Packet Sniffing and Spoofing Lab

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Lab environment: This lab has been tested on the pre-built Ubuntu 20.04 VM.

Lab Environment Setup

In this lab, I will use three machines that are connected to the same LAN. Figure 1 depicts the lab environment setup using containers. When the given Docker Compose file is used to create the containers below, a new network is created to connect the VM and said containers.
The IP prefix for this network is `10.9.0.0/24`, which is specified in the `docker-compose.yml` file. I will perform all the attacks on the attacker container, while using the other containers as the user machines.

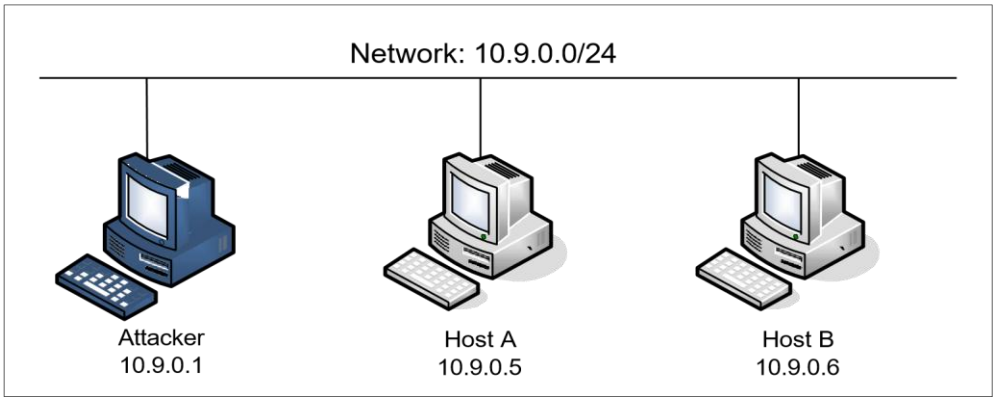
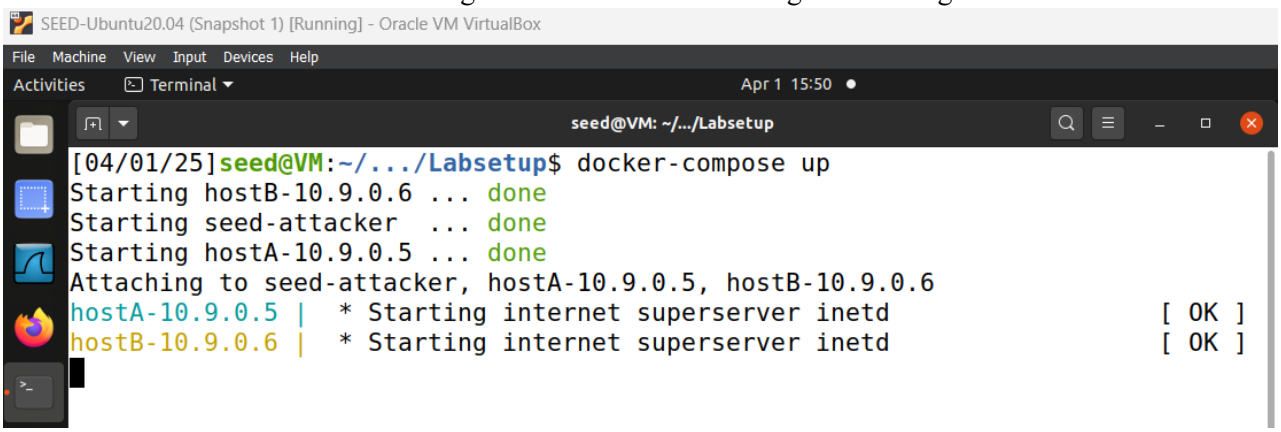


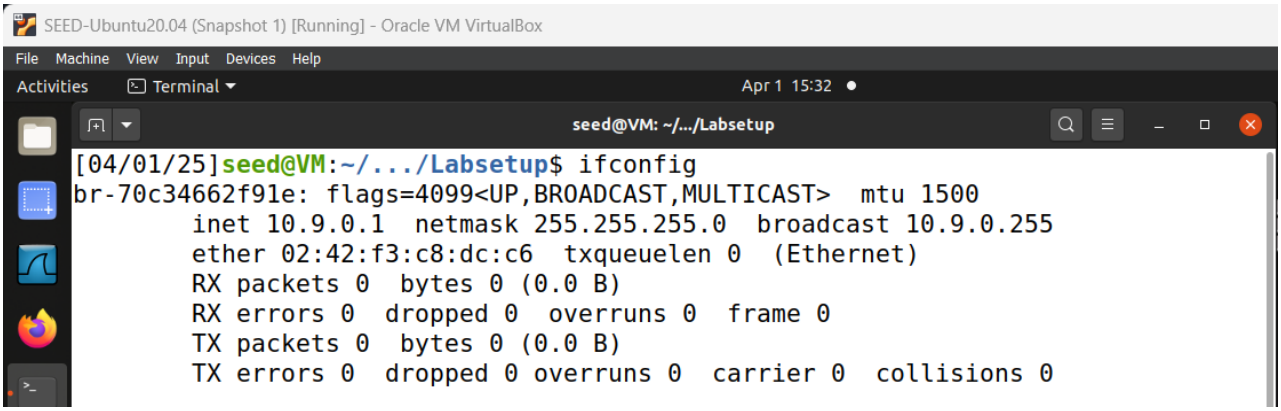
Figure 1: Lab Environment Setup

I will now build the new container image and start it so it is running in the background.



The IP address assigned to my VM is `10.9.0.1`. I need to find the name of the corresponding network interface on my VM, because I will need to use it in my tasked programs.

The interface name is the concatenation of "**br-**" and the ID of the network created by Docker. When I use `ifconfig` to list network interfaces, I need to look for the `10.9.0.1` IP address:



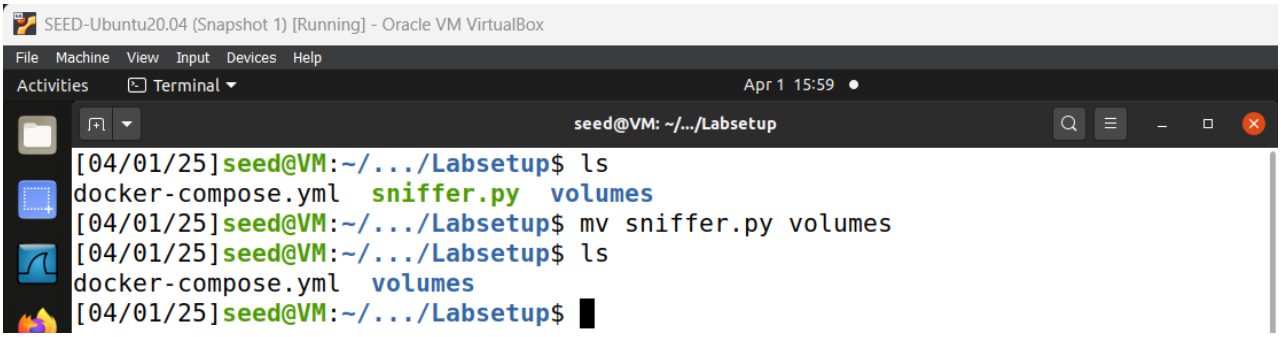
I now know that the name of the corresponding network interface on my VM is "**br-70c34662f91e**".

TASK 1

Many tools can be used to do sniffing and spoofing, but Scapy is a building block to construct *other* sniffing and spoofing tools. To use Scapy and its functionalities, I need to write a Python program and then execute this program using root privilege (since it is required for spoofing packets).

At the beginning of the program, named `sniffer.py`, I need to import all Scapy's modules:

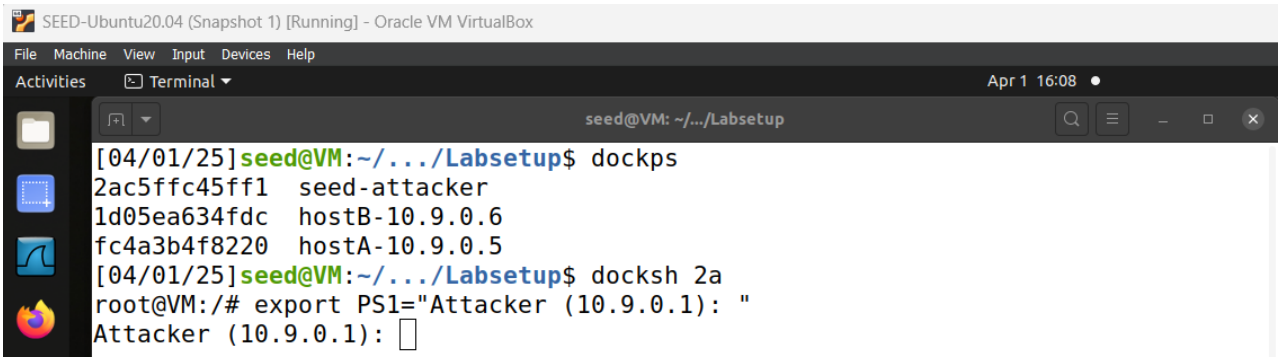
For each captured packet, the callback function `print_pkt()` is invoked, so some information about the packet will be displayed. Before I can run the *executable* program on the Attacker container, I need to move it into the `./volumes` folder, which is the given shared folder between the VM and the Attacker container.



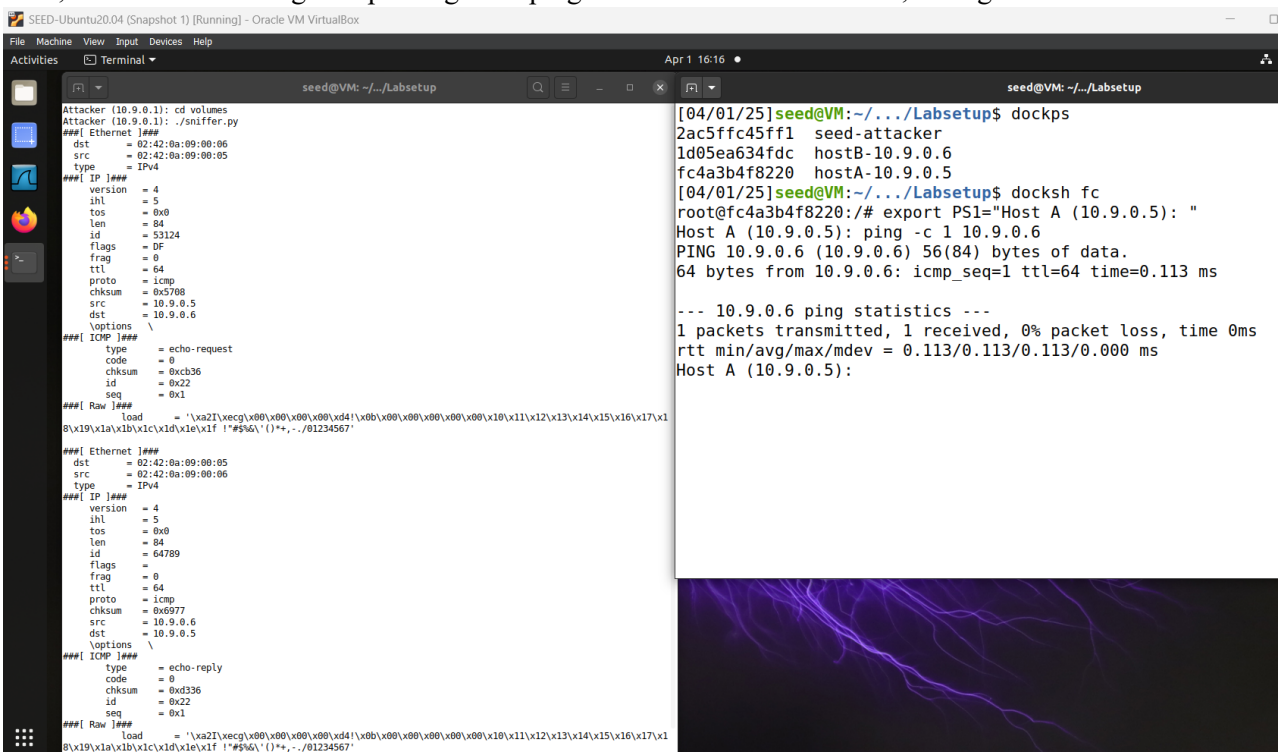
I will now demonstrate that I can indeed capture packets commands on the Attacker container by running the program with a root shell using the given Docker alias commands found in the file.

I first need to find the ID of the container, and then use the given alias command "`docksh <id>`" to start a shell, where `<id>` is the first few characters of the container ID.

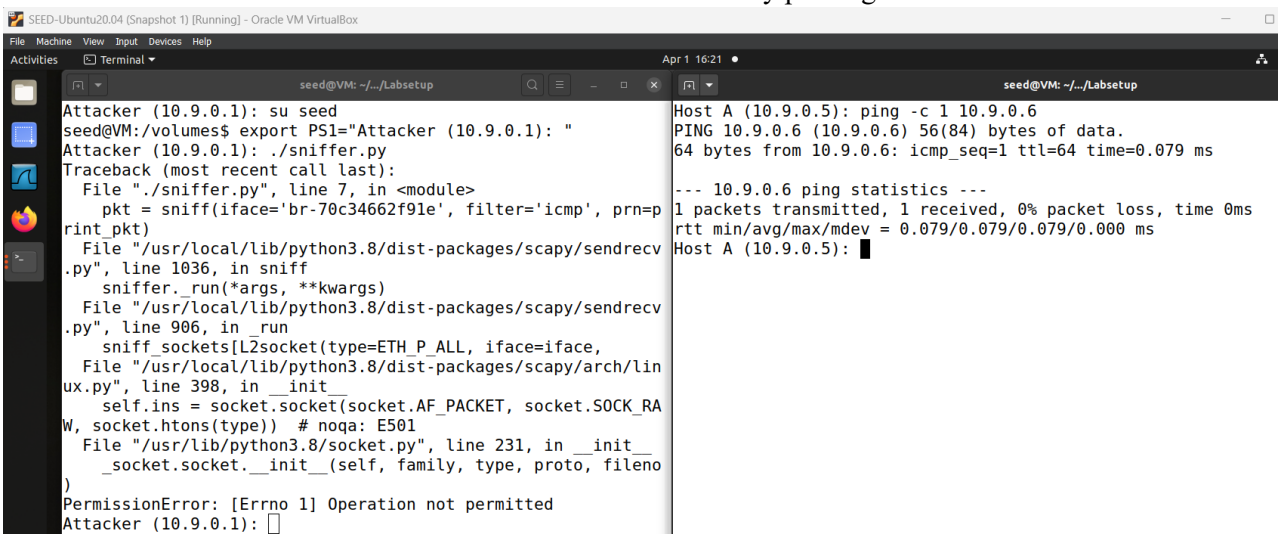
I use the given alias command "`dockps`" to find out the container ID, and then establish a root shell:



Now, I run the code using root privilege and ping host B from host A. Below, the right window is host A:



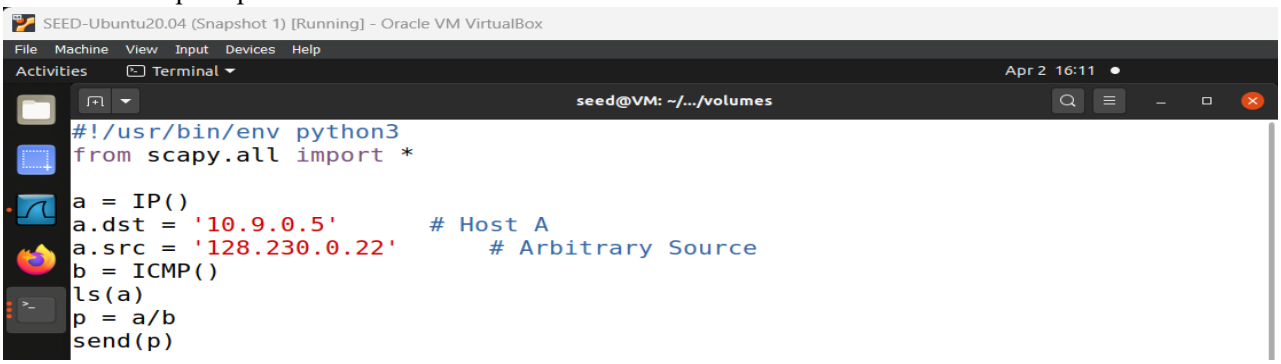
I now switch back to the seed user and rerun the code without any privileges:



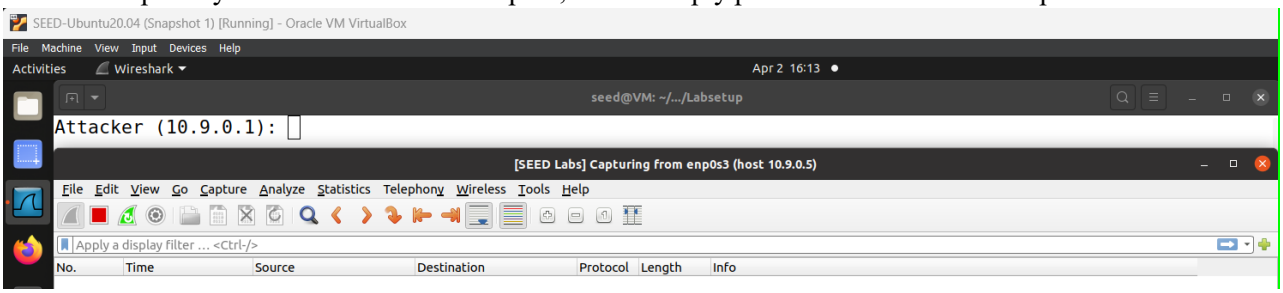
When I ran the program with root permissions, I was able to see the whole network traffic in my given interface. The `PermissionError` error indicated that root privileges are needed to be able to see the relevant packets. So, running the program with elevated privileges enables it to capture the necessary packet.

TASK 2

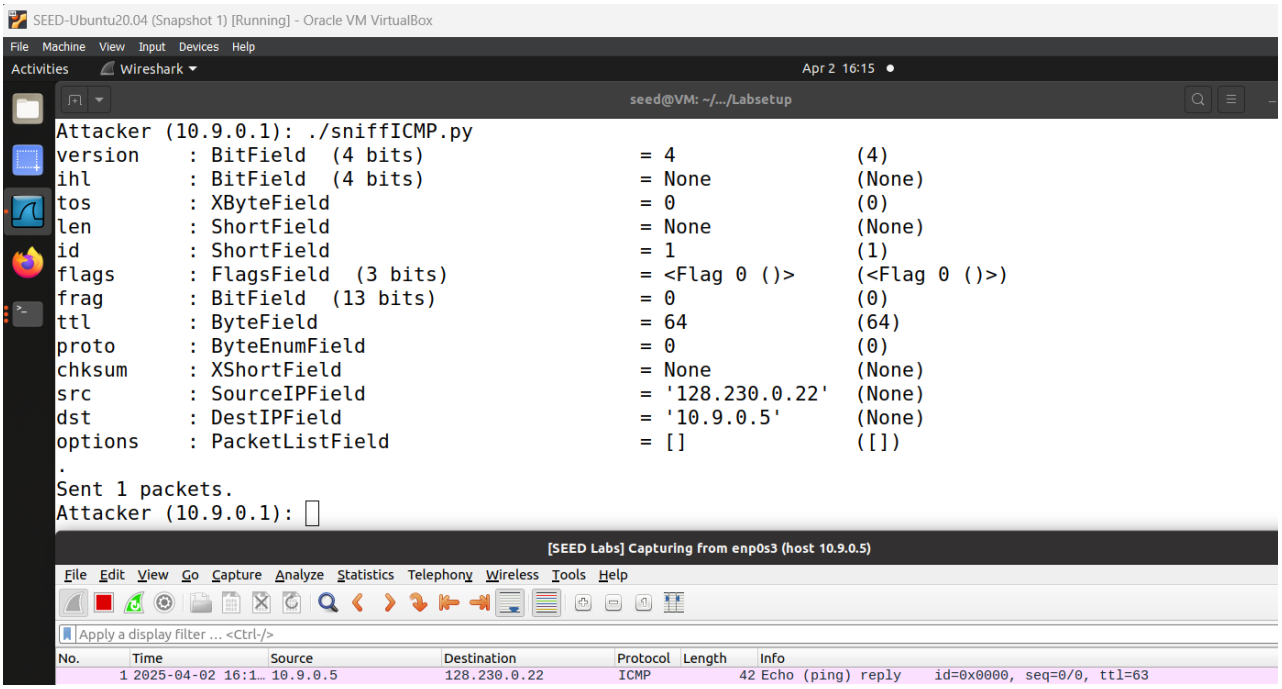
As a packet spoofing tool, Scapy allows me to set the fields of IP packets to arbitrary values. I will now try to spoof IP packets with an arbitrary source IP address by writing an executable program that spoofs an ICMP echo request packets and sends it to another VM on the *same* network.



In the code above, an IP object is created from the IP class. With the source and destination set, the program creates an ICMP object, with an echo request as the default. It then adds `b` as the payload field of `a`, with the fields of `a` modified accordingly to form an ICMP packet, which is sent out via the `send()` function. After moving the program, named `sniffICMP.py`, into the `./volumes` folder, I open Wireshark monitoring with a custom filter as host `10.9.0.5` with interface `enp0s3` to observe whether the request will be accepted by the receiver. If it is accepted, an echo reply packet will be sent to the spoofed IP address:



I will now run the program inside the Attacker container and send an ICMP echo request packet. The reply packet should contain the same destination IP as the one scripted in my code. Below is the result:



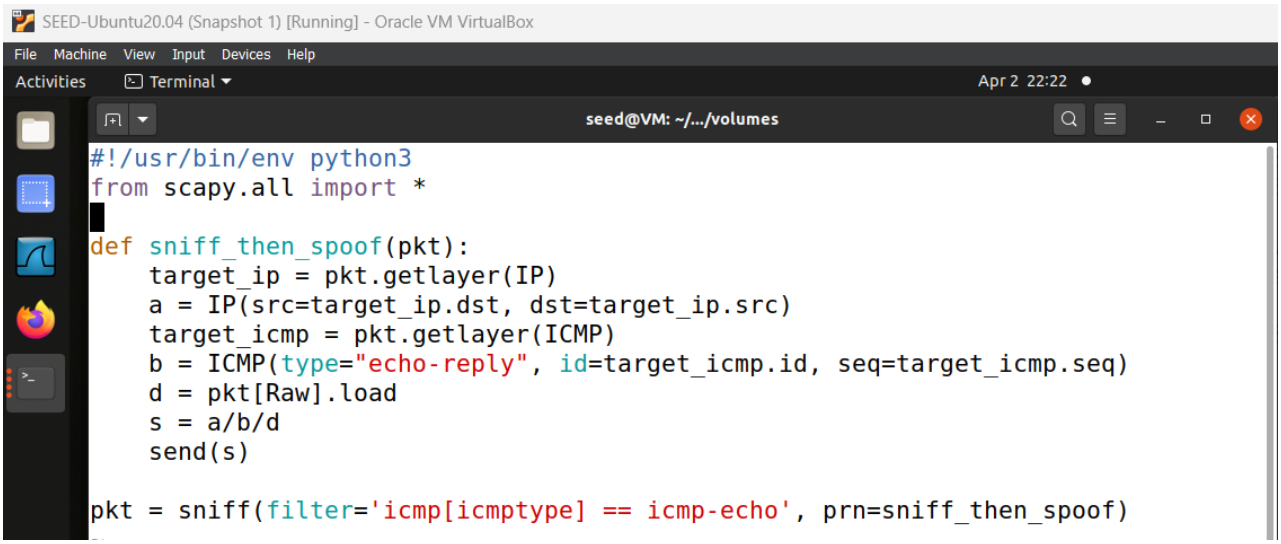
The destination IP address of the ICMP echo request packet was set to `10.9.0.5` that is host A and the same explanation can be used as to why an echo-reply packet was received from the samp IP of host A.

TASK 3

In this task, I will combine sniffing and spoofing techniques to implement a sniff-and-then-spoof experiment. From the user container, I will `ping` an IP X a total of 5 times. The IP Xs will consist of:

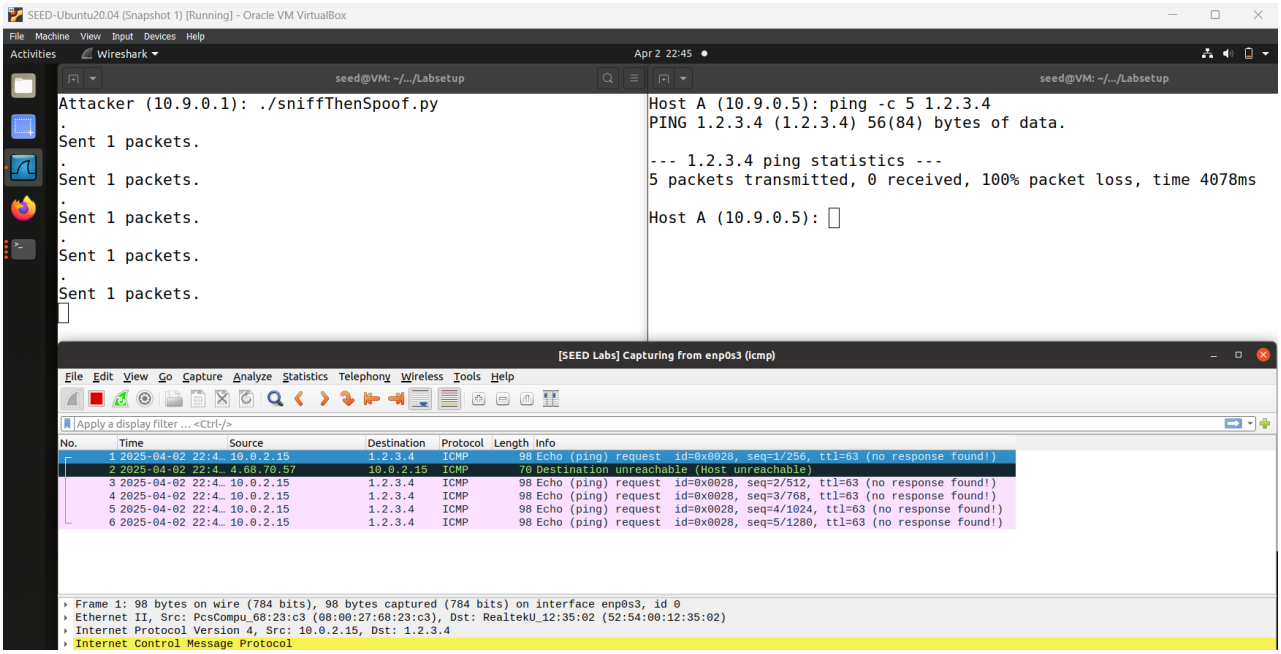
```
1.2.3.4          # A non-existing host on the Internet
8.8.8.8          # An exiting host on the Internet
10.9.0.99        # A non-existing host on the LAN
```

My program, `sniffThenSpoof.py`, should immediately send out echo replies. It can be seen below:



Whenever it sees an ICMP echo request, regardless of what the target IP address is, my program will send out an echo reply using the packet spoofing technique. Therefore, regardless of whether machine X is alive or not, the `ping` program will always receive a reply, indicating that X is alive.

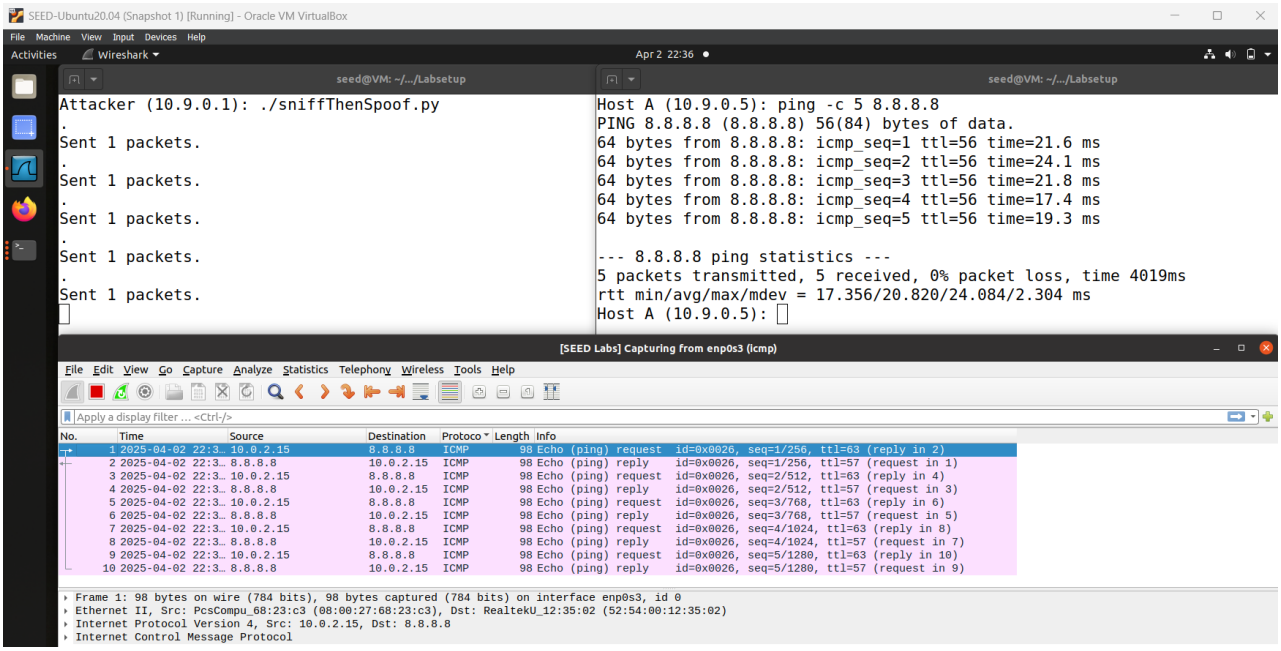
I will test this experiment out by first pinging the IP address `1.2.3.4` from host A:



I first run my program inside the Attacker container. After pinging the IP address `1.2.3.4`, I can see that the Wireshark logs indicate that ICMP Echo Requests are being sent, but there are no replies since the destination is not responding. It can also be seen that the Host located at `10.0.2.15` is unreachable, which is unusual, as this IP address is not part of the `10.0.0.0/24` network. I note but ignore this for now.

The terminal shows success ping responses from `1.2.3.4`, even though there was no real host at that address. Thus, my program is successfully spoofing ICMP Echo Replies, making it appear as if the IP address `1.2.3.4`, a non-existing host on the Internet, is responding.

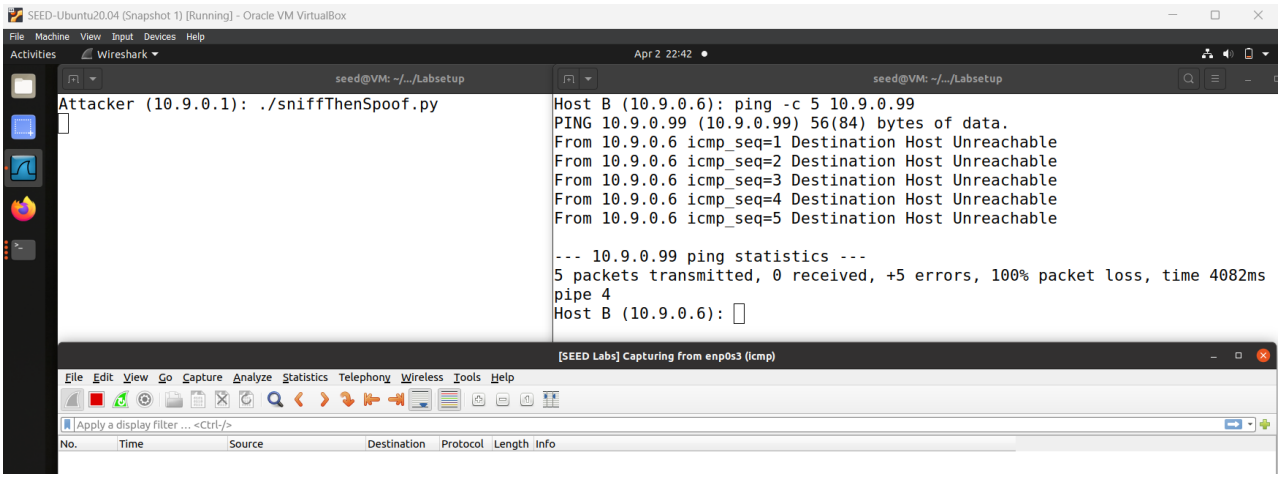
I will continue to test the experiment by pinging the IP address `8.8.8.8` from host A:



I first run my program inside the Attacker container. After pinging Google's public DNS, I can see that the Wireshark logs capture ICMP Echo Requests and Replies between the victim (`10.9.0.5`) and the target (`8.8.8.8`). The terminal shows that all ICMP Echo Requests are being successfully received, but with the Attacker repeatedly stating, "**Sent 1 packets**", it would appear the victim is receiving both *the real and fake* replies, making it appear as if the responses are normal.

Thus, my program is successfully spoofing ICMP Echo Replies, mimicking the ones sent from Google's public DNS, IP address `8.8.8.8`, an existing host on the Internet.

I will continue to test the experiment by pinging the IP address `10.9.0.99` this time from host B:



I first run my program inside the Attacker container. After pinging the IP address `10.9.0.99`, I can see from the Wireshark logs that no ICMP Echo Requests are being captured. The terminal stating "**+5 errors, 100% packet loss**" indicates that the host is indeed missing. If the target (`10.9.0.99`) was simply offline but still known to the network, an ARP request would be seen before the ICMP error. With no ARP reply received, the terminal concludes that the destination host is "**Unreachable**".

Since no ICMP Echo Requests are sent back to the Attacker, the spoofing logic in my code is never triggered. Thus, my program has its limits as it ignores "**Destination Unreachable**" (or *ICMP Type 3*) packets.