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Doctoral dissertation

Collaborative detection framework for security attacks on the Internet of Things

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Abstract

A connected world of Internet of Things (IoT) has become a visible reality closer than ever and that is now being fueled by the appearance of 5G and beyond 5G (B5G) connectivity technologies. However, besides bringing up the hope of a better life for the human being through promising applications, at the same time, the complicated structure of IoT and the diversity of the stakeholders in accessing the networks also raises grave concerns that our life may be extremely vulnerable than ever with daily threats of security attacks, disinformation, and privacy violation. The objective of the research presented in this dissertation is to detect the attacks targeting the network availability (e.g., the volume attacks) and data authenticity (e.g., data forgery dissemination attacks) in the perception layer and the network layer of IoT networks. Further, our research targets to exclude responsible attackers, misbehavior nodes and unreliable stakeholders from active network participation or even mitigate the magnitude of such attacks significantly at the edge of the networks in a timely fashion.

While most existing solutions in the context of security detection in IoT are based on data-driven learning and plausibility checks on the traffic near the victim or a single network hop, we propose in this dissertation a collaborative security defense framework, so-called TrioSys, which primarily relies on three main approaches. First, the system evaluates the behavior of traffic/nodes based on learning cooperatively accumulated information, e.g., traffic request distribution targeting a specific address over a time interval, and fusing the trustworthiness of post-detection results from multiple layer trusted engines such as the edge-based(regional)/cloud-based (global) detection systems. Second, by largely targeting at filtering malicious traffic/bogus messages directly at/near the source/nodes/edge, our system provides an extremely effect protection approach with low latency response to the attacks, particularly before their malicious traffic have a chance to pour into the networks or affect to the decision of the unsuspecting nodes such as the control system of an autonomous vehicle. Finally, in each specific case of the application deployment, i.e., in IoT eMBB or IoT uRRLC, we propose a proper strategy to implement the detection mechanisms for the platform. For example, in the autonomous driving case (IoT uRRLC), we propose a novel method to exploit passive source localization techniques from physical signals of multi-array beamforming antennas in V2X-supported vehicles and motion prediction to verify the truthfulness of the claimed GPS location in V2X messages without

requiring the availability of many dedicated anchors or a strong assumption of the honest majority rule as in conventional approaches.

In summary, this work has been developed that consists of two main contributions: (1) TrioSys, a robust and effective platform for detecting and filtering the attacks in IoT, particularly compatible with 5G applications and network models; (2) a novel near-source detection for DDoS defense in IoT eMBB slice and two physical signal-driven verification schemes for V2X (i.e., IoT uRLLC). Also, besides our comprehensive survey on the state-of-the-art attacks against network availability/data authenticity and countermeasure approaches, our findings on relevant security issues can certainly provide useful suggestions for future work.



Keywords – Internet of Things Security, 5G/B5G Security, Distributed Denial-of-service defense, Misbehavior Detection in 5G V2X

Overview of publication

The following articles are peer-reviewed and accepted publications with results included in/achieved during this dissertation:

Journal Papers

1. Van-Linh Nguyen, Po-Ching Lin and Ren-Hung Hwang, “Multi-array relative positioning for verifying the truthfulness of V2X messages,” *IEEE Communication Letter*, Vol. 23 , No. 10, pp. 1704-1707, Oct. 2019.
2. Van-Linh Nguyen, Po-Ching Lin, and Ren-Hung Hwang, “Energy depletion attacks in Low Power Wireless networks,” *IEEE Access*, Vol.7, Apr. 2019.
3. Van-Linh Nguyen, Po-Ching Lin and Ren-Hung Hwang, “MECPASS: Distributed Denial of Service Defense Architecture for Mobile Networks,” *IEEE Network*, Vol 32, No 1, pp. 118-124, Jan.-Feb. 2018.
4. Van-Linh Nguyen, Po-Ching Lin, and Ren-Hung Hwang, “Web Attacks: beating monetisation attempts,” *Network Security Journal (Elsevier)*, No.5, pp. 1-20, May 2019.
5. Ren-Hung Hwang, Min-Chun Peng, Van-Linh Nguyen, and Yu-Lun Chang, “An LSTM-Based Deep Learning Approach for Classifying Malicious Traffic at the Packet Level,” *Applied Sciences*, Vol. 9, No. 16, pp.3414-3428 , Aug. 2019.
6. Van-Linh Nguyen, Po-Ching Lin and Ren-Hung Hwang, “Enhancing misbehavior detection in 5G Vehicle-to-Vehicle communications,” submitted to *IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology* (major revision).
7. Ren-Hung Hwang, Min-Chun Peng, Chien-Wei Huang, Po-Ching Lin and Van-Linh Nguyen, “PartPack: An unsupervised deep learning model for early anomaly detection in network traffic,” submitted in Aug. 2019 to *IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computational Intelligence*.

Conference Papers

1. Ren-Hung Hwang, Van-Linh Nguyen, and Po-Ching Lin, “StateFit: A security framework for SDN programmable data plane model,” *The 15th International Symposium on Pervasive Systems, Algorithms and Networks (ISPAN)*, Yichang,

China, Oct 2018.

2. Po-Ching Lin, Ping-Chung Li, and Van-Linh Nguyen, “Inferring OpenFlow rules by active probing in software-defined networks,” The 19th International Conference on Advanced Communications Technology (ICACT), Pyongchang, South Korea, Jan. 2017.
3. Van-Linh Nguyen, Po-Ching Lin and Ren-Hung Hwang, “Physical signal-driven fusion for V2X misbehavior detection,” IEEE Vehicular Networking Conference, Los Angeles, USA, 2019.

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