

CE0973a - Issues in Network Security 2: SSL and Names

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OSI Layers

Open Systems Interconnection model, 1984: ISO 7498/X.200

- 1 Physical
- 2 Data Link
- 3 Network
- 4 Transport
- 5 Session
- 6 Presentation
- 7 Application

SSL/TCP/IP

SSL on TCP on IP on Ethernet/other
IP just gets packets (usually 1500 bytes) from A to B
TCP adds connections on top of that
SSL then encrypts and authenticates

TCP

Transmission Control Protocol, 1974 IEEE paper, Vint Cerf & Robert Kahn¹

20 byte header, plus data

SYN	"I'd like a connection to port 443 please"
SYN+ACK	"OK, here is connection data"
ACK	"Great, we have a connection!"

Ends similarly: FIN,ACK in each direction

¹<http://web.archive.org/web/20150723184900/http://ece.ut.ac.ir/Classpages/F84/PrincipleofNetworkDesign/Papers/CK74.pdf>

SSL so far

- Starts with DNS
- TCP connection to 443
- SSL request (“hello”)
- HTTP request

Note that names actually appear in (up to) 3 different places!

Names in SSL

The Many Names of SSL

One name example.com

Wildcards *.example.com

SAN example.com, *.example.com, *.test.example.com

SNI "Who do you want me to be?"

EV adds a validated company name, only allows a simple hostname.

Sniffing

- Easy to intercept - wireless, taps, BGP, DNS...
- Ethereal/Wireshark to listen on local network segment
- Threats to Privacy
- DNS, SNI, traffic analysis

Recap, Practical Tasks

Lab tasks for week 2:

- 1 Get the example packet capture from Blackboard
- 2 Install Wireshark (<http://www.wireshark.org/>)
- 3 What was the user up to, and how do we know?
- 4 How could she hide it better?