

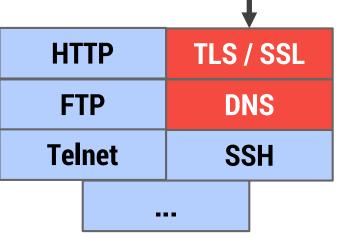
TLS Attacks & DNS Security

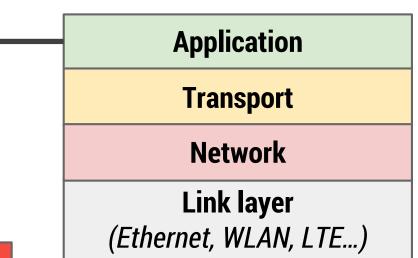
Information Security 2019

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Outline

- Browser Issues
 - SSLStrip
 - MITM Attack revisited
- PKI Attacks
 - Weaknesses
 - FLAME
- Implementation Attacks
- Protocol Attacks
- DNS Security



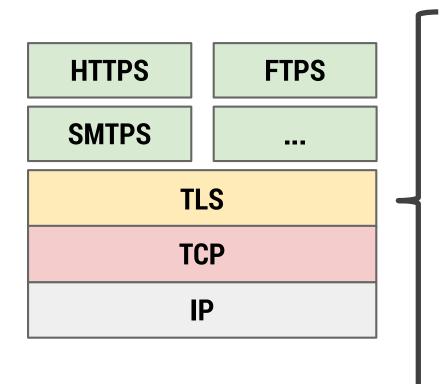


TCP / IP Model



Review: TLS Services

All applications running TLS are provided with three essential services



Authentication

Verify identity of client and server

Data Integrity

Detect message tampering and forgery, e.g. malicious Man-in-the-middle

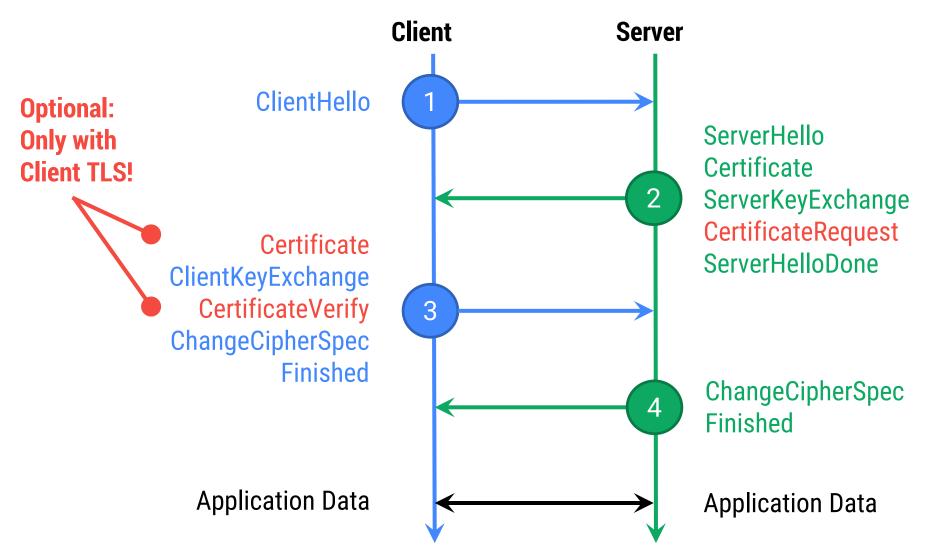
Encryption Ensure privacy of exchanged communication

Note: Technically, not all services are required to be used → Can raise risk for security issues!



Review: TLS Handshake

= Establish parameters for cryptographically secure data channel

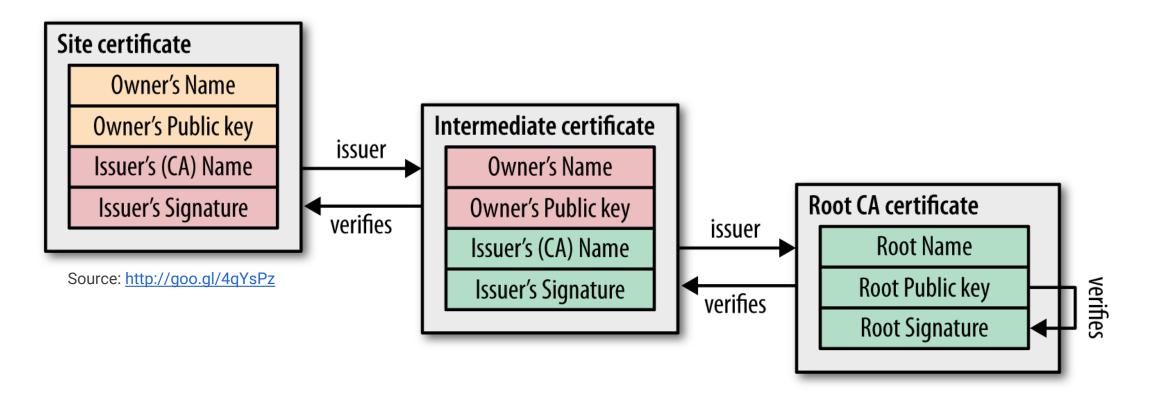


RFC 5246

Full handshake scenario!



Review: Certificates



- Certificate Authority (CA) = Third party, trusted by both the subject (*owner*) of the certificate and the party (*site*) relying upon the certificate
- Browsers ship with set of > 130 trust stores (root CAs)



Browser Issues

Overview

Focus: Relationship between TLS and HTTP

Problem?

- Attacker wants to access encrypted data
- Browsers also have to deal with legacy websites
 - → Enforcing max. security level would "break" connectivity to many sites

Attack Vectors

- SSLStrip
- MITM Attack

...and somehow related: Cookie Stealing due to absent "Secure" flag...



Review: ARP Poisoning

How?

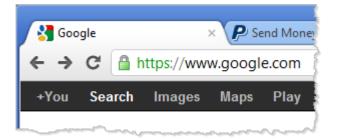
Client

- a) Join WLAN, start ARP Poisoning
- b) Create own AP
 - E.g. with smartphone...



Attacker

- Sniff data
- Manipulate data
- Attack HTTPS connections





http://www.apple.com http://www.microsoft.com https://www.google.com



SSLStrip

Or more accurately: "HTTPS Stripping"

Problem

- Who types https:// when calling URLs?
 - Typically, scheme prepended by browser, by clicking on links, or through redirects
- If no prefix specified, browsers try http:// first

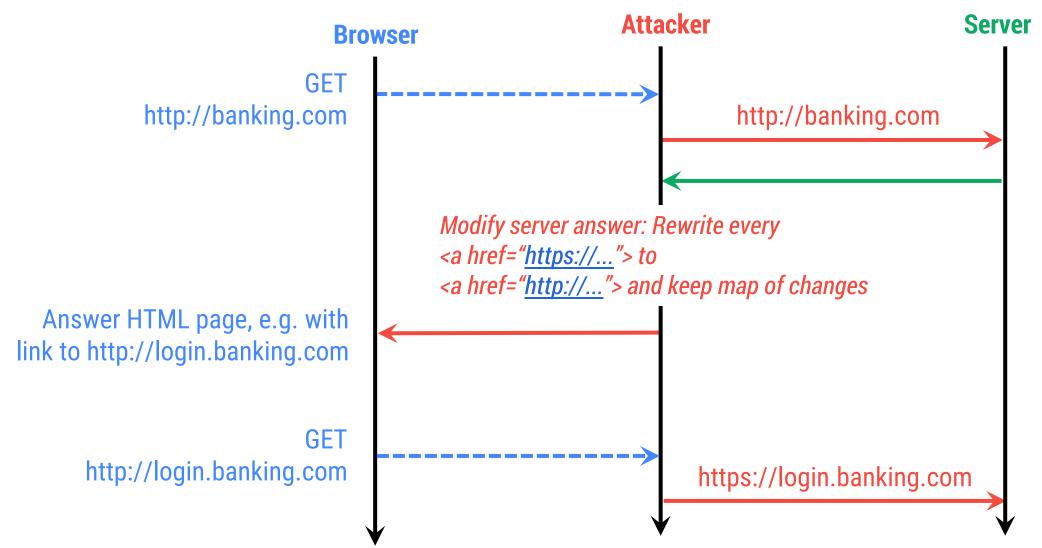
Idea

- 1. Perform MITM attack (ARP Poisoning) on unencrypted HTTP transmission
- 2. Rewrite content to replace https:// links with http:// equivalents
 - Prevent victim from accessing encrypted resources
- 3. Proxy HTTP requests to genuine HTTPS destination



SSLStrip

Protection? HSTS!





MITM Attack

...by faking server certificates

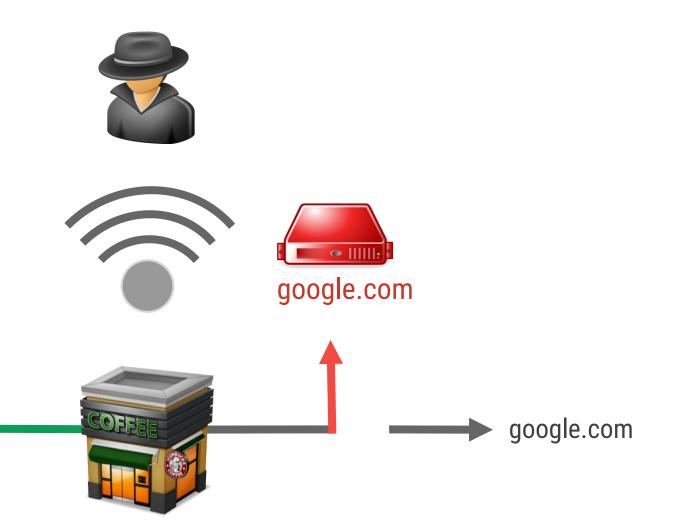
Problem

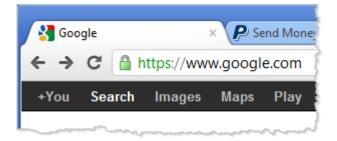
- Users often accept invalid or self-signed certificates anyway
- We have ~130 certificate authorities (CA) in our browsers' trust stores
 - They are not equally rigid when issuing certificates
 - \rightarrow "Rogue certificate" could be obtained and misused
- Exploit validation flaws especially with mobile apps
 - Can overwrite certificate validation routines
 - Many apps silently (without warning) accept invalid certificates



MITM Attack

- 1. Client requests page via https://
- 2. Attacker impersonates server using fraudulent cert
- 3. Attacker intercepts request and performs it himself
- 4. Attacker receives response, delivers it to client





Client



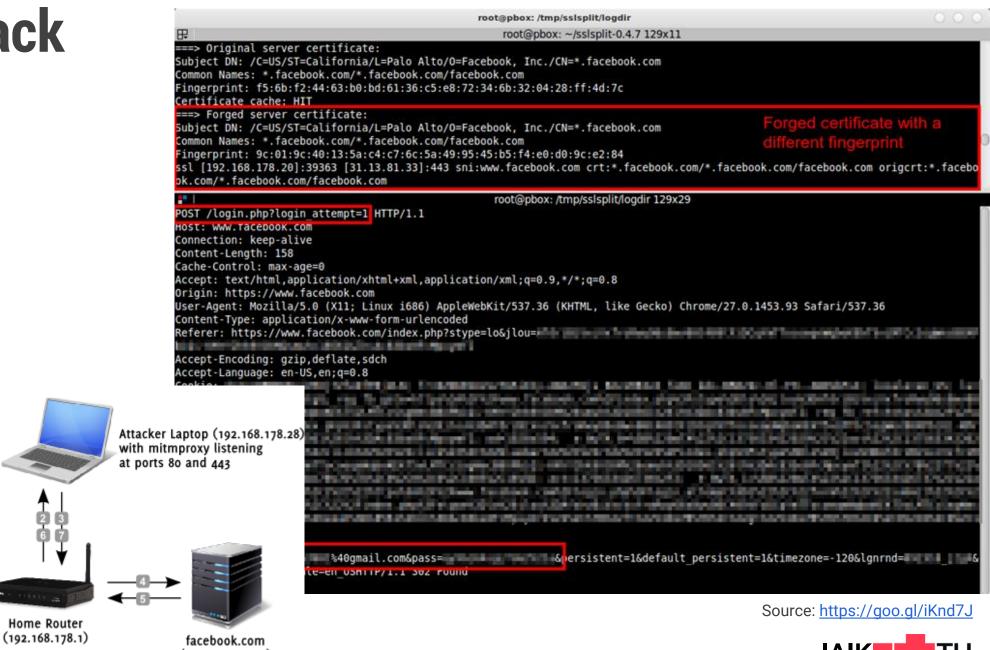
MITM Attack

Tools

- sslsplit
- mitmproxy
- Fiddler
- Burp Suite

Mitmproxy

CA Certificate



Device (192.168.178.21) with Std. Gateway set to 192.168.178.28

(173.252.110.27) SOI

Source: http://goo.gl/EjihVa



Certificate Warnings

What do you do if you receive an alert?

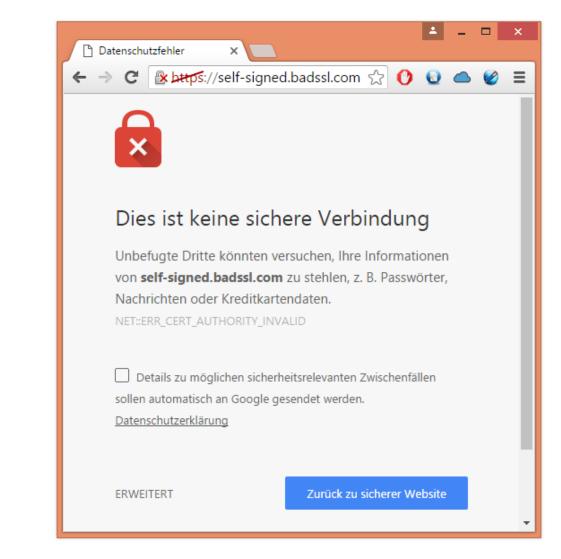
Many users proceed anyway!

- \rightarrow 33% of Firefox users _{See: https://goo.gl/6gcir5}
- \rightarrow 56% of Chrome users

See: http://goo.gl/S2oW8y

Why so many invalid certs?

- Misconfiguration of server
 - E.g. cert does not match domain name
- Certificate issues
 - User called domain name (*www.domain.at*) but cert only valid for domain.at
 - Validity expired



PKI Attacks

Overview

Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)

- Goal: Enable secure communication of parties that have never met
- Principles: *Identity, Authority, Trust*

But what is Trust (not)?

- Basically, just says that certificate can be validated by a CA in our trust store
- Trust can be inherited by intermediate CAs
- → Certificate Authorities (CAs) decide what is trustworthy!

Note: 46 countries with valid CAs See: https://goo.gl/VAYROa USA, South Africa, England, Belgium, Japan, Germany, Netherlands, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Iceland, Russia, Macedonia ... → *do you trust them?*





PKI Weaknesses

- Permission of domain owners not required for certificate issuance
 - Any CA can issue certificate for any domain without permission
- Weak domain validation
 - "Domain-validated" certificates issued based on whether you control a domain, e.g. confirm mail receipt to <u>webmaster@domain.com</u> or place file within directory
- Revocation does not work
 - Theory: Browsers check against blacklists (CRL / OCSP) whether cert is blacklisted
 - Practice: If check takes too long \rightarrow *"soft-fail"* without error message
- Trust is not agile
 - We either trust a CA or not \rightarrow nothing in between, e.g., grading



Root Key Compromise

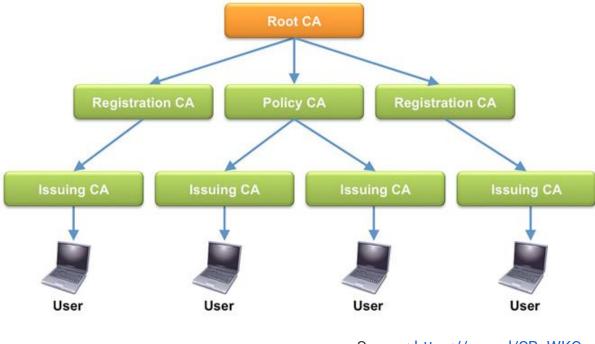
Best attack for PKI attack: Get root key

How?

- Steal them See: https://goo.gl/eCehMN
 - Harder because keys often enclosed in Hardware Security Module (HSM)
- Governmental agency
 → simply request them from CAs
- Break root (or intermediate) certs
 - Until 2014: Still (weak) 1024-bit RSA certificates in Firefox



Source: http://goo.gl/QAYdNL



Source: https://goo.gl/SRuWKQ

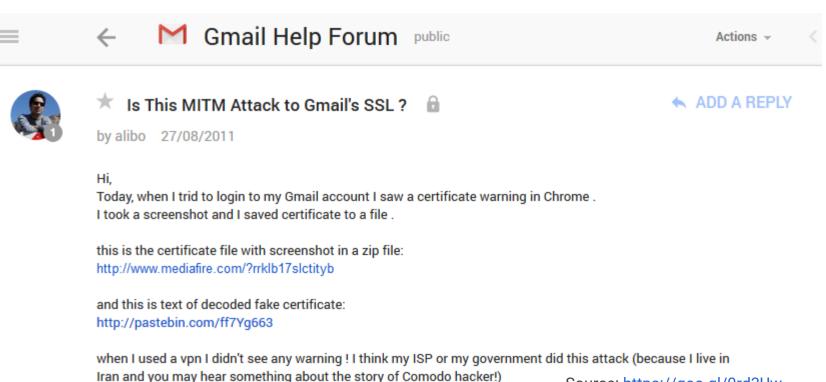


CA Breach – DigiNotar



The first CA to be completely compromised...

- Public discovery on 27.08.2011 obviously hacked since July
- Iranian user had problems accessing his mail account





Source: https://goo.gl/0rd3Uw

CA Breach – DigiNotar

Some days later, it become public that the problem is (a lot) bigger...

The most critical servers contain malicious software that can normally be detected by anti-virus software.... We have strong indications that the CA-servers, although physically very securely placed in a tempest proof environment, were accessible over the network from the management LAN.

- The network has been severely breached. All CA servers were members of one Windows domain, which made it possible to access them all using one obtained user/password combination. The password was not very strong and could easily be brute-forced.

- The software installed on the public web servers was outdated and not patched.

- No antivirus protection was present on the investigated servers.

- An intrusion prevention system is operational. It is not clear at the moment why it didn't block some of the outside web server attacks. No secure central network logging is in place.



CA Breach – DigiNotar

Attacker issued > 500 certificates for widely-known websites

 ..com *.org *.android.com *.globalsign.com *.mozilla.org *.skype.com *.torproject.org *.wordpress.com 	login.live.com login.yahoo.com *.google.com www.facebook.com twitter.com *.windowsupdate.com www.update.microsoft.com addons.mozilla.org	*.digicert.com *.startssl.com *.aol.com www.mossad.gov.il www.cia.gov *.microsoft.com *.thawte.com
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- All certificates forged legitimate OCSP revocation information
 - Browsers asked real OCSP servers for revocation info of rogue certificates
 - Enabled DigiNotar to trace back certificate usage to mostly Iran



Flame Malware

2012: Highly-advanced malware found

- Found in several Middle East countries
 - Iran, Israel, Sudan, Syria, Egypt, ...
 - Active for two years!
- Fairly complex
 - Over 20 attack modules
 - Network sniffing, microphone activation, file retrieval, ...

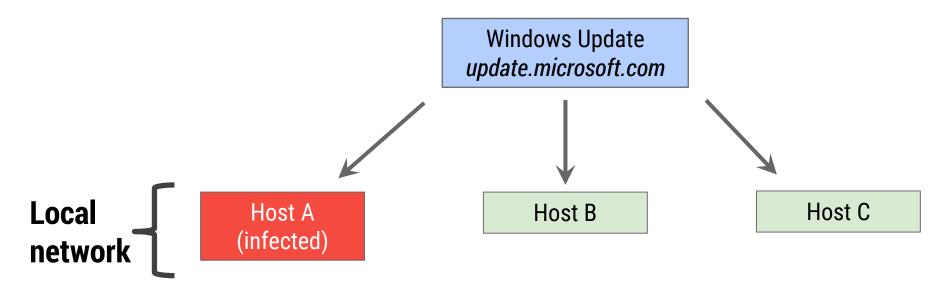
Most interesting aspect: Used a valid certificate, not signed by a CA!



Source: https://goo.gl/evDHnZ

Assume PC has been infected via USB stick...

- How to attack other hosts in same network?
- Via direct remote exploits?
 - What if OS is not specifically vulnerable?
- → Attack something that each Windows PC has: Update functionality





Get hosts to download Update from attacker's server

Strategy

- Within LANs we often need proxies to allow browser to access Internet
- Manual configuration takes a lot of time
- → Web Proxy Auto Discovery Protocol (WPAD) invented

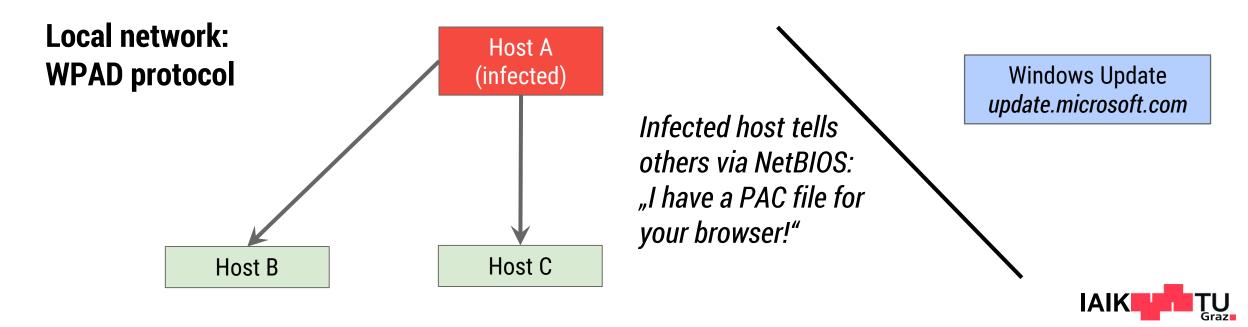
Idea

Distribute proxy information to browsers using PAC (Proxy Auto Config) file format

```
function FindProxyForURL(url, host) {
    // our local URLs from the domains below example.com don't need a proxy:
    if (shExpMatch(host, "*.example.com"))
    {
        return "DIRECT";
    }
    // URLs within this network are accessed through
    // port 8080 on fastproxy.example.com:
    if (isInNet(host, "10.0.0.0", "255.255.248.0"))
    {
        return "PROXY fastproxy.example.com:8080";
    }
    // All other requests go through port 8080 of proxy.example.com.
    // should that fail to respond, go directly to the WWW:
    return "PROXY proxy.example.com:8080; DIRECT";
```

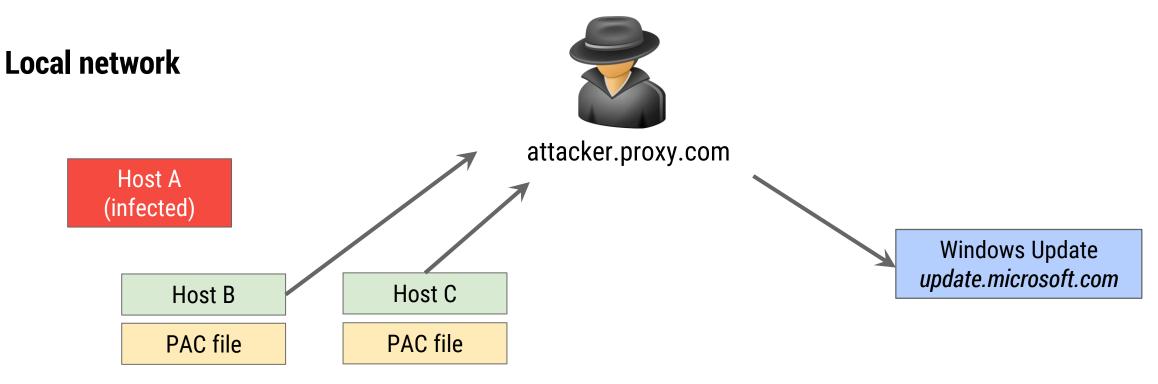
How WPAD works...

- Host asks via DHCP, DNS and NetBIOS protocols for file wpad.dat
- E.g., find proxy via NetBIOS (= address resolution in MS protocol world)
 Name resolution using broadcasts, infected host answers



Hosts have received PAC file with content "For update.microsoft.com use attacker.proxy.com"

→ Now hosts ask Windows Update for news





Now, not-yet infected hosts go to update.attacker.com for Windows Updates. We want to distribute Flame via Windows update file

Q: Doesn't update.microsoft.com use HTTPS? A: It also accepts HTTP :-)

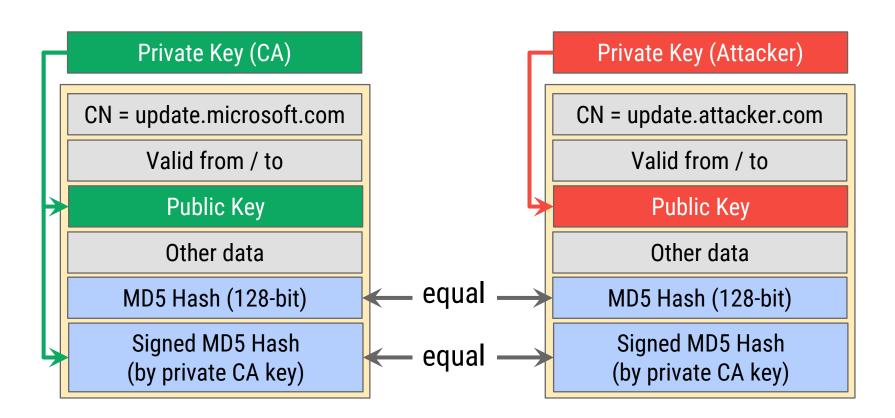
Q: Doesn't Microsoft sign updates using special Code Signing certificates?A: There was an old CA that used MD5 signatures for certificates

→ MD5 is broken since many years - cryptographic attack possible!

→ Quite easy to find collision, create certificate and make it seem to be signed by the CA



- Attacker used attack on MD5 to create valid certificate
 - Most interesting thing: New, so far unknown attack method used
 - "Chosen-prefix collision attack" \rightarrow very timing and cost-intensive collision search



- Attacker signed malware (Windows Update package) with own private key
- Windows happily installed the malware



Improvements

- Public Key Pinning (RFC 7469)
 - Addresses problem that any CA can issue any certificate
 - Enables site owners to explicitly specify legitimate fingerprints
- DANE (RFC 6698)
 - Based on DNSSEC (integrity checking for DNS zones)
 - Alternative approach for pinning
- Certificate Transparency (CT) See: https://goo.gl/2kqVTT
 - Framework to audit and monitor certificates \rightarrow quickly find fraudulent certificates
 - Legitimate CAs shall submit certificates to CT logs
 - If unknown certificate used for site, warn client



Implementation Attacks

Overview

Problem

Those who design protocols / ciphers are often not those who implement it

- Many have critical conceptual flaws *but* even more "bad code" is out there
- Bypassing (strong) crypto is always easier than breaking it...

Types

- On-purpose interception of encrypted traffic
 - Install root certificate in user's browser and perform MITM attack
- Certificate Validation Flaws
 - Library issues
 - Wrong usage of APIs



Dell does a Superfish, ships PCs with easily cloneable root certificates

Root certificate debacle that hit Lenovo now visits the House of Dell.

by Dan Goodin - Nov 23, 2015 6:40pm CET



In a move eerily similar to the Superfish debacle that visited Lenovo in February, Dell is shipping computers that come preinstalled with a digital certificate that makes it easy for attackers to cryptographically impersonate Google, Bank of America, and any other HTTPS-protected website.

Source: http://goo.gl/esDjtS

- Products want to manipulate even encrypted web traffic
 - "Enterprise" security products, Antiviruses, Ad-Blockers, Adware, ...
- "Superfish"

222

- Analyzes images on webpages and provides matching ads
- Preinstalled on many Lenovos
- Became public in 02/2015
- Same issue with others, e.g. on Dell notebook (11/2015)



Superfish		File Action View Help			
Certifi	cate Manager 🛛 🗖 🗖	🙀 Certificates - Current User	Issued To	Issued By	1
Your Certificates People Servers Authorities Others		 Personal Trusted Root Certification Au Certificates Enterprise Trust Intermediate Certification Au Active Directory User Object Trusted Publishers Untrusted Certificates Third-Party Root Certificatior Trusted People Client Authentication Issuers Smart Card Trusted Roots 	Class 3 Public Primary Certificat Copyright (c) 1997 Microsoft C Cybertrust Public SureServer SV Equifax Secure Certificate Auth GlobalSign Root CA Microsoft Authenticode(tm) Ro Microsoft Root Authority Microsoft Root Certificate Auth Microsoft Root Certificate Auth	 Class 3 Public Primary Certificatio Copyright (c) 1997 Microsoft Corp. Baltimore CyberTrust Root Equifax Secure Certificate Authority GlobalSign Root CA Microsoft Authenticode(tm) Root Microsoft Root Authority Microsoft Root Certificate Authori Microsoft Root Certificate Authori 	
You have certificates on file that identify these certificate authorities: Certificate Name Security Device					
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			ssl.com/dashboard	1/	

→ Wouldn't Certificate Pinning (HPKP) uncover such a MITM attack? Sad truth: No, because manually installed root CAs disable pinning in browsers!



Certificate Validation Flaws

How to check certificates correctly?

- 1. Ensure server certificate corresponds to intended domain name
- 2. All chain certificates must be checked that
 - They have not expired
 - Their signatures are valid
- 3. Foreach intermediate certificate check
 - What key usage is allowed, e.g. sign certificates for web but not Code Signing
 - That it can be used to sign the hostname in the leaf certificate

How to do it correctly with OpenSSL? See <u>https://goo.gl/qbFDZw</u>



Aging and bloated OpenSSL is purged of 2 high-severity bugs

Padding oracles and memory corruption threats caused by use of older schemes.

by Dan Goodin - May 3, 2016 5:50 pm UTC



The ASN.1 implementation in OpenSSL before 1.0.10 and 1.0.2 before 1.0.2c allows remote attackers to execute arbitrary code or cause a denial of service (buffer underflow and memory corruption) via an ANY field in crafted serialized data, aka the "negative zero" issue. Recurring problems in widely-used libraries (OpenSSL, GnuTLS, Microsoft Crypto API, ...)

• Padding oracle

Allow attacker to repeatedly probe encrypted payload for clues about plaintext inside

• Memory corruption

Code execution using malformed digital signatures



Heartbleed

Information disclosure vulnerability in OpenSSL
 → Exploits faulty implementation of "Heartbeat" protocol

How?

- Developer forgot to check length of input variable
- Attacker may request up to 64 KB of server process memory

Consequences: Leak of private session information

- Response could include session cookies, passwords, etc.
- Private keys
 - Simple but slow: Search for prime numbers in Heartbleed message
 - If one prime found \rightarrow enough to calculate private RSA key





goto fail;

About the security content of iOS 7.0.6

Impact: An attacker with a privileged network position may capture or modify data in sessions protected by SSL/TLS **Description:** Secure Transport failed to validate the authenticity of the connection. This issue was addressed by restoring missing validation steps.

What went wrong?

...

static OSStatus SSLVerifySignedServerKeyExchange(SSLContext *ctx, bool isRsa, SSLBuffer signedParams, ...) {

if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.update(&hashCtx, &signedParams)) != 0)
goto fail;
goto fail;

- Code will always jump to fail after second goto fail;
- Skips call to sslRawVerify
 - Intended signature verification will never be executed

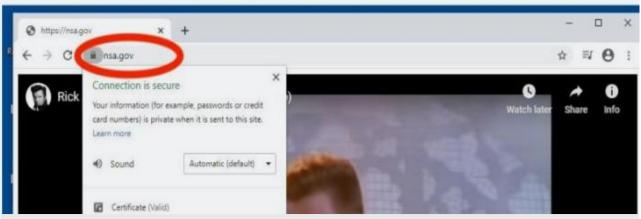
 \rightarrow Any private key will be accepted!

GOT CERT VALIDATION? -

Critical Windows 10 vulnerability used to Rickroll the NSA and Github

Attack demoed less than 24 hours after disclosure of bug-breaking certificate validation.

DAN GOODIN - 1/16/2020, 1:30 AM



A spoofing vulnerability exists in the way Windows CryptoAPI (Crypt32.dll) validates Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC) certificates. Attackers can exploit it by using a spoofed code-signing certificate to sign a malicious executable. A successful exploit could also allow the attacker to conduct man-in-the-middle attacks and decrypt confidential information on user connections to the affected software.

NSA found a certificate validation bug (CVE-2020-0601) concerning ECDSA signatures

• What's the problem?

CryptoAPI's CA certificate cache falsely thinks a fake root CA is also part of the CA certificate store as soon as its public key and serial number match a certificate that is already in in the cache

• Consequence?

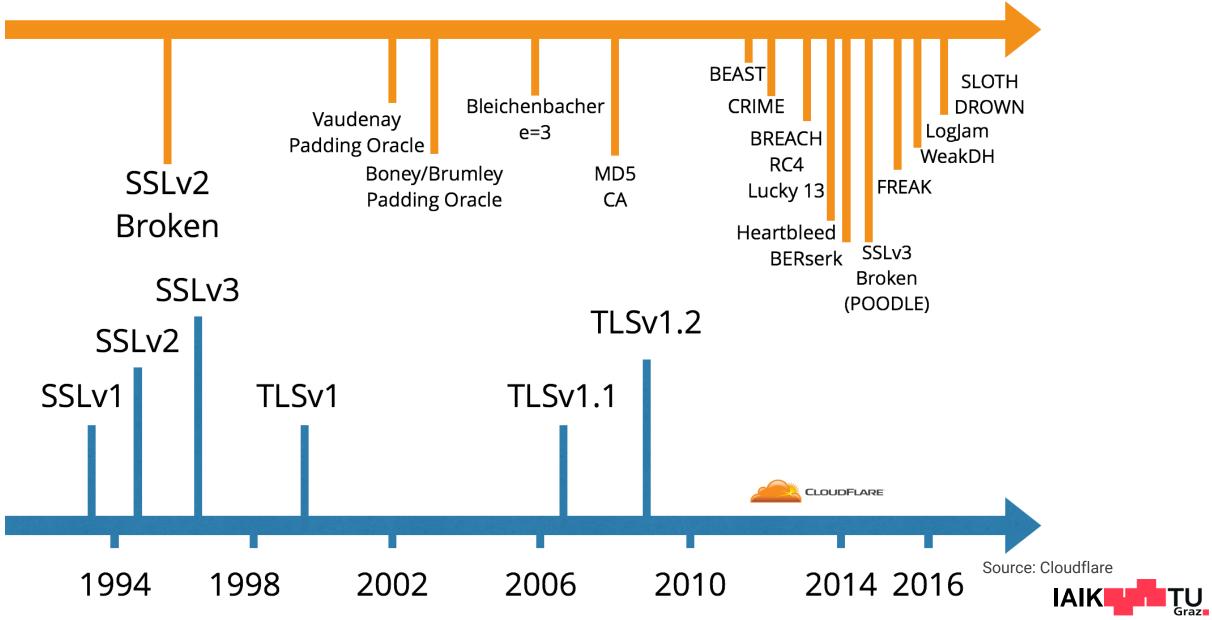
Attackers can spoof trusted ECC root certs by crafting valid private keys by just copying public key + all used cert parameters

Windows forgets to check the base point generator G'.



Protocol Attacks

Overview



Overview

Past attacks in categories...

- Downgrade attacks: *Freak, Logjam*
- Compression attacks: *Crime, Time, Breach*
- Attacks via Padding Oracles: *Lucky 13, Beast, Poodle*

See: <u>https://goo.gl/vKwCm4</u>

- RSA-related attacks: *Bleichenbacher, Drown*
- Insecure Renegotiation



Downgrade Attacks

Problem

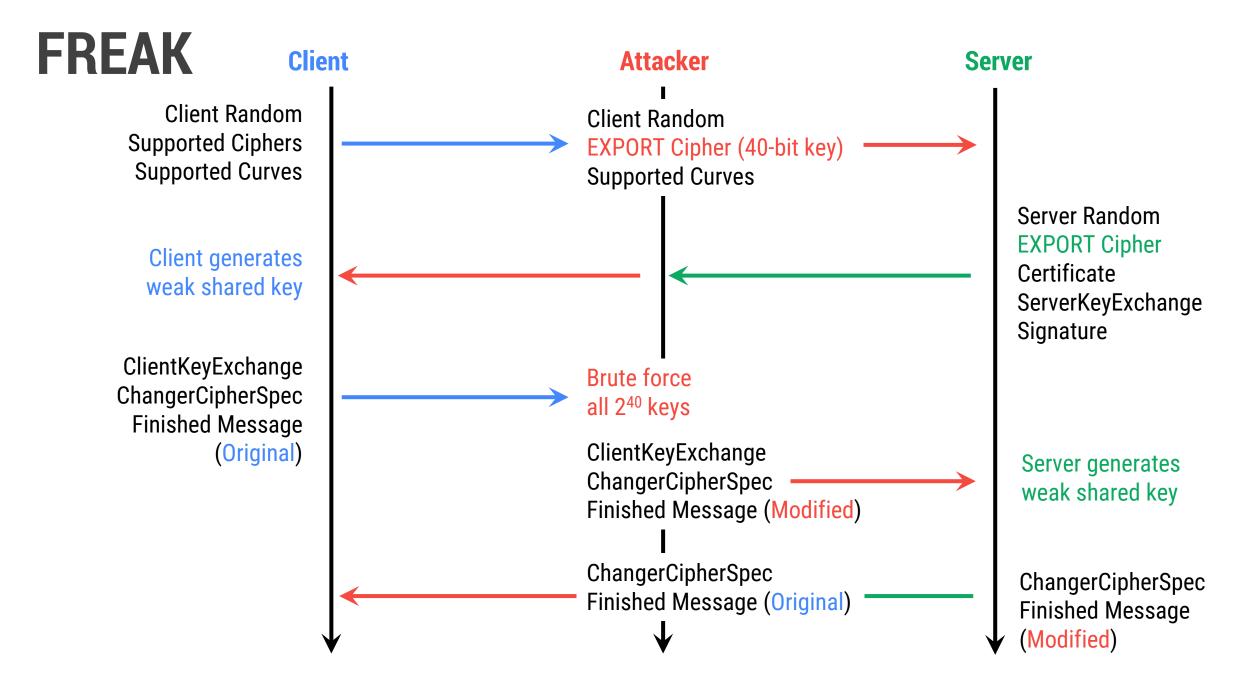
- For compatibility reasons, weak ciphers often remain activated
- Attacker could trick server & client into negotiating connections using them

Example: "Factoring RSA Export Keys" (FREAK) - 2014

- 1. Perform MITM attack
- 2. Swap supported ciphers with EXPORT cipher (= weak encryption key)
- 3. Crack EXPORT key

EXPORT suites RSA-EXPORT-WITH-RC4-40-MD5 - 512-bit RSA key, 40-bit RC4 key RSA-EXPORT-WITH-DES40-CBC-SHA DHE-DSS-EXPORT-WITH-RC4-56-SHA





All traffic beyond this point is encrypted with weak shared keys. Attacker can read/modify everything!

Compression Attacks

= "Message length side channel" / "Compression Oracle"

Problem

- If server applies compression on encrypted data, attackers may add own data which is then also compressed
- Size of compressed content lets you draw conclusions on content

How does it work?

- Compression algorithms eliminate redundancy \rightarrow repeated characters
- If size of compressed content is reduced despite appending bytes to encrypted msg
 → Attacker can assume:

Injected content matches some part of unknown source part, he tries to find out!



Compression Attacks

If you can't forgive yourself, how can you forgive someone else?

Compression would keep only one copy of duplicated data

"Oracle" exists if attacker can add arbitrary data, compressed in same way as some unknown secret data. Now by observing size of compressed output → if output size reduced by compression, guess was correct

Example

GET /JSESSIONID=X HTTP/1.1

Host: www.example.com

Cookie: JESSIONID=B3DF4B07AE33CA

Injected data X \rightarrow incorrect guess: 73 bytes compressed

GET /JSESSIONID=B HTTP/1.1
Host: www.example.com
Cookie: JESSIONID=B3DF4B07AE33CA

 $B \rightarrow correct guess: 72 bytes compressed$

DROWN Attack



= Decrypting RSA with Obsolete and Weakened Encryption

Ingredients

- Practical attack against SSLv2
- Same certificate shared among used protocols (SSLv2, ..., TLS 1.2)
- Implementation errors in OpenSSL
 - Non-standard compliant SSLv2 client can force handshake
 - EXPORT ciphers do keep some bits unencrypted

Consequence?

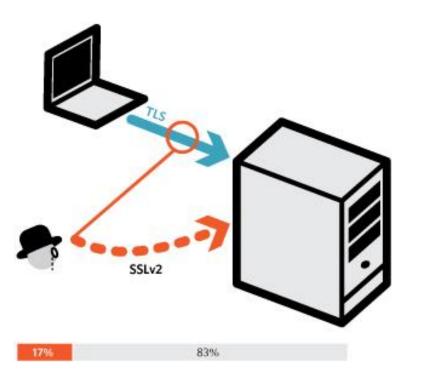
Enables MITM attacks where attacker can decrypt session keys See <u>https://drownattack.com</u>



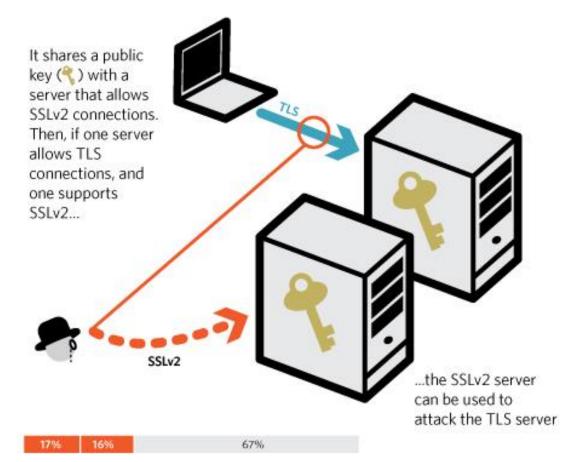
DROWN Attack

A server is vulnerable to DROWN if:

It allows both TLS and SSLv2 connections



17% of HTTPS servers still allow SSLv2 connections



When taking key reuse into account, an additional 16% of HTTPS servers are vulnerable, putting 33% of HTTPS servers at risk



Lessons Learned?

- X.509 certificate handling & ASN.1 parsing are hard to implement *correctly*
- Before breaking SSL / TLS protocols
 → "cheaper" to attack PKIs or exploit implementation flaws
- On-purpose TLS interception is dangerous, nobody gets it right
- If attackers can identify only **one** bit of information, it is over
 - "Brute-Forcing" via Compression, Padding, or Timing Oracles
- Enabled support for weak / insecure ciphers and protocols for compatibility poses serious risks → *Downgrade attacks*



See: <u>https://goo.gl/teWRTO</u>



DNS Security

DNS Issues

Once upon a time...

DNS was designed for a closed environment (ARPAnet) – this changed obviously...

Attacking DNS servers

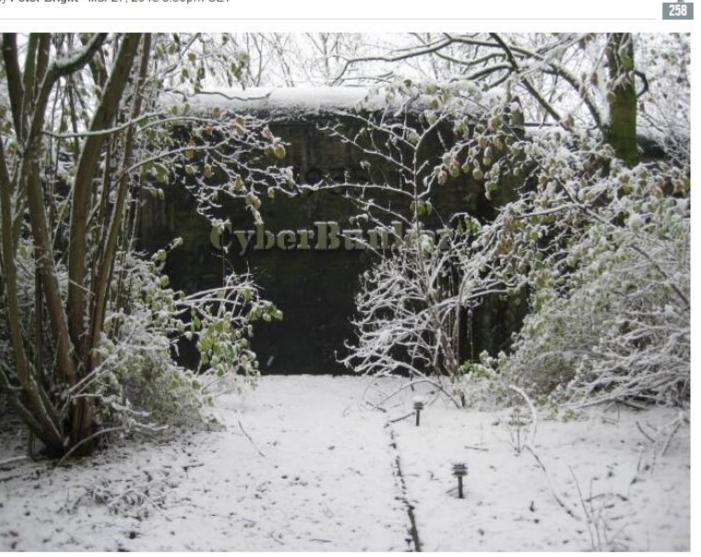
- Denial-of-Service attacks
 - Make it unavailable! What happens if a DNS server cannot be reached? :-)
- DNS Amplification attack
 - Multiply amount of traffic flood thanks to "large replies" after "small queries"
- Cache Poisoning
 - Let user connect to wrong destination IP address



Spamhaus DDoS grows to Internetthreatening size

More than 300 Gb/s of traffic aimed at the anti-spam site's hosting.

by Peter Bright - Mar 27, 2013 8:30pm CET



What happened?

DNS Amplification Attack producing 300 Gbit/s traffic on spamhaus.org

Why is this problematic?

- 300 Gb/s is the scale that threatens the Internet's core routers (Tier-1)
- By overloading them, you risk breaking global connectivity

Remedy?

Well, Anycasting helps, more or less...



Source: http://goo.gl/czi8eZ

DNS Amplification Attack

Idea: Amplify the bandwidth you can use for a DDoS attack

Ingredients

- Being able to set an arbitrary (spoofed) source IP address, e.g. via ICMP / UDP as they require no handshake
- 2. Make response to query significantly *larger* than the request
- 3. Apply this operation distributed using "Open DNS resolver"
 → Servers that resolve recursive DNS requests for anyone on Internet

Why does it work?

E.g. attacker sends query with e.g. 60 bytes, response has 3000 bytes \rightarrow Traffic amplification factor of 50

 \rightarrow Attacker queries with 100 Mbit/s, responses produce 5 Gbit/s !!!



DNS Security

Scenario

You go to a café and use their WiFi → How does your browser find <u>www.google.at</u>?

Mostly like this...

- Ask local name server, obtained via DHCP
 - You implicitly trust this server!
- Can return any answer for <u>google.at</u>, including a malicious IP address that acts as Man-in-the-middle
 - Think of captive portals / hotspot login pages that arise after connecting...

→ How can you know you are getting the "correct" response? :-)



Cache Poisoning

Scenario

- Assume you control the DNS zone evil.at
- You receive a query for <u>www.evil.at</u> and reply

;; QUESTION SECTION: ;www.evil.at.		IN	A		
;; ANSWER SECTION:					
www.evil.at.	3600	IN	А	72.52.4.90	
;; AUTHORITY SECTION: evil.at.	600	IN	NS	ns1.evil.at.	
			-		
<pre>evil.at. ;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:</pre>	600	IN	NS	google.at.	<i>Glue record pointing to attacker's IP, not Google's!</i>
<pre>google.at.</pre>	5	IN	А	72.52.4.90	And it gets cached!
					J



Cache Poisoning

Problem

How do you get a victim to look up evil.at?

For the attack to work, your forged DNS entry has to be fetched...

One possible solution

- You might connect to their mail server and send HELO www.evil.at
- The mail server will look up to check if it corresponds to the connecting IP address (SPAM filtering)
- → While resolving, you also learn the tainted DNS record

Mitigation?

Only accept glue records from the domain you asked for...



Defense

Q: How to protect against forged oder manipulated DNS data? A: DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC)

How?

- Chain-of-Trust between all involved name servers
- DNSSEC-enabled servers digitally sign all their answers cryptographically
 - Use (secret) private RSA key for signing
- DNS resolvers verify if signature matches received records
 - Public RSA key for verification is normal RR with type "DNSKEY"

Effect?

DNS content cannot be modified without being detected!





Lecture exam!



