

# 14-736: Distributed Systems

#### Lecture 23: Key Distribution and Management

Thanks to the many, many people who have contributed various slides to this deck over the years.

# **Key Distribution**



- Have network with n entities
- Add one more
  - Must generate n new keys
  - Each other entity must securely get its new key
  - Big headache managing n<sup>2</sup> keys!
- One solution: use a central keyserver
  - Needs n secret keys between entities and keyserver
  - Generates session keys as needed
  - Downsides
    - Only scales to single organization level
    - Single point of failure



# Key Distribution Center (KDC)



- Alice, Bob need shared <u>symmetric key</u>.
- KDC: server shares different secret key with each registered user (many users)
- Alice, Bob know own symmetric keys, K<sub>A-KDC</sub> K<sub>B-KDC</sub>, for communicating with KDC.





# Key Distribution Center (KDC)



**Q:** How does KDC allow Bob, Alice to determine shared symmetric secret key to communicate with each other?



Alice and Bob communicate: using R1 as session key for shared symmetric encryption

# How Useful is a KDC?



- Must always be online to support secure communication
- KDC can expose our session keys to others!
- Centralized trust and point of failure.

In practice, the KDC model is mostly used within single organizations (e.g. Kerberos) but not more widely.

# Kerberos



#### Trivia

- Developed in 80's by MIT's Project Athena
- Used on all Andrew machines
- Mythic three-headed dog guarding the entrance to Hades
- Uses DES, 3DES
- Key Distribution Center (KDC)
  - Central keyserver for a Kerberos domain
  - Authentication Service (AS)
    - Database of all master keys for the domain
    - Users' master keys are derived from their passwords
    - Generates ticket-granting tickets (TGTs)
  - Ticket Granting Service (TGS)
    - Generates tickets for communication between principals
  - "slaves" (read only mirrors) add reliability
  - "cross-realm" keys obtain tickets in others Kerberos domains



# (1) AS\_REQUEST



- The first step in accessing a service that requires Kerberos authentication is to obtain a *ticket-granting ticket*.
- To do this, the client sends a <u>plain-text</u> message to the AS:
  - <client id, KDC id, requested ticket expiration, nonce1>



# (2) AS\_REPLY



- <{K<sub>c,TGS</sub>, none1}K<sub>c</sub>, {ticket<sub>c,tgs</sub>}K<sub>TGS</sub>>
- Notice the reply contains the following:
  - The nonce, to prevent replays
  - The new session key
  - A ticket that the client can't read or alter
- A ticket:
  - ticket<sub>x,y</sub> = {x, y, beginning valid time, expiration time,  $K_{x,y}$ }



# (3) TGS\_REQUEST



- The TGS request asks the TGS for a ticket to communicate with a a particular service.
- <{auth<sub>c</sub>} <sub>Kc, TGS</sub>, {ticket<sub>c</sub>, TGS}K<sub>TGS</sub>, service, nonce2>
- <{auth<sub>c</sub>} is known as an *authenticator* it contains the name of the client and a timestamp for freshness



# (4) TGS\_REPLY



- <{K<sub>c,service</sub>, nonce2}K <sub>c, TGS</sub>, {ticket<sub>c, service</sub>}K<sub>service</sub> >
- Notice again that the client can't read or alter the ticket
- Notice again the use of the session key and nonce between the client and the TGS

# (5) APP\_REPLY

- <{auth<sub>c</sub>}K<sub>c,service</sub>, {ticket<sub>c,service</sub>}K<sub>service</sub>, request, nonce3>
- Notice again the use of the session key as well as the protected ticket.



# (6) APP\_REPLY



- <{nonce3}K<sub>c,service</sub>, response>
- Because of the use of the encrypted nonce, the client is assured the reply came form the application, not an imposter.

# **Using Kerberos**

#### kinit

- Get your TGT
- Creates file, usually stored in /tmp
- klist
  - View your current Kerberos tickets

```
unix41:~ebardsle> klist
Credentials cache: FILE:/ticket/krb5cc_61189_9FT1N6
    Principal: ebardsle@ANDREW.CMU.EDU
Issued Expires Principal
Apr 18 19:40:50 Apr 19 20:40:49 krbtgt/ANDREW.CMU.EDU@ANDREW.CMU.EDU
Apr 18 19:40:50 Apr 19 20:40:49 afs@ANDREW.CMU.EDU
Apr 18 19:40:51 Apr 19 20:40:49 imap/cyrus.andrew.cmu.edu@ANDREW.CMU.EDU
```

- kdestory
  - End session, destroy all tickets
- kpasswd
  - Changes your master key stored by the AS
  - "Kerberized" applications
    - kftp, ktelnet, ssh, zephyr, etc
    - afslog uses Kerberos tickets to get AFS token





# Asymmetric Key Crypto:



- It is believed to be computationally unfeasible to derive  $K_B^{-1}$  from  $K_B$  or to find any way to get M from  $K_B(M)$  other than using  $K_B^{-1}$ .
- = K<sub>B</sub> can safely be made public.

Note: We will not detail the computation that  $K_B(m)$  entails, but rather treat these functions as black boxes with the desired properties.



Asymmetric Key: Sign & Verify



If we are given a message M, and a value S such that  $K_B(S) = M$ , what can we conclude?

The message must be from Bob, because it must be the case that  $S = K_B^{-1}(M)$ , and only Bob has  $K_B^{-1}$ !

### • This gives us two primitives:

- Sign (M) =  $K_B^{-1}(M)$  = Signature S
- Verify  $(S, M) = test(K_B(S) == M)$



# Asymmetric Key Review:



- Confidentiality: Encrypt with Public Key of Receiver
- Integrity: Sign message with private key of the sender
- <u>Authentication</u>: Entity being authenticated signs a nonce with private key, signature is then verified with the public key

But, these operations are computationally expensive\*

# **Cryptographic Hash Functions**



- Given arbitrary length message m, compute constant length digest h(m)
- Desirable properties
  - h(m) easy to compute given m
  - Preimage resistant
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> preimage resistant
  - Collision resistant
- Crucial point : These are not inverted, they are recomputed
- Example use: file distribution (ur well aware of that!)
- Common algorithms: MD5, SHA

# **Digital Signatures**



- Alice wants to convince others that she wrote message m
  - Computes digest d = h(m) with secure hash
  - Send <m,d>
- Digital Signature Standard (DSS)



# The Dreaded PKI



- Definition:
  - Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)
- A system in which "roots of trust" authoritatively bind public keys to real-world identities
- A significant stumbling block in deploying many "next generation" secure Internet protocol or applications.

# **Certification Authorities**



- Certification authority (CA): binds public key to particular entity, E.
- An entity E registers its public key with CA.
  - E provides "proof of identity" to CA.
  - CA creates certificate binding E to its public key.
  - Certificate contains E's public key AND the CA's signature of E's public key.



# **Certification Authorities**

- When Alice wants Bob's public key:
  - Gets Bob's certificate (Bob or elsewhere).
  - Use CA's public key to verify the signature within Bob's certificate, then accepts public key



# **Certificate Contents**



info algorithm and key value itself (not shown)



# Pretty Good Privacy (PGP)



#### History

- Written in early 1990s by Phil Zimmermann
- Primary motivation is email security
- Controversial for a while because it was too strong
  - Distributed from Europe
- Now the OpenPGP protocol is an IETF standard (RFC 2440)
- Many implementations, including the GNU Privacy Guard (GPG)

#### Uses

- Message integrity and source authentication
  - Makes message digest, signs with public key cryptosystem
  - Webs of trust
- Message body encryption
  - Private key encryption for speed
  - Public key to encrypt the message's private key

# Secure Shell (SSH)

- Negotiates use of many different algorithms
  - Encryption
- Server-to-client authentication
  - Protects against man-in-the-middle
  - Uses public key cryptosystems
  - Keys distributed informally
    - kept in ~/.ssh/known\_hosts
  - Signatures not used for trust relations
  - **Client-to-server** authentication
    - Can use many different methods
    - Password hash
    - Public key
    - Kerberos tickets

# SSL/TLS



- History
  - Standard libraries and protocols for encryption and authentication
  - SSL originally developed by Netscape
    - SSL v3 draft released in 1996
  - TLS formalized in RFC2246 (1999)
- Uses public key encryption
- Uses
  - HTTPS, IMAP, SMTP, etc



# Setup Channel with TLS "Handshake"

![](_page_35_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_2.jpeg)

Handshake Steps:

- 1) Clients and servers negotiate exact cryptographic protocols
- 2) Client's validate public key certificate with CA public key.
- Client encrypt secret random value with servers key, and send it as a challenge.
- 4) Server decrypts, proving it has the corresponding private key.
- 5) This value is used to derive symmetric session keys for encryption & MACs.

![](_page_36_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Works Cited/Resources

![](_page_37_Picture_1.jpeg)

- http://www.psc.edu/~jheffner/talks/sec\_lecture.pdf
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/One-time\_pad
- http://www.iusmentis.com/technology/encryption/des/
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3DES
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AES
- <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MD5</u>Textbook: 8.1 8.3
- Wikipedia for overview of Symmetric/Asymmetric primitives and Hash functions.
- OpenSSL (<u>www.openssl.org</u>): top-rate open source code for SSL and primitive functions.
- "Handbook of Applied Cryptography" available free online: www.cacr.math.uwaterloo.ca/hac/