

Formal Computational Unlinkability Proofs of RFID Protocols

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Motivation

Security protocols

Distributed programs which aim at providing some security properties.

RFID protocol

Reader + Tags (low computational power and low memory)

The KCL Authentication Protocol

$$R : n_R \xleftarrow{\$}$$

$$T_A : n_T \xleftarrow{\$}$$

$$1 : R \longrightarrow T_A : n_R$$

$$2 : T_A \longrightarrow R : \langle A \oplus n_T, n_T \oplus H(n_R, k_A) \rangle$$

Security properties

- Security protocols are often very short: few lines of code
 - Security properties are very complex: non-secured network + active attacker
- ⇒ Need to use formal methods to verify security protocols

Our problem

$$\forall A \in \mathcal{C} \quad P_A \models \phi$$

Motivations

Dolev-Yao model

- Symbolic model, we work on terms in some algebra.
- Simple model: we specify all that the adversary can do.
- Well-suited for proof automation (ProVerif, Tamarin, APTE ...).
- Can automatically find attacks.

Problem

This model is not very close to a real-world attacker.

Computational model

- More realistic model: we work on bit-strings.
- The adversaries are any probabilistic polynomial time Turing Machine.

Motivations

Problems of the computational model

- Proofs are long, complicated and errors prone.
- Very little proof automation (EasyCrypt, CryptoVerif . . .).
- Implicit hypothesis that may be wrong.

The Complete Symbolic Attacker model

- All hypothesis appear explicitly in the axioms.
- Proof automation.
- Attackers beyond the computational model.

1 Motivations

2 The Complete Symbolic Attacker Model

- Syntax
- Computational semantics

3 Axioms

- Structural Axioms
- Pseudo Random Function

4 KCL protocol

- Security proofs

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Syntax

Term algebra

The terms are build over:

- function symbols `if_then_else_`, `EQ(;)`, `true`, `false`
- a set of function symbols Σ with arities.
Example: $\Sigma = \{\langle _, _ \rangle, \pi_1(_), \pi_2(_), H(_) \}$
- a set of function symbols \mathcal{G} with arities.
- a countable set of names \mathcal{N} .
- a countable set of variable symbols \mathcal{X} .

Formulas

$$\phi ::= \vec{u} \sim \vec{v} \mid \phi \wedge \phi \mid \neg \phi \mid \perp \mid \forall x. \phi$$

where \vec{u}, \vec{v} are terms

Example

The KCL protocol

$$1 : R \longrightarrow T_A : n_R$$

$$2 : T_A \longrightarrow R : \langle A \oplus n_T, n_T \oplus H(n_R, k_A) \rangle$$

Example

- **Terms:**

$$m_A = \langle A \oplus n_T, n_T \oplus H(g(n_R), k_A) \rangle$$

- **Formula:**

$$n_R, m_A \sim n_R, m_B$$

Computational semantics of terms

Computational Model \mathcal{M}_c

- $f/n \in \Sigma \cup \mathcal{G}$ interpreted as a polynomial time Turing Machine.
- $n \in \mathcal{N}$ interpreted as a random sampling
- $\{\text{if_then_else_}, \text{EQ}();, \text{true}, \text{false}\}$ interpretations are the expected ones.

Ground terms

Ground terms are interpreted as *probabilistic* polynomial time Turing Machine.

Computational semantics of formulas

Predicate Interpretation in \mathcal{M}_c

$\mathcal{M}_c \models \vec{u} \sim \vec{v}$ iff for any probabilistic polynomial time Turing Machine \mathcal{A}

$$|Pr[\mathcal{A}(\llbracket \vec{u} \rrbracket_{\mathcal{M}_c}(1^\eta)) = 1] - Pr[\mathcal{A}(\llbracket \vec{v} \rrbracket_{\mathcal{M}_c}(1^\eta)) = 1]|$$

is negligible in η .

Example

For every computational model \mathcal{M}_c we have:

$$\mathcal{M}_c \models A \oplus n_1 \sim B \oplus n_2$$

Proof Technique

Goal

Formula $\vec{u} \sim \vec{v}$ expressing the security of the protocol.
(obtained by folding the executions of the protocol)

Axioms \mathcal{A}

Computationally valid inferences rules:

- “structural” axioms: always true.
- implementation axioms: cryptographic assumptions ...

Proof Technique

Find axioms allowing us to get a proof derivation of the goal.

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Structural Axioms

Relation Axioms

$$\frac{}{x \sim x} \textit{Refl} \quad \frac{x \sim y}{y \sim x} \textit{Sym} \quad \frac{x \sim y \quad y \sim z}{x \sim z} \textit{Trans}$$

\sim is not a congruence!

Counter-Example: $n \sim n$ and $n \sim n'$, but $n, n \not\sim n, n'$.

Function Application

If you cannot distinguish the arguments, you cannot distinguish the images.

$$\frac{x_1, \dots, x_n \sim y_1, \dots, y_n}{f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \sim f(y_1, \dots, y_n)} \textit{FunApp}$$

Structural Axioms

Congruence

If $EQ(u, v) \sim \text{true}$ then u and v are (almost always) *equal*
⇒ we have a congruence.

$u = v$ syntactic sugar for $EQ(u, v) \sim \text{true}$

Equational Theory

- if y then x else $x = x$
- $\pi_i(\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle) = x_i \quad i \in \{1, 2\} \times$

Pseudo Random Function

Definition

H is a *Pseudo Random Function* family if for any PPT adversary \mathcal{A} :

$$|\Pr(k : \mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}_{H(\cdot, k)}}(1^\eta) = 1) - \Pr(g : \mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}_g(\cdot)}(1^\eta) = 1)|$$

is negligible in η , where:

- k is drawn uniformly in $\{0, 1\}^\eta$.
- g is drawn uniformly in the set of all functions from $\{0, 1\}^*$ to $\{0, 1\}^\eta$.

Translation in the Logic

Bad Axiom

If t and t' are *syntactically* distinct,

$$H(t, k), H(t', k) \sim H(t, k), n$$

Counter-Example: $t = g(a)$ and $t' = g(a')$, a, a' distinct and g an attacker function.

There exists a model falsifying the formula (e.g. g interpreted as a constant function).

Translation in the Logic

The PRF_2 Axioms

$\vec{u}, \text{if } \text{EQ}(\textcolor{red}{t}; \textcolor{red}{t}_1) \text{ then } \mathbf{0} \text{ else } H(\textcolor{red}{t}, \textcolor{blue}{k})$

\sim

$\vec{u}, \text{if } \text{EQ}(\textcolor{red}{t}; \textcolor{red}{t}_1) \text{ then } \mathbf{0} \text{ else } \textcolor{red}{n}$

where:

- the only occurrences of H (and k) in \vec{u}, t are $H(\textcolor{red}{t}_1, \textcolor{blue}{k})$
- n is a name that does not occur in \vec{u}, t, t_1

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Attack on KCL [2]

$R \rightarrow T_A :$	n_R	
$T_A \rightarrow R :$	$\langle A \oplus n_T, n_T \oplus H(n_R, k_A) \rangle$	n_R
$E \rightarrow (T_A T_B) :$	n_R	n_R
$(T_A T_B) \rightarrow R :$	$\langle A \oplus n'_T, n'_T \oplus H(n_R, k_A) \rangle$	$\langle B \oplus n'_T, n'_T \oplus H(n_R, k_B) \rangle$

Algebraic property

$$\begin{aligned} A \oplus n_T \oplus n_T \oplus H(n_R, k_A) &= A \oplus n'_T \oplus n'_T \oplus H(n_R, k_A) \\ &= A \oplus H(n_R, k_A) \end{aligned}$$

Fixing the KCL protocol

We added a hash to break the unwanted algebraic property.

KCL⁺

$$\begin{array}{lcl} R & : & \textcolor{red}{n_R} \xleftarrow{\$} \\ T & : & \textcolor{red}{n_T} \xleftarrow{\$} \end{array}$$

$$1 : R \longrightarrow T_A : \textcolor{red}{n_R}$$

$$2 : T_A \longrightarrow R : \langle \textcolor{green}{A} \oplus H(\textcolor{red}{n_T}, \textcolor{blue}{k_A}), \textcolor{red}{n_T} \oplus H(\textcolor{red}{n_R}, \textcolor{blue}{k_A}) \rangle$$

Security Property

Unlinkability for 2 rounds (A, A vs. A, B)

$$n_R, m_1, n'_R, \langle A \oplus H(n'_T, k_A), n'_T \oplus H(g_1(n_R, m_1, n'_R), k_A) \rangle$$

~

$$n_R, m_1, n'_R, \langle B \oplus H(n'_T, k_B), n'_T \oplus H(g_1(n_R, m_1, n'_R), k_B) \rangle$$

where m_1 is the term:

$$m_1 = \langle A \oplus H(n_T, k_A), n_T \oplus H(g(n_R), k_A) \rangle$$

What Assumption on H?

KCL protocol

1 : $R \longrightarrow T_A$: n_R

2 : $T_A \longrightarrow R$: $\langle A \oplus H(n_T, k_A), n_T \oplus H(n_R, k_A) \rangle$

Attack on unlinkability

There is an attack if H is only OW-CPA and CR:

- First bit of $H(x, k)$ is the first bit of the key.
- A first bit is 0
- B first bit is 1

With proba $\frac{1}{2}$, $A \oplus H(n_T, k_A)$ and $B \oplus H(n_T, k_B)$ start with different bits.

\Rightarrow rounds A, A $\not\sim$ rounds A, B

Security proofs

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathsf{n}_R, m_1, \mathsf{n}'_R, \langle \mathsf{A} \oplus \mathsf{H}(\mathsf{n}'_T, \mathsf{k}_A), \mathsf{n}'_T \oplus \mathsf{H}(g_1(\mathsf{n}_R, m_1, \mathsf{n}'_R), \mathsf{k}_A) \rangle \\ & \qquad \sim \\ & \mathsf{n}_R, m_1, \mathsf{n}'_R, \langle \mathsf{B} \oplus \mathsf{H}(\mathsf{n}'_T, \mathsf{k}_B), \mathsf{n}'_T \oplus \mathsf{H}(g_1(\mathsf{n}_R, m_1, \mathsf{n}'_R), \mathsf{k}_B) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Security proofs

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} n_R, m_1, n'_R, A \oplus H(n'_T, k_A), n'_T \oplus H(g_1(n_R, m_1, n'_R), k_A) \\ \sim \\ n_R, m_1, n'_R, B \oplus H(n'_T, k_B), n'_T \oplus H(g_1(n_R, m_1, n'_R), k_B) \end{array}}{n_R, m_1, n'_R, \langle A \oplus H(n'_T, k_A), n'_T \oplus H(g_1(n_R, m_1, n'_R), k_A) \rangle} FA$$
$$\sim$$
$$n_R, m_1, n'_R, \langle B \oplus H(n'_T, k_B), n'_T \oplus H(g_1(n_R, m_1, n'_R), k_B) \rangle$$

Security proofs

$$\frac{\phi, A \oplus H(n'_T, k_A) \sim \psi, B \oplus H(n'_T, k_B)}{n_R, m_1, n'_R, A \oplus H(n'_T, k_A), n'_T \oplus H(g_1(n_R, m_1, n'_R), k_A)} \text{Permutation}$$
$$\sim$$
$$\frac{n_R, m_1, n'_R, B \oplus H(n'_T, k_B), n'_T \oplus H(g_1(n_R, m_1, n'_R), k_B)}{n_R, m_1, n'_R, \langle A \oplus H(n'_T, k_A), n'_T \oplus H(g_1(n_R, m_1, n'_R), k_A) \rangle} FA$$
$$\sim$$
$$n_R, m_1, n'_R, \langle B \oplus H(n'_T, k_B), n'_T \oplus H(g_1(n_R, m_1, n'_R), k_B) \rangle$$

Security proofs

$$\phi, A \oplus H(n'_T, k_A) \sim \phi, A \oplus n$$

$$\phi, A \oplus n \sim \psi, B \oplus n$$

$$\psi, B \oplus n \sim \psi, B \oplus H(n'_T, k_B)$$

$$\psi, A \oplus H(n'_T, k_A) \sim \psi, B \oplus H(n'_T, k_B)$$

Trans

Security Proof

Goal

$$\frac{\frac{\phi, H(n'_T, k_A) \sim \phi, n}{\phi, A, H(n'_T, k_A) \sim \phi, A, n} FA}{\phi, A \oplus H(n'_T, k_A) \sim \phi, A \oplus n} FA$$

We want to apply the *PRF* axioms: we need to introduce distinguishing tests:

$$\phi, \text{if } EQ(n'_T; g(n_R)) \text{ then } H(n'_T, k_A) \text{ else } H(n'_T, k_A)$$

\sim

$$\phi, \text{if } EQ(n'_T; g(n_R)) \text{ then } n \text{ else } n$$

$$\frac{}{\phi, H(n'_T, k_A) \sim \phi, n} R$$

Splitting the proof

CS axiom

$$b, \text{if } b \text{ then } 0 \text{ else } t \sim b', \text{if } b' \text{ then } 0 \text{ else } t'$$
$$b, \text{if } b \text{ then } s \text{ else } 0 \sim b', \text{if } b' \text{ then } s' \text{ else } 0$$

$$\text{if } b \text{ then } s \text{ else } t \sim \text{if } b' \text{ then } s' \text{ else } t' \quad CS$$

Security Proof

Left case

$$\begin{array}{lll} \phi, \text{EQ}(\mathsf{n}'_{\mathsf{T}}; g(\mathsf{n}_{\mathsf{R}})), \text{if } \text{EQ}(\mathsf{n}'_{\mathsf{T}}; g(\mathsf{n}_{\mathsf{R}})) \text{ then } & \mathsf{H}(\mathsf{n}'_{\mathsf{T}}, \mathsf{k}_A) & \text{else } 0 \\ & \sim & \\ \phi, \text{EQ}(\mathsf{n}'_{\mathsf{T}}; g(\mathsf{n}_{\mathsf{R}})), \text{if } \text{EQ}(\mathsf{n}'_{\mathsf{T}}; g(\mathsf{n}_{\mathsf{R}})) \text{ then } & \mathsf{n} & \text{else } 0 \end{array}$$

Axiom *EqIndep*

If n is fresh in x then:

$$\text{EQ}(\mathsf{n}; \mathsf{x}) = \text{false}$$

Security Proof

$$\frac{\frac{}{\phi, \text{false}, \mathbf{0} \sim \phi, \text{false}, \mathbf{0}} \textit{Refl}}{\phi, \text{false}, \text{if false then } H(n'_T, k_A) \text{ else } \mathbf{0}} R \sim \phi, \text{false}, \text{if false then } n \text{ else } \mathbf{0}$$

Security Proof

Right case: use the *PRF* axiom!

$$\phi, \text{EQ}(\mathbf{n}'_T; g(\mathbf{n}_R)), \text{if } \text{EQ}(\mathbf{n}'_T; g(\mathbf{n}_R)) \text{ then } 0 \text{ else } H(\mathbf{n}'_T, k_A)$$

\sim

$$\phi, \text{EQ}(\mathbf{n}'_T; g(\mathbf{n}_R)), \text{if } \text{EQ}(\mathbf{n}'_T; g(\mathbf{n}_R)) \text{ then } 0 \text{ else } n$$

Contributions

- Designed and proved axioms for CR, PRF, XOR and PRNG.
- Formally expressed RFID unlinkability [1] in the CSA model.
- Proved the unlinkability of KCL⁺ for arbitrary number of rounds.
- Similar study of the LAK protocol (but only for 2 rounds).

To our knowledge, first formal proof of computational unlinkability of hash based RFID protocol.

Future Works

- More examples, with more primitives (RFID or not).
- Decidability of (a fragment of) the logic.
- Interactive prover.

```
0: pk
1: m1
2: A()
3: B()
4: enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1)
5: || Eq(t0(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1)), A() Then (|| Eq(l_proj(m1), A()) Then (|| Eq(r_proj(r_proj(m1))), B()) Then (enc(l_proj(r_proj(m1)), r2, m2)) Else (z0())))
Else (z0(||)) Else (|| Eq(r_proj(m1)), A()) Then (enc(pair(l_proj(m1), pair(rb, B()))), r1, m2)) Else (z0(||))
6: || Eq(t0(m1, m1, A(), B()), r0, m1), A() Then (|| Eq(r_proj(m1)), A()) Then (enc(pair(l_proj(m1)), pair(rb, B()))), r2, m2)) Else (z0(||)) Else (|| Eq(l_proj(m1), A()) Then (|| Eq(r_proj(r_proj(m1))), B()) Then (enc(l_proj(r_proj(m1))), r3, m2)) Else (z0(||)) Else (z0(||)))
Else (z0(||))
7: pk(m1)
8: pk(m1b)
9: sk(m1)
10: sk(m1b)
11: dec(s5(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1), m1)
12: dec(g(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1), || Eq(t0(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1)), A() Then (|| Eq(l_proj(m1), A()) Then (|| Eq(r_proj(r_proj(m1))), B()) Then (enc(l_proj(r_proj(m1))), r2, m2)) Else (z0(||)) Else (|| Eq(r_proj(m1)), A()) Then (enc(pair(l_proj(m1), pair(rb, B()))), r1, m2)) Else (z0(||))), m1)
13: dec(g(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1), || Eq(t0(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1)), A() Then (|| Eq(l_proj(m1), A()) Then (|| Eq(r_proj(r_proj(m1))), B()) Then (enc(l_proj(r_proj(m1))), r2, m2)) Else (z0(||)) Else (|| Eq(r_proj(m1)), A()) Then (enc(pair(l_proj(m1), pair(rb, B()))), r1, m2)) Else (z0(||))), m1)
14: dec(s5(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1), m1)
15: dec(g(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1), || Eq(t0(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1)), A() Then (|| Eq(l_proj(m1), A()) Then (|| Eq(r_proj(r_proj(m1))), B()) Then (enc(l_proj(r_proj(m1))), r2, m2)) Else (z0(||)) Else (|| Eq(r_proj(m1)), A()) Then (enc(pair(l_proj(m1), pair(rb, B()))), r1, m2)) Else (z0(||))), m1)
16: dec(g(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1), || Eq(t0(m1, m1, A(), B()), enc(pair(m1, A()), r0, m1)), A() Then (|| Eq(l_proj(m1), A()) Then (|| Eq(r_proj(r_proj(m1))), B()) Then (enc(l_proj(r_proj(m1))), r2, m2)) Else (z0(||)) Else (|| Eq(r_proj(m1)), A()) Then (enc(pair(l_proj(m1), pair(rb, B()))), r1, m2)) Else (z0(||))), m1)
17: Commands: help, dup, fa pos, fab pos, lift pos u v, rift pos u v, normalize pos, if_intro pos b b', cca2, cs_simple i, cs pos b b', bind, hide, reveal, switch, back n, forward,
```

Input: []

Thanks for your attention



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ACM Trans. Inf. Syst. Secur., 13(1):7:1–7:23, November 2009.



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Attacks on rfid protocols.

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