Beginning analysis of the SSU attack-defense CTF packet capture corpus

Grant Fonseca and Mark Gondree

Computer Science Department, Sonoma State University

SSU Attack-Defense Corpus

- Comprised of network data recorded during Attack-Defense CTF.
- Represents 21 games, primarily the iCTF and DEFCON games.
- Presents opportunity to research CTFs as educational tools and the players

Why Attack-Defense?

Format praised for education, training, assessment.

This project: DEFCON 22 game data

- 20 teams competed in Las Vegas
- Aug 8, 2014 — Aug 10, 2014
- Contestants must qualify to compete
- Winning team gets:
  - Qualified to compete in DEFCON 23 CTF
  - free registration to all future DEFCON events

Teams	Size of pcaps	Number of Packets	Score
gallopsled	153 GB	543,807,786	921
hitcon	46 GB	234,471,087	7833
ppp	30 GB	130,868,827	11263
shellphish	22 GB	111,024,707	899
balalaikacr3w	19 GB	70,657,470	937
codered	15 GB	69,076,065	997
hackingforchimac	15 GB	55,976,008	546
kaist	15 GB	64,079,228	1334
mslc	14 GB	68,880,637	1248
raon_asrt	14 GB	65,863,338	2281
blue-lotus	13 GB	61,079,444	3233
mmbih	9.2 GB	44,507,219	2594
dragonsector	7.8 GB	35,110,744	4421
reckless	7.8 GB	38,647,458	4020
w3stormz	7.5 GB	32,668,640	987
stratum	7.1 GB	39,542,748	1529
team9447	6.5 GB	33,400,052	1519
penthackon	6.2 GB	22,420,439	979
routards	5.4 GB	28,437,005	1262
binja	3.4 GB	19,376,967	1153

Acknowledgments

Thank you to collaborators with prior work on this project: Jonathan Soto (SSU), Gabriel Duarte, Dylan Curry (SSU).

1) Matching tokens with exploiters and targets in network traces using scoreboard data

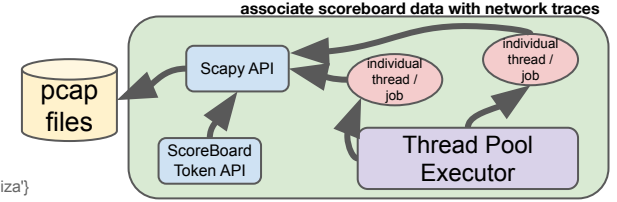
Explored two approaches

1. Using ***ngrep***
   - Fast, mature, professional tool
   - Requires some secondary tool to "further explore" the pcap
   - Ex: extract timing information, payload data, etc.
2. Using the ***scapy*** library
   - Basically, "build your own network analysis tool"

Example: Scoreboard data of tokens recovered in rounds 175--176

{'round': 175, 'token': '4emlfzRyzUb3n', 'owner': 'Gallopsled', 'exploiter': 'Routards', 'service': 'eliza'}
{'round': 175, 'token': '4emlfzRyzUb3n', 'owner': 'Gallopsled', 'exploiter': 'blue-lotus', 'service': 'eliza'}
{'round': 175, 'token': '4emlfzRyzUb3n', 'owner': 'Gallopsled', 'exploiter': 'Reckless Abandon', 'service': 'eliza'}
{'round': 175, 'token': 'p12kT5jKo9Zky', 'owner': 'Gallopsled', 'exploiter': 'blue-lotus', 'service': 'wdub'}
{'round': 176, 'token': 'oYPCWUjTHaUft', 'owner': 'raon_ASRT', 'exploiter': 'More Smoked Leet Chicken', 'service': 'justify'}
{'round': 176, 'token': 'oYPCWUjTHaUft', 'owner': 'raon_ASRT', 'exploiter': 'Plaid Parliament of Pwning', 'service': 'justify'}
{'round': 176, 'token': '4Ys27GiHsD9lo', 'owner': '9447', 'exploiter': 'More Smoked Leet Chicken', 'service': 'justify'}
{'round': 176, 'token': '[redacted]', 'owner': 'raon_ASRT', 'exploiter': 'Reckless Abandon', 'service': 'eliza'}
{'round': 176, 'token': 'LzaGQoIk5wlLBQ', 'owner': 'Plaid Parliament of Pwning', 'exploiter': 'HITCON', 'service': 'eliza'}
{'round': 176, 'token': 'qloi35s2G5BsN', 'owner': 'Routards', 'exploiter': 'HITCON', 'service': 'eliza'}

The software architecture of our ad-hoc tool set to associate scoreboard data with network traces



First iteration of our tool

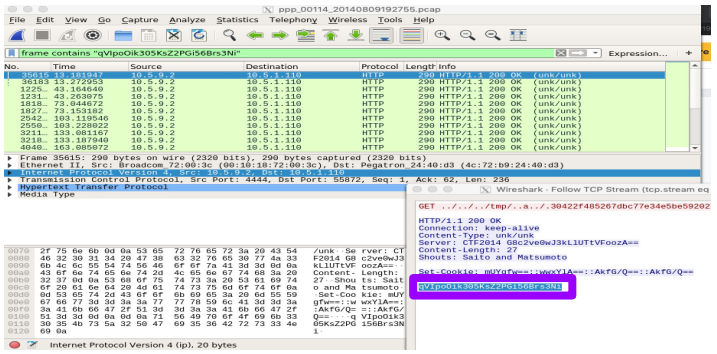
idea: extensible, multi-threaded ngrep

- pulls partial tokens from scoreboard
- removes duplicates
- uses scapy to parse pcaps
- searches for multiple tokens simultaneously

2) Searching for attack payloads manually

Partial token from Scoreboard database: qloi35s2G5BsN

Regular Expression of Token: q.l.o.i.3.5.s.2.G.5.B.s.N.



3) Searching for attack payloads with software tools

Example output of ngrep matching a particular regular expression

```
input: /kirby/ssu_seclab/ctf-corpus/DEFCON22-2014-08/pcaps/dragonsector/
dragonsector_00072_20140808155530.cap
filter: (ip || ip6)
match: H.T.e.C.E.H.u.m.Z.m.0.B.a.

T 10.5.15.2:4444 -> 10.5.1.2:49830 [AP] #692
  ballz..Server: CTF2014 UwyxJsK+wzHqHBSl7ZmVYw==..Shouts: Saito and Matsumoto..Set-Cookie:
S661tg==::wM8VVw==::AkfG/Q==::AkfG/Q==..Content-Leng
  th:
27..HjTEexCSEHHRuUmEZZmC0RBqax.

T 10.5.15.2:4444 -> 10.5.19.2:39852 [AP] #1054
  ballz..Server: CTF2014 Ytvl6grgZZENLu46k8ZOmw==..Shouts: Saito and Matsumoto..Set-Cookie:
S661tg==::wM8VVw==::AkfG/Q==::AkfG/Q==..Content-Leng
  th:
27..HjTEexCSEHHRuUmEZZmC0RBqax.

T 10.5.15.2:4444 -> 10.5.20.2:49914 [AP] #1353
  ballz..Server: CTF2014 ijpEVGJ8dORn8pMkDXYG/A==..Shouts: Saito and Matsumoto..Set-Cookie:
S661tg==::wM8VVw==::AkfG/Q==::AkfG/Q==..Content-Leng
  th:
27..HjTEexCSEHHRuUmEZZmC0RBqax.

T 10.5.15.2:4444 -> 10.5.10.2:39956 [AP] #1398
  ballz..Server: CTF2014 Ll81EEztMjPwkHFVK72/vg==..Shouts: Saito and Matsumoto..Set-Cookie:
S661tg==::wM8VVw==::AkfG/Q==::AkfG/Q==..Content-Leng
  th:
27..HjTEexCSEHHRuUmEZZmC0RBqax.
```

Finds all occurances of a particular regular expression

Limitations motivate building a custom tool

- one regular expression at a time, one file at a time
- output difficult to parse (need to refer to pcap for more info)