Dos Attack in Internet of Things

Software Used: NetSim Standard v12.1 (32/64 bit), Visual Studio 2015/2017/2019

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.

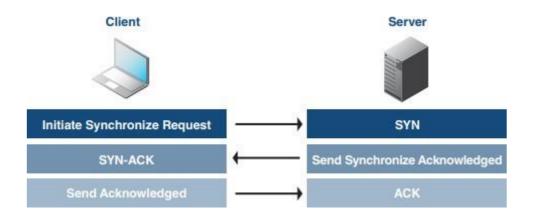
Standard DDoS Attack types:

- 1. 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 micro seconds. This will create and send the TCP_SYN packet for every 1000 micro seconds. 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 micro seconds 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:

1. 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

```
TCP.c → X
TCP
                                                    (Global Scope)
   125
            to get the sub event as a string.
   126
          __declspec (dllexport) char *fn_NetSim_TCP_Trace(int nSubEvent)
   127
   128
                if (nSubEvent == SYN FLOOD)
   129
                    return "SYN FLOOD";
   130
                return (GetStringTCP_Subevent(nSubEvent));
   131
   132
```

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()
   206
   207
            {
   208
                 switch (pstruEventDetails->nSubEventType)
           \Box
   209
                 case SYN FLOOD:
   210
                     syn_flood();
   211
                    break;
   212
   213
                 case TCP_RTO_TIMEOUT:
                    handle_rto_timer();
   214
                     break;
   215
   216
                 case TCP TIME WAIT TIMEOUT:
                     handle_time_wait_timeout();
   217
                     break;
   218
                 default:
   219
   220
                     fnNetSimError("Unknown subevent %d in %s\n",
   221
                                   pstruEventDetails->nSubEventType,
                                    __FUNCTION__);
   222
   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

```
TCP

    ▼ (Global Scope)

    fn_NetSim_TCP_Init(stru_NetSim_Network * NETWORK_Form

                         declspec (dllexport) int fn NetSim TCP Init(struct stru NetSim Network* NETWORK Formal,
                               clspec (dllexport) int fn N
NetSim_EVENTDETAILS* pstru
char* pszAppPath_Formal,
    char* pszWritePath_Formal,
    int nVersion_Type,
    void** fnPointer)
      82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
1111
1112
1113
                                fn_NetSim_TCP_Init_F(NETWORK_Formal,
    pstruEventDetails_Formal,
    pszAppPath_Formal,
    pszWritePath_Formal,
                                nVersion Type,
fnPointer);
NetSim *VENTOFIATLS pevent;
memcpy(&pevent, pstruEventDetails, sizeof pevent);
                                for (int i = 0; i < NETWORK->nDeviceCount; i++)
                                         if (is_malicious_node(i + 1))
                                                pevent.nDeviceId = i + 1;
                                                pevent.divertime += 100e;
pevent.divertime += 100e;
pevent.nivertType == TIMER_EVENT;
pevent.nsubEventType == SYN_FLOOD;
pevent.nProtocolId == TX_PROTOCOL_TCP;
fnpAddEvent(&pevent);
                                }
return 0;
                       This function is called by NetworkStack.dll, once simulation end to free the allocated memory for the network.
       114
                       No issues found
```

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 a X

STOP

- (Global Scope)

- (Global Scop
```

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

```
SYN_flood.c → ×
™ TCP

    ▼ (Global Scope)

                   ∃#include "main.h'
                    #include main.n

#include "TCP.h"

#include "List.h"

#include "TCP_Header.h"

#include "TCP_Enum.h"
        18
                     int malicious_node[NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE] = { 2, 6 };
static void send_syn_packet(PNETSIM_SOCKET s);
//static PNETSIM_SOCKET socket_creation();
int target_node = 4;
PNETSIM_SOCKET get_Remotesocket(NETSIM_ID d, PSOCKETADDRESS addr);
static PSOCKETADDRESS sockAddr = NULL;
        21
22
        23
        24
25
        26
27
                   int is_malicious_node(NETSIM_ID devid)
                            for (int i = 0; i < NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE; i++)
   if (devid == malicious_node[i]) return 1;</pre>
        30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
                   pvoid syn_flood()
                                    if (!sockAddr)
                                             sockAddr = calloc(1, sizeof * sockAddr);
        42
                                            sockAddr->ip = DEVICE_NWADDRESS(target_node, 1);
                                     PNETSIM SOCKET s = get Remotesocket(malicious node, sockAddr);
```

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

```
Server Explorer
                                                                                      TCP.c
   TCP_Enum.h → X TCP.h
                                 RTO.c
                                             SYN_flood.c
                                                               TCP_Connection.c
    🛂 ТСР
                                                         (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_flood.c + X
🛂 TCP
                                                    (Global Scope)
            #include "TCP.h"
            #include "List.h"
    17
            #include "TCP Header.h"
    18
           #include "TCP_Enum.h"
    19
    20
            int malicious_node[NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE] = { 2, 6 };
    21
            static void send_syn_packet(PNETSIM_SOCKET s);
    22
            //static PNETSIM_SOCKET socket_creation();
    23
    24
            int target_node = 4;
            PNETSIM_SOCKET get_Remotesocket(NETSIM_ID d, PSOCKETADDRESS addr);
    25
    26
             static PSOCKETADDRESS sockAddr = NULL;
    27
    28
           int is_malicious_node(NETSIM_ID devid)
    29
                 for (int i = 0; i < NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE; i++)
    30
                    if (devid == malicious_node[i]) return 1;
    31
    32
    33
                return 0;
    34
```

```
### Int socket_creation()

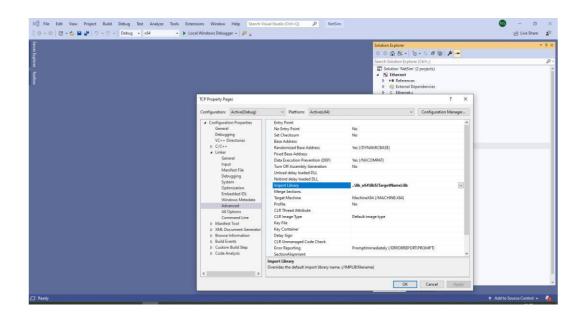
| Static int s_id = 100; | Static int s_id =
```

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

```
Ethernet.h +
The Ethernet
                                                          (Global Scope)
              #pragma comment(lib,"Metrics.lib")
              #pragma comment (lib, "libTCP
     23
              #define isETHConfigured(d,i) (DEVICE_MACLAYER(d,i)->nMacProtocolId == MAC_PROTOCOL_IEEE802_3)
                  //Global variable
     25
                  PNETSIM_MACADDRESS multicastSPTMAC;
     27
     28
              #define ETH_IFG 0.960 //Micro sec
     29
              #define Processing_TIME 1000
     30 🚜
     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
     43
                       SWITCHINGTECHNIQUE FRAGMENT FREE,
                  SWITCHING TECHNIQUE;
```

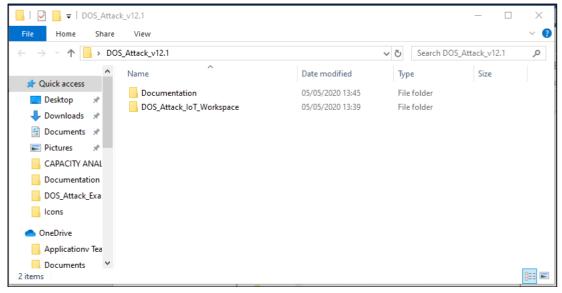
10. Modified the following lines of code in fn_NetSim_Ethernet_HandlePhyOut() function present in Ethernet_Phy.c file inside Ethernet project.

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

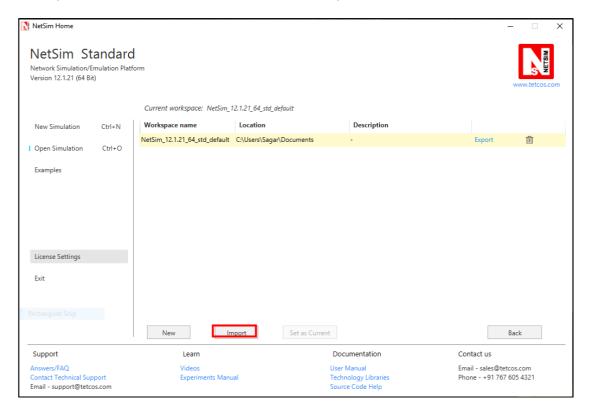


Steps:

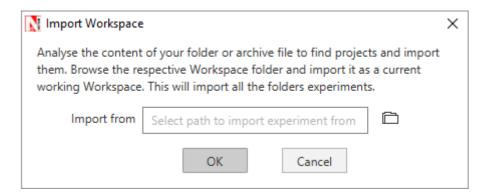
1. The downloaded project folder contains the folders Documentation, and DOS_Attack_IoT_Workspace directory as shown below:



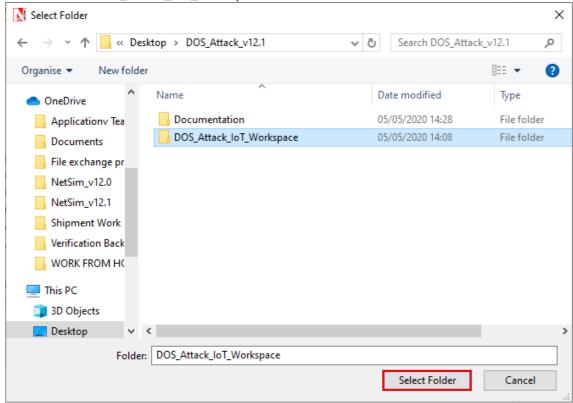
2. Import DOS_Attack_IoT_Workspace by going to Open Simulation->Workspace Options->More Options in NetSim Home window. Then select Import as shown below:



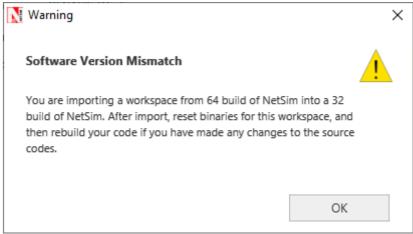
3. It displays a window where users need to give the path of the workspace folder and click on OK as shown below:



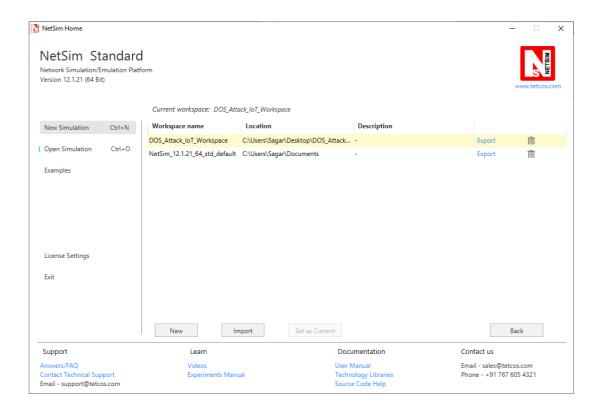
4. Browse to the DOS_Attack_IoT_Workspace folder and click on select folder as shown below:



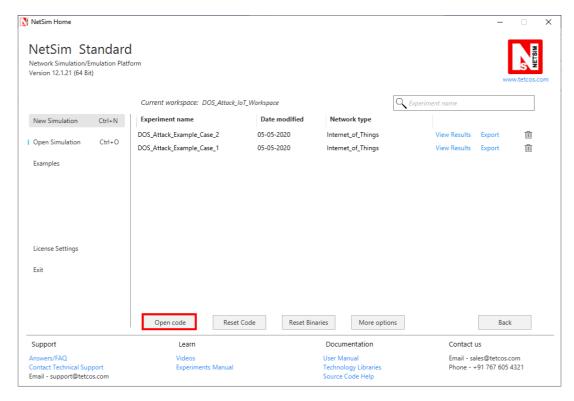
- 5. After this click on OK button in the Import Workspace window.
- **6.** While importing the workspace, if the following warning message indicating Software Version Mismatch is displayed, you can ignore it and proceed.



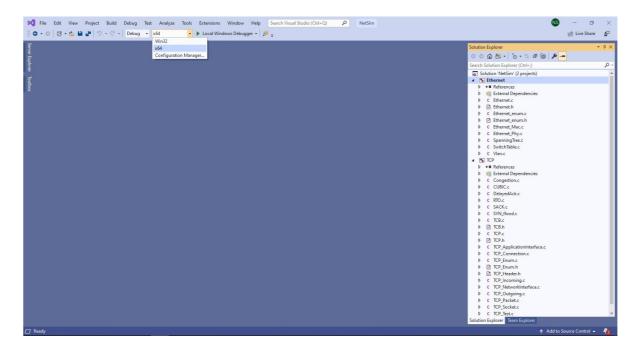
7. The Imported workspace will be set as the current workspace automatically. To see the imported workspace, click on Open Simulation->Workspace Options->More Options as shown below:



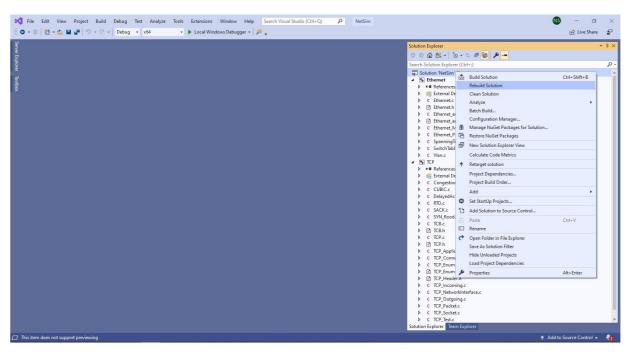
8. Open the Source codes in Visual Studio by going to Open Simulation-> Workspace Options and Clicking on Open code button as shown below:



- 9. Under the TCP project in the solution explorer you will be able to see that SYN_FLOOD.c file.
- **10.** 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:



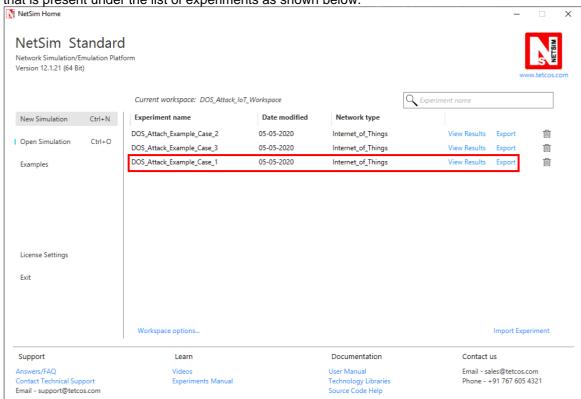
11. Right click on the solution in the solution explorer and select Rebuild.



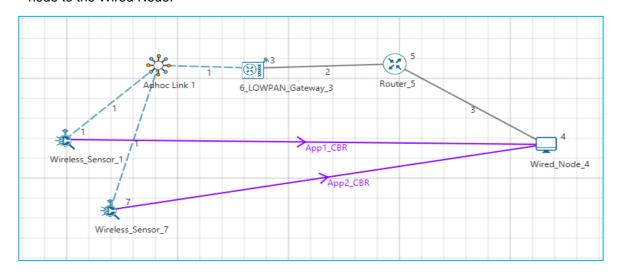
- **12.** Upon successful build modified libTCP.dll and libEthernet.dll file gets automatically updated in the directory containing NetSim binaries. (Note: first rebuild the TCP project and then rebuild the Ethernet project)
- 13. Run NetSim as Administrative mode.

Case-1: Without Malicious Node

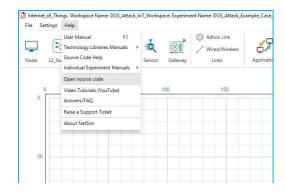
1. Then DOS_Attack_IoT_Workspace comes with a sample configuration that is already saved. To open this example, go to Open Simulation and click on the DOS_Attack_Example_Case_1 that is present under the list of experiments as shown below:



2. The saved network scenario consisting of 2 sensors, 1 6LOWPAN Gateway, 1 router, and 1 wired node in the grid environment forming a IoT Network. Traffic is configured from sensor node to the Wired Node.



3. Help Open Source code



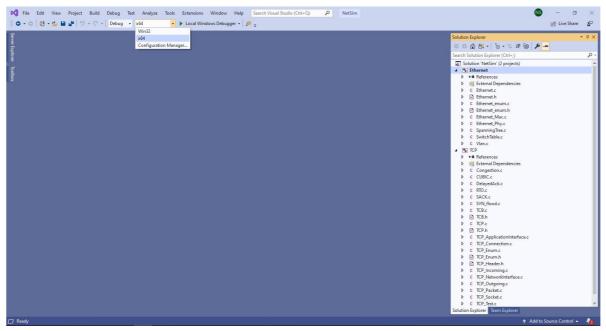
4. In TCP.h set NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE as 1.

```
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
     49
                 //USEFUL MACRO
     50
            #define isTCPConfigured(d) (DEVICE_TRXLayer(d) && DEVICE_TRXLayer(d)->isTCP)
     51
             #define isTCPControl(p) (p->nControlDataType/100 == TX_PROTOCOL_TCP)
     52
                 //Constant
     53
             #define TCP DupThresh
     54
            #define NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE 1
     55 1
                 int is_malicious_node(NETSIM_ID devid);
     56
```

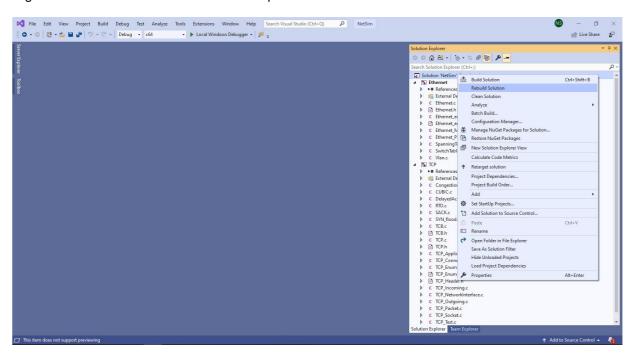
5. In SYN_FLOOD.c set malicious node as 0.

```
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
     8
              intellectual property rights therein shall remain at all times with Tetcos.
     Q
    10
            * Author:
    11
    12
    13
    14
           ⊟#include "main.h"
    15
            #include "TCP.h"
    16
            #include "List.h"
    17
            #include "TCP_Header.h"
#include "TCP_Enum.h"
    18
    19
    20
         int malicious_node[NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE] = { 0 };
    21
    22
            static void send_syn_packet(PNETSIM_SOCKET s);
    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:



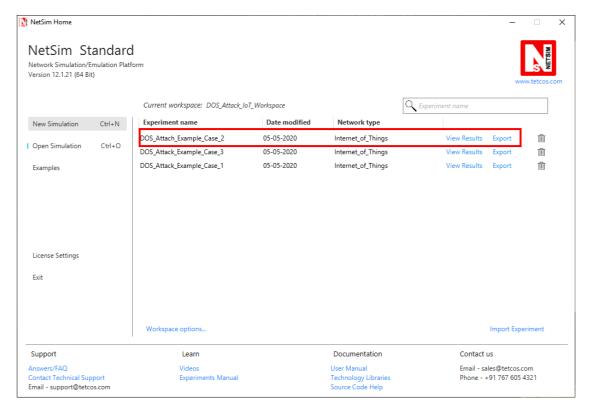
7. Right click on the solution in the solution explorer and select Rebuild.



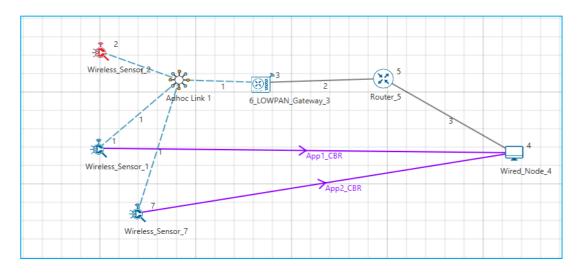
- 8. Upon successful build modified libTCP.dll and libEthernet.dll file gets automatically updated in the directory containing NetSim binaries. (Note: first rebuild the TCP project and then rebuild the Ethernet project)
- 9. Run the simulation for 100 seconds.

Case-2: With one Malicious Node

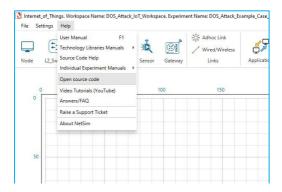
1. Then DOS_Attack_IoT_Workspace comes with a sample configuration that is already saved. To open this example, go to Open Simulation and click on the DOS_Attack_Example_Case_2 that is present under the list of experiments as shown below:



2. The saved network scenario consisting of 3 sensors, 1 6LOWPAN Gateway, 1 router, and 1 wired node in the grid environment forming a IoT Network. Traffic is configured from sensor node to the Wired Node.



3. Help Open Source code



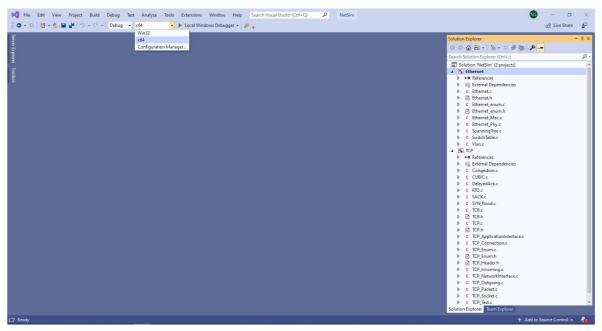
4. In TCP.h set NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE as 1.

```
TCP.h → X RTO.c
™ TCP
                                                            (Global Scope)
     44
            #pragma comment (lib, "NetworkStack.lib")
     45
     46
                 _declspec(dllexport) target_node;
     47
     48
     49
            #define isTCPConfigured(d) (DEVICE_TRXLayer(d) && DEVICE_TRXLayer(d)->isTCP)
     50
     51
            #define isTCPControl(p) (p->nControlDataType/100 == TX_PROTOCOL_TCP)
     52
                 //Constant
     53
            #define TCP DupThresh 3
     54
            #define NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE 1
     55 1
                 int is_malicious_node(NETSIM_ID devid);
     56
```

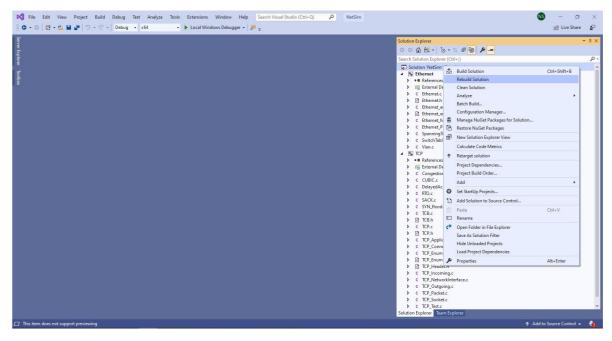
5. In SYN_FLOOD.c set malicious node as 2.

```
SYN_flood.c* → X TCP.h
TCP
                                                         (Global Scope)
              Product or its content without express prior written consent of Tetcos is
            * prohibited. Ownership and / or any other right relating to the software and all
     8
            * intellectual property rights therein shall remain at all times with Tetcos.
     9
    10
            * Author:
    11
                        Soniva
    12
    13
    14
          ⊟#include "main.h"
    15
    16
            #include "TCP.h"
            #include "List.h"
    17
            #include "TCP_Header.h"
    18
           #include "TCP_Enum.h"
    19
    20
        int malicious_node[NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE] = { 2 };
    21
    22
            static void send_syn_packet(PNETSIM_SOCKET s);
            //static PNETSIM_SOCKET socket_creation();
    23
```

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:



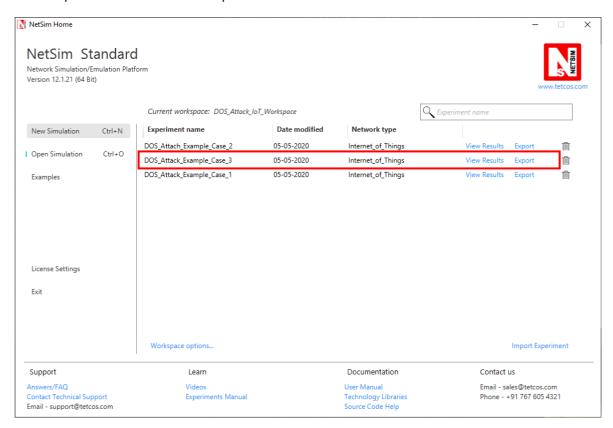
7. Right click on the solution in the solution explorer and select Rebuild.



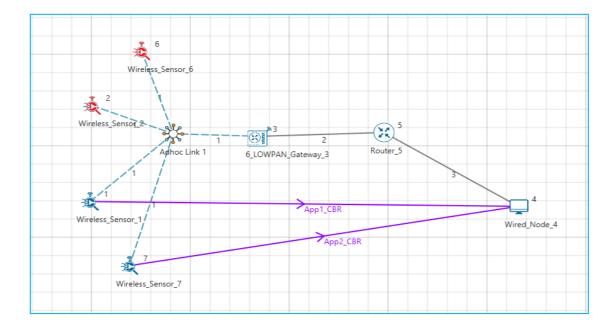
- 8. Upon successful build modified libTCP.dll and libEthernet.dll file gets automatically updated in the directory containing NetSim binaries. (Note: first rebuild the TCP project and then rebuild the Ethernet project)
- 9. Run the simulation for 100 seconds.

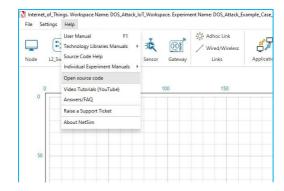
Case-3: With two Malicious Node

1. Then DOS_Attack_IoT_Workspace comes with a sample configuration that is already saved. To open this example, go to Open Simulation and click on the DOS_Attack_Example_Case_3 that is present under the list of experiments as shown below:



2. The saved network scenario consisting of 4 sensors, 1 6LOWPAN Gateway, 1 router, and 1 wired node in the grid environment forming a IoT Network. Traffic is configured from sensor node to the Wired Node.





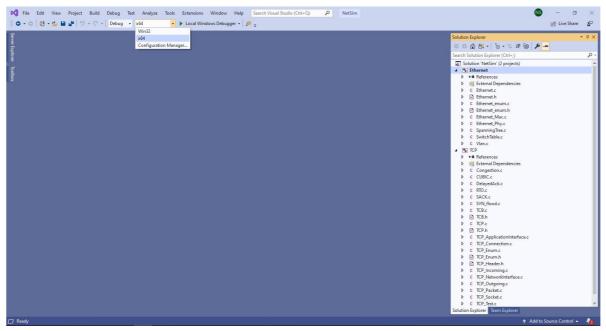
4. In TCP.h set NUMBEROFMALICIOUSNODE as 2.

```
TCP.h* ≠ X RTO.c
   SYN_flood.c*
erver Explorer
   ▼ TCP
                                                                  (Global Scope)
        43
                #pragma comment (lib, "NetworkStack.lib")
        44
        45
        46
                     _declspec(dllexport) target_node;
        47
        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 2
        55 1
                    int is_malicious_node(NETSIM_ID devid);
        56
        57
                     //Typedef
                    typedef struct stru_TCP_Socket NETSIM_SOCKET, *PNETSIM_SOCKET;
        58
        59
```

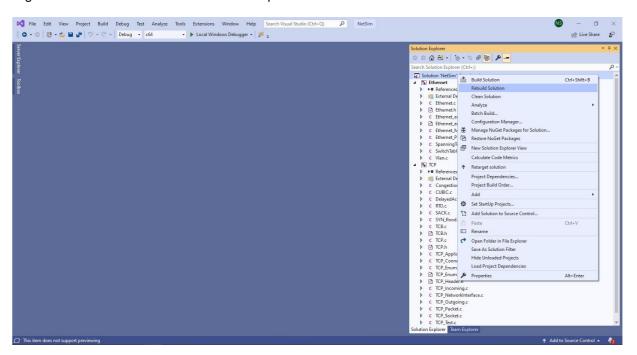
5. In SYN_FLOOD.c set malicious node as 2, 6.

```
SYN_flood.c* → X TCP.h*
TCP
                                                         (Global Scope)
              Product or its content without express prior written consent of Tetcos is
            * prohibited. Ownership and / or any other right relating to the software and all
            * intellectual property rights therein shall remain at all times with Tetcos.
     9
    10
            * Author:
    11
                         Soniya
    12
    13
          ⊟#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] = { 2, 6 };
    21
            static void send_syn_packet(PNETSIM_SOCKET s);
    22
            //static PNETSIM_SOCKET socket_creation();
    23
    24
            int target_node = 4;
```

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:



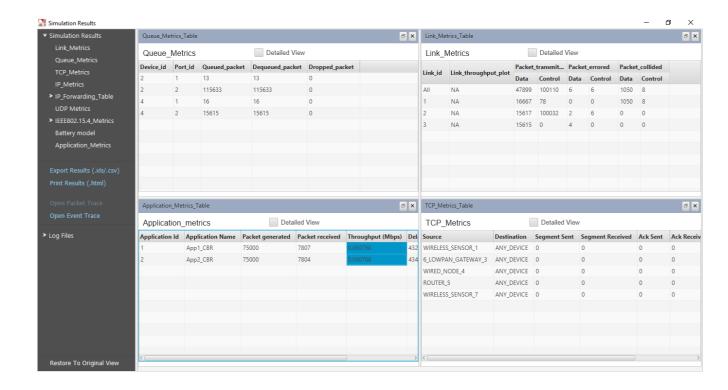
7. Right click on the solution in the solution explorer and select Rebuild.



- **8.** Upon successful build modified libTCP.dll and libEthernet.dll file gets automatically updated in the directory containing NetSim binaries. (Note: first rebuild the TCP project and then rebuild the Ethernet project)
- **9.** Run the simulation for 100 seconds.

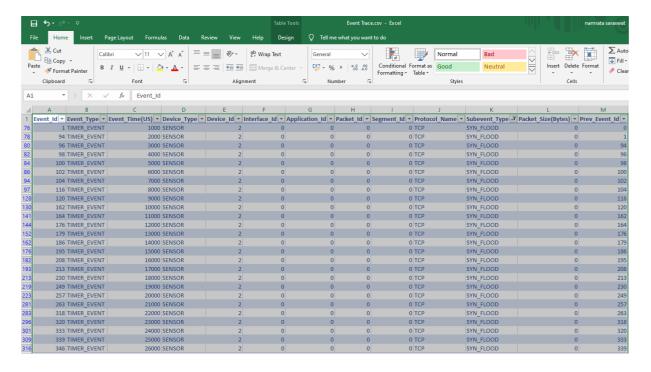
Result:

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 sends from the malicious node, in case 1 there is no malicious node so there will be no SYN_FLOOD packets.



| | Throughpu t_APP1 (Mbps) | Throughput_APP2 (Mbps) |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Case-1: Malicious Node =0 | 0.060768 | 0.060779 |
| Case-2: Malicious Node =1 | 0.048536 | 0.049747 |
| Case-3: Malicious Node =2 | 0.042496 | 0.041686 |

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 Internet of Things and run simulation.