Intrusion Detection

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Audio/Video recordings of this lecture are available at:

http://www.cse.wustl.edu/~jain/cse571-11/

Overview

1. Intruders
2. Intrusion Detection
3. Password Management

These slides are based partly on Lawrie Brown's slides supplied with William Stallings's book "Cryptography and Network Security: Principles and Practice," 5th Ed, 2011.

Concepts

- **Intrusion**: Break into, misuse, or exploit a system (against policy)
- **Intruders**: Insiders or outsiders
  Most IDS are designed for outsiders
- **Vulnerability**: Weakness that could be used by the attacker
- **Threat**: Party that exploits a vulnerability
- **Structured Threat**: Adversaries with a formal methodology, a financial sponsor, and a defined objective.
- **Unstructured Threat**: Compromise victims out of intellectual curiosity

Intrusion vs. Extrusion Detection

- **Intrusion Detection**: Detecting unauthorized activity by inspecting inbound traffic
- **Extrusion Detection**: Detecting unauthorized activity by inspecting outbound traffic
- **Extrusion**: Insider visiting malicious web site or a Trojan contacting a remote internet relay chat channel

Examples of Intrusion

- Remote root compromise
- Web server defacement
- Guessing / cracking passwords
- Copying viewing sensitive data / databases
- Running a packet sniffer
- Distributing pirated software
- Using an unsecured modem to access net
- Impersonating a user to reset password
- Using an unattended workstation

Categories of Intruders

- Hackers: Motivated by thrill of access and status
  - Hacking community a strong meritocracy
  - Status is determined by level of competence
  - Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) -Collect / disseminate vulnerability info / responses
- Criminal Enterprises: Organized groups of hackers
  - E.g., Eastern European or Russian hackers
  - Often target credit cards on e-commerce server
- Internal Threat
  - May be motivated by revenge / entitlement
  - When employment terminated
  - Taking customer data when move to competitor

Ref: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_emergency_response_team

Hacker Behavior Example

1. Select target using IP lookup tools
2. Map network for accessible services
3. Identify potentially vulnerable services
4. Brute force (guess) passwords
5. Install remote administration tool
6. Wait for admin to log on and capture password
7. Use password to access remainder of network

Ref: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hacker_(computer_security)

Criminal Enterprise Behavior

1. Act quickly and precisely to make their activities harder to detect
2. Exploit perimeter via vulnerable ports
3. Use trojan horses (hidden software) to leave back doors for re-entry
4. Use sniffers to capture passwords
5. Do not stick around until noticed
6. Make few or no mistakes.

Insider Behavior Example

1. Create network accounts for themselves and their friends
2. Access accounts and applications they wouldn't normally use for their daily jobs
3. E-mail former and prospective employers
4. Conduct furtive instant-messaging chats
5. Visit web sites that cater to disgruntled employees, such as f'dcompany.com
6. Perform large downloads and file copying
7. Access the network during off hours.

Intrusion Techniques

- Often use system / software vulnerabilities
- Key goal often is to acquire passwords
  - So then exercise access rights of owner
- Basic attack methodology
  - Target acquisition and information gathering
  - Initial access
  - Privilege escalation
  - Covering tracks

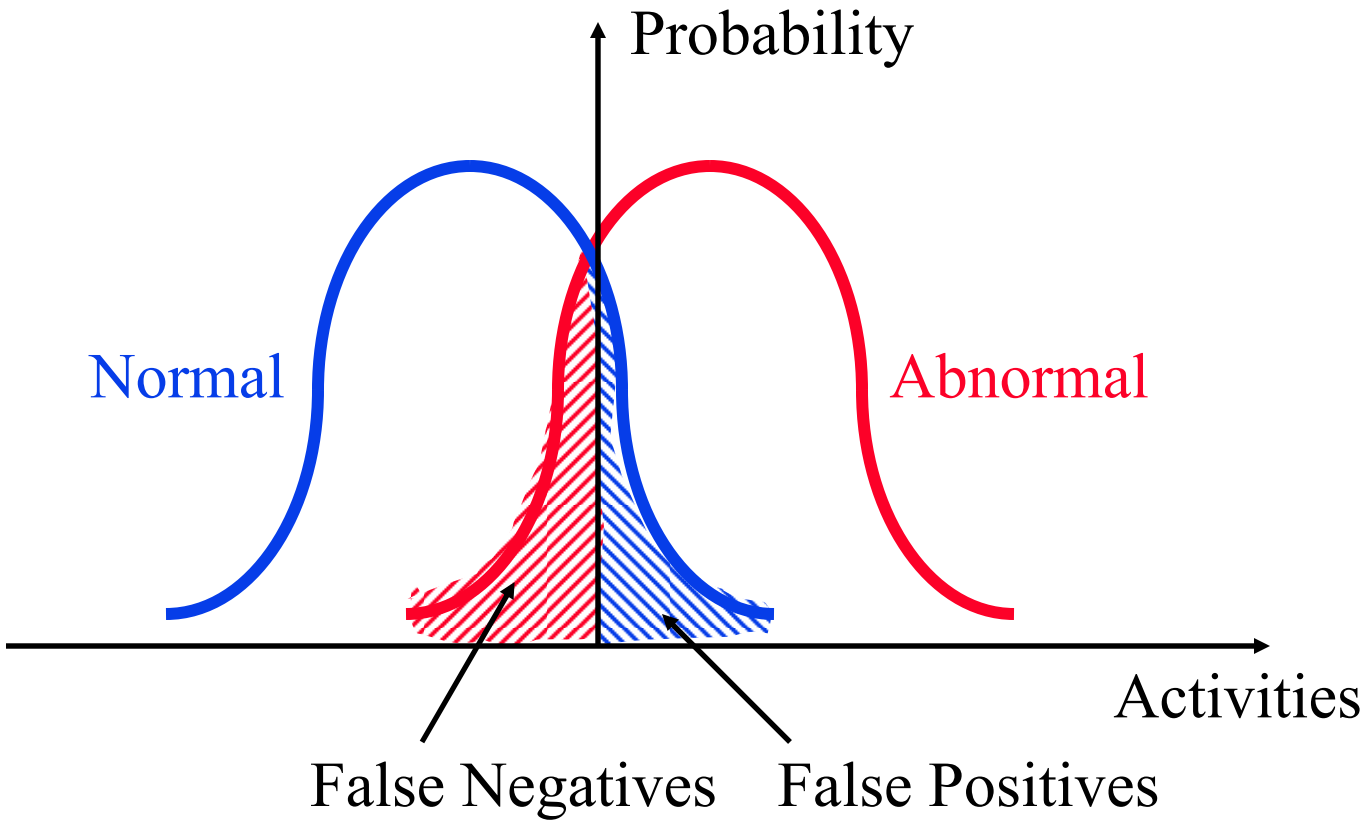
Password Guessing and Capture

- Attacker knows a login (from email/web page etc)
- Then attempts to guess password for it
  - Defaults, short passwords, common word searches
  - User info (variations on names, birthday, phone, common words/interests)
  - Exhaustively searching all possible passwords
- Check by login or against stolen password file
- Another attack involves **password capture**
  - Watching over shoulder as password is entered
  - Using a trojan horse program to collect
  - Monitoring an insecure network login, E.g., FTP

Ref: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Password_cracking

Notification Alarms

- False Positive: Valid traffic causes an alarm
- False Negative: Invalid traffic does not cause an alarm



Types of IDS

- Signature Based IDS: Search for known attack patterns using pattern matching, heuristics, protocol decode
- Rule Based IDS: Violation of security policy
- Anomaly-Based IDS
- Statistical or non-statistical detection
- Response:
  - Passive: Alert the console
  - Reactive: Stop the intrusion ⇒ Intrusion Prevention System ⇒ Blocking

Ref: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intrusion_detection_system, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intrusion_detection

Sample Signatures

- ICMP Floods directed at a single host
- Connections of multiple ports using TCP SYN
- A single host sweeping a range of nodes using ICMP
- A single host sweeping a range of nodes using TCP
- Connections to multiple ports with RPC requests between two nodes

Anomaly Based IDS

- Traffic that deviates from normal, e.g., routing updates from a host
- Statistical Anomaly: sudden changes in traffic characteristics
- Machine Learning: Learn from false positives and negatives
- Data Mining: Develop fuzzy rules to detect attacks

Statistical Anomaly Detection

- Threshold detection
  - Count occurrences of specific event over time
  - If exceed reasonable value assume intrusion
  - Used alone, it is a crude and ineffective detector
- Profile based
  - Characterize past behavior of users
  - Detect significant deviations from this
  - Profile usually multi-parameter

Audit Records

- Fundamental tool for intrusion detection
- Native audit records: Part of all common multi-user O/S
- Detection-specific audit records
  - Created specifically to collect wanted info
- Audit Record Analysis: Foundation of statistical approaches
- Analyze records to get metrics over time
  - Counter, gauge, interval timer, resource use
- Use various tests on these to determine if current behavior is acceptable
  - Mean & standard deviation, multivariate, markov process, time series, operational
- Key advantage is no prior knowledge used

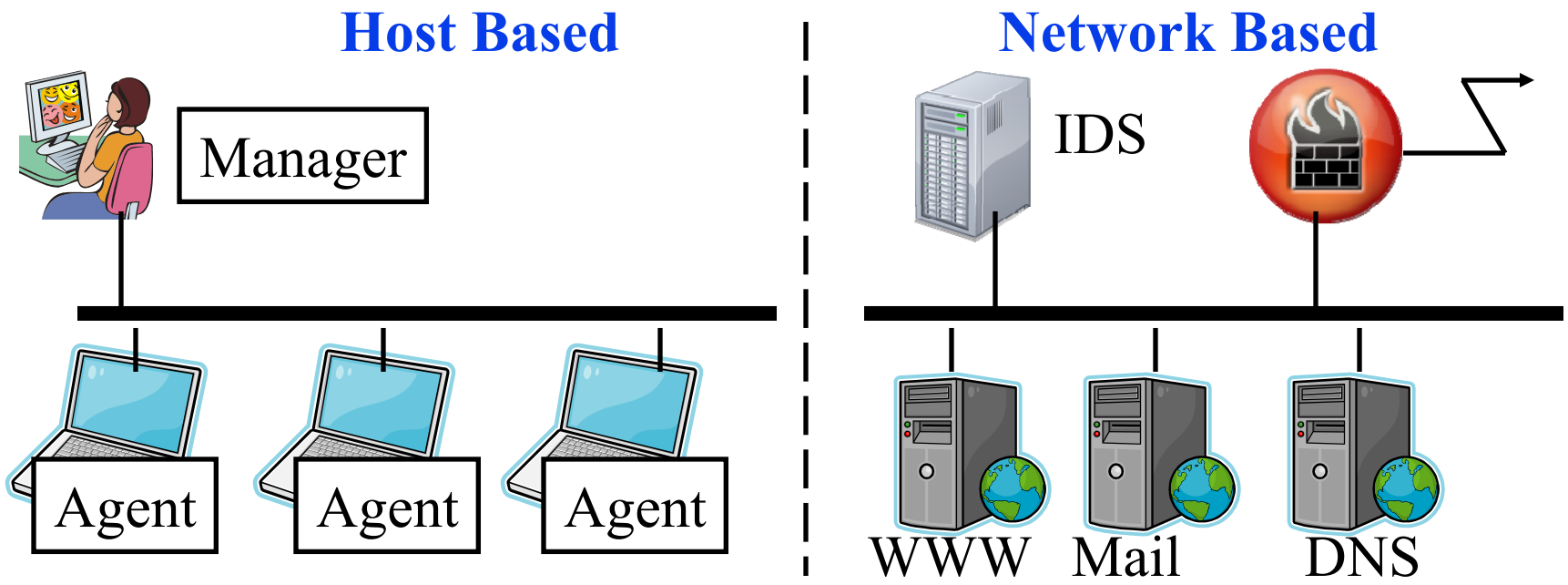
Ref: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_security_audit, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Audit_trail

Rule-Based Intrusion Detection

- Rule-based anomaly detection
  - Analyze historical audit records to identify usage patterns and auto-generate rules for them
- Rule-based penetration identification
  - Uses expert systems technology
  - With rules identifying known penetration, weakness patterns, or suspicious behavior
  - Compare audit records or states against rules
  - Rules usually machine & O/S specific
  - Rules are generated by experts who interview & codify knowledge of security admins
  - Quality depends on how well this is done

Types of IDS

- IDS Sensor: SW/HW to collect and analyze network traffic
- Host IDS: Runs on each server or host
- Network IDS: Monitors traffic on the network
  Network IDS may be part of routers or firewalls



Ref: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Host-based_intrusion_detection_system
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Network_intrusion_detection_system

Host vs. Network IDS

IDS Type	Pros	Cons
Host IDS	Verification of success or failure of an attack possible	OS/HW dependent
	Specific to a system	Impacts performance of the host
	Not limited by network bandwidth or encryption	One per host ⇒ Expensive
Network IDS	Protects all hosts	Challenging to see all traffic in a switched environment
	Independent of OS/HW	Too much traffic to analyze
	Useful against probes and DoS attacks	Not effective against single packet attacks and encrypted traffic

Honeypots

- Decoy systems to lure attackers
  - Away from accessing critical systems
  - To collect information of their activities
  - To encourage attacker to stay on system so administrator can respond
- Are filled with fabricated information
- Instrumented to collect detailed information on attackers activities
- Single or multiple networked systems

Ref: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Honeypot_(computing)

Password Management

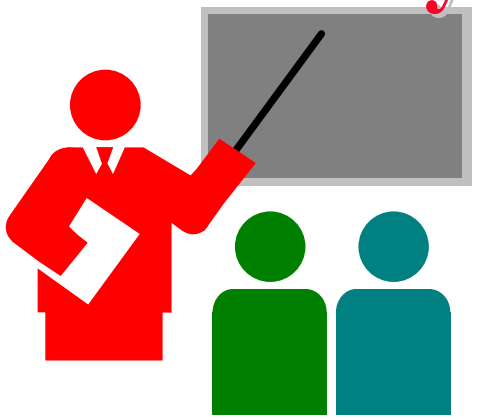
- Front-line defense against intruders
- Users supply both:
  - Login – determines privileges of that user
  - Password – to identify them
- Passwords often stored encrypted
  - Unix uses multiple DES (variant with **salt**)
  - More recent systems use crypto hash function
- Should protect password file on system

Ref: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_(cryptography)

Managing Passwords

- Education:
  - Give guidelines for good passwords
  - Require a mix of upper & lower case letters, numbers, punctuation
- Computer Generated Passwords
  - Not memorisable, so will be written down (sticky label syndrome)
  - FIPS PUB 181: Random pronounceable syllables
- Reactive Checking: Run offline password guessing tools
- Proactive Checking: Check when users select passwords
  - Compare against dictionary of bad passwords

Summary



1. Intruders can be both internal, external or organized
2. IDS can be signature based, anomaly based, or statistical Should minimized false positives and false negatives.
3. IDS can be host based or network based. Host based is more scalable.
4. Honeypots can be used to detect intruders
5. Password management requires education and proactive checking