z/OS 3.1 IBM Education Assistant

Solution Name: AT-TLS Currency – Support for x25519 and x448 KEX under TLSv1.2

Solution Name: AT-TLS Currency with System SSL

Solution Element(s): z/OS Communications Server

July 2023





Agenda

- Trademarks
- Objectives
- For each function:
 - Overview
 - Usage & Invocation
 - Diagnosis
 - Interactions & Dependencies
 - Upgrade & Coexistence Considerations
 - Installation & Configuration
 - Summary
- Appendix

Trademarks

- See url http://www.ibm.com/legal/copytrade.shtml for a list of trademarks.
- Additional Trademarks:
 - None

Objectives

➤AT-TLS Currency – Support for x25519 and x448 KEX under TLSv1.2 (ZRM-648) provides the ability to negotiate x25519/x448 elliptic curves key exchange for TLS1.0-TLSv.2 protocol. This initiative also enhances security by allowing TLS server the ability to limit the elliptic curves used for TLSv1.0-TLSv1.2 key exchanges

➤ AT-TLS Currency with System SSL (ZRM-9856) - Optimized TLSv1.3 Sysplex Session Ticket Caching allows like-server applications using AT-TLS to benefit from sysplex-wide TLSv1.3 session resumption

Overview - Background: Application Transparent TLS (AT-TLS)

Policy-based TLS in the TCP/IP stack

- TLS process performed in TCP layer (via System SSL) without requiring any application change (transparent)
- AT-TLS policy specifies which TCP traffic is to be TLS protected based on a variety of criteria
 z/OS userid, jobname
 - Local address, port
 - Remote address, port
 - Connection direction
- The policy also specifies how to protect the traffic TLS version, cipher suites, all kinds of TLS-specific settings

Time, day, week, month

Application transparency

- Can be fully transparent to application
- An optional API allows applications to inspect or control certain aspects of AT-TLS processing – "application-aware" and "application-controlled" AT-TLS, respectively

Available to almost all TCP applications

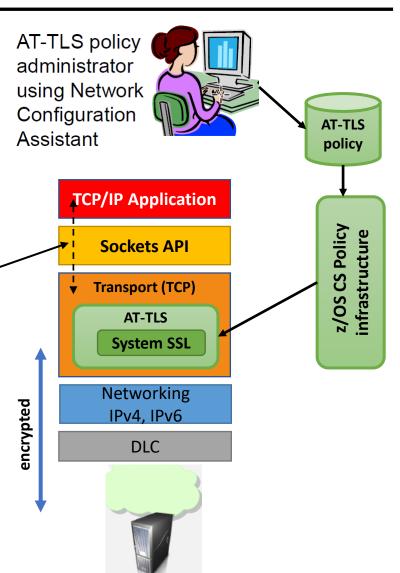
Support all programming languages except PASCAL

Support all standard configurations

- z/OS as a client or as a server
- Server authentication (server identifies self to client)
- Client authentication (both ends identify selves to other)

Relies on Systems SSL for TLS protocol processing

- Remote endpoint sees an RFC-compliant implementation
- Interoperates with other compliant implementations



AT-TLS Currency – Support for x25519 and x448 KEX under TLSv1.2 (ZRM-648)

Overview

- Who
 - z/OS network security administrator with responsibility for protecting applications with AT-TLS
- What (Solution)
 - AT-TLS Currency Support for x25519 and x448 KEX under TLSv1.2
- Wow (Benefit / Value, Need Addressed)
 - You can use x25519/x448 key exchange curves for TLSv1.0 TLSv1.2 AT-TLS connections
 - AT-TLS servers can ensure stronger elliptic curves by limiting the list of curves used for key exchange negotiations

OVERVIEW - Background - Elliptic Curve Configuration

- ➤ Designations for different **elliptic curves** that are allowed for use in Elliptic Curve Diffie Hellman (ECDHE) and Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ECDSA) operations
- > Separate **ECurve** configuration for TLS client vs. TLS server
- Like cipher suites, the client proposes a list of **ECurves** to the server (in order of preference) and then the server selects one that it is willing to use

The key exchange mechanism is indicated through TLS configuration and negotiated early in the TLS handshake process:

- > Cipher suites up through TLSv1.2 groupings of cryptographic algorithms and strengths:
 - Example: TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
 - Key exchange algorithm (the method by which both endpoints derive the secret session keys)
 - The type of asymmetric key in the server certificate
 - Bulk encryption algorithm (including secret key length)
 - Hashing algorithm (often used for message authentication/integrity protection)

Overview — AT-TLS Solution

System SSL has provided support for:

- * x25519 and x448 ecurves key exchange for TLSv1.2 and earlier protocols
- option to limit the TLS server's allowable ecurves

AT-TLS is exposing this functionality through AT-TLS configuration parameters

- > To use x25519 and x448 key exchange curves for TLSv1.0, TLSv1.1, or TLSv1.2 negotiation, you must configure:
 - ClientECurves parameter on the TTLSSignatureParms statement with the proposed curves on the AT-TLS client rule
 - Specify the curves on the server side using the new ServerKexECurves parameter on the TTLSSignatureParms statement
- To allow AT-TLS server to limit the key exchange curves that can be used for TLSv1.0, TLSv1.1, and TLSv1.2:
 - Use the new AT-TLS parameter, **ServerKexECurves**, to limit the curves that a TLS server supports. Parameter can be specified on the TTLSSignatureParms statement associated with the TTLSEnvironmentAction or

TTLSConnectionAction statements

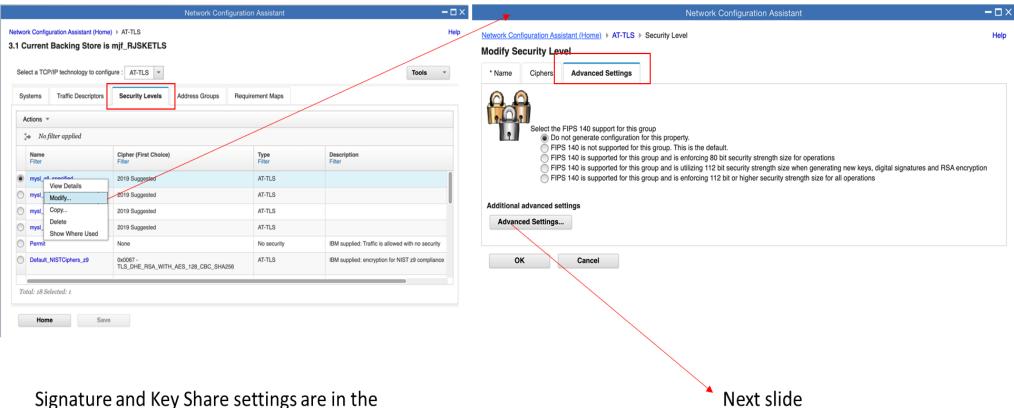
Usage & Invocation - AT-TLS Policy Configuration

TTLSSignatureParms configuration for AT-TLS

- TTLSSignatureParms can be specified for an environment and connection action
- Default on environment action:
 0023(secp256r1),0024(secp384r1),0025(sec p521r1),0021(secp224r1),0019(secp192r1)
- No default for connection action
- Values specified on the environment action will be used when none are specified on the connection action

Usage & Invocation — Navigating to the client and server ecurve configuration

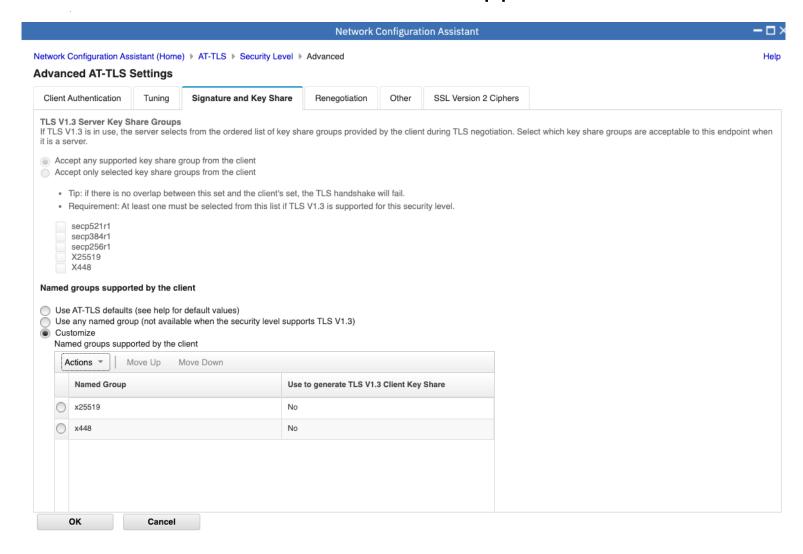
Signature and key share controls... locating them in the NCA panels



Signature and Key Share settings are in the advanced settings for an AT-TLS security level

Usage & Invocation — configuring Client Ecurves (ClientECurves parameter)

NCA for the new x25519 and x448 support - client



Usage & Invocation — configuring server allowed ecurves (ServerKexECurves parameter)

Update to NCA for TLS 1.0-1.2 server acceptable key shares

Client Authentication	Tuning	Signature and Key Share	Renegotiation	Other	SSL Version 2 Ciphers		
amed groups for TLS	S Server K orted by the ntifiers or tic ssion ticket Server Key E	ey Exchange client ckets s and support for session re- (xchange (Back to top)				ps are acceptable	to this endpoint when it is a server, by version of TLS being
*TIP: If there is no ov	erlap betwee	n this set and the client's set, th	e TLS handshake w	ill fail.			
Named group					Accepted for TLS 1.3 key share?		Accepted for TLS 1.0 - TLS 1.2 key exchange? (Available beginning with z/OS V2R5)
Use AT-TLS defaults					✓		
secp521r1							
secp384r1							
secp256r1							
x25519							
X448							
secp224r1					N/A		
secp192r1					N/A		✓
med groups support Use AT-TLS defaults Use any named gro Customize Named groups sup	s (see help fo up (not availa	r default values) ble when the security level supp	orts TLS V1.3)				
Actions ▼ M	ove Up M	ove Down					
Named Group					Use to generate TLS V1.3 Client Key Share		
				There	is no data to display.		

The first table in the Security Level Advanced settings, **Signature and Key Share** tab, contains controls for this new function.

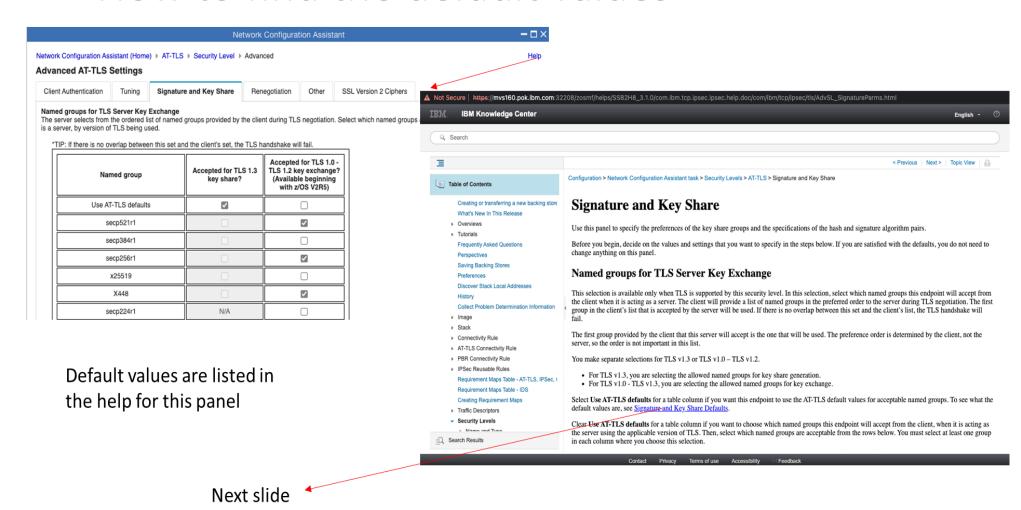
The first column in the table controls which named groups are accepted for TLS 1.3 key share.

The second column in the table controls which named groups are accepted for TLS 1.0-1.2 key exchange. This is new for this function.

When "Accept AT-TLS defaults" is checked for a column, the rest of the column is greyed out as show in the middle column of this example.

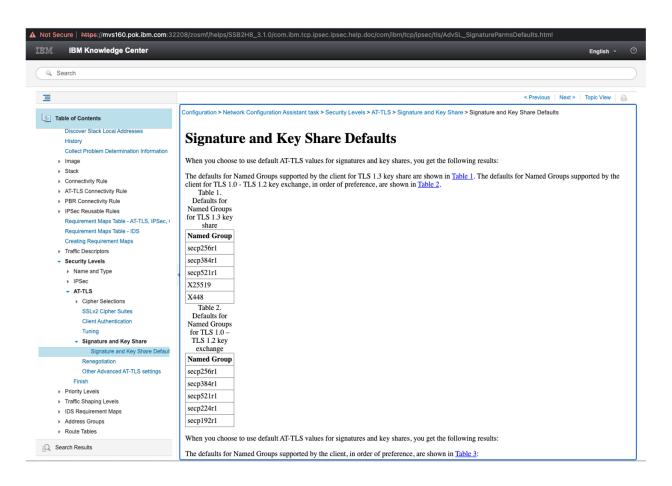
Usage & Invocation — How to find AT-TLS default values

How to find the default values



Usage & Invocation — AT-TLS default values for client and server ecurves

Signature and key share defaults



This help file lists the default values for all the settings on the Signature and Key Share tab.

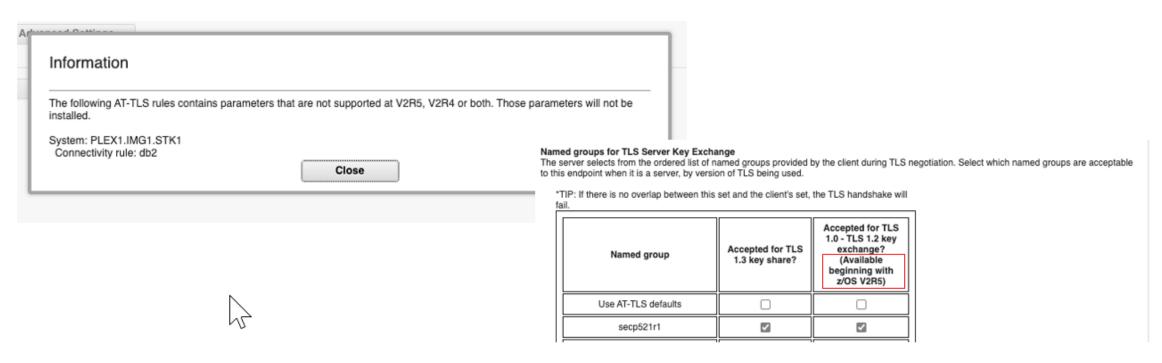
Note that NCA defaults align with AT-TLS defaults.

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Usage & Invocation — NCA release-level considerations

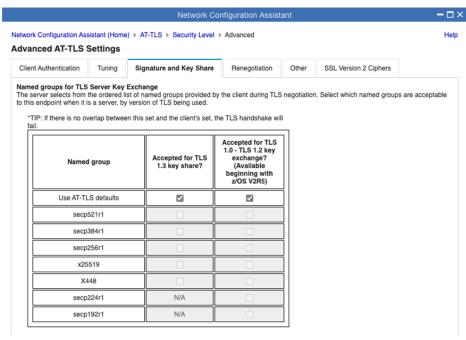
Release-level considerations

- The GUI will allow you to configure it for any stack at any release level
- ➤ When generating configuration files, NCA will simply skip generating configuration not supported at the stack's release level
 - This allows users to smoothly change release levels of stacks without having to alter configuration

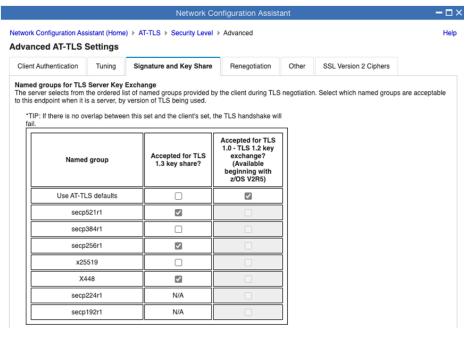


Usage & Invocation — NCA configuration examples (1 of 2)

NCA configuration examples (1/2)



Result: No parameters for server key share created in the TTLSSignatureParms group. No TTLSSignatureParms group created if no other parameters are needed.



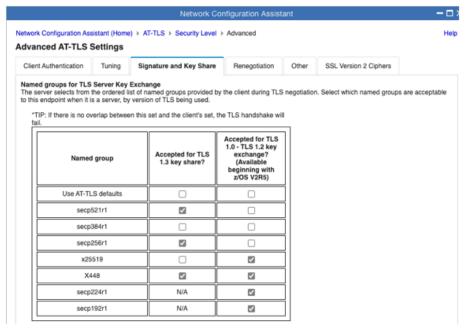
Result:

```
TTLSSignatureParms sig1~mysl
{
    ServerKeyShareGroups secp521r1
    ServerKeyShareGroups secp256r1
    ServerKeyShareGroups X448
    [any other parameters in this statement]
}
```

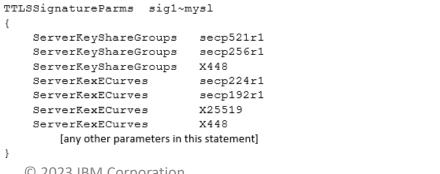
Usage & Invocation — NCA configuration examples (2 of 2)

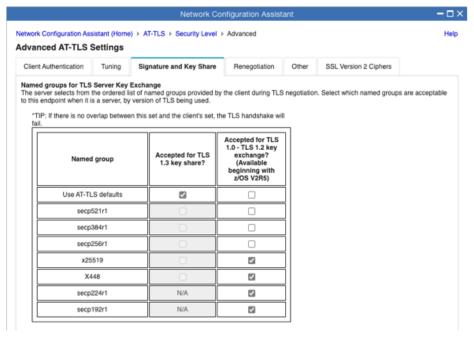
Function externals: NCA Configuration...8

NCA configuration examples (2/2)



Result:





Result:

```
TTLSSignatureParms sig1~mysl
{
    ServerKexECurves secp224r1
    ServerKexECurves secp192r1
    ServerKexECurves X25519
    ServerKexECurves X448
    [any other parameters in this statement]
}
```

Usage & Invocation - z/os UNIX pasearch output

- > Pasearch is a command to display a configured policy
- > Pasearch output display for a server environment TTLS action with configured ServerKexECurves values

```
TTLSSignatureParms:
ClientECurves:
 0019 secp192r1
 0021 secp224r1
 0023 secp256r1
 0024 secp384r1
 0025 secp521r1
ClientKeyShareGroups:
 0025 secp521r1
ServerKeyShareGroups:
 0025 secp521r1
ServerKexECurves:
 0023 secp256r1
 0024 secp384r1
 0025 secp521r1
 0029 x25519
 0030 x448
```

Usage & Invocation - Netstat TTLS/-x DETAIL

> Netstat TTLS/-x display output for a server TTLS environment action with configured ServerKexECurves values

```
TTLSEnvAction:
                      env act serv
EnvironmentUserInstance: 8
HandshakeRole:
                      Server
                      0024 secp384r1
ClientECurves:
                      0025 secp521r1
ClientKeyShareGroups: 0025 secp521r1
ServerKeyShareGroups: 0025 secp521r1
ServerKexECurves:
                      0023 secp256r1
                      0024 secp384r1
                      0025 secp521r1
                      0029 x25519
                      0030 \times 448
SignaturePairs:
                      0401 TLS SIGALG SHA256 WITH RSA
                      0403 TLS SIGALG SHA256 WITH ECDSA
                      0804 TLS SIGALG SHA256 WITH RSASSA
```

Diagnosis — AT-TLS syslog messages

- ➤ Log contains messages showing the values set for GSK_CLIENT_ECURVE_LIST and GSK_SERVER_ALLOWED_KEX_ECURVES
- Contains the negotiated ecurve value (GSK_CONNECT_KEX_ECURVE)

```
0 Set GSK CLIENT ECURVE LIST(215) - 0021002300240025001900290030
EZD1284I TTLS Flow GRPID: 00000005 ENVID: 0000000D CONNID: 000000F7 RC:
                                                                            0 Set GSK SERVER ALLOWED KEX ECURVES(230) - 00300029
EZD1284I TTLS Flow GRPID: 00000005 ENVID: 0000000F CONNID: 000000F8 RC:
                                                                            0 Call GSK SECURE SOCKET INIT - 00000050114283B0
EZD1284I TTLS Flow GRPID: 00000005 ENVID: 0000000E CONNID: 000000F8 RC:
                                                                            0 Get GSK CONNECT SEC TYPE(208) - TLSV1.2
EZD1284I TTLS Flow GRPID: 00000005 ENVID: 0000000E CONNID: 000000F8
                                                                    RC:
                                                                            0 Get GSK CONNECT CIPHER SPEC(207) - C027
                  GRPID: 00000005 ENVID: 0000000E CONNID: 000000F8
                                                                            0 Get GSK_CONNECT_KEX_ECURVE(231) - 0030
EZD1284I TTLS Flow GRPID: 00000005 ENVID: 0000000E CONNID: 000000F8 RC:
EZD1284I TTLS Flow GRPID: 00000005 ENVID: 0000000E CONNID: 000000F8 RC:
                                                                            0 Get GSK TLSEXT MFL(413) - 0000000000000215
                  GRPID: 00000005 ENVID: 0000000E CONNID: 000000F8
                                                                            0 Get GSK SID VALUE(212) - 000000000000002C
                                                                            0 Get GSK SID VALUE(212) - 000000000000002C
EZD1284I TTLS Flow GRPID: 00000005 ENVID: 0000000E CONNID: 000000F8 RC:
```

Interactions & Dependencies

- Software Dependencies
 - None
- Hardware Dependencies
 - None
- Exploiters
 - None

Upgrade & Coexistence Considerations

- To exploit this solution, all systems in the Plex must be at the new z/OS level: No
- Upgrade consideration:
 - System SSL provided the ability for a TLS server to limit the ecurve values accepted in z/OS V2R4 and V2R5 with APAR OA61783
 - AT-TLS provided the ServerKexECurves configuration value in z/OS V2R5 with APAR PH45902
 - In V2R4 an environment variable can be configured to take advantage of the function even without the AT-TLS configuration
 - In V2R5 with PH45902 or in z/OS 3.1, the AT-TLS configuration must be used to configure the desired value. The environment variable is overridden
 - If the AT-TLS ServerKexECurves parameter is not configured, the environment variable is overridden by the Policy Agent default value.

Coexistence considerations: None

Installation & Configuration

- Policy should be updated either through NCA or manually, a MODIFY PAGENT, UPDATE or REFRESH can be issued to install the new policy. The z/OS UNIX pasearch command can be used to confirm that the policy is configured as expected.
- To use x25519 and x448 ecurves for TLSv1.2 and earlier, update existing client and server AT-TLS policy with the new ecurves on the ClientECurves parameter on the client and ServerKexECurves parameter on the server, in order to be used for key exchange negotiation
- To limit the server's ecurve list, update the server's AT-TLS policy with the limited ecurves on the ServerKexECurves parameter

Summary

- This initiative allows elliptic curves x25519 and x448 to be used in key exchange negotiation during handshake process for TLSv1.0, TLSv1.1, and TLSv1.2 protocol
- AT-TLS server also has the ability limit its curve list used for key exchange negotiation
- This function is available in z/OS V2R5 with APAR PH45902
 - System SSL APAR (OA61783) is required
 - NCA APAR PH47400 provides the ability to configure the new parameters for V2R5

AT-TLS Currency with System SSL (ZRM-9856) – TLSv1.3 Sysplex Session Ticket Caching

Overview

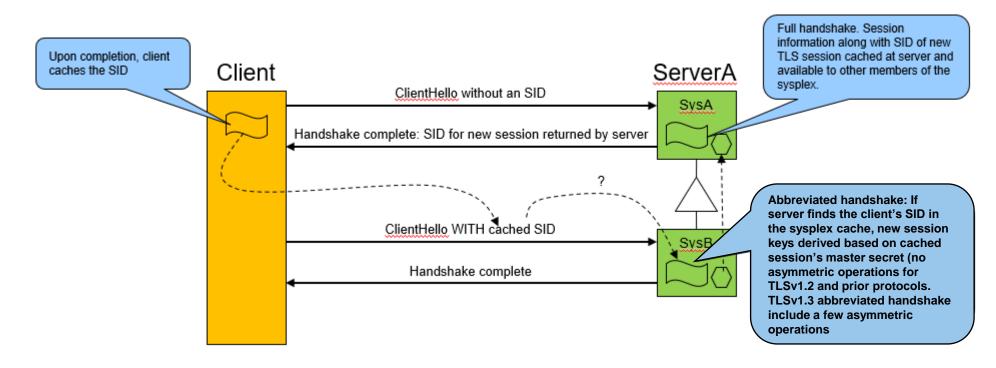
- Who
 - z/OS network security administrator with responsibility for protecting applications with AT-TLS
- What (Solution)
 - AT-TLS Currency with System SSL Optimized TLSv1.3 Sysplex Session Ticket Caching
- Wow (Benefit / Value, Need Addressed)
 - You can enable sysplex-wide session ticket caching for TLSv1.3 protocol to benefit from session resumption
 - AT-TLS client has the ability to configure maximum number of TLSv1.3 session tickets that can be stored per session in its cache

Overview - Background - Sysplex-wide TLS Session Resumption (1 of 2)

- ➤ Up through TLSv1.2 System SSL supported sysplex-wide Session ID (SID) caches
- > Enabled through special configuration parameter

GSK_SYSPLEX_SIDCACHE ON

Requires GSKSRVER started task () to be running



OVERVIEW - Background - TLS Session Resumption (2 of 2)

- > TLSv1.3 protocol supports session resumption through a different approach
 - Uses "session tickets" that contain all the information the server needs to resume a TLSv1.3 session
 - No server-side cache
 - Client caches one-time-use "session tickets" returned by server
 - Session ticket is encrypted and decrypted by server using AES
 - To perform an abbreviated handshake, the client sends a Client Hello message to the server that contains a cached session ticket from the client cache
 - If the server recognizes the ticket and can successfully decrypt it, it continues with the abbreviated handshake with many of the same advantages seen in previous TLS versions

AT-TLS supported TLSv1.3 beginning in V2R4 including support for session resumption using session tickets but only within the scope of a single application address space. No sysplex-wide support.

Overview — solution

- > System SSL is adding sysplex-wide support for TLSv1.3 session tickets
 - Requires GSKSRVR started task
- > AT-TLS is providing new parameters for exploiters to be able to use the new function
 - To enable sysplex-wide TLSv1.3 session ticket caching for an AT-TLS server
 - Configure the new AT-TLS parameter GSK_SYSPLEX_SESSION_TICKET_CACHE on the TTLSGskAdvancedParms statement
 - GSKSRVR task must be started for all systems in the sysplex that require TLS session resumption
 - Optionally configure GSK_SESSION_TICKET_CLIENT_MAXCACHED parameter on the client to specify
 the maximum number of session tickets that are allowed to be cached by the client for each unique
 TLSv1.3 session

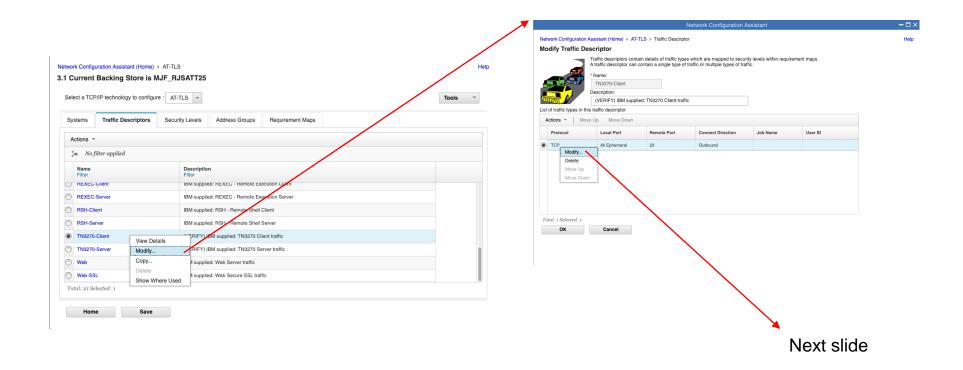
Usage & Invocation - Function externals: AT-TLS Policy

TTLSGskAdvancedParms configuration for AT-TLS

```
TTLSGskAdvancedParms Parameters
  +-GSK SYSPLEX SIDCACHE-+-On--+-'
  +-GSK_SYSPLEX_SESSION_TICKET_CACHE-+-On--+-
                                     '-Off-'
. . .
   .-GSK SESSION TICKET CLIENT MAXSIZE 8192--.
  +-GSK SESSION TICKET CLIENT MAXSIZE value-'
  +-GSK SESSION TICKET CLIENT MAXCACHED value-'
. . .
   .-GSK SESSION TICKET SERVER TIMEOUT default value---.
  +-GSK_SESSION_TICKET_SERVER TIMEOUT value-----'
```

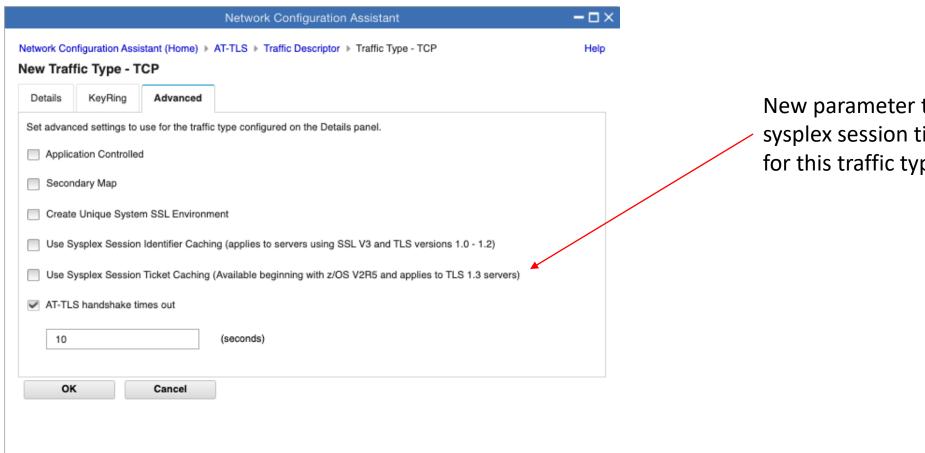
Usage & Invocation — Navigating to the traffic descriptor (TD)

Traffic descriptor – getting to advanced parameters



Usage & Invocation — Enabling sysplex session ticket caching on the Traffic Descriptor

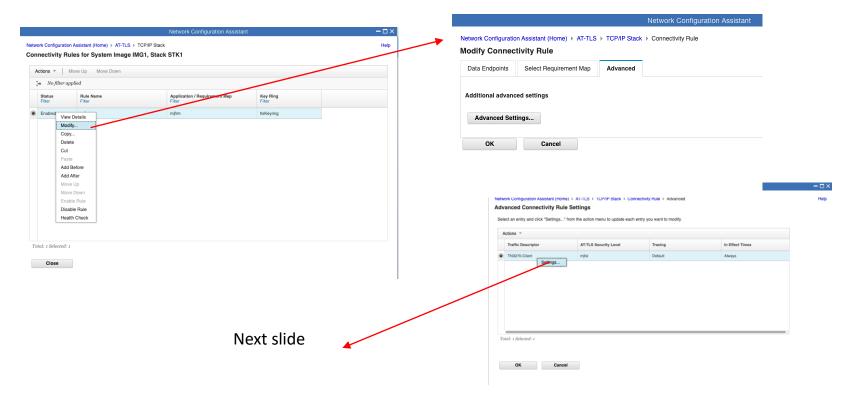
Controlling sysplex-wide session ticket caching



New parameter to control sysplex session ticket caching for this traffic type

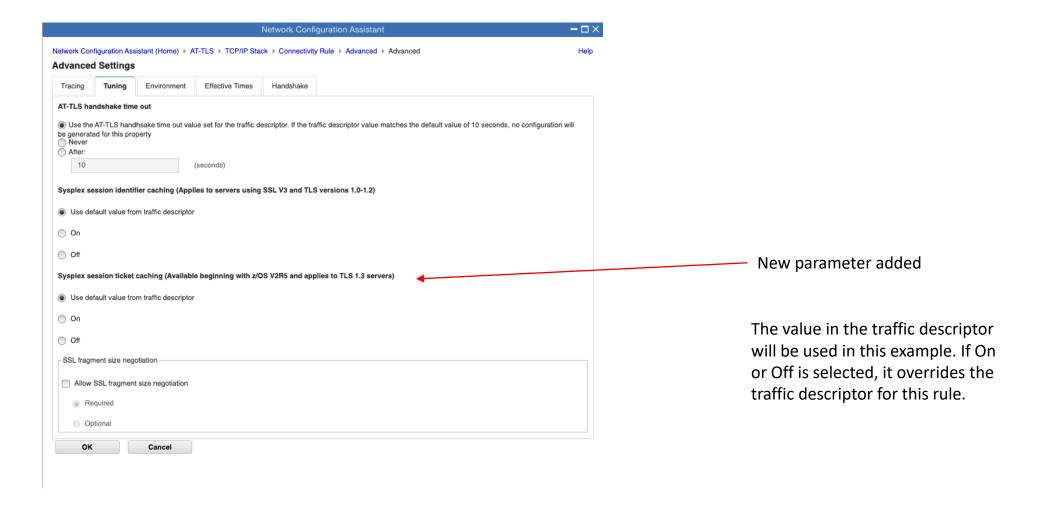
Usage & Invocation - Navigating to a Traffic Descriptor within a connectivity rule

Sysplex-wide session ticket caching can be overridden in the connectivity rule's advanced parameters, by traffic descriptor



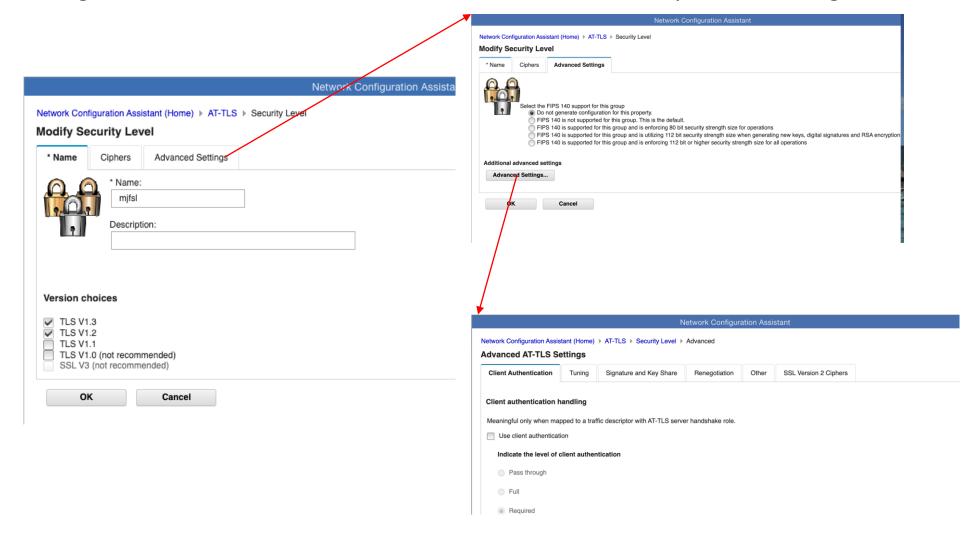
Usage & Invocation - Enabling sysplex session ticket caching on the Connectivity Rule

Overriding sysplex session ticket caching in the connectivity rule



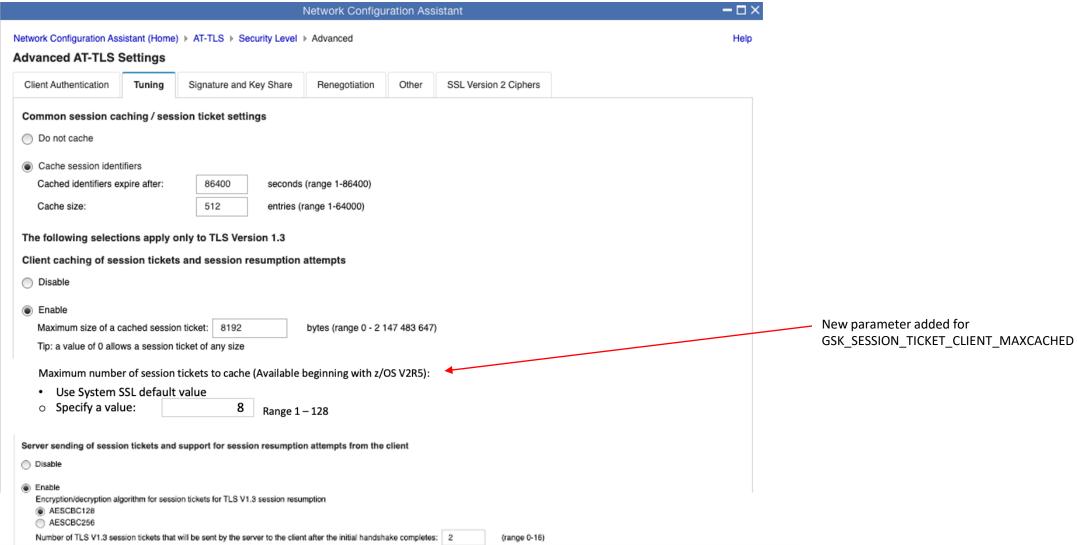
Usage & Invocation - Navigating to the maximum cached session tickets

Controlling maximum cached session tickets in the AT-TLS security level: locating



Usage & Invocation — Setting max cached session tickets on the Security Level

NCA AT-TLS security level, advanced, tuning



Usage & Invocation - z/os UNIX pasearch output

Pasearch output for new parameters with configured values

Server rule with TLSv1.3 sysplex session ticket caching enabled

```
TTLS Action: Secure_Telnet_Server_Conn
...

TTLSGskAdvancedParms:
    GSK_SYSPLEX_SIDCACHE: On
    GSK_SYSPLEX_SESSION_TICKET_CACHE: On
    GSK_V3_SESSION_TIMEOUT: 86400
    GSK_V3_SIDCACHE_SIZE: 512
...
```

Client rule with a configured maximum TLSv1.3 session ticket value

```
TTLS Action:
                          Client Conn
. . .
TTLSGskAdvancedParms:
   GSK_V3_SESSION_TIMEOUT:
                                           86400
   GSK_V3_SIDCACHE_SIZE:
                                           512
   GSK_SESSION_TICKET_CLIENT_ENABLE:
                                           On
                                           8192
   GSK_SESSION_TICKET_CLIENT_MAXSIZE:
   GSK_SESSION_TICKET_CLIENT_MAXCACHED:
```

Usage & Invocation - Netstat TTLS/-x DETAIL

Netstat TTLS/-x output for a TTLS environment action

Server rule with TLSv1.3 sysplex session ticket caching enabled

```
MVS TCP/IP NETSTAT CS 3.1 TCPIP Name: TCPCS 19:51:22
ConnID: 000000B8
...

TTLSRule: ftp_serv_21
...

TTLSEnvAction: env_act_serv
...

GSK_V3_SESSION_TIMEOUT: 86400
GSK_V3_SIDCACHE_SIZE: 512
GSK_SYSPLEX_SIDCACHE: On
GSK_SYSPLEX_SESSION_TICKET_CACHE: On
...
```

Client rule with a configured maximum TLSv1.3 session ticket value

```
MVS TCP/IP NETSTAT CS 3.1 TCPIP Name: TCPCS 19:51:22
ConnID: 000000B8
...
TTLSRule: client_conn
...

TTLSEnvAction: env_act_client
...

GSK_SESSION_TICKET_CLIENT_ENABLE: On
GSK_SESSION_TICKET_CLIENT_MAXSIZE: 8192
GSK_SESSION_TICKET_CLIENT_MAXCACHED: 8
```

Diagnosis — AT-TLS syslog messages...GSK parms

>Log contains messages showing the values set for the new parameters:

```
EZD1284I TTLS Flow GRPID: 00000002 ENVID: 00000002 CONNID: 00000067 RC: 0 Set GSK_SYSPLEX_SESSION_TICKET_CACHE(450) - ON(630)

EZD1284I TTLS Flow GRPID: 00000002 ENVID: 00000002 CONNID: 00000067 RC: 0 Set GSK_SESSION_TICKET_CLIENT_MAXCACHED(332) - 8
```

Interactions & Dependencies...(1 of 2)

- Software Dependencies
 - None
- Hardware Dependencies
 - None
- Exploiters
 - None

Upgrade & Coexistence Considerations...(1 of 2)

- To exploit this solution, all systems in the Plex must be at the new z/OS level: No
- Upgrade consideration: None
- Coexistence considerations: None

Installation & Configuration...(1 of 2)

- If your server is configured to use session ticket caching, you can enable sysplexwide session ticket caching by
 - Configuring GSK_SYSPLEX_SESSION_TICKET_CACHE on the server rule for each system requiring TLS session resumption
 - Starting GSKSRVR task for each system requiring TLS session resumption

Summary...zrm-9856

- The TLSv1.3 Sysplex Session Ticket Caching allows the benefits of TLS session resumption in a sysplex-wide environment for TLSv1.3 protocol
 - To allow client session ticket caching, GSK_SESSION_TICKET_CLIENT_ENABLE must be set ON and GSK_V3_SESSION_TIMEOUT and GSK_V3_SIDCACHE_SIZE settings must be set to values greater than 0
 - AT-TLS client applications can specify the maximum number of TLSv1.3 session tickets that can be stored per session in its cache

Appendix

Reference:

- z/OS Communication Server: IP Configuration Guide
 - Chapter 20: Application Transparent Transport Layer Security data protection
- z/OS Communication Server: IP Configuration Reference
 - Chapter 16: Policy Agent and policy applications
- z/OS Communication Server: New Function Summary
- z/OS Cryptographic Services System Secure Sockets Layer Programming