

- ▶ **Agenda:** explore **implementation attacks** via
 1. an “in theory”, i.e., concept-oriented perspective,
 - 1.1 explanation,
 - 1.2 justification,
 - 1.3 formalisation.
 - and
 2. an “in practice”, i.e., example-oriented perspective,
 - 2.1 attacks,
 - 2.2 countermeasures.
- ▶ **Caveat!**

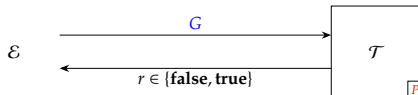
~ 2 hours \Rightarrow introductory, and (very) selective (versus definitive) coverage.

Part 1.1: in theory (1)

Explanation

► Scenario:

- given the following interaction between an **attacker** \mathcal{E} and a **target** \mathcal{T}



- and noting that

- the password P has $|P|$ characters in it,
- each character in G and P is assumed to be from a known alphabet

$$A = \{'a', 'b', \dots, 'z'\}$$

such that $|A| = 26$,

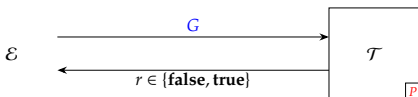
- how can \mathcal{E} mount a successful attack, i.e., input a guess G matching P ?

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

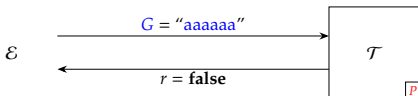


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

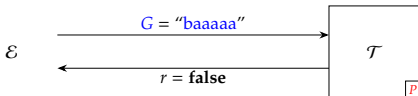


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

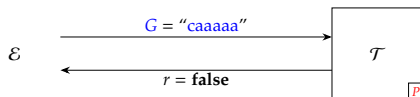


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

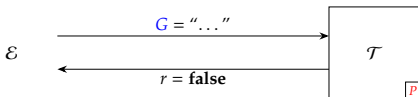


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

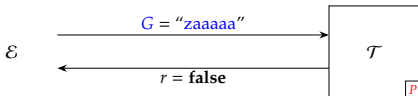


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

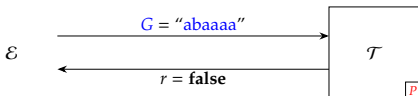


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

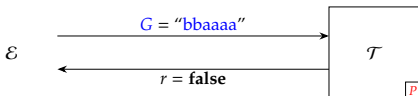


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

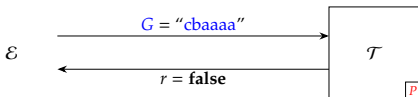


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

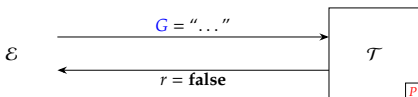


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

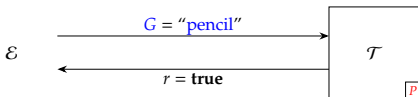


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: brute-force attack** (i.e., try every G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



\therefore if we play by the rules then

+ve: we always guess a $G = P$

-ve: we need quite a lot of guesses, e.g., for a 6-character lower-case password we'd make

$$26^6 = 308915776$$

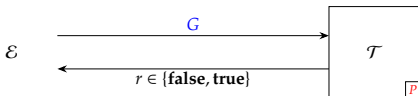
in the worst-case

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: dictionary attack** (i.e., try common G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$, $G \in D = \{\text{"password"}, \text{"admin"}, \text{"bristolcity"}, \dots, \text{"pencil"}\}$)

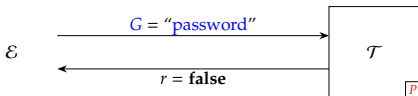


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: dictionary attack** (i.e., try common G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$, $G \in D = \{\text{"password"}, \text{"admin"}, \text{"bristolcity"}, \dots, \text{"pencil"}\}$)

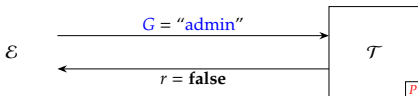


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: dictionary attack** (i.e., try common G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$, $G \in D = \{\text{"password"}, \text{"admin"}, \text{"bristolcity"}, \dots, \text{"pencil"}\}$)

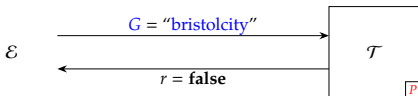


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: dictionary attack** (i.e., try common G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$, $G \in D = \{\text{"password"}, \text{"admin"}, \text{"bristolcity"}, \dots, \text{"pencil"}\}$)

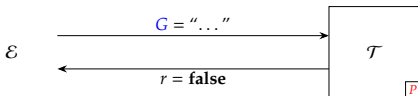


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: dictionary attack** (i.e., try common G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$, $G \in D = \{\text{"password"}, \text{"admin"}, \text{"bristolcity"}, \dots, \text{"pencil"}\}$)

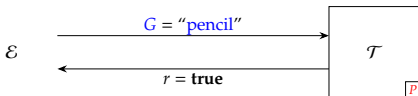


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- **Idea: dictionary attack** (i.e., try common G).

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$, $G \in D = \{\text{"password"}, \text{"admin"}, \text{"bristolcity"}, \dots, \text{"pencil"}\}$)



\therefore if we play by the rules then

–ve: if $P \notin D$, we won't guess a $G = P$

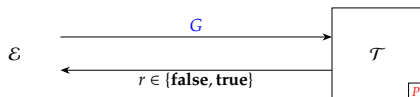
+ve: we need fewer guesses, i.e., $|D|$ in the worst-case

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

- Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)

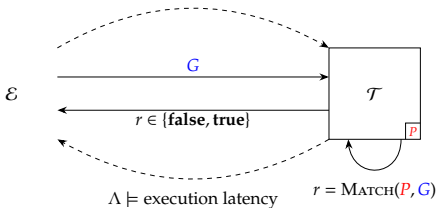


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



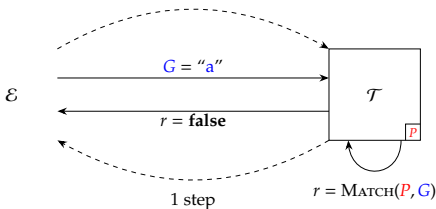
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



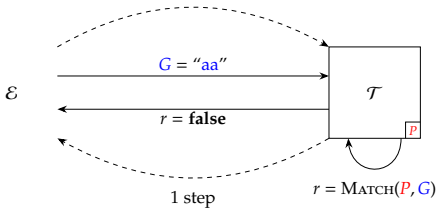
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



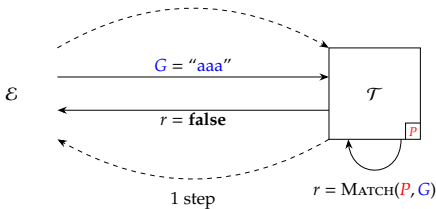
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



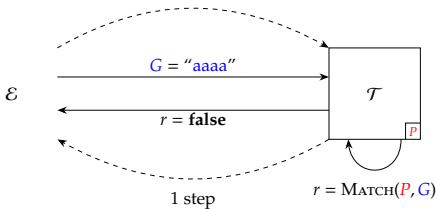
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



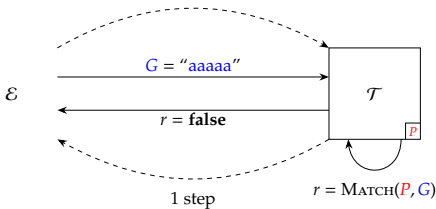
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



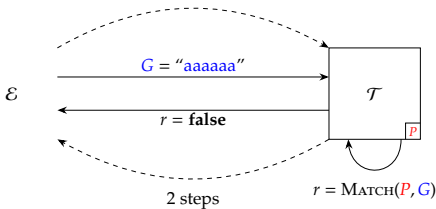
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



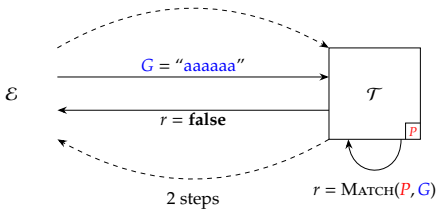
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



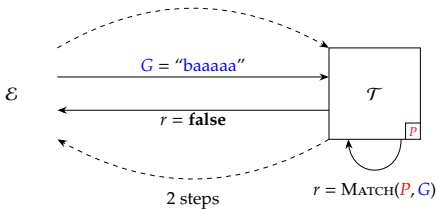
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



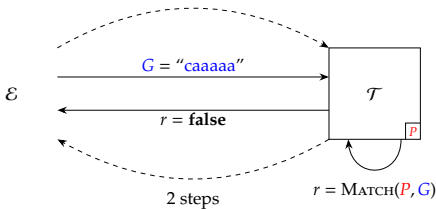
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



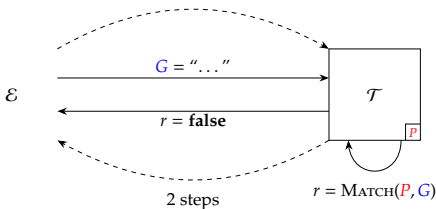
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



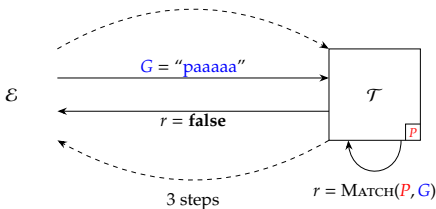
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



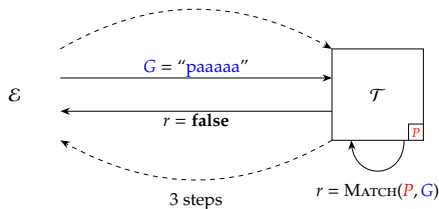
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



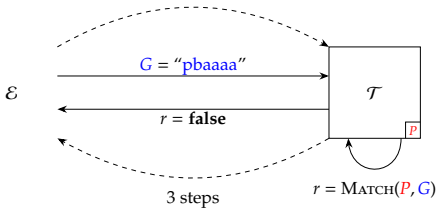
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



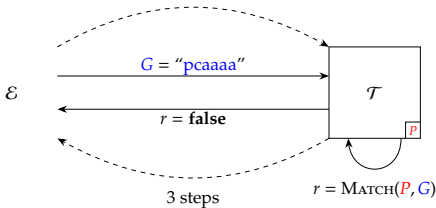
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



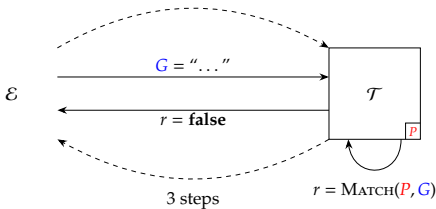
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



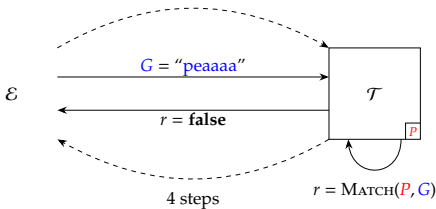
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



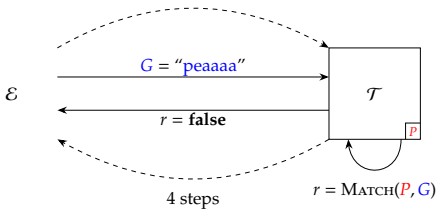
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



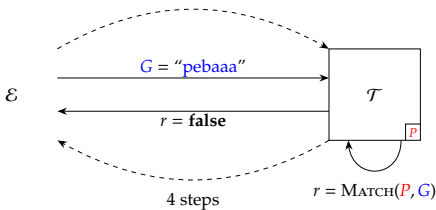
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



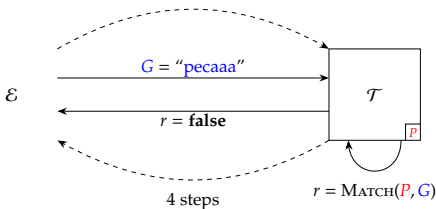
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



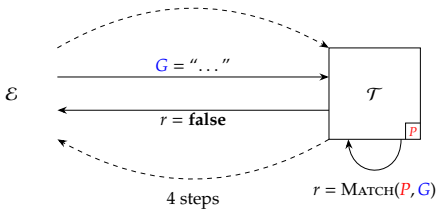
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```


Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



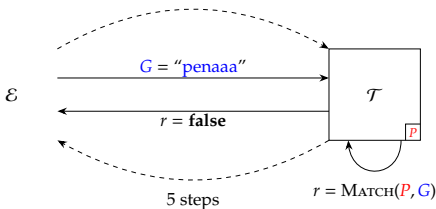
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     | if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       | | return false
8     | end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



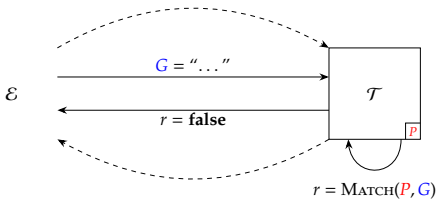
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



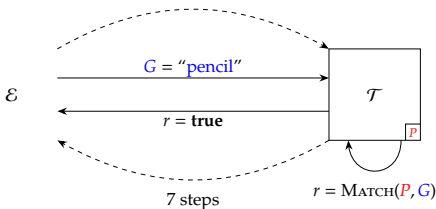
```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

Part 1.1: in theory (2)

Explanation

► Idea: side-channel attack.

Attack ($P = \text{"pencil"}$)



```
1 algorithm MATCH( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $|P| \neq |G|$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   for  $i$  from 0 upto  $|G| - 1$  do
6     if  $P_i \neq G_i$  then
7       return false
8     end
9   end
10  return true
11 end
```

\therefore if we *bend* the rules a little then

+ve: we always guess a $G = P$

+ve: we don't need too many guesses, e.g., for a 6-character lower-case password we'd make

$$26 \cdot 6 = 156$$

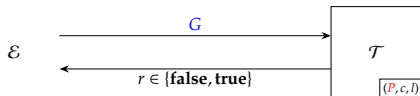
in the worst-case (plus the few extra to recover $|P|$)

Part 1.1: in theory (3)

Explanation

► Scenario:

- given the following interaction between an **attacker** \mathcal{E} and a **target** \mathcal{T}



- and noting that

- the Personal Identification Number (PIN) P has $|P| = 4$ digits in it,
- each digit in G and P is assumed to be from a known alphabet

$$A = \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$$

such that $|A| = 10$,

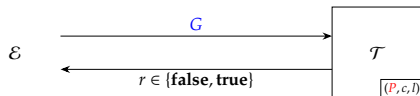
- the counter c is incremented after each (successive) incorrect guess; when c exceeds a limit $l = 3$, the target becomes “locked”,
- how can \mathcal{E} mount a successful attack, i.e., input a guess G matching P ?

Part 1.1: in theory (4)

Explanation

► Idea:

Attack ($P = 1234$)

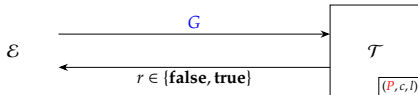


Part 1.1: in theory (4)

Explanation

► Idea:

Attack ($P = 1234$)



\therefore similar attacks as before apply, namely

1. brute-force attack:

+ve: $10^4 = 10000$ possible PINs is not many

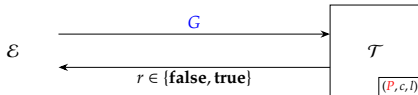
-ve: the counter limits how viable this approach is

Part 1.1: in theory (4)

Explanation

► Idea:

Attack ($P = 1234$)



\therefore similar attacks as before apply, namely

2. dictionary attack:

+ve: reasoning re. common passwords still applies to PINs (e.g., a birthday)

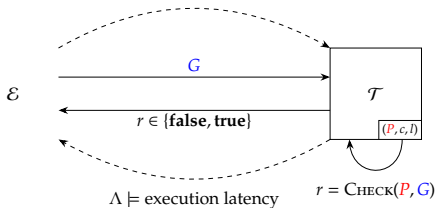
-ve: the counter limits how viable this approach is

Part 1.1: in theory (4)

Explanation

► Idea:

Attack ($P = 1234$)



```
1 algorithm CHECK( $P, G$ ) begin
2   if  $c \geq l$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   if  $P \neq G$  then
6     |  $c \leftarrow c + 1$ 
7     | return false
8   end
9    $c \leftarrow 0$ 
10  return true
11 end
```

\therefore similar attacks as before apply, namely

3. side-channel attack:

+ve: we can still measure execution time of CHECK

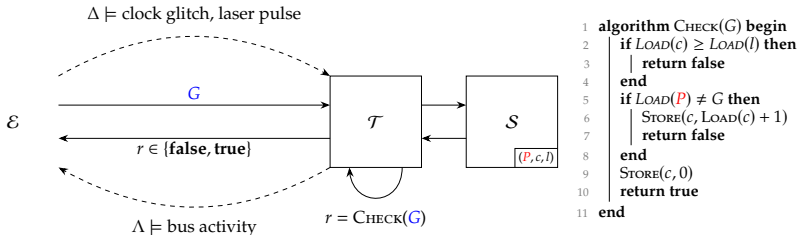
-ve: comparison of P and G no longer has data-dependent execution time

Part 1.1: in theory (4)

Explanation

► Idea:

Attack ($P = 1234$)



but consider some more implementation detail:

1. we might consider *different* indirect inputs *and* outputs,
2. use of an external, non-volatile storage (e.g., SIM card) implies that for $x \leftarrow y$ we have

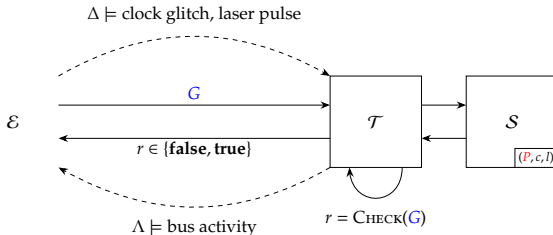
$$\left. \begin{array}{ll} x \text{ on LHS} & \rightsquigarrow \text{store operation} \\ y \text{ on RHS} & \rightsquigarrow \text{load operation} \end{array} \right\} \rightsquigarrow \text{STORE}(x, \text{LOAD}(y))$$

Part 1.1: in theory (4)

Explanation

► Idea: fault induction attack.

Attack ($P = 1234$)



```
1 algorithm CHECK( $G$ ) begin
2   if  $\text{LOAD}(c) \geq \text{LOAD}(l)$  then
3     | return false
4   end
5   if  $\text{LOAD}(P) \neq G$  then
6     | STORE( $c$ ,  $\text{LOAD}(c) + 1$ )
7     | return false
8   end
9   STORE( $c$ , 0)
10  return true
11 end
```

\therefore we could consider

1. disrupting *state*, e.g.

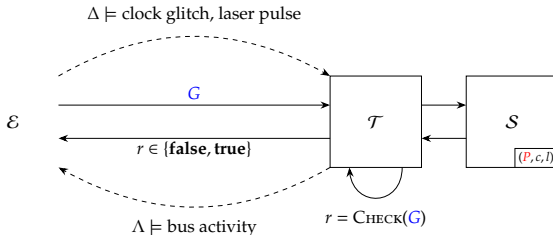
- corrupt (or randomise) content stored by \mathcal{S} ,
- if l is an n -bit integer, all $2^n - l$ values of a random l' mean more guesses.

Part 1.1: in theory (4)

Explanation

► Idea: fault induction attack.

Attack ($P = 1234$)



```
1 algorithm CHECK( $G$ ) begin
2   if  $\text{LOAD}(c) \geq \text{LOAD}(l)$  then
3     return false
4   end
5   if  $\text{LOAD}(P) \neq G$  then
6     STORE( $c$ ,  $\text{LOAD}(c) + 1$ )
7     return false
8   end
9   STORE( $c$ , 0)
10  return true
11 end
```

\therefore we could consider

2. disrupting execution, e.g.

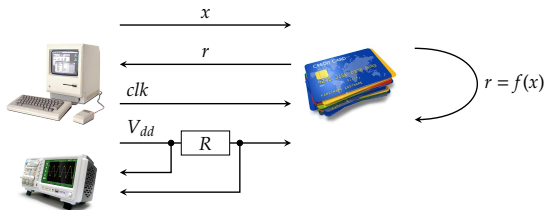
- control the power supply and probe the command bus,
- when a command of the form STORE(x, y) is detected, we know it relates to either

Line #6	:	we know $P \neq G$	\rightsquigarrow	disconnect the power, and prevent update to c
Line #9	:	we know $P = G$	\rightsquigarrow	do nothing

Part 1.2: in theory (1)

Justification: Λ = power consumption

- **Example:** consider a scenario



whereby

- Ohm's Law tells us that, i.e., $V = IR$, so
- we can acquire a power consumption trace

$$\Lambda = \langle \Lambda_0, \Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_{l-1} \rangle$$

i.e., an l -element sequence of instantaneous samples during execution of f .

Part 1.2: in theory (1)

Justification: Λ = power consumption

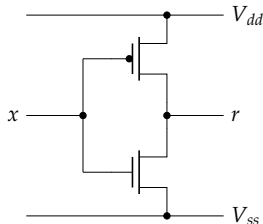
- ▶ **Claim:** Λ may be
 - ▶ *computation*-dependent, i.e., depends on definition and implementation of f , and/or
 - ▶ *data*-dependent, i.e., depends on x .

Part 1.2: in theory (1)

Justification: Λ = power consumption

► Why?

- From a hardware perspective



power consumption will stem from

1. **static consumption**, and
2. **dynamic consumption**.

- Therefore, different switching behaviour \Rightarrow different power consumption, i.e.,

if $x = 0$, setting $x \leftarrow 0$	\Rightarrow static only	\Rightarrow low(er) power consumption
if $x = 0$, setting $x \leftarrow 1$	\Rightarrow static plus dynamic	\Rightarrow high(er) power consumption
if $x = 1$, setting $x \leftarrow 0$	\Rightarrow static plus dynamic	\Rightarrow high(er) power consumption
if $x = 1$, setting $x \leftarrow 1$	\Rightarrow static only	\Rightarrow low(er) power consumption

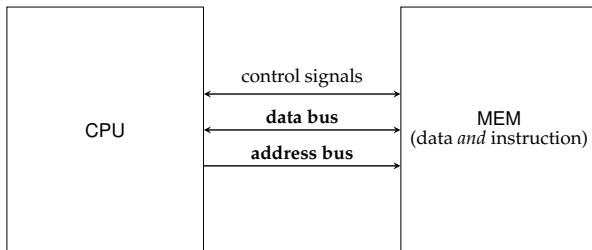
which is data-dependent, and not *necessarily* in a symmetric manner.

Part 1.2: in theory (1)

Justification: Λ = power consumption

► Why?

- From a software perspective



power consumption will stem from

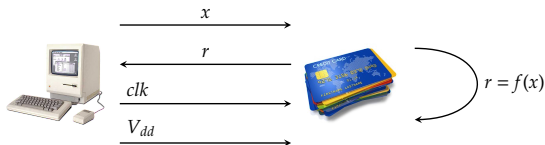
1. computation,
2. communication (i.e., use of buses), and
3. storage (e.g., registers, memory),
4. ...

all of which are data-dependent.

Part 1.2: in theory (2)

Justification: Λ = execution latency

- **Example:** consider a scenario



whereby

- we measure

Λ_x = time when x is transmitted

Λ_r = time when r is received

so that

- $\Lambda = \Lambda_r - \Lambda_x$ approximates the execution latency of f .

Part 1.2: in theory (2)

Justification: Λ = execution latency

- ▶ **Claim:** Λ may be
 - ▶ *computation*-dependent, i.e., depends on definition and implementation of f , and/or
 - ▶ *data*-dependent, i.e., depends on x .

Part 1.2: in theory (2)

Justification: Δ = execution latency

► Why? for example, in each of

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | $\left. \begin{array}{l} \dots \\ \text{if GPR}[x] = 0 \text{ then PC} \leftarrow \text{done} \\ \text{stmt} \\ \text{done} : \dots \end{array} \right\}$ | $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{a. GPR}[x] = 0 \text{ so stmt is not executed} \\ \text{b. GPR}[x] = 1 \text{ so stmt is executed} \end{array} \right\}$ |
| 2. | $\left. \begin{array}{l} \dots \\ \text{GPR}[r] \leftarrow \text{MEM}[\text{GPR}[x]] \\ \dots \end{array} \right\}$ | $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{a. MEM}[\text{GPR}[x]] \text{ is resident in cache} \\ \text{b. MEM}[\text{GPR}[x]] \text{ is not resident in cache} \end{array} \right\}$ |
| 3. | $\left. \begin{array}{l} \dots \\ \text{GPR}[r] \leftarrow \text{GPR}[x] \times \text{GPR}[y] \\ \dots \end{array} \right\}$ | $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{a. GPR}[x] \text{ has small magnitude} \\ \text{b. GPR}[x] \text{ has large magnitude} \end{array} \right\}$ |

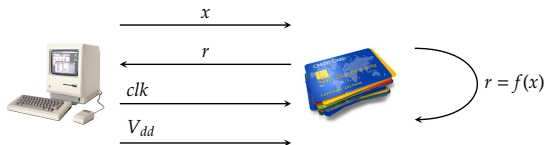
it *could* be the case that

- a. \leadsto low(er) execution latency
- b. \leadsto high(er) execution latency

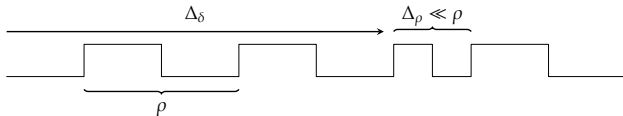
Part 1.2: in theory (3)

Justification: Δ = clock glitch

- **Example:** consider a scenario



whereby a controlled “glitch”, i.e.,



such that

- ρ is the clock period,
- Δ_ρ is the period of the glitch,
- Δ_δ is the offset of the glitch.

can be caused in the clock signal clk .

Part 1.2: in theory (3)

Justification: Δ = clock glitch

► **Claim:** given

```
...  
if GPR[x] = 0 then PC  $\leftarrow$  done  
stmt  
done : ...
```

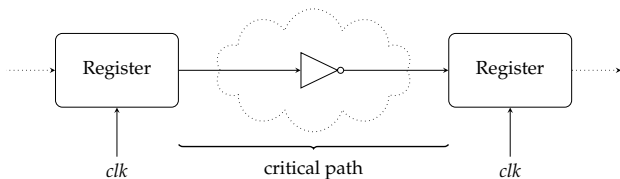
Δ might allow one to skip the branch instruction, i.e., always execute stmt.

Part 1.2: in theory (3)

Justification: Δ = clock glitch

► Why?

- recall that



where, if ρ is close to the critical path, the glitch is likely shorter,

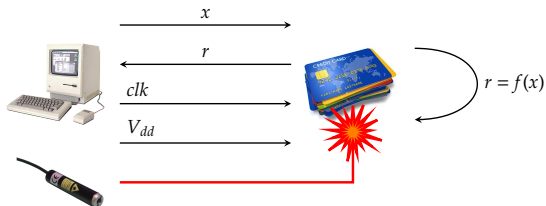
- therefore, it is plausible such a glitch can prevent complete execution of an instruction, e.g.,
 - GPR[x] = 0 is not computed in time,
 - PC is not updated in time,
 - ...

meaning that instruction is skipped.

Part 1.2: in theory (4)

Justification: Δ = laser pulse

► **Example:** consider a scenario

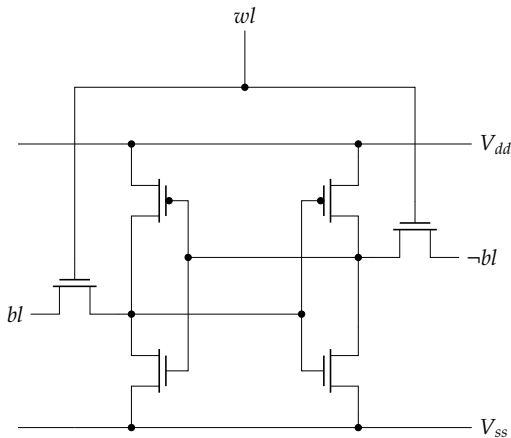


whereby a focused laser pulse can be aimed at the target device.

Part 1.2: in theory (4)

Justification: Δ = laser pulse

- **Claim:** Δ might allow one to toggle the state of



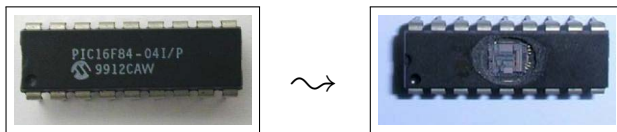
i.e., an SRAM-based memory cell (within some larger device).

Part 1.2: in theory (4)

Justification: Δ = laser pulse

► Why?

- after decapsulation



- at least the top layer of the device is exposed,
- the laser pulse can ionise regions of semi-conductor material,
- doing so can be used to activate a transistor,
- if the bottom-left transistor can be activated (for some short period), this will toggle Q .

Definition

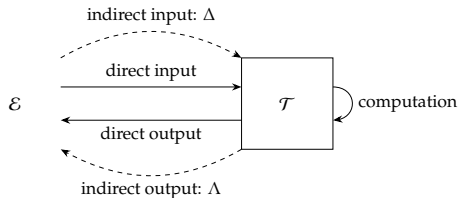
A **cryptanalytic attack** focuses on exploiting a vulnerability in the abstract, on-paper specification of a target. In contrast, an **implementation attack** focuses on exploiting a vulnerability in the concrete, in-practice implementation of a target by 1) actively influencing and/or 2) passively observing behaviour by it.

Part 1.3: in theory (1)

Formalisation: attacks

Definition

Within the following scenario



\mathcal{E} is said to

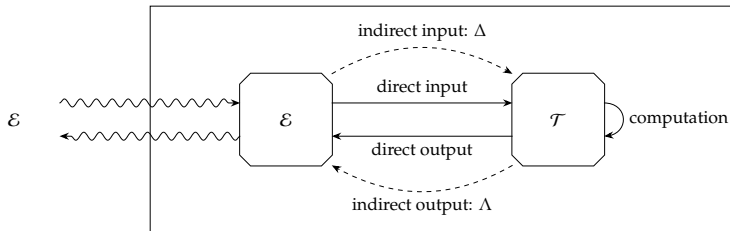
observe \mathcal{T} via Λ	\leadsto	side-channel attack
influence \mathcal{T} via Δ	\leadsto	fault induction attack

Part 1.3: in theory (1)

Formalisation: attacks

Definition

Within the following scenario



\mathcal{E} is said to

observe \mathcal{T} via Λ	\leadsto	side-channel attack
influence \mathcal{T} via Δ	\leadsto	fault induction attack

Definition

\mathcal{E} wants to realise some sort of **attack goal**, e.g.,

1. recovery of state from the target
2. manipulation of state in the target
3. manipulation of behaviour by the target

measured relative to both efficacy *and* efficiency.

Part 1.3: in theory (2)

Formalisation: attacks

Definition

\mathcal{E} employs an **attack strategy**, which might be (generically) characterised as, e.g.,

1. profiled versus non-profiled
2. adaptive versus non-adaptive
3. differential versus non-differential

which also captures features of standard cryptanalysis, including known plaintext, chosen plaintext, etc.

Definition

\mathcal{E} operates an **attack process**: *typically* this involves

- | | | | | |
|----|------------|------------------------|---|--|
| 1. | an offline | pre-interaction phase | : | characterise, calibrate, pre-compute, etc. |
| 2. | an online | interaction phase | : | use input to acquire output |
| 3. | an offline | post-interaction phase | : | use input and output to realise goal |

Definition

\mathcal{E} employs an **attack mechanism**, which can be (generically) characterised as, e.g.,

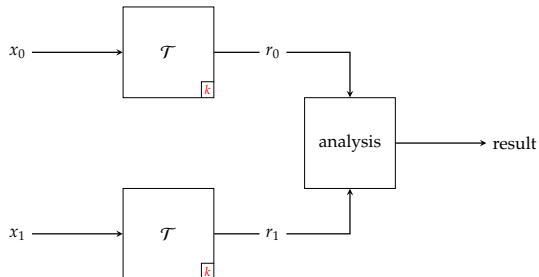
1. software versus hardware
2. generic versus specific
3. local versus remote
4. contact-based versus contact-less
5. invasive versus non-invasive
6. destructive versus non-destructive
7. synchronous versus non-synchronous
8. deterministic versus non-deterministic

Part 1.3: in theory (3)

Formalisation: attacks

► Note that:

- a differential cryptanalytic attack [5]

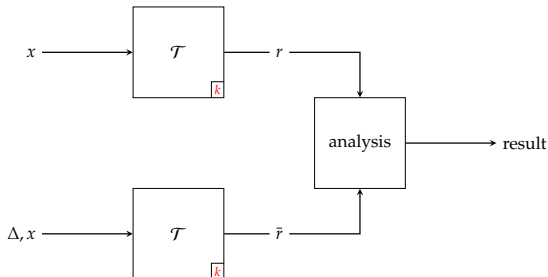


(roughly) analyses how an input difference affects the output difference.

Part 1.3: in theory (3)

Formalisation: attacks

- Note that:
 - a differential fault induction attack



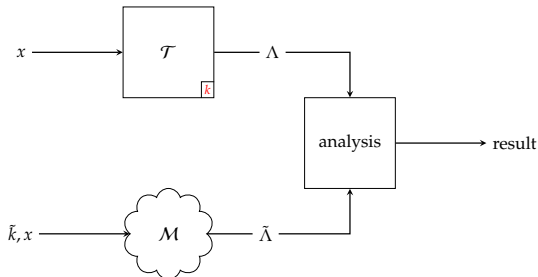
(typically) analyses how a fault affects the output difference.

Part 1.3: in theory (3)

Formalisation: attacks

► Note that:

- a differential side-channel attack



is (typically) such that

- \mathcal{M} is a **model** (or simulation) of \mathcal{T} ,
- \tilde{k} is a **hypothesis** about (part of) k ,
- $\tilde{\Lambda}$ is the **hypothetical leakage** (cf. the *actual* leakage Λ),

and so

non-differential	\Rightarrow	1 interaction	\simeq	analysis within	single Λ
differential	\Rightarrow	n interactions	\simeq	analysis between	many Λ

Part 1.3: in theory (4)

Formalisation: attacks

Definition

The information leaked via some side-channel is modelled as $\mathcal{M}(\cdot) = \mathcal{M}_d(\cdot) + \mathcal{M}_n$, i.e., as the sum of 1) data-dependent **signal** (of interest) and 2) **noise** components.

Definition

Let V denote a set of values some (intermediate) variable can take, and L denote a set of leakage values.

- ▶ A **value**-based leakage model is such that $\mathcal{M}_d : V \rightarrow L$, meaning the leakage value depends on the current value of some variable.
- ▶ A **transition**-based leakage model is such that $\mathcal{M}_d : V \times V \rightarrow L$, meaning the leakage value depends on the previous and current value of some variable (i.e., the transition from the former to the latter).

Part 1.3: in theory (4)

Formalisation: attacks

Definition

The information leaked via some side-channel is modelled as $\mathcal{M}(\cdot) = \mathcal{M}_d(\cdot) + \mathcal{M}_n$, i.e., as the sum of 1) data-dependent **signal** (of interest) and 2) **noise** components.

Definition

Let V denote a set of values some (intermediate) variable can take, and L denote a set of leakage values.

- ▶ A **value**-based leakage model is such that $\mathcal{M}_d : V \rightarrow L$, meaning the leakage value depends on the current value of some variable.
- ▶ A **transition**-based leakage model is such that $\mathcal{M}_d : V \times V \rightarrow L$, meaning the leakage value depends on the previous and current value of some variable (i.e., the transition from the former to the latter).

▶ Example:

1. Hamming weight \Rightarrow value-based leakage model
2. Hamming distance \Rightarrow transition-based leakage model

Definition

A **fault model** is an abstraction of the fault induction mechanism, i.e., it separates fault *induction* from fault *exploitation*. it captures features such as

- | | | | |
|----|-------------|---|---|
| 1. | timing | ⇒ | precise control, imprecise control, no control |
| 2. | location | ⇒ | precise control, imprecise control, no control |
| 3. | duration | ⇒ | transient, permanent, destructive |
| 4. | plurality | ⇒ | single fault; multiple, i.e., n faults |
| 5. | granularity | ⇒ | 1 bit, n bits, variable |
| 6. | effect | ⇒ | set-to-0/1, stuck-at-0/1, flip, randomise, variable |
| 7. | implication | ⇒ | input data, computation on data, storage of data, execution of instructions |

Definition

\mathcal{T} might employ a **countermeasure strategy**, which can be (generically) characterised as, e.g.,

1. implicit versus explicit
2. detection versus prevention

and typically forms a layered approach, i.e., a suite of countermeasures versus a single “silver-bullet” or panacea.

Part 1.3: in theory (6)

Formalisation: countermeasures

Definition

\mathcal{T} might design an *abstract* **countermeasure mechanism**, within (at least) the following *levels*

1. **protocol**,
2. **specification**,
3. **implementation**, i.e.,
 - ▶ software, and/or
 - ▶ hardware.

Definition

\mathcal{T} might implement a *concrete* **countermeasure mechanism**, which can be (generically) characterised as, e.g.,

1. software versus hardware
2. generic versus specific
3. selective versus non-selective
4. proactive versus reactive

Definition

Countermeasures against implementation attacks based on information leakage often fall into the following *classes*:

1. **hiding** \approx decrease SNR, or
2. **masking** \approx randomised redundant representation.

Definition

Among a large design space of countermeasures, instances that focus on hiding (typically) fall into the following sub-classes:

1. increase noise, e.g., make Λ random:
 - a. **spatial displacement**, i.e., *where* the operation is computed,
 - b. **temporal displacement**, i.e., *when* the operation is computed, which can be further divided into
 - ▶ padding (or skewing), and
 - ▶ reordering (or shuffling),
 - c. **diversified computation**, i.e., *how* the operation is computed,
 - d. **obfuscated computation**, e.g., *whether* the operation computed is real or fake (or a dummy).
2. decrease signal, e.g., make Λ constant:
 - a. **data-oblivious** (or “**constant-time**”) computation of the operation.

Definition

Among a large design space of countermeasures, instances that focus on masking (typically) fall into the following sub-classes:

1. Boolean masking (or additive masking):

$$x \mapsto \hat{x} = \langle \hat{x}[0], \hat{x}[1], \dots, \hat{x}[d] \rangle$$

such that

$$x = \hat{x}[0] \oplus \hat{x}[1] \oplus \dots \oplus \hat{x}[d],$$

and

2. arithmetic masking (or multiplicative masking):

$$x \mapsto \hat{x} = \langle \hat{x}[0], \hat{x}[1], \dots, \hat{x}[d] \rangle$$

such that

$$x = \hat{x}[0] + \hat{x}[1] + \dots + \hat{x}[d] \pmod{2^w}.$$

Definition

Countermeasures against implementation attacks based on fault induction often fall into the following *classes*:

1. **induction-oriented**, e.g.,
 - ▶ shielding,
 - ▶ sensing,
 - ▶ hiding,and
2. **exploitation-oriented**, e.g.,
 - ▶ duplication,
 - ▶ infection,
 - ▶ checksum.

Definition

Among a large design space of countermeasures, instances that focus on exploitation are (typically) parameterised by

1. **type of duplication**, e.g.,

- ▶ temporal duplication: n computations of $f(x)$ in 1 location,
- ▶ spatial duplication: 1 computation of $f(x)$ in n locations,

2. **degree of duplication**,

3. **type of check**, e.g.,

- ▶ direct check: $f(x) \stackrel{?}{=} f(x)$,
- ▶ linearity check: $f(-x) \stackrel{?}{=} -f(x)$,
- ▶ inversion check: $f^{-1}(f(x)) \stackrel{?}{=} x$,

4. **frequency of check**, and

5. **type of action**, e.g.,

- ▶ preventative action: $f(x) \neq f(x) \leadsto \perp$,
- ▶ infective action: $f(x) \neq f(x) \leadsto \$$,

and yield an outcome with an associated **detection probability**.

- ▶ **Take away points:** implementation attacks
 1. are a potent threat, forming part of a complex attack landscape,
 2. extend well beyond cryptographic targets, posing a more general (cyber-)security challenge,
 3. present significant challenges, e.g., per
 - ▶ “attacks only get better” principle,
 - ▶ “no free lunch” principle,
 - ▶ need to consider multiple layers of abstraction,such that “raising the bar” is of use if not ideal,
 4. demand care re. evaluation and/or certification (e.g., FIPS 140-3 [9]) requirements.

Additional Reading

- ▶ S. Mangard, E. Oswald, and T. Popp. *Power Analysis Attacks: Revealing the Secrets of Smart Cards*. Springer, 2007.
- ▶ P.C. Kocher et al. “Introduction to differential power analysis”. In: *Journal of Cryptographic Engineering (JCEN)* 1.1 (2011), pp. 5–27.
- ▶ M. Joye and M. Tunstall, eds. *Fault Analysis in Cryptography*. Information Security and Cryptography. Springer, 2012.
- ▶ H. Bar-El et al. “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice Guide to Fault Attacks”. In: *Proceedings of the IEEE* 94.2 (2006), pp. 370–382.
- ▶ A. Barengi et al. “Fault Injection Attacks on Cryptographic Devices: Theory, Practice, and Countermeasures”. In: *Proceedings of the IEEE* 100.11 (2012), pp. 3056–3076.
- ▶ D. Karaklajić, J.-M. Schmidt, and I. Verbauwhede. “Hardware Designer’s Guide to Fault Attacks”. In: *IEEE Transactions on Very Large Scale Integration (VLSI) Systems* 21.12 (2013), pp. 2295–2306.
- ▶ B. Yuce, P. Schaumont, and M. Witteman. “Fault Attacks on Secure Embedded Software: Threats, Design, and Evaluation”. In: *Journal of Hardware and Systems Security* 2.2 (2018), pp. 111–130.

References

- [1] M. Joye and M. Tunstall, eds. *Fault Analysis in Cryptography*. Information Security and Cryptography. Springer, 2012 (see p. 86).
- [2] S. Mangard, E. Oswald, and T. Popp. *Power Analysis Attacks: Revealing the Secrets of Smart Cards*. Springer, 2007 (see p. 86).
- [3] H. Bar-El et al. “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice Guide to Fault Attacks”. In: *Proceedings of the IEEE* 94.2 (2006), pp. 370–382 (see p. 86).
- [4] A. Barenghi et al. “Fault Injection Attacks on Cryptographic Devices: Theory, Practice, and Countermeasures”. In: *Proceedings of the IEEE* 100.11 (2012), pp. 3056–3076 (see p. 86).
- [5] E. Biham and A. Shamir. “Differential Cryptanalysis of DES-like Cryptosystems”. In: *Advances in Cryptology (CRYPTO)*. LNCS 537. Springer-Verlag, 1990, pp. 2–21 (see p. 72).
- [6] D. Karaklajić, J.-M. Schmidt, and I. Verbauwhede. “Hardware Designer’s Guide to Fault Attacks”. In: *IEEE Transactions on Very Large Scale Integration (VLSI) Systems* 21.12 (2013), pp. 2295–2306 (see p. 86).
- [7] P.C. Kocher et al. “Introduction to differential power analysis”. In: *Journal of Cryptographic Engineering (JCEN)* 1.1 (2011), pp. 5–27 (see p. 86).
- [8] B. Yuce, P. Schaumont, and M. Witteman. “Fault Attacks on Secure Embedded Software: Threats, Design, and Evaluation”. In: *Journal of Hardware and Systems Security* 2.2 (2018), pp. 111–130 (see p. 86).
- [9] *Security Requirements For Cryptographic Modules*. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 140-3. 2001. URL: <https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.FIPS.140-3> (see p. 85).