



Understanding HTTPS CRL and OCSP

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Under the Aegis of

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Government of India











Client validates Server's Certificate

```
Certificate:
    Data:
        Version: 3 (0x2)
        Serial Number: 1 (0x1)
        Signature Algorithm: shalwithRSAEncryption
        Issuer: CN=1647kingan ஒன்ன நேன் உள்ளுக்குகள்கள்கள்கை இது ஆகுக்குகள்கள்
        Validity.
            Not Before: Oct
                               7 06:55:17 2008 GMT
            Not After : Oct .7.06:55:17.2009 GMT.
        Client
            Public Key Algorithm: rsaEncryption
RSA Public Key: (2048 bit)
                 Modulus (2048 bit):
                 Exponent: 65537 (0x10001)
        X509v3 extensions:
    Signature Algorithm: sha1WithRSAEncryption
    -BEGIN CERTIFICATE----
                                 Step 3: Verifies CA's digital signature
----END CERTIFICATE----
                                 To ensure Server certificate is valid
                                 & not tampered.
                                                                                 CA Public Key
```





Step 3: - Client creates symmetric key and encrypts it with public key







Step 4: - Encrypted symmetric key sent to the server

UcaNPA\$\$



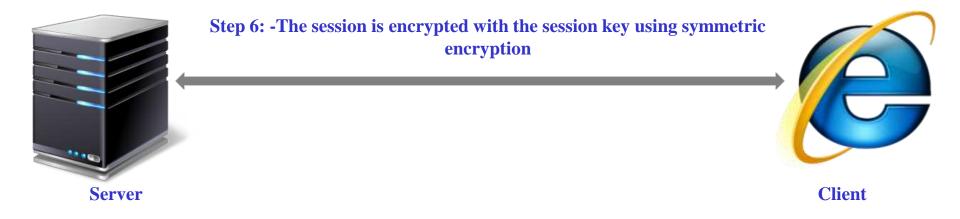


Step 5: - Server decrypts symmetric key with private key

Server











Some real world examples... ©

GBC-2010- UOH Hyderabad



SSL: Site security certificate



https://ca.grid.cn





The site's security certificate is not trusted!

You attempted to reach **ca.grid.cn**, but the server presented a certificate issued by an entity that is not trusted by your computer's operating system. This may mean that the server has generated its own security credentials, which Google Chrome cannot rely on for identity information, or an attacker may be trying to intercept your communications. You should not proceed, **especially** if you have never seen this warning before for this site.

Proceed anyway Back to safety

Web browser doesn't trust the server certificate



SSL: Site security certificate



https://icicibank.com

C A https://infinity.icion		BANKAWAY?	_		'&AppSignor	nBankId=ICI& <i>l</i>	АррТуре=сс
CICI Bank			WordPress Plugin Database http://wp-plugins.net/beta/			About Us Locate Us	Contact Us Site Map
Banking Cards	Demat	Loans	Investments	NRI Services	Mobile Banking	Customer Service	Log-in
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Web browser Trusts the certificate issued to icicibank.com



CRL



- What is revocation?
- Why do we need it?
- What is currently being done?



Why Revoke?



- Key Compromise
- Forgotten Passphrase
- Lost Private Key



CRL



• CRL is a periodically issued list of digital signature certificates that have been suspended or revoked prior to their expiration dates. It is digitally signed by Certifying Authority.



Current Standard

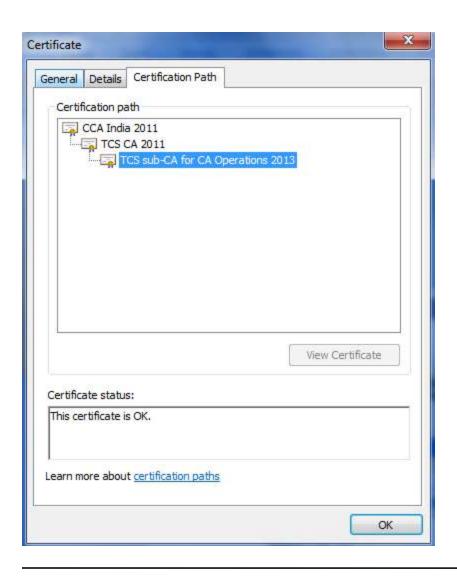


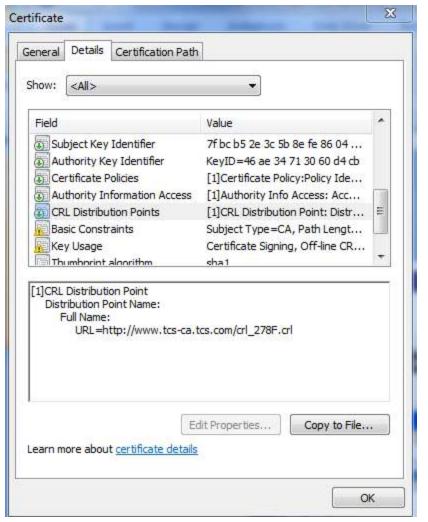
- Certificate Revocation Lists (CRLs)
 - Serial Numbers
 - Revocation Date
 - Effective Date
 - Next Update Date
 - CA Signed
 - Should Be Publically Available.



Obtaining CRLs



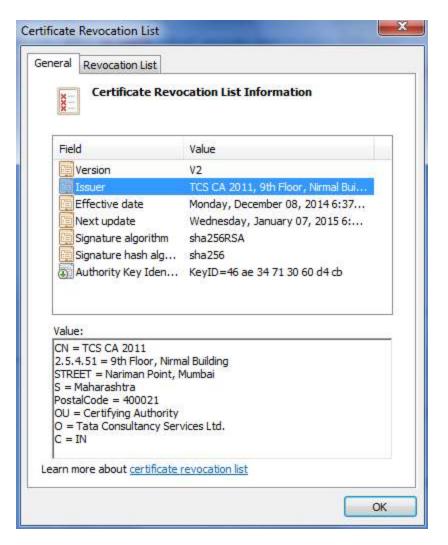


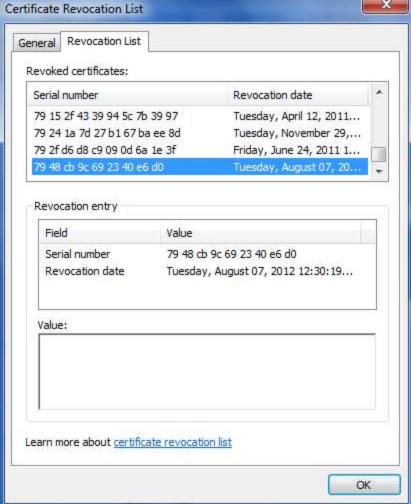




CRLs









Checking status with CRL

Router 2



Figure 1 Cert Validation with CRL

CDP – CRL Distribution Point

 1 sends certificate to 2 Database 1. Router queries CDP for CRL LDAP CA

Certificate/CRL

2. CRL is

returned

to router

Internet

1's Cortificato

- 2 reads CDP from certificate, retrieves CRL from CDP
- 2 examines CRL for serial number. of 1's certificate
- If serial number is not found and all other criteria are good, certificate is accepted
- for S/N of 1's certificate
- 3. Router examines CRL

Router 1



What are the problems...



- CRL does not provide timely information regarding revocation status of a digital certificate.
- Every time end user have to download CRL and import it in the browser or in other certificate repository for checking status of digital certificate.
- If serial number of digital certificate is not present in CRL then we simply trust that certificate.



Online Certificate Status Protocol



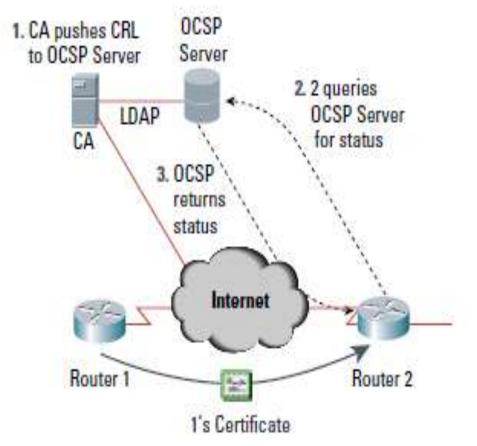
- Online certificate status protocol(OCSP) is an internet protocol used for obtaining the revocation status of an X.509 digital certificate.
- It was created as an alternative to certificate revocation list
- It gives status of certificate in real time.



Checking status with OCSP



Figure 2 Cert Validation with OCSP



- 1 sends certificate to 2
- 2 requests certificate staus from OCSP Server
- OCSP replies with status



OCSP Services



- The OCSP protocol enables OCSP-compliant applications to determine the state of a certificate, including revocation status.
- The validation authority which validates the status of certificate known as OCSP responder.
- CA periodically publishes CRLs to an OCSP responder.
- The OCSP responder maintains the CRL it receives from the CA.



Contd....



- When end user wants to know about status of a digital certificate then he/she can send query to OCSP responder.
- The OCSP responder determines if the request contains all the information required to process the request sent by user.
- If it does not or if it is not enabled for the request service, a rejection notice is sent.
- If it does have enough information, it processes the request and sends back a report stating the status of the certificate.



OCSP - Response



- OCSP responses are of 3 types & all response messages will be digitally signed.
- Good Indicates that the certificate is not revoked, but does not indicate that certificate was ever issued or time at which response produced is within the certificate's validity interval.
- Revoked Indicates that the certificate has been revoked.
- Unknown Indicates that the responder doesn't know about the certificate being requested.



OCSP Exception/Error Messages



Error messages are not signed. Error are of following types:

- Malformed Request When request received does not conform to the OCSP syntax.
- Internal Error Due to inconsistent internal state.
- Try Later When OCSP is unable to return a status for requested certificate.
- SigRequired When server requires the client sign the request in order to construct a response.
- Unauthorized When client is not authorized to make this query to the server.



References



- www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2560.txt
- Cryptography and Network Security Atu Kahate





Thank You