

Symbolic verification of distance bounding protocols

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→ joint work with Alexandre Debant and Cyrille Wiedling



Security protocols everywhere !



Cryptographic protocols

- ▶ small programs designed to **secure** communication
e.g. secrecy, authentication, anonymity, ...
- ▶ use **cryptographic primitives**
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The network is insecure!

Communications take place over a **public** network like the Internet.



Verifying security protocols: a difficult task

- ▶ **testing** their resilience against well-known attacks is **not sufficient**;
- ▶ **manual** security analysis is **error-prone**.



→ **Caution:** Do not underestimate your opponents!



Lifestyle > Tech > News

Contactless card theft: Users warned to watch out for 'digital pickpockets'

Independent - Feb. 2016

Security

Defects in e-passports allow real-time tracking

This threat brought to you by RFID [The register - Jan. 2010](#)



A successful approach: formal symbolic verification

→ provides a **rigorous** framework and **automatic tools** to analyse security protocols and find their **logical flaws**.



ProVerif



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ProVerif



Some success stories

- ▶ **2011**: Authentication flaw in the Single Sign-On protocol used e.g. in **GMail**
→ **Armando et al.** using Avantssar
- ▶ **2018**: TLS 1.3 formally verified before its deployment
→ **project miTLS** : <https://www.mitls.org>



Contactless systems everywhere !



→ security property: authentication with **physical proximity**

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Brands and Chaum distance bounding protocol (1993)

$P \rightarrow V : \text{commit}(m, k)$

$V \rightarrow P : \text{chall}$

$P \rightarrow V : T, \text{chall} \oplus m$



$2 \times \text{dist}(V, P) \leq \Delta t \times c$

$P \rightarrow V : k, \text{Sign}_P(m, \text{chall} \oplus m)$

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→ We need a framework that allows one to model **transmission delay**, **location** of participants, and **timing constraints**.

Some related works

1993: 1st DB protocol proposed by Brands and Chaum
→ since then, many protocols + “**formal**” security analysis usually done in the **computational model**

2007-2016: analysis of DB protocols in the symbolic model

- ▶ Basin *et al.* - Isabelle/HOL (CSF'09)
- ▶ Cremers *et al.* distance-hijacking attack (S&P'12)

→ lack of automation to support the security analysis.

2017-today: **A lot of progress has been done !**

- ▶ Tamarin-based framework: **Jorge's thesis** (more this afternoon)
- ▶ ProVerif-based framework: Chothia *et al.* (USENIX'18) & **PhD thesis of Alexandre Debant** (more in one year !)

Contributions

A flavour of the PhD thesis of [Alexandre Debant](#) !

Our results:

1. A symbolic model suitable to analyse DB protocols together with some **reduction results** to automate the security analysis
→ for distance fraud (including distance hijacking), mafia fraud, and also **terrorist fraud**
2. Integration in the **ProVerif** verification tool and many case studies

→ Results published at [FST&TCS 2018](#) and currently [under submission at ESORICS 2019](#) (terrorist fraud).

Outline

A symbolic model with time and location

Reduction results

Case studies relying on Proverif

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Reduction results

Case studies relying on Proverif

Messages as terms

Terms are built from **names** \mathcal{N} , and **function symbols** in Σ .

Example

$$\Sigma_{\text{ex}} = \{\text{senc}/2, \text{sdec}/2, \text{kdf}/3, \text{shk}/2, \text{ok}/0, \text{eq}/2, \text{ans}/3, \oplus/2, 0/0\}.$$

Properties of the cryptographic primitives are reflected using an **equational theory** and some **rewriting rules**:

Example

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

$$\text{sdec}(\text{senc}(x, y), y) \rightarrow x \qquad \text{eq}(x, x) \rightarrow \text{ok}$$

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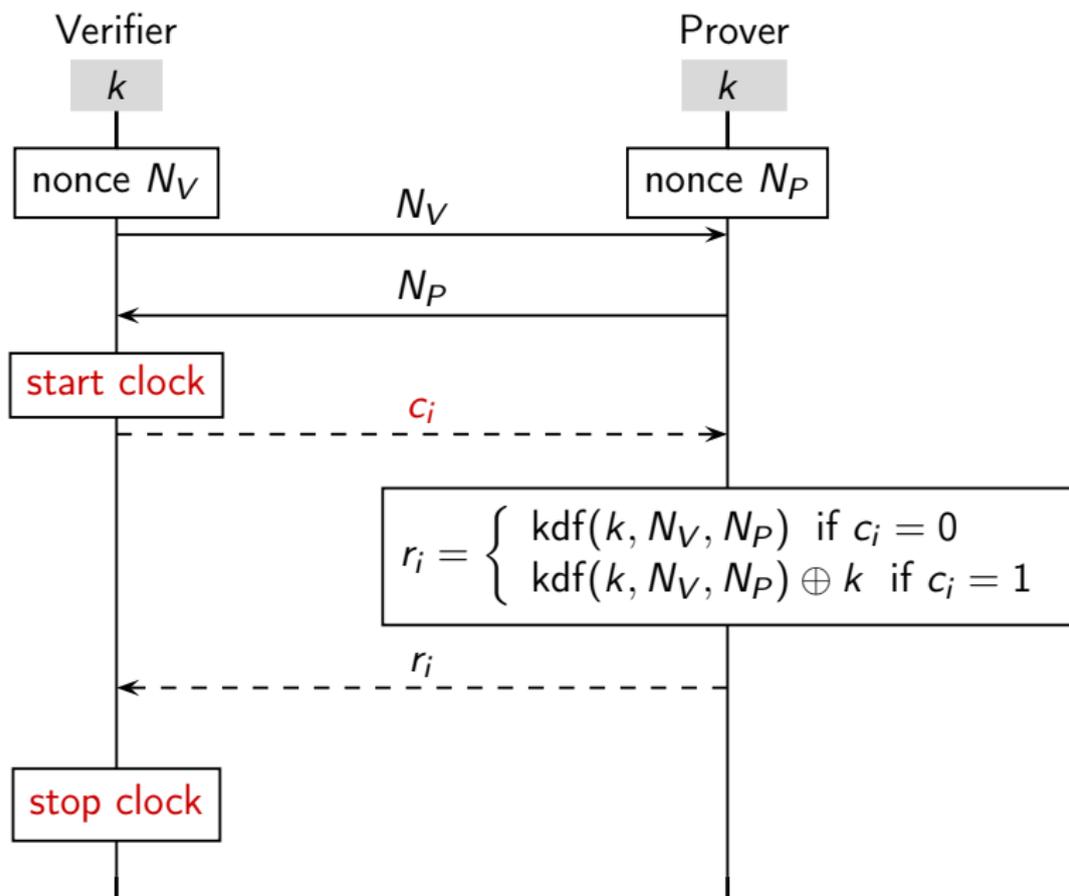
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Example: Modified Hancke and Kuhn (2005)



Protocols as processes

$P, Q := 0$	null process
$\text{in}(x).P$	input
$\text{out}(u).P$	output
$\text{let } x = v \text{ in } P$	computation and test
$\text{new } n.P$	fresh name generation
$\text{reset}.P$	reset of the local clock
$\text{in}^{<t}(x).P$	guarded input

Example: Verifier role parametrized by z_0 and z_1 .

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V(z0, z1) :=  new nV.out(nV).in(xN).
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                 let x1 = shk(z1, z0) ⊕ x0 in
                 let xok = eq(xrep, ans(c, x0, x1)) in
                 end(z0, z1)
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→ the rapid phase is abstracted by a **single challenge/response exchange**, and operations performed at the bit level are abstracted too.

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Topology and Configuration

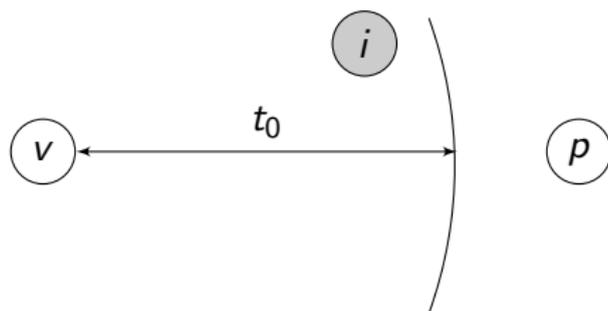
A **topology** is a tuple $\mathcal{T}_0 = (\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{M}_0, \text{Loc}_0)$ where:

- ▶ \mathcal{A}_0 the agents;
- ▶ \mathcal{M}_0 the subset of malicious agents;
- ▶ $\text{Loc}_0 : \mathcal{A}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ defines the location of each agent.

We define: $\text{Dist}_{\mathcal{T}_0}(a, b) = \frac{\|\text{Loc}_0(a) - \text{Loc}_0(b)\|}{c_0}$ for any $a, b \in \mathcal{A}_0$

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→ **only the distance between nodes matters !**

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

- ▶ \mathcal{P} is a multiset of extended process $[\mathcal{P}]_a^{t_a}$ with $a \in \mathcal{A}$, $t_a \in \mathbb{R}^+$;
- ▶ $\Phi = \{w_1 \xrightarrow{a_1, t_1} u_1, \dots, w_n \xrightarrow{a_n, t_n} u_n\}$ is a *a frame*;
- ▶ $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ is the **global time**.

Semantics

→ transition system over configurations, parametrised by a topology \mathcal{T}_0

▶ $(\mathcal{P}; \Phi; t) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{T}_0} (\text{Shift}(\mathcal{P}, \delta); \Phi; t + \delta)$ with $\delta \geq 0$;

▶ $(\lfloor \text{out}(u).P \rfloor_a^{t'} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi; t) \xrightarrow{a, \text{out}(u)}_{\mathcal{T}_0} (\lfloor P \rfloor_a^{t'} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi \uplus w \xrightarrow{a, t} u; t)$
with $w \in \mathcal{W}$ fresh

▶ ...

▶ $(\lfloor \text{in}^{< t_g(x)}.P \rfloor_a^{t'} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi; t) \xrightarrow{a, \text{in}(v)}_{\mathcal{T}_0} (\lfloor P\{x \mapsto v\} \rfloor_a^{t'} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi; t)$

“An agent is responsible of the corresponding output v ”, i.e.

There exist an agent b , a time t_b and a recipe R such that:

- (i) $t_b \leq t - \text{Dist}_{\mathcal{T}_0}(b, a)$,
- (ii) $R\Phi \downarrow = v$, and
- (iii) all $w \in \text{vars}(R)$ are available to b at time t_b .

Moreover, $|R| > 1$ only if b is malicious, i.e. $b \in \mathcal{M}_0$, and $t' < t_g$.

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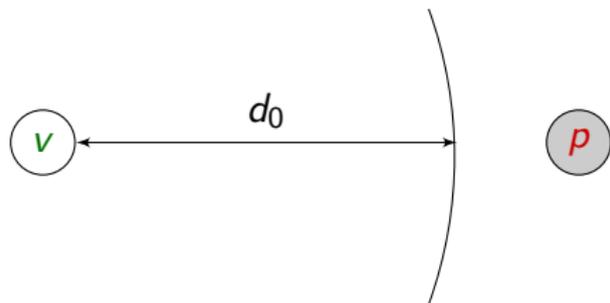
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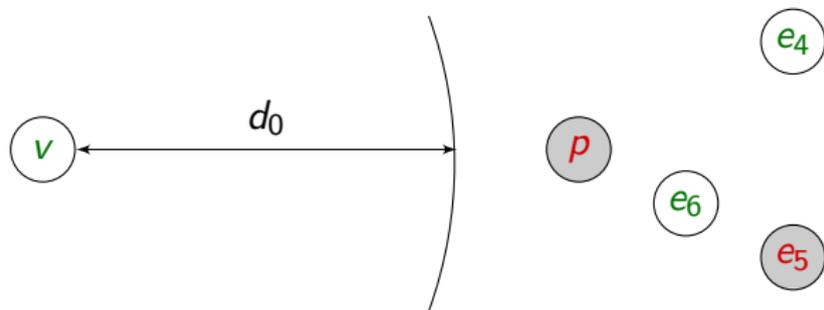
Different types of frauds

Distance fraud (including **distance hijacking**): A **malicious prover** should not be able to successfully complete a session with an **honest verifier** who is far away (even with the help of some **honest agents** in the neighbourhood)



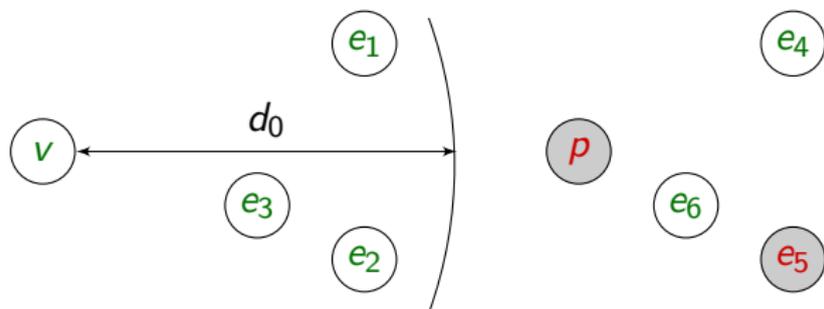
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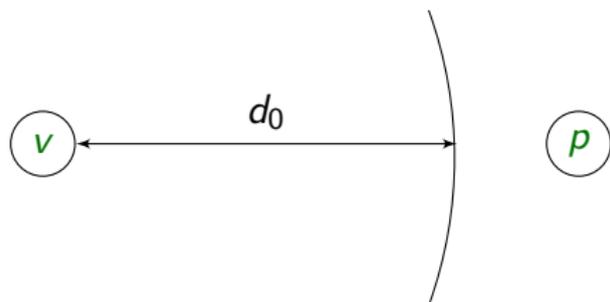
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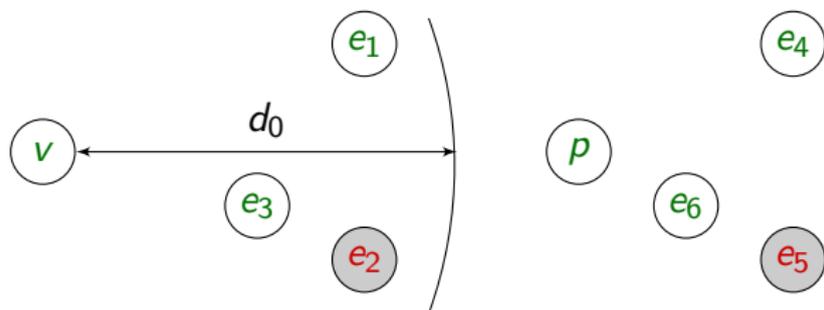
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Mafia fraud: An attacker should not be able to abuse a far away **honest prover** to pass the protocol.

Terrorist fraud: A far away **malicious prover colludes** with the **attacker** who is close to the verifier to pass the protocol, and this help should not allow the **attacker** to authenticate later on.

Security properties

A **valid initial configuration** $(\mathcal{P}; \Phi_0; 0)$ w.r.t. a topology \mathcal{T} is a configuration such that:

- ▶ \mathcal{P} contains instances of $[P(a, b)]_a^0$ and $[V(a, b)]_a^0$;
- ▶ Φ_0 is the initial knowledge (**uniform** w.r.t. honest/malicious agent names)

Mafia fraud

$\mathcal{P}_{\text{prox}}$ admits a **mafia fraud** w.r.t. t_0 -proximity if there exists $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{C}_{\text{MF}}$, a valid initial configuration K_0 w.r.t. \mathcal{T} such that:

$$K_0 \rightarrow_{\mathcal{T}} ([\text{end}(v_0, p_0)]_{v_0}^{t'} \uplus \mathcal{P}; \Phi; t)$$

→ Distance fraud (including hijacking) can be defined in a rather similar way.

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Terrorist fraud

→ **More tricky !** A semi-dishonest prover who colludes with the attacker to **authenticate once**.

A semi-dishonest prover for $\mathcal{P}_{\text{prox}}$ is a process P_{sd} together with an initial frame Φ_{sd} such that:



$$(\{ \llbracket V(v_0, p_0) \rrbracket_{v_0}^0 ; \llbracket P_{\text{sd}} \rrbracket_{p_0}^0 \}; \emptyset; 0) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{T}_0} (\{ \llbracket \text{end}(v_0, p_0) \rrbracket_{v_0}^{t_v} ; \llbracket 0 \rrbracket_{p_0}^{t_p} \}; \Phi_{\text{sd}}; t)$$

Terrorist fraud resistant

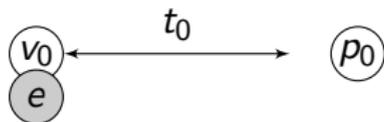
$\mathcal{P}_{\text{prox}}$ is **terrorist fraud resistant** w.r.t. t_0 -proximity if for all semi-dishonest prover P_{sd} with frame Φ_{sd} , there exist $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{C}_{\text{MF}}$, a valid initial configuration K_0 with $\Phi_0 \cup \Phi_{\text{sd}}$ as initial frame such that:

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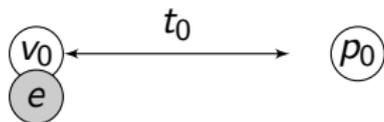
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Terrorist fraud

Proposition

\mathcal{P} admits a mafia fraud $\Rightarrow \mathcal{P}$ is terrorist fraud resistant.

Brief comparison (with other definition in the symbolic setting):

- ▶ **Chothia et al.'18**: the terrorist prover is allowed to perform operations on behalf of the attacker ... and secrets may be revealed indirectly !
- ▶ **Jorge's PhD thesis**: share some similarities with ours. Their notion of **valid extension** seems to allow more behaviours than our notion of **semi-dishonest prover**.

Outline

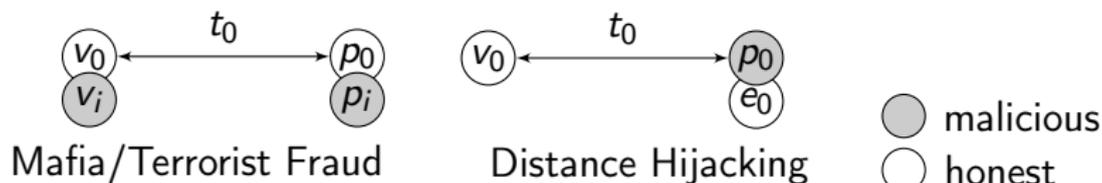
A symbolic model with time and location

Reduction results

Case studies relying on Proverif

One topology is enough !

It is actually sufficient to consider the following topology:

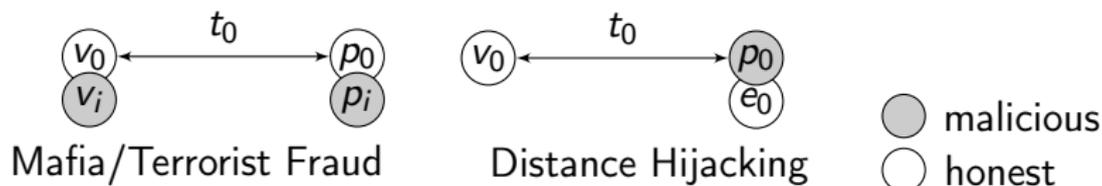


Main limitations regarding automation:

- ▶ Distance fraud (including distance hijacking): a topology with no attacker in the neighbourhood of v_0 ;
- ▶ Terrorist fraud: We still have the "for all semi-dishonest prover" to handle.

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Our hypotheses: We consider a DB protocol such that:

- ▶ $V(z_0, z_1) = \text{block}_V.\text{reset.new } c.\text{out}(c).\text{in}^{<2 \times t_0}(x).\text{block}'_V$; and
- ▶ $P(z_0, z_1) = \text{block}_P.\text{in}(y_c).\text{out}(u).\text{block}'_P$

where $\text{block}_X^{(')}$ do not contain reset and guarded input instructions.

Moreover, we assume that $u = C[y_c, u_1, \dots, u_p]$ for some C made of quasi-free public symbols, with no occurrence of y_c in u_1, \dots, u_p .
+ some mild hypotheses

Reduction result

We may restrict our attention to the most general semi-dishonest prover P^* defined as follows (with its associated frame Φ^*):

$$\text{block}_P.\text{out}(u_1) \dots \text{out}(u_k).\text{in}(y_c).\text{out}(u).\text{block}'_P$$

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We may restrict our attention to the **most general semi-dishonest prover** P^* defined as follows (with its associated frame Φ^*):

$$\text{block}_P.\text{out}(u_1) \dots \text{out}(u_k).\text{in}(y_c).\text{out}(u).\text{block}'_P$$

One semi-dishonest prover is enough !

Our hypotheses: We consider a DB protocol such that:

- ▶ $V(z_0, z_1) = \text{block}_V.\text{reset.new } c.\text{out}(c).\text{in}^{<2 \times t_0}(x).\text{block}'_V$; and
- ▶ $P(z_0, z_1) = \text{block}_P.\text{in}(y_c).\text{out}(u).\text{block}'_P$

where $\text{block}_X^{(')}$ do not contain reset and guarded input instructions.

Moreover, we assume that $u = C[y_c, u_1, \dots, u_p]$ for some C made of **quasi-free** public symbols, with no occurrence of y_c in u_1, \dots, u_p .
+ some mild hypotheses

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Example: Modified Hancke and Kuhn

The original prover's role:

$$\begin{aligned} P(p_0, v_0) := & \text{ new } n_P.\text{in}(y_N).\text{out}(n_P). \\ & \text{let } y_0 = \text{kdf}(\text{shk}(p_0, v_0), y_N, n_P) \text{ in} \\ & \text{let } y_1 = \text{shk}(p_0, v_0) \oplus y_0 \text{ in} \\ & \text{in}(y_c).\text{out}(\text{ans}(y_c, y_0, y_1)).0 \end{aligned}$$

with its associated frame Φ^*

$$\Phi^* = \{w_1 \xrightarrow{v_0,0} n_V, w_2 \xrightarrow{p_0,0} n_P, w_3 \xrightarrow{p_0,0} m_0, \\ w_4 \xrightarrow{p_0,0} \text{shk}(p_0, v_0) \oplus m_0, w_5 \xrightarrow{v_0,0} c\}$$

where $m_0 = \text{kdf}(\text{shk}(p_0, v_0), n_V, n_P)$.

Example: Modified Hancke and Kuhn

The most general semi-dishonest prover:

```
P* :=  new n_P.in(y_N).out(n_P).
      let y_0 = kdf(shk(p_0, v_0), y_N, n_P) in
      let y_1 = shk(p_0, v_0) ⊕ y_0 in
      out(y_0).out(y_1).
      in(y_C).out(ans(y_C, y_0, y_1)).0
```

with its associated frame Φ^*

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where $m_0 = \text{kdf}(\text{shk}(p_0, v_0), n_V, n_P)$.

Our reduction result applies

re-authentication is possible with P^* \implies Modified Hancke and Kuhn is terrorist fraud resistant.

Outline

A symbolic model with time and location

Reduction results

Case studies relying on Proverif

→ mainly developed by **B. Blanchet**

<http://proverif.inria.fr>

- ▶ **automatic** and **efficient tool** for unbounded number of sessions;
- ▶ handle **various primitives** but not the exclusive-or operator

Some features:

- ▶ **phase mechanism** useful to model the fact that entities that are far away can not interact during the rapid phase.
- ▶ attacker behaviour is built-in and thus we slightly modify the tool to analyse distance hijacking

No miracle ! It may **not terminate** or sometimes simply say **can not be proved**, but works well in practice.

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Case studies - Distance bounding protocols

We consider three kinds of fraud:

- ▶ **Mafia fraud**: the attacker aims at convincing an honest verifier that a far honest prover is actually close to it.
- ▶ **Distance fraud (including hijacking)**: a far away dishonest prover aims at convincing an honest verifier that he is actually close to it.
- ▶ **Terrorist fraud**: a far away prover helps the attacker to authenticate on his behalf but this help can not be reused later on.

For our analysis, we consider the **reduced topology**, and the **most general semi-dishonest prover** when our result applies.

Results on distance bounding protocols

Protocols	MFR	DHR	TFR
Hancke and Kuhn	✓	✓	✗
Modified Hancke and Kuhn	✓	✓	✓
Brands and Chaum	✓	✗	(✗)
MAD (One-Way)	✓	✗	(✗)
Munilla <i>et al.</i>	✓	✓	✗
Swiss-Knife	✓	✓	✓
SKI	✓	✓	✓
SPADE	✗	✗	✓
SPADE Fixed	✓	✗	✓
TREAD-SKey	✓	✗	✓
TREAD-PKey	✗	✗	✓
TREAD-PKey Fixed	✓	✗	✓

(✗) not TFR considering a specific P_{sd} – our result does not apply.

Case studies - Payment protocols

Which frauds do we need to consider?

→ Perhaps more in **loana's talk**

Some additional difficulties:

- ▶ more **complex** messages, and a larger number of exchanges;
→ not a real issue for ProVerif
- ▶ NXP: the threshold (used in the timing constraint) is **not fixed** in advance.
→ we simply fix it !

Protocols	MFR	DHR	TFR
NXP	✓	×	×
PaySafe	✓	×	×

Not surprisingly, these protocols admit a distance hijacking attack and a terrorist fraud.

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Conclusion

Our contributions:

- ▶ **reduction results** to automate the security analysis of distance bounding protocols in the symbolic setting;
- ▶ integration in ProVerif with many case studies;
- ▶ **attack on the SPADE** protocol (regarding mafia) and a fix has been proposed by the authors of SPADE.

Future work:

- ▶ Relax some conditions regarding our reduction result for the terrorist fraud;
- ▶ Improve the way the exclusive-or operator is considered in the existing tools.

Thanks for your attention!