

LAB

1. Create certs
2. Run HTTPS server
3. Capture encrypted traffic
4. Decrypt in Wireshark

Steps

1. Create a self-signed CA, issue a *server certificate* and a *client certificate*.
2. Run a Python HTTPS server using the server certificate (optionally configure RSA key-exchange for key-file decryption).
3. Browse the server while capturing in Wireshark; observe encrypted TLS application data.
4. Decrypt in Wireshark by (A) loading the browser SSLKEYLOGFILE or (B) loading the server private key
5. Verify decrypted HTTP content in Wireshark and export objects; answer short questions.

1- Create a private key for CA and self-signed CA certificate

```
openssl genpkey -algorithm RSA -out ca.key -pkeyopt rsa_keygen_bits:2048
```

```
openssl req -x509 -new -nodes -key ca.key -sha256 -days 365 \
-subj "/C=PK/ST=Punjab/L=Lahore/O=BSIT/OU=PUCIT/CN=NetSecLab-CA" \
-out ca.crt
```

2- Create server key and CSR, then sign with CA

```
openssl genpkey -algorithm RSA -out server.key -pkeyopt rsa_keygen_bits:2048
```

```
openssl req -new -key server.key -subj "/C=PK/ST=Punjab/L=Lahore/O=BSIT/OU=Servers/CN=localhost" \
-out server.csr
```

```
openssl x509 -req -in server.csr -CA ca.crt -CAkey ca.key -CAcreateserial \
-out server.crt -days 365 -sha256 \
-extfile <(printf "subjectAltName=DNS:localhost,IP:127.0.0.1")
```

Server Code:

```
import http.server, ssl, pathlib, os, sys
```

```

PORT = 4443
WWW = pathlib.Path.cwd() / "www"
WWW.mkdir(exist_ok=True)
(WWW / "index.html").write_text("<html><body><h1>TLS Lab</h1><p>Hello!!!!!! BSIT from a secured server, Can you read this?</p></body></html>")

class Handler(http.server.SimpleHTTPRequestHandler):
    def __init__(self, *a, **kw):
        super().__init__(*a, directory=str(WWW), **kw)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    server_address = ('0.0.0.0', PORT)
    httpd = http.server.HTTPServer(server_address, Handler)

    context = ssl.SSLContext(ssl.PROTOCOL_TLS_SERVER)

    context.load_cert_chain(certfile="server.crt", keyfile="server.key")

try:
    context.options |= ssl.OP_NO_TLSv1 | ssl.OP_NO_TLSv1_1 # disable old TLS versions

    context.minimum_version = ssl.TLSVersion.TLSv1_2
    context.maximum_version = ssl.TLSVersion.TLSv1_2

    context.set_ciphers("AES128-SHA")
except Exception as e:
    print("Cipher selection may not be supported on this platform:", e)

httpd.socket = context.wrap_socket(httpd.socket, server_side=True)
print(f"Serving on https://localhost:{PORT} (pid {os.getpid()})")
httpd.serve_forever()

```

Start:

`python3 https_server.py`

Start capture. In browser, go to: `https://localhost:4443`

If a browser complains about an untrusted CA,(this is expected since CA is self-signed) — or add ca.crt to their browser OS trust store for a smooth experience.

1. Stop capture once page loads. Save capture as `tls_lab_capture.pcapng`.

What students will observe in Wireshark (before decryption):

- Filter tls or tcp.port==4443.
- Handshake packets: Client Hello, Server Hello, Certificate, Server Key Exchange (if ECDHE), Client Key Exchange, Change Cipher Spec, Application Data.
- Application Data packets shown as “**Application Data**” (encrypted blob). No readable HTTP payload.

Explanation: The TLS handshake negotiated keys; the subsequent Application Data packets are encrypted

Decryption:

```
export SSLKEYLOGFILE=<path>/tls_lab/sslkeylog.log
```

1. Close all browser instances.
2. In a terminal set environment variable and start the browser from that terminal:

```
export SSLKEYLOGFILE=$HOME/tls_lab/sslkeylog.log # Linux/macOS
# On Windows (PowerShell): $env:SSLKEYLOGFILE = "C:\path\to\tls_lab\sslkeylog.log"
# or CMD: set SSLKEYLOGFILE=C:\path\to\tls_lab\sslkeylog.log
```

3. Launch the browser from that shell, e.g. google-chrome or firefox. Visit https://localhost:4443. The browser will append session keys to sslkeylog.log.
4. In Wireshark: Edit → Preferences → Protocols → TLS

Close all browser instances.

In a terminal set environment variable and start the browser from that terminal:

```
export SSLKEYLOGFILE=$HOME/tls_lab/sslkeylog.log # Linux/macOS
# On Windows (PowerShell): $env:SSLKEYLOGFILE = "C:\path\to\tls_lab\sslkeylog.log"
# or CMD: set SSLKEYLOGFILE=C:\path\to\tls_lab\sslkeylog.log
```

Launch the browser from that shell, e.g. google-chrome or firefox. Visit https://localhost:4443. The browser will append session keys to sslkeylog.log.

In Wireshark: Edit → Preferences → Protocols → TLS

Set (Pre)-Master-Secret log filename to the path sslkeylog.log.

Click OK, then reload/open the capture.

What to expect: Wireshark will now decrypt TLS sessions (including ECDHE ones). Use filter tls and http or http to see HTTP requests (GET /) and HTML response.

Why it works: The browser wrote the secrets during the handshake; anyone possessing that file can decrypt corresponding captured TLS sessions. This demonstrates how compromise of session secrets can reveal plaintext even when PFS is used.

Method B

In Wireshark go to Edit → Preferences → Protocols → TLS.

Under **(RSA) Keys list** (or "RSA keys list") click **Edit** → **New** and add:

IP address: 127.0.0.1 (or leave blank)

- Port: 4443
- Protocol: http
- Key File: path to server.key (PEM).

Click OK. Re-open the capture.