

Our old protocol ...

$X \rightarrow Y: \{M\}_{K_Y}, X$

$Y \rightarrow X: \{M\}_{K_X}$

Our old protocol . . .

$X \rightarrow Y: \{M\}_{K_Y}, X$

$Y \rightarrow X: \{M\}_{K_X}$

. . . and the familiar attack

$h_1$  sends  $\{M\}_{K_{h_2}}, h_1$

$h_2$  gets  $\{M\}_{K_{h_2}}, d$

$h_2$  sends  $\{M\}_{K_d}$

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$Y \rightarrow X: \{M\}_{K_X}$

an attack with 4 agents ...

$h_1$  sends  $\{M\}_{K_{h_2}}, h_1$

$h_2$  gets  $\{M\}_{K_{h_2}}, h_3$

$h_2$  sends  $\{M\}_{K_{h_3}}$

$h_3$  gets  $\{M\}_{K_{h_3}}, d$

$h_3$  sends  $\{M\}_{K_d}$

Our old protocol ...

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$Y \rightarrow X: \{M\}_{K_X}$

... and the familiar attack

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an attack with 4 agents ...

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$h_2$  gets  $\{M\}_{K_{h_2}}, h_3$

$h_2$  sends  $\{M\}_{K_{h_3}}$

$h_3$  gets  $\{M\}_{K_{h_3}}, d$

$h_3$  sends  $\{M\}_{K_d}$

... after projection

$h_1$  sends  $\{M\}_{K_{h_2}}, h_1$

$h_2$  gets  $\{M\}_{K_{h_2}}, d$

$h_2$  sends  $\{M\}_{K_d}$

$d$  gets  $\{M\}_{K_d}, d$

$d$  sends  $\{M\}_{K_d}$

The protocol is described as follows.

With three honest and one dishonest agent:

$\rightsquigarrow Ha(h_1)$

$\rightsquigarrow Ha(h_2)$

$\rightsquigarrow Ha(h_3)$

$\rightsquigarrow Da(d)$

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$$\begin{array}{cccc} \rightsquigarrow Ha(h_1) & \rightsquigarrow Ha(h_2) & \rightsquigarrow Ha(h_3) & \rightsquigarrow Da(d) \\ \\ Ha(x) \rightsquigarrow Agent(x), Ha(x) & & Da(x) \rightsquigarrow Agent(x), Da(x) & \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{cccc} \rightsquigarrow Ha(h_1) & \rightsquigarrow Ha(h_2) & \rightsquigarrow Ha(h_3) & \rightsquigarrow Da(d) \\ \\ Ha(x) \rightsquigarrow Agent(x), Ha(x) & & Da(x) \rightsquigarrow Agent(x), Da(x) & \\ \\ Agent(x) \rightsquigarrow I(x), I(pub(x)), Agent(x) & & Da(x) \rightsquigarrow I(priv(x)), Da(x) & \end{array}$$

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With three honest and one dishonest agent:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \rightsquigarrow Ha(h_1) & \rightsquigarrow Ha(h_2) & \rightsquigarrow Ha(h_3) & \rightsquigarrow Da(d) \\ \\ Ha(x) \rightsquigarrow Agent(x), Ha(x) & & Da(x) \rightsquigarrow Agent(x), Da(x) & \\ \\ Agent(x) \rightsquigarrow I(x), I(pub(x)), Agent(x) & & Da(x) \rightsquigarrow I(priv(x)), Da(x) & \\ \\ \rightsquigarrow Distinct(h_1, h_2) & \rightsquigarrow Distinct(h_1, d) & & \\ \rightsquigarrow Distinct(h_2, h_1) & \rightsquigarrow Distinct(d, h_1) & & \rightsquigarrow Distinct(d, d) \\ \rightsquigarrow Distinct(h_2, h_3) & \rightsquigarrow Distinct(h_2, d) & & \\ \dots & \dots & & \end{array}$$



## The usual rules for intruder actions

$$I(x), I(y) \rightsquigarrow I(\langle x, y \rangle), I(x), I(y)$$

$$I(\langle x, y \rangle) \rightsquigarrow I(x), I(y), I(\langle x, y \rangle)$$

$$I(x), I(y) \rightsquigarrow I(\{x\}_y), I(x), I(y)$$

$$I(\{x\}_{pub(y)}), I(priv(y)) \rightsquigarrow I(x), I(\{x\}_{pub(y)}), I(priv(y))$$

$$I(\{x\}_{priv(y)}), I(pub(y)) \rightsquigarrow I(x), I(\{x\}_{priv(y)}), I(pub(y))$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \exists n \cdot I(n)$$

And the protocol specific rules

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Agent}(x), \textit{Agent}(y), \\ \textit{Distinct}(x, y) \end{array} \rightsquigarrow \begin{array}{l} A_0(x, y), B_0(x, y), \textit{Agent}(x), \textit{Agent}(y), \\ \textit{Distinct}(x, y) \end{array}$$

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$$A_0(x, y) \rightsquigarrow \exists z \cdot A_1(x, y, z), I(\langle \{z\}_{\textit{pub}(y)}, x \rangle)$$

And the protocol specific rules

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$$B_0(x, y), I(\langle \{z\}_{\textit{pub}(y)}, x \rangle) \rightsquigarrow B_1(x, y, z), I(\{z\}_{\textit{pub}(x)}), I(\langle \{z\}_{\textit{pub}(y)}, x \rangle)$$

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$$A_1(x, y, z), I(\{z\}_{\textit{pub}(x)}) \rightsquigarrow A_2(x, y, z), I(\{z\}_{\textit{pub}(x)})$$

And the protocol specific rules

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{Agent}(x), \textit{Agent}(y), \\ \textit{Distinct}(x, y) \end{array} \rightsquigarrow \begin{array}{l} A_0(x, y), B_0(x, y), \textit{Agent}(x), \textit{Agent}(y), \\ \textit{Distinct}(x, y) \end{array}$$

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$$A_1(x, y, z), I(\{z\}_{\textit{pub}(x)}) \rightsquigarrow A_2(x, y, z), I(\{z\}_{\textit{pub}(x)})$$

Security question: is a protocol state reachable containing the pattern

$$\textit{Ha}(x), \textit{Ha}(y), A_2(x, y, z), I(z)$$

We can apply these rules to get a protocol state of the form

$Ha(h_1), Ha(h_2), Ha(h_3), Da(d), Agent(h_1), Agent(h_2), Agent(h_3),$   
 $Agent(d), Distinct(h_1, h_2), Distinct(h_3, h_2), Distinct(d, h_3),$   
 $A_2(h_1, h_2, m), B_0(h_1, h_2), A_0(h_3, h_2), B_1(h_3, h_2, m),$   
 $A_0(d, h_3), B_1(d, h_3, m), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_2)}, h_1), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_2)}, h_3),$   
 $I(\{m\}_{pub(h_3)}), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_3)}, d), I(\{m\}_{pub(d)}), I(m), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_1)})$   
 $I(\dots) \dots I(\dots)$

We can apply these rules to get a protocol state of the form

$$\begin{aligned}
 &Ha(h_1), Ha(h_2), Ha(h_3), Da(d), Agent(h_1), Agent(h_2), Agent(h_3), \\
 &Agent(d), Distinct(h_1, h_2), Distinct(h_3, h_2), Distinct(d, h_3), \\
 &A_2(h_1, h_2, m), B_0(h_1, h_2), A_0(h_3, h_2), B_1(h_3, h_2, m), \\
 &A_0(d, h_3), B_1(d, h_3, m), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_2)}, h_1), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_2)}, h_3), \\
 &I(\{m\}_{pub(h_3)}), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_3)}, d), I(\{m\}_{pub(d)}), I(m), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_1)}) \\
 &I(\dots) \dots I(\dots)
 \end{aligned}$$

We get the following without using the rules involving  $h_3$  (apply **proj**)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &Ha(h_1), Ha(h_2), Da(d), Da(d), Agent(h_1), Agent(h_2), Agent(d), \\
 &Agent(d), Distinct(h_1, h_2), Distinct(d, h_2), Distinct(d, d), \\
 &A_2(h_1, h_2, m), B_0(h_1, h_2), A_0(d, h_2), B_1(d, h_2, m), \\
 &A_0(d, d), B_1(d, d, m), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_2)}, h_1), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_2)}, d), \\
 &I(\{m\}_{pub(d)}), I(\{m\}_{pub(d)}, d), I(\{m\}_{pub(d)}), I(m), I(\{m\}_{pub(h_1)}) \dots
 \end{aligned}$$



$k + 1$  is a tight bound

A toy variant of the Needham-Schroeder public key protocol:

$$A_1 \rightarrow A_2 : \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k, N_{A_1}\}_{K_{A_2}}$$

$$A_2 \rightarrow A_1 : \{N_{A_1}, N_{A_2}\}_{K_{A_1}}$$

$$A_1 \rightarrow A_2 : \{N_{A_2}\}_{K_{A_2}}$$

Other steps involving  $A_2, A_3, \dots$  could be added to make it more realistic.

This is modeled using similar rules as before. The agents  $A_1, \dots, A_k$  are required to be distinct.

There is a standard attack involving  $k + 1$  agents.

$k$  honest agents are required for the two nonces to be generated, and a dishonest agent for decryption of messages.

For  $k = 3$  we have the following rules.

$$\begin{aligned} & Agent(x_1), Agent(x_2), Agent(x_3), Distinct(x_1, x_2), Distinct(x_2, x_3), \\ & Distinct(x_1, x_3) \rightsquigarrow A_{1,0}(x_1, x_2, x_3), A_{2,0}(x_1, x_2, x_3), Agent(x_1), Agent(x_2), \\ & Agent(x_3), Distinct(x_1, x_2), Distinct(x_2, x_3), Distinct(x_1, x_3) \end{aligned}$$

$$A_{1,0}(x_1, x_2, x_3) \rightsquigarrow \exists z \cdot A_{1,1}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z), I(\{x_1, x_2, x_3, z\}_{pub(x_2)})$$

$$\begin{aligned} & A_{2,0}(x_1, x_2, x_3), I(\{x_1, x_2, x_3, z\}_{pub(x_2)}) \rightsquigarrow \\ & \exists w \cdot A_{2,1}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z, w), I(\{z, w\}_{pub(x_1)}), I(\{x_1, x_2, x_3, z\}_{pub(x_2)}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & A_{1,1}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z), I(\{z, w\}_{pub(x_1)}) \rightsquigarrow \\ & A_{1,2}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z, w), I(\{w\}_{pub(x_2)}), I(\{z, w\}_{pub(x_1)}) \end{aligned}$$

$$A_{2,1}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z, w), I(\{w\}_{pub(x_2)}) \rightsquigarrow A_{2,2}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z, w), I(\{w\}_{pub(x_2)})$$

Security questions: can a protocol state be reached which contains

- $Ha(x_1), Ha(x_2), Ha(x_3), A_{1,2}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z, w), I(z)$ .
- $Ha(x_1), Ha(x_2), Ha(x_3), A_{1,2}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z, w), I(w)$ .
- $Ha(x_1), Ha(x_2), Ha(x_3), A_{2,2}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z, w), I(z)$ .
- $Ha(x_1), Ha(x_2), Ha(x_3), A_{2,2}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z, w), I(w)$ .

The first two represent the security questions about nonces  $N_{A_1}$  and  $N_{A_2}$  respectively from the point of view of  $A_1$ .

The last two represent the security questions about nonces  $N_{A_1}$  and  $N_{A_2}$  respectively from the point of view of  $A_2$ .

The standard man-in-the-middle attack.

We use honest agents  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  and dishonest agent  $C$  ( $k = 3$ )

$$A_1 \rightarrow C : \quad \{A_1, C, A_3, \dots, A_k, N_{A_1}\}_{K_C}$$

$$C(A_1) \rightarrow A_2 : \quad \{A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots, A_k, N_{A_1}\}_{K_{A_2}}$$

$$A_2 \rightarrow A_1 : \quad \{N_{A_1}, N_{A_2}\}_{K_{A_1}}$$

$$A_1 \rightarrow C : \quad \{N_{A_2}\}_{K_C}$$

$$C(A_1) \rightarrow A_2 : \quad \{N_{A_2}\}_{K_{A_2}}$$

The standard man-in-the-middle attack.

We use honest agents  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  and dishonest agent  $C$  ( $k = 3$ )

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$$C(A_1) \rightarrow A_2 : \quad \{A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots, A_k, N_{A_1}\}_{K_{A_2}}$$

$$A_2 \rightarrow A_1 : \quad \{N_{A_1}, N_{A_2}\}_{K_{A_1}}$$

$$A_1 \rightarrow C : \quad \{N_{A_2}\}_{K_C}$$

$$C(A_1) \rightarrow A_2 : \quad \{N_{A_2}\}_{K_{A_2}}$$

Using our rules, we get a protocol state of the form

$$Ha(a_1), Ha(a_2), Ha(a_3), Da(d),$$

$$A_{1,2}(a_1, d, a_3, n, m), A_{2,2}(a_1, a_2, a_3, n, m), I(n), I(m), \dots$$

Hence both security questions from the point of view of  $A_2$  are violated.

Also, a protocol state containing  $A_{2,2}(x_1, x_2, x_3, z, w)$  can be reached only if  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  are mutually distinct.

The conditions  $Ha(x_1), Ha(x_2), Ha(x_3)$  in the security property mean that these three agents should be honest.

Hence we require at least 3 honest agents for an attack.

In the absence of a dishonest agent, messages containing  $w$  known to the intruder always encrypted with public keys of honest agents.

Hence  $w$  can never be known to the intruder.

Hence an attack against the fourth security property requires at least 4 agents ( $k + 1$  agents in general).

Sometimes certain special names can be used in protocol: e.g. *servers*.

These are not counted in the number of agents required for an attack.

$$A \rightarrow B : A, N_a$$

$$B \rightarrow S : B, \{A, N_a, N_b\}_{K_{bs}}$$

$$S \rightarrow A : \{B, K_{ab}, N_a, N_b\}_{K_{as}}, \{A, K_{ab}\}_{K_{bs}}$$

$$A \rightarrow B : \{A, K_{ab}\}_{K_{bs}}, \{N_b\}_{K_{ab}}$$

This is the Yahalom protocol.

We use a special agent name *server* and the rule

$$\rightsquigarrow \text{Agent}(\textit{server})$$

No rules of the form *Ha(server)* or *Da(server)*.

No rules to state whether *server* is distinct from other agents.

Protocol rules may involve these special names.

$$\begin{aligned} Agent(x), Agent(y), Distinct(x, y) \rightsquigarrow & A_0(x, y, server), B_0(x, y, server), \\ & S_0(x, y, server), Agent(x), Agent(y), Distinct(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

Security properties are of the form

$$Ha(x), Ha(y), A_2(x, y, server, z, u, v), I(v)$$

In this example we have  $k = 2$  (*server* is not counted).

An attack requires  $k + 1 = 3$  agents besides the *server*.

Without the *Distinct* predicates, an attack requires **2** agents besides the *server*.



- Two agents suffice for detecting attacks when agents involved in a session need not all be distinct.
- Otherwise  $k + 1$  agents suffice where  $k$  is the number of honest agents involved in the security property.
- The protocols must be independent of agent names.
- Security properties must be independent of agent names.
- Security properties must be reachability properties.
- Still this does not give us a method to check these security properties.

# An example of protocol analysis ‘by hand’

Our familiar ping-pong protocol

$$X \rightarrow Y: \{M, X\}_{K_Y}$$

$$Y \rightarrow X: \{M\}_{K_X}$$

We need to show that the protocol is secure.

For simplicity we work with the following rules for intruder’s knowledge.

Intruder knows  $E_B(i_A(M))$ .

If intruder knows  $E_Y(i_A(x))$  then intruder knows  $E_X(x)$ .

(Besides we have computation abilities of the intruder.)

For general protocols, we need to use multiset rewriting rules.

As usual we have two honest agents  $A, B$  and a dishonest agent  $C$ .

Idea: we look at the shape of messages that may be known to the intruder.

Messages involved are of the form  $w \cdot M$  where  $w$  is a string of symbols  $E_A, E_B, E_C, i_A, i_B, i_C$ .

E.g. the message  $E_B(i_A(M))$  is written as  $E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$ .

Claim: every message known to the intruder is of one of the following two forms

1.  $w \cdot E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$  for some string  $w$
2.  $w \cdot E_A \cdot M$  for some string  $w$

The first message  $E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$  known to the intruder is clearly of this form. (Here  $w$  is the empty string.)

Now we consider a protocol step.

The intruder already knows  $E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot x$  using which he learns  $E_X \cdot x$ .

(1) Suppose  $E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot x$  is of the form  $w \cdot E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$  for some string  $w$ .

Cases:

Now we consider a protocol step.

The intruder already knows  $E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot x$  using which he learns  $E_X \cdot x$ .

(1) Suppose  $E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot x$  is of the form  $w \cdot E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$  for some string  $w$ .

Cases:

- $|x| \geq 3$ . Then  $x$  is of the form  $w' \cdot E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$  and  $w = E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot w'$ .

Hence  $E_X \cdot x$  is of the form  $E_X \cdot w' \cdot E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$ .

Now we consider a protocol step.

The intruder already knows  $E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot x$  using which he learns  $E_X \cdot x$ .

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Cases:

- $|x| \geq 3$ . Then  $x$  is of the form  $w' \cdot E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$  and  $w = E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot w'$ .  
Hence  $E_X \cdot x$  is of the form  $E_X \cdot w' \cdot E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$ .
- $|x| = 2$ . We must have  $x = i_A \cdot M$  and  $i_X = E_B$ , which is impossible.

Now we consider a protocol step.

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- $|x| = 2$ . We must have  $x = i_A \cdot M$  and  $i_X = E_B$ , which is impossible.
- $|x| = 1$ . We have  $x = M$ ,  $Y = B$  and  $X = A$ . The new message  $E_X \cdot M = E_A \cdot M$  is of the required form.

Now we consider a protocol step.

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- $|x| = 1$ . We have  $x = M$ ,  $Y = B$  and  $X = A$ . The new message  $E_X \cdot M = E_A \cdot M$  is of the required form.
- $|x| = 0$ . We must have  $i_X = M$  which is impossible.



Now we consider a protocol step.

The intruder already knows  $E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot x$  using which he learns  $E_X \cdot x$ .

(2) Suppose  $E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot x$  is of the form  $w \cdot E_A \cdot M$  for some string  $w$ .

Cases:

Now we consider a protocol step.

The intruder already knows  $E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot x$  using which he learns  $E_X \cdot x$ .

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Cases:

- $|x| \geq 2$ . Then  $x$  is of the form  $w' \cdot E_A \cdot M$  and  $w = E_Y \cdot i_X \cdot w'$ .

Hence  $E_X \cdot x$  is of the form  $E_X \cdot w' \cdot E_A \cdot M$ .

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Hence  $E_X \cdot x$  is of the form  $E_X \cdot w' \cdot E_A \cdot M$ .
- $|x| = 1$ . We must have  $x = M$  and  $i_X = E_A$ , which is impossible.
- $|x| = 0$ . We must have  $i_X = M$  which is impossible.

Finally we consider intruder computations.

The intruder knows a message  $w_1$  of the form

1.  $w \cdot E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$  for some string  $w$
2. or  $w \cdot E_A \cdot M$  for some string  $w$

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  - Now suppose the intruder pops a symbol  $E_C$ . This is possible only if  $w = E_C \cdot w'$ . Hence the new message is of the required form.



Finally we consider intruder computations.

The intruder knows a message  $w_1$  of the form

1.  $w \cdot E_B \cdot i_A \cdot M$  for some string  $w$
2. or  $w \cdot E_A \cdot M$  for some string  $w$ 
  - If the intruder computes  $E_X \cdot w_1$  or  $i_X \cdot w_1$  (pushing a new symbol) then this new message is of the required form.
  - Now suppose the intruder pops a symbol  $i_X$ . This is possible only if  $w = i_X \cdot w'$ . Hence the new message is of the required form.
  - Now suppose the intruder pops a symbol  $E_C$ . This is possible only if  $w = E_C \cdot w'$ . Hence the new message is of the required form.

Hence the protocol is secure :-)

# Some Key Distribution Protocols

# Diffie-Hellman secret-key exchange protocol

Due to Diffie and Hellman (1976).

Two parties  $A$  and  $B$  have no symmetric or asymmetric keys, and want to agree on a common key to be used for symmetric encryption.

Fix a prime number  $p$ .

$$\mathbb{Z}_p^* = \{x \mid 0 < x < p, \gcd(x, p) = 1\}$$

As  $p$  is prime,  $\mathbb{Z}_p^* = \{1, \dots, p - 1\}$ .

For every prime  $p$  there is some  $g \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  such that

$$\mathbb{Z}_p^* = \{g^0 \bmod p, \dots, g^{p-2} \bmod p\}$$

$g$  is called the **generator** of  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$ .

## The protocol

The prime  $p$  and the generator  $g$  are known to everybody.

- $A$  randomly chooses  $0 \leq N_a \leq p - 2$  and sends  $X = g^{N_a} \pmod p$  to  $B$ .
- $B$  randomly chooses  $0 \leq N_b \leq p - 2$  and sends  $Y = g^{N_b} \pmod p$  to  $A$ .
- $A$  computes  $Y^{N_a}$  as the secret key.
- $B$  computes  $X^{N_b}$  as the secret key.

$$X^{N_b} = (g^{N_a})^{N_b} = g^{N_a N_b} = (g^{N_b})^{N_a} = Y^{N_a} \pmod p$$