Securing Apache Kafka

Outline

- Kafka and security overview
- Authentication
 - Identify the principal (user) associated with a connection
- Authorization
 - What permission a principal has
- Secure Zookeeper

Security Overview

- Support since 0.9.0
- Wire encryption btw client and broker
 - For cross data center mirroring
- Access control on resources such as topics
 - Enable sharing Kafka clusters

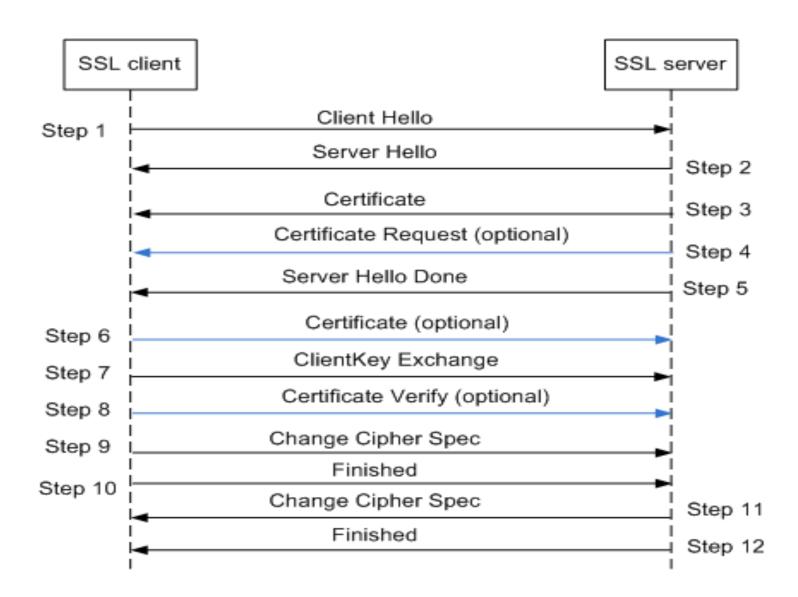
Authentication Overview

- Broker support multiple ports
 - plain text (no wire encryption/authentication)
 - SSL (for wire encryption/authentication)
 - SASL (for Kerberos authentication)
 - SSL + SASL (SSL for wire encryption, SASL for authentication)
- Clients choose which port to use
 - need to provide required credentials through configs

Why is SSL useful

- 1-way authentication
 - Secure wire transfer through encryption
- 2-way authentication
 - Broker knows the identity of client
- Easy to get started
 - Just involve client and server

SSL handshake



Subsequent transfer over SSL

- Data encrypted with agreed upon cipher suite
 - Encryption overhead
 - Losing zero-copy transfer in consumer

Performance impact with SSL

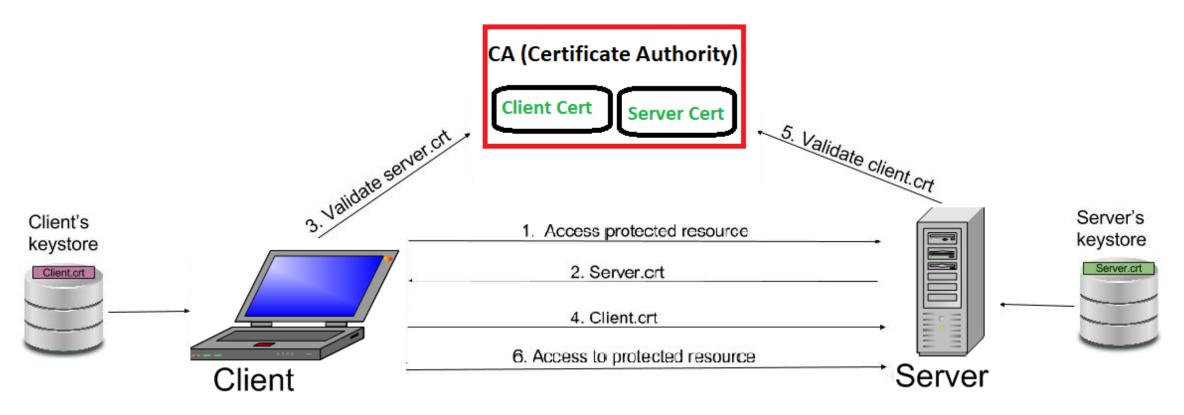
- r3.xlarge
 - 4 core, 30GB ram, 80GB ssd, moderate network (~90MB/s)

	Throughput(MB/S)	CPU on client	CPU on broker
Producer(plaintext)	83	12%	30%
Producer (SSL)	69	28%	48%
Consumer (plaintext)	83	8%	2%
Consumer (SSL)	69	27%	24%

• Most overhead from encryption

Preparing SSL

- 1. Generate certificate (X509) in broker key store
- 2. Generate certificate authority (CA) for signing
- 3. Sign broker certificate with CA
- 4. Import signed certificate and CA to broker key store
- 5. Import CA to client trust store
- 6. 2-way authentication: generate client certificate in a similar way



Configuring SSL

• No client code change; just configuration change.

Client/Broker

```
ssl.keystore.location =
/var/private/ssl/kafka.server.keystore.jks
ssl.keystore.password = test1234
ssl.key.password = test1234
ssl.truststore.location =
/var/private/ssl/kafka.server.truststore.jks
ssl.truststore.password = test1234
```

Broker

```
listeners = SSL://host.name:port
security.inter.broker.protocol = SSL
ssl.client.auth = required
```

Client

```
security.protocol = SSL
```

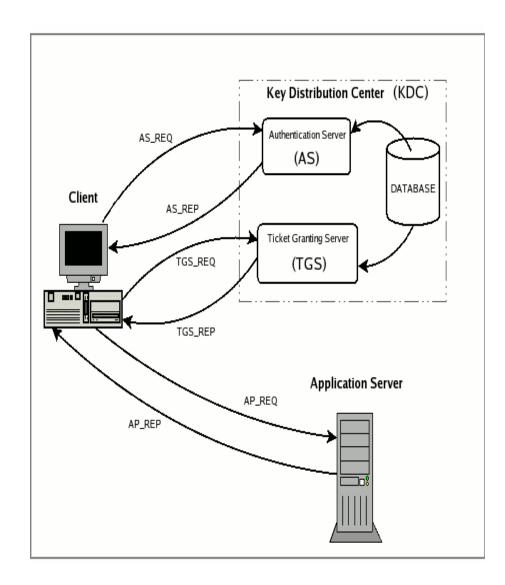
What is SASL

- Simple Authentication and Security Layer
 - Challenge/response protocols
 - Server issues challenge and client sends response
 - Continue until server is satisfied
- Different mechanisms
 - Plain: cleartext username/password
 - Digest MD5
 - GSSAPI: Kerberos
- Kafka 0.9.0 only supports Kerberos

Why Kerberos

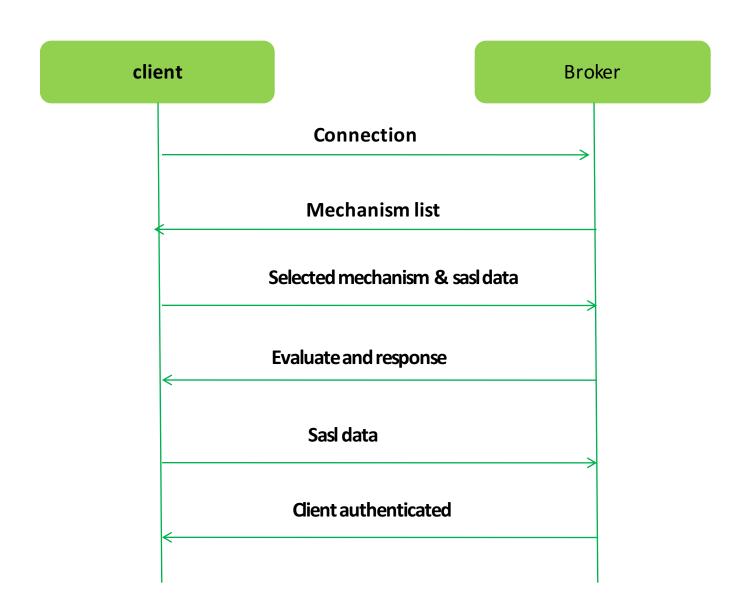
- Secure single sign-on
 - An organization may provide multiple services
 - User just remember a single Kerberos password to use all services
- More convenient when there are many users
- Need Key Distribution Center (KDC)
 - Each service/user need a Kerberos principal in KDC

How Kerberos Works



- Create service and client principal in KDC
- Client authenticate with AS on startup
- Client obtain service ticket from TGS
- Client authenticate with service using service ticket

SASL handshake



Tos

Data transfer

- SASL_PLAINTEXT
 - No wire encryption
- SASL_SSL
 - Wire encryption over SSL

Preparing Kerberos

- Create Kafka service principal in KDC
- Create a keytab for Kafka principal
 - Keytab includes principal and encrypted Kerberos password
 - Allow authentication w/o typing password
- Create an application principal for client KDC
- Create a keytab for application principal

Configuring Kerberos

No client code change; just configuration change Client JAAS file

Broker JAAS file

```
KafkaServer {
   com.sun.security.auth.module.
   Krb5LoginModule required
   useKeyTab=true
   storeKey=true
   keyTab="/etc/security/keyt
   abs/kafka_server.keytab"
   principal="kafka/kafka1.ho
   stname.com@EXAMPLE.COM";
};
```

```
KafkaClient {
   com.sun.security.auth.module.
   Krb5LoginModule required
   useKeyTab=true
   storeKey=true
   keyTab="/etc/security/keyt
   abs/kafka_client.keytab"
   principal="kafka-client-
   1@EXAMPLE.COM";
};
```

Broker JVM

```
Djava.security.auth.lo
gin.config=/etc/kafka/
kafka_server_jaas.conf
```

Broker config

```
security.inter.broker.protocol=
SASL_PLAINTEXT(SASL_SSL)
sasl.kerberos.service.name=kafka
```

ClientJVM

```
Djava.security.auth.log
in.config=/etc/kafka/
kafka_client_jaas.conf
```

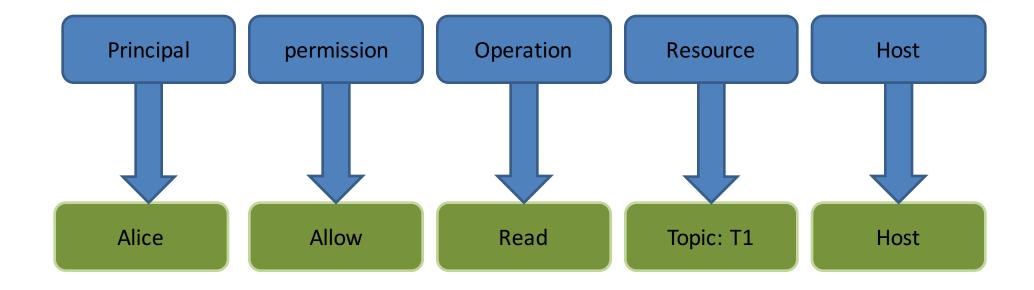
Client config

```
security.protocol=SA
SL_PLAINTEXT(SASL_SSL)
sasl.kerberos.servic
e.name=kafka
```

Authorization

- Control which permission each authenticated principal has
- Pluggable with a default implementation

Alice is Allowed to Read from topic T1 from Host1



Operations and Resources

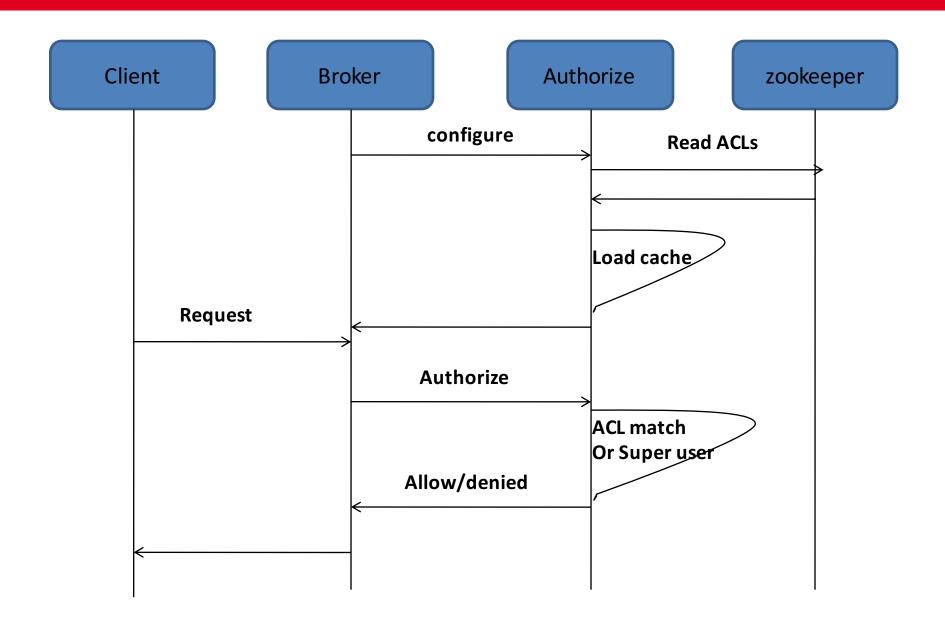
- Operations
 - Read, Write, Create, Describe, ClusterAction, All
- Resources
 - Topic, Cluster and ConsumerGroup

Operations	Resources
Read, write, Describe (Read, Write implies Describe)	Topic
Read	Consumer Group
Create, ClusterAction(communication between controller and brokers)	Cluster

SimpleAclAuthorizer

- Out of box authorizer implementation.
- CLI tool for adding/removing acls
- ACLs stored in zookeeper and propagated to brokers asynchronously
- ACL cache in broker for better performance

Authorizer Flow



Configure broker ACL

- authorizer.class.name=kafka.security.auth.SimpleAclAuthorizer
- Make Kafka principal super users
 - Or grant ClusterAction and Read all topics to Kafka principal

Configure client ACL

- Producer
 - Grant Write on topic, Create on cluster (auto creation)
 - Or use --producer option in CLI

```
bin/kafka-acls --authorizer-properties zookeeper.connect=localhost:2181 \
--add --allow-principal User:Bob --producer --topic t1
```

- Consumer
 - Grant Read on topic, Read on consumer group
 - Or use --consumer option in CLI

```
bin/kafka-acls --authorizer-properties zookeeper.connect=localhost:2181 \
--add --allow-principal User:Bob --consumer --topic t1 --group group1
```

Lab: - Securing Kafka