Week 13: Lecture A Side Channels & Hardware Security

Tuesday, November 19, 2024



Announcements

Project 3 grades are now available on Canvas

Statistics:

- Average score: 97%
- Last year's avg: 90%
- Fantastic job!
- Regrades coming soon!





Announcements

Project 4: NetSec released

Deadline: Thursday, December 5th by 11:59PM

Project 4: Network Security

Deadline: Thursday, December 5 by 11:59PM.

Before you start, review the course syllabus for the Lateness, Collaboration, and Ethical Use policies.

You may optionally work alone, or in teams of **at most two** and submit **one project per team**. If you have difficulties forming a team, post on **Piazza's Search for Teammates** forum. Note that the final exam will cover project material, so you and your partner should collaborate on each part.

The code and other answers your group submits must be entirely your own work, and you are bound by the University's Student Code. You may consult with other students about the conceptualization of the project and the meaning of the questions, but you may not look at any part of someone else's solution or collaborate with anyone outside your group. You may consult published references, provided that you appropriately cite them (e.g., in your code comments). **Don't risk your grade and degree by cheating!**

Complete your work in the **CS 4440 VM**—we will use this same environment for grading. You may not use any **external dependencies**. Use only default Python 3 libraries and/or modules we provide you.

Working on Part 1

Finished Part 1, working on Part 2

Finished both Part 1 and Part 2

None of the above



0%

0%

0%

0%

Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at pollev.com/app

Final Exam

- Save the date: 1–3PM on Tuesday, December 10
 - CDA accommodations: schedule exam via CDA Portal
- High-level details (more to come):
 - One exam covering all course material
 - Similar to project/quiz/lecture exercises



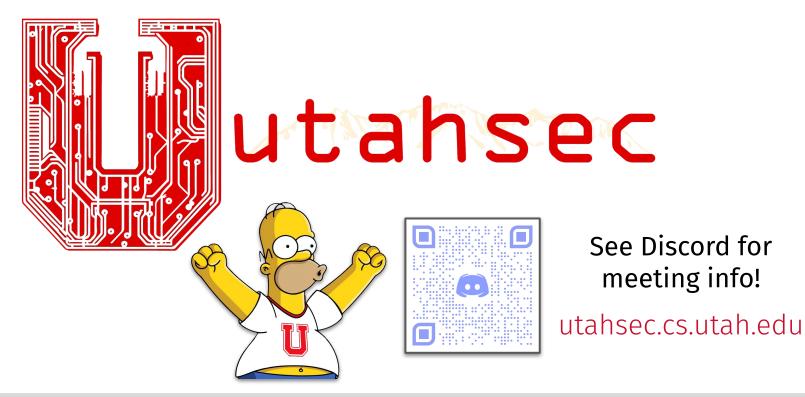


Final Exam

- Save the date: 1–3PM on Tuesday, December 10
 - CDA accommodations: schedule exam via CDA Portal
- **High-level details** (more to come):
 - One exam covering all course material
 - Similar to project/quiz/lecture exercises
- Practice Exam will be released this Thursday
 - See Assignments page on the CS 4440 website
- Final lecture will serve as a review session
 - Practice Exam solutions discussed in-class only—don't skip!



Announcements



Questions?





No Class Next Week



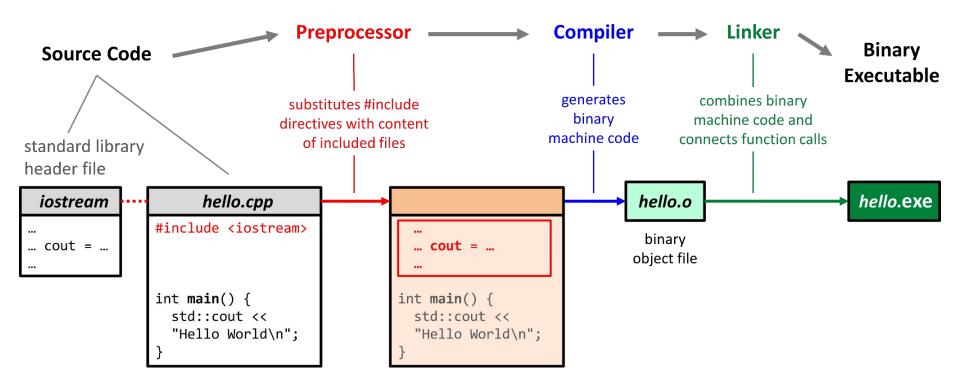


Last time on CS 4440...

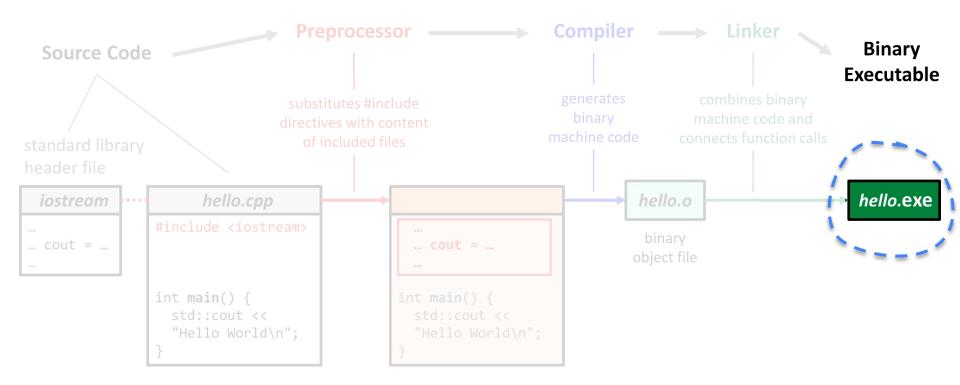
Binary Reverse Engineering Instruction Recovery Control Flow Analysis Structure Recovery RE Challenges



Recap: the Compilation Process



Recap: the Compilation Process





Stefan Nagy

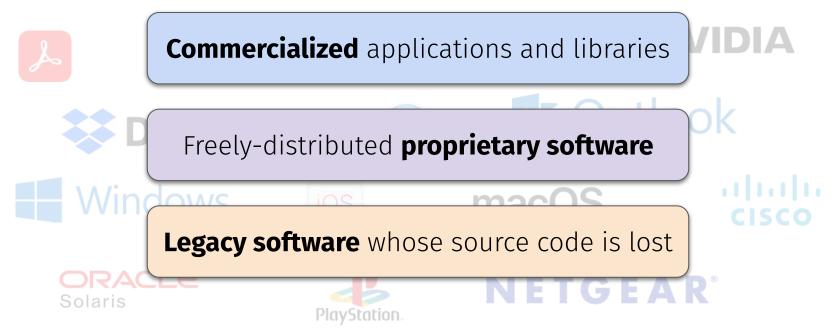
Closed-source Software

It's everywhere!



Closed-source Software

It's everywhere!





Reverse Engineering (RE)

What is RE?

"A process or method through which one attempts to **understand** through deductive reasoning how a previously made **device**, **process**, **system**, or piece of **software** accomplishes a task with **very little (if any) insight** into exactly how it does so."



Three Pillars of RE

1. ???





Three Pillars of RE

1. Instruction Recovery





Pillar #1: Instruction Recovery

• Goal: ???



Pillar #1: Instruction Recovery

Goal: translate bytes into **logical instructions**

- Called instruction **decoding**
- Analogous to what CPU does
- General output: disassembly

Inst	ruct	ion s	strea	am								
В8	22	11	00	FF	01	CA	31	F6	53	8B	5C	24
04	8D	34	48	39	C3	72	\mathbf{EB}	C3				

Read bytes from input executable

Machine code bytes	Assembly language statements
<pre>B8 22 11 00 FF 01 CA 31 F6 53 8B 5C 24 04 8D 34 48 39 C3 72 EB C3</pre>	<pre>foo: movl \$0xFF001122, %eax addl %ecx, %edx xorl %esi, %esi pushl %ebx movl 4(%esp), %ebx leal (%eax,%ecx,2), %esi cmpl %eax, %ebx jnae foo retl</pre>

Group bytes

Decode instructions



Three Pillars of RE

1. Instruction Recovery

- Decode bytes to instructions
- Disambiguate code from data

2. ???





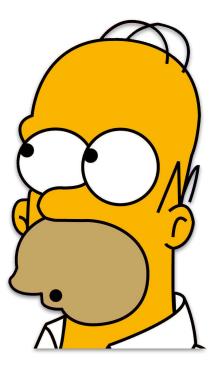
Three Pillars of RE

1. Instruction Recovery

- Decode bytes to instructions
- Disambiguate code from data

2. Control Flow Recovery

- Intra-procedural execution flow
- Inter-procedural execution flow





- Direct Edges
 - ???



- Direct Edges
 - Jump/call a function
- Indirect Edges
 - ???



Target is pre-set **statically**



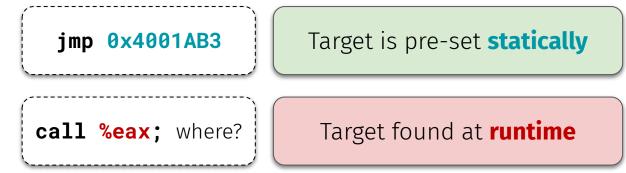
- Direct Edges
 - Jump/call a function

Indirect Edges

- Transfer to a register
- Function pointers
- Switch-case tables

"Pseudo" Edges

???



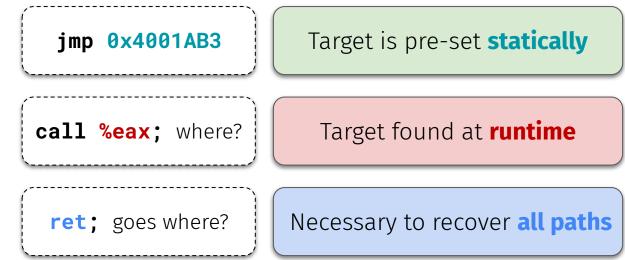
- Direct Edges
 - Jump/call a function

Indirect Edges

- Transfer to a register
- Function pointers
- Switch-case tables

"Pseudo" Edges

Post-call returns



Tail Calls

· ???

- Direct Edges
 - Jump/call a function

Indirect Edges

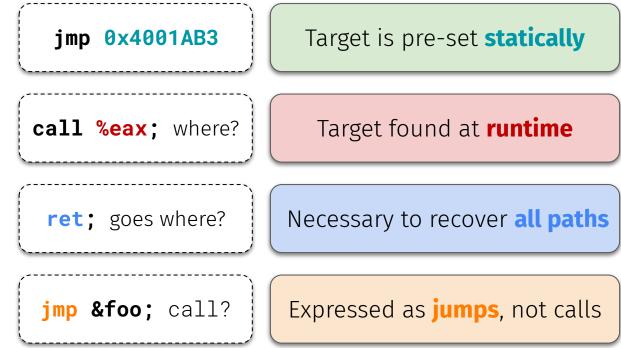
- Transfer to a register
- Function pointers
- Switch-case tables

"Pseudo" Edges

Post-call returns

Tail Calls

Call at function's end



Three Pillars of RE

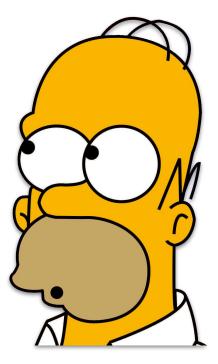
1. Instruction Recovery

- Decode bytes to instructions
- Disambiguate code from data

2. Control Flow Recovery

- Intra-procedural execution flow
- Inter-procedural execution flow

3. ???





Three Pillars of RE

1. Instruction Recovery

- Decode bytes to instructions
- Disambiguate code from data

2. Control Flow Recovery

- Intra-procedural execution flow
- Inter-procedural execution flow

3. Program Structure Recovery

- Identify program basic blocks
- Higher-level constructs (e.g., loops)



UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Pillar #3: Structure Recovery

- Largely **heuristic**-based
 - Construct-specific rules
- **Functions:**
 - Start:

???



Pillar #3: Structure Recovery

- Largely **heuristic**-based
 - Construct-specific rules

Functions:

- Start:
 - Target of a call
 - Target of a tail call
 - A known prologue
 - A dispatch table entry
- **End:**
 - ???

pust	push ebp							
mov	ebp,	esp						
sub	esp,	Ν						
			_					

Prologue

```
switch(choice) {
    case 0 :
        result = add(first, second);
        break;
    case 1 :
        result = sub(first, second);
        break;
    case 2 :
        result = mult(first, second);
        break;
    case 3 :
        result = divide(first, second);
        break;
    }
}
```

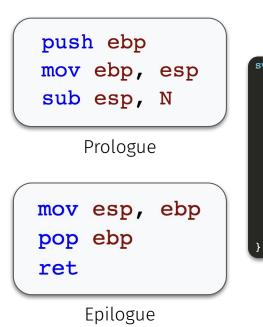
C-level Switch Table

Pillar #3: Structure Recovery

- Largely **heuristic**-based
 - Construct-specific rules

Functions:

- Start:
 - Target of a call
 - Target of a tail call
 - A known prologue
 - A dispatch table entry
- End:
 - Location of a ret
 - Location of a tail call
 - A known epilogue

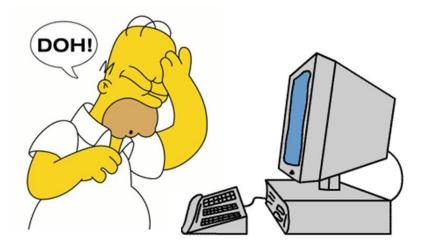


switch(choice) {
 case 0 :
 result = add(first, second);
 break;
 case 1 :
 result = sub(first, second);
 break;
 case 2 :
 result = mult(first, second);
 break;
 case 3 :
 result = divide(first, second);
 break;
}

C-level Switch Table

Challenges to RE

???





Challenges to RE

Compiler Craziness

- Data-in-code
- Optimizations

Haphazard Heuristics

- Weird/esoteric patterns
- E.g., all jump table variants

Obtuse Obfuscations

- Control-flow flattening
- Opaque predicates



Questions?





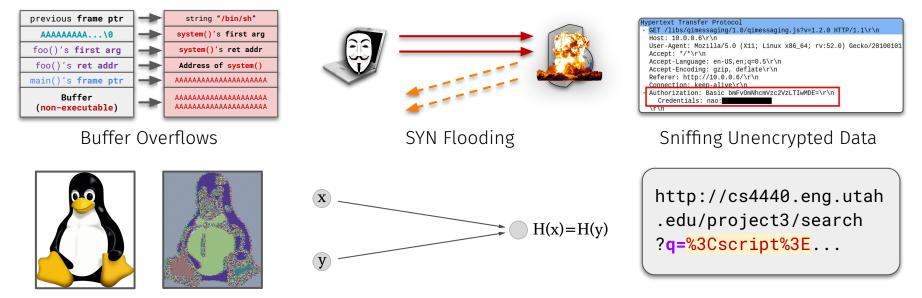
This time on CS 4440...

Side Channels Hardware Security Hardware Supply Chain Attacks



Exploitable Security Flaws

So far, we have studied attacks that exploit design flaws



Cross-site Scripting

ECB Diffusion Analysis

Hash Collisions

Exploitable Security Flaws







?q=%3Cscript%3E...

Cross-site Scripting



ECB Diffusion Analysis

Stefan Nagy

Hash Collisions

Side Channel Attacks

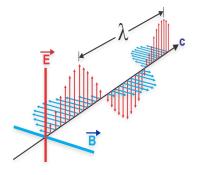


Side Channel Attacks

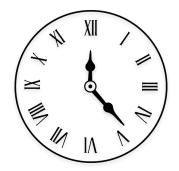
"Any attack based on **extra information** that can be **gathered** because of the fundamental way a computer protocol or algorithm is **implemented**, or minor, but potentially devastating, mistakes or oversights in the implementation."

Side Channels

- What are some potential sources of **indirect info** emitted by your computer?
 - Additional channels of information beyond what is directly visible/accessible to you



Emitted Radiation



Execution Time

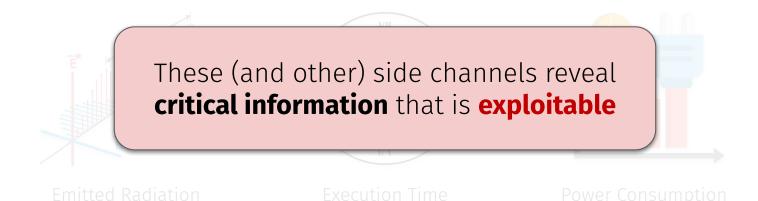


Power Consumption



Side Channels

- What are some potential sources of **indirect info** emitted by your computer?
 - Additional channels of information beyond what is directly visible/accessible to you



SCHOOL OF COMPUTING UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

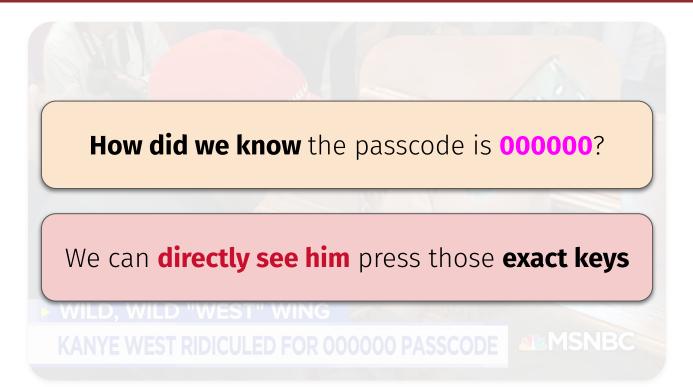
Optical and Acoustic Side Channels











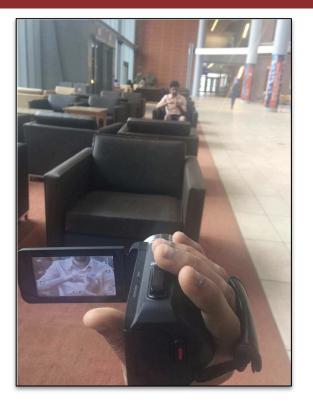


What if we can't directly see keys that someone is pressing?



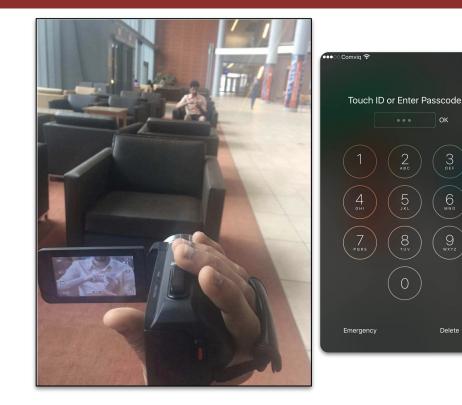


- What if we can't directly see keys that someone is pressing?
- Optical side channel:
 - Capture visible hand movements





- What if we can't directly see keys that someone is pressing?
- Optical side channel:
 - Capture visible hand movements
 - Assume attacker knows (or can easily guess) the key interface



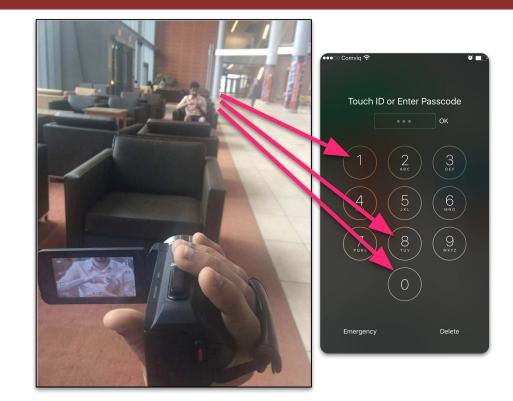


0

What if we can't directly see keys that someone is pressing?

Optical side channel:

- Capture visible hand movements
- Assume attacker knows (or can easily guess) the key interface
- Attacker maps movements to pressed keys on the interface





Stealing Information

Stefan Nagy

A CONTRACTOR

Hard Drive LED Allows Data Theft From Air-Gapped PCs

Researchers at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel have disclosed yet another method that can be used to exfiltrate data from air-gapped computers, and this time it involves the activity LED of hard disk drives (HDDs).

Researchers at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel have disclosed yet another method that can be used to exfiltrate data from air-gapped computers, and this time it involves the activity LED of hard disk drives (HDDs).

Many desktop and laptop computers have an HDD activity indicator, which blinks when data is being read from or written to the disk. The blinking frequency and duration depend on the type and intensity of the operation being performed.

Stealing Information

Hard Drive LED Allows Data Theft From Air-Gapped PCs

A piece of malware that is installed on the targeted air-gapped device can harvest data and exfiltrate it using one of these encoding systems. As for reception and decoding, the attacker must find a way to observe the targeted device's activity LED, either using a local hidden camera, a high-resolution camera that can capture images from outside the building, a camera mounted on a drone, a compromised security camera, a camera carried by a malicious insider, or optical sensors. the Negev in Israel have used to exfiltrate data e it involves the activity

ty of the Negev in Israel that can be used to puters, and this time it c drives (HDDs).

have an HDD activity eing read from or written d duration depend on the

type and intensity of the operation being performed.

Acoustic Side Channels

- **Sound** can leak information, too!
 - Keyboard enthusiasts beware

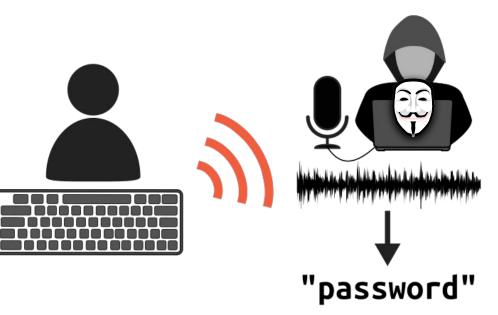




Acoustic Side Channels

- **Sound** can leak information, too!
 - Keyboard enthusiasts beware
- Build model of key press noises
 - Model refinement:

???



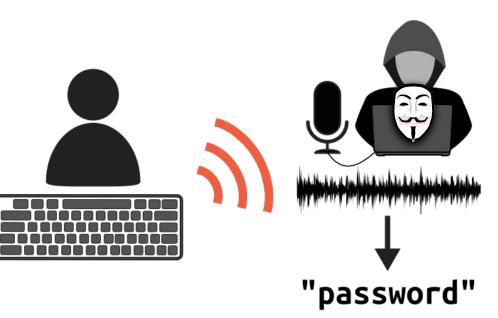


Acoustic Side Channels

- Sound can leak information, too!
 - Keyboard enthusiasts beware

Build model of key press noises

- Model refinement:
 - Consider microphone
 - Remove ambient noise
- Use model to infer entered data
 - Passwords
 - Usernames
 - Phone numbers





Questions?





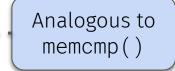
Timing Side Channels



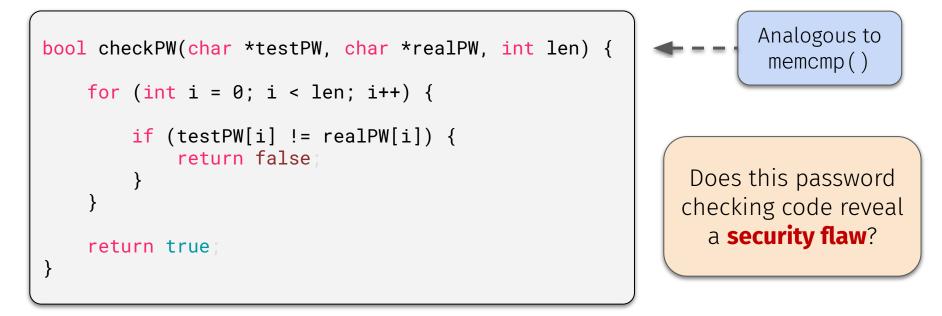


Password verification—how would you implement this?

```
bool checkPW(char *testPW, char *realPW, int len) {
    for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {</pre>
        if (testPW[i] != realPW[i]) {
            return false:
    return true:
```



Password verification—how would you implement this?



Does this password-checking code reveal a security flaw?

No-an attacker could only brute-force guess!

Yes—the design is vulnerable (e.g., buffer overflow).

None of the above

bool checkPW(char *testPW, char *realPW, int len) { for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {</pre> if (testPW[i] != realPW[i]) { return false return true

0%

0%

0%

Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at pollev.com/app

Password verification—how would you implement this?

```
bool checkPW(char *testPW, char *realPW, int len) {
    for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {</pre>
        if (testPW[i] != realPW[i]) {
            return false:
    }
    return true:
```

```
Password Login Attempts:
```

```
ABCDEFGH == PASSWORD

???
```

Password verification—how would you implement this?

```
bool checkPW(char *testPW, char *realPW, int len) {
    for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {
        if (testPW[i] != realPW[i]) {
            return false;
        }
    }
    return true;
}</pre>
```

```
Password Login Attempts:
```

```
ABCDEFGH == PASSWORD
```

```
    False on first iteration
```

```
PASSEFGH == PASSWORD
    ???
```

Password verification—how would you implement this?

```
bool checkPW(char *testPW, char *realPW, int len) {
    for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {</pre>
        if (testPW[i] != realPW[i]) {
            return false:
    return true:
```



```
ABCDEFGH == PASSWORD
```

```
    False on first iteration
```

```
PASSEFGH == PASSWORD
```

```
True on iterations 1–4
```

```
False on fifth iteration
```

More code executed for a correct symbol!



How can this **side channel** be **exploited**?



How can this **side channel** be **exploited**?

Attacker: ABCDEF







How can this **side channel** be **exploited**?

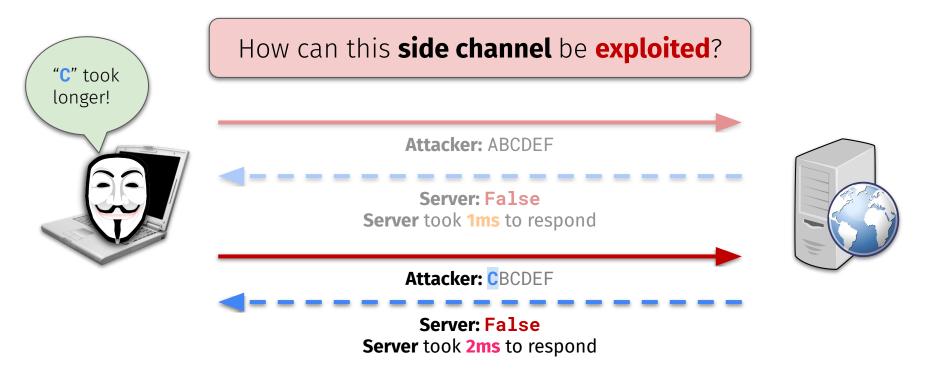


Attacker: ABCDEF

Server: False Server took 1ms to respond









How can this **side channel** be **exploited**?

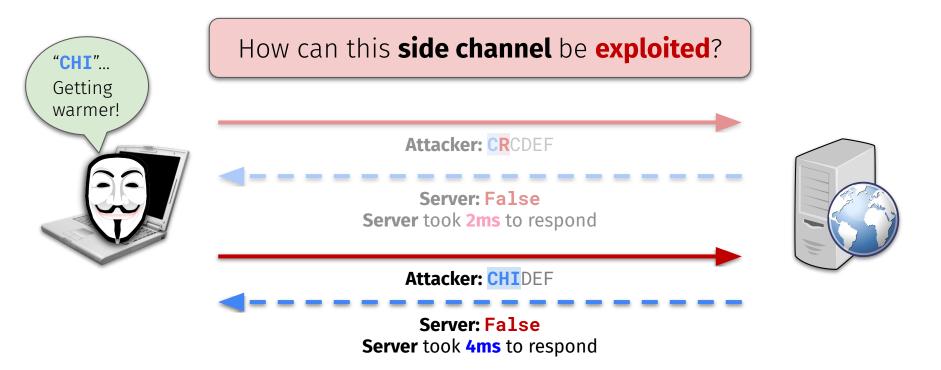


Attacker: CRCDEF

Server: False Server took 2ms to respond









How can this **side channel** be **exploited**?





Server: True Server took 7ms to respond





How can this **side channel** be **exploited**?





Server: True Server took 7ms to respond



Through **timing analysis**, attacker can infer the **correctness** of individual **password symbols**!



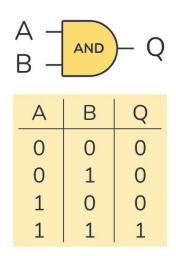
- **Solution:**
 - ???



Solution:

Constant-time implementation (e.g., using bitwise AND-ing)

```
bool checkPW(char *testPW, char *realPW, int len) {
    bool result = 1; // integer equiv of "true"
    for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {
        result &= ca[i] == cb[i];
        return result;
    }
    }
}
</pre>
```



Solution:

Constant-time implementation (e.g., using bitwise AND-ing)

```
bool checkPW(char *testPW, char *realPW, int len) {
    bool result = 1; // integer equiv of "true"
    for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {
        result &= ca[i] == cb[i];
        return result
    }
    }
}
</pre>
```

```
Password Login Attempts:
```

```
ABCDEFGH == PASSWORD
```

```
False on last iteration
```

```
PASSEFGH == PASSWORD
    False on last iteration
```

```
PASSWORD == PASSWORDTrue on last iteration
```

True and **False** run for **identical time**!

Password Checking

- Implications:
 - ???



Password Checking

Implications:

Never use timing-unsafe string compares when handling sensitive data!

FreeBSD Manual Pages	FreeBSD Manual Pages		
timingsafe_bcmp man apropos 3 - Subroutines FreeBSD 13.1-RELEASE and Ports All Architectures	consttime_memequal man apropos All Sections		
home help	home help		
TIMINGSAFE_BCMP(3) FreeBSD Library Functions Manual TIMINGSAFE_BCMP(3)	CONSTTIME_MEMEQUAL(3) BSD Library Functions Manual CONSTTIME_MEMEQUAL(3)		
<pre>NAME timingsafe_bcmp, timingsafe_memcmp timing-safe byte sequence compar- isons</pre>	<pre>NAME</pre>		
SYNOPSIS #include <string.h></string.h>	LIBRARY Standard C Library (libc, -lc)		
<pre>int timingsafe_bcmp(const void *b1, const void *b2, size_t len);</pre>	SYNOPSIS #include <string.h></string.h>		
<pre>int timingsafe_memcmp(const void *b1, const void *b2, size_t len);</pre>	<pre>int consttime_memequal(void *b1, void *b2, size_t len);</pre>		

Questions?





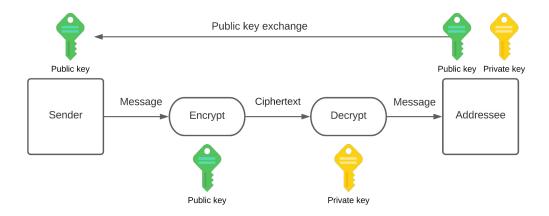
Power Side Channels



Recap: RSA Encryption

Summary:

???





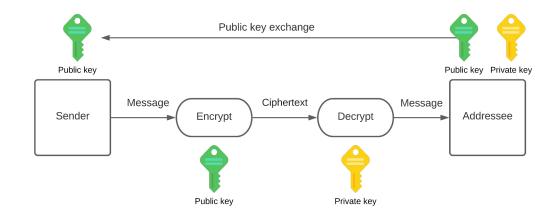
Recap: RSA Encryption

Summary:

- Encrypt with public key
- Decrypt with private key
- Public key = (e,N)
- Private key = (d,N)

To encrypt:

- **E**(x) = x^e mod N
- To **decrypt**:
 - **D**(x) = $\mathbf{x}^d \mod \mathbf{N}$



Recap: RSA Encryption

Summary:

- Encrypt with public key
- Decrypt with private key
- Public key = (e,N)
- Private key = (d,N)
- To encrypt:
 - **E**(x) = x^e mod N
- To **decrypt**:

Public key exchange Public key exchange Public key Private key Sender Message Encrypt Ciphertext Decrypt Message Addressee Public key Private key

Modular exponentiation must be implemented efficiently



Modular Exponentiation

Decryption: D(x) = C privKey mod N

```
x = C
for (int i = 0; i < len; i++){
    x = (x · x) mod(N)
    if (privKey[i] == 1){
        x = (x · C) mod(N)
     }
}
return x</pre>
```





Does this decryption code reveal a security flaw?

No-still would have to brute-force the PrivKey!

Yes-more/fewer operations on different key bits!

None of the above

x = C for (int i = 0; i < len; i++){ x = (x · x) mod(N) if (privKey[i] == 1){ x = (x · C) mod(N) } } return x 0%

0%

0%



Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at pollev.com/app

Modular Exponentiation

Decryption: $D(x) = C^{privKey} \mod N$

```
x = C
for (int i = 0; i < len; i++){</pre>
    x = (x \cdot x) \mod(N)
    if (privKey[i] == 1){
         x = (x \cdot C) \mod(N)
    }
return x
```

Bit-specific Operations:

privKey[i] == 0 privKey[i] == 1

- **1.** Find square of **x 1.** Find square of **x**
- 2. Take modulo N

- 2. Take modulo N



Modular Exponentiation

Decryption: $D(x) = C^{privKey} \mod N$

```
\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{C}
for (int i = 0; i < len; i++){</pre>
    x = (x \cdot x) \mod(N)
    if (privKey[i] == 1){
          x = (x \cdot C) \mod(N)
     }
return x
```

Bit-specific Operations:

privKey[i] == 0 privKey[i] == 1

- 1.
- Take modulo N 2.

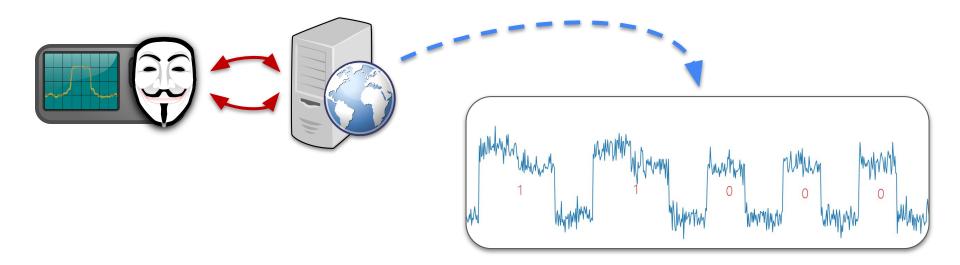
- Find square of **x** 1. Find square of **x**
 - 2. Take modulo N
 - Multiply by C 3.
 - Take modulo N 4.

Timing and **power** will **differ** between key bits 0 versus 1!



RSA Power Analysis

How can this **side channel** be **exploited**?





Stefan Nagy

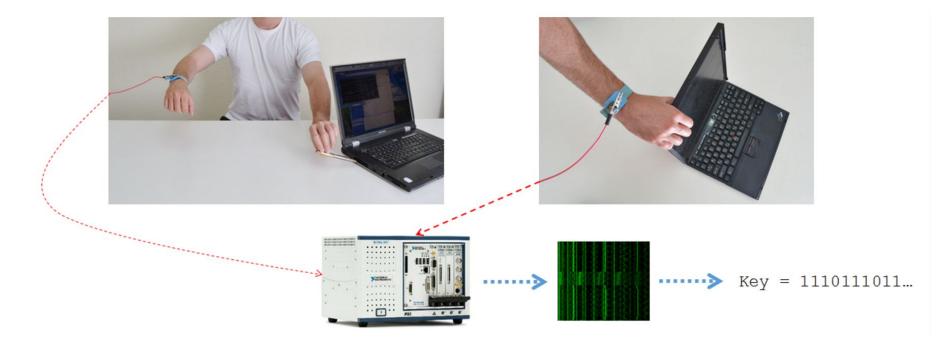
RSA Power Analysis

How can this **side channel** be **exploited**?





Realistic Power Analysis





Questions?





Cache-based Side Channels



CPU Caches

- **RAM** is expensive to load from
 - Disk is even more expensive!
- Fastest retrieval: ???

Storage	Read Time	Capacity	Managed By
Hard Disk	10ms	1 TB	Software/OS
Flash Drive	10–100us	100 GB	Software/OS
RAM	200 cycles	10 GB	Software/OS

https://computationstructures.org/lectures/caches/caches.html



Stefan Nagy

CPU Caches

- **RAM** is expensive to load from
 - Disk is even more expensive!
- Fastest retrieval: the CPU cache
 - Small storage built-in to CPU
 - Common hierarchy: L1, L2, L3, L4
- Key purpose: accelerate retrieval of commonly-accessed data

Storage	Read Time	Capacity	Managed By
Hard Disk	10ms	1 TB	Software/OS
Flash Drive	10–100us	100 GB	Software/OS
RAM	200 cycles	10 GB	Software/OS
L3 Cache	40 cycles	10 MB	Hardware
L2 Cache	10 cycles	256 KB	Hardware
L1 Cache	2–4 cycles	32 KB	Hardware

https://computationstructures.org/lectures/caches/caches.html

- What do you expect to happen here?
 - index < arraySize</pre>

???

```
int read(int index){
    int result = -1;
    result = array[index];
    return result;
}
```



- What do you expect to happen here?
 - index < len(array)</pre>
 - Within-bounds read... success
 - index > len(array)
 - ???

```
int read(int index){
    int result = -1;
    result = array[index];
    return result;
}
```



- What do you expect to happen here?
 - index < len(array)</pre>
 - Within-bounds read... success
 - index > len(array)
 - Out-of-bounds read... prevent
- Optimization: Speculative Execution
 - Perform the OOB read anyways

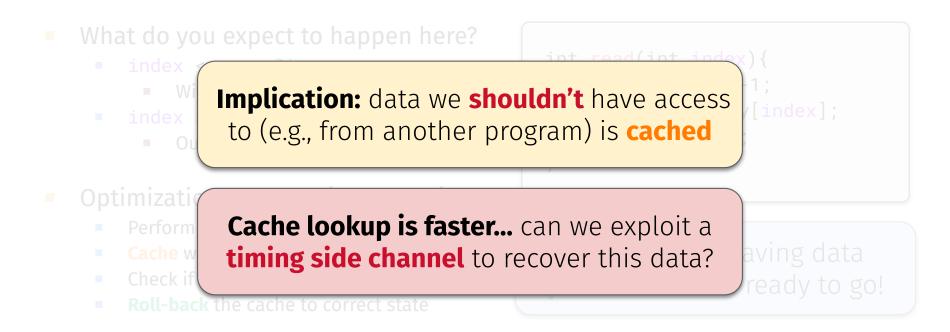
```
int read(int index){
    int result = -1;
    result = array[index];
    return result;
}
```



- What do you expect to happen here?
 - index < len(array)</pre>
 - Within-bounds read... success
 - index > len(array)
 - Out-of-bounds read... prevent
- Optimization: Speculative Execution
 - Perform the OOB read anyways
 - Cache whatever data is accessed
 - Check if it's allowed... after the fact
 - Roll-back the cache to correct state

int read(int index){
 int result = -1;
 result = array[index];
 return result;
}

Save time by having data **pre-cached** and ready to go!





Suppose speculative execution caches a secret result of 4440

```
// index > len(array)
int read(int index){
    int result = -1;
    result = array[index];
    return result;
}
```



Suppose speculative execution caches a secret result of 4440

```
// index > len(array)
int read(int index){
    int result = -1;
    result = array[index];
    return result;
}
```

- 1. Cache array[index]
 - 2. Bounds check index
- 3. Clear array[index]

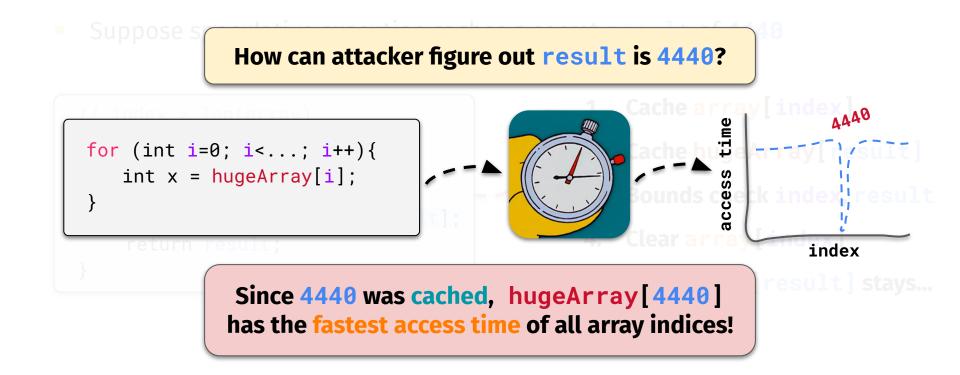
Due to roll-back, we can't retrieve result!

Suppose speculative execution caches a secret result of 4440

```
// index > len(array)
int read(int index){
    int result = -1;
    result = array[index];
    int dummy = hugeArray[result];
    return result;
}
```

- Cache array[index]
- 2. Cache hugeArray[result]
- 3. Bounds check index, result
- 4. Clear array[index]
- 5. hugeArray[result] stays...





Questions?



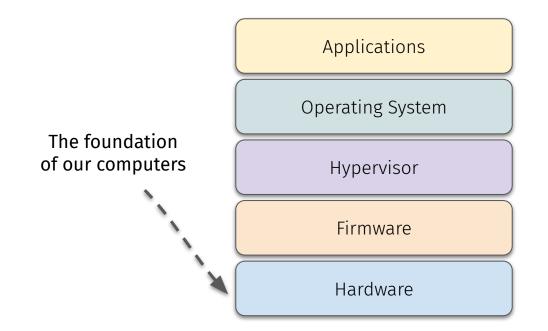


Hardware Security



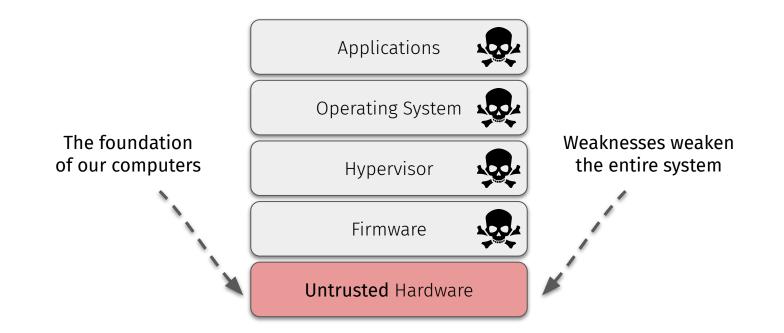


Hardware



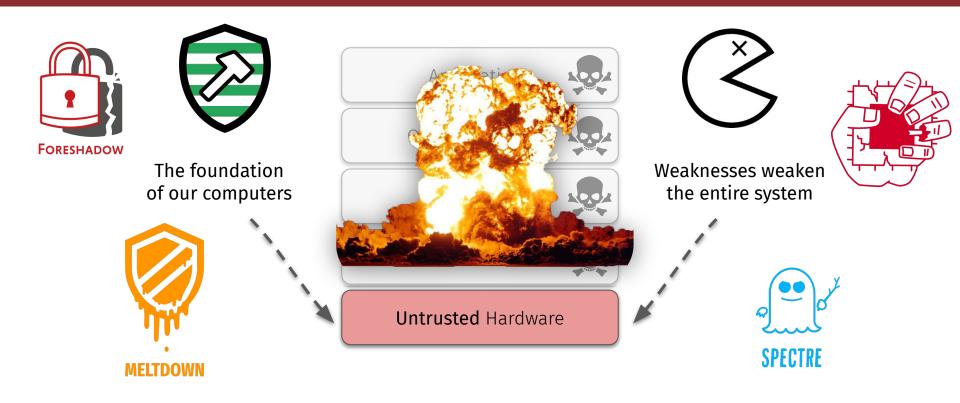


Hardware

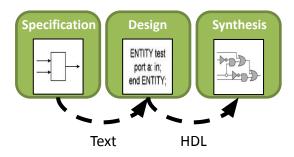




Hardware



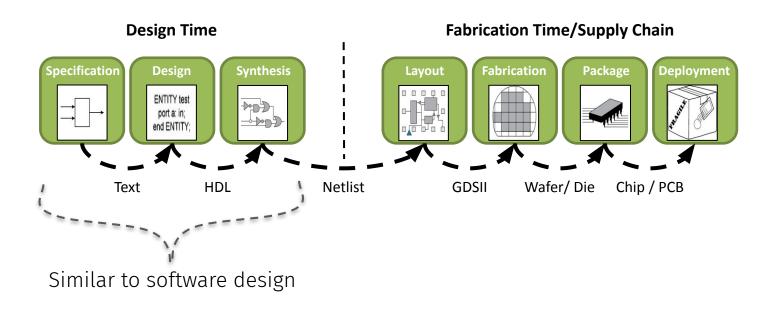
Design Time



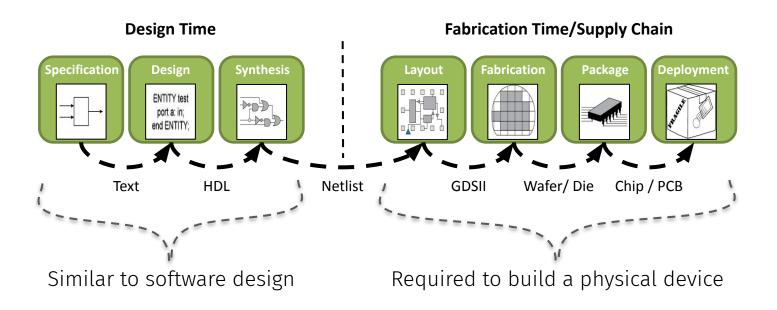


Design Time Specification **Synthesis** Design ENTITY test port a: in; end ENTITY: ◢ヽ Text HDL Similar to software design



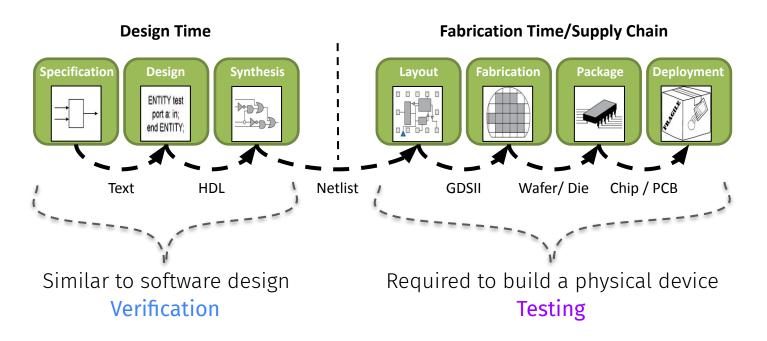






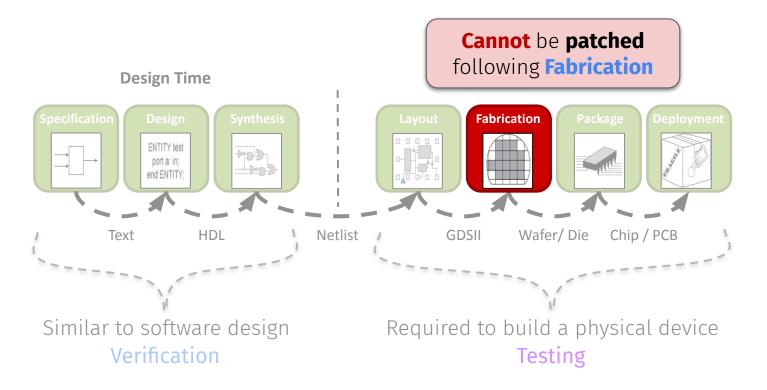


Creating Hardware





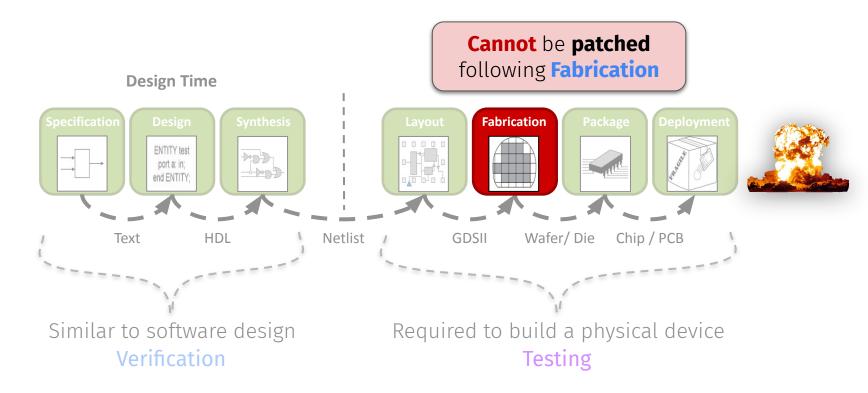
Hardware Bugs





Stefan Nagy

Hardware Bugs





Hardware Bugs





Hardware Threats

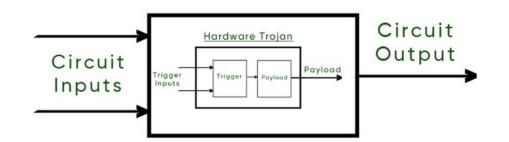


- Trojan Horse:
 - ???



Trojan Horse:

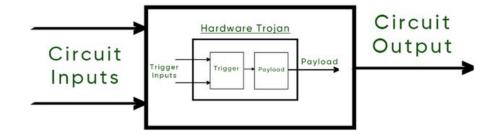
- Attack pre-inserted into chip
- Will be exploited at run time
- Remotely triggered by attacker





Trojan Horse:

- Attack pre-inserted into chip
- Will be exploited at run time
- Remotely triggered by attacker



Ideal characteristics:

- Small
- Stealthy
- Controllable

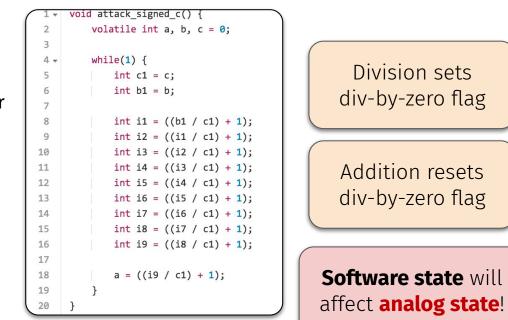
Trojan Horse:

- Attack pre-inserted into chip
- Will be exploited at run time
- Remotely triggered by attacker

Ideal characteristics:

- Small
- Stealthy
- Controllable

Engineering a trigger



Israeli sky-hack switched off Syrian radars countrywide

Backdoors penetrated without violence

A Lewis Page

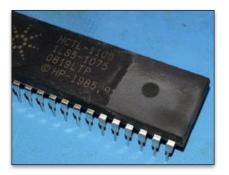
Thu 22 Nov 2007 // 13:57 UTC

More rumours are starting to leak out regarding the mysterious Israeli air raid against Syria in September. It is now suggested that "computer to computer" techniques and "air-to-ground network penetration" took place.

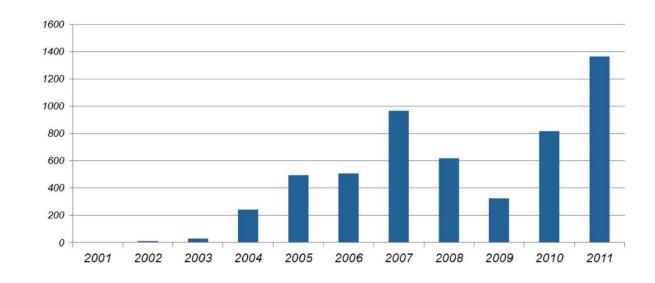
The latest revelations are made by well-connected *Aviation Week* journalists. Electronic-warfare correspondent David Fulghum says that US intelligence and military personnel "provided advice" to the Israelis regarding methods of breaking into the Syrian air-defence network.

Recycled and Counterfeit Hardware

Guin et al.: Counterfeit Integrated Circuits: A Rising Threat in the Global Semiconductor Supply Chain



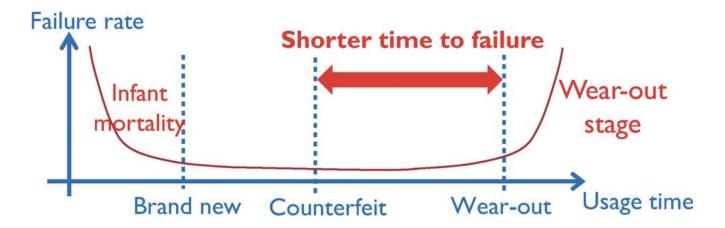
Russia is resorting to putting computer chips from dishwashers and refrigerators in tanks due to US sanctions, official says



Recycled and Counterfeit Hardware

Counterfeit and recycled chips have a shorter lifespan

Absolutely dangerous for security-critical use cases

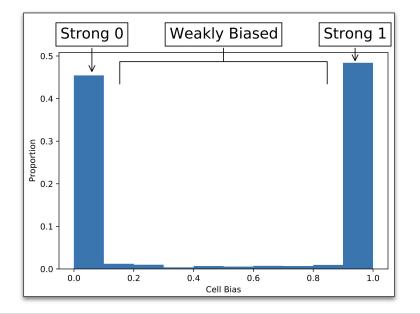




Recycled and Counterfeit Hardware

Counterfeit and recycled chips have a shorter lifespan

Absolutely dangerous for security-critical use cases





Secure Hardware

Can we ever know for sure that a chip is secure?





Next time on CS 4440...

Election Security



Stefan Nagy