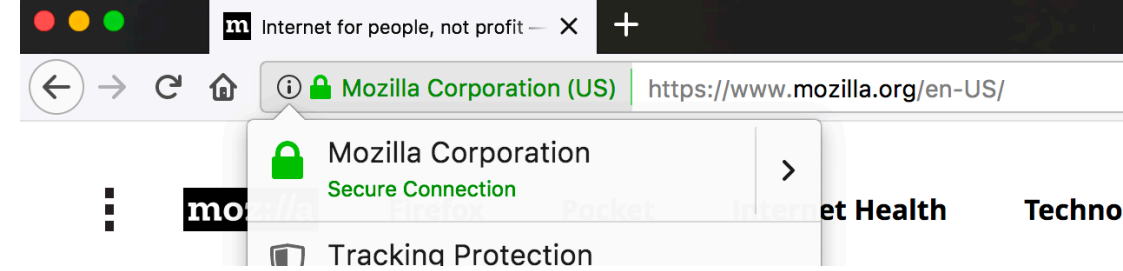


The Inria logo is written in a stylized, cursive font with a color gradient from red to orange.

Formal verification for security software in F^*

Application to cryptographic protocols and primitives.



Style sheet could not be loaded.

Status	Method	Domain	File	Cause	Type	Transfer
200	GET	www.google.com	/	document	html	57.28 KB
204	POST	www.google.com	gen_204?s=webhp&t=aft&atyp=csi&ei=XivsXMK0Mb2cJLsPkZ2rAc&rt=w... beacon		html	403 B
200	GET	www.google.com	rs=ACT90oGZp395gU...:5iw script		js	cached
200	GET	www.google.com	favicon.ico	img	x-icon	1.46 KB (re)
204	POST	www.google.com	gen_204?atyp=csi&ei=...:2rAc&s=webhp&t=all&imn=2&a... beacon		html	403 B
204	POST	www.google.com	gen_204?atyp=csi&ei=...:2rAc&s=jsa&jsi=s,t,0,et.focus,n... beacon		html	403 B
200	GET	www.google.com	search?q&cp=0&client=psy-ab&xssi=t&gs_r1=gws-wiz&hl=fr&authuser=0&psi... xhr		json	713 B
200	GET	www.gstatic.com	rs=AA2YrTtMdCIaG5KG-5-_ZYOM3CgG9g57Bg script		js	cached
200	GET	www.google.com	m=WgDvvc,aa,abd,async,dvl,foot,lu,m,mUpTid,mu,sb_wiz,sf,xz7cCd?xjs=s1 script		js	cached
200	GET	clients5.google.com	/pagead/drt/dn/ subdocument		html	cached
200	GET	apis.google.com	script		js	cached
204	GET	csi.gstatic.com	module&action=gapi_iframes__googleapis_cli12&it=mli.228,m... img		gif	383 B
302	GET	adservice.google.com	img		html	637 B
200	GET	clients5.google.com	script		js	cached
302	GET	adservice.google.fr	GNQrzk9rac4cMZlYpGisT5OmHDYGuB_isk5zFQ9JCIVQ4CpjS... img		html	648 B
302	GET	googleads.g.doubleclick.net	ui?gadsid=AORoGNSOMMyNxsdiKLfu488hPwm1ILVMxyWpXjrf8B367uB1sRW... img		html	669 B
302	GET	adservice.google.com	si?gadsid=AORoGNTokAe3i7vXe-Isa0IIY_vxBj26lnMPqda5CrVfU0HY7qIkaL4Jz... img		html	667 B
302	GET	adservice.google.fr	si?gadsid=AORoGNQCXUq-lb5XauOv8_r6GATsOo4JMmSDYptj2WwmZWk7zf... img		html	675 B
204	GET	googleads.g.doubleclick.net	si?gadsid=AORoGNQX3MAulQqw92kLsElrZzsdATo0vVnlK8Mlwekh9dypQm2y... img		html	495 B

Security

- Connection:
 - Protocol version: "TLSv1.3"
 - Cipher suite: "TLS_AES_128_GCM_SHA256"
 - Key Exchange Group: "x25519"
 - Signature Scheme: "ECDSA-P256-SHA256"
- Host www.google.com:
 - HTTP Strict Transport Security: "Enabled"
 - Public Key Pinning: "Enabled"
- Certificate:
 - Issued To
 - Common Name (CN): "www.google.com"
 - Organization (O): "Google LLC"
 - Organizational Unit (OU): "<Not Available>"
 - Issued By
 - Common Name (CN): "GTS CA 101"
 - Organization (O): "Google Trust Services"
 - Organizational Unit (OU): "<Not Available>"
 - Period of Validity
 - Begins On: "10 November 2020"
 - Expires On: "2 February 2021"
 - Fingerprints
 - SHA-256 Fingerprint: "65:9E:D7:A9:76:62:C2:9C:B6:F6...F:50:66:15:6D:0C:8F:43:1E:F3"
 - SHA1 Fingerprint: "24:D6:84:8A:7A:E3:38:48:FB:69:5B:99:94:9C:FD:1A:E2:87:DF:5A"
 - Transparency: "<Not Available>"

Let's have a look at the security of TLS implementations!

[A messy state of the union: Taming the composite state machines of TLS](#)

B Beurdouche, K Bhargavan, A Delignat-Lavaud, C Fournet, M Kohlweiss, ...

2015 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy, 535-552

[FlexTLS: A Tool for Testing TLS Implementations](#)

B Beurdouche, A Delignat-Lavaud, N Kobeissi, A Pironti, K Bhargavan

9th USENIX Workshop on Offensive Technologies (WOOT 15)

TLS Standards & Implementations

Internet Standard

1994	Netscape's Secure Sockets Layer
1995	SSL3
1999	TLS 1.0 (≈SSL3)
2006	TLS 1.1
2008	TLS 1.2
2018	TLS 1.3

Implementations

OpenSSL schannel NSS SecureTransport mbedTLS JSSE GnuTLS miTLS

Large C/C++ codebase (400K LOC), many forks

Optimized cryptographic code for 50 platforms

Not the best API

Frequent security patches <https://openssl.org/news/vulnerabilities.html>

Breaking TLS implementations

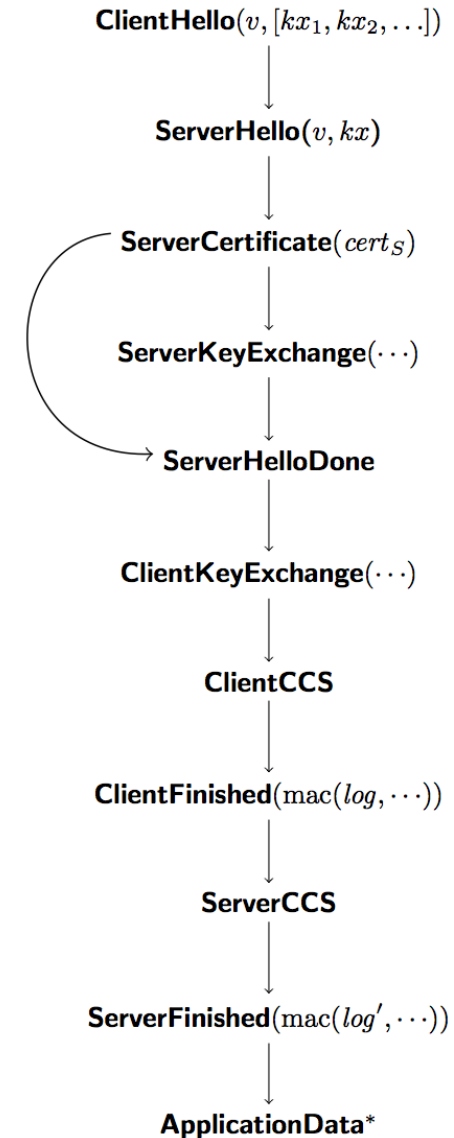
Exploiting incorrect state-machines in TLS 1.2 libraries

TLS offers many ciphersuites, optional messages, extensions... sharing the same state machine.

FlexTLS provides a way to test TLS state machine.

We systematically generated and tested **deviant traces** against TLS implementations (skipping, inserting, reordering valid messages)

We found many many exploitable bugs!
...including FREAK (weak crypto)...



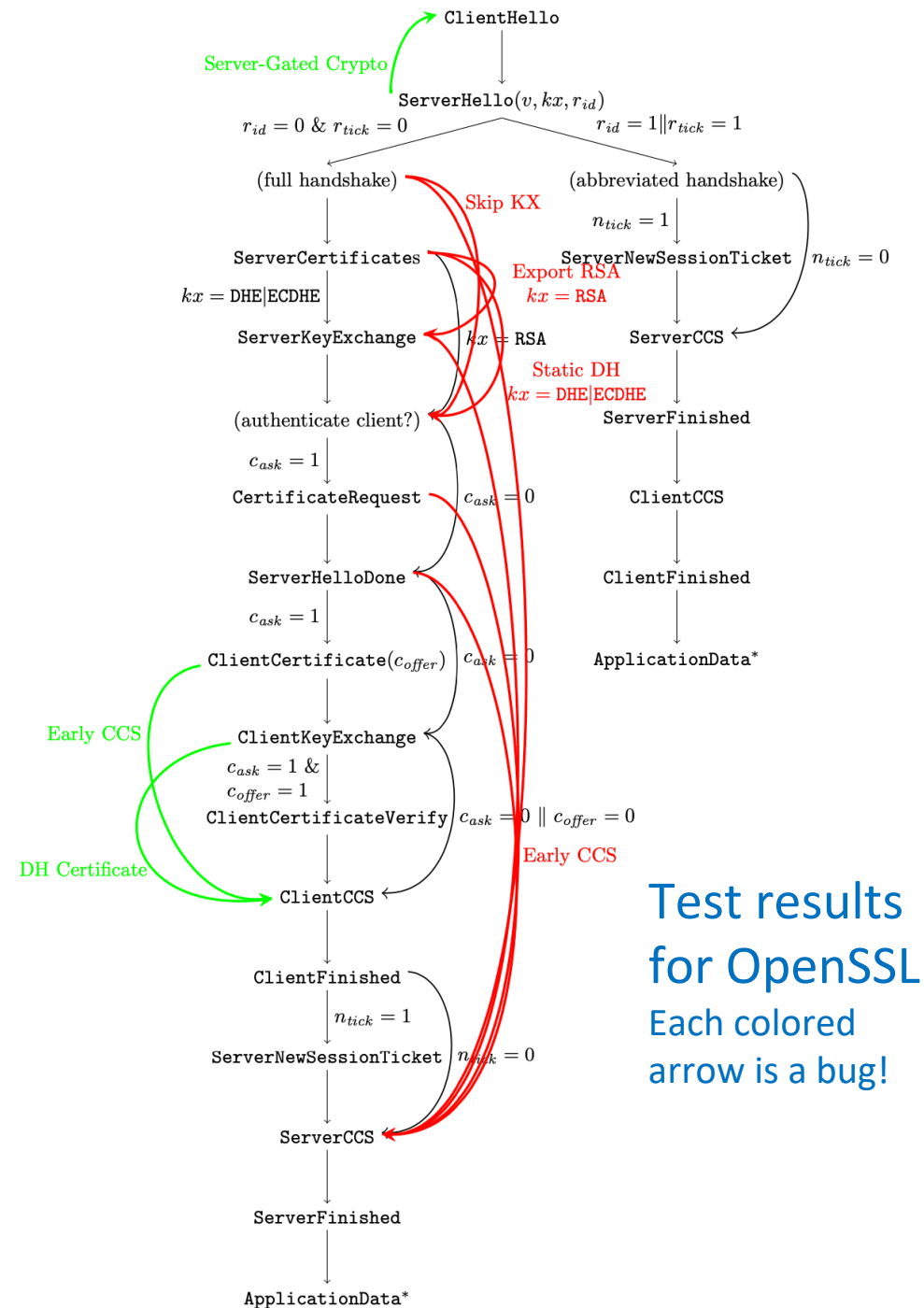
Breaking TLS implementations

Exploiting incorrect state-machines in TLS 1.2 libraries

```

1 static member server (listening_address:string, ?port:int) : unit =
2   (* Genuine www.google.com certificate chain *)
3   let g1 = new System.Security.Cryptography.X509Certificates("google.com-1.crt") in
4   let g2 = new System.Security.Cryptography.X509Certificates("google.com-2.crt") in
5   let g3 = new System.Security.Cryptography.X509Certificates("google.com-3.crt") in
6   let chain = [g1.RawData; g2.RawData; g3.RawData] in
7
8   let port = defaultArg port FlexConstants.defaultTCPPort in
9   while true do
10    (* Accept TCP connection from the client *)
11    let st, cfg = FlexConnection.serverOpenTcpConnection(listening_address,
12                                                         listening_address,
13                                                         port) in
14
15    (* Start RSA key exchange *)
16    let st, nsc, fch = FlexClientHello.receive(st) in
17    let fsh = { FlexConstants.nullFServerHello with ciphersuite =
18               Some(TLSConstants.TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA)} in
19    let st, nsc, fsh = FlexServerHello.send(st, fch, nsc, fsh) in
20    let st, nsc, fc = FlexCertificate.send(st, Server, chain, nsc) in
21    let verify_data = FlexSecrets.makeVerifyData nsc.si (abytes []) Server st.hs_log in
22
23    (* Skip key exchange messages and send Finished *)
24    let st, fin = FlexFinished.send(st, verify_data=verify_data) in
25    let st = FlexAppData.send(st, "HTTP/1.1 200 OK ...") in
26    Tcp.close st.ns
27  end
  
```

FlexTLS code for the Early Finished Attack



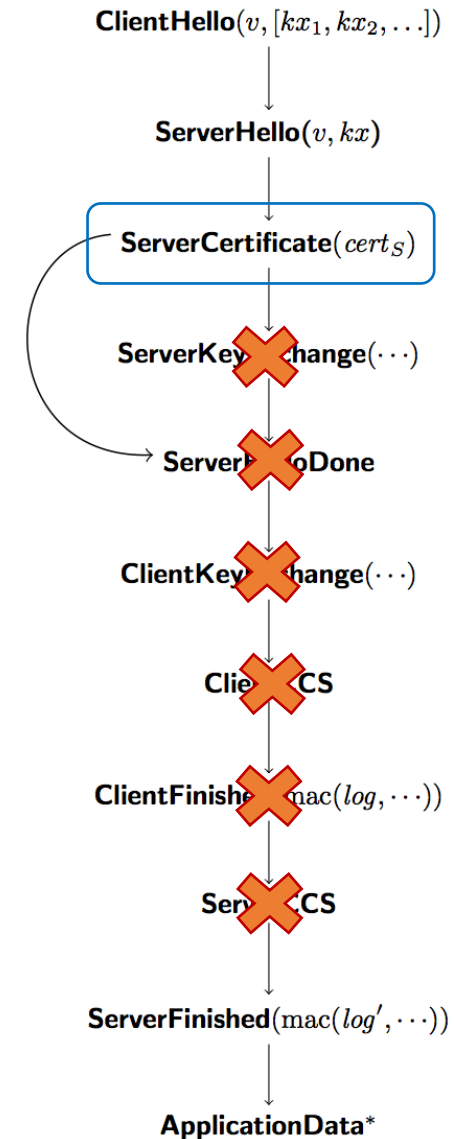
Breaking TLS implementations

Exploiting incorrect state-machines in TLS 1.2 libraries

An attack against TLS Java Library (open for 10 years)

A network attacker impersonates the Server and skips 6 messages
(including the Server's signature).

JSSE's client assumes the key exchange
is finished, uses uninitialized 0x000000...
as session key!



Thesis goals

Secure implementations of **Cryptographic primitives**

Scale to **Cryptographic protocols**

Improve process for **Designing new Cryptographic protocols**

HACL*: a library of formally verified cryptographic primitives

[HACL*: A Verified Modern Cryptographic Library](#)

JK Zinzindohoué, K Bhargavan, J Protzenko, B Beurdouche
ACM CCS 2017

[Evercrypt: A fast, verified, cross-platform cryptographic provider](#)

J Protzenko, B Parno, A Fromherz, C Hawblitzel, M Polubelova, ...
2020 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP), 634-653

[HACLxN: Verified Generic SIMD Crypto](#)

M Polubelova, K Bhargavan, J Protzenko, B Beurdouche, A Fromherz, ...

Implementing is hard for everyone

agl / curve25519-donna

Watch 20

Code Issues 2 Pull requests 7 Projects 0 Wiki Insights

[2014] Curve25519-Donna

Correct bounds in 32-bit code.

The 32-bit code was illustrative of the tricks used in the original curve25519 paper rather than rigorous. However, it has proven quite popular.

This change fixes an issue that Robert Ransom found where 2^{255-19} and 2^{255-1} weren't correctly reduced in fco appears to leak a small fraction of a bit of security

Additionally, the code has been cleaned up to reflect needs. The ref10 code also exists for 32-bit, generic slower and objections around the lack of qasm available raised.

master 1.3

agl committed on Jun 9, 2014

CVE-2017-7781: Elliptic curve point addition error when using mixed Jacobian-affine coordinates

REPORTER Antonio Sanso

IMPACT MODERATE

[2017] Elliptic curve functional correctness bug in NSS

Description

An error occurs in the elliptic curve point addition algorithm that uses mixed Jacobian-affine coordinates where it can yield a result POINT_AT_INFINITY when it should not. A man-in-the-middle attacker could use this to interfere with a connection, resulting in an attacked party computing an incorrect shared secret.

References

- Bug 1352039

```
sv pack25519(u8 *o, const gf n)
{
    int i,j,b;
    gf m,t;
    FOR(i,16) t[i]=n[i];
    car25519(t);
    car25519(t);
    car25519(t);
    FOR(j,2) {
        m[0]=t[0]-0xffed;
        for(i=1;i<15;i++) {
            m[i]=t[i]-0xffff-((m[i-1]>>16)&1);
            m[i-1]&=0xffff;
            fff-((m[14]>>16)&1);
        }
        f;
        3;
    }
    n the last limb n[15] of the input argument n of
    equal than 0xffff . In these cases the result of
    s not reduced as expected resulting in a wrong
    packed value. This code can be fixed simply by replacing m[15]&=0xffff;
    by m[14]&=0xffff; .
```

Even for very skilled programmers or cryptographers !

What are the properties interesting for us?

Memory Safety

(buffer overflow, out of bounds r/w...)

Secret Independence

(execution time leaks secrets)

Functional correctness

(incorrect code logic)

Formal methods inbound!

Verification of a Cryptographic Primitive: SHA-256

ANDREW W. APPEL, Princeton University

Recent academic developments for Cryptography

Verifying Curve25519 Software

-Fang Chen¹, Chang-Hong Hsu², Hsin-Hung Lin³, Peter Schwabe⁴
Bow-Yaw Wang¹, Bo-Yin Yang¹, and Shang-Yi Yan¹

¹ Institute of Information Science
Academia Sinica
128 Section 2 Academia Road, Taipei 115-29, Taiwan

Lennart Beringer
Princeton Univ.

Adam Petcher
Harvard Univ. and

Katherine Q. Ye
Princeton Univ.

Andrew W. Appel
Princeton Univ.

Verified correctness and security of OpenSSL HMAC

To appear in 24th Usenix Security Symposium, August 12, 2015

Verifiable side-channel security of cryptographic implementations: constant-time MEE-CBC

José Bacelar Almeida^{1,2}, Manuel Barbosa^{1,3}, Gilles Barthe⁴, and François Dupressoir⁴

¹ HASLab – INESC TEC
² University of Minho
³ DCC-FC, University of Porto
⁴ IMDEA Software Institute

Verifying Constant-Time Implementations

José Bacelar Almeida
HASLab - INESC TEC & Univ. Minho

Manuel Barbosa
HASLab - INESC TEC & DCC FCUP

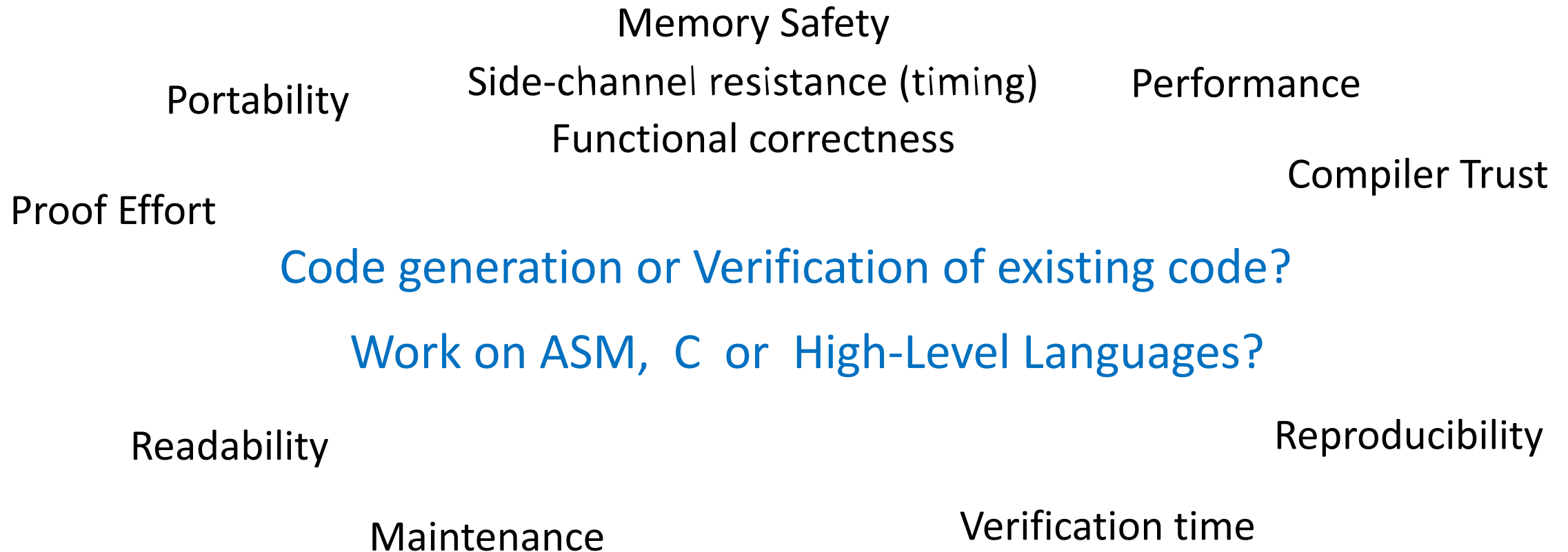
Gilles Barthe
IMDEA Software Institute

François Dupressoir
IMDEA Software Institute

Michael Emmi
Bell Labs, Nokia

"Automated Verification of Real-World Cryptographic Implementations",
Aaron Tomb, *IEEE Security & Privacy*, vol. 14, no. , pp. 26-33, Nov.-Dec. 2016

Formal verification: what and how ?



HACL*: A Verified Modern Cryptographic Library

Jean Karim Zinzindohoué
INRIA

Karthikeyan Bhargavan
INRIA

Jonathan Protzenko
Microsoft Research

Benjamin Beurdouche
INRIA

EverCrypt: A Fast, Verified, Cross-Platform Cryptographic Provider

Jonathan Protzenko*, Bryan Parno[‡], Aymeric Fromherz[‡], Chris Hawblitzel*, Marina Polubelova[†], Karthikeyan Bhargavan[†], Benjamin Beurdouche[†], Joonwon Choi*[§], Antoine Delignat-Lavaud*, Cédric Fournet*, Natalia Kulatova[†], Tahina Ramananandro*, Aseem Rastogi*, Nikhil Swamy*, Christoph M. Wintersteiger*, Santiago Zanella-Beguelin*

*Microsoft Research

[‡]Carnegie Mellon University

[†]Inria

[§]MIT

HACLxN: Verified Generic SIMD Crypto (for all your favorite platforms)

Marina Polubelova
Inria Paris

Karthikeyan Bhargavan
Inria Paris

Jonathan Protzenko
Microsoft Research

Benjamin Beurdouche
Inria Paris and Mozilla

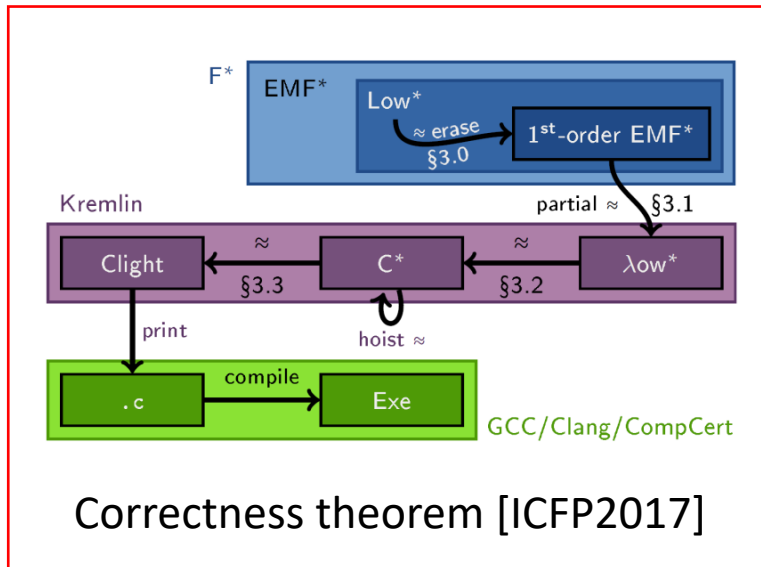
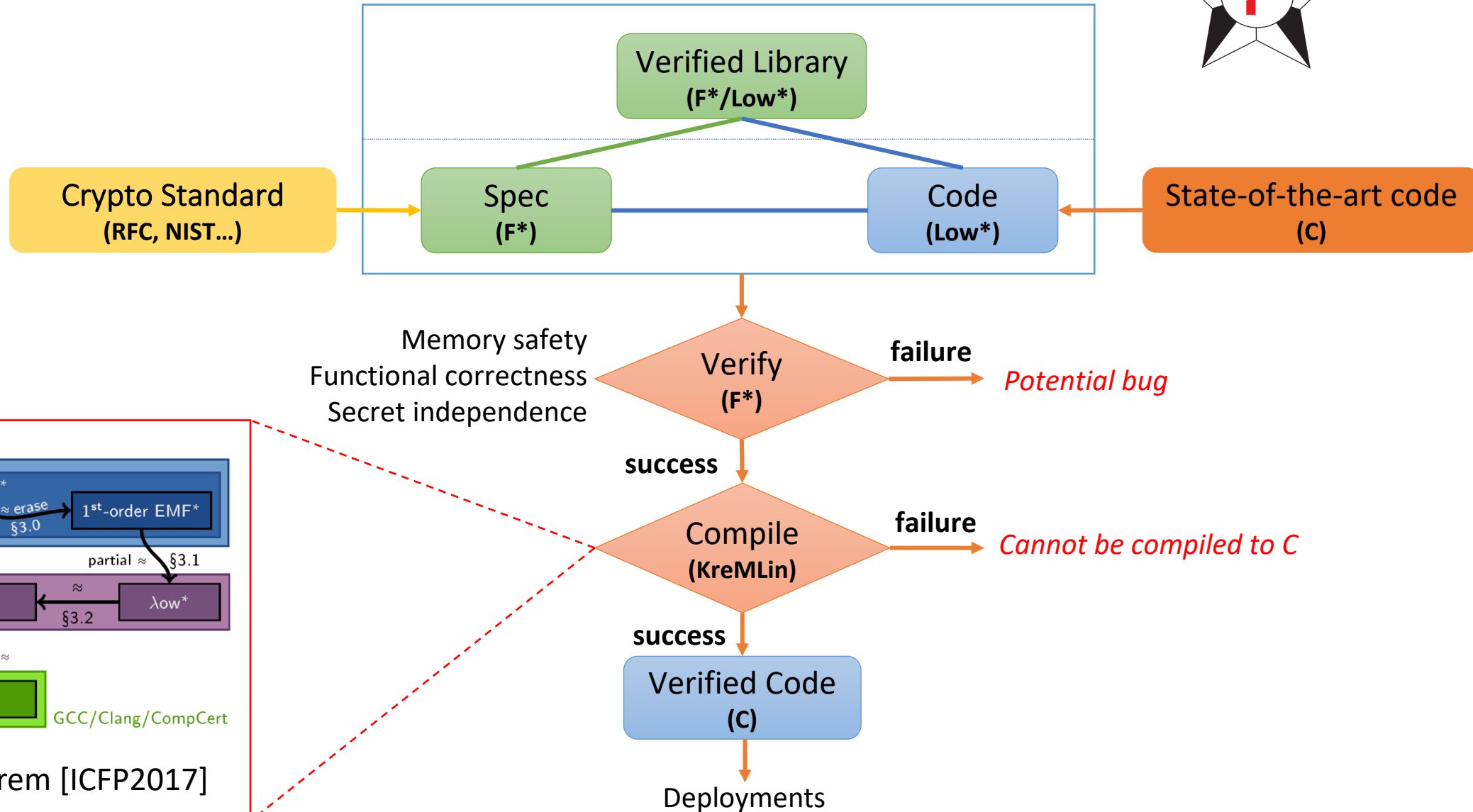
Aymeric Fromherz
Carnegie Mellon University

Natalia Kulatova
Inria Paris

Santiago Zanella-Béguelin
Microsoft Research

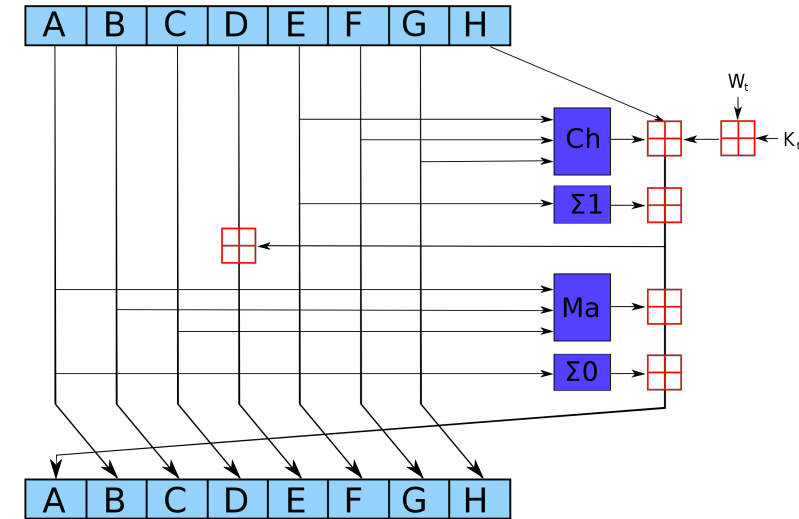
HACL* verification workflow

[POPL 2016]



Writing code for the SHA2 shuffle function

```
1 let shuffle_core a block hash ws t =
2   let a0 = hash.(0ul) in
3   let b0 = hash.(1ul) in
4   let c0 = hash.(2ul) in
5   let d0 = hash.(3ul) in
6   let e0 = hash.(4ul) in
7   let f0 = hash.(5ul) in
8   let g0 = hash.(6ul) in
9   let h0 = hash.(7ul) in
10
11  let w = ws.(t) in
12  let t1 = h0 +. (Spec._Sigma1 a e0) +. (Spec._Ch a e0 f0 g0) +. (k0 a).(t) +. w in
13  let t2 = (Spec._Sigma0 a a0) +. (Spec._Maj a a0 b0 c0) in
14
15  hash.(0ul) ← t1 +. t2;
16  hash.(1ul) ← a0;
17  hash.(2ul) ← b0;
18  hash.(3ul) ← c0;
19  hash.(4ul) ← d0 +. t1;
20  hash.(5ul) ← e0;
21  hash.(6ul) ← f0;
22  hash.(7ul) ← g0;
```



One round of SHA-2 compression
internal state of 8 (32/64-bit) words

This is a stateful function performing in-place modifications of the hash array.

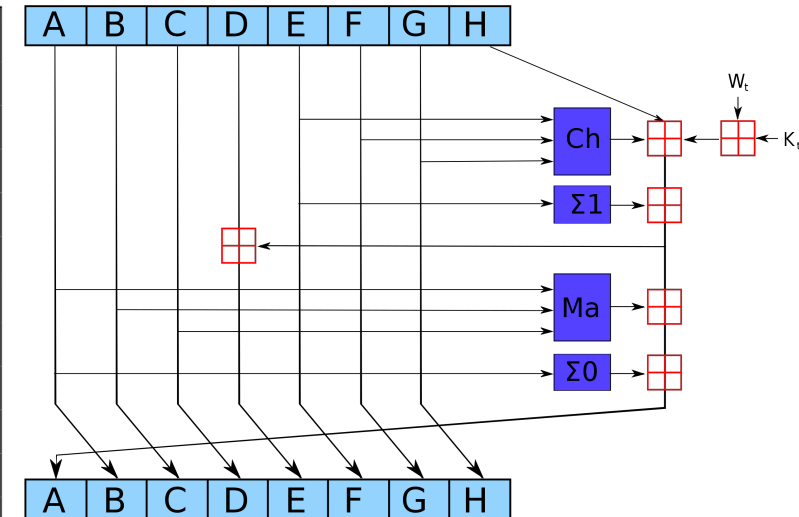
Proving Memory safety in F*

```
1 val shuffle_core
2   (a: sha2_alg)
3   (block: block_b a)
4   (hash: words_state a)
5   (ws: ws_w a)
6   (t: U32.t { U32.v t < Spec.size_k_w a }):
7   Stack unit
8   (requires (λ h →
9     live h block ∧ live h hash ∧ live h ws ∧
10    disjoint block hash ∧ disjoint block ws ∧ disjoint hash ws))
11  (ensures (λ h0 _h1 →
12    modifies hash h0 h1))
```

Live and Disjoint predicates are required to hold on inputs

- Live: “the pointer is not null”
- Disjoint: “the objects don’t occupy the same space in memory”

Modifies ensures that hash is the only array modified by this function.



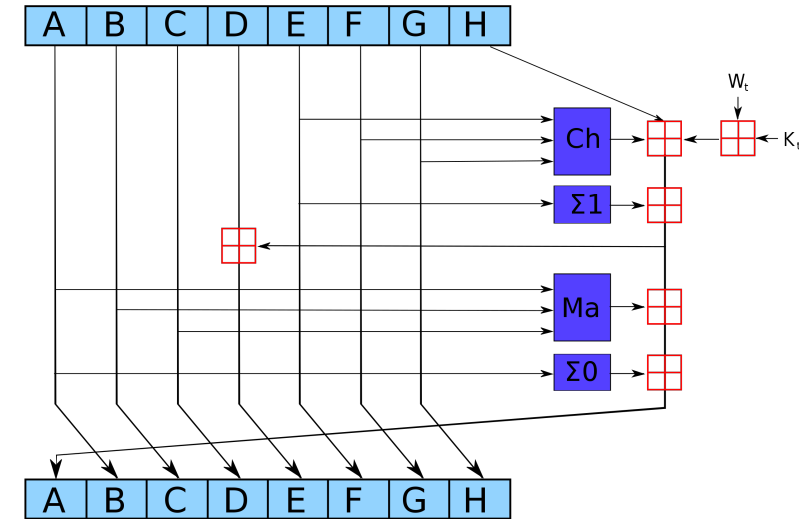
One round of SHA-2 compression
internal state of 8 (32/64-bit) words

Proving Functional correctness in F*

```
1 val shuffle_core
2   (a: sha2_alg)
3   (block: block_b a)
4   (hash: words_state a)
5   (ws: ws_w a)
6   (t: U32.t { U32.v t < Spec.size_k_w a }):
7   Stack unit
8   (requires (λ h →
9     let b = block_words_be a h block in
10    h.[ws] == S.init (Spec.size_k_w a) (Spec.ws a b)))
11  (ensures (λ h0 _h1 →
12    let b = block_words_be a h0 block in
13    h1.[hash] == Spec.shuffle_core a b h0.[hash] (U32.v t)))
```

Some preconditions are required for the values of the ws array.

The postcondition ensures that the output of the efficient stateful function presented is equal to applying the Specification on the same inputs.

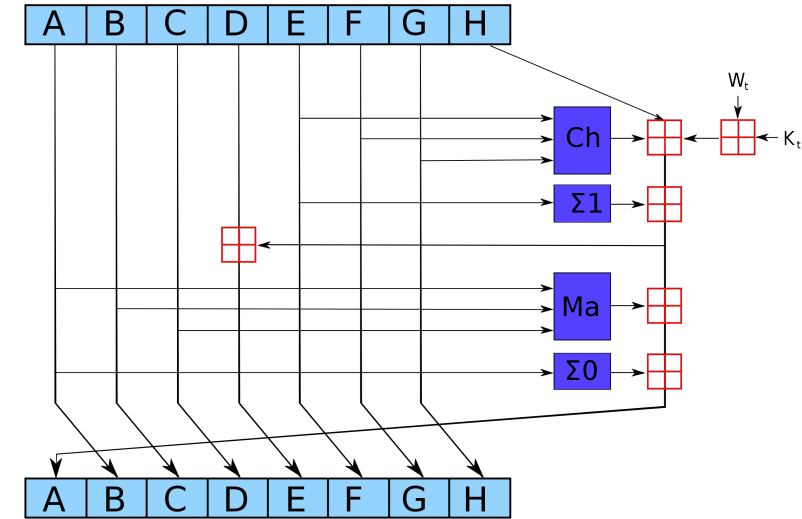


One round of SHA-2 compression
internal state of 8 (32/64-bit) words

Overall function signature

```
1 val shuffle_core
2   (a: sha2_alg)
3   (block: block_b a)
4   (hash: words_state a)
5   (ws: ws_w a)
6   (t: U32.t { U32.v t < Spec.size_k_w a }):
7   Stack unit
8   (requires (λ h →
9     let b = block_words_be a h block in
10    live h block ^ live h hash ^ live h ws ^
11    disjoint block hash ^ disjoint block ws ^ disjoint hash ws ^
12    h.[ws] == S.init (Spec.size_k_w a) (Spec.ws a b)))
13   (ensures (λ h0 _h1 →
14     let b = block_words_be a h0 block in
15     modifies hash h0 h1 ^
16     h1.[hash] == Spec.shuffle_core a b h0.[hash] (U32.v t)))
```

Everything together...



One round of SHA-2 compression
internal state of 8 (32/64-bit) words

Proving Secret Independence for Machine Integers

```
1 inline_for_extraction
2 let int_t (t:inttype) (l:secrecy_level) =
3   match l with
4   | PUB → pub_int_t t
5   | SEC → sec_int_t t
6
7 let uint_t (t:inttype{unsigned t}) (l:secrecy_level) = int_t t l
8
9 type uint1 = uint_t U1 SEC
10 type uint8 = uint_t U8 SEC
11 type uint16 = uint_t U16 SEC
12 type uint32 = uint_t U32 SEC
13 type uint64 = uint_t U64 SEC
14
15 val add: #t:inttype → #l:secrecy_level
16   → a:int_t t l
17   → b:int_t t l{range (v a + v b) t}
18   → int_t t l
19
20 val div: #t:inttype{¬(U128? t) ∧ ¬(S128? t)}
21   → a:int_t t PUB
22   → b:int_t t PUB{v b ≠ 0 ∧ (unsigned t ∨ range FStar.Int.(v a / v b) t)}
23   → int_t t PUB
```

Secret Integers cannot:

- be compared (using =)
- be used for array indexing
- perform non-CT operations
(may depend on platform)

What are the properties interesting for us?

Memory Safety

(buffer overflow, out of bounds r/w...)

Secret Independence

(execution time leaks secrets)

Functional correctness

(incorrect code logic)

HACL* - High Assurance Crypto Library

Formal verification can scale up !

Functionalities

- Hash functions
- Message authentication codes
- Encryption schemes
- Elliptic curve algorithms
- Signature schemes

- High Level APIs

Algorithm	Spec (F* loc)	Code+Proofs (Low* loc)	C Code (C loc)	Verification (s)
Salsa20	70	651	372	280
Chacha20	70	691	243	336
Chacha20-Vec	100	1656	355	614
SHA-256	96	622	313	798
SHA-512	120	737	357	1565
HMAC	38	215	28	512
Bignum-lib	-	1508	-	264
Poly1305	45	3208	451	915
X25519-lib	-	3849	-	768
Curve25519	73	1901	798	246
Ed25519	148	7219	2479	2118
AEAD	41	309	100	606
SecretBox	-	171	132	62
Box	-	188	270	43
Total	801	22,926	7,225	9127

Table 1: HACL* code size and verification times

Is this ready for production?

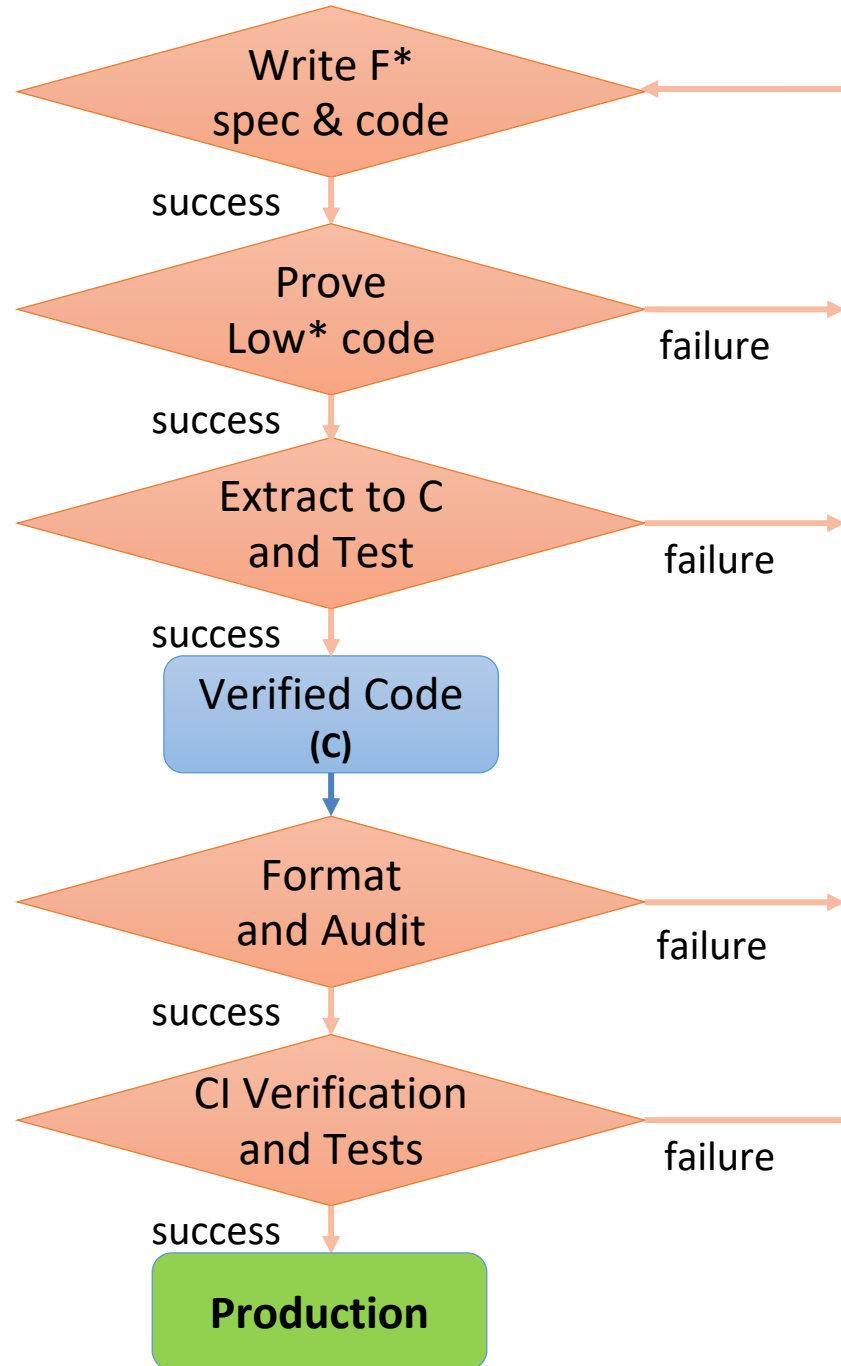
Improving code quality for Production

```
150 inline static void
151 Hacl_Bignum_AddAndMultiply_add_and_multiply(uint64_t *acc, uint64_t
152 {
153     for (uint32_t i = (uint32_t )0; i < (uint32_t )3; i = i + (uint3
154     {
155 -     uint64_t uu___871 = acc[i];
156 -     uint64_t uu___874 = block[i];
157 -     uint64_t uu___870 = uu___871 + uu___874;
158 -     acc[i] = uu___870;
159     }
160     Hacl_Bignum_Fmul_fmul(acc, acc, r);
161 }
```

```
138 inline static void
139 Hacl_Bignum_AddAndMultiply_add_and_multiply(uint64_t *acc, uint64_t
140 {
141     for (uint32_t i = (uint32_t )0; i < (uint32_t )3; i = i + (uint3
142     {
143 +     uint64_t xi = acc[i];
144 +     uint64_t yi = block[i];
145 +     acc[i] = xi + yi;
146     }
147     Hacl_Bignum_Fmul_fmul(acc, acc, r);
148 }
```

Better variable naming
Removing intermediate variables

Production workflow



NSS integration tasks #20



beurdouche opened this issue on Jun 28, 2017 · 11 comments



beurdouche commented on Jun 28, 2017 · edited

Owner +

(LAST UPDATED on November 24th 10.30am GMT+1) by BB.

General (required)

- Production branch for NSS based on recent HAACL*/F*/Kremlin- master -branches
- Export HAACL-unit tests to NSS
- Setup the NSS CI based on the HAACL Docker image
- Identify a set of working F*/Kremlin/HAACL versions working as expected
- Rename bundles to be prefixed with HaeL_ (NSS fails because chacha20.c already exists)
- Reduce trusted code base from kremlib.h
- Remove dependency into kremlib.c and FStar.c
- Generate new snapshot with parenthesis to silence -werror
- Using verified UInt128 integers
- NSS CI: Docker image
- Some void functions have returns (not all). Can we not do that? (@franziskuskiefer)
- Remove code extraction artefacts (see ChaCha20 below)

Improvements

- Get rid of the patches in the production branch (#61)
- Automatic generation of the filename prefixes using Bundles (#55)
- Remove dependencies in testlib.h automatically from generated header files (#59)
- Cleanup headers by using private in the F* code and make Kremlin extract in .c files instead
- Generate const keywords from kremlin
- Various code generation improvements FStarLang/kremlin#53

Future primitives

- Curve25519 (32bits) through the 115bit version
- SHA2/HMAC/HKDF (incremental with standard interface)
- RSA-PSS (& Generic Bignum)
- P256
- AES (ref) + AES-NI

Licensing and Headers

- Waiting on legal to see if Apache2 is possible Apache2 is OK for NSS
- Copyright header on the C code

Formally verified protocol software

Formally Verified Cryptographic Web Applications in WebAssembly

J Protzenko, B Beurdouche, D Merigoux, K Bhargavan

2019 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP), 1002-1020

Signal protocol



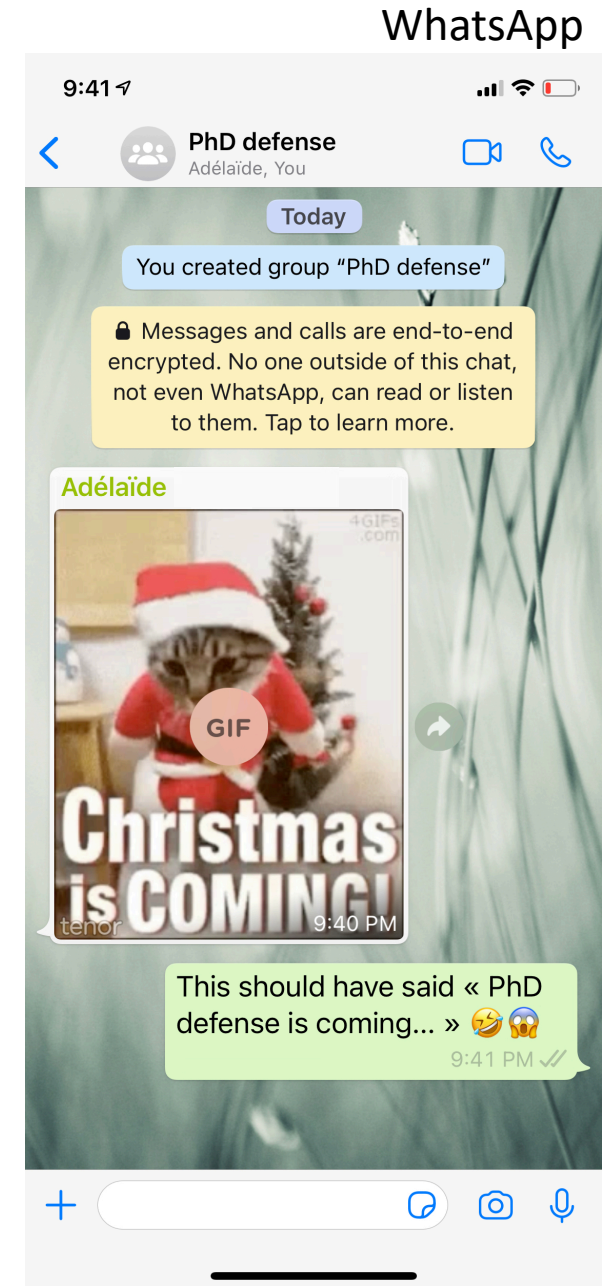
Signal Protocol is a pairwise secure channel used in many messaging applications.

Provides strong security guarantees in the 2-party setting, including:

- Forward Secrecy (FS)
- Post Compromise Security (PCS)

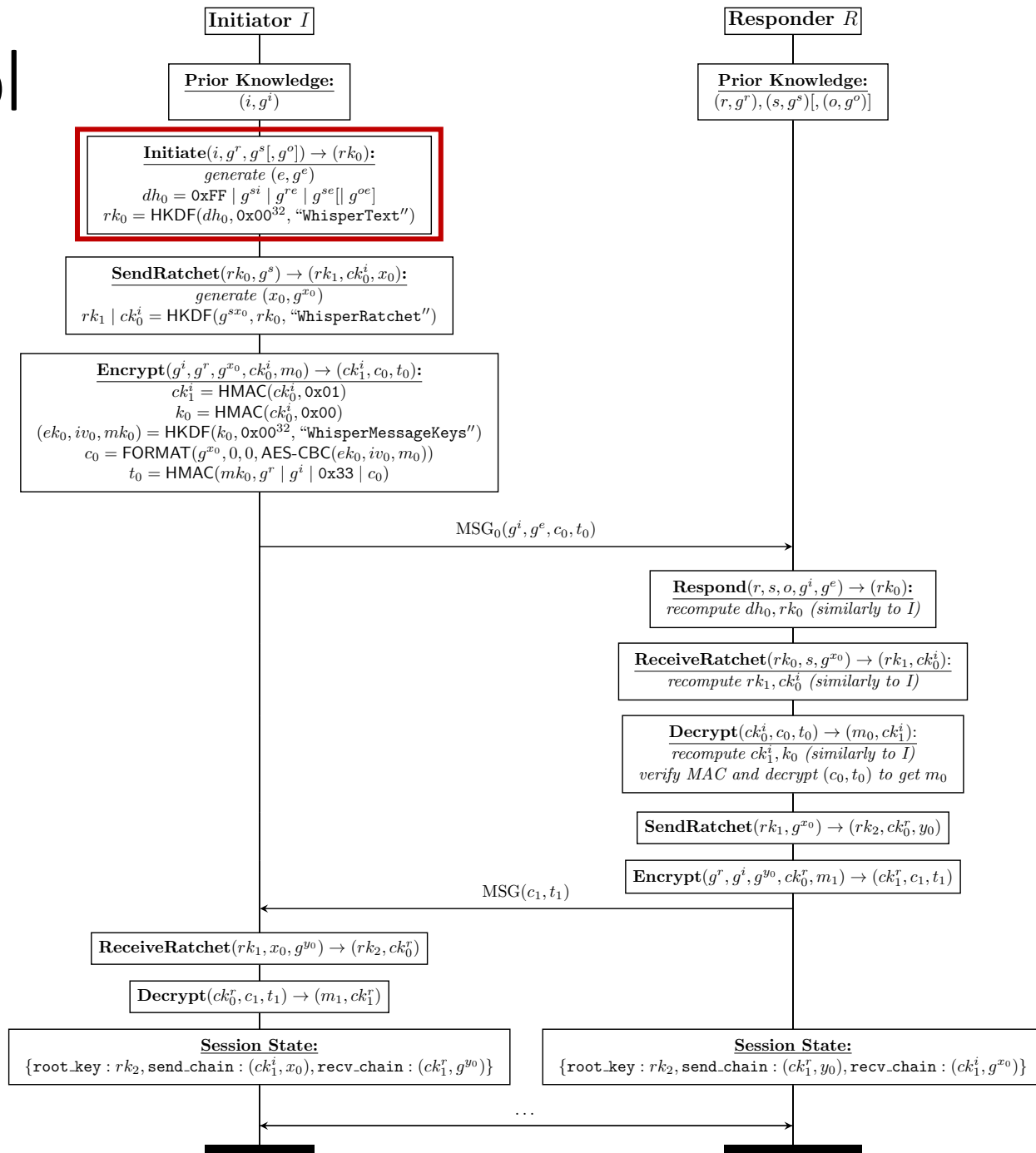
Significant scientific literature and analysis

- Both symbolic and computational models
- Both mechanized and manual proofs



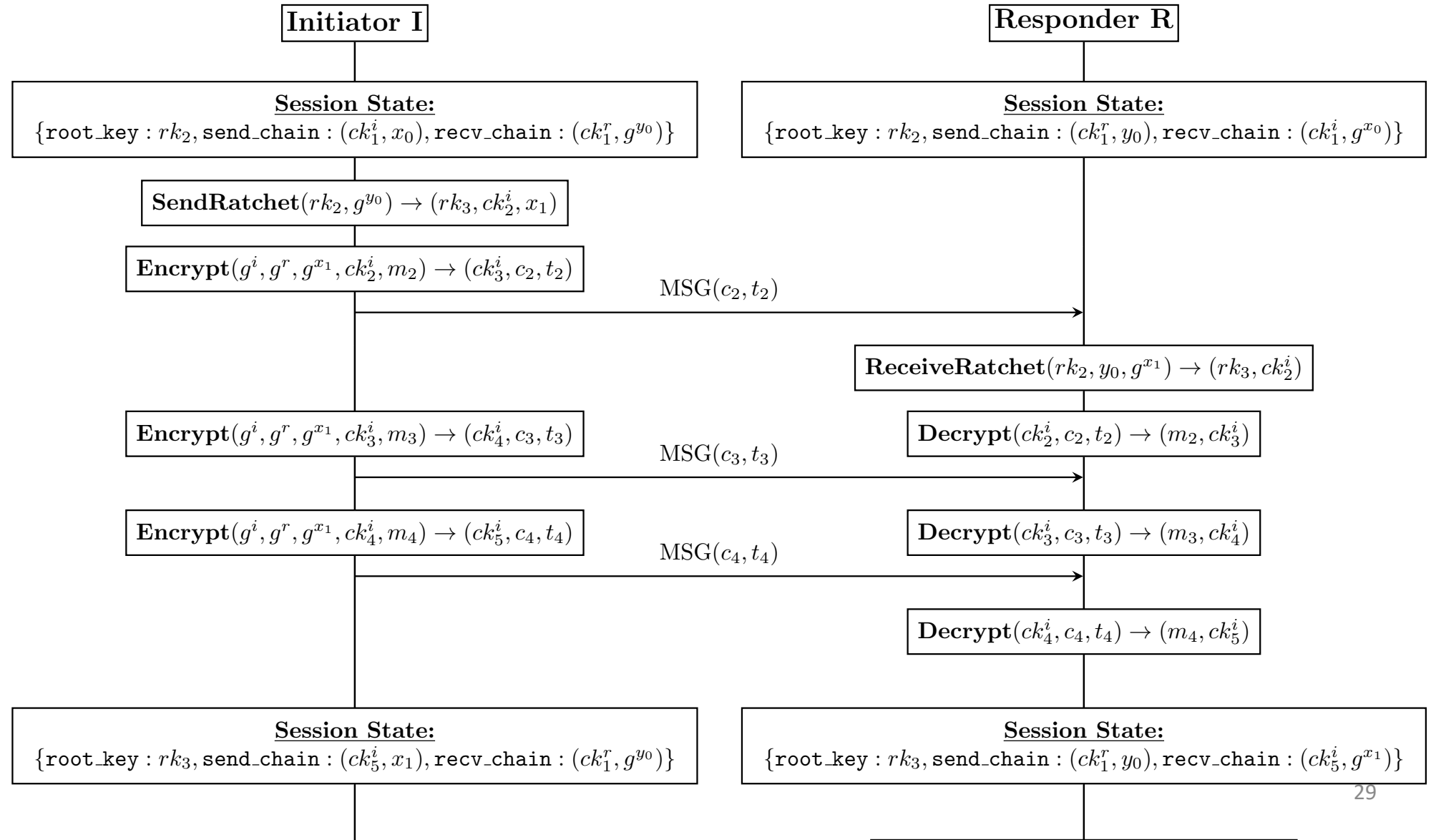
Signal Protocol

X3DH



Signal Protocol

Double Ratchet



Specifying Signal in F*

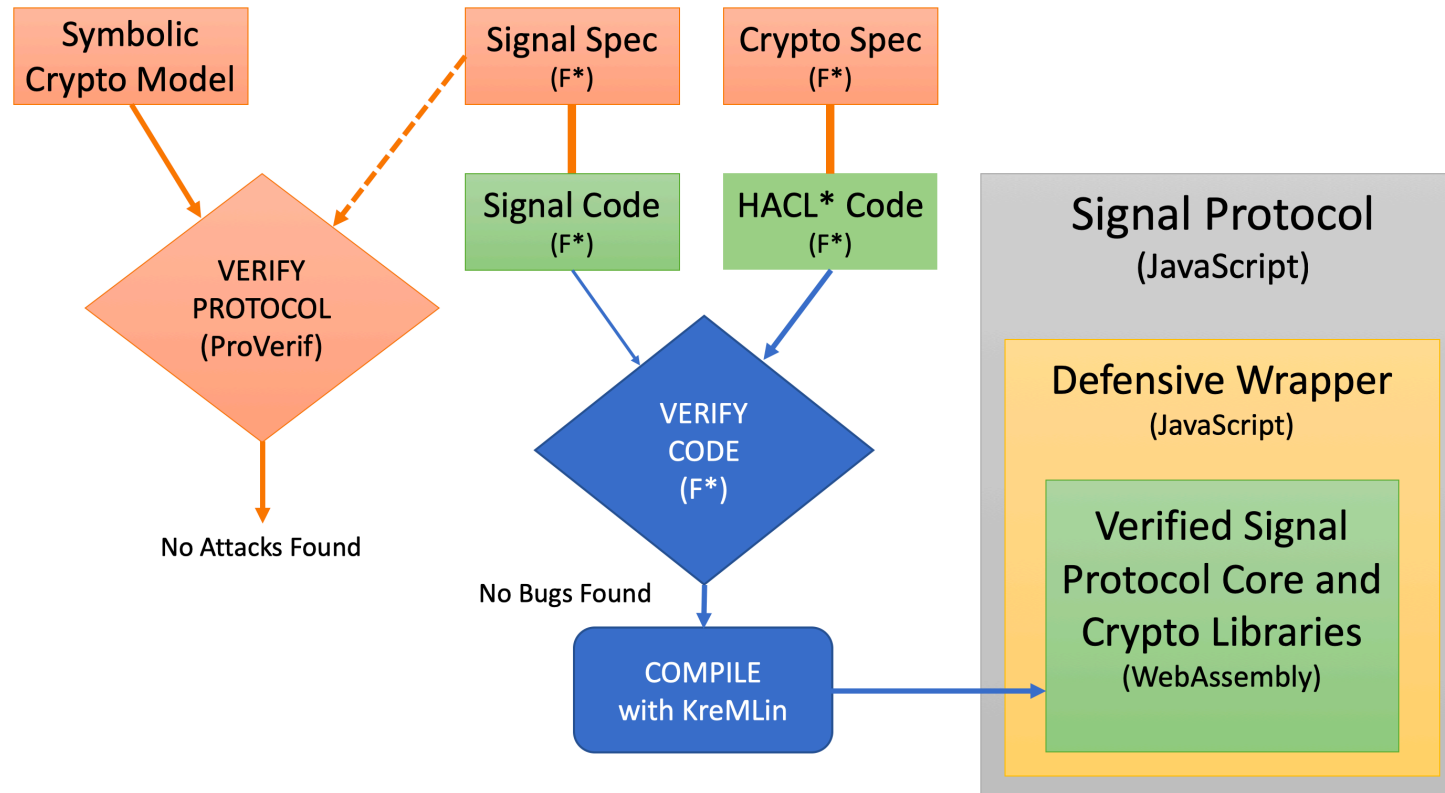
X3DH (initiate)

```
58 val initiate:
59   our_identity_priv_key: privkey → (* i *)
60   our_onetime_priv_key: privkey → (* e *)
61   their_identity_pub_key: pubkey → (* gr *)
62   their_signed_pub_key: pubkey → (* gs *)
63   their_onetime_pub_key: option pubkey → (* go, optional *)
64   Tot (lbytes 32) (* output: rk0 *)
65
66 let initiate iidsk iesk ridpk rspk orepk =
67   let dh1 = dh iidsk rspk in
68   let dh2 = dh iesk ridpk in
69   let dh3 = dh iesk rspk in
70   let ss =
71     match orepk with
72     | None → ff @| dh1 @| dh2 @| dh3
73     | Some repk →
74       let dh4 = dh iesk repk in
75       ff @| dh1 @| dh2 @| dh3 @| dh4 in
76   let rk0 = hkdf1 ss zz label_WhisperText in
77   rk0
```

$$\frac{\text{Initiate}(i, g^r, g^s[, g^o]) \rightarrow (rk_0):}{\text{generate}(e, g^e)}$$
$$dh_0 = 0xFF | g^{si} | g^{re} | g^{se} [| g^{oe}]$$
$$rk_0 = \text{HKDF}(dh_0, 0x00^{32}, \text{"WhisperText"})$$

Figure 4.9 – Functional specification of Signal’s initiate function

A verified interoperable implementation of Signal



Kind of message	F*-WebAssembly	Vanilla Signal
Initiate/Respond	61.6 ms	74.7 ms
Diffie-Hellman ratchet	21.7 ms	35.4 ms
Hash ratchet	2.19 ms	3.52 ms

Figure 4.19 – Performance evaluation of LibSignal, taken from the execution of the Signal test-suite. Numbers correspond to the mean execution time of the processing for messages involving the same number of key derivations.

Designing and verifying MLS

[The Messaging Layer Security \(MLS\) Protocol](#)

R Barnes, B Beurdouche, J Millican, E Omara, K Cohn-Gordon, R Robert
Internet Engineering Task Force

[The Messaging Layer Security \(MLS\) Architecture](#)

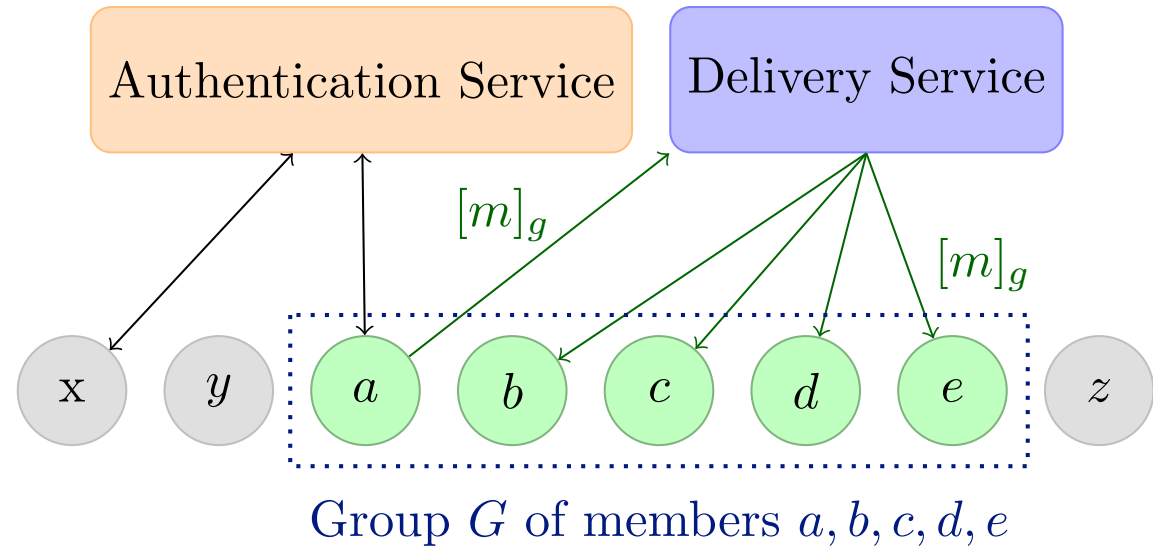
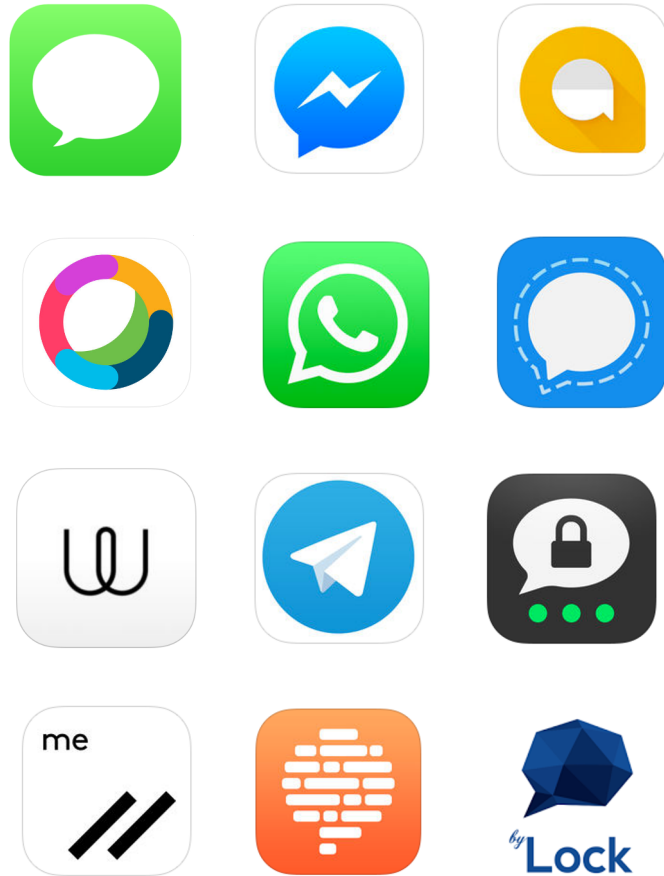
E Omara, B Beurdouche, E Rescorla, S Inguva, A Kwon, A Duric
Internet Engineering Task Force

Messaging Layer Security

A new secure group messaging protocol at the IETF



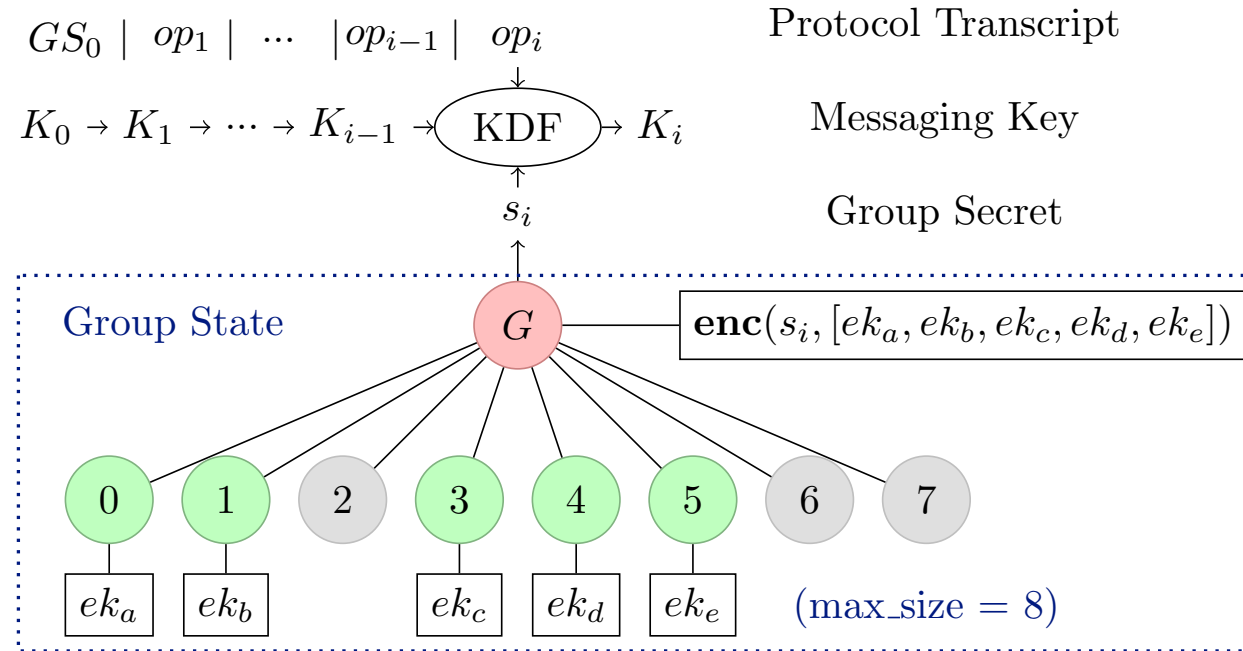
Architecture of a Secure Messaging System



The Authentication Service (AS) is often trusted (not necessarily).
The Delivery Service (DS) is untrusted.

Group Key Agreements

Chained mKEM



$O(N)$ Public Key operations for the sender on Creation, Update and Remove

$O(1)$ Public Key operations for the sender on Add

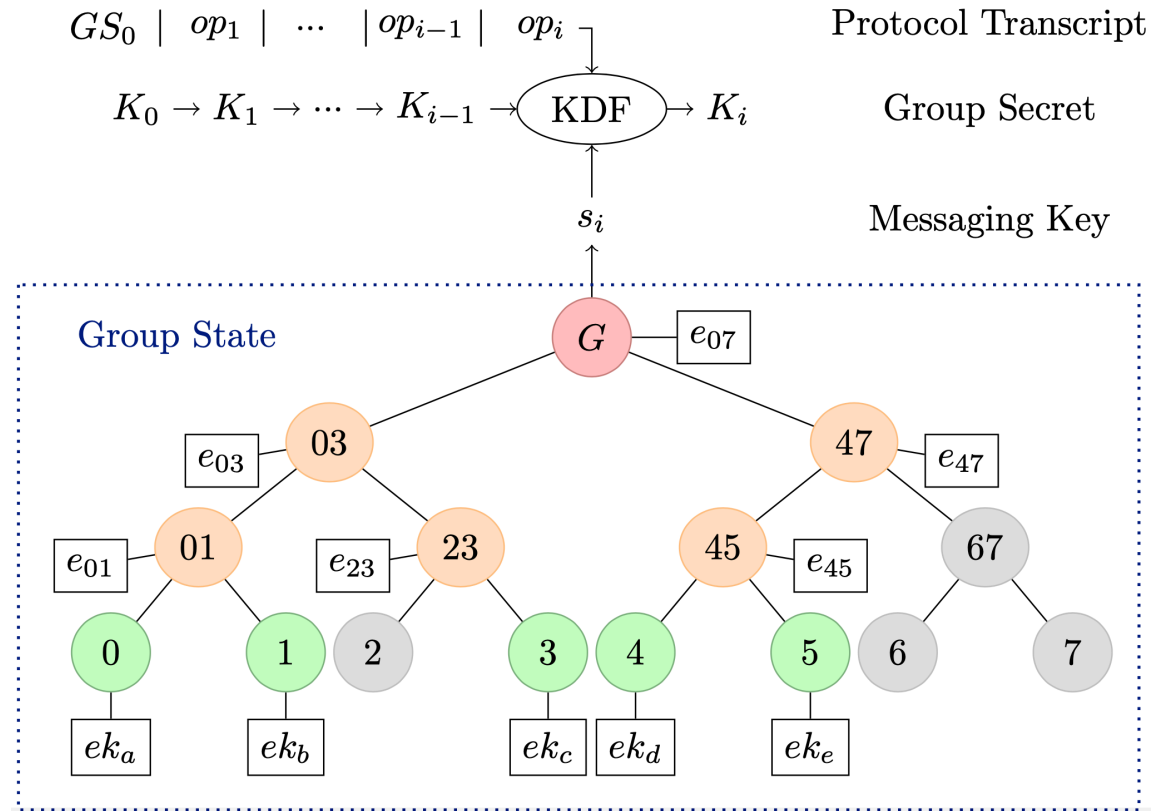
$O(1)$ Public Key operations for the receiver

$O(1)$ AEAD Encryption/Decryption for messages

$O(N)$ Storage

TreeKEM: Tree-based Group Key Agreement for MLS

TreeKEM



Node Keypairs:

$dk_{01} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{kdf}(dk_b, \text{right}, ek_a)$
 $ek_{01} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{pub}(dk_{01})$
 $(dk_{23}, ek_{23}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (dk_c, ek_c)$
 $dk_{45} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{kdf}(dk_d, \text{left}, ek_e)$
 $ek_{45} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{pub}(dk_{45})$
 $dk_{03} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{kdf}(dk_{01}, \text{left}, ek_{23})$
 $ek_{03} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{pub}(dk_{03})$
 $(dk_{47}, ek_{47}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (dk_{45}, ek_{45})$
 $dk_{07} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{kdf}(dk_{47}, \text{right}, ek_{03})$

Group Secret: $s_{07} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} dk_{07}$

Node Ciphertexts:

$e_{01} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{left}, ek_{01}, \text{enc}(dk_{01}, ek_a)$
 $e_{23} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{right}, ek_{23}, \dots$
 $e_{45} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{left}, ek_{45}, \text{enc}(dk_{45}, ek_e)$
 $e_{03} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{left}, ek_{03}, \text{enc}(dk_{03}, ek_{23})$
 $e_{47} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{left}, ek_{45}, \dots$
 $e_{07} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{right}, ek_{07}, \text{enc}(dk_{07}, ek_{03})$

$O(N)$ Public Key operations for the sender on Creation

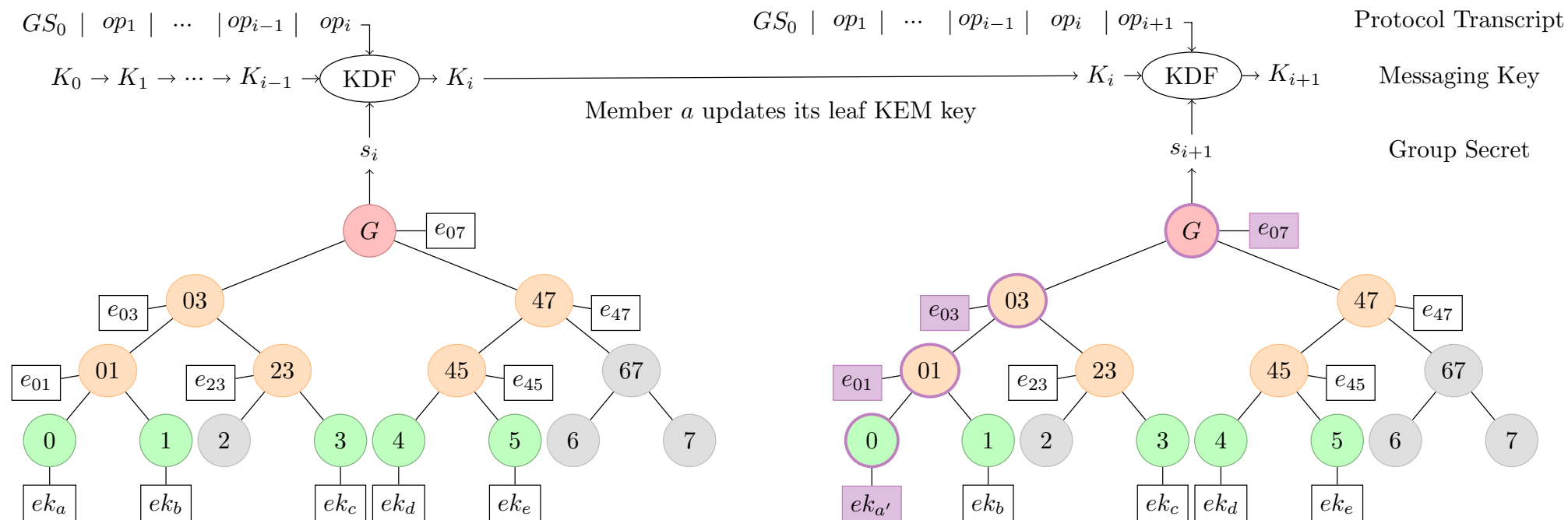
$O(\log N)$ Public Key operations for the receiver of Create

$O(\log N)$ Public Key operations for the sender on Add, Update and Remove

$O(1)$ Public Key operations for the receiver

TreeKEM: Tree-based Group Key Agreement for MLS

Update

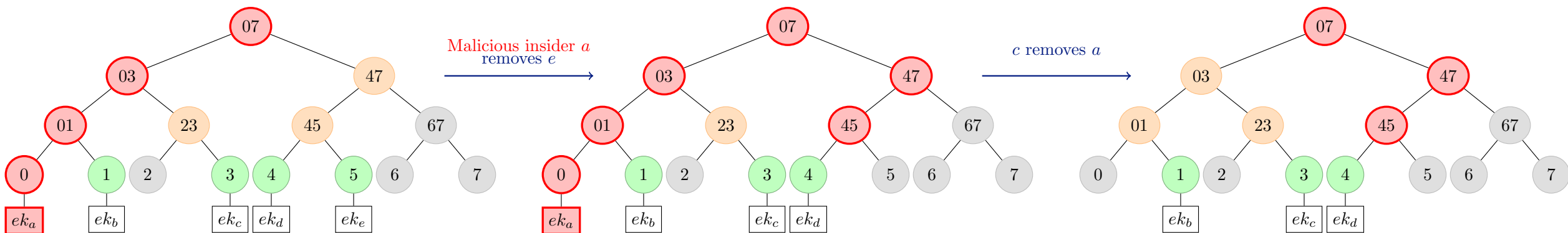


Member A updates its public key encryption keypair, derives new intermediate values and encrypts them for the sibling subgroup.

$O(\log N)$ public key encryptions for the sender. $O(1)$ decryptions for the receiver.

The Double Join problem in TreeKEM

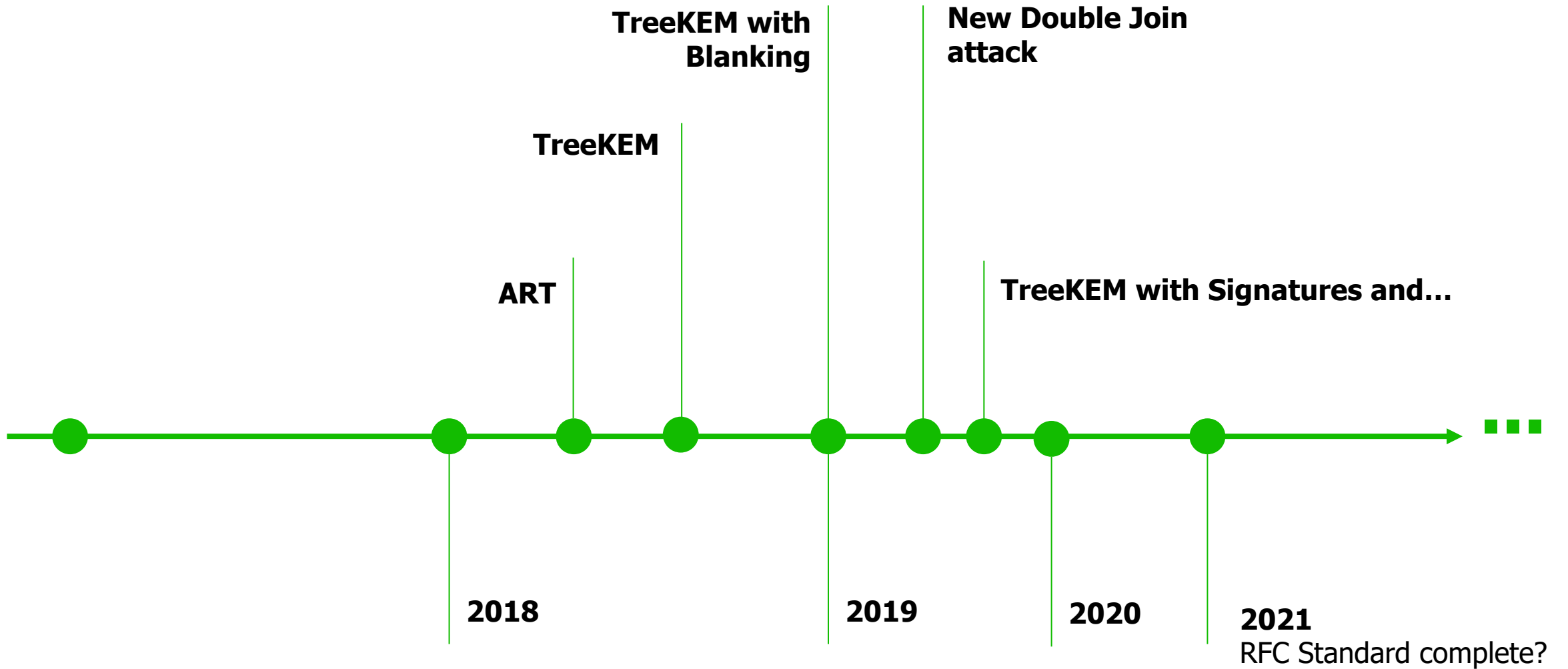
TreeKEM



The sender removes the leaf and provides new keys for all the subgroups the removed node belonged to.

Because A provides secrets for nodes 45 and 47 to their subgroups it might still know these after being removed

MLS Evolution



Challenges of formalizing MLS

Succinct formal specification.

An IETF document is quite informal...

Build an executable model for group messaging.

Testing multi-party protocols like MLS is difficult!

Prove security for arbitrary size groups.

Analyzing recursive data-structures like trees require induction

Handling an unbounded number of group participants is hard for automated tools

F* is the only framework that can handle all these aspects!

Formalizing Group Messaging in F*

Types and functions for

1. group states: trees
2. group operations: add, remove, update
3. group secrets: TreeKEM computations

```
53 (* Public Information about a Group Member *)
54 type member_info = {
55   cred: credential;
56   version: nat;
57   current_enc_key: enc_key }
58
59 (* Secrets belonging to a Group Member *)
60 val member_secrets: datatype
61
62 (* Group State Data Structure *)
63 val group_state: datatype
64 val group_id: group_state → nat
65 val max_size: group_state → nat
66 val epoch: group_state → nat
67 type index (g:group_state) = i:nat{i < max_size g}
68 type member_array (sz:nat) =
69   a:array (option member_info){length a = sz}
70 val membership: g:group_state → member_array (max_size g)
71
72 (* Create a new Group State *)
73 val create: gid:nat → sz:pos → init:member_array sz
74   → entropy:bytes → option group_state
75
76 (* Group Operation Data Structure *)
77 val operation: datatype
78
79 (* Apply an Operation to a Group *)
80 val apply: group_state → operation → option group_state
81
82 (* Create an Operation *)
83 val modify: g:group_state → actor:index g
84   → i:index g → mi':option member_info
85   → entropy:bytes → option operation
86
87 (* Group Secret shared by all Members *)
88 val group_secret: datatype
89
90 (* Calculate Group Secret *)
91 val calculate_group_secret: g:group_state → i:index g
92   → ms:member_secrets → option group_secret
93   → option group_secret
```

Figure 5.2 – An F* Interface for MLS Protocols. Each protocol must implement a Group Management and Key Exchange (GMKE) component that establishes a shared group secret.

Formalizing Group Messaging in F*

Types and functions for

1. messages
2. encryption
3. decryption

High-level spec. is 300 lines of F*
Symbolically executable

```
96 (* Protocol Messages *)
97 type msg =
98   | AppMsg: ctr:nat → m:bytes → msg
99   | Create: g:group_state → msg
100   | Modify: operation → msg
101   | Welcome: g:group_state → i:index g
102             → secrets:bytes → msg
103   | Goodbye: msg
104
105 (* Encrypt Protocol Message *)
106 val encrypt_msg: g:group_state → gs:group_secret
107                 → sender:index g → ms:member_secrets → m:msg
108                 → entropy:bytes → (bytes * group_secret)
109
110 (* Decrypt Initial Group State *)
111 val decrypt_initial: ms:member_secrets
112                    → c:bytes → option msg
113
114 (* Decrypt Protocol Message *)
115 val decrypt_msg: g:group_state → gs:group_secret
116                 → receiver:index g → c:bytes
117                 → option (msg * sender:index g * group_secret)
```

Figure 5.3 – An F* Interface for MLS Protocols. Each protocol must implement a Message Protection (MP) component that uses the group secret to protect messages.

Ongoing work for security analysis

Perspective as one of the designers of MLS

Ensure that the protocol can be studied and modelled using current formal analysis techniques.

Update the protocol to include feedback from research teams.

Security analysis and improvements for the IETF MLS standard for group messaging

J Alwen, [S Coretti](#), [Y Dodis](#), Y Tselekounis - Annual International ..., 2020 - Springer

[\[PDF\]](#) Efficient Post-Compromise Security Beyond One Group

[C Cremers](#), [B Hale](#), K Kohbrok - 2019 - eprint.iacr.org

Keep the dirt: tainted treekem, adaptively and actively secure continuous group key agreement

J Alwen, M Capretto, M Cueto, [C Kamath](#), K Klein... - 2019 - computer.org

[\[PDF\]](#) Key Agreement for Decentralized Secure Group Messaging with Strong Security Guarantees

M Weidner, [M Kleppmann](#), D Hugenroth, [AR Beresford](#) - 2020 - eprint.iacr.org

[\[PDF\]](#) An Analysis of TLS 1.3 and its use in Composite Protocols

[J Hoyland](#) - 2018 - core.ac.uk

End-to-end secure mobile group messaging with conversation integrity and deniability

[M Schliep](#), [N Hopper](#) - Proceedings of the 18th ACM Workshop on ..., 2019 - dl.acm.org

[\[PDF\]](#) An Analysis of Hybrid Public Key Encryption.

[B Lipp](#) - IACR Cryptol. ePrint Arch., 2020 - eprint.iacr.org

...

Ongoing work for security analysis

Perspective from the researcher side

We have written executable formal specification for an early draft (-06) and did a symbolic security analysis.

It is missing new elements and we are in the process of updating the specification and proofs.

Our goal is to have a full proof to publish alongside the RFC.

Finally we want to have a verified implementation.

Conclusions

Conclusions

Contributed to a real-world verified cryptographic library
created libraries, wrote verified primitives, developed a new workflow to include code in multiple products.

Analysed and implemented real world protocols
Found attacks on TLS 1.2 and helped build a verified interoperable implementation of Signal.

Designed a new group messaging protocol
Co-authored RFCs for MLS by using formal verification to guide a principled approach.

Looking forward

Towards more complex cryptographic primitives

PQ primitives, zero-knowledge proofs would certainly benefit from verified implementations

Bridging the gap between formally verified implementations and cryptographic proofs

Link proofs from tools like CryptoVerif with F* implementations

Improving the verification toolchain

reducing the trusted code base, reducing proof effort...

Thank you !