COMP8006: Assignment 2

Login Monitor Blocker

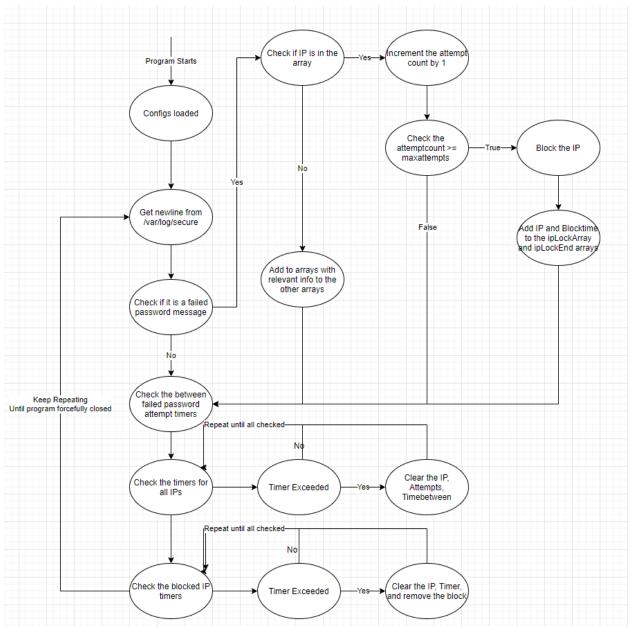
Table of Contents

1	Introduction	2			
2	How to Use4				
	2.1 Physical Requirement	4			
	2.2 Operating System	4			
	2.3 Setting up the System	4			
	2.4 Configuring the ipblocker.config File	4			
	2.5 Notable Configurations	5			
3	Testing Details	5			
4	Tests	5			
	4.1 Test Results	5			
	Configuration Used for Testing	5			
	4.1.1 Test 1 – Failed SSH Password 3 Attempts	6			
	4.1.2 Test 2 – Failed Telnet Password 3 Attempts	8			

1 Introduction

This assignment was to design a program that can detect failed password attempts to remotely access a computer through such as SSH or Telnet. Upon reaching the user specified maximum attempts allowed within the user specified timeframe between attempts, this program will automatically create an iptables rule to block the IP which made the attempts for a specified amount of time.

1.1 Finite State Machine



1.2 Pseudocode

```
import re #for regular expression
read entire /var/log/secure file until current
        do nothing
ipArray = []
ipAttemptCount = []
ipTimeBetween = []
ipLockArray = []
ipLockEnd = []
#repeat the following 3 steps until program is forcefully canceled
constantly read from the /var/log/secure file #waiting for new lines
#look for line containing failed password from IP
if (Failed password for user from x port)
        ip = re.findall(r'[0-9]+(?:\.[0-9]+){3}', line)
        write the line containing the IP to file
        check if the ip is in the table
                #in table
                if (currentTime <= ipTimeBetween[])</pre>
                        ipAttemptCount[]++
                        if (count == maximumAttempts)
                                add the iptables rule
                                ipLockArray.add()
                                ipLockEnd.add()
                        else
                        ipAttemptCount[] = 1
                #not in table
                else
                        ipArray.add()
                        ipAttemptCount.add(1)
                        ipTimeBetween.add()
#timerchecks
#check the "timeout"
for i in range(len(ipTimeBetween))
        if currentTime > ipTimeLimit[i]
                ipAddr.pop(i)
                ipAttemptCount.pop(i)
                ipTimeLimit.pop(i)
#blocktimercheck
for i in range(len(ipLockArray))
        if currentTime > ipLockEnd[i]
                #execute rule to unblock ip
                ipLockEnd.pop(i)
                ipLockArray.pop(i)
```

2 How to Use

The following section teaches how to use the Python script with the configuration file to monitor the /var/log/secure file for failed remote access attempts.

2.1 Physical Requirement

Only requires one machine to have the Python script to run on that you want secured.

2.2 Operating System

The machine should be a variant of Linux, in my case it is Fedora which uses /var/log/secure to save the log files. Other distros may use /var/log/secure so be sure to configure the settings to match your distro.

2.3 Setting up the System

rsyslog needs to be installed to allow the logging of system events, specifically failed password events.

2.4 Configuring the ipblocker.config File

The config file contains settings on how the ipblocker program will function.

```
ipblocker.config 

[default]
securelog = /var/log/secure
savelog = /home/kevinlo/Desktop/homework/pwlog.txt

timeout = 15
locktime = 0
maxattempts = 3
```

securelog: Location of your /var/log/secure file

savelog: Location to save all instances of failed remote access password attempts ssh/telnet

<u>timeout</u>: The maximum time allowed in seconds between failed password attempts, if this time expires, the attempts are set back to 0

<u>locktime</u>: The amount of time duration in seconds to block a connection who has exceeded their max attempts. If this is set to 0, the IP will be blocked permanently

maxattempts: The maximum number of attempts permitted before an IP is blocked.

2.5 Notable Configurations

Setting the timeout to a higher number may help avoid the brute forcing of the password however this may inconvenience users potentially blocking users from accessing the server and needing the admin to unblock their IP.

For most setups having locktime set to 0 to block IPs permanently will be preferred for most users as they are expected to know the password

3 Testing Details

I use three different computers for the testing

-Server Computer (Fedora) (IP: 192.168.1.250)

-SSH Computer (Rasbian) (IP: 192.168.1.252)

-Telnet Computer (Windows) (IP: 192.168.1.253)

The SSH computer is used to SSH into the server computer, the Telnet computer is used to Telnet into the server computer.

4 Tests

Test #	Test Description	Tool Used	Expected Result	Pass/Fail
1	Do maxattempts amount	SSH The IP address is blocked		Pass.
	failed password attempts		for the blocktime amount	Detailed results
	using SSH		of time, and then	attached.
			unblocked	
2	Do maxattempts amount	Telnet	The IP address is blocked	Pass.
	failed password attempts		for the blocktime specified	Detailed results
	using Telnet		amount of time, and then	attached.
			unblocked	

4.1 Test Results

Configuration Used for Testing

```
1 [default]
2 securelog = /var/log/secure
3 savelog = /home/kevinlo/Desktop/homework/pwlog.txt
4
5 timeout = 15
6 locktime = 10
7 maxattempts = 3
```

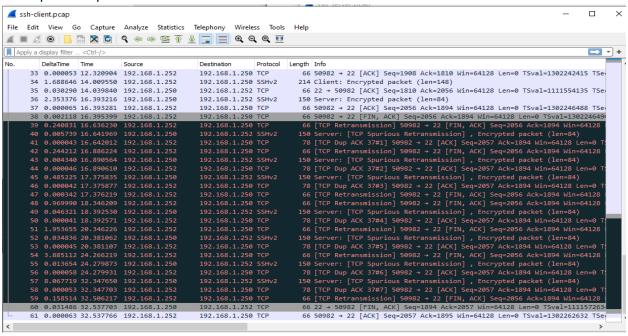
This is the configuration used to test the functionality of blocking and unblocking IPs after a specified amount of time.

4.1.1 Test 1 – Failed SSH Password 3 Attempts

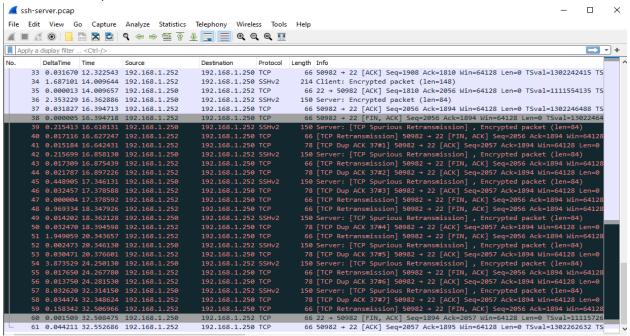
Ipblocker.py output

```
[root@fedora:/home/kevinlo/Desktop/homework]
[root@fedora:/home/kevinlo/Desktop/homework]
[root@fedora:/home/kevinlo/Desktop/homework]
Running IP blocker
Reading from: /var/log/secure
Saving entries to: /home/kevinlo/Desktop/homework/pwlog.txt
Timeout: 15 seconds
Lock Time: 10 seconds
Maximum Attempts: 3
Feb 23 01:21:17 localhost sshd[3751]: Failed password for kevinlo from 192.168.1.252 port 50982 ssh2
Feb 23 01:21:22 localhost sshd[3751]: Failed password for kevinlo from 192.168.1.252 port 50982 ssh2
Feb 23 01:21:26 localhost sshd[3751]: Failed password for kevinlo from 192.168.1.252 port 50982 ssh2
blocking ip 192.168.1.252 for 10 seconds. Time: 1614061286.8313267
unblocking ip 192.168.1.252 Time: 1614061296.8313665
```

Client packet capture



Server Packet capture



Iptables entry created by the ipblocker.py for the block duration

root@fedora:/home/kevinlo

groot@fedora:/home/kevinio							
Chain LIB	VIRT INP (0 references)						
target	prot opt source	destination					
Chain LIB	VIRT_OUT (0 references)						
	prot opt source	destination					
[root@localhost kevinlo]# iptables -L							
Chain INP	UT (policy ACCEPT)						
	prot opt source	destination					
DROP	all 192.168.1.252	anywhere					
TO THE PARTY OF TH							
	WARD (policy ACCEPT)						
target	prot opt source	destination					
Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)							
target	prot opt source	destination					
	VIRT_FWI (0 references)						
target	prot opt source	destination					
Chain LIBVIRT FWO (0 references)							
target	prot opt source	destination					
Chain LIBVIRT FWX (0 references)							
	prot opt source	destination					
ourges	pros ops source	des sim sion					
Chain LIB	VIRT_INP (0 references)						
target	prot opt source	destination					
Chain ITR	VIRT OUT (0 references)						
	prot opt source	destination					
	alhost kevinlo]#	destination					
froorgroc	GTHOSE VCATHTOLA						

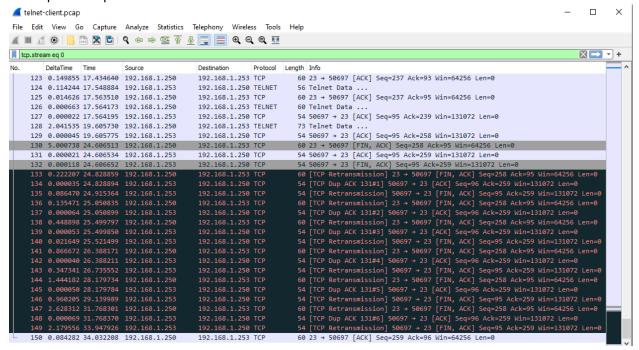
This is the iptables during the time the IP is blocked for 10 seconds. The packet captures show that the computer that failed the password 3 times within the time limit was blocked successfully and unblocked successfully.

4.1.2 Test 2 – Failed Telnet Password 3 Attempts

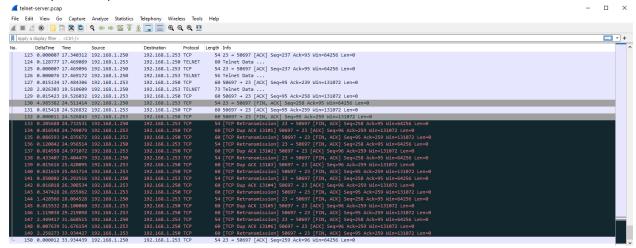
Ipblocker.py output

```
[root@fedora:/home/kevinlo/Desktop/homework]
[root@focalhost homework] # python ipblocker.py
Running IP blocker
Reading from: /var/log/secure
Saving entries to: /home/kevinlo/Desktop/homework/pwlog.txt
Timeout: 15 seconds
Lock Time: 10 seconds
Maximum Attempts: 3
Feb 23 01:49:23 localhost login[4092]: FAILED LOGIN 1 FROM ::ffff:192.168.1.253 FOR asdf, Authentication failure
Feb 23 01:49:29 localhost login[4092]: FAILED LOGIN 2 FROM ::ffff:192.168.1.253 FOR asdf, Authentication failure
Feb 23 01:49:34 localhost login[4092]: FAILED LOGIN SESSION FROM ::ffff:192.168.1.253 FOR asdf, Authentication failure
blocking ip 192.168.1.253 for 10 seconds. Time: 1614062994.1333506
```

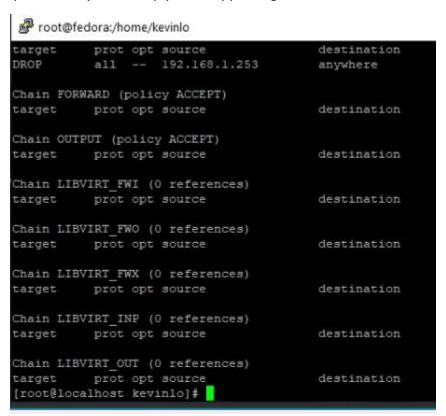
Client packet capture



Server packet capture



Iptables entry created by ipblocker.py during the block duration



This is the iptables during the time the IP is blocked for 10 seconds. The packet captures show that the computer that failed the password 3 times within the time limit was blocked successfully and unblocked successfully.

4.2 Verdict

2 out of 2 tests were successful.

5 Conclusion

This report is for my ipblocker.py Python program which monitors the /var/log/secure file for failed passwords for remote access and meets the requirements of automatically blocking the IP addresses who enter the wrong password too many times. The blocking of the IP address is done using iptables. This report demonstrates how to setup, test, and edit the configuration of my ipblocker program to suit the needs of the user.