

Lecture 6 🏰

Class: Implementing User authentication and access control

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Key learnings:

- How Encryption , Hash functions, digital signatures are used together in actual security
- How internet works on a security standpoint

User authentication vs message authentication

- Message authentication is how the receiver checks where the message originated from (Digital signatures)
- User authentication is accessing a system resource. See whether who they claim to be.(Access control)

Authentication

- Authentication is the way to determine who someone is so that you can make a decision about whether they're allowed to access a resource or not.
- Verifying a claimed identity
- Give a UN: claim to be someone
- Give PW : Prove that the someone is you

Authorization

- You don't claim to be someone
- Identify and provide the privileges

Types of Authentication

- User Authentication : Used to ensure that the user of the system is who they claim to be
- Message authentication: Used to ensure that messages have not been tampered with (typically referred to as Integrity)

Purpose of Authentication

- Validate the identity of a person
- Decide to give the privileges

Forms of Authentication

- Something you know
 - UN,PW/ PIN
- Something you are

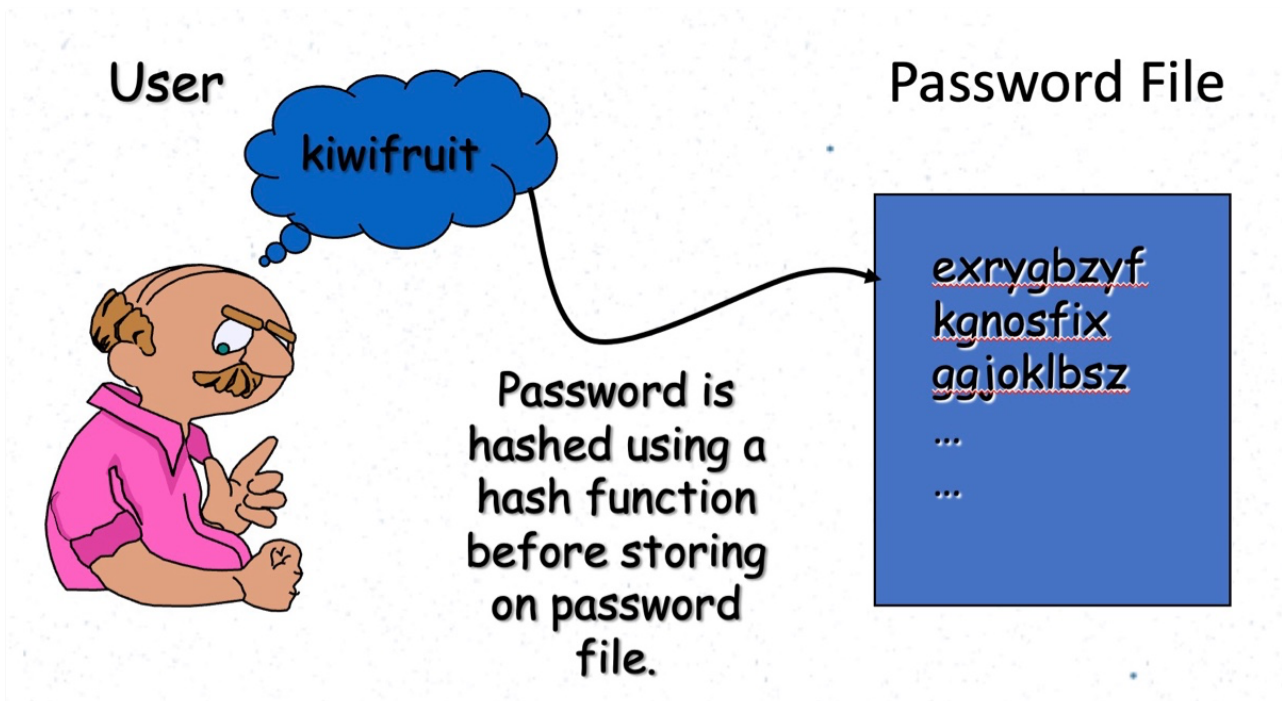
- Thumbprint, eye-print, face-print
- **Something you have**
 - Electronic keycards, smart cards(RFID cards), physical keys

Password

- System checks the string that is authenticated against them
- Issues
 - How it is stored
 - How it is Communicated
 - How easy it is to guess

(1) How it is stored

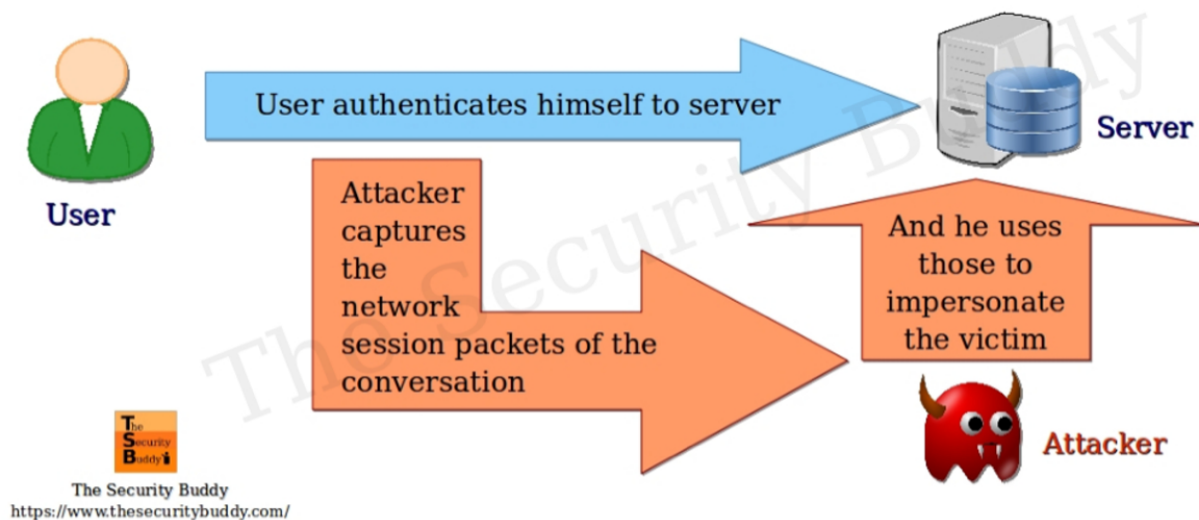
- Hashed format in hard drives (One way function)



(2) Password communication

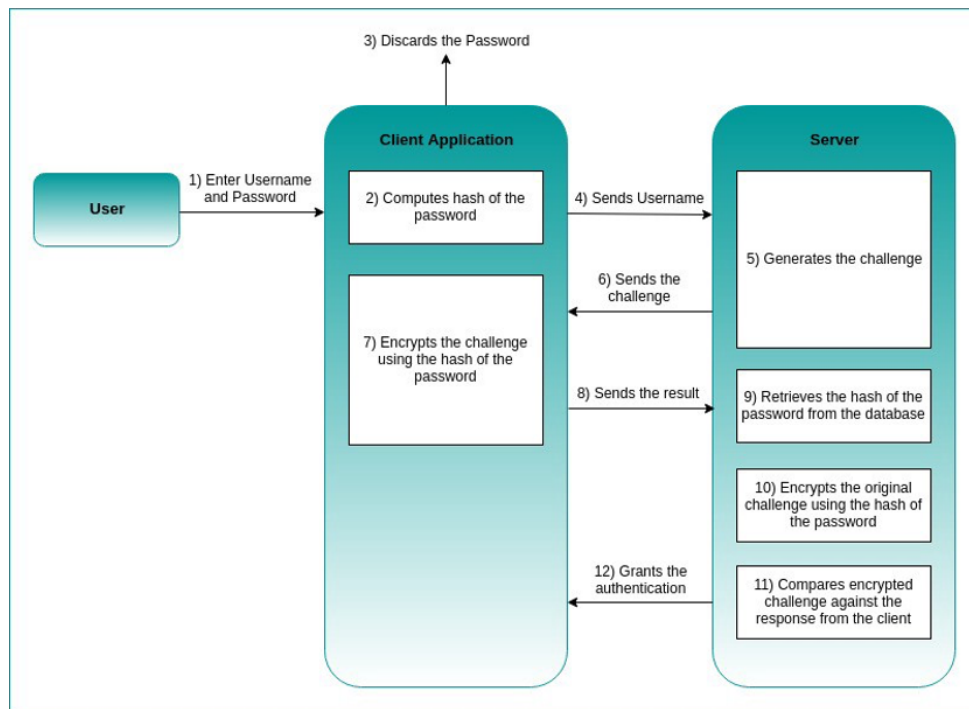
- Encrypt the password and send over the network
- Replay attack: Someone on the network can intercept and takes the encrypted pw and sends it later

Replay Attack



Challenge response Authentication

- Here the person/service doing the authentication sends a challenge to the person/service being authenticated
- This is appended/added/combined to the password in some way before being hashed
- Results in a one-time password being generated
- Client app takes both UN and PW and send the UN to the server
- The server responds with a challenge
- Server generates a nonce and send to the client and the server remembers the nonce
- Client combines the nonce and the pw together
- the pw + challenge is hashed and sent to the sever



(3) Password security

- How it is secured when stored in the head
- **Brute force attacks: attempts all possible combinations**
 - Max attempts can stop external entities from attacking
- **Dictionary attacks: Uses preset common words blanks to try and generate the password**
 - Most used letter is e
- **Social engineering : Tricking people to reveal the pw.**
 - Phishing
- **Shoulder Surfing: Watching people while people enter credentials**
- **Hacking software: Worms, Trojans,XSS (Keyloggers). (Screen loggers: record the screen).**
- **Password policy:**
 - Passphrase
 - Best practices
 - Cannot use actual words.

Something you have

Tokens:

- RFID tags
- Security token
- Credit cards
- Hardware tokens: Has an internal clock, serial number.
- OTP : Something u have

Something you are

- Biometrics
- Advantages: Cannot be disclosed lost
- Disadvantages:
 - Cost, Installation, maintenance
 - Reliability of compression
 - Needs AI
 - If forged, cannot revoke

Authentication Models

- One factor
 - using only one authentication credential
- Two factor
 - Requires 2 types of authentication credentials
 - 2 factor using biometrics are becoming the norm
- Three factor
 - Requires 3 types of authentication credentials

Human authentication

- Determining whether u are a human
 - CAPTCHA
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Access control and Authorisation

- Access control : Different users allowed to do different functions
- Authorization: Once authenticated, determine whether the user is permitted to perform the requested task
- Identification: Review of credentials
- Authentication: Validating the credentials
- Authorization: Granting permission
- Access: Right given to access the resource

Principle of least privilege

When user of a system is allowed access to functionality they should be given the minimum functionality in the system

- Giving users only read access to shared files if that's what they need, and making sure write access is disabled
- Not allowing help desk staff to create or delete user accounts if all that they may have to do is to reset a password
- Not allowing software developers to move software from development servers to production servers

Elements of Access control

- **Object:**

An object is a specific resource which access needs to be controlled,

- Example: records, files, mailbox, program, messages

- **Subject:**

A subject is an entity that attempts to access an object.

- Example: Users, Groups, Roles

- **Operation/ access right**

The action that is taken by the subject over the object is called an operation.

- Example: read, write, execute, delete, create, search

Owner : System admin who has all the access in the system

Groups: Has specific rights on the object

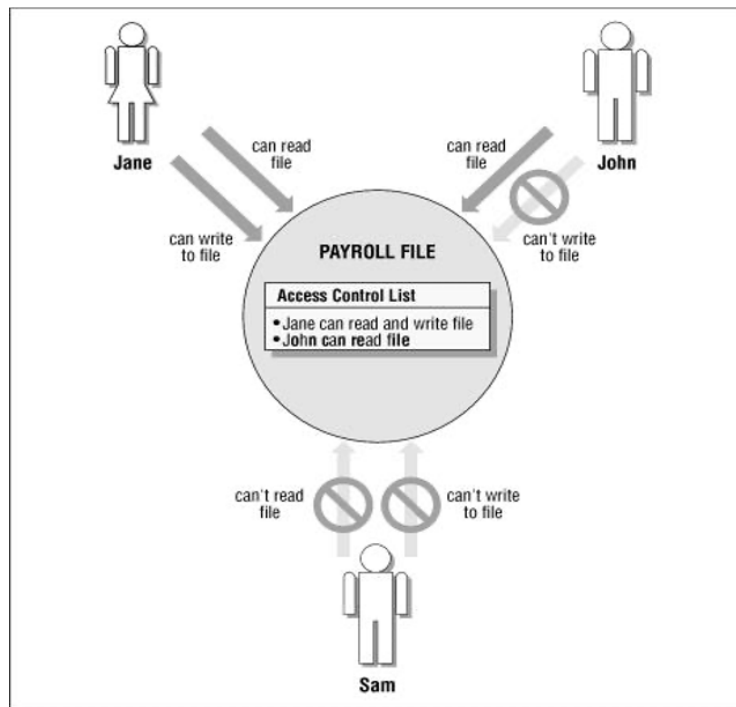
World: Everyone who can access the system that doesn't have the rights

Access control methods

- Security levels and asset classification:
 - **DAC: Discretionary Access Control (least secure)**
 - **RBAC: Role-Based Access Control**
 - **MAC: Mandatory Access Control (Most secure)**

DAC

- **Owner decides how resources can be shared and choose access**



Access control matrix

- rows : List of subjects in one dimension
- columns: List of objects in the other direction

		OBJECTS			
		File 1	File 2	File 3	File 4
SUBJECTS	User A	Own Read Write		Own Read Write	
	User B	Read	Own Read Write	Write	Read
	User C	Read Write	Read		Own Read Write

(a) Access matrix

Role based access control is where rather than access is provided to individuals access is provided to roles.

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MSFTGuest Login

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