

This unit describes how to detect and troubleshoot security related problems.

Unit objectives



After completing this unit, you should be able to describe common problems with WebSphere security, recognize symptoms of common security-related problems, analyze relevant log files for security messages, enable server tracing on relevant security components, analyze and interpret trace information, locate the security configuration files, and use tools to validate the security configuration files.

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After completing this topic, you should be able to list the WebSphere security components, and describe authentication and authorization flows.



Security components include the security server which runs in each application server, security collaborators which enforce security constraints, the web security collaborator which resides in the web container, and the EJB security collaborator which resides in the EJB container.



When a web browsers sends a request to a WebSphere application, the resource protection is checked, the web server recognizes the resource on the server, and redirects the request to the Web security collaborator. If authentication is successful, the HTTP request reaches the web container, at which point the security server authorizes the user for the call.



This diagram describes the process of authentication and authorization for a web client attempting to access a secured resource.



This diagram illustrates the authorization process for a web client and a Java[™] client.



When a java client interacts with a WebSphere appliation, the client generates a request that reaches the server side ORB and the security interceptor performs authentication on the server side on behalf of the ORB, consequently setting the security context. The server side ORB passes the request to the EJB container, which passes it to the EJB collaborator. The EJB collaborate reads the user credentials and passes it to the security server, which validates the user access rights.



After completing this topic, you should be able to describe what can go wrong, describe how to approach a security problem, recognize normal security messages, determine if a problem is related to authentication or authorization, determine if a problem is Web request or EJB-related, determine if a problem is SSL-related, examine a stack trace in the system log, enable tracing of security components, analyze trace information.



Common security errors include errors in global security, errors after security is enabled, access and login problems, errors with the SSL configuration, single sign-on configuration, user authorization, and server start failures.



Troubleshooting security related issues involves analyzing whether or not the problem occurs when security is disabled. Just because a problem only occurs when security is enabled does not always make it a security problem. You should also ensure that security initializes properly.



Normal security initialization messages • Messages in the SystemOut.log indicating normal initialization: SASRas JSAS00011: Security configuration initialized. А SASRas JSAS0002I: Authentication protocol: CSIV2/IBM А SASRas JSAS0003I: Authentication mechanism: LTPA А SASRas JSAS0004I: Principal name: А DM01:389/uid=wsadmin,cn=users,dc=ibm,dc=com JSAS0005I: SecurityCurrent registered. SASRas А SASRas A JSAS0006I: Security connection interceptor initialized. A JSAS0007I: Client request interceptor registered. SASRas SASRas A JSAS0008I: Server request interceptor registered. SASRas А JSAS0009I: IOR interceptor registered. UserRegistryI A SECJ0136I: Custom Registry:com.ibm.ws.security.registry.ldap.LdapRegistryImpl has been initialized distSecurityC I SECJ0243I: Security service started successfully distSecurityC I SECJ0210I: Security enabled true 2007 IBM Corporation Security configuration problems

Administrators should know what log messages reflect a normal startup on a server. The SystemOut messages in this example indicate normal code intialization.



Most security problems are related to authentication or authorization. Authentication is the process of determining who the caller is, and authorization is the process of validating that the caller has the proper authority to invoke a certain method.



Web requests and EJB requests have distinct security paths. Web request involve HTTP header information which EJB requests do not. Web requests involve the web container whereas EJB requests invole the EJB container. It is important to understand both request flows.



Secure EJB requests flow over the RMI/IIOP protocol and rely on the ORB and Naming components. When Workload Manager is enabled, other differences may be seen in request behavior. Understanding the functions of the ORB and the Naming Service components can be helpful in problem determination.



SSL is a distinct layer of security. Problems in SSL are usually separate from authentication and authorization. Most SSL problems are related to first-time setup and configuration, including the use of IBM's Key Management tool. Issues included protocol differences and listener port incompatabilities.



Example errors include errors launching KeyMan, such as the fact that the Java Cryptographic Exectension files are not found. An inability to verify the message authentication code signifies that the wrong keystore password is being used. An SSL handshake failure indicates that there is no trusted certificate found.



As in most troubleshooting situations, the system log files should be viewed first for exceptions, errors, and, warning messages. A single stack trace tells a lot about the problem. You may also trace several security components with a certain degree of detail to further determine the cause of a security problem.

Example: SystemOut.log stack trace

 Symptom: The Deployment manager fails to start. An examination of the Dmgr's SystemOut.log file shows many exceptions and stack traces. The beginning of the first stack trace looks like the following:



The following example stack trace shows a situations where the deployment manager cannot reach the LDAP remote host. The first step in diagnosing this issue would be to attempt to ping DM01 from the deployment manager machine.

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There are various security components that can be traced such as auth, ejb, registry, and so on. The use of wildcards in trace specifications makes it easy to enable tracing on multiple components.

In the A	dministrative Console select Troubleshooting→Logs and Trace	
Select the select t	he server you want to trace, server1 or dmgr	
Select C	Change Log Details Levels	
Click co	m.ibm.websphere.security.* and select all	
Click co	om.ibm.ws.security.* and select all	
	Configuration Runtime	
	Concercil Properties	
	Change Log Detail Levels	
	Components Groups I IMPORTANT: To view log events that are below the Detail Level, you must enable the Diagnostic Trace Service. Log events that are at Detail Level or above can be viewed in the SystemOut log, IBM Service Log (when enabled), or the Diagnostic Trace Service (when enabled).	
	=info: com.ibm.websphere.security.=all: com.ibm.ws.security.*=all: SASRas=all	

The following example shows how to enable all the major security components for all events. Security trace tends to be significantly larger than most other kinds of traces, so performance and file size should be a consideration when deciding which trace levels to use.



By default, when tracing is enabled for a server, the trace information is written to the trace.log file in the server's logs directory. In this example, without setting the trace level for the Unknown Host Exception, we would not be able to see the events that led up to the exception.



After completing this topic, you should be able to identify the different types of WebSphere and security-related messages and codes.

IBM Software Group IRM **Security Association Service messages** JSAS messages are from Security Association Service Examples JSAS0201E: [{0}] Invocation credential realm does not match target's realm: {0}. If using the SWAM authentication mechanism, you should switch to using LTPA instead for remote IIOP invocations. **Explanation:** Attempting a remote invocation over IIOP using the SWAM authentication mechanism is not supported. User Response: Retry with the LTPA authentication mechanism configured in **Global Security** JSAS0202E: [{0}] Credential token expired. {1} **Explanation:** The credential token associated with the user credential has expired. This typically occurs with LTPA. **User Response:** Close the client and login again. 2007 IBM Corporation

JSAS messages are from the Security Association Service.



SECJ messages are from the overall WebSphere Security component.



SECG messages are from the Web UI Security Center component.



WSEC messages are from the Web Services Security component. Lastly, JSSL are ORB SSL Extensions messages, and WSSK are Web Services Security Kerberos messages.

CSIv2 CORBA minor codes

 The following table shows some CORBA minor codes which a client can expect to receive after running a security-related request such as authentication

Minor code name	Minor code value (Hex)	Exception type	Minor code description
AuthenticationFailed	49424300	NO_PERMISSION	See Notes
InvalidUserid	49424301	NO_PERMISSION	See Notes
InvalidPassword	49424302	NO_PERMISSION	See Notes
InvalidSecurityCredentials	49424303	NO_PERMISSION	See Notes
ServerConnectionFailed	494210A0	COMM_FAILURE	See Notes
ValuelsNull	494210B2	INTERNAL	See Notes

CORBA exceptions are generic and indicate a problem in communication between two components. CORBA minor codes are more specific and indicate the underlying reason that a component could not complete a request. This table shows some common CORBA minor codes after running a security-related request.

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An example CORBA exception shows a minor code which describes an authentication failure event.



After completing this topic, you should be able to locate and validate security configuration files, track LTPA tokens, disable global security.



The major configuration files related to security are security.xml, ws-security.xml, sas.client.props, and was.policy. These files should almost never be edited manually.



There are various tools from IBM support which check and validate security configuration. ACert is a command-line tool that checks expiration dates of all SSL certificates. The WebSphere Security Scanning Tool scans static security configuration files to look for potential vulnerabilities, and the LDAP Browser is useful for working directly with LDAP user registries.

Tracking LTPA tokens

- To track LTPA tokens, configure your Web browser to warn about cookies
- If you do not get a warning after a successful authentication you may have problems with
 - Domain suffix for the LTPA SSO configuration
 - Proxy server configuration

Ś,	Privacy Alert					
ut	The Web site "ibm.com" has requested to save a file on your computer called a "cookie." This file may be used to track usage information. Do you want to allow this?					
	Apply my decision to all cookies from this Web site					
		Allow Cookie Block Cookie More Info Help				
arning	Cookie Information					
Ŭ	Name	LtpaToken				
ay	Domain	ibm.com				
	Path	/				
	Expires	End of session Secure No				
LTPA	Data	h/MNzwYYGCxiR095El8gP0+gJx+y0p0AYK+boz6P0nnp esFHrsiMWXbMZexctK4zjRvbbCPHAnckl59kgrFr00tLEK UJIAj86GYyCoCsyijbwYaGwjaQCSJtF/wE1qYCr5iX3yE24 tmZ3PELI3+pfXrUZ0h0e8q5F0aYbkLhHg7KzF1nwX81h				
	3rd Party	No Session Yes				
	Compact Policy					
ration		<u> </u>				

It is useful to determine how WebSphere Application Server is managing the LTPA cookie or token. You should enable your Web browser to warn about cookies. Once you do this, your browser will inform you when WebSphere Application Server sends back an LTPA token.

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Sometimes it is necessary to disable global security in order to troubleshoot security-related problems. This can be done through the administrative console or directly through wsadmin.

Checkpoint

- 1. Which two application server components have a security collaborator process?
- 2. What categories do most security problems fall under?
- 3. In which log files would you most likely find stack traces resulting from security-related exceptions?
- 4.Describe how you can get more detailed information about WebSphere security components written to a log file?
- 5. Which configuration file contains the global security information including: security status, user registry, and authentication mechanisms?

As a checkpoint, which two application server components have a security collaborator process? What categories do most security problems fall under? In which log files would you most likely find stack traces resulting from security-related exceptions? Describe how you can get more detailed information about WebSphere security components written to a log file? Which configuration file contains the global security information including: security status, user registry, and authentication mechanisms?

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Checkpoint solutions

- 1. The **Web container** and the **EJB container** each have a security collaborator.
- 2. Authentication and authorization mostly. But other categories include: SSL, Web Services, security proxies.
- 3. The **SystemOut.log** and **SystemErr.log** would contain stack traces resulting from security-related exceptions.
- 4. For each application server, node agent, and deployment manager you can enable tracing of security components at different levels of detail. This information can be written to a trace.log file.
- 5. The **security.xml** file contains all of the global security configuration information.

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Unit summary



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