

# A Secure Channel for Attribute-Based Credentials

Gergely Alpár Jaap-Henk Hoepman

Institute for Computing and Information Sciences – Digital Security  
Radboud University Nijmegen



November 8, 2013



# Overview

ABCs and IRMA

Secure Channel

Protocol 1: ICA

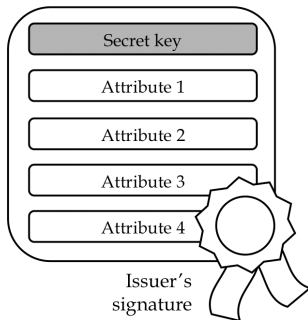
Protocol 2: ABCDH

Conclusion



# Attribute-Based Credential (ABC)

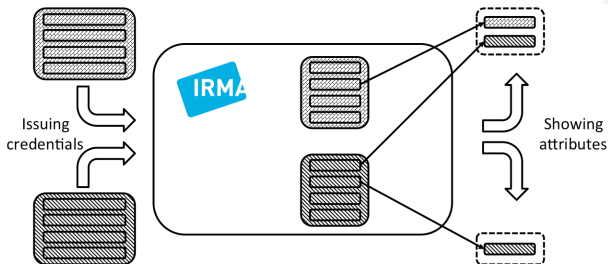
- Attributes
- Credential



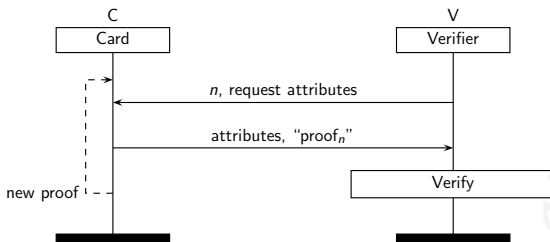
## Main Functions

Credential carrier is a smart card.

- Issuing
- Selective disclosure (SD)



## (High-Level) Selective Disclosure



**Figure:** Selective disclosure for each credential.



# Security and Privacy of ABCs

- Security
  - Authenticity of issuer
  - Unforgeability of credentials
  - Non-transferability of attributes (credentials, user's device)
  - (Hiding of attributes)
- Privacy
  - Issuer (a.k.a. IdP) is not included in the verification
  - Issuer unlinkability
  - Multi-show unlinkability
  - Only attributes and their issuers reveal information

# I Reveal My Attributes (IRMA)

Based on an *efficient, full* smart-card implementation [VA13] of Idemix [CL01, Sec12]

- MULTOS (Infineon SLE78)
- Issuing (5 attributes): 2.6 s
- Selective disclosure (5  $\rightarrow$  0 attributes): 0.95  $\rightarrow$  1.45 s
- Several credentials may be on a card
- No attribute property proofs (speed, simplicity)
- No equality proof (owing to the small RAM)
  - No proof of equal secret keys

To bind SD proofs, we need a secure channel.





## Required: Secure Channel

There are a few requirements:

- Confidentiality, to hide
  - Selectively disclosed attributes
  - Requests from a verifier
  - Issuers of credentials
- Binding (without equality proof)
  - To bind proofs
  - To bind verification and issuance
- Authentication (for the key exchange)
  - Verifier's terminal

public-key certificate:  $pk$ , "allowed attributes"

- Card

**BUT:** the card *shouldn't* be identified!





## Authentication Without Identification

- Selective disclosure (one credential):

$$SD((a_i)_{i \in \mathcal{D}}; n) := \text{SPK} \{ \text{secret in } C : (a_i)_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \in C \} (n)$$

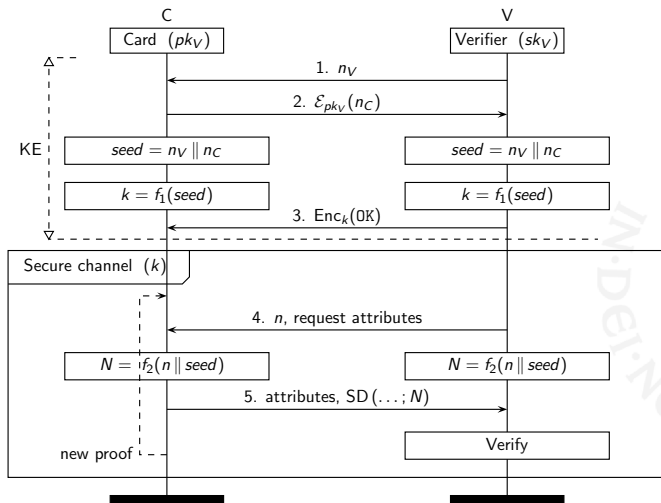
- Preserving anonymity (only attributes reveal information)
- Verifying card validity
- Binding this validity proof to the channel
- Valid card options:
  - A “*validity*” attribute; e.g.,

$$SD((a_1); n),$$

- A credential; possibly “empty proof”

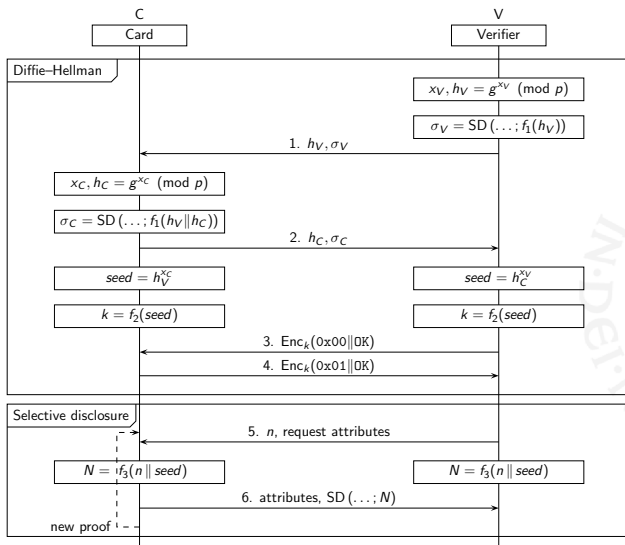
$$SD(\emptyset; n),$$

# Implicit Card Authentication (ICA)





# Diffie-Hellman Channel Protocol (ABCDH)



## Conclusion

- A secure channel between an anonymous card and a verifier
- A security model
- Two protocols
- Implicit: ideal revocation
- Yet to develop efficient revocation techniques for ABCs
- Non-identifying authenticity
- Interacting with (potentially) untrusted entities (M2M, H2H)

**Thank you for your attention!**

Gergely Alpár

<http://www.cs.ru.nl/~gergely>

[gergely@cs.ru.nl](mailto:gergely@cs.ru.nl)

**IRMA project:** <https://www.irmacard.org>

## References

-  Mihir Bellare and Phillip Rogaway, *Entity authentication and key distribution*, Advances in Cryptology—CRYPTO'93, Springer, 1994, pp. 232–249.
-  Jan Camenisch, Nathalie Casati, Thomas Gross, and Victor Shoup, *Credential authenticated identification and key exchange*, Advances in Cryptology—CRYPTO 2010, Springer, 2010, pp. 255–276.
-  Jan Camenisch and Anna Lysyanskaya, *An Efficient System for Non-transferable Anonymous Credentials with Optional Anonymity Revocation*, Advances in Cryptology — EUROCRYPT 2001 (Birgit Pfitzmann, ed.), LNCS, vol. 2045, Springer Berlin / Heidelberg, 2001, pp. 93–118.
-  Security Team, IBM Research, *Specification of the Identity Mixer Cryptographic Library, version 2.3.4*, Tech. report, IBM Research, Zürich, February 2012.
-  Pim Vullers and Gergely Alpár, *Efficient Selective Disclosure on Smart Cards Using Idemix*, Policies and Research in Identity Management (IDMAN) (Simone Fischer-Hübner, Elisabeth de Leeuw, and Chris Mitchell, eds.), IFIP AICT 396, Springer, 2013, pp. 53–67.