

NFTables Testing Framework

A comprehensive testing framework for NFTables firewall configurations using Docker containers to simulate realistic game server traffic.

Project Structure

```
nftables-testing/
├── config/                # Configuration files
│   └── nftables.conf      # NFTables firewall rules
├── src/                  # Source code
│   ├── server/           # Server components
│   │   └── nftables_test_server.py
│   ├── client/           # Client components
│   │   └── game_client_simulator.py
│   └── utils/            # Utility scripts
│       └── test_nftables.sh
├── docker/              # Docker configurations
│   ├── Dockerfile.server # Server container
│   ├── Dockerfile.client # Client container
│   ├── docker-compose.yml # Basic setup
│   └── docker-compose-game.yml # Game simulation
├── scripts/             # Execution scripts
│   ├── run-auto-tests.sh # Automated testing
│   ├── run-game-simulation.sh # Full game simulation
│   └── run-direct.sh      # Direct Linux execution
├── results/             # Output directory
│   ├── *.log             # Test logs
│   └── *.json            # Report files
└── docs/               # Documentation
    └── README.md         # This file
```

Quick Start

Option 1: Complete Game Simulation (Recommended)

Simulates 18 game players for 2 minutes with comprehensive reporting:

```
./scripts/run-game-simulation.sh
```

Option 2: Basic Testing

Tests firewall rules without client simulation:

```
docker-compose -f docker/docker-compose.yml up --build
```

Option 3: Direct Linux Execution

For systems with nftables installed:

```
sudo ./scripts/run-direct.sh
```

What Gets Tested

Server Side

- ☒ NfTables rule loading and validation
- ☒ Port listeners on game server ports
- ☒ Connection handling and statistics
- ☒ Rate limiting effectiveness
- ☒ Rule performance counters

Client Side (Game Simulation)

- ☒ 18 concurrent game players
- ☒ Realistic traffic patterns:
 - Server queries and discovery
 - Game join attempts
 - Gameplay packets (movement, combat)
 - Heartbeat/keepalive packets
 - TCP service connections
- ☒ Comprehensive traffic statistics
- ☒ Success/failure rate analysis

Ports Tested (from nftables.conf)

- **TCP:** 20, 21, 990, 1194, 3467, 6560, 6567, 6671, 8095, 9075, etc.
- **UDP:** 6962, 6963, 7787, 7797, 9696, 9697, 5555, 5556, 7766, 7767, etc.
- **Special:** Rate limiting, connection states, blocked ports

Reports Generated

After testing, check the **results/** folder for:

- **server-report-*.json** - Server performance metrics
- **client-report-*.json** - Client traffic statistics
- **nftables-test-results.log** - Detailed execution logs

Configuration

NFTables Rules

Edit `config/nftables.conf` to modify firewall rules.

Game Simulation Parameters

Edit simulation parameters in the scripts:

- Number of players (default: 18)
- Duration (default: 120 seconds)
- Server IP/hostname
- Traffic patterns

Docker Components

Server Container

- Ubuntu 22.04 base
- NFTables + network utilities
- Python test server
- Privileged mode for netfilter access

Client Container

- Python 3.11 slim base
- Game client simulator
- Network testing tools

Development

Adding New Tests

1. Modify `src/server/nftables_test_server.py` for server-side tests
2. Modify `src/client/game_client_simulator.py` for client-side tests
3. Update port lists and traffic patterns as needed

Custom NFTables Rules

1. Edit `config/nftables.conf`
2. Update port lists in test scripts to match your rules
3. Run tests to validate changes

Use Cases

- **Game Server Setup** - Test firewall rules for game servers
- **Load Testing** - Simulate realistic player traffic
- **Security Validation** - Verify rate limiting and blocked ports
- **Performance Analysis** - Measure rule performance under load
- **CI/CD Integration** - Automated firewall testing

Requirements

- Docker and Docker Compose
- Privileged container support (for netfilter access)
- Linux kernel with nftables support (in container)

Security Note

This framework runs containers in privileged mode to access netfilter. Only use in testing environments, not production.

Support

The framework provides detailed logging and error reporting. Check the [results/](#) directory for troubleshooting information.

NFTables Testing Framework - Professional firewall rule validation with realistic traffic simulation.