# TSIT01 Datasäkerhetsmetoder Föreläsning 6: Key management and network security

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### Key generation

- The key size decides how many different keys you can have, the search space for exhaustive key search
- If keys are not chosen at random, the attacker can first try more likely keys
- If all bit combinations are not used, security is given by the number of possible keys, not the size in bits
- If keys are generated from a known random seed, the size of that seed decides the security





### Key length





# Key Management



- The first key in a new connection or association is *always* delivered via a courier
- Once you have a key, you can use that to send new keys
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# Key distribution center, replay attacks

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### Key distribution center, replay attacks

- Eve intercepts Alice's request
- Then she can fool Bob into communicating with her





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### Public key distribution, Diffie-Hellmann

- Diffie-Hellman key exchange is a way to share key
- Alice and Bob create secrets *a* and *b*
- They send  $\alpha^a \mod p$  and  $\alpha^b \mod p$  to each other







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- Both calculate  $K_{AB} = (\alpha^a)^b = (\alpha^b)^a \mod p$

Trent Key distribution center  $K_{AT}, K_{BT}$ 





### Public key distribution, Diffie-Hellmann

- Diffie-Hellman key exchange is a way to share key
- However, Eve can do an "man-in-the-middle"

Trent Key distribution center *K<sub>AT</sub>*, *K<sub>BT</sub>* 





#### Public key distribution

• Public key distribution uses a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)

Trent Certification Authority  $s_T, \{e_i\}$ 

Alice, 
$$v_T$$
,  $d_A$ 

Bob, 
$$v_T$$
,  $d_B$ 



#### Public key distribution, using Certification Authorities

- Public key distribution uses a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)
- Alice sends a request to a Certification Authority (CA) who responds with a certificate, ensuring that Alice uses the correct key to communicate with Bob





### Public key distribution, using X.509 certificates

- The CAs often are commercial companies, that are assumed to be trustworthy
- Many arrange to have the root certificate packaged with the web browsers
- They issue certificates for a fee
- They often use Registration Authorities (RA) as sub-CA for efficiency reasons
- This creates a "certificate chain"



#### The content of a X.509 certificate





#### Revocation

- Certificate Revocation Lists distributed at regular intervals is the proposed solution in X.509
- On-line checks are better, but can be expensive
- Short-lived certificates are an alternative, but needs frequent certificate changes
- And the CAs themselves are not the best examples of trustworthy organizations



## Key revocation

- Cease issuing new tickets
  - Does not invalidate issued tickets
- Short validity of tickets (Kerberos often one day, X.509 could be years)
  - Frequent renewal
  - Bandwidth/processing limitation
  - Clock skew problem
  - Availability of key server
- Revocation lists
  - Needed, even with time limits
  - Are these properly updated?
  - There will be a delay
  - Availability of revocation list server
  - Bandwith limitation



• Passive attacks: Eavesdropping, Wiretapping, Sniffing, and Traffic analysis





### Communication security: Secure tunnels

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- Typically provide Confidentiality, data Integrity, and data origin authentication
- End points may be machines or services on the local computer
- The placement is important to achieve security





## Communication security: Secure tunnels

Steps to set up a tunnel

- 1. Authenticated key establishment ( $\rightarrow$ asymmetric key)
- 2. Key derivation ( $\rightarrow$ symmetric key)
- 3. Traffic protection through symmetric cryptography





#### Layered model of network protocols

- *The* abstraction of network structure, the ISO/OSI seven-layer model
- Security services at the top can be tailored for specific applications, but each application then needs a separate service
- Security services at the bottom can protect the upper layers transparently, but may not meet all requirements of specific applications

application
presentation
session
transport
network
link
physical



### Briefly on the layered model







### Briefly on the layered model



There are two options for security services in the N-1 layer

- The upper layer can be *aware* of the security services at the lower layer
- The lower layer security services can be transparent



#### The internet protocol stack

- The application layer has Telnet, FTP, HTTP, SMTP, SET, ...
- The transport layer has the protocols TCP and UDP, and applications connect to *ports* in this layer
- The internet layer has the IP protocol, nodes are identified through their *IP address*
- The link (and the physical) layer are specific to the tech used
- There are security services both in the transport and Internet layers

application
transport
IP/Internet
link



## The IP protocol

- The IP protocol is stateless and does not keep track of connections
- Each packet is independent
- No guaranteed delivery
- Order is not preserved
- No security mechanism

application
transport
IP/Internet
link



#### IPsec, IP protocol security

- Optional for IPv4, mandatory for IPv6
- Two major security mechanisms: Authentication Header and Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)
- Authentication Header does not give Confidentiality; it was used to avoid export restrictions in the 90s

application
transport
IP/Internet
 IPsec
link



# IPsec, Encapsulating Security Payloads

- ESP provides Confidentiality, data Integrity, data origin authentication and some replay protection
- ESP can be run in two modes: Transport mode and Tunnel mode
- For transport mode, both nodes need to be IPsec-aware
- Tunnel mode, on the other hand, is transparent: IP-within-IPsec





#### Pros and cons of IPsec

- IPsec provides security transparently
- Upper layers need not be aware that lower layers are more complicated to provide security
- Cannot be tuned for specific applications
- IPsec provides host-to-host (gateway-to-gateway) security, not user-to-user or application-to-application security
- IP is stateless and unreliable by construction, but IPsec is stateful
- IPsec packets need to be ordered, while IP should not be concerned with packet order or dropped packets



- Placed between "normal" TCP and application
- Handshake phase uses asymmetric encryption and certificates to exchange the session key
- The server (but not the client) is authenticated (by its certificate)
- Session key is for a symmetric algorithm
- Many different algorithms can be used, the set is not standardized

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- She doesn't see the response, but ...
- If Eve can guess ISSb, she can hijack the session







- Eve has established a (blind) session through session hijacking
- Certain protocols use no more authentication than this
- For these, Eve can use Alice's credentials at Bob
- Solution: firewall, or don't use services with address-based authentication



# TCP SYN flooding

- To stop Alice from tearing down the faulty (to Alice) session, Eve can mount a SYN flood attack against Alice
- This is to exhaust Alice's resources





### Domain Name System, DNS



• DNS uses "Lightweight authentication", a 16-bit query id (QID) and a UDP response port that the answering server should use



# DNS Cache poisoning



- Attacker asks for IP for target, then immediately floods the resolver with guessed QIDs at guessed UDP ports
- If successful, the attacker gets to decide Time To Live for the record



### Dan Kaminsky's attack



• Attacker asks for IP for random host in target domain, then immediately floods the resolver with guessed QIDs at guessed UDP ports



### Dan Kaminsky's attack



• The attacker can now try again without waiting for TTL expiry



### DNSSec

- DNS Security Extensions uses digital signatures to protect DNS records
- The DNS root is the trusted party
- The signature chain is built from the DNS root, through the TLD, and down to the current subdomain
- Not so easy to design a backward-compatible standard that can scale to the size of the Internet
- Disagreement among implementers over who should own the top-level domain root keys
- DNSSEC deployment is thought to be complex



#### Firewalls

- Main function: Filter traffic according to IP address and TCP port
- Do Network Address Translation to hide internal network
- Application proxies can do more, like filtering email for viruses and spam



