



SDNA: A Self-shielding Dynamic Network Architecture

Problem

- With patience, a vulnerability in a computer network can be found and exploited
- Once inside, an attack can easily spread
- Prevent and limit attacks before detection
- 0-day, USB/email, compromised OS, etc.



Photo by Ethan Prater, used under Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0) License

Goals

- Disrupt planning & effectiveness of attacks
- Prevent first node from being attacked
- Prevent spread after a successful attack
- Provide additional information to improve detection of and recovery from attacks

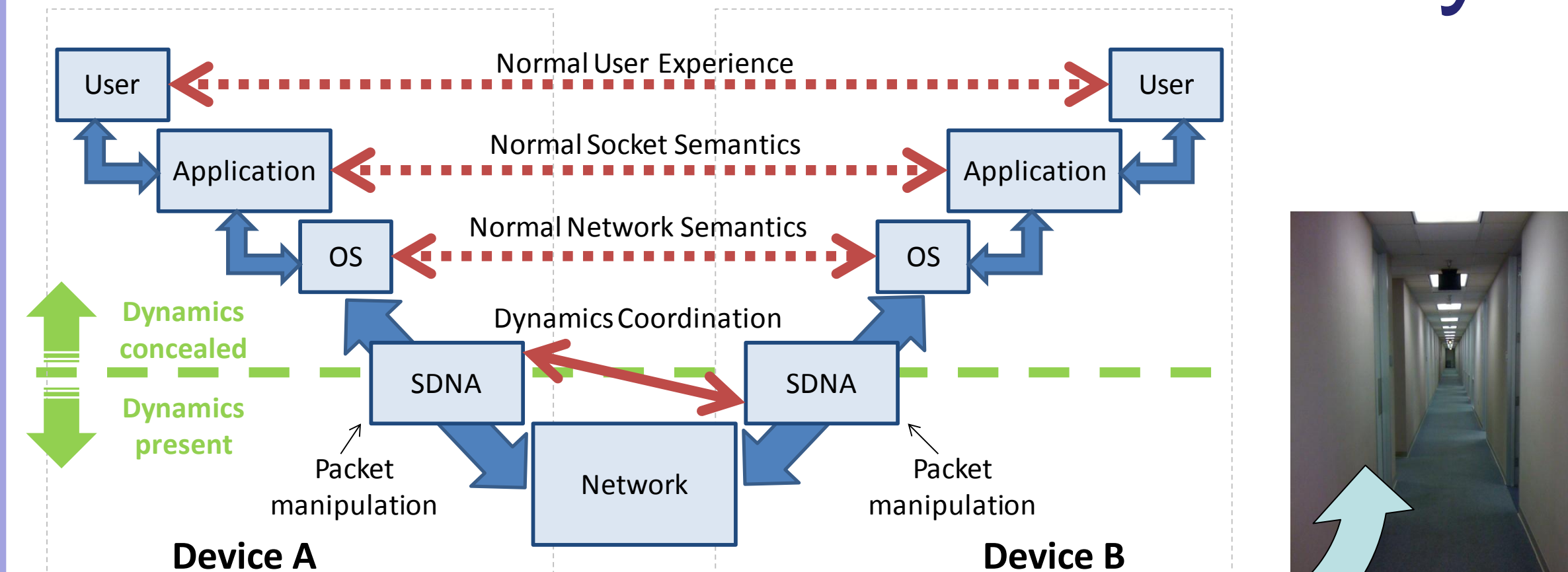
Sponsor

Walt Tirenin, AFRL
FA8750-10-C-0089 and FA8750-11-C-0179

Contact

Justin Yackoski : jyackoski@i-a-i.com 301-294-4251
<http://www.i-a-i.com>

SDNA Key Concepts



Like a hallway with many doors...

Burden on attacker, all choices except 1 are a trap
Must make choice to test its correctness
Correct door constantly changes, cannot follow
Not just "security through obscurity"



Photo by user loviboutur, used under Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0) License

- Integrated, decentralized architecture
- IPv6 based, IPv4 compatible
- Continually change network's appearance in multiple ways
- Network access is managed & protected by a hypervisor
- Transparent to OS, apps, and user
- Cryptographically strong
- Network is secure by default

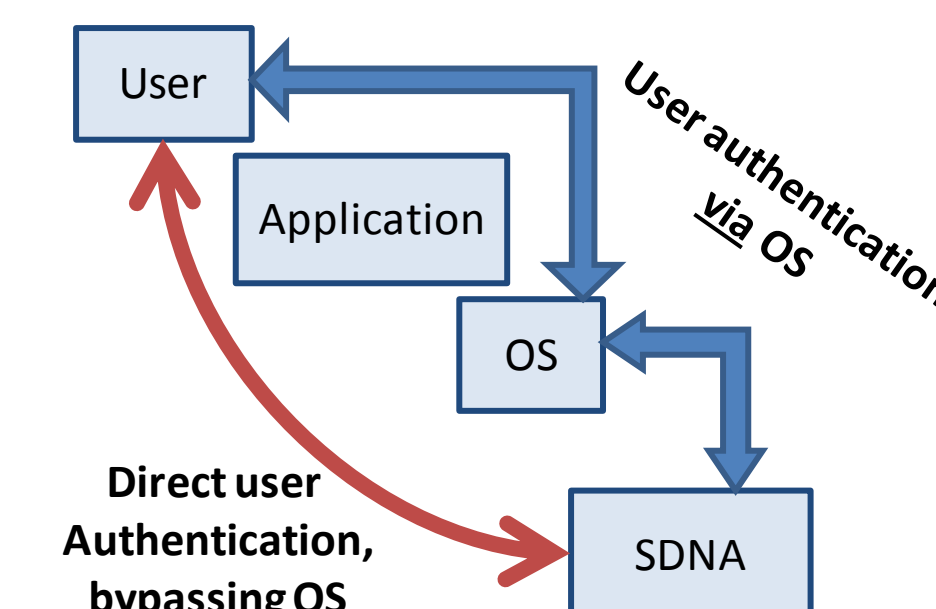
Security

- Addresses cannot be meaningfully observed or used to locate/identify important nodes
- Network appearance differs per user & node
- Sender of a packet can be verified
- Secure against a compromised OS
- Non-SDNA devices/packets are easily detected and dropped/honeypotted

```

fef0::2400:28eb:d9f0:c6d fef0::22e0:3c86:c7cf TCP 5533 > 36800 [SYN,
fef0::2297:2e77:b830 fef0::2400:2833:e266: TCP 36800 > 5533 [ACK]
fef0::2215:5b72:d344 fef0::2400:2859:e16d: TCP 36800 > 5533 [PSH,
fef0::2238:6a40:db0e fef0::2400:2855:e9fe: TCP 36800 > 5533 [FIN,
fef0::2400:2897:dd79:858 fef0::2299:92b0:6bc8 TCP 5533 > 36800 [ACK]
fef0::2400:28ca:b39:eac8 fef0::2266:f268:ba2d TCP 5533 > 36800 [PSH,
fef0::2236:a4cb:a96b fef0::2400:28f1:ed88: TCP 36800 > 5533 [ACK]
fef0::2400:2862:7120:90b fef0::22ff:8358:c5da TCP 5533 > 36800 [FIN,
fef0::228c:8c1:b042 fef0::2400:2874:8543: TCP 36800 > 5533 [ACK]
  
```

Example capture of packets in an SDNA network



Feasibility/Usability

- No changes to OS or apps
- Use existing CAC systems
- No changes to network hardware
- Dynamics are hidden from legitimate users

Use large IPv6 address space to create dynamics

Offsets	Octet	0	1	2	3	
Octet	Bit	0	1	2	3	
0	0	Version		Traffic Class		
4	32	Payload Length				Flow Label
8	64					Next Header
12	96					Hop Limit
16	128					Source Address
20	160					
24	192					Destination Address
28	224					
32	256					
36	288					

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IPv6_packet