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1) How did you hash the passwords in the file? Include information such as the hashing algorithm, the library you used, how you appended the password with the salt before hashing, and other information we've discussed related to password storage. Please provide brief explanations as to why you chose to use what you did. Convince the reader that your password storage algorithm is secure.

To hash the password I first made a random salt with the OS library using urandom. I picked 16 bits for the salt because we did not need a huge amount of salts so 16 bits seemed like enough.

```
# TODO: Create a salt and hash the password
#32 bit salt
salt = os.urandom(16)
# PKCS#5 password-based key derivation. Takes name of hash, password, salt, and number of interation
hashed_password = hashlib.pbkdf2_hmac('sha256', password.encode('utf-8'), salt, 100000)
```

To join the salt and the password that was the input, I used the hashlib library with the pdkdf2_hmac function. Pdkdf2_hmac takes the name of the hash function you want to use (sha256 is what I picked), password to be hashed, salt that we came up with before, and number of iteration on the hash. This function encrypts the values and stores them in the variable hashed_password which we later store in the file along with the unhashed value of the salt and the username. In terms of picking the hash function I choose sha256 because after reading some documentation it seems like that is what most people tend to use with hashlib. Also, it is good to note that there is a warning that comes with using hashlib that says that some algorithms within the library have hash collision issues, but from what I read the function that I picked do not seem to be affected by this.

2) Describe your approach to public/private key use. How did you generate your public/private key pair? What library did you use to encrypt messages? In which folder did you store your keys? Please provide any details you think would be relevant.

The Public\Private Key Pair is based around a math principle where inorder to decrypt a public key, a private key must be used. This is RSA encryption and thus asymmetric. The private key was used in our handshake and encrypted with the RSA cipher to create our session key. This RSA cipher was generated with our given public key that was mentioned earlier and thus to decrypt the recipient had to have the private key. Thus our threeway connection is verified. These public keys that were given to us were stored in the same folder as the user as the user would need access to them. If they were stored in a different folder we would have security leaks.

3) How did you manage symmetric encryption? What encryption mode did you use, and

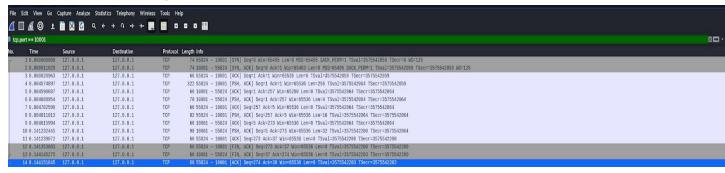
why did you think that was best? What tradeoffs did you make for that encryption mode?

For symmetric encryption we used AES_ECB. To send the key safely we initially encrypted the key with the client's public key(RSA), then the ECB key was decoded by the server's private key. We implemented ECB due too it being the simplest to implement. However the main tradeoff was ECB being seen as one of the weaker symmetric encryptions. One of the major reasons is it takes blocks of data and encrypts all the blocks using the same algorithm. Someone who is sniffing would be able to see patterns if blocks of data were the same.

```
def decrypt_key(session_key):
    private_key = RSA.importKey(open('client_cert').read())
    private_cipher=PKCS1_OAEP.new(private_key)
    message=private_cipher.decrypt(session_key)
    return message
```

4) Provide a brief explanation of why your program would be secure from eavesdroppers if you were to run it on a publicly visible network, from start to finish. Write your program like you're protecting yourself from Comcast or the NSA!

When the conversation starts, the first thing that happens is the client creates the secret AES key and encrypts it using its public key. The only thing that can decrypt it is the server's private key. An eavesdropper could not decrypt it. Once the key is passed the rest of the conversation is encrypted by AES(symmetric encryption). Unless the eavesdropper had the AES key, he/she wouldn't be able to decrypt the rest of the conversation between the



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Photos above shows our encrypted traffic.

5) Is your program secure from replay attacks? If not, why not? Use protocols that we discussed in class to show that it isn't vulnerable. If it is vulnerable, what could you do to prevent it? Could you perform a replay attack against yourself?

We do not prevent replay attacks. We did not implement the code to do this.

It would involve another message being sent between the client and the server where the server generates a random number and the servers sends back that same random number plus one. The issue with this method would be if the attacker could guess the random number they would be able to get around this. The other way to prevent a replay attack would be to add a timestamp with your session. The time stamp makes it so an attacker couldn't re open a session. The only issue with the time solution is that if the two people who are actually meant to be communicating have clocks that are not synced then it won't allow them to communicate either.

6) What else did you learn from the project? Did you have to do some research? Collectively, or individually, give some of the key takeaways you had when doing this.

We had to do a fair amount of research for this project. We had to look up libraries and functions for how to make out salt, encryption, and decryption. We also had a lot of issues with storing the password and salt in the file since the values that we produced were in hex but storing them in the file made us change them into a string. Initially we had a misunderstanding about how reading from a file worked, even though what we were reading was in a byte type format, our code would read it only as a string since we used the parameter "r" rather than "rb" for reading it in bytes. Changing this hex value back from a string proved to be very difficult because the os Python library stored a hex value with an \x instead of an 0x so standard converters did not work. Below is a screenshot of some of our encrypted passwords with salts added. The storage format is not optimal.

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Also python has a lot of libraries that do a lot of this stuff for us but it is important to read them because the first one you find may not be the best option.

Another problem that occurred was VM problems in downloading python3 inorder to debug the project. This was not unique to the project but rather errors in the kali linux distro and manually installing instead of using the package manager. As kali linux has certain dependencies other distros do not, using the package manager is highly recommended.