





























### NSA has solved Skype messaging problem

May 2011: Microsoft buys Skype for B\$ 8.5 Feb. 2011: Skype-in and Skype-out interception (FISC court) Jun. 2011: Skype peer to peer interception

### TOP SECRET//COMINT//NOFORN

### (TS//SI//NF) User's Guide For PRISM Skype Collection

### . Why do I receive multiple copies of Skype chat sessions?

h.i. You might get chats in segments and then get the whole chat in a third collect. This is how Skype works. Depending upon what your target is doing, a copy of his chat history can be sent in-bulk (which can span multiple chat sessions). If you target, for example, has 3 separate chat sessions with another individual on his laptop, then logs-into his Skype account on his desktop, the chat-history of those 3 separate chat sessions will be transmitted from this laptop to his desktop so that both his computers have a log of the whole conversation.

### 3. Traffic data (meta data) (DNR)

- traffic data is not plaintext itself, but it is very informative
  - it may contain URLs of websites
  - it allows to map networks
  - location information reveals social relations
- 6 June 2013: NSA collecting phone records of millions of Verizon customers daily
- EU: data retention directive (2006/24/EC)
  - declared illegal by EU Court of Justice in April 2014:
     disproportionate and contrary to some fundamental rights protected by the Charter of Fundamental Rights, in particular to the principle of privacy

http://radiobruxelleslibera.wordpress.com/2014/04/08/the-annulment-of-the-dataretention-directive-and-the-messy-consequences-on-national-legislations/





### 4. Client systems

- · hack the client devices
  - use unpatched weaknesses (disclosed by vendors or by update mechanism?)
  - sophisticated malware
- get plaintext
  - webcam pictures of users
  - mobile phones: turned into remote microphones or steal keys from SIM cards (Gemalto)









## (Part of) government seems to prefer offense over defense

How many 0-days do the NSA, FBI and CIA have? Are they revealed to vendors? If so when?

0-days stolen by Shadow brokers from Equation Group resulting in Wannacry and Petya





## EU COM(2017)608 We r towards an effective and genuine Security Union Micro encryption will not be "prohibited, limited or weakened" Image: Comparison of the problem of the pression of the pr

Key search machines? 0-days? Malware

We need a Digital Geneva Convention

Microsoft President Brad Smith: "Nation states are hacking civilians in peace time"







## Which questions can one answer with these systems?

- I have one phone number find all the devices of this person, his surfing behavior, the location where he has travelled to and his closest collaborators
- Find all Microsoft Excel sheets containing MAC addresses
   in Belgium
- Find all exploitable machines in Panama
- Find everyone in France who communicates in German and who uses Signal







### Mass Surveillance

panopticon [Jeremy Bentham, 1791]

discrimination fear conformism - stifles dissent oppression and abuse





### Lessons learned

### Economy of scale

- Never underestimate a motivated, well-funded and competent attacker
- Pervasive surveillance requires pervasive collection and active attacks (also on innocent bystanders)

Active attacks undermines integrity of and trust in computing infrastructure

- Emphasis moving from COMSEC to COMPUSEC (from network security to systems security)
- Need for combination of industrial policy and non-proliferation treaties

### Outline

- Snowden revelation: the essentials
- Snowden revelations: some details
- Going after crypto
- Impact on systems research and policy

### NSA foils much internet encryption

### NYT 6 September 2013

The National Security Agency is winning its longrunning secret war on **encryption**, using supercomputers, technical trickery, court orders and behind-the-scenes persuasion to undermine the major tools protecting the privacy of everyday communications in the Internet age [Bullrun]

















### Fighting cryptography

- · Weak implementations
- Going after keys
- Undermining standards
- · Cryptanalysis
- · Increase complexity of standards
- Export controls
- Hardware backdoors
- Work with law enforcement to promote backdoor access and data retention















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COMPUSEC - Computer Security Complex ecosystem developed over 40 years by thousands of people that has many weaknesses

- Errors at all levels leading to attacks (think ) governments have privileged access to those weaknesses
- Continuous remote update needed (implies weakness)
- Current defense technologies (firewall, anti-virus) not very strong with single point of failure
- Not designed to resist human factor attacks: coercion, bribery, blackmail
- Supply chain of software and hardware vulnerable and hard to defend (backdoors or implants)





### Architecture is politics [Mitch Kaipor'93]

### Control:

avoid single point of trust that becomes single point of failure



### Stop massive data collection

big data yields big breaches (think pollution) this is both a privacy and a security problem (think OPM)









### Distributed systems with local data

Many services can be provided based on local information processing

- advertising
- proximity testing
- set intersection
- road pricing and insurance pricing

Cryptographic building blocks: ZK, OT, PIR, MPC, (s)FHE

### Almost no deployment:

- massive data collection allows for other uses and more control
- fraud detection may be harder
- lack of understanding and tools



### Centralization for small data

exceptional cases such as genomic analysis

- pseudonyms
- differential privacy
- searching and processing of encrypted data
- strong governance: access control, distributed logging

fascinating research topic but we should favor local data not oversell cryptographic solutions



**Open (Source) Solutions** 



### Conclusions (research)

- · Rethink architectures: distributed
- · Shift from network security to system security
- Increase robustness against powerful opponents who can subvert many subsystems during several lifecycle stages
- Open technologies and review by open communities
- Keep improving cryptographic algorithms, secure channels and meta-data protection

### Conclusions (policy)

- Pervasive surveillance needs **pervasive collection** and **active attacks** with massive
   collateral damage on our ICT infrastructure
- Back to targeted surveillance under the rule of law
  - avoid cyber-colonialism [Desmedt]
  - need industrial policy with innovative technology that can guarantee economic sovereignty
  - need to give law enforcement sufficient options

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### Further reading

### Books

Glenn Greenwald, No place to hide, Edward Snowden, the NSA, and the U.S. Surveillance State, Metropolitan Books, 2014

### Documents

https://www.eff.org/nsa-spying/nsadocs https://cife.org/snowden

### Articles

Philip Rogaway, The moral character of cryptographic work, Cryptology ePrint Archive, Report 2015/1162

Bart Preneel, Phillip Rogaway, Mark D. Ryan, Peter Y. A. Ryan: Privacy and security in an age of surveillance (Dagstuhl perspectives workshop 14401). Dagstuhl Manifestos, 5(1), pp. 25-37, 2015.

### More information

### Movies

Citizen Four (a movie by Laura Poitras) (2014) https://citizenfourfilm.com/ Edward Snowden - Terminal F (2015) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nd6qN167wKo John Oliver interviews Edward Snowden https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEVIyP4\_11M Snowden (a movie by Oliver Stone) (2016) Zero Days (a documentary by Alex Gibney ) (2016)

### Media

https://firstlook.org/theintercept/ http://www.spiegel.de/international/topic/nsa\_spying\_scandal/ Very short version of this presentation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYk6yN9eNfc



### Dual\_EC\_DRBG Dual Elliptic Curve Deterministic Random Bit Generator

- · ANSI and ISO standard
- 1 of the 4 PRNGs in NIST SP 800-90A
- draft Dec. 2005; published 2006; revised 2012
- Two "suspicious" parameters P and Q
- Many warnings and critical comments
  - before publication [Gjøsteen05], [Schoenmakers-Sidorenko06]
  - after publication [Ferguson-Shumov07]
- Appendix: The security of Dual\_EC\_DRBG requires that the points P and Q be properly generated. To avoid using potentially weak points, the points specified in Appendix A.1 should be used.











ANSI X9.31

















### US government

Exceptional access: four feasible technical solutions have been analyzed

- Physical backdoor to device: special port that exports encrypted output
- Backdoor through automatic update
- Secret sharing technique: backdoor key split
- Forced backup in the cloud

All are feasible but have drawbacks

### US academics: "Keys under Doormats"

Exceptional access has many problems

- Add complexity to an ecosystem that is already very complex
  - technologies
- developers (> 100K app developers)
  Backdoor will be target for bad actors (criminals,
  - terrorists, nation states)
- Incompatible with technologies such as perfect forward secrecy and authenticated encryption
- Jurisdiction: many nations will require exceptional access

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# Policy decisions D.S: no measures for exceptional access NL: no backdoors US: Other Oth

At least some golden keys known ... and backdoors abused



