

A Computational Interpretation of Dolev-Yao Adversaries

**Jonathan Herzog
Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

How to Analyze Cryptographic Protocols

Many well-known methods based on formal methods

- Strand Spaces, model checkers, theorem provers, etc.
- Most based on common set of assumptions (Dolev-Ya

However, formal approach not the only framework for analysis

“Computational” approach to cryptography comes from complexity theory

- Reflects character of that field

Both have advantages; how do they relate?

This talk: relating the two models' adversaries

Related Work

This work greatly inspired by Abadi and Rogaway, A Jürjens (2001)

Other approaches to (directly) relating Dolev-Yao adversarial models to underlying encryption (Guttman, Thayer, Zuck 2002)

Incorporating poly-time indistinguishability into process calculi (Mitchell et al. 1998, 1999, 2001)

Dolev-Yao model as universally composable reactive macro (Backes, Pfitzmann, Waidner 2003)

Computational Cryptography: Worldview

Everything is a bit-string

- Messages, keys, numbers, etc.

Everything is an algorithm

- Turing machine, sometimes with oracles
- Key generation, encryption operation, adversary, etc.

(Almost) all security properties are asymptotic probabilities

- Behavior of system as key-lengths grow

All proofs are by reduction

- “If some adversary can break by encryption scheme then some hard problem must be easy.”
- Factoring, discrete log, quadratic residuosity, etc.

Computational Cryptography: Example

Definition of “semantic security” for public-key encryption

‘The probability is negligible (in the asymptotic case) that an efficient (PPT) adversary can tell if you encrypted message m_1 or message m_2 (under a randomly picked key) even if the adversary gets to pick m_1 and m_2 .’

$$\forall \text{Adv}_{PPT}, \forall \text{ polynomials } q, \exists \eta_0. \forall \eta \geq \eta_0$$
$$\Pr[\begin{array}{l} (pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(1^\eta); \\ m_1, m_2 \leftarrow \text{Adv}(1^\eta, pk); \\ b \leftarrow \text{CoinFlip}(1, 2); \\ c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(m_b, pk); \\ g \leftarrow \text{Adv}(c, m_1, m_2, pk) : \\ b = g \end{array}] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{q(\eta)}$$

Semantic Security, cont.

Semantic security (and more!) achieved by common sch

- Weak definition of security

Possible to instantiate given any hard problem*

Implies randomization of encryption

- Given plaintext/key can produce many possible ciph

Important note: security against *all* efficient adversaries

*Trapdoor permutation

Computational Approach: Pros and Co

Constructions, theorems very concrete and meaningful

Approach applicable to many type of problems

- Not just primitives, protocols
- Very rich body of work

Proofs very labor-intensive, however

- New proof for each problem
- No automation

Dolev-Yao Model

Much higher-level model

- Focused on protocol analysis

Messages are elements of abstract algebra

- Assumed to have several nice properties

Honest participants assumed to be communicating state

- Transmitting and receiving abstract messages

Generally no randomness

Adversary assumed from restricted class of state machines

Dolev-Yao Adversary

Presumed to start knowing some initial set of messages

- All public/predictable values

Intercepts every message sent by honest participant

Can perform *only* the following operations:

- Encrypt known message with public key
- Decrypt known message with known private key
- Separate a known pair
- Pair two known messages
- Generate new nonces, keys

Can perform finite number of such operations before sending a known message to any honest participant

Dolev-Yao Adversary, Formalized

Adversary trace: sequence of (adversary) queries, (pairwise) responses

$$R_0 \quad Q_1 \quad R_1 \quad \dots \quad Q_{n-1} \quad R_{n-1} \quad Q_n \quad R_n$$

Each query Q_i must be *derivable* from initial adversary knowledge (S_0) , all previous responses

If S is a set of messages, $C[S]$ is the smallest set so that

- $S \subseteq C[S]$,
- $C[S]$ is closed under pairing, separation
- $C[S]$ is closed under decryption with keys in $C[S]$, encryption with any key*

Q_i is derivable at time i iff:

$$Q_i \in C[S_0 \cup \{R_0, R_1, \dots, R_{i-1}\}]$$

*Public-key setting

Generalizing Dolev-Yao Adversary

Fundamental assumption of Dolev-Yao model:

If Dolev-Yao adversary “knows” only messages in set S
make messages outside of $C[S]$

“How can you justify this?”

– How can we say that adversary has no other abilities

Answer: adversary has no other abilities in computational model, either (if underlying encryption is sufficiently strong)

Point of this talk: show computational cryptography can limit computational adversary to Dolev-Yao assumption

But first, a technical detail

Message Encoding

Must first bring formal messages down into the world of bits
Use both η , security parameter, and arbitrary computational encryption scheme

Let $\llbracket M \rrbracket_\eta$ be the *encoding* of M

- Public-key analogue to encoding function of Abadi and Rogaway
- Nonces, keys, encoded as random strings
- Encoding of pairs straightforward
- Encoding of $\{M\}_K$ uses $\llbracket M \rrbracket_\eta$, $\llbracket K \rrbracket_\eta$ and arbitrary computational encryption scheme
 - May be randomized
- Function from messages to distributions on bit-strings

Translating the Dolev-Yao Assumption

First step of enforcing Dolev-Yao assumption: translating it into computational terms

Recall that we want:

If an adversary “knows” a set S of messages, cannot produce a message outside $C[S]$

An encryption operation is *ideal* if, when used in $[[\cdot]]_\eta$

$\forall \text{Adv}_{PPT},$

\forall sets of messages $S,$

$\forall M \notin C[S],$

\forall polynomials $q, \exists \eta_0. \forall \eta \geq \eta_0,$

$\Pr[s \leftarrow [[S]]_\eta; m \leftarrow \text{Adv}(1^\eta, s) : m \in [[M]]_\eta^*] \leq q(\eta)$

Implementing Ideal Encryption

Definition of ideal cryptography useless unless it can be
Need strong cryptography

A computational encryption scheme is *plaintext-aware*

1. It is semantically secure, and
2. The adversary must know the plaintext to every ciphertext it creates itself.

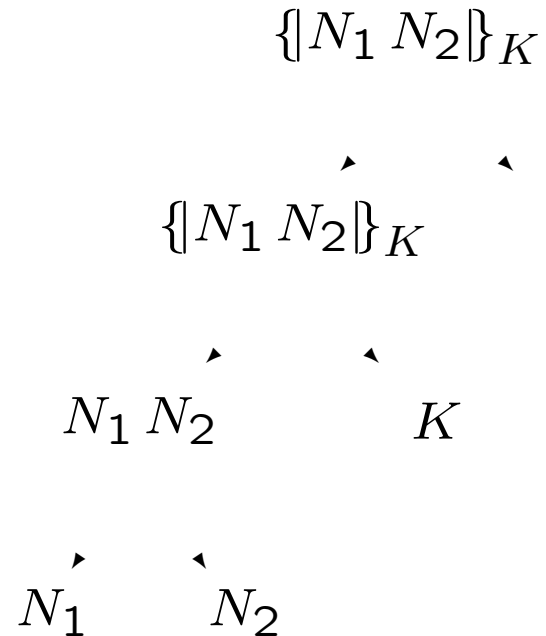
Thm: Let Enc be plaintext-aware. Then Enc is ideal.

Proof Overview:

1. Assume otherwise. Then adversary can create enc of some $M \notin C[S]$.
2. Plaintext awareness implies adversary can create enc of some atomic subterm not in $C[S]$.
3. Doing so violates semantic security

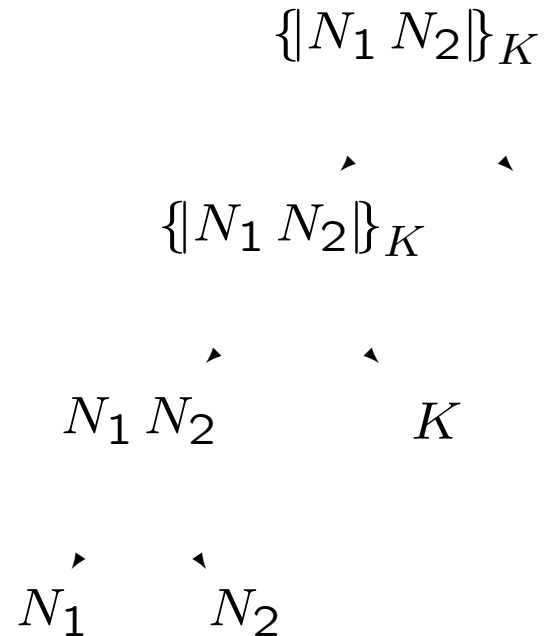
Proof Sketch (1/4)

Suppose adversary can create encoding of $M \notin C[S]$. Look at interior node of M 's parse tree. If both children in $C[S]$, then node itself in $C[S]$. Why? Membership in $C[S]$ closed under encryption, pairing.



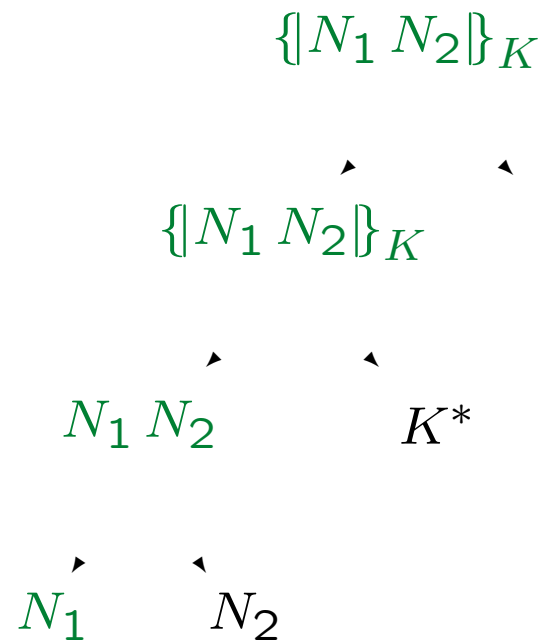
Proof Sketch (2/4)

If all paths from root to leaves go through $C[S]$, then root is in $C[S]$.
Know this is not the case.
Hence, at least one path does not go through $C[S]$.



Proof Sketch (3/4)

Along this path: If adversary can create parent, can create both children. Easy to undo pair operation. If adversary can create ciphertext, can create plaintext. (Thanks to plaintext-awareness.) Hence, adversary can create some leaf not in $C[S]$.



Proof Sketch (4/4)

Adversary can create encoding of some atomic $M' \notin C[S]$
 M' cannot be public information

- Must be nonce or private key

Two cases:

Case 1: M' is component of* something in $C[S]$

- Example: $M' = N_1 \notin C[S]$, and $\{N_1\}_K \in C[S]$
- Example: $M' = K^{-1} \notin C[S]$, and $K \in C[S]$
- These are the only possibilities
- Hence, adversary able to break semantic security of encryption scheme

Case 2: M' *not* component of something in $C[S]$

- Then adversary able to guess random nonce/key from independent values

*It, or inverse,
in parse tree of

Conclusions

Ideal encryption can be instantiated. This means...

Possible to limit computational adversary to attacks available to a formal adversary. This means...

We have a rebuttal to Dolev-Yao naysayers

Details, full proofs to be found in my thesis:

<http://theory.lcs.mit.edu/~jherzog>

(Slides there also)

Email address in proceedings

Future work

Seek stronger result

- Stronger statement of Dolev-Yao assumption
- Weaker assumptions* on computational encryption

Result only covers case where adversary *tries* to create valid encoding

- What if adversary intentionally sends garbage?
- Honest participants might reveal information through error behavior

Better formalism of adversary-chosen nonces, keys

Extend result to other primitives

- Signatures, hashing, symmetric encryption, etc.

*Plaintext awareness somewhat controversial, requires strong assumptions

Computational Encryption

Computational encryption schemes actually a triple of algorithms

- $\text{KeyGen} : \text{Parameter} \rightarrow \text{PublicKey} \times \text{PrivateKey}$
 - The (randomized) key generation algorithm
- $\text{Enc} : \text{PublicKey} \times \text{String} \rightarrow \text{Ciphertext}$
 - The (randomized) encryption algorithm
- $\text{Dec} : \text{Ciphertext} \times \text{PrivateKey} \rightarrow \text{String}$
 - The (deterministic) decryption algorithm

Need that if $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(1^n)$, then for all m , it is always true that

$$\text{Dec}(\text{Enc}(pk, m), sk) = m$$

Plaintext Awareness (Abr.)

Let $RO(\cdot)$ be the *random oracle*

- Provides randomly chosen function from $\{0, 1\}^*$ to $\{0, 1\}^*$ (for some reasonable n)

Let Enc, adversary have access to RO

Encryption is *plaintext-aware* if for any adversary

$$c \leftarrow \text{Adv}(pk)$$

there exists an efficient *extractor* K_{Adv} such that

$$\text{Dec}(sk, c) = K_{\text{Adv}}(c, pk, H)$$

where H is a list of the queries to RO made by Adv

Stronger Dolev-Yao Assumption

An encryption operation is *ideal* if, when used in $[[\cdot]]_\eta$

... $\forall M \notin C[S], \dots$

$$\Pr[\dots m \leftarrow \text{Adv}(1^\eta, s) : m \in [[M]]_\eta] \leq \frac{1}{q(\eta)}$$

(Probability of hitting fixed target is small.)

An encryption operation is *perfect* (?) if, when used in

...

$$\Pr[\dots m \leftarrow \text{Adv}(1^\eta, s) : \exists M \notin C[S] \text{ s. t. } m \in [[M]]_\eta]$$

(Probability of hitting any target is small.)