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# AAA

### •AAA

- Authentication, Authorization, Accounting
- RFC 2903 (Generic AAA Architecture)
- RFC 2904 (AAA Authorization Framework)

### AAAA

- AAA and Auditing
- Accounting and billing
  - Accounting is gathering information for billing, balancing, or other purposes
  - Billing is a process to generate a bill for customers based on gathered information



- Service organizations to host multiple organizations requiring dial-in facilities
- •User organizations to outsourcing their dial-in service to one or more 3rd parties
- Agreements can be implemented using a standards based protocol (RADIUS)
- RADIUS allows User organizations or Agents to migrate to other Service Providers.
- An agent, using proxy AAA to change its service without affecting the agreement with its customers
- •A service organization to have ultimate authority over its users















# AAAA

- Authentication
  - Are you who you say you are?
- Authorization
- Are you allowed to do what you want to do?
- Accounting
  - Keeping track of who is using how much of each resource
- Auditing/Accountability

# **Authentication**

- Many authentication methods can be used
  - IP address
    - Easily forged
    - May change
    - Does not really identify a single end-host
  - User ID and password
    - Requires additional security measures to make it work
    - One-time pads support strong security

### **Authentication II**

Challenge-response

- Require proof of password, ownership, computational capability, perception, ...
- Shared secret
  - Symmetric key in cryptography
  - Never sent over the network
  - Requires a way to derive keys
    - Key negotiation protocols
       Diffie-Hellman
- Asymmetric keying / public key cryptography
  - Can identify individuals
  - Encryption and signature
  - Hard to break without knowledge of the private key







HTTPS, S/MI	ME, PGP,WS-Security, Radiu	s, Diameter, SAM	L 2.0
Transport	TSL, SSH,	Transport	
Network	IPsec	Network	
Link	PAP, CHAP, WEP,	Link	
Physical		Physical	



Entropy attacks

# **Authorization**

- After a user has been authenticated, authorization is used to grant privileges for performing certain actions
- Mapping from user identity and system state to authorized actions is needed
- Many techniques
  - Physical presence
  - Token-based authorization
  - PKI-based authorization
- Current systems rely on assertions
  - SAML 2.0

# **PAP and CHAP**

- Password Authentication Protocol (PAP)
  - Originally described in RFC 1334 for use with the Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP)
  - Username/passphrase challenge-response protocol
  - Authenticator sends a challenge to the client, and the response is validated by the authenticator
    - Authentication during initial connection attempt
- CHAP is detailed in RFC 1334 as a more secure alternative to PAP

   Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol
  - Periodic challenges during a session
  - Protection against replay attacks
  - Usernames as clear, passwords as hash values
- Microsoft CHAP version 2
  - Mutual authentication by piggybacking a second set of
  - authentication handshakes over the original CHAP packets



### EAP

- Extensible Authentication Protocol (EAP) is defined in RFC 3748
- •Set of guidelines authentication message formats
- Universal authentication framework
- EAP Transport Layer security (EAP-TLS)
  - Client-side certificates
  - Strong authentication methods through the use of PKI
  - Peers exchange certificates and use public key crypto to share keying material
- EAP Tunneled Transport Layer Security (EAP-TTLS)
   Extends EAP-TLS
- EAP-TTLS provides mutual authentication
  - Server authenticated using certificate
  - Client is authenticated over secure tunnel

### EAP

- •EAP parties: EAP peer, EAP server/AAA server, authenticator
- Basic scenarios
  - Peer and authenticator speak some other protocol, authenticator and AAA server speak AAA protocol
    - This is basic AAA usage (prior to EAP)
  - Peer and authenticator speak EAP; authenticator and EAP server/AAA server speak EAP over AAA
    - This is the basic EAP/AAA scenario (e.g. 802.11i)
  - Peer and authenticator speak some other protocol, but use keys derived from a previous EAP conversation between the same EAP peer and EAP server
    - This is a new application not yet defined.

# PEAP

- Protected Extensible Authentication Protocol (PEAP)
   Similar to EAP-TTLS
- Strong mutual authentication
- Inner authentication protocol must be EAP variant
- PEAP is supported by Microsoft and Cisco systems

# **IEEE 802.1X**

- •IEEE standard for port-based Network Access Control
- •Authentication to devices attached to a LAN port
- Based on EAP
- Used in closed wireless access points
- •Client-only authentication or mutual authentication with EAP-TLS/EAP-TTLS
- •Blocking on data link layer, EAP traffic goes through (EAP-request, ..)





# **Radius**

- Remote Authentication Dial In User Service (RADIUS) is defined in RFC 2865
- Designed to authenticate dial-in-access customers
   Used for dial-in lines and 3G networks
- •Idea to have a centralized user database for passwords and other user information
  - Cost efficient
  - Easy to configure
- Radius is used together with an authentication protocol such as PAP or CHAP

### **Radius**

- A client-server protocol
  - Network Access Server (NAS) is the client
    Radius Server is a server
- Security based on previously shared secret
- •More than one server can serve a single client
- •A server can act as a proxy
- •Based on UDP on efficiency reasons
- No keep-alive signaling

# Parameters for NAS

- •The specific IP address to be assigned to the user
- •The address pool from which the user's IP should be chosen
- •The maximum length that the user may remain connected
- An access list, priority queue or other restrictions on a user's access
- •Layer 2 Tunneling Protocol (L2TP) parameters (for VPNs..)

# Accounting

•NAS can use RADIUS accounting packets to ntify the RADIUS server of events such as

- The user's session start
- The user's session end
- Total packets transferred during the session
- Volume of data transferred during the session
- Reason for session ending





### **Steps**

- CHAP authentication challenge to the user
- •User responds with a password using a one-way hash function
- •NAS wraps the challenge and response in a RADIUS access-request
- RADIUS searches the password corresponding to the user ID and computes hash values corresponding to the password and the challenge
- If a hash value matches the user response, the RADIUS server returns an access-accept message to the NAS
- •NAs sends a successful CHAP ack to the user

# **Radius Signals**

The RFC defines the following signals:

- 1 Access-Request
- 2 Access-Accept
- 3 Access-Reject
- 4 Accounting-Request
- 5 Accounting-Response
- 11 Access-Challenge
- 12 Status-Server
- 13 Status-Client
- 255 Reserved

# **Radius Limitations**

# Scalability

- No explicit support for agents, proxies, ..
- Manual configuration of shared secrets
- Reliability
- UDP not reliable, accounting info may be lost
- Does not define failover mechanisms
  - Implementation specific
- Mobility support
- Security
  - Applied usually in trusted network segments or VPNs
  - Application layer authentication and integrity only for use with Response packets
  - No per packet confidentiality
- Diameter addresses some of the security issues



# Diameter A network protocol for providing AAA services to roaming users Replacement for RADIUS, Kerberos, TACACS+ Open base protocol provides transport, message delivery, and error handling services Diameter Base Protocol is defined in RFC 3588 Defines the following facilities Delivery of AVPs (attribute value pairs) Capabilities negotiation Error notification Extensibility through additional new commands and

- AVPs
- Basic services necessary for applications
- Handling of user sessions, Accounting, ...

### **Diameter**

- Uses TCP and SCTP for communications
- Can be secured using IPSEC and TLS
- End-to-end security is recommended but not mandatory
- Based on request-answer signal pairs
- In the Diameter network there can be
  - clients, relays, proxies, and redirect and translation agents

# **Required Features**

- •Diameter protocol to support the following required features:
  - Transporting of user authentication information, for the purposes of enabling the Diameter server to authenticate the user.
  - Transporting of service specific authorization information, between client and servers, allowing the peers to decide whether a user's access request should be granted.
  - Exchanging resource usage information, which MAY be used for accounting purposes, capacity planning, etc.
  - Relaying, proxying and redirecting of Diameter messages through a server hierarchy.

### **Features**

- SCTP replaced UDP
  - Reliable transport, congestion avoidance, flow control
- Keep-alive messages implemented
  - Diameter can detect local failure of a peer
  - Failover
- Peer-to-peer replaces Client-server
  - Any node can initiate a request
  - Peer discovery and capabilities exchange
- Timestamp support
- Prevents replay attacks
- Support for extensions
- IPsec and TLS support

### End-to-end security support



























derive cryptographically strong per-user per-session keys.