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Basic Concept of Firewall

jnlin (2020) ? (~ 2019)



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Firewalls

- Firewall
 - Hardware/software
 - Choke point between secured and unsecured network
 - Filter incoming and outgoing traffic
 - Prevent communications which are forbidden by the security policy
- The usage
 - Incoming: protect and insulate the applications, services and machines
 - Such as ssh, NFS, telnet, NetBIOS(samba), internal web servers
 - Outgoing: limit or disable access from the internal network
 - Such as Line, ssh, ftp, Facebook, Online Games
 - NAT (Network Address Translation)



Firewalls – Capabilities

- Network Layer Firewalls
 - Operate at a low level of TCP/IP stack as IP-packet filters.
 - Filter attributes
 - Source/destination IP
 - Source/destination port
 - TTL
 - Protocols
 - **■** ...
- Application Layer Firewalls
 - \circ $\,$ Work on the application level of the TCP/IP stack.
 - Inspect all packets for improper content, a complex work!
- Application Firewalls
 - \circ The access control implemented by applications.
 - TCP Wrapper
 - hosts.allow, hosts.deny
 - In FreeBSD: tcpd(8)

TCP/IP
Application
Transport
Internet
Network Interface



Firewalls – Rules

- Exclusive
 - Only block the traffic matching the rulesets
- Inclusive
 - Only allow the traffic matching the rulesets
 - Offer much better control of the incoming/outgoing traffic
 - \circ Safer than exclusive one
 - (Y) reduce the risk of allowing unwanted traffic to pass
 - (N) increase the risk to block yourself with wrong configuration
- State
 - Stateful
 - Keep track of which connections are opened through the firewall
 - Be vulnerable to Denial of Service (DoS) attacks
 - Stateless

Firewalls – Packages

- Linux
 - iptables (kernel 2.4+)
 - ipchains (kernel < 2.4)
 - firewalld
 - ufw (ubuntu)
- FreeBSD
 - IPFILTER (known as IPF)
 - IPFIREWALL (known as IPFW) + Dummynet
 - Packet Filter (known as PF)+ ALTQ
 - Migrated from OpenBSD
 - http://www.openbsd.org/faq/pf/





Basic PF in FreeBSD



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Packet Filter (PF)

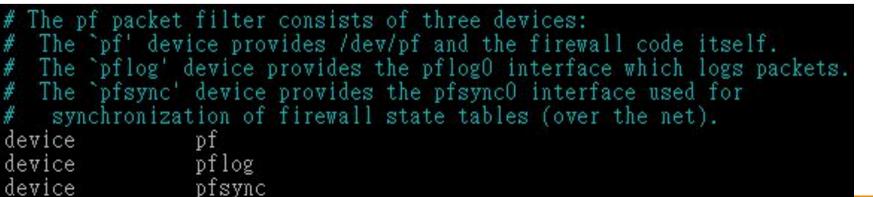
- Functionality
 - Filtering packets
 - NAT
 - Load balance
 - QoS: (ALTQ: Alternate Queuing)
 - Failover (pfsync + carp)

Not covered today



PF in FreeBSD – Enable pf*

- In /etc/rc.conf
 - pf_enable="YES"
 - o pflog_enable="YES"
 - o pfsync_enable="YES"
- Kernel configurations
 - o device pf
 - \circ device pflog
 - device pfsync





PF in FreeBSD – Commands and Config

- /etc/rc.d/pf
 - start / stop / restart / status / check / reload / resync
 - reboot if kernel modules is not loaded
- /etc/pf.conf
 - rules for PF
 - traffics to block/pass
 - tables to lookup
 - 0 ...



PF in FreeBSD – Example

```
# macro definitions
extdev='fxp0'
server ext='140.113.214.13'
# options
set limit { states 10000, frags 5000 }
set loginterface $extdev
set block-policy drop
set skip on lo0
# tables
table <badhosts> persist file "/etc/badhosts.list"
# filtering rules
block in all
pass out all
antispoof for $extdev
block in log on $extdev proto tcp from any to any port {139, 445}
block in log on $extdev proto udp from any to any port {137, 138}
block quick on $extdev from <badhosts> to any
pass in on $extdev proto tcp from 140.113.0.0/16 to any port {139, 445}
pass in on $extdev proto udp from 140.113.0.0/16 to any port {137, 138}
```



PF in FreeBSD – Tool

- pfctl
 - -e / -d
 - Enable/disable
 - \circ -F {nat | rules | state | info | Tables | all | ...}
 - Flush rules
 - \circ -v -s {nat | rules | state | info | all | Anchors | Tables | ...}
 - Show current rules
 - \circ -v -n -f /etc/pf.conf
 - Parse the rule file without actually take effect
 - Suitable for testing marcos



PF in FreeBSD – Tool

- pfctl
 - -t *table_name* -T {add | delete| test} {ip ...}
 - Modify lookup table, add/remove IP addresses
 - -t *table_name* -T {show | kill | flush | ...}
 - Show/disable/reload tables
 - \circ -k {host | network} [-k {host | network}]
 - Kill internal state entries for given host/network



PF in FreeBSD – Config ordering

- Macros
 - User-defined variables, so they can be referenced and changed easily.
- Tables "table"
 - Similar to macros, but efficient and more flexible for many addresses.
- Options "set"
 - Tune the behavior of pf, default values are given.
- Normalization "scrub"
 - Reassemble fragments and resolve or reduce traffic ambiguities.
- Queueing "altq", "queue"
 - Rule-based bandwidth control.
- Translation (NAT) "rdr", "nat", "binat"
 - Specify how addresses are to be mapped or redirected to other addresses
 - First match rules
- Filtering "antispoof", "block", "pass"
 - Rule-based blocking or passing packets
 - Last match rules



PF in FreeBSD – Lists

- Lists
 - Allow the specification of multiple similar criteria within a rule
 - Multiple protocols, port numbers, addresses, etc.
 - Defined by specifying items within { } brackets.
 - E.g.
 - pass out on rl0 proto { tcp, udp } from { 192.168.0.1, 10.5.32.6 } to any
 - pass in on fxp0 proto tcp to port { 22 80 }



PF in FreeBSD – Lists

- Lists
 - Pitfall
 - A lists will be expanded into rules.
 - Last matched rule takes effect
 - pass in on fxp0 from { 10.0.0/8, !10.1.2.3 }
 - You mean (It means)
 - 1. pass in on fxp0 from 10.0.0/8
 - 2. block in on fxp0 from 10.1.2.3
 - 2. pass in on fxp0 from !10.1.2.3
 - Use table, instead.



PF in FreeBSD – Macros

- Macros
 - User-defined variables that can hold IP addresses, port numbers, interface names, etc.
 - Reduce the complexity of a pf ruleset and also make maintaining a ruleset much easier.
 - Naming: start with [a-zA-Z] and may contain [a-zA-Z0-9_]
 - E.g.
 - $ext_if = "fxp0"$
 - block in on \$ext_if from any to any
 - Macro of macros
 - host1 = "192.168.1.1"
 - host2 = "192.168.1.2"
 - all_hosts = "{" \$host1 \$host2 "}"
 - Macros are not expanded within quotes!



PF in FreeBSD – Tables (1)

- Tables
 - Used to hold a group of IPv4 and/or IPv6 addresses
 - Supports address lookup and query
 - Hostname, interface name, and keyword self
 - Lookups against a table are very fast and consume less memory and processor time than lists
 - Two attributes
 - persist: keep the table in memory even when no rules refer to it
 - const: cannot be changed once the table is created
 - E.g.
 - table <private> const { 10/8, 172.16/12, 192.168/16 }
 - table <badhosts> persist
 - block on fxp0 from { <private>, <badhosts> } to any
 - table <spam> persist file "/etc/spammers" file "/etc/openrelays"



PF in FreeBSD – Tables (2)

- Tables Address Matching
 - An address lookup against a table will return the most narrowly matching entry
 - E.g.
 - table <goodguys> { 172.16.0.0/16, !172.16.1.0/24, 172.16.1.100 }
 - block in on dc0
 - pass in on dc0 from <goodguys>
 - Result
 - 172.16.50.5 passed
 - 172.16.1.25 blocked
 - 172.16.1.100 passed
 - 10.1.4.55 blocked



PF in FreeBSD – Options

- Format
 - Control pf's operation, and specified in pf.conf using "set"
 - Format: set option [sub-ops] value
- Options
 - loginterface collect packets and gather byte count statistics
 - \circ ruleset-optimization ruleset optimizer
 - none, basic, profile
 - basic: remove dups, remove subs, combine into a table, re-order rules
 - block-policy default behavior for blocked packets
 - drop, return
 - \circ skip on {ifname} interfaces for which packets should not be filtered.
 - E.g. set skip on lo0
 - timeout, limit, optimization, state-policy, hostid, require-order, fingerprints,
 debug

PF in FreeBSD – Normalization

- Traffic Normalization
 - IP fragment reassembly
 - scrub in all
 - Default behavior
 - Fragments are buffered until they form a complete packet, and only the completed packet is passed on to the filter.
 - Advantage: filter rules have to deal only with complete packets, and ignore fragments.
 - Disadvantage: caching fragments is the additional memory cost
 - The full reassembly method is the only method that currently works with NAT.

PF in FreeBSD – Packet Filtering (1)

- pf has the ability to *block* and *pass* packets based on
 layer 3(ip, ip6) and layer 4(icmp, icmp6, tcp, udp) headers
- Each packet processed by the filter
 - The filter rules are evaluated in sequential order
 - The last matching rule decides what action is taken
 - If no rule matches the packet, the default action is to pass
- Format
 - {pass | block [drop | return]} [in | out] [log] [quick]
 [on <u>ifname</u>] ... {hosts} ...
 - The simplest to block everything by default: specify the first filter rule
 - \circ block all

PF in FreeBSD – Packet Filtering (2)

- States
 - If the packet is *passed*, state is created unless the *no state* is specified
 - The first time a packet matches *pass*, a state entry is created
 - For subsequent packets, the filter checks whether each matches any state
 - For TCP, also check its sequence numbers
 - pf knows how to match ICMP replies to states
 - Port unreachable for UDP
 - ICMP echo reply for echo request
 - ...
 - Stores in BST for efficiency



PF in FreeBSD – Packet Filtering (3)

- Block policy
 - drop
 - Incoming packet is silently dropped.
 - return
 - Incoming packet is dropped
 - For TCP packets
 - TCP RST is returned
 - For UDP packets
 - ICMP UNREACHABLE is returned
 - For other packets
 - No response is sent



PF in FreeBSD – Packet Filtering (3)

- Parameters
 - \circ in | out apply to incoming or outgoing packets
 - *log* generate log messages to pflog (pflog0, /var/log/pflog)
 - Default: the packet that establishes the state is logged
 - \circ quick the rule is considered the last matching rule
 - \circ on <u>ifname</u> apply only on the particular interface
 - *inet* | *inet6* apply only on this address family
 - *proto {tcp | udp | icmp | icmp6} –* apply only on this protocol



PF in FreeBSD – Packet Filtering (4)

- Parameters
- hosts : { from host [port [op] #] to host [port [op] #] | all }
- host:
 - host can be specified in CIDR notation, hostnames, interface names, table, or keywords any, self, ...
 - Hostnames are translated to address(es) at ruleset load time.
 - \circ $\,$ When the address of an interface or hostname changes, the ruleset must be reloaded
- When interface name is surrounded by (), the rule is automatically updated whenever the interface changes its address
- port:
 - ops: unary(=, !=, <, <=, >, >=), and binary(:, ><, <>)
- E.g.
 - block in all
 - \circ pass in proto tcp from any port < 1024 to self port 33333:44444



PF in FreeBSD – Packet Filtering (5)

- Parameters
 - flags $\{ \le a \ge | \le b \ge | any \}$ only apply to TCP packets
 - Flags: (F)IN, (S)YN, (R)ST, (P)USH, (A)CK, (U)RG, (E)CE, C(W)R
 - Check flags listed in , and see if the flags (not) in <a> is (not) set
 - E.g.
 - flags S/S : check SYN is set, ignore others.
 - flags S/SA: check SYN is set and ACK is unset., ignore others
 - Default flags S/SA for TCP
 - \circ icmp-type <u>type</u> code <u>code</u>
 - icmp6-type <u>type</u> code <u>code</u>
 - Apply to ICMP and ICMP6 packets
 - \circ label for per-rule statistics
 - {tag | tagged} <u>string</u>
 - tag by nat, rdr, or binat, and identify by filter rules.



PF in FreeBSD – Stateful tracking

- Stateful tracking options
 - *keep state, modulate state,* and *synproxy state* support these options
 - keep state must be specified explicitly to apply options to a rule

• E.g.

- table <bad_hosts> persist
- block quick from <bad_hosts>
- pass in on \$ext_if proto tcp to (\$ext_if) port ssh keep state \
- (max-src-conn-rate 5/30, overload <bad_hosts> flush global)



PF in FreeBSD – Blocking spoofed

- Blocking spoofed traffic
 - antispoof for <u>ifname</u>
 - \circ antispoof for lo0
 - block drop in on ! lo0 inet from 127.0.0.1/8 to any
 - block drop in on ! lo0 inet6 from ::1 to any
 - antispoof for wi0 inet (IP: 10.0.0.1, netmask 255.255.255.0)
 - block drop in on ! wi0 inet from 10.0.0/24 to any
 - block drop in inet from 10.0.0.1 to any
 - Pitfall:
 - Rules created by the antispoof interfere with packets sent over loopback interfaces to local addresses. One should pass these explicitly.
 - set skip on lo0

PF in FreeBSD – Example

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# options
set limit { states 10000, frags 5000 }
set loginterface $extdev
set block-policy drop
set skip on lo0
# tables
table <badhosts> persist file "/etc/badhosts.list"
# filtering rules
block in all
pass out all
antispoof for $extdev
block in log on $extdev proto tcp from any to any port {139, 445}
block in log on $extdev proto udp from any to any port {137, 138}
block quick on $extdev from <badhosts> to any
pass in on $extdev proto tcp from 140.113.0.0/16 to any port {139, 445}
pass in on $extdev proto udp from 140.113.0.0/16 to any port {137, 138}
```



PF in FreeBSD – Debug by pflog

- Enable pflog in /etc/rc.conf
 - o pflog_enable="YES"
 - Log to pflog0 interface
 - tcpdump -i pflog0
 - o pflog_logfile="/var/log/pflog"
 - tcpdump -r /var/log/pflog
- Create firewall rules
 - Default configuration rules
 - pf_rules="/etc/pf.conf"
 - Sample files
 - /usr/share/examples/pf/*





iptables in Linux



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iptables

- User-space software that control Linux kernel firewall
 Control Linux kernel Netfilter modules
- Support kernel version 2.4+
 - Replace ipchains and ipfwadm
- iptables allows system administrators to define tables containing chains of rules for the treatment of packets



iptables

- In SA, we only cover high level idea of iptables
- Detailed configuration and usage are covered in NA



iptables - filtering

- Main command: iptables
- Almost everything is done by it
- iptables content for new machine (ubuntu)
 - \circ iptables -L

```
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target prot opt source destination
Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target prot opt source destination
Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target prot opt source destination
```



iptables – List

- iptables
 - -t tables : Target table
 - \circ -L : List all rules
 - \circ -n : Don't lookup domain names
 - \circ -v : Show details

```
$ sudo iptables -L -n
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
      prot opt source
                                       destination
target
Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
      prot opt source
                                       destination
target
ACCEPT
          all -- 0.0.0.0/0
                                       0.0.0/0
                                                   ctstate RELATED, ESTABLISHED
DOCKER all -- 0.0.0.0/0
                                       0.0.0/0
      all -- 0.0.0.0/0
                                       0.0.0/0
ACCEPT
          all -- 0.0.0.0/0
                                       0.0.0/0
ACCEPT
Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
                                       destination
target
          prot opt source
```

iptables – Init

- iptables
 - \circ -F : Flush all rules
 - \circ -X : Flush all custom chains
 - -Z : Flush all statistics data for all chains
- iptables
 - -P [INPUT,OUTPUT,FORWARD] [ACCEPT, DROP]
 - Change the default policy of the target chain



iptables – Save and Restore

- iptables-restore
 - Restore from restore file
- iptables-save
 - Export all rules and generate restore file
 - \circ Some system will load restore file at boot
 - E.g.: CentOS /etc/sysconfig/iptables /etc/sysconfig/ip6tables

lacksquare	Restore file syntax	*filter
	• # comments	:INPUT ACCEPT [8:1468] :FORWARD ACCEPT [0:0] :OUTPUT ACCEPT [855:500357]
	\circ * table name	:BLOCK - [0:0] :WORKSTATON-INPUT - [0:0]
	• : chain default-policy [pkt:byte]	
	• Rules	-A INPUT -s 10.1.0.0/16 -j ACCEPT -A INPUT -m conntrackctstate RELATED,ESTABLISHED -j ACCEPT
	\circ COMMIT (End of file)	COMMIT

iptables – Rules (1/2)

- Modify
 - \circ -A, --append
 - \circ -C, --check
 - \circ -D, --delete
 - \circ -I, --insert
 - \circ -R, --replace



iptables – Rules (2/2)

- Filter
 - \circ -i, -o [if] : incoming interface / outgoing interface
 - -i ens192 -o docker0
 - \circ -s, -d [net] : Source / Destination
 - -s 192.168.0.1/24 -d 140.113.1.1
 - --sport, --dport [port] : Source port / Destination port
 - --sport 22 --dport 80
 - -p [protocol] : tcp, udp, icmp, all
 - -p icmp
 - -j [target]: target for matched packets
 - -j ACCEPT, -j DROP
 - ! (not) : Invert matching
 - !-s 140.113.1.0/24
 - ! -i eth0
 - !-p udp



Example

- Allow all packets from 192.168.1.0/24 on eth0
 iptables -A INPUT -i eth0 -p tcp -s 192.168.1.0/24 -j ACCEPT
- Drop packets from 192.168.1.25
 - iptables -A INPUT -i eth0 -p tcp -s 192.168.1.25 -j DROP



Other tools

- These tools help user to manage iptables rules
 - UFW (Uncomplicated Firewall) (Ubuntu)
 - Easy to use
 - Hard to customize
 - Firewalld (Redhat)
 - Another way to manage your firewall
- Sometime even with these tools, you still need to understand iptables, otherwise you cannot manage complicated firewall rules like docker network, kubernetes

