

Lecture 14: Robust Extractors and Their Limitations

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1 Robust Extractors

How to authenticate the seed S ? As a motivating example it might be instructive to think about following two scenarios:

- one-party "remembers" secret X and stores public S to help extract $R = \text{Ext}(X; S)$ (many times)
 - where to store S ?
 - what if S is modified to $\tilde{S} \neq S$
($\tilde{R} = \text{Ext}(X; \tilde{S})$ could be correlated to R)
- $A(X) \xrightarrow[S \leftarrow \mathcal{S}]{S} \left| \begin{array}{c} \tilde{S} \\ \text{Eve} \end{array} \right. \xrightarrow{\tilde{S}} B(X)$ (a type of attack)

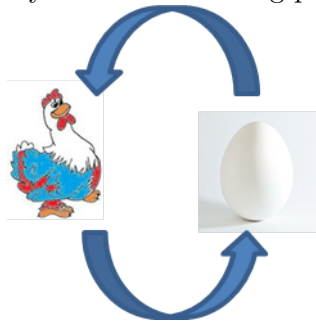
Question 1 Can we "authenticate" S ?

- using what? X itself!

Good news: can authenticate S using weak X if $K = \mathbf{H}_\infty(X) \leq \frac{n}{2}$ ($n = |X|$)

Bad news: need $k > \frac{n}{2}$

Worse news: even for $k > \frac{n}{2}$ have circularity
We essentially have the following problem



$$T = \text{Tag}_X(S), R = \text{Ext}(X; S)$$

- maybe T leaks info about R
- maybe R helps forge T

Syntax: (Gen, Rep), where Gen corresponds to generation and Rep corresponds to reproduction

- $\text{Gen}(X; S) = (\underbrace{R}_{\text{extracted key}}, \underbrace{P}_{\text{public helper}})$, where $R \in \{0, 1\}^m$.
(sometimes call $R = \text{Ext}(X; S)$, $P = \text{Auth}(X; S)$)
- $\text{Rep}(X; \tilde{P}) = \tilde{R} \in \{0, 1\}^m \cup \{\perp\}$
(sometimes call $\text{Ver}(X; P) = [\text{Rep}(X; P) \stackrel{?}{\neq} \perp]$)
- Correctness requirement: $P = \tilde{P} \Rightarrow R = \tilde{R}$

2 Security

3 parameters for security

- $K = \mathbf{H}_\infty X$ min-entropy
- ε extraction security
- δ authentication security

Define (K, ε, δ) -robust extractor

2.1 Extraction security

$\text{SD}(R; U_m | P) \leq \varepsilon$ (note before conditioned on S)

2.2 Authentication Security (Robustness)

Attempt 1 (Definition 1): $\forall K$ -source X , $\forall A$, $\text{Adv}(A) \leq \delta$, where $S \leftarrow \$$ and A corresponds to attacker. $\text{Gen}(X; S) = (R, P)$, $A(P) \rightarrow \tilde{P}$, A wins if $\text{Rep}(X; \tilde{P}) \notin \{R, \perp\}$.

This attempt is problematic. Because R vs \perp decision potentially leaks info about X and might kill "composition".

Artificial Counter Example: $\text{Gen}'(X; S) \leftarrow (R', P')$ set $R = R'$, $P = (P', 0, 0)$ and $\text{Rep}'(X; (\tilde{R}', \underbrace{i}_{\text{index}}, \underbrace{b}_{\text{bit}}))$: if $X_i > 0 \& X_i = b$ output \perp , else $\text{Rep}(X; \tilde{P})$ Claim $(\text{Gen}', \text{Rep}')$ satisfies Definition 1 but horrible for repeated use (can learn X).

Attempt 2 (Definition 2, Pre-application Robustness): Same as Attempt 1, but attacker wins if $\tilde{P} \neq P$ and $\text{Rep}(X; \tilde{P}) \neq \perp$

"Composition": $A^{\text{Rep}(X; \cdot)}$ can't cause $\tilde{R} \in \{R, \perp\}$.

Definition 1 $\not\Rightarrow$ composition

Definition 2 \Rightarrow "strong" composition, t attempts $\Rightarrow \text{Pr}(\text{breaking}) \leq t\delta$

Attempt 3 (Definition 3, Post-application Robustness): $S \leftarrow \mathcal{S}(R, P) \leftarrow \text{Gen}(X; S), A(R, P) \rightarrow \tilde{P}$

Win: $\tilde{P} = P$ and $\text{Rep}(X; P) \neq \perp$. $\Pr(\text{win}) \leq \delta$

Idea 1: Set $P = (S, T)$, $R = \text{Ext}(X; S)$

$T = \text{Tag}_X(S) \leftarrow \text{MAC}$ with weak X (so $k > \frac{n}{2}$). Reject if Tag fails else run Extractor.

$$h(X; S) = (R, T) = (\text{Ext}(X; S), \text{Tag}_X(S))$$

-Essentially, A gets $f(X; S)$ in both ext/auth experiments.

For extraction security; it is enough if $h(X; S)$ is extractor with seed S (universality with key S)

For authentication security; it is enough if $h(X; S)$ is pairwise independent with key X

Is there an h satisfying both?

$$h(\underbrace{X}_{\text{pairwise independent}}, \underbrace{S}_{\text{universal}})$$

$$x = (a, b), \quad |a| = |b| = |s| = \frac{n}{2}, \quad h((a, b), s) = as + b$$

Claim 1: h is universal keyed by S .

$$\forall (a, b) = (a', b'), \quad \Pr_S(aS + b = a'S + b') = \Pr_S((a - a')S = b - b') = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } a = a', b \neq b' \\ 2^{-n/2}, & \text{if } a \neq a' \end{cases}$$

Claim 2: $\forall s \neq \tilde{s}, (A\tilde{s} + B | As + B) \equiv (U_{n/2} | As + B)$. Let $Y = h(X; S) = AS + B$.

How to split Y into (R, T) ?

-Set $|R| = m < \frac{n}{2}$, $|T| = \frac{n}{2} - m$ and calculate ε, σ .

Extraction:

$$\begin{aligned} (R, P) = (R, (T, S)) &\equiv (\underbrace{(R, T)}_Y, S) \stackrel{\varepsilon'}{\approx} (U_{n/2}, S) \equiv (U_m, (U_{n/2-m}, S)) \\ &\stackrel{\varepsilon'}{\approx} (U_m, \underbrace{(T, S)}_{\text{truncation of } AS+B}) \\ &\equiv (U_m, P), \end{aligned}$$

where $\varepsilon' \stackrel{\text{LHL}}{\leq} \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2^{\frac{n}{2}-k}}$.

$$\varepsilon = 2\varepsilon' = \sqrt{2^{n/2-k}} \Rightarrow k \geq \frac{n}{2} + 2 \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \quad (1)$$

Authentication (Post-Robustness): $\delta = \delta' 2^{n-k}$, where δ' -security with uniform $X \equiv U_n$. What is δ' ?

$$A(R, P) \rightarrow \tilde{P} = (\tilde{S}, \tilde{T}) \neq (S, T)$$

If $\tilde{S} = S \Rightarrow A$ lost as \tilde{T} won't match.

So assume $\tilde{S} \neq S$, then by pairwise independence to learn $AS + B$,

$$\Pr(\text{can predict } [A\tilde{S} + B]_{\frac{n}{2}-m}) \leq 2^{m-\frac{n}{2}} \Rightarrow \delta' \leq 2^{m-n/2}$$

$$\delta = \delta' * 2^{n-k} = 2^{m-n/2+n-k} = 2^{m+n/2-k}$$

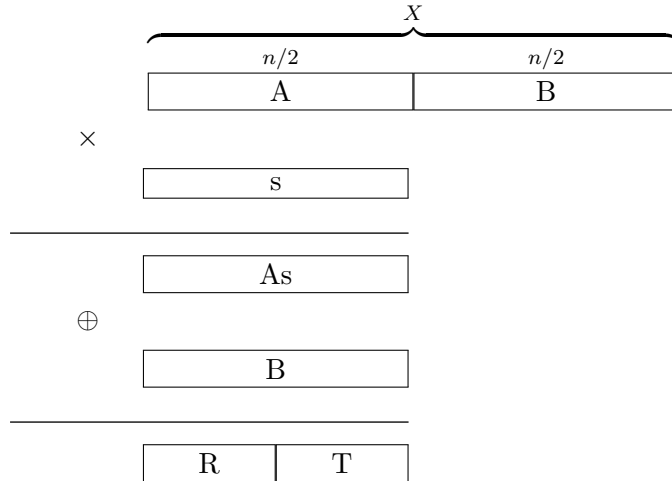
$$\Updownarrow$$

$$k \leq \frac{n}{2} + m + \log \frac{1}{\delta}$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

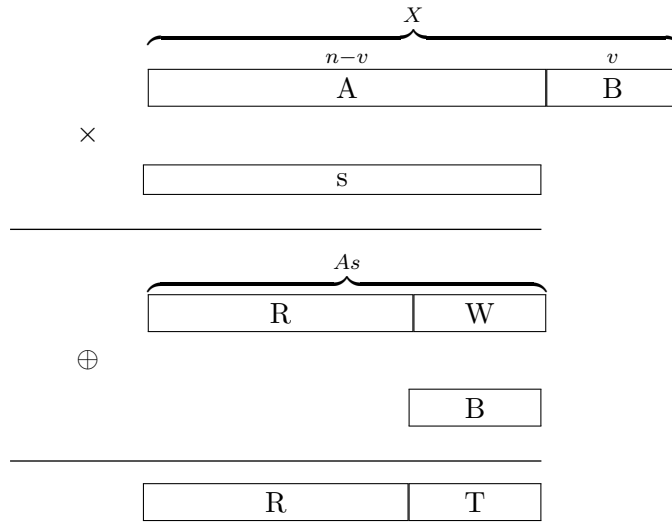
$$m \leq k - \frac{n}{2} - \log \frac{1}{\delta} \tag{2}$$

Theorem 1 $\forall \varepsilon \delta$ and $\forall k > \frac{n}{2} + \max(2 \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, \log \frac{1}{\delta})$, $\exists(k, \varepsilon, \delta)$ -post-application robust extractor with output length $m = k - \frac{n}{2} - \log \frac{1}{\delta}$.



B was added to both R (post-application, not needed for extraction) and T .

New idea:



$$n = m + 2v, v = \frac{n - m}{2}$$

- R already universal, for extraction this is enough.
 -only T is pairwise independent.

New pre-application: Let $v = \frac{n-m}{2} (m = n - 2v), Gen(X; S) : X = (A, B), |B| = v, |A| = n - v,$

$$S \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} GF[2^{n-v}].$$

Let $Y = AS, R = [Y]^m, W = [Y]_{m+1}^{n-v}, T = W \oplus B, P = (S, T)$
 Rep($(A, B), (\tilde{S}, \tilde{T})$) check if \tilde{T} is correct if so extract.

Extraction security:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varepsilon = 2\varepsilon' &= \sqrt{2^{n-v-k}} = \sqrt{2^{n-\frac{n-m}{2}-k}} = \sqrt{2^{\frac{n}{2}+\frac{m}{2}-k}} \\
 k &\geq \frac{n}{2} + \frac{m}{2} + 2\log \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \quad (\text{previously amp. } k \geq \frac{n}{2} + \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon})
 \end{aligned}$$

Authentication: $\delta = 2^{n-k}, \delta' = 2^{n-k-v} = 2^{n-k-\frac{n-m}{2}} = 2^{\frac{n}{2}+\frac{m}{2}-k}$

$$k \geq \frac{n}{2} + \frac{m}{2} + \log \frac{1}{\delta} \quad (\text{amp. } k \geq \frac{n}{2} + m + \log \frac{1}{\delta})$$

$$\tilde{m} = 2(\frac{n}{2} - k - \max(2\log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, \log \frac{1}{\delta})) \text{ twice as large if } \log \frac{1}{\delta} > 2\log 1\varepsilon.$$

Theorem 2 $\forall \varepsilon, \delta, \forall k \geq \frac{n}{2} + \max(2\log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, \log \frac{1}{\delta})$ pre-app with $m = 2(k - \frac{n}{2} - \max(2\log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, \log \frac{1}{\delta}))$.
 Almost twice as much, but same k .

We can pose two interesting questions,

Question 2 Is $k > \frac{n}{2}$ essential? (YES)

Question 3 Is $k > \frac{n}{2}$ essential for probab. MACs w/ weak keys? (YES)

Lemma 1 \forall randomized $\text{Auth} : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^t$, $\text{Ver} : \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^t \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$, $\forall \rho$ (we'll use $\rho = 1$), at least one of the following holds:

- (1) $\exists(n, k)$ -source X s.t. $\Pr_{\text{coins of Auth}}(\text{Ver}(X, \text{Auth}(X))) < \rho$
- (2) $\exists(n, k)$ -source X and $P \in \{0, 1\}^t$ s.t. $\Pr(\text{Ver}(X, P) = 1) > \frac{\rho}{2}$
- (3) $\exists(n, k)$ -source X s.t. $\mathbf{H}_\infty(X|\text{Auth}(X)) \leq \max(0, 2k - n) + \log \frac{1}{\rho} + 2$

Corollary 2 For $\rho = 1$ and perfect correctness, either $\exists X$ fixed p s.t. $\Pr(\text{Ver}(X, p) = 1) > \frac{1}{2}$ or $\exists X$ s.t. $\mathbf{H}_\infty(X, \text{Auth}(X)) \leq 2 + \max(0, 2k - n)$, if $k \leq \frac{n}{2}$, $\mathbf{H}_\infty(X|\text{Auth}(X)) \leq 2$. Proof is at Appendix C of [2].

Corollary 3 $\forall(k, \varepsilon, \delta)$ pre-application robust extractor with key length $m \geq 4$, $\varepsilon < \frac{1}{16}$, $\delta < \frac{1}{2}$ must have $k > \frac{n}{2}$ and $|P| \geq n - k - 2$

Corollary 4 \forall even probabilistic (k, δ) secure MAC (even for 1 bit) where $\delta < \frac{1}{4}$ must have $k > \frac{n}{2}$ and $|T| \geq n - k - 2$.

Proof: $\text{Auth}(X) = \text{Tag}_X(0)$

cond(2) \Rightarrow can forge $\text{Tag}_X(0)$ w/ $\text{pr} > \frac{1}{2}$

cond(3) \Rightarrow can forge $\text{Tag}_X(1)|\text{Tag}_X(0)$ w/ $\text{pr} > \frac{1}{4}$

□

open problem: $k > \frac{n}{2}$ prove upper band on m . (almost solved for pre-app, how about post-app?)

Computational Robust Extractors? Can we beat $k > \frac{n}{2}$, if A for robustness is computationally bounded? -Yes in RO model.[1] Set $R = \text{Ext}(X; S)$, $T = H(X, S)$, H -random oracle (X is independent of H)

Intuition: $\mathbf{H}_\infty(X|R)$ -high and T doesn't help unless A queries $H(X, S)$. Hence $\forall \tilde{s} \neq s$ hard to predict $H(X, \tilde{s})$.

$$\delta = q\text{pred}(X|R, S) = q2^{m-k}, \quad m = k - \max(2 \log 1/\varepsilon, \log q) \forall k$$

Big open question: Instantiate H ? -Idea 1: get rid of "weak" X by $\text{Ext}(X; S) = (R, k)$, $T = \text{Tag}_k(S)$. Now $s \rightarrow \tilde{s}$, $k \rightarrow \tilde{k}$ related key Tag .

References

- [1] Boyen, X., Dodis, Y., Katz, J., Ostrovsky, R., & Smith, A. (2005). Secure remote authentication using biometric data. In *Advances in Cryptology EUROCRYPT 2005* (pp. 147-163). Springer Berlin Heidelberg.
- [2] Dodis, Y., & Wichs, D. (2009, May). Non-malleable extractors and symmetric key cryptography from weak secrets. In *Proceedings of the 41st annual ACM symposium on Theory of computing* (pp. 601-610). ACM.
- [3] Dodis, Y., Katz, J., Reyzin, L., & Smith, A. (2006). Robust fuzzy extractors and authenticated key agreement from close secrets. In *Advances in Cryptology-CRYPTO 2006* (pp. 232-250). Springer Berlin Heidelberg.