Custos: Practical Tamper-Evident Auditing of Operating Systems Using Trusted Execution

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ILLINOIS

Logs Are Useful

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- 75% of incident response specialists said logs are the most valuable artifact during an investigation.[1]

[1] Carbon Black Quarterly Incident Response Threat Report April 2019

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LOGGLY
logentries
LogRhythm
splunk
Retrace
logz.io
syslog-ng
logstash
tripwire
Sysdig
Logscape
LOGMATIC.IO

[1] Carbon Black Quarterly Incident Response Threat Report April 2019

CAPEC-268: Audit Log Manipulation

Attack Pattern ID: 268
Abstraction: Standard

Presentation Filter: Complete

Description

The attacker injects, manipulates, deletes, or forges malicious log entries into the log file, in an attempt to mislead an audit of the log file or cover tracks of an attack.

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Hackers are increasingly destroying logs to hide attacks

According to a new report, 72 percent of incident response specialists have came across hacks where attackers have destroyed logs to hide their tracks.

By Catalin Cimpanu for Zero Day | November 2, 2018 -- 16:36 GMT (09:36 PDT) | Topic: Security

Attack Model

Attack pattern:

1. Initial Access
2. Establish Foothold
3. Download Exploit
4. Privilege Escalation
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If the attacker does not tamper with them, we can detect the attack.

If the attacker tampers with them, we can't detect the attack.

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Central Server?

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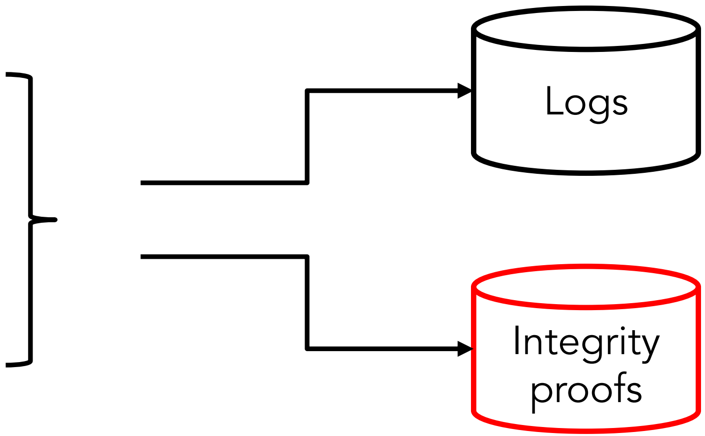

Design Overview

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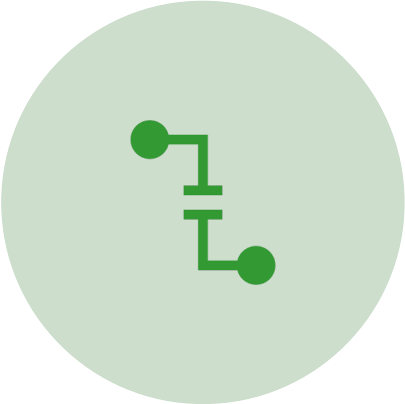
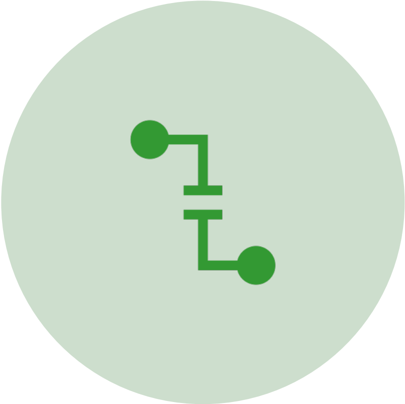


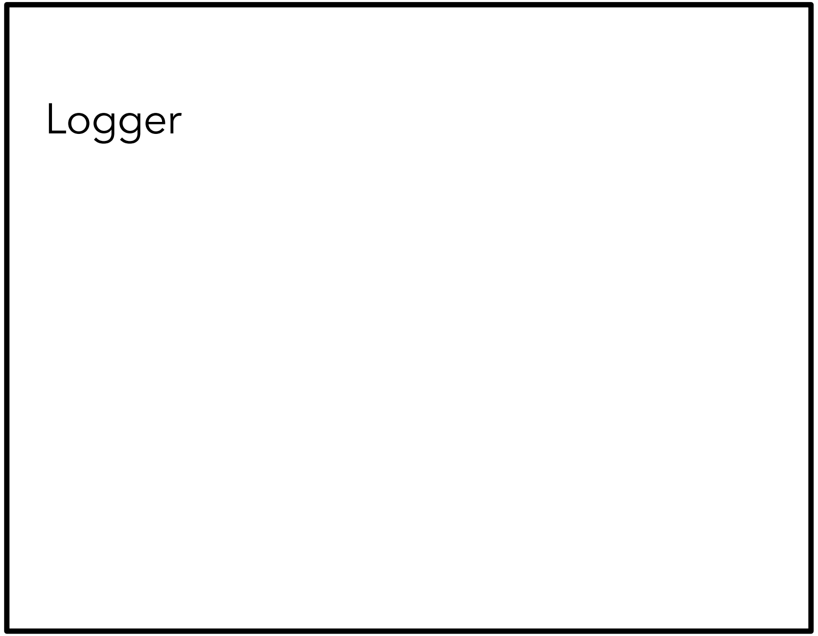
1) TAMPER-EVIDENT LOGGING

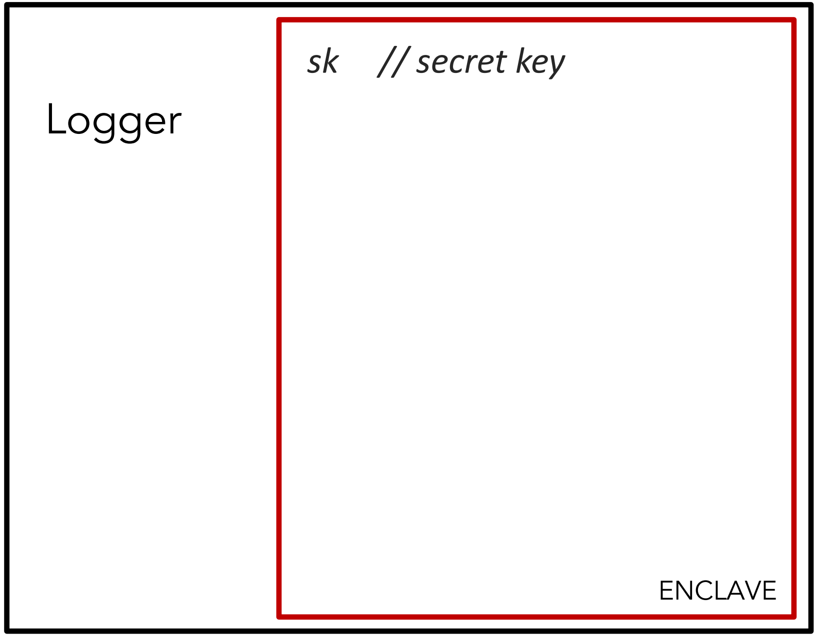
Design Overview



1) TAMPER-EVIDENT LOGGING

2) AUDITING


Logger


Logger
sk // secret key
ENCLAVE

$$\sigma = Sig_{sk}(Hash(m_1 || \ldots || m_h || c))$$

Logger

sk // *secret key*
c // *counter*
H // *current hash*

Logging:

H.Update(m_i)

ENCLAVE

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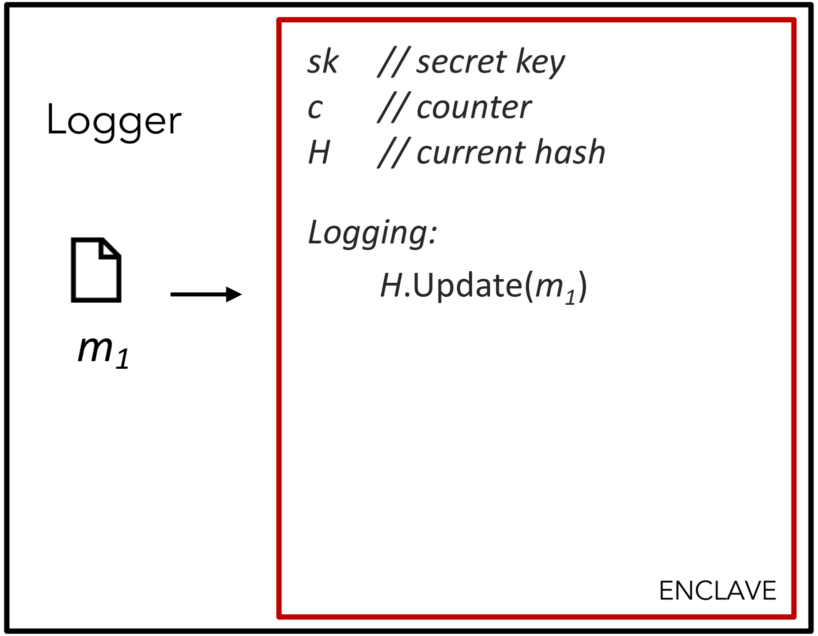

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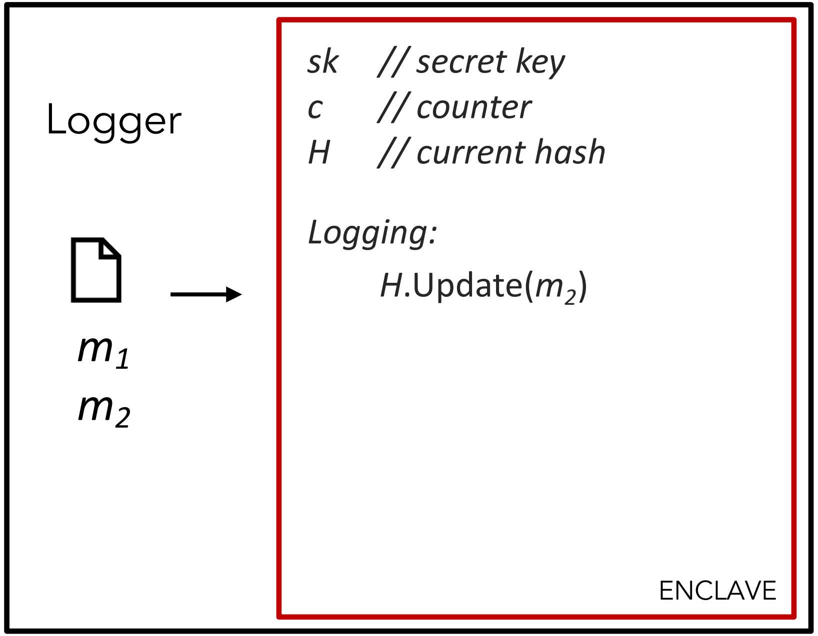

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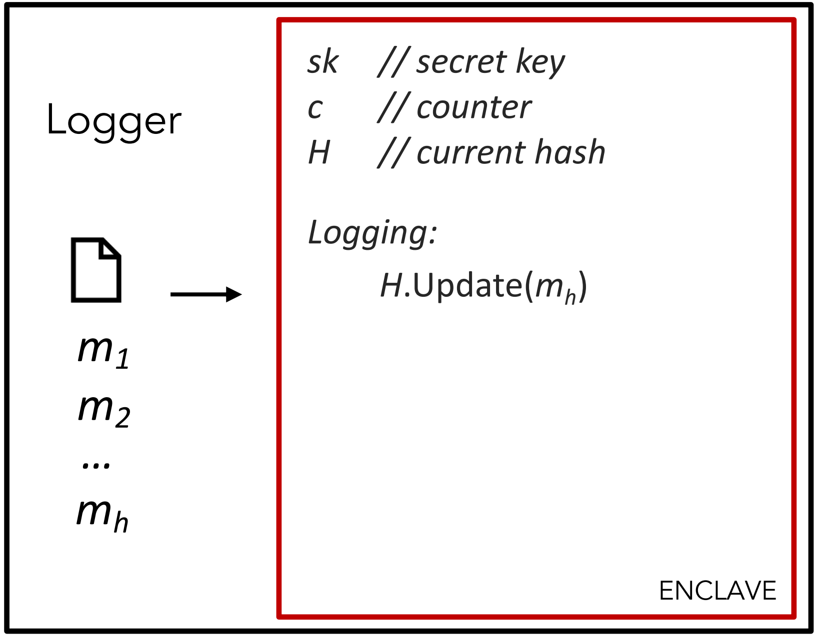

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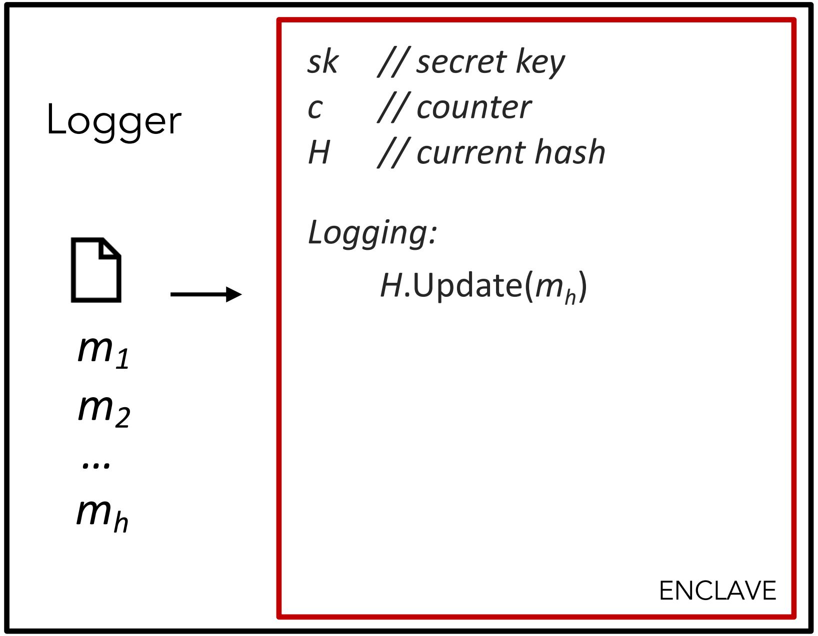

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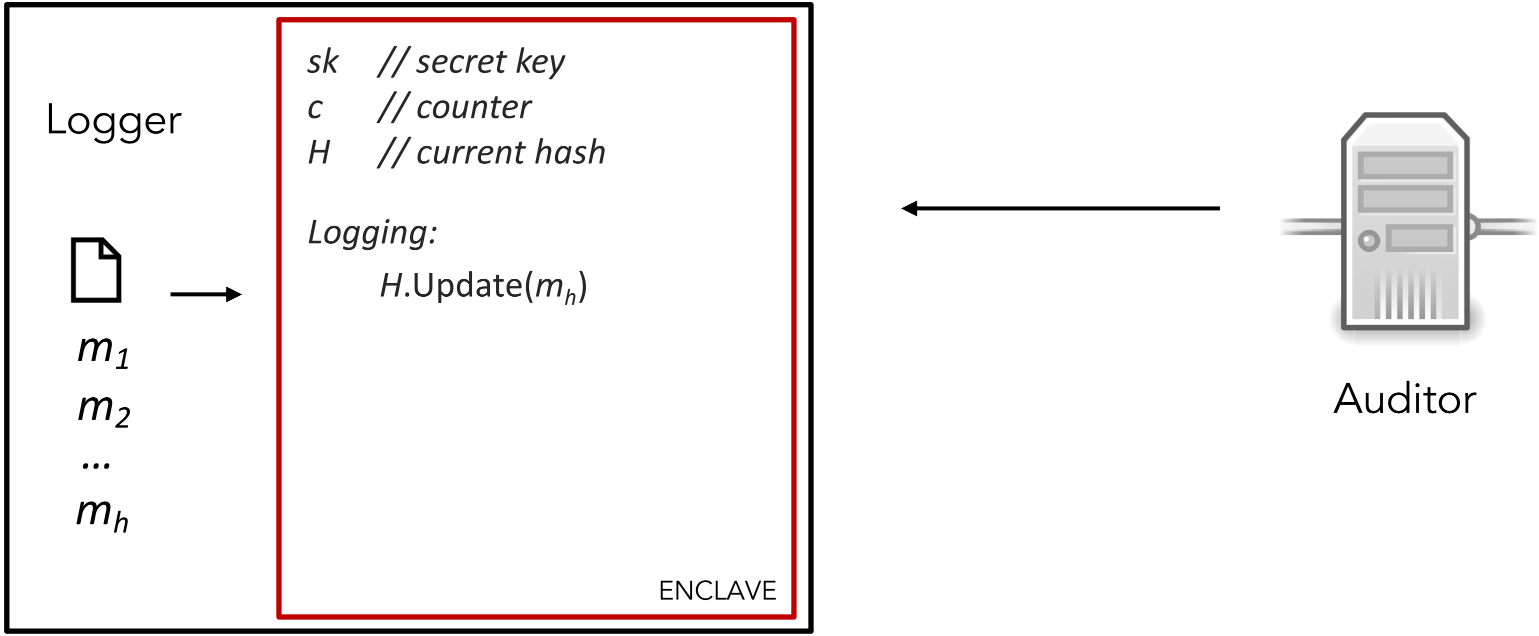

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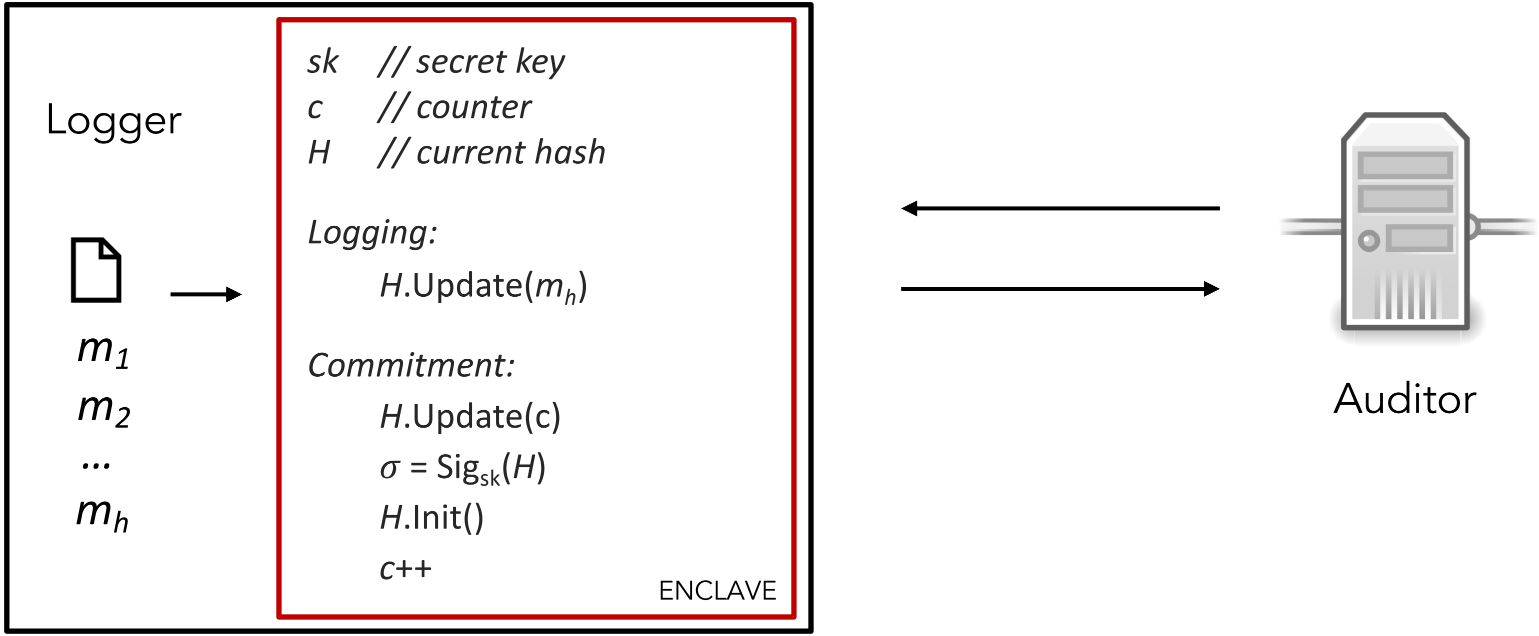

Auditing

1) CENTRALIZED AUDITING

Auditing

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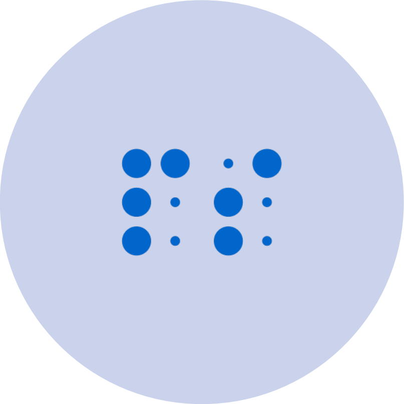
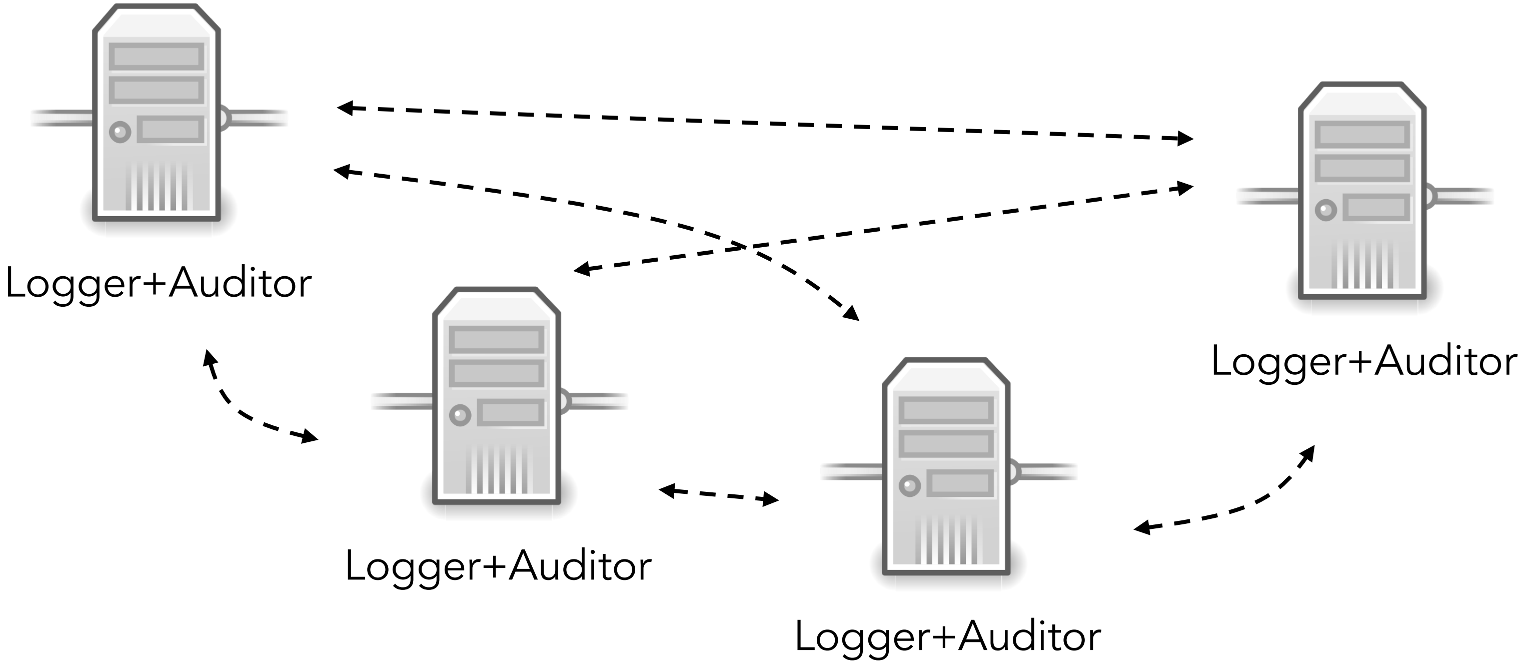
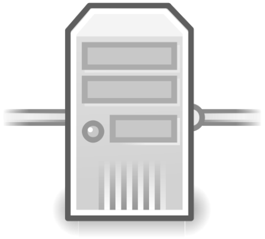


2) DECENTRALIZED AUDITING

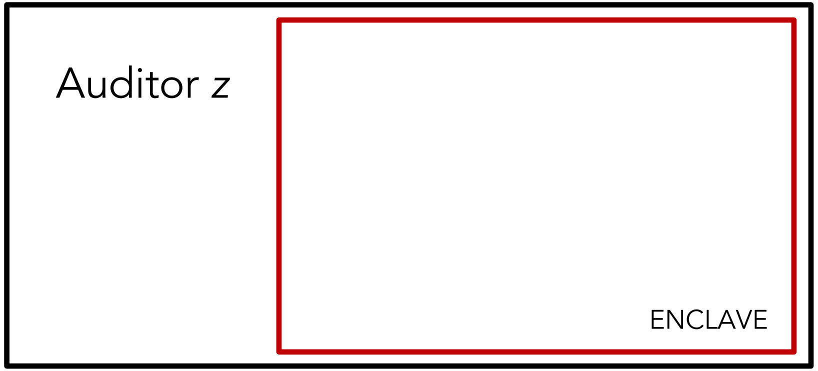
Decentralized Auditing

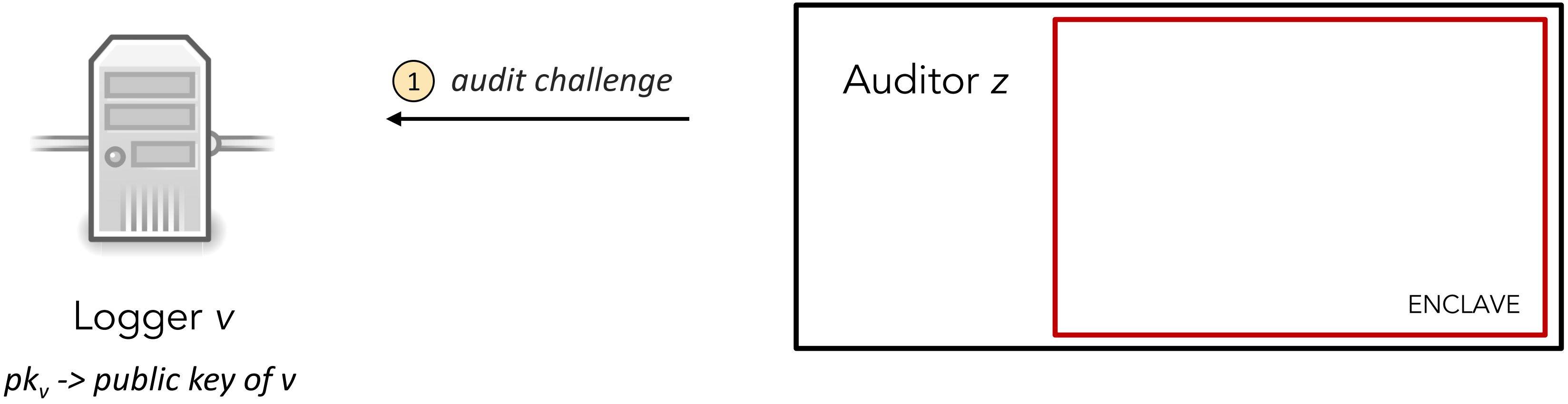




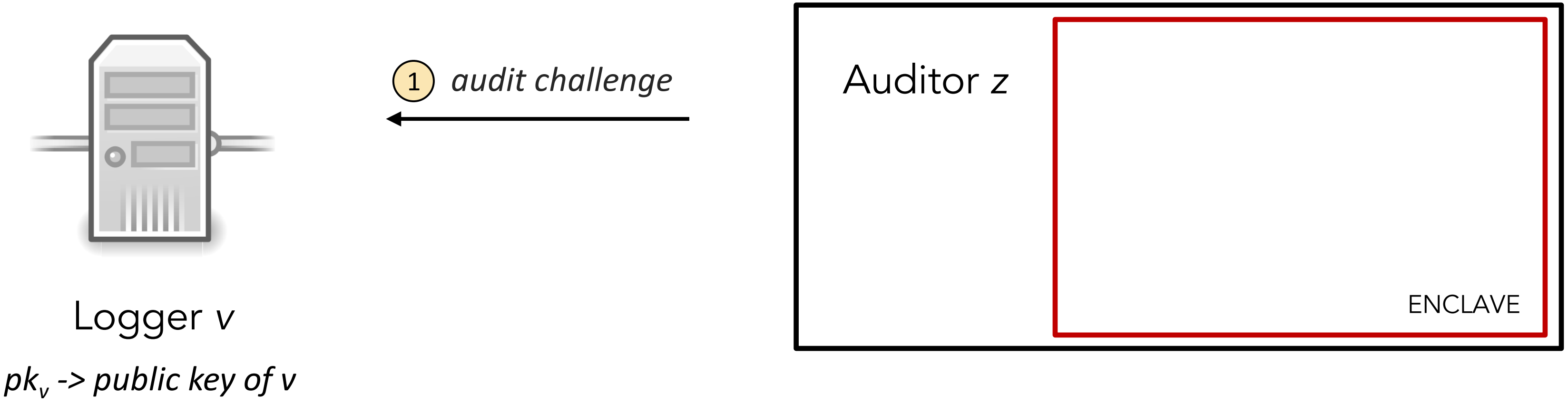
Logger *v*

pk_v -> public key of v




1 audit challenge
Auditor z
ENCLAVE
Logger v
pk_v -> public key of v

$$\sigma = Sig_{sk_v}(Hash(m_1 || \dots || m_h || c))$$



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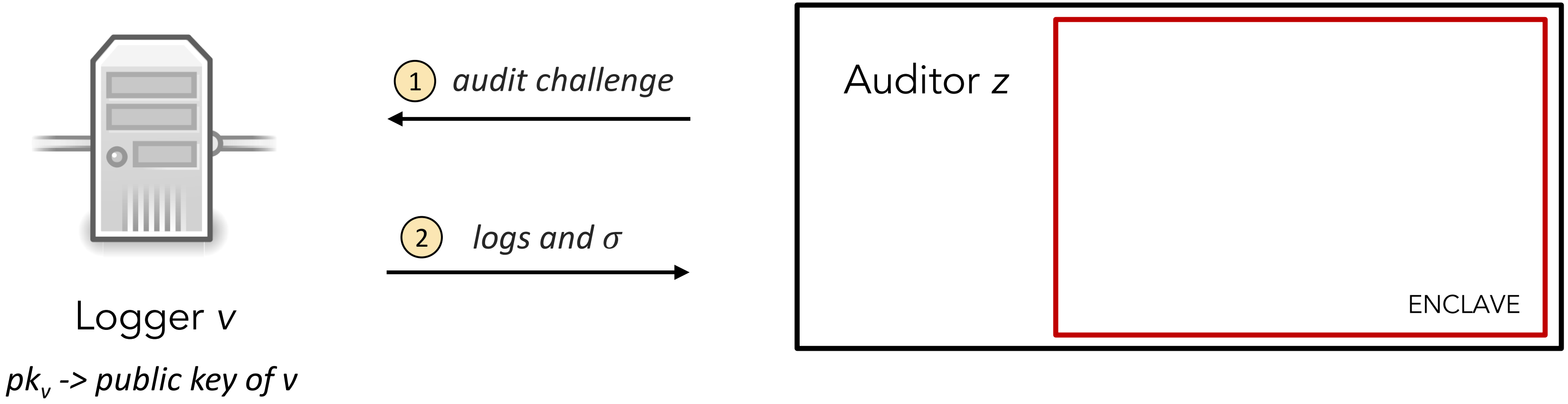

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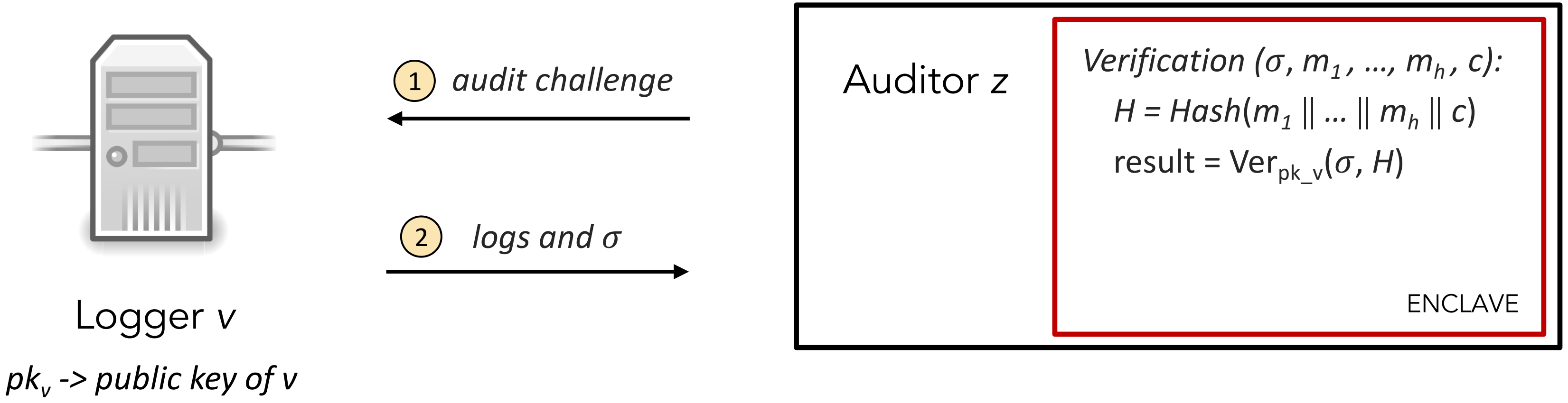


Security Analysis

Security Analysis

Logger v

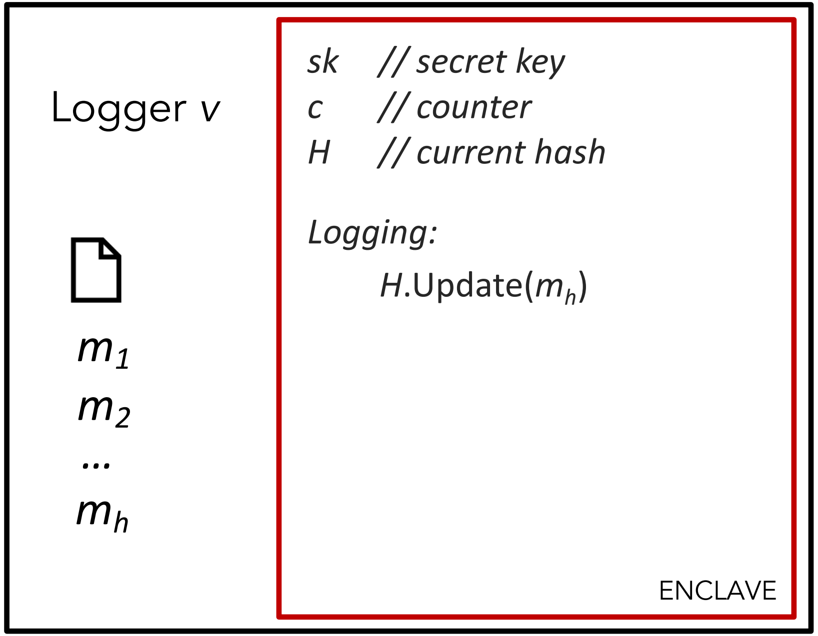
sk // *secret key*
c // *counter*
H // *current hash*

Logging:

H.Update(m_i)

ENCLAVE

Security Analysis



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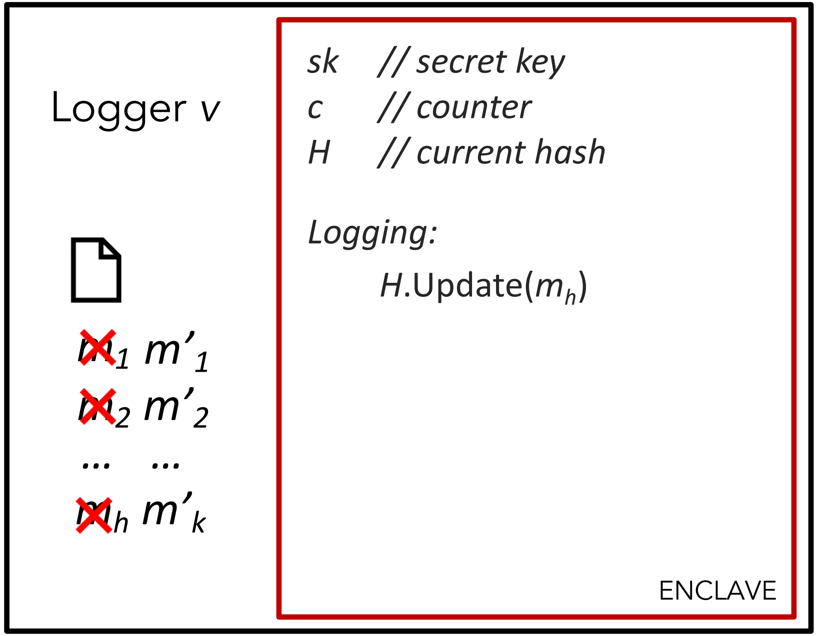

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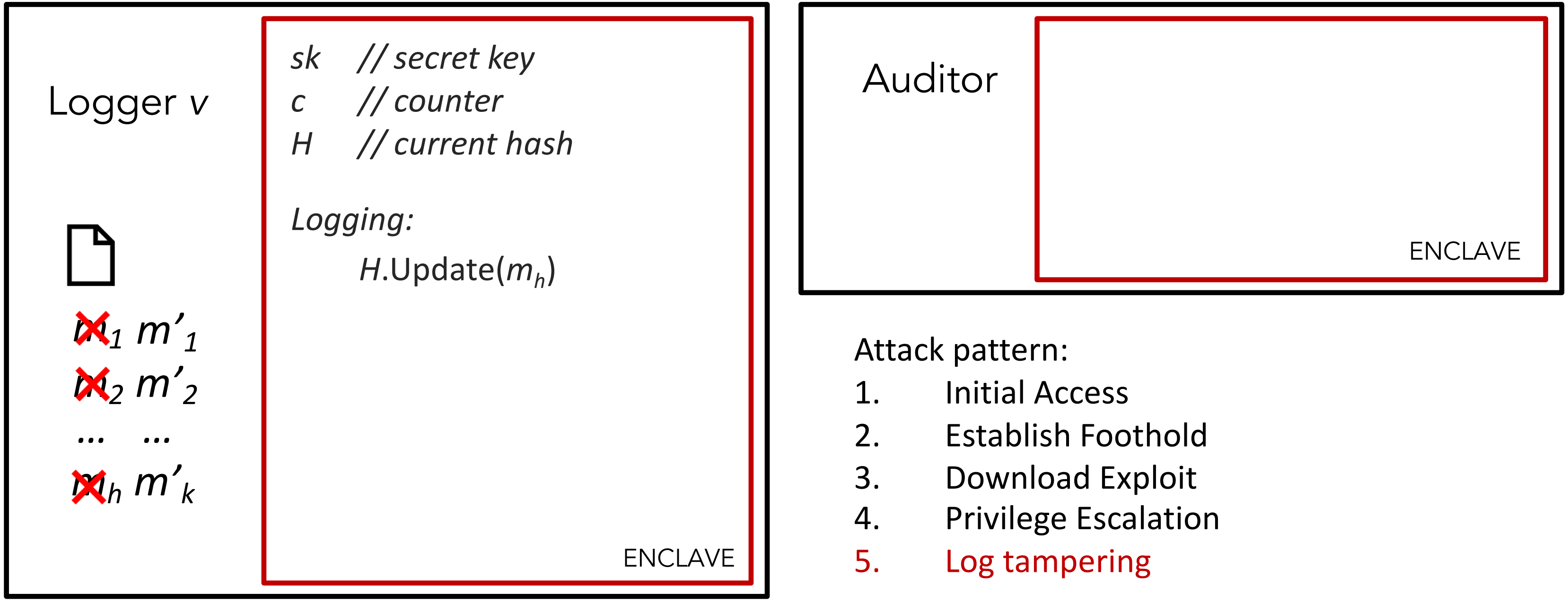

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~~m_1~~ m'_1
~~m_2~~ m'_2
… …
~~m_h~~ m'_k

sk // secret key
c // counter
H // current hash

Logging:

H.Update(m_h)

Commitment:

H.Update(c)
σ = Sig$_{sk}$(H)
H.Init()
c++

ENCLAVE

Auditor

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ENCLAVE

Auditor

Verification $(\sigma, m'_1, \ldots, m'_k, c)$:

$H = Hash(m'_1 \,||\, \ldots \,||\, m'_k \,||\, c)$
result = $\mathrm{Ver}_{pk\_v}(\sigma, H)$

ENCLAVE

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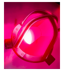

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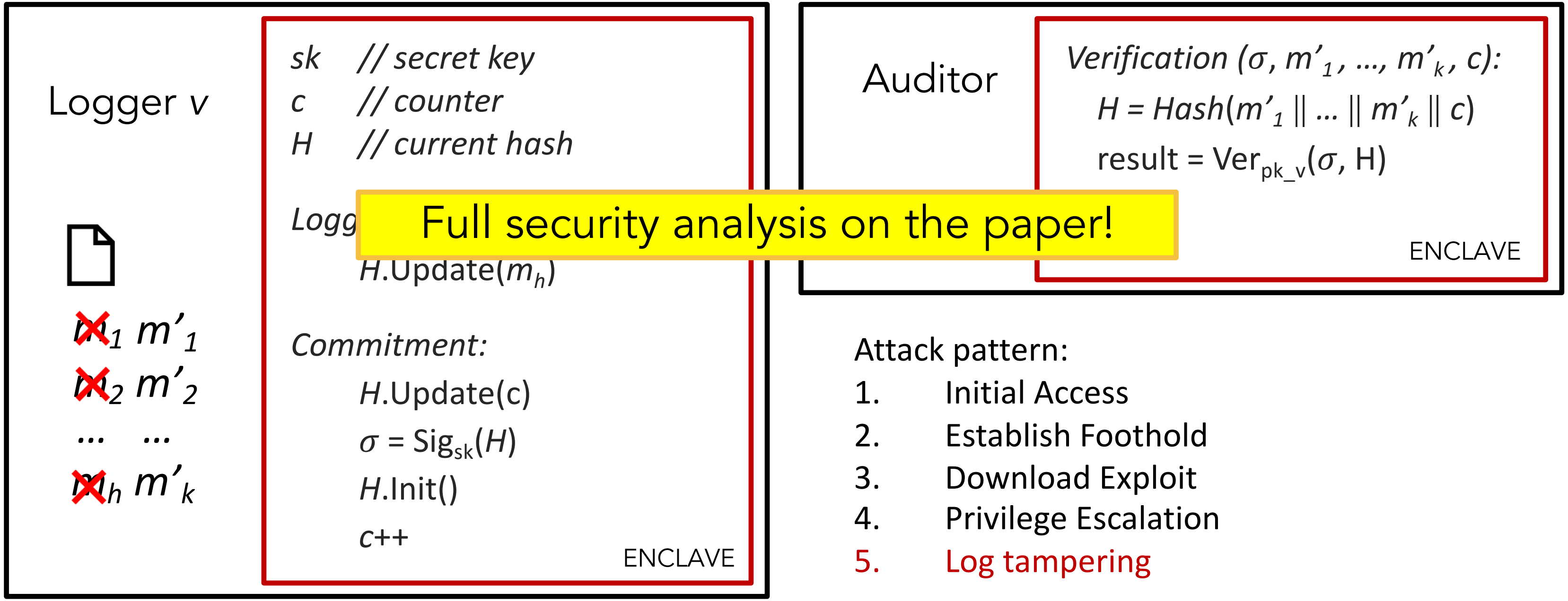

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Microbenchmarks

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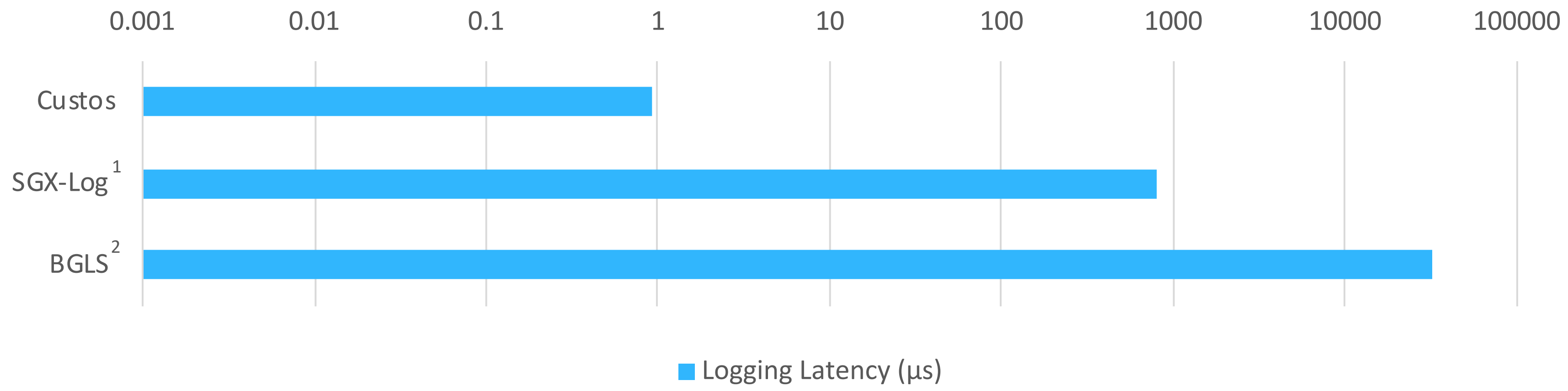

[1] Karande et al. ”SGX-log: Securing System Logs With SGX." ASIACCS 2017.
[2] Hartung et al. “Practical and Robust Secure Logging from Fault-Tolerant Sequential Aggregate Signatures”, ProvSec 2017

Application Benchmarks

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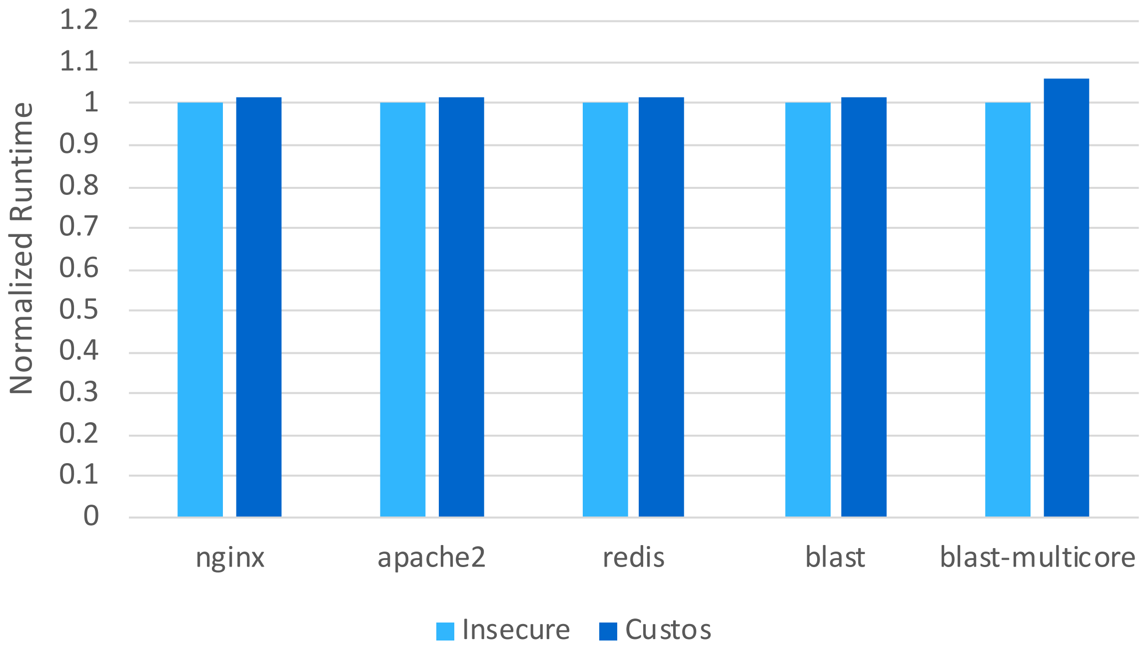

Realistic Case Study

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- Deploy Custos on 100 nodes.

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- Replay attack from DARPA Transparent Computing engagement:
  - Professional red-team emulating a nation state attacker.

10:52

1. Failed Compromise Attempt (Exploit of Firefox 54.0.1)

11:42

2. Initial Access (Exploit of Firefox 54.0.1)
3. Unprivileged Shell

11:46

Complete the attack

10:52

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11:46

Complete the attack

10:52

11:42

11:46

11:46:17

4. Download Drakon

11:46:44

5. Privilege Escalation (through Drakon binary)
6. Log Tampering

11:46:47

Custos' auditing discovered log tampering!

Conclusion

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- Log integrity is important.

Hackers are increasingly destroying logs to hide attacks

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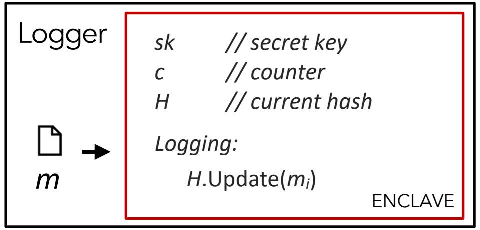

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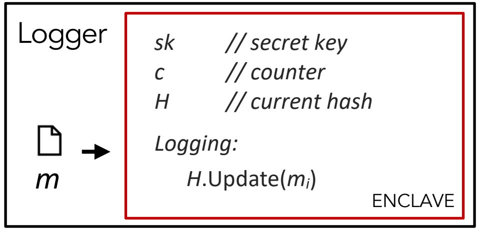

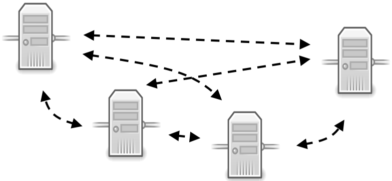

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- https://bitbucket.org/sts-lab/custos

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