

Network Security

Encrypting Network Communication

Radboud University, The Netherlands



Spring 2018

Acknowledgement

Slides (in particular pictures) are based on lecture slides by Ruben Niederhagen (<http://polycephaly.org>)

A short recap

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- ▶ Two kinds of servers: authoritative and caching
- ▶ Two kinds of requests: iterative and recursive

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 - ▶ DNSSEC (with various problems)
 - ▶ Alternative: DNSCurve

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 - ▶ Some developments: TRR and DoH (<https://hacks.mozilla.org/2018/05/a-cartoon-intro-to-dns-over-https/>)

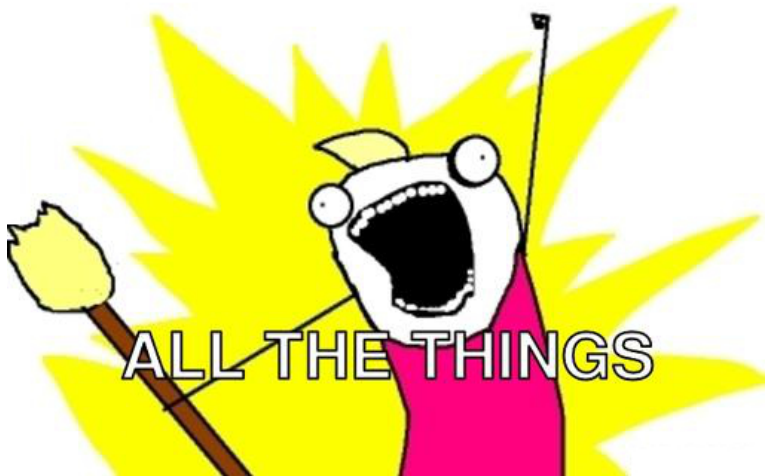
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- ▶ So far in this lecture: various attacks (often MitM):
 - ▶ ARP spoofing
 - ▶ Routing attacks
 - ▶ DNS Attacks
- ▶ Conclusion: sniffing (and modifying) network traffic is not dark arts
- ▶ It's doable for 2nd-year Bachelor students
- ▶ It's even easier for administrators of routers

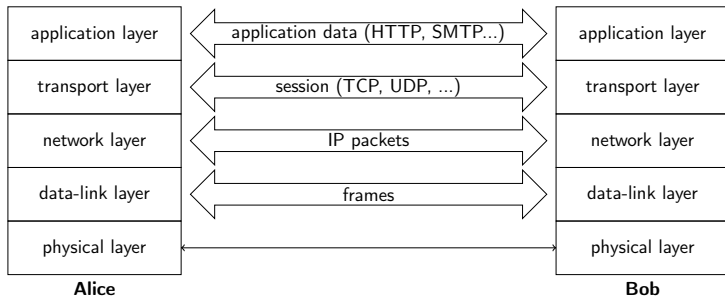
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- ▶ So far, relatively little on countermeasures. . . so, what now?

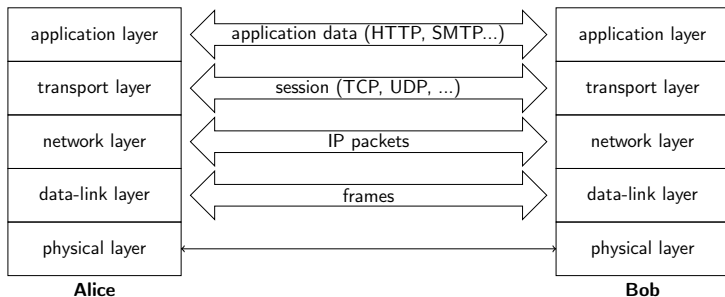
ENCRYPT



Cryptography in the TCP/IP stack

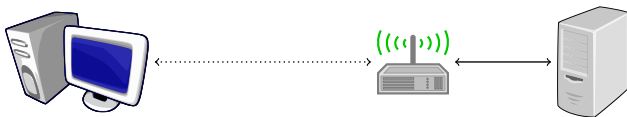


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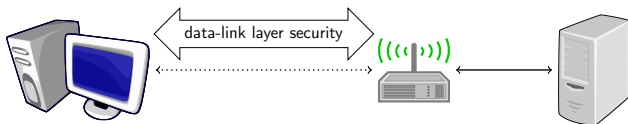
- ▶ Application-layer security (e.g., PGP, S/MIME, OTR)
- ▶ Transport-layer security (e.g., TLS/SSL)
- ▶ Network-layer security (e.g., IPsec)
- ▶ Link-layer security (e.g., WEP, WPA, WPA2)

Link-layer security



- ▶ Encrypt all network packets between network links, e.g., WPA2
- ▶ Point-to-point security between network interfaces
- ▶ “Encrypt to a MAC address”

Link-layer security



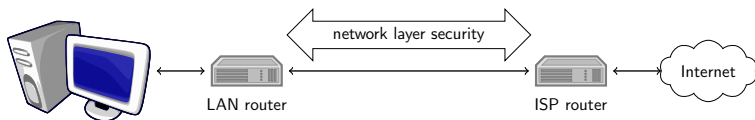
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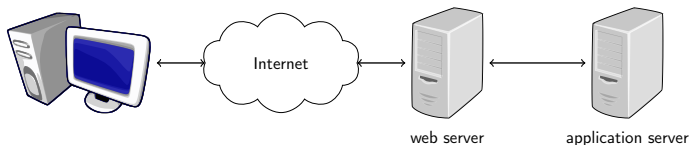
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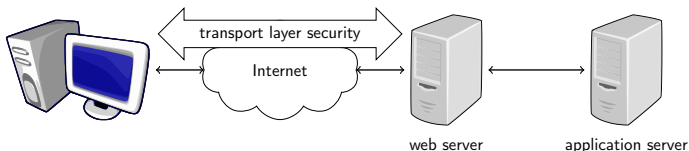
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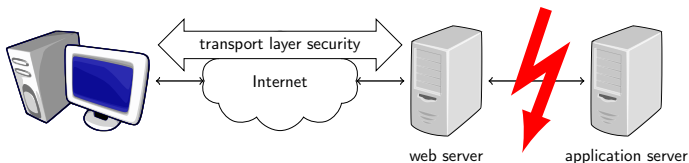
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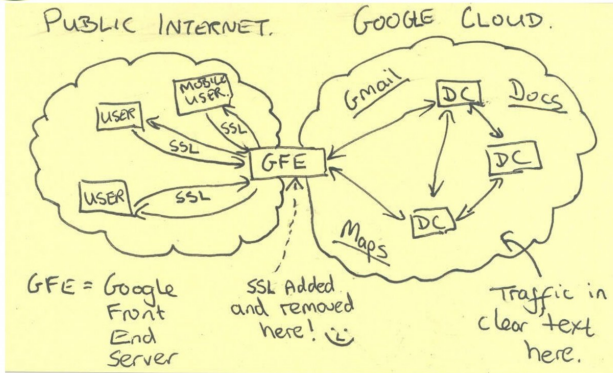
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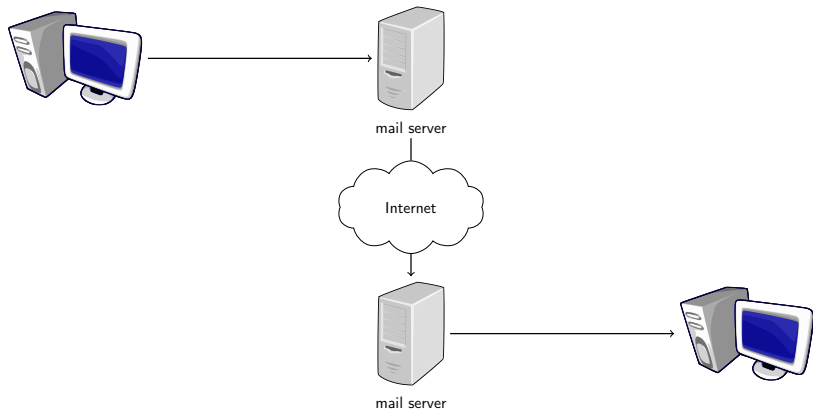
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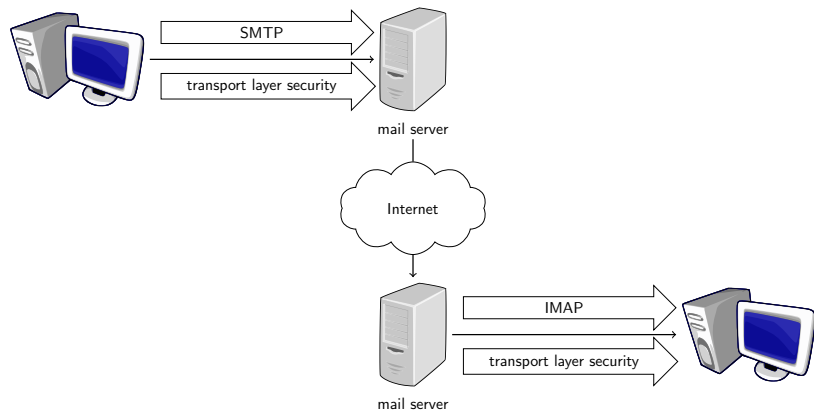
Current Efforts - Google



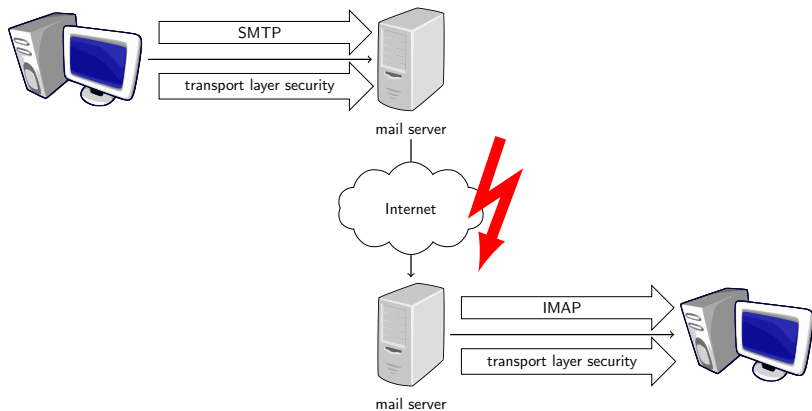
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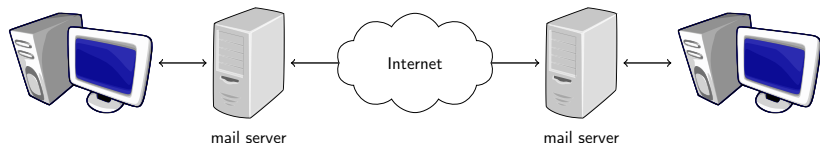
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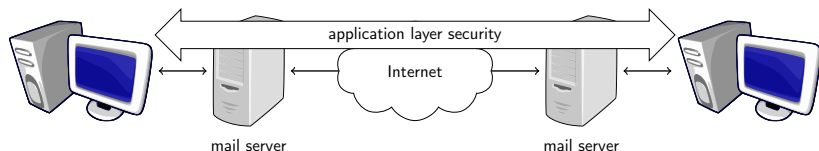


Application-layer security



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- ▶ Idea of network-layer security: No need to change applications (or user behavior)
- ▶ IPsec’s promise: network security happening without you even noticing

IPsec overview (simplified)

IPSec is a protocol *suite*

- ▶ Authentication header (AH) protocol
 - ▶ Transport mode
 - ▶ Tunnel mode
- ▶ Encapsulating Security Payloads (ESP) protocol
 - ▶ Transport mode
 - ▶ Tunnel mode
- ▶ Security Association (SA) protocol

IPsec – Security Associations

- ▶ Concept to formalize unidirectional security relationships between two parties
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SA parameters:

- ▶ sequence number, sequence number overflow
- ▶ anti-replay window
- ▶ AH information: authentication algorithm, key, key lifetime, etc.
- ▶ ESP information: encryption algorithm, key, key lifetime, etc.
- ▶ lifetime of the SA
- ▶ IPsec protocol mode (tunnel or transport)
- ▶ maximal packet size

IPsec – Modes of Operation

Transport mode:

- ▶ Only the payload of the IP packet is protected
- ▶ Data is protected from source to destination
- ▶ Header information is completely in the clear
- ▶ Used only between hosts

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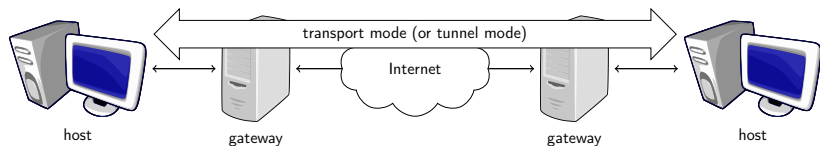
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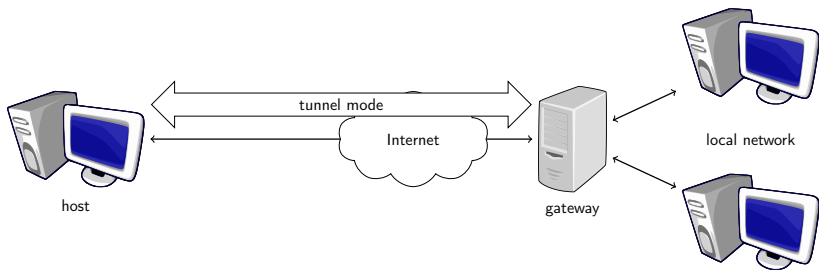
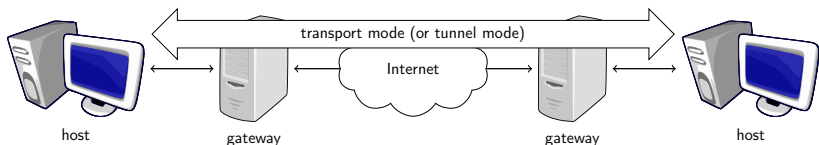
Tunnel mode:

- ▶ Entire IP packet is protected (i.e. IP header and data)
- ▶ Becomes the payload of a new IP packet
- ▶ May contain different source and destination addresses
- ▶ Can be used between hosts, gateways, or host-gateway

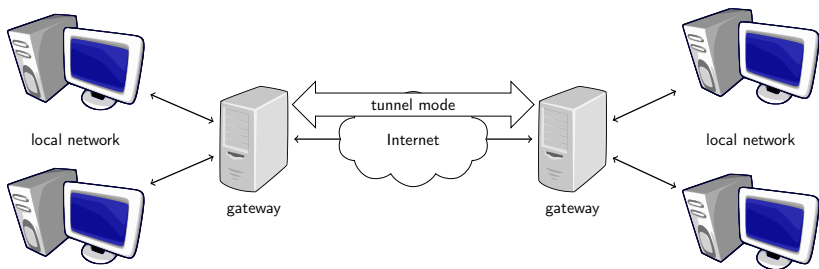
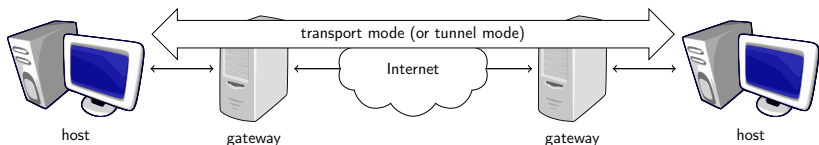
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The Authentication Header provides

- ▶ data integrity,
- ▶ authentication of IP packets,
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First two by use of a Message Authentication Code (MAC),
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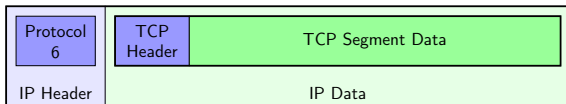
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IP packet is expanded with an AH that contains items such as:

- ▶ next header — type of the header following this header,
- ▶ payload length — length of AH,
- ▶ Security Parameter Index (SPI) — identifies an SA,
- ▶ sequence number,
- ▶ authentication data — contains the MAC of the packet, also called Integrity Check Value (ICV).

IPsec – Authentication Header



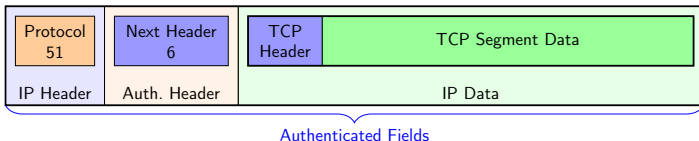
ICV (truncated HMAC) is computed over:

- ▶ immutable IP header fields (fields that do not change in transit), e.g., source address, IP header length,
- ▶ Auth. Header (except authentication data field),
- ▶ IP data.

Excluded fields are set to zero for HMAC computation.

IPsec – Authentication Header

IPSec Transport Mode



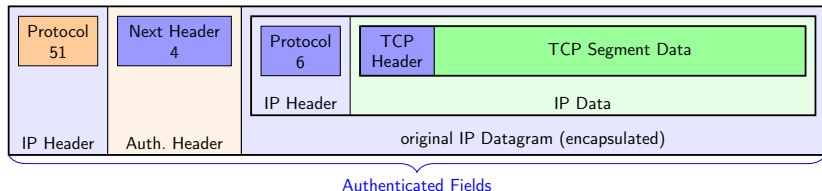
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IPSec Tunnel Mode



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IPsec – Authentication Header

Anti-replay protection prevents resending copies of authenticated packets.

- ▶ Uses sequence number field.
- ▶ For each new SA, sequence counter set to 0.
- ▶ Keep track of overflow (sequence number is 32 bits), negotiate new SA when counter reaches $2^{32} - 1$.
- ▶ Check whether counter is in window of fixed size.
- ▶ Right edge = highest sequence number so far received (with valid authentication).
- ▶ Mark numbers of received packets with valid authentication.
- ▶ Advance window if new sequence number falls to the right of window and packet authenticates.
- ▶ Discard packet if number falls to the left of window or packet does not authenticate.

IPsec – Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)

The Encapsulating Security Payload provides:

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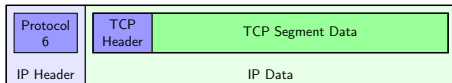
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ESP adds an ESP header, encrypts the payload and adds an ESP trailer.

An ESP packet contains:

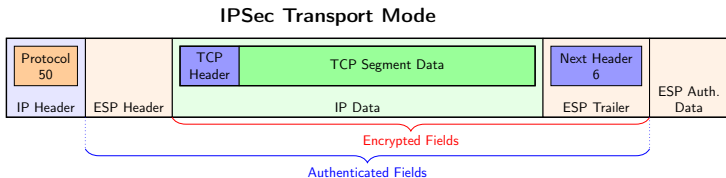
- ▶ security parameter index (SPI),
- ▶ sequence number,
- ▶ payload data (encrypted),
- ▶ padding – to achieve data length a multiple of 32 bits (encrypted),
- ▶ padding length (encrypted),
- ▶ next header (encrypted),
- ▶ (optional) authentication data.

IPsec – Encapsulating Security Payload



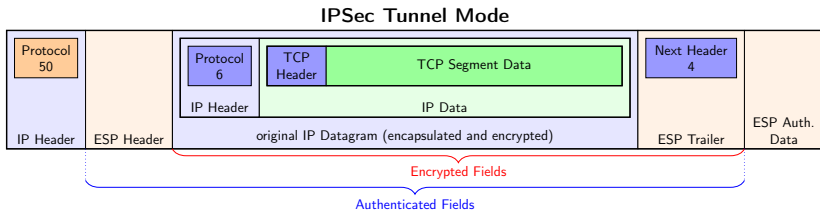
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IPsec - crypto algorithms (until 2014)

See [RFC 4835](#) (now obsolete)

- ▶ Encryption: block ciphers in Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode
Must have:
 - ▶ NULL encryption ([RFC 2410](#))
 - ▶ AES-CBC with 128-bit keys
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Must have:
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- ▶ These are symmetric algorithms, need a pre-shared secret key
- ▶ Different options for key-agreement protocols: PSK, Internet Key Exchange (IKE, IKE2), Kerberos (KINK), IPSECKEY DNS records

IPsec - crypto algorithms (since 2014)

See [RFC 7321](#)

Old Requirement	New Requirement	Algorithm
MAY	SHOULD+	AES-GCM with a 16 octet ICV
MAY	SHOULD+	AES-GMAC with AES-128
MUST-	MAY	TripleDES-CBC
SHOULD NOT	MUST NOT	DES-CBC
SHOULD+	SHOULD	AES-XCBC-MAC-96
SHOULD	MAY	AES-CTR

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- ▶ Most important problem: **It's complicated!**

IPsec problems

“The first two generations of these documents (principally RFCs 1825–1829, published in 1995, and 2401–2412, published in 1998) are really only intended to provide a guide for implementors and are notoriously complex, difficult to interpret and lacking in overall structure.

...

The third and latest incarnation of the core IPsec standards were published as RFCs 4301–4309 in December 2005, and are somewhat more accessible.

...

However, the new RFCs are still a long and complex set of documents, totalling over 300 pages.” —Paterson, 2006

Another quote. . .

“We are of two minds about IPsec. On the one hand, IPsec is far better than any IP security protocol that has come before: Microsoft PPTP, L2TP, etc. On the other hand, we do not believe that it will ever result in a secure operational system. It is far too complex, and the complexity has led to a large number of ambiguities, contradictions, inefficiencies, and weaknesses. It has been very hard work to perform any kind of security analysis; we do not feel that we fully understand the system, let alone have fully analyzed it.”

—Ferguson, Schneier, 2003

ENCRYPT



ALL THE THINGS?

Userspace VPN

- ▶ Sort-of alternative to IPsec tunnel: `sshuttle` (“poor-man’s VPN”)
- ▶ Disadvantages:
 - ▶ You need SSH access to the target
 - ▶ Need `iptables` rules to redirect traffic

Userspace VPN

- ▶ Sort-of alternative to IPsec tunnel: `sshuttle` (“poor-man’s VPN”)
- ▶ Disadvantages:
 - ▶ You need SSH access to the target
 - ▶ Need `iptables` rules to redirect traffic
- ▶ Generalize this idea: *user-space VPN*
- ▶ Software that authenticates users and tunnels traffic
- ▶ Examples: SSH, OpenVPN, WireGuard
- ▶ Question: How does the software get the traffic to tunnel (preferably without `iptables`)

TUN interfaces

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- ▶ Use this mechanism to set up VPN between tyrion and arya with SSH:

```
tyrion # echo 1 > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_forward
tyrion # ip tuntap add dev tun3 mode tun
tyrion # ip addr add dev tun3 10.0.5.1/24
tyrion # ip l set dev tun3 up
```

```
arya # echo 1 > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_forward
arya # ip tuntap add dev tun5 mode tun
arya # ip addr add dev tun5 10.0.5.2/24
arya # ip l set dev tun5 up
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```
tyrion # ssh -o Tunnel=point-to-point -w 3:5 arya
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- ▶ Now try:

```
tyrion # ping 10.0.5.2
```

TAP interfaces

- ▶ TUN interfaces input/output IP packets
- ▶ Alternative: TAP interfaces that input/output ethernet frames
- ▶ Example (again with SSH)

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- ▶ Now try:

```
tyrion # ping 10.0.5.2
```

- ▶ You receive ARP packets through TAP
- ▶ The hosts are logically connected on the link layer
- ▶ They are in the same broadcast domain

SSL/TLS

Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) and Transport Layer Security (TLS):

- ▶ TLS is a variant of SSLv3
- ▶ SSL originally designed for web environment by Netscape
- ▶ Design goals: security of web traffic, email, etc.
- ▶ Had to work well with HTTP
- ▶ Provides transparency for higher layers

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SSL/TLS provides a secure channel between server and client:

- ▶ Confidentiality
- ▶ Server (and client) authentication
- ▶ Message integrity

SSL/TLS

SSL/TLS runs on top of TCP:

- ▶ Transparent for application-layer protocols
- ▶ SSL/TLS connection acts like a secured TCP connection
- ▶ Most protocols running over TCP can be run over SSL/TLS instead
e.g., HTTP → HTTPS, SMTP → SMTPS, ...

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Protocols in SSL/TLS:

- ▶ Handshake Protocol: initiate session, Authenticate server/client, establish keys
- ▶ Record Protocol: data transfer, Compute MAC for integrity, encrypt MAC and data
- ▶ Alert Protocol: alert the other side of exceptional conditions, e.g., errors and warnings.

SSL/TLS Handshake

- ▶ Client → Server: ClientHello
 - ▶ ClientRandom: random number,
 - ▶ Session ID (when resuming a session),
 - ▶ List of available CipherSuites:
pk key exchange, pk auth, sym encryption, hash alg.

Example: TLS_ECDH_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256

ECDH	Elliptic curve Diffie Hellman key exchange.
ECDSA	Elliptic curve digital signature algorithm.
AES_128_CBC	AES with 128-bit key in CBC mode.
SHA256	SHA with 256-bit output for HMAC.

SSL/TLS Handshake (cont.)

- ▶ Server → Client: ServerHello
 - ▶ ServerRandom: random number,
 - ▶ Session ID: implementation specific, random number
 - ▶ Chosen CipherSuite.
- ▶ Server → Client: Certificate
 - ▶ Server sends server certificate to client,
client obtains server's public key and verifies certificate.
- ▶ Server → Client: ServerKeyExchange
 - for DHE: P^a , random a ,
 - for ECDHE: $[a]P$, random a ,
 - for RSA: –
- ▶ Server → Client: ServerHelloDone
 - ▶ Message marks end of server messages.

SSL/TLS Handshake (cont.)

- ▶ Client → Server: ClientKeyExchange
 - for DHE: P^b for a random b ,
 - for ECDHE: $[b]P$ for a random b ,
 - for RSA: random value encrypted with server's public key.
- ▶ Client → Server: ChangeCipherSpec
 - ▶ Notify that client switched to new CipherSuite.
- ▶ Client → Server: Finished
 - ▶ Encrypted Finished message containing hash over the previous handshake messages.

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- ▶ For DHE and ECDHE, client and server compute joint session key.

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Interrupted session can be resumed:

- ▶ Server and client are supposed to store session ID and MasterSecret,
- ▶ client sends session ID in ClientHello,
- ▶ reduced protocol: Hello, ChangeCipherSpec and Finished messages,
- ▶ new keying data is exchanged,
- ▶ new session keys are derived.

SSL/TLS Record Protocol

Record protocol to exchange encrypted and authenticated data:

- ▶ Payload data is split into fragments which are protected and transmitted independently; when received, fragments are decrypted and verified independently.
- ▶ Each fragment is authenticated with a MAC which is appended; MAC is over a sequence number (anti-replay) and the content.
- ▶ Data fragment and MAC are encrypted.
- ▶ A record header is attached to the encrypted data, containing information necessary for interpreting the record such as type of data (e.g. Handshake or ApplicationData), length, and SSL version.
- ▶ (header || encrypted fragment and MAC) is sent.

Which SSL/TLS Cipher Suites to use?

NULL and EXPORT

- ▶ NULL obviously provides no protection
- ▶ EXPORT ciphers are very low-security
- ▶ US export laws used to forbid strong crypto
- ▶ Strong crypto was considered a weapon
- ▶ EXPORT ciphers are a leftover from that time

Which SSL/TLS Cipher Suites to use?

DES

- ▶ Data Encryption Standard from 1976
- ▶ Extremely low-security 56-bit key
- ▶ Some sort of fix: 3DES (112-bit or 168-bit key)
- ▶ Main problem with 3DES: it's slow

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MD5

- ▶ Hash algorithm by Rivest from 1992
- ▶ Collision-resistance totally broken
- ▶ Also more advanced attacks (chosen-prefix collision attack)
- ▶ Weaknesses used to create a rogue CA certificate in 2008
- ▶ Weaknesses used against Windows update in Flame malware

Which SSL/TLS Cipher Suites to use?

RC4

- ▶ Stream cipher by Rivest from 1987
- ▶ Multiple attacks, also against its use in TLS (AlFardan, Bernstein, Paterson, Poettering, Schuldt, 2013).
- ▶ ... see earlier slides on WEP insecurity

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- ▶ Timing channel exploited by “Lucky 13” attack (AlFardan and Paterson, 2013)

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TLS_ECDH_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256

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anonymous

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PSK

- ▶ Pre-shared keys (PSK) only practical in special environments
- ▶ Advantage: faster crypto
- ▶ Can be easier in small closed environments
- ▶ Doesn’t scale for the Internet

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Use ephemeral key exchange!

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Use ephemeral key exchange!

- ▶ Can encrypt with long-term public key
- ▶ Problem: key gets compromised, read all old messages
- ▶ Better: use long-term public key for authentication
- ▶ Agree on new (*ephemeral*) encryption key for each session
- ▶ This is known as *perfect forward secrecy*
- ▶ Use ciphers containing DHE or ECDHE

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Which SSL/TLS Cipher Suites to use?

DSS and ECDSA

- ▶ DSS and ECDSA need random value for each signature
- ▶ Small biases in randomness are disastrous
- ▶ Attacker can compute signing key from various messages with few known “random” bits
- ▶ Bad ECDSA randomness allowed Sony PS3 crack

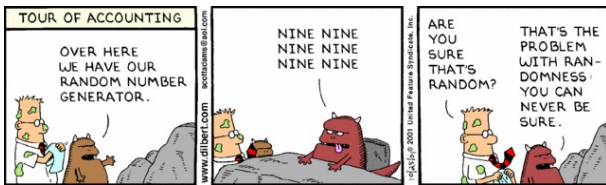


Image from <http://search.dilbert.com/comic/Random%20Number%20Generator>

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Which SSL/TLS Cipher Suites to use?

AES-GCM

- ▶ AES-GCM only available since TLS 1.2
- ▶ Consists of AES in counter mode and GHASH
- ▶ GHASH is designed for hardware implementation
- ▶ Intel built AES and GHASH hardware support into their recent CPUs
- ▶ Terribly hard to implement fast and securely in software
- ▶ Matter of time until we see timing attacks?

What now?

A reasonable selection of algorithms

- ▶ AES-GCM is quite good for many CPUs
- ▶ AES-CBC is not so terrible (after implementation fixes)
- ▶ DSS and ECDSA is maybe (hopefully!) not that much of a problem
- ▶ Client-side selection of algorithms is a tradeoff:
 - ▶ I really only want ECDHE, RSA, AES-GCM, SHA2
 - ▶ I also want to connect to at least a few web sites
- ▶ Good test: <https://howssmyssl.com>

What now?

A better selection of algorithms

- ▶ Better symmetric algorithms: ChaCha20-Poly1305
- ▶ ChaCha20 is a state-of-the art stream cipher
- ▶ Poly1305 is a state-of-the art authenticator
- ▶ Both designed by Bernstein
- ▶ [RFC 7905](#)
- ▶ Standardized for TLS since June 2016

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<http://www.win.tue.nl/hashclash/rogue-ca/>
- ▶ DigiNotar compromised in 2011: >300,000 Iranian Gmail users compromised

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- ▶ Next homework assignment. . .

Common problem with cryptographic systems

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Common problem with cryptographic systems

- ▶ Users?
 - ▶ System is too hard to use
 - ▶ System puts *important* choices in the hands of the user

BLAME



EFAIL (or: How to blame your users, the PGP way)

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EFAIL (or: How to blame your users, the PGP way)

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"If your system interacts with dozens of third party clients, and all (or many) are using your stuff in the same, insecure way, then maybe the problem isn't with your clients." —Green, 2018

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- ▶ WireGuard's use of network namespacing provides zero-effort leakfree VPN (<https://www.wireguard.com/netns/>)
 - ▶ No routing table changes required!