



SECURITY OPERATIONS FUNDAMENTALS V2

Lab 1: Network Traffic Analysis

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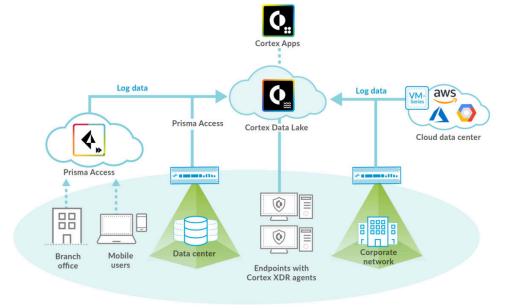
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Introduction

In this lab, you will analyze data from the Palo Alto Networks Firewall. The data will be coming from the logs on the Palo Alto Networks Firewall. To effectively utilize the information, you will become familiar with a variety of logs and how to search the logs.





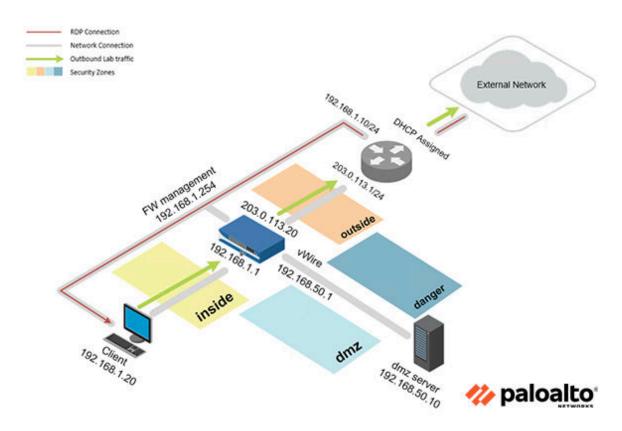
Objective

In this lab, you will perform the following tasks:

- Configure log forwarding on the firewall appliance
- Generate traffic
- Test log forwarding
- Export the firewall appliance's traffic log as a csv file
- Perform data analysis on the exported traffic csv file



Lab Topology





Lab Settings

The information in the table below will be needed in order to complete the lab. The task sections below provide details on the use of this information.

Virtual Machine	IP Address	Account (if needed)	Password (if needed)
Client	192.168.1.20	lab-user	Pal0Alt0!
DMZ	192.168.50.10	root	Pal0Alt0!
Firewall	192.168.1.254	admin	Pal0Alt0!



1 Network Traffic Analysis

1.0 Load Lab Configuration

In this section, you will load the Firewall configuration file.

1. Click on the **Client** tab to access the client PC.



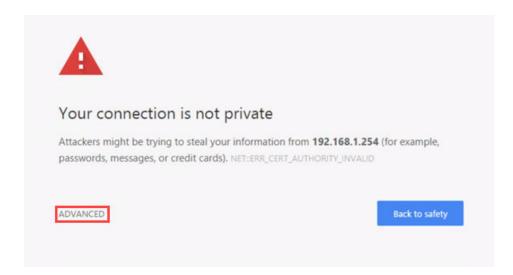
- 2. Log in to the client PC with the username lab-user and password PalOAltO!.
- 3. Double-click the **Chromium** icon located on the desktop.



4. In the *Chromium* address field, type https://192.168.1.254 and press **Enter**.



5. You will see a "Your connection is not private" message. Click on the **ADVANCED** link.

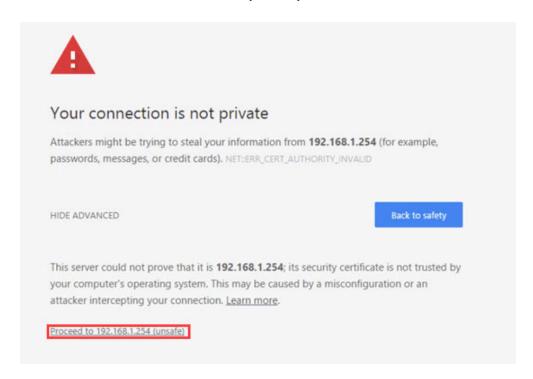




If you encounter the "Unable to connect" or "502 Bad Gateway" message while attempting to connect to the IP specified above, please wait an additional 1-3 minutes for the Firewall to fully initialize. Refresh the page to continue.



6. Click on Proceed to 192.168.1.254 (unsafe).

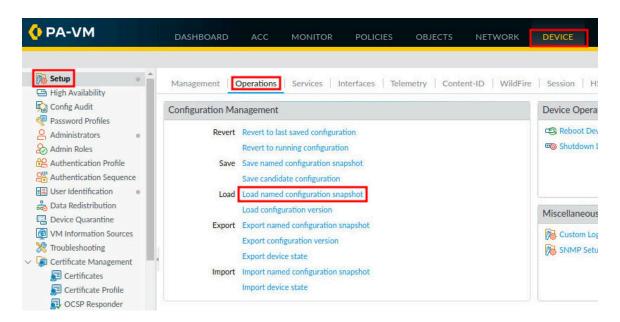


7. Log in to the Firewall web interface as username admin, password PalOAltO!.





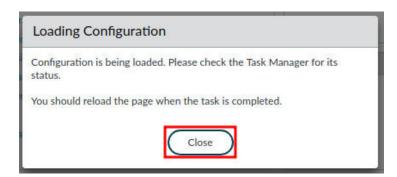
 In the web interface, navigate to Device > Setup > Operations and click on Load named configuration snapshot underneath the Configuration Management section.



9. In the *Load Named Configuration* window, select **pan-sof-lab-01.xml** from the *Name* dropdown box and click **OK**.

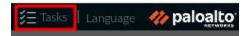


10. In the Loading Configuration window, a message will say Configuration is being loaded. Please check the Task Manager for its status. You should reload the page when the task is completed. Click **Close** to continue.

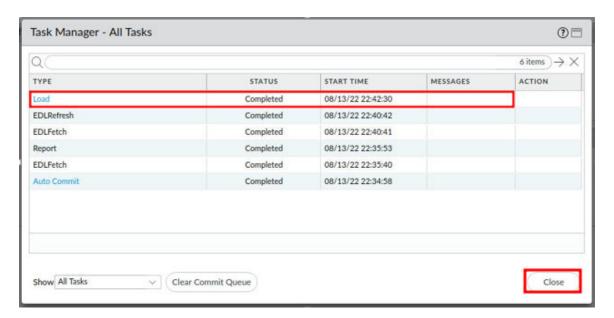




11. Click the **Tasks** icon located at the bottom-right of the web interface.



12. In the *Task Manager – All Tasks* window, verify the *Load* type has successfully completed. Click **Close**.

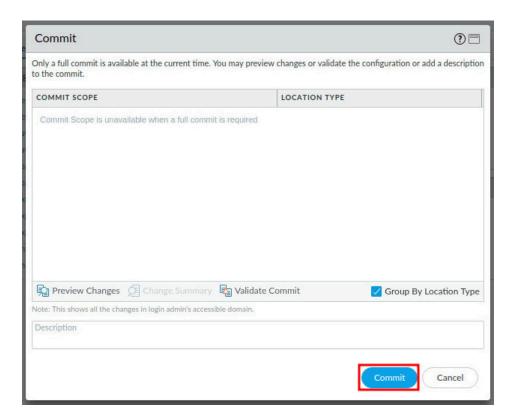


13. Click the **Commit** link located at the top-right of the web interface.





14. In the Commit window, click Commit to proceed with committing the changes.



15. When the commit operation successfully completes, click **Close** to continue.





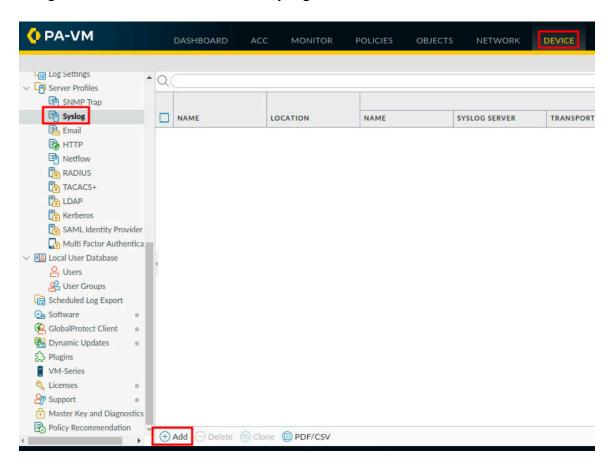
The commit process takes changes made to the Firewall and copies them to the running configuration, which will activate all configuration changes since the last commit.



1.1 Export Firewall Log Data for Analysis

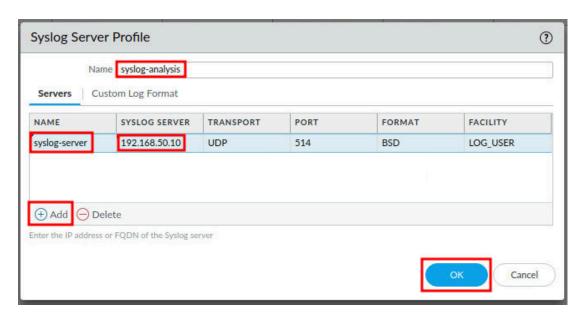
In this section, you are going to forward your Firewall's threat log to your DMZ server running syslog. Syslog is a standard log transport mechanism that enables the aggregation of log data from different network devices - such as routers, firewalls, printers - from different vendors into a central repository for archiving, analysis, and reporting. Palo Alto Networks Firewalls can forward every type of log they generate to an external Syslog server. You can use TCP or SSL for reliable and secure log forwarding, or UDP for non-secure forwarding.

1. Navigate to **Device > Server Profiles > Syslog > Add**.

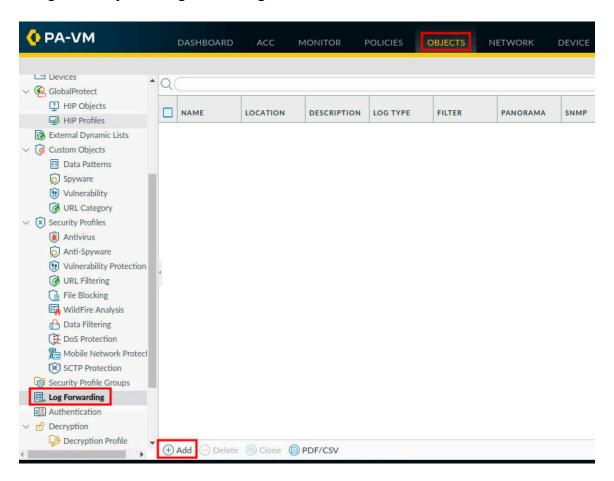




2. In the Syslog Server Profile window, type syslog-analysis in the Name field. Click Add. Type syslog-server in the Name column, and 192.168.50.10 for the Syslog Server (the IP address of the DMZ server). Click OK.

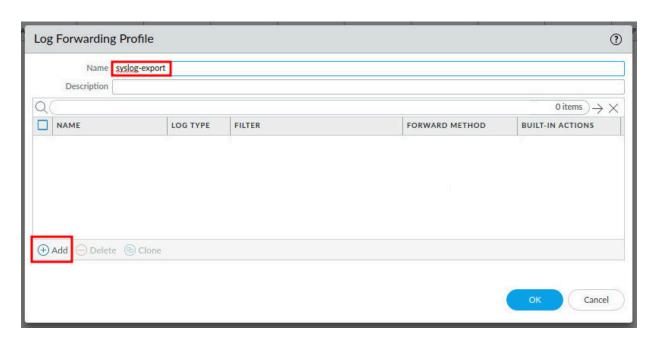


3. Navigate to **Objects > Log Forwarding > Add**.

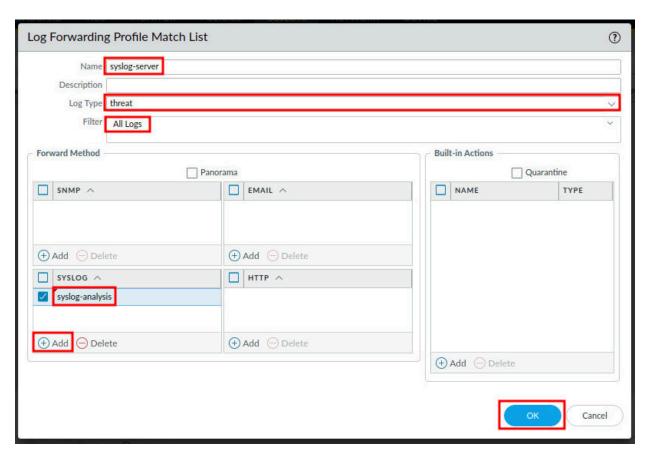




4. In the *Log Forwarding Profile* window, type syslog-export for the *Name*. Click Add

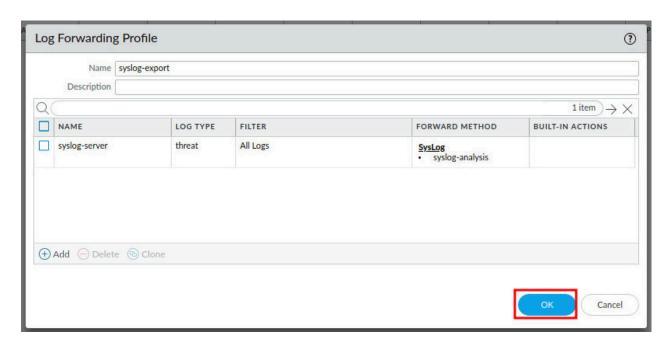


5. In the Log Forwarding Profile Match List window, type syslog-server in the Name field. Next, select **threat** in the Log Type field and verify **All Logs** is selected in the Filter field. Under the Syslog section, click **Add**. Finally, select **syslog-analysis** (the profile you created in a previous step) and click **OK**.

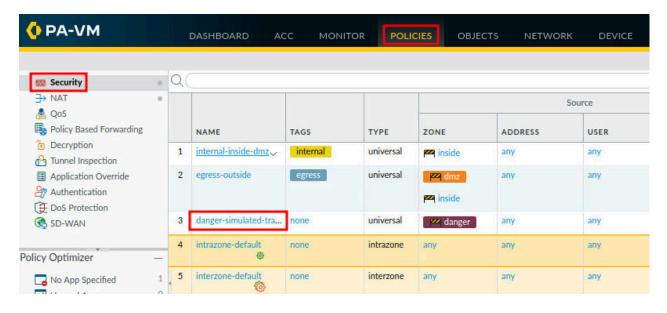




6. On the Log Forwarding Profile window, click OK.

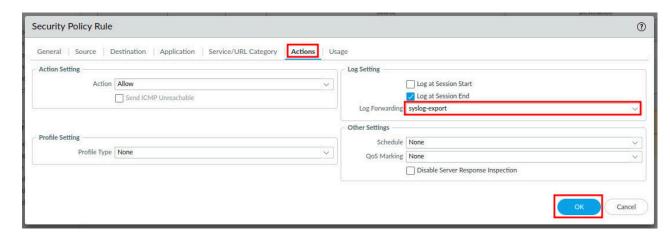


7. Navigate to **Policies > Security > danger-simulated-traffic**.

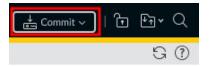




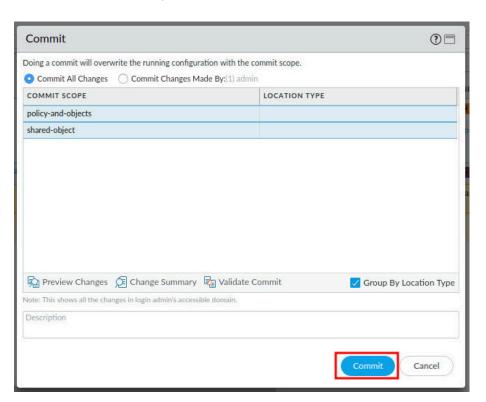
8. In the *Security Policy Rule* window, click on the **Actions** tab. Select **syslog-export** in the *Log Forwarding* dropdown. Click **OK**.



9. Click the **Commit** link located at the top-right of the web interface.



10. In the *Commit* window, click **Commit**.





11. When the commit operation successfully completes, click **Close** to continue.



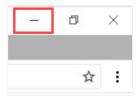
1.2 Generate Traffic for Firewall Analysis

In this section, you will pre-populate the Firewall with log entries and usernames that you can observe and investigate.



The metrics displayed in the lab screenshots and the metrics displayed on your lab Firewall might be different.

1. Minimize *Chromium* in the upper-right corner.

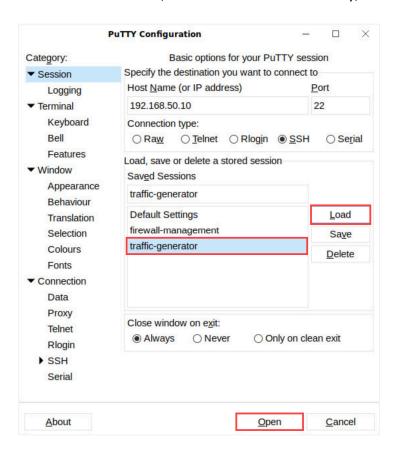


2. Double-click the **PuTTY** application on the client desktop.





3. From the *PuTTY Configuration* window, select **traffic-generator** from the *Saved Sessions* section. Then, click the **Load** button. Finally, click the **Open** button.



4. At the *login as:* prompt, type root. Type PalOAltO! for the password, and press **Enter**.





5. Capture traffic packets to the Palo Alto Networks Firewall by typing the command below then pressing **Enter**.

[root@pod-dmz ~]# sh /tg/traffic.sh



After you execute the .sh command, wait until the scripts finish before proceeding to the next step.

6. Push malware packet captures to the Palo Alto Networks Firewall by typing the command below then pressing **Enter**.

[root@pod-dmz ~]# sh /tg/malware.sh

```
[root@pod-dmz ~]# sh /tg/malware.sh]
-- THIS WILL TAKE LESS THAN 45 SECONDS --
. . . GENERATING TRAFFIC
```



After you execute the .sh command, wait until the scripts finish before proceeding to the next step.

Please Note The firewall appliance will analyze this traffic and categorize it as threats and store the traffic in its threat log. The firewall's log forwarding profile will also forward this log traffic to your DMZ server's syslog server for permanent storage and for further analysis to possibly include machine learning (ML) analysis.

7. Once the scripts finish executing, type exit then press **Enter** to end the PuTTY ssh session to **192.168.50.10** (DMZ server).

```
[root@pod-dmz ~]#<mark>exit</mark>
```



1.3 Log Analysis

In this section, you will view the log data on the DMZ server.

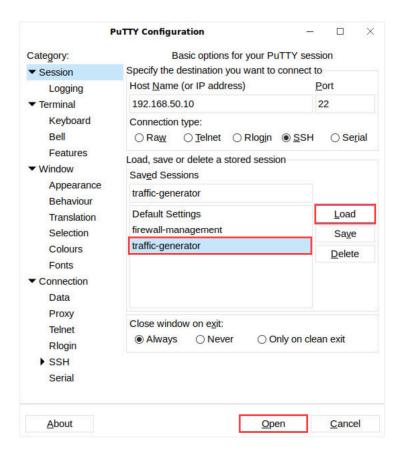


Organizations using Cortex XDR and XSOAR would export their logs from endpoints, network appliances, firewall appliances and cloud service providers to the Cortex Data lake for further data analysis incorporating machine learning (ML). ML programs can discover obscure incidences of compromise and report these incidences to the Security Operations Center's Cortex XSOAR service for event triage and mitigation.

1. Double-click the **PuTTY** application on the client desktop.



2. From the *PuTTY Configuration* window, select **traffic-generator** from the *Saved Sessions* section. Then, click the **Load** button. Finally, click the **Open** button.





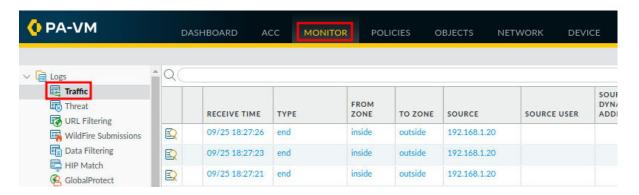
3. At the *login as:* prompt, type root. Type PalOAltO! for the password, and press **Fnter**



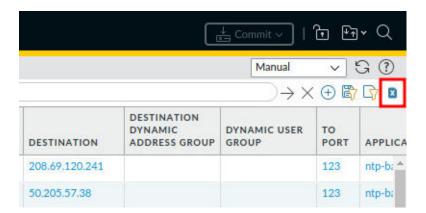
4. Navigate back to the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall Web-UI* by clicking on the minimized **Chromium** icon in the lower-left of the student desktop.



5. Navigate to **Monitor > Logs > Traffic**.



6. Click the **spreadsheet** icon to export the Firewall's traffic log as a *csv file*.

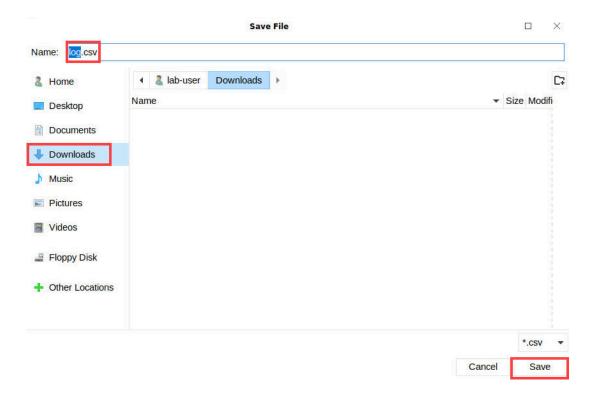




7. In the Log Export window, click Download file.



8. In the *Save File* window, verify that the name **log.csv** is showing, select **Downloads** and click **Save**.

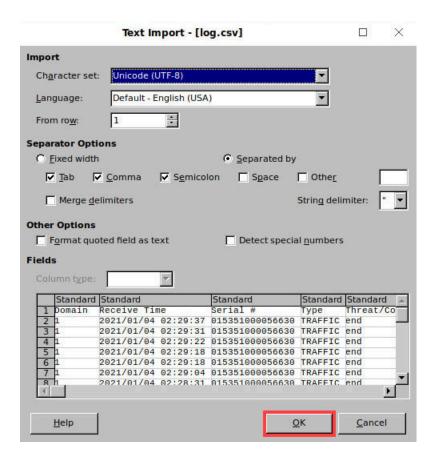


9. From the client, click the **log.csv** file that you downloaded in *steps* **5** and **6**.

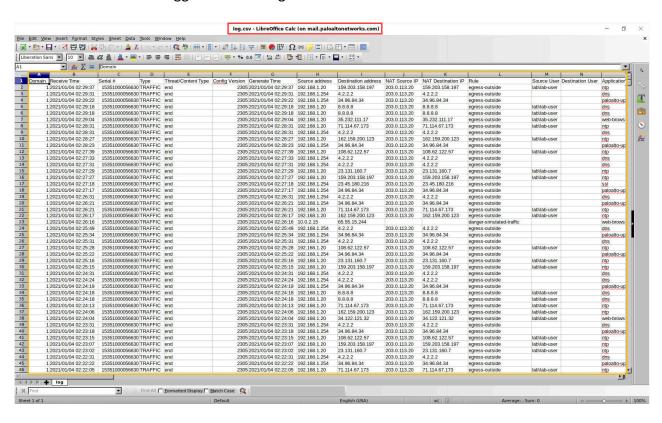




10. In the *Text Import – [log.csv]* window, click **OK**.



11. Observe the Firewall's logged traffic using LibreOffice.



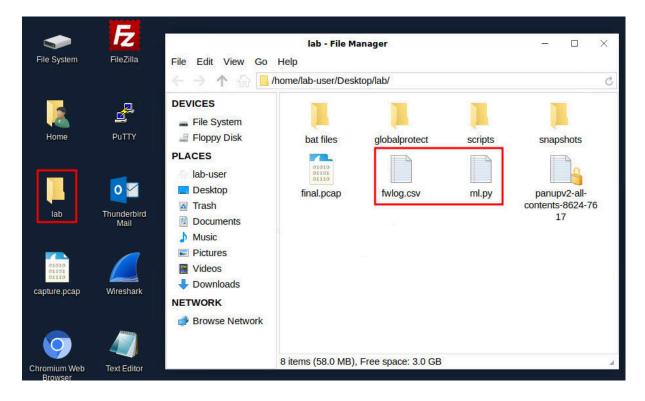


Please Note If you were using Cortex XSOAR in your organization's Security Operations Center, traffic data from 100s of firewall appliances, network appliances and endpoints would be forwarded to the Cortex Data Lake. The Cortex Data Lake would then analyze this vast quantity of data and use machine learning (ML) to detect anomalies indicating incidents of compromise.

12. On the lower-left of the client desktop, click the **Minimize all open windows and show the desktop** icon.

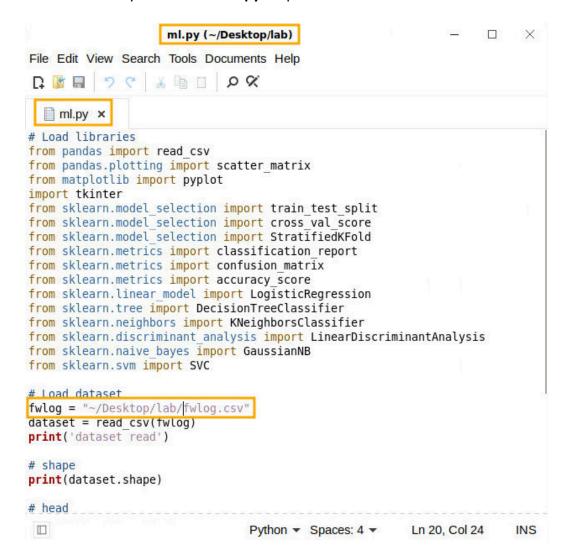


13. Double-click the lab folder. In the lab – File Manager window, there is a Python program named ml.py that will use the python script module to analyze the data in the fwlog.csv file. The fwlog.csv file is a modified version of the log.csv file you downloaded from the Palo Alto Networks Firewall. The fwlog.csv file contains only 5 column fields from the log.csv file.





14. Double-click the **ml.py** file and explore the contents. Notice the **fwlog.csv** file that will be analyzed from the **ml.py** script.

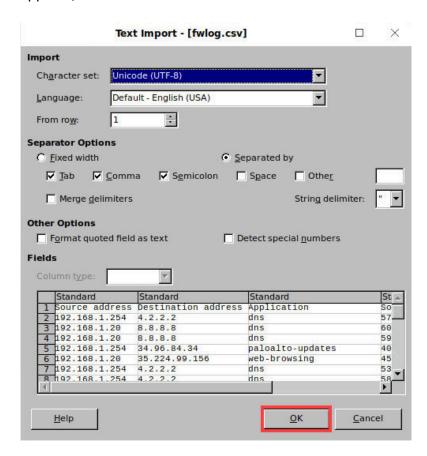


15. Close the **ml.py** file by clicking on the **X** icon.

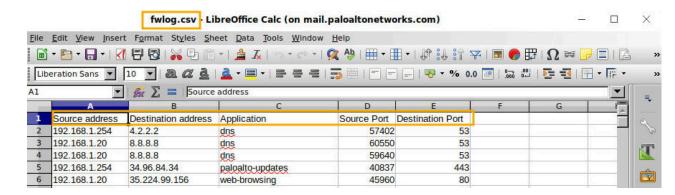




16. Double click the **fwlog.csv** file. When the *Text Import –[fwlog.csv]* window appears, click **OK**.



17. Explore the contents of the **fwlog.csv** file. Notice the 5 columns of **Source** address, **Destination address**, **Application**, **Source Port** and **Destination Port**.



18. Close the **fwlog.csv** file by clicking on the **X** icon.





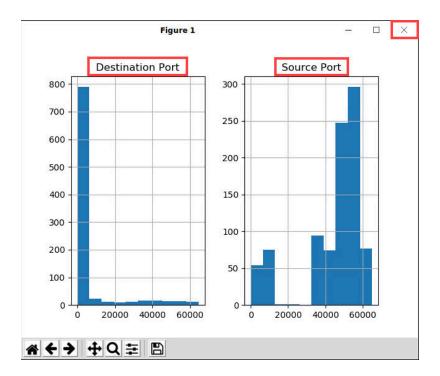
19. On the client desktop, open a *terminal* window by clicking on the **Xfce Terminal** icon.



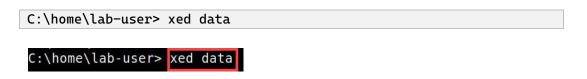
20. Execute the **ml.py** python file by typing the command below.



21. View the data from the histogram in the *Figure 1* window. This will display a *histogram* that will show information about the **Source** and **Destination** ports, and other information about the log entries in a file named **data**. After viewing the information from the histogram, close it by clicking on the **X** icon to complete the command execution.

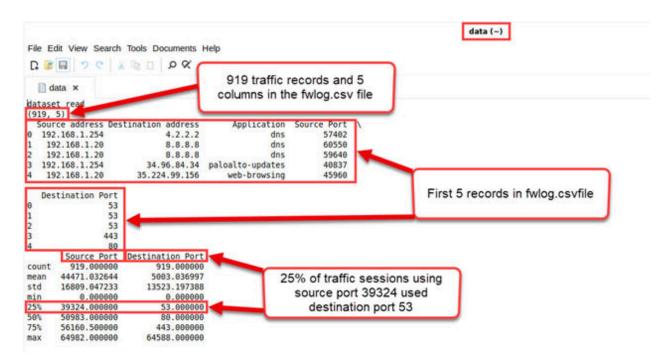


22. In the *terminal* window, open the **data** file created by typing the command below.





23. Explore the information in the **data** file about the *Palo Alto Networks Firewall* traffic



24. The lab is now complete; you may end your reservation.