

Barrier Slicing for Remote Software Trusting

***Ceccato Mariano¹, Mila Dalla Preda²,
Jasvir Nagra²,
Christian Collberg³, Paolo Tonella¹***

¹Fondazione Bruno Kessler-IRST, Trento, Italy

²University of Trento, Italy

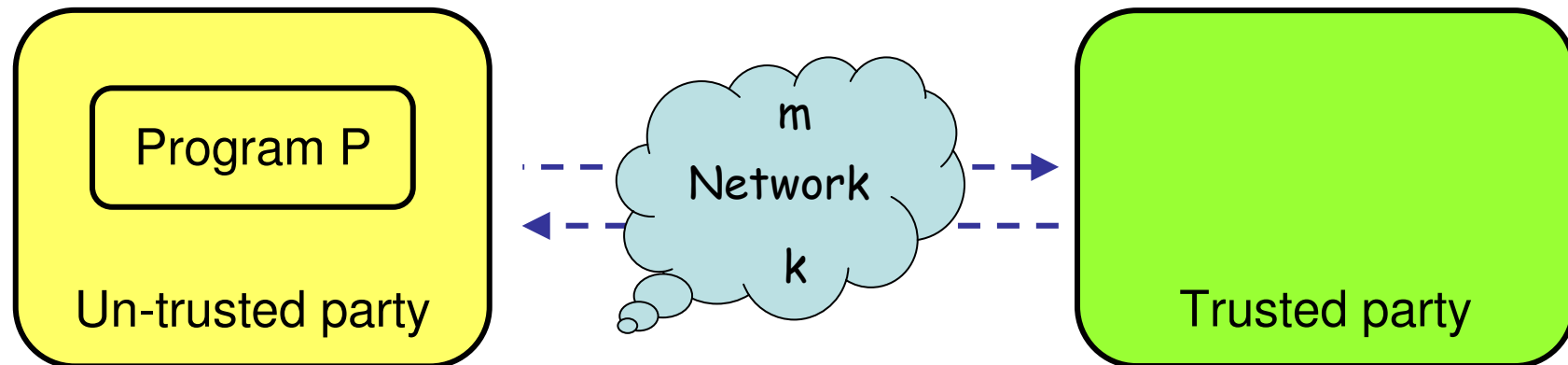
³University of Arizona, USA

Outline

- Problem definition
- Attack model
- Barrier slicing
- Preliminary results
- Future works

Problem definition

- Network application, that needs a services by the trusted party.
- Trusted party means to deliver the services only to clients that can be trusted.
- s : state of the program P
- $m = f(s)$
- $k = g(m)$
 $= g(f(s))$



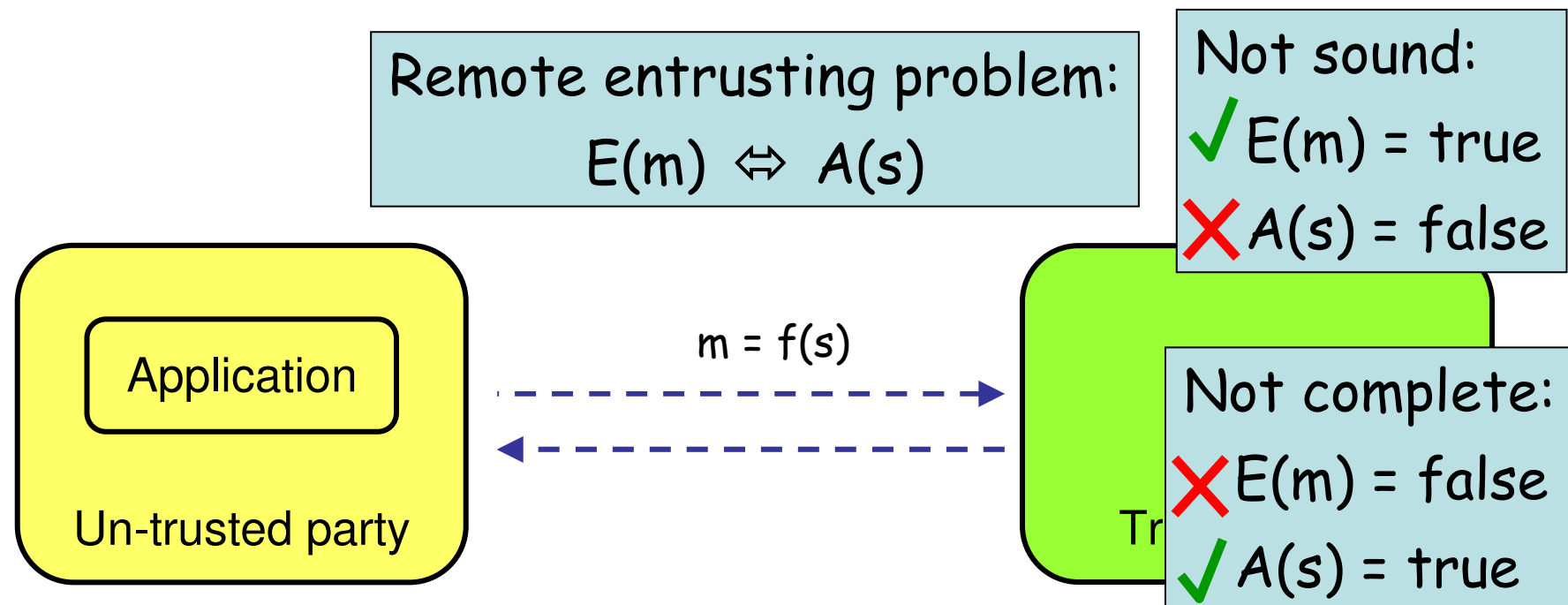
Problem definition

P is a valid state:

$$A(s) = \text{true}$$

P is entrusted:

$$E(m) = \text{true}$$



Attack model

Attacker on untrusted host:

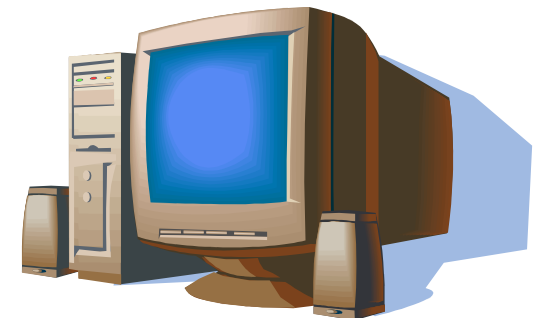
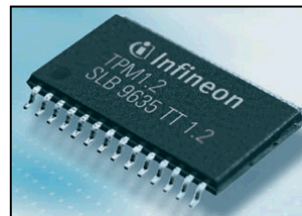
- Any dynamic/static analysis tool
- Any software (buggers, emulators, ...)
- Read/write any memory location, register, network message, file.

Attacks:

- Reverse engineer and direct code change.
- Runtime modification of the memory.
- Produce (possibly tampered) copies of P that run in parallel.
- Interception and change of network messages.

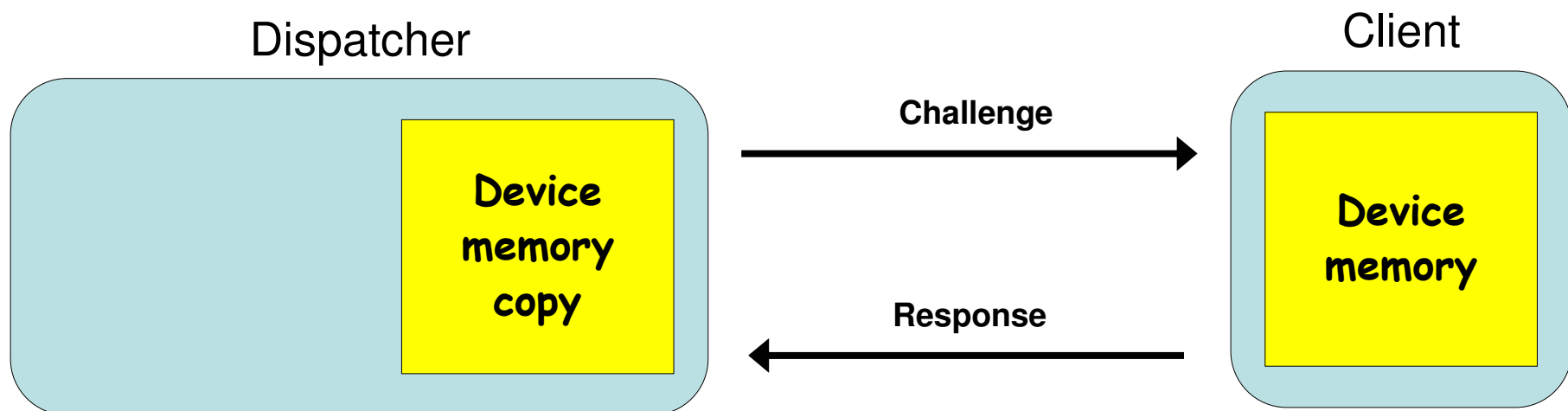
Hardware based attestation

- Special hardware (TPM) is used to measure the state of the platform during the boot process.
 - Difficult to update
 - Costly
- Malicious code is detected because it causes measurements to deviate from the expected values.



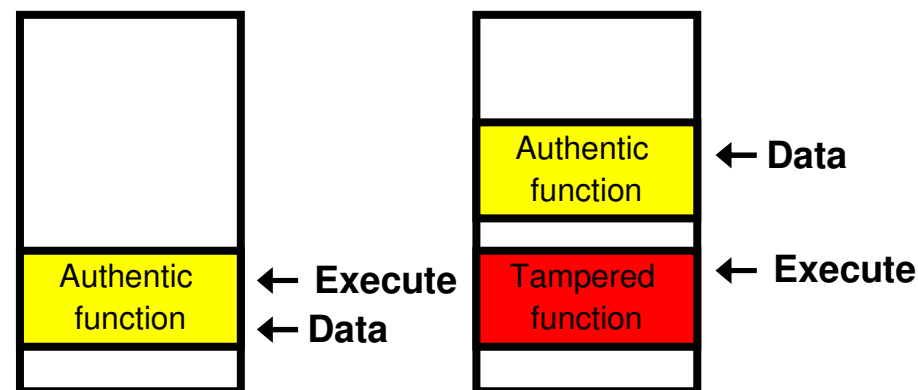
Software based attestation

- Software based primitive to verify code execution on an un-trusted host
 - It can be updated.
 - No special purpose hardware is required.
 - It provides run-time attestation.
- It is based on
 - Challenge-response protocol.
 - Predictable checker execution time.



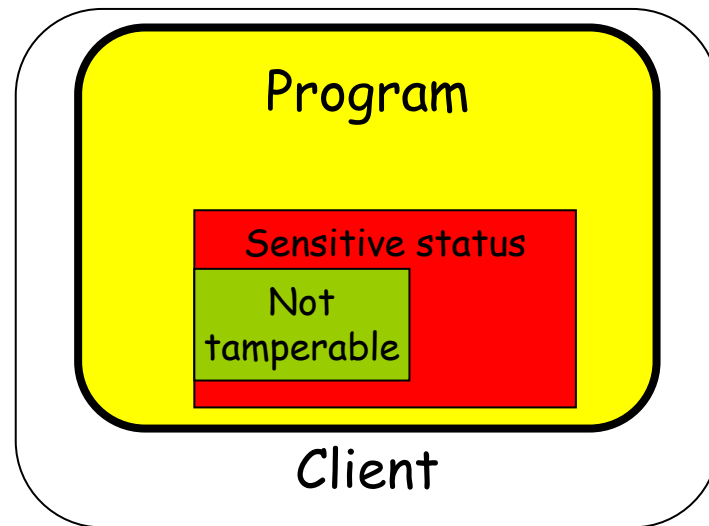
Vulnerability

- A tampered program is running.
- The attacker computes the checksum on a correct copy.
- This attacks requires a small execution time overhead.
 - Accurate execution time prediction is mandatory to reveal this attack.



Program state partition

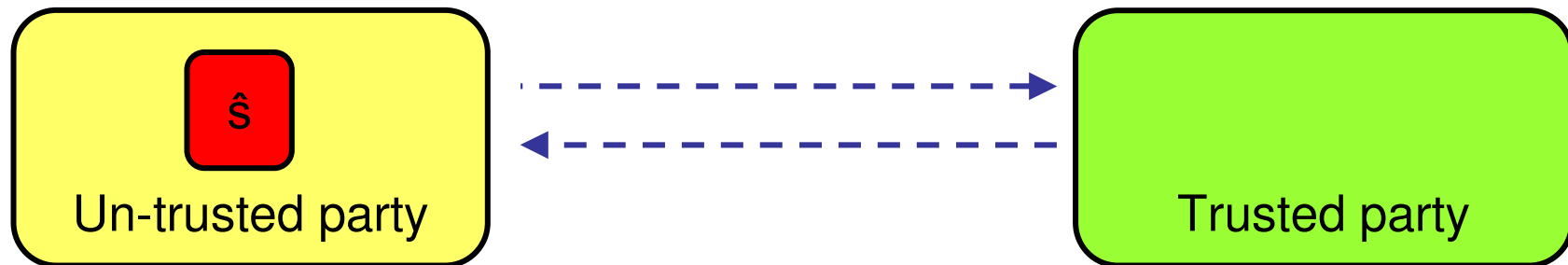
- There is a limited status (set of program variables) in an application that we are interested in protecting.
- A sub-portion of this state ($s_{|safe}$) can not modified by the user, otherwise
 - The client would receive a not-usable service or
 - The server would notice it



$$s = s_{|safe} \cup s_{|unsafe}$$

$$A(s) = A_{safe}(s_{|safe}) \wedge A_{unsafe}(s_{|unsafe})$$

State tampering



$\hat{s}_{|safe}$ is sent:

- $A_{safe}(\hat{s}_{|safe}) = \text{false}$,
- tampering is detected

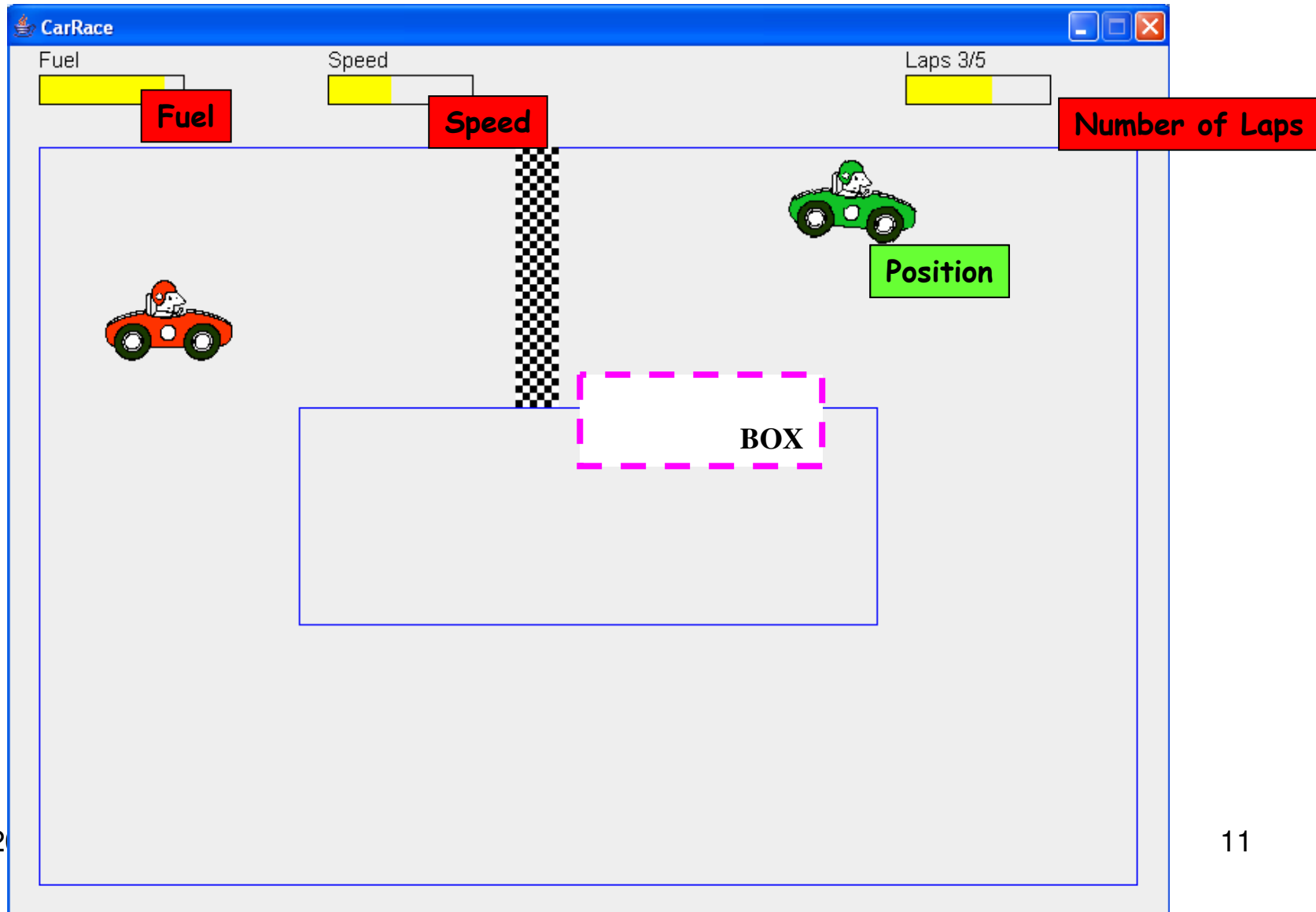
$s_{|safe} (\neq \hat{s}_{|safe})$ is sent:

- $A_{safe}(s_{|safe}) = \text{true}$,
- Service is not usable
- Tampering is useless

$$\hat{s} = \hat{s}_{|safe} \cup \hat{s}_{|unsafe}$$

$$A(s) = A_{safe}(s_{|safe}) \wedge A_{unsafe}(s_{|unsafe})$$

Example



Example

```

1  time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
2  double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
3  x = x + delta * cos(direction);
4  y = y + delta * sin(direction);
5  Server.sendPosition(x,y);
6  if (track.isInBox(x,y)){
7      gas = maxGas;
8      lastFuel = time2;
9  }
10 else {
11     gas = maxGas - (int) (time2-lastFuel);
12     if (gas < 0) {
13         gas = 0;
14         if (speed > maxSpeed / 10)
15             speed = maxSpeed / 10;
16         else if (speed < minSpeed / 10)
17             speed = minSpeed / 10;
18     }
19 }
18 time = time2;
  
```

speed
 gas
 y
 x

Program slice

```

1  time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
2  double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
3  x = x + delta * cos(direction);
4  y = y + delta * sin(direction);
5  Server.sendPosition(x,y);
6  if (track.isInBox(x,y)){
7      gas = maxGas;
8      lastFuel = time2;
9  }
10 else {
11     gas = maxGas - (int) (time2-lastFuel);
12     if (gas < 0){
13         gas = 0;
14         if (speed > maxSpeed /10)
15             speed = maxSpeed /10;
16         else if (speed < minSpeed/10)
17             speed = minSpeed/10;
18     }
19 }
18 time = time2;

```

Program slice

```

1  time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
2  double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
3  x = x + delta * cos(direction);
4  y = y + delta * sin(direction);
5  Server.sendPosition(x,y);
6  if (track.isInBox(x,y)){
7      gas = maxGas;
8      lastFuel = time2;
9  }
10 else {
11     gas = maxGas - (int) (time2-lastFuel)
12     if (gas < 0){
13         gas = 0;
14         if (speed > maxSpeed /10)
15             speed = maxSpeed /10;
16         else if (speed < minSpeed/10)
17             speed = minSpeed/10;
18     }
19 }
18 time = time2;

```

slice(speed, 18) =
{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17}

Barrier slicing

```

1  time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
2  double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
3  x = x + delta * cos(direction);
4  y = y + delta * sin(direction);
5  Server.sendPosition(x, y);
6  if (track.isInBox(x, y)) {
7      gas = maxGas;
8      lastFuel = time2;
9  }
10 else {
11     gas = maxGas - (int) (time2 - lastFuel);
12     if (gas < 0) {
13         gas = 0;
14         if (speed > maxSpeed / 10)
15             speed = maxSpeed / 10;
16         else if (speed < minSpeed / 10)
17             speed = minSpeed / 10;
18     }
19 }
20 time = time2;
  
```

Barriers

speed

gas

y

x

Barrier slicing

```
1  time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
2  double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
3  x = x + delta * cos(direction);
4  y = y + delta * sin(direction);
5  Server.sendPosition(x,y);
6  if (track.isInBox(x,y)){
7      gas = maxGas;
8      lastFuel = time2;
9  }
10 else {
11     gas = maxGas - (int) (time2-lastFuel);
12     if (gas < 0){
13         gas = 0;
14         if (speed > maxSpeed /10)
15             speed = maxSpeed /10;
16         else if (speed < minSpeed/10)
17             speed = minSpeed/10;
18     }
19 }
18 time = time2;
```

slice(speed, 18) =
{1, 2, 6, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17}

Client transformation 1

```
time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
x = x + delta * cos(direction);
y = y + delta * sin(direction);
Server.sendPosition(x,y);
if (track.isInBox(x, y)){
    gas = maxGas;
    lastFuel = time2;
}
else {
    gas = maxGas - (int) (time2-lastFuel);
    if (gas < 0) {
        gas = 0;
        if (speed > maxSpeed /10)
            speed = maxSpeed /10;
        else if (speed < minSpeed/10)
            speed = minSpeed/10;
    }
}
time = time2;
```

```
time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
x = x + delta * cos(direction);
y = y + delta * sin(direction);
Server.sendPosition(x,y);
if (track.isInBox(x, y)){
    sync( );
    lastFuel = time2;
}
else {
    sync( );
    if (gas < 0) {
        sync( );
        if (speed > maxSpeed /10)
            sync( );
        else if (speed < minSpeed/10)
            sync( );
    }
}
time = time2;
```

Client transformation 2

```
time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
x = x + delta * cos(direction);
y = y + delta * sin(direction);
Server.sendPosition(x,y);
if (track.isInBox(x, y)){
    sync( );
    lastFuel = time2;
}
else {
    sync( );
    if (gas < 0) {
        sync( );
        if (speed > maxSpeed / 10)
            sync( );
        else if (speed < minSpeed / 10)
            sync( );
    }
}
time = time2;
```

```
time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
x = x + delta * cos(direction);
y = y + delta * sin(direction);
Server.sendPosition(x,y);
if (track.isInBox(x, y)){
    sync( );
    lastFuel = time2;
}
else {
    sync( );
    if (ask("gas") < 0) {
        sync( );
        if (ask("speed") > maxSpeed / 10)
            sync( );
        else if (ask("speed") < minSpeed / 10)
            sync( );
    }
}
time = time2;
```

Server transformation

```
time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
client.receivePosition(x,y);
if (track.isInBox(x, y)){
    gas = maxGas;
    lastFuel = time2;
}
else {
    gas = maxGas - (int) (time2-lastFuel);
    if (gas < 0) {
        gas = 0;
        if (speed > maxSpeed /10)
            speed = maxSpeed /10;
        else if (speed < minSpeed/10)
            speed = minSpeed/10;
    }
}
time = time2;
```

```
time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
client.receivePosition(x,y);
if (A(x,y) == false )
    exit( "Tampering detected");
if (track.isInBox(x, y)){
    gas = maxGas;
    sync( );
    lastFuel = time2;
}
else {
    gas = maxGas - (int) (time2-lastFuel);
    sync( );
    if (gas < 0) {
        gas = 0;
        sync( );
        if (speed > maxSpeed /10) {
            speed = maxSpeed /10;
            sync( ); }
        else if (speed < minSpeed/10) {
            speed = minSpeed/10;
            sync( ); }
    }
}
time = time2;
```

Optimizations:

```

time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
x = x + delta * cos(direction);
y = y + delta * sin(direction);
Server.sendPosition(x,y);
if (track.isInBox(x, y)){
    sync( );
    lastFuel = time2;
}
else {
    sync( );
    if (ask("gas") < 0) {
        sync( );
        if (ask("speed") > maxSpeed /10)
            sync( );
        else if (ask("speed") < minSpeed/10)
            sync( );
    }
}
time = time2;

```

Preliminary results

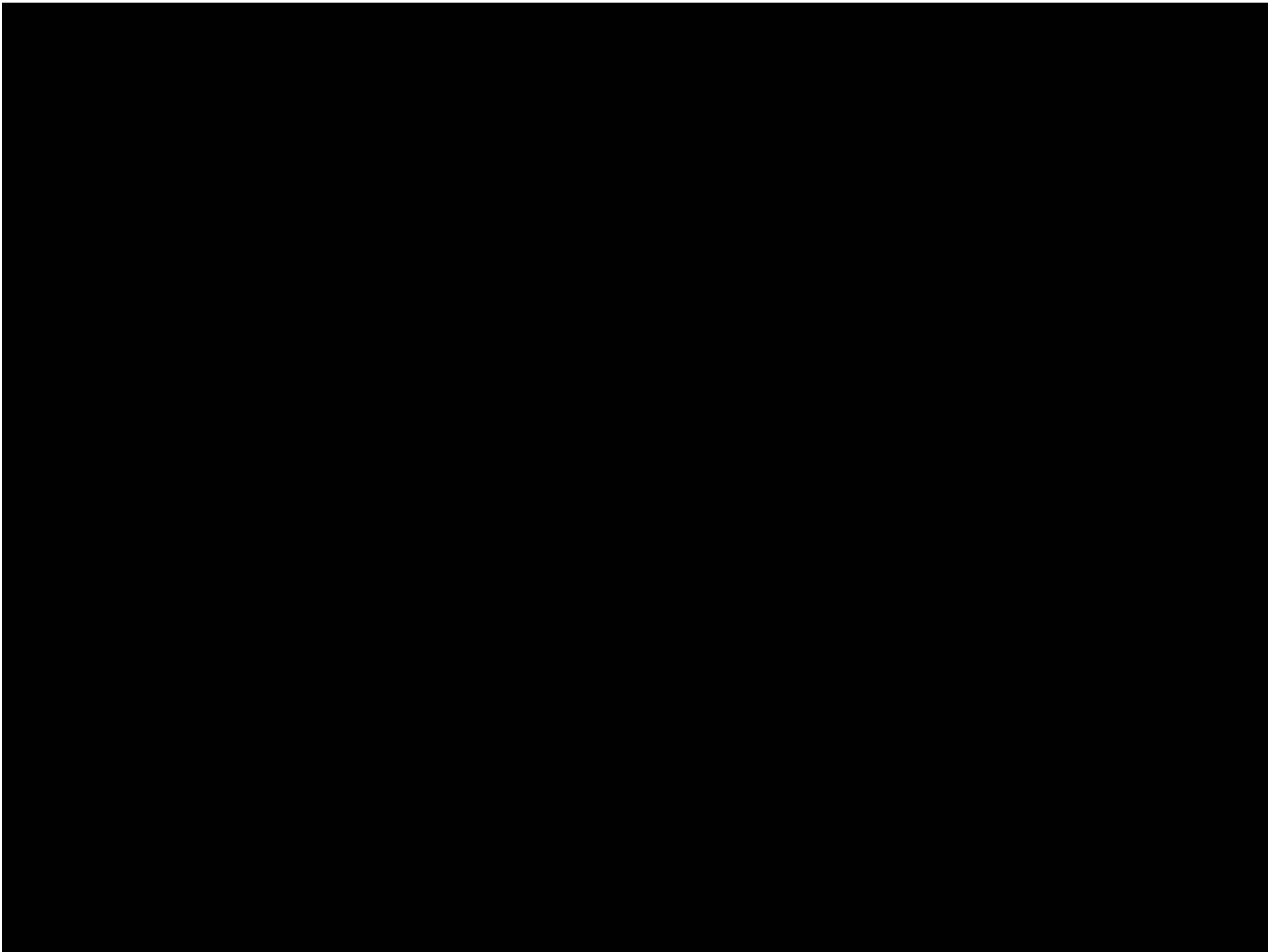
- CarRace game:
 - We moved the barrier slice on the server
 - Each time the client needs a value computed on the server, it asks for it from the server (communication overhead, delay).

Original client	Slice	Barrier slice
858	185	120 (-65%)
	22%	14% (-35%)

	Regular messages	Trust messaged	Increase
Sent	1174	5910	5.03
Received	1172	5910	5.04

Open issues

- Does the approach scale on a real size application?
 - Communication overhead.
 - Server overhead.
 - Identification of the security sensitive sub-state (s).
 - Identification of the already-protected sensitive sub-state ($s_{|safe}$).
 - Integration with other techniques.



Optimizations:

```
time2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
double delta = speed * (time2 - time);
x = x + delta * cos(direction);
y = y + delta * sin(direction);
Server.sendPosition(x,y);
if (track.isInBox(x, y)){
    sync( );
    lastFuel = time2;
}
else {
    sync( );
    if (ask("gas") < 0) {
        sync( );
        if (ask("speed") > maxSpeed /10)
            sync( );
        else if (ask("speed") < minSpeed/10)
            sync( );
    }
}
time = time2;
```