

OPEN SOURCE TECHNOLOGIES

REPORT

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REPORT

QUESTION: Being the man in the middle, you are asked to tamper ARP table of the victim machine and sniff network traffic between the victim and server. Also, provide remediation to such kind of intrusion. Use any open-source software to generate a report on the same.

1. Introduction:

1.1. Objective: With the help of ettercap, I will tamper the ARP table of the victim machine and with the help of wireshark, I will analyze or sniff the network traffic between the victim and server.

1.2. Description:

MITM: A man-in-the-middle attack is a cyber attack in which a threat actor puts themselves in the middle of two parties, typically a user and an application, to intercept their communications and data exchanges and use them for malicious purposes like making unauthorized purchases or hacking.

The MITM attack consists of two phases: interception and decryption.

- Interception kicks off the attack. In this phase, the cybercriminal works to intercept your online activities before you reach your intended destination.
- The decryption phase consists of the criminal quietly decoding stolen data and decrypting secure connections so you can't tell there's a monster in the middle.

ARP Poisoning: It is also known as ARP Spoofing. It is a type of cyber attack carried out over a Local Area Network (LAN) that involves sending malicious ARP packets to a default gateway on a LAN in order to change the pairings in its IP to MAC address table. ARP Protocol translates IP addresses into MAC addresses.

ARP: The Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) handles the mapping between an Internet Protocol (IP) address and a Media Access Control (MAC) address. Linux stores all such mappings in a local system cache called an ARP table. In order to tamper ARP table, I have used Ettercap.

Ettercap: It is an open-source tool that can be used to support man-in-the-middle attacks on networks. It can capture packets and then write them back onto the network. It also enables the diversion and alteration of data virtually in real-time.

Wireshark: In order to sniff network traffic between the victim and server, I have used wireshark. It is a network protocol analyzer, or an application that captures packets from a network connection, such as from your computer to your home office or the internet. Packet is the name given to a discrete unit of data in a typical Ethernet network. Also, wireshark is the most often used packet sniffer in the world.

DNS spoofing: It is also known as DNS cache poisoning, involves infiltrating a DNS server and altering a website's address record. As a result, users attempting to access the site are sent by the altered DNS record to the attacker's site.

1.3. Scope: MITM attacks are likely to grow more common as we connect additional devices to Wi-Fi networks. From the internet-connected smart doorbell to online protection systems, cybercriminals have increasing opportunities to hack our networks. And many of these newer devices have little or no security. Adopting a preventive mindset and strictly adhering to secure connections will help to keep you, your business, and your staff safe from MITM and other cyber threats.

2. Analysis Report:

2.1. Pre-requisites:

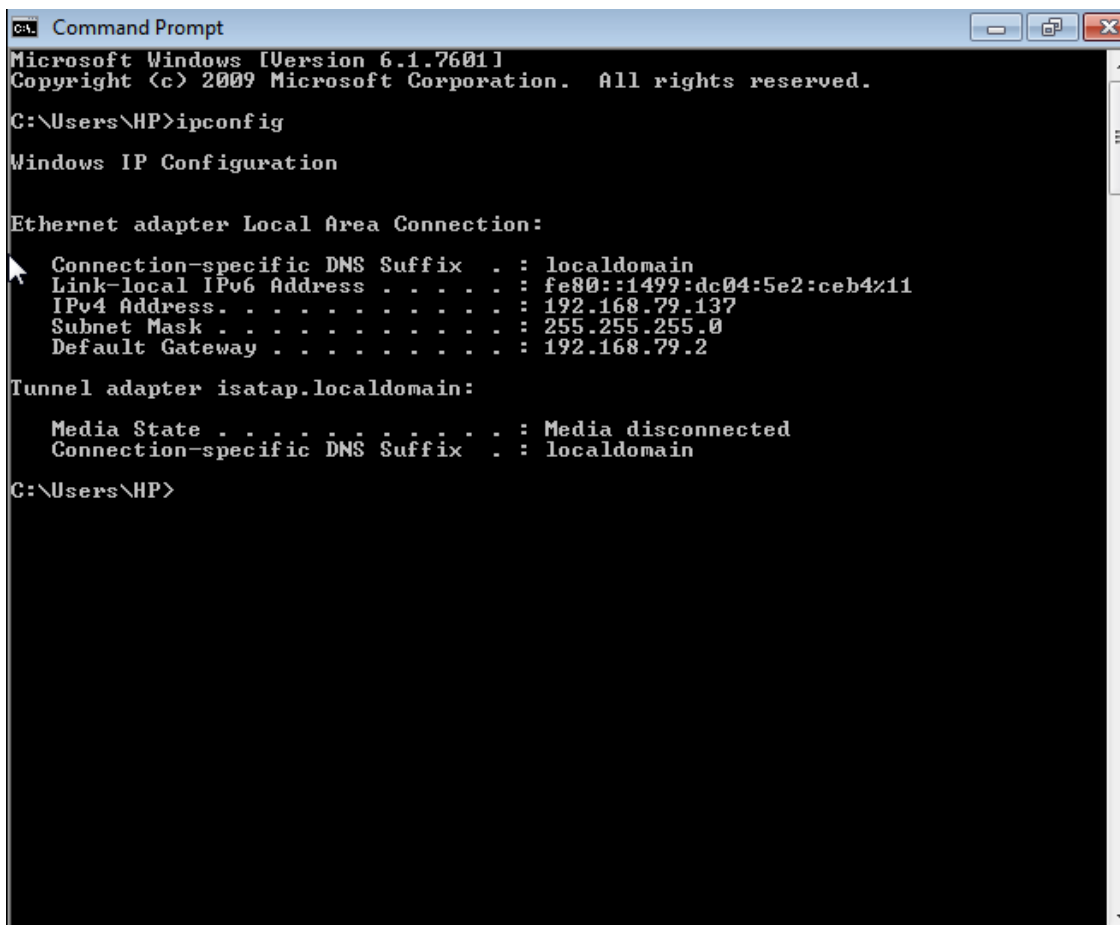
- Victim machine: Windows 7
- Attacker machine: Kali Linux

Firstly we need to perform ARP poisoning:

We would be doing it using Ettercap:

It is an open-source tool that can be used to support man-in-the-middle attacks on networks. It can capture packets and then write them back onto the network. It also enables the diversion and alteration of data virtually in real-time.

Let's first check the IP of victim machine:



```
ca: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\HP>ipconfig

Windows IP Configuration

Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection:

   Connection-specific DNS Suffix  . : localdomain
   Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::1499:dc04:5e2:ceb4%11
   IPv4 Address. . . . . : 192.168.79.137
   Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
   Default Gateway . . . . . : 192.168.79.2

Tunnel adapter isatap.localdomain:

   Media State . . . . . : Media disconnected
   Connection-specific DNS Suffix  . : localdomain

C:\Users\HP>
```

Now let's check the initial ARP table:

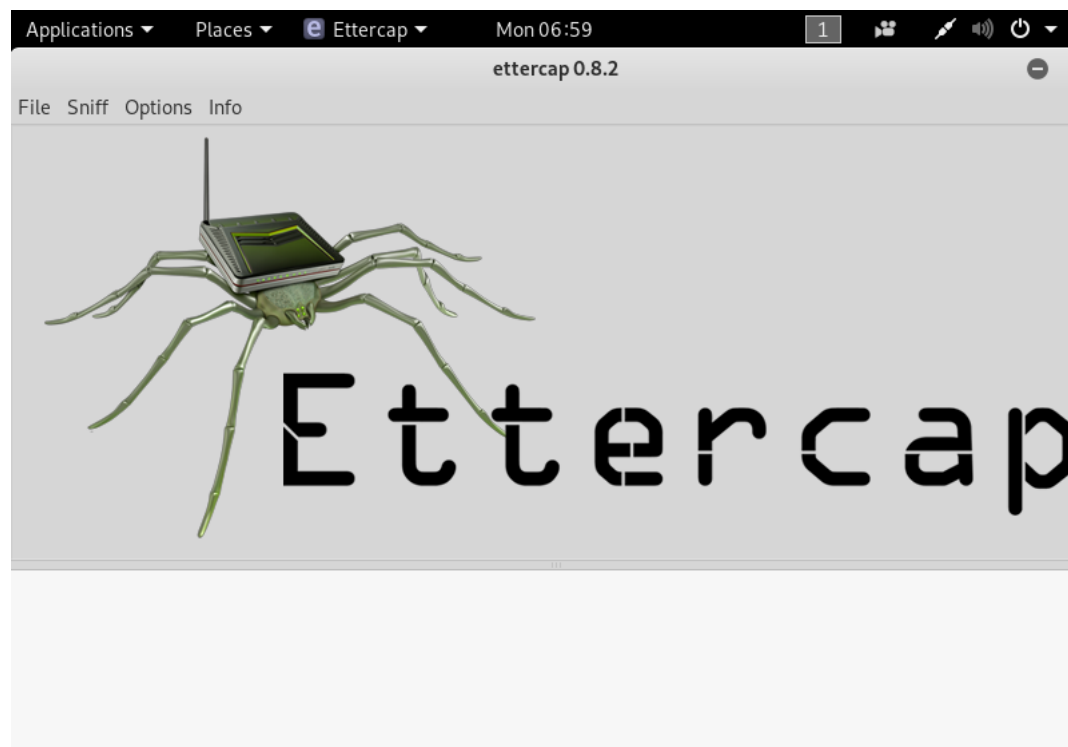
```
C:\Users\HP>arp -a

Interface: 192.168.79.137 --- 0xb
Internet Address      Physical Address      Type
192.168.79.2          00-50-56-fd-23-da    dynamic
192.168.79.255        ff-ff-ff-ff-ff-ff    static
224.0.0.22            01-00-5e-00-00-16    static
224.0.0.252          01-00-5e-00-00-fc    static
255.255.255.255      ff-ff-ff-ff-ff-ff    static

C:\Users\HP>_
```

Now in the Kali Linux:

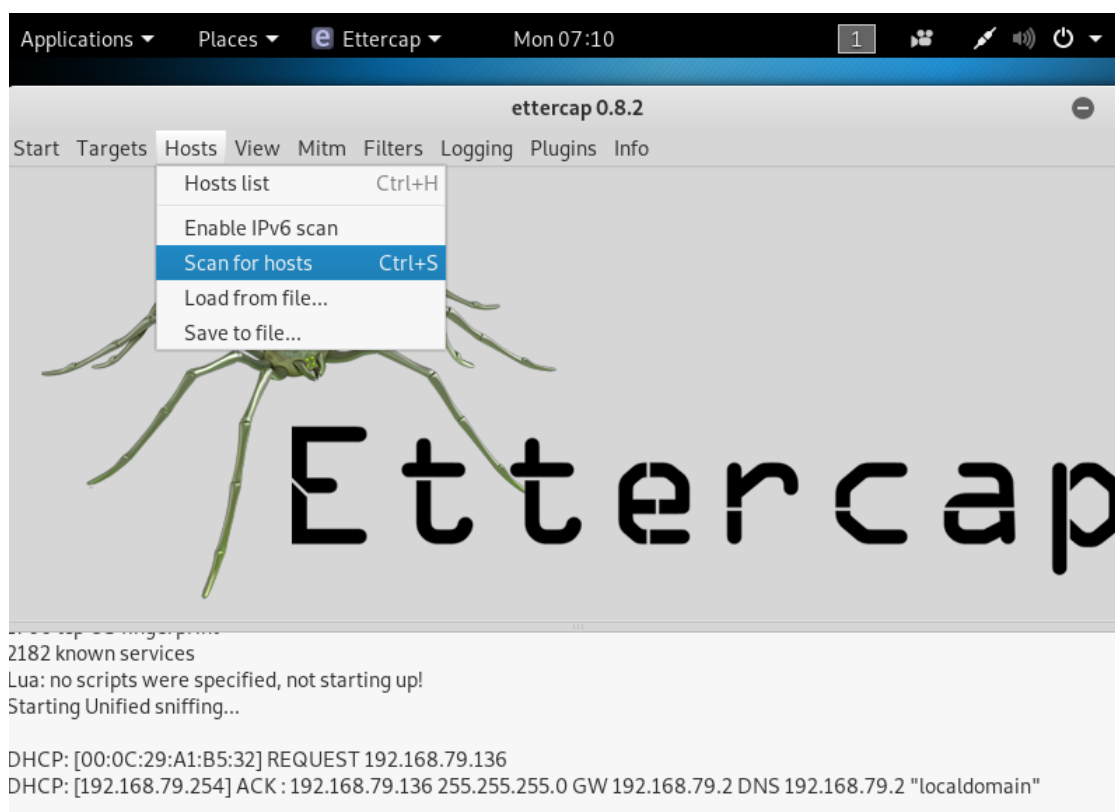
Open the Ettercap tool. The main page looks like the following:



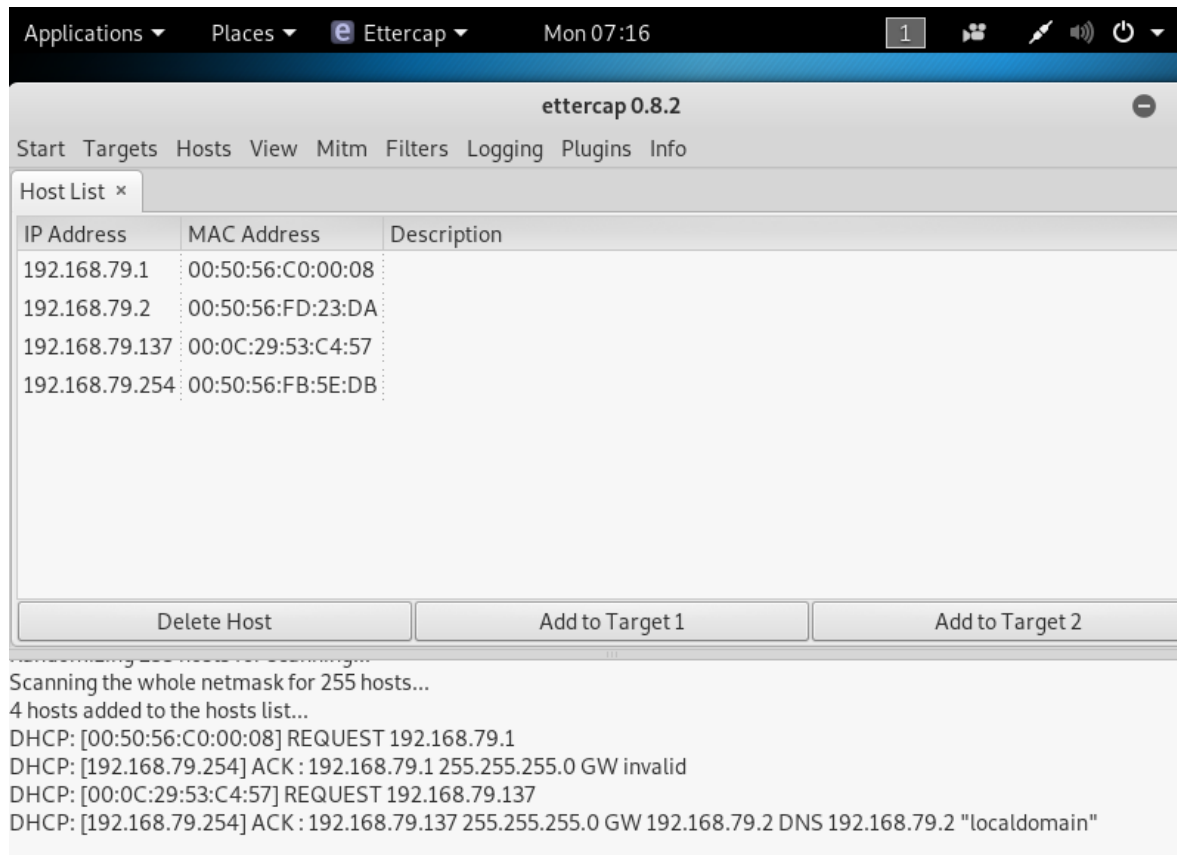
Now select the network to be sniffed:



Scan for hosts in the network:



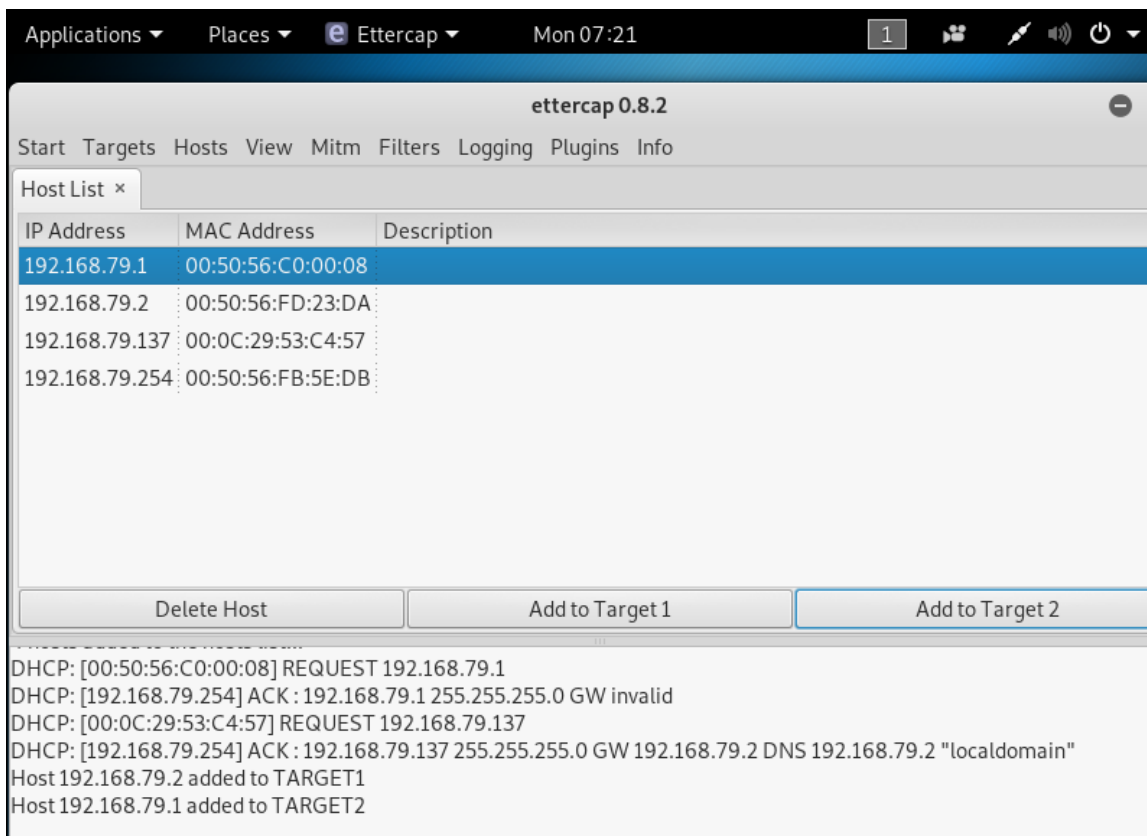
It gives the following hosts list:



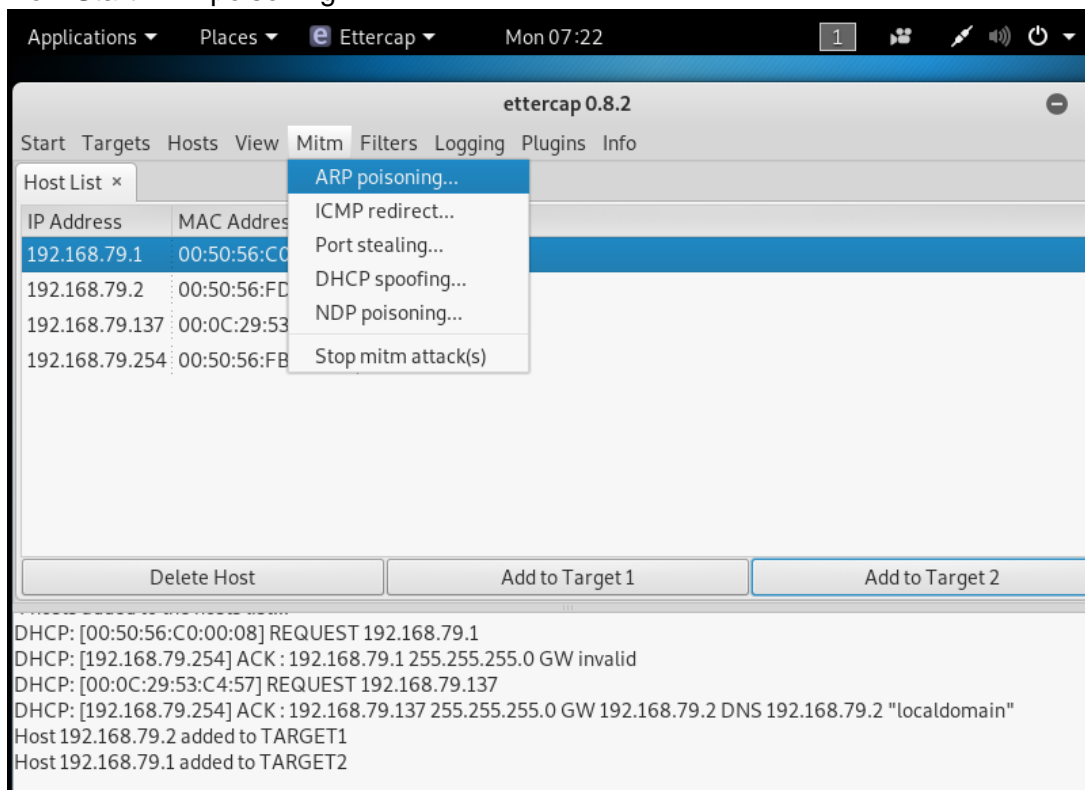
We can see that our victim machine IP is available in the list.

- Now add the victim machine IP to target 1:
(Add 192.168.79.2 to target 1)
- And add gateway IP address to target 2:
(add 192.168.79.1 to target 2)

Gateway IP address is not used for any machine IP addresses it only acts as a network Gateway where the attacker can be present to perform MITM attack.

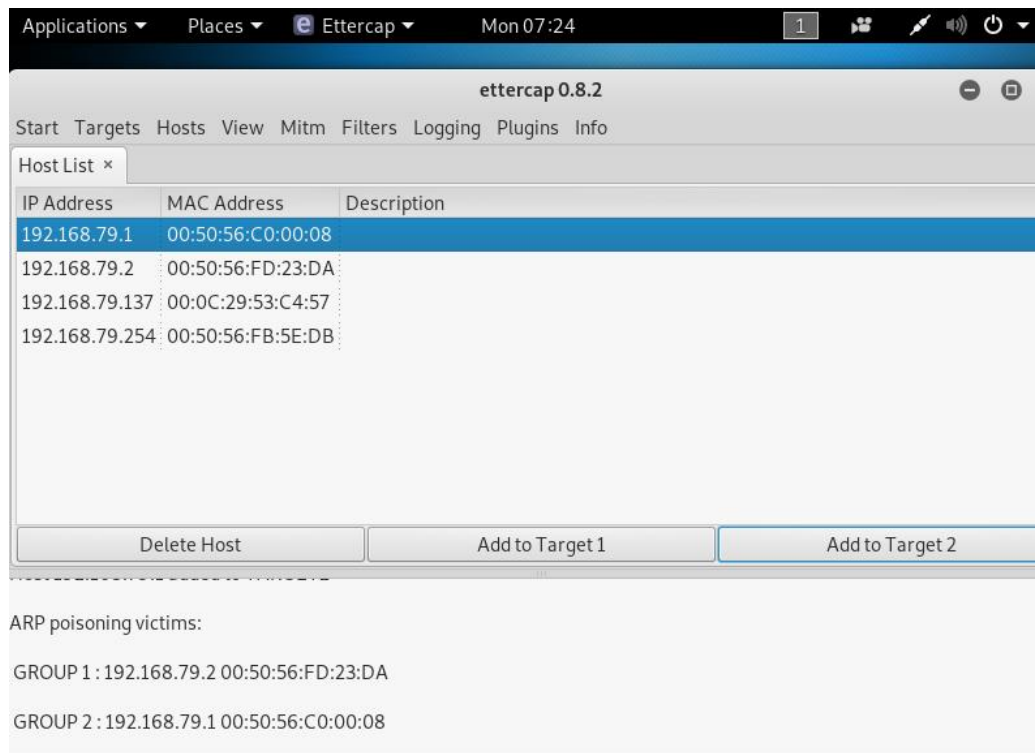


Now Start ARP poisoning:



You will get the result as follows:

(Here first and last IPS is for broadcasting and second is victim's IP address and third is other persons IP address whomever is connect to that network)



Now go to Victim machine and check the ARP table:

```
C:\Users\HP>arp -a

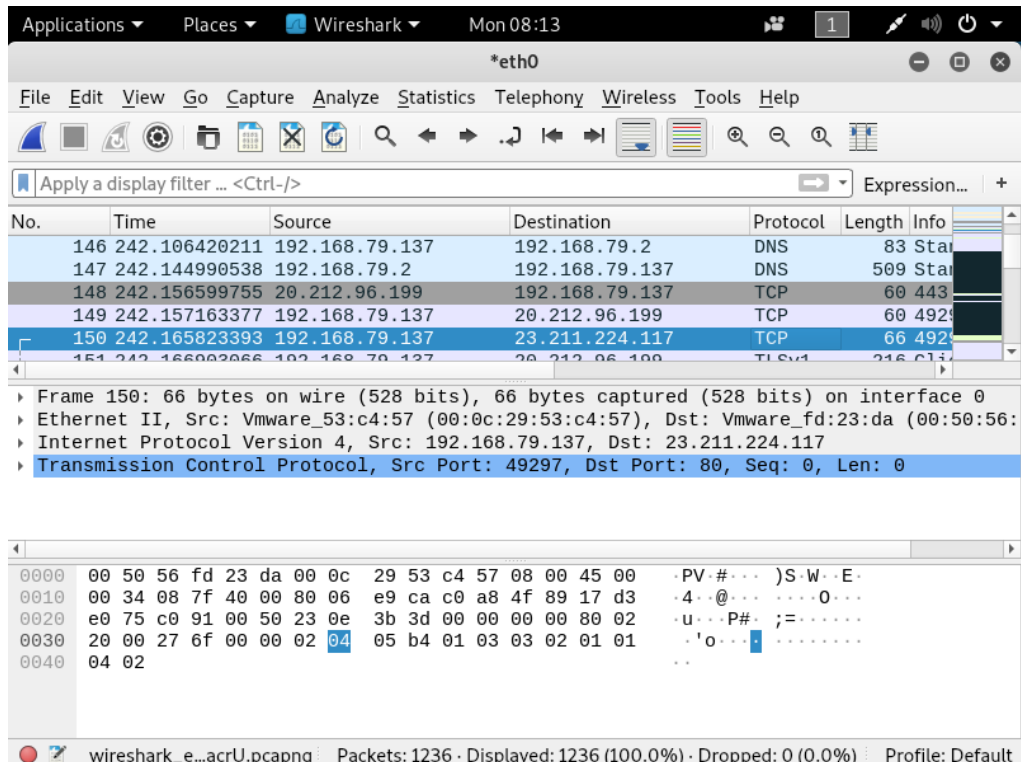
Interface: 192.168.79.137 --- 0xb
Internet Address      Physical Address      Type
192.168.79.2          00-50-56-fd-23-da    dynamic
192.168.79.136        00-0c-29-a1-b5-32    dynamic
192.168.79.254        00-50-56-fb-5e-db    dynamic
192.168.79.255        ff-ff-ff-ff-ff-ff    static
224.0.0.22            01-00-5e-00-00-16    static
224.0.0.252           01-00-5e-00-00-fc    static
255.255.255.255       ff-ff-ff-ff-ff-ff    static
```

You can see the IP: 192.168.79.254 has the same MAC Address as the IP address of the victim's machine (192.168.79.2). This is how using ettercap, we can easily tamper the ARP table.

Now for the second part of the question.

In order to sniff network traffic between the victim and server:

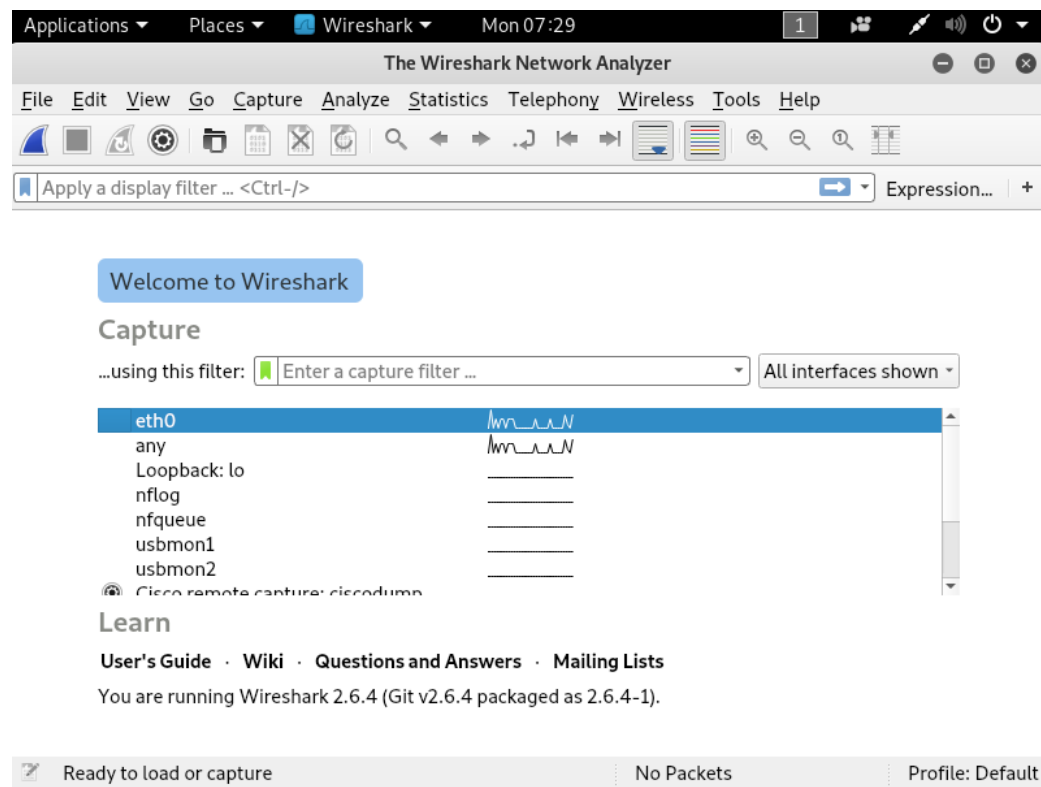
Identifying this attack on Wireshark:



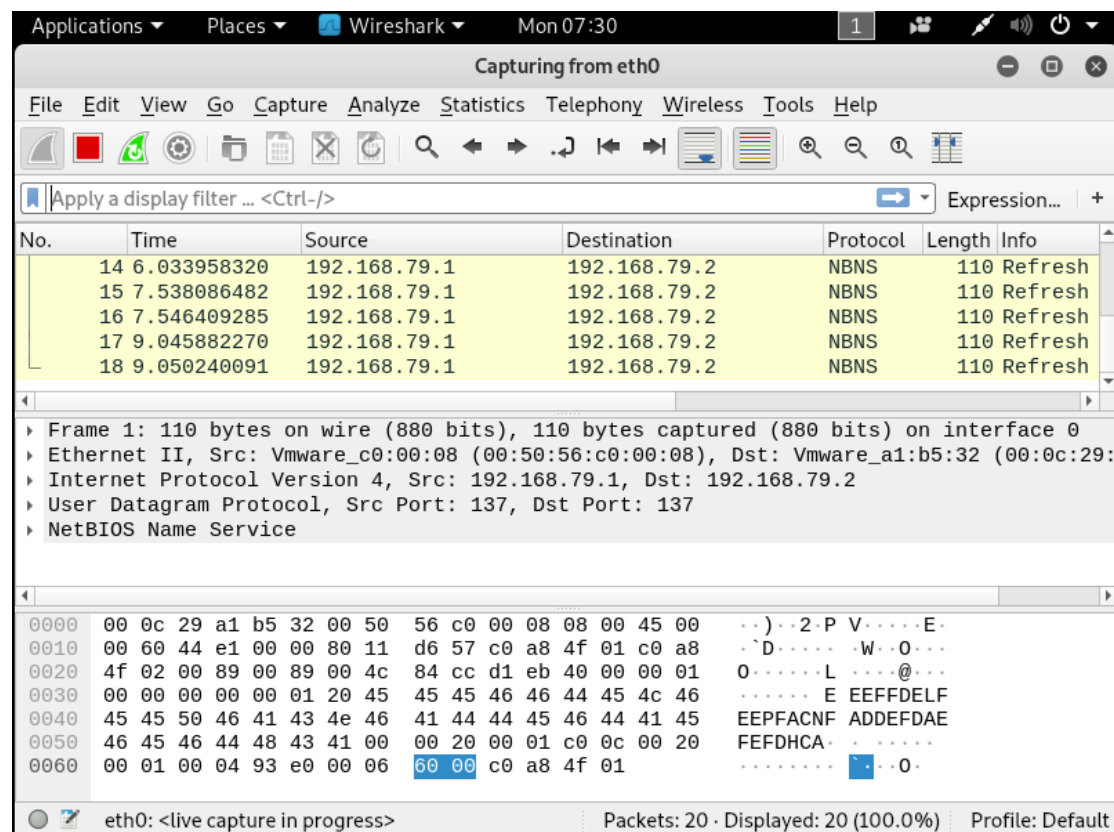
In this image you can view that the DNS server of victim machine is connected to attacker machine and the attacker is receiving TCP request from the server.

Now sniffing the network traffic between victim and server using WIRESHARK:

The Wireshark interface is as follows:

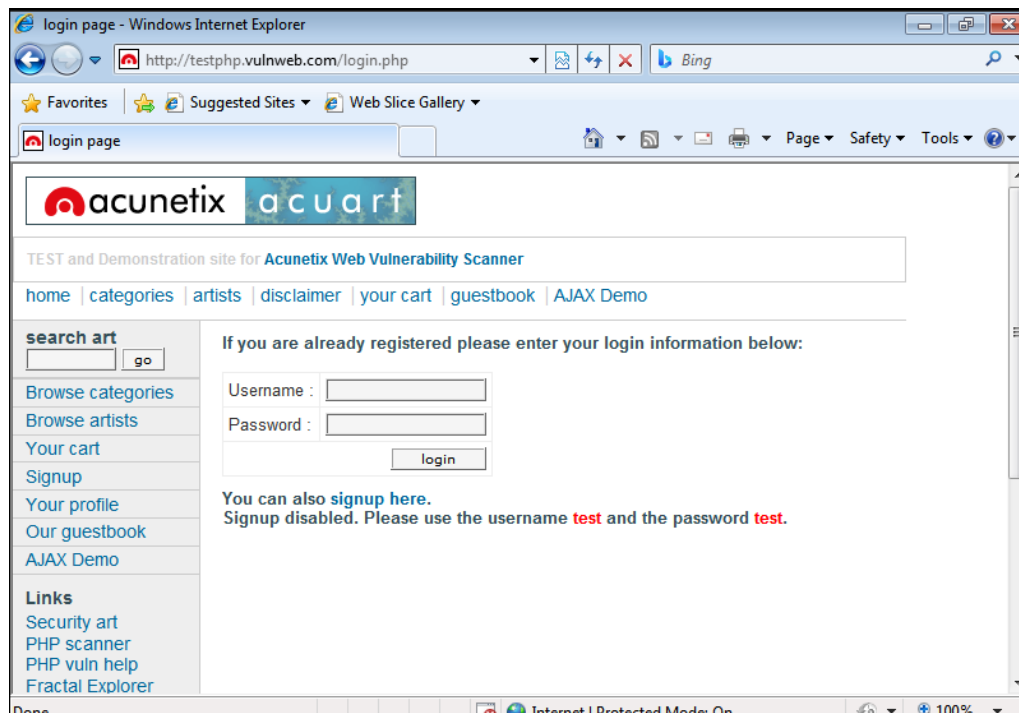


Select the network to start sniffing packets. We have selected eth0 network and the wireshark has started sniffing:

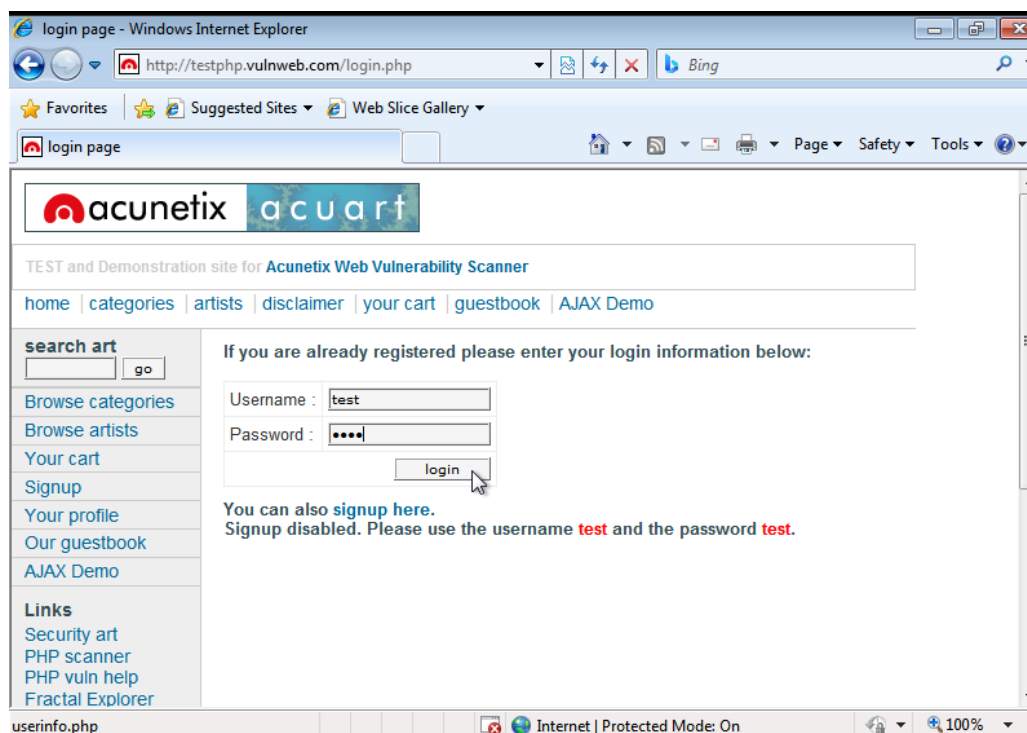


Now on the Victim machine, we opened a website Vulweb (a cybersecurity website to test attacks)

And opened its Login page:



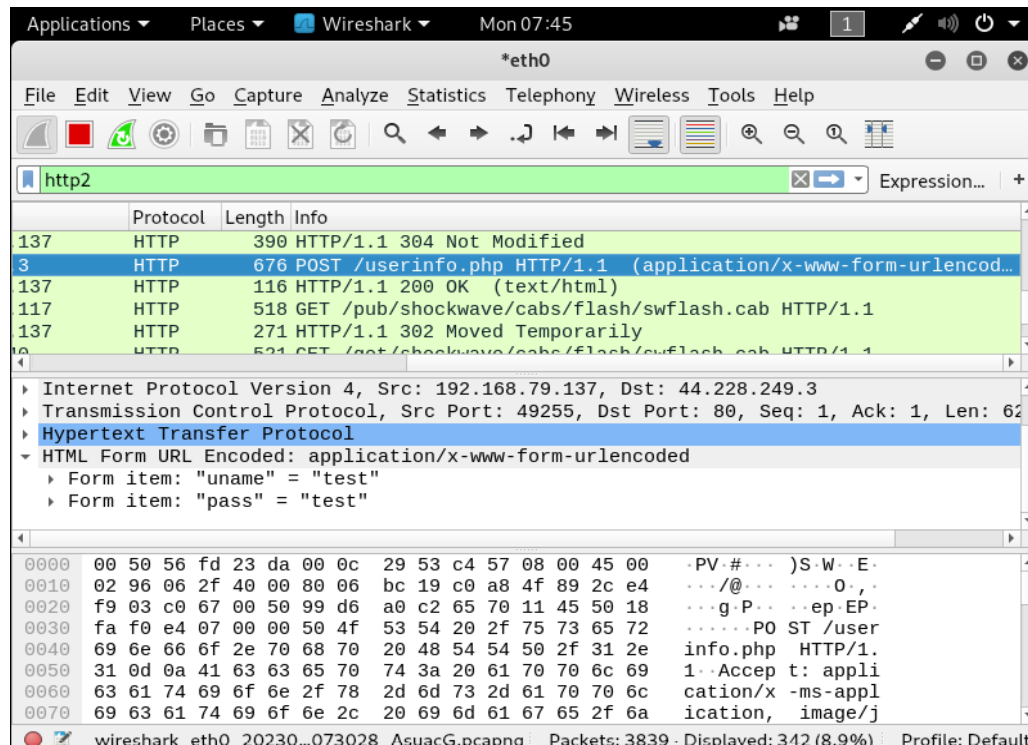
Now enter the login credentials on the website, so we can capture it on the wireshark interface:



Now if you check the Wireshark on Attacker machine and apply the filter http, you can view http packets.

Search for the POST request, as we have give data into the website it goes as a POST request.

If you select the packet and view HTML form you can view the Login credentials you have entered.



This is how with the help of wireshark, we can sniff the network traffic and check the credentials added by the user in the login page.

3. Preventive measures:

- **Secure connections:** A secure internet connection is your first line of defense. To that end, only visit websites with a secure HTTP connection using SSL (Secure Socket Layer) technology. The additional SSL protection prevents MITM attacks. Sticking with secure websites isn't the only important thing to do, but also avoid using any unsecured public Wi-Fi connections. With no security, these connections are easy for a criminal to hack and insert themselves between you and the websites you're using.
- **VPN:** One of the best practices for network security is to use a VPN (virtual private network) when connecting online. A VPN encrypts the data you send online. This encryption stops the MITM attack from infiltrating your network traffic. Even if a criminal manages to access your network, the encrypted data blocks them from reading your messages or knowing which websites you're going to.

4. Bibliography:

- <https://www.imperva.com/learn/application-security/man-in-the-middle-attack-mitm/>
- <https://www.advantageitm.com/blog/understanding-the-dangers-of-a-man-in-the-middle-attack>

5. Github link:

<https://github.com/kashishsood11/Man-in-the-middle-attack>