CRYPTOEXPERTS

Securing Cryptography Against Side-Channel Attacks

Practical Tools and Proven Countermeasures

Sonia Belaïd



What are side-channel attacks?

Definition, examples

How to thwart side-channel attacks?

Masking countermeasure

How to make sure that you did it?

Leakage models, proofs, automatic tools







Definition: Cryptography is the science and art of protecting information despite external attacks.



CRYPTOEXPERTS





































Correct PIN: 9401







Correct PIN: 9401







Correct PIN: 9401



Execution time: α ms





Correct PIN: 9401







Correct PIN: 9401







Correct PIN: 9401







Correct PIN: 9401



Execution time: 2α ms





Correct PIN: 9401



Execution time: 2α ms

10 + 10 + 10 + 10 = 40possibilities







SPA: one single trace to recover the secret key



Example of DPA

- AES: Advanced Encryption Standard
 - Message $(p_0, p_1, ..., p_{15})$ and key $(k_0, k_1, ..., k_{15})$ on 16 bytes
 - First round: 16 S-boxes







Example of DPA

AES: Advanced Encryption Standard

- Message $(p_0, p_1, ..., p_{15})$ and key $(k_0, k_1, ..., k_{15})$ on 16 bytes
- First round: 16 S-boxes



Example of DPA





















CRYPTOEXPERT











Cheap equipment

Basic oscilloscope is enough

Few traces

- Less than a hundred traces to recover secrets in software
- A few hundreds/thousands traces in hardware

Fast

- A few minutes to get the traces
- A few seconds to mount the attack


Masking Countermeasure



How to thwart SCA?



Problem: the leakage is key-dependent

A solution: masking \approx randomizing the leakage

- replace each sensitive variable v into $(v_1, v_2, ..., v_n)$
- such that any tuple of at most n-1 shares is independent from v



How to thwart SCA?



Problem: the leakage is key-dependent

A solution: masking \approx randomizing the leakage

- replace each sensitive variable v into $(v_1, v_2, ..., v_n)$
- such that any tuple of at most n-1 shares is independent from v

Example of linear masking:

$$v_{1} \leftarrow \$$$

$$v_{2} \leftarrow \$$$

$$\dots$$

$$v_{n-1} \leftarrow \$$$

$$v_{n} \leftarrow \mathbf{v} - v_{1} - v_{2} - \dots - v_{n-1}$$



- Masking linear operations: $z \leftarrow x + y$
 - Sharing $(x) = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$
 - Sharing $(y) = (y_1, ..., y_n)$



- Masking linear operations: $z \leftarrow x + y$
 - Sharing $(x) = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$
 - Sharing $(y) = (y_1, ..., y_n)$
- $\Rightarrow (\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{y}_n)$



- Masking linear operations: $z \leftarrow x + y$
 - Sharing $(x) = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$
 - Sharing $(y) = (y_1, ..., y_n)$

$$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{y}_n)$$

- Masking non linear operations: $z \leftarrow x \cdot y$
 - Cannot be done share by share
 - Example of multiplication with n = 2
 - Sharing $(x) = (x_1, x_2)$
 - Sharing(y) = (y_1 , y_2)



- Masking linear operations: $z \leftarrow x + y$
 - Sharing $(x) = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

• Sharing(y) = (y_1, \ldots, y_n)

$$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{y}_n)$$

- Masking non linear operations: $z \leftarrow x \cdot y$
 - Cannot be done share by share
 - Example of multiplication with n = 2
 - Sharing $(x) = (x_1, x_2)$
 - Sharing(y) = (y_1, y_2)

$$\Rightarrow z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + x_2 \cdot y_1 \Rightarrow z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 + x_2 \cdot y_2$$



- Masking linear operations: $z \leftarrow x + y$
 - Sharing $(x) = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

• Sharing(y) = (y_1, \ldots, y_n)

$$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{y}_n)$$

- Masking non linear operations: $z \leftarrow x \cdot y$
 - Cannot be done share by share
 - Example of multiplication with n = 2
 - Sharing $(x) = (x_1, x_2)$
 - Sharing(y) = (y_1 , y_2)

$$\Rightarrow z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$$

$$\Rightarrow z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$$



How to evaluate the security of an implementation?



- How to evaluate the security of an implementation?
 - Integrate it on a device and try to attack it
 - Not always possible









- How to evaluate the security of an implementation?
 - Integrate it on a device and try to attack it
 - Not always possible

- Model the leakage and prove its security or exhibit an attack





- How to evaluate the security of an implementation?
 - Integrate it on a device and try to attack it
 - Not always possible



Model the leakage and prove its security or exhibit an attack





Leakage Models



 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$







 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

Leakage

- Only t variables leak in the implementation
- Leakage = exact value





 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

Leakage

- Only t variables leak in the implementation
- Leakage = exact value

Example with t = 2Probe I: y_1 Probe 2: $x_2 \cdot y_1$





 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

Leakage

- Only t variables leak in the implementation
- Leakage = exact value

Example with t = 2Probe I: y_2 Probe 2: r





 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

Leakage

- Only t variables leak in the implementation
- Leakage = exact value

Example with t = 2Probe 1: x_1 Probe 2: x_2





Leakage

- Only t variables leak in the implementation
- Leakage = exact value

Example with t = 2Probe I: x_1 Probe 2: x_2 Secret $x = x_1 + x_2$

 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$





$z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

Leakage

- Only t variables leak in the implementation
- Leakage = exact value
- Pros and Cons
 - Easy to make security proofs
 - Not that close to the reality...





57

Security in the (p, ε) -random probing model: given p, the probability to recover

information on the secret is bounded by ε .

Leakage

- Every variable leaks with probability p
- Leakage = exact value



 $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

58

Security in the (p, ε) -random probing model: given p, the probability to recover

> I probe with probability $p(1-p)^{s-1}$



Random Probing Model $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$

 $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

Leakage

- Every variable leaks with probability p
- Leakage = exact value

Example

information on the secret is bounded by ε .

Every variable leaks with probability p Leakage = exact value

> I probe with probability $p(1-p)^{s-1}$ > 2 probes with probability $p^2(1-p)^{s-2}$

Example

Random Probing Model $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$

Leakage

 $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

CRYPTOEXPER



Security in the (p, ε) -random probing model: given p, the probability to recover information on the secret is bounded by ε .

▲ 2 probes with probability $p^2(1-p)^{s-2}$ ▲ *i* probes with probability $p^i(1-p)^{s-i}$

Security in the (p, ε) -random probing model: given p, the probability to recover information on the secret is bounded by ε .

Leakage

Every variable leaks with probability p

Example

> I probe with probability $p(1-p)^{s-1}$

Leakage = exact value

Random Probing Model $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$





CRYPTOEXPER



Random Probing Model $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$

- Leakage
 - Every variable leaks with probability p
 - Leakage = exact value
- Pros and Cons
 - A bit more complicated to make security proofs
 - Closer to the reality

Security in the (p, ε) -random probing model: given p, the probability to recover information on the secret is bounded by ε .

61



 $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

CRYPTOEXPER

Noisy Leakage Model

 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

Leakage

- Every variable leaks
- Leakage = noisy function of the value



Security in the (σ, ε) -noisy leakage model: given the noise standard deviation σ , the probability to recover information on the secret is bounded by ε .



Noisy Leakage Model

 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

Leakage

- Every variable leaks
- Leakage = noisy function of the value

Example

A The adversary gets $f(x_1 \cdot y_1) + \eta$



Security in the (σ, ε) -noisy leakage model: given the noise standard deviation σ , the probability to recover information on the secret is bounded by ε .



The closest to the reality

Security in the (σ, ε) -noisy leakage model: given the noise standard deviation σ , the probability to recover information on the secret is bounded by ε .

Noisy Leakage Model

Leakage

- Every variable leaks
- Leakage = noisy function of the value

- Pros and Cons
 - Much more complicated to make security proofs





 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

Reductions



realism



Reductions



realism



Security Proofs



Security Proofs

Small gadgets (small circuit and small masking order)

- Check the security by hand or using automatic tools
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security

Bigger gadgets (bigger circuits and/or higher masking order)

- Build theoretical proofs
 - Probing Security
- Composition of gadgets
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security



Security Proofs

Small gadgets (small circuit and small masking order)

- Check the security by hand or using automatic tools
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security

Bigger gadgets (bigger circuits and/or higher masking order)

- Build theoretical proofs
 - Probing Security
- Composition of gadgets
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security



Proof in the Probing Model

 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$











1-probing secure?

Independent from secrets?

 $x_1 \rightarrow \checkmark$


















Proof in the Probing Model $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$ \mathcal{X}_1 1-probing secure?

Security in the *t*-probing model: any set of *t* intermediate variables is independent from the secret



Independent from secrets?

 $x_1 \rightarrow \checkmark$





Proof in the Probing Model $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$ Independent from secrets? $x_1 \cdot y_1 + r \rightarrow \checkmark$

 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

1-probing secure?

Independent from secrets?

23 wires \rightarrow 23 variables to check





 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

2-probing secure?

Independent from secrets?

23 wires $\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 23 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 253$ pairs of variables to check





Security Proofs

Small gadgets (small circuit and small masking order)

- Check the security by hand or using automatic tools
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security

Bigger gadgets (bigger circuits and/or higher masking order)

- Build theoretical proofs
 - Probing Security
- Composition of gadgets
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security



 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$





 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

I. Identify all the sets of probes revealing x or y

2. Compute their probability to happen





 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

I. Identify all the sets of probes revealing x or y

2. Compute their probability to happen

We count how many probes of size 1 depends on the secrets $\Rightarrow c_1$





 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

I. Identify all the sets of probes revealing x or y

2. Compute their probability to happen

We count how many probes of size 2 depends on the secrets $\Rightarrow c_2$





 $z_1 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_1 + r + x_2 \cdot y_1$ $z_2 \leftarrow x_1 \cdot y_2 - r + x_2 \cdot y_2$

I. Identify all the sets of probes revealing x or y

2. Compute their probability to happen

We count how many probes of size I depends on the secrets $\Rightarrow c_i$

$$\varepsilon = \sum_{i=1}^{s} c_i \cdot p^i \cdot (1-p)^{s-i}$$





Formally verify security in the probing model with a tool



Formally verify security in the probing model with a tool





Formally verify security in the probing model with a tool









CRYPTOEXPERT

Example of Automatic Tools

Verification tool



Example of Automatic Tools

Security property





Example of Automatic Tools

Security property





Security Proofs

Small gadgets (small circuit and small masking order)

- Check the security by hand or using automatic tools
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security

Bigger gadgets (bigger circuits and/or higher masking order)

- Build theoretical proofs
 - Probing Security
- Composition of gadgets
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security



Example:

Addition between two secrets a and b with the shares $(a_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$ and $(b_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$

for
$$i = 1$$
 to n
 $c_i \leftarrow a_i + b_i$



Example:

Addition between two secrets a and b with the shares $(a_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$ and $(b_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$

for
$$i = 1$$
 to n
 $c_i \leftarrow a_i + b_i$

- Possible probes
 - a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_n
 - $b_1, b_2, ..., b_n$
 - *c*₁, *c*₂, ..., *c*_n



Example:

Addition between two secrets a and b with the shares $(a_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$ and $(b_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$

for
$$i = 1$$
 to n
 $c_i \leftarrow a_i + b_i$

- Possible probes
 - a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_n
 - *b*₁, *b*₂, ..., *b*_n
 - $c_1, c_2, ..., c_n$

With at most n - 1 probes \Rightarrow impossible to recover a or b



Example:

Extract of a multiplication between two secrets a and b with the shares $(a_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$ and $(b_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$

for
$$i = 1$$
 to n
for $j = i + 1$ to n
 $r_{i,j} \leftarrow \$$
 $r_{j,i} \leftarrow (r_{i,j} \oplus a_i \cdot b_j) \oplus a_j \cdot b_i$



Example:

• Extract of a multiplication between two secrets a and b with the shares $(a_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$ and $(b_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$

for
$$i = 1$$
 to n
for $j = i + 1$ to n
 $r_{i,j} \leftarrow \$$
 $r_{j,i} \leftarrow (r_{i,j} \oplus a_i \cdot b_j) \oplus a_j \cdot b_i$

- Possible probes
 - $r_{i,j}$ $(i < j), r_{j,i}$ $r_{j,i}$ (i < j)
 - a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_n $a_i \cdot b_j$
 - b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n $r_{i,j} \oplus a_i \cdot b_j \ (i < j)$



Example:

• Extract of a multiplication between two secrets a and b with the shares $(a_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$ and $(b_i)_{1 \le i \le n}$

for
$$i = 1$$
 to n
for $j = i + 1$ to n
 $r_{i,j} \leftarrow$
 $r_{j,i} \leftarrow (r_{i,j} \oplus a_i \cdot b_j) \oplus a_j \cdot b_i$

- Possible probes
 - $r_{i,j}$ (i < j)
 - a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_n
 - $b_1, b_2, ..., b_n$

- $r_{j,i}$ (i < j)
- $a_i \cdot b_j$
- $r_{i,j} \oplus a_i \cdot b_j \ (i < j)$



2 shares in a

single probe

Security Proofs

Small gadgets (small circuit and small masking order)

- Check the security by hand or using automatic tools
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security

Bigger gadgets (bigger circuits and/or higher masking order)

- Build theoretical proofs
 - Probing Security
- Composition of gadgets
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security











- Reminder: an implementation is *t*-probing secure iff any set of at most *t* variables is independent from the secret
- How to reason on composition?





- Reminder: an implementation is *t*-probing secure iff any set of at most *t* variables is independent from the secret
- How to reason on composition?
 - Stronger property: *t*-non-interference

any set of t variables can be simulated with at most t input shares




























- Reminder: an implementation is *t*-probing secure iff any set of at most *t* variables is independent from the secret
- How to reason on composition?
 - Stronger property: *t*-non-interference

any set of t variables can be simulated with at most t input shares

- Stronger property: strong non-interference any set of
 - t₁ internal variables
 - *t*₂ output variables

can be simulated with at most t_1 input shares























Security Proofs

Small gadgets (small circuit and small masking order)

- Check the security by hand or using automatic tools
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security

Bigger gadgets (bigger circuits and/or higher masking order)

- Build theoretical proofs
 - Probing Security
- Composition of gadgets
 - Probing Security
 - Random Probing Security







- Reminder: an implementation is (p, ε) -random probing secure iff the probability to recover information on the secret is bounded by ε .
- How to reason on composition?





- Reminder: an implementation is (p, ε) -random probing secure iff the probability to recover information on the secret is bounded by ε .
- How to reason on composition?
 - Stronger property: (t, p, ε) -RPC
 - Any t output shares + the leakage can be simulated with at most t input shares with probability $\geq 1 \varepsilon$











A_3 is (t, p, ε_3) -RPC

 \rightarrow its leakage can be simulated with t input shares with probability $1 - \varepsilon_3$





A_2 is (t, p, ε_2) -RPC

 \rightarrow its leakage and A_3 's inputs can be simulated with t input shares with probability $1 - \varepsilon_2$





A_1 is (t, p, ε_1) -RPC

 \rightarrow its leakage and A_2 's and A_3 's inputs can be simulated with t input shares with probability $1 - \varepsilon_1$





A_0 is (t, p, ε_0) -RPC

 \rightarrow its leakage and A_1 's inputs can be simulated with t input shares with probability $1 - \varepsilon_0$





Probability of failure: A_0 fails or A_1 fails or A_2 fails or A_3 fails $\leq \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3 + \varepsilon_4$



Conclusion



Summary

- Side-channel attacks are very powerful
 - Few seconds to recover the key on some software devices
 - Cheap equipments



Summary

- Side-channel attacks are very powerful
 - Few seconds to recover the key on some software devices
 - Cheap equipments

Countermeasures are mandatory for sensitive devices

- Hardware and low cost countermeasures
- Fresh re-keying
- Masking



Summary

- Side-channel attacks are very powerful
 - Few seconds to recover the key on some software devices
 - Cheap equipments

Countermeasures are mandatory for sensitive devices

- Hardware and low cost countermeasures
- Fresh re-keying
- Masking
- Practical security
 - Security proofs in relevant leakage models
 - Automatic tools



Challenges

Efficiency

- The least possible randomness
- The least possible operations



Challenges

Efficiency

- The least possible randomness
- The least possible operations

Security

- Theoretical proofs of existing schemes
- Automatic tools to verify the security of implementations



Challenges

Efficiency

- The least possible randomness
- The least possible operations

Security

- Theoretical proofs of existing schemes
- Automatic tools to verify the security of implementations

Practicality

Security of implementations under leakage models as close as possible to the reality



ERC Project AMAskZONE







European Research Council

Established by the European Commission





How to design and verify cryptographic implementations so that they achieve measurable practical security?















Compilers in the Random Leakage Model

AMAskZONE compiler $\longrightarrow \bigotimes \longrightarrow \bigoplus$







Compilers in the Random Leakage Model





Two steps

- Identify composition rules to assemble gadgets with some security properties
 - Example: RPC security
- Build basic (then advanced) gadgets with these security guarantees
 - Example: RPC secure multiplication, addition, etc





Verification with Polynomial Complexity

AMAskZONE verifier







Verification with Polynomial Complexity









Verification with Polynomial Complexity



- I) verification of advanced properties (linear algebra)
- 2) composition rules (linear algebra)
- 3) toolbox (computer science)





AMAskZONE

verifier

{O}

→ 🥊 or 🗙


 I) verification of advanced properties (linear algebra)

AMAskZONE

verifier

→ or 🗙

- 2) composition rules (linear algebra)
- 3) toolbox (computer science)





n intermediate variables \Rightarrow complexity in $m \cdot b$

 I) verification of advanced properties (linear algebra)

2) composition rules (linear algebra)



verifier $\longrightarrow \bigotimes \longrightarrow 2$ or \times

AMAskZONE





- I) verification of advanced properties (linear algebra)
- 2) composition rules (linear algebra)
- 3) toolbox (computer science)

royalty-free open-source toolbox





- I) verification of advanced properties (linear algebra)
- 2) composition rules (linear algebra)
- 3) toolbox (computer science)





AMAskZONE

verifier

{○}

Thank you

