



Modeling in Tamarin

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Slides designed by Cas Cremers, David Basin, Jannik Dreier, and Ralf Sasse

Sources:

Tamarin picture used with chicken hat by Brocken Inaglory

All other Tamarin photographs by Martin Dehnel-Wild

Other photos, graphics, and chicken hats by Cas Cremers

June 2023

About me



- **Formal methods/symbolic analysis**
 - Co-developer of Scyther & Tamarin
- **Applied cryptography**
 - Security models & proof techniques
- **Standardization and real-world applications**
 - TLS 1.3, IEEE 802.11, ISO, SPDM, ...
 - Secure messaging (contributed to MLS)
 - DP3T / Corona Warn App
- Looking to hire phd & postdocs!

Demo

Demo

```
Tamarin
cas@Yoga:~/tamarin_ex3_from_slides$ ls
foo_eligibility.spthy  NAXOS_eCK_PFS.spthy  sources-nolemma-load.spthy
loop.spthy             NAXOS_eCK.spthy      sources.spthy
cas@Yoga:~/tamarin_ex3_from_slides$ █
```

Demo

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foo_eligibility.spthy  NAXOS_eCK_PFS.spthy  sources-nolemma-load.spthy
loop.spthy             NAXOS_eCK.spthy      sources.spthy
cas@Yoga:~/tamarin_ex3_from_slides$ tamarin-prover interactive .
```

Demo

```
Tamarin
stdout: 2.7

stderr:
checking installation: OK.
The server is starting up on port 3001.
Browse to http://127.0.0.1:3001 once the server is ready.

Loading the security protocol theories './*.spthy' ...
Finished loading theories ... server ready at

    http://127.0.0.1:3001

08/Dec/2020:19:56:06 +0100 [Info#yesod-core] Application launched @(yesod-core-1.6.18-Ab7hNtiUzJgGsCLpKcpJyh:Yesod.Core.Dispatch src/Yesod/Core/Dispatch.hs:163:11)
█
```

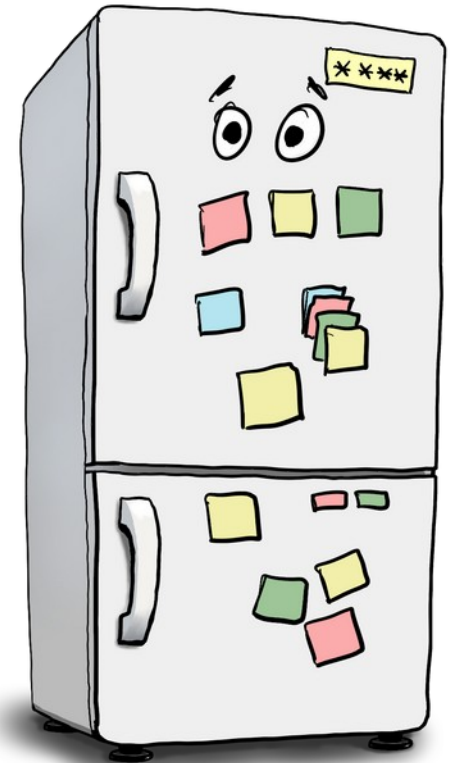
Tamarin: high-level

- **Modeling** protocol & adversary done using multiset rewriting
 - Specifies transition system; induces set of traces
- **Property** specification using fragment of first-order logic
 - Specifies “good” traces
- Tamarin tries to
 - provide proof that all system traces are good, or
 - construct a counterexample trace of the system (attack)

Modeling in Tamarin

Modeling in Tamarin

- **Multiset rewriting**; surprisingly similar to “oracles”
- Basic ingredients:
 - **Terms** (think “messages”)
 - **Facts** (think “sticky notes on the fridge”)
 - Special facts: **Fr(t)**, **In(t)**, **Out(t)**, **K(t)**
- State of system is a multiset of facts
 - **Initial state** is the empty multiset
 - **Rules** specify the transition rules (“moves”)
- Rules are of the form:
$$l \dashrightarrow r$$
$$l \dashrightarrow [a] \rightarrow r$$



The model

- **Term algebra**

- $\text{enc}(_, _)$, $\text{dec}(_, _)$,
 $\text{h}(_, _)$,
 $_ \wedge _$, $_^{-1}$, $_ *$, 1 , ...

The model

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- $\text{enc}(_, _), \text{dec}(_, _),$
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 $_ \wedge _, _^{-1}, _ * _, 1, \dots$

- **Equational theory**

- $\text{dec}(\text{enc}(m, k), k) =_E m,$
- $(x \wedge y) \wedge z =_E x \wedge (y * z),$
- $(x^{-1})^{-1} =_E x, \dots$

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- **Facts**

- $F(t_1, \dots, t_n)$

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- **Tamarin-specific**

- Built-in Dolev-Yao attacker rules
 - $\text{In}(\), \text{Out}(\), \text{K}(\)$

The model

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- **Facts**

- $F(t_1, \dots, t_n)$

- **Transition system**

- State: multiset of facts
- Rules: $l - [a] \rightarrow r$

- **Tamarin-specific**

- Built-in Dolev-Yao attacker rules
 - $\text{In}(_), \text{Out}(_), \text{K}(_)$
- Special **Fresh** rule:
 - $[\] \dashrightarrow [\text{Fr}(x)]$
 - With additional constraints on systems such that x unique

Semantics

- **Transition relation**

$$S \xrightarrow{[a]}_R ((S \setminus^{\#} I) \cup^{\#} r)$$

where

- $I \xrightarrow{[a]} r$ is a ground instance of a rule in R , and
- $I \subseteq^{\#} S$ wrt the equational theory

Semantics

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$$S \xrightarrow{R} [a] \text{ if } ((S \setminus \# I) \cup \# r)$$

where

- $I \xrightarrow{R} r$ is a ground instance of a rule in R , and
- $I \subseteq \# S$ wrt the equational theory

- **Executions**

$$\text{Exec}(R) = \{ [] \xrightarrow{R} [a_1] \xrightarrow{R} \dots \xrightarrow{R} [a_n] \xrightarrow{R} S_n \mid \forall n . \text{Fr}(n) \text{ appears only once on right-hand side of rule } \}$$

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$$\text{Exec}(R) = \{ [] \xrightarrow{[a_1]} \dots \xrightarrow{[a_n]} S_n \mid \forall n . \text{Fr}(n) \text{ appears only once on right-hand side of rule} \}$$

- **Traces**

$$\text{Traces}(R) = \{ [a_1, \dots, a_n] \mid [] \xrightarrow{[a_1]} \dots \xrightarrow{[a_n]} S_n \in \text{Exec}(R) \}$$

Semantics: example 1

- **Rules**

- rule 1: $[] \text{ -- } [\text{Init}()] \rightarrow [A('5')]$
- rule 2: $[A(x)] \text{ -- } [\text{Step}(x)] \rightarrow [B(x)]$

Semantics: example 1

- **Rules**

- rule 1: $[] \rightarrow [\text{Init}()] \rightarrow [A('5')]$
- rule 2: $[A(x)] \rightarrow [\text{Step}(x)] \rightarrow [B(x)]$

- **Execution example**

- $[]$
- $\rightarrow [\text{Init}()] \rightarrow [A('5')]$
- $\rightarrow [\text{Init}()] \rightarrow [A('5'), A('5')]$
- $\rightarrow [\text{Step}('5')] \rightarrow [A('5'), B('5')]$

Semantics: example 1

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- $\rightarrow [\text{Step}('5')] \rightarrow [A('5'), B('5')]$

- **Corresponding trace**

- $[\text{Init}(), \text{Init}(), \text{Step}('5')]$

Semantics: example 2 (persistent facts)

- **Rules**

- rule1: [] – [Init()] → [!C('ok'), D('1')]
- rule2: [!C(x), D(y)] – [Step(x,y)] → [D(h(y))]



Semantics: example 2 (persistent facts)

- **Rules**

- rule1: [] - [Init()] \rightarrow [!C('ok'), D('1')]
- rule2: [!C(x), D(y)] - [Step(x,y)] \rightarrow [D(h(y))]

- **Execution example**

- []
- - [Init()] \rightarrow [!C('ok'), D('1')]
- - [Step('ok','1')] \rightarrow [!C('ok'), D(h('1'))]
- - [Step('ok',h('1'))] \rightarrow [!C('ok'), D(h(h('1')))]

Semantics: example 2 (persistent facts)

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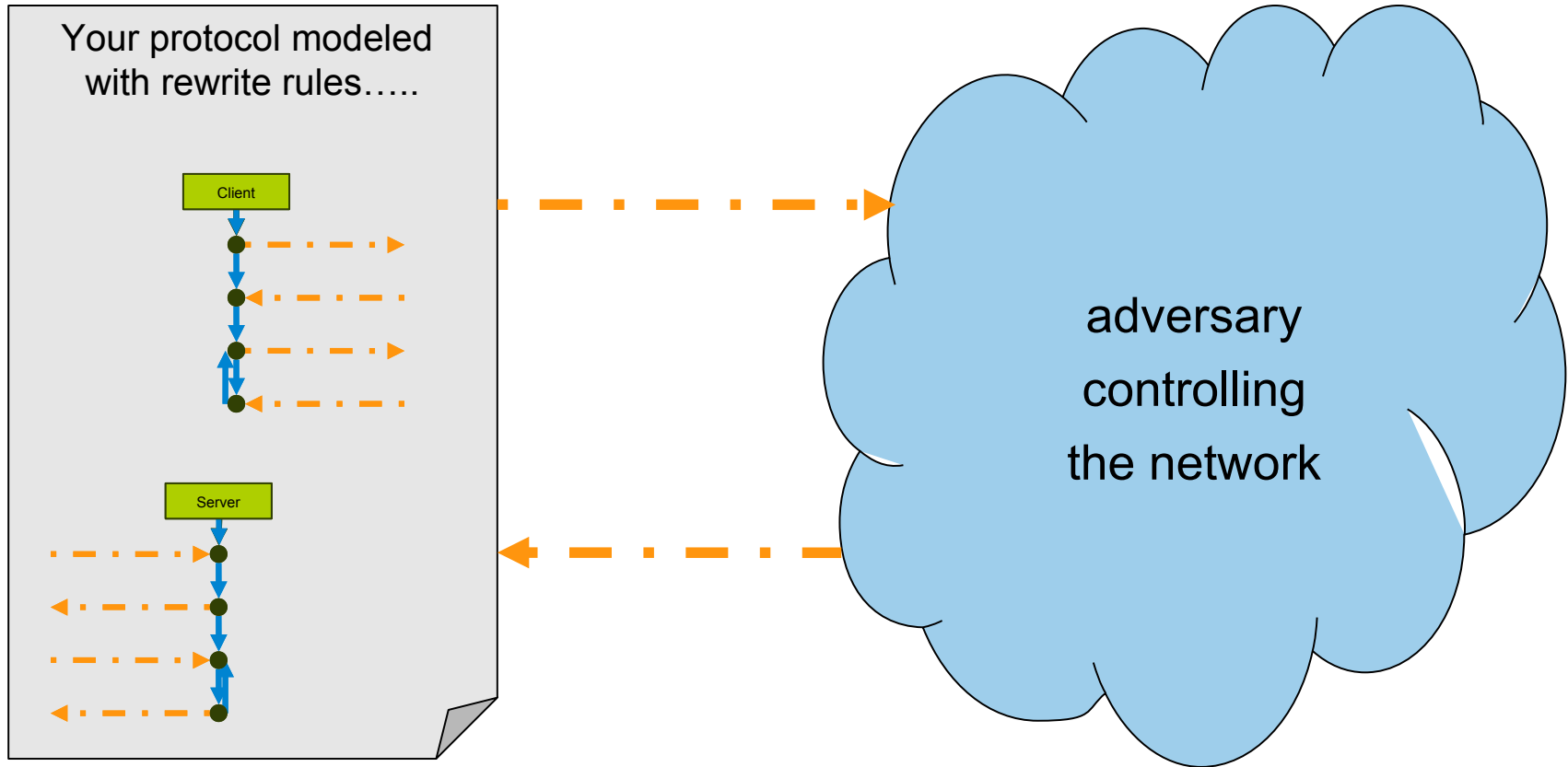
- **Execution example**

- []
- - [Init()] \rightarrow [!C('ok'), D('1')]
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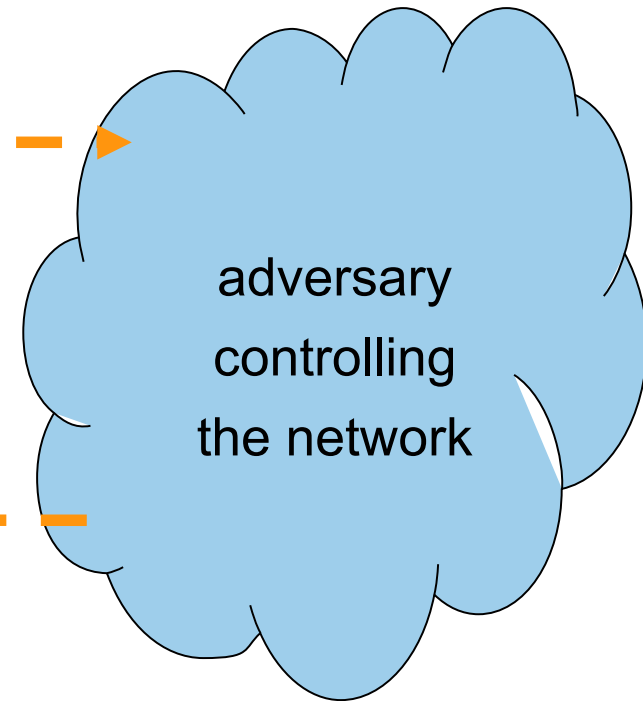
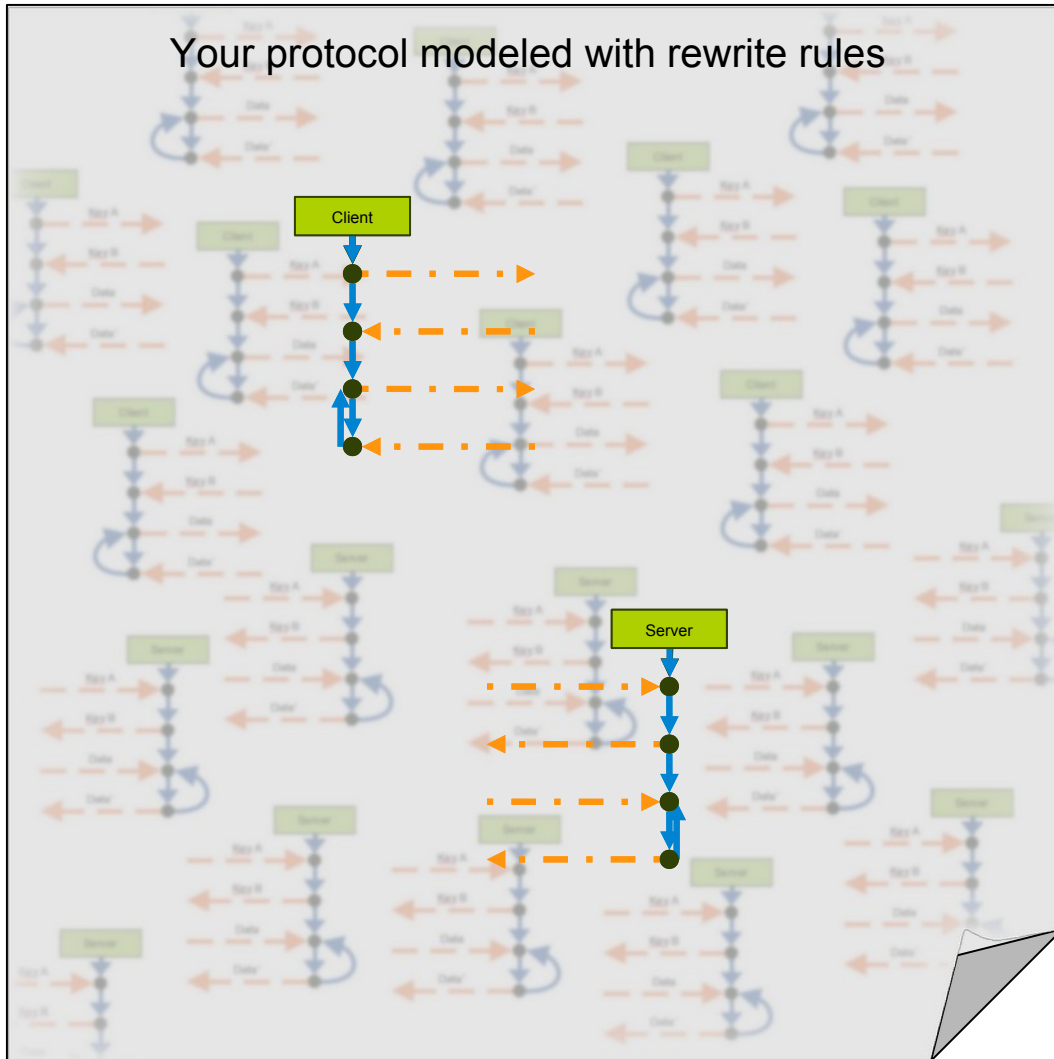
- **Corresponding trace**

- [Init(), Step('ok', '1'), Step('ok', h('1'))]

Tamarin tackles complex interaction with adversary



Tamarin tackles complex interaction with adversary



The NAXOS protocol

The Naxos protocol

lk_A A's long-term priv. key
 g^{lk_A} A's long-term pub. key
 esk_A A's eph. priv. key

I

Fresh esk_I

$$ex_I = h1(esk_I, lk_I)$$

$$hk_I = g^{ex_I}$$

receive Y

R

receive X

Fresh esk_R

$$ex_R = h1(esk_R, lk_R)$$

$$hk_R = g^{ex_R}$$

$\xrightarrow{hk_I}$

$\xleftarrow{hk_R}$

The Naxos protocol

lkA A's long-term priv. key
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eskA A's eph. priv. key

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$$ex_I = h1(esk_I, lk_I)$$

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receive Y

R

receive X

Fresh esk_R

$$ex_R = h1(esk_R, lk_R)$$

$$hk_R = g^{ex_R}$$

$$\xrightarrow{hk_I}$$

$$\xleftarrow{hk_R}$$

$$key = h2(g^{(ex_R)(lk_I)}, g^{(ex_I)(lk_R)}, g^{(ex_I)(ex_R)}, I, R)$$

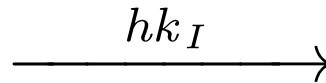
Modeling Naxos

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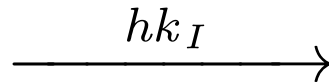
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'c' constant

$\sim t$ t has type fresh

```
rule Init_1:
  let exI = h1(<~eskI, ~lkI >)
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  in
  [ Fr( ~eskI ) ] --> [ Out( hkI ) ]
```

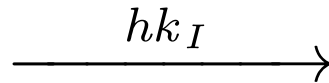
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$\$t$ t has type public

!F F is persistent

```
rule generate_ltk:
  let pkA = 'g'^~lkA
  in
  [ Fr(~lkA) ] --> [ !Ltk( $A, ~lkA ), !PK( $A, pkA), Out(pkA) ]
```

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Modeling Naxos

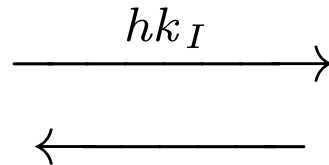
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```

```
rule Init_2:
  [ In( Y ) ] --> []
```

Modeling Naxos

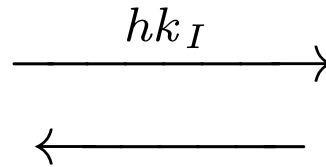
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  in
  [ Fr( ~eskI ), !Ltk( $I, ~lkI ) ] --> [ Out( hkI),
  Init_1( ~eskI, $I, $R, ~lkI ,hkI) ]
```

```
rule Init_2:
  [ Init_1( ~eskI, $I, $R, ~lkI , hkI), In( Y ) ] --> []
```

Property specification

- first order logic interpreted over a trace
 - False False
 - Equality $t_1 =_E t_2$
 - Timepoint ordering $\#i < \#j$
 - Timepoint equality $\#i = \#j$
 - Action at timepoint $\#i$ $A@ \#i$

Property specification

- $\perp \dashv\vdash [a] \rightarrow r$
- Actions stored as (action) trace

Additionally:

adversary knows facts: $K()$

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rule Init_2:
  let exI = h1(< ~eskI, ~lkI >),
      key = h2(< Y^~lkI, pkR^exI, Y^exI, $I, $R >)
  in
  [ Init_1( ~eskI, $I, $R, ~lkI, hkI), In( Y ), !Pk($R, pkR) ]
  --[ Accept(~eskI, $I, $R, key) ]-->
  []
```

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  --[ Accept(~eskI, $I, $R, key) ]-->
  []
```

Lemma trivial_key_secretcy:

```
"(All #i Test A B key. Accept(Test, A, B, key)@i => Not (Ex #j. K(key)@j ))"
```

Property specification

lkA A's long-term priv. key
g^lkA A's long-term pub. key
eskA A's eph. priv. key

'c' constant
~t t has type fresh
\$t t has type public
!F F is persistent

rule Ltk_reveal:

```
[ !Ltk($A, lkA) ] --[ LtkRev($A) ]-> [ Out(lkA) ]
```

lemma key_secretcy:

```
/*  
 * If A and B are honest, the adversary doesn't learn the session key  
 */  
"(All #i1 Test A B key.  
  (  
    Accept(Test, A, B, key) @ i1  
    &  
    not ( (Ex #ia . LtkRev( A ) @ ia )  
          | (Ex #ib . LtkRev( B ) @ ib )  
          )  
  )  
  ==> not (Ex #i2. K( key ) @ i2 )  
)"
```

eCK security model for key exchange

- Adversary can
 - learn **long-term keys**,
 - learn the **randomness** generated in sessions,
 - learn **session keys**

eCK security model for key exchange

- Adversary can
 - learn **long-term keys**,
 - learn the **randomness** generated in sessions,
 - learn **session keys**
- But only as long as the Test session is *clean*:
 - **No reveal of session key of** Test session or its **matching session**, and
 - No reveal of randomness of Test session as well as the long-term key of the actor, and
 - If there exists a matching session, then something is disallowed
 - If there is no matching session, then something else...

Specifying eCK

Lemma eCK_key_secrecy:

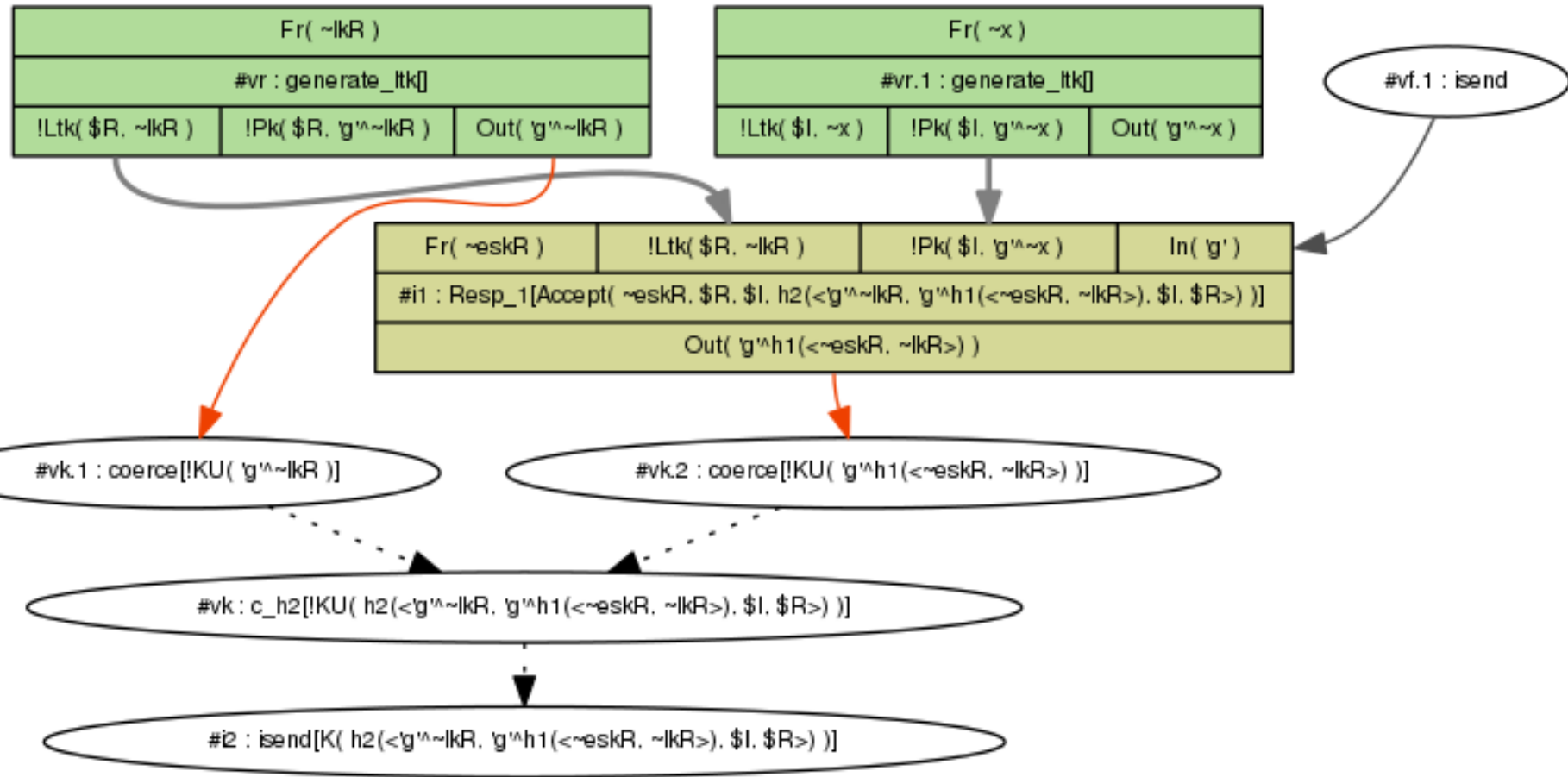
```
"(All #i1 #i2 Test A B key. Accept(Test, A, B, key) @ i1
    & K( key ) @ i2 ==>
(
    (Ex #i3. SesskRev( Test ) @ i3 )
| (Ex MatchingSession #i3 #i4 ms.
    ( Sid ( MatchingSession, ms ) @ i3
    & Match( Test, ms ) @ i4)
    & (Ex #i5. SesskRev( MatchingSession ) @ i5 ) )
| [ ...andsoforth... ]
)"
end
```

If Test accepts and the adversary knows k , then the Test must not be fresh, i.e., "... **reveal of session key of Test session** or **its matching session**", or ...

Demo

Tamarin's algorithm

Reading Tamarin's graphs



Algorithm intuition

- **Constraint solving algorithm**
- Main ingredients:
 - Dependency graphs
 - Deconstruction (decryption) chains
 - Finite variant property

Algorithm intuition

- **Constraint solving algorithm**
- Main ingredients:
 - Dependency graphs
 - Deconstruction (decryption) chains
 - Finite variant property
- **Invariant:** if adversary knows M then either
 - M was sent in plain
 - Adversary can construct M by knowing subterms
 - Adversary can deconstruct M from message sent by protocol rule

Basic principles

- Backwards search using **constraint reduction rules** (>25!)
- Turn negation of formula into set of constraints
- Case distinctions
 - E.g.: Possible sources of a message or fact
- Try to establish:
 - no solutions exist for constraint system, or
 - there exists a „realizable“ execution (trace)
- If multiple rules can be applied: use heuristics

Heuristics?

- If Tamarin terminates, one of two options:
 - **Proof**, or
 - **counterexample** (in this context: attack)
- At each stage in proof, multiple constraint solving rules might be applicable
 - Similar to “how shall I try to prove this?”
 - Choice influences speed & termination, but not the outcome after termination
- Complex **heuristics choose rule**
 - user can give hints or override

Lemmas

- When it doesn't terminate...
- Guide the proof manually; export
- Write **lemmas**
 - “**Hints**” for the prover
 - They don't change the guarantees, only help tool in finding a proof
 - E.g. specify lemma that can be used to prune proof trees at multiple points

How do I know my model is correct?

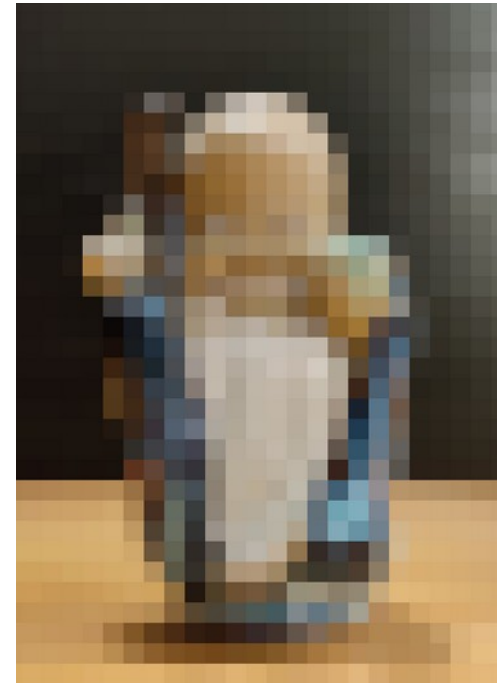
- **It is easy to model something incorrectly**
- Executability: try to prove expected traces actually exist
- Break the protocol on purpose
- Much easier to check these things than in manual proofs!

Symbolic vs Computational?

Modeling real-world objects



Reality



Symbolic

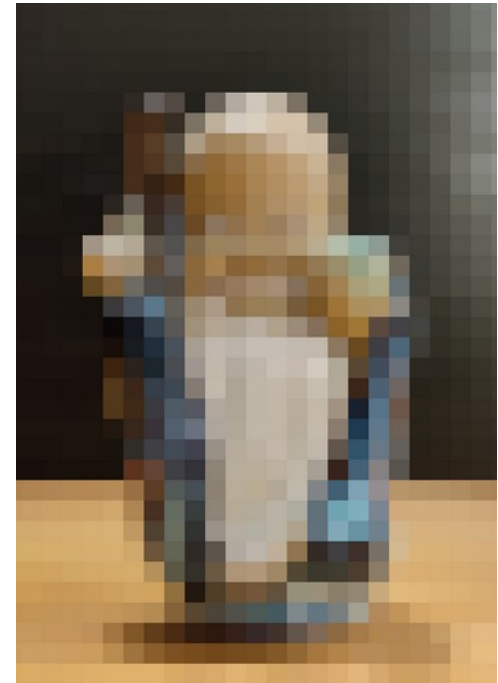
Modeling real-world objects



Reality



Computational

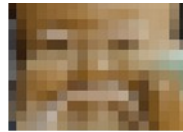


Symbolic

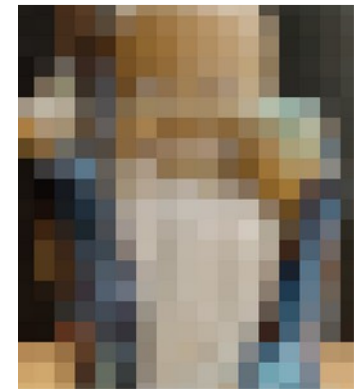
Modeling real-world objects



Reality



Computational



Symbolic

Symbolic analysis for cryptographers

- **Fundamental differences**

- Dolev-Yao attacker strong abstraction of Probabilistic Polynomial Time Turing Machine
- Terms are an abstract view of bitstrings
- No quantitative information (e.g. bounds)

- Current **algorithm limitations**

- Restrictions on equational theories, e.g., MQV style exponentiation tricky: we miss Kaliski's UKS attack on MQV.

- **What we *can* do** (recent developments)

- Negotiation, weak crypto
- Non-prime order curves
- DSXS attacks
- Length extension attacks

Tamarin: Conclusions

- Tamarin offers **many unique features**
 - Unbounded analysis, flexible properties, equational theories, global state, ...
 - Enables automated analysis in areas previously unexplored
 - It has many **other features** I didn't touch on now
 - Induction, restrictions, reusable lemmas, heuristics tuning, ...
 - Many new features planned!
 - Tool and sources are **free**; development on Github
- cremers@cispa.de**

Morning exercise

- Start from files in https://github.com/tamarin-prover/teaching/tree/master/tutorial-models/1_morning
- Consider `NAXOS_01_simple.spthy`
 - Remove specific elements:
 - Remove the first argument to the `h2` function used to compute the session key, and check with Tamarin what happens if you analyse the properties
 - Note that you need to make the change both at the initiator and the responder
 - Remove the second argument instead, etc. etc.
- Repeat for `NAXOS_08_eCK.spthy`
 - Compare the results to before. Why do they differ?
- Compare `NAXOS_08_eCK.spthy` and `NAXOS_15_eCK_FPS.spthy`
 - Explain the difference (attacks?)

Afternoon exercise

- Try Benjamin Kiesl's Toy Protocol tutorial:

https://github.com/benjaminkiesl/tamarin_toy_protocol

References

- Tamarin on github (<https://tamarin-prover.github.io/>)
 - Notably links to: all sources, example files, mailing list/google group, manual, tutorial data, (incomplete) list of papers
- More accurate modeling of cryptography
 - *Seems Legit: Automated Analysis of Subtle Attacks on Protocols that Use Signatures*
Jackson, Cremers, Cohn-Gordon, Sasse – ia.cr/2019/779
 - *Prime, Order Please! Revisiting Small Subgroup and Invalid Curve Attacks on Protocols using Diffie-Hellman*
Cremers, Jackson – ia.cr/2019/526
- Improving automation
 - *Automatic Generation of Sources Lemmas in Tamarin: Towards Automatic Proofs of Security Protocols*
Cortier, Delaune, Dreier – [Springer/HAL report](#)
- EMV Chip and pin → attack to circumvent PIN requirement for VISA contactless
 - *The EMV Standard: Break, Fix, Verify*
Basin, Sasse, Toro – emvrace.github.io