

# Designing Low-Cost Untraceable Authentication Protocols for RFID



---

**Dave Singelée**

**IFIP WG 11.2 Seminar**

**Istanbul**

**June 07, 2010**



# Outline of the talk

---

- n Introduction
- n RFID authentication protocols
  - n Security requirements
  - n Privacy requirements
  - n Implementation requirements
- n ECC-based RFID authentication protocols
- n Design challenges
- n Conclusion



# RFID technology

---

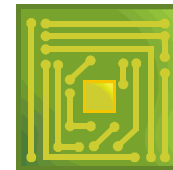
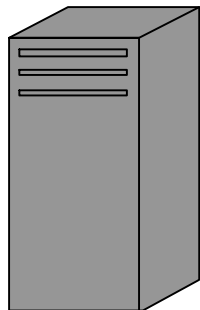
n Radio Frequency Identification

n RFID setup

n Back-end server

n Reader

n Tag



# Online vs offline scenario

n Online



n Offline



# RFID tags

---

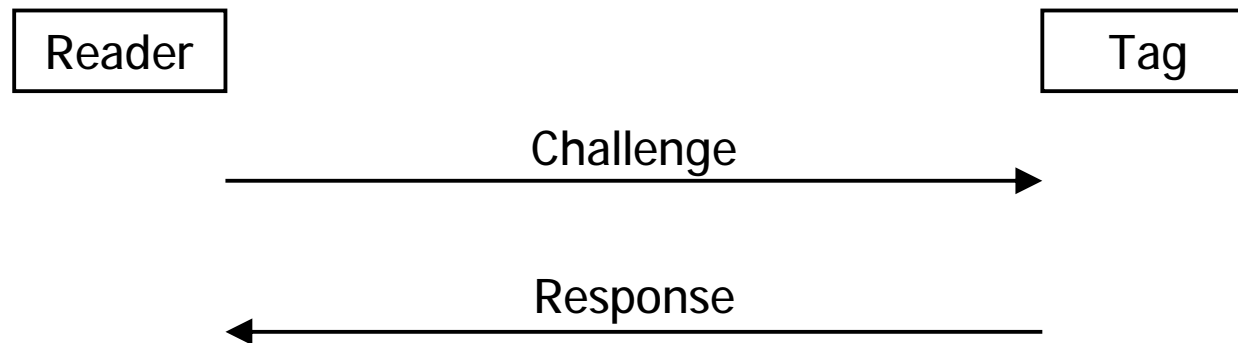
## n Various types of tags



1. Passive tag
2. Battery assisted (BAP)
3. Active tag with onboard power source

# RFID authentication protocols

- n Tag proves its identity
- n Challenge-response protocol





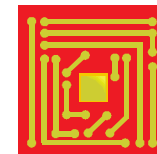
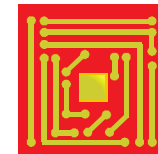
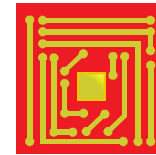
# Requirements

---

- n Security
  - n Entity authentication
- n Privacy
  - n Untraceability
- n Implementation issues
  - n Scalability
  - n Low-cost

# RFID security problems (I)

- n Impersonation attacks
  - n Genuine readers
  - n Malicious tags



=> Tag-to-server authentication





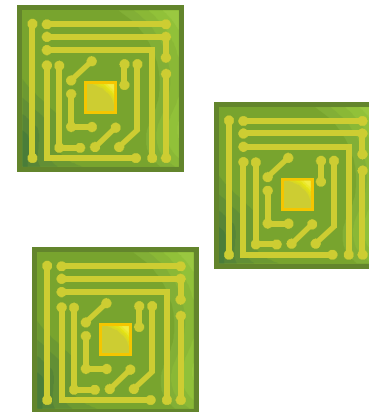
## RFID security problems (II)

---

- n Eavesdropping
- n Replay attacks
- n Man-in-the-middle attacks
- n Cloning
- n Side-channel attacks
- n ...

# RFID privacy problems (I)

- n RFID Privacy problem
  - n Malicious readers
  - n Genuine tags



=> **Untraceability**



# RFID privacy problems (II)

---

- n Anonymity

- n The (fixed) identity of a tag must be impossible to determine

- n **Untraceability**

- n Inequality of two tags: the (in)equality of two tags must be impossible to determine

- n Untraceability > anonymity

# RFID privacy problems (III)

- n Theoretical framework
- n Vaudenay [ASIACRYPT '07]:
  - n 8 privacy classes

	Weak	Forward	Destructive	Strong
Narrow	X	X	X	X
Wide	X	X	X	X

- n Public-key cryptography needed to achieve certain privacy properties!!!



# Implementation issues

---

- n Scalability
  - n Low-cost implementation
    - n Memory
    - n Gate area
  - n Lightweight
  - n Efficient
- => Depends on cryptographic building blocks used in the protocol**



# Implementation cost

---

- n Symmetric encryption
  - n AES: 3-4 kgates
  
- n Cryptographic hash function
  - n SHA-3: **10 – 30 kgates**)  
[ECRYPT II: SHA-3 Zoo]
  
- n Public-key encryption
  - n Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC): 11-15 kgates

=> Public key cryptography is suitable for RFID



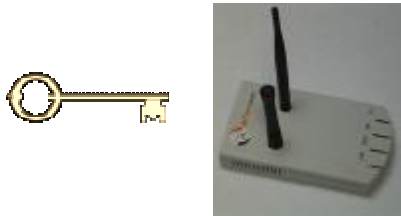
# ECC-based RFID authentication protocols

---

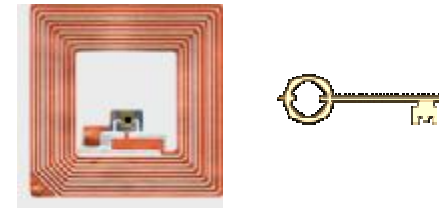
- n **Rely exclusively on ECC !!!**
  - n Security requirements
  - n Privacy requirements
  - n Implementation requirements
- n Schnorr protocol
- n Randomized Schnorr
- n ID-transfer scheme
- n ...

# ID-transfer scheme [WISEC 2010]

Server:  $y, X = x_1P$

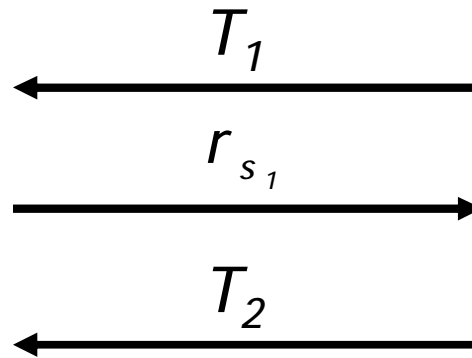


Tag:  $x_1, Y=yP$



$r_{t1} \in \mathbb{C} \quad , \quad T_1 \leftarrow r_{t1}P$

$r_{s1} \in \mathbb{C}$



$T_2 \leftarrow (r_{t1} + r_{s1}^g x_1)Y$

$$(y^{-1}T_2 - T_1)(r_{s1}^g)^{-1} = x_1P$$





# Design challenges (I)

---

- n Readers share same private key  $y$ 
  - n Online scenario: OK
  - n Offline scenario:
    - n NOT OK
    - n 1 compromised reader  $\Rightarrow$  no privacy
- n How to solve the problem
  - n Give unique private key to each reader?
  - n Key updates / revocation / ... ??



## Design challenges (II)

---

- n ECC-based RFID protocols in literature
  - n Narrow-strong: OK
  - n Wide-weak: NOT OK
  
- n Man-in-the-middle attacks
- n Insider attacks
  
- ⇒ Increase privacy protection
- ⇒ Low cost solutions



# Design challenges (III)

---

- n Secure and privacy-preserving extensions of basic RFID authentication protocols
  - n Search protocol
  - n Grouping proofs
  - n ...
  
- n Physical layer security
  - n Distance bounding
  - n Physical layer fingerprints
  - n ...



# Design challenges (IV)

---

- n Improve efficiency
  - n Lower # EC point multiplications
  - n Decrease communication cost
  - n ...
  
- n Further improve ECC hardware architecture
  - n Area
  - n Speed
  - n Power consumption



# Conclusion

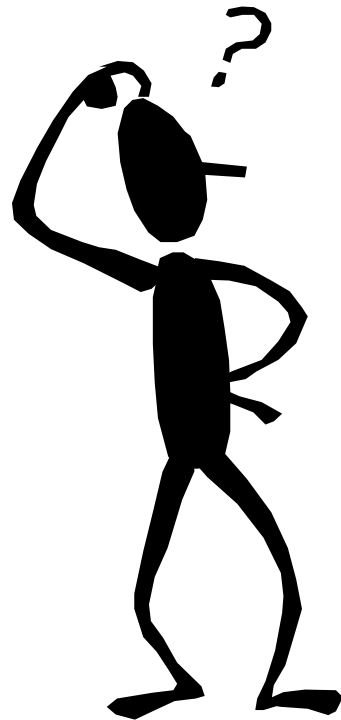
---

- n Security & privacy in RFID networks
- n Need for public-key based RFID authentication protocols
- n ECC is feasible on RFID
- n Designing protocol is challenging task
  - n Various open research problems

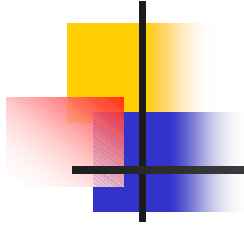


# Questions??

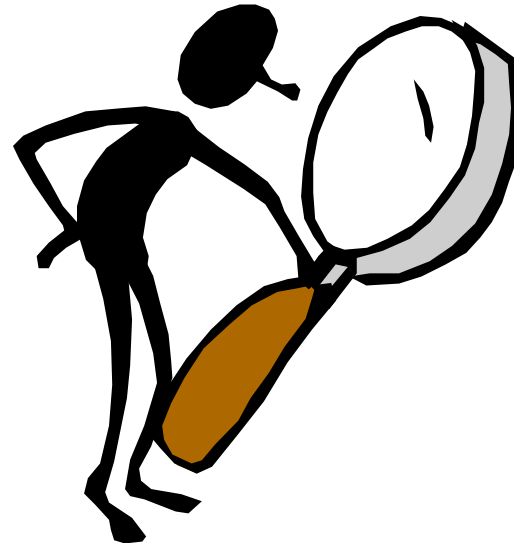
---



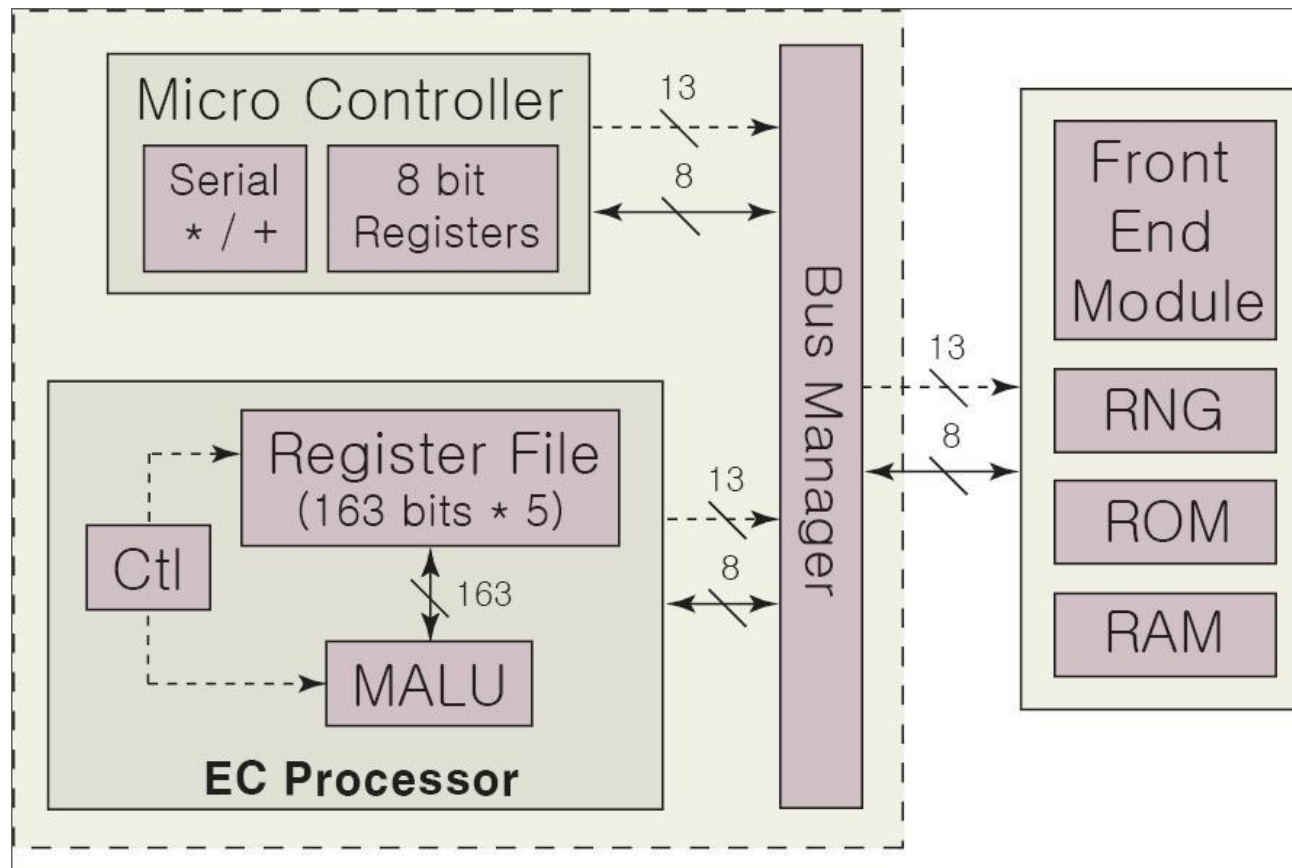
[Dave.Singelee@esat.kuleuven.be](mailto:Dave.Singelee@esat.kuleuven.be)



# EXTRA SLIDES



# ECC hardware architecture







# Performance results

---

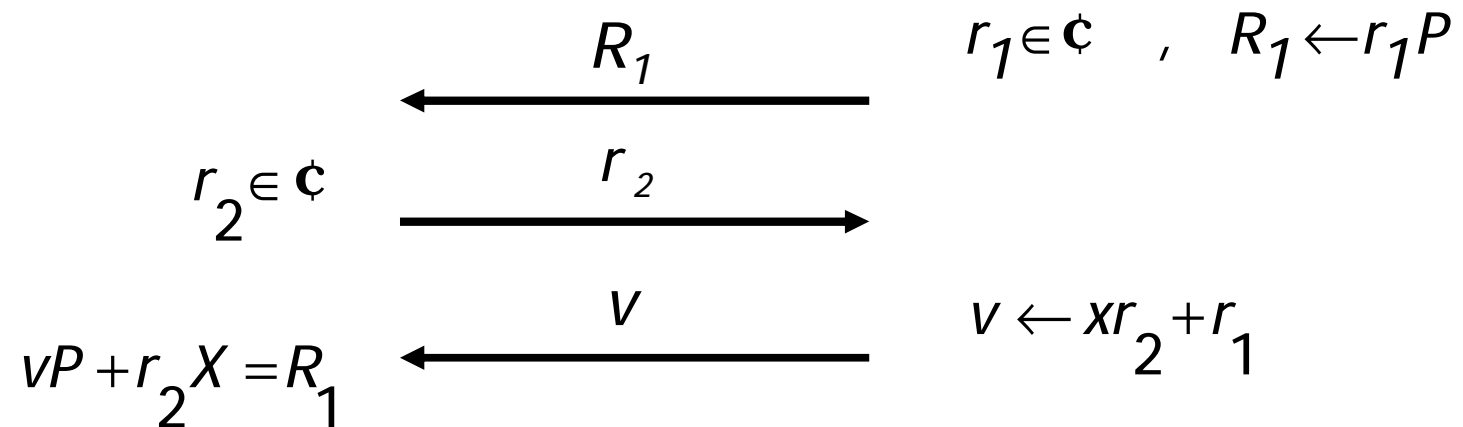
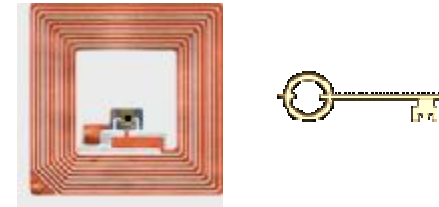
Circuit Area (Gate Eq.)	14,566
Cycles for EC point multiplication	59,790
Frequency	700 KHz
Power	13.8 $\mu$ W
Energy for EC point multiplication	1.18 $\mu$ J

# Schnorr protocol [CRYPTO '89]

Server:  $X = -xP$



Tag:  $x$





# Schnorr protocol (II)

---

- n Security: OK
- n Privacy: vulnerable to tracking attacks

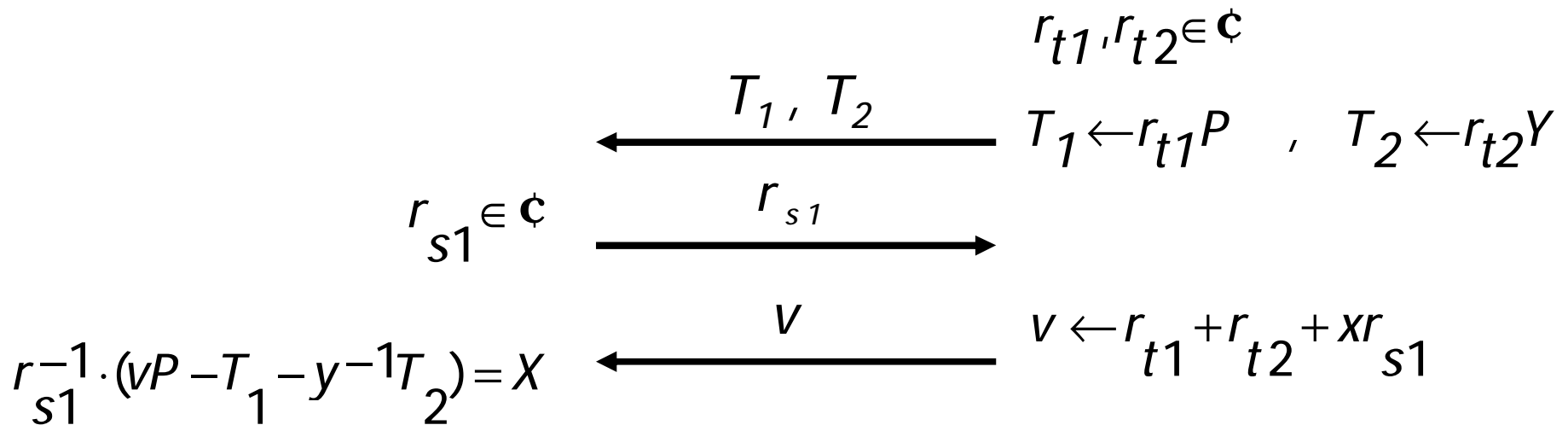
$$X = r_2^{-1} \cdot (R_1 - vP)$$

# Randomized Schnorr [CANS '08]

Server:  $y, X = xP$



Tag:  $x, Y = yP$



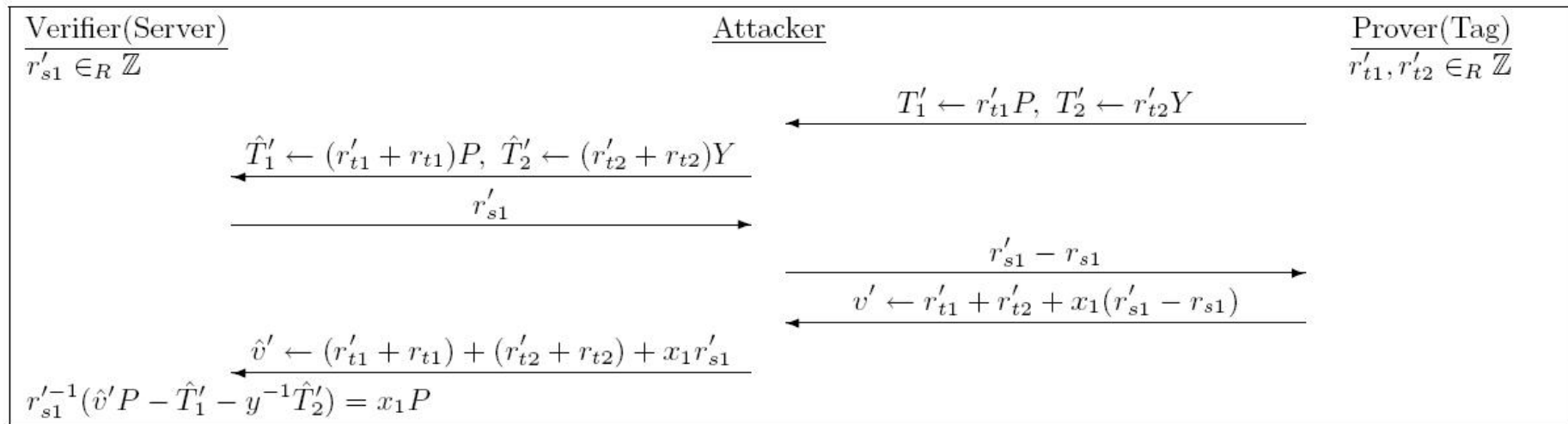


## Randomized Schnorr (II)

---

- n Security: OK
- n Privacy
  - n Narrow-strong
  - n Not wide-weak: vulnerable to man-in-the-middle attack
    - n Combine data from old protocol run with current protocol instance
    - n Server accepts => same tag
    - => Traceability

# Randomized Schnorr (III)





# ID-transfer scheme (protocol 1)

---

- Server's input:  $y$
- Tag's input:  $x_1, Y (= yP)$

