Network Security, Continued
Computer Security
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Firewall Configuration and Administration

- Again, the firewall is the point of attack for intruders

- Thus, it must be extraordinarily secure

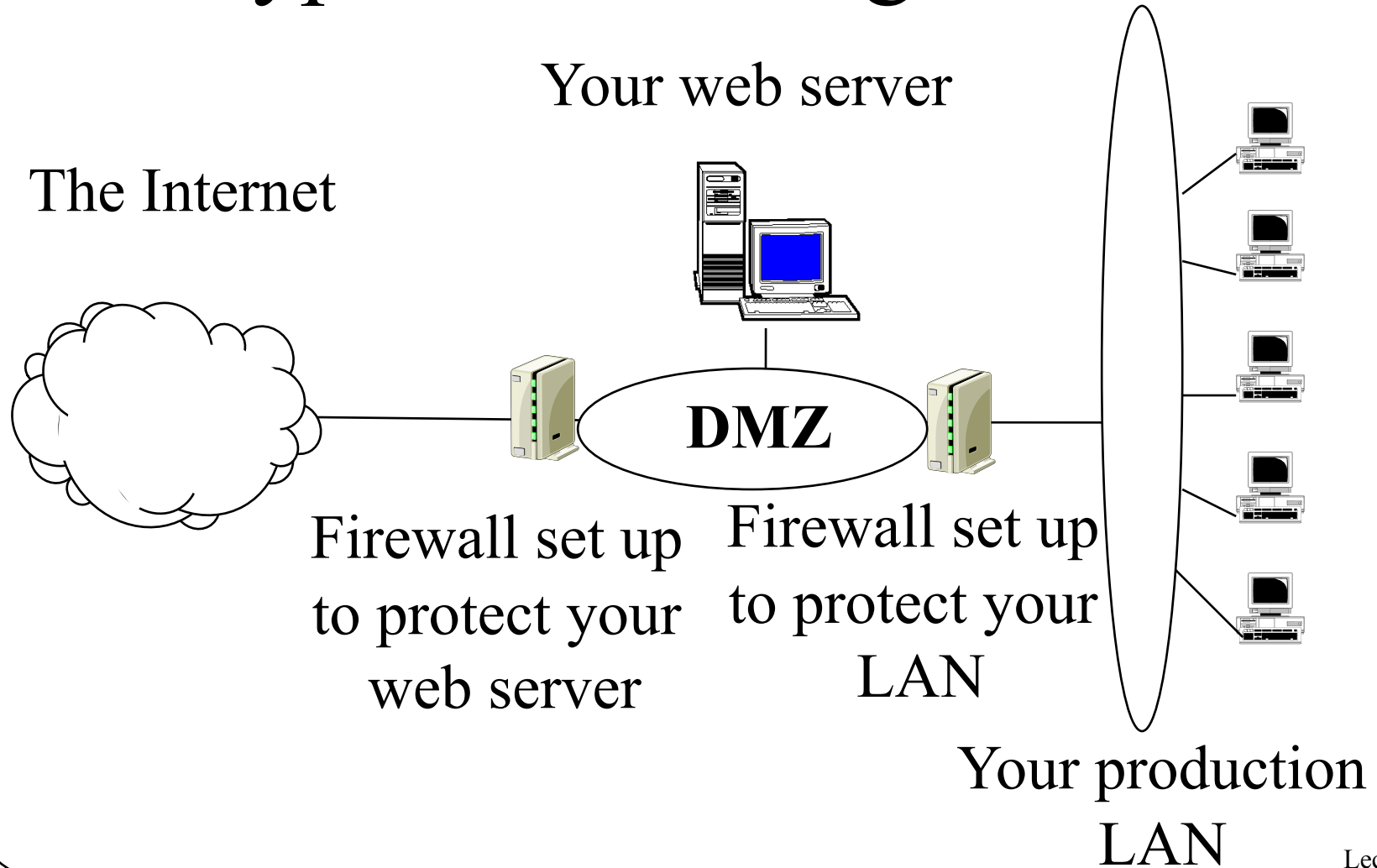- How do you achieve that level of security?

Firewall Location

- Clearly, between you and the bad guys
- But you may have some different types of machines/functionalities
- Sometimes makes sense to divide your network into segments
  - Typically, less secure public network and more secure internal network
  - Using separate firewalls

Firewalls and DMZs

- A standard way to configure multiple firewalls for a single organization

- Used when organization runs machines with different openness needs

  - And security requirements

- Basically, use firewalls to divide your network into segments

A Typical DMZ Organization

Your web server

The Internet

DMZ

Firewall set up to protect your web server

Firewall set up to protect your LAN

Your production LAN

Advantages of DMZ Approach

- Can customize firewalls for different purposes

- Can customize traffic analysis in different areas of network

- Keeps inherently less safe traffic away from critical resources

Dangers of a DMZ

- Things in the DMZ aren't well protected
  - If they're compromised, provide a foothold into your network

- One problem in DMZ might compromise all machines there

- Vital that main network doesn't treat machines in DMZ as trusted

- Must avoid back doors from DMZ to network

Firewall Hardening

- Devote a special machine only to firewall duties

- Alter OS operations on that machine
  - To allow only firewall activities
  - And to close known vulnerabilities

- Strictly limit access to the machine
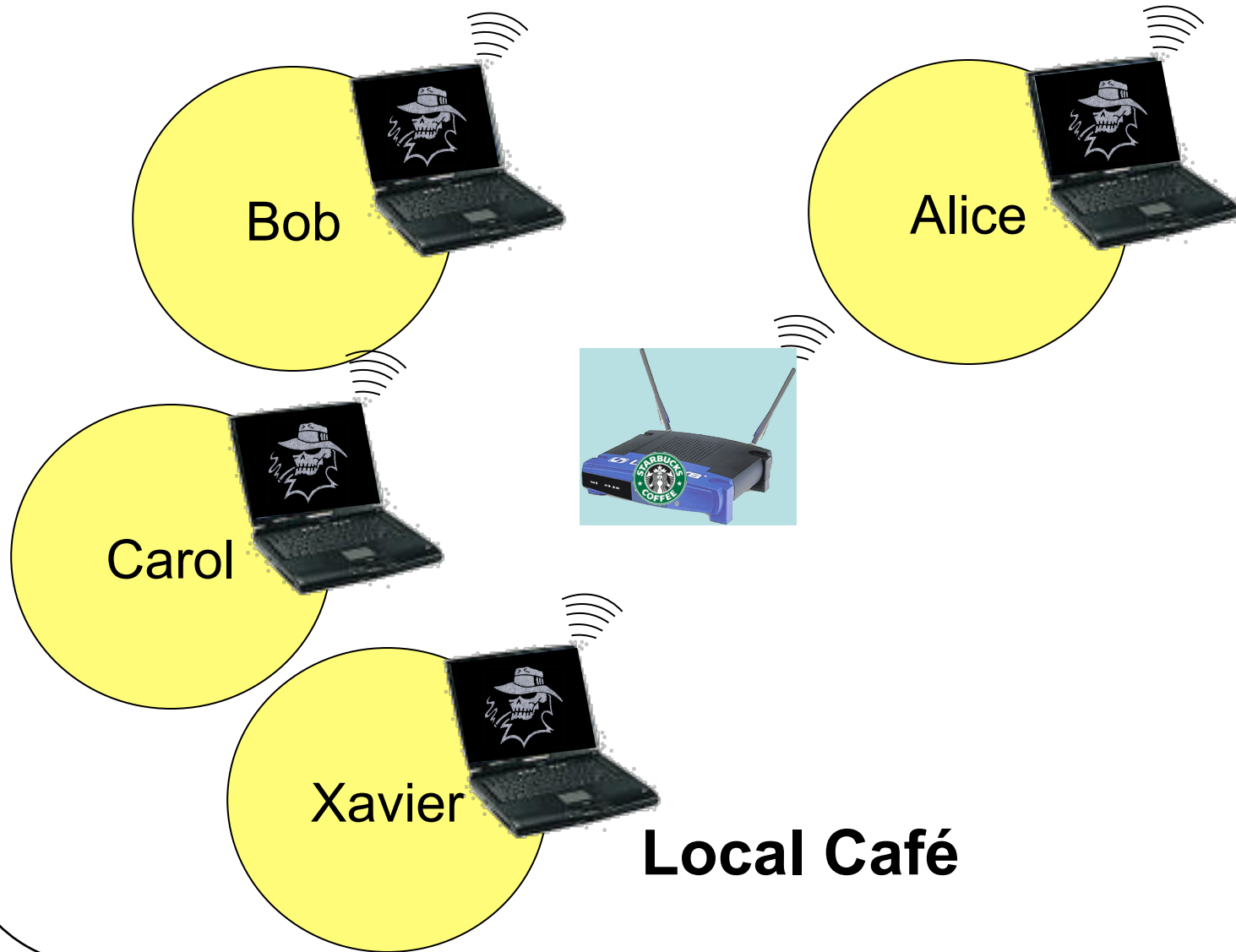 - Both login and remote execution

Keep Your Firewall Current

- New vulnerabilities are discovered all the time
- Must update your firewall to fix them
- Even more important, sometimes you have to open doors temporarily
  – Make sure you shut them again later
- Can automate some updates to firewalls
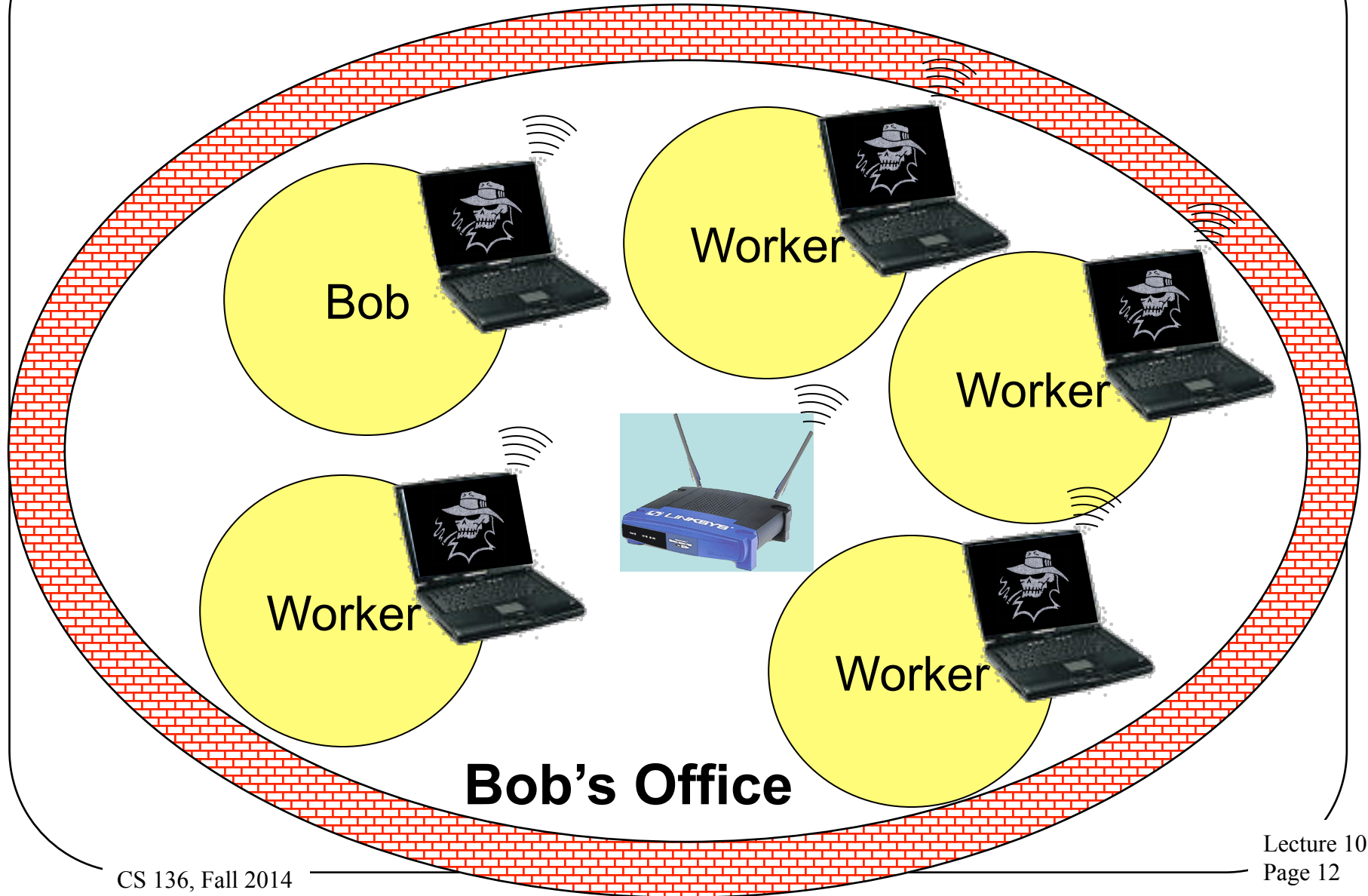- How about getting rid of old stuff?

Closing the Back Doors

- Firewall security is based on assumption that all traffic goes through the firewall

- So be careful with:

  – Wireless connections

  – Portable computers

  – Sneakernet mechanisms and other entry points

- Put a firewall at <u>every</u> entry point to your network

- And make sure <u>all</u> your firewalls are up to date

What About Portable Computers?

Bob

Alice

Carol

Xavier

Local Café

Now Bob Goes To Work . . .

Bob

Worker

Worker

Worker

Worker

Bob's Office

How To Handle This Problem?

- Essentially *quarantine* the portable computer until it's safe

- Don't permit connection to wireless access point until you're satisfied that the portable is safe
  - Or put them in constrained network

- Common in Cisco, Microsoft, and other companies' products
  - *Network access control*

Single Machine Firewalls

- Instead of separate machine protecting network,

- A machine puts software between the outside world and the rest of machine

- Under its own control

- To protect itself

- Available on most modern systems

Pros and Cons of Individual Firewalls

+ Customized to particular machine
  – Specific to local software and usage
+ Under machine owner's control
+ Can use in-machine knowledge for its decisions
+ May be able to do deeper inspection
+ Provides defense in depth

Cons of Personal Firewalls

– Only protects that machine

– Less likely to be properly configured

  – Since most users don't understand security well

  – And/or don't view it as their job

  – Probably set to the default

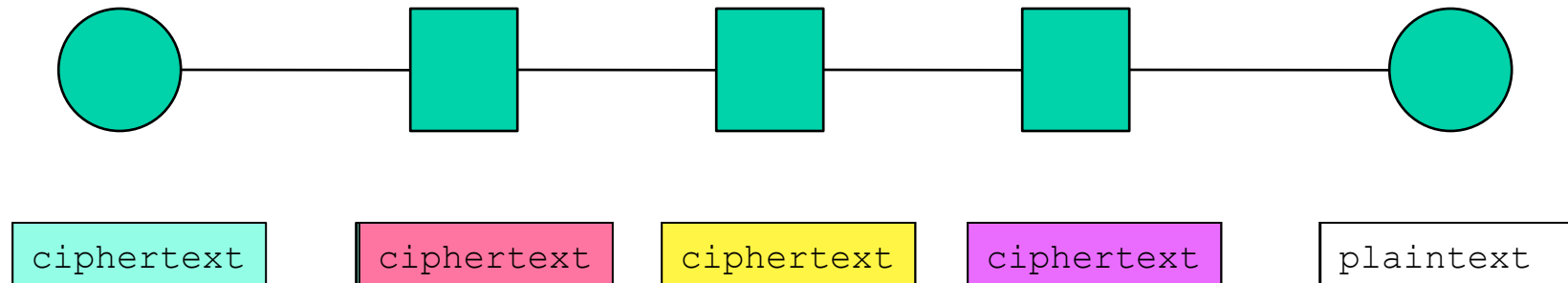• On the whole, generally viewed as valuable

Encryption and Network Security

- Relies on the kinds of encryption algorithms and protocols discussed previously

- Can be applied at different places in the network stack

- With different effects and costs

Link Level Encryption

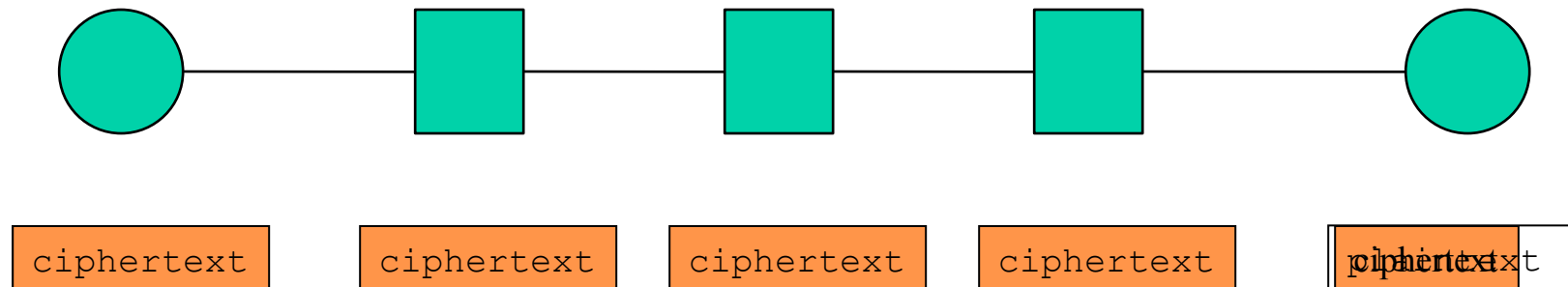Source   Destination

| ciphertext | | ciphertext | | ciphertext | | ciphertext | | plaintext |

Let's say we want to send a message using encryption

Different keys (maybe even different ciphers) used at each hop

End-to-End Encryption

Source   Destination

| ciphertext | ciphertext | ciphertext | ciphertext | ciphertext / plaintext |

Cryptography only at the end points

Only the end points see the plaintext

Normal way network cryptography done

When would link encryption be better?

Where Are the Endpoints, Anyway?

- If you do end-to-end encryption, where are the endpoints?
- The network layer end points?
- The transport layer end points?
- The application layer end points?
- Maybe not even end machine to end machine (e.g., VPNs)?
- Has serious implications for where you do cryptography
  - And keying and trust issues

IPsec

- Standard for applying cryptography at the network layer of IP stack

- Provides various options for encrypting and authenticating packets

  – On end-to-end basis

  – Without concern for transport layer (or higher)

What IPsec Covers

- Message integrity
- Message authentication
- Message confidentiality

What Isn't Covered

- Non-repudiation
- Digital signatures
- Key distribution
- Traffic analysis
- Handling of security associations
- Some of these covered in related standards

Some Important Terms for IPsec

- Security Association - "A Security Association (SA) is a simplex 'connection' that affords security services to the traffic carried by it."
  - Basically, a secure one-way channel
- SPI (Security Parameters Index) – Combined with destination IP address and IPsec protocol type, uniquely identifies an SA

General Structure of IPsec

- Really designed for end-to-end encryption
  - Though could do link level
- Designed to operate with either IPv4 or IPv6
- Meant to operate with a variety of different ciphers
- And to be neutral to key distribution methods
- Has sub-protocols
  - E.g., Encapsulating Security Payload

Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP) Protocol

- Encrypt the data and place it within the ESP

- The ESP has normal IP headers

- Can be used to encrypt just the payload of the packet

- Or the entire IP packet

ESP Modes

- Transport mode
  - Encrypt just the transport-level data in the original packet
  - No IP headers encrypted
- Tunnel mode
  - Original IP datagram is encrypted and placed in ESP
  - Unencrypted headers wrapped around ESP

ESP in Transport Mode

- Extract the transport-layer frame
  - E.g., TCP, UDP, etc.
- Encapsulate it in an ESP
- Encrypt it
- The encrypted data is now the last payload of a cleartext IP datagram

ESP Transport Mode

| Original IP header	ESP Hdr	Normal Packet Payload	ESP Trlr	ESP Auth
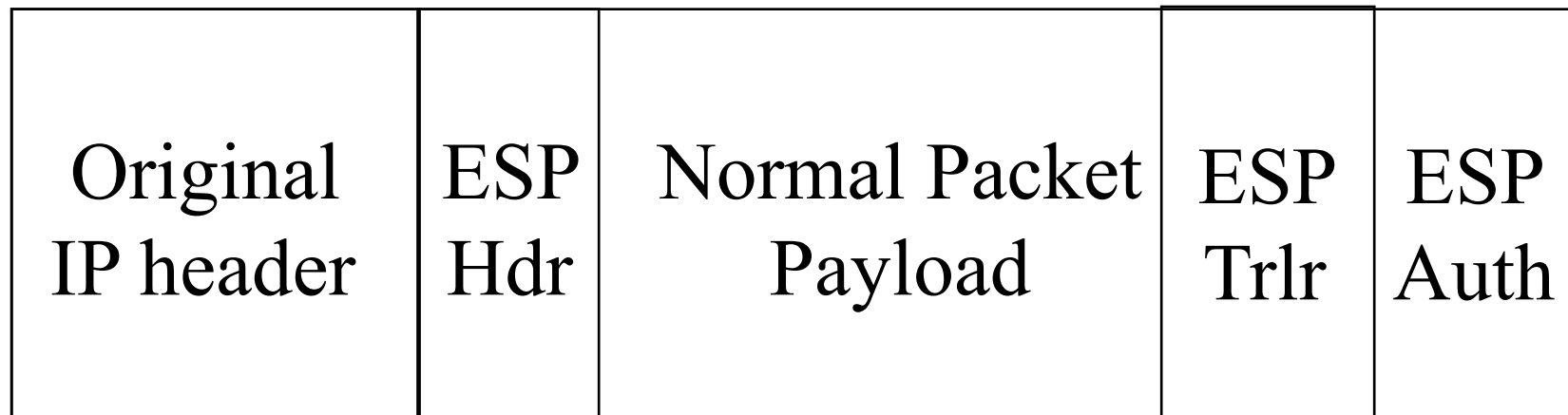
← Encrypted →

← Authenticated →

Using ESP in Tunnel Mode

- Encrypt the IP datagram
  - The <u>entire</u> datagram
- Encapsulate it in a cleartext IP datagram
- Routers not understanding IPsec can still handle it
- Receiver reverses the process

ESP Tunnel Mode

New IP hdr	ESP Hdr	Orig. IP hdr	Original Packet Payload	ESP Trlr	ESP Auth
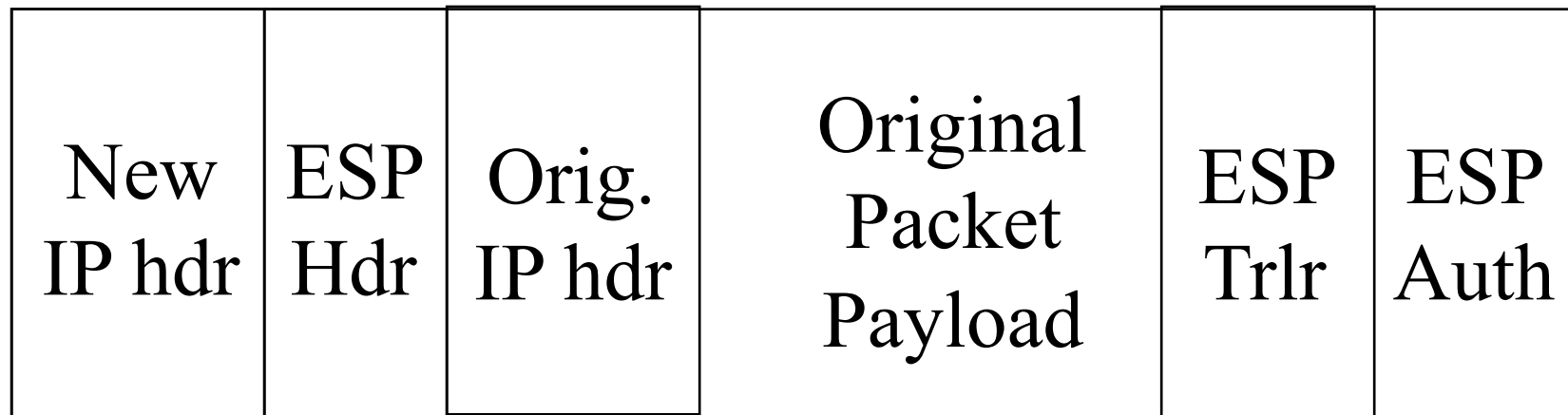
←————————— Encrypted —————————→

←————————————— Authenticated —————————————→

Uses and Implications of Tunnel Mode

- Typically used when there are security gateways between sender and receiver
  - And/or sender and receiver don't speak IPsec
- Outer header shows security gateway identities
  - Not identities of real parties
- Can thus be used to hide some traffic patterns

What IPsec Requires

- Protocol standards
  - To allow messages to move securely between nodes
- Supporting mechanisms at hosts running IPsec
  - E.g., a Security Association Database
- Lots of plug-in stuff to do the cryptographic heavy lifting

The Protocol Components

- Pretty simple
- Necessary to interoperate with non-IPsec equipment
- So everything important is inside an individual IP packet's payload
- No inter-message components to protocol
  - Though some security modes enforce inter-message invariants

The Supporting Mechanisms

- Methods of defining security associations
- Databases for keeping track of what's going on with other IPsec nodes
  - To know what processing to apply to outgoing packets
  - To know what processing to apply to incoming packets

Plug-In Mechanisms

- Designed for high degree of generality
- So easy to plug in:
  - Different crypto algorithms
  - Different hashing/signature schemes
  - Different key management mechanisms

Status of IPsec

- Accepted Internet standard
- Widely implemented and used
  - Supported in Windows 2000, XP, Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8
  - In Linux 2.6 (and later) kernel
- The architecture doesn't require everyone to use it
- RFC 3602 on using AES in IPsec still listed as "proposed"
- AES will become default for ESP in IPsec

SSL and TLS

- SSL – Secure Socket Layer

- TLS – Transport Layer Security

- The common standards for securing network applications in Internet
  - E.g., web browsing

- Essentially, standards to negotiate, set up, and apply crypto

The Basics of SSL

- Usually a client/server operation

- Client contacts server

- A negotiation over authentication, key exchange, and cipher takes place

- Authentication is performed and key agreed upon

- Then all packets are encrypted with that key and cipher at application level

Common Use

- Server authenticates to client using an X.509 certificate

  – Typically, client not authenticated

    • Though option allows it

- Client provides material to server to derive session key

- Client and server derive same session key, start sending encrypted packets

Crypto in TLS/SSL

- Several options supported
- RSA or elliptic curve for PK part
- AES, DES, 3DES, or others for session cryptography
- Not all are regarded as still secure
- Chosen by negotiation between client and server

Use of SSL/TLS

- The core crypto for web traffic
- Commonly used for many other encrypted communications
- Used in all major browsers
- Usually not part of OS per se
  - But all major OSes include libraries or packages that implement it

Security Status of SSL/TLS

- Kind of complex

- SSL is not very secure

- Early versions of TLS not so secure

- Later versions of TLS fairly secure

  – Depending on cipher choice

- Recent chosen-plaintext attacks shown to work on all versions

  – In special circumstances

Virtual Private Networks

- VPNs

- What if your company has more than one office?

- And they're far apart?

  - Like on opposite coasts of the US

- How can you have secure cooperation between them?

- Could use leased lines, but . . .

Encryption and Virtual Private Networks

- Use encryption to convert a shared line to a private line

- Set up a firewall at each installation's network

- Set up shared encryption keys between the firewalls

- Encrypt all traffic using those keys

Actual Use of Encryption in VPNs

- VPNs run over the Internet

- Internet routers can't handle fully encrypted packets

- Obviously, VPN packets aren't entirely encrypted

- They are encrypted in a tunnel mode
    – Often using IPSec

- Gives owners flexibility and control

Key Management and VPNs

- All security of the VPN relies on key secrecy

- How do you communicate the key?

  – In early implementations, manually

  – Modern VPNs use IKE or proprietary key servers

- How often do you change the key?

  – IKE allows frequent changes

VPNs and Firewalls

- VPN encryption is typically done between firewall machines

    – VPN often integrated into firewall product

- Do I need the firewall for anything else?

- Probably, since I still need to allow non-VPN traffic in and out

- Need firewall "inside" VPN

    – Since VPN traffic encrypted

    – Including stuff like IP addresses and ports

    – "Inside" means "later in same box" usually

VPNs and Portable Computing

- Increasingly, workers connect to offices remotely
  - While on travel
  - Or when working from home
- VPNs offer a secure solution
  - Typically as software in the portable computer
- Usually needs to be pre-configured

VPN Deployment Issues

- Desirable not to have to pre-deploy VPN software

  - Clients get access from any machine

- Possible by using downloaded code

  - Connect to server, download VPN applet, away you go

  - Often done via web browser

  - Leveraging existing SSL code

  - Authentication via user ID/password

  - Implies you trust the applet . . .

- Issue of compromised user machine

Wireless Network Security

- Wireless networks are "just like" other networks

- Except . . .

  – Almost always broadcast

  – Generally short range

  – Usually supporting mobility

  – Often very open

Types of Wireless Networks

- 802.11 networks

  – Variants on local area network technologies

- Bluetooth networks

  – Very short range

- Cellular telephone networks

- Line-of-sight networks

  – Dedicated, for relatively long hauls

- Satellite networks

The General Solution For Wireless Security

- Wireless networks inherently less secure than wired ones

- So we need to add extra security

- How to do it?

- Link encryption

  – Encrypt traffic just as it crosses the wireless network
  Decrypt it before sending it along

Why Not End-to-End Encryption?

- Some non-wireless destinations might not be prepared to perform crypto
  - What if wireless user wants protection anyway?

- Doesn't help wireless access point provide exclusive access
  - Any eavesdropper can use network

802.11 Security

- Originally, 802.11 protocols didn't include security

- Once the need became clear, it was sort of too late

  - Huge number of units in the field

  - Couldn't change the protocols

- So, what to do?

WEP

- First solution to the 802.11 security problem

- Wired Equivalency Protocol

- Intended to provide encryption in 802.11 networks

  – Without changing the protocol

  – So all existing hardware just worked

- The backward compatibility worked

- The security didn't

What Did WEP Do?

- Used stream cipher (RC4) for confidentiality
    - With 104 bit keys
    - Usually stored on the computer using the wireless network
    - 24 bit IV also used
- Used checksum for integrity

What Was the Problem With WEP?

- Access point generates session key from its own permanent key plus IV

  – Making replays and key deduction attacks a problem

- IV was intended to prevent that

- But it was too short and used improperly

- In 2001, WEP cracking method shown

  – Took less than 1 minute to get key

WPA and WPA2

- Generates new key for each session

- Can use either TKIP or AES mode

- Various vulnerabilities in TKIP mode

- AES mode hasn't been cracked yet

    - May be available for some WPA

    - Definitely in WPA2

Honeypots and Honeynets

- A *honeypot* is a machine set up to attract attackers

- Classic use is to learn more about attackers

- Ongoing research on using honeypots as part of a system's defenses

Setting Up A Honeypot

- Usually a machine dedicated to this purpose
- Probably easier to find and compromise than your real machines
- But has lots of software watching what's happening on it
- Providing early warning of attacks

What Have Honeypots Been Used For?

- To study attackers' common practices

- There are lengthy traces of what attackers do when they compromise a honeypot machine

- Not clear these traces actually provided much we didn't already know

Honeynets

- A collection of honeypots on a single network

  – Maybe on a single machine with multiple addresses

  – More often using virtualization

- Typically, no other machines are on the network

- Since whole network is phony, all incoming traffic is probably attack traffic

What Can You Do With Honeynets?

- Similar things to honeypots
  - But at the network level
- Also good for tracking the spread of worms
  - Worm code typically visits them repeatedly
- Main tool for detecting and analyzing botnets
- Gives evidence of DDoS attacks
  - Through *backscatter*
  - Based on attacker using IP spoofing

Honeynets and Botnets

- Honeynets widely used by security researchers to "capture" bots
- Honeynet is reachable from Internet
- Intentionally weakly defended
- Bots tend to compromise them
- Researcher gets a copy of the bot

Issues With Honeynet Research

- Don't want captured bot infecting others

  – Or performing other attack activities

- So you need to prevent it from attacking out

- But you also need to see its control traffic

What To Do With a Bot?

- When the bot is captured, what do you do with it?

- Typically, analyze it

  – Especially for new types of bots

  – To find weaknesses

  – And to track rest of botnet

- Analysis helpful for tracing "ancestry"

Do You Need A Honeypot?

- Not in the same way you need a firewall
- Only useful if your security administrator spending a lot of time watching things
  - E.g., very large enterprises
- Or if your job is observing hacker activity
- Something that someone needs to be doing
  - Particularly, security experts watching the overall state of the network world
  - But not necessarily you