Bridging the Gap Between Protocol Design and Implementation through Automated Mapping

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Award numbers: CNS-1801546 (Northeastern-Lead), CNS-1801342 (Michigan), CNS-1801399 (MIT)

Project Objective: Develop formal methodologies for building protocols that provably obey rigorous security guarantees.

Impact:

- Increase trustworthiness in security protocols
- Novel ways of finding vulnerabilities and attacks
- Novel ways of analyzing robustness for security of protocols







Robustness Challenge: Which environmental deviations can a protocol tolerate?



Deployment Deployment + Prot =? Lane keeping Environment model deviation

Objective:

- Analyze protocol robustness against model deviations
- Model deviations due to security threats
- Compare protocols with respect to their security robustness
- Design protocols with desired security robustness levels

Approach:

- Discrete-transition models
- Linear-time properties
- Deviations modeled as additional transitions
- Robustness = all robust deviations
- Identify structural properties of protocols with respect to security robustness

Solution:

 Protocol is secure even under certain deviations



- General solution via model checking
- Maximum deviation with respect to invariance properties

As security protocols form a backbone in today's web infrastructure, understanding their security properties and improving their robustness is crucial This project:

- Bridged the gap between the formal methods and security communities
- Trained a body of undergrad. and grad. students and research fellows
- Is applicable to cybersystems and to abstracted models of cyber-physical systems

The 5th NSF Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace Principal Investigator Meeting (2022 SaTC PI Meeting) June 1-2, 2022 | Arlington, Virginia