Exercise 2 – Lab 1 Man in the Middle

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1 Listening to SSH over the wire

In the lab, an ssh connection was made to an amazon aws server. When the client and server initially connect, a sparse amount of information is sent, and can be gleaned from the packets. As can be noted from the screenshots, the exact version of SSH and its underlying version can be seen, per 1. The kind of key encryption is discussed, but not the keys themselves. And... that's it. All other information from that point on is cyphertext, and cannot be read unless in possession of the encryption underneath it.

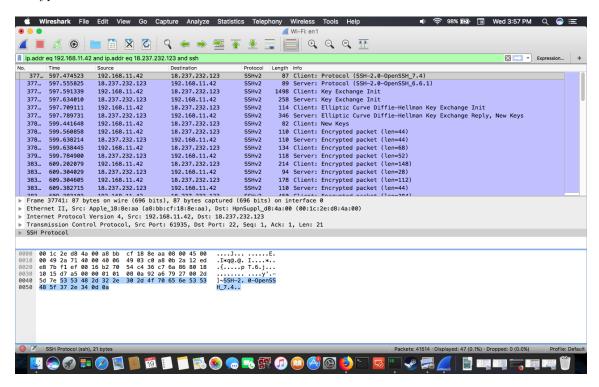


Figure 1: Client information visible

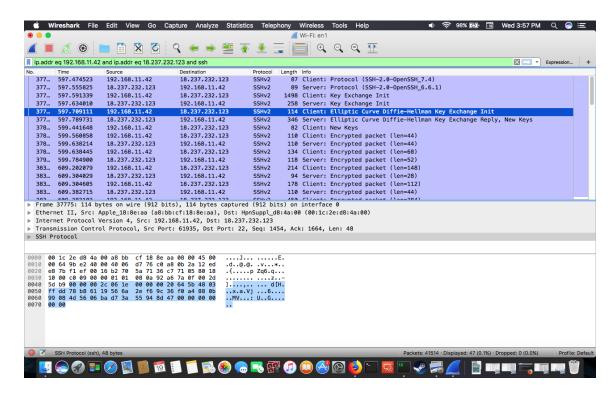


Figure 2:

2 Listening to Telnet over the wire

Telnet was certainly not as secure, as every part of the transmission was in cleartext. The exact kind of client could be seen per 4, as well as the target user and password, as in 6. By extension, all details sent over the connection, as with any other cleartext connection, could be grabbed off of the wire or out of the air. Telnet is by no means a secure program to use for connecting to a remote server.

3 Conclusion

Encryption is an invaluable tool for keeping data secure, and should not be ignored. In the modern era, there is no excuse to be using tools like Telnet, or similarly unsecured protocols like HTTP when confidential information is relevant. If you must use an unsecured protocol or program, you must assume that someone other than your intended recipient is grabbing and perusing that information. For some small website that has no user information or sensitive data being transmitted, just site content, that may be fine, but for anything with a login page, that's not okay.

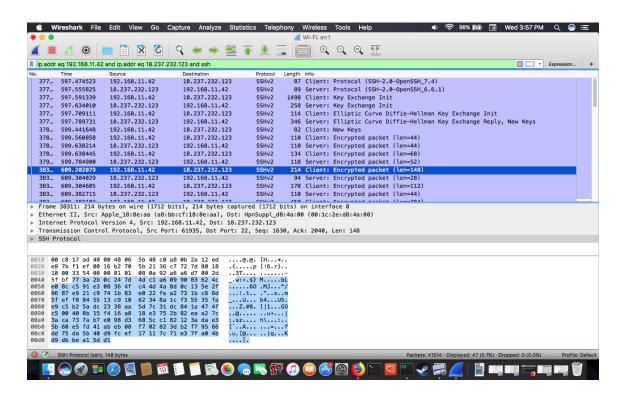


Figure 3:

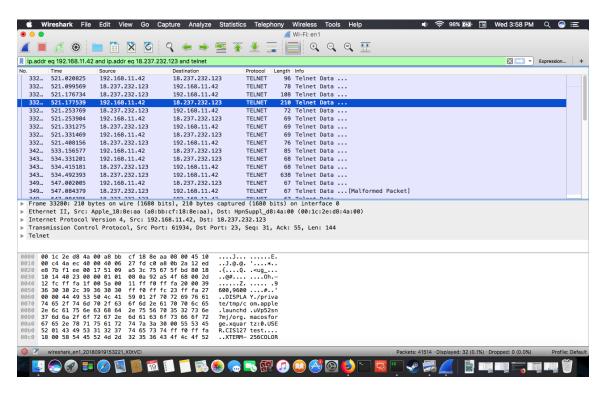


Figure 4: Information in the clear! Not good.

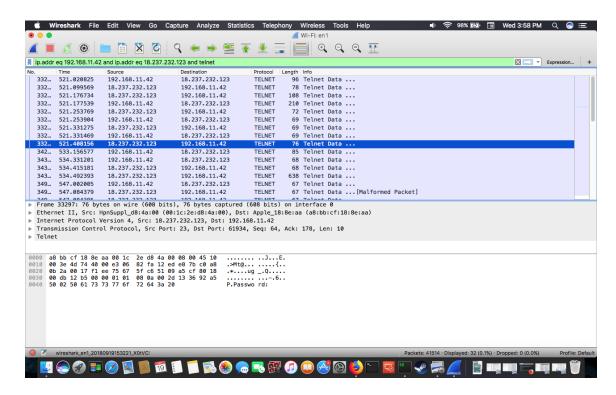


Figure 5:

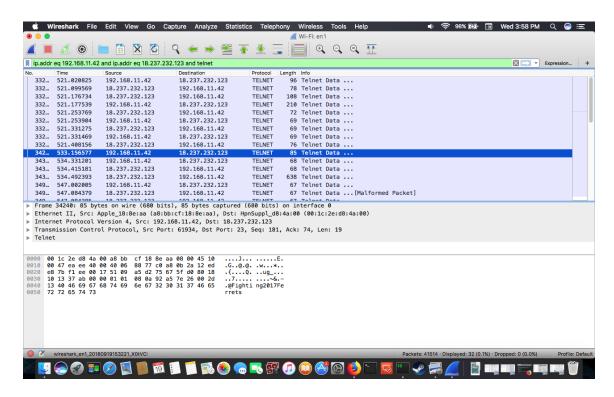


Figure 6: Password response is Fighting2017Ferrets