

# Anonymity summary

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TCP/IP and TLS do not provide anonymity. IPsec only provides anonymity in tunnel modes, and only for the part between gateways.

Dining cryptographers problem: 3 cryptographers on dinner; someone paid; want to figure out if it was one of them without revealing who paid (if anyone).

- Share pairwise secret bits (between AB, BC, AC)
- Everyone prepares as message the XOR of their shared bits
- If someone paid, they XOR that message with 1.
- Broadcast all messages
- XOR over all messages is 0 if none paid and 1 if someone paid.

Cryptographic mixing: to send message  $m$  from  $A$  to  $B$ ,  $m$  is sent to the mix in the format  $E_{K_M}(B, E_{K_B}(m))$ .  $M$  forwards the message to  $B$ , who can decrypt it.

Flushing modes:

- Message threshold: wait until  $n$  messages are received, then release all.
- Message pool: pool size  $n$ , probability  $p$ . After  $n$  messages in pool, shuffle, then send each with probability  $p$ . Unsent messages remain in pool.
- Stop and go: sender determines waiting time for each mix

Adversary properties:

- Internal-External: can compromise communication medium (external) and mix nodes/recipients/senders (internal)
- Passive-Active: active can arbitrarily modify computations & messages (insert/delete); passive can only listen
- Static-Adaptive: Static chooses compromised resources upfront; adaptive can change resources under control during protocol execution.

Countermeasures:

- Padding
- Dummy traffic

Re-encryption mixnets: re-randomize ciphertext at each node instead of decrypting. Based on a re-randomizable form of ElGamal encryption.