# Attestation in the Internet of Things (IoT)

Mobile Systems Security 2017
Optional lecture

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#### You will learn about:

- Why do we need (remote) attestation in IoT?
- What technologies can we use for this?





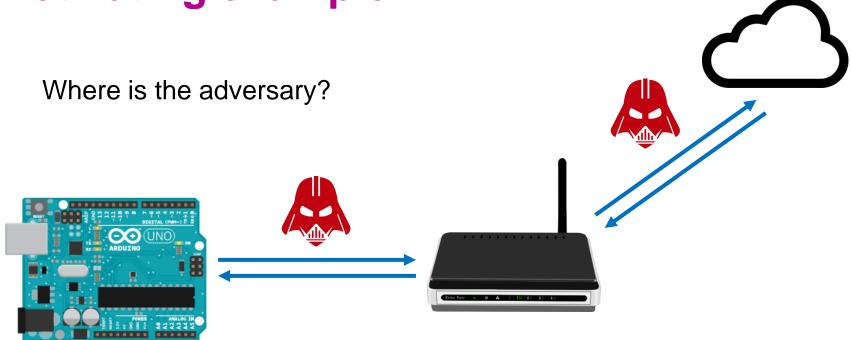
You receive the following message:

```
{
    "name": temperature,
    "value": 23.5,
    "timestamp": 1430905326.2
}
```

What does it mean?







Network adversary: read, modify, falsify communication





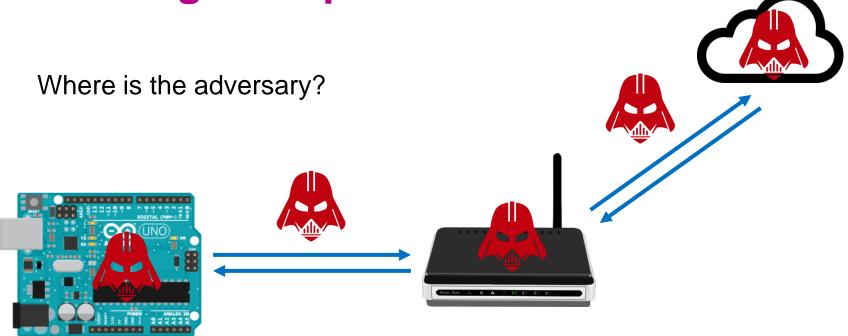
You receive the following message over an authenticated, integrity-protected communication channel:

```
{
    "name": temperature,
    "value": 23.5,
    "timestamp": 1430905326.2
}
```

What does it mean?







Network adversary: read, modify, falsify communication

Malware: extract secrets, change state, modify behaviour





## IoT malware: Stuxnet



## The Real Story of Stuxnet

How Kaspersky Lab tracked down the malware that stymied Iran's nuclear-fuel enrichment program

By David Kushner Posted 26 Feb 2013 | 14:00 GMT











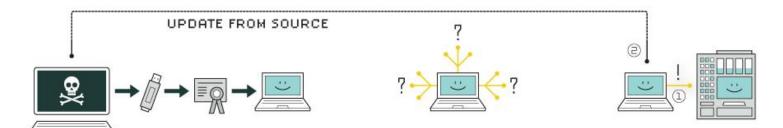








## IoT malware: Stuxnet



#### 1. infection

Stuxnet enters a system via a USB stick and proceeds to infect all machines running Microsoft Windows. By brandishing a digital certificate that seems to show that it comes from a reliable company, the worm is able to evade automated-detection systems.

#### 2. search

Stuxnet then checks whether a given machine is part of the targeted industrial control system made by Siemens. Such systems are deployed in Iran to run high-speed centrifuges that help to enrich nuclear fuel.

#### 3. update

If the system isn't a target, Stuxnet does nothing; if it is, the worm attempts to access the Internet and download a more recent version of itself.



#### 4. compromise

The worm then compromises the target system's logic controllers, exploiting "zero day" vulnerabilities-software weaknesses that haven't been identified by security experts.



#### 5. control

In the beginning, Stuxnet spies on the operations of the targeted system. Then it uses the information it has gathered to take control of the centrifuges, making them spin themselves to failure.



#### 6. deceive and destroy

Meanwhile, it provides false feedback to outside controllers, ensuring that they won't know what's going wrong until it's too late to do anything about it.



Illustration: L-Dopa

http://spectrum.ieee.org/telecom/security/the-real-story-of-stuxnet



#### IoT malware

Malware is not a new threat, but IoT...

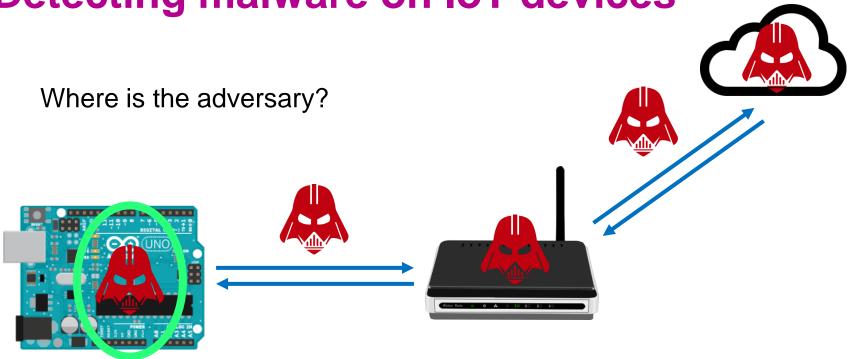
- Broadens the attack surface
  - cost-constrained and/or resource-constrained devices
  - many more interconnected devices
- Amplifies the impact
  - access to detailed personal information
  - control of physical environment







**Detecting malware on IoT devices** 



Network adversary: read, modify, falsify communication

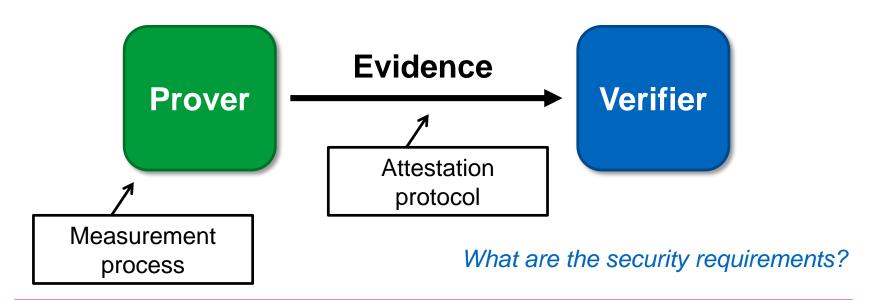
Malware: extract secrets, change state, modify behaviour





#### **Attestation**

 An interaction between two parties through which the verifier ascertains the current state and/or behaviour of the prover.







## **Attestation Requirements**

#### 1. Authenticity

- representation of the real state of the system







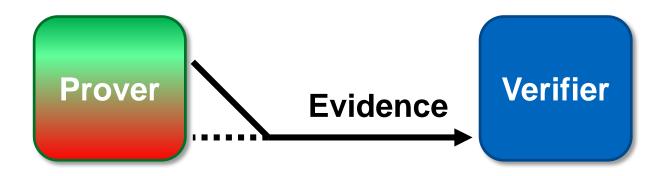
## **Attestation Requirements**

#### 1. Authenticity

representation of the real state of the system

#### 2. "Timeliness"

representation of the *current* state







## **TPM Attestation (Lecture 4)**



- TPM Platform Configuration Registers (PCRs)
  - store cryptographic hash
  - cannot be over-written by software, only extended

```
\begin{split} & \text{PCR}_1 = 0\text{x}00 \\ & \text{tpm\_extend( PCR}_1 \text{ hash}_1) \\ & \text{PCR}_1 = \text{hash( 0x}00 \mid\mid \text{hash}_1 \text{ )} \\ & \text{tpm\_extend( PCR}_1 \text{ hash}_2 \text{ )} \\ & \text{PCR}_1 = \text{hash( hash( 0x}00 \mid\mid \text{hash}_1 \text{ )} \mid\mid \text{hash}_2 \text{ )} \end{split}
```

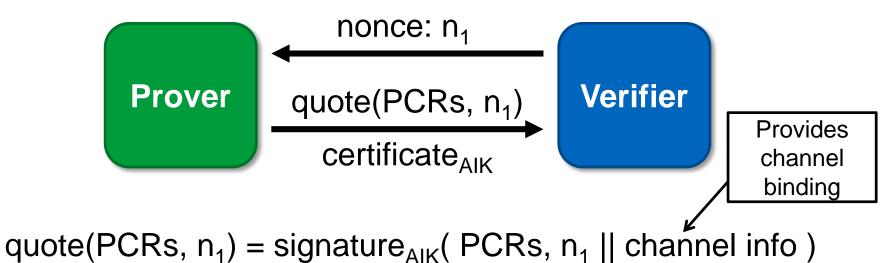




## **TPM Attestation (Lecture 4)**



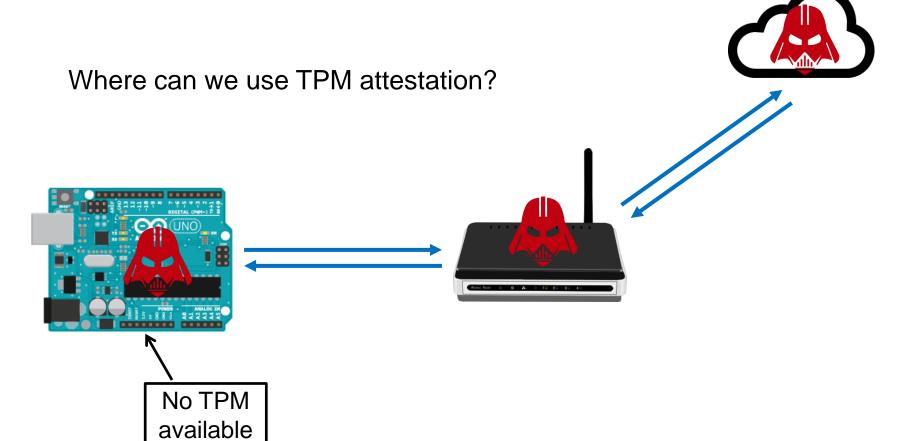
- TPM Quote
  - PCR values signed by TPM-bound Attestation Identity Key (AIK)
  - includes nonce to ensure timeliness







## IoT attestation?







#### **TPM Attestation "Costs"**

- Additional hardware
  - takes up space
  - uses power
  - increases hardware cost (TPM + integration)
- Additional software
  - requires driver and software library





#### **TPM Attestation Limitations**

- Covers only the initial loading of software
- Deals with only one prover and one verifier
- "Decision of trustworthiness" does not scale
  - measurements change with every software update





# **Attestation of Things (AoT)**

- Software-based attestation
- Hybrid attestation
- Scalability of attestation
- Run-time attestation





# **Attestation of Things (AoT)**

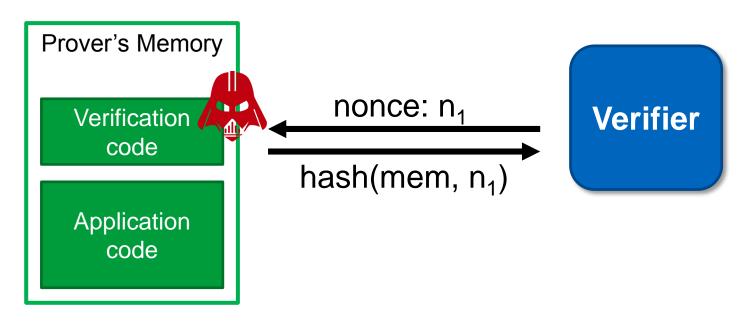
- Software-based attestation
- Hybrid attestation
- Scalability of attestation
- Run-time attestation





## **Software-based Attestation**

- Assumes no hardware features to support attestation
  - No secrets on prover (e.g. no AIK)
  - Cannot guarantee specific code being run



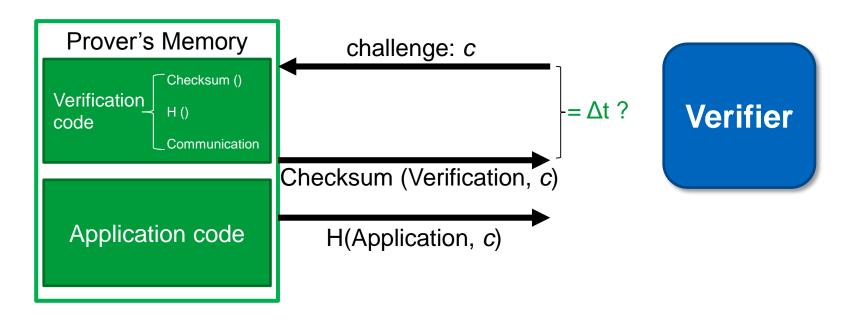




## **Software-based Attestation**

Authenticity?

- Pioneer system
  - compute time-optimal checksum of verification code







## Software-based Attestation: summary

- Limitations of timing side channels
  - verifier must know exact hardware configuration
  - difficult to prove time-optimality
  - limited to "one-hop" networks
  - requires authenticated channel (e.g. physical connection)





# **Attestation of Things (AoT)**

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## **Hybrid Attestation**

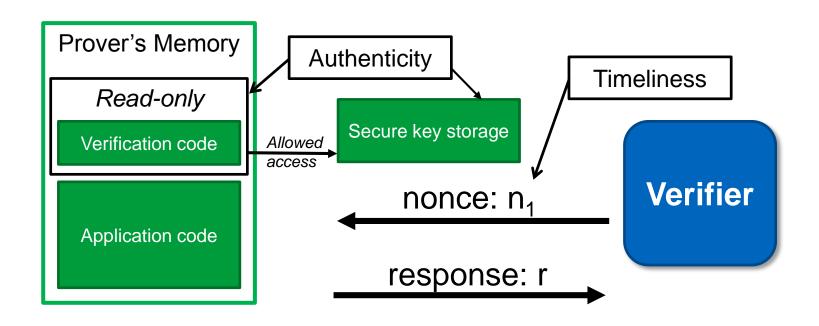
- Minimal trust anchors
  - small changes to hardware
  - "hardware/software co-design"





## **Hybrid Attestation: SMART**

Read-only Verification code, secure key storage and atomicity of execution of Verification code

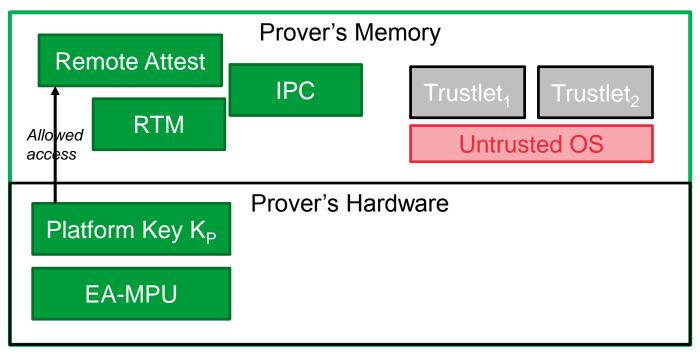




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## **Hybrid Attestation: TrustLite & TyTAN**

- Execution-Aware Memory Protection Unit (EA-MPU)
  - access control based on memory request target and origin









## **Hybrid Attestation: summary**

- Advantages of hybrid approaches
  - can be used across a network / over an untrusted channel
  - Verifier need not know prover's exact hardware configuration
- Drawbacks
  - Needs additional hardware support
  - But minimal MCU trust anchors soon available commercially
    - TrustZone-M (ARM v8), ...





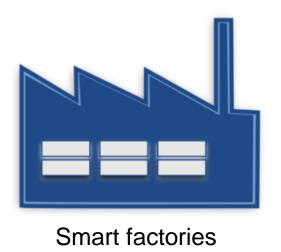
# **Attestation of Things (AoT)**

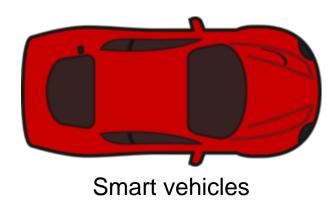
- Software-based attestation
- Hybrid attestation
- Scalability of attestation
- Run-time attestation





- Attestation protocols usually assume a single prover
  - but IoT scenarios may involve groups of (many) provers





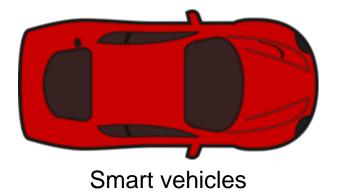




- Device swarms
  - dynamic topology: nodes move within swarm
  - dynamic membership: nodes join and leave the swarm





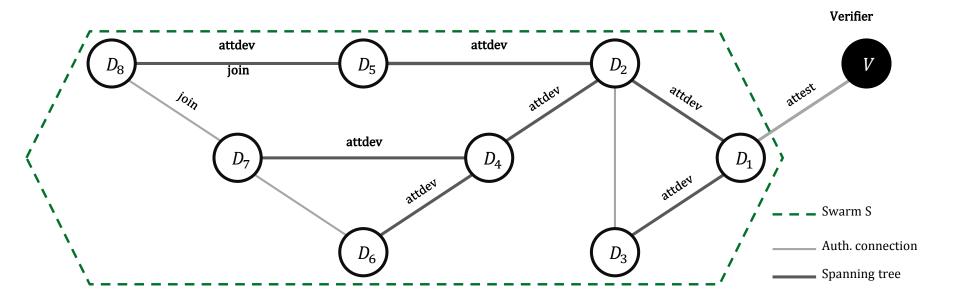






- SEDA: Scalable Embedded Device Attestation
  - more efficient than attesting each node individually
  - can use any type of measurement process
  - assumes homogeneous provers









## Scalability of Attestation: summary

#### How to extend SEDA to

- support highly dynamic swarms?
- be resilient to physical compromise of some devices?





# **Attestation of Things (AoT)**

- Software-based attestation
- Hybrid attestation
- Scalability of attestation
- Run-time attestation





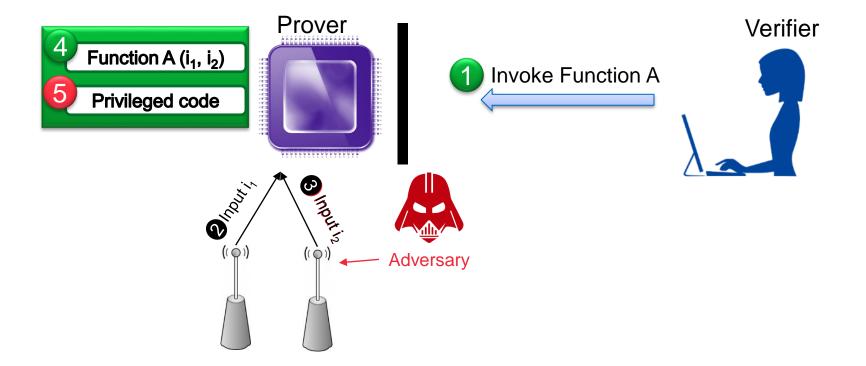
## Why run-time attestation?

- Traditional attestation measures binaries at load time
- Cannot capture run-time attacks
  - return-oriented programming
  - control data attacks





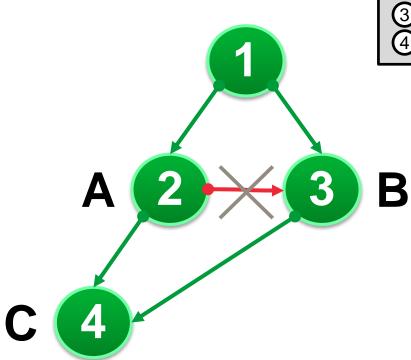
### **Run-time attacks**







## **Control flow integrity (CFI)**





② then: block A

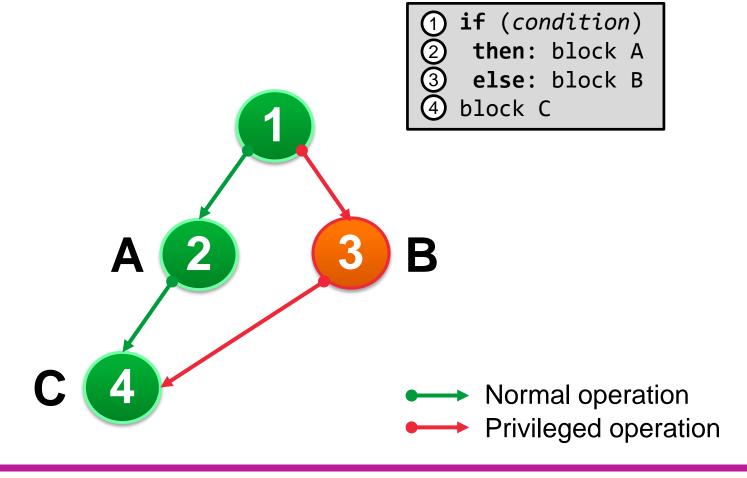
3 else: block B

4 block C





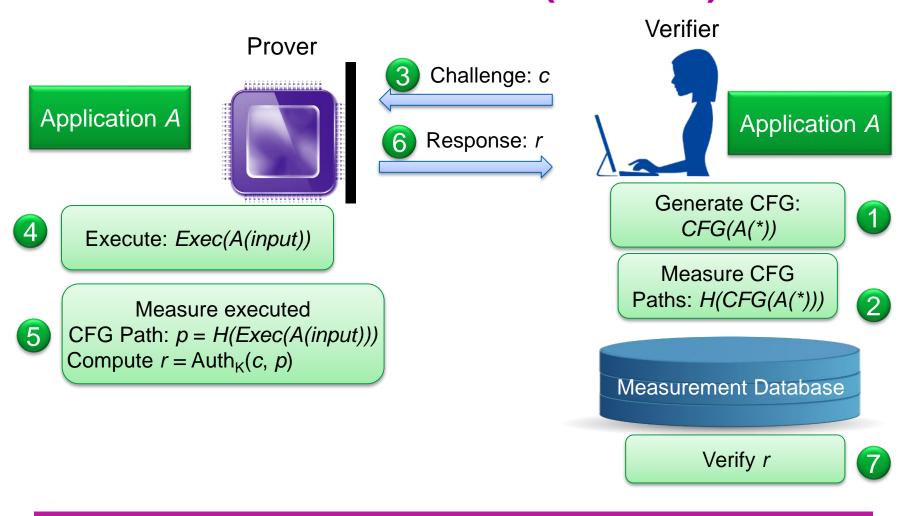
### Run-time attacks without violating CFI







## **Control-Flow Attestation (C-FLAT)**

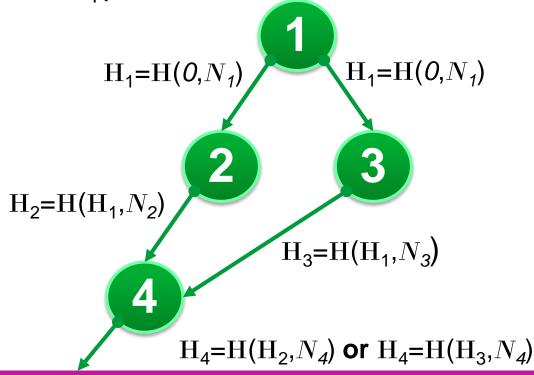




T. Abera, N. Asokan, L. Davi, J-E. Ekberg, A. Paverd, T. Nyman, A-R. Sadeghi, G. Tsudik, **C-FLAT: Control Flow Attestation for Embedded Systems Software**, CCS '16. http://arxiv.org/abs/1605.07763,

### **C-FLAT:** High-Level Idea

Cumulative Hash Value: H<sub>j</sub>=H(H<sub>i</sub>,N),
 where H<sub>i</sub> previous hash result and N is the current node







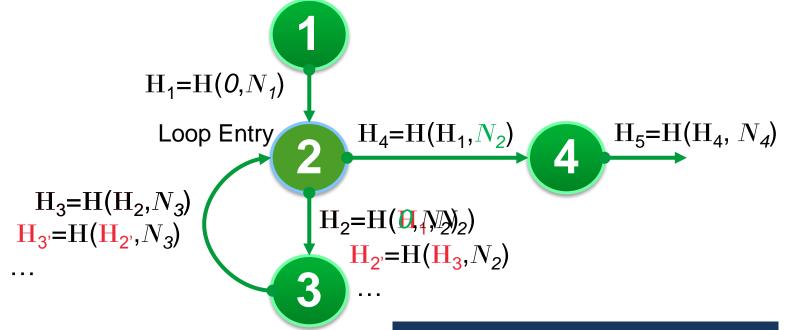




## **Handling Loops**

#### H<sub>x</sub> different for each loop iteration

- Different loop paths/iterations → many valid hash values
  - Our approach: treat loops as separate sub-graphs



 $p = H_5, <H1, \{H_3, \#H_3\} >$ 



### **Proof-of-Concept Implementation**

- Bare-metal prototype on Raspberry Pi 2
  - Single-purpose program instrumented using binary-rewriting
  - Runtime Monitor written in ARM assembler
  - Measurement Engine isolated in TrustZone-A Secure World



cfa\_quote: 7c 16 d6 51 20 a2 a0 c7 90 f5 ef 04 0c 2e ba bc
loop[000]: 78 22 5b 62 92 41 ca 02 7b ff 29 57 c6 6f 9b a2
path[000]: 2f a5 8c dc 1b 35 41 29 ab dd 35 5c f2 69 08 37 (1)
loop[001]: d6 90 9e a0 8c ae 90 84 9e 66 09 f8 a6 7b 52 04
path[000]: 92 fb d1 e8 90 cb 02 e5 6c f2 65 8c 86 72 0e d3 (2)

. . . .

loop[006]: 05 e3 92 40 95 ef 7b 46 13 7d 6e 8b 05 be bf 41
path[000]: 67 c6 5e d4 18 13 02 bc 4a 5d 60 a0 16 85 f4 ed (9)
path[001]: 78 19 af 09 0f d5 64 f4 39 b4 7a 0d 97 57 77 8c (2)

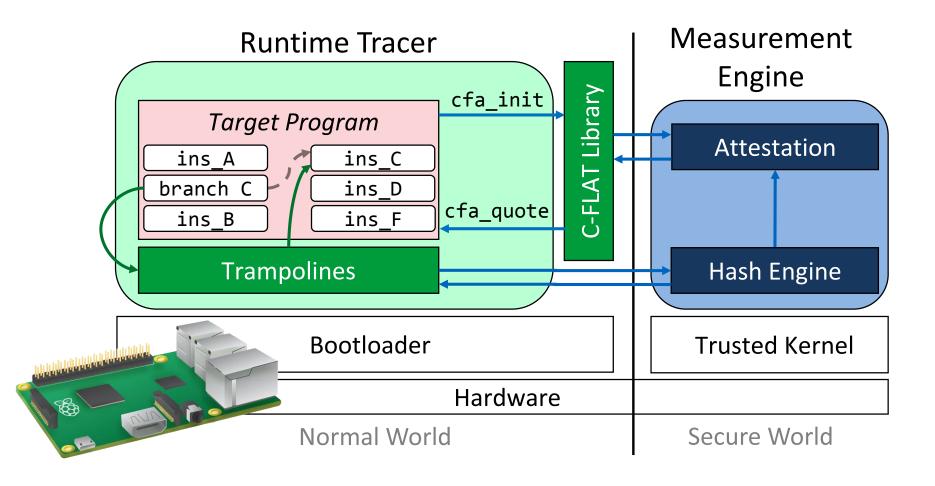
Source: https://github.com/control-flow-attestation/c-flat/blob/master/samples/syringe/syringe-auth.txt



T. Abera, N. Asokan, L. Davi, J-E. Ekberg, A. Paverd, T. Nyman, A-R. Sadeghi, G. Tsudik, **C-FLAT: Control Flow Attestation for Embedded Systems Software**, CCS '16. http://arxiv.org/abs/1605.07763,



### **Proof-of-Concept Implementation**







### Run-time attestation: summary

- How can we scale control flow attestation?
  - Better ways to aggregate measurements?
  - Faster/simpler purpose-built hash functions?
  - Purpose-built hardware support?
- What next?
  - Attestation of properties rather than measurements?
    - from attestation to checking compliance with a (dynamic) policy?



## **Open Challenges**

Physical adversary



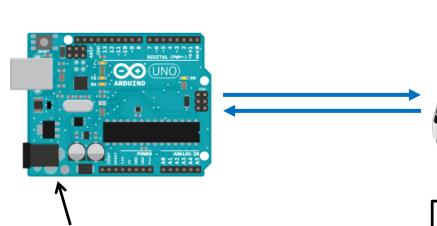


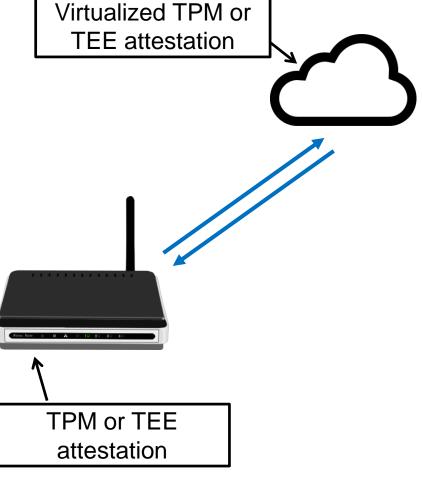
## **Open Challenges**

End-to-end attestation

Software-based, or

Hybrid attestation



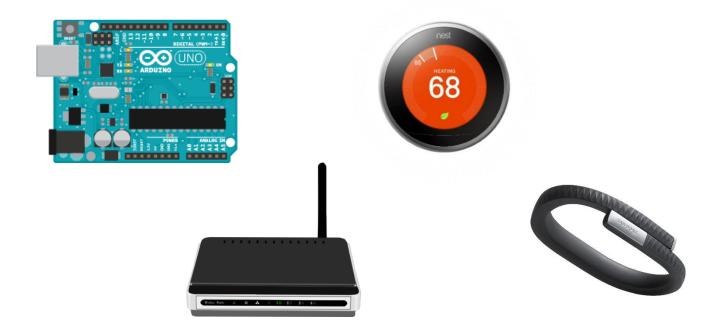






## **Open Challenges**

Device heterogeneity







### Did you learn about:

- Why we need attestation in IoT
- Some recent research towards achieving this





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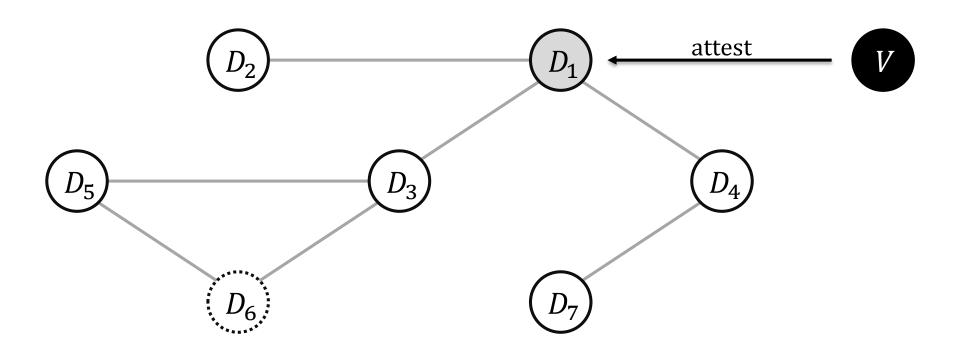
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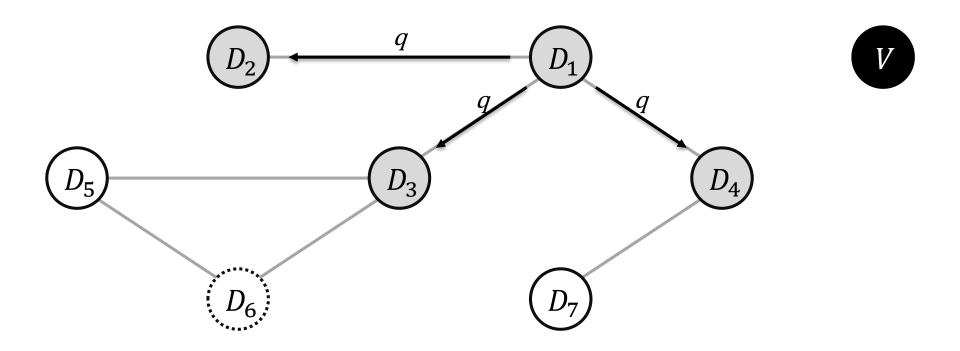






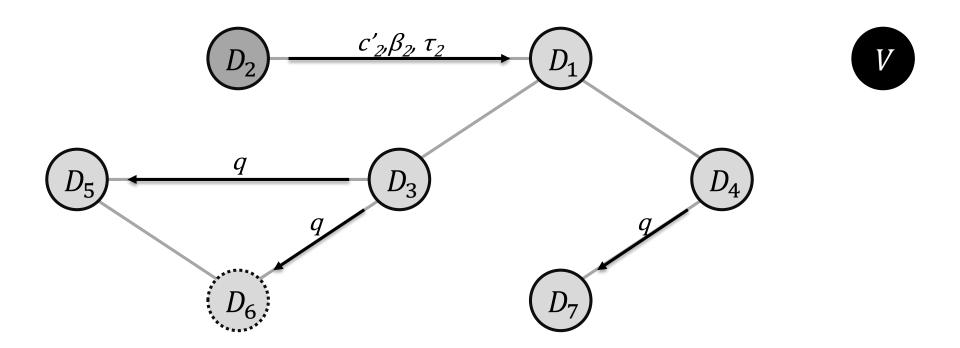






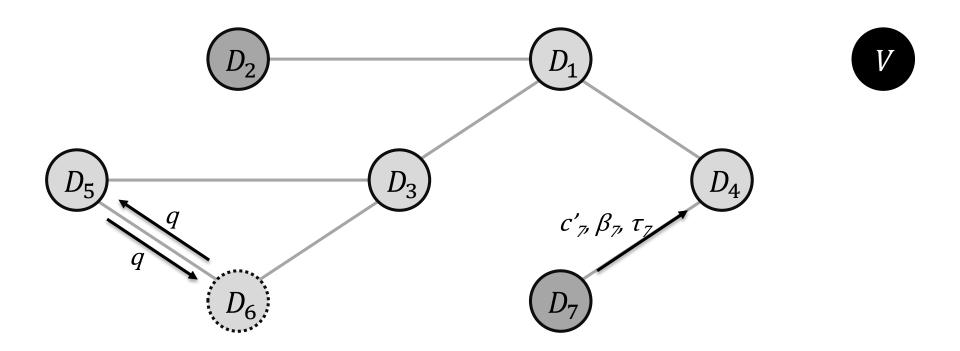






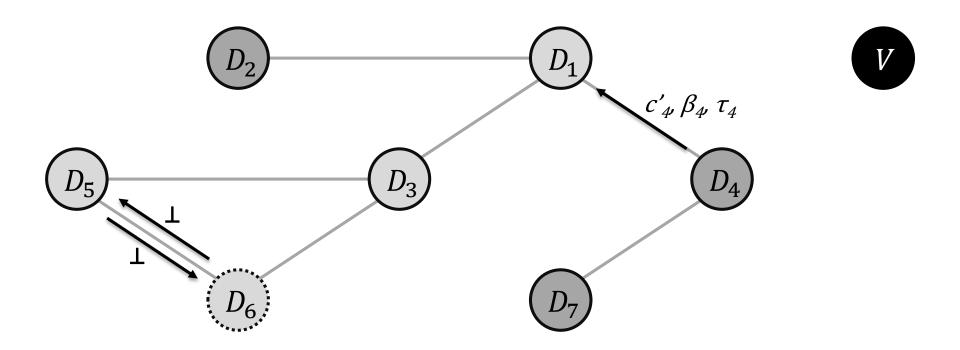






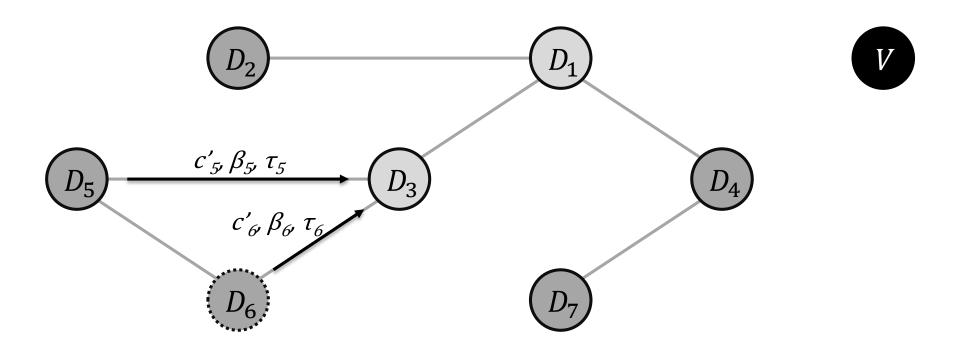




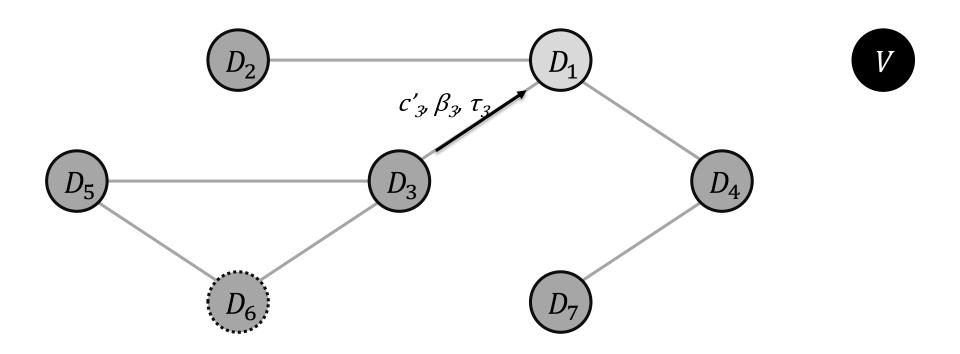






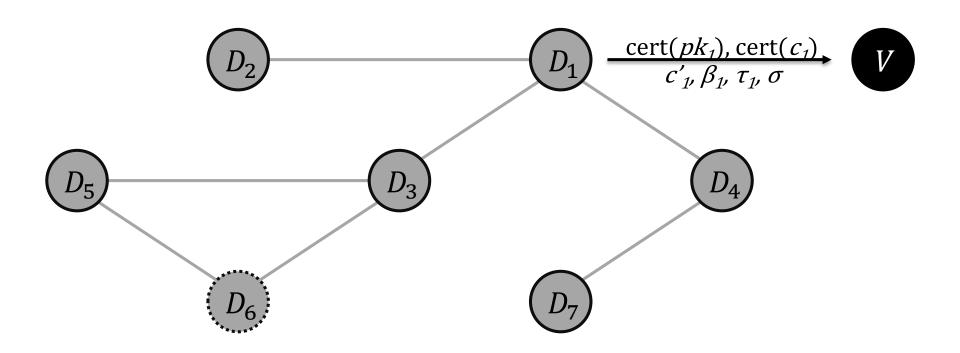
















### **Abuse of Attestation**

- Attestation protocols usually consider a benign verifier
- But adversary could impersonate verifier to abuse attestation
- E.g., computing a MAC over all memory in a typical microcontroller could take ~ 750 ms
  - could be used for denial of service (DoS) attack



### **Abuse of Attestation**

- Verifier must be authenticated to prover
  - but asymmetric crypto is computationally expensive
- Prover must detect replays of previous requests
  - can use nonces
  - can use counters
  - can use timestamps





### **Abuse of Attestation**

- Nonces
  - require integrity-protected storage for previous nonces
- Counters
  - require minimal integrity-protected storage for counter
- Timestamps
  - require trusted synchronized clock at prover side

Use Execution-Aware Memory Access Control (EA-MAC) to protect counters and timers.



