Foundations of Computer Security

Lecture 65: The BAN Logic: Needham-Schroeder

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Needham-Schroeder: Idealization

Recall the Needham-Schroeder protocol:

1. $A \rightarrow S : A, B, N_a$
2. $S \rightarrow A : \{N_a, B, K_{ab}, \{K_{ab}, A\}_{K_{bs}}\}_{K_{as}}$
3. $A \rightarrow B : \{K_{ab}, A\}_{K_{bs}}$
4. $B \rightarrow A : \{N_b\}_{K_{ab}}$
5. $A \rightarrow B : \{N_b - 1\}_{K_{ab}}$

Needham-Schroeder is idealized as follows:

1. omitted since all components are plaintext
2. $S \rightarrow A : \{N_a, (A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B), \#(A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B), \{A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B\}_{K_{bs}}\}_{K_{as}}$
3. $A \rightarrow B : \{A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B\}_{K_{bs}}$
4. $B \rightarrow A : \{N_b, (A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B)\}_{K_{ab}}$ *from B*
5. $A \rightarrow B : \{N_b, (A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B)\}_{K_{ab}}$ *from A*

BAN Logic: Assumptions

The following initial assumptions are given for Needham-Schroeder:

$A| \equiv A \overset{K_{as}}{\longleftrightarrow} S \qquad B| \equiv B \overset{K_{bs}}{\longleftrightarrow} S \qquad S| \equiv A \overset{K_{as}}{\longleftrightarrow} S$
$S| \equiv B \overset{K_{bs}}{\longleftrightarrow} S$

$S| \equiv A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B$

$A| \equiv (S \Longrightarrow A \overset{K}{\longleftrightarrow} B) \qquad B| \equiv (S \Longrightarrow A \overset{K}{\longleftrightarrow} B)$
$A| \equiv (S \Longrightarrow \#(A \overset{K}{\longleftrightarrow} B))$

$A| \equiv \#(N_a) \qquad B| \equiv \#(N_b) \qquad S| \equiv \#(A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B)$
$B| \equiv \#(A \overset{K}{\longleftrightarrow} B)$

The very last of these is pretty strong. Needham and Schroeder did not realize they were making it, and were criticized for it.

BAN Logic: Analyzing the Protocol

From step 2 of the (idealized) protocol:

$$A \triangleleft \{N_a, (A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B), \#(A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B), \{A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B\}_{K_{bs}}\}_{K_{as}}$$

The *Nonce Verification Rule* says:

$$\frac{A| \equiv (\#(X)), A| \equiv (S| \sim X)}{A| \equiv (S| \equiv X)}$$

Since A believes N_a to be fresh, we get:

$$A| \equiv (S| \equiv A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B)$$

BAN Logic: Analyzing the Protocol

The *Jurisdiction Rule* says that:

$$\frac{A| \equiv (S \Longrightarrow X), A| \equiv (S| \equiv X)}{A| \equiv X}$$

From this we obtain:

$$A| \equiv A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B$$

$$A| \equiv \#(A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B)$$

BAN Logic: Analyzing the Protocol

Since A has also seen the part of the message encrypted under B's key, he can send it to B. B decrypts the message and obtains:

$$B| \equiv (S| \sim A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B)$$

meaning that B believes that S once sent the key.

At this point, we need the final dubious assumption:

$$B| \equiv \#(A \overset{K}{\longleftrightarrow} B)$$

With it, we can get:

$$B| \equiv A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B$$

BAN Logic: Analyzing the Protocol

From the last two messages, we can infer the following. How?

$$A| \equiv A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B$$

$$B| \equiv A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B$$

$$A| \equiv (B| \equiv A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B)$$

$$B| \equiv (A| \equiv A \overset{K_{ab}}{\longleftrightarrow} B)$$

These are the point of the protocol. The proof exhibits some assumptions that were not apparent.

Lessons

- Use of a logic like BAN shows what is provable and also what must be assumed.
- Using BAN effectively requires a lot of practice and insight into the protocol.

Next lecture: PGP