

# Cryptography in Radio Frequency Identification and Fair Exchange Protocols

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## Summary of my Work

- ▷ Fair Exchange

AV03a, AV03b, AV04, AGGV05, Avo03.

- ▷ Radio Frequency Identification

Avo04, ADO05, AO05a, AO05b, CA06, AB06.

- ▷ Odds and Ends

Avo05, AMP04, AJO05, AJ03, VAJ03, AJO05.

# Outline of the Presentation

RFID PRIMER

IMPERSONATION OF TAGS

INFORMATION LEAKAGE

MALICIOUS TRACEABILITY

TRACEABILITY THROUGH THE COMMUNICATION LAYERS

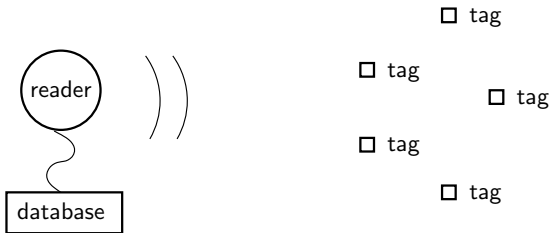
# RFID PRIMER

# RFID Definition and Architecture

## Definition

## RFID

Radio Frequency Identification (**RFID**) is a method of remotely **identifying** objects or subjects using transponders (**tags**) queried through a **radio frequency** channel.



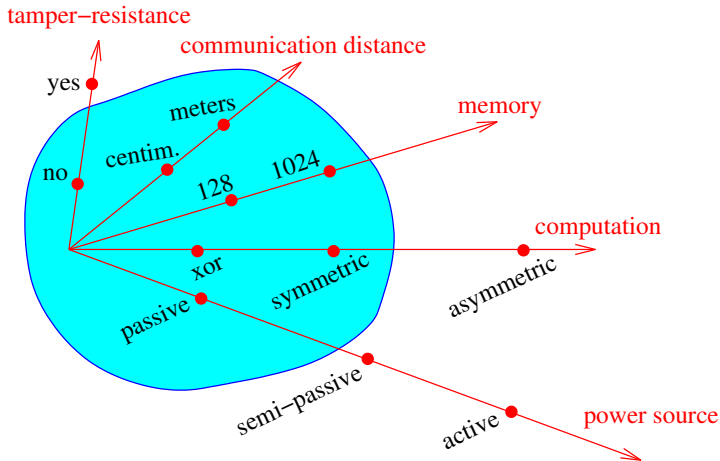
# RFID Tags



# RFID Readers



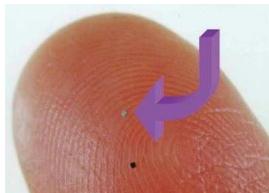
# Tag Characteristics





## Tag Specificities

- ▷ Tags cannot be **switched-off**
- ▷ Tags answer **without the agreement** of their bearers
- ▷ Increasing of the **communication range**
- ▷ Tags can be almost **invisible**



## Daily Life Examples

- ▷ Management of stocks
- ▷ Libraries
- ▷ Anti-counterfeiting
- ▷ Access control
- ▷ Localization of people
- ▷ Electronic documents
- ▷ Counting cattle

# Security Threat Classification

- ▷ Denial of service
- ▷ Impersonation
- ▷ Information Leakage
- ▷ Malicious traceability

# IMPERSONATION OF TAGS

## Problem and Adversary Means

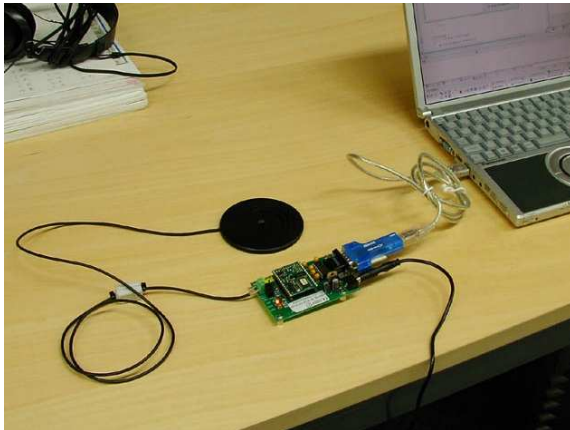
### Problem

An adversary should not be able to **impersonate** a tag.

### Adversary Means

The adversary can **query** the targetted tag or **eavesdrop** (RFID) communications between the tag and readers. Then the adversary tries to **simulate** the tag in front of a legitimate reader.

# Tag Simulator



## Identification vs Authentication

Primal goal of RFID is to provide **security**.

Definition

Authentication

The authentication consists for the reader in obtaining the identity of the tag and a **proof** that the claimed identity is correct.

Primal goal of RFID is to provide **functionality**.

Definition

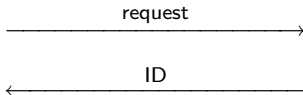
Identification

The identification consists for the reader in obtaining the identity of the tag, but **no proof is required**.

# Identification Protocol

System

Tag



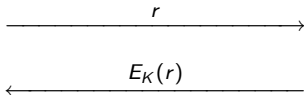
**Examples:** Counting cattle, localization, stock management.



# Authentication Protocol

System ( $K$ )

Tag ( $K$ )

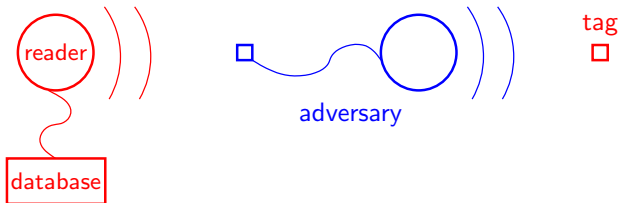


**Examples:** Access control, e-documents, anti-counterfeiting.



## Impersonation (Example: Relay Attack)

- ▶ The reader believes the tag is within its electromagnetic field.
- ▶ The attacker behaves as an **extension cord**.



- ▶ The solution consists in using a **distance bounding** protocol.

**INFORMATION LEAKAGE**

## Problem and Adversary Means

### Problem

An adversary should not be able to **obtain useful information** about the tagged object.

### Adversary Means

The adversary can **query** the targetted tag or **eavesdrop** (RFID) communications between the tag and readers.

# Information Leakage Problem

- ▶ Tagged books in **libraries**
- ▶ Tagged **pharmaceutical** products
- ▶ Electronic documents like **passports**, ID cards, etc.

**MALICIOUS TRACEABILITY**

## Problem and Adversary means

### Problem

An adversary should not be able to **track** people thanks to the RFID tags they carry.

### Adversary Means

The adversary can **query** the targetted tag and **eavesdrop** (RFID) communications between his target and readers.



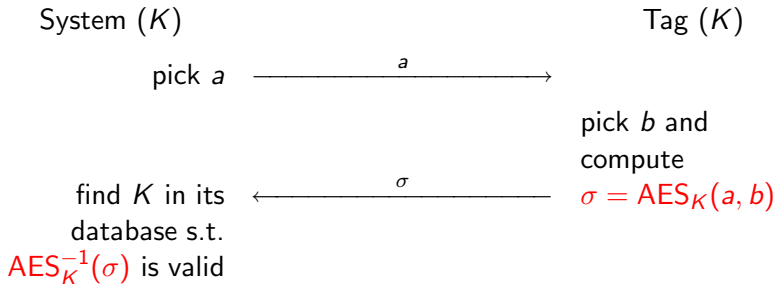
## Avoiding Malicious Traceability

- ▶ The information sent back by the tag must be **indistinguishable** (by an adversary) from a random value.
- ▶ The information must be **refreshed** at each new identification.

# Protocols

Protocol	Weaknesses pointed out by
[JuelsP03]	[Avoine04], [ZhangK05]
[VadjaB03]	[VadjaB03]
[GolleJJS04]	[Avoine05], [SaitoRS04]
[Juels04]	[Juels04]
[HenriciM04]	[Avoine05]
[SaitoRS04]	[Avoine05]
[JuelsW05]	[GilbertRS05]
[WeisSRE02]	
[OhkuboSK03]	
[FeldhoferDW04]	
[MolnarW04]	
[RheeKKW05]	

## Feldhofer, Dominikus, and Wolkerstorfer's Protocol

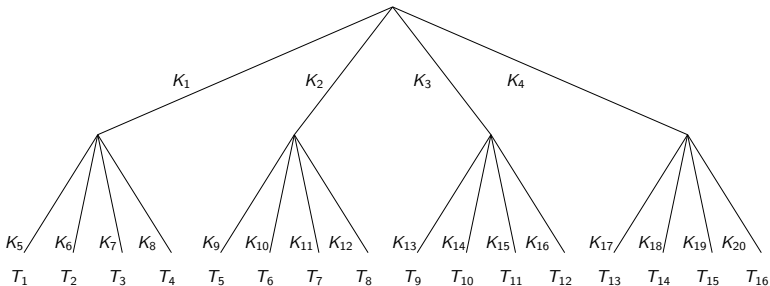


## Computation Complexity of Challenge-Response Protocols

- ▶ An **exhaustive search** in the system's database is required to identify one tag.
- ▶ **Complexity too high** in particular in case of inventory.
- ▶ Is it possible to design an RFID protocol with a complexity **better than linear**?
- ▶ Molnar and Wagner proposed a solution that reduces the complexity of any challenge-response from  $O(n)$  to  $O(\log n)$ .

# Molnar and Wagner's Tree-Based Technique

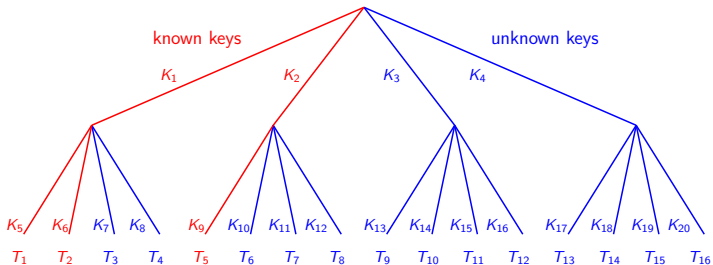
- ▶ Each tag stores  $\log_{\delta}(n)$  keys.



- ▶ A challenge-response is applied at each level of the tree.
- ▶ Instead of carrying out **1** exhaustive search in a set of size  $n$ ,  $\log_{\delta}(n)$  exhaustive searches are performed in sets of size  $\delta$ .

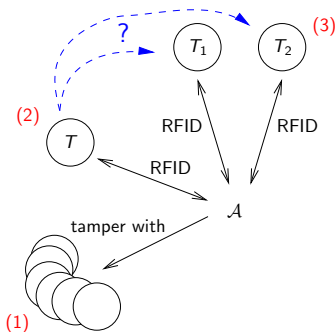
# Drawbacks

- ▶ Tags share some keys.
- ▶ Tampering with tags gives information about the other tags.



## How to Trace a Tag

- (1) Tamper with  $k$  tags.
- (2) Choose any target  $T$  and query it at will.
- (3) Query  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  to determine which of the two is  $T$ .

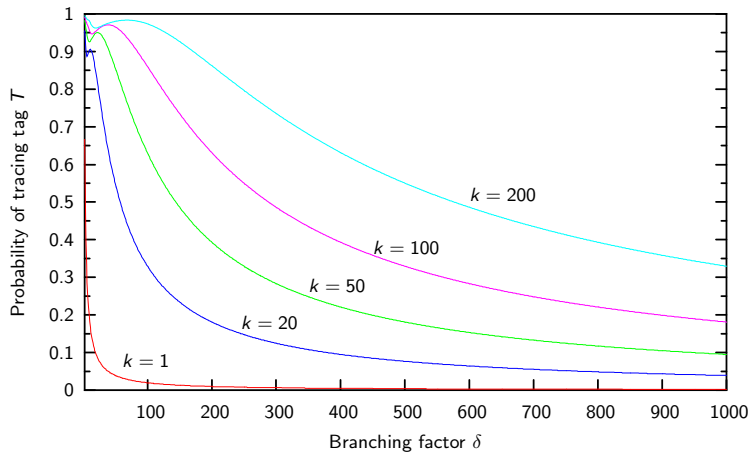


## Five Cases to Analyze

- ▶  $T_1$  on **known** branch and  $T_2$  on **unknown** branch: success.
- ▶  $T_2$  on **known** branch and  $T_1$  on **unknown** branch: success.
- ▶  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  both on **known** but different branches: success.
- ▶  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  both on **unknown**: failure.
- ▶  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  both the same **known** branch: failure at level  $i$  but the attack moves on to level  $i + 1$ .



# Probability of Success



## Using a Time-Memory Trade-Off

- ▷ Time complexity can be reduced against a memory cost.
- ▷ [AO05] as efficient as [MW04].
- ▷ [AO05] does not degrade security.

# TRACEABILITY THROUGH THE COMMUNICATION LAYERS

## Problem and Adversary Means

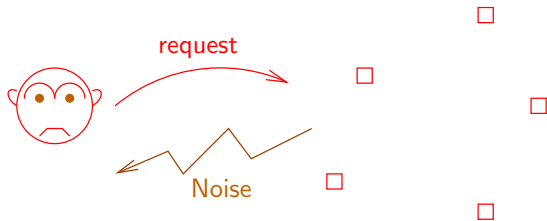
### Problem

An adversary should not be able to **track** people thanks to the RFID tags they carry.

### Adversary Means

The adversary takes benefit of a **side channel** instead of using the RFID protocol. This side channel can be in **any layer** of the communication model.

# Malicious Traceability in the Communication Layer



## Collision-Avoidance Protocols (Example: Slotted Aloha)

- ▶ The access to the communication channel is split into **time slots**.
- ▶ The number of slots is **chosen by the reader** which informs the tags they will have  $n$  slots to answer.
- ▶ Each tag randomly **chooses one slot** among the  $n$  and replies to the reader when its slot arrives.
- ▶ If  $n$  is not sufficiently large, then some **collisions occur**.
- ▶ **Example:** Philips ICode1 Label.

**CONCLUSION**

## Conclusion

- ▶ Will low cost RFID become an **ubiquitous** technology?
- ▶ Is malicious **traceability** a problem?
- ▶ Is it **too late** to deal with this problem?
- ▶ Are there existing **solutions**?
- ▶ Shall we have a **drink** after the presentation?