

Project Summary

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Background

Several weeks ago, we read a blog posted on a Chinese website. The author is a hacker and the blog post has a very detailed description of how he hacked into his neighbor's router. This blog post brought our concern of the router security. So we decided to research and explore the role of Cryptography in the router security.

Preliminary Research

After some general research, we found several most commonly used **router encryption**. The brief introduction of the security **protocol** are shown below.

protocols

WEP

Don't use an abbreviation without describing it before the first use.

WEP stands for Wired Equivalent Privacy, which is an encryption algorithm that is introduced for **IEEE** wireless network in 1999. WEP intends to provide the same level of security for the wireless network as the security of traditional wired **network**. **Even though**, the intention is to provide a high security for the wireless network. **It has** **been proved that there are** numerous flaws. WEP is relatively a weak encryption algorithm **comparing to the other encryptions**.

networks

vague

Clumsy. how about

relative to the other encryption algorithms discussed in this paper

WPA and WPA2

WPA is a short form for Wi-Fi Protected Access. It is a security protocol and a certification program developed by the Wi-Fi Alliance to secure computer wireless network. Since WEP has several major flaws in the encryption algorithm, WPA is designed to avoid the encryption **flaw** in WEP and provide more secure encryption. We will explain more about the functionality in the encryption details section.

flaws

Project Focus and Subject

WEP Implement

or perhaps you mean basis
Missing word or words

Is there any barrier to this that causes
you to express some doubt about being
able to do so?

Since WEP is the **basic of the current router encryption**. **We want to start our work** from WEP protocol. WEP uses stream cipher that is symmetric key cipher. Even though symmetric **cipher is** covered in class, there are still some encryption protocols that we have never encountered before. So our first step is to research and understand the protocols that is involved with in the WEP encryption, such as ICV algorithm and RC4 algorithm. After we have a decent understanding of WEP. We will implement WEP encryption/decryption.

ciphers are

WEP Attack

WEP has some security flaws, which can be utilized to construct attacks **on it**. A good way to understand these flaws is to implement attack algorithms. Then we can

router
encryption schemes
or algorithms

Too informal

further research ^{defends} ~~on~~ how WEP ^{against} defend itself ^{on} these attacks and how other encryption protocols are designed to fix them. So the second focus of our project is to implement some attack algorithms to hack our implementation.

WEP Flaw Analysis

As ^{described may be a better word here} ~~what~~ we have illustrated above, the intention of WPA and WPA2 is to fix the ^{logical?} logic flaws in WEP. We can probably gain a deeper understanding of WEP and WPA by ^{studying} finding out these improved mechanisms. So the third aspect we are going to focus on is to analyze how WPA approach to eliminate the flaws in WEP.

Enforce Security(optional)

This part of research depends on whether we have enough time. We got our idea from the blog post about the brute force attack of WPA encryption. We will try to come up with an effective way to enforce the security of WPA encryption. Hopefully, our solution will make it harder to brute force attack WPA.

Encryption Details (WEP)

WEP encryption protocol aims at three security goals, namely access control, data integrity, and confidentiality. These goals ensure that your wireless infrastructure is not used; your data packets are not ^{I'm not sure what you mean by that} modified in transit and the contents of your wireless traffic is not ^{learned relatively}. A shared secret key is established between sender and receiver, encrypting packets before transmission. Integrity check is also introduced to ensure packets are not modified in transit. ^{An}

To send a message M:

1. Compute a checksum of M.
2. Pick an initialization vector and generate a keystream.
3. ^{the} XOR M and checksum with the keystream to get ciphertext. ^{Write a complete sentence}
4. Transmit the vector and ciphertext over a radio link.

When M is received:

1. Use the vector and the shared key to generate the keystream.
2. XOR ^{the keystream?} with received message to get M' and checksum.
3. If this checksum is identical ^{as} ^{to} the former one, accept M' as M.

Project Plan

May 10, 11

Research on encryption/decryption related algorithm. ~~And~~ start implementation.

May 14

Finish the WEP implementation and start implementing attack algorithm

May 17

Finish attack algorithm and flaw analysis.

May 19 ^{replication of a}

Finish ^{ways} replicate WPA brute force attack on a router. And analyze the possible way to enforce the encryption algorithm.

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