GnuPG: Past, Present, and Future

Werner Koch

DebConf15 — Heidelberg August 16, 2015



Outline

Past

Present

Future



First public available crypto tool by Phil Zimmermann.

- Heavily improved by Branko Lankester, Colin Plumb, Derek Atkins, Hal Finney, Peter Gutmann, et al.
- Problem 1: RSA patent
- Problem 2: IDEA patent
- Problem 3: Export restrictions



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PGP-5 and OpenPGP

- ▶ 1996: PGP Inc founded
- Spring 1997: DH patent expired, PGP-5 released
- Autumn 1997: OpenPGP WG chartered
- Spring 1998: PGP Inc bought by NAI (ceased support in 2002)
- Autumn 1998: RFC-2440 published
- Autumn 2007: RFC-4880 published



GnuPG

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IN Kongreß 1997



💧 Start ৰ Zurück

Vorträge des Kongreß 97 des Individual Network e.V. 27. und 28. September 1997

	Samstag, 27. Septembe	er 1997
Zeit	Security	New Technologies
9:00-9:30	Heiko Schlichting Keynote	
9:30-10:30	Norbert Pohlmann Firewall-Technologien	Werner Almesberger ATM und Linux
10:30-11:30	T. Zieschang Security und Chipcards	Dave S. Miller Linux on Sparc
11:30-12:30	M. Klische, DCS AG Biometrische Personenidentifikation	Stephen R. van den Berg SPAM, procmail, cucipop
12:30-13:30	Mittagessen	
13:30-14:30	Andreas Bäß Status DPN	Bruce Perens, Pixar Inc. Debian GNU/Linux
14:30-15:30	Arttu Huhtiniemi, <u>SolidTech</u> Database and JAVA	Xlink
15:30-16:00	Pause	
16:00-17:00	Gerhard Unger Secure Computing	Bettina Kauth, DFN-NOC Status des B-WiN
17:00-18:00	Richard Stallman GNU Current Projects, Ethico-Political issues of free software	
20:00-offen	Buffet Geselliger Abend	
	Sonntag, 28. Septembe	
Zeit	Security	New Technologies
9:30-10:30	Jörg Ladwein Security Dynamics	Jan Vekemans, <u>Vasco</u> Internet-AcessKey
10:30-11:30	Lutz Donnerhacke CA+PGP-Keys	
11:30-13:00	Brunch	
13:00-14:00	Thomas Hetschold, <u>GMD</u> <u>Secude</u>	K. Schröter, DOCconnect A DOCconnect, Med. Netwo
14:00-15:00	Alan Cox IPv6	Progressive Networks Live Video
15:00-16:00	D. James Bidzos Präsident der RSA Inc.	

Past

g10 / GnuPG

"Das Briefgeheimnis sowie das Post- und Fernmeldegeheimnis sind unverletzlich. Beschränkungen dürfen nur auf Grund eines Gesetzes angeordnet werden."

PGP-5 was non-free

• even PGP-2 not DFSG compatible

- December 1997: g10 as free PGP-2 replacement
 - No patented algorithms
 - Designed as Unix tool

Spring 1998: Name now GnuPG, protocol now OpenPGP.



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Algorithm selection

Initial version

- Elgamal simply replaced RSA (sign+encrypt)
- Blowfish as symmetric cipher
- IDEA as plugin for PGP-2 compatibility in some countries.

- OpenPGP introduced subkeys
 - DSA for signatures, Elgamal for encryption.
 - 3DES and CAST5 for symmetric cipher.
 - RSA added in September 2000
- ► GnuPG and PGP-{5,6,7}
 - Worked with Hal Finney and Jon Callas
 - Informal interop testings
 - Testing of new features

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- Bid accepted to implement S/MIME
- ...birth of GnuPG-2 (2003)
 - modularized
 - separated crypto library
 - library (gpgme)



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 - Thanks to grant from the German government
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 - ... but we did it anyway
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Branches

- Version 2.1 ("modern")
 - Released November 2014
 - Fixing remaining bugs
 - Adding last features
 - In experimental
- Version 2.0 ("stable")
 - Just maintained.
 - Minor changes to help migration to 2.1.
- Version 1.4 ("classic")
 - Supported to help with old data and keys.
 - Keeping PGP-2 support.
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OpenPGP WG timeline

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RFC-4880bis goals

- Potential inclusion of curves recommended by the Crypto Forum Research Group (CFRG)
- A symmetric encryption mechanism that offers modern message integrity protection (AEAD)
- Revision of mandatory-to-implement algorithms and deprecation of weak algorithms
- An updated public-key fingerprint mechanism


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Elliptic curve cryptography



- ▶ RFC-6637 specifies ECC for OpenPGP.
 - NIST curves,
 - but allows other curves (e.g. Brainpool).
- > 2.1 implements this since 2011.
- ► NIST curves are somewhat suspect.
- ▶ We want curves with better repudiation:
 - ECDH with Curve25519,
 - EdDSA using Ed25519,
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Feature: Remote use



We use ssh's socket forwarding to

- run gpg-agent on the "safe" box
- run gpg on an "exposed" box (server)
- See --extra-socket, --browser-socket.



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ProPublica article in February ...

we received ~300 KEUR in donations

- Individual
- Corporate (Stripe, FB)
- No donation campaign right now
 - Tax issues
 - Turning g10^{code} into a non-profit
- ▶ We are lucky other projects still suffer.



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Special thanks

- David Shaw
- Marcus Brinkmann
- Jussi Kivilinna
- Andre Heinecke
- Debian folks:
 - Andreas Metzler
 - Daniel Kahn Gilmor
 - Daniel Leidert
 - Eric Dorland
 - James Troup
 - Matthias Urlichs
 - Thijs Kinkhorst

Bug reporters, reviewers, testers, donors, ...

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Vision

- Thanks to Snowden, new demand for encryption
- Gpg and Web-of-Trust are too hard
 - Keysigning parties are for geeks
- New default focus:
 - Mass surveillance (not targetted)
 - Easy to use
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Support for TOR and GNUnet

All network access via a separate module

- New option --enable-tor to route everything over TOR
 challenge: We need a torified resolver
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- Will be available in 2.2
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Planned features:

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 - No backport of ECC or other RFC-4880bis stuff.
- > 2.1 will be be replaced by 2.2 and declared as stable:
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- Solid development team.
- Making mass surveillance expensive.

Thanks for attending.

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