

Verification of security protocols: from confidentiality to privacy

Stéphanie Delaune

CNRS / IRISA, France

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Cryptographic protocols everywhere !



→ they aim at **securing** communications over public networks

A variety of security properties

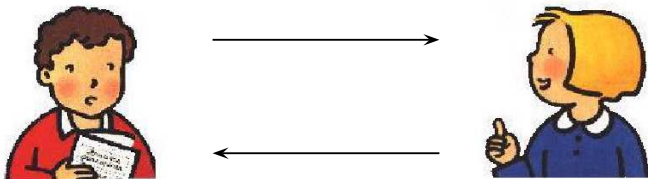
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- ▶ **Authentication**: Is the agent **Alice** really talking to **Bob**?

A variety of security properties

- ▶ **Secrecy**: May an intruder learn some secret message exchanged between two honest participants?
- ▶ **Authentication**: Is the agent **Alice** really talking to **Bob**?
- ▶ **Anonymity**: Is an attacker able to learn something about the identity of the participants who are communicating?
- ▶ **Non-repudiation**: **Alice** sends a message to **Bob**. **Alice** cannot later deny having sent this message. **Bob** cannot deny having received the message.
- ▶ ...

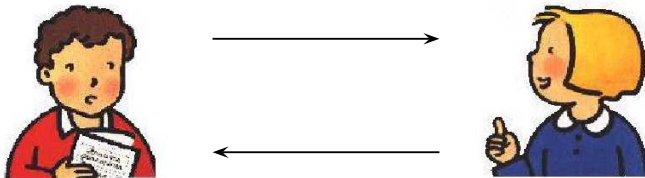
How does a cryptographic protocol work (or not)?

Protocol: small programs explaining how to exchange messages



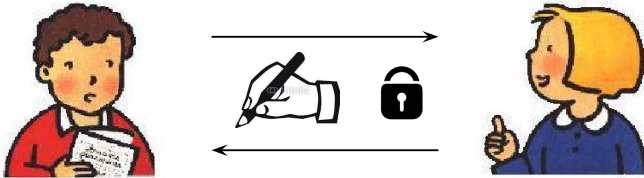
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Cryptographic: make use of cryptographic primitives

Examples: symmetric encryption, asymmetric encryption, signature, hashes, ...



What is a symmetric encryption scheme?

Symmetric encryption

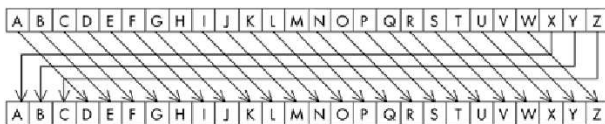


What is a symmetric encryption scheme?

Symmetric encryption



Example: This might be as simple as shifting each letter by a number of places in the alphabet (e.g. Caesar cipher)



Today: DES (1977), AES (2000)

A famous example

Enigma machine (1918-1945)

- ▶ electro-mechanical rotor cipher machines used by the German to encrypt during World War II
- ▶ permutations and substitutions



A bit of history

- ▶ 1918: invention of the Enigma machine
- ▶ 1940: Battle of the Atlantic during which Alan Turing's Bombe was used to test Enigma settings.

→ Everything about the breaking of the Enigma cipher systems remained secret until the mid-1970s.

What is an asymmetric encryption scheme?

Asymmetric encryption



What is an asymmetric encryption scheme?

Asymmetric encryption



Examples:

- ▶ 1976: first system published by W. Diffie, and M. Hellman,
- ▶ 1977: RSA system published by R. Rivest, A. Shamir, and L. Adleman.

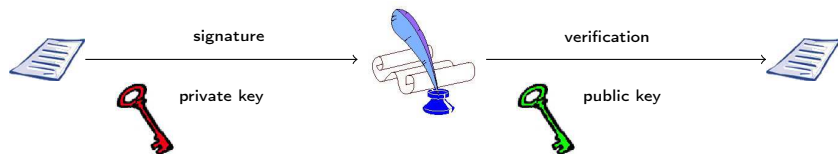
→ their security relies on well-known **mathematical problems** (e.g. factorizing large numbers, computing discrete logarithms)

Today: those systems are still in use

Turing Award 2016

What is a signature scheme?

Signature



Example:

The RSA cryptosystem (in fact, most public key cryptosystems) can be used as a signature scheme.

How cryptographic protocols can be attacked?



How cryptographic protocols can be attacked?

Logical attacks

- ▶ can be mounted even assuming **perfect** cryptography,
↳ **replay attack**, **man-in-the middle attack**, ...
- ▶ **subtle** and **hard to detect** by “eyeballing” the protocol



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→ A traceability attack on the BAC protocol (2010)



Security

Defects in e-passports allow real-time tracking

This threat brought to you by RFID

The register - Jan. 2010

Example: Denning Sacco protocol (1981)



$\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k_{AB}, \text{priv}(A)), \text{pub}(B))$



Is the Denning Sacco protocol a good key exchange protocol?

Example: Denning Sacco protocol (1981)



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Is the Denning Sacco protocol a good key exchange protocol? **No** !

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Description of a possible attack:



$\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k_{AC}, \text{priv}(A)), \text{pub}(C))$

Example: Denning Sacco protocol (1981)



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$\text{sign}(k_{AC}, \text{priv}(A))$

k_{AC}

$\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k_{AC}, \text{priv}(A)), \text{pub}(B))$



Exercise

We propose to fix the Denning-Sacco protocol as follows:

Version 1

$$A \rightarrow B : \text{aenc}(\langle A, B, \text{sign}(k, \text{priv}(A)) \rangle, \text{pub}(B))$$

Version 2

$$A \rightarrow B : \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(\langle A, B, k \rangle, \text{priv}(A))), \text{pub}(B))$$

Which version would you prefer to use?

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Version 2

$$A \rightarrow B : \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(\langle A, B, k \rangle, \text{priv}(A))), \text{pub}(B))$$

Which version would you prefer to use? Version 2

→ Version 1 is still vulnerable to the aforementioned attack.

Needham-Schroeder's Protocol (1978)



$A \rightarrow B : \{A, N_a\}_{\text{pub}(B)}$
 $B \rightarrow A : \{N_a, N_b\}_{\text{pub}(A)}$
 $A \rightarrow B : \{N_b\}_{\text{pub}(B)}$



Needham-Schroeder's Protocol (1978)



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Questions

- ▶ Is N_b secret between A and B ?
- ▶ When B receives $\{N_b\}_{\text{pub}(B)}$, does this message really comes from A ?

Needham-Schroeder's Protocol (1978)


$$\begin{aligned} A &\rightarrow B : \{A, N_a\}_{\text{pub}(B)} \\ B &\rightarrow A : \{N_a, N_b\}_{\text{pub}(A)} \\ A &\rightarrow B : \{N_b\}_{\text{pub}(B)} \end{aligned}$$


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Attack

An attack was found 17 years after its publication! [Lowe 96]

What about protocols used in real life ?



Credit Card payment protocol



Serge Humpich case
“ Yescard ” (1997)



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Step 1: A **logical flaw** in the protocol allows one to copy a card and to use it without knowing the PIN code.

→ not a real problem, there is still a bank account to withdraw

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Step 1: A **logical flaw** in the protocol allows one to copy a card and to use it without knowing the PIN code.

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Step 2: **breaking encryption** via factorisation of the following (96 digits) number:

213598703592091008239502270499962879705109534182
6417406442524165008583957746445088405009430865999

→ now, the number that is used is made of **232** digits

HTTPS connections



Lots of bugs and attacks, with fixes every month

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FREAK attack discovered by Baraghavan et al (Feb. 2015)

1. a logical flaw that allows a **man in the middle attacker** to downgrade connections from 'strong' RSA to 'export-grade' RSA;
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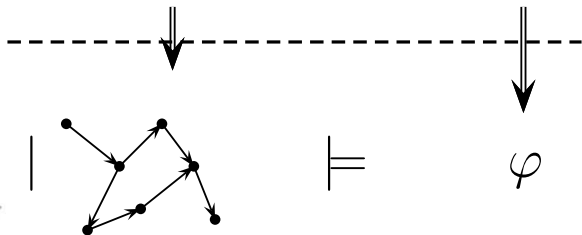
1. a logical flaw that allows a **man in the middle attacker** to downgrade connections from 'strong' RSA to 'export-grade' RSA;
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→ 'export-grade' were introduced under the pressure of US governments agencies to ensure that they would be able to decrypt all foreign encrypted communication.

This talk: formal methods for protocol verification

Does the **protocol** satisfy a **security property**?

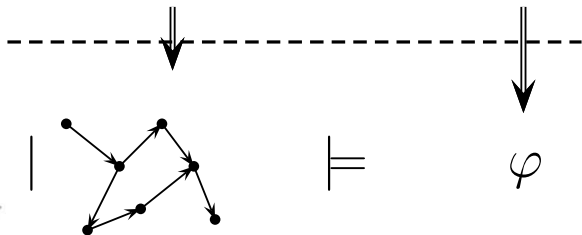
Modelling



This talk: formal methods for protocol verification

Does the protocol satisfy a security property?

Modelling



Outline of the this talk

1. Modelling protocols, security properties, and the attacker
2. Designing verification algorithms

Part I

Modelling protocols, security properties
and the attacker

Two major families of models ...

... with some **advantages** and some **drawbacks**.

Computational model

- ▶ + messages are bitstring, a general and powerful adversary
- ▶ - manual proofs, tedious and error-prone

Symbolic model

- ▶ - abstract model, e.g. messages are terms
- ▶ + automatic proofs

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Some results allowed to make a link between these two very different models.

→ **Abadi & Rogaway 2000**



Protocols as processes

Applied pi calculus

[Abadi & Fournet, 01]

basic programming language with constructs for **concurrency** and **communication**

→ based on the π -calculus [Milner *et al.*, 92] ...

P, Q	$:=$	0	null process
		$\text{in}(c, x).P$	input
		$\text{out}(c, u).P$	output
		$\text{if } u = v \text{ then } P \text{ else } Q$	conditional
		$P \mid Q$	parallel composition
		$!P$	replication
		$\text{new } n.P$	fresh name generation

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... but messages that are exchanged are not necessarily atomic !

Messages as terms

Terms are built over a set of **names** \mathcal{N} , and a **signature** \mathcal{F} .

t	::=	n	name n
		$f(t_1, \dots, t_k)$	application of symbol $f \in \mathcal{F}$

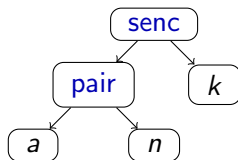
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Example: representation of $\{a, n\}_k$

- ▶ Names: n, k, a
- ▶ constructors: **senc**, **pair**,



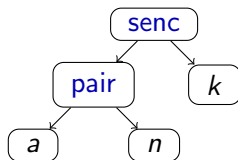
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Example: representation of $\{a, n\}_k$

- ▶ Names: n, k, a
- ▶ constructors: senc, pair ,
- ▶ destructors: $\text{sdec}, \text{proj}_1, \text{proj}_2$.



The term algebra is equipped with an **equational theory** E .

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{sdec}(\text{senc}(x, y), y) = x \quad \text{proj}_1(\text{pair}(x, y)) = x \\ \text{proj}_2(\text{pair}(x, y)) = y \end{array}$$

Example: $\text{sdec}(\text{senc}(s, k), k) =_E s$.

Semantics

Semantics \rightarrow :

Comm $\text{out}(c, u).P \mid \text{in}(c, x).Q \rightarrow P \mid Q\{u/x\}$

Then $\text{if } u = v \text{ then } P \text{ else } Q \rightarrow P \text{ when } u =_{\mathbf{E}} v$

Else $\text{if } u = v \text{ then } P \text{ else } Q \rightarrow Q \text{ when } u \neq_{\mathbf{E}} v$

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closed by

- ▶ **structural equivalence** (\equiv):

$$P \mid Q \equiv Q \mid P, \quad P \mid 0 \equiv P, \quad \dots$$

- ▶ application of **evaluation contexts**:

$$\frac{P \rightarrow P'}{\text{new } n. P \rightarrow \text{new } n. P'} \quad \frac{P \rightarrow P'}{P \mid Q \rightarrow P' \mid Q}$$

Going back to the Denning Sacco protocol (1/3)

$A \rightarrow B$: $\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, \text{priv}(A)), \text{pub}(B))$

$B \rightarrow A$: $\text{senc}(s, k)$

What symbols and equations do we need to model this protocol?

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3. signature: ok , sign , check , getmsg , and pk

$$\text{check}(\text{sign}(x, y), \text{pk}(y)) = \text{ok} \text{ and } \text{getmsg}(\text{sign}(x, y)) = x$$

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The two terms involved in a normal execution are:

$$\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, \text{ska}), \text{pk}(\text{skb})), \text{ and } \text{senc}(s, k)$$

Going back to the Denning Sacco protocol (2/3)

$A \rightarrow B$: $\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, \text{priv}(A)), \text{pub}(B))$

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Alice and Bob as processes:

$P_A(sk_a, pk_b) = \text{new } k.$
 $\text{out}(c, \text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, sk_a), pk_b)).$
 $\text{in}(c, x_a). \dots$

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$P_B(sk_b, pk_a) = \text{in}(c, x_b).$

if $\text{check}(\text{adec}(x_b, sk_b), pk_a) = \text{ok}$ then

$\text{new } s.$

$\text{out}(c, \text{senc}(s, \text{getmsg}(\text{adec}(x_b, sk_b))))$

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$P_A(sk_a, pk_b) =$

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in(c , x_a). ...

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if check(adec(x_b , sk_b), pk_a) = ok then

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We consider the following scenario:

$P_{DS} =$ new sk_a, sk_b . ($P_A(sk_a, pk(sk_b)) \mid P_B(sk_b, pk(sk_a))$)

→ new sk_a, sk_b, k . (in(c , x_a). ...

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→ this derivation represents a **normal execution** between two **honest** participants

Security properties - confidentiality

Confidentiality for process P w.r.t. secret s

For all processes A such that $A \mid P \rightarrow^* Q$, we have that Q is not of the form $C[\text{out}(c, s).Q']$ with c public.

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Some difficulties:

- ▶ we have to consider **all** the possible executions in presence of an **arbitrary adversary** (modelled as a process)
- ▶ we have to consider **realistic** initial configurations
 - ▶ an **unbounded** number of agents,
 - ▶ replications to model an **unbounded** number of sessions,
 - ▶ reveal public keys and private keys to model **dishonest** agents,
 - ▶ **honest** agents may initiate a session with a **dishonest** agent, ...

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$B \rightarrow A$: $\text{senc}(s, k)$

The aforementioned attack

1. $A \rightarrow C$: $\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, \text{priv}(A)), \text{pub}(C))$

2. $C(A) \rightarrow B$: $\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, \text{priv}(A)), \text{pub}(B))$

3. $B \rightarrow A$: $\text{senc}(s, k)$

The “minimal” initial configuration to retrieve the attack is:

new $sk_a, sk_b. (P_A(sk_a, \text{pk}(sk_c)) \mid P_B(sk_b, \text{pk}(sk_a)) \mid \text{out}(c, \text{pk}(sk_b)))$

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Exercise: Exhibit the process A (the behaviour of the attacker) that witnesses the aforementioned attack, i.e. such that:

$$A \mid P_{DS} \rightarrow^* C[\text{out}(c, s).Q']$$

Part II

Designing verification algorithms
(**confidentiality**)

Warm-up

The deduction problem: is u deducible from ϕ ?

We consider a **signature** \mathcal{F} and an **equational theory** E .

Input: A sequence ϕ of ground terms (*i.e.* messages) and a term s (the secret)

$$\phi = \{w_1 \triangleright m_1, \dots, w_n \triangleright m_n\}$$

Output: Can the attacker learn s from ϕ ? In other words, does there exist a term (called **recipe**) R built using public symbols and w_1, \dots, w_n such that $R\phi =_E s$?

The deduction problem: is u deducible from ϕ ?

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The deduction problem

Proposition

The **deduction problem** is decidable in PTIME for the equational theory modelling the DS protocol (and for many others)

Algorithm

1. saturation of ϕ with its deducible subterms in one-step: ϕ^+
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- ▶ $\phi^+ = \phi \uplus \{w_6 \triangleright \text{sign}(k, ska); w_7 \triangleright k; w_8 \triangleright s\}$.

→ Therefore k and s are deducible from ϕ !

Soundness, completeness, and termination

Soundness

If the algorithm returns **Yes** then u is indeed deducible from ϕ .

→ easy to prove

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Termination

The set of subterms is finite and polynomial, and one-step deducibility can be checked in polynomial time.

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→ easy to prove for the deduction rules under study

Completeness

If u is deducible from ϕ , then the algorithm returns **Yes**.

→ this relies on a **locality property**

Locality lemma

Let ϕ be a frame and u be a deducible subterm of ϕ . There exists a recipe R witnessing this fact which satisfies the **locality property**:

for any R' subterm of R , we have that $R'\phi\downarrow$ is a subterm of ϕ or u .

Caution !

One should never underestimate
the attacker !



The attacker can listen to the communication but also:

- ▶ **intercept** the messages that are sent by the participants,
- ▶ **build new messages** according to his deduction capabilities, and
- ▶ **send** messages on the communication network.

→ this is the co-called **active attacker**

State of the art in a nutshell

for analysing confidentiality/authentication properties

Unbounded number of sessions

- ▶ **undecidable** in general [Even & Goldreich, 83; Durgin *et al*, 99]
 - ▶ decidable for **restricted** classes [Lowe, 99]
[Rammanujam & Suresh, 03] [D'Oswaldo *et al.*, 17]
- tools: **ProVerif**, Tamarin, Maude-NPA, ...

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Bounded number of sessions

- ▶ a **decidability** result (NP-complete)
[Rusinowitch & Turuani, 01; Millen & Shmatikov, 01]
- ▶ result extended to deal with various cryptographic primitives,
e.g. exclusive-or operator [Comon & Shmatikov, 03]

→ tools: AVANTSSAR platform, ...

ProVerif is a verifier for cryptographic protocols that may **prove** that a protocol is secure or **exhibit attacks**.

`http://proverif.inria.fr`

Advantages

- ▶ fully automatic, and quite efficient
- ▶ a rich process algebra: replication, else branches, ...
- ▶ handles many cryptographic primitives
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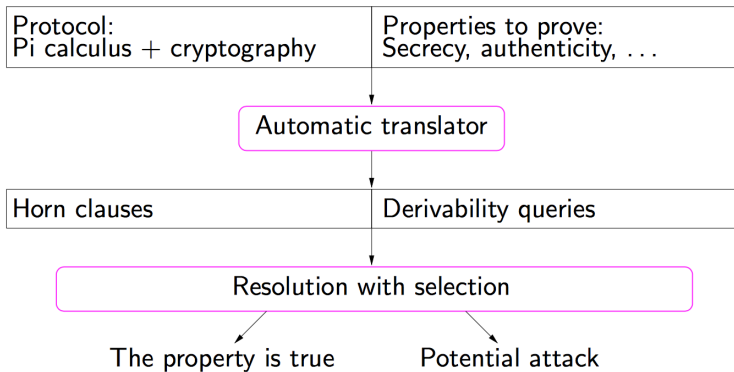
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No miracle

- ▶ the tool can say “can not be proved”;
- ▶ termination is not guaranteed

How does ProVerif work?



▶ Skip details

Some vocabulary

First order logic

Atoms $P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ where t_i are terms, P is a predicate

Literals $P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ or $\neg P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$

closed under $\vee, \wedge, \neg, \exists, \forall$

Clauses: Only universal quantifiers

Horn Clauses: at most one positive literal (where A_i, B are atoms.)

$$\forall \tilde{x}. A_1, \dots, A_n \Rightarrow B$$

Modelling the attacker using Horn clauses



Public key encryption

$$\begin{aligned} \text{att}(x) &\Rightarrow \text{att}(\text{pk}(x)) \\ \text{att}(x), \text{att}(\text{pk}(y)) &\Rightarrow \text{att}(\text{aenc}(x, \text{pk}(y))) \\ \text{att}(\text{aenc}(x, \text{pk}(y))), \text{att}(y) &\Rightarrow \text{att}(x) \end{aligned}$$

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Signature

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Symmetric encryption

$$\begin{aligned} \text{att}(x), \text{att}(y) &\Rightarrow \text{att}(\text{senc}(x, y)) \\ \text{att}(\text{senc}(x, y)), \text{att}(y) &\Rightarrow \text{att}(x) \end{aligned}$$

Initial knowledge

$$\Rightarrow \text{att}(\text{pk}(sk_A)) \quad \Rightarrow \text{att}(sk_I) \quad \Rightarrow \text{att}(\text{pk}(sk_B))$$

Modelling the protocol using Horn clauses

Denning-Sacco protocol ...

$A \rightarrow B$: $\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k, \text{priv}(A)), \text{pub}(B))$

$B \rightarrow A$: $\text{senc}(s, k)$

... using Horn clauses

Modelling the protocol using Horn clauses

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- ▶ A talks with any principal represented by its public key $\text{pk}(x)$.

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- ▶ When B receives a message of the expected form, he replies accordingly

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→ names are **parametrized** to partially model their freshness

Modelling the security property using Horn clauses

We consider **secrecy** as a reachability (accessibility) property.

Is $C_{att} + C_{prot} + \neg att(s)$ satisfiable or not?

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1. $att(sk_I)$

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1. $att(sk_I)$
2. $att(pk(sk_I))$

initial knowledge
using attacker rules on 1

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Denning Sacco protocol

1. $att(sk_I)$ initial knowledge
2. $att(pk(sk_I))$ using attacker rules on 1
3. $att(aenc(sign(k[sk_I], sk_A), pk(sk_I)))$ using protocol (rule 1) on 2

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- | | |
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| 1. $att(sk_I)$ | initial knowledge |
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| 5. $att(aenc(sign(k[sk_I], sk_A), pk(sk_B)))$ | using attacker rules on 3 with 1/4 |

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| 6. $att(senc(s, k[sk_I]))$ | using protocol (rule 2) on 5 |

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Modelling the security property using Horn clauses

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Contradiction ! $\mathcal{C}_{att} + \mathcal{C}_{prot} + \neg att(s)$ is **not** satisfiable.

→ This derivation corresponds to an attack.

How to decide satisfiability?

→ using resolution techniques

$$\frac{H \Rightarrow \text{att}(u) \quad \text{att}(v), H' \Rightarrow C}{(H, H' \Rightarrow C)\theta} \quad \theta = \text{mgu}(u, v) \quad \text{Resolution}$$

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Example

$$\frac{\Rightarrow \text{att}(\text{pk}(sk_I)) \quad \text{att}(\text{pk}(x)) \Rightarrow \text{att}(\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k[x], sk_A), \text{pk}(x)))}{\Rightarrow \text{att}(\text{aenc}(\text{sign}(k[sk_I], sk_A), \text{pk}(sk_I)))} \quad \theta = \{x \mapsto sk_I\}$$

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Theorem (soundness and completeness)

Resolution is *sound and refutationally complete*, i.e. a set of Horn clauses C is *not* satisfiable if and only if \square (the empty clause) can be obtained from C by using the resolution rule.

Exercises

Consider the Horn clauses given on the previous slides to model the Denning Sacco protocol.

Exercise

Exhibit an infinite derivation (using resolution).

Exercise

Apply binary resolution to derive the empty clause.

ProVerif

ProVerif implements a **resolution strategy** well-adapted to protocols.

Approximation of the translation in Horn clauses:

- ▶ the **freshness** of nonces is partially modeled;
- ▶ the **number of times** a message appears is ignored, only the fact that it has appeared is taken into account;
- ▶ the **state** of the principals is not fully modeled.

→ These approximations are keys for an **efficient** verification.

Experimental results

→ ProVerif works well in practice.

Protocol	Result	ms
Needham-Schroeder shared key	Attack	52
Needham-Schroeder shared key corrected	Secure	109
Denning-Sacco	Attack	6
Denning-Sacco corrected	Secure	7
Otway-Rees	Secure	10
Otway-Rees, variant of Paulson98	Attack	12
Yahalom	Secure	10
Simpler Yahalom	Secure	11
Main mode of Skeme	Secure	23

Pentium III, 1 GHz.

Conclusion

To sum up:

- ▶ the verification problem is **undecidable** in general,
- ▶ there are **automatic verification tools** (e.g. ProVerif) that works well in practice.

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Just try by yourself:

- ▶ Install ProVerif: `http://www.proverif.inria.fr`
- ▶ Practical session available here:

`http://people.irisa.fr/Stephanie.Delaune/talks.html`

Contact me if you have any questions!
`stephanie.delaune@irisa.fr`

Challenge

Would you be able to find the attack on the Needham-Schroeder protocol less than 24 hours after having seen the protocol?

$$\begin{aligned} A \rightarrow B &: \{A, N_a\}_{\text{pub}(B)} \\ B \rightarrow A &: \{N_a, N_b\}_{\text{pub}(A)} \\ A \rightarrow B &: \{N_b\}_{\text{pub}(B)} \end{aligned}$$


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Questions ?

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See you tomorrow!