

# Towards Secure Distance Bounding

Ioana Boureau, Katerina Mitrokotsa, Serge Vaudenay



ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE  
FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

<http://lasec.epfl.ch/>

LASEC

- 1 Why Distance-Bounding?
- 2 Towards a Secure Protocol
- 3 The SKI Protocol

- 1 **Why Distance-Bounding?**
- 2 Towards a Secure Protocol
- 3 The SKI Protocol

# Playing against two Chess Grandmasters

chess grandmaster #1



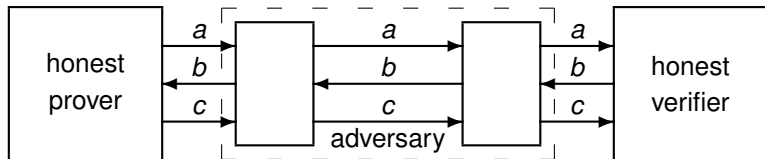
malicious player

malicious player



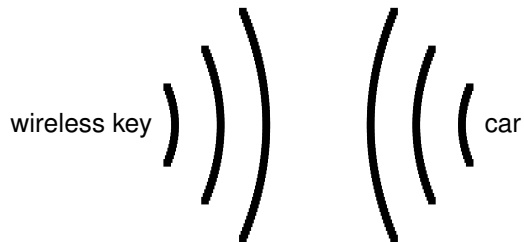
chess grandmaster #2

# Relay Attacks



# A Nice Playground for Relay Attacks

## Wireless Car Locks



# A Nice Playground for Relay Attacks

## Corporate RFID Card for Access Control



# A Nice Playground for Relay Attacks

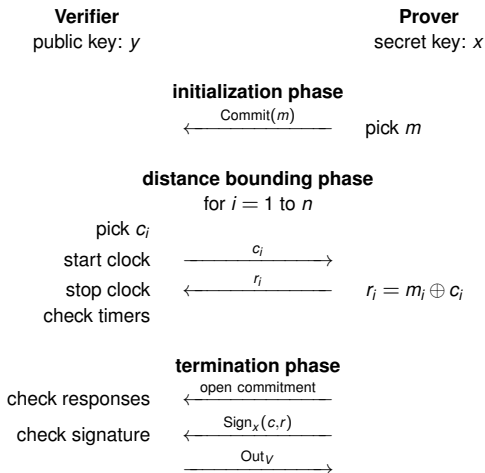
## Contactless Credit Card Payment

wireless credit card payment



# The Brands-Chaum Protocol

## Distance-Bounding Protocols [Brands-Chaum EUROCRYPT 1993]



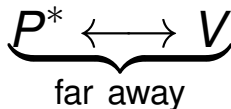
# The Speed of Light

time error of  $1\mu\text{s}$  = distance error of 300m

# Distance Bounding

- **interactive proof** for proximity
  - a verifier (honest)
  - a prover (may be malicious)
  - a secret to characterize the prover (may be symmetric)
  - concurrency: many provers and verifiers around, plus malicious participants
- **completeness:**
  - if the honest prover is close to the verifier, the verifier accepts
- **soundness:**
  - if the verifier accept, then a close participant must hold the secret
- **secure:**
  - when honestly run, the secret must not leak

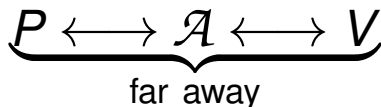
## Distance Fraud



a malicious prover  $P^*$  tries to prove that he is close to a verifier  $V$

# Mafia Fraud

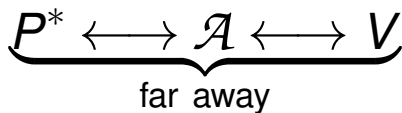
Major Security Problems with the “Unforgeable” (Feige)-Fiat-Shamir Proofs of Identity and How to Overcome Them [Desmedt SECURICOM 1988]



an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  tries to prove that a prover  $P$  is close to a verifier  $V$

# Terrorist Fraud

Major Security Problems with the “Unforgeable” (Feige)-Fiat-Shamir Proofs of Identity and How to Overcome Them [Desmedt SECURICOM 1988]



a malicious prover  $P^*$  helps an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  to prove that  $P^*$  is close to a verifier  $V$  without giving  $\mathcal{A}$  another advantage

# Impersonation Fraud

An Efficient Distance Bounding RFID Authentication Protocol

[Avoine-Tchamkerten ISC 2009]

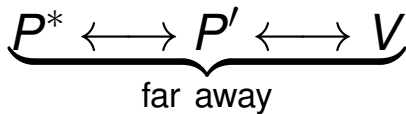
$$\mathcal{A} \longleftrightarrow V$$

an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  tries to prove that a prover  $P$  is close to a verifier  $V$

# Distance Hijacking

Distance Hijacking Attacks on Distance Bounding Protocols

[Cremers-Rasmussen-Schmidt-Čapkun IEEE S&P 2012]



a malicious prover  $P^*$  tries to prove that he is close to a verifier  $V$  by taking advantage of other provers  $P'$



# A General Threat Model

- **distance fraud:**

- $P(x)$  far from all  $V(x)$ 's want to make one  $V(x)$  accept (interaction with other  $P(x')$  and  $V(x')$  possible anywhere)
- → also captures distance hijacking

- **man-in-the-middle:**

- *learning phase*:  $\mathcal{A}$  interacts with many  $P$ 's and  $V$ 's
- *attack phase*:  $P(x)$ 's far away from  $V(x)$ 's,  $\mathcal{A}$  interacts with them and possible  $P(x')$ 's and  $V(x')$ 's  
 $\mathcal{A}$  wants to make one  $V(x)$  accept
- → also captures impersonation

- **collusion fraud:**

- $P(x)$  far from all  $V(x)$ 's interacts with  $\mathcal{A}$  and makes one  $V(x)$  accept, but  $\text{View}(\mathcal{A})$  does not give any advantage to mount a man-in-the-middle attack

# Known Protocols and Security Results

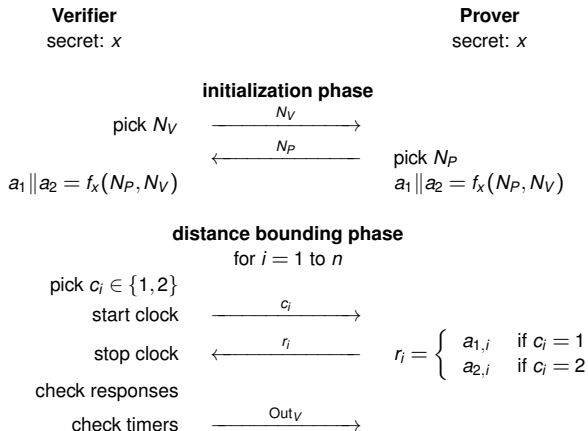
success probability of best known “regular” attacks  
(TF with no tolerance to noise + no malicious PRF)

Protocol	Success Probability		
	Distance-Fraud	MiM	Collusion-Fraud
<b>Brands &amp; Chaum</b>	$(1/2)^n$	$(1/2)^n$	1
<b>Bussard &amp; Bagga</b>	1	$(1/2)^n$	1
<b>Čapkun <i>et al.</i></b>	$(1/2)^n$	$(1/2)^n$	1
<b>Hancke &amp; Kuhn</b>	$(3/4)^n$	$(3/4)^n$	1
<b>Reid <i>et al.</i></b>	$(3/4)^n$	1	$(3/4)^v$
<b>Singelée &amp; Preneel</b>	$(1/2)^n$	$(1/2)^n$	1
<b>Tu &amp; Pira-muthu</b>	$(3/4)^n$	1	$(3/4)^v$
<b>Munilla &amp; Peinado</b>	$(3/4)^n$	$(3/5)^n$	1
<b>Swiss-Knife</b>	$(3/4)^n$	$(1/2)^n$	$(3/4)^v$
<b>Kim &amp; Avoine</b>	$(7/8)^n$	$(1/2)^n$	1
<b>Nikov &amp; Vauclair</b>	$1/k$	$(1/2)^n$	1
<b>Avoine <i>et al.</i></b>	$(3/4)^n$	$(2/3)^n$	$(2/3)^v$

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# The Hancke-Kuhn Protocol

An RFID Distance-Bounding Protocol [Hancke-Kuhn SECURECOMM 2005]



# A Terrorist Fraud against The Hancke-Kuhn Protocol

**Verifier**

secret:  $x$

**Adversary**

**Malicious Prover**

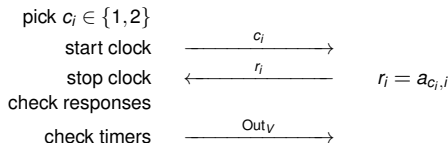
secret:  $x$

**initialization phase**



**distance bounding phase**

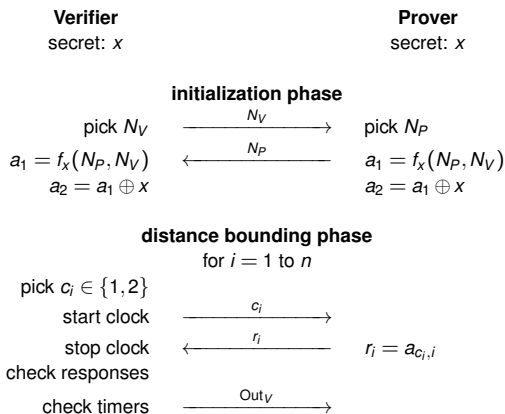
for  $i = 1$  to  $n$



# The Reid et al. Protocol (DBENC)

Detecting Relay Attacks with Timing-based Protocols

[Reid-Nieto-Tang-Senadji ASIACCS 2007]



resist to terrorist fraud: if  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  leak, then  $x$  as well!

# A Man-in-the-Middle against DBENC

The Swiss-Knife RFID Distance Bounding Protocol

[Kim-Avoine-Koeune-Standaert-Pereira ICISC 2008]

**Verifier**

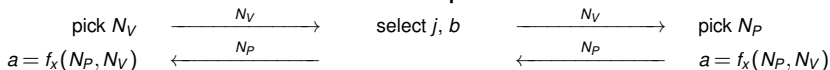
secret:  $x$

**Adversary**

**Prover**

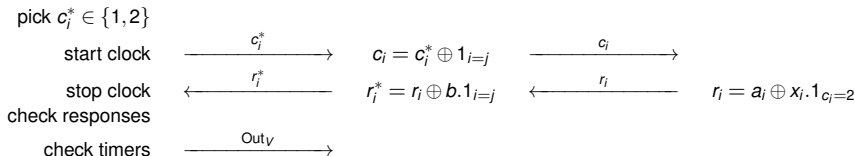
secret:  $x$

## initialization phase



## distance bounding phase

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$



fact 1:  $r_j$  is the correct response to  $c_j$

fact 2:  $Out_V = 1$  iff  $r_j^*$  is the correct response to  $c_j \oplus 1$

consequence: the adversary deduces  $a_j$  and  $a_j \oplus x_j$ , so  $x_j$  as well

# A Man-in-the-Middle against Other DBENC

The Bussard-Bagga and Other Distance-Bounding Protocols under Attacks  
[Bay-Boureau-Mitrokotsa-Spulber-Vaudenay Inscrypt 2012]

set  $a_2 = \text{Enc}_{a_1}(x)$

- **one-time pad:**  $\text{Enc}_{a_1}(x) = x \oplus a_1$
- **addition modulo  $q$ :**  $\text{Enc}_{a_1}(x) = x + a_1 \pmod{q}$
- **modular addition with random factor:**  
 $\text{Enc}_{a_1}(x; u) = (u, ux + a_1 \pmod{q})$   
for a random invertible  $u$

all instances broken



# The TDB Protocol

## How Secret-Sharing can Defeat Terrorist Fraud

[Avoine-Lauradoux-Martin ACM WiSec 2011]

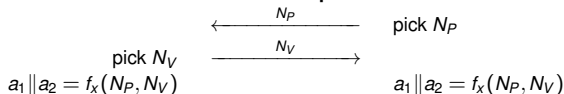
**Verifier**

secret:  $x$

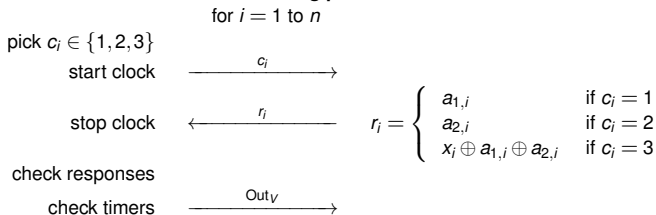
**Prover**

secret:  $x$

### initialization phase



### distance bounding phase



resist to man-in-the-middle: two answers to  $c_i$  don't leak  $x_i$ !

# Security Proofs Based on PRF

- if the adversary can break the scheme with a PRF, then he can break an idealized scheme with the PRF replaced by a truly random function
- this argument is valid when both these conditions are met:
  - the adversary does not have access to the PRF key
  - the PRF key is only used by the PRF
- as far as distance fraud is concerned, condition 1 is not met!
- for most of terrorist fraud protections, condition 2 is not met!

# Programming a PRF

On the Pseudorandom Function Assumption in (Secure) Distance-Bounding Protocols  
[Boureau-Mitrokotsa-Vaudenay Latincrypt 2012]

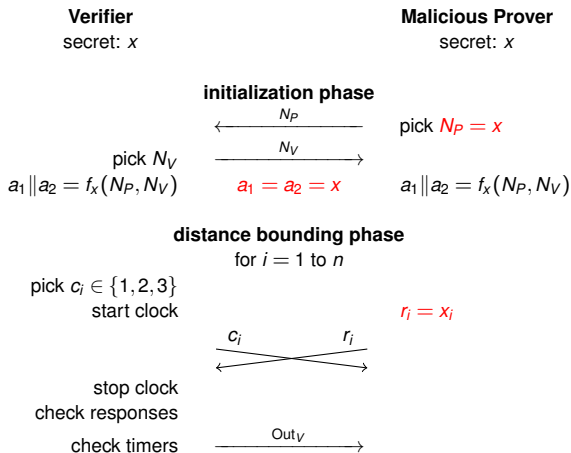
given a PRF  $g$ , let

$$f_x(N_P, N_V) = \begin{cases} x \| x & \text{if } N_P = x \\ g_x(N_P, N_V) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$f$  is a PRF!

# Distance Fraud with a Programmed PRF against the TDB Protocol

On the Pseudorandom Function Assumption in (Secure) Distance-Bounding Protocols  
[Boureau-Mitrokotsa-Vaudenay Latincrypt 2012]

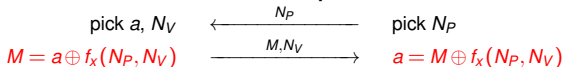


# Using PRF Masking

**Verifier**  
secret:  $x$

**Prover**  
secret:  $x$

## initialization phase



## distance bounding phase

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$

pick  $c_i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

start clock      —  $c_i$  →

stop clock      ←  $r_i$  —

check responses

check timers      —  $Out_V$  →

$$r_i = \begin{cases} a_{1,i} & \text{if } c_i = 1 \\ a_{2,i} & \text{if } c_i = 2 \\ x_i \oplus a_{1,i} \oplus a_{2,i} & \text{if } c_i = 3 \end{cases}$$

$a$  is now chosen by the verifier

# Man-in-the-Middle Attack with a Programmed PRF

On the Pseudorandom Function Assumption in (Secure) Distance-Bounding Protocols  
[Boureau-Mitrokotsa-Vaudenay Latincrypt 2012]

- take a PRF  $g$
- define a predicate  $\text{trapdoor}_x(\bar{\alpha}||t) \iff t = g_x(\bar{\alpha}) \oplus \text{right\_half}(x)$ ,

$$f_x(N_P, N_V) = \begin{cases} a_1 || a_2 = \alpha || \beta || \gamma || \beta \oplus g_x(\alpha) & \text{if } \neg \text{trapdoor}_x(N_V) \\ & \text{where } (\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = g_x(N_P, N_V) \\ a_1 = a_2 = x & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$f$  is a PRF!

- attack:
  - 1: play with  $P$  and send  $c = (1, \dots, 1, 3, \dots, 3)$  to obtain from the responses  $\bar{\alpha}||t$  satisfying  $\text{trapdoor}_x$
  - 2: play with  $P$  again with  $N_V = \bar{\alpha}||t$  and get  $x$ !

# Other Results based on Programmed PRFs

On the Pseudorandom Function Assumption in (Secure) Distance-Bounding Protocols  
[Boureau-Mitrokotsa-Vaudenay Latincrypt 2012]

protocol	distance fraud	man-in-the-middle attack
<b>TDB</b> Avoine-Lauradoux-Martin [ACM WiSec 2011]	✓	✓
<b>Dürholz-Fischlin-Kasper-Onete</b> [ISC 2011]	✓	–
<b>Hancke-Kuhn</b> [Securecomm 2005]	✓	–
<b>Avoine-Tchamkerten</b> [ISC 2009]	✓	–
<b>Reid-Nieto-Tang-Senadji</b> [ASIACCS 2007]	✓	✓
<b>Swiss-Knife</b> Kim-Avoine-Koeune-Standaert-Pereira [ICISC 2008]	–	✓

# Using Circular-Keying Security

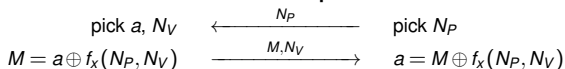
**Verifier**

secret:  $x$

**Prover**

secret:  $x$

## initialization phase



## distance bounding phase

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$

pick  $c_i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

start clock      —  $c_i$  →

stop clock      ←  $r_i$

check responses

check timers      —  $Out_V$  →

$$r_i = \begin{cases} a_{1,i} & \text{if } c_i = 1 \\ a_{2,i} & \text{if } c_i = 2 \\ x_i \oplus a_{1,i} \oplus a_{2,i} & \text{if } c_i = 3 \end{cases}$$

$f$  is a PRF with circular-keying security



# Circular Keying Security

- if  $\mathcal{A}$  makes queries

$$y_i, a_i, b_i \mapsto (a_i \cdot x') + (b_i \cdot f_x(y_i))$$

$\mathcal{A}$  cannot distinguish if  $x = x'$  or  $x$  and  $x'$  are independent

- caveat: queries must be such that

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \forall i_1, \dots, i_q, c_1, \dots, c_q \\ y_{i_1} = \dots = y_{i_q} \\ \sum_{j=1}^q c_j b_{i_j} = 0 \end{array} \right\} \implies \sum_{j=1}^q c_j a_{i_j} = 0$$

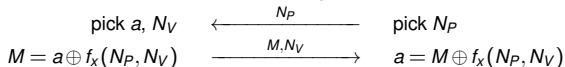
- sanity check: easily constructed in the random oracle model

# Problem with Noise

**Verifier**  
secret:  $x$

**Prover**  
secret:  $x$

## initialization phase



## distance bounding phase

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$

pick  $c_i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

start clock      —  $c_i$  →

stop clock      ←  $r_i$  —

$$r_i = \begin{cases} a_{1,i} & \text{if } c_i = 1 \\ a_{2,i} & \text{if } c_i = 2 \\ x_i \oplus a_{1,i} \oplus a_{2,i} & \text{if } c_i = 3 \end{cases}$$

check **at least  $\tau$  correct** responses

check timers      —  $Out_V$  →

# Terrorist Fraud based on Tolerance to Noise

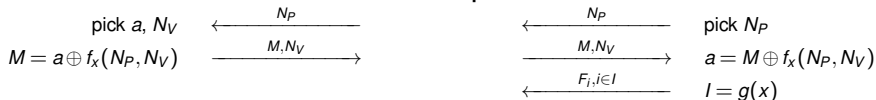
Distance Bounding for RFID: Effectiveness of Terrorist Fraud [Hancke IEEE RFID-TA 2012]

**Verifier**  
secret:  $x$

**Adversary**

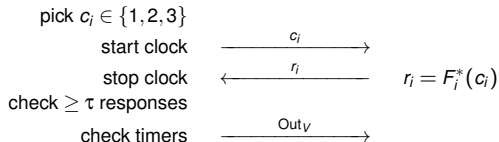
**Malicious Prover**  
secret:  $x$

**initialization phase**



**distance bounding phase**

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$



$$F_i(c) = \begin{cases} a_{1,i} & \text{if } c = 1 \\ a_{2,i} & \text{if } c = 2 \\ x_i \oplus a_{1,i} \oplus a_{2,i} & \text{if } c = 3 \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} \#l = \tau \\ F_i^* = F_i \text{ if } i \in I \\ F_i^* = \text{random otherwise} \end{matrix}$$

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# Why SKI?

- Symmetric Key Infrastructure?
- Sheffield Kidney Institute?
- Serial Killers Incorporated?

Serge

Katerina

Ioana

# The SKI Protocol

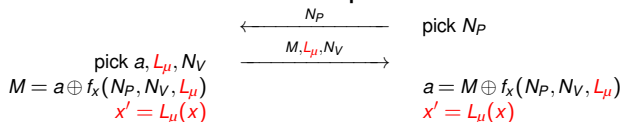
**Verifier**

secret:  $x$

**Prover**

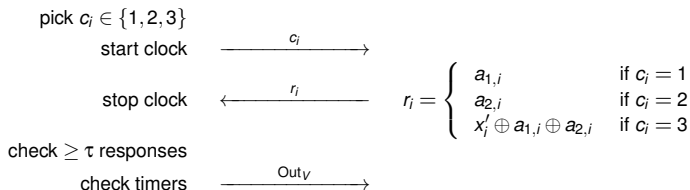
secret:  $x$

## initialization phase



## distance bounding phase

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$



$f$  is a circular-keying secure PRF,  $L_\mu(x) = (\mu \cdot x, \dots, \mu \cdot x)$

# Completeness of SKI

$$B(n, \tau, q) = \sum_{i=\tau}^n \binom{n}{i} q^i (1-q)^{n-i}$$

- assume honest execution of the protocol
- let  $p_{\text{noise}}$  be the probability that one round is incorrect
- probability to pass is  $B(n, \tau, 1 - p_{\text{noise}})$
- (Chernoff) for  $\frac{\tau}{n} < 1 - p_{\text{noise}} - \varepsilon$ , this is more than  $1 - e^{-2\varepsilon^2 n}$

# Best Distance Fraud against SKI

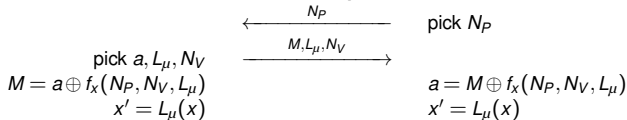
**Verifier**

secret:  $x$

**Malicious Prover**

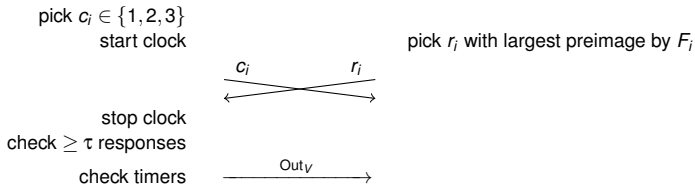
secret:  $x$

**initialization phase**



**distance bounding phase**

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$



$$\Pr[\text{round } i \text{ correct}] = \frac{3}{4}$$



## Best Distance Fraud against SKI

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr[\text{round } i \text{ correct}] &= \Pr[F_i \text{ constant}] + \frac{2}{3}(1 - \Pr[F_i \text{ constant}]) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{3} \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{4}\right) \\ &= \frac{3}{4}\end{aligned}$$

- $F_i$  is a 3-to-2 mapping  
so, the largest preimage has 3 (if  $F_i$  is constant) or 2 elements
- it is constant iff  $a_{1,i} = a_{2,i} = x_i$ , i.e. with probability  $\frac{1}{4}$
- probability to pass is  $B(n, \tau, \frac{3}{4})$
- (Chernoff) for  $\frac{\tau}{n} > \frac{3}{4} + \epsilon$ , this is less than  $e^{-2\epsilon^2 n}$

# Best Mafia Fraud against SKI

**Verifier**

secret:  $x$

**Adversary**

**Prover**

secret:  $x$

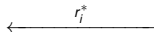
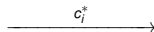
**initialization phase**



**distance bounding phase**

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$

pick  $c_i^*$

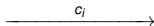


$r_i^* = F_i(c_i^*)$

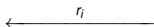
for  $i = 1$  to  $n$

pick  $c_i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

start clock



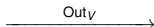
stop clock



$r_i = r_i^*$

check  $\geq \tau$  responses

check timers



$$\Pr[\text{round } i \text{ correct}] = \frac{2}{3}$$

## Best Mafia Fraud against SKI

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr[\text{round } i \text{ correct}] &= \Pr[c_i = c_i^*] + \frac{1}{2}(1 - \Pr[c_i = c_i^*]) \\ &= \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) \\ &= \frac{2}{3}\end{aligned}$$

- probability to pass is  $B(n, \tau, \frac{2}{3})$
- (Chernoff) for  $\frac{\tau}{n} > \frac{2}{3} + \varepsilon$ , this is less than  $e^{-2\varepsilon^2 n}$

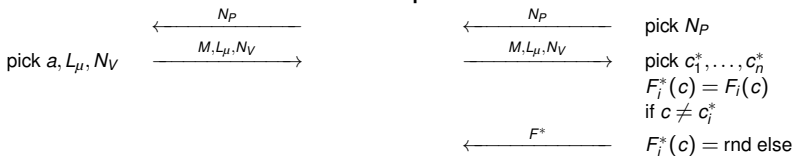
# Best Terrorist Fraud against SKI

**Verifier**  
secret:  $x$

**Adversary**

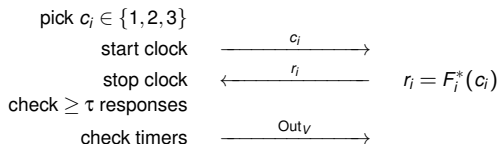
**Malicious Prover**  
secret:  $x$

## initialization phase



## distance bounding phase

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$



$$\Pr[\text{round } i \text{ correct}] = \frac{5}{6}$$

## Best Terrorist Fraud against SKI

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr[\text{round } i \text{ correct}] &= \Pr[c_i \neq c_i^*] + \frac{1}{2}(1 - \Pr[c_i \neq c_i^*]) \\ &= \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \times \left(1 - \frac{2}{3}\right) \\ &= \frac{5}{6}\end{aligned}$$

- probability to pass is  $B(n, \tau, \frac{5}{6})$
- (Chernoff) for  $\frac{\tau}{n} > \frac{5}{6} + \varepsilon$ , this is less than  $e^{-2\varepsilon^2 n}$

# Summary

for

$$\rho_{\text{noise}} < \frac{1}{6} - 2\varepsilon$$

we can adjust  $\tau$  and have completeness up to  $e^{-2\varepsilon^2 n}$ , and security up to  $e^{-2\varepsilon^2 n}$

- completeness
- resistance to distance fraud
- resistance to mafia fraud
- resistance to terrorist fraud

## Theorem

If  $f$  is a *circular-keying secure* PRF and  $V$  requires at least  $\tau$  correct rounds,

- there is no DF with  $\Pr[\text{success}] \geq B(n, \tau, \frac{3}{4})$
- there is no MiM with  $\Pr[\text{success}] \geq B(n, \tau, \frac{2}{3})$
- for all CF such that  $\Pr[\text{CF succeeds}] \geq B(\frac{n}{2}, \tau - \frac{n}{2}, \frac{2}{3})^{1-c}$  there is an associated MiM with  $P^*$  such that  $\Pr[\text{MiM succeeds}] \geq (1 - B(\frac{n}{2}, \tau - \frac{n}{2}, \frac{2}{3})^c)^n$

$$B(n, \tau, \rho) = \sum_{i=\tau}^n \binom{n}{i} \rho^i (1 - \rho)^{n-i}$$

# Conclusion

- several proposed protocols from the literature are insecure
- several security proofs from the literature are incorrect
- SKI offers provable security