

tipsy: how to correct password typos securely

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Problems with passwords: short & easy

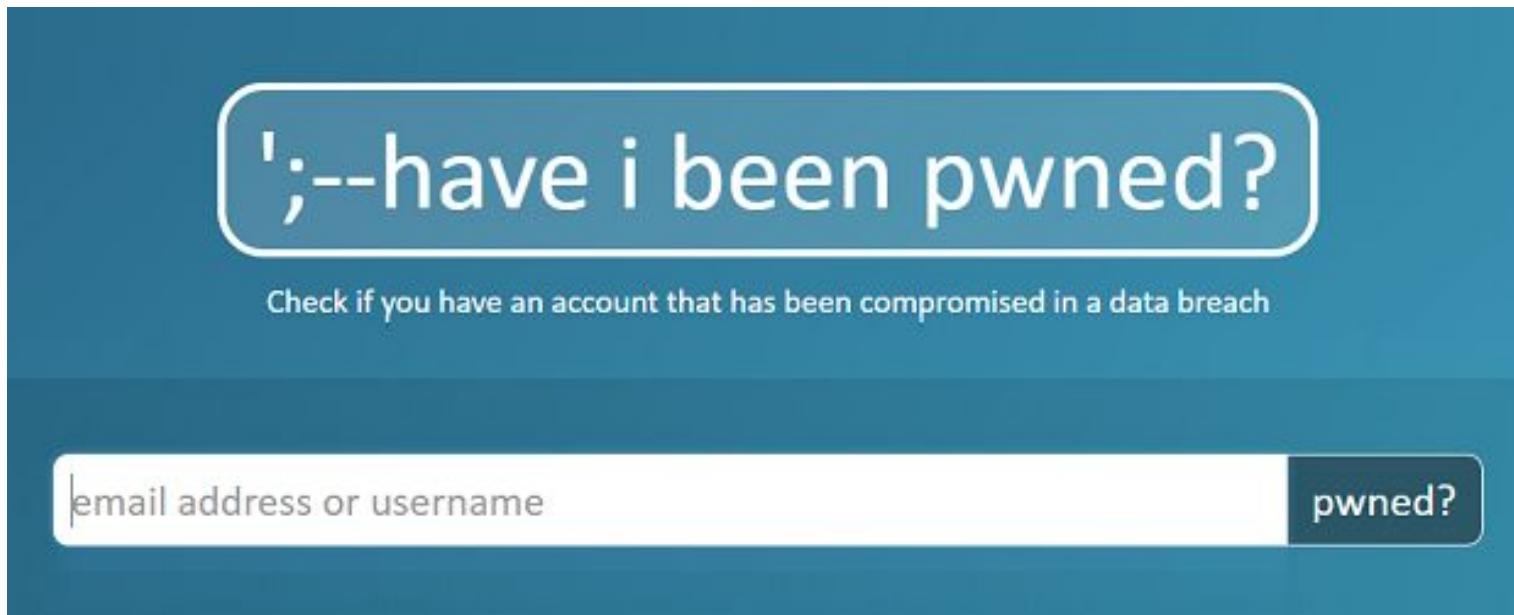
123456
12345
123456789
password
iloveyou
princess
1234567
rockyou
12345678
abc123
nicole

rockyou 10 most frequent passwords

123456
password
phpbb
qwerty
12345
12345678
letmein
111111
1234
123456789

phpBB 10 most frequent passwords

Problems with passwords: reuse



';--have i been pwned?

Check if you have an account that has been compromised in a data breach

email address or username

pwned?

The image shows the homepage of the 'have i been pwned?' website. It features a dark blue background. At the top, the title 'have i been pwned?' is displayed in a large, white, rounded rectangular box. Below the title, a subtitle reads 'Check if you have an account that has been compromised in a data breach'. At the bottom, there is a white input field with the placeholder text 'email address or username' and a dark blue button labeled 'pwned?'.

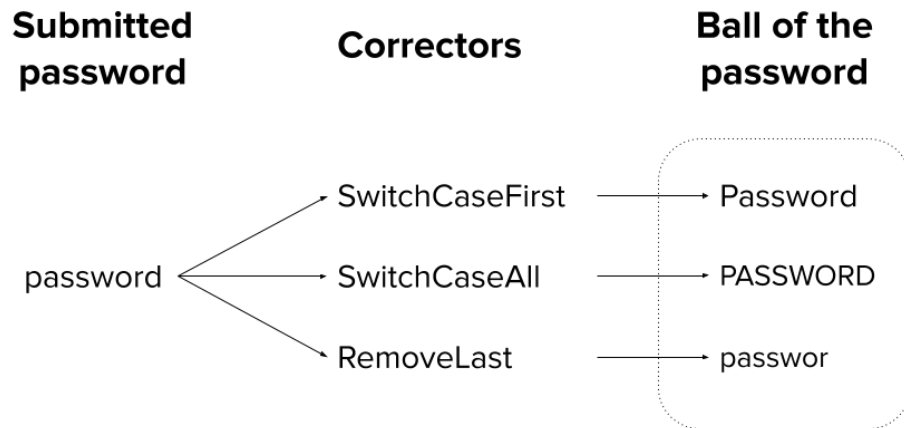
Solution: password managers



KeePass

Do secure typo-tolerant password authentication schemes exist?

Some lingo: what's a *ball*?



Some lingo: what's a *checker*?

Noun

1. A password checker compares two optionally salted hashes

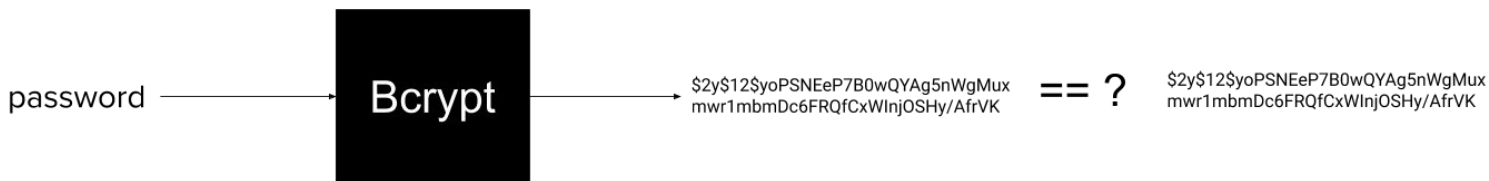
Some lingo: what's a *exact* checker?

**Submitted
password**

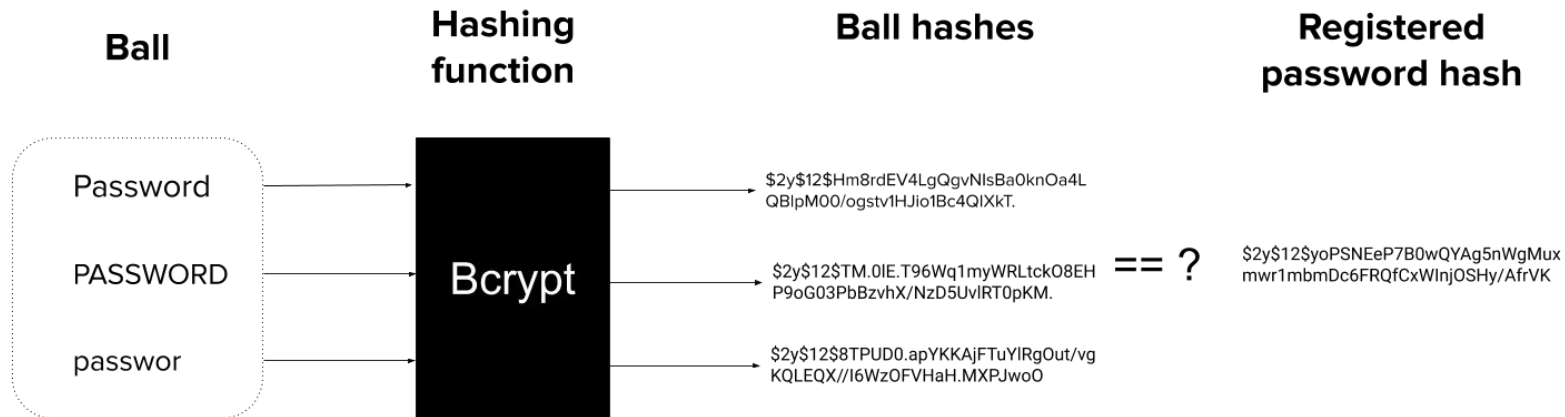
**Hashing
function**

**Submitted
password hash**

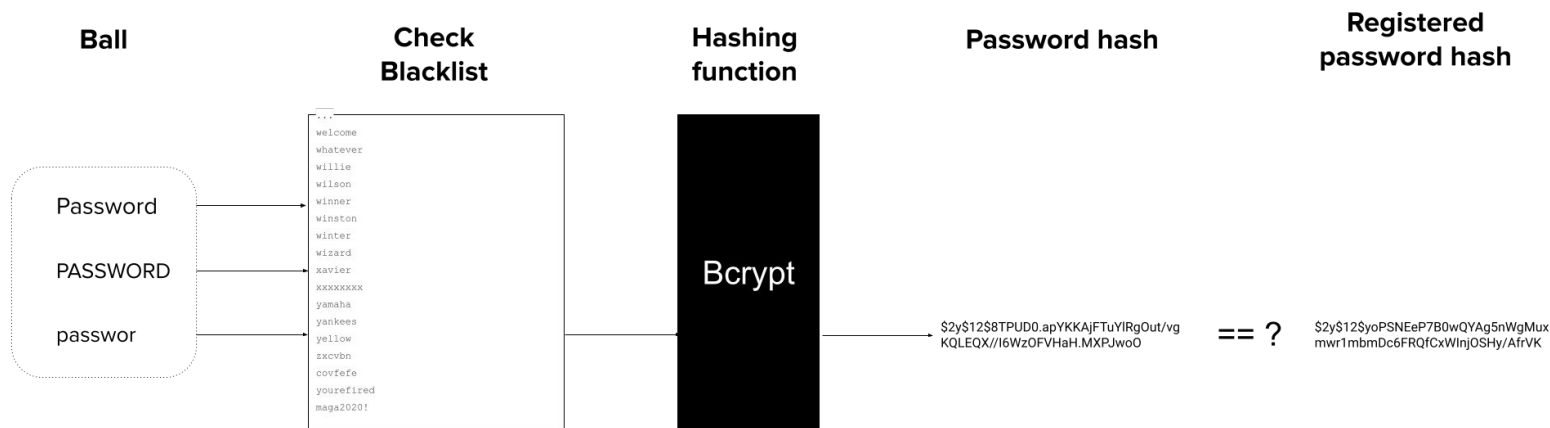
**Registered
password hash**



Some lingo: what's an *always* checker?



Some lingo: what's a *blacklist* checker?



Some lingo: what's an *approximately optimal* checker?

```
290729 · 123456
· 79076 · 12345
· 76789 · 123456789
· 59462 · password
· 49952 · iloveyou
· 33291 · princess
· 21725 · 1234567
· 20901 · rockyou
· 20553 · 12345678
· 16648 · abc123
· 16227 · nicole
... · ...
```

*Password distribution estimation
using rockyou leak*

```
typos:
· same: 90234
· other: 1918
· switchCaseAll: 1698
· kClose: 1385
· keypressEdit: 1000
· removeLast: 382
· switchCaseFirst: 209
· removeFirst: 55
· switchShiftLast: 19
· switchShiftLastN: 14
· upperToCapital: 13
· capitalToUpper: 5
· AppendChar: 5
```

*Typo distribution estimation using
research from Chatterjee et al.*

Aside: what's the probability of a password?

```
290729 · 123456
· 79076 · 12345
· 76789 · 123456789
· 59462 · password
· 49952 · iloveyou
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· 20901 · rockyou
· 20553 · 12345678
· 16648 · abc123
· 16227 · nicole
· ... · ...
```

probability = password frequency / total number of passwords
= 59462 / 15879595
= 0.00374455393
≈ 0.3%

*Password probability distribution
estimation using rockyou leak*

Aside: what's the probability of a typo?

```
typos:  
· same: 90234  
· other: 1918  
· switchCaseAll: 1698  
· kClose: 1385  
· keypressEdit: 1000  
· removeLast: 382  
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· upperToCapital: 13  
· capitalToUpper: 5  
· AppendChar: 5
```

probability = typo frequency / total number of typos
= 1698 / 96963
= 0.01751183441
≈ 1.8%

Some lingo: what's an *approximately optimal* checker?

Ball	Product of password and typo probabilities ¹
Password	0.000011%
PASSWORD	0.00017%
passwor	0.0000015%

¹ password probability * typo probability * 100

Some lingo: what's an *approximately optimal* checker?

Ball	Generate combinations	Sum combination probabilities	
Password	[[Password],	[[0.000011%,	[[0.000011%,
	[PASSWORD],	[0.00017%,	[0.00017%,
	[passwor],	[0.0000015%,	[0.0000015%,
PASSWORD	[Password PASSWORD],	[0.000011% 0.00017%,	[0.000181%,
	[Password passwor],	[0.000011% 0.0000015%,	[0.0000125%,
	[PASSWORD passwor],	[0.00017% 0.0000015%,	[0.0001715%,
passwor	[Password PASSWORD passwor]	[0.000011% 0.00017% 0.0000015%]	[0.0001825%]

Some lingo: what's an *approximately optimal* checker?

Sum of combination
probabilities

[[0.000011%],
[0.00017%],
[0.0000015%],
[0.000181%],
[0.0000125%],
[0.0001715%],
[0.0001825%]]

Find the optimal
combination

\leq cutoff

Passwords to check

\emptyset

Aside: how do we find the cutoff?

```
290729 · 123456
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· 33291 · princess
· 21725 · 1234567
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· 16648 · abc123
· 16227 · nicole
... | ...
```

cutoff = probability of qth most probable password
- probability of the submitted password
= 0.1% - 0.3%
= - 0.2%

*Password distribution estimation
using rockyou leak*

**How can we compare the security of
the different checkers?**

Experiment Design: calculating security loss

Intuitively we think that using typo-tolerance will increase the probability of success of the optimal online attack by a factor of \mathbf{c} , where c is the number of correctors

This intuition is true iif the set of registered passwords is uniform

Experiment Design: calculating security loss

Intuitively we think that using typo-tolerance will increase the probability of success of the optimal online attack by a factor of \mathbf{c} , where c is the number of correctors

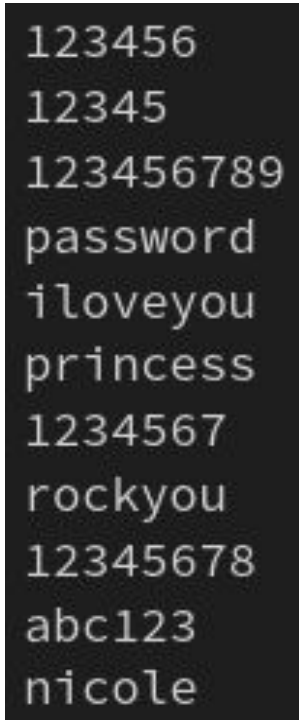
This intuition is true iif the set of registered passwords ~~is~~ ~~uniform~~

Experiment Design: evaluating the security loss

There exists two kinds of attackers:

- Estimating attackers (real attackers) do not have knowledge about the password distribution. They use custom wordlists to tweak password generation algorithms such as PCFGs
- Exact knowledge attackers know the exact distribution of the registered passwords

Experiment Design: exact knowledge attackers



123456
12345
123456789
password
iloveyou
princess
1234567
rockyou
12345678
abc123
nicole

Naive attack consists in submitting the most-probable passwords from the distribution

Experiment Design: exact knowledge attackers

Maximum coverage problem

“As input you are given several sets and a number k . The sets may have some elements in common. You must select at most k of these sets such that the maximum number of elements are covered, i.e. the union of the selected sets has maximal size.”

Experiment Design: calculating security loss

For the Always checker with $q = 1000$ and 3 correctors, using RockYou

```
"NaiveGuessList": [
  "123456",
  "123456789",
  "iloveyou",
  "1234567",
  "rockyou",
  "12345678",
  "abc123",
  "nicole",
  "babygirl",
  "jessica",
```

*Extract of the best 1000
guesses against an exact
checker*

```
"GuessList": [
  "1234567",
  "123456789",
  "iloveyou2",
  "rockyou",
  "babygirl1",
  "nicole1",
  "abc123",
  "jessica1",
  "iloveu2",
  "qwerty1",
```

*Extract of the best 1000
guesses against the always
checker*

Experiment Design: calculating security loss

For the Always checker with $q = 1000$ and 3 correctors, using RockYou

```
"NaiveGuessList": [
  "123456",
  "123456789",
  "iloveyou",
  "1234567",
  "rockyou",
  "12345678",
  "abc123",
  "nicole",
  "babygirl",
  "jessica",
```

$$\lambda_q = 0.19$$

*Extract of the best 1000
guesses against an exact
checker*

```
"GuessList": [
  "1234567",
  "123456789",
  "iloveyou2",
  "rockyou",
  "babygirl1",
  "nicole1",
  "abc123",
  "jessica1",
  "iloveu2",
  "qwerty1",
```

$$\lambda_q^{\text{greedy}} = 0.21$$

*Extract of the best 1000
guesses against the always
checker*

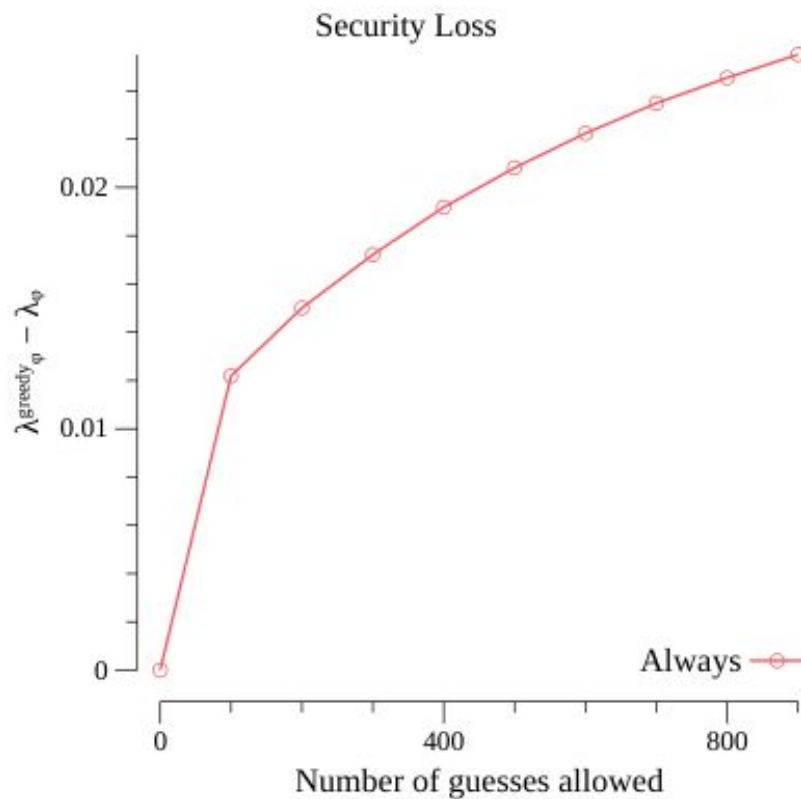
Experiment Design: calculating security loss

For the Always checker with $q = 1000$ and 3 correctors, using RockYou

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_q^{\text{greedy}} - \lambda_q &= 0.21 - 0.19 \\ &= 0.02 \\ &= 2\%\end{aligned}$$

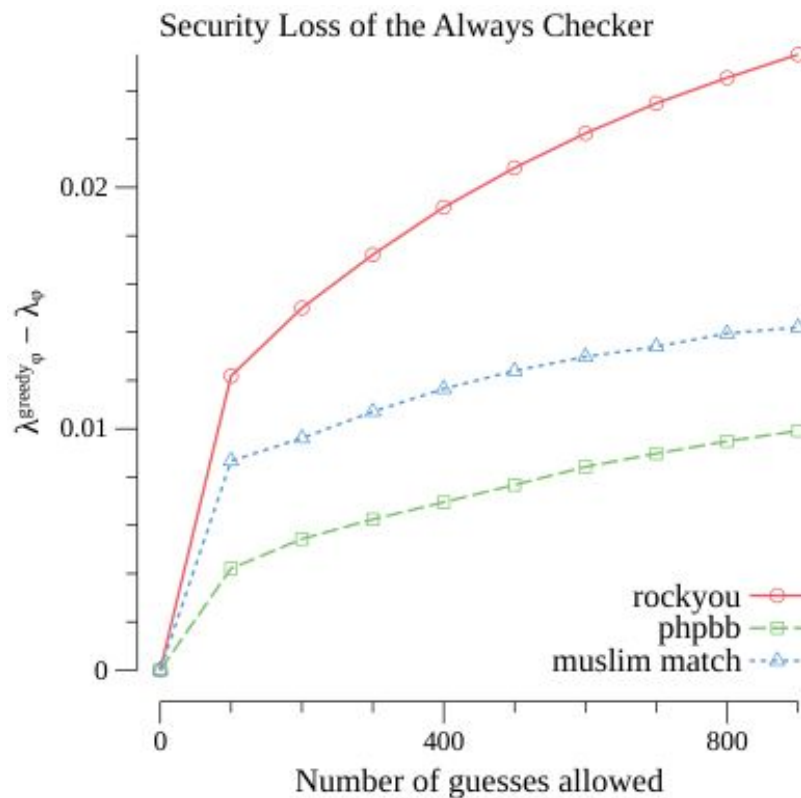
Results: security loss for RockYou

For the Always checker and 3 correctors



Results: security loss across datasets

For the Always checker and 3 correctors



Results: security loss as a %

Using 3 correctors, for exact knowledge attackers

Attacker password distribution	q = 10				q = 100				q = 1000			
	AI	BI	AO	Ex	AI	BI	AO	Ex	AI	BI	AO	Ex
rockyou	0.3	0.1		3.4	0.8	0.3		7.5	2.5	1.2		19
phpbb	0.2	0.06		2.8	0.3	0.1		5.5	0.9	0.7		12
muslim match	0.4	0.09		5.7	0.6	0.5		11	1.4	1.2		20

Conclusion

- Typo correction with minimal security loss is possible
- We can take this idea further and do personalised typo correction
- Ideally we should all use password managers

Future work: OPAQUE

Network Working Group
Internet-Draft
Intended status: Informational
Expires: 6 May 2021

H. Krawczyk
Algorand Foundation
K. Lewi
Novi
C.A. Wood
Cloudflare
2 November 2020

The OPAQUE Asymmetric PAKE Protocol
draft-irtf-cfrg-opaque-01

Abstract

This document describes the OPAQUE protocol, a secure asymmetric password-authenticated key exchange (aPAKE) that supports mutual authentication in a client-server setting without reliance on PKI and with security against pre-computation attacks upon server compromise. In addition, the protocol provides forward secrecy and the ability to hide the password from the server, even during password registration. This document specifies the core OPAQUE protocol, along with several instantiations in different authenticated key exchange protocols.

Thanks for listening! 🍺🍺

Source code: <https://github.com/ppartarr/tipsy>



Security and Network Engineering

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