

# Secure Catering Payment Service

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## 1 Essential components

To simplify, we extract several main operations and requirements. This part introduces the essential parts of the whole procedures.

### Detailed assumptions about terminals, server and cards

The card has space to store **payment secret** and the corresponding **account number**. Each card carries circuits which are able to take input and generate output after some specific computation including (3DES and hash) when attached to the terminal. For **terminals**, we assume that each terminal stores one **terminal number** and one **terminal secret number** (permanent) which is only known to the server, let's call it **TK**. The server stores the stuff's **account numbers** and **the hash values of their passwords** and the **payment secret**. Terminals can also do other complex operations.

### Protocol Structure

First, there is a basic protocol to guarantee secure data transmission with a shared key. We call it SKBSTL (shared-key-based secure transmission layer) protocol. It contains three functions: 1. mutual authentication and session key generation. 2. session key validation check. 3. secure data transmission. (The mode decides the function in the diagram.) Secondly, other operations based on this protocol.

SKBSTL: start a conversation	authorisation	download payment secret	other operations
SKBSTL			
TCP layer			

mode	other configuration	header
data (may be encrypted)		

SKBSTL

### Mutual authentication between the Catering server and the terminal and the session key generation

This operation happens the first time when one terminal tries to communicate with the server in a period of time. After the terminal and the server are both authenticated, a **session key** which is valid for a period of time will be generated to encrypt the communication between the server and the terminal. The session key is stored in the terminal with a specific lifetime. This terminal's key is also recorded in the server corresponding to its terminal number.

**Step 1.** First the terminal sends a Mutual authentication and session key acquire request which includes its **terminal number**.

**Step 2.** The server gets the request and checks if it is a legal terminal number. Then the server sends back a challenge request which includes a nonce named *nonceA*.

**Step 3.** The terminal gets the nonce and sends back a response package which includes **terminal number**  $\parallel E_{TK}[\textit{nonceA} \parallel \textit{nonceB}]$ .

**Step 4.** The server decrypts the encrypted text according to the terminal secret number stored with the terminal number and checks the *nonceA*. After that, the server sends back a package which includes  $E_{TK}[\textit{nonceB} \parallel \textit{sessionkey}(SK)] \parallel E_{SK}[\textit{terminalnumber} \parallel \textit{sessionkeylifetime}]$ . The server stores the session key and its lifetime corresponding to the terminal

number and delete the previous session key if there is one.

**Step 5.** The terminal encrypts the text and get the session key and its lifetime. After the previous communication. The terminal and the server authenticate each other.

**Vulnerabilities:** The attacker can keep sending step 1 request to keep acquiring new nounce. This can make the legitimate user unable to authenticate itself which can be a DoS attack. So we make the nonce keep the same value at a period of time, we say one minute.

**Another way:** In step one, terminal sends the request which includes terminal numbers and  $E_{TK}[\text{currentdateandtime} \parallel \text{nonceB}]$ . Then go straight to step 4.

## establish a confidential channel between server and terminals

The terminal first check if it has a valid session key. If it does not have a valid session key. The terminal will do the operation **the mutual authentication between the Catering server and the terminal and the session key generation** and get the session key. If there is a valid key. First we need to do a **the validation check**. **the validation check** is contained in the first two steps in the following part **start a conversation**. If the validation check is passed, then we use the session key to guarantee the security of communication.

**Start a conversation :** Then the terminal starts a conversation with the server. This is designed to avoid replay attack. The server and terminal also maintains a **counter** which increases everytime there is a request or response between the server and the terminal. To start a conversation.

**Step 1.** the terminal sends a conversation establishment request which includes terminal number (which is in the SKBSTL header) and  $E_{SK}[\text{terminalnumber} \parallel \text{nonce0} \parallel \text{counter} = 0]$

**Step 2.** If the server decrypts the data and get a terminal number that is the same with the terminal number in the header, it means the validation check is passed. The server sends back a package including  $\text{terminalnumberand}E_{SK}[\text{nonce0} \parallel \text{nonce1} \parallel \text{counter} = 1]$ .

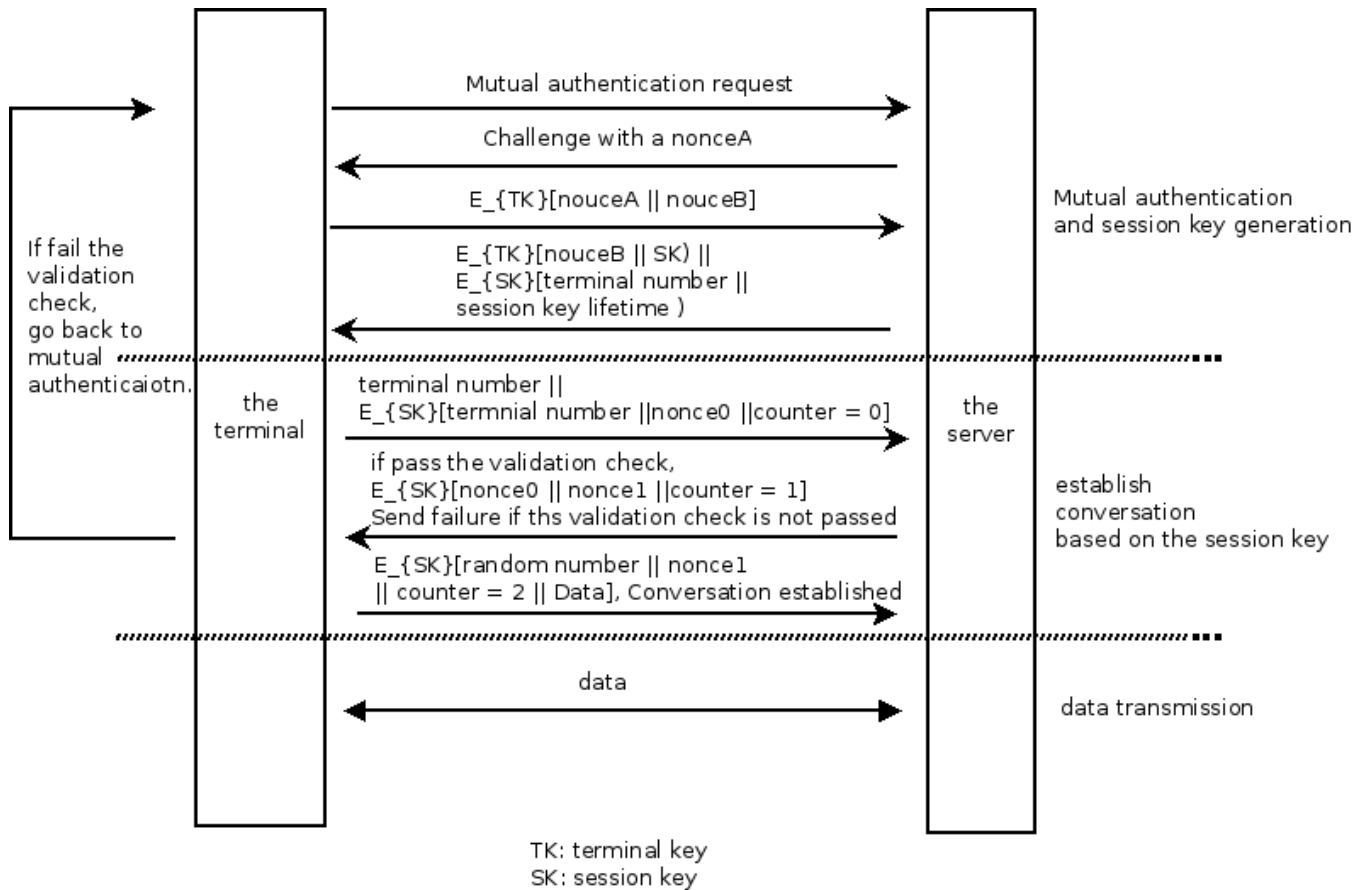
If the server decrypts the data and get a terminal number that is not the same with the terminal number in the header, then the server send a **failure information** to the terminal(which can be contained in the header). If the terminal only gets several failure packages after serveral tries, it means the current session key can not pass the validation check. The terminal may need to do the mutual authentication and get a new session key. The decision if to get a new session key is on the the terminal, the server will abort a valid session key only when the terminal successfully get a new one (to avoid replay attack). (To avoid replay attack, nonceB will keep the same for a period of time.)

**Step 3.** the terminal sends back a package including  $\text{terminalnumberand}E_{SK}[\text{randomnumber} \parallel \text{nonce1} \parallel \text{counter} = 2 \parallel \text{Data}]$ . (random numbers make it harder to decipher the ciphertext.)

**Step 4.** Once the server gets the package, conversation is established. Nonce1 will be recorded and stay the same during the conversation. The counter should be increasing. To tackle replay attack. Any package with the same nonce1 but less counter will be ignored. The server aborts previous unfinished conversation with this terminal if any.

To terminate a conversation, the terminal or server needs to exchange terminate-request package. Or finish the conversation automatically when timeout.

**Integrity:** To guarantee integrity, we can hash the data before encrypt it. TCP layer has checksum to tackle simple tampering operation.



## Secure authorisation

This includes the operation that cards need to do, when the card needs to send authorisation to the server.

First, the terminal send a request to the server. Then the server return a nonce(random number). The terminal gives this nonce to the card. The card uses 3DES to encrypt the nonce with the payment secret and hash it, then return to the terminal with the card number. The terminal send the hash value and the card number to the server. The server does 3DES and hash to the payment secret corresponding to the card number and compare to the value that the terminal gives if the card number is legal. If the check is positive. Then it is a legal authorisation.

## 2 Procedure: Download payment secret

To communicate with server, the terminal needs a valid session key. If there is no valid session key recorded in the terminal or in the server for this terminal. Then the operation **Mutual authentication between the Catering server and the terminal and the session key generation** needs to be done first. If there is a valid key and pass the **validation check**, It is possible to do next operations.

Alice attaches her card to the terminal. Terminal check if it is a legal card (physical check). Ask Alice to input her account number and password. Alice types into her account and password. The terminal establishes a **conversation** with the server using its session key. The terminal will **hash** the password and send the hash value and the account number through **the confidential channel** between server and the terminal. The server gets the account and checks if it is legitimate and. If the account is legitimate then the server compares the **hash value** with the one stored in the server. If the check is not passed, the server returns a failure. If the check is passed, the server sends the **payment secret** and the **account number** of Alice through the confidential channel and payment secret will be downloaded to the card.

### Analysis:

In this procedure, the plaintext of payment secret is exposed to the terminal. But I think is alright because that the server sends the payment secret to the terminal only if the terminal is a legitimate one which is guaranteed by the mutual authentication and session key mechanism. The account number and the password that Alice provides can make sure that Alice is the legitimate owner of the payment secret.

The confidentiality of the payment secret transmission is guaranteed by the **confidential channel**. Though the terminal will see the plaintext of the payment secret, we still think that it is a reliable system as we explained before.

For **DoS**, the security is ensured by the confidential channel. First the attacker needs to establish a conversation with the server. It can not be done without a master key or a session key. So attackers can only do the replay attack. So it can never trigger

the server's large-time-cost operation like searching for data in the data base, but may trigger decrypting operation.

### 3 Procedure: Authorised purchase

First, the terminal establishes a conversation as before. All the following communication is through the **confidential channel**. Then, the terminal sends a request for authorisation. Then, the server sends back a nonce. **Secure authorisation** provides the method to give authorisation. The card send the value  $hash(E_{paymentsecret}[nonce])$  (here we use 3DES) and Alice's account number. The the server gets the account number and find the corresponding payment secret. Then the server does the operation  $hash(E_{paymentsecret}[nonce])$  as well and compare the two hash values. If then check is passed, the server send success information to the terminal. Otherwise, it sends the failure information. Other following information is all transferred through the **confidential channel**.

**Analysis:** In this procedure, the terminal can not get the payment secret for the card hash and encrypt it. As a result, any machine tries to read the payment secret can not get that, they can only get the hash value. The purchase authorisation can never be re-used for the value that needs to be sent to the server is based on the nonce that the server sends.

### 4 Reference

[1] William Stallings, "Cryptography and Network Security: Principles and Practice 6th", Prentice Hall Press Upper Saddle River, NJ, USA.