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The TLS Protocol
Version 1.0

Status of this Memo

This document specifies an Internet standards track protocol for the Internet community, and requests discussion and suggestions for improvements. Please refer to the current edition of the "Internet Official Protocol Standards" (STD 1) for the standardization state and status of this protocol. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

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Abstract

This document specifies Version 1.0 of the Transport Layer Security (TLS) protocol. The TLS protocol provides communications privacy over the Internet. The protocol allows client/server applications to communicate in a way that is designed to prevent eavesdropping, tampering, or message forgery.

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1. Introduction

The primary goal of the TLS Protocol is to provide privacy and data integrity between two communicating applications. The protocol is composed of two layers: the TLS Record Protocol and the TLS Handshake Protocol. At the lowest level, layered on top of some reliable transport protocol (e.g., TCP[TCP]), is the TLS Record Protocol. The TLS Record Protocol provides connection security that has two basic properties:

- The connection is private. Symmetric cryptography is used for data encryption (e.g., DES [DES], RC4 [RC4], etc.) The keys for this symmetric encryption are generated uniquely for each connection and are based on a secret negotiated by another protocol (such as the TLS Handshake Protocol). The Record Protocol can also be used without encryption.

- The connection is reliable. Message transport includes a message integrity check using a keyed MAC. Secure hash functions (e.g., SHA, MD5, etc.) are used for MAC computations. The Record Protocol can operate without a MAC, but is generally only used in

this mode while another protocol is using the Record Protocol as a transport for negotiating security parameters.

The TLS Record Protocol is used for encapsulation of various higher level protocols. One such encapsulated protocol, the TLS Handshake Protocol, allows the server and client to authenticate each other and to negotiate an encryption algorithm and cryptographic keys before the application protocol transmits or receives its first byte of data. The TLS Handshake Protocol provides connection security that has three basic properties:

- The peer's identity can be authenticated using asymmetric, or public key, cryptography (e.g., RSA [RSA], DSS [DSS], etc.). This authentication can be made optional, but is generally required for at least one of the peers.

- The negotiation of a shared secret is secure: the negotiated secret is unavailable to eavesdroppers, and for any authenticated connection the secret cannot be obtained, even by an attacker who can place himself in the middle of the connection.

- The negotiation is reliable: no attacker can modify the negotiation communication without being detected by the parties to the communication.

One advantage of TLS is that it is application protocol independent. Higher level protocols can layer on top of the TLS Protocol transparently. The TLS standard, however, does not specify how protocols add security with TLS; the decisions on how to initiate TLS handshaking and how to interpret the authentication certificates exchanged are left up to the judgment of the designers and implementors of protocols which run on top of TLS.

2. Goals

The goals of TLS Protocol, in order of their priority, are:

1. Cryptographic security: TLS should be used to establish a secure connection between two parties.

2. Interoperability: Independent programmers should be able to develop applications utilizing TLS that will then be able to successfully exchange cryptographic parameters without knowledge of one another's code.

3. Extensibility: TLS seeks to provide a framework into which new public key and bulk encryption methods can be incorporated as necessary. This will also accomplish two sub-goals: to prevent

the need to create a new protocol (and risking the introduction of possible new weaknesses) and to avoid the need to implement an entire new security library.

4. Relative efficiency: Cryptographic operations tend to be highly CPU intensive, particularly public key operations. For this reason, the TLS protocol has incorporated an optional session caching scheme to reduce the number of connections that need to be established from scratch. Additionally, care has been taken to reduce network activity.

3. Goals of this document

This document and the TLS protocol itself are based on the SSL 3.0 Protocol Specification as published by Netscape. The differences between this protocol and SSL 3.0 are not dramatic, but they are significant enough that TLS 1.0 and SSL 3.0 do not interoperate (although TLS 1.0 does incorporate a mechanism by which a TLS implementation can back down to SSL 3.0). This document is intended primarily for readers who will be implementing the protocol and those doing cryptographic analysis of it. The specification has been written with this in mind, and it is intended to reflect the needs of those two groups. For that reason, many of the algorithm-dependent data structures and rules are included in the body of the text (as opposed to in an appendix), providing easier access to them.

This document is not intended to supply any details of service definition nor interface definition, although it does cover select areas of policy as they are required for the maintenance of solid security.

4. Presentation language

This document deals with the formatting of data in an external representation. The following very basic and somewhat casually defined presentation syntax will be used. The syntax draws from several sources in its structure. Although it resembles the programming language "C" in its syntax and XDR [XDR] in both its syntax and intent, it would be risky to draw too many parallels. The purpose of this presentation language is to document TLS only, not to have general application beyond that particular goal.

4.1. Basic block size

The representation of all data items is explicitly specified. The basic data block size is one byte (i.e. 8 bits). Multiple byte data items are concatenations of bytes, from left to right, from top to bottom. From the bytestream a multi-byte item (a numeric in the example) is formed (using C notation) by:

```
value = (byte[0] << 8*(n-1)) | (byte[1] << 8*(n-2)) |
        ... | byte[n-1];
```

This byte ordering for multi-byte values is the commonplace network byte order or big endian format.

4.2. Miscellaneous

Comments begin with "/*" and end with "*/".

Optional components are denoted by enclosing them in "[[ ]]" double brackets.

Single byte entities containing uninterpreted data are of type opaque.

4.3. Vectors

A vector (single dimensioned array) is a stream of homogeneous data elements. The size of the vector may be specified at documentation time or left unspecified until runtime. In either case the length declares the number of bytes, not the number of elements, in the vector. The syntax for specifying a new type T' that is a fixed length vector of type T is

```
T T'[n];
```

Here T' occupies n bytes in the data stream, where n is a multiple of the size of T. The length of the vector is not included in the encoded stream.

In the following example, Datum is defined to be three consecutive bytes that the protocol does not interpret, while Data is three consecutive Datum, consuming a total of nine bytes.

```
opaque Datum[3];      /* three uninterpreted bytes */
Datum Data[9];        /* 3 consecutive 3 byte vectors */
```

Variable length vectors are defined by specifying a subrange of legal lengths, inclusively, using the notation <floor..ceiling>. When encoded, the actual length precedes the vector's contents in the byte stream. The length will be in the form of a number consuming as many bytes as required to hold the vector's specified maximum (ceiling) length. A variable length vector with an actual length field of zero is referred to as an empty vector.

```
T T'<floor..ceiling>;
```

In the following example, mandatory is a vector that must contain between 300 and 400 bytes of type opaque. It can never be empty. The actual length field consumes two bytes, a uint16, sufficient to represent the value 400 (see Section 4.4). On the other hand, longer can represent up to 800 bytes of data, or 400 uint16 elements, and it may be empty. Its encoding will include a two byte actual length field prepended to the vector. The length of an encoded vector must be an even multiple of the length of a single element (for example, a 17 byte vector of uint16 would be illegal).

```
opaque mandatory<300..400>;
      /* length field is 2 bytes, cannot be empty */
uint16 longer<0..800>;
      /* zero to 400 16-bit unsigned integers */
```

4.4. Numbers

The basic numeric data type is an unsigned byte (uint8). All larger numeric data types are formed from fixed length series of bytes concatenated as described in Section 4.1 and are also unsigned. The following numeric types are predefined.

```
uint8 uint16[2];
uint8 uint24[3];
uint8 uint32[4];
uint8 uint64[8];
```

All values, here and elsewhere in the specification, are stored in "network" or "big-endian" order; the uint32 represented by the hex bytes 01 02 03 04 is equivalent to the decimal value 16909060.

4.5. Enumerateds

An additional sparse data type is available called enum. A field of type enum can only assume the values declared in the definition. Each definition is a different type. Only enumerateds of the same type may be assigned or compared. Every element of an enumerated must

be assigned a value, as demonstrated in the following example. Since the elements of the enumerated are not ordered, they can be assigned any unique value, in any order.

```
enum { e1(v1), e2(v2), ... , en(vn) [[, (n)]] } Te;
```

Enumerateds occupy as much space in the byte stream as would its maximal defined ordinal value. The following definition would cause one byte to be used to carry fields of type Color.

```
enum { red(3), blue(5), white(7) } Color;
```

One may optionally specify a value without its associated tag to force the width definition without defining a superfluous element. In the following example, Taste will consume two bytes in the data stream but can only assume the values 1, 2 or 4.

```
enum { sweet(1), sour(2), bitter(4), (32000) } Taste;
```

The names of the elements of an enumeration are scoped within the defined type. In the first example, a fully qualified reference to the second element of the enumeration would be Color.blue. Such qualification is not required if the target of the assignment is well specified.

```
Color color = Color.blue;     /* overspecified, legal */
Color color = blue;           /* correct, type implicit */
```

For enumerateds that are never converted to external representation, the numerical information may be omitted.

```
enum { low, medium, high } Amount;
```

4.6. Constructed types

Structure types may be constructed from primitive types for convenience. Each specification declares a new, unique type. The syntax for definition is much like that of C.

```
struct {
  T1 f1;
  T2 f2;
  ...
  Tn fn;
} [[T]];
```

The fields within a structure may be qualified using the type's name using a syntax much like that available for enumerateds. For example, T.f2 refers to the second field of the previous declaration. Structure definitions may be embedded.

4.6.1. Variants

Defined structures may have variants based on some knowledge that is available within the environment. The selector must be an enumerated type that defines the possible variants the structure defines. There must be a case arm for every element of the enumeration declared in the select. The body of the variant structure may be given a label for reference. The mechanism by which the variant is selected at runtime is not prescribed by the presentation language.

```
struct {
    T1 f1;
    T2 f2;
    ....
    Tn fn;
    select (E) {
        case e1: Te1;
        case e2: Te2;
        ....
        case en: Ten;
    } [[fv]];
} [[Tv]];
```

For example:

```
enum { apple, orange } VariantTag;
struct {
    uint16 number;
    opaque string<0..10>; /* variable length */
} V1;
struct {
    uint32 number;
    opaque string[10];    /* fixed length */
} V2;
struct {
    select (VariantTag) { /* value of selector is implicit */
        case apple: V1;   /* VariantBody, tag = apple */
        case orange: V2;  /* VariantBody, tag = orange */
    } variant_body;       /* optional label on variant */
} VariantRecord;
```

Variant structures may be qualified (narrowed) by specifying a value for the selector prior to the type. For example, a

```
orange VariantRecord
```

is a narrowed type of a VariantRecord containing a variant_body of type V2.

4.7. Cryptographic attributes

The four cryptographic operations digital signing, stream cipher encryption, block cipher encryption, and public key encryption are designated digitally-signed, stream-ciphered, block-ciphered, and public-key-encrypted, respectively. A field's cryptographic processing is specified by prepending an appropriate key word designation before the field's type specification. Cryptographic keys are implied by the current session state (see Section 6.1).

In digital signing, one-way hash functions are used as input for a signing algorithm. A digitally-signed element is encoded as an opaque vector <0..2^16-1>, where the length is specified by the signing algorithm and key.

In RSA signing, a 36-byte structure of two hashes (one SHA and one MD5) is signed (encrypted with the private key). It is encoded with PKCS #1 block type 0 or type 1 as described in [PKCS1].

In DSS, the 20 bytes of the SHA hash are run directly through the Digital Signing Algorithm with no additional hashing. This produces two values, r and s. The DSS signature is an opaque vector, as above, the contents of which are the DER encoding of:

```
Dss-Sig-Value  ::=  SEQUENCE  {
     r       INTEGER,
     s       INTEGER
}
```

In stream cipher encryption, the plaintext is exclusive-ORed with an identical amount of output generated from a cryptographically-secure keyed pseudorandom number generator.

In block cipher encryption, every block of plaintext encrypts to a block of ciphertext. All block cipher encryption is done in CBC (Cipher Block Chaining) mode, and all items which are block-ciphered will be an exact multiple of the cipher block length.

In public key encryption, a public key algorithm is used to encrypt data in such a way that it can be decrypted only with the matching private key. A public-key-encrypted element is encoded as an opaque vector <0..2^16-1>, where the length is specified by the signing algorithm and key.

An RSA encrypted value is encoded with PKCS #1 block type 2 as described in [PKCS1].

In the following example:

```
stream-ciphered struct {
    uint8 field1;
    uint8 field2;
    digitally-signed opaque hash[20];
} UserType;
```

The contents of hash are used as input for the signing algorithm, then the entire structure is encrypted with a stream cipher. The length of this structure, in bytes would be equal to 2 bytes for field1 and field2, plus two bytes for the length of the signature, plus the length of the output of the signing algorithm. This is known due to the fact that the algorithm and key used for the signing are known prior to encoding or decoding this structure.

4.8. Constants

Typed constants can be defined for purposes of specification by declaring a symbol of the desired type and assigning values to it. Under-specified types (opaque, variable length vectors, and structures that contain opaque) cannot be assigned values. No fields of a multi-element structure or vector may be elided.

For example,

```
struct {
    uint8 f1;
    uint8 f2;
} Example1;

Example1 ex1 = {1, 4};  /* assigns f1 = 1, f2 = 4 */
```

5. HMAC and the pseudorandom function

A number of operations in the TLS record and handshake layer required a keyed MAC; this is a secure digest of some data protected by a secret. Forging the MAC is infeasible without knowledge of the MAC secret. The construction we use for this operation is known as HMAC, described in [HMAC].

HMAC can be used with a variety of different hash algorithms. TLS uses it in the handshake with two different algorithms: MD5 and SHA-1, denoting these as HMAC_MD5(secret, data) and HMAC_SHA(secret,

data). Additional hash algorithms can be defined by cipher suites and used to protect record data, but MD5 and SHA-1 are hard coded into the description of the handshaking for this version of the protocol.

In addition, a construction is required to do expansion of secrets into blocks of data for the purposes of key generation or validation. This pseudo-random function (PRF) takes as input a secret, a seed, and an identifying label and produces an output of arbitrary length.

In order to make the PRF as secure as possible, it uses two hash algorithms in a way which should guarantee its security if either algorithm remains secure.

First, we define a data expansion function, P_hash(secret, data) which uses a single hash function to expand a secret and seed into an arbitrary quantity of output:

```
    P_hash(secret, seed) = HMAC_hash(secret, A(1) + seed) +
                           HMAC_hash(secret, A(2) + seed) +
                           HMAC_hash(secret, A(3) + seed) + ...
```

Where + indicates concatenation.

A() is defined as:

```
    A(0) = seed
    A(i) = HMAC_hash(secret, A(i-1))
```

P_hash can be iterated as many times as is necessary to produce the required quantity of data. For example, if P_SHA-1 was being used to create 64 bytes of data, it would have to be iterated 4 times (through A(4)), creating 80 bytes of output data; the last 16 bytes of the final iteration would then be discarded, leaving 64 bytes of output data.

TLS's PRF is created by splitting the secret into two halves and using one half to generate data with P_MD5 and the other half to generate data with P_SHA-1, then exclusive-or'ing the outputs of these two expansion functions together.

S1 and S2 are the two halves of the secret and each is the same length. S1 is taken from the first half of the secret, S2 from the second half. Their length is created by rounding up the length of the overall secret divided by two; thus, if the original secret is an odd number of bytes long, the last byte of S1 will be the same as the first byte of S2.

```
    L_S = length in bytes of secret;
    L_S1 = L_S2 = ceil(L_S / 2);
```

The secret is partitioned into two halves (with the possibility of one shared byte) as described above, S1 taking the first L_S1 bytes and S2 the last L_S2 bytes.

The PRF is then defined as the result of mixing the two pseudorandom streams by exclusive-or'ing them together.

```
PRF(secret, label, seed) = P_MD5(S1, label + seed) XOR
                           P_SHA-1(S2, label + seed);
```

The label is an ASCII string. It should be included in the exact form it is given without a length byte or trailing null character. For example, the label "slithy toves" would be processed by hashing the following bytes:

```
73 6C 69 74 68 79 20 74 6F 76 65 73
```

Note that because MD5 produces 16 byte outputs and SHA-1 produces 20 byte outputs, the boundaries of their internal iterations will not be aligned; to generate a 80 byte output will involve P_MD5 being iterated through A(5), while P_SHA-1 will only iterate through A(4).

6. The TLS Record Protocol

The TLS Record Protocol is a layered protocol. At each layer, messages may include fields for length, description, and content. The Record Protocol takes messages to be transmitted, fragments the data into manageable blocks, optionally compresses the data, applies a MAC, encrypts, and transmits the result. Received data is decrypted, verified, decompressed, and reassembled, then delivered to higher level clients.

Four record protocol clients are described in this document: the handshake protocol, the alert protocol, the change cipher spec protocol, and the application data protocol. In order to allow extension of the TLS protocol, additional record types can be supported by the record protocol. Any new record types should allocate type values immediately beyond the ContentType values for the four record types described here (see Appendix A.2). If a TLS implementation receives a record type it does not understand, it should just ignore it. Any protocol designed for use over TLS must be carefully designed to deal with all possible attacks against it. Note that because the type and length of a record are not protected by encryption, care should be take to minimize the value of traffic analysis of these values.

6.1. Connection states

A TLS connection state is the operating environment of the TLS Record Protocol. It specifies a compression algorithm, encryption algorithm, and MAC algorithm. In addition, the parameters for these algorithms are known: the MAC secret and the bulk encryption keys and IVs for the connection in both the read and the write directions. Logically, there are always four connection states outstanding: the current read and write states, and the pending read and write states. All records are processed under the current read and write states. The security parameters for the pending states can be set by the TLS Handshake Protocol, and the Handshake Protocol can selectively make either of the pending states current, in which case the appropriate current state is disposed of and replaced with the pending state; the pending state is then reinitialized to an empty state. It is illegal to make a state which has not been initialized with security parameters a current state. The initial current state always specifies that no encryption, compression, or MAC will be used.

The security parameters for a TLS Connection read and write state are set by providing the following values:

connection end
: Whether this entity is considered the "client" or the "server" in this connection.

bulk encryption algorithm
: An algorithm to be used for bulk encryption. This specification includes the key size of this algorithm, how much of that key is secret, whether it is a block or stream cipher, the block size of the cipher (if appropriate), and whether it is considered an "export" cipher.

MAC algorithm
: An algorithm to be used for message authentication. This specification includes the size of the hash which is returned by the MAC algorithm.

compression algorithm
: An algorithm to be used for data compression. This specification must include all information the algorithm requires to do compression.

master secret
: A 48 byte secret shared between the two peers in the connection.

client random
: A 32 byte value provided by the client.

server random
A 32 byte value provided by the server.

These parameters are defined in the presentation language as:

```
enum { server, client } ConnectionEnd;

enum { null, rc4, rc2, des, 3des, des40 } BulkCipherAlgorithm;

enum { stream, block } CipherType;

enum { true, false } IsExportable;

enum { null, md5, sha } MACAlgorithm;

enum { null(0), (255) } CompressionMethod;

/* The algorithms specified in CompressionMethod,
   BulkCipherAlgorithm, and MACAlgorithm may be added to. */

struct {
    ConnectionEnd          entity;
    BulkCipherAlgorithm    bulk_cipher_algorithm;
    CipherType             cipher_type;
    uint8                  key_size;
    uint8                  key_material_length;
    IsExportable           is_exportable;
    MACAlgorithm           mac_algorithm;
    uint8                  hash_size;
    CompressionMethod      compression_algorithm;
    opaque                 master_secret[48];
    opaque                 client_random[32];
    opaque                 server_random[32];
} SecurityParameters;
```

The record layer will use the security parameters to generate the following six items:

```
client write MAC secret
server write MAC secret
client write key
server write key
client write IV (for block ciphers only)
server write IV (for block ciphers only)
```

The client write parameters are used by the server when receiving and processing records and vice-versa. The algorithm used for generating these items from the security parameters is described in section 6.3.

Once the security parameters have been set and the keys have been generated, the connection states can be instantiated by making them the current states. These current states must be updated for each record processed. Each connection state includes the following elements:

compression state
The current state of the compression algorithm.

cipher state
The current state of the encryption algorithm. This will consist of the scheduled key for that connection. In addition, for block ciphers running in CBC mode (the only mode specified for TLS), this will initially contain the IV for that connection state and be updated to contain the ciphertext of the last block encrypted or decrypted as records are processed. For stream ciphers, this will contain whatever the necessary state information is to allow the stream to continue to encrypt or decrypt data.

MAC secret
The MAC secret for this connection as generated above.

sequence number
Each connection state contains a sequence number, which is maintained separately for read and write states. The sequence number must be set to zero whenever a connection state is made the active state. Sequence numbers are of type uint64 and may not exceed 2^64-1. A sequence number is incremented after each record: specifically, the first record which is transmitted under a particular connection state should use sequence number 0.

6.2. Record layer

The TLS Record Layer receives uninterpreted data from higher layers in non-empty blocks of arbitrary size.

6.2.1. Fragmentation

The record layer fragments information blocks into TLSPlaintext records carrying data in chunks of 2^14 bytes or less. Client message boundaries are not preserved in the record layer (i.e., multiple client messages of the same ContentType may be coalesced into a single TLSPlaintext record, or a single message may be fragmented across several records).

```
struct {
    uint8 major, minor;
} ProtocolVersion;
```

```
        enum {
            change_cipher_spec(20), alert(21), handshake(22),
            application_data(23), (255)
        } ContentType;

        struct {
            ContentType type;
            ProtocolVersion version;
            uint16 length;
            opaque fragment[TLSPlaintext.length];
        } TLSPlaintext;
```

type
The higher level protocol used to process the enclosed fragment.

version
The version of the protocol being employed. This document describes TLS Version 1.0, which uses the version { 3, 1 }. The version value 3.1 is historical: TLS version 1.0 is a minor modification to the SSL 3.0 protocol, which bears the version value 3.0. (See Appendix A.1).

length
The length (in bytes) of the following TLSPlaintext.fragment. The length should not exceed 2^14.

fragment
The application data. This data is transparent and treated as an independent block to be dealt with by the higher level protocol specified by the type field.

Note: Data of different TLS Record layer content types may be interleaved. Application data is generally of lower precedence for transmission than other content types.

6.2.2. Record compression and decompression

All records are compressed using the compression algorithm defined in the current session state. There is always an active compression algorithm; however, initially it is defined as CompressionMethod.null. The compression algorithm translates a TLSPlaintext structure into a TLSCompressed structure. Compression functions are initialized with default state information whenever a connection state is made active.

Compression must be lossless and may not increase the content length by more than 1024 bytes. If the decompression function encounters a TLSCompressed.fragment that would decompress to a length in excess of 2^14 bytes, it should report a fatal decompression failure error.

```
    struct {
        ContentType type;       /* same as TLSPlaintext.type */
        ProtocolVersion version;/* same as TLSPlaintext.version */
        uint16 length;
        opaque fragment[TLSCompressed.length];
    } TLSCompressed;
```

length
    The length (in bytes) of the following TLSCompressed.fragment. The length should not exceed 2^14 + 1024.

fragment
    The compressed form of TLSPlaintext.fragment.

Note: A CompressionMethod.null operation is an identity operation; no fields are altered.

Implementation note:
    Decompression functions are responsible for ensuring that messages cannot cause internal buffer overflows.

6.2.3. Record payload protection

The encryption and MAC functions translate a TLSCompressed structure into a TLSCiphertext. The decryption functions reverse the process. The MAC of the record also includes a sequence number so that missing, extra or repeated messages are detectable.

```
    struct {
        ContentType type;
        ProtocolVersion version;
        uint16 length;
        select (CipherSpec.cipher_type) {
            case stream: GenericStreamCipher;
            case block: GenericBlockCipher;
        } fragment;
    } TLSCiphertext;
```

type
    The type field is identical to TLSCompressed.type.

version
    The version field is identical to TLSCompressed.version.

length
The length (in bytes) of the following TLSCiphertext.fragment. The length may not exceed 2^14 + 2048.

fragment
The encrypted form of TLSCompressed.fragment, with the MAC.

6.2.3.1. Null or standard stream cipher

Stream ciphers (including BulkCipherAlgorithm.null - see Appendix A.6) convert TLSCompressed.fragment structures to and from stream TLSCiphertext.fragment structures.

```
stream-ciphered struct {
    opaque content[TLSCompressed.length];
    opaque MAC[CipherSpec.hash_size];
} GenericStreamCipher;
```

The MAC is generated as:

```
HMAC_hash(MAC_write_secret, seq_num + TLSCompressed.type +
                TLSCompressed.version + TLSCompressed.length +
                TLSCompressed.fragment));
```

where "+" denotes concatenation.

seq_num
The sequence number for this record.

hash
The hashing algorithm specified by SecurityParameters.mac_algorithm.

Note that the MAC is computed before encryption. The stream cipher encrypts the entire block, including the MAC. For stream ciphers that do not use a synchronization vector (such as RC4), the stream cipher state from the end of one record is simply used on the subsequent packet. If the CipherSuite is TLS_NULL_WITH_NULL_NULL, encryption consists of the identity operation (i.e., the data is not encrypted and the MAC size is zero implying that no MAC is used). TLSCiphertext.length is TLSCompressed.length plus CipherSpec.hash_size.

6.2.3.2. CBC block cipher

For block ciphers (such as RC2 or DES), the encryption and MAC functions convert TLSCompressed.fragment structures to and from block TLSCiphertext.fragment structures.

```
    block-ciphered struct {
        opaque content[TLSCompressed.length];
        opaque MAC[CipherSpec.hash_size];
        uint8 padding[GenericBlockCipher.padding_length];
        uint8 padding_length;
    } GenericBlockCipher;
```

The MAC is generated as described in Section 6.2.3.1.

padding
: Padding that is added to force the length of the plaintext to be an integral multiple of the block cipher's block length. The padding may be any length up to 255 bytes long, as long as it results in the TLSCiphertext.length being an integral multiple of the block length. Lengths longer than necessary might be desirable to frustrate attacks on a protocol based on analysis of the lengths of exchanged messages. Each uint8 in the padding data vector must be filled with the padding length value.

padding_length
: The padding length should be such that the total size of the GenericBlockCipher structure is a multiple of the cipher's block length. Legal values range from zero to 255, inclusive. This length specifies the length of the padding field exclusive of the padding_length field itself.

The encrypted data length (TLSCiphertext.length) is one more than the sum of TLSCompressed.length, CipherSpec.hash_size, and padding_length.

Example: If the block length is 8 bytes, the content length (TLSCompressed.length) is 61 bytes, and the MAC length is 20 bytes, the length before padding is 82 bytes. Thus, the padding length modulo 8 must be equal to 6 in order to make the total length an even multiple of 8 bytes (the block length). The padding length can be 6, 14, 22, and so on, through 254. If the padding length were the minimum necessary, 6, the padding would be 6 bytes, each containing the value 6. Thus, the last 8 octets of the GenericBlockCipher before block encryption would be xx 06 06 06 06 06 06 06, where xx is the last octet of the MAC.

Note: With block ciphers in CBC mode (Cipher Block Chaining) the initialization vector (IV) for the first record is generated with the other keys and secrets when the security parameters are set. The IV for subsequent records is the last ciphertext block from the previous record.

6.3. Key calculation

The Record Protocol requires an algorithm to generate keys, IVs, and MAC secrets from the security parameters provided by the handshake protocol.

The master secret is hashed into a sequence of secure bytes, which are assigned to the MAC secrets, keys, and non-export IVs required by the current connection state (see Appendix A.6). CipherSpecs require a client write MAC secret, a server write MAC secret, a client write key, a server write key, a client write IV, and a server write IV, which are generated from the master secret in that order. Unused values are empty.

When generating keys and MAC secrets, the master secret is used as an entropy source, and the random values provide unencrypted salt material and IVs for exportable ciphers.

To generate the key material, compute

```
key_block = PRF(SecurityParameters.master_secret,
                "key expansion",
                SecurityParameters.server_random +
                SecurityParameters.client_random);
```

until enough output has been generated. Then the key_block is partitioned as follows:

```
client_write_MAC_secret[SecurityParameters.hash_size]
server_write_MAC_secret[SecurityParameters.hash_size]
client_write_key[SecurityParameters.key_material_length]
server_write_key[SecurityParameters.key_material_length]
client_write_IV[SecurityParameters.IV_size]
server_write_IV[SecurityParameters.IV_size]
```

The client_write_IV and server_write_IV are only generated for non-export block ciphers. For exportable block ciphers, the initialization vectors are generated later, as described below. Any extra key_block material is discarded.

Implementation note:
The cipher spec which is defined in this document which requires the most material is 3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA: it requires 2 x 24 byte keys, 2 x 20 byte MAC secrets, and 2 x 8 byte IVs, for a total of 104 bytes of key material.

Exportable encryption algorithms (for which CipherSpec.is_exportable is true) require additional processing as follows to derive their final write keys:

```
final_client_write_key =
PRF(SecurityParameters.client_write_key,
                           "client write key",
                           SecurityParameters.client_random +
                           SecurityParameters.server_random);
final_server_write_key =
PRF(SecurityParameters.server_write_key,
                           "server write key",
                           SecurityParameters.client_random +
                           SecurityParameters.server_random);
```

Exportable encryption algorithms derive their IVs solely from the random values from the hello messages:

```
iv_block = PRF("", "IV block", SecurityParameters.client_random +
               SecurityParameters.server_random);
```

The iv_block is partitioned into two initialization vectors as the key_block was above:

```
client_write_IV[SecurityParameters.IV_size]
server_write_IV[SecurityParameters.IV_size]
```

Note that the PRF is used without a secret in this case: this just means that the secret has a length of zero bytes and contributes nothing to the hashing in the PRF.

6.3.1. Export key generation example

TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_RC2_CBC_40_MD5 requires five random bytes for each of the two encryption keys and 16 bytes for each of the MAC keys, for a total of 42 bytes of key material. The PRF output is stored in the key_block. The key_block is partitioned, and the write keys are salted because this is an exportable encryption algorithm.

```
key_block               = PRF(master_secret,
                              "key expansion",
                              server_random +
                              client_random)[0..41]
client_write_MAC_secret = key_block[0..15]
server_write_MAC_secret = key_block[16..31]
client_write_key        = key_block[32..36]
server_write_key        = key_block[37..41]
```

```
final_client_write_key  = PRF(client_write_key,
                              "client write key",
                              client_random +
                              server_random)[0..15]
final_server_write_key  = PRF(server_write_key,
                              "server write key",
                              client_random +
                              server_random)[0..15]

iv_block                = PRF("", "IV block", client_random +
                              server_random)[0..15]
client_write_IV = iv_block[0..7]
server_write_IV = iv_block[8..15]
```

7. The TLS Handshake Protocol

The TLS Handshake Protocol consists of a suite of three sub-protocols which are used to allow peers to agree upon security parameters for the record layer, authenticate themselves, instantiate negotiated security parameters, and report error conditions to each other.

The Handshake Protocol is responsible for negotiating a session, which consists of the following items:

session identifier
: An arbitrary byte sequence chosen by the server to identify an active or resumable session state.

peer certificate
: X509v3 [X509] certificate of the peer. This element of the state may be null.

compression method
: The algorithm used to compress data prior to encryption.

cipher spec
: Specifies the bulk data encryption algorithm (such as null, DES, etc.) and a MAC algorithm (such as MD5 or SHA). It also defines cryptographic attributes such as the hash_size. (See Appendix A.6 for formal definition)

master secret
: 48-byte secret shared between the client and server.

is resumable
: A flag indicating whether the session can be used to initiate new connections.

These items are then used to create security parameters for use by the Record Layer when protecting application data. Many connections can be instantiated using the same session through the resumption feature of the TLS Handshake Protocol.

7.1. Change cipher spec protocol

The change cipher spec protocol exists to signal transitions in ciphering strategies. The protocol consists of a single message, which is encrypted and compressed under the current (not the pending) connection state. The message consists of a single byte of value 1.

```
struct {
    enum { change_cipher_spec(1), (255) } type;
} ChangeCipherSpec;
```

The change cipher spec message is sent by both the client and server to notify the receiving party that subsequent records will be protected under the newly negotiated CipherSpec and keys. Reception of this message causes the receiver to instruct the Record Layer to immediately copy the read pending state into the read current state. Immediately after sending this message, the sender should instruct the record layer to make the write pending state the write active state. (See section 6.1.) The change cipher spec message is sent during the handshake after the security parameters have been agreed upon, but before the verifying finished message is sent (see section 7.4.9).

7.2. Alert protocol

One of the content types supported by the TLS Record layer is the alert type. Alert messages convey the severity of the message and a description of the alert. Alert messages with a level of fatal result in the immediate termination of the connection. In this case, other connections corresponding to the session may continue, but the session identifier must be invalidated, preventing the failed session from being used to establish new connections. Like other messages, alert messages are encrypted and compressed, as specified by the current connection state.

```
enum { warning(1), fatal(2), (255) } AlertLevel;

enum {
    close_notify(0),
    unexpected_message(10),
    bad_record_mac(20),
    decryption_failed(21),
    record_overflow(22),
```

```
            decompression_failure(30),
            handshake_failure(40),
            bad_certificate(42),
            unsupported_certificate(43),
            certificate_revoked(44),
            certificate_expired(45),
            certificate_unknown(46),
            illegal_parameter(47),
            unknown_ca(48),
            access_denied(49),
            decode_error(50),
            decrypt_error(51),
            export_restriction(60),
            protocol_version(70),
            insufficient_security(71),
            internal_error(80),
            user_canceled(90),
            no_renegotiation(100),
            (255)
        } AlertDescription;

        struct {
            AlertLevel level;
            AlertDescription description;
        } Alert;
```

7.2.1. Closure alerts

The client and the server must share knowledge that the connection is ending in order to avoid a truncation attack. Either party may initiate the exchange of closing messages.

close_notify
: This message notifies the recipient that the sender will not send any more messages on this connection. The session becomes unresumable if any connection is terminated without proper close_notify messages with level equal to warning.

Either party may initiate a close by sending a close_notify alert. Any data received after a closure alert is ignored.

Each party is required to send a close_notify alert before closing the write side of the connection. It is required that the other party respond with a close_notify alert of its own and close down the connection immediately, discarding any pending writes. It is not required for the initiator of the close to wait for the responding close_notify alert before closing the read side of the connection.

If the application protocol using TLS provides that any data may be carried over the underlying transport after the TLS connection is closed, the TLS implementation must receive the responding close_notify alert before indicating to the application layer that the TLS connection has ended. If the application protocol will not transfer any additional data, but will only close the underlying transport connection, then the implementation may choose to close the transport without waiting for the responding close_notify. No part of this standard should be taken to dictate the manner in which a usage profile for TLS manages its data transport, including when connections are opened or closed.

NB: It is assumed that closing a connection reliably delivers pending data before destroying the transport.

7.2.2. Error alerts

Error handling in the TLS Handshake protocol is very simple. When an error is detected, the detecting party sends a message to the other party. Upon transmission or receipt of an fatal alert message, both parties immediately close the connection. Servers and clients are required to forget any session-identifiers, keys, and secrets associated with a failed connection. The following error alerts are defined:

unexpected_message
: An inappropriate message was received. This alert is always fatal and should never be observed in communication between proper implementations.

bad_record_mac
: This alert is returned if a record is received with an incorrect MAC. This message is always fatal.

decryption_failed
: A TLSCiphertext decrypted in an invalid way: either it wasn't an even multiple of the block length or its padding values, when checked, weren't correct. This message is always fatal.

record_overflow
: A TLSCiphertext record was received which had a length more than 2^14+2048 bytes, or a record decrypted to a TLSCompressed record with more than 2^14+1024 bytes. This message is always fatal.

decompression_failure
: The decompression function received improper input (e.g. data that would expand to excessive length). This message is always fatal.

handshake_failure
Reception of a handshake_failure alert message indicates that the sender was unable to negotiate an acceptable set of security parameters given the options available. This is a fatal error.

bad_certificate
A certificate was corrupt, contained signatures that did not verify correctly, etc.

unsupported_certificate
A certificate was of an unsupported type.

certificate_revoked
A certificate was revoked by its signer.

certificate_expired
A certificate has expired or is not currently valid.

certificate_unknown
Some other (unspecified) issue arose in processing the certificate, rendering it unacceptable.

illegal_parameter
A field in the handshake was out of range or inconsistent with other fields. This is always fatal.

unknown_ca
A valid certificate chain or partial chain was received, but the certificate was not accepted because the CA certificate could not be located or couldn't be matched with a known, trusted CA. This message is always fatal.

access_denied
A valid certificate was received, but when access control was applied, the sender decided not to proceed with negotiation. This message is always fatal.

decode_error
A message could not be decoded because some field was out of the specified range or the length of the message was incorrect. This message is always fatal.

decrypt_error
A handshake cryptographic operation failed, including being unable to correctly verify a signature, decrypt a key exchange, or validate a finished message.

export_restriction
A negotiation not in compliance with export restrictions was detected; for example, attempting to transfer a 1024 bit ephemeral RSA key for the RSA_EXPORT handshake method. This message is always fatal.

protocol_version
The protocol version the client has attempted to negotiate is recognized, but not supported. (For example, old protocol versions might be avoided for security reasons). This message is always fatal.

insufficient_security
Returned instead of handshake_failure when a negotiation has failed specifically because the server requires ciphers more secure than those supported by the client. This message is always fatal.

internal_error
An internal error unrelated to the peer or the correctness of the protocol makes it impossible to continue (such as a memory allocation failure). This message is always fatal.

user_canceled
This handshake is being canceled for some reason unrelated to a protocol failure. If the user cancels an operation after the handshake is complete, just closing the connection by sending a close_notify is more appropriate. This alert should be followed by a close_notify. This message is generally a warning.

no_renegotiation
Sent by the client in response to a hello request or by the server in response to a client hello after initial handshaking. Either of these would normally lead to renegotiation; when that is not appropriate, the recipient should respond with this alert; at that point, the original requester can decide whether to proceed with the connection. One case where this would be appropriate would be where a server has spawned a process to satisfy a request; the process might receive security parameters (key length, authentication, etc.) at startup and it might be difficult to communicate changes to these parameters after that point. This message is always a warning.

For all errors where an alert level is not explicitly specified, the sending party may determine at its discretion whether this is a fatal error or not; if an alert with a level of warning is received, the

receiving party may decide at its discretion whether to treat this as a fatal error or not. However, all messages which are transmitted with a level of fatal must be treated as fatal messages.

7.3. Handshake Protocol overview

The cryptographic parameters of the session state are produced by the TLS Handshake Protocol, which operates on top of the TLS Record Layer. When a TLS client and server first start communicating, they agree on a protocol version, select cryptographic algorithms, optionally authenticate each other, and use public-key encryption techniques to generate shared secrets.

The TLS Handshake Protocol involves the following steps:

- Exchange hello messages to agree on algorithms, exchange random values, and check for session resumption.

- Exchange the necessary cryptographic parameters to allow the client and server to agree on a premaster secret.

- Exchange certificates and cryptographic information to allow the client and server to authenticate themselves.

- Generate a master secret from the premaster secret and exchanged random values.

- Provide security parameters to the record layer.

- Allow the client and server to verify that their peer has calculated the same security parameters and that the handshake occurred without tampering by an attacker.

Note that higher layers should not be overly reliant on TLS always negotiating the strongest possible connection between two peers: there are a number of ways a man in the middle attacker can attempt to make two entities drop down to the least secure method they support. The protocol has been designed to minimize this risk, but there are still attacks available: for example, an attacker could block access to the port a secure service runs on, or attempt to get the peers to negotiate an unauthenticated connection. The fundamental rule is that higher levels must be cognizant of what their security requirements are and never transmit information over a channel less secure than what they require. The TLS protocol is secure, in that any cipher suite offers its promised level of security: if you negotiate 3DES with a 1024 bit RSA key exchange with a host whose certificate you have verified, you can expect to be that secure.

However, you should never send data over a link encrypted with 40 bit security unless you feel that data is worth no more than the effort required to break that encryption.

These goals are achieved by the handshake protocol, which can be summarized as follows: The client sends a client hello message to which the server must respond with a server hello message, or else a fatal error will occur and the connection will fail. The client hello and server hello are used to establish security enhancement capabilities between client and server. The client hello and server hello establish the following attributes: Protocol Version, Session ID, Cipher Suite, and Compression Method. Additionally, two random values are generated and exchanged: ClientHello.random and ServerHello.random.

The actual key exchange uses up to four messages: the server certificate, the server key exchange, the client certificate, and the client key exchange. New key exchange methods can be created by specifying a format for these messages and defining the use of the messages to allow the client and server to agree upon a shared secret. This secret should be quite long; currently defined key exchange methods exchange secrets which range from 48 to 128 bytes in length.

Following the hello messages, the server will send its certificate, if it is to be authenticated. Additionally, a server key exchange message may be sent, if it is required (e.g. if their server has no certificate, or if its certificate is for signing only). If the server is authenticated, it may request a certificate from the client, if that is appropriate to the cipher suite selected. Now the server will send the server hello done message, indicating that the hello-message phase of the handshake is complete. The server will then wait for a client response. If the server has sent a certificate request message, the client must send the certificate message. The client key exchange message is now sent, and the content of that message will depend on the public key algorithm selected between the client hello and the server hello. If the client has sent a certificate with signing ability, a digitally-signed certificate verify message is sent to explicitly verify the certificate.

At this point, a change cipher spec message is sent by the client, and the client copies the pending Cipher Spec into the current Cipher Spec. The client then immediately sends the finished message under the new algorithms, keys, and secrets. In response, the server will send its own change cipher spec message, transfer the pending to the current Cipher Spec, and send its finished message under the new

Cipher Spec. At this point, the handshake is complete and the client and server may begin to exchange application layer data. (See flow chart below.)

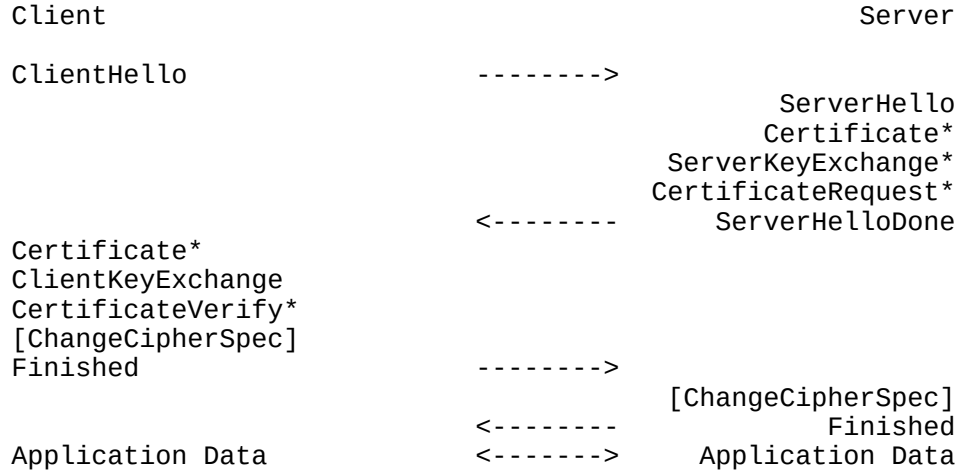


Fig. 1 - Message flow for a full handshake

* Indicates optional or situation-dependent messages that are not always sent.

Note: To help avoid pipeline stalls, ChangeCipherSpec is an independent TLS Protocol content type, and is not actually a TLS handshake message.

When the client and server decide to resume a previous session or duplicate an existing session (instead of negotiating new security parameters) the message flow is as follows:

The client sends a ClientHello using the Session ID of the session to be resumed. The server then checks its session cache for a match. If a match is found, and the server is willing to re-establish the connection under the specified session state, it will send a ServerHello with the same Session ID value. At this point, both client and server must send change cipher spec messages and proceed directly to finished messages. Once the re-establishment is complete, the client and server may begin to exchange application layer data. (See flow chart below.) If a Session ID match is not found, the server generates a new session ID and the TLS client and server perform a full handshake.

```
      Client                                               Server

      ClientHello                  -------->
                                                     ServerHello
                                                [ChangeCipherSpec]
                                   <--------             Finished
      [ChangeCipherSpec]
      Finished                     -------->
      Application Data             <------->     Application Data
```

Fig. 2 - Message flow for an abbreviated handshake

The contents and significance of each message will be presented in detail in the following sections.

7.4. Handshake protocol

The TLS Handshake Protocol is one of the defined higher level clients of the TLS Record Protocol. This protocol is used to negotiate the secure attributes of a session. Handshake messages are supplied to the TLS Record Layer, where they are encapsulated within one or more TLSPlaintext structures, which are processed and transmitted as specified by the current active session state.

```
      enum {
          hello_request(0), client_hello(1), server_hello(2),
          certificate(11), server_key_exchange (12),
          certificate_request(13), server_hello_done(14),
          certificate_verify(15), client_key_exchange(16),
          finished(20), (255)
      } HandshakeType;

      struct {
          HandshakeType msg_type;    /* handshake type */
          uint24 length;             /* bytes in message */
          select (HandshakeType) {
              case hello_request:       HelloRequest;
              case client_hello:        ClientHello;
              case server_hello:        ServerHello;
              case certificate:         Certificate;
              case server_key_exchange: ServerKeyExchange;
              case certificate_request: CertificateRequest;
              case server_hello_done:   ServerHelloDone;
              case certificate_verify:  CertificateVerify;
              case client_key_exchange: ClientKeyExchange;
              case finished:            Finished;
          } body;
      } Handshake;
```

The handshake protocol messages are presented below in the order they must be sent; sending handshake messages in an unexpected order results in a fatal error. Unneeded handshake messages can be omitted, however. Note one exception to the ordering: the Certificate message is used twice in the handshake (from server to client, then from client to server), but described only in its first position. The one message which is not bound by these ordering rules in the Hello Request message, which can be sent at any time, but which should be ignored by the client if it arrives in the middle of a handshake.

7.4.1. Hello messages

The hello phase messages are used to exchange security enhancement capabilities between the client and server. When a new session begins, the Record Layer's connection state encryption, hash, and compression algorithms are initialized to null. The current connection state is used for renegotiation messages.

7.4.1.1. Hello request

When this message will be sent:
The hello request message may be sent by the server at any time.

Meaning of this message:
Hello request is a simple notification that the client should begin the negotiation process anew by sending a client hello message when convenient. This message will be ignored by the client if the client is currently negotiating a session. This message may be ignored by the client if it does not wish to renegotiate a session, or the client may, if it wishes, respond with a no_renegotiation alert. Since handshake messages are intended to have transmission precedence over application data, it is expected that the negotiation will begin before no more than a few records are received from the client. If the server sends a hello request but does not receive a client hello in response, it may close the connection with a fatal alert.

After sending a hello request, servers should not repeat the request until the subsequent handshake negotiation is complete.

Structure of this message:

```
struct { } HelloRequest;
```

Note: This message should never be included in the message hashes which are maintained throughout the handshake and used in the finished messages and the certificate verify message.

7.4.1.2. Client hello

When this message will be sent:

When a client first connects to a server it is required to send the client hello as its first message. The client can also send a client hello in response to a hello request or on its own initiative in order to renegotiate the security parameters in an existing connection.

Structure of this message:

The client hello message includes a random structure, which is used later in the protocol.

```
struct {
   uint32 gmt_unix_time;
   opaque random_bytes[28];
} Random;
```

gmt_unix_time

The current time and date in standard UNIX 32-bit format (seconds since the midnight starting Jan 1, 1970, GMT) according to the sender's internal clock. Clocks are not required to be set correctly by the basic TLS Protocol; higher level or application protocols may define additional requirements.

random_bytes

28 bytes generated by a secure random number generator.

The client hello message includes a variable length session identifier. If not empty, the value identifies a session between the same client and server whose security parameters the client wishes to reuse. The session identifier may be from an earlier connection, this connection, or another currently active connection. The second option is useful if the client only wishes to update the random structures and derived values of a connection, while the third option makes it possible to establish several independent secure connections without repeating the full handshake protocol. These independent connections may occur sequentially or simultaneously; a SessionID becomes valid when the handshake negotiating it completes with the exchange of Finished messages and persists until removed due to aging or because a fatal error was encountered on a connection associated with the session. The actual contents of the SessionID are defined by the server.

```
opaque SessionID<0..32>;
```

Warning:
Because the SessionID is transmitted without encryption or immediate MAC protection, servers must not place confidential information in session identifiers or let the contents of fake session identifiers cause any breach of security. (Note that the content of the handshake as a whole, including the SessionID, is protected by the Finished messages exchanged at the end of the handshake.)

The CipherSuite list, passed from the client to the server in the client hello message, contains the combinations of cryptographic algorithms supported by the client in order of the client's preference (favorite choice first). Each CipherSuite defines a key exchange algorithm, a bulk encryption algorithm (including secret key length) and a MAC algorithm. The server will select a cipher suite or, if no acceptable choices are presented, return a handshake failure alert and close the connection.

```
uint8 CipherSuite[2];    /* Cryptographic suite selector */
```

The client hello includes a list of compression algorithms supported by the client, ordered according to the client's preference.

```
enum { null(0), (255) } CompressionMethod;

struct {
    ProtocolVersion client_version;
    Random random;
    SessionID session_id;
    CipherSuite cipher_suites<2..2^16-1>;
    CompressionMethod compression_methods<1..2^8-1>;
} ClientHello;
```

client_version
The version of the TLS protocol by which the client wishes to communicate during this session. This should be the latest (highest valued) version supported by the client. For this version of the specification, the version will be 3.1 (See Appendix E for details about backward compatibility).

random
A client-generated random structure.

session_id
The ID of a session the client wishes to use for this connection. This field should be empty if no session_id is available or the client wishes to generate new security parameters.

cipher_suites
This is a list of the cryptographic options supported by the client, with the client's first preference first. If the session_id field is not empty (implying a session resumption request) this vector must include at least the cipher_suite from that session. Values are defined in Appendix A.5.

compression_methods
This is a list of the compression methods supported by the client, sorted by client preference. If the session_id field is not empty (implying a session resumption request) it must include the compression_method from that session. This vector must contain, and all implementations must support, CompressionMethod.null. Thus, a client and server will always be able to agree on a compression method.

After sending the client hello message, the client waits for a server hello message. Any other handshake message returned by the server except for a hello request is treated as a fatal error.

Forward compatibility note:
In the interests of forward compatibility, it is permitted for a client hello message to include extra data after the compression methods. This data must be included in the handshake hashes, but must otherwise be ignored. This is the only handshake message for which this is legal; for all other messages, the amount of data in the message must match the description of the message precisely.

7.4.1.3. Server hello

When this message will be sent:
The server will send this message in response to a client hello message when it was able to find an acceptable set of algorithms. If it cannot find such a match, it will respond with a handshake failure alert.

Structure of this message:

```
struct {
    ProtocolVersion server_version;
    Random random;
    SessionID session_id;
    CipherSuite cipher_suite;
    CompressionMethod compression_method;
} ServerHello;
```

server_version
This field will contain the lower of that suggested by the client in the client hello and the highest supported by the server. For this version of the specification, the version is 3.1 (See Appendix E for details about backward compatibility).

random
This structure is generated by the server and must be different from (and independent of) ClientHello.random.

session_id
This is the identity of the session corresponding to this connection. If the ClientHello.session_id was non-empty, the server will look in its session cache for a match. If a match is found and the server is willing to establish the new connection using the specified session state, the server will respond with the same value as was supplied by the client. This indicates a resumed session and dictates that the parties must proceed directly to the finished messages. Otherwise this field will contain a different value identifying the new session. The server may return an empty session_id to indicate that the session will not be cached and therefore cannot be resumed. If a session is resumed, it must be resumed using the same cipher suite it was originally negotiated with.

cipher_suite
The single cipher suite selected by the server from the list in ClientHello.cipher_suites. For resumed sessions this field is the value from the state of the session being resumed.

compression_method
The single compression algorithm selected by the server from the list in ClientHello.compression_methods. For resumed sessions this field is the value from the resumed session state.

7.4.2. Server certificate

When this message will be sent:
The server must send a certificate whenever the agreed-upon key exchange method is not an anonymous one. This message will always immediately follow the server hello message.

Meaning of this message:
The certificate type must be appropriate for the selected cipher suite’s key exchange algorithm, and is generally an X.509v3 certificate. It must contain a key which matches the key exchange method, as follows. Unless otherwise specified, the signing

algorithm for the certificate must be the same as the algorithm for the certificate key. Unless otherwise specified, the public key may be of any length.

Key Exchange Algorithm	Certificate Key Type
RSA	RSA public key; the certificate must allow the key to be used for encryption.
RSA_EXPORT	RSA public key of length greater than 512 bits which can be used for signing, or a key of 512 bits or shorter which can be used for either encryption or signing.
DHE_DSS	DSS public key.
DHE_DSS_EXPORT	DSS public key.
DHE_RSA	RSA public key which can be used for signing.
DHE_RSA_EXPORT	RSA public key which can be used for signing.
DH_DSS	Diffie-Hellman key. The algorithm used to sign the certificate should be DSS.
DH_RSA	Diffie-Hellman key. The algorithm used to sign the certificate should be RSA.

All certificate profiles, key and cryptographic formats are defined by the IETF PKIX working group [PKIX]. When a key usage extension is present, the digitalSignature bit must be set for the key to be eligible for signing, as described above, and the keyEncipherment bit must be present to allow encryption, as described above. The keyAgreement bit must be set on Diffie-Hellman certificates.

As CipherSuites which specify new key exchange methods are specified for the TLS Protocol, they will imply certificate format and the required encoded keying information.

Structure of this message:

```
opaque ASN.1Cert<1..2^24-1>;

struct {
    ASN.1Cert certificate_list<0..2^24-1>;
} Certificate;
```

certificate_list
This is a sequence (chain) of X.509v3 certificates. The sender's certificate must come first in the list. Each following certificate must directly certify the one preceding it. Because certificate validation requires that root keys be distributed independently, the self-signed certificate which specifies the root certificate authority may optionally be omitted from the chain, under the assumption that the remote end must already possess it in order to validate it in any case.

The same message type and structure will be used for the client's response to a certificate request message. Note that a client may send no certificates if it does not have an appropriate certificate to send in response to the server's authentication request.

Note: PKCS #7 [PKCS7] is not used as the format for the certificate vector because PKCS #6 [PKCS6] extended certificates are not used. Also PKCS #7 defines a SET rather than a SEQUENCE, making the task of parsing the list more difficult.

7.4.3. Server key exchange message

When this message will be sent:
This message will be sent immediately after the server certificate message (or the server hello message, if this is an anonymous negotiation).

The server key exchange message is sent by the server only when the server certificate message (if sent) does not contain enough data to allow the client to exchange a premaster secret. This is true for the following key exchange methods:

RSA_EXPORT (if the public key in the server certificate is longer than 512 bits)
DHE_DSS
DHE_DSS_EXPORT
DHE_RSA
DHE_RSA_EXPORT
DH_anon

It is not legal to send the server key exchange message for the following key exchange methods:

RSA
RSA_EXPORT (when the public key in the server certificate is less than or equal to 512 bits in length)
DH_DSS
DH_RSA

Meaning of this message:
This message conveys cryptographic information to allow the client to communicate the premaster secret: either an RSA public key to encrypt the premaster secret with, or a Diffie-Hellman public key with which the client can complete a key exchange (with the result being the premaster secret.)

As additional CipherSuites are defined for TLS which include new key exchange algorithms, the server key exchange message will be sent if and only if the certificate type associated with the key exchange algorithm does not provide enough information for the client to exchange a premaster secret.

Note: According to current US export law, RSA moduli larger than 512 bits may not be used for key exchange in software exported from the US. With this message, the larger RSA keys encoded in certificates may be used to sign temporary shorter RSA keys for the RSA_EXPORT key exchange method.

Structure of this message:

```
enum { rsa, diffie_hellman } KeyExchangeAlgorithm;

struct {
    opaque rsa_modulus<1..2^16-1>;
    opaque rsa_exponent<1..2^16-1>;
} ServerRSAParams;
```

rsa_modulus
The modulus of the server’s temporary RSA key.

rsa_exponent
The public exponent of the server’s temporary RSA key.

```
struct {
    opaque dh_p<1..2^16-1>;
    opaque dh_g<1..2^16-1>;
    opaque dh_Ys<1..2^16-1>;
} ServerDHParams;     /* Ephemeral DH parameters */
```

dh_p
The prime modulus used for the Diffie-Hellman operation.

dh_g
The generator used for the Diffie-Hellman operation.

dh_Ys
The server’s Diffie-Hellman public value (g^X mod p).

```
struct {
    select (KeyExchangeAlgorithm) {
        case diffie_hellman:
            ServerDHParams params;
            Signature signed_params;
        case rsa:
            ServerRSAParams params;
            Signature signed_params;
    };
} ServerKeyExchange;
```

params
The server's key exchange parameters.

signed_params
For non-anonymous key exchanges, a hash of the corresponding params value, with the signature appropriate to that hash applied.

```
md5_hash
    MD5(ClientHello.random + ServerHello.random + ServerParams);

sha_hash
    SHA(ClientHello.random + ServerHello.random + ServerParams);

enum { anonymous, rsa, dsa } SignatureAlgorithm;

select (SignatureAlgorithm)
{   case anonymous: struct { };
    case rsa:
        digitally-signed struct {
            opaque md5_hash[16];
            opaque sha_hash[20];
        };
    case dsa:
        digitally-signed struct {
            opaque sha_hash[20];
        };
} Signature;
```

7.4.4. Certificate request

When this message will be sent:
A non-anonymous server can optionally request a certificate from the client, if appropriate for the selected cipher suite. This message, if sent, will immediately follow the Server Key Exchange message (if it is sent; otherwise, the Server Certificate message).

Structure of this message:

```
enum {
    rsa_sign(1), dss_sign(2), rsa_fixed_dh(3), dss_fixed_dh(4),
    (255)
} ClientCertificateType;

opaque DistinguishedName<1..2^16-1>;

struct {
    ClientCertificateType certificate_types<1..2^8-1>;
    DistinguishedName certificate_authorities<3..2^16-1>;
} CertificateRequest;
```

certificate_types
: This field is a list of the types of certificates requested, sorted in order of the server's preference.

certificate_authorities
: A list of the distinguished names of acceptable certificate authorities. These distinguished names may specify a desired distinguished name for a root CA or for a subordinate CA; thus, this message can be used both to describe known roots and a desired authorization space.

Note: DistinguishedName is derived from [X509].

Note: It is a fatal handshake_failure alert for an anonymous server to request client identification.

7.4.5. Server hello done

When this message will be sent:

The server hello done message is sent by the server to indicate the end of the server hello and associated messages. After sending this message the server will wait for a client response.

Meaning of this message:

This message means that the server is done sending messages to support the key exchange, and the client can proceed with its phase of the key exchange.

Upon receipt of the server hello done message the client should verify that the server provided a valid certificate if required and check that the server hello parameters are acceptable.

Structure of this message:

```
struct { } ServerHelloDone;
```

7.4.6. Client certificate

When this message will be sent:
This is the first message the client can send after receiving a server hello done message. This message is only sent if the server requests a certificate. If no suitable certificate is available, the client should send a certificate message containing no certificates. If client authentication is required by the server for the handshake to continue, it may respond with a fatal handshake failure alert. Client certificates are sent using the Certificate structure defined in Section 7.4.2.

Note: When using a static Diffie-Hellman based key exchange method (DH_DSS or DH_RSA), if client authentication is requested, the Diffie-Hellman group and generator encoded in the client's certificate must match the server specified Diffie-Hellman parameters if the client's parameters are to be used for the key exchange.

7.4.7. Client key exchange message

When this message will be sent:
This message is always sent by the client. It will immediately follow the client certificate message, if it is sent. Otherwise it will be the first message sent by the client after it receives the server hello done message.

Meaning of this message:
With this message, the premaster secret is set, either though direct transmission of the RSA-encrypted secret, or by the transmission of Diffie-Hellman parameters which will allow each side to agree upon the same premaster secret. When the key exchange method is DH_RSA or DH_DSS, client certification has been requested, and the client was able to respond with a certificate which contained a Diffie-Hellman public key whose parameters (group and generator) matched those specified by the server in its certificate, this message will not contain any data.

Structure of this message:
The choice of messages depends on which key exchange method has been selected. See Section 7.4.3 for the KeyExchangeAlgorithm definition.

```
struct {
    select (KeyExchangeAlgorithm) {
        case rsa: EncryptedPreMasterSecret;
        case diffie_hellman: ClientDiffieHellmanPublic;
```

```
        } exchange_keys;
    } ClientKeyExchange;
```

7.4.7.1. RSA encrypted premaster secret message

Meaning of this message:

If RSA is being used for key agreement and authentication, the client generates a 48-byte premaster secret, encrypts it using the public key from the server's certificate or the temporary RSA key provided in a server key exchange message, and sends the result in an encrypted premaster secret message. This structure is a variant of the client key exchange message, not a message in itself.

Structure of this message:

```
struct {
    ProtocolVersion client_version;
    opaque random[46];
} PreMasterSecret;
```

client_version

The latest (newest) version supported by the client. This is used to detect version roll-back attacks. Upon receiving the premaster secret, the server should check that this value matches the value transmitted by the client in the client hello message.

random

46 securely-generated random bytes.

```
struct {
    public-key-encrypted PreMasterSecret pre_master_secret;
} EncryptedPreMasterSecret;
```

Note: An attack discovered by Daniel Bleichenbacher [BLEI] can be used to attack a TLS server which is using PKCS#1 encoded RSA. The attack takes advantage of the fact that by failing in different ways, a TLS server can be coerced into revealing whether a particular message, when decrypted, is properly PKCS#1 formatted or not.

The best way to avoid vulnerability to this attack is to treat incorrectly formatted messages in a manner indistinguishable from correctly formatted RSA blocks. Thus, when it receives an incorrectly formatted RSA block, a server should generate a random 48-byte value and proceed using it as the premaster secret. Thus, the server will act identically whether the received RSA block is correctly encoded or not.

pre_master_secret
This random value is generated by the client and is used to generate the master secret, as specified in Section 8.1.

7.4.7.2. Client Diffie-Hellman public value

Meaning of this message:
This structure conveys the client's Diffie-Hellman public value (Yc) if it was not already included in the client's certificate. The encoding used for Yc is determined by the enumerated PublicValueEncoding. This structure is a variant of the client key exchange message, not a message in itself.

Structure of this message:

```
enum { implicit, explicit } PublicValueEncoding;
```

implicit
If the client certificate already contains a suitable Diffie-Hellman key, then Yc is implicit and does not need to be sent again. In this case, the Client Key Exchange message will be sent, but will be empty.

explicit
Yc needs to be sent.

```
struct {
    select (PublicValueEncoding) {
        case implicit: struct { };
        case explicit: opaque dh_Yc<1..2^16-1>;
    } dh_public;
} ClientDiffieHellmanPublic;
```

dh_Yc
The client's Diffie-Hellman public value (Yc).

7.4.8. Certificate verify

When this message will be sent:
This message is used to provide explicit verification of a client certificate. This message is only sent following a client certificate that has signing capability (i.e. all certificates except those containing fixed Diffie-Hellman parameters). When sent, it will immediately follow the client key exchange message.

Structure of this message:

```
struct {
     Signature signature;
} CertificateVerify;
```

The Signature type is defined in 7.4.3.

CertificateVerify.signature.md5_hash
MD5(handshake_messages);

Certificate.signature.sha_hash
SHA(handshake_messages);

Here handshake_messages refers to all handshake messages sent or received starting at client hello up to but not including this message, including the type and length fields of the handshake messages. This is the concatenation of all the Handshake structures as defined in 7.4 exchanged thus far.

7.4.9. Finished

When this message will be sent:
A finished message is always sent immediately after a change cipher spec message to verify that the key exchange and authentication processes were successful. It is essential that a change cipher spec message be received between the other handshake messages and the Finished message.

Meaning of this message:
The finished message is the first protected with the just-negotiated algorithms, keys, and secrets. Recipients of finished messages must verify that the contents are correct. Once a side has sent its Finished message and received and validated the Finished message from its peer, it may begin to send and receive application data over the connection.

```
struct {
    opaque verify_data[12];
} Finished;
```

verify_data
PRF(master_secret, finished_label, MD5(handshake_messages) + SHA-1(handshake_messages)) [0..11];

finished_label
For Finished messages sent by the client, the string "client finished". For Finished messages sent by the server, the string "server finished".

handshake_messages
All of the data from all handshake messages up to but not including this message. This is only data visible at the handshake layer and does not include record layer headers.

This is the concatenation of all the Handshake structures as defined in 7.4 exchanged thus far.

It is a fatal error if a finished message is not preceded by a change cipher spec message at the appropriate point in the handshake.

The hash contained in finished messages sent by the server incorporate Sender.server; those sent by the client incorporate Sender.client. The value handshake_messages includes all handshake messages starting at client hello up to, but not including, this finished message. This may be different from handshake_messages in Section 7.4.8 because it would include the certificate verify message (if sent). Also, the handshake_messages for the finished message sent by the client will be different from that for the finished message sent by the server, because the one which is sent second will include the prior one.

Note: Change cipher spec messages, alerts and any other record types are not handshake messages and are not included in the hash computations. Also, Hello Request messages are omitted from handshake hashes.

8. Cryptographic computations

In order to begin connection protection, the TLS Record Protocol requires specification of a suite of algorithms, a master secret, and the client and server random values. The authentication, encryption, and MAC algorithms are determined by the cipher_suite selected by the server and revealed in the server hello message. The compression algorithm is negotiated in the hello messages, and the random values are exchanged in the hello messages. All that remains is to calculate the master secret.

8.1. Computing the master secret

For all key exchange methods, the same algorithm is used to convert the pre_master_secret into the master_secret. The pre_master_secret should be deleted from memory once the master_secret has been computed.

```
master_secret = PRF(pre_master_secret, "master secret",
                    ClientHello.random + ServerHello.random)
[0..47];
```

The master secret is always exactly 48 bytes in length. The length of the premaster secret will vary depending on key exchange method.

8.1.1. RSA

When RSA is used for server authentication and key exchange, a 48-byte pre_master_secret is generated by the client, encrypted under the server's public key, and sent to the server. The server uses its private key to decrypt the pre_master_secret. Both parties then convert the pre_master_secret into the master_secret, as specified above.

RSA digital signatures are performed using PKCS #1 [PKCS1] block type 1. RSA public key encryption is performed using PKCS #1 block type 2.

8.1.2. Diffie-Hellman

A conventional Diffie-Hellman computation is performed. The negotiated key (Z) is used as the pre_master_secret, and is converted into the master_secret, as specified above.

Note: Diffie-Hellman parameters are specified by the server, and may be either ephemeral or contained within the server's certificate.

9. Mandatory Cipher Suites

In the absence of an application profile standard specifying otherwise, a TLS compliant application MUST implement the cipher suite TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA.

10. Application data protocol

Application data messages are carried by the Record Layer and are fragmented, compressed and encrypted based on the current connection state. The messages are treated as transparent data to the record layer.

A. Protocol constant values

This section describes protocol types and constants.

A.1. Record layer

```
    struct {
        uint8 major, minor;
    } ProtocolVersion;

    ProtocolVersion version = { 3, 1 };     /* TLS v1.0 */

    enum {
        change_cipher_spec(20), alert(21), handshake(22),
        application_data(23), (255)
    } ContentType;

    struct {
        ContentType type;
        ProtocolVersion version;
        uint16 length;
        opaque fragment[TLSPlaintext.length];
    } TLSPlaintext;

    struct {
        ContentType type;
        ProtocolVersion version;
        uint16 length;
        opaque fragment[TLSCompressed.length];
    } TLSCompressed;

    struct {
        ContentType type;
        ProtocolVersion version;
        uint16 length;
        select (CipherSpec.cipher_type) {
            case stream: GenericStreamCipher;
            case block:  GenericBlockCipher;
        } fragment;
    } TLSCiphertext;

    stream-ciphered struct {
        opaque content[TLSCompressed.length];
        opaque MAC[CipherSpec.hash_size];
    } GenericStreamCipher;

    block-ciphered struct {
        opaque content[TLSCompressed.length];
```

```
        opaque MAC[CipherSpec.hash_size];
        uint8 padding[GenericBlockCipher.padding_length];
        uint8 padding_length;
    } GenericBlockCipher;
```

A.2. Change cipher specs message

```
    struct {
        enum { change_cipher_spec(1), (255) } type;
    } ChangeCipherSpec;
```

A.3. Alert messages

```
    enum { warning(1), fatal(2), (255) } AlertLevel;

        enum {
            close_notify(0),
            unexpected_message(10),
            bad_record_mac(20),
            decryption_failed(21),
            record_overflow(22),
            decompression_failure(30),
            handshake_failure(40),
            bad_certificate(42),
            unsupported_certificate(43),
            certificate_revoked(44),
            certificate_expired(45),
            certificate_unknown(46),
            illegal_parameter(47),
            unknown_ca(48),
            access_denied(49),
            decode_error(50),
            decrypt_error(51),
            export_restriction(60),
            protocol_version(70),
            insufficient_security(71),
            internal_error(80),
            user_canceled(90),
            no_renegotiation(100),
            (255)
        } AlertDescription;

    struct {
        AlertLevel level;
        AlertDescription description;
    } Alert;
```

A.4. Handshake protocol

```
    enum {
        hello_request(0), client_hello(1), server_hello(2),
        certificate(11), server_key_exchange (12),
        certificate_request(13), server_hello_done(14),
        certificate_verify(15), client_key_exchange(16),
        finished(20), (255)
    } HandshakeType;

    struct {
        HandshakeType msg_type;
        uint24 length;
        select (HandshakeType) {
            case hello_request:       HelloRequest;
            case client_hello:        ClientHello;
            case server_hello:        ServerHello;
            case certificate:         Certificate;
            case server_key_exchange: ServerKeyExchange;
            case certificate_request: CertificateRequest;
            case server_hello_done:   ServerHelloDone;
            case certificate_verify:  CertificateVerify;
            case client_key_exchange: ClientKeyExchange;
            case finished:            Finished;
        } body;
    } Handshake;
```

A.4.1. Hello messages

```
    struct { } HelloRequest;

    struct {
        uint32 gmt_unix_time;
        opaque random_bytes[28];
    } Random;

    opaque SessionID<0..32>;

    uint8 CipherSuite[2];

    enum { null(0), (255) } CompressionMethod;

    struct {
        ProtocolVersion client_version;
        Random random;
        SessionID session_id;
        CipherSuite cipher_suites<2..2^16-1>;
        CompressionMethod compression_methods<1..2^8-1>;
```

```
    } ClientHello;

    struct {
        ProtocolVersion server_version;
        Random random;
        SessionID session_id;
        CipherSuite cipher_suite;
        CompressionMethod compression_method;
    } ServerHello;
```

A.4.2. Server authentication and key exchange messages

```
    opaque ASN.1Cert<2^24-1>;

    struct {
        ASN.1Cert certificate_list<1..2^24-1>;
    } Certificate;

    enum { rsa, diffie_hellman } KeyExchangeAlgorithm;

    struct {
        opaque RSA_modulus<1..2^16-1>;
        opaque RSA_exponent<1..2^16-1>;
    } ServerRSAParams;

    struct {
        opaque DH_p<1..2^16-1>;
        opaque DH_g<1..2^16-1>;
        opaque DH_Ys<1..2^16-1>;
    } ServerDHParams;

    struct {
        select (KeyExchangeAlgorithm) {
            case diffie_hellman:
                ServerDHParams params;
                Signature signed_params;
            case rsa:
                ServerRSAParams params;
                Signature signed_params;
        };
    } ServerKeyExchange;

    enum { anonymous, rsa, dsa } SignatureAlgorithm;

    select (SignatureAlgorithm)
    {   case anonymous: struct { };
        case rsa:
            digitally-signed struct {
```

```
                opaque md5_hash[16];
                opaque sha_hash[20];
            };
        case dsa:
            digitally-signed struct {
                opaque sha_hash[20];
            };
    } Signature;

    enum {
        rsa_sign(1), dss_sign(2), rsa_fixed_dh(3), dss_fixed_dh(4),
        (255)
    } ClientCertificateType;

    opaque DistinguishedName<1..2^16-1>;

    struct {
        ClientCertificateType certificate_types<1..2^8-1>;
        DistinguishedName certificate_authorities<3..2^16-1>;
    } CertificateRequest;

    struct { } ServerHelloDone;
```

A.4.3. Client authentication and key exchange messages

```
    struct {
        select (KeyExchangeAlgorithm) {
            case rsa: EncryptedPreMasterSecret;
            case diffie_hellman: DiffieHellmanClientPublicValue;
        } exchange_keys;
    } ClientKeyExchange;

    struct {
        ProtocolVersion client_version;
        opaque random[46];

    } PreMasterSecret;

    struct {
        public-key-encrypted PreMasterSecret pre_master_secret;
    } EncryptedPreMasterSecret;

    enum { implicit, explicit } PublicValueEncoding;

    struct {
        select (PublicValueEncoding) {
            case implicit: struct {};
            case explicit: opaque DH_Yc<1..2^16-1>;
```

```
        } dh_public;
    } ClientDiffieHellmanPublic;

    struct {
        Signature signature;
    } CertificateVerify;
```

A.4.4. Handshake finalization message

```
    struct {
        opaque verify_data[12];
    } Finished;
```

A.5. The CipherSuite

The following values define the CipherSuite codes used in the client hello and server hello messages.

A CipherSuite defines a cipher specification supported in TLS Version 1.0.

TLS_NULL_WITH_NULL_NULL is specified and is the initial state of a TLS connection during the first handshake on that channel, but must not be negotiated, as it provides no more protection than an unsecured connection.

```
 CipherSuite TLS_NULL_WITH_NULL_NULL                = { 0x00,0x00 };
```

The following CipherSuite definitions require that the server provide an RSA certificate that can be used for key exchange. The server may request either an RSA or a DSS signature-capable certificate in the certificate request message.

```
 CipherSuite TLS_RSA_WITH_NULL_MD5                  = { 0x00,0x01 };
 CipherSuite TLS_RSA_WITH_NULL_SHA                  = { 0x00,0x02 };
 CipherSuite TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_RC4_40_MD5         = { 0x00,0x03 };
 CipherSuite TLS_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_MD5               = { 0x00,0x04 };
 CipherSuite TLS_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA               = { 0x00,0x05 };
 CipherSuite TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_RC2_CBC_40_MD5     = { 0x00,0x06 };
 CipherSuite TLS_RSA_WITH_IDEA_CBC_SHA              = { 0x00,0x07 };
 CipherSuite TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA      = { 0x00,0x08 };
 CipherSuite TLS_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA               = { 0x00,0x09 };
 CipherSuite TLS_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA          = { 0x00,0x0A };
```

The following CipherSuite definitions are used for server-authenticated (and optionally client-authenticated) Diffie-Hellman. DH denotes cipher suites in which the server’s certificate contains the Diffie-Hellman parameters signed by the certificate authority

(CA). DHE denotes ephemeral Diffie-Hellman, where the Diffie-Hellman parameters are signed by a DSS or RSA certificate, which has been signed by the CA. The signing algorithm used is specified after the DH or DHE parameter. The server can request an RSA or DSS signature-capable certificate from the client for client authentication or it may request a Diffie-Hellman certificate. Any Diffie-Hellman certificate provided by the client must use the parameters (group and generator) described by the server.

```
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_DSS_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA   = { 0x00,0x0B };
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_DSS_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA            = { 0x00,0x0C };
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_DSS_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA       = { 0x00,0x0D };
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA   = { 0x00,0x0E };
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA            = { 0x00,0x0F };
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA       = { 0x00,0x10 };
 CipherSuite TLS_DHE_DSS_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA  = { 0x00,0x11 };
 CipherSuite TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA           = { 0x00,0x12 };
 CipherSuite TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA      = { 0x00,0x13 };
 CipherSuite TLS_DHE_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA  = { 0x00,0x14 };
 CipherSuite TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA           = { 0x00,0x15 };
 CipherSuite TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA      = { 0x00,0x16 };
```

The following cipher suites are used for completely anonymous Diffie-Hellman communications in which neither party is authenticated. Note that this mode is vulnerable to man-in-the-middle attacks and is therefore deprecated.

```
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_anon_EXPORT_WITH_RC4_40_MD5     = { 0x00,0x17 };
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_anon_WITH_RC4_128_MD5           = { 0x00,0x18 };
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_anon_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA  = { 0x00,0x19 };
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_anon_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA           = { 0x00,0x1A };
 CipherSuite TLS_DH_anon_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA      = { 0x00,0x1B };
```

Note: All cipher suites whose first byte is 0xFF are considered private and can be used for defining local/experimental algorithms. Interoperability of such types is a local matter.

Note: Additional cipher suites can be registered by publishing an RFC which specifies the cipher suites, including the necessary TLS protocol information, including message encoding, premaster secret derivation, symmetric encryption and MAC calculation and appropriate reference information for the algorithms involved. The RFC editor's office may, at its discretion, choose to publish specifications for cipher suites which are not completely described (e.g., for classified algorithms) if it finds the specification to be of technical interest and completely specified.

Note: The cipher suite values { 0x00, 0x1C } and { 0x00, 0x1D } are reserved to avoid collision with Fortezza-based cipher suites in SSL 3.

A.6. The Security Parameters

These security parameters are determined by the TLS Handshake Protocol and provided as parameters to the TLS Record Layer in order to initialize a connection state. SecurityParameters includes:

```
enum { null(0), (255) } CompressionMethod;

enum { server, client } ConnectionEnd;

enum { null, rc4, rc2, des, 3des, des40, idea }
BulkCipherAlgorithm;

enum { stream, block } CipherType;

enum { true, false } IsExportable;

enum { null, md5, sha } MACAlgorithm;

/* The algorithms specified in CompressionMethod,
BulkCipherAlgorithm, and MACAlgorithm may be added to. */

struct {
    ConnectionEnd entity;
    BulkCipherAlgorithm bulk_cipher_algorithm;
    CipherType cipher_type;
    uint8 key_size;
    uint8 key_material_length;
    IsExportable is_exportable;
    MACAlgorithm mac_algorithm;
    uint8 hash_size;
    CompressionMethod compression_algorithm;
    opaque master_secret[48];
    opaque client_random[32];
    opaque server_random[32];
} SecurityParameters;
```

B. Glossary

application protocol
: An application protocol is a protocol that normally layers directly on top of the transport layer (e.g., TCP/IP). Examples include HTTP, TELNET, FTP, and SMTP.

asymmetric cipher
: See public key cryptography.

authentication
: Authentication is the ability of one entity to determine the identity of another entity.

block cipher
: A block cipher is an algorithm that operates on plaintext in groups of bits, called blocks. 64 bits is a common block size.

bulk cipher
: A symmetric encryption algorithm used to encrypt large quantities of data.

cipher block chaining (CBC)
: CBC is a mode in which every plaintext block encrypted with a block cipher is first exclusive-ORed with the previous ciphertext block (or, in the case of the first block, with the initialization vector). For decryption, every block is first decrypted, then exclusive-ORed with the previous ciphertext block (or IV).

certificate
: As part of the X.509 protocol (a.k.a. ISO Authentication framework), certificates are assigned by a trusted Certificate Authority and provide a strong binding between a party’s identity or some other attributes and its public key.

client
: The application entity that initiates a TLS connection to a server. This may or may not imply that the client initiated the underlying transport connection. The primary operational difference between the server and client is that the server is generally authenticated, while the client is only optionally authenticated.

client write key
: The key used to encrypt data written by the client.

client write MAC secret
: The secret data used to authenticate data written by the client.

connection
: A connection is a transport (in the OSI layering model definition) that provides a suitable type of service. For TLS, such connections are peer to peer relationships. The connections are transient. Every connection is associated with one session.

Data Encryption Standard
: DES is a very widely used symmetric encryption algorithm. DES is a block cipher with a 56 bit key and an 8 byte block size. Note that in TLS, for key generation purposes, DES is treated as having an 8 byte key length (64 bits), but it still only provides 56 bits of protection. (The low bit of each key byte is presumed to be set to produce odd parity in that key byte.) DES can also be operated in a mode where three independent keys and three encryptions are used for each block of data; this uses 168 bits of key (24 bytes in the TLS key generation method) and provides the equivalent of 112 bits of security. [DES], [3DES]

Digital Signature Standard (DSS)
: A standard for digital signing, including the Digital Signing Algorithm, approved by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, defined in NIST FIPS PUB 186, "Digital Signature Standard," published May, 1994 by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce. [DSS]

digital signatures
: Digital signatures utilize public key cryptography and one-way hash functions to produce a signature of the data that can be authenticated, and is difficult to forge or repudiate.

handshake
: An initial negotiation between client and server that establishes the parameters of their transactions.

Initialization Vector (IV)
: When a block cipher is used in CBC mode, the initialization vector is exclusive-ORed with the first plaintext block prior to encryption.

IDEA
: A 64-bit block cipher designed by Xuejia Lai and James Massey. [IDEA]

Message Authentication Code (MAC)
: A Message Authentication Code is a one-way hash computed from a message and some secret data. It is difficult to forge without knowing the secret data. Its purpose is to detect if the message has been altered.

master secret
: Secure secret data used for generating encryption keys, MAC secrets, and IVs.

MD5
: MD5 is a secure hashing function that converts an arbitrarily long data stream into a digest of fixed size (16 bytes). [MD5]

public key cryptography
: A class of cryptographic techniques employing two-key ciphers. Messages encrypted with the public key can only be decrypted with the associated private key. Conversely, messages signed with the private key can be verified with the public key.

one-way hash function
: A one-way transformation that converts an arbitrary amount of data into a fixed-length hash. It is computationally hard to reverse the transformation or to find collisions. MD5 and SHA are examples of one-way hash functions.

RC2
: A block cipher developed by Ron Rivest at RSA Data Security, Inc. [RSADSI] described in [RC2].

RC4
: A stream cipher licensed by RSA Data Security [RSADSI]. A compatible cipher is described in [RC4].

RSA
: A very widely used public-key algorithm that can be used for either encryption or digital signing. [RSA]

salt
: Non-secret random data used to make export encryption keys resist precomputation attacks.

server
: The server is the application entity that responds to requests for connections from clients. See also under client.

session
: A TLS session is an association between a client and a server. Sessions are created by the handshake protocol. Sessions define a set of cryptographic security parameters, which can be shared among multiple connections. Sessions are used to avoid the expensive negotiation of new security parameters for each connection.

session identifier
: A session identifier is a value generated by a server that identifies a particular session.

server write key
: The key used to encrypt data written by the server.

server write MAC secret
: The secret data used to authenticate data written by the server.

SHA
: The Secure Hash Algorithm is defined in FIPS PUB 180-1. It produces a 20-byte output. Note that all references to SHA actually use the modified SHA-1 algorithm. [SHA]

SSL
: Netscape’s Secure Socket Layer protocol [SSL3]. TLS is based on SSL Version 3.0

stream cipher
: An encryption algorithm that converts a key into a cryptographically-strong keystream, which is then exclusive-ORed with the plaintext.

symmetric cipher
: See bulk cipher.

Transport Layer Security (TLS)
: This protocol; also, the Transport Layer Security working group of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF). See "Comments" at the end of this document.

C. CipherSuite definitions

CipherSuite	Is Exportable	Key Exchange	Cipher	Hash
TLS_NULL_WITH_NULL_NULL	*	NULL	NULL	NULL
TLS_RSA_WITH_NULL_MD5	*	RSA	NULL	MD5
TLS_RSA_WITH_NULL_SHA	*	RSA	NULL	SHA
TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_RC4_40_MD5	*	RSA_EXPORT	RC4_40	MD5
TLS_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_MD5		RSA	RC4_128	MD5
TLS_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA		RSA	RC4_128	SHA
TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_RC2_CBC_40_MD5	*	RSA_EXPORT	RC2_CBC_40	MD5
TLS_RSA_WITH_IDEA_CBC_SHA		RSA	IDEA_CBC	SHA
TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	*	RSA_EXPORT	DES40_CBC	SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA		RSA	DES_CBC	SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA		RSA	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA
TLS_DH_DSS_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	*	DH_DSS_EXPORT	DES40_CBC	SHA
TLS_DH_DSS_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA		DH_DSS	DES_CBC	SHA
TLS_DH_DSS_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA		DH_DSS	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA
TLS_DH_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	*	DH_RSA_EXPORT	DES40_CBC	SHA
TLS_DH_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA		DH_RSA	DES_CBC	SHA
TLS_DH_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA		DH_RSA	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA
TLS_DHE_DSS_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	*	DHE_DSS_EXPORT	DES40_CBC	SHA
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA		DHE_DSS	DES_CBC	SHA
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA		DHE_DSS	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA
TLS_DHE_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	*	DHE_RSA_EXPORT	DES40_CBC	SHA
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA		DHE_RSA	DES_CBC	SHA
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA		DHE_RSA	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA
TLS_DH_anon_EXPORT_WITH_RC4_40_MD5	*	DH_anon_EXPORT	RC4_40	MD5
TLS_DH_anon_WITH_RC4_128_MD5		DH_anon	RC4_128	MD5
TLS_DH_anon_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA		DH_anon	DES40_CBC	SHA
TLS_DH_anon_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA		DH_anon	DES_CBC	SHA
TLS_DH_anon_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA		DH_anon	3DES_EDE_CBC	SHA

* Indicates IsExportable is True

Key Exchange Algorithm	Description	Key size limit
DHE_DSS	Ephemeral DH with DSS signatures	None
DHE_DSS_EXPORT	Ephemeral DH with DSS signatures	DH = 512 bits
DHE_RSA	Ephemeral DH with RSA signatures	None
DHE_RSA_EXPORT	Ephemeral DH with RSA signatures	DH = 512 bits, RSA = none
DH_anon	Anonymous DH, no signatures	None
DH_anon_EXPORT	Anonymous DH, no signatures	DH = 512 bits

DH_DSS	DH with DSS-based certificates	None
DH_DSS_EXPORT	DH with DSS-based certificates	DH = 512 bits
DH_RSA	DH with RSA-based certificates	None
DH_RSA_EXPORT	DH with RSA-based certificates	DH = 512 bits, RSA = none
NULL	No key exchange	N/A
RSA	RSA key exchange	None
RSA_EXPORT	RSA key exchange	RSA = 512 bits

Key size limit
The key size limit gives the size of the largest public key that can be legally used for encryption in cipher suites that are exportable.

Cipher		Type	Key Material	Expanded Key Material	Effective Key Bits	IV Size	Block Size
NULL	*	Stream	0	0	0	0	N/A
IDEA_CBC		Block	16	16	128	8	8
RC2_CBC_40	*	Block	5	16	40	8	8
RC4_40	*	Stream	5	16	40	0	N/A
RC4_128		Stream	16	16	128	0	N/A
DES40_CBC	*	Block	5	8	40	8	8
DES_CBC		Block	8	8	56	8	8
3DES_EDE_CBC		Block	24	24	168	8	8

* Indicates IsExportable is true.

Type
Indicates whether this is a stream cipher or a block cipher running in CBC mode.

Key Material
The number of bytes from the key_block that are used for generating the write keys.

Expanded Key Material
The number of bytes actually fed into the encryption algorithm

Effective Key Bits
How much entropy material is in the key material being fed into the encryption routines.

IV Size
How much data needs to be generated for the initialization vector. Zero for stream ciphers; equal to the block size for block ciphers.

Block Size
The amount of data a block cipher enciphers in one chunk; a block cipher running in CBC mode can only encrypt an even multiple of its block size.

Hash function	Hash Size	Padding Size
NULL	0	0
MD5	16	48
SHA	20	40

D. Implementation Notes

The TLS protocol cannot prevent many common security mistakes. This section provides several recommendations to assist implementors.

D.1. Temporary RSA keys

US Export restrictions limit RSA keys used for encryption to 512 bits, but do not place any limit on lengths of RSA keys used for signing operations. Certificates often need to be larger than 512 bits, since 512-bit RSA keys are not secure enough for high-value transactions or for applications requiring long-term security. Some certificates are also designated signing-only, in which case they cannot be used for key exchange.

When the public key in the certificate cannot be used for encryption, the server signs a temporary RSA key, which is then exchanged. In exportable applications, the temporary RSA key should be the maximum allowable length (i.e., 512 bits). Because 512-bit RSA keys are relatively insecure, they should be changed often. For typical electronic commerce applications, it is suggested that keys be changed daily or every 500 transactions, and more often if possible. Note that while it is acceptable to use the same temporary key for multiple transactions, it must be signed each time it is used.

RSA key generation is a time-consuming process. In many cases, a low-priority process can be assigned the task of key generation.

Whenever a new key is completed, the existing temporary key can be replaced with the new one.

D.2. Random Number Generation and Seeding

TLS requires a cryptographically-secure pseudorandom number generator (PRNG). Care must be taken in designing and seeding PRNGs. PRNGs based on secure hash operations, most notably MD5 and/or SHA, are acceptable, but cannot provide more security than the size of the random number generator state. (For example, MD5-based PRNGs usually provide 128 bits of state.)

To estimate the amount of seed material being produced, add the number of bits of unpredictable information in each seed byte. For example, keystroke timing values taken from a PC compatible’s 18.2 Hz timer provide 1 or 2 secure bits each, even though the total size of the counter value is 16 bits or more. To seed a 128-bit PRNG, one would thus require approximately 100 such timer values.

Warning: The seeding functions in RSAREF and versions of BSAFE prior to 3.0 are order-independent. For example, if 1000 seed bits are supplied, one at a time, in 1000 separate calls to the seed function, the PRNG will end up in a state which depends only on the number of 0 or 1 seed bits in the seed data (i.e., there are 1001 possible final states). Applications using BSAFE or RSAREF must take extra care to ensure proper seeding. This may be accomplished by accumulating seed bits into a buffer and processing them all at once or by processing an incrementing counter with every seed bit; either method will reintroduce order dependence into the seeding process.

D.3. Certificates and authentication

Implementations are responsible for verifying the integrity of certificates and should generally support certificate revocation messages. Certificates should always be verified to ensure proper signing by a trusted Certificate Authority (CA). The selection and addition of trusted CAs should be done very carefully. Users should be able to view information about the certificate and root CA.

D.4. CipherSuites

TLS supports a range of key sizes and security levels, including some which provide no or minimal security. A proper implementation will probably not support many cipher suites. For example, 40-bit encryption is easily broken, so implementations requiring strong security should not allow 40-bit keys. Similarly, anonymous Diffie-Hellman is strongly discouraged because it cannot prevent man-in-the-middle attacks. Applications should also enforce minimum and maximum key sizes. For example, certificate chains containing 512-bit RSA keys or signatures are not appropriate for high-security applications.

E. Backward Compatibility With SSL

For historical reasons and in order to avoid a profligate consumption of reserved port numbers, application protocols which are secured by TLS 1.0, SSL 3.0, and SSL 2.0 all frequently share the same connection port: for example, the https protocol (HTTP secured by SSL or TLS) uses port 443 regardless of which security protocol it is using. Thus, some mechanism must be determined to distinguish and negotiate among the various protocols.

TLS version 1.0 and SSL 3.0 are very similar; thus, supporting both is easy. TLS clients who wish to negotiate with SSL 3.0 servers should send client hello messages using the SSL 3.0 record format and client hello structure, sending {3, 1} for the version field to note that they support TLS 1.0. If the server supports only SSL 3.0, it will respond with an SSL 3.0 server hello; if it supports TLS, with a TLS server hello. The negotiation then proceeds as appropriate for the negotiated protocol.

Similarly, a TLS server which wishes to interoperate with SSL 3.0 clients should accept SSL 3.0 client hello messages and respond with an SSL 3.0 server hello if an SSL 3.0 client hello is received which has a version field of {3, 0}, denoting that this client does not support TLS.

Whenever a client already knows the highest protocol known to a server (for example, when resuming a session), it should initiate the connection in that native protocol.

TLS 1.0 clients that support SSL Version 2.0 servers must send SSL Version 2.0 client hello messages [SSL2]. TLS servers should accept either client hello format if they wish to support SSL 2.0 clients on the same connection port. The only deviations from the Version 2.0 specification are the ability to specify a version with a value of three and the support for more ciphering types in the CipherSpec.

Warning: The ability to send Version 2.0 client hello messages will be phased out with all due haste. Implementors should make every effort to move forward as quickly as possible. Version 3.0 provides better mechanisms for moving to newer versions.

The following cipher specifications are carryovers from SSL Version 2.0. These are assumed to use RSA for key exchange and authentication.

```
V2CipherSpec TLS_RC4_128_WITH_MD5          = { 0x01,0x00,0x80 };
V2CipherSpec TLS_RC4_128_EXPORT40_WITH_MD5 = { 0x02,0x00,0x80 };
V2CipherSpec TLS_RC2_CBC_128_CBC_WITH_MD5  = { 0x03,0x00,0x80 };
```

```
    V2CipherSpec TLS_RC2_CBC_128_CBC_EXPORT40_WITH_MD5
                                                = { 0x04,0x00,0x80 };
    V2CipherSpec TLS_IDEA_128_CBC_WITH_MD5      = { 0x05,0x00,0x80 };
    V2CipherSpec TLS_DES_64_CBC_WITH_MD5        = { 0x06,0x00,0x40 };
    V2CipherSpec TLS_DES_192_EDE3_CBC_WITH_MD5 = { 0x07,0x00,0xC0 };
```

Cipher specifications native to TLS can be included in Version 2.0 client hello messages using the syntax below. Any V2CipherSpec element with its first byte equal to zero will be ignored by Version 2.0 servers. Clients sending any of the above V2CipherSpecs should also include the TLS equivalent (see Appendix A.5):

```
    V2CipherSpec (see TLS name) = { 0x00, CipherSuite };
```

E.1. Version 2 client hello

The Version 2.0 client hello message is presented below using this document's presentation model. The true definition is still assumed to be the SSL Version 2.0 specification.

```
    uint8 V2CipherSpec[3];

    struct {
        uint8 msg_type;
        Version version;
        uint16 cipher_spec_length;
        uint16 session_id_length;
        uint16 challenge_length;
        V2CipherSpec cipher_specs[V2ClientHello.cipher_spec_length];
        opaque session_id[V2ClientHello.session_id_length];
        Random challenge;
    } V2ClientHello;
```

msg_type
: This field, in conjunction with the version field, identifies a version 2 client hello message. The value should be one (1).

version
: The highest version of the protocol supported by the client (equals ProtocolVersion.version, see Appendix A.1).

cipher_spec_length
: This field is the total length of the field cipher_specs. It cannot be zero and must be a multiple of the V2CipherSpec length (3).

session_id_length
: This field must have a value of either zero or 16. If zero, the client is creating a new session. If 16, the session_id field will contain the 16 bytes of session identification.

challenge_length
: The length in bytes of the client's challenge to the server to authenticate itself. This value must be 32.

cipher_specs
: This is a list of all CipherSpecs the client is willing and able to use. There must be at least one CipherSpec acceptable to the server.

session_id
: If this field's length is not zero, it will contain the identification for a session that the client wishes to resume.

challenge
: The client challenge to the server for the server to identify itself is a (nearly) arbitrary length random. The TLS server will right justify the challenge data to become the ClientHello.random data (padded with leading zeroes, if necessary), as specified in this protocol specification. If the length of the challenge is greater than 32 bytes, only the last 32 bytes are used. It is legitimate (but not necessary) for a V3 server to reject a V2 ClientHello that has fewer than 16 bytes of challenge data.

Note: Requests to resume a TLS session should use a TLS client hello.

E.2. Avoiding man-in-the-middle version rollback

When TLS clients fall back to Version 2.0 compatibility mode, they should use special PKCS #1 block formatting. This is done so that TLS servers will reject Version 2.0 sessions with TLS-capable clients.

When TLS clients are in Version 2.0 compatibility mode, they set the right-hand (least-significant) 8 random bytes of the PKCS padding (not including the terminal null of the padding) for the RSA encryption of the ENCRYPTED-KEY-DATA field of the CLIENT-MASTER-KEY to 0x03 (the other padding bytes are random). After decrypting the ENCRYPTED-KEY-DATA field, servers that support TLS should issue an error if these eight padding bytes are 0x03. Version 2.0 servers receiving blocks padded in this manner will proceed normally.

F. Security analysis

The TLS protocol is designed to establish a secure connection between a client and a server communicating over an insecure channel. This document makes several traditional assumptions, including that attackers have substantial computational resources and cannot obtain secret information from sources outside the protocol. Attackers are assumed to have the ability to capture, modify, delete, replay, and otherwise tamper with messages sent over the communication channel. This appendix outlines how TLS has been designed to resist a variety of attacks.

F.1. Handshake protocol

The handshake protocol is responsible for selecting a CipherSpec and generating a Master Secret, which together comprise the primary cryptographic parameters associated with a secure session. The handshake protocol can also optionally authenticate parties who have certificates signed by a trusted certificate authority.

F.1.1. Authentication and key exchange

TLS supports three authentication modes: authentication of both parties, server authentication with an unauthenticated client, and total anonymity. Whenever the server is authenticated, the channel is secure against man-in-the-middle attacks, but completely anonymous sessions are inherently vulnerable to such attacks. Anonymous servers cannot authenticate clients. If the server is authenticated, its certificate message must provide a valid certificate chain leading to an acceptable certificate authority. Similarly, authenticated clients must supply an acceptable certificate to the server. Each party is responsible for verifying that the other's certificate is valid and has not expired or been revoked.

The general goal of the key exchange process is to create a pre_master_secret known to the communicating parties and not to attackers. The pre_master_secret will be used to generate the master_secret (see Section 8.1). The master_secret is required to generate the certificate verify and finished messages, encryption keys, and MAC secrets (see Sections 7.4.8, 7.4.9 and 6.3). By sending a correct finished message, parties thus prove that they know the correct pre_master_secret.

F.1.1.1. Anonymous key exchange

Completely anonymous sessions can be established using RSA or Diffie-Hellman for key exchange. With anonymous RSA, the client encrypts a pre_master_secret with the server's uncertified public key

extracted from the server key exchange message. The result is sent in a client key exchange message. Since eavesdroppers do not know the server's private key, it will be infeasible for them to decode the pre_master_secret. (Note that no anonymous RSA Cipher Suites are defined in this document).

With Diffie-Hellman, the server's public parameters are contained in the server key exchange message and the client's are sent in the client key exchange message. Eavesdroppers who do not know the private values should not be able to find the Diffie-Hellman result (i.e. the pre_master_secret).

Warning: Completely anonymous connections only provide protection against passive eavesdropping. Unless an independent tamper-proof channel is used to verify that the finished messages were not replaced by an attacker, server authentication is required in environments where active man-in-the-middle attacks are a concern.

F.1.1.2. RSA key exchange and authentication

With RSA, key exchange and server authentication are combined. The public key may be either contained in the server's certificate or may be a temporary RSA key sent in a server key exchange message. When temporary RSA keys are used, they are signed by the server's RSA or DSS certificate. The signature includes the current ClientHello.random, so old signatures and temporary keys cannot be replayed. Servers may use a single temporary RSA key for multiple negotiation sessions.

Note: The temporary RSA key option is useful if servers need large certificates but must comply with government-imposed size limits on keys used for key exchange.

After verifying the server's certificate, the client encrypts a pre_master_secret with the server's public key. By successfully decoding the pre_master_secret and producing a correct finished message, the server demonstrates that it knows the private key corresponding to the server certificate.

When RSA is used for key exchange, clients are authenticated using the certificate verify message (see Section 7.4.8). The client signs a value derived from the master_secret and all preceding handshake messages. These handshake messages include the server certificate, which binds the signature to the server, and ServerHello.random, which binds the signature to the current handshake process.

F.1.1.3. Diffie-Hellman key exchange with authentication

When Diffie-Hellman key exchange is used, the server can either supply a certificate containing fixed Diffie-Hellman parameters or can use the server key exchange message to send a set of temporary Diffie-Hellman parameters signed with a DSS or RSA certificate. Temporary parameters are hashed with the hello.random values before signing to ensure that attackers do not replay old parameters. In either case, the client can verify the certificate or signature to ensure that the parameters belong to the server.

If the client has a certificate containing fixed Diffie-Hellman parameters, its certificate contains the information required to complete the key exchange. Note that in this case the client and server will generate the same Diffie-Hellman result (i.e., pre_master_secret) every time they communicate. To prevent the pre_master_secret from staying in memory any longer than necessary, it should be converted into the master_secret as soon as possible. Client Diffie-Hellman parameters must be compatible with those supplied by the server for the key exchange to work.

If the client has a standard DSS or RSA certificate or is unauthenticated, it sends a set of temporary parameters to the server in the client key exchange message, then optionally uses a certificate verify message to authenticate itself.

F.1.2. Version rollback attacks

Because TLS includes substantial improvements over SSL Version 2.0, attackers may try to make TLS-capable clients and servers fall back to Version 2.0. This attack can occur if (and only if) two TLS-capable parties use an SSL 2.0 handshake.

Although the solution using non-random PKCS #1 block type 2 message padding is inelegant, it provides a reasonably secure way for Version 3.0 servers to detect the attack. This solution is not secure against attackers who can brute force the key and substitute a new ENCRYPTED-KEY-DATA message containing the same key (but with normal padding) before the application specified wait threshold has expired. Parties concerned about attacks of this scale should not be using 40-bit encryption keys anyway. Altering the padding of the least-significant 8 bytes of the PKCS padding does not impact security for the size of the signed hashes and RSA key lengths used in the protocol, since this is essentially equivalent to increasing the input block size by 8 bytes.

F.1.3. Detecting attacks against the handshake protocol

An attacker might try to influence the handshake exchange to make the parties select different encryption algorithms than they would normally choose. Because many implementations will support 40-bit exportable encryption and some may even support null encryption or MAC algorithms, this attack is of particular concern.

For this attack, an attacker must actively change one or more handshake messages. If this occurs, the client and server will compute different values for the handshake message hashes. As a result, the parties will not accept each others' finished messages. Without the master_secret, the attacker cannot repair the finished messages, so the attack will be discovered.

F.1.4. Resuming sessions

When a connection is established by resuming a session, new ClientHello.random and ServerHello.random values are hashed with the session's master_secret. Provided that the master_secret has not been compromised and that the secure hash operations used to produce the encryption keys and MAC secrets are secure, the connection should be secure and effectively independent from previous connections. Attackers cannot use known encryption keys or MAC secrets to compromise the master_secret without breaking the secure hash operations (which use both SHA and MD5).

Sessions cannot be resumed unless both the client and server agree. If either party suspects that the session may have been compromised, or that certificates may have expired or been revoked, it should force a full handshake. An upper limit of 24 hours is suggested for session ID lifetimes, since an attacker who obtains a master_secret may be able to impersonate the compromised party until the corresponding session ID is retired. Applications that may be run in relatively insecure environments should not write session IDs to stable storage.

F.1.5. MD5 and SHA

TLS uses hash functions very conservatively. Where possible, both MD5 and SHA are used in tandem to ensure that non-catastrophic flaws in one algorithm will not break the overall protocol.

F.2. Protecting application data

The master_secret is hashed with the ClientHello.random and ServerHello.random to produce unique data encryption keys and MAC secrets for each connection.

Outgoing data is protected with a MAC before transmission. To prevent message replay or modification attacks, the MAC is computed from the MAC secret, the sequence number, the message length, the message contents, and two fixed character strings. The message type field is necessary to ensure that messages intended for one TLS Record Layer client are not redirected to another. The sequence number ensures that attempts to delete or reorder messages will be detected. Since sequence numbers are 64-bits long, they should never overflow. Messages from one party cannot be inserted into the other's output, since they use independent MAC secrets. Similarly, the server-write and client-write keys are independent so stream cipher keys are used only once.

If an attacker does break an encryption key, all messages encrypted with it can be read. Similarly, compromise of a MAC key can make message modification attacks possible. Because MACs are also encrypted, message-alteration attacks generally require breaking the encryption algorithm as well as the MAC.

Note: MAC secrets may be larger than encryption keys, so messages can remain tamper resistant even if encryption keys are broken.

F.3. Final notes

For TLS to be able to provide a secure connection, both the client and server systems, keys, and applications must be secure. In addition, the implementation must be free of security errors.

The system is only as strong as the weakest key exchange and authentication algorithm supported, and only trustworthy cryptographic functions should be used. Short public keys, 40-bit bulk encryption keys, and anonymous servers should be used with great caution. Implementations and users must be careful when deciding which certificates and certificate authorities are acceptable; a dishonest certificate authority can do tremendous damage.

G. Patent Statement

Some of the cryptographic algorithms proposed for use in this protocol have patent claims on them. In addition Netscape Communications Corporation has a patent claim on the Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) work that this standard is based on. The Internet Standards Process as defined in RFC 2026 requests that a statement be obtained from a Patent holder indicating that a license will be made available to applicants under reasonable terms and conditions.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has granted RSA Data Security, Inc., exclusive sub-licensing rights to the following patent issued in the United States:

> Cryptographic Communications System and Method ("RSA"), No. 4,405,829

Netscape Communications Corporation has been issued the following patent in the United States:

> Secure Socket Layer Application Program Apparatus And Method ("SSL"), No. 5,657,390

Netscape Communications has issued the following statement:

> Intellectual Property Rights
>
> Secure Sockets Layer
>
> The United States Patent and Trademark Office ("the PTO") recently issued U.S. Patent No. 5,657,390 ("the SSL Patent") to Netscape for inventions described as Secure Sockets Layers ("SSL"). The IETF is currently considering adopting SSL as a transport protocol with security features. Netscape encourages the royalty-free adoption and use of the SSL protocol upon the following terms and conditions:
>
> * If you already have a valid SSL Ref license today which includes source code from Netscape, an additional patent license under the SSL patent is not required.
>
> * If you don’t have an SSL Ref license, you may have a royalty free license to build implementations covered by the SSL Patent Claims or the IETF TLS specification provided that you do not to assert any patent rights against Netscape or other companies for the implementation of SSL or the IETF TLS recommendation.

What are "Patent Claims":

Patent claims are claims in an issued foreign or domestic patent that:

1) must be infringed in order to implement methods or build products according to the IETF TLS specification; or

2) patent claims which require the elements of the SSL patent claims and/or their equivalents to be infringed.

The Internet Society, Internet Architecture Board, Internet Engineering Steering Group and the Corporation for National Research Initiatives take no position on the validity or scope of the patents and patent applications, nor on the appropriateness of the terms of the assurance. The Internet Society and other groups mentioned above have not made any determination as to any other intellectual property rights which may apply to the practice of this standard. Any further consideration of these matters is the user's own responsibility.

Security Considerations

Security issues are discussed throughout this memo.

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Comments

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Archives of the list can be found at:
<http://www.imc.org/ietf-tls/mail-archive/>

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