SecureChat

Android Application

Configuring The Server

- Amazon Web Services with Amazon Linux Server
- SSL Protocol
- TLSv 1.2
- LetsEncrypt certificates

Secure RESTful Server

- Client server relationship
 - Keep them separated
- Stateless, good!
 - All requests contain all information necessary, does not rely on any info from the server
- Layered
 - Components only have access to what they are allowed to interact with

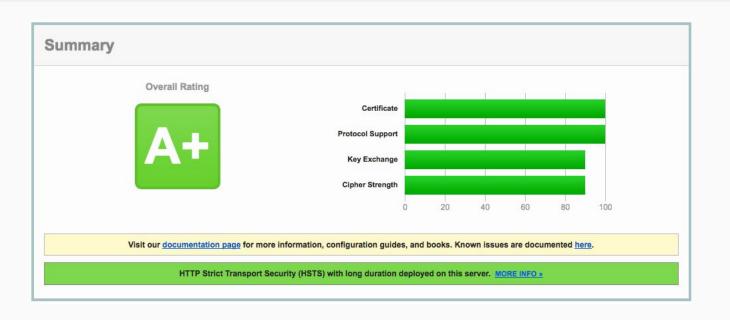
Technical Details

Connection Encrypted (TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384, 256 bit keys, TLS 1.2)

The page you are viewing was encrypted before being transmitted over the Internet.

Encryption makes it difficult for unauthorized people to view information traveling between computers. It is therefore unlikely that anyone read this page as it traveled across the network.

OpenSSL Labs Score



Register/Login Post

Register Post

- Username, email, password
 - Verifies uniqueness
 - Password is hashed before it is stored in the database
- Makes sure user enters required fields in the form
- Creates new user in the database

Login Post

- Username and password
 - Verifies user is in the database
- Ensures correct credentials were entered.
- Issues a JWT to the user

Bind parameters to prevent SQL injection

Send & Get Message

Send Message

- Validates that there is a message and recipient to send message
- Sends message in JSON object for client to receive.

Get Message

 Retrieves messages from same sender and orders them by time received

Bind parameters to prevent SQL injection

Android Client

- Volley for HTTP requests
 - Make StringRequest, then convert to JSONObject

- SpongyCastle for cryptographic libraries
 - Same as BouncyCastle but tweaked a little to work with android

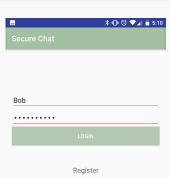
 ZXing (Zebra Crossing) library for generating and scanning QR codes





Client Security

- Authentication
 - JWT received upon login
 - Used for authentication when sending messages

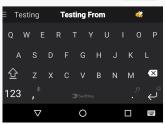


Client Security

- Confidentiality
 - Messages Encrypted using AES and CTR mode
 - IV || cipherText || tag || RSAencrypt(k_e || k_i)
 - New k_e and k_i is generated for each message sent

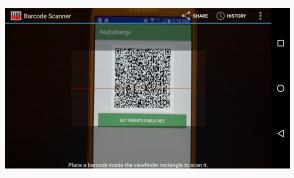
- Integrity
 - Tag created using HmacSHA256
 - When message is received, calculates HMAC(cipherText, k_i), then compares it to the tag received in the message





Client Security

- Public Key Exchange
 - ZXing library for QR code scanning
 - Generate QR with Public Key
 - Scan friend's Public Key





Difficulties

- No previous experience configuring web servers
- Client only shows messages sent to me in conversation
 - Can't decrypt messages I send (because they are encrypted with someone else's public key)