# Chapter 1: Introduction

Course Instructor: Dr. Nausheen Shoaib

# **Marks Distribution**

Assignment and Project : 20%

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Book:

 Computer Security, Principles and Practice, William Stallings, 4th Edition, Pearson Publication, 2018

- 2. Google Classroom Code: dixynxe (7G)
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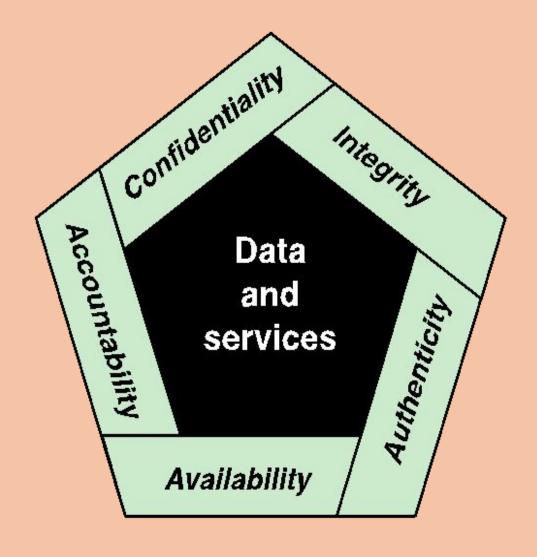


Figure 1.1 Essential Network and Computer Security Requirements

# **Key Security Concepts**

#### Confidentiality

#### Preserving authorized restrictions on information access and disclosure, including means for protecting personal privacy and proprietary information

#### Integrity

 Guarding against improper information modification or destruction, including ensuring information nonrepudiation and authenticity

#### **Availability**

 Ensuring timely and reliable access to and use of information

# Levels of Impact

# Low

The loss could be expected to have a limited adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals

# Moderate

The loss could be expected to have a serious adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals

# High

The loss could be expected to have a severe or catastrophic adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals

# Computer Security Challenges

- 1. Computer security is not as simple as it might first appear to the novice
- 2. In developing a particular security mechanism or algorithm, one must always consider potential attacks on those security features
- 3. Procedures used to provide particular services are often counterintuitive
- 4. Physical and logical placement needs to be determined
- 5. Security mechanisms typically involve more than a particular algorithm or protocol and also require that participants be in possession of some secret information which raises questions about the creation, distribution, and protection of that secret information
- 6. Attackers only need to find a single weakness, while the designer must find and eliminate all weaknesses to achieve perfect security
- 7. Security is still too often an afterthought to be incorporated into a system after the design is complete, rather than being an integral part of the design process
- 8. Security requires regular and constant monitoring
- 9. There is a natural tendency on the part of users and system managers to perceive little benefit from security investment until a security failure occurs
- 10. Many users and even security administrators view strong security as an impediment to efficient and user-friendly operation of an information system or use of information

#### Table 1.1

#### Computer Security Terminology, from RFC 2828, Internet Security Glossary, May 2000

#### Adversary (threat agent)

Individual, group, organization, or government that conducts or has the intent to conduct detrimental activities.

#### Attack

Any kind of malicious activity that attempts to collect, disrupt, deny, degrade, or destroy information system resources or the information itself.

#### Countermeasure

A device or techniques that has as its objective the impairment of the operational effectiveness of undesirable or adversarial activity, or the prevention of espionage, sabotage, theft, or unauthorized access to or use of sensitive information or information systems.

#### Risk

A measure of the extent to which an entity is threatened by a potential circumstance or event, and typically a function of 1) the adverse impacts that would arise if the circumstance or event occurs; and 2) the likelihood of occurrence.

#### **Security Policy**

A set of criteria for the provision of security services. It defines and constrains the activities of a data processing facility in order to maintain a condition of security for systems and data.

#### **System Resource (Asset)**

A major application, general support system, high impact program, physical plant, mission critical system, personnel, equipment, or a logically related group of systems.

#### **Threat**

Any circumstance or event with the potential to adversely impact organizational operations (including mission, functions, image, or reputation), organizational assets, individuals, other organizations, or the Nation through an information system via unauthorized access, destruction, disclosure, modification of information, and/or denial of service.

#### Vulnerability

Weakness in an information system, system security procedures, internal controls, or implementation that could be exploited or triggered by a threat source.

(Table can be found on page 8 in the textbook)

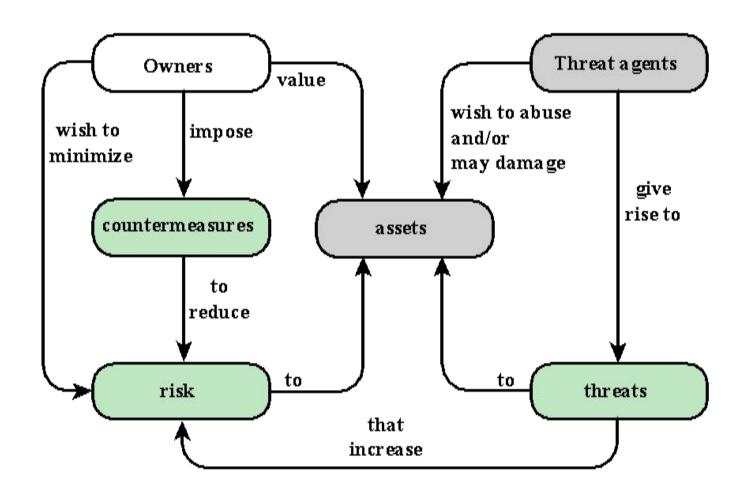
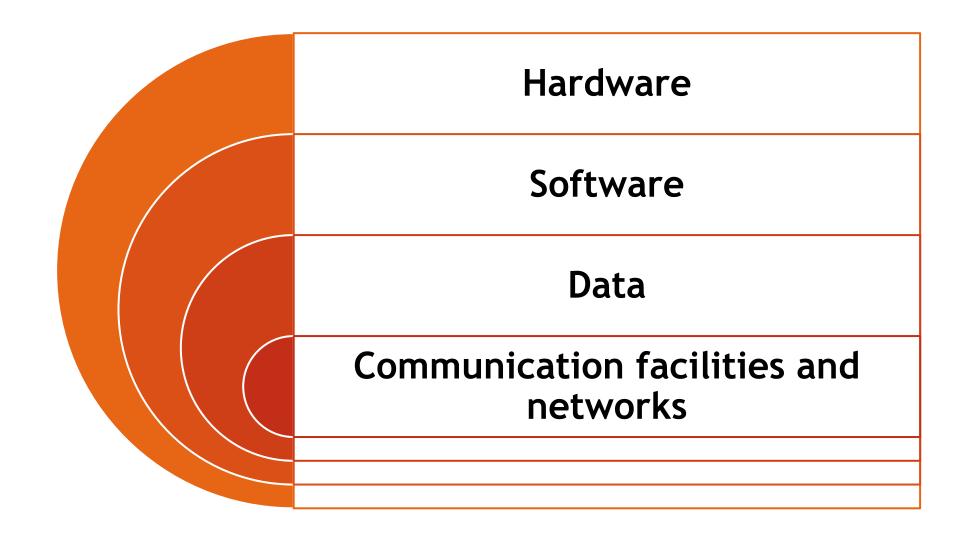


Figure 1.2 Security Concepts and Relationships

# Assets of a Computer System



# Vulnerabilities, Threats and Attacks

### Categories of vulnerabilities

- Corrupted (loss of integrity)
- Leaky (loss of confidentiality)
- Unavailable or very slow (loss of availability)

#### Threats

- Capable of exploiting vulnerabilities
- Represent potential security harm to an asset

### Attacks (threats carried out)

- Passive attempt to learn or make use of information from the system that does not affect system resources
- Active attempt to alter system resources or affect their operation
- Insider initiated by an entity inside the security parameter

# Countermeasures

The **residual risk** is the amount of <u>risk</u> or <u>danger</u> associated with an action or event remaining after natural or <u>inherent</u> <u>risks</u> have been reduced by risk controls

Means used to deal with security attacks

- Prevent
- Detect
- Recover

Residual vulnerabilities may remain

May itself introduce new vulnerabilities

Goal is to minimize residual level of risk to the assets

Threat Consequence	Threat Action (Attack)		
Unauthorized Disclosure A circumstance or event whereby an entity gains access to data for which the entity is not authorized.	Exposure: Sensitive data are directly released to an unauthorized entity.  Interception: An unauthorized entity directly accesses sensitive data traveling between authorized sources and destinations.  Inference: A threat action whereby an unauthorized entity indirectly accesses sensitive data (but not necessarily the data contained in the communication) by reasoning from characteristics or byproducts of communications.  Intrusion: An unauthorized entity gains access to sensitive data by circumventing a system's security protections.		
Deception  A circumstance or event that may result in an authorized entity receiving false data and believing it to be true.	Masquerade: An unauthorized entity gains access to a system or performs a malicious act by posing as an authorized entity.  Falsification: False data deceive an authorized entity.  Repudiation: An entity deceives another by falsely denying responsibility for an act.		
Disruption A circumstance or event that interrupts or prevents the correct operation of system services and functions.	Incapacitation: Prevents or interrupts system operation by disabling a system component.  Corruption: Undesirably alters system operation by adversely modifying system functions or data.  Obstruction: A threat action that interrupts delivery of system services by hindering system operation.		
Usurpation A circumstance or event that results in control of system services or functions by an unauthorized entity.	Misappropriation: An entity assumes unauthorized logical or physical control of a system resource.  Misuse: Causes a system component to perform a function or service that is detrimental to system security.		

Table 1.2

Threat
Consequences,
and the
Types of
Threat Actions
That Cause
Each
Consequence

Based on RFC 4949

<sup>\*\*</sup>Table is on page 10 in the textbook.

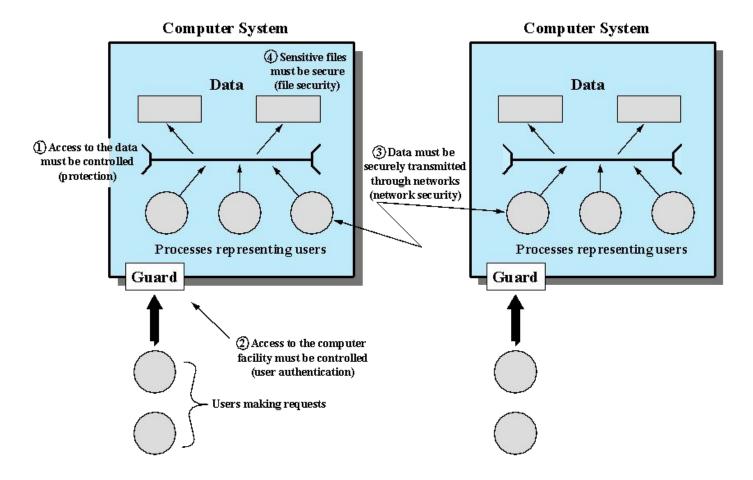


Figure 1.3 Scope of Computer Security. This figure depicts security concerns other than physical security, including control of access to computers systems, safeguarding of data transmitted over communications systems, and safeguarding of stored data.

Table 1.3
Computer and Network Assets, with Examples of Threats

	Availability	Confidentiality	Integrity
Hardware	Equipment is stolen or disabled, thus denying service.	An unencrypted CD-ROM or DVD is stolen.	
Software	Programs are deleted, denying access to users.	An unauthorized copy of software is made.	A working program is modified, either to cause it to fail during execution or to cause it to do some unintended task.
Data	Files are deleted, denying access to users.	An unauthorized read of data is performed. An analysis of statistical data reveals underlying data.	Existing files are modified or new files are fabricated.
Communication Lines and Networks	Messages are destroyed or deleted. Communication lines or networks are rendered unavailable.	Messages are read. The traffic pattern of messages is observed.	Messages are modified, delayed, reordered, or duplicated. False messages are fabricated.

# Passive and Active Attacks

#### Passive Attack

- Attempts to learn or make use of information from the system but does not affect system resources
- Eavesdropping on, or monitoring of, transmissions
- Goal of attacker is to obtain information that is being transmitted
- Two types:
  - Release of message contents
  - Traffic analysis

#### **Active Attack**

- Attempts to alter system resources or affect their operation
- Involve some modification of the data stream or the creation of a false stream
- Four categories:
  - Replay
  - Masquerade
  - Modification of messages
  - Denial of service

# **Standards**

- Standards have been developed to cover management practices and the overall architecture of security mechanisms and services
- The most important of these organizations are:
  - National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
    - NIST is a U.S. federal agency that deals with measurement science, standards, and technology related to U.S. government use and to the promotion of U.S. private sector innovation
  - Internet Society (ISOC)
    - ISOC is a professional membership society that provides leadership in addressing issues that confront the future of the Internet, and is the organization home for the groups responsible for Internet infrastructure standards
  - International Telecommunication Union (ITU-T)
    - ITU is a United Nations agency in which governments and the private sector coordinate global telecom networks and services
  - International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
    - ► ISO is a nongovernmental organization whose work results in international agreements that are published as International Standards