

Just a little of that human touch

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CRYPTO'13 rump session post-Snowden advisory

Using full-disk encryption
Email with PGP
Elliptic curves in your browser for forward secrecy

Hardware tokens for crypto
Using bitcoins to pay

Everybody use **CRYPTO**
Screw the NSA



Earlier: acoustic cryptanalysis

RSA 4096-bit key extraction using microphones



Sound propagation is limited in range and frequency.
What other channels are out there?

Power? Electromagnetic?

- PCs:
 - Multi-GHz clockrate
 - Many electrically noisy electronics
 - Limited physical access
- Full-bandwidth attacks are hard
- **Low-bandwidth attacks work!**
But unwieldy:
 - **Power analysis**
requires disconnecting the target from its power supply
 - **Electromagnetic analysis**
has short range, fiddly antenna placement



Ground-potential analysis

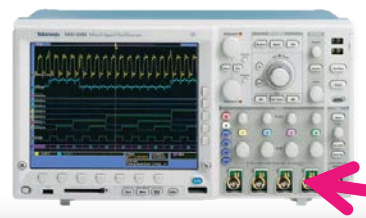
- **Attenuating EMI emanations**
“Unwanted currents or electromagnetic fields?
Dump them to the circuit ground!”
(Bypass capacitors, RF shields, ...)
- Device is grounded, but its “ground” potential fluctuates relative to the mains earth ground.



affects Computation
connected to device ground
connected to conductive chassis
shielded cables



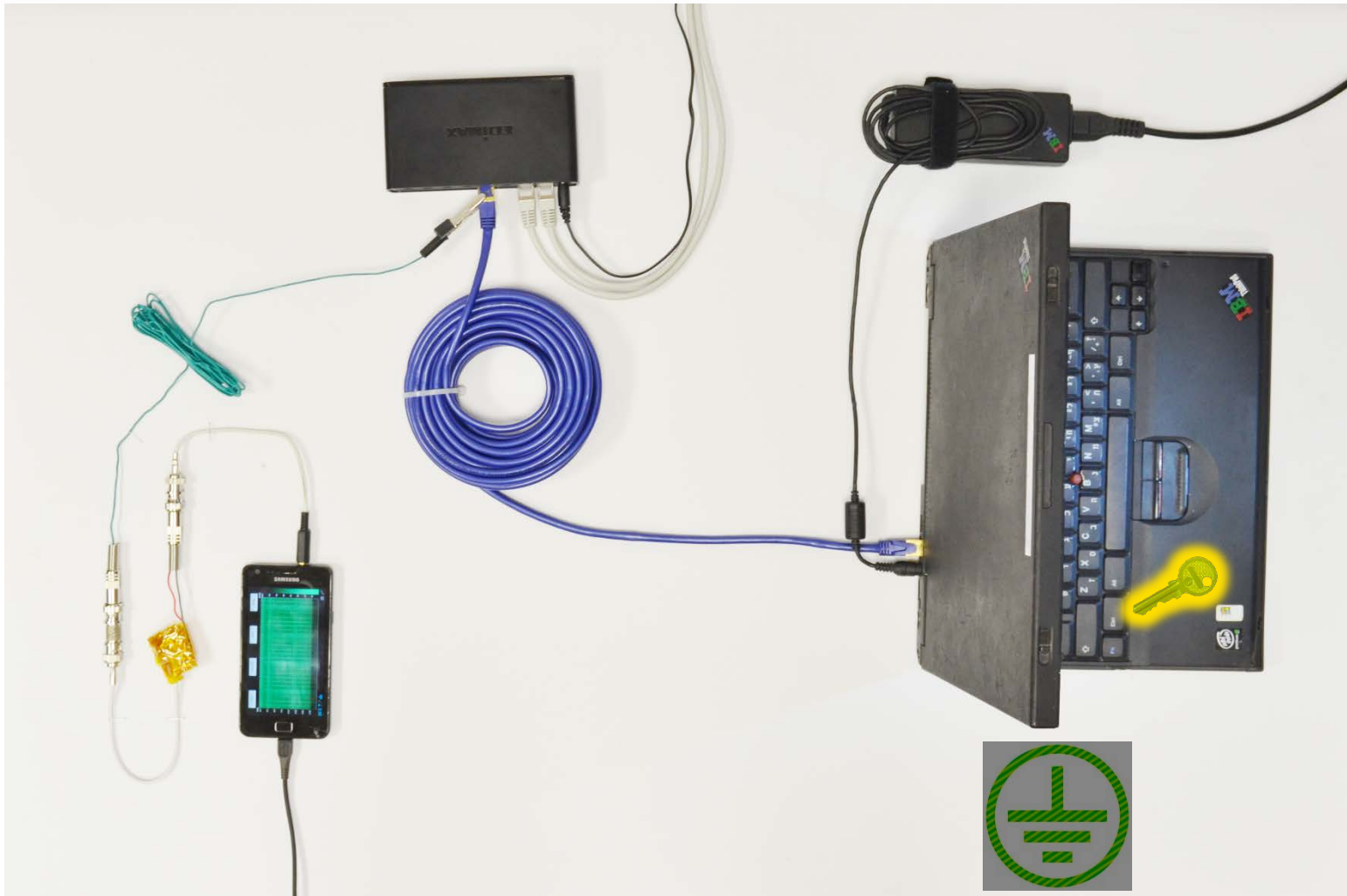
Even when no data, or port is turned off.



Live demo

- Meanwhile, on the other side of the VGA cable...
- Human touch key-extraction
- Luchtime attack
- Equipment

Key extraction on far side of Ethernet cable using a mobile phone



www.tau.ac.il/~tromer/handsoff

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RSA, ElGamal key extraction from GnuPG in a few seconds.



Get Your Hands Off My Laptop: Physical Side-Channel Key-Extraction Attacks on PCs (extended version)

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Abstract

We demonstrate physical side-channel attacks on a popular software implementation of RSA and ElGamal, running on laptop computers. Our attacks use novel side channels, based on the observation that the “ground” electric potential, in many computers, fluctuates in a computation-dependent way. An attacker can measure this signal by touching exposed metal on the computer’s chassis with a plain wire, or even with a bare hand. The signal can also be measured at the remote end of Ethernet, VC

... basis and signal processing, we have extracted 4096-bit RSA keys and ... channels, as well as via power analysis ... various noise sources