COMS30048 lecture: week #13

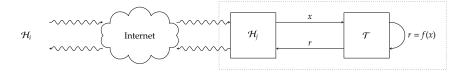
- Agenda: a somewhat technical introduction to the coursework assignment, i.e.,
 - overview of the assignment motivation and content,
 - answer any FAQs,
 - answer any non-FAQs,

with the overarching goal of clarity, and enabling early progress.

AttackHW (1)

Overview

Scenario (more abstract):

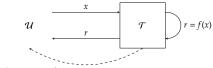


i.e.,

- there's a host \mathcal{H}_i connected to the Internet,
- $ightharpoonup \mathcal{H}_j$ uses TLS to communicate with, e.g., \mathcal{H}_i ,
- \blacktriangleright \mathcal{H}_i uses a co-processor \mathcal{T} to support TLS-related functionality.

AttackHW (2) Overview

Scenario (less abstract):



 $\Lambda \models$ execution latency, power consumption, ...

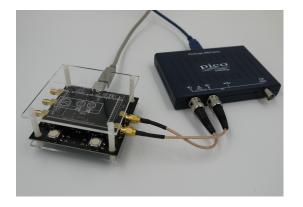
i.e.,

- there's a user \mathcal{U} with physical access to \mathcal{T} ,
- ▶ *U* can monitor
 - execution latency,
 - power consumption,

stemming from or during execution of f.

AttackHW (3) Overview

Scenario (concrete):



such that

 $\mathcal{T}\simeq \text{Cortex-M3}$ development board $\Rightarrow \text{lab.}$ worksheet #1.1 $\mathcal{U}\simeq \text{workstation} + \text{oscilloscope} \Rightarrow \text{lab.}$ worksheet #1.2

AttackHW (4) Overview

► Structure:

stage 1	\Rightarrow	implement a primitive	(i.e., AES)
stage 2	\Rightarrow	implement an attack	(against stage 1)
stage 3	\Rightarrow	design and implement a countermeasure (against stage 2)	
stage 4	\Rightarrow	design support for a protocol	(i.e., TLS)
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so, roughly speaking, address challenges around realisation of ${\cal U}$.

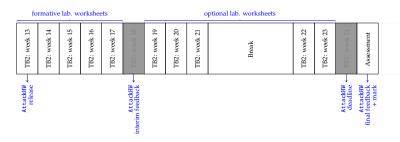
AttackHW (5) FAQs

Question: how should I plan my time and effort?

AttackHW (5) FAQs

- Question: how should I plan my time and effort?
- Answer: basically,





and so *could* start \simeq week 13, whereas *should* start \simeq week 18.

AttackHW (6) FAQs

▶ Question: "I'm concerned about academic integrity, and, e.g., plagiarism"?!



AttackHW (6) FAQs

- Question: "I'm concerned about academic integrity, and, e.g., plagiarism"?!
- Answer:
 - 1. an accessible overview can be found at

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https://www.bristol.ac.uk/students/support/academic-advice/academic-integrity
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2. the more detailed policy can be found, e.g., via Sec. 3 of

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https://www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/assessment/codeonline.html
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3. we do apply (semi-)automatic tools to identify potential transgression.

AttackHW (7) FAQs

▶ Question: is the equipment available outside the lab. slots?



AttackHW (7) FAQs

- Question: is the equipment available outside the lab. slots?
- ► (Short) Answer: no.

AttackHW (7) FAQs

- Question: is the equipment available outside the lab. slots?
- ▶ (Long) Answer: no, but it's important to understand this policy is
 - 1. by design, motivated by a need to e.g., control your workload,
 - 2. carefully calibrated based on evidence from previous years,
 - 3. carefully mitigated by the assignment design:
 - can work on stage 1 independently then "port" to equipment,
 - can work on stage 2 independently using example data set,
 - can work on stage 4 independently since no implementation is involved,
 - ▶ .

AttackHW (8) FAQs

▶ Question: how does the assignment differ between COMS30049 and COMSM0054?

AttackHW (8) FAQs

- Question: how does the assignment differ between COMS30049 and COMSM0054?
- Answer: the *tasks* are the same, but their *assessment* differs in that

as detailed by marksheet.

Conclusions (1)

- Take away points: the assignment is designed to (ideally) balance
 - 1. short-term challenge:

intellectual : demands thinking versus simply doing

technical : stresses formative understanding of some concepts, resources, etc.

definitional : some aspects are partially defined, or go beyond taught content

logistical : demands effective planning and time management

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2. long-term outcome:

rewarding : simulate (limited) experience of *real* versus explanatory task

useful : hands-on vehicle for exploring (and understanding) taught content

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in the sense that the former aren't negative, *provided* the latter are true.

Conclusions (2)

Questions?



References

