





Interest Flooding Detection in NDN using Hypothesis Testing

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- 2 Detection Problem Statement
- Interest flooding detection
- 4 Evaluation results





- Interest flooding attack in Named Data Networking
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- 5 Conclusion & future work



Named Data Networking

- Internet usage keeps growing tremendously
- Recent efforts aiming to a clean-slate network for the future
- NDN: promising future Internet

NDN key concepts

- Naming content object instead of using IP address
- In-network caches
- Ensure content integrity, authenticity
- Natively solve part of problems: multicast, mobility support, IP address shortage ...



Interest Flooding Attack

• Communications by Interest and Data packets



Attack principle

Overload **PIT** with a large amount of Interests for **non-existent content names**, prevent router from processing Interests from legitimate user

- Highly risk
 - Easily created
 - Potentially affect on large scale



Previous work

 Proposed solutions usually include a detection phase followed by a mitigation step ¹²

Previous detection method's drawbacks

- Unclear threshold selection, usually based on experiences
 - ⇒ Rigid performance, only valid in evaluated cases
 - ⇒ Costly to address different conditions
- No expected theoretical performance
 - ⇒ Achieved results under-optimal
- Evaluate with easily detected cases
 - ⇒ Unreliable and weak performance against challenge cases

¹A. Afanasyev et al. "Interest flooding attack and countermeasures in Named Data Networking." IFIP Networking Conference, 2013

²A. Compagno et al. "Poseidon: Mitigating interest flooding DDoS attacks in named data networking." IEEE 6 Local Computer Networks (LCN), 2013.



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Detection Problem Statement



Assumptions

• p_t: loss rate of a legitimate Interest

•
$$d_t \sim \mathcal{B}(i_t; 1-p_t)$$

• $\ell_t = 1 - d_t / i_t$: measured packet-loss rate

The two statistical hypotheses

• \mathcal{H}_0 : no Interest flooding

$$\mathcal{H}_0$$
: $d_t \sim \mathcal{B}(i_t, 1-p_t)$

• \mathcal{H}_1 : an Interest flooding is occurring

 $\mathcal{H}_{1}: d_{t} \sim \mathcal{B}\left(i_{t} - N_{t}, 1 - p_{t}\right), \ N_{t} > 0$



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Packet-loss rate modeling

The case of known loss rate pt already addressed
 ⇒ upper bound for the detection performance

For the case of unknow loss rate

- Values of *p_t* changes slightly and smoothly
 ⇒ Possible to model with a polynomial
- Consider N measurements $\boldsymbol{\ell} = (\ell_{T-N+1}, \dots, \ell_T)$
- Least-square estimator of packet-loss rate

$$\widetilde{\boldsymbol{p}} = \boldsymbol{H} \widetilde{\boldsymbol{x}} = \boldsymbol{H} (\boldsymbol{H}^{\mathcal{T}} \boldsymbol{H})^{-1} \boldsymbol{H}^{\mathcal{T}} \boldsymbol{\ell}$$



Reformulate the hypotheses

• $\ell_t = 1 - d_t/i_t$ and i_t usually large enough

Using Central Limit Theorem

$$egin{cases} \mathcal{H}_0 : \boldsymbol{\ell} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{N}\left(\mathsf{H}\widetilde{\mathsf{x}}\,,\, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0
ight), \ \mathcal{H}_1 : \boldsymbol{\ell} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{N}\left(\mathsf{H}\widetilde{\mathsf{x}} - \mathsf{av}_{a}\,,\, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0 - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_a
ight) \end{cases}$$

where **a** represents the attack payload and **v**_a characterizes for the number of samples corrupted by the attack, e.g. $\mathbf{v}_a = (0, 0, \dots, 0, 1)^T$

Estimated residual

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{H}^{\perp} &= \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{H}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{H})^{-1} \mathbf{H}^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \widetilde{\mathbf{r}} &= \boldsymbol{\ell} - \widetilde{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{H}^{\perp} \boldsymbol{\ell} \sim \begin{cases} \mathcal{H}_0 : \mathcal{N} \left(\mathbf{0} \,, \, \mathbf{H}^{\perp} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0 \mathbf{H}^{\perp}^{\mathsf{T}} \right) , \\ \mathcal{H}_1 : \mathcal{N} \left(\mathbf{a} \widetilde{\mathbf{v}}_a \,, \, \mathbf{H}^{\perp} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0 \mathbf{H}^{\perp}^{\mathsf{T}} - \mathbf{H}^{\perp} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_a \mathbf{H}^{\perp}^{\mathsf{T}} \right) \end{cases}_1 \end{split}$$



Proposed detection method

Generalized Likelihood Ratio Test (proposed GLRT)

$$\widetilde{\delta}(\widetilde{\mathbf{r}}) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{H}_{0} & \text{if } \widetilde{\mathbf{v}}_{a}^{T}\widetilde{\mathbf{r}} \leq \widetilde{\tau}, \\ \mathcal{H}_{1} & \text{if } \widetilde{\mathbf{v}}_{a}^{T}\widetilde{\mathbf{r}} > \widetilde{\tau}. \end{cases}$$
with: $\widetilde{\mathbf{v}}_{a}^{T}\widetilde{\mathbf{r}} \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, s_{0}^{2}) & \text{under } \mathcal{H}_{0}, \\ \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{a} \| \widetilde{\mathbf{v}}_{a} \|_{2}^{2}, s_{0}^{2} - s_{a}^{2}) & \text{under } \mathcal{H}_{1}. \end{cases}$
and: $s_{0}^{2} = \widetilde{\mathbf{v}}_{a}^{T}\mathbf{H}^{\perp}\mathbf{\Sigma}_{0}\mathbf{H}^{\perp^{T}}\widetilde{\mathbf{v}_{a}}, \quad s_{a}^{2} = \widetilde{\mathbf{v}}_{a}^{T}\mathbf{H}^{\perp}\mathbf{\Sigma}_{a}\mathbf{H}^{\perp^{T}}\widetilde{\mathbf{v}_{a}}.$

Threshold & expected detection power

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Threshold:} & \widetilde{\tau} = \Phi^{-1} \left(1 - \alpha_0 \right) \textbf{s}_0 \\ \text{Detection power:} & \beta(\textbf{a}) = 1 - \Phi \left(\frac{\textbf{s}_0 \Phi^{-1} (1 - \alpha_0) - \textbf{a} \| \widetilde{\textbf{v}}_{\textbf{a}} \|_2^2}{\sqrt{\textbf{s}_0^2 - \textbf{s}_{\textbf{a}}^2}} \right) \end{array}$$



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Evaluation setup

Test configuration

- N = 50 and q 1 = 4
- $\mathbf{v}_a = (0, 0, \dots, 0, 1)^T$

Experiment setup

- Using data generated in ndnSIM
- $i_t \sim \Pi\{\lambda\}$ and $N_t \sim \Pi(a)$, with $\lambda, a \sim unif$
- Links' and content providers' capacity is sufficient
- Actual packet-loss rate follows an auto-regressive model: $p_t = p_{t-1} + u$ with $u \sim unif$





Approach relevance





Guaranteeing False Alarm Probability





Trade-off between detection latency and power





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Conclusion & future work

The proposed detector

- $\bullet\,$ Has a clearly-defined threshold which can guarantee a prescribed α_0
- Threshold independent of users' behavior or attack payload
- Provide a reliable theoretical performance, hence allow evaluating the loss in detection power due to estimation
- Master the trade-off between accuracy and detection delay

Future work

- Address other important attack strategies
- Develop a following mitigation strategy