

Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection and the Dependent Signal Issue

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Side-Channel Issue



Encryption on physical devices:

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Side-Channel Issue



Encryption on physical devices:

With any physical signals

Side-Channel Issue



Encryption on physical devices:

- With any physical signals
- Possibly containing secret information

Side-Channel Issue



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Side-channel Attacks:

- Known to be hard to prevent
- Hard to evaluate as well

Side-Channel Issue



Encryption on physical devices:

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Side-channel Attacks:

- Known to be hard to prevent
- Hard to evaluate as well

Two evaluation approaches:

- Attack based
- Leakage detection

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Attack Based Evaluation

Can directly mount attacks:

1. Collect measurements



Attack Based Evaluation

Can directly mount attacks:

- 1. Collect measurements
- 2. Perform an attack



Attack Based Evaluation

Can directly mount attacks:

- 1. Collect measurements
- 2. Perform an attack
- 3. Retrieve the correct sub-key



Attack Based Evaluation

Can directly mount attacks:

- 1. Collect measurements
- 2. Perform an attack
- 3. Retrieve the correct sub-key



- $1. \ {\rm Long} \ {\rm measurement} \ {\rm period}$
- $2. \ {\sf Skilled}/{\sf expert} \ {\sf knowledge}$
- 3. Distinguish 1 sub-key within 256



Leakage detection searches for dependency between manipulated data and physical traces.



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 Feed the core with two different sets of inputs

Leakage detection searches for dependency between manipulated data and physical traces.



- Feed the core with two different sets of inputs
- Record the corresponding traces

Leakage detection searches for dependency between manipulated data and physical traces.



- Feed the core with two different sets of inputs
- Record the corresponding traces
- Observe differences between the two sets

Leakage detection searches for dependency between manipulated data and physical traces.



How does it compare with attack based evaluations:

- Shortened measurement period (Possibly)
- No skilled/expert knowledge

Leakage detection searches for dependency between manipulated data and physical traces.



How does it compare with attack based evaluations:

- Shortened measurement period (Possibly)
- No skilled/expert knowledge
- A good first check but:
 - Risk of false positives and false negatives

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Find a difference between the two sets:

1. Select a point in time



- 1. Select a point in time
- 2. Record traces to observe a distribution



- 1. Select a point in time
- 2. Record traces to observe a distribution
- 3. Perform a statistical test



- 1. Select a point in time
- 2. Record traces to observe a distribution
- 3. Perform a statistical test
- 4. Observe its binary output



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Repeat with more measurements if needed



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The statistical test can search for difference in:

- Means with the Welch's t-test
- \blacktriangleright Distributions with $\chi^2\text{-test}$



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The statistical test can search for difference in:

- Means with the Welch's t-test \implies Most popular
- \blacktriangleright Distributions with $\chi^2\text{-test}$



The traces contain multiple points in time:

1. Select **all** the points in time



- 1. Select **all** the points in time
- 2. Record traces to observe a distribution



- 1. Select \boldsymbol{all} the points in time
- 2. Record traces to observe a distribution
- 3. Perform independent statistical test



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Difference found if:

At least one of the tests goes above a threshold



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- 1. Select \boldsymbol{all} the points in time
- 2. Record traces to observe a distribution
- 3. Perform independent statistical test
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Difference found if:

- At least one of the tests goes above a threshold
- Selected thanks to:
 - Desired confidence
 - Number of considered time samples
 - Assuming independence between them
Limitations to TVLA



TVLA performs independent *t*-test:

Limitations to TVLA



TVLA performs independent *t*-test:

 Impossible to take advantage of multivariate leakage

Limitations to TVLA



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Independence in the signal is usually not met:

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Wrong assumption while setting the threshold

Limitations to TVLA



TVLA performs independent *t*-test:

- Impossible to take advantage of multivariate leakage
 - Could lead to reduced measurement period

Independence in the signal is usually not met:

- Wrong assumption while setting the threshold
 - Hard to interpret results (especially negative ones)

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Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: General Idea



Approach:

Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: General Idea



Approach:

Replace the independent tests by a single one

Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: General Idea



Approach:

Replace the independent tests by a single one

Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: General Idea



Approach:

- ► Replace the independent tests by a single one Natural canditate: Hotelling's *T*²-test
 - ► Do not assume independence
 - Need to invert a covariance matrix
 - Not always applicable

Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: General Idea



Approach:

- ► Replace the independent tests by a single one Natural canditate: Hotelling's *T*²-test
 - ► Do not assume independence
 - Need to invert a covariance matrix
 - Not always applicable

.

Heuristic alternative: D-test

- Assume independence
 - Hard to interpret results

- The proportion of leaking points
- t-test showing difference with ∞ of measurements

- The proportion of leaking points
- *t*-test showing difference with ∞ of measurements



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Density of informative points:

- The proportion of leaking points
- *t*-test showing difference with ∞ of measurements



Typical settings:

- Protected software: low density, long traces
- Hardware unprotected: high density, short traces

Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Features

From simulations with fixed trace length:

log(Density)

Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Features

From simulations with fixed trace length:



Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Features

From simulations with fixed trace length:



Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Features

From simulations with fixed trace length:

Both methods suffer from a low density



Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Features

From simulations with fixed trace length:

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- Multi-Tuple more than the TVLA



Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Features

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- Multi-Tuple more than the TVLA



Reduced data complexity with higher density

Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Parameters

From simulations with fixed density:

log(Trace length)

Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Parameters

From simulations with fixed density:

of measurements

log(Trace length)

Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Parameters

From simulations with fixed density:



Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Parameters

From simulations with fixed density:

Both methods take advantage of longer traces



Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Parameters

From simulations with fixed density:

- Both methods take advantage of longer traces
- Multi-Tuple gains more than the TVLA



Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection: Parameters

From simulations with fixed density:

- Both methods take advantage of longer traces
- Multi-Tuple gains more than the TVLA



- Reduced data complexity with the number of time samples
- ► The jointly processed trace size is limited for Hotelling's test because of covariance matrix inversion (~2000):
 - Possibility to run multiple Hotelling's tests in parallel

Practical Evaluation Scenarios



Two extreme settings:

Practical Evaluation Scenarios



Two extreme settings:

 White Box: everything is known about the design

Practical Evaluation Scenarios



Two extreme settings:

- White Box: everything is known about the design
- Black Box: nothing is known about the design

Practical Evaluation Scenarios



Two extreme settings:

- White Box: everything is known about the design
- Black Box: nothing is known about the design

How to perform Leakage Detection in these settings ?

Practical Evaluation Scenarios: White Box

In White Box:



Practical Evaluation Scenarios: White Box

In White Box:

Prior information about leaking points


Practical Evaluation Scenarios: White Box

In White Box:

- Prior information about leaking points
 - Can reduce traces



Practical Evaluation Scenarios: White Box

In White Box:

- Prior information about leaking points
 - Can reduce traces
 - Can invert the covariance matrix (Hotelling's T²-test)
 - High density



Practical Evaluation Scenarios: White Box

In White Box:

- Prior information about leaking points
 - Can reduce traces
 - Can invert the covariance matrix (Hotelling's T²-test)
 - High density



As a result:

- Smaller measurement period
- Easy interpretation of the confidence (no $\perp\!\!\!\perp$ assumption)

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Practical Evaluation Scenarios: Black Box



In Black Box:

No prior information about leaking points



- No prior information about leaking points
 - Can't reduce traces



- No prior information about leaking points
 - Can't reduce traces
 - Can't always invert the covariance matrix



- No prior information about leaking points
 - Can't reduce traces
 - Can't always invert the covariance matrix
 - Fixed density



In Black Box:

- No prior information about leaking points
 - Can't reduce traces
 - Can't always invert the covariance matrix
 - Fixed density

 $P_1 \text{ or } P_2 \longrightarrow C_1 \text{ or } C_2$

As a result:

Possibly larger measurement period

In Black Box:

- No prior information about leaking points
 - Can't reduce traces
 - Can't always invert the covariance matrix
 - Fixed density

As a result:

- Possibly larger measurement period
- Independent assumption needed



In Black Box:

- No prior information about leaking points
 - Can't reduce traces
 - Can't always invert the covariance matrix
 - Fixed density

As a result:

- Possibly larger measurement period
- Independent assumption needed
 - Heuristic required for confidence level interpretation:
 - TVLA: too conservative
 - D-test: too optimistic

 C_1 or C_2

 P_1 or P_2

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Multi-Tuple Leakage Detection and the Dependent Signal Issue

Physical signals are not likely to be independent across time 1. If applicable, Hotelling's T^2 -test provides:

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 - Straight forward interpretation of the confidence level
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 - Loose intuition about the POIs

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Evaluation Hardness

Thanks !

github.com/obronchain/multituple_leakage_detection

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