



# Intercepting SNC-protected traffic

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# Agenda



## Introduction

Problem

SAP Protocols

SAP SNC (Secure Network Connections)



## Attack vectors

Vulnerable scenarios

Demo / Tools



## Defense

Conclusions



Introduction

Problem

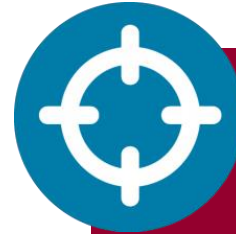
SAP Protocols

SAP SNC (Secure Network Connections)

# Problem: Secure network connections



***I need to secure  
my SAP network  
connections!***



***I need to test if my  
SAP network  
connections are  
secure!***

# Problem: Secure network connections



***I need to secure my SAP network connections!***

- Critical business processes
- SAP protocols don't offer strong security by default
- Strong security
  - Authentication
  - Integrity
  - Encryption
- Move passwords out of the game (MFA, SSO, ..)
- Regulations, compliance, etc.
- Encrypt all the things!

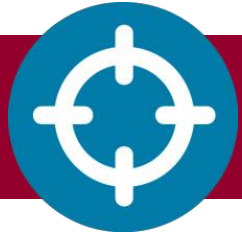
# Solution: Secure network connections



***I need to secure my SAP network connections!***

- HTTP, HANA SQL, OData, ..
  - SSL/TLS: Standard, (almost) well understood, supported, ..
- GUI/Diag, RFC, Router, ..
  - SNC (Secure Network Connections)
  - Single Sign-on

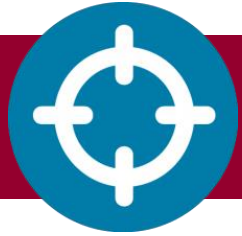
# Problem: Secure network connections



***I need to test if my SAP network connections are secure!***

- Part of the critical attack surface
  - External exposure
  - Security before application-level authentication
  
- Increased deployment rates
  - Crypto library offered for free
  - Shipping of crypto library by default
  
- Seen BASIS admins do terrible things

# Solution: Secure network connections



*I need to test if my SAP network connections are secure!*

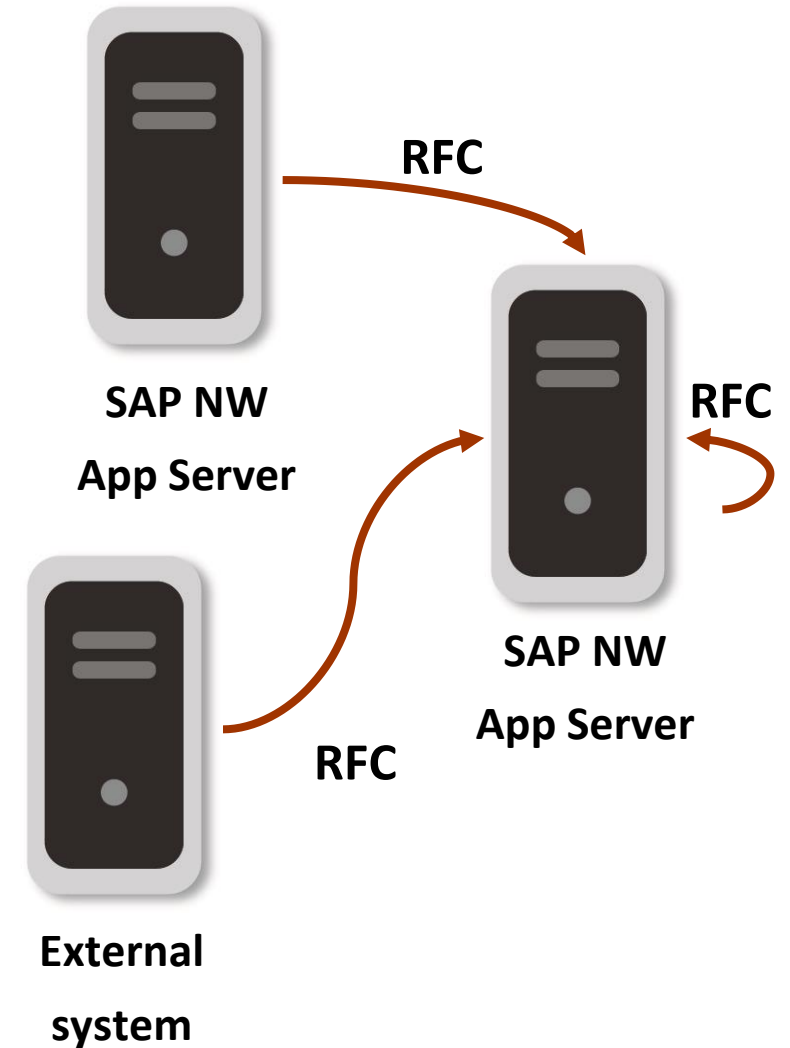
- SSL/TLS
  - Tons of tools, guidance and literature, ..
  
- SNC (Secure Network Connections)
  - No tools available
  - Undocumented protocol
  - ???



# SAP protocols: RFC



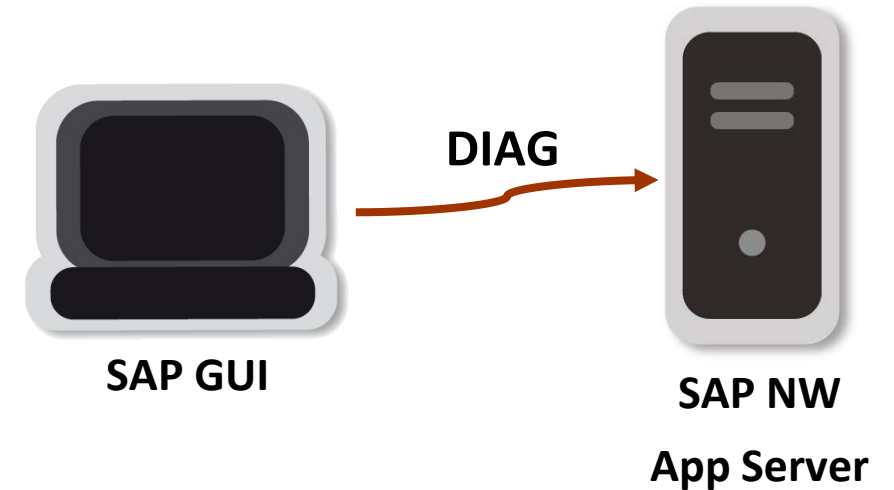
- Communications on the application layer
  - Netweaver Application Server
    - Gateway service
  - External/third-party services
  - Other SAP servers
- Interfaces and actions
  - Execution of remote functions
  - Trigger business logic
- Authentication
  - Connection based
  - Username/password based
- Unencrypted by default



# SAP protocols: Diag/GUI



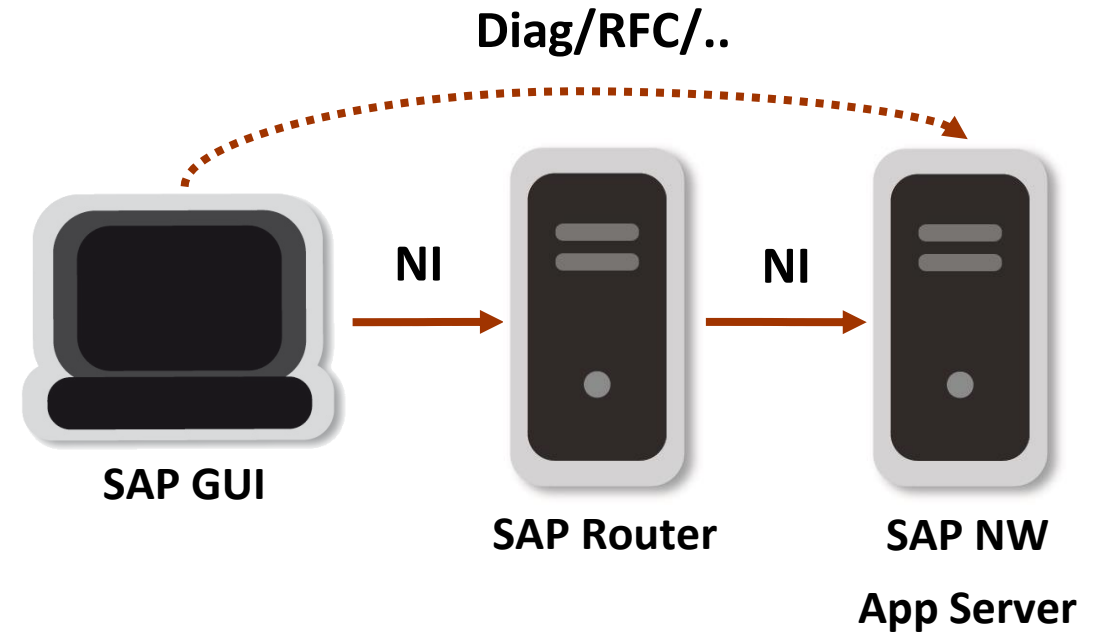
- Communications between presentation and application layer
  - GUI <-> Netweaver Application Server
    - Dispatcher service
- UI components and actions
  - Screens, items, actions, interaction
  - RFC embedded calls
- Authentication
  - Connection based
  - Application-level login
  - Username/password based
- Compressed by default
  - LZC/LZH algorithm
- Unencrypted by default



# SAP protocols: Router



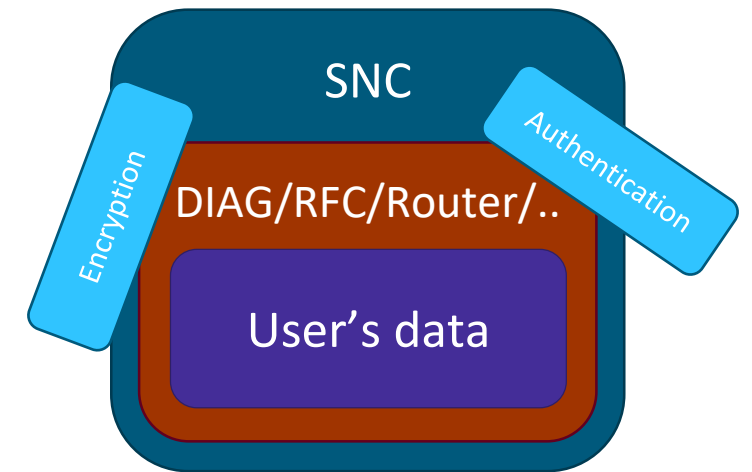
- Application level proxy
  - GUI
  - Netweaver Application Server
  - External/third-party services
  - Other SAP servers
- Proxy communications to other services
- Unauthenticated by default
  - Supports route passwords
- Unencrypted by default



# SNC: Architecture



- Security layer
- Provides security properties
  - Strong authentication
  - Integrity protection
  - Data encryption
- Wraps supported protocols
  - DIAG
  - RFC
  - CPIC
  - SAPIpd
  - SAP Router
  - ..



# SNC: Architecture



- Implements GSS-API
  - Generic Security Service Application Program Interface version 2
  - <https://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc2743.txt>
- Cryptographic primitives implemented via external libraries
  - GSS-API version 2
- SNC Adapters
  - SECUDE 5 gssapi
  - Kerberos 5 GSS-API
  - SAPNTLM gssapi
- Build custom adapters for implementing custom crypto

# SNC: Architecture



## ■ CommonCryptoLib

- Standard SAP's crypto library
- Replaces SAPCRYPTOLIB, SAPSECULIB
- Implementation using GSS-API version 2

## ■ Features

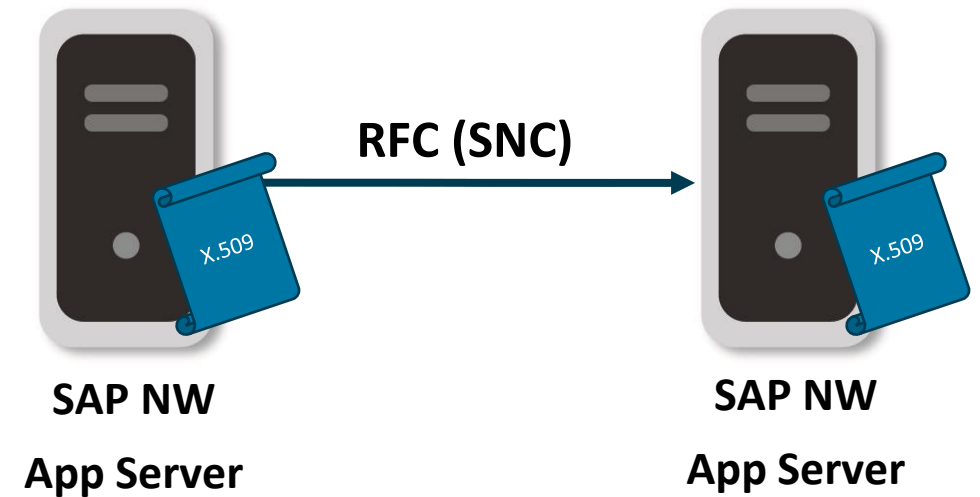
- SNC for server-to-server and client-to-server
- X.509 certificates and Kerberos
- FIPS 140-2 compatible
- Intel AES-NI feature set
- ..

## ■ Central Note for CommonCryptoLib 8 (replacing SAPCRYPTOLIB) - 1848999

# SNC: Implementation scenarios



- Server-to-server SNC with X.509 certificates
  - Each app server has its X.509 certificate
  - Mutual authentication

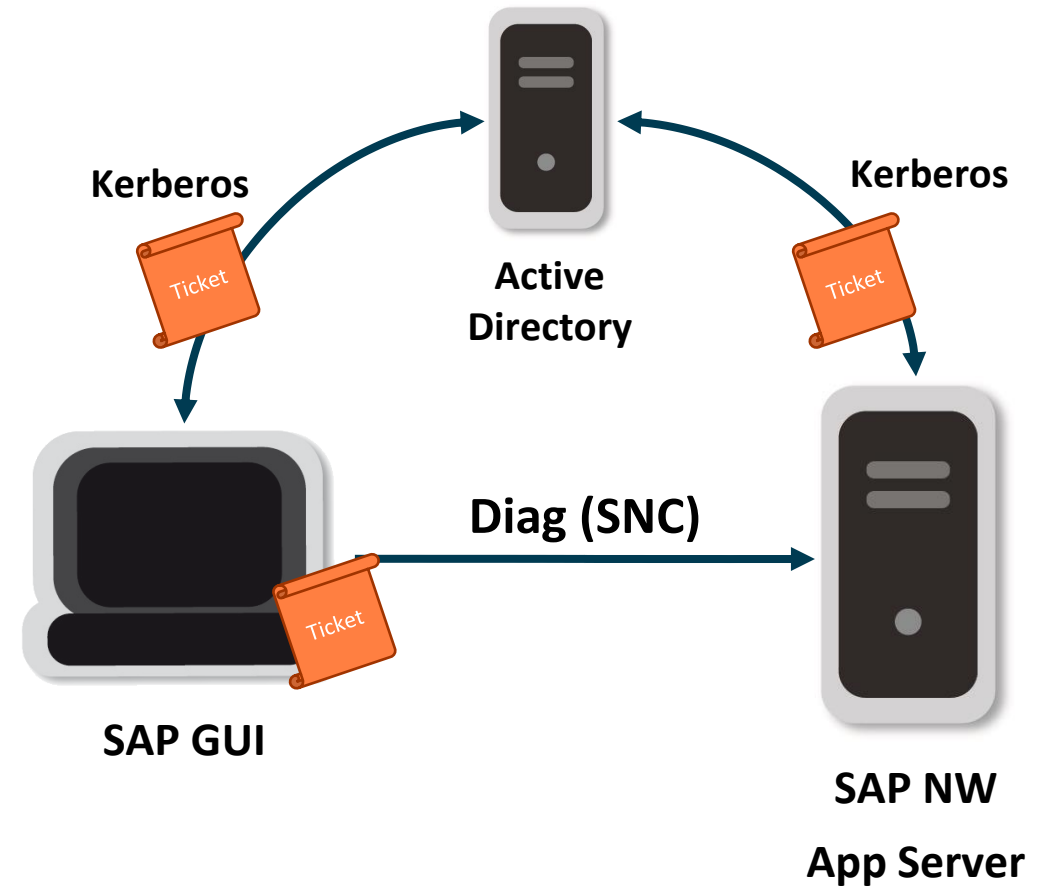


# SNC: Implementation scenarios



## ■ Client-to-server SNC with Kerberos

- User mapping between SAP-AD
- Single-sign-on



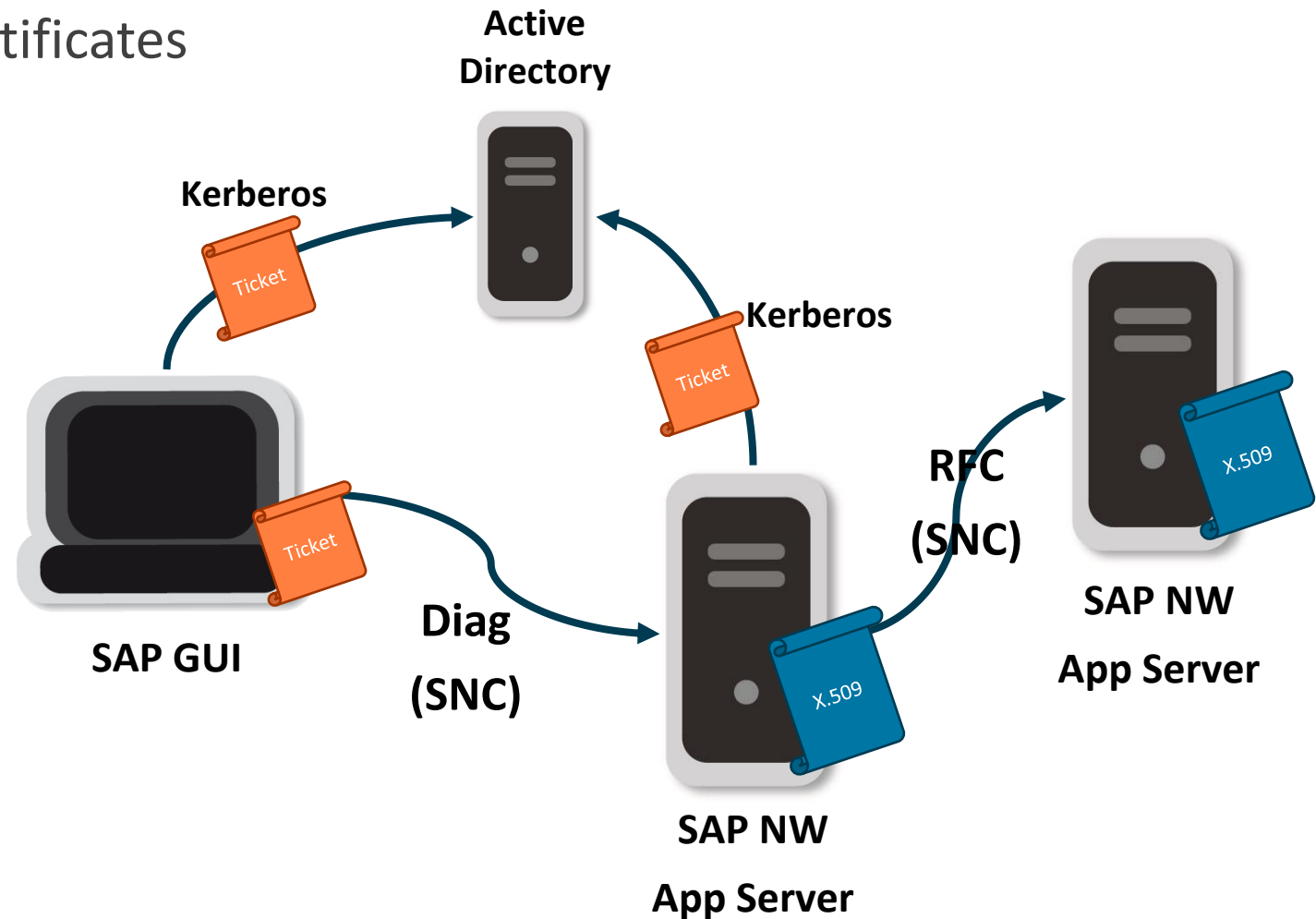


# SNC: Implementation scenarios



## ■ Hybrid implementation

- Server-to-server using X.509 certificates
- Client-to-server using Kerberos



# SNC: Protocol overview



## ■ Versions

- 1993 SAPCRYPTOLIB, CommonCryptoLib
- 2010\_1\_0 CommonCryptoLib
- 2010\_1\_1 CommonCryptoLib >= 8.5

## ■ Messages structure

### • SNC Frame

- Main header
  - Frame Type, protocol version, lengths, QoP, etc.
- Extensions fields
  - Variable, according to the type of message
- Token
  - Variable, according to the type of message
- Data

```
SNC Frame
SNC Eye Catcher: SNCFRAME
SNC Frame Type: INIT (0x02)
SNC Protocol Version: 6
SNC Header length: 114
SNC Token length: 548
SNC Data length: 46
SNC Mech ID: Secude 5 GSS-API v2 (0x0003)
SNC Flags: 0x003a
  .01. .... = SNC QOP Min: OPEN (0x01)
  ...1 1... = SNC QOP Max: PRIVACY/SEALED (0x03)
  .... .01. = SNC QOP Use: OPEN (0x01)
SNC Ext Flags: 0x00000001
SNC Ext Field length: 84
SNC Ext Field
SNC Token
SNC Data
```

Offset	Hex	ASCII
0100	00 00 00 10 00 00 00 00	.....SNCFRA
0110	4d 45 02 06 00 72 00 00	ME....\$......
0120	00 3a 00 00 00 01 00 54	.....T.....
0130	2b 24 03 01 25 01 00 00	+\$..%...B0@1.0.
0140	06 03 55 04 06 13 02 41	..U...A R1.0...U
0150	04 0a 13 0c 43 6f 72 65	....Core Security
0160	31 0c 30 0a 06 03 55 04	1.0...U...SCS1.
0170	30 0a 06 03 55 04 03 13	0...U...NSP0..
0180	06 06 2b 24 03 01 25 01	..+\$..%.0.....
0190	00 0d 31 36 30 31 31 33	..160113 013711Z0
01a0	82 01 fd 30 82 01 66 02	...0..f. ....EC

SAP SNC Frame...e), 708 bytes · Packets: 49 · Displayed: 49 (100.0%) · Load time: 0:0.16 · Profile: Default

# SNC: Protocol overview

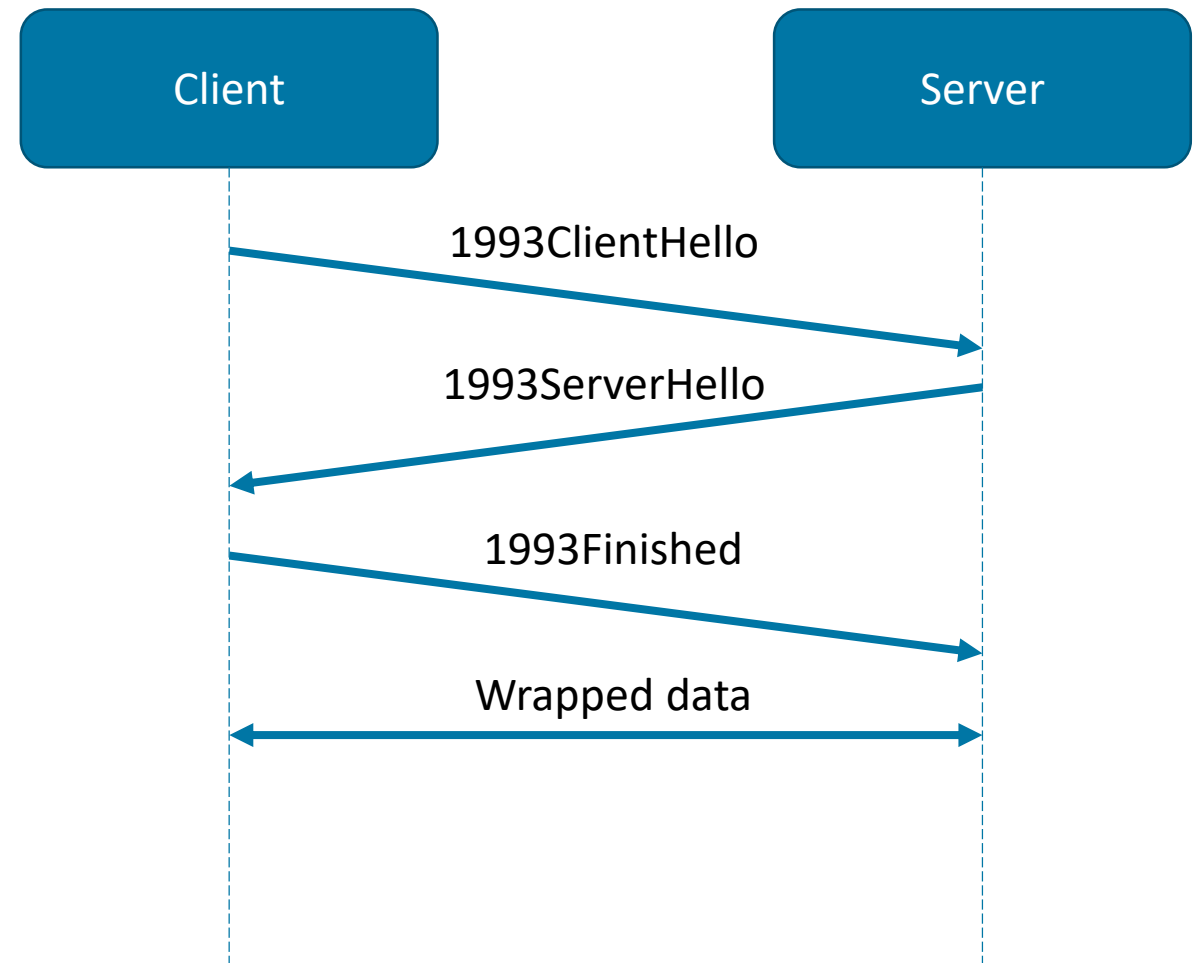


## ■ SNC Frame types

- REVERSE\_REQ, INIT\_REQ, **INIT**, **INIT\_ACK**, ACCEPT, ACCEPT\_ACK, ACCEPT\_FAILED, **DATA\_OPEN**, **DATA\_MIC/DATA\_SIGNED**, **DATA\_WRAP/DATA\_SEALED**, SHUTDOWN, SHUTDOWN\_MSG, REJECTED, ERROR, UNKNOWN

## ■ Handshake protocol version 1993

- Messages
  - 1993ClientHello
  - 1993ServerHello
  - 1993Finished
  - Wrapped data
- Key exchange
  - RSA (default)
  - Kerberos



# SNC: Protocol overview



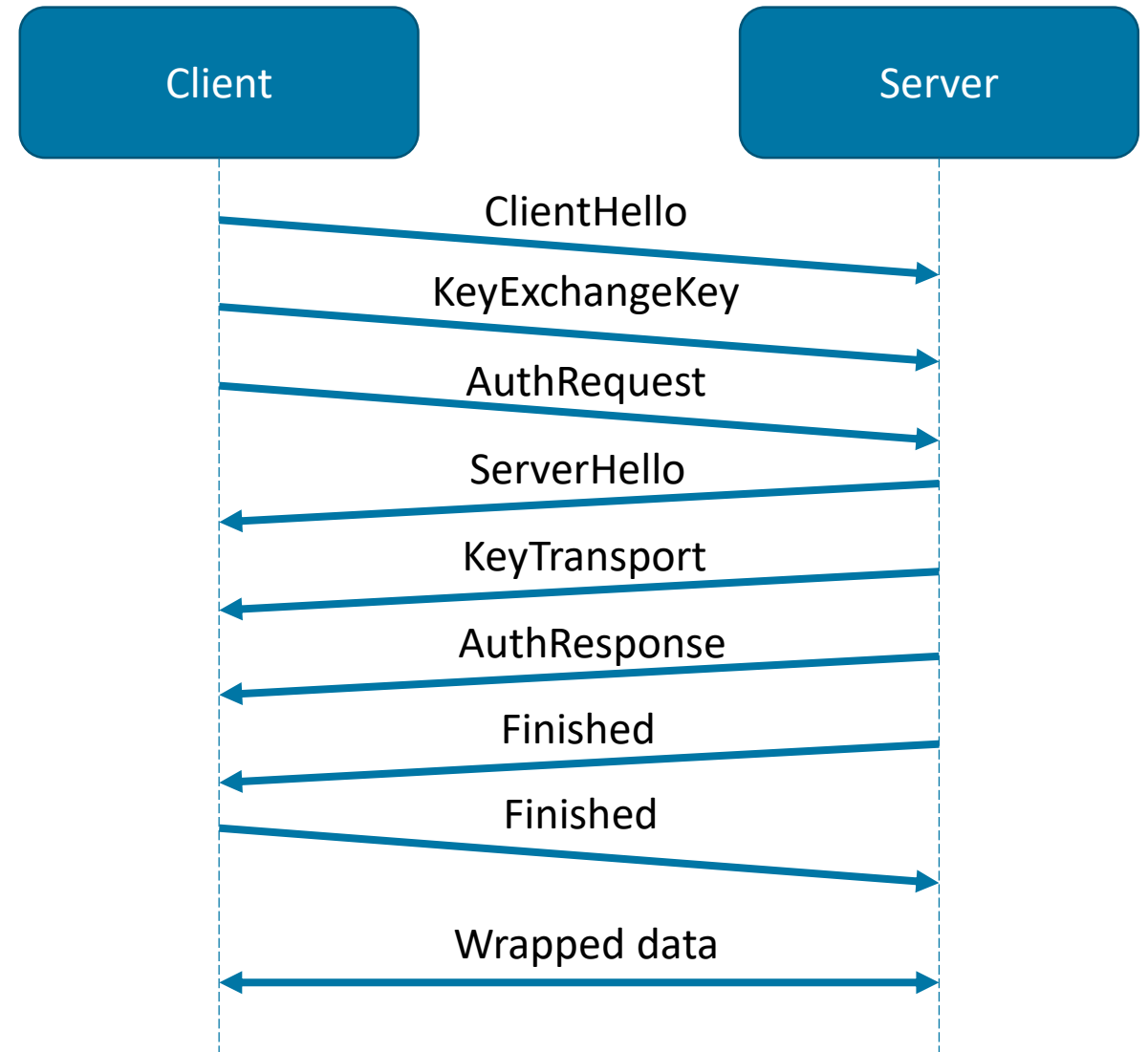
- Handshake protocol version 2010\_1\_0

- Messages

- ClientHello
- KeyExchangeKey
- AuthRequest
- ServerHello
- KeyTransport
- AuthResponse
- Finished
- Wrapped data

- Key exchange

- RSA (default)
- Kerberos



# SNC: Protocol overview



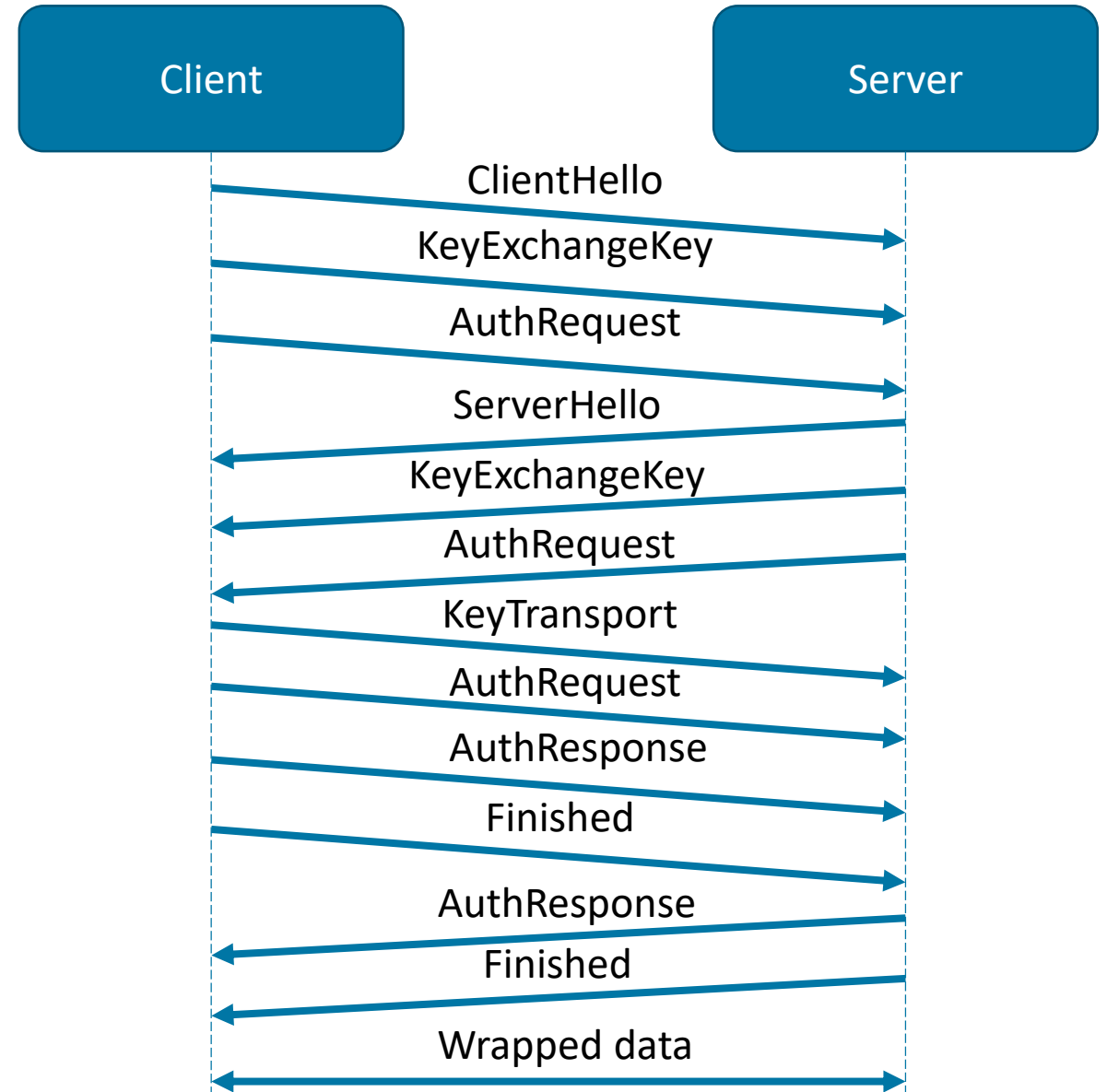
- Handshake protocol version 2010\_1\_1

- Messages

- ClientHello
- KeyExchangeKey
- AuthRequest
- ServerHello
- KeyTransport
- AuthResponse
- Finished
- Wrapped data

- Key exchange

- RSA
- Kerberos
- ECDHE (default)



# SNC: Protocol overview



Cipher suite	Strength	Protocol 1993	Protocol 2010_1_0	Protocol 2010_1_1
SNC_CL_RSA_AES128_RIPEMD160	MEDIUM	X		
SNC_CL_RSA_AES128_SHA1	MEDIUM	X		
SNC_CL_RSA_DES3_RIPEMD160	MEDIUM	X		
SNC_CL_RSA_DES3_SHA1	MEDIUM	X		
SNC_CL_RSA_AES256_SHA256	HIGH	X	X	X
SNC_CL_RSA_AES128_SHA256	HIGH		X	X
SNC_KERBEROS_AES256_SHA256	HIGH		X	X
SNC_KERBEROS_AES128_SHA256	HIGH		X	X
SNC_SR_RSA_AES256_SHA256	HIGH			X
SNC_SR_RSA_AES128_SHA256	HIGH			X
SNC_ECDHE_P256_AES256_SHA256	HIGH			X
SNC_ECDHE_P384_AES256_SHA512	HIGH			X
SNC_ECDHE_P521_AES256_SHA512	HIGH			X

# SNC: Quality of Protection



- GSS-API Quality of protection
  - GSS-API RFC introduces QOP concept
  - Let implementations decide protection levels
  - Parties should be able to negotiate
- SNC QoP levels
  - Authentication only (level 1)
  - Integrity Protection (level 2)
  - Privacy Protection (level 3)

## 1.2.4: Quality of Protection

Some mech\_types provide their users with fine granularity control over the means used to provide per-message protection, allowing callers to trade off security processing overhead dynamically against the protection requirements of particular messages. A per-message quality-of-protection parameter (analogous to quality-of-service, or QoS) selects among different QOP options supported by that mechanism. On context establishment for a multi-QOP mech\_type, context-level data provides the prerequisite data for a range of protection qualities.

# SNC: Quality of Protection



- Application Server specifies QOP on different parameters
  - `snc/data_protection/min`
    - Minimum requirement on protection level
    - Values from 1 to 3
  - `snc/data_protection/max`
    - Maximum protection level for connections **initiated** by the SAP system
    - Values from 1 to 3
  - `snc/data_protection/use`
    - Recommended level of protection
    - Values from 1 to 9 ( $\geq min$ ,  $\leq max$ )
- In order to negotiate, other values were implemented
  - Default protection (level 8): “Use the value from `snc/data_protection/use`.”
  - Maximum protection (level 9): “Use the value from `snc/data_protection/max`.”





Attack vectors  
Vulnerable scenarios  
Demo  
Tools

# Vulnerable scenario: Eavesdropping / sniffing



- Passive attacker
- Able to sniff on the traffic
  - Wireless network
  - Controls one hop in the network
- Attacker only needs to unwrap traffic
  
- Setup
  - SAP AS ABAP Server configured in default SNC mode
  - SAP GUI client using  $QOP = 2$  (integrity only)
- Demo time!

# Vulnerable scenario: Interception and tampering



- Active attacker
- Able to perform a man-in-the-middle attack
  - Spoofing
    - ARP, DNS
  - Wireless network
  - Controls one hop in the network
- Attacker needs to unwrap, tamper, rewrap data
  - Unwrap data, tamper application level protocol, update modified lengths and then wrap data again
- Setup
  - SAP AS ABAP Server configured in default SNC mode
  - SAP GUI client using  $QOP = 1$  (authentication only)

# Attack vectors: SNC/CommonCryptoLib



- Big attack surface
  - Memory leaks
    - SPNego in AS ABAP / [security note 2253695](#)
  - Timing attacks
  - Padding oracles
  - Memory corruption
    - lack of RELRO / [security note 2427966](#)
  - Downgrade/disabling attacks
  - Certificate/signature validation
    - XML security / [security note 2434136](#)

# Attack vectors: SNC/CommonCryptoLib



- Big attack surface
  - Off-line password/key attacks
    - usage of SHA-1 as default in X.509 signature / [security note 2275390](#)
  - XML, ASN.1 and general parsing
    - certificate parsing / [security note 2376742](#)
  - Cryptographic flaws
  - NTLM/Kerberos attacks
  - ..

# Tools



## ■ pysap

- Python library to craft/parse network packets
- Added SNC Support
- Open Source (GPL)
  - <https://github.com/CoreSecurity/pysap>

## ■ SAP Wireshark plug-in

- Plug-in for Wireshark that dissects SAP's protocols
- Added SNC Support
  - Diag and Router protocols
- Open Source (GPL)
  - <https://github.com/CoreSecurity/SAP-Dissection-plug-in-for-Wireshark>

## ■ New releases soon!



# Defense Conclusions

# Defense



- Patch, patch, patch
  - Kernel & CommonCryptoLib up-to-date
  - Reduce attack window and exposure
  
- Review, test
  - Architecture review
  - Penetration testing
  
- Prepare for the worst scenario
  - Patch procedures
  - Forensic capabilities





# Defense



- Use CommonCryptoLib > 8.5
  - ECDHE, PFS when working with Single Sign-on 3.0
  
- Secure *ALL* paths
  - Client-to-server
  - Server-to-server
  - Internal connections
  - When protocol not supported, use SAP Router with SNC routes
  
- Disallow unencrypted connections
  - [SAP Note 1690662 - Option: Blocking unencrypted SAPGUI/RFC connections](#)



# Defense



- Set all QOP levels to maximum level
  - Parameters `snc/data_protection/ (min/max/use)`
    - Value 3 = privacy protection
  
- Use the latest protocol available in the environment
  - Parameters `ccl/snc/ (client/server)_protocol`
    - ~~1993~~ ~~(supported by SAPCRYPTOLIB and CommonCryptoLib)~~
    - 2010\_1\_0 (supported by CommonCryptoLib)
    - 2010\_1\_1 (supported by CommonCryptoLib 8.5 and newer)



# Defense



## ■ Set good cipher suites

- Parameters `ccl/snc/(client/server)_cipher_suites`
  - Client: value `HIGH`
  - Server: value `HIGH` or select particular cipher suites

## ■ Enable certificate revocation

- Parameters `ccl/pkik/*` and `ccl/(snc/ssf/ssl)/pkix_revocation_check`
- So far only CRL supported
  - Planned Support for OSCP in CCL/Single Sign-On



# Conclusions



- Crypto is hard
  - Good crypto is harder
- Attacks against SNC are practical
  - They're already among us!
- Bad implementation not necessarily better than nothing
  - Lax controls (because it's protected!)
  - False sense of security
  - Lack of accountability
- Opportunistic encryption might not be enough in most cases
  - Assess risk

# Thank you!

thanks to the Troopers crew!  
and thanks Joris, Euge!

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