Some Results about the Distinction of Side-Channel Distinguishers based on Distributions

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Presentation Outline

1 Introduction

- Inter-Class Information Analysis (IIA)
- 3 Comparison of MIA and IIA: Theory
- 4 Comparison of MIA and IIA: Simulations
- 5 Conclusions and Perspectives

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Inter-Class Information Analysis (IIA) Comparison of MIA and IIA: Theory Comparison of MIA and IIA: Simulations Conclusions and Perspectives

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Side Channel Analysis Mutual Information Analysis (MIA)

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Classical distinguishers

- **Covariance** used for Differential Power Analysis (Kocher *et al.* [5])
- **Correlation** calculated with the Pearson's coefficient (Brier *et al.* [1])
- Likelihood, as in Template Attacks (Chari et al. [2])
- Mutual Information Analysis (Gierlichs et al. [4])

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Information theoretic definitions

Notation : Let p(X = x) be abridged p(x)

• Mutual information, a general measure of dependence:

 $II(X;Y) = H(X) - H(X \mid Y) \ge 0$

• Shannon's entropy, a measure of information:

$$H(X) = -\sum_{i=1}^n p(x_i) \cdot \log p(x_i)$$

• Conditional entropy:

$$H(X \mid Y) = -\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=0}^{m} p(x_i, y_j) \cdot \log p(x_i | y_j)$$

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Probability density function estimation

- Non-parametric methods:
 - Histogram
 - Kernel density:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=0}^{n} k\left(\frac{x-x_i}{h}\right) \,,$$

where k is the kernel function and h is the "bandwidth"

• Parametric method:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} w_i \cdot \mathcal{N}(x, \mu_i, \sigma_i),$$

where w_i , μ_i and σ_i are the weight, the mean and the standard deviations, respectively.

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Basic intuition Contributions Definitions Properties Soundness Proof

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Conventional metrics

The metric is an average distance D over Y between p(x|Y) and its average E(p(x|Y)) = p(x) :

$$M_0 = \mathbb{E}\big(\mathcal{D}(p(x|Y), p(x))\big) = \sum_{y} p(y)\mathcal{D}(p(x|y), p(x))$$

• Examples of distances \mathcal{D} are:

- MIA : Kullback-Leibler divergence
- Total variation $D(p,q) = \sum |p-q|$
- KSA : Kolmogorov-Smirnov distance (cumulative distribution functions).

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Inter-class metric

The inter-class is a distance \mathcal{D} between two classes p(x|Y) and p(x|Y')

$$M_{l} = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E} \big(\mathcal{D}(p(x, Y), p(x, Y')) \big) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{y, y'} p(y) p(y') \mathcal{D}(p(x|y), p(x|y'))$$



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Contributions

- Inter-class Information Analysis (IIA), a new test for SCA proved to be efficient when exploiting several kinds of leakages
- A theoretical study to compare the inter-class information with the mutual information
- Some experiments in order to evaluate IIA (simulated attacks against unprotected and protected AES with Boolean masking)

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First definition

$$II(X;Y) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{E}(D_{\mathsf{KL}}[X \mid Y \parallel X \mid Y'])$$

Where $D_{\mathsf{KL}}[X \parallel Y]$ is the Kullback Leibler divergence

Second definition

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$$II(X;Y) = \frac{H'(X \mid Y) - H(X \mid Y)}{2}$$

- Recall the conditional entropy is averaged over the joint distribution: $H(X \mid Y) = \sum_{x,y} p(x,y) \log \frac{1}{p(x|y)}$
- The "cross-entropy" is averaged over the product distribution: $H'(X \mid Y) = \sum_{x,y} p(x)p(y) \log \frac{1}{p(x|y)}$

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Basic intuition Contributions Definitions **Properties** Soundness Proof

Properties

• Relation to Mutual Information Since $2II(X; Y) = \mathbb{E}(D_{KL}[X | Y | X] + D_{KL}[X | X | Y]) = I(X; Y) + \mathbb{E}(D_{KL}[X | X | Y])$

$$2II(X;Y) \geq I(X;Y)$$

• Symmetry Since $2II(X; Y) = I(X; Y) + \sum_{x,y} p(X = x)p(Y = y) \log \frac{p(X=x)p(Y=y)}{p(X=x,Y=y)}$

$$II(X;Y) = II(Y;X) \quad .$$

• Independence II(X; Y) = 0 implies I(X; Y) = 0 (independence) Conversely, if X and Y are independent, $D_{KL}[X \parallel X \mid Y] = D_{KL}[X \mid Y \parallel X] = D_{KL}[X \parallel X] = 0$, hence II(X; Y) = 0 So:

$$II(X; Y) = 0 \iff X, Y$$
 are independent

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Basic intuition Contributions Definitions Properties Soundness Proof

Soundness Proof

Let k^* the good key and k another key $k \neq k^*$,, The leakage X is continuous, the model Y is discrete. The PDF of $X = Y(k^*) + N = \phi(Z, k^*) + N$ (where N is an arbitrary RV modelling the noise)

For each y, X|y is a PDF mixture whose coefficients depend on y, and whose modes y^* take values on a finite set

- MI: Moradi et al [6] relies on the fact that Y → Y* → X (where k ≠ k*) forms a Markov chain; then by the well-known information inequality for Markov chains, I(X; Y*) ≥ I(X; Y).
- II: Since $H(X|Y) > H(N) = H(X|Y^*)$, we end up with

$$II(X;Y) = \frac{H'(X \mid Y) - H(X \mid Y)}{2} < \frac{H'(X \mid Y) - H(X \mid Y^*)}{2} < \frac{H'(X \mid Y^*) - H(X \mid Y^*)}{2} = II(X;Y^*)$$

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Why IIA should be more efficient than MIA Theoretical Performance Comparison

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Why IIA should be more efficient than MIA Theoretical Performance Comparison

IIA and MIA under the Gaussian mixture

When using the good key and for a Gaussian noise N, we have:

$$H(X; Y^*) = \frac{H'(X \mid Y^*) - H(N)}{2} = \frac{\log e}{2} \cdot \frac{\sigma_{Y^*}^2}{\sigma^2}$$

$$I(X; Y^*) = \frac{H(Y^* + N) - H(N)}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\sigma_{Y^*}^2 + \sigma^2}{\sigma^2}$$

Key Inequality

$$I(X; Y^*) = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\sigma_{Y^*}^2 + \sigma^2}{\sigma^2} \le \frac{\log e}{2} \frac{\sigma_{Y^*}^2}{\sigma^2} = II(X; Y^*)$$

The difference $II(X; Y^*) - I(X; Y^*)$ increases with the SNR $\frac{\sigma_{Y^*}^2}{\sigma^2}$.

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Why IIA should be more efficient than MIA Theoretical Performance Comparison

• With the help of the Markov chain condition on $Y \to Y^* \to X$, we have:

$$\begin{cases} I(X; Y) \le I(Y; Y^*) \ll I(X; Y^*) \\ II(X; Y) \le II(Y; Y^*) \ll II(X; Y^*) \end{cases}$$

• Noting the nearest-rival distinguishability by ζ :

$$\begin{cases} \zeta_{MIA}(k) = I(X; Y(k^*)) - \max_{k \neq k^*} I(X; Y(k)) ,\\ \zeta_{IIA}(k) = II(X; Y(k^*)) - \max_{k \neq k^*} II(X; Y(k)) \end{cases}$$

• By neglecting the second-order terms, we end up with:

$$\zeta_{
m IIA}(k) \gtrsim \zeta_{
m MIA}(k)$$

- For low SNR, the equality holds at the limit: both methods coincide.
- The convergence rate towards 0 of the failure probability is faster for IIA compared to MIA.

Setting Attack Simulation Results: unprotected Attack Simulation Results: Masking

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Setting Attack Simulation Results: unprotected Attack Simulation Results: Masking

Evaluation Methodology

- Leakage model: Hamming distance
- Target leakage:
 - 1st-order leakage of unprotected implementation: X = f(Y) + N = HW(Y) + N;
 - 2^{nd} -order leakage of 1^{st} -order Boolean masking scheme (Standaert *et al.* [7]): $X = f(Y, M) + N = HW(Y \oplus M) + HW(M) + N$
- Target secret: AES S-box output, $Y = S(Z \oplus k)$
- Adversary model: known plaintext model by estimating $I(X; \psi(Y))$ and $II(X; \psi(Y))$
- Prediction function: Hamming Distance
- PDF estimation method: histogram-based PDF estimation

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Setting Attack Simulation Results: unprotected Attack Simulation Results: Masking

Unprotected implementation



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Masked implementation



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Conclusions

- New "Inter-class" concept to distinguish between various partitionings
- Mathematical analysis of the II metric and comparison with the MI metric
- Simulations confirm that IIA is more efficient than MIA in discriminating correct key assumptions:
 - For the usual HD leakage models
 - For unprotected and masked implementation

Perspectives

- Compare this distinguisher with an Inter-class KS analysis (IKSA)
- Try other kinds of masking (*e.g.*, multiplicative or affine masking (Fumaroli et al [3])

Thank you for your attention. Any Questions?

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