Comparative Performance Analysis Of Cybersecurity Tools On A Wireless Network With WPA2 Encryption

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paper Abstract— In this comparative performance analysis of cybersecurity tools on a wireless network with WPA2 encryption is presented. Specifically, experiments were conducted to test and compare the performance of four (4) open-source cybersecurity tools namely: Suricata, Snort, Aircrack-ng and Wireshark. The performance analysis of the four selected cybersecurity tools was carried out on a case study wireless network that consisted of MTN Router, 2 personal computers, and some mobile phones. The metric tested include packet capturing and Intrusion detection abilities, man-inthe-middle-attack, password cracking, ease of installation, and usage. The result show that all the tools tested had different degrees of packet capturing and intrusion detection ability. However, Wireshark performs better than the other tools in the aspect of packet capturing and analysis since it does not only show the source/destination IP/mac addresses but include information like frame check sequence, checksum, port number, protocol type. Also, the results showed that Snort was very efficient in the aspect of intrusion detection. None of the 4 tools was able to initiate Man-in-the-middle attack. Password cracking was implemented using Wireshark and Aircrack-ng. Also, except for Snort and Suricata, all the tools are easy to install and use. In all, the study found out that, no single tool is enough to initiate the performance analysis alone. For example. software applications like Aircrack-ng depended on packets captured by Wireshark to initiate password cracking. It was also discovered that some features in the tools that are not responding were due to a version of the operating system that was used for this study (that is. Windows 10).

Keywords— Cybersecurity, Wireshark Wireless Network, Suricata, Wpa2 Encryption, Packet Sniffing, Snort, Man in the Middle Attack, Aircrackng

1. Introduction

In the early years of telecommunication, wired and fiber optic communication were quite popular [1,2, 3,4, 5, 6,7, 8, 9, 10, 11], but the advancements in wireless communication technologies has brought about applications of wireless communication technologies in terrestrial and satellite communication, as well as in deep space communication [12,13,14, 15, 16, 17,18, 19, 20, 21,22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33]. As wireless communication technologies continues to dominate the telecommunication industry, researchers continue to identify and address numerous challenges that are associated with such technologies. Some of the notable challenges associated with classical wireless communication systems include pathloss, diffraction loss, multipath fading, rain fading, interference, limited bandwidth, among others [34,35, 36, 37, 38, 39,40, 41,42, 43,44, 45,46, 47,48, 49,50, 51,52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61]. However, in this present era of Internet and associated Internet of Things technologies, wireless communication systems are increasingly faced with security challenges [62,63,64]. As, such increasingly, researchers are working tirelessly to develop cybersecurity tools and solution to address the security challenges associated with wireless communication networks. Notably, each cybersecurity tool can be effective in addressing some aspects of the security challenges prevalent in wireless networks. As such, proper cybersecurity tools analysis is required in order to identify the appropriate tool to use for different cybersecurity threats and attacks [65,66].

Basically, cybersecurity tools analysis methodologies are the various strategies or approaches used to check a security tool to certify that it performs the expected task. These include a method of installation, selection of network adapter, Packet Sniffing, Man in the middle attack, etc [67,68]. For this paper, cybersecurity tools analysis will be defined as the procedure used to analyze the way and manner cyber security tools can be used to monitor traffic, capture and analyze packets, expose and crack the password and generally expose the vulnerabilities of a network [69,70]. The penetration testing is conducted on a small case study wireless network set up for this purpose using some of the available free cybersecurity tools.

The performance of cyber security tools is highly dependent on the diverse functionalities of the individual tool [71,72]. For example, some of the tools are more capable of packet capturing/analysis and intrusion detection than others while some are more efficient in password cracking and man in the Middle attack than others. Some tools are designed for a single case scenario while some are able to perform two or more types of functions. For this study, the performance of 4 cybersecurity tools was investigated on a case study wireless network with WPA2 encryption [73,74].

Specifically, experiments were conducted to test and compare the performance of four (4) open-source cybersecurity tools namely; Suricata [75,76,77], Snort [77,78,79], Aircrack-ng [80,81] and Wireshark [82,83]. The performance analysis of the four selected cybersecurity tools was carried out on a case study wireless network that consisted of MTN Router, 2 personal computers, and some mobile phones. The metric tested include packet capturing and intrusion detection abilities, man-in-the-middle-attack, password cracking, ease of installation, and usage [84,85,86,87]. The results of the experimental study and the discussion of the results are presented.

2.0 Methodology

In this paper, experiments were conducted to test and compare the performance of four (4) open-source cybersecurity tools namely; Suricata, Snort, Aircrack-ng and Wireshark. A small case study lab was set up which consist of MTN Router, 2 personal computers, and some mobile phones. The function of the MTN MF253v router (Figure 1) is to serve as a source of the internet. It has a operates at maximum frequency of 1900 MHz, maximum transmission rate of 150mbps and supports Edge, Gprs, and HSDPA communication protocol. It is also compatible with Windows 7, 8, and 10.

The personal computer (PC) shown in Figure 2 is HP 250 G3 Notebook with an installed Windows 10 professional operating system. The PC has a hard disk capacity of 500 GB, a Quad-core processor, and an installed Ram of 4Gb. The PC serves as a threat source in this project i.e., Network attack/ Analysis software such as Cain and Abel and Wireshark will be installed and launched from this PC.

Another personal computer shown in Figure 3 is a Dell Latitude E5510 with an installed windows 10 professional operating system. The Dell PC has a hard disk capacity of 500Gb, a Dual-core processor, and an installed Ram of 4Gb. It serves as a threat victim in this project , that means the analysis software such as Suricata, Snort, and Wireshark are installed and launched from this Dell PC. It

will be used to monitor traffic and analyze packets to check their accuracy in detecting the threat.



Figure 1 MTN MF253v Router



Figure 2 Personal Computer (HP 250 G3 Notebook)



Figure 3 Personal Computer (Dell Latitude E5510)

2.1 The Software Tools

2.1.1 SURICATA

Suricata is an open-source IDS/IPS tool developed by the Open Security Foundation (OISF). It performs intrusion detection/prevention procedures and it has detection engine which is a very sophisticated and vigorous network threat detection engine. It is highly valued because it has ability to initiate capturing of data at layer 7 of the OSI model (i.e., application layer). Suricata tool can integrate with thirdparty tools such as Anavar, Squil, BASE, Kibana and Snorby. It has an in-built scripting module, intelligent processing architecture and makes use of signature and anomaly-based methods. In order to use Suricata tool one has to download and install it in the computer system used for the vulnerability analysis. The procedure for the installation of Suricata on Windows operating system can be accessed at the following URLs;

i. https://blog.eldernode.com/install-suricata-onwindows-10/

🙇 Capturing from Wi-Fi

https://redmine.openinfosecfoundation.org/attachm ents/download/1166/SuricataWinInstallationGuide _v1.4.2.pdf

2.1.2 WIRESHARK

Wireshark is a free cross-platform and open-source packet analyzing tool mostly employed by network administrators and cyber security experts for things like network troubleshooting, packet analysis, application development and communications protocol development, and also education. It has ability to capture packets and its <u>promiscuous mode</u> feature allows administrators to view visible traffic on that interface. In addition, it can effectively be used on Microsoft Windows and Linux, as well as on other operating systems.

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2179 68.268872	20.20.20.104	152.199.19.161	TCP	66 64464 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM=1	
2180 68.277769	152.199.19.161	20.20.20.104	TCP	60 443 → 64463 [ACK] Seq=2 Ack=146 Win=15744 Len=0	
2181 68.278386	152.199.19.161	20.20.20.104	TCP	66 443 → 64464 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=14600 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_PERM=1 WS=128	
2182 68.278471	20.20.20.104	152.199.19.161	TCP	54 64464 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262144 Len=0	
2183 68.278624	20.20.20.104	152.199.19.161	TCP	54 64464 → 443 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262144 Len=0	
2184 68.285326	152.199.19.161	20.20.20.104	TCP	60 443 → 64464 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=2 Win=14720 Len=0	
2185 68.285408	20.20.20.104	152.199.19.161	TCP	54 64464 → 443 [ACK] Seq=2 Ack=2 Win=262144 Len=0	
2186 68.317357	20.20.20.1	20.20.20.104	DNS	150 Standard query response 0x2053 A odinvzc.azureedge.net CNAME odinvzc.ec.azureedge.net CNAME cs9.wpc.v0cdn.	net A
2187 68.317423	20.20.20.104	20.20.20.1	ICMP	178 Destination unreachable (Port unreachable)	
0000 38 b1 db 0e 6	b 9f 04 4e af 24 86	5c 08 00 45 00 8	k··N ·\$·∖·	···Ē	^
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Figure 4 Wireshark Interface

A sample Wireshark interface is shown in Figure 4 and the installation procedure for Wireshark tool is as follows:

- i. Download and install Wireshark.exe from https://www.wireshark.org/download.html
- ii. Double-click on the file to open it. And follow subsequent instructions to complete the setup
- iii. Ensure to install WinPcap.
- iv. Select Finish completing the installation of Wireshark.
- v. Open the Wireshark and start monitoring network traffic

2.1.3 AIRCRACK-NG

Aircrack-ng is a cybersecurity tool that performs a variety of functions such as packet sniffing, cracking passwords, and analyzing packets. It is ready tool for wireless hacking and vulnerability testing. Also, it can use packet injection to initiate attacks like de-authentication and Cracking wireless protocol such as WEP and WPA1 and WPA2 through the use of dictionary /wordlist. A sample Aircrack-ng interface is shown in Figure 5. The installation procedure of Aircrack-ng on Windows operating system is quite lengthy but the procedure can be accessed from any of the following URLs;

- i. https://windows-1.com/aircrack-ng-for-pc.html
- ii. https://www.systranbox.com/how-to-install-
- iii. https://www.aircrack
 - ng.org/doku.php?id=install_aircrack

crack-ng	Airodump-ng	Airdecap-ng About	
ename(s)			Choose.
cryption	O WEP		
	WPA		
Nordlist			Choose.
Advanc	ed options		

Figure 5 Aircrack-ng Interface

2.1.4 Snort

Snort, developed by Cisco, is one of the open-source network-based intrusion detection/prevention system (IDS/IPS) tools equipped with the ability to carry-out several functions such as real-time traffic analysis, protocol analysis, content searching and matching, and packet logging on Internet Protocol (IP) networks. It also functions as detector for probes or attacks, operating system fingerprinting attempts, semantic URL attacks, buffer overflows, server message block probes, and stealth port scans. However, although snort can carry out a lot of functions to ensure safety and security in a network, its most crucial function is intrusion detection using both Anomaly-based and Signature-based methods.

Notably, Snort can be configured in three main modes: 1. sniffer, 2. packet logger, and 3. network intrusion detection.

Sniffer Mode: The program will read network packets and display them on the console.

Packet Logger Mode: In packet logger mode, the program will log packets to the disk.

Network Intrusion Detection System Mode: In intrusion detection mode, the software will check and analyze packets and scrutinize it against a rule set defined by the user.

A sample **Snort** interface is shown in Figure 6. The installation procedure of Snort on Windows operating system is quite lengthy but the procedure can be accessed online at;

https://zaeemjaved10.medium.com/installing-configuringsnort-2-9-17-on-windows-10-26f73e342780.

overview Analysis Police	es Devices Objects	_ OFTE
Access Control + Intrusion	Network Discovery A	pplication Detectors Correlation Actions •
Edit Policy: Talos In	trusion Prevent	on Policy
Policy Information	Rules	
Rules	Rule Configuration	Filter: PROTOCOL-SCADA IEC 104 List directory
Firepower Recommendations	Rule Content	
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	browser-chrome	☑ 1 1001594 PROTOCOL-SCADA IEC 104 List directo
	browser-firefox	
	browser-ie	
	browser-other	
	browser-plugins	
	browser-webkit	
	content-replace	

Figure 6 Snort GUI

2.2 The cybersecurity tools performance analysis

The performance analysis of the four selected cybersecurity tools was carried out on a case study wireless network that was set-up primarily for this purpose. The small case study wireless network that was set up consisted of the MTN Router, 2 personal computers, and some mobile phones. Once the computer system was booted up to the desktop, it was connected to the network and each cybersecurity tool was launched. Once all the tools were analyzed, the corresponding result was documented and discussed. The implementation flowchart for the cybersecurity tools performance analysis is shown in Figure 7. Also, the picture of the two PCs that are wirelessly connected to the MTN Router is shown in Figure 8 while the schematic diagram of the network set up is shown in Figure 9.



Figure 7 Implementation flowchart for the cybersecurity tools performance analysis



Figure 8 Picture of the two PCs that are wirelessly connected to the MTN Router



Figure 9 The schematic diagram of the network set up

3.0 Results and Discussion

In this paper, the performance of 4 cybersecurity tools were analysed for a wireless network with WPA-2 encryption. The results are presented for each of the tools. Next, a comparative analysis of the tools are made based on the results obtained for each of the tools.

3.1 Suricata

i. Packet capturing/Intrusion detection

In order to capture packet in Suricata, the command "**PS C:\suricata> C:\suricata\suricata.exe** -c **C:\suricata\suricata.yaml** -i 193.55.100.145)" was used, as shown in Figure 10, where -c and -i signifies capture and interface respectively and 193.55.100.145 was the IP address of the network interface used in the performance analysis. "C:\suricata\log> ls" is the command used to show the statistics of captured packet.as shown in **Figure** 11.

PS C	:\sur	ica	ta> C:	\suri	cata\sur	icata.exe -o	C:\suric	cata\suri	cata.ya	aml -i :	193.55.100.	145			
7/12	/2021		07:22	:50 -	<info></info>	- Running as	service	: no							
7/12	/2021		07:22	:50 -	<info></info>	- translated	193.55.1	100.145 t	o pcap	device	\Device\NP	F_{00D9825E	-0120-4625	-B4B9-82	659F7FA9E9}
7/12	/2021		07:22	:50 -	<notice< th=""><th>> - This is</th><th>Suricata</th><th>version</th><th>6.0.3 F</th><th>RELEASE</th><th>running in</th><th>SYSTEM mod</th><th>le</th><th></th><th></th></notice<>	> - This is	Suricata	version	6.0.3 F	RELEASE	running in	SYSTEM mod	le		
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Figure 10 Packet Capturing Begins in Suricata

PS C:∖surio PS C:∖surio	cata> <mark>cd</mark> log cata\log> ls			
Directo	ory: C:\suricat	ta\log		
Mode	Lastl	NriteTime	Length	Name
d	12/3/2021	4:25 PM		files
-a	12/7/2021	7:53 AM	45836581	eve.json
-a	12/3/2021	5:16 PM	0	fast.log
-a	12/7/2021	7:53 AM	29683147	stats.log
-a	12/7/2021	7:53 AM	36704	suricata.log

Figure 11 Packet captured statistics in Suricata

 Man-in-the-Middle Attack (ARP poison) and Password cracking : These features are not available on Suricata

3.2 Wireshark

i. Packet capturing/Intrusion detection

In this paper, Wireshark was mainly used to sniff and capture packets. The targeted interface card was selected and several filters were put in the filter bar to help narrow down the search result. For example, filters like "**UDP.port==53**" helps to ensure that only UDP packets are captured and monitored for intrusion. The screenshot showing some packets captured by the Wireshark tool is given in Figure 12.

In Figure 13 it is shown that the domain name of the website in the captured packet is made visible by wireshark. The captured packet is then saved and used for analysis by other cyber tools such as Aircrack-ng.

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	981 63 619	20.20.20.20.24	20.20.20.1	DNS	121 Standard query response Avc20r & mtalk google com CNAME mobile_gtalk] google com & 108 177	127 188		
	1107 65 469	945 20.20.20.20.24	20.20.20.2	DNS	91 Standard query AvSh68 A signaler-na clients6 google.com come com	127.100		
	1108 65.463	391 20.20.20.1	20.20.20.244	DNS	107 Standard query response 0x8668 A signaler-na.clients6.google.com A 142.250.180.170			
	1191 65.972	354 20.20.20.24	4 20.20.20.1	DNS	76 Standard query 0xb97a A beacons.gvt2.com			
	1192 65,975	404 20.20.20.1	20,20,20,244	DNS	115 Standard guery response 0xb97a A beacons.gvt2.com CNAME beacons6.gvt2.com A 216.58.198.35			
	1250 66.389	883 20.20.20.24	4 20.20.20.1	DNS	79 Standard query 0xa927 A e2cs25.gcp.gvt2.com			
	1251 66.391	148 20.20.20.24	4 20.20.20.1	DNS	77 Standard query 0x38da A beacons4.gvt2.com			
	1252 66.392	066 20.20.20.1	20.20.20.244	DNS	93 Standard query response 0x38da A beacons4.gvt2.com A 216.239.32.116			
	1279 66.516	722 20.20.20.1	20.20.20.244	DNS	95 Standard query response 0xa927 A e2cs25.gcp.gvt2.com A 104.196.82.149			
	<pre>> Ethernet II, > Internet Pro > User Datagra > Domain Name</pre>	Src: HonHaiPr_@e:6b tocol Version 4, Src m Protocol, Src Port System (query)	29f (38:b1:db:0e:6b:9f), 20.20.20.244, Dst: 185 20.50 St Port: 53	Dst: Routerbo	_eb:6a:a8 (00:0c:42:eb:6a:a8)			
	0000 00 0c 42 0010 00 42 21	eb 6a a8 38 b1 db	0e 6b 9f 08 00 45 00	BJ8 k				
	0020 68 68 c5	fd 00 35 00 2e bc	7b 0d b8 01 00 00 01 hh	h····5·. ·{····				
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	🔘 🝸 wireshark	_Wi-Fi_20211127093416_a0	2344.pcapng		Packets: 1368 · Displayed: 26 (1.9%)		Profile:	Default

Figure 12 Captured DNS packets

Protocol	Length	Info
DNS	72	Standard query 0xf149 A facebook.com
DNS	88	Standard query response 0xf149 A facebook.com A 157.240.221.35
DNS	76	Standard query 0xleac A www.facebook.com
DNS	121	Standard query response 0x1eac A www.facebook.com CNAME star-mini.c10r.facebook.com A 157.240.221.35
DNS	79	Standard query 0x90ce A static.xx.fbcdn.net
DNS	118	Standard query response 0x90ce A static.xx.fbcdn.net CNAME scontent.xx.fbcdn.net A 157.240.221.16
DNS	88	Standard query 0x077f A scontent-ams4-1.xx.fbcdn.net
DNS	104	Standard query response 0x077f A scontent-ams4-1.xx.fbcdn.net A 157.240.201.15
DNS	75	Standard query 0xd10e A www.gstatic.com
DNS	91	Standard query response 0xd10e A www.gstatic.com A 216.58.205.67

Figure 13 Resolved DNS

ii. Password Decryption/Cracking

Wireshark was used to discover password over a WPA-2 encrypted packet. However, password can only be discovered if user tries to gain access to unsecured website, that is, websites that begins with "HTTP" alone. The following command "**http.request.method** == **post**" was used on wireshark to filter such traffic. Wireshark was not able to crack or decrypt the packet to expose the password, however, the captured packet was decrypted by Aircrack-Ng.

iii. Man-in-the-Middle Attack (ARP poison): wireshark is not equipped with this feature

3.3 Aircrack-ng

i. Password Decryption/Cracking

In this paper, Aircrack-ng was used to initiate password cracking. To implement this procedure, Wireshark was used to capture packet that may likely contain the password as shown in Figure 14.

Protocol	Length	Info			
DNS	139	Standard	query	response	e Øxf3ef A adservice.google.com.ng CNAME pagead46.l
DNS	85	Standard	query	0x0b28 A	A tpc.googlesyndication.com
DNS	101	Standard	query	response	e 0x0b28 A tpc.googlesyndication.com A 142.250.184.65
DNS	78	Standard	query	0xf80f A	A www.googleapis.com
DNS	318	Standard	query	response	e 0xf80f A www.googleapis.com A 216.58.205.74 A 142
DNS	96	Standard	query	0x138b A	A passwordsleakcheck-pa.googleapis.com
DNS	112	Standard	query	response	e 0x138b A passwordsleakcheck-pa.googleapis.com A 14
DNC		C +		0	Clas autorian anamaral. in

Figure 14 Password in Wireshark

The captured packet was saved in **.Pcap** format, and a wordlist known as "**10_million_password_list_top_1000000.txt**" was also downloaded from <u>https://weakpass.com/wordlist/50</u>. In this context, a wordlist is a list of passwords that are documented in an unencrypted format. It contains a list of frequently used passwords and possible combination of letters which can facilitate passwords cracking.

There are two methods of importing the captured packet and wordlist on Aircrack-ng are Graphic users interface (GUI) and Command Line Interface (CLI). The CLI mode is use by typing the following command in the command line interface "C:\Program Files\aircrack-ng-1.6win\bin>aircrack-ng "D:\wire shark.pcap -w "D:\10_million_password_list_top_1000000.txt". C: represent the path that contains the aircrack application while **D**: represent the path containing captured packet and the wordlist. The GUI method involves importing the captured packet and wordlist from the graphic user interface as shown Figure 15. The application immediately opened the command prompt containing some information about packet after clicking the launch button. The screenshot in Figure 16 is captured for the command prompt showing packet's information. Again, in Figure 17 it is shown that Aircrack-ng tool successfully decrypted the session password from the captured packet and wordlist that was imported. It is correctly displayed beside the KEY FOUND section.

🖳 Aircrack-	ng GUI —		×
Aircrack-ng	Airodump-ng Airdecap-ng About		
Filename(s)	"D:\wire shark.pcap"	Choose	
Encryption	○ WEP		
	WPA		
Wordlist	,D:\10_million_password_list_top_1000000.txt	Choose	
Advance	ed options		
			- 1
		Launch	

imp Screenshot showing how to import the wordlist and captured packet

Figure 15

C:∖Pr milli Readi Openi Read	ogram Files\aircrac on_password_list_to ng packets, please ng D:\wire shark.pc 227 packets.	k-ng-1.6-win\bin>a p_1000000.txt wait ap	aircrack-ng "D:\	wire shark.pcap"	-w D:\10_
#	BSSID	ESSID	Encryp	tion	
1	64:E5:99:7A:E9:64	test-ap	WPA (1	handshake)	
Choos	ing first network a	s target.			
Readi Openi Read	ng packets, please ng D:\wire shark.pc 227 packets.	wait ap			
1 pot	ential targets				



																100	3		×
				Air	cra	ck-i	ng	1.6											
3/	9999	999	ke	ys i	tes	ted	(1	961	.14	k/	5)								
mi	nut	es,	41	se	con	ds									0.3	10%			
		K	EY	FOUI	ND !	[abco	def	gh]									
	00	20	00	67	24	DC	ГA	DD	01	24	40	EQ	0.0	60	25	75			
	1E	D8	59	40	59	7B	39	8D	DF	32	3A	A3	EC	95	3E	46			
:	64	BA	BD	ØB	11	84	CD	02	92	1C	77	26	0D	89	6D	67			
	64 18	72 E0	0F	1F 68	54 FC	47 00	87 3B	51 0B	7B 55	CC 2D	E0 6F	38 BF	2F A7	DA 4B	ED 8F	A9 FF			
	03	СС	62	40	7E	19	03	СВ	53	7F	93	9C	DE	C4	17	00			
	46	BE	F8	6F	ØB	E1	11	ØD	D5	7D	FB	EF	A9	71	C2	BD			
	:3/! mi : :	3/9999 minuto : 80 1E : 64 64 18 03 : 46	3/9999999 minutes, : 80 3C 1E D8 : 64 BA 64 72 18 E0 03 CC : 46 BE	3/9999999 key minutes, 41 KEY : 80 3C 80 1E D8 59 : 64 BA BD 64 72 C1 18 E0 0F 03 CC 62 : 46 BE F8	Airo 3/9999999 keys f minutes, 41 seo KEY FOU : 80 3C 80 67 1E D8 59 40 : 64 BA BD 0B 64 72 C1 1F 18 E0 0F 68 03 CC 62 40 : 46 BE F8 6F	Aircrad 3/9999999 keys test minutes, 41 second KEY FOUND! : 80 3C 80 67 34 1E D8 59 40 59 : 64 BA BD 0B 11 64 72 C1 1F 54 18 E0 0F 68 FC 03 CC 62 40 7E : 46 BE F8 6F 0B	Aircrack- 3/9999999 keys tested minutes, 41 seconds KEY FOUND! [4 : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF 1E D8 59 40 59 7B : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1	Aircrack-ng 2 3/9999999 keys tested (10 minutes, 41 seconds KEY FOUND! [abco : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11	Aircrack-ng 1.6 3/9999999 keys tested (1061 minutes, 41 seconds KEY FOUND! [abcdefg : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D	Aircrack-ng 1.6 3/9999999 keys tested (1061.14 minutes, 41 seconds KEY FOUND! [abcdefgh : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 01 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D DF : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 92 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 7B 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 55 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB 53 : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D D5	Aircrack-ng 1.6 3/9999999 keys tested (1061.14 k/s minutes, 41 seconds KEY FOUND! [abcdefgh] : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 01 34 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D DF 32 : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 92 1C 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 7B CC 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 55 2D 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB 53 7F : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D D5 7D	Aircrack-ng 1.6 3/9999999 keys tested (1061.14 k/s) minutes, 41 seconds KEY FOUND! [abcdefgh] : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 01 34 AC 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D DF 32 3A : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 92 1C 77 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 7B CC E0 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 55 2D 6F 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB 53 7F 93 : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D D5 7D FB	Aircrack-ng 1.6 3/9999999 keys tested (1061.14 k/s) minutes, 41 seconds KEY FOUND! [abcdefgh] : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 01 34 AC F0 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D DF 32 3A A3 : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 92 1C 77 26 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 7B CC E0 38 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 55 2D 6F BF 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB 53 7F 93 9C : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D D5 7D FB EF	Aircrack-ng 1.6 3/9999999 keys tested (1061.14 k/s) minutes, 41 seconds KEY FOUND! [abcdefgh] : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 01 34 AC F0 98 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D DF 32 3A A3 EC : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 92 1C 77 26 0D 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 7B CC E0 38 2F 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 55 2D 6F BF A7 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB 53 7F 93 9C DE : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D D5 7D FB EF A9	Aircrack-ng 1.6 3/9999999 keys tested (1061.14 k/s) minutes, 41 seconds KEY FOUND! [abcdefgh] : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 01 34 AC F0 98 C9 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D DF 32 3A A3 EC 95 : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 92 1C 77 26 0D 89 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 7B CC E0 38 2F DA 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 55 2D 6F BF A7 4B 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB 53 7F 93 9C DE C4 : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D D5 7D FB EF A9 71	Aircrack-ng 1.6 3/9999999 keys tested (1061.14 k/s) minutes, 41 seconds 0.7 KEY FOUND! [abcdefgh] : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 01 34 AC F0 98 C9 2F 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D DF 32 3A A3 EC 95 3E : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 92 1C 77 26 0D 89 6D 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 7B CC E0 38 2F DA ED 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 55 2D 6F BF A7 4B 8F 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB 53 7F 93 9C DE C4 17 : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D D5 7D FB EF A9 71 C2	Aircrack-ng 1.6 3/999999 keys tested (1061.14 k/s) minutes, 41 seconds 0.10% KEY FOUND! [abcdefgh] : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 01 34 AC F0 98 C9 2F 7E 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D DF 32 3A A3 EC 95 3E 46 : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 92 1C 77 26 0D 89 6D 67 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 7B CC E0 38 2F DA ED A9 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 55 2D 6F BF A7 4B 8F FF 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB 53 7F 93 9C DE C4 17 00 : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D D5 7D FB EF A9 71 C2 BD	Aircrack-ng 1.6 33/999999 keys tested (1061.14 k/s) minutes, 41 seconds 0.10% KEY FOUND! [abcdefgh] : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 01 34 AC F0 98 C9 2F 7E 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D DF 32 3A A3 EC 95 3E 46 : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 92 1C 77 26 0D 89 6D 67 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 7B CC E0 38 2F DA ED A9 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 55 2D 6F BF A7 4B 8F FF 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB 53 7F 93 9C DE C4 17 00 : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D D5 7D FB EF A9 71 C2 BD	Aircrack-ng 1.6 3/9999999 keys tested (1061.14 k/s) minutes, 41 seconds 0.10% KEY FOUND! [abcdefgh] : 80 3C 80 67 34 BF F0 DD 01 34 AC F0 98 C9 2F 7E 1E D8 59 40 59 7B 39 8D DF 32 3A A3 EC 95 3E 46 : 64 BA BD 0B 11 84 CD 02 92 1C 77 26 0D 89 6D 67 64 72 C1 1F 54 47 87 51 7B CC E0 38 2F DA ED A9 18 E0 0F 68 FC 00 3B 0B 55 2D 6F BF A7 4B 8F FF 03 CC 62 40 7E 19 03 CB 53 7F 93 9C DE C4 17 00 : 46 BE F8 6F 0B E1 11 0D D5 7D FB EF A9 71 C2 BD



- **ii. Packet capturing/Intrusion detection:** the packet capturing feature was not loading due to operating system incompatibility
- iii. Man-in-the-Middle Attack (ARP poison) : Aircrack-Ng is not equipped with this feature

3.4 Snort

i Packet capturing/Intrusion detection

To implement packet capturing on Snort, some rules were set in the C:\Snort\rules\local path, this path automatically opened in notepad where one now has the privilege to put in some rules with regards to the type of packets you want to capture. As shown in Figure 18, ICMP, TCP, and UDP packets were set to be captured. After setting the local rules, the command "**snort -i4**" was used in the Command prompt. This command was used to capture all the traffic as set in the local rules file. On implementing the command, snort was set to Packet Dump Mode and the system started capturing the traffic in the network as seen in Figure 19. The information in the packet include date, packet type, source/destination addresses, IP-version etc, as shown in Figure 20. The capturing session was stopped by using "Ctrl-C", this also brought out the breakdown of the entire packet captured.

```
#-----
# LOCAL RULES
#-----
alert icmp any any -> any any (msg:"TESTING ICMP"; sid:10000001;)
alert tcp any any -> any any (msg:"TESTING TCP"; sid:10000002;)
alert udp any any -> any any (msg:"TESTING UDP"; sid:10000003;)|
```

Figure 18 Local rules folder for categories of packets to be captured

C:\Snort\bin≻snort -i4 Running in packet dump mode

--== Initializing Snort ==--Initializing Output Plugins! pcap DAQ configured to passive. The DAQ version does not support reload.

Acquiring network traffic from "\Device\NPF_{00D9825E-0120-4625-B4B9-82659F7FA9E9}". Decoding Ethernet

--== Initialization Complete ==--

Figure 19 Snort in Packet dump mode

12/02-09:38:28.593606	[**] [1:10000003:0]	TESTING UDP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {UDP} fe80	:0000:0000:0000:e9c	d3:2bf3:c6c4:0d00:49664 -	> ff02:0000:0000:000	0:000:000:000:0001:0003
:5355							
12/02-09:38:28.594390	[**] [1:10000003:0]	TESTING UDP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {UDP} 193.	55.100.113:49664 ->	> 224.0.0.252:5355		
12/02-09:38:28.597204	[**] [1:10000003:0]	TESTING UDP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {UDP} 193.	55.100.145:58832 ->	8.8.8.8:53		
12/02-09:38:28.600219	[**] [1:10000003:0]	TESTING UDP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {UDP} fe80	:0000:0000:0000:e9d	d3:2bf3:c6c4:0d00:51351 -	> ff02:0000:0000:000	0:000:000:000:0001:0003
:5355							
12/02-09:38:28.600986	[**] [1:10000003:0]	TESTING UDP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {UDP} 193.	55.100.113:51351 ->	> 224.0.0.252:5355		
12/02-09:38:28.611728	[**] [1:10000003:0]	TESTING UDP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {UDP} fe80	:0000:0000:0000:e90	d3:2bf3:c6c4:0d00:59879 -	> ff02:0000:0000:000	0:000:000:000:0001:0003
:5355							
12/02-09:38:28.612495	[**] [1:10000003:0]	TESTING UDP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {UDP} 193.	55.100.113:59879 ->	> 224.0.0.252:5355		
12/02-09:38:28.714509	[**] [1:10000003:0]	TESTING UDP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {UDP} 8.8.	8.8:53 -> 193.55.10	0.145:58832		
12/02-09:38:28.716293	[**] [1:10000002:0]	TESTING TCP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {TCP} 193.	55.100.145:51913 ->	> 20.50.80.210:443		
12/02-09:38:28.777669	[**] [1:10000003:0]	TESTING UDP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {UDP} 193.	55.100.113:52650 ->	> 239.255.255.250:1900		
12/02-09:38:28.806961	[**] [1:10000001:0]	TESTING ICMP [**] [Prior	ity: 0] {IPV6-ICM	P} fe80:0000:0000:0	0000:e9d3:2bf3:c6c4:0d00	-> ff02:0000:0000:00	000:0000:0000:000:000
2							
12/02-09:38:28.806961	[**] [1:10000001:0]	TESTING ICMP [**] [Prior	ity: 0] {IPV6-ICM	P} fe80:0000:0000:0	0000:e9d3:2bf3:c6c4:0d00	-> ff02:0000:0000:00	000:0000:0000:0000:001
5							
12/02-09:38:28.835961	[**] [1:10000002:0]	TESTING TCP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {TCP} 20.5	0.80.210:443 -> 193	3.55.100.145:51913		
12/02-09:38:28.836108	[**] [1:10000002:0]	TESTING TCP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {TCP} 193.	55.100.145:51913 ->	> 20.50.80.210:443		
12/02-09:38:28.836901	[**] [1:10000002:0]	TESTING TCP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {TCP} 193.	55.100.145:51913 ->	> 20.50.80.210:443		
2/02-09:38:28.958549	[**] [1:10000002:0]	TESTING TCP [**] [Priori	ty: 0] {TCP} 20.5	0.80.210:443 -> 193	3.55.100.145:51913		

Figure 20 Captured packet in Command Prompt

		=======================================
Run time for	packet process	ing was 589.466000 seconds
Snort process	sed 50231 packe	ts.
Snort ran for	r 0 days 0 hour	s 9 minutes 49 seconds
Pkts/min:	5581	
Pkts/sec:	85	
Packet I/O To	otals:	
Received:	50557	
Analvzed:	50231 (99.355%)
Dropped:	323 (0.635%)
Filtered:		0.000%)
Outstanding:	326 (0.645%)
Injected:		,
=================	-	
Breakdown by	protocol (incl	udes rebuilt packets):
Eth:	50233 (100.000%)
VLAN:		0.000%)
IP4:	47888 (95.332%)
Frag:	0 (0.000%)
ICMP:	0 Ì	0.000%)
UDP:	1087 (2.164%)
TCP:	46431 (92.431%)
IP6:	1104 (2.198%)
IP6 Ext:	1484 (2.954%)
IP6 Opts:	380 (0.756%)
Frag6:	9 (0.000%)
ICMP6:	477 (0.950%)
UDP6:	627 (1.248%)
TCP6:	0 (0.000%)
Teredo:	0 (0.000%)
ICMP-IP:	0 (0.000%)
EAPOL:	0 (0.000%)
IP4/IP4:	0 (0.000%)
IP4/IP6:	0 (0.000%)
IP6/IP4:	0 (0.000%)
IP6/IP6:	0 (0.000%)

Figure 21 Breakdown of captured packet

The captured packet is saved or logged in the log folder of snort (i.e., C:\Snort\log), as shown in Figure 21 and can be read by using the command "C:\Snort\bin>snort -r C:\Snort\log\snort.log.1638433578". -r initiate the read procedure while snort.log.1638433578 is the captured file name.

For Intrusion Detection there are three IP protocols that Snort currently analyzes for suspicious behavior. They are Transmission Control Protocol (tcp), User Datagram Protocol (udp), and Internet Control Message Protocol (icmp). As shown in Figure 22 and "snort -i 4 -c C:\Snort\etc\snort.conf -A console" was typed in C:\Snort\bin> directory and this automatically showed that snort is running in IDS mode

```
C:\Snort\bin>snort -i 4 -c C:\Snort\etc\snort.conf -A console
Running in IDS mode
--== Initializing Snort ==--
Initializing Output Plugins!
Initializing Preprocessors!
Initializing Plug-ins!
Parsing Rules file "C:\Snort\etc\snort.conf"
```

Figure 23 Snort in IDS mode

ii Man-in-the-Middle Attack (ARP poison) and Password cracking : These features are not available on for Snort

3.5 Discussion on the comparative analysis of the results of the 4 cybersecurity tools

i. Packet Capturing/Intrusion detection

From the result presented for each of the 4 cybersecurity tool, it can be deduced that all the tools tested had different degrees of packet capturing and intrusion detection ability. However, the results from the experiment showed that Wireshark performs better than other tools in the aspect of packet capturing and analysis since it does not only show the source/destination IP/mac addresses but include information like frame check sequence, checksum, port number, protocol type, etc. this information can prove valuable to network administrators and security expert when troubleshooting network vulnerability.

Notably, Snort was very efficient in the aspect of intrusion detection. This is due to the fact that Snort is designed to run in 2 modes which are Dump mode and IDS mode. Initiating Snort in Dump mode only Sniffed and captured the packet and then stored the captured packets in a selected folder but running Snort in IDS mode was able to identify bad traffic in real-time depending on the rules that was set in Snort.Conf file. Equally, Aircrack-ng is also equipped with packet capturing feature (Dump mode). However, in this study, the feature was unable to launch due to Operating System incompatibility.

Suricata was used in system mode to capture and analyses packet. However, it was not very efficient since it is very difficult to initiate filters and use the GUI on windows. Hence, the packet was only capture in Power shell CLI. Another downside of Suricata was that packet was captured in cluster instead of individually and one will only be notified of the captured traffic when it is already done and this makes it difficult to monitor the network in real-time.

It is worthy of note that packet sniffing and capturing only compromised the confidentiality of the data. However, the captured data can be used on other tools to cause more damages.

ii. Man-in-the-middle Attack

None of the 4 tools was able to initiate Man-in-the-middle attack. This attack compromised the integrity, and availability of the needed information.

iii. Password Cracking

Password cracking was implemented using Wireshark and Aircrack-ng. Notably, although Wireshark in itself cannot initiate password cracking except on an HTTP packet, it acted as a facilitator by capturing a packet that may contain a password, this packet was then acted upon by Aircrack-ng to crack the password. This attack compromised all the 3 aspects of the CIA-Triad

iv. Ease of Installation and Usage

Except for Snort and Suricata, all the tools are easy to install and use. Extra effort was needed to undergo training to understand how to correctly install and use Snort and Suricata. Notably, Suricata and Snort's installation and usage require an appreciable degree of technical know-how.

The summary of the comparative analysis of the 4 cybersecurity tools is presented in Table 1. Also, Table 2 provides the classification of different cyber security tools based on their types of attack and other capacities. In addition, Table 3 shows the different cyber security tools and the layer through which they carried out their attack.

Table 1:	Summary	of the comparative	analysis
of the 4 cybersecu	rity tools	_	-

S/N	Tool	General Classification	Specific Uses
1	Wireshark	Packet Analyzer	used mainly for network packet capture/analysis, intrusion detection and wireless network connectivity testing/ troubleshooting.
2	Aircrack-ng	Wireless Network Security tester	used to test the weaknesses of wireless networks by analyzing captured packets, passwords cracking and decryption, etc.
3	Snort	Intrusion Detection System	Used to scan the network in Dump and IDS mode to capture packets and give an alert when a questionable packet is detected based on the ruleset
4	Suricata	Packet Analyzer	Used to monitor traffic and give alerts based on the rule set

Table 2 Attacks/Tools

Metrics / Tools	Wiresha rk	Sno rt	Aircrac k-Ng	Surica ta
Packet Capturing/Intru sion detection	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Arp Poisoning (MITM)	No	No	No	No
Password Cracking	Only Http	No	Yes	No
Easy-To-Install	Yes	No	Yes	No
Easy-To-Use	No	No	Yes	No

 Table 3: Attacks/Tools and their Layers of Attacks

Attacks / Tools	Wiresh ark	Snort	Aircrac k-Ng	Surica ta
Packet Capturing/Intr usion detection	Datalink , Network and Transpo rt Layer	Networ k/ Transp ort Layer	Unable	Netwo rk layer
Arp Poisoning (MITM)	Unable	Unable	Unable	Unabl e
Password Cracking	Network Layer	Unable	Applicat ion Layer	Unabl e

4. Conclusion

Four (4) cybersecurity tools with different functionalities were employed in this study to capture, analyze, expose and crack packets. Particularly, experiments were conducted to test and compare the performance of four (4) open-source cybersecurity tools namely; Suricata, Snort, Aircrack-ng and Wireshark.The metric tested include packet capturing and Intrusion detection abilities, man-in-the-middle-attack, password cracking, ease of installation, and usage.

The study found out that, no single tool is enough to initiate the performance analysis alone. For example, software applications like Aircrack-ng depended on packets captured by Wireshark to initiate password cracking. It was also discovered that some features in the tools that are not responding were due to a version of the operating system that was used for this study (that is. Windows 10).

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