Getting TLS Right

Zack Tollman



@tollmanz

TLS is hot right now

We implement TLS poorly

SSL Pulse Reviews SSL/TLS sites in Alexa's Top 300k sites

474 are vulnerable to heartbleed

21.0% use weak ciphers

47.3% support SSLv3

38.3% do no support Forward Secrecy

97.3% do not use HSTS

83.6% are insecure

"misconfiguration errors are undermining the potential security"

Kranch & Bonneau (2015)

http://www.internetsociety.org/sites/default/files/01_4_0.pdf

"developers who should be in the best position to understand these new tools"

Kranch & Bonneau (2015)

http://www.internetsociety.org/sites/default/files/O1_4_O.pdf

"industry-wide configuration problem with the deployment of DHE key exchange"

Huang, Adhikarla, Boneh, & Jackson (2014) http://www.w2spconf.com/2014/papers/TLS.pdf

Why?

Why?

Why?

Unless you are a cryptographer, this stuff is hard

Copying and pasting is easy

```
TLSv1 TLSv1.1 TLSv1.2;
ssl protocols
ssl certificate /path/to/public.crt;
ssl certificate key /path/to/private.key;
ssl prefer server ciphers
                              on;
ssl ciphers ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-
SHA256: ECDHE - ECDSA - AES128 - GCM - SHA256: ECDHE -
RSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384: ECDHE-ECDSA-AES256-
GCM-SHA384...;
```

https://github.com/igrigorik/istlsfastyet.com/blob/master/nginx/includes/ssl.conf

Knowing what you are doing is hard

TLS Basics

Transport Layer Security

SSLv2
SSLv3
TLSv1.0
TLSv1.1
TLSv1.2

```
SSLv2 1995
SSLv3 1996
TLSv1.0 1999
TLSv1.1 2006
TLSv1.2 2008
```

```
SSLv2 1995 PHP Tools
SSLv3 1996 PHP/FI (2.0)
TLSv1.0 1999 PHP 3.0
TLSv1.1 2006 PHP 5.2
TLSv1.2 2008 PHP 5.2.8
```

SSLv2 1995 MITM SSLv3 1996 POODLE TLSv1.0 1999 BEAST TLSv1.1 2006 TLSv1.2 2008

Provides authentication, encryption, integrity, and key exchange

Authentication

Encryption

Integrity

Key exchange

Compromise of any of these, compromises the whole system

Cipher Suites

Combination of algorithms for authentication, encryption, integrity and key exchange

ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256

ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256

Key Exchange

Certificate signing algorithm (authentication)

ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256

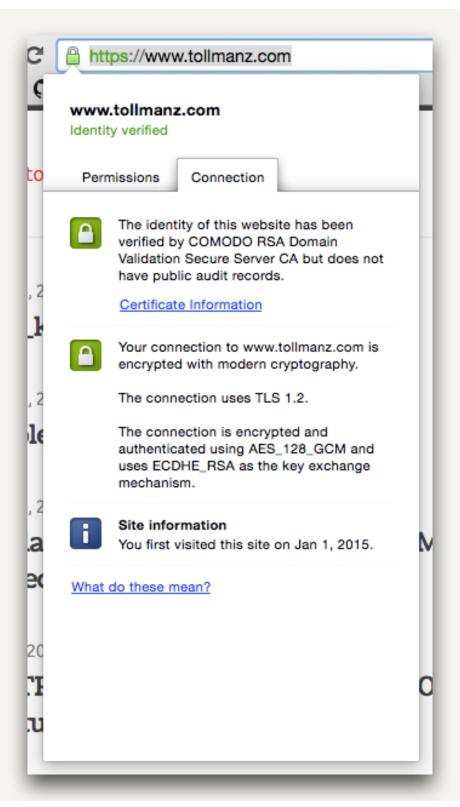
ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256

Cipher (Encryption)

Message authentication code (integrity)

ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256

```
ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256: ECDHE-ECDSA-AES128-
GCM-SHA256: ECDHE-RSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384: ECDHE-
ECDSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384: DHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-
SHA256: DHE-DSS-AES128-GCM-SHA256: kEDH
+AESGCM: ECDHE-RSA-AES128-SHA256: ECDHE-ECDSA-
AES128-SHA256: ECDHE-RSA-AES128-SHA: ECDHE-ECDSA-
AES128-SHA: ECDHE-RSA-AES256-SHA384: ECDHE-ECDSA-
AES256-SHA384: ECDHE-RSA-AES256-SHA: ECDHE-ECDSA-
AES256-SHA: DHE-RSA-AES128-SHA256: DHE-RSA-AES128-
SHA: DHE-DSS-AES128-SHA256: DHE-RSA-AES256-
SHA256: DHE-DSS-AES256-SHA: DHE-RSA-AES256-
SHA: AES128-GCM-SHA256: AES256-GCM-SHA384: AES128-
SHA256: AES256-SHA256: AES128-SHA: AES256-
SHA: AES: CAMELLIA: DES-CBC3-SHA: !aNULL: !eNULL: !
EXPORT: !DES: !RC4: !MD5: !PSK: !aECDH: !EDH-DSS-DES-
CBC3-SHA: !EDH-RSA-DES-CBC3-SHA: !KRB5-DES-CBC3-
SHA
```





Your connection to www.tollmanz.com is encrypted with modern cryptography.

The connection uses TLS 1.2.

The connection is encrypted and authenticated using AES_128_GCM and uses ECDHE_RSA as the key exchange mechanism.

TLS Handshake

Client presents supported cipher suites

Server chooses suite to use

Certificate sent to client

Verified with signing algorithm to authenticate the certificate

ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256

RSA is the most widely supported signing mechanism

Recommendation RSA for Certificate Authentication but ECDSA will be the new hotness

Key exchange

Negotiate the key for encryption and decryption

ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256

Preferring Ephemeral Diffie Hellman algorithms give you Perfect Forward Secrecy

Guarantees a different key for each connection

RSA uses the same key for each connection

Recommendation ECDHE for Key Exchange

Server is verified and keys are negotiated

Key is used by encryption algorithm

ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256

Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) is the only real option

Other ciphers have known weaknesses

Can choose between 128 and 256 bit encryption

Recommendation AES-128-GCM for encryption

but watch for ChaCha20

Encrypted messages are signed to guarantee integrity

SHA-256 and SHA-384 are the two practical options

Recommendation SHA-256 for MAC but watch for Poly1305

So...huh?

Use Mozilla's guide https://wiki.mozilla.org/Security/ Server Side TLS

HTTP Strict Transport Security

SSL Stripping

What if HTTP variant was never accessed?

HSTS blocks browser from HTTP version of site

Recommendation Set HSTS headers

Set HSTS only after mixed content issues are resolved

Content Security Policy

Mixed content warnings are bad

Whitelist assets loaded on your site

Whitelist only HTTPS assets

Use report-only variant

Current recommendation Use CSP headers

```
Content-Security-Policy:
    default-src 'self' https:;
    font-src https://
fonts.gstatic.com;
    img-src 'self' https:;
    style-src 'self' https:
https://fonts.googleapis.com;
    script-src 'self' https:
https://ssl.google-analytics.com
```

```
Content-Security-Policy:
    default-src 'self' https:;
    font-src https://
fonts.gstatic.com;
    img-src 'self' https:;
    style-src 'self' https:
https://fonts.googleapis.com;
    script-src 'self' https:
https://ssl.google-analytics.com
```

```
Content-Security-Policy:
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    img-src 'self' https:;
    style-src 'self' https:
https://fonts.googleapis.com;
    script-src 'self' https:
https://ssl.google-analytics.com
```

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    style-src 'self' https:
https://fonts.googleapis.com;
    script-src 'self' https:
https://ssl.google-analytics.com
```

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    img-src 'self' https:;
    style-src 'self' https:
https://fonts.googleapis.com;
    script-src 'self' https:
https://ssl.google-analytics.com
```

```
Content-Security-Policy:
    default-src 'self' https:;
    font-src https://
fonts.gstatic.com;
    img-src 'self' https:;
    style-src 'self' https:
https://fonts.googleapis.com;
    script-src 'self' https:
https://ssl.google-analytics.com
```

```
Content-Security-Policy-Report-
Only:
    default-src 'self' https:;
    font-src https://
fonts.gstatic.com;
    img-src 'self' https:;
    style-src 'self' https:
https://fonts.googleapis.com;
    script-src 'self' https:
https://ssl.google-analytics.com
    report-uri /beacon.php
```

HTTPS Mixed Content Detector Plugin for WordPress

Do your homework

Make good decisions

Maintain your TLS config like you maintain your code

The Code Book

Simon Singh

High Performance Browser Networking (TLS Chapter) Ilya Grigorik

Bulletproof SSL and TLS

Ivan Ristic

SSL and TLS: Designing and Building Secure Systems

Eric Rescorla

Zack Tollman

WIRED

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