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# Introduction to

# Physically Observable Cryptography

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#### Outline

- 1. Gap in Provable Security
- 2. Approach of Micali & Reyzin
- 3. Axioms of Micali & Reyzin Model
- 4. Security Model of M&R
- 5. Assumptions and definitions of POC
- 6. A proof in the M&R Model
- 7. Outlook

**1. Gap in Provable Security** 

Approach in provable security

- Develop adversarial model
- Define what is understood under the security of algorithm
- Prove that no adversary can exist under reasonable assumptions

### Proof by contradiction

- Given F' against the algorithm, build F against assumption
- ➤ F uses F' → F has to simulate a "real-looking" environment for F'

$$C \rightarrow F' \rightarrow M \longrightarrow N \rightarrow F' \rightarrow M \rightarrow p, c$$

# **Traditional Provable Security**

- Cryptographic algorithms are modeled as black boxes
- Adversary may have access to inputs and outputs
- Inner workings during computation are <u>not</u> revealed

## Gap to real-world implementations

- Practical attacks on provably secure systems exist
- > Not due to failure in proof but by taking a step outside of the model
- Physical devices do not behave as black-boxes

→ Side-channel attacks provide the adversary with a partial view on the inner working of implementations

# Physically Observable Cryptography

- 1. Define axioms specifying the physical world and the therein existent physical devices
- 2. Define a formal security model for physical devices incorporating physical observers
- 3. Develop new assumptions and definitions
- 4. Prove security properties for more enhanced constructions against **all** observing adversaries.

# Goal:

Given a physical device P computing a function f(x) s.t. only some

information L<sub>P.f(x)</sub> is leaked, can we use it to build more complex schemes?

#### **3. Axioms of Micali & Reyzin Model**

- 1. Computation, and only computation leaks information
  - Unaccessed memory does not leak any information
- 2. Computation can have different leakages on different computers
  - Real-world implementation of an algorithm may vary
    - → E.g. shielded hardware will leak different than non-shielded
- 3. Information leakage depends on the chosen measurement
  - Not all leakage can be observed simultanously

#### 3. Axioms of Micali & Reyzin Model

- 4. Information leakage is local
  - The leakage of a device is independent of computation that takes place before the device is invoked or after it halts.
  - No modular design would be possible if the behavior of components changes depending on the context of usage
    - E.g. if A produced a properly shielded device used in computers of company B, then B should not damage the shielding
- 5. All leaked information is efficiently computable from the computer's internal configuration
  - Leakage is a polynomial-time computable function of algorithm's internal configuration, chosen measurement and randomness
  - Implies that leakage is efficiently simulatable knowing all inputs

# Security Model of Micali & Reyzin:

- 1. Abstract notion to model computation
- 2. Physical security model & adversary

1. Abstract notion to model computation

Can we use traditional Turing machines? No! Why?

i. Axiom 1: unaccessed memory leaks no information

→ device has to seperate memory that is used from memory that is not <u>But:</u> traitional TM accesses tape sequentially

Solution: augment TM with random access memory

ii. Axiom 4: leakage is independent of computation that follows or precedes

➔ abstract notion has to isolate one portion of computation from another

But: Traditional notion of computation uses a single TM

→ internal configuration of TM incorporates all future computation

Solution: use series of TMs each with own memory space

Abstract virtual-memory computer  $A=(A_1, ..., A_n)$ 



Collection of special TMs (VTM) A<sub>i</sub> invoking each other as subroutines



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Abstract virtual-memory computer  $A=(A_1, ..., A_n)$ 



A<sub>1</sub> is invoked first and its input/output = input/output of A

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Abstract virtual-memory computer  $A=(A_1, ..., A_n)$ 



Each VTM A<sub>i</sub> has access to

- traditional input, output, work and random tape of a TM
- random access to a virtual address space (VAS): unbounded array of bits that start at address 1 and goes to indefinite
  - $\rightarrow$  VAS<sub>i</sub> can only be accessed by VTM<sub>i</sub>
- VAS-access tape to access VAS

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Abstract virtual-memory computer  $A=(A_1, ..., A_n)$ 



- ➤ VTM A<sub>i</sub> only "thinks" that it has own individual VAS → reality: all share a single *physical address space* (PAS). Why?
  - Parameter passing
  - Axiom 1: Access real content as little as possible

Abstract virtual-memory computer  $A=(A_1, ..., A_n)$ 



Virtual-Memory Manager (VMM) maps individual VASes to unique PAS:

- never accesses content of memory, only remapping of addresses
- VMM allows for parameter passing among different VTMs
- Generates new VAS initialized with 0 when VTM is invoked

### Calling VTMs as subroutines:



- $A_1$  writes down on it subroutine call tape:
- $\succ$  name of A<sub>2</sub>
- > a sequence of I addresses  $a_1, \ldots, a_l$  in its VAS for the input of  $A_2$
- $\succ$  a sequence of L addresses  $b_1, \dots, b_L$  in its VAS to store the output of  $A_2$

### Calling VTMs as subroutines:



Example:

 $A_1$  calls  $A_2$  on input 110 (I=3) and  $A_2$  has ouput 10 (L=2)

A<sub>1</sub> goes in CAL (call) state and suspends its computation

- $\succ$  VMM creates new VAS for A<sub>2</sub> and ensures that:
  - Maps first I VAS location of A<sub>2</sub> to the same PAS location as a<sub>i</sub> in VAS of A<sub>1</sub>
  - all other locations in the VAS of A<sub>2</sub> map to blank PAS locations

### Calling VTMs as subroutines:



Example:

 $A_1$  calls  $A_2$  on input 110 (I=3) and  $A_2$  has ouput 10 (L=2)

A<sub>2</sub> enters RUN state with

- input tape contains location where to find input for A<sub>2</sub>
- other tapes point to blank



### Calling VTMs as subroutines:



When  $A_2$  ends (END):

- $\blacktriangleright$  output tape of A<sub>2</sub> contains addresses of its VAS mapping to the output in PAS
- VMM remaps location b<sub>1</sub>,..., b<sub>L</sub> of VAS from A<sub>1</sub> to the same PAS location where A<sub>2</sub> has stored ist output.
- $\succ$  A<sub>1</sub> resumes operation

# Security Model of Micali & Reyzin:

- 1. Abstract notion to model computation
- 2. Physical security model and adversary







- 2. Physical security model
- ➢ Goal: Incorporate the leakage of an implementation
- Problem: Abstract virtual-memory computer may have different physical implementations 
  different leakage
- Idea: Augement abstract VTM with a leakage function to cover all possible leakages
- → Abstract VTM A + Leakage function L = physical VTM P=(L,A)
  - P runs computation specified by abstract VTM A and incorporates leakage L.



### Physical VTM $P_i = (L_i, A_i)$ :



- $\succ$  L<sub>i</sub>: leakage function with three inputs L(C,M,R):
  - 1. current internal configuration C: binary string that includes
    - information of the touched elements of all tapes of A<sub>i</sub>
    - locations of all heads of A
    - current state of A<sub>i</sub>
  - 2. setting/specification of the measuring system M
  - 3. random noise R of the measurement

# Physical virtual-memory computer $P = (P_1, ..., P_n)$ :

- Combination of physical VTMs P<sub>i</sub>
- If A = (A<sub>1</sub>,...,A<sub>n</sub>) is abstract computer then P is a physical implementation of A
- > Notation  $f_P(x)$ : function computed by P on input x

# Adversary F:

- ➢ F can observe the computation of every single physical VTM P<sub>i</sub>
- F can adaptively specify a measurement M for each step of the computation



# Definition 1:

A physical VTM is *trivial* if its leakage function reveals its entire configuration and *non-trivial* otherwise.

# Fundamental Assumption of POC:

There exists a non-trivial physical VTM.





### Definition (physical world):

A polynomial-time deterministic physical computer P is a *PO one-way function* if for any polynomial-time adversary F, the following probability is negligible in k:

 $Pr[x \leftarrow^R \{0,1\}^k; y \leftarrow P(x) \hookrightarrow F(1^k) \rightarrow state; z \leftarrow F(state, y) : f_P(z) = y]$ 

P is a PO one-way permutation: f<sub>P</sub> is length-preserving + bijective

Intuition: P is a PO one-way function if it computes a function f<sub>P</sub> that is hard to invert despite the leakage from P's computation.

Notation:  $y_P \leftarrow P(x_P) \hookrightarrow F(x_F) \rightarrow y_F$ 

- F runs on input x<sub>F</sub> and observs a physical computer P on input x<sub>P</sub>
- ▶ P halts with output  $y_P \rightarrow F$  halts with output  $y_F$

Claim 1:

If P is a PO one-way permutation then P' with  $f_{P'}(\cdot) = f_{P}(f_{P}(\cdot))$  is also a PO one-way permutation.

Proof (Idea):

- 1. Construction of  $P'=(P_0,P)$ :
  - > Note that P is PO owp and  $P_0$  is a trivial VTM ( $\rightarrow$  leaks everything!)
  - P<sub>0</sub> calls P twice on different inputs and manages the parameter passing. In more details we have:

1.  $P_0$  prepares tapes for subroutine call to  $y_1 = P(x)$ 

- 2. P computes  $y_1 = f_P(x)$
- 3.  $P_0$  prepares tapes for subroutine call  $P(y_1)$
- 4. P computes  $y_2 = f_P(y_1)$
- 5.  $P_0$  places the address of  $y_2$  on the output tape



### 2. Prove one-wayness of P'

Show that given  $y_2 = f_P(f_P(x))$  computed by P', it is difficult to find x despite the leakage of P'

Reduction (1):

Assume the existence of an adversary F' that

- > observes P'  $\rightarrow$  provides measurement M and obtains leakage L<sub>M</sub>
- > gets  $y_2$  as input
- outputs x (i.e. inverts P')





# Reduction (2):

Build adversary F that attacks the assumption (i.e. one-wayness of P):

- Observes target PO one-way permutation P
- ▶ Gets  $y_1 = f_P(x)$  as input
- Uses F' as subroutine and simulates environment by
  - producing a consistent input  $y_2 = f_P(y_1)$
  - producing indistinguishable answers to measurements of F'
- outputs x (i.e. inverts owp P)



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# 1. $P_0$ prepares tapes for subroutine call to $y_1 = P(x)$

- $\succ$  F answers measurement queries with entire configuration of P<sub>0</sub>
  - content of call and input tape
- > Why is this indistinguishable?
  - $P_0$  is trivial  $\rightarrow$  leaks everything in real world as well
- Why can we compute the leakage?
  - P<sub>0</sub> only reassigns VAS pointers but no access to content of memory
  - Axiom 1: Unaccessed memory does not leak
    - Content of P<sub>0</sub>'s VAS (in particular x) is not part of leakage because it is only remapped by VMM
  - Leakage of P<sub>0</sub> contains only addresses





- 2. P computes  $y_1 = f_P(x)$ 
  - $\succ$  F starts observing P(x)
  - If F' chooses measurement M then F will use M as his measurement while running P(x)
  - F forwards results of his own measurement to F'
  - Why is this indistinguishable?
    - Axiom 4: Leakage is local
      - → P(x) run in "isolation" has the same leakage distribution as P(x) introduced by P<sub>0</sub>

# 3. $P_0$ prepares tapes for subroutine call to $P(y_1)$

Simulation is done as in stage 1



- 4. P computes  $y_2 = f_P(y_1)$ 
  - > F runs abstract computer  $A(y_1)$
  - For measurement M of F' return leakage L(C,M,R), where C is configuration of A.
  - Why is this indistinguishable?
    - Axiom 4: Leakage is local
      - ➔ Leakage of running P from scratch with input y<sub>1</sub> is the same as the leakage running P after y<sub>1</sub> is computed
  - Simulation efficient?
    - Axiom 5: Leakage is efficiently computable knowing all inputs for L
      - $\rightarrow$  F was not observing the real P(y<sub>1</sub>), but knows all inputs for L

# 5. $P_0$ places the address of $y_2$ on the output tape

- $\succ$  F answers measurement queries with entire configuration of P<sub>0</sub>
- > Why is this indistinguishable?
  - $P_0$  is trivial  $\rightarrow$  leaks everything
- Why is the simulation efficient?
  - Axiom 1: unaccessed memory does not leak
    - $\rightarrow$  content of P<sub>0</sub>'s VAS (in particular x) is not part of the leakage





Finally...

- > F computes  $y_2 = f_P(y_1)$  and gives it to F'
  - $\rightarrow$  F' answers with x

F outputs x



#### 7. Outlook

Showing existence of further cryptographic primitives:

- Unpredictable PO generator from PO one-way permutation
- Digital Signature scheme from PO one-way permutation
- Pseudorandom Function from multiple observable PRNG

Analyze PO security of real-world algorithms and figure out necessary assumptions to prove security:

- RSA FDH Signatures in PO Random Oracle Model
- RSA CPA Encryption in PO Random Oracle Model
- OAEP Encryption, PSS Signatures,...

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#### 4. Proof

### Remarks:

- > Axiom 2: Different implementations have different leakage
  - Trivial machines leaking everything certainly exist
  - Using them to compute f(x) from x would make it easy to find an inverse
    - ➔ If leakage would be the same for all implementations, a PO one-way permutations would not exist
- Axiom 3: Information leakage depends on the chosen measurement

Incorporated into the model: F' has the power of choosing its own measurements at every step of the computation
# 1. Gap between real-world implementations and provable security

# 2. Physically Observable Cryptography

- 1. Define axioms specifying the physical world and the therein existent physical devices
- 2. Define a formal security model for physical devices incorporating physical observers
- 3. Assumption and definitions
- 4. Proof

## Implications of the model:

- Implementations of cryptographic concstructions are build from physical VTMs each having an own leakage function L.
- $\succ$  F has access to L and by querying for M obtains L(M,C,R).
- Parameter passing between VTMs can be done without leakage managed by trivial VTM.

#### 4. Proof

- F' expects to observe a 5 stage computation:
- 1.  $P_0$  prepares tapes for subroutine call to  $y_1 = P_1(x)$
- 2.  $P_1$  and its subroutines compute  $y_1 = f_P(x)$
- 3.  $P_0$  prepares tapes for subroutine call  $P_1(y_1)$
- 4.  $P_1$  and its subroutines compute  $y_2 = f_P(y_1)$
- 5.  $P_0$  places the address of  $y_2$  on the output tape

## Accessing Virtual-Memory



## Notation:

 $m_{A_i}$ : content of  $A_i$ 's VAS

 $m_{A_i}[j]$ : bit value stored at location j

Read the bit  $m_{A_i}[2]$ :

## Accessing Virtual-Memory



Read the bit  $m_{A_i}[2]$ :

Write location on VAS-access tape

## Notation:

 $m_{A_i}$  : content of  $A_i$  's VAS

m<sub>A<sub>i</sub></sub>[j]: bit value stored at location j



## Accessing Virtual-Memory



Read the bit  $m_{A_i}[2]$ :

- Write location on VAS-access tape
- Enter special state (REA = read)

### Notation:

 $m_{A_i}$  : content of  $A_i$  's VAS

m<sub>Ai</sub>[j]: bit value stored at location j



## Accessing Virtual-Memory



Read the bit  $m_{A_i}[2]$ :

- Write location on VAS-access tape
- Enter special state (REA = read)
  - $\rightarrow$  m<sub>A<sub>i</sub></sub>[2] appears on VAS-access tape

## Notation:

 $m_{A_i}$ : content of  $A_i$  's VAS

m<sub>Ai</sub>[j]: bit value stored at location j



## Accessing Virtual-Memory



Write bit b to position 2 in VAS:

Write (2,b) on VAS-access tape

#### Notation:

 $m_{A_i}$  : content of  $A_i$  's VAS

m<sub>A<sub>i</sub></sub>[j]: bit value stored at location j



## Accessing Virtual-Memory



Write bit b to position 2 in VAS:

- Write (2,b) on VAS-access tape
- Enters special state (WRI = write)

## Notation:

 $m_{A_i}$ : content of  $A_i$  's VAS

m<sub>Ai</sub>[j]: bit value stored at location j





F has an additional ability to *observe* computation of a physical computer P

→ F gets leakage function L





F keeps configuration between invocations



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#### **2. Security Model**

## Process of observing:







➢ If P halts: F is invoked again with name tape containing 0



## Definition 2 (traditional world):

A one-way function is a function f:  $\{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}^*$  such that there exists a polynomial-time Turing machine T that computes f and, for any polynomial-time adversary F, the following probability is negligible in k:

$$Pr[x \leftarrow^R \{0,1\}^k; y \leftarrow T(x); z \leftarrow F(1^k, y) : f(z) = y]$$

Definition attempt (physical world):

A physically observable (PO) one-way function is a function f:  $\{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}^*$ such that there exists a polynomial-time physical computer P that computes f and, for any polynomial-time adversary F, the following probability is negligible in k:

$$Pr[x \leftarrow^R \{0,1\}^k; y \leftarrow P(x) \hookrightarrow F(1^k) \rightarrow state; z \leftarrow F(state, y) : f(z) = y]$$

Problem?

#### **5. Assumptions & Definitions of POC**

## Problem:

- Definitions should not rely on any assumption
- Definition attempt relies on the fundamental assumption of the existence of a non-trivial physical computer

## Solution:

Define not what it means for a function f to be one-way but for a particular physical computer P computing f.



## Inputs and outputs of VTM:



Inputs and outputs of VTM are binary strings always residing in memory:

- $\succ$  Input tape contains 1<sup>1</sup>, the unary representation of the input length
- > Input in the first I bit positions of  $A_1$ 's VAS
- End of computation:
  - Output tape: sequence of L addresses: b<sub>1</sub>, ..., b<sub>L</sub>
  - Output itself in VAS:  $o = m_{A_1}[b_1] \dots m_{A_1}[b_L]$