Defence Against the Unknown

Preventing Side Channel Attacks You Don't Know Exist



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Side Channels



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Stateless Information Leaks





Stateful Information Leaks

Observation Distribution(s)





Privacy as Failure

- Failure is inevitable
- Fault-tolerance:
 - Limit failure domains
 - Redundancy
- Acceptable failure rate

- Compromise is inevitable
- Compromise-tolerance:
 - Limit compromise domains
 - Redundancy
- Acceptable compromise rate





Partial vs Limited

- Prtl cmprms my stll b sffcnt fr th ttckr
 - **Stateful** information cascades
 - Stateless information does not
- Ensure limited compromise domain is stateless





Observed Bigrams vs Unigrams





General Defence

- Partial compromise of stateless domains
 - Partial: limited to a subset of observations
 - Stateless: does not cascade
- Any process!
- Any side channel!
- Does not prevent stateless attacks



Summary

- Side channel attacks can be disrupted
 - Even if they are unknown!
- Resilient to future attacks
- Performance cost is not necessary
- Implemented for round-robin multipath
- Keen to implement in other domains!



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