CS343 - Operating Systems

Module-8A

Protection Services by Operating Systems



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Overview

- Goals of Protection
- Principles of Protection
- Domain of Protection
- Access Matrix
- Access Control
- Revocation of Access Rights
- Capability-Based Systems

Objectives

- Discuss the goals and principles of protection in a modern computer system
- Explain how protection domains combined with an access matrix are used to specify the resources a process may access
- Examine capability based protection systems

Goals of Protection

- Computer consists of a collection of objects, hardware or software
- Each object has a unique name and can be accessed through a welldefined set of operations
- Protection problem ensure that each object is accessed correctly and only by those processes that are allowed to do so

Principles of Protection

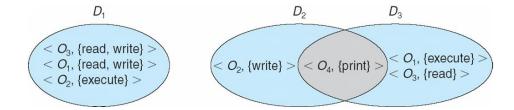
- Guiding principle principle of least privilege
 - Programs, users and systems should be given just enough privileges to perform their tasks
 - Can be static (during life of system, during life of process)
 - Or dynamic (changed by process as needed) domain switching, privilege escalation

Principles of Protection

- Rough-grained privilege management easier, simpler, but least privilege now done in large chunks
 - ❖ For example, traditional Unix processes either have abilities of the associated user, or of root
- Fine-grained management more complex, more overhead, but more protective
 - ❖ File Access Control List (ACL), Roll Based Access Control (RBAC)
- Domain can be user, process, procedure

Domain Structure

- Access-right = <object-name, rights-set> where rights-set is a subset of all valid operations that can be performed on the object
- Domain = set of access-rights



Domain Implementation (UNIX)

- Domain (user-id) switch accomplished via file system
 - Each file has associated with it a domain bit (setuid bit)
 - When file is executed and setuid = on, then user-id is set to owner of the file being executed
 - When execution completes user-id is reset
- Domain switch accomplished via passwords
 - su command temporarily switches to another user's domain when other domain's password provided
- Domain switching via commands
 - sudo command prefix executes specified command in another domain (if original domain has privilege or password given)

Access Matrix

- View protection as a matrix (access matrix)
- Rows represent domains & columns represent objects
- Access(i, j) is the set of operations that a process executing in Domain, can invoke on Object;
- ❖ If a process in Domain D_i tries to do **op** on object O_j , then **op** must be in the access matrix

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	printer
D ₁	read		read	
D_2				print
D_3		read	execute	
D_4	read write		read write	

Use of Access Matrix

- User who creates object can define access column for that object
- Can be expanded to dynamic protection
 - Operations to add, delete access rights
 - Special access rights:
 - ❖ owner of O_i
 - \diamond copy op from O_i to O_j
 - ❖ control D_i can modify D_i access rights
 - ❖ transfer switch from domain D_i to D_j
 - Copy and Owner applicable to an object
 - Control applicable to domain object

Use of Access Matrix

- ❖ Access matrix design separates mechanism from policy
 - Mechanism
 - Operating system provides access-matrix + rules
 - It ensures that the matrix is only manipulated by authorized agents and that rules are strictly enforced
 - Policy
 - User dictates policy
 - Who can access what object and in what mode

Access Matrix of Figure A with Domains as Objects

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	laser printer	<i>D</i> ₁	<i>D</i> ₂	D ₃	D_4
D_1	read		read			switch	V.	
D ₂				print			switch	switch
D ₃		read	execute					
D_4	read write		read write		switch			

Access Matrix with Copy Rights

- ❖ A right is copied from access(i, j) to access(k, j); it is then removed from access(i, j). This action is a transfer of a right, rather than a copy.
- ❖ Propagation of the copy R* is copied from access(i,j) to access(k,j), only the right R (not R*) is created. A process executing in domain Dk cannot further copy the right R.

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃
D_1	execute		write*
D_2	execute	read*	execute
D_3	execute		

(a)

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F_3
<i>D</i> ₁	execute		write*
<i>D</i> ₂	execute	read*	execute
<i>D</i> ₃	execute	read	

(b)

Access Matrix With Owner Rights

If access(i, j) includes the owner right, then a process executing in domain Di can add and remove any right in any entry in column j.

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃
D_1	owner execute		write
D ₂		read* owner	read* owner write
D ₃	execute		

(a)

object domain	F ₁	F_2	F ₃
<i>D</i> ₁	owner execute		write
D_2		owner read* write*	read* owner write
D ₃		write	write

(b)

Modified Access Matrix with Control Rights

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	laser printer	<i>D</i> ₁	D ₂	<i>D</i> ₃	D_4
D_1	read		read			switch		
D ₂				print			switch	switch
<i>D</i> ₃		read	execute					
D_4	read write		read write		switch			

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	laser printer	<i>D</i> ₁	<i>D</i> ₂	<i>D</i> ₃	D_4
<i>D</i> ₁	read		read			switch		
<i>D</i> ₂				print			switch	switch control
D ₃		read	execute					
D_4	write		write		switch			

- The control right is applicable only to domain objects.
- ❖ If access(i, j) includes the control right, then a process executing in domain Di can remove any access right from row j.

- Generally, access matrix is a sparse matrix
- **❖** Option 1 Global table
 - ❖ Store ordered triples **<domain**, **object**, **rights-set>** in table
 - ❖ A requested operation M on object O_j within domain D_j → search table for $< D_j$, O_j , R_k > with M ∈ R_k .
 - ❖ If this triple is found, the operation is allowed to continue; otherwise, an exception (or error) condition is raised
 - ❖ But table could be large → won't fit in main memory
 - Difficult to group objects (consider an object that all domains can read)

Option 2 – Access lists for objects

- Each column implemented as an access list for one object
- Resulting per-object list consists of ordered pairs <domain, rightsset> defining all domains with non-empty set of access rights for the object
- ♦ When an operation M on an object O_i is attempted in domain D, we search the access list for object O_i, looking for an entry < D; R_k > with M ∈ R_k. If the entry is found, we allow the operation;
- if it is not, we check the default set. If M is in the default set, we allow the access. Otherwise, access is denied

- Each column = Access-control list for one object Defines who can perform what operation
 - ❖ Domain 1 = Read, Write
 - ❖ Domain 2 = Read
 - ❖ Domain 3 = Read

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	laser printer	<i>D</i> ₁	<i>D</i> ₂	<i>D</i> ₃	D_4
<i>D</i> ₁	read		read			switch		
D ₂				print			switch	switch control
<i>D</i> ₃		read	execute					
D ₄	write		write		switch			

- Each Row = Capability List (like a key)
 For each domain, what operations allowed on what objects
 - ❖ Object F1 Read
 - ❖ Object F2 Read, Write, Execute
 - ❖ Object F3 Read, Write, Delete, Copy

- Option 3 Capability list for domains
 - ❖ Instead of object-based, list is domain based
 - Capability list for domain is list of objects together with operations allows on them
 - Object represented by its name or address, called a capability
 - Execute operation M on object O_j, process requests operation and specifies capability as parameter
 - Possession of capability means access is allowed

❖ Option 4 – Lock-key

- Compromise between access lists and capability lists
- Each object has list of unique bit patterns, called locks
- Each domain has list of unique bit patterns called keys
- Process in a domain can only access object if domain has key that matches one of the locks

Comparison of Implementations

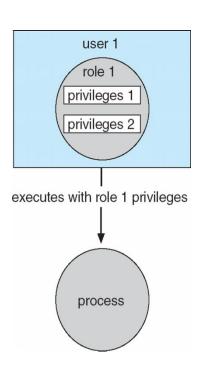
- Global table is simple, but can be large
- Access lists correspond to needs of users
 - Determining set of access rights for domain non-localized so difficult
 - Every access to an object must be checked
 - ❖ Many objects and access rights -> slow
- Capability lists useful for localizing information for a given process
 - But revocation capabilities can be inefficient
- Lock-key effective and flexible, keys can be passed freely from domain to domain, easy revocation

Comparison of Implementations

- Most systems use combination of access lists and capabilities
 - ❖ First access to an object → access list searched
 - ❖ If allowed, capability created and attached to process
 - Additional accesses need not be checked
 - After last access, capability destroyed
 - Consider file system with ACLs per file

Access Control

- Protection can be applied to non-file resources
- Oracle Solaris 10 provides role-based access control (RBAC) to implement least privilege
 - Privilege is right to execute system call or use an option within a system call
 - Can be assigned to processes
 - Users assigned *roles* granting access to privileges and programs
 - ❖Enable role via password to gain its privileges
 - Similar to access matrix



Revocation of Access Rights

- Various options to remove the access right of a domain to an object
 - Immediate vs. delayed
 - **❖** Selective vs. general
 - ❖ Partial vs. total
 - **❖** Temporary vs. permanent
- Access List Delete access rights from access list
 - ❖ Simple search access list and remove entry
 - Immediate, general or selective, total or partial, permanent or temporary

Revocation of Access Rights

- Capability List Scheme required to locate capability in the system before capability can be revoked
 - * Reacquisition periodic delete, with require and denial if revoked
 - Back-pointers set of pointers from each object to all capabilities of that object
 - Indirection capability points to global table entry which points to object – delete entry from global table, not selective (CAL)
 - Keys unique bits associated with capability, generated when capability created
 - Master key associated with object, key matches master key for access
 - ❖Revocation create new master key

Capability-Based Systems

- Hydra A capability based protection system
 - Fixed set of access rights known to and interpreted by the system
 - ❖i.e. read, write, or execute each memory segment
 - User can declare other auxiliary rights and register those with protection system
 - Accessing process must hold capability and know name of operation
 - Rights amplification allowed by trustworthy procedures for a specific type
 - Includes library of prewritten security routines

Capability-Based Systems

- Cambridge CAP System
 - Simpler but powerful
 - Data capability provides standard read, write, execute of individual storage segments associated with object – implemented in microcode
 - Software capability -interpretation left to the subsystem, through its protected procedures
 - Only has access to its own subsystem
 - Programmers must learn principles and techniques of protection



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CS343 - Operating Systems

Module-8B

System Security and Threat Categories



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Objectives

- To discuss security threats and attacks
- To explain the fundamentals of encryption, authentication, and hashing
- To examine the uses of cryptography in computing
- ❖ To describe the various countermeasures to security attacks

Overview

- The Security Problem
- Program Threats
- System and Network Threats

The Security Problem

- ❖ Protection is strictly an internal problem → provide controlled access to programs and data stored in a computer
- ❖ A protection system is ineffective if user authentication is compromised or a program is run by an unauthorized user.
- System is secure if resources used and accessed as intended under all circumstances
- Threat is the potential for security violation
- Attack is attempt to break security
- Intruders (crackers) attempt to breach security

Security violations can be accidental or malicious (intentional)

Easier to protect against accidental than malicious misuse

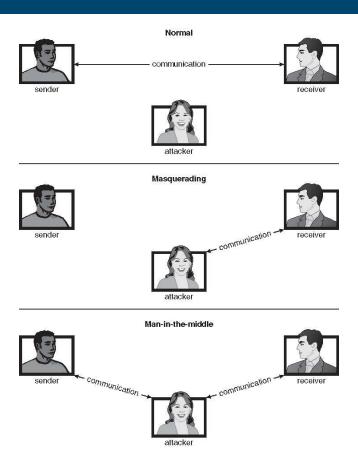
Security Violation Categories

- Breach of confidentiality
 - Unauthorized reading of data
- Breach of integrity
 - Unauthorized modification of data
- Breach of availability
 - Unauthorized destruction of data
- Theft of service
 - Unauthorized use of resources
- Denial of service (DOS)Prevention of legitimate use

Security Violation Methods

- Masquerading (breach authentication)
 - Pretending to be an authorized user to escalate privileges
- Replay attack
 - Fraudulent repeat of a valid data transmission.
- Man-in-the-middle attack
 - Intruder sits in data flow, masquerading as sender to receiver and vice versa
- Session hijacking
 - ❖ Intercept an already-established session to bypass authentication

Standard Security Attacks



Security Measure Levels

- Security must occur at four levels to be effective:
 - ❖ Physical : Data centers, servers, connected terminals
 - Human : Avoid social engineering, phishing, dumpster diving
 - ❖ Operating System : Protection mechanisms, debugging
 - ❖ Network : Intercepted communications, interruption, DOS
- Security is as weak as the weakest link in the chain
- But can too much security be a problem?

Program Threats

- Trojan Horse
 - Code segment that misuses its environment
 - Exploits mechanisms for allowing programs written by users to be executed by other users
 - Spyware, pop-up browser windows, covert channels
 - Up to 80% of spam delivered by spyware-infected systems
- Trap Door
 - Specific user identifier or password that circumvents normal security procedures
 - Could be included in a compiler

Program Threats

- Logic Bomb
 - Program that initiates a security incident under certain circumstances
- Stack and Buffer Overflow
 - Exploits a bug in a program (overflow in stack or memory buffers)
 - Failure to check bounds on inputs, arguments
 - ❖ Write past arguments on the stack into the return address on stack
 - ❖ When routine returns from call, returns to hacked address
 - Pointed to code loaded onto stack that executes malicious code

Program Threats

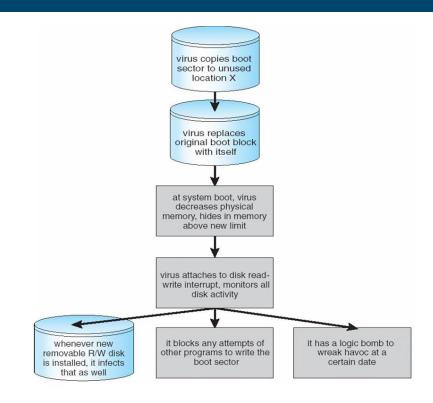
Viruses

- Code fragment embedded in legitimate program
- Self-replicating, designed to infect other computers
- ❖ Very specific to CPU architecture, operating system, applications
- Usually borne via email or as a macro
- Virus dropper inserts virus onto the system

Program Threats – Virus categories

- File / parasitic
- ❖ Boot / memory
- Macro
- ❖ Source code
- Polymorphic
- Encrypted
- Stealth
- Tunneling
- Multipartite
- Armored

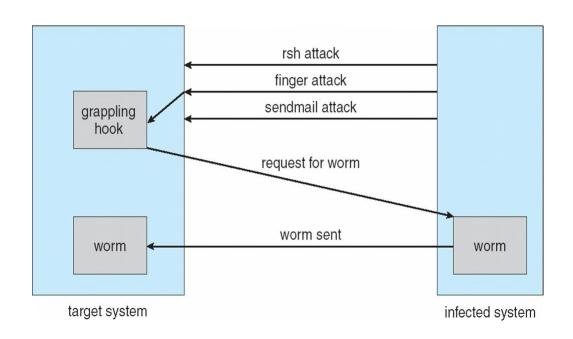
A Boot-sector Computer Virus



System and Network Threats

- ❖ Worms use spawn mechanism; standalone program
- Internet worm (Morris worm)
 - Exploited UNIX networking features (remote access) and bugs in finger and sendmail programs
 - Exploited trust-relationship mechanism used by rsh to access friendly systems without use of password
 - Grappling hook (bootstrap/ vector) program uploaded main worm program few lines of C code
 - Hooked system then uploaded main code, tried to attack connected systems
 - Also tried to break into other users accounts on local system via password guessing / rsh

The Morris Internet Worm



System and Network Threats

Port scanning

- Automated attempt to connect to a range of ports on one or a range of IP addresses
- Detection of answering service protocol
- Detection of OS and version running on system
- Frequently launched from zombie systems to decrease trace-ability

System and Network Threats

Denial of Service

- Overload the targeted computer preventing it from doing any useful work
- Distributed denial-of-service (DDOS) come from multiple sites at once
- Consider the start of the IP-connection handshake (SYN)
 - How many started-connections can the OS handle?
- Consider traffic to a web site being a target and being really popular?



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CS343 - Operating Systems

Module-8C

Security Mechanisms in Operating Systems



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Overview

- Cryptography
- User Authentication
- Implementing Security Defenses
- Firewalling to Protect Systems and Networks

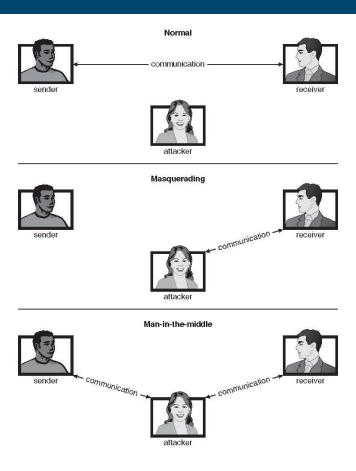
Objectives

- To explain the fundamentals of encryption, authentication, and hashing
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- ❖ To describe the various countermeasures to security attacks

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- Denial of service (DOS)Prevention of legitimate use

Standard Security Attacks



Cryptography as a Security Tool

- Broadest security tool Art of secret writing
- Source and destination of messages can be known and protected
 - ❖OS creates, manages, protects process IDs, communication ports
- Source and destination of messages on network cannot be trusted without cryptography
 - ❖Local network IP address?
 - Consider unauthorized host added
 - ❖WAN / Internet how to establish authenticity
 - ❖Not via IP address

Cryptography

- Means to constrain potential senders (sources) and / or receivers (destinations) of messages
 - Based on secrets (keys)
 - Confirmation of source
 - Receipt only by certain destination
 - Trust relationship between sender and receiver
- Symmetric cryptography based on transformations
- Asymmetric cryptography based on mathematical functions
 - ❖ Asymmetric much more compute intensive
 - Typically not used for bulk data encryption

Encryption

- Constrains the set of possible receivers of a message
- Encryption algorithm consists of
 - Set K of keys
 - Set M of Messages
 - Set C of ciphertexts (encrypted messages)
 - ❖ A function E : K → (M→C). That is, for each $k \in K$, E_k is a function for generating ciphertexts from messages
 - ❖ E_k for any k should be efficiently computable functions
 - * A function D : $K \to (C \to M)$. That is, for each $k \in K$, D_k is a function for generating messages from ciphertexts
 - ❖D_k for any k should be efficiently computable functions

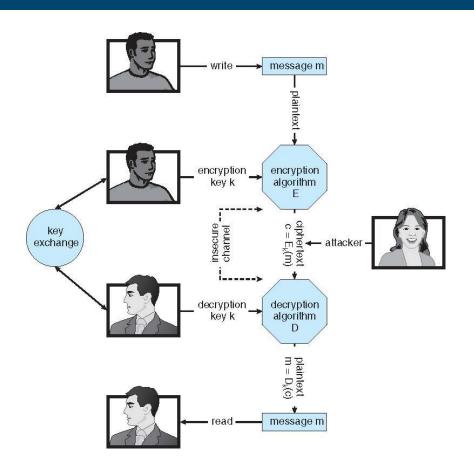
Encryption

- Essential property of encryption algorithm
- ❖ Given a ciphertext $c \in C$, a computer can compute m such that $E_k(m) = c$ only if it possesses k
 - Thus, a computer holding k can decrypt ciphertexts to the plaintexts used to produce them, but a computer not holding k cannot decrypt ciphertexts
 - Since ciphertexts are generally exposed (for example, sent on the network), it is important that it be infeasible to derive k from the ciphertexts

Symmetric Encryption

- Same key used to encrypt and decrypt
 - ❖ Therefore *k* must be kept secret
- DES was most commonly used symmetric block-encryption algorithm
- ❖ Triple-DES considered more secure $c = E_{k3}(D_{k2}(E_{k1}(m)))$
- Block cipher Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)
 - * Keys of 128, 192, or 256 bits, works on 128 bit blocks

Secure Communication over Insecure Medium



Asymmetric Encryption

- Public-key encryption based on each user having two keys:
 - public key published key used to encrypt data
 - private key key known only to individual user used to decrypt data
- Must be an encryption scheme that can be made public without making it easy to figure out the decryption scheme
 - Most common is RSA block cipher

Asymmetric Encryption

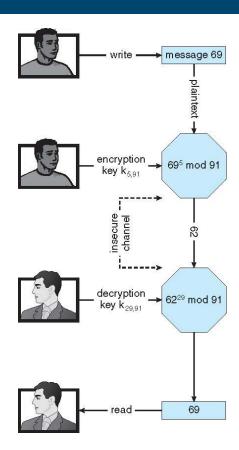
- ❖ Formally, it is computationally infeasible to derive k_{d,N} from k_{e,N}, and so k_e need not be kept secret and can be widely disseminated
 - ❖ k_e is the public key
 - ❖ k_d is the private key
 - ❖ N is the product of two large, randomly chosen prime numbers p and q (for example, p and q are 512 bits each)
 - ❖ Encryption algorithm is $E_{ke,N}(m) = m^{k_e} \mod N$, where k_e satisfies $k_e k_d \mod (p-1)(q-1) = 1$
 - ❖ The decryption algorithm is then $D_{kd,N}(c) = c^{k_d} \mod N$

Asymmetric Encryption Example

- \Rightarrow Assume, p = 7 and q = 13
- ❖ We then calculate N = 7*13 = 91 and (p-1)(q-1) = 72
- ❖ We next select k_e relatively prime to 72 and< 72, yielding 5</p>
- Finally, we calculate k_d such that $k_e k_d$ mod 72 = 1, yielding 29
 - Public key, $k_{e,N} = 5$, 91
 - ❖ Private key, k_{d,N} = 29, 91
- Encrypting the message 69 with the public key results in the cyphertext 62
- Cyphertext can be decoded with the private key
 - Public key can be distributed in cleartext to anyone who wants to communicate with holder of public key

Encryption using RSA Asymmetric Cryptography

- ❖ Public key, $k_{e,N} = 5$, 91
- ❖Private key, k_{d.N} = 29, 91
- ❖ Encryption algorithm: $E_{ke,N}(m) = m^{k_e} \mod N$.
- ❖ Decryption algorithm: $D_{kd,N}(c) = c^{k_d} \mod N$



Authentication

- Constraining set of potential senders of a message
 - Complementary to encryption
 - Also can prove message unmodified
- ❖ A set K of keys, set M of messages, A set A of authenticators
 - A function $S : K \rightarrow (M \rightarrow A)$
 - **That** is, for each $k \in K$, S_k is a function for generating authenticators from messages
 - ❖Both S and S_k for any k should be efficiently computable functions
 - ❖ A function V : K → (M × A→ {true, false}). That is, for each $k \in K$, V_k is a function for verifying authenticators on messages
 - ❖Both V and V_k for any k should be efficiently computable functions

Authentication

For a message m, a computer can generate an authenticator a ∈ A such that V_k(m, a) = true only if it possesses k

Thus, computer holding k can generate authenticators on messages so that any other computer possessing k can verify them

Computer not holding k cannot generate authenticators on messages that

k from the authenticators

can be verified using V_k
 ❖ Since authenticators are generally exposed (for example, they are sent on the network with the messages themselves), it must not be feasible to derive

❖ Practically, if V_k(m,a) = true then we know m has not been modified and that send of message has k

❖ If we share k with only one entity, know where the message originated

Authentication – Hash Functions

- Basis of authentication
- Creates small, fixed-size block of data message digest (hash value) from m
- Hash Function H must be collision resistant on m
 - \clubsuit Must be infeasible to find an m' \ne m such that H(m) = H(m')
- \Leftrightarrow If H(m) = H(m'), then m = m'
 - The message has not been modified

Authentication – Hash Functions

- Common message-digest functions include MD5, which produces a 128-bit hash, and SHA-1, which outputs a 160-bit hash
- Not useful as authenticators
 - ❖ For example H(m) can be sent with a message
 - ❖But if H is known someone could modify m to m' and recompute H(m') and modification not detected
 - ❖So must authenticate H(m)

Authentication - MAC

- Symmetric encryption used in message-authentication code (MAC) authentication algorithm
- Cryptographic checksum generated from message using secret key
 - Can securely authenticate short values
- If used to authenticate H(m) for an H that is collision resistant, then obtain a way to securely authenticate long message by hashing them first
- ❖ Note that k is needed to compute both S_k and V_k, so anyone able to compute one can compute the other

Authentication – Digital Signature

- ❖ Digital signatures based on asymmetric keys to verify authenticity of m.
- Similar to the RSA encryption algorithm, but the key use is reversed
- ❖ k_v is the public key and k_s is the private key
- ❖ Computationally infeasible to derive k_s from k_v
- RSA digital-signature algorithm
 - ❖ Digital signature of message S_{ks} (m) = H(m)^{ks} mod N
 - ❖ The key k_s again is a pair (d, N), where N is the product of two large, randomly chosen prime numbers p and q
 - Verification algorithm is $V_{kv}(m, a)$ $(a^{k_v} \mod N = H(m))$
 - ❖Where k_v satisfies $k_v k_s$ mod (p 1)(q 1) = 1

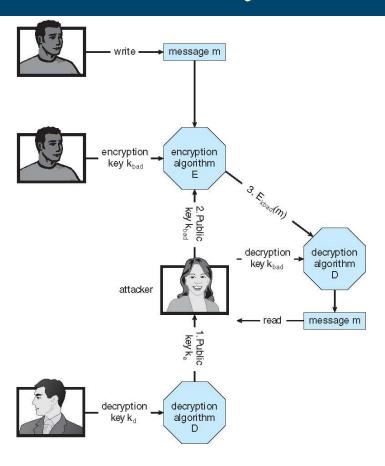
Key Distribution

- Delivery of symmetric key is huge challenge
 - Sometimes done out-of-band
- Asymmetric keys can proliferate stored on key ring
 - Even asymmetric key distribution needs care man-in-the-middle attack

Digital Certificates

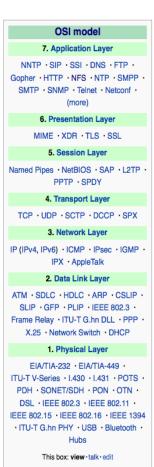
- Proof of who or what owns a public key
- Public key digitally signed a trusted party
- Trusted party receives proof of identification from entity and certifies that public key belongs to entity
- Certificate authority are trusted party their public keys included with web browser distributions
 - They vouch for other authorities via digitally signing their keys, and so on

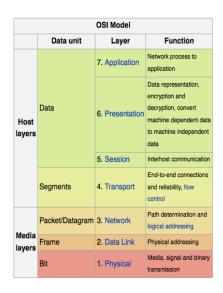
Man-in-the-middle Attack - Asymmetric Cryptography



Implementation of Cryptography

- Can be done at various layers of ISO Reference Model
 - SSL at the Transport layer
 - Network layer is typically IPSec
 - **❖IKE** for key exchange
 - Basis of Virtual Private Networks (VPNs)





Encryption Example - SSL

- ❖ Insertion of cryptography at one layer of network model (transport layer)
- SSL Secure Socket Layer (also called TLS)

cryptography

- Cryptographic protocol that limits two computers to only exchange messages with each other
- Used between web servers and browsers for secure communication (credit card numbers)

The server is verified with a certificate assuring client is talking to correct

- Asymmetric cryptography used to establish a secure session key
- (symmetric encryption) for bulk of communication during session
 Communication between each computer then uses symmetric key

User Authentication

- Crucial to identify user correctly, as protection systems depend on user ID
- User identity most often established through passwords, can be considered a special case of either keys or capabilities
- Passwords must be kept secret
 - Frequent change of passwords
 - History to avoid repeats
 - Use of "non-guessable" passwords
 - Log all invalid access attempts (but not the passwords themselves)
 - Unauthorized transfer
- Passwords may also either be encrypted or allowed to be used only once

Passwords

- Encrypt to avoid having to keep secret
 - But keep secret anyway
 - Use algorithm easy to compute but difficult to invert
 - Only encrypted password stored, never decrypted
- One-time passwords
 - Use a function based on a seed to compute a password, both user and computer
- Biometrics
 - Some physical attribute (fingerprint, hand scan)
- Multi-factor authentication

Implementing Security Defenses

- Defense in depth multiple layers of security
- Security policy describes what is being secured
- Vulnerability assessment compares real state of system / network compared to security policy
- Intrusion detection endeavors to detect attempted or successful intrusions
 - Signature-based detection spots known bad patterns
 - Anomaly detection spots differences from normal behavior
 - False-positives and false-negatives a problem

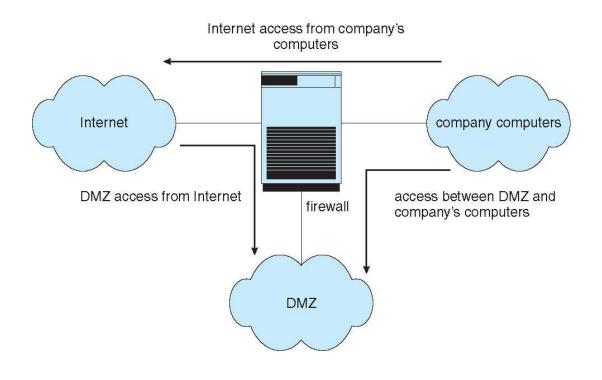
Implementing Security Defenses

- Virus protection
 - Searching all programs or programs at execution for known virus patterns
- Auditing, accounting, and logging of all or specific system or network activities
- Practice safe computing avoid sources of infection, download from only good sites, etc

Firewalling to Protect Systems and Networks

- ❖ A network firewall is placed between trusted and untrusted hosts
- The firewall limits network access between these two security domains
- Firewall rules typically based on host name or IP address which can be spoofed
- ❖ Personal firewall is software layer on given host
 - Can monitor / limit traffic to and from the host
- Application proxy firewall understands application protocol and can control them (i.e., SMTP)
- System-call firewall monitors all important system calls and apply rules to them (i.e., this program can execute that system call)

Network Security Through Firewall





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