Topic of project: Security key-based network access control in cloud instances

Team members: Ketan Sabne(CS20BTECH11043)

TA mentor - Maruthi Inukonda

Praneeth Nayak (CS20BTECH11025)

Problem Statement

To provide a secure key-based network authentication for headless Linux systems in cloud instances that use network access control (NAC) and prevent credential leakage via virtual machine (VM) disk images. This involves implementing certificate-based authentication in netplan and utilizing encrypted file systems or disk volumes to ensure zero-leakage of authentication credentials. The goal is to obtain fine-grained identity information (user, instance/device) from network logs to improve security in cloud instances, especially as they are increasingly being used for cybercrime hosting services

Encrypting the keys stored on the file-system (/secure)

First we have created a partition using sudo fdisk /dev/sda command , below Screenshot is step for creating new partition, for us new partition name created is /dev/sda3.

```
Generic
d delete a partition
F list free unpartitioned space
l list known partition types
n add a new partition
p print the partition table
t change a partition type
v verify the partition table
i print information about a partition

Misc
m print this menu
x extra functionality (experts only)

Script
l load disk layout from sfdisk script file
d dump disk layout to sfdisk script file
d dump disk layout to sfdisk script file
Save & Exit
w write table to disk and exit
q quit without saving changes

Create a new label
g create a new empty GPT partition table
c create a new empty SGI (IRIN) partition table
c create a new empty SD partition table
c create a new empty Sup spartition table

Command (m for help): n
Partition number (3-128, default 3): 3
First sector, +/-sectors or +/-sizeiK,M,G,T,P; (39849984-41943006, default 41943006):
Created a new partition 3 of type 'Linux filesystem' and of size 1022 MiB.

Command (m for help): _
```

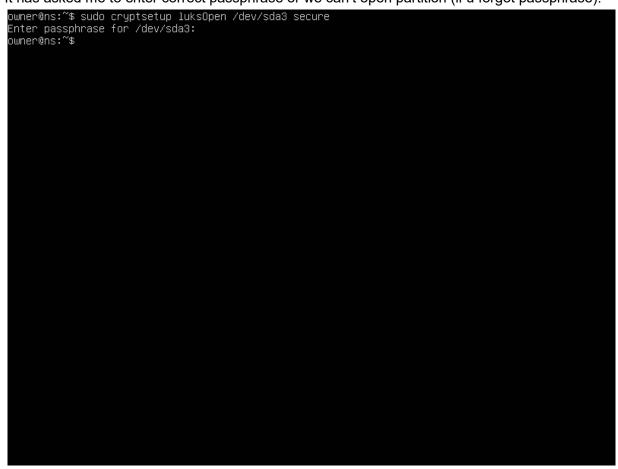
Then we have checked whether it's created or not, checking.

```
verify the partition table
         print information about a partition
  Misc
   m
         print this menu
         extra functionality (experts only)
  Script
   I load disk layout from sfdisk script file
O dump disk layout to sfdisk script file
  Save & Exit
   w write table to disk and exit
q quit without saving changes
  Create a new label
        create a new empty GPT partition table
    g
G
         create a new empty SGI (IRIX) partition table
create a new empty DOS partition table
         create a new empty Sun partition table
Command (m for help): p
Disk /dev/sda: 20 GiB, 21474836480 bytes, 41943040 sectors
Disk model: VBOX HARDDISK
Units: sectors of 1 * 512 = 512 bytes
Sector size (logical/physical): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
I/O size (minimum/optimal): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
Disklabel type: gpt
Disk identifier: 50FBE7B1–137B–4711–9877–9791D5797A3B
Device
                    Start
                                   End Sectors Size Type
/dev/sda1
                    2048
                                           2048
                                                        1M BIOS boot
                                  4095
/dev/sda2 4096 39849983 39845888 19G Linux filesystem
/dev/sda3 39849984 41943006 2093023 1022M Linux filesystem
Command (m for help): _
```

Now we have set up my LUKS partition with cryptsetup command, image is attached below with command. It has asked me to create passphrase.

```
print this menu
           extra functionality (experts only)
   Script
        load disk layout from sfdisk script file
dump disk layout to sfdisk script file
   Save & Exit
    w write table to disk and exit
q quit without saving changes
   Create a new label
        create a new empty GPT partition table
create a new empty SGI (IRIX) partition table
create a new empty DOS partition table
create a new empty Sun partition table
Command (m for help): w
The partition table has been altered.
Syncing disks.
owner@ns:/$ sudo ls /dev/sda3 –l
brw–rw––– 1 root disk 8, 3 May  8 07:12 /dev/sda3
owner@ns:/$ sudo cryptsetup –y –v luksFormat /dev/sda3
WARNING!
=======
This will overwrite data on /dev/sda3 irrevocably.
Are you sure? (Type 'yes' in capital letters): YES
Enter passphrase for /dev/sda3:
Verify passphrase:
Key slot O created.
Command successful.
owner@ns:/$
```

we have open the partition and created a mapping in /dev/mapper using below command. It has asked me to enter correct passphrase or we can't open partition (if u forgot passphrase).



we have checked that our setup name (secure) is mapped correctly or not.

We are creating a file system with mkfs.ext4 command and mounting a new file system which will be used in storing certificates, Screenshot is attached below.

```
owner@ns:~$ sudo cryptsetup luksOpen /dev/sda3 secure
Enter passphrase for /dev/sda3:
owner@ns:~$ sudo ls dev/mapper/secure -l
ls: cannot access 'dev/mapper/secure': No such file or directory
owner@ns:~$ cd /dev/mapper
owner@ns:/dev/mapper$ ls
control secure
owner@ns:/dev/mapper$ cd secure
-bash: cd: secure: Not a directory
owner@ns:/dev/mapper$ sudo ls dev/mapper/secure -l
ls: cannot access 'dev/mapper/secure': No such file or directory
owner@ns:/dev/mapper$ file secure
secure: symbolic link to ../dm-0
owner@ns:/dev/mapper$ cd /
owner@ns:/$ cd
owner@ns:~$ sudo mkfs.ext4 /dev/mapper/secure
mke2fs 1.46.5 (30–Dec–2021)
Creating filesystem with 257531 4k blocks and 64384 inodes
Filesystem UUID: c18cf7c0–e5b5–40e2–8a86–a73d59d18ab9
Superblock backups stored on blocks:
            32768, 98304, 163840, 229376
Allocating group tables: done
Writing inode tables: done
Creating journal (4096 blocks): done
Writing superblocks and filesystem accounting information: done
owner@ns:~$ mkdir /secure
mkdir: cannot create directory '/secure': Permission denied
owner@ns:~$ sudo /mkdir
sudo: /mkdir: command not found
owner@ns:~$ sudo mkdir /secure
owner@ns:~$ mount /dev/mapper/secure /secure/
mount: /secure: must be superuser to use mount.
owner@ns:~$ sudo mount /dev/mapper/secure /secure/
owner@ns:~$ _
```

checking status of our /dev/mapper/sda3, then it shows all the info such that for encryption we have used LUKS 2 also ciphers and key size,etc.

```
Superblock backups stored on blocks:
          32768, 98304, 163840, 229376
Allocating group tables: done
Writing inode tables: done
Creating journal (4096 blocks): done
Writing superblocks and filesystem accounting information: done
owner@ns:~$ mkdir /secure
mkdir: cannot create directory '/secure': Permission denied
owner@ns:~$ sudo ∕mkdir
sudo: /mkdir: command not found
owner@ns:~$ sudo mkdir /secure
owner@ns:~$ mount /dev/mapper/secure /secure/
mount: /secure: must be superuser to use mount.
owner@ns:~$ sudo mount /dev/mapper/secure /secure/
owner@ns:~$ sudo df –H
 ilesystem
                         Size Used Avail Use% Mounted on
                                 1.1M 207M
5.3G 14G
                                                1% /run
29% /
tmpfs
/dev/sda2
                          208M
                          20G 5.3G
                          1.1G
5.3M
                                         1.1G
5.3M
                                                  0% /dev/shm
tmpfs
                                                  0% /run/lock
tmpfs
                                4.1k
                                         208M
950M
tmpfs
                          208M
                                                  1% /run/user/1000
/dev/mapper/secure 1.1G 25k 950M 1%/secure
owner@ns:~$ sudo cryptsetup –v status /dev/mapper/secure
/dev/mapper/secure is active and is in use.
type: LUKS2
  cipher: aes–xts–plain64
keysize: 512 bits
  key location: keyring
  device: /dev/sda3
sector size: 512
offset: 32768 sectors
              2060255 sectors
read/write
  mode:
 Command successful.
owner@ns:~$ _
```

Now we have unmounted 'secure' and now whenever we have to open our partition created for certificates, we need to enter passphrase. You can see in below screenshot.

```
owner@ns:~$ mount /dev/mapper/secure /secure
 mount: /secure: must be superuser to use mount.
owner@ns:~$ sudo mount /dev/mapper/secure /secure/
owner@ns:~$ sudo df –H
  ilesystem
                                        Used Avail Use% Mounted on
1.1M 207M 1% /run
5.3G 14G 29% /
 tmpfs
/dev/sda2
                               208M
                                20G
                               1.1G
5.3M
208M
                                                 1.1G
5.3M
208M
                                                            0% /dev/shm
0% /run/lock
 tmpfs
 tmpfs
                                        4.1k
 tmpfs
                                                             1% /run/user/1000
/dev/mapper/secure 1.1G 25k 950M 1%/secure
owner@ns:~$ sudo cryptsetup –v status/dev/mapper/secure
 /dev/mapper/secure is active and is in use.
type: LUKS2
   cipher: aes–xts–plain64
keysize: 512 bits
   key location: keyring
   device: /dev/sda3
sector size: 512
offset: 32768 sectors
                 2060255 sectors
   size:
   mode:
                 read/write
  Command successful.
owner@ns:~$ unmount /secure
Command 'unmount' not found, did you mean:
command 'umount' from deb mount (2.37.2–4ubuntu3)
Try: sudo apt install <deb name>
owner@ns:~$ sudo unmount /secure
 sudo: unmount: command not found
owner@ns:~$ sudo umount /secure
owner@ns:~$ cd /secure
owner@ns:/secure$ ls
owner@ns:/secure$ cd
owner@ns:~$ sudo cryptsetup luksClose /dev/mapper/secure
owner@ns:~$ sudo cryptsetup luksOpen /dev/sda3 secure
Enter passphrase for /dev/sda3:
 owner@ns:~$
network:
  version:
  2 wifis:
  w10:
        access-points:
          university:
             auth: key-management: eap method: tls
        anonymous-identity: "@cust.example.com" identity: "testuser" ca-certificate:
        /secure/cust-cacrt.pem client-certificate:
        /secure/cust-crt.pem client-key: /secure/cust-key.pem client-key-password: "xyz" dhcp4: yes
```

802.1x using RADIUS and certificate and keys

Setup

NAME	STATE	IPV4	IPV6	TYPE	SNAPSHOTS
dhcpclnt1	RUNNING 	192.168.51.250 (pn50) 10.200.7.29 (cn4) 10.200.3.230 (cn0)		PERSISTENT	0
dhcpsrv	RUNNING 	192.168.50.8 (pn50) 192.168.46.8 (sn46) 10.200.4.5 (cn4) 10.200.0.5 (cn0)		PERSISTENT	0 -
ldapsrv	STOPPED			PERSISTENT	0
radiussrv	RUNNING	192.168.50.7 (pn50)		PERSISTENT	0

RADIUS Server

root@radiussrv:~# ip r default via 192.168.50.1 dev pn50 proto static 192.168.50.0/23 dev pn50 proto kernel scope link src 192.168.50.7

DHCP Server

root@dhcpsrv:~# ip r

```
default via 10.200.0.1 dev cn0 proto static

10.200.0.0/22 dev cn0 proto kernel scope link src 10.200.0.5

10.200.4.0/22 dev cn4 proto kernel scope link src 10.200.4.5

192.168.46.0/23 dev sn46 proto kernel scope link src 192.168.46.8

192.168.50.0/23 dev pn50 proto kernel scope link src 192.168.50.8

DHCP client1 root@dhcpclnt1:~# cat /etc/netplan/50-

cloud-init.yaml

# This file is generated from information provided by the datasource. Changes # to it will not persist across an instance reboot. To disable cloud-init's # network configuration capabilities, write a file

# /etc/cloud/cloud.cfg.d/99-disable-network-config.cfg with the following: # network: {config: disabled}

network:

version: 2
ethernets:
```

```
pn50: # dhcp4:
true # addresses:
     - 192.168.50.4/23 #
gateway4: 192.168.50.1 #
nameservers: # addresses:
              - 192.168.35.52
              - 192.168.36.53
#
              search:
#
              - cse.iith.ac.in
              - iith.ac.in
      cn0:
              dhcp4: true
       cn4:
              dhcp4: true
```

https://netplan.io/examples

Authblock example using userid and password

```
eno2:
    match:
        macaddress: d0:67:26:cd:29:31
    mtu: 1500
    set-name: eno2
    #addresses: [ 10.200.0.62/22 ]
    auth:
        key-management: 802.1x
        method: ttls
        identity: "admin"
        password: "password"
    dhcp4: true
    auth:
```

```
root@dhcpclnt1:~# ip r
default via 10.200.0.1 dev cn0 proto dhcp src 10.200.3.230 metric 100
10.200.0.0/22 dev cn0 proto kernel scope link src 10.200.3.230
10.200.0.1 dev cn0 proto dhcp scope link src 10.200.3.230 metric 100
192.168.35.52 via 10.200.0.1 dev cn0 proto dhcp src 10.200.3.230 metric 100
192.168.36.53 via 10.200.0.1 dev cn0 proto dhcp src 10.200.3.230 metric 100
192.168.50.0/23 dev pn50 proto kernel scope link src 192.168.50.4
```

```
root@dhcpclnt1:~# radtest -x xt21t001 U6bnQmHY 192.168.50.7 -0 testing123 radiussrv
Sent Access-Request Id 241 from 0.0.0.0:47435 to 192.168.50.7:1812 length 84
         User-Name = "xt21t001"
         User-Password = "U6bnQmHY"
         NAS-IP-Address = 10.200.3.230
         NAS-Port = 0
         Message-Authenticator = 0x00
         Framed-Protocol = PPP
         Cleartext-Password = "U6bn0mHY"
Received Access-Accept Id 241 from 192.168.50.7:1812 to 192.168.50.4:47435 length 32
         Framed-Protocol = PPP
         Framed-Compression = Van-Jacobson-TCP-IP
       root@dhcpclnt1:~# radtest -x xt21t001 U6bnQmHY 192.168.50.7 -0 testing123 radiussrv
       Sent Access-Request Id 152 from 0.0.0.0:55436 to 192.168.50.7:1812 length 84
              User-Name = "xt21t001"
              User-Password = "U6bnQmHY"
              NAS-IP-Address = 192.168.50.4
              NAS-Port = 0
              Message-Authenticator = 0x00
              Framed-Protocol = PPP
              Cleartext-Password = "U6bnQmHY"
       Received Access-Accept Id 152 from 192.168.50.7:1812 to 192.168.50.4:55436 length 32
              Framed-Protocol = PPP
              Framed-Compression = Van-Jacobson-TCP-IP
       root@dhcpclnt1:~#
In one terminal run tcpdump
$ sudo tcpdump -i eth0 -w ./radtest-success.pcap "not port ssh"
In another terminal run the radtest
ubuntu@cloudinstOa-broken:~$ cat wpa_supplicant.conf
ctrl_interface=/var/run/wpa_supplicant
eapol_version=2 ap_scan=0
network={
       # Uncomment this ssid if you want to join to a specific network
       # ssid="YOUR SSID"
       key mgmt=IEEE8021X
       eap=TTLS
       identity="xt21t001"
       password="U6bnQmHY"
       phase1="peapver=0"
       phase2="auth=MSCHAPV2"
       eapol flags=0
       \ensuremath{\mathtt{\#}} Uncomment and fill in the RADIUS server details if necessary
       # radius_server=192.168.50.7
       # radius_server_port=1812
```

```
# radius_secret="testing123"
#anonymous_identity=""
priority=1
```

Test bed

we have added second interface to both the VMs. You can first do "ssh ubuntu@192.168.51.116" (cloudinst0b) from your laptop Then from there do "ssh ubuntu@192.168.47.112" (cloudinst0a) with passwd: u!23 from the first VM. This way you can configure 802.1x with hashed password on eth0 in cloudinst0a's netplan file.

ubuntu@cloudinst0a:~\$ ip r default via 192.168.50.1 dev eth0 proto static 192.168.46.0/23 dev ens7 proto kernel scope link src 192.168.47.112 192.168.50.0/23 dev eth0 proto kernel scope link src 192.168.51.112

ubuntu@cloudinst0b:~\$ ip r default via 192.168.50.1 dev pn50 proto static metric 100 onlink default via 10.200.0.1 dev cn0 proto dhcp src 10.200.3.53 metric 100 10.200.0.0/22 dev cn0 proto kernel scope link src 10.200.3.53 metric 100 10.200.0.1 dev cn0 proto dhcp scope link src 10.200.3.53 metric 100 192.168.35.52 via 10.200.0.1 dev cn0 proto dhcp src 10.200.3.53 metric 100 192.168.36.53 via 10.200.0.1 dev cn0 proto dhcp src 10.200.3.53 metric 100 192.168.46.0/23 dev sn46 proto kernel scope link src 192.168.47.116 192.168.50.0/23 dev pn50 proto kernel scope link src 192.168.51.116

Authentication using netplan on Ubuntu/Debian

Netplan file is mentioned in folder. we have modified netplan configuration file for that we have created new interface for wired as whenever we run 'netplan apply' so we don't disconnect to vm . for that we are using ens7 interface. Other details u can see in netplan file.

Antiplagiarism statement

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Names: Ketan Sabne Praneeth Nayak

Date: 08/05/2023 Signature: ketan praneeth