

Cryptography in the Wild: The Security of Cryptographic Implementations

Daniel De Almeida Braga

Ph.D. Defense - December, 14th 2022



Context and Motivations



Cryptography in the Wild...

- Cryptography has many applications
 - Confidentiality
 - Integrity
 - Authentication
 - ...

Cryptography in the Wild...

- Cryptography has many applications
 - Confidentiality
 - Integrity
 - Authentication
 - ...
- Protocols are built upon *primitives*



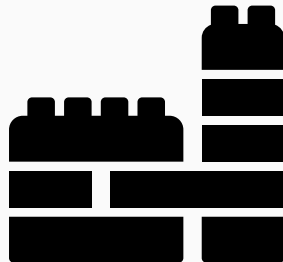
Cryptography in the Wild...

- Cryptography has many applications
 - Confidentiality
 - Integrity
 - Authentication
 - ...
- Protocols are built upon *primitives*



Cryptography in the Wild...

- Cryptography has many applications
 - Confidentiality
 - Integrity
 - Authentication
 - ...
- Protocols are built upon *primitives*



Cryptography in the Wild...

- Cryptography has many applications
 - Confidentiality
 - Integrity
 - Authentication
 - ...
- Protocols are built upon *primitives*
- They vary depending on the constraints



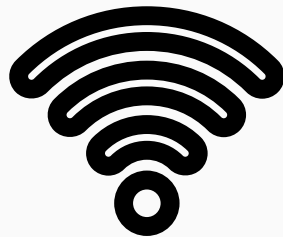
Cryptography in the Wild...

- Cryptography has many applications
 - Confidentiality
 - Integrity
 - Authentication
 - ...
- Protocols are built upon *primitives*
- They vary depending on the constraints



Cryptography in the Wild...

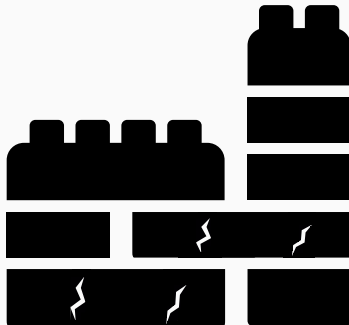
- Cryptography has many applications
 - Confidentiality
 - Integrity
 - Authentication
 - ...
- Protocols are built upon *primitives*
- They vary depending on the constraints



... What About Security?

Multiple security considerations:

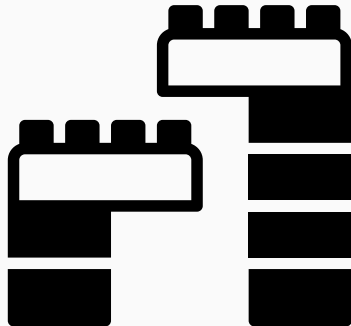
- Primitive security



... What About Security?

Multiple security considerations:

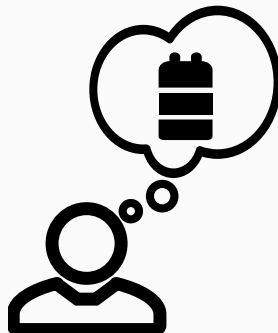
- Primitive security
- Logical security of the protocol



... What About Security?

Multiple security considerations:

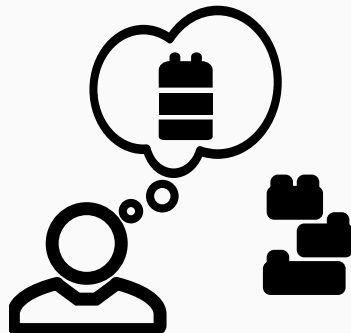
- Primitive security
- Logical security of the protocol
- Implementation security



... What About Security?

Multiple security considerations:

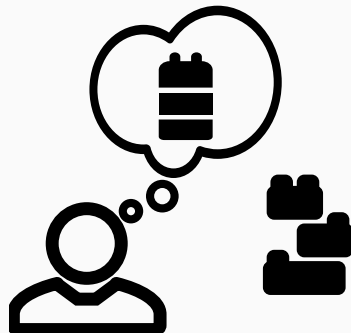
- Primitive security
- Logical security of the protocol
- Implementation security



... What About Security?

Multiple security considerations:

- Primitive security
- Logical security of the protocol
- Implementation security



Cryptographic Implementation Security

Generic bugs

- Buffer overflows
- Arithmetic errors
- Missing verification
- ...



Cryptographic Implementation Security

Generic bugs

- Buffer overflows
- Arithmetic errors
- Missing verification
- ...

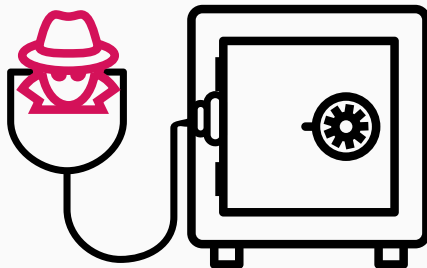
Side channel leakage

Cryptographic Implementation Security

Generic bugs

- Buffer overflows
- Arithmetic errors
- Missing verification
- ...

Side channel leakage



Secret Dependent Execution

```
def processPassword(pwd):  
    if "a" in pwd:  
        res = long_processing(pwd)  
    else:  
        res = short_processing(pwd)  
    return res
```

Gain information with overall timing:



0.5 seconds \Rightarrow no *a*



10 seconds \Rightarrow *a*

Secret Dependent Execution

```
def processPassword(pwd):  
    if "a" in pwd:  
        res = long_processing(pwd)  
    else:  
        res = short_processing(pwd)  
    return res
```

```
def processPassword2(pwd):  
    if "a" in pwd:  
        res = long_processing(pwd)  
    else:  
        res = long_processing2(pwd)  
    return res
```

Gain information with overall timing:



0.5 seconds \Rightarrow no *a*



10 seconds \Rightarrow *a*

Secret Dependent Execution

```
def processPassword(pwd):  
    if "a" in pwd:  
        res = long_processing(pwd)  
    else:  
        res = short_processing(pwd)  
    return res
```


Gain information with overall timing:



0.5 seconds \Rightarrow no *a*



10 seconds \Rightarrow *a*

```
def processPassword2(pwd):  
    if "a" in pwd:  
        res = long_processing(pwd)   
    else:  
        res = long_processing2(pwd)  
    return res
```

Gain information with execution flow:

- Execute `long_processing` \Rightarrow *a*
- Else, no *a* in `pwd`

Secret Independent Execution¹

- Control flow does not depend on secret

```
if secret:  
    [...]  
else:  
    [...]
```

¹ P. Kocher. *Timing Attacks on Implementations of Diffie-Hellman, RSA, DSS, and Other Systems*. In CRYPTO'96.

Secret Independent Execution¹

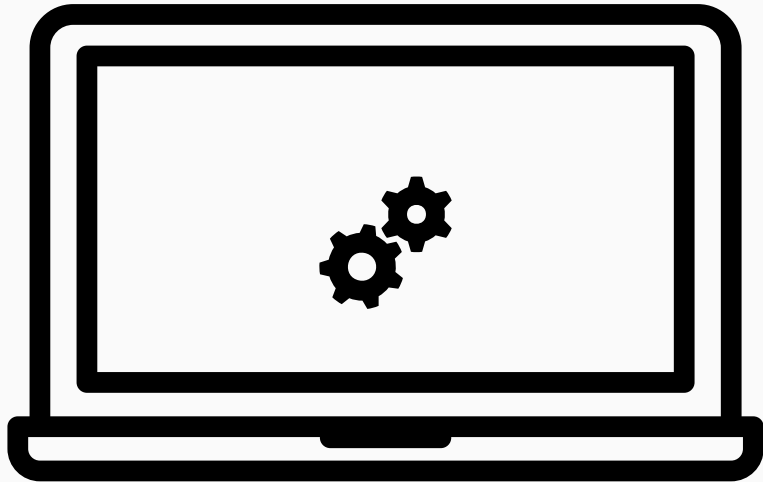
- Control flow does not depend on secret
- Memory access does not depend on secret

```
if secret:  
    [...]  
else:  
    [...]
```

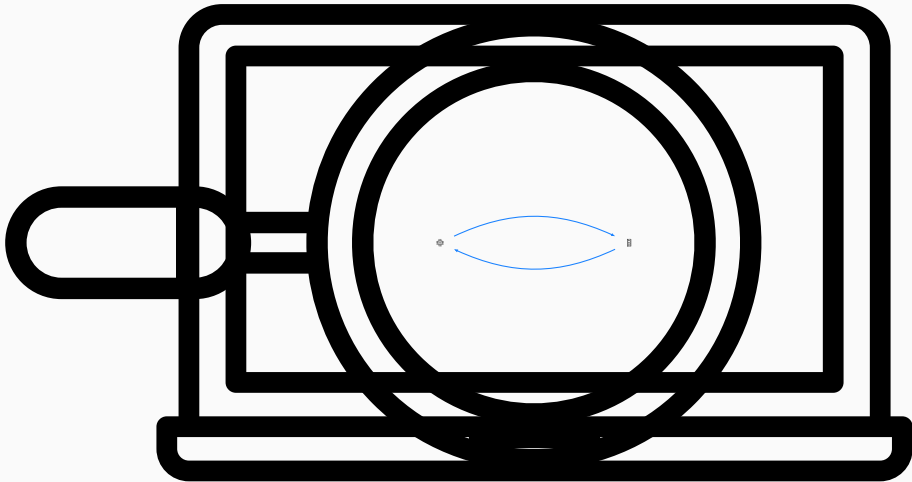
```
x = array[secret]
```

¹ P. Kocher. *Timing Attacks on Implementations of Diffie-Hellman, RSA, DSS, and Other Systems*. In CRYPTO'96.

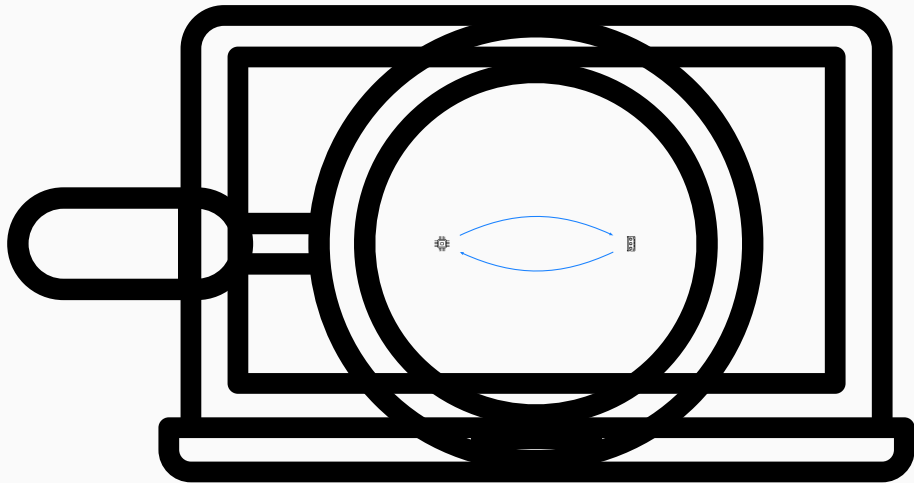
Shared Component - Memory



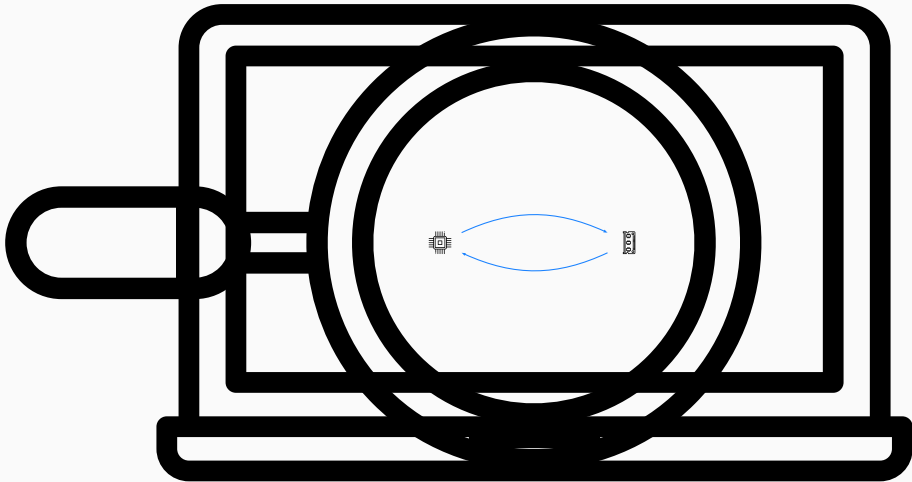
Shared Component - Memory



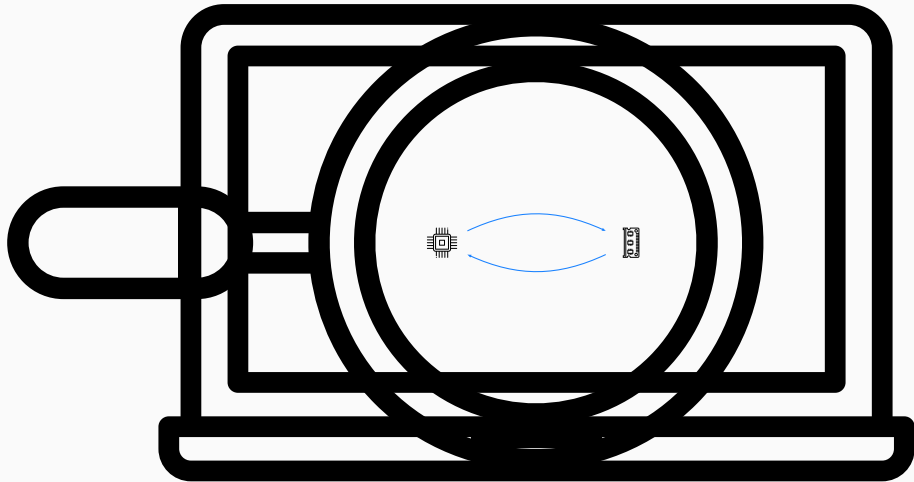
Shared Component - Memory



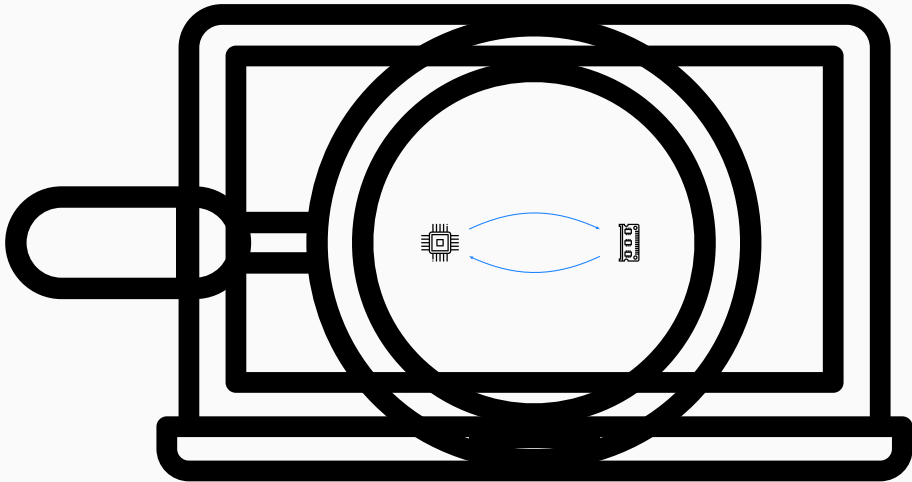
Shared Component - Memory



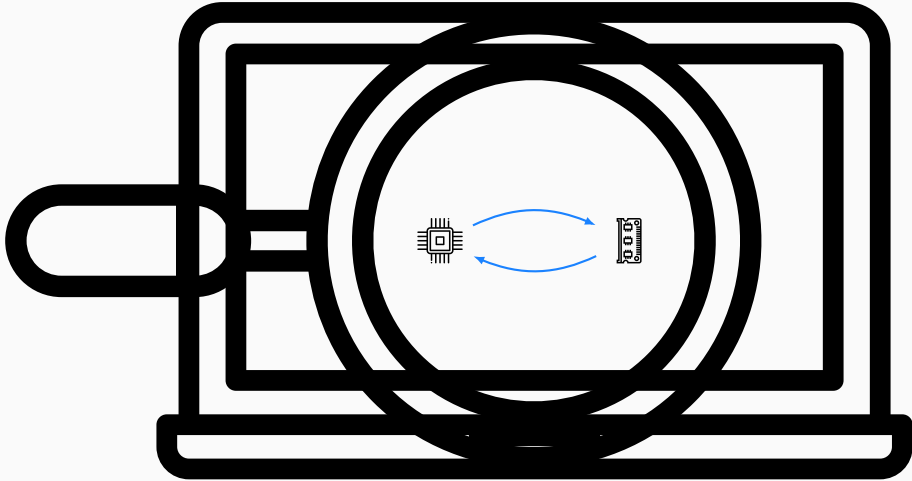
Shared Component - Memory



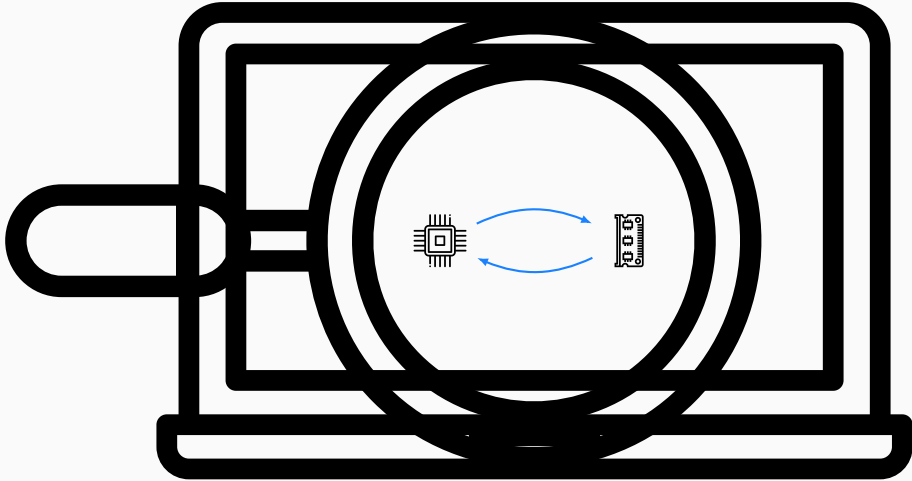
Shared Component - Memory



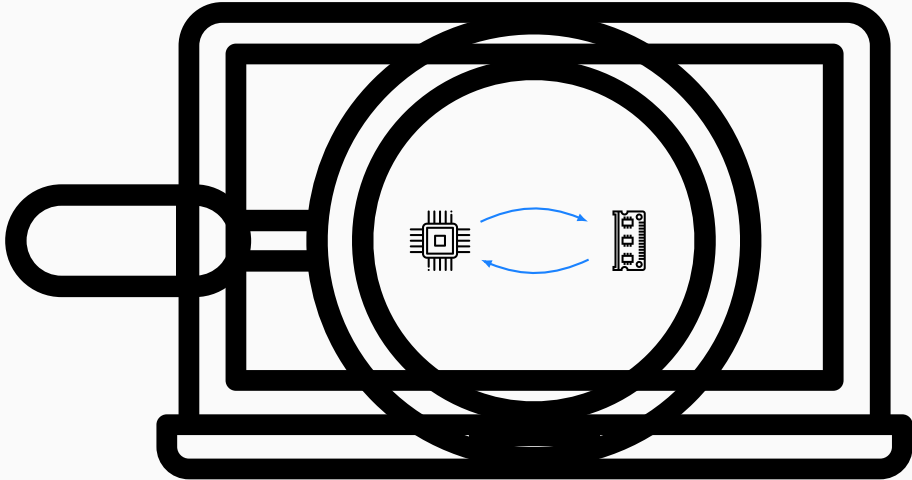
Shared Component - Memory



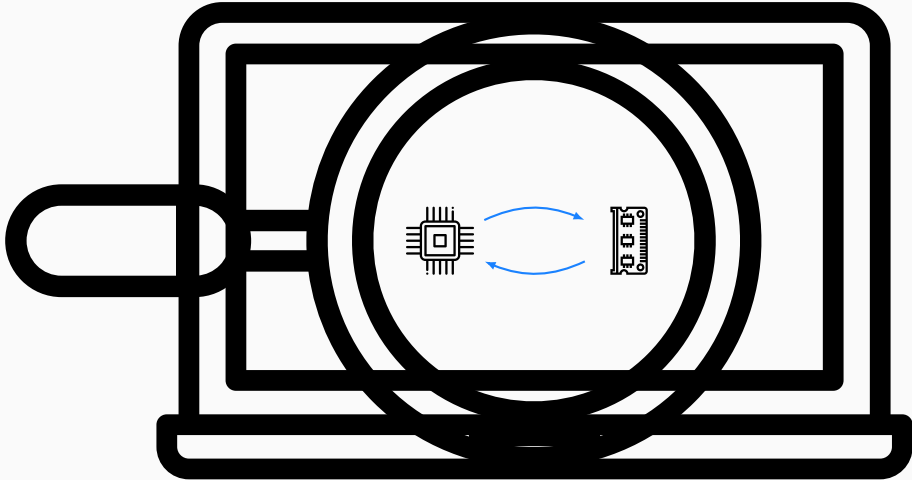
Shared Component - Memory



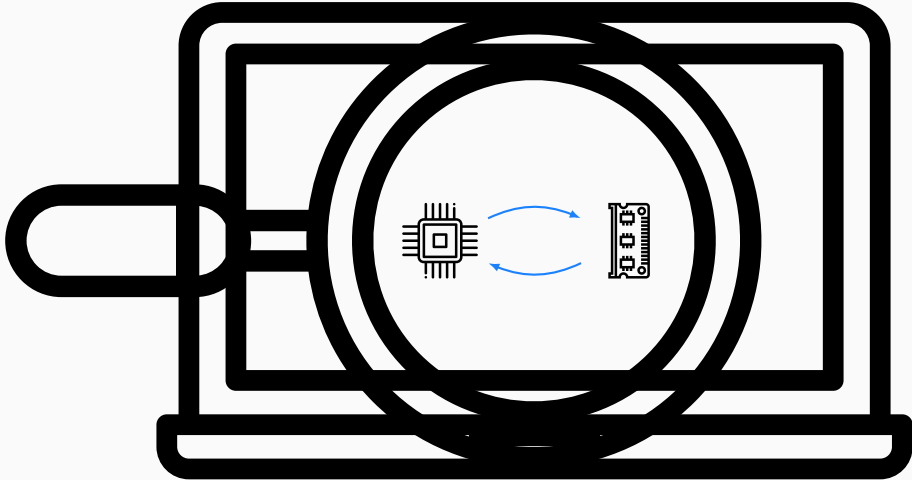
Shared Component - Memory



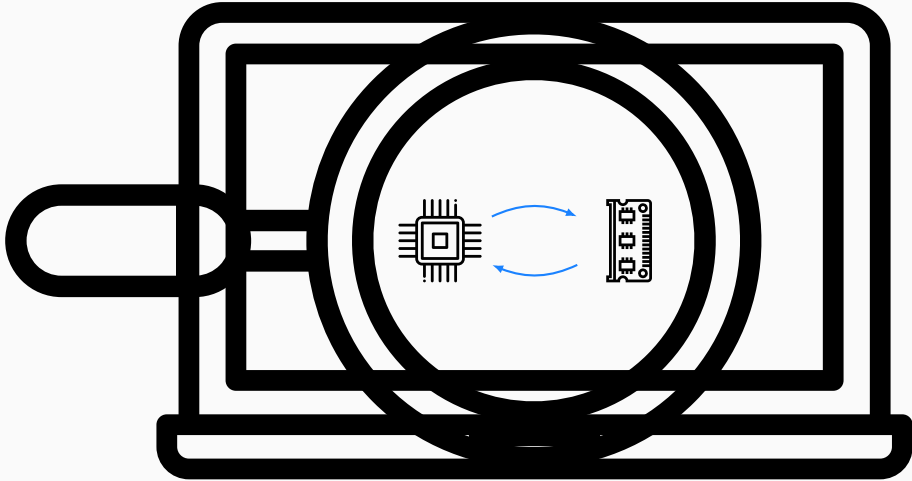
Shared Component - Memory



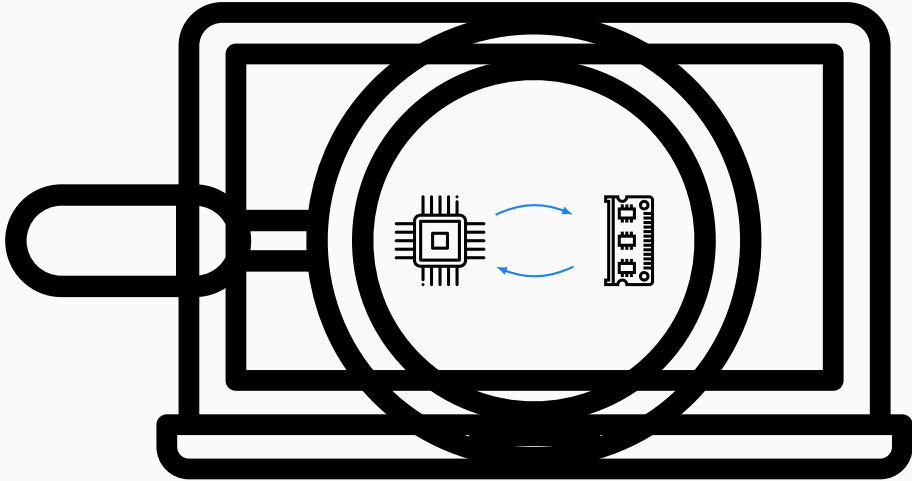
Shared Component - Memory



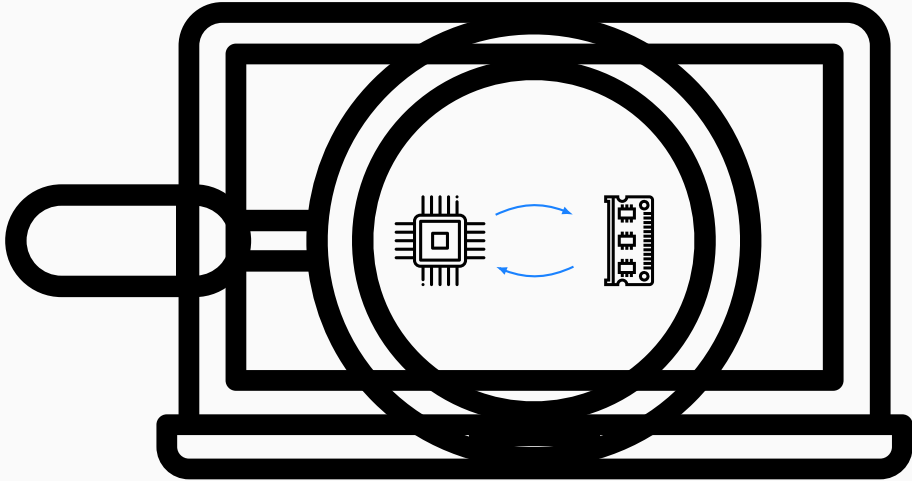
Shared Component - Memory



Shared Component - Memory



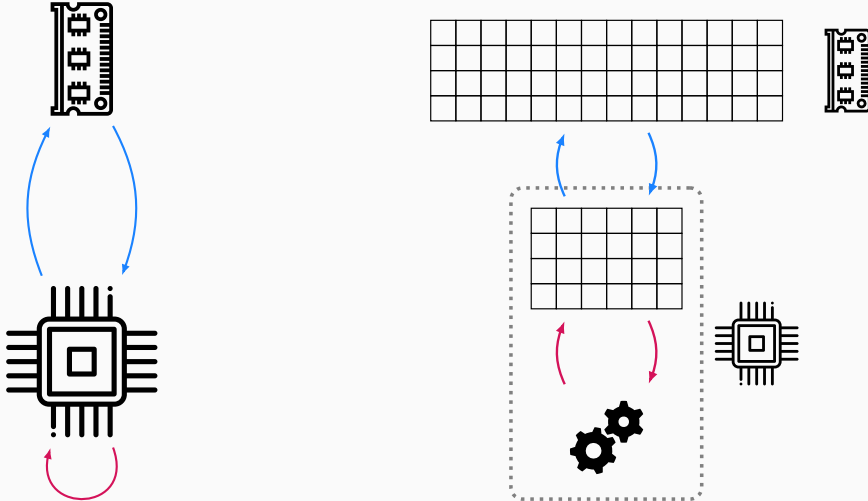
Shared Component - Memory



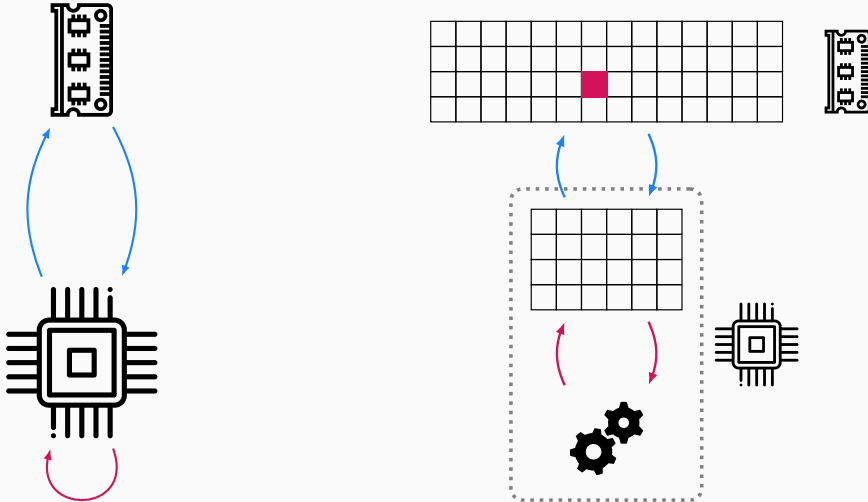
Memory Latency



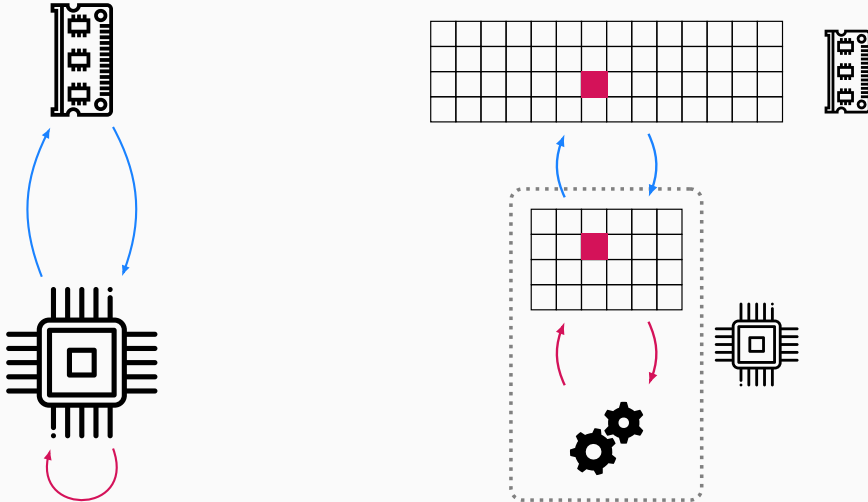
Memory Latency



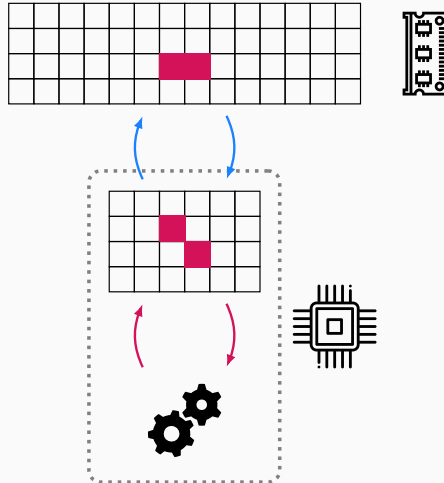
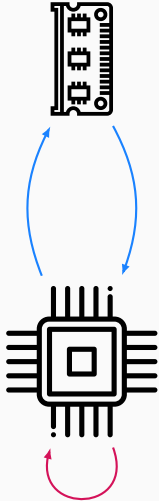
Memory Latency



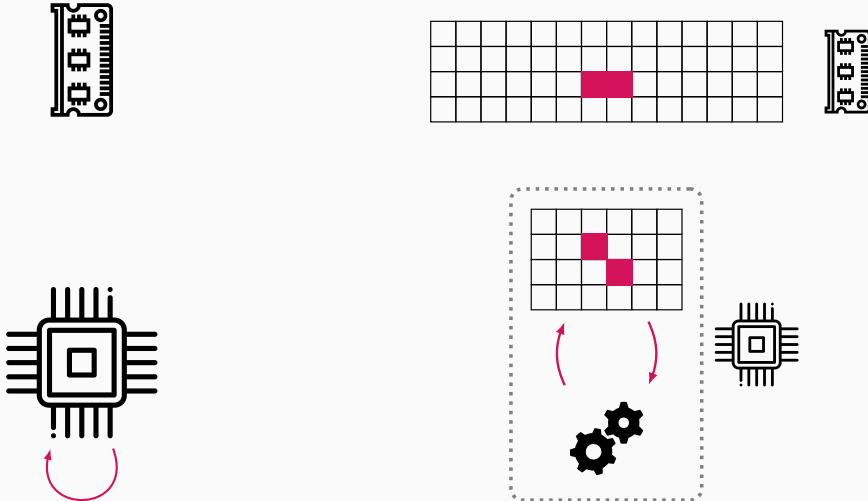
Memory Latency



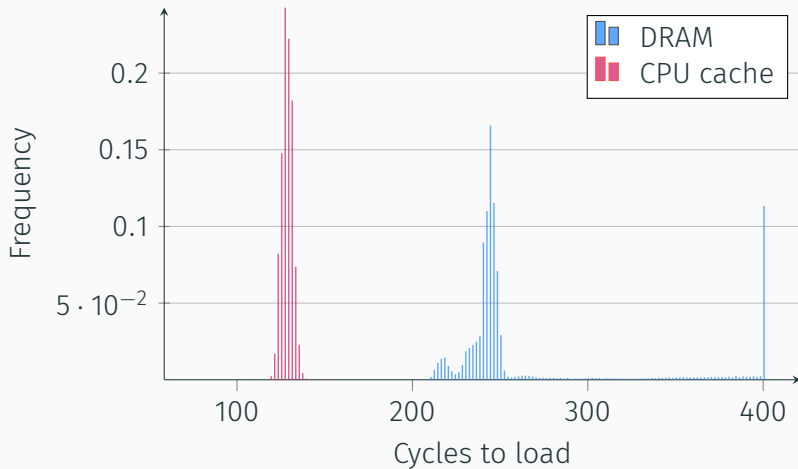
Memory Latency



Memory Latency



Memory Latency



FLUSH+RELOAD¹

Goal: spy on data/instructions access

¹ Y. Yarom and K. Falkner. *Flush+Reload: a High Resolution, Low Noise, L3 Cache Side-Channel Attack*. In USENIX Security Symposium'14.

FLUSH+RELOAD¹

Goal: spy on data/instructions access

Assumption: shared memory (e.g. spyware)



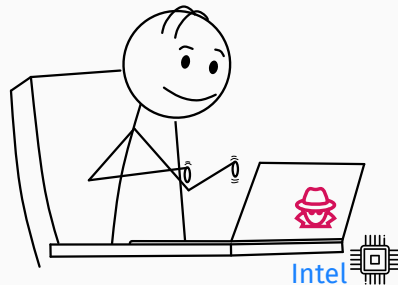
¹ Y. Yarom and K. Falkner. *Flush+Reload: a High Resolution, Low Noise, L3 Cache Side-Channel Attack*. In USENIX Security Symposium'14.

FLUSH+RELOAD¹

Goal: spy on data/instructions access

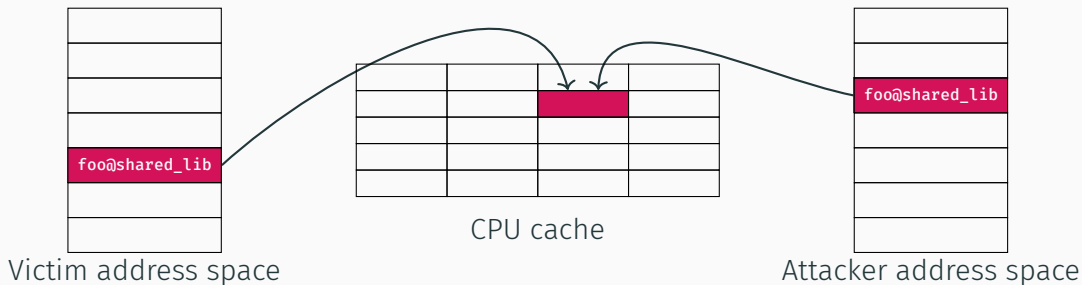
Assumption: shared memory (e.g. spyware)

Concept: Abuse cache contention



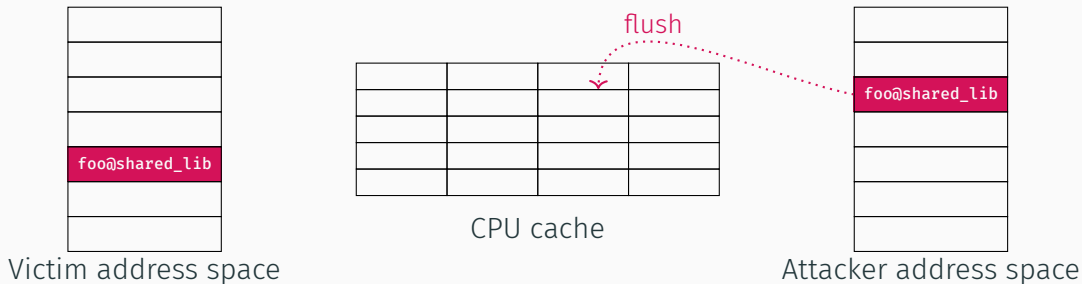
¹ Y. Yarom and K. Falkner. *Flush+Reload: a High Resolution, Low Noise, L3 Cache Side-Channel Attack*. In USENIX Security Symposium'14.

FLUSH+RELOAD



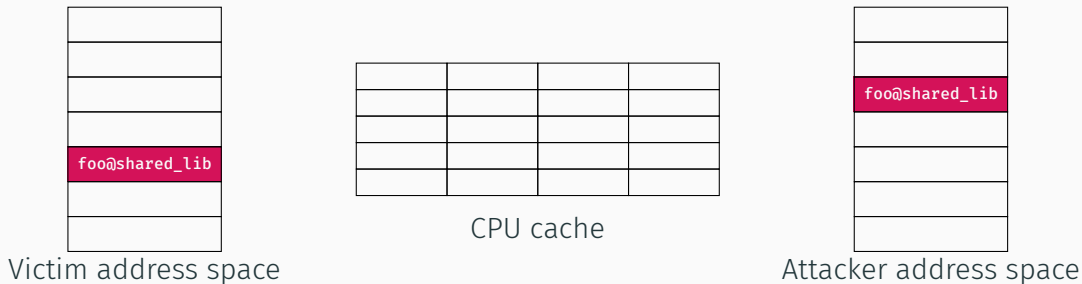
1. Maps the victim's address space

FLUSH+RELOAD



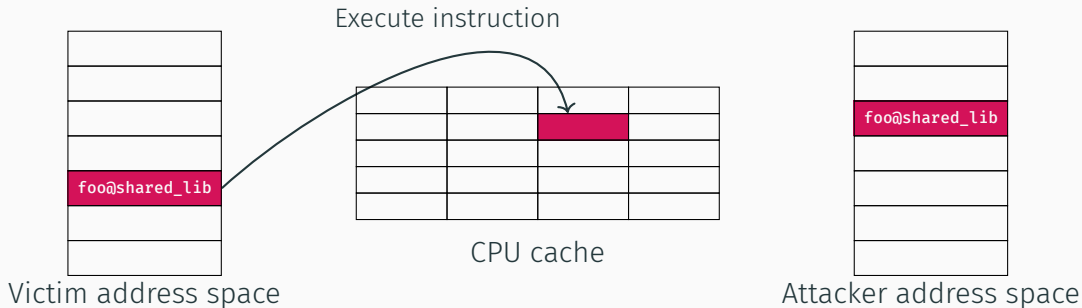
1. Maps the victim's address space
2. Flush the instruction we monitor

FLUSH+RELOAD



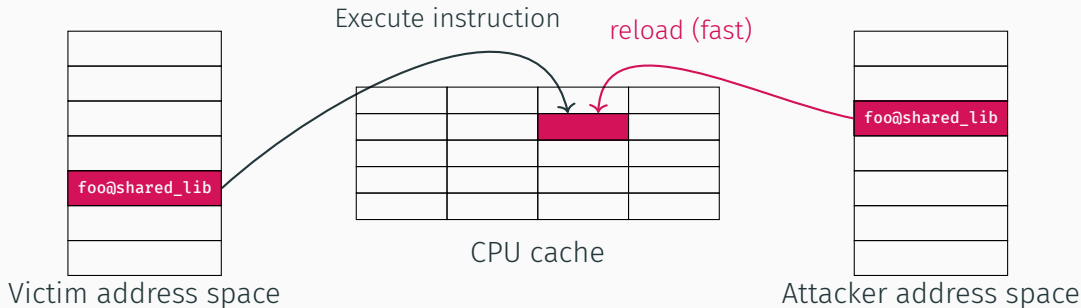
1. Maps the victim's address space
2. Flush the instruction we monitor
3. See how much time it takes to reload

FLUSH+RELOAD



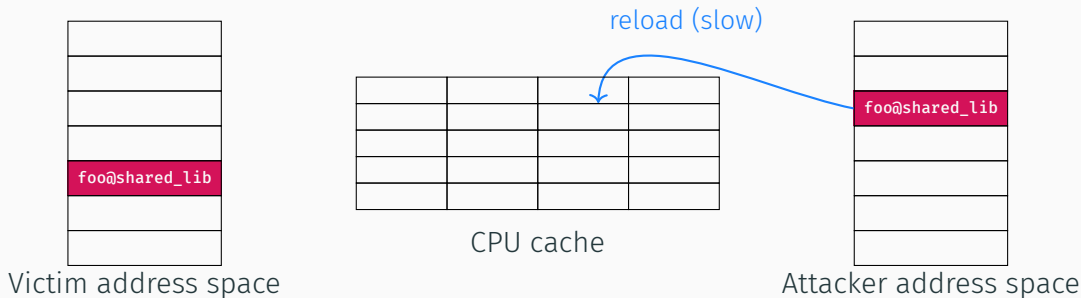
1. Maps the victim's address space
2. Flush the instruction we monitor
3. See how much time it takes to reload

FLUSH+RELOAD



1. Maps the victim's address space
2. Flush the instruction we monitor
3. See how much time it takes to reload
 - Fast \Rightarrow the victim already executed

FLUSH+RELOAD



1. Maps the victim's address space
2. Flush the instruction we monitor
3. See how much time it takes to reload
 - Fast \Rightarrow the victim already executed
 - Slow \Rightarrow the victim did not

FLUSH+RELOAD

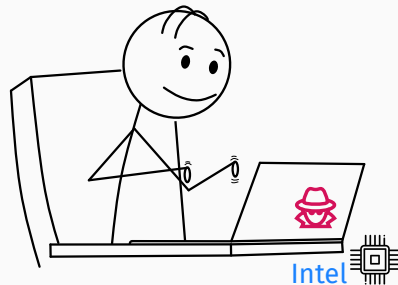
Goal: spy on data/instructions access

Assumption: shared memory (e.g. spyware)

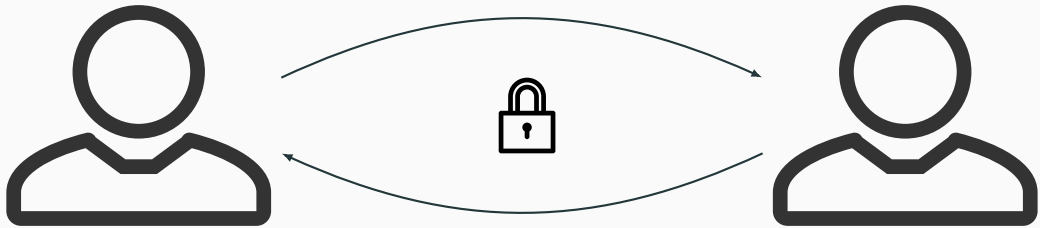
Concept: Abuse cache contention

Limitations:

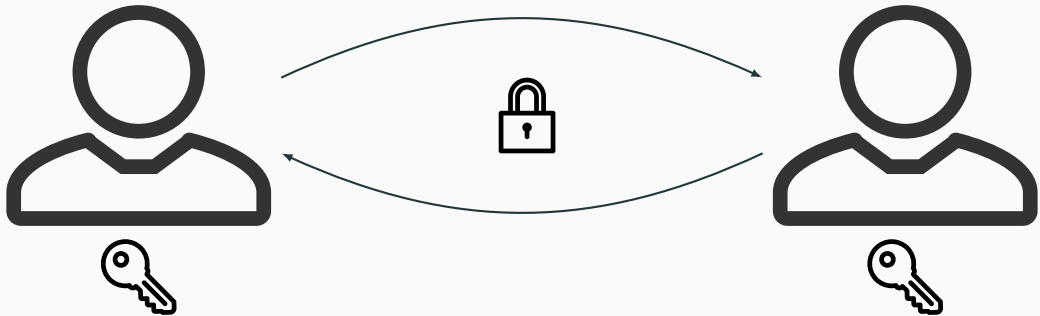
- Spatial resolution
- Temporal resolution
- Hardware optimizations



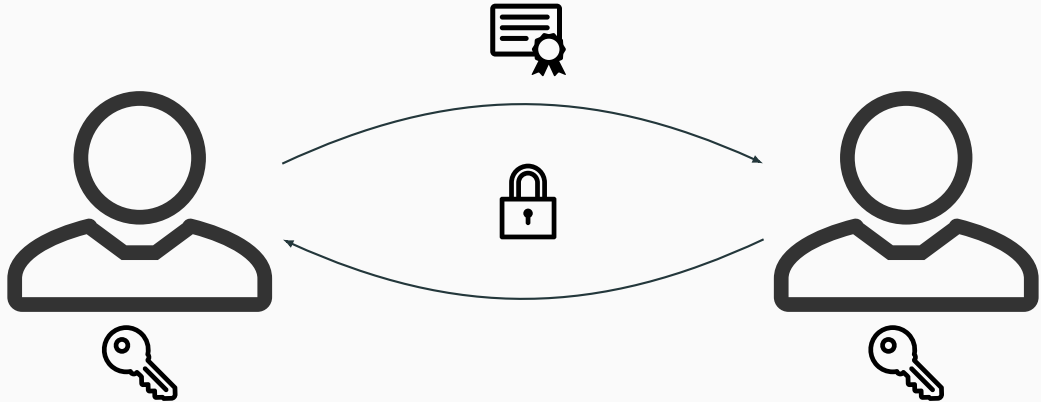
Password Authenticated Key Exchange (PAKE)



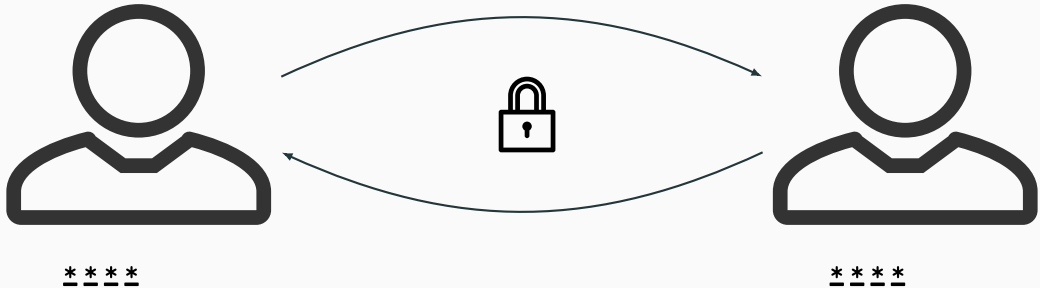
Password Authenticated Key Exchange (PAKE)



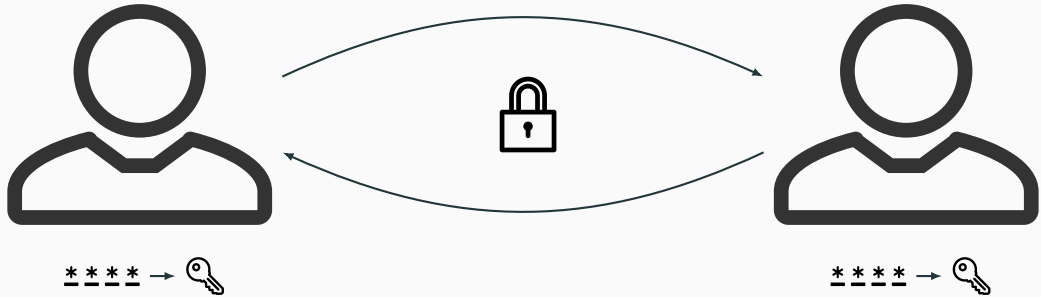
Password Authenticated Key Exchange (PAKE)



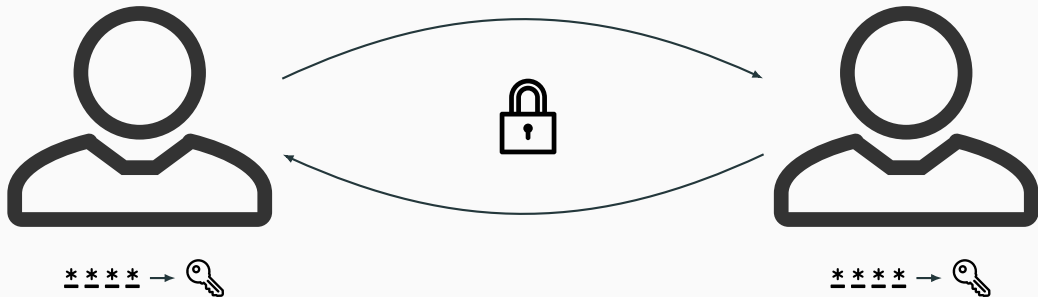
Password Authenticated Key Exchange (PAKE)



Password Authenticated Key Exchange (PAKE)



Password Authenticated Key Exchange (PAKE)



⚠ Needs to resist to (offline) dictionary attacks

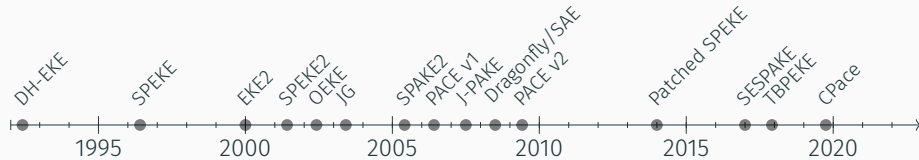
Lots of different PAKEs¹

- Balanced

¹ F. Hao and P.C van Oorschot. *SoK: Password-Authenticated Key Exchange - Theory, Practice, Standardization and Real-World Lessons*. In AsiaCCS'22.

Lots of different PAKEs¹

- Balanced



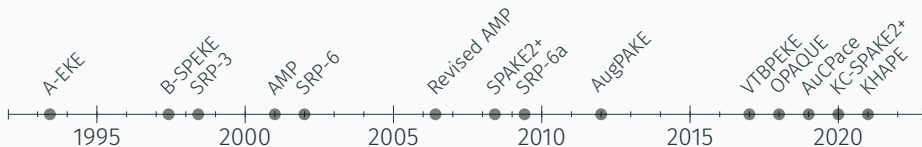
¹ F. Hao and P.C van Oorschot. *SoK: Password-Authenticated Key Exchange - Theory, Practice, Standardization and Real-World Lessons*. In AsiaCCS'22.

Lots of different PAKEs¹

- Balanced



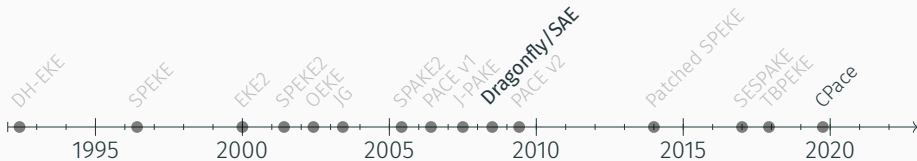
- Augmented



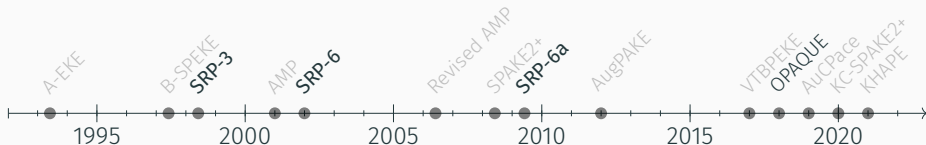
¹ F. Hao and P.C van Oorschot. *SoK: Password-Authenticated Key Exchange - Theory, Practice, Standardization and Real-World Lessons*. In AsiaCCS'22.

Lots of different PAKEs¹

- Balanced



- Augmented



¹ F. Hao and P.C van Oorschot. SoK: Password-Authenticated Key Exchange - Theory, Practice, Standardization and Real-World Lessons. In AsiaCCS'22.

My Contributions

Cryptography in the Wild: The Security of Cryptographic Implementations

- I. Assess the security of PAKEs implementations against microarchitectural side-channel attacks
- II. Investigate the remanence of side-channel, despite their long history
- III. Explore other solutions to provide secure implementations

My Contributions

Peer-reviewed:

S&P'22 User study on constant-time verification tools usage

J. Jancar, M. Fourné, D. De Almeida Braga, M. Sabt, P. Schwabe, G. Barthe, P.A. Fouque, Y. Acar

CCS'21 Password recovery attack against SRP implementation

D. De Almeida Braga, P.A. Fouque, M. Sabt

ACSAC'20 Dragonblood is Still Leaking

D. De Almeida Braga, P.A. Fouque, M. Sabt

TCHES'20 Attack on the SCP10 standard

D. De Almeida Braga, P.A. Fouque, M. Sabt

Under submission:

- Novel attack on Dragonfly, and secure implementation

D. De Almeida Braga, M. Sabt, P.A. Fouque, N. Kulatova, K. Bhargavan

Ongoing work:

- Follow-up study on constant-time tools usability
- Prefetcher-based side-channel attack

My Contributions

Peer-reviewed:

S&P'22 User study on constant-time verification tools usage

J. Jancar, M. Fourné, D. De Almeida Braga, M. Sabt, P. Schwabe, G. Barthe, P.A. Fouque, Y. Acar

CCS'21 Password recovery attack against SRP implementation

D. De Almeida Braga, P.A. Fouque, M. Sabt

ACSAC'20 Dragonblood is Still Leaking

D. De Almeida Braga, P.A. Fouque, M. Sabt

TCHES'20 Attack on the SCP10 standard

D. De Almeida Braga, P.A. Fouque, M. Sabt

Under submission:

- Novel attack on Dragonfly, and secure implementation

D. De Almeida Braga, M. Sabt, P.A. Fouque, N. Kulatova, K. Bhargavan

Ongoing work:

- Follow-up study on constant-time tools usability
- Prefetcher-based side-channel attack

Side Channels in Dragonfly/SAE (WPA3)

Toward Secure Wi-Fi Protocols...



Toward Secure Wi-Fi Protocols...



Offline dictionary
attack

Nom du réseau Wi-Fi (SSID): **Bbox -** XXXXXXXXXX
Mot de passe Wi-Fi (Clé de sécurité WPA, à saisir sans espace):
e376 10e4 3c75 a37d 8a8c 3806 98b7 bc

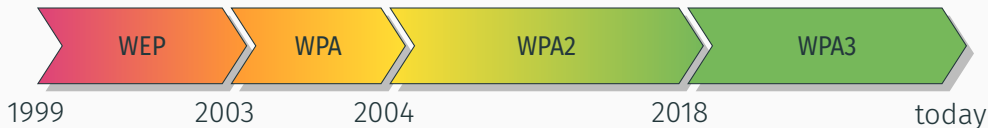
Toward Secure Wi-Fi Protocols...



*Offline dictionary
attack*

KRACK attack

Toward Secure Wi-Fi Protocols...

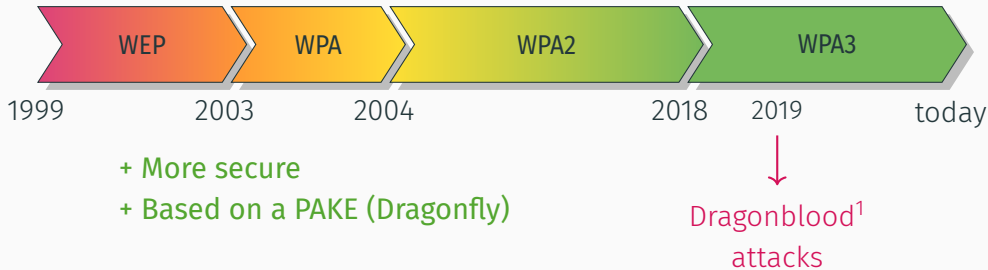


+ More secure

+ Based on a PAKE (Dragonfly¹)

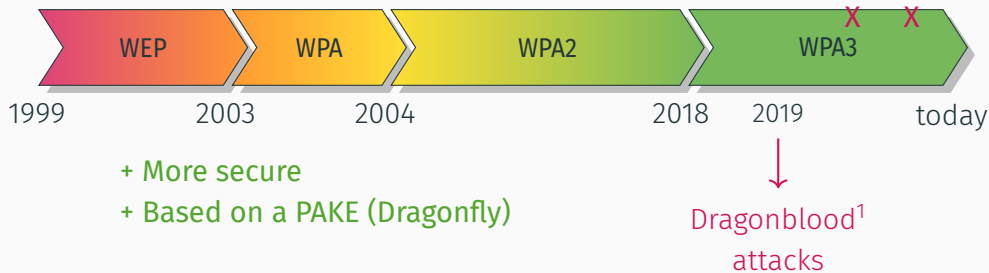
¹ D. Harkins. *Dragonfly Key Exchange*. RFC 7664. 2015

... But Still not Bulletproof



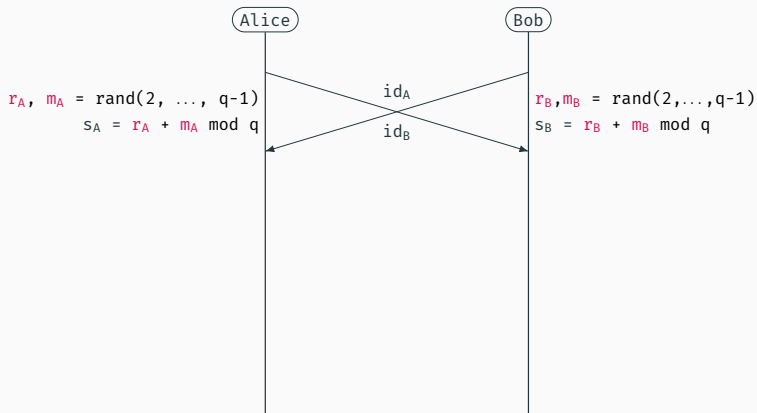
¹ M. Vanhoef and E. Ronen. *Dragonblood: Analyzing the Dragonfly Handshake of WPA3 and EAP-pwd*. In IEEE S&P'20

... But Still not Bulletproof

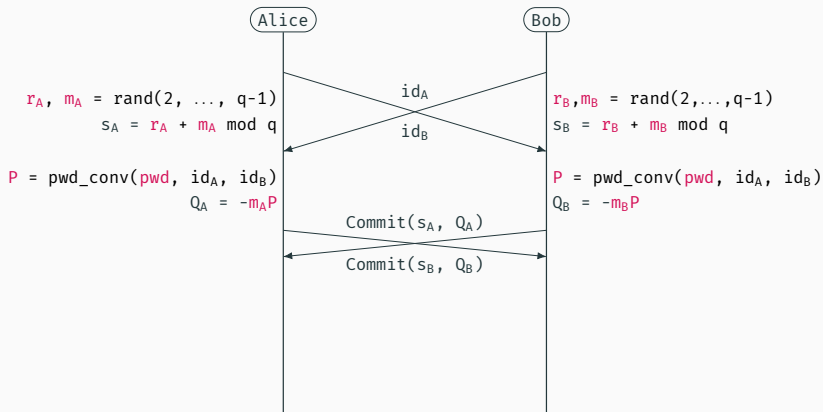


¹ M. Vanhoef and E. Ronen. *Dragonblood: Analyzing the Dragonfly Handshake of WPA3 and EAP-pwd*. In IEEE S&P'20

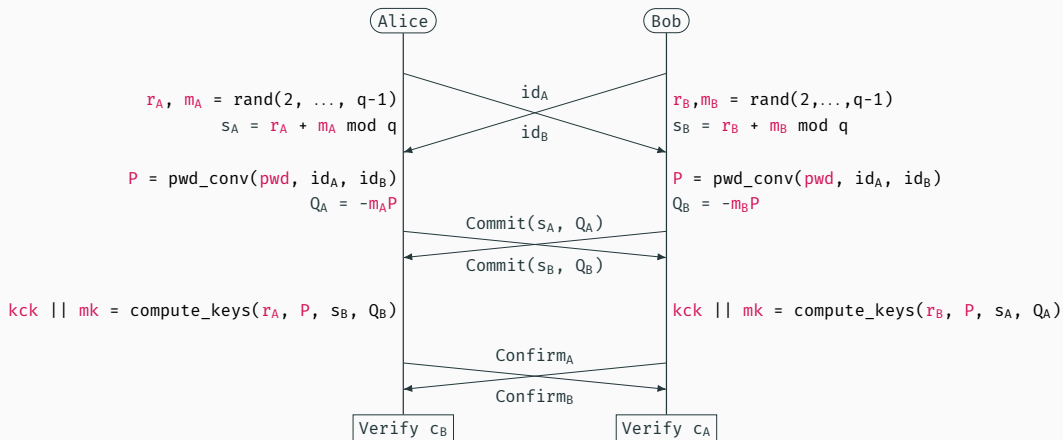
Dragonfly / SAE - A Balanced PAKE



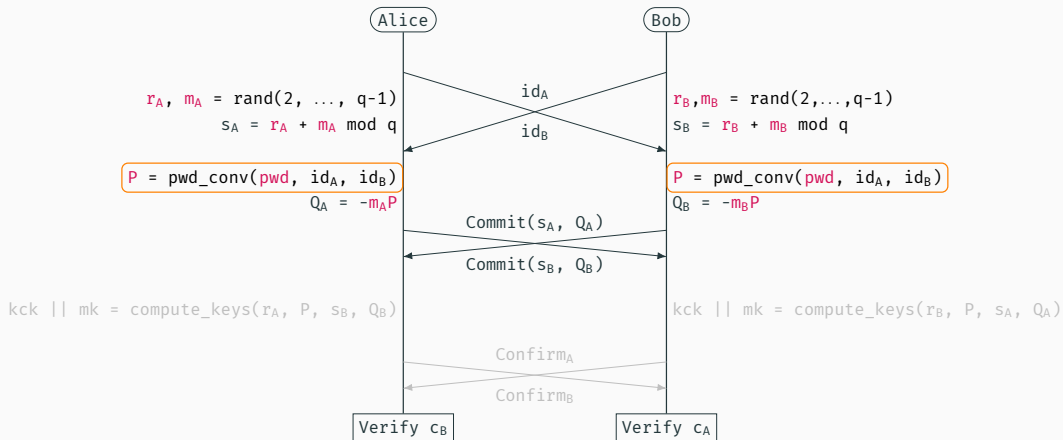
Dragonfly / SAE - A Balanced PAKE



Dragonfly / SAE - A Balanced PAKE



Dragonfly / SAE - A Balanced PAKE



Dragonblood is Still Leaking: Practical Cache-based Side-Channel in the Wild

Daniel De Almeida Braga, Mohamed Sabt and Pierre-Alain Fouque

Presented at ACSAC 2020

 2nd place at CSAW Applied Research competition 2020

First attack (ACSAC 2020)

A **cache-attack** that lets us extract
information during the **password conversion**
leading to an **offline dictionary attack**.

First attack (ACSAC 2020)

FLUSH+RELOAD¹ and PDA²

A **cache-attack** that lets us extract

information during the **password conversion**

leading to an **offline dictionary attack**.

¹ Y. Yarom and K. Falkner. *Flush+Reload: a High Resolution, Low Noise, L3 Cache Side-Channel Attack*. In USENIX Security Symposium'14.

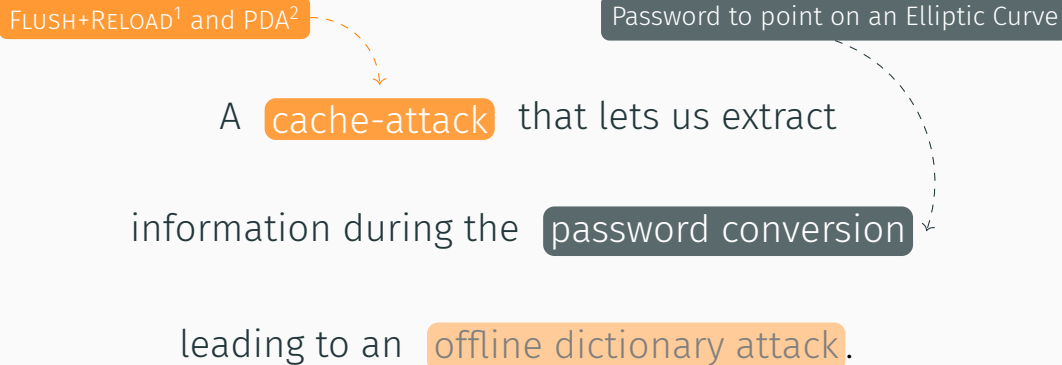
² T. Allan et al. *Amplifying side channels through performance degradation*. In ACSAC'16

First attack (ACSAC 2020)

FLUSH+RELOAD¹ and PDA²

Password to point on an Elliptic Curve

A **cache-attack** that lets us extract
information during the **password conversion**
leading to an **offline dictionary attack**.



First attack (ACSAC 2020)

FLUSH+RELOAD¹ and PDA²

Password to point on an Elliptic Curve

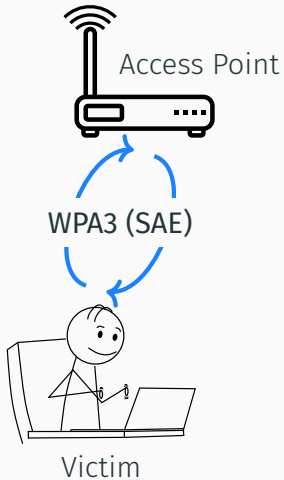
A **cache-attack** that lets us extract

information during the **password conversion**

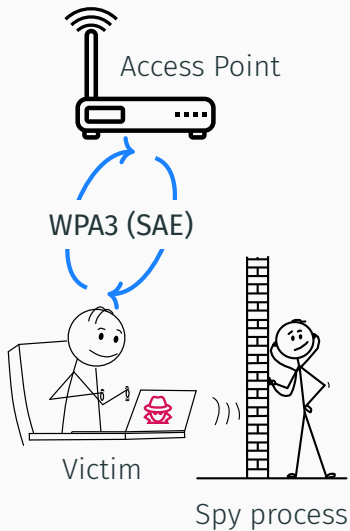
leading to an **offline dictionary attack**.

Passive attacker can eliminate
wrong passwords from a list

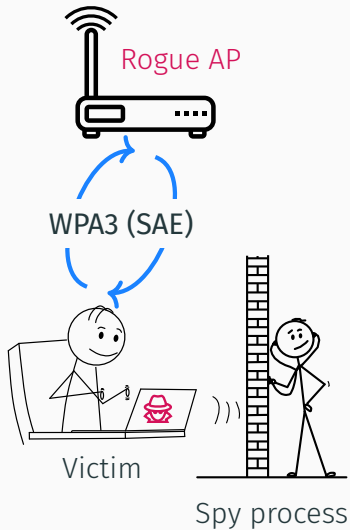
Attack Workflow



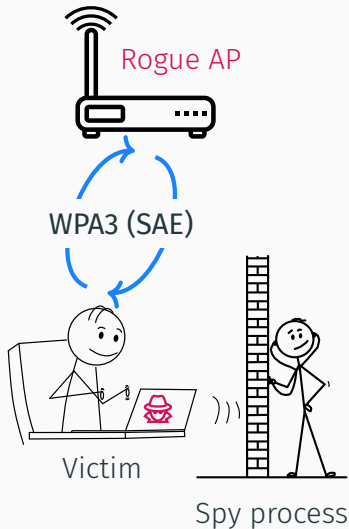
Attack Workflow



Attack Workflow



Attack Workflow

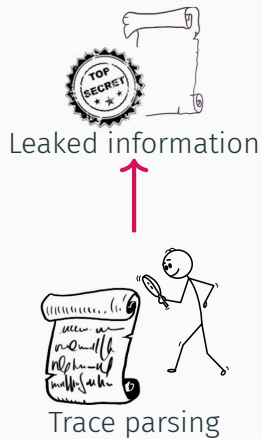


Spying/Data Acquisition

- Implementation specific
- Usually noisy measurement

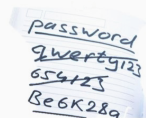
Comparison metric: Signal to Noise ratio

Attack Workflow



Attack Workflow

Offline Dictionary Attack

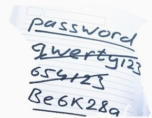


Remaining passwords

Attack Workflow

Offline Dictionary Attack

$H(\text{secret}) = 10\dots$

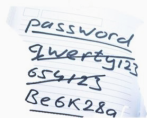


Remaining passwords

Attack Workflow

Offline Dictionary Attack

x	H(x)
secret	10..
pwd ₁	
pwd ₂	
pwd ₃	
...	
pwd _n	

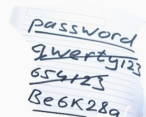


Remaining passwords

Attack Workflow

Offline Dictionary Attack

x	H(x)
secret	10..
pwd ₁	01..
pwd ₂	10..
pwd ₃	11..
...	...
pwd _n	10..



Remaining passwords

Attack Workflow

Offline Dictionary Attack

x	H(x)
secret	10..
pwd ₁	01..
pwd ₂	10..
pwd ₃	11..
...	...
pwd _n	10..

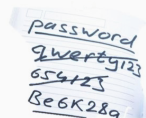


Remaining passwords

Attack Workflow

Offline Dictionary Attack

x	$H(x \text{pub}_1)$	$H(x \text{pub}_2)$
secret	10..	00..
pwd ₁	01..	X
pwd ₂	10..	00..
pwd ₃	11..	X
...
pwd _n	10..	11..

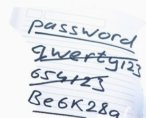


Remaining passwords

Attack Workflow

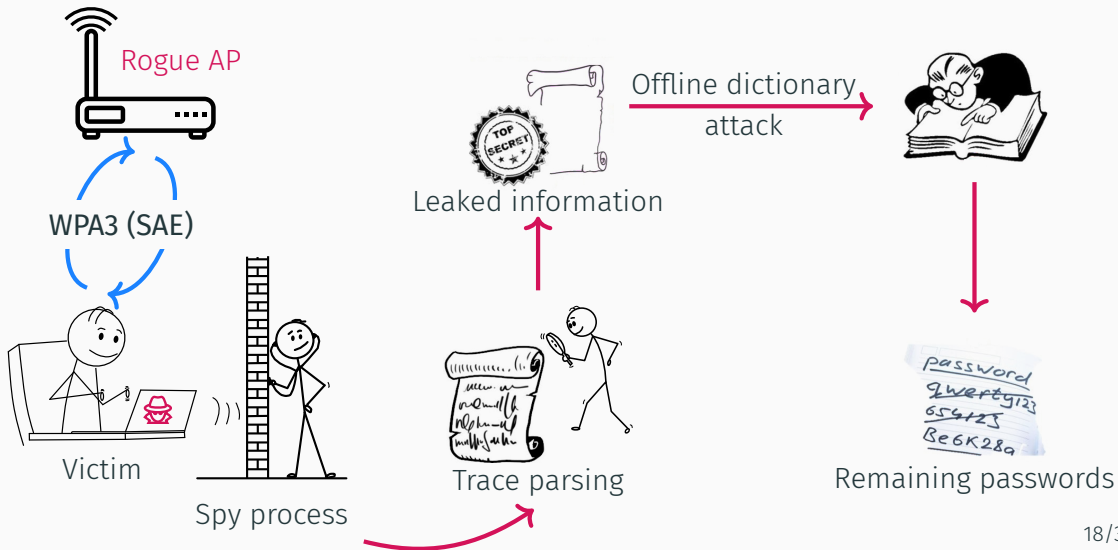
Offline Dictionary Attack

x	$H(x \text{pub}_1)$	$H(x \text{pub}_2)$
secret	10..	00..
pwd ₁	01..	X
pwd ₂	10..	00..
pwd ₃	11..	X
...
pwd _n	10..	11..



Remaining passwords

Attack Workflow



SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i= 0)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

```
    is xcand a point's coordinate?    (1/2 chance to happen)
```



SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i= 1)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

```
    is xcand a point's coordinate? (1/2 chance to happen)
```



SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i= 1) 
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

is x_{cand} a point's coordinate? (1/2 chance to happen)

 x, seed_x = x_{cand}, seed

SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i=40)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

```
    is xcand a point's coordinate?    (1/2 chance to happen)
```

```
    ↘ x, seedx = xcand, seed
```

```
    ↘ pwd = get_random()
```


SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i=40)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

```
    is xcand a point's coordinate? (1/2 chance to happen)
```



SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i=40)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

```
    is xcand a point's coordinate?    (1/2 chance to happen)
```

```
        x, seedx = xcand, seed
```

```
        pwd = get_random()
```

```
    y = set_compressed_point(x, seedx, ec)
```

```
    return (x, y)
```

SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i=40)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

```
    is xcand a point's coordinate?    (1/2 chance to happen)
```

```
        x, seedx = xcand, seed
```

```
        pwd = get_random()
```

```
    y = set_compressed_point(x, seedx, ec)
```

```
    return (x, y)
```

SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i=40)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

is x_{cand} a point's coordinate? (1/2 chance to happen)

```
    x, seedx = xcand, seed
```

```
    pwd = get_random()      ← : successful conversion
```


```
    y = set_compressed_point(x, seedx, ec)
```

```
    return (x, y)
```

SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i=40)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label) ← : new iteration
```

```
    is xcand a point's coordinate?    (1/2 chance to happen)
```

```
        x, seedx = xcand, seed
```

```
        pwd = get_random() ← : successful conversion
```

```
    y = set_compressed_point(x, seedx, ec)
```

```
    return (x, y)
```


Improves Upon Previous Attack

Data Leaked:

- Number of iterations to convert the password... for a set of public MAC addresses

Amount of Information:

- 2 bits on average

Practical evaluation:

- 10 measurements get reliable information

Improves Upon Previous Attack

Data Leaked:

- Number of iterations to convert the password... for a set of public MAC addresses

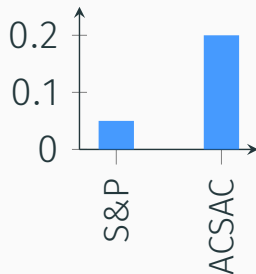
Amount of Information:

- 2 bits on average

Practical evaluation:

- 10 measurements get reliable information

Better signal to noise ratio
than the original attack



Impact and Lesson Learned



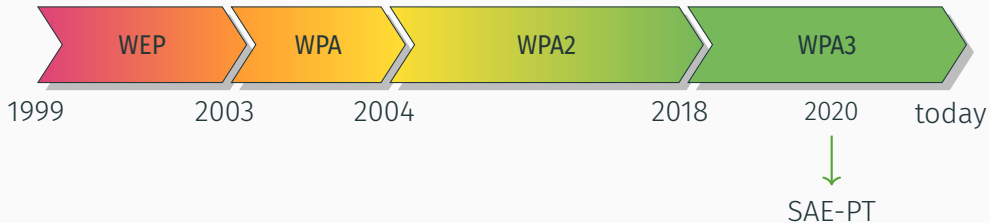
- 2 Practical attacks against iwd and FreeRadius (EAP-pwd)
 - 20 traces needed to recover a password from HavelBeenPwned
 - $\approx 0.01\text{€}$ on AWS instances
- 3 security patches deployed

Material available at <https://gitlab.inria.fr/ddealmei/poc-iwd-acsac2020>

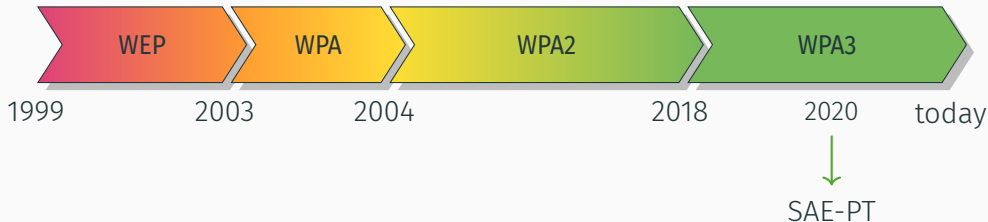
Current official recommendations do not consider microarchitectural attacks


Listen to CFRG members' warnings!

Improving the Password Conversion



Improving the Password Conversion



- Better password conversion (SSWU)
 - Deterministic
 - Straightforward constant-time implementation
-  **Not** backward compatible

Looking Under the Hood

We mostly analyzed Wi-Fi daemons...



... what about their dependencies, like crypto libraries?

A Novel Side-Channel Attack on Dragonfly Implementation and a Formally Verified Implementation

Daniel De Almeida Braga, Mohamed Sabt, Pierre-Alain Fouque,
Natalia Kulatova, Karthikeyan Bhargavan

Under submission

SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

```
    is xcand a point's coordinate?
```

```
        x, seedx = xcand, seed
```

```
        pwd = get_random()
```

```
    y = set_compressed_point(x, seedx, ec)
```

```
    return (x, y)
```


SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

is x_{cand} a point's coordinate?

```
    x, seedx = xcand, seed
```

```
    pwd = get_random()
```

```
    y = set_compressed_point(x, seedx, ec)
```

```
    return (x, y)
```

SAE - Probabilistic Password Conversion (EC)

```
def HuntingAndPecking(pwd, MACA, MACB, ec)
```

```
    seed = Hash(MACA, MACB, pwd, i)
```

```
    xcand = KDF(seed, label)
```

```
    is xcand a point's coordinate?
```

```
        x, seedx = xcand, seed
```

```
        pwd = get_random()
```

```
    y = set_compressed_point(x, seedx, ec)
```

```
    return (x, y)
```

Looking Under the Hood

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec)
```

- Branching on the compression format
- Affects SAE (legacy version)
- 1-bit leakage
- Narrow scope outside of Dragonfly

Looking Under the Hood

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec)
```

- Branching on the compression format
- Affects SAE (legacy version)
- 1-bit leakage
- Narrow scope outside of Dragonfly

```
def bin2bn(buf, buf_length)
```

- Skipping leading 0 bytes
- Affects both SAE and SAE-PT
- 8-bit leakage with proba 1/256
- Wide scope (targets utility function)

Looking Under the Hood

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec)
```

- Branching on the compression format
- Affects SAE (legacy version)
- 1-bit leakage
- Narrow scope outside of Dragonfly

```
def bin2bn(buf, buf_length)
```

- Skipping leading 0 bytes
- Affects both SAE and SAE-PT
- 8-bit leakage with proba 1/256
- Wide scope (targets utility function)

Affected projects:

- hostap/wpa_supplicant with OpenSSL/WolfSSL
- iwd with ell
- FreeRadius with OpenSSL


"Obviously" Vulnerable, yet Difficult to Exploit

- Very few conditional instructions (one cache line or less)
- Many false positives with "vanilla" Flush+Reload
- Using existing attack to create a new distinguisher

Abuse prefetching behaviors to create a new distinguisher!

Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):  
    y = compute_y(x, ec)  
  
    if y = fmt mod 2:  
        y = ec.p - y  
  
    P = init_point(x, y, ec)  
    [...]  
  
    return P
```



Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):  
    y = compute_y(x, ec)  
  
    if y = fmt mod 2:  
        y = ec.p - y  🏠 } A  
  
    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🏠 } B  
    [...]  
  
    return P
```

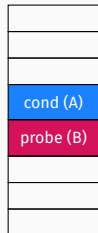

Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

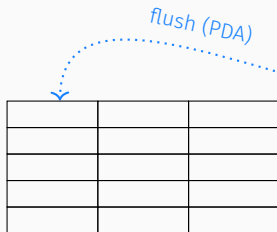
    if y = fmt mod 2:
        y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

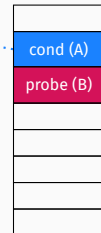
    return P
```



Victim



CPU cache



Attacker

nb hits: 0

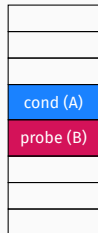
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

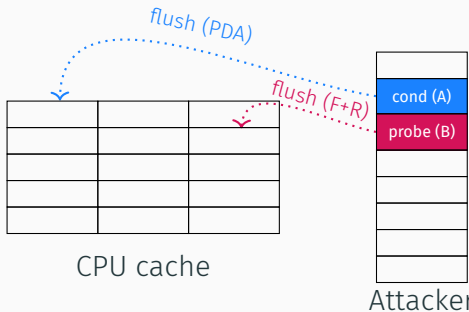
    if y = fmt mod 2:
        y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

    return P
```



Victim



CPU cache

Attacker

nb hits: 0

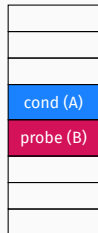
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

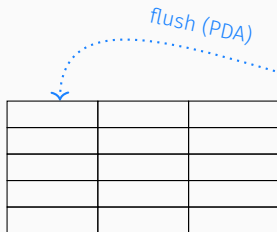
    if y = fmt mod 2:
        y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

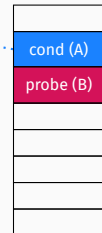
    return P
```



Victim



CPU cache



Attacker

nb hits: 0

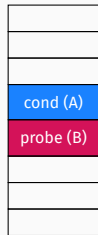
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

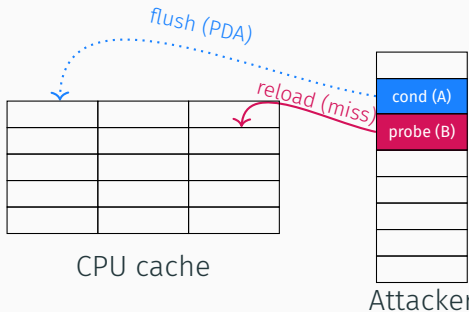
    if y = fmt mod 2:
        y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

    return P
```



Victim



CPU cache

Attacker

nb hits: 0

Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
```

```
    y = compute_y(x, ec)
```

```
    → if y = fmt mod 2:
```

```
        y = ec.p - y
```

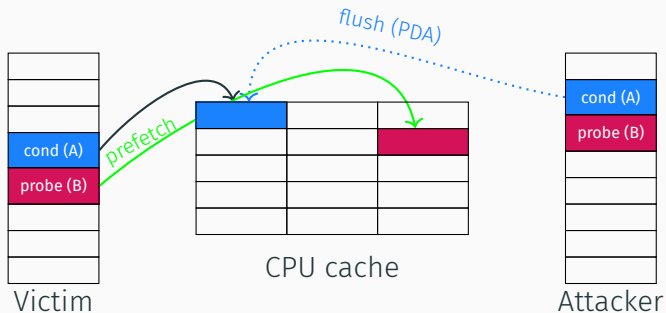
} A

```
    P = init_point(x, y, ec)
```

```
    [...]
```

} B

```
    return P
```



nb hits: 0

Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
```

```
    y = compute_y(x, ec)
```

```
    → if y = fmt mod 2:
```

```
        y = ec.p - y
```



} A

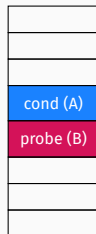
```
    P = init_point(x, y, ec)
```



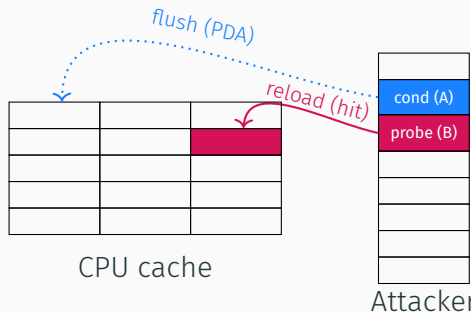
} B

```
    [...]
```

```
    return P
```



Victim



CPU cache

Attacker

nb hits: 1

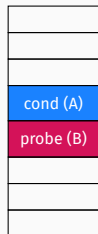
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

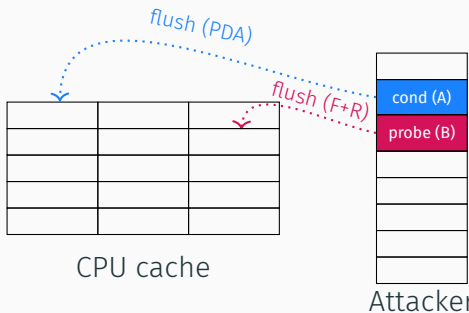
    → if y = fmt mod 2:
        y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

    return P
```



Victim



nb hits: 1

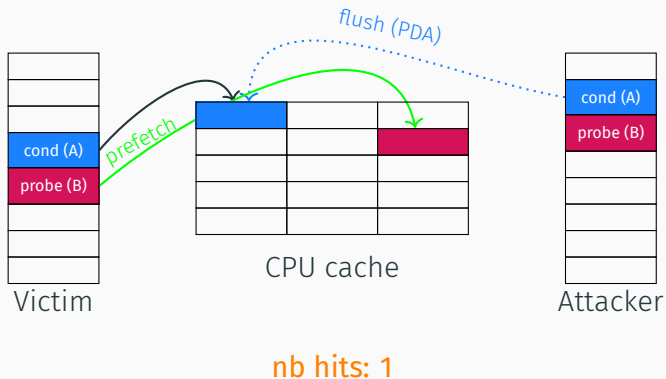
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

    if y = fmt mod 2:
        → y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

    return P
```



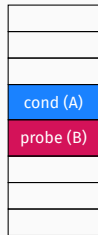
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

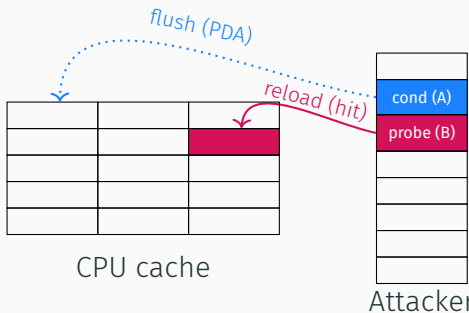
    if y = fmt mod 2:
        → y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

    return P
```



Victim



CPU cache

Attacker

nb hits: 2

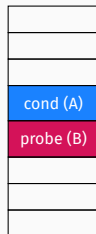
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

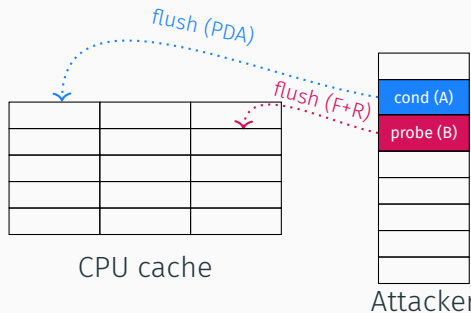
    if y = fmt mod 2:
        → y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

    return P
```



Victim



CPU cache

Attacker

nb hits: 2

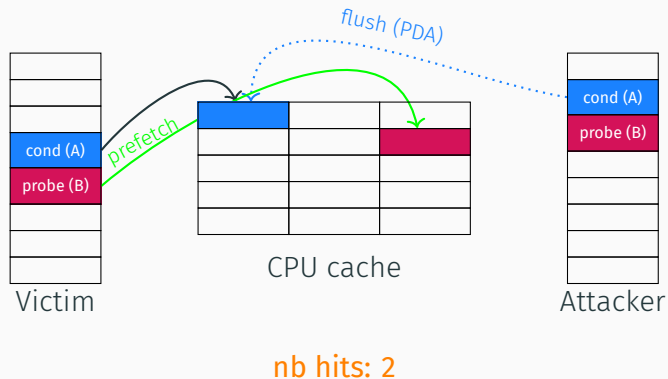
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

    if y = fmt mod 2:
        → y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

    return P
```



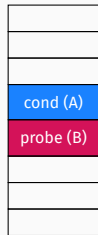
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

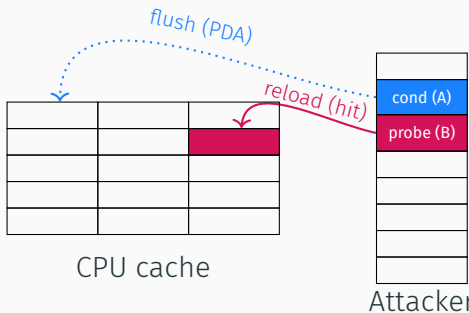
    if y = fmt mod 2:
        → y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

    return P
```



Victim



CPU cache

Attacker

nb hits: 3

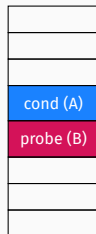
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

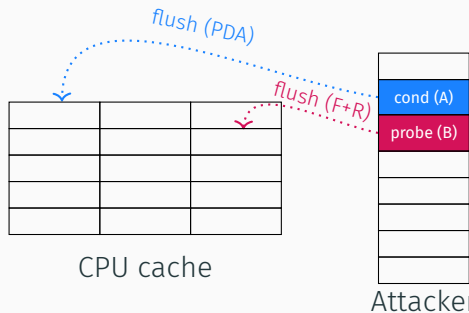
    if y = fmt mod 2:
        → y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

    return P
```



Victim



CPU cache

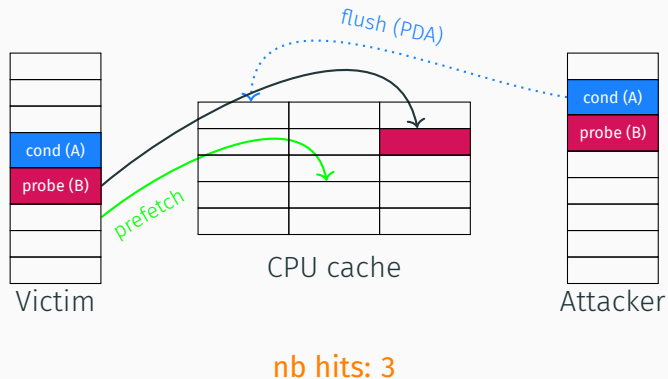
Attacker

nb hits: 3

Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

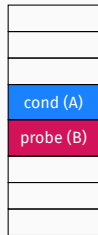
    if y = fmt mod 2:
        y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A
    → P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B
    return P
```



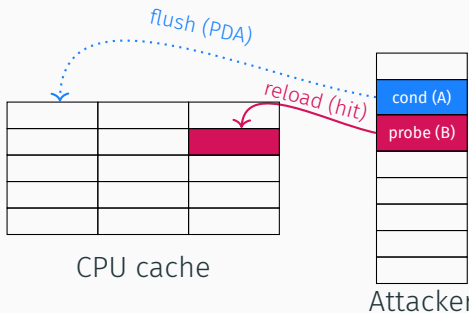
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

    if y = fmt mod 2:
        y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A
    → P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B
    return P
```



Victim



CPU cache

Attacker

nb hits: 4

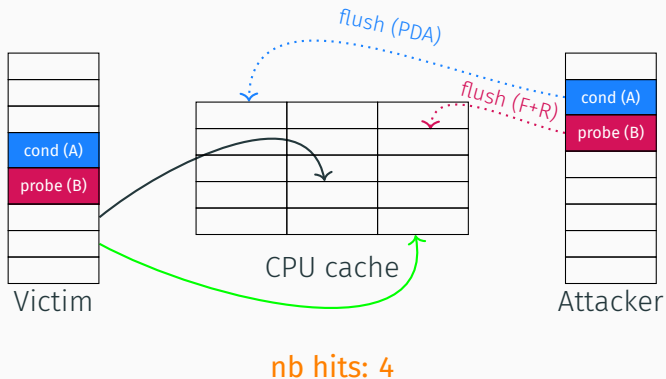
Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):
    y = compute_y(x, ec)

    if y = fmt mod 2:
        y = ec.p - y  🗑️
    } A

    P = init_point(x, y, ec) 🗑️
    [...]
    } B

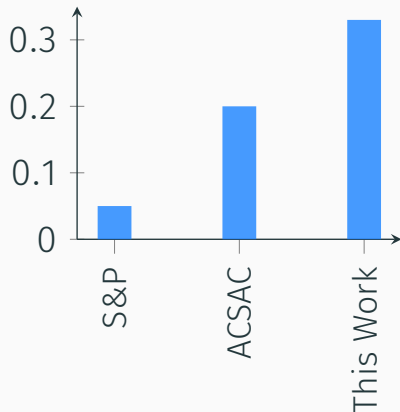
    → return P
```



Prefetcher-based Side Channel

```
def set_compressed_point(x, fmt, ec):  
    y = compute_y(x, ec)  
  
    if y = fmt mod 2:  
        y = ec.p - y  
  
    P = init_point(x, y, ec)  
    [...]  
  
    return P
```

Very accurate distinguisher, with a better spatial resolution!



Sustainable patch for hostap

- Cryptographic libraries refused to patch
- Many other potential vulnerabilities (≈ 400)

Shall we replace them?

¹ J-K. Zinzindohoué et al. *HACL*: A Verified Modern Cryptographic Library*. In CCS'17

Sustainable patch for hostap

- Cryptographic libraries refused to patch
- Many other potential vulnerabilities (≈ 400)

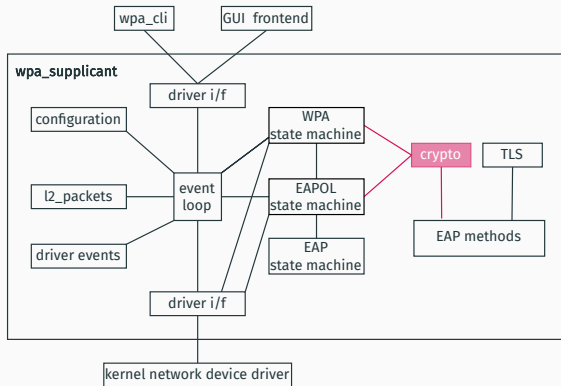
Shall we replace them?

HaCl*: A Formally Verified Cryptographic Library¹

- Memory-safety
- Functional correctness
- Secret independence

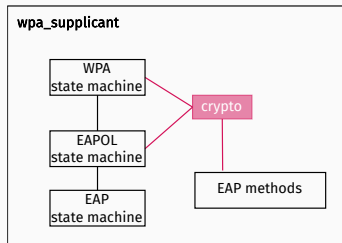
¹ J-K. Zinzindohoué et al. *HAcl*: A Verified Modern Cryptographic Library*. In *CCS'17*

Fixing hostap¹



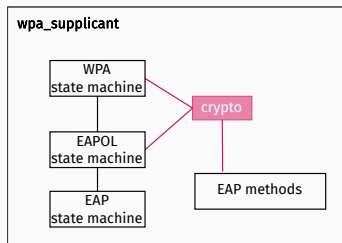
¹ Thank you Alexandre Sanchez for helping with the patch integration

Fixing hostap¹



¹ Thank you Alexandre Sanchez for helping with the patch integration

Fixing hostap¹



`crypto/`

...

`crypto.h`

`crypto_mbedtls.c`

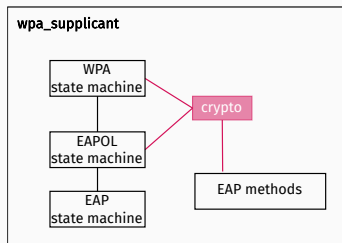
`crypto_openssl.c`

`crypto_wolfssl.c`

...

¹ Thank you Alexandre Sanchez for helping with the patch integration

Fixing hostap¹



```
crypto/
```

```
...
```

```
crypto.h
```

```
crypto_hacl.c
```

```
crypto_mbedtls.c
```

```
crypto_openssl.c
```

```
crypto_wolfssl.c
```

```
...
```

¹ Thank you Alexandre Sanchez for helping with the patch integration

Impact

A New Attack

- Dictionary attack (SAE/SAE-PT)
 - Improved signal-to-noise ratio!
- New generic gadget
 - Potential impact on many low-level arithmetic functions

Impact

A New Attack

- Dictionary attack (SAE/SAE-PT)
 - Improved signal-to-noise ratio!
- New generic gadget
 - Potential impact on many low-level arithmetic functions

A Better Defense

- **3** Security patches (hostap, iwd, FreeRadius)
- Formally verified crypto implementation (HaCl*)
- Benefit from HaCl*'s team support

Impact

A New Attack

- Dictionary attack (SAE/SAE-PT)
 - Improved signal-to-noise ratio!
- New generic gadget
 - Potential impact on many low-level arithmetic functions

A Better Defense

- **3** Security patches (hostap, iwd, FreeRadius)
- Formally verified crypto implementation (HaCl*)
- Benefit from HaCl*'s team support

Material available at

- https://gitlab.inria.fr/ddealmei/artifact_dragondoom
- https://gitlab.inria.fr/ddealmei/artifact_dragonstar

Constant-time Tools & Usage

“They’re not that hard to mitigate”: What Cryptographic Library Developers Think About Timing Attacks

Jan Jancar¹, Marcel Fourné², Daniel De Almeida Braga³, Mohamed Sabt³,
Peter Schwabe², Gilles Barthe², Pierre-Alain Fouque³ and Yasemin Acar^{2,4}

Published at S&P 2022



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE²
FOR SECURITY AND PRIVACY



UMR IRISA³

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY⁴
WASHINGTON, DC

Survey

27 libraries

OpenSSL, BearSSL, libgcrypt, s2n
(Amazon), RustCrypto, ...

44 valid responses


Various roles (developers,
maintainers, committers, ...)

Survey

1. Participant background

 27 libraries

OpenSSL, BearSSL, libgcrypt, s2n
(Amazon), RustCrypto, ...

 44 valid responses

Various roles (developers,
maintainers, committers, ...)

Survey

1. Participant background
- ↓
2. Library properties & decisions

27 libraries

OpenSSL, BearSSL, libgcrypt, s2n (Amazon), RustCrypto, ...

44 valid responses

Various roles (developers, maintainers, committers, ...)

Survey

1. Participant background
- ↓
2. Library properties & decisions
- ↓
3. Tool awareness

27 libraries

OpenSSL, BearSSL, libgcrypt, s2n (Amazon), RustCrypto, ...

44 valid responses

Various roles (developers, maintainers, committers, ...)

Survey

1. Participant background
- ↓
2. Library properties & decisions
- ↓
3. Tool awareness
- ↓
4. Tool use

27 libraries

OpenSSL, BearSSL, libgcrypt, s2n (Amazon), RustCrypto, ...

44 valid responses

Various roles (developers, maintainers, committers, ...)

Survey

1. Participant background
- ↓
2. Library properties & decisions
- ↓
3. Tool awareness
- ↓
4. Tool use
- ↓
5. Hypothetical tool use

27 libraries

OpenSSL, BearSSL, libgcrypt, s2n (Amazon), RustCrypto, ...

44 valid responses

Various roles (developers, maintainers, committers, ...)

Survey

1. Participant background
- ↓
2. Library properties & decisions
- ↓
3. Tool awareness
- ↓
4. Tool use
- ↓
5. Hypothetical tool use
- ↓
6. Miscellaneous

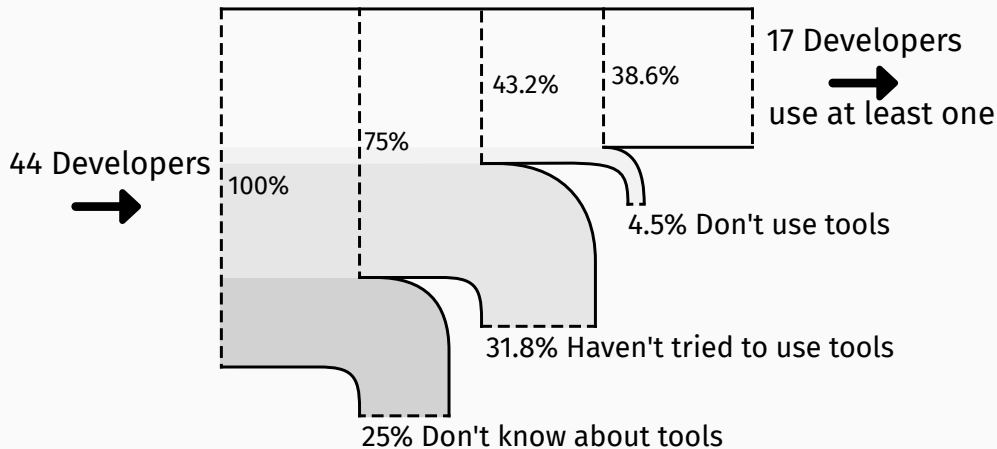
27 libraries

OpenSSL, BearSSL, libgcrypt, s2n (Amazon), RustCrypto, ...

44 valid responses

Various roles (developers, maintainers, committers, ...)

Leaky Pipeline¹



¹ Figure by Jan Jancar

Developers' Concerns

*“Who knows if the toolchain is still
maintained in a year?”*

Developers' Concerns

*“Who knows if the toolchain is still **maintained** in a year?”*

*“Static analysis tools tend to have a **high engineering overhead**: getting the tool to run, deploying it to CI systems, maintaining the installation over the years”*

Developers' Concerns

*“Who knows if the toolchain is still **maintained** in a year?”*

*“A thing this survey might be underestimating is also **the cost of code annotations**: it’s not just about having someone annotating the code properly (which already is quite a lot of effort) but [...] they add a maintenance burden for the project.”*

*“Static analysis tools tend to have a **high engineering overhead**: getting the tool to run, deploying it to CI systems, maintaining the installation over the years”*

Developers' Concerns

*“Who knows if the toolchain is still **maintained** in a year?”*

*“A thing this survey might be underestimating is also **the cost of code annotations**: it’s not just about having someone annotating the code properly (which already is quite a lot of effort) but [...] they add a maintenance burden for the project.”*

*“Static analysis tools tend to have a **high engineering overhead**: getting the tool to run, deploying it to CI systems, maintaining the installation over the years”*

*“[...] so far it seems formal analysis tools (at least where we’ve tried to apply it to correctness) are **not really usable by mere mortals yet.**”*

Concluding Notes

Practical Impact

- 5 practical Proof of Concept attacks

¹ J. Wichelmann et al. *Microwalk-CI: Practical Side-Channel Analysis for JavaScript Applications*. CCS'22

Practical Impact

- 5 practical Proof of Concept attacks
- 13 Security patches
 - Big number libraries of 4 programming languages (C, Ruby, JS, Erlang)
 - Softwares and libraries deployed on billions of devices (OpenSSL, hostap, FreeRadius, Apple HomeKit, ...)

¹ J. Wichelmann et al. *Microwalk-CI: Practical Side-Channel Analysis for JavaScript Applications*. CCS'22

Practical Impact

- 5 practical Proof of Concept attacks
- 13 Security patches
 - Big number libraries of 4 programming languages (C, Ruby, JS, Erlang)
 - Softwares and libraries deployed on billions of devices (OpenSSL, hostap, FreeRadius, Apple HomeKit, ...)
- Shaping new constant-time tools development¹

¹ J. Wichelmann et al. *Microwalk-CI: Practical Side-Channel Analysis for JavaScript Applications*. CCS'22

Practical Impact

- 5 practical Proof of Concept attacks
- 13 Security patches
 - Big number libraries of 4 programming languages (C, Ruby, JS, Erlang)
 - Softwares and libraries deployed on billions of devices (OpenSSL, hostap, FreeRadius, Apple HomeKit, ...)
- Shaping new constant-time tools development¹
- New microarchitectural attack gadget (in progress)

¹ J. Wichelmann et al. *Microwalk-CI: Practical Side-Channel Analysis for JavaScript Applications*. CCS'22

Practical Impact

- 5 practical Proof of Concept attacks
- 13 Security patches
 - Big number libraries of 4 programming languages (C, Ruby, JS, Erlang)
 - Softwares and libraries deployed on billions of devices (OpenSSL, hostap, FreeRadius, Apple HomeKit, ...)
- Shaping new constant-time tools development¹
- New microarchitectural attack gadget (in progress)
- Amendment to GlobalPlatform SCP10 standard

¹ J. Wichelmann et al. *Microwalk-CI: Practical Side-Channel Analysis for JavaScript Applications*. CCS'22

Limitations and Future Work

Characterize the new leakage gadget

- How accurate can we get?
- Does it work on other architectures?

Limitations and Future Work

Characterize the new leakage gadget

- How accurate can we get?
- Does it work on other architectures?

Other microarchitectural components

- Lots of candidates
- Evolving architectures

Limitations and Future Work

Characterize the new leakage gadget

- How accurate can we get?
- Does it work on other architectures?

Other microarchitectural components

- Lots of candidates
- Evolving architectures

Secure Standardized PAKEs

- OPAQUE and CPace
- Verifying early implementations
- Generating formally verified implementations

Limitations and Future Work

Characterize the new leakage gadget

- How accurate can we get?
- Does it work on other architectures?

Secure Standardized PAKEs

- OPAQUE and CPace
- Verifying early implementations
- Generating formally verified implementations

Other microarchitectural components

- Lots of candidates
- Evolving architectures

Academic - Real-World Gap

- What does make a tool usable?
- How to enforce formal verification for constant-time programming?
- Would another tool change anything?

Peer-reviewed:

S&P'22 “They’re not that hard to mitigate”: What Cryptographic Library Developers Think About Timing Attacks

J. Jancar, M. Fourné, D. De Almeida Braga, M. Sabt, P. Schwabe, G. Barthe, P.A. Fouque, Y. Acar

CCS'21 PARASITE: PAssword Recovery Attack against Srp Implementations in ThE wild

D. De Almeida Braga, P.A. Fouque, M. Sabt

ACSAC'20 Dragonblood is Still Leaking: Practical Cache-based Side-Channel in the Wild

D. De Almeida Braga, P.A. Fouque, M. Sabt

TCHES'20 The Long and Winding Path to Secure Implementation of GlobalPlatform SCP10

D. De Almeida Braga, P.A. Fouque, M. Sabt

Under submission:

- Novel attack on Dragonfly, and secure implementation

D. De Almeida Braga, M. Sabt, P.A. Fouque, N. Kulatova, K. Bhargavan

Ongoing work:

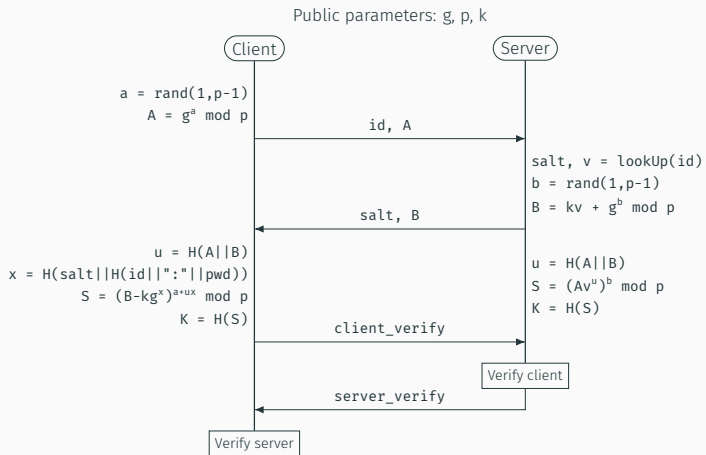
- Follow-up study on constant-time tools usability
- Prefetcher-based side-channel attack

PARASITE: PAssword Recovery Attack against Srp Implementations in ThE wild

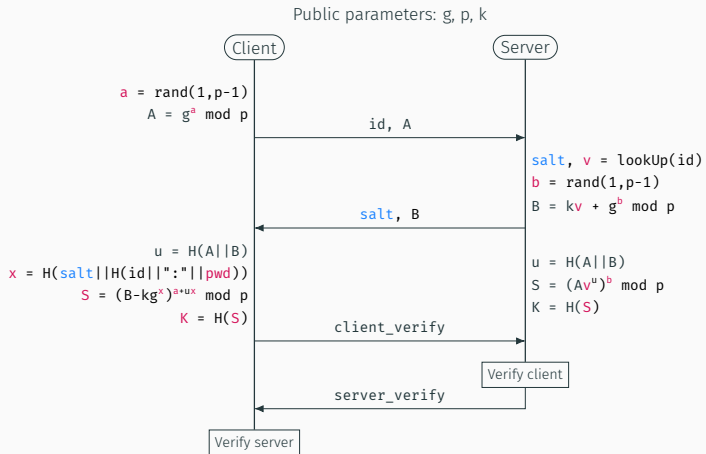
Daniel De Almeida Braga, Mohamed Sabt and Pierre-Alain Fouque

Presented at CCS 2021

SRP - A Legacy Asymmetric PAKE



SRP - A Legacy Asymmetric PAKE



Exploiting the Leakage

Attacker's Goal: Recover the password

Target: OpenSSL's modular
exponentiation

Exploiting the Leakage

Attacker's Goal: Recover the password

Target: OpenSSL's modular exponentiation

Challenge: operations are *very* fast, hence tricky to reliably observe for an attacker

Solution: Identify bit patterns in the exponent, based on arithmetic overflows.

Impact: Large impact analysis on open source projects

- 6 projects
- 10 packages/libraries
- 6 programming languages

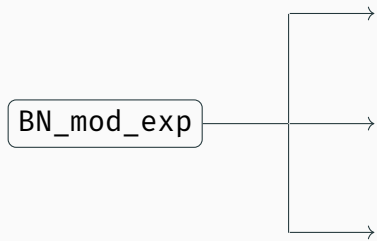
Impact: Large impact analysis on open source projects

- 6 projects
- 10 packages/libraries
- 6 programming languages

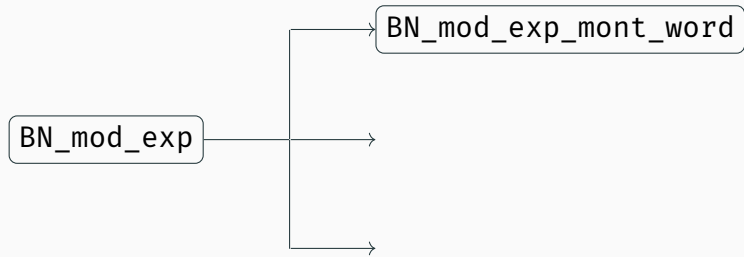
Who knows how many closed-source projects?

BN_mod_exp

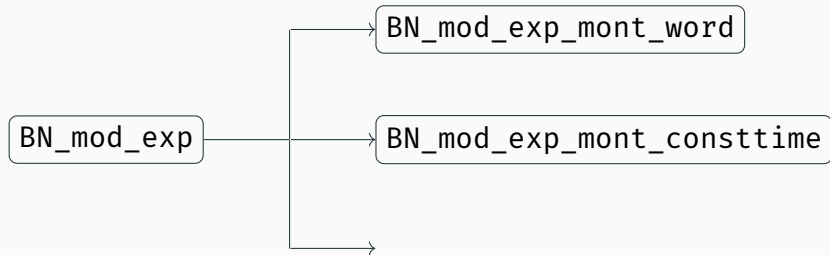
Modular exponentiation in OpenSSL



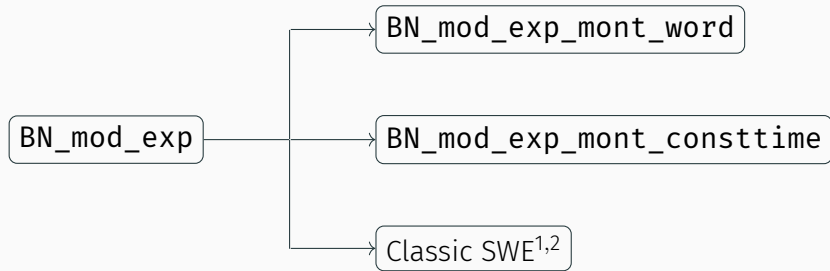
Modular exponentiation in OpenSSL



Modular exponentiation in OpenSSL



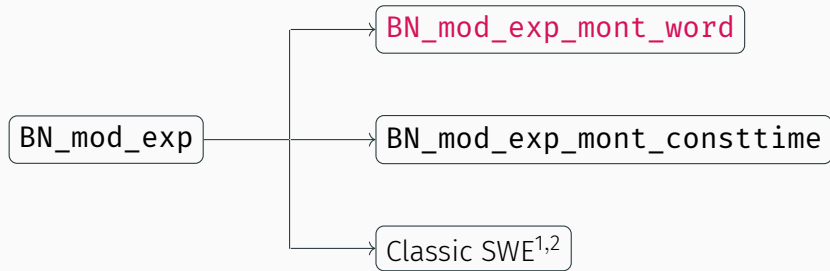
Modular exponentiation in OpenSSL



¹ C. Percival. *Cache missing for fun and profit*. 2005

² C. Peraida Garcia et al. *Certified Side Channels*. In USENIX Security. 2020

Modular exponentiation in OpenSSL



¹ C. Percival. *Cache missing for fun and profit*. 2005

² C. Peraida Garcia et al. *Certified Side Channels*. In USENIX Security. 2020

Optimized Square-and-Multiply

$\text{bin}(x) = 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \dots$

$\text{res} = g^x \bmod p$

w processor word (e.g. 64 bits)

```
def BN_mod_exp_mont_word(g, x, p):
    w = g # uint64_t
    res = BN_to_mont_word(w) # bignum
    for b in range(bitlen-2, 0, -1):
        next_w = w * w
        if (next_w / w) != w:
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)
            next_w = 1
        w = next_w;
    res = BN_mod_sqr(res, p)
    if BN_is_bit_set(x, b):
        next_w = w * g
        if (next_w / g) != w:
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)
            next_w = g
        w = next_w
```

Optimized Square-and-Multiply

$\text{bin}(x) = 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \dots$

$\text{res} = g^x \bmod p$

w processor word (e.g. 64 bits)



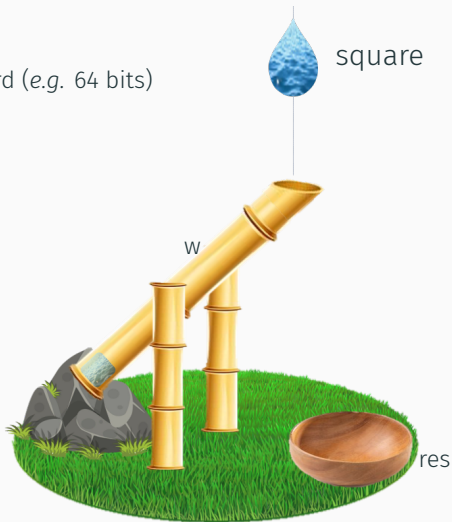
```
def BN_mod_exp_mont_word(g, x, p):  
    w = g # uint64_t  
    res = BN_to_mont_word(w) # bignum  
    → for b in range(bitlen-2, 0, -1):  
        next_w = w × w  
        if (next_w / w) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = 1  
        w = next_w;  
    res = BN_mod_sqr(res, p)  
    if BN_is_bit_set(x, b):  
        next_w = w × g  
        if (next_w / g) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = g  
        w = next_w
```

Optimized Square-and-Multiply

$\text{bin}(x) = 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \dots$

$\text{res} = g^x \bmod p$

w processor word (e.g. 64 bits)



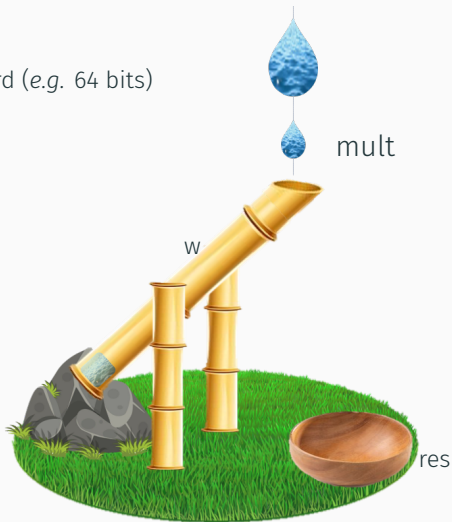
```
def BN_mod_exp_mont_word(g, x, p):  
    w = g # uint64_t  
    res = BN_to_mont_word(w) # bignum  
    for b in range(bitlen-2, 0, -1):  
        → next_w = w × w  
        if (next_w / w) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = 1  
        w = next_w;  
    res = BN_mod_sqr(res, p)  
    if BN_is_bit_set(x, b):  
        next_w = w × g  
        if (next_w / g) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = g  
        w = next_w
```

Optimized Square-and-Multiply

$\text{bin}(x) = 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \dots$

$\text{res} = g^x \bmod p$

w processor word (e.g. 64 bits)



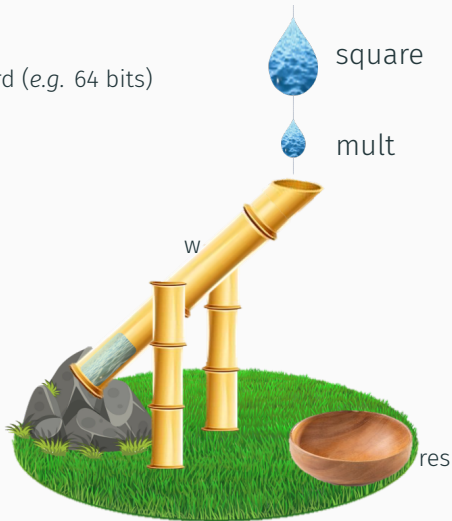
```
def BN_mod_exp_mont_word(g, x, p):  
    w = g # uint64_t  
    res = BN_to_mont_word(w) # bignum  
    for b in range(bitlen-2, 0, -1):  
        next_w = w × w  
        if (next_w / w) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = 1  
        w = next_w;  
        res = BN_mod_sqr(res, p)  
        if BN_is_bit_set(x, b):  
            → next_w = w × g  
            if (next_w / g) != w:  
                res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
                next_w = g  
            w = next_w
```

Optimized Square-and-Multiply

$\text{bin}(x) = 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \dots$

$\text{res} = g^x \bmod p$

w processor word (e.g. 64 bits)



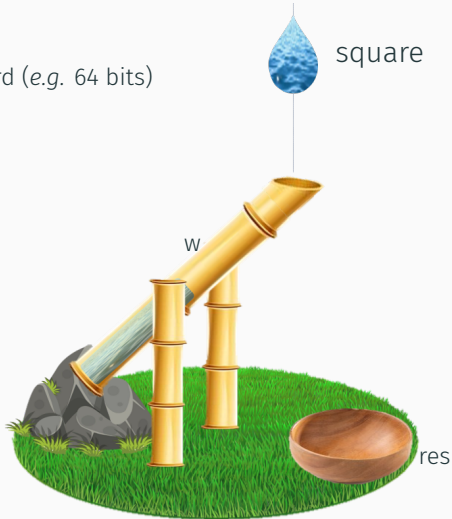
```
def BN_mod_exp_mont_word(g, x, p):  
    w = g # uint64_t  
    res = BN_to_mont_word(w) # bignum  
    for b in range(bitlen-2, 0, -1):  
        → next_w = w × w  
        if (next_w / w) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = 1  
        w = next_w;  
        res = BN_mod_sqr(res, p)  
        if BN_is_bit_set(x, b):  
            → next_w = w × g  
            if (next_w / g) != w:  
                res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
                next_w = g  
            w = next_w
```

Optimized Square-and-Multiply

$\text{bin}(x) = 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \dots$

$\text{res} = g^x \bmod p$

w processor word (e.g. 64 bits)



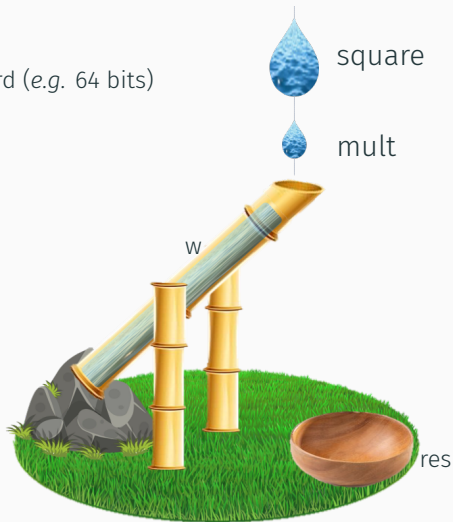
```
def BN_mod_exp_mont_word(g, x, p):  
    w = g # uint64_t  
    res = BN_to_mont_word(w) # bignum  
    for b in range(bitlen-2, 0, -1):  
        → next_w = w × w  
        if (next_w / w) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = 1  
        w = next_w;  
    res = BN_mod_sqr(res, p)  
    if BN_is_bit_set(x, b):  
        next_w = w × g  
        if (next_w / g) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = g  
        w = next_w
```

Optimized Square-and-Multiply

$\text{bin}(x) = 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \dots$

$\text{res} = g^x \bmod p$

w processor word (e.g. 64 bits)



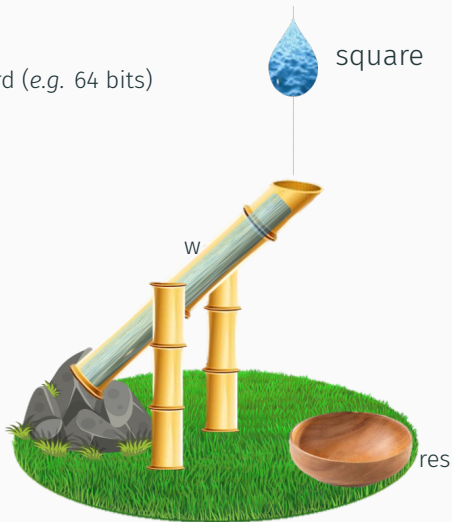
```
def BN_mod_exp_mont_word(g, x, p):  
    w = g # uint64_t  
    res = BN_to_mont_word(w) # bignum  
    for b in range(bitlen-2, 0, -1):  
        → next_w = w × w  
        if (next_w / w) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = 1  
        w = next_w;  
        res = BN_mod_sqr(res, p)  
        if BN_is_bit_set(x, b):  
            → next_w = w × g  
            if (next_w / g) != w:  
                res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
                next_w = g  
            w = next_w
```

Optimized Square-and-Multiply

$\text{bin}(x) = 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \dots$

$\text{res} = g^x \bmod p$

w processor word (e.g. 64 bits)



```
def BN_mod_exp_mont_word(g, x, p):  
    w = g # uint64_t  
    res = BN_to_mont_word(w) # bignum  
    for b in range(bitlen-2, 0, -1):  
        → next_w = w × w  
        if (next_w / w) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = 1  
        w = next_w;  
    res = BN_mod_sqr(res, p)  
    if BN_is_bit_set(x, b):  
        next_w = w × g  
        if (next_w / g) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = g  
        w = next_w
```


Optimized Square-and-Multiply

`bin(x) = 1 1 0 1 0 ...`

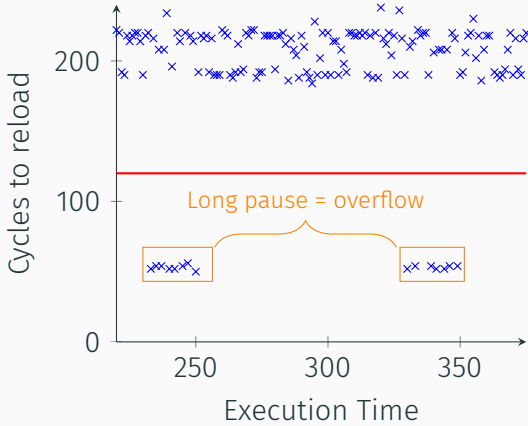
`res = gx mod p`

`w` processor word (e.g. 64 bits)

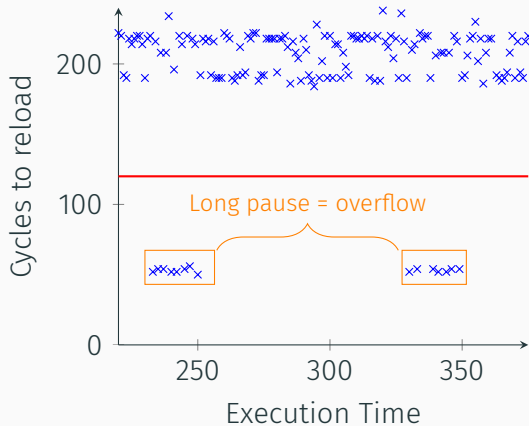


```
def BN_mod_exp_mont_word(g, x, p):  
    w = g # uint64_t  
    res = BN_to_mont_word(w) # bignum  
    for b in range(bitlen-2, 0, -1):  
        next_w = w × w  
        if (next_w / w) != w:  
            → res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            → next_w = 1  
        w = next_w;  
    res = BN_mod_sqr(res, p)  
    if BN_is_bit_set(x, b):  
        next_w = w × g  
        if (next_w / g) != w:  
            res = BN_mod_mul(res, w, p)  
            next_w = g  
        w = next_w
```

Trace Interpretation



Trace Interpretation



Rules ($b \in \{0,1\}$):

- $bbbb \Rightarrow 111b$
- $bbbbb \Rightarrow yyyyb, yyyy \in \{110b, 10bb, 0111\}$
- $bb\dots b \Rightarrow 0\dots 0yyyyb$

Trace Interpretation



Rules ($b \in \{0,1\}$):

- $bbbb \Rightarrow 111b$
- $bbbbb \Rightarrow yyyyb, yyyy \in \{110b, 10bb, 0111\}$
- $bb\dots b \Rightarrow 0\dots 0yyyyb$

`bbbb bbbbb bbbbbb bbbbbb bbbbbb bbbb`

Trace Interpretation



Rules ($b \in \{0,1\}$):

- $bbbb \Rightarrow 111b$
- $bbbbb \Rightarrow yyyyb, yyyy \in \{110b, 10bb, 0111\}$
- $bb\dots b \Rightarrow 0\dots 0yyyyb$

$bbbb$ $bbbbb$ $bbbbb$ $bbbbb$ $bbbbb$ $bbbb$
4 5 6 5 5 4

Trace Interpretation



Rules ($b \in \{0,1\}$):

- $bbbb \Rightarrow 111b$
- $bbbbb \Rightarrow yyyyb, yyyy \in \{110b, 10bb, 0111\}$
- $bb\dots b \Rightarrow 0\dots 0yyyyb$

$bbbb$ $bbbbb$ $bbbbbb$ $bbbbb$ $bbbbb$ $bbbb$
4 5 6 5 5 4
↓
111b

Trace Interpretation



Rules ($b \in \{0,1\}$):

- $bbbb \Rightarrow 111b$
- $bbbbb \Rightarrow yyyyb, yyyy \in \{110b, 10bb, 0111\}$
- $bb\dots b \Rightarrow 0\dots 0yyyyb$

bbbb	bbbbb	bbbbbb	bbbbb	bbbbb	bbbb
4	5	6	5	5	4
↓	↓				
111b	yyyyb				

Trace Interpretation

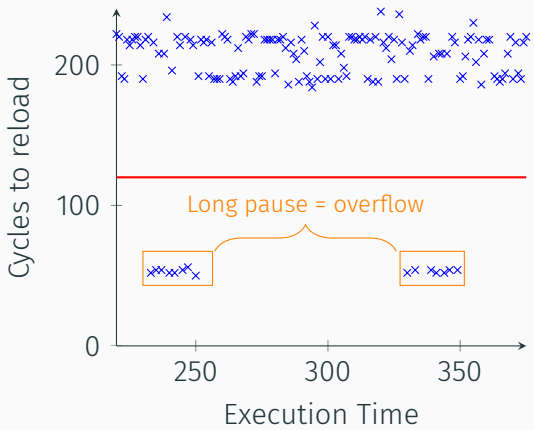


Rules ($b \in \{0,1\}$):

- $bbbb \Rightarrow 111b$
- $bbbbb \Rightarrow yyyyb, yyyy \in \{110b, 10bb, 0111\}$
- $bb\dots b \Rightarrow 0\dots 0yyyyb$

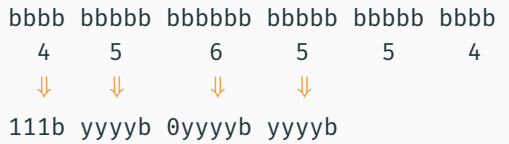
bbbb	bbbbb	bbbbbb	bbbbb	bbbbb	bbbb
4	5	6	5	5	4
↓	↓	↓			
111b	yyyyb	0yyyyb			

Trace Interpretation



Rules ($b \in \{0,1\}$):

- $bbbb \Rightarrow 111b$
- $bbbbb \Rightarrow yyyyb, yyyy \in \{110b, 10bb, 0111\}$
- $bb\dots b \Rightarrow 0\dots 0yyyyb$

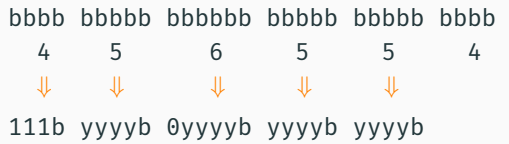


Trace Interpretation



Rules ($b \in \{0,1\}$):

- $bbbb \Rightarrow 111b$
- $bbbbb \Rightarrow yyyyb, yyyy \in \{110b, 10bb, 0111\}$
- $bb\dots b \Rightarrow 0\dots 0yyyyb$



Trace Interpretation



Rules ($b \in \{0,1\}$):

- $bbbb \Rightarrow 111b$
- $bbbbb \Rightarrow yyyyb, yyyy \in \{110b, 10bb, 0111\}$
- $bb\dots b \Rightarrow 0\dots 0yyyyb$

bbbb	bbbbb	bbbbbb	bbbbb	bbbbb	bbbb
4	5	6	5	5	4
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
111b	yyyyb	0yyyyb	yyyyb	yyyyb	bbbb

Dictionary Attack

Client: $x = H(\text{salt} || H(\text{user_id} : \text{password}))$

$$v = g^x \bmod p$$

Dictionary Attack

Client: $x = H(\text{salt} || H(\text{user_id} : \text{password}))$

$$v = g^x \bmod p$$

trace: 1 1 1 b y y y y b 0 y y y y b 1 1 1 b 0 y y y y b

Dictionary Attack

Client: $x = H(\text{salt} || H(\text{user_id} : \text{password}))$

$$v = g^x \text{ mod } p$$

trace:	1	1	1	b	y	y	y	y	b	0	y	y	y	y	b	1	1	1	b	0	y	y	y	y	b	
pwd_1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
pwd_2	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1		
pwd_3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0		
pwd_4	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	
pwd_5	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
...																										
pwd_n	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	

Password

x value

Dictionary Attack

Client: $x = H(\text{salt} || H(\text{user_id} : \text{password}))$

$$v = g^x \text{ mod } p$$

trace:	1	1	1	b	y	y	y	y	b	0	y	y	y	y	b	1	1	1	b	0	y	y	y	y	b	
pwd_1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
pwd_2	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1		
pwd_3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0		
pwd_4	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	
pwd_5	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
...																										
pwd_n	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	

Password

x value

Dictionary Attack

Client: $x = H(\text{salt} || H(\text{user_id} : \text{password}))$

$$v = g^x \text{ mod } p$$

trace:	1	1	1	b	y	y	y	y	b	0	y	y	y	y	b	1	1	1	b	0	y	y	y	y	b	
pwd_1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
pwd_2	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
pwd_3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
pwd_4	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
pwd_5	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
...																										
pwd_n	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1

Password

x value

Dictionary Attack

Client: $x = H(\text{salt} || H(\text{user_id} : \text{password}))$

$$v = g^x \text{ mod } p$$

trace:	1 1 1 b y y y y b 0 y y y y b 1 1 1 b 0 y y y y b	
pwd_1	1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1	15
pwd_2	1 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 0 1	14
pwd_3	0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0	11
pwd_4	1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1	0
pwd_5	0 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0	11
...		
pwd_n	1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 0 1	12

Password

x value

Diff score

Single Measurement Attack

- Very accurate measurement
- Each bit of information halves the number of possible passwords
 - k bits of information \Rightarrow false positive/negative with probability of 2^{-k}

Single Measurement Attack

- Very accurate measurement
- Each bit of information halves the number of possible passwords
 - k bits of information \Rightarrow false positive/negative with probability of 2^{-k}

For an n -bit exponent, we get $k = 0.4n + 2$ bits on average (verified empirically)

SHA-1: 66 bits of information

SHA-256: 104 bits of information

Two choices:

- Patch OpenSSL TLS-SRP by adding the proper flag
 - Most projects use the bignum API, not the whole SRP
 - Difficult to propagate
 - Root cause of the issue remains
- Switch to a secure by default implementation (flag for insecure/optimized)
 - No flag \Rightarrow secure implementation (potential performance loss)
 - All projects are patched at once

Two choices:

- Patch OpenSSL TLS-SRP by adding the proper flag ← **OpenSSL's choice**
 - Most projects use the bignum API, not the whole SRP
 - Difficult to propagate
 - Root cause of the issue remains
- Switch to a secure by default implementation (flag for insecure/optimized)
 - No flag \Rightarrow secure implementation (potential performance loss)
 - All projects are patched at once