

Password meters

Schwarenthorer Yannick, 1229026

May 23, 2017

Abstract This summary is about password meters and the effectiveness of them. We will look into the details of how one of the current best meters (zxcvbn [1]) work and what characteristics such a meter needs. The effect of the presence of a meter on the password choosing behavior [2]. In the paper

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Comparison	2
3	zxcvbn	2
4	Effect of password meters	2
5	Reference	2

1 Introduction

Passwords are still the main authentication and authentication mechanism on all kinds of systems and according to the leading tech guys they will be with us for at least 10 years. The security and privacy of all our data relies on a human generated string of characters and numbers. This rich structure makes them a target of guessing attacks.

2 Comparison

In this section we will compare some password meters from commonly known websites. We will explain briefly how all of them work internally.

3 zxcvbn

Zxcvbn is the open sourced password meter developed from dropbox inc. It checks for common keyboard patterns, and also performs a dictionary check with the rockYou password set.

4 Effect of password meters

In this section we will take a look at the effect of password meters. In the paper xyz the showed that thet present of a password meter has an effect on the password strength. However this holds only for sites which the users rated as importanted. For lower risk websites (sites which store no personal information about the user) the password strength is not higher when a password meter is present.

5 Reference

[1] zxcvbn: Low-Budget Password strength estimation [2] Does My Password Go up to Eleven? The Impact of Password Meters on Password selection