

# Optimizing Secure Multi-Party Computation in Satellite Proximity Operations



Caroline Fedele  
University of Florida  
7 December 2023



# Security in Space

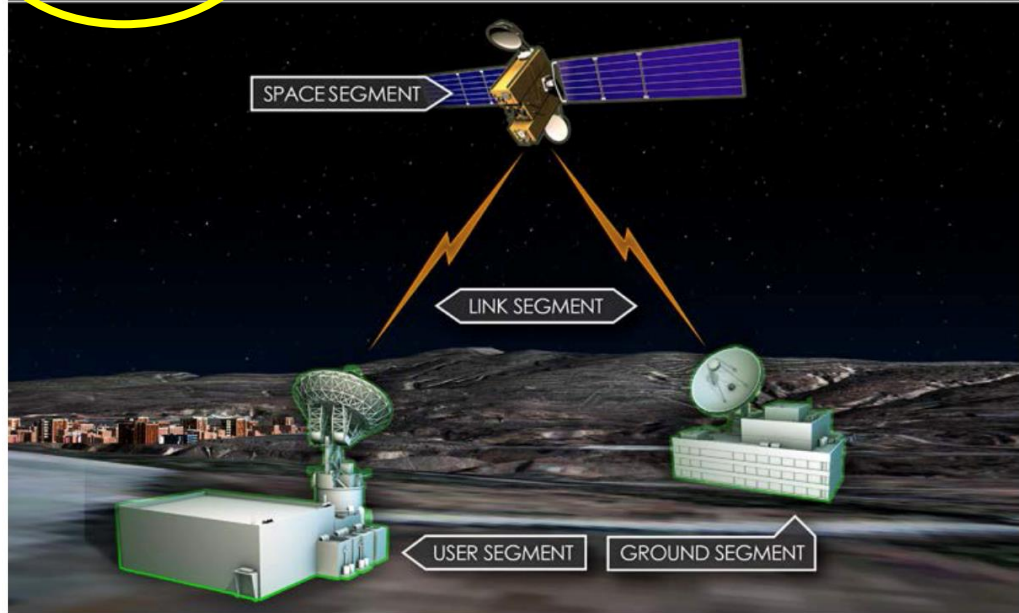
## CYBER THREATS TO SPACE SYSTEMS

- SPACE SEGMENT
  - Command Intrusion
  - Payload Control
  - Denial of Service
  - Malware

- USER SEGMENT
  - Spoofing
  - Denial of Service
  - Malware

- LINK SEGMENT
  - Command Intrusion
  - Spoofing
  - Replay

- GROUND SEGMENT
  - Hacking
  - Hijacking
  - Malware



The Aerospace Corporation, 2019

- Needs for both privacy and security in space
- Collisions have occurred

## IN-SPACE Cybersecurity

- Growing number of satellites & expanding private sector
- Motivates autonomy needs
- Rendezvous & Proximity Operations (RPO)
- Near-field collision avoidance and characterization

**General goal:** provide evaluation of secure satellite proximity operations using privacy-preserving computation

Demonstrate use of **secure multiparty computation (SMC)**, a method of operating on encrypted data, allowing private **satellite operations** to be conducted between mutually-distrustful agents

Previous work:

- Investigated where data privacy is needed in space
- Implemented SMC into matrix multiplication, attitude optimization, and other algorithms using the Sharemind SMC toolkit (3+ party, secret-sharing based protocol)
- Benchmarked time and memory overhead between each algorithm without and with SMC

Current work:

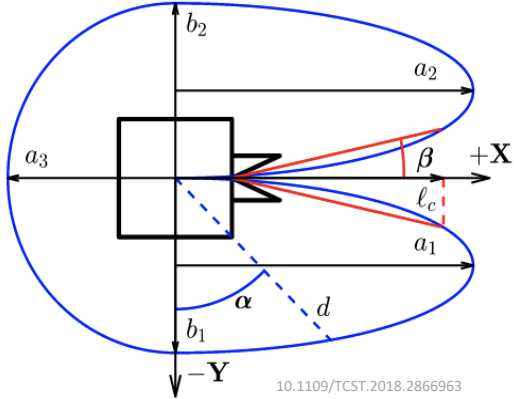
- Implementing SMC into more satellite proximity algorithms, demonstrating improvements
- Benchmarking various overhead measurements of 20+ secure protocol variants using MP-SPDZ



## Rendezvous and Proximity Operations (RPO):

- On-board trajectory operation and replanning
  - E.g. docking, on-orbit servicing/refueling, formation flying
- RPO occurs on-board, autonomously
  - housed in guidance navigation and control (GNC) unit
- Needed at scales of < 500km between satellites

RPO example: docking



10.1109/TCST.2018.2866963

## Ground station vs On-board Control

	Ground station	On-Board
Distance between satellites	1-10 Mm	< 500 km
Time needed	Days-weeks	< 1 day
Speed	km /sec	m /sec
Approach	conjunction analysis	RPO



# Problem: Capability Inference

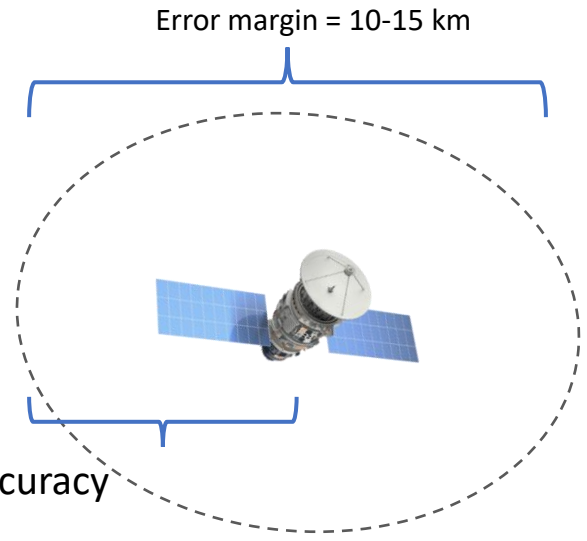
## Example: Collision Avoidance in RPO

- Minimum data to share with other satellites
  - position, velocity, **covariance**



**Stochastic systems**

- Probabilistic, not deterministic
- Covariance matrices = quantify uncertainty
  - defined by ellipsoid
- Measure of TRUST, decisions based on accuracy

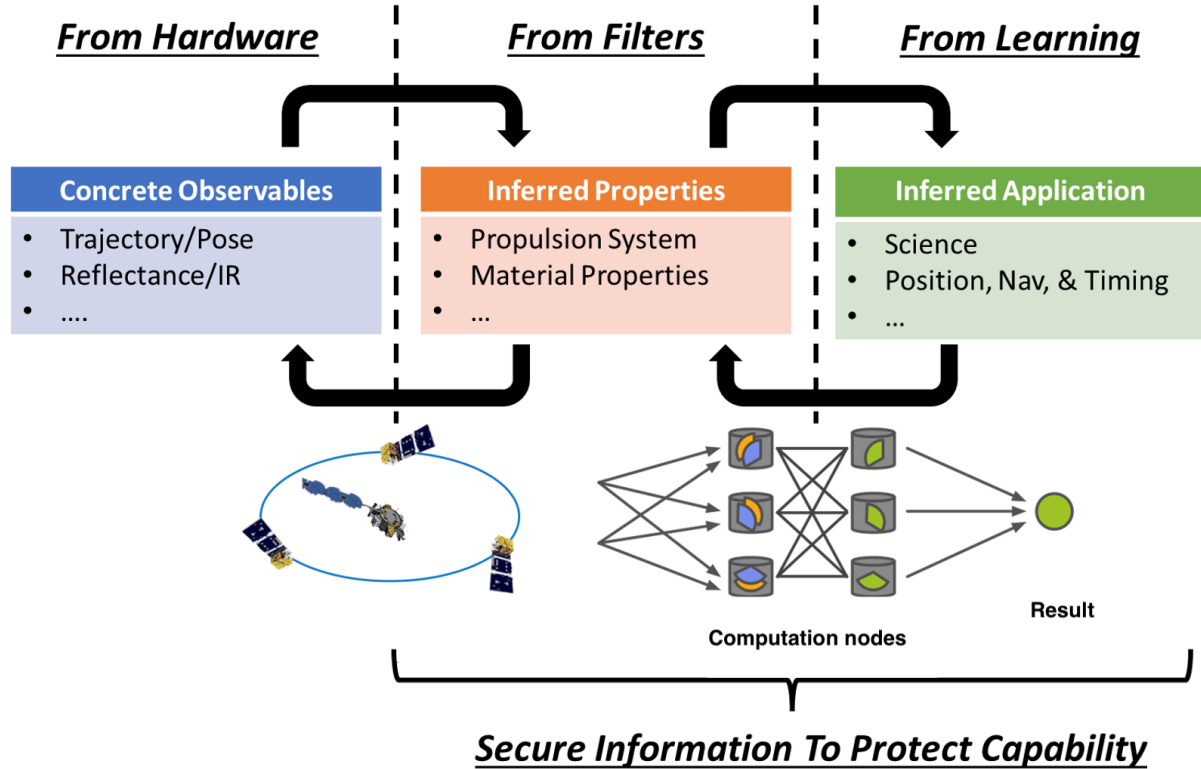


**Problem:** knowledge of error margins (covariance matrices) can lead to inferences on satellite capabilities, purpose, etc.

**Solution:** protect error margins using **privacy-preserving computation**



# Characterization Problem





# Privacy-Preserving Computation

## Privacy-Preserving Computation (PPC)

- Allows for data to remain encrypted during computation
- Protects **physical integrity** of satellite during RPO and **data privacy** keeping data encrypted

## Secure Multiparty Computation (SMC):

- Cryptographic protocol that allows set of mutually-distrusting parties to jointly compute a function on their inputs, without revealing information about inputs (millionaire's problem)
  1. *2-Party Computation (2PC)*: e.g. Yao's garbled or BMR, binary circuit representation
  2. *Secret sharing*: 3+ parties, arithmetic circuit representation

## Homomorphic Encryption (HE):

- Fully or Partially *homomorphic encryption* (FHE/PHE)
- “holy grail” of cryptography, providing strongest privacy guarantees at the cost of efficiency



# Multi-Party Computation Tool

## Security Models

- Honest vs. dishonest majority – assumption of behavior of parties
- Semi-honest vs. malicious corruption – passive vs. active adversary

## Computation Domain

Mathematical structure of secret info

- Usually ring structure defined by integer operation with modulus or Galois (finite) field
- Binary circuits or arithmetic circuits
  - Mod prime, mod power 2

## Underlying Primitives

- Secret Sharing
- Garbled Circuits
- Oblivious Transfer
- Homomorphic Encryption

Security model	Mod prime / GF(2^n)	Mod 2^k	Bin. SS	Garbling
Malicious, dishonest majority	MASCOT / LowGear / HighGear	SPDZ2k	Tiny / Tinier	BMR
Covert, dishonest majority	CowGear / ChaiGear	N/A	N/A	N/A
Semi-honest, dishonest majority	Semi / Hemi / Temi / Soho	Semi2k	SemiBin	Yao's GC / BMR
Malicious, honest majority	Shamir / Rep3 / PS / SY	Brain / Rep3 / PS / SY	Rep3 / CCD / PS	BMR
Semi-honest, honest majority	Shamir / ATLAS / Rep3	Rep3	Rep3 / CCD	BMR
Malicious, honest supermajority	Rep4	Rep4	Rep4	N/A
Semi-honest, dealer	Dealer	Dealer	Dealer	N/A

Table of supported protocols





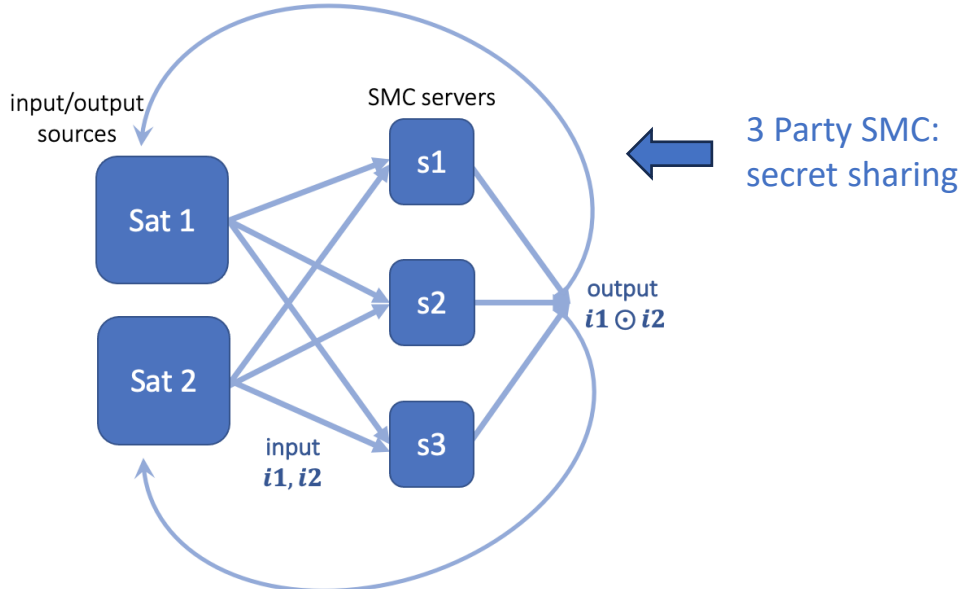
# MP-SPDZ vs. Sharemind

Sharemind	MP-SPDZ
Ease of use for industry & non-security professionals	Prominent tool for academic research uses
C++ and proprietary SecreC code	Python
1 SMC approach – linear secret sharing (3+ parties)	Over 30 SMC variants (GC, OT, FHE, SS)
1 security model (semi-honest)	3 security models (semi-honest, malicious, covert)
1 trust option (honest majority)	2 trust options (honest or dishonest majority)
Black box – cannot see or modify source code	White box – can see and modify source code

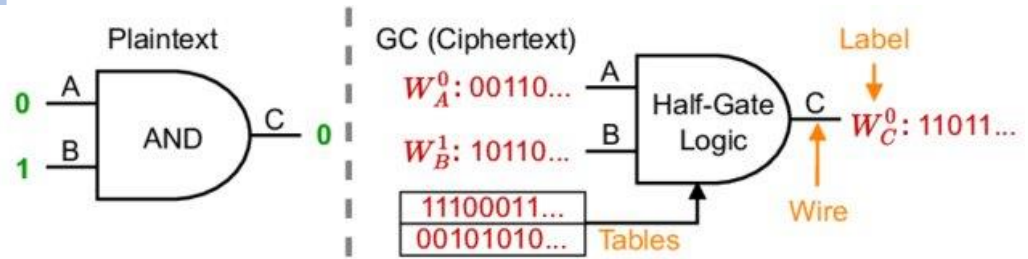


# SMC on Satellites

- Our purpose**
- Optimize protocol/variants for specific operations, informed by satellite algorithms that need privacy
  - Demonstrate reasonable **efficiency** for each satellite operation
  - Guarantees of **privacy** & **correctness** for each



2 party SMC: garbled circuits





Security	Parties	Modulo	Protocol
Semi-honest	3	$2^{64}$	[AFL <sup>+</sup> 16]
		128-bit prime	[AFL <sup>+</sup> 16]
		128-bit prime	[CDM00]
Semi-honest	2	$2^{64}$	[DEF <sup>+</sup> 19]-
		128-bit prime	[KOS16]-
		128-bit prime	[KPR18]- (semi HE)
		128-bit prime	[KPR18]- (somewhat HE)
Covert	2	128-bit prime	[KPR18]* (semi HE) [KPR18]* (somewhat HE)
Malicious	4	$2^{64}$	[DEK20]
Malicious	3	$2^{64}$	[EKO <sup>+</sup> 20] (post-sacrifice)
		$2^{64}$	[ADEN19]
		128-bit prime	[LN17] (replicated)
		128-bit prime	[CGH <sup>+</sup> 18] (replicated)
	128-bit prime	[LN17] (Shamir)	
	128-bit prime	[CGH <sup>+</sup> 18] (Shamir)	
Malicious	2	$2^{64}$	[DEF <sup>+</sup> 19]
		128-bit prime	[KOS16]

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2020/521.pdf>

## Integrating SMC into satellite operations

- Testing different RPO algorithms
  - Quadratic Program
  - Conjunction Analysis

## Software toolkit

- MP-SPDZ
  - Platform for 30+ SMC operations
  - System of libraries based in python, designed for easy, even comparison between protocols variants

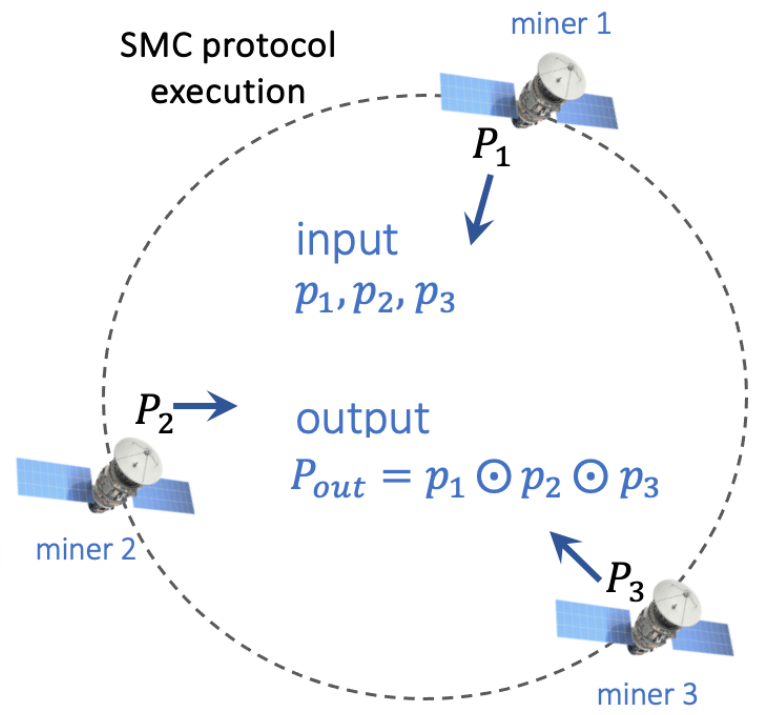
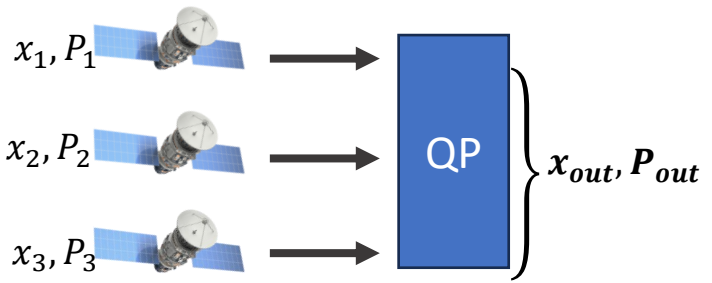




# Algorithm 1: Quadratic Program

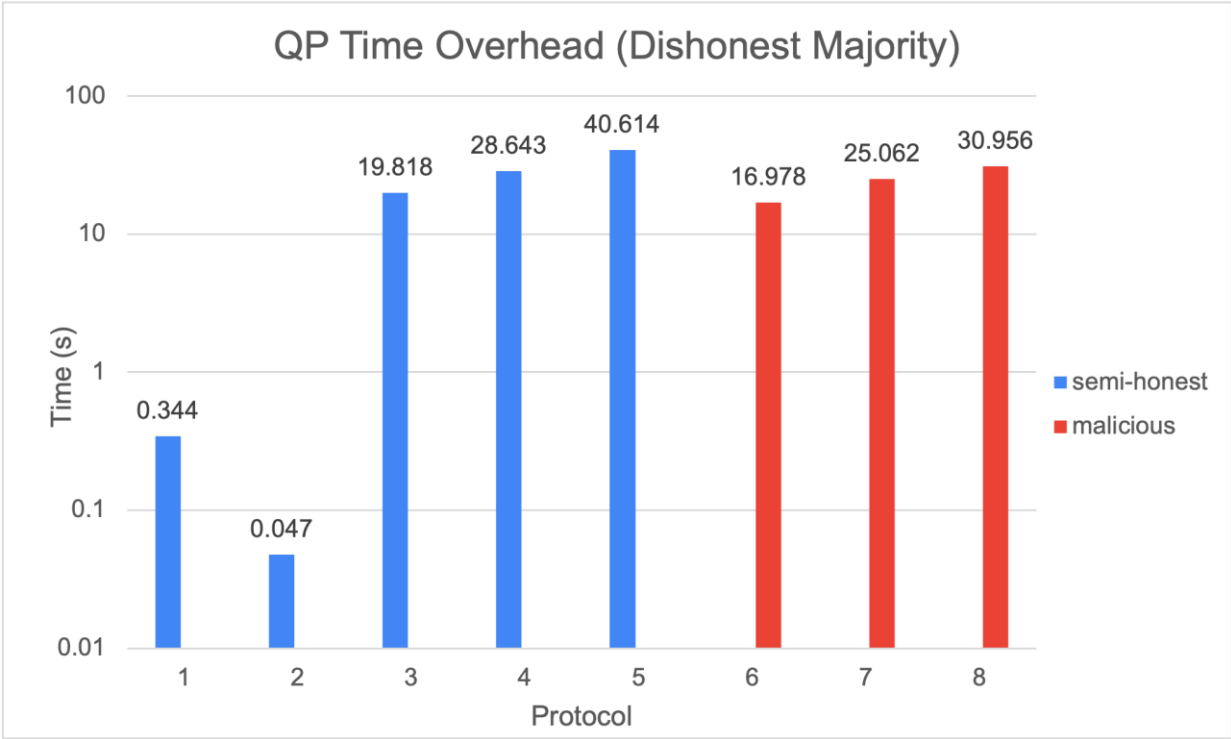
## Quadratic Program: multi-point inspection

- Sensor Fusion optimization algorithm
- Need 3+ parties for 3 dimensional accuracy (secret sharing or homomorphic encryption)
- INPUT: position vector,  $x$ , and uncertainty matrix,  $P$ , for each satellite (only  $P$  is private)
- OUTPUT: optimized/most accurate  $\{x, P\}$  pair





# Evaluation: Quadratic Program

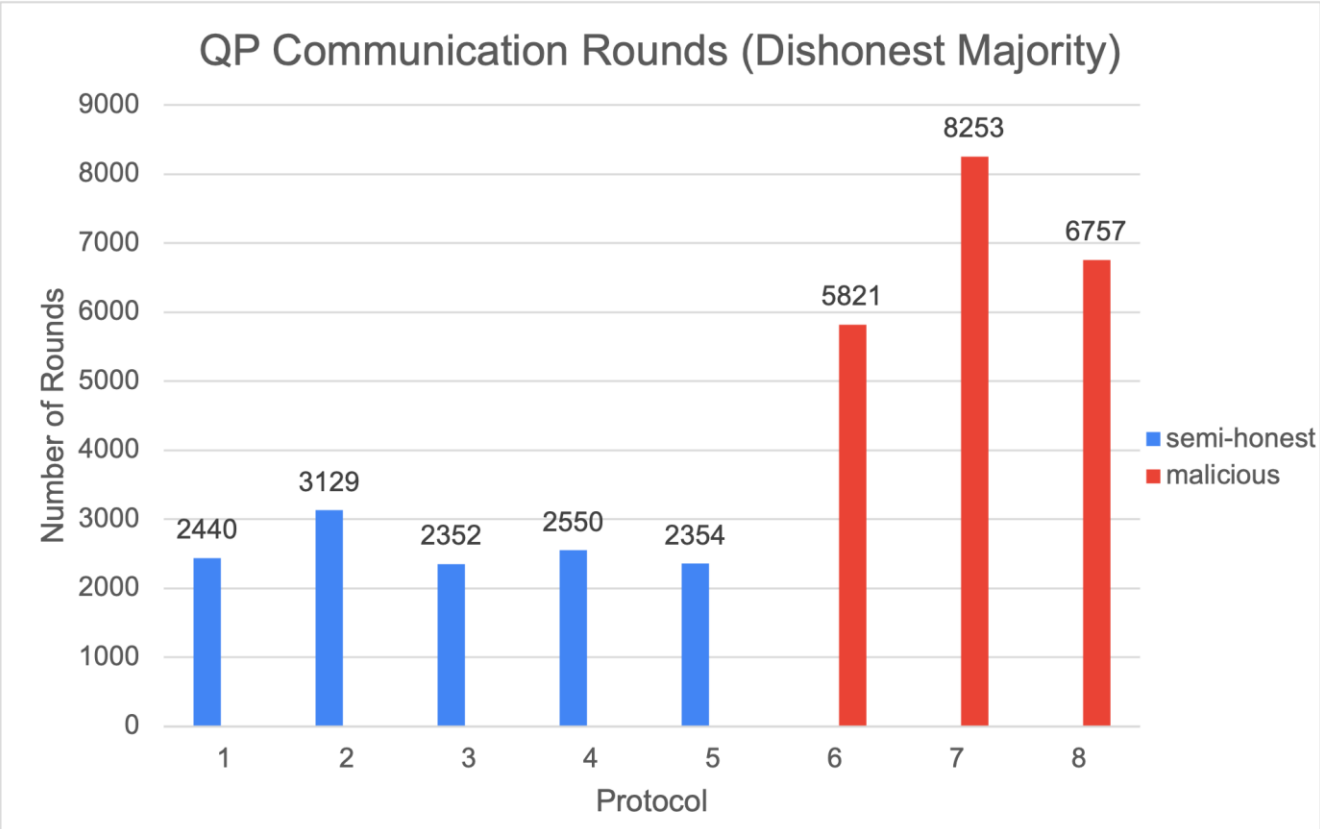


1-8 correspond to different arithmetic circuit protocols

Most efficient → #2 = semi2k, modulo  $2^k$  oblivious transfer-based protocol



# Evaluation: Quadratic Program

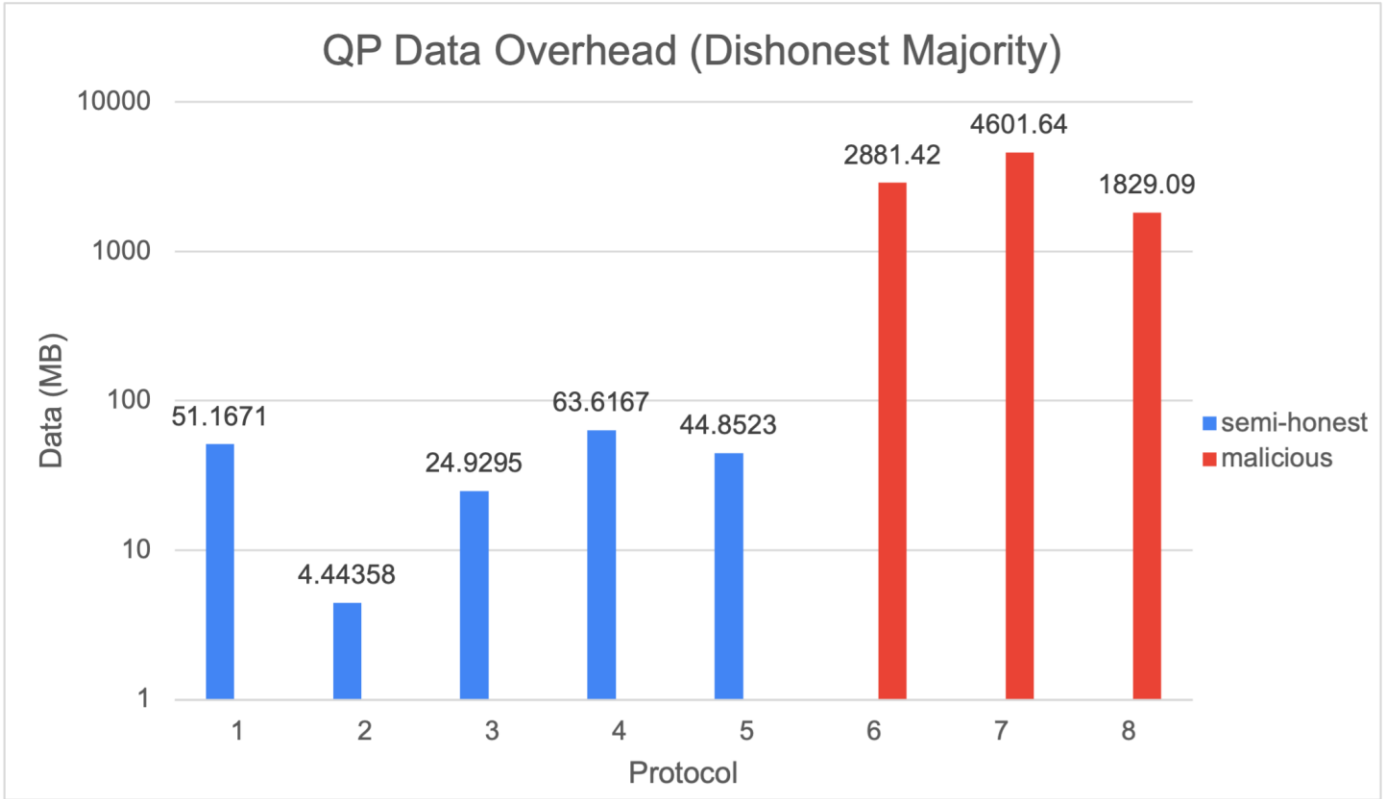


- Higher number of rounds for Malicious model

- significant factor in space applications



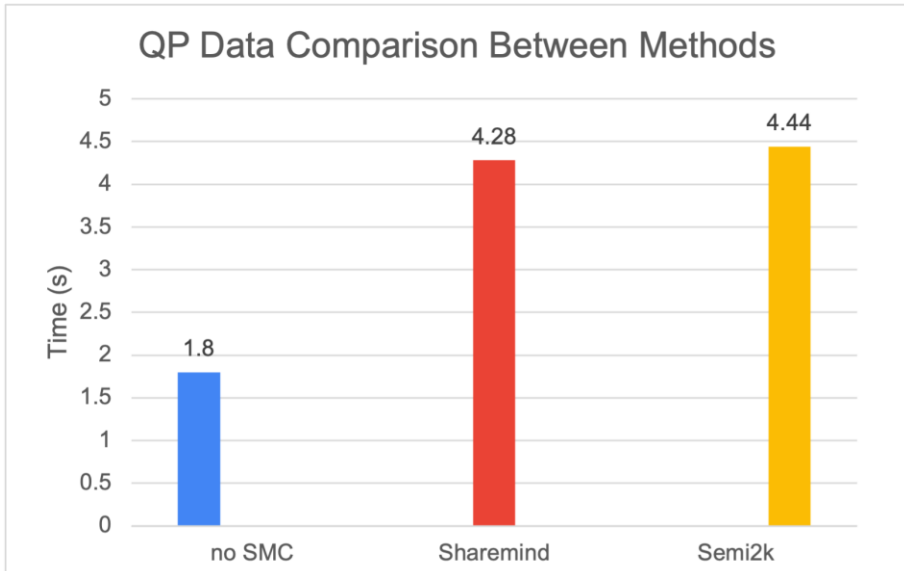
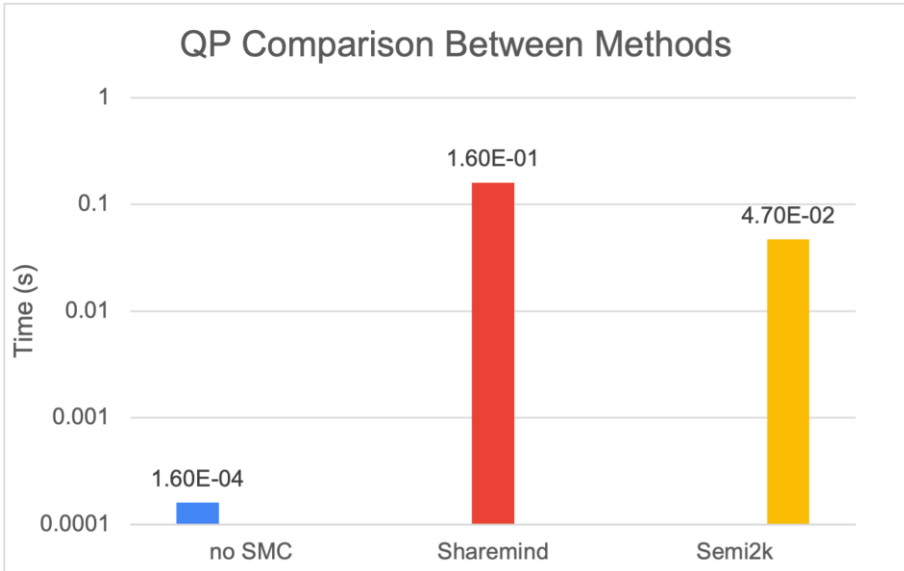
# Evaluation: Quadratic Program



Most efficient time *and* memory → #2 = semi2k, modulo 2<sup>k</sup> oblivious transfer-based protocol



# Evaluation: Quadratic Program



Further motivation for MP-SPDZ

- approx. 1 order of magnitude improvement over Sharemind
- about 2 orders of magnitude greater than without SMC (state-of-the-art)
- QP: need < 10 s to compute. This is < 0.1 s so well within efficiency

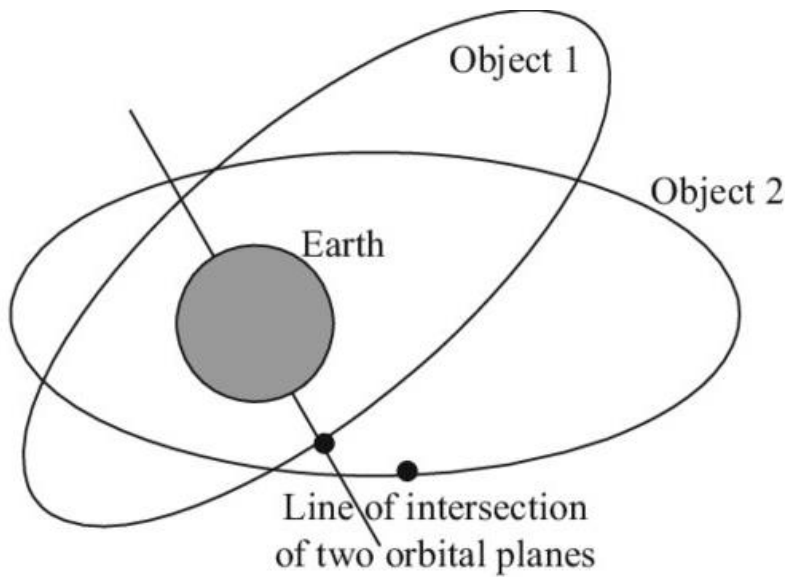




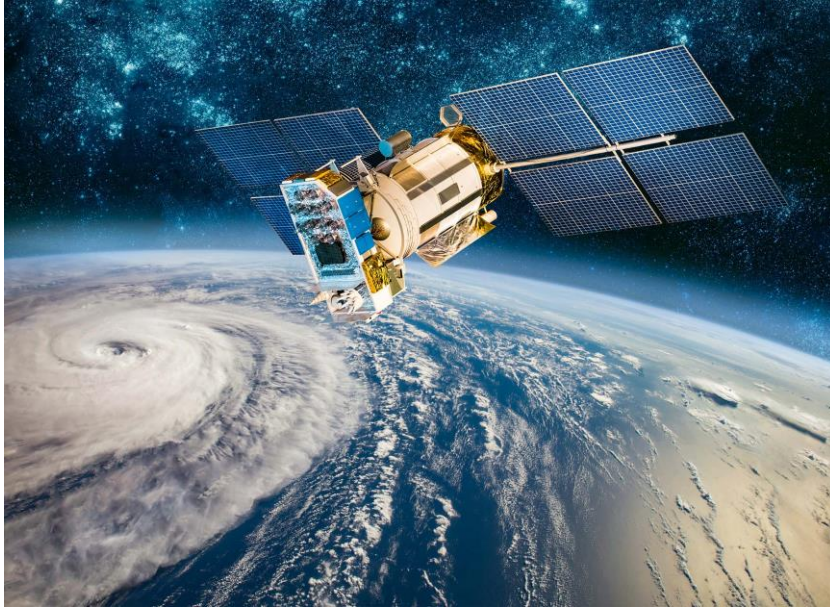
# Algorithm 2: Alfano's Method

## Alfano's Method: conjunction analysis

- Calculate collision probability between two spherical objects
- Assume linear orbital dynamics: one satellite stationary relative to other
- 2 party SMC problem, no trusted 3<sup>rd</sup> party (Garbled Circuits or Oblivious Transfer)
- INPUT =  $\{x_{1,2}, v_{1,2}, R_{1,2}, C_{1,2}\}$  for satellite 1 and 2, only covariance matrices,  $C_{1,2}$ , are private
- OUTPUT =  $p$ , probability of collision



$$p \leftarrow \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_x\sigma_y} \int_{-R}^R \int_{-\sqrt{R^2-x^2}}^{\sqrt{R^2-x^2}} f(x, y) dy dx \quad \text{where} \quad f(x, y) = \exp \left[ \frac{-1}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{x - x_m}{\sigma_x} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{y - y_m}{\sigma_y} \right)^2 \right] \right]$$



Source: verdict.co.uk

## Current Work:

- Optimizing MP-SPDZ protocols for QP algorithm
- Testing Alfano's method with MP-SPDZ
- AIAA (SciTech) Conference paper accepted

## Future Work:

- Cybersecurity Conference paper in February (USENIX '24)
- Further examinations of space characterization issue and areas where privacy can be beneficial



# Acknowledgements

Kevin Butler

Tyler Lovelly

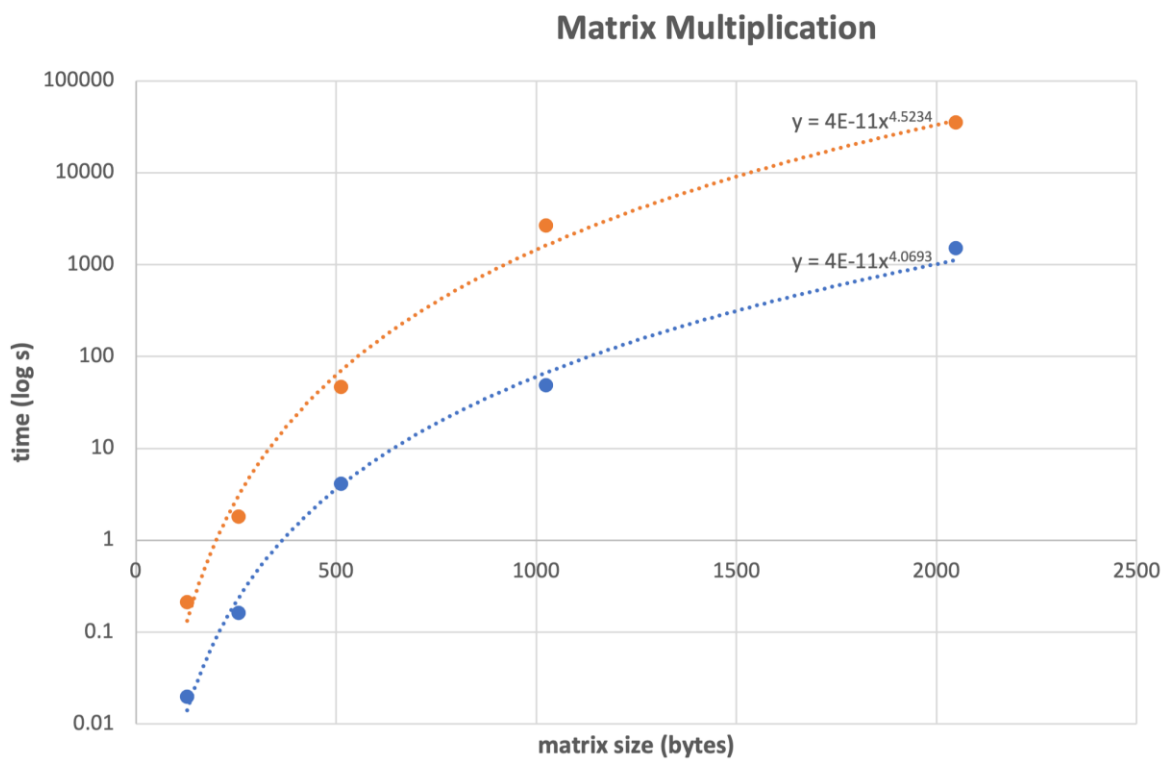
Chris Petersen

Carson Stillman

*Questions?*

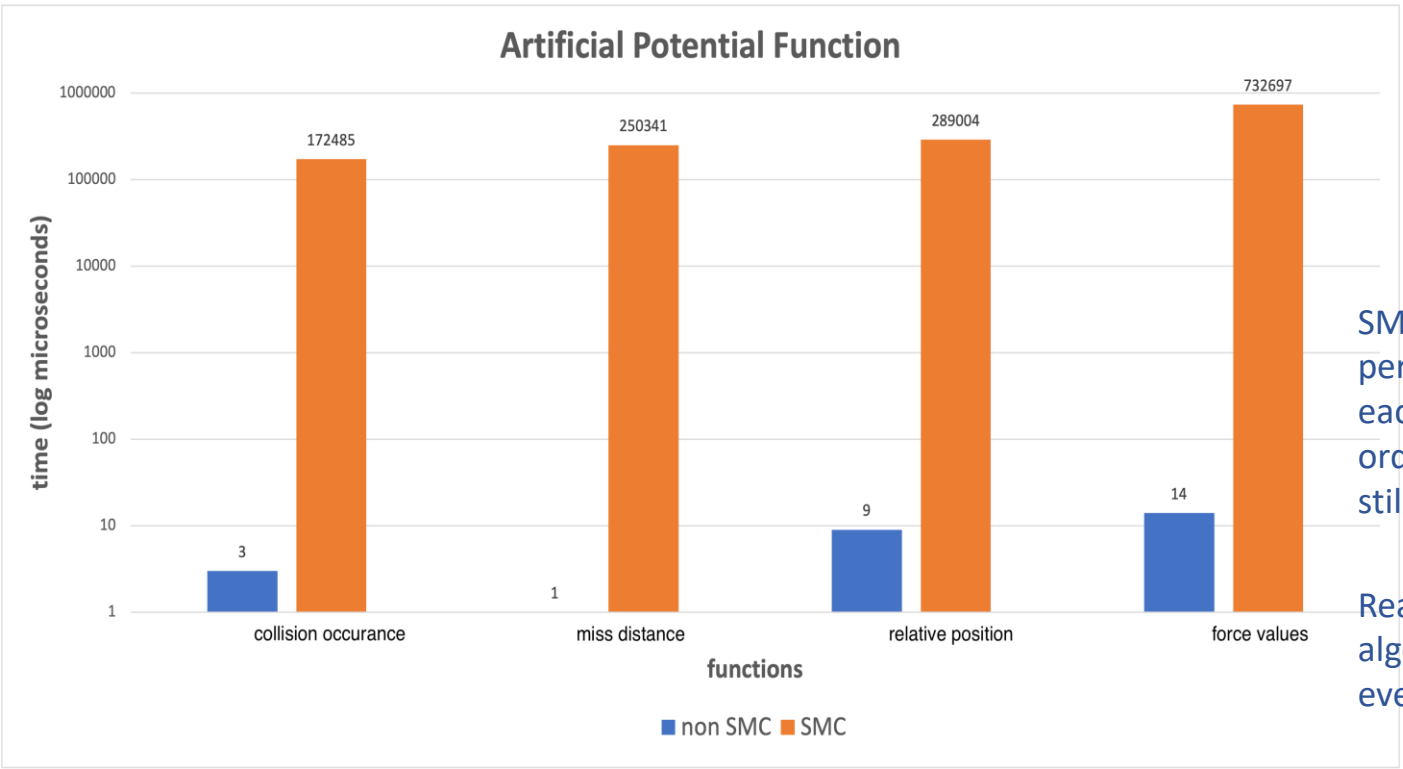


# Evaluation: Matrix Multiplication



- non smc
- smc

SMC increases time to perform algorithm on each matrix by 1-1.5 orders of magnitude



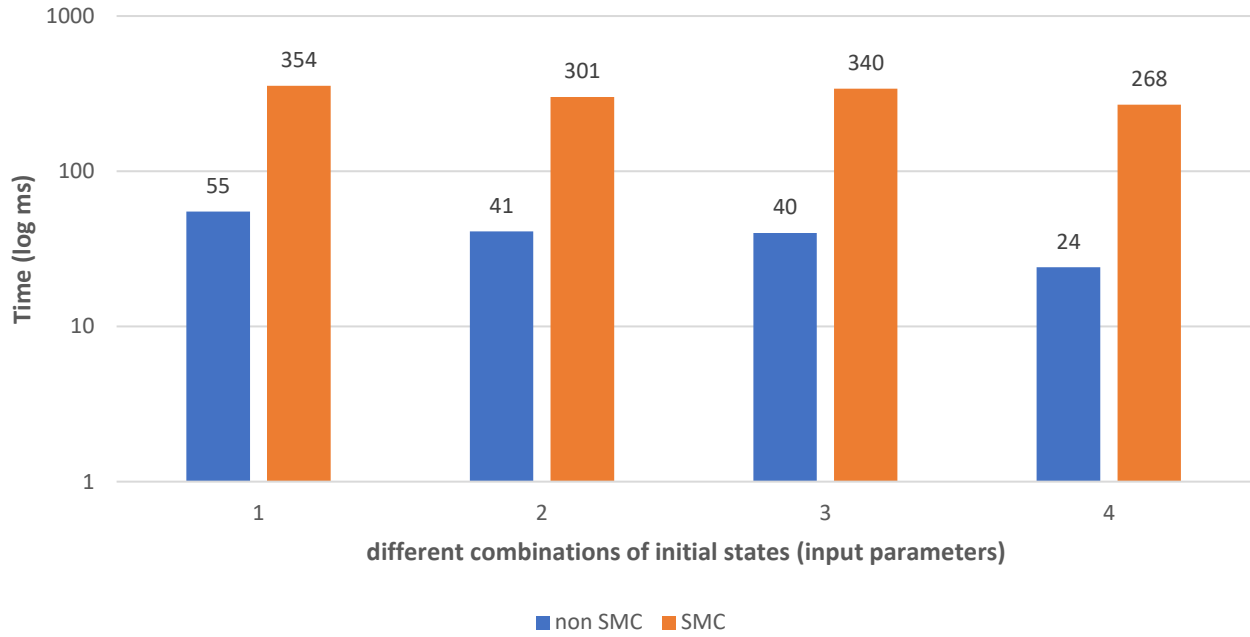
SMC increases time to perform algorithm on each function by 4-5 orders of magnitude, still < 1s to execute

Reasonable since algorithm refreshes every 30 sec– 15 min



# Evaluation: Optimization

### Attitude optimization



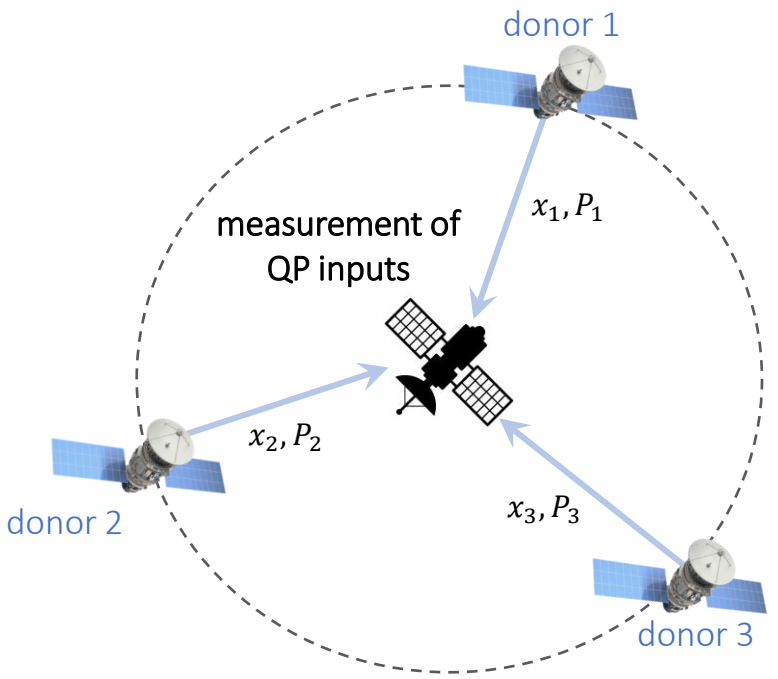
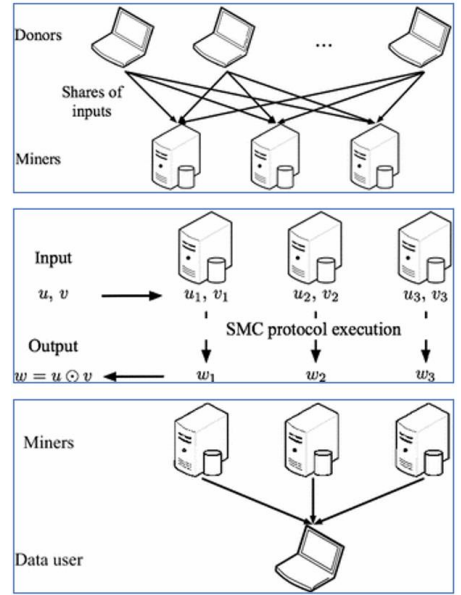
SMC increases time to perform algorithm on each function by ~1 order of magnitude

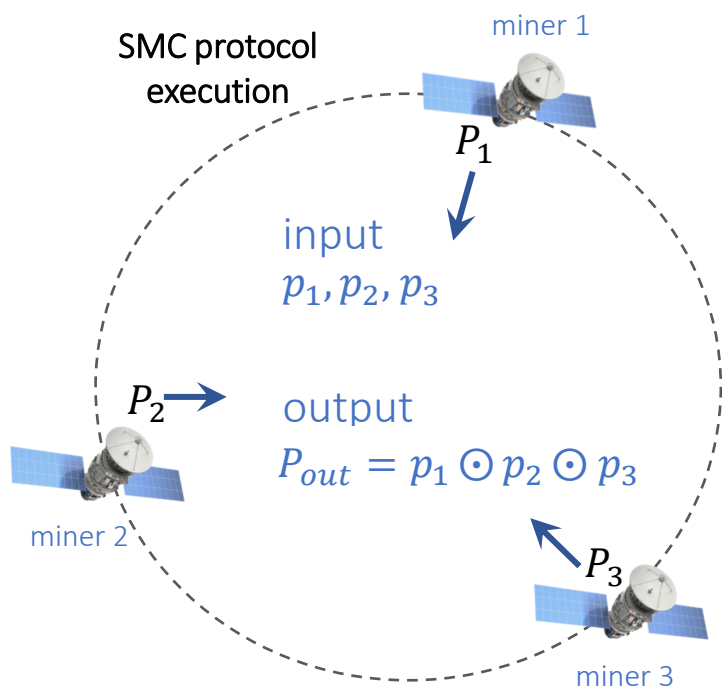
Algorithm refreshes every 10 seconds, still reasonable to use SMC



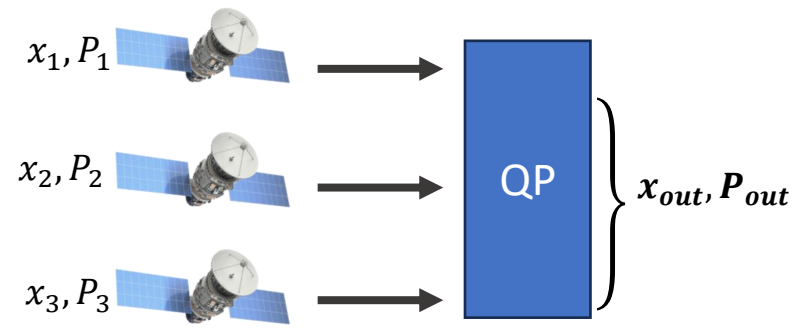
# Optimization Algorithm

## satellite setup

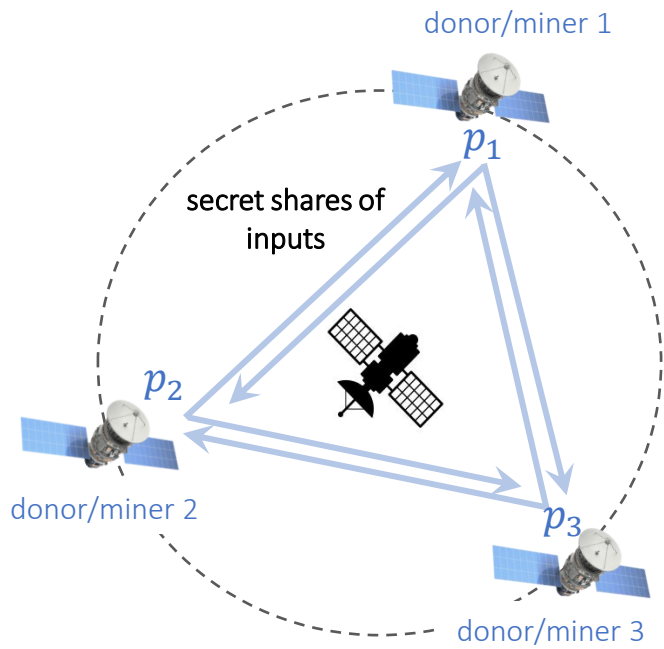
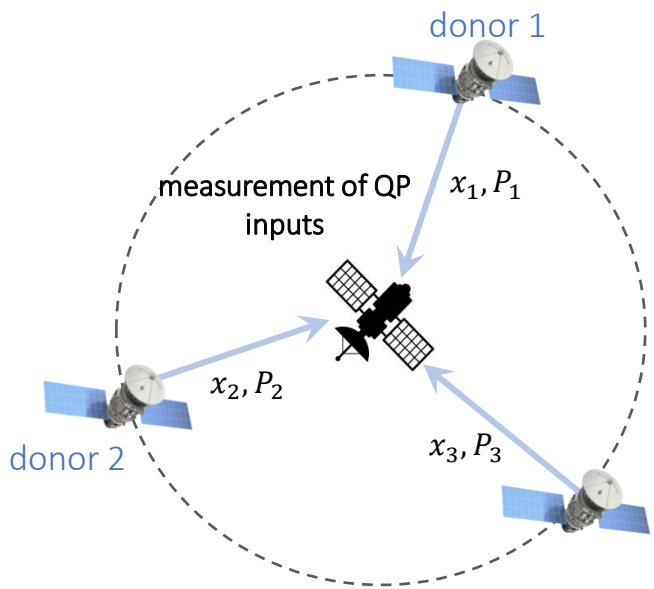




- $(p_1, p_2)$
- $(p_1, p_3)$
- $(p_2, p_3)$





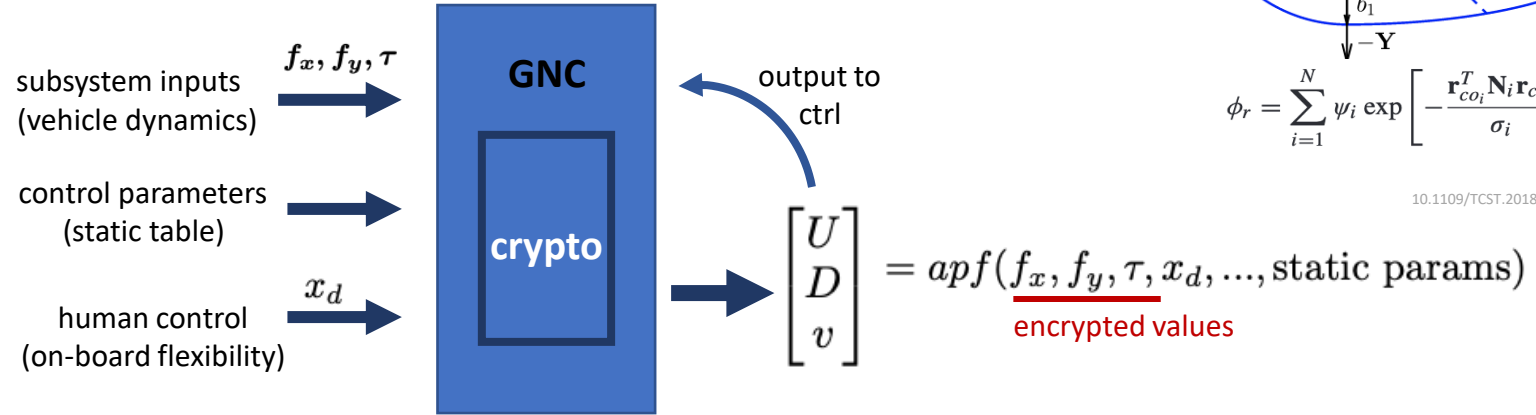


- $(p_1, p_2)$
- $(p_1, p_3)$
- $(p_2, p_3)$
- $x_1, P_1$
- $x_2, P_2$
- $x_3, P_3$

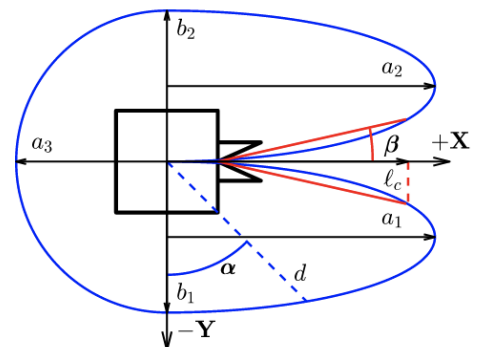


## Another example: Artificial Potential Function (APF)

- Scenario: docking & collision avoidance at close range
  - On-board trajectory control
- Linear (relative) equations of motion



## Keep-out zone potential



$$\phi_r = \sum_{i=1}^N \psi_i \exp \left[ -\frac{\mathbf{r}_{coi}^T \mathbf{N}_i \mathbf{r}_{coi}}{\sigma_i} \right]$$

10.1109/TCST.2018.2866963



<p><u>Ground</u></p> <p>Strong security Well-understood threat model Easier to manage/update systems</p>	<p><u>Link</u></p> <p>Strong security Well-understood threat model Established comms security practice</p>
<p><u>User</u></p> <p>Strong ground security Weak space security Human control/interaction Need in-space cooperation</p>	

