

Now most widely  
used security protocol  
on



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Nowadays IT industries moving towards web based technology from software applications. Secure communication is an integral part of today's world of on-line transactions. Users on the internet exchanging financial, business or personal information, want to know whether the information is secured or not and they wish to ensure that the information during transaction is not modified and disclosed. We can say web security is one of the crucial topics in both technology and everyday life. To maintain secure communication on web, communication between client and server must be secured by SSL (Secure Socket Layer).

SSL protocol provides security in network layer which consists of encryption algorithms. The SSL protocol can apply on any application that runs over TCP can also run over SSL. SSL is the most widely used security protocol on the Internet today. It offers encryption, source authentication and integrity protection for data and is flexible enough to accommodate different cryptographic algorithms for key agreement, encryption and hashing. However, the specification describes particular combinations of these algorithms, called cipher suites, which have well understood security properties. Today, SSL is trusted to secure transactions for sensitive applications ranging from web banking, to stock trading, to e-commerce. Unfortunately, the use of SSL imposes a significant performance penalty on web servers. Secure web servers running 3.

4 to 9 times slower compared to regular web servers on the same hardware platform. SSL utilizes RSA encryption to transmit a randomly chosen secret that is used to derive keys for data encryption and authentication. The RSA decryption operation is the most compute intensive

part of an SSL transaction for a secure web server. Fig 1. 1

System Security But the level of security RSA gives with larger key size can be achieved by ECC with much smaller key size that reduced the server load and accessing the data become much faster.

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