ECE 435 – Network Engineering Lecture 35

Vince Weaver https://web.eece.maine.edu/~vweaver vincent.weaver@maine.edu

23 April 2025

Announcements

- Don't forget projects next week Sent out a tentative schedule
 If you want to present Monday let me know, forgot the document might have said W/F instead of M/W/F being open
- Final project writeup due by May 9th (last day of finals)
- \bullet Don't forget HW#11 due
- Final is Monday May 5th 10:30am, here, will talk more Friday



Network Security

As described by Tannenbaum

- Secrecy keeping private data from others
- Authentication being sure person is who they claim
- Nonrepudiation signed documents, how do you prove a document is an original
- Integrity control make sure document sent is the one that was received, unmodified

Possibly also include code mistakes/exploits.



Network Security: Which Layer?



Physical Layer Security – Air Gapping

- Just don't use network
- Move files via USB? Can that have security issues? Stuxnet?
- Separate networks for sensitive info. What is secret?
 Classified info
 - \circ Credit card info
 - \circ Secret signing keys



Physical Layer Security – TEMPEST

- Telling what computers are doing based on radiated signals
- Tell what machines are doing by radio interference
- Old CRT monitors could tell by RF, also if have view of room by brightness as screen scanned
- Interference in nearby cables, ground, parallel lines
- Blinking lights on routers
- Lasers bouncing off windows
- Soviet gift of US seal with hidden chambers that would



vibrate when people talk, modify a microwave signal shot through the room



Physical Layer Security – Side Channel Leaks

- Intentionally leaking info via side channel
 - \circ What if paranoid and they epoxied the USB ports shut
 - \circ Keyboard light
 - \circ QR-codes on screen
 - Varying fan speed
 - Sound (ultrasound?)
 - \circ DNS requests



Physical Layer Security – Other

- Using fiber harder to tap than wired
- Don't use wifi
- Locking wiring closets
- Pressurizing cable lines (notice if someone drills in to tap)
- No cell phones/recording devices in secure areas Cell-phone garage
- Evil USB chargers
- CANBUS in cars



Link Layer – Wired

- Switches vs Hubs
 - The move to switches massively increased security on ethernet networks
- Frames can be encrypted
- Usually have to be at least partially decrypted (to expose routing info) to get the next layer
- Attacks
 - ARP spoofing / Port Stealing
 - CAM attacks overflow the address mapping tables



If switch doesn't have room to hold all addresses, falls back to broadcasting the packets and then everyone can see them

- DoS ARP spoofing, convince switch that the MAC address for actual machine is a non-existent
- DHCP exhaustion
- Spanning Tree Attacks convince network wrong switch is the root
- \circ VLAN attacks escape VLAN by messing with headers

• Methods

• Lock down ports so can't be changed by ARP



 Switch can notice unknown MAC addresses and not allow connection, or ban port



Link Layer Security – Wireless

- Wireless: hidden node, deauth attack
- Eavesdropping
- Masquerading (pretending to be another)
- Traffic Analysis / Tracking
- Jamming
- Ways to lock things down
 - Encryption
 - Forcing registration/authentication before allowing on network



• Note: even if encrypted, can still see destination / DNS



Link Layer – POTS Phone Phreaking

- 2600 Hz, Captain Crunch
 - 2600 Hz tone would cause connection to disconnect, but you could send combinations of tones to re-route
- Blue boxes
- Steve Wozniak



Link Layer – Cellphones

- Fake towers / Stingray
- Stealing phones
- Sim / esim/ isim
- Password reset/guessing
- More Paranoid
 - Tracking can't get content w/o warrant, but metadata like who you call and cell tower location
 - Firmware hacked to enable MIC even though phone off



\circ Removing battery/Faraday cage shielding?



Network Layer Security

- IP security (IPSEC) (RFC 2401, 2402, 2403)
 - Add authentication/encryption at the IP level via extra headers
 - authentication header
 - HAC (hashed message authentication code), mostly made irrelevant by ESP
 - ESP (encapsulating security protocol)
 - \circ Commonly used for site-to-site VPN
- Firewall



• VPN

• Attacks

- BGP blackhole
- Exploits of unpatched router vulnerabilities



Transport Layer Security

- Encryption, like SSL and ssh
- Attacks
 - \circ See summary later



Application Layer Security

• This is where authentication, signing, etc. happens



Types of Attacks



Social Engineering

- People like being helpful
- "Not my Problem"
- Can defeat many of these at all layers
- Physical access
 - \circ Tailgating into businesses
 - Show up with hardhat / high-vis vest
 - Dress like a UPS delivery person with package
- Telephone

• Call and claim boss demands something



Depending on culture people not want to annoy boss

- Public directories of company employees and position, can make it sound like you know people
- e-mail
 - Fake invoices
 - Impersonate boss
- Backdoors



Network Attacks

- DoS somehow manage to make a service unusable (often by overwhelming network and/or crashing machine)
 - botnets
 - DDoS distributed, large number of machines contributing
 - smurf attack send forged ICMP packet with faked source to broadcast address, all on network will reply to the forged IP



- fraggle attack like smurf but chargen or echo ports used instead
- \circ Syn Floods/ping flood
- \circ ping of death
- nuke attack send out-of-band data (with URG set?)
 to netbios port on windows machine, crash it
- HTTP POST attacks make valid http post request but only very slowly send data, tying up the server
- IP fragmentation
 too small or too large (confuse router)
 fragment overlap (teardrop), send overlapping



fragments, can confuse OS or allow constructing final packets that bypass firewall checks

- Amplification attacks
- backscatter due to spoofed addresses, can get reflections from attack in progress elsewhere



Vulnerabilities

- Buffer overflows
- Untrusted/Unsanitized input
- Backdoors

