DIMACS Security & Cryptography Crash Course – Day 3 Resiliency to Corruptions and Key Exposures

Prof. Amir Herzberg

Computer Science Department, Bar Ilan University

http://amir.herzberg.name

© Amir Herzberg, 2003. Permission is granted for academic use without modification. For other use please contact author.

Outline

- Motivation
- Using Insecure Servers
- Private key exposure
- Certificates and revocation
- Shared key refresh
- Forward security
- Resiliency via
 Redundancy

- Secret Sharing
- Distributed PKC
- Distributed EI-Gamal
- Proactive security
- Proactive secret sharing
- Proactive PKC, signatures
- Applying proactive security
- Conclusions

Why Resiliency?

- Existing operating systems have weak security
 - By design
 - By typical implementations
 - More on this in follow-up courses
- Many (or most) computer crimes are by insiders
 - With access/control over computer/OS/Application
- Corruptions to data, key exposures possible
- Questions:
 - How to avoid / minimize damages?
 - How to recover?

Secure Service from Insecure Servers

- Can we provide secure services using insecure servers?
- Idea: insecure ≠corrupted!
- Insecure servers: servers that may be corrupted
- Provide secure services...
 - □ If server is not corrupted at time of service
 - □ By multiple servers assuming not *all* are corrupted
 - □ Assume *enough* are *not* corrupted (One? Majority? 2/3?)
 - By multiple servers assuming enough are Ok at time of service
- Example: Unix and S/Key Password Schemes...

Recall: Login to Insecure Server

- Unix Password Scheme
 - Unix passwords file is public (or `less secret`)
 - Keep only hash of passwords
 - Password file contains <salt, h_{salt}(password)>
 - Random `salt` added to prevent dictionary attacks
 - Hide passwords (or salt) for further protection (how?)
- S/Key Login: Hash Chain (One-time Passwords)
 - Protects against exposing server password file
 - And: eavesdropping on login communication



Protecting User Data on Insecure Server

- Encrypt using user's password; Decrypt during session
- Password (key) not kept in server (as before)
 - □ User provides pw; use as key in server pw'=h(pw)
 - Why not use directly?
- Decrypt master key k using pw' as key, i.e. $k=D_{pw'}(E_{pw'}(k))$
 - □ To allow changing of pw (only re-encrypt $E_{pw}(k)$)
 - To allow changing of k
- Encrypt each file by its own key, encrypted by master key
 - □ Why not use same key for all files?
 - Method 1: attach encrypted key to file
 - Method 2: Derive key from file-name: $k_{file} = PRP_k(filename)$
 - Advantages ?
- Let's summarize this process...

Protecting User Data on Insecure Server

- Encrypt using user's password; Decrypt during session
- User's password (*pw*) not kept in server (as before)
- Derive pw-key from password: pw'=h(pw)
- Decrypt master key k using pw' as key, i.e. $k=D_{pw'}(E_{pw'}(k))$
- Encrypt/Decrypt filename using: k_{file}=PRP_k(filename)
- Problem? (Hint: user-chosen passwords...)



Dictionary Attacks on User Data

- Problem: user passwords *pw* are often from dictionary
- Attacker can test against all *pw∈Dictionary*
 - For every guess u, compute pw'=h(pw)
 - Decrypt master key k, i.e. $k=D_{pw'}(E_{pw'}(k))$
 - Decrypt *filename* using: $k_{file} = PRP_k(filename)$
 - □ Validate guess of user password *upw* by viewing plaintext
- Countermeasures:
 - System-only access to encrypted passwords and files
 - Identify guessing attacks
 - Standard salt technique: pw'=h(pw,salt)
 - □ Use very slow *h* and/or decryption of master key $k=D_{pw}(E_{pw}(k))$

Exposure of Secret Keys

- Exposure of shared secret key: replace key
 - How to agree on new key without exposing it?
 - Can we protect past traffic?
 - Should we wait until detecting exposure to replace key?
 - Bad idea! Better refresh keys periodically (proactively)
- Exposure of private key using PK cryptosystem
 - How to revoke exposed public key, distribute new public key?
 - Can we protect past traffic?
- Exposure of private key using PK signatures
 - How to revoke exposed public key, distribute new public key?
 - Can old signatures remain effective?

Dealing with Private Key Exposure

- Private key of PK cryptosystem or signature scheme
- Can we wait until detecting exposure to replace / revoke (public) key?
 - Bad idea for exposure of shared secret key
 - □ But... changing public key, informing everybody, is a mess
 - Better: revoke and replace key only when exposed
- How to revoke exposed public key?
- How to distribute new public key?
- More advanced issues later…
 - Change only *private* key, not modifying public key (periodically and proactively – without detecting exposure)
 - Can we protect past traffic?
 - Can old signatures remain effective?

Self Certification and Revocation

- How to revoke exposed public key?
- How to distribute new public key?
- Distribute signed messages...
 - Self revocation message for exposed key ["revoke", date, k_{old,pub}]
 - Self certificate of new key: ["cert", dates, $k_{new,pub}$]
 - Both signed using $k_{RC,pub}$ signing key for Revoke/Certify
- Problem: what if $k_{RC,pub}$ itself is exposed?



Certification & Revocation Authority

- Certification Authority (CA, Issuer) issues certificate to subject's public key
- Relying party validates certificate using CA public key
- Revocations also signed by CA, subject, or other
- Also: limit certificate to validity period (an attribute)
- How to protect the key of the CA itself?



Preventing Invalidation of Signatures

- Problem: public key revoked... are signatures invalid??
 - If not... revoking does not prevent signing with stolen key
 - □ If yes... signer can revoke key (claim exposed) to deny signing
 - Fair solutions: signatures validated before revocation remain valid
- Solution 1: time-stamping of signature and revocation
 - Third-party evidence: date when document was signed
 - Third-party evidence: date when key was revoked
- Solution 2: limited validity/revocation periods for keys
 - Divide time into *periods*, e.g. day / month
 - Different keys for each period *t*: *Priv*[*t*], *Pub*[*t*]
 - Exposure of Priv[t] does not enable signing with Priv[t'], t' < t
 - □ \rightarrow Even if key revoked at period *t*, previous signatures are Ok

Time-Stamping of Signatures, Revocations and other documents

Goal: non-repudiated proof of document creation date

- Proof document/signature/revocation existed at/before date
- If signature on contract existed (was validated) before public key was revoked, then contract remains valid!
- Timestamp signed by Time-stamping Authority
- Hash document to protect confidentiality



Limited validity periods for keys

- Goal: signatures validated before revocation are valid
- Prevent invalidation by changing keys periodically
 - Divide time into periods, e.g. day / month
 - Different keys for each period *t*: *Priv*[*t*], *Pub*[*t*]
 - Exposure of Priv[t] does not enable signing with Priv[t'], t' < t
 - □ \rightarrow Even if key revoked at period *t*, previous signatures are Ok
- How? *Cert*[*t*]=*Sign*_{*CA*}(*Pub*[*t*],*ID*,*ATTR*[*period*=*t*])



Forward Secure Signatures

- Problem: many public keys... inconvenient
- Forward Secure Signatures:
 - Different private key for each period t: Priv[t]
 - Exposure of Priv[t] does not enable signing with Priv[t'], t' < t
 - □ \rightarrow Even if key revoked at period *t*, previous signatures are Ok
 - But: use fixed public key Pub (and certificate?)
 - Validation function depends on period
 - Naïve version: deteriorating private key $Priv[t] = \{Priv'(i)\}_{i=t...T}$
 - Public key $Pub = \{Pub'(i)\}_{i=1,...T}$
- Evolving area of research: using short Pub, Priv[t]
- Existing proposals incompatible with RSA / DSA etc.
 - Not in this course (or at least not in this lecture)

Remaining problems

- Recovery from private key exposure
 - Detected exposure: revoke and certify new key
 - Undetected : limited validity period, proactively change keys
- High dependency on Certificate Authority:
 - CA's private key is critical... We later show how to protect it.
 - Secure communication with the CA is critical...
 - How to secure it?
- In general: how to maintain secret shared key?

Exposure of Shared Secret Keys

- Exposure of shared secret key: replace key
 - How to agree on new key without exposing it?
 - Can we protect past traffic?
 - Refresh periodically (proactively, *before* detecting exposure)
- Divide time into periods
- Each period begins with refresh/recovery phase
 - □ Forward security: protect past/present from future exposure
 - Proactive security: periodically recover security



2PP handshake protocol

- Use master key k to securely distribute session key k[i] for period i
- $k[i] = PRP_k($ "session", $i, N_a, N_b)$
- Independent session keys Adversary cannot learn anything about *m*, given $E_{k[j]}(m)$ and k[i] for $j \neq i$
- But what if master key k is exposed?



Weak Forward Security

- Protect past traffic from future exposure of all keys
- Divide time into periods; k[i] is session key in period
 i
- Each period begins with refresh/recovery phase
- Weak Forward security: Any adversary, given...
 - All keys in server during period i, after refresh phase
 - Encryption $E_{k[j]}(m)$ for j < i

Cannot learn anything about m.



Ensuring Weak Forward Security

- Evolving master key: MK[i]=PRP_{MK[i-1]}("next")
- Derive session key: $k[i] = PRP_{MK[i]}("s", N_a, N_b)$
- Adversary cannot learn anything on *m*, given $E_{k[j]}(m)$ and...
 - All keys in server after refresh phase of period j+1,
 - □ And session keys k[i] for all periods $i \neq j$
- However... if all keys of period *i* are exposed (incl. Master key K[*i*]) adversary can decrypt all traffic after period *i*
- Can we limit the value of *K*[*i*] to period *i*??
- Suppose keys of period *i* are exposed only *after* period *i*...

Strong (Perfect) Forward Security

- Protect traffic of period *i* from exposure of all keys of all periods *j≠i*, as long as exposure happens after refresh phase of period *i*+1
- Motivation: some keys may persist from past periods; plus, attacker may expose old key by timeconsuming methods, e.g. cryptanalysis, reading from `erased` data



Strong Forward Secrecy with DH

- Strong (Perfect) Forward secrecy: exposure after period *i* of all keys in all periods *j≠i* exposes nothing about messages sent during *i*.
- How? Periodical Authenticated Key Agreement [DH]
 a,b selected randomly each time by Alice, Bob respectively



Forward Secrecy with Pub Key

- Each period *t*, Bob generates new, ephemeral public key *PUB_b[t]* and sends to Alice
- Alice may also generate public key and send to Bob
- Public key generation \rightarrow substantial overhead (esp. RSA)
- $k \text{ exposed} \rightarrow \text{adversary can impersonate (fake <math>PUB_b[t]$)



Session Keys from Public Keys

Public keys PUB, PUB from certificates



- Simple extension to protect k even if attacker learns $PRIV_a$.
- What if attacker learns both *PRIV_a* and *PRIV_b*?
- \rightarrow Can extend with forward secrecy to protect past traffic...
- \rightarrow Can we do better change private keys?

Proactive Secure Communication

- Each period *t*, Bob and Alice generate new public keys $PUB_b[t]$, $PUB_a[t]$ and certificates $C_a[t]=Sign_{CA}\{PUB_a[t],t\}$, $C_b[t]=Sign_{CA}\{PUB_b[t],t\}$
- Exchange keys, certificates, encrypted session key...
- Critical: Proactively secure Certification Authority
- Idea: use redundant, multiple servers for secure CA!



Security By Redundancy

- Problem: server corrupted at time of service
 - □ Certificate Authority: capture CA's private key, issue certificates
 - Secure login: access to account, change password
 - Secure user data: capture password and/or key
 - Database with private index: capture index at query
- Solution: use multiple, redundant servers
 - □ Assume not *all* servers are corrupted
- Example: share secret key *k* among two servers:



Secret Sharing

- Idea: share secret among multiple, redundant servers
 Do not put all your eggs in one basket!
- Below: share secret *s* among two servers
- Questions:
 - □ Share among n>2 servers [easy...]
 - □ How to use / retrieve / store key securely? [Later]
 - Require only threshold *t*<*n* servers for recovery [Next]



Question

- In many cases the secret shared is a key
- When sharing a key, why not simply give each server half of the bits of the key?



Secret Sharing with Threshold

- *N* users and a threshold *t*
- Any group of *t* users can jointly obtain the secret
- Any group of less than t users cannot jointly obtain any information about the secret
- Assume we have a dealer who has the secret
- (N,1)-scheme: give secret to all users...
- (N,N)-scheme: as before (XOR), or...
 - Let s be the secret, let p be a large number (s < p)
 - Let $a_1, ..., a_N$ be random numbers s.t. $a_1 + a_2 + ... + a_N = s \mod p$
 - Assign a_i to the *i*th user

Threshold Secret Sharing protects:

- *Secrecy*: no *t*-1 shareholders can

learn the secret



- *Integrity*: Every *t* shareholders can reconstruct the secret (no *N*-*t* shareholders can destroy the secret)

Secret Sharing with Threshold 2

- (*N*,2)-scheme: *N* users and a threshold t=2
- Need (exactly) two users to recover secret s
- Idea [Shamir]: share points on a line
 - Let s be the secret, let p be a large prime (s, N < p)
 - Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ (i.e. $\{0, \dots, (p-1)\}$)
 - □ Hide the secret as points on the line $f(x)=ax+s \mod p$
 - User $i \in \{1, ...N\}$ receives $s_i = f(i) = ai + s \mod p$
 - □ Every two users have two points → can find s=f(0)



Polynomial Secret Sharing [S79]

- Generalize from (*N*,2) to (*N*,*t*)
- Instead of a line, use a polynomial of degree (t-1)
- Pick random polynomial

 $f(x) = a_{t-1}x^{t-1} + a_{t-2}x^{t-2} + \dots + s \mod p$

As before:

•
$$s = f(0)$$

- User *i* receive $s_i = f(i) \mod p$
- □ *t* points allow interpolation → computing $f(x) \rightarrow s = f(0)$



Lagrange Interpolation



In particular,

$$s = f(0) = \sum_{i=1}^{t} f(x_i) \prod_{\substack{j=1 \ j \neq i}}^{t} \frac{x_j}{(x_j - x_i)}$$

Using Lagrange Interpolation

- With polynomial secret sharing, x_i=i and compute mod p
- Given {f(i)} for $i \in T$ s.t. |T| = t and $T \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$ $s = f(0) = \sum_{i \in T} f(i) \prod_{\substack{j \in T \\ j \neq i}} \frac{j}{(j-i)} \mod p$



Secure communication by sharing

We can use secret sharing also to secure communication using several partially-trusted channels/messengers...



Polynomial Secret Sharing - Exercise

- Let's use *p*=37
- Select secret s < 37</p>
- Select $a_i \in_R \{2...37\}$; $f(i) = a_{t-1}i^{t-1} + a_{t-2}i^{t-2} + ... + s \mod 37$
- Give f(i) to party i
- Receive f(i) from i

Share Modification Threats

- Malicious user sends bogus share
 - Undetectable reconstruction of wrong secret
 - Malicious user can recover real secret
- User receives corrupted share
 - In some applications: intentionally corrupted by sender!
 - Undetectable until reconstruction (or at all)
- Solution: VSS Verifiable Secret Sharing [Feldman]

Verifiable Secret Sharing [Feldman]

- Distribute also *public verifiers* $g^{a_1}, g^{a_2}, \dots, g^{a_{t-1}} \mod p$ Verify share $f(i) = s + a_1 i + a_2 i^2 + \dots + a_{t-1} i^{t-1} \mod p$
- By raising g by both sides:

$$g^{f(i)} = (g^{s})(g^{a_{1}})^{i}(g^{a_{2}})^{i^{2}}...(g^{a_{t-1}})^{i^{t-1}} \mod p$$

- This preserves secrecy but allows detection of bogus shares
 - □ When received by *i* (in sharing phase)
 - When sent by *i* (in reconstruction phase)

Polynomial Secret Sharing - Properties

- Perfect (unconditional) security: given less than t shares, all values of the shared secret are equally probable
 - No unproven (computational) assumptions
- The size of each share is the same as of the secret
- Shares for new users can be computed without changing existing shares
- Verify shares (VSS) variant to detect bogus shares
 Computationally-secure
- Symmetric: all users equally trusted / powerful
 - Or: give multiple shares to `highly trusted` users
- Can we trust some users more than others?

Asymmetric Secret Sharing

- Not all users equally trusted
- Access function: $f(x_1, ..., x_N)$
 - \square X_I: True if user *i* contributes her share
 - \Box $f(x_1,...,x_N)$ is *True* if $\{x_1,...,x_N\}$ together can recover *s*
- Monotone Access Function
 - Adding more shares can only help
 - Boolean circuit with only "and" and "or"

$$f(x_{1,}x_{2}, x_{3,}x_{4}) = x_{1}x_{2} \lor x_{1}x_{3}x_{4} \lor x_{2}x_{3}x_{4}$$

View as Monotone Boolean Circuit

$$f(x_{1,}x_{2}, x_{3,}x_{4}) = x_{1}x_{2} \lor x_{1}x_{3}x_{4} \lor x_{2}x_{3}x_{4}$$

Boolean circuit with only "and" and "or"



Benaloh and Leichter.

- "or" gate is an (*N*,1) scheme
- "and" gate is an (*N*,*N*) scheme
- Recursively use the simple schemes for (N,1) and (N,N)

Circuit Evaluation

$$f(x_{1,}x_{2}, x_{3,}x_{4}) = x_{1}x_{2} \lor x_{1}x_{3}x_{4} \lor x_{2}x_{3}x_{4}$$

Boolean circuit with only "and" and "or"



Circuit Evaluation

$$f(x_{1,}x_{2}, x_{3,}x_{4}) = (x_{1} \lor x_{2})(x_{1} \lor x_{3} \lor x_{4})(x_{2} \lor x_{3} \lor x_{4})$$

Boolean circuit with only "and" and "or"



How to use a shared secret?

- Naïve: provide all shares to the user
 - How to authenticate the user?
 - A: user provides secret key / password
 - Why not use this key to encrypt the secret?
- Group operations:
 - Distributed decryption: t servers decrypt $E_{priv}(m)$
 - Distributed signing: t servers sign `together` $Sign_{priv}(m)$
 - Signing allows a distributed secure Certificate Authority (CA)
- How?
 - RSA signatures / encryption
 - DSA signatures
 - EI-Gamal signatures / encryption

Recall: El-Gamal PK Encryption

- Let's use secret key s for Alice...
- Bob chooses r and $v = g^r \mod p$
- Bob encrypts message m using (g^s)^r: $c=m^*g^{sr} \mod p$
- Bob sends *c*, *v*
- Alice uses $v^s = g^{sr} \mod p$ to decrypt: $m = c / g^{sr} \mod p$

Alice
$$[P_A = g^s \mod p]$$

$$c = m^* (g^s)^r, v = g^r \mod p$$
Bob

Recall: Polynomial Secret Sharing

Pick random polynomial

 $f(x) = a_{t-1}x^{t-1} + a_{t-2}x^{t-2} + \dots + s \mod M$

 $\bullet \ s = f(0)$

• User *i* receives $s_i = f(i) \mod p$

By Lagrange interpolation:



Recall: Polynomial Secret Sharing Pick random polynomial $f(x) = a_{t-1}x^{t-1} + a_{t-2}x^{t-2} + \dots + s \mod M$ In our case $x_i = i$ so: $s = f(0) = \sum_{i=1}^{i} f(i) \prod_{\substack{j=1\\i \neq i}}^{i} \frac{J}{j-i}$ • **Denote:** $\zeta_i = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \ j \neq i}}^{i} \frac{j}{j-i}$ $\mathcal{V}_{f(x)} = f(0) = \sum_{i=1}^{t} f(i)\zeta_{i} = \sum_{i=1}^{t} s_{i}\zeta_{i}$ $s_i = f(i)$ $S_i = f(j)$ X

Distributed El-Gamal PKC

- Secret key *s* split between servers A_1, \dots, A_N
 - $\Box \quad s_i = f(i); \ s = f(0)$

Bob operates as usual (unaware key is shared):

• Chooses r and $v = g^r \mod p$

• Encrypts: $c=m^*g^{sr} \mod p$

• Each server A_i computes $v_i = v^{s_i \zeta_i} = g^{r \cdot s_i \zeta_i}$

• Compute
$$k = \prod_{i=1}^{t} v_i = \prod_{i=1}^{t} g^{rs_i\zeta_i} = g^{r \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{t} s_i\zeta_i} = g^{r \cdot s} \mod p$$

• Decrypt: $m = c / k \mod p$

If all servers may be corrupted...

- Can we provide secure services using insecure servers?
- Insecure servers: servers that may be corrupted
- We showed how to provide secure services...
 - □ If server is not corrupted at time of service
 - By multiple servers assuming not *all* are corrupted
 - Assume enough are not corrupted (One? Majority? 2/3?)
- What if eventually, all servers may be corrupted?
- Assume: *enough* servers are Ok at each period
- Proactive security: periodic process maintains security

Proactive Security: Recovery from corruptions

- Attacker try to avoid detection of attack
 - Once detected, the advantage is with the system administrator
- Multiple defense lines:
 - Prevention of corruption
 - Detection of attack
 - Recovery from detected attack
 - Periodical, *proactive* recovery from *undetected* attack
- Proactive recovery must be inexpensive
 - Automated only no operator involvement

Defenses against intrusions



Proactive Password Security

- Simple example of proactive security
- Accepted practice: periodical change of passwords
- Minimal involvement of user, none of operator
- Attacker loses control (if user changes)
- Attacker risks detection (if attacker changes)
- Extreme: one-time passwords (e.g. S/Key)
- This example was centralized since it involved the user
- Most proactive security mechanisms are distributed...

Proactive = Distribution + Refresh

- Proactive security combines:
 - Redundancy avoid single point of failure
 - Refresh recovery periodically return servers to secure state (when not controlled by adversary during refresh)
- Secrets exposed by adversary become stale, useless
- Lifetime is divided into periods
- Each period begins with refresh/recovery phase



Proactive Security Model

- Each period begins with refresh/recovery phase
- Assume: *enough* servers are Ok at each period
 - □ E.g. At least 3 out of 5 (i.e. at most 2 are corrupted per period)
- Proactive security: periodic process maintains security



Proactive Secure Log Files

- Another simple proactive-secure mechanism
- Log files are important for intrusion detection
- Hackers try to `erase tracks` by erasing/modifying log
- How to protect log files?? --`Write-once Memory`
 Simple: use hardware write-once memory (paper, CD-R,...)
- Proactive secure write-once memory:
 - Send every log record to all (or most) servers
 - Servers periodically compare log files (and merge?)
- What about secure storage of secrets and keys?

Proactive Secret Sharing (t=2)

- Idea: refresh secret shares
- How? Consider sharing by polynomial of degree t-1, e.g. f(x)=ax+s
- Refresh shares by adding random g(x)=bx; notice g(0)=0
- f'(x)=f(x)+g(x)=(a+b)x+s; secret is unchanged, f'(0)=s



Proactive Secret Sharing (any t>1)

- Given shares as values of polynomial f() of degree t-1
 - $\Box f(x) = a_{t-1}x^{t-1} + a_{t-2}x^{t-2} + \dots + s \mod M; \ s = f(0)$
 - Server *i* receives $s_i = f(i) \mod p$
- Add refresh polynomial of degree t-1: g() s.t. g(0)=0
- f'(x)=f(x)+g(x); secret is unchanged, f'(0)=s
- Each server *i* simply add its own share f'(i)=f(i)+g(i)
- Now erase old share f(i)
- How to select, distribute refresh polynomial g()?
 - Given g(), adversary can compute new shares from old shares and old shares from new shares
 - □ If not properly shared or $g(0) \neq 0$: reconstruction fails!

Selecting and distributing refresh polynomial g()

- Goal: select, distribute refresh polynomial g() s.t.
 g(0)=0
 - Ensure secrecy and integrity of (shares of) g()
- Every server *i* selects, shares polynomial $g_i()$ s.t. $g_i(0)=0$
- Add all of them: $g(x)=g_1(x)+...+g_n(x)$
- $\Rightarrow g(0) = g_1(0) + ... + g_n(0) = 0$
- Use Verifiable Secret Sharing to verify shares and $g_i(0)=0$
- Actually we verify that we share zero, not a secret...

Verifiable Zero Sharing

- Distribute also *public coefficients* $g^{a_1}, g^{a_2}, \dots, g^{a_{t-1}} \mod p$
- Verify share $f(i) = 0 + a_1 i + a_2 i^2 + ... + a_{t-1} i^{t-1} \mod p$
- By raising *g* by both sides:

$$g^{f(i)} \stackrel{?}{=} (g^{0})(g^{a_{1}})^{i}(g^{a_{2}})^{i^{2}}...(g^{a_{t-1}})^{i^{t-1}} \mod p$$

- Allows detection of bogus shares
- Also verifies these are shares of zero!!

Proactive Signatures and PKC

- Private (signature, decryption) key is shared
- Public (validation, encryption) key is known to all
 Appears as a `regular` public key
- Shares of secret key refreshed periodically
- Signature/decryption requires t out of N shares
- Private key is never explicitly reconstructed !
- Known for...
 - RSA (key generation tricky but possible)
 - DSA
 - El-Gamal

Recall: Distributed El-Gamal PKC

- Bob's Secret key *b* split between servers *Bob*₁,...*Bob*_N
 *b*_i=*f*(*i*) s.t.
- Alice (sender) operates as usual (unaware key is shared):
 - Chooses r and $v = g^r \mod p$
 - Encrypts: $c=m^*B^r \mod p$ where $B=g^b \mod p$ is Bot $\zeta_i = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \ j \neq i}}^r$ key
- $\zeta_i = \prod_{\substack{j=1\\j\neq i}}^t \frac{j}{j-i}$
- Each server Bob_i computes $v_i = v^{s_i \zeta_i} = g^{r \cdot s_i \zeta_i}$

Compute
$$k = \prod_{i=1}^{t} v_i = \prod_{i=1}^{t} g^{rs_i\zeta_i} = g^{r \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{t} s_i\zeta_i} = g^{r \cdot s} \mod p$$

Decrypt: $m = c / k \mod p$

Proactive PKC, Signature Schemes

- Exactly the same...
- Except secret key shares are updated periodically
- EI-Gamal, DSA signature only slightly more complex – jointly pick shared random secret r
 - Required for El-Gamal, DSA signatures
 - No server can control shared secret
 - Servers must provide good shares (VSS)
- Proactive RSA a bit more complex (but doable)

Proactive Security: Applications

- Proactive Secure Certificate Authority
 - Secure public key certificates and revocations
 - In particular: automated periodic refresh of private, public keys
 - For recovery from penetration of (certified) key
- To allow use of fixed public key for long time...
 - Use periodic private key, fixed public key
 - Generate periodic private key by multiple servers
 - Each server keeps share of `core` private key
 - Shared of `core` private key refreshed periodically
- Decentralized `Trusted Computing`
 - Secure `vault` for user's data/agents
 - Secure operating system, anti-virus and security programs

Applying Proactive Security

- Existing computers, operating systems are insecure
 - Most have weak security mechanisms, many `holes`
 - Most computers are not managed securely
 - Even patches for known security `holes` not installed
 - Once hacked, attackers plant `trapdoors` inside system code
 - No separation of system code, no `read only` support
- Idea: improve by proactive security
 - Periodically validate operating system, virus DB, etc.
 - Periodically, automatically install security patches, virus DB,...
- Problem: hacker may disable periodical checks...
- How to secure the boot process? see `extras`

Conclusion

- Key exposure is a major threat
 - Existing operating systems are insecure
 - Insider attacks very common as well as hacking...

Solve by:

- Limiting damage due to penetration
- Redundancy attacker must break over threshold
- Temporal security models:
 - Proactive security recovery from penetrations
 - Reasonably efficient signing and decryption
 - Standard RSA/DSA Public key operations (validate, encrypt)
 - Forward security past protected from future exposure

Extras

Proactive Secure Boot & Refresh

- Assume hardware provides:
 - Invokes validation process before boot
 - Periodical boot or validation
 - Read-only memory for unique validation key of processor V_p
 - Matching signature key provided initially S_p
- Each network/organization maintains:
 - Public network/organization certification key V_{cert}
 - Shares of corresponding secret key in several servers
- Each computer should have:
 - Copy of V_{cert}
 - Method for validating V_{cert} at boot / periodical refresh

Validating V_{cert} using local keys

- $M_i = Sign < S_p > (V_{cert})$
- Store M_i in nearby servers for automatic recovery
 - Proactively maintain it valid
- Now erase S_p
 - So attacker cannot install fake V_{cert}
 - Possible hardware mechanism to generate new keys
- Upon periodical refresh or boot...
 - Validate M_i and thereby V_{cert}
 - If invalid, get valid M_i from peers
 - □ Validate information signed by V_{cert} , e.g. public keys, M_j (of j)
 - Send M_j to peer j