

Internship Report: MQTT over TLS Security Assessment

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Internship Report: MQTT over TLS Security Assessment

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Problem Definition

The aim of this internship work was to assess the security of the TLS Protocol implementation of some of the main MQTT Broker Libraries that can be found in the IT community. Some faults at the Application layer (MQTT) of some of these libraries were found by my colleague Edoardo Di Paolo during his internship work, so the hypothesis was that these libraries might very well have some faults at the Transport layer (TLS) too. Therefore, through the generation of some fabricated TLS Certificates and the definition of a Suite of Automated Unit Tests, the goal was to expose vulnerabilities in these libraries, or validate their implementation as secure.

Key Concepts

For the sake of this report, we will be using some core concepts that are critical to understanding the internship work.

2.0.1 MQTT

MQTT, also known as Message Queuing Telemetry Transport, is a lightweight protocol used on the Application Layer of the TCP/IP stack. MQTT is an alternative to the widely spread HTTP, and it's mainly used for connectivity to and from Internet of Things devices, due to the lightweight nature of the protocol and due to the low memory availability of the above mentioned IoT devices. Since the MQTT protocol is by nature a lightweight protocol, it does not feature many security capabilities, so it must rely on the security checks made by the layer immediately below MQTT, the Transport layer, via SSL/TLS. We can see here a representation of a typical message exchange via the MQTT protocol: (TODO)

2.0.2 SSL/TLS

SSL, also known as Secure Sockets Layer, is a protocol used on the Transport Layer of the TCP/IP stack, to provide security in the form of confidentiality, integrity and authenticity to one or both parties involved in the message exchange. In fact, SSL consists mainly of a Handshake phase, in which the client and server negotiate the parameters that will be used to establish the security of the following communication. During this Handshake phase, it is possible to negotiate whether the security is one-way (only the server is authenticated towards the client) or both ways (also known as mutual SSL, mutual TLS or abbreviated, mTLS).

2.0.3 Certificate Authority

A Certificate Authority, abbreviated CA, is a secure third party who is trusted by both TLS server and TLS client. In general, the client trusts the CA to certify that the server is who they claim to be. In mutual TLS, the CA is also used by the server, to certify that the client is who they claim to be.

TLS Vulnerabilities

TODO

Test Suite

To test the MQTT Broker Libraries, a Unit Test Suite was formally defined, with a series of descriptions and assertions made. The Unit Tests are defined following the Triangulation technique, which means that the Test Suite should assert both the valid scenarios in which the connection should be established and the illegal scenarios in which the connection should be rejected. Hence the Tests are defined as follows:

- 1. Test Case 1 Legal Connection
- 2. Test Case 2 Self Signed Attacker
- 3. Test Case 3 Self Signed Attacker's Fake CA
- 4. Test Case 4 Alteration 1 (Common Name)
- 5. Test Case 5 Alteration 2 (Expiration Date)
- 6. Test Case 6 Alteration 3 (Public Key)
- 7. Test Case 7 Expired CA (Iteration 4)
- 8. Test Case 8 Certificate Extension
- 9. Test Case 9 Longer Chain Of Trust Legal Connection
- 10. Test Case 10 Altered Intermediate CA Common Name
- 11. Test Case 11 Altered Intermediate CA Public Key

Note: The tested libraries are set up as MQTT Broker, or MQTT Server. The Client, which asserts the outcome of the test, always uses the Mosquitto command line tools to connect to the Server.

4.0.1 Test Case 1 - Legal Connection

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with a valid TLS Certificate signed by the real Certificate Authority. The Tester Client connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the real Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

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Intruder Access Capabilities	None
Intruder's Attack description	This test case represents the happy
	path with no intruder attack.
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate we use for this
	test is exactly the Server's Certifi-
	cate.
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is <i>valid</i>
Assertion	The Library should <i>accept</i> the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

4.0.2 Test Case 2 - Self Signed Attacker

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with a forged self-signed TLS Certificate. The Tester Client connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the real Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

Intruder Access Capabilities	The Intruder impersonates an
	MQTT Server during the TLS
	Handshake phase.
Intruder's Attack description	The Intruder creates a self-signed
	certificate and uses it to configure
	the MQTT Library.
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate is self-signed by
	the attacker, so any field can be com-
	pletely different from the Server's
	Certificate.
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is <i>valid</i>
Assertion	The Library should $reject$ the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

4.0.3 Test Case 3 - Self Signed Attacker's Fake CA

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with a forged TLS Certificate signed by a forged Root Certificate Authority. The Tester Client connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the real Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

Intruder Access Capabilities	The Intruder impersonates an
	MQTT Server during the TLS
	Handshake phase.
Intruder's Attack description	The Intruder imitates the Server
	Certificate's chain of trust, creating
	their own root Certificate Authority
	and using it to sign their certificate.
	Then they use their certificate to con-
	figure the MQTT Library.
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate is imitating the
	Server Certificate, but it's signed by
	the Attacker's fake Certificate Au-
	thority.
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is <i>valid</i>
Assertion	The Library should reject the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

4.0.4 Test Case 4 - Alteration 1 (Common Name)

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with an altered TLS Certificate signed by the real Certificate Authority. The intruder alters the Common Name field, therefore the signature is compromised because the Server Certificate has been tampered with. The Tester Client connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the real Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

Intruder Access Capabilities	The Intruder impersonates an
	MQTT Server during the TLS
	Handshake phase.
Intruder's Attack description	The Intruder alters the Common
	Name field of the Server Certificate,
	replacing it with their own Common
	Name. Then they use the altered
	certificate to configure the MQTT
	Library.
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate is equal to
	the Server Certificate except for the
	Common Name field.
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is not valid
Assertion	The Library should <i>reject</i> the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

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4.0.5 Test Case 5 - Alteration 2 (Expiration Date)

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with an altered expired TLS Certificate signed by the real Certificate Authority. The intruder alters the Not Valid After field, therefore the signature is compromised because the Server Certificate has been tampered with. The Tester Client connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the real Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

Intruder Access Capabilities	The Intruder has access to an old
	expired Server Certificate
Intruder's Attack description	The Intruder alters the expiration
	date of the expired Server Certificate,
	making it valid for the current date.
	Then the Intruder tries to configure
	the MQTT Library with the altered
	Certificate.
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate is the expired
	Server Certificate, but the Not Valid
	After field has been tampered with.
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is not valid
Assertion	The Library should <i>reject</i> the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

4.0.6 Test Case 6 - Alteration 3 (Public Key)

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with an altered TLS Certificate signed by the real Certificate Authority. The intruder replaces the contents of the Public Key field with their own Public Key, therefore the signature is compromised because the Server Certificate has been tampered with. The Tester Client connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the real Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

Intruder Access Capabilities	The Intruder impersonates an
	MQTT Server during the TLS
	Handshake phase.
Intruder's Attack description	The Intruder alters the Public Key
	Info > Public Key field of the Server
	Certificate, replacing it with their
	own Public Key. Then they use the
	altered certificate to configure the
	MQTT Library.
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate is equal to the
	Server Certificate except for the Pub-
	lic Key field.
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is not valid
Assertion	The Library should <i>reject</i> the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

4.0.7 Test Case 7 - Expired CA (Iteration 4)

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with a forged TLS Certificate signed by an expired (real) Certificate Authority. This test represents a scenario in which the Intruder manages to decrypt the Certificate Authority's Public Key over a long period of time, during which the Client under attack is not updated with a new CA Certificate. Because of this, the Tester Client in this Test Case connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the expired Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

Intruder Access Capabilities	The Intruder has access to an old
	expired Certificate Authority Root
	or Intermediate Certificate
Intruder's Attack description	The Intruder tries using the formerly
	valid, but now expired, Certificate
	Authority Certificate, to sign their
	own certificate. Then they try us-
	ing this certificate to configure the
	MQTT Library.
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate is a completely
	different certificate from the Server
	Certificate.
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is <i>valid</i>
Assertion	The Library should reject the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

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4.0.8 Test Case 8 - Certificate Extension

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with a valid TLS Certificate signed by the real Certificate Authority, though this Certificate has been signed by the CA for the MQTT Broker to use only as a Client Certificate towards other Brokers (in mTLS). The Tester Client connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the real Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

Intruder Access Capabilities	The Intruder has access to a certifi-
	cate belonging to the Server's entity,
	but one that is used for TLS Client
	Authentication.
Intruder's Attack description	The Intruder tries using the TLS
	Client Certificate to configure the
	MQTT Library as a MQTT Server,
	hence using the certificate as a TLS
	Server Certificate.
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate is rightfully au-
	thenticating the MQTT Server en-
	tity, but this TLS Certificate is not
	intended to be used for Server Au-
	thentication.
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is <i>valid</i>
Assertion	The Library should <i>reject</i> the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

4.0.9 Test Case 9 - Longer Chain Of Trust Legal Connection

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with a valid TLS Certificate signed by the real Intermediate Certificate Authority, which in turn is signed by the real Root Certificate Authority. The Tester Client connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the real Root Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

Intruder Access Capabilities	None
Intruder's Attack description	This test case represents a happy
	path with no intruder attack and
	with a longer chain of trust (Root
	CA + Intermediate CA).
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate we use for this
	test is exactly the Server's Certifi-
	cate. (In this case, the Client con-
	necting to the Server expects to re-
	ceive a certificate signed by the In-
	termediate CA)
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is <i>valid</i>
Assertion	The Library should $accept$ the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

4.0.10 Test Case 10 - Altered Intermediate CA Common Name

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with a forged TLS Certificate signed by an altered Intermediate Certificate Authority, which in turn is signed by the real Root Certificate Authority. The intruder alters their Intermediate CA's Common Name to pretend they are the real Intermediate CA, therefore the signature of the Intermediate CA is compromised. The Tester Client connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the real Root Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

Intruder Access Capabilities	The Intruder owns an intermediate
	CA certificate signed by the Root
	CA.
Intruder's Attack description	The Intruder alters its certificate
	Common Name, trying to trick the
	client into believing the Intruder is
	signed by the real Intermediate CA.
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate is imitating the
	Server Certificate, but it's signed by
	the Attacker's fake Certificate Au-
	thority. (In this case, the Client con-
	necting to the Server expects to re-
	ceive a certificate signed by the In-
	termediate CA)
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is not valid
Assertion	The Library should $reject$ the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

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4.0.11 Test Case 11 - Altered Intermediate CA Public Key

This Test Case is set up by configuring the MQTT Broker Library with a forged TLS Certificate signed by an altered Intermediate Certificate Authority, which in turn is signed by the real Root Certificate Authority. The intruder replaces the real Intermediate CA's Public Key field contents with their own Public Key, to be able to decrypt the traffic easily, therefore the signature of the Intermediate CA is compromised. The Tester Client connects to the server checking the Server TLS Certificate against the real Root Certificate Authority's Certificate. The table of the Unit Test is as follows:

Intruder Access Capabilities	The Intruder owns the Intermediate
	CA's Certificate.
Intruder's Attack description	The Intruder alters the Intermedi-
	ate CA's Public Key field with their
	own Public Key, trying to trick the
	client into sending their traffic in a
	way that is easy to decrypt for the
	Intruder.
State of TLS Certificate	The TLS Certificate is imitating the
	Server Certificate, but it's signed by
	the Attacker's fake Certificate Au-
	thority. (In this case, the Client con-
	necting to the Server expects to re-
	ceive a certificate signed by the In-
	termediate CA)
State of Certificate's Signature	The signature is not valid
Assertion	The Library should $reject$ the con-
	nection when a client tries connect-
	ing to the MQTT Library configured
	with this certificate.

Code Developed

The code developed for this Internship is used to setup the laboratory environment and to execute the Unit Tests for each library. For each file there will be the code snippet followed by an explanation of the code.

5.0.1 TLS Certificates Generation Script

```
1 #!/bin/sh
3 CONTAINER_IP=$1
5 sh clean.sh
7 mkdir ca
8 cd ca
9 mkdir ca.db.certs
10 touch ca.db.index
11 echo "1234" > ca.db.serial
12 cd ../
14 mkdir second-level-ca
^{15} \mathbf{cd} second-level-ca
16 mkdir ca.db.certs
17 touch ca.db.index
18 echo "1234" > ca.db.serial
19 cd ../
21 mkdir expired-ca
22 cd expired-ca
23 mkdir ca.db.certs
24 touch ca.db.index
echo "1234" > ca.db.serial
26 cd ../
28 mkdir fake-ca
29 cd fake-ca
30 mkdir ca.db.certs
31 touch ca.db.index
32 echo "1234" > ca.db.serial
33 cd ../
```

```
35 mkdir second-level-ca-2
36 cd second-level-ca-2
37 mkdir ca.db.certs
38 touch ca.db.index
39 echo "1234" > ca.db.serial
40 cd ../
42 mkdir second-level-ca-alt1-common-name
43 cd second-level-ca-alt1-common-name
44 mkdir ca.db.certs
45 touch ca.db.index
46 echo "1234" > ca.db.serial
49 mkdir second-level-ca-alt2-public-key
50 cd second-level-ca-alt2-public-key
51 mkdir ca.db.certs
52 touch ca.db.index
53 echo "1234" > ca.db.serial
54 cd ../
56 mkdir server-certificate
57 mkdir attacker-certificate
58 mkdir alt1-common-name
59 mkdir alt2-expiration-date
60 mkdir alt3-public-key
61 mkdir alt4-expired-ca
62 mkdir fake-chain-of-trust
63 mkdir attacker-certificate-signed-by-altered-int-ca
# Root Certificate Authority's Certificate
66 openssl genrsa -out ca/ca.key 2048
67 openssl req -new -x509 -days 365 -key ca/ca.key -out ca/ca.pem \
68 -sha256 \
69 -subj "/C=it/ST=State/L=City/CN=Certificate Authority"
71 # Legit Server Certificate Request and CA Signing
72 openssl genrsa -out server-certificate/serverKey.pem 2048
73 openssl req -new -nodes -key server-certificate/serverKey.pem \
  -out server-certificate/serverCertificateRequest.pem \
76 -subj "/C=it/ST=State/L=City/CN=$CONTAINER_IP" \
77 -batch
79 openssl ca -config ca.conf -out server-certificate/serverCertificate.
80 -in server-certificate/serverCertificateRequest.pem \
81 -batch
83 # Legit Server Certificate Request as Client and CA Signing
84 echo "unique_subject = no" > ca/ca.db.index.attr # Allow duplicate
      subjects to be signed by CA. In this case, the same subject wants
      to have a general SSL certificate and one for client
      authentication only.
85 openssl genrsa -out server-certificate/serverKeyAsClient.pem 2048
86 openssl req -new -nodes -key server-certificate/serverKeyAsClient.pem
```

```
87 -sha256 \
88 -out server-certificate/serverCertificateRequestAsClient.pem \
89 -subj "/C=it/ST=State/L=City/CN=$CONTAINER_IP" \
90 -batch
92 openssl ca -config ca.conf -out server-certificate/
      serverCertificateAsClient.pem \
93 -in server-certificate/serverCertificateRequestAsClient.pem \
94 -extfile clientCertificateExtensions.conf \
95 -batch
97 # Intermediate Certificate Authority's Certificate Signing Request
      and Root CA Signing of it,
98 # then Signing the Certificate Signing Request of the Server with the
       Intermediate Certificate
99 openssl genrsa -out second-level-ca/ca.key 2048
openssl req -new -nodes -key second-level-ca/ca.key \
101 -sha256 \
102 -out second-level-ca/intermediateCACertificateRequest.pem \
103 -subj "/C=it/ST=State/L=City/CN=Intermediate Certificate Authority" \
104 -batch
openssl ca -config ca.conf -out second-level-ca/ca.pem \
107 -in second-level-ca/intermediateCACertificateRequest.pem \
109 -batch
110
111 openssl ca -config second-level-ca.conf -out server-certificate/
     serverCertificateSignedByIntermediate.pem \
-in server-certificate/serverCertificateRequest.pem \
113 -batch
114
115 touch server-certificate/serverCertificateSignedByIntermediate-
      withRootCAIntegrated.pem
touch second-level-ca/ca-chain-of-trust.pem
117 cat second-level-ca/ca.pem ca/ca.pem > second-level-ca/ca-chain-of-
      trust.pem
118 cat server-certificate/serverCertificateSignedByIntermediate.pem
      second-level-ca/ca-chain-of-trust.pem > server-certificate/
      {\tt serverCertificateSignedByIntermediate-withRootCAIntegrated.pem}
120 # Attacker's Self Signed Root Certificate
121 openssl genrsa -out attacker-certificate/attackerKey.pem 2048
123 openssl req -new -x509 -days 365 -key attacker-certificate/
      attackerKey.pem \
124 -sha256 \
-out attacker-certificate/attackerCertificate.der \
126 -outform DER \
-subj "/C=it/ST=State/L=City/CN=False Server" \
128 -batch
130 # Fake Chain of Trust (Attacker uses a self signed certificate as
     Root Certificate Authority)
openssl genrsa -out fake-ca/ca.key 2048
132 openssl req -new -x509 -days 365 -key fake-ca/ca.key -out fake-ca/ca.
  pem \
```

```
133 -sha256 \
-subj '/C=it/ST=State/L=City/CN=Certificate Authority'
136 openssl req -new -nodes -key attacker-certificate/attackerKey.pem \
137 -sha256 \
138 -out fake-chain-of-trust/attackerCertificateRequest.pem \
-subj "/C=it/ST=State/L=City/CN=$CONTAINER_IP" \
140 -batch
142 openssl ca -config fake-ca.conf -out fake-chain-of-trust/
      attackerCertificate.pem \
143 -in fake-chain-of-trust/attackerCertificateRequest.pem \
144 -batch
145
# Second Intermediate CA
openssl genrsa -out second-level-ca-2/ca.key 2048
openssl req -new -nodes -key second-level-ca-2/ca.key \
149 -sha256 \
-out second-level-ca-2/intermediateCACertificateRequest.pem \
151 -subj "/C=it/ST=State/L=City/CN=Second Intermediate Certificate
     Authority" \
152 -batch
153
openssl ca -config ca.conf -out second-level-ca-2/ca.pem \
-in second-level-ca-2/intermediateCACertificateRequest.pem \
-extfile intermediateCAExtensions.conf \
157 -batch
158
159 openssl req -new -nodes -key attacker-certificate/attackerKey.pem \
160 -sha256 \
-out attacker-certificate-signed-by-altered-int-ca/
      attackerCertificateRequest.pem \
-subj "/C=it/ST=State/L=City/CN=$CONTAINER_IP" \
163 -batch
164
165 # Intermediate CA Alt 1
166 cp second-level-ca-2/ca.key second-level-ca-alt1-common-name/ca.key
openssl x509 -in second-level-ca-2/ca.pem \
168 -outform DER \
169 -out second-level-ca-2/ca.der
openss1 x509 -in second-level-ca/ca.pem \
172 -outform DER \
173 -out second-level-ca/ca.der
174
175 ~/.venv/mqtt-over-tls/bin/python3 scriptsToAlterCertificate/
      alterCommonName.py \
'second-level-ca-2/ca.der' \
'second-level-ca-alt1-common-name/ca.der'
'second-level-ca/ca.der'
openssl x509 -in second-level-ca-alt1-common-name/ca.der \setminus
181 -inform DER \
-out second-level-ca-alt1-common-name/ca.pem
184 openssl ca -config second-level-ca-alt1-common-name.conf -out
  attacker-certificate-signed-by-altered-int-ca/attackerCertificate-
```

```
alt1.pem \
-in attacker-certificate-signed-by-altered-int-ca/
      attackerCertificateRequest.pem \
186 -batch
187
188 touch second-level-ca-alt1-common-name/ca-chain-of-trust.pem
189 cat second-level-ca-alt1-common-name/ca.pem ca/ca.pem > second-level-
      ca-alt1-common-name/ca-chain-of-trust.pem
191 # Intermediate CA Alt 2
192 cp second-level-ca-2/ca.key second-level-ca-alt2-public-key/ca.key
194 ~/.venv/mqtt-over-tls/bin/python3 scriptsToAlterCertificate/
      alterPublicKey.py \
'second-level-ca/ca.der'
'second-level-ca-alt2-public-key/ca.der' \
'second-level-ca-2/ca.der'
198
199 openssl x509 -in second-level-ca-alt2-public-key/ca.der \
200 -inform DER \
out second-level-ca-alt2-public-key/ca.pem
203 openssl ca -config second-level-ca-alt2-public-key.conf -out attacker
      -certificate-signed-by-altered-int-ca/attackerCertificate-alt2.pem
204 -in attacker-certificate-signed-by-altered-int-ca/
      attackerCertificateRequest.pem \
205 -batch
207 touch second-level-ca-alt2-public-key/ca-chain-of-trust.pem
208 cat second-level-ca-alt2-public-key/ca.pem ca/ca.pem > second-level-
      ca-alt2-public-key/ca-chain-of-trust.pem
209
210 # Convert Signed Server Certificate to .der (ASN.1 encoding) for
      alteration purposes
openssl x509 -in server-certificate/serverCertificate.pem \
212 -outform DER \
213 -out server-certificate/serverCertificate.der
214
215 # Alteration 1 - Changing the Common Name
216 ~/.venv/mqtt-over-tls/bin/python3 scriptsToAlterCertificate/
      alterCommonName.py \
217 'server-certificate/serverCertificate.der' \
218 'alt1-common-name/attackerCertificate.der' \
'attacker-certificate/attackerCertificate.der'
221 # Alteration 2 - Expired Certificate
222 ~/.venv/mqtt-over-tls/bin/python3 scriptsToAlterCertificate/
      alterExpirationDate.py
224 # Alteration 3 - Replacing the Public Key
225 ~/.venv/mqtt-over-tls/bin/python3 scriptsToAlterCertificate/
      alterPublicKey.py \
226 'server-certificate/serverCertificate.der' \
227 'alt3-public-key/attackerCertificate.der' \
228 'attacker-certificate/attackerCertificate.der'
229
```

```
230 # Alteration 4 - Certificate signed by an Expired Certificate
      Authority Certificate
231 openssl x509 -in ca/ca.pem -out expired-ca/caCopy.der -outform DER
232 cp ca/ca.key expired-ca/ca.key
233 ~/.venv/mqtt-over-tls/bin/python3 scriptsToAlterCertificate/
      alterCertificateAuthorityExpirationDate.py
234 openssl x509 -in expired-ca/ca.der -out expired-ca/ca.pem -inform DER
236 openssl req -new -nodes -key attacker-certificate/attackerKey.pem \
237 -sha256 \
238 -out alt4-expired-ca/attackerCertificateRequest.pem \
-subj "/C=it/ST=State/L=City/CN=$CONTAINER_IP" \
240 -batch
241
openssl ca -config expired-ca.conf -out alt4-expired-ca/
      attackerCertificate.pem \
-in alt4-expired-ca/attackerCertificateRequest.pem \
244
246 # For each Attacker Certificate, convert from .der to .pem for MQTT
      Library
247 openssl x509 -inform DER -in attacker-certificate/attackerCertificate
      .der -out attacker-certificate/attackerCertificate.pem
248 openssl x509 -inform DER -in alt1-common-name/attackerCertificate.der
       -out alt1-common-name/attackerCertificate.pem
249 openssl x509 -inform DER -in alt2-expiration-date/attackerCertificate
      .der -out alt2-expiration-date/attackerCertificate.pem
250 openssl x509 -inform DER -in alt3-public-key/attackerCertificate.der
      -out alt3-public-key/attackerCertificate.pem
```

This script, 'setupCertificates.sh', is the main piece of code which creates the certificates for all the actors involved in the above defined Unit Tests, using the OpenSSL library to do so. When executed, we need to pass as argument the IP address of the MQTT Library Docker Container which will act as our MQTT Server. The reason we need this argument is that, when generating the certificates, we will need to specify this IP as the Server Certificate's Common Name. To start off, the script calls the subscript 'clean.sh' to remove existing certificates and folders that we are going to create later. This is done in order to allow the script to be called multiple times if needed. The script then proceeds creating the following Certificate Authority folders:

- ca: this is the Root Certificate Authority used to sign the MQTT Server's TLS Certificate.
- second-level-ca: this is the Intermediate Certificate Authority, signed by the Root CA and used to sign the MQTT Server's TLS Certificate in the Test Case 9.
- expired-ca: this is a Root Certificate Authority which has been used to sign the MQTT Server's TLS Certificate but is now expired.
- fake-ca: this is a Root Certificate Authority forged by the Attacker to look like the real Root CA.
- second-level-ca-2: this is an Intermediate Certificate Authority owned by the

Attacker and signed by the Root CA. It is used by the Attacker in Test Case 10 to pretend to be the real Intermediate Certificate Authority.

- second-level-ca-alt1-common-name: this is the destination folder of the Attacker's Intermediate Certificate Authority after they tampered with its Common Name field.
- second-level-ca-alt2-public-key: this is the destination folder of the altered Intermediate Certificate Authority after the attacker tampered with its Public Key field. Used in Test Case 11.

The script then proceeds creating the following TLS Certificate folders:

- server-certificate: this folder will contain the TLS Certificate belonging to the MQTT Server.
- attacker-certificate: this folder will contain the self-signed TLS Certificate belonging to the Attacker.
- alt1-common-name: this folder will contain the MQTT Server's Altered TLS Certificate, after the attacker tampered with its Common Name field.
- alt2-expiration-date: this folder will contain the MQTT Server's Altered TLS Certificate, after the attacker tampered with its Not Valid After field.
- alt3-public-key: this folder will contain the MQTT Server's Altered TLS Certificate, after the attacker tampered with its Public Key field.
- alt4-expired-ca: this folder will contain the Attacker's TLS Certificate signed by the expired Root CA.
- fake-chain-of-trust: this folder will contain the Attacker's TLS Certificate signed by their Fake Root Certificate Authority.
- a (TODO)

5.0.2 TLS Certificate Alteration Scripts

TODO

5.0.3 TLS Certificate Keystores Generation Script

TODO

5.0.4 MQTT Client Tester Script

The Tester (MQTT Client) uses a Tester Script invoking a Mosquitto Command-Line Interface distribution subscription command to connect to the MQTT Server set up by the Test Environment. The Tester Script then checks if the subscription was active (if exit code is 0) and prints a line on **stdout** that represents the Unit Test Result. (TODO - to finish)

${\bf 5.0.5}\quad {\bf Library\ Tester\ Script}$

TODO

Tested MQTT Libraries

The MQTT Libraries that were subjected to Unit Testing are some Libraries that are widely spread:

Library Name	Tested Version
Mosquitto	2.0.18
HiveMQ Community Edition	2023.9
Aedes	0.8.0
Moquette	0.18
EMQX	5.3.0

Test Results

The Test Results for the tested MQTT Libraries can be found in the following tables. A green 'ok' represents a successful connection, a red 'error' represents a failed connection. The first row of the table represents the expected result for each Unit Test to succeed.

Library	Test						
Name	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3	Case 4	Case 5	Case 6	Case 7
No Library	ok	error	error	error	error	error	error
(Expected							
Results)							
Mosquitto	ok	error	error	error	error	error	error
HiveMQ	ok	error	error	error	error	error	error
Community							
Edition							
Aedes	ok	error	error	error	error	error	error
Moquette	ok	error	error	error	error	error	error
EMQX	ok	error	error	error	error	error	error

Library	Test	Test	Test	Test
Name	Case 8	Case 9	Case 10	Case 11
No Library	error	ok	error	error
(Expected				
Results)				
Mosquitto	error	ok	error	error
HiveMQ	error	ok	error	error
Community				
Edition				
Aedes	error	ok	error	error
Moquette	error	ok	error	error
EMQX	error	ok	error	error

Docker Test Environment

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RouterOS CHR Tests

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Conclusion

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