Information security and privacy

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Contents

Markdown verion on *github*; Compiled using *pandoc* and *`gpdf` script*
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Vocabulary

- **Virus** : a malware that infects a file and replicates by infecting other files
- **Worm** : a piece of malware that propagate automatically
- **Trojan** :
  - a malware hidden in a usefull software or file
  - a malware that stays on the victim's computer and communicate with a control center to carry out malicious activity
- **Rootkit** : hides the precense of a malware on a computer
- **Ransomware** : encrypts the files and request payment for decryption
- **Vulnerability** : weekness in the logic, the software or hardware of a system (bugs)
- **Exploit** : method/tool to make advantage of a vulnerability
- Vulnerability can be fixed by **patching** a system
- **Zero day** exploit : exploit for which no patch exists yet

Basic properties

Security

- Protects the data of data owners against attacks
- **Confidentiality** :
  - keep informations secret
  - give read access only to those who need to know
  - tools : access control, isolation, encryption
- **Integrity** :
  - keep information correct
  - prevent modification of the data
  - detect modification
  - tools add a hash, a MAC or a signature, make public
- **Availability** :
  - keep information available/systems running
  - tools : make copies, duplicate/distribute systems, prevent intrusions
- **Authenticity** :
  - demonstrate the authenticity of information
  - prevent fake information
  - detect modification
  - tools : add keyed hash (MAC) or a signature
- **Non repudiation** :
  - prevent denial of a statement
  - tool : add a signature as proof of origin

Privacy

- Protects the data *subject* against abuse
- **Confidentiality** :
  - keep information of *the data subject* secret
  - give access only to those who need to know
  - tools : access control, encryption, absence of data
- **Anonymity** :
  - prevent a link between data and a subject
  - reduce/modify information until no correlation is possible
  - tools : k-anonymity, defferential privacy
- **Absence of information** :
  - prevent revealing information

  - do not request, or delete information that is no longer needed
  - work on encrypted information
  - tools : homomorphic encryption, private information retrieval, zero knowledge proofs

Cyber Threats

- A **threat** is a potential unwanted action that creates impact
- **Cyber attack lifecycle** :
  - Preparation
  - Gain access
  - Maintain access
  - Complete mission
  - Cover tracks
- **Commodity threats** :
  - Non targeted
  - Fully automated
  - Low risk to attackers
  - Short term financial gains
- **Hacktivism** :
  - Politically motivated hacking
  - Variant of (anarchic) civil disobediance

Web application vulnerabilities

- **OWASP** : **O**pen **W**eb **A**pplication **S**ecurity **P**roject
  - Documentation on the top 10 critical security risk of web application
- **Injection** :
  - Context can be : HTML, JavaScript, JSON, SQL
  - Special character sequences in user inputs can trigger an action in the context
- **Injection protection** :
  - Refuse characters you do not want
  - Escape (encode) specila characters when you use them
- **Direct object reference** : When a user-submitted parameters is a direct reference to a resource, a user may try to change it to access other resources

Software vulnerabilities

- **Buffers overflows** : while writing data to a buffer, overruns the buffer's boundary and overwrites adjacent memory location
- **Buffers overflows protection** :
  - **Stack canaries** :
    - Push a random value on the top of the stack at the beginning of a funcion
    - Before returning, verify that the value has not been modified
  - **Non executable memory** :
    - Do not want to set execution permission on a page that can be written while the program is running
  - **Address space randomization** (ASLR) :
    - Every time the program is started, it is load at a random address
    - Every time the system boot, the OS is load at random address

Crypto

- **Symmetric Crypto** : Encryption and decryption is done with the same key
  - Solve the problem os transferring large amount of confidential data
  - Creates the problem of transferring a symmetric key
- **Stream cypher** : Use the ey and a pseudo random generator to generate a stream of random bits
- **Block cypher** : Encrypt fixed blocks of data
  - a *padding scheme* is used to fille the last block
  - a *mode of operation* is used to combine multiple block
  - DES (collisions and brute force) $\Rightarrow$ AES
- **Mode of operation** :
  - ECB :
    - Encrypt each block separately with the same key
    - Same cleartext clock results in same ciphertext block
  - CBC :
    - Introduces the use of an *initialization vector* (IV) for the first block
    - Each ciphertext block acts a IV of the next block
    - Decryption is the opposite of encryption
    - Does not reveal any structure
    - Malleability : flipping one bit in a cyphertext block flips the same bit in th next cleartext block and mangles the current block
    - The last block must be padded to obtain the correct block size, if not carefully implemented, validation fo padding can lead to leakage of the cleartext
- **Hash** function take an arbitrary length input and generate a fixed length output
  - *Pre-image resistance* : Given an hash h, it is difficult to find a message m for which $h = hash(m)$
  - *Second pre-image resistance* : Given a message m_1 it is difficult to find a second message m_2 such that $hash(m_1) = hash(m_2)$
  - *Collision resistance* : It is difficult to find two arbitrary messages that have the same hash
  - SHA-3 : no weakness known
- **Messages authentication codes** (MAC) :
  - Like a hash function, but involves a symmetric key
  - The same key is used to generate the MAC and to validate it
  - If the key is know only to the two parties of an exchange, a correct mac proves
    - that the message was not created by a third party (authentication)
    - that the message was not been modified (integrity)
- **Public-key Crypto** : Uses a pair of public (encryption) and private key (decryption)
  - Solves the problem of having to agree and on a pre-shared symmetric key
  - No need to keep the public key secret (as the name suggest ^^)
- Assymetric is powerful but orders of magnitude slower than symmetric crypto
- Assymetric is typically used to exchange a symmetric key
- All these algo are only safe if you use keys that are long enough
  - symmetric : 128 to 256 bits
  - asymmetric : RSA 2048 bits, ECC 256 bits
  - has function : 256 bits
- With public key crypto the puclic key does not have to be secret but it still has to be authentic (e.g. man in the middle atk)
  - We need a trusted third party to distribute the public keys
  - The Certification Authority certifies the keys by signing them
    - If we trust the key of the CA, we can trust all keys signed by the CA
  - A signed key is a certificate. It contains at least :
    - The identity of the holder
    - The validity date of the certificate
    - The public key of the subject
    - The signature by the CA

TLS and HTTPS

- **TLS** Transport layer Security : provide a secure channel between two communicating peers
  - The server is authenticated with a cetificate
  - It proves its identity by signing some information received from the client with its private key
  - Client and server create a symmetric key using asymmetric crypto
  - They use a symmetric cipher to encrypt data:
  - They use HMAC to guarantee integrity
- Let's Encrypt ⇒ free certificates
- A **Public key infrastructure** (PKI) ditributes public keys usign certificates
- HSTS and Certificate transparency protect against MITM and fraudulent CAs

Dtatabase Security

- **Access control** : Least privilege
- Granularity at the row level can be achieved by defining *views*
- SQL databases also support *role based* acces control
- To limit the impact of SQL injection, use different DB users for different accesses
- **Hadware/OS**
  - *Functions* : Data is encrypted when read/write to disk
  - *Protect against* : Stealing/cloning virtual machines
- **Database**
  - *Functions* : BD encrypts when read/write to file
  - *Protect against* : Access by OS users/admins
- **Network**
  - *Functions* : DB encrypts when read/write to network (e.g. TLS)
  - *Protect against* : Hackers connot sniff data in transit
- **Application**
  - *Functions* : Application encrypts when read/write to the DB
  - *Protect against* : Access by admins, memory dumps by OS admins
- If the data is encrypted in the database then the DB cannot
  - search with wildcards (e.g. `WHERE name='Pete%'`)
  - sort, compare or aggregate data
  - ⇒ the BD is pretty useless

Password Storage

- Classic way : use **salt** and **iterations**
- Modern way : use a **memory hard function**
- **Time-memory trade-offs** :
  - We create a *reduction* function r : it takes a hash as input and produces a password from our set
  - We build chains : $p_1 \overset{hash}{\to} h_1 \overset{reduce}{\to} p_7 \overset{hash}{\to} h_7 \overset{reduce}{\to} \dots \overset{hash}{\to} h_3$
  - We only keep the first and last element of each chain
    - this is where we save memory
    - we pay for this with more time to crack the password
  - We build a table with several chains
  - Hellman's original trade-off becomes inefficient when there are too many chains in a single table
    - For each collision of the reduction function, we end up with two identical chains
  - **Rainbow table** solve the collison problem by using a different reduction function in each column
- If yous search through all columns of all tables :
  - Hellman : t^2 memory look-ups, t^2 hash operations
  - Rainbow : t memory look-ups, $\frac{1}{2}t^2$ hash operations
- Adding a random value (**hash**) to the hash function prevents :

  - cracking multiple hasesh with a single hash calculation
  - calculating the hashes in advance
- Another simple way to slow the attacker is to apply the hash functions multiple times
- **Memory hard function**
  - the function run through many steps
  - intermediate steps results are stored in memory
  - each step depends on results from previous steps

Access Control

- **Access control** defines and enforce the operations that can do an objects
- Principle of **least privilege**
  - subjects should have the minimum rights necessary to their job
- Multiple level of access control :
  - Network
  - Operating system
  - Application
  - Within an entreprise
- Multiple approaches to access control
  - **Role-based Access Control** (RBAC)
    - Simplifies the specification of premission by grouping users into roles
    - A role can contains multiple permissions
  - **Discretionary Access Control** (DAC)
    - Access control is at the discreton of the object owner
    - Owner specifies policies to acces resources it owns
  - **Mandatory Acces Control** (MAC)
    - Tries to ensure that even someone with acces cannot leak the data
    - Depends on the trusted software and admins
    - no write down
- **ACL** vs **Capabilities**
  - Think of a door protected by a bouncer vs a door protected by a lock
  - ACL :
    - The bouncer knows exactly who can get in
    - People don't know where they can get in and where thay cannot
  - Capabilities :
    - Doors do not know who will show up with a key
    - People know exactly for which doors they have a key
- Modern OSes make use of all of these types :
  - DAC with ACLs for file and most objects
  - DAC and capabilities for privileged operations
  - Using groups to implement RBAC
  - Mac for protectiond the integrity of a system

Authentication

- Access control only makes sense if we can *authenticate* subjects
- **Password**
- **Something you own** : hardware/software token
- **OATH** is a standard that describes
  - How **OTPs** are generated from a seed
  - An XML fomat for importing the seeds into a authentication server
- **Biometrics**
  - no hashing is possible

    - it is impossible to change a stolen finger
- **Challende-response** : Rather then sending the password to the server
    - The server sends a random challenge to the client
    - The client uses the hash of the password to create a reponse
- **Kerberos** uses a three steps approach
    - An anthentication server (AS) authenticates the client and delivers a ticker granting ticket (TGT)
    - The client can then present the TGT to the tocket granting server (TGS) to get a ticket for the service he wants to use
    - The client can access the service
- **Oauth2** is a protocol used for delegated authentication on the internet
    - Facebook, Google, Twitter etc. can be used to authenticate and access other application

Network and Operational Security Practices

- Secure communication, outside of our network
    - TLS, IPsec, VPNs
- **Network segmentation** : Break down the network based on system and data classification or into functional zones
    - Access from zone to zone can be managed by access control list (ACLs) in router or firewalls
    - Prevents all-at-once compromise of facilities
    - Protects the data center form external threats
    - Containment zones aims at stpopping attacks from spreading between zones
- **Demilitarized Zone** (DMZ)
    - A physical or logical subnet that contains and exposes an organization's external-facing services to an auntrusted network
    - An external network node can access only what is exposed in the DMZ
- **Zero trust network**
    - Do note trust anybody, not even internal machines
    - More work for configuring machines
    - Less work on configuring the network
    - Greatly reduces the impact if on machine is compromised
- **Virtual private network**
    - Encryption and encapsulation keep the network private
    - Before a packet is sent over the public network, it is encrypted and encapsulated with and IP header with the public address
    - Let remote workers access the internal company network
    - Interconnecting remotes sites for a company
- **Firewalls**
    - Enforce network level access control
    - Firewalls operate at the network layer
    - Firewalls should aussi be present within the network
    - Principle of default deny
- **Proxies**
    - They operate at the application level
    - **(Direct) proxies** : between the client and internet
        - Protect our users when they access servers on the internet
    - **Reverse proxies** : between internet and the server
        - Protect our servers when accessed by users from the Internet
    - **Web proxies** protect users by
        - Analyzing all data downloaded from the web with anti-virus software
        - Blocking access to dangerous sites
- **Web application firewall** (WAF)
    - It stands in front of your web server and receives the requests from the internet.
    - It analyses the request, and if it deems them safe, it forwards thel to the real server

- **Instructions detection systems**
  - Inspects traffic for all application to detect protential intrusions
  - **Signatures based** system
    - Network traffic is compared to signature form a pattern database
    - *Snort* is an example of signature based IDS
  - **Anomaly based** system
    - IDS creates traffic profile during normal operation to callibrate
    - Looks for unusual packets
  - Possible issues
    - False posititves (too many alarms)
    - False negatives (too many sucessful attacks)
- Keeping **audit trails** (logs) is an important part of network security
- Good way to protect data : **Backups**
  - We also need restorations tests, to check if we are actually able to restore data from backups
  - We also need a **Disaster Recovery Plan** (DRP) that explains in details how to rebuild each system in case of a major failure

Trusted Computing

- **Trusted hardware** : A piece of hardware can be trusted if it always behaves in the expected manned for the intended purpose
- **Attestation** : It can be prove that it does what you think it does
  - Attest there is secure hardware
  - Attest the state of the OS
  - Attest state of the code
  - **Secure boot**
- **Sealing** : It can store secrets in unprotected memory
  - The device derives a key that is tied to its current status and stores the encrypted data
  - Data can only be decrypted by a device with the same status
- **Isolation** : It is not possible to *peek* inside
  - Requires protection against side channel attacks
  - Trusted hardware offers one well identified entry-point to interact with the software
  - **Tamper resistance** : hard to open
  - **Tamper evident** : You can see if it has been opened
  - **Tamper responsive** : Delete keys when attacked
  - **Resitance to side channel attacks** and physical probing
- **Trusted Execution Environments** (TPM) : Isolated processing environment in which applications can be securely executed irrespective of the rest of the application
  - Dedicated devices : Strong physical protections
  - Secure enclaves : Prtected regions of memory
  - Enable processes to run while being protected from attacks perpetrated by the OS, hypervisor, firmware, drivers, or remote attackers
- **Hardware Secure Module** (HMS)
  - The user need to know the the public key of the HMS
- **Non-volatile Storage**
  - **Endorsement key** (EK)
    - Created at manufacturing time
    - Signed by manufacturer
    - Cannot be changed
    - Used for *attestation*
  - **Storage Root Key** (SRK)
    - Used for encrypted storage
  - **OwnerPassword**
  - They are private and never leave the TPM

- **Platform Configuration registers** (PCR lol)
- **Side channels** : Determine the secret key of a cryptographic device by measurign its execution time, its power consumption, or its electromagnetic field
  - Learn how the system's secret by observing how different computations are
  - Difficult to create trusted hardware resitent to side channel
- For trusted hardware we need to **trust the manufacturer**

Privacy

- **Multi-disciplinary** : computer science, law, ethics, economics, sociology, politics
- **Personal Data** Any kind of information (a single piece of information or a set of information) that can personally identify an individual
- Privacy is **not** hiding the wrong
- Lack of privacy is equivalent to **loss of freedom**
- Main risk : People's mind manipulation
- **Function creep** : expansion of a process or system where data collected for one specific purpose is subsequently used for another unintended or unauthorized purpose
  - Aadhaad - India's "optional" unique Identity identification number scheme
  - Eurodac - Fingerprint database for asylum seekers
- Security and privacy are **not opposite ends** of a seesaw
  - There is no security without privacy (and vice-versa)
  - Liberty requires both security and privacy
- **Privacy by design**
  - **Proactive** not reactive : preventive not remedial
  - Privacy as the **Default**
  - Privacy **Embedded** into Design
  - Full functionality : **Positive sum**
  - End to end **Security** : Full Lifecycle protection
  - Visibility and transparency : **Keep it open**
  - Respect for user privacy : Kepp us **User-Centric**
- Technical appraches to privacy : **privacy enhancing technologies** (PETs)

Definition and classification

- Privacy paradigms : privacy as
  - **Confidentiality**
    - Minimize data disclosure : every bit counts
    - Distribute trust : avoid single point of failure
    - Rely / require open source : million eyes help security
  - **Control**
    - User participation : let the user decide how data will be shared
    - Transparency and Accountability : let the user know how data is used, and if against his will, point to who is reponsible
    - Organizational compliance : General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Fair Information Practice Principles (FIPPs)
  - **Practice**
    - Improve user agency : help them negociate privacy
    - Aid decision making and transparency impact : helps user understand the consequences of their actions
    - Privacy as a collective practice : help identify best practices for collectives
- Pets for **Social privacy**
  - *Concerns* : The privacy problem is defined by Users
  - *Goals* : Do not surprise the user
    - Support decision making

        - Help identify actions impact
    - *Limitations* : Only protects from other users : **trusted service provider**
        - Limited by user's capabilities to understand policies
- Pets for **institutional privacy**
    - *Concerns* : The privacy problem is defined by **Legislation**
        - Data should not be collected without user consent or processed for illegitimate uses
        - Data should be secured : correct, integrity, deletion
    - *Goals* : Compliance with data protection principles
        - Informed consent : Valid, freely given, specific, informed and active consent
        - Purpose limitation : Data can only be used for the purpose it was collected
        - Data minimization : One should only collect the data necessary for the purpose ot the service
        - Subject access rights : One should be abble to know what information is stored/processed and how. Also right to modification, deletion, etc.
    - *Limitaions* :
        - Assumes collection and processing by organizations is necessary, organizations are (semi)-trusted and honest
        - Focuses on limiting misues, not collection
- Pets for **Anti surveillance privacy**
    - *Concerns* : How to evade / Fool a global adversary
    - *Goals* : Minimize the need to trust other and the amount of revealed information
    - *Limitations* :
        - Privacy-preserving designs are narrow - difficult to create "general purpose privacy"
        - Usability problems both for developers and users
        - Lack of incentives

Crypto based solution

- **Anonymous communication** : Anonimity of participants is usually achieved by special **routing overlay network** that hide the physical location of each node from other particapants
- **Anonymous Credentials** : Allow users to authenticate themselves in a privacy preserving manner
- **Blind signature**
    - Content of a message is blinded before it is signed
    - Resulting blind signature can be publicly verified against the original message
    - Cryptographic voting systems
        - Authority checks the credentials of the voter to ensure that he is allowed to vote, and that he is not submitting more than one vote
        - Authority does not learn the voter's selection
- **Secure Multiparty Computation**
- **Garbled Circuits**
- **Deterministic Encryption**
    - Always produces the same ciphetext for a given plaintext and key
- **Homomorphic encryption**
    - Allows specific typers of computations to be carried out on ciphrtext
    - Pallier cryptosystem
- **Private Information Retrieval**
    - Allows a user to retrieve an item from a server in possession of a database without revealing which itme is retrieved
- **Oblious RAM**
    - Same as PIR, but with R/W
        - Client outsources the storage of his data to a cloud
        - Client stores only a small amount of data locally
        - Client accesses (read/write) his data while hiding the identities of the items being acccessed

Non crypto based solutions

- **Confidentiality**
- **Pseudonymity**
  - User persistent (random) identifiers
  - Use of hased identifiers
  - Different email addresses for the same user
  - Nicknames
  - Pseudo identifiers, Quase-identifiers
- **De identification**
  - Removing or obscuring information from traces that would allow direct identification of a person
  - Allows reseach that would otherwise not be possible due to privacy
- **Anonymity** : The stahe of being not identifiable within a set of object
- **Unlinkability** : Two or more items within a system, are no more and no less related than they are related based on the a-priori knowledge
- **Unobservability** : An items of interest being indistinguishable from any item of interest at all. Sender unobservability means that it is not noticeable wheither any sender within the unobservability set sends
- **Plausible Deniability**
  - Not possible to prove user knows, has done or has said something
- **PETs** depend on :
  - The privacy paradigm : Confidetiality, control and practice
  - The adversary model, others users, semi-trusted service provider, everyone

PETs for data anonymization

- *Scnenario* : You have a set of data that contains personal data and you like to anonimize it to
  - not be subject to data protection while processing
  - make it public for profit
  - make it public for researchers
- *Goal* : Produce a dataset that **preserves the utility** of the original dataset **without leaking informations** about individuals. This process is known as **database sanitization**
- **k-anonimity**
  - Key Attribute / **Identifier**
  - **Quasi identifier**
  - **Sensitive attribute**
  - Each person contained in the database cannot be distinguished from at leat $k-1$ other individuals whose information also appears in the released database
  - **Generalization** : Replace attribute with less specific, but semantically consistent values (e.g. zip-code)
  - To improve anonimity identifying attributes can be suppresed
  - Does not provide privacy when sensitive values lack of diversity
  - Limitaion if the adversary has background knowledge
- **l-diversity** : An equivalence class has l-diversity if there are at least l well represented values for the sensitive attribute
- **t-closeness** : An equivalence class has t-closeness if the distance between the distribution of a sensitive attribute in this class and the distribution of the attribute in the whole table is no more than a threshold t
- Anonymizing a dataset via generalization and suppresion is extremely hard
  - The k-anonymity idea focuese on transformation of the dataset not its semantics
  - Achieving k-anonymity, l-diversity, t-closeness is hardn and still does not guarantee privacy
- **Modifying outputs** :
  - **Subsampling** : A subset of the rows is chosend at random and released and statistics are computed on the subsample
  - **Input perturbation** : Data or queries are modified before a response is generated
  - **Adding random noise to the output**

  - **Randomized response**
    - Respondents a query flip a coin and, based on the outcome, they either honestly respond or respond randomly
    - Privacy comes from the uncertainty of how to interpret a reported individual value
    - Yet, data can be useful because randomness can be average out
    - Not usable for every case, or combined with other techniques
- **Differential privacy**
  - To have any utility we must allow the leakage of some information, but we can set a bound to the extent of leakage
  - Output is similar whether any single individual's record is included in the database or not
  - Instead of the real answer to a query, output a random answer such that by a small change in the database, the distribution of the answer does not change much
- To ensure differential privacy either
  - **Input perturbation** : Add noise to the database
    - Independent of the algorithm and easy to reproduce
    - determining the amount of required noise is difficult
  - **Output perturbation** : Add noise to the function output
    - Easier to control privacy and better guaranttes than input perturbation
    - Results cannot be reproduced
  - **Algorithm perturbation** : Inherenlty add noise to the algo
    - Algorithm can be optimized with the noise addition
    - Difficult to generelaze and depends on the input
- **Traditional Encryption**
  - Protects data at rest and in transit
  - Connot protect computation
- **Homomorphic Ecnryption**
  - Protects computations on untrusted environments
  - Limited versatility vs efficiency
- **Secure Multiparty Computation**
  - Protects computation in distributed environments
  - High communication overhead
- **Trusted Execution Environments**
  - Protects computation with Hardware trusted element
  - Requires trust in the manifacturer, vulnerable to side-channels
- **Differential Privacy**
  - Protects released data from inferences
  - Degrades data utility
- **Distributed ledger technologies** (Blockchain)
  - Strong accountability and traceability in distributed environments
  - Usually no data privacy
- **Attribute based credentials**
  - Digital variant of passport, drivers's license etc
  - Also known as anonymous credentials
  - Attributes are encoded as number, may represent
    - Menbership status
    - Name
    - Age
    - Social security number
    - Random identifiers
    - Application specific identifiers
  - **Unforgeability** : Only the issuer should be abble to produce valid credentials
  - **Selective disclosure** : The uer can hide irrelevant attributes
  - **Issuer unlinkability** : The issuer should not be able to recognize a credential that it previously issued

  - **Verifier unlinkability** : The verifier should not be abbel to link two consecutive showings of the same credentials
- **Zero knowledge proof** : allows a *prover* to convince a *verifier* of some fact on a private input without revealing this input
  - **Completeness** : If the statement is true, an honest prover can convince an honest verifier that the statement is true
  - **Soundness** If the statement is false, a cheating prover cannot convince an honest verifier with very high probability
  - **Zero-knowledge** If the statement is true, no verifeir learns anything other than the fact that the statement is true

Machine learning

- **Supervised**
  - Labeled data
  - Direct feedback
  - Predict outcome/future
- **Unsupervised**
  - No labels
  - NO feedback
  - "Find the structure"
- **Reinforcment**
  - Decision process
  - Reward system
  - Learn series of actions
- **Confidentiality** of the model itself (e.g. intellectual property)
- **Privacy** of the training or test data (e.g. medical records)
- **Integrity** of the predications
- **Availability** of the system deploying machine learning
- **BLack box attack**
  - Model architecture and parameters unknown
  - Can only interact blindly with the model
- **Grey box attack**
  - Model architecture known, parameters unknown
  - Can only interact with the model, but has information about the type of model
- **White box attack**
  - Known architecture and parameters
  - Can replicate the model and use the model's internal parameters in the attack
- If a linear model uses $d features$, the adversary needs $d+1$ different queries to steal by solving the linear system for w, b

$$w.x^{(i)} + b = f(x^{(i)})$$

- **Retraining attack** Observe many queries, and fit the model on it like any other training data. Takes mainy queries
- Preserving model stealing
  - **Output perturbations** : Add noise to the probabilities output by the model to hinder reconstruction, but not accuracy
  - **Detect suspicious quesries** : Identify deviations from expected on distribution of uscessive queries from a client
- Privacy and utility are not in conflict
  - Overfitted models leak training data
  - Overfitted models lack predictive power
- **ML needs data to learn**
  - Machine learning is based on data to find features and train the model

  - Data is highly unique ! Allow many inferences
    - Ananymizing may not work
    - Aggreagtion affects utility and requires careful evaluation)
  - Hide data
    - Noise ⇒ Differential privacy
    - Ecnryption ⇒ Homomorphic encryption, secure multiparty computation
- **To obtain value you must give data**
  - To use the model you need to provide a sample
    - If the model is remote you are giving this sample out
  - We can do *privacy preserving model evaluation*
    - Predict on noisy data : utility hit
    - Use advanced cryptography : performance hit
- **The output reveals information**
  - Menbership inference
    - Given the answer of the classifier, infer whether the queried example was used in training
    - Attribute inference
    - Givin the answer of the classifier, infer whether a training sample had a particular attribute
- **Machine learning is very good at inferring**
  - Use new learning to classify/predict on new data
    - The ML model can be used to breach privacy of that new data
- **Adversarial Examples** : Inputs to a model that an attacker has sesigned to cause the model to make a mistake
- **Transferability property** : Samples crafted to mislead a model A are likely to mislead a model B
- Defending in general is very hard. Can only defend against a particular threat model, and normally no guarentess
- Standard way is **adversarial training** (based on robust optimization). I means training on simulated adversarial example
- If the adversary controls the inputs
  - In deployed models, the adversary can always win
  - In training, the adversary learn other's input
- **Bias Reinforcment** : Action ⇒ Effect ⇒ Action
- **Statistical bias** : Difference between an estomator expected value and the true value
- **Group fairness** Outcome should not differ between demographic groups
  - Predictive parity : Same prediction regardless of group
  - Equal false positive
  - Equal false negative
- **Individual fairness** : similar ? individuals shoudl be treated similarly ?
- **Bias detection and mitigation**
  - What if approache : play with the value until something changes, associate with bias
  - Explainability : Try to understand why the prediction happen, associate with bias
  - Mitigation
- Instead of sending their data directly, clients send data with differentially private noise
  - Given the sample one cannot leanr the value
  - Challenge : add enough noise to hide the data but still provide a good model
- **Federated learning** : combine nany small dataset to get large dataset
  - Clients ,need top reveal their models, that "reveal" their data. Solution ? :
    - Homomorphic encryption
    - Mutli party computation
    - Before sending models, add noise (tradeoff privacy vs functionality)
- **Fully centralized**
  - Transfer raw data to a central database
  - Data protection : security of the central database
  - Nedd to trust the central server
- **Meta-analysis**

    - For each study, aggregated data provided by eazch site
    - Still need to trus tthe central server
- **Decentralized**
    - Send the algorithm to the data
- **Privacy preserving distributed machine learning**
    - The querier defines the query, e.g. training of an ML model
    - Each data provider performs several training iterations on its data
    - The DP's collectively and iteratilvely combine their encrypted local model in a global model
    - After the training and based on a pre-agreement, the model is either :
        * kept secret for oblivious predications
        * revealed to the querier
- **Gradient Descent**
    - Non polynomial activations functions
        * Sol : Least square **approxiamtion** of activation function
    - Heavy homomorphic operations
        * Sol : Problem specific **packing schemes** to enable Single instruction, Multiple Data
    - Model specific functions
        * Sol : Introduce seveeral functions **distributed bootstapping**
- **Bootstrapping** : The model is persisent among multiple iterations → large multiplicative depth → ciphertext need to be bootstapped
    - Sol : Efficient and collaborative distributed bootstapping and minimizing the number of bootstraps via parametrization
- **Parametrization** : Tight link between learning parameters and cryptographic parameters
    - Sol : **A constrained optimization problem** for choosing the cryptographic parameters

Blockchain

- **Data structure** : *linked list* with specific properties
- It it a *distributed* database of *record* of all event that have been executed and shared among participating *parties*
- Each **block** except the first one contains the hash of the previous block
- Blocks store cryptographically secure information (**validated by nodes**)
- Each block contains :
    - A **Cryptographic hash** of the previous block
    - A **timestamp**
    - **Data**
- Purpose of blockchain : **Removing the trusted thrid party**
- **Transparency** : Each participant has a copy of the current blockchain data
- **Consensus** : All network participants must agree that an event to added to the chain is valid
- **Transaction** Content
    - **Assets**
        * The currency of the chain
        * Blockchain imposes sum of all assets to be constant
    - **Smart contract**
        * Small programs that work on the data in the ledger
        * Allow to extend the functionality of the blockchain
        * Are enforced by the consensus of the nodes
    - **Tokens**
        * Digital representation of (physical world) objects
        * Smart contracts define how token can be exchanged
- **Node governance**
    - **Proof of Authority** (PoA)
        * A fixed set of nodes decide on consensus
        * Updating this set often follows off-chain rules

  - **Proof of Work** (PoW)
    - Lottery - the first node to solve a cryptographic puzzle proposes the next block and gets a reward
    - Everybody can joined
    - Huge waste of energy
  - **Proof of stake** (PoS)
    - Nodes invest a stake to be allowed to propose blocks and gets rewards
    - The stake can be lost if the node misbehaves
    - Concentration of stake
  - **Proof of Personhood** (PoP)
    - Special case of PoS, where each person has the same power to stake and get rewards
    - Experimental, socialist - universal basic income
- **Scaling out**
  - **Sharding**
    - Create groups of nodes that each handle a part of the transactions
    - Increase speed, but potential security problems
    - Shared Security, shards are verified by a central chain
  - **Side Chains**
    - Independant chain that is loosely tied to the main chain
    - Increase speed, but decrease security
- **Permissioned Ledgers**
  - Also called **Permissioned blockchains**
  - Just decide *administratively* who participates; Fixed or manually changed group of trustees
  - *Liability clearly defined*
  - No proof of work → low energy cost
  - More mature consensus protocols applicable
  - Higher human organizational costs
  - No onger open for anyone to participate
  - Strong potential for regulated sectors such as finance and health
- **Public (permissioned)** vs **Private (permissioned)** blockchains
  - Who is able to *write* the data in the blockchain
- **Open** vs **Closed** blockchains
  - Who is able to *read* the data in the blockchain
- Blockchain abstraction
  - **Strict orderign of messages**
  - **Rule based write, global read**
  - **No message modification**
- **Consensus** properties
  - **Termination** : Every correct process will eventually decide on some output
  - **Integrity** : If all correct processes proposed the same value, then any correct process must decide this value
  - **Agreement** : Every process must agree on the same value
- Conflict resolutiona : bitcoin solves this problem by having a *leader* elected every 10 minutes that states which transactions are valid
  - Elected via *proof of work*
- **Eclipse attack**
  - Adversary targets a **specific node** to cut off all of its communication with the other peers and thus isolate this specific node
  - A sucessful Eclipse Attack enables isolating the victim node and prevent the victim from attaining true pricture of the real network activity and the current ledger state
  - By isolating a lot of nodes the attacker can remove significant of *hash power* from the system
  - How to mitigate :
    - Random node selection
    - Fewer nodes per IP address or machine

        - * information storage (storing informations about nodes)
        - * Larger number of connections
- **Sybil attack**
    - Type of attack seen in peer to peer network in which a node in the network operates unedr multiple identities
    - How to prevent it
        - * Bitcoin uses Proof of Work consesus algorithm to prove the authenticity of any block that added to the blockchain
- **Double spending attack**
    - A miner or a group of miners controls 51% or more of the mining power of the blockchain network
- Bitcoin : issues with scalability
- **Smart contract**
    - Contract that formalizes a relationship between parties and contains a set of promises made between them
    - Provides new way to formalize and secure digital relationship
- Ethereum and **Gas**
    - A unit that measures the maount of **computational effort** that will take to execute certains operations
    - Each operations is tagged with an explicit cost
    - Each transaction incurs a cost to the sender
    - Gas is the unit of all computational tasks in ethereum

Data protection for personalized health

- **Homer's attack**
    - Adversary has acces to a know participant's genome
    - Goal : determine if the target individual is in the case group
    - Uses simple correlation in the genome
- **GA4GH Beacon project**
    - Allows researcher to quickly query multiple database to find the sample they need
    - Encourages cross-border collaboration among researchers
    - Only provides minimal response back in order to mitigate privacy concerns
- **Surname interface attack**
    - Goals :
        - * Recover the surname of sequence donors from 1000 Geneme Project
        - * Triangulate the identity of a sequence donor using his surname, age and state
    - Using :
        - * Surname are parernally inherited in most human societies
        - * Y-chromosome haplotypes in male individuals are direclty inherited from the father
    - Surname interference
        - * Profile short tandem repeats on the Y chromosome
        - * Query recreational generic genealogy database
        - * Obtain a list of possible surnames for the sequence in question
    - Identity Triangulation
        - * Combne surnames with age and state
        - * Triangulate the identity of the target
- **Genomic data** pose special privacy problems
    - They are inherently identifying
    - They can't be changed
    - They have unique statistical regularities
    - They contains sensitive and personal informations
    - Their leakage can expose individuals to generic discrimination
    - Relatives can also be affected
- **Genome Privacy**

  - Require duration of protection » 1 century
  - Data size around 300 GBytes / person
  - Need sometimes to carry out computations on millions of patient records
  - Noisy data
  - Correlations
  - Several “semi trusted” stakeholders
  - Deiversity of applications
- Pragmatic approach, **gradual** introduction of new protections tools
- Different **sensitive levels** of the data
- Different **access right**
- Exploit **existing** data
- Be **future proof**
- Awarness and enforcement of **patient consent**
- **Deterministic encryption**
  - Preserves and leaks equality if the plaintext
- **Probabilistic encryption**
  - Random salt added to each encryption to achieve semantic security