

Development Using Samba 4

Jelmer Vernooij
Samba Team / OpenChange Team
jelmer@samba.org

Epitech
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Agenda

- The SMB protocol
- Samba
 - Quick history
 - Samba 4
- Development Process
- Exported libraries
- OpenChange



The SMB protocol

- Protocol for simple file sharing between DOS machines
- Created in 1983 at IBM by Barry Feigenbaum
- Aimed at low-end pcs, so optimized for speed
- Development continued by Microsoft as of later 80's
- Somewhat documented



Feature Creep

- Used as transport for other protocols:
 - RAP: Remote administration
 - Mailslots: Browsing the network
 - DCE/RPC: Printing, Remote Login, Registry, ...
- Several extensions:
 - Dialects for different Windows versions
 - Various mechanisms for authentication



DCE/RPC

- Generic protocol for remote function calls
- Interface specified in Interface Description Language (IDL)
- Marshalling code generated by IDL compiler
- Used for printing, registry, ...



Samba



Samba

- Implementation of SMB and related protocols for POSIX-systems
- Originally developed in '91 by Andrew Tridgell
- Free Software (GPL)
- Development team of ~30 people
 - 10-15 active contributors



Mapping

- Differences in semantics
 - Unix: case-sensitive
 - Windows: case-insensitive, but case-preserving
 - Strange attributes:
 - Delete-on-close
 - “Streams”



Samba - The Code

- Languages used:
 - Mostly C
 - Some perl (during building only)
 - Scripting in JavaScript
 - Soon to be replaced by Python
- Test driven development (... mostly)



Samba 4

- Originally started in 2003, as an effort to improve the SMB server
- Later became the effort to get an AD DC working
- Strong focus on the right infrastructure
- 14000 commits since April 2004, 4000 in the last year



Samba 4 - On our way to an alpha

- Improvements in the last year
 - Protocol knowledge
 - Protocol Coverage
 - Usability Improvements
 - Development Tool Improvements



Development Process



Test driven development

- 1) Write test that checks a feature is present
- 2) Check that test fails
- 3) Implement the feature
- 4) Make sure test succeeds



Interoperability

- Reasonably well documented at first
- Competition with NFS original reason for specification
 - RFC1000/RFC1001
 - Renamed to “CIFS”: *Common Internet File System*
- Since '98 mostly undocumented



Specifications

“The only spec I trust is written in C”
- *Andrew Tridgell*



Network Analysis

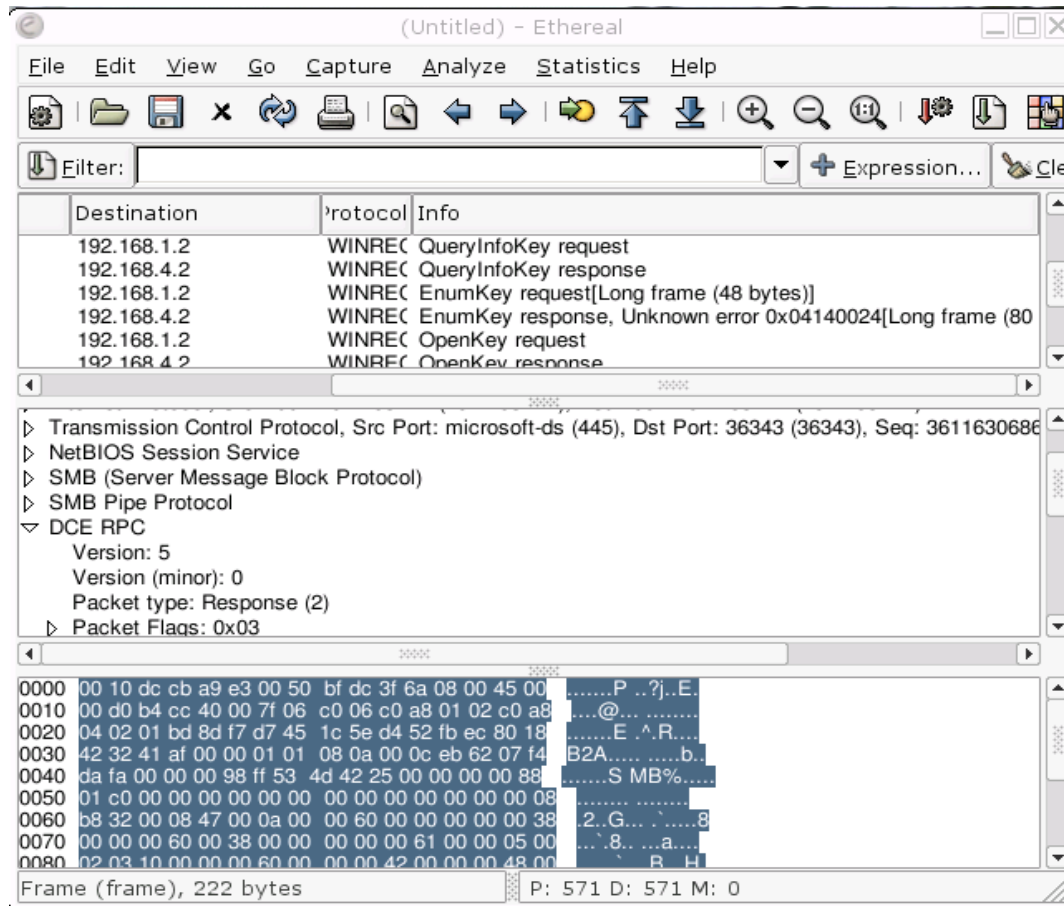
- Passive
 1. Try operation between two Windows machines
 2. Hardcode result in own implementation
 3. Change input to determine other fields
- Active
 - Try other values for fields and see if that changes the return value
- Not the same thing as reverse engineering
 - “French Café”



Network Analysis - Example



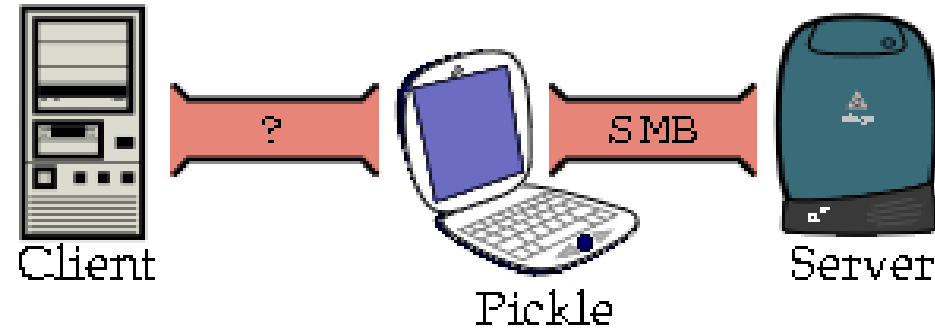
Wireshark



- Most important tool during network analysis
- Already decodes a lot of protocols
- Free Software



Man in the middle



- Intercepts server traffic
- Change it
- Send modified request to client



Gentest

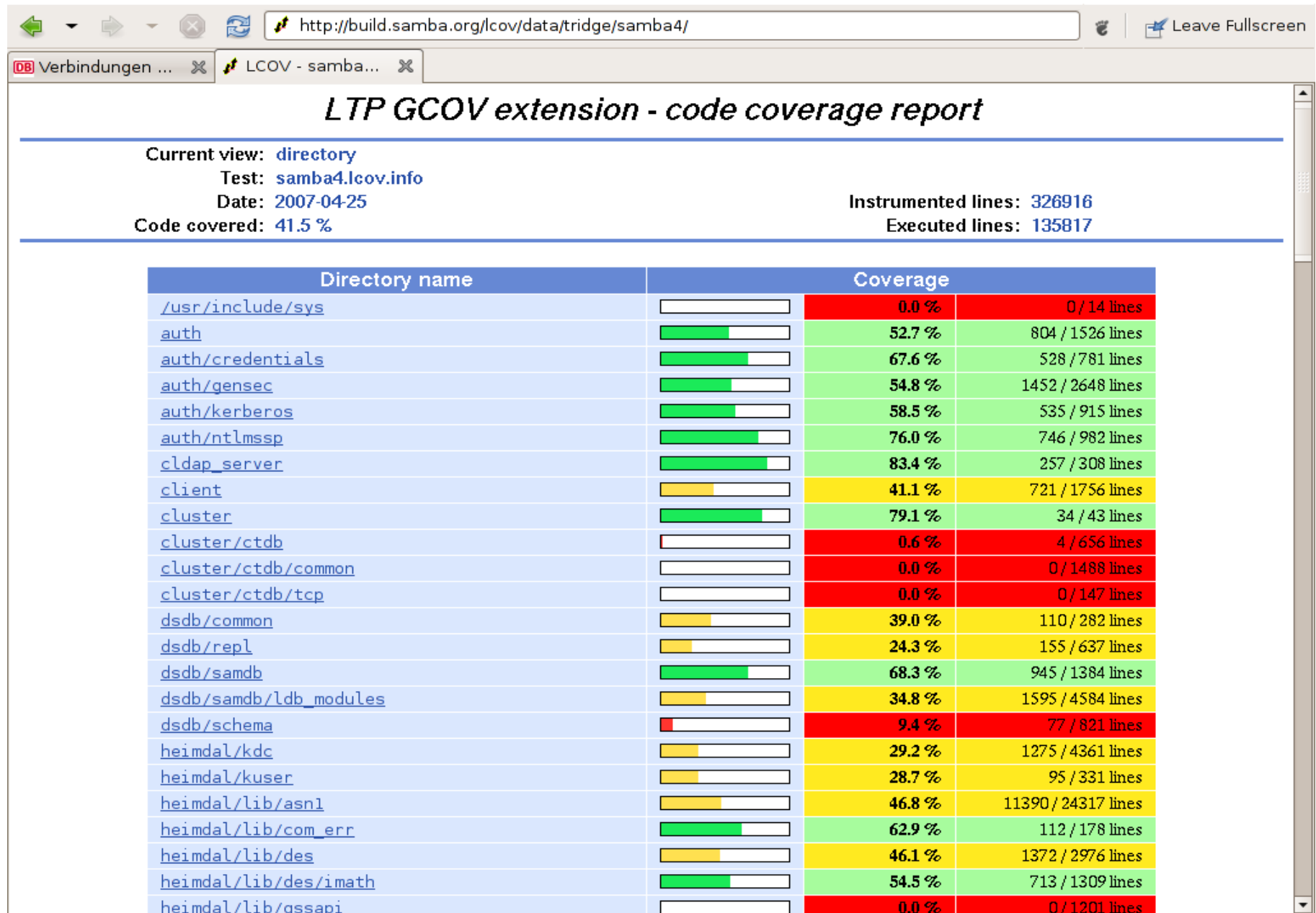
- 1)Generate random commands
- 2)Send commands to Windows and Samba
- 3)Compare results
- 4)Repeat 1-3 until there is a difference
- 5)Backtrack



Code Coverage

- Percentage of the code that is run during the testsuite
- 41.6% now!





Static Analysis (checker)

- Analyses source code without running it
- Developed by IBM
- Run regularly on the build farm



Build Farm

<http://build.samba.org/>

- Continuously builds Samba on various hosts
- Different operating systems
- Now shows test coverage
- List with most often broken tests



Samba Libraries

- `libsmbclient`
 - Used by GNOME, KDE for accessing files on remote machines
- DCE/RPC
 - Used by OpenChange



OpenChange

- Built on top of Samba4
 - Uses the DCE/RPC library for client side access and the Samba 4 IDL compiler
 - Hooks into smbtorure



Releases

- TP4: January 2007
- TP5: May 2007
- Alpha1: September
- Alpha2: January 2008 ?



Contribute!

- IRC: #samba-technical on irc.freenode.net
- Mailing list: samba-technical@samba.org
- Wiki: <http://wiki.samba.org/>

