CSE 40567 / 60567: Computer Security



Security Basics 4 / Cryptography 1

My office hours will be held in **182D Fitzpatrick** going forward

Homework #1 has been released. It is due Tuesday, Jan. 28th at 11:59PM

See **Assignments Page** on the course website for details

Course Roadmap



The history of computing and cryptography are intimately intertwined

- Turing served as a cryptanalyst at Bletchley Park during WWII
 - Designed the electromechanical "Bombe" to decipher Enigma codes
- Colossus Mark 1
 - First programmable, electronic, digital computer
 - Designed to break the Lorenz cipher

Contemporary Cryptography

- Support security protocols that must operate in the presence of motivated attackers
 - Hackers
 - Criminals
 - Corporations
 - Governments
- Ensure that algorithms are themselves resistant to direct attack by cryptanalysis leveraging vast computational resources
- Design algorithms that run in realtime (even on embedded hardware)

What is the focus of this unit?

- The development of protocols that serve as the building blocks for system, network, web and mobile security
- Practical implementations and best practices for algorithms considered to be secure today
 - We'll leave the proofs for CSE 40622/60622
- Real-world attacks, and how they can be mitigated

Introduction to Protocols

Eavesdropping revisited

Larger keyspaces supporting longer passwords and pin numbers are good, right?

128 bit key → 4rch4304str0n0my
256 bit key → m4ryh4d4l1ttl3l4mbl1ttl3l4mbwh0z

Doesn't affect the "shoulder surfing" attack

Eavesdropping revisited

Master passwords based on a serial number provide a convenient fallback

Serial numbers are rarely protected. (Mechanics, service technicians, janitors, etc. have access to them)

Eavesdropping revisited

What about a physical token?

Potential for replication if an attacker can gain access to it

Simple Authentication

Scenario: Alice wants to gain access to her workstation, but needs to authenticate via Bob

Nonce (N)

Key diversification

Where does Alice's key come from? One possibility:

Pros:

+ Simple key management

Cons:

- Length of identifier may limit usable keyspace
- Master key needs to be shared

Challenge-Response Protocols

- Problem with one-way authentication schemes: no guarantee messages make it to the intended recipient
- This can be solved with a two-way protocol
 - 1. Alice initiates an authentication session
 - 2. Bob responds with proof that he received Alice's message
 - Alice validates Bob's message

Two-step challenge and response protocol

1.
$$A \longrightarrow B$$
: N Shared Key
2. $B \longrightarrow A$: $\{B, N\}_{K}$

- In this scheme, Alice can decrypt the message from Bob, expecting to see the nonce she sent him
- The shared key guarantees the integrity of the protocol
 - But how is the shared key distributed?

Two-factor Authentication

Let's formalize two-factor authentication as a challenge-response protocol

S = Server; P = Password Generator; PIN = Personal Identification Number

1.
$$S \longrightarrow A: N$$

2. $A \longrightarrow P: N, PIN$
3. $P \longrightarrow A: \{N, PIN\}_{K}$
4. $A \longrightarrow S: \{N, PIN\}_{K}$

Chip + Pin

U.S. Chip-enabled Payment Cards 🞯 BY-SA 2.0 tales of a wandering youkai

Calculator uses bank card to perform crypto

- 1. Calculator is loaded with card
- 2. Asks for user's PIN
- 3. For card transaction: computes response code based on a counter
- 4. For two-step logon: computes a challenge

How can two-factor authentication be attacked?

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How can two-factor authentication be attacked?

- 1. Attacker installs Trojan program on Alice's computer
- 2. When Alice logs into her bank, attacker piggybacks on that transaction with the Trojan

"...the horse which once Odysseus led up into the citadel as a thing of guile"

Defense against Man-in-the-Middle and Trojan Horses?

- For the banking scenario, derive the authentication code from:
 - Transaction amount
 - Payee account number
 - Transaction sequence number
- This prevents an attacker from crafting their own transaction

Impact on usability

- Time-consuming: minutes instead of seconds
- Complicated: entry of a lot of information, including long strings of digits
 - Customers may revert to physical branches, callcenters and paper checks
 - Loss of cost savings of online banking

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A reward from Sir Donald Knuth ⓒ BY-SA 2.0 Baishampayan Ghose

Mutual Authentication

Alice and Bob need to identify each other:

1.
$$A \longrightarrow B: N_A$$

2. $B \longrightarrow A: N_B$
3. $A \longrightarrow B: \{N_B\}_K$
4. $B \longrightarrow A: \{N_A\}_K$

What is the weakness in this protocol?

Reflection Attacks

Stopping reflection attacks

Alice and Bob need to identify each other; include IDs in the transaction:

1.
$$A \longrightarrow B$$
: N
2. $B \longrightarrow A$: $\{B, N\}_{K}$
ID is tied to a specific actor

• IDs can be checked with known actors

• If known actor didn't send, reflection attack is detected

Manipulating the message

Changing the environment

Original ATM

A Triton brand ATM with a dip style card reader and a triple DES keypad BY-SA 3.0 Webaware

• End-to-end encryption

Switch to Cheaper ATM

- Doesn't treat info on magnetic strip as secret
- Assumes operation in a trustworthy environment

Chosen Protocol Attack

Given some target protocol:

Design a new protocol that will attack the target protocol if users can be persuaded to reuse information

- Token
- Crypto Key

Chosen Protocol Attack

Image credit: R. Anderson, Security Engineering

Ways to mitigate chosen protocol attack

- Do not allow crypto keys to be used by more than one application
- Do not let other people bootstrap their own application security off of yours
 - Be aware of security dependencies