

Lab 9 – NIDS_NIPS and Web Proxy

Analysis

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Date – 22nd July 2023

Week 9 Discussion:

IDS is a passive monitoring solution for detecting possible malicious activities/patterns, abnormal incidents, and policy violations. It is responsible for generating alerts for each suspicious event.

IPS is an active protecting solution for preventing possible malicious activities/patterns, abnormal incidents, and policy violations. It is responsible for stopping/preventing/terminating the suspicious event as soon as the detection is performed.

Difference between NIP/DS and HIP/DS

NIPS	HIPS
It operates at the network level	It operates at the host level

An IPS that inspects network traffic at the packet level and blocks traffic if it identifies as a malicious traffic	It monitors a single host for suspicious activities and actively blocks or quarantine traffic if a signature is identified
It protects the traffic on the entire subnet	It protects the traffic from a single endpoint device.
Cisco's FirePOWER is a network-based intrusion prevention system that offers real-time protection against advanced threats.[1][2]	McAfee Host Intrusion Prevention is a solution designed to protect individual systems from known and unknown malicious activities.[1][2]

NIDS	HIDS
It operates at the network level	It operates at the host level
An IDS that inspects network traffic at the packet level to identify threats but does not block it	This IDS is installed on the single system or endpoint and identifies any threats associated with only that system but does not block it
It operates by comparing network traffic patterns and signatures against known attack patterns to identify potential threats, such as intrusion attempts, malware, and denial-of-service attacks.	It operates by examining system logs, file integrity, and application activities to detect any suspicious or malicious behavior.
Snort is a well-known open-source network intrusion detection system. [1]	OSSEC is an open-source host-based intrusion detection system[1]

Citations –

Singh, H. (n.d.). Host-Based Intrusion Detection System (IDS): What is it? TheCyphere.

<https://thecyphere.com/blog/host-based-ids/>

Radichel, T. (2020, April 16). IDS and IPS in the Cloud. Medium. Retrieved from

<https://medium.com/cloud-security/ids-and-ips-in-the-cloud-f07aac110d31>

Scenario – Inter0ptic has started a credit card number recycling program. “Do you have a database filled with credit card numbers, just sitting there collecting dust? Put that data to good use!” he writes on his website. “Recycle your company’s used credit card numbers! Send us your database, and we’ll send YOU a check.” For good measure, .Inter0ptic decides to add some bells and whistles to the site too. Meanwhile.... MacDaddy Payment Processor has deployed Snort NIDS sensors to detect an array of anomalous events, bot inbound and outbound. An alert was logged at 08:01:45 on 5/18/11 concerning an inbound chunk of executable code sent to port 80/tcp for inside host 192.168.1.169 from external host 172.16.16.218.

Introduction – Perform log analysis on given IDS/IPS snort alerts and analyze malicious traffic by analyzing these alerts. Also, we will be comparing alerts with the rule to confirm whether the alert is True positive or not. After this, we will be analyzing squid cache directories and files associated with it to understand more about the activity.

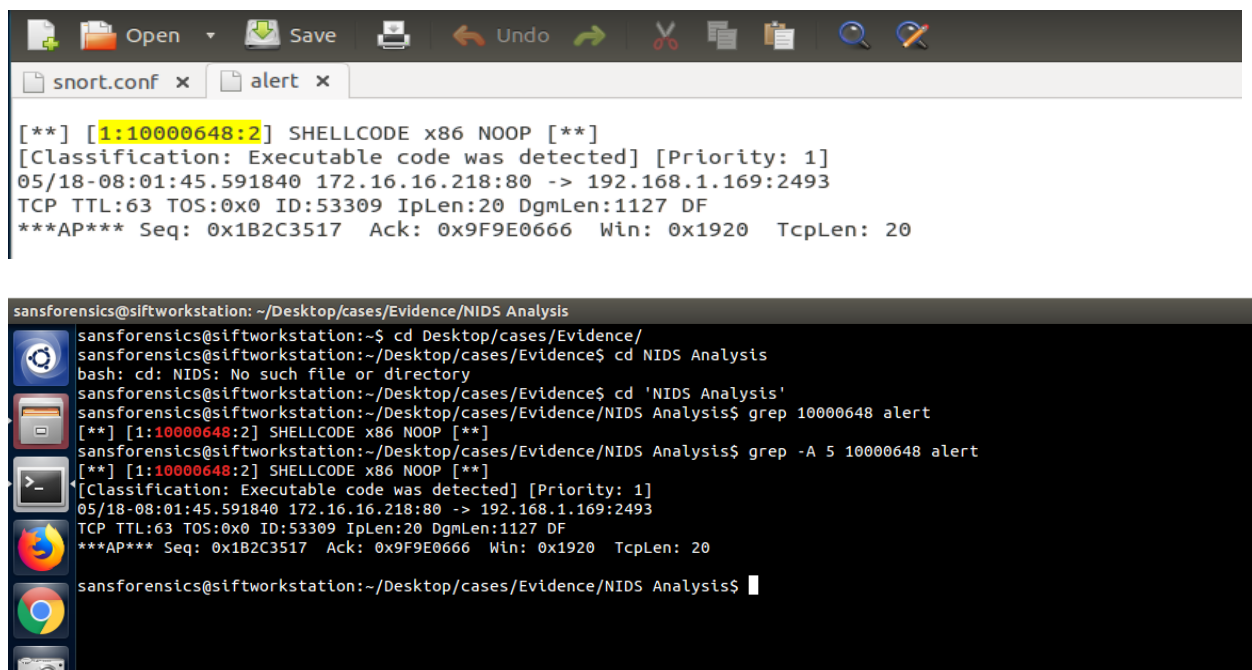
Pre-Lab – We are using Linux VM for performing this lab. Also, we will be using Wireshark, gedit, Bless Hex Editor, and command-line tool to run different commands

Analysis –

IDS/IPS Alert Background.

IDS/IPS Log Analysis –

1. Examine the alert's data to understand the logistical context
 - Below is the alert which got triggered having snort ID as '10000648'. You can open the alert.txt file using gedit and search for snort ID 10000648 or you can traverse to file location using the command line and use grep command to search the alert using snort number.
 - **Snort** is an open-source network intrusion detection and prevention system (IDS/IPS) that monitors network traffic and identifies potentially malicious activities on Internet Protocol (IP) networks. [3]



The image shows two windows. The top window is a Gedit text editor with two tabs: 'snort.conf' and 'alert'. The 'alert' tab is active and displays the following text:

```
[**] [1:10000648:2] SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**]  
[Classification: Executable code was detected] [Priority: 1]  
05/18-08:01:45.591840 172.16.16.218:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2493  
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:53309 IpLen:20 DgmLen:1127 DF  
***AP*** Seq: 0x1B2C3517 Ack: 0x9F9E0666 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20
```

The bottom window is a terminal with the following commands and output:

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation: ~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis  
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~$ cd Desktop/cases/Evidence/  
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence$ cd NIDS Analysis  
bash: cd: NIDS: No such file or directory  
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence$ cd 'NIDS Analysis'  
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$ grep 10000648 alert  
[**] [1:10000648:2] SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**]  
[Classification: Executable code was detected] [Priority: 1]  
05/18-08:01:45.591840 172.16.16.218:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2493  
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:53309 IpLen:20 DgmLen:1127 DF  
***AP*** Seq: 0x1B2C3517 Ack: 0x9F9E0666 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20  
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$
```

- **Network:**
Internal network: 192.168.1.0/24 DMZ network: 10.1.1.0/24 “Internet”: 172.16.16.0/24
Other domains and subnets of interest include: .evl – a top level domain used by Evil
Systems Example.com – MacDaddy Payment Processor local domain

- Considering the above alert and network details provided to us, the alert indicate that Snort detected shellcode of X86 architecture with NOOP (No operation) and the timestamp is 5/18-08:01:45.591840.
 - The classification of the alert is 'Executable code was detected'. It means an alert is triggered under this category. The priority is set to '1'.
 - The source IP address is 172.16.16.218, an internet (external) IP address communicating over port 80 (HTTP port) to an internal private IP address 192.168.1.169 over port 2493. The detected snort ID is 10000648 and the alert id is 53309.
2. Compare the alert to the rule, in order to better understand WHAT it has been built to detect

- Alert :

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation: ~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~$ cd Desktop/cases/Evidence/
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence$ cd NIDS Analysis
bash: cd: NIDS: No such file or directory
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence$ cd 'NIDS Analysis'
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$ grep 10000648 alert
[**] [1:10000648:2] SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**]
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$ grep -A 5 10000648 alert
[**] [1:10000648:2] SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**]
[Classification: Executable code was detected] [Priority: 1]
05/18-08:01:45.591840 172.16.16.218:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2493
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:53309 IpLen:20 DgmLen:1127 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x1B2C3517 Ack: 0x9F9E0666 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$
```

```
#
#
# $Id: shellcode.rules,v 1.25.2.1.2.1 2005/05/16 22:17:52 mwachinski Exp $
#
# SHELLCODE RULES
#
# These signatures are based on shellcode that is common among multiple
# publicly available exploits.
#
# Because these signatures check ALL traffic for shellcode, these signatures
# are disabled by default. There is a LARGE performance hit by enabling
# these signatures.
#

alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE sparc setuid 0"; content:"[B2 10| 17 91 D0| 00]"; reference:arachnids,282; classtype:system-call-detect; sid:647; rev:6;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 setgid 0"; content:"[B0 B5 CD 80]"; reference:arachnids,284; classtype:system-call-detect; sid:649; rev:8;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 setuid 0"; content:"[B0 17 CD 80]"; reference:arachnids,436; classtype:system-call-detect; sid:650; rev:8;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE SGI NOOP"; content:"[03 E0 F8|N|03 E0 F8|N|03 E0 F8|N|03 E0 F8|N]"; reference:arachnids,356; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:638; rev:5;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE SGI NOOP"; content:"[24 0F 12|4|24 0F 12|4|24 0F 12|4|24 0F 12|4]"; reference:arachnids,357; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:639; rev:5;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE AIX NOOP"; content:"[01 FF FB 82|0|FF FB 82|0|FF FB 82|0|FF FB 82]"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:640; rev:6;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE Digital UNIX NOOP"; content:"[G FF 04 1F|G|FF 04 1F|G|FF 04 1F|G|FF 04 1F]"; reference:arachnids,352; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:641; rev:6;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE HP-UX NOOP"; content:"[08|1|02 80 08|1|02 80 08|1|02 80 08|1|02 80 08]"; reference:arachnids,358; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:642; rev:6;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE HP-UX NOOP"; content:"[08|9|02 80 08|9|02 80 08|9|02 80 08|9|02 80 08]"; reference:arachnids,359; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:643; rev:7;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE sparc NOOP"; content:"[13 C0 1C A6 13 C0 1C A6 13 C0 1C A6 13 C0 1C A6]"; reference:arachnids,345; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:644; rev:6;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE sparc NOOP"; content:"[B0 1C|@|11 80 1C|@|11 80 1C|@|11 80 1C|@|11 80 1C|@|11 80 1C]"; reference:arachnids,353; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:645; rev:5;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE sparc NOOP"; content:"[A6 1C C0 13 A6 1C C0 13 A6 1C C0 13 A6 1C C0 13]"; reference:arachnids,355; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:646; rev:5;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 NOOP"; content:"[90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90]"; depth:128; reference:arachnids,181; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:648; rev:2;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 stealth NOOP"; content:"[EB 02 EB 02 EB 02]"; reference:arachnids,291; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:651; rev:8;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 0x90 unicode NOOP"; content:"[90 00 90 00 90 00 90 00 90 00 90 00 90 00]"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:653; rev:9;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE Linux shellcode"; content:"[90 90 90 EB C0 FF FF|bin/sh]"; reference:arachnids,343; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:652; rev:9;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 linc ebx NOOP"; content:"[CCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC]"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:1390; rev:5;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 NOOP"; content:"[AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA]"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:1394; rev:5;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 0xEBEC NOOP"; content:"[EB 0C EB 0C EB 0C EB 0C EB 0C EB 0C EB 0C EB 0C]"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:1424; rev:6;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 0xF7B7B8 NOOP"; content:"[q|F|B|q|F|B|q|F|B|q|F|B|q|F|B|q|F|B]"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:2312; rev:2;)
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET $SHELLCODE_PORTS -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 0xF7B7B8 NOOP unicode"; content:"[q|00 FB 00|q|00 AB 00|q|00 FB 00|q|00 AB 00|q|00 FB 00|q|00 AB 00]"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:2313; rev:2;)
```

- I have used grep -r command with snort ID: 10000648 check for a string in the rule in a recursive manner.

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$ ls
alert.rules snort.conf tcpdump.log
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$ cd rules
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis/rules$ grep -r 10000648
local.rules:alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET any -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 NOOP"; content:"[90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90]"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:10000648; rev:2;)
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis/rules$
```

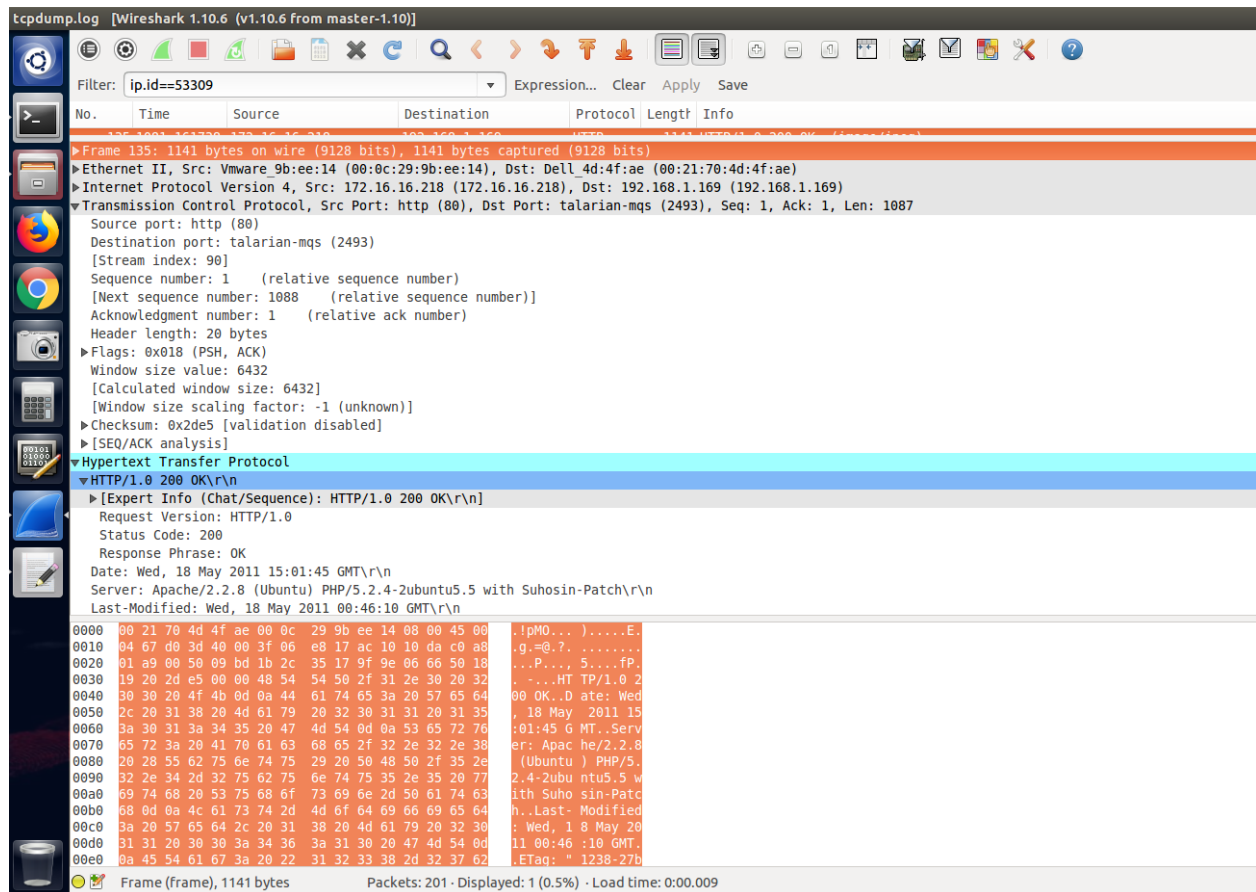
- The triggered rule is designed to detect x86 shellcode with a NOOP instruction in the network traffic from external sources to the internal network on any protocol.
- The rule is analyzing IP packets traffic going from an external network (\$EXTERNAL_NET) to an internal network (\$HOME_NET) on any protocol and it is

looking for a sequence of 14 bytes each having the hexadecimal value '90' which corresponds to the NOOP instruction in x86 assembly.

3. Retrieve the packet that triggered the alert

- To view the packet that triggers the alert, open the tcpdump.log file in the Wireshark application and use the command `ip.id==53309`, the ID number from the alert details.

Expand the tabs to view packet details.



4. Compare the rule to the packet to understand WHY it fired

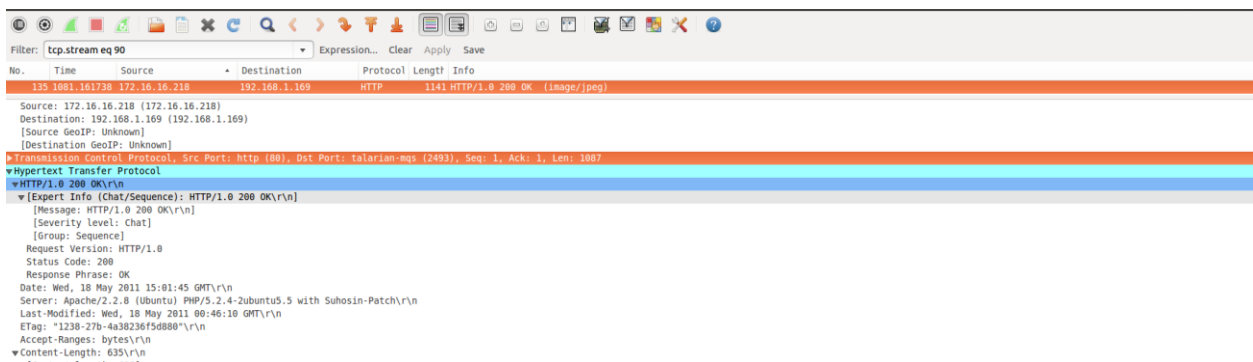
To understand why the Snort rule fired for the given packet, we need to compare the content of the rule with the packet's content. The rule that triggered the alert is as follows:

```
sansforensics@stfworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$ ls
alert.rules  snort.conf  tcpdump.log
sansforensics@stfworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$ cd rules
sansforensics@stfworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis/rules$ grep -r 10000648
local.rules:alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET any -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 NOOP"; content:"|90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90|"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:10000648; rev:2;)
sansforensics@stfworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis/rules$ nano local.rules
sansforensics@stfworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis/rules$
```

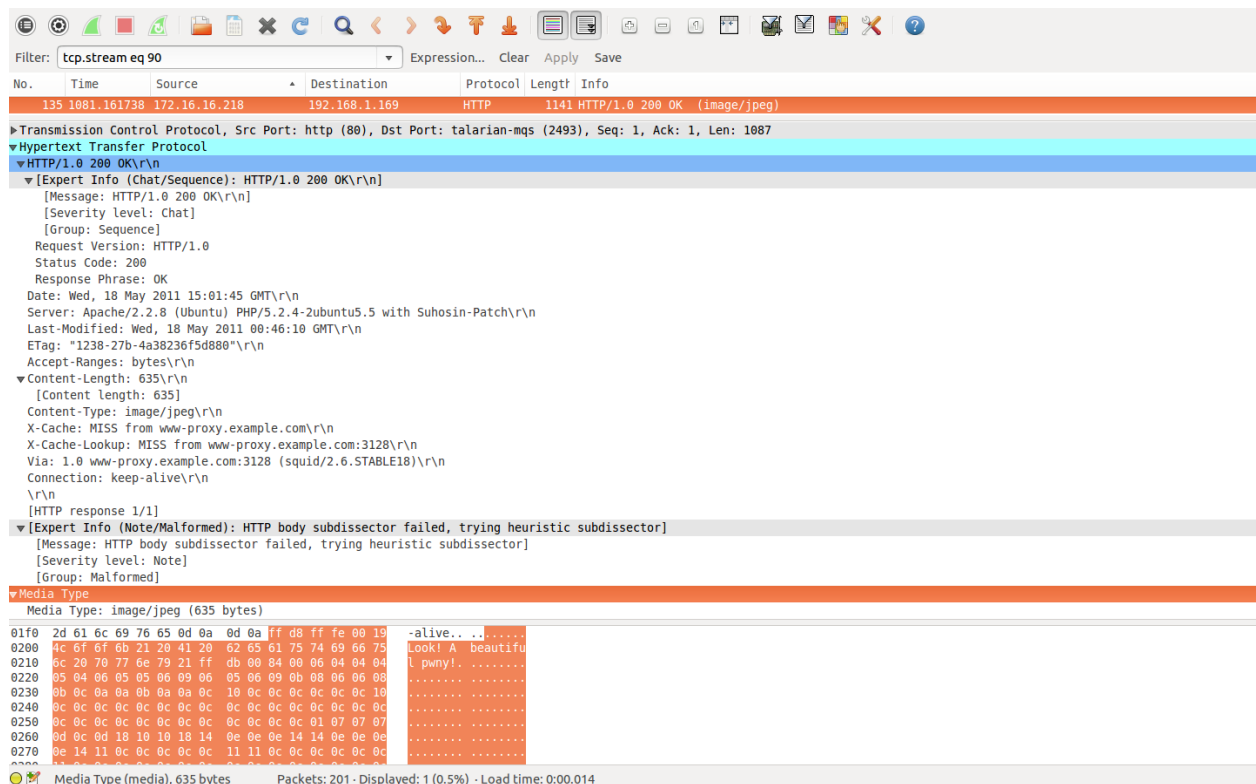
```
GNU nano 2.2.6 File: local.rules
# $Id: local.rules,v 1.11 2004/07/23 20:15:44 bmc Exp $
# -----
# LOCAL RULES
# -----
# This file intentionally does not come with signatures. Put your local
# additions here.

# example.com Note: This is our modified version of SID 648, to cast a wider net for NOOP sleds (not assuming they only hit destination port 22).
alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET any -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 NOOP"; content:"|90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90|"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:10000648; rev:2;)
# example.com Note: We're turning around SID 499, which looks for large ICMP inbound, to make it outbound as well.
alert icmp $EXTERNAL_NET any -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ICMP Large ICMP Packet"; dsize:>800; reference:arachnids,240; classtype:bad-unknown; sid:10000499; rev:4;)
```

- Now, let's examine the relevant part of the packet's payload where the rule detected the shellcode:



- Since the Snort rule is designed to detect shellcode with a specific content pattern, let's focus on the TCP payload part and the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) response details:



- Now, let's check the content of the Snort rule that caused the detection:
content:"|90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90|";
 - The rule is looking for a specific content pattern: 14 bytes with the hexadecimal value 90 (corresponding to the NOOP instruction) in the packet payload. However, based on the provided packet data, we do not see this specific content pattern present in the HTTP response. However, we have to analyze image content to better understand and come to any conclusion.
5. Construct a timeline of alerted activities involving the potentially malicious outside host
- To understand how many alerts detected for internal IP 192.168.1.169, I have used the command “grep -B 2 ‘192\.168\.1\.169’ alert | grep ‘\[*\[*\]’ | sort -nr | uniq -c

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$ grep -A 3
-B 2 '172\.\16\.\16\.\218' alert
[**] [1:10000648:2] SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**]
[Classification: Executable code was detected] [Priority: 1]
05/18-08:01:45.591840 172.16.16.218:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2493
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:53309 IpLen:20 DgmLen:1127 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x1B2C3517 Ack: 0x9F9E0666 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20

sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$ grep -B 2
'192\.\168\.\1\.\169' alert | grep '\[\\*\]' | sort -nr | uniq -c
    108 [**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
     18 [**] [116:59:1] (snort_decoder): Tcp Window Scale Option found with leng
th > 14 [**]
     1 [**] [1:10000648:2] SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**]
     2 [**] [1:100000137:1] COMMUNITY MISC BAD-SSL tcp detect [**]
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis$
```

- There are four types of alerts triggered
 1. SHELLCODE x86 NOOP
 2. (snort_decoder): Tcp Window Scale Option found with length > 14
 3. COMMUNITY MISC BAD-SSL tcp detect
 4. INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt

As per the alert detail, this alert started on 07:43:44

```
[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:43:44.430102 72.14.213.148:80 -> 192.168.1.170:56564
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:59362 IpLen:20 DgmLen:590 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x253FA1DF Ack: 0x28DA5330 Win: 0x6B4 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5588555 166420156
```

From this log entry, it seems like there was an attempted communication between the source IP 72.14.213.102 (over port 80) and the destination IP 192.168.1.169 (over port 2402) over TCP. The packet carries the ACK and PSH flags set, and the TCP window size is 11245 bytes. The log entry is categorized as "Misc activity" and has a medium-

level priority. The log entry indicates a web bug attempt, suggesting some possible suspicious or unauthorized activity.

Web bugs, also known as tracking pixels or web beacons, are typically used to track users' interactions with web content and are often associated with tracking user behavior for advertising or analytics purposes.

6. Construct a timeline of alerted activities involving the target
- After analyzing the logs and alerts received, we found that at 07:43:44 on 5/18/11, we received a first alert “INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt” when the internal host IP address 192.168.1.169 was used to browse external websites which includes some web-based bugs.

```
[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]  
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]  
05/18-07:43:44.430102 72.14.213.148:80 -> 192.168.1.170:56564  
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:59362 IpLen:20 DgmLen:590 DF  
***AP*** Seq: 0x253FA1DF Ack: 0x28DA5330 Win: 0x6B4 TcpLen: 32  
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5588555 166420156
```

- At 07:43:51 first alert with name “COMMUNITY MISC BAD-SSL tcp detect” detected

```
[**] [1:100000137:1] COMMUNITY MISC BAD-SSL tcp detect [**]  
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]  
05/18-07:43:51.389898 204.11.50.137:80 -> 192.168.1.170:48498  
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:37658 IpLen:20 DgmLen:1432 DF  
***AP*** Seq: 0x25FCA220 Ack: 0x2ACDA64F Win: 0x9D8 TcpLen: 32  
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5589251 166421930
```

- At 08:01:45 Shellcode was detected when external web server 172.16.16.218:80 delivered a JPEG image to 192.168.1.169 which contained an unusual binary sequence that is commonly associated with buffer overflow exploits.
- The ETag in the external webserver’s HTTP response was: 1238-27b-4a38236f5d880
- The MD5sum of the suspicious JPEG was:

13c303f746a0e8826b749fce56a5c126

- After that ‘INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt’ continued

```
[**] [1:10000648:2] SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**]
[Classification: Executable code was detected] [Priority: 1]
05/18-08:01:45.591840 172.16.16.218:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2493
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:53309 IpLen:20 DgmLen:1127 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x1B2C3517 Ack: 0x9F9E0666 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20
```

- At 08:04:28, we received first alert “Tcp Window Scale Option found with length > 14”

```
[**] [116:59:1] (snort_decoder): Tcp Window Scale Option found with length > 14 [**]
[Priority: 3]
05/18-08:04:28.974574 192.168.1.169:36953 -> 192.168.1.10:38288
TCP TTL:40 TOS:0x0 ID:58145 IpLen:20 DgmLen:60
**U*P**F Seq: 0x49B898B0 Ack: 0x9EF411B1 Win: 0xFFFF TcpLen: 40 UrgPtr: 0x0
TCP Options (5) => WS: 15 NOP MSS: 265 TS: 4294967295 0 SackOK
```

2. Proxy Log Analysis

Scenario: After the initial analysis we found that less than three minutes later, at 08:04:28 MST, internal host 192.168.1.169 spent roughly 10 seconds sending crafted packets to other internal hosts on the same network. Based on their nonstandard nature, the packets are consistent with those used to conduct reconnaissance via scanning and OS fingerprinting.

Network:

Internal network: 192.168.1.0/24 DMZ network: 10.1.1.0/24 “Internet”: 172.16.16.0/24 Other domains and subnets of interest include: .evl – a top-level domain used by Evil Systems

Example.com – MacDaddy Payment Processor local domain.

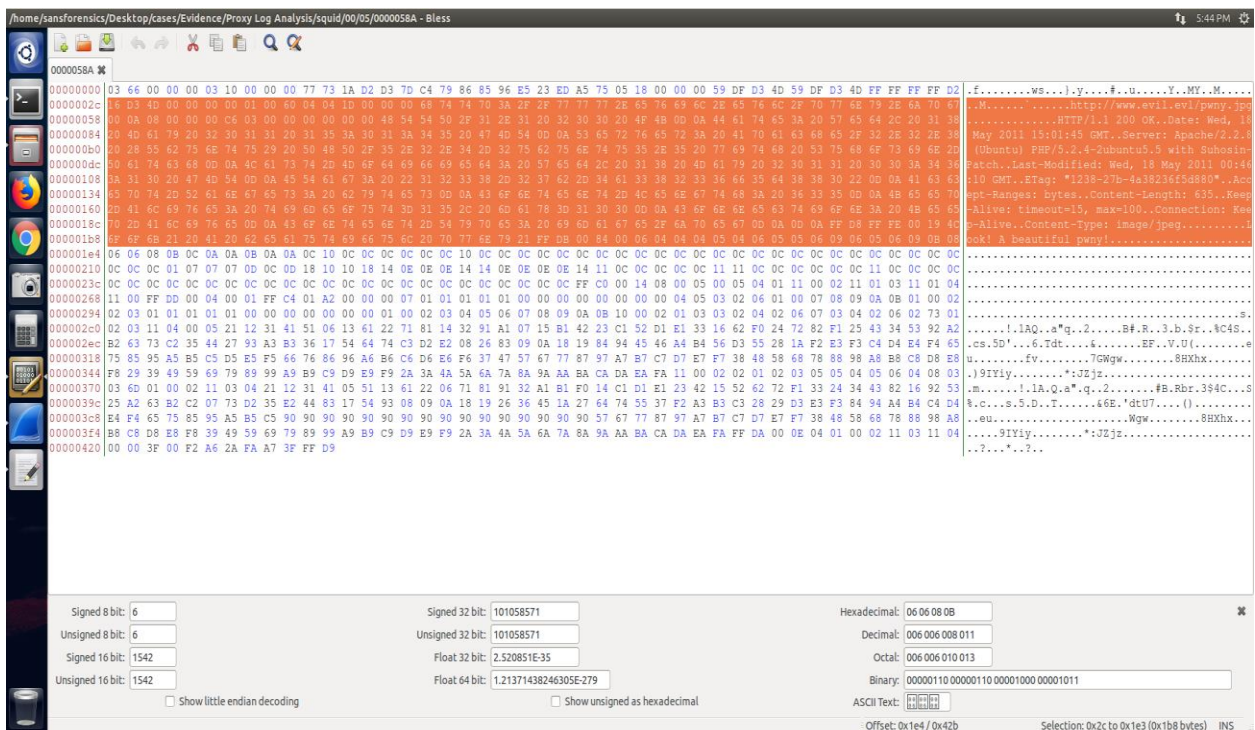
Now examine the Squid cache and extract any cached pages/files associated with the Snort alert.

- Squid is a UNIX based caching proxy for the web that supports HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, and more. It runs on most available operating systems like Windows® and Linux. [2]
1. Determine whether the evidence extracted from the Squid cache corroborates our findings from the Snort logs.

- We started with analyzing Squid proxy cache for traces of the suspicious image that we found in Snort. The Squid header we received contained a pseudo-unique ETag value of “1238-27b-4a38236f5d880.”
- Now moving on to the Proxy Log analysis → squid directory. I have used the command `grep -r 1238-27b-4a38236f5d880` to check the Etag we detected of the cached pages.

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation: ~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis$ grep -r 1238-27b-4a38236f5d880
Binary file squid/00/05/0000058A matches
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis$
```

- We know the cache file ‘0000058A’ which contain this Etag
To open the binary file, I am using a tool called Bless which is a binary (hexadecimal) editor. After opening the cached page in the Bless, we can find the website <http://www.evil.evl/pwny.jpg> and squid metadata and Etag value which we found previously. These details match with the HTTP headers within the packet we carved earlier from the snort ‘tcpdump.log’ file.



- JPEG files begin with the magic number “0xFFD8,” so we can simply search the Squid and cut all the bytes before that. Now save the modified file as 0000058A-edited.jpg. To check file size, I have used the command – ls -l 0000058A-edited.jpg to check file size and type of a file.

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation: ~/Desktop
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop$ ls -l 0000058A-edited.jpg
-rw-rw-r-- 1 sansforensics sansforensics 635 Jul 31 18:32 0000058A-edited.jpg
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop$
```

- To check md5 and sha256 values, I have used the command – md5sum 0000058A-edited.jpg which is the filename we saved.

Md5 – 13c303f746a0e8826b749fce56a5c126

SHA256 - fc5d6f18c3ed01d2aacd64aaf1b51a539ff95c3eb6b8d2767387a67bc5fe8699

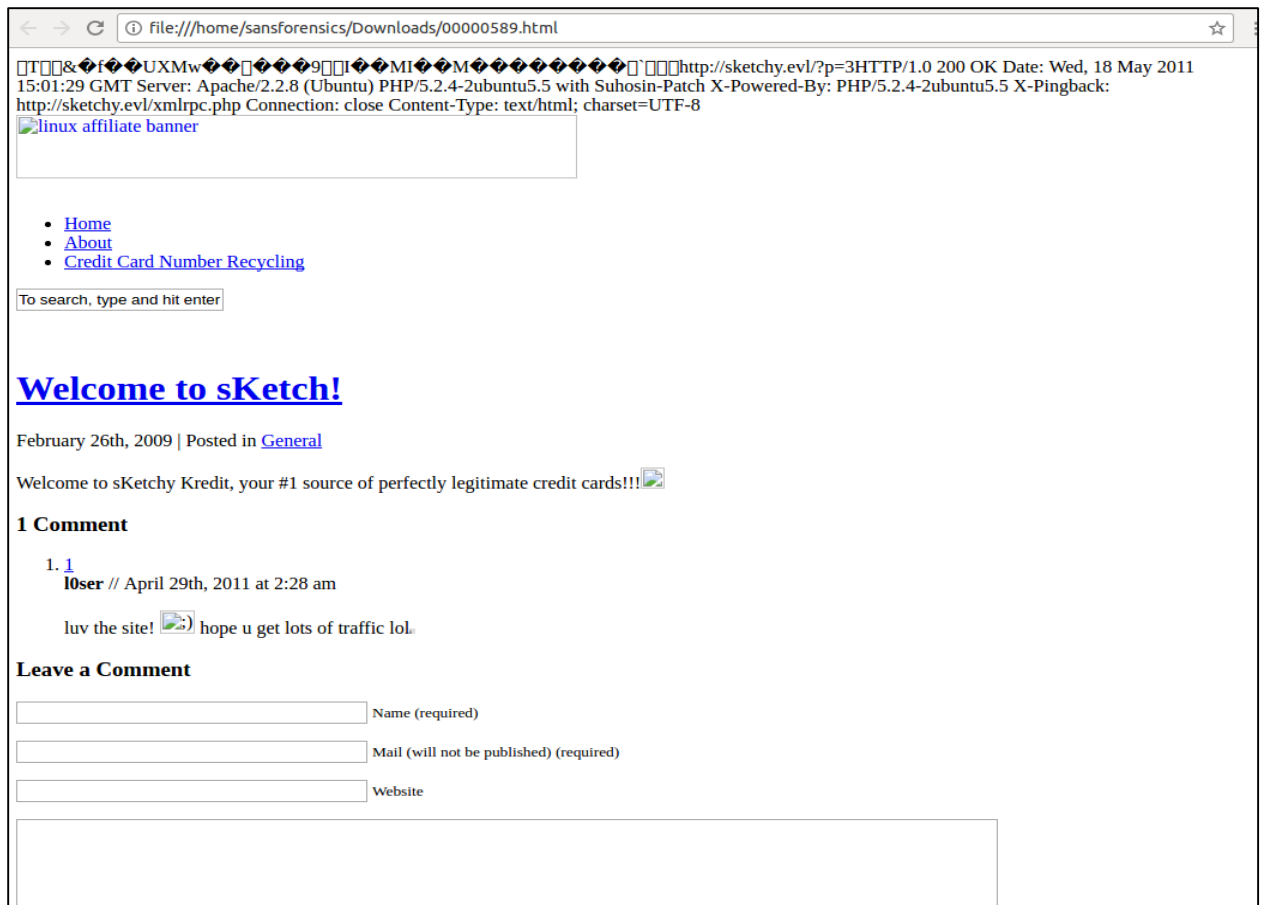
These checksums match with those that were previously carved from the Snort packet capture.

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop$ ls -l 0000058A-edited.jpg
-rw-rw-r-- 1 sansforensics sansforensics 635 Jul 31 18:32 0000058A-edited.jpg
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop$ md5sum 0000058A-edited.jpg
13c303f746a0e8826b749fce56a5c126 0000058A-edited.jpg
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop$ sha256sum 0000058A-edited.jpg
fc5d6f18c3ed01d2aacd64aaf1b51a539ff95c3eb6b8d2767387a67bc5fe8699 0000058A-edited.jpg
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop$
```

1. Present any information you can find regarding the identity of any internal users who have been engaged in suspicious activities.
- To find pages that linked to the image in the proxy logs, I have used the below command
Command – “grep -r ‘http://www\.evil\.evl/pwny\.jpg’ squid” . Only one file from this we haven’t explored which is ‘00000589’.

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$ grep -r 'http://www\.evil\.evl/pwny\.jpg'
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$ grep -r http://www\.evil\.evl/pwny\.jpg
Binary file 00/05/0000058A matches
Binary file 00/05/00000589 matches
```

- Now open this file using the Mozilla browser and save the file using the .html extension.
We found the content of file where attacker have mention comment as below in the snapshot.



- We have found the timestamp of the first and last entries of the log file using the command - `head -1 access.log`, `tail -1 access.log` and have converted them into human-readable form. The first entry occurred at 14:43:18 UTC on 05/18/2011. The last entry occurred at 15:15:25 UTC on 05/18/2011.

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation: ~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis$ ls
squid var-log-squid
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis$ cd var-log-squid
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid$ ls
access.log cache.log store.log
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid$ head -1 access.log
1305729798.958 409 192.168.1.170 TCP_MISS/200 799 HEAD http://start.ubuntu.com/8.04/ - DIRECT/91.189.90.41 text/html
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid$ tail -1 access.log
1305731725.796 143 192.168.1.169 TCP_MISS/302 562 GET http://www.gravatar.com/avatar.php? - DIRECT/72.233.44.61 text/html
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid$
```

- To isolate information about specific host 192.168.1.169, I have used the below commands -

“`grep '192\168\1\169' access.log > accessN.log`”

"wc -l accesN.log"

There are 1588 entries pertaining to 192.168.1.169.

- Now further examining the head and tail of a file and converting the timestamp value to human readable form below are the details-

First entry = 14:44:43 UTC 05/18/2011.

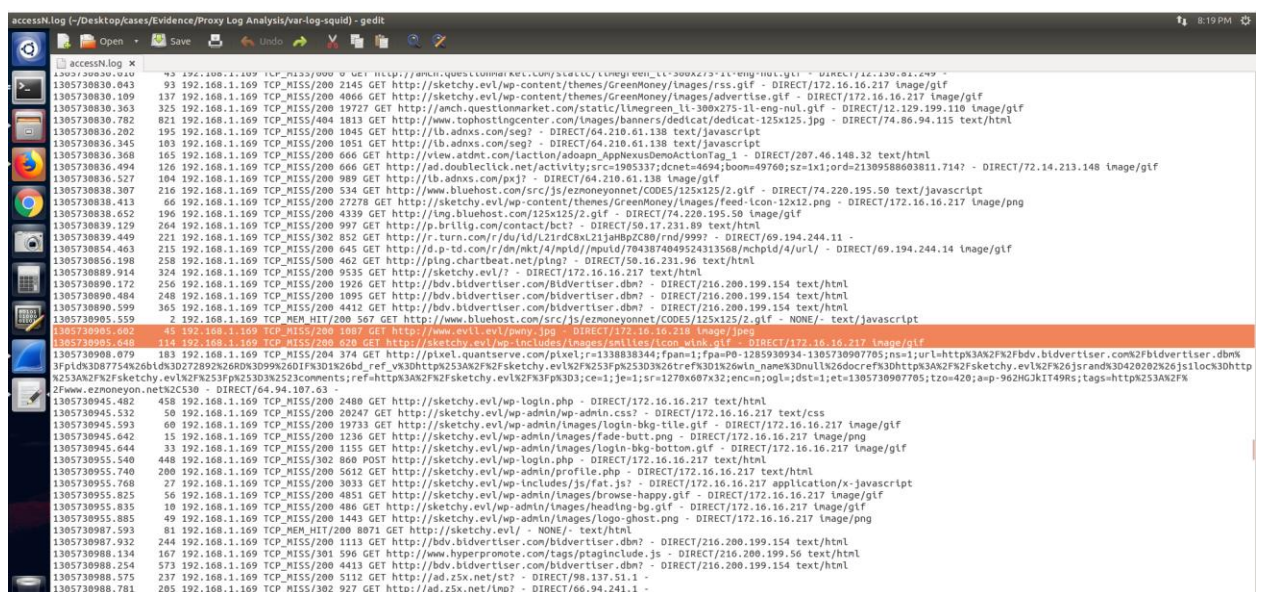
The destination = <http://www.microsoft.com/isapi/redir.dll?>, suggesting that 192.168.1.169 is configured with Microsoft software, such as Internet Explorer and Windows.

Last entry = 15:15:25 UTC 05/11/2011.

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid$ grep 192\.\168\.\1\.\169 access.log > accessN.log
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid$ ls
access.log  accessN.log  cache.log  store.log
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid$ wc -L accessN.log
1588 accessN.log
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid$ head -1 accessN.log
1305729883.014 144 192.168.1.169 TCP_MISS/302 737 GET http://www.microsoft.com/isapi/redir.dll? - DIRECT/65.55.21.250 text/html
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid$ tail -1 accessN.log
1305731725.796 143 192.168.1.169 TCP_MISS/302 562 GET http://www.gravatar.com/avatar.php? - DIRECT/72.233.44.61 text/html
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/var-log-squid$
```

- Now to further confirm NIDS alert, I have opened access.log file we have created using gedit.

The timestamp is 15:01:45 UTC 05/18/2011. After adjusting for the time zone, this is consistent with the previously established timeline based on Snort logs.

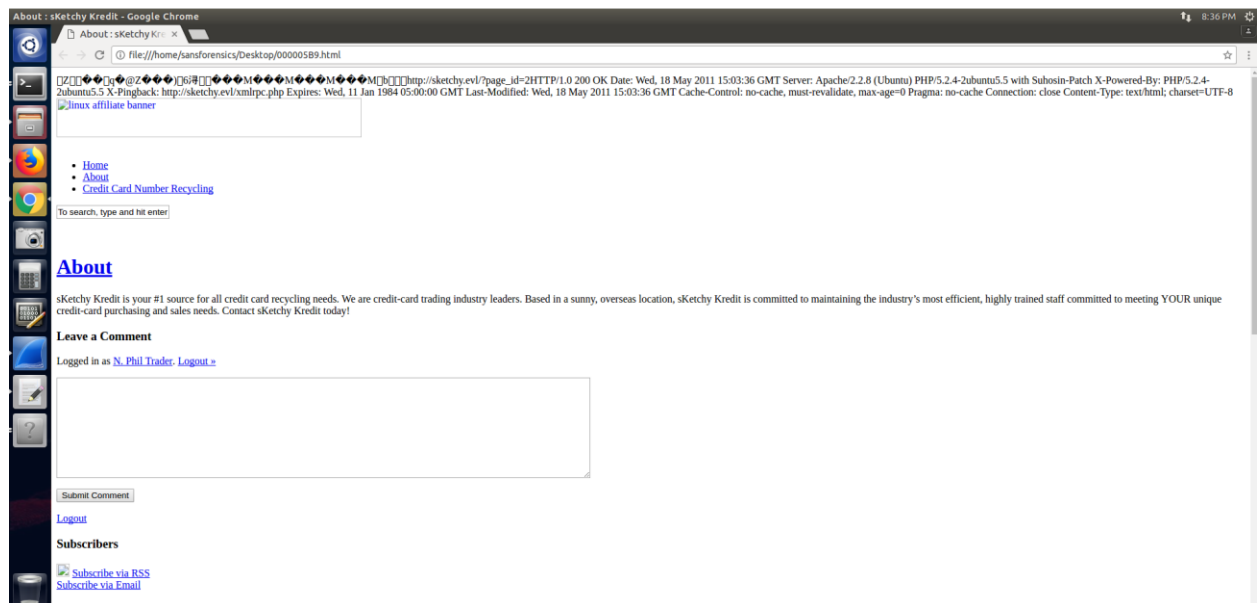


- To find more details related to domain evil.evil and sketchy.evil, I have used grep command to check the file location of sketchy.evil file with different user ID's. In the below user ID, I have found some matches and after manually checking all matches I have found some content in 000005B9
- ```
grep -r 'http://sketchy.evl/?page_id=2'
```

```
sansforensics@siftworkstation: ~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$ grep -r 'http://sketchy.evl/?page_id=2'
Binary file 00/05/000005C0 matches
Binary file 00/05/000005BC matches
Binary file 00/05/000005BE matches
Binary file 00/05/000005BD matches
Binary file 00/05/000005B9 matches
Binary file 00/05/000005B9 matches
Binary file 00/05/00000576 matches
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$ ^C

sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$ head -1 00/05/000005B9
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$ md5sum 00/05/000005B9
174b1f105861b717c31901a930704561 00/05/000005B9
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$
```

- After checking all the files we found details in one file '000005B9'. It shows that a user called "N. Phil Trader" was logged in when the page was cached.



## Citations -

1. CyberSophia. (n.d.). grep command in Linux. CyberSophia. <https://cybersophia.net/linux/grep-command-in-linux/>
2. SolarWinds. (n.d.). Squid Proxy Server Log Analysis. Retrieved from <https://www.solarwinds.com/security-event-manager/use-cases/squid-proxy-server-log-analysis>
3. Lenaerts-Bergmans, B. (2023, April 24). Snort Rules: What You Need to Know. Retrieved from <https://www.crowdstrike.com/cybersecurity-101/threat-intelligence/snort-rules/>
4. Sapphire. (2023, March 21). Snort Rules: Examples. Retrieved from <https://www.sapphire.net/security/snort-rules-examples/>