

Packet Inhaling with Tcpdump

Sniffing Network Traffic at
Lightning Speed

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Warning!

- Use tcpdump only if the owner of the network grants permission to do so!
- There may be legal consequences for using tcpdump or other sniffers without authorization.

Uses of Tcpdump

- Watch or store network traffic
- Troubleshooting
- Study higher level protocols

Getting Tcpdump

- Comes with most Linux/BSDs
- Compiles on most other versions of Unix
- <http://www.tcpdump.org>
- Libpcap is required to build from source.

Parameters

- -i Interface
- -vv Verbose output
- -e Ethernet headers
- -s Size of capture
- -n Disable name resolution
- -r Read pcap file
- -X Ascii dump
- -w Write to pcap file

Examples

- `tcpdump -i eth0 -vv -n`
- `tcpdump -i eth0 -vv -lenX -s 1600`
- `tcpdump -i eth0 -vv -w dump.out`
- `tcpdump -r file -vv -lenX -s 1600 | less`

Berkeley Packet Filter (BPF)

- host
- net
- protocol
- and/or
- not

BPF examples

- `tcpdump options host 192.168.1.1`
- `tcpdump options icmp`
- `tcpdump options host 192.168.1.1 and icmp`
- `tcpdump options host 192.168.1.1 or 192.168.1.2 and port 22`