

Configuration Manual

MSc Research Project MSc. In Cybersecurity

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MSc Project Submission Sheet

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	MSc. In Cybersecurity 2024-25
	Year:
Module:	MSc Practicum Part-2
Lecturer:	Dr. Rohit Verma
Submission Due Date:	29.01.2025
	BOLSTERING CLOUD SECURITY WITH REAL-TIME SIEM USING HYBRID-
Project Title:	RULE BASED AND ML INSIGHTS.
	8436
Word Count:	Page Count:49

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Configuration Manual

Arbaz Adib Dalwai x23161795

1 Setting up the Instances with necessary permissions on Amazon Web Services (AWS)

Total 6 instances were created in this project and each instance had a separate role to serve as per the requirements. All these instances were placed in the same virtual private cloud (VPC) to avoid any connectivity issues. The process for creating the instances can be explained in the following steps

- Go to the elastic cloud compute (EC2) service on AWS and launch the instances.
- Select the Application and operating system (OS) images (as per the requirements of the different components).
- Select the instance type (as per the computational strengths needed to perform the functionalities).
- Allocate the storage space.
- Set up a unique key pair (.pem file) for logging in to instance.
- Allow the necessary network settings and create unique security groups (for maintaining the network ports & connections)-

Elastic IP (internet protocol) allocation steps-

 Go to the Elastic IP section on the EC2 service in AWS. Shown in figure 1 below-Allocate Elastic IP address into

ublic IPv4 address pool	
Amazon's pool of IPv4 addresses	
Public IPv4 address that you bring to more [2]	ur AWS account with BYOIP. (option disabled because no pools found) Learn
Customer-owned pool of IPv4 addres disabled because no customer owned	: created from your on-premises network for use with an Outpost. (option bols found) Learn more [🛃
Allocate using an IPv4 IPAM pool (opt found)	r disabled because no public IPv4 IPAM pools with AWS service as EC2 were
etwork border group Info	
Q us-east-1	×]
lobal static IP addresses WS Global Accelerator can provide glob	tatic IP addresses that are announced worldwide using anycast from AWS edge locations. This can help improve the availability and latency fr network. Learn more 🖸

Figure 1

- Through the "Allocate IP address" button on top right getting the IPs from Amazon's pool of IPv4 addresses. A total of 5 elastic IPs could be allocated to my AWS account (as per the permissions granted through college's AWS team).
- After getting the elastic IP associating the IP address to the instance ID as shown below in figure 2.

Associate Elastic IP address: A228.185.88 Elastic IP address: 3.228.185.88 Elastic IP address: 3.228.185.88 Elastic IP address: 0.228.185.88 Choose the type of resource with which to associate the Elastic IP address. I-059e064132e26b7876 (IDS server) - running I-05e1a11840d9b0ht (SIEM-server) - running I-040de61599b6d6b2d9 (File server) - running I-040de6159b6d6b2d9 (File server) - running I-05fe02ac4f2deb322 (ML models) - running I-05fe02ac4f2deb32 (ML mo	lastic IP	addresses > Associate Elastic IP addre	55						0	(
Elastic IP address: 3.228.185.88 Ensures type Colspan="2">Colspan="2"Colspan="2"										

Figure 2

• Allocated IP addresses as depicted in figure 3 below-

EC2 > Instances > i-Od					Ű ©
Dashboard <	Elastic IP addresses (5)			C Actions	Allocate Elastic IP address
EC2 Global View	Q. Find resources by attribute	or tag			< 1 > @
Events	□ Name	▼ Allocated IPv4 addr	▼ Type	Allocation ID	▼ Reverse DNS record
Instances		3.228.185.88	Public IP	eipalloc-0d695de28730	5 1688
Instances					
Instance Types	Employee machine	52.204.25.98	Public IP	eipalloc-0705c3b22f403	571e2 –
Launch Templates	Ml model	54.81.145.37	Public IP	eipalloc-014e740dfe06o	ib301 –
Spot Requests	D IDS	54.82.178.224	Public IP	eipalloc-07617c315aca5	57eb7 –
Savings Plans	File server	98.83.82.139	Public IP	eipalloc-04d76e762685	7c66b –
Reserved Instances	()				,

Figure 3

All the instances created along with their configurations including the security groups are listed below-

1. File server- Below is the figure 4 showing the same.

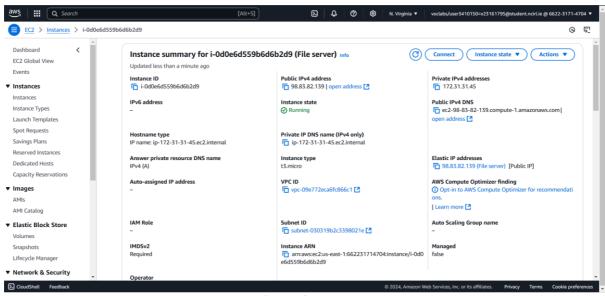


Figure 4

Instance Type: t3.micro

Application OS: Amazon Linux; VERSION="2023"; ID="amzn".

Storage: 8 GiB

Key pair: fileserver.pem

Elastic IP allocated: Public IP- 98.83.82.139, Private Ip- 172.31.31.45

Open ports & Security group configuration:

- Port 22 is open for secure socket shell (ssh) in order to get an administrative access to the instance to configure and manage it.
- Port 443 is enabling secure web traffic to the file server using the HTTPs
- Port 80 allows access to the web application hosted on the file server
- Custom ICMP- IPv4 rule in the outbound rules is facilitating the connection with the intrusion detection system (IDS) server so that all the traffic generated at file server is monitored and analysed by the IDS.

The below figures 5 & 6 depict the inbound and outbound rules resp.

Inbound rules Info							
Security group rule ID	Type Info	Protocol Info	Port range	Source Info	Description - optional Info		
			Info				
sgr-048a916265d0b6537	SSH 🔻	ТСР	22	(Cus ▼) (Q	Delete		
				0.0.0.0/0 ×			
sgr-054f3b4a04954f486	HTTP 🔻	ТСР	80	(Cus ▼) (Q,	Delete		
				0.0.0.0/0 ×			
Figure 5							
Outbound rules Info							
Security group rule ID	Type Info	Protocol	Port range	Destination Info	Description - optional Info		
		Info	Info				
sgr-0759788a587dd326b	All traffic 🔹	All	All	Cu 🔻 Q	IDS connection Delete		
				sg- × 039afda44f2cb56c2			

Figure 6

Testing the access connection-

The SSH connection with the instance (file server) is established using the commandssh -i "F:\fileserver.pem" ec2-user@98.83.82.139 and is visible through the below figure 7

○ ≥ ec2-user@ip-172-31-31-45:~ × + ~
Windows PowerShell Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
Install the latest PowerShell for new features and improvements! https://aka.ms/PSWindows
Loading personal and system profiles took 1640ms. (base) PS C:\Users\arbaz dalwai> ssh -i "F:\fileserver.pem" ec2-user@98.83.82.139
A newer release of "Amazon Linux" is available. Version 2023.6.20241028: Version 2023.6.20241031: Version 2023.6.20241111: Version 2023.6.20241121: Run "/usr/bin/dnf check-release-update" for full release and version update info , #
<pre>~~ \#/ https://aws.amazon.com/linux/amazon-linux-2023 ~~ V~' '-> ~~~ / ~~~ _/ ~~~ _/ _/ _/ _/ _/ _/ _/m/'</pre>
Last login: Fri Nov 29 23:10:01 2024 from 89.100.111.212 [ec2-user@ip-172-31-31-45 ~]\$

Figure 7

2. Employee machine- Below is the figure 8 depicting the same

EC2 > Instances > i-09084f1			9
Dashboard <	Instance summary for i-09084f177	5c5599d7 (Employee machines) Info (C) (Connect Instance state V Actions V
EC2 Global View	Updated less than a minute ago	(
Events			
nstances	Instance ID i-09084f1775c5599d7	Public IPv4 address	Private IPv4 addresses
nstances	IPv6 address	Instance state	Public IPv4 DNS
nstance Types	-	⊘ Running	cc2-52-204-25-98.compute-1.amazonaws.com
aunch Templates			open address 🔼
pot Requests	Hostname type	Private IP DNS name (IPv4 only)	
avings Plans	IP name: ip-172-31-39-47.ec2.internal	ip-172-31-39-47.ec2.internal	
Reserved Instances			
Dedicated Hosts	Answer private resource DNS name IPv4 (A)	Instance type t3.micro	Elastic IP addresses
Capacity Reservations	1F-044 (A)	(S.IIICO	S2.204.25.98 (Employee machine) [Fublic IF]
	Auto-assigned IP address	VPC ID	AWS Compute Optimizer finding
mages	-	pc-09e772eca6fc866c1	Opt-in to AWS Compute Optimizer for recommendati
AMIs			ons.
AMI Catalog			Learn note E
Elastic Block Store	IAM Role	Subnet ID	Auto Scaling Group name
Volumes	-	subnet-087404253177e27b9	-
inapshots	IMDSv2	Instance ARN	Managed
.ifecycle Manager	Required	arn:aws:ec2:us-east-1:662231714704:instance/i-090 84f1775c5599d7	false
Network & Security	Operator		

Figure 8

Instance Type: t3.micro Application OS: Amazon Linux; VERSION="2023"; ID="amzn" Storage: 8 GiB Key pair: employee machine.pem Elastic IP allocated: Public IP- 52.204.25.98, Private Ip- 172.31.39.47 Open ports & Security group configuration:

- Port 22 is open for ssh in order to get an administrative access to the instance to configure and manage it.

- Port 80 allows the employee machine to access web applications which also includes the phishing page hosted by the attacking machine.
- Custom ICMP- IPv4 rule in the outbound rules is necessary for the connection with the IDS server so that all the traffic generated at employee machine is monitored and analysed by the IDS.

The below figures 9 & 10 depict the inbound and outbound rules resp.

Inbound rules Info									
Security group rule ID	Type Info	Protocol Info Port	t range Source Info	Description - optional Info					
		Info							
sgr-0dc1c57cf1b505923	HTTP v	TCP 80	Cus 🔻 Q	Delete					
			0.0.0.	0/0 ×					
sgr-0628d048e2c7a00c0	SSH 🔹	ТСР 22	2 Cus 🔻 Q	Delete					
			0.0.0	0/0 ×					
	Figure 9								
Outbound rules Info									
Security group rule ID	Type Info	Protocol Info Port	t range Destination Info	Description - optional Info					
sgr-06b75be0f32b04956									
3gr 00573500132004330	All traffic	All Al	〖 Cus ▼ Q	IDS connection Delete					
			sg- 039a	K Ka44f2cb56c2					
	Figure 10								

Testing the access connection-

The SSH connection with the instance (employee machine) is established using the command-

ssh -i "F:\employee machine.pem" <u>ec2-user@52.204.25.98</u> and is visible through the below figure 11

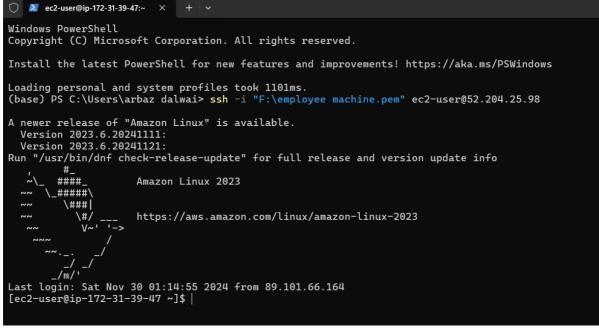


Figure 11

3. Attacking machine- Below is the figure 12 showing the same

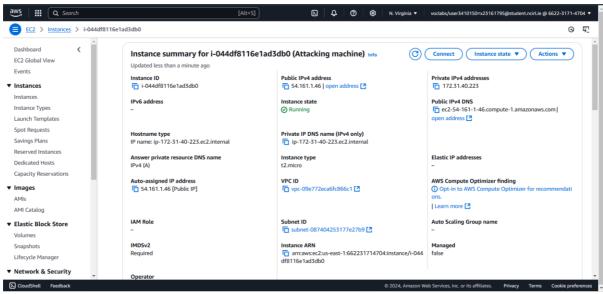


Figure 12

Instance Type: t2.micro

Application OS: Amazon Linux; VERSION="2023"; ID="amzn"

Storage: 8 GiB

Key pair: attacking machine.pem

This instance does not have an elastic IP allocated as it is the attacking machine and it should depict a realistic approach. Hence dynamic public and private IPs are allocated to it everytime the instance is restarted to increase the complexity of the attack simulation replicating an attackers mindset to avoid detection.

Open ports & Security group configuration:

- Port 22 is open for ssh in order to get an administrative access to the instance to configure and manage it.
- Port 80 allows connection to the phishing page which is to be hosted on the instance. Through this the employee machine can access the phishing simulation.
- The outbound rule for all traffic allows the instance to send the traffic including both phishing page response and distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack. This would help in initiating the simulated attack.

The below figures 13 & 14 depict the inbound and outbound rules resp.

Inbound rules Info					
Security group rule ID	Type Info	Protocol	Port range	Source Info	Description - optional Info
		Info	Info		
sgr-0cff2512d5555072c	HTTP V	ТСР	80	Cu 🔻 Q	Delete
				0.0.0.0	/0 ×
sgr-00bd1d28ce35d0908	SSH 🔻	ТСР	22	Cu 🔻 Q	Delete
				0.0.0.0	/0 ×
			Fier	ma 12	

Figure 13

Outbound rules Info					
Security group rule ID	Type Info	Protocol Info Port range		Destination Info	Description - optional Info
			Info		
sgr-083313ca15ea7050f	All traffic	All	All	Cus 🔻 Q	Delete
				0.0.0/0 ×	
			Figu	re 14	

Testing the access connection-

The SSH connection with the instance (attacking machine) is established using the commandssh -i ''F:\attacking machine.pem'' <u>ec2-user@54.161.1.46</u> and is visible through the given figure 15.

· ~	
	Windows PowerShell Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
	copyright (c) hicrosoft corporation. Att rights reserved.
	Install the latest PowerShell for new features and improvements! https://aka.ms/PSWindows
	Loading personal and system profiles took 1844ms.
	(base) PS C:\Users\arbaz dalwai> ssh -i "F:\attacking machine.pem" ec2-user@54.161.1.46
	A newer release of "Amazon Linux" is available.
	Version 2023.6.20241028:
	Version 2023.6.20241031: Version 2023.6.20241111:
	Version 2023.6.20241121:
	Run "/usr/bin/dnf check-release-update" for full release and version update info
	,
	~_ ####_ Amazon Linux 2023 ~~ \ #####\
	~~ \###
	~~ \#/ https://aws.amazon.com/linux/amazon-linux-2023
	~~~ \~''-> ~~~~ /
	~~/
	-/ $-/$ $/m/$
	_/"/ Last login: Mon Dec 2 01:47:25 2024 from 89.100.111.212
	[ec2-user@ip-172-31-40-223 ~]\$

Figure 15

4. The IDS server- Below is the figure 16 showing the same.

shboard <b>&lt;</b> 2 Global View ents	Instance summary for i-059e06413 Updated less than a minute ago	3e26b7876 (IDS server) Info	Connect Instance state V Actions V
stances	Instance ID i-059e06413e26b7876	Public IPv4 address	Private IPv4 addresses
tances tance Types unch Templates	IPv6 address -	Instance state Ø Running	Public IPv4 DNS
ot Requests ings Plans	Hostname type IP name: ip-172-31-31-86.ec2.internal	Private IP DNS name (IPv4 only)	
erved Instances dicated Hosts pacity Reservations	Answer private resource DNS name IPv4 (A)	Instance type t2.micro	Elastic IP addresses
ages Ils Il Catalog	Auto-assigned IP address –	VPC ID Ѓр vpc-09e772eca6fc866c1 [2]	AWS Compute Optimizer finding  O Opt-in to AWS Compute Optimizer for recommendati ons.  Learn more
umes	IAM Role -	Subnet ID	Auto Scaling Group name –
epshots ecycle Manager	IMDSv2 Required	Instance ARN am:aws:ec2:us-east-1:662231714704:instance/i-05 e06413e26b7876	Managed 9 false

#### Figure 16

Instance Type: t2.micro Application OS: Ubuntu; VERSION="24.04.1 LTS (Noble Numbat)"; ID=ubuntu. Storage: 17 GiB Key pair: IDS-server.pem Elastic IP allocated: Public IP- 54.82.178.224; Private IP- 172.31.31.86 Open ports & Security group configuration:

- Port 22 is open for ssh in order to get an administrative access to the instance to configure and manage it.
- All traffic from file server and employee machine allows the IDS server to receive the mirrored traffic from the source for analysis.

The below figure 17 depict the inbound rules.

Inbound rules Info					
Security group rule ID	Type Info	Protocol Info	Port range	Source Info	Description - optional Info
			Info		
sgr-0676f2078dae6a2f2	SSH 🔹	ТСР	22	Cus 🔻 Q	Delete
				0.0.0.0/0 ×	
sgr-0d63a8290dbfc5b85	All traffic	All	All	Cus 🔻 Q	Employee machine Delete
				sg- × 06c8fd4148f763967	
sgr-09cb484774ec5dc4b	All traffic	All	All	Cus 🔻 Q	File server Delete
				sg- X Oce2208ad7c3d62dc	

Figure 17

Testing the access connection-

The SSH connection with the instance (attacking machine) is established using the commandssh -i "F:\IDS-server.pem" ubuntu@54.82.178.224 and is visible in the below figure 18.

🔘 🔰 ubuntu@ip-172-31-31-86:~ × + 🗸									
Windows PowerShell Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.									
Install the latest PowerShell for new features and improvements! https://aka.ms/PSWindows									
Loading personal and system profiles took 1025ms. (base) PS C:\Users\arbaz dalwai> ssh -i "F:\IDS-server.pem" ubuntu@54.82.178.224 Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.1 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-1019-aws x86_64)									
* Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com * Management: https://landscape.canonical.com * Support: https://ubuntu.com/pro									
System information as of Mon Dec 2 02:19:38 UTC 2024									
System load: 0.08 Processes: 104 Usage of /: 56.7% of 15.42GB Users logged in: 0 Memory usage: 66% IPv4 address for enX0: 172.31.31.86 Swap usage: 0%									
* Ubuntu Pro delivers the most comprehensive open source security and compliance features.									
https://ubuntu.com/aws/pro									
Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.									
16 updates can be applied immediately. To see these additional updates run: apt listupgradable									
Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates. See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status									
Last login: Sat Nov 30 01:27:00 2024 from 89.100.111.212 ubuntu@ip-172-31-31-86:~\$									

Figure 18

5. The security information and event management (SIEM) server- Below is the figure 19 showing the same.

A			
Dashboard K	Instance summary for i-05e1a0118	40d9bbfb (SIEM-server) Info	Connect Instance state V Actions V
EC2 Global View	Updated less than a minute ago		
Events			
Instances	Instance ID i-05e1a011840d9bbfb	Public IPv4 address	Private IPv4 addresses
Instances			
nstance Types	IPv6 address	Instance state Running	Public IPv4 DNS ec2-3-228-185-88.compute-1.amazonaws.com
Launch Templates			open address [2]
Spot Requests	Hostname type	Private IP DNS name (IPv4 only)	
Savings Plans	IP name: ip-172-31-17-200.ec2.internal	ip-172-31-17-200.ec2.internal	
Reserved Instances			
Dedicated Hosts	Answer private resource DNS name IPv4 (A)	Instance type t3a.large	Elastic IP addresses
Capacity Reservations	IPV4 (A)	tsa.large	1 3.228.185.88 (SIEM) [Public IP]
	Auto-assigned IP address	VPC ID	AWS Compute Optimizer finding
mages	-	🗖 vpc-09e772eca6fc866c1 🖸	Opt-in to AWS Compute Optimizer for recommendati
AMIs			ons.
AMI Catalog			Learn more
Elastic Block Store	IAM Role	Subnet ID	Auto Scaling Group name
Volumes	-	🗖 subnet-030319b2c3398021e 🖸	-
inapshots	IMDSv2	Instance ARN	Managed
ifecycle Manager	Required	arn:aws:ec2:us-east-1:662231714704:instance/i-05e	false
Lifecycle Manager		1a011840d9bbfb	

Figure 19

Instance Type: t3a.large Application OS: Ubuntu; VERSION= "22.04.5 LTS (Jammy Jellyfish)"; ID=ubuntu. Storage: 35 GiB Key pair: SIEM.pem Elastic IP allocated: Public IP- 3.228.185.88; Private IP- 172.31.17.200 Open ports & Security group configuration:

- Port 22 is open for ssh in order to get an administrative access to the instance to configure and manage it.

- Port 80 allows the web access to the elastic, logstash and kibana (ELK) server.
- Port 9200 allows the access to elasticsearch for querying and storing logs.
- Port 5044 allows the Logstash to listen to the logs shared by the filebeat from IDS server.
- Port 5601 allows the Kibana functionalities which acts as the visualization layer for the SIEM.
- Port 9200 with the source IP of machine learning (ml) models allows the connection between the two servers (ml models and SIEM), so that the ML models server is able to fetch the logs for real-time analysis.

The below figure 20 depict the inbound rules.

Inbound rules Info					
Security group rule ID	Type Info	Protocol Info	Port range	Source info	Description - optional Info
			Info		
sgr-01153c02e53cfc2ba	Custom TCP 🔹	ТСР	9200	Cus 🔻 Q	For elasticsearch Delete
				3.228.185.88/32 🗙	
sgr-0dc3b5b126df301c6	Custom TCP 🔹	ТСР	5044	Cus 🔻 Q 3.228.185.88/32 🗙	For Logstash Delete
				3.228.185.88/32 ×	
sgr-0f1d784734329ba7d	Custom TCP 🔹	ТСР	5601	Cus  Q 3.228.185.88/32 X	For Kibana Delete
				3.228.185.88/32 🗙	
sgr-0035b3a53f473a750	SSH 🔹	ТСР	22	Cus • Q 3.228.185.88/32 ×	Delete
				0.0.0.0/0 ×	
-	HTTP 🔻	ТСР	80	Cus V Q	Delete
-	Custom TCP 🔹	ТСР	9200	Cus 🔻 Q 54.81.145.37/32 🗙	For Elasticsearch- ML moc Delete



Testing the access connection-

The SSH connection with the instance (attacking machine) is established using the commandssh -i "F:\SIEM.pem" <u>ubuntu@3.228.185.88</u> and is visible through the given figure 21.

🔿 🔰 ubuntu@ip-172-31-17-200: ~ 🗙 + 🗸
Windows PowerShell Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
Install the latest PowerShell for new features and improvements! https://aka.ms/PSWindows
Loading personal and system profiles took 1038ms. (base) PS C:\Users\arbaz dalwai> ssh −i "F:\SIEM.pem" ubuntu@3.228.185.88 Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.5 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-1019-aws x86_64)
* Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com * Management: https://landscape.canonical.com * Support: https://ubuntu.com/pro
System information as of Mon Dec 2 02:37:43 UTC 2024
System load: 0.26 Processes: 107 Usage of /: 32.8% of 33.74GB Users logged in: 0 Memory usage: 73% IPv4 address for eth0: 172.31.17.200 Swap usage: 0%
<ul> <li>* Ubuntu Pro delivers the most comprehensive open source security and compliance features.</li> </ul>
https://ubuntu.com/aws/pro
Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.
12 updates can be applied immediately. 7 of these updates are standard security updates. To see these additional updates run: apt listupgradable
Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates. See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status
Last login: Sat Nov 30 01:38:51 2024 from 89.100.111.212 ubuntu@ip-172-31-17-200:~\$
Figure 21

6. The ML models server- Below is the figure 22 showing the same.

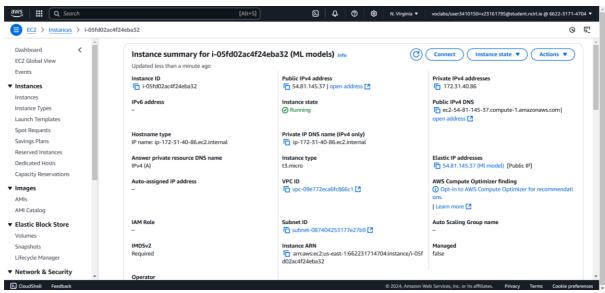


Figure 22

Instance Type: t3.micro

Application OS: Ubuntu; VERSION= "22.04.5 LTS (Jammy Jellyfish)"; ID=ubuntu.

Storage: 8 GiB

Key pair: ml models.pem

Elastic IP allocated: Public IP- 54.81.145.37; Private IP- 172.31.40.86

Open ports & Security group configuration:

- Port 22 is open for ssh in order to get an administrative access to the instance to configure and manage it.
- All traffic in the outbound rules section allows the ml model server to send the predictions and logs back to the elasticsearch (SIEM-ip as shown in the screenshot).

The below figures 23 & 24 depict the inbound and outbound rules resp.

Inbound rules Info												
Security group rule ID	Type Info	Protocol Info Port range	Source Info	Description - optional Info								
		Info										
sgr-011d96cdc31cf3d90	SSH 🔹	тср 22	Q Q	Delete								
			0.0.0/0 ×									
Figure 23												
Outbound rules Info												
Security group rule ID	Type Info	Protocol Info Port range	Destination Info	Description - optional Info								
		Info										
sgr-0e1edf2093b948224	All traffic	All	Cus  Q 3.228.185.88/32 X	Delete								
			3.228.185.88/32 🗙									
		Fig	gure 24									

Testing the access connection-

The SSH connection with the instance (attacking machine) is established using the commandssh -i "F:\ml models.pem" <u>ubuntu@54.81.145.37</u> and is visible through the figure 25.

🔘 🔰 ubuntu@ip-172-31-40-86: ~ 🛛 🗙 🕂 🗸 Windows PowerShell Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved. Install the latest PowerShell for new features and improvements! https://aka.ms/PSWindows Loading personal and system profiles took 1615ms. (base) PS C:\Users\arbaz dalwai> ssh -i "F:\ml models.pem" ubuntu@54.81.145.37 Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.5 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-1019-aws x86_64) Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com Management: https://landscape.canonical.com Support: https://ubuntu.com/pro * Support: System information as of Mon Dec 2 03:05:45 UTC 2024 System load: 0.0 Processes: 104 Usage of /: 51.7% of 7.57GB Users logged in: 0 Memory usage: 22% IPv4 address for ens5: 172.31.40.86 Swap usage: 0% * Ubuntu Pro delivers the most comprehensive open source security and compliance features https://ubuntu.com/aws/pro Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled. 6 updates can be applied immediately. To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates. See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status Last login: Sat Nov 30 01:41:14 2024 from 89.101.66.164

Figure 25

# 2 Traffic forwarding from File server & Employee machine to the IDS server

For forwarding the traffic from file server and employee server instance, traffic mirroring feature from AWS is used. This guarantees that the IDS gets the traffic from these sources and can monitor all the data/network activities that happen within the network. The steps through which the Traffic Mirroring is incorporated in the thesis are explained below-

- 1. Setting up the Mirror target
- Navigate to the VPC service on AWS and open the Traffic mirror targets section to create traffic mirror target.
- Set the Target name.
- Select the target type as network interface and select the target from the list of instances/interface ID available (i.e. Elastic network interface ENI) and then save the target. As the IDS had to be selected as the mirror target the following was done in my setup.

Below is the figure 26 showing the creation of the mirror target.

aws	Services Q Search	[Alt+S]	٤	¢	0	ø	N. Virginia 🔻	voclabs/user3410150=x23161795@student.ncirLie @	6622-3171-4704 🔻
VPC )	<u>Traffic mirror targets</u> > Create traffic mirror target								0
Cre	ate traffic mirror target								5
	rget settings scription to help you identify the traffic mirror target								
Nar	ne tag - <i>optional</i>								
ID	S-Target								
Des	cription - optional								
D	escribe your traffic mirror target								
er	ni-080e6979aecc21afb						-		
er	ni-0964d2e2dddc59e71								
er	ni-Odc3e21e341af1b7b								
er	ni-0f4fc72791966fd1b						_		
er	ni-Oaf86e7927808758f								
er	ni-0576539d87dcde4a6						•		
a	Select target							C	
									_
	gs - optional g is a label that you assign to an AWS resource. Each tag consists of a key and an optional value. Yo	ou can use tags to search an	d filter your r	esources	or track y	our AWS	costs.		
Key	Value	- optional							
Cloud	IShell Feedback						© 2024, Amazon	Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. Privacy Terms	Cookie preferences

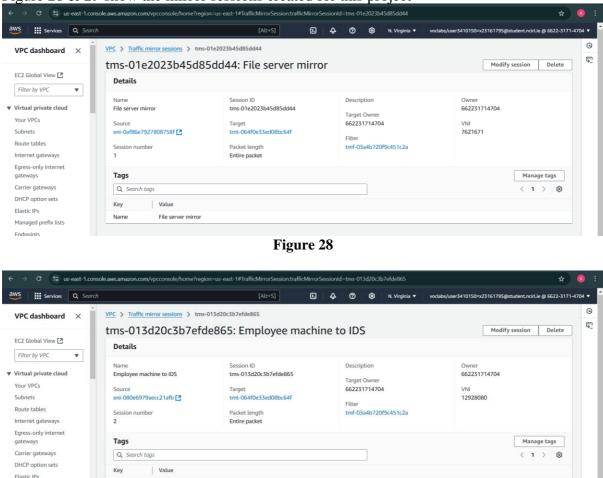
Figure 26

- 2. Creating Mirror filter
  - Navigate to the VPC section on AWS and open Traffic mirror filters, then create traffic mirror filter
  - Set the name and add the rule in inbound and outbound section and finally save the filter.
  - In this setup as all the traffic had to be sent to IDS the inbound and outbound traffic is set to ALL. This can be seen in the figure 27-

L									~		
Services	<b>Q</b> Search				[Alt+S]	2	\$	0	ø	N. Virginia 🔻	voclabs/user3410150=x23161795@student.ncirLie @ 6622-3171-
raffic mirror											
scription - optional											
Describe your traffic r	mirror filter										
twork services - opt	tional										
amazon-dns											
bound rules - a	optional										
	e action	Protocol		Source port	Destination	Source CIDR	Dest	ination	De	cription	
				range -	port range -	block	CIDE	block			
				optional	optional						
00 acc	cept 🔻	All protocols	•	N/A	N/A	0.0.0/0	0.0	0.0/0			Delete rule
Add rule So	ort rules										
Additate	orerates										
utbound rules -	- ontional										
	e action	Protocol		Source port	Destination	Source CIDR	Dest	ination	De	cription	
				range -	port range -	block		block			
				optional	optional						
00 acc	cept 🔻	All protocols	•	N/A	N/A	0.0.0/0	0.0	0.0/0			Delete rule
Add rule So	ort rules										
dShell Feedback					-		_		e	2024, Amazon	Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. Privacy Terms Cookie pre

Figure 27

- 3. Establishing Mirror sessions
  - Navigate to the VPC, then traffic mirror sessions and create traffic mirror session.
  - Set the name for the session.
  - Select the mirror source (a list of ENI) from where the traffic will be initiated (in this case file server eni and employee machine eni)
  - Select the mirror target which is available as per requirements (in this case the IDS target which is already created through above steps).
  - Select the mirror filter (in this case the above filter is selected).
  - Set the session number (any unique number between 1 to 32766).



### Figure 28 & 29 show the mirror sessions created for this project-

Figure 29

#### 3 Setting up the File server

Name

The process of setting up the File server will be explained in this section.

1. Configuring the web server Apache: Updating the package Repository throughsudo yum update -y

Employee machine to IDS

**Installing Apache** sudo yum install httpd -y

Elastic IPs

Managed prefix lists

Start and enable Apache sudo systemctl start httpd sudo systemctl enable httpd

```
Server version: Apache/2.4.62 (Amazon Linux)
Server built: Jul 23 2024 00:00:00
```

The figure 30 depicts the successful loading of the file server.

It works!

## Figure 30

☆ 🔷 🔥

- 2. Setting up the login page for File server
  - Navigate to the web root directory where Apache hosts the files: cd /var/www/html
  - Creating the login.html file by sudo nano login.html
    The HTML code for login page can be seen in the figure 31-

🔘 🔰 ec2-user@ip-172-31-31-45:/va 🗙 🕂

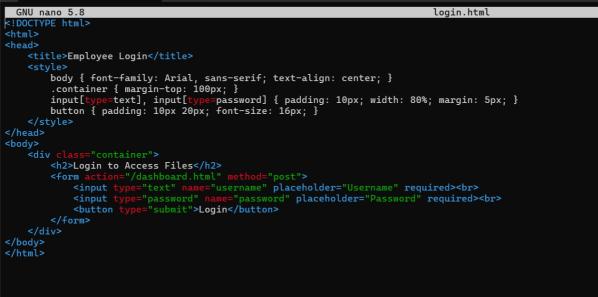


Figure 31

Login page hosted on the file server is presented in the figure 32-

$\leftarrow \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$	Not secure 98.83.82.139/login.html	\$	:
	Login to Access Files		
	Username		
	Password		
	Login		

- Figure 32
- 3. Setting up the dashboard for the file server so that it replicates as a companies' crucial asset
  - Navigate to the web root directory where Apache hosts the files:
     cd /var/www/html
  - Creating the dashboard.html file by sudo nano dashboard.html
    The HTML code for employee machine can be seen in the figure 33-

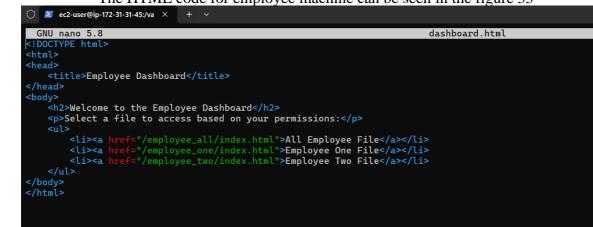


Figure 33

Dashboard page hosted on the file server is presented in the figure 34-

```
← → C ▲ Not secure 98.83.82.139/dashboard.html
```

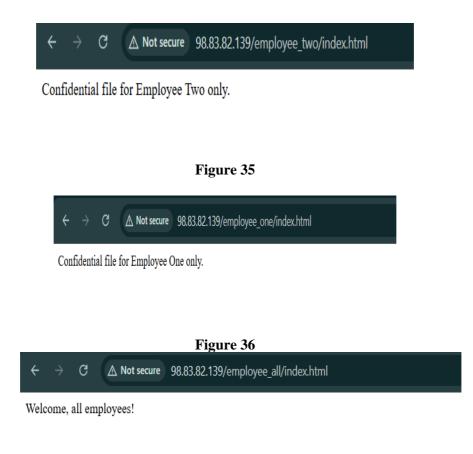
#### Welcome to the Employee Dashboard

Select a file to access based on your permissions:

- <u>All Employee File</u>
- <u>Employee One File</u>
- <u>Employee Two File</u>

#### Figure 34

The three files were created in the index.html for each of the mentioned directories i.e. employee_all, employee_one, employee_two. Hence clicking on any of the above will give the foll. Results shown in the figures 35, 36 and 37.



# Figure 37 4 Setting up the Attacking Machine

This section would demonstrate the configuration done on the Attacking machine to setup and launch the two simulated attacks- DDoS and phishing.

- 1. Simulating DDoS attack
  - As this attack was launched through a docker instance first docker was installed using the command **sudo yum install docker -y**. Then it was started and enabled by **sudo systemctl start docker** & **sudo systemctl enable docker** resp.
  - Then we need to run the container, pull the image and name the container using the command- **sudo docker run -it --name attack_container ubuntu**

Below figure 38 represents the active state of the docker.

○ 📕 ec2-user@jp172-31-40-223 × + v	-	0	×
<pre>/*** \###  /*** \##, https://aws.amazon.com/linux/amazon-linux-2023 /************************************</pre>			
Last login: Mon Dec 2 04:26:39 2024 from 89.100.111.212 [ec2-user@ip-172-31-40-223 ~]\$ docker ps -a CONTAINER ID IMAGE COMMAND CREATED STATUS PORTS NAMES 59467d529812 ubuntu "/bin/bash" 3 weeks ago Exited (137) 2 days ago attack_container [ec2-user@ip-172-31-40-223 ~]\$ docker start 59467d529812 59467d529812			
<pre>[ec2-user@ip-172-31-40-223 ~]\$ docker exec -it 59f67d529812 /bin/bash root@59f67d529812:/# exit exit [ec2-user@ip-172-31-40-223 ~]\$ sudo systemctl enable docker [ec2-user@ip-172-31-40-223 ~]\$ sudo systemctl status docker • docker.service - Docker Application Container Engine Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/docker.service; enabled; preset: disabled)</pre>			
Active: active (running) since Mon 2024-12-02 04:46:54 UTC; 11min ago TriggeredBy: * docker.socket Docs: https://docs.docker.com Main PID: 2351 (dockerd) Tasks: 10 Memory: 110.0M CPU: 453ms CGroup: /system.slice/docker.service			
<pre>L2351 /usr/bin/dockerd -H fd://containerd=/run/containerd/containerd.sockdefault-ulimit nofile=32768:65536 Dec 02 04:46:51 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal systemd[1]: Starting dockers.service - Docker Application Container Engine Dec 02 04:46:52 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:52.7597373977" level=info msg="Starting up" Dec 02 04:46:52 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:52.7597373977" level=info msg="Loading containers: start." Dec 02 04:46:52 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:52.7597373977" level=info msg="Loading containers: start." Dec 02 04:46:53 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:53.7502732477" level=info msg="Loading containers: start." Dec 02 04:46:53 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:53.97502732477" level=info msg="Loading containers: start." Dec 02 04:46:54 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:53.97504732477" level=info msg="Loading containers: done." Dec 02 04:46:54 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:54.0359615497" level=info msg="Docker domon" commit=bb8a516 Dec 02 04:46:54 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:54.0359615497" level=info msg="Docker domon" commit=bb8a516 Dec 02 04:46:54 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:54.0359615497" level=info msg="Docker domon" commit=bb8a516 Dec 02 04:46:54 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:54.0359615497" level=info msg="Docker domon" commit=bb8a516 Dec 02 04:46:54 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:54.0359615497" level=info msg="Docker docker.sock" Dec 02 04:46:54 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:54.0359615497" level=info msg="Docker docker.sock" Dec 02 04:46:54 ip-172-31-40-223.ec2.internal dockerd[2351]: time="2024-12-021704:46:54.0359615497" l</pre>	signed contair ation"	wit≽	

Figure 38

- Then we need to install the hping3 inside the docker container through the below commands
  - apt update

apt install hping3 -y

We can now start the ddos attack by attacking the file server on port 80 using the command hping3 -S -p 80 --flood 98.83.82.139. This will flood the network traffic of the file server eventually generating the logs we need for further analysis on Suricata IDS. Figure 39 shows the attack initiation through the command.



2. Simulating Phishing attack

This attack will be targeted to employee machine, wherein the attacking machine would host a webpage cloned through social engineering toolkit (SET). The process for the same is explained below-

- For installing SET, we will first need to update the system through: sudo yum update && sudo yum upgrade -y
- Then install the pre-requisites for SET: sudo yum install git python3 python3-pip -y
- Then we will have to clone the SET from its GitHub repository: git clone <u>https://github.com/trustedsec/social-engineer-toolkit.git</u>
- Once its cloned and available we will move to its directory: cd social-engineertoolkit/
- Then we'll run the setup script to install SET: sudo python3 setup.py install
- Then we can finally start the SET using- sudo setoolkit

#### Figure 40 depicts the homepage of the SET.

○ ≥ ec2-user@ip-172-31-40-223:~ × + ~	
	0 N I 0 0 0 0 1 ! ! ! !
<pre>[] The Social-Engineer Toolkit (SET) [] [] Created by: David Kennedy (ReL1K) [] Version: 8.0.3 Codename: 'Maverick' [] Follow us on Twitter: @TrustedSec [] [] Follow me on Twitter: @HackingDave [] Homepage: https://www.trustedsec.com [] Welcome to the Social-Engineer Toolkit (SET). The one stop shop for all of your SE needs. The Social-Engineer Toolkit is a product of TrustedSec.</pre>	
Visit: https://www.trustedsec.com	
It's easy to update using the PenTesters Framework! (PTF) Visit https://github.com/trustedsec/ptf to update all your tools!	
Select from the menu:	
1) Social-Engineering Attacks 2) Penetration Testing (Fast-Track) 3) Third Party Modules 4) Update the Social-Engineer Toolkit 5) Update SET configuration	

Figure 40

- Once the SET is ready, we can create a phishing page by navigating through the menu SET has to offer
- Choose the attack type by selecting the Option 1- Social Engineering attacks.
- Then choose Website Attack Vectors (Option 2).
- Then select Credential Harvester Attack Method (Option 3).
- From the menu presented now, select Site cloner (option 2).
- Now we will have to provide the POST-Back IP address which is the attacking machine's IP address. But as our attacking machine has a dynamic IP address it will be changing every time it restarts. Hence through NO-IP, I have created a hostname attackingmachine.ddns.net which will be hosting the phishing page. Figure 41 shows the NO-IP page showing the above information.

← → C 😁 my.noip.co	om/dynamic-dns					* 🔕
•≡ 🧐noip	🕲 Support 🗸				🗘 🛁 🎯 English	abaz63006@gmail.com
② Dashboard	Hostnames					
🛛 Dynamic DNS 🛛 🗸						
No-IP Hostnames	My No-IP > Hostnames					
Personal Hostnames						
DDNS Keys / Groups	Create Hostname				Search	×Q
Dynamic Update Client						
Update Clients	Hostname 🕈	Last Update	IP / Target	Туре	DDNS Key	
Device Configuration Assistant	attackingmachine.ddns.net Active	Dec 1, 2024 21:08 PST	18.234.136.116	A	Create DDNS Key	Modify ×
• My Services >						
Account NEW FEATURE >	Help with Hostnames					
Support Center >		the difference is between Round quick guide of each DNS record		<b>*</b> +	No-IP Referral Program Ready to Earn \$5 in No-IP Credits For Every P Refer to No-IP?	aid Customer That You

Figure 41

- Now that we have the hostname, we can enter it in the POST-back setup
- Then we will have to input the URL of a known website which is available for testing purposes. (NOTE. The URL's open for public use for research purposes are/should only be used for this cloning setup). We have used <u>http://example.com/</u> as the website for cloning.
- Thus, now SET is all ready to clone the website and host it.

But this cloning of website through SET being a powerful action was not feasible for long term use as SET uses a lightweight python HTTP server which is only capable of hosting a website when SET is actively running, and once SET is terminated the hosted website also gets inaccessible. However, for phishing simulation it was very necessary to have a stable and persistent website being hosted on the web which could be accessed by the employee machine continuously during the testing phase. Therefore, for overcoming this problem and to minimize the impact of SET's limitation, Apache was selected for hosting the cloned website through which the cloned phishing page would be available as long as the hosted server i.e. EC2 instance is running.

Transitioning the cloned content to Apache-

- Once SET successfully clones the website, the cloned files are stored and available in the directory /var/www/social-engineer-toolkit
- Using the command below the files from SET directory are copied to Apache sudo cp -r /var/www/social-engineer-toolkit/* /var/www/html
- Hence the Apache is ready for hosting the cloned website now.
- Through the below Figure 42 it is confirmed that the cloned phishing website is active and accessible at: <u>http://attackingmachine.ddns.net/phishing-page.html</u> (when the attacking machine server is up and running).

÷	÷	G	▲ Not secure	attackingmachine.ddns.net/phishing-page.html
Pleas	e revi	iew yo	ur account secu	rity: <u>Click here</u>

2

#### Figure 42

# 5 Setting up the employee machine server

This section would demonstrate the configuration of employee machine so that it can interact with the above phishing link created in the attacking machine.

As the phishing page is accessible at <u>http://attackingmachine.ddns.net/phishing-page.html</u> through a dynamic domain name service (DNS), it could only be accessed through a script

from the employee machine as currently there is no graphical user interface (GUI) access of the employee machine. The following procedure was used to create a script which would automate the interaction between employee machine and phishing link.

- A bash script named click_phishing_link.sh was created on the employee machine through '**nano**' command.
- The script is designed in a way that it pings the phishing link with HTTP requests every 30 seconds using the '**curl**' command. The script logic can be seen through the figure 43.

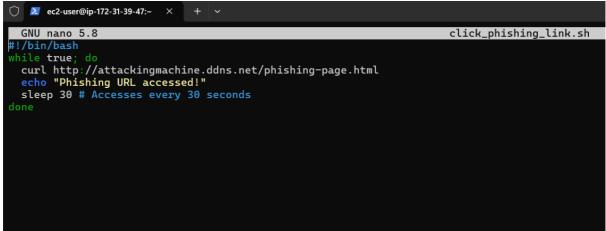


Figure 43

 Once the script file was created it was made executable using the commandsudo chmod +x click_phishing_link.sh

For a periodic run of the script without any interruption the '**nohup**' command was used making sure that the script runs, even if the ssh session is disconnected and terminates only when the process is killed. Figure 44 shows the detailed command for running the script.

[ec2-user@ip-172-31-39-47 ~]\$ sudo nohup ./click_phishing_link.sh & [1] 3694

Figure 44

As the script accesses the phishing link on attacking machine, HTTP requests are generated and this traffic is received on the IDS due to the mirroring session done previously, as depicted in the figure 45-



Figure 45

Hence the IDS logs confirm the connection between the employee machine and the phishing link.

# 6 Setting up the IDS server

This secction will present the process of setting up the Suricata and Filebeat on the IDS server.

Setting up Suricata- IDS:

Step 1: Installing Suricata

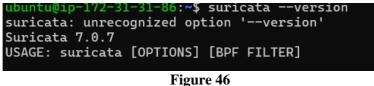
Before installing the suricata it is necessary to update all the required packages, for this the following commands were used sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade -y

sudo apt install software-properties-common python3-pip -y

Next up is adding the suricata repository, the below command adds the official suricata repository to get the latest version of the IDS.
 sudo add-apt-repository ppa:oisf/suricata-stable

sudo apt-get update

- Once the repository is added the suricata installation can be initiated using the command **sudo apt install suricata -y**
- The successful installation can be confirmed through veiwing the installed version in the figure 46.



Step 2: Configuring Suricata

The default configuation file for suricata is available at /etc/suricata/suricata.yaml

Before performing any changes in the Suricata yaml file it is necessary to download the Emerging threat (ET) ruleset and place it in the correct directory for Suricata to access. This was done using the below commands-

cd /tmp/

curl -LO <u>https://rules.emergingthreats.net/open/suricata-7.07/emerging.rules.tar.gz</u> sudo tar -xvzf emerging.rules.tar.gz sudo mv rules/*.rules /etc/suricata/rules sudo chmod 640 /etc/suricata/rules/*.rules

Through this we make sure that the Suricata has the latest ruleset from the ET including rules for different attacks, especially DDoS and phishing which is required for this research's case. The figure 47 shows the rules have been extracted and loaded successfully.

	sudo ls /etc/suricata/rules/			
3coresec.rules	emerging-attack_response.rules	emerging-icmp.rules	emerging-pop3.rules	emerging-web_client.rules
BSD-License.txt	emerging-chat.rules	emerging-icmp_info.rules	emerging-retired.rules	emerging-web_server.rules
LICENSE	emerging-coinminer.rules	emerging-imap.rules	emerging-rpc.rules	emerging-web_specific_apps.rules
<pre>botcc.portgrouped.rules</pre>	emerging-current_events.rules	emerging-inappropriate.rules	emerging-scada.rules	emerging-worm.rules
botcc.rules	emerging-ddos.rules	emerging-info.rules	emerging-scan.rules	gpl-2.0.txt
ciarmy.rules	emerging-deleted.rules	emerging-ja3.rules	emerging-shellcode.rules	local.rules
classification.config	emerging-dns.rules	emerging-malware.rules	emerging-smtp.rules	rules
compromised-ips.txt	emerging-dos.rules	emerging-misc.rules	emerging-snmp.rules	sid-msg.map
compromised.rules	emerging-exploit.rules	emerging-mobile_malware.rules	emerging-sql.rules	suricata-5.0-enhanced-open.txt
drop.rules	emerging-exploit_kit.rules	emerging-netbios.rules	emerging-telnet.rules	threatview_CS_c2.rules
dshield.rules	emerging-ftp.rules	emerging-p2p.rules	emerging-tftp.rules	tor.rules
emerging-activex.rules	emerging-games.rules	emerging-phishing.rules	emerging-user_agents.rules	
emerging-adware_pup.rules	emerging-hunting.rules	emerging-policy.rules	emerging-voip.rules	
		Figure 47		



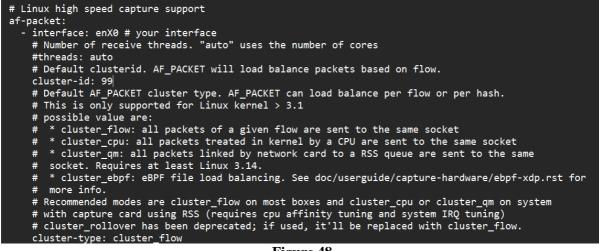
For further configuration, we need to modify the suricata yaml file. The following steps were inculcated for the modification in different areas.

- For accessing the file the below command was used

# sudo nano /etc/suricata/suricata.yaml

- The foremost thing to be done was changing the network interface, by specifying this Suricata would make sure to monitor that particular network. In this case the network interface is the one assigned to the server which hosts the IDS (EC2 instance) and that is enX0.

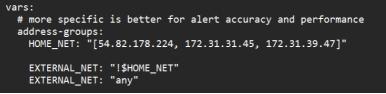
### - The changes need to be made in the **af-packet** section which is shown in the figure 48-



#### Figure 48

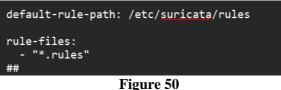
- Furthermore, we need to specify the home net(internal or trusted network which is to be monitored and protected; in this case the file server and employee machine) and externel net(any untrusted network e.g Internet) in the config file. Here the home net is assigned

with 3 IPs i.e. IDS's public IP, File server's private IP and employee machine's private IP figure 49 confirms the same. Even though the traffic mirroing is setup assigning this IPs would ensure complete monitoring of the network.



#### Figure 49

Next up is specifying the default rule path and including all the rules which we have just downloaded using the previous steps. Below is the config screenshot (figure 50) for the same



Once this changes are made the file can be saved and exited and we can check if there is any error in the configuration using the below command sudo suricata -T -c /etc/suricata/suricata.yaml -v

Step 3: Starting Suricata

Suricata now needs to be enabled and started as a system service through the commands-

## sudo systemctl enable suricata sudo systemctl start suricata

Figure 51 shows the active state of the suricata along with the status check command-

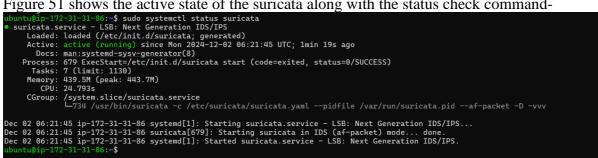


Figure 51

Step 4: Veiwing logs

The generated logs in suricata are stored in the /var/log/suricata, figure 52 confirms the same-

<u>\$ sudo</u>ls /var/log/suricata/ json fast.log files stats.log suricata-start.log suricata.log core eve.1.json eve.2.json eve.3.json eve Figure 52

Out of the above log files, eve.json and fast.log are the prominent ones as the former includes the detailed JavaScript object notation (JSON) formatted logs (essentially used in our setup) while the latter represent the summarized alerts of the events.

Figures 53 and 54 show the logs both in fast.log as well as eve.json through the '**tail -f**' command, confirming that the IDS is working accurately and the logs are getting generated.

	all -+ /var/log/suricata/+ast.log
	[**] [1:2101201:11] GPL WEB_SERVER 403 Forbidden [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 172.31.31
.45:80 -> 205.210.31.230:511	
	[**] [1:2100498:3] Possible SYN Flood [**] [Classification: Attempted Denial of Service] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 54.224.64.122:2411
-> 172.31.31.45:80	
	[**] [1:2100498:3] Possible SYN Flood [**] [Classification: Attempted Denial of Service] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 54.224.64.122:12414
-> 172.31.31.45:80	
	[**] [1:2100498:3] Possible SYN Flood [**] [Classification: Attempted Denial of Service] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 54.224.64.122:29995
-> 172.31.31.45:80 12/02/2024-07:35:01.892556	[**] [1:2100498:3] Possible SYN Flood [**] [Classification: Attempted Denial of Service] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 54.224.64.122:34060
-> 172.31.31.45:80	[**][1:21004988:3] POSSIBLE SYN FLOOD [**][CLASSIFICATION: ATTEMPTED DENIAL OF SERVICE][PTIOTITY: 2] {ICP} 54.224.04.122:34060
	[**] [1:2100498:3] Possible SYN Flood [**] [Classification: Attempted Denial of Service] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 54,224.64.122:35754
-> 172.31.31.45:80	[^^] [1.2100490.3] POSSIBLE 31W FLOOD [^^] [CLASSIFICATION: ACCOMPTED DENIAL OF SERVICE] [FILDITLY: 2] {[CF] 04.224.04.122.33/34
	[**] [1:2100498:3] Possible SYN Flood [**] [Classification: Attempted Denial of Service] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 54.224.64.122:40001
-> 172.31.31.45:80	[m] [Littoriois] (optice of the least feature in the period of the least of the lea
	[**] [1:2100498:3] Possible SYN Flood [**] [Classification: Attempted Denial of Service] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 54.224.64.122:44738
-> 172.31.31.45:80	
12/02/2024-07:35:21.896993	[**] [1:2100498:3] Possible SYN Flood [**] [Classification: Attempted Denial of Service] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 54.224.64.122:51653
-> 172.31.31.45:80	
12/02/2024-07:35:26.897535	[**] [1:2100498:3] Possible SYN Flood [**] [Classification: Attempted Denial of Service] [Priority: 2] {TCP} 54.224.64.122:5900
-> 172.31.31.45:80	

Figure 53

ubuntu@ip-172-31-31-86:~\$ sudo tail -f /var/log/suricata/eve.ison
<pre>""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""</pre>
st_ip":"172.31.31.86","dest_port":4789,"proto":"UDP","app_proto":"failed","flow":{"pkts_toserver":2,"pkts_toclient":2,"bytes_toserver":280,"bytes_toclient":
36, "start": "2021-12-02166:32:58.581/14+0000", "end": "2021-12-02166:23:58.581219+0000", "age":0."starte": "new", "reason": "filerted":false}}
555, start : 2024 12 0210012350511745000 ; end : 2024 12 02100123505000 ; age 0, start : new ; reason : Limeout ; aterte : news ; (*timestamp:'2024-12-02106:24:37.9183546000 ; event_type:'starts''.starts''.timeme:'171, reapture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apture':timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apturet:timeret_apt
<pre>( tarestamp : 224 1 2010.14.57.160550000 ; eta=</pre>
cret i dusy tody avg io, potts issor, potts is a second se
2/30/30, invalid .0, ip/94 .2790, ip/90 .2, etternet .2790, ap/ .12, unnown_etterstype .0, tant .0, tant .0, tatt .0, tet .0,
.σ, μεμρνά -κε, μεμρνά -z, μρμ -σ, μρρμε -σ, geneve -σ, με -σ, να -σ, το ταμισμητισ, σκιαι -μητιστιστιστιστιστ _n.jpv6:0, μρν6:in, jpv6:0, μηρίs:0, μανα_pht_size:03, μακ_pht_size:1536, μαχ_ματα_dota_scr:0, μακα, addrs_str:0, μετριστιθ, μαγιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστιστι
vyo .o, ipovo.o, mpts .o, avg_pncize .>>, mar_pnc_size .iso, mar_mat_aduis_sit .o, mar_mar_aduid_uors, courses .o, etspan .o, non .o, even .t ipvo .t "phct_too_small":0, "hen_too_small':0, "tplen_smaller":0, "trunc_pht":0, "opt_invalid":0, "opt_invalid":0, "opt_malformed":0, "opt_pad_required":0, "opt_sol_toopt_courses":0, opt_sol_toopt_courses .o, even .t iso .o, "opt_sol_toopt_courses":0, opt_sol_toopt_courses .o, opt_sol_toopt_courses
prc_to_small :0, nten_too_small :0, pten_smaller_tnan_nten :0, trunc_prt :0, opt_invalid :0, opt_invalid_ten :0, opt_matrozmee :0, opt_matrozme
pl_eol_required :s, opl_ouplicate :s, opl_ouplicate :s, opl_ouplicate :s, wrong_ip_version :s, rampvo :s, rad_version :rad_version :s, rad_goversion :s, rad_version :s, rad
L_co_smatt.s, unknown_cype.s, unknown_coue.s, prv4_trunc_pkt.s, prv4_unknown_ver.s, tampro ; unknown_cype.s, unknown_cype.s, pkt_co_smatt.s, pv 6_unknown_version'!S, "jup6_trunc_pkt"S, "Mid_message.with.invalid.ht":0 "unassigned type":0, "koperimentation, type":0, "kopin, type":0, "kopin
o_unknowm_version :o, ipvo_trunc_pkt :o, mucamessage_wiin_invalio_nt :o, unassigneo_type :o, experimentation_type :o; ipvo :i pkc_too_smalt :o, trunc_pkt : 0, "trunc_exthdr :o, "exthdr useless _fh :o," exthdr _upl_th :0, "exthdr _upl_h :0, "exthdr _upl_h :0," exthdr _upl_h :0," exthdr _upl_h :0, "
o, trunc_extndr to, extndr_dupt_m to, extndr_dup
exclos_invalue_optien :=, wrong_ip_version :=, exclos_ani_ves_not_nut:=, nopopts_unknown_opt :=, nopopts_onty_padding :=, vstopts_unknown_opt:=, stopts_onty_padding :=, vstopts_onty_padding :=, vstopts_onty_pad
nty_padulng .o, h_type_0 .o, zero_ten_padu .o, h_non_zero_reserve_retu .o, uata_arter_none_neader .o, unnumm_next_neader .o, tempv# .o, hagpkr_too_tar rge":0, "Frag_overlap":0,"frag_invalid_length":0, "frag_ingnored":0, "ipv4_in_ipv6_too_small":0,"ipv4_in_ipv6_mrong_version":0, "ipv6_in_ipv6_too_small":0,"ipv6_in
rye o, rragoverkap o, rraginvalutienen o, rraginvore o, ipvolicousmatt o, ipvolicitaveno o, ipvolicitate o, ip
in_ipvo_mrong_version:eg, tcp :{pwc_too_smatt:e, nten_too_smatt:e, ntwito_option:e, opt_invalo_ten :e, opt_ouplicate:er, uop :{pwc_too_smalt:e, nten_invalid:e, nten_invalid:e, nten_too_smalt:e, nten_invalid:e, nten_too_smalt:e,
en_too_smatt o, nen_invalu o, ten_invalu o, st i pkt_too_smatt o, enernet i pkt_too_smatt o, pp i pkt_too_smatt o, vjupkt_too_smatt o, i P4_pkt_too_smalt o, "ip6_pkt_too_smalt" o, "wrong_type":0,"unsup_proto":00, "pppe":("pkt_too_smalt":0, "odd":0, "malformed_tags":00, "greet":"pkt_too_smalt
p+_pktoo_smatt.s, ippktoo_smatt.s, wrong_type.s, unsup_proto.ss, pppoe.s pktoo_smatt.s, wrong_toue.s, matroimeo_tags.ss, gre_ispktoo_smatt.st, "unsuperformatter", too_sign is a standard to be a
t o, wrong_version o, version_tetur o, version_tags o, version_to_tg o, version_matrowmed_sre_nor o, version_throwed se, hdw o, version_to_to_to_to_to_to_to_to_to_to_to_to_to_
version_ssr.o, version_recur.o, version_rugs.o, version_money.o, version_miong_protocol.o, version_macrommed_sre_nor.o, version_macro
:σ, νια ; πεανατισο_small:σ, unknown_type :σ, too_many_tayers σ; receorian ; neader_too_small:σ, νια ; neader_too_small:σ, unknown_type :σ, ipraw":["invalid.ip.version":0], "Itull": "pht_too_small":0] runsupported_type":0], "story": "pht_too_small":0}, "esp":"["pht_too_small":0], "mole:too_s
apraw : anvato_ap_version :or, condit : pert_co_smatt :o, unsupporte_type :or, sctp :: pert_coo_smatt :or, esp :: pert_coo_smatt :or, mots : neder_coo_smatt :meder_coo_smatt :me
mart o pri toolsmart o, bai tabe trutter ater o bai tabet mpi talling to bai tabet reserved o, unknown paytod type of, vitan i unknown paytod to bai
cype cy, genere ( unknown paytoad cype cy, eigan ( neader cos and c), unsupported version ( cos and c) can cos cos ( neader cos and c), cha (c):{"pkc_too_small":0}, "nsh':"header too_small":0, "unsupported version":0, "bader length":0, "reserved type":0, "unsupported type":0, "unknown payload":0
<pre>cc.ic prc_coo_smact = 0; "non :: neader_coo_smact = 0; and apport coordinate control of the control of the</pre>
iii, "pseudo-failed":0, 'invalid checksum: 0, match o, match o, "patch on wrong thread":0, "ack_unseen data":0, "segment_memcap_drop":0, "segment_from cache":7, "
segment_from_pool":7, "stream_depth_reached":0, "reassembly gap":0, "overlap_diff_data":0, "insert_data_normal_fall":0, "insert_data_overlap_fall":0,"
"memuse": 666208; "reassembly_memuse": 114688; "flow": {"memosg_up" of tate": 54 "tcp":3, "udp":64, "icmpv4":0, "icmpv6":2, "tcp_reuse":6, "get_used":0, "get_used:0, "get_used":0, "get_used:0, "get_used":0, "get_used:0, "get_used":0, "get_used:0, "
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e_sync_empty":0,"flows_evicted_needs_work":1,"flows_evicted_pkt_inject":2,"flows_evicted":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected":1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"flows_injected:1,"
15, "established":0, "closed":0, "local_bypassed":0, "capture_bypassed":0}, "tcp_state":{"none":0, "syn_sent":0, "syn_recv":1, "established":0, "fin_wait1":0, "fin_w
ait/":0, "time_wait":0, "last_ack":0, "close_wait":0, "closed":0}, "tcp_liberal":0}, "mgr":("full_hash_pass":14, "rows_per_sec":6553, "rows_maxlen":1, "f
lows_checked":87, "flows_notimeout":72, "flows_timeout":15, "flows_evicted":15, "flows_evicted_needs_work":1}, "spare":9914, "emerg_mode_entered":0, "emerg_mode_ov
er":0, "recycler":{"recycled":14, "queue_avg":0, "queue_max":2}, "memuse":7154304}, "defrag":{"ipv4":{"fragments":0, "reassembled":0}, "ipv6":{"fragments":0, "reassembled":0}, "ipv6":{"fragments":0}, "reassembled":0, "ipv6":{"fragments":0}, "reassembled":0, "ipv6":{"fragments:0}, "fragments":0, "reassembled":0, "ipv6":{"fragments:0}, "fragments":0, "reassembled":0, "ipv6":{"fragments:0}, "fragments:0, "fragment

Figure 54

Setting up Filbeat-

Filebeat is an extremely crucial component of the entire log pipeline as it ships the log from source (Suricata) to the destination (SIEM- Logstash).

Step 1: Installing Filebeat

- Downloading and installing filebeat was done by sudo apt-get update sudo apt-get install filebeat -y

Below is the figure 55 showing the installed version of filebeat

```
filebeat version 7.17.25 (amd64),
libbeat 7.17.25 [ef6504bc5cb524dfe5000d367f8d775dc7e82473 built 2024-10-15 15:24:12 +0000 UTC]
```

Figure 55

Step 2: Configuring the Filebeat

There are numerous modules readily available in filebeat, Suricata is amongst them. This modules are diabled by default and should be enabled as per the requirements. Thus suricata module is enabled in our setup through the command-

### sudo filebeat modules enable suricata

Once the module is enabled there are some changes which need to be done in the Suricata module configuration file which is located in the **/etc/filebeat/modules.d/suricata.yml** The changes include setting up the input location of the logs, so that the filebeat can access the same. Here the input location as stated in the Suricata section is **/var/log/suricata/eve.json** which is updated in the var.paths as shown in the figure 56-

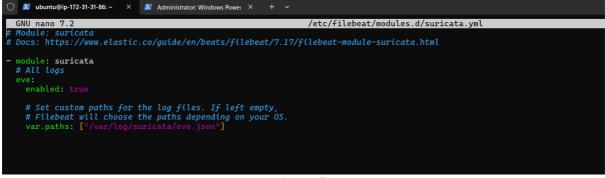


Figure 56

While the filebeat gets the input point for collecting data it is also important to specify the output for this data. For setting this, the main configuration file for filebeat needs to be edited. This file is available at /etc/filebeat/filebeat.yml and through the 'nano' command we can open the same.

Setting Logstash as the output: As logstash is configured to listen on port 5044 at the SIEM end, this needs to be specified in the filebeat config file as stated in the figure 57.



Figure 57

Step 3: Starting Filebeat

Filebeat now needs to be enabled and started as a system service through the commands-

# sudo systemctl enable filebeat sudo systemctl start filebeat

Figure 58 shows the active state of the filbeat along with the status check command-

<pre>ubuntu@ip-172-31-31-86:~\$ sudo systemctl status filebeat * filebeat.service - Filebeat sends log files to Logstash Loaded: loaded (usr/lib/system/filebeat.ser Active: active (running) since Mon 2024-12-02 06:32: Docs: https://www.elastic.co/beats/filebeat Main PID: 1111 (filebeat) Tasks: 7 (limit: 1130) Memory: 163.0M (peak: 164.0M) CPU: 1.2908 CGroup: /system.slice/filebeat.service L111 /usr/share/filebeat/bin/filebeaten</pre>	vice; disabled; preset: enabled 48 UTC; 7s ago	) eat/filebeat.ymlpath.home /usr/share/filebeatpath.config /etc⊠
Dec 02 06:32:49 ip-172-31-31-86 filebeat[1111]: 2024-12-0 Dec 02 06:32:49 ip-172-31-33-86 filebeat[1111]: 2024-12-0 Dec 02 06:32:49 ip-172-31-31-86 filebeat[1111]: 2024-12-0	12166:32:49.157Z         INFO           12166:32:49.161Z         WARN           12166:32:49.161Z         INFO           12166:32:49.51Z         INFO           12166:32:49.51IZ         INFO           12166:32:49.51IZ         INFO	[crawler] beater/crawler.go:106 Loading and start cfgfile/reload.go:164 Config reloader started [cfgman] registered_domain/registered_domain.go:61 linput] log/input.go:171 Configured paths: [/var/s cfgfile/reload.go:224 Loading of config files completed. [input.harvester] log/harvester.go:310 Harvester [publisher_pipeline_output] pipeline/output.go:143 [publisher] pipeline/retry.go:229 retryer: send us [publisher] pipeline/retry.go:230 done

Figure	58
--------	----

# 7 Setting up the ELK stack server

The installation and configuration of Elasticsearch, Logstash and Kibana (ELK) stack will be explained in this section.

Step 1: Installing and Configuring Elasticsearch

- For installing the elasticsearch first we need to add the elastic GPG key and repository through the below commands-

wget -q0 - https://artifacts.elastic.co/GPG-KEY-elasticsearch | sudo apt-key add -

echo "deb <u>https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/7.x/apt</u> stable main" | sudo tee -a /etc/apt/sources.list.d/elastic-7.x.list

### sudo apt update

- Finally, the installation command for the setup is-

### sudo apt install elasticsearch -y

- For enabling and starting the elasticsearch as a service the given commands are used

# sudo systemctl enable elasticsearch sudo systemctl start elasticsearch

The figure 59 shows the successful installation of the elasticsearch confirming its active state.

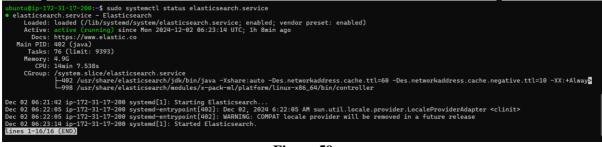


Figure 59

The elasticsearch configuration file is saved by default at /etc/elasticsearch/elasticsearch.yml

The following key changes were done explicitly in the same to suit the requirements of the setup.

- Setting the discovery node to single node to avoid multi-cluster complexity and making the elasticsearch as a standalone instance.
- Enabled xpack.security.enabled as it activates the built-in security features for the service. Enabled application programming interface (API) keys through the xpack.security.authc.api_key.enabled which is used in authenticating the requests. (This was crucial for setting up the usernames and passwords for the services in the SIEM setup). The changes made are visible in the figure 60 from the config. file

```
----- Security -----
#
#
                                *** WARNING ***
#
# Elasticsearch security features are not enabled by default.
 These features are free, but require configuration changes to enable them.
#
# This means that users don't have to provide credentials and can get full access
# to the cluster. Network connections are also not encrypted.
# To protect your data, we strongly encourage you to enable the Elasticsearch security features.
# Refer to the following documentation for instructions.
#
# https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/7.16/configuring-stack-security.html
discovery.type: single-node
xpack.security.enabled: true
xpack.security.authc.api_key.enabled: true
```

Figure 60

- Once these changes were implied the service was restarted using the command **sudo systemctl restart elasticsearch**
- Once the system was up and running with the changes the below command was used to set the superuser's password as well as Kibana's password. sudo /usr/share/elasticsearch/bin/elasticsearch-setup-passwords interactive
- Through this command an interactive prompt is launched wherein we need to input the password of one's choice.
- Through the curl command in the figure 61, the successful setup for the elasticsearch can be confirmed.

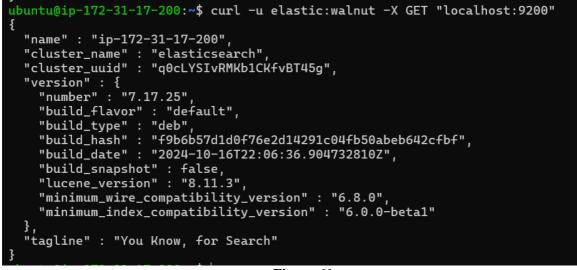


Figure 61

Step 2: Installing and Configuring Logstash

As the elastic repository and GPG key are already added, we just need to install the logstash service now using the command- **sudo apt install logstash -y** 

Once logstash was installed it was enabled and started as a service using the commands

### sudo systemctl enable logstash sudo systemctl start logstash

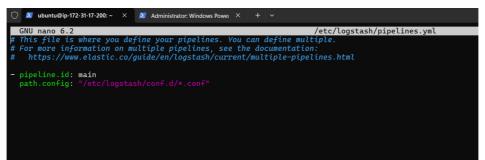
The figure 62 shows the successful installation of the logstash confirming its active state.

ubuntu@ip-172-31-17-200:-\$ sudo systemctl status logstash.service ● logstash.service - logstash
Loaded: loaded (/etc/systemd/system/logstash.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
Active: active (running) since Mon 2024-12-02 06:21:42 UTC; 1h 9min ago
Main PID: 416 (java)
Tasks: 37 (limit: 9393)
Memory: 929.2M
CPU: 5min 20.439s
CGroup: /system.slice/logstash.service
└─416 /usr/share/logstash/jdk/bin/java -Xms1g -Xm:1g -XX:+UseConcMarkSweepGC -XX:CMSInitiatingOccupancyFraction=75 -XX:+UseCMSInitiatingOccupa
Dec 02 06:23:26 ip-172-31-17-200 logstash[416]: [2024-12-02T06:23:26,237][WARN ][logstash.outputs.elasticsearch][main] Detected a 6.x and above cluster: th Dec 02 06:23:27 ip-172-31-17-200 logstash[416]: [2024-12-02T06:23:27,050][INFO]][logstash.outputs.elasticsearch][main] Config is not compliant with data st
Dec 02 06:23:27 jp 1/2 31 17 200 (ugstash[140]: [2024 12 27 005]27,052][INFO ][Cogstash.outputs.etastistetrij[main] config is not compliant with data sta
Dec 02 06:23:27 jp-172-31-17-200 logstash[u16]: [2024-12-02T06:23:27,332][INF0 ][Cogstash.outputs.eLasticsearch][main] Using a default mark data te-
Dec 02 06:23:27 ip-172-31-17-200 logstash[416]: [2024-12-02T06:23:27,438][INFO ][logstash.javapipeline ][main] Starting pipeline {:pipeline id=>"main". >
Dec 02 06:23:30 ip-172-31-17-200 logstash[416]: [2024-12-02T06:23:30,225][INFO ][logstash.javapipeline ][main] Pipeline Java execution initialization ti>
Dec 02 06:23:30 ip-172-31-17-200 logstash[416]: [2024-12-02T06:23:30,311][INF0 ][logstash.inputs.beats ][main] Starting input listener {:address=>"0.0.0>
Dec 02 06:23:30 ip-172-31-17-200 logstash[416]: [2024-12-02T06:23:30,375][INF0 ][logstash.javapipeline ][main] Pipeline started {"pipeline.id"=>"main"}
Dec 02 06:23:30 ip-172-31-17-200 logstash[416]: [2024-12-02T06:23:30,806][INF0 ][logstash.agent ] Pipelines running {:count=>1, :running_pipeline>
Dec 02 06:23:30 ip-172-31-17-200 logstash[416]: [2024-12-02T06:23:30,891][INF0 ][org.logstash.beats.Server][main][d726ae9a22f3c2304092ba54e11848d351f6ecaca2
lines 1-20/20 (END)
Figure 42

Figure 62

Logstash is put in place to listen the logs from filebeat and structure them to the elasticsearch in indices. For setting up this functionality firstly we have to make some changes in the pipelines.yml file located at /etc/logstash/pipeline.yml

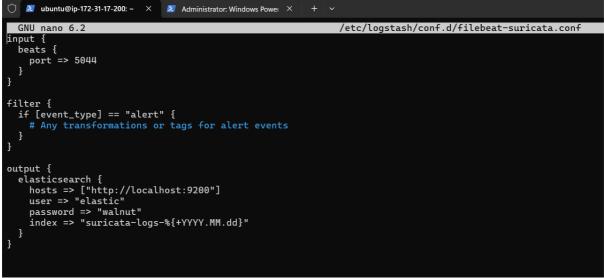
Opening it through '**nano**' command the path.config was set to location wherein the configuration files are saved for logstash. The figure 63 represents the same



### Figure 63

Then it was necessary to create a pipeline configuration file and this was created using the command- sudo nano /etc/logstash/conf.d/filebeat-suricata.conf

In this file, a detailed description of the functionalities expected from logstash are mentioned, right from listening on port 5044 for the input from filebeat up to the indexing output for elasticsearch. Filtering section is also added to ensure that only the relevant logs are processed further and these were categorised as alerts. The file configurations can be seen in the figure 64



#### Figure 64

The following figure acts as a confirmation that the elasticsearch is receiving the indexed logs from the logstash, validating the log pipeline Suricata-> Filebeat-> Logstash-> Elasticsearch working seamlessly. The command for fetching the indices is also given in the figure 65.

ubuntu	ip-172-	-31-17-200:~\$ curl -u elastic:walnut -X GET								
health	status	index	uuid	pri	rep	docs.count	docs.deleted	store.size	pri.store.size	
green	open	.siem-signals-default-000001	oNvxumBWQQOlq8nAjGpmIA			4207	18			
	open	.reporting-2024-11-17	KZYFtK9hTJyCyIGkl6wJdg			5	Θ	18.8mb	18.8mb	
yellow		suricata-logs-2024.11.27	jiI0gMNPQEWDsxv0QijKcg			211843	Θ	150.5mb		
yellow		model_predictions	kjZnULVEREuys2gSqPA5sA			280	Θ	43kb		
yellow		suricata-logs-2024.11.28	Zihyd2lsQxWOhaJIjccqtg			3133960	Θ	1.6gb		
green		.items-default-000001	LC25KQQgR_KMYIpP-WqvRw			Θ	Θ	227b	227Ь	
yellow		suricata-logs-2024.11.29	0wElocaDTAWagsHJH0FGHw			1593704	Θ	932mb	932mb	
	open	.geoip_databases	wdCg5kBLTBuuHlJH6t39Qw		Θ	38		36.5mb		
yellow		test-index	LsBNhMfyQKivWdFaXQJK1g				Θ	3.8kb		
	open	.apm-custom-link	kso3JHiCR2u416pqwZvTfQ		0	Θ	Θ	227b		
yellow		ml-predictions-2024.11.30	yb-fPXdFT9qwgrgIkLfXpg			497	Θ	3mb	3mb	
yellow		ddos-alerts	uq6G6BgXQhKDGur6QwForw			213		91.4kb	91.4kb	
green		.reporting-2024-11-03	06LMt5C1QdaMZgdCcCRUQw		Θ	2		2.1mb		
yellow		suricata-logs-2024.11.30	kh6VY8soQfa808PJcCFYpA			748575	Θ	480.7mb		
yellow		phishing-alerts	CKIMvBMfQfWl8hL3tp9hyw			206		93kb		
	open	.transform-internal-007	-6ulcDMATt-54LGMY0aWfA		0	6		54.5kb		
	open	.fleet-enrollment-api-keys-7	XbqmyayTQ1yz0HeZyOz4MA		Θ	2	Θ	6.6kb		
	open	lists-default-000001	uaXaxS8VQ7m2Je8uveP2tQ		0	Θ	0	227b		
yellow		suricata-logs-2024.12.02	AjopaKXqTqGknUPzCboMKg			334097	Θ	318.9mb	318.9mb	
	open	.apm-agent-configuration	RgHWtrcRSAqBke6bznUsag		Θ	Θ	Θ	227b		
	open	.kibana_task_manager_7.17.25_001	RCg1QVaWTeadMrqnnVLibA		0	20	786	852.8kb		
	open	.tasks	xJ0mEiGEQ_i0t6E20Pa0pg		0	81		74.4kb		
yellow		ml_predictions	MzKoqsewQUaaEK8h8vcZeQ			3852	0	5.6mb		
	open		1XAH-igHTmK7q8sgeDCAEg		0	0	0	227Ь		
	open	.security-7	c2c5UKktSguSaEDt09HSLg		0	79	4	237.8kb	237.8kb	
	open	.kibana_7.17.25_001	00A6Be8XS9W72WtyIJ_kEw		Θ	6304	249	22.1mb		
yellow		.ds-logs-generic-default-2024.11.07-000001			1	3203794		1.1gb		
	open	.async-search	WuCyqTgERdmeAzL_K8PDhQ		0	2	0	5.2kb		
	open	.fleet-policies-7	4JnFqoEgQAabo1eVRttg7g		0	2		13.4kb		
yellow		ml-predictions-2024.11.28	2ETnaNpTToGS3aG8difKyA		1	332	0	2.8mb		
yellow		ml-predictions-2024.11.27	qmYndsMnTRC_1kMvGlCQUg		1	17990	0	14.2mb		
green		.reporting-2024-11-24	7DV-ULTSRBujWHK09nkbFQ		0	10	5	30.3mb		
yellow		ml-predictions-2024.11.29	4rkLLozbSkSNfDV5pT5EYA		1	281	0	1.7mb		
green		.metrics-endpoint.metadata_united_default	S9cd9-F2Qginj6zDXezKoA	1	Θ	Θ	0	227Ь	227b	
ubuntu(	iip−172-	-31-17-200:~\$								

Figure 65

Step 3: Installing and Configuring Kibana

Installation of kibana was done through the command- **sudo apt install kibana -y** Once kibana was installed it was enabled and started as a service using the commands

#### sudo systemctl enable kibana sudo systemctl start kibana

The figure 66 shows the successful installation of the kibana confirming its active state.



Figure 66

The configuration file for kibana is available at **/etc/kibana/kibana.yml** Once we open the config file through **'nano'** command authentication credentials for the elasticsearch service were provided, through which kibana user can access the elasticsearch. the figure 67 shows the same.

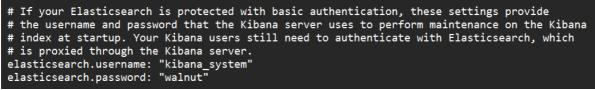


Figure 67

Moreover, the settings shown in the figure 68 were incorporated for encryption and reporting enhancements, enabling additional encryption for sensitive data as well as optimizing the report exporting settings from the Kibana's discover tab

xpack.encryptedSavedObjects.encryptionKey: "uydvgbhjbduhdbhvhfhvbrgfuiwrfvbf" xpack.reporting.csv.maxSizeBytes: 104857600 xpack.reporting.csv.scroll.size: 10000
xpack.reporting.queue.timeout: 600000
Figure 68

The following figures 69 & 70 (login page and discover tab resp.) shows that the kibana is available and functioning as expected

💽 🌐 Launch AWS Academy Lea 🗴   🤤 Traffic mirror sessions   VPI 🗙   😳 My No-IP	X 🖉 Employee Dashboard X 🖉 😨 attackingmachine.ddns.ne: X 💽 Eastic	× + - a ×
← → C ▲ Not secure 3.228.185.88:5601/login?next=%2F		∞ ☆ ± @ :
	( 🔹 )	
	Welcome to Elastic	
	Welcome to Elastic	
	Username T	
	Password	
	۵	
	Log in	
	Log m	
	Figure 69	

😔 elastic Discover Options New Open Share ۳ 😮 🗸 Search KQL 🛗 🗸 Last 15 minutes Show dat 🗐 – + Add filter suricata-logs-*  $\, \smallsetminus \,$ 🚥 🗧 577 hits Chart opt Q Search field names Filter by type 0 Available fields 634 06:34:00 06:33:00 06:35:00 06:35:00 06:36:00 06:37:00 06:38:00 06:39:00 Dec 2, 2024 @ 06:29:44.873 - Dec 2, 2024 @ 06:44:44.873 Popular @timestamp Time Do 📃 _id Dec 2, 2824 @ 06:44:42.217 @timestamp: Dec 2, 2024 @ 06:44:42.217 @version: 1 agent.ephemeral_id: 88e6a342-ca00-45c0-94c6-ca6339b79baa Wilmestamp: Dec 2, 2024 0 00:44:42.171 0 version: 1 agent.ephemeral.16: B8eeba342-ca004-85C0-936C-035309/Ybaa agent.hostname: jp-172-31-31-86 agent.id: ed9ee96c-6841-4036-94C9-833be7f6522e agent.mame: jp-172-31-31-86 agent.type: filebeat agent.version: 7.17.25 Cloud.account.id: 66223174764 cloud.availability.zone: us-east-1d cloud.image.id: ami-0866a3c8668eaeeba cloud.instance.id: 1-059e06413e26b7876 cloud.machine.type: t2.micro cloud.provider: aws cloud.region: us-east-1 cloud.service.name: EC2 destination.address: 169.254.169.123 __index ____score __type @version Dec 2, 2024 0 06:44:38.037 agent.ephemeral_id @timestamp: Dec 2, 2024 @ 06:44:38.037 @version: 1 agent.ephemeral_id: 88e6a342-ca00-45c0-94c6-ca6339b79baa agent.hostname: ip-172-31-31-86 agent.id: ed9ee96c-6841-4b30-94c9-883be7fe522e agent.name: ip-172-31-31-86 agent.type: filebeat agent.version: 7.17.25 cloud.account.id: 662231714704 cloud.availability_zone: us-east-1d agent.hostname agent.id agent type. These agent tersion, infize cloud account to could availability for the cloud availability agent.name agent.type 2024 @ 06 · 44 · 22 257

Figure 70

# 8 Setting up the ML Model server

In this section, the detailed steps for training the ensemble learning models (Random Forest and XGBoost) and using them for fetching the logs and indexing back to elasticsearch are explained-

- 1. Training the Models (Random Forest and XGBoost)
- Dataset Preparation: Firstly, it was important to collect the data on which the training and testing was to be done. This dataset was acquired from the elasticsearch itself to avoid any feature mismatch issue in the later stage of the implementation wherein the trained models will actually be making the predictions. This dataset was extracted using the 'curl' command from elasticsearch. The logs are exported from the specific index which is suricata-logs-* as this is the index where the suricata logs are placed given their generated timeline. These logs are saved as JSON files in the local machine. The figure 71 depicts the same process of data extraction.

ubuntu@ip-172-31-17-200:~\$ curl lication/json' -d'	-u elastic:walnut -X GET "http://3.228.185.88:9200/suricata-logs-2024.11.27/_search?pretty&size=10000" -H 'Content-Type: app
{ "query": { "match_all": {}	
} }' > raw_logs.json	
	Dload Upload Total Spent Left Speed
100 46.4M 100 46.4M 100 42 ubuntu@ip-172-31-17-200:~\$	49.1M 44::::- 49.1M

Figure 71

• Importing necessary libraries: The libraries given in the table below were used in the training process due to their mentioned reasons.

Libraries	Working	
Pandas	For data manipulation and creating data	
	frames	
NumPy	For numerical and array operations	
Json	For parsing the Json files which contain the	
	raw log data.	
Sklearn	For handling the preprocessing steps,	
	splitting the data into training and testing	
	the ML models, standard scaling, label	
	encoding, loading the Random Forest	
	model	
XGBoost	For implementing the XGBoost model	
Joblib	For saving and loading the models	

Table 1

The figure 72 shows the imported libraries in the process.

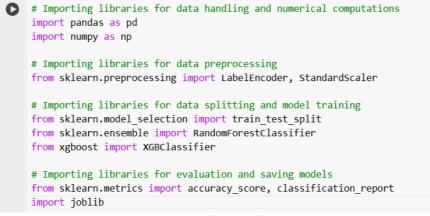


Figure 72

• Loading and Parsing the extracted dataset: The raw logs extracted from the elasticsearch are loaded here. Here pandas are used to parse and load the dataset (JSON logs) into a Dataframe structure. The nested structure of JSON fields such as hits and _source are handled so as to extract only the necessary relevant fields. The figure 73 is the code snippet for the same.

0	# Load the raw JSON logs import json			
	<pre># Load the JSON file with open('/content/drive/MyDrive/exported_logs.json') as file:     data = json.load(file)</pre>			
	<pre># Check the root keys and inspect a sample of data to find the correct path print("Root keys:", data.keys())</pre>			
	<pre># Assuming the data you need is under 'hits' -&gt; 'hits' -&gt; '_source' records = [hit['_source'] for hit in data['hits']['hits']]</pre>			
	<pre># Convert to DataFrame df = pd.DataFrame(records)</pre>			
	<pre># Display first few rows to verify print("Initial DataFrame:") print(df.head())</pre>			
Eigung 73				

#### Figure 73

#### Output for the above code in figure 74-

Root keys: dict_keys(['took', 'timed_out', '_shards' Initial DataFrame:	, 'hits'])
1 {'type': 'log'} {'hostname': 'ip-172-31-31-86', 2 {'type': 'log'} {'hostname': 'ip-172-31-31-86', 3 {'type': 'log'} {'hostname': 'ip-172-31-31-86',	agent 'name': 'ip-17 'name': 'ip-17 'name': 'ip-17 'name': 'ip-17 'name': 'ip-17
<pre>@timestamp \ 0 2024-11-12T21:28:36.778Z 1 2024-11-12T21:28:36.783Z 2 2024-11-12T21:28:36.783Z 3 2024-11-12T21:28:36.783Z 4 2024-11-12T21:28:36.783Z</pre>	
log 0 {'file': {'path': '/var/log/suricata/eve.json' 1 {'file': {'path': '/var/log/suricata/eve.json' 2 {'file': {'path': '/var/log/suricata/eve.json' 3 {'file': {'path': '/var/log/suricata/eve.json' 4 {'file': {'path': '/var/log/suricata/eve.json'	Υ.
host 0 {'hostname': 'ip-172-31-31-86', 'os': {'kernel 1 {'hostname': 'ip-172-31-31-86', 'os': {'kernel 2 {'hostname': 'ip-172-31-31-86', 'os': {'kernel 3 {'hostname': 'ip-172-31-31-86', 'os': {'kernel 4 {'hostname': 'ip-172-31-31-86', 'os': {'kernel	Υ
event 0 {'original': '{"timestamp":"2024-11-12T21:28:3 1 {'original': '{"timestamp":"2024-11-12T21:28:3 2 {'original': '{"timestamp":"2024-11-12T21:28:3 3 {'original': '{"timestamp":"2024-11-12T21:28:3 4 {'original': '{"timestamp":"2024-11-12T21:28:3	dns NaN NaN NaN NaN

Figure 74

• Data cleaning and feature extraction: The code presented in the figure below handles the preprocessing of raw logs making sure that the missing or incomplete keys are handled appropriately in the nested JSON structure. the main focus of this preprocessing step was to extract the necessary features required for training the model ahead. This included fields such as event_type, src_ip, dest_ip, src_port, dest_port, user_agent and hostname. The Python's json.loads() function is used to parse the event field that contains a nested Json structure, the extracted fields are then compiled in a dataframe structure for easier handling in the future manipulation of the data. Figure 75 shows the code snippet for the same-

#### Figure 75

Tagging the attacks: Here the events are tagged as attacks for further predictions that is phishing and DDoS while the normal traffic is categorised as other. Mainly two approaches are used for the tagging logic which are condition-based tagging (tag phishing logs) and row-wise tagging (tag event). This dual approach tagging helps in tagging each and every event correctly without missing out on potential attacks. Firstly, in tagging phishing logs specific conditions like event type must be an alert, destination port should be either 80 or 443, http_content_type should be indicating the HTML content whereas http_user_agent should contain either curl or wget which would mean that the automated tools were used for accessing the links and finally http method should be GET were used. Once any event is meeting these conditions it is tagged as phishing. Next up, in the row-wise tagging which basically works in a broader classification to tag each row individually. The DDoS tagging works mainly on three parameters, as the commonly targeted ports in a ddos attack are 53 (DNS), 123 (NTP), 80 (HTTP) and 443 (HTTPS), any event coming at these ports were suspicious, along with that when a event_type is flow it generally would signify multiple connections attempts resembling ddos attack, furthermore if the src_ip and dest_ip are differing indicating external traffic targetting a specific resource it would also contribute in marking the event as suspicious. When all these parameters are fulfilled by any event it will be tagged as ddos. For phishing, the dest port and the src ip are used for categorising the event. Moreover, any event or log entry which doesn't meet the requirements set in the above parameters is tagged as 'Other'. The approach used here for tagging the events try to replicate the realworld scenario, marking precise detections in a controlled environment. The figures 76 and 77 state both the tagging logics used in the training.



Figure 76

0	<pre>def tag_event(row):     # Tagging logic for phishing     # Tagging logic for phishing     if row('dest_port'] in [80, 443, 8080] and row['src_ip'].startswith("172.31."):         print(f"Tagging as phishing - src_ip: {row('src_ip']}, dest_port: {row('dest_port']}")         return 'phishing'</pre>
	# Tagging logic for ddos (multiple requests to the same destination IP and port)
	elif row['dest_port'] in [53, 123, 80, 443] and row['event_type'] == 'flow' and row['src_ip'] != row['dest_ip']:
	<pre>print(f"Tagging as ddos - src_ip: {row['src_ip']}, dest_ip: {row['dest_ip']}, dest_port: {row['dest_port']}") return 'ddos'</pre>
	# Default tag
	else:
	return 'other'
	return other
	<pre># Apply the updated tagging function if['tag'] = df.apply(tag_event, axis=1)</pre>
	# Display the updated DataFrame to verify the tags print(df[['@timestamp', 'hostname', 'event_type', 'src_ip', 'dest_ip', 'src_port', 'dest_port', 'tag']].head(20))

Figure 77

Output for the above in figure 78-

	dest_ip	<pre>src_port</pre>	dest_port	tag
0	3.228.185.88	39998.0	5044.0	other
1	169.254.169.123	53558.0	123.0	ddos
2	169.254.169.123	42588.0	123.0	ddos
3	172.31.31.86	65410.0	4789.0	other
4	162.252.172.49	55007.0	123.0	ddos
5	169.254.169.123	35290.0	123.0	ddos
6	169.254.169.123	58278.0	123.0	ddos
7	169.254.169.123	34378.0	123.0	ddos
8	169.254.169.123	50087.0	123.0	ddos
9	54.90.191.9	36828.0	123.0	ddos
10	169.254.169.123	48420.0	123.0	ddos
11	169.254.169.123	50159.0	123.0	ddos
12	169.254.169.123	35930.0	123.0	ddos
13	54.90.191.9	41027.0	123.0	ddos
14	44.201.148.133	51066.0	123.0	ddos
15	169.254.169.123	47406.0	123.0	ddos
16	169.254.169.123	40250.0	123.0	ddos
17	54.81.231.214	53790.0	80.0	phishing
18	None	NaN	NaN	other
19	172.31.31.45	46097.0	22.0	other

#### Figure 78

• Dataprepocessing: In this step, the dataset was cleaned for feeding the ML model. Standardization was applied to the numerical feature columns as it ensures that all the features in the dataset contribute equally in process of training the model. This was done after encoding the categorical data. So initially, features such as src_ip, dest_ip, src_port and dest_port were encoded into the numerical format using the LabelEncoder. It was used to convert the categorical data such as the IP addresses into integers. After this, the numerical values were standardized to have a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of 1. This process standardised the feature distribution in a way that was more appropriate for the machine learning algorithms such as Random Forest and XGBoost that require features to be standardised for the model to work effectively in some cases. After all this the transformed data was split into training and testing sets. In this case, the training dataset confirms that the model is trained or learning appropriately and the testing data set

determines the ability of the model in delivering its output on new data. The figure 79 shows the dataprecossing code used-

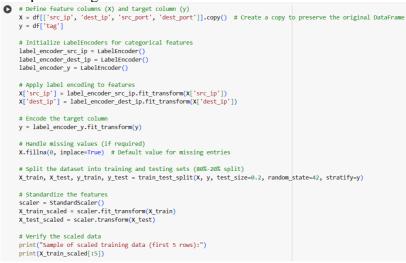


Figure 79

Training the models: Followed by the preprocessing step, comes the training phase which involves two ensemble learning models- Random Forest and XGBoost. The RandomForestClassifier was initialized with a fixed random_state. This helps in making sure there is results obtained are consistent. While this process combines multiple decision trees in order to reduce overfitting and improve the overall prediction accuracy the other model which is XGBoost uses XGBClassifier was configured with parameters like use label encoder=False for avoiding deprecation warnings and eval metric='mlogloss' for optimizing the multi-class log loss during the training. The random state was also set for the XGBoost so that it maintains the consistency across different testcases. The entire training process was carried out on the fit method, where the preprocessed training dataset (X_train and y_train) was given as the input for the both the models. This step assisted the model to identify patterns within the data hence improving the performance of the model. The figure 80 depicts the code for the trained models.

#### Figure 80

• Saving the models: The models were stored in .pkl format through the joblib.dump function. These models were downloaded in the local machine so that it could be exported to the ML model instance wherein they can be used as the detection mechanism. The figure 81 shows the joblib code



Figure 81

2. Realtime prediction in the ML model instance

Firstly, the trained ML models which were saved in the earlier section were loaded in the instance using the command-

# scp -i ''F:\ml models.pem'' ''F:\xgboost_model.pkl'' ''F:\random_forest_model.pkl'' ubuntu@54.81.145.37:~

Through the 'ls' command we can verify if the trained models are imported successfully. The figure 82 is the confirmation.

ubuntu@in-172-31-40-86:+\$ ls __pycache__ output.log predictions.py random_forest_model.pkl realtime_predict.py realtime_prediction.py trained_models.py.save xgboost_model.pkl Figure 82

Before starting with the prediction's setup, it was important to install python on the instance to support the required libraries and scripts. The following procedure was used in doing the same

Python was installed using the below commands (version 3.10.12 was used)
 sudo apt install -y software-properties-common
 sudo add-apt-repository ppa:deadsnakes/ppa
 sudo apt update
 sudo apt install -y python3.10
 sudo apt install -y python3.10-venv python3.10-dev

- Installing the python package manager (pip) to handle the library dependencies through the command- **sudo apt install -y python3-pip**
- The libraries which were crucial in this setup such as Joblib, pandas, scikit-learn, xgboost, etc were installed using the pip command-

pip install pandas scikit-learn xgboost elasticsearch Joblib numpy

Finally, after completing all the dependencies, a new file named as realtime_predict.py was generated through a '**nano**' command in the home directory. This file can also be viewed in the screenshot shared above. This script file contained the detailed steps for fetching the logs, preprocessing them, making predictions and sending them back to the elasticsearch in indexed format. The detailed explanation of the file is stated below along with the code snapshots

Libraries	Working			
from elasticsearch import Elasticsearch	Connection with the elasticsearch			
from joblib import load	Load the pre-trained models			
Json	Handling JSON formatted logs			
pandas	Preprocessing the log data			
Numpy	Handling numerical operations and missing			
	values			
socket	Handling IP related conversions			
from elasticsearch.helpers import bulk	Optimizing the bulk operations			
struct	Performing binary conversions			
from datetime import datetime	Comparing the timestamps between the			
	processed logs			

• Importing the necessary libraries:

Table 2

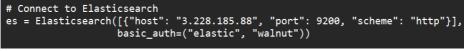
The figure 83 depicts the libraries imported in the script

- from elasticsearch import Elasticsearch from joblib import load import json import pandas as pd import numpy as np import socket from elasticsearch.helpers import bulk import struct from datetime import datetime import time # For real-time loop delay Figure 83
- Loading the trained models: Here the trained models are loaded in to the memory which will predict the attacks. The figure 84 shows the code for the same



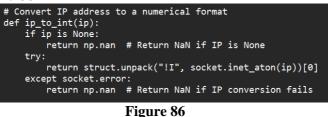
### Figure 84

• Connecting to the Elasticsearch: The script establishes a connection with the elasticsearch a vital component of the SIEM to fetch the raw logs. All the necessary credentials and SIEM IP are provided for the same, this is depicted in the figure 85-



### Figure 85

• Converting IP address into numercial format: Here the IP addresses are converted into the numerical format using the ip_to_int function. If an Ip is missing or has an invalid input np.nan is returned. While socket.inet_aton() function converts an IP address into the binary format which then is converted to integer through struct.unpack("!I", ...), this is depicted in the figure 86-



• Fetching logs: Once the connection with elasticsearch is established, the ml model instance has to fetch the recent logs which the suricata is indexing in the SIEM. The fetch_new_logs function is used here which queries the elasticsearch database for logs that are recent than the last_timestamp. This minimizes the redundancy of the system and makes it more dynamic by processing only the unprocessed logs. The figure 87 depicts the code for the same.

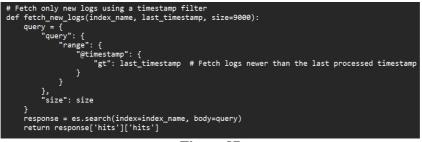


Figure 87

• Preprocessing: In this section of the script, the raw logs are cleaned while the relevant fields are extracted for predictions. IP addresses are also converted to numerical formats here for making sure that they are compatible with the models. Relevant fields such as src_ip, dest_ip, src_port, dest_port and event_type were extracted. NaN was assigned for any missing or invalid data, while the ip_to_int function handles the conversion of IP into numerical format even through this conversion process has taken place before it is crucial to be repeated as it maintains the consistency making sure that the potential variations in the raw data are handled successfully and not resulting in the pipeline crash during the live data flow. The figure 88 is the code snippet for the same.

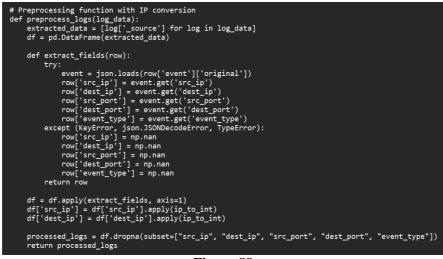


Figure 88

• Making predictions: This is an important where the features from the pre-processed functions are passed on to the models for making the predictions. The predict_proba function is used to generate the probability for each log while the combined_scores gives the classification result from both the models. If the combines score is greater than 0.7 it is termed as phishing (due to the high confidence in malicious behaviour), if the score is less than 0.3 it is tagged as DDoS (due to the low confidence mostly representing volumetric attack), while the logs with a score between them are classified as Benign. These thresholds and the entire code for the predictions is mentioned in the figure 89-

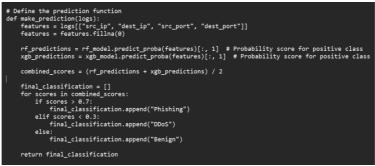


Figure 89

• Saving the predictions: Once the models determine the scores and the predictions are made, this data is saved and sent back to the elasticsearch with a dynamic index name which separates the logs as per the dates. The predictions are attached under a prediction field in the original logs. A dynamic index name ml-predictions-YYYY.MM.DD is used for structuring the logs for each day on the SIEM. Figure 90 shows the code snippet for the same-

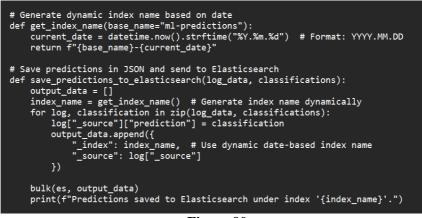


Figure 90

• Real-time Execution: This script is designed to fetch the logs, process it, make the predictions and save it back continuously. Thus, it starts with the timestamp **now-1m** and processes the logs in **5-second** interval time. Even if the script faces error, it waits for **30** seconds before reattempting. The figure 91 shows the code for the same-

<pre># Main function for real-time predictions ifname == "main": last_timestamp = "now-1m" # Start with logs from the last minute while True: try:</pre>
logs = fetch_new_logs("suricata-logs-*", last_timestamp, size=9000) if logs:
print(f"Fetched {len(logs)} new logs.") last_timestamp = logs[-1]['_source']['@timestamp'] # Update last processed timestamp
<pre>processed_logs = preprocess_logs(logs) if not processed_logs.empty:     classifications = make_prediction(processed_logs)     save_predictions_to_elasticsearch(logs, classifications)     print("Predictions processed and sent to Elasticsearch.")     else:         print("No logs to process after filtering.") else:     print("No new logs found.")</pre>
time.sleep(5) # Wait for 5 seconds before fetching new logs except Exception as e:
print(f"Error: {e}") time.sleep(30)  # Wait for 30 seconds on error

Figure 91

So as the realtime_predict.py script is ready for functioning it is executed using the '**nohup**' command which ensures that the process for ml predictions works continuously without any interruption, until the user decides to terminate it. The figure 92 shows the command and its input-

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-40-86:~$ nohup python3 realtime_predict.py > output.log 2>&1 &
[1] 955
```

## Figure 92

# 9 Setting up the Kibana alerts and dashboards

This section will explain about the configurations done in the GUI end of the SIEM that is Kibana.

Step 1: Creating Index patterns

Index patterns are very crucial for Kibana to recognize the logs stored in the elasticsearch, however it already has the data from the elasticsearch, the index patterns need to be explicitly defined on kibana so that it can categorise the events. Two main index patterns which need to be defined here are suricata-logs-* and ml-predictions-*. The following steps were used for creating these indices. (The procedure remains the same for both of them except for their names).

- Navigating to the Index pattern section through Stack Management -> Index Patterns.
- Clickin on "create index pattern".
- In the name bracket we need to input the same name which is given in the elasticsearch index section (in this case the names are suricata-logs-* and ml-predictions-*). This makes sure that all the with names starting from the suricata-logs- and ml-predictions- are indexed in each of them respectively.
- Selecting the timestamp field (@timestamp) from the drop down menu.
- Click on "Create index pattern" button now for the index to be created.
- The figure 93 is a sample showcasing the creation of suricata-logs-* index

😔 elastic					o ø
E D Stack Management	Index patterns				
Alerts and Insights © Rules and Connectors	Index p	Create index pattern		$\checkmark$ Your index pattern matches 5 sources.	
Reporting Machine Learning Jobs	Create and ma	suricata-logs-j*		suricata-logs-2024.11.27	Index
Security ©	Q Search	An index pattern with this title already exists. Use an asterisk (*) to match multiple characters. Spaces an are not allowed.	d the characters , /, ?, ", <, >, ]	suricata-logs-2024.11.28	Index
Users Roles	Pattern 1	Timestamp field		suricata-logs-2024.11.29 suricata-logs-2024.11.30	Index
API keys	Pattern ↑ suricata-logs-	Select a timestamp field		suricata-logs-2024.12.02	Index
Kibana ⊙ Index Patterns	logs-*	Show advanced settings		Rows per page: 10 $\smallsetminus$	
Saved Objects Tags	logs-generic-c				
Search Sessions Spaces	metrics-*				
Advanced Settings	ml-predictions				
Stack @	ml_predictions				
License Management Upgrade Assistant	Rows per page: 10	× Close	Create index pattern		

Figure 93

After the indexes are created, they can be checked in the '**Index pattern**' tab, as seen in the figure 94-

## Index patterns

Create and manage the index patterns that help you retrieve your data from Elasticsearch.					
Q Search					
Pattern 1					
suricata-logs-* Default					
logs-*					
logs-generic-default*					
metrics-*					
ml-predictions-*					
ml_predictions					

Figure 94

Step 2: Creating Rules for generating alerts

For creating the rules, it is crucial for defining the connectors first. As the connectors specify exactly where the alerts are to be sent. Connectors can be of different types which defines how the alerts will be processed whether they will be sent through email or slack or write them in a specific index. Here as we are using the open-source license for ELK we only have the access to Index connector. For this setup we need 2 customised rules mainly for DDoS and phishing, thus I have created 2 connectors for the same. The process for creating the connectors again remain the same except for their names-

- Navigate to Connectors section through Stack Management -> Rules and Connectors-> Connectors
- Click on "Create connector" button.
- Choose Index as the connector type
- For configuring the connector, provide a distinctive name for the connector (in this case DDoS and Phishing is given). After that specify the index name where the alerts would be stored (in this case ddos-alerts and phishing alerts name is provided).
- Toggle the Refresh index to ON so that the index is refreshed when the alerts are written.
- Finally click the "**Save & test**" button to check if the connector is properly workings. Once saved the connector will be appearing on the connectors window in Rules and Connectors section
- A sample creation of Connector can be seen through the figure 95.

😔 elastic	Q Search Elastic		0 & 0
E Stack Management	Connectors		
Ingest © Ingest Pipelines	Rules and Connectors	Index connector	×
Data © Index Management Index Lifecycle Policies Snapshot and Restore	Detect conditions using rules, and take actions using connect Rules Connectors	Connector name DDoS	
Rollup Jobs Transforms Remote Clusters	Q. Search	Connector settings Write to index	
Alerts and Insights ©	DDoS Ind	ddos-alerts ex Use * to broaden your query.	٥
Reporting Machine Learning Jobs Security ©	Phishing Ind     Rows per page: 10 ~	Configuring index connector. (2)	
Users Roles API keys			
Kibana ⊘ Index Patterns		Back	Save & test

Figure 95

Now we can move on to the Rule creation part. Rules are basically the logic behind the generation of alerts, once a certain log meets the entry requirements set in a particular rule an alert is triggered against it. For this setup, I created 2 custom rules which will be detailed in the below section, but before the custom rules the rules provided by the ELK were imported in our system to enhance the rules list and criteria's majorly to understand the structure of a well-defined rule which could possibly help in setting new rules. For this, firstly navigate to **Kibana -> Security -> Alerts -> Rules** and by clicking on '**Manage Rules**' button, there is an option for '**Load Prebuilt Detection Rules**' popping up and thus the pre-built rules are integrated in the system. Now that we are already in the rules section the following process can be adapted for creation of custom rules. (both the rules created will be explained in the same setting but with different parameters as per their requirements).

- Once in the Rules section, click on 'Create Rule'.
- Name the Rules. (in this case DDoS and Phishing).
- Select the rule type, here I have selected '**Custom Query**'. Through this we can enter a customised query which will trigger the rules. The query was extensively tested on the '**Discover**' section of the kibana to understand the logs structure and what exact fields can possibly trigger the attacks.
- After this add the index pattern '**suricata-logs-***' is the index pattern which contains all the network traffic/logs generated by IDS thus inputting this in the index pattern section makes sure that the rule is fetching the results from this section.
- After this, we need to input the custom query in a KQL (Kibana query language) format. The queries used both for Ddos and Phishing are listed below-

# DDoS: suricata.eve.event_type:"alert" AND suricata.eve.alert.signature:"Possible SYN Flood" AND suricata.eve.alert.category:"Attempted Denial of Service"

Phishing: suricata.eve.event_type:"alert" AND suricata.eve.http.url:"/phishingpage.html" AND suricata.eve.http.hostname:"attackingmachine.ddns.net" AND suricata.eve.alert.signature:"ET INFO DYNAMIC_DNS HTTP Request to a *.ddns .net Domain"

The figure 96 acts an edit page while creating the DDoS Rule.

🖻 elastic	Q Search Elastic	۵'n
D Security Rules Create	ML job settings 🗸 🔒 Add inte	egratio
J Security	Ose Event Quely Language         Ose Indicators non-intelligence           (EQL) to match events,         sources to detect matching           generate sequences, and stack         events and alerts.           data	
Dverview	Select Select	
etect	Index patterns C Reset to default index patterns	
erts	apm-*-transaction* × traces-apm* × auditbeat-* × endgame-* × filebeat-* × logs-* × packetbeat-* ×	
les	winlogbeat.* X suricata-logs.* X	
ceptions	Enter the pattern of Elasticsearch indices where you would like this rule to run. By default, these will include index patterns defined in Security Solution	
plore	char negotiar to carecular of nances more you walk me instruction by density more memore partners denne of course you walk me instruction of the second setting.  Custom query Import query from saved timeline	
sts		
twork	Image: Surricata.eve.event_type:"alert" AND suricata.eve.alert.signature:"Possible SYN Flood" AND suricata.eve.alert.category:"Attempted Denial of Service"     KoL	
vestigate		
nelines	Timeline template	
ses	None V	
	Select which timeline to use when investigating generated alerts.	
anage	Quick query preview	
dpoints	Last hour V Preview results	
usted applications	Select a timeframe of data to preview query results	

Figure 96

- After this we need to input the brief of the rule, such as setting the **Severity**, **Risk Score** and **Tags** (if any).
- After this set the alert frequency specifying how often the query should run (here I have specified it every 1m, this can be changed as per the requirements).
- Then select the index connector which we configured earlier (ddos-alerts and phishing alerts for respective rules) so that the alerts can be saved in the indices.
- Using the '**Preview Results**' button the query or the rule can be tested on the available logs whether it is fetching the results.
- Lastly save the rules and move to the 'Alerts' tab to check if the rules are working properly. The figure 97 displays the alerts generated through the rules set.

Manage rules

# Alerts

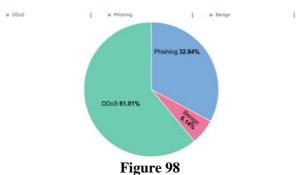
Open Acknow	vledged Closed								Updated 1 second age
Count	Stack by signal.rule.name	~	Trend				Stack by	signal.rule.name	~
signal.rule.name		Count	70					• DDo:	S
DDoS		82	60 — 50 —					Phisi	hing
Phishing		67	40 — 30 — 20 — 10 —						
			0 November 03	November 10	November 17	November 2	24 1	December 01	

Figure 97

Step 3: Creating dashboards for visualising the data on SIEM

This is a very important step in setting up the SIEM server as it enables the end user to see the data in order to protect the IT infrastructure. We can create as many as dashboards as per the requirements with different visualisations but for this setup majorly 3 dashboards can be created depicting the ml predictions, rule-based predictions and lastly a combined graph for both the predictions. The detailed steps for these 3 dahsboards are stated below-

- 1. Dashboard 1: Machine Learning based Predictions
  - Go to 'Dashboard' tab on the Kibana and then click on 'Create Dashboard'.
  - Go to the 'Visualize Library' on the dashboard.
  - Here I have created a pie-chart in order to show the predictions, so just select the **'Pie chart'** option after clicking the button **'Create Visualization'**.
  - Selecting the accurate index pattern is important here as it would specify the service to fetch the data from there. The ML predictions are loaded in the '**ml-predictions-***'. Thus we will select this.
  - Next, in the buckets section we need to split the slices by selecting the **prediction.keyword** field. This will visualise the data as per the DDoS, Phishing and Benign as classified by the ML models.
  - We can check the view of the visualisation and adjust any display of the labels for more clarity.
  - Finally the visualisation can be saved and named as Pie-chart for ML predictions.
  - Thus the visualisation is stored in the dashboard which can also be saved once the changes are done. The figure 98 depicts the pie-chart created on kibana.



- 2. Dashboard 2: Rule-based Alerts visualisation
  - Go to 'Dashboard' tab on the Kibana and then click on 'Create Dashboard'.
  - Go to the 'Visualize Library' on the dashboard.
  - Click the 'Create visualisation' button and sleect the required type of the graph. Here I have selected 'Bar vertical stacked'.
  - Choose the index pattern which is '**suricata-logs-***' in this case.
  - In the horizontal access section, select the field **@timestamp**, on the vertical axis section, '**Count of records**' can be selected.
  - Finally to classify the data, in the 'Break down by' section select the 'suricata.eve.alert.signature.keyword'.

The figure 99 is the graphical representation of the steps explained above-

Bar vertical stacked	~ む
suricata-logs-*	~
Horizontal axis	
@timestamp [1]	×
Vertical axis	
☑ Count of records [1]	×
Add or drag-and-drop a field	
Break down by	
Top values of suricata.eve.alert. signature.keyword	×
<b>TI</b> 00	

Figure 99

- Finally the graph can be saved by clicking 'Save and return' and thus the visualisation is created on the dashboard.
- 3. Dashboard 3: Combined ML and Rule based predictions.

In this dashboard a '**Bar vertical stacked**' graph is used to show the combination of both the detection types. By repeating the same procedures from the Dashboard 2 creation, the graph can be created which includes the rule-based detections and for adding the ML predictions in it, we need to select the 'Add layer' at the bottom right corner of the page. This can be seen through the figure 100.

elastic	Q Search Elastic		© & (
D Dashboard Edit visualization		Inspect Download as	s CSV Cancel Save to library Save and retur
) V Search		KQL 📋 ~ Nov 27, 2024 @	20:00:00.000 → now C Refresh
+ Add filter			
ml_predictions v	iiii Bar vertical stacked ∨ 🛛 🗧 😫 🕼	J.	suricata-logs-* 🗸
Q Search field names	800 i.e. iz	• Other I	Horizontal axis
ilter by type 0 V	700	Possible SYN Flood     ET INFO DYNAMIC_DNS	@timestamp [1] ×
Records	eoo	Benign     Phishing	Vertical axis
Available fields [©] 615	500	• DDoS	Count of records [1] ×
🗅 @timestamp			
eversion.keyword	000 001 001 001 001 001 001 001 001 001		Add or drag-and-drop a field
e agent.ephemeral_id.keyword	200		Break down by
t agent.hostname.keyword	100		The university of evaluate and start
t agent.id.keyword	21:00 00:00 03:00 06:00 09:00	12:00 15:00	
t agent.name.keyword	@timestamp per 30 minutes	talinane kantone	
t agent.type.keyword			S Add layer

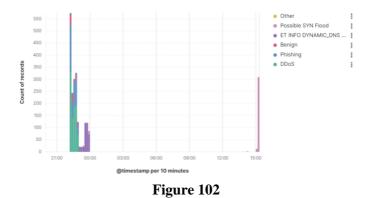
Figure 100

Once the additional layer is added, select the 'ml-predictions-*' index pattern, choose @timestamp field in the horizontal axis, while 'Count of records' in the vertical axis and in the 'Break down by' section select the prediction.keyword field. This steps can be represented through the figure 101.

Har vertical stacked $\checkmark$	륍
ml-predictions-*	$\checkmark$
Horizontal axis	
@timestamp	×
Vertical axis	
Count of records	×
Add or drag-and-drop a field	
Break down by	
Top values of prediction.keyword	×
<b>F</b> ! 404	

Figure 101

Thus the final graph including both the predictions can be viewed in the figure 102.



This was the entire configuration manual for replicating the entire real-time security detection setup.

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