

Engineering Secure Software Systems

January 5, 2021: ProVerif: Background and First Examples (Lockdown & Power Outage Edition)

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Part I: Crypto Protocols

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Foundations

Cryptography

An Example and an Attack

More Examples

Formal Protocol Model

Automatic Analysis: Theoretical
Foundations

Automatic Analysis: Undecidability

Incomplete Algorithms

Automatic Analysis in Practice: ProVerif

Hello World and simple Examples

Equational Theories



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Logic Modeling Outline

facts

- $d(\hat{k}_C)$
- $d(\{0, 1\})$
- ...

DY deductions

- $d(\text{enc}_{k_C}^a(x)) \wedge d(\hat{k}_C) \rightarrow d(x)$
- $d(x) \wedge d(y) \rightarrow d([x, y])$
- $d(x) \rightarrow d(\text{hash}(x))$
- ...

protocol deductions

- $d(\text{enc}_{k_B}^a([A, x])) \rightarrow d(\text{enc}_{k_A}^a([B, x]))$
- $d(\text{enc}_{k_A}^a([B, x, y])) \rightarrow (\text{enc}_{k_B}^a(y))$
- ...

Horn clauses

$$(x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge x_n \rightarrow y) \leftrightarrow (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_2} \vee \cdots \vee \overline{x_n} \vee y)$$

target clause

$$\neg d(\text{FAIL})$$



Exercise

Task (Needham-Schroeder as Horn clauses)

Model the Needham-Schroeder protocol as Horn clauses and use this formalism to show that the protocol is insecure. To do this, first list the facts, Dolev-Yao deductions, protocol deductions and the target clause. Then, use logical inference to show that the protocol is in fact insecure. Do you see any limits or imprecisions in this approach?



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Applying the Theory: Analysis in Practice

so far in lecture

- formal model
- formal security properties
- decidability and complexity results
- Horn modeling
- ~~abstraction~~

now: application of the theory

different analysis tools

- **ProVerif** (Bruno Blanchet, Vincent Cheval)
- **CryptoVerif** (Bruno Blanchet, David Cadé)
- **FDR** (Formal Systems Europe)



ProVerif in Lecture I

outline

- ProVerif introduction (syntax, semantics, examples)
- generalized cryptographic primitives in ProVerif
- extended security properties in ProVerif

no detailed theory (literature references)

key references

paper Bruno Blanchet. “Using Horn Clauses for Analyzing Security Protocols”. In: *Cryptology and Information Security Series* 5 (2011), pp. 86–111

update Vincent Cheval, Véronique Cortier, and Mathieu Turuani. “A Little More Conversation, a Little Less Action, a Lot More Satisfaction: Global States in ProVerif”. In: *31st IEEE Computer Security Foundations Symposium, CSF 2018, Oxford, United Kingdom, July 9-12, 2018*. IEEE Computer Society, 2018, pp. 344–358. ISBN: 978-1-5386-6680-7. DOI: 10.1109/CSF.2018.00032. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1109/CSF.2018.00032>

tool <http://prosecco.gforge.inria.fr/personal/bblanche/proverif/>

learning goals

practice

analyzing protocols with ProVerif

security properties

study of complex properties (without detailed formal model)

conceptual

undecidable problems in real life

consequences for tool application

not a learning goal

complete introduction to ProVerif (see reading exercise on Needham-Schroeder modeling)



non-trivial examples

- certified email protocol, including ssh layer, JFK protocol (candidate for IKE replacement), secure filesystem Plutus, web service verification
- e-voting protocols, authenticated routing, zero knowledge protocols
- TLS (F# implementation for .NET), 5G EAP-TLS
- Telegram, Bitcoin Smart Contracts, Healthcare protocols
- ... (see Google Scholar, ProVerif since 2020)

original reference

Bruno Blanchet. “Using Horn Clauses for Analyzing Security Protocols”. In: *Cryptology and Information Security Series* 5 (2011), pp. 86–111



features

- analysis of protocols in symbolic model
- can handle an unbounded number of protocol sessions (necessarily incomplete)
- user-provided specification of cryptographic primitives and security properties

example security properties

- secrecy
- strong secrecy
- authentication
- correspondence
- observational equivalence

incompleteness consequences

- “don’t know”
- non-termination



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ProVerif „Hello, World“

hello.pv (from PV doc)

free c:channel.

free Plain:bitstring [private].

free RSA:bitstring [private].

query attacker(RSA).

query attacker(Plain).

process

out(c,RSA);

o

elements

free free algebraic variables

channel communication channel

bitstring data type

private \mathcal{A} cannot (directly) access

query security property

out send on channel

execution

- send “private” value RSA on public channel
- query: secrecy for
 - RSA
 - Plain



command line tool

```
$ proverif 2021_01_05_lecture_08/01_hello.pv
```

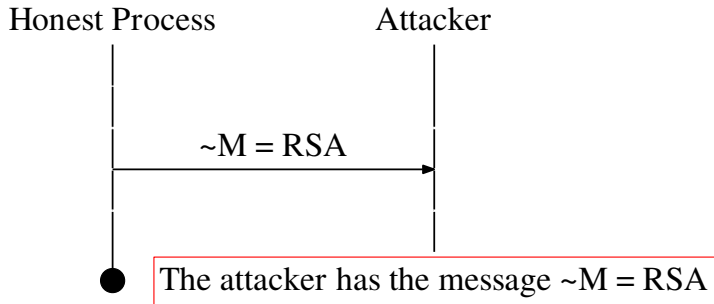
```
$ proverif -graph targetDir 2021_01_05_lecture_08/01_hello.pv
```

```
$ proverif -html targetDir 2021_01_05_lecture_08/01_hello.pv
```

live demo



A trace has been found.





example: handshake (from ProVerif tutorial)

$$\begin{array}{ll} A \rightarrow B & k_A \\ B \rightarrow A & \text{enc}_{k_A}^a (\text{sig}_{k_B} ([k_B, k])) \\ A \rightarrow B & \text{enc}_k^s (\text{FAIL}) \end{array}$$

attack

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{A} \rightarrow B & k_A \\ B \rightarrow \mathcal{A} & \text{enc}_{k_A}^a (\text{sig}_{k_B} ([k_B, k])) \\ A \rightarrow B & k_A \\ \mathcal{A} \rightarrow A & \text{enc}_{k_A}^a (\text{sig}_{k_B} ([k_B, k])) \\ A \rightarrow B & \text{enc}_k^s (\text{FAIL}) \end{array}$$

fix

add receiver to message

properties?

- intended security properties?
- protocol secure?



Analyzing the Handshake Protocol in ProVerif

steps

1. specify cryptographic primitives
2. specify communication infrastructure
3. specify adversary goal
4. specify Alice & Bob
5. specify “main process”





lecture so far

behavior of crypto primitives

- asymmetric encryption
- symmetric encryption
- signatures
- hash functions

ProVerif: flexible modeling of primitives

technique: equational theories, more general than
DY-like specification (see example scripts)



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Equational Theories





definition

- **equation**: pair (l, r) of terms, also written $l = r$
 - left: “complex” term
 - right: “simple” term
- **equational theory**: set E of equations

caveat: choose term signature matching to E (implicit)

rewrite relation

- $t_1 \rightarrow_E t_2$: t_2 obtained from t_1 by applying rule from E
- \rightarrow_E^* : closure of \rightarrow_E under transitivity, reflexivity, application of function symbols
- \equiv_E : closure of \rightarrow_E^* under symmetry and transitivity



Equational Theories: Examples

primitives

- asym. encryption $\text{dec}_{\hat{k}_A}^a (\text{enc}_{k_a}^a (x)) = x$
- sym. encryption $\text{dec}_k^s (\text{enc}_k^s (x)) = x$
- signature
 - $\text{check}(k_A, \text{sig}_{k_A} (x)) = \text{ok}$
 - $\text{extr} - \text{key}(\text{sig}_{k_A} (x)) = k_A$
 - $\text{extr} - \text{msg}(\text{sig}_{k_A} (x)) = x$
- hash function
- bit commitment $\text{open}(\text{bc}(k, b), k) = b$
- trapdoor commitments
 - $\text{open}(\text{tdc}(m, r, t_d), r) = m$
 - $\text{tdc}(m_2, f(m_1, r, t_d, m_2), t_d) = \text{tdc}(m_1, r, t_d)$



“Simple” Equational Theories

definition

\rightarrow_E is

- **confluent**, if for all t, t_1, t_2 with $t \rightarrow_E^* t_1$ and $t \rightarrow_E^* t_2$ there is some t' with $t_1 \rightarrow_E^* t'$ and $t_2 \rightarrow_E^* t'$.
- **terminating**, if there is no infinite sequence t_1, t_2, \dots with $t_i \neq t_{i+1}$ and $t_i \rightarrow_E t_{i+1}$ for all i .
- E is **convergent**, if \rightarrow_E is confluent and terminating
- E is **convergent subterm theory**, if
 - E is convergent, and
 - for all $(l, r) \in E$: r is subterm of l or constant





definition

A term t is in *E-normal-form* if $t = t'$ for all $t \rightarrow_E t'$.

lemma & definition

If E is convergent, then for every term t , there is a unique term $[t]$ with

- $[t]$ is in E -normal-form,
- $t \equiv_E [t]$.

lemma

$t \equiv_E t'$ iff $[t] = [t']$.

computation of normal form

How do we compute $[t]$ from t ? for a convergent theory?





primitives

- asym. encryption $\text{dec}_{\hat{k}_A}^a (\text{enc}_{k_a}^a (x)) = x$
- sym. encryption $\text{dec}_k^s (\text{enc}_k^s (x)) = x$
- signature
 - $\text{check}(k_A, \text{sig}_{k_A} (x)) = \text{ok}$
 - extr – $\text{key}(\text{sig}_{k_A} (x)) = k_A$
 - extr – $\text{msg}(\text{sig}_{k_A} (x)) = x$
- hash function
- bit commitment $\text{open}(\text{bc}(k, b), k) = b$
- trapdoor commitments
 - $\text{open}(\text{tdc}(m, r, t_d), r) = m$
 - $\text{tdc}(m_2, f(m_1, r, t_d, m_2), t_d) = \text{tdc}(m_1, r, t_d)$

discussion

- complexity?
- observations?

remember

modeling primitives at this level of abstraction loses details

algorithms

algorithms discussed so far do not cover all of these



Exercise

Task (Missing Proof)

Prove the following lemma that was stated in the lecture without proof:

If E is a convergent equational theory, then:

1. For every term t , there is a unique term $[t]$ with
 - $[t]$ is in E -normal-form,
 - $t \equiv_E [t]$.
2. For terms t and t' , we have that $t \equiv_E t'$ if and only if $[t] = [t']$.



Exercise

Task (“Badly-Behaved” Equational Theories)

Define equational theories for which the resulting rewrite relation \rightarrow_E is not a convergent subterm theory, i.e., one that is not confluent, not terminating, or not a subterm theory.



Algorithms for Convergent Subterm Theories

Theorem

For convergent subterm theories, the following problems are polynomial-time decidable:

- given E, t, t' , does $t \rightarrow_E t'$ hold?
- given E, t, t' , is $t \equiv_E t'$?

Theorem

Also computable in polynomial time: given E, t , compute $[t]$ (DAG representation)

reference

Martin Abadi and Véronique Cortier. “Deciding knowledge in security protocols under equational theories”. In: *Theoretical Computer Science* 367.1-2 (2006), pp. 2–32





Needham Schroeder

Alice $\epsilon \rightarrow \text{enc}_{k_B}^a(A, N_A)$
 $\text{enc}_{k_A}^a(N_A, y) \rightarrow \text{enc}_{k_B}^a(y)$

Bob $\text{enc}_{k_B}^a(A, x) \rightarrow \text{enc}_{k_A}^a(x, N_B)$

equational theory

$$\text{dec}_{\hat{k}_A}^a(\text{enc}_{k_A}^a(x)) = x$$

“simplification”

- new notation for protocols?
- advantage?

additional equations for pairing

- $\text{split1}(\text{pair}(x, y)) = x$
- $\text{split2}(\text{pair}(x, y)) = y$

Alice

$\epsilon \rightarrow \text{enc}_{k_B}^a(A, N_A)$
 $x \rightarrow \text{enc}_{k_B}^a(\text{split2}(\text{dec}_{\hat{k}_A}^a(x)))$

Bob

$y \rightarrow \text{enc}_{k_A}^a(\text{pair}(\text{split2}(\text{dec}_{\hat{k}_B}^a(y)), N_B))$



Handshake-Protocol in ProVerif: Primitives

symmetric encryption

type key

fun senc(bitstring, key): bitstring

reduc forall m:bitstring, k:key; sdec(senc(m,k),k) = m

asymmetric encryption

type skey

type pkey

fun pk(skey): pkey

fun aenc(bitstring, pkey): bitstring

reduc forall m:bitstring, sk:skey; adec(aenc(m,pk(sk)),sk) = m

signatures

type sskey

type pskey

fun spk(sskey): spkey

fun sign(bitstring, sskey): bitstring

reduc forall m:bitstring, ssk:sskey; getmess(sign(m,ssk)) = m

reduc forall m:bitstring, ssk:sskey; checksign(sign(m,ssk),spk(ssk)) = m



Handshake-Protocol in ProVerif: Communication and Adversary Goal

channel, values, attacker goal

free c:channel

free FAIL:bitstring [private]

query attacker (FAIL)

models

- c is public channel
- FAIL: bitstring, private (not in initial \mathcal{A} knowledge)
- security property: \mathcal{A} cannot derive FAIL





protocol

$$\begin{array}{ll} A \rightarrow B & k_A \\ B \rightarrow A & \text{enc}_{k_A}^a (\text{sig}_{k_B} ([k_B, k])) \\ A \rightarrow B & \text{enc}_k^s (\text{FAIL}) \end{array}$$

client (Alice)

```
let clientA(pkA:pkey,skA:skey,pkB:spkey)=
  out (c,pkA)
  in (c,x:bitstring)
  let y=adec(x,skA) in
    let (=pkB,k:key)=checksign(y,pkB) in
      out (c,senc(FAIL,k))
```

features

- keys as arguments
- FAIL global value
- decryptions explicit (pattern matching in formal model)





protocol

$A \rightarrow B \quad k_A$
 $B \rightarrow A \quad \text{enc}_{k_A}^a (\text{sig}_{k_B} ([k_B, k]))$
 $A \rightarrow B \quad \text{enc}_k^s (\text{FAIL})$

server (Bob)

```
let serverB(pkB:spkey,skB:sskey)=  
  in (c,pkX:pkey)  
  new k:key  
  out (c,aenc(sign((pkB,k),skB),pkX))  
  in c,x:bitstring  
  let z=sdec(x,k) in o
```

features

- type checking on message receive
- last line: “no match” if decryption fails



Handshake-Protocol in ProVerif: Main Process

previous processes

- `clientA(pkA:pkey,skA:skey,pkB:spkey)`
- `serverB(pkB:spkey,skB:sskey)`

main process

```
new skA:skey  
new skB:sskey  
let pkA=pk(skA) in out(c,pkA)  
let pkB=spk(skB) in out(c,pkB)  
( (!clientA(pkA,skA,pkB) | (!serverB(pkB,skB))) )
```

features

- key generation, sending of pkA, pkB on public channel
- call of Alice and Bob with matching parameters
- `!:` “replication operator”



ProVerif Script: Handshake Protocol

command line tool

```
$ proverif 2021_01_05_lecture_08/02_handshake.pv
```

```
$ proverif -graph targetDir 2021_01_05_lecture_08/02_handshake.pv
```

```
$ proverif -html targetDir 2021_01_05_lecture_08/02_handshake.pv
```

live demo



ProVerif Analysis Result: Handshake

