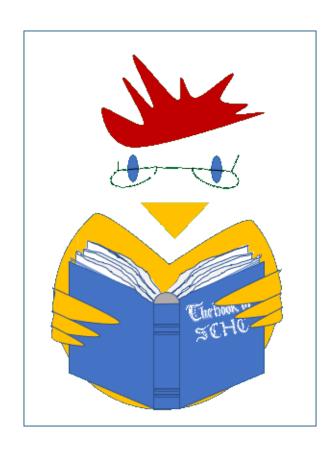
THE BOOK OF SCHC

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IMT ATLANTIQUE

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Acronyms

AS Application Server
CBOR Concise Binaire Object Representation
CoAP Constrained Application Protocol
IP Internet Protocol
IPv4 Internet Protocol version 4

IPv6 Internet Protocol version 6LPWAN Low Power Wide Area NetworkLNS LoRaWAN Network Server



1. Getting started

OpenSCHC offers an easy way to understand and experiment the compression/decompression mechanism as well as the fragmentation protocol. We start be illustrating compression and fragmentation process defined in RFC 8724. To simplify experiments, OpenSCHC does not require to run on a LPWAN network, experiments can run on a regular network using UDP tunnels.

1.1 Installation

1.1.1 Download code

To download openSCHC, just clone the opensche repository on github.

- > git clone git@github.com:openschc/openschc.git
 and use the scapy branch.
- > git checkout scapy

1.1.2 Setting up the environment

For testing SCHC compression and fragmentation d-features, we need to generate some IPv6 packets, that will be caught by openSCHC and processed.

An IPv6 prefix is needed for that traffic. A simple way to get a global IPv6 prefix is to use Hurricane Electric tunnel broker:

Hurricane Electric

- Go to that website https://tunnelbroker.net/,
- Create an account if needed or just log in,
- Select Create another Tunnel.
- enter the IPv4 address of the machine running openSCHC and a location,

Once the tunnel created, you will find some configuration examples, that will help you to configure your machine.

For Ubuntu 20, it will be in the /etc/netplan directory:

netplan

```
> cat /etc/netplan/50-cloud-init.yaml
# This file is generated from information provided by
                         Changes to it will not persist across an instance.
# the datasource. Changes to it will not persist across an inscance.
# To disable cloud-init's network configuration capabilities, write a file
# /etc/cloud/cloud.cfg.d/99-disable-network-config.cfg with the following:
# network: {config: disabled}
network:
     ethernets:
          ens3:
                dhcp4: true
                match:
                     macaddress: fa:16:3e:e9:db:5d
                addresses:
                - "2001:41d0:404:200:0:0:0:3a86/64"
                gateway6: "2001:41d0:0404:0200:0000:0000:0000:0001" set-name: ens3
     version: 2
     tunnels:
       he-ipv6:
         mode: sit
         remote: 216.66.87.102
         local: 51.91.121.182
         addresses:
              "2001:470:1f20:1d2::2/64"
         gateway6: "2001:470:1f20:1d2::1"
```

Type the following comment to validate your new network configuration:

```
>sudo netplan try
Warning: Stopping systemd-networkd.service, but it can still be activated by:
    systemd-networkd.socket
Do you want to keep these settings?

Press ENTER before the timeout to accept the new configuration

Changes will revert in 111 seconds
Configuration accepted.
>sudo netplan apply
```

and your machine interfaces looks the following:

```
> ifconfig
ens3: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
inet 51.91.121.182 netmask 255.255.255 broadcast 0.0.0.0
inet6 2001:41d0:404:200::3a86 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x0<global>
inet6 fe80::f816:3eff:fee9:db5d prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20link>
ether fa::f6:3e:e9:db:5d txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
RX packets 9543878 bytes 1758163442 (1.7 GB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 9253880 bytes 1479370777 (1.4 GB)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

he-ipv6: flags=209<UP,POINTOPOINT,RUNNING,NOARP> mtu 1480
inet6 fe80::335b:79b6 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20link>
inet6 2001:470:1f20:1d2::2 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x0<global>
sit txqueuelen 1000 (IPv6-in-IPv4)
RX packets 782095 bytes 447475094 (447.4 MB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 71534 bytes 6022694 (6.0 MB)
TX errors 5 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 5 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
RX packets 712b bytes 657864 (657.8 KB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 7212 bytes 657864 (657.8 KB)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 7212 bytes 657864 (657.8 KB)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 7212 bytes 657864 (657.8 KB)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
```

Note that in this example, the machine is multi-homed; ens3 interface is configured with the regular IPv6 address and he-ipv6 with the Hurricane Electric IPv6 address.

1.2 Network Topology

We have currently configured the network for the code part of SCHC. SCHC sends SCHC packet to another device which will also run SCHC. On that second machine, install the github repository, too.

With openSCHC the following topology (cf. figure 3.4 on page 25) will be used for the rest of the tutorial. SCHC packet will be tunneled over the Internet to reach the other SCHC instance.

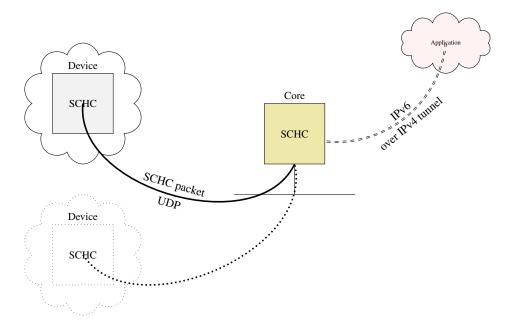


FIGURE 1.1 – Network Topology

In this architecture we see that we will need at least 2 SCHC instances. One located in the core that will act as a router between the IPv6 network and the constrained network, illustrated in our example by an UDP tunnel, but is could also be the LPWAN network.

The others instances of SCHC will be located in the devices. We will define upstream traffic as upstream the communication between the device and the core, and without any surprise, the other direction will be called downstream.

downstream

Messages exchanged between these entities are called SCHC packets.

SCHC packet

One or several applications will communicate with the devices.

application



2. Rules

SCHC works between two entities. Usually, one is a constrained end-device and the other one is a core equipment acting as a router. To allow both of them to perform the same actions, or more precisely one action and a reverse action, such as compression and decompression or fragmentation and reassembly, a common set of rules must be shared between these two entities.

The distinction between a device and a core allows to differentiate communication going upstream from the device to the core and downstream in the opposite direction. The device usually owns a limited number of rules corresponding to the traffic generated and received by that device. On the contrary, the core instance of SCHC must be aware of all the devices' rules. Even if all the devices have the same behavior, SCHC treats each device individually.

All rules are identified by a rule ID. The rule ID is a unique binary sequence for an association between a device and a core. The rule ID length is not specified by the standard and are chosen when the rules are specified. They must be different inside a set of rule. The only constraint is that rule ID cannot overlap.

For instance:

- 0 and 111111 are two valid rules ID
- 01 and 0101 not not valid since they share the same first two bits.

Rules may be represented in binary, but the decimal notation is also used for compactness. In this book, we will represent a rule ID with the rule ID value/rule ID length. For instance 3/8 indicates a rule ID stored on 8 bits with value 3.

This notation can be misleading, if 1/2 and 127/8 taken from the example above are overlapping since they both start with 01, 12/4 and 12/6 are two valuable rules, since when written in binary 1100 and 001100 do not share a common binary sequence.

10 Chapitre 2. Rules

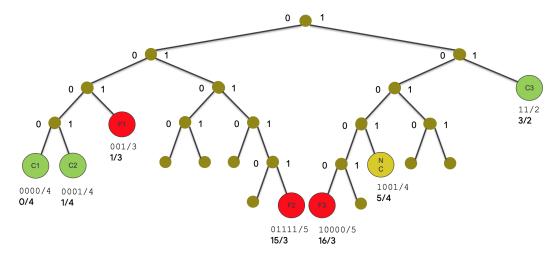


FIGURE 2.1 – Example of binary tree associated to rule IDs

2.1 openSCHC rules

In openSCHC, a rule is defined in a JSON object:

```
{
"RuleID" : 12,
"RuleIDLength" : 4
}
```

There is two different rule formats, one for compression and the other for fragmentation. Compression Rules contains the keyword Compression followed by an array, as shown the minimal Compression example below:

```
{
"RuleID" : 12,
"RuleIDLength" : 4,
"Compression" : []
}
```

Fragmentation rules uses the Fragmentation keyword followed by an object giving fragmenta- Fragmentation tion parameters:

```
{
"RuleID" : 12,
"RuleIDLength" : 6,
"Fragmentation" : {
    "FRMode" : "NoAck",
    "FRDirection" : "UP"
}
```

Fragmentation and compression rules share the same rule space, by construction a rule cannot be both compression and fragmentation. An attentive reader may have also noticed that a fragmentation

direction is present in the rule description. In fact, compression rules are bi-directionnal and may be used to compress an header by the device and the core, but fragmentation rules are oriented.

NoCompression

Finally a NoCompression keyword also exists and is the equivalent to the above example, indicating an uncompressed packet.

```
{
"RuleID" : 666,
"RuleIDLength" : 10,
"NoCompression" : []
}
```

2.2 Rule Manager

Rule Manager

The Rule Manager plays an important role in openSCHC. It has different goals:

- check the rule correctness
- add default parameters, to simplify rule notation
- display rules in a more synthetic format
- find the best rule to compress or fragment a packet
- find a rule from its rule ID.

2.2.1 Rule definition

The above listing gives a simple python program used to manage the two rules we described before.

Listing 2.1 - rm1.py

```
from gen_rulemanager import *
3 RM = RuleManager()
  rule1100 = {
    "RuleID" : 12,
    "RuleIDLength" : 4,
    "Compression" : []
 }
9
n rule001100 = {
    "RuleID" : 12,
    "RuleIDLength" : 6,
13
    "Fragmentation" : {
      "FRMode" : "noAck",
15
      "FRDirection" : "UP"
    }
17
  RM.Add(dev_info=rule1100)
21 RM.Add(dev_info=rule001100)
23 RM. Print()
```

12 Chapitre 2. Rules

This program import the gen_rulemanager module defining the RuleManager class.

RuleManager

The Add method allows to add a new rule. gen_rulemanager

Add

gen_rulemanager

gen_rulemanager

OpenSCHC displays, with the Print:

Print

no Ack

```
Device: None
|Rule 12/4
                   1100
!^ Fragmentation mode : noAck
                              header dtag 2 Window 0 FCN 3
  No Tile size specified
? RCS Algorithm: crc32
```

Compression rules contain the field descriptions (here empty) and Fragmentation rules contain the fragmentation parameters. Note that for fragmentation, the rule manager added some default parameters corresponding to no Ack behavior.

2.2.2 Set of rules

A device should contain a set of rules related to compression and fragmentation. In OpenSCHC, the SoR (Set of Rules) is a JSON array. The following program has the same behavior as the previous Set of Rules one, but an array for rules is provided.

Listing 2.2 - rm2.py

```
from gen_rulemanager import *
3 RM = RuleManager()
 rule1100 =
   "RuleID" : 12,
   "RuleIDLength" : 4,
   "Compression" : []
11 rule001100 =
   "RuleID" : 12,
  "RuleIDLength" : 6,
   "Fragmentation" : {
     "FRMode": "noAck",
     "FRDirection" : "UP"
  }
17
19
 RM.Add(dev_info=[rule1100, rule001100])
  RM.Print()
```

2.2.3 Device identifier

You may have noticed that, in the previous examples, the device was displayed as None. This can be appropriate when SCHC is instantiated on a device, since there is no ambiguity as to which 2.3 Conclusion

device the rule set applies to. Conversely, when the SCHC instance is on the core network side, the set of rules must be associated with a device ID.

device identifier UDP tunnel

The device identifier is structured as a technology and an identifier in that technology:

— UDP tunnel, as in the platform built in Chapter 1.1 on page 6. In that case the technology is udp and the identifier is the tunnel IP address end-point on the device side, followed by the port number used on that end point. For instance: udp:83.199.24.39:8888 1.

LoRaWAN

— a LoRaWAN device (*not yet implemented*), the technology is lorawan and the identifier is the *devEUI*².

Add Rules associated with a Device ID can be directly stored into the rule manager through the Add method as follows:

gen_rulemanager

```
RM.Add(device="1234567890", dev_info=[rule1100, rule001100])
```

Alternately, the JSON structure would be the following:

```
{
    "DeviceID": 1234567890,
    "SoR" : [ ..... ]
}
```

2.2.4 JSON file

Rules can also be stored in a JSON file, the Rule ManagerAdd method uses the file argument. For instance :

```
rm.Add(file="icmp.json")
```

2.3 Conclusion

We know the basic structure of rules, how to add them to the rule manager, so now, let's try to compression and fragment some traffic.

^{1.} If the device is behind a NAT, the IP address used must be the global address assigned to the NAT.

^{2.} when a JSON structure is manipulated, the DeviceID literal must be expressed in decimal, not hexadecimal



3. Compressing Ping6

3.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we are going to setup the compression of a ping6 request. An ICMPv6 request is composed of an IPv6 header, followed by a ICMPv6 request message.

ICMPv6 request

```
Internet Protocol Version 6, Src: 2a01:cb08:903a:bd00:a8c4:5c6d:c2b5:84be, Dst:
2001:470:1f21:1d2::1
    0110 .... = Version: 6 .... 0000 0000 .... .... = Traffic Class: 0x00 (DSCP: CSO, ECN: Not-ECT)
         .... 0000 00..... = Differentiated Services Codepoint: Default (0)
......... = Explicit Congestion Notification: Not ECN-Capable Transport (0)
        Payload Length: 16
     Next Header: ICMPv6 (58)
     Hop Limit: 56
    Source: 2a01:cb08:903a:bd00:a8c4:5c6d:c2b5:84be Destination: 2001:470:1f21:1d2::1
Internet Control Message Protocol v6
     Type: Echo (ping) request (128)
     Code: 0
     Checksum: 0x3982 [correct]
     [Checksum Status: Good]
     Identifier: 0x70ef
    Sequence: 699
     Data (8 bytes)
         Data: 609ab0db000aecb7
         [Length: 8]
0000 60 08 08 00 00 10 3a 38 2a 01 cb 08 90 3a bd 00 '....:8*...:..
0010 a8 c4 5c 6d c2 b5 84 be 20 01 04 70 1f 21 01 d2 ..\m.....p.!..
0020 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 180 00 39 82 70 ef 02 bb .......9.p...
```

The following compression rule can be applied to that traffic.

Listing 3.1 – fig-rule-ping

```
0,"MO": "ignore","CDA":
```

Understanding compression rules

A rule contains a list of fields description:

Field ID FID

starting with a Field ID. openSCHC uses a string structured with the protocol name (IPV6 and ICMPV6 in the rule above). Field ID uses keyword FID.

Target Value

— A Target Value (TV) may be present and contains the value the rule expected to find in the field.

Direction Indicator

 A Direction Indicator (DI) can be associated to a field. In the above example, ICMPV6.TYPE is repeated twice for uplink and downlink. When the direction is not specified, openSCHC ICMPV6. TYPE considers the field as bi-directionnal.

Matching Operator

A Matching Operator (MO) specifies the comparison between the target Value (TV) and the Field Value (FV) present in the packet to be compressed. RFC 8724 defines 4 MO:

ignore

— ignore: the FV is ignored therefore, the result of the field comparison is always true.

equal

equal: the result of the comparison is true is the value contained in the TV is equal to the value contained if the FV. OpenSCHC allows integer and strings for the comparison.

MSB

— MSB: is true only if the first bits of the TV are equal to the first bits of the FV. The comparison length in bits is specified in the rule with the keywork MO.val. For string comparison, openSCHC impose a multiple of 8 bits for the length.

match-mapping

— match-mapping: The TV contains an array of values. The comparison is true, if the FV appears somewhere in the list.

A rule is selected if all the comparison are true and the packet contains no other fields.

Compression **Decompression Actions** When a rule is selected, the Compression Decompression Actions (CDA) are applied to the packet fields. RFC 8724 defines several CDAs, among them:

not-sent

not-sent: the FV is not sent, the decompressor will use the value stored in the rule to recover the value.

value-sent

— value-sent: the value is explicitly sent as a residue. The decompressor will use the residue to recover the value.

LSB

— LSB: the least significant bits are sent as residue. The decompressor will combine the TV and the residue to recover the field. LSB can only be used with a MSB MO. No argument are needed for LSB. The LSB size is defined from the field size and the MSB size.

mapping-sent

mapping-sent: the index in the array is sent as residue. The decompressor will use the idenx to recover the value. This CDA can only be used with a match-mapping MO.

compute-*

— compute-*: the FV is not sent, the decompressor will use a specific algorithm to recover the value, such as compute the length or compute a checksum.

Compressing an ICMPv6 echo request packet

IPV6.VERSION

In the above example, the IPV6. VERSION field is not sent, the value 6 is stored is the rule. The IPV6.NXT IPV6.NXT follows the same behavior, since ICMPv6 is expected, the TV is 58.

IPV6.FL

Note that IPV6.FL and IPV6.HOP_LMT use the ignore/not-sent combination. During the rule ignore/not-sent IPV6.HOP_LMT selection, the FL is not taken into account, but during decompression the value stored in the rule is used. The reason is that IPv6 Flow Label (IPV6.FL) can be different from 0, in the capture the value is 0x80800.

IPV6.HOP_LMT

For IPv6 Hop Limit (IPV6.HOP_LMT) the value cannot be forecast, depends of how many routers are crossed and may vary during from one packet to the other. The rule ignores the value and generate a hop limit of 64. To be valid, this implies that the device will not forward anymore the packet. If the device acts as a router the Hop Limit field must be sent.

The address fields compression is more interesting, there is not source or destination address in the SCHC rule. SCHC defines the device and the application addresses 1. The rule becomes addresses independent of the direction. OpenSCHC splits the addresses into a 64 bit long prefix and a 64 bit long IID.

IID

In our scenario the device address is not sent, since the value is known by the device. On the opposite, we allow any host to ping the device². The destination address is fully sent to the device.

At the ICMPv6 level, the type field is elided regarding the direction. The Echo value (128) is expected downlink; form the application to the device, and the Echo reply (129) on the other direction. In both cases the ICMPv6 code is expected to be 0.

ICMPv6.IDENT ICMPV6.SEQNO

The identifier (ICMPv6.IDENT) and sequence number (ICMPv6.SEQNO) are not compressed and send as residue.

TPV6. LENGTH ICMPV6.CHECKSUM side.

The other fields IPV6. LENGTH and ICMPV6. CHECKSUM are not sent and computed by the other

The SCHC packet has the following format:

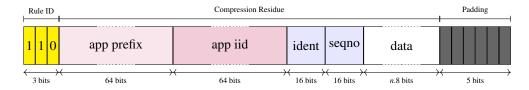


FIGURE 3.1 – ICMPv6 Compression Residue

The rule ID takes 3 bits, followed by the compression residues, the ICMPv6 payload and some residue padding bits. Since the Rule ID length is 3 bit long and the rest is byte aligned, 5 bits are needed to

^{1.} This will apply also for UDP port number

^{2.} This behavior has to be prohibited in a LPWAN network, for security reasons, since in this scenario we are using an UDP tunnel, there is no security issue.

align the SCHC packet on a L2-word (i.e. 1 byte).

Compression process

In OpenSCHC, SCHC Compresssion/Decompression (CD) and Frgamentation/Reassembly (FR) processes are done by the SCHC Machine.

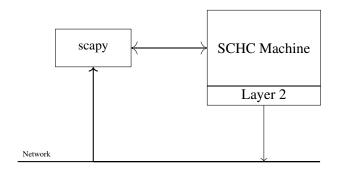


FIGURE 3.2 – Ping gateway architecture

Figure 3.2 gives the architecture of the ping gateway. Scapy sniff function gets traffic on the Scapy network. This traffic is composed of IPv6 packets that could be compressed and tunneled SCHC packets that are decompressed.

3.4.1 The code

The scapy module calls the SCHC Machine, in charge of CD-FR processes. Layer 2 allows to send decompressed packet or a SCHC packet on the network.

Main program

Listing 3.2 – ping_core1.py

```
import sys
  # insert at 1, 0 is the script path (or '' in REPL)
  sys.path.insert(1, '../../src/')
  from scapy.all import *
  import gen_rulemanager as RM
 from protocol import SCHCProtocol
 from scapy_connection import *
10 from gen_utils import dprint, sanitize_value
12 import pprint
  import binascii
14 import socket
  import ipaddress
```

This program ping_core1.py shows how to compress ICMPv6 packets and send them on a ping_core1.py UDP tunnel to a device. It starts with the modules importation from scapy, openSCHC and some scapy_connection regular python modules. Note the importation of the scapy_connection module, located on the working directory. This module implements the scheduler and the methods to send packets.

```
# Create a Rule Manager and upload the rules.
rm = RM.RuleManager()
rm.Add(file="icmp1.json")
rm.Add(file="icmp2.json")
rm.Print()
```

The compression process starts with the creation of a Rule Manager rm to include the rules from file icmp. json (cf. Listing 3.3), which contains the compression rules we saw below and a NoAck fragmentation rule.

Listing 3.3 – rule icmp1.json

```
"DeviceID" : "udp:83.199.24.39:8888"
          "RuleIDLength": 3,
"Compression": [
                "FID": "IPV6.VER", "TV": 6, "MO": "equal", "CDA": "not-sent"},
{"FID": "IPV6.TC", "TV": 0, "MO": "equal", "CDA": "not-sent"},
{"FID": "IPV6.FL", "TV": 0, "MO": "ignore", "CDA": "not-sent"},
               "RuleID" : 12,
                "RuleIDLength" : 11,
"Fragmentation" : {
"FRMode": "NoAck"
                          "FRDirection":
```

This rule must be adapted to your environment. The DeviceID must reflect the IPv4 public IPV6.DEV_PREFIX address of your device and the Target Value of IPV6.DEV_PREFIX must be set to a IPv6 prefix of your domain, such as the ones allocated by Hurricane Electric.

```
# Start SCHC Machine
  POSITION = T_POSITION_CORE
50
  socket_port = 0x5C4C
  tunnel = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_DGRAM)
52
  tunnel.bind(("0.0.0.0", socket_port))
  lower_layer = ScapyLowerLayer(position=POSITION, socket=tunnel, other_end=None)
 system = ScapySystem()
  scheduler = system.get_scheduler()
```

The position of the SCHC instance has to be specified. In our example, we define our role as a core. Then, we create the UDP tunnel to receive SCHC packets from devices. The default port number is 0x5C4C.

A lower_layer is created to be used by the SCHC machine when SCHC packet will have to be

scheduler sent, and a system is created to manage events. The latter includes a scheduler. Both are defined in scapy_connection the scapy_connection module.

> From that system a reference to the scheduler is extracted to be used in the processPkt function as a global variable.

```
schc_machine = SCHCProtocol(
                                 # define the scheduler
      system=system,
      layer2=lower_layer,
                                # how to send messages
60
      role=POSITION ,
                                 # DEVICE or CORE
      verbose = True)
62
  schc_machine.set_rulemanager(rm)
```

SCHC machine

The previously created classes are regrouped arounf a SCHC machine which will process packets for compression and fragmentation. A schc_machine instance is created and the previously created rule manager is associated to it.

```
sniff(prn=processPkt, iface="ens3") # scappy cannot read multiple interfaces
                                                                              --> use sudo
```

Finally, the scapy sniff function is called. This last line never returns. The processPkt function is called each time a packet is received on interface ens3³.

Frame processing

```
def processPkt(pkt):
      """ called when scapy receives a packet, since this function takes only dne argument,
      schc_machine and scheduler must be specified as a global variable.
26
28
      scheduler.run(session=schc_machine)
```

The processPkt function starts by calling the SCHC machine through the run method. This scapy_scheduler run function must be called regularly, which is the case when some traffic occurs in the network, so it is important not to filter too much incoming traffic.

The functions looks for two types of packets:

- SCHC tunneled packets coming from devices to the UDP port we defined (0x5C4C in our
- IPv6 tunneled packets from Hurricane Electric easily recognisable through the use of IP proto

```
# look for a tunneled SCHC pkt
      if pkt.getlayer(Ether) != None: #HE tunnel do not have Ethernet
32
          e_type = pkt.getlayer(Ether).type
34
          if e_{type} == 0x0800:
              ip_proto = pkt.getlayer(IP).proto
              if ip_proto == 17:
36
                  udp_dport = pkt.getlayer(UDP).dport
                  if udp_dport == socket_port: # tunnel SCHC msg to be decompressed
38
                       print ("tunneled_SCHC_msg")
                       schc_pkt, addr = tunnel.recvfrom(2000)
40
                       other_end = "udp:"+addr[0]+":"+str(addr[1])
```

^{3.} Scapy allowed to listen simultaneously to several interfaced, for example ["ens3", "he-ipv6"], but since this feature returns sometime some errors, we prefer to listen only to interface "ens3" which will carried tunneled IPv6 packets from Hurricane Electrics.

```
print("other_end_=", other_end)

r = schc_machine.schc_recv(other_end, schc_pkt)

print (r)
```

First, a test done to ensure that the frame has an Ethernet encapsulation ⁴. Then we filter the frames to keep only those with :

- an Ethertype equal to 0x800 indicating an IPv4 packet,
- an IPv4 protocol number equal to 17 indicating an UDP message,
- and a destination port of 0x5C4C indicating a SCHC packet.

If all these conditions are met, we are sure that the socket has received a packet from a device, we will see in the following step how to process it.

Let's focus on the incoming Ping request.

```
elif ip_proto==41:
schc_machine.schc_send(bytes(pkt)[34:])
```

If the IP protocol value is 41, then we have a tunneled IPv6 packet over IPv4. The first 34 bytes corresponding to the Ethernet and IPv4 headers are removed, and the resulting IPv6 packet is send SCHCProtocol to the SCHC machine for compression with the schc_send method.

schc_send

This function will trigger the emission of SCHC packet:

- if the compressed SCHC packet enters in one frame, it is directly sent,
- otherwise a fragmentation rule is applied and several SCHC packets can be sent.

The function returns:

- None if a compression rule and optionally a fragmentation rule are found.
- False if a rule is missing.

The SCHC packet will be sent using scapy_connection functions.

scapy_connection

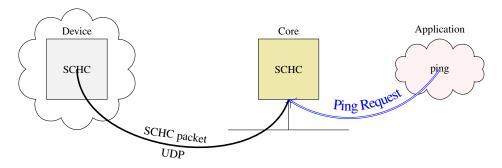


FIGURE 3.3 – SCHC core processing a Ping Request from an Application

3.4.2 The execution

Start the program, in sudo mode:

```
$ sudo python3.9 ping_core1.py
```

^{4.} That wouldbe the case, if the Hurrican Electric interface was directly listened by scapy.

The program will display the rules and cursor spins, indicating the SCHC machine is running ⁵. Start pinging the device, from any host in the Internet with IPv6 connectivity. to the IPv6 address of the device defined in the rule, the -c 1 limits the number of ping messages.

```
$ ping6 2001:470:1f21:1d2::1 -c 1
```

Of course there is no answer to the ping, the openSCHC core instance displays some messages. They can be avoided, if the verbose argument is set to False or not specified when creating the schc_machine object.

```
schc recv-from-l3 None None b''\x05\x0c\x00\x00\x10:8*\x01\xcb\x08\x90:\xbd\x00I\xe0\xa3\xec\x01Vv\x9c \x01\x04p...'
schc parser {('IPV6.VER', 1): [6, 4], ('IPV6.TC', 1): [0, 8], ('IPV6.FL', 1): [330752, 20]...}
schc compression rule {'RuleID': 6, 'RuleIDLength': 3, 'Compression': [{'FID': 'IPV6.VER', 'FL': 4, ...}
schc compression result b'\xc5\x40\x39\x61\x12\x07\x57\xa0\x09\x3c\x14\x7d\x80\x2a\xce...'/227
schc fragmentation not needed size=227
```

This trace gives the openSCHC compression process divided into several steps:

- Parse the packet; from a sequence of byte received on the network, create a list of fields containing the field identification and their associated value.
- Find a valid compression rule; ask the rule manager to find a rule matching the parsed packet. The rule selection will also provide the device ID.
- Apply the compression rule.
- Send the SCHC packet to the device ID.

In more details:

— The first line (recv-from-13) dumps the original IPv6 packet received by the compressor, corresponding in hexadecimal to:

60050c0000103a382a01cb08903abd0049e0a3ec0156769c200104701f2101d20000000000001800051fb48b20000609f882600060ed2

— The second line (parser) shows three elements returned by the parser. The first one is the list of fields, the second one is the data following the list of fields and the third one is a status code. The parsed headers are displayed figure 3.4:

Listing 3.4 – Parsed IPv6/ICMPv6 header fields

```
{('ICMPV6.CKSUM', 1): [20987, 16],
  ('ICMPV6.CODE', 1): [0, 8],
  ('ICMPV6.IDENT', 1): [18610, 16],
  ('ICMPV6.SEQNO', 1): [0, 16],
  ('ICMPV6.TYPE', 1): [128, 8],
  ('IPV6.APP_IID', 1): [b'I\xe0\xa3\xec\x01Vv\x9c', 64],
  ('IPV6.APP_PREFIX', 1): [b'*\x01\xcb\x08\x90:\xbd\x00', 64],
  ('IPV6.DEV_IID', 1): [b'\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x01', 64],
  ('IPV6.DEV_PREFIX', 1): [b'\x01\x04p\x1f!\x01\xd2', 64],
  ('IPV6.FL', 1): [330752, 20],
  ('IPV6.HOP_LMT', 1): [56, 8, 'fixed'],
  ('IPV6.LEN', 1): [16, 16, 'fixed'],
  ('IPV6.NXT', 1): [58, 8, 'fixed'],
  ('IPV6.TC', 1): [0, 8],
  ('IPV6.VER', 1): [6, 4]}
```

As shown in figure 3.4, a header description is a dictionnary where keys are tuple Field ID and position ⁶, and the value is the tuple containing field value and field size in bits.

^{5.} The number of received packets determines the spinning speed. It takes 10 packets to change the cursor appearance.

^{6.} In this example, position is always 1 since no field is repeated several time.

The next return element is the data, i.e. the bytes following the parsed header:

```
b''\x9f\x88&\x00\x06\x0e\xd2'
```

and the error code is None since the parser recognize all the fields.

This no surprise, the rule 6/3 matches.

— The third line compression result gives the SCHC packet. Note the /227 at the end, indicating the length in bits. Converted in hexadecimal, we have:

```
b'c5403961120757a0093c147d802aced3891640000c13f104c000c1da40'
```

— Finally, no fragmentation is required, so the SCHC packet is directly sent on the tunnel. A frame capture of UDP frame with port 0x5C4C gives :

3.5 The Decompression Process

Now that we send SCHC packet to the device, lets process the SCHC packet on this side.

3.5.1 Decompression

Let's do the same operation on the device side. The code is almost the same, as the core SCHC. It is important to note that the rules are excactly the same as the one we used in the core SCHC.

Listing 3.5 – ping_device1.py

```
POSITION = T_POSITION_DEVICE

from requests import get

ip = get('https://api.ipify.org').text

socket_port = 8888
tunnel = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_DGRAM)

tunnel.bind(("0.0.0.0", socket_port))

device_id = 'udp:'+ip+":"+str(socket_port)
print ("device_id_uis", device_id)
```

The position is changed to T_POSITION_DEVICE. Since the device_id, in our example, is based on a public IP address, the call to https://api.ipify.org returns the IPv4 public address of the device. We create a UDP socket for port 8888.

```
lower_layer = ScapyLowerLayer(position=POSITION, socket=tunnel, other_end=None)
system = ScapySystem()
```

 $^{7.\,227~\%~8 = 3}$. Since the all the residues are byte alligned, the 3 represent the rule ID length. 5 bits of padding will have to be addeed.

```
scheduler = system.get_scheduler()
schc_machine = SCHCProtocol(
system=system,  # define the scheduler
layer2=lower_layer,  # how to send messages
role=POSITION,  # DEVICE or CORE
verbose = True)
schc_machine.set_rulemanager(rm)

88
sniff(prn=processPkt, iface="en0") # scappy cannot read multiple interfaces
```

The lower_layer, system and schc_machine are declared the same way as in the core SCHC. The interface name is adapted to its name on the device side.

It's time now, to look how a SCHC packet is processed. If the IP protocol is 17, the upper layer is UDP. We check the destination port (here 8888) to see if the message is for us. If it is the case, then we can get officially the message from the socket, to clear the buffers. We read the socket and get the message (schc_pkt) and the device address (addr) which send the SCHC packet.

schc_recv

Then we call the function schc_recv with the device ID we computed before and the SCHC SCHCProtocol packet we just received. This function returns:

- None. This is the normal behavior when receiving a fragment. Only the last fragment will return the full messages. Intermediary fragments will return this value.
- a byte array with the uncompressed packet.
- False when a error occurs.

Since we are just doing compression, the schc_recv function returns the full packet. You may notice that some fields have changed. That's the case for IPV6.FL, PV6.HOP_LMT.

IPV6.FL PV6.HOP_LMT

3.5.2 Device optimization

In the previous program, we started to reconstruct the packet. It can be then processed normally or even forwarded to another destination. Nevertheless, we can optimize the behavior and process directly the SCHC packet. This simplify the protocol stack implementation in a very constrained device.

Listing 3.6 – ping_device2.py

```
import gen_rulemanager as RM

from protocol import SCHCProtocol
from scapy_connection import *

from gen_utils import dprint, sanitize_value
from gen_bitarray import *
```

We have to identify the rule in the SCHC packet, we just receive. We need to transform the Byte Array, into a bit array. Therefore, the gen_bitarray module is imported ⁸.

Listing 3.7 – ping_device2.py

gen_bitarray

The SCHC packet is first transformed into a bit array with the BitBuffer constructor.

BitBuffer

gen_bitarray

gen_rulemanager

We can call the function FindRuleFromSCHCpacket with the device ID and the SCHC packet. FindRuleFromSCHCpa-lif a rule ID is found, the function will return it ⁹.

We check the rule, to see if it correspond to the ping dedicated rule 6/3. We need to test the value and the length, since two different rules may have the same value (remember chapter 2 on page 9).

If the rule in the SCHC packet corresponds, we directly answer to the core. We use a trick in the rule definition linked to direction (cf. rule 3.3 on page 18).

Listing 3.8 – extract from rule 6/3 for ping traffic

ICMPV6.TYPE

As you have may notice, the ICMPV6.TYPE is defined twice: one for downlink direction, (i.e. from the network to the device) and one in the uplink direction. For the former, the code for an ICMPv6 Echo Request (128) is set and for the latter, it corresponds to the code of an ICMPv6 Echo Reply (129).

So if we just echo the SCHC packet, it will be as a response, and application address, sequence number and identifier it carries will be included in the response. Therefore we just need to send the packet to the core SCHC we got the address when we read the socket.

We can optimize the process on the device. The rule 6/3 (cf. rule figure 3.3 on page 18) has been associated to the ping traffic. For the downlink, the type is an Echo Request (128) and for the uplink the type is an Echo Reply (129). The other fields remain unchanged in both directions.

Let's continue with this hack and see how the core should process the SCHC packet.

^{8.} Other importations will be used when IPv6 packet will be manipulated.

^{9.} We are very optimistic in this example. If no rule is found, the function will return None and the program will crash.

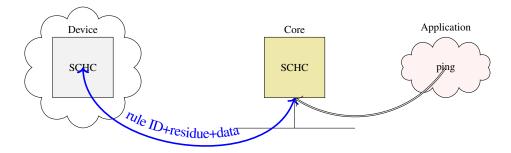


FIGURE 3.4 – SCHC core processing a Ping Request from an Application

3.6 Generating packets

Now, the SCHC core instance receives SCHC packets from the device through the UDP tunnel. We can decompress the SCHC message and send it to the Internet.

```
if ip_proto == 17:
                  udp_dport = pkt.getlayer(UDP).dport
32
                  if udp_dport == socket_port: # tunnel SCHC msg to be decompressed
                       print ("tunneled_SCHC_msg")
34
                       schc_pkt, addr = tunnel.recvfrom(2000)
                       other_end = "udp:"+addr[0]+":"+str(addr[1])
36
                       print("other_end_=", other_end)
                       uncomp_pkt = schc_machine.schc_recv(device_id=other_end,
38
                                     schc_packet=schc_pkt)
40
                       if uncomp_pkt != None:
                           uncomp_pkt[1].show()
                           send(uncomp_pkt[1], iface="he-ipv6")
42
              elif ip_proto == 41:
                   schc_machine.schc_send(bytes(pkt)[34:])
```

The processing is almost the same as for the device, if a UDP message with destination port corresponding to the tunnel (i.e. 0x5C4C) is detected in the packet, then the socket is read. It differs in the way the device is identified. Here, the sender address returned by the socket is used to build the device ID (stored in other_end variable).

device ID schc_recv

show

The call to the SCHC machine $schc_recv$ method may return the uncompressed packet, in the $schc_recv$ method may return th

If the packet is returned, the show function display it and then it is sent on the Hurricane Electric scapy interface.

^{10.} If the SCHC packet was a fragment, it will have been buffered until the last fragment is received. In that case None would have been returned.



4. Fragmenting Ping6

In this chapter, in addition to compressing a ping6 request we will fragment it. For that, we will create a ping6 request that exceeds the maximum L2 MTU allowed for the device :

```
ping6 -c 1 -s 200 2001:470:1f21:1d2::2
## [ IPv6 ]##
   version
            = 63154
   f1
            = 58
   plen
            = ICMPv6
            = 52
   hlim
            = 2001:41d0:302:2200::13b3
   src
   dst
            = 2001:470:1f21:1d2::2
##[ ICMPv6 Echo Request ]##

type = Echo Request

code = 0
               = 0xbc64
      cksum
      seq
      data
                 \\x9f\\xa0\\xa1\\xa2\\xa3\\xa4\\xa5\\xa6\\xa7\\xa8\\xa9\\xaa\\xab\\xac\\xad\\xae\\xb0\\xb1
                  \xb2\xb4\xb6\xb6\xb7\xb8\xb9\xba\xbb\xbc\xbd\xbe\xbf\xc1\xc2\xc3\xc4
                  \\xc5\\xc6\\xc7;
        FA 16 3E E9 DB 5D A2 C8 13 C9 D8 BC 08 00 45 00 ...>..]......E
   0000
                                                    ..y.@..)33.BWf3[
y.'....:4 .A...
"......p.!
   0020
        79 B6 60 00 F6 B2 00 D0 3A 34 20 01 41 D0 03 02
        22 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 13 B3 20 01 04 70 1F 21
   0030
                                                     ..A..b....;...
   0050
        00 01 41 00 1D 62 00 00 00 00 14 3B 07 00 00 00
                                                     ..!"#$%&'()*+,-
   0060
        00 00 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 1A 1B 1C 1D
         1E 1F 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 2A 2B 2C 2D
   0800
        2E 2F 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 3A 3B 3C 3D
                                                     ./0123456789::<=
   0090
        3E 3F 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 4A 4B 4C 4D
                                                     >?@ABCDEFGHIJKLM
   00a0
         4E 4F 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 5A 5B 5C 5D
                                                     NOPQRSTUVWXYZ[\]
        5E 5F 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 6A 6B 6C 6D
   00b0
                                                     'abcdefghiiklm
                                                     nopqrstuvwxyz{|}
   00d0
        7E 7F 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 8A 8B 8C 8D
        8E 8F 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 9A 9B 9C 9D
   00e0
        9E 9F AO A1 A2 A3 A4 A5 A6 A7 A8 A9 AA AB AC AD
        AE AF BO B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6 B7 B8 B9 BA BB BC BD BE BF CO C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7
```

As one may notice, in this case the size of the data field of the ICMPv6 Echo Request is

expanded in order to make the total package size larger. In this way, when the query arrives at the core it has to be first compressed and then fragmented so that it conforms to the MTU accepted by the device.

The following fragmentation rules are then added to the SoR and can be applied to that traffic:

Listing 4.1 – Fragmentation Rules in rule icmp2.json

4.1 Understanding fragmentation rules

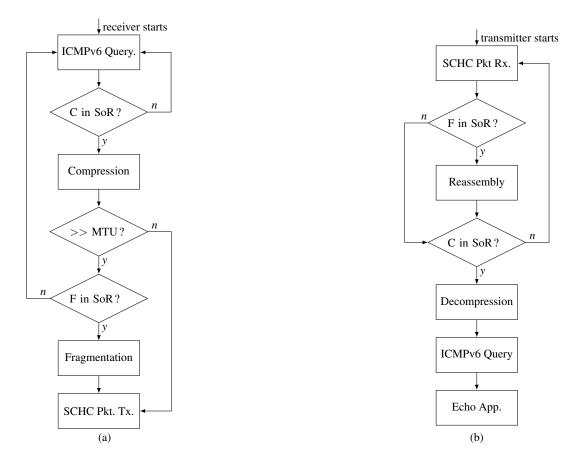
In addition to the rule ID and the rule ID length a fragmentation rule contains two parameters : the mode and the direction.

In order to support reliability, variable L2 MTUs and unidirectional links, the RFC 8724 defines three different fragmentation modes: (i) No-Ack, designed for limited and variable MTU sizes under the assumption that there is no out-of-sequence delivery, (ii) Ack-on-Error for variable MTU and out-of-order delivery using sporadic ACK messages and (iii) Ack-allways for invariable MTUs and no out-of-sequence delivery. In the following we will go deeper into details of these three modes.

As for the direction, it is necessary to stay the behaviour of the SCHC action based on where the traffic is originated. In our example, we will use the rule 12/11 for fragmentation on Downlink and rule 13/11 for fragmentation on Uplink. Therefore, if the traffic goes from the core to the device (Downlink), we use rule 12/11 for fragmenting the traffic at the core side and reassembling at the device side. On the contrary, rule 13/11 is used for fragmenting the traffic going from the device to the co and for the reassembly processes at the core side.

As stated in RFC 8724, in OpenSCHC, SCHC Fragmentation is always done after compression ¹. Then, as shown in Figure 4.1 the whole process goes as following:

^{1.} It shall rather be noted that, the no-compression rule is also permitted. Therefore, if one is willing to use only SCHC Fragmentation, two rules should be defined: (i) no-compression rule and (ii) the desired fragmentation rule.



 $FIGURE\ 4.1-ICMPv6\ Query\ Reception\ when\ MTU\ exceeds\ L2\ MTU: (a)\ Receiver\ behaviour,\ (b)\ Transmitter\ behaviour.$

- ICMPv6 Echo Request Query Reception at core (Figure.4.1(a))
 - 1. An user send a ICMPv6 Echo request exceeding the maximum MTU allowed.
 - 2. The request arrives at the core side. It verifies if there is a compression rule on its SoR applicable to this specific traffic.
 - 3. If it exists, the core applies the compression rule. Then, it verifies if the resulting packet surpasses the L2 MTU size.
 - 4. If yes, the core verifies if there is a fragmentation rule on dowlink.
 - 5. If there is one, the core applies the fragmentation using the mode defined in the rule.
 - 6. The core starts to send fragments to the device.
- ICMPv6 Echo Request Query Reception at device (Figure.??(b)):
 - 1. The device receives SCHC packets containing the fragments.
 - 2. The device verifies if there is a fragmentation rule and start the reassembly process.
 - 3. Once the reassembly process is finished, the device search for a compression ruls applicable to this specific traffic.
 - 4. The device applies the compression rule to decompress the packet.
 - 5. The device retrieves the ICMPv6 Echo Reply Query.
 - 6. At the application level, the device creates a ICMPv6 Echo Reply.
- ICMPv6 Echo Reply Query Transmission at device (Figure.??(a)):
 - 1. The device verifies if there is a Compression rule for the ICMPv6 Echo Reply.
 - 2. If yes, the device compress the packet.
 - 3. The device verifies if the resulting packet surpasses the L2 MTU size.
 - 4. If yes, it looks for a Fragmentation rule in its SoR applicable to this traffic.
 - 5. If there is one, the device applies the fragmentation using the mode as defined in the rule.
 - 6. The device start to send fragments to the device.
- ICMPv6 Echo Reply Query Reception at core (Figure.??(b)):
 - 1. The core receives SCHC packets containing the fragments.
 - 2. The core verifies if there is fragmentation rule in its SoR, if yes, it starts the reassembly process.
 - 3. Once finished, the core search for compression rules applicable to this specific traffic
 - 4. If there is a compression rue, it decompress the packet.
 - 5. The core forwards the ICMPv6 Echo Reply to the user.

4.2 Fragmentation in No-ACK mode

This fragmentation mode is designed for no out-of sequence delivery and admits variable L2 MTU. In No-ACK mode, there is no communication from the fragment receiver to the fragment sender. The sender transmits all the SCHC Fragments without expecting any acknowledgement. Therefore, there is no need for bidirectional links.

4.2.1 SCHC Fragments Format

In No-ACK, there are two kinds of SCHC Fragments: (i) All-0 fragments presented in Figure.4.2, and the last fragment called All-1 depicted in Figure.4.3 An all-0 fragment, is composed of the following fields ²:

^{2.} The RFC 8724 also defines the DTag (Datagram Tag) and the W (Window) fields. The former is used for differentiating SCHC F/R messages belonging to different SCHC Packets, for our example this field is not present, and the latter, representing the Window size used in Ack-on-Error and Ack-Allways modes

- RuleID
- FCN: It is used to differentiate All-0 and All-1 fragments.
- Fragment Payload: Corresponds to the payload. Its size is aligned to the remaining space from to fit the L2 MTU.

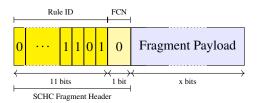


FIGURE 4.2 – All-0 SCHC Fragment in No-Ack mode

The second type of fragment is the All-1, it corresponds to the last fragment. As shown in Figure ??, contrary to the All-0, it also contains the RCS field, and it can also contains padding as needed in order to fit the L2 word size.

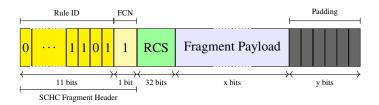


FIGURE 4.3 – All-1 SCHC Fragment in No-Ack mode

In OpenSCHC the Reassembly Check Sequence (RCS) field corresponds to the result of using the CRC32 algorithm, and as recommended by the RFC 8724 it is computed on the full SCHC packet (after reassembly) concatenated with the padding bits.

4.2.2 Fragmentation/Reassembly Process

In this mode, since there are no fragment acknowledgments, the sender creates as many fragments as needed based on the size of the compressed SCHC packet and the L2 MTU. Figure 4.4 presents an example where n fragments are needed. In this case, the transmitter creates n-1 All-0 fragments and one All-1 with the corresponding RCS field and padding if needed.

4.2.3 The code

In this section, we will present the code necessary to process an ICMPv6 echo request that exceeds the L2 MTU size. Two blocks of code are required : core and device programs. For the downlink, they are in charge of :

- core program : receiving the IPv6 packet, compressing it, fragmenting it and sending the SCHC fragments.
- device program: reassembling and decompressing SCHC packets and, creating the echo reply packet.

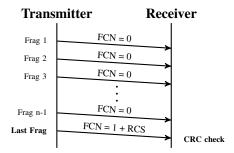


FIGURE 4.4 – All-1 SCHC Fragment in No-Ack mode

For the uplink, they are in charge of:

- device program: compressing and fragmenting the IPv6 Echo Reply packet, and sending the SCHC fragments to the core.
- core program : reassembling and decompressing SCHC packets and, forwarding the Echo reply IPv6 Packet to the user.

Core program

For this example we will extend the code used in Section 3.4.1. As in the previous case the Compression and Fragmentation process starts with the creation of a Rule Manager «rm» used to add the rules from the file icmp2.json (cf. 4.1 on page 27), which includes the Rule 3 for compressing and Rules 12 and 13 for fragmenting.

As presented in Listing ?? on page ??, the process follows the same logic as in the compression example. The processPkt function filters SCHC packets coming from devices and IPv6 tunneled packets from Hurricane Electric.

As in the C/D only example, the processPkt calls the SCHC Machine and then looks at the received packets. There can be two kinds off packets: (i) IPv6 tunneled packets filtered by looking at the IP proto 41 and passed to the SCHC Machine removing the first 34 bytes (Ethernet and IPv4 headers), and (ii) SCHC Packets filtered by looking at the UDP socket port 0x5C4C.

Listing 4.2 – ping_core2.py

```
import sys
# insert at 1, 0 is the script path (or '' in REPL)
sys.path.insert(1, '.../../src/')

from scapy.all import *
import gen_rulemanager as RM
from protocol import SCHCProtocol
from scapy_connection import *
from gen_utils import dprint, sanitize_value
from scapy.layers.inet import IP
import pprint
import binascii
import socket
import ipaddress
```

```
# Create a Rule Manager and upload the rules.
17 rm = RM.RuleManager()
  rm.Add(file="icmp2.json")
19 rm.Print()
21 def processPkt(pkt):
      """ called when scapy receives a packet, since this function takes only one argument,
      schc_machine and scheduler must be specified as a global variable.
23
      scheduler.run(session=schc_machine)
25
      # look for a tunneled SCHC pkt
      if pkt.getlayer(Ether) != None: #HE tunnel do not have Ethernet
          e_type = pkt.getlayer(Ether).type
          if e_{type} == 0x0800:
29
              ip_proto = pkt.getlayer(IP).proto
              if ip_proto == 17:
31
                  udp_dport = pkt.getlayer(UDP).dport
                  if udp_dport == socket_port: # tunnel SCHC msq to be decompressed
33
                      print ("tunneled_SCHC_msg")
                      schc_pkt, addr = tunnel.recvfrom(2000)
35
                      other_end = "udp:"+addr[0]+":"+str(addr[1])
                       print("other_end_=", other_end)
37
                       uncomp_pkt = schc_machine.schc_recv(device_id=other_end,
                                    schc_packet=schc_pkt)
39
                       if uncomp_pkt != None:
                           uncomp_pkt[1].show()
41
                           send(uncomp_pkt[1], iface="he-ipv6")
              elif ip_proto == 41:
43
                  schc_machine.schc_send(bytes(pkt)[34:])
45
  # Start SCHC Machine
47 POSITION = T_POSITION_CORE
49 socket_port = 0x5C4C
  tunnel = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_DGRAM)
tunnel.bind(("0.0.0.0", socket_port))
53 lower_layer = ScapyLowerLayer(position=POSITION, socket=tunnel, other_end=None)
  system = ScapySystem()
ss scheduler = system.get_scheduler()
  schc_machine = SCHCProtocol(
                                # define the scheduler
      system=system,
57
      layer2=lower_layer,
                                # how to send messages
                                # DEVICE or CORE
      role=POSITION,
      verbose = True)
61 schc_machine.set_rulemanager(rm)
63 sniff(prn=processPkt, iface="ens3") # scappy cannot read multiple interfaces
```



5. Answers to the questions



Index

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