

# Creating One Time Password (OTP) infrastructures using Open Source software

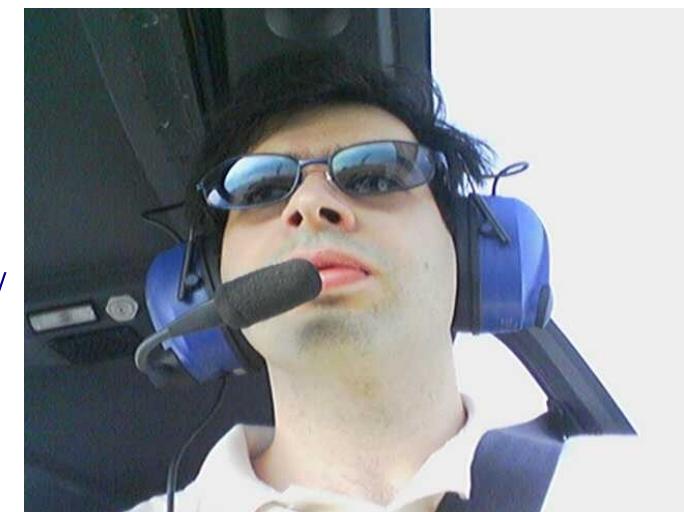
# Password:

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Trinity College Dublin

# Who am I

- Visiting Researcher at Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)
- Solution Architect and EMEA Security Expert in Red Hat
- Previously Security Solution Architect in Sun and also in IBM
- Red Hat Certified Security Specialist (RHCSS), Red Hat Certified Architect (RHCA) and Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP)
- Part of the italian security community *sikurezza.org*
- Published books and whitepapers
- Forensic analysys for local govs
- More on:
  - <http://www.scss.tcd.ie/Giuseppe.Paterno/>
  - <http://www.gpaterno.com/>
  - <http://www.linkedin.com/in/gpaterno>



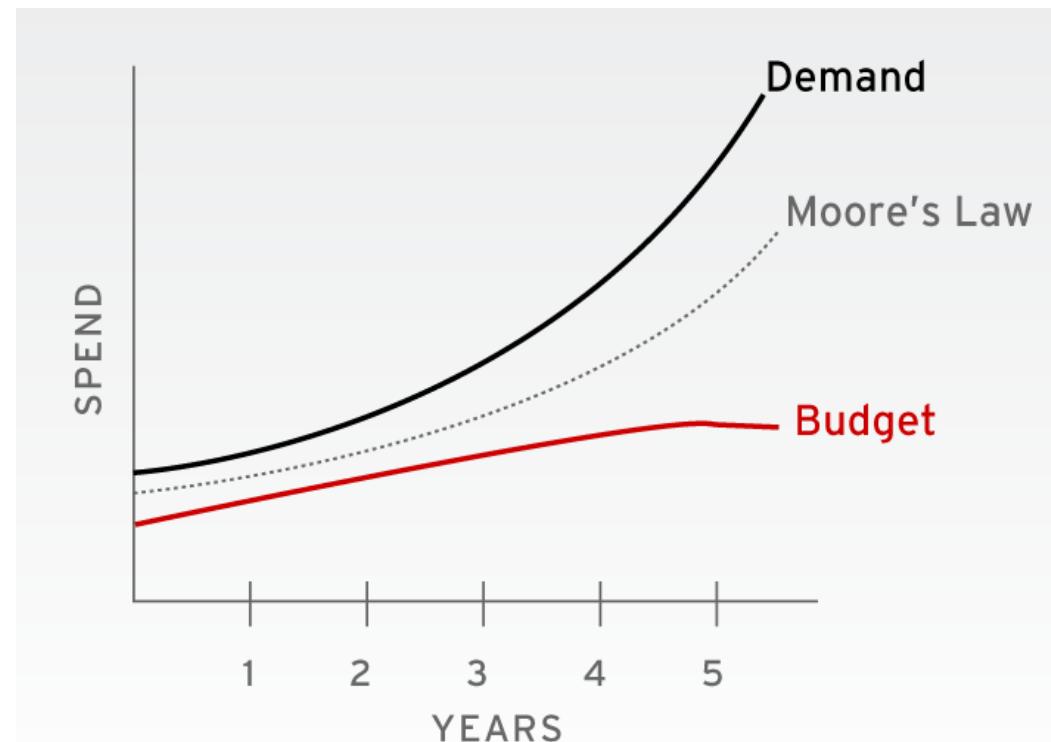
# Disclaimer

I do not speak on behalf of my employer, nor I am authorized to represent it publicly.

All and any opinion and results expressed in this presentation are solely mine and do not represent my employer point-of-view.

All the tests and any project contribution are done as a TCD researcher out of business hours.

# Global IT scenario



- Even more in this recession phase, the IT budget is getting lower and lower
- The projects (demand) are increasing with significantly less money available

# Lowering TCO

"The economic crisis is going to be a catalyst for open source, much like the technology crash of 2001 catapulted Linux front and center"

Laurie Wurster, a Gartner analyst.

The adoption of Open Source  
software can lower the TCO

... and increase your security!

# How Open Source can increase Security?



Open Source = Open Standards = Choice

# The OATH Alliance

- The Initiative for Open Authentication (OATH)
- Open alliance of vendors
  - ActiveIdentity, Vasco, Gemalto, Aladdin, ...
- <http://www.openauthentication.org/>
- Created a common algorithm for one time password tokens (HOTP)
  - A common “protocol” for the interoperability of the several implementations available

# What is HOTP

- An HMAC-Based One-Time Password Algorithm (HOTP)
- A common shared algorithm that is meant to facilitate the adoption of two-factor authentication
- Alogorithm published as RFC 4226
- The complete standard on:
  - <http://www.rfc-editor.org/>

# HOTP: Internals

The algorithm is:

$$\text{HOTP}(K,C) = \text{Truncate}(\text{HMAC-SHA-1}(K,C))$$

- |            |                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| K          | Shared key between client and server                                                                                                                                                 |
| C          | 8-byte counter value synchronized between client and server                                                                                                                          |
| Truncate() | Perform a dynamic truncation and reduction of the string to extract a 4-byte dynamic binary code.<br><br>The result must extract minimum a 6-digit code, but also 7 and 8-digit code |

# Anathomy of HOTP

- The shared key between the OTP peers (token and authenticator) is an hexadecimal string
  - The lenght is a SHA-1 digest
- Example of generating a new HMAC 6-digit shared key:

```
dd if=/dev/random bs=4096 count=1 2>/dev/null |  
sha1sum | awk '{print $1}'
```

# HOTP implementations

- Both commercial and open source implementations available
- Most of the hardware tokens adhere to the HOTP algorithm
- Few software implementations, most of which proprietary/closed source
- Some software client available:
  - J2ME, iPhone and Windows Mobile
  - Publically available algorithm makes it simple to implement a client

# How does it fit all together?

# The software

- An open source OTP server:
  - Only one server implementation available (OTPD), formerly from TRI-D Systems
  - Now I made it available on  
**<http://otp.d.googlecode.com>**
- FreeRADIUS, the popular radius server for Linux
- Two tested freely available client:
  - oathdsss.jar (DSSS) for Java MIDP (Nokia)
  - iToken (Quest Software) for iPhone
- Also tried some hardware tokens

# OTPD server

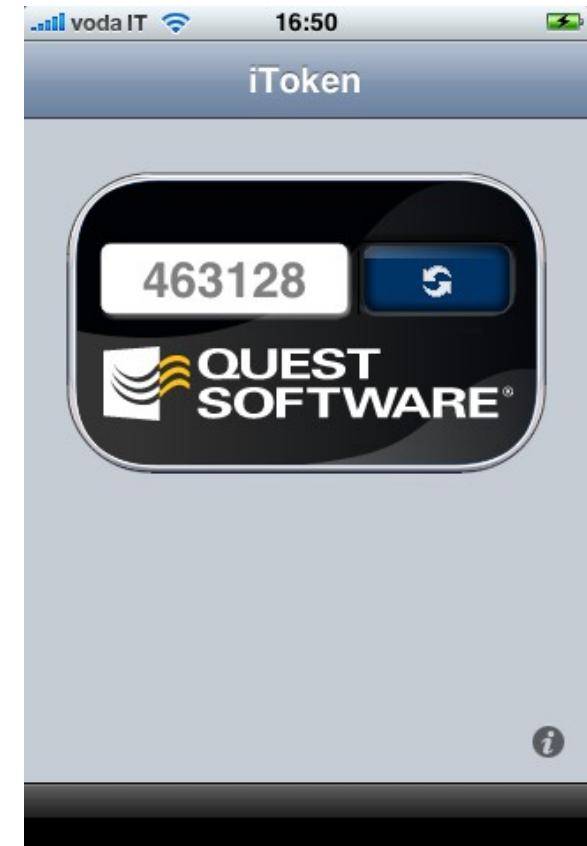
- It handle the validation of the One Time Passwords
  - Uses files and LDAP as repository
- Keeps the state of the OTP token (counter)
- Supported tokens:
  - HOTP
  - CRYPTOCard
  - Plain old x9.9 (based on DES, unsecure!)
- It listen to authentication requests

# FreeRADIUS

- Well known high-performance open source RADIUS server
  - Handle authentication and accounting
  - Plug-in based
- One of the plug-in is **rlm\_otp**
  - Developed by TRI-D Systems
  - Communicate via Unix sockets with the OTPD server to verify an OTP token

# The soft-token

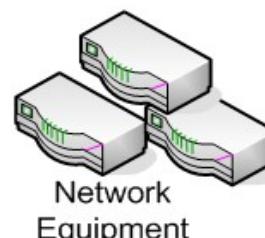
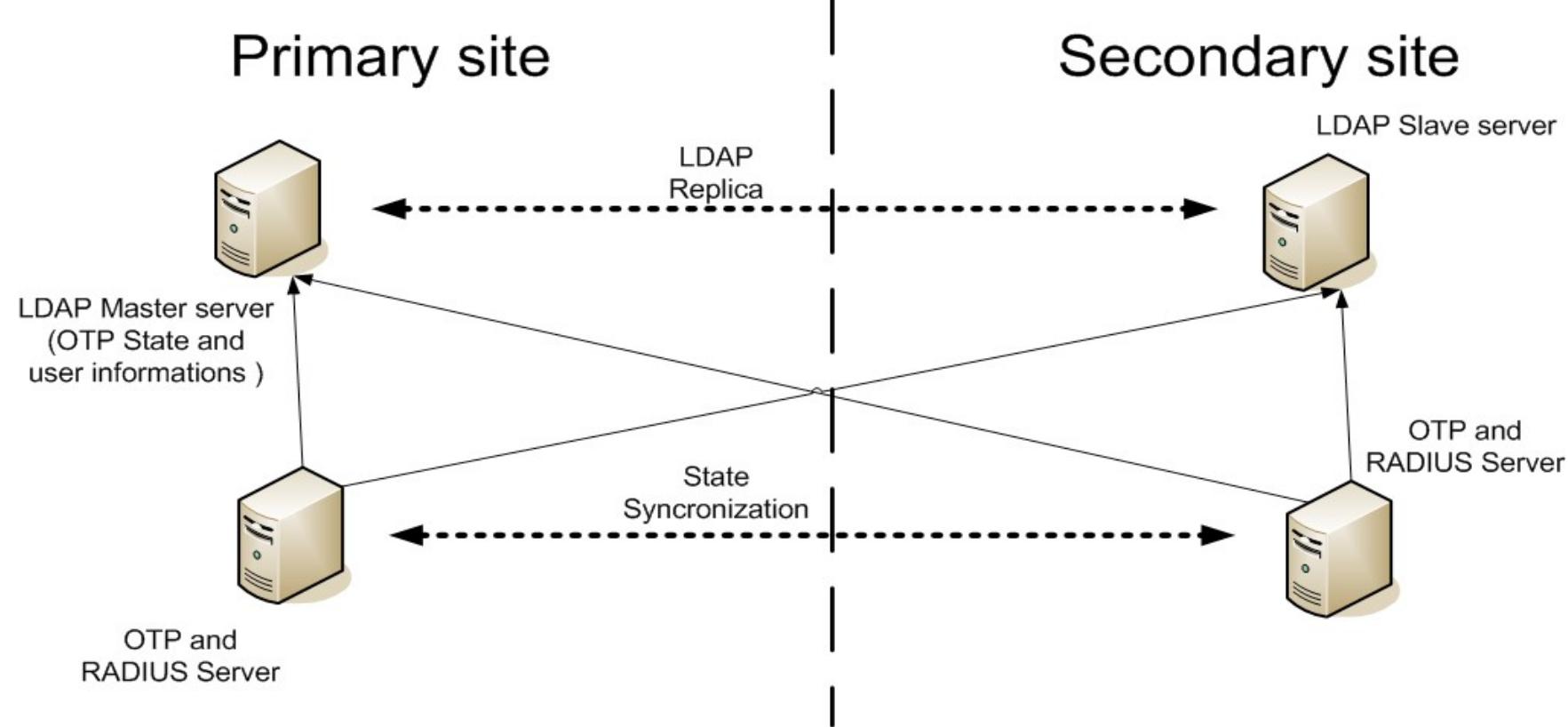
- An OTP token in software
- Less “secure” than an hardware
  - What if my laptop is stolen?
- A compromise is using a soft-token on a mobile platform
  - Easy to manage
  - Lower costs
  - Better security over a “fat” client on laptops/desktops
  - Available for most mobile phones



# What can I authenticate?

- Any RADIUS compliant system, ex:
  - VPN systems
  - Wireless LANs
  - Routers/network equipments
  - Core UNIX systems (through pam\_radius)
  - Captive portals
- Any application can use the RADIUS protocol:
  - common APIs available in C, PHP, Python, Ruby, Java (J2EE)

# Enterprise scenario



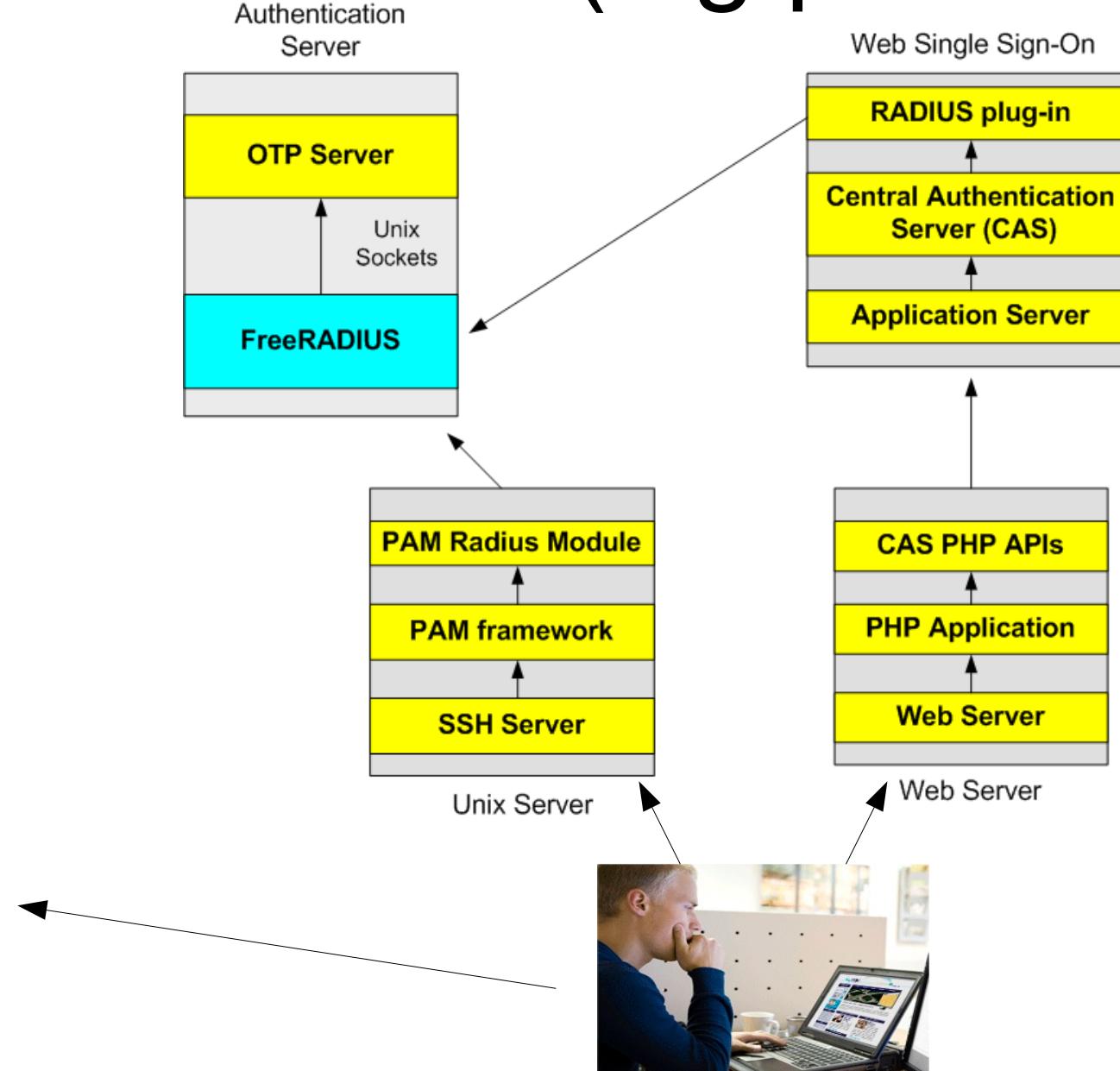
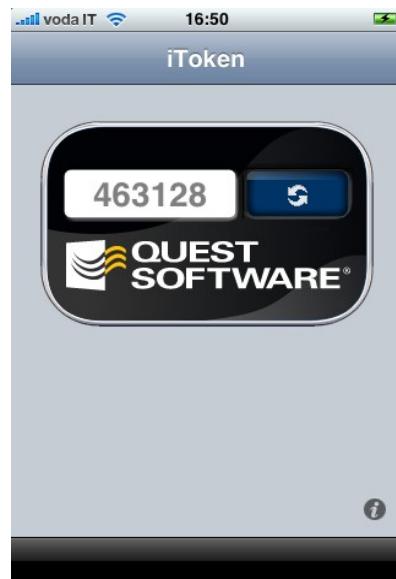
# Demo scenario

- Authentication server:
  - OTP Server
  - FreeRADIUS Server
- Client UNIX
- Web application (PHP)
- Centralized Web Single Sign-On (CAS)

# Demo (the clients)

- Client Unix
  - Interactive log-in
  - Leverage the pam\_radius module
- Web Single Sign-On
  - Based on Yale CAS
  - Customized to login through RADIUS
- PHP web application
  - Dummy application to demonstrate CAS' capabilities with OTP integration
  - Virtually every application can leverage CAS architecture

# Demo scenario (big picture)



# Interactive log-in



OTP/Radius Server



Log-on  
request

Authentication  
Request  
(RADIUS)

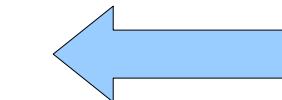
```
BusyBox v1.2.1 (2006.12.10-00:34+0000) Built-in shell (ash)
Enter 'help' for a list of built-in commands.

-----
|   |.---.---.---.| | | |.---.| | | | | | |
| - || _ | -|| | | | | _|| _|
|-----|| _ | _|| _|| | | _|| _|
|   | WIRELESS   FREEDOM
WHITE RUSSIAN (0.9) -----
* 2 oz Vodka Mix the Vodka and Kahlua together
* 1 oz Kahlua over ice, then float the cream or
* 1/2oz cream milk on the top.
-----
root@Quantumbase:~$ cd
root@Quantumbase:~$ cd /
root@Quantumbase:/# ls
bin dev etc jffs lib mnt proc rom sbin tmp usr var www
root@Quantumbase:/# [ ]
```

# Web Application



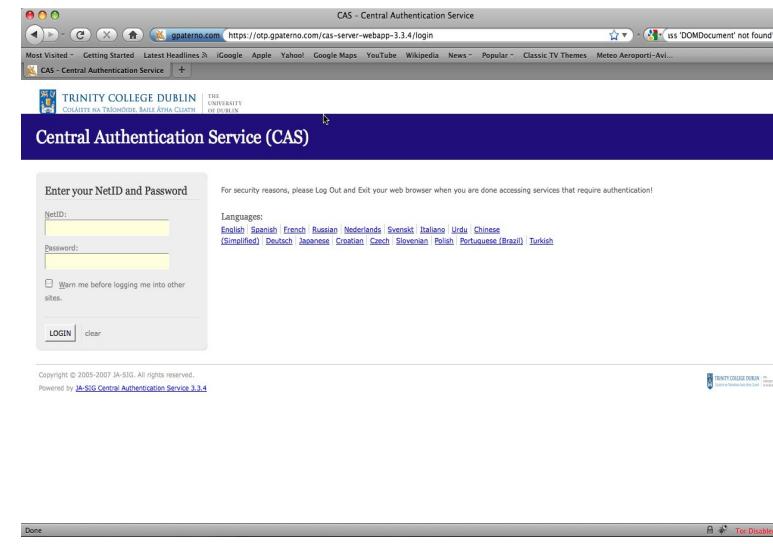
OTP/Radius Server



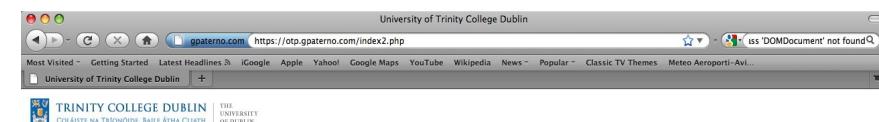
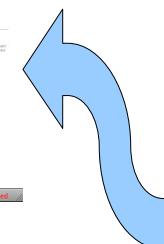
Authentication  
Request  
(RADIUS)



Web Access



Redirect to  
CAS' Single  
Sign-on Portal



# Demo now!

# Thank you!!

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