

EAACK: Enhanced Adaptive Acknowledgment for MANET

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Abstract: In recent years, the use of mobile ad hoc network (MANET) has been widespread in many applications, including some critical mission applications and as such security has become one of the major concerns in MANET. MANET does not require a fixed infrastructure and MANET originally developed on military use. However the open medium and wide distributions of nodes make to various types of malicious attacks. In this case, it is crucial to develop an efficient intrusion detection mechanism to protect MANET from attacks. In this paper, we propose and implement a new intrusion detection system named Enhanced Adaptive Acknowledgment (EAACK) specially designed for MANET and Compared to all contemporary approaches. The results will be positive performances of WATCHDOG, TWOACK and AACK in the cases are receiver collision, limited transmission power and false misbehavior report.

Key words: MANET • Enhanced Adaptive Acknowledgment • Digital Signature • AACK

INTRODUCTION

A mobile ad hoc network (MANET) is a self-configuring network that is formed automatically by a collection of mobile nodes without the help of a fixed infrastructure or centralized management. A MANET with the characteristics described above was originally developed for military purposes, as nodes are scattered across a battlefield and there is no infrastructure to help them form a network. An IDS collects activity information and then analyzes it to determine whether there are any activities that violate the security rules [1]. We have proposed a novel IDS named EAACK protocol specially designed for MANETs and compared it against other popular mechanisms in different scenarios through simulations. The results demonstrated positive performances against Watchdog, TWOACK and AACK in the cases of receiver collision, limited transmission power and false misbehavior report.

Watchdog: Watchdog that aims to improve the throughput of network with the presence of malicious nodes. In fact, the Watchdog scheme is consisted of two parts, namely, Watchdog and Pathrater [2]. Watchdog serves as IDS for MANETs. It is responsible for detecting malicious node misbehaviors in the network. Watchdog

detects malicious misbehaviors by promiscuously listening to its next hop's transmission. If a Watchdog node overhears that its next node fails to forward the packet within a certain period of time, it increases its failure counter. Whenever a node's failure counter exceeds a predefined threshold, the Watchdog node reports it as misbehaving. In this case, the Pathrater cooperates with the routing protocols to avoid the reported nodes in future transmission [3].

TWOACK: With respect to the six weaknesses of the Watchdog scheme, many researchers proposed new approaches to solve these issues. TWOACK proposed one of the most important approaches among them. On the contrary to many other schemes, TWOACK is neither an enhancement nor a Watchdog-based scheme. Aiming to resolve the receiver collision and limited transmission power problems of Watchdog, TWOACK detects misbehaving links by acknowledging every data packet transmitted over every three consecutive nodes along the path from the source to the destination [4-6]. The TWOACK scheme successfully solves the receiver collision and limited transmission power problems posed by Watchdog. However, the acknowledgment process required in every packet transmission process added a significant amount of unwanted network

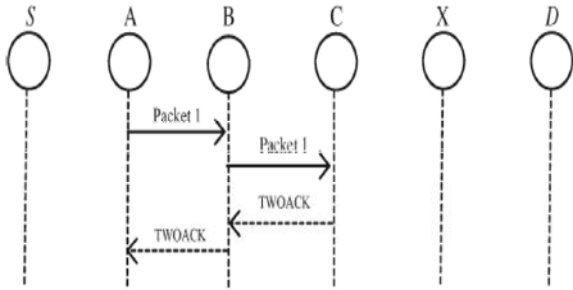


Fig. 1: TWOACK scheme: Each node is required to send back an acknowledgment packet to the node that is two hops away from it.

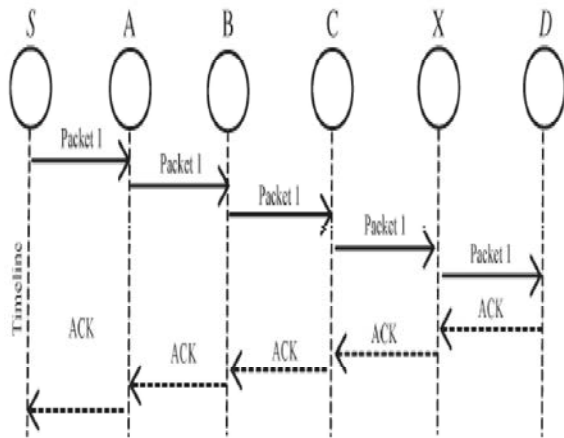


Fig. 2: ACK scheme: The destination node is required to send acknowledgment packets to the source node.

overhead. Due to the limited battery power nature of MANETs, such redundant transmission process can easily degrade the life span of the entire network.

AACK: a new scheme called AACK. Similar to TWOACK, AACK is an acknowledgment-based network layer scheme which can be considered as a combination of a scheme called TACK (identical to TWOACK) and an end-to-end acknowledgment scheme called Acknowledge (ACK).

Compared to TWOACK, AACK significantly reduced network overhead while still capable of maintaining or even surpassing the same network throughput. Compared to TWOACK, AACK significantly reduced network overhead while still capable of maintaining or even surpassing the same network throughput [7-8].

Literature Survey: A Survey on Intrusion Detection Systems in MANET [2]: Intrusion means any set of actions that attempt to compromise the integrity, confidentiality, or availability of a resource.

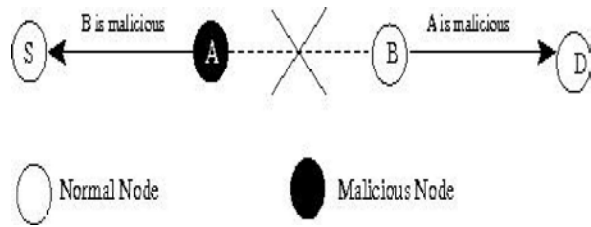


Fig. 3: Malicious node

Intrusion Prevention is the primary defense because the primary step is to make the systems safe from attacks by using passwords, biometrics etc. Even if intrusion prevention methods are used, the system may be subjected to some vulnerability. So we need a second wall of defense known as Intrusion Detection Systems (IDSs), to detect and produce responses if necessary [9-14].

Enhanced IDS for Discovering Malicious Nodes in MANET [1]: Many intrusion detection systems have been proposed and most of them are tightly related to routing protocols, such as Watchdog/Pathrater and Route-guard. These solutions include two parts: intrusion detection (Watchdog) and response (Pathrater and Route-guard). Watchdog resides in each node and is based on overhearing.

Through overhearing, each node can detect the malicious action of its neighbours and report other nodes. However, if the node that is overhearing and reporting itself is malicious, then it can cause serious impact on network performance. They had we overcome the weakness of Watchdog and introduce our intrusion detection system called ExWatchdog. 2.3 Secure Trust Metadata Management for MANET [3]: A trust management framework [2] is useful to ensure proper functioning of a mobile ad-hoc network (MANET). Trust metadata created by individual nodes, based on their observation of the behavior of other nodes in their vicinity, is required to be accessible to a trust authority (e.g., the network administrator) for prompt decision making (e.g., revoking malicious nodes). In this work, for security and scalability reasons, we propose a secure semantics-aware trust metadata management scheme to partition and store an information network of trust metadata of nodes in a MANET. That is, trust metadata is securely propagated to and stored at certain geographic locations inside the network itself, based on its semantics. 2.4 SEAD: secure efficient distance vector routing for mobile wireless ad hoc networks [3]: This paper design and evaluate the Secure Efficient Ad hoc Distance vector routing protocol (SEAD), a secure ad hoc network routing protocol based on the design of the Destination-

Sequenced Distance-Vector routing protocol. In order to support use with nodes of limited CPU processing capability and to guard against Denial-of-Service attacks in which an attacker attempts to cause other nodes to consume excess network bandwidth or processing time, we use efficient one-way hash functions and do not use asymmetric cryptographic operations in the protocol [15]. SEAD performs well over the range of scenarios we tested and is robust against multiple uncoordinated attackers creating incorrect routing state in any other node, even in spite of any active attackers or compromised nodes in the network.

2.5 Dynamic Source Routing in Ad Hoc Wireless Networks [4]: This paper presents a protocol for routing in ad hoc networks that uses dynamic source routing. The protocol adapts quickly to routing changes when host movement is frequent, yet requires little or no overhead during periods in which hosts move less frequently. Based on results from a packet-level simulation of mobile hosts operating in an ad hoc network, the protocol performs well over a variety of environmental conditions such as host density and movement rates [16].

Existing System: The network performance was identified by the received signal strength at the destination. The path from source to destination was vulnerable to spoofing attacks. There was no method proposed here to detect the presence of attackers. So overall throughput of the network was minimum and the network performance was degraded [17].

Proposed System: The EAACK consist of three major parts as ACK, SACK and MRA.

- **ACK:** ACK is basically an end-to-end acknowledgment scheme. It acts as a part of the hybrid scheme in EAACK, aiming to reduce network overhead when no network misbehavior is detected.
- **SACK:** The S-ACK scheme is an improved version of the TWOACK Scheme. The principle is to let every three consecutive nodes work in a group to detect misbehaving nodes. For every three consecutive nodes in the route, the third node is required to send an S-ACK acknowledgment packet to the first node. The intention of introducing S-ACK mode is to detect misbehaving nodes in the presence of receiver collision or limited transmission power [18-20].
- **MRA:** To initiate the MRA mode, the source node first searches its local knowledge base and seeks for an alternative route to the destination node.

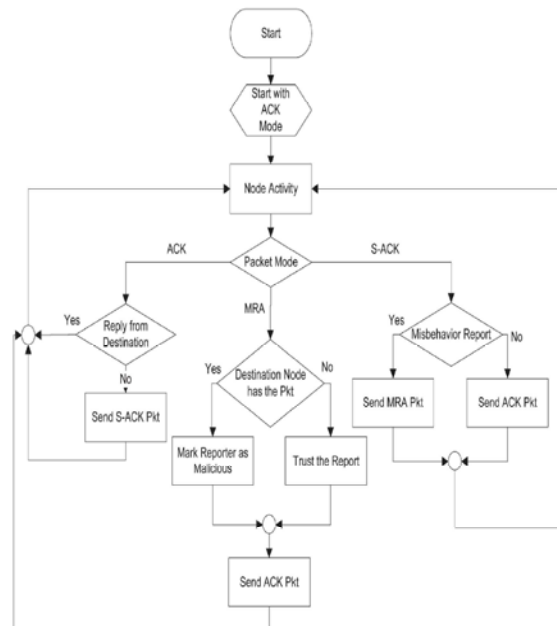


Fig. 4: EAACK Scheme

If there is no other that exists, the source node starts a DSR routing request to find another route. Due to the nature of MANETs, it is common to find out multiple routes to two nodes.

By adopting an alternative route to the destination node, we circumvent the misbehavior reporter node. When the destination node receives an MRA packet, it searches its local knowledge base and compares if the reported packet was received. If it is already received, then it is safe to conclude that this is a false misbehavior report and whoever generated this report is marked as malicious. Otherwise, the misbehavior report is trusted and accepted. EAACK is capable of detecting malicious nodes despite the existence of false misbehavior reports.

CONCLUSION

Packet-dropping attack has always been a major threat to the security in MANETs. We have proposed a novel IDS named EAACK protocol specially designed for MANETs and compared it against other popular mechanisms in different scenarios through simulations. The results demonstrated positive performances against Watchdog, TWOACK and AACK in the cases of receiver collision, limited transmission power and false misbehavior report.

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