SOFTWARE ENGINEERING PROGRAMME SOFTWARE AND SYSTEMS SECURITY

COMPUTING LABORATORY



Trusted Computing for Trusted Infrastructure Andrew Martin

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Summary

MSc in Software and Systems Security

Trusted Computing

Trusted Infrastructure

Trusted Computing entails a small change in PC platform design giving rise to significant and useful capabilities for application-level security and stronger network access control. Computers incorporating the Trusted Platform Module are now widely available and deployed - but few TPMs are turned on. In this talk, we give an overview of the ideas of Trusted Computing, we survey the products coming to the market, and we describe the research being done in Oxford in designing Trusted Grid and Cloud services.

MSc in Software and Systems Security

- Oxford University MSc by parttime study
- week-long modules throughout the year: enrol in any term
- Computing Lab and ContEd
- No exams! Take-home assignments and project
- Wide selection of modules
- Does your employer believe in education?
- Substantial cost: half-price for University and College employees.
 numbers may be limited in each year.



What is Trusted Computing?



Shall I Trust this host?



Shall I Trust this host?

- Which host is it?
- What software is it running?
- Who says so?
- Who delivered it?
- Who made it?
- Who maintains it?
- Is it patched?
- Does it have a rootkit?
- Is there a BIOS virus?

Graeme Proudler, HP Labs

Steps to trust

It is safe to trust something when:

- it can be unambiguously identified, and
- 2. it operates unhindered, and
- 3. the user has first-hand experience of consistent, good, behaviour or the user trusts someone who vouches for consistent, good, behaviour.

Building a record of platform state

- hardware is relatively hard to subvert:
 - make the most of this
- use cryptography for platform identity
- use cryptographic hash as a measurement of components
- two main elements:
 - new Trusted Platform Module to manage secure storage
 - changed boot chain to capture measurements during boot (alternative is *late launch*).



Building a record of platform state

 concept is to have each component in the chain be measured by the preceding one



Using measurements

Report your configuration to a third party (with a cryptographic signature)

• report configuration to the desktop user?

'Seal' data: encrypt it, and have the TPM release the decryption key only when the platform is in the right state

• e.g. Microsoft BitLocker

(in mobile phone) abort the boot if the measurement gives the wrong answer

Is Trusted Computing Evil?

Ross Anderson seems to think so.



Richard Stallman seems to think so.

 and as a result, so do lots of open source enthusiasts

I don't think so.

many of the myths around it are falsebut clearly, it has good and bad uses.

Not wanting to put words in people's mouths: *evil* is rather strong. They might, rather have said something like *unwelcome*.



6. prove it!



TCG Trusted Storage: concept



TCG Full Disk Encryption

Fast disk disposal/repurposing

Protect data against computer theft

Independent of operating system

Lock individual drives to particular machines makes a hard drive useless to a drive thief

Effectively extends TPM's protection from a handful of registers to a large data store

TCG: Standards for Trusted Computing



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Research in Oxford

Employ *Trusted virtualization* to deliver assured execution of Grid jobs (Condor etc.)

Scale this up to build trusted grids, trusted clouds

Trusted services,
trusted compilation• st
do

 strong guarantee that this web service does what it says on the tin

Interested to explore

- trial deployments of TNC
- coupled with virtualization
- trusted virtual domains
- mobile trusted applications

Conclusion

TC is here, and is going to keep getting more significant

• it's a genuine "game changer"

It begins to affect *many* aspects of systems design and management

should make life better :-)

It's not evil :-) but it's not a magic bullet either.

• majority of TC software right now is open source, for example.

MSc module on the subject, 19th-23rd October 2009

• can be taken on a stand-alone basis, as well.

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