

Tools and Techniques for Symbolic Protocol Verification

[Muhammad Usama Sardar](#), Thomas Fossati, and Simon Frost

Ack: Nikolaus Thümmel, Ante Derek, Shale Xiong

Funding: CPEC, WG3

Chair of Systems Engineering
Technische Universität Dresden

February 8, 2023

Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Approach
- 3 Symbolic Security Analysis
- 4 Security Analysis
- 5 Summary

Relevance for PV community

- Program \rightarrow Product/service

Relevance for PV community

- Program \rightarrow Product/service
- Infrastructure management issues \rightarrow Deployed in cloud

Relevance for PV community

- Program \rightarrow Product/service
- Infrastructure management issues \rightarrow Deployed in cloud
- Safety and security interplay

Relevance for PV community

- Program \rightarrow Product/service
- Infrastructure management issues \rightarrow Deployed in cloud
- Safety and security interplay
- Additional challenges

Relevance for PV community

- Program \rightarrow Product/service
- Infrastructure management issues \rightarrow Deployed in cloud
- Safety and security interplay
- Additional challenges
 - Identity code?

Relevance for PV community

- Program \rightarrow Product/service
- Infrastructure management issues \rightarrow Deployed in cloud
- Safety and security interplay
- Additional challenges
 - Identity code?
 - Identity of code?

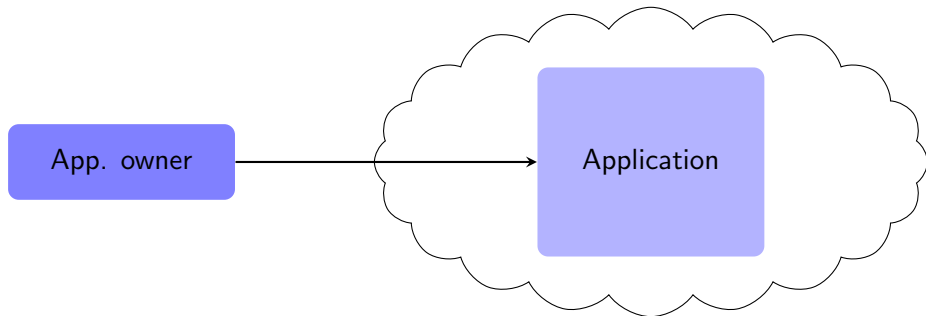
Relevance for PV community

- Program \rightarrow Product/service
- Infrastructure management issues \rightarrow Deployed in cloud
- Safety and security interplay
- Additional challenges
 - Identity code?
 - Identity of code?
 - Unspecified/not well-understood mechanisms

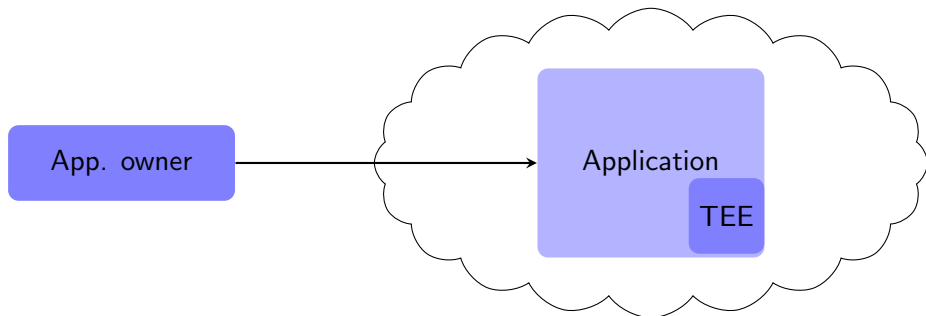
Confidential Computing

App. owner

Confidential Computing

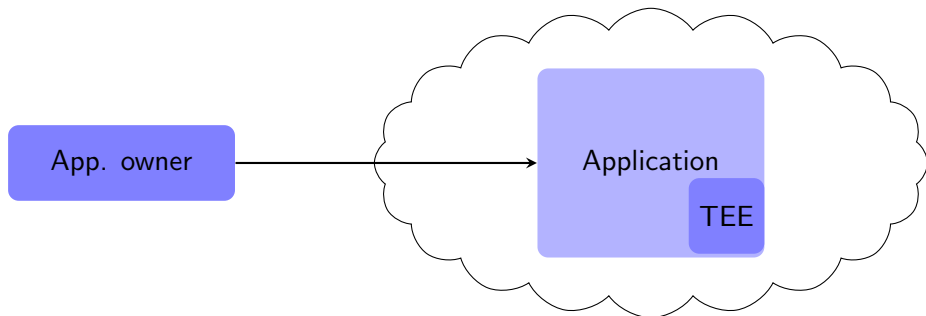


Confidential Computing



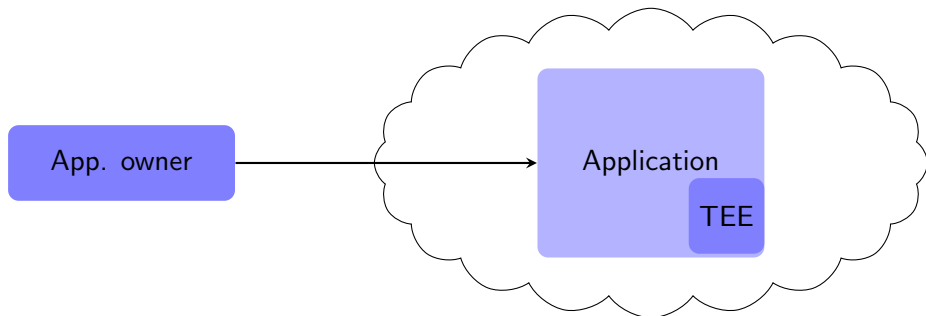
- Protection of **data in use**

Confidential Computing



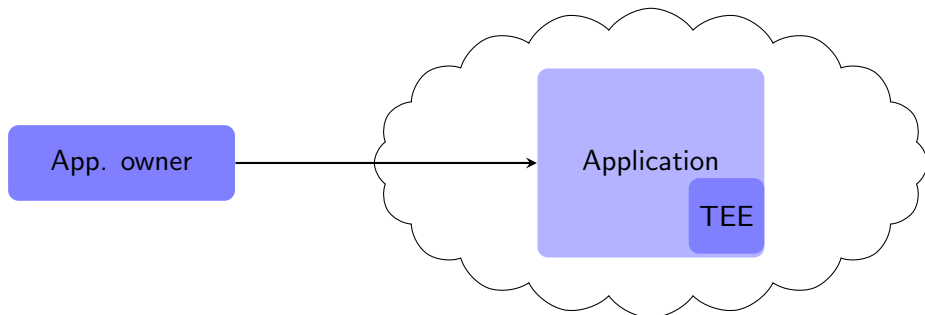
- Protection of **data in use**
- Adversary: **root access**

Confidential Computing



- Protection of data in use
- Adversary: root access
- Isolation and attestability

Confidential Computing



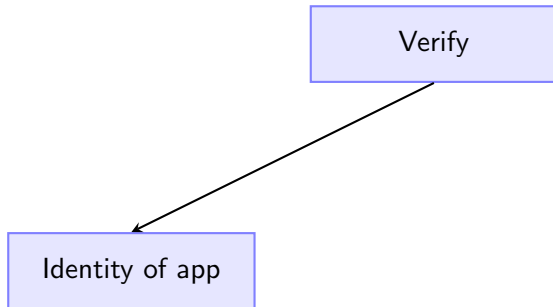
- Protection of **data in use**
- Adversary: **root access**
- **Isolation** and **attestability**
- Attestation: arguably the **most critical** but **most misunderstood** concept in CC

Attestation

- **Trust** to app owner: right app in right platform

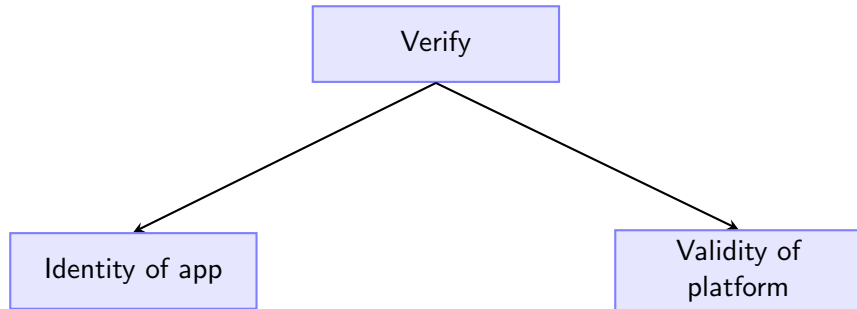
Attestation

- **Trust** to app owner: right app in right platform



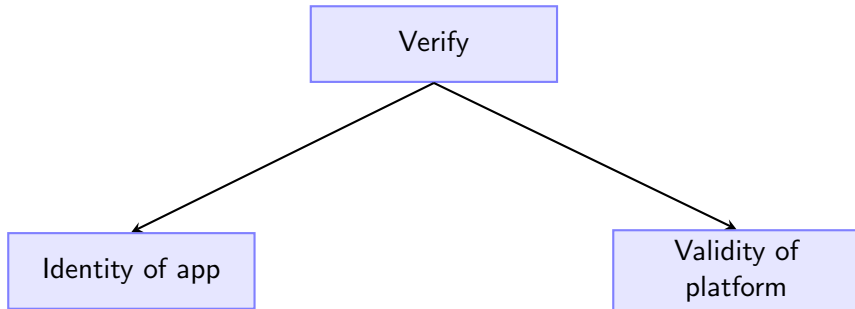
Attestation

- **Trust** to app owner: right app in right platform



Attestation

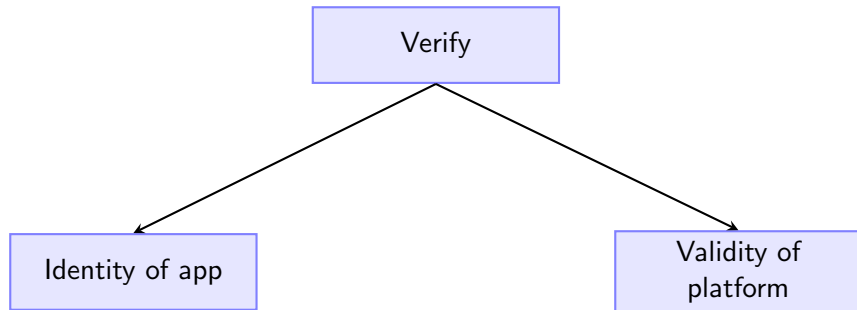
- **Trust** to app owner: right app in right platform



- Secure channel creation

Attestation

- **Trust** to app owner: right app in right platform

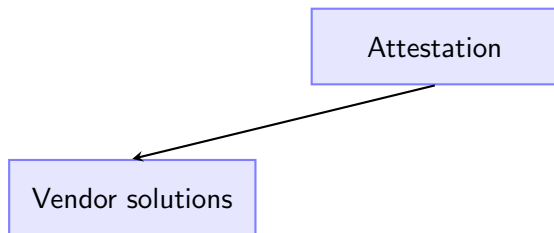


- Secure channel creation
- **Provisioning** of secrets and config.

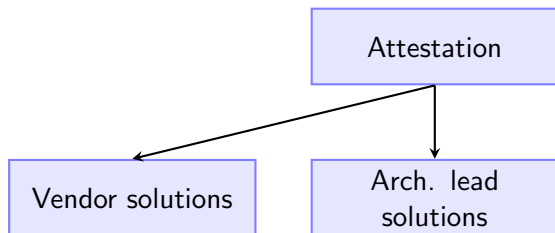
Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Approach
- 3 Symbolic Security Analysis
- 4 Security Analysis
- 5 Summary

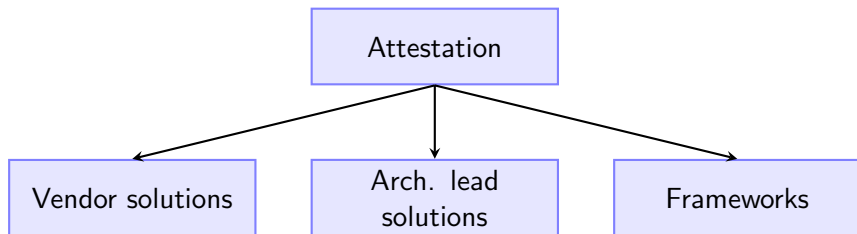
Systemization for Attestation Mechanisms



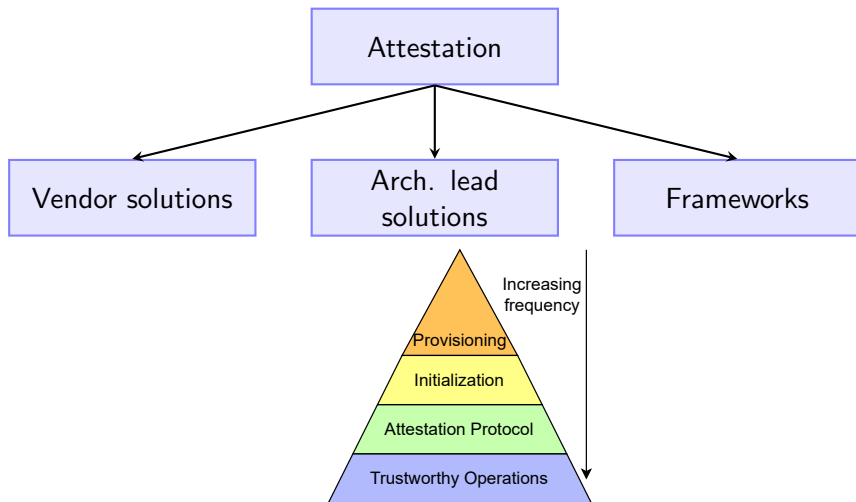
Systemization for Attestation Mechanisms



Systemization for Attestation Mechanisms



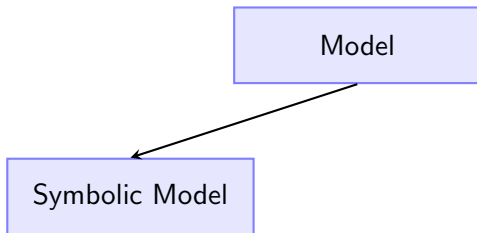
Systemization for Attestation Mechanisms



Outline

- 1 Introduction
 - Confidential Computing
 - Attestation
- 2 Approach
- 3 Symbolic Security Analysis
- 4 Security Analysis
- 5 Summary

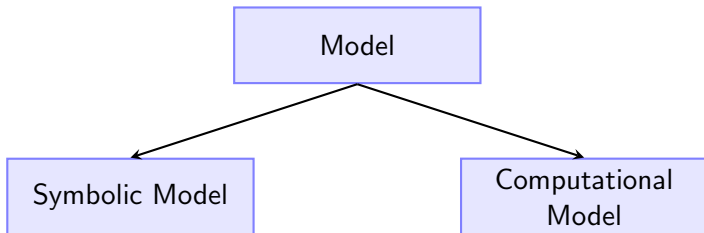
Model for Security Analysis¹



- Formal model
- Messages represented by “Terms”
- What attacker **can** do

¹Barbosa et al., “SoK : Computer-Aided Cryptography”, 2021

Model for Security Analysis¹



- Used by cryptographers
- What attacker **cannot** do

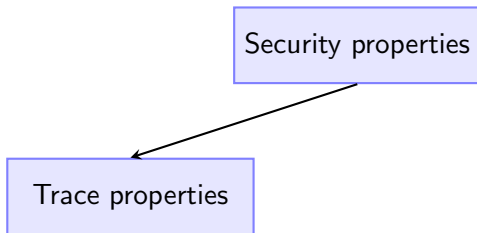
¹Barbosa et al., "SoK : Computer-Aided Cryptography", 2021

Threat Model for Symbolic Analysis

- “Dolev-Yao”² (symbolic) attacker
- Full control of communication network
- Unbounded number of sessions and messages
- Attacker behavior: Non-deterministic
- Assume cryptographic primitives are perfect

²Dolev and Yao, “On the security of public key protocols”, 1983

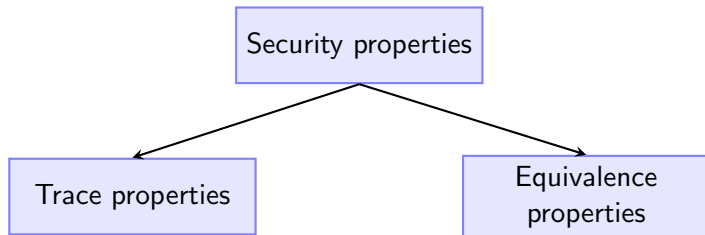
Security properties³



- Defined on each run of the protocol
 - Confidentiality/Secrecy
 - Authentication

³Blanchet, "Modeling and verifying security protocols with the applied pi calculus and ProVerif", 2016

Security properties³



- Adversary cannot distinguish 2 processes
- e.g., observational equivalence
- Tools: ProVerif, DeepSec (almost the same semantics)

³Blanchet, "Modeling and verifying security protocols with the applied pi calculus and ProVerif", 2016

ProVerif⁴ vs. Tamarin prover⁵

- More **automation** vs. user interaction

⁴Blanchet, “Modeling and verifying security protocols with the applied pi calculus and ProVerif”, 2016

⁵Basin et al., “Symbolically analyzing security protocols using Tamarin”, 2017

ProVerif⁵ vs. Tamarin prover⁶

- More **automation** vs. user interaction
- Computational security analysis on *same* model (CryptoVerif⁴)

⁴Blanchet, *CryptoVerif: A computationally-sound security protocol verifier*, 2017

⁵Blanchet, "Modeling and verifying security protocols with the applied pi calculus and ProVerif", 2016

⁶Basin et al., "Symbolically analyzing security protocols using Tamarin", 2017

ProVerif⁶ vs. Tamarin prover⁷

- More **automation** vs. user interaction
- Computational security analysis on *same* model (CryptoVerif⁴)
- Faster⁵

⁴Blanchet, *CryptoVerif: A computationally-sound security protocol verifier*, 2017

⁵Lafourcade and Puits, "Performance Evaluations of Cryptographic Protocols Verification Tools Dealing with Algebraic Properties", 2016

⁶Blanchet, "Modeling and verifying security protocols with the applied pi calculus and ProVerif", 2016

⁷Basin et al., "Symbolically analyzing security protocols using Tamarin", 2017

ProVerif⁷ vs. Tamarin prover⁸

- More **automation** vs. user interaction
- Computational security analysis on *same* model (CryptoVerif⁴)
- Faster⁵
 - esp. recent improvements⁶

⁴Blanchet, *CryptoVerif: A computationally-sound security protocol verifier*, 2017

⁵Lafourcade and Puits, "Performance Evaluations of Cryptographic Protocols Verification Tools Dealing with Algebraic Properties", 2016

⁶Blanchet, Cheval, and Cortier, "ProVerif with lemmas, induction, fast subsumption, and much more", 2022

⁷Blanchet, "Modeling and verifying security protocols with the applied pi calculus and ProVerif", 2016

⁸Basin et al., "Symbolically analyzing security protocols using Tamarin", 2017

ProVerif⁷ vs. Tamarin prover⁸

- More **automation** vs. user interaction
- Computational security analysis on *same* model (CryptoVerif⁴)
- Faster⁵
 - esp. recent improvements⁶
- Supports equivalence properties

⁴Blanchet, *CryptoVerif: A computationally-sound security protocol verifier*, 2017

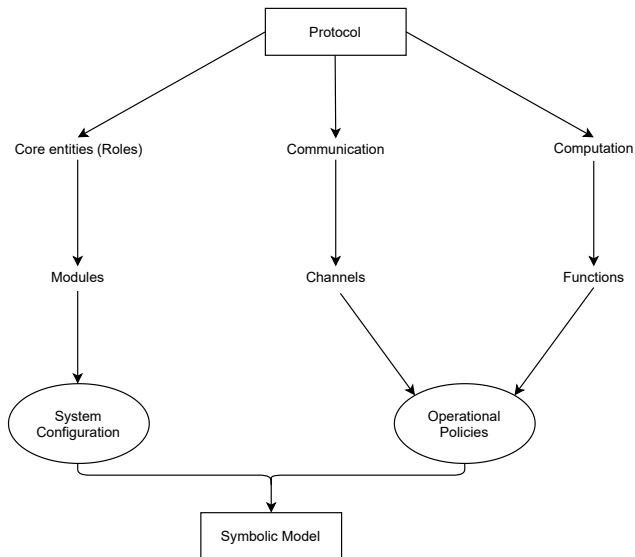
⁵Lafourcade and Puits, "Performance Evaluations of Cryptographic Protocols Verification Tools Dealing with Algebraic Properties", 2016

⁶Blanchet, Cheval, and Cortier, "ProVerif with lemmas, induction, fast subsumption, and much more", 2022

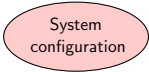
⁷Blanchet, "Modeling and verifying security protocols with the applied pi calculus and ProVerif", 2016

⁸Basin et al., "Symbolically analyzing security protocols using Tamarin", 2017

Overview of Approach




Workflow of the Analysis Approach



System
configuration

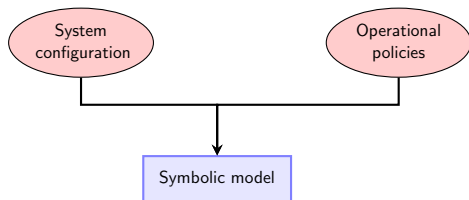
Workflow of the Analysis Approach



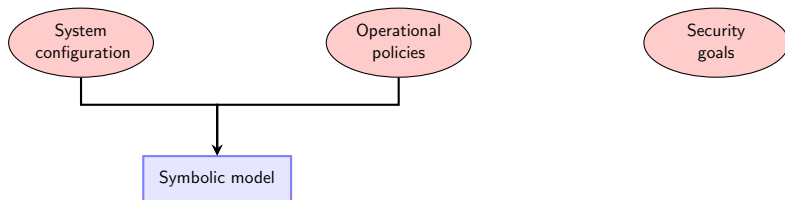
System
configuration

Operational
policies

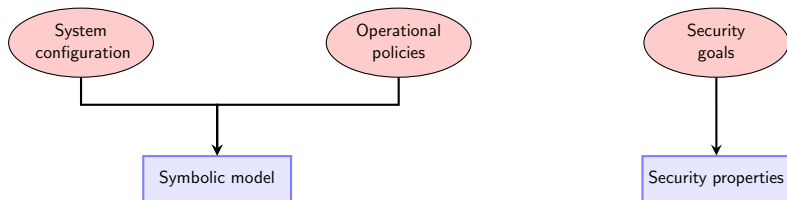
Workflow of the Analysis Approach



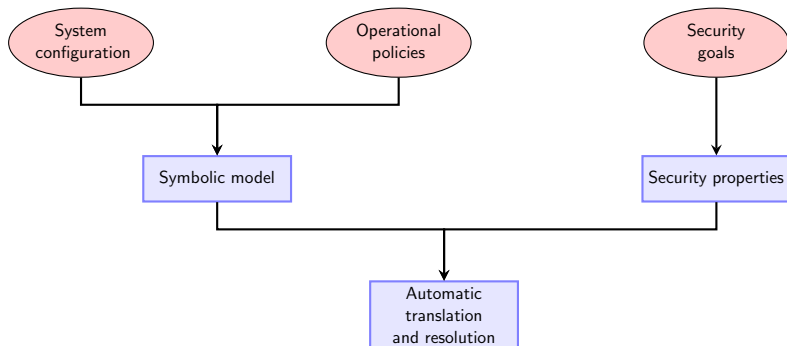
Workflow of the Analysis Approach



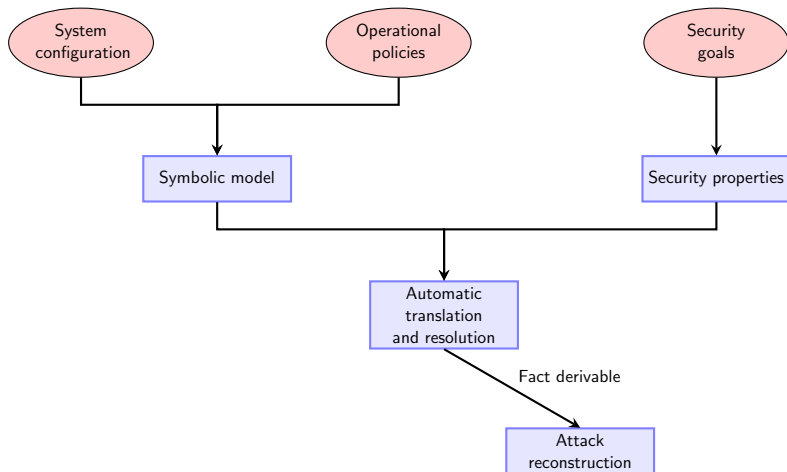
Workflow of the Analysis Approach



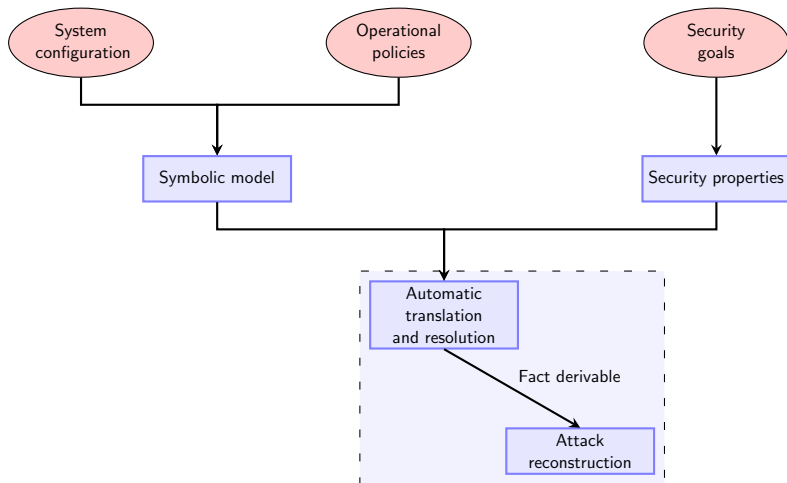
Workflow of the Analysis Approach



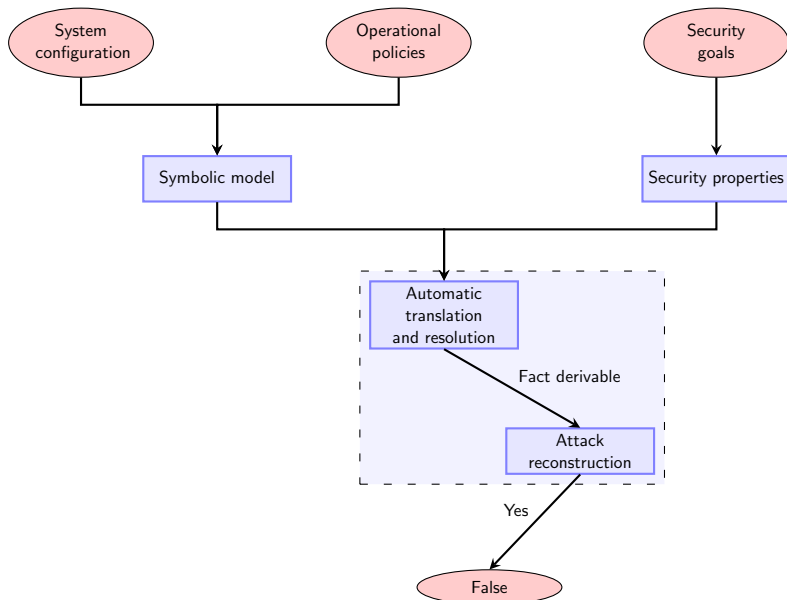
Workflow of the Analysis Approach



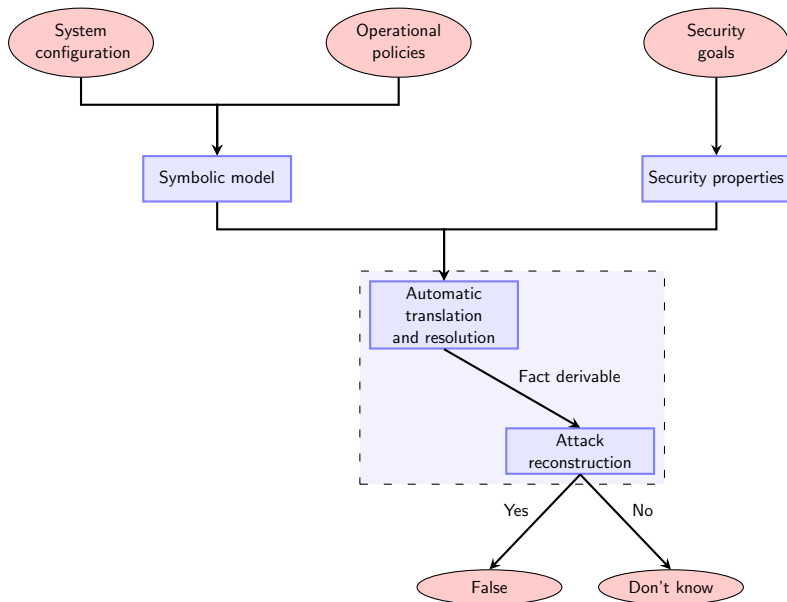
Workflow of the Analysis Approach



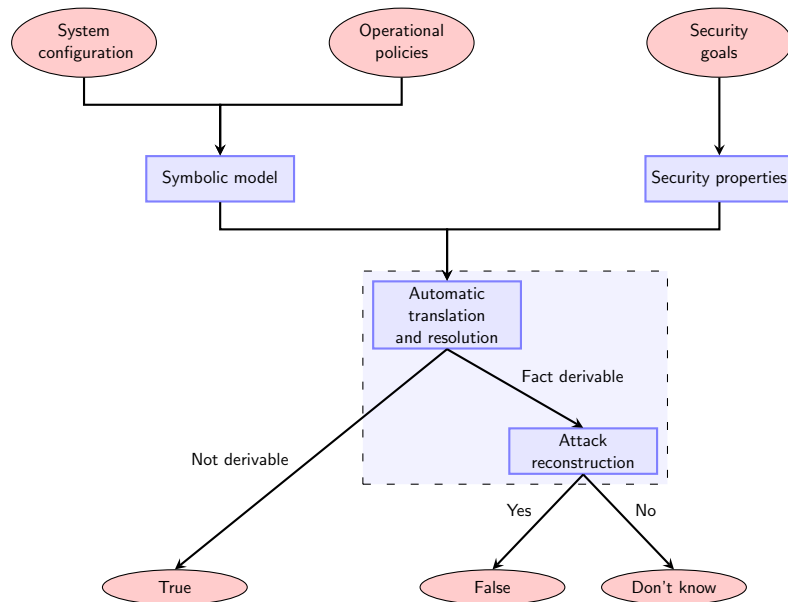
Workflow of the Analysis Approach



Workflow of the Analysis Approach

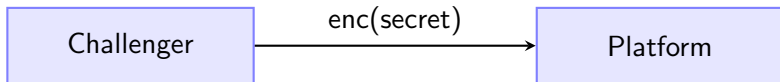


Workflow of the Analysis Approach



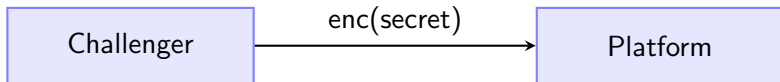
Specification of Security Goals

- Confidentiality



Specification of Security Goals

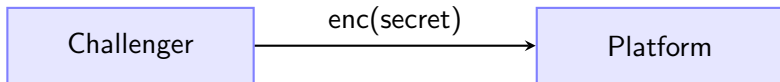
- Confidentiality



- Formalized as a [reachability](#) property

Specification of Security Goals

- Confidentiality

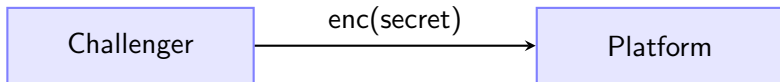


- Formalized as a [reachability](#) property

- Authentication

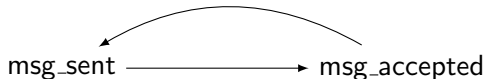
Specification of Security Goals

- Confidentiality



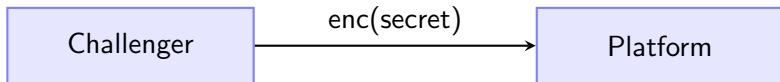
- Formalized as a [reachability](#) property

- Authentication



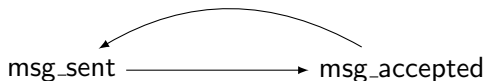
Specification of Security Goals

- Confidentiality



- Formalized as a **reachability** property

- Authentication



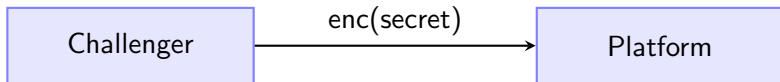
- Correspondence** assertions

query $x_1 : t_1, \dots, x_n : t_n$;

event $(msg_accepted(M_1, \dots, M_j)) \implies$ event $(msg_sent(N_1, \dots, N_k))$.
(1)

Specification of Security Goals

- Confidentiality



- Formalized as a **reachability** property

- Authentication



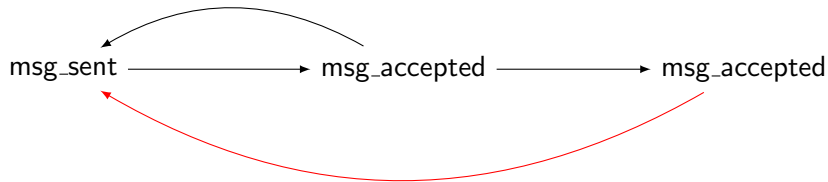
- Correspondence** assertions

query $x_1 : t_1, \dots, x_n : t_n$;

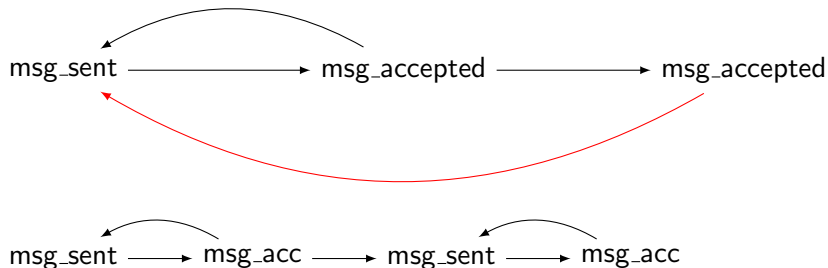
event ($msg_accepted(M_1, \dots, M_j)$) \implies event ($msg_sent(N_1, \dots, N_k)$).
(1)

- Additional check: **Reachability** of `msg_accepted`

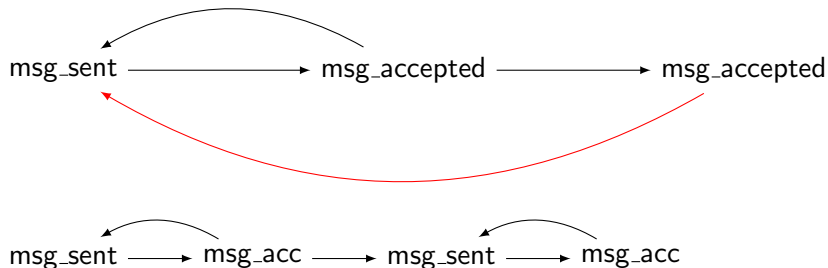
Authentication



Authentication



Authentication

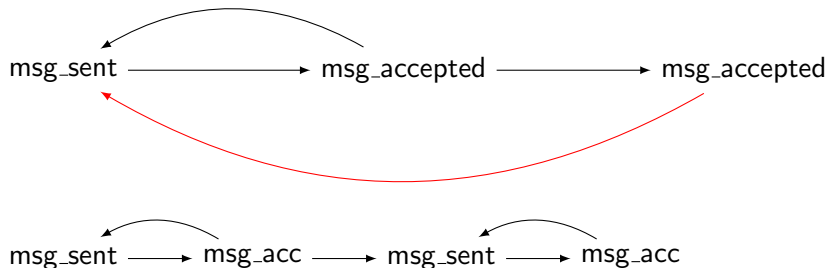


- **Injective** correspondence assertions

query $x_1 : t_1, \dots, x_n : t_n$;

event $(msg_acc(M_1, \dots, M_j)) \implies inj_event (msg_sent(N_1, \dots, N_k)).$
(2)

Authentication



- **Injective** correspondence assertions

query $x_1 : t_1, \dots, x_n : t_n$;

event $(msg_acc(M_1, \dots, M_j)) \implies inj_event(msg_sent(N_1, \dots, N_k)).$
(2)

- Additional check: **Reachability** of msg_accepted

Outline

- 1 Introduction
 - Confidential Computing
 - Attestation
- 2 Approach
- 3 Symbolic Security Analysis
- 4 Security Analysis
- 5 Summary

- Intel TDX: how do we precisely express trust boundaries?

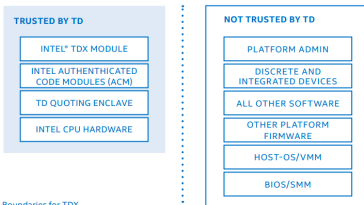


Figure 5.1. Trust Boundaries for TDX

- Intel TDX: how do we precisely express trust boundaries?

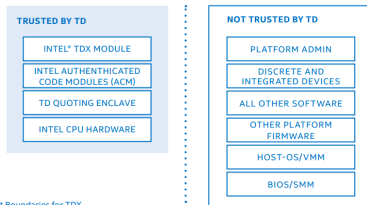


Figure 5.1. Trust Boundaries for TDX

- SCONE: when do we say that something is attested?

- Intel TDX: how do we precisely express trust boundaries?

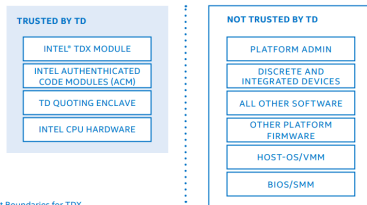


Figure 5.1. Trust Boundaries for TDX

- SCONE: when do we say that something is attested?
 - Challenge: closed-source nature of SCONE

- Intel TDX: how do we precisely express trust boundaries?

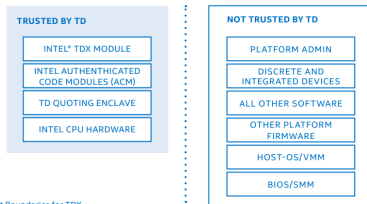


Figure 5.1. Trust Boundaries for TDX

- SCONE: when do we say that something is attested?
 - Challenge: closed-source nature of SCONE
- Arm CCA: authentication properties

```
query data : bitstring, sig : sign;  
event (accepted(data, sig)) ==> inj-event (sent(data, sig)).  
(3)
```


Outline

- 1 Introduction
 - Confidential Computing
 - Attestation
- 2 Approach
- 3 Symbolic Security Analysis
- 4 Security Analysis
- 5 Summary

Take-home

- Towards TEE-agnostic verification infrastructure for transparency and interoperability

Take-home

- Towards TEE-agnostic verification infrastructure for transparency and interoperability
- Lots of work required for precise specification and standardization

Take-home

- Towards TEE-agnostic verification infrastructure for transparency and interoperability
- Lots of work required for precise specification and standardization
 - Formal definitions and semantics associated with the attestation mechanisms

- Towards TEE-agnostic verification infrastructure for transparency and interoperability
- Lots of work required for precise specification and standardization
 - Formal definitions and semantics associated with the attestation mechanisms
 - Provisioning protocols not well-understood

- Towards TEE-agnostic verification infrastructure for transparency and interoperability
- Lots of work required for precise specification and standardization
 - Formal definitions and semantics associated with the attestation mechanisms
 - Provisioning protocols not well-understood
 - Analysis and categorization of Claims

Key References



Barbosa, Manuel et al. "SoK : Computer-Aided Cryptography". In: *42nd IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy*. 2021. URL: <https://eprint.iacr.org/2019/1393.pdf>.



Basin, David et al. "Symbolically analyzing security protocols using Tamarin". In: *ACM SIGLOG News* 4.4 (Nov. 2017), pp. 19–30. ISSN: 2372-3491. DOI: 10.1145/3157831.3157835.



Blanchet, Bruno. *CryptoVerif: A computationally-sound security protocol verifier*. Tech. rep. 2017.



—. "Modeling and verifying security protocols with the applied pi calculus and ProVerif". In: *Foundations and Trends in Privacy and Security* 1.1-2 (Oct. 2016), pp. 1–135.



Blanchet, Bruno, Vincent Cheval, and Véronique Cortier. "ProVerif with lemmas, induction, fast subsumption, and much more". In: *IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (S&P'22)*. Los Alamitos, CA, USA: IEEE Computer Society, May 2022, pp. 205–222. DOI: 10.1109/SP46214.2022.00013.



Dolev, D. and A. Yao. "On the security of public key protocols". In: *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory* 29.2 (Mar. 1983), pp. 198–208. ISSN: 1557-9654.



Laforcade, Pascal and Maxime Puy. "Performance Evaluations of Cryptographic Protocols Verification Tools Dealing with Algebraic Properties". In: *Foundations and Practice of Security*. 2016, pp. 137–155. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-30303-1_9.

Contributions/collaborations welcome

