

SELF-PROTECTING DIGITAL CONTENT

Paul Kocher
President & Chief Scientist
Cryptography Research, Inc.

Joint work with Benjamin Jun, Carter Laren, and others at Cryptography Research.

RSA 2004 – February 27, 2004 – 9:00am

© 1998-2004 Cryptography Research, Inc. (CRI) Protected under issued and/or pending US and/or international patents. Self-Protecting Digital Content and SPDC are trademarks of CRI. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. The information contained in this presentation is provided for illustrative purposes only, and is provided without any guarantee or warranty whatsoever, and does not necessarily represent official opinions of CRI or its partners. Unauthorized copying, use or redistribution is prohibited.

RSA Conference 2004



About Cryptography Research

Primary business:

- Develop & license new security technologies
- Major R&D focus

Industries served:

- Financial Services
- Wireless / Telecommunications
- Pay Television
- Internet
- Entertainment

Products incorporating CRI technology
secured over \$50 billion in 2003

Motivating Question

How should the anti-piracy features be designed for an optical disc format (like DVD)?

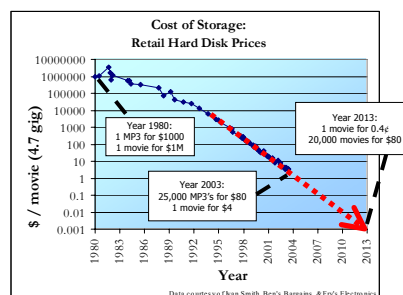
Complex, technically-challenging, controversial question.
(Many participants with conflicting objectives.)

One thing is clear, however: CSS is not the answer.

RSA Conference 2004

Too Important to Ignore

- Real-world problem:
 - CE/IT products need HD content on optical media
 - HD content owners require security
- Real-world challenges:
 - Piracy is growing with Moore's Law
 - DVD protection is broken
 - DRM market is dysfunctional
 - Piracy isn't a "solvable" problem
- Something will be done – but what's best?



- Ripping and burning of DVD movies cost film reportedly cost studios ~\$3 Billion in 2002 DVD sales*
- 600,000 copies of films are reportedly downloaded illegally every day*

* BusinessWeek – July 14, 2003

RSA Conference 2004

Difficult requirements



- ➊ Must withstand concerted attacks
 - Many motivated attackers
 - Many implementations available to target
- ➋ Must fix the economics of security
 - CE companies don't want to pay for security that doesn't help them
- ➌ Must be friendly to all participants
 - CE, IT, studio, consumer...
- ➍ Must be renewable
 - Must deal with unexpected threats
 - Must adapt to new technologies
 - Must be able to recover from attacks

[And the list goes on...]

User-friendly

- Insert a disc & it plays
- Minimize restrictions on legit use
- Discourage piracy (casual + pro)
- Support off-line playback
- Respect privacy

Studio needs

- Minimize piracy rates
- Avoid irrecoverable failures

Player-maker requirements

- Easy to implement
- Low cost
- Enables added-value features

RSA Conference 2004

Background:

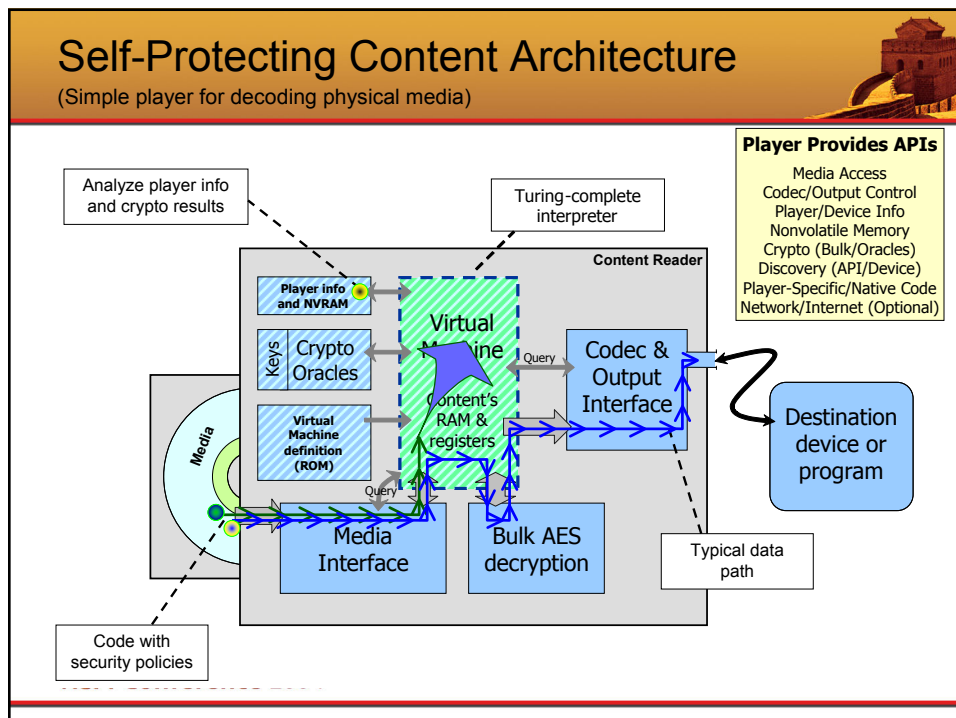
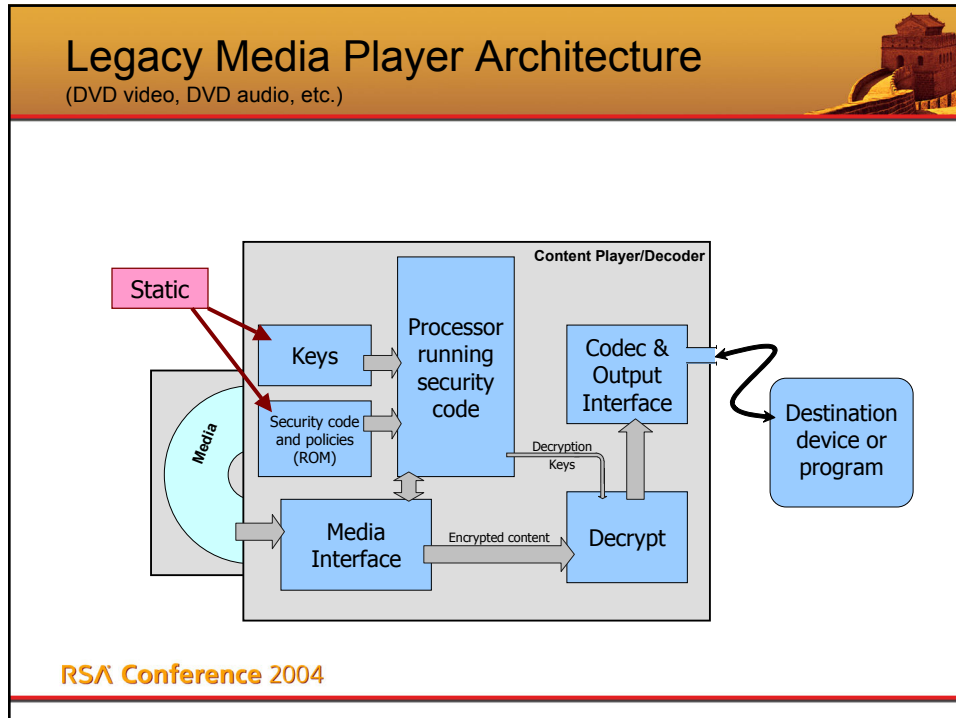
Anti-Fraud/Piracy Approaches



- ➊ Pay television security
 - Anti-cloning and revocation technologies
- ➋ Copy control watermarking
 - Embedding copying rules in audio or video
- ➌ Digital forensics
 - Used to trace leaks of screeners and demos within studios
- ➍ Encryption
 - Used to limit decryption to devices with valid keys
- ➎ DRMs
 - Mechanisms for defining and implementing usage rules for content
- ➏ Financial risk management software
 - Used to detect fraudulent transactions



RSA Conference 2004



Comparison

Traditional approach:

- Content is passive
 - At most, carries flags/policies for player to detect
- Player is responsible for security
 - May have great security or none (the content can't tell)

Static: Security upgrades require player replacement

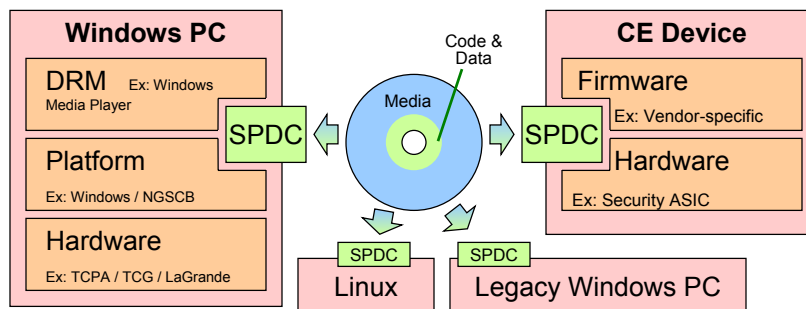
Self-protecting content:

- Player provides a simple processing environment
 - Provides interpreter, environment info, crypto/security support, drive access, and codec/output
- Content carries its own security logic
 - Can have great security or none (content decides)
- Complementary to most other approaches
 - Key management, watermarking, physical disc features...
- New security can be delivered with each released disc

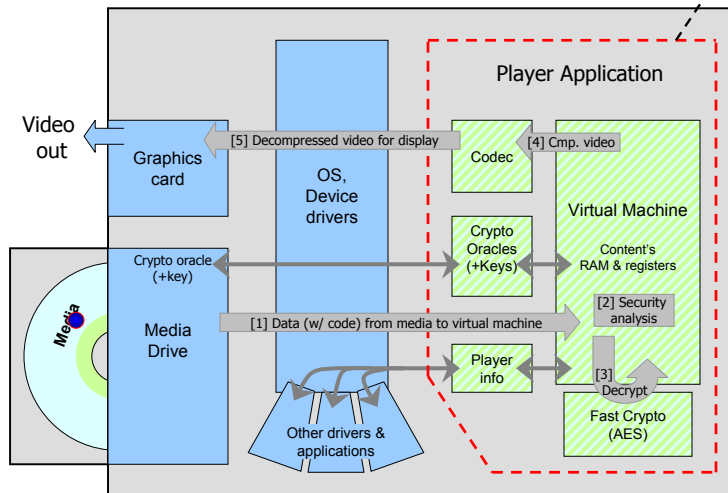
True renewability: Content provides its own security

Compatibility and Security: Heterogeneous playback environments

- VM can be simple and inexpensive to implement in a variety of devices
- Media format must be standardized, but players will be diverse
 - Example: Some PCs will have TCPA / LaGrande / NGSCB (Palladium)
 - But general media format cannot mandate Palladium...
 - Content needs benefits of platform-specific security features
 - Programmability standardizes playback process without making security static
 - Security should be as good as possible on each platform
 - Less secure platforms will need more updates & support fewer features



Example PC Implementation



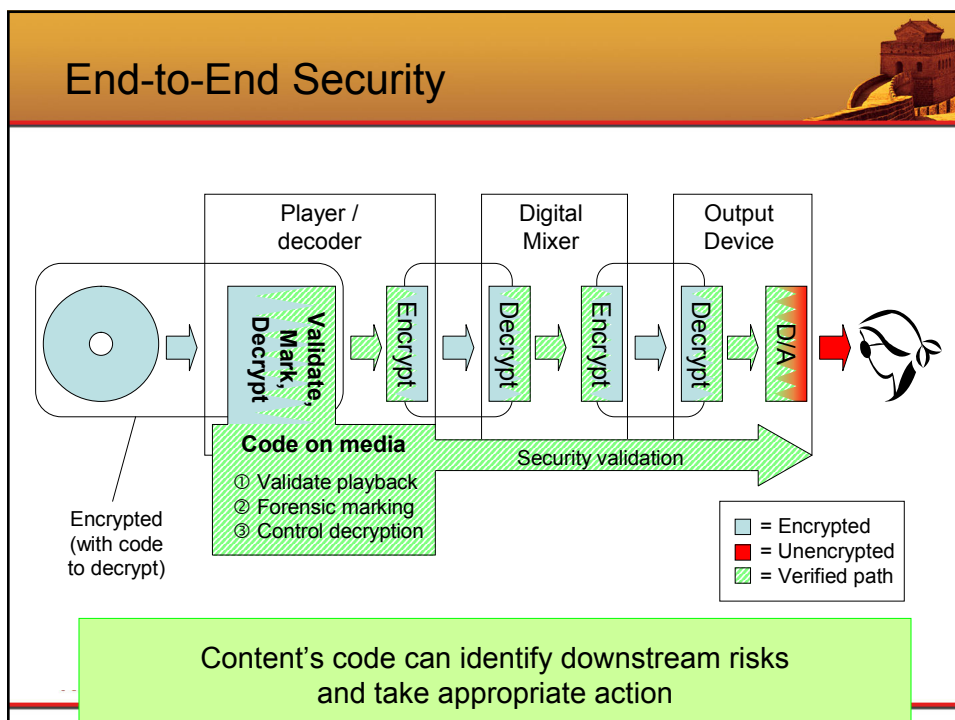
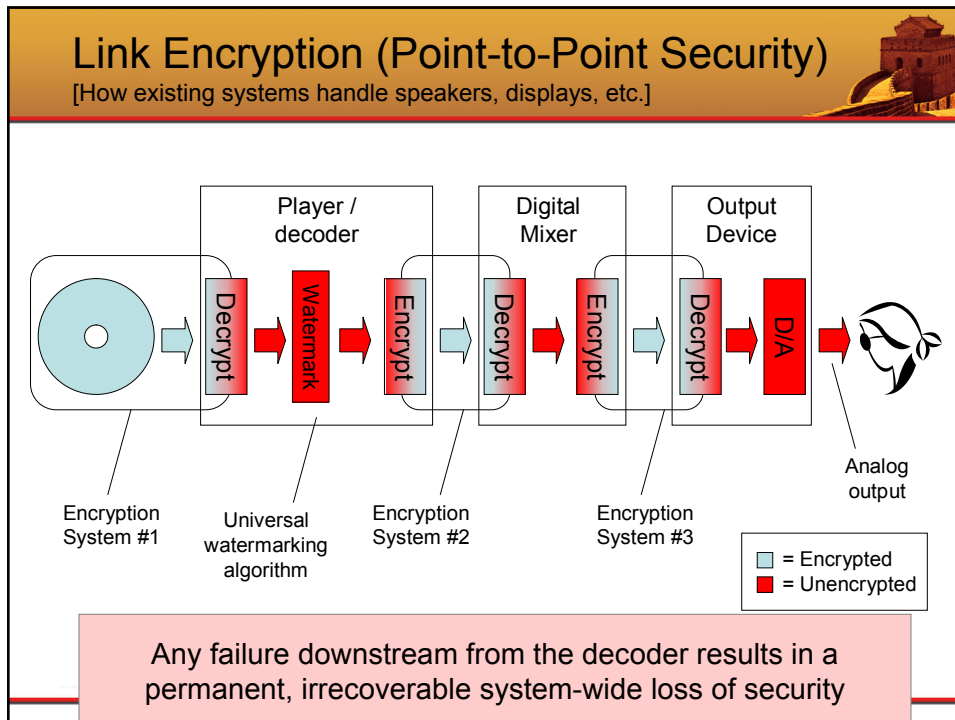
RSA Conference 2004

Implementation

- Hardware-based (CE box)
 - VM: 35K gates, 0% CPU
 - < 2 Mb RAM
 - Plus AES / RSA in hardware (~20K gates)
- Software-based (PC)
 - VM: < 4% of a 2.4 GHz PC
 - Plus decryption time (needed anyway)



RSA Conference 2004



Forensic Marking

Provided by reprogrammability

- ➊ Risk management requires **knowledge** and **control**.
- ➋ Forensic marking: **Knowing what went wrong.**
 - Player can allow content program to modify the output.
 - Modifications may be unique to player, output devices, user, keys.
 - Addresses anonymity of piracy.
 - No impact on privacy of users who don't redistribute copies.

2004

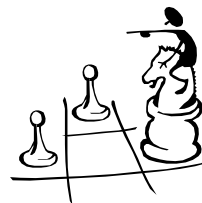
Marking: Security & Efficiency

- ➊ Marks can be extremely compact to encode
 - Difference between version "A" and "B" can be a single byte
 - Enables virtually unlimited number of variations on a 25 gig disc
 - Marks can be introduced prior to codec
 - Modifying content code submits different data to codec
 - Marks can be introduced after codec
 - Mark drawn as an overlay
- ➋ Three important characteristics for forensic marks
 - ① Plausibility: Resistant to identification in a single copy
 - ② Durability: Resistant to degradation (e.g., tape from TV screen)
 - ③ Artistic Acceptability: Does not noticeably impair content
 - Can easily exceed reasonable thresholds for all three with SPDC
- ➌ Content author controls everything
 - Chooses marking rules & anti-collusion codes
 - Selects variations in video
 - Controls mark recovery & analysis

“Stalemate” Security Problems

✚ Last mover advantage.

- Unpredictable, evolving threats.
 - Must present a moving target.
- Many other security problems like this:
 - Credit card fraud, SPAM filtering, piracy, virus detection.



✚ No static solution

- Best hope: Avoid checkmate
- Must turn checkmates into stalemates
(Practical countermeasure to every attack)

RSA Conference 2004

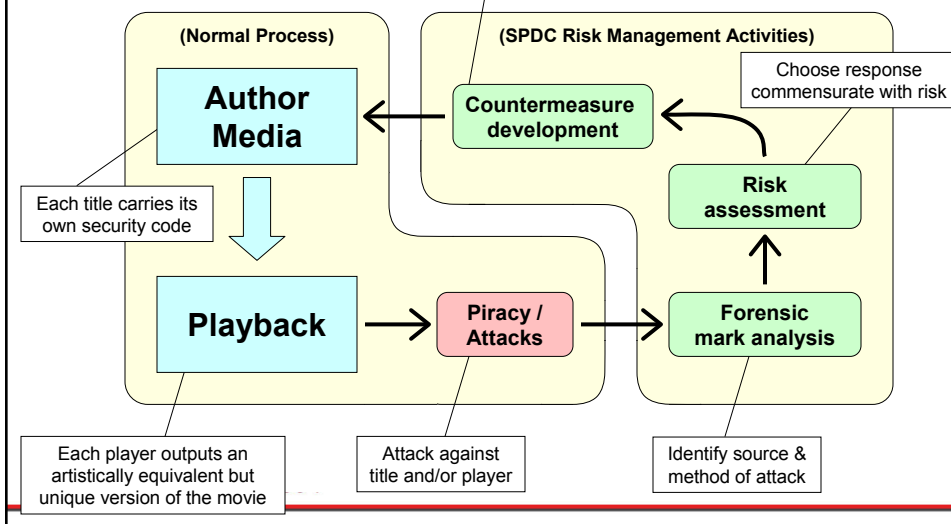


Risk Management Cycle

Goal: Reduce piracy rates & preserve release window

Wide range of options, e.g.:

- Extra player validity checks
- Signed native code on media
- Download PC software update
- Perform user auth step
- Check player history/NVRAM
- Limit output to DVD quality
- Embed extra forensic marks
- Display piracy warnings [etc...]



Guiding Principles

- Security architectures reflect basic design principles as well as specific requirements & objectives.

✦ Free market economics

- Technology should enable market-based solutions to problems
- Studios should have control and responsibility over their own risks
- Avoid requiring new laws or policies

✦ Risk management

- Piracy must be controlled since it cannot be eliminated
- Must provide information about attacks & practical responses
- Security must be renewable and effective, even after many attacks

✦ Security best practices

- Must be designed, reviewed by experts seeking to reduce piracy
- Based on strong cryptography and good design principles
- Integrates with other security technologies

Components

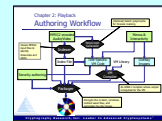
Base Specifications

Virtual machine
APIs



Authoring Process

Process similar to DVD
Tools: (compiler, packager, polymorph)



Player

Implements specs
PC or dedicated (or blended)



Media

Carries video & code
Complies with base specs



Reasons for titles to carry their own security

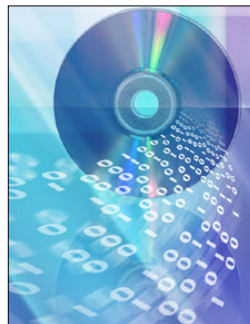


- Allows market forces to shape security
 - Security “menu” is not restricted in advance
 - Ensures that spending on security matches studio’s risk
 - Frees CE companies from expensive & messy tasks
 - Allows market to respond to user demands
 - Reduced need for lobbying & regulatory solutions
- Forensic marking provides knowledge about piracy
 - Privacy-friendly way to gather information
 - Allows responses to be tailored to specific problems
- Renewable: Respond to piracy without player revocation
 - Work around player security bugs without affecting legitimate users
 - Security logic is not a static target
- Better interactivity & User experience
 - Work around player menu bugs, etc.
 - Enables interactive features (programmable environment...)
- Internet integration
 - Develop synergies with on-line assets

Conclusion



- Piracy is a real threat that needs research attention
 - It would be a tragedy if piracy ruins the movie industry
 - Threat is extremely serious
 - Impediments due to file size are going to go away
 - Today’s technological choices will determine piracy rates in 3-7 years
- SPDC philosophy:
 - The problem is too complex to solve today
 - ... so we avoid committing to a static design
 - ... and build tools for managing the risk





For papers & more information, please visit:
www.cryptography.com/spdc

Contact Information

Paul Kocher

President & Chief Scientist
Cryptography Research, Inc.

paul@cryptography.com

We're Hiring!

Want to join an exciting, profitable
company specializing in solving
important real-world security problems?

www.cryptography.com/jobs

RSA Conference 2004