



**KU LEUVEN**

# Post-Snowden Cryptography

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TS//SI//REL to USA, FVEY

(S//REL) iPhone Location Services

(U) Who knew in 1984...



TS//SI//REL to USA, FVEY

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TS//SI//REL to USA, FVEY

(S//REL) iPhone Location Services

(U) ...that this would be big brother...



TS//SI//REL to USA, FVEY

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NSA calls the iPhone users public 'zombies' who pay for their own surveillance

TS//SI//REL to USA, FVEY


(S//REL) iPhone Location Services

(U) ...and the zombies would be paying customers?



TS//SI//REL to USA, FVEY

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NSA:  
"Collect it all,  
know it all,  
exploit it all"

www.wired.com


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## Outline

- Snowden revelation and mass surveillance
- Going after crypto
- The end of crypto
- Security research

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## Snowden revelations



most capabilities could have been extrapolated from open sources

But still...

massive scale and impact (pervasive)


level of sophistication both organizational and technical

- redundancy: at least 3 methods to get to Google's data
- many other countries collaborated (beyond five eyes)
- industry collaboration through bribery, security letters\*, ...
  - including industrial espionage

undermining cryptographic standards with backdoors (Bullrun) ... and also the credibility of NIST

\* Impact of security letters reduced by Freedom Act (2 June 2015) 7

## Snowden revelations (2)



Most spectacular: **active defense**

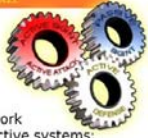
- networks
  - Quantum insertion: answer before the legitimate website
  - inject malware in devices
- devices
  - malware based on backdoors and 0-days (FoxAcid)
  - supply chain subversion

Translation in human terms: **complete control** of networks and systems, including bridging the air gaps

No longer deniable  
Oversight weak

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## QUANTUMTHEORY

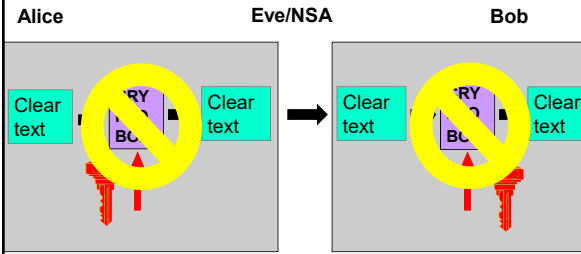


- (TS//SI//REL) Extremely powerful CNE/CND/CNA network effects are enabled by integrating our passive and active systems:
  - Resetting connections (QUANTUMSKY)
  - Redirecting targets for exploitation (QUANTUMINSERT)
  - Taking control of IRC bots (QUANTUMBOT)
  - Corrupting file uploads/downloads (QUANTUMCOPPER)
- (TS//SI//REL) QUANTUMTHEORY dynamically injects packets into a target's network session to achieve CNE/CND/CNA network effects.
  - **Detect:** TURMOIL, passive sensors detect target traffic & tip TURBINE command/control.
  - **Decide:** TURBINE mission logic constructs response & forwards to TAO node.
  - **Inject:** TAO node injects response onto Internet towards target.
- (TS//SI//REL) The propagation delay from tip-to-target determines the success rate of the network effect. **Less Latency = More Success!**

TOP SECRET//COMINT//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, GBR, NZL

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## Rule #1 of cryptanalysis: search for plaintext [B. Morris]




Alice: Clear text → [Interception] → Clear text

Eve/NSA: [Interception]

Bob: Clear text

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## Where do you find plaintext? SSO: Special Source Operations



1. PRISM (server)      2. Upstream (fiber)

**PRISM Collection Details**

Current Providers:

- Microsoft (Hotmail, etc.)
- Google
- Yahoo!
- Facebook
- PatTalk
- YouTube
- Skype
- AOL
- Apple

What Will You Receive in Collection (Operations and Special Requests) varies by provider. In general:

- Email
- Chat + video, voice
- Video
- Photos
- Stored data
- Logs
- File transfers
- Video conferencing
- Notifications of page activity - items, etc.
- Online social networking graphs
- Special Requests

**FAA/OLZ Operations**  
Two Types of Collection

**Upstream**

Collection of communications on fiber cables and infrastructures are done from pass (FAIRVIEW, BLARNEY)

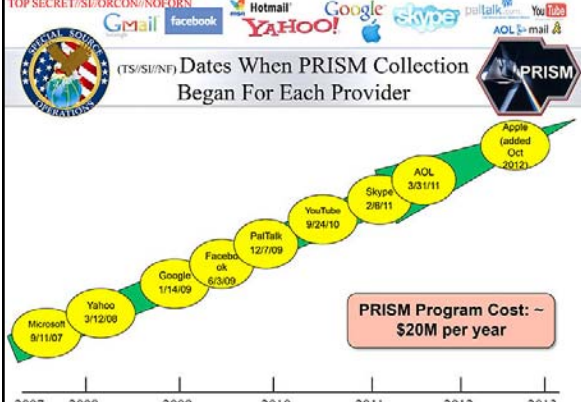
**PRISM**

Collection directly from the servers of these U.S. Service Providers: Microsoft, Yahoo, Google, Facebook, PatTalk, AOL, Skype, YouTube, etc.

**You Should Use Both**

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## Dates When PRISM Collection Began For Each Provider




| Provider               | Date     |
|------------------------|----------|
| Microsoft              | 9/11/07  |
| Yahoo                  | 3/12/09  |
| Google                 | 1/14/09  |
| Facebook               | 6/3/09   |
| PatTalk                | 12/7/09  |
| YouTube                | 9/24/10  |
| Skype                  | 2/8/11   |
| AOL                    | 3/31/11  |
| Apple (added Oct 2012) | Oct 2012 |

PRISM Program Cost: ~ \$20M per year

TOP SECRET//SI//ORCON//NOFORN

TOP SECRET//SI//NOFORN



### Current Efforts - Google

Muscular (GCHQ) help from Level 3 (LITTLE)

TOP SECRET//SI//NOFORN

Jan 9 2013: In the preceding 30 days, field collectors had processed and sent back 181,280,466 new records — including “metadata,” which would indicate who sent or received e-mails and when, as well as content such as text, audio and video (from Yahoo! and Google)

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### 3. Traffic data (meta data) (DNR)

**not plaintext itself, but**

- URLs of websites, MAC and IP addresses, location information,...
- it allows to map networks and reveals social relations

**6 June 2013: NSA collecting phone records of millions of Verizon customers daily**

- Nov. 2015: USA Freedom act: “Final temporary reauthorization of the Section 215 bulk telephony metadata data program in the US expires”
- Information stored at telcos – can be obtained via FISA court

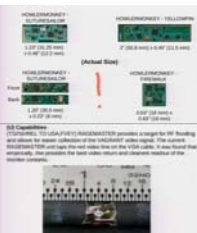
**EU: data retention directive (2006/24/EC)**

- April 2014: direct is declared illegal by EU Court of Justice: disproportionate and contrary to some fundamental rights protected by the **Charter of Fundamental Rights**, in particular to the principle of privacy

DNR: Dial number recognition 14

### 4. Client systems: Quantum + TAO

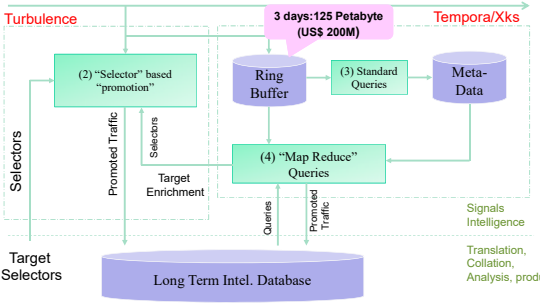
- sophisticated malware based on 0-days (or subversion of the update mechanism)
  - e.g. **FOXACID** – quantum insertion
- hardware devices (air-gapped machines)
  - radio interfaces and radar activation
  - supply chain interception



TAO: Tailored Access Operations 15

### TEMPORA architecture

(1) Gain “access” to raw content: intercept (cable, satellite), hack, buy, ask.



Slide credit: George Danezis, UCL \* Tempora ~ Deep Dive Xkeyscore (NSA) 16

### Which questions can one answer with mass surveillance systems/bulk data collection?

Tempora (GCHQ) ~ Deep Dive Xkeyscore (NSA)

- I have one phone number – find all the devices of this person, his surfing behavior, the location where he has travelled to and his closest collaborators
- Find all Microsoft Excel sheets containing MAC addresses in Belgium
- Find all exploitable machines in Panama
- Find everyone in Austria who communicates in French and who use OTR or Signal

BND has spied on EU (incl. German) companies and targets in exchange for access to these systems


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### NSA is not alone

|                          |  |     |  |     |  |     |  |     |  |     |  |               |  |
|--------------------------|--|-----|--|-----|--|-----|--|-----|--|-----|--|---------------|--|
| NATO (28 countries)      |  |     |  |     |  |     |  |     |  |     |  |               |  |
| 2nd Party Five Eyes      |  | NZL |  | AUS |  | USA |  | CAN |  | GBR |  | SSEUR 14-Eyes |  |
| 3rd Party (33 countries) |  | FRA |  | NLD |  | DNK |  | NOR |  | SWE |  | FIN           |  |
|                          |  | DEU |  | BEL |  | ESP |  | ITA |  | AUT |  |               |  |
|                          |  | JPN |  | KOR |  | POL |  | CZE |  | HUN |  | FJR           |  |
|                          |  | PAK |  | IND |  | THA |  | HRV |  | ROU |  | DZA           |  |
|                          |  | SGP |  | TWN |  | GRC |  | TUR |  | ETH |  | SAU           |  |
|                          |  | ISL |  | EST |  | LVA |  | LTU |  | LUX |  | SVK           |  |
|                          |  | PRT |  | SVN |  | ALB |  |     |  |     |  |               |  |


Nations with 2nd and 3rd Party status and membership of the SIGINT Seniors Europe (SSEUR) and NATO (situation of 2013 with NATO country codes)

Electropages.net 2014 18




If data is the new oil, data mining yields the rocket fuel

industry



users




government

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### Mass Surveillance

panopticon  
[Jeremy Bentham, 1791]

discrimination  
fear  
conformism - stifles dissent  
oppression and abuse



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### Mass Surveillance

Economy of scale

Pervasive surveillance requires **pervasive collection** and **active attacks**

- implicates everyone - also **innocent** bystanders
- emphasis moving from COMSEC to COMPUSEC (from network security to systems security)
- undermines integrity of and trust in computing infrastructure

Human rights do not stop at your border


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### NSA foils much internet encryption



NYT 6 September 2013

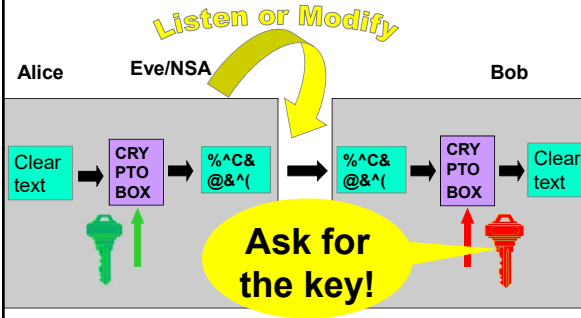
The National Security Agency is winning its long-running secret war on **encryption**, using supercomputers, technical trickery, court orders and behind-the-scenes persuasion to undermine the major tools protecting the privacy of everyday communications in the Internet age

[Bullrun]

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### If you can't get the plaintext

Listen or Modify



Alice

Eve/NSA

Bob

Clear text

CRY PTO BOX

%^C& @&^(

CRY PTO BOX

Clear text

Ask for the key!

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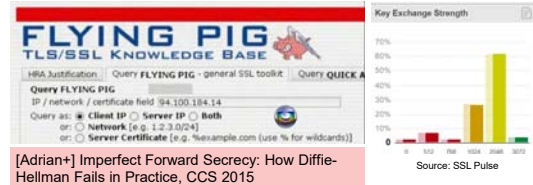
## Asking for the key

- (alleged) examples – through security letters?
  - Lavabit email encryption
  - CryptoSeal Privacy VPN
  - SSL/TLS servers of large companies?
  - Silent Circle email?
  - Truecrypt??

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## Find the Private Key (Somehow)

- Logjam: TLS fallback to 512-bit export control legacy systems
- 1024-bit RSA and Diffie-Hellman widely used default option not strong enough
- GCHQ Flying Pig program



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## If you can't get the private key, substitute the public key

- 12M SSL/TLS servers  
fake SSL certificates or SSL person-in-the-middle as commercial product or government attack
- 650 CA certs trustable by common systems
  - Comodo, Diginotar, Turktrust, ANSSI, China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC), Symantec
  - Flame: rogue certificate by cryptanalysis

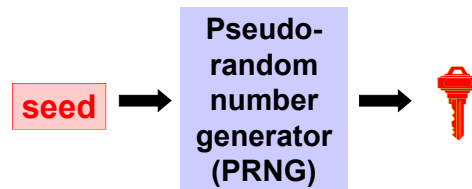


[Holz+] TLS in the Wild, NDSS 2016  
[Stevens] Counter-cryptanalysis, Crypto'13

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## If you can't get the key

make sure that the key is generated using a random number generator with trapdoor



trapdoor allows to predict keys

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## Dual\_EC\_DRBG

Dual Elliptic Curve Deterministic Random Bit Generator

- ANSI and ISO standard
- 1 of the 4 PRNGs in NIST SP 800-90A
  - draft Dec. 2005; published 2006; revised 2012
- Two "suspicious" parameters P and Q
- Many warnings and critical comments
  - before publication [Gjosteen05], [Schoenmakers-Sidorenko06]
  - after publication [Ferguson-Shumov07]

Appendix: The security of Dual\_EC\_DRBG requires that the points P and Q be properly generated. To avoid using potentially weak points, the points specified in Appendix A.1 should be used.

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## Dual\_EC\_DRBG

- 10 Sept. 2013, NYT: "internal memos leaked by a former NSA contractor suggest that [...] the Dual EC DRBG standard [...] contains a **backdoor** for the NSA."
- 16 Sept. 2013: NIST "**strongly recommends**" against the use of Dual\_EC\_DRBG, as specified in SP 800-90A (2012)
- Nov. 2013: RSA's BSAFE library chooses DUAL\_EC as default
- Dec. 2015: Juniper announces Dual\_EC problems for Netscreen
  - 08: 6.2.r01 uses Dual\_EC in a way it can be exploited
  - 12: someone changed the backdoor (6.2.r015)

[Checkoway+] On the Practical Exploitability of Dual EC in TLS Implementations, Usenix Security 2014

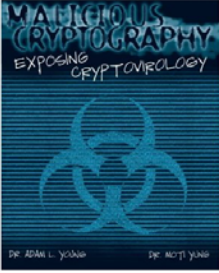
[Checkoway+] A Systematic Analysis of the Juniper Dual EC Incident, Cryptology ePrint Archive, Report 2016/376

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### Cryptovirology [Young-Yung]

<http://www.cryptovirology.com/cryptovfiles/research.html>

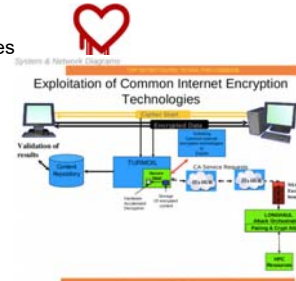


**Title:** Malicious Cryptography – Exposing Cryptovirology  
**Authors:** Adam Young  
 Moti Yung  
**Date:** February, 2004  
**Publisher:** John Wiley & Sons

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### NSA can (sometimes) break SSL/TLS, IPsec, SSH, PPTP, Skype


- ask for private keys
- implementation weaknesses
- weak premaster secret (IPsec)
- end 2011: decrypt 20,000 secure VPN connections/hour



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### Fighting cryptography

- Weak implementations
- Going after keys
- Undermining standards
- Cryptanalysis
  
- Increase complexity of standards
- Export controls
- Hardware backdoors
- Work with law enforcement to promote backdoor access and data retention



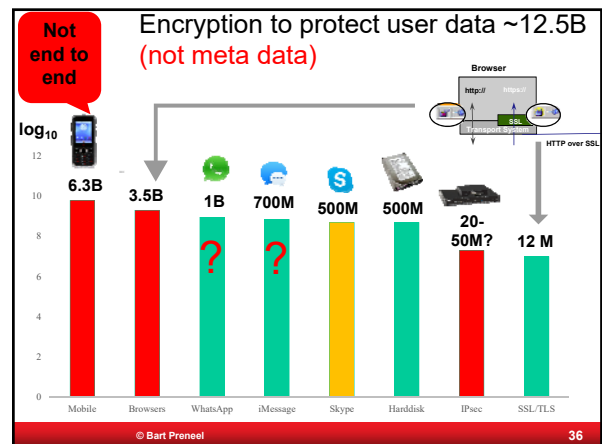
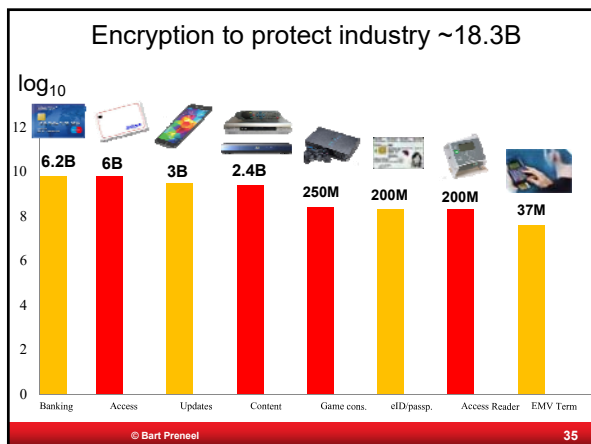
**We are going dark**

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### Deployment of cryptography

- most crypto in volume and market serves for data and entity authentication
  - code updates
  - payments: credit/debit/ATM/POS and SSL/TLS
  - access cards
- confidentiality
  - government/military secrets
  - DRM/content protection
  - telco: not end-to-end or with a backdoor
  - hard disk encryption: backdoored?
  - most data in the cloud is not encrypted
- Metadata: only for the happy few (million)

[Narayan13] What Happened to the Crypto Dream? IEEE Security & Privacy

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### Cryptography that seems to work

Active User [redacted]  
Active User IP Address [redacted]  
Target User [redacted]  
Target User IP Address [redacted]  
Start Mar 16, 2012 13:35:35 GMT  
Stop Mar 16, 2012 13:39:53 GMT

Other User IP Addresses  
[redacted]

| Time (GMT)            | From       | To         | Message    |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Mar 16, 2012 13:37:51 | [redacted] | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| Mar 16, 2012 13:37:59 | [redacted] | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| Mar 16, 2012 13:38:08 | [redacted] | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| Mar 16, 2012 13:38:12 | [redacted] | [redacted] | [redacted] |
| Mar 16, 2012 13:38:24 | [redacted] | [redacted] | [redacted] |

[OC: No decrypt available for this OTR encrypted message.]

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### Cryptography that seems to work

difficulty decrypting certain types of traffic, including

- Truecrypt
- GPG
- Tor\* ("Tor stinks") – likely that a lot of progress is being made
- ZRTP from implementations such as RedPhone (but downgrade problem)

commonalities

- RSA ( $\geq 2048$ ), Diffie-Hellman ( $\geq 2048$ ), ECDH and AES
- open source
- end-to-end
- limited user base

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### COMSEC - Communication Security

Secure channels: still a challenge

- authenticated encryption studied in CAESAR <http://competitions.cr.yp.to/caesar.html>
- downgrade attacks
- forward secrecy
- denial of service


Simplify internet protocols with security by default: DNS, BGP, TCP, IP, http, SMTP, ...

Or start from scratch: SCION [Perrig+]

Limited fraction (a few %) of traffic is protected. A very small fraction of traffic is protected end-to-end with a high security level

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### COMSEC - Communication Security meta data

Hiding communicating identities 

- few solutions – need more
- largest one is TOR with a few million users
- well managed but known limitations
  - e.g. security limited if user and destination are in same country

Location privacy: problematic

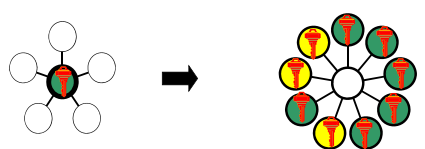
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## COMSEC - Communication Security

Do **not** move problems to a single secret key

- example: Lavabit email
- solution: threshold & proactive cryptography


Do **not** move problems to the authenticity of a single public key




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## COMPUSEC - Computer Security

Complex ecosystem developed over 40 years by thousands of people that has many weaknesses

- **Errors** at all levels leading to attacks (think )
  - governments have privileged access to those weaknesses
- Continuous remote **update** needed (implies weakness)
- Current **defense technologies** (firewall, anti-virus) not very strong with single point of failure
- Not designed to resist **human factor** attacks: coercion, bribery, blackmail
- **Supply chain** of software and hardware vulnerable and hard to defend (backdoors or implants)



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## COMPUSEC - Computer Security

### Protecting data at rest

- well established solutions for local encryption: Bitlocker, Truecrypt
- infrequently used in cloud
  - Achilles heel is key management
  - territoriality

But what about computations?

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## Architecture is politics [Mitch Kaipor'93]

**Control:**

avoid single point of **trust** that becomes single point of **failure**



**Stop massive data collection**

big data yields big breaches (think pollution)  
this is both a privacy and a security problem (think OPM)

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## Distributed systems with local data

Many services can be provided based on local information processing

- advertising
- proximity testing
- set intersection
- road pricing and insurance pricing

Cryptographic building blocks: ZK, OT, PIR, MPC, (s)FHE

Almost no deployment:

- massive data collection allows for other uses and more control
- fraud detection may be harder
- lack of understanding and tools

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## Centralization for small data

exceptional cases such as genomic analysis

- pseudonyms
- differential privacy
- searching and processing of encrypted data
- strong governance: access control, distributed logging

fascinating research topic but we should favor local data  
not oversell cryptographic solutions


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### Transparency Open/Free Software and Hardware

Effective governance


Increased transparency for service providers, privacy for the normal users



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### Crypto Life Cycle

|                          |                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Crypto design            | Kleptography                        |
| Hardware/software design | Hardware backdoors                  |
| Hardware production      | Software backdoors                  |
| Firmware/sw impl.        | Adding/modifying hardware backdoors |
| Device assembly          | Configuration errors                |
| Device shipping          | Backdoor insertion                  |
| Device configuration     |                                     |
| Device update            |                                     |

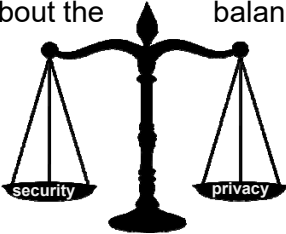


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### What about the balance?



- privacy is a security property: not 0-sum
- privacy is multi-dimensional, e.g. both individual and collective
- intelligence agencies have used technology to tilt the balance
- law enforcement agencies may loose out on some fronts
- can we design better solutions?

<http://www.juliansanchez.com/2011/02/04/the-trouble-with-balance-metaphors/>

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### Conclusions


- New threat models
- Shift from network security to system security
- Rethink architectures: distributed
- Help build open technologies and contribute to review by open communities

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### It's all about choices

Thank you for your attention

“Optimism is a moral duty” [Immanuel Kant]



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## Further reading

### Books

- Glenn Greenwald, No place to hide, Edward Snowden, the NSA, and the U.S. Surveillance State, Metropolitan Books, 2014

### Documents:

- <https://www.eff.org/nsa-spying/nsadocs>
- <https://cjfe.org/snowden>

### Articles

- Philip Rogaway, The moral character of cryptographic work, Cryptology ePrint Archive, Report 2015/1162
- Bart Preneel, Phillip Rogaway, Mark D. Ryan, Peter Y. A. Ryan: Privacy and security in an age of surveillance (Dagstuhl perspectives workshop 14401), Dagstuhl Manifestos, 5(1), pp. 25-37, 2015.

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## More information

### Movies

- Citizen Four (a movie by Laura Poitras) (2014)  
<https://citizenfourfilm.com/>
- Edward Snowden - Terminal F (2015)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nd6qN167wKo>
- John Oliver interviews Edward Snowden  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEVlyP4\\_11M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEVlyP4_11M)

### Media

- <https://firstlook.org/theintercept/>
- [http://www.spiegel.de/international/topic/nsa\\_spying\\_scandal/](http://www.spiegel.de/international/topic/nsa_spying_scandal/)

Very short version of this presentation:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYk6yN9eNfc>

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