

Network Security

Chapter 1 Introduction

- ☐ Threats in Communication Networks
- □ Security Goals & Requirements
- □ Network Security Analysis
- Safeguards
- Historic Remarks
- General Course Bibliography

http://www.tu-ilmenau.de/telematik/netsec

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What is a Threat in a Communication Network?

- Abstract Definition:
 - □ A *threat* in a communication network is any possible event or sequence of actions that might lead to a violation of one or more *security goals*
 - □ The actual realization of a threat is called an *attack*
- Examples:
 - ☐ A hacker breaking into a corporate computer
 - Disclosure of emails in transit
 - □ Someone changing financial accounting data
 - ☐ A hacker temporarily shutting down a website
 - □ Someone using services or ordering goods in the name of others
 - П
- □ What are security goals?
 - □ Security goals can be defined:
 - depending on the application environment, or
 - in a more general, technical way





Security goals depending on the application environment 1

- □ Banking:
 - □ Protect against fraudulent or accidental modification of transactions
 - □ Identify retail transaction customers
 - Protect PINs from disclosure
 - □ Ensure customers privacy
- □ Electronic trading:
 - □ Assure source and integrity of transactions
 - □ Protect corporate privacy
 - Provide legally binding electronic signatures on transactions
- Government:
 - Protect against disclosure of sensitive information
 - □ Provide electronic signatures on government documents



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Security goals depending on the application environment 2

- □ Public Telecommunication Providers:
 - □ Restrict access to administrative functions to authorized personnel
 - □ Protect against service interruptions
 - □ Protect subscribers privacy
- □ Corporate / Private Networks:
 - ☐ Protect corporate / individual privacy
 - □ Ensure message authenticity
- □ All Networks:
 - ☐ Prevent outside penetrations (who wants hackers?)
- Sometimes security goals are also called security objectives





Security Goals Technically Defined

- □ Confidentiality:
 - □ Data transmitted or stored should only be revealed to an intended audience
 - Confidentiality of entities is also referred to as anonymity
- □ Data Integrity:
 - ☐ It should be possible to detect any modification of data
 - ☐ This requires to be able to identify the creator of some data
- □ Accountability:
 - ☐ It should be possible to identify the entity responsible for any communication event
- Availability:
 - ☐ Services should be available and function correctly
- □ Controlled Access:
 - Only authorized entities should be able to access certain services or information

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Threats Technically Defined

- □ Masquerade (or man-in-the-middle attack):
 - ☐ An entity claims to be another entity
- Eavesdropping:
 - ☐ An entity reads information it is not intended to read
- □ Authorization Violation:
 - ☐ An entity uses a service or resources it is not intended to use
- Loss or Modification of (transmitted) Information:
 - □ Data is being altered or destroyed
- □ Denial of Communication Acts (Repudiation):
 - ☐ An entity falsely denies its' participation in a communication act
- □ Forgery of Information:
 - ☐ An entity creates new information in the name of another entity
- □ Sabotage (or denial-of-service attacks):
 - Any action that aims to reduce the availability and / or correct functioning of services or systems





Threats and Technical Security Goals

	General Threats							
Technical Security Goals	Masquer- ade	Eaves- dropping	Authori- sation Violation	Loss or Mo- dification of (transmitted) information	Denial of Communi- cation acts	Forgery of Infor- mation	Sabotage (e.g. by overload)	
Confidentiality	Х	х	Х					
Data Integrity	Х		X	Х		Х		
Accountability	Х		Х		X	X		
Availability	Х		Х	Х			Х	
Controlled Access	Х		X			х		

These threats are often combined in order to perform an attack!

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Network Security Analysis

- □ In order to take appropriate countermeasures against threats, these have to be evaluated appropriately for a given network configuration.
- ☐ Therefore, a detailed network security analysis is needed that:
 - evaluates the risk potential of the general threats to the entities using a network, and
 - estimates the expenditure (resources, time, etc.) needed to perform known attacks.
 - → Attention: It is generally impossible to assess unknown attacks!
- □ A detailed security analysis of a given network configuration / specific protocol architecture:
 - might also be required in order to convince financially controlling entities in an enterprise to grant funding for security enhancements, and
 - can better be structured according to the more fine grained attacks on the message level.





Attacking Communications on the Message Level

- □ Passive attacks:
 - Eavesdropping
- Active attacks:
 - □ Delay of PDUs (Protocol Data Units)
 - □ Replay of PDUs
 - Deletion of PDUs
 - Modification of PDUs
 - □ Insertion of PDUs
- Successful launch of one of the above attacks requires:
 - ☐ There are no detectable side effects to other communications (connections / connectionless transmissions)
 - ☐ There are no side effects to other PDUs of the same connection / connectionless data transmission between the same entities
- A security analysis of a protocol architecture has to analyse these attacks according to the architecture's layers

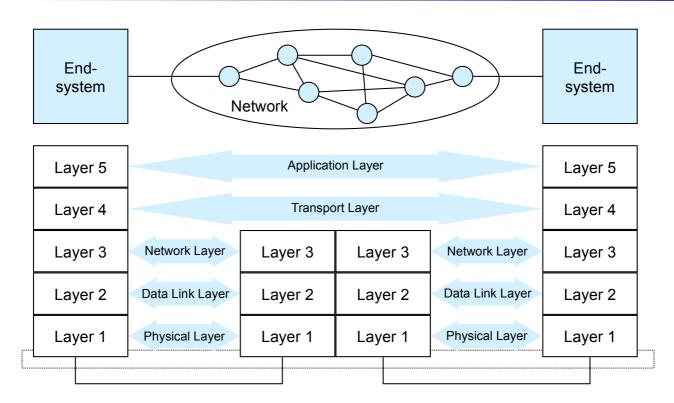
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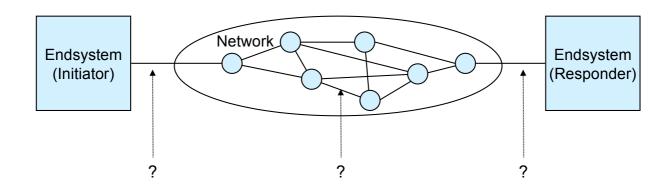


Communication in Layered Protocol Architectures









Dimension 1: At which interface does the attack take place?

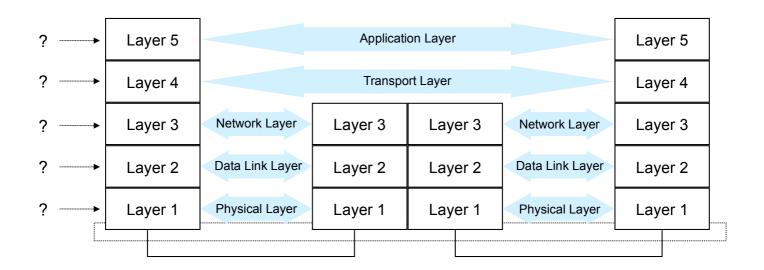
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Security Analysis of Layered Protocol Architectures 2



Dimension 2: In which layer does the attack take place?





Safeguards Against Information Security Threats 1

- □ Physical Security:
 - ☐ Locks or other physical access control
 - □ Tamper-proofing of sensitive equipment
 - Environmental controls
- □ Personnel Security:
 - Identification of position sensitivity
 - □ Employee screening processes
 - Security training and awareness
- □ Administrative Security:
 - Controlling import of foreign software
 - Procedures for investigating security breaches
 - □ Reviewing audit trails
 - Reviewing accountability controls
- □ Emanations Security:
 - □ Radio Frequency and other electromagnetic emanations controls
 - □ Referred to as TEMPEST protection

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Safeguards Against Information Security Threats 2

- □ Media Security:
 - Safeguarding storage of information
 - □ Controlling marking, reproduction and destruction of sensitive information
 - ☐ Ensuring that media containing sensitive information are destroyed securely
 - Scanning media for viruses
- □ Lifecycle Controls:
 - ☐ Trusted system design, implementation, evaluation and endorsement
 - Programming standards and controls
 - Documentation controls
- Computer Security:
 - □ Protection of information while stored / processed in a computer system
 - Protection of the computing devices itself
- Communications Security: (the main subject of this course)
 - □ Protection of information during transport from one system to another
 - □ Protection of the communication infrastructure itself





Communications Security: Some Terminology

	Security	y Ser	vice
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- ☐ An abstract service that seeks to ensure a specific security property
- □ A security service can be realised with the help of cryptographic algorithms and protocols as well as with conventional means:
 - One can keep an electronic document on a USB stick confidential by storing it on the disk in an encrypted format as well as locking away the disk in a safe
 - Usually a combination of cryptographic and other means is most effective

□ Cryptographic Algorithm:

- ☐ A mathematical transformation of input data (e.g. data, key) to output data
- □ Cryptographic algorithms are used in cryptographic protocols

Cryptographic Protocol:

□ A series of steps and message exchanges between multiple entities in order to achieve a specific security objective

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Security Services - Overview

□ Authentication

□ The most fundamental security service which ensures, that an entity has in fact the identity it claims to have

□ Integrity

☐ In some kind, the "small brother" of the authentication service, as it ensures, that data created by specific entities may not be modified without detection

Confidentiality

☐ The most popular security service, ensuring the secrecy of protected data

□ Access Control

 Controls that each identity accesses only those services and information it is entitled to

Non Repudiation

 Protects against that entities participating in a communication exchange can later falsely deny that the exchange occurred





Security Supporting Mechanisms

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- ☐ Key management: All aspects of the lifecycle of cryptographic keys
- □ *Random number generation:* Generation of cryptographically secure random numbers
- Event detection / security audit trail: Detection and recording of events that might be used in order to detect attacks or conditions that might be exploited by attacks
- □ *Intrusion detection:* Analysis of recorded security data in order to detect successful intrusions or attacks
- □ *Notarization:* Registration of data by a trusted third party that can confirm certain properties (content, creator, creation time) of the data later on
- Communication specific mechanisms:
 - ☐ *Traffic padding & cover traffic:* Creation of bogus traffic in order to prevent traffic flow analysis
 - Routing control: Influencing the routing of PDUs in a network

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Cryptology - Definition and Terminology

□ Cryptology:

- Science concerned with communications in secure and usually secret form
- ☐ The term is derived from the Greek *kryptós (*hidden) and *lógos (*word)
- □ Cryptology encompasses:
 - Cryptography (gráphein = to write): the study of the principles and techniques by which information can be concealed in ciphertext and later revealed by legitimate users employing a secret key
 - Cryptanalysis (analýein = to loosen, to untie): the science (and art) of recovering information from ciphers without knowledge of the key

□ Cipher:

- Method of transforming a message (plaintext) to conceal its meaning
- ☐ Also used as synonym for the concealed *ciphertext*
- □ Ciphers are one class of cryptographic algorithms
- ☐ The transformation usually takes the message and a (secret) key as input

(Source: Encyclopaedia Britannica)





Cryptology – Some Historic Remarks 1

- □ 400 BC: The Spartans employ a cipher device called *scytale* for communications between military commanders.
 - ☐ The scytale consisted of a tapered baton, around which was spirally wrapped a strip of parchment or leather on which the message was written
 - □ When unwrapped, the letters were scrambled in order and formed the cipher
 - □ When the strip was wrapped around another baton of identical proportions to the original, the plaintext reappeared
- □ During 4. century BC:
 - □ Aeneas Tacticus (Greek) writes "On the defense of fortifications", with one chapter devoted to cryptography
 - □ Polybius (Greek) invents a means of encoding letters into pairs of symbols by a device called the *Polybius Checkerboard* which realizes a bi-literal substitution and presages many elements of later cryptosystems



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Cryptology – Some Historic Remarks 2

- The Romans used monoalphabetic substitution with simple cyclic displacement of the alphabet:
 - ☐ Julius Caesar employed a shift of three letters (A giving D, ..., Z giving C)
 - □ Augustus Caesar employed a single shift (A giving B, ...)
- ☐ The Arabs were the first people to understand the principles of cryptography and to discover the beginnings of cryptanalysis:
 - □ Design and use of substitution and transposition ciphers
 - □ Discovery of the use of letter frequency distributions and probable plaintext in cryptanalysis
 - □ By 1412 AD *Al-Kalka-Shandi* includes an elementary and respectable treatment of several cryptographic systems and their cryptanalysis in his encyclopaedia *Subh al-a'sha*
- European Cryptography:
 - Development started in the Papal States and the Italian city-states in the middle age
 - First ciphers used only vowel substitution





Cryptology - Some Historic Remarks 3

- □ European Cryptography: (cont.)
 - □ 1397: Gabriele de Lavinde of Parma writes first European manual on cryptography, containing a compilation of ciphers as well as a set of keys for 24 correspondents and embracing symbols for letters, numbers and several two-character code equivalents for words and names
 - □ Code vocabularies, called *Nomenclators* became the mainstay for several centuries for diplomatic communications of most European governments
 - □ 1470: Leon Battista Alberti publishes Trattati In Cifra, which describes the first cipher disk and already prescribes to regularly reset the disk, conceiving the notion of polyalphabeticity
 - □ 1563: Giambattista della Porta provides a modified form of a square table and the earliest example of a digraphic cipher (2-letter-substitution)
 - □ 1586: *Blaise de Vigenère* publishes *Traicté des chiffres* containing the square table commonly tributed to him
 - □ By 1860 large codes were used for diplomatic communications and ciphers were only used in military communications (except high command level) because of the difficulty of protecting codebooks in the field

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Cryptology - Some Historic Remarks 4

- Developments during World Wars 1 and 2:
 - During World War 1: cipher systems were mostly used for tactical communications and high level communication was protected using codes
 - □ 1920: The communication needs of telecommunications and the maturing of electromechanical technology bring about a true revolution in cryptodevices the development of *rotor cipher machines:*
 - The rotor principle is discovered independently by *E. E. Hebern* (USA), *H. A. Koch* (Netherlands) and *A. Scherbius* (Germany)
 - Rotor cipher machines cascade a collection of cipher disks to realize polyalphabetic substitution of high complexity
 - Cryptanalysis of tactical communications plays a very important role during World War 2 with the greatest triumphs being the British and Polish solution of the German *Enigma* and two teleprinter ciphers and the American cryptanalysis of Japanese ciphers





Cryptology - Some Historic Remarks 5

- □ Developments after World War 2:
 - □ Modern electronics allow even more complex ciphers, initially following the rotor principles (and including their weaknesses)
 - Most information about electronic cipher machines used by various national cryptologic services is not publicly available
 - □ By the end of the 1960's commercially available cryptography was poorly understood and strong cryptography was reserved for national agencies
 - □ 1973-1977: Development of the *Data Encryption Standard (DES)*
 - □ 1976-1978: Discovery of Public Key Cryptography
 - 1976: W. Diffie and M. Hellman publish "New Directions in Cryptography" introducing the concepts of public key cryptography and describing a scheme of exchanging keys over insecure channels
 - *R. Merkle* independently discovers the public key principle, but his first publications appear 1978, due to a slow publishing process
 - 1978: R. L. Rivest, A. Shamir and A. M. Adleman publish "A Method for Obtaining Digital Signatures and Public Key Cryptosystems", containing the first working and secure public key algorithm RSA

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Course Overview

- 2. Basics of cryptography
- 3. Symmetric cryptography
- 4. Asymmetric cryptography
- 5. Modification check values
- 6. Random number generation
- 7. Cryptographic protocols
- 8. Secure Group Communication
- 9. Access control
- 10. Integrating security services into communication architectures

- 11. Security protocols of the data link layer
- 12. The IPsec architecture for the Internet Protocol
- 13. Security protocols of the transport layer
- 14. Security aspects of mobile communications
- Security of wireless local area networks
- 16. Security of GSM and UMTS networks





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