

Cryptographic Parameters in TLS 1.3, QUIC, and Co.

Tighter Security and Robust Handling of Unreliable Networks

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based on joint work with Hannah Davis, Marc Fischlin, Christian Janson

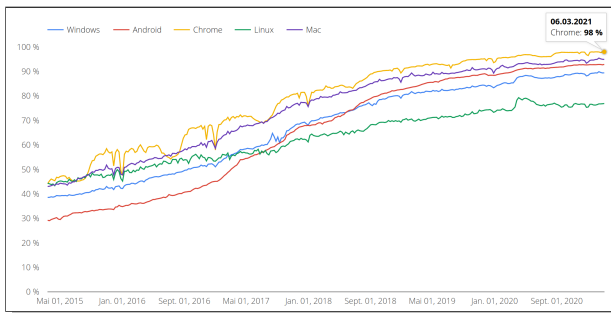
Transport Layer Security (TLS)

TLS allows client/server applications to communicate over the Internet in a way that is designed to prevent eavesdropping, tampering, and message forgery.

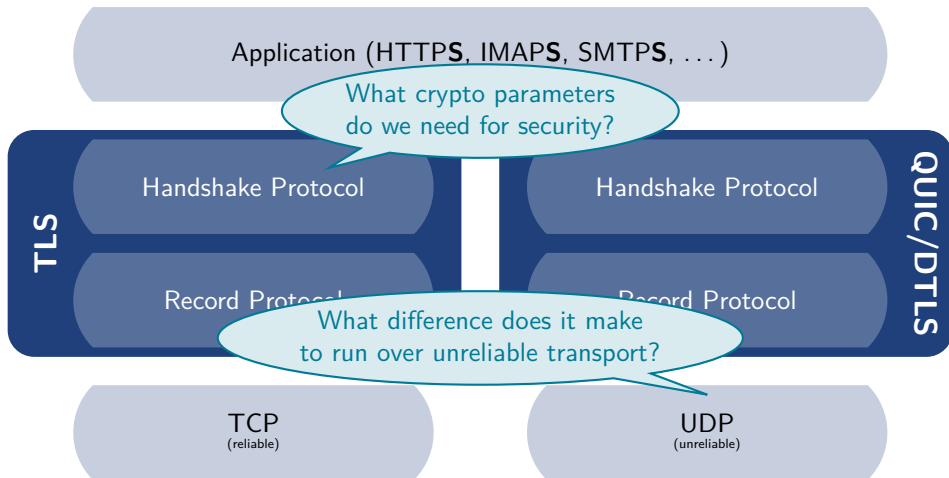
TLS 1.3 [RFC 8446, Aug. 2018]

HTTPS-protected traffic

- ▶ 50%+ Sandvine (Oct 18)
- ▶ 72% Fortinet (Q3 18)
- ▶ 84% Firefox (Mar 21)
(Telemetry)
- ▶ 77–98% Chrome (Mar 21)
(Transparency Report)

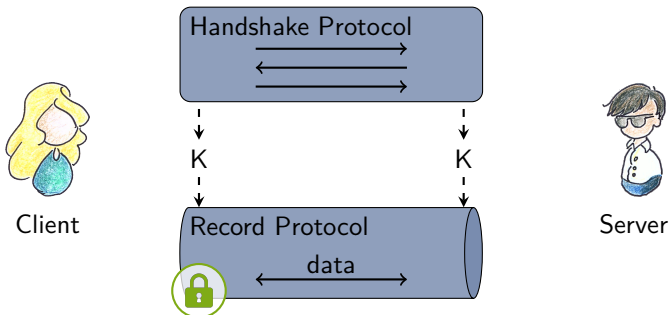


Secure Transport within the Network Stack



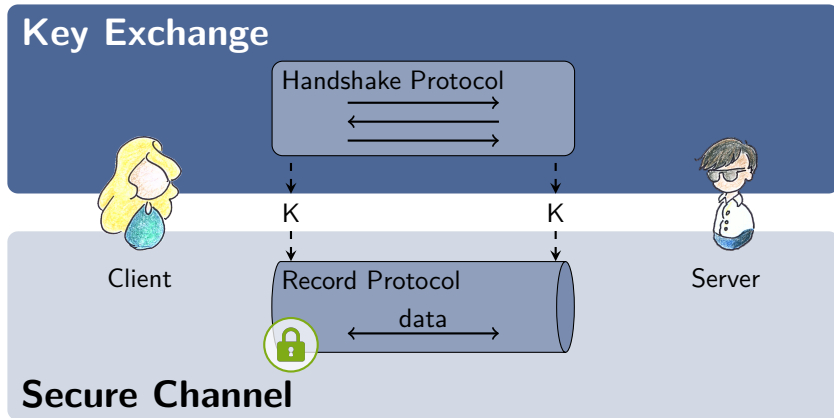
The Cryptographic Core

- Handshake Protocol:**
- ▶ negotiate security parameters (“cipher suite”)
 - ▶ authenticate peers
 - ▶ establish key material for data protection



- Record Protocol:**
- ▶ protect data using key material from handshake
 - ▶ ensuring confidentiality and integrity

drawings by *Giorgia Azzurra Marson*



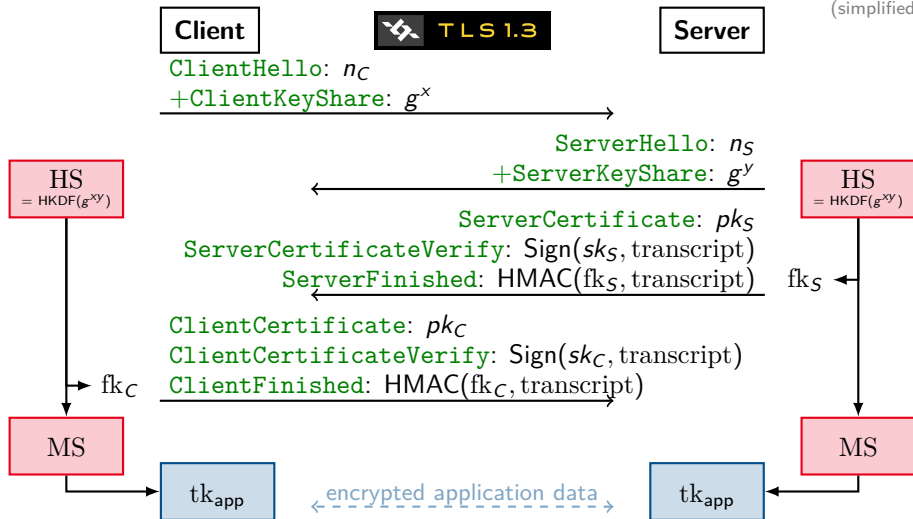
drawings by *Giorgia Azzurra Marson*

The TLS 1.3 Handshake

Full (EC)DHE Mode

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(simplified)

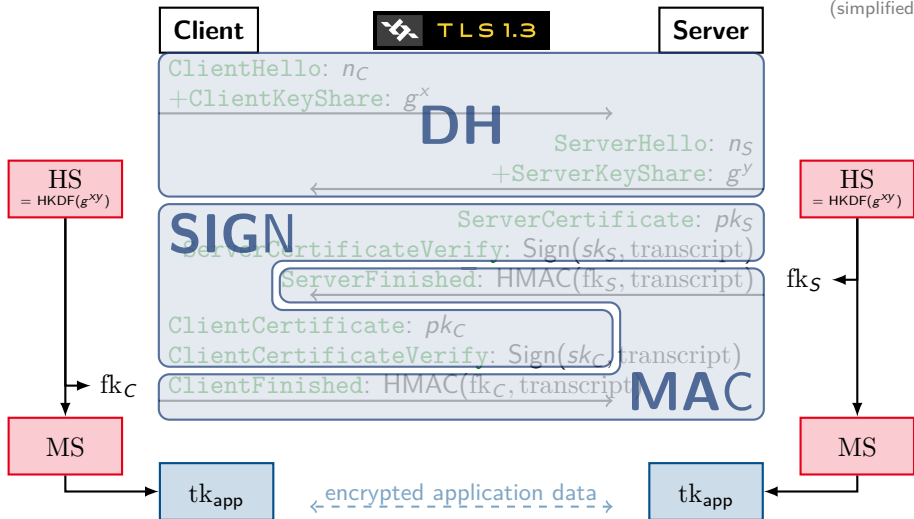


The TLS 1.3 Handshake

Full (EC)DHE Mode $\approx$ **SIGMA**: (DH w/) **SIG**n-and-**MA**c [Kra03]

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(simplified)



The TLS 1.3 Handshake

Secure in Principle (Only)

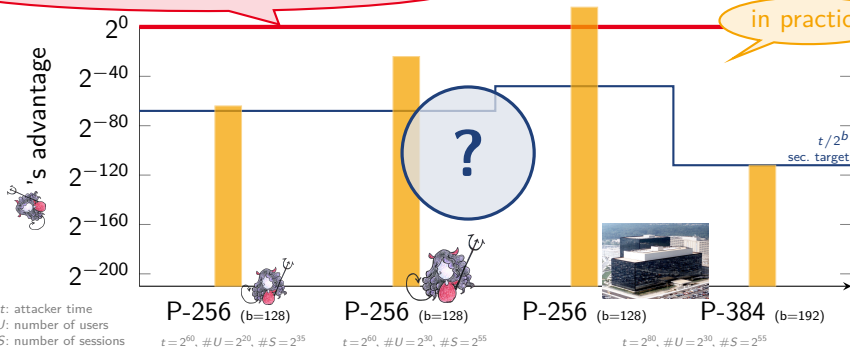
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[DFGS21]:

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{TLS1.3-full-1RTT}, A}^{\text{Multi-Stage}, D} \leq 6n_s \left(\text{Adv}_{H, B_1}^{\text{COLL}} + n_u \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{SIG}, B_2}^{\text{EU-F-CMA}} + n_s \left(\text{Adv}_{\text{HKDF.Extract}, G, B_3}^{\text{dual-snPRF-ODH}} + \text{Adv}_{\text{HKDF.Expand}, B_4}^{\text{PRF-sec}} + 2 \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{HKDF.Expand}, B_5}^{\text{PRF-sec}} + \text{Adv}_{\text{HKDF.Extract}, B_6}^{\text{PRF-sec}} + \text{Adv}_{\text{HKDF.Expand}, B_7}^{\text{PRF-sec}} \right) \right)$$

in principle

this is $\Pr[\text{breaks TLS 1.3}] = 1!$

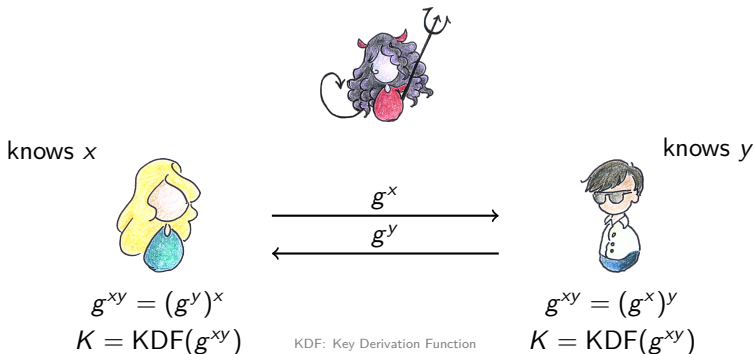


[DFGS21] Dowling, Fischlin, Günther, and Stebila: "A Cryptographic Analysis of the TLS 1.3 Handshake Protocol".

Key Exchange à la Diffie–Hellman

[DH76]

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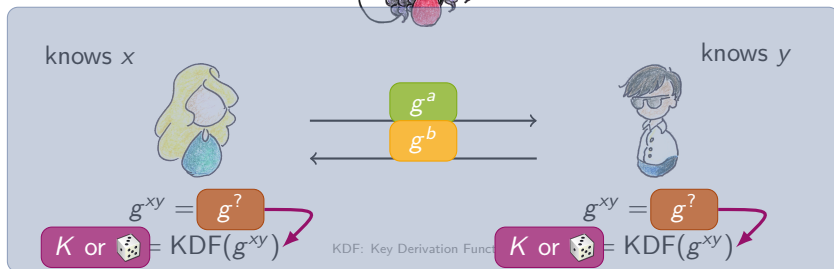
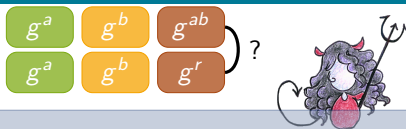
- **key secrecy:** given only g^x and g^y , key K remains secret (indist. from )

Key Exchange à la Diffie–Hellman

[DH76]

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DDH:

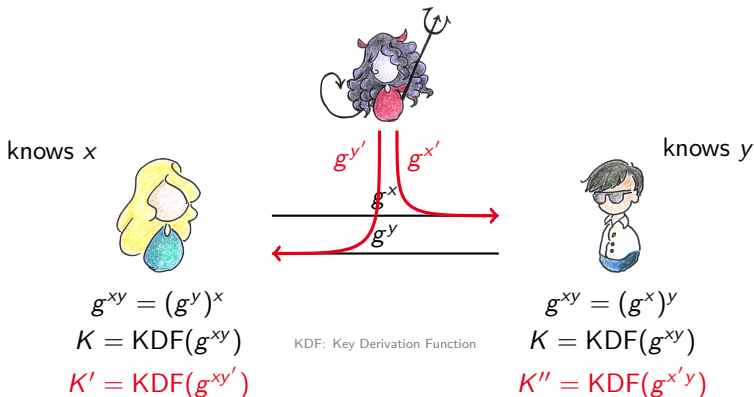


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Key Exchange à la Diffie–Hellman

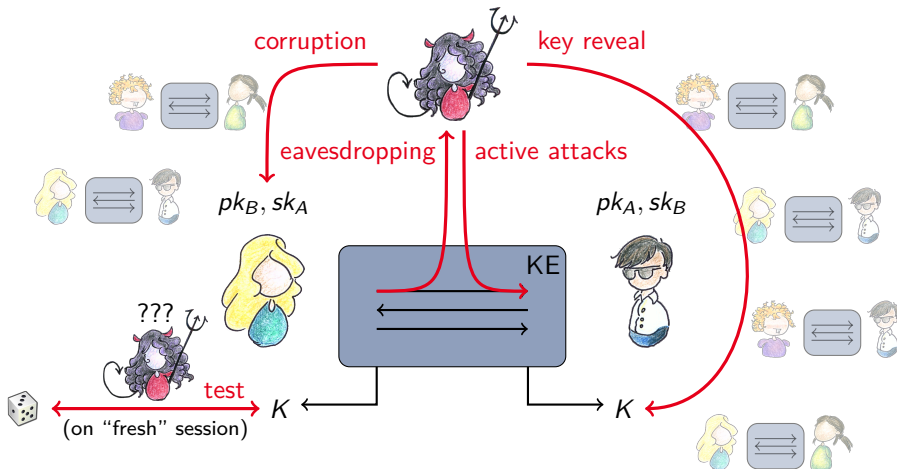
[DH76]

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- ▶ **key secrecy**: given only g^x and g^y , key K remains secret (indist. from )
- ▶ just one of many building blocks (no security against **MitM**, ...)

Bellare, Rogaway 1993 [BR94]



Take Your Pick!

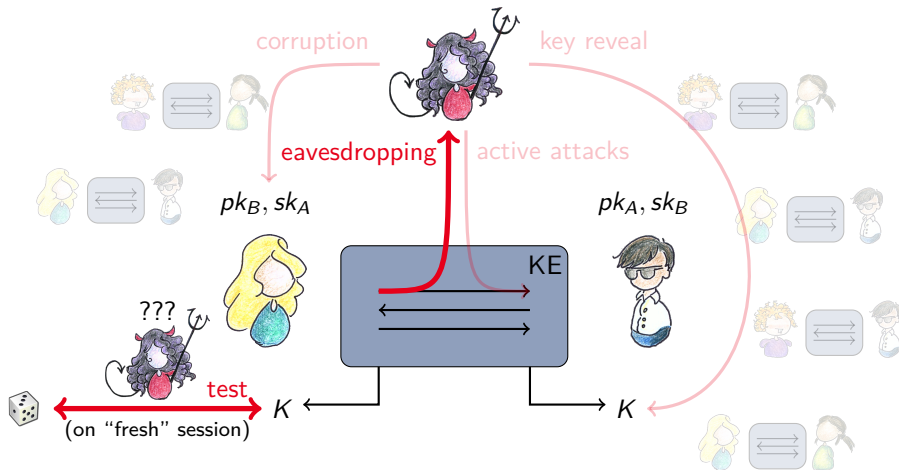
- How do we handle all these parallel sessions in a reduction?
- We **guess!**

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{TLS1.3-full-1RTT}, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{Multi-Stage}, \mathcal{D}} \leq 6n_s \left(\text{Adv}_{H, B_1}^{\text{COLL}} + n_u \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{SIG}, B_2}^{\text{EUF-CMA}} + n_s \left(\begin{aligned} &\text{Adv}_{\text{HKDF.Extract}, \mathbb{G}, B_3}^{\text{dual-snPRF-ODH}} + \text{Adv}_{\text{HKDF.Expand}, B_4}^{\text{PRF-sec}} \\ &+ 2 \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{HKDF.Expand}, B_5}^{\text{PRF-sec}} + \text{Adv}_{\text{HKDF.Extract}, B_6}^{\text{PRF-sec}} \\ &+ \text{Adv}_{\text{HKDF.F}}^{\text{PRF-sec}} \end{aligned} \right) \right)$$

... twice: for  and  — yielding factor $\# \text{sessions}^2$

in the real world, this is **bad**

Let's Simplify...



Let's Simplify... — Can We Do Better?

- ▶ DDH is **rerandomizable!** (or “random self-reducible”)
- ▶ Given a DDH tuple (g^a, g^b, g^c) , where $c = ab$ or c random, we can generate new tuples

$$(g^{a'}, g^{b'}, g^{c'}) = \left(g^a \cdot g^{s_1}, (g^b)^r \cdot g^{s_2}, \underbrace{(g^c)^r \cdot (g^a)^{s_2} \cdot (g^b)^{r \cdot s_1} \cdot g^{s_1 s_2}}_{g^{a'b' + (c-ab)r \pmod{q}}} \right)$$

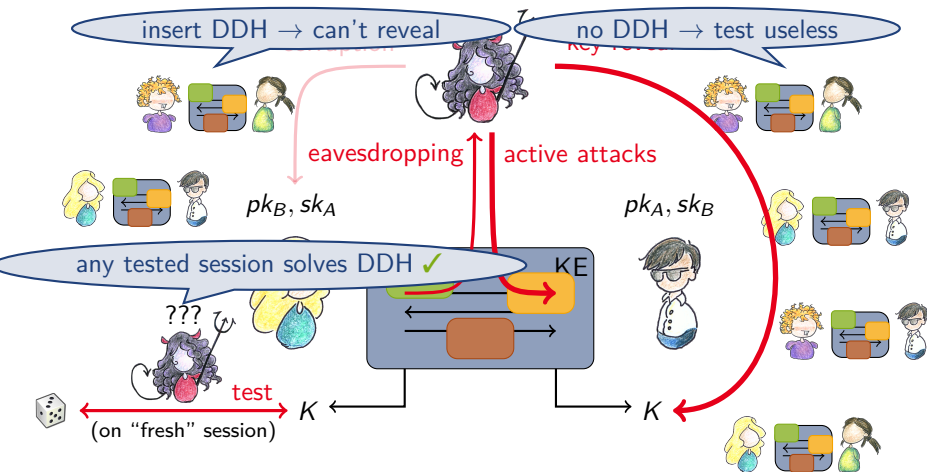
for random s_1, s_2, r .

- ▶ Deciding if $c' = a'b'$ or c' random for any of the $g^{c'}$ decides it for g^c
- ▶ Great — let's embed a DDH challenge into each connection!

[NR97] Naor and Reingold: “Number-theoretic Constructions of Efficient Pseudo-random Functions”.

[BBM00] Bellare, Boldyreva, and Micali: “Public-Key Encryption in a Multi-user Setting: Security Proofs and Improvements”.

The Commitment Problem



Mind the Gap.

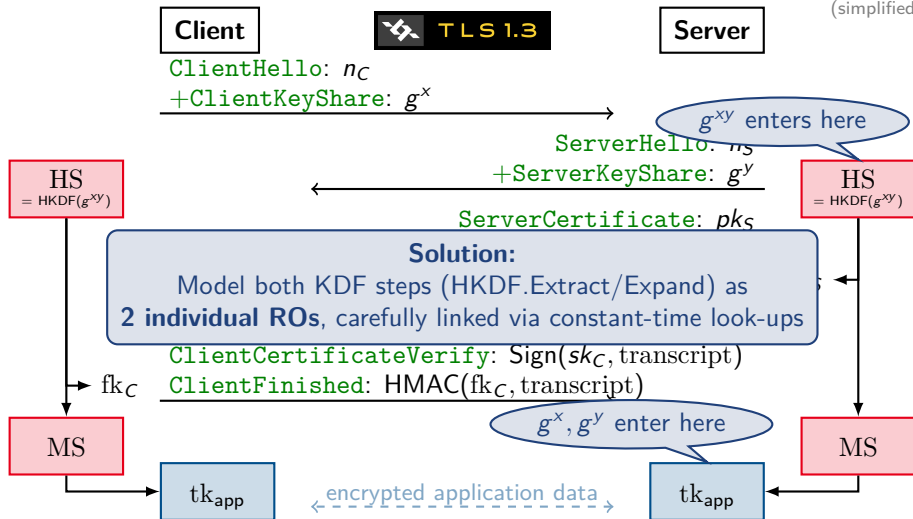
- ▶ Employ the **Gap Diffie–Hellman** (GapDH) assumption.
- ▶ GapDH: Solving **CDH** (“given g^a , g^b , compute g^{ab} ”) is hard even when given a **DDH oracle** (“given (g^a, g^b, g^c) , return $[ab == c]$ ”)
 - ▶ More precisely: we’ll use **StrongDH**, where g^a is fixed in the DDH oracle.
- ▶ Idea [Coh+19]:
 1. treat key derivation function $K = \text{KDF}(g^{xy})$ as a **random oracle RO**
 2. embed (rerandomized) **StrongDH challenge** (g^a , g^b) in all sessions
 3. replace key K with random (while fresh)
 4.  can only compute the real K by querying $\text{RO}(g^x, g^y, g^{xy}, \dots)$
 - ... detect RO queries via DDH oracle $\Rightarrow$ solve **StrongDH**
- ▶ NB: This means moving to the random oracle model.
 - ... not a big issue: prior “standard-model” PRF-ODH assumption likely needs RO [BFGJ17]

The TLS 1.3 Handshake

“Detect $\text{RO}(g^x, g^y, g^{xy}, \dots)$ queries via DDH oracle”

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(simplified)



The TLS 1.3 Handshake

Secure in Practice

[DG21] Davis, G: “Tighter Proofs for the SIGMA and TLS 1.3 Key Exchange Protocols”. ACNS 2021.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_{\text{TLS 1.3}}^{\text{KE-SEC}}(t, q_N, q_S, q_{RS}, q_{RL}, q_T) &\leq \frac{2q_S^2}{2^{nl} \cdot p} + \text{Adv}_H^{\text{CR}}(t_{B_1}) \\ &+ 2 \cdot \text{Adv}_G^{\text{stDH}}(t_{B_2}, q_{RO}) + \frac{q_{RO} \cdot q_S}{2^{kl-1}} + \text{Adv}_S^{\text{mu-EUF-CMA}}(t_{B_3}, q_N, q_S, q_S, q_{RL}) \\ &+ \text{Adv}_{\text{HMAC}}^{\text{mu-EUF-CMA}}(t_{B_4}, q_S, q_S, 1, q_S, 1, 0), \end{aligned}$$

Core Improvement

StrongDH bound: $2 \cdot \text{Adv}_G^{\text{stDH}}(t_{B_2}, q_{RO})$

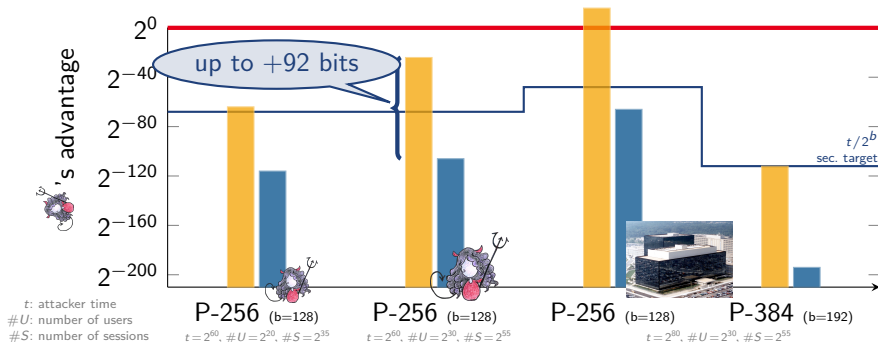
- ▶ constant factor / **no guessing** — core improvement by q_S^2 over [DFGS21]
- ▶ how hard is StrongDH?
 - ▶ we prove: $\text{Adv}_G^{\text{stDH}}(t, q) \leq 4t^2/p$ in the generic group model, like DDH
 - ▶ in particular, the $q = q_{RO}$ DDH queries don't deteriorate the GGM bound!
- ▶ concurrent & independent work confirms comparable bounds

[DJ21] Diemert and Jager: “On the Tight Security of TLS 1.3: Theoretically-Sound Cryptographic Parameters for Real-World Deployments”.

The TLS 1.3 Handshake

Secure in Practice

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Bottom line: TLS 1.3 (and SIGMA) parameters justified in practice.

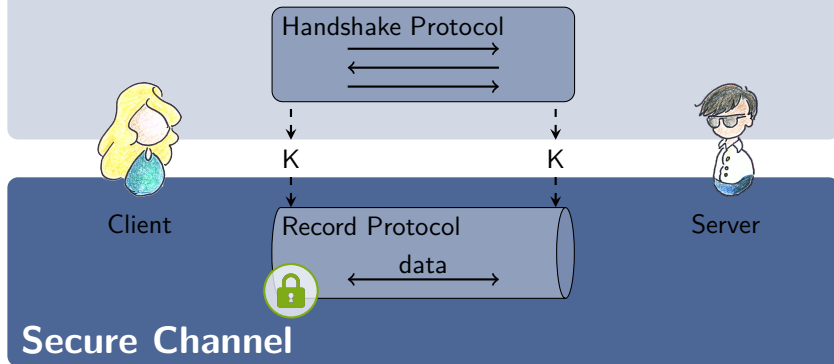
They were all along, we just didn't know how to prove better bounds.

(And we still don't know how to do w/o random oracles...)

[DFGS21] Dowling, Fischlin, Günther, and Stebila: "A Cryptographic Analysis of the TLS 1.3 Handshake Protocol".

[DG21] Davis, G: "Tighter Proofs for the SIGMA and TLS 1.3 Key Exchange Protocols".

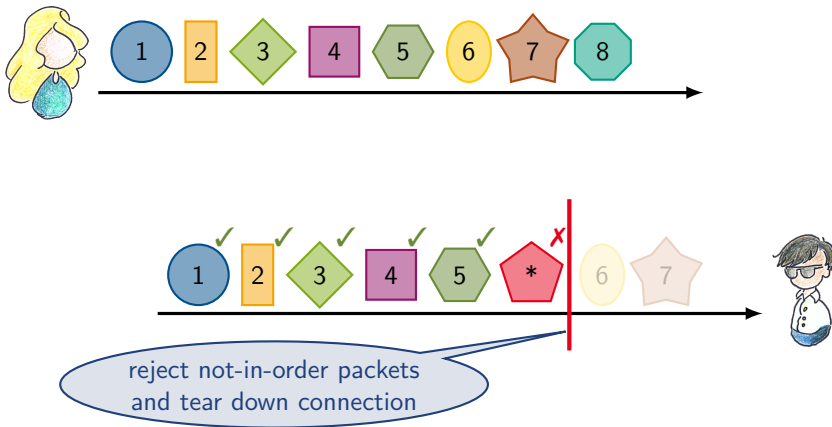
Key Exchange



Recap: Secure Channels over TCP

... think: TLS

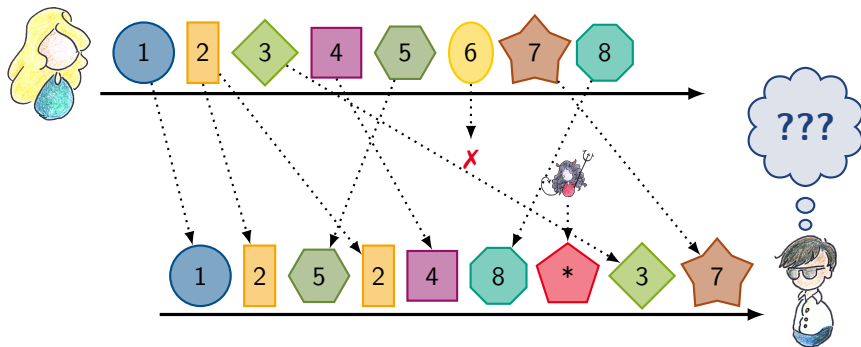
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Handling Unreliable Transport

QUIC, DTLS, ... over UDP

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Handling Unreliable Transport

Many choices...

► Replays / Duplicates

- prevent them?
- check how far back?

QUIC

MUST prevent

e.g., anti-replay window (IPsec)

DTLS 1.3

optional

► Reordering

- permitted?
- by how far max.?

QUIC

... well, yes—it's UDP ...

dynamic 1–4B window

DTLS 1.3

dynamic 1–2B window

► Adversarial interaction

- Integrity: reject non-genuine packets

QUIC

DTLS 1.3

rely on AEAD

- But how do you (formally) guarantee that replayed / reordered / adversarial packets don't affect others?

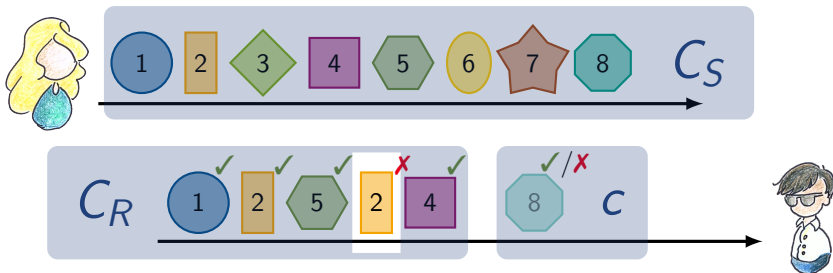
new notion: **Robustness**

Generalizing Channel Correctness

... beyond prior hierarchies [BKN02,KPB03,BHMS16,RZ18]

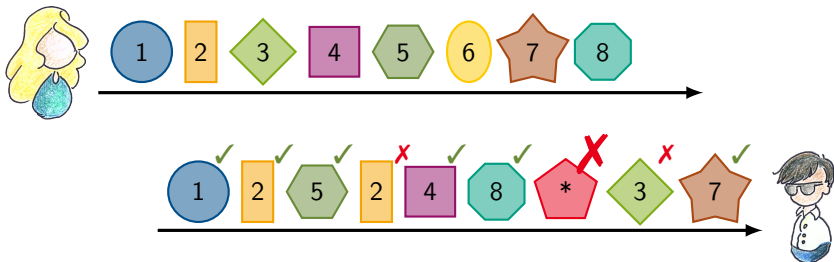
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- ▶ parameterize what packet (ciphertext) reordering a channel **supports**
- ▶ predicate $\text{supp}(C_S, C_R, c) = \checkmark / \times$ (simplified)
 - ▶ C_S : sequence of sent ciphertexts
 - ▶ C_R : sequence of *supported* ciphertexts received prior
 - ▶ c : next ciphertext to receive
- ▶ correctness (only) requires genuine, supported ctexts be correctly decrypted



Defining Robustness (ROB)

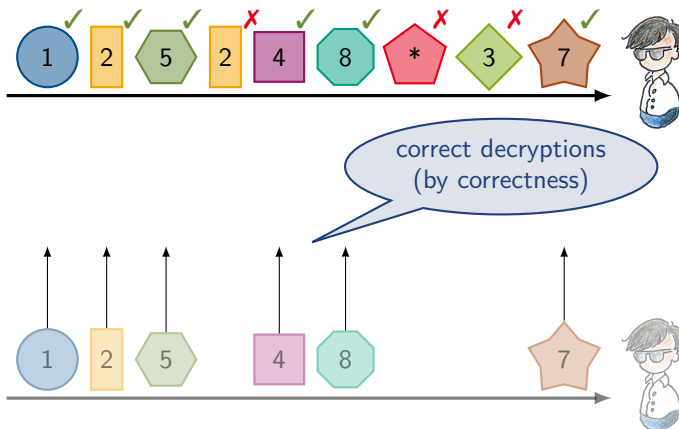
“malicious packets cannot disturb expected channel behavior”



Defining Robustness (ROB)

Idea: Compare with the supported, correct sub-trace

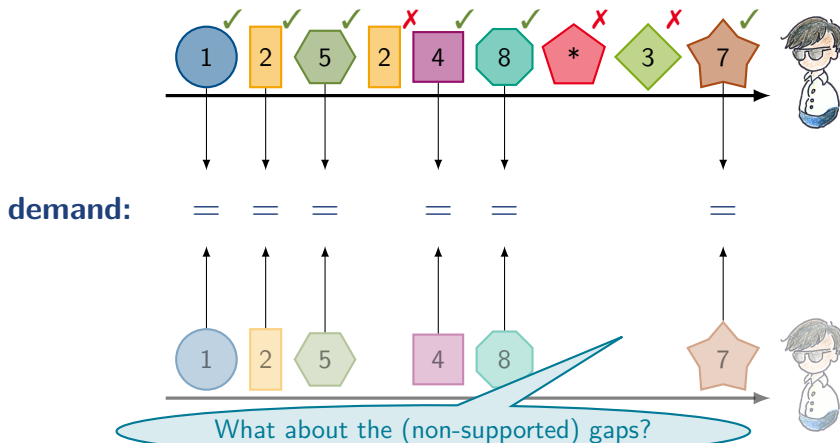
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Defining Robustness (ROB)

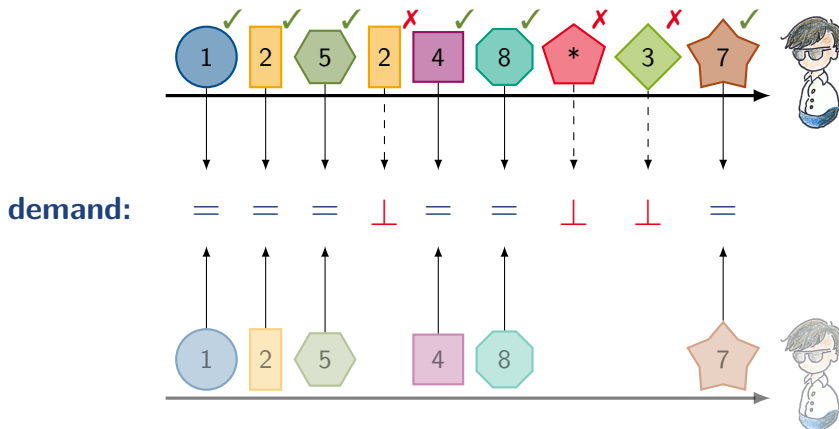
Idea: Compare with the supported, correct sub-trace

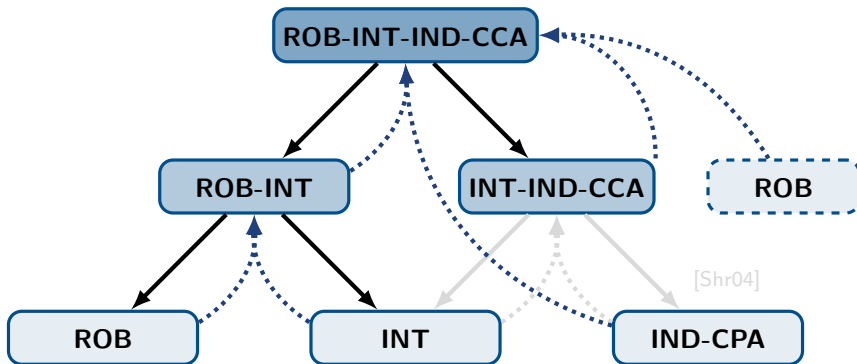
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Robust Integrity (ROB-INT)

- join **robustness** and **integrity** for desired property over unreliable transport

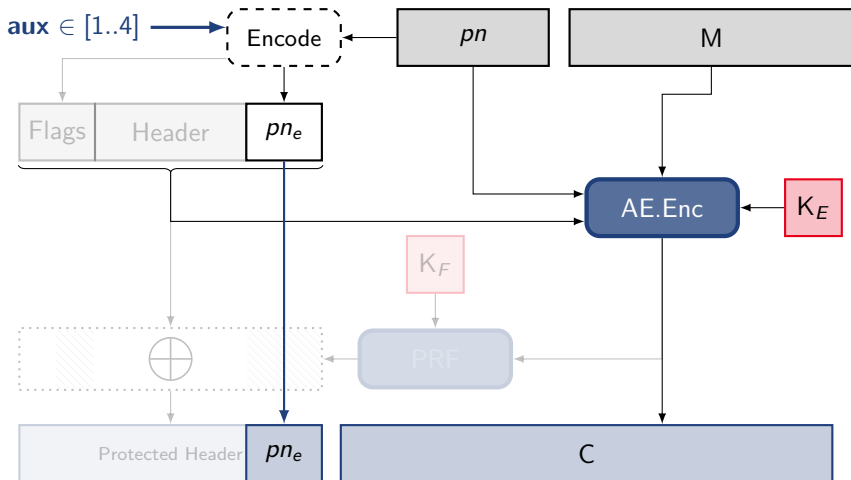




QUIC Payload Encryption



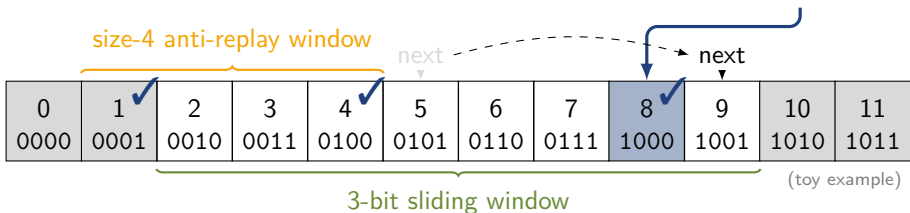
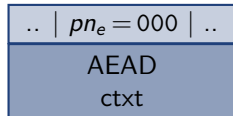
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QUIC Channel

Correctness for Dynamic Sliding Windows

- ▶ header (w/ partial packet no. pn_e) + AEAD ciphertext
- ▶ pn_e defines $|pn_e|$ -bit **dynamic sliding window**
- ▶ check for **replays in w_r -sized window**



$$\text{supp}_{dw-r[w_r]}(C_S, C_R, c) :=$$

$$\left[c \in C_S \wedge c \notin C_R \wedge \text{index}(c, C_S) \in [n - \min(w_b^c, w_r + 1), n + w_f^c] \right]$$

(simplified)

supported if in sliding window
(dynamic for c) **and** replay window

QUIC Channel

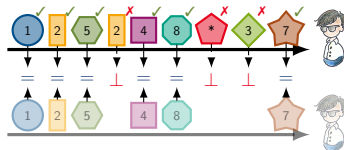
Robust Confidentiality and Integrity (ROB-INT-IND-CCA)

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- use hierarchy: **IND-CPA** + **ROB-INT** = **ROB-INT-IND-CCA**

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{QUIC}}^{\text{ROB-INT-IND-CCA}} \leq \text{Adv}_{\text{AEAD}}^{\text{priv}} + q_R \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{AEAD}}^{\text{auth}}$$

- important:  can make **multiple forgery attempts**
- factor q_R (#received ciphertexts) **non-tight loss** in security reduction, in contrast to **tight** reduction for TLS 1.3/reliable transport



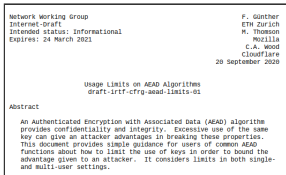
- ▶ IETF WGs updated QUIC / DTLS 1.3 drafts to mandate **concrete forgery limits** (beyond confidentiality limits [LP17])

The integrity protections ... depend on limiting the number of attempts to forge packets. ... QUIC ignores any packet that cannot be authenticated, allowing multiple forgery attempts.

- ▶ QUIC: AES-GCM: 2^{52} , ChaCha20Poly1305: 2^{36} , AES-CCM: $2^{21.5}$
- ▶ DTLS 1.3: AES-GCM, ChaCha20Poly1305: 2^{36} , AES-CCM: $2^{23.5}$

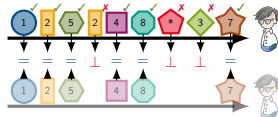
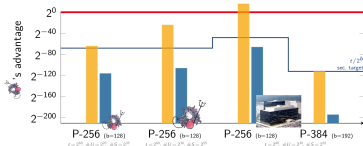
▶ Usage Limits on AEAD Algorithms draft-irtf-cfrg-aead-limits

- ▶ new CFRG document draft (with Chris Wood, Martin Thomson)
- ▶ provide user guidance on AEAD usage limits
- ▶ confidentiality/integrity, single-/multi-key, AES-GCM/AES-CCM/ChaCha20Poly1305



Summary

- ▶ Real-world crypto parameters are often **hard to extract** from analyses
- ▶ We revisited (SIGMA and) TLS 1.3 and proved **tighter key exchange security**
 - ✓ confirming deployed parameters in practice
- ▶ We introduce new **channel robustness** property
 - ! our QUIC/DTLS 1.3 analysis led to **draft updates**, mandating forgery limits



full versions @ IACR ePrint:

- ▶ Tighter Security: <https://ia.cr/2020/1029>
- ▶ Robust Channels: <https://ia.cr/2020/718>

Thank You!
mail@felixguenther.info

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