

XrdSec - A high-level C++ interface for security services in client-server applications

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XrdSec is the security framework developed in the context of the XROOTD project. It provides a high-level abstract security interface for client-server applications. Concrete implementations of the interface can be written for any security protocol as plugin libraries, where all technical details about the protocol are confined. Clients and server administrators can configure the system behaviour using environment variables and/or configurations files. The framework naturally provides server access control and simple client/server negotiation. The result of successful handshake is a security context object containing the session-key and providing an API for encryption/decryption over the open channel. XrdSec is written in C++ and can be easily integrated in any client-server application. In this paper we will describe the underlying architecture, the protocol plugins currently available (password-based, Kerberos, GSI) and a few examples of usage, like a simple client-server application and the integration in ROOT.

Primary authors: HANUSHEVSKY, Andrew (SLAC); GANIS, Gerardo (CERN)

Presenter: GANIS, Gerardo (CERN)

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