A Review Paper on Preventing Forged Acknowledgement in Manets

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Abstract: MANET is a group of mobile nodes that establish themselves into a network without any predefined infrastructure or centralized operation management. Mobile ad hoc networks are advantageous in situations such as flood or earthquake. MANET can quickly be established even though the network infrastructure is unavailable. It is very hard to detect and prevent forged acknowledgement. To prevent from forged acknowledgement, detection of misbehavior nodes plays an important role in MANETs. Dynamically changing topology, limited battery power, and absence of centralized control in MANETs make them vulnerable to detection of misbehavior nodes. Intrusion Detection System (IDS) is required to detect the misbehavior nodes before they can accomplish any significant damages to the network.

Keywords: MANET; EAACK; DSA; RSA; Digital Signature; ACK; S-ACK; MRA

1. Introduction

By definition, a mobile ad hoc network is a constantly self-configuring, self-maintained infrastructure less network of mobile devices which are associated without wires. Mobile ad hoc network consists of mobile nodes. These mobile nodes, which can communicate with each other in a bidirectional way having wireless transmitting and receiving factor in network, directly or indirectly.

Figure 1.1: MANETs Architecture

Nodes are communicate with each other by using wireless network and various components and maintained its mobility. If nodes or components are not in the same range then use mobile ad hoc network. But to obtain this MANET which is divided into two different networks one is called as single hop network, in single hop network nodes which are present in the same range they can interact with each other directly, i.e. no any common nodes used in between. Another is multi-hop network, in which nodes rely on other intermediate nodes to transmit if the destination node is out of their radio range. Furthermore, because of MANET’s distributed architecture and changing topology, a traditional centralized monitoring technique is no longer possible in MANETs. In such case, it is crucial to develop an intrusion-detection system (IDS). It is observed that most of existing routing protocols have ignored the aspect of network security, specially designed for MANETs. The main purpose is to propose a new advanced system, which specially designed for MANET’s, which solves security issues during the packet transmission process. As in all acknowledgement base intrusion detection system, it is highly authenticated of all the acknowledgement packets.

2. IDS in MANETs

Due to the limitations of most MANET routing protocols, nodes in MANETs assume that other nodes always cooperate with each other to relay data. This assumption leaves the attackers with the opportunities to achieve significant impact on the network with just one or two compromised nodes. To address this problem, an IDS should be added to enhance the security level of MANETs. If MANET can detect the attackers as soon as they enter the network, it will be able to completely eliminate the potential damages caused by compromised nodes at the first time. In this section, mainly describe three existing approaches, namely, Watchdog, TWOACK, and Adaptive ACKnowledgment (AACK).

3. Forged Acknowledgement in MANETS

In fact, many of the existing IDSs in MANETs adopt an acknowledgment-based scheme, including TWOACK and AACK. The functions of such detection schemes all largely depend on the acknowledgment packets. Hence, it is crucial to guarantee that the acknowledgment packets are valid and authentic. To address this concern digital signature is adopted in scheme named Enhanced AACK (EAACK) to prevent forged acknowledgement. S-ACK modes of EAACK are digitally signed using Digital Signature Algorithm (DSA) to prevent the intermediate node from forging the S-ACK packet.

4. Literature Survey

In [2] this paper the author suggested scheme contains two major parts, termed watchdog and path rater, to detect and mitigate, respectively. Nodes operate in a promiscuous mode wherein the watchdog module overhears the medium to check whether the next-hop node faithfully forwards the
packet. At the same time, it maintains a buffer of recently sent packets. A data packet is cleared from the buffer when the watchdog overhears the same packet being forwarded by the next-hop node over the medium. If a data packet remains in the buffer for too long, the watchdog module accuses the next-hop neighbor of misbehaving. Thus, the watchdog enables misbehavior detection at the forwarding level.

The Author In [3] his paper TWOACK scheme to detect misbehaving links by acknowledging every data packet transmitted over each three consecutive nodes along the path from the source to the destination.

In [4] the author invented 2ACK scheme which works like TWOACK with differences i) The data packet receiving node sends 2ACK packets as acknowledgment for a fraction of received data packets, while, in the TWOACK scheme, TWOACK packets are sent for every data packet received. Acknowledging a fraction of received data packets gives the 2ACK scheme better performance with respect to routing overhead. The 2ACK scheme has an authentication mechanism to make sure that the 2ACK packets are genuine. The 2ACK scheme suffers from false misbehavior report.

In [5] the author proposed Adaptive ACKnowledgment (AACK) scheme. The AACK is a network layer acknowledgment based scheme that may be considered as a combined system of an Enhanced-TWOACK (E-TWOACK), which detects misbehaving node instead of misbehaving link and an end-to-end acknowledgment scheme, to reduce the routing overhead of TWOACK. The AACK mechanism may not work well on long paths that will take a significant time for the end to end acknowledgments. This limitation will give the misbehaving nodes more time for dropping more packets. Also AACK still suffers from the partial dropping attacks (gray hole attacks). It also suffers from false misbehavior report.

In [6] the author concentrate on security Enhanced Adaptive Acknowledgement (EAAACK) scheme which consists of three parts (i) Acknowledge (ACK) (ii) Secure-Acknowledgement (S-ACK) (iii) Misbehavior Report Authentication (MRA). ACK is basically an end-to-end acknowledgement scheme. In ACK mode if destination node D successfully receives data packet, it send back an ACK acknowledgement packet along the same route but in a reverse order. Within a predefined time period, if node S receives ACK, then the packet transmission from node S to node D is successful. Otherwise, node S will switch to S-ACK mode by sending out an S-ACK data packet to detect the misbehaving nodes in the route. S-ACK scheme is an improved version of TWOACK. For each three consecutive nodes in the route, the third node is required to send an S-ACK acknowledgement packet to the first node as done in TWOACK. If the first node in a group does not receive S-ACK then it declare both second and third node as misbehaving nodes and send the report to source node. The source node do not immediately trusts the misbehavior report, EAACK requires the source node to switch to MRA mode and confirm this misbehavior report. With MRA scheme, EAACK is capable of detecting malicious nodes despite the existence of false misbehavior report.

In [7] the author proposed EAACK2; in this acknowledgement packets received in S-ACK phase of EAACK are digitally signed using Digital Signature Algorithm (DSA) to prevent the attacker from forging the S-ACK packet. Both the EAACK and EAACK2 cannot detect partial dropping that is Gray hole, during the first phase node may drop packets as end to end acknowledgement take time.

In [8] the author analyzed the performance by introduction of digital signature in EAACK to prevent the attacker from forging acknowledgment packets. EAACK is consisted of three major parts, namely: Acknowledge (ACK), Secure-Acknowledge (S-ACK) and Misbehavior Report Authentication (MRA). In EAACK, two of the six bits were used to flag different type of packets. In the proposed scheme it was assumed that the link between each node in the network is bi-directional. Furthermore, for each communication process, both the source node and the destination node are not malicious. Unless specified, all acknowledgement packets described in this research are required to be digitally signed by its sender and verified by its receiver. Summarized comparison of above reviewed techniques is tabularized as follows:
5. Conclusion

Prevention of forged acknowledgement has always been a major threat to the security in MANETs. This survey paper presented a survey on forged acknowledgement for MANETs. Most of the existing approaches are used to detect only the misbehavior links rather than the malicious nodes. Moreover, they fail to detect false misbehavior report in MANET. Prevent acknowledgement forging in MANETs is a challenge even though many approaches have been proposed against acknowledgement forging. Each scheme mentioned above except all EAACK techniques suffer from forged acknowledgement.

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