Crypto-Book: Secure Facebook messaging

John Maheswaran

The Problem

- Facebook store everything indefinitely
 - Messages, photos, wall posts etc.
 - Facebook software reads messages to display ads
- If someone hacks your account, they can access all your private chats
- Facebook may hand over message transcripts to the government
- If you forget to log out of Facebook on public or shared computer, other people can read everything

Existing solutions

- Symmetrically encrypt using another tool eg encipher.it then send encrypted message over Facebook
 - Requires user to decide on a different password for every friend in advance
- Encrypt-Facebook Chrome plugin
 - Allows you to encrypt messages before you post them to a group
 - Symmetric key for encryption/decryption must be shared in advance
 - Only for Chrome no other browser support

Existing solutions

- Abine Encrypt
 - Allows you to encrypt messages using transient keypair
 - Messages are lost when you close the browser
 - Other user has to be online at the same time to send them encrypted messages

Public/private key encryption

- Asymmetric encryption
- I can send you an encrypted message even if I haven't set up my own keypair yet
- Secure
- But used be few users due to complexities

Public/private key encryption

- Difficult to use
- Not easy to generate key
 - Have to use command line tools
 - No easy way to generate on Windows
- Difficult to distribute
 - Have to submit to keyserver
- Difficult to look up others' public keys
- Difficult to use keys to do encryption and decryption

Key lookup not user friendly

Search results for '0x815eb3dd5d54a300'

Туре	bits/	keyID	cr. time	exp	time	key	expir	
pub	1024D	/ <u>5D54A300</u>	2002-10-13	3				
uid	Jeff S	nyder <ej:< td=""><td>s50@srcf.uc</td><td>am.o</td><td>rg></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></ej:<>	s50@srcf.uc	am.o	rg>			
			2002-10-13					[selfsig]
			2002-10-13					[selfsig]
			2002-10-13					[selfsig]
			2002-10-13					Matthew James Johnson <mjj29@cam.ac.uk></mjj29@cam.ac.uk>
			2002-10-19					Edward Allcutt <ema29@cam.ac.uk></ema29@cam.ac.uk>
sig	sig	2BE16D01	2002-10-24	1				Moray Allan <moray@sermisy.org></moray@sermisy.org>
sig	sig	5D623D5D	2002-10-28	3				James Coupe <james@obeah.demon.co.uk></james@obeah.demon.co.uk>
sig	sig	99C7DC23	2002-11-14					Peter Clay (ex-pjc50) <pete@flatline.org.uk></pete@flatline.org.uk>
			2003-02-16					Matthew Garrett <mjg59@srcf.ucam.org></mjg59@srcf.ucam.org>
			2003-02-16					Hanna Wallach <hanna@potatothelizard.com></hanna@potatothelizard.com>
			2003-02-22					Olly Madge <oghm2@cam.ac.uk></oghm2@cam.ac.uk>
			2003-02-27					Matthew Byng-Maddick (Work Key) <mbm@thebunker.n< td=""></mbm@thebunker.n<>
			2003-02-27					Matthew Byng-Maddick <mbm@colondot.net></mbm@colondot.net>
			2003-06-14					Nathan Dimmock <ned21@srcf.ucam.org></ned21@srcf.ucam.org>
			2003-06-14					Simon McVittie (pseudorandom.co.uk) <smcv@pseudo< td=""></smcv@pseudo<>
			2003-06-14					Sean Furey <sf308@cam.ac.uk></sf308@cam.ac.uk>
			2003-06-14					David Cottingham <dnc25@cam.ac.uk></dnc25@cam.ac.uk>
			2003-06-15					Edward Allcutt <edward@allcutt.me.uk></edward@allcutt.me.uk>
			2003-06-15					Phil Cowans <pjc51@cam.ac.uk></pjc51@cam.ac.uk>
			2003-07-12			_		Colin Watson <cjwatson@flatline.org.uk></cjwatson@flatline.org.uk>
			2003-08-16					Paul Martin <pm@debian.org></pm@debian.org>
			2003-08-17					Clive Jones <clive@nsict.org></clive@nsict.org>
			2003-08-17					Clive Jones <clive@nsict.org></clive@nsict.org>
			2003-08-17					Scott James Remnant <scott@netsplit.com></scott@netsplit.com>
			2003-08-17					Scott James Remnant <scott@netsplit.com></scott@netsplit.com>
			2003-08-17					Matthew Rowen <mar51@cam.ac.uk></mar51@cam.ac.uk>
			2003-08-17					Robert Kendrick <rjek@rjek.com></rjek@rjek.com>
			2003-08-18			_		Stephen Stafford <ssta@pol.ac.uk></ssta@pol.ac.uk>
			2003-08-18					Daniel Silverstone (DOB: 1980-04-09) <dsilvers@d< td=""></dsilvers@d<>
			2003-08-19					Chris Boyle <cmb@debian.org></cmb@debian.org>
			2003-08-21					Clive Jones (DH/DSS) <clive@dgw.co.uk></clive@dgw.co.uk>
sig			2003-08-21					Clive Jones (RSA) <clive.jones@meridian.co.uk></clive.jones@meridian.co.uk>
aia.	21.02	00070157	2002 00 20					Store McInture ZatoreGoinvel comb

Keys are confusing to most users

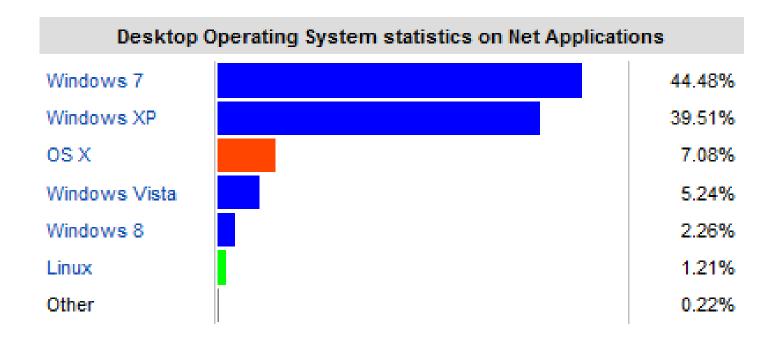
Public Key Server -- Get ``0xa657661d5be86fb9 ''

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Windows market share

- Need an easy way to do it on Windows
 - 84% market share



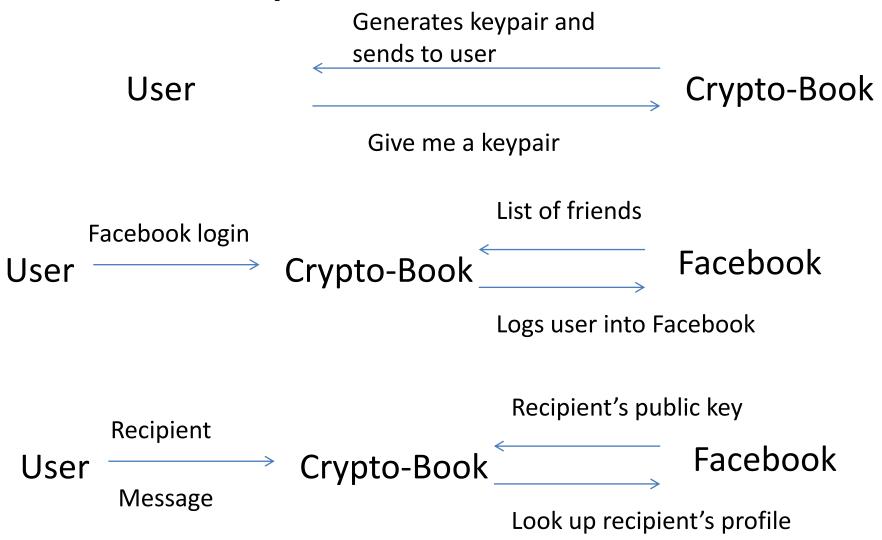
To make encryption easy

- Easy way to generate key
- Easy way to publish key
- Easy way to find friends' keys
- Easy way to use friends' keys to send them encrypted messages

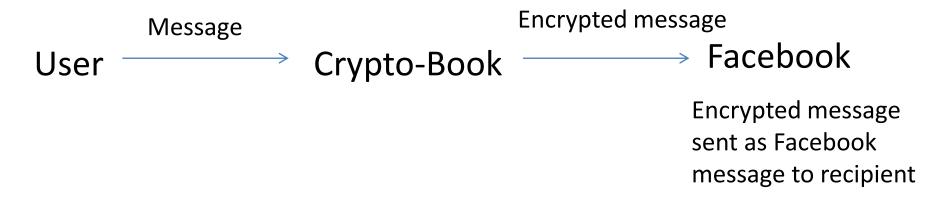
My solution: Crypto-Book

- Allows you to easily create and share your public key
 - One click key generation
- Simple interface to send friends encrypted messages through Facebook
- Fully integrated decrypter app allows you to read encrypted messages
 - Cross platform: Windows, Mac/Linux
 - One click install on Windows

System overview



System overview



Facebook Encrypted message

Desktop

Decrypted message

Recipient

app

Design choices

- Key generation
 - Chose to generate server side to improve usability
 - Cannot read messages unless have access to your Facebook
 - Also have a desktop key generator
- Key publication uses URL shortener
 - Improves usability
 - Could use full form URL but more confusing

Design choices

- Sending messages
 - Trust Crypto-book as has access to plaintext
 - Nothing is stored
 - Chose this option as makes system more usable
 - Goals are:
 - avoid Facebook's indefinite logging,
 - hide message histories from hackers and Facebook software,
 - don't let government get access to message histories,
 - if you forget to log out of public machine others don't have access
 - Focus on top notch usability with best effort security
 - Top notch security with best effort usability with has failed to be taken up by users

Design choices

Sending messages

- Originally encrypted messages offline however requires another app
- Cannot directly message Facebook friend from desktop app, cannot post to their wall, have to post to own wall and cannot tag people, cannot log into Facebook without web browser access

Decryption

- Desktop app prevents Facebook getting access to your private key
- Decrypt on Facebook would compromise security by giving Facebook access to your encrypted messages

My solution: Crypto-Book

Crypto-Book

Welcome to Crypto-Book!

Send secure Facebook messages without Mark Zuckerberg snooping on you

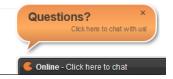
Send a message »

Set me up

In three easy steps your friends will be able to message you through Crypto-Book.

Let's do it! »

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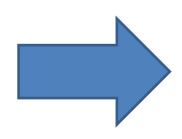


Public key

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http://www.crypto-

book.com/key?val=48,-127,-

97,48,13,6,9,42,-122,72,-1

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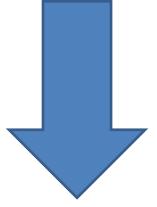
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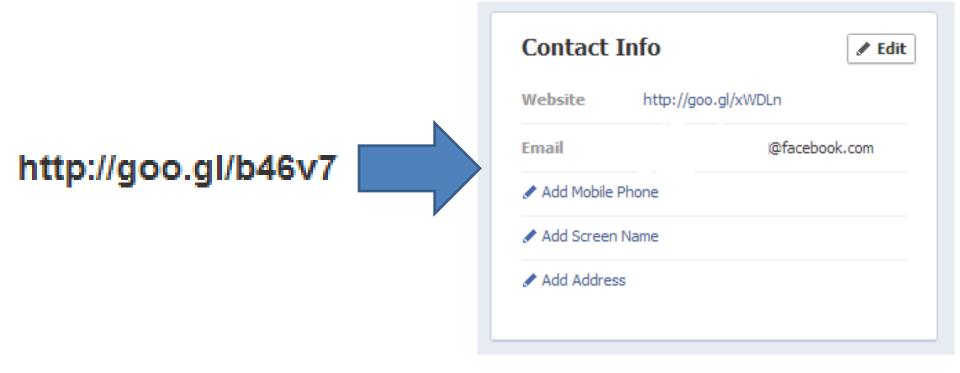
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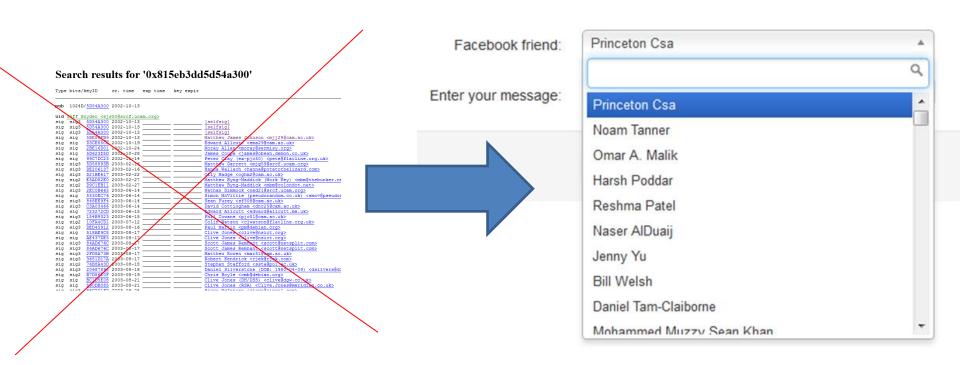
Publishing your key on Facebook



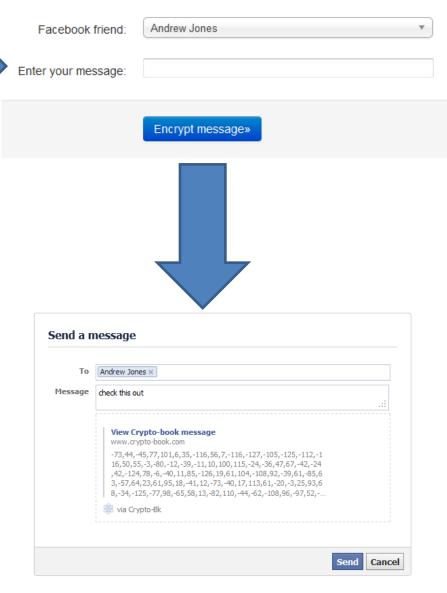
Using a key

- Fully integrated with Facebook
- Send a message through crypto-book.com
- Log in with Facebook
- Choose friend to send to
 - Automatically looks up key
- Enter message
 - Encrypt with friend's public key and sent through
 Facebook

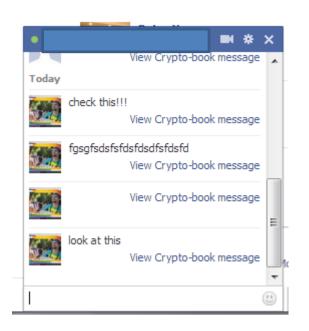
Key lookup



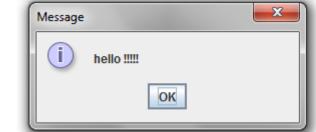
Easy encryption



Easy decryption



Click to view message



Message displayed to user

Areas for future work

- Make it easier to deploy on Mac/Linux
- Further testing on different environments
- Signing as well as encryption
- Use identity based encryption
 - Have to trust IBE servers, anytrust model
 - Facebook have access to your private key
- Anonymity through linkable ring signatures

www.crypto-book.com

Demonstrate the app