Security Training Introduction

Hands-on Security Simulation

- This tutorial describes the way in which security training will be conducted using Cooja
- The key element of our approach is to run first a "reference simulation", so that trainees understand the scenario
- This is followed by the deployment of malicious nodes in the reference network to create the "attack simulation"
 - The attacks are achieved by modifying RPL-related files, thus resulting in an alteration of the node behavior

Reference and Attack Scenarios

- IoTrain-Sim includes already several security training scenarios, and for each of them both the reference and the attack scenarios are provided
- Each of them can be started via the corresponding menu entries in the IoTrain-Sim command-line interface
- For reference purposes, in the following slides we provide an overview on how to create a reference simulation via the Cooja GUI, and the preparation steps needed before the implementation of different attacks, so that the training content can be extened

1. Reference Simulation

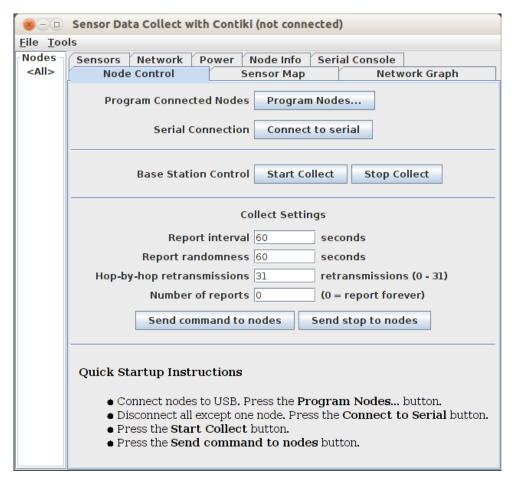
- Open Cooja and click on File > New simulation
- Create the mote types that will make up the network
 - Typically, the reference network will have two types of motes
 - One sink mote, which would function as an LBR and DODAG router
 - Several leaf motes, functioning as mere sensor data collectors
 - Motes will be based on the following firmware files
 - Sink more → "contiki/examples/ipv6/rpl-collect/sink.c"
 - Leaf motes → "contiki/examples/ipv6/rpl-collect/udp-sender.c"
- After starting the simulation, use the "Collect-view" tool on the sink node to collect internal data
- Save the simulation as an CSC file

What is Collect-view

- Collect-view is a Java based application in Contiki used for internal mote information visualization
- A mote is acting as a SINK, while the other motes are acting as sources
 - Source motes send important parameters to the SINK
- Collect-view uses a Graphical User Interface (GUI) for visualizing mote parameters
- In an attack simulation, this tool will be used frequently to observe the impact of malicious nodes on the network

Running Collect-view

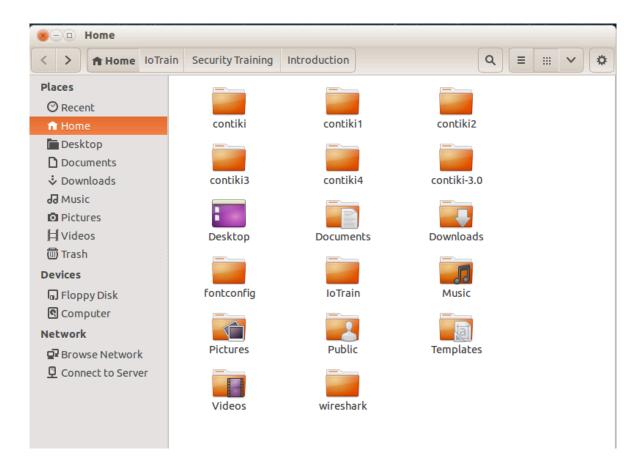
- To manually open Collectview, run the following commands
 - cd contiki/tools/collect-view
 - ant run
- The interface with the Node Control panel selected will be displayed, as illustrated in the screenshot on the right



2. Attack Simulation

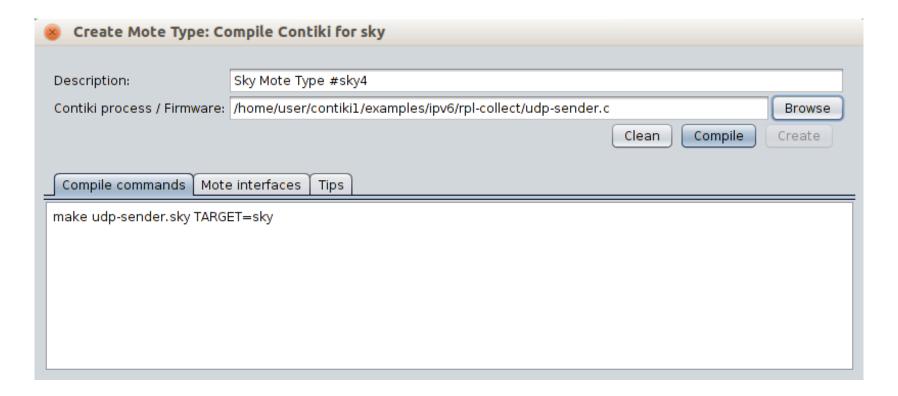
- Attack simulation is done by modifying the behavior of one or more motes, without altering the normal behavior of the other network nodes
 - Thus, one can assess network changes during security attacks
- The recommended method to achieve this is
 - Duplicate the "contiki/" folder to create a new Contiki instance (for example, you can use "contiki1/" for flooding attack, "contiki2/" for version number attack, etc.)
 - 2. Modify the necessary files in the new Contiki instance according to the specificities of the attack
 - Open the target reference simulation file in Cooja
 - 4. Create a new malicious mote as a leaf and compile the node firmware within the new Contiki instance
 - 5. Add the malicious mote(s) to the reference network

Attack Simulation Folders



Several Contiki folders as needed to create different types of malicious motes

Attack Simulation Implementation



Creating a malicious mote with source code from another Contiki instance

Collect-view in Attack Simulation

- In an attack simulation, do the following to use Collect-view
 - Find the SINK node
 - Right click on the SINK node, then select Mote tools for ... > Collect View
 - In the Node control panel, click on "Start Collect", then click on "Send command to nodes"

