

Wireless LAN Security

This slide set includes information not in the textbook chapter.

CSH6 Chapter 33 "Wireless LAN Security" Gary L. Tagg & Jason Sinchak



Topics

Introduction

- ≻802.11 Security Fundamentals
- IEEE 802.11 Robust Security Network
- Fundamental Wireless Threats
- Specific Wireless Security Attacks
- Mitigating Controls
- Secure Enterprise Design
- Secure Auditing Tools



Introduction

- ≻Scope
- Corporate Use of Wireless LANs
- Functional Benefits of Wireless
- Security Benefits of Wireless
- Centralized Management
- Overview & History of IEEE 802.11 Standards

Scope

- Massive adoption of IEEE 802.11 wireless LANs
- Mobility, flexibility, rapid deployment, costs
- New opportunities for unauthorized access
- Purpose of chapter
 - □Introduce wireless technologies
 - Present issues
 - □Offer ways of addressing issues
 - Open-source and commercial tools for auditing wireless networks



Corporate Uses of Wireless LANs



Offices, plants, schools

Employee access throughout area (campus, warehouse...)

Meeting rooms

Access for external consultants, visitors
 Work outside normal desk area (e.g., café)
 Managers can show employees laptop display
 Reduce voice telecom costs using VoWLANs
 Public hot spots

□ Hotels, coffee shops, airports....

✓ Increased mobile work

Rapid deployment: no cabling (esp. in older buildings or historical sites), avoid underground cabling



Functional Benefits

- Mobility; e.g.,
 - **□Warehouses**
 - □Shop floors
 - ❑Hospitals
- Flexibility
 - **Public hotspots widespread**
 - Access outside corporate property
 - Access for visitors to corporate buildings
- Cost reductions
 - Reduce physical network infrastructure
 - Overloads handled automatically by shifting to nearby access points (APs)
 - Virtual LANs (VLANs) can use Service Set Identifiers (SSID) more easily than wired physical LANs



Security Benefits

Physical security

- □Hide and shield APs
- Contrast with physical network jacks must be visible to all

Segmentation visibility

- Wired networks usually use Media Access Control (MAC) addresses
 - Define VLANs (virtual LANs) for specific areas or groups
 - ✓ Can be spoofed
 - ✓ Limit users to specific physical area
- But wireless networks can assign per-SSID VLANs
 - ✓ Accessible anywhere in wireless environment



Centralized Management

- Wireless controllers can configure groups of APs
- Configure a single image for thin-client Aps
- User directory through Extensible Authentication Protocol–Remote Authentication Dial In User Service (EAP-RADIUS)
- Mesh of APs can support security monitoring Wireless intrusion-detection systems (IDS)



Overview & History of IEEE 802.11 Standards

History

- □Early 1990s limited use of commercial protocols
- □Late 1990s adoption of ANSI/IEEE 802.11 standard
 - Baselines for interoperable products
- □1999: 802.11b (11 Mbps)
 □802.11a (54 Mbps) & 802.11g ↑ wireless bandwidth to = wired Ethernet LANs
 □802.11n (2009)
 ✓ 600 Mbps bandwidth
 ✓ Compatible with 802.11b
 ✓ 5 GHz band





Home Use of Wireless LANs

- Wireless LAN networking grew explosively in 2000s
- Many homes use >1 computer
- Broadband Internet encourages telecommuting
- Computers can be away from telephone points
 - Avoid running cables
- Wireless equipment no longer expensive





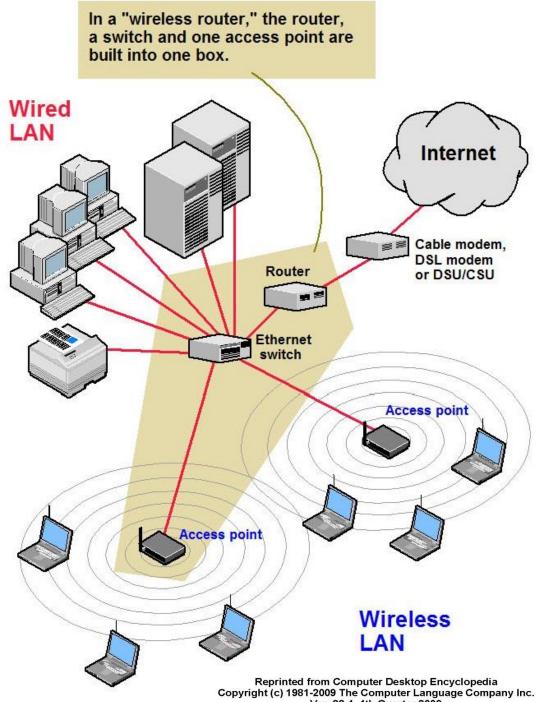
Architecture & Product Types

- ≻802.11 Components
- >802.11 Network Architecture
- ≻802.11 Physical Layer
- Wireless LAN Product Types



- Benefits of Wireless Switch/Access Controller Architecture
- Security Benefits of Wireless Switch/Access Controller Architecture

See RFC 4118 "Architecture Taxonomy for Control and Provisioning of Wireless Access Points (CAPWAP)" <u>http://www.faqs.org/ftp/rfc/pdf/rfc4118.txt.pdf</u>



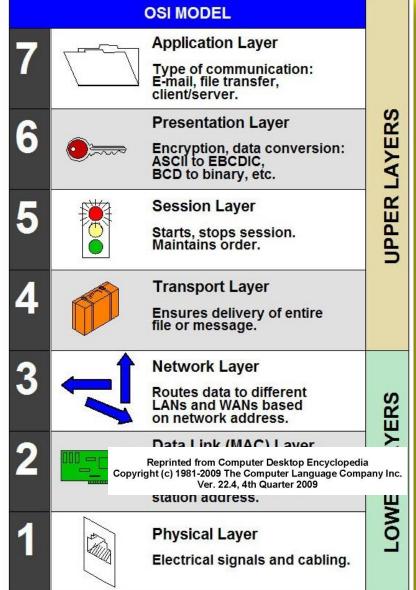
802.11 Components



- Stations (Sta)
- Access points (AP)
- Basic service sets (BSS)
 - □ 1 or more Sta linked to single AP
- Independent BSS (IBSS) □ Ad hoc NW
 - Point to point (mesh)
- Extended service set (ESS)
 - □ Interconnected BSS + LANs = 1 BSS to Sta
- Distribution system (DS) & portal
 - Connect APs to form ESS
 - Portal: connects wired LAN with 802.11 NW

802.11 Network Architecture

OSI ISO reference model
 B02.11 provides services at physical & data link layers
 802.11 layers
 Physical (radio)
 Medium Access Control
 Logical Link Control





802.11 Physical Layer

- 802.11 Infrared (2 Mbps)
- 802.11 FHSS (Frequency-hopping spread spectrum)
 - 2 Mbps radio link in 2.4 GHz band
 - Defines 79 channels (1 MHz each)
- > 802.11 DSSS (Direct sequence spread spectrum)
 - □ Also 2 Mbp<mark>s</mark> radio link in 2.4 GHz
 - □ Spreads data over 14 channels (5 MHz each)
 - □ Increases bandwidth but limits channels to 3 in practice
- > 802.11b DSSS (11 Mbps)
- 802.11 OFDM (Orthogonal frequency division multiplexing) 54 Mbps in 5 GHz band
- > 802.11g OFDM in 2.4 GHz band for 54 Mbps
- > 802.11n 600 Mbps (IEEE working group)
 - □ 4 streams @ 40 MHz
 - □ Still under development (2009)



Wireless LAN Product Types (1)

- AP contains all functionality ("Fat" APs)
 SOHO (small office/home office) users
 Managing multiple fat APs became complex
- LWAP (lightweight AP)
 - □Also use wireless switches in NW
 - Vendors developed different protocols
 - IETF working group: Control & Provisioning of Wireless Access Points (CAPWAP)
 - ✓ RFC3390 problem definition
 - ✓ RFC4118 taxonomy
 - ✓ Developed CAPWAP protocol for interoperability



Wireless LAN Product Types (2)

Wireless Mesh Networks

Fat & LWAPs physically connected to wired NW (Internet access, LAN)

But wireless mesh design has point-to-point connections among APs

Much reduces cabling & deployment costs

□IEEE established 802.11s working group





Benefits of Wireless Switch / Access Controller Architecture

- Ease of deployment & management
- RF management
- Load-balancing users
- Simplified guest networking
- Fast roaming
- Layer 3 roaming (single IP address throughout campus)
- QOS (quality of service)
- Unification of wired & wireless
- AAA (authentication, authorization, accounting)



Integration with older non-wired equivalent privacy (WPA/WPA2) equipment



Security Benefits of Wireless Switch / Access Controller Architectur

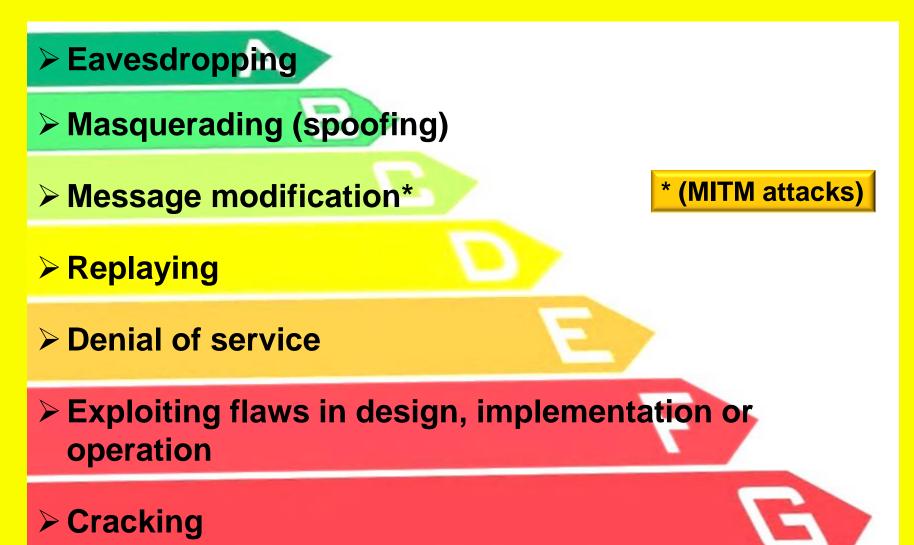
- User & device authentication
 Only authorized users allowed
- Access control
 - □Can assign user to specific VLAN
 - □Handles guest access easily
- Inbuilt wireless intrusion detection & prevention
 - □Can analyze every packet
- Rogue AP detection
 - □Scan for unauthorized APs
 - □Triangulate signals received at several APs
 - □Some products can actively remove rogue APs



Wireless LAN Security Threats



General taxonomy of threats to networks



Comparison Between Wired & Wireless

- Wireless NWs subject to long-distance penetration High-gain aerials
 - Modified household satellite TV antennas
 - Cheap commercial products
- Corporate wired NWs generally protected
 - **Given Firewalls**
- Wireless NWs much less secure
 - Easy to access by unauthorized people in street, parking area (or hill 20 miles away)
 - War-driving = roaming to find unprotected WAPs
- Operational management
 - □ Wired NWs usually run for professional IT personnel
 - □ Wireless NWs often installed by amateurs
 - Risk when WAPs attached to wireless NWs without authorization





Specific Threats Enabled by Wireless LANs

- Early 802.11 standards have security that has been completely broken
- 802.11i standard enhanced security BUT
 - New equipment includes compatibility with older standards
 - New security functionality generally not enabled by default
- Key security issues in "broken" 802.11 standards summarized on next slides



"How many days until we tell him that we don't need 'receptors' for the wireless?"

802.11 Security Issues

- Wireless NWs available outside physically controlled areas (use radio waves)
- NWs broadcast their existence
- Devices not users are authenticated (so stolen equipment usable)
- Original protocols easily broken
- Authentication is 1-way (client does not authenticate AP allows rogue APs)
- WEP compromised
- Message integrity check vector (ICV) easily defeated using simple bit-flipping attacks
- Messages can be replayed without detection
- Admins install wireless LANs using default settings



Wireless LANs use same keys for all users (so users can eavesdrop on each other)

Public hot spots reveal confidential data Copyright © 2015 M. E. Kabay. All rights reserved.





Specific Threats

War-Driving
War-Chalking
Dealing with War Drivers
Laptops with 802.11
Neighbors
Hot Spots

War-Driving

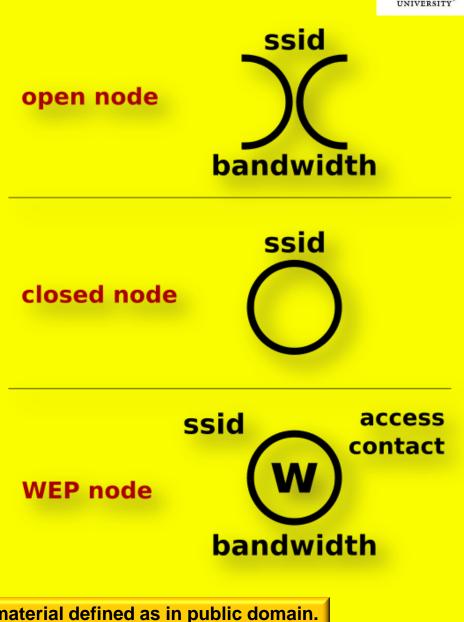
- Peter Shipley (2000)
- Drive/walk around with wireless NW equipment
 - **Laptop or handheld computer** (smart phone)
 - □Wireless access card & sw
- Results of early studies
 - □>60% wireless NWs: default configuration
 - □15% used WEP
 - Most WLANs linked directly to corporate backbone
 - ✓ Should have been to DMZ
 - ✓ So 85% of WLANs gave unauthorized access to core **NWs** Copyright © 2015 M. E. Kabay. All rights reserved.





War-Chalking

- Criminal hackers were marking pavement or wall showing availability of unprotect WAPs
- Activity has pretty much died out
- So easy to locate networks using, say, smart phone

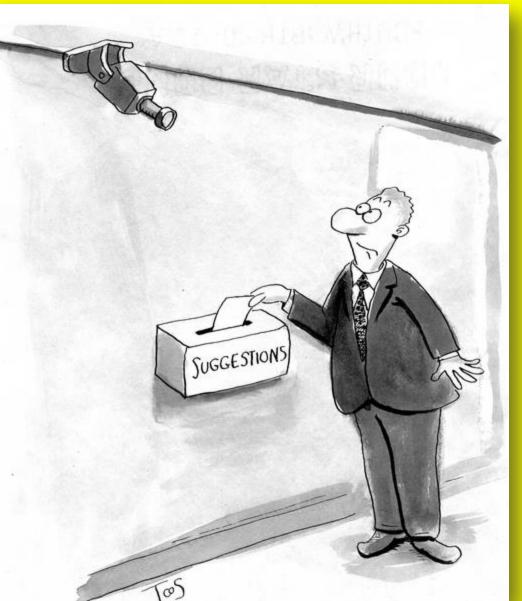


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Dealing with War Drivers

Video surveillance

- Brief physical/facilities security staff on recognizing war drivers
 Stationary
 Working on laptop
 Pedestrians obvious; in car not so obvious
- Keep track of cars parked near building
- But in cities, war drivers can sit in coffee shops!
- MUST secure networks properly





Laptops & Phones with 802.11 (1)



- Even low-end laptops have wireless capability
- Smart phones equipped
- Windows XP/7 WLAN client monitors for networks
 - May connect automatically
 - Significant problem for employees connecting to corporate networks from home,
 - Rogue APs can take advantage of automatic connection
- Wireless units send out probes with identification of home network
 - □So attacker can configure rogue AP
 - **E.g., Linux-based HostAP**
 - Once connected to laptop, attacker can scan for unprotected files, VPN tunnels to home system





Laptops with 802.11 (2)

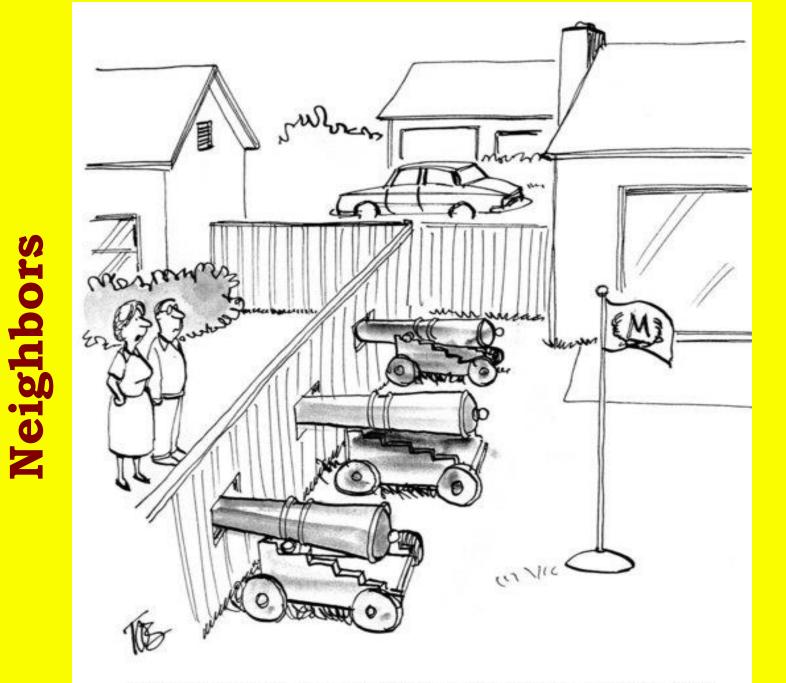
- Microsoft ActiveSync
 - **Connect mobile PDAs, phones to host, NW**
 - ✓ Access e-mail
 - ✓ Browse files
 - □Can connect over WLAN
 - So attacker can use laptop as wireless proxy server
- Windows XP
 - Mesh NW (IBSS) allows connection from attacker's device to any corporate unit
 - Many people inadvertently share their C: drive by default
 - Even configure their firewall to allow share





Neighbors

- In cities, offices share buildings
- Can detect WLANs in adjacent buildings
- > Attackers typically piggyback on other people's NWs
- > Can also connect employees to wrong NW by mistake
 - Misuse of Internet bandwidth
 - □ Access to sensitive information
 - □ Vulnerability to sabotage
- Access by criminals can be serious
 - **P2P file sharing or spamming can eat up bandwidth**
 - Can also lead to criminal prosecution of victim of piggybacking
- Illegal ISP sharing
 - Some naïve users deliberately share their ISP connections to Internet (e.g., ADSL) using wireless router – violation of TOS (terms of service)
 - □ Can lead to civil prosecution for violation of contract



NORWICH

"Have we made a real effort to know the neighbors?"

Hot Spots



- Many commercial access points in restaurants, coffee shops, bookstores, airports, conferences....
 - **Completely open (no encryption)**
 - Therefore allows capture of confidential unencrypted data
- Research at Planet Expo (Boston, 2003)
 - □Tiny % wireless traffic encrypted
 - □Significant criminal-hacker activity
 - ✓149 active war-driving scans
 - ✓105 DoS attacks



- ✓ 32 attempted MITM attacks
- Airsnarf example of program allowing criminal to become a rogue AP (steal user IDs, passwords)



Original 802.11 Functionality

2 security systems

□802.11 (1999) defined Wired Equivalent Privacy

(WEP) – inadequate

□802.11i defined WPA (Wi-Fi Protected Access) & WPA2

Topics

 Security Functionality
 Connecting to a Wireless Network & Authentication
 Defending Against the WEP Vulnerability





Security Functionality

- **Original 802.11 standard provided for**
- Authentication 2 different algorithms:
 - Open authentication
 - □Shared-key authentication
- Confidentiality/privacy using WEP
 Wired Equivalent Privacy
 - Encrypts data using keys on station

Integrity

CRC-32 Integrity Check value (ICV)
CRC = cyclic redundancy code

Connecting to a Wireless NW & Authentication (1)



Fundamental issue

Wired NWs can use physical controls to prevent / reduce unauthorized connections

Wired NWs must rely on protocol for defenses

> Overview

□ Sta* must 1st detect NW

 Passive mode: listen for beacon frames

Regularly transmitted by APs

□ Active mode: Sta sends probe requests

✓ Sta return probe response

✓ Often configure Sta to respond only to valid probe requests with valid NW identifier

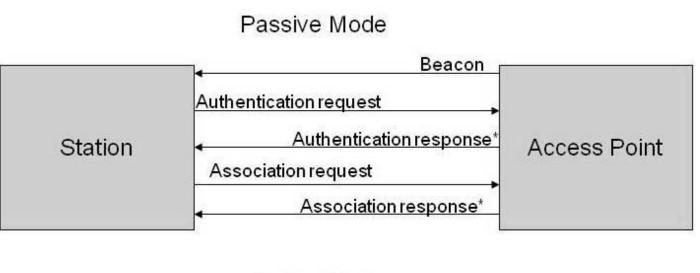


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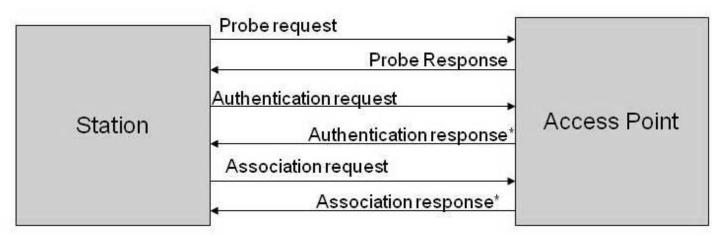


Connecting to a Wireless NW & Authentication (2)





Active Mode



*The shared key authentication protocol consists of 2 message pairs



Connecting to a Wireless NW & Authentication (3)

- **Topics on following slides**
- Open Authentication
- Shared-Key Authentication
- <mark>≻WEP</mark>
- Fluhrer, Mantin & Shamir (FMS) Attack
- Developments Since the FMS Attack





Open Authentication

Default mechanism in 802.11 (& only required 1)

- Described as null algorithm
- □Sta provides identity
- AP returns success or failure report
- AP does not attempt to verify identity of Sta!
- Further refinements



- Image: Most implementations include ACL (access control list) in AP
- Defines MAC (media access control) addresses for authorized Sta
- □But eavesdropper can capture MAC addresses & reprogram own Sta to *spoof authorized unit*



Shared-Key Authentication (SKA)

Optional protocol using WEP

- Sta sends shared-secret key to AP
 Contains IEEE MAC address
- 2. AP uses WEP to generate & return 128-byte random authentication challenge string
- 3. Sta copies challenge string into authentication data area in return message
 - Encrypts message using WEP
- 4. AP receives request from Sta

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- Decrypts Sta request using WEP
- AP verifies ICV (integrity check value)
- Compares received challenge string with sent challenge string
 - If both ICV & challenge string OK, sends success



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ENTOSKA

Security Issues with SKA (1)

- Designers recognized flaws
- Both cleartext & encrypted versions of challenge string transmitted during negotiation 512
 - □Thus attacker can capture both & crack pseudo-random number (PRN) sequence used to create authentication challenge (see previous slide)
 - **"Implementations should therefore** avoid using the same key/IV pair for subsequent frames."
- Borisov, Goldberg, & Wagner's analysis
 - SKA key stream established for each session between AP & specific Sta
 - □ But MITM attack can re-use fixed cryptographic elements without knowing original WEP key that starts process

S



Security Issues with SKA (2)

- 128 byte challenge can be re-used by Sta
- Therefore attacker can
 - □Encrypt any string ≤ 128 bytes using known IV (initialization vector)
 - □Inject messages into data stream
 - □Can send commands (e.g., Ping) to generate more matching IVs & key streams
 - **DE.g., support dictionary attack on MACs**

RESULT: SKA PROTOCOL SHOULD NOT BE USED





WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy)

- Defined in
 □IEEE 802.11b §8.2
 □Also in 802.11i
- Topics on next slides
 - Properties of RC4 Stream Cipher
 WEP Protocol
 WEP Keys
 - **Problems with WEP**
 - **UKey Management**
 - Problems with Key Management
 - Default WEP Keys

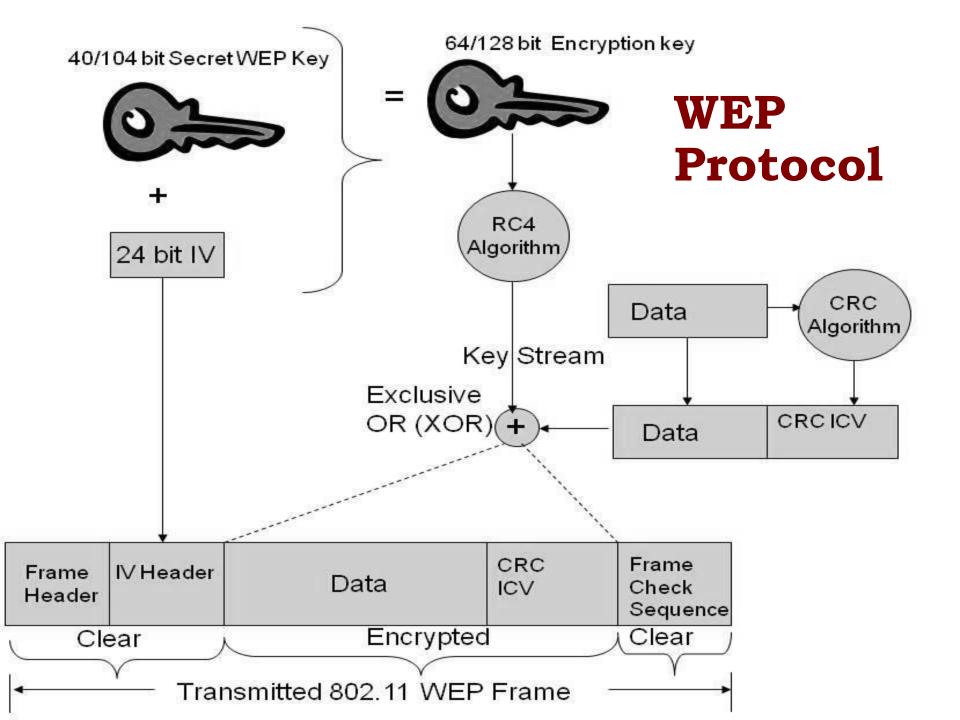


Properties of RC4 Stream Cipher



- RSA (originally named for Rivest, Shamir & Adleman)
- RC4 = "Ron's Code" or "Rivest's Cipher" #4
 - □Stream cipher
 - □XOR key bytes with plaintext
 - No propagation of errors (unlike block ciphers)
- Stream ciphers vulnerable to known-plaintext attacks
 - □Encrypt *known plaintext* with key
 - □Then XOR *plaintext* with *ciphertext* to recover key stream
 - Can then insert spoofed messages using key







WEP Keys > IEEE 802.11 stipulates 4 default keys for each Sta □Numbered 0, 1, 2, & 3 □Each 40 bits

- Combine 1 of keys with 24-bit IV = 64-bit key
 Used for RC4 computations as keystream
- But modern products use non-standard 104-bit keys
 Combined with 24-bit IV = 128-bit key

Problems with WEP (Borisov, Goldberg & Wagner) (1)



40-bit standard keys too short to prevent brute-force cracking (with today's CPU speeds)

Solved by de facto standard of 104-bit keys

Key stream re-used

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□Therefore open to known-plaintext attacks

PLUS XOR of 2 separate ciphertexts encrypted by same stream cipher = 2 plaintexts XOR'd

✓ Vulnerable to cryptanalysis

No specified key management protocol

□And *ad hoc* vendor-supplied KM protocols often weak (cont'd)

Problems with WEP (Borisov, Goldberg & Wagner) (2)



Replay attacks (message modification)

Demonstrated that encryption too weak to prevent changes in encrypted payload without altering checksum So can inject altered payload

Message injection

Obtain key stream by XORing known plaintext with its encrypted ciphertext version

Then XOR new message with key stream

Inject spoofed packets into data stream

✓ Due to use of weak CRC-32 algorithm

Would be improved by using SHA-1 HMAC (hashed message authentication code)

<mark>(feont'd)</mark>

Problems with WEP (Borisov, Goldberg & Wagner) (3)



IP redirection

- □Capture packet from Sta
- Alter destination address to send to attacker's host on Internet
- □Attacker's host decrypts packet
- Returns cleartext to attacker
- Reaction attack vs TCP
 - Flip one bit in captured TCP message
 - □Send to TCP-based server
 - If TCP checksum still valid, server returns ACK; else no response
 - Thus server tests one bit at a time for cryptographic recovery of plaintext



Key Management

- Most WEP NWs use only 1 (the same) shared key (out of only 4) for all Sta
- Increases chances of integrity value (IV) collisions & re-use of IV in attacks
- Lack of prescribed KM protocol has led to vendoror implementation-specific protocols



Many vendors rely on manual system to define keys – not manageable or scalable

Problems with Key Management

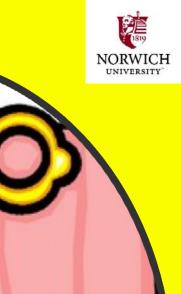
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- Keys manually entered into each Sta
 Many products display keys in plaintext
 So then many people get to know the keys
- Difficult or impossible to coordinate change of keys
 - So many installations never change their keys at all
 - □Thus attackers have lots of time for cryptanalysis
 - Former staff may know long-standing keys after departure from organization



Default WEP Keys

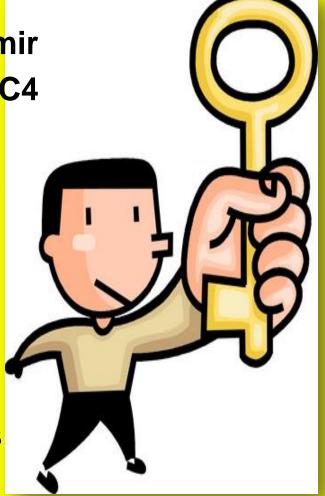
- Many manufacturers code default WEP keys into their equipment
- Equivalent to canonical passwords in other access-control situations such as application programs
- Attackers well familiar with default values
 - Netstumbler & Kismet identify manufacturer
 - Easy to enter known keys to break into NW
- DO NOT USE DEFAULT WEP KEYS!



Fluhrer, Mantin & Shamir (FMS) Attack (Aug 2001)



- Scott Fluhrer, Itsik Mantin & Adi Shamir
- Published paper on weaknesses in RC4 Speculated on attacking WEP
- Adam Stubblefield, John Ioannidis, & Ariel Rubin (Aug 2001)
 - Described successful attack
 - □Took only 2 hours to write script
 - Took few days to gather OTS HW & SW to recover WEP key
 - Need to collect ~5M packets (or as few as 1M)



Airsnort & WEPCrack use this attack method

Developments Since the FMS Attack

- Vendors responded to FMS & SIR papers
 Dropped weak initialization vectors (IVs)
 Developed new protocol: Dynamic WEP (see later)
- But attackers quickly undermined all WEP security
 - □Aug 6, 2004: "Korek" posted *chopper*
 - Statistical attack does not depend on weak IVs
 - Requires only 100Ks of packets
 - Integrated into Airsnort
 & Aircrack tools



Defending Against WEP Vulnerabilities (1)



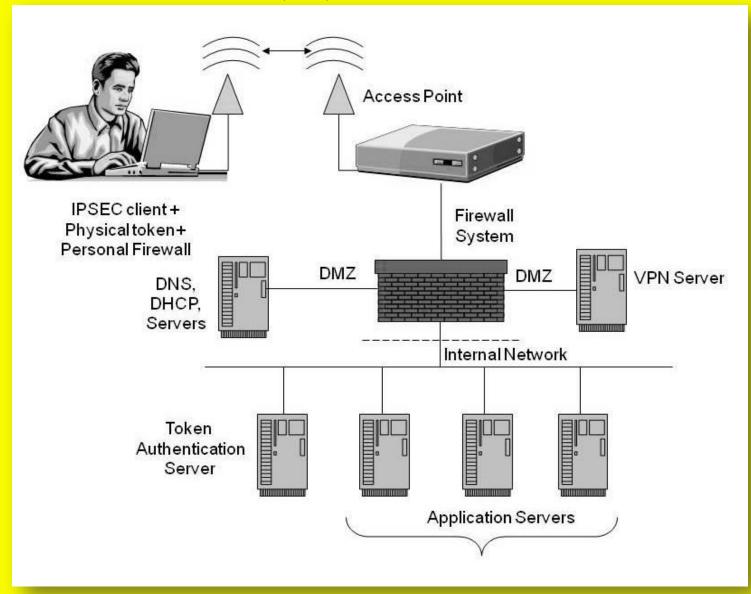
Best defense: don't use WEP at all!
Use 802.11i WPA (Wi-Fi Protected Access) or WPA2

- If you must use WEP, see Exhibit 33.7 in CSH6 (p 33.21) for list of problems & countermeasures
- Exhibit 33.8 (next slide) summarizes safe topology for wireless networks using WEP
 - Note firewall between WAP & all other network components
- Further topics discussed below



Defending Against WEP Vulnerabilities (2)







Defending Against the WEP Vulnerabilities (3)

- **Further topics**
- > Additional Crucial Controls
- VPN & WEP
- AP Configuration
- AP Location
- Dynamic WEP
- Concluding Remarks on WEP
- Resolving Implementation & Operational Problems
- Remote Access & Public WAPs



Additional Crucial* Controls



- Necessary procedural elements for WLAN security
- Effective patch management
- Regularly updated antimalware solution
 - ❑Antivirus
 - ❑Antispyware
- Only security-policycompliant Sta may be connected to WLAN
 - □Firewall
 - □Patches
 - ❑Antimalware



VPN & WEP



- Should one use WEP with a VPN?
- Not strictly necessary because VPN handles encryption satisfactorily
- But attackers may see NW without WEP as potentially unprotected
 - □Can probe for weaknesses □Could launch / cause DoS
- So WEP serves as deterrent
 - Remember story of two hikers chased by grizzly
 - "This is crazy! We can't outrun a grizzly bear!"



□"I don't have to outrun the grizzly: I just have to outrun *you*."

AP Configuration

- Some WLANs configured to suppress SSID broadcast & not respond to broadcast probes
 - Theory is security by obscurity
 - Windows XP & simple war-driving tools (e.g., Netstumbler) will not see NW
- But more sophisticated attacker monitors actual traffic
- So these measures may cause more inconvenience for legitimate users than for attackers
- General principle: run secure WLAN & no unauthorized user will be able to join NW

AP Location



- Physical location of AP affects signal strength
- Places to position AP for better security:
 - □Middle of room
 - □1st or 2nd floor of building
- Places to avoid placing AP:
 - Outside (street-facing) walls
 - **Upper floors**





Dynamic WEP



- Vendors introduced dynamic WEP keys
 - Established in 802.1x authentication exchange
 - Every Sta has own WEP key
 - □ AP changes key regularly
- Standard option in Windows XP client
 - **"**"This key is provided for me automatically"
- Evaluation
 - □ Massive improvement over static WEP keys
 - But does not defend against active WEP attacks
- Recommendations
 - Use dynamic WEP keys BUT
 Plan to move to more secure WPA or WPA2

Concluding Remarks on WEP

"WEP is fundamentally broken."
New attacks constantly generated
Avoid WEP if possible
Use WPA or WPA2
Or encrypt data (VPN) using IPSec or SSL



Resolving Implementation & Operational Problems

- Plan for security breaches
- Defend each component of NW
- Do not allow use of default configurations & default keys
- Recommendations
 - □Issue corporate policy on WLANs
 - **Publicize & enforce policy**
 - Develop approved WLAN
 - ✓ Architecture
 - Configuration standards
 - ✓ Operating procedures



"By the way, what's the office policy on smoking?"

Remote Access & Public WAPs



- Unsecured home network may circulate unencrypted traffic
 - So connecting unsecured network to corporate systems using encrypted links will still not protect data
 - Therefore use VPNs for connection to corporate NW
- But rogue hot spots dangerous
 Criminal's AP spoofs legitimate AP
 Before establishing VPN
- Vendors working to implement secure protocols in hardware



Wi-Fi Alliance's WPA & WPA2 Standards

> Wi-Fi Alliance

- □ Non-profit organization
- Certify interoperability of 802.11 products
- Concerned about security weakness of WEP

Created Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA)

- Subset of 802.11i (see §33.5 not included in this IS340 curriculum and these slides)
- □ Uses Temporary Key Integrity Protocol (TKIP, see §33.5 33.5.5 for details)

□ Vulnerable to offline dictionary attack

WPA2 is equivalent to complete 802.11i See Wi-Fi Alliance white papers at <u>http://www.wi-fi.org</u>

802.11 Security Auditing Tools (1)

- Auditor & BackTrack
- > Kismet
- Netstumbler
- Airsnort (old)
- CoWPAtty & Aircrack

wellen

- Ethereal
- > Wellenreiter
- Commercial Wireless Auditing Tools

reiter





<< back | track







802.11 Security Auditing Tools (2)



- More detail than appropriate for IS340
- See Exhibit 33.19 for synoptic table
- Read §33.6 for details





Now go and study

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