Resource Access Control in the Facebook Model

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- Protocols
- Attacks
- How to fix it

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Owners



Server

Clients

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Owners' Resources

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Owners



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Owners



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Owners' Resources





Clients





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Previous work includes:

- Security analysis of OAuth
- Resources access control in social networks
 - Expression access control directives
 - Privacy in a untrusted server setting

Our work:

- Define a formal model of social networks in a trusted server setting
- Analyse its security properties

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Owners:

- Register.
- Authenticate.
- Make connections with other owners.
- Break a connection.
- Authorize clients.
- Use the clients' services.
- Revoke client's authorization.

Clients

- Register.
- Authenticate.
- Access resources.



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Direct access

When Alice has given the client **user permission** to access her resources.

Access through Bob

When Bob has given the client **friend permission** to access the resources of Alice that are **visible** to him.

• Explicit Revocation

Alice can revoke a client's access by explicitly instructing the server.

Implicit Revocation

The Facebook model suggests that a client's access should be revoked if an owner has not used its services after a certain time period (dt units of time).

If you haven't used an app in a while, it won't be able to continue to update the additional information you've given them permission to access.

- Facebook, Data Use Policy

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We will use the following notation:

- O, C: unique id that identifies owners and clients respectively.
- f: projection (Dⁿ → D^k) where k ≤ n and D is the space of the owner's resources. Also used as a set of indices.
- oos_ac(), ocs_ac(), ocg_ac(), expt(), r(): server's matrices
- λ : level of security associated with our proposed solutions

Definition

For all $O, O' \neq O, C, f: D^n \rightarrow D^k$ where $k \leq n$, if

$$\begin{pmatrix} (f \subseteq \mathsf{ocs_ac}[O, C]) \land (server_time < \mathsf{expt}[O, C]) \end{pmatrix} \lor \\ \begin{pmatrix} (f \subseteq (\mathsf{ocg_ac}[O', C] \cap \mathsf{oos_ac}[O, O'])) \land (server_time < \mathsf{expt}[O', C]) \end{pmatrix}, \end{cases}$$

then C, by running the "Client Access Resources Protocol", will receive the resources $f(\mathbf{r}[O])$ and the server will record the action access_resources(C, O, f).

Owner Privacy - Explicit Revocation



Definition

For all PPT adversaries A, $Pr[WIN^A] = \frac{1}{2} + negl(\lambda)$, where WIN^A is the event $b = b^*$ while playing the above game.

Owner Privacy - Implicit Revocation



Definition

For all PPT adversaries A, $Pr[WIN^A] = \frac{1}{2} + negl(\lambda)$, where WIN^A is the event $b = b^*$ while playing the above game.

We define a predicate $P(\log_file, dt)$ that is true when the server can justify a resource access, i.e.

- 1 authenticate(O), t_0
- 2 authorize_client $(O, C, f_s, f_g), t_1,$
- (a) any of $\operatorname{authenticate}(O)$ or $\operatorname{use}(O, C), t_2$
- authenticate $(C)t_3$
- access_resources(C, O, f'_s), t_4 where $f'_s \subseteq f_s \land (t_4 t_{1,2}) < dt$

Definition

For all PPT adversaries A, $Pr[P(\log_file, dt) = 0] = negl(\lambda)$, where log_file is a random variable that reflects the log file given the activity of A as described above.

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Client Access Resources Protocol (part 1)



Figure : Only when the protocol is initiated by a user, i.e. Alice, the authorization protocol can be executed.

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Client Access Resources Protocol (part 2.1)

Direct Access



Figure : C accesses Alice's resources using her access token.

Client Access Resources Protocol (part 2.2)

Indirect Access



Figure : C accesses Alice's resources using Bob's access token.

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Owner Privacy with Implicit Revocation



Figure : C^* can access Alice's photos using Bob's token even if its access has expired.

Owner Privacy with Implicit Revocation

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Id			Name	Last Used	Allowed To Access	Accessed Info	Activity	Level Of Privacy	Toke	ens
14			Xc	31/10/12, 11:10:45	false	true	Economic	private 🖚		
	X		=- Access Tokens							8
	Туре	Owner	Access Token						Status	Debug
	Short	Xon ili) Record	AAAFdrkkRMKMBAD						invalid	>>
	Long	Xon	AAAFdrkkRMKMBAA						invalid	>>
	Used	Ma	CAAFdrkkRMKMBAI						valid	>>
			1	-		1		1		
1	1		Kc	im 14/10/13, 17:10:37	true	true	Music	private		
1			Ma	14/11/13, 16:11:39	true	true	Acting	public 🦟		
1000	1		S	13/11/12, 11:11:04	false	false	-	private	-	
Sh Access Tokens										8
	Туре	Own	er Acc	ess Token					Status	Debug
	Short	Sime	AAA	FdrkkRMKMBAG					invalid	>>
	Long	S	AAA	FdrkkRMKMBA					invalid	>>
			-					-		
1	-	7	Pop	20/06/13, 22:06:53	false	true	Reading	private	-	
1 Showing 1 to 5 of 5 records										

Server Consistency



Figure : Inconsistency between Facebook's view and reality. Facebook has recorded that the resources were accessed by C while they were accessed by C^*

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• Owner Privacy with Implicit Revocation

When *C* requests Alice's resources using Bob's access token, Facebook should respond with the intersection of Alice's resources that Bob can access and the *friends data permissions* that Bob has given to *C* i.e. $(oos_ac[Alice, Bob] \cap ocg_ac[Bob, C])$.

• Server Consistency

Various ways, Facebook can:

- Support sign in functionality for applications.
- Filter IP address of an access resource request.
- Request that the client signs the token and a random value with its app_secret.



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