



The Problem

DNS Tunneling presents a serious threat to business and security as a whole:

- Is a very flexible attack, can be used for C&C, exfiltration and others
- Is hard to be detected because of the DNS protocol nature



Our focus

- We will monitor the network traffic patterns of known good users to understand how they behave.
- Using that behaviour we will try to establish a profile.
- Based on that profile we will try to distinguish the normal traffic from anomalous traffic

Used Datasets

Not malicious Source



The non-malicious datasets should be obtained from an IEEE dataset w/10 days of DNS traffic put it has some heird communications.

Malicious Source



Our malicious dataset will be generated in-house through the use of virtualization (VMs), DNScat2 (DNS Tunneling Software) and bind9(DNS software).

Test Scenario

```
client@vm:~$ sudo tail -6 /etc/bind/named.conf.local
    zone "evilhacker.com" {
         type forward;
        forwarders {
             192.168.122.78;
        };
    };
                                                                                      External DNS Server
                                                                      Other Domains
                                    -DNS Queries-
                                                                     -Malicious Domain-
                                                    Local DNS Server
                                                                                     Malicious DNS Server
client@vm:~/dnscat2/client$ tail -4 /etc/resolv.conf
nameserver 192.168.122.58
```

nameserver 127.0.0.53 options edns0 trust-ad

search .

General approach of our attack

- 1° Attacker establishes a DNS connection with a client.
- 2 ° Attacker opens a shell session through DNS
- 3 ° Commands like pwd, ls, cat, echo are made to search, read and modify files in the client.
- 4 ° A selected file is exfiltrated.



Our Types of Attacks

Our attackers used DNS tunneling to send commands via DNS.

- Attack 1 uses DNS tunneling with 3 seconds delay.
- Attack 2 uses DNS tunneling with 3 seconds steady delay.
- Attack 3 uses DNS tunneling with 5 seconds delay.
- Attack 4 uses DNS tunneling with 5 seconds steady delay.

Delay -> Maximum delay between packets

Steady -> The system consistently waits for the specified delay before transmitting the next message



Data Processing

- Collect raw packet data with a sampling period of 5 and 10 seconds.
- Filter data to allow only DNS or Secure DNS packets.
- Detect anomalous user behaviour
- Observation Windows :
 - -Size of and 10 minutes
 - -Sliding 1 every minute

Extracted Metrics

 To extract these metrics a custom application was written using python and pyshark library

• Metrics:

- Number of DNS Query packets
- Number of upload bytes
- Number of DNS Reply Packets
- Number of upload bytes
- -Sum time between a DNS Reply and the last DNS Query packet
- -Sum time between two sequential DNS Query packets
- -Sum time between two sequential DNS packets
- -Min time between two sequential DNS packets
- Max time between two sequential DNS packets

Extracted Features

- To extract these metrics a custom application was written using python and numpy library
- Number of DNS Query / DNS Reply packets:
 - Mean, Median, Standard Deviation, Variance
- Ratio Upload Bytes/DNS Query and Download Bytes/DNS Reply:
 - Mean, Median, Standard Deviation, Variance

Extracted Features

- Sum of time between DNS response time / DNS Queries / DNS Packets:
 - Mean, Median, Standard Deviation, Variance
- Min/Max Time between DNS Packets:
 - Mean, Median, Standard Deviation, Variance
- Periodicity:
 - Time between DNS Queries
 - Min time between DNS packets
 - Max time between DNS packets
 - Covariance:
 - DNS Query and Upload bytes
 - Min and Max time between DNS packets

Features Processing

- Features are split into 2 dataset
 - Training, containing 50% of all normal features
 - Testing, containing the other 50% of all normal features and all anomaly features
- The data is scaled using a standard scaler
 - Fitted on the training data
 - It is recommended for support vector machines
- PCA is performed to reduce the number of features

DNS Attack 1

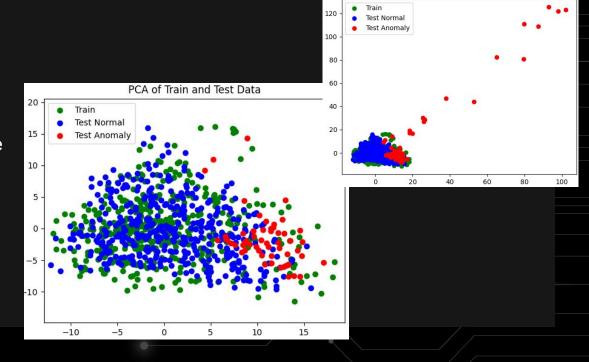
Through DNS this attacker sends responses with injected sh commands with

steady non active for 3 seconds.

Window size : 10 minutes

Sliding window every : 1 minute

Sampling period : 5 seconds



PCA of Train and Test Data

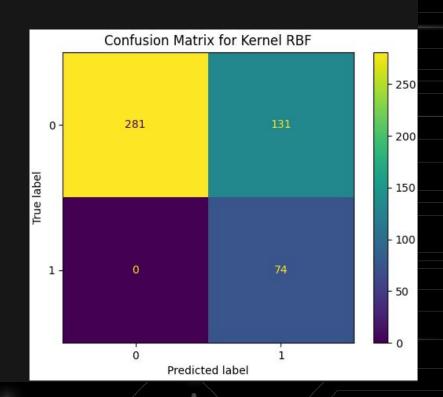
DNS Attack 1 - RBF results

Accuracy: 73.04%

Precision: 36.09%

Recall: 100%

F-1: 53.04%



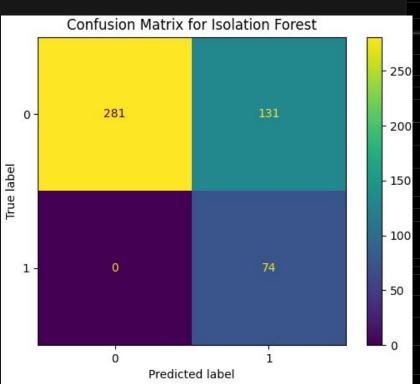
DNS Attack 1 - Isolation Forest results Confusion Matrix for Isolation Forest

Accuracy: 73.04%

Precision: 36.09%

Recall: 100%

F-1: 53.04%



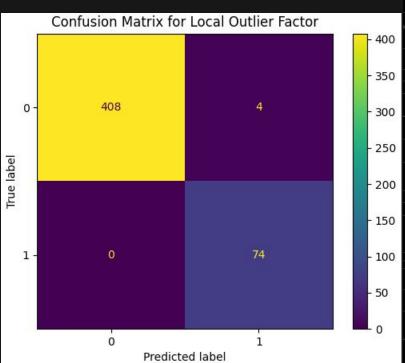
DNS Attack 1 - LocalOutlierFactor results

Accuracy: 99.17%

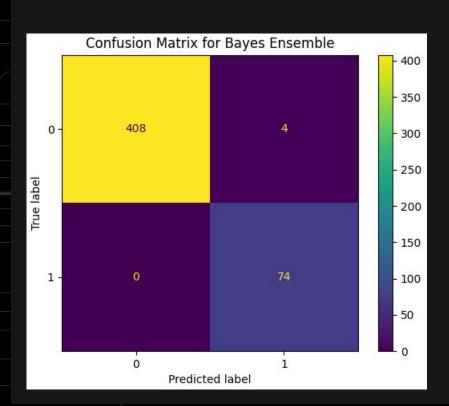
Precision: 94.87%

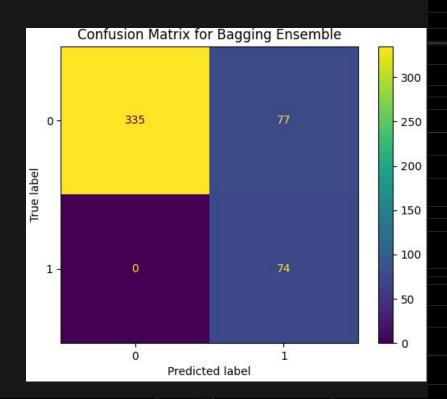
Recall: 100%

F-1: 97.36%



DNS Attack 1 - Ensemble





DNS Attack 2

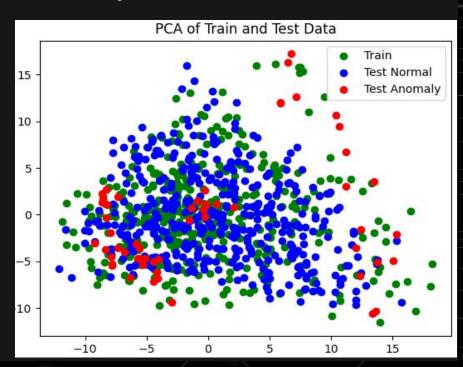
Through DNS this attacker sends responses with injected sh commands with

steady active for 3 seconds.

Window size : 10 minutes

Sliding window every : 1 minute

Sampling period : 5 seconds



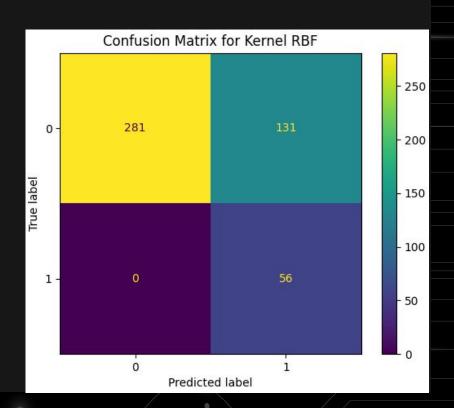
DNS Attack 2 - RBF results

Accuracy: 72.00%

Precision: 29.94%

Recall: 100%

F-1: 46.09%



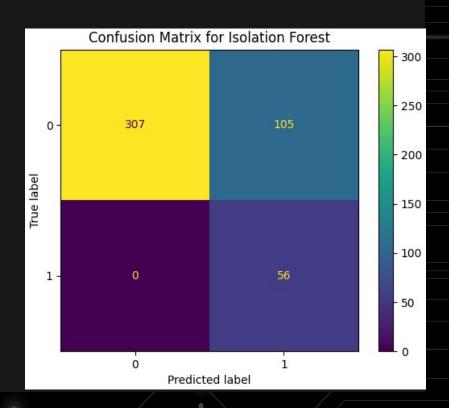
DNS Attack 2 - Isolation Forest results

Accuracy: 77.56%

Precision: 34.78%

Recall: 100%

F-1: 51.61%



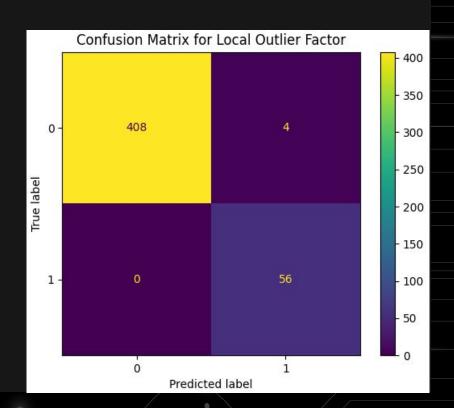
DNS Attack 2 - LocalOutlierFactor results

Accuracy: 99.14%

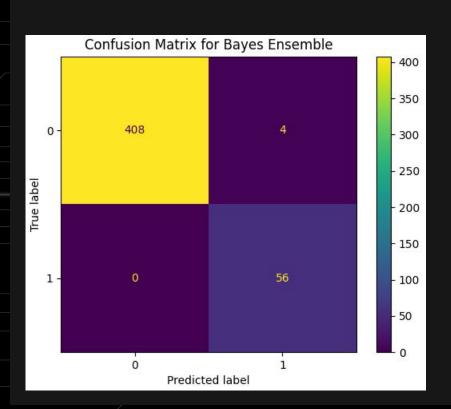
Precision: 93.33%

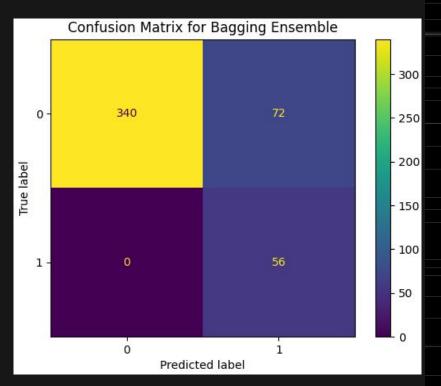
Recall: 100%

F-1: 96.55%



DNS Attack 2 - Ensemble





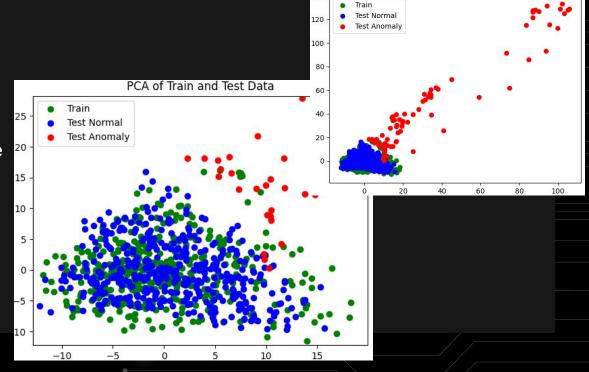
DNS Attack 3

Through DNS this attacker sends responses with injected sh commands with steady non active for 5 seconds.

Window size : 10 minutes

Sliding window every : 1 minute

Sampling period : 10 seconds



PCA of Train and Test Data

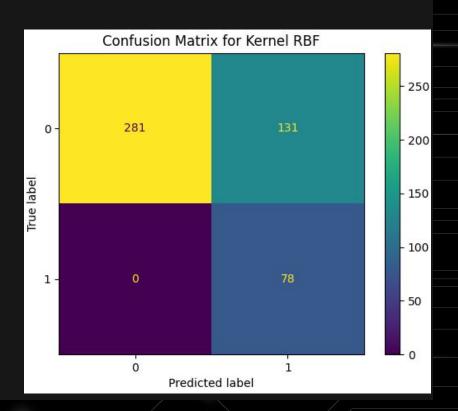
DNS Attack 3 - RBF results

Accuracy: 73.26%

Precision: 37.32%

Recall: 100%

F-1: 54.35%



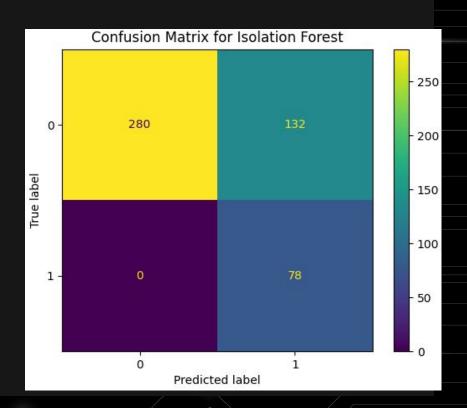
DNS Attack 3 - Isolation Forest results

Accuracy: 73.06%

Precision: 37.14%

Recall: 100%

F-1: 54.16%



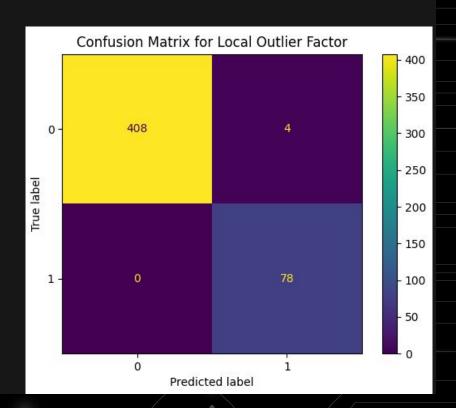
DNS Attack 3 - LocalOutlierFactor results

Accuracy: 99,18%

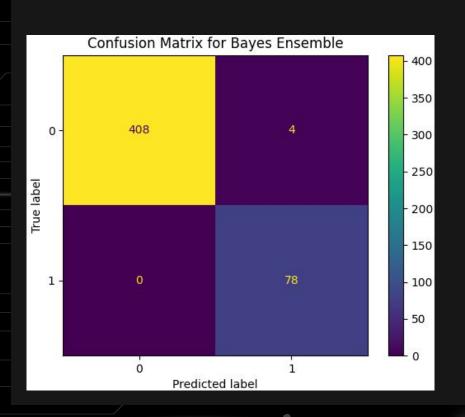
Precision: 95.12%

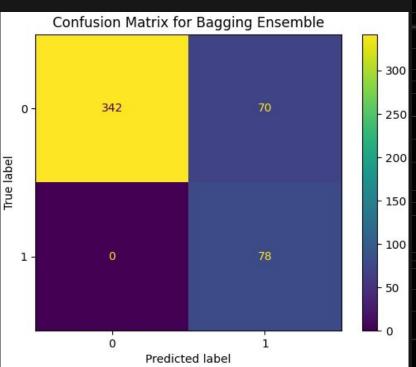
Recall: 100%

F-1: 97.50%



DNS Attack 3 - Ensemble

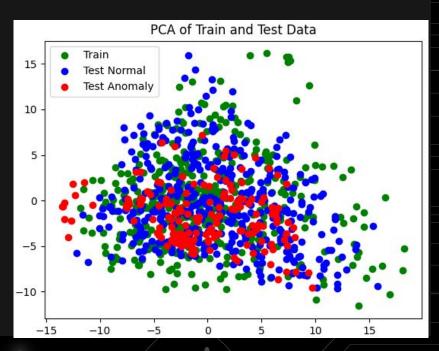




DNS Attack 4

Through DNS this attacker sends responses with injected sh commands with steady non active for 5 seconds.

- Window size : 10 minutes
- Sliding window every : 1 minute
- Sampling period : 10 seconds



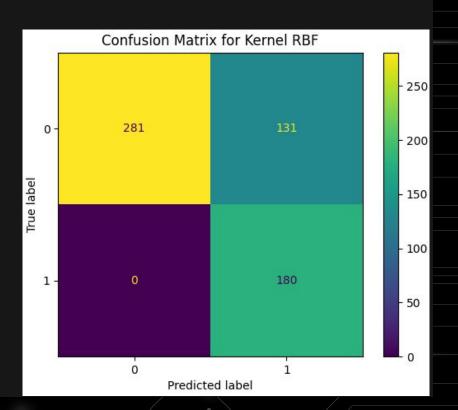
DNS Attack 4 - RBF results

Accuracy: 77.87%

Precision: 57.87%

Recall: 100%

F-1: 73.31%



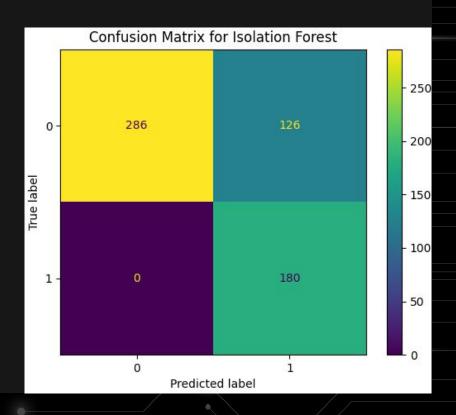
DNS Attack 4 - Isolation Forest results

Accuracy: 78.71%

Precision: 58.82%

Recall: 100%

F-1: 74.07%



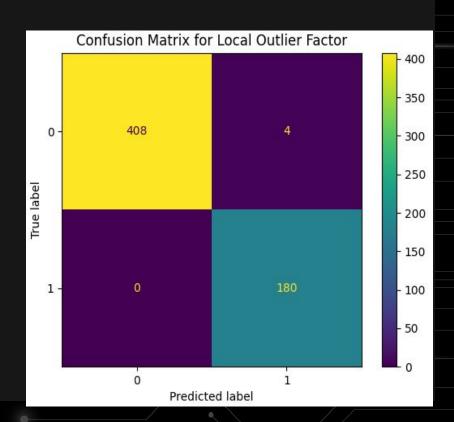
DNS Attack 4 - LocalOutlierFactor results

Accuracy: 99.32%

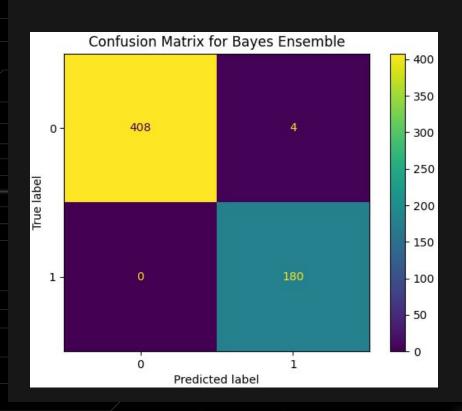
Precision: 97.82%

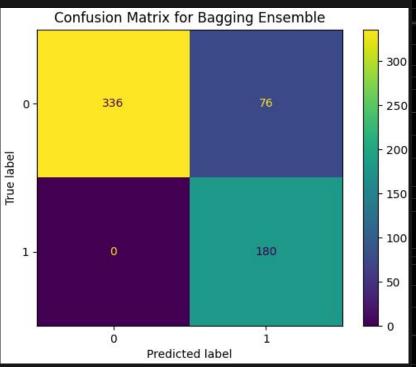
Recall: 100%

F-1: 98.90%



DNS Attack 4 - Ensemble





Any questions?

References

https://ieee-dataport.org/documents/ti-2016-dns-dataset https://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/classes.html https://github.com/KimiNewt/pyshark https://numpy.org/doc/stable/reference/index.html#reference

https://qithub.com/Tiagura/TPR Project -> project code