

Storage Technologies & Practices Ripe for Refresh

Live Webcast

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Today's Presenters



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Ethernet, Fibre Channel, InfiniBand®

iSCSI, NVMe-oF™, NFS, SMB

Virtualized, HCI, Software-defined Storage

Storage Protocols (block, file, object)

Securing Data

Technologies We Cover

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Agenda

- Security problems
- Not quite retired network protocols
- NAS protocols





Security Problems

Eric Hibbard

Compromised Cryptography

- Weak Encryption Algorithms
 - Ciphers Considered Broken: RCx, DES
 - Inadequate Key Sizes – Provides Less Than 128 bits of Security Strength
- Hash Algorithms
 - Unacceptable Collision Rates
 - MD5, SHA-1
- Key Negotiations
- Inadequate Entropy



SSL & TLS

- Secure Socket Layer (SSL)

- All versions are vulnerable and easily exploited; banned in most environments

- Transport Layer Security (TLS)

- Protocol Versions Prior to TLS 1.2 Considered Vulnerable
 - Cipher Suites
 - Weak cryptographic algorithms
 - Inadequate key sizes

- Invocation Mechanism

- StartTLS Versus Dedicated Port

Poor Security Options

- WiFi
- SNMP Prior to Version 3
- SSH Prior to Version 2
- DNS and NTP Without Security





Not Quite Retired Network Protocols

Networking You Should Consider Upgrading
John Kim

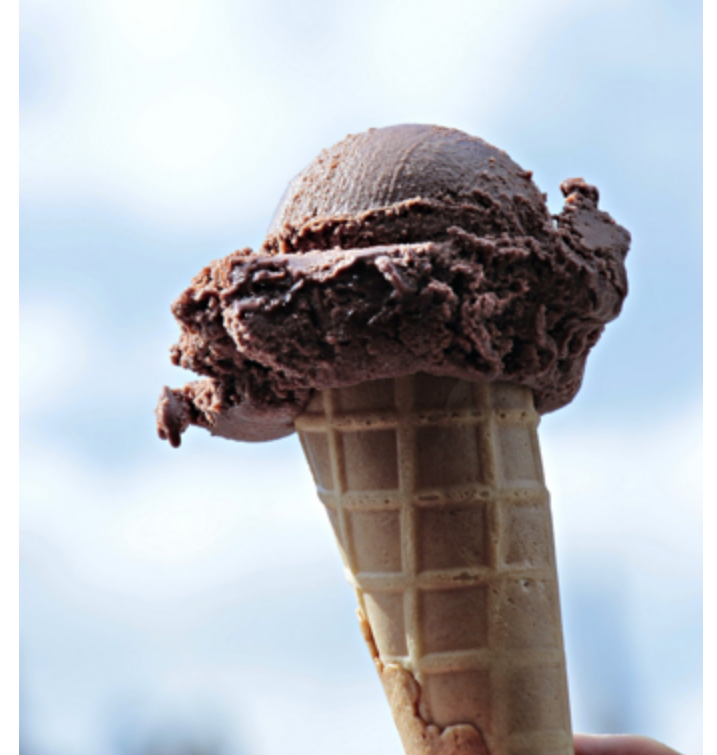
Aging Network Protocols

- RoCE v1 vs. RoCE v2
- NTP vs. PTP
- HTTP vs. HTTPS
- DNS vs. DoH
- VLAN vs. VXLAN



Rocky Road for RoCEv1

- RDMA over Converged Ethernet
- Most popular RDMA transport for Ethernet
- RoCEv1 runs InfiniBand transport (Layer 4) over IP
 - Use on one Layer-3 subnet only—not routable
- RoCEv2 runs UDP on top of IP
 - Routable, works with overlay networks
- RoCEv2 is default usage today
 - RoCEv1 still used in a few legacy implementations at rack scale



NTP vs. PTP—A Timely Topic

- NTP = Network Time Protocol

- Precision to a few milliseconds based on software time stamps
- V0 in 1985; V1 in 1988; V2 in 1989; V3 in 1992; V4 RFC in 2010

- PTP = Precision Time Protocol

- Precision to 1 microsecond or better w/hardware time stamps
- IEEE 1588: “V1” in 2002; “V2” in 2008; V2.1 in 2019

- Both popular, PTP used when high precision required

- NTP V0/V1/V2 obsolete, V3 has vulnerabilities
- PTP “V1” (IEEE 1588-2002) is obsolete



HTTP vs. HTTPS

- HyperText Transfer Protocol runs the web
 - Application layer, unsecured, port 80
 - Connections can be hacked fairly easily
- HTTPS is more secure
 - Uses SSL and/or TLS to encrypt traffic, port 443
 - (SSL is obsolete, as noted earlier)
 - Not just for e-commerce
- Secure web sites get better search rankings



DNS vs. DoH

- **DNS = Distributed Name Service**
 - How servers find other servers
 - Translates domain names into IP addresses
- **DoH = DNS over HTTPS**
 - Encrypts DNS requests and responses
 - Improves privacy, reduces tracking, but disables DNS controls
- **Regular DNS still far more popular**
 - DoH is still very new, not all ISPs/networks support it
 - Other DNS proposals are DNS over TLS and Oblivious DoH



VLAN vs. VXLAN

- **VLAN = Virtual LAN**
 - Subdivides network, up to 4096 virtual networks
 - Manages broadcast traffic, improves security
- **VXLAN, NVGRE, GENEVE (and others)**
 - Support network virtualization/tunneling, up to 16M segments
 - More extensible, lets L2 networks span L3 domains
 - Ideal managing virtual machines and containers
- **VLAN ready to retire from Large Clouds**
 - VXLAN is the most popular replacement today



NAS Protocols

Alex McDonald

NAS Protocols: SMB and NFS

- SMB and NFS: File system protocols
 - File System has a long history; term in use in the 1960s
 - NFS from Sun in mid/late 1980s
 - SMB (aka CIFS) from IBM in mid 1990s
- Why change?
 - **Security:** Software that is over 30+ years old probably has vulnerabilities
 - (Not always, but ...)
 - **Performance:** is much improved
 - Modern protocol stacks are generally lower latency & better suited to WAN
 - **Scalability:** supporting more
 - Parallelism, large files support
 - **Features:** to support modern technologies
 - Databases, space efficiencies



SMB1 – Just Say No

- SMB1 can & has been exploited for ransomware
 - Wannacry and Petya
- No longer installed by default (hoorah!)
 - Stop using SMB1: <https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/storage-at-microsoft/stop-using-smb1/ba-p/425858>
- SMB2 and SMB3
 - SMB2 (2006), SMB3 (2012)
 - Current version is 3.1.1
- Features in SMB3
 - Transparent Failover, Scale Out, Multichannel, Direct
 - Encryption, VSS for file shares, Directory Leasing
- Backward compatibility
 - Older clients using SMB2 can be supported by SMB3 server
- SNIA SMB3 presentation
 - <https://www.snia.org/educational-library/rockin-and-rollin-smb3%C2%A0-2017>



NFSv3 vs NFSv4

- Major differences don't make migration that smooth, but...
- Several advantages of V4
 - Security (always a winner)
 - Modern network relevance
 - Works better over WAN due to (for instance) compound RPC operations
 - Internationalization; supports UTF-8
 - Pseudo file system; supports different hierarchical views
 - Thin provisioning, hole punching save space
- Paper & presentation on NFSv4
 - https://www.snia.org/sites/default/files/ESF/FINAL_SNIA_An_Overview_of_NFSv4-4_20Oct2015.pdf
 - <https://www.snia.org/educational-library/what%E2%80%99s-new-nfs-42-2015>

Pseudo File system

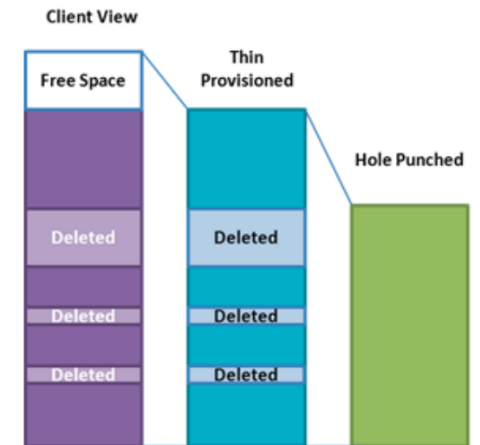
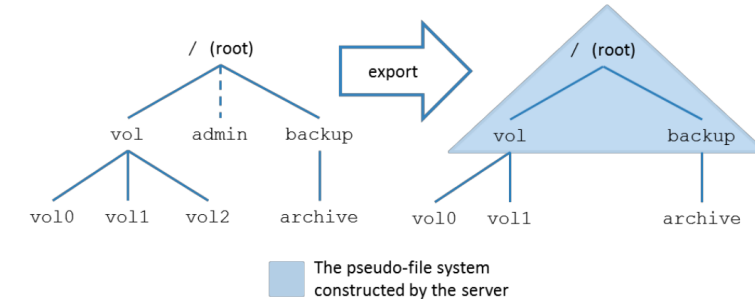


Figure 6; Reservations & Hole Punching

“Ripe for Refresh” Summary

- Review cryptography settings
 - MD5, SHA-1, DES...
- Replace SSL, TLS1.0/1.1
- Review SSH, SNMP, WiFi use
- HTTP→HTTPS everywhere
- Replace SMB1
- Consider ROCEv1→ROCEv2, NFSv3→NFSv4
 - Ask your suppliers for assistance/advice





Questions

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