

Side-channel Masking with Pseudo-Random Generator

Eurocrypt 2020

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11/05/2020



Motivation: side-channel attacks

High-order masking : randomness cost

- Number of randoms is high: can become a bottleneck
- **Our goal:** minimize number of calls to TRNG *and* remain secure in the probing model

	$t = 2$	$t = 3$	$t = 4$	$t = 5$	$t = 6$
Rivain-Prouff [RP10]	2880	5760	9600	14400	20160
Belaïd <i>et. al</i> [BBP16]	2560	5120	8000	13120	18240
Faust <i>et. al</i> [FPS17]	1415	2530	6082	6699	20712
This paper	48	108	192	300	432

Table: number of bytes of true randomness to get t -th order security for AES.

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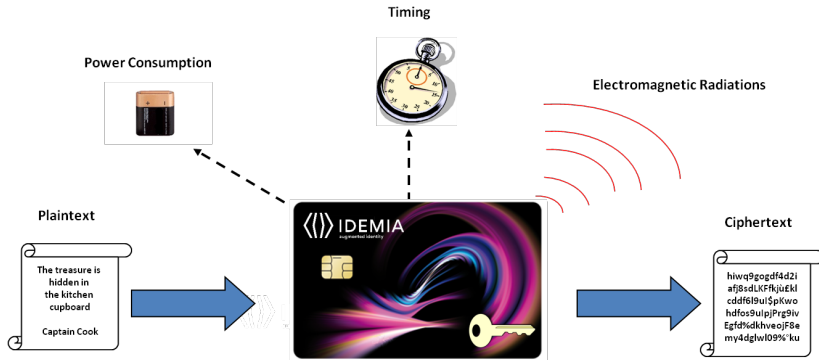
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Side-Channel attacks

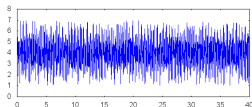


Differential Power Analysis [KJJ99]

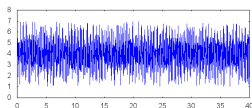
Group by predicted
SBox output bit

Average trace

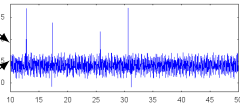
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Differential trace



Countermeasure

Masking countermeasure

Let x be a sensitive variable:

- Generate a random r (different for each execution)
- Mask x using r : $x' = x \oplus r$
- Manipulate x' (instead of x) and r independently

r is random $\Rightarrow x'$ is random $\Rightarrow$ no information on x leaks

👉 True only in case of **one leakage point**

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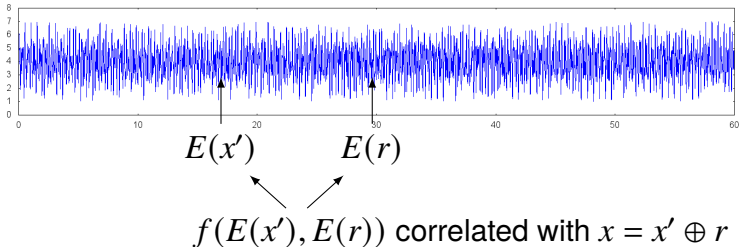
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Differential Power Analysis (second-order)

- Manipulation of $x' = x \oplus r$



- Second-order attack
 - requires more curves but can be practical

Solution: Higher-Order Boolean Masking

Basic principle

Each sensitive variable x is shared into n variables:

$$x = x_1 \oplus x_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus x_n$$

- Generate $n - 1$ random variables $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}$
- Initially let $x_n = x \oplus x_1 \oplus x_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus x_{n-1}$

Security against DPA attack of order $n - 1$

- Any subset of $n - 1$ shares is uniformly and independently distributed
- $\Rightarrow$ If we probe at most $n - 1$ shares x_i , we learn nothing about x

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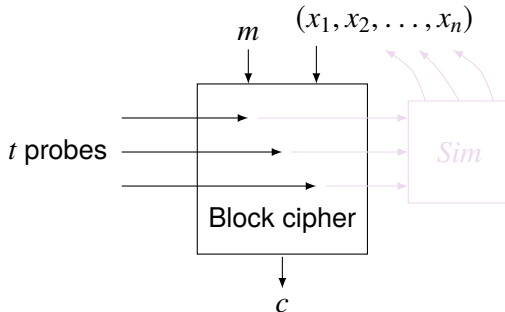
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ISW Security Model

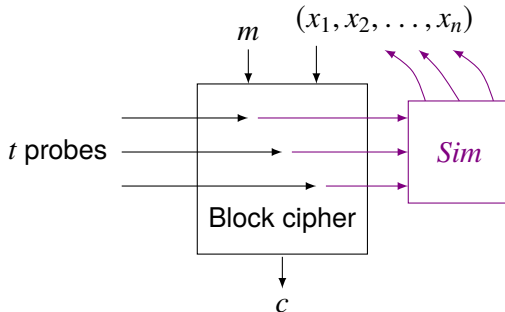
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- Show that any $t < n$ probes can be perfectly simulated from at most $n - 1$ of the x_i 's.
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Linear Operations

Computation of $a \oplus b$

- **Inputs:** $(a_i)_i$ and $(b_i)_i$ such that
 - $a_1 \oplus a_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus a_n = a$
 - $b_1 \oplus b_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus b_n = b$
- **Output:** $(c_i)_i$ such that
 - $(a_1 \oplus b_1) \oplus (a_2 \oplus b_2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (a_n \oplus b_n) = a \oplus b$
 $\Rightarrow c_1 \oplus c_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus c_n = a \oplus b$

Computation of a^2 in $\mathbb{F}_{2^k}$

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Secure Multiplication in High-Order Masking Schemes

Secure Computation of $a \times b$

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Ishai-Sahai-Wagner private circuit [ISW03]

- Secure against t probes for $n = 2t + 1$ shares.
- Number of operations: $O(t^2)$
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Decomposition of the c_i

$$\bigoplus_i c_i = \left(\bigoplus_i a_i \right) \left(\bigoplus_i b_i \right) = \bigoplus_{i,j} a_i b_j$$

Example for $n = 3$

For n shares: requires $n(n-1)/2$ fresh random values

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Secure SBox Computation

Secure Computation of $S(x)$

- **Inputs:** $(x_i)_i$ such that
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[RP10] countermeasure for AES: compute $S(x) = x^{254}$



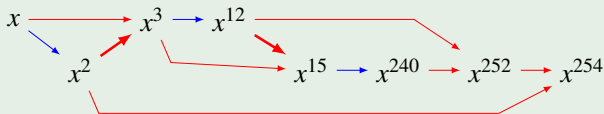
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Reducing randomness complexity

Natural idea

- Use a **TRNG** to generate a seed
- Use a **PRG** to generate all needed randoms

 **Security:** The Pseudo-Random Generator (PRG) should also be secure against t -probing attacks

Notion of robust PRG [IKL+13]

- Original ISW: randomness complexity $O(t^2 |C|)$
- New randomness complexity $O(t^{3+\varepsilon} \log^k |C|)$
 - Exponential improvement in $|C|$

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Our construction

- New randomness complexity $O(t^2(\log t + \log |C|))$
- Without expander graphs
- No need for robust PRG: a simple r -wise independent PRG is sufficient
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r -wise independent PRG

Definition: r -wise independent PRG

- $G : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^m$ for $m \gg n$
- Any subset of r bits of $G(a)$ is uniformly and independently distributed, for $a \leftarrow U_n$.

Construction based on polynomial evaluation in $\mathbb{F}$

- Generate a random **seed** of r elements from TRNG:

$$\vec{a} = (a_0, \dots, a_{r-1}) \in \mathbb{F}^r$$

- Evaluate the polynomial

$$h_{\vec{a}}(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} a_i x^i \in \mathbb{F}$$

at fixed points $x_j \in \mathbb{F}$

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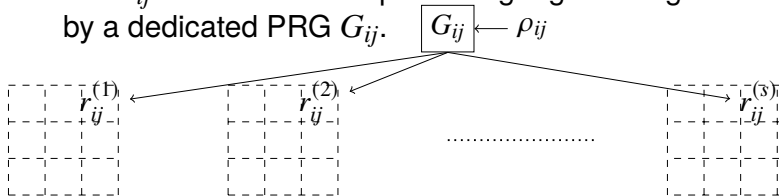
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- The r_{ij} 's in all ISW multiplication gadgets are generated by a dedicated PRG G_{ij} .

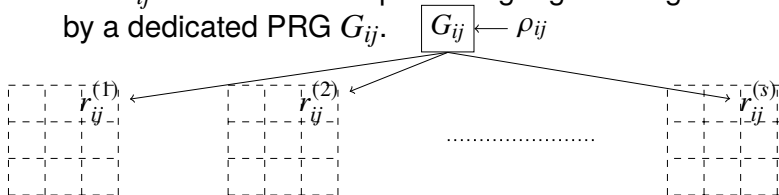


Security of ISW

- If the attacker probes a given r_{ij} , we can give to the attacker all other $r_{ij}^{(k)}$ for free.
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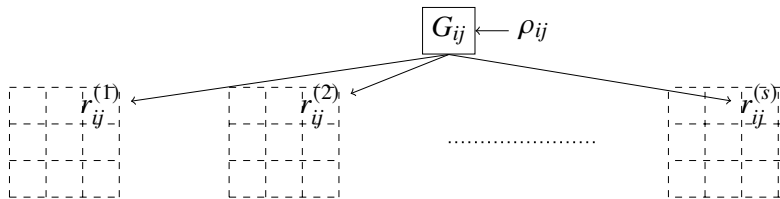
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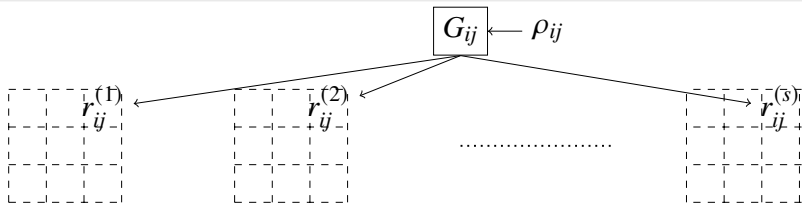
Our technique (2)



r -wise independence of PRG

- With some mask refreshing, every intermediate variable depends on at most a *single* random $r_{ij}^{(k)}$.
- With t probes, the adversary gets information about at most t randoms $r_{ij}^{(k)}$ generated by the PRG G_{ij} .
- $\Rightarrow$ we can use a PRG with r -wise independence $r = t$.

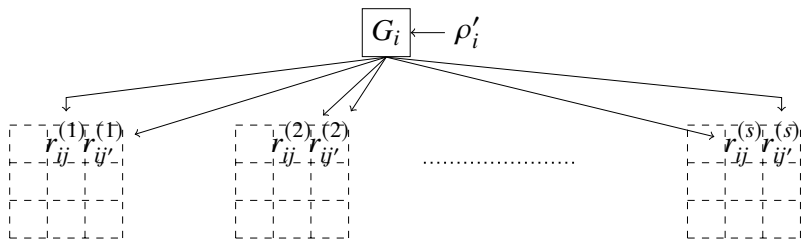
Our technique (3)



Randomness complexity

- There are $O(t^2)$ randoms r_{ij} , so we need $O(t^2)$ independent PRGs G_{ij}
- Each PRG requires $r = t$ true randoms in $\mathbb{F}$
 - with $|\mathbb{F}| = O(|C|)$
- Randomness complexity $O(t^3 \log |C|)$
 - instead of $O(t^{3+\varepsilon} \log^k |C|)$ in [IKL13]
 - without expander graphs

Improved randomness complexity



Randomness complexity

- Each PRG G_i now generates the full row of randoms $r_{ij}^{(k)}$
 - We need $O(t)$ independent PRGs instead of $O(t^2)$.
- Each PRG requires $r = t$ true randoms in $\mathbb{F}$
 - with $|\mathbb{F}| = O(t|C|)$
- Randomness complexity
 $O(t^2(\log t + \log |C|))$

Application to AES

- Concrete AES implementation of our construction
 - 44 MHz ARM-Cortex M3 processor
 - Slow TRNG: 1500 cycles per TRNG byte.
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Reducing randomness complexity of high-order masking

- $O(t^2|C|)$ in original ISW
- From $O(t^{3+\varepsilon} \log^k |C|)$ in [IKL+13] with robust PRG
- to $O(t^2(\log t + \log |C|))$ with r -wise independent PRG
- Simple construction without expander graphs.

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- Concrete implementation of AES with PRG.
- Only 48 bytes of TRNG instead of 2880 in [RP10] for $t = 2$.
- Implementation on a real-life processor : 50 % speedup.

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