



# JAVA CARD SECURITY

## Introduction and attacks

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# OVERVIEW

1. Introduction Java Cards
2. Java Card Threats
3. Practical attacks



- Bitwise is focused on embedded security.
- The team comprises of developers and security analysts.
- Embedded security projects: Common Criteria, banking payment, development.
- Our areas of expertise are:

Javacard      Native cards      Global Platform      EMV  
Mobile Payment      Cryptography      Side-channel  
Fault injection      Software attacks      Malicious code  
Common Criteria

# OVERVIEW

## 1. Introduction Java Cards

1.1 Introduction

1.2 Basic concepts

1.3 Java Card features

## 2. Java Card Threats

## 3. Practical attacks

# INTRODUCTION

## DEFINITION

- Software technology that allows Java-based applications (AKA applets) to run securely on smart cards and similar small memory footprint devices.
- Java Card is the tiniest of Java platforms targeted for embedded devices.
- Gives the user the ability to program the devices and make them application specific.

# INTRODUCTION

## HISTORY: OVERVIEW

- In 1970 the smart card "concept" was patented.
- German concept accomplished by French companies.
- Patents property of Gemalto.
- Closed hardware and software specifications (under personal responsibility).
- Dedicated cryptographic HW

# INTRODUCTION

## HISTORY: NATIVE IMPLEMENTATIONS

- Platform specific code.
- Machine code burned in ROM.
- Direct access to HW functionality
- Multi-application behavior relies on each developer

# INTRODUCTION

## HISTORY: VIRTUAL MACHINES

- New VM based technologies: Java Card, MultOS and Basic Card.
- Increase development complexity.
- IC functionalities accessed through an API.
- Multi-application platforms:
  - different / competing entities in the same card.
  - post-issuance card management
- Multi-platform applications: same weakness in multiple products and countries.
- Process efficiency reduction due to interpreted language.
- Compatible with existing Smart Card standards.

# INTRODUCTION

## COMMON HARDWARE CHARACTERISTICS

Feature	Value
ROM	32KB-400KB
RAM	around 32KB
EEPROM	around 100KB
FLASH	usually 1MB
CPU	around 50MHz

# INTRODUCTION

## USE CASES



## BASIC CONCEPTS

### JAVA CARD ORIGIN

- Introduced in 1996 motivated by the popularity of Java.
- Object oriented programming language.
- Java Card is a subset of Java.
- Provides additional features that Java don't.
- Implemented with GlobalPlatform for card management.

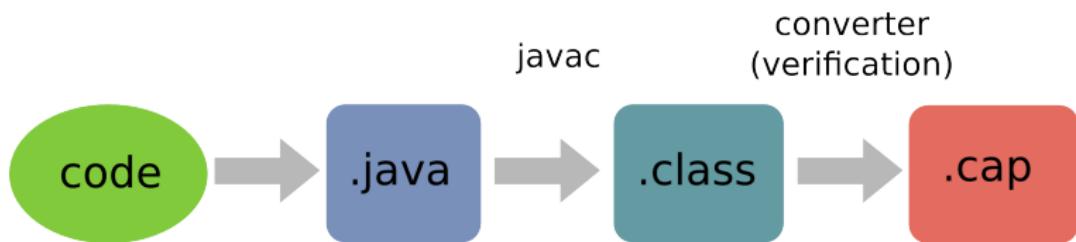
# BASIC CONCEPTS

## JAVA CARD VS. JAVA

Feature	Java	Java Card
Code verification	Runtime	Off-card & on-card
Object persistency	No	Yes
Dynamic class loading	Yes	No
Multithreathing	Yes	No
Typesafe enumerations	Yes	No
Assertions	Yes	No
Atomic operations	Yes	Enhanced
Applet isolation	Yes	Yes, includes firewall
Garbage collector	Yes	No

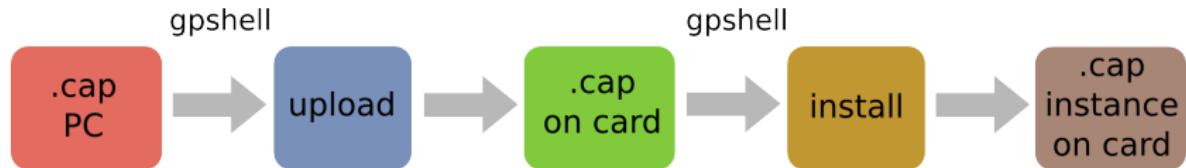
# BASIC CONCEPTS

## JAVACARD EXECUTABLE GENERATION



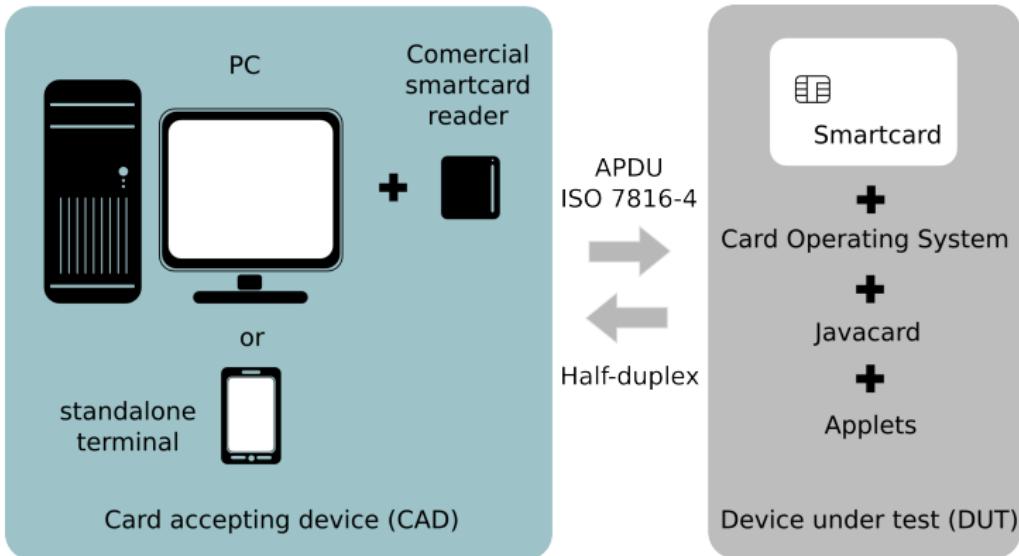
# BASIC CONCEPTS

## APPLET LOADING AND INSTANTATION



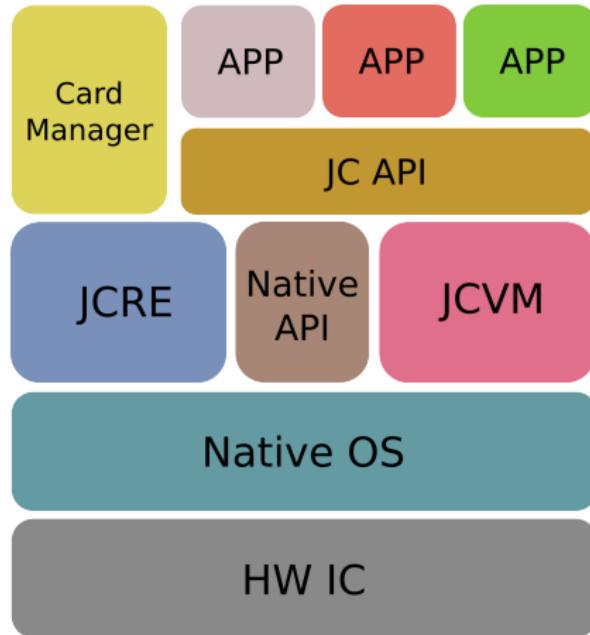
# BASIC CONCEPTS

## JAVACARD APPLICATION USAGE SCENARIO



# BASIC CONCEPTS

## JAVA CARD ARCHITECTURE



# JAVA CARD FEATURES

## JAVACARD RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT

- JCER provides a set of system classes and libraries.
- Provides an execution environment for the applets.
- Provides access to the native system features.
- Among others JCER is in charge of:
  - JC applet lifetime.
  - Logical channels and applet selection.
  - Persistence management.
  - Execution context managing.
  - Applet isolation (firewall)

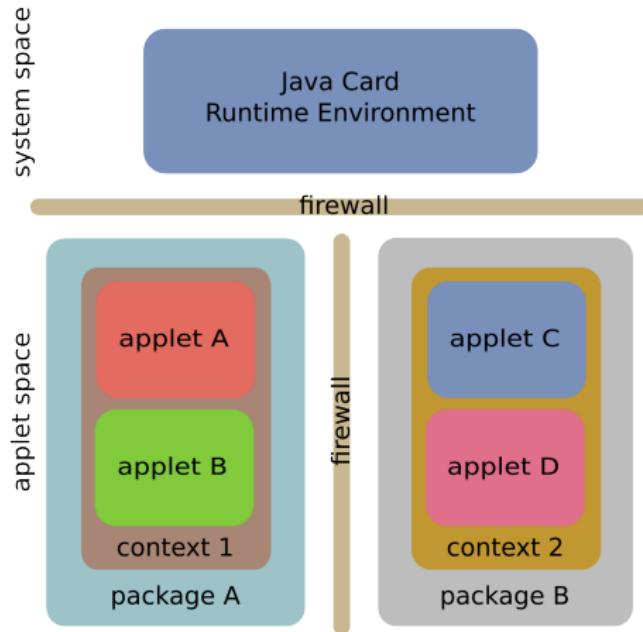
# JAVA CARD FEATURES

## JAVACARD VIRTUAL MACHINE

- Responsible of the applet execution.
- JCVM interpretes bytecode stored in applets sequentially as a generic OS.
- JCVM specification define 186 out of the 255 possible opcodes.
- JCVM keeps the two last bytecodes to:
  - “These instructions are intended to provide “back doors” or traps to implementation-specific functionality implemented in software and hardware, respectively.”

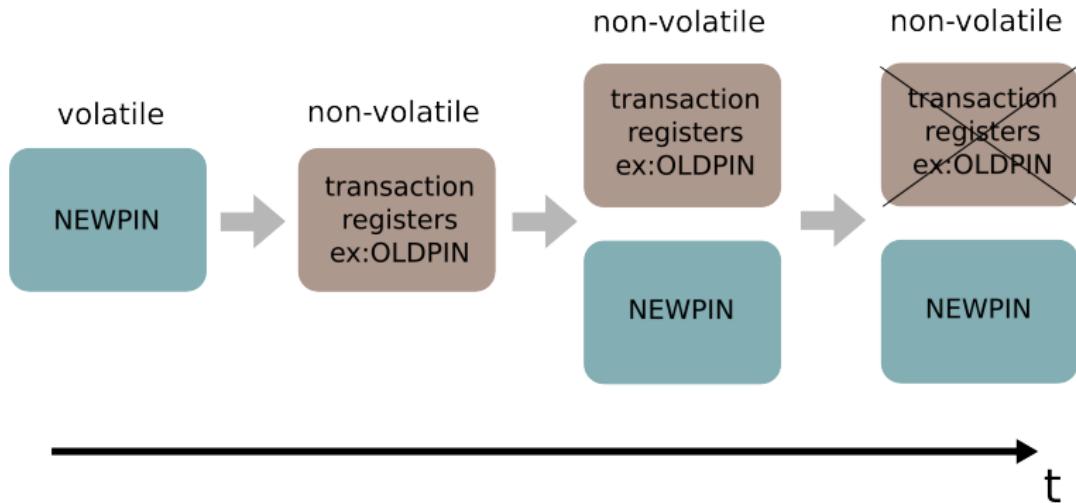
# JAVA CARD FEATURES

## FIREWALL



# JAVA CARD FEATURES

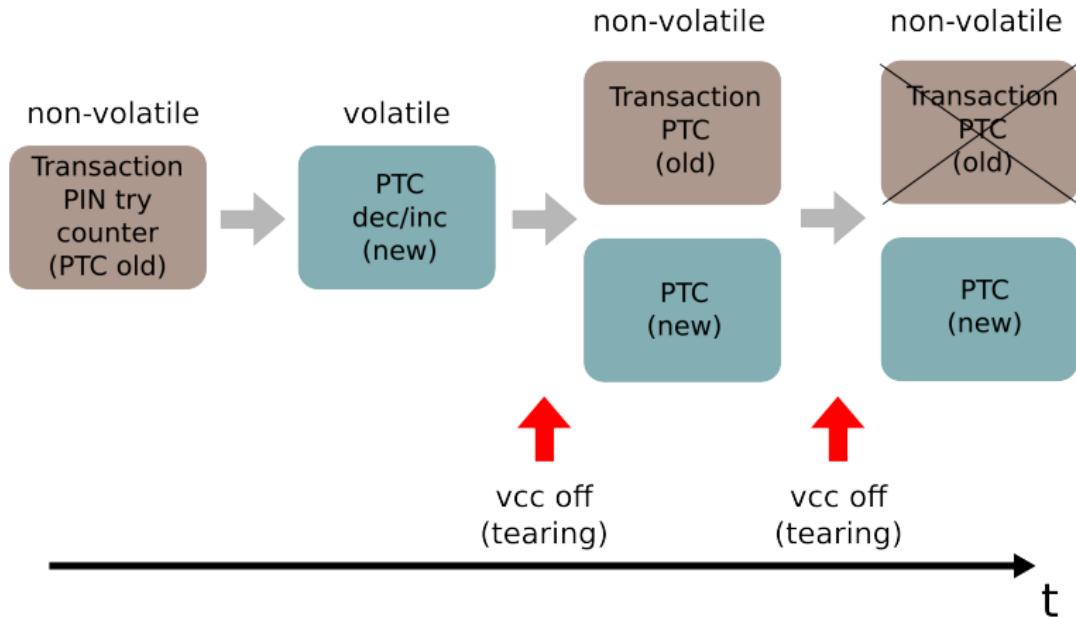
## TRANSACTION SYSTEM



# JAVA CARD FEATURES

## TRANSACTION SYSTEM COUNTEREXAMPLE

Undesired effect:



# JAVA CARD FEATURES

## BYTECODE VERIFICATION

- Type correctness.
- No stack underflow or overflow.
- Objects are initialized.
- Not forged objects references on the bytecode.
- Illegal casting of object references between classes.
- Only allowed JC API calls.
- Jumping in the middle of legal JC API method.
- Jumping to data as it were code. :-)

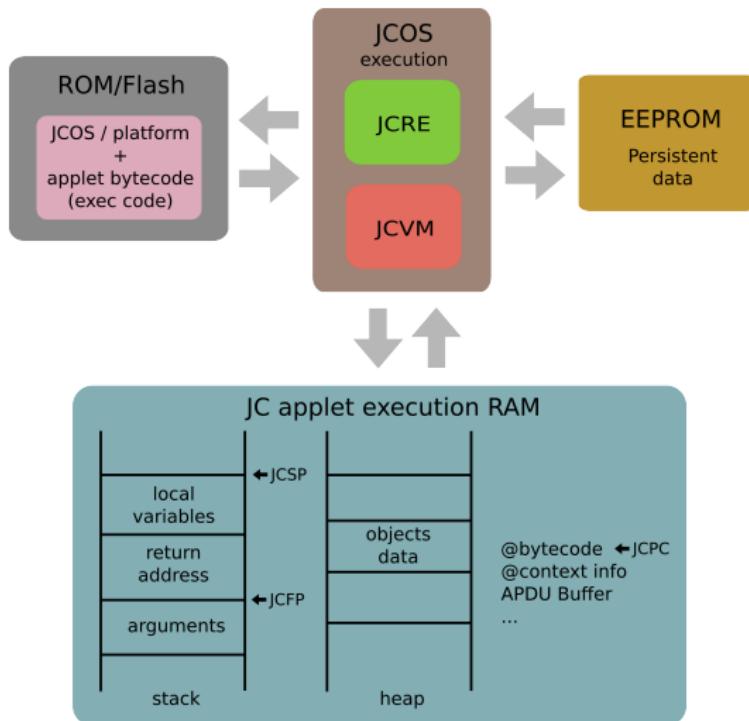
# JAVA CARD FEATURES

## CRYPTOGRAPHY

- symmetric encryption and decryption algorithms;
- asymmetric encryption and decryption algorithms;
- key interfaces;
- signature generation and verification;
- message digests;
- random data generation; and
- PIN management.

# JAVA CARD FEATURES

MEMORY: ROM, EEPROM/FLASH, RAM



## 1. Introduction Java Cards

## 2. Java Card Threats

2.1 Overview of Java Card threats

2.2 Physical attacks

2.3 Side-channel attacks

2.4 Perturbation attacks

2.5 Java Card attacks

2.6 Software attacks

2.7 Combined attacks

## 3. Practical attacks

# JAVACARD THREATS

## SOGIS.ORG APPROXIMATION FOR SMARTCARDS

- Physical attacks
- Overcoming sensors and filters
- Perturbation attacks
- Retrieving keys with DFA
- Side-channel attacks
- Exploitation of Test features
- Attacks on RNG
- Ill-formed Java Card applications
- Software attacks

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<sup>1</sup><http://sogis.org/>

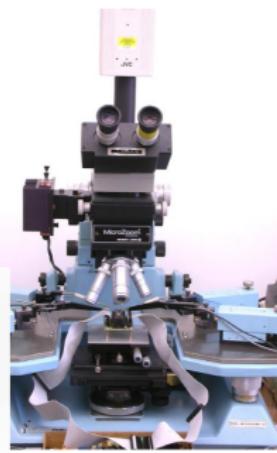
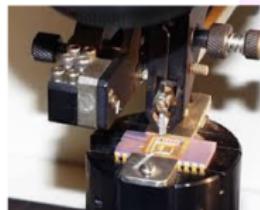
# JAVACARD THREATS

## BETTER APPROACH DIVISION

- Physical attacks, overcoming sensors and filters, RNG and test features attacks
- Perturbation and DFA attacks.
- Side-channel attacks.
- Ill-formed applets and software attacks.

# PHYSICAL ATTACKS

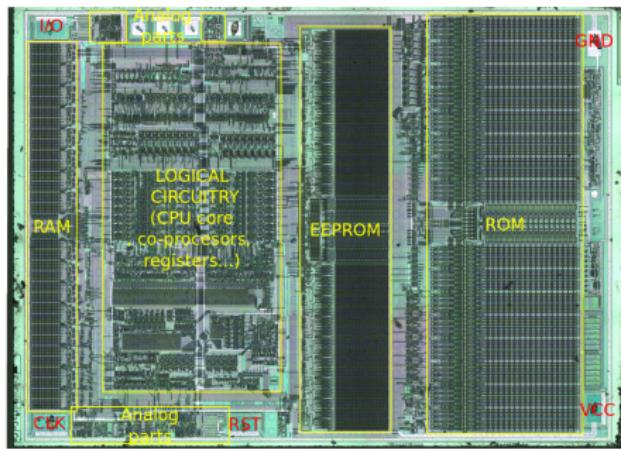
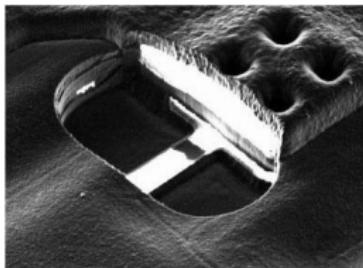
## FIB (focused-ion-beam)



probing station

# PHYSICAL ATTACKS II

## Cutted semiconductor line



Etched microprocessor (ST16301)

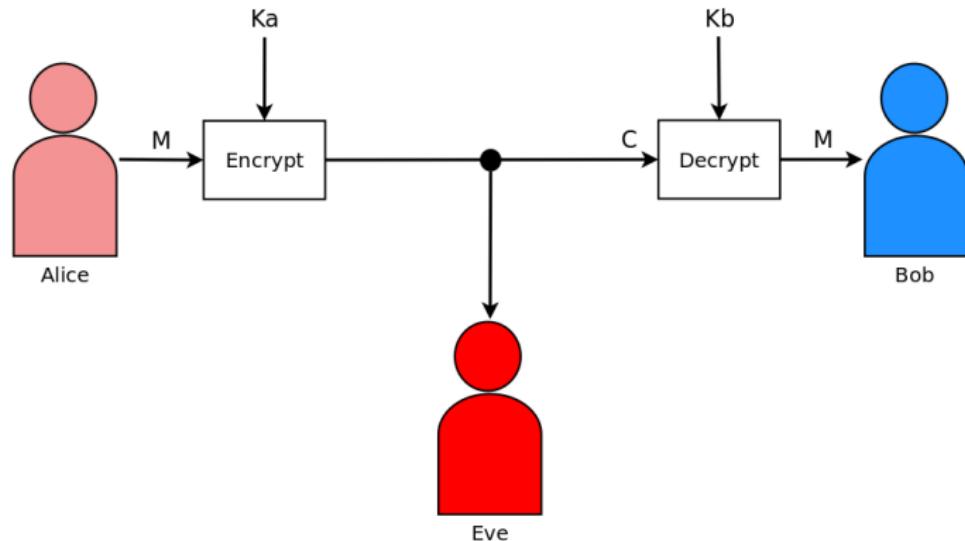
3 4

<sup>3</sup>[https://www.usenix.org/legacy/events/smartcard99/full\\_papers/kommerling/kommerling\\_html/](https://www.usenix.org/legacy/events/smartcard99/full_papers/kommerling/kommerling_html/)

<sup>4</sup>[http://blog.ioactive.com/2007\\_12\\_01\\_archive.html](http://blog.ioactive.com/2007_12_01_archive.html)

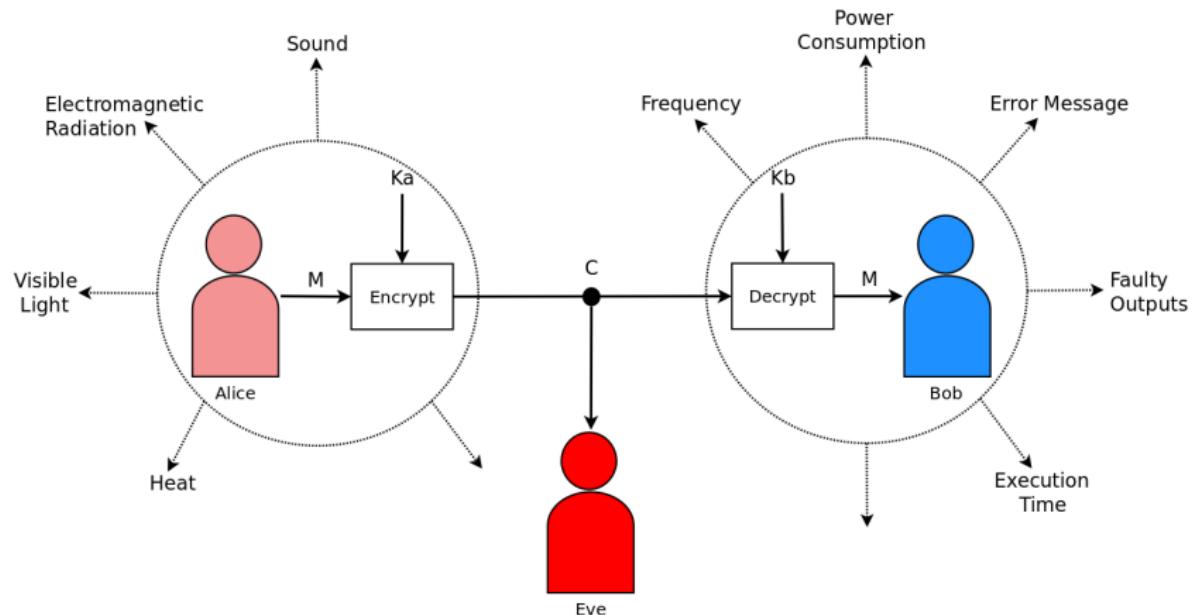
# SIDE-CHANNEL ATTACKS

## CLASSICAL CRYPTOANALYSIS MODEL

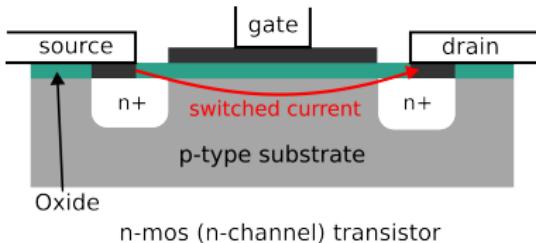


# SIDE-CHANNEL ATTACKS

## SIDE-CHANNEL MODEL



# SIDE-CHANNEL ATTACKS



- Current flow when charge is applied to or removed from the gate.
- Current delivers charge to other transistors, wires and other load circuits.
- The motion of electric charge consumes power externally detectable and observable.
- Microprocessor logic units exhibit regular transistors switching patterns.
- Identify macro-characteristics such as microprocessor activity.

# PERTURBATION ATTACKS

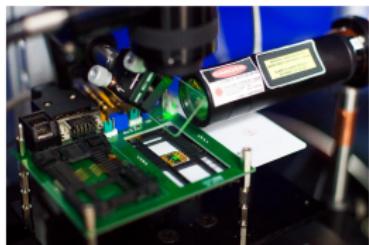
- Laser beam injects photons, which contain energy.
- Photons are absorbed increasing its energy.
- Temporary faults due to bit-flips.
- May lead to code or data corruption.



Laser station



Single and double shoot



# PERTURBATION ATTACKS

- Semi-invasive attack
- Change normal behavior of an IC to create exploitable errors in the operation.
- Power supply, clock, laser, EM pulse, temperature.
- Very very very powerful attack.
- Main focus on:
  - Cryptographic algorithms
  - Instruction fetching at execution time.
- Spatial resolution.
- Backside / frontsize.

# PERTURBATION ATTACKS

## EXAMPLE

```
1 if (!OwnerPIN.check()) // 1 bit comparison  
2     ptc --; // decrement PIN try counter  
3 else  
4     ptc = pt1; // reset PIN try counter
```

Laser, EM pulse, Vcc glitch, clock glitch....



```
1 if (!OwnerPIN.check())  
2     ptc --;  
3 else  
4     ptc = pt1;
```

bypass!!



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<sup>5</sup>assumption: ptc!=0

# JAVA CARD ATTACKS

- Introduce malformed codification with two objectives:
  - Bypass Java Card firewall security checks.
  - Modify behavior of the JCRE or JCVM.
  
- How we can load malicious applets?
  - Verified byte-code.
  - Non-verified byte-code.

## JAVA CARD ATTACKS II

- Classification and some examples: <sup>6</sup>
  - Bytecode verified
    - External Class Type Confusion
    - Reference persitency on transaction abortion
  - Ill-typed code
    - Simple type confusion
    - Stack underflow - overflow
    - Forge invoke static and get static bytecodes
    - Type confusion using SIO (Shared Interface Objects).

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<sup>6</sup>There are infinite public conceptual examples in the Internet, no code at all.

# JAVA CARD ATTACKS

## SOFTWARE ATTACKS

- Editing commands
- Direct protocol attacks
- Man in the middle
- Replay commands
- Bypass auth control

## COMBINED ATTACKS

### COMBINED ATTACKS

- Those using both logic and hardware attacks
- Most powerful attacks
- Requires expertise and materials from different fields

# OVERVIEW

1. Introduction Java Cards
2. Java Card Threats
3. Practical attacks
  - 3.1 Scenario
  - 3.2 Timing in the PIN comparison
  - 3.3 Malicious applets

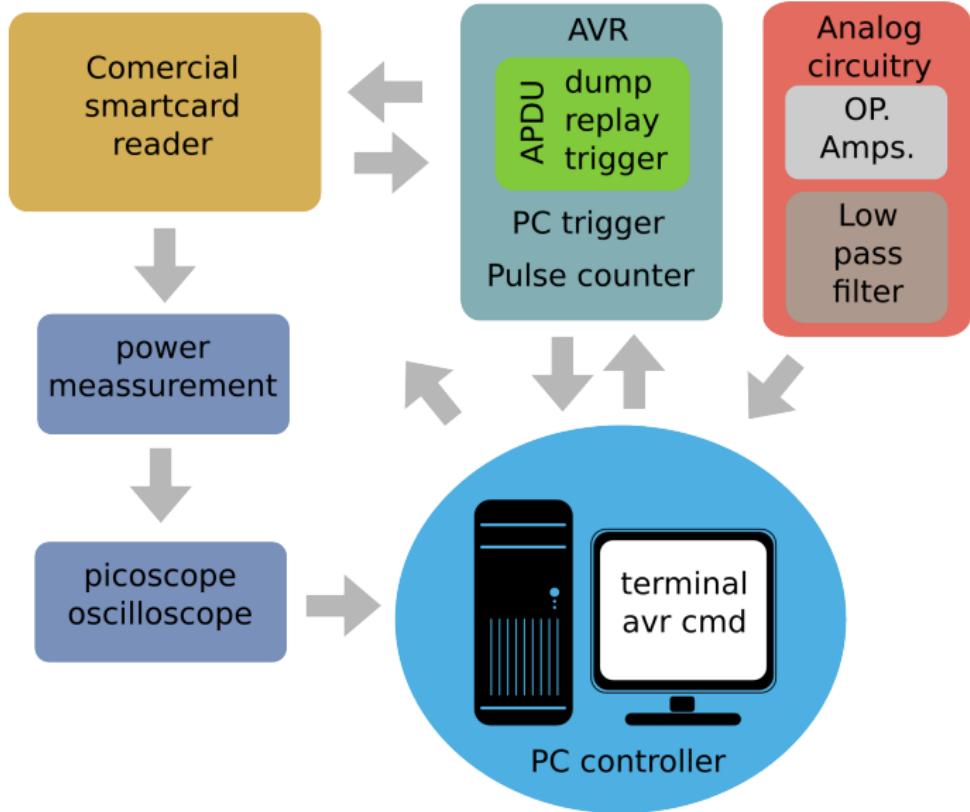
# TEST BENCH SCENARIO

- Oscilloscope: PicoScope 3206.
- Home-made smart card terminal.
- Oracle JDK / JCDK (<http://www.oracle.com>)
- gpshell (<http://sourceforge.net/p/globalplatform/>)
- ht editor (<https://github.com/sebastianbiallas/ht>)
- scilab: (<http://www.scilab.org/>)<sup>7</sup>

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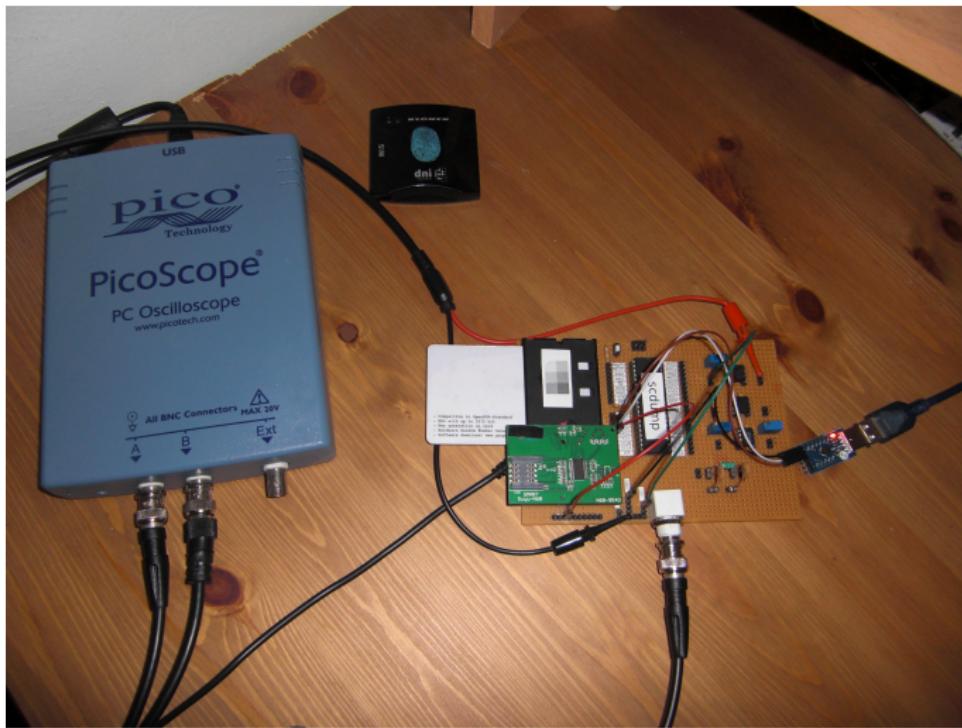
<sup>7</sup>All the power consumption images are screen shots of this software

# TEST BENCH BOARD



# TEST BENCH

## MONTE TEST BENCH



IMPORTANT:

ALL THE SMART CARDS USED FOR THESE  
TESTS CAN BE BOUGHT ONLINE.  
SMART CARD MODEL IS KEPT  
CONFIDENTIAL.

# TIMING IN THE PIN COMPARISON

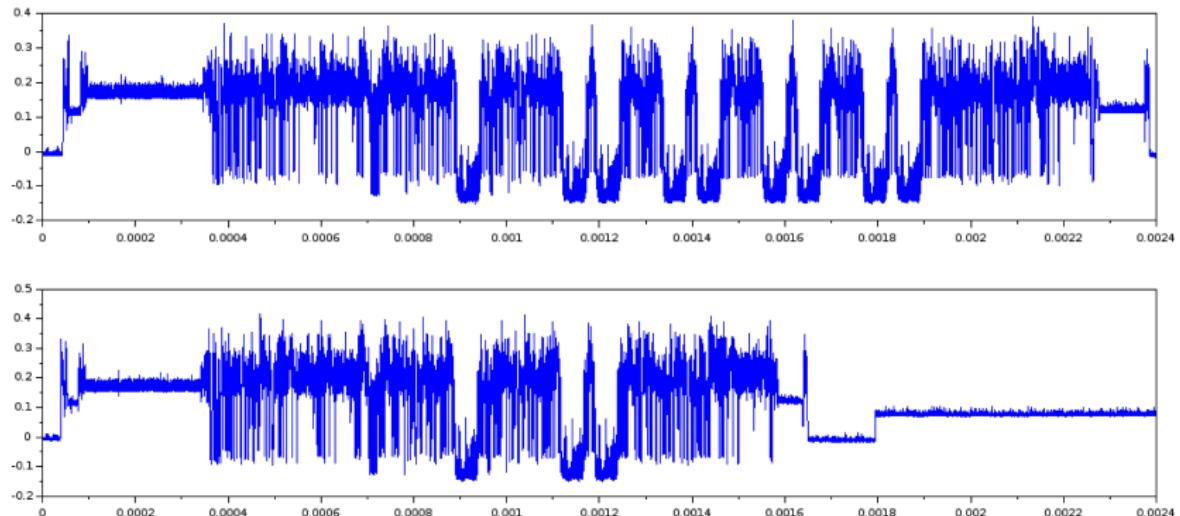
## EXAMPLE OF TIMING IN THE PIN COMPARISON

```
1 boolean checkPin(byte[] pinData, short offset, byte length)
2 {
3     for (short i = (short)0; i < length; i++) {
4         if (currentPin[i] != pinData[(short)(offset + i)]) {
5             return false;
6         }
7     }
8 }
```

- Applet with a bad implementation of the PIN.
- Check all the bytes of the PIN
- If bytes are not equal stop the comparison.

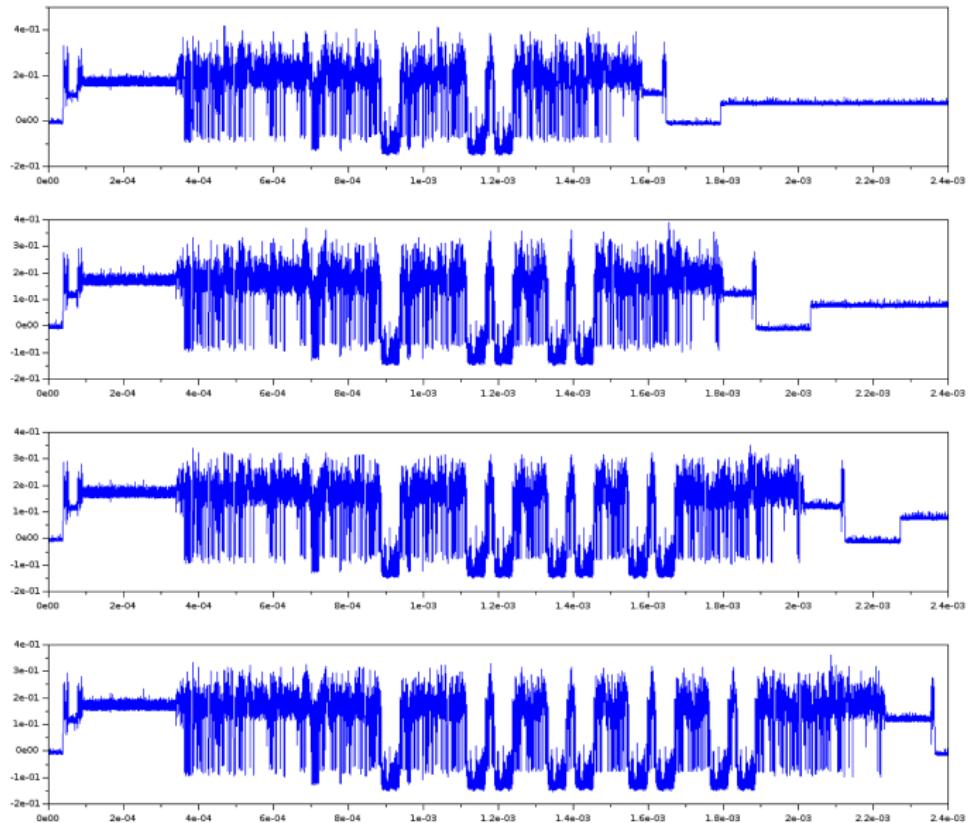
# TIMING IN THE PIN COMPARISON

## GOOD PIN VS. BAD PIN



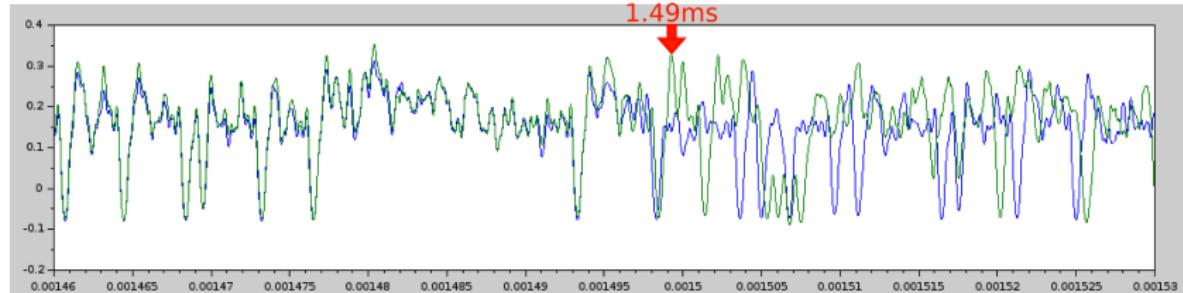
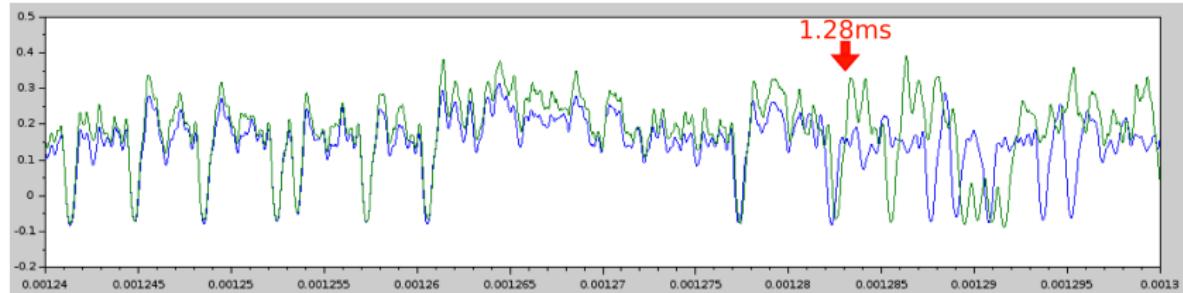
# TIMING IN THE PIN COMPARISON

## BAD PIN 1, 2, 3 AND 4 COMPARISON



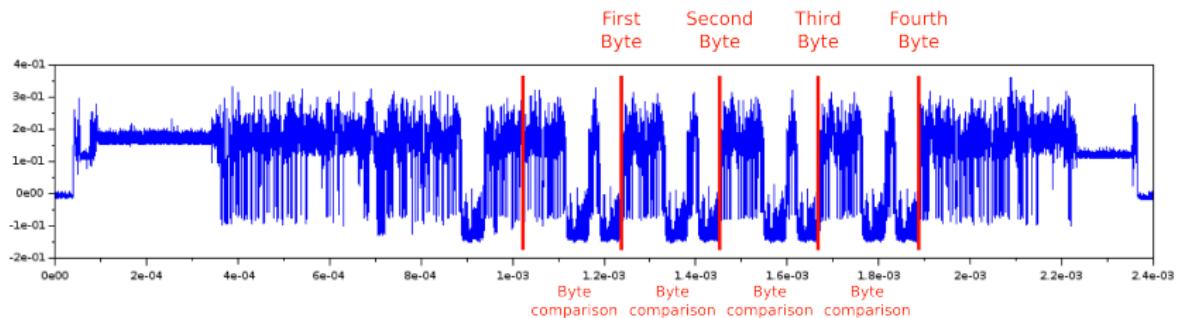
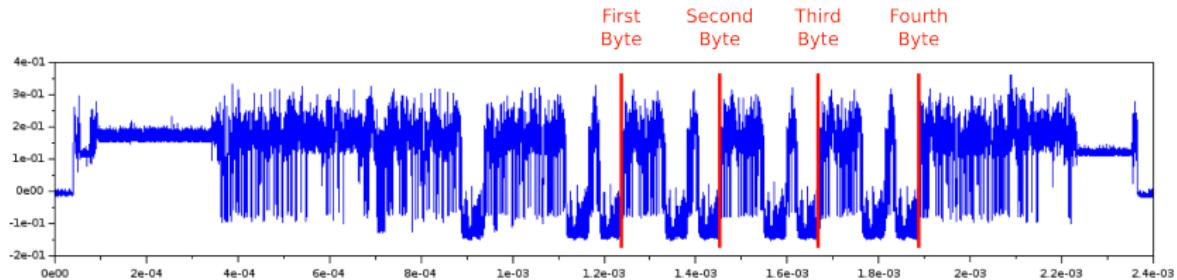
# TIMING IN THE PIN COMPARISON

## GOD PIN AND BAD PIN TIMING DIFFERENCES



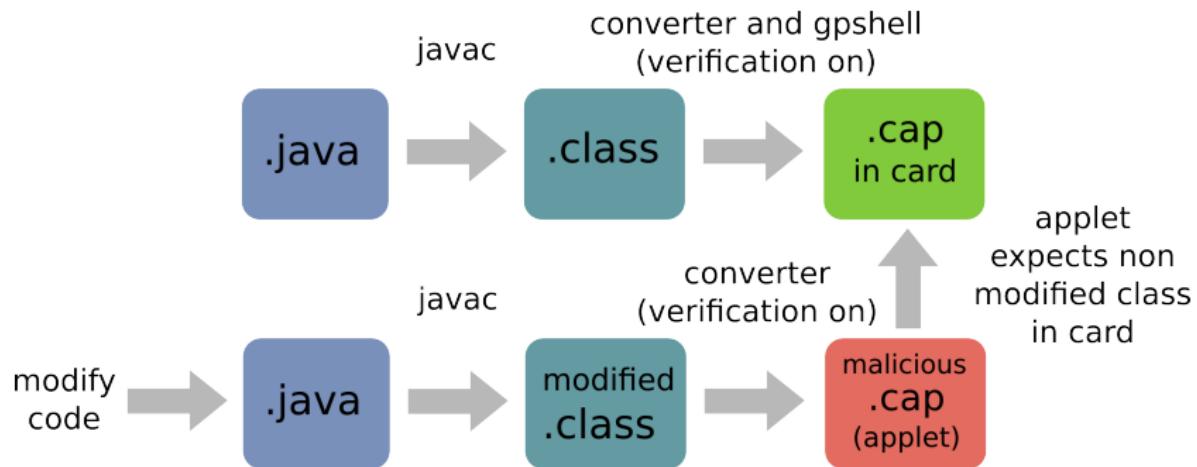
# TIMING IN THE PIN COMPARISON

## ANALYSIS CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS



# MALICIOUS APPLETS

## MALICIOUS COMPILE CONDITIONS



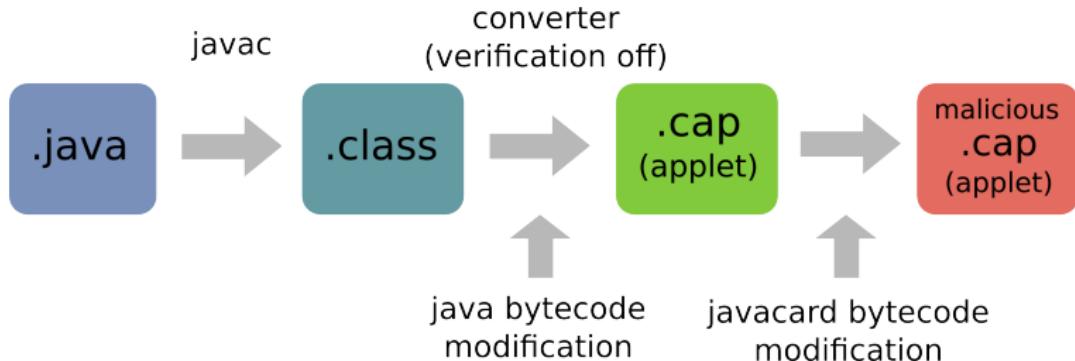
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<sup>8</sup>[http://www.researchgate.net/publication/260872448\\_Accessing\\_secure\\_information\\_using\\_export\\_file\\_fraudulence](http://www.researchgate.net/publication/260872448_Accessing_secure_information_using_export_file_fraudulence)

# MALICIOUS APPLETS

## APPLET MODIFICATION POSSIBILITIES

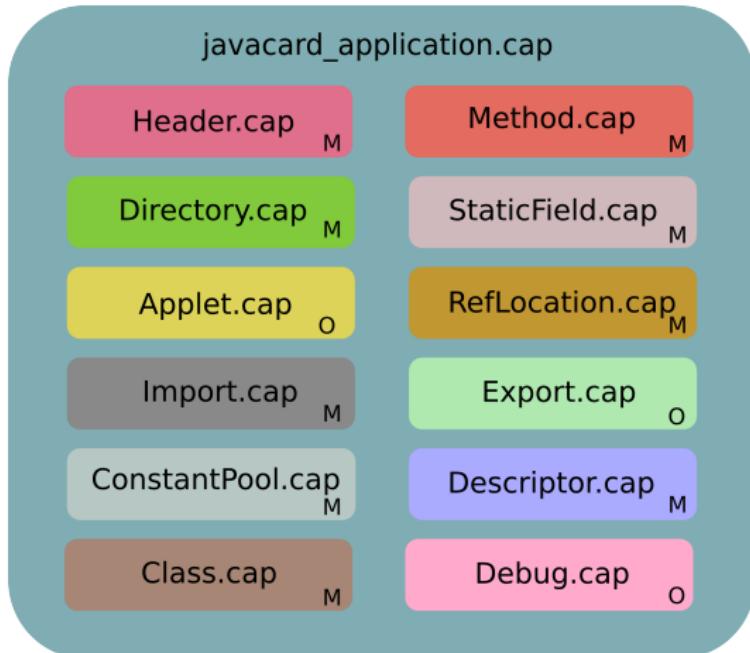


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<sup>9</sup><http://www.cs.ru.nl/E.Poll/papers/cardis08.pdf>

# CAP FILE MANIPULATION

## CAP CONTENT

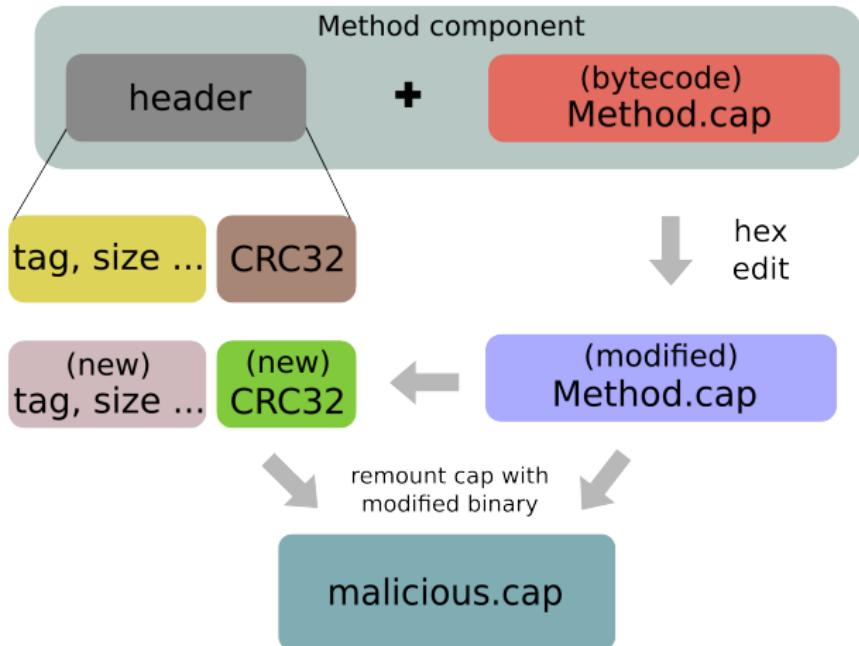


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<sup>10</sup>M - Mandatory; O - Optional

# CAP FILE MANIPULATION

## METHOD MODIFICATION



# CAP FILE MANIPULATION

## BINARY MODIFICATION WITH HT EDITOR

Original Method.cap

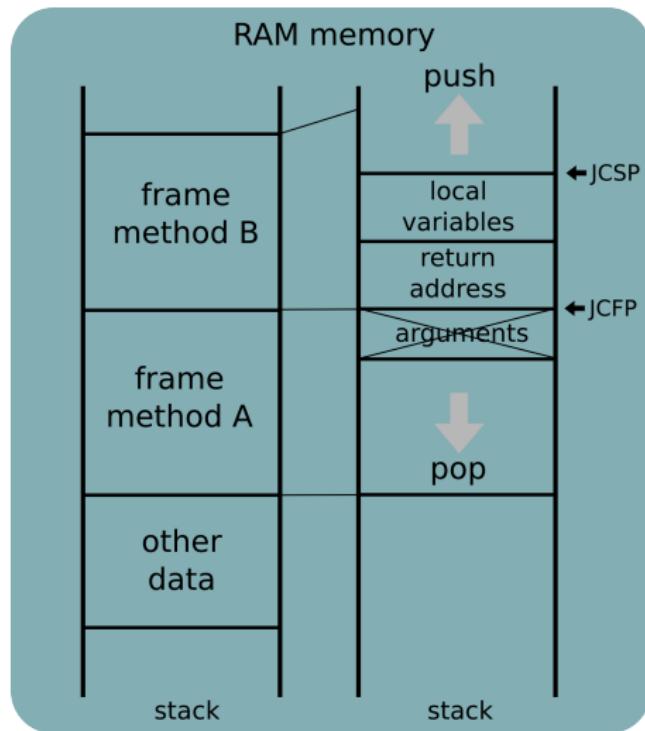
00000000	07 00 b3 00 05 40 18 8c-00 00 18 19 1e 04 41 19	?? ?@?? ???A?
00000010	1e 25 8b 00 01 7a 05 30-8f 00 02 3d 18 1d 1e 8c	?z? ??0? ?=???
00000020	00 03 3b 7a 02 00 11 aa-aa 11 bb bb 8d 00 04 02	?;z? ??????? ??
00000030	78 03 20 7b 00 05 03 1c-39 7b 00 05 04 1d 39 7a	x? { ???9{ ???9z
00000040	04 23 19 8b 00 06 2d 10-b1 32 10 76 29 04 18 8b	?#?? ?-??2?v)???
00000050	00 07 60 03 7a 1a 03 25-60 08 11 6e 00 8d 00 08	?*?z??%?n ??
00000060	1a 04 25 75 00 4c 00 02-00 01 00 0d 00 02 00 44	?%u L ? ? ? ? D
00000070	8d 00 09 29 04 1a 03 7b-00 05 03 26 5b 38 1a 04	? ?)???{ ??&[8??
00000080	7b 00 05 03 26 10 08 4d-5b 38 1a 05 7b 00 05 04	{ ??&??M[8??{ ??
00000090	26 5b 38 1a 06 7b 00 05-04 26 10 08 4d 5b 38 19	&[8??{ ??&??M[8??
000000a0	03 07 8b 00 0a 70 10 19-03 07 8b 00 0a 70 08 11	??? ?p?????? ?p??
000000b0	6d 00 8d 00 08 7a	m ? ?z

Underflow modified Method.cap

00000000	07 00 b3 00 05 40 18 8c-00 00 18 19 1e 04 41 19	?? ?@?? ???A?
00000010	1e 25 8b 00 01 7a 05 30-8f 00 02 3d 18 1d 1e 8c	?%? ??0? ?=???
00000020	00 03 3b 7a 02 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 8d 00 04 02	?;z? ??
00000030	78 03 20 7b 00 05 03 1c-39 7b 00 05 04 1d 39 7a	x? { ???9{ ???9z
00000040	04 23 19 8b 00 06 2d 10-b1 32 10 76 29 04 18 8b	?#?? ?-??2?v)???
00000050	00 07 60 03 7a 1a 03 25-60 08 11 6e 00 8d 00 08	?*?z??%?n ??
00000060	1a 04 25 75 00 4c 00 02-00 01 00 0d 00 02 00 44	?%u L ? ? ? ? D
00000070	8d 00 09 29 04 1a 03 7b-00 05 03 26 5b 38 1a 04	? ?)???{ ??&[8??
00000080	7b 00 05 03 26 10 08 4f-5b 38 1a 05 7b 00 05 04	{ ??&??0[8??{ ??
00000090	26 5b 38 1a 06 7b 00 05-04 26 10 08 4f 5b 38 19	&[8??{ ??&??0[8??
000000a0	03 07 8b 00 0a 70 10 19-03 07 8b 00 0a 70 08 11	??? ?p?????? ?p??
000000b0	6d 00 8d 00 08 7a	m ? ?z

# CAP FILE MANIPULATION

## UNDERFLOW IN THE JC STACK EFFECT



# MALICIOUS APPLETS

## ATTACK RESULTS

Attack	Cref	Card A	Card B
Simple type confusion	...	Fail	Fail
External class mod	Success	Success	...
A. Transaction Simple	...	Success	...
A. Transaction Fault	...	Success	...
Underflow	...	Fail	...

THE END MY FRIEND!

Any Question?  
Thanks all!



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