

# GNU Network Security Labyrinth

- or: an howto for network application authors

TLS  
SASL  
Kerberos  
GSS-API



About me

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# Nordic Free Software Award 2009



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I'll talk about technologies  
and their implementations



# Technologies – Implementations

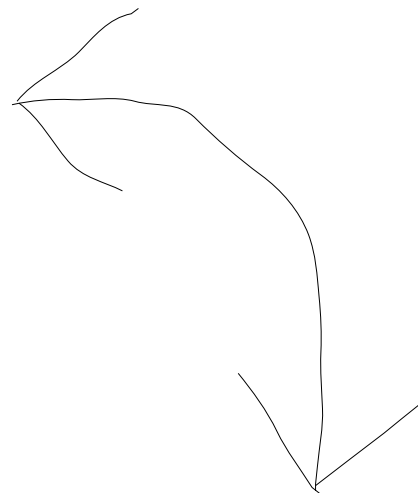
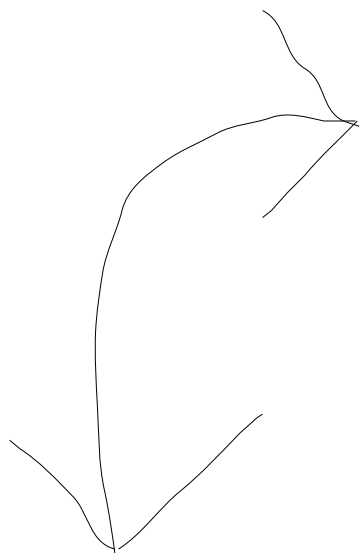
Kerberos – GNU Shishi

GSS-API – GNU GSS

SASL – GNU SASL

SSL/TLS – GnuTLS

What is all this about?



Alice & Mallory & Bob



Alice wants to talk to Bob

In private → encrypted

They want to know who they are talking to →  
authenticated

We will write the tool that  
Alice and Bob is using

It is a client and server

(could be peer-to-peer, but not today)



Client inputs: ADDR

1. Lookup ADDR in DNS
2. Open socket to destination address
3. Exchange message

Server inputs: None

1. Listen on socket
2. Exchange messages

The tool is flawed

Alice doesn't know she is talking to Bob  
Bob doesn't know he is talking to Alice  
Mallory can listen to the conversation  
Mallory can modify the conversation  
Mallory can pretend to be Alice or Bob

Let's add TLS

TLS is the Transport Layer Security

TLS is the standardized  
and improved variant of SSL

Client inputs: ADDR

1. Lookup ADDR in DNS
2. Open socket to destination address
3. **Perform TLS handshake**
4. Exchange message



Server inputs: None

1. Listen on socket
2. **Perform TLS handshake**
3. Exchange messages

```
int socket;
gnutls_session_t session;
gnutls_anon_client_credentials_t anoncred;

gnutls_global_init ();
gnutls_anon_allocate_client_credentials (&anoncred);
gnutls_init (&session, GNUTLS_CLIENT);
gnutls_priority_set_direct (session, "PERFORMANCE:+ANON-DH",
                            NULL);
gnutls_credentials_set (session, GNUTLS_CRD_ANON, anoncred);
socket = tcp_connect ();
gnutls_transport_set_ptr (session, (gnutls_transport_ptr_t) socket);
ret = gnutls_handshake (session);
gnutls_record_send (session, MSG, strlen (MSG));
```

The tool is still flawed

Alice doesn't know she is talking to Bob

Bob doesn't know he is talking to Alice

Mallory can listen to the conversation (as MITM)

Mallory can modify the conversation (as MITM)

Mallory can pretend to be Alice or Bob

TLS can do many things

It supports different Key Exchange methods

Anonymous Diffie Hellman – DH\_anon  
only protects against passive attacks

TLS supports keyed Diffie-Hellman



Pre-shared symmetric key (PSK) or a  
verified public-key (RSA, DSA, ECDSA)

Let's skip PSK today

The server has a public-key  
signed by a CA that the client trusts to verify  
mapping between public-key and name

A signed public-key is stored in the form of a  
Certificate – X.509 or OpenPGP

Clients may also have a public key signed by a CA that the server trusts

Let's skip this today

Client inputs: ADDR, CA

1. Lookup ADDR in DNS
2. Open socket to destination address
3. Perform TLS handshake
4. Verify server certificate against CA and ADDR
5. Exchange message

Server inputs: **Certificate**

1. Listen on socket
2. Perform TLS handshake **with Certificate**
3. Exchange messages

```
int sd;
gnutls_session_t session;
gnutls_certificate_credentials_t xcred;

gnutls_global_init ();
gnutls_certificate_allocate_credentials (&xcred);
gnutls_certificate_set_x509_trust_file (xcred, CAFILE,
                                       GNUTLS_X509_FMT_PEM);
gnutls_init (&session, GNUTLS_CLIENT);
gnutls_priority_set_direct (session, "NORMAL", NULL);
gnutls_credentials_set (session, GNUTLS_CRD_CERTIFICATE, xcred);
sd = tcp_connect ();
gnutls_transport_set_ptr (session, (gnutls_transport_ptr_t) sd);
gnutls_handshake (session);
gnutls_certificate_verify_peers2 (session, NULL);
gnutls_record_send (session, MSG, strlen (MSG));
```



Now we are getting somewhere

Alice knows she is talking to Bob  
Bob doesn't know he is talking to Alice  
Mallory cannot listen to the conversation  
Mallory cannot modify the conversation  
Mallory can pretend to be Alice

Alice needs to trust the CA used by Bob

Similar security as provided on the web

Let's add SASL

SASL is the Simple Authentication  
and Security Layer

SASL specified in RFC 4422

GNU SASL supports CRAM-MD5 EXTERNAL  
GSSAPI ANONYMOUS PLAIN SECURID  
DIGEST-MD5 SCRAM-SHA-1 SCRAM-SHA-1-  
PLUS GS2-KRB5 LOGIN NTLM KERBEROS\_V5

Most common mechanism is CRAM-MD5



CRAM-MD5 takes a username and a password

. AUTHENTICATE CRAM-MD5

+ PDUzMzMxMTg1MjUwMjM0OTQxMjM0LjBAbG9jYWxob3N0Pg==  
YWxpY2UgM2MwOTI5ZjdkY2JjOTkyMDcyZWRhYzZjZTM3YWQ2ZjE=

. OK AUTHENTICATE CRAM-MD5 authentication success

Client inputs: ADDR, CA, **USER, PASSWORD**

1. Lookup ADDR in DNS
2. Open socket to destination address
3. Perform TLS handshake
4. Verify server certificate against CA and ADDR
5. **Perform CRAM-MD5 with USER/PASSWORD**
6. Exchange message

Server inputs: Certificate, **USER, PASSWORD**

1. Listen on socket
2. Perform TLS handshake with Certificate
3. **Perform CRAM-MD5 with USER/PASSWORD**
4. Exchange messages

```
Gsasl *ctx = NULL;
Gsasl_session *session;
int rc;

gsasl_init (&ctx);
gsasl_client_start (ctx, "CRAM-MD5", &session);
gsasl_property_set (session, GSASL_AUTHID, "jas");
gsasl_property_set (session, GSASL_PASSWORD, "secret");

do
{
    char buf[BUFSIZ] = "";
    char *p;
    rc = gsasl_step64 (session, buf, &p);
    send (p);
    recv (buf);
}
while (rc == GSASL_NEEDS_MORE);

gsasl_finish (session);
gsasl_done (ctx);
```

Alice knows she is talking to Bob  
Bob knows he is talking to Alice  
Mallory cannot listen to the conversation  
Mallory cannot modify the conversation  
Mallory cannot pretend to be Alice

Alice needs to trust the CA that Bob used  
Bob needs to know Alice's password  
Alice needs a password for every Bob

Let's use SCRAM-SHA-1-PLUS

(but call it SCRAM+)

SCRAM+ clients hash username, password and a unique name (CB) of the TLS session



SCRAM+ servers can verify the hash using a hashed form of the password

Client inputs: ADDR, ~~CA~~, USER, PASSWORD

1. Lookup ADDR in DNS
2. Open socket to destination address
3. Perform TLS handshake
4. ~~Verify server certificate against CA and ADDR~~
5. Extract CB from TLS session
6. Perform SCRAM+ with USER/PASSWORD/CB
7. Exchange message

Server inputs: (Certificate), USER, PASSWORD

1. Listen on socket
2. Perform TLS handshake (with Certificate)
3. Extract CB from TLS session
4. Perform SCRAM+ with USER/PASSWORD/CB
5. Exchange messages

Alice knows she is talking to Bob  
Bob knows he is talking to Alice  
Mallory cannot listen to the conversation  
Mallory cannot modify the conversation  
Mallory cannot pretend to be Alice  
Alice doesn't need to trust the CA used by Bob  
Bob doesn't need to know Alice's password

Alice needs a password for every Bob

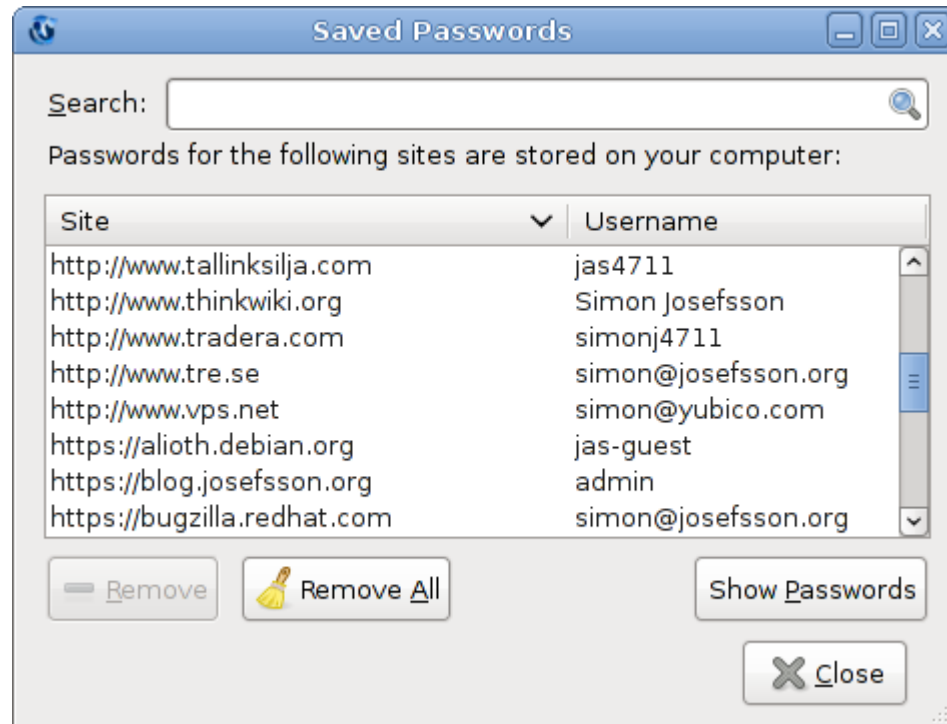
One password per service does not scale

Password reuse between services

Phishing

Don't forget to synchronize passwords  
between all your devices





Let's add Kerberos

Kerberos introduces a trusted third party

Works well if Alice's and Bob's trust  
the same third party

There are many Alice & Bob's at universities and large enterprises

Alice acquires a ticket-granting-ticket (TGT) using a username (principal) and password

The ticket-granting-ticket is used to  
acquire one ticket per service

GNU Shishi implements Kerberos V5



GNU GSS implements the GSS-API for  
"simpler" Kerberos programming

OM\_uint32

gss\_init\_sec\_context (

OM\_uint32

const gss\_cred\_id\_t

gss\_ctx\_id\_t

const gss\_name\_t

const gss\_OID

OM\_uint32

OM\_uint32

const gss\_channel\_bindings\_t input\_chan\_bindings,

const gss\_buffer\_t

gss\_OID

gss\_buffer\_t

OM\_uint32

OM\_uint32

\*minor\_status,

initiator\_cred\_handle,

\*context\_handle,

target\_name,

mech\_type,

req\_flags,

time\_req,

input\_chan\_bindings,

input\_token

\*actual\_mech\_type,

output\_token,

\*ret\_flags,

\*time\_rec);

Preserve your sanity: use Kerberos/GSS-API  
through your friendly SASL library

SASL mechanism for Kerberos  
is called GS2-KRB5

GS2 specified in RFC 5801

(the author sounds familiar)

Client inputs: ADDR, KDC, USER, PASSWORD

1. Get TGT with USER/PASSWORD from KDC
2. Get service ticket for ADDR using TGT
3. Lookup ADDR in DNS
4. Open socket to destination address
5. Perform TLS handshake
6. Extract CB from TLS session
7. Perform GS2KRB5+ with TGT/CB
8. Exchange message

Server inputs: (Certificate), SRVTAB

1. Listen on socket
2. Perform TLS handshake (with Certificate)
3. Extract CB from TLS session
4. Perform GS2KRB5+ with **SRVTAB**/CB
5. Exchange messages

Alice knows she is talking to Bob  
Bob knows he is talking to Alice  
Mallory cannot listen to the conversation  
Mallory cannot modify the conversation  
Mallory cannot pretend to be Alice  
Alice doesn't need to trust the CA used by Bob  
Bob doesn't need to know Alice's password  
Alice doesn't need a password for every Bob

Alice and Bob needs to trust the same third party



We don't go further than this today

(to go beyond this you want to learn about  
federated authentication)

This is the end my friend

Questions?