

COMP 8006 Assignment 2

Network Security Administration 2

SSH Monitor Application

By: Derek Wong (A01042588)

Instructor: Aman Abdulla

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Objectives

Design, implement, and test a simple monitor application that will detect password-guessing attempts against the SSH server and block that IP using Netfilter:

- Application will monitor the **/var/log/secure** file (keep in mind different distributions will have different formats) and detect password-guessing attempts and then use iptables to block that IP.
- Application will get user specified parameters and continuously monitor the log file specified.
- As soon as monitor detects that the number of attempts from a particular IP has gone over a user-specified threshold, it will generate a rule to block that IP.
- If the user has specified a time limit for a block, your application will flush the rule from Firewall rule set upon expiration of the block time limit.
- Design test procedure that tests application under variety of conditions.

Approach

The application will be implemented using a python script involving subprocesses that invoke bash shell, commands *iptables* and *tail* commands to create the firewall filter and to continuously monitor firewall.

From the command line, the number of attempts before blocking the IP and the time limit in seconds for blocking the IP will be given as arguments. If the number of attempts is not specified or invalid, a default value will be used instead. In the case of time limit, an indefinite time value will be enforced, and the firewall filter will not expire.

To test the functionality of the program, we will vary the specified command line values and attack the server with multiple clients simultaneously. During these tests, wireshark will be used to analyze the inbound and outbound traffic between the server running the firewall rules and the client making the connection attempts. Wireshark captures and iptables log on server host will confirm the functionality of the firewall and whether it meets the requirements.

Test Environment Network Architecture

The testbed will have one machine operating as a server which also serves as the firewall. Two clients will be used as attacking machines targeting the server with unsuccessful password attempts.

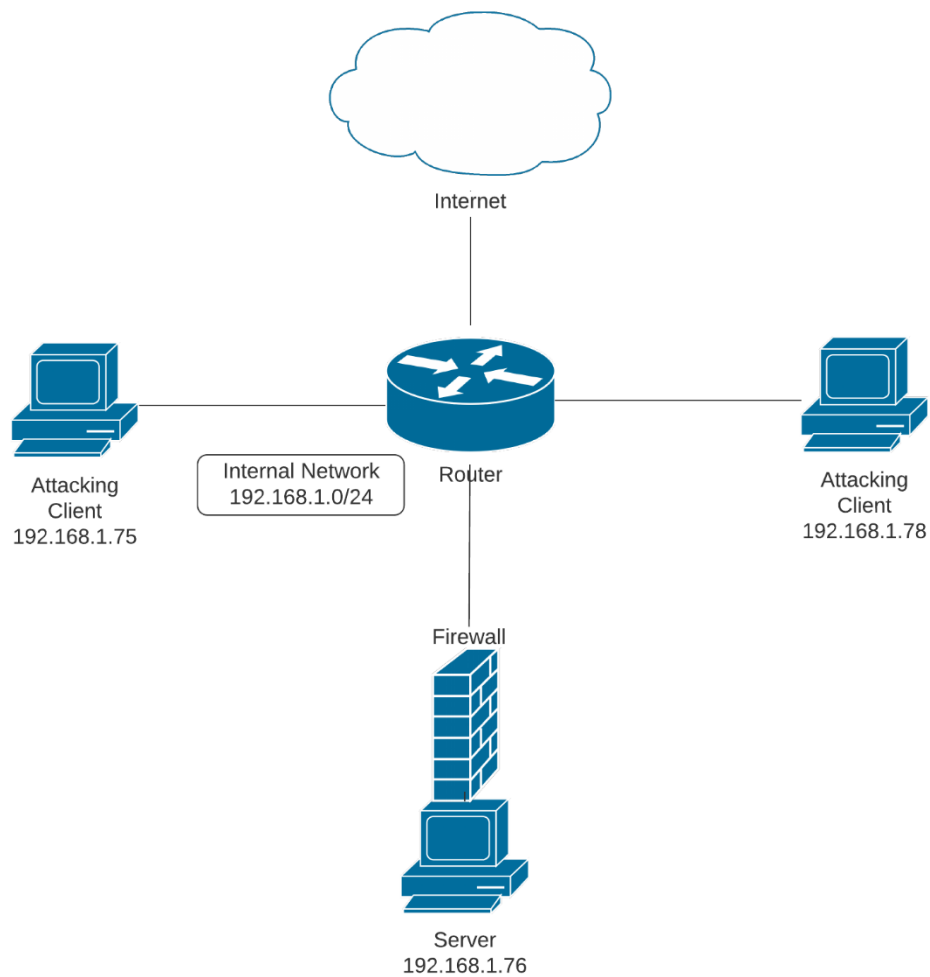


Figure 1: Network Architecture of test environment

Script Design

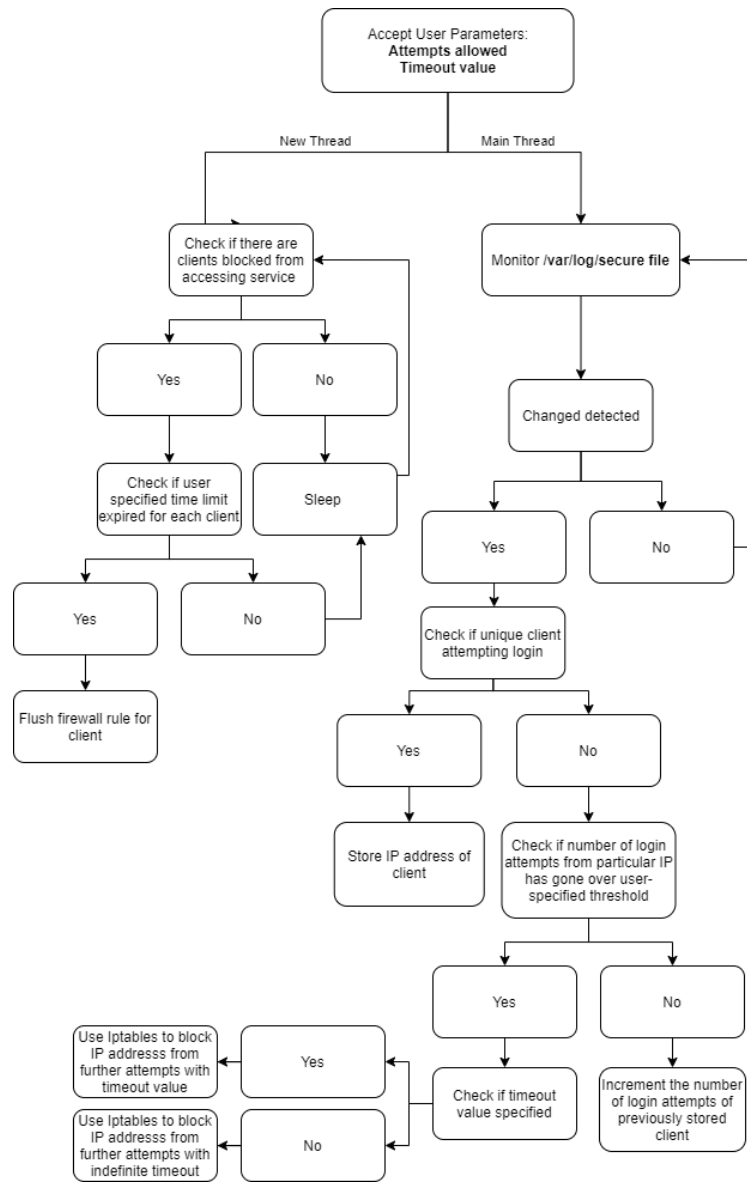


Figure 2: Application logic flow chart

Pseudocode

```
global var failed_client_attempts{}
FAILED_MATCH_STRING = "Failed password"

usage():
    print help for program usage

check_blocked_clients(num_attempts):
    while true:
        for ip_address in failed_client_attempts:
            if client is not timeout indefinitely and client exceeded maximum attempts:
                if timer expired:
                    remove iptables filter
                    remove ip from failed_client_attempts
        sleep(polling_rate)

check_secure_logs(num_attempts, timeout_sec):
    while true:
        poll_and_monitor_the_var_log_secure_file
        if line_logged:
            max_login_handler(num_attempts, timeout_sec)

max_login_handler(line, num_attempts, timeout_sec):
    match_regex_for_FAILED_MATCH_STRING
    if match:
        ip_addr = obtain_substring_for_IP_address
        if ip_addr in failed_client_attempts:
            if num_login_attempts == num_attempts:
                if timeout_sec is not indefinite:
                    update_failed_client_attempts_to_include_blocking_time
                drop_all_incoming_traffic_to_ip_addr
            increment_client_failed_attempts_by_ip_addr_by_1
        else:
            create_entry_in_failed_client_attempts_and_initialize_failed_attempts_to_1

main:
    validate_running_with_superuser_privileges
    initialize_num_attempts_timeout_sec_to_default_values
    get_command_line_arguments_for_num_attempts_and_timeout_sec

    create_daemon_thread(target=check_blocked_clients(num_attempts))
    check_secure_logs(num_attempts, timeout_sec)

    if_keyboard_interrupt:
        flush_iptables_rules
```

User Manual

Background

The monitoring script, **ssh_mon.py**, was executed on Linux Fedora 32 running on a Raspberry Pi 3 B+ (Quad Core).

Program Usage

```
$ ./ssh_mon.py [-h] -a <num_attempts> -t <timeout_sec>
```

Example

```
$ ./ssh_mon.py -a 2 -t 15
```

This script will allow clients a maximum of 2 attempts before creating a filter rule that will prevent the client from attempting access to the server for a timeout duration of 15 seconds.

If either of the arguments are given invalid parameters, default values will be used instead (see Important Macros).

Important Macros

```
# Symbolic Constants
DEFAULT_ATTEMPTS_ALLOWED = 3
INDEFINITE_TIMEOUT_SECONDS = "INDEFINITE"
SECURE_LOG_FILE = "/var/log/secure"
FAILED_MATCH_STRING = "Failed password"
BLOCKED_CLIENT_ATTEMPTS_KEY = "num_attempts"
BLOCKED_CLIENT_TIMEOUT_KEY = "timeout_end"
BLOCKED_CLIENT_POLLING_RATE = 0.3
DATETIME_FORMAT = "%H:%M:%S"
```

DEFAULT_ATTEMPTS_ALLOWED = 3

This setting allows you to specify the maximum unauthorized attempts to the server.

BLOCKED_CLIENT_POLLING_RATE = 0.3

This setting allows you to specify the polling rate of the monitoring function to see when a blocked client's timeout has expired.

Testing Design

Network Settings	Configuration
SSH Server	192.168.1.76
Attacking Client 1	192.168.1.75
Attacking Client 2	192.168.1.78

Test Cases

Case #	Test Description	Tool Used	Expected Result	Pass/Failed
1	<p>Verify SSH server enforces default number of attempts when monitor is run with invalid number of attempt argument.</p> <p>Attacking Client 1 will send unauthorized attempts to connect with SSH server that exceed maximum attempts allowed.</p>	wireshark, iptables	<p>SSH server shows unauthorized attempts to login with failed password in /var/log/secure file.</p> <p>Once unauthorized attempts exceed the maximum attempts allowed, iptables is populated with filter to block all traffic coming from attacking client 1 to SSH server for specified timeout in seconds. After specified timeout is reached, the filter rule is flushed. Attacking client may reconnect.</p> <p>Packet capture on SSH server should show received packets from attacking client 1 but packets indicating authentication failure.</p> <p>Packet capture on attacking client 1 should shows received packets from SSH server but no established SSH conversation.</p>	Pass. Details are attached below in confirmatory data.
2	<p>Verify SSH server enforces default timeout in seconds when monitor is run with invalid timeout in seconds argument.</p> <p>Attacking Client 1 will send unauthorized attempts to connect with SSH server that exceed maximum attempts allowed.</p>	wireshark, iptables	<p>SSH server shows unauthorized attempts to login with failed password in /var/log/secure file.</p> <p>Once unauthorized attempts exceed the maximum attempts allowed, iptables is populated with filter to block all traffic coming from attacking client 1 to SSH server for an indefinite time.</p> <p>Packet capture on SSH server should show received packets from attacking client 1 but packets indicating authentication failure.</p> <p>Packet capture on attacking client 1 should shows received packets from SSH server but no established SSH conversation.</p>	Pass. Details are attached below in confirmatory data.

3	<p>Verify SSH server enforces user specified number of attempts allowed and timeout in seconds when monitor is run with valid arguments.</p> <p>Attacking Client 1 will send unauthorized attempts to connect with SSH server that exceed maximum attempts allowed.</p>	<p>wireshark, iptables</p>	<p>SSH server shows unauthorized attempts to login with failed password in /var/log/secure file.</p> <p>Once unauthorized attempts exceed the maximum attempts allowed, iptables is populated with filter to block all traffic coming from attacking client 1 to SSH server for specified timeout in seconds. After specified timeout is reached, the filter rule is flushed. Attacking client may reconnect.</p> <p>Packet capture on SSH server should show received packets from attacking client 1 but packets indicating authentication failure.</p> <p>Packet capture on attacking client 1 should shows received packets from SSH server but no established SSH conversation.</p>	<p>Pass. Details are attached below in confirmatory data.</p>
4	<p>Verify SSH server enforces command line specified parameters to multiple simultaneous attacking clients.</p> <p>Attacking Client 1 and 2 will send unauthorized attempts to connect with SSH server that exceed maximum attempts allowed.</p>	<p>wireshark, iptables</p>	<p>SSH server shows unauthorized attempts to login with failed password in /var/log/secure file.</p> <p>Once unauthorized attempts exceed the maximum attempts allowed, iptables is populated with filter to block all traffic coming from attacking client 1 and client 2 to SSH server for specified timeout in seconds. After specified timeout is reached, the filter rule is flushed. Attacking clients may reconnect.</p> <p>Packet capture on SSH server should show received packets from attacking client 1 but packets indicating authentication failure.</p> <p>Packet capture on attacking client 1 should shows received packets from SSH server but no established SSH conversation.</p>	<p>Pass. Details are attached below in confirmatory data.</p>

Confirmatory Data

Case 1

- For this test, the following arguments are given to the monitoring program along with the associated unauthorized attempts to connect to the server and measures taken. An invalid argument is given to the maximum attempts parameter, so the monitoring program defaults to a value of 3.

```
[root@localhost Assignment-2]# ./ssh-mon.py -a invalid -t 15
Number of attempts value invalid: Default value of 3 used
Timeout of 15 seconds will be given after number of allowed attempts exceeded
Feb 16 08:34:35 localhost sshd[11767]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45846 ssh2
Feb 16 08:34:42 localhost sshd[11767]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45846 ssh2
Feb 16 08:34:48 localhost sshd[11767]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45846 ssh2
Feb 16 08:35:05 localhost sshd[11769]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45848 ssh2
Blocking IP: 192.168.1.75 for 15 seconds
Blocking IP: 192.168.1.75      Time: 08:35:05
Unblocking IP: 192.168.1.75   Time: 08:35:20
Thread Unblocked at 08:35:20
```

- Before the test, iptables show:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
[root@localhost radiant]#
```

- During the test when attacker 1 exceeds maximum allowed attempts of 4 , iptables show:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
DROP       all  --  192.168.1.75          0.0.0.0/0

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
[root@localhost radiant]#
```

Iptables filters all inbound traffic to the server. This confirms the working functionality to verify the test case.

- After the timeout value of 15 seconds, iptables shows:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source               destination

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source               destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source               destination
[root@localhost radiant]#
```

All rules are flushed, this confirms that our monitoring script was able to successfully remove the filter after the timeout completes.

- The log file /var/log/secure shows:

```
Feb 16 08:34:33 localhost sshd[11767]: pam_unix(sshd:auth): authentication failure; logname=uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.75 user=radiant
Feb 16 08:34:35 localhost sshd[11767]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45846 ssh2
Feb 16 08:34:42 localhost sshd[11767]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45846 ssh2
Feb 16 08:34:48 localhost sshd[11767]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45846 ssh2
Feb 16 08:34:50 localhost sshd[11767]: Connection closed by authenticating user radiant 192.168.1.75 port 45846 [preauth]
Feb 16 08:34:50 localhost sshd[11767]: PAM 2 more authentication failures; logname=uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.75 user=radiant
Feb 16 08:35:02 localhost sshd[11769]: pam_unix(sshd:auth): authentication failure; logname=uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.75 user=radiant
Feb 16 08:35:05 localhost sshd[11769]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45848 ssh2
Feb 16 08:35:30 localhost sshd[11769]: Accepted password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45848 ssh2
Feb 16 08:35:30 localhost sshd[11769]: pam_unix(sshd:session): session opened for user radiant by (uid=0)
```

After the timeout, the attacking client may reconnect to the server

- Server packet capture

Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
75.37.181943	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
76.37.185678	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7481] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288268479 TSecr=327025328 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
77.37.488017	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
78.37.411259	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7481] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288268703 TSecr=3270253552 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
79.37.845949	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
80.37.851436	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7483] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288261143 TSecr=3270253992 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
81.38.758088	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
82.38.778237	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7484] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288262863 TSecr=3270254904 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
83.40.545998	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
84.40.555877	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7485] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288263848 TSecr=3270256696 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
85.44.862986	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
86.44.874399	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7486] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288267367 TSecr=3270260216 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
87.51.046812	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
88.51.051355	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7487] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288274343 TSecr=3270267192 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
89.60.385279	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	214	Client: Encrypted packet (len=148)
90.60.385397	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	66	22 → 45848 [ACK] Seq=1790 Ack=2086 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=3270276531 TSecr=288283677
91.60.523275	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	94	Server: Encrypted packet (len=28)
92.60.528284	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66	45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2086 Ack=1818 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288283821 TSecr=3270276669
93.60.528373	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	178	Client: Encrypted packet (len=112)
94.60.528440	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	66	22 → 45848 [ACK] Seq=1818 Ack=2118 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=3270276674 TSecr=288283821
95.60.685520	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	694	Server: Encrypted packet (len=628)
96.60.611596	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66	45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2118 Ack=2446 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288283983 TSecr=3270276751

- Attacker 1 packet capture

Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
73.37.186728	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
74.37.188793	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7281] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288268479 TSecr=3270253328 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
75.37.411275	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
76.37.411382	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7282] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288268703 TSecr=3270253552 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
77.37.851385	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
78.37.851332	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7283] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288261143 TSecr=3270253992 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
79.38.771192	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
80.38.771219	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7284] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288262863 TSecr=3270254904 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
81.40.555429	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
82.40.555456	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7285] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288263848 TSecr=3270256696 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
83.44.875352	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
84.44.875388	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7286] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288267367 TSecr=3270260216 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
85.51.051345	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150	Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
86.51.051372	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	78	[TCP Dup ACK 7287] 45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1858 Ack=1790 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288274343 TSecr=3270267192 SLE=1706 SRE=1790
87.60.384713	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	214	Client: Encrypted packet (len=148)
88.60.390585	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	66	22 → 45848 [ACK] Seq=1790 Ack=2086 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=3270276531 TSecr=288283677
89.60.528498	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	94	Server: Encrypted packet (len=28)
90.60.528522	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66	45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2086 Ack=1818 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288283821 TSecr=3270276669
91.60.528817	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	178	Client: Encrypted packet (len=112)
92.60.534814	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	66	22 → 45848 [ACK] Seq=1818 Ack=2118 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=3270276674 TSecr=288283821
93.60.618642	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	694	Server: Encrypted packet (len=628)
94.60.618666	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66	45848 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2118 Ack=2446 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=288283983 TSecr=3270276751
95.60.617847	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	118	Server: Encrypted packet (len=84)

These packet captures show the retransmissions occurring from the timeout events happening due to the packets being dropped at the filter (lasting approximately 15 seconds). After the timeout is exceeded, the firewall rule is flushed allowing the attacking client to attempt connections again.

Case 2

- For this test, the following arguments are given to the monitoring program along with the associated unauthorized attempts to connect to the server and measures taken. An invalid argument is given to the timeout in seconds, so the monitoring program defaults to an indefinite timeout.

```
[root@localhost Assignment-2]# ./ssh-mon.py -a 2 -t invalid
Number of allowed attempts for each ssh client before timeout: 2
Timeout value invalid: Indefinite timeout enforced
Feb 16 08:48:04 localhost sshd[11882]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45886 ssh2
Feb 16 08:48:09 localhost sshd[11882]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45886 ssh2
Feb 16 08:48:12 localhost sshd[11882]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45886 ssh2
Blocking IP indefinitely
^CShutdown Application!
[root@localhost Assignment-2]#
```

- Before the test, iptables show:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
[root@localhost radiant]#
```

- During the test when attacker 1 exceeds maximum allowed attempts of 2 , iptables show:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
DROP       all  --  192.168.1.75          0.0.0.0/0

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
[root@localhost radiant]#
```

Iptables filters all inbound traffic to the server. This filter rule is not flushed until the program ends. This screenshot (along with the wireshark captures) confirm the working functionality to verify the test case.

- The log file /var/log/secure shows:

```
Feb 16 08:48:03 localhost sshd[11882]: pam_unix(sshd:auth): authentication failure; logname=uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.75 user=radiant
Feb 16 08:48:04 localhost sshd[11882]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45886 ssh2
Feb 16 08:48:09 localhost sshd[11882]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45886 ssh2
Feb 16 08:48:12 localhost sshd[11882]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45886 ssh2
Feb 16 08:49:08 localhost sshd[11882]: Connection closed by authenticating user radiant 192.168.1.75 port 45886 [preauth]
Feb 16 08:49:08 localhost sshd[11882]: PAM 2 more authentication failures; logname=uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.75 user=radiant
```

The attacking client may not at any point in time, after the rule is enforced, reconnect to the server.

- Server packet capture

40	12.914773	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
41	12.922478	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3881] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289046759 TSecr=3271039608 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
42	13.045424	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289046884 TSecr=3271039608
43	13.130789	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
44	13.136318	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3842] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289046874 TSecr=3271039824 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
45	13.472727	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289047311 TSecr=3271039824
46	13.502720	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
47	13.567817	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3848] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289047407 TSecr=3271040256 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
48	14.325725	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289048164 TSecr=3271040256
49	14.458724	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
50	14.460792	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3884] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289048298 TSecr=3271041144 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
51	16.096196	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289048871 TSecr=3271041144
52	16.178798	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
53	16.187729	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3885] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289049027 TSecr=3271042872 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
54	19.445414	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289053284 TSecr=3271042872
55	19.634781	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
56	19.640968	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3886] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289053479 TSecr=3271046328 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
57	26.417257	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289060111 TSecr=3271046328
58	26.530777	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
59	26.943833	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3887] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289060788 TSecr=3271053624 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
60	28.643135	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 45888 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 Tsv=289062481 TSecr=0 WS=128
61	29.658892	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45888 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 Tsv=289063497 TSecr=0 WS=128
62	31.818669	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45888 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 Tsv=289065637 TSecr=0 WS=128
63	35.871113	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45888 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 Tsv=289069711 TSecr=0 WS=128
64	40.242259	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289073764 TSecr=3271053624
65	40.754811	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
66	40.761851	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3888] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289074599 TSecr=3271067448 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
67	44.235833	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45888 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 Tsv=289077817 TSecr=0 WS=128

- Attacker 1 packet capture

38	12.888438	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289040538 TSecr=3271839387
39	13.840121	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
40	13.108941	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3741] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289046759 TSecr=3271039608 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
41	13.234152	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289046884 TSecr=3271039608
42	13.324521	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
43	13.324931	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3742] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289046874 TSecr=3271039824 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
44	13.668085	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289047311 TSecr=3271039824
45	13.756646	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
46	13.756678	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3743] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289047407 TSecr=3271040256 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
47	14.514139	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289048871 TSecr=3271041144
48	14.648232	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
49	14.648263	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3744] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289048298 TSecr=3271041144 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
50	16.228795	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289048871 TSecr=3271041144
51	16.376657	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
52	16.376688	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3745] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289049027 TSecr=3271042872 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
53	19.634832	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289053284 TSecr=3271042872
54	19.829575	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
55	19.829587	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3746] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289053479 TSecr=3271046328 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
56	26.408796	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289060111 TSecr=3271046328
57	27.129695	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
58	27.129722	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3747] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289060788 TSecr=3271053624 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
59	28.630774	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 45888 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 Tsv=289062481 TSecr=0 WS=128
60	29.847475	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45888 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 Tsv=289063497 TSecr=0 WS=128
61	32.087388	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45888 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 Tsv=289065637 TSecr=0 WS=128
62	36.080732	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45888 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 Tsv=289069711 TSecr=0 WS=128
63	40.114138	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45886 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1962 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289073764 TSecr=3271053624
64	40.949154	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
65	40.949191	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3748] 45886 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1963 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 Tsv=289074599 TSecr=3271067448 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
66	44.167397	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45888 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 Tsv=289077817 TSecr=0 WS=128

These packet captures show the retransmissions occurring from the timeout events happening due to the packets being dropped at the filter (lasting indefinitely)

Case 3

- For this test, the following arguments are given to the monitoring program along with the associated unauthorized attempts to connect to the server and measures taken. 2 maximum attempts to connect to the server were specified, and a timeout value of 15 seconds is enforced after attackers exceed the maximum attempts.

```
[root@localhost Assignment-2]# ./ssh-mon.py -a 2 -t 15
Number of allowed attempts for each ssh client before timeout: 2
Timeout of 15 seconds will be given after number of allowed attempts exceeded
Feb 16 08:54:06 localhost sshd[11921]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45918 ssh2
Feb 16 08:54:10 localhost sshd[11921]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45918 ssh2
Feb 16 08:54:17 localhost sshd[11921]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45918 ssh2
Blocking IP: 192.168.1.75 for 15 seconds
Blocking IP: 192.168.1.75      Time: 08:54:17
Unblocking IP: 192.168.1.75    Time: 08:54:32
Thread Unblocked at 08:54:32
```

- Before the test, iptables show:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
[root@localhost radiant]#
```

- During the test when attacker 1 exceeds maximum allowed attempts of 2 , iptables show:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
DROP      all  --  192.168.1.75          0.0.0.0/0

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
[root@localhost radiant]#
```

- After the timeout value of 15 seconds, iptables shows:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source               destination

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source               destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source               destination
[root@localhost radiant]#
```

All rules are flushed, this confirms that our monitoring script was able to successfully remove the filter after the timeout completes. With the previous screenshots, this confirms the working functionality to verify the test case.

- The log file /var/log/secure shows:

```
Feb 16 08:54:04 localhost sshd[11921]: pam_unix(sshd:auth): authentication failure; logname= uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.75 user=radiant
Feb 16 08:54:06 localhost sshd[11921]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45918 ssh2
Feb 16 08:54:10 localhost sshd[11921]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45918 ssh2
Feb 16 08:54:17 localhost sshd[11921]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45918 ssh2
Feb 16 08:54:17 localhost sshd[11921]: Connection closed by authenticating user radiant 192.168.1.75 port 45918 [preauth]
Feb 16 08:54:17 localhost sshd[11921]: PAM 2 more authentication failures; logname= uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.75 user=radiant
Feb 16 08:54:42 localhost sshd[11930]: Accepted password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45920 ssh2
Feb 16 08:54:42 localhost sshd[11930]: pam_unix(sshd:session): session opened for user radiant by (uid=0)
Feb 16 08:54:46 localhost sshd[11934]: Received disconnect from 192.168.1.75 port 45920:11: disconnected by user
Feb 16 08:54:46 localhost sshd[11934]: Disconnected from user radiant 192.168.1.75 port 45920
Feb 16 08:54:46 localhost sshd[11930]: pam_unix(sshd:session): session closed for user radiant
```

After the timeout, the attacking client may reconnect to the server

- Server packet capture

Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
43.19.651154	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74	[TCP Retransmission] 45920 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=289415057 TSecr=0 WS=128
44.21.862616	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74	[TCP Retransmission] 45920 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=289417871 TSecr=0 WS=128
45.25.919158	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74	[TCP Retransmission] 45920 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=289421924 TSecr=0 WS=128
46.34.134101	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74	[TCP Retransmission] 45920 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=289430031 TSecr=0 WS=128
47.34.134269	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74	22 → 45920 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Win=65168 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=3271422997 TSecr=289430031 WS=128
48.34.151559	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66	45920 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1 Win=0 Len=0 TSval=289430148 TSecr=3271422997
49.34.151815	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	87	Client: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_8.4)
50.34.151871	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66	22 → 45920 [ACK] Seq=1 Win=0 Len=0 TSval=3271423015 TSecr=289430149
51.34.245925	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	87	Server: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_8.3)

- Attacker 1 packet capture

Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
42.19.649028	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74	[TCP Retransmission] 45920 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=289415057 TSecr=0 WS=128
43.21.862268	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74	[TCP Retransmission] 45920 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=289417871 TSecr=0 WS=128
44.25.915655	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74	[TCP Retransmission] 45920 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=289421924 TSecr=0 WS=128
45.34.822365	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74	[TCP Retransmission] 45920 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=289430031 TSecr=0 WS=128
46.34.139685	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74	22 → 45920 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Win=65168 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=3271422997 TSecr=289430031 WS=128
47.34.139746	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66	45920 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1 Win=0 Len=0 TSval=289430148 TSecr=3271422997
48.34.140475	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	87	Client: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_8.4)
49.34.157383	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	66	22 → 45920 [ACK] Seq=1 Win=0 Len=0 TSval=3271423015 TSecr=289430149
50.34.254508	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	87	Server: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_8.3)

These packet captures show the retransmissions occurring from the timeout events happening due to the packets being dropped at the filter (lasting approximately 15 seconds). After the timeout is exceeded, the firewall rule is flushed allowing the attacking client to attempt connections again.

Case 4

- For this test, the following arguments are given to the monitoring program along with the associated unauthorized attempts to connect to the server and measures taken. 2 maximum attempts to connect to the server were specified, and a timeout value of 30 seconds is enforced after attackers exceed the maximum attempts. Two attacking clients attempt staggered access the SSH service.

```
Number of allowed attempts for each ssh client before timeout: 2
Timeout of 30 seconds will be given after number of allowed attempts exceeded
Feb 16 09:14:53 localhost sshd[12183]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45962 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:08 localhost sshd[12183]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45962 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:08 localhost sshd[12183]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45962 ssh2
Blocking IP: 192.168.1.75 for 30 seconds
Blocking IP: 192.168.1.75      Time: 09:15:09
Unblocking IP: 192.168.1.75   Time: 09:15:39
Feb 16 09:15:12 localhost sshd[12185]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.78 port 48698 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:18 localhost sshd[12185]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.78 port 48698 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:24 localhost sshd[12185]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.78 port 48698 ssh2
Blocking IP: 192.168.1.78 for 30 seconds
Blocking IP: 192.168.1.78      Time: 09:15:25
Unblocking IP: 192.168.1.78   Time: 09:15:55
Thread Unblocked at 09:15:39
Thread Unblocked at 09:15:55
```

- Before the test, iptables show:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
[root@localhost radiant]#
```

- During the test when attacker 1 and 2 exceeds maximum allowed attempts of 2 , iptables show:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
DROP      all  --  192.168.1.75          0.0.0.0/0
DROP      all  --  192.168.1.78          0.0.0.0/0

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
```

This confirms the working functionality to verify the test case.

- After the timeout value of 15 seconds, iptables shows:

```
[root@localhost radiant]# iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source               destination

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source               destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source               destination
[root@localhost radiant]#
```

All rules are flushed, this confirms that our monitoring script was able to successfully remove the filter after the timeout completes.

- The log file /var/log/secure shows:

```
Feb 16 09:14:52 localhost sshd[12183]: pam_unix(sshd:auth): authentication failure; logname=uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.75 user=radiant
Feb 16 09:14:53 localhost sshd[12183]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45962 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:00 localhost sshd[12183]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45962 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:08 localhost sshd[12183]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45962 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:10 localhost sshd[12185]: pam_unix(sshd:auth): authentication failure; logname=uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.78 user=radiant
Feb 16 09:15:12 localhost sshd[12185]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.78 port 48698 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:18 localhost sshd[12185]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.78 port 48698 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:24 localhost sshd[12185]: Failed password for radiant from 192.168.1.78 port 48698 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:25 localhost sshd[12185]: Connection closed by authenticating user radiant 192.168.1.78 port 48698 [preauth]
Feb 16 09:15:25 localhost sshd[12185]: PAM 2 more authentication failures; logname=uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.78 user=radiant
Feb 16 09:15:47 localhost sshd[12196]: Accepted password for radiant from 192.168.1.75 port 45964 ssh2
Feb 16 09:15:47 localhost sshd[12196]: pam_unix(sshd:session): session opened for user radiant by (uid=0)
Feb 16 09:16:03 localhost sshd[12183]: Connection closed by authenticating user radiant 192.168.1.75 port 45962 [preauth]
Feb 16 09:16:03 localhost sshd[12183]: PAM 2 more authentication failures; logname=uid=0 euid=0 tty=ssh ruser= rhost=192.168.1.75 user=radiant
Feb 16 09:16:06 localhost sshd[12230]: Accepted password for radiant from 192.168.1.78 port 48702 ssh2
Feb 16 09:16:06 localhost sshd[12230]: pam_unix(sshd:session): session opened for user radiant by (uid=0)
```

After the timeout, the attacking client may reconnect to the server

- Server packet capture

37	18.064649	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: Encrypted packet (len=84)
38	18.069874	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 45962 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290662463 TSecr=3272655310
39	18.072108	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 45962 → 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290662464 TSecr=3272655310
40	19.001072	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
41	19.007408	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 384] 45962 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290662608 TSecr=3272655520 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
42	19.104622	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 → 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290662777 TSecr=3272655520
43	19.237923	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
44	19.240517	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 384] 45962 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290662807 TSecr=3272655744 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
45	19.611227	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 → 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290663204 TSecr=3272655744
46	19.729888	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
47	19.736668	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 384] 45962 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290663329 TSecr=3272656176 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
48	20.437845	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 → 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290664030 TSecr=3272656176
49	20.633910	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
50	20.646487	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 384] 45962 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290664236 TSecr=3272657080 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
51	22.090461	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 → 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290665684 TSecr=3272657080
52	22.361804	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
53	22.367229	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 384] 45962 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290665908 TSecr=3272658080 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
54	25.490832	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 → 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290669071 TSecr=3272658080
55	25.817987	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
56	25.823758	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 384] 45962 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290669416 TSecr=3272662264 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
57	32.246268	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 → 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290675684 TSecr=3272662264
58	33.049944	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
59	33.058836	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 384] 45962 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290676652 TSecr=3272669496 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
60	43.000767	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 45962 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=290685560 TSecr=0 WS=128
61	43.984923	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45964 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=290687577 TSecr=0 WS=128
62	45.317441	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 → 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290688911 TSecr=3272669496
63	46.171041	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45964 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=290689764 TSecr=0 WS=128
64	46.672958	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
65	46.882659	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 384] 45962 → 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290690476 TSecr=3272683320 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
66	50.224899	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45964 → 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=290693817 TSecr=0 WS=128
67	50.225952	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 22 → 45964 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65152 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=3272686671 TSecr=290693824 WS=128
68	50.236639	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 45964 → 22 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=64256 Len=0 TSval=3272686671 TSecr=290693824 WS=128
69	50.238993	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	87 Client: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_8.4)
70	50.238956	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	66 22 → 45964 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=22 Win=65152 Len=0 TSval=3272686677 TSecr=290693824 WS=128
71	50.327386	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	87 Server: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH_8.3)
72	50.332112	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 45964 → 22 [ACK] Seq=22 Ack=22 Win=64256 Len=0 TSval=290693926 TSecr=3272686773
73	50.335351	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	1514 45964 → 22 [ACK] Seq=22 Ack=22 Win=64256 Len=0 TSval=290693927 TSecr=3272686773 [TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]

- Attacker 1 packet capture

35	16.876652	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	66 22 + 45962 [ACK] Seq=1874 Ack=2090 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=3272653133 TSecr=290668280
36	19.049535	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: Encrypted packet (len=84)
37	19.049578	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 45962 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290662463 TSecr=3272655310
38	19.050466	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 45962 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290662464 TSecr=3272655310
39	19.266657	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
40	19.266685	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3781] 45962 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290662608 TSecr=3272655528 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
41	19.365536	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290662777 TSecr=3272655528
42	19.483318	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
43	19.483348	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3782] 45962 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290662897 TSecr=3272655744 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
44	19.798328	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290663204 TSecr=3272655744
45	19.918859	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
46	19.918898	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3785] 45962 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290663329 TSecr=3272656176 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
47	20.618728	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290664030 TSecr=3272656176
48	20.822488	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
49	20.822538	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3785] 45962 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290664236 TSecr=3272657088 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
50	22.278262	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290665684 TSecr=3272657088
51	22.546628	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
52	22.546659	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3785] 45962 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290665968 TSecr=3272658880 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
53	25.650976	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290669071 TSecr=3272658880
54	26.002648	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
55	26.002671	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3786] 45962 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290669416 TSecr=3272662264 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
56	32.278254	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45962 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290675684 TSecr=3272662264
57	33.238239	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
58	33.238262	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3787] 45962 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290676652 TSecr=3272669496 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
59	43.154845	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 45964 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=290686568 TSecr=0 WS=128
60	44.163529	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45964 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=290687757 TSecr=0 WS=128
61	45.492084	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 [TCP Retransmission] 45964 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2090 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290688911 TSecr=3272660486
62	46.558327	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45964 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=290689764 TSecr=0 WS=128
63	47.062181	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	150 Server: [TCP Spurious Retransmission], Encrypted packet (len=84)
64	47.062139	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.76	TCP	78 [TCP Dup ACK 3788] 45962 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2091 Ack=1958 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=290694076 TSecr=3272683328 SLE=1874 SRE=1958
65	58.402532	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 45964 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=29083817 TSecr=0 WS=128
66	58.408955	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	74 22 + 45964 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65156 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=3272686671 TSecr=290693817 WS=128
67	58.409952	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 45964 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=64256 Len=0 TSval=290693824 TSecr=3272686671
68	58.418669	192.168.1.75	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	87 Client: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH.8.4)
69	58.418282	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.75	TCP	66 22 + 45964 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=22 Win=65152 Len=0 TSval=3272686677 TSecr=290693824

- Attacker 2 packet capture

37	20.921887	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.78	SSHv2	150 Server: Encrypted packet (len=84)
38	20.921111	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 48698 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2186 Ack=1966 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=4105125139 TSecr=118077595
39	20.921446	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 48698 + 22 [FIN, ACK] Seq=2186 Ack=1966 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=4105125139 TSecr=118077595
40	20.942498	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.78	TCP	66 22 + 48698 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1966 Ack=2187 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=1180777627 TSecr=4105125139
41	20.942506	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 48698 + 22 [ACK] Seq=2187 Ack=1967 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=4105125168 TSecr=118077617
42	33.642231	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 48780 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=4105137868 TSecr=0 WS=128
43	34.639634	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 48780 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=4105138911 TSecr=0 WS=128
44	35.741623	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 48780 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=4105140959 TSecr=0 WS=128
45	40.773626	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 48780 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=4105144991 TSecr=0 WS=128
46	49.222484	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 [TCP Retransmission] 48780 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=4105153440 TSecr=0 WS=128
47	59.711562	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 48782 + 22 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=4105163929 TSecr=0 WS=128
48	59.724484	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	74 22 + 48782 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65168 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 TSval=1180816398 TSecr=4105163929 WS=128
49	59.724431	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 48782 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=64256 Len=0 TSval=4105163942 TSecr=1180816398
50	59.724626	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 22 + 48782 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=22 Win=65152 Len=0 TSval=1180816402 TSecr=4105163942
51	59.727760	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.78	SSHv2	87 Client: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH.8.3)
52	59.819568	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.78	SSHv2	87 Server: Protocol (SSH-2.0-OpenSSH.8.3)
53	59.819582	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 48782 + 22 [ACK] Seq=22 Ack=22 Win=64256 Len=0 TSval=4105164837 TSecr=1180816493
54	59.819688	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	1602 Client: Key Exchange Init
55	59.823240	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.78	TCP	66 22 + 48782 [ACK] Seq=22 Ack=1470 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=1180816497 TSecr=4105164838
56	59.823294	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.78	TCP	66 22 + 48782 [ACK] Seq=22 Ack=1558 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=1180816497 TSecr=4105164838
57	59.830444	192.168.1.76	192.168.1.78	SSHv2	1114 Server: Key Exchange Init
58	59.830464	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	TCP	66 48782 + 22 [ACK] Seq=1558 Ack=1870 Win=64128 Len=0 TSval=4105164848 TSecr=1180816504
59	83.82148	192.168.1.78	192.168.1.76	SSHv2	114 Client: Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange Init

These packet captures show the retransmissions occurring from the timeout events happening due to the packets being dropped at the filter (lasting approximately 30 seconds). After the timeout is exceeded, the firewall rule is flushed allowing the attacking clients to attempt connections again. Note, the differences in the number of TCP Retransmissions can be accounted for due to the nature of the test environment. Attacker 1 was maintaining a SSH connection through a PuTTY client throughout the test whereas Attacker 2 was not.