An Efficient Cryptographic Protocol Verifier Based on Prolog Rules

Bruno Blanchet, 2001

January 24, 2016

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The Problem

Cryptographic Protocol Verifier

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The Needham-Schroeder Public Key Protocol (1978):

- 1. $A \rightarrow S : A, B$
- **2.** $S \to A : \{K_b, B\}_{K_s^{-1}}$
- 3. $A \to B : \{N_a, A\}_{K_b}$
- **4.** $B \to S : B, A$
- 5. $S \to B : \{K_a, A\}_{K_a^{-1}}$
- 6. $B \rightarrow A : \{N_a, N_b, {\color{red} B}\}_{K_a}$
- 7. $A \to B : \{N_b\}_{K_b}$

Man-in-the-middle attack presented by Gabin Lowe (1995).



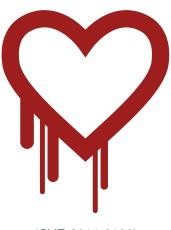
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(CVE-2014-0160)

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 \blacktriangleright Previously: Applied π Calculus, Multiset Rewriting, Model checking

► Limiting runs, inefficient, non-automatic, restrictions

► Now: Prolog (First-order logic)

► FOL: Generally, sound, but not complete

Uses custom resolution and unification

Makes approximations

► Proves secrecy



Syntax

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M, N ::=

X

 $a[M_1,\ldots,M_n]$ $f(M_1,\ldots,M_n)$

 $I(IVI_1,\ldots,IVI_n)$

 $F ::= p(M_1, \ldots, M_n)$

R ::=

 $F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n \to F$

terms

variable name

function application

fact predicate application

rule

implication

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Protocol

representation

 $sk_A[], sk_B[]$ $k[x_1,\ldots,x_n]$

constructor

 $pk_A = \mathbf{pk}(sk_A[])$ pencrypt(m, pk(sk))sencrypt(m, k)

sign(m, sk)

 $(_,\ldots,_)$

destructor

decrypt(encrypt(m, pk(sk)), sk) = msdecrypt(sencrypt(m, k), k) = m

getmess(sign(m, sk))

ith $((x_1, ..., x_n)) = x_i | i \in \{1, ..., n\}$

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A protocol can be represented by three sets of rules:

- 1. Rules representing the computation abilities of the attacker $attacker(x_1) \wedge ... \wedge attacker(x_n) \rightarrow attacker(f(x_1,...,x_n)),$ $attacker(M_1) \wedge ... \wedge attacker(M_n) \rightarrow attacker(M)$
- Facts corresponding to initial knowledge of the attacker attacker(A[]), attacker(pk(sk_A[]))
- Rules representing the protocol itself attacker(M_{i_n}) ∧ · · · · ∧ attacker(M_{i_n}) → attacker(M_i).



Approximations

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► New names are functions of messages previously received, if not altered.

► The same step of a protocol can be completed several times, yielding the same result.

- ► Correctness still holds.
- ► Can lead to false attacks.



Multisets

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Protocol representation

 \blacktriangleright A hypotheses F_1, \ldots, F_n of a rule are considered a multiset.

 \blacktriangleright A multiset of facts S is a function S(F) yielding the number of repetitions of F in S.

► Giving a point-wise order on functions: $S \subseteq S' \Leftrightarrow \forall F, S(F) < S'(F)$.

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Definition 1 (Rule Implication)

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$$(H_1 \rightarrow C_1) \Rightarrow (H_2 \rightarrow C_2)$$

if and only if
 $\exists \sigma, \sigma C_1 = C_2, \sigma H_1 \subseteq H_2$

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Definition 2 (Derivability)

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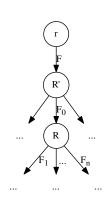
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Let F be a closed fact. Let B be a set of rules. F is derivable from B if and only if there exists a finite tree defined as follows:

- 1. Its nodes (except the root) are labelled by rules $R \in B$;
 - Its edges are labelled by closed facts;
- 3. If the tree contains a node labelled by R with one incoming edge labelled by F_0 and n outgoing edges labelled by F_1, \ldots, F_n , then $R \Rightarrow \{F_1, \ldots, F_n\} \rightarrow F_0$.
- 4. The root has one outgoing edge, labelled by *F*.



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 $attacker(pencrypt(m, pk(sk))) \land attacker(sk)$ $\rightarrow attacker(m)$

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First phase: completion of the rule base

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- 1. For each $R \in B_0$, $B \leftarrow (add)(elimdup(R)B)$.
- 2. Let $R \in B$, $R = H \rightarrow C$ and $R' \in B$, $R' = H' \rightarrow C'$. Assume that there exists $F_0 \in H'$ such that:
 - a) $R \circ_{F_0} R'$ is defined;
 - b) $\forall F \in H, F \in_r S$:
 - c) $F_0 \notin_r S$.

In this case, we execute

$$B \leftarrow \text{add}(\text{elimdup}(R \circ_{F_0} R'), B).$$

This procedure is executed until a fixed point is reached.

3. Let $B' = \{(H \to C) \in B \forall F \in H, F \in S\}.$

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Second phase: backward depth-first search

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We define derivablerec(R, B'') by

- 1. derivablerec(R, B'') = $if \exists R' \in B'', R' \Rightarrow R$;
- 2. **derivablerec**(\rightarrow *C*, B'') = { *C*} otherwise;
- 3. **derivablerec** $(R, B'') = \bigcup \{ \text{derivablerec}(\text{elimdup}(R' \circ_{F_0} R), \{R\} \cup B'') R' \in B', F_0 \text{ such that } R' \circ_{F_0} R \text{ is defined } \} \text{ otherwise.}$

 $derivable(F) = derivablerec(\{F\} \rightarrow F,).$



Experimental results

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Protocol	Result	# Rules	Time (ms)
Needham-Schroeder public key	Attack	14	70
Needham-Schroeder public key corrected	Secure	14	60
Needham-Schroeder shared key	Attack	47	760
Needham-Schroeder shared key corrected	Secure	51	1190
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Time for questions...

