

CIS 700/002 : Special Topics : Physical-Cyber Attacks

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January 27, 2017

Physical-Cyber Attacks

- Definition

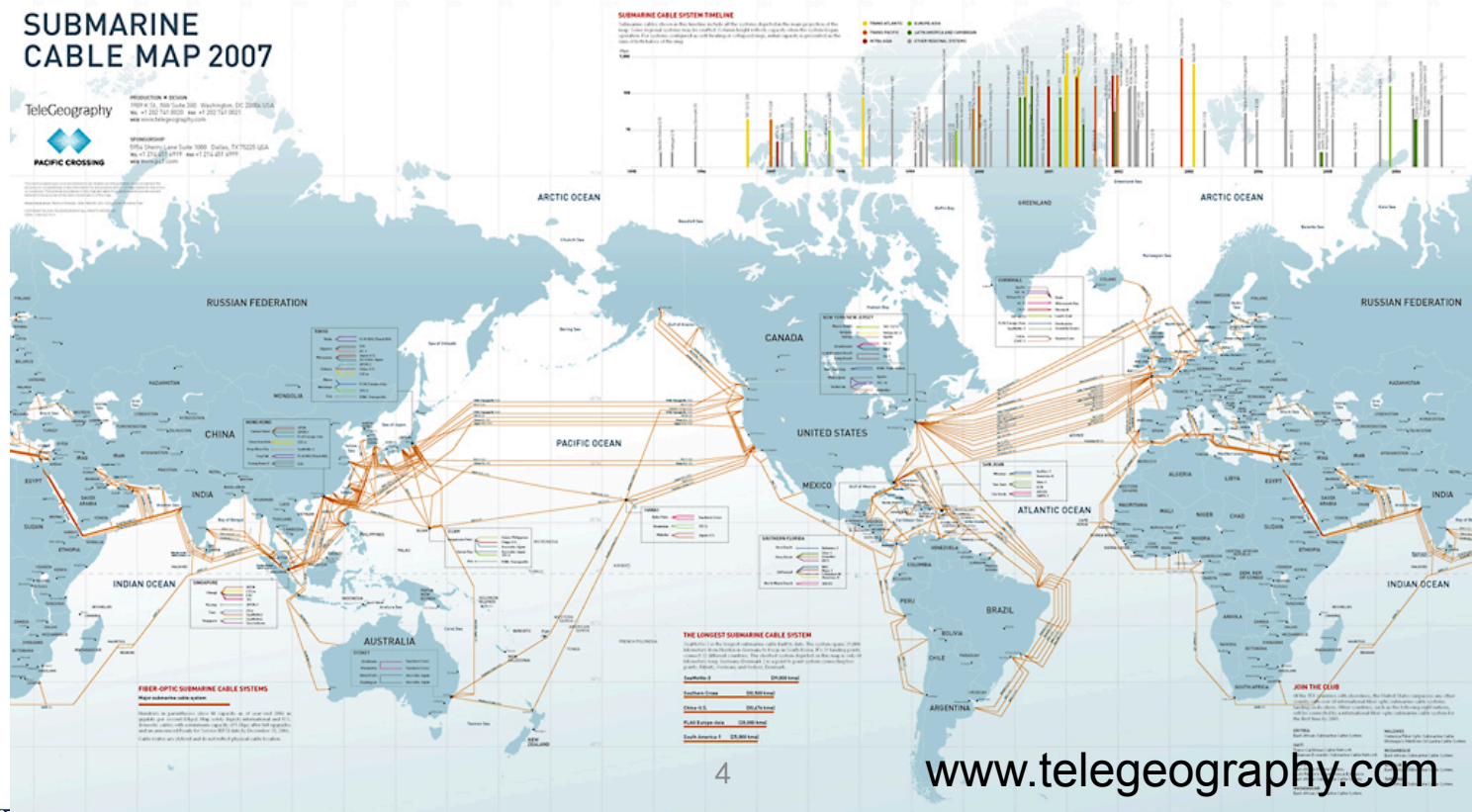
A physical-cyber attack is an attack performed in physical space that adversely affects cyberspace.

CIA

- Confidentiality, Integrity, Availability (CIA)
- CIA are properties of system that a designer wants to implement
 - Authentication
 - Encryption

Breaching Availability

- Direct physical damage
 - Physically damage cyber systems (e.g., network cable)



Breaching Availability: Direct physical damage

- Incidents and attacks
 - (Incident, 2001) Fire on fiber-optic cables → loss Internet connectivity for 2 days
 - (Incident, 2006) Earthquake near undersea cables → No Internet connection in Hong Kong
 - (Incident, 2008) ship anchors cut network cables → Egypt lost Internet connectivity.
 - (Incident, 2011) Damage a fiber-optic cable → loss Internet connectivity for 5 hours
 - (Attack, WW1) Britain tried to cut German telecommunication cable
 - (Attack, 2013) Divers tried to cut Egypt's main telecommunication provider
 - ...

Breaching Availability: Direct physical damage

- Analysis: finding “areas of failure”
 - Gorman et al., 2004; Neumayer et al., 2011;
Agarwal et al., 2011

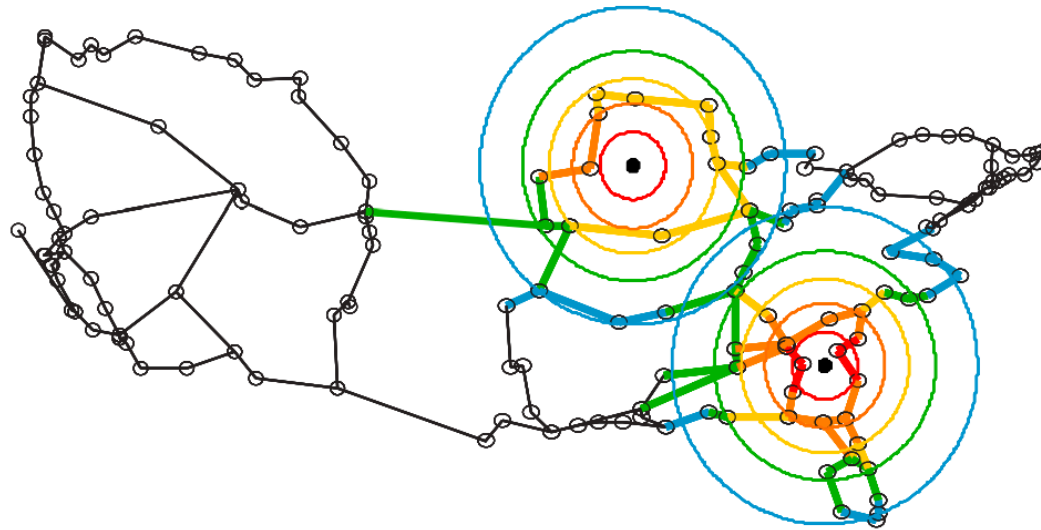


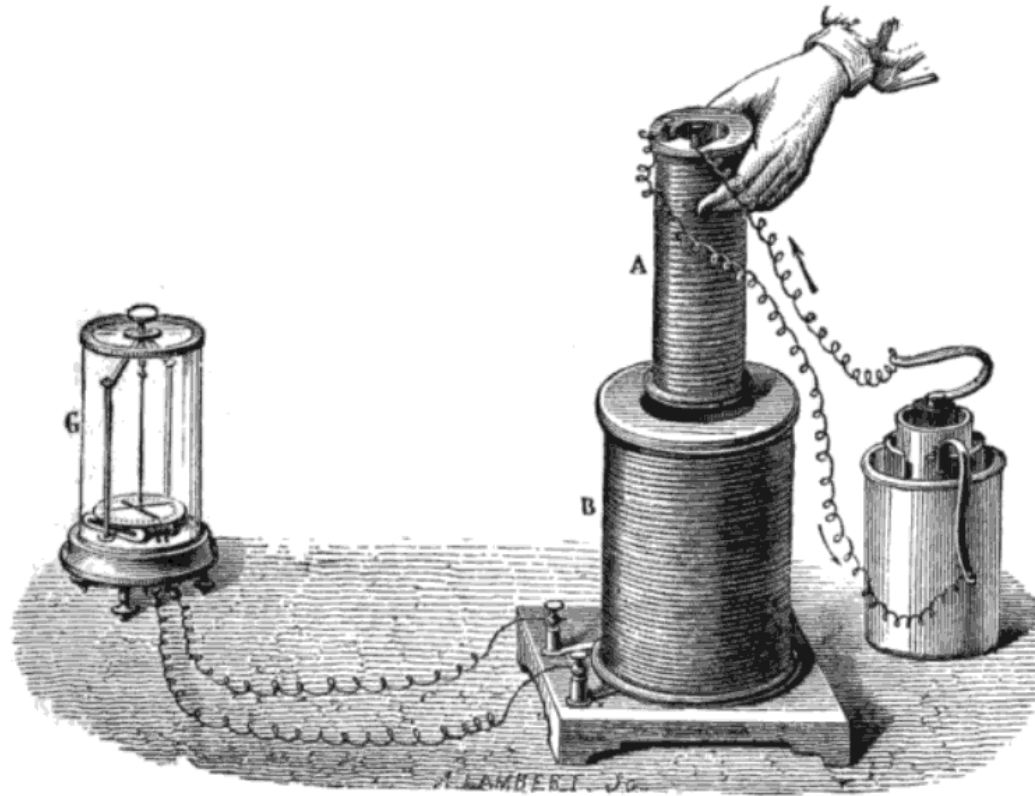
Fig. 1. The fiber backbone operated by a major U.S. network provider [30] and an example of two attacks with probabilistic effects (the link colors represent their failure probabilities).

Breaching Availability: Direct physical damage

- Countermeasures
 - Redundant network devices and cables
 - Maximize the network's resilience by considering geographical distribution

Breaching Availability

- Electromagnetic damage
 - Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) effect



Breaching Availability: Electromagnetic Damage

- Electromagnetic Damage
 - (Incident, 1962) nuclear test → an EMP damages electrical installations in Hawaii
 - (Incident, 1989) a solar flare → a 12-hour electrical power blackout in Quebec, Canada
 - (Attack, 2003) a US Air Force used High Power Microwave devices → may be disabled Iraqi satellite TV during Iraq War

Breaching Availability: Electromagnetic Damage

- Analysis: Report of the Commission, 2004
 - terrorists may use unsophisticated nuclear weapons for an EMP attack on U.S. infrastructure

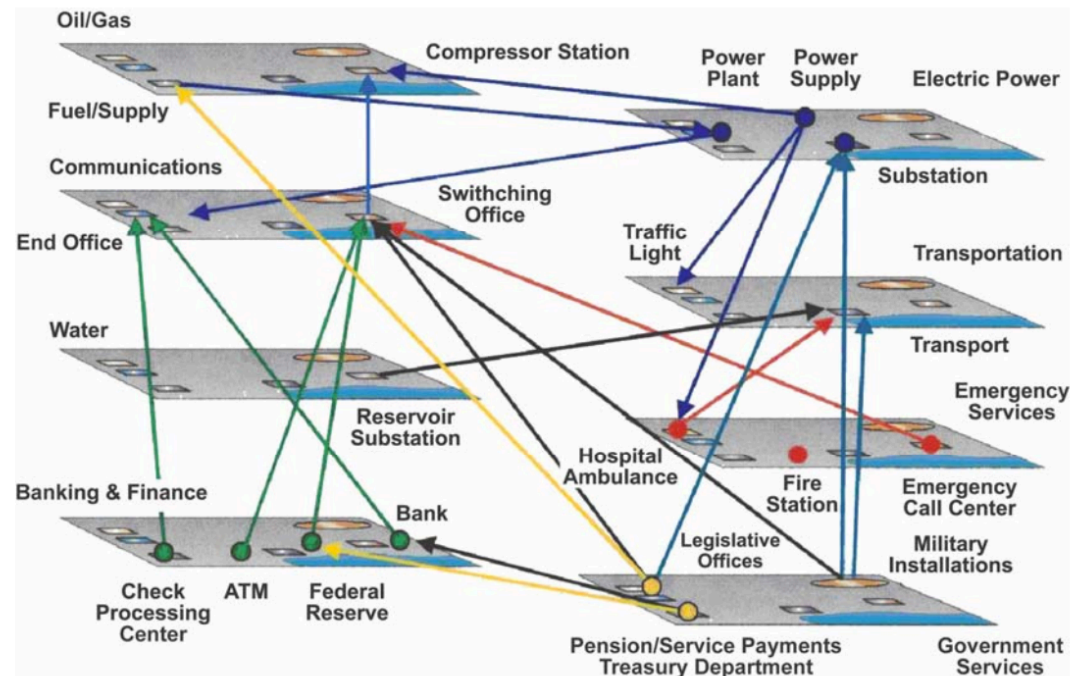


Figure 4. Interdependent Infrastructure Sectors

http://www.empcommission.org/docs/empc_exec_rpt.pdf

Breaching Availability: Electromagnetic Damage

- Countermeasures
 - Outer EMP protector



- Copper network cables → Optical fibers

Breaching Integrity

- Physical manipulation of sensor input

LIDAR

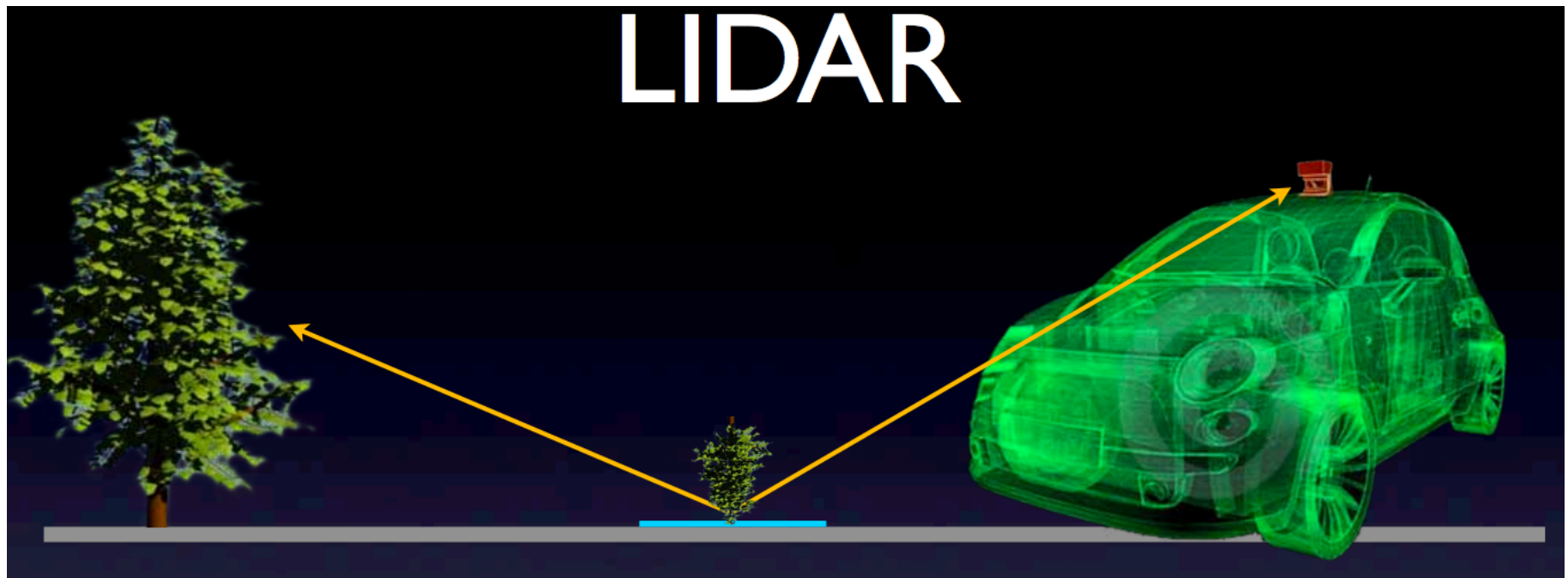


Backscatter X-ray



Breaching Integrity: Sensor Failures

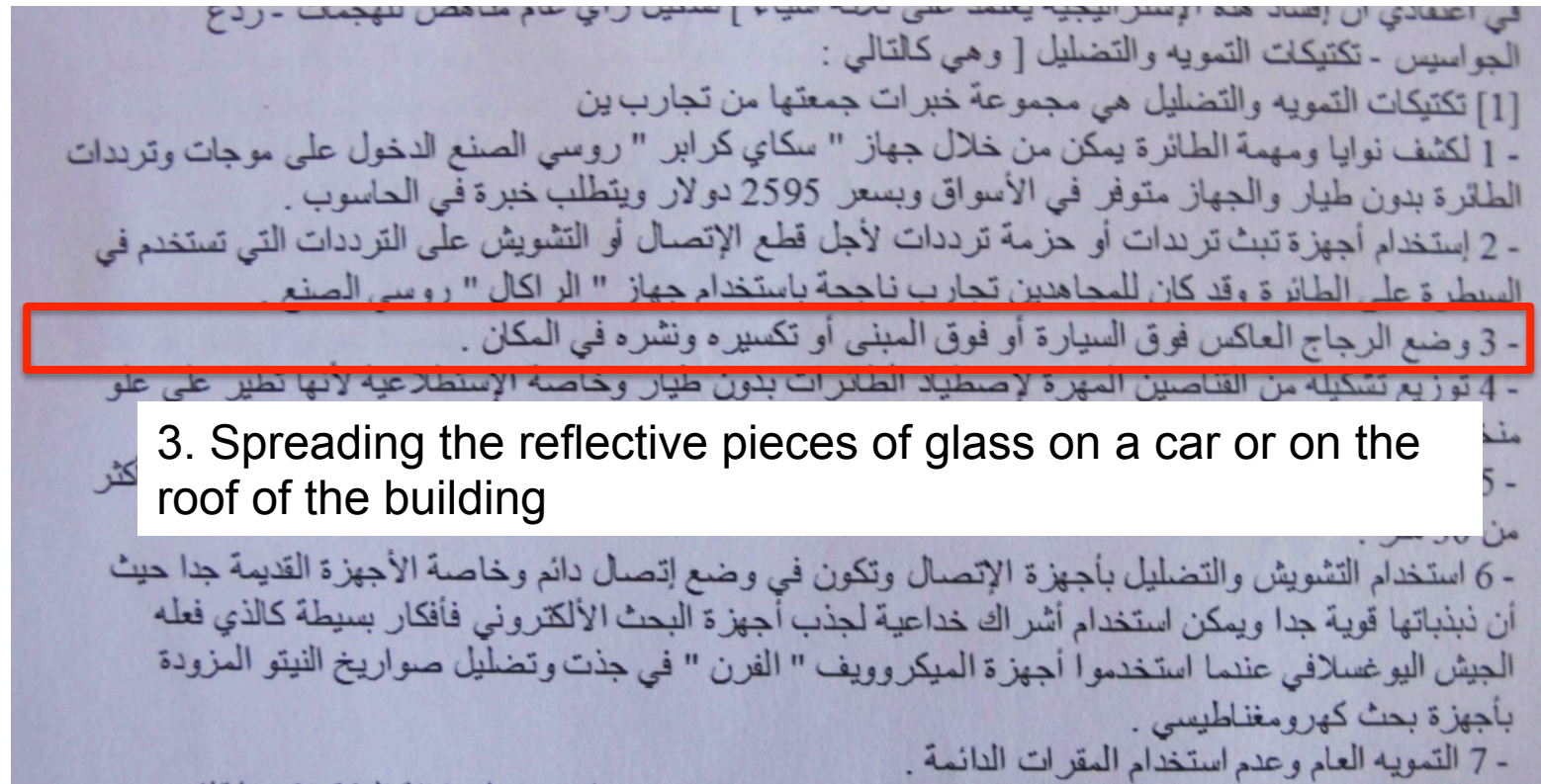
- Attack: Zoz, DEFCON 2013
 - Fool LIDAR sensors



Zoz. Hacking Driverless Vehicles. DEFCON 21, 2013.

Breaching Integrity: Sensor Failures

- Attack: Al-Qaida Papers - Drones, 2013
 - 22 tips on avoiding UAV missile strikes



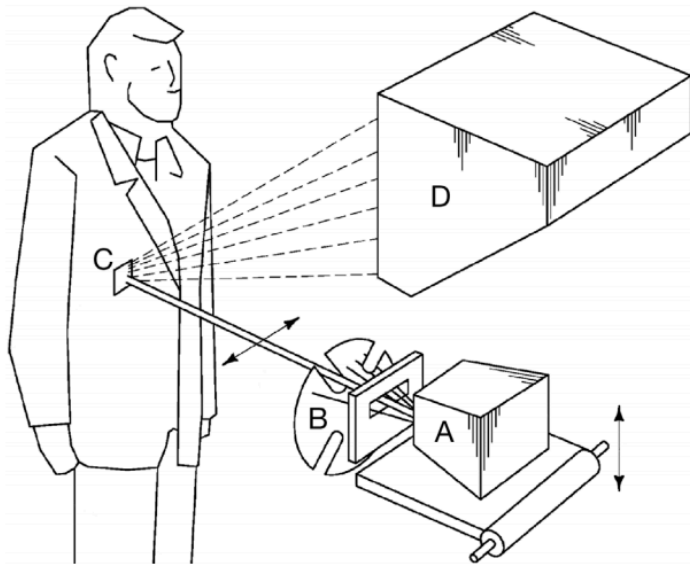
3. Spreading the reflective pieces of glass on a car or on the
roof of the building

Breaching Integrity: Sensor Failures

- Countermeasures
 - Infrared radiation
 - Attack: evade detection by hiding behind window glasses
 - Rule-based approaches
 - Set lower and upper limits
 - Learning-based approaches
 - Learn the limits
 - Context-based approaches
 - Temporal context: measurement + forecasted one
 - Redundant sensors

Breaching Integrity: Sensor Failures

- Attack: Mowery et al., USENIX Security 2014
 - Fooling backscatter X-ray imagining tech.



(a) Subject with .380 ACP pistol taped above knee.

(b) Subject with .380 ACP pistol sewn to pant leg.

Mowery, K., Wustrow, E., Wypych, T., Singleton, C., Comfort, C., Rescorla, E., Checkoway, S., Halderman, J. A., and Shacham, H. (2014). Security analysis of a full-body scanner. In 23rd USENIX Security Symposium, August 20 22, 2014, San Diego, CA.

Breaching Integrity: Sensor Failures

- Countermeasures
 - X-ray: 3D imaging

Backscatter X-ray



Millimeter wave scanner



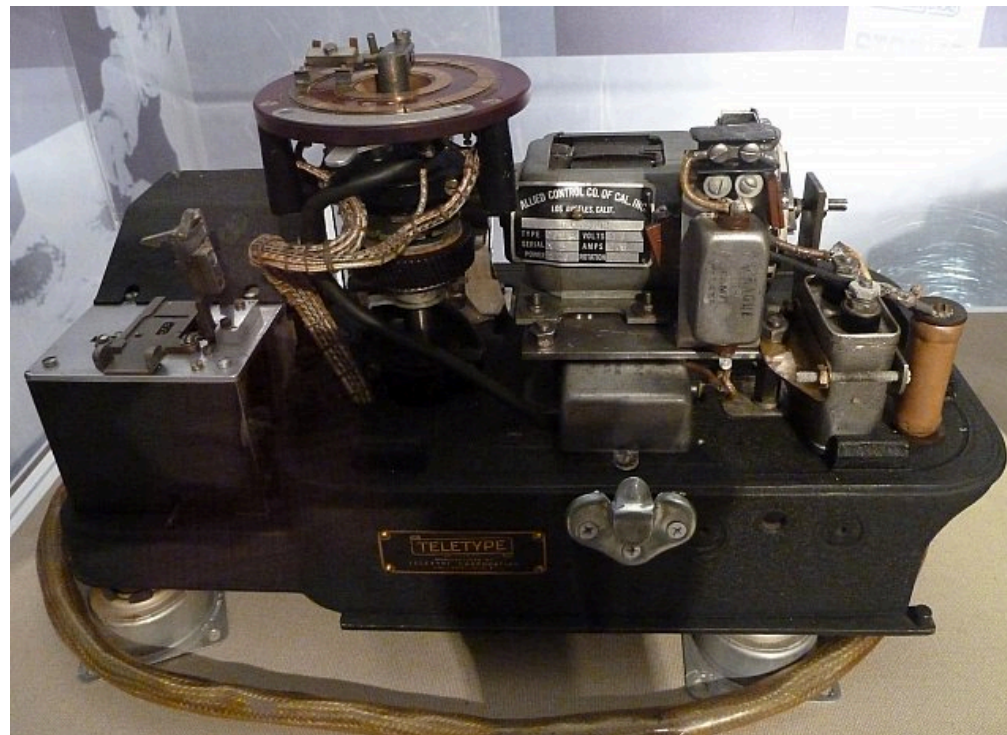
Breaching Confidentiality

- Exploit by-products of computations
 - Heat, electrical signals, electromagnetic radiation, light, sounds, and motion
 - Extract information
- Emsec attack
 - An attack that exploits emanation from systems
 - A.k.a. Side channel attacks

Breaching Confidentiality: Electromagnetic Emsec Attacks

- Attack: Crypto system (Bell 131-B2), WW2

SIGTOT teletype system



Breaching Confidentiality: Electromagnetic Emsec Attacks

- Attack: Crypto system (Bell 131-B2), WW2
 - electromagnetic from Bell 131-B2 measured by an oscilloscope → decrypt the encrypted texts
 - 75% was recovered
- Countermeasure
 - Use the device only if they had control of an area of 100 feet around them

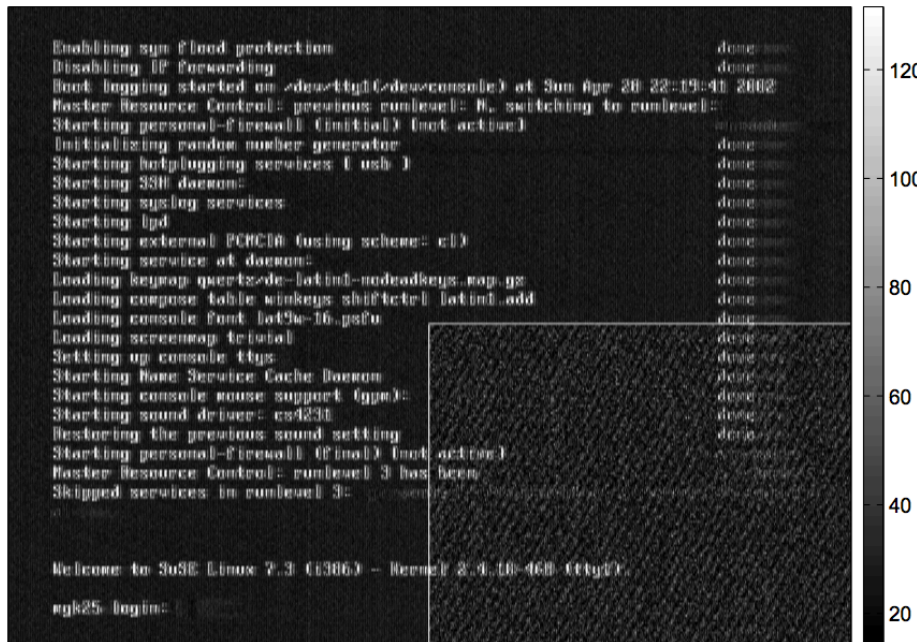
Breaching Confidentiality: Electromagnetic Emsec Attacks

- Attack: CRT/LCD display
 - Van Eck attacks (1985)
 - Electromagnetic from a CRT TV set → reconstruct images displayed on it
 - Markus Kuhn (2005)
 - Electromagnetic from LCD → reconstruct images

Breaching Confidentiality: Electromagnetic Emsec Attacks

- Attack: Kuhn, LCD monitors, 2005.
 - Electromagnetic from LCD connectors → reconstruct images

350 MHz center frequency, 50 MHz bandwidth, 16 (1) frames averaged, 3 m distance



magnified image section



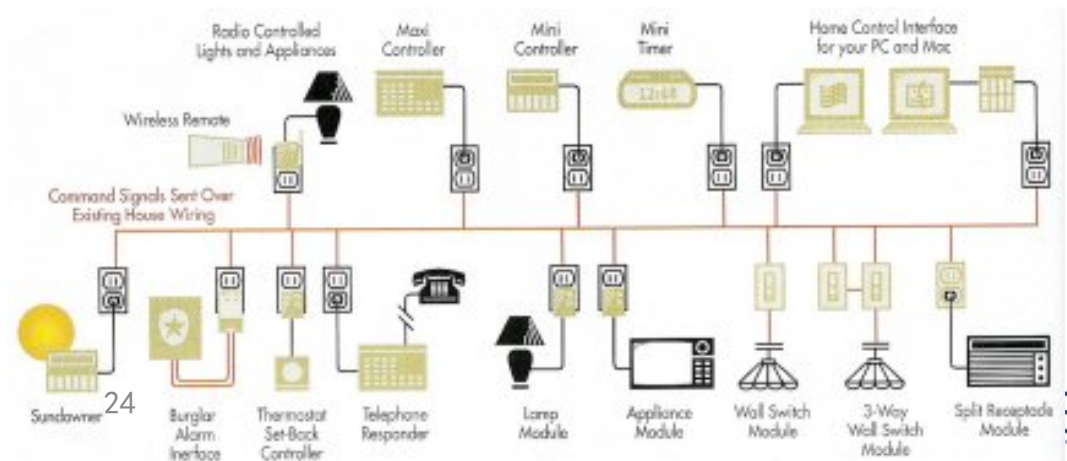
Kuhn, M. G. (2005). Electromagnetic eavesdropping risks of flat-panel displays. In Privacy Enhancing Technologies, Springer Berlin Heidelberg, pp. 88-107, January 2005.

Breaching Confidentiality: Electromagnetic Emsec Attacks

- Countermeasure
 - Dutch government's regulation
 - Voting equipments should be protected from leaking information up to 5 meters

Breaching Confidentiality: Electromagnetic Emsec Attacks

- Attack: X-10 devices, DEFCON, 2011.
 - X-10 is a protocol for communication among electronic devices through power lines
 - X-10 signals leak through the power grid → pick up by adversaries in the same neighborhood
- Countermeasure
 - encryption



Breaching Confidentiality: Electromagnetic Emsec Attacks

- Attack: crypto system (e.g., smartcards)
 - Paul Kocher (1999)
 - Power drawn of a smartcard → decrypt
 - Clark et al. (2013)
 - The power analysis of a computer → identify web pages visited
 - The power drawn fluctuation and web contents are correlated

Breaching Confidentiality: Electromagnetic Emsec Attacks

- Attack: Kocher et al., CRYPTO, 1999.
 - A smartcard for authentication

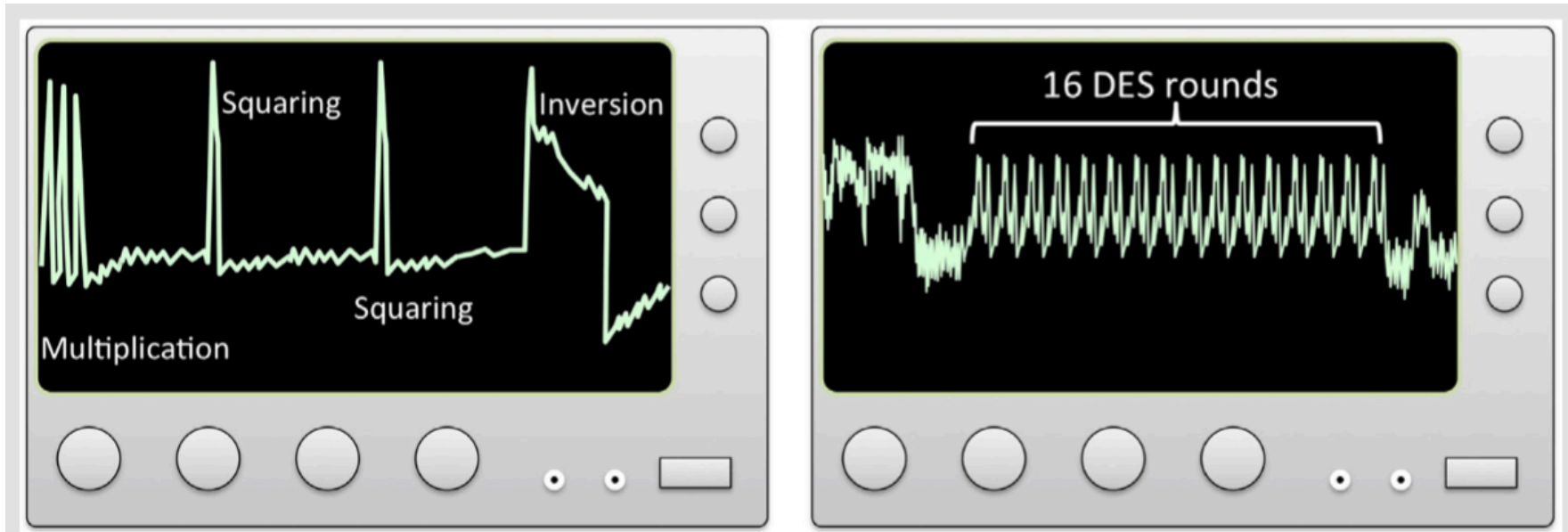


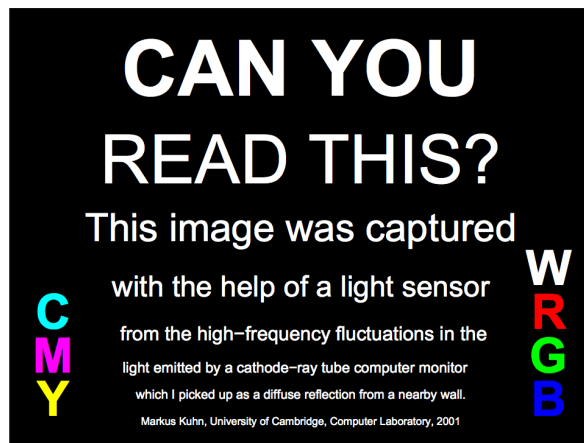
Figure 7.2 The current fluctuates based on the instruction performed by the device's microprocessor.

Breaching Confidentiality

- Optical/heat Emsec Attacks
 - Computer monitors
 - Device indicators
 - Human body
 - ...

Breaching Confidentiality: Optical Emsec Attacks

- Attacks
 - Telescope → see monitors
 - (Attack, S&P 2002) Markus Kuhn
 - Photodetector, out-of-sight, CRT → reconstruct images



- Countermeasure: use LCD

Breaching Confidentiality: Optical Emsec Attacks

- Attack: Loughry and Umphress, 2002
 - Blink patterns from indicators on modems → the series of zeros and ones
 - Why? LEDs and data transmission circuits share same power source

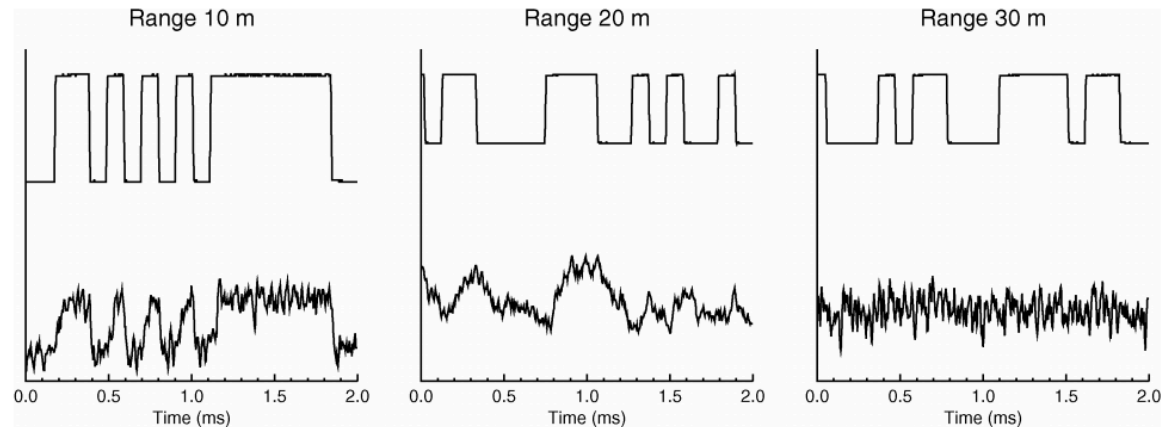


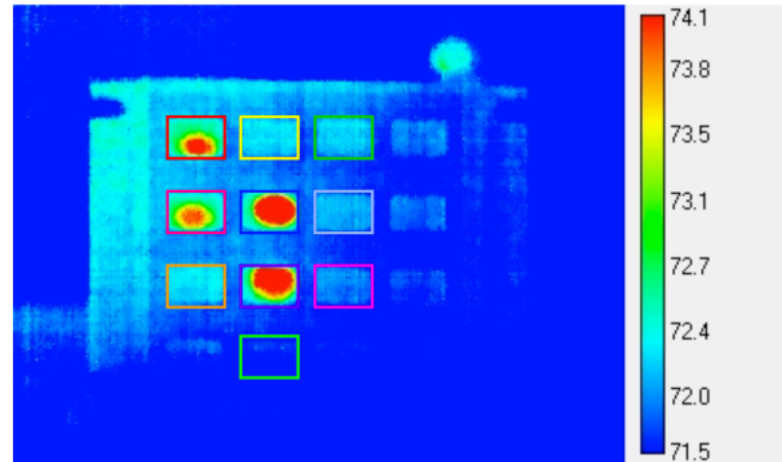
Fig. 4. Degradation of the optical signal with increasing distance from the target. The data rate was 9600 bits/s.

Breaching Confidentiality: Optical Emsec Attacks

- Attack: Mowery et al., 2011.
 - ATM keypads + user's finger + thermal camera → infer keys pressed
 - Why? Thermal residual



Figure 2: The Diebold plastic ATM keypad with rubber keys, model 19-019062-001M REV1.



- Countermeasures
 - Use metal keypads

Breaching Confidentiality

- Acoustic Emsec Attacks
 - Key typing sounds
 - Sounds from devices

Breaching Confidentiality

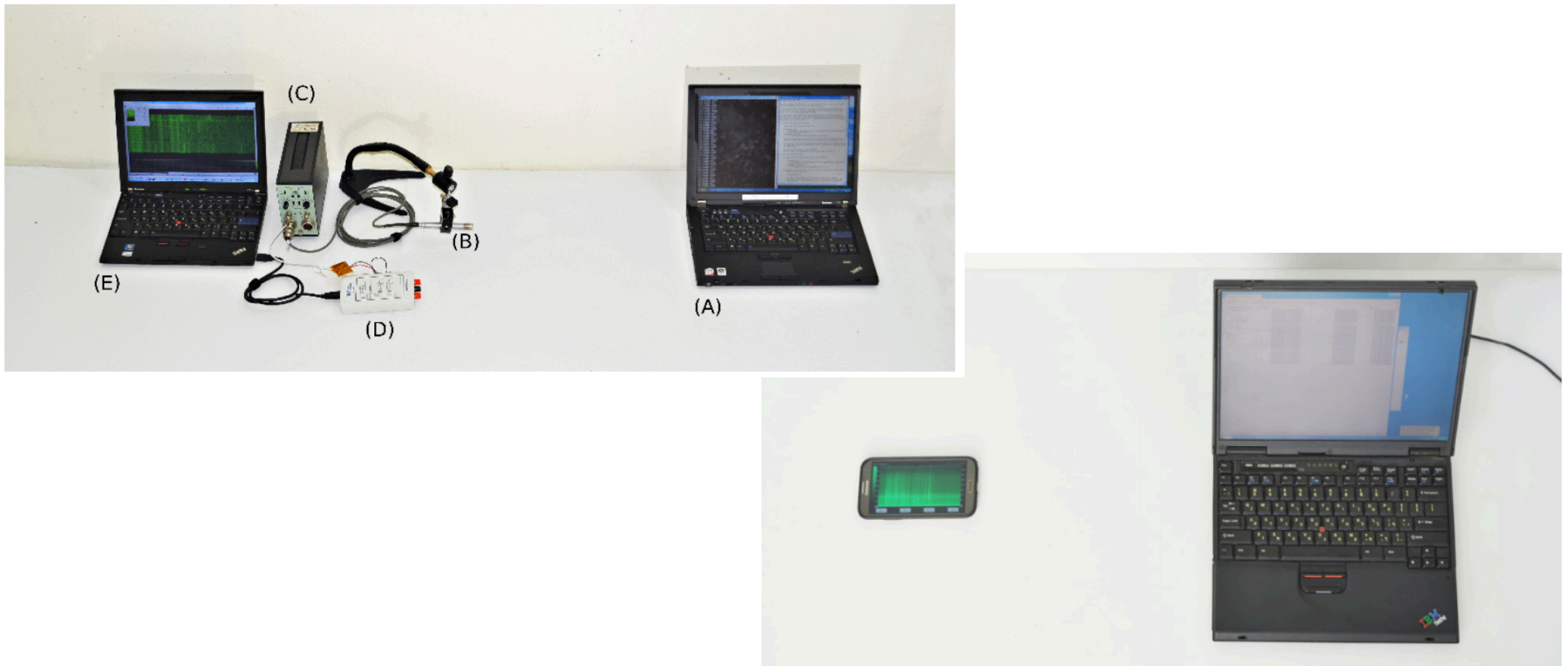
Acoustic Emsec Attacks

- Attack: British spy, 1956
 - British collects the sounds from encryption devices → spy for Egyptian embassy
- Attack: Asonov and Agrawal, S&P2004; Zhuang et al., 2005
 - Sounds from keyboards → infer keys pressed
 - Recover up to 96% of characters
 - Why?
 - Keys are not identical
 - Different physical locations of keys

Breaching Confidentiality

Acoustic Emsec Attacks

- Attack: Genkin et al. CRYPTO 2014
 - Sounds from computers → extract RSA key

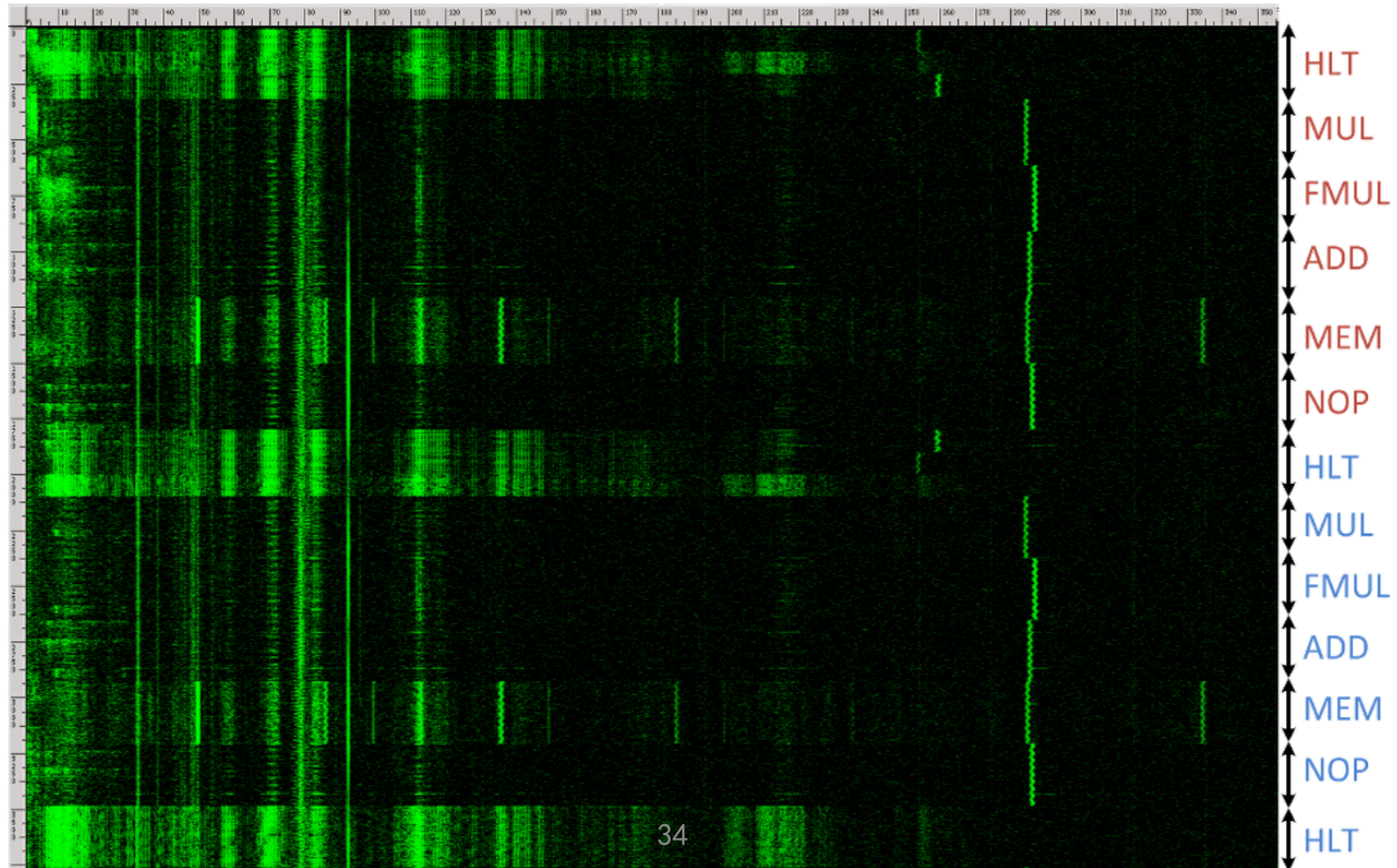


Genkin, Daniel, Adi Shamir, and Eran Tromer. "RSA key extraction via low-bandwidth acoustic cryptanalysis." International Cryptology Conference. Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2014.

Breaching Confidentiality

Acoustic Emsec Attacks

- Attack: Genkin et al. CRYPTO 2014
 - Why? Correlation between sounds and ops



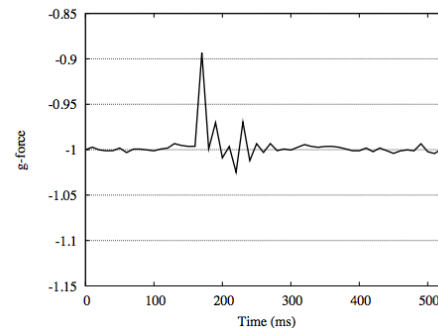
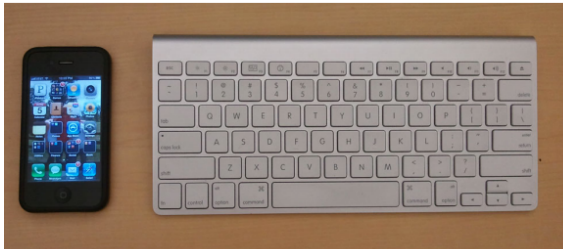
Breaching Confidentiality

- Motion Sensor-based Side Channel Attacks
 - Gyroscopes in smartphones
 - Accelerometers in smartphones

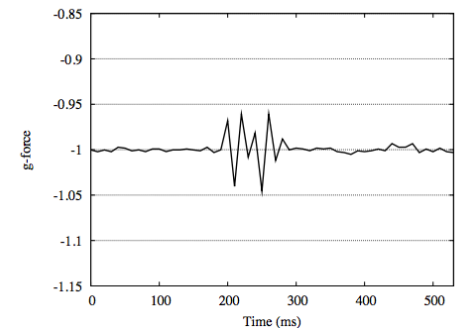
Breaching Confidentiality

Motion Sensor-based Attacks

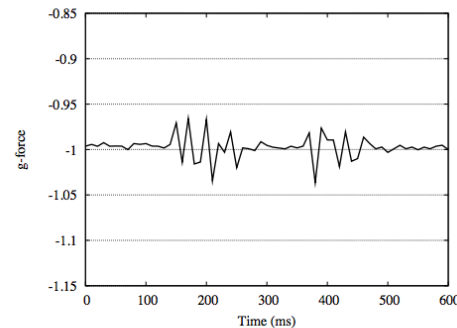
- Attack: Marquardt et al., CCS 2011
 - Vibration from accelerometers → identify the words typed
 - Why?



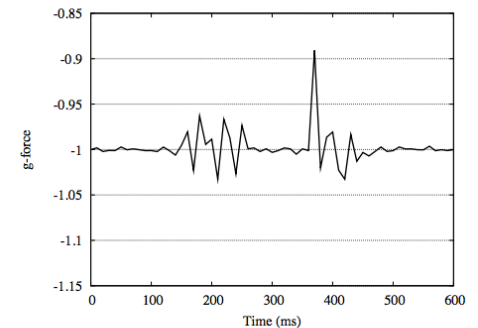
Single character "a"



Single character "l"



Character pair "nm"

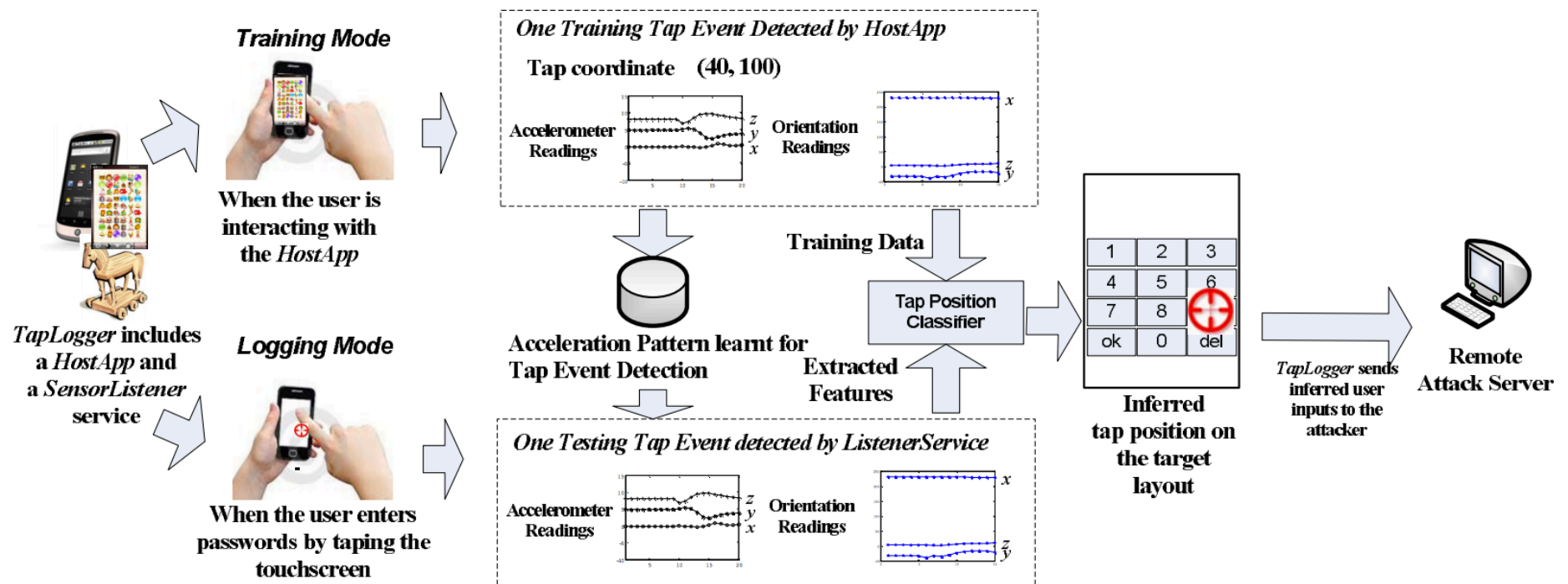


Character pair "pq"

Breaching Confidentiality

Motion Sensor-based Attacks

- Apps: TouchLogger, ACCessary, TapLogger
 - Motion sensors → infer the area tapped



Breaching Confidentiality

Motion Sensor-based Attacks

- Attack: Gryophone, USENIX Security 2014.
 - Gyroscopes → identify speakers or words
 - Why? An acoustic signal affects a gyroscopic measurement

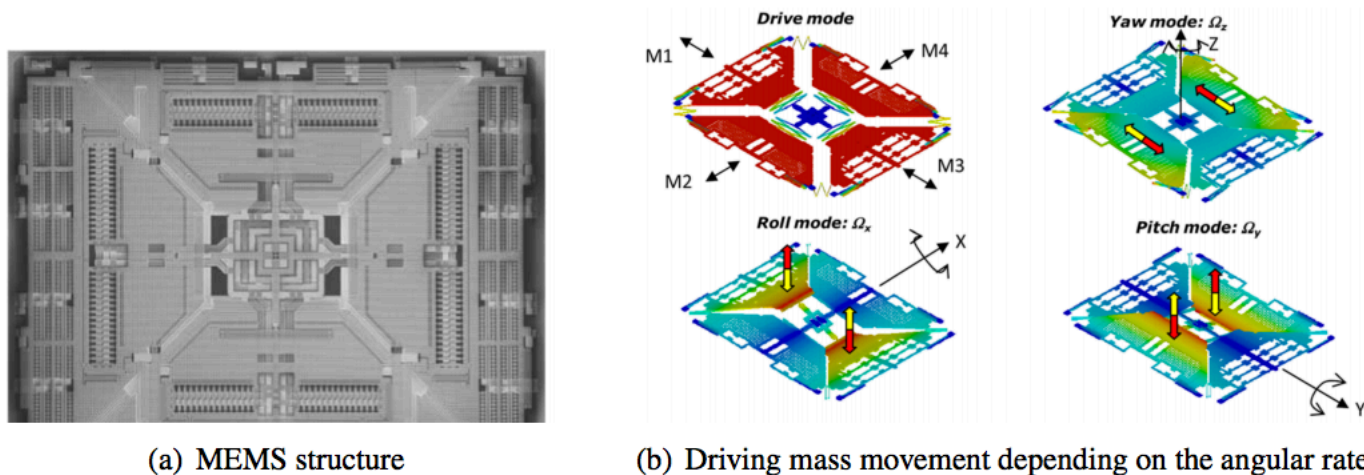


Figure 1: STMicroelectronics 3-axis gyro design (Taken from [16]. Figure copyright of STMicroelectronics. Used with permission.)

Michalevsky, Y., Boneh, D., and Nakibly, G. (2014). Gyrophone: Recognizing Speech From Gyroscope Signals. In Proceedings of the 23rd USENIX Security Symposium, August 20 22, 2014.

Breaching Confidentiality

- Active Emsec Attacks
 - A system's emanations can be artificially simulated

Breaching Confidentiality

- Active Emsec Attacks
 - Attack, 1996
 - Manipulate the voltage of a device → fault
 - Attack, 2002
 - A virus controls LEDs → reveals user's typing
 - Attack, 2011
 - Cause to generate electromagnetic emanations → transmit signals
 - Attack, 2013
 - Malwares to form acoustical networks → share information

Breaching Confidentiality

- Countermeasures in general
 - “Safety-zone”
 - Shielding for electromagnetic emanations
 - Jamming: generate additional emanations
 - Tempest font (1998)
 - blurring fonts → the info. leak through electromagnetic emanations is reduced
 - A cost-effective software-based solution

PCP Attacks

- Physical-cyber-physical (PCP) attack
 - An EMP attack (physical) → networks with SCADA (cyber) → control a plant (physical)
 - Locate a magnet near an implantable defibrillator (physical) → keep triggering the data transmission (cyber) → exhaust the battery (physical)

CPC Attacks

- Cyber-physical-cyber (CPC) attack
 - Attacks on power grids (cyber) → cut power (physical) → breach network availability (cyber)
 - A virus (cyber) → emanations (physical) → leak information (cyber)
 - (Diao et al., 2014) malware (cyber) → generate voice commands (physical) → initiate actions (cyber)

CPC Attacks

- Attack: Martinovic et al., USENIX Security 2012
 - A malware displays a malicious image (cyber)
 - triggers the user brain (physical) → brain-computer-interfaces log private information (cyber)



(b) A MindSet device (NeuroSky)



Take-home message

- Physical-cyber attacks can be distinguishing features of CPS security
- Software-based solutions look attractive as countermeasures