

# **Intrusion Detection Prevention System using SNORT**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Living in the age of information, each and every action result in some form of data creation. According to statistics, over 300 thousand tweets and over 4 million Facebook posts are being generated per minute. Knowing the fact that more users and more data require more security. In the modern era, security and reliability have become the major concerns for an individual or an organization. In this paper, various terminologies, techniques and methodologies related to Intrusion Detection and Prevention System (IDPS) have been discussed. This paper provides different approaches on implementation of IDPS that is based on in-depth study of various research endeavors. It majorly deals with the concept of Intrusion Detection System using Snort which is a popular tool for network security. It is widely accepted by corporate sectors in order to secure their organization's network. The paper gives a fair knowledge of Snort, about its purpose, the modes it associated with, its implementations and the applications. Review has been made on the basis of the studies and research done in the literature section.

## **Keywords**

Intrusion Detection System; Intrusion Prevention System; Snort

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Since the digital age is taken over, our lives have been encoded into digital clouds and stored on hard drives. Protecting this data has become the number one priority in ensuring privacy and security. IDPS is just another tool that when used properly will ensure that attacks are mitigated quickly. In fact, a network with a firewall and no IDPS is just as high security prison with no guards on Patrol. The major significance of IDPS are because of these two reasons, i.e. data protection & data privacy.

## **2. IDS/IPS**

In general term, an intrusion can be said as an unauthorized access to someone's property or area, but when it comes to computer science, it is an act to compromise the basic computer network security goals viz. confidentiality, integrity, and privacy. Intrusion Detection is the process of monitoring the events occurring in a computer system or network and analyzing them for signs of possible incidents of threats and violations of computer security practices, acceptable use policies or standard security policies.

Intrusion Detection System (IDS) detects the presence of intrusion in the network. It is designed to monitor the events occurring in a computer system or network and responds to events with signs of possible incidents of violations of security policies. On the other hand, Intrusion Prevention System (IPS), is the network security system or technology that is capable of not only detecting the intrusion activities but also take required counter measures to prevent them.

## **3. TYPES OF TECHNOLOGIES**

There are many types of IDPS technologies. For the purposes of this document, they are divided into the following four

groups based on the type of events that they monitor and the ways in which they are deployed.

### **3.1 Network based IDPS**

A network-based intrusion detection system monitors and examines the network traffic for any suspicious activity or threats in the network. It reads the packets flowing in the network and searches for any malicious activity by identifying suspicious pattern in the packets. If any threat is discovered, then based upon the threat the system will take actions such as notifying administrators about it.

### **3.2 Wireless based IDPS**

Wireless based Intrusion Detection Prevention System analyzes the traffic of wireless network by analyzing wireless protocol activities and take appropriate actions. It detects unauthorized wireless local area network in use. It cannot identify suspicious activity in the application layer, transport layer and protocol activities. It is deployed in a particular range where the organization can monitor the wireless network.

### **3.3 Network Behavior Analysis**

NBA examines network traffic to identify threats which generate unusual traffic flows such as DDoS (Distributed Denial of Service) attack, malware (e.g. worms, backdoors), and policy violations. These systems are deployed for monitoring the flow on an organization's internal network, sometimes it is used to monitor organization's networks and external network.

### **3.4 Host based IDPS**

HIDPS monitors characteristics of a single host and identifies intrusions within that host by monitoring host's file system, file access, system calls or network events. It can prevent system level attacks and can detect attacks which NIDPS cannot. The hosts load can be distributed over the network. It can even analyze activities that are transferred in end-to-end encrypted communications.

## **4. METHODOLOGIES OF IDPS**

To detect and prevent any intrusion, there are a lot of methodologies which IDPS uses. These methodologies are used as per the requirement of the system.

### **4.1 Anomaly based Methodology**

These types of attack are used for detecting the unknown attacks i.e. it detects behavior that is not known before. No rules are needed to be written for this methodology. It detects malicious traffic based on normal network traffic pattern. The disadvantage of such method is that it generates high false alarm rate.

### **4.2 Signature based Methodology**

This methodology is used to detect unknown attacks which are already predefined in the form of signature and are saved. When a data is sent to the network, it first goes to the server where the server scans it for malicious content. It compares the network packet from the database of signature which is

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