



# Suricata for Intrusion Detection & Prevention

## Usage

- Can be configured as a **network IDS and/or IPS**.
- Open Source Tool from OISF and competitor to Snort.
- Can perform signature-based malware detection (using ET rules or pcre).
- Can block web-based attacks (SQL Injection, XSS, Directory Traversal etc.).

## IPS & IDS Mode Configuration

```
vars:
# more specific is better for alert accuracy and performance
address-groups:
#HOME_NET: "[192.168.0.0/16,10.0.0.0/8,172.16.0.0/12]"
HOME_NET: "[192.168.233.0/24]"
#HOME_NET: "[10.0.0.0/8]"
#HOME_NET: "[172.16.0.0/12]"
#HOME_NET: "any"

EXTERNAL_NET: "!$HOME_NET"
```

Compile Suricata from Source.  
Configure HOME\_NET to be the IP  
subnet ID of the NAT Interface.

```
- file-store:
  version: 2
  enabled: yes

# Set the directory for the filestore. Relative pathnames
# are contained within the "default-log-dir".
dir: filestore
```

Enable file-store to avoid any  
errors when running in IDS mode.

```
default-rule-path: /usr/share/suricata/rules

rule-files:
- local.rules
```

Create local.rules under  
/usr/share/local/rules. Change the  
default path in suricata.yaml.

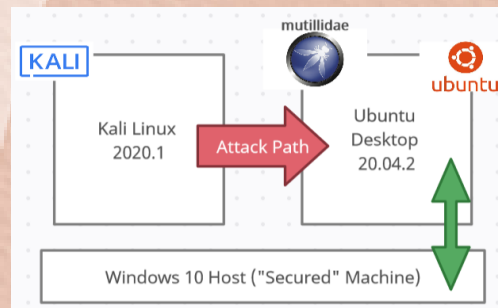
```
nfq:
  mode: accept
# repeat-mark: 1

Enable nfq mode by specifying  
"accept" for IPS functionality
```

```
Open sysctl.conf Save
/etc

27 # Uncomment the next line to enable packet
forwarding for IPv4
28 net.ipv4.ip_forward=1
```

Uncomment this line in  
/etc/sysctl.conf.



```
sudo iptables -I FORWARD -j NFQUEUE
sudo iptables -I INPUT -j NFQUEUE
sudo iptables -I OUTPUT -j NFQUEUE
```

Run the following commands to allow  
traffic to be processed by NFQueue.

```
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ sudo iptables -L
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target prot opt source destination NFQUEUE num 0
NFQUEUE all -- anywhere anywhere NFQUEUE num 0

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target prot opt source destination NFQUEUE num 0
NFQUEUE all -- anywhere anywhere NFQUEUE num 0

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target prot opt source destination NFQUEUE num 0
NFQUEUE all -- anywhere anywhere NFQUEUE num 0
```

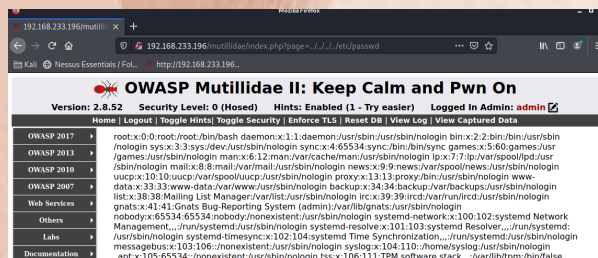
We can now run Suricata after  
this is shown.

```
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ sudo suricata -c /etc/suricata/suricata.yaml -q 0
16/8/2021 -- 12:12:17 - <Notice> - This is Suricata version 6.0.0
RELEASE running in SYSTEM mode
16/8/2021 -- 12:12:17 - <Notice> - all 6 packet processing threads
, 4 management threads initialized, engine started.
```

## Test 1: Directory Attack (IDS mode)

```
Open local.rules Save
/usr/share/suricata/rules

4 alert http any any -> $HOME_NET 80 (msg:"Directory Traversal
Attack";flow:established,to_server; http.uri.raw; pcre:"/(\\-
%2E)\\.\\.((\\%2E)\\.\\.((\\%2F)\\|/)/i"; classtype:web-application-
attack; sid:3; rev:1;)
```



```
ubuntu@ubuntu:~/Desktop$ tail -f /var/log/suricata/fast.log
08/16/2021-11:11:19.859256 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)] [Pri
ority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44764 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-11:11:19.858350 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)] [Pri
ority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44764 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-11:11:19.859359 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)] [Pri
ority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44764 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-11:11:19.860009 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)] [Pri
ority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44764 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-11:11:19.860164 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)] [Pri
ority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44764 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-11:11:19.860658 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)] [Pri
ority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44764 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-11:11:19.860927 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)] [Pri
ority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44764 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-11:11:24.861982 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)] [Pri
ority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44764 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-11:11:24.862864 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)] [Pri
ority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44764 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-11:11:02.188097 [**] [1:3:1] Directory Traversal Attack [**] [Classification: Web
Application Attack] [Priority: 1] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44768 -> 192.168.233.196:80
```

A log entry is created for  
the attack!

## Test 2: EICAR Test Malware (IPS mode)

```
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ python -m SimpleHTTPServer 9000
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 9000 ...
```



```
Open local.rules Save
/usr/share/suricata/rules

20 drop http any any < $HOME_NET any (msg:"Eicar Test
Malware";content:"$EICAR-STANDARD-ANTIVIRUS-TEST-FILE!$";sid:
12;rev:1;)
```



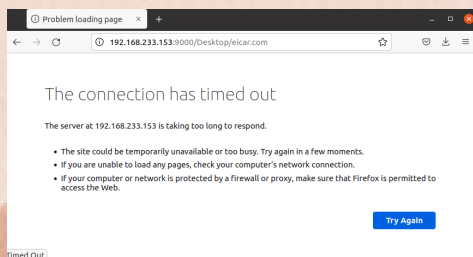
```
Directory listing for /Desktop/:
< > ↻
192.168.233.153:9000/Desktop/

Directory listing for /Desktop/

• CTF/
• EICAR
• eicar.com
• firefox-esr.desktop
• SonicVisualiser-4-x86_64.AppImage
• terminator.desktop
• WindowsPatch_will.exe
```

Download eicar to Desktop and use python to  
host a simple HTTP server on Kali Linux.

Create a drop rule specifying the signature  
of eicar (content can be found by opening  
eicar in a hex editor of choice).



```
ubuntu@ubuntu:~/Desktop$ tail -f /var/log/suricata/fast.log
08/16/2021-12:49:05.262102 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)]
[Priority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44812 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-12:49:05.262323 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)]
[Priority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44812 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-12:49:05.428665 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)]
[Priority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44812 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-12:49:05.421161 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)]
[Priority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44812 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-12:49:05.427753 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)]
[Priority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44812 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-12:49:05.432116 [**] [1:2:1] Access Web Server [**] [Classification: (null)]
[Priority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:44812 -> 192.168.233.196:80
08/16/2021-12:49:21.894299 [Drop] [**] [1:12:1] Eicar Test Malware [**] [Classificatio
n: (null)] [Priority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:9000 -> 192.168.233.196:38758
08/16/2021-12:49:21.894299 [Drop] [**] [1:12:1] Eicar Test Malware [**] [Classificatio
n: (null)] [Priority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:9000 -> 192.168.233.196:38758
```

Drop Log Entries created; the source log  
being that of the http server (9000).

## Test 3: Nmap Partial "Masking" (IPS mode)

```
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ sudo nmap 192.168.233.196
[sudo] password for kali:
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-08-15 21:36 EDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.233.196
Host is up (0.00023s latency).
Not shown: 995 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
21/tcp    open  ftp
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
443/tcp   open  https
3306/tcp  open  mysql
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:C9:25:D3 (VMware)

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.27 seconds
```



```
Open local.rules Save
/usr/share/suricata/rules

10 # allow itself and secured machine to access services
11 drop tcp !192.168.233.1,192.168.233.196 any -> 192.168.233.196 !80
(msg:"Possible Nmap TCP SYN Scan/Disallowed Traffic";
flow:from_client;flags:S; sid:5;rev:1;)
```



```
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ sudo nmap 192.168.233.196
[sudo] password for kali:
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-08-15 23:45 EDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.233.196
Host is up (0.00063s latency).
Not shown: 999 filtered ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
80/tcp    open  http
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:C9:25:D3 (VMware)

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 4.46 seconds
```

Perform another Nmap Scan after  
enabling suricata. Only port 80  
will appear on the results.



```
ryanng@LAPTOP-SRQ026CH:/mnt/c/Users/maste$ ssh ubuntu@192.168.233.196
ubuntu@192.168.233.196's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 20.04.2 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.11.0-25-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/advantage

190 updates can be installed immediately.
0 of these updates are security updates.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Your Hardware Enablement Stack (HWE) is supported until April 2025.
Last login: Mon Aug 16 09:37:04 2021 from 192.168.233.153
ubuntu@ubuntu:~$ ifconfig
ens33: flags=163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 192.168.233.196 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 192.168.233.255
```



```
ubuntu@ubuntu:~/Desktop$ tail -f /var/log/suricata/fast.log
08/16/2021-11:46:29.753447 [Drop] [**] [1:5:1] Possible Nmap TCP SYN Scan/Disallow
ed Traffic [**] [Classification: (null)] [Priority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:63717
-> 192.168.233.196:109
08/16/2021-11:46:29.753338 [Drop] [**] [1:5:1] Possible Nmap TCP SYN Scan/Disallow
ed Traffic [**] [Classification: (null)] [Priority: 3] (TCP) 192.168.233.153:63717
-> 192.168.233.196:2702
```

Log entries are created for the drop action.

-- Done by Ng Chin Tiong Ryan (P03) // S10196904C --