Security Considerations in a World of Bandwidth and Compute Resource Abundance

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Status of FTTH Availability Across Europe

Fibre Ubiquity Fast Approaching

Forecast exercise (2023-2028)

European ranking in terms of FTTH/B Homes Passed (in million homes)



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Status of FTTH Availability Across Europe

Cost Effectiveness of Multi-Gig Services







1Gbps

£33 pm



iliad

€19.99



Download
 up to 5 Gbit/s
 divided between

divided between Wi-Fi and ethernet ports





7000 MBPS Avg. download speed Only **Eggg.ggg** per month Select package





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Source: Online as of March 4th 2024

Adoption Response to Availability

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Gigabit and Multi-Gigabit Beyond Lead User Status



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Source: Openvault March 2024

Threat Landscape Radiological, Biological, Chemical

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SECURITY IMPLICATIONS Fibre's Leaky Little Secret



SECURITY IMPLICATIONS Securing Fibre Connections

Ethernet FE – GE – 10GE – 100GE

Active Ethernet

GPON

XGSPON

50G PON

AES-128 Bi-Directional

Natively Unencrypted

AES-128 Downstream

AES-256 Bi-Directional

AES-256 Bi-Directional

Point to Point - Active Ethernet





AES

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PON - GPON – XGSPON – 50GPON



Encryption Key Exchange Mechanisms

Pre-Shared Keys

Public Key Exchange

Diffie-Hellman RSA

3. Bob combines his secret key (b)

with the shared key and sends the

5. Bob combines (A)

with his secret key (b)

 $s = 4^3 \mod 23 = 18$

B = 5³ mod 23 = 10

result (B) to Alice









Alice has a sensitive message she wants to send to Bob



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Bob returns the chest but with his lock also on it









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Alice removes her lock and sends the chest back to Bob





Bob removes his lock and reads the sensitive message

Real World Example of Primes to Make a Key



26092039125439665744416238260398697435648406017098864449978544271624805738059383
 13425992696655318302051377220149644513804110037238043395102252847401736180367530
 09035270150759134741695120904591183475124050055200427992700787947687125368421184
 07057375282490800716584000679340618387331368881454328913585366779623070416709172
 56390000904288466136745705695503949286491053230863150797994788726225314902611496
 55312081521025347181296997188803960687075671216408889466345050085115771628065655
 88378302758525657914103598229285420198323100812024493357088882840233483389168400
 067067993178810813818498522088103582183754940421621446417

Factorized into two primes with 617 digits each

A Real World Key Example



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Factorization Working out the original two large prime numbers that made up this number

RSA key length 4096 bit = decimal integer with 1233 digits

QUANTUM COMPUTING Classical vs Quantum Computing

A Classical Serial Approach to Identifying the Correct Path or Key

How long does it take to factor 2048-bit integer?

Classical cost of factoring [1]: ~4.7 billion CPU years

 Kleinjung, T., Aoki, K., Franke, J., Lenstra, A. K., Thomé, E., Bos, J. W., ... & Zimmermann, P. (2010, August). Factorization of a 768-bit RSA modulus.



Quantum Focuses on the Lock – Not the Contents

Quantum computers do not break the encrypted data

- The focus is on breaking the key exchange algorithms.
- Once the key exchange algorithm is compromised, they can access the key and can use it to decrypt all the data.

Focus on the key exchange protocol options

• Quantum-safe classical algorithms

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• Quantum bits for key exchange -> quantum key distribution (QKD).

Classical vs Quantum Computing

Classical bit

Quantum bit (qubit)



2 Bits can provide 2 Unique Values – 2 Qubits can provide 4 Unique Values

QUANTUM COMPUTING Classical vs Quantum Computing

Classical computer

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- A bit can have a defined state 0 or 1
- A combination of 3 bits can represent exactly **one** of 2³=8 distinct values

000, 001, **010**, 011, 100, 101, 110, 111

QUANTUM COMPUTING Classical vs Quantum Computing

A Quantum Parallel Approach to Identifying the Correct Path or Key



QUANTUM COMPUTING Logical vs Physical Qubits



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So, how many qubits are needed to break RSA?

- Estimation of RSA quantum resilience by key length



Source: QED-C, data from National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, 2019. "Quantum computing: progress and prospects. Washington DC: The national Academies Press. https://doi.org/10.17226/25196 • Roadmap for physical Qubit count



QUANTUM COMPUTING Post Quantum Cryptography

NIST Post-Quantum Encryption Standards Project

Lattice Based Post-Quantum Encryption



The "Cryptographic Suite for Algebraic Lattices" (CRYSTALS) encompasses two cryptographic primitives: <u>Kyber</u>, an IND-CCA2-**secure key-encapsulation mechanism** (KEM); and <u>Dilithium</u>, a strongly EUF-CMA-**secure digital signature algorithm**.

Hash Based Post-Quantum Encryption

SPHINCS^{*} Stateless hash-based signatures

SPHINCS⁺ is a stateless hash-based signature scheme developed in collaboration with industry and academic institutions

Other Post-Quantum Encryption Approaches

Code BasedMcEliece Cryptosystem, is the most well-known, based on decoding
random linear codes, as does the Niederreiter Cryptosystem &
Quasi-Cyclic Moderate Density Parity-Check QC-MDCP

Multivariate, and Supersingular Isogeny

QKD Quantum key distribution



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Quantum Key Distribution



QUANTUM PHYSICS BEHIND QKD No-Cloning Theorem

- Can you copy a Qubit (or photon) in superposition?
 - No!

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- Measurement or observation "destroys" a superposition state
 - Known as no-cloning theorem

The engaged party are alerted to the interception



(Illustration by Michael S. Helfenbein)

Quantum Key Distribution



BB84 (POLARIZATION ENCODING) Quantum key distribution



Here, the shared secret key is 1-0-1

QKD alone is NOT "fundamentally secure"

- Today's digital communication
- Security = Secure Key + Secure Encryption + Authentication + Protection
 - Practical QKD provides the keys, but lacks security quantification and measurable metrics
 - OTP is the only known fundamentally secure algorithm
 - Digital security can't substitute physical protection

No silver bullet, but best practice

SYMMETRIC ENCRYPTION True quantum-safe: One-Time Pad (OTP)

- Key has <u>same length</u> as message and is used <u>only once</u>
- Key is fully random \rightarrow highest entropy
- Theoretically unbreakable by Shannon



OTP used by the NSA:



Source: Wikipedia

OTP transforms the encryption problem into a key exchange problem

Fibre Ubiquity Must be Matched by Ubiquitous DDOS Mitigation

AES / RSA Secure in the Mid Term

Quantum Has Many Hurdles to Cross

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