

Access Control and Privacy Policies (4)

Email: christian.urban at kcl.ac.uk
Office: S1.27 (1st floor Strand Building)
Slides: KEATS (also homework is there)

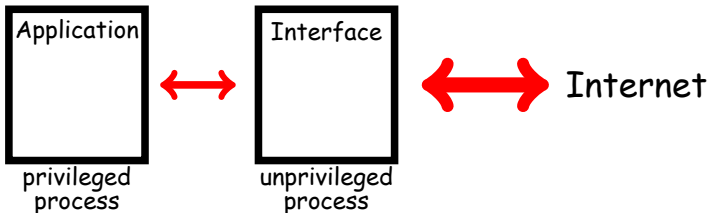
Unix-Style Access Control

- Q: "I am using Windows. Why should I care?"
A: In Windows you have similar groups:
 - administrators group
(has complete control over the machine)
 - authenticated users
 - server operators
 - power users
 - network configuration operators
- Modern versions of Windows have more fine-grained AC than Unix; they do not have a setuid bit, but have `runas` (asks for a password).

Unix-Style Access Control

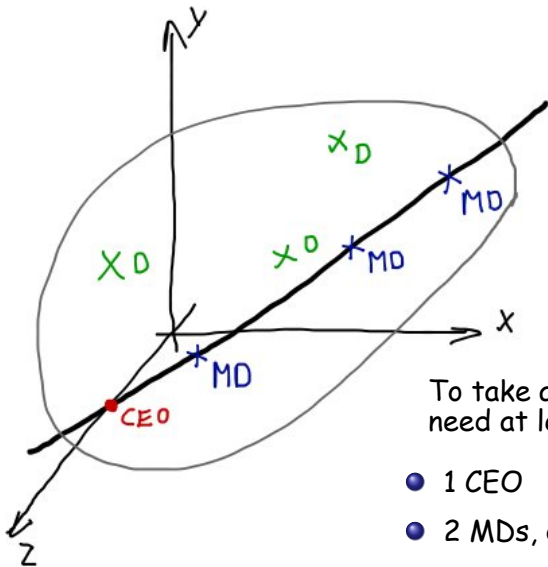
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(has complete control over the machine)
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- Modern versions of Windows have more fine-grained AC than Unix; they do not have a setuid bit, but have `runas` (asks for a password).
- OS provided access control can **add** to your security.

Network Applications: Privilege Separation



- the idea is make the attack surface smaller and mitigate the consequences of an attack

Shared Access Control



To take an action you need at least either:

- 1 CEO
- 2 MDs, or
- 3 Ds

Lessons from Access Control

Not just restricted to Unix:

- if you have too many roles (i.e. too finegrained AC), then hierarchy is too complex
you invite situations like... let's be root
- you can still abuse the system...

A “Cron”-Attack

The idea is to trick a privileged person to do something on your behalf:

- root:

```
rm /tmp/*/*
```

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```

the shell behind the scenes:

```
rm /tmp/dir1/file1 /tmp/dir1/file2 /tmp/dir2/file1 ...
```

this takes time

A “Cron”-Attack

- 1 **attacker** (creates a fake passwd file)

```
mkdir /tmp/a; cat > /tmp/a/passwd
```

- 2 **root** (does the daily cleaning)

```
rm /tmp/*/*
```

records that /tmp/a/passwd

should be deleted, but does not do it yet

- 3 **attacker** (meanwhile deletes the fake passwd file, and establishes a link to the real passwd file)

```
rm /tmp/a/passwd; rmdir /tmp/a;  
ln -s /etc /tmp/a
```

- 4 **root** now deletes the real passwd file

A “Cron”-Attack

- 1 **attacker** (creates a fake passwd file)

```
mkdir /tmp/a; cat > /tmp/a/passwd
```

- 2 **root** To prevent this kind of attack, you need additional policies (don't do such operations as root).

should be deleted, but does not do it yet

- 3 **attacker** (meanwhile deletes the fake passwd file, and establishes a link to the real passwd file)

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rm /tmp/a/passwd; rmdir /tmp/a;  
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- 4 **root** now deletes the real passwd file

Schneier Analysis

There is no absolutely secure system and security almost never comes for free.

- What assets are you trying to protect?
- What are the risks to these assets?
- How well does the security solution mitigate those risks?
- What other risks does the security solution cause?
- What costs and trade-offs does the security solution impose?

Example: Credit Cards

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your credit card number

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- What are the risks to these assets?
With credit cards you loose a fixed amount £50. Amazon £50.

Example: Credit Cards

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- What assets are you trying to protect?
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- How well does the security solution mitigate those risks?

Well, hackers steal credit cards from databases. They usually do not attack you individually.

Example: Credit Cards

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None (?)

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Internet shopping is convenient and sometimes cheaper.

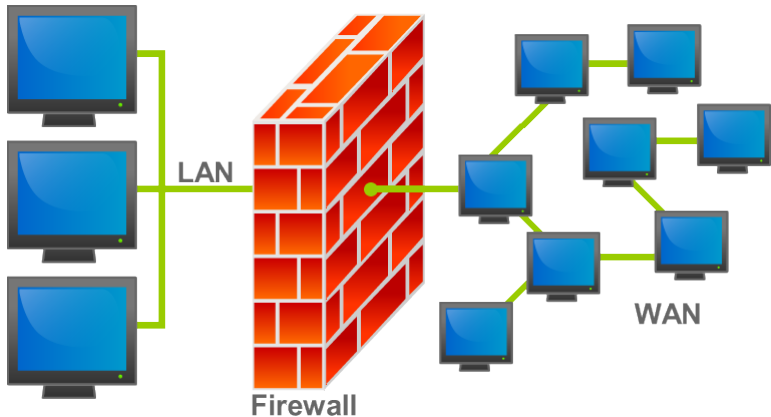
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No!

Example: Firewall



A firewall is a piece of software that controls incoming and outgoing traffic according to some rules.

Example: Firewall

- What assets are you trying to protect?
Whatever is behind the firewall (credit cards, passwords, blueprints, ...)

Example: Firewall

- What assets are you trying to protect?
- What are the risks to these assets?
With a small online shop you are already at risk. Pentagon, definitely.

Example: Firewall

- What assets are you trying to protect?
- What are the risks to these assets?
- How well does the security solution mitigate those risks?
Well, at home so not much. Everywhere else, if properly configured then it does.

Example: Firewall

- What assets are you trying to protect?
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There might be backdoors or bugs in the firewall, but generally they are secure. You choose to prevent certain traffic.

Example: Firewall

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Minimal to modest. Firewalls are part of free software. You need a knowledgeable person to set them up.

Example: Firewall

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Yes!

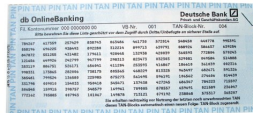
Ex: Two-Factor Authentication

Google uses nowadays two-factor authentication. But it is an old(er) idea. It is used for example in Germany and Netherlands for online transactions.

```

118110 118561 118736 118844 120008 120595 120470 120471 120862 121062
121460 121584 121770 121958 122159 122317 122482 122687 122912 122966
123596 123784 123980 124176 124374 124571 124770 124969 125174 125300
125748 125947 126152 126364 126582 126806 127035 127268 127513 127762
127967 128242 128522 128804 129084 129374 129674 129984 130301 130624
130950 131274 131604 131936 132270 132606 132944 133284 133626 133970
134316 134656 134992 135332 135674 136018 136364 136712 137062 137414
137766 138120 138476 138834 139194 139556 139920 140286 140654 141024
141396 141772 142150 142530 142912 143296 143682 144070 144460 144852
145246 145642 146040 146440 146842 147246 147652 148060 148470 148882
149294 149708 150124 150542 150962 151384 151808 152234 152662 153092
153524 153958 154394 154832 155272 155714 156158 156604 157052 157502
157954 158408 158864 159322 159782 160244 160708 161174 161642 162112
162584 163058 163534 164012 164492 164974 165458 165944 166432 166922
167414 167908 168404 168902 169402 169904 170408 170914 171422 171932
172444 172958 173474 173992 174512 175034 175558 176084 176612 177142
177674 178208 178744 179282 179822 180364 180908 181454 181992 182532
183074 183618 184164 184712 185262 185814 186368 186924 187482 188042
188604 189162 189722 190284 190848 191414 191982 192552 193124 193698
194274 194852 195432 196014 196598 197184 197772 198362 198954 199548
199920 199992 199999 199999 199999 199999 199999 199999 199999 199999
    
```

Antivirus: eScan®



Ex: Two-Factor Authentication

- What assets are you trying to protect?
Your bank account.

Ex: Two-Factor Authentication

- What assets are you trying to protect?
- What are the risks to these assets?
Nowadays pretty high risk.

Ex: Two-Factor Authentication

- What assets are you trying to protect?
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It prevents problems when passwords are stolen. Man-in-the-middle attacks still possible.

Ex: Two-Factor Authentication

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Your mobile phone or credit card/pin might be stolen. SIM card become valuable.

Ex: Two-Factor Authentication

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Banks need to establish an infrastructure.
For you it might be inconvenient.

Ex: Two-Factor Authentication

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Yes!

Security Seals

According to Ross Anderson: "... is a tamper-indicating device designed to leave non-erasable, unambiguous evidence of unauthorized entry or tampering."



They also need some quite sophisticated policies (seal regiment).

Security Seals (2)

- at the Argonne National Laboratory they tested 244 different security seals
 - meantime to break the seals for a trained person: 100 s
 - including 19% that were used for safeguard of nuclear material
- Andrew Appel defeated all security seals which were supposed to keep voting machines safe



- The tamper-indicating tape can be lifted using a heat gun.
- The security screw cap can be removed using a screwdriver, then the serial-numbered top can be replaced (undamaged) onto a fresh (unnumbered) base.
- The wire seal can be defeated using a #4 wood screw.
- The plastic strap seal can be picked using a jeweler's screwdriver.

Example: Security Seals

- What assets are you trying to protect?
Voting machines, doors.

Example: Security Seals

- What assets are you trying to protect?
- What are the risks to these assets?
Casual thieves, insider attacks.

Example: Security Seals

- What assets are you trying to protect?
- What are the risks to these assets?
- How well does the security solution mitigate those risks?
 - Needs a quite complicated security regiment.

Example: Security Seals

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- What other risks does the security solution cause?

You might not notice tampering.

Example: Security Seals

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The "hardware" is cheap, but indirect costs can be quite high.

Example: Security Seals

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No! Though in some areas they work: airport, swimming pool

Ex: Security by Obscurity

You might think it is a good idea to keep a security relevant algorithm or software secret.

- What assets are you trying to protect?
source code, an algorithm

Ex: Security by Obscurity

You might think it is a good idea to keep a security relevant algorithm or software secret.

- What assets are you trying to protect?
- What are the risks to these assets?
Can be pretty high (Oystercards).

Ex: Security by Obscurity

You might think it is a good idea to keep a security relevant algorithm or software secret.

- What assets are you trying to protect?
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- How well does the security solution mitigate those risks?
Not really. The source code can be reverse engineered, stolen...

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You prevent scrutiny and independent advice. You also more likely than not get it wrong.

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No!

Voting as Security Problem

What are the security requirements of a voting system?

Voting as Security Problem

What are the security requirements of a voting system?

- Integrity

- The outcome matches with the voter intend.
- There might be gigantic sums at stake.

Voting as Security Problem

What are the security requirements of a voting system?

- Integrity
- Ballot Secrecy

Voting as Security Problem

What are the security requirements of a voting system?

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

Voting as Security Problem

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.

Voting as Security Problem

What are the security requirements of a voting system?

- Integrity
- Ballot Secrecy
- Voter Authentication
- Enfranchisement

- Only authorised voters should be able to vote up to the permitted number of votes.

Voting as Security Problem

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.

Ballot Boxes



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

E-Voting

- The Netherlands between 1997 - 2006 had electronic voting machines
(hacktivists had found that they could be hacked and 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 polls

E-Voting

- US used mechanical machines since the 50s, later punch cards, now DREs and optical scan voting machines (fantastic "ecosystem" for study)
- Estonia used in 2007 the world's first Internet vote in national elections (there are earlier pilot studies)
- 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)

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, or later were pre-printed by the parties)

Ballot Boxes

Security policies involved with paper ballots:

- 1 you need to check that the ballot box is empty at the start of the poll / no false bottom (ballot stuffing)
- 2 you need guard the ballot box during the poll
- 3 tallied by a team at the end of the poll (you can have observers)



Paper Ballots

What can go wrong with paper ballots?

Paper Ballots

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

- 1 you obtain a blank ballot and fill it out as you want
- 2 you give it to a voter outside the polling station
- 3 voter receives a new blank ballot
- 4 voter submits prefilled ballot
- 5 voter gives blank ballot to you, you give money
- 6 goto 1

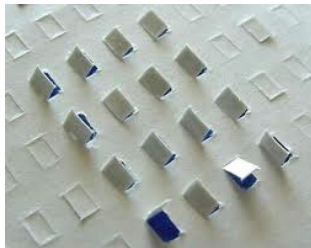
Mechanical Voting Machines

- Lever Voting Machines (ca. 1930 - 1990)



Mechanical Voting Machines

- 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 memory cards)
typically touchscreen machines
usually no papertrail (hard to add: ballot secrecy)



Diebold Machines

The work by J. Alex Halderman:

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

Diebold Machines

The work by J. Alex Halderman:

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

Diebold Machines

What could go wrong?

Diebold Machines

What could go wrong? Failure-in-depth.

Diebold Machines

What could go wrong? Failure-in-depth.

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

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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":



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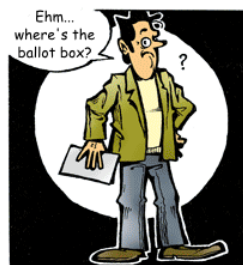
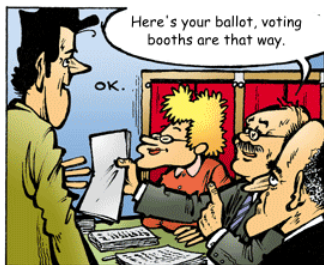
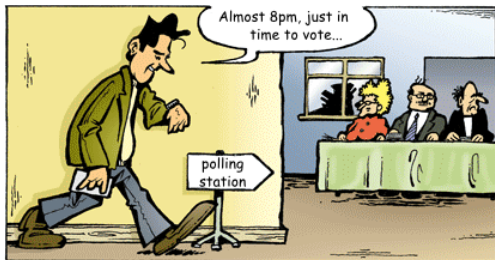


Official claims: "perfect", "tamperproof", "no need for technical improvements", "infallible"

Lessons to be Learned

- keep a paper trail and try to keep this secure
- make the software open source
- have a simple design in order to minimise the attack surface

The adventures of citizen Michael C. Robertson

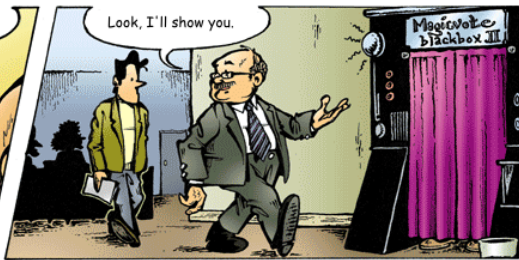


No, no, no, Mr. Robertson, we scrapped those for efficiency. We now have the latest in voting technology..

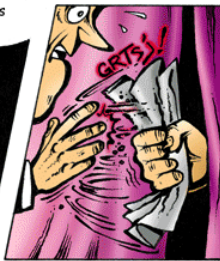
The MagicVote BlackBox II!



Look, I'll show you.



Just hold your ballot in front of this curtain, right about here.

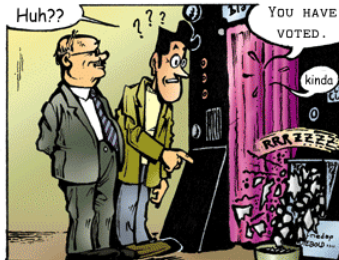


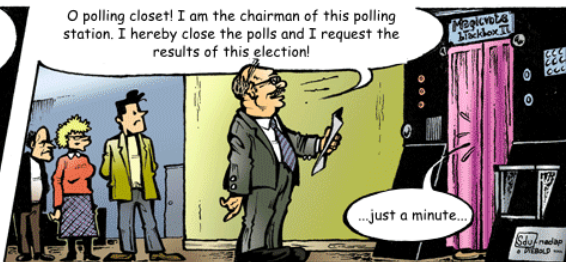
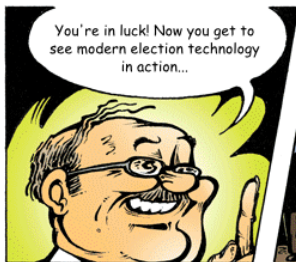
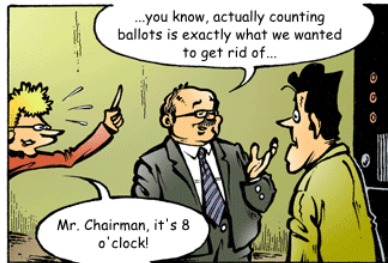
Huh??

???

YOU HAVE VOTED.

kinda





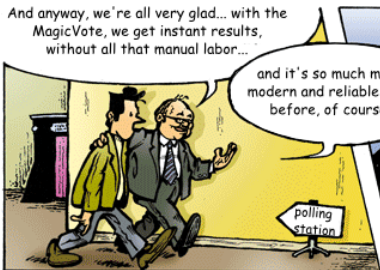


But... aren't you supposed to count those ballots? How do you know the guy in the closet counted right?

Well, honestly, we have no idea, but the government says it's all been taken care of, and the man behind the curtain has been extensively tested. I'm sure they know best.



And anyway, we're all very glad... with the MagicVote, we get instant results, without all that manual labor...



and it's so much more modern and reliable than before, of course.



wijvertrouwenstemcomputersniet.nl

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