



# SharkFest '18 US



## Wireshark CLI tools and Scripting

June 28th, 2018

<http://syn-bit.nl/files/sf18us.zip>

### Sake Blok

Relational Therapist for Computer Systems



**SYN-bit**  
deep traffic analysis



# A little bit about me...





**SYN-bit**  
deep traffic analysis

**Application and network troubleshooting**

---

**Protocol and packet analysis**

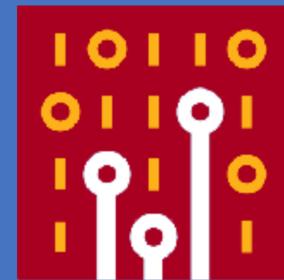
---

**Training (Wireshark, TCP, SSL)**

**[www.SYN-bit.nl](http://www.SYN-bit.nl)**



# Agenda



- Introductions
- Why use CLI tools?  
... and how?
- Wireshark CLI tools
- Useful shell commands
- Some Scripting Examples
- Q&A



# Why use the CLI tools?



- When GUI is not available (shell access)
- Quick and Easy Analysis
- Postprocessing results
  - GUI is powerful & interactive, but fixed functionality
  - CLI combined with other tooling is very flexible
- Automation

CLI not only when GUI is unavailable



# How?

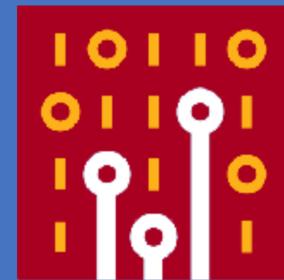


- What information do I need?
  - visualize your output
- What (raw) data sources do I have?
  - Know the output formats of your data sources
- What tools are available?
  - What can they do, browse through manpages for unknown options

**Practice, Experiment & be Creative :-)**



# (some) Wireshark CLI tools



- tshark
- dumpcap
- capinfos
- editcap
- mergecap





# tshark (1)



- CLI version of wireshark
- Similar to tcpdump, but statefull / reassembly  
.... and MANY full protocol decodes
- uses dumpcap as capture engine
- standard options: -D, -i, -c, -n, -l, -f, -R, -s, -w, -r
- name resolving (-n)
- time stamps (-t <format>)
- decode as (-d tcp.port==8080,http)
- preferences (-o <pref>:<value>)



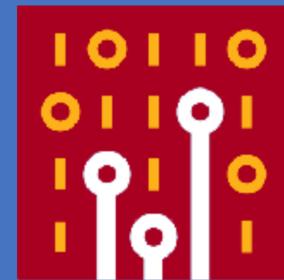
# tshark (2)



- output formats (-V or -T <format>)
  - default: summary, uses column prefs
  - Verbose (-V), hex dump (-x), protocol selection (-O)
  - PDML (-T pdml)
  - JSON (-T json or -T jsonraw or -T ek)
  - fields (-T fields -E <sep> -e <field1> -e <field2> ...)
- statistics (-z ...)
  - protocol hierarchy (-qz io,phs)
  - conversations (-qz conv,eth , -qz conv,tcp)
  - i/o statistics (-qz io,stat,10,ip,icmp,udp,tcp)
  - follow stream (-qz follow,tcp,ascii,0)



# Demo 1: Explore output formats



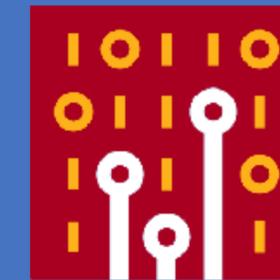
- Show normal output (`tshark -r http.cap`)
- Show full decodes (`tshark -r http.cap -V`)
- Show PDML (XML) decodes (`-T pdml`)
- Show JSON decodes (`-T json`)



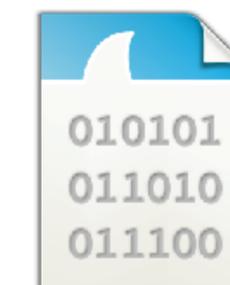
http.pcap



# Demo 2: protocol preferences



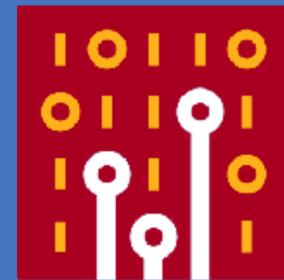
- Display the contents of file `ssl.cap` with `tshark`, do you see http traffic?
- Use `'-o ssl.keys_list:192.168.3.3,443,http,key.pem'`, do you see http traffic now?
- Which version of OpenSSL is used by the webserver (use `'-V'` and look at the `"Server: <xxx>"` http header)



ssl.pcap



# Demo 3: Saving a selection of packets



- Use tshark with option '-o tcp.desegment\_tcp\_streams:TRUE' and filter on http
- Now use tshark with option '-o tcp.desegment\_tcp\_streams:FALSE' and filter on http.
  - How is this output different from the output in 4a?
- Do 3a and 3b again, but now use '-w' to write the output to 3a.cap and 3b.cap respectively. Read 4a.cap and 4b.cap with tshark.
  - Can you explain the difference?



http.pcap



# Demo 4: tshark statistics



- Create a protocol hierarchy with '-qz io,phs'.
  - Which protocols are present in the file?
- Create a ip conversation list with '-qz conv,ip'
- Create a tcp conversation list with '-qz conv,tcp'
- Create some io statistics with '-qz io,stat,60,ip,tcp,smtp,pop'
- Did the previous commands give you an overview of the contents of mail.cap?



mail.pcap



# dumpcap



- used by (wire|t)shark
  - ... for privilege separation
- can be used separately
- options similar to tshark
- fast! only network->disk
- stateless! so traces can run forever
- ring buffer feature extremely useful:
  - `dumpcap -i 5 -s0 -b filesize:16384 -files:1024 -w ring.cap`



# capinfos



- display summary of a tracefile
- all info vs specific info
- Or in table form with -T

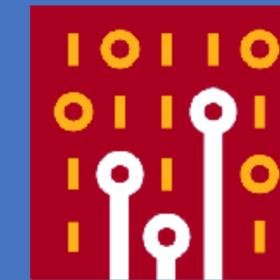
```
$ capinfos example.cap
File name: example.cap
File type: Wireshark/tcpdump/... - libpcap
File encapsulation: Ethernet
Number of packets: 3973
File size: 1431813 bytes
Data size: 1368221 bytes
Capture duration: 1299.436650 seconds
Start time: Thu Jan 17 11:37:16 2008
End time: Thu Jan 17 11:58:55 2008
Data rate: 1052.93 bytes/s
Data rate: 8423.47 bits/s
Average packet size: 344.38 bytes
```

```
$ capinfos -ae sharkfest-*.cap
File name: example.cap
Start time: Thu Jan 17 11:37:16 2008
End time: Thu Jan 17 11:58:55 2008

File name: sharkfest-2.cap
Start time: Thu Jan 17 11:39:27 2008
End time: Thu Jan 17 12:02:52 2008
```



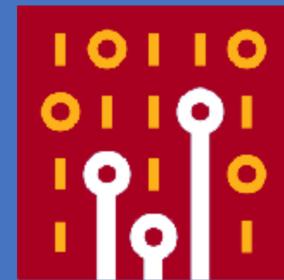
# editcap (1) : select packets



- select frame ranges or time ranges
  - editcap -r example.cap tmp.cap 1-1000 2001-3000
  - editcap -A "2008-01-17 11:40:00" -B "2008-01-17 11:49:59" example.cap tmp.cap
- split file in chunks
  - editcap -c 1000 example.cap tmp.cap
  - editcap -i 60 example.cap tmp.cap
- remove duplicate packets
  - editcap -d example.cap tmp.cap



# editcap (2) : change packets



- change snaplen
  - `editcap -s 96 example.cap tmp.cap`
- change timetamps
  - `editcap -t -3600 example.cap tmp.cap`
- change link layer type
  - `editcap -T user0 example.cap tmp.cap`
- change file type
  - `editcap -F ngsniffer example.cap tmp.cap`



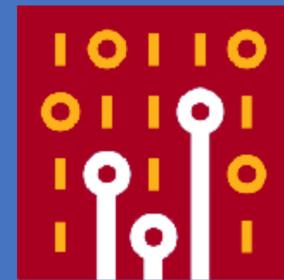
# mergcap



- merge packets in multiple files based on their timestamps
  - `mergcap -w out.cap in-1.cap in-2.cap`
- ... or just append the packets from each file
  - `mergcap -a -w out.cap in-1.cap in-2.cap`



# Demo 5: splitting with editcap



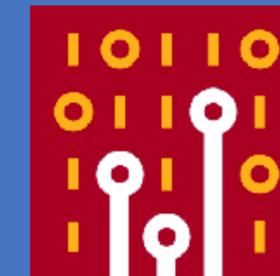
- Execute the command 'editcap -i 60 mail.cap tmp.cap'.
  - How many files are created?
- Use 'capinfos -Tcae tmp\*' to display a summary of these new files.
  - Why are the timestamps not exactly 60 seconds apart?
- Remove the 'tmp\*' files
- Execute the command 'editcap -c 1000 mail.cap tmp.cap'.
  - How many files are created?
- Use 'capinfos -Tcae tmp\*' to display a summary of these new files.



mail.pcap



# Demo 5: merging with mergecap



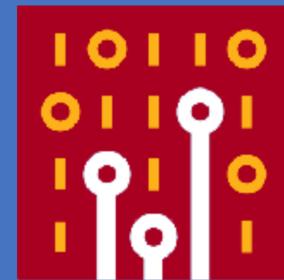
- Use 'mergcap -w mail-new.cap tmp\*'.
  - Is the resulting file exactly the same as mail.cap?  
(tip: use 'cmp <file1> <file2>')



tmp\*.pcap



# Demo 6: editing timestamps



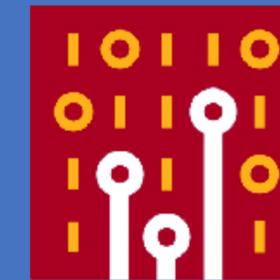
- Adjusting timestamps with editcap
  - Use 'editcap -t <delta>' to create a new tracefile (tmp.cap) where the first packet arrived exactly at 11:39:00 (tip: use '-V -c1' to see the exact timestamp of the first packet). What is your '<delta>'?
  - What is the timestamp of the last packet in the new file? Are all packets adjusted with the same '<delta>'?



mail.pcap



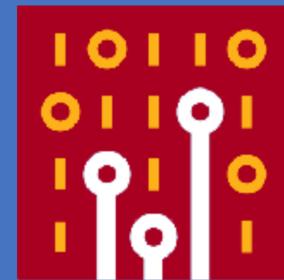
# Getting Help



- Use “<command> -h” for options
  - ... check once-in-a-while for new features
- Read the man-pages for in-depth guidance
  - see: <http://www.wireshark.org/docs/man-pages/>



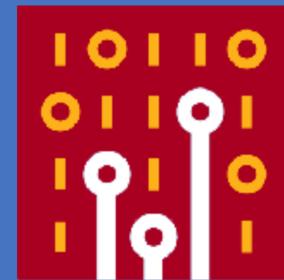
# Useful shell commands



- bash internals:  
|, >, for ... do ... done, ``<command>``
- cut
- sort
- uniq
- tr
- sed
- awk
- q
- scripting (sh/perl/python/...)



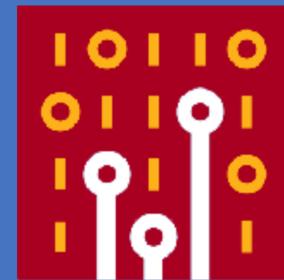
# | , > , for ... do ... done



- Command piping with '|'
  - ls -lt | head
- Output redirection with '>'
  - ls -lt | head > 10-newest-files.txt
- Looping with for ... do ... done
  - for word in 'one' 'two' 'three'; do echo \$word; done



# `<command>`, variable assignments



- Command evaluation with backticks (``)

- for file in `ls -1t | head`

- do

- echo \$file

- head -1 \$file

- echo ""

- done > firstlines.txt

- Variable assignments

- backupfile=`echo \${file}.bak`



# cut



- By character position (-c <range>)
  - cut -c1-10 /etc/passwd
- By field (-f<index> [-d '<delimiter>'])
  - cut -d ':' -f1 /etc/passwd



# sort



- General alphabetic sort (no option)
  - `sort names.txt`
- Reverse sorting (-r)
  - `sort -r names.txt`
- Numerical (-n)
  - `sort -n numbers.txt`
- Or combined:
  - `du -ks * | sort -rn | head`



# uniq



- De-duplication (no option)
  - `sort names.txt | uniq`
- Show only 'doubles' (-d)
  - `sort names.txt | uniq -d`
- Count occurrences (-c)
  - `sort names.txt | uniq -c`



# tr



- Translate a character(set)
  - `echo "one two" | tr " " "_"`
  - `echo "code 217" | tr "[0-9]" "[A-J]"`
  - `echo "What is a house?" | tr "aeiou" "eioua"`
- Delete a character(set)
  - `echo "no more spaces" | tr -d " "`
  - `echo "no more vowels" | tr -d "aeiou"`
  - `cat dosfile.txt | tr -d "\015" > unixfile.txt`



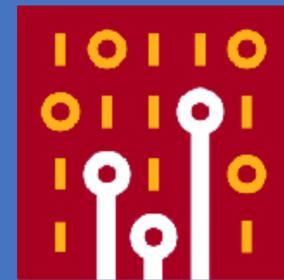
# sed



- Stream editor
- Very powerful 'editing language'
- Some simple examples:
  - deleting text:  
`sed -e 's/<deleteme>/'`
  - replacing text:  
`sed -e 's/<replaceme>/<withthis>/'`
  - extracting text:  
`sed -e 's/^.*( <keepme> \).*( <andme> \).*$/\1 \2/'`



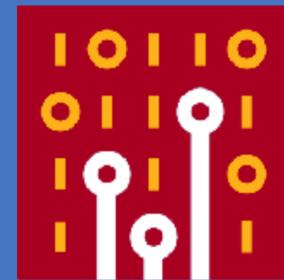
# awk



- Pattern scanning and processing language
- Also a very powerful language
  
- Some examples:
  - netstat -an | \
  - awk '\$1~"tcp" {print \$4}' | \
  - sort | uniq -c
  
  - ... | awk '{printf("%stcp.port==%s",sep,\$1);sep="||"}'



q

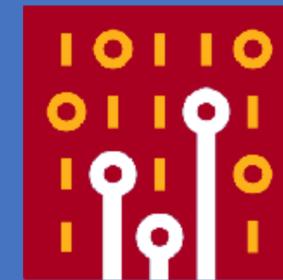


- Perform SQL queries on text files
- An example:

```
netstat -an | \  
q 'SELECT c6, count(*) FROM - WHERE c1 LIKE "%tcp%" GROUP BY c6'
```



# scripting

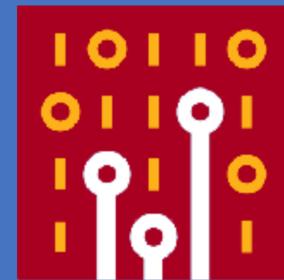


- parsing output when command piping is not enough
- automate execution of tshark/dumpcap/mergecap etc
- use your own favorite language  
(sh/perl/python/etc)

do anything you want :-)



# Some Cases



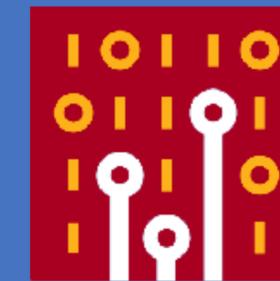
- Using command piping
  - Counting http response codes
  - Top 10 URL's
  - All TCP sessions which contain session-cookie XXXX
- Using scripting
  - All sessions for user XXXX (shell script)



example.pcap



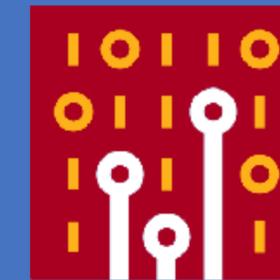
# Case 1: Counting http response codes (1)



- Problem
  - I need an overview of http response codes
- Output
  - table with http response codes & counts
- Input
  - Capture file with http traffic



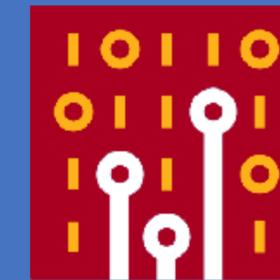
# Case 1: Counting http response codes (2)



- Steps to take
  - print only http response code
  - count
  - make (sorted) table



# Case 1: Counting http response codes (3)



- Command:
  - `tshark -r example.cap -R http.response -T fields -e http.response.code | sort | uniq -c`
- New tricks learned:
  - `-T fields -e <field>`
  - `| sort | uniq -c`



# Case 2: Top 10 requested URL's (1)



- Problem

- I need a list of all URL's that have been visited

- Output

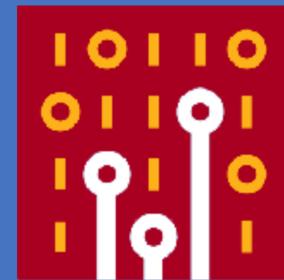
- Sorted list with requested URL's and count

- Input

- Capture file with http traffic



## Case 2: Top 10 requested URL's (2)

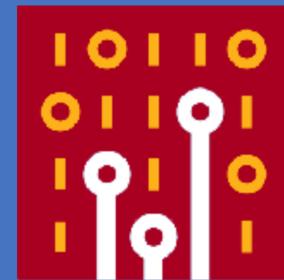


- Steps

- Print `http.host` and `http.request.uri`
- Strip everything after "?"
- Combine host + uri and format into normal URL
- count url's
- make top 10



## Case 2: Top 10 requested URL's (3)



- Command:

```
- tshark -r example.cap -R http.request \  
  -T fields -e http.host -e http.request.uri |\   
  sed -e 's/?.*$//' |\   
  sed -e 's#^\(.*\)t\(.*\) $#http://\1\2#' |\   
  sort | uniq -c | sort -rn | head
```

- New tricks learned:

```
- remove unnecessary info : sed -e 's/?.*$//'  
- transform : sed -e 's#^\(.*\)t\(.*\) $#http://\1\2#'  
- top10 : | sort | uniq -c | sort -rn | head
```



## Case 2: Top 10 requested URL's (3)



- Command:

```
tshark -r example.cap -R http.request \  
-T fields -e http.host -e http.request.uri |\   
sed -e 's/?.*$//' |\   
sed -e 's#^\(.*\)t\(.*\) $#http://\1\2#' |\   
sort | uniq -c | sort -rn | head
```

*http.request.full\_uri*

- New tricks learned:

```
- remove unnecessary info : sed -e 's/?.*$//'  
- transform : sed -e 's#^\(.*\)t\(.*\) $#http://\1\2#'  
- top10 : | sort | uniq -c | sort -rn | head
```



# Case 3: All sessions with cookie XXXX (1)



- Problem

- I know in which “session” a problem exists, but I need all data from that session to work it out

- Output

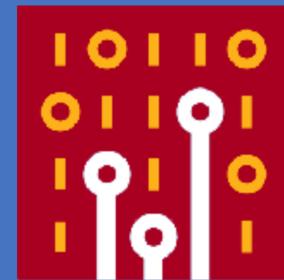
- New capture file with whole tcp sessions that contain cookie  
PHPSESSID=c0bb9d04ceb9bc765bc9bc366f663fcaf

- Input

- Capture file with http traffic



# Case 3: All sessions with cookie XXXX (2)

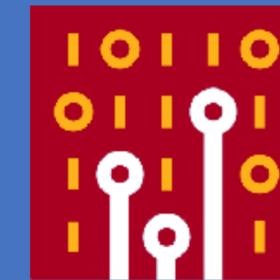


- Steps

- select packets that contain the cookie
- print the tcp stream numbers
- create new filter based on the stream numbers
- use filter to extract tcp sessions
- save packets to a new capture file



# Case 3: All sessions with cookie XXXX (3)



- Command:

```
- tshark -r example.cap -w cookie.cap \  
  -R `tshark -r example.cap -T fields -e tcp.stream  
    -R "http.request and http.cookie contains \  
      "PHPSESSID=c0bb9d04cebbc765bc9bc366f663fcaf\""" |\  
    awk '{printf("%stcp.stream==%s",sep,1);sep="||"}' `
```

- New tricks learned:

```
- tshark -R `<other command that generated filter>`  
- awk '{printf("%stcp.stream==%s",sep,$1);sep="||"}'
```



# Case 4: All sessions for user XXXX (1)



- Problem

- A particular user has multiple sessions and I need to see all sessions from that user

- Output

- New capture file with all data for user xxxx

- Input

- Capture file with http data



# Case 4: All sessions for user XXXX (2)



- Steps

- print all session cookies for user XXXX
- create new capture file per session cookie (see example 3)
- merge files to new output file



# Case 4: All sessions for user XXXX (3)



```
#!/bin/bash

file=$1
user=$2

for cookie in `tshark -r $file -R "http.request and http contains $user" \
                 -T fields -e http.cookie | cut -d ' ' -f2`
do
    tmpfile="tmp_`echo $cookie | cut -d '=' -f 2`.cap"
    echo "Processing session cookie $cookie to $tmpfile"

    tshark -r $file -w $tmpfile -R `tshark -r $file -T fields -e tcp.stream \
        -R "http.request and http.cookie contains \"$cookie\" | \
        awk '{printf("%stcp.stream==%s",sep,$1);sep="||"}'`
done

mergcap -w $user.cap tmp_*.cap
rm tmp_*.cap
```



# Case 4: All sessions for user XXXX (4)

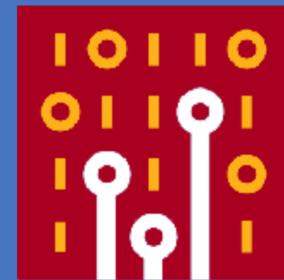


- New tricks learned:

- for ... do ... done
- `<var>=`echo ... | ...``
- `cut -d <FS> -f <x>`
- `mergecap -w <outfile> <infile1> <infile2> ...`



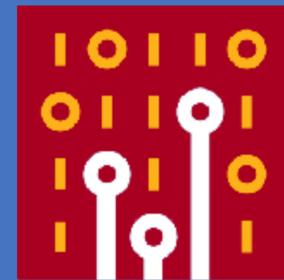
# Case 5: show metrics per URI (1)



- Problem
  - Create an overview of min, avg and max response times per URI
- Output
  - Overview with "uri, count,min,avg,max"
- Input
  - Capture file with http data



# Case 5: show metrics per URI (2)

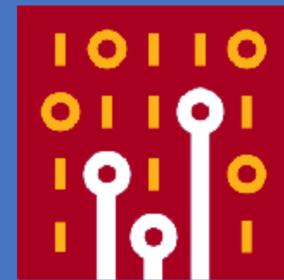


- Steps

- create a text file with all requests
- create a text file with all responses
- use q to 'join' the files and calculate the statistics



## Case 5: show metrics per URI (3)



- Command:

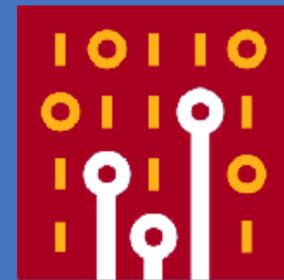
- tshark -r example.pcap -Y http.request -T fields -E separator=' ' \ -e frame.number -e http.request.uri | sed -e 's/\?.\*\$//' > req

- tshark -r example.pcap -Y http.response -T fields -E separator=' ' \ -e http.request\_in -e http.response.code -e http.time > resp

- q 'SELECT REQ.c2, count(\*), min(RESP.c3), avg(RESP.c3), max (RESP.c3) FROM req AS REQ JOIN resp AS RESP ON REQ.c1=RESP.c1 GROUP BY REQ.c2'



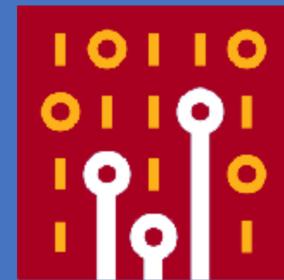
# Case 5: show metrics per URI (4)



- New tricks learned:
  - use q to combine multiple outputs with JOIN



# Case 6: Automatic save for one user



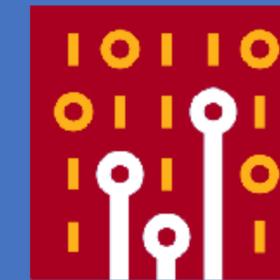
- Create a new trace file for a specific pop user that contains only his pop sessions.
- First get an idea of a typical POP session, use :
  - `tshark -r mail.cap -R 'tcp.port==64315 and tcp.len>0'`
- Use the following steps to create a list of tcp ports used by user 'sake-test2':
  - Use the filter ' `pop.request.parameter=="sake-test2"` ' to only show sessions of user sake-test2
  - Add '-T fields -e tcp.stream' to the command to just show the tcp streams.
  - Add `| awk '{printf("%stcp.stream==%s",sep,$1);sep="||"}'` to



mail.pcap



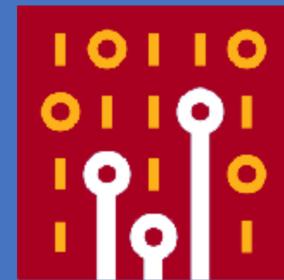
## Case 5 (continued)



- Now use the output of the previous command between backticks to create the new file:  
`tshark -r mail.cap -w sake-test2.cap -R `<previous command>``
- Use `'tshark -r sake-test2.cap -R pop.request.command==USER'` to verify that the new file only contains sessions of user sake-test2. Did we succeed? What went wrong? How can we fix it?



# Case 7: Automatic save for every user



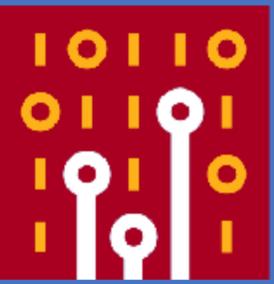
- Creating a separate trace file for each pop user automatically.
  - Delete the file sake-test2.cap
- Create a list of users with the following steps:
  - Use a filter to only select the packets where the pop command was "USER" and use '-T fields' to only print the username.
  - Use '| sort | uniq' to create a list of unique usernames



mail.pcap



## Case 6 (continued)



- Loop through the list of usernames and create the file per user with:

```
for user in `<command from case XX>`  
do  
  echo $user  
  <command from case XX with $user as variable>  
done
```



# Challenge!



- Create a shell script [or a one-liner ;-)] that produces the following output:

```
Mail check times for : sake-test1
11:39:43 : 1 message (2833 octets)
11:40:00 : 0 messages (0 octets)
11:42:33 : 7 messages (25958 octets)
11:45:04 : 6 messages (21538 octets)
11:47:37 : 5 messages (17480 octets)
11:50:09 : 8 messages (32297 octets)
11:52:40 : 5 messages (17017 octets)
11:55:13 : 6 messages (21075 octets)
11:57:46 : 6 messages (20859 octets)
12:00:28 : 7 messages (25416 octets)
12:02:49 : 1 message (3677 octets)
```

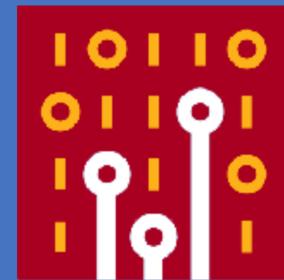
```
Mail check times for : sake-test2
11:39:44 : 5 messages (14512 octets)
11:40:01 : 6 messages (16811 octets)
11:42:34 : 5 messages (17568 octets)
11:45:05 : 4 messages (8551 octets)
11:47:38 : 6 messages (16337 octets)
11:50:10 : 2 messages (5396 octets)
11:52:42 : 7 messages (20601 octets)
11:55:14 : 5 messages (12089 octets)
11:57:46 : 4 messages (14463 octets)
12:00:22 : 5 messages (15016 octets)
12:02:50 : 4 messages (14805 octets)
```



mail.pcap



# Summary



- Wireshark comes with powerful CLI tools (tshark, dumpcap, capinfos, editcap, mergecap)
- tshark+scripting can complement GUI
- use little building blocks and combine them





# Questions?





**FIN/ACK, ACK, FIN/ACK, ACK**



*Still questions?*  
*sake.blok@SYN-bit.nl*



**SYN-bit**  
deep traffic analysis