Dos Attack in 5G NR

Software Used: NetSim Standard v13.0 (32/64 bit), Visual Studio 2019

Project Download Link:

https://github.com/NetSim-TETCOS/DOS_Attack_in_5G_v13.0/archive/refs/heads/main.zip

Follow the instructions specified in the following link to download and setup the Project in NetSim:

https://support.tetcos.com/en/support/solutions/articles/14000128666-downloading-and-

setting-up-netsim-file-exchange-projects

A Denial of Service (DoS) attack is an attempt to make a system unavailable to the intended

user(s), such as preventing access to a website. A successful DoS attack consumes all

available network or system resources, usually resulting in a slowdown or server crash.

Whenever multiple sources are coordinating in the DoS attack, it becomes known as a DDoS

(Distributed Denial of Service) attack. Standard DDoS Attack types:

SYN Flood

2. UDP Flood

3. SMBLoris

4. ICMP Flood

5. HTTP GET Flood

SYN Flood:

TCP SYN floods are DoS attacks that attempt to flood the DNS server with new TCP

connection requests. Normally, a client initiates a TCP connection through a three-way

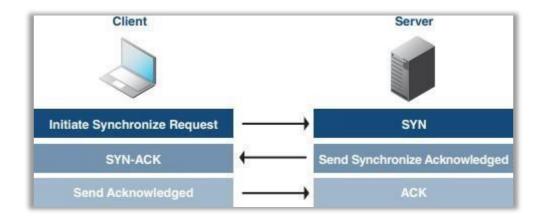
handshake of messages:

• The client requests a connection by sending a SYN (synchronize) message to the

server.

• The server acknowledges the request by sending SYN-ACK back to the client.

The client answers with a responding ACK, establishing the connection.



This triple exchange is the foundation for every connection established using the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP). A SYN Flood is one of the most common forms of DDoS attacks. It occurs when an attacker sends a succession of TCP Synchronize (SYN) requests to the target in an attempt to consume enough resources to make the server unavailable for legitimate users. This works because a SYN request opens network communication between a prospective client and the target server. When the server receives a SYN request, it responds acknowledging the request and holds the communication open while it waits for the client to acknowledge the open connection. However, in a successful SYN

Flood, the client acknowledgment never arrives, thus consuming the server's resources until the connection times out. A large number of incoming SYN requests to the target server exhausts all available server resources and results in a successful DoS attack. Before implementing this project in NetSim, users have to understand the steps given below:

1. TCP Log file

- User need to understand the TCP log file which will get created in the temp path of NetSim <Windows Temp Folder>/NetSim>
- The TCP Log file is usually a very large file and hence is disabled by default in NetSim.
- To enable logging, go to TCP.c inside the TCP project and change the function bool isTCPlog() to return true instead of false.

2. At malicious node:

Create a new timer event called SYN_FLOOD in TCP for sending TCP_SYN packets that should be triggered for every 1000 microseconds. This will create and send the TCP_SYN packet for every 1000 microseconds. SYN request opens network communication between a client and the target **3. At Target node:**

When the target receives a SYN request, it responds acknowledging the request and holds the communication open while it waits for the client to acknowledge the open connection. If a SYN packet arrives at Receiver, it should reply with a SYN_ACK packet. For this SYN_ACK packet, add a processing time of 2000 microseconds in Ethernet Physical Out. This delays the arrival of SYN_ACK at source node. During this delay, another SYN packet will get created at the malicious node. A large number of incoming SYN requests to the target exhausts all available server resources and results in a successful DoS attack SYN_FLOOD in NetSim:

To implement this project in NetSim, we have created SYN_FLOOD.c file inside TCP project. The file contains the following functions:

int is_malicious_node();

This function is used to check the node is malicious node or not.

int socket_creation();

This function is used to create a new socket and update the socket parameters.

static void send_syn_packet(PNETSIM_SOCKET s);

This function is used to create and send SYN packet to the network layer.

void syn_flood();

This function is used to check whether the socket is present or not and also adds a timer event called SYN_FLOOD (triggers for every 1000µs)

Code modifications done in NetSim:

 We have added the following lines of code in fn_NetSim_TCP_Trace() function present in TCP.c file inside TCP project. This is used to add the SYN_FLOOD sub-events in Event Trace file

2. We have added the following lines of code in fn_NetSim_TCP_HandleTimer() function present in

TCP.c file inside TCP project. Used to add a TCP sub_event called SYN_FLOOD

```
TCP.c ⇒ X
TCP
                                                      (Global Scope)

    static int fn NetSim TCP HandleTimer()
    207
    208
           switch (pstruEventDetails->nSubEventType)
    209
    210
                 case SYN FLOOD:
                     syn_flood();
    211
    212
                     break;
    213
                 case TCP RTO TIMEOUT:
                     handle_rto_timer();
    214
    215
                     break;
                 case TCP_TIME_WAIT_TIMEOUT:
    216
                     handle time wait timeout();
    217
                     break;
    218
                 default:
    219
    220
                     fnNetSimError("Unknown subevent %d in %s\n",
                                   pstruEventDetails->nSubEventType,
    221
    222
                                     FUNCTION );
    223
                     break;
    224
                 }
    225
                 return 0;
    226
```

And modified the following lines of code in fn_NetSim_TCP_Init() function resent in TCP.c inside TCP project

```
| Title | Company | Compan
```

4. And modified the following lines of code in add_timeout_event() present in RTO.c file inside TCP project which avoids RTO timer for malicious nodes

5. Users can give their own number of malicious node in TCP.h file inside TCP project

```
TCBh w X |

TCB TP

- (Global Scope)

- (Global
```

6. Users can give their own target ID and malicious ID in **SYN_FLOOD.c** file inside TCP project.

Added the following line in TCP_Enum.h file inside TCP project to add a new TCP_subevent called SYN_FLOOD

```
Server Explorer
    TCP_Enum.h → × TCP.h
                                    RTO.c
                                                 SYN_flood.c
                                                                    TCP_Connection.c
                                                                                             TCP.c
    TCP
                                                              (Global Scope)
             #include "EnumString.h"
           BEGIN_ENUM(TCP_Subevent)
Toolbox
                 DECL_ENUM_ELEMENT_WITH_VAL(TCP_RTO_TIMEOUT, TX_PROTOCOL_TCP * 100),
                 DECL_ENUM_ELEMENT(TCP_TIME_WAIT_TIMEOUT),
DECL_ENUM_ELEMENT(SYN_FLOOD),
            }
             #pragma warning(disable:4028)
             END_ENUM(TCP_Subevent);
             #pragma warning(default:4028)
```

8. SYN_FLOOD.c file contains the following functions.

```
SYN_floodc* a X TCPh* RTO.c

Syn_flood()

Total Syn_flood()

Syn_flood
```

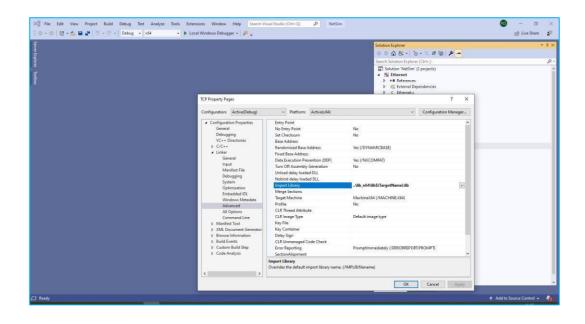
9. Added PROCESSING_TIME macro in Ethernet.h file inside ETHERNET project.

```
Ethernet.h +
Ethernet
                                                                (Global Scope)
               #pragma comment(lib,"Metrics.lib")
               #pragma comment(lib, "libtCP")
#pragma comment (lib, "libtCP")
#define isETHConfigured(d,i) (DEVICE_MACLAYER(d,i)->nMacProtocolId == MAC_PROTOCOL_IEEE802_3)
      23
                    //Global variable
     25
      26
                    PNETSIM_MACADDRESS multicastSPTMAC;
      27
      28
               #define ETH_IFG 0.960 //Micro sec
     29
      30
               #define Processing_TIME 1000
      31
                    typedef enum enum_eth_packet
      32
      33
                         ETH_CONFIGBPDU = MAC_PROTOCOL_IEEE802_3 * 100 + 1,
      34
      36
      37
                    /** Enumeration for Switching Technique */
      38
                    typedef enum enum_SwitchingTechnique
      39
                         SWITCHINGTECHNIQUE_NULL,
SWITCHINGTECHNIQUE_STORE_FORWARD,
SWITCHINGTECHNIQUE_CUT_THROUGH,
      40
      41
                         SWITCHINGTECHNIQUE_FRAGMENT_FREE,
      43
                    }SWITCHING_TECHNIQUE;
```

10. Modified the following lines of code in fn_NetSim_Ethernet_HandlePhyOut() function present in Ethernet_Phy.c file inside Ethernet project.

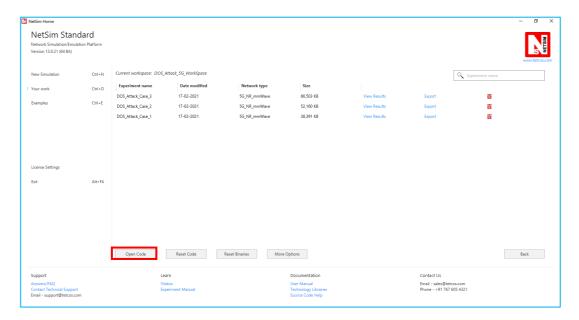
```
TCP.h SYN_flood.c Ethernet_Phy.c* + X
Ethernet
                                               (Global Scope)
                                                                                          if (!packet)
             return 2; // No packet is there for transmission
          double start:
          if (pstruEventDetails->nDeviceId == target_node && (packet->nControlDataType == 40102 || packet->nControlDataType == 40105))
             if (phy->lastPacketEndTime + phy->IFG <= pstruEventDetails->dEventTime)
                 start = pstruEventDetails->dEventTime + Processing_TIME;
              else
                 start = phy->lastPacketEndTime + phy->IFG + Processing_TIME;
          else
             if (phy->lastPacketEndTime + phy->IFG <= pstruEventDetails->dEventTime)
                 start = pstruEventDetails->dEventTime;
                 start = phy->lastPacketEndTime + phy->IFG;
```

- 11. Right click on TCP project-> Properties->Linker-> Advanced->import library 32-bit and 64-bit
 - ..\lib\lib\$(TargetName).lib or ..\lib_x64\lib\$(TargetName).lib

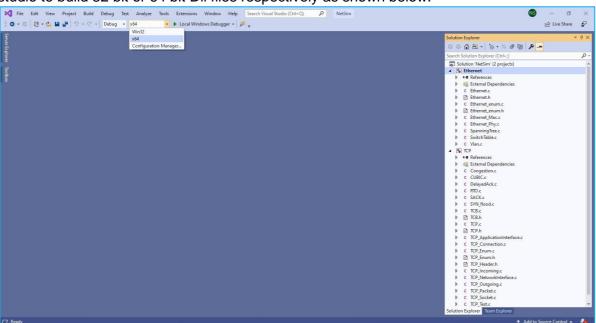


Steps:

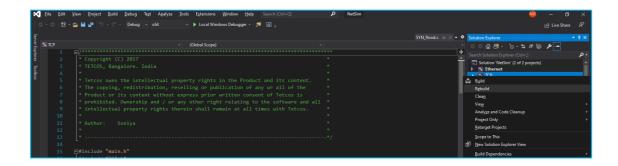
1. Open the Source codes in Visual Studio by going to Your work -> Workspace Options and Clicking on Open code button as shown below:



- 2. Under the TCP project in the solution explorer you will be able to see that SYN_FLOOD.c file.
- 3. Based on whether you are using NetSim 32 bit or 64 bit setup you can configure Visual studio to build 32 bit or 64 bit Dll files respectively as shown below:



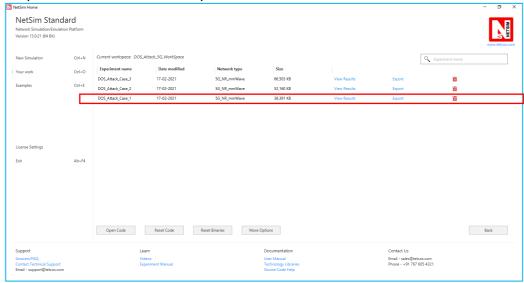
4. Right click on the solution in the solution explorer and select Rebuild. (Note: first rebuild the TCP project and then rebuild the Ethernet project)



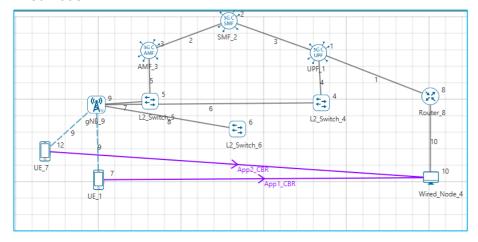
5. Upon successful build modified libTCP.dll and libEthernet.dll file gets automatically updated in the directory containing NetSim binaries.

Case-1: Without Malicious Node

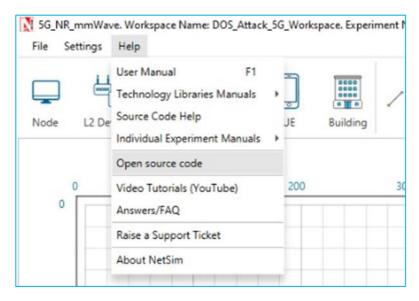
1. Then DOS_Attack_5G_Workspace comes with a sample configuration that is already saved. To open this example, go to Your work and click on the DOS_Attack_Case_1 that is present under the list of experiments as shown below:



2. The saved network scenario consisting of 5G Core, 2 UEs, 1 gNB, 1 Router and 1 wired node in the grid environment forming a 5G NR Network. Traffic is configured from UE to Wired node.



3. Help □ Open Source code



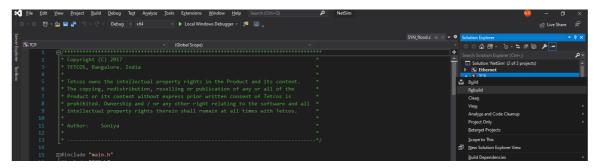
4. In TCP.h set NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE as 1.

```
TCP.h + × RTO.c
TCP
                                                            (Global Scope)
     44
            #pragma comment (lib, "NetworkStack.lib")
     45
    46
                _declspec(dllexport) target_node;
     48
                 //USEFUL MACRO
     49
            #define isTCPConfigured(d) (DEVICE TRXLayer(d) && DEVICE TRXLayer(d)->isTCP)
    50
            #define isTCPControl(p) (p->nControlDataType/100 == TX_PROTOCOL_TCP)
    51
    52
    53
                 //Constant
            #define TCP DupThresh
    54
            #define NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE 1
    55 1
     56
                int is_malicious_node(NETSIM_ID devid);
```

5. In SYN_FLOOD.c set malicious node as 0.

```
SYN_flood.c* + X TCP.h
TCP
                                                     (Global Scope)
            Product or its content without express prior written consent of Tetcos is
           ^{st} prohibited. Ownership and / or any other right relating to the software and all
           * intellectual property rights therein shall remain at all times with Tetcos.
    10
           * Author:
                     Soniva
    11
    12
    13
             14
         ⊟#include "main.h"
    15
           #include "TCP.h"
    16
           #include "List.h"
    17
           #include "TCP_Header.h"
    18
           #include "TCP_Enum.h"
    19
    20
          int malicious_node[NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE] = { 0 };
    21
           static void send_syn_packet(PNETSIM_SOCKET s);
    22
    23
           //static PNETSIM_SOCKET socket_creation();
```

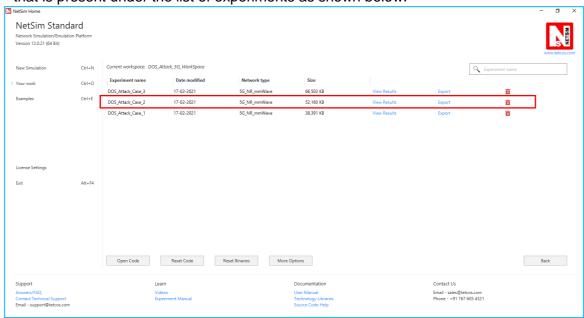
- **6.** Based on whether you are using NetSim 32 bit or 64 bit setup you can configure Visual studio to build 32 bit or 64 bit Dll files respectively as shown below:
- 7. Right click on the solution in the solution explorer and select Rebuild. (Note: first rebuild the TCP project and then rebuild the Ethernet project)



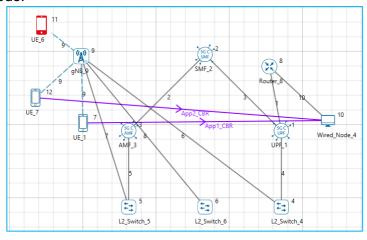
- **8.** Upon successful build modified libTCP.dll and libEthernet.dll file gets automatically updated in the directory containing NetSim binaries.
- 9. Run the simulation for 5 seconds.

Case-2: With one Malicious Node

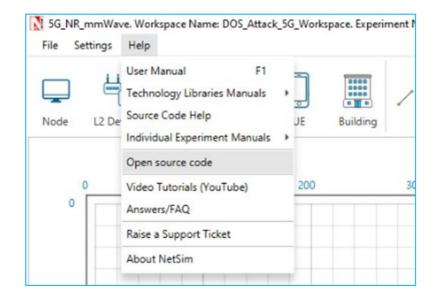
1. Then DOS_Attack_5G_Workspace comes with a sample configuration that is already saved. To open this example, go to Your work and click on the DOS_Attack_Case_2 that is present under the list of experiments as shown below:



2. The saved network scenario consisting of 5G Core, 3 UEs, 1 gNB, 1 Router and 1 wired node in the grid environment forming a 5G NR Network. Traffic is configured from UE to Wired node.



3. Help □ Open Source code



4. In TCP.h set NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE as 1.

```
TCP.h → X RTO.c
SYN_flood.c*
™ TCP
                                                           (Global Scope)
     43
             #pragma comment (lib, "NetworkStack.lib")
     44
     45
     46
                _declspec(dllexport) target_node;
     47
     48
     49
                //USEFUL MACRO
     50
            #define isTCPConfigured(d) (DEVICE_TRXLayer(d) && DEVICE_TRXLayer(d)->isTCP)
            #define isTCPControl(p) (p->nControlDataType/100 == TX_PROTOCOL_TCP)
     51
     52
     53
                 //Constant
             #define TCP_DupThresh
     54
            #define NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE 1
     55 1
                int is_malicious_node(NETSIM_ID devid);
     56
```

5. In SYN_FLOOD.c set malicious node as 11.

```
SYN_flood.c* s ×

(Global Scope)

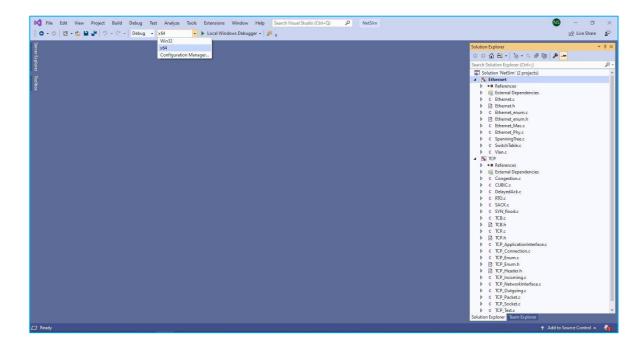
(Global Scope)

(STCP

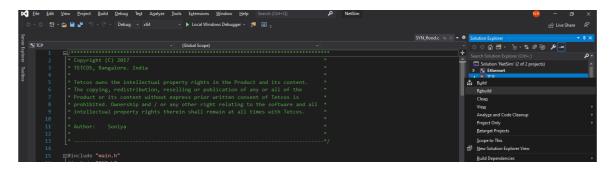
(Global Scope)

(Static Power of the state of the st
```

6. Based on whether you are using NetSim 32 bit or 64 bit setup you can configure Visual studio to build 32 bit or 64 bit Dll files respectively as shown below:



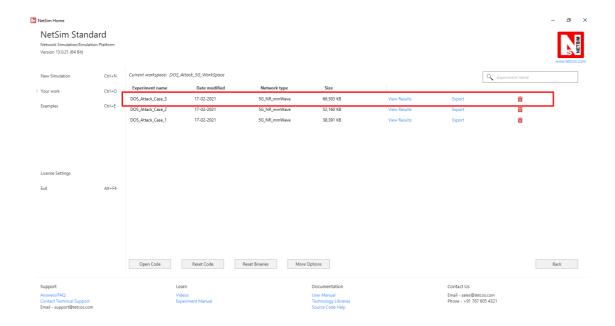
7. Right click on the solution in the solution explorer and select Rebuild. (Note: first rebuild the TCP project and then rebuild the Ethernet project)



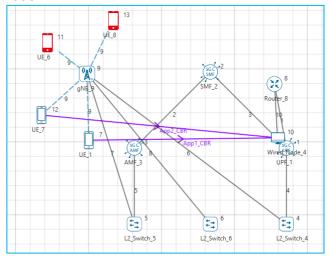
- **8.** Upon successful build modified libTCP.dll and libEthernet.dll file gets automatically updated in the directory containing NetSim binaries.
- 9. Run the simulation for 5 seconds.

Case-3: With two Malicious Node

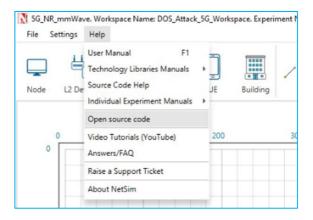
1. Then DOS_Attack_5G_Workspace comes with a sample configuration that is already saved. To open this example, go to Your work and click on the DOS_Attack_Case_3 that is present under the list of experiments as shown below:



2. The saved network scenario consisting of 5G Core, 4 UEs, 1 gNB, 1 Router and 1 wired node in the grid environment forming a 5G NR Network. Traffic is configured from UE to Wired node.



1. Help □ Open Source code

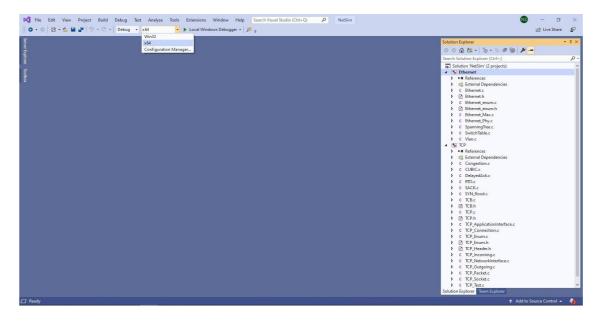


2. In TCP.h set NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE as 2.

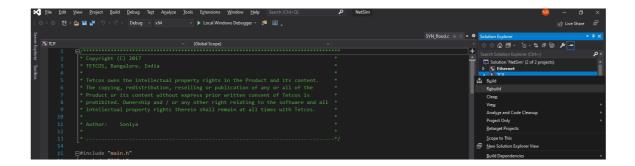
```
SYN_flood.c*
            TCP.h* → X RTO.c
TCP
                                                           (Global Scope)
     43
            #pragma comment (lib, "NetworkStack.lib")
     44
     45
     46
                _declspec(dllexport) target_node;
     47
     48
                //USEFUL MACRO
     49
     50
            #define isTCPConfigured(d) (DEVICE_TRXLayer(d) && DEVICE_TRXLayer(d)->isTCP)
            #define isTCPControl(p) (p->nControlDataType/100 == TX_PROTOCOL_TCP)
     51
     52
     53
                //Constant
            #define TCP_DupThresh
     54
     55 #define NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE 2
    56
                int is_malicious_node(NETSIM_ID devid);
     57
                typedef struct stru_TCP_Socket NETSIM_SOCKET, *PNETSIM_SOCKET;
     58
     59
```

3. In SYN_FLOOD.c set malicious node as 11, 13.

4. Based on whether you are using NetSim 32 bit or 64 bit setup you can configure Visual studio to build 32 bit or 64 bit Dll files respectively as shown below:



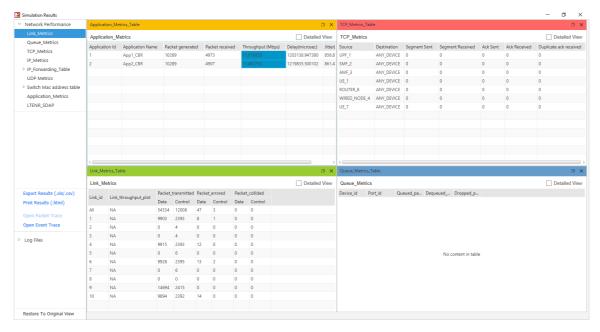
5. Right click on the solution in the solution explorer and select Rebuild. (Note: first rebuild the TCP project and then rebuild the Ethernet project)



- **6.** Upon successful build modified libTCP.dll and libEthernet.dll file gets automatically updated in the directory containing NetSim binaries.
- 7. Run the simulation for 5 seconds.

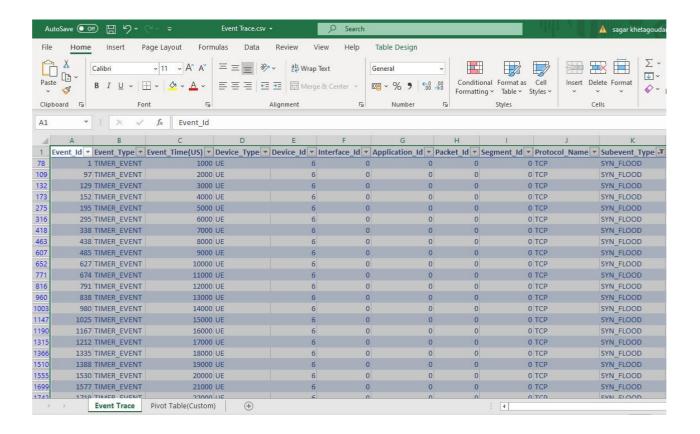
Result:

After simulation, open metrics window and observe the Application_Throughput is decreasing for both applications as we increase the malicious node because of the SYN flood sent from the malicious node. In case 1 there is no malicious node so there will be no SYN_FLOOD packets.



	Throughput_APP1(Mbps)	Throughput_APP2(Mbps)
Case-1: Malicious Node =0	11.63	11.62
Case-2: Malicious Node =1	11.45	11.45
Case-3: Malicious Node =2	11.29	11.31

Go to the result window open Event trace, user can find out the SYN_FLOOD packets via filtering subevent type as SYN_FLOOD.



Note: Users can also create their own network scenarios in 5G NR and run simulation.