Test Bed Overview

Our testbed includes the following:

- WiFi framework provided by [1]
 - Includes hostap implementation that is the same as the general hostap driver but customized to handle the framework
 - Includes predefined and custom test cases for processing WiFi messages, but is expandable for further customization
 - Our modified hostap source files simply allow for denying pre-authentication messages from the access point to allow for monitoring the station's reaction

Installing the testbed

First, download the WiFi Framework at https://github.com/domienschepers/wifi-framework

- a. Download our customized hostap files and Python test
 - i. Files included in the submission
 - ii. Follow the README included with the customized files to understand where they must be placed
 - 1. They will be placed in sub directories for the hostap dependency included in the framework
- b. Follow the WiFi Framework install instructions on the main Github page (https://github.com/domienschepers/wifi-framework)
 - i. Run the following commands to ensure required packages are installed:
 - 1. apt-get update
 - 2. apt-get install git make gcc python3-venv net-tools
 - 3. apt-get install libdbus-1-dev libnl-3-dev libnl-genl-3-dev libnl-route-3-dev libssl-dev
 - ii. Change to the dependencies directory and run build.sh with sudo
 - iii. Change to the setup directory and run pysetup.sh with sudo
 - 1. Use git submodule init and git submodule update with sudo to enable libwifi
 - iv. WPA2 is used by default, so we must change the configuration options to use WPA3
 - 1. Change to the setup directory and run the following commands:
 - a. sudo mv supplicant.conf old-supplicant.conf
 - b. sudo ln -s supplicant-wpa3-personal.conf supplicant.conf
 - c. sudo ./load-config.sh wpa3-personal
 - v. The usage instructions for the framework are also included on the Github page. You can activate the Python environment using the source command, but we ran everything in the generic environment

- c. Create virtual interfaces by running the setup-hwsim.sh file in the setup directory with sudo
 - i. Ex. sudo ./setup/setup-hwsim.sh 3
 - 1. This creates 3 interfaces (1 to act as an access point, 1 to act as a station, and 1 to act as our monitor interface
 - ii. Turn wlan2 into a monitor interface
 - 1. sudo ifconfig wlan2 down
 - 2. sudo iwconfig wlan2 mode monitor
 - 3. sudo ifconfig wlan2 up

Step-by-step instructions to reproduce the issue

- Start Wireshark with sudo and start monitoring on the wlan2 interface
- Run the desired ap denial test
 - sudo python3 run.py wlan0 [TEST NAME]
 - The test names are outlined in test-dos.py
 - ap-deny-probe-response
 - ap-deny-auth-commit
 - ap-deny-auth-confirm
 - ap-deny-assoc-resp
 - You should now see beacon frames occurring in Wireshark and occasional probe frames from wlan1
- Run the station connection test (this is one that is included in the WiFi Framework)
 - Sudo python3 run.py wlan1 example-demo

Proof-of-concept or exploit code

Each denial of service test will be further shown and outlined below. You may reference the list in the previous section to further understand how the station interacts in each test. Each test simply integrates a boolean that can be set in the Python Framework user-defined test that will change the functionality of hostap. There is a simple if statement in each section of code that would permit sending of the targeted access point messages.

Note

Access Point: 20:00:00:00:00:00

Station: 20:00:00:00:01:00

Denying Authentication Commits from the Access Point

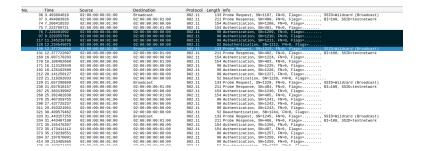
Skip authentication commit in ieee802_11.c in src/ap

Skip authentication commit in sae.c in src/common

Last authentication commit followed by deauthentication and return to probing for retry

Denying Authentication Confirms from the Access Point

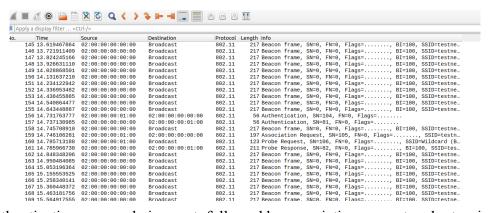
Skip authentication confirm in ieee802 11.c in dependencies/hostap 2 9/src/ap



Denying Association Responses from the Access Point

Skip association response in ieee802 11.c in dependencies/hostap 2 9/src/ap

Association request being resent but eventually returning to probing



Authentication success being sent, followed by association request and returning to probing

References

[1] D. Schepers, M. Vanhoef, and A. Ranganathan, "A framework to test and Fuzz Wi-Fi devices," *In Proceedings of the 14th ACM Conference on Security and Privacy in Wireless and Mobile Networks (WiSec 2021)*. June 2021.