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A Review On Wireless Adhoc Network Security

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Abstract

Emergence of wireless networks in 21st has redefined the networks which were seen in previous century. Initially there were no system networks so they were all secure. The data kept in a standalone system was totally safe, except an attacker gets the right to access the particular system. As there was a need occurred to connect to other systems, the complexity increased and the data kept in a system got more vulnerable because to transfer it from one system there was a need of some cable medium the data got some threat from outsiders because they got some more space to do their hacking task. They can now manipulate the data passing through a medium, also they could try to remove data from the channel, or they can mislead others with wrong information. But the whole 20th century was more peaceful than of now because of comparatively less systems connected as of now. In this century, in fact, from the last decade of 20th century, the systems grew rapidly due to the popularity of internet, and growing need of the people to transfer data from one system to another, now this is the age of mobilization and every person needs information on his hands instantly. People need networking with mobility, which has given growth to wireless systems so that they can enjoy while moving and the mobility doesn't disrupt the networking benefits. This has led to the growth to wireless systems; almost half of the world's systems are now wirelessly connected to each other as our laptops, wireless enabled desktops, mobile phones, sensor nodes etc. Facilities have grown immensely but also there is an increase in threat level; now an attacker has more points to intrude our information, everything is less secure than before. So there is a need to check the security features of our networks and an enhancement to them so that they are more secure to any attack. In this paper we try to bring the attack types and some prevention to save us from any attack.

Keywords: Wireless Network, Security, Adhoc Network.

Introduction

A wireless network [2] is a network which is connects various nodes in an environment so that they are able to interchange information among them. A campus Wi-Finetwork is the most common example of a wireless network. A network can be made for permanent use or may be used for some temporary period, in the former case every node is connected to others permanently and there is no disconnection from the network, but in a temporary arrangement a network is used till a node needs to be connected in a network. The later one is called an Ad-hoc network, this is the most widely used networking system of present time, a user connects his system in a network to another system or some access point which connects it to the other systems, this is called wireless adhoc network. These networks are self-configurable, autonomous systems consisting of routers and nodes, which are capable of supporting movability and organization of their position [Such networks are built or destructed instantly. In a small network we can be assure of security but as soon as the

network grows the vulnerability increases and the data in the network becomes more unsecure.

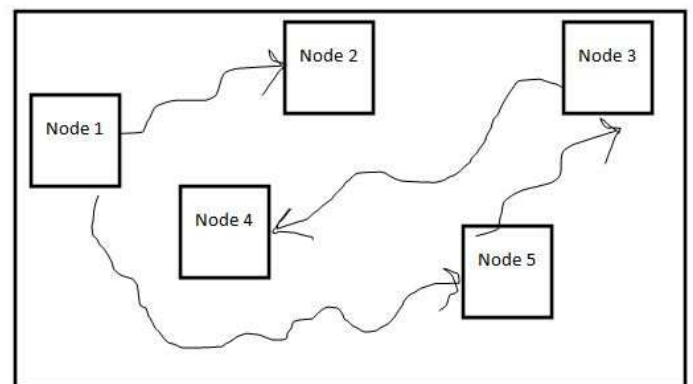


Fig 1: An Ad-hoc wireless network

Security plays the most important role in a wireless networks, because network nodes may be in a

hostile location which makes them more vulnerable to physical attack by adversaries. Generally, adversaries are capable to take control of a network and extract maximum data as much as they can.

Fig.1 displays 5 nodes of an Adhoc network and every node is connected wirelessly for receiving, sending or forwarding data. They can be disconnected anytime or any other node can be connected in the range of the network. Thus more challenging than a fixed network where, there are limited number of nodes. In this article we shall discuss attacks on ad hoc networks and approaches for securing the network.

Wireless ADHOC Network Architecture

In a typical wireless adhoc network we see following network components -

Nodes- nodes is every computing or non-computing device which uses network resources.

Gateway-A Gateway is used for communication between various nodes.

Network Manager-The person responsible for designing network for communication.

Security Manager-the person who is responsible for securing the communication.

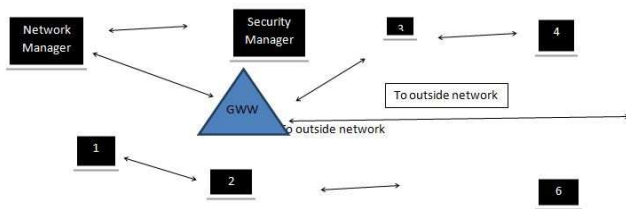


Fig 2. Wireless adhoc network architecture

Security Goals in ADHOC Wireless Networks

Wireless adhoc networks are susceptible to many attacks either active or passive. We have to save our network from those both kinds of attacks. Main goals of a network security are

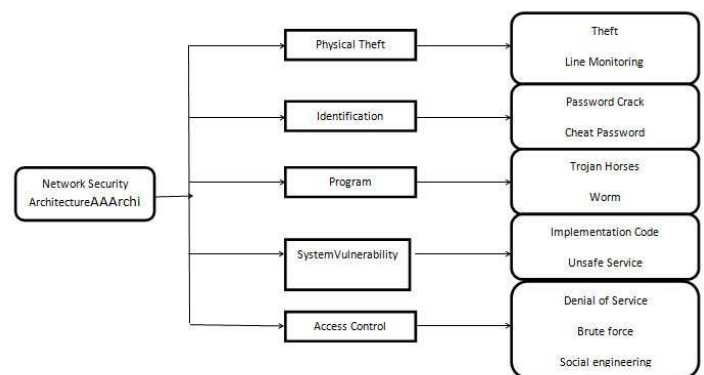
1. CONFIDENTIALITY- protecting secret information only with authorized users.
2. INTEGRITY- ensuring of full message delivery.
3. AUTHENTICATION- the message is from authenticated source.
4. ACCESS CONTROL- restricting access to only authorized users.
5. AVAILABILITY- all the resources must be available whenever required.
6. NON-REPUDIATION- ensuring that sender can't deny from what he has sent.
7. NON-IMPERSONATION – no one else must be able to pretend to be another authorized user.

Wireless ADHOC Networks Attack Types

Various researchers on their papers have mentioned many kind of attacks here some important kind of attacks are described so that we have some idea about the major categories of attacks

1. Denial of Service- any event which eliminates or diminishes a network to perform its usual functionality.
2. Sybil –It is defined as multiple identities taking of a malicious device.
3. Wormhole – An attack in which an adversary routes the information by giving false routing information to other nodes.
4. Sinkhole – In this a node is shown attractive enough to route all information through that node.
5. Manipulation of Routing Information-false information is sent in the network about node position.
6. Cloning- making a false impression of other node.
7. Traffic Analysis-By traffic analysis the real approximation of data.
8. Insider attacks- an insider attacker gains access by using an authorized access to a network and try to jam the network or any other work in which he is interested.
9. Spoofing- A malicious node uses IP address of other node(s) and receives the packets in a network.
10. Selfish Behavior – This refers to a node from where no cooperation is given in any routing activity. It may show that it is sleeping to save energy.

Classification: Network Security Threats



Routing Protocols in ADHOC Wireless Networks

In comparison to general networks ad hoc networks face additional problems. There are many well-known protocols that are developed specially for adhoc networking environment.

Table driven protocols, also known as proactive allow every node to have a clear and consistent view of network structure, to send information from one node to another. Any change in structure causes the updation of table hence another protocol is **on-demand**

routing is used which updates the routing table information whenever a change occurs in the structure.

PARAMETER	NETWORK	PROTOCOLS	EXAMPLES
RESPONSE TIME AND BANDWIDTH	ADHOC	PROACTIVE PROTOCOLS	OPTIMIZED LINK-STATE ROUTING(OLSR)
			DESTINATION-SEQUENCED DISTANCE VECTOR(DSDV)
		REACTIVE PROTOCOLS	AD-HOC ON-DEMAND DISTANCE VECTOR(AODV)
			DYNAMIC SOURCE ROUTING
			GEOGRAPHY BASED ROUTING
			CLUSTER BASED ROUTING
ENERGY	SENSOR	NETWORK STRUCTURE	FLAT NETWORKROUTING
			HIERARCHIAL NETWORK ROUTING
			LOCATION BASED ROUTING
		PROTOCOL OPERATIONS	NEGOTIATION BASED ROUTING
			MULTI-PATH BASED ROUTING
			QoS BASED ROUTING
			COHERENT BASED ROUTING

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