

Scanner Detection:

Scanner Detection using sequential hypothesis aims at tagging fast as well as slow rate scanners with a generic algorithm based on overall failure rate of connections from each granular source IP.

Initial assumptions:

- Scanners have large number of failed connections since they attempt to connect to inactive IP's or ports with inactive services. (failed connections are either SYN followed by no ACK, SYN followed by RST, FIN followed by RST, FIN followed by nothing, ACK followed by RST, ACK followed by nothing.)
- Further scanners are assumed to have atleast >80% failed connections which allows us to define our model and obtain the thresholds for sequential hypothesis.

Limitations:

- Atleast 5 connection attempts are required from each source IP to successfully categorize them as failed/successful.
- Vertical scans are not detected since sequential hypothesis is granular on each source IP.

Definitions:

- Event Y describes successful/failed connection(0/1)
- H0- Hypothesis that source IP is benign.
- H1- Hypothesis that source IP is malicious.
- Likelihood ratio(LR) = $P(Y/H0)/P(Y/H1)$
- Upper threshold (beta) = 0.99

Algorithm:

- Connection states are maintained as failed(1) or successful(0) in a vector for each source IP
- For each source IP sequential hypothesis is computed on vector of connection states
 - For each event in vector
 - compute probability of event(1/0) conditional on hypothesis H0/H1.
 - compute likelihood ratio for each event and store in LR-vector.
 - Compute product sum on LR-vector.
 - If LR > beta tag as scanner.

