Hi-tech bank robbery

Erik Poll

Digital Security

Radboud University Nijmegen

Overview

- Some historical anecdotes & trends in e-banking fraud
  1. skimming
  2. EMV (het nieuwe pinnen)
  3. online banking
- incl. some of our own research

  on more rigorous design and analysis

  Joint work PhD students Joeri de Ruiter and Fides Aarts, and MSc students Arjan Blom, Jordi van den Breekel, Georg Chalupar, Anton Jongsma, Robert Kleinpenning, Peter Maandag, and Stefan Peherstorfer.

Are there any lessons to be learnt for other fields?

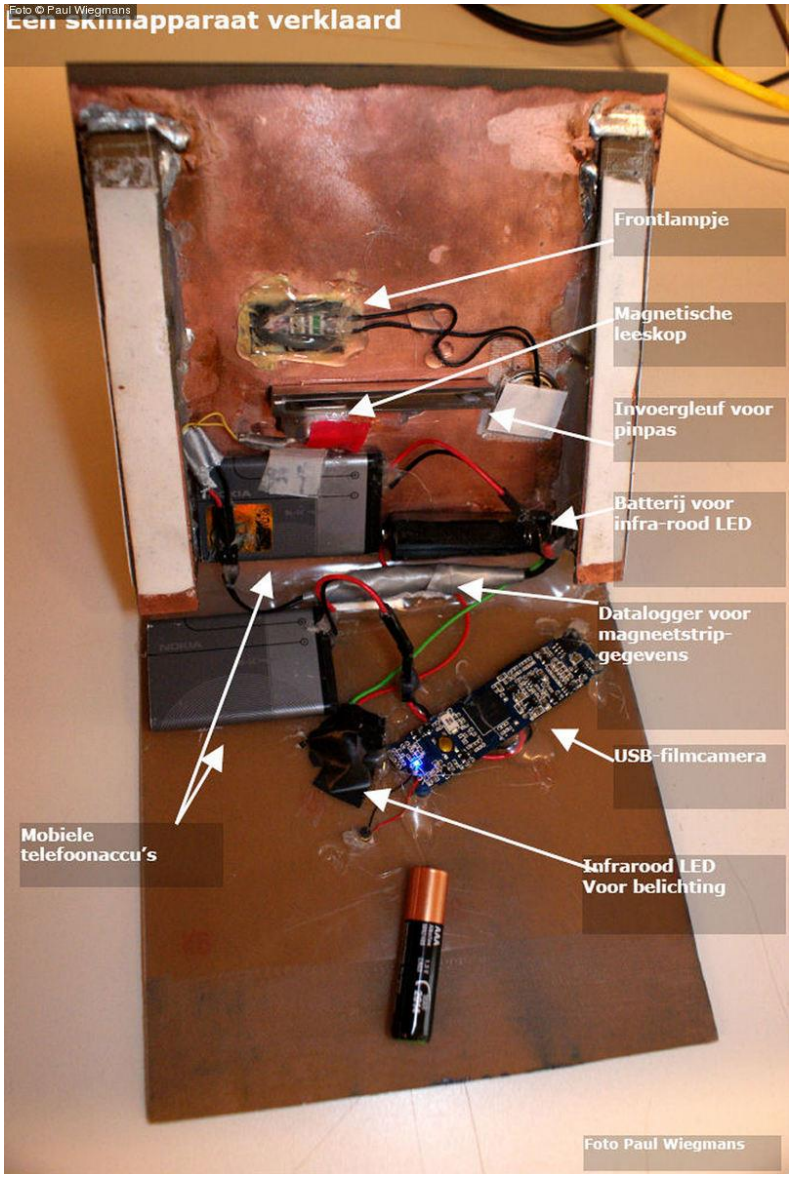
Skimming

Skimming

Mag-stripe on bank card contains digitally signed information

but… this info can be copied

Example skimming equipment



Skimming fraud in the Netherlands

2007 : 15 M€

2008 : 31 M€

2009 : 36 M€

2010: 19.7M€ - better detection

2011: 38.9 M€

On a total of over 100 billion €, so fraud only around 0.03%

Hence migration to EMV (chip) cards moved forward from 2013 to 2011

Does EMV reduce skimming?

- UK introduced EMV in 2006

	2005	2006	2007	2008
domestic	79	46	31	36
foreign	18	53	113	134

Skimming fraud with UK cards, in millions £

- Magstripes that are cloned can still be used in countries don't use the chip…
- Blocking cards for use outside EU (geoblocking) helps a lot!
  - Skimming in Netherlands reduced to 1.3 M€ in 2014
- Skimmers have now moved to the US, and the US is (slowly) migrating to EMV

EMV

(Europay-MasterCard-Visa)

EMV (Europay-MasterCard-Visa)

- Standard used by all chip cards for banking
- Specs controlled by EMVCo which is owned by

- Contact  and contactless version
- The protocol makes cloning chips based on eavesdropping impossible

Skimming 2.0

- In 2009, criminals put tampered card readers *inside* ABN-AMRO bank branches to skim cards
  - For *backwards compatibility*, the chip can report the magstripe data...
  - Both magstripe data and PIN code are sent plaintext from card to this reader
  - Criminals caught & convicted in 2011

- Cards have been improved to avoid this, and magstrip data should now be different from info on the chip

Problem: complexity

EMV is not a protocol, but a 'protocol toolkit suite' with *lots* of configuration options

- **Original EMV specs : 4 books, > 700 pages**
  - **3 types of cards (SDA,DDA, CDA), 5 authentication mechanism (online PIN, online PIN, offline encrypted PIN, signature, none), 2 types of transactions (offline, online), ...**
- **Additional EMV contactless specs: another 10 books, > 2000 pages**
  - **yet more modes and options....**

Sample sentence

"If the card responds to GPO with SW1 SW2 = x9000 and AIP byte 2 bit 8 set to 0, and if the reader supports qVSDC and contactless VSDC, then if the Application Cryptogram (Tag '9F26') is present in the GPO response, then the reader shall process the transaction as qVSDC, and if Tag '9F26' is not present, then the reader shall process the transaction as VSDC."

Complexity: example protocol flaw

Terminal can choose to do offline PIN

- ie. terminal asks the card to check the PIN code

The response of the card is *not* authenticated

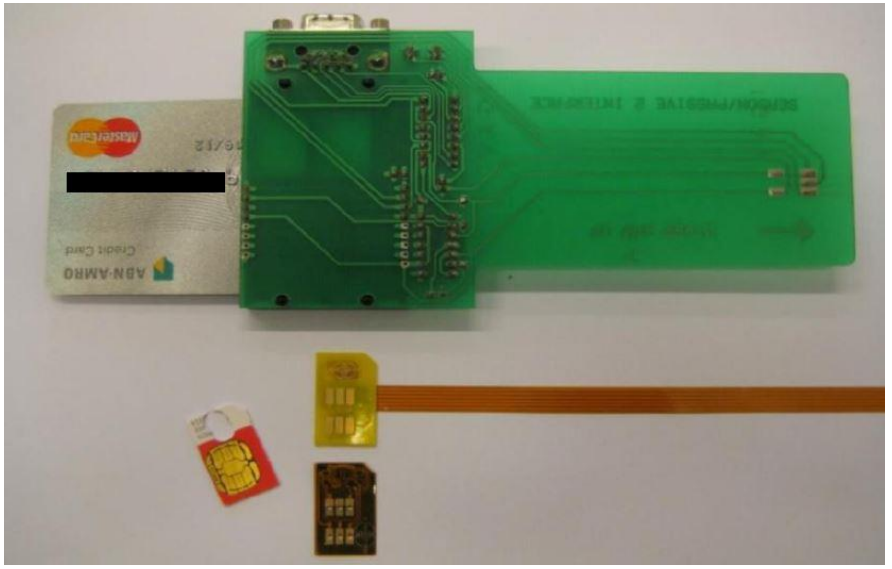
- ie. it is not cryptographically signed or MAC-ed

so the terminal can be fooled by a Man-in-the-Middle attack

The transaction data will reveal the transaction was PIN-less,
so the bank back-end will know the PIN was *not* entered

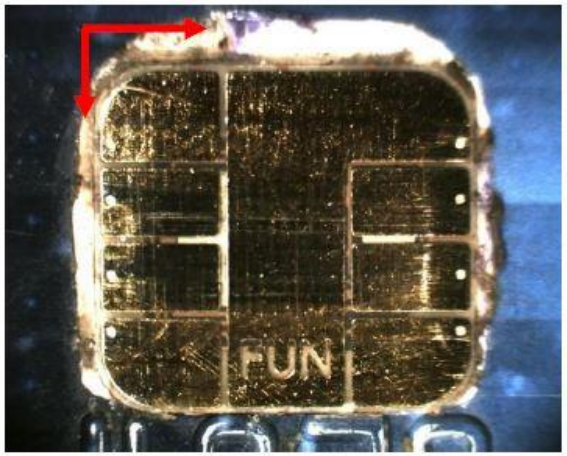
[Stephen Murdoch et al., *Chip & PIN is broken*, FC'2010]

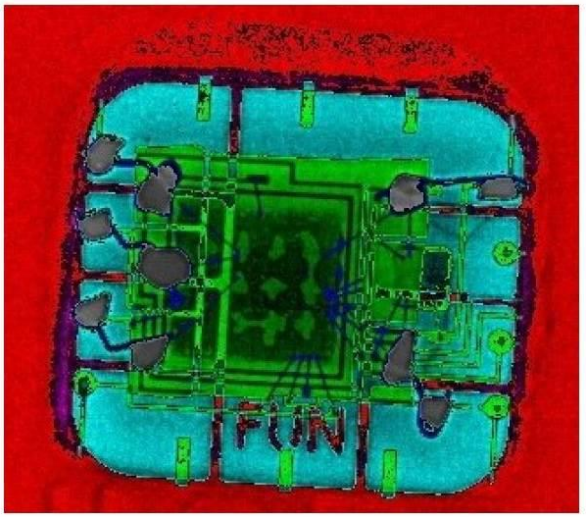
Our Man-in-the-Middle set-up

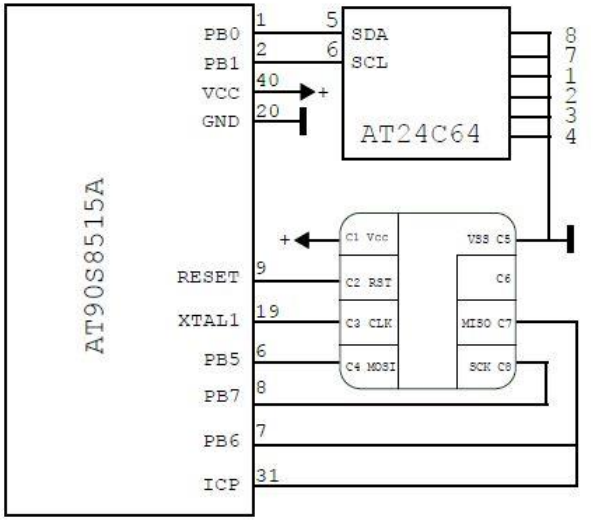


Criminal Man-in-the-Middle set-up

Chips from stolen cards inserted under another chip, which faked the PIN OK response







xray reveals green stolen chip under blue microcontroller

[Houda Ferradi et al., *When Organized Crime Applies Academic Results: A Forensic Analysis of an In-Card Listening Device*, Journal of Cryptographic Engineering, 2015]

Complexity of EMV specs

- Moral of the story: specs too complex to understand
  - long documents
  - little or no discussion of security goals or design choices
  - little abstraction or modularity

- Who really takes responsibility for ensuring these specs are secure? EMVCo, the credit card companies behind EMVCo, or individual banks?

- Can we provide some scientific rigour?

Formalisation of EMV in F#

Essence of protocol in functional programming language F#

Formal Analysis of EMV

- Essence of EMV (all variants!) can be formalized in less than 700 lines of F# code
- This model be analysed for security flaws using ProVerif tool
- No new attacks found, but existing attacks inevitably (re)discovered

[Joeri de Ruiter and Erik Poll, *Formal Analysis of the EMV protocol suite*, TOSCA 2012]

This still leaves the question if the software implementing these standards is correct!

Complexity: example configuration flaw

Mistake on the first generation contactless cards issued in the Netherlands:

- **functionality to check the PIN code,**

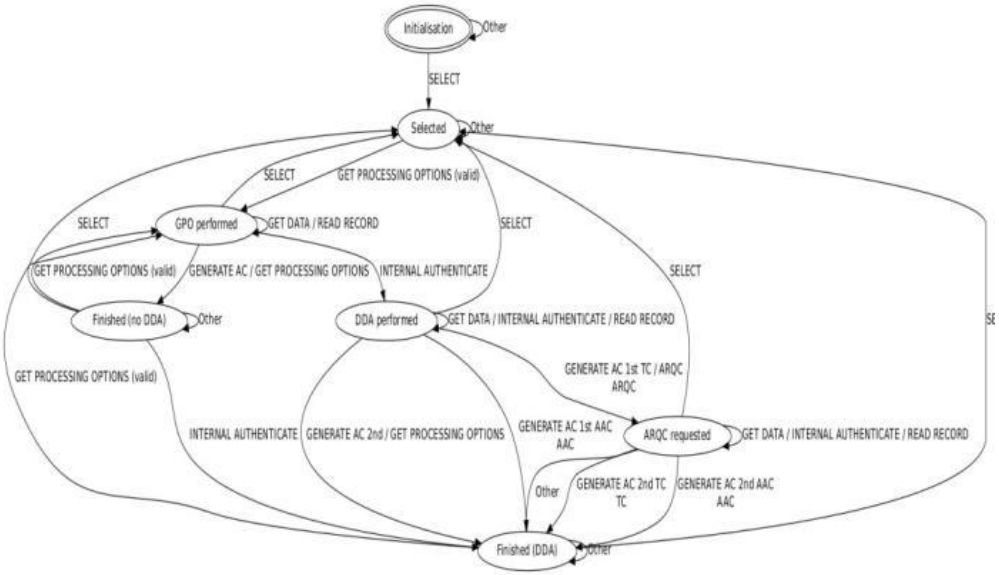
  which should only be accessible via the contact interface 

  was also accessible via the contactless interface 

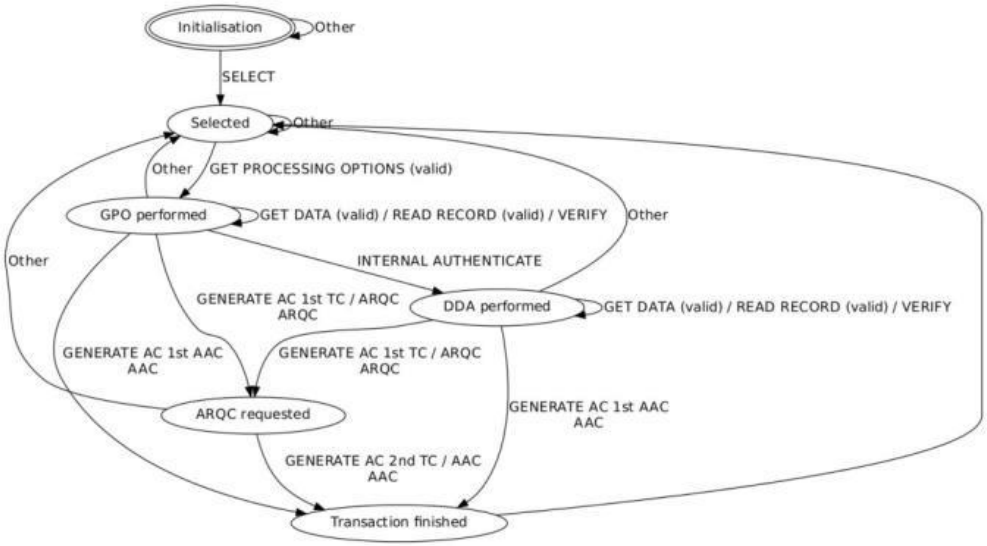
Possible risk for DoS attacks, rather than financial fraud?

Flaw discovered bij Radboud students Anton Jongsma, Robert Kleinpenning, and Peter Maandag.

State machine inference: automated testing



Volksbank Maestro implementation



Rabobank Maestro implementation

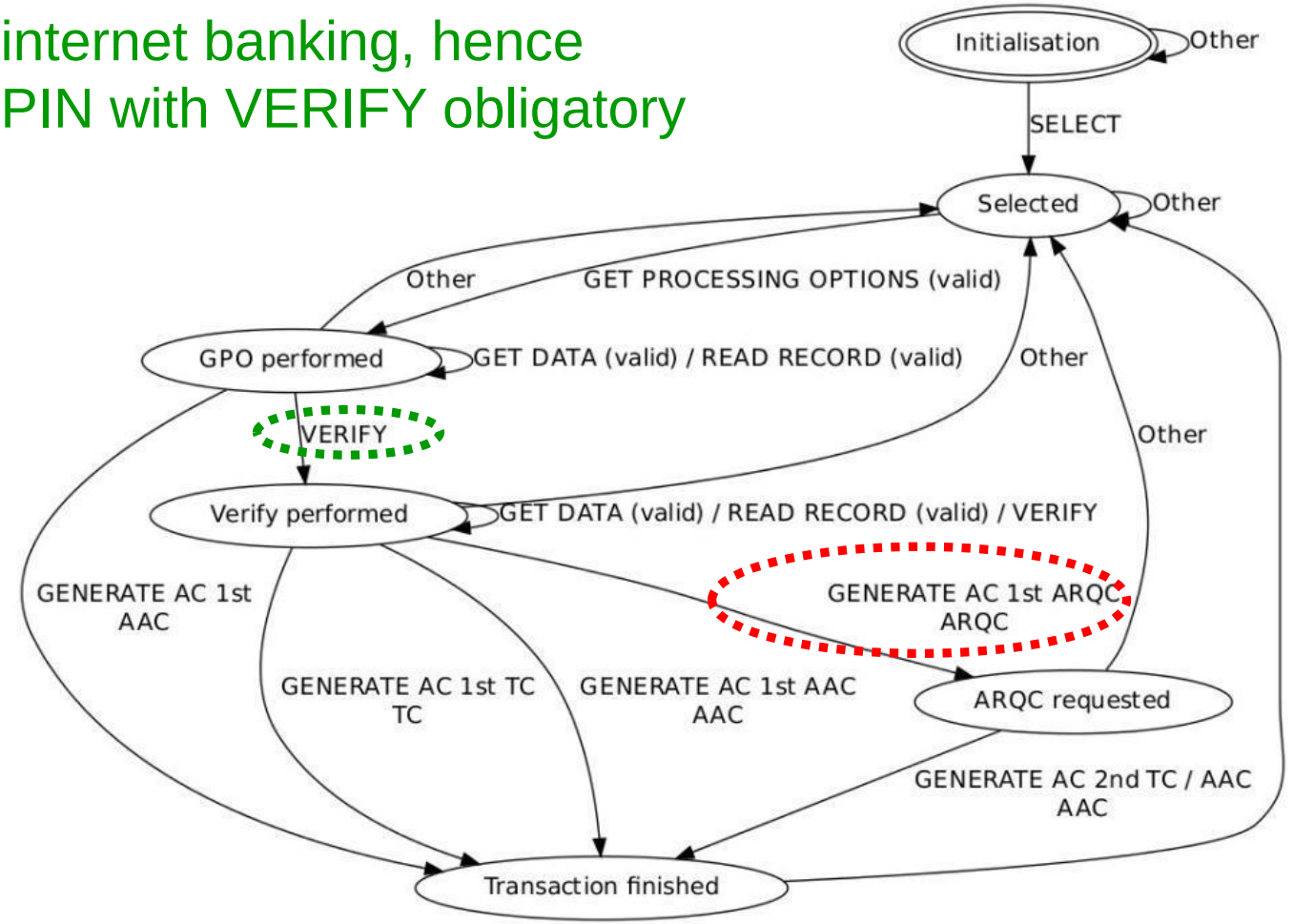
We can automatically infer the state machine of an EMV smartcard, using only black-box testing, in 30 minutes.

No security flaws found, but lots of differences between cards!

[Fides Aarts et al., *Formal Models of bank cards for free*, SECTEST 2014]

MasterCard SecureCode application on Rabobank card

used for internet banking, hence
entering PIN with VERIFY obligatory



Online banking

Internet banking fraud in Netherlands

2008	2.1 M€
2009	1.9 M€
2010	9.8 M€ (7100€ per incident)
2011	35 M€ (4500€ per incident)
2012	34.8 M€
2013	9.6 M€
2014	4.7 M€

[Source: NVB & Betaalvereniging]

EMV-CAP

- Another variant of EMV chip for internet banking and e-commerce
- Goal: strong authentication, by using hand-held card reader in combination with bank card and PIN code
- CAP specs are secret but largely reverse-engineered

- Some silly flaws, eg sending a fixed challenge 000000 to the smartcard instead of the random number the user types in

e-banking using EMV-CAP

This reader can be trusted.
But can the user understand
the meaning of these numbers?

Computer display of
cannot be trusted
(despite )

→ 23459876
← 123654

e-banking using USB-connected e.dentifier

This display can be trusted & understood

"What You Sign is What You See" (WYSIWYS)

USB

Flaw in USB-connected e.dentifier2

It's possible to press the OK button via the USB cable...

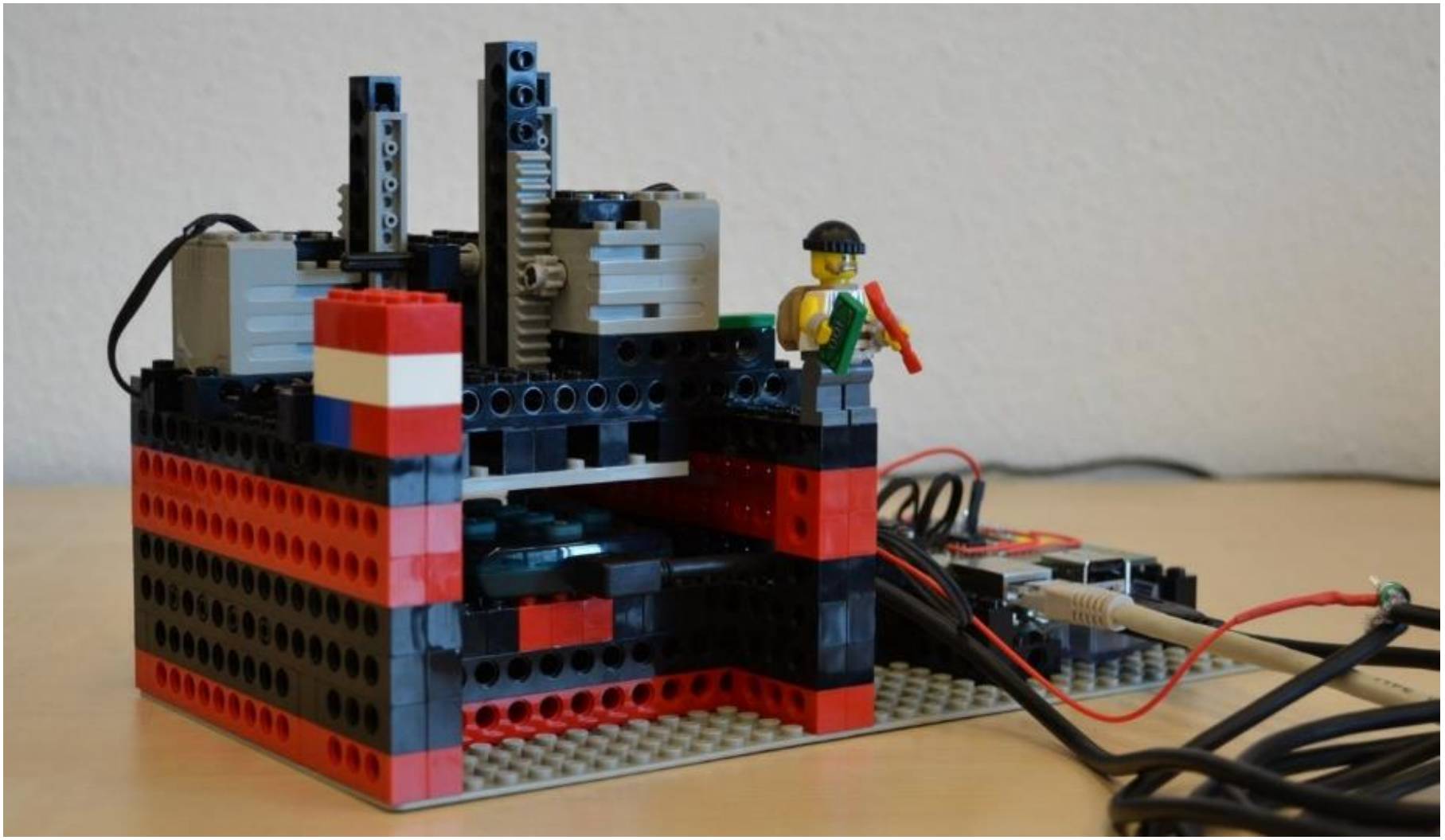
So malware on an infected PC could change all the transaction details and press OK!

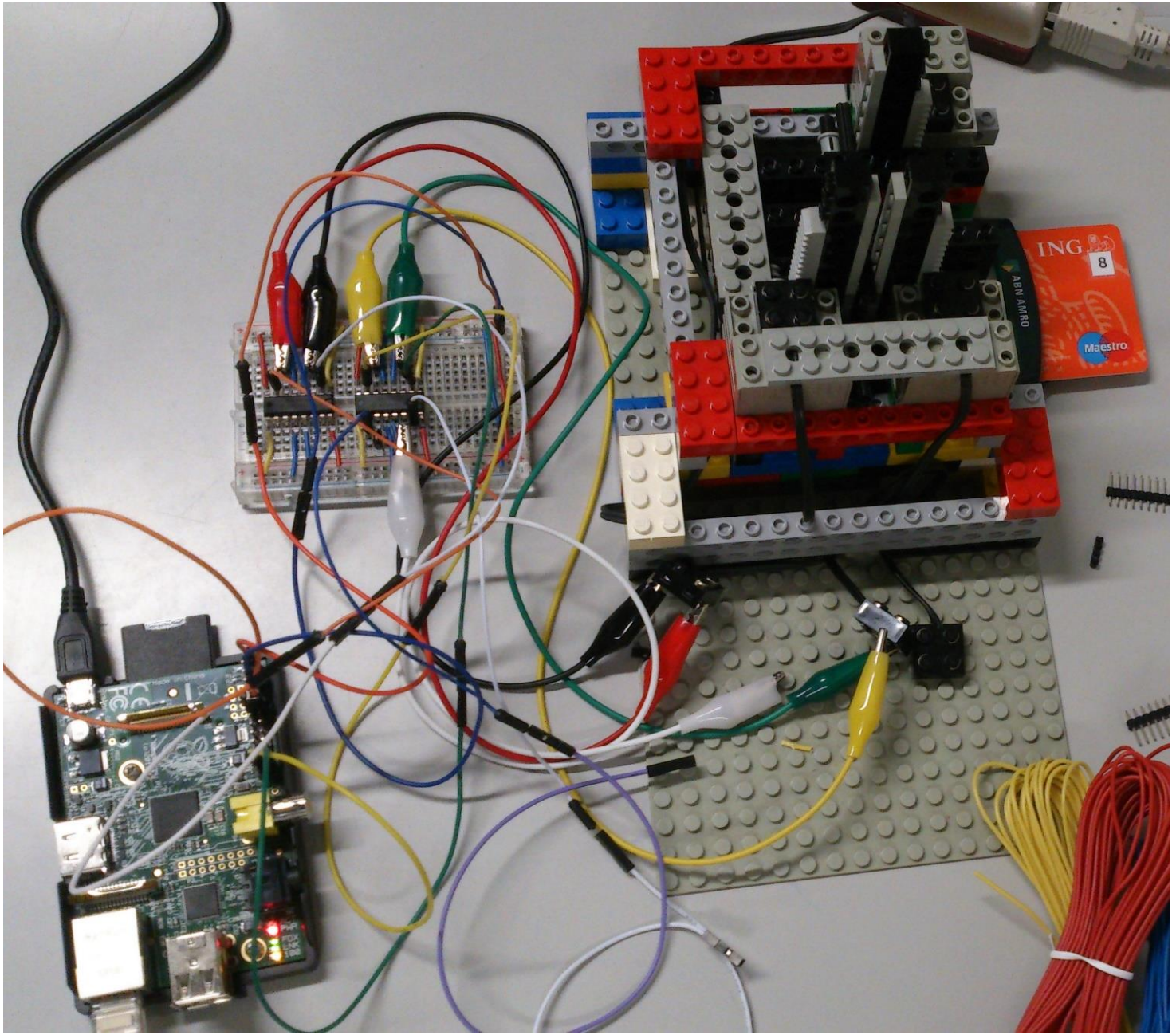
Flaw found with manual analysis.

Could we automate this?

[Arjan Blom et al., *Designed to Fail: A USB-Connected Reader for Online Banking*, NordSec 2012]

Our Lego hacker

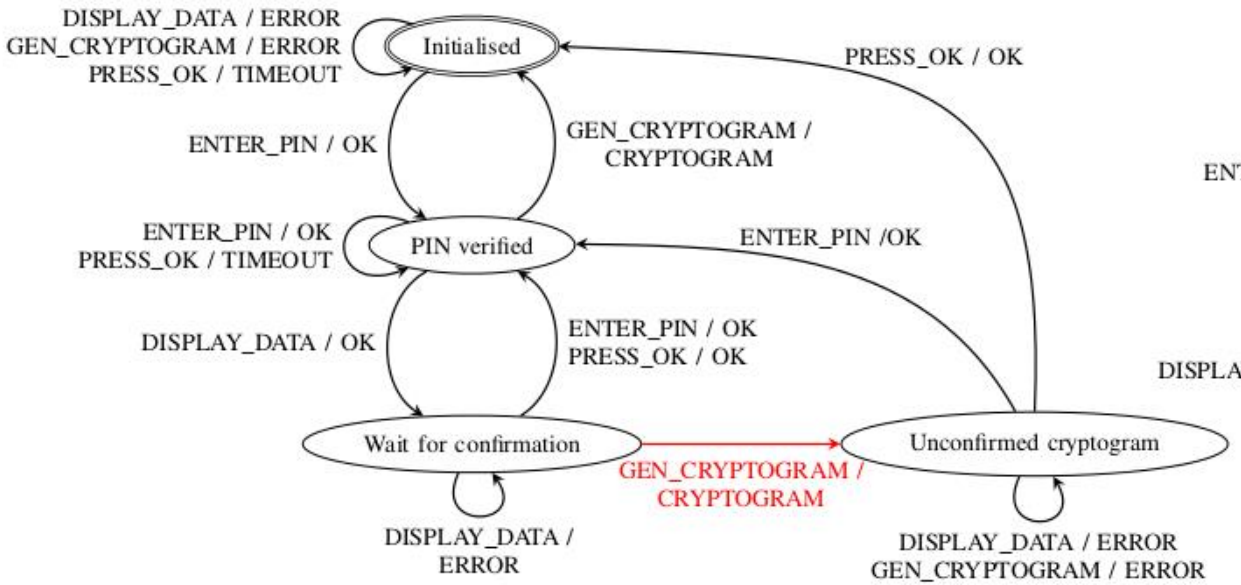



ING
8
ABN AMRO
Maestro

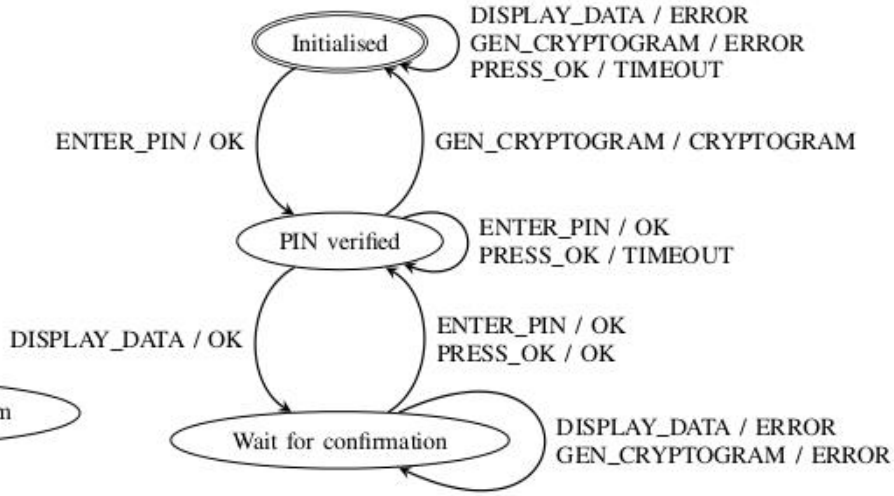
Our Lego hacker

Automatic reverse engineering using Lego

State machines automatically inferred by our Lego robot



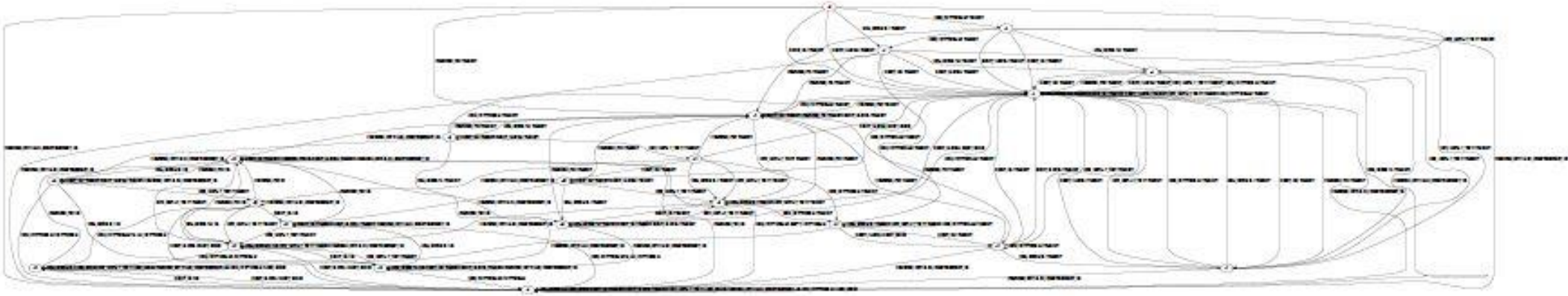
state machine of old, flawed device



state machine of new device

[Georg Chalupar et al., *Automatic reverse engineering using Lego*, Workshop on Offensive Technologies, WOOT 2014]

Aaargh!



full state machine inferred for new, fixed e.dentifier2

Do you think the designer of this protocol and the person who implemented it are confident that it is secure?

Conclusions

Conclusions

- Banking products are not always as secure as you would hope or expect.
- Not so clear who is taking responsibility for checking them.
  - MasterCard and Visa? EMVCo? Individual banks? Their suppliers? The Dutch or European Central Bank?
- Trend: from prevention to better detection & quick reaction.
- Complexity is bad!
- Assurance of security is hard!
  How to prevent design, programming & configuration flaws?

Conclusions

- Technical security flaws are not always serious risks.
  Criminals are very creative with 'low-tech' attacks.

  The real issue: can attacker find a good business model?

  - The bottleneck in internet banking fraud: recruiting money mules
  - Maybe ransomware is more lucrative?

- Banks are an interesting target for cybercriminals, BUT ...
  banks can measure fraud and use this to decide on improvements!
  For other organisations this can be much harder!