Lecture 14 – Passwords and Authentication

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CS 487 – Fall 2017
Slides based on Bailey's ECE 422

Major Portions Courtesy Ryan Cunningham

AUTHENTICATION

Authentication Basics

- Authentication binds identity to a subject
- Two step process
 - Identification establish identity to system
 - Verification process verifies and binds entity and identity

PASSWORD AUTHENTICATION

Basics

- User keeps a secret string (password)
- Something the user *knows*
- Advantages?
- Disadvantages?

Attacks

- Steal from the user
 - Install a keylogger (hardware or software)
 - Find it written down
 - Social engineering/Phishing
 - Intercept the password over network
 - Use a side channel
- Steal from the service
 - Install malware on the web server
 - Dump the password database with SQL injection
- Steal from a third party (password reuse)

Password Guessing

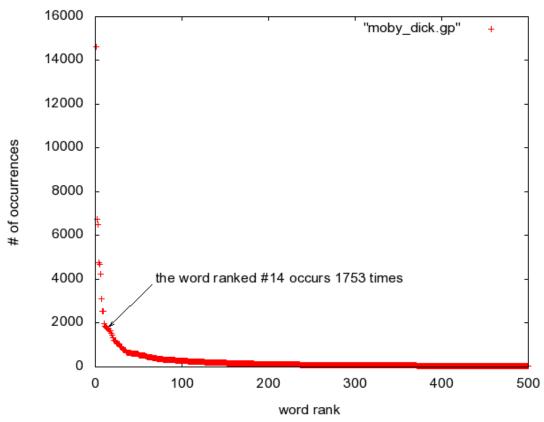
	PIN	Freq
#1	1234	10.713%
#2	1111	6.016%
#3	0000	1.881%
#4	1212	1.197%
#5	7777	0.745%
#6	1004	0.616%
#7	2000	0.613%
#8	4444	0.526%
#9	2222	0.516%
#10	6969	0.512%
#11	9999	0.451%
#12	3333	0.419%
#13	5555	0.395%
#14	6666	0.391%
#15	1122	0.366%
#16	1313	0.304%
#17	8888	0.303%
#18	4321	0.293%
#19	2001	0.290%
#20	1010	0.285%

http://www.datagenetics.com/blog/september32012/

Top 20 Passwords (Mark Burnett)

1.	password,	32027	11.	letmein,	3536
2.	123456,	25969	12.	monkey,	3487
3.	12345678,	8667	13.	696969,	3345
4.	1234,	5786	14.	abc123,	3310
5.	qwerty,	5455	15.	mustang,	3289
6.	12345,	4523	16.	michael,	3249
7.	dragon,	4321	17.	shadow,	3209
8.	pussy,	3945	18.	master,	3182
9.	baseball,	3739	19.	jennifer,	2581
10.	football,	3682	20.	111111,	2570

Power Law



http://www.philippeadjiman.com/blog/2009/10/26/drawing-the-long-tail-of-a-zipf-law-using-gnuplot-java-and-moby-dick/

Secure Passwords

- Uneven distribution makes guessing easier
- Passwords should be uniformly distributed
 - All characters in password chosen with equal probability
- Passwords should be long
 - Longer password = larger brute force search space
- Passwords should never be reused
- Passwords chosen randomly are difficult to remember
 - Tradeoff of security vs. convenience

STORING PASSWORDS



Storing Passwords

- Password database is highly sensitive
- We should *never* store *plaintext* passwords
- Store something that lets user prove they know the password

Hash functions (more later)

- Input data of an arbitrary size
- Output fixed length
- Same input always produces the same output
- One way function cannot deduce input from output
- A "fingerprint" for the input
- Examples: MD5, SHA-1, SHA-256, SHA-512, SHA-3
 md5("welcome") = 40be4e59b9a2a2b5dffb918c0e86b3d7
- None of these should be used directly used for password hashing

Noncryptographic hash functions (and more)

- Cyclic redundancy checks (CRC)
 - CRC-16, CRC-32, etc.
 - Based on polynomials, many variants
- Checksums
 - sum-8, sum-16, Adler-32, Luhn algorithm, etc.
- Noncryptographic hash functions
 - FNV-1, Berstein hash (djb2), Java's hashCode()
- None of these should be used used for password hashing

Password Hashes

- We store a database of password hashes
- e.g., /etc/shadow on UNIX

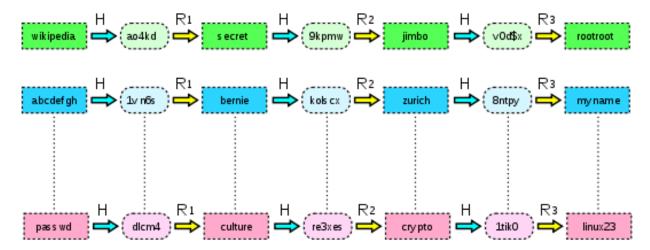
```
rcunnin2:$6$vb1tLY1qiY$M.1ZCqKtJBxBtZm1gRi8Bbkn39KU0YJW1cuMFzTRANcNKFKR4RmAQVk4rqQQCkaJT6wXqjUkFcA/qNxLyqW.U/:15405:0:99999:7::
```

Password Cracking

- Brute force search through all possible passwords in order
- Use a dictionary
- Use a dictionary of common passwords
- Combine dictionary with common passwords and heuristics (e.g. p@\$\$w0rd and password123)
- Use statistical models of user passwords
- Easy to parallelize: hash password guess, compare to entire hash database
- Commonly done with arrays of GPUs

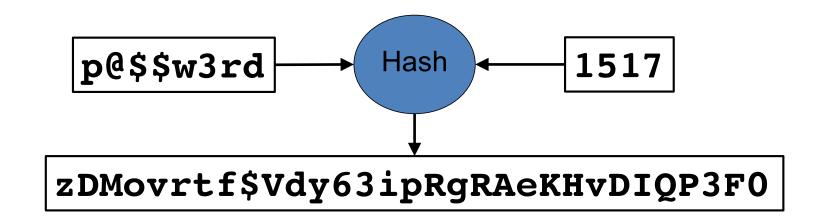
Rainbow Tables

- Many passwords are common
- Precompute them in a lookup table
- Time/space tradeoff



Salting Password Database

- Generate and store a random number, the salt for each password
- Concatenate password and salt to compute hash
- Effectively a unique hash function for each password



Password Security Policies

- Educate users about password security
 - Specifically train them to use good passwords
 - But they might or might not follow through
- Generate passwords randomly
 - Perfect uniform distribution
 - But not very psychologically acceptable
- Reactive password checking
 - Crack your own user's passwords
 - But expensive and passwords vulnerable until cracked
- Complex password policy/proactive checking

Complex Password Policy/Proactive Checking

- Let the user select their own password
- Force them to follow a policy
- Reject passwords that don't follow policy
- But...
 - Technically reduces number of possible passwords
 - Policy might not be psychologically acceptable
 - We don't know if users are reusing their passwords

Security Questions

- Are also a shared secret
- Bruce Schneier calls them "a backup password"
- Easier to guess and social engineer
- Some cannot be changed
- Some websites have a fixed set of answers!



Breaches happen

- Databases of usernames and passwords are exposed
- https://haveibeenpwned.com/ ← Use this!



US & WORLD \ TECH \ CYBERSECURITY \

Yahoo says all 3 billion user accounts were impacted by 2013 security breach

by Natt Garun | @nattgarun | Oct 3, 2017, 5:07pm EDT



RECENT PASSWORD SOLUTIONS

Password Managers

- Application that generates and maintains passwords
- Examples: LastPass, KeePass, DashLane, 1Password
- Advantages:
 - Can handle random passwords
 - Can create unique passwords for every website and service
- Disadvantages
 - One point of failure
 - Requires a strong password (could be snooped)
 - Could be hacked (only as secure as the password manager)
 - Inconvenient (doesn't work for some sites, set up time, etc.)

One Point of Failure...

Trend Micro password manager had remote command execution holes and dumped data to anyone: Project Zero

Google's Project Zero discovered multiple trivial remote code execution vulnerabilities sitting within a password manager installed by Trend Micro as default alongside its AntiVirus product.



By Chris Duckett | January 12, 2016 -- 01:32 GMT (17:32 PST) | Topic: Security



RELATED STORIES



Security
ClixSense data breach exposes
personal information of million of
subscribers

A password management tool installed by default alongside Trend Micro AntiVirus was

Single Sign-On (SSO)

- Login to trusted 3rd party (identity provider), who vouches for user identity
- Examples: Facebook Connect, OAuth, OpenID
- Pros and cons similar to Password Managers
- Third party can track users...

TOKEN-BASED AUTHENTICATION

Basics

- Something the user has
- Static memory cards
 - Read only
 - e.g. ATM card/Credit Card
 - Vulnerable to replay attack
- Smart card
 - Storage and computation
 - Enables challenge-response or one-time password
 - Protects against replay attack

Challenge-Response

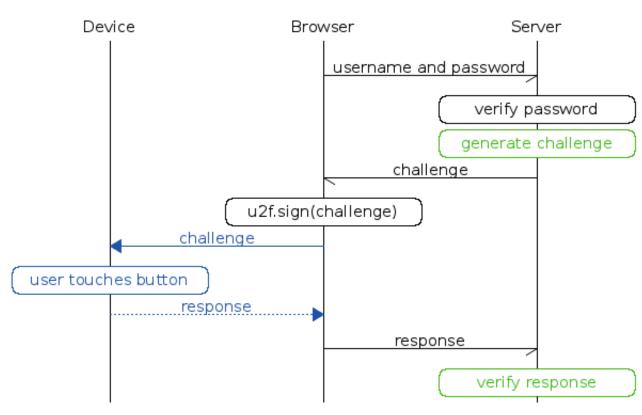
user	request to authenticate	nticate system	
user •	random message r (the challenge)	system	
user —	f(r)(the response)	→ system	

One-time password (OTP)

- Smart card can also implement one-time password scheme
- S/Key is one such scheme:
 - Start with a random seed
 - Hash the current seed to produce the next
 - Use the hash outputs in reverse order
- Time-based one-time password (TOTP)
- Vulnerable to man-in-the-middle (MitM)

Universal second factor (U2F)

- Addresses OTP's weakness to MitM
- Website's origin is cryptographically bound to the response (not displayed in the diagram)



https://developers.yubico.com/U2F/Libraries/Using_a_library.html

Disadvantages

- Token can be lost, stolen, or counterfeited
- Requires an individual physical token
- Requires an extra step (mildly inconvenient)
- Hardware can be expensive...
 - ...but usually isn't
 - \$18 for U2F key from Yubico
 - Google, Facebook, and Yubico were all giving these away at a recent conference I attended

BIOMETRIC AUTHENTICATION

Biometrics

- Something the user is or does
- Derive a signature from biological features of user
 - Voice, fingerprint, face, retina, handwriting, gait
- Advantages?
- Disadvantages?

Disadvantages

- Imprecise measurements require approximate matching
 - Essentially a machine learning task
 - False negatives and false positives have a cost
- Measurements change over time
- Poor accessibility
- Cannot be replaced or concealed
- Replay attacks/spoofing possible
- Can be legally compelled to provide biometrics

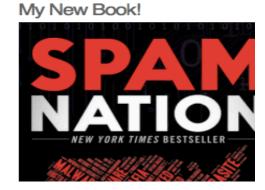
OPM Breach



Congressional Report Slams OPM on Data Breach

nassive data breach at the **U.S. Office of Personnel Management** (OPM) that ed background investigations and fingerprint data on millions of Americans was the of a cascading series of cybersecurity blunders from the agency's senior leadership on to the outdated technology used to secure the sensitive data, according to a lengthy t released today by a key government oversight panel.





Facial Recognition

Browse Journals & Magazines > IEEE Transactions on Informat... > Volume: 9 Issue: 7
Spoofing Face Recognition With 3D Masks

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∨ Nesli Erdogmus ; ∨ Sébastien Marcel

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Abstract:

Spoofing is the act of masquerading as a valid user by falsifying data to gain an illegitimate access. Vulnerability of recognition systems to spoofing attacks (presentation attacks) is still an open security issue in biometrics domain and among all biometric traits, face is exposed to the most serious threat, since it is particularly easy to access and reproduce. In this paper, many different types of face spoofing attacks have been examined and various algorithms have been proposed to detect them. Mainly focusing on 2D attacks forged by displaying printed photos or replaying recorded videos on mobile devices, a significant portion of these studies ground their arguments on the flatness of the spoofing material in front of the sensor. However, with the advancements in 3D reconstruction and printing technologies, this assumption can no longer be maintained. In this paper, we aim to inspect the spoofing potential of subject-specific 3D facial masks for different recognition systems and address the detection problem of this more complex attack type. In order to assess the spoofing performance of 3D masks against 2D, 2.5D, and 3D face recognition and to analyze various texture-based countermeasures using both 2D and 2.5D data, a parallel study with comprehensive experiments is performed on two data sets: the Morpho database which is not publicly available and the newly distributed 3D mask attack database.

OTHER SCHEMES

2 Factor Authentication (2FA)

- Something you have AND something you know
- Either factor is useless without the other
- Chip and PIN
- Commonly implemented in mobile phones via SMS
 - Disadvantages:
 - ONE device (if hacked)
 - SMS is easy to redirect
 - ONE point of failure for SE (phone company)
- Google authenticator, Duo Mobile, Authy, Yubico Authenticator
- OTP tokens (e.g., TOTP), U2F keys

Multifactor Authentication

- Next level 2FA
- Combination of biometrics, knowledge, and possession

Behavior Profiling

- Track access behavior of users
 - Systems used
 - Times and locations when active
 - Typical usage
- Look for anomalous or fraudulent behavior
- "Why is this guy who was in Iowa 2 minutes ago logging in from Nigeria?"
- Used in fraud prevention