

WWW Security Protocols

Giampaolo Bella

Università di Catania

<http://www.dmi.unict.it/~nas>



Security protocols for the WWW

- The backbone
 - HyperText Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS)
 - Secure Socket Layer (SSL)
 - Transport Layer Security (TLS)
- Can be fleshed up for, e.g.
 - Email: Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (S/MIME)
 - Payments: 3D-Secure (exposed as Verified by Visa and Mastercard SecureCode), replacing Secure Electronic Transactions (SET), now deprecated

HTTPS

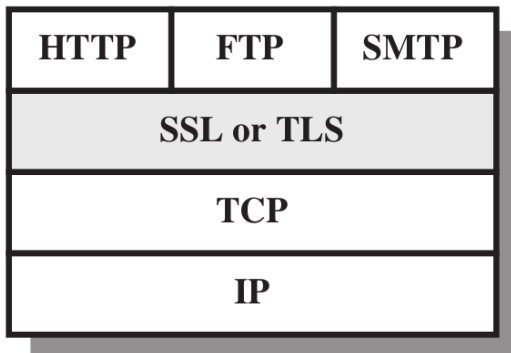
- Documented as RFC 2818 “HTTP Over TLS”
- Uses port 443 rather than 80 of HTTP
- Encrypts: contents, forms, cookies, HTTP headers
(*browser type and version, O.S. used...*)
- A special header sent by server to browser is HTTP Strict Transport Security (HSTS) to thwart SSL stripping attacks

SSL stripping attacks

- **Version 1:** prevented by HSTS
 - User wants `https://www.securesite.com`
 - MitM downgrades response to `http://www.securesite.com`
- **Version 2:** not prevented by HSTS
 - User wants `https://www.securesite.com`
 - MitM downgrades response to `http://www.securesitee.com`

SSL

Provides a secure layer between TCP/IP and applications



Reserved SSL ports

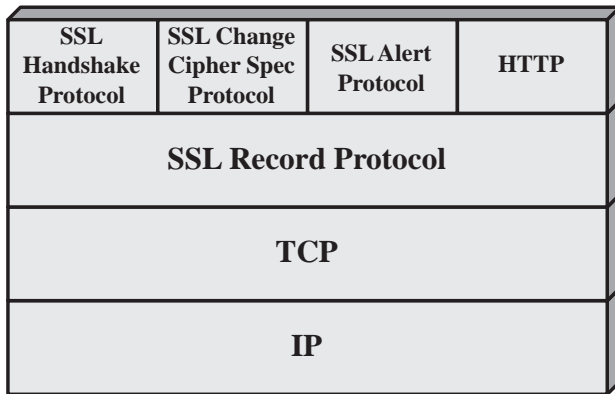
Protocol	Description	Port #
nsiops	IIOP Name Service over SSL/TLS	261
https	HTTP over SSL/TLS	443
nntp	NNTP over SSL/TLS	563
ldaps	LDAP over SSL/TLS	636
ftps-data	FTP Data over SSL/TLS	989
ftps	FTP Control over SSL/TLS	990
telnet	Telnet over SSL/TLS	992
imaps	IMAP4 over SSL/TLS	993
ircs	IRC over SSL/TLS	994
pop3s	POP3 over SSL/TLS	995
tftps	TFTP over SSL/TLS	3713
sip-tls	SIP over SSL/TLS	5061

SSL versus TLS? Ask Microsoft!

Brief history

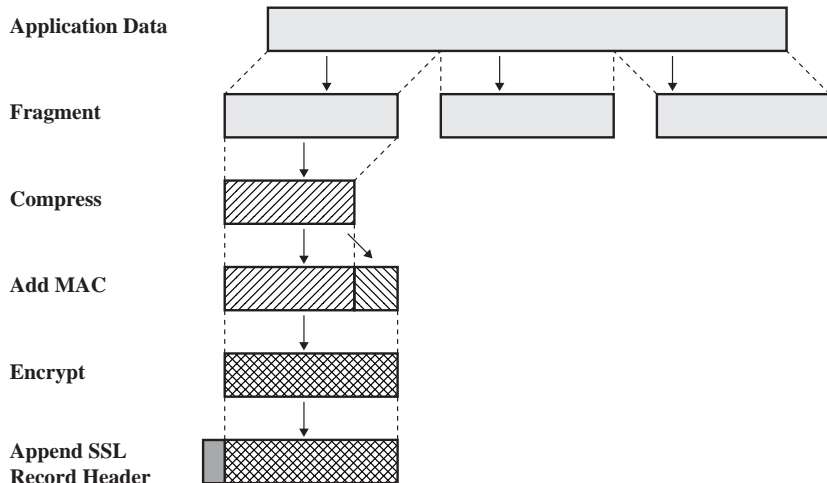
- **1994**: Netscape deploys SSL v2 in Navigator 1.1, soon found vulnerable
- **1995**: SSL 3.0 as RFC 6101 of 2011
- **1999**: TLS working group of IETF standardises the protocol as TLS

SSL protocol suite



SSL Record Protocol

Compact view



MAC

```
hash(MAC_write_secret || pad_2 ||  
      hash(MAC_write_secret || pad_1 || seq_num ||  
            SSLCompressed.type || SSLCompressed.length ||  
            SSLCompressed.fragment))
```

where

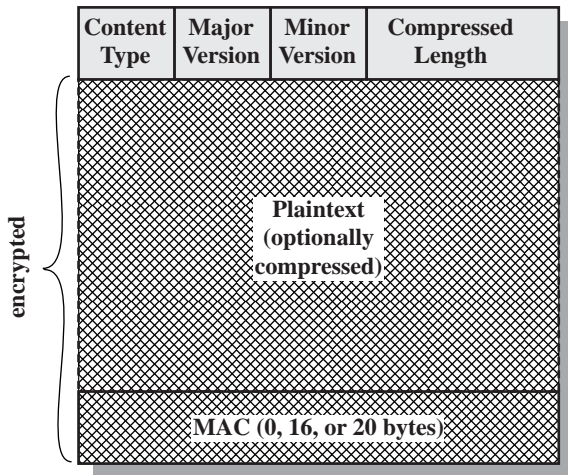
<code> </code>	= concatenation
<code>MAC_write_secret</code>	= shared secret key
<code>hash</code>	= cryptographic hash algorithm; either MD5 or SHA-1
<code>pad_1</code>	= the byte 0x36 (0011 0110) repeated 48 times (384 bits) for MD5 and 40 times (320 bits) for SHA-1
<code>pad_2</code>	= the byte 0x5C (0101 1100) repeated 48 times for MD5 and 40 times for SHA-1
<code>seq_num</code>	= the sequence number for this message
<code>SSLCompressed.type</code>	= the higher-level protocol used to process this fragment
<code>SSLCompressed.length</code>	= the length of the compressed fragment
<code>SSLCompressed.fragment</code>	= the compressed fragment (if compression is not used, this is the plaintext fragment)

Record Header

Content type	Major version	Minor version	Compressed length
-----------------	------------------	------------------	----------------------

- **Content type**: one of the protocols of SSL
- **Major version**: e.g. 3
- **Minor version**: e.g. 0
- **Compressed length**: number of bytes of plaintext fragment

Record Format



Change Cipher Spec Protocol

- Trivially implements client/server snap agreement
- Consists of a message with a single byte of value 1
- Also viewed as part of SSL HP
- Causes pending state to be saved as current state
- Updates Cipher Suite field for current connection

Alert Protocol

- Alerts also occur over SSL RP, hence protected
- Each message consists of two bytes: **level** and **code**
- Fatal alert causes connection termination and **Is Resumable** set to zero; other connections continue
- Example fatal alerts: `unexpected_message`, `bad_record_mac`, `decompression_failure`
- Example warning alerts: `unsupported_cert`, `cert_revoked`, `cert_expired`

SSL Handshake Protocol

In short

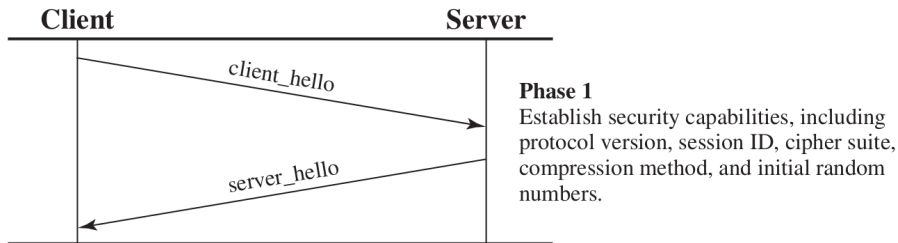
- Most complicated, actual **security protocol**
- Confidentiality (symmetric enc), authentication (asymmetric enc) and integrity (hashing)
- Establishes **Master Secret** and derives secrets from it
- Runs prior to any application data transmission
- Message format is
 - **Type**: one of ten message names
 - **Length**: message byte-length
 - **Content**: message fields (i.e. parameters)

1 byte	3 bytes	≥ 0 bytes
Type	Length	Content

Messages

Message Type	Parameters
hello_request	null
client_hello	version, random, session id, cipher suite, compression method
server_hello	version, random, session id, cipher suite, compression method
certificate	chain of X.509v3 certificates
server_key_exchange	parameters, signature
certificate_request	type, authorities
server_done	null
certificate_verify	signature
client_key_exchange	parameters, signature
finished	hash value

Phase 1. Establish Security Capabilities



Client Hello parameters

Two-way agreement: client suggests, server (dis)confirms

- **Client** sends
 - **Version**: highest supported protocol version
 - **Random**: own fresh nonce to prevent replay
 - **Session ID**: zero for new session or session id to resume
 - **Cipher Suite**: list of (Cipher Spec, Key Exchange Algo)
 - **Compression Method**: list of those supported

Server Hello parameters

Two-way agreement: client suggests, server (dis)confirms

- **Server** sends

- **Version**: lower of the versions suggested by the client and the highest supported by the server
- **Random**: own fresh nonce to prevent replay
- **Session ID**: if client's non zero, then server may opt to copy it, else server generates new one
- **Cipher Suite**: Cipher Spec and Key Exchange Algo chosen
- **Compression Method**: single method chosen

Cipher Suite components

1 Cipher Spec

- 1 Cipher Algorithm: data encryption algo
- 2 MAC Algorithm: hashing
- 3 Cipher Type: stream or block
- 4 Is Exportable: (from the US), flag
- 5 Hash Size: 0 or 16 (MD5) or 20 (SHA-1) bytes
- 6 Key Material: a sequence of bytes for subsequent key generation
- 7 IV Size: size of the Initialization Value for CBC encryption

Cipher Suite components

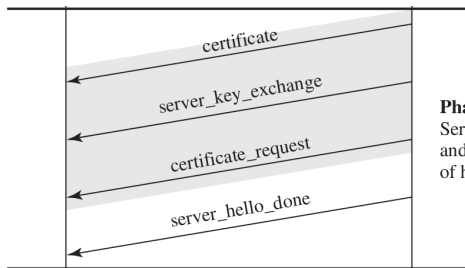
- 2 Key Exchange Algorithm chosen among
 - RSA key-exchange: session key encrypted with server pk
 - Anonymous Diffie-Hellmann: traditional version, MITM
 - Ephemeral Diffie-Hellmann: public parameters authenticated by digital signature
 - Fixed Diffie-Hellmann: DH public parameters fixed, derived from (client and) server certificates
 - Fortezza: now deprecated

Possible Cipher Suites

CipherSuite	Key Exchange	Cipher	Hash
SSL_NULL_WITH_NULL_NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL
SSL_RSA_WITH_NULL_MD5	RSA	NULL	MD5
SSL_RSA_WITH_NULL_SHA	RSA	NULL	SHA
SSL_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_RC4_40_MD5	RSA_EXPORT	RC4_40	MD5
SSL_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_MD5	RSA	RC4_128	MD5
SSL_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA	RSA	RC4_128	SHA
SSL_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_RC2_CBC_40_MD5	RSA_EXPORT	RC2_CBC_40	MD5
SSL_RSA_WITH_IDEA_CBC_SHA	RSA	IDEA_CBC	SHA
SSL_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	RSA_EXPORT	DES40_CBC	SHA
SSL_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA	RSA	DES_CBC	SHA
SSL_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	RSA	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA
SSL_DH_DSS_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	DH_DSS_EXPORT	DES40_CBC	SHA
SSL_DH_DSS_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA	DH_DSS	DES_CBC	SHA
SSL_DH_DSS_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	DH_DSS	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA
SSL_DH_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	DH_RSA_EXPORT	DES40_CBC	SHA
SSL_DH_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA	DH_RSA	DES_CBC	SHA
SSL_DH_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	DH_RSA	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA
SSL_DHE_DSS_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	DHE_DSS_EXPORT	DES40_CBC	SHA
SSL_DHE_DSS_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA	DHE_DSS	DES_CBC	SHA
SSL_DHE_DSS_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	DHE_DSS	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA
SSL_DHE_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	DHE_RSA_EXPORT	DES40_CBC	SHA
SSL_DHE_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA	DHE_RSA	DES_CBC	SHA
SSL_DHE_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	DHE_RSA	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA
SSL_DH_anon_EXPORT_WITH_RC4_40_MD5	DH_anon_EXPORT	RC4_40	MD5
SSL_DH_anon_WITH_RC4_128_MD5	DH_anon	RC4_128	MD5
SSL_DH_anon_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	DH_anon	DES40_CBC	SHA
SSL_DH_anon_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA	DH_anon	DES_CBC	SHA
SSL_DH_anon_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	DH_anon	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA

Phase 2.

Server Authentication and Key Exchange



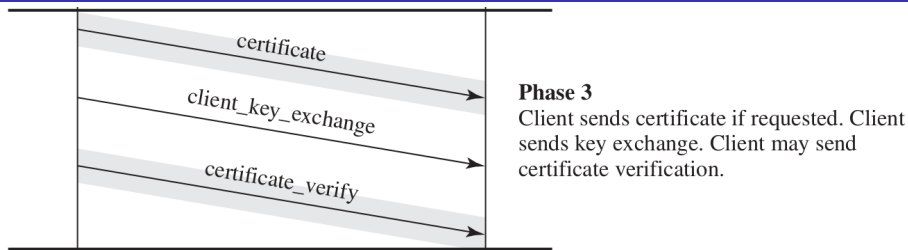
Phase 2

Server may send certificate, key exchange, and request certificate. Server signals end of hello message phase.

- `certificate`, `certificate_request`: obvious
- `server_key_exchange`: half of Key Exchange Algo
- `server_hello_done`: tell client parameters OK
- Signatures include Random fields to thwart replays
 - DSS by SHA-1, RSA by concatenating MD5 and SHA-1

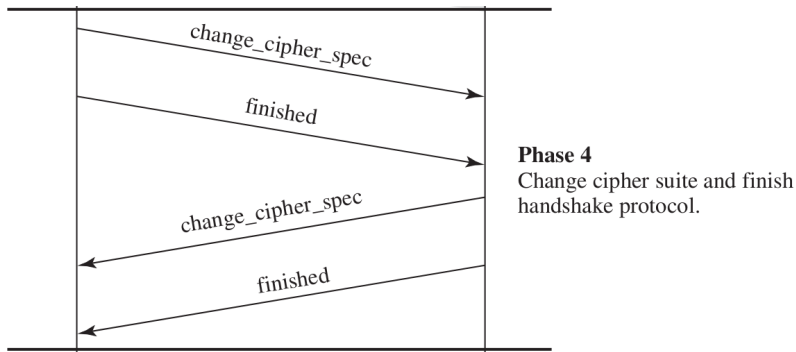
Phase 3.

Client Authentication and Key Exchange



- **certificate**: client's certificate or alert if none
- **client_key_exchange**: 48-byte **Pre-Master Secret**
- **certificate_verify**: signs all traffic seen to ask explicit server's verification of client's signature
- Master Secret derived from Pre-Master Secret

Phase 4. Finish



- `change_cipher_spec`: just byte 1
- `finished`: full traffic digest using new Cipher Spec

Master Secret

```
master_secret = MD5(pre_master_secret || SHA('A' ||  
    pre_master_secret || ClientHello.random ||  
    ServerHello.random)) ||  
    MD5(pre_master_secret || SHA('BB' ||  
    pre_master_secret || ClientHello.random ||  
    ServerHello.random)) ||  
    MD5(pre_master_secret || SHA('CCC' ||  
    pre_master_secret || ClientHello.random ||  
    ServerHello.random))
```

- 3 concatenated applications of MD5: 48 bytes
- PMS as a seed, Random values as salt

Key blocks

```
key_block = MD5(master_secret || SHA('A' || master_secret ||  
    ServerHello.random || ClientHello.random)) ||  
    MD5(master_secret || SHA('BB' || master_secret ||  
    ServerHello.random || ClientHello.random)) ||  
    MD5(master_secret || SHA('CCC' || master_secret ||  
    ServerHello.random || ClientHello.random)) || ...
```

- Process continues at both ends till construction of
 - Write Key
 - Write MAC Secret

Reducing network latency

Network latency is an issue, no milliseconds to waste!

- **Session**: an association between a client and a server, created by SSL HP, defines crypto parameters to use over multiple connections for efficiency
- **Connection**: a transport according to OSI layering, peer-to-peer, transient, associated with one session

Idea

Save a session state and resume it over a new connection using pre-agreed material

Session State

- 1 **Session ID**: arbitrarily chosen by server
- 2 **Peer Certificate**: X509. 3.0 certificate of the peer
- 3 **Compression Method**: algorithm specification
- 4 **Cipher Spec**: data encryption and MAC algorithms
- 5 **Master Secret**: 48 bytes shared secret
- 6 **Is Resumable**: flag

Session resumption

- Session State saved at end of Phase 4
- Client suggests id to resume in `client_hello`
- Server has db of session id's and decides if to resume
- Phases 2 and 3 skipped; only Phases 1 and 4 run
- New key blocks calculated from Master Secret that was stored in Session State but using fresh Random values

TLS

Transport Layer Security

- Version 1.0, 1999, RFC2246
- Standardised version of SSL 3.0
- A few differences
 - Hash-based Message Authentication Code (HMAC)
 - Pseudo Random Function
 - Extra Cipher Suites
 - Extra alerts

- By standard HMAC, RFC2104

$$\text{HMAC}_K(M) = H[(K^+ \oplus \text{opad}) \parallel H[(K^+ \oplus \text{ipad}) \parallel M]]$$

where

H = embedded hash function (for **TLS**, either MD5 or SHA-1)

M = message input to HMAC

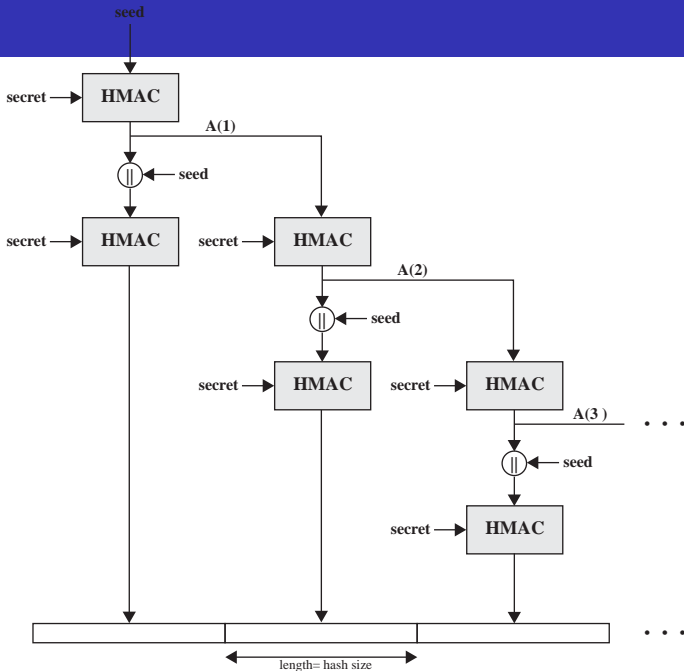
K^+ = secret key padded with zeros on the left so that the result is equal to the block length of the hash code (for MD5 and SHA-1, block length = 512 bits)

ipad = 00110110 (36 in hexadecimal) repeated 64 times (512 bits)

opad = 01011100 (5C in hexadecimal) repeated 64 times (512 bits)

- Takes M as a seed and K as a secret
- Applies a chosen hash function H

P_hash



Pseudo Random Function

$$\text{PRF}(\text{secret}, \text{label}, \text{seed}) = \text{P_MD5}(S1, \text{label} \parallel \text{seed}) \oplus \text{P_SHA-1}(S2, \text{label} \parallel \text{seed})$$

- Parameter secret is split up into S1 and S2
- Output length controlled by reiterations in HMAC
- **seed** is concatenation of both Random values
- **secret** is PMS to output MS or MS for key block
- **label** is “master secret” to output MS or “key block” to output key block

TLS evolution

- **TLS 1.0** = SSL 3.1, RFC2246, 1999
- **TLS 1.1** = SSL 3.2, RFC4346, 2006
 - TLS Extensions, RFC4366, 2006
- **TLS 1.2** = SSL 3.3, RFC5246, 2008

“TLS allows extensions to follow the compression_methods field in an extensions block. The presence of extensions can be detected by determining whether there are bytes following the compression_methods at the end of the ClientHello.”

TLS evolution

- TLS 1.1: No significant design changes wrt TLS 1.0

- TLS 1.2

Aug'04 MD5 found to suffer collisions

Dec'08 Sotirov-Stevens exploit MD5 to create rogue CA!

Aug'08 RFC5246 stated

- *“Substantial cleanup to the client’s and server’s ability to specify which hash and signature algorithms they accept.”*

Security economics

Why could MD5 claim more victims even subsequently, e.g. Flame malware of 2012?

TLS evolution

■ TLS 1.2: Significant design changes wrt TLS 1.0

Aug'08 RFC5246 stated

- *“Substantial cleanup to the client’s and server’s ability to specify which hash and signature algorithms they accept.”*
- *“The MD5/SHA-1 combination in the digitally-signed element has been replaced with a single hash. Signed elements now include a field that explicitly specifies the hash algorithm used.”*
- *“The MD5/SHA-1 combination in the pseudorandom function (PRF) has been replaced with cipher-suite-specified PRFs.”*
- *“All Cipher Suites in this document use P_SHA256.”*

Our days

Jun'15 IETF deprecates SSL 3.0 in RFC7568

Jun'16 Google stops using RC4 and SSL 3.0

Jul'16 TLS 1.3 becomes a working draft of IETF

Jan'17 SHA-1 certificates deprecated

Sep'17 Google distrusts Symantec

Jun'15 IETF approves TLS 1.3 as Internet standard

Best-known Attacks

- 2011 **Beast** chosen plaintext attack
up to TLS 1.0
- 2012 **Crime** cookie hijacking
up to early 2012 browsers
- 2013 **Breach** confidentiality attack
up to early 2013 browsers
- 2014 **Heartbleed** server memory overread
up to 2014 OpenSSL
- 2014 **Poodle** a downgrade attack to SSL 3.0
up to TLS 1.1

SSL/TLS sources

- Opplinger's "SSL and TLS: Theory and Practice", Artech House
- Sherif's "Protocols for Secure Electronic Commerce", CRC Press
- SSL/TLS and PKI History, <https://www.feistyduck.com/ssl-tls-and-pki-history/>