

Proving physical proximity using symbolic models

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EMSEC



Symbolic verification

Advantages:

- automated proofs
- efficient tools exist: ProVerif, Tamarin, Avispa...
- can express many security properties (authentication, secrecy, untraceability...)

But: cannot express physical proximity !
omniscient and ubiquitous attacker

How can we handle it?

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Model

Reduction results

Applications

Term algebra



Messages: terms built over a set of **names** \mathcal{N} and a **signature** Σ given with an **equational theory** E and a **rewriting system**

Example

- Names: $\mathcal{N} = \{a, n, k\}$
- Signature: $\Sigma = \{senc, sdec, pair, proj_1, proj_2, \oplus\}$

$$\begin{array}{ll} x \oplus 0 = x & (x \oplus y) \oplus z = x \oplus (y \oplus z) \\ x \oplus x = 0 & x \oplus y = y \oplus x \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} sdec(senc(x, y), y) \rightarrow x & proj_1(pair(x, y)) \rightarrow x \\ & proj_2(pair(x, y)) \rightarrow y \end{array}$$

We have that: $sdec(senc(n \oplus 0), k), k) \downarrow =_E n$

Process algebra

The role of an agent is described by a process following the grammar:

P	$:=$	0	null
		$\text{new } n.P$	name restriction
		$\text{let } x = u \text{ in } P$	conditional declaration
		$\text{out}(u).P$	output
		$\text{in}(x).P$	input

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		$\text{in}^{<t}(x).P$	guarded input
		$\text{reset}.P$	personal clock reset

Process algebra

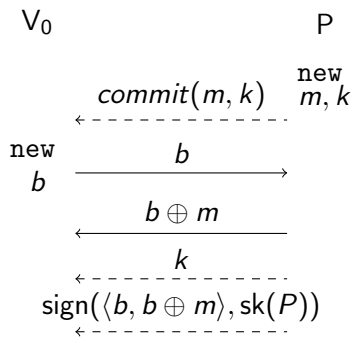
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Protocol

A protocol is a set of roles (Π_1, \dots, Π_k) describing the behaviour of each honest agents.

Example: Brands and Chaum - 1993

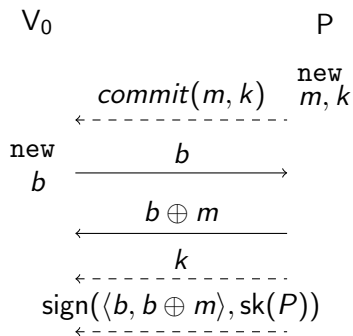


Brands and Chaum

Example: Brands and Chaum - 1993

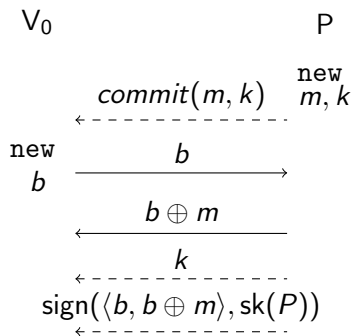
```

V(zV, zP) :=
  in(yC).new b.
  reset.out(b).in<2×t0(y0).
  in(yk).in(ysign).
  let ym = open(yC, yk) in
  let ymsg = getmsg(ysign) in
  let ycheck = check(ysign, vk(zP)) in
  let yeq = eq(⟨b, b ⊕ ym⟩, ymsg) in
  0
  
```



Brands and Chaum

Example: Brands and Chaum - 1993

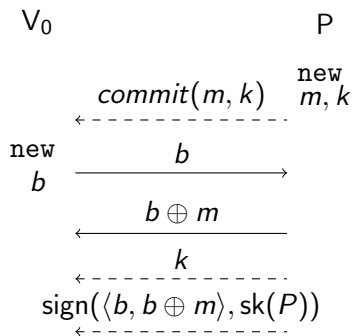
$$\begin{aligned}
 V(z_V, z_P) := & \\
 & \text{in}(y_C). \text{new } b. \\
 & \text{reset.out}(b). \text{in}^{<2 \times t_0}(y_0). \\
 & \text{in}(y_k). \text{in}(y_{\text{sign}}). \\
 & \text{let } y_m = \text{open}(y_C, y_k) \text{ in} \\
 & \text{let } y_{\text{msg}} = \text{getmsg}(y_{\text{sign}}) \text{ in} \\
 & \text{let } y_{\text{check}} = \text{check}(y_{\text{sign}}, \text{vk}(z_P)) \text{ in} \\
 & \text{let } y_{\text{eq}} = \text{eq}(\langle b, b \oplus y_m \rangle, y_{\text{msg}}) \text{ in} \\
 & 0
 \end{aligned}$$


Brands and Chaum

Example: Brands and Chaum - 1993

```

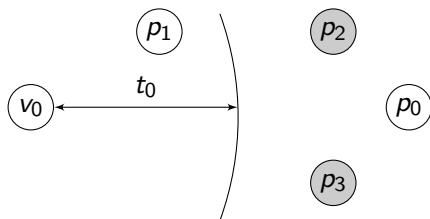
V(z_V, z_P) :=
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  reset.out(b).in^{<2 \times t_0}(y_0).
  in(y_k).in(y_{sign}).
  let y_m = open(y_C, y_k) in
  let y_{msg} = getmsg(y_{sign}) in
  let y_{check} = check(y_{sign}, vk(z_P)) in
  let y_{eq} = eq(\langle b, b \oplus y_m \rangle, y_{msg}) in
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Brands and Chaum

Topology

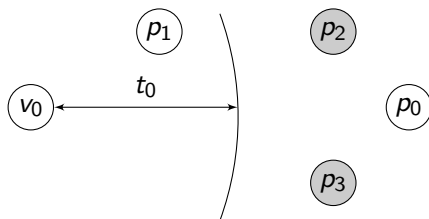
A **topology** is a tuple $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{A}, \text{Loc}, \mathcal{M}, v_0, p_0)$.



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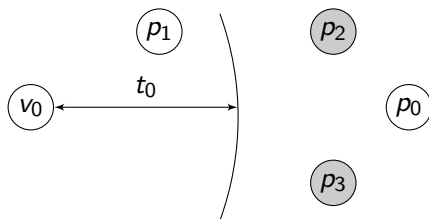
agents



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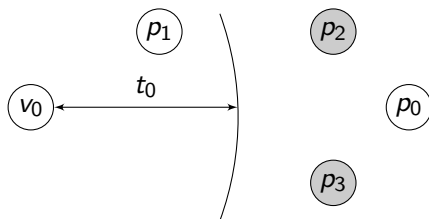
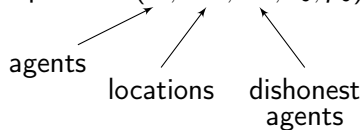
agents \nearrow
 locations \nearrow



We define $\text{Dist}_{\mathcal{T}}(a, b) = \frac{\|\text{Loc}(a) - \text{Loc}(b)\|}{c}$

Topology

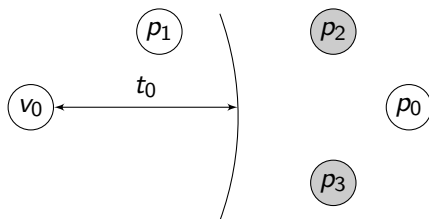
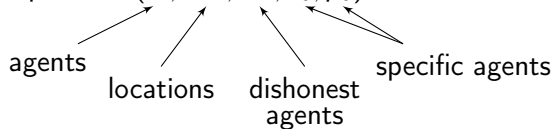
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Configuration and semantics

A **configuration** is a tuple $(\mathcal{P}; \Phi; t)$ where:

- \mathcal{P} is a multiset of $[P]_a^{t_a}$ with $a \in \mathcal{A}$ and $t_a \in \mathcal{R}_+$
- $\Phi = \{w_1 \xrightarrow{a_1, t_1} m_1, \dots, w_n \xrightarrow{a_n, t_n} m_n\}$ is a frame
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OUT $([out(u).P]_a^{t_a} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi; t) \xrightarrow{a, out(u)}_{\mathcal{T}_0} ([P]_a^{t_a} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi'; t)$
 with $\Phi' = \Phi \cup \{w \xrightarrow{a, t} u\}$

Configuration and semantics

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$$\text{IN} \quad (\lfloor \text{in}^*(x).P \rfloor_a^{t_a} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi; t) \xrightarrow{a, \text{in}^*(u)}_{\mathcal{T}_0} (\lfloor P\{x \mapsto u\} \rfloor_a^{t_a} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi; t)$$

if u is deducible from Φ

Configuration and semantics

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$$\text{IN} \quad ([\text{in}^*(x).P]_a^{t_a} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi; t) \xrightarrow{a, \text{in}^*(u)}_{\mathcal{T}_0} ([P\{x \mapsto u\}]_a^{t_a} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi; t)$$

if $\exists b \in \mathcal{A}, t_b \in \mathcal{R}_+$ such that $t_b \leq t - \text{Dist}_{\mathcal{T}}(b, a)$ and:

- if $b \notin \mathcal{M}$ then $u \in \text{img}([\Phi]_b^{t_b})$
- if $b \in \mathcal{M}$ then u is deducible from $\bigcup_{c \in \mathcal{A}} [\Phi]_c^{t_b - \text{Dist}_{\mathcal{T}}(c, b)}$

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- $t \in \mathcal{R}_+$ is the global time

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if $\exists b \in \mathcal{A}, t_b \in \mathcal{R}_+$ such that $t_b \leq t - \text{Dist}_{\mathcal{T}}(b, a)$ and:

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- if $b \in \mathcal{M}$ then u is deducible from $\bigcup_{c \in \mathcal{A}} [\Phi]_c^{t_b - \text{Dist}_{\mathcal{T}}(c, b)}$

Moreover if $\star = < t_g$ then $t_a < t_g$.

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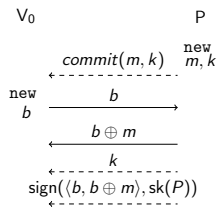
TIME $(\mathcal{P}; \Phi; t) \longrightarrow_{\mathcal{T}} (\mathcal{P}'; \Phi; t')$ with:

- $t' > t$
- $\mathcal{P}' = \{ [P]_a^{t_a + (t' - t)} \mid [P]_a^{t_a} \in \mathcal{P} \}$

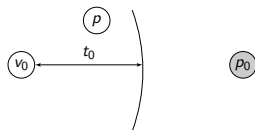
Example: Brands and Chaum - 1993

$$K_0 = ([V(v_0, p_0)]_{v_0}^0 \uplus [P(p)]_p^0; \Phi_0; 0) \text{ with}$$

$$\Phi_0 = \{w_1 \xrightarrow{p_0, 0} sk(p_0)\}$$



Brands and Chaum



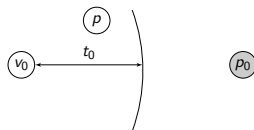
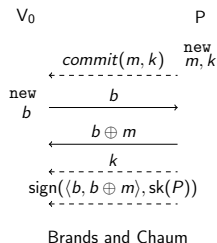
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Execution of the protocol:

K_0



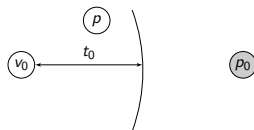
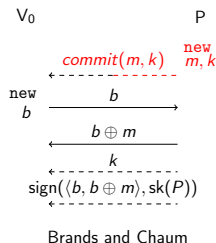
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Execution of the protocol:

$$K_0 \xrightarrow{p, \tau} \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{p, \tau} \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{p, \text{out}(\text{commit}(m, k))} \mathcal{T}_0$$



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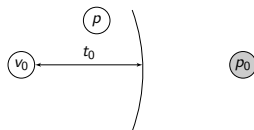
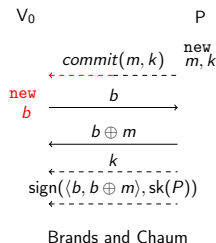
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$$\rightarrow \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{v_0, \text{in}(\text{commit}(m, k))} \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{v_0, \tau} \mathcal{T}_0$$



Example: Brands and Chaum - 1993

$$K_0 = ([V(v_0, p_0)]_{v_0}^0 \uplus [P(p)]_p^0; \Phi_0; 0) \text{ with}$$

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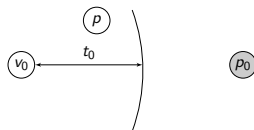
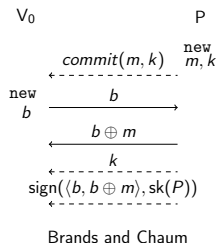
$$K_0 \xrightarrow{p, \tau} \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{p, \tau} \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{p, \text{out}(\text{commit}(m, k))} \mathcal{T}_0$$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{v_0, \text{in}(\text{commit}(m, k))} \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{v_0, \tau} \mathcal{T}_0$$

$$\xrightarrow{v_0, \tau} \mathcal{T}_0 (\mathcal{P}_1; \Phi_1; \delta_0)$$

with:

- $\mathcal{P}_1 = [V_1]_{v_0}^0 \uplus [P_1]_p^{\delta_0}$
- $\Phi_1 = \{w_1 \xrightarrow{p_0, 0} sk(p_0),$
 $w_2 \xrightarrow{p, 0} \text{commit}(m, k)\}$



Security property: physical proximity

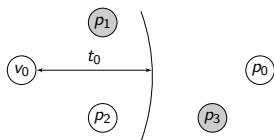
t_0 -proximity

A protocol \mathcal{P}_{prox} ensures t_0 -proximity w.r.t. a topology $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{A}, \text{Loc}, \mathcal{M}, v_0, p_0)$ and a configuration K if:

$$K \xrightarrow{tr}_{\mathcal{T}} (\lfloor \text{end}(v_0, p_0) \rfloor_{v_0}^{t_{v_0}} ; \Phi ; t) \Rightarrow \text{Dist}_{\mathcal{T}}(v_0, p_0) < t_0.$$

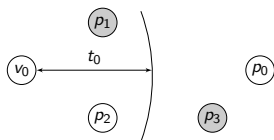
Classes of attacks

Mafia frauds - \mathcal{C}_{MF}
(v_0 and p_0 are honest)

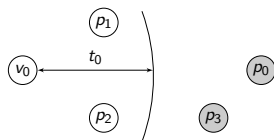


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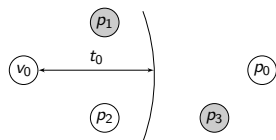


Distance hijacking - \mathcal{C}_{DH}
(no dishonest agents close to v_0)

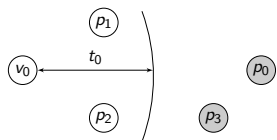


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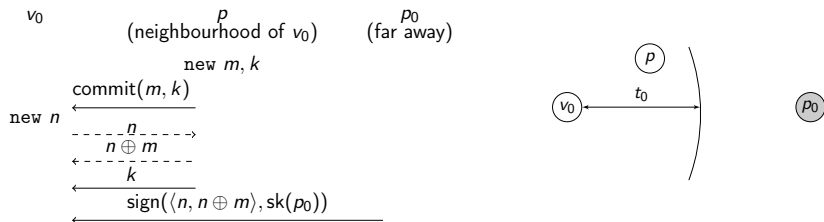


Mafia frauds (resp. Distance hijacking attacks)

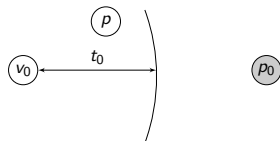
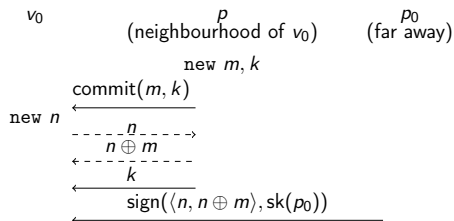
A protocol \mathcal{P}_{prox} is resistant against Mafia frauds (resp. Distance hijacking attacks) if **for all** topologies $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{C}_{MF}$ (resp. \mathcal{C}_{DH}) and initial configurations K :

$$K \xrightarrow{tr}_{\mathcal{T}} (\lfloor \text{end}(v_0, p_0) \rfloor_{v_0}^{t_{v_0}}; \Phi; t) \Rightarrow \text{Dist}_{\mathcal{T}}(v_0, p_0) < t_0.$$

Example: Brands and Chaum - 1993



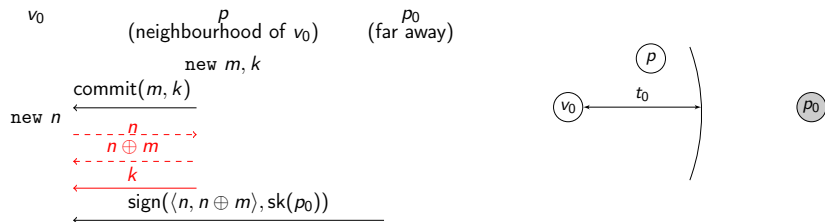
Example: Brands and Chaum - 1993



Trace of execution:

$$K_0 \xrightarrow{tr^*} \mathcal{T} ([V_1]_{v_0}^0 \uplus [P_1]_p^{\delta_0}; \Phi_1; \delta_0)$$

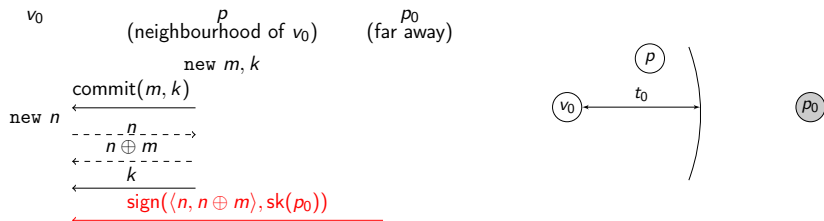
Example: Brands and Chaum - 1993



Trace of execution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & K_0 \xrightarrow{tr^*} \mathcal{T} \left([V_1]_{v_0}^0 \uplus [P_1]_p^{\delta_0}; \Phi_1; \delta_0 \right) \\
 & \xrightarrow{v_0, out(n)} \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{p, in(n')} \mathcal{T}_0 \\
 & \xrightarrow{p, out(n \oplus m)} \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{p, out(k)} \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{v_0, in^{<2 \times t_0}(n \oplus m)} \mathcal{T}_0 \xrightarrow{v_0, in(k)} \mathcal{T}_0
 \end{aligned}$$

Example: Brands and Chaum - 1993



Trace of execution:

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 & \xrightarrow{v_0, \text{in}(\text{sign}(\langle n, n \oplus m \rangle, \text{sk}(p_0)))} \mathcal{T}_0 \\
 & \left([P_2]_p^{3\delta_0 + 2\delta'_0} \uplus [\text{end}(v_0, p_0)]_{v_0}^{2\delta_0 + 2\delta'_0}; \Phi; 3\delta_0 + 2\delta'_0 \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

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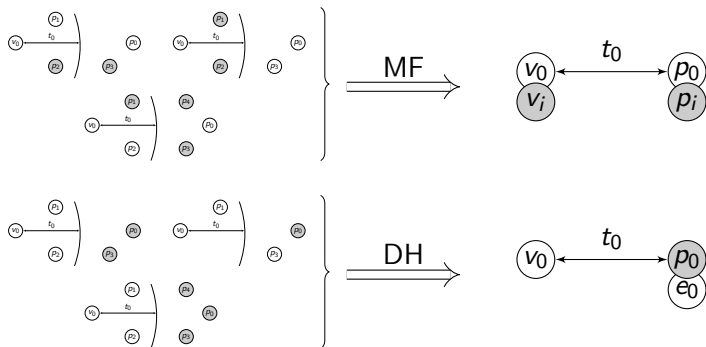
Model

Reduction results

Applications

Reduction results

Only one topology is sufficient !



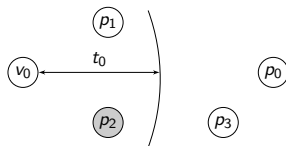
Mafia fraud attacks

Theorem

Let \mathcal{P}_{prox} be an **executable** protocol.

\mathcal{P}_{prox} admits a Mafia fraud attack w.r.t. t_0 -proximity, if and only if, there is an attack against t_0 -proximity in the topology \mathcal{T}_{MF} .

Sketch of proof:



Mafia fraud attacks

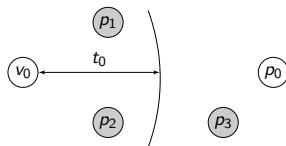
Theorem

Let \mathcal{P}_{prox} be an **executable** protocol.

\mathcal{P}_{prox} admits a Mafia fraud attack w.r.t. t_0 -proximity, if and only if, there is an attack against t_0 -proximity in the topology \mathcal{T}_{MF} .

Sketch of proof:

1. the honest agents become malicious \rightarrow no executed processes



Mafia fraud attacks

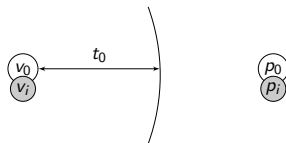
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Sketch of proof:

1. the honest agents become malicious \rightarrow no executed processes
2. we place them ideally
[Nigam *et. al.*, 16]



Mafia fraud attacks

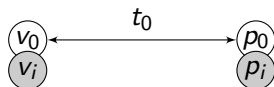
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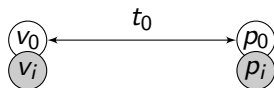
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Remark. This proof cannot be adapted for distance hijacking attacks !

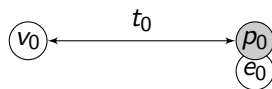
Distance hijacking attacks

Theorem

Let \mathcal{P}_{prox} be a protocol such that the Verifier role respects the following grammar:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 P, Q := \text{end}(z_0, z_1) \quad | \quad \text{in}(x).P \quad | \quad \text{let } x = v \text{ in } P \\
 \quad \quad | \quad \text{new } n.P \quad | \quad \text{out}(u).P \quad | \quad \text{reset.out}(u').\text{in}^{<t}(x).P
 \end{array}$$

If \mathcal{P}_{prox} admits a Distance hijacking attack w.r.t. t_0 -proximity, then $\overline{\mathcal{P}_{prox}}$ admits an attack against t_0 -proximity in the topology \mathcal{T}_{DH} .



\mathcal{T}_{DH}

In $\overline{\mathcal{P}_{prox}}$ we only keep guards computed by v_0 .

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Model

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ProVerif [Blanchet, 01]

ProVerif is a verifier tool for cryptographic protocols.

<http://proverif.inria.fr/>

Advantages:

- fully automated
- can model many cryptographic primitives
- handles an unbounded number of sessions
- can model protocols defined by phases (e.g. e-voting)

Issues:

- termination not guaranteed
- can answer *"cannot be proved"*
- no time and locations

Phases in ProVerif

Common use: model protocols defined by steps (e.g. e-voting) and security properties (e.g. forward secrecy).

Process algebra: $P := 0 \mid \text{new } n.P \mid \text{let } x = v \text{ in } P$
 $\mid \text{out}(u).P \mid \text{in}(x).P \mid !P \mid i : P$

The semantics is extended with:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 (\mathcal{P}; \phi; i) \xrightarrow{\text{phase } i'} (\mathcal{P}; \phi; i') \text{ with } i' > i. \\
 (i : \text{out}(u).P \uplus \mathcal{P}; \phi; i) \xrightarrow{\text{out}(u)} (i : P \uplus \mathcal{P}; \phi \uplus \{w \rightarrow u\}; i)
 \end{array}$$

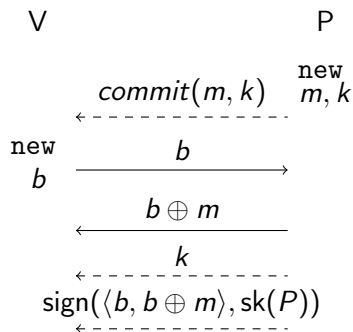
Example: $\mathcal{P} := \{0 : \text{out}(n_0).1 : \text{out}(n_1); 0 : \text{in}(x_0).1 : \text{in}(x_1)\}$

Translation into ProVerif

$Transf(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{P}, t_0)$

```

 $V_0(v_0, p_0) :=$ 
  in( $y_c$ ).new  $b$ .
  reset.out( $b$ ).in $^{<2 \times t_0}(y_0)$ .
  in( $y_k$ ).in( $y_{sign}$ ).
  let  $y_m = \text{open}(y_c, y_k)$  in
  let  $y_{msg} = \text{getmsg}(y_{sign})$  in
  let  $y_{check} = \text{check}(y_{sign}, \text{vk}(z_P))$  in
  let  $y_{eq} = \text{eq}(\langle b, b \oplus y_m \rangle, y_{msg})$  in
  end( $z_V, z_P$ ).
  0
  
```



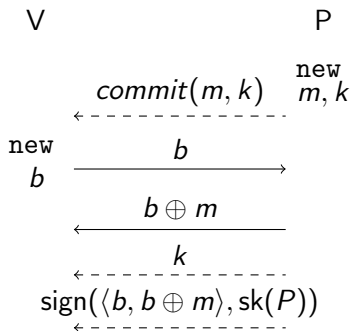
Brands and Chaum

Translation into ProVerif

$Transf(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{P}, t_0)$

```

 $\overline{V}_0(v_0, p_0) :=$ 
  in( $y_c$ ).new  $b$ .
  1 : out( $b$ ).in( $y_0$ ).
  2 : in( $y_k$ ).in( $y_{sign}$ ).
  let  $y_m = \text{open}(y_c, y_k)$  in
  let  $y_{msg} = \text{getmsg}(y_{sign})$  in
  let  $y_{check} = \text{check}(y_{sign}, vk(z_P))$  in
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  end( $z_V, z_P$ ).
  0
  
```



Brands and Chaum

Translation into ProVerif

$Transf(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{P}_{prox}, t_0)$

Given a process P we define:

- $P^{<}$: all the possible ways of spitting P in the phases 0, 1 and 2
- P^{\geq} : all the possible ways of spitting P in the phases 0 and 2

$Transf(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{P}, t_{prox})$ is the multiset of processes derived from \mathcal{P} when applying:

- $\cdot^{<}$ for all instantiated roles of \mathcal{P} executed by agents **close to** v_0
- \cdot^{\geq} for all instantiated roles of \mathcal{P} executed by agents **far from** v_0

Proposition

If $(\mathcal{P}_{prox} \cup V_0)$ admits an attack w.r.t. t_0 -proximity in \mathcal{T} then $(Transf(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{P}, t_0) \uplus \overline{V_0}(v_0, \rho_0); \Phi_{init}; 0)$ admits an attack in ProVerif.

Case analysis - DB protocols

Protocols	MF	DH
Brands and Chaum	✓	✗
Meadows <i>et al.</i> ($n_V \oplus n_P, P$)	✓	✓
Meadows <i>et al.</i> ($n_V, n_P \oplus P$)	✓	✗
TREAD-Asymmetric	✗	✗
TREAD-Symmetric	✓	✗
MAD (One-Way)	✓	✗
Swiss-Knife	✓	✓
Munilla <i>et al.</i>	✓	✓
CRCS	✓	✗
Hancke and Kuhn	✓	✓

(✗: attack found, ✓: proved secure)

Coherent with the formal analysis recently done
by Mauw *et al.* using Tamarin

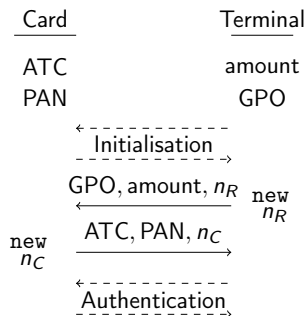
PaySafe

[Chothia *et. al.*, 2015]

Goal: prevent relay attacks

Existing formal analyses:

- Chothia *et. al.*, 2015: similar approach using ProVerif's phases but without formal development
- Mauw *et. al.*, 2018: cannot analyse specifically mafia fraud attacks
 → find a DF attack which is not relevant



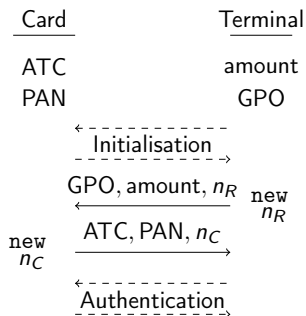
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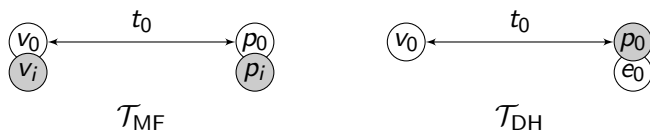


Our analysis: PaySafe is proved MF-resistant

Conclusion

We have adapted the standard applied Pi-Calculus to take into account time and locations.

We obtained **two reduction results** that reduce the number of relevant topologies that need to be studied to only 2.



We provide a solution to prove t_0 -proximity using a **usual verification tool**, ProVerif, and we applied it to analyse well-known protocols.

Future work

⇒ Define a more precise notion of time.

⇒ Take into account **Terrorist frauds**:

Terrorist frauds

A remote dishonest prover **cooperates** with another dishonest agent, close to the verifier, to authenticate himself to the prover **without giving any advantages for future attacks**.