# How to wrap it up - A formally verified proposal for the use of authenticated wrapping in PKCS#11

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Abstract—Being the most widely used and comprehensive standard for hardware security modules, cryptographic tokens and smart cards, PKCS#11 has been the subject of academic study for years. PKCS#11 provides a key store that is separate from the application, so that, ideally, an application never sees a key in the clear. Again and again, researchers have pointed out the need for an import/export mechanism that ensures the integrity of the permissions associated to a key. With version 2.40, for the first time, the standard included authenticated deterministic encryption schemes. The interface to this operation is insecure, however, so that an application can get the key in the clear, subverting the purpose of using a hardware security module.

This work proposes a formal model for the secure use of authenticated deterministic encryption in PKCS#11, including concrete API changes to allow for secure policies to be implemented. Owing to the authenticated encryption mechanism, the policy we propose provides more functionality than any policy proposed so far and can be implemented without access to a random number generator. Our results cover modes of operation that rely on unique initialisation vectors (IVs), like GCM or CCM, but also modes that generate synthetic IVs. We furthermore provide a proof for the deduction soundness of our modelling of deterministic encryption in Böhl et. al.'s composable deduction soundness framework.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

PKCS#11 is one of the *Public-Key Cryptography Standards* and was defined by RSA Security in 1994. By now, it is the most prevalent standard for operating hardware security modules (HSM), but also smart cards and cryptographic libraries. It defines an API intended to separate usage and storage of cryptographic secrets so that application code can only access these secrets indirectly, via handles. The hope is that HSMs provide a higher level of security than the multi-purpose machines running the respective application. This is reasonable: HSMs are designed for security and have less functionality and therefore a smaller attack surface, making them easier to secure. Consequently, PKCS#11 is used throughout the public-key infrastructure and the banking network.

In contrast to this stated goal, raising the level of security, many versions and configurations of PKCS#11 allow for attacks on the logical level [9, 13, 18, 10]. Here, a perfectly valid chain of commands leads to the exposure of sensitive key material to the application, defeating the purpose of separating the (possibly vulnerable) application from the (supposedly secure) hardware implementation — and thus defeating their purpose. Formal methods have been used to identify configurations that are secure [18, 10, 29]. In this

context, a configuration or policy refers to a specification of the device's behaviour that implements a subset of the standard, e.g., PKCS#11 with the restriction that all keys generated must have a certain attribute set. In order to be secure, the two most functional secure policies [10, 29] either have to limit the ability to transfer keys between devices [29] or have some keys degrade in functionality after transfer, i.e., after transfer, they cannot be used for operations that were permitted prior to transfer [10]. Recent versions of PKCS#11 have adopted various security extensions (e.g., wrapping/unwrapping templates, 'wrap-with-trusted'), but none of these improve upon this lack of functionality. Fundamentally, the problem is that the export mechanism for keys (key wrapping, i.e., encrypting a key with another key) does not provide a way to authenticate the attributes or the role that a key should be imported with.

Authenticated encryption with associated data (AEAD) provides a solution to this problem [37]. AEAD was not available in 1994, when PKCS#11 was invented. Academic development started around 2000 [25], standardisation followed suit in 2004 [19]. With version 2.40, support for two AEAD schemes was finally added to the set of supported algorithms in PKCS#11, but as Steel pointed out [45], the interface that v2.40 provides allows for a two-time pad attack. The application is able to set the initialisation vector (IV). If it chooses to use the same IV twice, wrapping can be used to decrypt and obtain keys in the clear. Figure 1 depicts why this attack works. Both GCM and CCM are based on CTR-mode. If we leave out the computation of the message authentication tag, it is easy to see that any cyphertext can be decrypted by XORing it with the keystream that is deterministically generated from the IV. Requesting an encryption with the same IV is essentially a decryption without the authenticity check.

This attack demonstrates that the mere support of AEAD schemes is not enough, a suitable interface needs to be provided, too. Unfortunately, this is not a trivial task. As keys can be present on several devices at the same time, each device individually needs to ensure that, globally, an IV is not used twice. Hence in this paper, we tackle the following questions:

- I How can we guarantee global uniqueness even on devices that lack a random number generator (RNG)?
- II Using authenticated encryption, is it possible to create a secure PKCS#11 configuration that is strictly more powerful than those proposed so far?



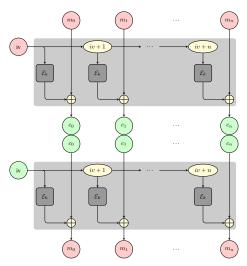


Fig. 1: Example on key extraction using CTR-mode. By supplying the same IV twice, the attacker can wrap a key and then encrypt the resulting wrapping, again using the same IV. This leads to the leakage of the key.

Contributions: The contributions of this paper can be summarized as follows:

- We answer (I) and affirm (II) by proposing a secure PKCS#11 configuration that uses authenticated encryption.
- 2) We formally verify this proposal in the symbolic model and provide custom heuristics that allow for automated proof generation. These results apply to the previously proposed modes of operation GCM and CCM.
- 3) We put forward a *deduction soundness* [8] result, which is a necessary condition for computational soundness. It justifies the symbolic abstraction of AEAD and is of independent interest for protocol verification. Besides AEAD, it also supports hash functions, public-key cryptography, digital signatures and MAC.
- 4) The PKCS#11 technical committee considered SIV mode [41] as an alternative to GCM/CCM as it does not require an initialisation vector [44]. We derive a construction to obtain an AEAD scheme out of SIV mode (in fact, any deterministic authenticated encryption scheme). This construction cancels out if we use it in a particular way. With only slight syntactical modification to our model we can thus derive a similar policy for SIV mode while reusing the deduction soundness result, model and heuristics.

### II. PKCS#11

PKCS#11 provides applications an interface to cryptographic implementations ranging from cryptographic libraries to smart cards and HSMs. Once an application establishes a session to a device (slot in PKCS#11 parlance), it identifies as a Security Officer (SO), or a normal user. The SO may initialise a slot and set a PIN for the normal user. Only if

this PIN is set, the normal user can login. As we consider the case where the application or the host computer are malicious, we will abstract away from this and assume the attacker has complete control over a session.

PKCS#11 exposes so-called *objects*, e.g., keys and certificates, to the user or attacker. They are referred to indirectly, via *handles*. Handles do not reveal any information about the object they refer to. Objects have *attributes*, some of which are specific to their type (e.g., public keys of type CKK\_RSA have a public exponent). Some however, are general for all keys, and control how they can be used. E.g.:

- CKA\_SENSITIVE marks keys that ought not to be read out in the clear.
- CKA\_DECRYPT marks keys that can be used to decrypt cyphertexts.
- CKA\_WRAP marks wrapping keys: If C\_WrapKey is given two handles, and the first has CKA\_WRAP, it uses the key referred to by the first to encrypt the second. Wrapping is used to export keys. Additional constraints apply to the attributes associated to the second key, but we omit them for simplicity. To import, the function C\_UnwrapKey takes a handle and a wrapping (the cyphertext resulting from C\_WrapKey), decrypts the latter with the key referred to by the handle, stores the results and returns a handle to the newly generated object.

Typically, a given implementation supports only some of the functionality specified by PKCS#11, first, because the standard is extensive and contains many legacy algorithms, but also because the full standard is insecure. Clulow's attack provides a nice and concise example [13]:

- A key is generated and marked CKA\_SENSITIVE, CKA\_DECRYPT and CKA WRAP.
- The key is used to wrap itself, obtaining an encryption of itself.
- 3) The key is used to decrypt the wrapping from the previous step, obtaining the key in the clear.

This attack and others have prompted vendors to limit the functionality offered by their respective implementations, which are often dubbed *configurations* or *policies*. Some vendors introduced proprietary functionality, e.g., marking CKA\_DECRYPT and CKA\_WRAP as conflicting, but even those were prone to attacks [10]. With version 2.20, wrapping and unwrapping templates were introduced to control what keys can be wrapped, and what attributes objects created via unwrapping can obtain. While this mechanism provides more flexibility, it does not improve the expressiveness of policies – these templates can essentially be hard-coded in the device. In effect, two secure configurations were discovered that are incomparable to each other, but more or equally functional to the others found so far [10, 29].

The fundamental problem is that a wrapping does not contain authenticated information about the role of the key prior to the wrapping, i.e., its intended use. Hence, if it is possible to wrap two keys that have different roles, it is not clear which attributes a (re-)imported key should obtain upon unwrapping

— it could originate from a key with either role. For instance, the first of the two most functional policies [10] allows for two different roles to be wrapped, but to be secure, the attributes obtained upon unwrapping provide less capabilities than either role — the keys 'degrade'. The second of them [29] allows only keys of a single role specific role to be wrapped.

Before OASIS took over standardisation from RSA Security in 2012, RSA drafted, but never published, version 2.30. Based on this draft, OASIS published version 2.40 in 2015, introducing support for AEAD schemes. AEAD schemes can be used for wrapping, which finally provides a way of authenticating a key's attributes upon wrapping. Unfortunately, the API requires the user to set the initialization vector, which allows for a simple attack where some vector is used twice [45]. The security of the schemes supported (AES-CCM and AES-GCM) relies on the uniqueness of the initialisation vector, hence the upcoming standard 3.00 is planned to support device-internal nonce generation for encryption/decryption.

The present work was motivated by the drafting of the standard. We announced our results on the OASIS PKCS#11 mailing list and stressed the need to support device-internal nonce generation for wrapping and encryption [17]. Assuming that support for this is present in v3.00, our policy provides a template for the secure use of PKCS#11. The current version at time of writing is version 2.40 with errata 01 [33]. The most recent proposal for PKCS#11 v3.00 is working draft 5 [34].

## III. POLICY

Our policy implements three central ideas: a key-hierarchy, globally unique counters and authentication of handles.

Key-hierarchy: keys are created with a given level, i.e., a natural number, and may only be used to wrap and unwrap keys of a lower level. If we extend this to payload data, we can assign level 1 to payload and level 2 to encryption keys that cannot wrap. Ergo, wrapping keys must have level 3 or higher. When wrapping a key, we authenticate the level of the enclosed key with the encryption. Upon unwrapping, this level is restored. To be consistent with that, decryption only succeeds if the cyphertext is authentic w.r.t. level 1. This already prevents Clulow's attack, as wrappings will never be decrypted, since whatever level the wrapping key was created with must be larger or equal to three.

Globally unique counters: The deduction soundness result that we will present in Section VII holds only for protocols that guarantee that AEADs are created with a unique initialisation vector. This is necessary, as otherwise, for counter-mode based schemes like GCM and CCM, key-wrapping can immediately be used to decrypt. The simplest way to ensure this is to choose the IV randomly, however, many low-cost devices do not have a random number generator. We thus describe a secure low-cost alternative that is slightly more involved. We require each device to have a unique device identifier at initialisation time, e.g., a serial number with a unique vendor id. For every encryption, a running counter is increased, so that the combination of this unique public value and the running counter is unique in the network. Hence, even if a key is shared

between two devices, the initialisation vector remains unique. Practically, this combination can be a simple concatenation: if the serial number and the counter have 64 bit, they match the blocksize of AES. For an HSM that can run 10M encryptions per second, it would take about 60'000 years to repeat a counter. In terms of the soundness of our deduction rules, any other way of combining those is sound, as long as it provides an injective mapping into the set of initialisation vectors (or is indistinguishable from one).

Authentication of handles: The third novelty to our policy is the authentication of handles. Usually, handles are assigned through a running counter or are simply the memory address where the key is physically stored. If a key is exported to another device, it most likely receives a new handle. Instead, we chose a unique handle at key-generation time, and ensure that, no matter on which device, this handle always resolves to the same key. We call this property handle integrity.

We discus the relevant parts of PKCS#11 in the follow-up. Table I gives an overview, see [34, Table 30] for the full list.

## A. Object-management

The main security goal is to keep keys secret from the possibly malicious host. Hence, for the operation of the device, we disallow direct key imports via C\_CreateObject. Nevertheless, in order to import keys via C\_UnwrapKey, at least one key must be shared initially. A common practice is to have the security officer (SO) set up shared keys using C\_CreateObject. Thus this function may only be used by the SO, which we assume happens only during setup or in an otherwise safe environment and only with trusted PKCS#11 tokens, i.e., tokens implementing our policy by vendors that guarantee the uniqueness of their unique device identifiers.

As the key-hierarchy is static, so are the attributes. We thus disable the function C SetAttributeValue altogether.

We allow the user to inspect the device using functions like C\_GetObjectSize and C\_FindObjects and its siblings. As the adversary has full control, this information is redundant to him and w.l.o.g., we omit them from our model. Similar for C\_DestroyObject. As our model assumed no limit on space for storing keys, any attack using it can be transformed into an attack that does not delete objects.

# B. Key-management

In our policy, normal users can create new objects via C\_GenerateKey, C\_GenerateKeyPair, C\_DeriveKey or C\_UnwrapKey. C\_GenerateKeyPair create a new symmetric or asymmetric key, C\_DeriveKey derives a new key from an existing one, and C\_UnwrapKey decrypts a wrapping, i.e., an AEAD that was output by C\_WrapKey, and imports its content. We thus consider these four functions plus C\_WrapKey the keymanagement core of PKCS#11.

C\_GenerateKey and C\_GenerateKeyPair: Keys are generated and then stored with a level and a universally unique handle. The level is provided by the user by setting the attribute parameter CK\_ATTRIBUTE\_PTR. The handle can be chosen randomly from a sufficiently large space or using any another

function	description	rule	comment
Object management functions			
C_CreateObject	creates an object	(4)	only by SO during setup
<pre>C_GetObjectSize, C_GetAttributeValue</pre>	gather information about object		not useful to adversary
C_FindObjects*	find objects		not useful to adversary
C_CopyObject	creates a copy of an object		not useful to adversary (in this configuration)
C_DestroyObject	destroys an object		not useful to adversary
C_SetAttributeValue	modifies object's attribute		forbidden by policy
Key-management functions			
C GenerateKey	generates a secret key	(3)	generated with level $l$ and universally unique handle $h$
C_DeriveKey	derives a key from a base key	(9)	base keys and derived keys must have level 2, key-derivation needs random salt, universally unique handle $h$
C_GenerateKeyPair	generates a public / private key pair	_	always level 2; asymm. wrapping keys permits 'Trojan wrapped key attack', thus not modelled (only key-usage)
C_WrapKey	wraps (encrypts) a key	(7)	wrapping key must have larger level than argument key; internal IV generation (e.g., like C_EncryptMessage); authenticate level and handle as additional data
C_UnwrapKey	unwraps (decrypts) a key and stores it	(8)	level and handle of new key have to match additional authenticated data
Key-usage functions			
C_Encrypt	encrypts single-part data	(5)	require $l = 2$ , internal IV generation
C_Decrypt	decrypts single-part data	(6)	require $l=2$
message digest, signature, MAC, RNG etc.		_	require $l = 2$ , not modelled (only key-usage)

TABLE I: PKCS#11 operations for object and key management, and corresponding rules in our modelling (cf. Section V).

technique/mechanism for creating universally unique identifier [36]. This ensures handle integrity without central coordination. The details of the precise encoding from levels to CK ATTRIBUTE PTR are not important, but the token has to enforce that the level is correctly encoded. In general, the level can be represented using a vendor-specific PKCS#11 attribute that encodes this number in an integer. If there is a suitable upper bound, these levels can also be encoded in standard PKCS#11 attributes, e.g., if the bound is 4, the values of CKA WRAP and CKA ENCRYPT can be used to encode a binary representation of each level between 1 and 4. As wrapping with asymmetric keys is fundamentally flawed (asymmetric wrapping keys can be used to inject keys whose values are known to the attacker [13]), asymmetric key generation (C GenerateKeyPair) is restricted to keys of level 2. We hence consider asymmetric encryption keys only for key-usage.

C\_DeriveKey creates a new key object from a base key. As there is no AEAD scheme in the PKCS#11v2.40 cryptographic mechanism specification that can be used for both wrap/unwrap and key derivation [35, Section 2.11], any key that may be used for key-derivation has level 2 and may only be used to derive keys of level 2. Similar to C\_GenerateKey, a universally unique handle is created.

c\_WrapKey creates an authenticated encryption of a key and includes its level and handle as additional authenticated data. This makes sure that keys are reimported with precisely the same attributes. This is not possible with PKCS#11 prior to v2.40, due to the lack of support for AEAD. Note, however, that, even for v2.40, this requires a modification to its specification or a new interface: PKCS#11 v2.40 specifies the initialisation vector to be set from the outside, leading to the aforementioned two-time pad attack. While

an implementation may very well ignore the supplied IV and choose it internally, by specification, the function output contains only the cyphertext, not the IV. This is problematic, as it means that the interface cannot be easily changed to communicate the internally generated IV without breaking backwards compatibility. For encryption, the current PKCS#11 v3.00 draft solves this by introducing a new interface for encryption, C EncryptMessage, specifically to support internal nonce-generation for AEAD schemes. C EncryptMessage has an additional parameter that can be used to output the IV. In the current draft, there is no equivalent for key-wrapping. We encourage the inclusion of a similar mechanism for keywrapping in the base specification and making internal IV generation the default for authenticated wrapping. Considering the adaptation of C EncryptMessage, we deem this a realistic proposal. Moreover, internal nonce-generation follows from the FIPS requirement on GCM: 'The probability that the authenticated encryption function ever [across all instances] will be invoked with the same IV and the same key on two (or more) distinct sets of input data shall be no greater than  $2^{-32}$ .' [19, 4]

c\_UnwrapKey decrypts a wrapping, verifies its authenticity and stores the decryption as a new key. It takes the following parameters: the handle of the wrapping key, an attribute template specifying the attributes that the newly generated object should obtain, and a handle for this newly generated object. The initialisation vector is supplied as the mechanism parameter. Our policy is to reject any handle and any template that do not match the authenticated handle and level. <sup>1</sup> In

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In addition, we recommend checking that the authenticated level is smaller than the wrapping key's level to provide resilience against key compromise. Our model, however, does not consider key compromise.

contrast to previous policies, it is thus not possible to reimport a key on the same device under different handles — there is no need to, as all instances of a key are guaranteed to have the same attributes. Thread-safe implementations should thus check if the requested handle is present on the device before unwrapping, relying on locks only to synchronize concurrent unwrap, key-generation and key-derivation actions.

#### C. Key-usage

PKCS#11 supports a variety of functions for creating message digests, signatures, MACs or random numbers. All of these operate on payload data, hence, we impose that the keys must have level 2. We impose no further restrictions beyond PKCS#11's standard requirements, e.g., MACs can only be computed with MACing keys, etc.

For AEAD encryption and decryption specifically, we require that the authenticated header contains the level l=1 (for payload data). This prohibits encryptions to be confused with wrappings and thus 'trojan key' attacks [13], where unwrapping injects dishonest key material into the store. The same policy applies to encryption for multi-part data (C\_EncryptInit, C\_EncryptUpdate and C\_EncryptFinal), however, our model only covers encryption and decryption for single-part data.

Similar to prior work [18, 22, 10, 20], we will only model key-usage functions that could possibly interfere with key-management, i.e., symmetric encryption and decryption, as indicated by Clulow's attack. Keys that do not support encryption can, by the standard, not be used to create or import wrappings, and hence do not interact with the key-management. By our policy, asymmetric encryption falls into the same category. Extending the model to cover non-key-management operations is straight-forward, but unlikely to lead to new insights with respect to the security of policies.

# D. Limitations

The policy we propose is based on a *static* key-hierarchy: This reduces the flexibility when setting up keys. Similarly, a popular best practice for HSMs is to disallow the modification of attributes for all users but the SO.

To benefit from handle authentication, existing applications have to be modified to make use of this feature by validating the authenticity of the handle provided. In current applications, objects are identified by a user-specified attribute CKA LABEL. C FindObjects is used to obtain all handles associated to objects that have a specified label and these handles are used without further validation. Instead, the handle should be specified (in place of the label) to identify keys. Practically, however, this is not always possible, as handles are implementation-dependent and cannot always be chosen freely. Furthermore, this requires a modification of the application. In the following, we discuss a workaround for both issues. The handle (in the sense of our policy) could be stored within the attribute CKA LABEL. Handle authenticity then pertains to this attribute, which can now be used to identify keys. The advantage is that applications using the previously described method for identifying keys would not require changes. The downside is that this label can neither be set nor modified by the user or SO, but is instead chosen according to the policy upon object creation.

## IV. PRELIMINARIES

Our analysis takes place in an abstract model of cryptography with an active, Dolev-Yao adversary. The idea is that all implementations are considered participants in a protocol. As the adversary is active and has access to all of them, he can send arbitrary commands to them and combine their outputs. This represents a network where all hosts are under adversarial control. We analyzed this model with Tamarin [43], a protocol verifier with support for (stateful) security protocols.

Terms and equational theories: Cryptographic messages are represented by a term algebra over public names PN, fresh names FN and variables  $\mathcal{V}$ . Let  $\Sigma$  be a signature, i.e., a set of function symbols, each with an arity. We write f/n when function symbol f is of arity n, e.g., pair/2 is a function symbol for pairs. Let Terms be the set of terms built over  $\Sigma$ , PN, FN and  $\mathcal{V}$ , e.g., pair $(t,t') \in \text{Terms}$ , which we will abbreviate  $\langle t,t' \rangle$ .

Equality is defined by means of an equational theory E, i.e., a finite set of equations between terms. E induces a binary relation  $=_E$  that is closed under application of function symbols, bijective renaming of names and substitution of variables by terms.

**Example 1.** Our model employs the following equational theory. Unary function symbols fst and snd model projection on pairs:

$$\operatorname{fst}(\langle x,y\rangle)=x \qquad \qquad \operatorname{snd}(\langle x,y\rangle)=y$$

Hence  $\mathsf{fst}(\mathsf{snd}(\langle x, \langle y, z \rangle \rangle)) =_E y$ . We use  $\mathsf{true}/0$  to model a constant truth value. We model AEAD using  $\mathsf{senc}/4$ , which expects a key, an initialisation vector, some authentication data and a message. The following equations apply:

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{sdec}(k,iv,h,\mathsf{senc}(k,iv,h,m)) &= m \\ \mathsf{sdecSuc}(k,iv,h,\mathsf{senc}(k,iv,h,m)) &= \mathsf{true}() \\ \mathsf{getHeader}(\mathsf{senc}(k,iv,h,m)) &= h \\ \mathsf{getIV}(\mathsf{senc}(k,iv,h,m)) &= iv \end{split}$$

We use the two-ary function symbol  $\cup^{\#}$  to model multiset union. Written in infix notation, the following equations for associativity and commutativity apply:

$$x \cup^{\#} (y \cup^{\#} z) = (x \cup^{\#} y) \cup^{\#} z \quad x \cup^{\#} y = (y \cup^{\#} x)$$

This function symbol is built into Tamarin. We will use it to model natural numbers. We also include a symbol kdf/2 for key-derivation, without any equations.

Multiset Rewriting: In the Tamarin protocol prover, the protocol itself, its state and its behavior are modeled using a multiset of facts and rewriting rules operating on this set. The state of the system is a multiset of ground facts  $\mathcal{G}$ , where a fact  $F(t_1,...,t_k)$  of arity k is ground if all k terms  $t_1,...,t_k$  are ground. Further, there are predefined fact symbols for special purposes. The state of the adversary's knowledge is encoded

using the fact symbol !K. Freshness information is denoted with the fact symbol Fr and messages on the network are represented by In and Out. Multiset rewriting rules are denoted by  $l-[a] \rightarrow r$ , where l is the premise, r is the conclusion and a labels so-called actions. Linear facts used in the premise are consumed by the transition rule. An exclamation mark in front of a fact symbol indicates that it is persistent and can be consumed arbitrarily often. For example, freshness Fr is a linear fact, whereas adversarial knowledge !K is a permanent fact.

**Example 2.** To express, e.g., a key hierarchy or a counter, we need to identify natural numbers. We can model them using Tamarin's built-in support for multisets: a multiset with n elements  $1 \in PN$  represents n. The following two rules ensure that terms t for which a fact !Nat(t) or action ISNat(t) exists are always multisets consisting only of  $1 \in PN$ .

$$\neg \mathsf{IsNat}(1) \Rightarrow \mathsf{!Nat}(1) \tag{1}$$

$$!\mathsf{Nat}(n) \dashv \mathsf{IsNat}(n \cup^{\#} 1) \rightarrow !\mathsf{Nat}(n \cup^{\#} 1) \tag{2}$$

Intuitively, we say that a rewriting step is possible if all facts in l are in the current state S. In the resulting state, all linear facts from l are removed and all facts in r are added. We will formulate this intuition in the following, but need some preliminaries first. We use lfacts and pfacts to denote the linear, respectively, the permanent facts in a set, set to turn a multiset into a set and mset to turn a set into a multiset. We mark the multiset equivalents of the subset relation, set difference and set union with a # superscript, i.e. c #, d and d d.

We define a labeled transition relation  $\to_{\mathcal{M}} \subset G^{\#} \times P(G) \times G^{\#}$ , where  $G^{\#}$  denotes a multiset of ground facts and  $\mathcal{M}$  denotes a set of ground instantiations of multiset rules, as follows:

$$\frac{l - [a] \rightarrow r \in \mathcal{M} \quad lfacts(l) \subset^{\#} S \quad pfacts(l) \subset set(S)}{S \xrightarrow{set(a)}_{\mathcal{M}} (S \backslash^{\#} lfacts(l)) \cup^{\#} \{r\}^{\#}}$$

Consider, e.g., the following application of (2):

$$\{\, ! \text{Nat}(1) \,\}^{\#} \xrightarrow{\text{IsNat}(1 \cup^{\#} 1)} \{\, ! \text{Nat}(1), ! \text{Nat}(1 \cup^{\#} 1) \,\}^{\#}.$$

Using the labelled transition relation, we can define executions of some model  $\mathcal{M}$  as a set of traces:

$$\{(A_1, \dots, A_n) \mid \exists S_1, \dots, S_n \in \mathcal{G}^\#. \varnothing \xrightarrow{A_1}^{A_1} \dots \xrightarrow{A_n}^{A_n} S_n$$

$$\land \forall i \neq j. \ \forall x. \ S_{i+1} \backslash ^\# S_i = \{ \operatorname{Fr}(x) \}$$

$$\Longrightarrow S_{j+1} \backslash ^\# S_j \neq \{ \operatorname{Fr}(x) \} \}$$

Combining the previous transition with an application (1), we obtain the trace (IsNat(1), IsNat(1  $\cup$ # 1)). The side condition ensures that fresh variables are instantiated with unique fresh names.

Tamarin combines a user-defined set of rules describing the protocol itself with the builtin rules for message deduction MD depicted in Figure 2. They represent a standard Dolev-Yao attacker who obtains knowledge (!K) by eavesdropping on

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \mathsf{Out}(x) & -[ & ] \longrightarrow & !\mathsf{K}(x) \\ \mathsf{Fr}(x:\mathit{fresh}) & -[ & ] \longrightarrow & !\mathsf{K}(x:\mathit{fresh}) \\ & -[ & ] \longrightarrow & !\mathsf{K}(x:\mathit{pub}) \\ !\mathsf{K}(x_1),\dots,!\mathsf{K}(x_k) & -[ & ] \longrightarrow & !\mathsf{K}(f(x_1,\dots,x_k)) \\ & !\mathsf{K}(x) & -[ & K(x) & ] \longrightarrow & \mathsf{In}(x) \end{array}$$

Fig. 2: The set of rules MD.

the network (Out), creating fresh names, or by using public values. This knowledge can be combined by applying function symbols f/k. Known terms can be sent to the network.

## V. FORMAL MODELLING

We present the multiset rewrite rules used to formalise the policy described in Section III and Table I.

*Devices:* At any time, a new device can be introduced to the network. This device has a fresh identifier dev, and its device counter is initialised to  $1 \in PN$ , representing the natural number 1. Previous work [10, 18, 29] abstracted all PKCS#11 devices in the network with a single store. As we want to tackle the problem of locally generating network-wide unique IVs, we need to capture the absence of a secure channel between these devices, and thus model them individually.

$$Fr(dev)$$
, !Nat(1)  $-[DCtrls(dev,'1')] \rightarrow !D(dev)$ ,  $DCtr(dev,1)$ 

Each device (!D(dev)), obtains a fresh identifier (Fr(dev)), which links it to the initial counter value (DCtr(dev, 1)). The action DCtrls is used in the lemma counter\_mono (cf. Section VI) to refer to this counter and show each counter is monotonically increasing.

Key-generation: When a new key is created, it is stored along with its level, a freshly chosen handle and a natural number l on the store of dev, represented by the fact !Store(dev, h, k, l). The rules from Example 2 are part of our model and ensure that l represents a natural number. The handle and the level of the key are handle out to the adversary  $(Out(\langle h, l \rangle))$ .

$$\begin{split} !\mathsf{D}(dev), & |\mathsf{Nat}(l), \mathsf{Fr}(k), \mathsf{Fr}(h) \\ - [ \mathsf{CreateK}(h, k, l), \mathsf{StoreK}(dev, h, k, l) ] \rightarrow \\ !\mathsf{Store}(dev, h, k, l), & \mathsf{Out}(\langle h, l \rangle) \end{split} \tag{3}$$

The action CreateK marks the creation of a key along with its level and attribute. It is referenced by lemma key\_int\_conf to say that keys imported via unwrapping were honestly generated at an earlier point (i.e., no trojan keys can exist). StoreK, by contrast, marks that a key is added to the store, which includes import via unwrap and key-derivation.

A second rule additionally contains !D(dev') in the premise and !Store(dev', h, k, l) in the conclusion and is used to model

a trusted set-up phase where a common key is established on two devices.

$$\cdots$$
,!D( $dev'$ )  $\neg$ [ $\cdots$ ,StoreK( $dev',h,k,l$ )] $\rightarrow$  $\cdots$ ,!Store( $dev',h,k,l$ ) (4)

Note that devices only need to produce fresh names during key-generation. Hence, w.l.o.g., a device without RNG is represented by an adversary that chooses to never employ an instance of the key-generation rule where dev is instantiated to this device. Devices without RNG exist and are useful: lightweight authentication tokens can, e.g., obtain a master key via a trusted set-up, and subsequently import keys via unwrapping.

Encryption and decryption of payload data: Encryption (C\_Encrypt) expects some payload m and encrypts it with the authenticated header affirming the level as 1 (payload data) and, for uniformity, an empty handle value  $\epsilon \in PN$ . For simplicity, the handle h is not required as an explicit input – the adversary chooses the appropriate instantiation of this handle anyway. We set the initialisation vector to  $\langle dev, ctr \rangle$ , which, as we will show, ensures the network-wide uniqueness of the IV.

As before, DCtrls records the new counter value (DCtr( $dev, ctr \cup^{\#} 1$ )) to ensure monotonicity. IV marks the use of the IV. The lemma uniqueness\_IV will ensure that no two instances of this action have the same value, which is a cryptographic requirement for AEAD schemes. Finally, UseK marks the use of a key with the handle and level that were assumed. Lemma key\_usage will ensure that any key used was created or imported with exactly this handle and level.

Decryption (c\_Decrypt) verifies that the authenticated tag is  $\langle 1, \epsilon \rangle$ . Let iv = getIV(c), t = getHeader(c) and m = sdec(k, iv, t, c) in

Again, UseK tracks the use of the key. Decrypt(m) will be used in the lemma origin to state that any knowledge obtained by the output message m was known by the adversary before invoking decryption.

We use the action IsTrue to check whether the decryption was successful: every lemma  $\varphi$  presented in the next section is verified w.r.t. the subset of traces for which the condition

$$\alpha := (\forall a, i. \mathsf{IsTrue}(a)@i \implies a =_E \mathsf{true}())^2$$

holds true. This is achieved by showing  $\alpha \Longrightarrow \varphi$  on the entire set of traces. For every trace where the term sdecSuc(k,iv,t,c) is unequal to true() (modulo E), the property is trivially true and thus the property is valid iff  $\alpha$  holds for all traces that adhere to the restriction. Tamarin conveniently allows specifying several so-called *restrictions*  $\alpha$ , which apply to all lemmas in this way.

*Key-wrapping:* Wrapping proceeds in the same vein. A key on the device (!Store( $dev, h_w, k_w, l_w$ )) can be used to encrypt another key (!Store( $dev, h_e, k_e, l_e$ )). Again, let  $iv = \langle dev, ctr \rangle$ .

```
!Nat(ctr \cup^{\#} 1),!D(dev),!Store(dev, h_w, k_w, l_w),
!Store(dev, h_e, k_e, l_e), DCtr(dev, ctr)
-[ UseK(dev, h_w, k_w, l_w), DCtrls(dev, ctr \cup^{\#} 1),
IV(iv), Lt(el, wl)] \rightarrow
DCtr(dev, ctr \cup^{\#} 1), Out(senc(k_w, iv, \langle l_e, h_e \rangle, k_e)) (7)
```

The output  $\operatorname{senc}(k_w,iv,\langle l_e,h_e\rangle,k_e)$  constitutes the wrapping of  $k_e$  under  $k_w$  with additional authenticated data  $\langle l_e,h_e\rangle$  for the previous handle and level of  $k_e$  on device dev. Again, UseK, DCtrls and IV track the state of keys, counters and the IV  $iv=\langle dev,ctr\rangle$ . Similar to IsTrue, the action Lt ensures the wrapped key has a lower level than the wrapping key by imposing another restriction on traces: for every action  $\operatorname{Lt}(a,b)$ , there is a non-empty a' such that  $a\cup^\# a'=b$ , i.e., a represents a (strictly) smaller number than b. This avoids key-cycles.

Unwrapping: To unwrap (C\_UnwrapKey), a device is called with a handle to a wrapping key (i.e., a key of level  $\geqslant 3$ ) and an authenticated encryption c. It decrypts c, and stores the resulting key along with the authenticated handle and level for future use (!Store( $dev, h_e, k_e, l_e$ )). Let iv = getIV(c),  $t = \langle l_e, h_e \rangle = \text{getHeader}(c)$  and  $k_e = \text{sdec}(k, iv, t, c)$  in

$$\begin{split} &! \mathsf{Nat}(l_e), ! \mathsf{D}(\textit{dev}), ! \mathsf{Store}(\textit{dev}, h, k, l), \mathsf{In}(c) \\ &- [\mathsf{UseK}(\textit{dev}, h, k, l), \mathsf{ImportK}(\textit{dev}, h_e, k_e, l_e), \mathsf{Neq}(l_e, 1), \\ &\mathsf{StoreK}(\textit{dev}, h_e, k_e, l_e), \mathsf{IsTrue}(\mathsf{sdecSuc}(k, iv, t, c)) ] \!\!\rightarrow \\ &! \mathsf{Store}(\textit{dev}, h_e, k_e, l_e) \end{split}$$

As before, UseK marks the use of the wrapping key and StoreK their addition to the store. IsTrue ensures that  $sdecSuc(k, iv, t, c) =_E true()$ . ImportK marks that the key contained in the wrapping has been imported, and not created. It will be referred to by lemma key\_int\_conf (cf. Section VI) to say that any key imported by wrapping was once created on some device.

By our deduction soundness result, the cyphertext c in our model contains the authenticated header and IV in the clear. Hence it represents the 'raw' cyphertext, as well as the other parameters supplied to C\_Unwrap.

Key-derivation: Key-derivation (c\_DeriveKey) is restricted to key-usage keys, i.e., keys of level 2. Recall that we omitted pure key-usage like MACs from the model, except for AEAD encryption and decryption. We therefore model key-derivation with AEAD base keys to represent derivation from other keys

 $<sup>{}^2</sup>F@i$  denotes that action F appears at position i in the trace.

of level 2. The Fr-facts in the premise model the generation of a globally unique handle, as well as a random salt r, which is used to derive the new key as  $\mathsf{kdf}(k,r)$ . Let  $two = 1 \cup^\# 1$  in

```
!D(\textit{dev}), !Store(\textit{dev}, h, k, two), Fr(r), Fr(h') \\ -[UseK(\textit{dev}, h, k, two), StoreK(\textit{dev}, h', kdf(k, r), two), \\ CreateK(h', kdf(k, r), two)] \rightarrow \\ !Store(\textit{dev}, h', kdf(k, r), two)  (9)
```

As before, UseK marks the use of the key k. Similar to keygeneration, this rule is marked with StoreK (as the derived key is added to the store of dev), as well as CreateK (as the key kdf(k,r) is created).

## VI. RESULTS FOR AES-GCM/CCM

The stated purpose of PKCS#11 is to separate secret data from untrusted code accessing the interface. Hence our main goal is to ensure that no key generated on the device can leak to the adversary. Nevertheless, there are two additional integrity properties that we consider important, but that have been largely overlooked by prior work. First, the integrity of the keys themselves: each key on the device was created on some honest device; it is not possible to import trojan keys. Second, the integrity of the mapping from handles to keys: each key, on whichever device it may be placed, will always have the same level and the same handle. The latter property is a new feature of our policy that is meant to ensure that no attacker can confuse an honest application into using an insecure or deprecated key by altering the assignment from handles to keys.

We verify these properties using two helping lemmas (see Table II). These lemmas were stated manually, but proven automatically. The first one (origin), establishes that any knowledge obtained through decryption was available beforehand, and that all keys imported via wrapping were either originally created on some device, or was otherwise known by the adversary before. The first conjunct of origin prunes cases where decryption is used to derive a term of arbitrary form from an encryption. Intuitively, when Tamarin's backward search algorithm is trying to prove that a certain term cannot be deduced, e.g., a key stored on the device, it considers all rules that have a matching Out-fact. The rule for decryption (6) by itself could output any term t, as long as  $c = \operatorname{senc}(k, iv, \langle 1, \epsilon \rangle, t)$  is input, and thus known to the adversary. This c itself could come from rule (6), which, without origin, creates a loop. This conjunct establishes that the content of the cyphertext must have been known prior to using the decryption rule. As knowledge facts are permanent, the application of rule (6) is superfluous if !K(t) is already present, and thus this step can be pruned. The second conjunct can be used to either establish the freshness of keys (both rules containing CreateK(k) have the premise Fr(k)), or to pinpoint an earlier leak of a key, which helps in the inductive steps of many of the follow-up lemmas.

The second helping lemma (counter\_monotonicity) establishes that on each device, the counter is monotonically increasing. Proving it is just a matter of considering all pairs of rules where the action DCtrls occurs, but when applied, it readily entails the relationship between any two counter-values once their temporal relation can be established.

With these lemmas in place, we show: First (key\_usage), that all keys that are used by an honest token were put in the store either by unwrapping (8), by key-derivation (9) or by key-generation (3); and that the attribute and handle remain unchanged. Second (key int conf, first conjunct), if they were created by unwrapping, they were previously generated by key-generation or key-derivation with the same attribute and handle, but possibly on a different device. Together, this means that all keys that are used were honestly generated, and that throughout their use, they are associated with the same attributes and handle. Third (key int conf, second conjunct), all keys are confidential: it is not possible for any key that was created on the device to be deduced by the adversary. In Tamarin, this is expressed by referring to the action !K in the message deduction rule for adversarial output (see Figure 2): the adversary cannot output a key created on some device. Fourth, whenever a key is added to the store on any device, it is associated with the same level and handle.

Finally, the deduction soundness result in the next section comes with a proof obligation for the protocol: whenever a term senc(k, iv, h, m) is output, the tuple (k, iv, h) needs to be unique. Lemma uniqueness\_IV establishes the stronger property that iv itself is distinct within all such terms.

All these lemmas can be shown automatically using a custom heuristic that prioritizes goals relevant to IV generation. We report the number of proof steps and the verification time per lemma in Table II. Both were measured on a 3.1 GHz Intel Core i7 with 16GB RAM. A full proof took about four minutes. As we present a new policy of PKCS#11 with new features, we cannot compare the verification time with previous efforts. The closest work to ours also used Tamarin and reported a runtime of half an hour on a dedicated computation server [29]. The structure of the proof, in particular the choice of the helping lemmas and their order, follows the structure in this paper, albeit adapted to our model. We thus feel confident that our helping lemmas and heuristics can be reused for other policies that guarantee key and attribute integrity.

## VII. JUSTIFYING THE SYMBOLIC ABSTRACTION

Symbolic models in the literature that include symmetric encryption usually imply authenticity of the cyphertext. In the cryptographic setting, this is called non-malleability. They do, however, not account for the choice of the IV. This is reasonable, as in most cases, this choice is part of the encryption scheme itself, and not a protocol task. For the configuration we discussed in the last section, however, IV generation is part of the protocol itself and hence cannot be abstracted away.

We thus provide some justification for the equational theory we use to model AEAD, which was introduced in Example 1,

dep.	lemma	description	steps	seconds
$\overrightarrow{\qquad}$	origin	Any messages obtained by decryption were encrypted before and all keys imported via unwrapping were either created on the device or known to the adversary at some point. (!D( $m$ )@ $i \implies \exists j.!K(m)@j \land j < i) \land (ImportK(dev, h, k, l)@i \implies (\exists j.CreateK(h, k, l)@i \land j < i) \lor \exists j'.!K(k)@j' \land j' < i).$	1597	72
\ \frac{1}{2}	counter_mono	The device counter is monotonically increasing. $DCtrls(d,c)@i \land DCtrls(d,c')@j \land i < j \implies \exists z.c' =_E z + c.$	1880	77
	uniqueness_IV	No IV is used twice, no matter on which device. $IV(t)@i \wedge IV(t)@j \implies i = j$ .	8	16
-0	key_usage	All keys that are used were created by unwrapping, key-derivation or key-generation. UseK $(d, h, k, l)$ @ $i \implies \exists j$ .StoreK $(d, h, k, l)$ @ $j \land j \lessdot i$ .	78	17
	key_int_conf	All keys are created on some device (ImportK $(d, h, k, l)$ @ $i \implies \exists j.$ CreateK $(h, k, l) \land j < i)$ and are never known ( $\neg$ (CreateK $(h, k, l)$ @ $i \land K(k)$ @ $j$ )).	428	45
<u>_</u>	key_level_handle	Keys always retain the level and handle they were created with. StoreK $(d,h,k,l)$ @ $i \land StoreK(d',h',k,l')$ @ $j \implies l =_E l' \land h =_E h'$ .	170	21

TABLE II: Proof lemmas and their dependencies. We use F@i to denote that an action F appears at position i in a trace. For brevity, unbound variables are to be read as universally quantified.

by showing a necessary, but not sufficient, condition for the soundness of the symbolic attacker. As we will see, we have to impose a condition on the protocol. Luckily, this condition can be proven to hold using Tamarin.

Formal models rely on an abstract representation of cryptography for efficient tool support. The relationship between results in this formal model and the complexity-theoretic model of cryptography was first established by Abadi and Rogaway [1] under the name of *computational soundness*. Computational soundness says that each attack that occurs with non-negligible probability in the computational model is represented in the symbolic model. It thus ensures that the symbolic model and the semantics of the protocol calculus are adequate models of the cryptographic primitives and the behaviour of the protocol parties.

Rather than extending the existing body of work with an additional computational soundness result for a small set of primitives, we opted to extend the deduction soundness framework [16] by Cortier and Warinschi. The distinguishing feature of this framework is that it allows for the composition of deduction soundness results for different primitives. As PKCS#11 covers many different cryptographic primitives this is a very useful feature. The downside is that deduction soundness does not guarantee computational soundness. The research question of defining a composable framework for computational soundness is still open, thus we opted for extending Böhl et. al.'s deduction soundness result [8] at the expense of a weaker guarantee. Their result includes public key encryption, secret key encryption, signatures, MACs, hashes<sup>3</sup> and also public data structures. All these primitives are supported by PKCS#11, and thus it is very attractive to use this model and be able to reason about higher-level protocols building on our PKCS#11 configuration.

We extend Böhl et. al.'s result with deterministic authenticated encryption, so we can reason about schemes like AES-GCM and AES-CCM as supported by PKCS#11. We can only sketch the result here, and refer to Appendix C and Appendix D, as well as the long version [17] for the details.

We keep the notation minimal in this section and use Böhl et. al.'s notation in the appendices.

Cryptographic requirements: We introduce a cryptographic security notion, DAE-N security, which is a version of DAE security [40, Definition 1], modified to give the adversary access to the IV. DAE [40] security is logically equivalent to AEAD security [38] and formalises the confidentiality and authenticity for AEAD. Our modification, DAE-N security, differs from DAE security [40] in that oracles can be called with arbitrary IVs, as long as they do not repeat.<sup>4</sup>

**Definition 1** (Deterministic Authenticated Encryption with IVs). Let  $\Pi = (Gen, Enc, Dec)$  be an IV-based authenticated encryption scheme that can handle an associated header. That means: Given IV space S, associated data S space  $\mathcal{H}_{AD}$  and message  $\mathcal{M}$ , the encryption algorithm Enc takes as input a key  $k \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} Gen(1^n)$ , an IV  $n \in S$ , a string of associated data H, with  $H \in \mathcal{H}_{AD}$  and a message m with  $m \in \mathcal{M}$ . It returns a cyphertext c = Enc(k, n, H, m) with  $c \in \mathcal{M}$ . Decryption takes a key  $k \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} Gen(1^n)$ , an IV  $n \in S$ , a string of associated data H, with  $H \in \mathcal{H}_{AD}$  and a cyphertext c with  $c \in \mathcal{M}$  as input and returns m with  $m \in \mathcal{M} \cup \{\bot\}$ .

The DAE-N-advantage of an attacker A with access to two oracles (the first called left-hand, the second called right-hand) in  $\Pi$  is defined

$$\begin{split} \mathrm{Adv}_{\Pi}^{dae-n}(A) &= |\mathrm{Pr}[A^{O_k^{Enc}(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot),O_k^{Dec}(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot)} = 1] \\ &- |\mathrm{Pr}[A^{\$(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot),\perp(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot)} = 1]| \end{split}$$

where  $k \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} Gen(1^{\eta})$  and  $O_k^{Enc}(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot)$  and  $O_k^{Dec}(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot)$  denote an encryption oracle and a decryption oracle, respectively. Further, let  $\$(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot)$  be an algorithm returning a random bitstring c with  $c \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $\bot(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot)$  an algorithm always returning  $\bot$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>PKCS#11 supports a SHA-1-based key-derivation mechanism.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>DAE-N security can also be seen as a weaker version of Rogaway's notion of misuse-resistant AE (MRAE) security [40, Definition 5]. GCM and CCM mode provide AEAD security and thus DAE-N security, but not MRAE security. If used appropriately, SIV mode provides both MRAE and DAE-N convirts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>In the context of our work *header*, *additional data* and *associated data* are interchangeable terms.

The adversary may not repeat an IV in a left-query and may not ask a right-query (H, IV, Y) if some previous left-query (H, IV, X) returned Y. (MRAE security defines  $Adv^{mrae}$  just the same, but restricts the adversary to not repeat a left-query and may not ask a right-query (H, IV, Y) if some previous left-query (H, IV, X) returned Y.)

A scheme  $\Pi$  is DAE-N secure iff, for all ppt algorithms A,

$$Adv_{\Pi}^{dae-n}(A) \leqslant \mathsf{negl}(\eta)$$

for a negligible function negl() and a security parameter  $\eta$ .

AEAD security [39] has been proven for CCM by Jonnson [24] and for GCM by McGrew and Viega [32]. In Appendix A, we show that this implies DAE-N security.

Symbolic model and deduction relation: We represent the equations in Example 1 in the deduction soundness framework as a typed symbolic model and deduction relation ⊢ between a set of terms the adversary knows, and a term the adversary can deduce from this set. A term is deducible if it can be constructed from other deducible terms or obtained by applying decryption and similar operations. In our case, the symbolic model consists of a two randomized function  $k_c^l$ and  $k_h^l$ , representing AEAD key generation, an encryption function E with four arguments, and a function  $con_S$  that transforms terms into IVs. The superscript l marks  $k_c$  and  $k_h$  as randomized, as opposed to E and  $con_S$  which are deterministic. Both  $k_c$  and  $k_h$  are implemented in an identical way, but different symbols are used to mark keys that may be corrupted initially, and keys that shall not be revealed. This is ensured by the protocol conditions below. We use  $k_x$  to make statements that hold for both  $k_h$  and  $k_c$ .

For each l,  $k_x^l$  represents a different, randomly chosen key. The types make sure that the first argument to encryption is always a key and that the second is an IV. The other two arguments, the authenticated information and the message, can be arbitrary terms. The deduction relation is defined by the following four rules:

$$\frac{k_x^l()\ con_S(n)\ H\ m}{E(k_x^l(),con_S(n),H,m)} \quad \frac{E(k_x^l(),con_S(n),H,m)}{con_S(n)}$$

$$\frac{E(k_x^l(),con_S(n),H,m)}{H} \quad \frac{E(k_c^l(),con_S(n),H,m)}{m}$$

From top left to bottom right, they allow (a) the attacker to construct encryptions if he knows all inputs, (b) to extract the IV, (c) to extract the authentication information and (d) to deduce the message if the key may be corrupted initially. The protocol conditions in the following paragraph ensure that the adversary only learns keys that are initially corrupted, and hence (d) correctly represents the first equation in Example 1, as w.l.o.g., the symbolic adversary corrupts all keys  $k_c^l$  from the start.

Implementation: An implementation consist of a Turing machine that computes each function symbol, a length function that for each term predicts the length its corresponding bitstring has, an interpretation function that defines how bitstrings are interpreted as terms and a valid predicate that restricts the operations an attacker can perform. The latter is used to define protocol conditions. These are necessary for soundness results that have only standard assumptions on the cryptographic primitives, as the following example illustrates. It is well known that IND-CCA security does not guarantee anything in the presence of key-cycles [3]. Hence soundness can only hold if the deduction soundness attacker (and thus the protocol) is restricted to not produce them. Alternatively, stronger notions of security such as key-dependent message security can be used. There is a trade-off between protocol conditions and requirements on the cryptographic algorithms.

In our case, the Turing machine implementation is constructed using a DAE-N secure encryption scheme and an injective function that maps the bitstring representation of any terms in S into the IV space. For GCM and CCM, e.g., this can be a simple concatenation if we can guarantee that all terms in S can be represented in 32 bit. Our result is parametric in this S. We define the bitstring representation of an encryption to contain the authenticated information and the IV in the clear. The length function and the interpretation function are straight-forward. (See Appendix E in the full version [17] for details.)

The validity predicate enforces the following protocol conditions (paraphrased for simplicity):

- 1) AEAD keys  $k^l$  can only occur in the first position of an E-term or in an initial corruption query.
- 2) No n in  $E(k^l, con_S(n), H, m)$  occurs twice for the same
- 3) Whenever  $con_S(t)$  appears in some term,  $t \in S$ .

*Proof overview:* Due to its size (about 15 pages), we need to refer to the full version [17] for the proof, but will outline its structure here. We show deduction soundness in a stepwise proof over four games, starting from the deduction soundness game. This game is used to state that an adversary can never generate a bitstring that can be parsed to a term that he should not be able to deduce according to ⊢. In this game, the adversary interacts with an oracle that gives him access to the bitstring representation of terms of his choice. In the first step, it is shown that terms only collide with negligible probability. In the second, cyphertexts under honest keys are replaced with random bitstrings. In the third, the winning condition is made stricter by adding a rule to the deduction system that allows the adversary to generate honest cyphertexts — any adversary that can distinguish between the deduction soundness game with or without this rule is able to break the authentication property of the scheme. In the fourth and final step, it is shown that the modified deduction system is compatible with Cortier and Warinschi's notion of composability.

At this point, the model is not yet suited for key-wrapping, as keys can only appear at key positions and thus not be encrypted. Böhl et. al.'s framework handles this in an additional

 $<sup>^6</sup>$ There is a similar distinction for E that we gloss over here, but is explained in detail in Appendix B in the full version [17].

step. Function symbols carry an annotation to mark some of their input positions as forgetful; in our case, the fourth position of E. We show that a forgetful implementation, i.e., an implementation that substitutes each input at a forgetful function with a random bitstring of the same length, is also deduction sound. This allows us to relax the first condition of the validity predicate:

1) AEAD keys  $k^l$  can only occur in an initial corruption query, in the first position of an E-term, or as a subterm of a forgetful position of a function symbol that we compose with (but not E itself).

The last disjunct implicitly excludes key-cycles: by composing our AEAD model and implementation  $M_{AEAD}$  with (a renamed version) of itself,  $M_{AEAD}'$ , keys of  $M_{AEAD}$  can encrypt keys of  $M_{AEAD}'$ , but not vice versa.

Relation to our model: Our model has to make sure that for all possible traces, all three conditions of the validity predicate hold. The first condition can be checked syntactically: keys are indeed only output within encryptions terms, where they occur at position one or four. The only use at the fourth position is in the rule for key-wrapping. There, key-cycles are avoided by means of the restriction Lt(el, wl). The lemma  $evelowed{level_handle}$  ensures that the level associated to each key is always the same. We can hence iteratively apply the compositionality result for all keys of level 1, 1+1, etc.; the restriction associated to Lt makes sure that keys in the fourth position are always of lower level than the key at position one.

As a side-effect, however, the dynamic corruption of encryption keys is not guaranteed to be deduction sound. This is unfortunate, because the policy we propose implements a keyhierarchy to limit the potential damage due to wrapping keys that leak, e.g. due to side-channel attacks or brute-forcing.

Consequently, we refrained from formalising this property, as the soundness of a model that includes dynamic corruption cannot be guaranteed. There is an existing proposal that permits computational soundness without such protocol restrictions [5] that applies to a hybrid encryption scheme based on CBC-mode and an arbitrary MAC [46]. We leave extending these results and investigating the resistance against key-leakage to future work.

The second condition requires the protocol to make sure each IV is only used once per key, for all protocol traces. This is guaranteed by the lemma uniqueness\_IV, which can be verified using Tamarin.

The third restriction can be checked syntactically, if we fix an implementation of  $con_S$ . For instance, we can set S to the set of terms  $\langle t_1, t_2 \rangle$  such that  $t_1$  has a suitable type for device ids, e.g.,  $\{0,1\}^{32}$  and  $t_2$  represents  $\{1,\dots,2^{32}\}$ . We then define the implementation of  $con_S$  to decode their bitstring representation and concatenate them.

Limitations of deduction soundness: We stress that deduction soundness is only a necessary criterion for computational soundness, as it only argues about the term representation and

dep.	lemma	steps	seconds
Q Ó Ó O O O	origin counter_mono uniqueness_IV key_usage key_int_conf key_level_handle	2087 1880 8 86 443	103 79 16 18 46

TABLE III: Results for SIV mode.

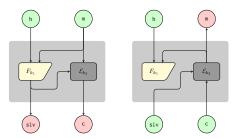


Fig. 3: SIV encryption (left) and decryption (right).

the deduction relation, but not the process representation. Our symbolic results do not necessarily carry over to the computational model. However, it was helpful in determining the validity conditions. Cortier and Warinschi point out that, in addition to deduction soundness, a so-called *commutation property* is necessary to establish computational soundness [16]. It is not known how to do this in a modular manner.

Roughly speaking, deduction soundness by itself talks about secrecy, not integrity. We opted for deduction soundness because of the composability it offers. How to obtain composability and computational soundness at the same time remains an interesting open question but we consider this question out of the scope of this paper.

## VIII. RESULTS FOR SIV

As we have pointed out before, user-provided IVs constitute a considerable attack vector. An alternative to generating IVs internally is to get rid of them altogether. Rogaway proposed a construction where the initialisation vector is synthesised from the authenticated information and the message using a hash function [41] (see Figure 3).

We can readily apply the deduction soundness result to SIV mode, if we apply the construction sketched in Figure 4.

As Rogaway showed, this construction can turn SIV mode into a MRAE secure scheme [41, Section 7], which implies DAE-N security. Interestingly, the construction effectively vanishes if either iv or h are always set to the empty string  $\varepsilon$ . We can therefore argue about SIV mode by slightly modifying our model so that the fourth position of  $\mathrm{Senc}/4$ , i.e., the authenticated information, is always set to  $\epsilon$ . As concatenation cancels out, SIV by itself is a valid cryptographic implementation and the existing deduction soundness result applies. We must still ensure uniqueness of iv, so we include the device identifier and counter in the header. Finally, we thus verify all lemmas from

 $<sup>^7</sup> The payload in the rule for encryption (5) is guaranteed to not be a key by lemma key_int_conf.$ 

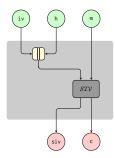


Fig. 4: DAE-N/MRAE secure scheme from SIV mode.

Section VI in 284 seconds overall (see Table III for details). SIV mode was considered for inclusion in PKCS#11 v3.0 [44], but as of now, it is *not* supported [35].

## IX. RELATED WORK

The search for logical attacks on security APIs goes back to Longley and Rigby [31] and Bond and Anderson [9]. There is a huge body of work specifically on PKCS#11 [10, 14, 18], but there have also been academic proposals for new APIs [28, 15, 27]. While attacks were often a driving factor, a lot of effort was directed towards finding configurations that are secure, i.e., that preserve secrecy of keys.

There are three major approaches to the analysis of PKCS#11 configurations. The first is using program verification techniques, but this was not automated and therefore has largely been discarded [20, 21]. The second approach is using security type-checking on the implementation, e.g., Ccode [12] or a domain-specific language [2]. This technique was used to show secrecy of keys against a Dolev-Yao attacker, but the type-system needs to be modified to reflect new cryptographic primitives like AEAD encryption. With the third approach, adoption of new primitives is easier. Here, protocol verification techniques are used. Essentially, the security token is the only participant in a protocol, and the API-level adversary is represented by the network attacker. Early results were based on model-checking [18] and thus limited to a fixed number of keys, but under certain assumptions, the soundness for an unbounded number of keys can be established [22]. The high degree of automation even allows for automated attack reconstruction [10]. More flexibility can be achieved by using protocol verification tools in the unbounded model, as existing results for the soundness of a bounded model do not apply if the API itself is modified, e.g., by introduction of stronger cryptographic primitives [29]. To our knowledge, the two most functional yet secure configurations that were discovered either have keys that lose functionality on wrapping and reimporting [10] or do not allow to export wrapping keys [10, 29].

In contrast to finding configuration which are secure against logical attacks, cryptographic security proofs for Security APIs [27, 11] achieve stronger guarantees, but have not been automated so far. Even though some results retain compatibility with PKCS#11 [42], their focus is on secure design, not

identification of secure configurations. Furthermore, following cryptographic necessity, the proposed design forbids that keys may be used for more than one purpose, e.g., the keys used for wrapping and encryption need to be separated by design, in contrast to the policy identified here. While this is cryptographic good practice, PKCS#11 policies often provide this functionality to allow for more flexibility in HSM-based protocols.

The idea of relating symbolic abstractions to cryptographic security notions goes back to Abadi and Rogaway's introduction of computational soundness [1]. Various results established the soundness of symmetric encryption [6], signatures [7], and hash function [23], just to name a few. Most results exclude key-cycles [6], however, it is possible to overcome this limitation by strengthening the cryptographic requirements [3] or the Dolev-Yao attacker [30]. A priori, these results do not compose, hence Cortier and Warinschi proposed deduction soundness [16] as a framework that allows for some amount of composability. Subsequent work in this framework covered most cryptographic primitives present in PKCS#11, including MACs, hashes, signatures, symmetric and public key encryption [8]. To be sure that we handle device-internal nonce generation correctly, we introduce deterministic authenticated encryption with associated data to this framework.

#### X. CONCLUSION

We summarize our suggestions for PKCS#11 version 3.0 and other Security APIs and point out challenges in the protocol verification approach.

The addition of AEAD schemes to PKCS#11 has shown great potential for functional and secure key-management policies. It is vital that HSMs can guarantee network-wide unique IVs, thus this should be mandated for key-wrapping. The current interface does not provide this IV in the function output, which is making a device-internal generation impossible or at least unnecessarily complicated. The attributes attached to a key should be authenticated with the wrapping, and AES keys should either be usable for wrapping and unwrapping, or for encryption and decryption. In contrast to previous policies, the authenticity of a key's attribute is guaranteed and thus both encryption and wrapping keys can be wrapped. While we proposed this policy for PKCS#11, it is also compatible with the Key Management Interoperability Protocol (KMIP) [26], an independent standard for key-management that is also governed by OASIS. KMIP allows for (but does not default to) authenticating attributes when exporting and importing keys. It provides support for the GCM and CCM modes of operation as well as internal IV generation.

Our approach was based on protocol verification, which was flexible enough to handle the introduction of new primitives, however, finding the correct equations and protocol conditions is not easy. Despite the huge body of work in computational soundness, there was no result that gave an answer right away. No computational soundness results covers the range of cryptographic primitives supported by PKCS#11. While Böhl's deduction soundness result does, thanks to its composability,

it provides weaker guarantees. We thus encourage future research to consolidate existing knowledge on computational soundness and to facilitate the adoption of new primitives by investigating the composability of computationally sound cryptographic primitives.

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#### APPENDIX

# A. AEAD security implies DAE-N security

We now want to show that for "AE with AD" schemes that are secure considering privacy and authenticity as defined above, it holds that those schemes are also DAE-N secure.

**Lemma 1** (AEAD security [40, Proposition 8]). Let  $\Pi = (Gen, Enc, Dec)$  be a authenticated encryption with associated data with AD space  $\mathcal{H}_{AD}$ , IV space  $\mathcal{N}$  and message space  $\mathcal{M}[38]$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary with access to two oracles. Suppose  $\mathcal{A}$  runs in time  $\sqcup$  and asks  $q_L$  queries to its left oracle, these totaling  $u_L$  bits, and asks  $q_R$  queries to its right oracle, these totaling  $u_R$  bits. Then there exist adversaries D and F such that

$$Adv_{\Pi}^{dae-n}(\mathcal{A}) \leqslant Adv_{\Pi}^{priv}(D) + q_R \ Adv_{\Pi}^{auth}(F)$$

where D runs in time  $\sqcup O(u_L + u_R)$  and asks  $q_L$  queries totaling  $u_L$  bits, and F runs in time  $\sqcup + O(u_L + u_R)$ , asking at most  $q_L$  left-queries and one right-query, these totaling at most  $u_l + u_R$  bits.

*Proof.* This proof is exactly the proof of [40, Proposition 8], however, instead of the modified syntax for deterministic authenticity/privacy, the original syntax [38] needs to be employed, i.e., the oracles take a third input for the IV, hence  $O(\cdot, \cdot)$  is replaced by  $O(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$  for every oracle. Both definitions restrict the adversary to not query the same IV twice.

#### B. Deduction soundness of AEAD schemes

The advantage of deduction soundness is that it is relatively easy to extend. Böhl, Cortier, and Warinschi [8] already added public datastructures, public key encryption, signatures, secret key encryption, MACs and hashes to their framework. Our contribution to this will be, to extend the framework with authenticated encryption schemes with associated data.

We will define a symbolic model  $\mathcal{M}_{AEAD}$  and a corresponding implementation  $\mathcal{I}_{AEAD}$ . Then we will show that for any symbolic model  $\mathcal{M}$  which is composable with  $\mathcal{M}_{AEAD}$  (see

Section B.4 in the full version [17] ) and implementation  $\mathcal{I}$  where  $\mathcal{I}$  is a deduction sound implementation of  $\mathcal{M}$ , it holds that the composition  $\mathcal{I} \cup \mathcal{I}_{AEAD}$  is a deduction sound implementation of  $\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_{AEAD}$  if  $\mathcal{I}$  is composable with  $\mathcal{I}_{AEAD}$ .

To achieve this, we will use the notion of DAE-N security (Definition 1) and rewrite the definition in a game-like way to fit into the syntax of our computational model.

```
Listing 1: DAE-N game
\mathsf{DAE}\,\text{-}\mathsf{N}_A^{(\mathsf{Gen},\ \mathsf{Enc},\ \mathsf{Dec})}(\eta)\colon
        \mathsf{b} \; \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \; \{0,1\}
        oracles := ∅
        on request "new oracle" do
                \begin{array}{l} \textbf{let} \ \textbf{r} \xleftarrow{\$} \left\{0,1\right\}^{\eta} \\ \textbf{let} \ \textbf{k} \ := \ \textbf{Gen}(1^{\eta}, \ \textbf{r}) \end{array}
                 oracles.add(k)
                 let ciphers_k := \emptyset
                 {\color{red}\mathsf{send}}\ \mathsf{k}\ \mathsf{to}\ A
        on request "O_k^{Enc}(n,H,m)" do
                 if k \notin oracles then
                         \mathsf{send}\ \bot\ \mathsf{to}\ A
                 else
                          if b == 0 then
                                 let c':= Enc_k(n, H, m)
                                  let c \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0,1\}^{|c'|}
                                  ciphers_k.add((c, m))
                                  \operatorname{send} c to A
                          else
                                  send \operatorname{Enc}_k(\mathsf{n},\;\mathsf{H},\;\mathsf{m}) to A
         on request "O_k^{Dec}(n,H,c)" do
                 if k ∉ oracles then
                         \operatorname{\mathsf{send}}\ \bot\ \operatorname{\mathsf{to}}\ A
                          if b == 0 then
                                  if (c, m) \in ciphers_k
                                                          for some m
                                        \operatorname{\mathsf{send}} m to A
                                          \operatorname{\mathsf{send}}\ \bot\ \operatorname{\mathsf{to}}\ A
                                  send Dec_k(n, H, m) to A
         on request "guess b'" do
                 if b == b' then
                          return 1
                 else
                          return 0
```

Intuitively, the adversary A which now plays DAE-N game still tries to distinguish whether he interacts with real oracles or with some fake oracles. Concretely, a bit b is chosen at random in the beginning of the game, which decides whether the adversary gets a response from a real oracle (if b=1) or from a fake oracle (if b=0). If the adversary is able to send a request "guess b" (and b' ==b) with a probability significantly higher than  $\frac{1}{2}$ , he can break DAE-N security of the encryption scheme. Note that we additionally added

a random input parameter r to the key generation algorithm to clarify that all oracles use a different source of randomness.

## C. Symbolic model

At first we define the symbolic model  $\mathcal{M}_{AEAD} = (\mathcal{T}_{AEAD}, \leqslant_{AEAD}, \Sigma_{AEAD}, \mathcal{D}_{AEAD})$ : Signature  $\Sigma_{AEAD}$ ::

$$\begin{aligned} k_x : \tau_{AEAD}^{k_x} \\ con_S : \top &\to \tau_{AEAD}^{n} \\ E_x : \tau_{AEAD}^{k_x} &\times \tau_{AEAD}^{n} \times \top \times \top &\to \tau_{AEAD}^{cipher} \end{aligned}$$

are the featured function symbols, with  $\mathbf{x} \in \{h,c\}$  and S being a set of possible nonces.

The randomized function  $k_h$  returns honest keys while  $k_c$  returns corrupted keys.

The deterministic function  $con_S$  maps an arbitrary input value to a nonce from the set S.

The deterministic function  $E_h$  returns an honest cyphertext using an honest key, a nonce, and two additional arbitrary values as input.

The only difference of  $E_c$  to  $E_h$  is that  $E_c$  uses some corrupted key as input and returns a corrupted cyphertext.

*Set of types*  $\mathcal{T}_{AEAD}$ :

$$\mathcal{T}_{AEAD} = \{\top, \tau_{AEAD}^{k_x}, \tau_{AEAD}^n, \tau_{AEAD}^{cipher}, \tau_{AEAD}^{cipher}\}$$

Sub type relation  $\leq_{AEAD}$ : All types introduced above are direct sub types of the base type  $\top$ .

Deduction System  $\mathcal{D}_{AEAD}$ ::

$$\frac{k_x^l()\ con_S(n)\ H\ m}{E_x(\ k_x^l(),con_S(n),H,m)} \quad \frac{E_x(\ k_x^l(),con_S(n),H,m)}{con_S(n)}$$

$$\frac{E_x(\begin{array}{c}k_x^l(),con_S(n),H,m)\\H\end{array}}{H} \quad \frac{E_c(\begin{array}{c}k_c^l(),con_S(n),H,m)\\m\end{array}}$$

# D. Implementation

In Appendix E in the full version [17], we provide a concrete implementation  $\mathcal{I}_{AEAD} = (M_{AEAD}, [\cdot]]_{AEAD}, len_{AEAD}, open_{AEAD}, valid_{AEAD})$  for authenticated encryption schemes with associated data. The implementation uses some DAE-N secure authenticated secret key encryption scheme  $\Pi_{DAEN} = (DAEN.Gen, DAEN.Enc, DAEN.Dec)$ .  $\Pi_{DAEN}$  additionally is collision free by construction since a collision would break the authenticity of the encryption scheme. Due to lack of space, we will only give the validity predicate here. It is defined on a fixed set of bitstrings  $S' \subset \{0,1\}^*$ , which we will later require to correspond to a specified set of terms used to derive IVs, and an arbitrary injective and efficiently computable function  $\iota: S' \to [\![\tau_{AEAD}^{N}]\!]$ .

The valid<sub>AEAD</sub> predicate: The valid<sub>AEAD</sub> predicate is dependent on a set of terms S that specifies which terms can be turned into IVs by  $\iota$ . As the IV space is typically finite (e.g. for GCM mode), and  $\iota$  is injective, S needs to be restricted, too. Our result is parametric in S, S' and  $\iota$ . We may define S as a subset of the set of terms that is defined by

composition, e.g., to derive S from a transparent model. We therefore fix some model  $\mathcal{M}=(\mathcal{T},\leqslant,\Sigma,D)$  and its deduction sound implementation  $\mathcal{I}$  to compose with, such that  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{I}$  are composable with  $\mathcal{M}_{AEAD}$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{AEAD}$  regarding the requirements from Section B.4 in the full version [17]. We then choose  $S \subset \operatorname{Terms}(\Sigma \cup \Sigma_{AEAD}, \mathcal{T} \cup \mathcal{T}_{AEAD}, \leqslant \cup \leqslant_{AEAD})$  such that any bitstring representation for any term  $t \in S$  is in S'.

Formally, for any A and any a parameterized transparent symbolic model  $\mathcal{M}_{tran}(\nu)$  with a corresponding parameterized implementation  $\mathcal{I}_{tran}(\nu)$  such that  $\mathcal{M}_{tran}(\nu)$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{tran}(\nu)$  are composable with  $\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_{AEAD}$  and  $\mathcal{I} \cup \mathcal{I}_{AEAD}$  regarding the requirements from Section B.4 in the full version [17] for  $\nu$  being send by the adversary A, we require that for the library L at any moment in any instance of the deduction soundness game

$$DS_{(\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_{AEAD}) \cup \mathcal{M}_{tran}(\nu), (\mathcal{I} \cup \mathcal{I}_{AEAD}) \cup \mathcal{I}_{tran}(\nu)}(\eta)$$

it holds that  $\forall s'. L[\![s']\!] \in S \iff s' \in S'.$ 

For an appropriately chosen S, we can now define  $valid_{AEAD}$  as follows:

- 1) We demand that the trace  $\mathbb{T}$  starts with exactly one init query "init T,H" where at least one of them could be an empty list.
- 2) The adversary is not allowed to use  $E_x$  in the the init query.
- 3) i) For the query "init T, H" it should hold that:
  - \* the function symbol  $k_c$  should only occur in a term  $k_c^l() \in T$ .
  - \* the function symbol  $k_h$  should only occur in a term  $k_h^l() \in H$ .
  - ii) For each label l of  $k_x^l$ , l should be unique in  $T \cup H$ .
- iii) Whenever  $k_x^l(\cdot)$  occurs in a generate query,  $k_x^l(\cdot)$  must have occurred in the init query before.
- iv) Except generation,  $k_x^l()$  should only occur in  $E_x$  as its first argument.

This rules guarantee that all keys are generated in the init query.

4) No tuple of  $(con_S(n), H, m)$  occurs twice in some trace  $\mathbb{T}$ . In other words, we demand that for every term  $E_x(k_x^l(), con_S(n), H, m) \pmod{(con_S(n), H, m)}$  is different in each "init T, H", "generate t" or "sgenerate t" queries. (For all terms  $E_x(k_x^l(), con_S(n), H, m)$ ,  $E_x(k_x^l(), con_S(n'), H', m') \in \mathbb{T}$  it has to hold that

$$(con_S(n), H, m) \neq (con_S(n'), H', m').$$

5) For each term  $con_S(n)$ ,  $n \in S$ .

These rules guarantee that all keys which may be used by the adversary are generated in the init query. They also guarantee that the adversary has to decide which keys are corrupted and which keys are honest during initialization, because we only allow static corruption of keys. Furthermore, to prevent key cycles, keys are only allowed to be used for encryption and decryption. At last, the rules guarantee the freshness of the used nonces.

For all parse and generate requests of the adversary on the trace  $\mathbb T$  all valid $_{AEAD}$  conditions must be fulfilled.