Pre-Skill Task:

1. What is packet capturing, and why is it important in network analysis and security?

Packet capturing involves intercepting and logging data packets traveling across a network, which is crucial for network analysis, troubleshooting, and identifying security threats like unauthorized access or data breaches.

2. Can you explain the purpose and functionality of Airodump-ng?

Airodump-ng is a tool in the Aircrack-ng suite that captures and displays wireless network packets, helping users identify networks, monitor traffic, and collect data necessary for cracking WEP/WPA keys.

3. What are the prerequisites and system requirements for using Airodump-ng effectively?

A compatible wireless network adapter that supports monitor mode and packet injection, a Linux-based OS (like Kali Linux), and root access are required for using Airodump-ng effectively.

4. How does Airodump-ng capture packets from wireless networks? Explain the underlying mechanism.

Airodump-ng puts the wireless adapter into monitor mode, allowing it to capture all packets within range, regardless of the intended recipient, enabling comprehensive network analysis.

5. What are the different types of information that can be obtained by analyzing captured packets with Airodump-ng?

Airodump-ng can reveal SSIDs, MAC addresses, signal strength, encryption types, associated clients, and data packets, providing insights into network structure and potential security weaknesses.

Viva questions:

1. How can Airodump-ng help in analyzing wireless network security vulnerabilities, such as identifying rogue access points or detecting unauthorized clients?

Airodump-ng can identify rogue access points by displaying SSIDs and BSSIDs of all nearby networks, including those not officially registered, and detect unauthorized clients by showing all connected devices, including any unexpected or unknown MAC addresses.

2. What are the different filtering options available in Airodump-ng, and how can they be used to focus on specific network or device information?

Filtering options include using the --bssid option to focus on a specific network, --channel to limit capture to a single channel, and --write to save data to a file; these options help isolate specific networks or devices for detailed analysis.

3. Explain the significance of different fields displayed in the Airodump-ng output, such as BSSID, ESSID, Power, Channel, and Encryption.

BSSID: MAC address of the access point; **ESSID**: Network name; **Power**: Signal strength of the network; **Channel**: Frequency channel the network is operating on; **Encryption**: Type of security protocol used (e.g., WEP, WPA).

4. How can you interpret and analyze the collected data in Airodump-ng, such as identifying patterns, trends, or potential security issues?

Look for unusual SSIDs or high numbers of disconnected clients, analyze encryption types for weaknesses (e.g., WEP), and identify patterns in network traffic to spot anomalies or potential attacks.

5. Are there any limitations or challenges associated with using Airodump-ng for packet capturing and analysis? How can these limitations be mitigated or overcome?

Limitations include capturing only on one channel at a time and potential interference from other networks; these can be mitigated by using tools like airodump-ng in combination with channel hopping and by ensuring the adapter supports packet injection and monitor mode.