
uts-server - RFC 3161 Timestamp Server

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Dependencies

1.1 Runtime dependencies

List of dependencies uts-server relies on to run:

- `OpenSSL`.
- `civetweb`.

1.2 Build dependencies

List of dependencies needed to build civetweb:

- `cmake`
- either `gcc` or `clang`

Compilation

uts-server is compiled using cmake:

```
# If civetweb is already present on the system
$ cmake .
$ make

# If civetweb is not present
# this will get the proper tag of civetweb from upstream and compile it
$ cmake . -DBUNDLE_CIVETWEB=ON
$ make

# Compile with debug flags
$ cmake . -DDEBUG=ON
$ make
```

Configuration Parameters

3.1 Section [main]

Main configuration section (mostly http configuration).

Parameter	Description	Example Value
access_control_allow_origin	Comma separated list of IP subnets to accept/deny Ex: -0.0.0.0/0,+192.168.0.0/16 (deny all accesses, only allow 192.168.0.0/16 subnet)	-0.0.0.0/0,+192.168/16
enable_keep_alive	Allows clients to reuse TCP connection for subsequent HTTP requests, which improves performance.	no
listening_ports	Comma-separated list of IP:port tuples to listen on. If the port is SSL, a letter s must be appended. Ex: listening_ports = 80,443s	127.0.0.1:2020
log_level	Loglevel (debug, info, notice, warn, err, emerg, crit)	info
num_threads	Number of worker threads.	50
request_timeout_ms	Timeout for network read and network write operations. In milliseconds.	30000
run_as_user	Switch to given user credentials after startup. Required to run on privileged ports as non root user.	uts-server
ssl_ca_file	Path to a .pem file containing trusted certificates. The file may contain more than one certificate.	/etc/uts-server/ca.pem
ssl_ca_path	Name of a directory containing trusted CA certificates.	/etc/ssl/ca/
ssl_certificate	Path to the SSL certificate file . PEM format must contain private key and certificate.	/etc/uts-server/cert.pem
ssl_cipher_list	List of enabled ciphers for ssl. See https://www.openssl.org/docs/manmaster/apps/ciphers.html or 'man ciphers' for more detailed.	ALL:!eNULL:!SSLv3
ssl_default_verify_paths	Loads default trusted certificates locations set at OpenSSL compile time.	yes
ssl_protocol_version	Sets the minimal accepted version of SSL/TLS protocol according to the table: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSL2+SSL3+TLS1.0+TLS1.1+TLS1.2 -> 0 • SSL3+TLS1.0+TLS1.1+TLS1.2 -> 1 • TLS1.0+TLS1.1+TLS1.2 -> 2 • TLS1.1+TLS1.2 -> 3 • TLS1.2 -> 4 	3
ssl_short_trust	Enables the use of short lived certificates	no
ssl_verify_depth	Sets maximum depth of certificate chain. If client's certificate chain is longer than the depth set here connection is refused.	9
ssl_verify_peer	Enable client's certificate verification by the server.	yes
tcp_nodelay	Enable TCP_NODELAY socket option on client connections.	0
throttle	Limit download speed for clients. Throttle is a comma-separated list of	*=0

3.2 Section [oids]

Section for declaring OID mapping. Just add <name> = <OID> pairs.

Parameter	Description	Example Value
tsa_policy1		1.2.3.4.1
tsa_policy2		1.2.3.4.5.6
tsa_policy3		1.2.3.4.5.7

3.3 Section [tsa]

TSA configuration parameters.

Parameter	Description	Example Value
accuracy	Time-Stamp accuracy. (optional)	secs:1, millisecs:500, microsecs:100
certs	Certificate chain to include in reply. (optional)	\$dir/cacert.pem
clock_precision_digits	Number of decimals for Time-Stamp. (optional)	0
crypto_device	OpenSSL engine to use for signing.	builtin
default_policy	Policy if request did not specify it. (optional)	tsa_policy1
digests	Acceptable message digests. (mandatory) See https://www.openssl.org/docs/manmaster/apps/dgst.html or 'man dgst' to get the list of available digests	md5, sha1, sha224, sha256, sha384, sha512
dir	TSA root directory.	/etc/uts-server/pki
ess_cert_id_chain	Must the ESS cert id chain be included? (optional, default: no)	no
ordering	Is ordering defined for timestamps? (optional, default: no)	yes
other_policies	Acceptable policies. (optional)	tsa_policy2, tsa_policy3
signer_cert	The TSA signing certificat. (optional)	\$dir/tsacert.pem
signer_key	The TSA private key. (optional)	\$dir/private/tsakey.pem
tsa_name	Must the TSA name be included in the reply? (optional, default: no)	yes

Full Configuration File

```
# Section for declaring OID mapping. Just add <name> = <OID> pairs.
[ oids ]

tsa_policy1 = 1.2.3.4.1
tsa_policy2 = 1.2.3.4.5.6
tsa_policy3 = 1.2.3.4.5.7

# Main configuration section (mostly http configuration).
[ main ]

# Comma-separated list of IP:port tuples to listen on.
# If the port is SSL, a letter s must be appended.
#
# Ex: listening_ports = 80,443s
listening_ports = 127.0.0.1:2020

# Allows clients to reuse TCP connection for subsequent
# HTTP requests, which improves performance.
enable_keep_alive = no

# Number of worker threads.
num_threads = 50

# Switch to given user credentials after startup.
# Required to run on privileged ports as non root user.
#run_as_user = uts-server

# Limit download speed for clients.
#
# Throttle is a comma-separated list of key=value pairs:
#
# - *                -> limit speed for all connections
#
# - x.x.x.x/mask -> limit speed for specified subnet
#
# The value is a floating-point number of bytes per second,
# optionally followed by a k or m character
# meaning kilobytes and megabytes respectively.
#
# A limit of 0 means unlimited rate.
#
# Ex: throttle = *=1k,10.10.0.0/16=10m,10.20.0.0/16=0
throttle = *=0
```

```
# Timeout for network read and network write operations.
# In milliseconds.
request_timeout_ms = 30000

# Path to the SSL certificate file .
# PEM format must contain private key and certificate.
#ssl_certificate = /etc/uts-server/cert.pem

# Enable client's certificate verification by the server.
#ssl_verify_peer = yes

# Name of a directory containing trusted CA certificates.
#ssl_ca_path = /etc/ssl/ca/

# Path to a .pem file containing trusted certificates.
# The file may contain more than one certificate.
#ssl_ca_file = /etc/uts-server/ca.pem

# Sets maximum depth of certificate chain.
# If client's certificate chain is longer
# than the depth set here connection is refused.
#ssl_verify_depth = 9

# Loads default trusted certificates
# locations set at OpenSSL compile time.
#ssl_default_verify_paths = yes

# List of enabled ciphers for ssl.
# See https://www.openssl.org/docs/manmaster/apps/ciphers.html
# or 'man ciphers' for more detailed.
#ssl_cipher_list = ALL:!eNULL:!SSLv3

# Sets the minimal accepted version of SSL/TLS protocol
# according to the table:
#
# - SSL2+SSL3+TLS1.0+TLS1.1+TLS1.2 -> 0
#
# - SSL3+TLS1.0+TLS1.1+TLS1.2      -> 1
#
# - TLS1.0+TLS1.1+TLS1.2          -> 2
#
# - TLS1.1+TLS1.2                 -> 3
#
# - TLS1.2                        -> 4
#ssl_protocol_version = 3

# Enables the use of short lived certificates
#ssl_short_trust = no

# Comma separated list of IP subnets to accept/deny
#
# Ex: -0.0.0.0/0,+192.168.0.0/16
# (deny all accesses, only allow 192.168.0.0/16 subnet)
#access_control_allow_origin = -0.0.0.0/0,+192.168/16

# Enable TCP_NODELAY socket option on client connections.
tcp_nodelay = 0
```

```
# Loglevel (debug, info, notice, warn, err, emerg, crit)
log_level = info

# TSA configuration parameters.
[ tsa ]

# TSA root directory.
dir = /etc/uts-server/pki

# OpenSSL engine to use for signing.
#crypto_device      = builtin

# The TSA signing certificat. (optional)
signer_cert = $dir/tsacert.pem

# Certificate chain to include in reply. (optional)
certs = $dir/cacert.pem

# The TSA private key. (optional)
signer_key = $dir/private/tsakey.pem

# Policy if request did not specify it. (optional)
default_policy = tsa_policy1

# Acceptable policies. (optional)
other_policies = tsa_policy2, tsa_policy3

# Acceptable message digests. (mandatory)
# See https://www.openssl.org/docs/manmaster/apps/dgst.html
# or 'man dgst' to get the list of available digests
digests = md5, sha1, sha224, sha256, sha384, sha512

# Time-Stamp accuracy. (optional)
accuracy = secs:1, millisecs:500, microsecs:100

# Number of decimals for Time-Stamp. (optional)
clock_precision_digits = 0

# Is ordering defined for timestamps? (optional, default: no)
ordering = yes

# Must the TSA name be included in the reply? (optional, default: no)
tsa_name = yes

# Must the ESS cert id chain be included? (optional, default: no)
ess_cert_id_chain = no
```

Deploy

5.1 Usage

```
$ ./uts-server --help
Usage: uts-server [OPTION...] -c CONFFILE [-d] [-D] [-p <pidfile>]

UTS micro timestamp server (RFC 3161)

  -c, --conffile=CONFFILE    Path to configuration file
  -d, --daemonize             Launch as a daemon
  -D, --debug                 STDOUT debugging
  -p, --pidfile=PIDFILE      Path to pid file
  -?, --help                 Give this help list
      --usage                 Give a short usage message
  -V, --version               Print program version

Mandatory or optional arguments to long options are also mandatory or optional
for any corresponding short options.

Report bugs to Pierre-Francois Carpentier <carpentier.pf@gmail.com>.
```

5.2 Running uts-sever

To debug problems with uts-server, run it in the foreground in debug mode:

```
# In debug mode with verbose debugging on stdout
$ ./uts-server -c <path/to/conf> -D
```

To run it as a daemon:

```
# In daemon mode
$ ./uts-server -c <path/to/conf> -d -p <path/to/pidfile>
```

Changelogs

6.1 dev

6.2 0.1.1

- [fix] correct compilation issues in older gcc/clang caused by missing `-D_XOPEN_SOURCE`, missing `-std` and missing headers
- [impr] exit at the first `TS_RESP_CTX` (OpenSSL TS response context) initialization failed.

6.3 0.1.0

- [impr] adding various goodies (init scripts)
- [impr] safer crypto algorithm in configuration file
- [impr] removing useless `default_tsa` parameter in configuration file

6.4 0.0.3

- [fix] memleak on configuration parameters loading

6.5 0.0.2

- [fix] Fix loading of certificate in case of relative path

6.6 0.0.1

- First version

Some Goodies

7.1 Time-Stamp script combining curl and openssl

```
#!/bin/sh

RCol='\33[0m'      # Text Reset

# Regular          Bold          Underline          High Intensity          BoldHigh Intens
Bla='\33[0;30m';   BBla='\33[1;30m';   UBla='\33[4;30m';   IBla='\33[0;90m';   BIBla='\33[1;90m
Red='\33[0;31m';   BRed='\33[1;31m';   URed='\33[4;31m';   IRed='\33[0;91m';   BIRed='\33[1;91m
Gre='\33[0;32m';   BGre='\33[1;32m';   UGre='\33[4;32m';   IGre='\33[0;92m';   BIGre='\33[1;92m
Yel='\33[0;33m';   BYel='\33[1;33m';   UYel='\33[4;33m';   IYel='\33[0;93m';   BIYel='\33[1;93m
Blu='\33[0;34m';   BBlu='\33[1;34m';   UBlu='\33[4;34m';   IBlu='\33[0;94m';   BIBlu='\33[1;94m
Pur='\33[0;35m';   BPur='\33[1;35m';   UPur='\33[4;35m';   IPur='\33[0;95m';   BIPur='\33[1;95m
Cya='\33[0;36m';   BCya='\33[1;36m';   UCya='\33[4;36m';   ICya='\33[0;96m';   BICya='\33[1;96m
Whi='\33[0;37m';   BWhi='\33[1;37m';   UWhi='\33[4;37m';   IWhi='\33[0;97m';   BIWhi='\33[1;97m

SYSLOG=1

help(){
    cat <<EOF

usage: `basename $0` -i <input file> -u <ts server url> \\  

    -o <output ts file> -O <openssl options> -C <curl options>

HTTP timestamping client using openssl and curl (RFC 3161)

arguments:

* mandatory:
  -i <input file>:      the input file to timestamp
  -u <ts server url>:   the timestamp server url

* optionnal:
  -l                  : enable logging to syslog
  -o <output ts file>: output timestamp file name (default: <input file>.ts)
  -O <openssl options>: openssl additionnal options (man ts for more details)
  -C <curl options>:   curl additionnal options (man curl for more details)

EOF
    exit 1
}
```

```

simple_logger(){
    [ $SYSLOG -eq 0 ] && logger -t `basename $0` -p user.$1 $2
}

clean(){
    rm -f -- "$TMPREQ"
}

clean_exit(){
    clean
    exit 1
}

exit_error(){
    msg=$1
    simple_logger err "error, $msg"
    printf "${BIRed}[ERROR]    ${IYel}%s${RCol}\n" "$msg"
    clean_exit
}

info(){
    msg=$1
    simple_logger debug "$msg"
    printf "${BIBlu}[INFO]      ${RCol}%s${RCol}\n" "$msg"
}

success(){
    msg=$1
    simple_logger info "$msg"
    printf "${BIGre}[SUCCESS]  ${RCol}%s${RCol}\n" "$msg"
}

trap clean_exit HUP INT TERM
TMPREQ=`mktemp`

REMOVE_TS=0

while getopts ":lhru:i:o:O:C:" opt; do
    case $opt in
        h) help;;
        l) SYSLOG=0;;
        u) TS_URL="$OPTARG";;
        i) INPUT_FILE="`readlink -f $OPTARG`";;
        o) OUTPUT_FILE="`readlink -f $OPTARG`";;
        O) OPENSSL_OPTS="$OPTARG";;
        C) CURL_OPTS="$OPTARG";;
        r) REMOVE_TS=1;;
        \?) echo "Invalid option: -$OPTARG" >&2; help; exit 1;;
        :) echo "Option -$OPTARG requires an argument." >&2; help; exit 1;;
    esac
done

# If no output file specified, output to <input file>.ts
[ -z "$OUTPUT_FILE" ] && OUTPUT_FILE="${INPUT_FILE}.tsr"

# Check that input file exists
[ -f "$INPUT_FILE" ] || exit_error "Input file '$INPUT_FILE' doesn't exist"
# Check that output file doesn't exist

```

```

if [ $REMOVE_TS -eq 1 ]
then
    [ -f "$OUTPUT_FILE" ] && rm -f "$OUTPUT_FILE"
else
    ! [ -f "$OUTPUT_FILE" ] || exit_error "Output timestamp file '$OUTPUT_FILE' already exists"
fi
# Check that url is not empty
! [ -z "$TS_URL" ] || exit_error "Missing timestamp server url"

info "Generating timestamp on file '$INPUT_FILE', to '$OUTPUT_FILE', using server '$TS_URL'"

# Building the timestamp request with openssl
openssl ts $OPENSSL_OPTS \
    -query -data "$INPUT_FILE" \
    -out "$TMPREQ" || exit_error "Request generation failed"

# Submitting the timestamp request to the RFC 3161 server with curl
curl "$TS_URL" $CURL_OPTS \
    -H "Content-Type: application/timestamp-query" \
    -f -g \
    --data-binary @$TMPREQ \
    -o "$OUTPUT_FILE" 2>/dev/null || exit_error "Timestamp query failed"

openssl ts -verify -data "$INPUT_FILE" -in "$OUTPUT_FILE" 2>&1 | grep -q "asn1 encoding routines" &&
    "Reponse doesn't appear to be a timestamp response"

success "Timestamp of file '$INPUT_FILE' using server '$TS_URL' succeed, ts written to '$OUTPUT_FILE'"

clean

```

uts-server

Micro [RFC 3161 Time-Stamp](#) server written in C.

Doc [Uts-Server documentation on ReadTheDoc](#)

Dev [Uts-Server source code on GitHub](#)

License MIT

Author Pierre-Francois Carpentier - copyright © 2016

8.1 License

Released under the MIT Public License

8.2 What is RFC 3161?

An RFC 3161 time-stamp is basically a cryptographic signature with a date attached.

Roughly, it works as follow:

1. A client application sends an hash of the data it wants to time-stamp to a Time-Stamp authority server.
2. The Time-Stamp authority server retrieves the current date, concatenates it with the hash and uses its private key to create the time-stamp (kind of like a signature).
3. The Time-Stamp authority server returns the generated time-stamp to the client application.

Then a client can verify the piece of data with the time-stamp using the Certificate Authority of the time-stamp key pair (X509 certificates).

It gives a cryptographic proof of a piece of data content, like a file, at a given time.

Some use cases:

- time-stamp log files at rotation time.
- time-stamp file at upload to prove it was delivered in due time or not.

8.3 Quick Start

```
# Building with civetweb embedded (will recover civetweb from github).
$ cmake . -DBUNDLE_CIVETWEB=ON
$ make

# Create some test certificates.
$ ./tests/cfg/pki/create_tsa_certs

# Launching the time-stamp server with test configuration in debug mode.
$ ./uts-server -c tests/cfg/uts-server.cnf -D

# In another shell, launching a time-stamp script on the README.md file.
$ ./goodies/timestamp-file.sh -i README.rst -u http://localhost:2020 -r -O "-cert";

# Verify the time-stamp.
$ openssl ts -verify -in README.rst.tsr -data README.rst -CAfile ./tests/cfg/pki/tsaca.pem

# Display the time-stamp content.
$ openssl ts -reply -in README.rst.tsr -text
```

8.4 Powered by