TPM Tutorial Worksheet

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November 13, 2023

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1 Installation

The course is found at https://github.com/nokia/TPMCourse. The README file contains the installation instructions carefully and make sure that you have this working before the tutorial. READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

The docker based installation has been tested in Linux (various Ubuntus and Debians).

If you are running on Windows, Mac or something even more exotic (you mean you don't an IBM zSeries at home?!) then it is probably much easier to build a virtual machine using VMWare Player or VirtualBox. Download Ubuntu desktop or server as you wish (Desktop has a nice UI!) and install and run it in your VM.

For those of you who can unpick the Dockerfile and figure out how to install everything on a bare-metal Linux box with a real TPM...good luck. If you brick your TPM, corrupt your OS, lose encryption keys or anything else, I did warn you and take no responsibility.

Once you get it working proceed to the exercises in section 2 of this document - it is immediately after this.

2 Tutorial and TPM Familiarity

Read each section carefully and take notes as you go along. If you break your simulated TPM, exit docker and restart. Note, if you had keys or data in that simulated TPM it will be lost on each startup.

Good Advice: keep a log of each command you run in a separate textfile - easy to copy and paste these back in later and also makes debugging easier.

2.1 Basic Commands

Follow the tutorial commands outlined in the tutorial in this order. You will find these files under the 'docs' director of the downloaded course or directly on the Github pages at https://github.com/nokia/TPMCourse/blob/master/docs/STARTHERE.md

Take note of the warning in section 2.2 below.

Take notes as you go along, **draw pictures**, keep a log of commands and don't be afraid to restart the simulator if you need.

- Random
- Objects
- Keys (see section 2.3 below)
- NVRAM
- PCRs
- Quoting

2.2 Command Parameters

Sometimes parameters to commands change - we use the latest TPM2 Tools and sometimes things do change and the course might not be fully updated. In this case, either make an issue in github or make a fork, change and then a pull request - your contributions either way will be very much appreciated.

2.3 TPM Memory and Flush Context

This can also be found in the section on key generation, but I will repeat it here. See also https://github.com/nokia/TPMCourse/blob/master/docs/keys.md#tpm-memory

TPMs have limited space for storing objects such as keys, session information etc. Different manufacturers provide different amounts of space and in some cases even behaviours when dealing with temporary objects. The IBM TPM Simulator used in the Dockerfiles has very limited storage and you'll find objects being left in the transient memory space.

If you receive out of memory errors from the simulator or any TPM then check if there are objects (typically keys) in the transient memory area; for example we can use tpm2_getcap to display this and in this example we have two objects in the transient area.

\$tpm2_getcap handles-transient
0x80000000
0x80000001

To remove these objects use the command tpm2_flushcontext -t and check with tpm2_getcap again - if nothing is reported then all worked.

\$tpm2_getcap handles-transient
0x80000000
0x80000001
\$tpm2_flushcontext -t
\$tpm2_getcap handles-transient

2.4 Communicating with the TPM

If you are running against a real TPM, make sure you have access to the device. For example on Linux this means access to /dev/tpm0 and /dev/tpmrm0. In most distributions, and after installing the TPM2 Tools you will need to add your user to the tss group to get access to /dev/tpm0.

If you are running against the TPM simulator, then it is likely you will need to set an environment variable to direct commands to the simulator. Set this export TPM2TOOLS_TCTI="mssim:host=localhost"

You can run the simulator on a machine with a physical TPM too, just set the environment variable above to direct tpm2* commands to the correct place.

3 Exercises

Follow each of these in turn. Refer back to the tutorial section and your notes.

3.1 Generate Keys

Generate an RSA key under one of the hierarchies. I suggest creating a primary key in owner first and then deriving from that.

Using this key encrypt a small amount of data, eg: 16 characters maximum.

Decrypt that data and demonstrate that that the encrypt/decrypt works.

3.2 Generate and EK and AK

The EK is the device's identity in a way. Generate this.

Then geneate an attestation key (AK).

Make both of these persistent at suitable handles.

3.3 PCRs

List the PCRs and use tpm2-pcrevent to extend certain some PCRs. Pick some small files to hash with this command - hashing takes time and the TPM isn't a cryptoaccelerator!

If you can reset the PCRs (something you can't do without a reboot in reality!), reset them and extend the PCRs using the same data but in different order. Compare what you get.

3.4 UEFI EventLog

You must be running on a Linux machine with UEFI enabled

Read the UEFI eventlog which can be found at /sys/kernel/security/tpm0 using $tmp2_eventlog$. You will need to use sudo and write the output of the command to your home directory or somewhere suitable. Give this file a suitable name - you will need it later. Read it with a text editor.

- What does the event log tell you?
- How does it relate to the PCRs?

Reboot your machine and enter the UEFI setup page. If you can find something SAFE to change, do it. If you are unsure, don't touch anything. Save and Exit and let the machine reboot.

- Read the event log again as above
- Compare it with the early event log you saved (you did this, yes?)
- What has changed

Did any PCRs? change - see section 3.3.

3.5 Quotes

Take two quotes of your machine for the same PCRs. Use $tpm2_print$ them. How do their differ?

Suspend your machine, wake it up and take a quote, what has changed?

Reboot your machine and take a quote, what has changed?

NB: this following exercise is dangeous and should not be attempted - disk corruption, breaking hardware etc. You have been warned

Remove the powersupply and pull the battery from your machine if you can. Reboot, take a quote and what does it tell you?

3.6 Updates

Linux has various ways of updating itself, eg: apt update/upgade, yum etc... Take quotes, copies of the event log and PCRs BEFORE the update. Reboot, and take quotes, eventlog and PCRs again. What has changed.

Linux has a firmware update mechanism called LVFS and is used via the command *fwupdmgr*. Take quotes, copies of the event log and PCRs *BEFORE* the update. Reboot, and take quotes, eventlog and PCRs again. What has changed.