

# CMSC389R

## Cryptography I



**COMPUTER SCIENCE**  
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



## homework vi recap

- Binary parsing (header + TLV list)
- Easter eggs
  - Two hidden sections
    - CMSC389R-{h1dd3n-s3ct10n-1n-f1l3}
  - Alabama Jack's review?
  - Macon, Georgia?



cryptography

# cryptography

There's more than just Caesar cipher?

# cryptography

- Science behind securing digital information
  - Authentication
  - Data integrity
  - Message secrecy
  - Access control

## history

- Secret codes to protect information
  - Substitution
    - Caesar, ROT13
  - Transposition
    - Rail Fence, Route Cipher
- Historically used for military purposes
- “Art form” - little scientific rigor

# modern cryptography

- Mathematically rigorous
  - Formal definitions
  - Provability
  - Well-defined assumptions

uh, math?

- Out of scope for this course
- Take CMSC456, MATH456, or CMSC489R/ENEE459E



# hashing

- One-way cryptographic function
- Input -> hashing algorithm -> output
  - Small input change -> large output change
  - Unique\* output for every unique input

\*collisions

# common hashing algorithms

- MD5 - very common, insecure
  - Brute-forceable, suffers from collisions
- SHA1 - also common, recently declared insecure
  - Google & CWI *SHAttered*  
<https://shattered.io/static/shattered.pdf>
  - Used by git for commit hashes  
<https://gist.github.com/masak/2415865>
- SHA256 - common, not shown to be feasibly insecure
- SHA512 - more bits more secure?

# hashing on linux

- MD5: md5sum <text or file>
- SHA1: sha1sum <text or file>
- SHA256: sha256sum <text or file>
- SHA512: sha512sum <text or file>

Common syntax = easy to hash!

**\*\*NOTE:** use echo -ne to NOT hash a trailing newline in your input, and to interpret escape sequences (e.g. \t as tab)

echo -ne "Hello World!" | md5sum

## hashing in python

- Python's hashlib
- Provides hashing capabilities for MD5, SHA1, SHA224, SHA256, SHA512, and more

```
>>> import hashlib
```

```
>>> h = hashlib.md5("Hello CMSC389R!")
```

```
>>> print h.hexdigest()
```

```
a0d708f132eda63ce4b0d11b60ec701c
```

## where to find hashes?

- OS passwords
  - Linux: /etc/shadow
  - Windows: C:/Windows/System32/config
    - Locked while OS is booted, loaded into RAM
    - Tools to recover these hashes
- Leaked databases
- From OSINT or Forensics discoveries

## /etc/passwd

```
root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin
bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/usr/sbin/nologin
sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
```

- login ID, password, user ID, group ID, username, home folder, command interpreter
- If password is 'x' then it is located in /etc/shadow

## /etc/shadow

```
root:$6$0qG9LU6g$ZxqgEq6L81
daemon:*:17385:0:99999:7:::
bin:*:17385:0:99999:7:::
sys:*:17385:0:99999:7:::
sync:*:17385:0:99999:7:::
```

- 1. login name, 2. encrypted password (crypt(3)), 3. date of last pass change, 4. min pass age, 5. max pass age, 6. pass warning period, 7. pass inactivity period, 8. account expiration, 9. reserved

## /etc/shadow

```
root:$6$0qG9LU6g$ZxqgEq6L81
daemon:*:17385:0:99999:7:::
bin:*:17385:0:99999:7:::
sys:*:17385:0:99999:7:::
sync:*:17385:0:99999:7:::
```

- ‘\*’ or ‘!’ for password means account can’t be logged in normally w/ password
- password formatted as \$id\$salt\$encrypted



# hash recovery

I thought it was one way?

# hash recovery



## brute forcing

- Define message space
  - All lowercase letters, letters + numbers, symbols, emojis?
- Enumerate each possible combination of items in your message space
  - aaaa, aaab, ..., zzzz
- Hash each enumeration and test against target hash

## mask attacks

- Smarter brute force
- Say you know how the message was formatted...
  - 3 lowercase letters then 5 numbers
- Enumerate all combinations of your more-specific message space
  - aaa00000, aaa00001, ..., zzz99999
- Hash each enumeration and test against target hash

## dictionary attacks

- Say you know the password was used from a leak...
  - i.e. SecLists
- Download password list
- Hash each password from list and test against target hash

## hybrid attacks

- Brute force + dictionary
- Say the user's password was found in a leak, and they only changed it slightly...
  - e.g. blink182 -> blink182!
- Download password list
- Enumerate potential modifications and append/prepend to password from list
- Hash each string and test against target hash

## password recovery tools

- John the Ripper - cracks password hashes for UNIX and Windows
- Hashcat - cross-platform general hash cracker, better GPU support

# john the ripper

- Syntax: john <flags> <password-files>
- Flags:
  - -wordlist:LIST\_FILE
  - -incremental:MODE
- May need to “unshadow” /etc/passwd file
  - i.e. if passwords are ‘x’ and not hashes
  - unshadow /etc/passwd /etc/shadow
- Manpage kinda sucks,  
<http://www.openwall.com/john/doc/>



# hashcat

- Syntax: hashcat <flags> <file-with-hashes>
- Flags:
  - -m <hash-type-code>
    - 0 = MD5, 100 = SHA1, 1400 = SHA256
  - -a <attack-mode-code>
    - 0 = dictionary, 3 = bruteforce, etc
  - -1 <custom-password-mask>
  - And many more... use the manpage!

## aside

- Most people search for documentation online
  - “how 2 hashcat??”
  - “python socket how”
  - “Gentoo?”
- Manpages are wildly powerful in the amount of information they provide

## man

- type man <program> for basic help
- Manpages have various sections:
  - (1) executable programs (default when typing man)
  - (2) syscalls (like read, write)
  - (3) library calls (like printf, strcmp)
  - (5) file formats (like /etc/shadow!)
- Can discover more by typing man man

## man

- When you see something in a manpage that says text(number), this means the manpage entry for text exists in section number.

**SEE ALSO**

**close(2), fcntl(2),**

- Entry for close exists in section 2. What would that classify close as?

## help()

- Python also has a help() function which provides a single-section manpage-like reference to the function or module
- To get help() on a module, import and call help() on it

```
>>> import math
```

```
>>> help(math)
```

## reading manpages like a pro

- I stalked Will's blog and stumbled upon this <https://blog.yossarian.net/2018/01/22/Reading-Manpages-Like-a-Pro>
- Has more tips/tricks on using man

## activity

- Hash the following in MD5, SHA1, and SHA256:
  - hacking
  - awesome
  - security
- Use hashcat to break your 9 hashes
  - Hint: make a password list of each word on a separate line

## homework #7

has been posted.

Let us know if you have any questions!

This assignment has X parts.

It is due by 4/5 at 11:59PM.