# **Firewall Assignment Using Raw Sockets**

# CS6903 - Network Security

Submitted by Tahir Ahmed Shaik (CS20MTECH14007), Pratik Madhukar Lahase (CS20MTECH11003), Jaykishan Pipaliya (CS20MTECH11012)

#### 01/05/2021

## **Abstract:**

This assignment report illustrates the scenario of the working of a firewall system between a set of hosts using the rule sets that are fed to the system. Firstly we implement a simple firewall, which relies on the idea of pre-coded/hot coded rules using conditional statements. Then we try to implement a more advanced and sophisticated system that works on the dynamic set of rules and defines a complete firewall system that provides rule management (CRUD of Rule sets), Command line interface for user interaction. We then also benchmark the designed system across a set of parameters and determine the PPS (Packets Per Second) processing by the system by plotting a set of graphs. The system is further extended to employ the DoS attack detection mechanism.

## **Network Configuration and setup:**

To simulate the system, we devise two virtual machines, where one machine acts as the firewall, while another machine is the internal host that we intend to protect from the external host. The external host in this scenario is the host system. The following configurations are done to the networking entities.

 Firewall :
 Internal Host (Host1)
 External Host:

 IP : 10.0.0.1/24
 IP : 10.0.0.253
 IP : 192.168.1.7

 Hostname : firewall
 Hostname : host1

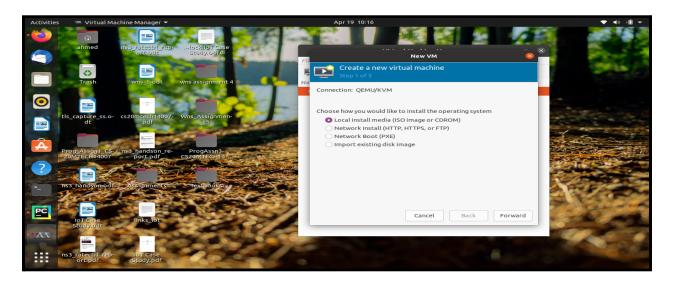


Fig 1: Installing VM using virt-manager

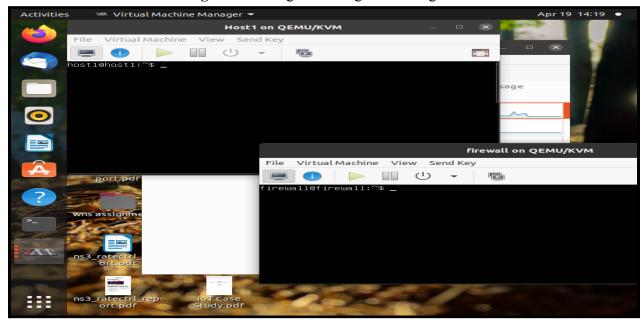
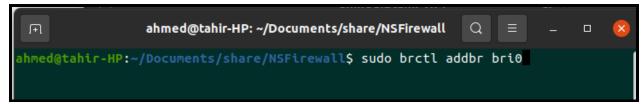


Fig 2: Installed VM's Setup

The networking hosts are connected to the firewall using the set of bridges (bri0 and bri1). These bridges are created as shown below. **Brctl** tool is used for creating the bridges.



Similarly the bril bridge is created and configured with the IP addresses. The following figure shows the complete network configuration of the setup. The firewall has two interfaces to connect to the entities.

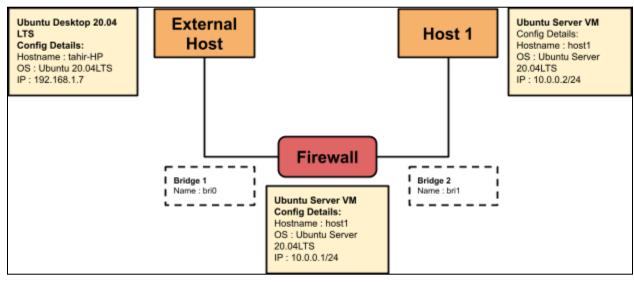


Fig 3: Network Setup

# Task 1: Running Simple Firewall at layer 2 level

In this task the firewall is designed at the layer 2 ethernet level that works filtering using the MAC addresses. The simple firewall class in the "firewall.py" code implements this design and system. This is executed as follows:

```
Command : python firewall.py simple_firewall <external_host_interface> <internal_host_interface>
```

This has pre-coded / hot coded logic to allow and deny the packets based on the MAC. We set to allow the IP packets for the external hosts MAC and the internal hosts MAC as shown below.

Fig 4: Hard Coded logic filtering for simple firewall

The main interface of the simple firewall is shown below.



Fig 5: Simple Firewall CLI main screen

We run the firewall, and from the internal interface send a packet using the nping command "nping -e enp1s0 192.168.1.7". This packet is captured by the firewall first and according to the rule it is allowed as shown below.

```
1.Start Firewall

2.Print Firewall description

3.Exit

Enter Your Choice:

Simple Firewall Running...

Packet Packet Ollowed Packet Type: External Packet Ollo
```

Fig 6: Packets allowed by firewall

# Task 2: Advanced Firewall System (Filtering at layer 2[Ether], 3 [IP] and 4 [TCP,UDP]):

In this task we move ahead to design a more sophisticated system, that allows dynamic rule management (ADD, UPDATE and DELETE), CLI interface, Saving and loading of the rules. The advanced firewall mode is executed in the "firewall.py" code as follows.

```
Command : python firewall.py adv_firewall <external_host_interface> <internal_host_interface>
```

The main screen of CLI interface of the system is as shown below in the following figure.

```
1.Start Firewall
2.Print Firewall description
3.Hanage Rules
4.Statistics
5.Save Rules
6.Load Rules
7 DoS Threshold
8.Exit
Enter Your Choice:
```

Fig 7: Main Screen

The start firewall starts the firewall capturing and decides based on the rules defined. Print Firewall description prints a short firewall description. The Manage rules opens up the Rule manager, that allows to add, update and delete rules and print the rules present in the system. The statistics option prints out various statistical performance metrics of the system and also generates the plots. Save, and load rules are used to save and load the rules from the file in **json format.** 

#### IP rule emulation:

Let us first emulate an IP rule first to filter the packets, this is as follows.

Fig 8 : Rule Manager(1 to add rule)

Fig 9 : Choosing IP rule

```
Enter Type of IP Rule (4/6)4

IPv4 Rule

Enter the rule in analogical form: Field Field Rule(Allow/Discard)

Enter Rule ID

100

Want to match Source IP? (y/n)y

Enter Source IP: 192.168.1.7

Want to match Dest IP? (y/n)n

Want to match Protocol Field? (y/n)n

Want to match Header_Len? (y/n)n

Want to match TIL? (y/n)n

Want to match TIS Field? (y/n)n

Enter Rule (Allow/Discard : allow

Rule Inserted

Press Enter to continue
```

Fig 10: Rule entered to the system

This rule allows the external host's IP packets having only IP 192.167.1.7, all other packets are discarded. We start the firewall from the main screen and can see the results as follows.

```
d Firewall Running... (Press any key to interrupt for opening rule manager)
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4];Im[TCP] Process Time: 8,56259999999498e-05 seconds
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:Im[TCP] Process Time: 0,0002725199999999933 seconds
acket Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4][im[TCP] Process Time: 0.0002691420000000555 seconds
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:im[TCP] Process Time: 0.00030284199999999996986 seconds
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:im[TOP] Process Time: 0,00018020800000007053 seconds
Packet Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4];1m[TCP] Process Time: 0.0002098999999999851 seconds
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:Im[TOP] Process Time: 0,00011381499999996159 seconds
acket Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:im[TOP] Process Time: 4,2844999999958056e-05 seconds
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet] [IPv4] [Im [TCP] Process Time: 8,310900000008115e-05 Seconds
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:im[TCP] Process Time: 0.00020785099999998113 Seconds
Packet Discarded
Packet Discarded
                      Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethe
                                                                met][IPv4]:1m[TCP] Process Time : 0,0002142249999999013 Seconds
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet] [IPv4] im [TCP] Process Time: 0.000213149999999993 Seconds
Packet Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:im[TOP] Process Time: 0,00014561199999996166 Seconds
                                                                acket Disc
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4];im[TCP] Process Time: 0,0003073749999999986 Seconds
acket Discarded
acket Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:im[TOP] Process Time: 0,00022902499999999382 Seconds
```

Fig 11: Filtering Packets based on IP rule

More matching fields can be added such as TTL, TOS, HLEN etc for the IP rules. Both IPv4 and IPv6 rules can be filtered in the system.

#### **UDP Filtering / UDP rule emulation:**

We try to run the system on a UDP rule set as follows.

```
Choose Type of Rule

1.Ethernet (Layer 2)

2.IP Rule (layer 3)

3.TCP Rule (layer 4)

4.UDP Rule (layer 4)

Enter Source PORT: 6060
Want to match UDP Destination Port? (y/n)n
Enter Rule (Allow/Discard: allow
Rule (Layer 3)

Press Enter to continue

The rule in analogical form: Field—Rule(Allow/Discard)
Enter Rule (layer Bource Port? (y/n)n
Enter Source PORT: 6060
Want to match UDP Destination Port? (y/n)n
Enter Rule (Allow/Discard: allow
Rule Inserted

Press Enter to continue
```

Running the nping command using the source port 6060 and trying with other ports is as follows:

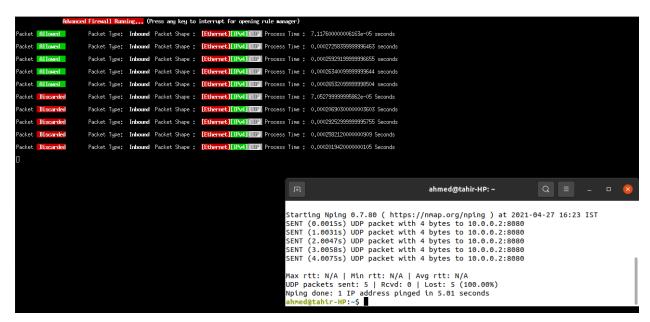


Fig 12: UDP packets filtering

## **TCP Packet Filtering / TCP rule emulation:**

We now try to observe the system against TCP packets by defining the TCP layer rules in the system. This is shown below.

Fig 13: Choosing TCP rule

```
Choose Type of Rule

1.Ethernet (Layer 2)

2.IP Rule (layer 3)

3.TCP Rule (layer 4)

4.UDP Rule (layer 4)

5.ICMP Rule (Layer 3)

Enter Your Option
```

```
Enter the rule in analogical form: Field—Field—Rule(Allow/Discard)
Enter Rule ID
200
Want to match TCP Source Port? (y/n)y
Enter Source PORT: 1166
Want to match TCP Destination Port? (y/n)y
Enter Destination PORT: 8080
Want to match TCP URG Flag Field? (y/n)n
Want to match TCP SYN Flag Field? (y/n)n
Want to match TCP RST Flag Field? (y/n)n
Enter Rule (Allow/Discard: allow
Rule Inserted

Press Enter to continue
```

Fig 14: TCP rule defined

```
Inbound Packet Shape : [Ethernet][IPv4]:Im[TCP] Process Time : 0,00040728000000000986
                                                       m[TCP] Process Time: 0.00020970900000005788 seconds
Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4];
Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4][IIIITOP] Process Time: 0.000280003399999994485 seconds
                  and Packet Shape : [Ethernet][IPv4]:im[II
                                                           P Process Time: 0,0002751880000000373 Seconds
Packet Type: Inhound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:1m[TC
                                                           Process Time : 0.00028600400000000636 Se
                                                                                                                                  Q = - 0 X
                                                                                             ahmed@tahir-HP: ~
                                              Starting Nping 0.7.80 ( https://nmap.org/nping ) at 2021-04-27 16:31 IST
SENT (0.0037s) Starting TCP Handshake > 10.0.0.2:9080
RCVD (1.0051s) Possible TCP RST received from 10.0.0.2:9080 --> Cannot assign re
                                              quested address
                                              .
SENT (1.0053s) Starting TCP Handshake > 10.0.0.2:9080
RCVD (2.0067s) Possible TCP RST received from 10.0.0.2:9080 --> Cannot assign re
                                              quested address
SENT (2.0069s) Starting TCP Handshake > 10.0.0.2:9080
                                              RCVD (3.0081s) Possible TCP RST received from 10.0.0.2:9080 --> Cannot assign re
                                              uested address
                                              SENT (3.0083s) Starting TCP Handshake > 10.0.0.2:9080
```

Fig 15: TCP packet filtering

## **ICMP Filtering/ ICMP rule emulation:**

Defining the ICMP rules in the system to check filtering against ICMP protocol packers. The ICMP is identified from the IP packet using the protocol number '1'.

```
ICHP Rule
Choose Type of Rule
                                            the rule in analogical form: Field Field Rule(Allow/Discard)
1,Ethernet (Layer 2)
                                      <mark>Enter</mark>
200
2, IP Rule (layer 3)
                                      Enter ICMPv4 or ICMPv6 (4/6)
3.TCP Rule (layer 4)
                                      Want to match type field? (y/n)y
                                      Enter Type : 8
4.UDP Rule (layer 4)
                                      Want to match code field? (y/n)y
                                      Enter code : 0
Enter Rule (Allow/Discard : allow
5,ICMP Rule (Layer 3)
Enter Your Option
                                            Enter to continue
```

Fig 16: ICMP rule selection

Fig 17: ICMPv4 Rule definition

```
Advanced Firewall Running... (Press any key to interrupt for opening rule manager)
Packet Allowed
79000000000015 seconds
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICHPv4 Process Time: 0.0002360
Packet Allowed
12999999992125 seconds
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time: 0,0001973
Packet Allowed
1300000003227 seconds
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time: 0.0001973
Packet Allowed
3300000004962 seconds
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICHPv4 Process Time: 0.0002002
Packet Allowed
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICHPv4 Process Time: 0.0002023
7899999997477 seconds
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethermet] [IPv4] ICMPv4 Process Time: 0,0002009
Packet Allowed
09000000002687 seconds
Packet Allowed
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time: 0,0001951
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time: 0.0002035
Packet Allowed
0800000000189 seconds
Packet Allowed
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethermet] [IPv4] ICMPv4 Process Time: 0,0001995
99999999996647 seconds
Packet Allowed
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time: 0,0001980
45999999995176 seconds
```

Fig 18: ICMPv4 Filtering rules

## **Discarding ICMP requests from external host:**

We define the following rule that doesn't allow the ICMP echo requests to the internal host.

```
ICHP Rule

Enter the rule in analogical form: Field—Field—Rule(Allow/Discard)
Enter Rule ID
201
Enter ICMPv4 or ICMPv6 (4/6)
4
Want to match type field? (y/n)y
Enter Type: 8
Want to match code field? (y/n)y
Enter code: 0
Enter Rule (Allow/Discard: discard
Rule Inserted

Press Enter to continue
```

Fig 19: ICMP Discarding echo requests

```
ed Firewall Running... (Press any key to interrupt for opening rule manager)
Packet Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time: 6.952700000006917e-05 Seconds
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]IOIPv4 Process Time: 0.0001993489999999998 Seconds
Packet Discarded
Packet Discarded
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time: 0,00019783000000006545 Seconds
Packet Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inhound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICHPv4 Process Time: 0.00019942600000000255 Seconds
Packet Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time: 0.00020111300000003052 Seconds
Packet Discarded
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4][CHPv4 Process Time: 0.00019805799999994544 Seconds
Packet Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4][CPv4] Process Time: 0.00019670900000001712 Seconds
Packet Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inhound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICHPv4 Process Time: 0.00019827799999994067 Seconds
Packet Discarded
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time: 0.00020057499999992512 Seconds
Packet Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICPV4 Process Time: 0.0001998239999999996 Seconds
Packet Discarded
                                                            [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time : 9,37839999993015e-05 Seconds
Packet Discarded
                        Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]ICMPv4 Process Time: 0,00020094599999997964 Seconds
```

Fig 20: Discarding ICMP echo requests

## Task 3: Benchmarking and performance analysis of advanced firewall

In this task, we try to benchmark the system with respect to the packet processing powers, packet per second handling by the system, and also the performance of the system with respect to the number of rules and matching fields in the system.

Tool used for benchmarking: nping from nmap repository to generate various packets.

```
ahmed@tahir-HP:~$ nping --version
Nping version 0.7.80 ( https://nmap.org/nping )
```

#### **Test 1:**

Metric	Value
Packet probe delay	500ms
Number of Packets	1000
Running Time	50 Seconds

The following results are observed for the above test.

Fig 21: Statistics Display

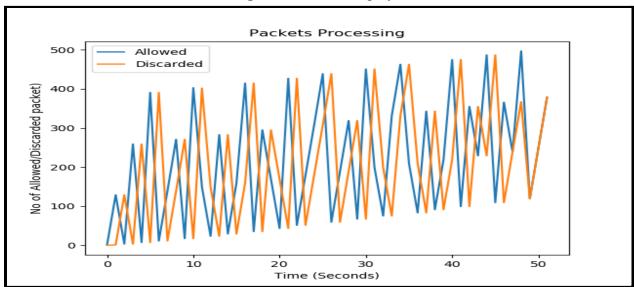


Fig 21: Packet Processing Plot w.r.t Allowed and Discarded packets

The PPS for this case is around : > 100 packets

## **Test 2:**

Metric	Value
Packet probe delay	100ms
Number of Cycles	1000
Running Time	50 Seconds

## **Statistics Observed:**

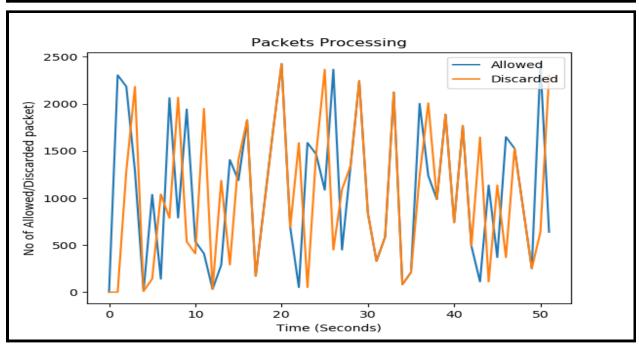


Fig 22 : Packets Processing

The PPS observed for this test case is : >500 packets

**Test 3:** 

Metric	Value
Packet probe delay	10ms
Number of Cycles	1000
Running Time	20 Seconds

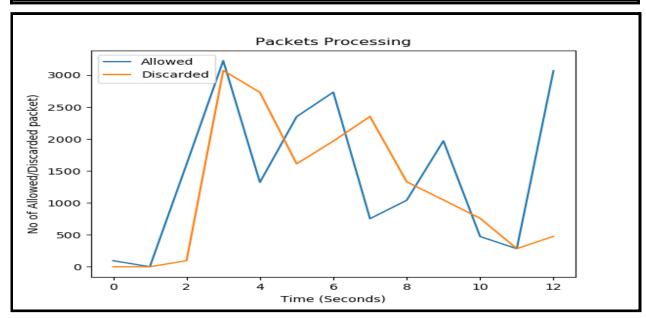
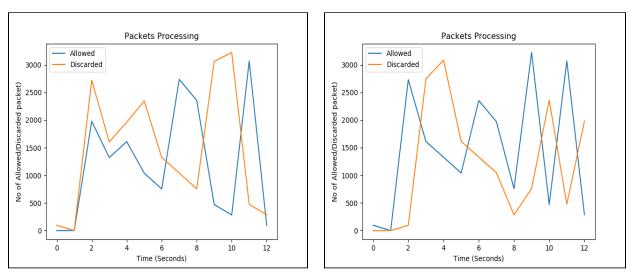


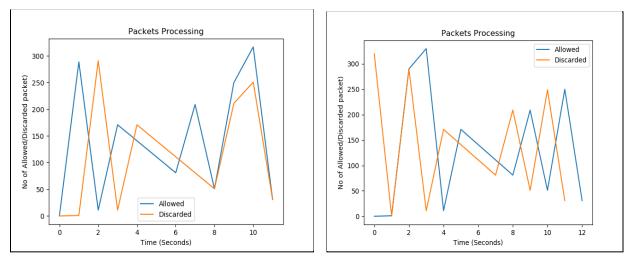
Fig 23: Packet Processing with 10ms delay

The observed PPS for this case is : > 1000 packets

# Performance of system w.r.t number of rules :



**Fig 24:** No of rules : 5, PPS observed : >2000 **Fig 25:** No of rules : 10, PPS observed : >1000



**Fig 26:** No of rules : 15, PPS observed : >250 **Fig 27:** No of rules : 20, PPS observed : >150

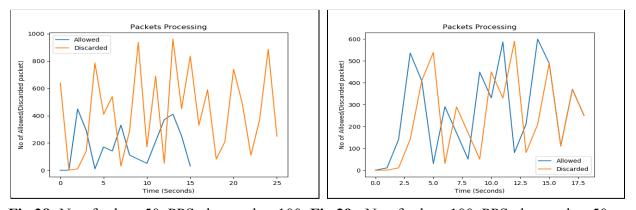


Fig 28: No of rules: 50, PPS observed: >100 Fig 29: No of rules: 100, PPS observed: >50

#### **Observation:**

From the above performance plots, we clearly observe that as the number of rules tend to increase the **PPS decreases** since the matching fields increase and a greater amount of time is spent in comparing the fields and making decisions against the rules defined by the system.

# Task 4-b: Attack Detection (CHOSEN ATTACK: DoS)

In this task, the advanced firewall system is extended to detect certain attacks that exist in the networking communication. We choose to employ the DoS attack detection in the firewall. We first understand the DoS attack as follows:

## **DoS (Denial of Service Attack)**

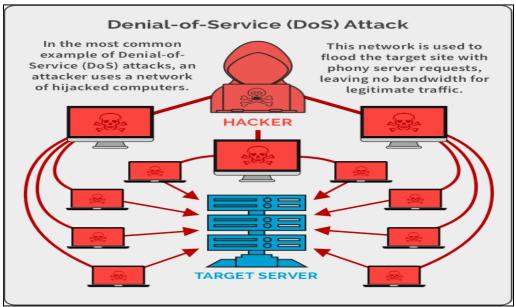


Fig 30: DoS attack (Source Via https://spanning.com/)

The DoS attack or Denial of Service attack is a type of attack where an attacker overpowers or generates a heavy amount of requests to a server, which causes the server to exhaust all its resources to prepare responses to the heavy requests, thereby making the server unserviceable to further incoming genuine requests.

## Design and Implementation of the detection mechanism:

Now to make our system be able to detect the DoS attack and mitigate it, we first create a dos\_track map which is a dictionary that basically holds the count of each source IP that enters the system. Then a certain dos\_threshold is also defined in the system initially from the options of Firewall. During the packet decision process, after the rules checking is completed, the system further checks if the IP count is still lesser than the threshold limit. If the threshold limit is exceeded a DoS error is generated and the packet is dropped.

Entity	Value
Tool Used	Nping < <a href="https://nmap.org/nping/">https://nmap.org/nping/"&gt;</a>
Probe Delay b/w packets	200ms
Threshold Limit	20

The following workflow shows the DoS detection by the system.



Fig 31: Setting DoS threshold

```
Want to Turn on DoS detection? (y/n)y
Enter new threshold limit :
20
Threshold Updated..Press Enter
```

Fig 32: DoS threshold

Next we send a continuous stream of packets from the external host with a delay of 200ms using the *nping utility by Nmap*. The firewall after a threshold limit of 20 discards the packet as shown below.

```
Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:1m[TCP] Process Time: 0.0002518290000064734 seconds
 acket Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:1m[TCP] Process Time: 0.0003117580000004949 seconds
Packet Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inhound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:Im[TCP] Process Time: 0,00019609199999948146 seconds
Packet Allowed
Packet Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inhound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:1m[TCP] Process Time: 0,00024759599999946147 seconds
Packet Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:1m[TCP] Process Time: 0,00026275400000042026 seconds
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:1m[TCP] Process Time: 0.0002691409999995287 seconds
Packet Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:Im[TOP] Process Time: 0.00025052899999966627 seconds
Packet Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:Im[TOP] Process Time: 0.00022782100000018346 seconds
Packet Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:Im[TCP] Process Time: 0,00027200800000048986 seconds
Packet Allowed
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]; Im[TCP] Process Time: 0.000227708999999979832 seconds
Packet Allowed
 BoS Detected
Packet Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet] [IPV4] Im TOP Process Time: 0,00037141700000020705 Seconds
 BoS Detected
 Packet Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:Im[TCP] Process Time: 0.00030933800000010336 Seconds
  BoS Detected
 Packet Discarded
                       Packet Type: Inbound Packet Shape: [Ethernet][IPv4]:1m[TCP] Process Time: 0.0003693010000000996 Seconds
  BoS Betected
```

Fig 33: DoS detected by Firewall

# **Technical Specifications:**

Configuration Specifications		
<b>Host Operating System</b>	Ubuntu Desktop 20.04 LTS	
VM Configurations	Firewall: OS: Ubuntu Server 20.04 LTS	
	Host1: OS: Ubuntu Server 20.04 LTS	
Programming Language	Python 3.8	
Tools Used		
Performance Benchmarking	Nping Tool Version 0.7.08 (Nmap)	
DoS simulation	Nping Tool Version 0.7.08 (Nmap)	
Libraries Used		
Matplotlib.pyplot (Graph Plots), socket (Raw Socket Programming), pyfiglet (For Banner on CLI), json (Rule storing)		

## **References:**

- 1. https://nmap.org/
- 2. <a href="https://nmap.org/nping/">https://nmap.org/nping/</a> [Nping Utility]
- 3. <a href="https://virt-manager.org/">https://virt-manager.org/</a> [Virt manager]
- 4. <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denial-of-service\_attack">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denial-of-service\_attack</a>

## **Conclusion:**

Through this assignment and experimentation we understand the working and design of firewall systems, to filter network packets across various domains. We analyse the performance metrics of the firewall system and understand the causes behind the observances that we come across. We also get to know the attacks that are possible and identify the mitigation strategies to such attacks.

# **Appendix:**

More Options in CLI of Advanced Firewall

```
Released Firewall represents the complex and full scale dynamic firewall system, which provides rule management, statistics report, etc. It supports from layer 2 to layer 4.

Press Enter to continue
```

Fig a: Firewall Description

Fig b: Updating Rules

Fig c: Deleting Rules

Fig d: Printing Existing Rules in System



Fig e: Saving Rules



Fig f: Loading Rules

# **Deliverables enclosed:**

- **1.** firewall.py Complete source code for firewall including the simple firewall, advanced firewall for tasks 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- **2.** README.txt The readme file enlisting the commands to run the program.
- **3.** report.pdf Assignment and program documentation report

## **PLAGIARISM STATEMENT**

I certify that this assignment/report is my own work, based on my personal study and/or research and that I have acknowledged all material and sources used in its preparation, whether they be books, articles, reports, lecture notes, and any other kind of document, electronic or personal communication. I also certify that this assignment/report has not previously been submitted for assessment in any other course, except where specific permission has been granted from all course instructors involved, or at any other time in this course, and that I have not copied in part or whole or otherwise plagiarised the work of other students and/or persons. I pledge to uphold the principles of honesty and responsibility at CSE@IITH. In addition, I understand my responsibility to report honour violations by other students if I become aware of it.

Name: Tahir Ahmed Shaik, Pratik M. Lahase, Jaykishan Pipaliya

**Date:** 01/05/2021

Signature: Tahir, Pratik, Jaykishan