

Architectural Improvements for Secure SDN Topology Discovery

Ph.D. Defence Presentation

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2014RCP9553

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July 8, 2019

1 Coursework and Publication Details

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- 2 SDN Introduction
 - Traditional network vs SDN
 - Motivation for SDN

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- Wide research spectrum
- 'Flow Table Flooding' attack detection C
- 'SYN Flooding' attack detection J
- Objectives

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- Formal description: global view & threats
- Existing implementations & vulnerabilities

1 Coursework and Publication Details

■ Results & discussion

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- Overview
- Solution implementation

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- ARP poison & ARP flooding
- Observations(leads to solution)
- FICUR: Traffic pattern based solution
- Existing approaches(traditional network and SDN)

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1 Coursework and Publication Details

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9 For Further Reading

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Course work details

Semester	Session	Course Code	Title	Credit	Grade	Overall CGPA
I	2014-15	CPT-534	Malware Analysis & Detection	3	10	9.25
I	2014-15	HST-601	Building Language Skills	3	9	
I	2014-15	MET-900	Research Methodology & D.O.E	3	9	
I	2014-15	CPP-610	Lab Elective & Detection	3	9	

- Ajay Nehra, Meenakshi Tripathi, M.S.Gaur, Ramesh Babu Battula and Chhagan Lal, "SLDP: A Secure and Lightweight Link Discovery Protocol for Software Defined Networking", *Computer Networks, Elsevier, 2018*. Published
- Ajay Nehra, Meenakshi Tripathi, M.S.Gaur, Ramesh Babu Battula and Chhagan Lal, "TILAK: A Token based Prevention Approach for Topology Discovery Threats in SDN", *International Journal of Communication Systems, Wiley, 2018*. Published
- Prashant Kumar, Meenakshi Tripathi, Ajay Nehra, Mauro Conti and Chhagan Lal, "SAFETY: Early Detection and Mitigation of TCP SYN Flood Utilizing Entropy in SDN", *Transactions on Network and Service Management, IEEE, 2018*. Published
- Ajay Nehra, Meenakshi Tripathi and M.S.Gaur "FICUR: Employing SDN Programmability to Secure ARP", *IEEE 7th Annual Computing and Communication Workshop and Conference(9 - 11 January, 2017 Las Vegas, USA)*. Published
- Ajay Nehra, Meenakshi Tripathi and M.S.Gaur "Requirement Analysis for Abstracting Security in Software Defined Network", *8th International Conference on Computing Communication and Networking Technologies 2017 (8th ICCCNT 2017)(3 - 5 July, 2017 IIT Delhi, India)*. Published
- Ajay Nehra, Meenakshi Tripathi and M.S.Gaur "Global View in SDN: Existing Implementation, Vulnerabilities & Threats", *10th International Conference On Security Of Information And Networks (SIN 2017)(13 - 15 October, 2017 Jaipur, India)*. Published

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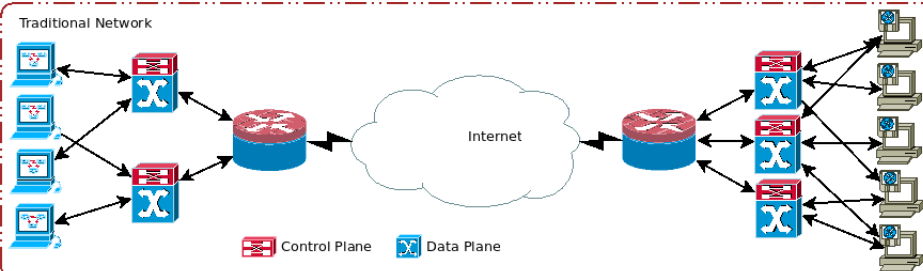
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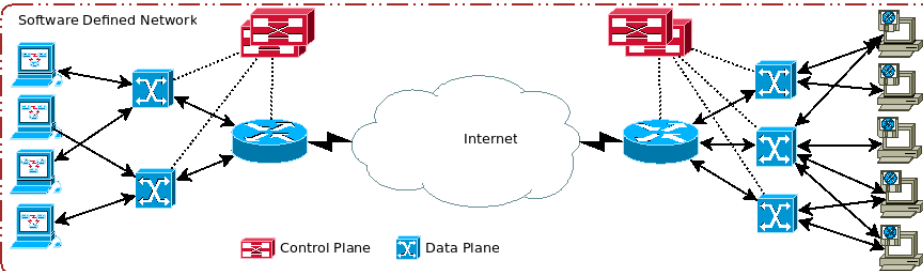
9 For Further Reading

Traditional Network vs SDN

Traditional Network



Software Defined Network



Limitation of traditional network

- Changing needs require frequent network updation(reconfiguration of switches, routers, ...)
- Network updation requires human resource (Static network)
- Multi-vendor support makes updation more cumbersome for the network administrator
- Slow adaptation to new services

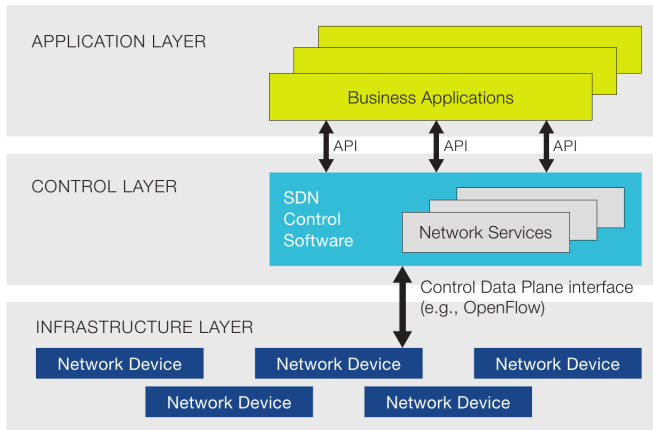
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How SDN helps!

- Mastering complexity to Extracting simplicity
- Decouples Control Plane and Data Plane
- Provide Open and programmable network(Dynamic network)
- Openness encourages rapid innovation

SDN architecture[1]



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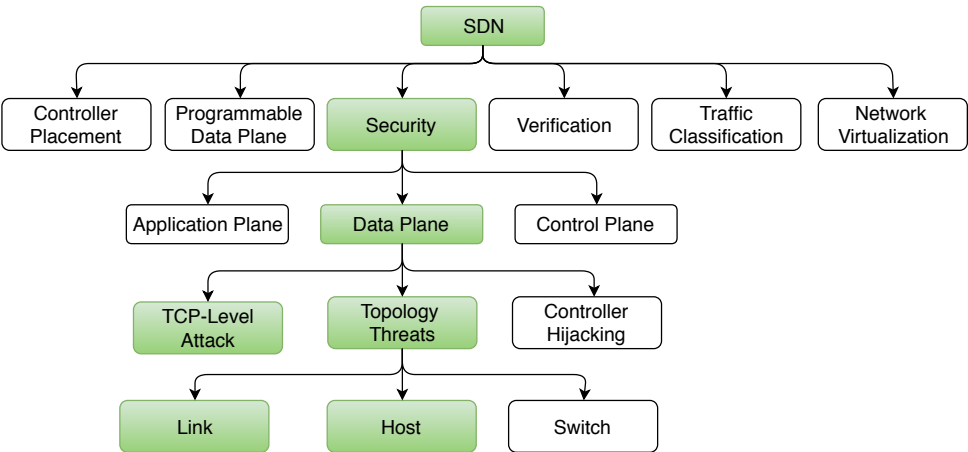
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Summary of 'Flow Table Flooding' attack detection

- Every time a switch receives a packet, it checks a flow table to act accordingly
- Flow table flooding attack wastes controller, forwarding element and bandwidth resources.
- OpenFlow provides a mechanism for storage and retrieval of statistical counters
- Packet Flow Ratio(PFRatio) is used to detect the aforementioned attack.
- PFRatio is defined as the number of packet over the number of flows.
- PFRatio uses topology information such as the existence of switch
- To mitigate such attacks some ports information must be known

Ajay Nehra, Meenakshi Tripathi and M.S.Gaur "**Requirement Analysis for Abstracting Security in Software Defined Network**", *8th International Conference on Computing Communication and Networking Technologies 2017 (8th ICCCNT 2017)*(3 - 5 July, 2017 IIT Delhi, India)

Summary of 'SYN Flooding' attack detection

- An entropy-based early detection and SDN-based mitigation for TCP SYN flooding attacks is proposed.
- Entropy based on traffic features, such as destination IP, destination port and TCP flags is used.
- *SAFETY* is capable of early detection as well as mitigating the attack
- In *SAFETY*, some parts of topology such as the existence of switch is used
- For mitigation in *SAFETY*, some ports information must be known to the controller to block a specific type of traffic.
- Switch to Switch links will also play a significant role in preventive approaches.

Prashant Kumar, Meenakshi Tripathi, Ajay Nehra, Mauro Conti and Chhagan Lal, "[SAFETY: Early Detection and Mitigation of TCP SYN Flood Utilizing Entropy in SDN](#)", *Transactions on Network and Service Management, IEEE, 2018*

- To explore the vulnerability of topology discovery in SDN by performing state art of analysis.
- To develop a preventive solution for LLDP Poison, Flooding and Replay attacks.
- To propose a lightweight and efficient protocol variant for the link discovery process.
- To develop a solution for ARP based threats.

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- Overview
- Solution implementation

- Results & discussion

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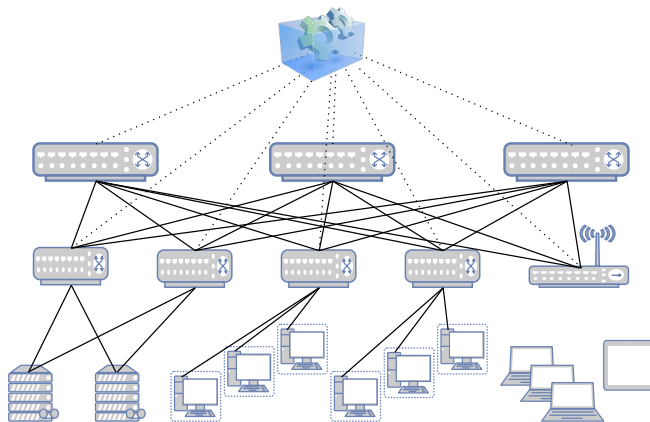
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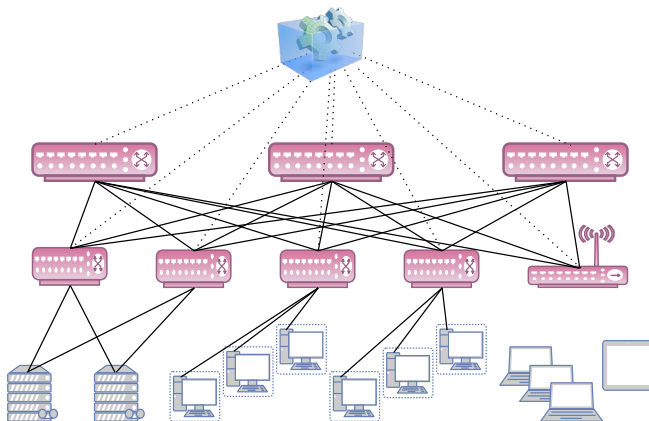
8 Reviewer's Comments and Responses

9 For Further Reading



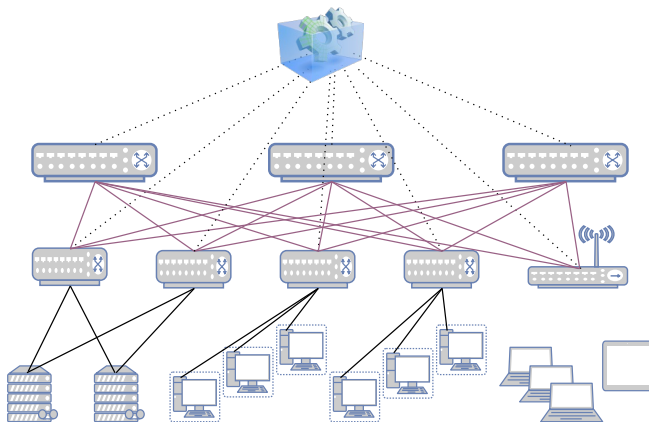
- In SDN, controller 'can' maintain global view
- Global view facilitate some services or applications like shortest path routing, network load balancer

Global view: Switch(s)



- On Switch startup, OFPT_Hello packets are exchanged between switch and controller
- Required for successful implementation of network policy

Global view: Link(s) between Switch(s)



- LLDP/BDDP packets, initiated by controller, pass through switches and confirm link between switches
- Required for topology-aware application or services

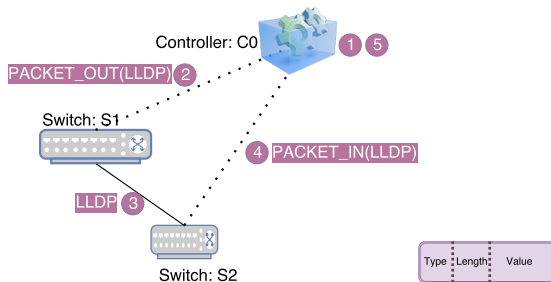


Figure: LLDP movement



Figure: LLDP packet format

- Controller $C = \{Vs, \delta\}$
- View states $Vs = \{\phi, GV', GV\}$
- Transition function $\delta : \langle LLDP \rangle \times Vs \rightarrow Vs$

- Global view $GV = \langle S, L \rangle$
- Partial global view $GV' = \langle S, L' \rangle$
- $\langle LLDP \rangle = \langle CTlv, PTlv, TTIv, UK1Tlv, UK2Tlv \dots UKnTlv, ELLDP \rangle$

- Switch set $S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3 \dots s_n\}$
- Link set $L = \{l_{12}, l_{21}, l_{23}, l_{32} \dots l_{mn}, l_{nm}\}$
- Partial link set $L' : L' \subset L$
- TLV = $\langle Type, Length, Value \rangle$

- $\delta(< LLDP >, \phi) \rightarrow GV'$
- $\delta(< LLDP >, GV') \rightarrow GV'$
- $\delta(< LLDP >, GV') \rightarrow GV$

Attack vector for link discovery

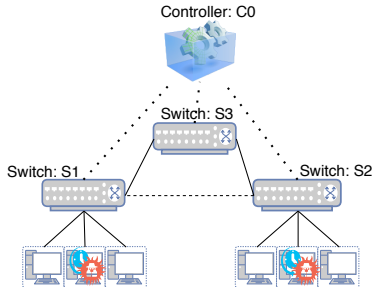


Figure: Sample topology for attack vector

- **Replay Attack (RA)** : A malicious host at switch *S1* receives LLDP and shares it with malicious host attached to *S2*.
- **Poison Attack (PA)**: An attacker at *S1* creates an LLDP packet containing information like Chassis id = 2 and port = 3. Afterwards the switch would forward it to the controller.
- **Flooding Attack (FA)**: A controller receives huge fake crafted link discovery packets.

LLDP Poisoning

- $\delta(\langle LLDP^P \rangle, GV') \rightarrow GV^P$
- $\delta(\langle LLDP^P \rangle, GV) \rightarrow GV^P$ where $GV^P \notin GV$
- $GV^P = \langle S, L^P \rangle \cup \langle S^P, L^P \rangle$ where $S^P \notin S$ and $L^P \notin L$

LLDP Flooding

- $\langle LLDP \rangle$ moves from *DataPlane* \rightarrow *ControlPlane* iff matching flow entry Fe exists
- $Fe = \langle M, A \rangle$ where $M = \{m_1, m_2, ..m_n\}$ and $A = \{a_1, a_2, ..a_n\}$
- iff Fe exists then all packet with M moves from *DataPlane* \rightarrow *ControlPlane*

LLDP Replay

- $\langle LLDP \rangle$ packet generated at the time 't' is $\langle LLDP_t \rangle$
- $[\delta(\langle LLDP_t \rangle, GV') \rightarrow GV^P]_{t'}$
- where $t' > t + latency$

Summary Table for Different Controllers

Controller(Ver.)	Conditional Tlvs					Information Source		Vulnerability	LLDP Attack			Attack
	TlvCnt	CTlv	PTlv	TTlv	SDTlv	Dpid	Port		LP	LF	LR	Type
POX(0.2.0)	✓	✓	✓	✓		CTlv	PTlv	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
Ryu(4.12)		✓	✓			CTlv	PTlv	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
OpenDayLight(3.0.7)					✓	CTlv	PTlv	Partial static hash	✓	✓		LC
FloodLight(1.2)			✓			Uk1Tlv	PTlv	Static hash	✓	✓		LC
Beacon(1.0.4)			✓		✓	Uk1Tlv	PTlv	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
ONOS(1.9.0)		✓				CTlv	PTlv	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
HP VAN(2.7.18)			✓			Uk1Tlv	PTlv	Static hash	✓	✓	✓	RC

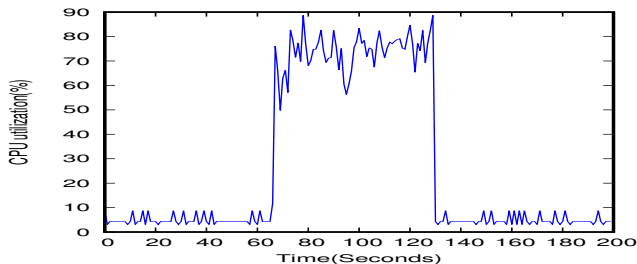


Figure: CPU utilization during LLDP flood

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■ Results & discussion

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9 For Further Reading

Proposed solution

Assumptions

- OVS and RYU neither have bugs nor are malicious
- OVS and RYU are working as per specification
- The designed solution will handle wired network

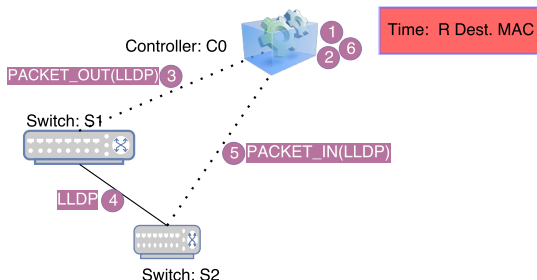


Figure: LLDP movement

R Dest. MAC	Src. MAC	Ethertype 0X88cc	Chassis ID TLV	Port ID TLV	Time to Live TLV	Optional TLVs	End of LLDPDU TLV
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TILAK: Token-based authentication to prevent LLDP threats

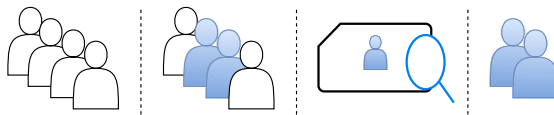


Figure: TILAK overview

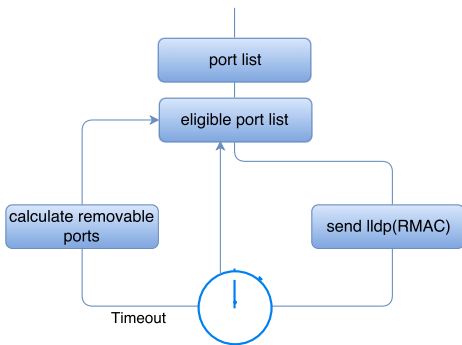


Figure: Eligible port selection

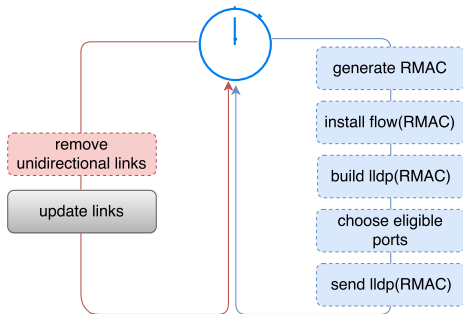


Figure: TILAK flow diagram

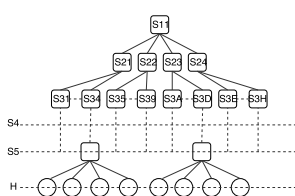


Figure: Topology 1: tree,4,4

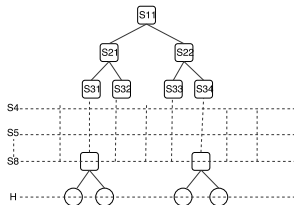


Figure: Topology 2: tree,7,2

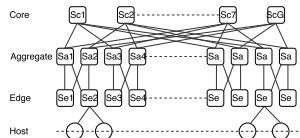


Figure: Topology 3: Fat tree

Topology	Switch	Link	Port	Host
Tree,4,4	85	340	424	256
Tree,7,2	127	254	380	128
Fat tree	80	384	705	64

Table: Number of Switches, Links, Ports and Hosts

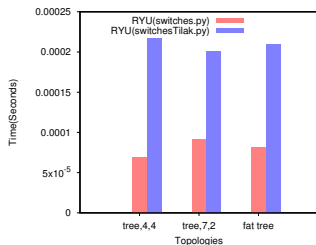


Figure: Packet construction time

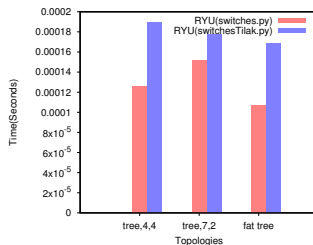


Figure: Packet verification time

Inferences from results

- Time taken by TILAK is higher than original
- It is because of frequent LLDP packet construction and verification

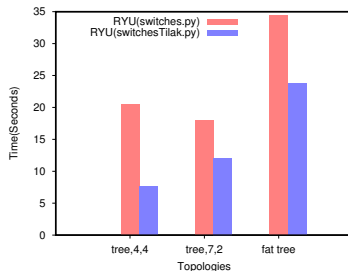
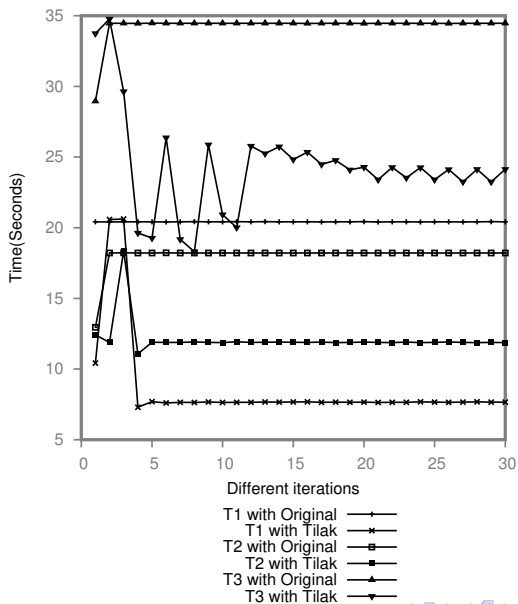


Figure: Performance comparison

Inferences from results

- Resource consumption by the original implementation is higher than TILAK irrespective of the topology
- Initially the time taken for both scenarios in each topology is same
- But after few iterations, TILAK takes less time when compared to scenario without solution



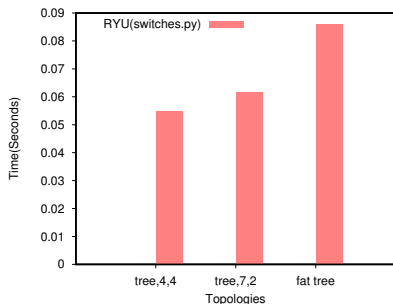


Figure: Initial overhead

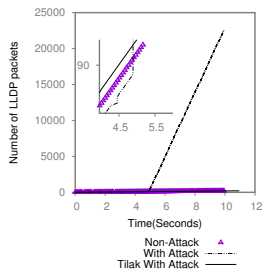


Figure: Evidence for LLDP flooding attack prevention

Inferences from results

- Initial overhead is directly proportional to the number of switches in which a flow entry will be installed and the number of ports for which LLDP packets will be created
- All forged LLDP packets are blocked on the port because of unmatched flow entry for those packets

Link discovery in SDN

- *TopoGuard* [2] and *OFDP_HMAC* [3] uses HMAC authentication with dynamic key
- *SPHINX* [4] uses an abstraction of flow graphs, used to validate all given constraints

Major Shortcomings

- Few are not addressing LLDP flooding attack
- Resource penalty to produce HMAC for each LLDP packet
- Static switch-port bindings

Approach	Authentication	Integrity	LLDP broadcast	Detection	Prevention	Poison	Flood	Replay
TopoGuard [2]		y	y	y		y		
SPHINX [4]			y	y		y		
OFDP_HMAC [3]	y	y	y	y		y		y
TILAK	y				y	y	y	y

Table: Comparison in different solutions of LLDP packet based threats.

Ajay Nehra, Meenakshi Tripathi, M.S.Gaur, Ramesh Babu Battula and Chhagan Lal, "**TILAK: A Token based Prevention Approach for Topology Discovery Threats in SDN**", *International Journal of Communication Systems*, Wiley, 2018

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Motivation for security in link discovery

Controller(Ver.)	Vulnerability	LLDP Attack			Attack Type
		LP	LF	LR	
POX(0.2.0)[5]	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
RYU(4.12)[6]	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
OpenDayLight(3.0.7)[7]	Static hash	✓	✓		LC
FloodLight(1.2)[8]	Static hash	✓	✓		LC
ONOS(1.9.0)[9]	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
HP VAN(2.7.18)[10]	Static hash	✓	✓	✓	RC

Table: Different controllers with attack vector

Approach	Authentication	Integrity	LLDP broadcast	Poison	Flood	Replay
TopoGuard[2]		y	y	y		
SPHINX[4]			y	y		
OFDP_HMAC[3]	y	y	y	y		y
ESLD[11]		y		y		y

Table: Comparison of different research proposals for security

Motivation for lightweight packets



Figure: LLDP/BDDP packet format

Deployments	Size of link discovery frames(bytes)
POX(0.2.0)	41
Ryu(4.12)	40
OpenDayLight(3.0.7)	85
FloodLight(1.2)	75
Beacon(1.0.4)	47
ONOS(1.9.0)	66
HP VAN(2.7.18)	67
Target	$14+8+4=26$

Table: Size in Bytes for different LLDP packets

Motivation for efficient link discovery process

Topology	Switch	Link	Port	Host	eligible ports
tree,4,4	85	340	424	256	168
tree,7,2	127	254	380	128	252
fat tree	80	384	705	64	641

Table: Number of Switches,Links,Ports and Hosts

Non eligible ports

- LLDP packets are generated for each port on each switch
- LLDP packets for hosts attached ports are of no use

Desired characteristics of the proposed SLDP protocol

Secure

- SLDP will probably secure against replay, poison, and flooding attacks
- The controller will work as intended and will prevent the poisoned discovery packet processing. Hence better CPU resource utilization is achieved

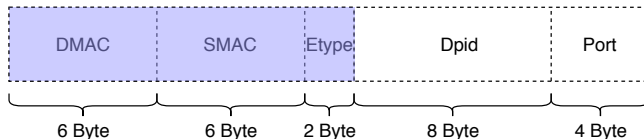
Lightweight

- SLDP packet size must be minimum in the deployed link discovery solutions
- Use less bandwidth and light traffic on network interfaces

Efficient

- SLDP will perform link discovery with less number of packets
- Requires less bandwidth and less CPU resources to generate discovery packets

SLDP frame



Frame values

- DMAC → ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
- SMAC → Random MAC address
- EType → 0xabcd
- dpid → Source dpid
- port → Source port

Assumptions

- OVS and controller neither have bugs nor are malicious
- The designed solution will handle wired network

SLDP

- SLDP must discover the link between two OpenFlow enabled switches.
- SLDP must discover the link between two OpenFlow enabled switches separated with a non-OpenFlow switch.
- SLDP must provide latency for each discovered link.
- SLDP should secure against replay, poison and flooding attacks. **(Secure)**
- SLDP packet size must be kept to minimum. **(Lightweight)**
- SLDP must perform link discovery with less number of packets. **(Efficient)**

Desired characteristics

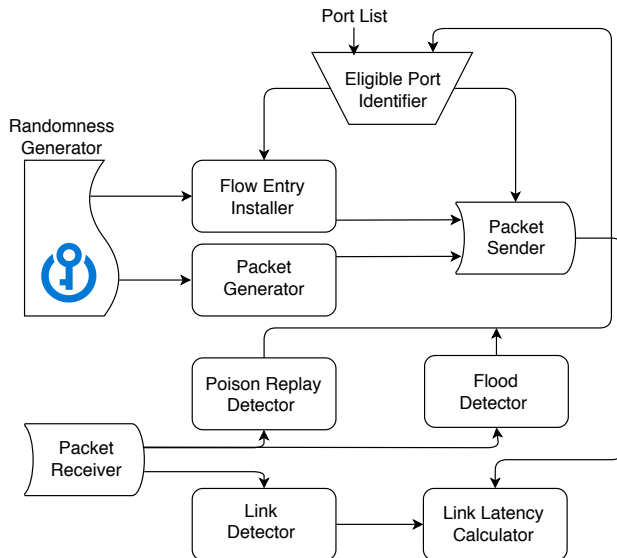
- SLDP must discover the link between two OF-switches
- All unidirectional links in a topology $L = \{l_{12}, l_{21}, l_{23}, l_{32} \dots l_{mn}, l_{nm}\}$
- SLDP's discovered links $D = \{d_{12}, d_{21}, d_{23}, d_{32} \dots d_{mn}, d_{nm}\}$.
- $\forall x[x \in L \iff x \in D]$, i.e., all elements which belong to L must also belong to D .

Desired gain

- A controller's OFDP implementation is generating 'o' bytes link discovery packets
- An SLDP implementation for the same controller is taking 's' bytes
- $p_1, p_2, p_3 \dots p_n$ are ports of switches in a topology
- $h_1, h_2, h_3 \dots h_n$ are the hosts attached to switches on some of the ports
- The total profit in terms of bytes in every five seconds.

$$\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n p_i - \sum_{i=1}^n h_i \right\} \left\{ o - s \right\} \quad (1)$$

SLDP system architecture



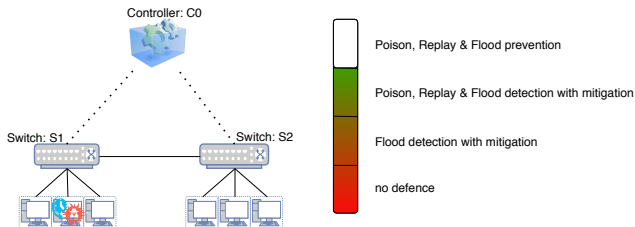
Test case # 1



Description

- An attacker or malicious application is attached to an OpenFlow enabled switch.
- SDLP prevents Poison, Replay and Flooding attacks.

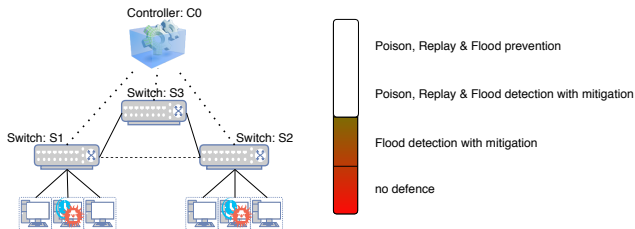
Test case # 2



Description

- An attacker or malicious application is attached to an OpenFlow enabled switch.
- The infected host is running before a switch starts
- SDLP detects and mitigates Poison, Replay and Flooding attacks.

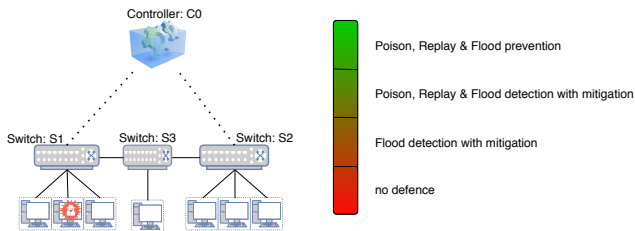
Test case # 3



Description

- Two attacker or malicious application is attached to an OpenFlow enabled switch.
- SDLP detects and mitigates Flooding attacks.

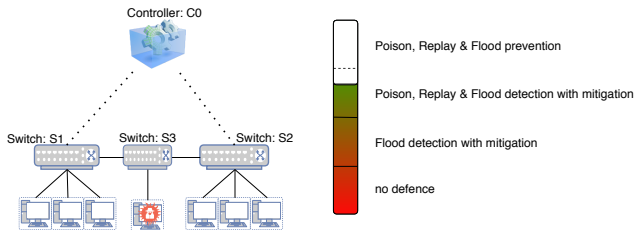
Test case # 4



Description

- A non OpenFlow switch separates link of two OpenFlow switches
- An attacker or malicious application is attached to an OpenFlow enabled switch.
- SDLP prevents Poison, Replay and Flooding attacks.

Test case # 5



Description

- An attacker or malicious application is attached to an non OpenFlow enabled switch.
- SDLP detects and mitigates Poison, Replay and Flooding attacks.

Results

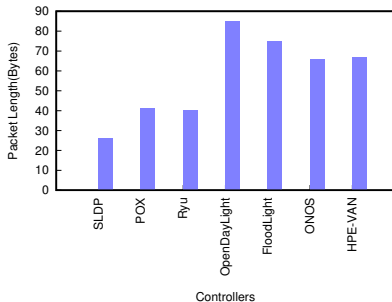


Figure: Link discovery packet length among all controllers

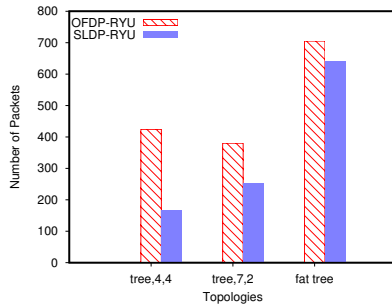


Figure: Number of packets in link discovery with three topologies

Inferences from results

- SLDP removes some unnecessary fields and restructures the packet to reduce the size
- RYU-SLDP always require lesser packets irrespective of topology

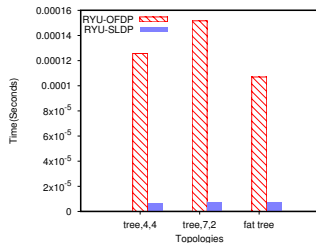


Figure: Link discovery packet verification overhead

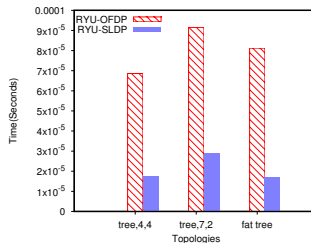


Figure: Link discovery packet construction overhead

Inferences from results

- SLDP use lighter and simple packets which are parsed on a less complex algorithm
- lighter packet takes lesser time to be constructed
- SLDP packets are generated and sent periodically

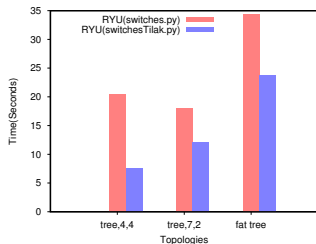


Figure: Computation overhead for link discovery

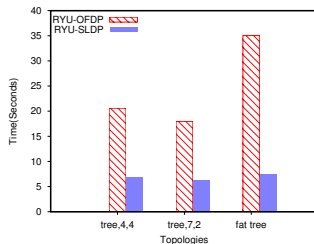


Figure: Topology discovery time

Inferences from results

- SLDP is doing so well because of lightweight and lesser number of the packets
- Initially, all ports are eligible ports but later some ports are declared as non-eligible
- Topology discovery time is the time taken by the controller to build entire topology

Ajay Nehra, Meenakshi Tripathi, M.S.Gaur, Ramesh Babu Battula and Chhagan Lal, "SLDP: A Secure and Lightweight Link Discovery Protocol for Software Defined Networking", *Computer Networks, Elsevier, 2018*.

Published

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- Formal description: global view & threats
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- SLDP system architecture
- Few test cases and results

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- ARP poison & ARP flooding
- Observations(leads to solution)
- FICUR: Traffic pattern based solution
- Existing approaches(traditional network and SDN)

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9 For Further Reading

ARP translation process

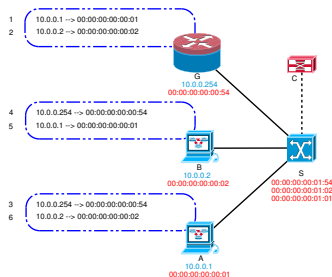
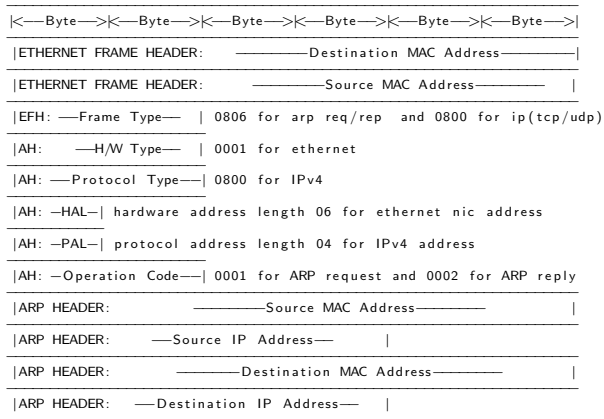


Figure: IP address to MAC address translation with ARP

ARP translation process

- A host needs to send ARP request to initiate communication process
- A genuine ARP reply consists of a valid IP-MAC binding
- Forge ARP will force all the traffic to pass through an invalid host leading to eavesdropping or packet dropping

An ARP frame



- System $S = \{ARP_L, \delta\}$
- ARP list $ARP_L = \{ARP_{E1}, ARP_{E2} \dots ARP_{En}\}$
- $ARP_{Ei} = i^{th}$ ARP entry in ARP_L
- Transition function $\delta : ARP_L \times ARP_E \rightarrow ARP_L$

- $\delta(ARP_L, ARP_E) \rightarrow ARP_L \cup ARP_E$

ARP Poison

- $\delta(ARP_L, ARP_{E(p)}) \rightarrow ARP_L \cup ARP_{E(p)}$

ARP Flooding

- If it is true that $\forall[\delta(ARP_L, ARP_E) \rightarrow ARP_L \cup ARP_E]$
- Then it must be true that $\nexists[\delta(ARP_L, ARP_{E(p)}) \nrightarrow ARP_L \cup ARP_{E(p)}]$

Use Cases

- Man in the Middle Attack
- Denial of Service Attack
- ...

Possible Reason

- No Authentication and Integrity check of ARP packets

Few Observations

[pktType, pktSubType, eventPort, srcIP, srcMAC, dstIP, dstMAC]

```
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:01'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:01')]
['IP', 0, 1, IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:01'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02')]
['IP', 0, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:01')]
['ARP', 1, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 1, IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:01'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:01'), IPAddr('10.0.0.3'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:01')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:01'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:01')]
```

Figure: Normal sequence for IP and ARP packet in communication

```
['ARP', 1, 3, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:03'), IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 1, IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:01'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:03')]
['ARP', 1, 3, IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:03'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.0.0.1'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:03')]
```

Figure: ARP packets sequence in case of Man in the Middle attack

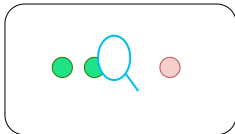
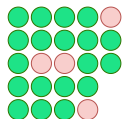
```
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.185.191.149'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:aa:04:4a')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.93.32.88'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:31:4c:7d'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.93.32.88'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:31:4c:7d')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.111.49.233'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:f6:58:a9'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.111.49.233'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:f6:58:a9')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.84.7.151'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:d3:e2:80'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.84.7.151'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:d3:e2:80')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.86.187.2'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:4c:45:3a'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.86.187.2'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:4c:45:3a')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.89.252.42'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:82:33:f3'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.89.252.42'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:82:33:f3')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.22.101.179'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:38:18:c6'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.22.101.179'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:38:18:c6')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.1.13.244'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:01:05:30'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.1.13.244'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:01:05:30')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.24.94.92'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:a4:10:8d'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.24.94.92'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:a4:10:8d')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.131.209.137'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:09:a5:c8'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
['ARP', 2, 2, IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:02'), IPAddr('10.131.209.137'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:09:a5:c8')]
['ARP', 1, 1, IPAddr('10.83.68.201'), EthAddr('e0:69:95:f8:05:b6'), IPAddr('10.0.0.2'), EthAddr('00:00:00:00:00:00')]
```

Figure: ARP packets sequence in case of ARP flood

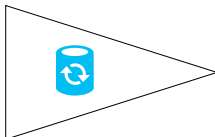
ARP & IP Packets

Suspicious ARP

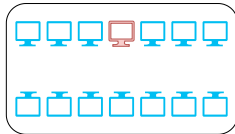
Attacker Information



Attack Detection



Source Localization



Attack Mitigation

Figure: FICUR block diagram

Proposed detection technique: FICUR

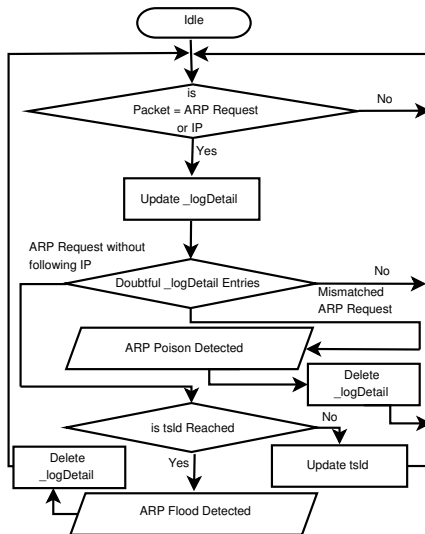
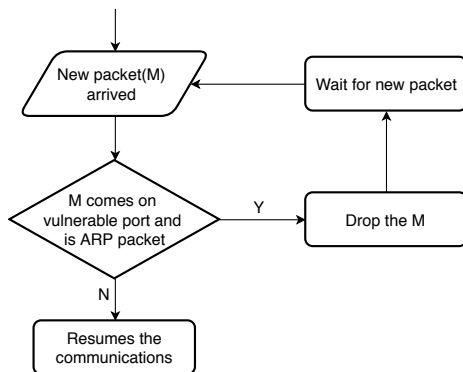


Figure: Overall flowchart for FICUR



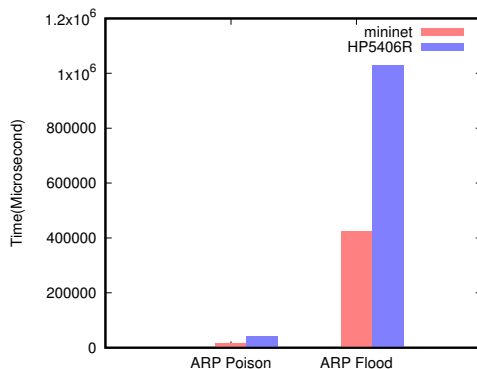


Figure: Attack detection time

Statistics

- ARP poison attacks are detected in 16056, 42840 microseconds
- ARP flood attacks are detected in 422517, 1028160 microseconds

In traditional network and SDN

- Pre-stored MAC/IP binding(DHCP,SNMP,...)[12][13][14][15][4]
- Cryptographic solution[16][17][18]
- Statistical predictions[19][20]

Major shortcomings

- Protocol dependent
- lookup process becomes very time-consuming
- resource intensive solutions

FICUR limitations

- Each ARP packet is traveling to controller
- Periodic probe to calculate ratio is resource intensive

Ajay Nehra, Meenakshi Tripathi and M.S.Gaur "FICUR: Employing SDN Programmability to Secure ARP", *IEEE 7th Annual Computing and Communication Workshop and Conference*(9 - 11 January, 2017 Las Vegas, USA)

- LLDP Poison, LLDP Flooding, and LLDP Replay attacks are possible on current deployments.
- Available literature for secure link discovery is inadequate.
- A novel solution called TILAK can prevent LLDP based security threats.
- The current version of link discovery is using borrowed LLDP frame.
- SDLP is a secure, efficient and lightweight link discovery protocol for SDN.
- Without securing data link layer host discovery, secure topology discovery is hard to imagine.
- FICUR utilizes the match and filter-ability of SDN to detect and mitigate the ARP-based attacks.

- If the controller or switch is malicious, it is more challenging to prevent, detect or mitigate Poison attack
- The controller assumes that connected switch follows OpenFlow specifications. But if not, then what?
- Optimal time for SLDP period is yet to be proved practically.
- Distributed link discovery is challenging
- FICUR is not scalable for the enterprise network
- FICUR with DoS detection system can be investigated.

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- 'SYN Flooding' attack detection J
- Objectives

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8 Reviewer's Comments and Responses

9 For Further Reading

1A. Which data set researcher has used? Which environment proposed algorithms are suitable?

Response: Mostly, data sets are used for analysis, processing, training, and classification of pre-stored data. In our research, no such data is used for training and classification. Instead of creating a data trained classification model, our approach use algorithm restricted classification model. The recent orthogonal researches agree with the same. To prove the correctness we used a theoretical approach. To generate traffic, valid LLDP, SLDP and ARP packets are created and emulated on the mininet environment. Results are validated on three different topologies with the following specification.

Topology	Switch	Link	Port	Host
Tree,4,4	85	340	424	256
Tree,7,2	127	254	380	128
Fat tree	80	384	705	64

Table: Number of Switches, Links, Ports and Hosts

1B. How the researcher compares his findings with present state-of-the-art?

Response: Our work can be divided into three parts to compare the results with present state-of-the-art.

TILAK:

Controller(Ver.)	Vulnerability	LLDP Attack			Attack Type
		LP	LF	LR	
POX(0.2.0) [5]	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
Ryu(4.12) [6]	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
OpenDayLight(3.0.7) [7]	Static hash	✓	✓		LC
Floodlight(1.2) [8]	Static hash	✓	✓		LC
ONOS(1.9.0) [9]	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
HPE-VAN(2.7.18) [10]	Static hash	✓	✓	✓	RC
Beacon(1.0.4) [21]	No hash	✓	✓	✓	RC

Table: Different controllers with attack vector

Approach	Authentication	Integrity	LLDP broadcast	Detection	Prevention	Poison	Flooding	Replay
TopoGuard [2]		y	y	y		y		
SPHINX [4]			y	y		y		
OFDP_HMAC [3]	y	y	y	y		y		y
TILAK [22]	y				y	y	y	y

Table: Comparison in different solutions of LLDP packet based threats

How the researcher compares his findings with present state-of-the-art?

- Overhead: TopoGuard[2] 4.56%, OFDP_HMAC[3] 8%, TILAK (-)40.32%.

SLDP:

Deployments	Size of link discovery frames(bytes)
POX(0.2.0)[5]	41
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Table: Length of different LLDP packets

Topology	Switch	Link	Port	Host	eligible ports
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Tree,7,2	127	254	380	128	252
Fat tree	80	384	705	64	641

Table: Eligible ports in different topologies

FICUR: is not using pre-stored MAC/IP bindings or cryptographic hash

1C. The English is generally correct. There are still few mistakes, the document required to be checked.

Response: The thesis is edited as per the given suggestions and also incorporated some additional grammatical corrections.

2A. Pg. no. 3, "Lets start with two problems and unique solutions to examine whether topology information can make help to design an attractive solution or not?....." Clearly mention the number with the problems and "attractive solution" for what??

Response: Exactly two problems i.e. flow entry flooding and SYN flooding are investigated and the solutions are provided for the same. The thesis is modified accordingly. Lets start with two security problems and their unique solutions to examine whether topology information can help in designing an attractive solution? Problems are related to flow entry flooding and SYN flooding.

2B. Pg. no. 4 "a particular service irrespective of its location will generate packets with same destination IP and port address....." will it always be considered the malicious situation or it can be genuine also, specify???

Response: Following text is added to the thesis.

To perform an attack with the highest possible strength, packets with the same destination IP and destination port have to be generated by a single malicious host or a group of malicious hosts. The attacker may also perform a low-intensity attack from the network and wait for other attack probes from outside the network.

2C. Pg. no. 64, " in production network, usually Drop all others rule is applied for unknown traffic....." provide citation for this claim.

Response: It is an unintentional grammatical error so the text is modified as follows. Thus, in the production network, usually Drop all others rule can be applied for unknown traffic.

2D. Pg. no. 92, "Packet generator takes random source MAC and creates SLDP packet." how the random source address is generated??

Response: Following text is added to the thesis.

To generate random MAC addresses, a python based cryptographically secure pseudo-random number generator i.e. `os.urandom()` is used.

2E. Pg. no. 94, " If a port is not receiving an SLDP packet for a long time....." what is the duration of long time?

Response: Following text is added to the thesis.

tflow is taken as 10 seconds as an observational threshold. The optimal tflow calculation is one of the future works.

2F. Pg. no. 99, "B: Poison, Replay, and Flooding detection and mitigation C: Flooding attacks detection and mitigation....." how two flooding attacks are different or why to put them in 2 categories?

Response: These two are a different level of security provided by SLDP. In case B, Poison, Replay and Flooding attacks can be detected and mitigated. In case C, Only Flooding attack detection and mitigation can be done.

2G. Pg. no. 130, "Consider the case, that the attacker also producing IP traffic with ARP traffic to fool the solution. But this will leads to degrading the attack magnitude. " not finding any flow between these two claims, rewrite them.

Response: Statements are rewritten in the thesis.

"Consider the case, that the attacker also produces IP traffic along with ARP traffic to fool the solution. To generate IP traffic the attacker has to invest resources. But this will lead to degradation of the attack magnitude."

2H. The thesis has minor English mistakes so it is suggested correct them before final printing.

Response: The thesis is edited as per the given suggestions and also incorporated some additional grammatical corrections.

1 Coursework and Publication Details

2 SDN Introduction

- Traditional network vs SDN
- Motivation for SDN

3 Motivation

- Wide research spectrum
- 'Flow Table Flooding' attack detection C
- 'SYN Flooding' attack detection J
- Objectives

4 Link Discovery C

- Global view & link discovery
- Formal description: global view & threats
- Existing implementations & vulnerabilities

5 TILAK: Token Based Prevention J

- Overview
- Solution implementation

- Results & discussion

6 SLDP: SDN Link Discovery Protocol J

- Motivations for new variant
- Desired characteristics
- SLDP frame
- SLDP system architecture
- Few test cases and results

7 ARP Threats in SDN C

- Overview
- ARP poison & ARP flooding
- Observations(leads to solution)
- FICUR: Traffic pattern based solution
- Existing approaches(traditional network and SDN)

8 Reviewer's Comments and Responses

9 For Further Reading



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