

Enhancing IoT Network Security Using SDN Controller and Blockchain Technology

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ABSTRACT

To beautify the security of SDN network In order to enhance the security of SDN (Software-defined networking) networks utilized within cloud environments, SDN has been upgraded, thus altering the standard procedure of the existing network. This study aims to implement an SDN-approved blockchain application on the cloud. Likely, the SDN controller ryu is employed for network management and customization. This review presents an overview of common security issues encountered with SDN when integrated with cloud environments. It introduces emerging ideas in the newly launched blockchain model and proposes reasons that support blockchain as a formidable security feature when solutions are deployed where SDN and cloud are interconnected. Given the significant increase in the amount of user data (private, enterprise, commercial, etc.) available online, this puts them at high risk from malicious users. Various security measures have been proposed and implemented to protect user data against undefined risks. Many of these solutions utilize traditional networking approaches that are intricate and challenging to manage. These approaches rely on the manual configuration of devices, causing policy conflicts that may compromise network security.

Keywords : SDN, Software-defined networking

Introduction

Software Defined Networking (SDN) is the framework for network architectures that separates control plane from forwarding plane making the network management more truthful. The manipulate usual insight of network is completed by a reasonably centralised network controller building switching & routing gadgets as simple information forwarding devices. Famous agencies like Microsoft, Google, Yahoo, Facebook, and Verizon have invested within the improvement of open standards for SDN. OpenFlow protocol is the open requirements that allows communication among the manage plane and the records plane in SDN environment[1]. The controller uses OpenFlow protocol to bypass switching, routing, load balancing or firewall policies onto information plane devices.

Firewall can be conceptualized as a security tool build totally on prescribed safety pointers utilized for tracing and managing outward & inward packet site traffic in a network. A traditional firewall serves like a shield amongst an internal trusted community & an external suspected community alongwith the internet[2]. Because of the reality the centralised manage in SDN endorse the imposition of network-big security guidelines & intercept insurance conflicts, it is extremely pleasant to implement firewall with SDN network structure[3].

In this theory, a firewall safety configuration is recommended. It is intended to offer network-substantial security at identical time as analysing inward stream to the community. This solution offers the network administrator total manipulate over safety coverage execution & modification; simultaeneously building the firewall authentication in the direction of threats through monitoring community stream.

II. BLOCK CHAIN

A blockchain may be a decentralised, dispensed & publicized virtual ledger. It sincerely wants to report logs throughout various computer networks such that some concerned document can not be modified retrospectively, without the modification of each next block. It allows the personnel to validate and scrutinize transactions discretely and comparatively economically[4]. A p2p network & allocated timestamping server can control a blockchain statistics independently. They are unfeigned by using mass cooperation fascinated through common self-hobbies. This method allows strong paintings go with the flow wherever contributors' unpredictability regarding statistics protection is insignificant. The feature of countless reliableness from a virtual plus can be removed by using blockchain. It verifies that every precious unit became transmittted once, locating the extensive snag of dual dispensation. Blockchain is defined as a price-trade protocol. Blockchain holds call authority due to the fact of once well developed to detail the trade agreement[5]. It gives a file which impels offer and attraction.

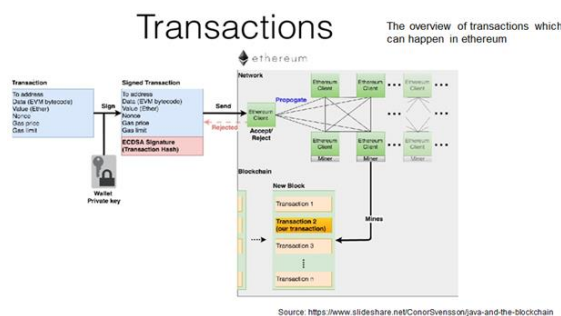


Fig. 1. Blockchain Transactions

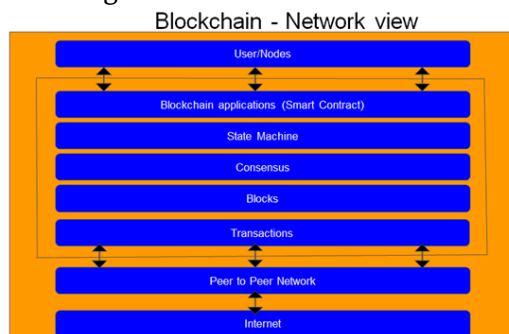


Fig. 2. Network view of Blockchain

A. Ethereum Blockchain

- 1)Conceived in November-2013 by Vitalik Buterin.
- 2)Turing Complete Language
- 3) Permits advancement of random programs (smart contracts)
- 4) Basic launch as“Frontier”, the leading-edge launch as “homestate launch” & final launch i.e. “serenity”

5)Serenityproof of Stake (Caster), Adaptability, Secrecy,EVM.

6)The visionary and prophetic of Web 3.0 idea – Public, applications, details and internet linked together.

7)DNS, Search Engines & identity at the internet – distributed in net 3.0 and Ethereum to understand it.

8) Native foreign money ether ETH- difficult forked model.

The blockchain comprises of triple component technique running in combination i.e. cryptographic analysis, uneven public key cryptography, dispensed P2P computing.

i)A root-analysis of a complete chain along with the analysis of transactions inside the block comprises each block header.

ii) An encryption seed is created by using the bits of facts within the block header, that in turn creates a DAG file, that extends to 1GB and functions like a sort of father-up component array for proof-of-work rule set that smashes collectively slab of data from DAG so as to point towards a triumphing nonce rate so that you can authenticate the slab.

iii)A pair of cryptographic keys, one general & one personal are used by ethereum debts to encode transactions dispatched to their concerned virtual devices. Array of pointers applied is recognized to be secp256k1 curve to perform encoding.

iv)Ethereum uses the elliptic-curve build completely on encryption protocol called as ECDSA algorithm allows for short key extent that lowers stowage goals & transferral specifications.

V) SHA-256 is used by ethereum

III. MININET IOT NETWORK

Mininet-IoT emulates a complete network of nodes and links on a single machine. To create a sample two-host, one-switch community, simply run:

```
sudo mn
```

For establishing vast network at confined assets of a smooth lone computer or virtual machine, mininet is used as an emulator. For assisting exploration in software defined networking (SDN) and openflow, mininet is designed. Mininet simulator permits running unvaried codes collectively on virtual machine on easy computer. It offers consolation and authenticity at extremely economical cost. The possibility to mininet is hardware check beds that are quick, precise yet extremely costly & shared. Another option is using simulator which is too economical but every so often gradual and need code moderation. Mininet provides user friendliness, overall functioning precision & adaptability.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

A. Ethereum Libraries (to be installed in python)

1.npm

2.ganache-cli

3.web-3 python

4.flask

- flask – restful

- flask – marshmallow

5.install solidity

6.install ethereum

7.install solc

- 8.py-solc
- 9.py-solc-x

B. Ethereum Implementation

Access key has to be generated from infura.io website to generate Eth wallet. This website is used to access ethereum. A new project option will be displayed on website. Project secret key will be given to create new project.

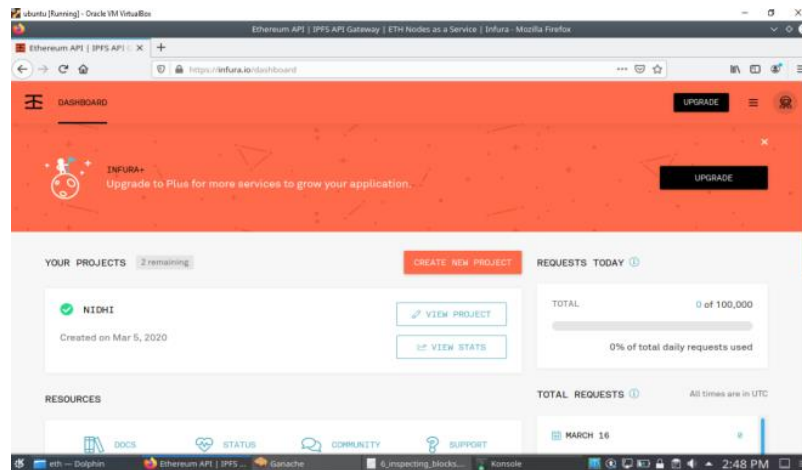


Fig. 3.infura.io website

Ganache needs to be downloaded and installed. It is locally deployed in ethereum. Ganache screen will be displayed where outputs regarding transactions, records, accounts etc. are displayed.

A various end-hosts, switches, routers, links on a Linux can be simulated by using mininet. It is an open source network emulation environment. Mininet has to be started by following code:

```
sudo mn -t topo-linear.20
```

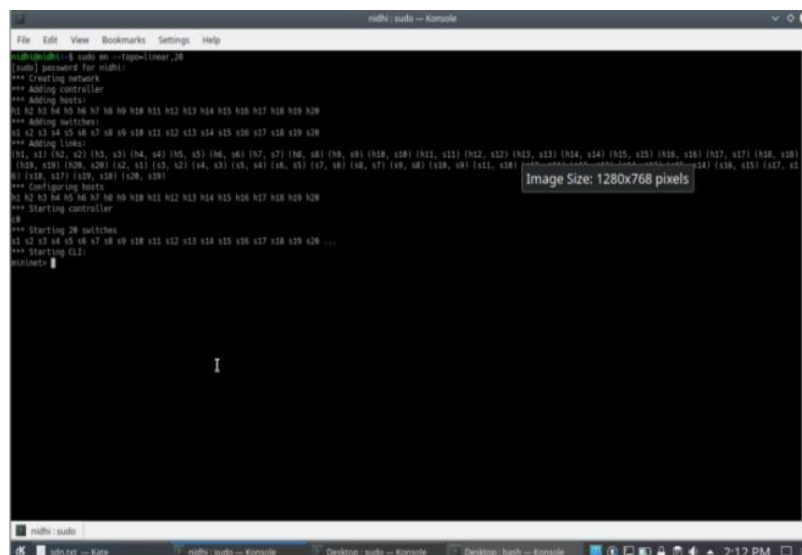


Fig. 4. Mininet start

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Image Size: 1280x768 pixels

```

root@kali:~# cat 3-3-mininet
#!/usr/bin/env python
from mininet.topo import Topo
from mininet.link import Link, ETHER
from mininet.node import UserHost, RemoteHost, Network
from mininet.cli import CLI
from mininet.log import info, warn, error, debug, warn_once, info_once
from mininet.config import ConfigDict

class MyTopo(Topo):
    "A simple network topology"
    def __init__(self):
        Topo.__init__(self)
        # Add hosts
        h1 = self.addHost('h1')
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[illegible]

Ethereum_Test Code to test the ethereum:

[illegible][illegible]

Fig. 7b. Ethereum_test code output

Inspecting blocks over ethereum:

Fig. 8a. Inspecting_blocks code

Fig. 8b. Inspecting_blocks code output

Ganache needs to be downloaded and installed. It is locally deployed in ethereum. Ganache screen will be displayed where outputs regarding transactions, records, accounts etc. are displayed.

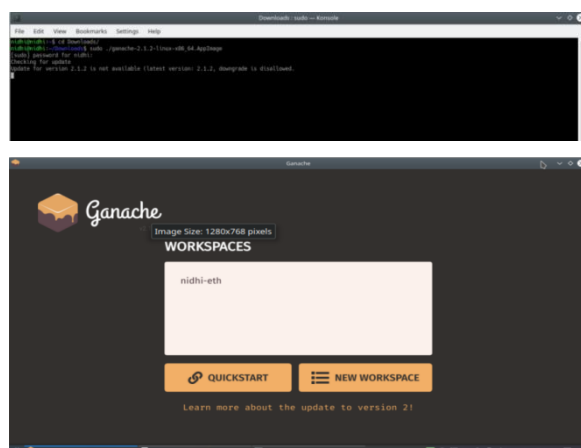


Fig. 9a. code to access ganache

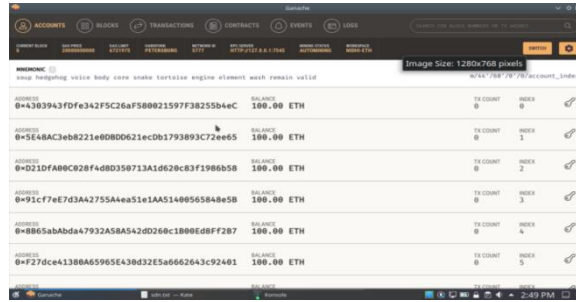


Fig. 9b. outputs regarding transactions and records of various accounts

Final module output:



Fig. 10. Final module output

Final ganache output:



Fig. 11. Final ganache output.

V. ADVANTAGE

A. Background

1. Majority of SDN improvement works on characteristics, not security. Those SDN are endangered from new assault vectors that were literally not viable initially compared to traditional network[6][7].
2. Hosts/servers of network might generally be exposed to assault in traditional network,. But at present with SDN, new APIs & hence susceptibilities occur for network alone.
3. To unveil this issue, erstwhile a sole rogue element alongwith a transfer or compute component, infused with help of hacker is usual. With help of a SDN, the hacker may be able to see, replicate, manipulate, distort communications on the network.
4. Hence any security solution has to be capable of scaling and function the performance to permit various valid elements in altogether while refusing a sole rogue detail from hacker.

B. Solution

A solution wherein some factor that takes vicinity on SDN is trapped in legally verifiable & invariable log—the blockchain. In case cyberpunk attempt & cover his trail byway of further hacking inside the log server & altering the record of actions, owing to the fact the blockchain & its data prevail in many locations without deferment so that each modification would be denied before blockchain peers.

VI. LITERATURE SURVEY

In modern day, various studies are implemented in SDN for determining its potential to improve cease-to-stop network security. Various strategies are recommended to accomplish various security acts for utilizing firewall proposition because it miles the foremost aspect to safeguard spiteful assaults at the network. SDN controllers such as RYU, floodlight, POX, etc. have extended aid to firewall building blocks for try out & evolution. fundamental design of firewall in SDN surroundings is shown in Fig. 12.

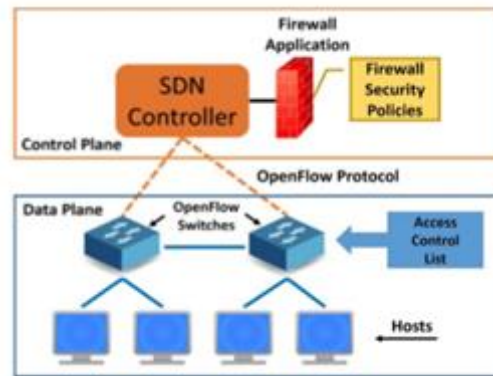


Fig. 12. The fundamental design of firewall in SDN surroundings.

A concept of reactive stateful firewall & techniques for improving its functioning with the use of S-Table & SecPolTable alongwith the flow table was suggested by Nife et al. in a latest study[9][10]. But, obscurities about the execution and validating the recommended idea still exist. In a further research, a reactive stateful firewall (using raspberry pi) which expands throughout by diffusing network flow across various links comprising firewalls (for instigating sceptical traffic) & an additional link (escaping the trustful traffic) was developed by Vasaka et al[11][12].

A fresh proposal for dynamic stateful firewall in SDN surroundings with an instigator as a network protection control system operating on application plane was initiated by Zerkane et al[9]. Instigator is able to control different controllers & implement protection measures in firewall operation existing in controllers. Tran and Ahn introduced a flowtracker stateful firewall having capability of learning network topography & implement protection measures so as to lower useless admittance in flow table which filtrate network traffic[13].

VII. PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

The SDN framework comprises of network controllers strolling at manage plane, various data forwarding devices (e.g. Switches, routers, etc.) at information plane and network programs running on top of controllers. The network applications instruct controllers to implement community facilities that cover switching, routing, load balancing, firewall, etc. OpenFlow protocol prevail between manage plane & facts plane to establish connection among controller and statistics plane devices. The model 1.0 of openflow had basic 12 in shape fields and one go with the flow desk. The recommended framework is depends totally on the latest variant of the OpenFlow (model 1.5) that serves 44 strong fields and a pair of float tables. Although open flow ver 1.5 was launched around 2014 [9], research on this subect is constricted. The suggested framework is the application of firewall viability on an open-source SDN controller working on openflow ver 1.5 guidelines. Four openflow authorized switches linking 4 different person systems are utilized so as to confirm scalability. The Ryu framework is working as an SDN controller as it assists openflow model 1.5 specs. The firewall directives are specified to both allow or obstruct the packets centred completely at the header data together with origin & destination mac cope with, IPv4/IPv6 deal with, port numbers & so on. Since those particulars will control destiny openflow authorised devices, such firewall directives are typically built on the suit fields provided in openflow switch particulars ver 1.5. The community controller can lay directives onto each character switch within the firewall utility because the firewall module fetch data about the associated and accessible switches within the community. The firewall software continuously video display units, get liberty of entry to control listing set up on switches to ensure it isn't often altered by any outer or internal device and after revelation, utility re-route the flows in network as precautionary measure.

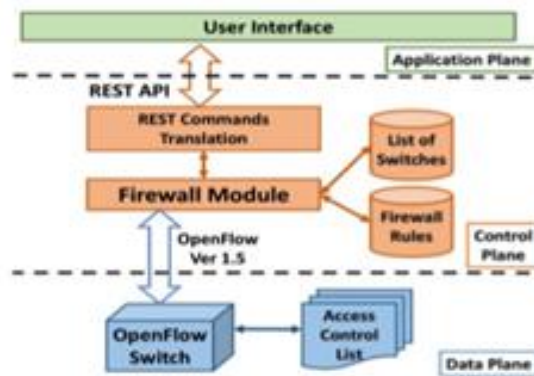


Fig. 13. The block diagram of SDN firewall applications

A. Building Blocks of Firewall Model

The fig. 2 depicts building blocks of SDN firewall using firewall application working on control plane in SDN controller when it is getting linked to openflow switches. Firewall Module, REST commands translation, record of switches and firewall principle are four main elements of the firewall application. The firewall module is centre of the firewall application which co-ordinates with controller module for executing firewall principle in the network tools. Firewall policies on user interface can be approached, set, remove or alter by the network administrator through REST Application Program Interface.

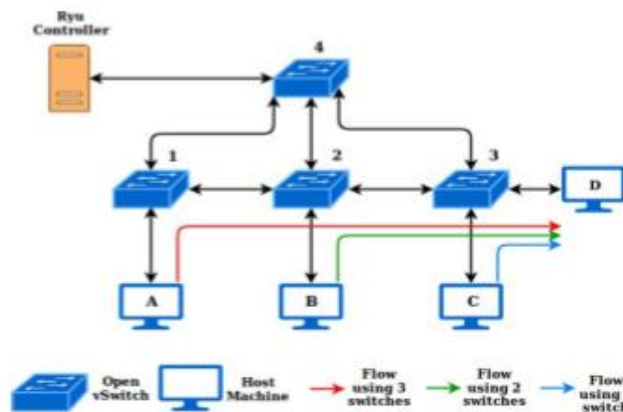


Fig. 3. (1) Traffic flow through 3 switches, (2) Traffic flow through 2 switches, (3) Traffic flow through 1 switch

Fig. 14. Openflow Switches

The protection scheme of the network is governed by a list of firewall directives and it comprises of independent directives for respective switches or separate VLANs in a switch. On data plane, each switch comprises of access control list and is filled with various firewall directives acquired from firewall application. Those firewall directives depends on the match fields prescribed by OpenFlow Switch Specifications ver 1.5.

VIII. CONCLUSION

SDN has modernized flexible network monitoring whilst presenting programmability for superior command on data plane configuration. In addition to integrate MAC/IP/TCP layer element in plain data forwarding gadget, openflow protocol has allowed precise packet filtering. This assists in the application of wide network protection schemes without influencing the network functioning in a vast network. SDN based firewall could be significant technic for protecting malicious risks in vast networks is shown by the tests performed on the prototype network

for three distinctive packet types i.e. ICMP, TCP and UDP. The intended firewall is justified on GNS3 platform, and executing such firewall with OpenFlow v1.5 has uplifted the aspirations to include upcoming versions of OpenFlow protocol for superior security visions. Apart from executing firewall protection schemes, the application may comprise protection qualities such as deep packet scrutiny, incursion identification to strengthen safety of the network.

In this research, we advocate a centralized security framework based on blockchain above cloud environment in SDN-enabled ethereum blockchain. Utilising the rigid characteristics of blockchain, the liability of the source message is verified. With the help of framework based on blockchain, we offer trust management for the vehicular system in case where malicious nodes can claim fake messages or messages can be tempered. Both theoretic studies and experimentation outcome explain the effectiveness of our framework since the diagnosis precision of the malicious nodes are notably improved.

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