

Building an IPS solution for inline usage during Red Teaming

Repurposing defensive technologies for offensive Red Team operations

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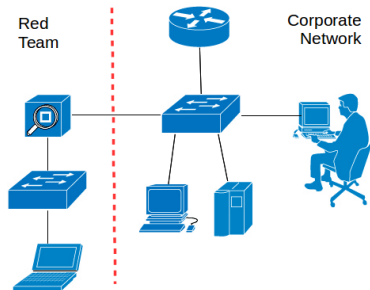
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 - Research question
- 2 Investigating IDS/IPS engines
 - Types of IDS/IPS engines
 - How can an IPS help?
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- 4 Conclusion
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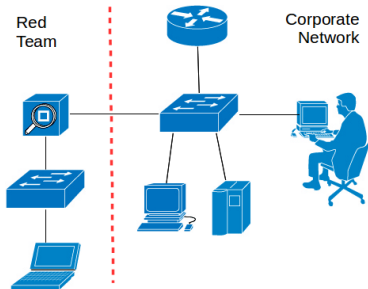
The idea

- Originally from Deloitte.



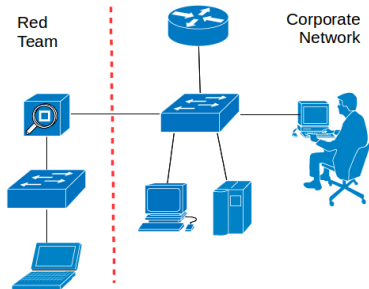
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- For use during penetration tests (Red Teaming)
- Prevent the attackers from doing detectable mistakes



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- 1 How can outgoing traffic be filtered and sanitised by an IPS?

In how far is it possible to design a transparent device that disguises an attacker's computer inside a local network?

- ① How can outgoing traffic be filtered and sanitised by an IPS?
- ② How can incoming traffic be handled to evade investigation and detection?

Types of IDS/IPS engines

Network based

- Deployed either to listen to replica of the traffic or inline.
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In our case a network-based solution would do the job.
But should it be signature or anomaly based?

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- Different Operating systems behave in different ways for things not standardised in RFC.
- Some examples include TTL and initial TCP window size.

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Windows 7	128	8192
Windows 10	128	8192
Kali Linux	64	29200

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Actively

- By doing active scans against them.
- More about to follow.

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By using built-in normalizers.

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So how did the selected engines perform?

IPS Engine	TTL handling	TCP window handling
Snort 2.9.9.0	yes	no
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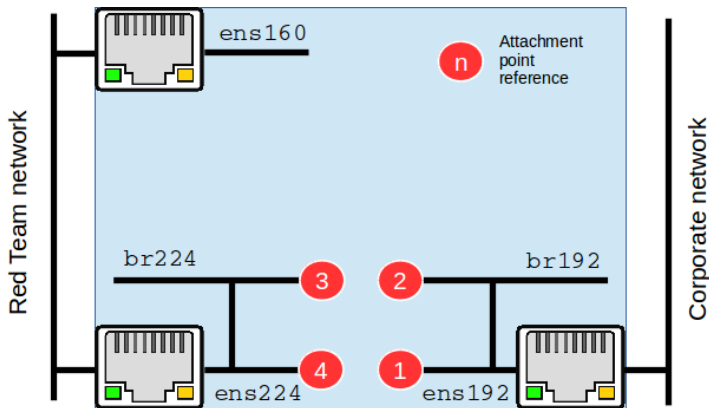
And that means scripting, triggered by a rule!

Including executing commands from the system shell!

```
drop tcp 10.0.0.200 any -> any any (msg:"TCP SYN for  
inspection by LUA"; flags:S; sid 1000002; rev:001;  
luajit:tcpinspect.lua;)
```

How did the IPS get connected to the network?

There was a need for a solution that did not require scripting... But how did it get attached in this transparent device?



- TCP/IP fingerprinting

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- Service and version detection

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- Nmap sends a variety of probing packets
 - ICMP
 - TCP
 - UDP
- results of different tests are combined to create an individual fingerprint
- known OS/fingerprint mappings are stored in a database

Nmap OS fingerprint format

```
SCAN (V=5.05BETA1%D=8/23%OT=22%CT=1%CU=42341%PV=N%DS=0%DC=L%G=Y%TM=4A91CB90%  
P=i686-pc-linux-gnu)  
SEQ (SP=C9%GCD=1%ISR=CF%TI=Z%CI=Z%II=I%TS=A)  
OPS (O1=M400CST11NW5%O2=M400CST11NW5%O3=M400CNNT11NW5%  
O4=M400CST11NW5%O5=M400CST11NW5%O6=M400CST11)  
WIN (W1=8000%W2=8000%W3=8000%W4=8000%W5=8000%W6=8000)  
ECN (R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=8018%O=M400CNNSNW5%CC=N%Q=)  
T1 (R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%S=0%A=S+%F=AS%RD=0%Q=)  
T2 (R=N)  
T3 (R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=8000%S=0%A=S+%F=AS%O=M400CST11NW5%RD=0%Q=)  
T4 (R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=0%S=A%A=Z%F=R%O=%RD=0%Q=)  
T5 (R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=0%S=Z%A=S+%F=AR%O=%RD=0%Q=)  
T6 (R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=0%S=A%A=Z%F=R%O=%RD=0%Q=)  
T7 (R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=0%S=Z%A=S+%F=AR%O=%RD=0%Q=)  
U1 (R=Y%DF=N%T=40%IPL=164%UN=0%RIPL=G%RID=G%RIPCK=G%RUCK=G%RUD=G)  
IE (R=Y%DFI=N%T=40%CD=S)
```

Nmap OS detection

```
$ sudo nmap -O 10.0.0.220

Starting Nmap 7.01 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2017-02-06 21:47 CET
Nmap scan report for 10.0.0.220
Host is up (0.000063s latency).
Not shown: 999 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:40:E7:6A (VMware)
Device type: general purpose
Running: Linux 3.X|4.X                # OS detection correct
OS CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:3 cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:4
OS details: Linux 3.2 - 4.0
Network Distance: 1 hop

OS detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 3.20 seconds
```

Listing 1: Inspecting a Ubuntu machine with kernel 4.4.0-59-generic

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- honeyD

- virtual honeypot framework
- simulates networks of low-interaction honeypots
- **Personality engine** to simulate TCP/IP stack
- `apt-get install honeyd`

Simulating a Windows XP machine with honeyD

```
1 create winxp
2 set winxp personality "Microsoft Windows XP Professional"
3 set winxp default tcp action reset
4 set winxp default udp action reset
5 set winxp default icmp action closed
6 add winxp udp port 123 open
7 add winxp tcp port 3389 proxy 10.0.0.60:3389
8 add winxp tcp port 22 proxy $ipsrc:22
9 add winxp tcp port 23 "/etc/honeypot/scripts/fake_telnet.sh"
10
11 bind 10.0.0.200 winxp
```

Listing 2: honeyd.conf

Service and version detection

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- Nmap uses two methods to detect a service
 - ① statically mapping well-known ports to their services
 - ② attempting to interact with the services to obtain more details:
 - application name
 - version number
 - **OS family**

Nmap service and version detection

```
$ sudo nmap -sV 10.0.0.205

Starting Nmap 7.01 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2017-02-06 22:39 CET
Nmap scan report for 10.0.0.205
Host is up (0.000047s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 7.2p2 Ubuntu 4ubuntu2.1 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
80/tcp    open  http     Apache httpd 2.4.18 ((Ubuntu))
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:16:3C:76 (VMware)
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 8.10 seconds
```

Listing 3: Inspecting a Ubuntu machine with and ssh service and apache running

How can service detection be evaded?

- Beacons are connecting to CnC server through port 80
- Port 80 is suspicious

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- Beacons are connecting to CnC server through port 80
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→ **Can we detect an Nmap scan and temporary close port 80?**

How does Nmap perform a service scan?

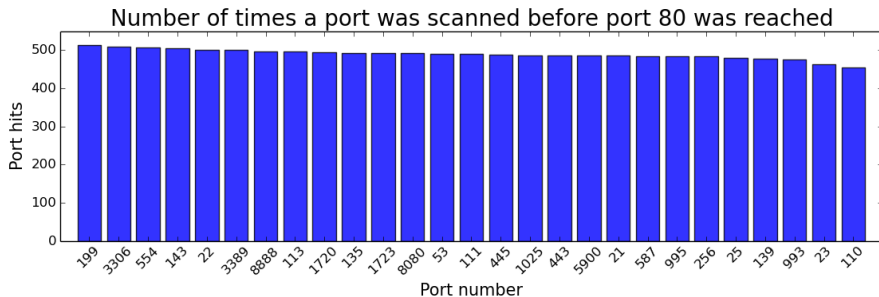


Figure: Result of 1000 Nmap scans

How to react to connection attempts to closed ports?

- Port knocking:
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- Port knocking:
 - listening to secret sequences of port connections
 - opening another port, if a certain sequence is detected
 - `knockD` is a very flexible port knocking daemon

Configuring knockD

```
1 # closing port 22 if 2222, 3333 and 4444 are knocked
2 [opencloseSSH]
3     sequence      = 2222,3333,4444
4     seq_timeout   = 15
5     tcpflags      = syn,ack
6     start_command = iptables -A INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp --syn --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
7     cmd_timeout   = 10
8     stop_command  = iptables -D INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp --syn --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
```

Listing 4: knockd.conf

Configuring knockD

```
1 # close port 80 if either of 199, 3306, 554, ... is knocked
2 [close80]
3     sequence      = 199/3306/554/143/22/3389/8888/...
4     seq_timeout   = 15
5     tcpflags      = syn,ack
6     start_command = iptables -A INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp -m multiport --dports 80 -j REJECT
7     cmd_timeout   = 10
8     stop_command  = iptables -D INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp -m multiport --dports 80 -j REJECT
```

Listing 5: knockd.conf

Configuring knockD

```
1 # separate rule for each port
2 [close80_199]
3     sequence          = 199
4     seq_timeout       = 15
5     tcpflags          = syn,ack
6     start_command     = iptables -A INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp -m multiport --dports 80 -j REJECT
7     cmd_timeout       = 10
8     stop_command      = iptables -D INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp -m multiport --dports 80 -j REJECT
9 [close80_3306]
10    sequence          = 3306
11    seq_timeout       = 15
12    tcpflags          = syn,ack
13    start_command     = iptables -A INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp -m multiport --dports 80 -j REJECT
14    cmd_timeout       = 10
15    stop_command      = iptables -D INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp -m multiport --dports 80 -j REJECT
16 ...
```

Listing 6: knockd.conf

Configuring knockD

```
1 # rules for all possible permutations
2 [close80_199_3306]
3     sequence      = 199,3306
4     seq_timeout   = 15
5     tcpflags      = syn,ack
6     start_command = iptables -A INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp -m multiport --dports 80 -j REJECT
7     cmd_timeout   = 10
8     stop_command  = iptables -D INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp -m multiport --dports 80 -j REJECT
9 [close80_199_554]
10    sequence      = 199,554
11    seq_timeout   = 15
12    tcpflags      = syn,ack
13    start_command = iptables -A INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp -m multiport --dports 80 -j REJECT
14    cmd_timeout   = 10
15    stop_command  = iptables -D INPUT -s %IP% -p tcp -m multiport --dports 80 -j REJECT
16 ...
```

Listing 7: knockd.conf

Configuring knockD

- running multiple instances of knockD with different rules
- multiple sequences can be detected in parallel
- if Nmap starts scanning with port 80, it cannot be hidden

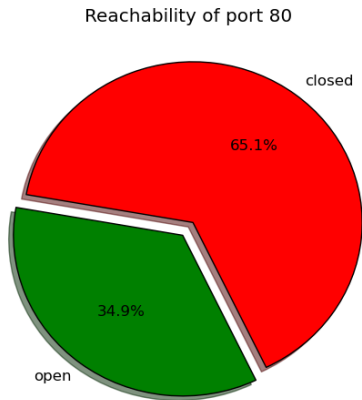


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- We were able to implement a transparent solution which can protect the attacker from being easily detected.
- At this point it requires additional configuration and has some tradeoffs between different options.

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- Future work
 - Improving reliability of hiding port 80
 - Replace the functionality of external daemons by Lua scripts

Demo

Questions?