### **CSE331** Computer Security Fundamentals

10/3/2017 Authentication

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### **Authentication**

The process of reliably verifying the identity or role of someone (or something)

### What is identity?

Which characteristics uniquely identify an entity?

Authentication is a critical service, as many other security mechanisms are based on it

Entity authentication is the security service that enables communicating parties to verify the identity of their peers

### Two main types

Human to computer
Computer to computer

### **Credentials**

### Evidence used to prove an identity

### User Authentication: credentials supplied by the user

Something you know

Something you have

Something you are

### Computer authentication: crypto, location

Computers (in contrast to humans) can "remember" large secrets (keys) and perform complex cryptographic operations

Location: evidence that an entity is at a specific place (e.g., IP address/subnet)

### Authentication can be delegated

The verifying entity accepts that a trusted third party has already established authentication

### **Something You Know: Password-based Authentication**

Passwords, passphrases, pins, key-phrases, access codes, ...
Say the magic word

### Good passwords are easy to remember and hard to guess

Easy to remember → easy to guess

Hard to guess → hard to remember

Bad ideas: DOB, SSN, zip code, favorite team name, ...

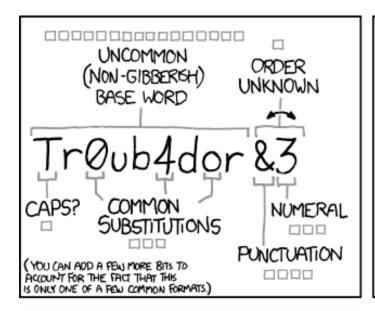
### Password space (bits) depends on:

Password length

Character set

### Better way to think about strong passwords

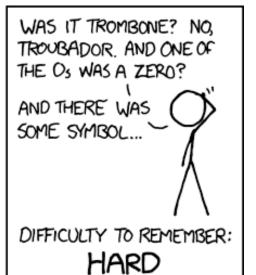
**Long passphrases**, combined with custom variations, symbols, numbers, capitalization, ...





WEB SERVICE, YES, CRACKING A STOLEN HASH IS FASTER, BUT IT'S NOT WHAT THE AVERAGE USER SHOULD WORKY ABOUT.)

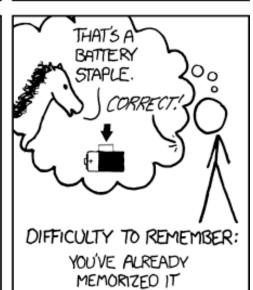
DIFFICULTY TO GUESS: EASY



correct horse battery staple FOUR RANDOM COMMON WORDS



DIFFICULTY TO GUESS: HARD



THROUGH 20 YEARS OF EFFORT, WE'VE SUCCESSFULLY TRAINED EVERYONE TO USE PASSWORDS THAT ARE HARD FOR HUMANS TO REMEMBER, BUT EASY FOR COMPUTERS TO GUESS.

### **Password Policies** (often have the opposite effect)

### Password rules

"At least one special character"

"Minimum/Maximum length of 8/12 characters"

"Must contain at least one number"

"Must contain at least one capital letter"

Hard to remember! → encourage password reuse, writing down passwords insecurely, ...

### Periodic password changing

"You haven't changed your password in the last 90 days"

Probably too late anyway if password has been stolen

Makes remembering passwords harder → more passwords resets

What users do: password1 → password2 → password1 → ...

### **Attacking Passwords**

Offline cracking

Online guessing

Eavesdropping

Capturing

Brute force attacks

### **Password Storage**

Storing passwords as plaintext is disastrous

Better way: store a cryptographic hash of the password

Even better: store a "salted" version of the password

Defend against *dictionary attacks*: prevent precomputation of hash values (wordlists of popular passwords, rainbow tables, ...)

Even if two users have the same password, their hash values will be different → need to be cracked separately

Salting *does not* make brute-force guessing a given password harder!

```
Username Salt Password hash
Bobbie 4238 h(4238, $uperman)
Tony 2918 h(2918, 63%TaeFF)
Mitsos 6902 h(6902, zour1da)
Mark 1694 h(1694, Rockybrook#1)
```

Still, password databases are getting leaked...

### **Password Cracking**

Exhaustive search > infeasible for large password spaces

### Dictionary attacks

Language words

Lists of previously leaked real user passwords

### Variations, common patterns, structure rules

Prepend/append symbols/numbers/dates, weird capitalization, I33tspeak, visually similar characters, intended misspellings, ...

### Target-specific information

DOB, family names, favorite team, pets, hobbies, anniversaries, language, slang, ...

Easy to acquire from social networking services and other public sites

Particularly effective against "security questions"

### Advanced techniques

Probabilistic context-free grammars, Markov models, ...

### Combination of all the above

















■ Secure | https://hashcat.net/wiki/doku.php?id=example\_hashes





hashcat Forums

Wiki

**Tools Events** 

Table of Contents ·Example hashes

Recent changes | Log In | Sitemap

#### **Example hashes**

If you get a "line length exception" error in hashcat, it is often because the hash mode that you have requested does not match the hash. To verify, you can test your commands against example hashes.

· Generic hash types Specific hash types ·Legacy hash types

Unless otherwise noted, the password for all example hashes is hashcat.

#### Generic hash types

Hash- Mode	Hash-Name	Example		
0	MD5	8743b52063cd84097a65d1633f5c74f5		
10	md5(\$pass.\$salt)	01dfae6e5d4d90d9892622325959afbe:7050461		
20	md5(\$salt.\$pass)	f0fda58630310a6dd91a7d8f0a4ceda2:4225637426		
30	md5(utf16le(\$pass).\$salt)	b31d032cfdcf47a399990a71e43c5d2a:144816		
40	md5(\$salt.utf16le(\$pass))	d63d0e21fdc05f618d55ef306c54af82:13288442151473		
50	HMAC-MD5 (key = \$pass)	fc741db0a2968c39d9c2a5cc75b05370:1234		
60	HMAC-MD5 (key = \$salt)	bfd280436f45fa38eaacac3b00518f29:1234		
100	SHA1	b89eaac7e61417341b710b727768294d0e6a277b		
110	sha1(\$pass.\$salt)	2fc5a684737ce1bf7b3b239df432416e0dd07357:2014		
120	sha1(\$salt.\$pass)	cac35ec206d868b7d7cb0b55f31d9425b075082b:5363620024		
130	sha1(utf16le(\$pass).\$salt)	c57f6ac1b71f45a07dbd91a59fa47c23abcd87c2:631225		
140	sha1(\$salt.utf16le(\$pass))	5db61e4cd8776c7969cfd62456da639a4c87683a:8763434884872		
150	HMAC-SHA1 (key = \$pass)	c898896f3f70f61bc3fb19bef222aa860e5ea717:1234		
160	HMAC-SHA1 (key = \$salt)	d89c92b4400b15c39e462a8caa939ab40c3aeeea:1234		
200	MySQL323	7196759210defdc0		
300	MySQL4.1/MySQL5	fcf7c1b8749cf99d88e5f34271d636178fb5d130		

### 25 Most-used (Worse) Passwords

password

letmein

2000

123456

monkey

jordan

12345678

696969

superman

1234

abc123

harley

qwerty

mustang

michael

1234567

12345

...\_

dragon

shadow

pussy

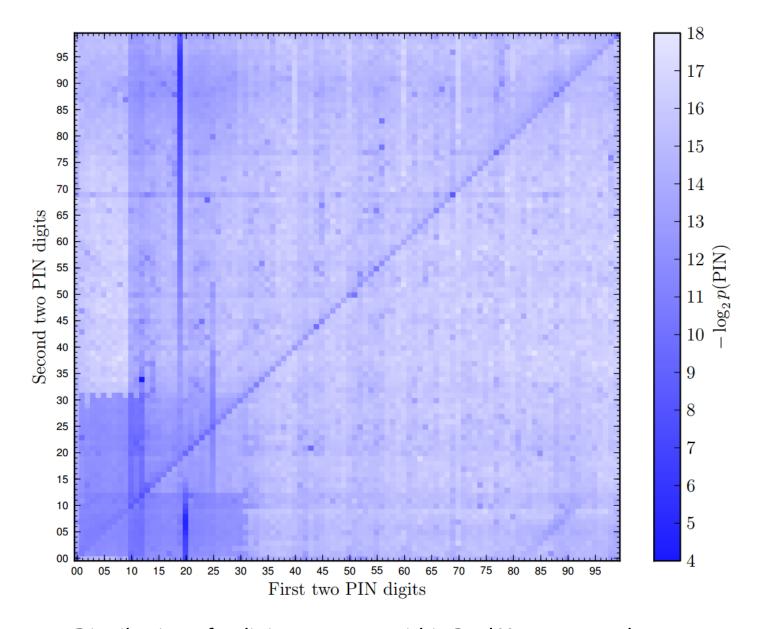
master

baseball

jennifer

football

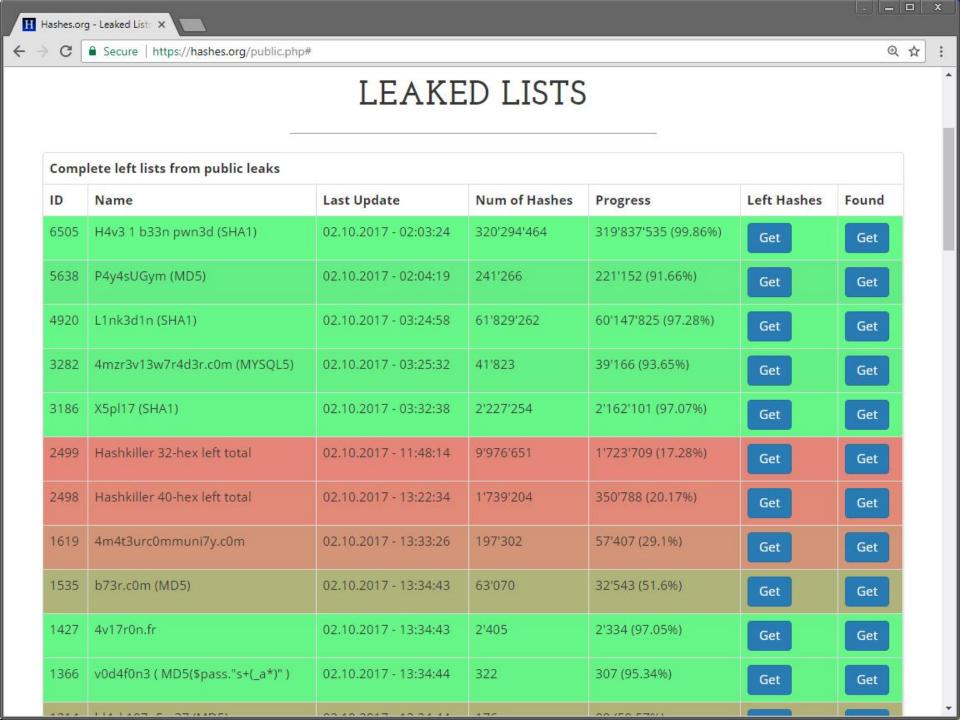
111111



Distribution of 4-digit sequences within RockYou passwords

### **Wordlists**

ce#ebc.dk	4637324	gea8mw4yz	fujinshan	masich	gothpunksk8er	20081010
goddess5	bugger825	kukumbike	counter	pengaiwei	rftaeo48	leelou44
20071002	marmaris	260888	N8mr0n	coalesce	8d7R0K	8UfjeGbO
271075711	jinjin111	jordi10	520057	56402768	5172032	200358808
zs3cu7za	170383gp	lexusis	adc123	thesis	aics07	dellede
scoopn	3484427	kj011a039	bmaster	aabbcc894	34mariah	liang123.
frygas1411	f133321	c84bwlrb	qbjh04zg	marion&maxime	dongqinwei	captainettekt
SL123456sl	zwqrfg	priyanka05	ueldaa79	614850	samarica	kwiki-mart
12345687ee123	67070857	loveneverdies	EMANUELLI	ydz220105	cap1014	mdovydas
xuexi2010	432106969	u8Aqebj576	yanjing	584521584521	0167387943	tigmys2001
daigoro	6856	FGYfgy77	assynt	txudecp	AE86Trueno	denial
12345614	704870704870	659397	62157173	84410545	19700913	678ad5251
DICK4080	pv041886	327296	0704224950753	pietro.chiara	mcsuap	woaiwuai
567891234	20060814	74748585	6903293	jman1514	bu56mpbu	1591591591212
tilg80	512881535	19720919	axaaxa	heryarma	danbee	hNbDGN
6z08c861	milanimilani	050769585	hilall	39joinmam	passw<>	cardcap
:zark:	472619	nicopa	30091983	timelapse	money521	13985039393
ravishsneha	dbyxw888	2232566	2510618981	mwinkar	conan83	001104
150571611369	85717221	bearss	soukuokpan	251422	nxfjpl	desare11
661189	cc841215	n0tpublic	tosecondlife	willrock	rateg143	412724198
passme	ariana19321	isitreal00	p4os8m6q	YHrtfgDK	kojyihen	nibh1kab
trolovinasveta	bbbnnn	ashraf19760	015614117	xys96exq	058336257	asferg
abdulkhaleque	ang34hehiu	48144	acw71790	mercadotecnia	sarah4444	hqb555
007816	wj112358	22471015	lsyljm2	8s5sBEx7	7363437	xgames7
xLDSX	Brenda85	antyzhou115	2xgialdl	0125040344	freindship	muckerlee
Florida2011	786525pb	0167005246	gaybar9	margitka	JytmvW0848	choqui67
037037	shi461988	ec13kag	88203009	omaopa	sb inbau	12130911
WestC0untry	pingu	226226226226	MKltyh87	dfTi6nh	30907891	lierwei120
hitsugaiya	yeybozip	6767537/33	quiggle	1314520521	0515043111	skytdvn
955998126	71477nak	mimilebrock	2063775206	pixma760	1973@ati	milena1995
3n3rmax	stokurew	gueis8850	fr3iH3it	pearpear	wlxgjf	kambala11



### **Password Hashing Functions**

*Problem*: hash functions are very fast to evaluate → facilitate fast password cracking

Solution: slow down guessing process (password "stretching")

Benefit: cracking becomes very inefficient (e.g., 10-100ms per check)

Drawback: increased cost for the server if it must handle many users

### Make heavy use of available resources

Computation should be fast enough to validate honest users, but render password guessing infeasible

Adaptable: flexible cost (time/memory complexity) parameters

### Bcrypt [Provos and Mazières, 1999]

Cost-parameterized, modified version of the Blowfish encryption algorithm Tunable cost parameter (exponential number of loop iterations)

Alternatives: Scrypt (memory-hard), PBKDF2 (PKCS standard)

### **Online Guessing**

Similar strategy to offline guessing, but rate-limited Connect, try a few passwords, get disconnected, repeat...

Prerequisite: know a valid user name

Many failed attempts can lead to a system reaction

Introduce delay before accepting future attempts (exponential backoff)
Shut off completely (e.g., ATM capturing/disabling a card after 3 tries)
Ask user to solve a CAPTCHA

## Very common against publicly accessible SSH, VPN, RDP, and other servers

Main reason people move sshd to a non-default port

Fail2Ban: block IP address after many failed attempts → may allow an attacker to lock you out of the server (!)

Better: disable password auth and use a key pair → cumbersome if having to log in from many/others' computers



LOGIN: mitch

PASSWORD: FooBar!-7

SUCCESSFUL LOGIN

(a)

LOGIN: carol

INVALID LOGIN NAME

PASSWORD: Idunno

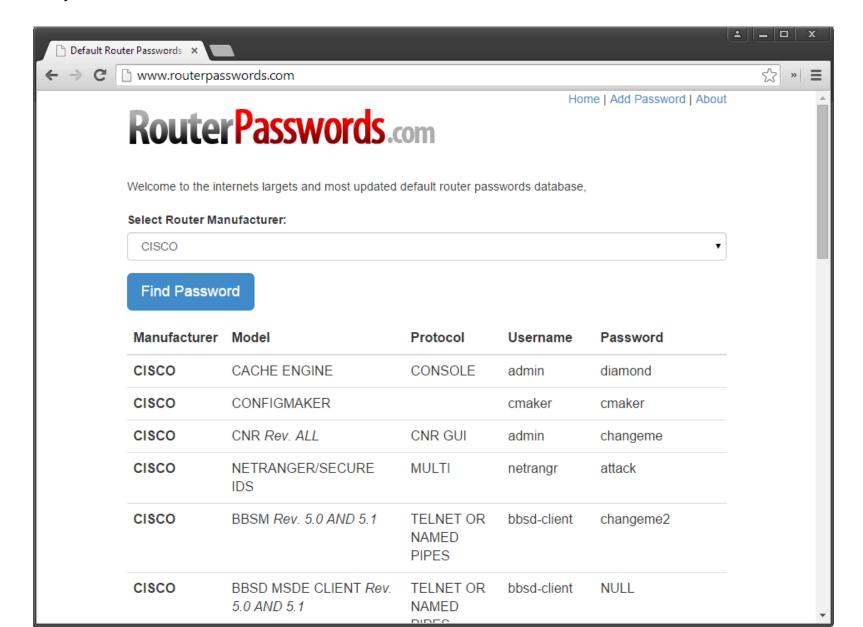
INVALID LOGIN:

(b)

(c)

- (a) A successful login
- (b) Login rejected after name is entered
- (c) Login rejected after name and password are typed → less information makes guessing harder

### Try the Default First



### **Eavesdropping and Replay**

### Physical world

Watch user type password (shoulder surfing)

Cameras (ATMs skimmers)

Lift fingerprints (iPhone)

Post-it notes

### Network makes things easier

Sniffing (LAN, WiFi, ...)

Man-in-the-Middle attacks

### **Defenses**

Encryption

One-time password schemes

### Kerberos

### Long-lived vs. session keys

Use long-lived key for authentication and negotiating session keys Use "fresh," ephemeral session keys (prevent replay, cryptanalysis, old compromised keys) for encrypted communication, MACs, ...

Kerberos: most widely used (non-web) single sign-on system Originally developed at MIT, now used in Unix, Windows, ...

# Authenticate users to services: using their password as the initial key, without having to retype it for every interaction

A Key Distribution Center (KDC) acts as a trusted third party for key distribution

Online authentication: Variant of Needham-Schroeder protocol Assumes a non-trusted network: prevents eavesdropping Assumes that the Kerberos server and user workstations are secure...

Use cases: workstation login, remote share access, printers, ...

### **Password Capture**

Hardware bugs/keyloggers

Software keyloggers/malware

**Cameras** 

Phishing

Social engineering

Welcome up ....

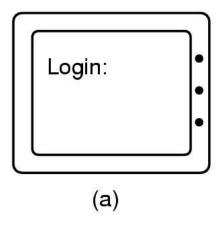


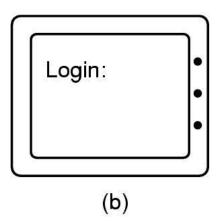
Copyright 5, 1985-2001 Microsoft Comoradon



Press Ctrl-Alt-Delete to begin.

Requiring this key combination at startup helps keep computer secure. For more information, click Help.





- (a) Correct login screen
- (b) Phony login screen

### **Something You Have: Authentication Tokens**

### One-time passcode tokens

Time-based

Counter-based



Other authentication tokens: store certificates, encryption keys, challenge-response, ...



### Smartcards (contact or contactless)

Identification, authentication, data storage, limited processing Magnetic stripe cards, EMV (chip-n-pin credit cards), SIM cards, RFID tags, ...

### USB/NFC tokens, mobile phones, watches, ...

Can be used as authentication devices

### **Multi-factor Authentication**

Present several separate credentials of different types

Most common: *two-factor authentication (2FA)* 

Example: Password + hardware token, mobile phone, ...

Example: ATM card + PIN

# Motivation: a lost/guessed password is not enough anymore for attackers → not always true

*Man-in-the-Middle:* set up fake banking website, relay password to real website, let the user deal with the second factor...

*Man-in-the-Browser:* hijack/manipulate an established session after authentication has completed (banking Trojans)

Dual infection: compromise both PC and mobile device

### Implementation-dependent usability issues

Token may be lost, in-flight WiFi but cannot receive SMS, ...

Fallback: backup one-time-use passcodes (where to keep them?)

### **SMS Is Not a Secure 2nd Factor**

(but still better than no 2nd factor)

### Social engineering

Call victim's mobile operator and hijack the phone number

SIM swap, message/call forwarding, ...

### Message interception

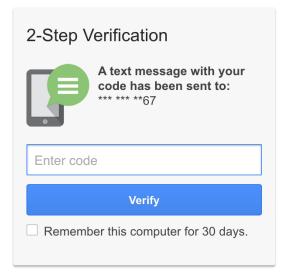
Rogue cell towers: IMSI catchers, StingRays,... Some phones even display text messages on the lock screen (!)

### SS7 attacks

The protocol used for inter-provider signaling is severely outdated and vulnerable

Allows attackers to spoof change requests to users' phone numbers and intercept calls or text messages















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Scams

'Sim swap' gives fraudsters access-allareas via your mobile phone

There's a new, little-known scam designed to empty your bank account, as one Vodafone customer found to her cost



**Anna Tims** 

Saturday 26 September 2015 02.00 EDT



#### Most popular in US



Las Vegas shooting: death toll rises to 58 as police name suspect latest updates



Confusion follows reports of Tom Petty death after heart attack



Las Vegas gunman may have used special device to fire faster, expert says

### **Better Alternative: Authenticator App**

Six/eight digit code provided after successful password validation

### Time-based one-time password (TOTP)

Code computed from a shared secret key and the current time (using HMAC)

The key is negotiated during registration

## Requires "rough" synchronization between client and server

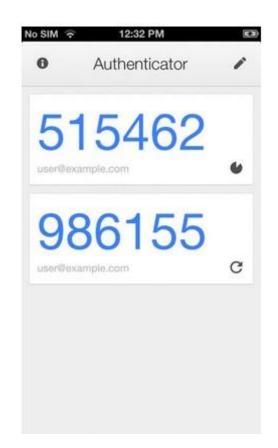
Code constantly changes in 30-second intervals

### Phishing is still possible!

The attacker needs to proxy the captured credentials in real time (rather than collecting them for later use)

### Session hijacking and Man-in-the-Middle are still possible!

After the user has successfully logged in



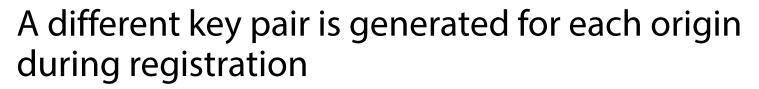
### **Even Better Alternative: U2F Tokens**

### Universal Second Factor (U2F)

FIDO (Fast IDentity Online) alliance: Google, Yubico, ...

Supported by many popular online services

Supported by Chrome and Opera (and soon Mozilla and Microsoft)

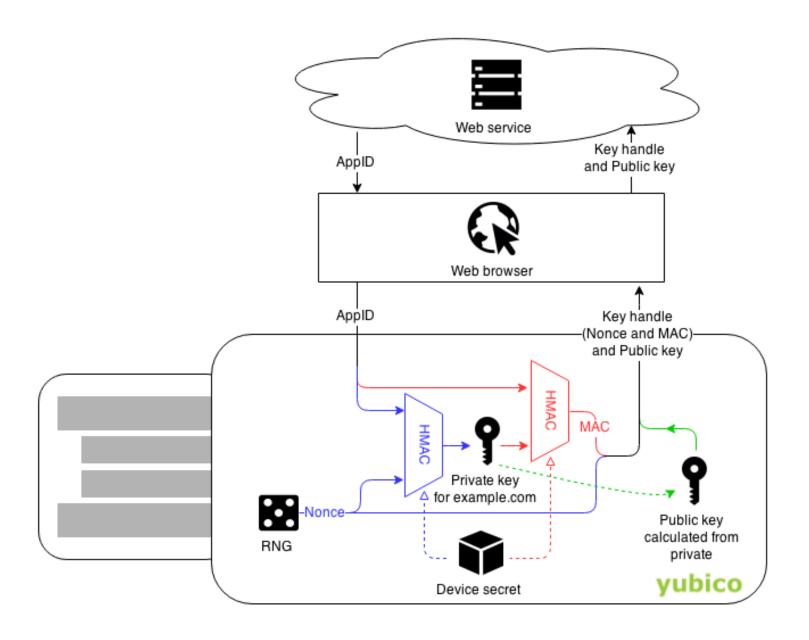


Origin = cprotocol, hostname, port>

Private key stored on device

Public key sent to server





### **U2F tokens**

### Benefits

Easy: just tap the button (no typing)

Works out of the box (no drivers to install)

USB, NFC, Bluetooth communication

No shared secret between client and server

Origin checking → effective against phishing!



### **Drawbacks**

Can be lost → a fallback is needed (e.g., Authenticator App)

Still a bit cumbersome: have to pull keychain out of pocket and plug token in (or have an always pugged-in token per device)

Cost (\$7 – \$60)

Man-in-the-Browser is still possible!

### Single Sign-on/Social Login

### Pros

Convenience: fewer passwords to remember

Rich experience through social features

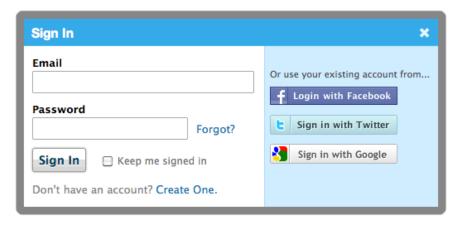
Easier development: outsource user registration/management

### Cons

Same credentials for multiple sites: single point of failure

Access to user's profile

User tracking



### **Biometrics**

### Fingerprint reader

### Face recognition

Depth sensing, "liveness" detection (pulse, thermal), etc. to foil simple picture attack

Retina/iris scanner

Voice recognition

• • •

### Continuous authentication

Keystroke timing, usage patterns, ...

### **Crypto-based Authentication**

Rely on a cryptographic key to prove a user's identity

User performs a requested cryptographic operation on a value (challenge) that the verifier supplies

Usually based on knowledge of a key (secret key or private key)

Can use symmetric (e.g., Kerberos) or public key schemes

How can we trust a key? Why is it authentic?

Need to establish a level of trust

Different approaches: TOFU, PKI, web of trust

Emerging approach: blockchain/ledger-based PKI

### **Trust on First Use** (aka Key Continuity)

Use case: SSH

Performs mutual authentication

### Server always authenticates the client

password, key pair, ...

## Client almost always authenticates the server – *except the first time!*

First connection: server presents its public key

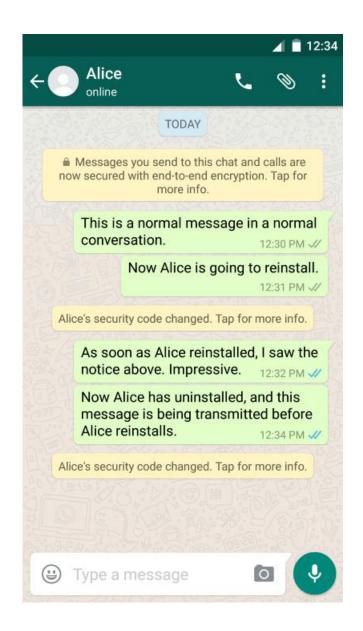
No other option for the user but to accept it: MitM opportunity

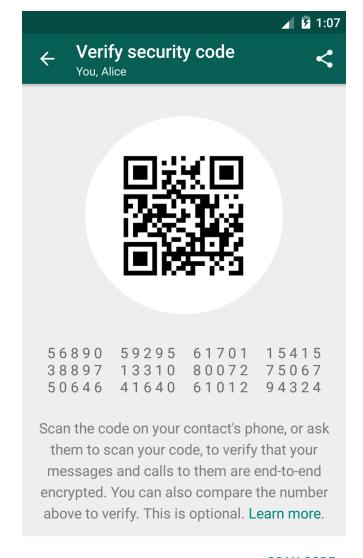
Subsequent connections: client remembers server's key, and triggers an alert on key mismatch

### Pragmatic solution, but shifts the burden to users

Users must determine the validity of the presented key

Assuming a key change is valid without verifying the new key offers no protection against MitM (unfortunately, that's what most users do)





**SCAN CODE** 

### **Certificates**

### How can we distribute "trusted" public keys?

Public directory → risk of forgery and tampering More practical solution: "certified" public keys

# A certificate is a digitally signed message containing an identity and a public key

Makes an association between a user/entity and a private key Valid until a certain period

### Why trust a certificate?

Because it is signed by an "authority"

Third party's signature prevents tampering



### **Public Key Infrastructures (PKI)**

# Facilitate the authentication and distribution of public keys based on identities

Set of roles, policies, and procedures to create, mange, distribute, use, store, and revoke certificates

### An issuer signs certificates for subjects

Trust anchor

### Methods of certification

**Certificate authorities** (hierarchical structure – root of trust)

**Web of trust** (decentralized, peer-to-peer structure)

### **Certificate Authorities**

Trusted third-parties responsible for certifying public keys

Most CAs are tree-structured

Single point of failure: CAs can be compromised!

Why should we trust an authority?

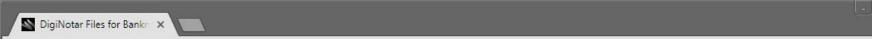
How do you know the public key of the Certificate Authority (CA)?

CA's public key (trust anchor) must somehow be provided out of band

Trust has to start somewhere

Operating systems and browsers are pre-configured with ~200 trusted root certificates

A public key for any website in the world will be accepted without warning if certified by any of these CAs (more in the TLS lecture)











Secure https://www.wired.com/2011/09/diginotar-bankruptcy/

KIM ZETTER SECURITY 09.20.11 03:05 PM

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DigiNotar Files for Bankruptcy in Wake of Devastating Hack

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## DIGINOTAR FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY IN WAKE OF DEVASTATING HACK





A Dutch certificate authority that suffered a major hack attack this summer has been unable to recover from the blow and filed for bankruptcy this week.

### **MOST POPULAR**



TRANSPORTATION General Motors Announces an All-Electric Future ALEX DAVIES



SECURITY This "Ghost Gun" Machine Now Makes Untraceable Metal Handguns ANDY GREENBERG



SECURITY How the Las Vegas Shooter Could Have Gotten an Automatic Rifle ANDY GREENBERG



MORE STORIES

### **Web of Trust**

### Entirely decentralized authentication

No single point of failure

No need to buy certs from CAs

Used in PGP

### Users sign other users' keys

Only if they deem them trustworthy

Certificate signings can form an arbitrarily complex graph

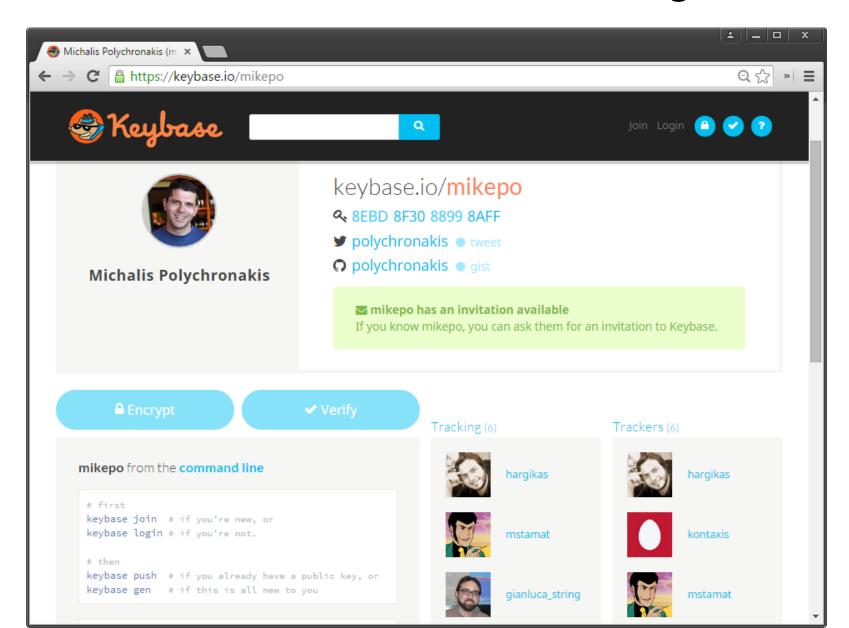
Users can verify path to as many trust anchors as they wish

### **Drawbacks**

Hard to use, requires in-person verification – key signing parties!

Hard to know what trust level to assign transitively

### **WoT Alternative: Online Social "Tracking"**



### Keybase.io

In essence, a directory associating public keys with names

### Identity established through public signatures

**Identity proofs**: "I am Joe on Keybase and MrJoe on Twitter"

**Follower statements**: "I am Joe on Keybase and I just looked at Chris's identity"

identity"

**Key ownership**: "I am Joe on Keybase and here's my public key"

**Revocations**: "I take back what I said earlier"

### Keybase identity = sum of other public identities

Twitter, Facebook, Github, Reddit, domain ownership, ...

Example:



### An attacker has to compromise all connected identities

The more connected identities, the harder to impersonate a user

### **Best Practices**

Pick long passwords (passphrases)

Never reuse the same password on different services

Never share passwords

Use SSH keys instead of passwords

Use two-factor authentication when available

Use Authenticator App or U2F instead of SMS

Disassociate phone number from account after initial setup

Use a password manager

Not only for passwords! Also for "security" questions...