

### Information technology in the health sector (DIGHEL4360) Security for the World Wide Web and Email





### **Recapitulation: The Internet**

- All communication (e.g., surfing on the Web) goes through different networks
- Some providers might have malicious intents
- Government agencies collect data at large network nodes



### **Confidential Data**

		Accepted credit and debit card types
Username:	Login for students and employees at UiO	<b>Expiry date</b> For example, 10/20 Month Year
Password:	WebID Users without UiO- association	Name on card
Login Forgotten username or password?	Users from Norwegian universities and colleges	Card security code The last 3 digits on the back of the card



Enter card details

Card number

### **Confidential Communication**



# Image Source: www.asterix.com

### UiO **University of Oslo**

### **Confidential Communication**



### **Classical Cipher**

• Caesar Cipher (50 B.C.)

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### Encryption





### **Symmetric Encryption**



### **Caesar Cipher**

- Which plaintext is encrypted here?
  - Ymjvznhpgwtbsktcozruxtajwymjqfeditl.
- Try each possible key:
  - 1. Xliuymgofvsarjsbnyqtwszivxlipedchsk.
  - 2. Wkhtxlfneurzqiramxpsvryhuwkhodcbgrj.
  - 3. Vjgswkemdtqyphqzlworuqxgtvjgncbafqi.
  - 4. Uifrvjdlcspxogpykvnqtpwfsuifmbazeph.
  - 5. Thequickbrownfoxjumpsoverthelazydog.
  - 6. Sgdpthbjaqnvmenwitlornudqsgdkzyxcnf.
  - 7. Rfcosgaizpmuldmvhsknqmtcprfcjyxwbme.
  - 8. Qebnrfzhyoltkclugrjmplsboqebixwvald.
  - 9. Pdamqeygxnksjbktfqilokranpdahwvuzkc.

10. ...

Testing all possible values (e.g. of a key) is called **Brute Force Attack** 

### Enigma

- Invented 1918 by Arthur Scherbius
- Electro-mechanical rotor cipher machines
- Used by the German forces during WWII
- Implements a polyalphabetical substitution cipher
- Number of possible keys: 150,738,274,937,250



### Enigma

- Encryption was broken by Polish and British codebreakers in Bletchley Park
- Most famous member:
  - Alan Turing



### History of Cryptography

 Simon Singh: The Code Book – The Secret History of Codes and Codebreaking



### **Modern symmetric Encryption**

- Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)
  - AES (Rijndael) developed by Belgian cryptographers
  - Standardized by NIST in 2000
  - Keys, plain texts and cipher texts are binary data blocks (not letters)
  - Key length: 128, 192, 256 bit (≈ 32 letters)
- Brute force attack on 128 or 256 bit key? (Assumption: breaking 56 bit in 1 second → in reality more)



Key length	Duration
56 bit	1 s
64 bit	4 m
80 bit	194 d
112 bit	10 <sup>9</sup> a
128 bit	10 <sup>14</sup> a
192 bit	10 <sup>33</sup> a
256 bit	10 <sup>52</sup> a



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 Protects all communication from an adversary eavesdropping on the network.



### **Symmetric Encryption**

• Remaining problem: key exchange



### **Diffie Hellman Key exchange**

- Creating common (symmetric) key only known to the communication partners
- Created by Whitfield Diffie and Martin Hellman in 1976





### **Illustration of DH Key Exchange**



# **Diffie Hellman Key exchange**

- Alice and Bob agree on (public parameters):
  - Large prime number *p*
  - Generator q (i.e., q is primitive root mod p)
- Alice chooses a random number a and sends  $g^a \mod p$  to Bob
- Bob chooses a random number b and send  $g^b \mod p$  to Alice
- Calculation of common secret:

  - $\text{Alice: } (g^b)^a \mod p \\ \text{Bob: } (g^a)^b \mod p \ \ = g^{ab} \mod p = K$
- Mathematical property of the power/mod function:
  - an attacker can **not** calculate a or b from  $g^a$  or  $g^b$  (discrete logarithm problem)
  - K only known to Alice and Bob





### Still a Problem ...

• But how can you be sure who you are talking to?



### Certificates



# UiO **University of Oslo** Certificates Certificate Authority (CA)





### Demonstration

# Phishing

- Phishing = "Password Fishing"
  - Victim receives email with link to fake Web site and clicks link
  - Victim enters confidential data (e.g., passwords) assuming it is on a trusted Web site
  - Attacker misuses the entered data
- The tricks ...
  - Sending mass emails is very easy and cheap
  - Sender addresses in emails are not authenticated
  - Creating Web sites and mails impersonating a trusted source is easy
  - Hyperlinks to fake Web sites can be hidden in HTML mails

### **Phishing Emails**

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BankID

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med BankID (med engangs

www.sparebank1.no



### **Phishing Emails – UiO**

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aniti.nl/wp-admin/includes/uio-no/centi ···· 🛛 😰 🔟 🖳
Kindly fill the required information to enable us upgrade your Webmail Account to protect your information against
For security reasons, please Log Out and Exit your web browser when you are done accessing services that require authentication!

### But we used HTTPS ...





### And the Certificate?



### **Phishing – Countermeasures**



- Some mail programs check for suspicious content
- Observation of To and From addresses (but can be spoofed)
- Careful observation of Web addresses (plus usage of HTTPS/TLS)
- Most important countermeasure: use of common sense!





### **Email Tracking: Images**

#### • Many newsletters contain HTML content:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

```
<html style="border:0;margin:0;outline:0;padding:0">
```

<head>

```
<meta http-equiv="content-type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8">
```

</head>

```
<body style="background:#fff;border:0;color:#000;line-height:1;margin:0>
```

```
<img src="https://s1-cdn.hm.com/global/assets/1.0.112/images/social/twitter-box.png">
```

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<img src="https://s1-cdn.hm.com/global/assets/1.0.112/images/social/twitter-box.png">

### **Email Tracking: Images**

- Mail program receives email in HTML format
- HTML document contains image tags (located on Web server of the mail sender)
  - e.g.: <img src="https://cdn.hm.com/logo/hm-logo-light-red.png">
- Mail program downloads the images for rendering the HTML mail
- Web server owner (= mail sender) logs the request and can analyze the URL





### **Email Tracking: Images**

• Experiment:



- Register newsletters with two different email addresses
- Check the images inside the newsletter
- Newsletter 1:
  - https://aemcomm.hm.com/content/dam/hm/Seasonal Images Email/Seasonal Images May 2019/e5be3db9-Customer-On-Boarding-3x2-1400x934px.jpg
- Newsletter 2:
  - https://aemcomm.hm.com/content/dam/hm/Seasonal Images Email/Seasonal Images May 2019/87882c29-Customer-On-Boarding-3x2-1400x934px.jpg

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- Newsletter 2:
  - https://aemcomm.hm.com/content/dam/hm/Seasonal Images Email/Seasonal Images May 2019/87882c29
    Customer-On-Boarding-3x2-1400x934px.jpg

### **Email Tracking: Images**

- Every email address (= user) get different URLs (for the same image)
- Server owner knows when the user has opened the email
- Used for customer relationship management
- Can also be misused for SPAM campaigns:
  - Sender knows that the email is read
  - Send more SPAM messages
  - Sell the email address for a higher price

e5be3db9 = bob@mymail.com 87882c29 = alice@uni.edu.org





### **Email Tracking: Countermeasure**

- Configure the email program to not load images in emails (nowadays default in many programs)
- Only load images manually when necessary

	, ootmige	
	MESSAGES	
	Ask Before Deleting	
HN H&M Fashion News <autoemail@autoemail.hm.com> to 14:09 🏍 🛈 🚦</autoemail@autoemail.hm.com>	Load Remote Images	
Remote content was hidden: show remote content - always show remote content from autoemail@autoemail.hm.com	All Inboxes	$\wedge$ $\vee$
<u>Se i nettleser</u>	This message c	ontains unloaded images.
SHOP NÅ NEW ARRIVALS SALG FINN BUTIKK MEDLEMSSIDER		

/ Sottings

Mail

### Summary

- HTTPS ensures data confidentiality over the Internet
- HTTPS also ensures sender authenticity, i.e., who am I talking to
- Attention: only ensures that the browser is communicating to the hostname/domain shown in the address bar  $\rightarrow$  check the hostname
- HTTPS does **not** guarantee the trustworthiness of the Web page
- Phishing is still one of the highest threats especially in professional environments