

# **Terrorist Fraud resistant nanosecond-scale Distance Bounding**

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**Terrorist fraud resilient  
distance Bounding  
with Analog components**

## Work in progress.



Joint work with  
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# Outline

- Types of relay attack
- Distance bounding
  - Swiss Knife
- Analog hardware
  - challenge reflection
  - channel selection
  - limitations
- New scheme
  - modified analog circuit
  - adapted Swiss Knife

# Why distance bounding?

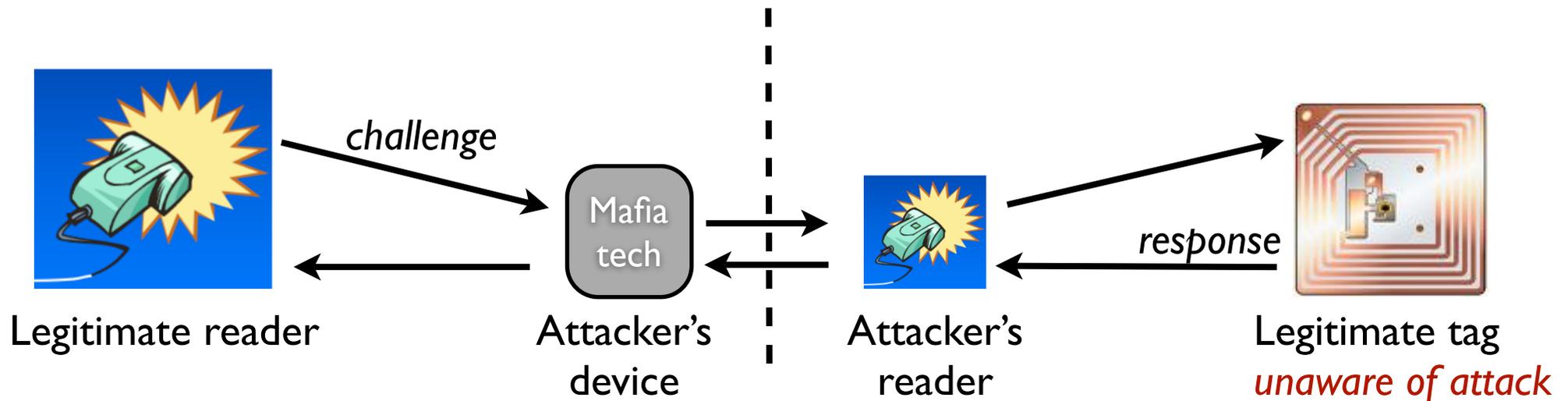
Authentication alone may not be sufficient

- physical access to buildings etc.
  - watch out for relay attack

Two main types of attack

- *Mafia Fraud*
- *Terrorist Fraud*

# Relay attacks: Mafia Fraud

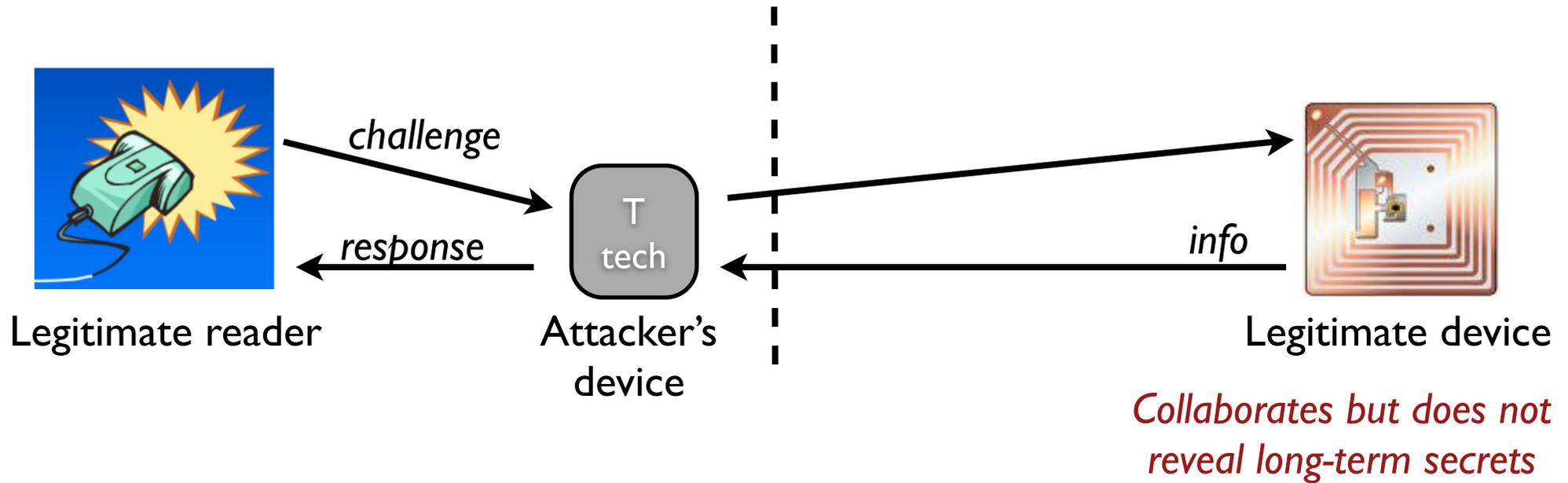


*Authentication without distance checking*

- *Correct response*
- *from legitimate tag*
- *... but attacker gets access!*

Famous urban myth: Mig-in-the-middle attack

# Relay attacks: Terrorist Fraud



*More powerful than Mafia fraud:*

- legit device does not have to be tricked*
- device can provide more info than just response*

# Countermeasures

## What to do against relay attacks?

- Ask the prover where he is
    - but he could be lying
  - Signal strength
    - can be spoofed
  - Measure the distance to the prover
    - “distance bounding”
    - nothing travels faster than light  $c = 2.99792458 \cdot 10^8$  m/s
    - infer distance from traveling time of signal
- 300 meters per microsecond

# Distance bounding

## Demand response within time $t_{\max}$

- travel time to distance  $x_{\max}$  and back
- allow some “slack” time for computations
- dist. measurement & demonstration of knowledge at the same time

$$t_{\max} = 2 \frac{x_{\max}}{c} + t_{\text{slack}}$$

$$x_{\text{spoofable}} = \frac{1}{2} c t_{\max} = x_{\max} + \frac{1}{2} c t_{\text{slack}}$$

*has to be very small*

# Distance bounding: practical problems

$t_{\text{slack}}$  must be very small

- no (heavy) computations
  - addition lasts too long
  - *but still cryptographic challenge-response protocol !*
- delays inside prover device become problematic
  - missed cycles, bus speed, etc
- no error correction
  - live with transmission errors

# Solving the practical problems

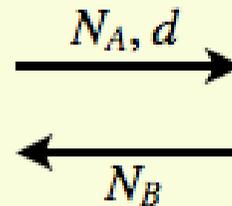
- no (heavy) computations
  - split protocol into slow and quick phase
  - prover creates LUT in slow crypto phase
  - verifier: unpredictable selection from LUT in quick phase
- delays inside prover
  - LUT sitting right “next to” emitter
- no error correction
  - decide afterwards if there were transmission errors

# Swiss Knife protocol (Kim et al. 2008)

Reader has DB  $\{ID, x\}$

Tag (ID,  $x$ )

Random  $N_A$ ;  
random  $d$  (Hamm.weight  $m$ )



Random  $N_B$

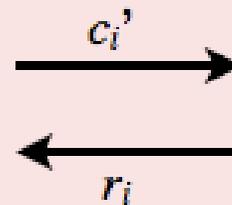
$Z^0 = f_x(C_B, N_B)$ ;  $Z^1 = Z^0 \oplus x$ ;

For  $i = 1$  to  $m$  {  $j =$  index of next 1 in  $d$ ;  
 $R^0_i = Z^0_j$ ;  $R^1_i = Z^1_j$  }

Rapid bit exchange

For  $i = 1$  to  $m$

Random bit  $c_i$ ; start clock



$r_i = \begin{cases} R^0_i & \text{if } c_i' = 0 \\ R^1_i & \text{if } c_i' = 1 \end{cases}$

Stop clock; store  $\Delta t_i$

Find matching (ID,  $x$ ) in DB;  
compute  $R^0, R^1$ ;

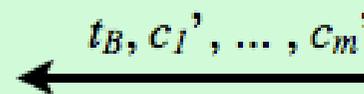
$err_c = \#\{i: c_i' \neq c_i\}$ ;

$err_r = \#\{i: c_i' = c_i \wedge r_i \neq R^{c_i'}\}$ ;

$err_t = \#\{i: c_i' = c_i \wedge \Delta t_i > \Delta t_{max}\}$ ;

if  $err_c + err_r + err_t \geq T$  reject;

$t_A = f_x(N_B)$



$t_B = f_x(c_1', \dots, c_m', ID, N_A, N_B)$



Check  $t_A$

# Still too slow!

State of the art hardware:

- analog → digital conversion: 50 ns
- all conversion steps together: 170 ns  
(26 meters)

Only analog processing is fast enough!

# Analog challenge-response

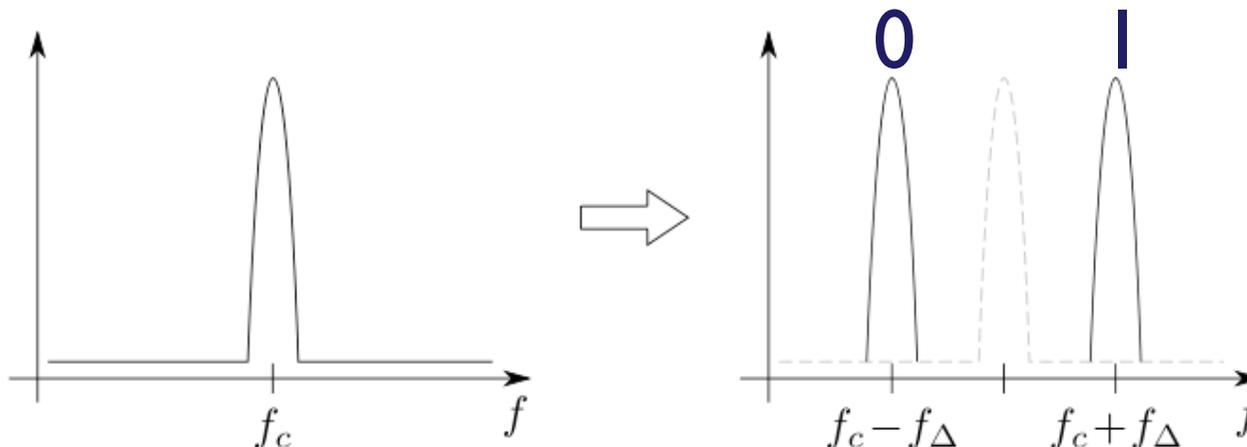
Rasmussen & Čapkun 2010

- Brands-Chaum with analog response.
- **CRCS**: *Challenge Reflection with Channel Selection*.

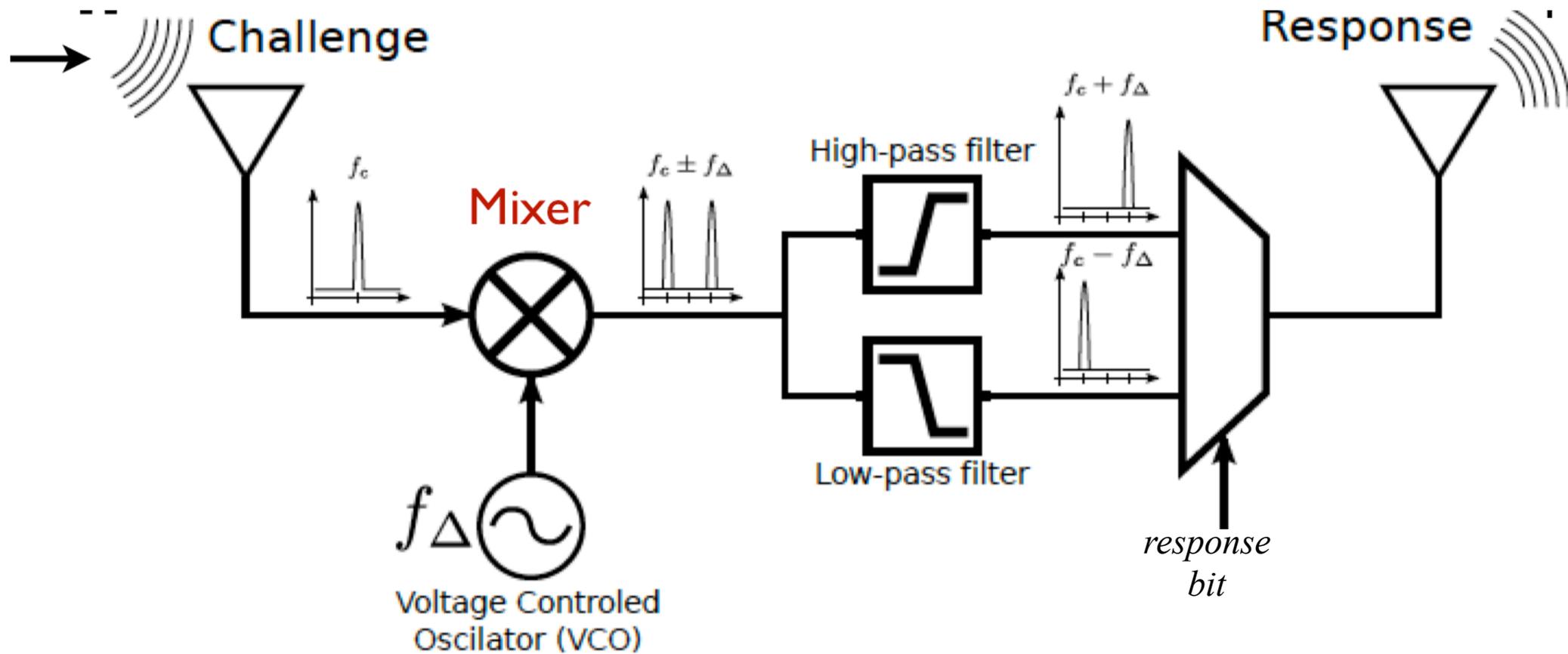
Challenge: unpredictable signal  $c(t)$  at frequency  $f_c$



Response: reflection of  $c(t)$  at shifted frequency



# Challenge Reflection with Channel Selection



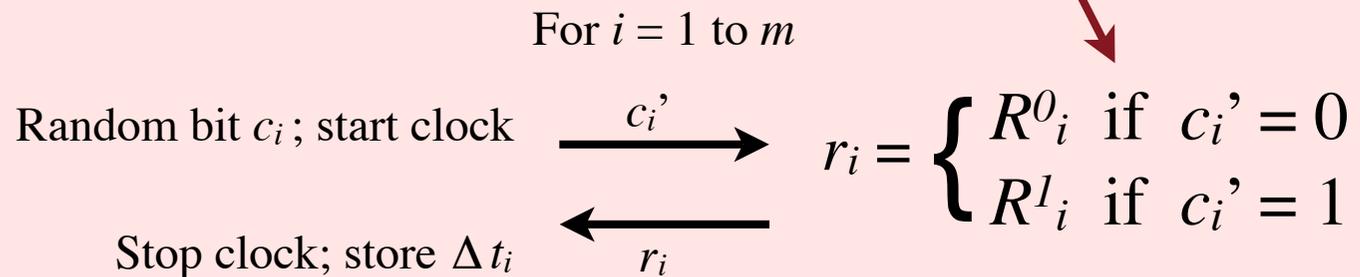
**< 1 nanosecond !**

# Security of Rasmussen-Čapkun

- [Same as Brands-Chaum]
- Secure against Mafia Fraud
- NOT against Terrorist Fraud
  - need AD conversion for challenge interpretation

Swiss  
Knife

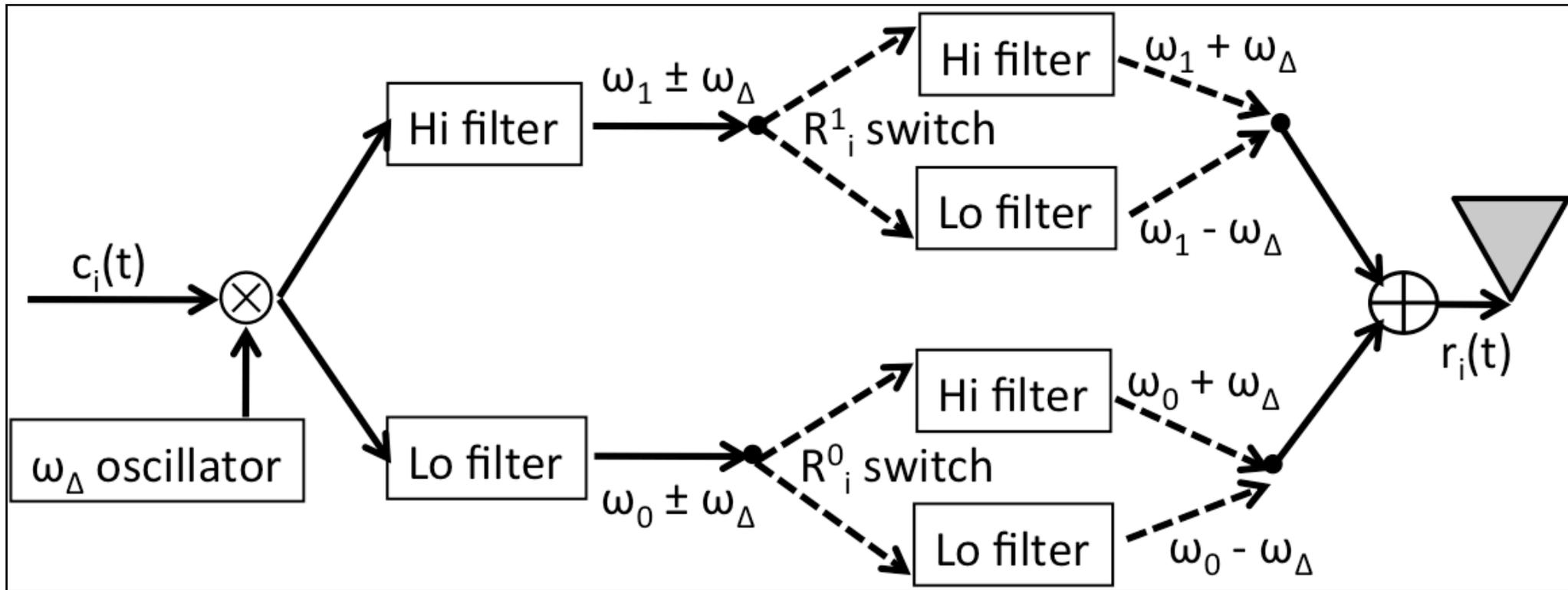
Rapid bit exchange



# Generalized CRCs

Doing the register choice with analog hardware

- Challenge  $c(t)$  at freq  $\omega_0$  or  $\omega_1$ .
- Two CRCs circuits in parallel.



*Danger: malicious verifier may read out both registers.*

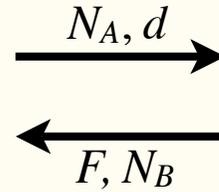
# Protocol adaptation

- Problem: readout of *both* registers
  - attacker learns the secret
  - detection takes time
  - need to respond immediately
- Solution: masking
  - commit to random mask
  - do rapid part with masked registers
  - if no cheating, then open commitment

Verifier has DB  $\{ID, x\}$

Prover (ID,  $x$ )

Random  $N_A$ ;  
random  $d$  (Hamm.weight  $m$ )



Random  $M^0, M^1, N_B$ ;  $F = f_x(M^0, M^1)$

$Z^0 = f_x(C_B, N_B)$ ;  $Z^1 = Z^0 \oplus x$ ;

For  $i = 1$  to  $m$  {  $j = \text{index of next 1 in } d$ ;

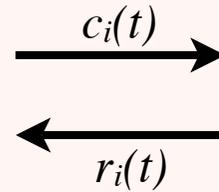
$R^0_i = Z^0_j$ ;  $R^1_i = Z^1_j$  }

$T^0 = R^0 \oplus M^0$ ;  $T^1 = R^1 \oplus M^1$

Rapid bit exchange  
using CRCs

Random bit  $b_i$ ;  
Random signal  $c_i(t)$   
at freq.  $\omega_{b_i}$

For  $i = 1$  to  $m$



Record  $r_i(t)$  and delays  $\Delta t_i$

Circuit reflects signal at  
freq.  $\omega_{b_i} + (2 T^{b_i} - 1) \omega_\Delta$

Slow inter-  
pretation of  $b'_i$ .

Find matching (ID,  $x$ ) in DB;

Check if  $F = f_x(M^0, M^1)$ ;

Compute  $T^0, T^1$ ;

$\text{err}_b = \#\{i: b'_i \neq b_i\}$ ;

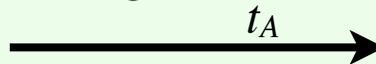
$\text{err}_f = \#\{i: b'_i = b_i \wedge r_i \text{ has wrong freq.}\}$ ;

$\text{err}_r = \#\{i: b'_i = b_i \wedge r_i \text{ differs too much from } c_i\}$ ;

$\text{err}_t = \#\{i: b'_i = b_i \wedge \Delta t_i > \Delta t_{\max}\}$ ;

Reject if  $\text{err}_b + \text{err}_f + \text{err}_r + \text{err}_t$  too large;

$t_A = f_x(N_B)$



Proceed only if no cheating detected;

$t_B = f_x(b'_1, \dots, b'_m, ID, M^0, M^1, N_A, N_B)$

Check  $t_A$

# Summary

- Distance bounding: absurd timing requirements
- Analog challenge-response, CRCs
  - secure against Mafia Fraud, but not Terrorist Fraud
- Generalized CRCs and extra masking step
  - ➔ nanosecond-scale responses
  - ➔ security against Terrorist Fraud
    - not restricted to Swiss Knife
- Embarrassingly trivial-looking