A Quantitative Study of Authentication and QoS in Wireless IP Networks

Wei Liang  Wenye Wang

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Outline

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Introduction

• We need secure and high-quality communications in public access wireless IP networks.
• If we increase security level, then the QoS will decrease, and vice versa.
• Is there a quantitative model to find a numerical result to scale the security level and QoS?
Challenge/Response Authentication (CRA)

- The client and server both know the function for encryption/decryption.
- We use a shared security association (SA) to identify the mobile user (MU).
- Shared SA is a trust relationship with parameters (keys...).
Challenge/Response Authentication (CRA)

I have a shared SA(key)

I want to access the network

Send X to MU

Send enc(X)

Send enc(X)

I have many shared SAs(key)

Authentication Request

Send X to MU

Send enc(X)

Send enc(X)

Dec(enc(X))

Generate a random variable, X

authentication approval

Authentication approval

MU

AP

AS

enc (X)

AS: Authentication Server

SA: Security Association
Handoff Authentication

• Intra-domain handoff authentication

• Session authentication

• Inter-domain handoff authentication
Intra-domain handoff authentication

LAS: Local Authentication Server
Session authentication

LAS: Local Authentication Server
HAS: Home Authentication Server
Inter-domain handoff authentication

LAS: Local Authentication Server
HAS: Home Authentication Server
HA: Home Agent
The diagrams of 3 handoff authentications

A. Intra-domain Handoff Authentication

The diagrams of 3 handoff authentications

B. Session Authentication

The diagrams of 3 handoff authentications

C. Inter–domain Handoff Authentication

QoS Metrics

• Authentication delay:
  – The interval of MU sends `service_request` and receives `authentication_approval`.

• Call dropping probability:
  – The probability of connection loss due to too long authentication delay or authentication failure.
Security levels

• Security level 1:
  – If the MU sends a service_request, the AP just checks the resource availability, then the MU can access the network or not.
Security levels

• Security level 2:
  – When the MU sends a `service_request`, the AP asks for the MU’s MAC address, and AP relays the MAC address to the LAS. If the MAC address is in the LAS’s list (or HAS’s one), the `authentication_approval` will be sent to the MU.
Security levels

• Security level 3:
  – When the MU sends a *service_request*, the AP sends a *authentication_request* to the LAS. The Challenge/Response Authentication is used.
  – The MU is identified as a legal user after the CRA, however, the data transmissions are not encrypted. It means that there is no data integrity and secrecy.
Security levels

• Security level 4:
  – It’s similar to level 3, and the difference is that the keys are generated, encrypted, and transmitted to the MU, HA.
  – The keys are used to encrypt the data of communication in order to protect data integrity and secrecy.
Quantitative model

Security level, average arrival rate, service rate, residence time, other parameters.

PDF of mobility and traffic patterns, Laplace transform, formulas

Numerical results
Numerical Results

- We assume that M/M/1 queues are used at AP, LAS, HAS, and HA.
- Parameters

<table>
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<th>Parameters for Authentication Delay</th>
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<td>$T_{th}$</td>
<td>$T_{pr}$</td>
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<td>40 $\mu$s</td>
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<th>Parameters for Random Variables</th>
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<td>$\eta$</td>
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<td>0.1 $min^{-1}$</td>
<td>0.3 $min^{-1}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Numerical Results

Authentication Time vs. Call Arrival Rate

Need 29% more delay time.
Numerical Results

Call Dropping Probability vs. Security Levels

![Bar chart showing call dropping probability across different security levels. Security levels 1 to 4 show increasing probability, with level 4 having the highest.]
Conclusion

- The contribution of this paper is that the authors proposed a quantitative model to analyze the impact of authentication on security and QoS.
- Their study was the first work on providing a quantitative analysis on security and QoS.
Discussion

• What is the mechanism of SA delivery?
• Is it necessary to encrypt the data on transmission after authentication in WiFi and WiMAX networks?