

1. bccstego: A Framework for Investigating Network Covert Channels

- malware exfiltrate data (1)
- no much focus on IPV6 – but IPV6 are most targetted(1)
- This framework has high throughput – deep packet inspection poses scalability issues (1)
- Handling v4/v6 conversion issues (1)
- Uses BPF – can be extended to different protocols (2)
- Tool collects statistical info and better performance (2)
- State is neglected. Only general statistics is measured – less memory and less overhead (3)
- Uses python (4)
- Focuses on specific protocols and techniques (4)
- Compiled with makefile to create single executable (4)
- Behavioural changes in bin for different channels (5)
- Sudden increase in bin number is an indication of attack (6)
- The tool has to be integrated with other frameworks to perform better(7)

2. CCgen: Injecting Covert Channels into Network Traffic

- Tool to inject covert channel into network (1)
- Open source tool implemented in python and scapy (1)
- Covert channels used for criminal activities (1)
- But there are application of covert channel – digital watermarking, traceback etc (1)
- Covert channels are classified based on the statistical challenges posed by them (2)
- Security systems are incapable of detection of covert channel (2)
- Inject multiple covert channels in the same capture(2)
- Discussion on unique types of covert channels provided by framework(2 – 3)

3. Code Augmentation for Detecting Covert Channels Targeting the IPv6 Flow Label

- IPV6 attract more attacks (1)

- Generalizability and scalability is an issue for covert detection system (1)
- they can be used to exfiltrate stolen information, orchestrate nodes of a botnet or implement multi-stage loading architectures to extend malware functionalities at runtime (1)
- Flow Label of IPV6 is exploited (1)
- BPF is an effective way of gathering statistical data (1)

4. Detecting Covert Channels Through Code Augmentation

- Extended BPF helps in spotting covert channel (1)
- Use of code augmentation in linux kernel to gather data (1) – hooks can be used to insert various monitoring codes without disturbing a whole design.
- Covert channel usage is a new trend to evade detection (1)
- Malware exfiltrate data with covert channel and orchestrate a botnet (2)
- Task cannot be generalized (2, 5) – Generalization affects performance to a great extent (5)
- Testing on realistic scenario and IPV6 is next target (2, 5)
- Common terms Definitions (3)
- Local covert channel (3)
- Malware attacks using network covert channel (4)
- V4/v6 transission is a disadvantage in while injecting covert channel (5)
- Data collection – counting the possible values assumed by the field and analysing the pattern to indentify anomalies (6)
- Testing channel with VM (7)
- eBPF can be used for both local and network covert channel (6) – eBPF adds the minimum overhead to the traffic, thus suitable for real traffic (9)
- Graphical analysis of covert channel patterns (10)

- Higher rate of transmission is detectable easily bcz of the spike (10), low rate of transmission is not easily detectable, but takes longer amount of time (11)

5. pcapStego: A Tool for Generating Traffic Traces for Experimenting with Network Covert Channels

- Dataset generator with real world traffic traces and replayable conversations (1)
- Data exfiltration(1)
- Covert communication is neglected (2)
- Gathering info from real network is not ethical (2)
- Large data is required for building AI solution (2,8) – common approach is to use AI for detection of malicious activities (8)
- This realworld traces dataset generated by tool is better than other toy datasets (2)
- IPV6 is the next target and pcapStego helps generating this data (2)
- Storage v/s timing channel (3)
- Different headers that are exploited to create covert channel by the tool (3)
- Either select the mode of covert channel and info, or automate the task using the tool (4)
- Tool uses python 3 and scapy 2.4.4 (4)
- Composition of the software (5) and usage (5-6)
- CAIDA used for realworld traffic traces of IPV6

6. Covert Channel Detection: Machine Learning Approaches

- Covert channel is used for malicious activity (1)
- Countermeasures cannot be generalized (1,4)
- Covert channel have both advantages and disadvantages (2)
- Types of covert channel (2)
- Covert channel exploitation by IoT devices (2)
- Distributed covert channels (3) – Spreads covert channel over different hiding techniques
- Packet reordering covert channel (3)

- vulnerabilities of the IPv6 and its incomplete implementation (3)
- VoLTE interpacket delay exploitation is not possible since it is fixed (3)
- Video packet reordering in VoLTE (3)
- Preventive mechanism in protocol itself (3)
- Dataset unavailability (4)
- SVM is the best approach (4)
- Statistical variation must be clear for covert channel, otherwise it will be undetected (4) addition of Noise makes it difficult to detect covert channel (4-5)
- Python, Wireshark, Scapy, Orange Software – for preprocessing (5)
- Discussion on already implemented models and tools (6 -10)
- Model needs to be updated periodically to stay up to date (12)