

On the Secure Compilation of the Constant-Time Policy

Quantitative Information Flow

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Side Channels





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- ▶ Outputs of a computer system



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- ▶ Usually unintentional

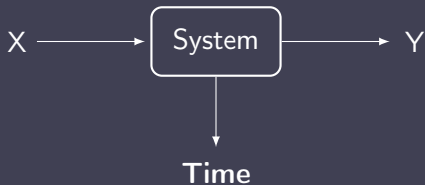
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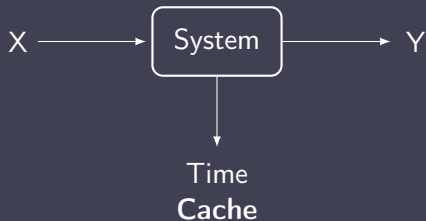
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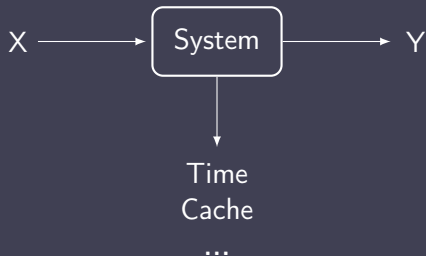
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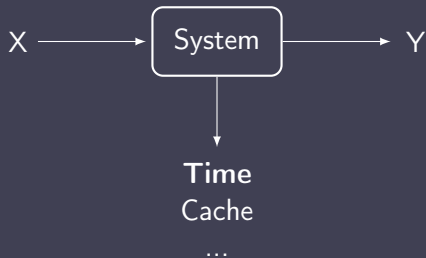
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Defense Strategy



Definition 1 (Constant-Time Programming)

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Password Checker



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- ▶ Corresponds to x86's cmov
- ▶ LLVM's x86-cmov-converter pass replaces cmovs with branches
- ▶ How to prove that the constant-time property is preserved?



Secure Compilation



- ▶ Barthe, Grégoire, and Laporte, “Secure Compilation of Side-Channel Countermeasures: The Case of Cryptographic “Constant-Time””

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where a and a' are states, t is the leakage and n is the number of steps

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$$a \xrightarrow{t}^n b \wedge a' \xrightarrow{t'}^n b' \wedge a \phi a' \implies t = t' \wedge (b \in \mathcal{S}_f \iff b' \in \mathcal{S}_f).$$

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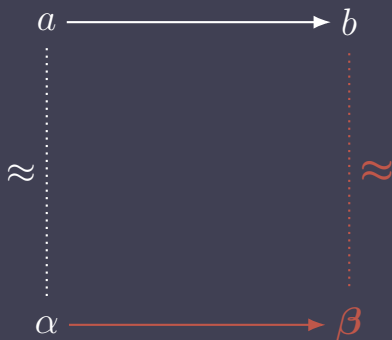
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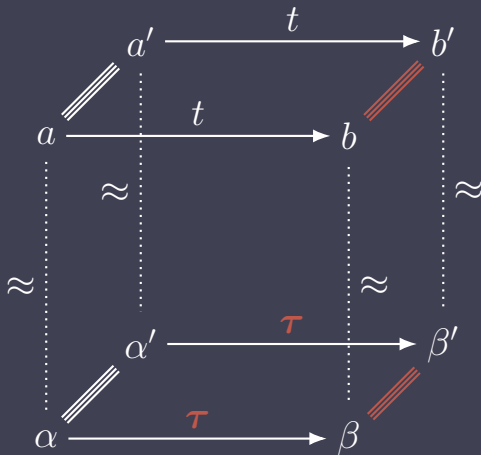
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- 2 \forall pairs of input parameters i and i' such that $i \varphi i'$, we have that $S(i) \equiv_S S(i')$ and $C(i) \equiv_C C(i')$, where φ is a binary relation on inputs

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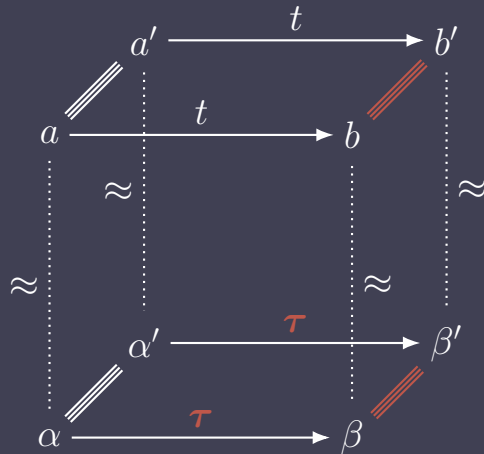
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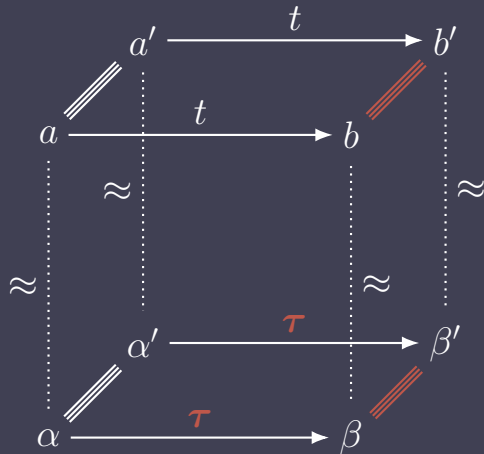
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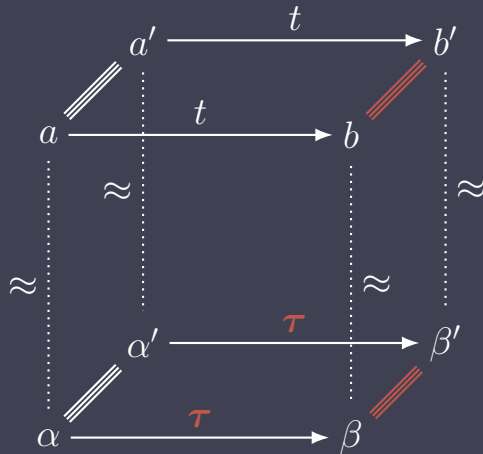
Secure Compilation

- ▶ Let $a.\text{cmd}$ and $a'.\text{cmd}$ be $y := A[i] * k$



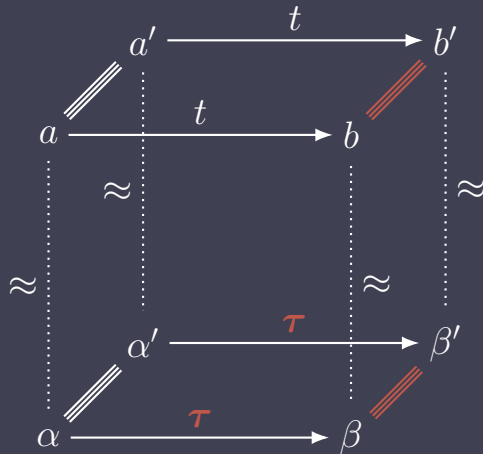
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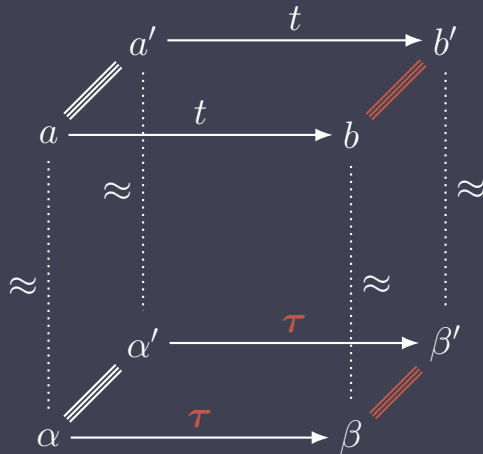
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- ▶ Let $a.cmd$ and $a'.cmd$ be $y := A[i] * k$
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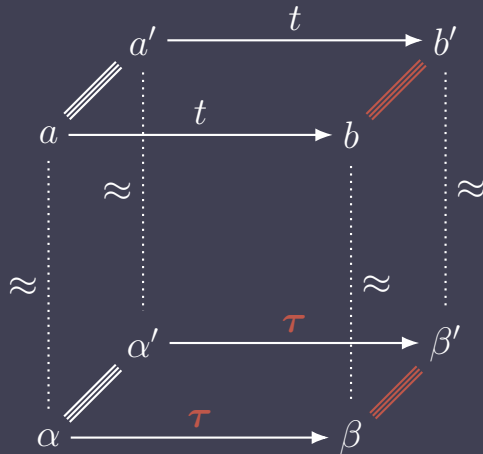
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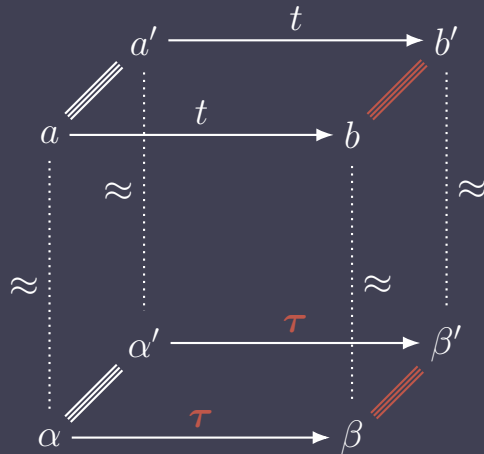
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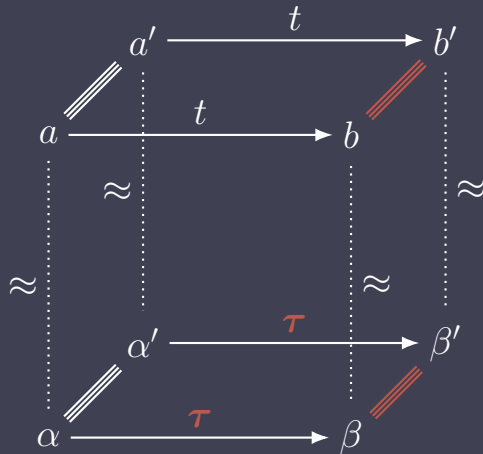
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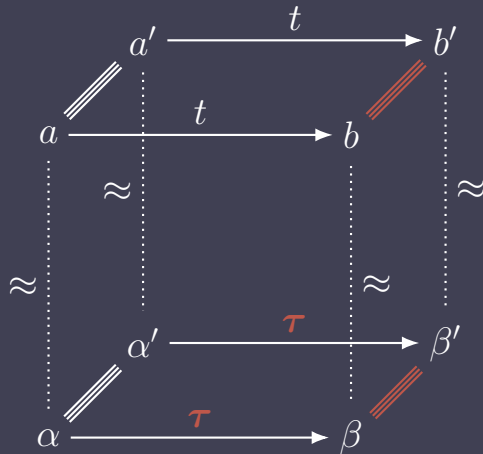
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- ▶ $\tau = \tau'$



Relation to QIF



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▶ Labelled transitions



▶ Information-theoretic channels

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- ▶ Leakage as a trace of events
- ▶ Information-theoretic channels
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Relation to QIF

- ▶ Labelled transitions
- ▶ Leakage as a trace of events
- ▶ Constant-time simulation
- ▶ Information-theoretic channels
- ▶ Leakage as a real number
- ▶ Refinement

-  Alvim, Mário S et al. (2020). *The Science of Quantitative Information Flow*. Springer.
-  Barthe, Gilles, Benjamin Grégoire, and Vincent Laporte (2018). “Secure Compilation of Side-Channel Countermeasures: The Case of Cryptographic “Constant-Time””. In: *2018 IEEE 31st Computer Security Foundations Symposium (CSF)*, pp. 328–343. DOI: 10.1109/CSF.2018.00031.