

NAME

yafscii – YAF Flow Printer

SYNOPSIS

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yafscii [--in INPUT_SPECIFIER] [--out OUTPUT_SPECIFIER]
        [--nextdir PROCESSED_INPUT_DIRECTORY]
        [--faildir FAILED_INPUT_DIRECTORY]
        [--poll POLLING_DELAY] [--lock]
        [--log LOG_SPECIFIER] [--loglevel LOG_LEVEL]
        [--verbose] [--version] [--daemon] [--foreground]
```

DESCRIPTION

yafscii takes IPFIX flow data files generated by *yaf*(1) and prints them in an ASCII format loosely analogous to that produced by *tcpdump*(1), with one flow per line. The text output format is detailed in the **OUTPUT** section, below. *yafscii* is generally intended to be used to print single files for verification or debugging purposes, or to operate in a pipe with *yaf*(1), but like all YAF tools, it can be used as a daemon as well.

OPTIONS

Input Options

The input specifier determines where *yafscii* will read its input from. If the input specifier is not given, *yaf* defaults to reading from standard input.

--in *INPUT_SPECIFIER*

INPUT_SPECIFIER is an input specifier. This is a filename, a directory name, a file glob pattern (in which case it should be escaped or quoted to prevent the shell from expanding the glob pattern), or the string `-` to read from standard input.

Output Options

The output specifier determines where *yaf* will send its output. If reading standard input, output defaults to standard output. If reading from files on disk, output defaults to one file per input file, named as the input file in the same directory as the input file with a **.txt** extension.

--out *OUTPUT_SPECIFIER*

OUTPUT_SPECIFIER is an output specifier. This should be a filename or a directory name, or the string `-` to write to standard output.

Daemon Options

These options are used to run *yafscii* in daemon mode for batch processing of pcap dumpfiles.

--daemon

Run *yafscii* in daemon mode. Instead of processing its input then exiting, *yafscii* will continually look for new input matching its input specifier. This will cause *yaf* to fork into the background and exit. **=item --foreground**

Instead of forking in **--daemon** mode, stay in the foreground. Useful for debugging.

--lock

Use lockfiles for concurrent file access protection. Highly recommended in **--daemon** mode, especially if two daemons are interacting through a given directory.

--poll *POLLING_DELAY*

POLLING_DELAY is the polling delay in seconds; how long *yaf* will wait for new input when none is available. The default is 60 seconds.

--nextdir *PROCESSED_INPUT_DIRECTORY*

When reading from files, if this option is present, input files will be moved to *PROCESSED_INPUT_DIRECTORY* after they are successfully processed. The special string **delete** will cause successfully processed input to be removed instead. This option is required in daemon mode.

--faildir *FAILED_INPUT_DIRECTORY*

When reading from files, if this option is present, input files will be moved to *FAILED_INPUT_DIRECTORY* if processing failed. The special string **delete** will cause failed input to be removed instead. This option is required in daemon mode.

Logging Options

These options are used to specify how log messages are routed. yaf can log to standard error, regular files, or the UNIX syslog facility.

--log *LOG_SPECIFIER*

Specifies destination for log messages. *LOG_SPECIFIER* can be a *syslog* (3) facility name, the special value **stderr** for standard error, or the *absolute* path to a file for file logging. Standard error logging is only available in **--daemon** mode if **--foreground** is present. The default log specifier is **stderr** if available, **user** otherwise.

--loglevel *LOG_LEVEL*

Specify minimum level for logged messages. In increasing levels of verbosity, the supported log levels are **quiet**, **error**, **critical**, **warning**, **message**, **info**, and **debug**. The default logging level is **warning**.

--verbose

Equivalent to **--loglevel debug**.

--version

If present, print version and copyright information to standard error and exit.

OUTPUT

yafscii's output format, like that of tcpdump, is designed to be easily human-readable, at the possible expense of ease of automated parsing. Each flow is represented by a single output line representing the flow itself, followed by zero or more indented lines containing flow payload in hexdump format. This section details each flow format, where each field specifier is as follows:

start-time, end-time

Flow start or end time in ISO 8601 format, with milliseconds (*YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss.ssss*). End-time is only present if the flow has a non-zero duration.

duration

Flow duration in fractional seconds. Only present if the flow has a non-zero duration.

proto

IP protocol identifier in decimal format.

sip, dip

Source or destination IP address in dotted-quad format.

sp, dp

Source or destination transport port in decimal format.

type, code

ICMP type or code in decimal format.

isn, risn

Forward or reverse initial TCP sequence number in hexadecimal format.

iflags, riflags, uflags, ruflags

Forward or reverse first-packet TCP flags; forward or reverse *n*th-packet TCP flags union; where each flags bit is represented by the first character in the flag's name: **FIN**, **SYN**, **RST**, **PSH**, **ACK**, **URG**, **ECE**, **CWR**. The character **0** means no flags are set (and will appear in the *n*th-packet field for single-packet TCP flows).

tag, rtag

Forward or reverse first-packet 802.1q VLAN tag in hexadecimal format.

pkt, rpkt

Forward or reverse packet count in decimal format.

oct, roct

Forward or reverse octet count in decimal format.

rtt Round-trip time estimate in milliseconds in decimal format.

end-reason

If not present, the flow ended normally (i.e., by TCP RST or FIN). Otherwise, the *end-reason* is one of the following strings:

idle

Flow was expired by idle timeout. No packets were received for *IDLE_TIMEOUT* seconds (see *yaf(1)*) and the flow was presumed closed.

active

Flow was expired by active timeout. The flow's duration was longer than *ACTIVE_TIMEOUT* seconds (see *yaf(1)*) and the flow was flushed from the flow table.

eof Flow was still active in the flow table at the end of the dumpfile or at *yaf(1)* shutdown time; it was flushed as the flow table was cleared.

rsrc

Flow was prematurely flushed as **idle** because more than *FLOW_TABLE_MAX* flows (see *yaf(1)*) were active in the flow table.

Each flow line format is as follows:

Unidirectional IP flow

start-time [- *end-time* (*duration sec*)] **ip** *proto sip => dip* [**vlan tag**] (*pkt/oct ->*) [*end-reason*]

Unidirectional UDP flow

start-time [- *end-time* (*duration sec*)] **udp** *sip:sp => dip:dp* [**vlan tag**] (*pkt/oct ->*) [*end-reason*]

Unidirectional TCP flow

start-time [- *end-time* (*duration sec*)] **tcp** *sip:sp => dip:dp isn:risn iflags/uflags:riflags/ruflags* [**vlan tag**] (*pkt/oct ->*) [*end-reason*]

Unidirectional ICMP flow

start-time [- *end-time* (*duration sec*)] **icmp** [*type:code*] *sip => dip* [**vlan tag**] (*pkt/oct ->*) [*end-reason*]

Bidirectional IP flow

start-time [- *end-time* (*duration sec*)] **ip** *proto sip => dip* [**vlan tag:rtag**] (*pkt/oct <-> rpkt/roct*) **rtt rtt ms** [*end-reason*]

Bidirectional UDP flow

start-time [- *end-time* (*duration sec*)] **udp** *sip:sp => dip:dp* [**vlan tag:rtag**] (*pkt/oct <-> rpkt/roct*) **rtt rtt ms** [*end-reason*]

Bidirectional TCP flow

start-time [- *end-time* (*duration sec*)] **tcp** *sip:sp => dip:dp isn:risn iflags/uflags:riflags/ruflags* [**vlan tag:rtag**] (*pkt/oct <-> rpkt/roct*) **rtt rtt ms** [*end-reason*]

If present, the payload follows each flow line. Forward direction payload lines are prefixed with the string *->*, and reverse direction payload lines are prefixed with the string *<-*. Payload is only taken from the first packet for non-TCP flows (see *yaf(1)*).

SIGNALS

yafscii responds to **SIGINT** or **SIGTERM** by terminating input processing and exiting.

BUGS

Known issues are listed in the **README** file in the YAF tools source distribution. Note that YAF should be considered alpha-quality software; not every conceivable input and option is exhaustively tested at each release, and specific features may be completely untested. Please be mindful of this before deploying YAF

in production environments. YAF's output format may also change, as the development of YAF is intended to track progress in the IPFIX working group; the file output of YAF should not presently be used for archival storage of flow data. Bug reports and feature requests may be sent directly to the author, Brian Trammell, via email at <bht@cert.org>.

AUTHORS

Brian Trammell <bht@cert.org>, for the CERT Network Situational Awareness Group, <http://www.cert.org/netsa>.

SEE ALSO

yaf(1)