Security and Privacy of Dynamic Multi-party Computations

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Secure multi-party computing (SMC) is a subfield of cryptography with the goal of creating methods for parties to jointly compute a function over their inputs while keeping those inputs private.

For instance, consider two security agencies that wish to compare their lists of suspects without revealing their contents or an airline company that would like to check its list of passengers against the list of people that are not allowed to go abroad.

Another example is decentralized storage, emerging as an appealing alternative to commercial cloud storage. It consists of a peer-to-peer network that anyone can join to store and serve data for others. They rely on a general-purpose blockchain to serve as an unbiased public auditor. The challenge there is to combine trustless assumptions, privacy and heterogeneous ressources.

More precisely, a secure multi-party computation is an interactive protocol between several participants (players) ensuring some security properties such as privacy of parts of the involved data (potentially differential), but it can also be anonymity, a (potentially zero-knowledge) proof of knowledge, or a verifiable computation. The efficiency is measured both in terms of average communication/rounds and computations/storage, all depending on the the attacker model (ranging from malicious insider, to random faults, or honest but curious observer).

The functionalities of interest thus include oblivious polynomial evaluation but also secure equality of strings, set membership, proof of data possession and more.

More precisely, in this internship we want to address dynamicity in the securisation of multi-party computations:

- How can the protocols efficiently take into account modifications when dynamic updates are possible, without requiring a full reset of the protocol? Protocols like secret polynomial evaluation and secret dot-products are the initial building blocks to target [7, 6, 2, 8, 5].
- How to adapt the protocols to peer-to-peer setting and players with different assumptions and rights [4, 3]?
- Overall, how to construct SMC protocols which take into account the static or dynamic cooperation graph (or social graph) between players while preventing security breaches, preserving privacy and adapting to multiple complexity measures [10]?

To address this research questions the proposed methodology is to first focus on algebraic problems involving polynomial arithmetic and linear algebra. The main tools are secret sharing techniques and homomorphic cryptography and verifiable fully homomorphic encryption [9] and those need to be adapted to efficiently take into account modifications of the assumptions during the protocols. Then the developed building blocks will be declined to give more efficient solutions for instance to dynamic proof of retreivability [6] systems for edge storage or decentralized storage networks, or also for private reputation systems or secure evaluation of decision forests [1].

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