i. To examine different types of logs to identify what is going on in a system
 - ii. To verify access and authorization in an identity and access management system
 - iii. To use digital forensic tools to investigate what happened following an event
- 2. Components of Linux
 - a. User
 - i. the person interacting with a computer
 - ii. initiating the task
 - b. Applications
 - i. a program that performs a specific task
 - ii. Package Manager
 - 1. tool that helps users install, manage, and remove packages or applications

2. piece of software that can be combined with other packages to form an application
- c. Shell
 - i. the command-line interpreter
 - ii. allows users to give text-based commands and receive responses
 - iii. translator between you and your computer
- d. Filesystem Hierarchy Standard (FHS)
 - i. the component of the Linux OS that organizes data
 - ii. specifies the location where data is stored in the operating system
 - iii. directory
 1. file that organizes where other files are stored
 2. contains files or other directories
 - iv. defines how directories, directory contents, and other storage is organized
- e. Kernel
 - i. the component of the Linux OS that manages processes and memory
 - ii. communicates with the hardware to execute the commands sent by the shell
 - iii. unique to the Linux OS and is critical for allocating resources in the system
 - iv. controls all major functions of the hardware
 - v. open-source, anyone can modify it to build new Linux distributions
- f. Hardware
 - i. physical components of the computer
 - ii. peripheral devices
 1. hardware components that are attached and controlled by the computer system
 2. not core components and can be added/removed freely (monitors, printers, keyboard)
 - iii. Internal
 1. Components required to run the computer
 - a. Central Processing Unit (CPU)
 - b. Random Access Memory (RAM)
 - c. Hard Drive
3. Linux Distributions
 - a. Distribution = different version / “flavor” of the Linux OS
 - b. Parent Distributions
 - i. Red Hat Enterprise Linux (CentOS)
 - ii. Slackware (SUSE)
 - iii. Debian (Ubuntu and KALI LINUX)
 - c. More In-Depth on Different Distributions
 - i. Ubuntu
 1. open-source, user-friendly
 2. widely used in security and other industries
 3. has CLI and GUI
 4. Debian-derived
 5. widely used for cloud computing
 - ii. Parrot
 1. open-source commonly used for security
 2. Debian-derived
 3. known to have a user-friendly GUI along with its own CLI
 - iii. Red Hat Enterprise
 1. subscription-based built for enterprise use

2. offers a dedicated support team for customers to call about issues

iv. CentOS

1. open-source distribution closely related to Red Hat
2. uses source code published by Red Hat to provide a similar platform
3. supported through the community

4. KALI LINUX

- a. Trademark of Offensive Security
- b. Debian-derived
- c. Most commonly involved with penetration testing
- d. Common Tools
 - i. Metasploit- exploit vulnerabilities on machines
 - ii. Burp Suite- explore vulnerabilities on web applications
 - iii. John the Ripper- password guessing
- e. Digital Forensics
 - i. The practice of collecting and analyzing data to determine what has happened after an attack
 - ii. Forensic Tools in KALI LINUX
 1. tcpdump
 2. Wireshark
 3. Autopsy- analyzing hard drives and smart phones

5. Package Managers

- a. Package
 - i. piece of software that can be combined with other packages to form an application
 - ii. may include files necessary for an application to be installed, including dependencies which are supplemental files used to run an application
- b. Types:
 - i. Red Hat Package Manager (RPM) uses files with a .rpm file extension
 1. I.E., "Package-Version-Release_Architecture.rpm"
 - ii. Debian-derived Linux uses dpkg with a .deb file extension
 1. I.E., "Package_Version-Release_Architecture.deb"

6. Package Management Tools

- a. Allows you to work with packages through the Shell
- b. Two Notable Tools:
 - i. Advanced Package Tool (APT)
 1. used with Debian-derived distributions
 2. run from the command-line interface to manage, search, and install packages
 - ii. Yellowdog Updater Modified (YUM)
 1. used with Red Hat-derived distributions
 2. run from the command-line to manage, search, and install packages
 3. "YUM" works with .rpm files

7. Lab Activity: Install software in a Linux distribution

- a. Ensure "apt" installed
 - i. apt
- b. Install and Uninstall the Suricata Application
 - i. `sudo apt install suricata`
`<enter>`
`suricata`
`sudo apt remove suricata`

- <enter>
 - suricata
 - c. Install tcpdump Application
 - i. sudo apt install tcpdump
 - d. List the Installed Applications
 - i. apt list –installed
 - e. Reinstall the Suricata Application
 - i. sudo apt install suricata
 - <enter>
 - apt list –installed
- 8. Shell
 - a. command-line interpreter
 - b. translator between you and the computer system
 - c. **“communicates with the kernel to execute commands”**
 - d. when a command is entered into a shell, the shell executes many internal processes to interpret your command, and send it to the kernel then returns your results
 - e. Types:
 - i. Bourne-Again Shell (bash) \$
 - ii. C Shell (csh)
 - iii. Korn Shell (ksh) \$
 - iv. Enhanced C shell (tcsh)
 - v. Z shell (zsh) %
- 9. Input and Output in the shell
 - a. Standard Input
 - i. Information received by the OS via the command line
 - b. Standard output
 - i. Information returned by the OS through the shell
 - c. Standard error
 - i. Error messages returned by the OS through the shell

Week 3 – Navigate Linux File System, Bash Manage File Content, Authenticate/Authorize Users

1. Security Analysts must be able to:
 - a. Work with server logs
 - b. Navigate, manage, and analyze files remotely
 - c. Verify and configure users and group access
 - d. Give authorization and set file permissions
2. Bash
 - a. The default shell in most Linux distributions
3. Argument (Linux)
 - a. Specific information needed by a command
4. **All commands in Linux are case sensitive**
5. FHS is important because everything is considered a file in the eyes of a Linux OS
6. Root Directory
 - a. The highest-level directory in Linux
7. Example of a root-branching directory
 - a. /home/analyst
first “/” means root directory
then “home” sub-directory

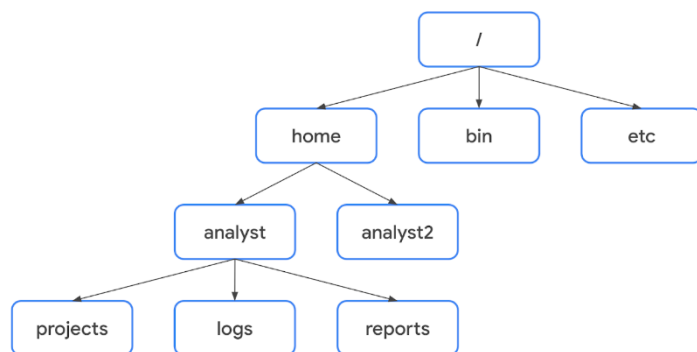
second “/” means it’s branching out again

“analyst” sub-directory reached

8. Core Commands in Bash

- a. pwd: prints the working directory onto the screen
- b. ls: displays the names of files and directories in the current working directory
- c. cd: navigates between directories
- d. cat: displays the content of a file
- e. head: displays just the beginning of a file, by default 10 lines
 - i. if you want a certain number of lines besides 10, specify with -n
 1. example: “head -n 5” for the first 5 lines of the item you are head’ing
- f. tail: display the last lines of a file, by default 10 lines
 - i. you can use “tail” to read the most recent information in a log file
- g. less: returns the content of a file one page at a time
 - i. space bar: move forward one page
 - ii. b: move back one page
 - iii. down arrow: move forward one line
 - iv. up arrow: move back one line
 - v. q: quit and return to the previous terminal window

9. FHS Expanded (how directories, directory contents, and other storage is organized in the operating system)



- a. A file’s location can be described by a file path
 - i. location of a file or directory
- b. Standard FHS Directories:
 - i. /home: each user in the system gets their own
 - ii. /bin: stands for “binary”, contains binary files and other executables
 1. executables are files that contain a series of commands a computer need to function
 - iii. /etc: location of system’s configuration files
 - iv. /tmp: location of temporary files, commonly used by attackers because anyone in the system can modify data in these files
 - v. /mnt: stands for “mount”, stores media such as USB drive and hard drives
- c. User-Specific Subdirectories
 - i. under home are subdirectories for specific users
 1. each user has their own personal subdirectories
 - ii. Note: when the path leads to a subdirectory below the user’s home directory, the user’s home directory can be represented as the tilde “~” thus “/home/analyst/logs” = “~/logs”
 - iii. Absolute File Path: full file path
 - iv. Relative File Path: path that starts from a user’s current directory

1. Note: relative file paths can use a dot "." to represent the current directory or two dots ".." to represent the parent of the current directory

10. Find what you need with Linux

- a. grep: searches a specified file and returns all lines in the file containing a specified string
 - i. example: grep OS updates.txt
`<cmd> <argument> <argument>`
- b. | (piping): send the standard output of one command as standard input to another command
 - i. example: ls /home/analyst/reports | grep users
- c. find: searches for directories and files that meet specified criteria
 - i. example: "find /home/analyst/project" searches for everything starting at the projects directory
 - ii. -name: (case-sensitive), -iname (not case sensitive)
 1. example: finding all files in the projects directory that contain the word "log"
`find /home/analyst/projects -name "*log*"`
`find /home/analyst/projects -iname "*log*"`
 - iii. -mtime: finding files within a certain time frame
 1. example: "find /home/analyst/project -mtime -3" returns all files and directories in the projects directory that have been modified within the past three days
 2. "-mtime +1" indicates all files or directories last modified more than one day ago
 3. "-mtime -1" indicates all files/directories last modified less than one day ago
 - iv. -mmin: used for searching on minutes rather than days

11. Create and modify directories and files with Linux

- a. mkdir: creates a new directory
- b. rmdir: removes, or deletes, a directory (built in warning that directory may not be empty)
- c. touch: creates a new file
- d. rm: removes, or deletes, a file
- e. mv: moves a file or directory to a new location
 - i. example: "mv email_policy.txt /home/analyst/drafts/"
 moves the text file to that new specified directory
- f. cp: copies a file or directory into a new location
 - i. example: "cp vulnerabilities.txt /home/analyst/projects/"
 copies the text file to that new specified directory

12. "nano" command

- a. text editor for files
- b. example command: "nano vulnerabilities.txt"
- c. to save the changes made: ctrl + o, <enter>
- d. to exit after changes saved: ctrl + x

13. Standard output redirection with ">" and ">>"

- a. use of ">" and ">>" can redirect standard output
- b. ">" overwrites your existing file
- c. ">>" adds your content to the end of the existing file

14. Permissions

- a. The type of access granted for a file or directory
- b. remember: "authorization is the concept of granting access to specific resources in a system"
- c. Three types of permission in Linux
 - i. read- content of file can be read, that's it
 1. if a directory, it's the ability to read all contents in the directory including both files and their subdirectories

- ii. write- allows modifications of the content of the file
 - 1. if a directory, same concept as the read directory permission
 - iii. execute- means the file can be executed if it's an executable
 - 1. directory execute access means you can enter into a directory and access its files
- d. Types of owners in Linux:
 - i. User: owner of the file
 - ii. Group: a larger group that the owner is a part of
 - iii. Other: all other users on the system
- e. File permission "labels" in Linux
 - i. 10-character string: "drwxrwxrwx"
 - 1. d: indicates files type (directory)
 - 2. "-" instead of "d": file
 - 3. 1st "rwx": user permissions (in this case, read, write, execute privs)
 - 4. 2nd "rwx": group permissions (in this case, same permissions as user)
 - 5. 3rd "rwx": other permissions (in this case, same permissions as user)

15. Options to displaying file permissions

- a. modify the behavior of the command
- b. ls -l: displays permission to files and directories
- c. ls -a: displays hidden files
- d. ls -la: displays permissions to files and directories, including hidden files

16. Change permissions (chmod)

- a. chmod: changes permissions on files and directories, stands for "change mode"
- b. example: chmod g+w, o-r access.txt
grants write permission to group, removes read permission from other group to the "access.txt" file
- c. add all permissions to a text file
 - i. chmod u+rwx,g+rwx,o+rwx textfile.txt
- d. remove all permissions to a text file
 - i. chmod u-rwx,g-rwx,o-rwx textfile.txt
- e. using the "=" sign for changing permissions
 - i. example: set read permissions for a text file for user, group and other:
chmod u=r,g=r,o=r textfile.txt
- f. Summary table

Character	Description
u	indicates changes will be made to user permissions
g	indicates changes will be made to group permissions
o	indicates changes will be made to other permissions
+	adds permissions to the user, group, or other
-	removes permissions from the user, group, or other
=	assigns permissions for the user, group, or other

17. Root User (or superuser)

- a. A user with elevated privileges to modify the system
- b. Problems with logging in as root
 - i. Security risks
 - ii. Irreversible mistakes

iii. Accountability

18. sudo

- a. temporarily grants elevated permissions to specific users
- b. used to manage authorization and authentication
- c. “super user do”
- d. must be granted sudo access via sudo file

19. Commands requiring responsible use of sudo

a. useradd

- i. adds a user to the system
 - 1. example: “sudo useradd salesrep7”
- ii. -g: sets the user’s default group, also called their primary group
 - 1. example: “sudo useradd -g security fgarcia” adds fgarcia as a new user and assigns their primary group to be security
- iii. -G: adds the user to additional groups, also called supplemental or secondary groups
 - 1. example: “sudo useradd -G finance,admin fgarcia” adds fgarcia as a new user and adds them to the existing finance and admin groups

b. userdel

- i. deletes a user from the system
- ii. example: “sudo userdel salesrep7”

c. usermod

- i. modifies existing user accounts
- ii. -g: changes the primary group of an existing user
 - 1. example: “sudo usermod -g executive fgarcia” changes fgarcia primary group to the executive group
- iii. -a -G: appends the user to an existing group
 - 1. example: “sudo usermod -a -G marketing fgarcia” adds fgarcia to the supplemental marketing group
 - 2. “-a -G” ensures that the new groups are added but existing groups aren’t replaced
- iv. -d: changes the user’s home directory
 - 1. example: “sudo usermod -d /home/garcia_f fgarcia” changes fgarcia’s home directory to “/home/garcia_f”
- v. -l: changes the user’s login name
- vi. -L: locks the account so the user can’t log in

d. userdel

- i. deletes a user from the system
- ii. example: “sudo userdel fgarcia”
- iii. -r: must be used in order to delete the files in the user’s home directory
 - 1. example: “sudo userdel -r fgarcia”

e. chown

- i. changes ownership of a file or directory
- ii. can use to change user or group ownership
- iii. example “change user owner of “access.txt” file to fgarcia
“sudo chown :<insert new owner> access.txt”
 - 1. must enter “:” before “<insert new owner>” to designate it as a group name

20. Linux Community and In-House Resources

- a. consider Unix/Linux stack exchange
 - i. <https://unix.stackexchange.com/>

- b. man
 - i. displays information on other commands and how they work
 - ii. find information about “usermod”
 - 1. man usermod
- c. whatis
 - i. displays the description of a command on a single line
- d. apropos
 - i. searches the manual page descriptions for a specified string
 - ii. example: apropos -a change password
 - 1. output is limited to the most relevant commands
 - iii. “used to search for a command even if they **do not** know the specific command name”

Week 4 – Intro to SQL/Databases, SQL Queries/Filters/Joins

1. Database Basics
 - a. Database
 - i. an organized collection of information or data
 - ii. accessed by multiple people simultaneously
 - iii. stores massive amounts of data
 - b. Relational Database
 - i. a structured database containing tables that are related to each other
 - c. Primary Key
 - i. a column where every row has a unique entry
 - d. Foreign Key
 - i. a column in a table that is a primary key in another table
 - ii. allows a connection between two tables
 - e. SQL (Structured Query Language)
 - i. a programming language used to create, interact with, and request information from a database
 - f. Query
 - i. a request for data from a database table or a combination of tables
 - g. SQL Filtering vs Linux Filtering
 - i. Accessing SQL
 1. Linux: via the command line
 - a. example: enter “sqlite3”
 - ii. Differences in filtering
 1. Structure
 - a. SQL separates each record separated into columns
 - b. Linux prints the data as a line of text without organization
 - c. Overall, SQL is more readable
 2. Joining Tables
 - a. SQL allows joining multiple tables together when returning data
 - b. Linux doesn’t have this joining functionality
 3. Best Uses
 - a. Databases needing multiple columns = SQL
 - b. Large text files = Linux
2. SQL Basics
 - a. SELECT
 - i. indicates which columns to return
 - b. FROM

- i. indicates which table to query
- ii. Example:

```
SELECT employee_id, device_id
FROM employees;
```

 - 1. note: “;” must be placed at the end of a statement

c. ORDER BY

- i. sequences the records returned by a query based on a specified column or columns
- ii. can be either ascending or descending
- iii. Example:

```
SELECT customerid, city, country
FROM customers
ORDER BY city;
```
- iv. default ascending numeric order is smallest to largest
- v. default ascending alphabetic character goes a->z
- vi. using DESC for descending
 - 1. Example:

```
SELECT customerid, city, country
FROM customers
ORDER BY city DESC;
```
- vii. You can also sort by multiple items I.E., “ORDER BY country, city;”

3. Filtering Basics

- a. Filtering
 - i. selecting data that match a certain condition
- b. Operator
 - i. a symbol or keyword that represents an operation
 - ii. I.E., “country = ‘USA’”
- c. WHERE
 - i. indicates the condition for a filter
- d. example so far:

```
SELECT *
FROM log_in_attempts
WHERE country = ‘USA’;
```
- e. “%” wildcard filter
 - i. substitutes for any number of other characters
 - ii. example
 Filter for ‘East%’ returns
 East-120
 East-290
 East-435
- f. “_” wildcard filter
 - i. only substitutes for one other character

g. Wildcard Example Table:

Pattern	Results that could be returned
'as'	apple123, art, a
'a_'	as, an, a7
'a__'	ant, add, a1c
'sa'	pizza, Z6ra, a
'_a'	ma, 1a, Ha
'sas'	Again, back, a
'_a_'	Car, ban, ea7

- h. LIKE (it's an operator, similar to the "=" sign)
- must be used with WHERE to search for a pattern in a column
 - example:

```
SELECT *
FROM log_in_attempts
WHERE country LIKE 'US%';
```

4. Common Data Types

- String
 - everything is treated as text
- Numeric
 - just numbers, can be used with mathematical operations
- Date and Time

5. More Common Operators

operator	use
<	less than
>	greater than
=	equal to
<=	less than or equal to
>=	greater than or equal to
<>	not equal to

- example query using greater than:

```
SELECT firstname, lastname, birthdate
FROM employees
Where birthdate > '1970-01-01';
```

6. BETWEEN

- filters for numbers or dates within a range
 - example:

```
SELECT *
FROM machines
WHERE OS_patch_date BETWEEN '2021-03-01' AND '2021-09-01';
```
- numbers do not require quotation marks within the query

7. AND

- specifies that both conditions must be met simultaneously

- i. example:

```
SELECT *
FROM machines
WHERE operating_system = 'OS1' AND email_client = 'Email Client 1';
```

8. OR

- a. specifies that either condition can be met
- b. example:

```
SELECT *
FROM machines
WHERE operating_system = 'OS1' OR operating_system = 'OS3';
```

9. NOT

- a. negates a condition
- b. example:

```
SELECT *
FROM machines
WHERE NOT operating_system = 'OS3';
```
- c. can also use "WHERE operating_system <> 'OS3';
or
"WHERE operating_system != 'OS3'"

10. Combining Logical Operators

- a. example:

```
SELECT firstname, lastname, email, country
FROM customers
WHERE NOT country = 'Canada' AND NOT country = 'USA';
```

11. Joining Tables in SQL

- a. example tables for referring to a column involving two tables:

employees	machines
employee_id	device_id
device_id	employee_id
username	operating_system
department	email_client
office	OS_patch_date

"employees" table with "employee_id" column = employees.employee_id

b. INNER JOIN

- i. returns rows matching on a specified column that exists in more than one table
- ii. used when the primary key of the **first table** is used as a foreign key in the **second table**
- iii. example:

```
SELECT username, office, operating_system
FROM employees
INNER JOIN machines ON employees.employee_id = machines.employee_id;
```

iv. Scenario Example:

Left table	Right table
log_in_attempts	employees_remote
event_number	employee_id
username	username
date	department
time	location
ip_address	

Start of SQL statement:

```
SELECT *
FROM log_in_attempts
```

You only need to view the login attempts made by remote employees, so you want to return only the records that match on the username column.

c. Three Outer Joins (replaces “INNER JOIN”):

i. LEFT JOIN

- returns all of the records on the first table, but only returns rows of the second table that match on a specified column
- example query:
 Select *
 FROM employees
 LEFT JOIN machines ON employees.device_id = machines.device_id

Left table	Right table
log_in_attempts	employees_remote
event_number	employee_id
username	username
date	department
time	location
ip_address	

Start of SQL statement:

```
SELECT *
FROM log_in_attempts
```

You need to examine how often remote employees log in compared to other employees. Therefore, you want to return all records from the log_in_attempts table but only the records that match on the username column from the employees_remote table.

ii. RIGHT JOIN

- returns all of the records of the second table, but only returns rows from the first table that match on a specified column
- example query:
 Select *
 FROM employees

RIGHT JOIN machines ON employees.device_id = machines.device_id

Left table

log_in_attempts
event_number
username
date
time
ip_address

Right table

employees_remote
employee_id
username
department
location

Start of SQL statement:

```
SELECT *
FROM log_in_attempts
```

You need to check employee engagement for remote workers. This means you want to return all records from the employees_remote table and only the records that match on the username column from the log_in_attempts table.

iii. FULL OUTER JOIN

1. returns all records from both tables
2. example query:

Select *

FROM employees

FULL OUTER JOIN machines ON employees.device_id = machines.device_id

Left table

log_in_attempts
event_number
username
date
time
ip_address

Right table

employees_remote
employee_id
username
department
location

Start of SQL statement:

```
SELECT *
FROM log_in_attempts
```

You need a complete picture of login attempts. You also need to know full details about all remote employees. This means you want to return all records from both tables.

12. Aggregate SQL Functions

- a. functions that perform a calculation over multiple data points and returns the result
- b. COUNT: returns a single number that represents the number of rows returned from your query
 - i. example:


```
SELECT COUNT(firstname)
FROM customers
WHERE country = 'USA';
```
- c. AVG: returns a single number that represents the average of the numerical data in a column
- d. SUM: returns a single number that represents the sum of the numerical data in a column

Course 5 – Assets, Threats, and Vulnerabilities | Instructor Da'Queshia

Week 1 – Introduction to Digital and Physical Assets, Risk and Asset Security

1. Risk
 - a. anything that can impact the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of an asset
2. Security Risk Planning consists of:
 - a. Assets
 - i. an item perceived as having value to an organization

- b. Threats
 - i. any circumstance or event that can negatively impact assets
 - c. Vulnerabilities
 - i. a weakness that can be exploited by a threat
- 3. Likelihood x Impact = Risk
 - a. calculated to help:
 - i. prevent costly and disruptive events
 - ii. identify improvements that can be made to systems and processes
 - iii. determine which risks can be tolerated
 - iv. prioritize the critical assets that require attention
- 4. Risk Factors (broad) to be concerned with in the field:
 - a. Threats
 - b. Vulnerabilities
- 5. Categories of threat
 - a. threat = circumstances or events that can negatively impact assets
 - b. two types of threats
 - i. intentional
 - ii. unintentional
- 6. Categories of vulnerability
 - a. vulnerability = weakness that can be exploited by threats
 - b. two categories
 - i. technical (I.E., misconfigured software)
 - ii. human (I.E., forgetful employee who loses their access card in the parking lot)
- 7. Asset Management
 - a. the process of tracking assets and their risks that affect them
 - b. why it matters / examples of assets
 - i. digital assets such as customer data or financial records
 - ii. information systems that process data, like networks or software
 - iii. physical assets which can include facilities, equipment, or supplies
 - iv. intangible assets such as brand reputation or intellectual property
 - c. Asset Inventory
 - i. a catalog of assets that need to be protected
 - d. Asset Classification
 - i. the practice of labeling assets based on sensitivity and importance to an organization
 - ii. labeling usually involves:
 - 1. what you have
 - 2. where it is
 - 3. who owns it
 - 4. how important it is
 - iii. levels of asset classification
 - 1. Public
 - a. shared with anyone
 - 2. Internal-Only
 - a. shared with anyone inside the organization along with business partners
 - 3. Confidential
 - a. accessed by those only working on a specific project
 - b. disclosure may lead to a significant negative impact on an organization

4. Restricted

- a. highly sensitive and must be protected
- b. need-to-know
- c. payment information

8. States Of Data

- a. In Use
 - i. data being accessed by one or more users
- b. In Transit
 - i. data traveling from one point to another
- c. At Rest
 - i. data not currently being access
 - ii. usually stored on a physical device

9. Information Security (InfoSec)

- a. the practice of keeping data in all states away from unauthorized users

10. Cloud-Based Services – a review

- a. SaaS: Software as a Service
 - i. front-end applications that users access via a web browser
 - ii. service providers host, manage, and maintain all of the back-end
 - iii. examples: gmail, slack, zoom
- b. PaaS: Platform as a Service
 - i. back-end application development tools that clients can access online
 - ii. devs use these resources to write code and build, manage, and deploy their own apps
 - iii. examples: google app engine platform, heroku, VMware cloud foundry
- c. IaaS: Infrastructure as a Service
 - i. customers given remote access to a range of back-end systems
 - ii. includes data processing servers, storage, networking resources
 - iii. examples: google cloud platform, microsoft azure
- d. cloud responsibility model
 - i. identity and access management
 - ii. resource configuration
 - iii. data handling
- e. security challenges
 - i. misconfiguration
 - 1. ***biggest concern***
 - 2. customers are responsible for configuring their own security environment
 - ii. cloud-native breaches
 - 1. most likely to occur due to misconfigured services
 - iii. monitoring access might be difficult
 - 1. depends on the client and level of service
 - iv. meeting regulatory standards
 - 1. particularly in industries required by law to follow HIPPA, PCI DSS, and GDPR
- f. cloud security resources
 - i. U.K.'s National Cyber Security Center
 - 1. <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/cloud/understanding-cloud-services/cloud-security-shared-responsibility-model>
 - ii. Cloud Security Alliance (organization dedicated to creating secure cloud environments)
 - 1. <https://cloudsecurityalliance.org/>

iii. CompTIA Cloud+ (program designed to teach foundational skills of a cloud security specialist)

1. <https://www.comptia.org/blog/your-next-move-cloud-security-specialist>

11. Types of Risk Categories

- a. Damage
- b. Disclosure
- c. Loss of Information

12. Elements of a Security Plan

- a. Policies
 - i. set of rules that reduces risk and protects information
- b. Standards
 - i. references that inform how to set policies
- c. Procedures
 - i. step-by-step instructions to perform a specific security task

13. Compliance

- a. the process of adhering to internal standards and external regulations

14. Regulations

- a. rules set by a government or other authority to control the way something is done

15. NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) – review

- a. a voluntary framework that consists of standards, guidelines, best practices to manage cybersecurity risk
- b. three main components:
 - i. Core
 1. set of desired cybersecurity outcomes that help orgs. customize their security plan
 2. Five Functions:
 - a. Identify (most important)
 - b. Protect
 - c. Detect
 - d. Respond
 - e. Recover
 - ii. Tiers
 1. way of measuring the sophistication of an organization's cybersecurity program
 2. Four Tiers
 - a. 1 (passive) – barely passing minimum standards, limited set of security controls have been implemented
 - b. 2
 - c. 3
 - d. 4 (adaptive)- indication that a function is being performed at an exemplary standard
 - iii. Profiles
 1. pre-made templates of the NIST CSF
 2. tailored to address the specific risks of an organization/industry
 3. helps develop a baseline for cybersecurity plans

16. Implementing the CSF

- a. **Create a current profile:** outline the specific needs of your business
- b. **Perform a risk assessment:** id which of your current ops are meeting business and regulatory standards
- c. **Analyze and prioritize existing gaps:** anything that places the businesses' assets at risk
- d. **Implement a plan of action:** will help achieve your organization's goals and objectives
- e. *note*: always consider current risk, threat, and vulnerability trends when using the NIST CSF

Week 2 – Safeguard Information, Encryption Methods, Authentication/Authorization/Accounting

1. Security Controls
 - a. safeguards designed to reduce specific security risks
 - b. Three types:
 - i. Technical
 1. encryption, digital security means
 - ii. Operational
 1. people-based
 - iii. Managerial
 1. policies, standards, and procedures
2. Information Privacy
 - a. the protection of unauthorized access and distribution of data
3. Data Owner
 - a. the person that decides who can access, edit, use, or destroy their information
4. Data Custodian
 - a. anyone or anything that's responsible for the safe handling, transport, and storage of information
5. Principle of Least Privilege
 - a. security concept in which a user is only granted the minimum level of access and authorization required to complete a task or function
 - b. fundamental security control that supports confidentiality, integrity, and availability (CIA)
 - c. limiting access reduces risk
 - i. limiting access to sensitive information
 - ii. reducing the chances of accidental data modification, tampering, or loss
 - iii. supporting system monitoring and administration
6. Determining Access and Authorization
 - a. ask the questions
 - i. who is the user
 - ii. how much access do they need to a specified resource?
 - b. most common types of user accounts
 - i. Guest: provided to external users who need to access an internal network
 - ii. User: assigned to staff based on their job duties
 - iii. Service: granted to applications or software that needs to interact with other network software
 - iv. Privileged: elevated permissions or administrative access
7. Auditing Account Privileges
 - a. three common approaches:
 - i. Usage Audit
 1. review which resources each account is accessing and what the user's doing with it
 2. helps identify whether a user has permissions that may need to be revoked
 - ii. Privilege Audit
 1. known to help combat "privilege creep"
 2. assess whether a user's role is in alignment with the resources they have access to
 - iii. Account Change Audit
 1. I.E., multiple attempts to change an account password
 2. ensures that all account changes are made by authorized users
8. The Data Lifecycle
 - a. Collect

- b. Store
- c. Use
- d. Archive
- e. Destroy

9. Data Governance

- a. set of processes that define how an organization manages information
- b. includes policies that specify how to keep data private, accurate, available, and secure
- c. policies commonly categorize individuals into a specific role
 - i. Data Owner: person that decides who can access/edit/use/destroy their information
 - ii. Data Custodian: anyone or anything that's responsible for the safe handling, transport, and storage of information
 - iii. Data Steward: the person or group that maintains and implements data governance policies set by an organization
- d. "Data Governance Policy"
 - i. security plans including a specific policy that outlines how information will be managed across the organization
- e. As a data custodian you are responsible for ensuring that data isn't damaged, stolen, or misused.

10. Legally Protected Information

- a. PII
 - i. information used to infer an individual's identity
 - ii. information that can be used to contact or locate someone
- b. PHI (Protected Health Information)
 - i. regulated by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
 - 1. defines PHI as "information that relates to the past, present, or future physical/mental health/condition of an individual"
 - ii. has similar definition in the EU but regulated by the GDPR
- c. SPII (Sensitive PII)
 - i. specific type of PII that falls under stricter handling guidelines
 - ii. S = "sensitive"
 - iii. should only be accessed on a need-to-know basis
 - iv. I.E., bank account number or login credentials

11. Information Security vs. Information Privacy

- a. privacy: refers to the protection of unauthorized access and distribution of data
 - i. providing people with control over their personal information and how it's shared
- b. security (InfoSec): refers to the practice of keeping data in all states away from unauthorized users
 - i. protecting people's choices and keeping their information safe from potential threats

12. Notable Privacy Regulations

- a. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
 - i. set by European Union (EU)
 - ii. puts data owners in total control of their personal information
 - iii. regards name, address, phone number, financial information, and medical information
 - iv. note: a US based company that handles EU data is subject to GDPR provisions
- b. Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS)
 - i. aims to secure credit and debit card transactions against data theft and fraud
- c. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
 - i. prohibits disclosure of a person's medical information without their knowledge and consent

13. Security Assessment vs. Audit

- a. Audit: review of an organization's security controls, policies, and procedures against a set of expectations
 - i. performed once a year (usually)
- b. Assessment: check to determine how resilient current security implementations are against threats
 - i. performed once every three to six months

14. Cryptography

- a. the process of transforming information into a form that unintended readers can't understand

15. Cipher

- a. an algorithm that encrypts information

16. Cryptographic Key

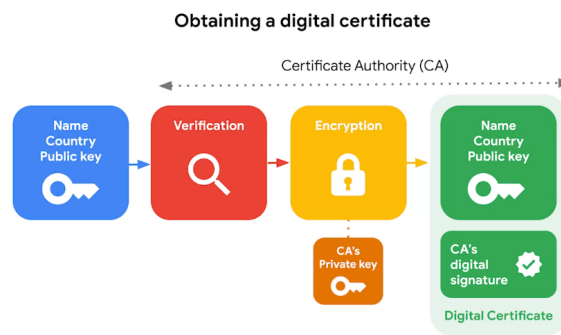
- a. a mechanism that decrypts ciphertext

17. Brute Force Attack

- a. a trial-and-error process of discovering private information

18. Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)

- a. an encryption framework that secures the exchange of information online
- b. The Two-Step Process:
 - i. Exchange of encrypted information, asymmetric or symmetric
 - 1. Asymmetric Encryption
 - a. the use of a public and private key pair for encryption and decryption of data
 - 2. Symmetric Encryption
 - a. the use of a single secret key to exchange information
 - ii. Establish trust using a system of digital certificates
 - 1. Digital Certificate
 - a. a file that verifies the identity of a public key holder
 - b. example of gaining trusted cert:



19. Approved Encryption Algorithms

- a. Symmetric
 - i. Triple DES (3DES)
 - 1. "block cipher" by way of converting plaintext into ciphertext "blocks"
 - 2. traces back to Data Encryption Standard (DES)
 - a. developed in 1970s
 - b. one of the earliest symmetric encryption algorithms generating 64-bit keys
 - 3. uses 192-bit encryption
 - ii. Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)
 - 1. one of the most secure symmetric algorithms
 - 2. generates 128/192/256-bit keys
 - 3. brute forcing an AES 128-bit key would take billions of years
- b. Asymmetric

- i. Rivest Shamir Adleman (RSA)
 - 1. named after its three creators who developed it at MIT
 - 2. produces a public and private key pair
 - 3. key sizes: 1024, 2049, 4096
 - 4. used to protect highly sensitive data
- ii. Digital Signature Algorithm (DSA)
 - 1. standard introduced by NIST in early 1990s
 - 2. 2048-bit key length
 - 3. used as a complement to RSA in PKI

20. OpenSSL

- a. open-source command line tool used to generate public and private keys
- b. commonly used by computers to verify digital certs exchanged as part of PKI
- c. no longer recommended due to the Heartbleed Bug of 2014

21. Kerchoff's Principle

- a. cryptography should be designed in such a way that all the details of an algorithm, except for the private key, should be knowable without sacrificing its security
 - i. example: you can access all the details about how AES works yet it's still unbreakable

22. Decrypting with a Caesar Cipher in Linux Bash

example: `openssl aes-256-cbc -pbkdf2 -a -d -in Q1.encrypted -out Q1.recovered -k ettubrute`

breakdown:

`openssl AES-256-CBC`: reverses the encryption of the file with a secure symmetric cipher

`-pbkdf2`: option used to add extra security to the key

`-a`: indicates desired coding for the output

`-d`: indicates decrypting

`-in`: specifies the input file

`-out`: specifies the output file

`-k`: specifies the password (password is ettubrute in this example case)

23. Hash Function

- a. an algorithm that produces a code that can't be decrypted
- b. example hash function: `sha256sum newfile.txt`

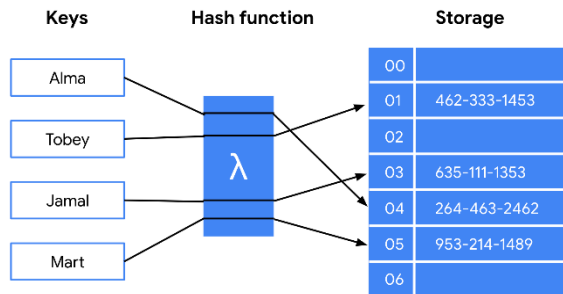
24. Non-Repudiation

- a. the concept that the authenticity of information can't be denied

25. Origins of Hashing

- a. originally created as a way to quickly search for data
 - i. meant to represent data of any size as small, fixed-size values, or digests
- b. Earliest hash function was Message Digest 5, also known as MD5
 - i. developed by Professor Ronald Rivest of MIT
 - ii. converts data into a 128-bit value

c. Example of how plaintext gets turned into hash values:



26. Hash Collisions

- an instance when different inputs produce the same hash value
- can be used to carry out collision attacks to fraudulently impersonate authentic data

27. Next Generation Hashing (NIST Approved)

- Secure Hashing Algorithms (SHA)
 - Five functions make up the SHA family:
 - SHA-1 (160-bit)
 - SHA-224
 - SHA-256
 - SHA-384
 - SHA-512

28. Secure Password Storage

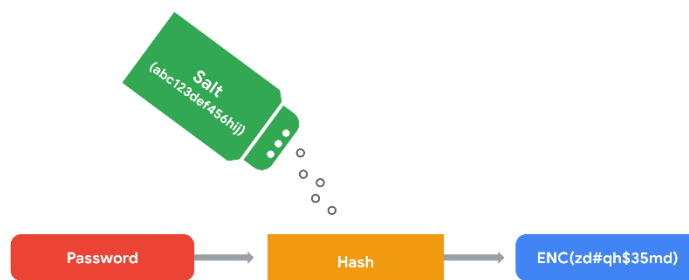
- passwords are stored in a database mapped to a username, server receives a request for authentication that contains the credentials supplied by the user, looks up username in the database and compares password with the password inputted
- hashing would prevent a hacker from gaining these passwords because the store password would not be human-readable

29. Rainbow Tables

- file of pre-generated hash values and their associated plaintext
- like a dictionary of weak passwords
- hacker's will steal hashes and compare them against all possible table values

30. Salting

- additional safeguard used to strengthen hash functions
- salt- a random string of characters that's added to data before it's hashed
- helps produce a more unique hash value, thus resilient to rainbow table attacks



31. Access Controls

- security controls that manage access, authorization, and accountability of information

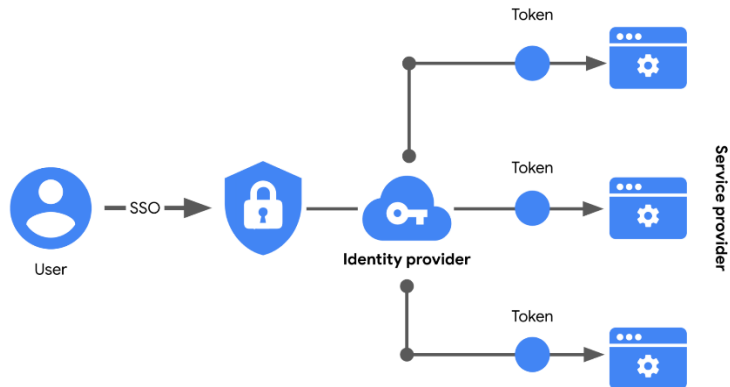
32. AAA Framework

- a. Authentication
 - i. "Who are you?"
 - ii. Factors of authentication:
 - 1. Knowledge: something the user knows
 - a. username/password
 - 2. Ownership: something the user possesses
 - a. one-time passcode (OTP) sent via SMS
 - 3. Characteristic: something the user is
 - a. fingerprints or facial scans
 - iii. Single Sign-On (SSO)
 - 1. a technology that combines several different logins into one
 - 2. three reasons this is a good solution:
 - a. improves the user experience by eliminating the number of usernames and passwords people have to remember
 - b. companies can lower costs by streamlining how they manage connected services
 - c. improves overall security by reducing the number of access points an attacker is able to target
 - iv. Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)
 - 1. a security measure which requires a user to verify their identity in two or more ways to access a system or network
- b. Authorization
 - i. Basic Auth
 - 1. the technology used to establish a user's request to access a server
 - ii. OAuth
 - 1. an open-standard authorization protocol that shares designated access between apps
 - 2. uses API tokens
 - a. a small block of encrypted code that contains information about a user
 - b. serve as an additional layer of encryption
- c. Accounting
 - i. practice of monitoring the access logs of a system

33. SSO Functionality Explained

- a. automated how trust is established between a user and a service provider
- b. uses third-parties to prove that a user is who they claim to be
- c. done via exchange of encrypted access tokens between the identity provider and the service provider
- d. token exchange relies on two protocols:
 - i. Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP): transmitting information on-premises
 - ii. Security Assertion Markup Language: transmitting information off-premises (cloud)

- e. example of SSO use when connecting a user to multiple applications with one access token:



- f. limitations

- i. a lost or stolen password could expose information across multiple services
 1. solution = MFA

34. Session

- a. a sequence of network HTTP basic auth requests and responses associated with the same user
- b. involves two main functions:
 - i. Session ID
 1. a unique token that identifies a user and their device while accessing the system
 - ii. Session Cookie
 1. a token that websites use to validate a session and determine how long that session should last

35. Session Hijacking

- a. an event when attackers obtain a legitimate user's session ID

36. Identity and Access Management (IAM)

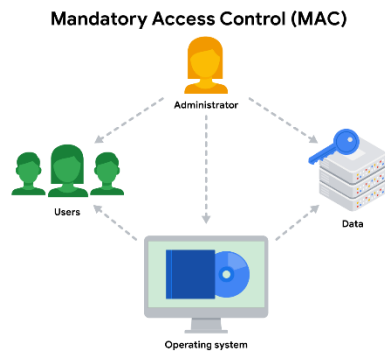
- a. a collection of processes and technologies that helps organizations manage digital identities in their environment
- b. both AAA and IAM systems are designed to:
 - i. authenticate users
 - ii. determine their access privileges
 - iii. track their activities within a system
- c. it ensures the **right user** is granted access to the **right resources** at the **right time** for the **right reasons**

37. User Provisioning

- a. process of creating and maintaining a user's digital identity
- b. removing a user's access rights when they should no longer have them

38. Granting Authorization

a. Mandatory Access Control (MAC)



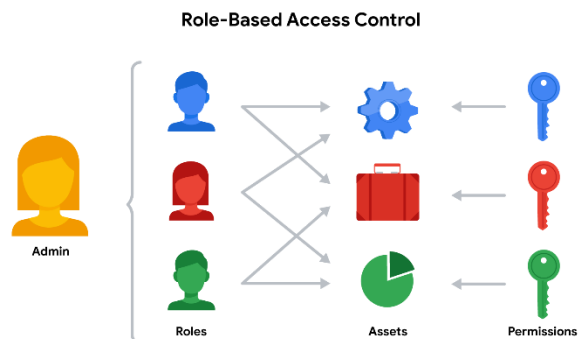
- i. strictest of the three frameworks
- ii. based on a strict need-to-know basis
- iii. access to information granted manually by central authority or system administrator
- iv. applied in law enforcement, military and government agencies
- v. also known as “non-discretionary” control because access isn’t given at the discretion of the data owner

b. Discretionary Access Control (DAC)



- i. applied when a data owner decides appropriate levels of access
- ii. example: owner of a google drive folder shares editor, viewer, or commentor access with others

c. Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)



- i. determined via user’s role within an organization
- ii. example: user in marketing department has access to user analytics but not network admin

39. Resource for staying informed on the identity and access management industry

- a. <https://idpro.org/>

Week 3 – Flaws in the System, Identity System Vulnerabilities, Cyber Attacker Mindset

1. Term Review
 - a. Vulnerability- a weakness that can be exploited by a threat
 - b. Exploit- a way of taking advantage of a vulnerability
 - c. Example of vulnerability/exploit relationship
 - i. A house has windows that are weak to rock (vulnerability), a theft who is trying to break in will smash the windows with a rock (exploit)
2. Vulnerability Management
 - a. The process of finding and patching vulnerabilities
 - b. Four steps:
 - i. Identify vulnerabilities
 - ii. Consider potential exploits
 - iii. Prepare defenses against threats
 - iv. Evaluate those defenses
3. Zero-Day
 - a. An exploit that was previously unknown
4. Defense In Depth
 - a. A layered approach to vulnerability management that reduces risk
 - b. Five Layers
 - i. Perimeter Layer
 1. usernames and passwords/user authentication layer
 - ii. Network Layer
 1. authorization
 2. I.E. Firewalls
 - iii. Endpoint Layer
 1. laptop, desktop, server
 2. I.E. Anti-virus software
 - iv. Application Layer
 1. all interfaces used to interact with technology
 2. I.E. MFA
 - v. Data Layer
 1. any information that's stored, in transit, or in use
 2. I.E. Asset classification
5. Exposure
 - a. a mistake that can be exploited by a threat
6. Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures list (CVE List)
 - a. An openly accessible dictionary of known vulnerabilities and exposures
 - b. Created by MITRE
 - i. a collection of non-profit research and development centers
 - ii. sponsored by U.S. Government
 - c. offer standard way of identifying and categorizing vulnerabilities and exposures
7. Anyone can report to the CVE
 - a. must go through a strict vetting process via CVE Numbering Authority (CNA)
 - i. an organization that volunteers to analyze and distribute information on eligible CVEs
 - b. CVE List Criteria
 - i. Independent of other issues
 - ii. Recognized as a potential security risk

- iii. Submitted with supporting evidence
 - iv. Only affect one codebase (one program source code)
- 8. Common Vulnerability Scoring System (CVSS)
 - a. a measurement system that scores the severity of a vulnerability
 - b. used by the NIST National Vulnerabilities Database
- 9. Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP)
 - a. a nonprofit foundation that works to improve the security of software
- 10. OWASP “Top 10”
 - a. published since 2003 as a way to spread awareness of the web’s most targeted vulnerabilities
 - b. updated every few years as technologies evolve
- 11. OWASP Top 10 Vulnerabilities
 - a. Broken Access Control
 - i. limits what user can do in a web application
 - b. Cryptographic failures
 - i. happens with weak hashing algorithms or failure to properly encrypt sensitive data
 - c. Injection
 - i. when malicious code is inserted into a vulnerable application
 - ii. common target would be a website’s login form in order to steal credentials
 - d. Insecure Design
 - i. applications should be resilient to attack
 - e. Security Misconfiguration
 - i. when security settings aren’t properly set or maintained
 - ii. example: when businesses deploy equipment using default settings
 - f. Vulnerable and Outdated Components
 - i. refers to application development
 - g. Identification and Authentication Failures
 - i. when applications fail to recognize who should have access and what they’re authorized to do
 - h. Software and Data Integrity Failures
 - i. when updates or patches are inadequately reviewed before implementation
 - ii. likely to lead to a “supply chain attack”
 - iii. refer to
<https://www.gao.gov/blog/solarwinds-cyberattack-demands-significant-federal-and-private-sector-response-infographic>
 - i. Security Logging and Monitoring Failures
 - i. must be able to log and trace back events
 - j. Server-Side Request Forgery (SSRF)
 - i. when attackers manipulate the normal operations of a server to read or update other resources on that server
- 12. Information vs Intelligence
 - a. Information: refers to the collection of raw data or facts about a specific subject
 - b. Intelligence: analysis of information to produce knowledge or insights that can be used
- 13. Information Security (InfoSec)
 - a. practice of keeping data in all states away from unauthorized users
- 14. Using OSINT to generate intelligence:
 - a. provide insights into cyber attacks
 - b. detect potential data exposures
 - c. evaluate existing defenses

- d. identify unknown vulnerabilities

15. OSINT Tools

- a. VirusTotal- Analyze suspicious files, domains, URLs, and IP addresses
 - i. <https://www.virustotal.com/gui/home/upload>
- b. MITRE ATT&CK- knowledge base of adversary tactics and techniques based on real-world observation
 - i. <https://attack.mitre.org/>
- c. OSINT Framework- web-based interface where you can find OSINT tools for any kind of source/platform
 - i. <https://osintframework.com/>
- d. Have I been Pwned- used to search for breached email accounts
 - i. <https://haveibeenpwned.com/>

16. Vulnerability Assessment

- a. the internal review process of an organization's security systems
- b. 4 steps:
 - i. Identification
 - ii. Vulnerability Analysis
 - iii. Risk Assessment
 - iv. Remediation

17. Vulnerability Scanner

- a. software that automatically compares known vulnerabilities and exposures against the technologies on the network, can help find misconfigurations or programming flaws

18. Performing Scans

- a. Should be non-intrusive
- b. External vs Internal
 - i. External
 - 1. test the perimeter layer outside of the internal network
 - 2. analyze outward facing systems like websites and firewalls
 - ii. Internal
 - 1. examines organization's internal systems such as application software
- c. Authenticated vs Unauthenticated
 - i. Authenticated
 - 1. test a system by logging in with a real user account or even with an admin account
 - 2. used to check for vulnerabilities like broken access controls
 - ii. Unauthenticated
 - 1. simulate external threat actors that do not have access to your business or resources
 - 2. I.E. Analyzing file shares within the organization that are used to house internal-only documents, unauthenticated users should receive "access denied" results
- d. Limited vs Comprehensive
 - i. Limited
 - 1. analyzes particular devices on a network
 - ii. Comprehensive
 - 1. analyzes all devices connected to a network, including operating systems and user databases and more

19. Patch Update

- a. software and operating system update that addresses security vulnerabilities within a program
- b. usually contains bug fixes that address common security vulnerabilities and exposures

20. Common Update Strategies

- a. Manual

- i. Advantages
 - 1. strategies of control
 - ii. Disadvantages
 - 1. can be forgotten or disregarded entirely
- b. Automatic (Recommended by The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA))
 - i. Advantages
 - 1. deployment process is simplified
 - 2. systems and software stay current with the latest, critical patches
 - ii. Disadvantages
 - 1. if patches are not thoroughly tested by the vendor, can result in instability and performance problems in end-user experience

21. End-of-Life Software

- a. older software is still useful while the manufacturer no longer supports it
- b. upgrade = completely new version s of hardware of software that can be purchased

22. Penetration Test

- a. simulated attack that helps identify vulnerabilities in a system, networks, websites, etc.
- b. Red Team Test: simulates attacks to identify vulnerabilities
- c. Blue Team Test: focuses on defense and incident response to validate an organization's security
- d. Purple Team Test: collaborative, focusing on improving security posture of the organization by combining elements of red and blue team exercises
- e. Strategies
 - i. Open-box Testing
 - 1. when the tester has the same privileged access that an internal developer would have
 - 2. aka internal, full knowledge, white-box, clear box
 - ii. Closed-Box Testing
 - 1. when tester has little to no access to internal systems- similar to malicious hacker
 - 2. aka external, black-box, zero knowledge
 - iii. Partial Knowledge
 - 1. tester has limited access and knowledge of internal system
 - 2. aka gray-box
- f. Skills needed for pen testing
 - i. network and application security
 - ii. experience with operating systems
 - iii. vulnerability analysis and threat modeling
 - iv. detection and response tools
 - v. programming languages
 - vi. communication skills
- g. Bug Bounty Programs
 - i. giving freelance pen testers financial rewards for finding and reporting vulnerabilities in their products

23. Security Hardening

- a. the process of strengthening a system to reduce its vulnerabilities and attack surface

24. Simulating threats

- a. applying an attacker mindset by proactively and or reactively making the system safer
- b. Proactive Simulation: assume the role of an attacker by exploiting vulnerabilities and breaking through defenses
 - i. I.E. "Red Team Exercise"

- c. Reactive Simulation: role of a defender responding to an attack
 - i. I.E. “Blue Team Exercise”

25. Vulnerability Scanner- Example

- a. Identification: a vulnerable server is flagged b/c it's running an outdated OS
- b. Vulnerability Analysis: Research is done on the outdated OS and its vulnerabilities
- c. Risk Assessment: After doing due diligence, the severity of each vulnerability is scored and the impact of not fixing it is evaluated
- d. Remediation: The information that you've gather can be used to address the issue

26. <https://nvd.nist.gov/> to remain current on common vulnerabilities

27. Threat Actor Types (someone who presents a security risk)

- a. Competitor: rival companies who pose a threat because they might benefit from leaked information
- b. State Actors: government intelligence agencies
- c. Criminal Actors: organized groups of people who make money from criminal activity
- d. Insider Threats: any individual who has or had authorized access
- e. Shadow IT: individuals who use technologies that lack IT governance
 - i. example: when an employee uses their personal email to send work-related communications

28. Types of Hackers

- a. Unauthorized hackers
- b. Authorized, or ethical, hackers
- c. Semi-Authorized hackers

29. Advanced Persistent Threat (APT)

- a. when a threat actor maintains unauthorized access to a system for an extended period of time
- b. associated with nation states and state-sponsored actors
- c. concerned with surveilling a target to gather information

30. Access Points

- a. Direct access- physical access to the system
- b. Removable media- portable hardware, USB flash drives
- c. Social media platforms- content sharing
- d. Email- personal and business accounts
- e. Wireless networks- on premises
- f. Cloud Services- provided by third-party organizations
- g. Supply chains- third-party vendors that can present a backdoor into systems

31. Attack Vectors

- a. the pathways attackers use to penetrate security defenses

32. Practicing an attacker mindset

- a. Identify a target
- b. Determine how the target can be accessed
- c. Evaluate the attack vectors that can be exploited
- d. Find the tools and methods of attack

33. Defending Attack Vectors

- a. Educating users
- b. Applying principle of least privilege
- c. Using the right security controls and tools
- d. Building a diverse security team

34. Brute Force Attack: A matter of trial and error

- a. Simple brute force
 - i. attackers guess a user's login credentials, trying multiple combinations until they get it right

- b. Dictionary attack
 - i. attackers use a list of commonly used credentials to access a system
- c. Reverse brute force
 - i. similar to dictionary attack, but starting with a single credential and try it in various systems
- d. Credential stuffing
 - i. attackers use stolen login credentials from previous data breaches to access user accounts at another organization
 - ii. specialized type is called “pass the hash”
 - 1. attackers reuse stolen, unsalted hashed credentials to trick an authentication system into creating a new authenticated user session on the network

35. Tools of the trade (brute force)

- a. Aircrack-ng
- b. Hashcat
- c. John the Ripper
- d. Ophcrack
- e. THC Hydra

36. Brute force prevention measures

- a. Hashing and salting
- b. Multi-factor authentication
- c. CAPTCHA
- d. Password policies

Week 4 – Social Engineering, Malware, Web-Based Exploits, Threat Modeling

1. Social Engineering
 - a. a manipulation technique that exploits human error to gain private information, access, or valuables
2. Stages of Social Engineering
 - a. prepare
 - b. establish trust
 - c. use persuasion tactics
 - d. disconnect from the target
3. Preventing social engineering
 - a. implementing managerial controls
 - b. staying informed of trends
 - c. sharing your knowledge with others
4. Common types of social engineering
 - a. Baiting
 - i. tempts people into compromising their security
 - ii. USB baiting- relies on someone finding an infected USB and plugging it into their device
 - b. Phishing
 - i. use of digital communications to trick people into revealing sensitive data
 - ii. typically performed via email
 - c. Quid Pro Quo
 - i. type of baiting used to trick someone into believing they’ll be rewarded in return for sharing access, information, or money
 - ii. impersonating a loan officer at a bank and call customers offering them a lower interest rate if they provide their account details to claim the deal
 - d. Tailgating
 - i. unauthorized people follow an authorized person into a restricted area

- ii. also known as piggybacking
 - e. Watering Hole
 - i. when a threat actor compromises a website frequently visited by a specific group of users
- 5. Encouraging caution of social engineering
 - a. Stay alert
 - b. Be cautious
 - c. Control curiosity
- 6. Phishing
 - a. the use of digital communications to trick people into revealing sensitive data or deploying malicious software
- 7. Phishing Kit
 - a. a collection of software tools needed to launch a phishing campaign
 - b. Three main tools
 - i. malicious attachments
 - ii. fake data-collection forms
 - iii. fraudulent web links
- 8. Review of terms
 - a. Smishing- user of text messages to obtain sensitive information or to impersonate a known source
 - b. Vishing- exploitation of electronic voice communication
 - c. Spear Phishing- subset of email phishing in which specific people are purposefully targeted
 - d. Whaling- category of spear phishing aimed at high-ranking executives
 - e. Angler Phishing- when attackers impersonate customer service representatives on social media
- 9. Phishing security measures
 - a. anti-phishing policies
 - b. employee training resources
 - c. email filters
 - d. intrusion prevention systems
- 10. Malware- software designed to harm devices or networks
- 11. Types of Malware
 - a. virus
 - i. malicious code written to interfere with computer operations and cause damage to data and software
 - ii. must be activated to start infection
 - b. worm
 - i. malware that can duplicate and spread itself across systems on its own
 - ii. uses an infected device as a host
 - iii. doesn't need an action to trigger replication
 - c. trojan
 - i. malware that looks like a legitimate file or program
 - ii. disguised as files or trusted applications
 - d. ransomware
 - i. type of malicious attack where attackers encrypt an organization's data and demand payment to restore access
 - ii. attackers will make themselves known to the target
 - e. spyware
 - i. malware that's used to gather and sell information without consent
 - ii. A type of PUA

- iii. commonly hidden in bundleware
- f. Adware
 - i. type of legitimate software that is sometimes used to display digital advertisements in applications
 - 1. Potentially Unwanted Application (PUA)
 - a. malicious adware
 - b. bundled with legitimate programs
- g. Scareware
 - i. type of malware that employs tactics to frighten users into infecting their own device
 - ii. comes in emails and fake pop-ups
- h. Fileless Malware
 - i. does not need to be installed because it uses legitimate programs already installed to infect a person's computer
 - ii. resides in memory where the malware never touches the hard drive
 - iii. can get into operating system or hide within trusted applications
- i. Rootkit
 - i. malware that provides remote, administrative access to a computer
 - ii. often spread by two components:
 - 1. dropper- type of malware that comes packed with malicious code which is delivered and installed onto a target system
 - a. often disguised as a legitimate file or executable, if the user opens the dropper program, its malicious code is executed and hides itself on the target system
 - 2. loader- type of malware that downloads strains of malicious code from an external source and installs them onto a target system
- j. Botnet
 - i. short for "robot network"
 - ii. collection of computers infected by malware under the control of a single "bot-herder"
- k. Cryptojacking
 - i. a form of malware that installs software to illegally mine cryptocurrencies
- l. Signs of infection
 - i. slowdown
 - ii. increased cpu usage
 - iii. sudden system crashes
 - iv. fast draining batteries
 - v. unusually high electricity costs

12. Web-Based Exploits

- a. malicious code or behavior that's used to take advantage of coding flaws in a web application

13. Injection Attack

- a. malicious code inserted into a vulnerable application

14. Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

- a. an injection attack that inserts code into a vulnerable website or web application
- b. usually exploits JavaScript and HTML
- c. three types:
 - i. reflected
 - 1. an instance when malicious script is sent to a server and activated during the server's response
 - ii. stored

- 1. an instance when malicious script is injected directly on the server
- iii. Document Object Model (DOM)-based
 - 1. an instance when malicious script exists in the webpage a browser loads
 - 2. a malicious script can be seen in the URL

15. SQL Injection

- a. an attack that executes unexpected queries on a database
- b. categories
 - i. In-band
 - 1. uses the same communication channel to launch the attack and gather the results
 - 2. example: search box of a retailer's website that lets customers find products to buy, an attacker could enter a malicious query that would be executed in the database
 - ii. Out-of-band
 - 1. uses a different communication channel to launch the attack and gather the results
 - 2. example: attacker uses a malicious query to create a connection between a vulnerable website and a database they control, the separate channel allows them to bypass any security controls in place on the website's server
 - iii. Inferential
 - 1. when an attacker is unable to directly see the results of the attack, results interpreted by the behavior of the system
 - 2. example: attacker performs an SQL injection attack on the login form of a website that causes the system to respond with an error message, attacker can figure out the database's structure based on the error

16. Preventing SQL Injection

- a. Prepared Statement
 - i. a coding technique that executes SQL statements before passing them onto the database
- b. Input Sanitization
 - i. removes user input which could be interpreted as code
- c. Input Validation
 - i. ensures user input meets a system's expectations

17. Threat Modeling

- a. the process of identifying assets, their vulnerabilities, and how each is exposed to threats

18. Six Steps of Threat Modeling

- a. Define the scope
- b. Identify threats
 - i. creating an Attack Tree- a diagram of mapping threats to assets
- c. Characterize the environment
- d. Analyze threats
- e. Mitigate risks
- f. Evaluate findings

19. PASTA

- a. a popular threat modeling framework that's used across many industries
- b. **Process for Attack Simulation and Threat Analysis**
- c. Three goals:

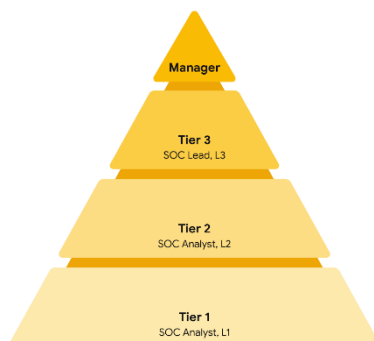
- i. Improve security goals
 - ii. Document potential risks
 - iii. Prepare fixes
- 20. PASTA threat model framework (7 Steps) (risk centric)
 - a. Define business and security objectives
 - b. Define the technical scope
 - c. Decompose the application
 - d. Perform a threat analysis
 - e. Perform a vulnerability analysis
 - f. Conduct attack modeling (Attack Tree)
 - g. Analyze risk and impact
- 21. STRIDE
 - a. threat-modeling framework developed by Microsoft
 - b. used to identify vulnerabilities in six specific attack vectors:
 - i. spoofing
 - ii. tampering
 - iii. repudiation
 - iv. information disclosure
 - v. denial of service
 - vi. elevation of privilege
- 22. Trike
 - a. open-source methodology and tool
 - b. commonly used to focus on security permissions, application use cases, and privilege models
- 23. Visual, Agile, and Simple Threat (VAST)
 - a. part of automated threat-modeling platform called ThreatModeler
 - b. used as a way of automating and streamlining threat modeling assessments
- 24. Asking the right questions about threat modeling
 - a. What are we working on?
 - b. What kinds of things can go wrong?
 - c. What are we doing about it?
 - d. Have we addressed everything?
 - e. Did we do a good job?

Course 6 – Sound the Alarm: Detection and Response | Instructor Dave

Week 1 – The Incident Response Lifecycle, Incident Response Operations and Tools

- 1. Incident
 - a. an occurrence that actually or imminently jeopardizes, without lawful authority, the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of information or an information system; or constitutes a violation or imminent threat of violation of law, security policies, security procedures, or acceptable use policies
- 2. Event
 - a. an observable occurrence on a network, system, or device
- 3. The NIST Incident Response Lifecycle
 - a. Preparation
 - b. Detection and Analysis
 - c. Containment, Eradication, and Recovery
 - d. Post-Incident Activity
- 4. The 5 W's of an Incident

- a. who triggered the incident
- b. what happened
- c. when the incident took place
- d. where the incident took place
- e. why the incident occurred
- 5. Incident handler's journal
 - a. a form of documentation used in incident response
- 6. Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRT)
 - a. a specialized group of security professionals that are trained in incident management and response
 - b. goals
 - i. manage incidents
 - ii. provide services and resources for response and recovery
 - iii. prevent future incidents from occurring
 - c. Roles
 - i. Security Analyst
 - 1. monitors an environment for any security threats including
 - a. analyzing and triaging alerts
 - b. performing root-cause investigations
 - c. escalating or resolving alerts
 - ii. Technical Lead (ops lead)
 - 1. manages all technical aspects of the incident response process, such as applying software patches or updates
 - 2. creates and implements the strategies for containing, eradicating, and recovering from the incident
 - 3. collaborates with other teams to ensure incident response priorities align with business priorities such as reducing disruptions for customers and returning to normal operations
 - iii. Incident Coordinator
 - 1. coordinates with relevant departments during a security incident
 - 2. lines of communication are open and clear
 - 3. all personnel are made aware of the incident status
 - 4. tracks and manages the activities of all teams involved in the response team
 - d. Requires the 3 C's
 - i. Command- having the appropriate leadership and direction to oversee the response
 - ii. Control- ability to manage technical aspects during incident response, like coordinating resources and assigned tasks
 - iii. Communication- ability to keep stakeholders informed
- 7. SOC organization



- a. Tier 1 SOC Analyst (L1)

- i. monitoring, reviewing, and prioritizing alerts based on criticality or severity
 - ii. creating and closing alerts using ticketing systems
 - iii. escalating to Tier 2 or Tier 3
 - b. Tier 2 SOC Analyst (T2)
 - i. more experienced analysts
 - ii. receives escalated tickets from L1 for deeper investigation
 - iii. configures and refines security tools
 - iv. reports to the SOC Lead
 - c. Tier 3 SOC Lead (L3)
 - i. highly experienced professionals
 - ii. manages operation of their team
 - iii. explores methods of detection by performing advanced detection techniques
 - iv. malware and forensics analysis
 - v. reports to the SOC manager
 - d. SOC Manager
 - i. hires, trains, and evaluates SOC team members
 - ii. creates performance metrics and manages the performance of the SOC team
 - iii. develops reports related to incidents, compliance, and auditing
 - iv. communicates findings to stakeholders such as executive management
 - e. Other roles
 - i. Forensic Investigators
 - 1. commonly L2s and L3s
 - 2. collects, preserves, and analyzes digital evidence to determine what happened
 - ii. Threat Hunters
 - 1. L3s
 - 2. works to detect, analyze, and defend against new and advanced cybersecurity threats using threat intelligence
- 8. Incident Response Plan
 - a. a document that outlines the procedures to take in each step of incident response
- 9. Elements of an Incident Plan
 - a. Incident response procedures
 - b. System Information
 - c. Other documents
- 10. Tools for incident response
 - a. detection and management
 - b. documentation
 - i. playbooks
 - ii. incident handler's journals
 - iii. policies
 - iv. plans
 - v. final reports
 - c. investigative
- 11. word processor tools
 - a. Google Docs
 - b. OneNote
 - c. Evernote
 - d. Notepad++

12. Intrusion Detection System (IDS)

- a. an application that monitors system and network activity and produces alerts on possible intrusions

13. Intrusion Prevention Systems (IPS)

- a. same as IDS but can take action to stop the activity

14. IDS and IPS tools

- a. Snort
- b. Zeek
- c. Kismet
- d. Sagan
- e. Suricata

15. Detection Tool Overview

Capability	IDS	IPS	EDR
Detects malicious activity	✓	✓	✓
Prevents intrusions	N/A	✓	✓
Logs activity	✓	✓	✓
Generates alerts	✓	✓	✓
Performs behavioral analysis	N/A	N/A	✓

16. Detection Categories

- a. true positive- correct detection of an attack
- b. true negative- no malicious activity exists and no alert is triggered
- c. false positive- flagged as malicious activity, but it wasn't
- d. false negative- there was malicious activity, but IDS/IPS/EDR failed to detect it

17. Endpoint Detection and Response

- a. application that monitors an endpoint for malicious activity
- b. installed on any endpoint like device, computer, phone, tablet etc.
- c. collects endpoint activity data to perform behavioral analysis to identify threat patterns
- d. examples: Open EDR, Bitdefender, FortiEDR

18. SIEM Process

- a. collect and aggregate data
 - i. the process of consolidating log data into a centralized place
- b. normalize data
 - i. take raw data, clean it up, make it human readable
 - ii. data must be transformed into a single format so it's easily processed by the SIEM
- c. analyze data
 - i. done with a type of detection logic such as a set of rules and conditions

19. SIEM Advantages

- a. access to event data and real-time activity
- b. monitoring, detecting, and alerting
- c. log storage

20. Security Orchestration, Automation, and Response (SOAR)

- a. a collection of applications, tools, and workflows that uses automation to **respond** to security events

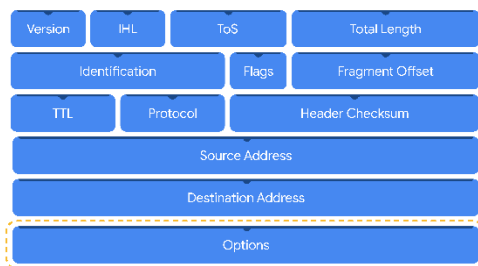
21. Example log format and what each component means

- a. April 3 11:01:21 **server** **sshd**[1088]: Failed password for user **nuhara** from **218.124.14.105** port **5023**
host = server
process = sshd

```
source_user = nuhara
source ip = 218.124.14.105
source port = 5023
```

Week 2 – Understanding Network Traffic, Capturing/Viewing Traffic, Packet Inspection

1. Network Traffic
 - a. the amount of data that moves across a network
2. Indicators of Compromise (IOC)
 - a. observable evidence that suggests signs of a potential security incident
 - b. they provide a way to identify an attack
3. Data exfiltration
 - a. unauthorized transmission of data from a system
4. Command and Control (C2)
 - a. when malicious actors can use protocols and ports that are not commonly associated to maintain communications between the compromised system and their own machine
5. Lateral Movement
 - a. an attacker has infiltrated a network, they spend time exploring it in order to expand and maintain their access, they look for valuable assets such as proprietary code and financial records
6. Temporal Patterns
 - a. observe what the baseline network traffic is during work hours in order to gauge future intrusions
7. Network Operations Center (NOC)
 - a. organizational unit that monitors the performance of a network and responds to any network disruption
 - b. responsible for maintaining network performance, availability, and uptime
8. Network Protocol Analyzer
 - a. A.K.A. “packet sniffer”
 - b. used to analyze network communications manually in detail
 - c. examples are tcpdump and Wireshark
9. Defensive Measures
 - a. prevent attacker access
 - b. monitor network activity
 - c. protect assets
 - d. detect and stop the exfiltration
10. Components of a packet – review
 - a. Header
 - i. contains information such as ethernet header, ip header, tcp header, source and dest. address



- b. Payload
 - i. immediately follows the header and contains the actual data being delivered
- c. Footer
 - i. known as the trailer

- ii. provides error-checking information to determine if the data has been corrupted
- iii. most protocols, such as Internet Protocol (IP), do not use footers

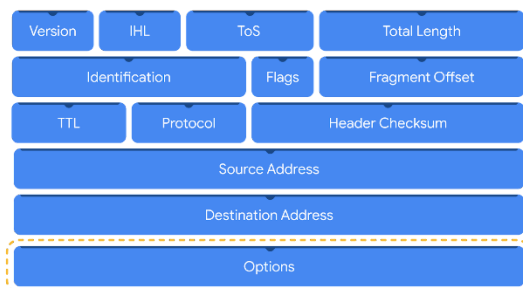
11. Packet Capture (P-cap)

- a. a file containing data packets intercepted from an interface or a network

12. Different types of P-caps

- a. Libpcap
 - i. packet capture library designed to be used by Unix-like systems (Linux and MacOS)
 - ii. used by tcpdump
- b. WionPcap
 - i. open-source packet capture for devices running Windows OS
 - ii. considered older file format
- c. Npcap
 - i. library designed by the port scanning tool Nmap
 - ii. common in Windows OS
- d. PCAPng
 - i. modern file format
 - ii. can simultaneously capture packets and store data
 - iii. ng = “next generation”

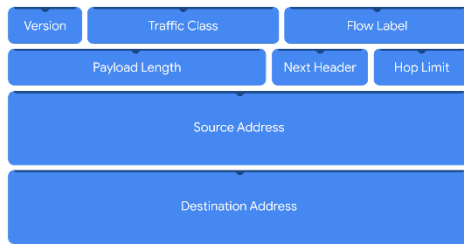
13. IPv4 Header Breakdown – Review



- a. Version
 - i. which internet protocol is being use (IPv4 or IPv6)
- b. IHL
 - i. Internet Header Length
- c. TOS
 - i. packet priority for delivery
 - ii. whether this packet should be treated differently
- d. Total Length
 - i. includes length of the entire packet including the headers and the data
- e. Identification, Flags, Fragment Offset
 - i. related to data fragmentation (when an IP packet gets broken up into chunks, transferred over the wire, then re-assembled at the destination)
- f. Time to Live (TTL)
 - i. how many times the packet can be routed before it gets dropped
- g. Protocol
 - i. TCP = 6
- h. Header Checksum
 - i. used to determine any errors
- i. Source IP Address

- j. Destination IP Address
- k. Options (not required)

14. IPv6 Header Breakdown



- a. Version
 - i. IP version (IPv6)
- b. Traffic Class
 - i. similar to IPv4 TOS field
 - ii. provides information about the packet's priority or class to help with packet delivery
- c. Flow Label
 - i. flow = sequence of packets sent from a specific source
- d. Payload Length
 - i. specifies length of the data portion of the packet
- e. Next Header
 - i. type of header that follows the IPv6 header such as TCP
- f. Hop Limit
 - i. Same as IPv4's TTL
- g. Source Address
- h. Destination Address

15. Wireshark

- a. Comparison Operators

Operator type	Symbol	Abbreviation
Equal		eq
Not equal		ne
Greater than		gt
Less than		lt
Greater than or equal to		ge
Less than or equal to		le

- b. "contains" operator
 - i. used to filter packets that contain an exact match of a string of text
 - ii. example:
 - http contains "moved"
- c. "matches" operator
 - i. used to filter packets based on the regular expression (regex) that's specified
- d. filter for protocols
 - i. just input the protocol in the toolbar like "dns" or "http" (without the quotations)
- e. filtering for source or destination ip examples:
 - ip.addr == 172.21.224.2

- ip.src == 10.10.10.10
- ip.dst == 4.4.4.4
- f. filter for MAC address example:
 - eth.addr == 00:70:f4:23:18:c4
- g. filter for ports examples:
 - udp.port == 53
 - tcp.port == 25
- h. following a stream
 - i. lets you filter for packets specific to a protocol
 - ii. stream = conversation/exchange of data between devices using a protocol

16. TCPdump

- a. command-line network protocol analyzer
- b. traffic data is stored to a packet capture (p-cap) file
- c. breakdown of tcpdump syntax: `sudo tcpdump [-i interface] [option(s)] [expression(s)]`
`sudo tcpdump`: begins the command running permissions as sudo
`-i`: parameter specifies the network interface, “-i any” means sniffing traffic on all network interfaces
`[option] [expression]`: ways to further filter traffic in order to isolate a certain type of packet
- d. “[option]” expanded, **case sensitive**
 - i. `-w`: write or save the sniffed network packets to a packet capture file instead of printing it
`sudo tcpdump -i any -w packetcapture.pcap`
 - ii. `-r`: read a packet capture file by specifying the file name as a parameter
`sudo tcpdump -r packetcapture.pcap`
 - iii. `-v`: verbosity (level of detail) of the data capture
`sudo tcpdump -r packetcapture.pcap -v`
 - iv. `-c`: controls how many packets tcpdump will capture (“-c 1” will print out one packet)
`sudo tcpdump -i any -c 3`
 - v. `-n`: disables automatic mapping of numbers to names, best practice for sniffing
`sudo tcpdump -r packetcapture.pcap -v -n`
 - vi. `-nm`: doesn’t resolve both hostnames or ports
- e. expression
 - i. ability to use boolean operators like “and”, “or”, or “not”
 - ii. example: reads the file “packetcapture.pcap” and combine “ip and port 80” using “and”
`sudo tcpdump -r packetcapture.pcap -n 'ip and port 80'`
- f. interpreting output of tcpdump

```

      Timestamp      Source IP      Source port      Destination IP      Destination port
20:00:29.538395 IP 198.168.10.1.41 > 198.111.123.1.61012: Flags
[P.],seq 120:176, ack 1, win 501, options [nop,nop,TS val
4106659748 ecr 2979487360], length 144

```

- i. timestamp: displayed in hours, minutes, seconds, and fractions of a second
- ii. source ip: ip of packet’s origin
- iii. source port: port of packet’s origin
- iv. destination ip: self-explanatory
- v. destination port: self-explanatory

17. Comparison of Wireshark vs tcpdump

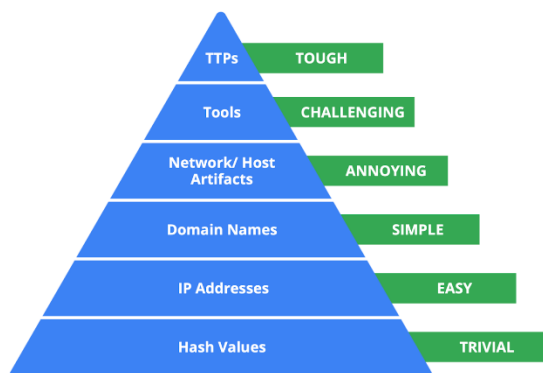
- a. Wireshark only
 - i. uses a GUI
 - ii. offers more features such as advanced filtering and coloring

- iii. requires more system resources
- b. tcpdump only
 - i. uses a command-line interface
 - ii. is lightweight and uses fewer system resources
- c. both
 - i. network protocol analyzers
 - ii. open-source and available for free
 - iii. filter for a specified protocol

Week 3 – Incident Detection/Verification, Response & Recovery, Post-Incident Actions

1. Challenges in the detection and analysis phase
 - a. impossible to detect everything
 - b. high volumes of alerts
2. Methods of detection
 - a. threat hunting
 - i. combines technology with a human element to discover hidden threats left undetected by usual detection tools
 - ii. proactive search for threats on a network
 - iii. uncovering malicious activity that was not identified by detection tools
 - b. threat intelligence
 - i. evidence-based threat information that provides context about existing or emerging threats
 - ii. found in private or public sources:
 1. Industry Reports- details about attacker's tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP)
 2. Government Advisories- similar to industry reports, includes details about attacker's TTP
 3. Threat Data Feeds- provides a stream of threat-related data that can be used to help protect against sophisticated attackers (APTs)
 4. Cyber Deception- techniques that deliberately deceive malicious actors with the goal of increasing detection and improving defensive strategies
 - a. honeypots- decoy that's vulnerable to attacks with the purpose of attracting potential intruders I.E., fake file labeled "Client Credit Card Information"
3. Indicators of Compromise (IoC)
 - a. observable evidence that suggests signs of a potential security incident
 - b. they chart specific pieces of evidence that are associated with an attack
 - c. identifies the who and what of an attacked after it's taken place
4. Indicators of Attack (IoA)
 - a. series of observed events that indicate a real-time incident
 - b. they focus on identifying the behavioral evidence of an attacker, including their methods and intentions
 - c. finding the why and how of an ongoing or unknown attack

5. Pyramid of Pain



- a. captures the relationship between indicators of compromise and the level of difficulty that malicious actors experience when indicators of compromise are blocked by security teams

6. Pyramid of Pain levels explained

- a. Hash values
 - i. corresponds to known malicious files
 - ii. often used to provide unique references to specific samples of malware
- b. IP addresses
 - i. self-explanatory
- c. Domain names
 - i. web address such as www.google.com
- d. Host Artifacts
 - i. observable evidence created by malicious actors on a host
 - ii. example: the name of a file created by malware
- e. Tools
 - i. software that's used by a malicious actor to achieve their goal
 - ii. example: attackers can use password cracking tools like John the Ripper
- f. TTPs
 - i. behavior of a malicious actor
 - ii. refers to the high-level overview of the behavior
 - iii. provides detailed descriptions of the behavior relating to the tactic

7. Crowdsourcing

- a. practice of gathering information using public input and collaboration
- b. used by threat intelligence platforms

8. Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT)

- a. collection and analysis of information from publicly available sources
- b. Tools for crowdsourced investigation of IoCs
 - i. Jotti Malware Scan
 - ii. Urlscan.io
 - iii. CAPE Sandbox
 - iv. MalwareBazaar

9. Benefits of Documentation

- a. transparency
- b. standardization
- c. clarity

10. Chain of Custody

- a. the process of documenting evidence possession and control during an incident lifecycle

- b. establishes:
 - i. integrity
 - ii. reliability
 - iii. accuracy

11. Best practices of documentation

- a. Know your audience
 - i. consider their needs
 - ii. consider technical literacy (SOC Manager vs CEO)
- b. Be concise
 - i. establish purpose immediately
- c. Update regularly
 - i. in order to keep up with the evolving threat landscape

12. Playbook (review)- a manual that provides details about any operational action

- a. three types:
 - i. non-automated
 - ii. automated
 - iii. semi-automated

13. Triage

- a. the prioritizing of incidents according to their level of importance or urgency
- b. process:
 - i. Receive and Assess
 - 1. usually from an IDS
 - 2. ask questions like
 - a. Is the alert a false positive?
 - b. Was this alert triggered in the past?
 - c. Is the alert triggered by a known vulnerability?
 - d. What is the severity of the alert?
 - ii. Assign Priority
 - 1. consider the following realms:
 - a. functional impact- data being encrypted (ransomware), network uptime
 - b. Information impact- possibility of stolen sensitive data, effects beyond org
 - c. recoverability- consider whether it is possible, not-recoverable = less priority
 - iii. Collect and Analyze
 - 1. gather enough information to make an informed decision to address the problem
 - 2. determining whether this needs escalation
 - iv. Benefits of triage
 - 1. resource management
 - 2. standardized approach
- c. other questions to ask:
 - i. Is there anything out of the ordinary?
 - ii. Are there multiple failed login attempts?
 - iii. Did the login happen outside of normal working hours?
 - iv. Did the login happen outside of the network?

14. Containment (review)- the act of limiting and preventing additional damage caused by an incident

15. Eradication (review)- the complete removal of the incident elements from all affected systems

16. Recovery (review)- the process of returning affected systems back to normal operations

17. Business Continuity Planning

- a. a document that outlines the procedures to sustain business operations during and after a significant disruption and helps organizations ensure that critical business functions can resume

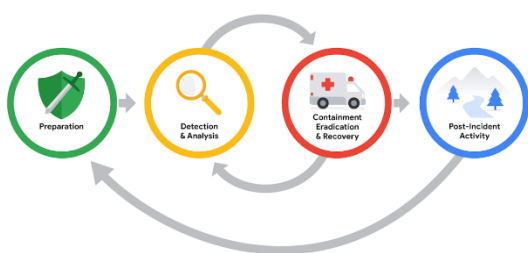
18. Site Resilience

- a. the ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disruptions
- b. three types of recovery sites:
 - i. hot sites- fully operational facility that is a duplicate of an organization's primary environment
 - ii. warm site- contains a fully updated and configured version of the hot site, not fully operational
 - iii. cold site- equipped with some of the necessary infrastructure required to operate

19. Post-Incident Activity Phase

- a. the process of reviewing an incident to identify areas for improvement during incident handling
- b. involves final report
 - i. documentation that provides a comprehensive review of an incident

20. Post-Incident Review



- a. Lessons Learned Meeting (a.k.a “post-mortem”)
 - i. ask questions like:
 - What happened?
 - What time did it happen?
 - Who discovered it?
 - How did it get contained?
 - What were the actions taken for recovery?
 - What could have been done differently?
- b. Recommendations
 - i. security teams can identify errors in response actions, gaps in processes and procedures, and/or ineffective security controls
- c. Final Report
 - i. Executive Summary
 - ii. Timeline
 - iii. Investigation
 - iv. Recommendations

Week 4 – Overview of Logs, IDSs, and SIEMs

1. The primary purpose of logs during incident investigation
 - a. to provide a record of event details
2. Log details:
 - a. date
 - b. time
 - c. location
 - d. action
 - e. names
3. Log types:
 - a. network

- b. system
 - c. application
 - d. security (IDS/IPS)
 - e. authentication
- 4. Industries requiring special log retention
 - a. public sector industries
 - b. healthcare industries
 - c. financial services industries
- 5. Specific log details:
 - a. timestamps
 - b. system characteristics
 - c. action
- 6. Commonly used log formats
 - a. Syslog
 - b. JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)
 - c. eXtensible Markup Language (XML)
 - d. Comma Separated Values (CSV)
 - e. CEF
- 7. JSON
 - a. file format used to store and transmit data
 - b. known for being lightweight and easy to read and write
 - c. used for transmitting data in web technologies and in cloud environments
 - d. included JavaScript components like
 - i. key-value pair- set of data representing two linked items
example: "Alert" : "Malware"
 - ii. commas- used to separate data
 - iii. double quotes- used to enclose text data (numbers are not enclosed in double quotes)
 - iv. curly brackets- enclose an object, an object contains multiple properties
 - v. square brackets- used to enclose an array I.E., a list of objects
- 8. Syslog
 - a. Three main capabilities:
 - i. Log format
 - ii. Protocol
 - iii. Service
 - b. example log entry:


```
<236>1 2022-03-21T01:11:11.003Z virtual.machine.com evntslog - ID01 [user@32473 iut="1"
eventSource="Application" eventID="9999"]
```

This is a log entry!

Timestamp- YYYY-MM-DD format, "T" is used to separate the date and time, "Z" = timezone

Hostname- virtual.machine.com

Application- eventlog

Message ID- ID01

Structured-data- contains additional logging information enclosed in square brackets

Message- detailed log message about the event

Priority (PRI)- indicated urgency of the logged event contained in angle brackets
- 9. XML

- a. native file format used in Windows systems
- b. used for storing and transmitting data
- c. uses Tags, Elements, Attributes
- d. Tags
 - i. stores and identifies data
 - ii. are pairs that must contain a start tag and end tag
 - iii. start tag is <tag> while close tag is </tag>
- e. Elements
 - i. include both the data contained inside of a tag and the tags itself
 - ii. must contain at least one root element
 - example:
 - <Event>
 - <EventID>4688</EventID>
 - <Version>5</Version>
 - </Event>
 - (<event> is the root element containing two child elements)
- f. Attributes
 - i. used to provide additional information about elements
 - ii. included as second part of the tag itself used with single or double quotes

10. CSV

- a. position of data corresponds to its field name, all comma separated

11. CEF (Common Event Format)

- a. uses key-value pairs to structure data and identify fields and their corresponding values
- b. CEF syntax is as follows:

```
Sep 29 08:26:10 host CEF:1|Security|threatmanager|1.0|100|worm successfully
stopped|10|src=10.0.0.2 dst=2.1.2.2 spt=1232
```

Syslog Timestamp: Sep 29 08:26:10

Syslog Hostname: host

Version: CEF:1

Device Vendor: Security

Device Product: threatmanager

Device Version: 1.0

Signature ID: 100

Name: worm successfully stopped

Severity: 10

Extension: written in key value pairs

12. Host-based intrusion detection system (HIDS)

- a. an application that monitors the activity of the host on which it's installed
- b. usually installed on an endpoint
- c. monitors inbound and outbound traffic
- d. can monitor file systems, system resource usage, user activity

13. Network-based intrusion detection system (NIDS)

- a. an application that collects and monitors network traffic and network data

14. Signature Analysis

- a. a detection method used to find events of interest
- b. when monitoring activity, a signature specified the rules used by an IDS

15. Detection techniques

- a. Signature-based
 - i. detection method that is used to find events of interest
 - ii. signature- patter that is associated with malicious activity
 - iii. advantages
 - 1. low rate of false positives, very efficient at detection known threats
 - iv. disadvantages
 - 1. signatures can be evaded, attackers can make slight modifications to their code
 - 2. signatures require updates
 - 3. inability to detect unknown threats, relies on pre-existing attacks
- b. Anomaly-based
 - i. two phases
 - 1. training- baseline of normal or expected behavior must be established
 - 2. detection- current system activity is compared against the baseline
 - ii. disadvantages
 - 1. high rate of false positives
 - 2. pre-existing compromise, bad if existence of an attacker during training phase

16. Components of a NIDS Rule

- a. Action
 - i. determines the action to take if the rule criteria is met
 - ii. alert, pass, or reject
- b. Header
 - i. source and destination IP addresses
 - ii. source and destination ports
 - iii. protocols
 - iv. traffic direction
 - v. example:
 - tcp 10.120.170.17 any -> 133.113.202.181 80
 - protocol, source ip, source port, traffic direction, destination ip, destination port
- c. Rule Options
 - i. example: (`msg: "This is a message";sid: 123456;rev:1;`)
 - Message
 - Signature ID
 - Revision

17. Suricata format type

- a. EVE JSON – Extensible Event Format JavaScript Object Notation
- b. Log types
 - i. Alert logs
 - ii. Network telemetry logs
 - 1. network traffic flows, what's happening on the network

18. Suricata Overview

- a. it is an open-source IDS, IPS, and Network Analysis Tool
- b. features
 - i. IDS
 - ii. IPS
 - iii. Networking Security Monitoring (NSM)
 - 1. helps keep networks safe by producing and saving relevant network logs

2. can analyze live network traffic, existing packet capture files, create/save full or conditional packet captures

c. Rules

i. Signature Analysis

1. three components:

- a. Action- describes action taken if activity matches signature (alert, pass, drop, reject)
- b. Header- includes network traffic information
- c. Rule Options- different options to customize signatures

Action	Header	Rule options
alert	tcp 10.120.170.17 any -> 133.113.202.181 80	(msg: "Hello"; sid:1234; rev:1;)

d. Configuration File

- i. used to configure the settings of an application
- ii. located in "suricata.yaml"

e. Log Files

- i. two log files Suricata generates when alerts are triggered
 1. eve.json- standard Suricata log file, contains information and metadata about events and alerts stored in JSON format
 2. fast.log- records minimal alert information including basic IP address and port details about network traffic, basic logging and alerting, not suitable for incident response

19. SIEM Tools in the modern-day industry

- a. Splunk
- b. Chronicle

20. SIEM Process Review – Three steps

- a. Collect and aggregate data
- b. Normalize data
- c. Analyze data

21. Log Ingestion

- a. the process of collecting and importing data from log sources into a SIEM tool

22. Log Forwarders

- a. software that automates the process of collecting and sending log data to a remote SIEM

23. Query for logs in Splunk

- a. Search Processing Language (SPL)- Splunk's query language
- b. example: `index=main fail`
`index=main`: command telling splunk to retrieve events from an index called main
`fail`: tell splunk to return any event that contains the term fail
- c. Piping can be used in SPL
- d. "chart count by host" = creates a chart according to the count or number of events, "by host" tells splunk to list the events by host
 example: `index=main fail | chart count by host`
- e. Wildcard
 - i. using "*" with the search term "index=main fail*" means we get all items that have the term "fail" in the log included "failure" and "failed"

24. Query for logs in Chronicle

- a. YARA-L- computer language used to create rules for searching through ingest log data
- b. types of searches:

- i. UDM search- normalized data
 - ii. Raw log search
- c. common fields in a UDM search
 - i. Entities
 - 1. also known as nouns
 - 2. all UDMs must contain at least one entity
 - 3. must include something like hostname, username, and IP address of the event
 - ii. Event metadata
 - 1. basic description of an event, type of event it is, timestamps
 - iii. Network metadata
 - 1. information about network-related events and protocol details
 - iv. Security results
 - 1. security-related outcome of events
 - 2. "virus detected and quarantined"
- d. example UDM search using event metadata field to locate events relating to user logins:
`metadata.event_type = "USER_LOGIN"`

`metadata.event_type`- contains information about the event type
`USER_LOGIN`- searches for events relating to authentication
- e. Raw Log Search
 - i. searching through raw/unparsed logs
 - ii. takes longer than structured search
 - iii. supports regular expressions

Course 7 – Automate Cybersecurity Tasks with Python | Instructor Angel

Week 1 – Intro to Python, Core Python Components, Conditional and Iterative Statements

- 1. Python Overview
 - a. Advantages of Python
 - i. resembles human language
 - ii. less code
 - iii. easy to read
 - iv. standard guidelines
 - v. online support
 - vi. built-in code
 - b. uses an **interpreter**
 - i. a computer program that translates python code into runnable instructions line by line
 - c. its use in cybersecurity (automation)
 - i. log analysis
 - ii. malware analysis
 - iii. access control list management
 - iv. intrusion detection
 - v. compliance checks
 - vi. network scanning
- 2. comment
 - a. a not programmers make about the intention behind their code

- b. example:

```
# Print Hello Python
print ("Hello Python!")
```

3. print()

- a. outputs a specified object to the screen

4. Python Environments

a. notebooks

- i. online interface for writing, storing, and running code
- ii. allows documentation about the code
- iii. appears in a code cell or markdown cell
- iv. common notebook environments
 - 1. Jupyter Notebook
 - 2. Google Colaboratory
- v. code cells
 - 1. meant for writing and running code
 - 2. a play button is located within the cell
- vi. markdown cells
 - 1. meant for describing the code
 - 2. allows formatting text in the markdown language
 - 3. used for formatting plain text in text editors and code editors
 - 4. example: indicating text should be in a certain header style

b. Command Line

5. String Data

- a. data consisting of an ordered sequence of characters
- b. always counted as text

6. Numeric Data

a. Float Data

- i. data consisting of a number with a decimal point
- ii. dividing two integer values or two float values results in float output when using "/"
- iii. using "//" to divide two floats will return a result rounded down to the nearest whole number

b. Integer Data

- i. data consisting of a number that does not include a decimal point

c. Boolean Data

- i. data that can only be one of two values: either true or false
- ii. example:


```
# determine boolean values
print(10<5)
print(9<12)
-yields-
False
True
```

d. List Data

- i. data structure that consists of a collection of data in sequential form
- ii. example:


```
# print a list
print(["dtanaka", "mabadi", "aestrada"])
```

-yields-

['dtanaka', 'mabadi', 'aestrada']

7. Tuple

- a. just like a list, but contents of a tuple cannot be changed
- b. place in-between parenthesis rather than brackets

8. Dictionary

- a. data that consists of one or more key-value pairs
- b. each key is mapped to a value
- c. a ":" is placed between the key and value
- d. commas separate key-value pairs
- e. placed within curly brackets "{}"
- f. example:

```
{ 1: "East",
  2: "West",
  3: "North",
  4: "South" }
```

9. Set

- a. data that consists of an unordered collection of unique values
- b. no two values in a set can be the same
- c. elements in a set are always placed within curly brackets and separated by a comma
- d. can be of any data type
- e. example:

```
{"janksy", "drosas", "nmason"}
```

10. Variable

- a. a container that stores data
- b. example:

```
device_id = "h32rb17"
print(device_id)
print("m50pi21")
```

-yields-
h32rb17
m50pi21

11. type()

- a. returns the data type of its input
- b. example:

```
device_id = "h32rb17"
data_type = type(device_id)
print(data_type)
```

-yields-
<class 'str'>

12. Type Error

- a. results from using the wrong data type

13. Assigning variable to variables

- a. example:

```
username = "nzhao"
old_username = username
username = "zhao2"
```

```
print("Previous username:", old_username)
print("Current username:", username)
-yields-
Previous username: nzhao
Current username: zhao2
```

14. Conditional Statement

- a. a statement that evaluates code to determine if it meets a specified set of conditions

15. if

- a. starts a conditional statement
- b. example:


```
if failed_attempts > 5:
    print("Account locked")
```

16. Operators

- a. >
- b. <
- c. >= (greater than or equal) to
- d. <= (less than or equal to)
- e. == (whether two object match)
- f. != (not equal)

17. else statement

- a. precedes a code section that only evaluates when all conditions that precede it within the conditional statement evaluate to False
- b. example:


```
operating_system = "OS3"
if operating_system == "OS2":
    print("Updates needed")
else:
    print("No updates needed")
-Yields-
No updates needed
```

18. elif statement

- a. when you have multiple alternative actions that depend on new conditions
 - i. precedes a condition that is only evaluated when previous conditions evaluate to false
 - ii. when it reaches an elif statement that evaluates to true, it won't check the other elif statements
 - iii. example:


```
if status == 200:
    print("OK")
elif status == 400:
    print("Bad Request")
elif status == 500:
    print("Internal Server Error")
else:
    print("check other status")
```

19. and operator

- a. requires both conditions on either side of the operator to evaluate to true

b. example:

```
if status >= 200 and status <= 226:
    print("successful response")
```

20. or operator

a. requires only one of the conditions on either side of the operator to evaluate to true

b. example:

```
if status == 100 or status == 102:
    print("informational response")
```

21. not operator

a. example:

```
if not(status >= 200 and status <= 226):
    print("check status")
```

22. in operator

a. used to check if a value is listed within a prescribed list

b. example:

```
approved_list = ["johnny", "matt", "kelly"]
username = "matt"
if username in approved_list:
    print("User is authorized")
else:
    print("User is not authorized")
```

23. Iterative Statement

a. code that repeatedly executes a set of instructions

24. for loop

a. example:

```
for i in [1,2,3,4]:
    print(i)
```

explanation:

"for" signals the beginning of a for loop

"i" is the variable to iterate through, only used within the loop

25. range()

a. generates a sequence of numbers

b. example:

```
range(0,10) <----- 10 is excluded
```

-yields-

```
0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9
```

c. range(10) generates the same as above, but it automatically starts at 0

example:

```
for i in range(10)
    print("Cannot connect to the destination.")
```

-yields-

```
Cannot connect to the destination.
```

```
Cannot connect to the destination.
```

```
Cannot connect to the destination.
```

```
Cannot connect to the destination.
```

```
Cannot connect to the destination.
```

```
Cannot connect to the destination.
```

Cannot connect to the destination.
 Cannot connect to the destination.
 Cannot connect to the destination.
 Cannot connect to the destination.

- d. range can also have a third value, being an increment number
 example:

```
for i in range(0, 5, 1):
    print(i)
-yields-
0
1
2
3
4
```

26. while loop

- a. an iterative loop that continues only based on a condition
 example:

```
time = 0
while time <= 10:
    print(time)
    time = time + 2
```

27. break statement

- a. breaks from the loop if the condition is met
- b. example:


```
computer_assets = ["laptop1", "desktop20", "smartphone03"]
for asset in computer_assets:
    if asset == "desktop20":
        break
    print(asset)
```

28. continue statement

- a. use it to skip back to the top of the loop if a certain condition is met
- b. example:


```
computer_assets = ["laptop1", "desktop20", "smartphone03"]
for asset in computer_assets:
    if asset == "desktop20":
        continue
    print(asset)
-yields-
laptop1
smartphone03
```

Week 2 – Intro to Functions, Working with Functions, Learning from the Python Community

1. Function
 - a. a section of code that can be reused in a program
2. Built-in Functions
 - a. functions that exist within Python and can be called directly
3. User-defined Functions
 - a. functions that programmers design for their specific needs

4. def

- a. place before a function name to define a function
- b. example:

```
# define a function
def greet_employee():
    print("Welcome! You're logged in.")
```

```
# call a function
greet_employee()
-yields-
Welcome! You're logged in.
```

5. parameter (python)

- a. an object that is included in a function definition for use in that function
- b. accepted into the parenthesis when defining a function
- c. example:

```
# greet employees by name
def greet_employee(name):
    print("Welcome! You're logged in", name)
```

```
greet_employee("Charley Patel")
-yields-
Welcome! You're logged in Charley Patel
```

- d. example for multiple parameters:

```
def greet_employee(first_name, last_name):
    print("Welcome! You're logged in", first_name, last_name)
```

```
greet_employee("Kiara", "Carter")
-yields-
Welcome! You're logged in Kiara Carter
```

6. argument

- a. the data brought into a function when it is called

7. return statement

- a. a python statement that executes inside a function and sends information back to the function call
- b. return is used to return information from a function
- c. example:

```
# Return information from a function
def calculate_fails(total_attempts, failed_attempts):
    fail_percentage = failed_attempts / total_attempts
    return fail_percentage
```

```
calculate_fails(4,2)
```

```
if (percentage >= .5):
    print("Account locked.")
-yields-
Account locked.
```

8. global variable

- a. variable that is available through the entire program
 - b. assigned outside of a function definition
- 9. local variable
 - a. variable assigned within a function
 - b. cannot be called or accessed outside of the body of a function
- 10. max()
 - a. returns the largest numeric input passed into it
 - b. example:


```
a = 3
b = 9
c = 6
print(max(a,b,c))
```

 -yields-
9
- 11. min()
 - a. returns the smallest numeric input passed into it
- 12. sorted()
 - a. sorts the components of a list
- 13. Library
 - a. a collection of modules that provide code users can access in their programs
- 14. Module
 - a. a python file that contains additional functions, variables, classes, and any kind of runnable code
- 15. Python Standard Library
 - a. an extensive collection of usable python code that often comes packaged with python
 - b. example modules
 - i. re- searching for patterns in log files
 - ii. csv- working with .csv files
 - iii. glob- interacting with the command line
 - iv. os- interacting with the command line
 - v. time- working with timestamps
 - vi. datetime- working with timestamps
 - vii. statistics- functions used when calculating statistics related to numeric data
 - 1. median() is a function in the statistics module
- 16. importing an entire module
 - a. "import statistics" to import the statistics module
- 17. importing specific functions from a module
 - a. example:


```
from statistics import mean, median
```
- 18. External Libraries
 - a. libraries external to python such as BeautifulSoup (bs4) (for parsing HTML files) and NumPy (numpy) for arrays and mathematical computations
 - b. to install an external library such as numpy
 - i. %pip install numpy
 - c. after a library is installed, you can import it directly into python via import via "import numpy"
- 19. Style Guide
 - a. a manual that informs the writing, formatting, and design of documents
- 20. PEP 8 Style Guide

- a. a resource that provides stylistic guidelines for programmers working in python
- b. "Python Enhancement Proposals"

Week 3 – Working with Strings, Lists and Algorithms, REGEX

1. `str()`
 - a. converts the input object into a string
 - b. example


```
new_string = str(123)
print new_string
```

-yields-
"123"
2. `len()`
 - a. returns the number of elements in an object
 - b. example:


```
print(len("Hello"))
```

-yields-
5
3. String Concatenation
 - a. the process of joining two strings together
 - b. example:


```
print("Hello" + "world")
```

-yields-
Helloworld
4. Method
 - a. a function that belongs to a specific data type
 - b. `.upper()`
 - i. returns a copy of the string in all uppercase letters
 - ii. example


```
print("Hello".upper())
```

-yields-
HELLO
 - c. `.lower()`
 - i. returns a copy of the string in all lowercase letters
5. Index
 - a. a number assigned to every element in a sequence that indicates its position
 - b. uses bracket notation for extracting a part of the string
 - c.

0	1	2	3	4
h	e	l	l	o
 - d. example:


```
"HELLO"[1]
```

-yields-
'E'
6. Slicing
 - a. `"HELLO"[1:4]` (1 is the first character included, including up to just before the 4th character)


```
"HELLO"[1:4]
```

-yields-
ELL
7. `.index()` method
 - a. finds the first occurrence of the input in a string and returns its location

- b. example:

```
print("HELLO".index("E"))
```

-yields-

1

8. Finding substring with .index()

- a. substring = continuous sequence of characters within a string ("llo" being a substring of "hello")
- b. can be used to find the index of a first occurrence of a substring

- i. example:

```
tshah_index = "tsnow, tshah, bmoreno – updated".index("tshah")
```

```
print(tshah_index)
```

-yields-

7

9. Immutable

- a. cannot be changed after it is created and assigned a value

10. List Concatenation

- a. combining two lists into one by placing the elements of the second list directly after the elements of the first list

- b. example:

```
my_list = ["a", "b", "c", "d", "e"]
```

```
number_list = [1, 2, 3, 4]
```

```
print(my_list + number_list)
```

-yields-

```
['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 1, 2, 3, 4]
```

11. Changing an element in a list

- a. example:

```
my_list = ["a", "b", "c", "d", "e"]
```

```
my_list[1] = 7
```

```
print(my_list)
```

-yields-

```
['a', 7, 'c', 'd', 'e']
```

12. .insert()

- a. adds an element in a specific position inside a list

- b. example:

```
my_list = ["a", "b", "c", "d", "e"]
```

```
my_list.insert(1,7) (1 is the position where we want to insert the new information)
```

```
print(my_list)
```

-yields-

```
my_list = ["a", 7, "b", "c", "d", "e"]
```

13. .remove()

- a. removes the first occurrence of a specific element in a list

- b. example:

```
my_list.remove("d")
```

14. Algorithm

- a. set of rules that solve a problem

15. Example with building an algorithm to extract the first three numbers of a list of ip addresses

- a. IP = ["198.567.xx.xx", "198.501.xx.xx", "180.664.xx.xx", "192.668.xx.xx", "184.690.xx.xx"]
- b. Solution-based steps

- i. use string slicing to extract the first 3 digits from one IP address
 - ii. use a loop to apply that solution to every IP address on the list
- c. Writing the first chunk of code to extract the first 3 digits of a single IP address:

```
address = "198.567.xx.xx"
```

```
# extract the first three characters of an IP address
```

```
print(address[0:3])
```

```
-yields-
```

```
198
```

- d. Building from the previous solution to go even further:

```
networks = []
```

```
for address in IP:
```

```
    networks.append(address[0:3])
```

```
print(networks)
```

```
-yields-
```

```
['198', '198', '192', '184'] <-----the product we were looking for
```

16. .append()

- a. adds input to the end of a list

17. Regular Expression (regex)

- a. a sequence of characters that forms a pattern

18. Regular Expression Symbols

- a. +

- i. represents one or more occurrences of a specific variables

example:

"a+" matches

```
- "a"
```

```
- "aaa"
```

```
- "aaaaa"
```

- ii. example:

"Device IDs:

```
a37rz87
```

```
io2aap4
```

```
32rb5a2
```

```
9aaa95y"
```

```
-yields-
```

```
["a", "aa", "a", "aaa"]
```

- b. .

- i. matches to all characters, including symbols

- c. \d

- i. matches to all single digits [0-9]

- ii. example:

```
re.findall("\d", "h32rb17")
```

```
-yields-
```

```
['3', '2', '1', '7']
```

- iii. using +:

```
re.findall("\d+", "h32rb17")
```

```
-yields-
```

```
['32', '17']
```

- iv. using *:


```
re.findall("\\d*", "h32rb17")
```

 -yields-


```
['', '32', '', '', '17', '']
```
- v. using { } to indicate a specific number of repetitions:


```
re.findall("\\d{2}", "h32rb17 k825t0m c2994eh")
```

 -yields-


```
['32', '17', '82', '29', '94']
```
- vi. specifying a range with { }:

#first number in brackets represents min reps needed, second represents max number of reps

```
re.findall("\\d{1,3}", "h32rb17 k825t0m c2994eh")
```

 -yields-


```
['32', '17', '825', '0', '299', '4']
```
- d. \\s
 - i. matches to all single spaces
- e. \\x
 - i. matches to the period of a character
- f. \\w
 - i. matches with any alphanumeric character but it doesn't match symbols
 - ii. example:


```
"\\w" matches
```

```
"1"
```

```
"k"
```

```
"i"
```
- g. combining + and \\w
 - i. example:


```
"\\w+" matches
```

```
"192"
```

```
"abc123"
```

```
"security"
```
- h. practice expression
 - i. Which string matches with the regular expression "b\\wa+b"?
 - 1. answer = "bkaaab" because...
 - first character must be "b"
 - the symbol "\\w" is used to match any alphanumeric character including k
 - "+" specifies that there should be one or more occurrences of the character it follows (in this case it's "a")
 - finally, the string must end with a "b"
- i. practice expression
 - i. `user1@email.com`

```
\\w+ @ \\w+\\. \\w+
```
 - ii. # Extract email addresses


```
import re
```

```
email_log = """Email received June 2 from user1@email.com.
```

```
                Email received June 2 from user2@email.com.
```

```
                Email rejected June 2 from invalid_email@email.com."""
```

```
print(re.findall("\\w+@\\w+\\.\\w+", email_log))
```

- j. `re.findall(parameter, parameter)`
 - i. returns a list of matches to a regular expression
 - ii. first parameter string containing the regex pattern
 - iii. second parameter is the string you're searching through

19. Construct a pattern with Regex

- a. take the following string:
`employee_logins_string = "1001 bmoreno: 12 Marketing 1002 tshah: 7 Human Resources 1003 sgilmore: 5 Finance"`
- b. break down what you're searching for into smaller components
- c. identify where `\w+`, `:`, `\s`, and `\d+` can be applied respectively
- d. therefore:

```
import re
pattern = "\w+:\s\d+"
employee_logins_string = "1001 bmoreno: 12 Marketing 1002 tshah: 7 Human Resources 1003 sgilmore: 5 Finance"
print(re.findall(pattern, employee_logins_string))
```

-yields-

```
['bmoreno: 12', 'tshah: 7', 'sgilmore: 5']
```

Week 4 – Python for Automation, Working with Files in Python, Debugging Python Code

1. `with`
 - a. parameter
 - b. handles errors and manages external resources
 - c. will manage resources by closing the file after exiting the “with” statement
2. `open(,)`
 - a. first argument is the file you want to open
 - b. second argument indicated what you want to do with the file
 - i. `r` = read
 - ii. `w` = write
 - iii. `a` = append
 - c. opens a file in python
3. `.read()`
 - a. converts files into strings
4. `as`
 - a. assigns a variable that references another object
5. combine the 3 previous in order to open a text file via python
 - a. example:

```
with open("login_attempts.txt", "r") as file:
    file_text = file.read()
print(file_text)
```

-yields-

```
elarson
eraab
eraab
bmoreno
tshah
etc.
```
6. writing files in python

- a. uses either "w" or "a" as the second argument of open()
example:
with open("update_log.txt", "w") as file:
-yields-
it will open the file so it's contents can be replaced
- b. "w" can also be used to create a file that doesn't exist yet
- c. appending to new files with "a"
 - i. example:
with open("update_log.txt", "a") as file:
-yields-
it will open update_log.txt so that new information can be appended to the end
 - ii. full example of using append:
line = "jrafael, 192.168.243.140,4:56:27,True"
with open("access_log.txt", "a") as file:
file.write(line)

7. Parsing

- a. the process of converting data into a more readable format

8. .split()

- a. converts a string into a list
- b. separates the string based on a specified character that's passed as an argument
 - i. if you do not pass an argument into .split(), it will separate via every white space
- c. separates the string based on a specific character
- d. example:
with open("login_attempts.txt", "r") as file:
file_text = file.read()
print(file_text.split())

9. using .split() to files

- a. used with the .read() method
- b. example: opening "update_log.txt", reading the contents into "updates" variable, and splits the string in the "updates" variable into a list by creating a new element at each whitespace-
with open("update_log.txt", "r") as file:
updates = file.read()
updates = updates.split()

10. .join()

- a. concatenates the elements of an iterable into a string
- b. unique syntax compared to .split() and .index()
- c. you must pass the list that you want to concatenate into a string in as an argument
example use:
approved_users = ["elarson", "bmoreno", "tshah", "sgilmore", "eraab"]
print("before .join():", approved_users)
approved_users = ",".join(approved_users)
print("after .join():", approved_users)
-yields-
before .join(): ['elarson', 'bmoreno', 'tshah', 'sgilmore', 'eraab']
after .join(): elarson,bmoreno,tshah,sgilmore,eraab

11. using .join() on files

- a. example:


```
with open("update_log.txt", "r") as file:
    updates = file.read()
    updates = updates.split()
```

12. parsing algorithm in python

- a. # open, read, and split a text file


```
with open("login_attempts.txt", "r") as file:
    file_text = file.read()
    usernames = file_text.split()
    print(usernames)
```



```
# create a function that counts a user's failed login attempts
def login_check(login_list, current_user):
    counter = 0
    for i in login_list:
        if i == current_user:
            count = counter + 1
    if counter >= 3:
        return "You have tried to login three or more times. Your account has been locked."
    else:
        return "You can log in!"
```

```
login_check(usernames, "elarson")
```

13. Types of errors

- a. syntax errors
 - i. I.E., forgetting to add a colon after defining a function
- b. logic errors
 - i. when logic used in code produces unintended results
 - ii. may not produce error messages
 - iii. code will not do what you expect it to do, but is still valid to the interpreter
- c. exceptions
 - i. error that involves code that cannot be executed even though it is syntactically correct
 - ii. example: including a variable that hasn't been assigned or a function that hasn't been defined
 - iii. "IndexError"
 - 1. when you place an index in bracket notation that does not exist in the sequence being referenced
 - iv. "TypeError"
 - 1. using the wrong data type
 - 2. performing a mathematical calculation by adding a string to an integer
 - v. "FileNotFound"
 - 1. trying to open a file that does not exist in the specified location

14. Debugging Strategies

- a. Debuggers
 - i. running in an "Integrated Development Environment" (IDE)
 - 1. application for writing code that provides editing assistance and error correction tools
 - ii. software tool that helps to locate the source of an error and assess its causes
- b. Using print statements throughout your code

Course 8 – Put it to Work: Prepare for Cybersecurity Jobs | Instructor Dion

Week 1 – Event and Incident Detection, Your Impact on Data Protection

1. Security Mindset
 - a. the ability to evaluate risk and constantly seek out and identify the potential or actual breach of a system, application, or data
2. Classifying Different Types of Data
 - a. Public
 - i. does not need extra security protections
 - ii. already accessible to the public
 - iii. poses a minimal risk to the organization if view or shared by others
 - b. Private
 - i. higher security level
 - ii. information that should be kept from the public
 - iii. could pose a serious risk to an organization
 - iv. I.E., email addresses, employee identification numbers, organization's research data
 - c. Sensitive
 - i. must be protected from everyone who does not have authorized access
 - ii. includes PII, SPII, and PHI
 - iii. I.E., banking account numbers, usernames and password, SSNs, passport number
 - d. Confidential
 - i. important for an organization's ongoing business operations
 - ii. often has limits on the number of people who have access to it
 - iii. involves signing of a non-disclosure agreement
 - iv. I.E., trad secrets, financial records, sensitive government data
3. Asset Classification
 - a. labeling assets based on the sensitivity and importance to an organization
 - b. ranges from low- to high-level
 - c. Public = low-level asset
 - d. Sensitive = high-level asset
4. Examples of Customer Data
 - a. credit card numbers
 - b. social security numbers
 - c. emails
 - d. usernames
 - e. passwords
5. Business Continuity Plan
 - a. a document that outlines the procedures to sustain business operations during and after a significant disruption
 - b. created alongside a disaster recovery plan to minimize the damage of successful security attacks
 - c. four essential steps
 - i. Conduct a business impact analysis
 1. focus on possible effects a disruption of business functions can have on an organization
 - ii. Identify, document, and implement steps to recover critical business functions and processes
 1. creating actionable steps toward responding to a security event
 - iii. Organize a business continuity team
 1. bringing various members of the organization to help execute the continuity plan
 2. members of team are usually cybersecurity, IT, HR, communications, and operations

- iv. Conduct training for the business continuity team
 - 1. the team considers different risk scenarios and prepares for security threats
- 6. Disaster recovery plan
 - a. allows an organization's security team to outline the steps needed to minimize the impact of a security incident
 - b. steps to the plan include:
 - i. implementing recovery strategies to restore software
 - ii. implementing recovery strategies to restore hardware functionality
 - iii. Identifying applications and data that might be impacted after a security incident has taken place
- 7. Examples of the potential impact of a security incident involving **malicious code**
 - a. Financial consequences
 - b. Loss of assets
 - c. Operational downtime

Week 2 – Escalation in Cybersecurity, To Escalate or Not to Escalate, Timing is Everything

- 1. Incident Escalation
 - a. the process of identifying a potential security incident, triaging it, and handing it off to a more experience team member
- 2. Essential skills to escalate security incidents
 - a. Attention to detail
 - i. can make the difference between escalating an incident to the right or wrong person
 - ii. can help prioritize which incidents need to be escalated with more or less urgency
 - b. Ability to follow an organization's escalation guidelines or processes
- 3. Notification of breaches
 - a. countries have breach notification laws
 - i. requires companies and government entities to notify individuals of security breaches involve potential release of PII
- 4. Low-level security issues
 - a. issues that do not result in the exposure of PII
 - b. can include the following:
 - i. an employee having one failed login attempt on their account
 - ii. an employee downloading unapproved software onto their work laptop
- 5. Types of incidents:
 - a. Malware Infection
 - i. an incident type that occurs when malicious software designed to disrupt a system infiltrates an organization's computer or network
 - b. Unauthorized Access
 - i. an incident type that occurs when an individual gains digital or physical access to a system or application without permission
 - c. Improper Usage
 - i. an incident type that occurs when an employee of an organization violates the organization's acceptable use policies
 - ii. **should always be escalated out of caution**
- 6. Recognize roles and responsibilities during escalation
 - a. Data owners
 - i. person that decides who can access, edit, use, or destroy their information
 - ii. accountable for the classification, protection, access, and use of company data
 - b. Data controllers

- i. determine the procedure and purpose for processing data
 - ii. focuses on collecting the personal information of customers
 - iii. determines how that data is used
 - iv. ensures the data is used, stored, and processed in accordance with relevant security regulations
- c. Data processors
 - i. report directly to the data controller
 - ii. responsible for processing the data on behalf of the data controller
 - iii. typically a vendor and is often tasked with installing security measures to help protect the data
- d. Data custodians
 - i. assign and remove access to software or hardware
 - ii. responsible for implementing security controls for the data they are responsible for, granting and revoking access to that data, creating policies regarding how that data is store and transmitted
 - iii. notified when data security controls need to be strengthened
- e. Data protection officers (DPOs)
 - i. responsible for monitoring the internal compliance of an org's data protection procedures
 - ii. they advise the security team on the obligations required by the org's data protection standards and procedures
 - iii. conducts assessments to determine whether or not the security measures in place are properly protecting the data as necessary
 - iv. notified when set standards or protocols have been violated
- 7. Escalation Policy
 - a. a set of actions that outline who should be notified when an incident alert occurs and how that incident should be handled
- 8. Escalation tips
 - a. familiarize yourself with the escalation policy of an organization you work for
 - b. follow the policy at all times
 - c. ask questions

Week 3 – Understand Your Stakeholders, Communicate for Impact, Dashboard Communication

- 1. Stakeholders in cybersecurity
 - a. Risk Managers
 - i. identify risks
 - ii. manage the response to security incidents
 - iii. notify the legal department
 - iv. inform the organization's public relations team
 - b. Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
 - i. financial and managerial decisions
 - ii. report to shareholders
 - iii. manage operations
 - c. Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
 - i. manage financial operations
 - ii. costs of tools and strategies
 - d. Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)
 - i. develop an organization's security architecture
 - ii. conduct risk analysis and system audits
 - iii. create security and business continuity plans
 - e. Operation Managers
 - i. oversee security professionals

- ii. work directly with analysts
 - iii. responsible for daily maintenance of security operations
- 2. When escalating possible security threats/risks/vulnerabilities, be mindful of
 - a. what you communicate
 - b. who you communicate to
- 3. Communications should
 - a. be precise
 - b. avoid unnecessary technical terms
 - c. have a clear purpose
- 4. Security story details
 - a. what the security challenge is
 - b. how it impacts the organization
 - c. possible solutions to the issue
- 5. Communicate the story
 - a. email
 - b. document
 - c. visual representation
 - d. incident management or ticketing systems
- 6. Communicate effectively with stakeholders
 - a. get to the point
 - i. what do I want this person to know?
 - ii. why is it important for them to know it?
 - iii. when do they need to take action?
 - iv. how do I explain the situation in a nontechnical manner?
 - b. follow the protocols
 - c. communicate with impact
 - d. communication methods
 - i. instant messaging
 - ii. emailing
 - iii. video calling
 - iv. phone calls
 - v. sharing a spreadsheet of data
 - vi. sharing a slideshow presentation
 - e. **Information that is communicated to stakeholders is sensitive.**
- 7. Visual Dashboard
 - a. a way of displaying various types of data quickly in one place
 - b. used to communicate security events to stakeholders
 - c. can contain a chart vs charts, graphs, and tables
 - d. Google Sheets and Apache OpenOffice are examples of way to make visual dashboards
 - e. when to usual a visual report is situational based on availability of data

Week 4 – Reliable Sources Go a Long Way, Build Your Cybersecurity Network

- 1. Security Websites and Blogs
 - a. CSO Online
 - i. news, tips, and ideas
 - b. Krebs on Security
 - i. in-depth security blog
 - c. Dark Reading

- i. for security professionals, IoT, application security, mobile and cloud
- 2. Cybersecurity Community
 - a. Security organizations and conferences
 - i. attending conferences and joining organizations in order to learn from seasoned professionals
 - b. Find the right organization
 - i. reacting to security incidents vs preventing them from happening
 - ii. forensic security vs data logging
 - iii. aspirations of being a CISO one day
 - c. Begin the search
 - i. such as “incident response cybersecurity conferences in my area”
 - d. Use social media
 - i. search on LinkedIn
 - 1. “Incident response cybersecurity groups”
 - 2. “Organizations for cybersecurity analysts”
 - e. Be aware of social engineering
 - f. Mailing lists for security
 - i. Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) offers two mailing lists to join
 - 1. a list focused on security threat information, best practices for cybersecurity, and analysis from CISA’s domestic and international security partners
 - 2. a list providing weekly summaries of new vulnerabilities that might pose a risk to an organization’s network
- 3. engaging with the cybersecurity community in a meaningful way
 - a. use social media to follow or read posts of leaders in a security industry
 - i. I.E., CISOs of major companies
 - b. connect with security professionals working in the industry you’re interested in
 - c. social media filters
 - i. people
 - ii. #cybersecurity
 - iii. connect via LinkedIn
 - iv. events
 - v. groups
 - d. internet search engine, type: “cybersecurity industry associations”

Week 5 – Find/Prepare for a Job in Cybersecurity, Job Interviews, Answer Interview Questions

- 1. Initial Cybersecurity Roles
 - a. Security Analyst
 - i. monitoring networks
 - ii. developing strategies
 - iii. researching IT security trends
 - b. Information Security Analyst
 - i. Creating plans
 - ii. Implementing security measures
 - c. SOC Analyst
 - i. Ensuring security incidents are handled rapidly
 - ii. Following established policies and procedures
- 2. Job searching sites
 - a. ZipRecruiter
 - b. Indeed

- c. Monster Jobs
- d. LinkedIn
- 3. What to add to your resume
 - a. programming languages
 - b. Linux line-command
 - c. security mindset
 - d. frameworks and controls
 - e. SIEM tools
 - f. packet sniffers
 - g. Transferable and technical Skills
 - i. detail oriented
 - ii. collaborative
 - iii. written and verbal communication skills
 - h. Summary Statement
 - i. brief
 - ii. strengths
 - iii. skills
 - i. Skills
 - j. Work Experience
 - k. Education
- 4. Resume tips
 - a. no spelling or grammatical errors
 - b. two pages long
 - c. 10 years or less of work experience
- 5. Prepare for an interview
 - a. review the job description and your resume
 - b. practice speaking about experiences and skills
 - c. Dress professionally and feel comfortable
 - d. take a few deep breaths
 - e. remind yourself of all the preparation you've done
- 6. Background Interview
 - a. questions about your education, work experience, skills, and abilities
 - b. ask questions to help you decide if the team and company culture are a good match for you
- 7. Technical Interview
 - a. answer confidently and concisely
 - b. it's ok to say you don't know
- 8. Research the organization
 - a. mission
 - b. vision
 - c. core values
 - d. company culture
- 9. Why you?
 - a. skills
 - b. experience
 - c. work ethic
 - d. goals
- 10. Rapport

- a. a friendly relationship in which the people involved understand each other's ideas and communicate well with each other

11. Questions to ask the interviewer:

- a. What is the biggest challenge I could face going into this role
- b. How would I be expected to meet that challenge?
- c. What would you say is the best part of working for this company?
- d. What does a typical day look like for an analyst?
- e. What is the potential for growth in this role?
- f. *What is the biggest challenge for a new person in this role?
- g. *In what ways can I contribute to the success of the team and the organization?
- h. *What qualities or traits are most important for working well with the team and other stakeholders?

12. STAR Method

- a. a technique used to answer behavioral and situation interview questions
- b. Situation, Task, Action, Result

13. Elevator Pitch

- a. a brief summary of your experience, skills, and background
- b. must be:
 - i. short
 - ii. persuasive
 - iii. who you are
 - iv. why you care
 - v. qualifications
 - vi. skills
- c. avoid
 - i. rambling
 - ii. sounding ingenuine (robotic)
 - iii. speaking too quickly
 - iv. search for elevator pitch examples

14. Parts of an elevator pitch

- a. Provide an introduction
- b. Describe your career interests and transferable skills
- c. Express your excitement
- d. Communicate your interest in the company

15. Tips for interviewing remotely

- a. Test your technology
- b. Practice communicating through video
- c. Create a professional background
- d. Dress appropriately
- e. Look at the interviewer when speaking
- f. Sign in early