CSE 5/7339 Computer System Security

Mark D. Hoffman

mhoffman@smu.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment

Chapter 1: Introduction

"Begin at the beginning," the King said, very gravely, "and go on till you come to the end: then stop." — Lewis Carroll, *Alice in Wonderland*

The Cast of Characters

Alice and Bob are the good guys



□ Trudy is the bad "guy"



Trudy is our generic "intruder"

Alice's Online Bank

- □ Alice opens Alice's Online Bank (AOB)
- □ What are Alice's security concerns?
- □ If Bob is a customer of AOB, what are his security concerns?
- How are Alice's and Bob's concerns similar? How are they different?
- □ How does Trudy view the situation?

CIA

机密的

- CIA == Confidentiality, Integrity, and Availability
- AOB must prevent Trudy from learning Bob's account balance
- Confidentiality: prevent unauthorized reading of information
 - Cryptography used for confidentiality

CIA

- Trudy must not be able to change Bob's account balance
- Bob must not be able to improperly change his own account balance
- □ Integrity: detect unauthorized writing of information
 - o Cryptography used for integrity

CIA

- AOB's information must be available whenever it's needed
- Bob must be able to make transactions
 - o If not, she'll take her business elsewhere
- Availability: Data is available in a timely manner when needed
- Availability is a "new" security concern
 - o Denial of service (DoS) attacks

Beyond CIA: Crypto

- How does Bob's computer know that "Bob" is really Bob and not Trudy?
- Bob's password must be verified
- □ This requires some clever cryptography
- □ What are security concerns of pwds?
- Are there alternatives to passwords?

Beyond CIA: Protocols

- When Bob logs into AOB, how does AOB know that "Bob" is really Bob?
- □ As before, Bob's password is verified
- Unlike the previous case, network security issues arise
- How do we secure network transactions?
 - o Protocols are critically important
 - o Crypto plays critical role in protocols

Beyond CIA: Access Control

- Once Bob is authenticated by AOB, then
 AOB must restrict actions of Bob
 - o Bob can't view Charlie's account info
 - Bob can't install new software, etc.
- Enforcing these restrictions: authorization
- Access control includes both authentication and authorization

Beyond CIA: Software

- Cryptography, protocols, and access control are implemented in software
 - Software is foundation on which security rests
- What are security issues of software?
 - Real world software is complex and buggy
 - Software flaws lead to security flaws
 - o How does Trudy attack software?
 - o How to reduce flaws in software development?
 - o And what about malware?

恶意软件

Your Textbook

- □ The text consists of four major parts
 - Cryptography
 - Access control
 - o Protocols
 - Software
- Note: Our focus is on technical issues

The People Problem

- People often break security
 - o Both intentionally and unintentionally
 - o Here, we consider the unintentional
- □ For example, suppose you want to buy something online
 - To make it concrete, suppose you want to buy Information Security: Principles and Practice, 2nd edition from amazon.com

The People Problem

- □ To buy from amazon.com...
 - Your Web browser uses SSL protocol
 - SSL relies on cryptography
 - o Access control issues arise
 - o All security mechanisms are in software
- Suppose all of this security stuff works perfectly
 - o Then you would be safe, right?



Your connection is not private

Attackers might be trying to steal your information from **192.168.1.1** (for example, passwords, messages, or credit cards). NET::ERR_CERT_AUTHORITY_INVALID

Automatically report details of possible security incidents to Google. Privacy policy

Hide advanced

Back to safety

This server could not prove that it is **192.168.1.1**; its security certificate is not trusted by your computer's operating system. This may be caused by a misconfiguration or an attacker intercepting your connection.

Proceed to 192.168.1.1 (unsafe)

The People Problem

- What could go wrong?
- Trudy tries man-in-the-middle attack
 - SSL is secure, so attack doesn't "work"
 - But, Web browser issues a warning
 - o What do you, the user, do?
- □ If user ignores warning, attack works!
 - o None of the security mechanisms failed
 - But user unintentionally broke security

Cryptography

- "Secret codes"
- □ The book covers
 - Classic cryptography
 - Symmetric ciphers
 - Public key cryptography
 - o Hash functions++
 - Advanced cryptanalysis

Access Control

- Authentication
 - o Passwords
 - o Biometrics
 - o Other methods of authentication
- Authorization
 - o Access Control Lists/Capabilities
 - Multilevel security (MLS), security modeling, covert channel, inference control
 - o Firewalls, intrusion detection (IDS)

Protocols

- "Simple" authentication protocols
 - Focus on basics of security protocols
 - · Lots of applied cryptography in protocols
- Real-world security protocols
 - o SSH, SSL, IPSec, Kerberos
 - o Wireless: WEP, GSM

Software

- Security-critical flaws in software
 - Buffer overflow
 - o Race conditions, etc.
- Malware
 - Examples of viruses and worms
 - o Prevention and detection
 - o Future of malware?

Software

- Software reverse engineering (SRE)
 - o How hackers "dissect" software
- Digital rights management (DRM)
 - o Shows difficulty of security in software
 - o Also raises OS security issues
- Software and testing
 - o Open source, closed source, other topics

Software

- Operating systems
 - o Basic OS security issues
 - o "Trusted OS" requirements
 - o NGSCB: Microsoft's trusted OS for the PC
- Software is a BIG security topic
 - Lots of material to cover
 - Lots of security problems to consider
 - o But not nearly enough time available...

- □ In the past, no respectable sources talked about "hacking" in detail
 - o After all, such info might help Trudy
- Recently, this has changed
 - Lots of books on network hacking, evil software, how to hack software, etc.
 - o Classes teach virus writing, SRE, etc.

- Good guys must think like bad guys!
- □ A police detective...
 - ...must study and understand criminals
- □ In information security
 - We want to understand Trudy's methods
 - Might think about Trudy's motives
 - We'll often pretend to be Trudy

- □ Is all of this security information a good idea?
- Bruce Schneier (referring to Security Engineering, by Ross Anderson):
 - "It's about time somebody wrote a book to teach the good guys what the bad guys already know."

- □ We must try to think like Trudy
- □ We must study Trudy's methods
- □ We can admire Trudy's cleverness
- Often, we can't help but laugh at Alice's and/or Bob's stupidity
- But, we cannot act like Trudy

 Except in this class
 - Except in this class...

In This Course...

- Think like the bad guy
- Always look for weaknesses
 - o Find the weak link before Trudy does
- □ It's OK to break the rules
 - o What rules?
- Think like Trudy
- But don't do anything illegal!