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*Passwords: are they the weakest link?*

Passwords are commonly used for identifying users of computers. However, since passwordss must be remembered by human beings, in general they are easy to remember and thus easy for an attacker to guess or to exhaust all possibilities. For this reason, they are often seen as a “weak link” in the security protecting most computer systems. In fact, in the time it’s taken you to read the title of this talk, your password may have been compromised. Fortunately, this tragedy did not have to happen. Attend this session and learn how to ensure the security of your password, and perhaps more importantly, learn how to ensure that the scheme that is protecting your information with a password, is actually secure. This talk will examine methods for securely using “insecure” passwordss and show why passwordss do not necessarily need to be the “weakest link”.