# **Security Engineering (2)**

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Slides: KEATS (also homework is there)

# This Course is about "Satan's Computer"

Ross Anderson and Roger Needham wrote:

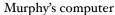
"In effect, our task is to program a computer which gives answers which are subtly and maliciously wrong at the most inconvenient possible moment... we hope that the lessons learned from programming Satan's computer may be helpful in tackling the more common problem of programming Murphy's."

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Satan's computers

#### **Exam and Homework**

• reminder...KEATS

#### **Today's Lecture**

online banking vs e-voting

#### **E-Voting**

"Any electronic voting system should provide at least the same security, privacy and transparency as the system it replaces."

—Australian Voting Commission

What are the security requirements of a voting system?

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Integrity

- The outcome matches with the voters' intend.
- There might be gigantic sums at stake and need to be defended against.

What are the security requirements of a voting system?

- Integrity
- Ballot Secrecy

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- Nobody can find out how you voted.
- (Stronger) Even if you try, you cannot prove how you voted.

What are the security requirements of a voting system?

- Integrity
- Ballot Secrecy
- Voter Authentication

 Only authorised voters can vote up to the permitted number of votes.

What are the security requirements of a voting system?

- Integrity
- Ballot Secrecy
- Voter Authentication
- Enfranchisement

 Authorised voters should have the opportunity to vote.

What are the security requirements of a voting system?

- Integrity
- Ballot Secrecy
- Voter Authentication
- Enfranchisement
- Availability

 The voting system should accept all authorised votes and produce results in a timely manner.

#### **Problems with Voting**

Integrity vs. Ballot Secrecy

Authentication vs. Enfranchisement

# **Problems with Voting**

Integrity vs. Ballot Secrecy

Authentication vs. Enfranchisement

#### Further constraints:

- costs
- accessibility
- convenience
- intelligibility

#### **Traditional Ballot Boxes**



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mechanical, but they need a "protocol"

#### **Motives for E-Voting**

- 76% of pensioners in the UK vote, but only 44% of the under-25s
- convenience
- speed

# **E-Voting**

- The Netherlands between 1997 2006 had electronic voting machines (hacktivists had found: they can be hacked and also emitted radio signals revealing how you voted)
- Germany had used them in pilot studies
  (in 2007 a law suit has reached the highest court
  and it rejected electronic voting on the grounds of
  not being understandable by the general public)
- UK used optical scan voting systems in a few test polls, but abandoned any wide deployment

# **E-Voting**

- US used mechanical machines since the 30s, later punch cards, until recently DREs and optical scan voting machines
- Estonia used in 2007, 2011 and 2015 the Internet for national elections (there were earlier pilot studies in other countries)
- The Australian parliament ruled in 2014 that e-voting is highly vulnerable to hacking and will not use it any time soon.
- Norway experimented with Internet voting, but e-voting is an incredibly difficult problem, even in such favourable circumstances...(voter turnout did not really increase)

- India uses e-voting devices since at least 2003 ("keep-it-simple" machines produced by a government owned company)
- South Africa used software for its tallying in the 1993 elections (when Nelson Mandela was elected) (they found the tallying software was rigged, but they were able to tally manually)

## **E-Voting in Estonia**

- worlds first general election that used internet voting (2007, 2011, 2015)
- builds on the Estonian ID card (a smartcard like CC)
- Internet voting can be used before the election (votes can be changed an unlimited amount of times, last vote is tabulated, you can even change your vote on the polling day in person)
- in the 2011 parliamentary election 24% voted via Internet

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- in the 2011 parliamentary election 24% voted via Internet
- needs to trust the integrity of voters' computers, central server components and the election staff

```
#!/usr/bin/python2.7
                                  from https://github.com/
   # -*- coding: UTF8 -*-
                                  vvk-ehk/evalimine/
3
   222222
   Copyright: Eesti Vabariigi Valimiskomisjon
   (Estonian National Electoral Committee), www.vvk.ee
   Written in 2004-2013 by Cybernetica AS, www.cyber.ee
8
   This work is licensed under the Creative Commons
   Attribution - NonCommercial - NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License.
   To view a copy of this license, visit
11
   http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/.
12
   ,,,,,,
13
14
   def analyze(ik, vote, votebox):
15
16
       #
           TODO: implement security checks
17
           such as verifying the correct size
18
           of the encrypted vote
       #
19
20
       return []
21
```

#### E-Voting in **Theory**

- Alice prepares and audits a ballot, then casts an encrypted ballot, which requires her to authenticate to a server.
- A bulletin board posts Alice's name and encrypted ballot. Anyone, including Alice, can check the bulletin board and find her encrypted vote posted.
- When the election closes, all votes are shuffled and the system produces a non-interactive proof of a correct shuffling. (zero-knowledge-proofs)
- After a reasonable complaint period to let auditors check the shuffling, all shuffled ballots are decrypted, and the system provides a decryption proof for each decrypted ballot. (zero-knowledge-proofs)
- Perform a tally of the decrypted votes.
- An auditor can download the entire election data and verify the shuffle, decryptions and tally.

  SEN 02, King's College London p

# **A Brief History of Voting**

- Athenians
  - show of hands
  - ballots on pieces of pottery
  - different colours of stones
  - "facebook"-like authorisation

problems with vote buying / no ballot privacy

• French Revolution and the US Constitution got things "started" with paper ballots (you first had to bring your own; later they were pre-printed by parties)

#### **Ballot Boxes**

#### Security policies with paper ballots:

- you need to check that the ballot box is empty at the start of the poll / no false bottom (to prevent ballot stuffing)
- you need to guard the ballot box during the poll until counting

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPO1swQVMoc&spfreload=10)

• tallied by a team at the end of the poll (independent observers)



# Which security requirements do paper ballots satisfy better than voice voting?

- Integrity
- Enfranchisement
- Ballot secrecy
- Voter authentication
- Availability

#### **Paper Ballots**

What can go wrong with paper ballots?

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What can go wrong with paper ballots?



William M. Tweed, US Politician in 1860's "As long as I count the votes, what are you going to do about it?"

#### **Paper Ballots**

What can go wrong with paper ballots?

#### **Chain Voting Attack**

- you obtain a blank ballot and fill it out as you want
- you give it to a voter outside the polling station
- voter receives a new blank ballot
- voter submits prefilled ballot
- voter gives blank ballot to you, you give money
- o goto i

#### **Mechanical Voting Machines**

• Lever Voting Machines (ca. 1930 - 1990)



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- Lever Voting Machines (ca. 1930 1990)
- Punch Cards (ca. 1950 2000)





# **Electronic Voting Machines**

DREs





**Optical Scan** 



# **Electronic Voting Machines**

DREs





**Optical Scan** 



all are "computers"

#### **DREs**

Direct-recording electronic voting machines (votes are recorded for example on memory cards) typically touchscreen machines usually no papertrail



#### Alex Halderman:

- acquired a machine from an anonymous source
- they tried to keep secret the source code running on the machine

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- acquired a machine from an anonymous source
- they tried to keep secret the source code running on the machine
- first reversed-engineered the machine (extremely tedious)
- could completely reboot the machine and even install a virus that infects other Diebold machines
- obtained also the source code for other machines

What could go wrong?

What could go wrong? Failure-in-depth.

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A non-obvious problem:

- you can nowadays get old machines, which still store old polls
- the paper ballot box needed to be secured during the voting until counting; e-voting machines need to be secured during the entire life-time

# **Paper Trail**

#### Conclusion:

Any electronic solution should have a paper trail.



# **Paper Trail**

Conclusion:

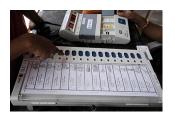
Any electronic solution should have a paper trail.



You still have to solve problems about voter registration, voter authentication, guarding against tampering

# **E-Voting in India**

Their underlying engineering principle is "keep-it-simple":





# **E-Voting in India**

Their underlying engineering principle is "keep-it-simple":





Official claims: "perfect", "tamperproof", "no need for technical improvements", "infallible"

### **Lessons Learned**

- keep a paper trail and design your system to keep this secure
- make the software open source (avoid security-by-obscurity)
- have a simple design in order to minimise the attack surface

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But overall, in times of NSA/state sponsored cyber-crime, e-voting is too hard with current technology.

# Online Banking vs. E-Voting

- online banking: if fraud occurs you try to identify who did what (somebody's account got zero)
- e-voting: some parts can be done electronically, but not the actual voting

# **Student In-Lecture Polling**



- can guarantee anonymity
- integrity by electronic means
- how to achieve the same in "software"?

# **Anonymity**

• anonymity through one-time pads



# **Anonymity**

• anonymity through one-time pads



• solving the problem of distribution



# The adventures of citizen Michael C. Robertson













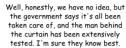








But... aren't you supposed to count those ballots? How do you know the guy in the closet counted right?









Drawings: Koen Hottentot — Story: Rop Gonggrijp / Barry Wels — Color: Adam Swiecky — Translation: Jaap Weel

#### **Buffer Overflow Attacks**



first lecture

### **Buffer Overflow Attacks**







next

#### **How to Salt?**

```
\begin{array}{lll} {\rm 1salt} & \Rightarrow & 8189 {\rm effef4d4f7411f4153b13ff72546dd682c69} \\ {\rm 2salt} & \Rightarrow & 1528375 {\rm d5ceb7d71597053e6877cc570067a738f} \\ {\rm 3salt} & \Rightarrow & {\rm d646e213d4f87e3971d9dd6d9f435840eb6a1c06} \\ {\rm 4salt} & \Rightarrow & {\rm 5b9e85269e4461de0238a6bf463ed3f25778cbba} \\ \end{array}
```

 in Unix systems: hash(salt + password), or even hash<sup>1500</sup>(salt + password)

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- in Unix systems: hash(salt + password), or even hash<sup>1500</sup>(salt + password)
- Bruce Schneier in cases messages are long: instead of m → hash(m), use m → hash(hash(m) + m)

## **User-Tracking Without Cookies**

#### Can you track a user without:

- Cookies
- JavaScript
- LocalStorage/SessionStorage/GlobalStorage
- Flash, Java or other plugins
- Your IP address or user agent string
- Any methods employed by Panopticlick
  - $\rightarrow$  https://panopticlick.eff.org/

Even when you disabled cookies entirely, have JavaScript turned off and use a VPN service, and also ...

## Verizon



 Device sends an HTTP request.

- Verizon injects an HTTP header ("X-UIDH").
   It's a temporary ID, hashed or HMACed with a key.
- Destination website (or third party) receives HTTP request with injected header.









- 4. Website directs request to advertising exchange.
- Advertisers on the exchange can issue a paid API call to Verizon.
- Verizon maps the header to a temporary ID, and returns the ID and/or advertising segments.

http://webpolicy.org/2014/10/24/ how-verizons-advertising-header-works



GET static.jpg











GET static.jpg





GET static.jpg ETag: 7b33de1







GET static.jpg ETag: 7b33de1

HTTP/I.I 304 (Not Modified)