

Computer Security Capstone

Project I: IPsec Session Hijacking

Chi-Yu Li (2023 Spring)

Computer Science Department

National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University

Goals

- Understand how to hijack IPsec sessions
- You will learn about
 - ❑ the IPsec operation
 - ❑ fabricating packets using raw socket
 - ❑ fabricating IPsec ESP headers and authentication data
 - ❑ fabricating TCP packets

What is IPsec?

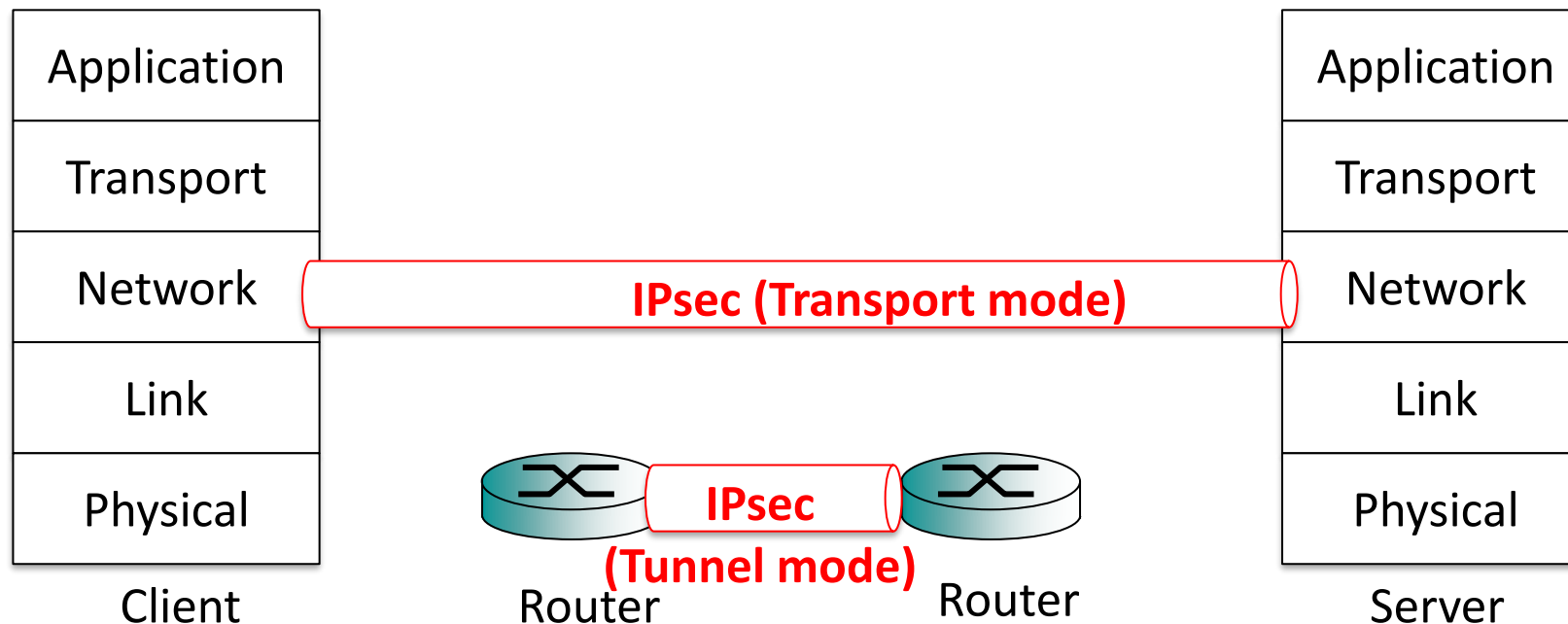
- Internet Protocol Security (IPsec) is a secure network protocol suite
 - ▣ It provides secure communication by authenticating and encrypting data packets
 - ▣ It ensures the confidentiality and integrity of the data
- Two main functions
 - ▣ Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP): a combined authentication/encryption function
 - ▣ A key exchange function: Internet Key Exchange standard (IKEv2)

IPsec Primer: Security Associations

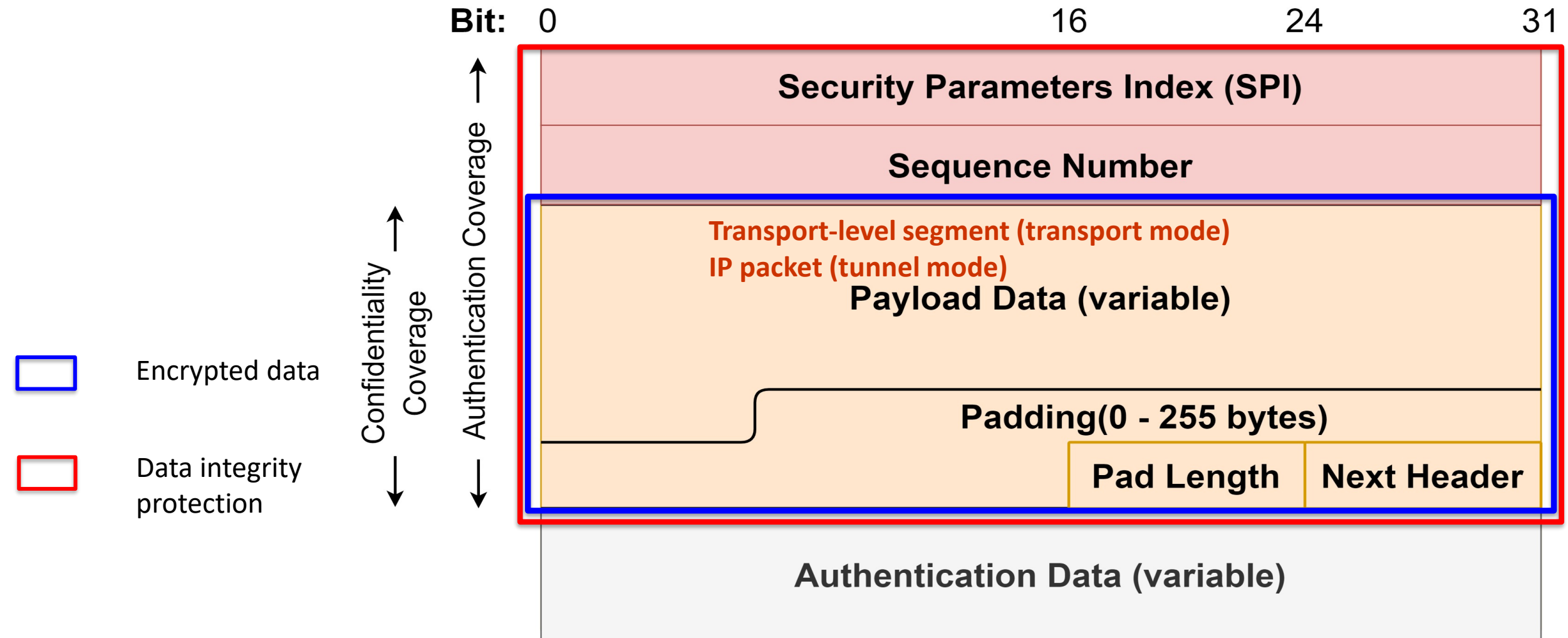
- A key concept of IPsec
 - ❑ One-way relationship between a sender and a receiver
 - ❑ Two-way secure exchange: two SAs are required
- Uniquely identified by three parameters
 - ❑ Security parameter index (SPI)
 - ❑ IP destination address
 - ❑ Protocol identifier: AH or ESP

IPsec Primer: Two IPsec Operation Modes

- Transport and Tunnel modes



IPsec Primer: Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)



IPsec Primer: Transport and Tunnel Modes

Transport Mode

- Protection: the payload of an IP packet
- Typically used for end-to-end communication between two hosts
- ESP protects the IP payload but not the IP header

Tunnel Mode

- Protection: the entire IP packet
- Entire original packet travels through a tunnel from one point to another
- Used when one or both ends of a security association are a security gateway
- Hosts on networks behind firewalls may engage in secure communications without implementing IPsec

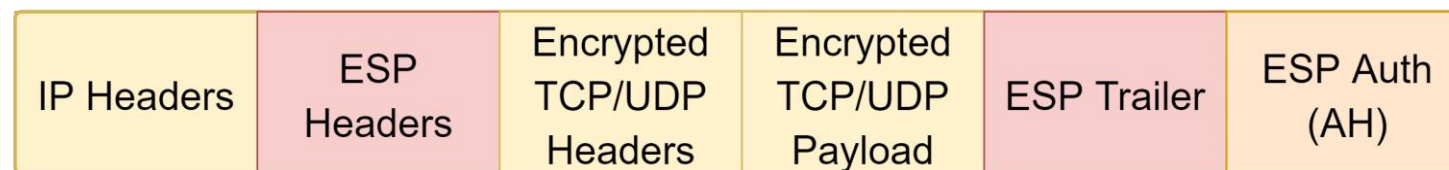
IPsec Primer: AH + ESP

- IP AH only

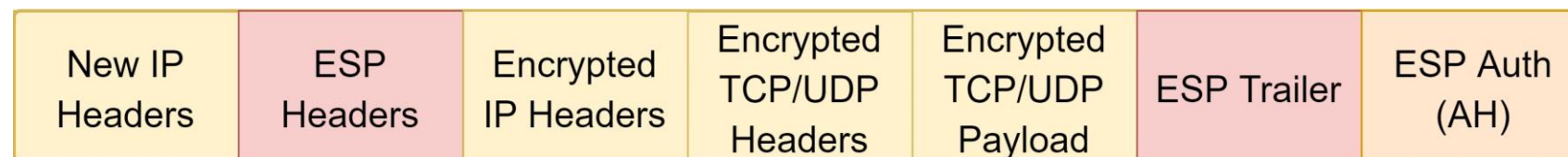


- IP AH + ESP

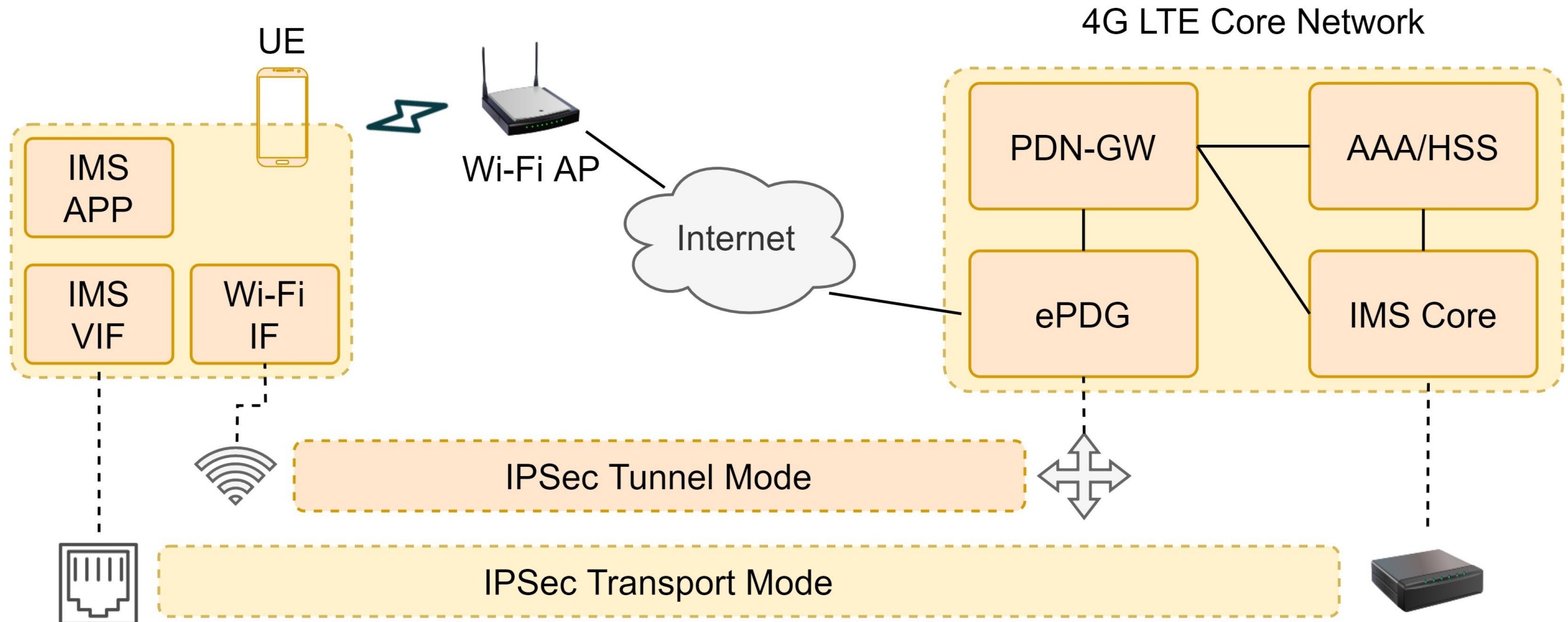
- Transport mode



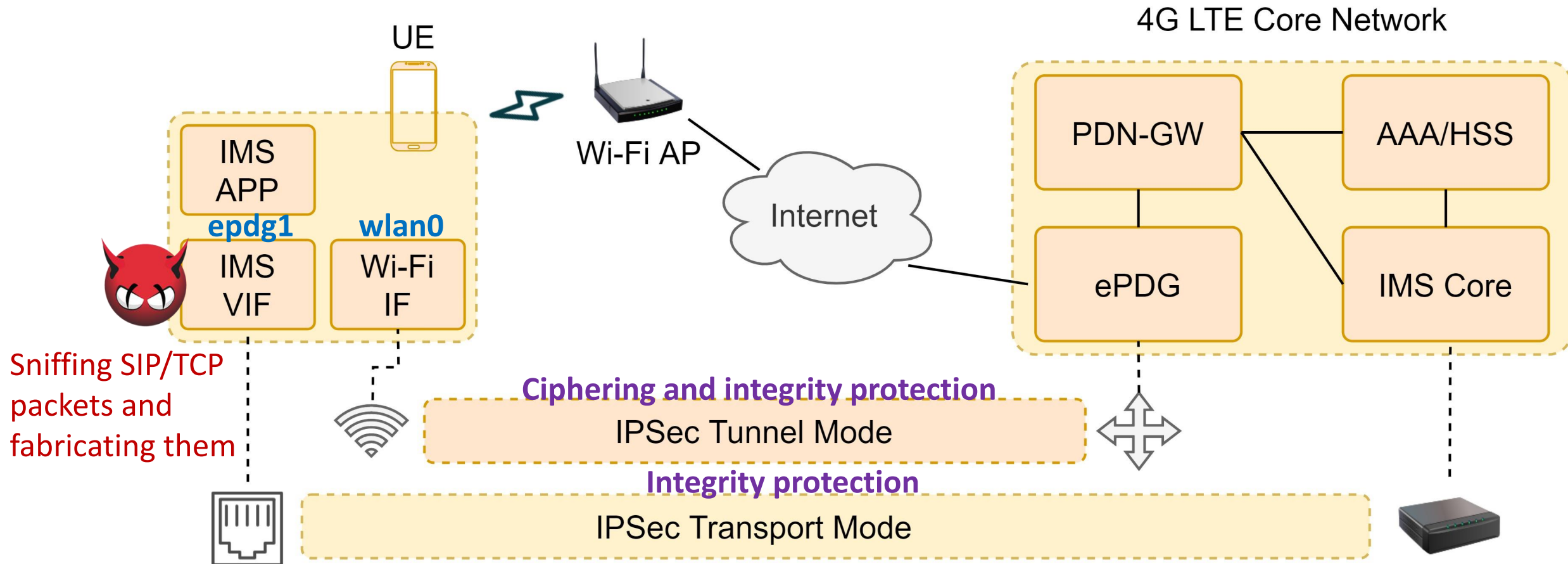
- Tunnel mode



VoWi-Fi Security



IPSec Hijacking Attack



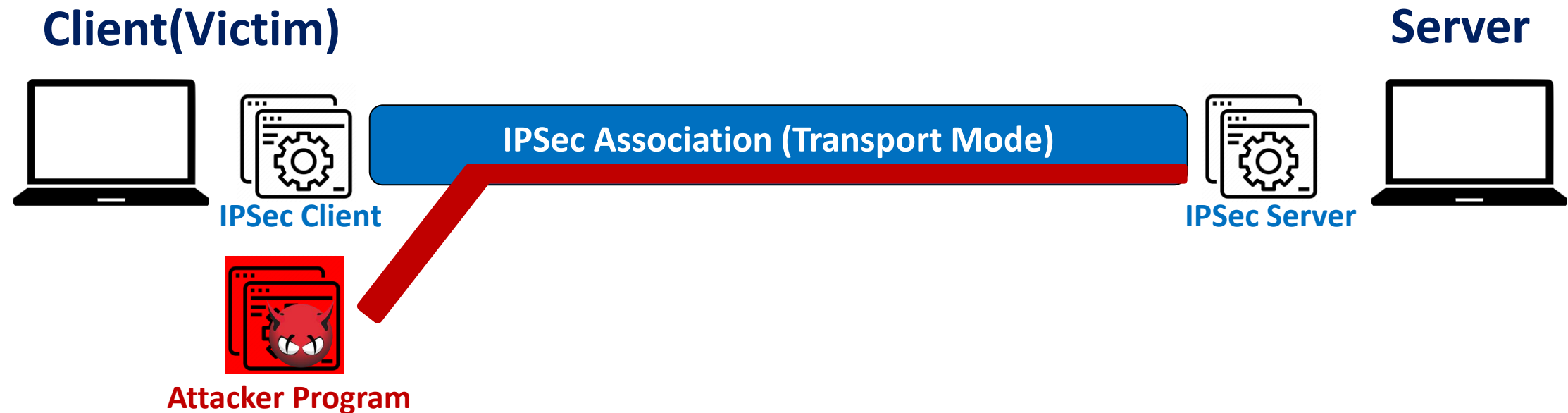
Attack Scenario in this Project

- Scenario: The TCP client has set up IPsec associations in transport mode for secure communication with a TCP server
- Attacker: Executing a malicious program to hijack the IPsec/TCP session



How to Proceed?

- Executing provided programs to establish the IPsec/TCP session
- Developing an attacker program on Client to hijack the IPsec/TCP session
- Sending specific flags to the server using the attacker program
 - With the successful hijacking, the server can reply to the flags with correct responses



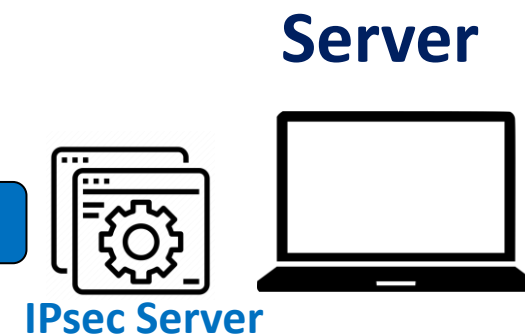
Environment Setup

- Using two devices, designated as the client and the server, and establishing the IPsec/TCP session between them.
- Please download a [VM image](#), including all the programs and sample codes in the Home directory
 - ❑ username/password: csc2023/csc2023

Client(Victim)



IPsec/TCP Session (Transport Mode)



Step 1: Run `sudo sh ipsec_victim.sh`

`sudo sh ipsec_server.sh`

(Using sudo; replacing the IP address and port with yours in the sh file)

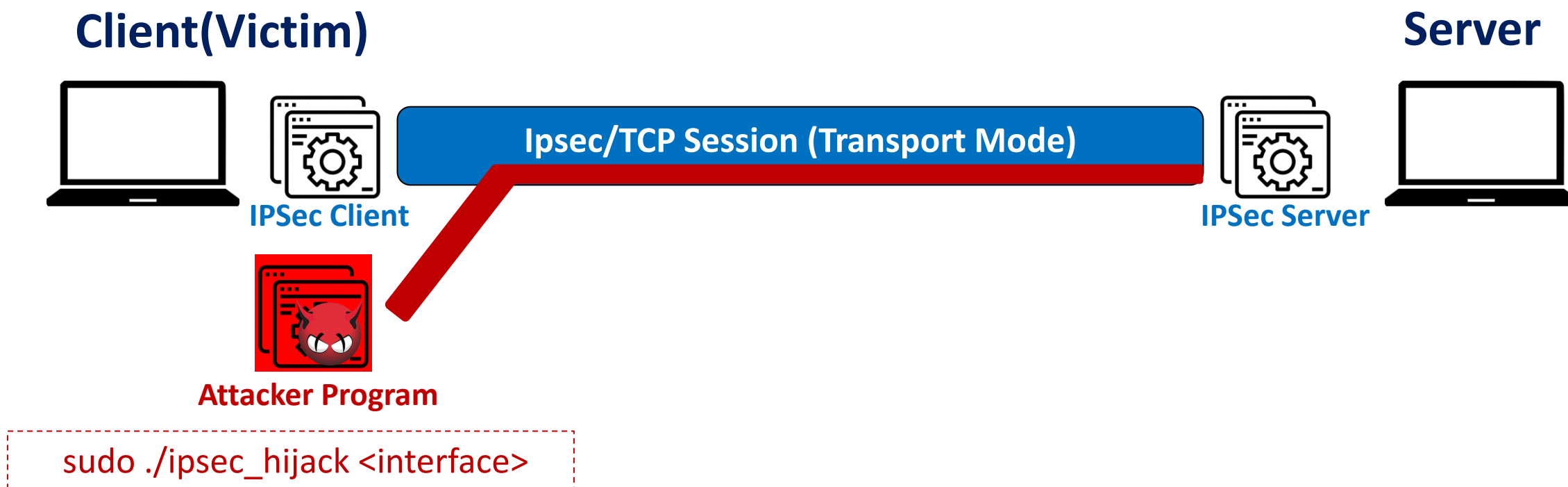
Step 2: Run `./tcp_client <server_ip> <server_port> -bp <victim_port>`

`./tcp_server <server_port>`

(Putting the file answer.txt into the same directory as tcp_server)

Attack: IPSec/TCP Session Hijacking

- Developing a program, `ipsec_hijack`, to hijack the IPsec/TCP session



What should the attacker program do?

- Realtime information monitoring and collection

- Getting session information from SIP and TCP headers, e.g., TCP sequence number and ESP SPI
- Retrieving IPsec security context (e.g., ESP authentication key) from Security Association Database (SAD)

- IPsec/TCP packet fabrication

- Fabricating TCP/IPsec/IP headers, including all the fields and checksum
- Generating ESP padding
 - The Pad Length and Next Header fields must be right aligned with a 4-byte word (RFC4303 Section 2.4)
- Generation ESP Authentication data
 - Using `hmac_sha1_96`

Todo Check List for Sample Codes

File	Description
./src/dev.c	Fill up struct sockaddr_ll addr which will be used to bind in function set_sock_fd
./src/dev.c	store the whole frame into self->frame
./src/transport.c	Finish TCP checksum calculation
./src/transport.c	Collect information from segm
./src/transport.c	Fill up self->tcphdr
./src/net.c	Finish IP checksum calculation
./src/net.c	Collect information from pkt.
./src/net.c	Fill up self->ip4hdr
./src/esp.c	Dump authentication key from security association database (SAD)
./src/esp.c	Fill up self->pad and self->pad_len (Ref. RFC4303 Section 2.4)
./src/esp.c	Put everything needed to be authenticated into buff and add up nb
./src/esp.c	Collect information from esp_pkt.
./src/esp.c	Fill up ESP header and trailer

Three Verification Steps

- Step I: The server can receive fabricated IPsec packets belonging to the existing IPsec session (40%)
- Step II: The attacker program can correctly exchange TCP packets (data and ACK) with the server through the fabricated IPsec packets (30%)
- Step III: The attacker program can interact with the server with multiple handshakes (30%)

Step I: the server can receive fabricated IPsec packets belonging to the existing IPsec session

● Using Wireshark

- ❑ Client/Attacker program: 172.17.1.1
- ❑ Server: 172.17.100.254

	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.0000000000	172.17.1.1	172.17.100.254	ESP	90	ESP (SPI=0x0000c6f8)
2	0.001400812	172.17.100.254	172.17.1.1	ESP	90	ESP (SPI=0xfb170e3f)
3	0.001441966	172.17.1.1	172.17.100.254	ESP	78	ESP (SPI=0x0000c6f8)
4	0.001633348	172.17.1.1	172.17.100.254	ESP	146	ESP (SPI=0x0000c6f8)
5	0.002686062	172.17.100.254	172.17.1.1	ESP	78	ESP (SPI=0xfb170e3f)
6	1.002215880	172.17.1.1	172.17.100.254	ESP	146	ESP (SPI=0x0000c6f8)
7	1.003546560	172.17.100.254	172.17.1.1	ESP	78	ESP (SPI=0xfb170e3f)
8	2.002884014	172.17.1.1	172.17.100.254	ESP	146	ESP (SPI=0x0000c6f8)
9	2.004261232	172.17.100.254	172.17.1.1	ESP	78	ESP (SPI=0xfb170e3f)

Step II: the attacker program can correctly exchange TCP packets with the server through the fabricated IPsec packets

● Using Wireshark

- ❑ Client/Attacker program: 172.17.1.1
- ❑ Server: 172.17.100.254
- ❑ Modify the Wireshark Preferences to enable dissecting of raw data

Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1 0.0000000000	172.17.1.1	172.17.100.254	TCP	90	2222 → 1111 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 SACK_
2 0.001400812	172.17.100.254	172.17.1.1	TCP	90	1111 → 2222 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS
3 0.001441966	172.17.1.1	172.17.100.254	TCP	78	2222 → 1111 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=64512 Len=0
4 0.001633348	172.17.1.1	172.17.100.254	TCP	146	2222 → 1111 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=64512 Len=67
5 0.002686062	172.17.100.254	172.17.1.1	TCP	78	1111 → 2222 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=68 Win=64512 Len=0
6 1.002215880	172.17.1.1	172.17.100.254	TCP	146	2222 → 1111 [PSH, ACK] Seq=68 Ack=1 Win=64512 Len=67
7 1.003546560	172.17.100.254	172.17.1.1	TCP	78	1111 → 2222 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=135 Win=64512 Len=0
8 2.002884014	172.17.1.1	172.17.100.254	TCP	146	2222 → 1111 [PSH, ACK] Seq=135 Ack=1 Win=64512 Len=67
9 2.004261232	172.17.100.254	172.17.1.1	TCP	78	1111 → 2222 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=202 Win=64512 Len=0

Step III: Multiple Handshake Tests with Three Flags

- An example with an invalid flag and two valid flags

```
smartphone# ./ipsec_hijack wlan0
you can start to send the flag...
abc123      Invalid flag
flag1      Valid flag
get secret:
secret1
flag2      Valid flag
get secret:
secret2
```

Important: How to Prepare Your Attack Program?

- Must provide a **Makefile** which compiles your source codes into one executable file, named **ipsec_hijack** (**Missing: -20%**)
- Your developed attacker program shall be run in the provided VM which serves as the client
- Recommended development language: C/C++
- Using the given program framework is not necessary

Project Submission

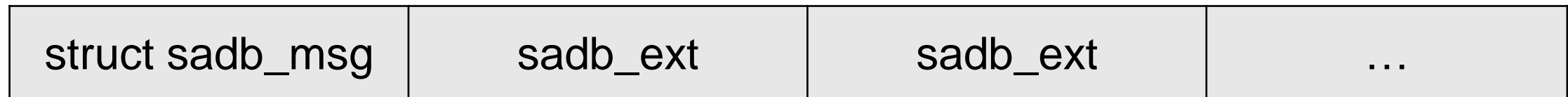
- Due date: 3/15 11:55pm
- Makeup submission & demo (75 points at most): TBA (After the final)
- Submission rules
 - ❑ Put all your files into a directory and name it using your student ID(s)
 - If your team has two members, please concatenate your IDs separated by “-”
 - ❑ Zip the directory and upload the zip file to E3
 - ❑ A sample of the zip file: 01212112-02121221.zip
 - Makefile
 -
- Teamwork is allowed
 - ❑ Up to two members for each team

Project Demo

- Date: 3/17
- TA will prepare two VMs to run as the client and the server, respectively
 - ▣ Your zip file will be put into the client
- You will
 - ▣ be asked to launch an IPsec/TCP hijacking attack
 - ▣ be only allowed to “make” to compile all your files, and run your attack binary programs or scripts
 - ▣ be not allowed to modify your codes or scripts
 - ▣ be not allowed to install any programs or libraries in the VM
 - ▣ be asked some questions
 - ▣ be responsible to show the outcome to TA and explain why you have successfully achieved the goals

Hint 1: How to Get Key from SAD?

- The message format from SAD



- Each extension begins with a 16-bit ext_len and a 16-bit ext_type field
- Getting the key from the extension with sadb_ext_type
“SADB_EXT_KEY_AUTH”

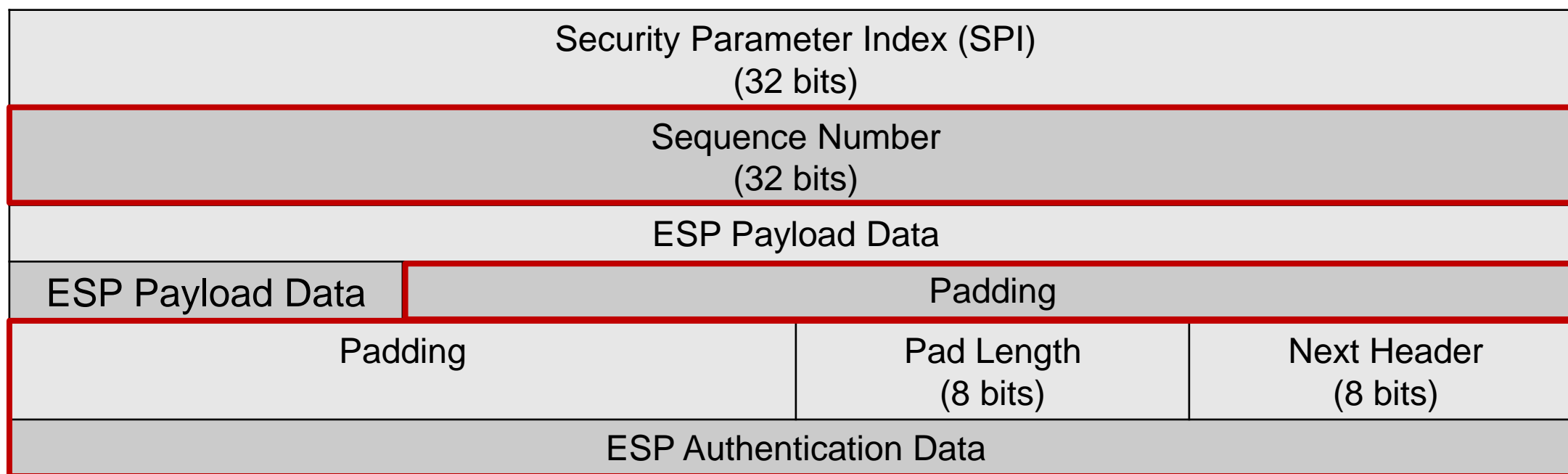
Hint 2: Which Packet Fields Need be Modified?

- IP header: struct iphdr in `<netinet/ip.h>`

Version (4 bits)	IHL (4 bits)	Type of Service (8 bits)	Total Length (16 bits)	
Identification (16 bits)			Flags (3 bits)	Fragment Offset (13 bits)
Time to Live (8 bits)		Protocol (8 bits)	Header Checksum (16 bits)	
Source Address (32 bits)				
Destination Address (32 bits)				
Options (multiple of 32 bits)				

Hint 2: Which Packet Fields Need be Modified? (cont.)

- ESP header



Hint 2: Which Packet Fields Need be Modified? (cont.)

- TCP header: “struct tcphdr” in <netinet/tcp.h>

Source Port (16 bits)								Destination Port (16 bits)							
Sequence Number (32 bits)															
Acknowledge Number (32 bits)															
Header Length (4 bits)	Reserved Bits (6 bits)	U R G	A C K	P S H	R S T	S Y N	F I N	Window Size (16 bits)							
Checksum (16 bits)								Urgent Pointer (16 bits)							
Options															

Questions?