

“Combating Denial of Service Attacks” Peer Review

The author's thesis is stated in the third paragraph of the paper. The author offers the thesis but someone will probably be confused since the author offers up two ideas, one is the prevention of the DOS attack and the other is a back trace on a DOS attack. At the end of reading the paper the reader gets an idea of what the author is trying to accomplish, which in this case is to show that it is easy to back trace the source of a DOS attack. What is left unanswered is if this is related to preventing a DOS attack, which is one the of the author's thesis, or if this is going to be the focus of the whole paper. Something else I noticed is that the author does not give a clear idea of how the thesis is going to be tested. They also haven't given a measure or test of the success of the testable hypothesis.

The document is well written. It was easily understandable and there weren't any mistakes that made the paper less understandable or confusing. The mistakes I saw were small grammatical errors like missing comma's and fragmentation errors. The only real problem I had were with some word choices like “beefing up”. English is my second language but from my understanding that word means to ‘increase’ as a slang term but the proper definition for that word is “to complain”. Other phrases like “way easier” made the paper to sound a little informal. The suggestion I would make to the author is to find some synonyms to change some of these words and make it sound more formal. I would also advice the author to check the thesis statement and correct it in regards that there are two different ideas and the rest of the paper only focuses on one as mentioned in the previous paragraph, which is tracing back the source of the attack and

not the prevention.

The timeline provided for the project is very sound and looks like the author will be able to finish what they have set out to do in the time provided. I would suggest that the author also include a way of testing the thesis in the timeline by maybe even demonstrating a DOS attack on a closed network and do a back trace or prevent the DOS attack from happening. It would be a very good and solid way to prove the paper that the author is working on.

The topic of this paper is interesting and it would be a good learning experience to see the outcome of the testable hypothesis the author mentioned. If the author has time, it would be even helpful if they explain about how to increase the security like using honey pots as a decoy to attract the inexperienced script kiddies and other tools out there.