Assignment 4

SoC Security Analysis

Due date: 11/27/2023 (Monday) at 11:59 pm, CST

Description

In this assignment, your objective is to play the role of an SoC hacker with the goal of exploiting the bugs in the SoC. You are provided with the details of various security vulnerabilities and clues about the possible exploit. You will be building the exploits and testing them through simulation. This exercise allows you to understand the severity and impact of various vulnerabilities and how they compromise the security of the design.

For this assignment, you are expected to

- i. You will be given a buggy SoC design for which you have to design exploits and execute them through simulation on the buggy design.
- ii. The design has numerous bugs, but this manual provides details for the three bugs B1, B2, and B3 which need to be exploited. You will build five exploits in total:
 - a. Exploits E1, E2, and E3 for the three bugs B1, B2, and B3.
 - b. Exploit E4 is more generic using B1, B2, and B3.
 - c. Exploit E5 is for bonus points.
- iii. Appendix B lists the details of the three bugs B1, B2, and B3 and the clues to build the exploits E1 to E5.
- iv. For each of the exploits you build, you will be leaking/recovering a flag. The flag could be a password, protected data, etc.
 - a. The exploit will be written in the form of a C program. All c program templates can be found in the openpiton/software folder
 - b. The SoC setup provided to you comes with templates for the C program files to run each of the five exploits E1 to E5.
 - c. You need to complete the exploit code in these template program files and submit the modified program files for each exploit. You can search for the keyword 'EDIT' in the C program files which indicates the locations where you need to modify the code.
 - d. Your program files will be tested on the SoC design provided to you.
 - e. You cannot directly hardcode the information about the flag in the program file. Also, you cannot change the kernel code since the attacker is an unprivileged user.
 - f. You need to add comments to the program files. Exploits without comments will not be graded. Check an example exploit in Appendix C which has a program file with comments inserted.
 - g. For each exploit, you need to include the following in your report along with the corresponding program file:

- i. **Explicitly mention** if you were able to successfully run the exploit and report the flag. If the exploit did not run successfully, try to explain the issue (You will get partial points for the explanation in case your exploit did not work).
- ii. A screenshot of the terminal at the beginning of the simulation of the program file showing the command you are using to start the simulation.
- iii. A screenshot of the terminal at the end of the simulation.
- iv. A screenshot of the fake uart.log file.
- h. Also, please include your feedback about this assignment in your report. Any feedback that can improve the lab for upcoming semesters is greatly appreciated.
 - i. You are not required to give feedback for each exploit. You are required to give feedback on the Lab in its entirety.

Resources required for this assignment

1. Buggy design:

The SoC design is an Openpiton SoC with Ariane (aka cva6) cores in it. It follows the RISC-V ISA. The design consists of a lot of design files and has multiple bugs inserted in it. You **need not** go through each and every file. Appendix B lists all the relevant files required to understand the bugs and create exploits. It is sufficient to only check those files.

- 2. Appendices from this manual:
 - a. Appendix A: Setup instructions to simulate the buggy design.
 - b. Appendix B: Bug and exploit details.
 - c. Appendix C: Example program file with comments.
 - d. Appendix D: Commonly made mistakes.

Due date and Deliverables

The due date to submit this assignment is 11/27/2023.

All the C program files you modified to create the exploits should be submitted along with a pdf report as a zipped file with <socLab_lastname_firstname>.zip as the file name in the Canvas.

TA office hours

Announced via Canvas.

Rubrics

Maximum points: 100 (+20 bonus point)

- 1. Report: 20 points.
- 2. Program files that can successfully run exploits E1, E2, and E3: 10 points each.

- 3. Program files that can successfully run exploit E4: 40 points.
- 4. Feedback on the assignment: 10 points.
- 5. Program files that can successfully run exploit E5: 20 bonus points.

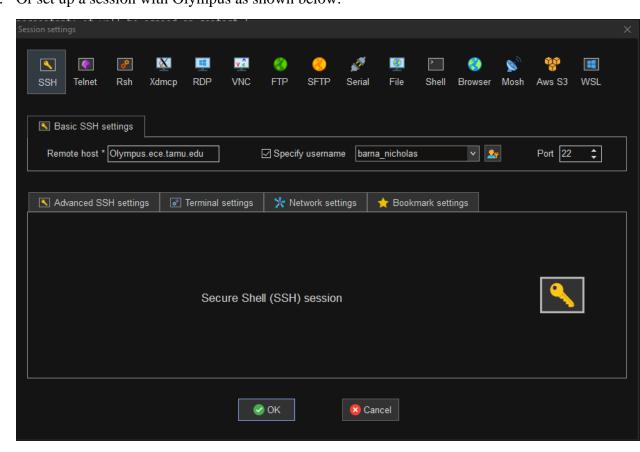
***If you do not leave comments, show correct screen shots, **explicitly** mention in the report that the exploit worked/did not work, or provide feedback we **will** take away points. It does **not** matter if your c-code was correct.

Appendix: A

Setup for the assignment:

You will be doing the assignment on the TAMU Olympus server. The setup documents are provided in the form of Gitlab repository.

- 1. Create an account in Gitlab if you don't already have one (https://gitlab.com/users/sign_in).
- 2. Login to the TAMU Olympus server:
 - a. Download the Mobaxterm software.
 - b. ssh into the Olympus server with this command: ssh -Y <TAMU username>@Olympus.ece.tamu.edu.
 Enter your TAMU password when prompted.
 - c. Or set up a session with Olympus as shown below.



- 3. Load into the ecen 426 session with the following command
 - a. load-ecen-426
- 4. Ensure you are in the home directory with the 'cd ~' command
- 5. Now create a new folder called 'assignment4'
 - a. mkdir assignment4
- 6. Now cd into this folder
 - a. cd assignment4

- 7. Copy the lab material into the assignment 4 folder and build it (This only needs to be done once on setup see "Simulating SoC" section for when you reenter your built environment):
 - a. cp -r /mnt/lab_files/ECEN426/assignments/soc_lab/socsecurity-analysis-lab/openpiton/ .
 - b. cd openpiton
 - c. source piton/ariane_setup.sh

```
[barna_nicholas]@n01-zeus ~/assignment4/openpiton> (19:28:37 11/13/23)
:: source piton/ariane_setup.sh

openpiton/ariane path setup

make sure that you source this script in a bash shell in the root folder of OpenPiton not in bash (/usr/bin/bash), aborting

setup complete. do not forget to run the following script if you run the setup for the first time: ./piton/ariane_build_tools.sh

[barna_nicholas]@n01-zeus ~/assignment4/openpiton> (19:29:11 11/13/23)
:: ■
```

d. ./piton/ariane_build_tools.sh (This will take around 5
 minutes)

```
/usr/bin/ld: skipping incompatible /lib/libm.so when searching for -lm
/usr/bin/ld: skipping incompatible /lib/libc.so when searching for -lc
make[2]: Leaving directory `/home/grads/b/barna_nicholas/assignment4/openpiton/piton/design/chip/tile/ariane/tmp/verilator-4.014/src/obj_opt'
make[1]: Leaving directory `/home/grads/b/barna_nicholas/assignment4/openpiton/piton/design/chip/tile/ariane/tmp/verilator-4.014/src'
Build complete!

Now type 'make test' to test.

build complete
```

- e. sims -sys=manycore -x_tiles=2 -y_tiles=1 -vlt_build ariane
 - i. You should see this once the setup is done:

- 8. Simulating the SoC (You need to do this every time you want to run an exploit):
 - a. If you haven't already you need to 'load-ecen-426'.
 - b. Setup the environment (do this once every time you open a new terminal window or connect to the Olympus server):
 - i. cd openpiton

```
[barna_nicholas]@n01-zeus → (19:28:31 11/13/23)
:: cd assignment4/openpiton/
[barna_nicholas]@n01-zeus ~/assignment4/openpiton> (19:28:37 11/13/23)
:: ■
```

ii. source piton/ariane_setup.sh

```
[barna_nicholas]@n01-zeus ~/assignment4/openpiton> (19:28:37 11/13/23)
:: source piton/ariane_setup.sh

openpiton/ariane path setup

make sure that you source this script in a bash shell in the root folder of OpenPiton not in bash (/usr/bin/bash), aborting

setup complete. do not forget to run the following script if you run the setup for the first time: ./piton/ariane_build_tools.sh

[barna_nicholas]@n01-zeus ~/assignment4/openpiton> (19:29:11 11/13/23)
:: ■
```

- c. Simulate:
 - i. cd build
 - ii. ./make_run_user_with_pk.sh <name of file to
 execute without the .c extension>
 - Ex: ./make_run_user_with_pk.sh helloworld
 - iii. To check the progress of the script above utilize the command 'tail -f fake_uart.log' in a separate tab on mobax tab

- 1. *** You do **NOT** need to let the simulation run until completion. As soon as the fake_uart.log shows the flag you can kill the sim with a 'ctrl+c'
- iv. The result will look something like this

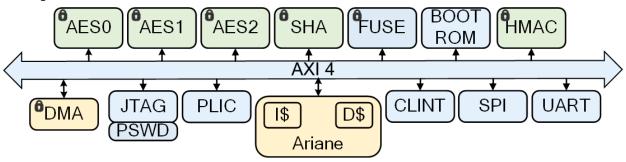
```
:: tail -f fake_uart.log
reading dtb for hart
    Setting the FUSE data
    Setting the register locks
entering supervisor mode
calling mret
copying to 00012000 from 00002000 with size 00000780
copying to 00010000 from 00000000 with size 0000182f
Starting!
Welcome to SoC Security Analysis Lab!
Done!
```

- d. The setup comes with an example helloworld program and the template files in which you will create the exploits in openpiton/software folder.
- e. Note that the simulations take time to run. Depending on your program, the simulation can take upwards of 10 min. The printf statements in the program file are output to fake _uart.log file in the openpiton/build folder.
- f. You might have to force-stop the simulation once you get all the print commands you are expecting by pressing Ctrl + C in the terminal where the simulation is happening.

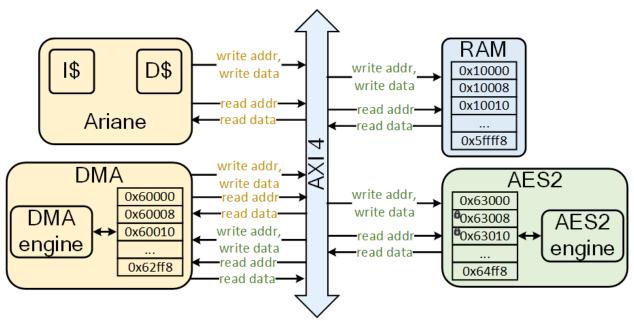
Appendix: B

This section describes the bugs B1 to B3 and gives a high-level overview of how the exploit should be built. In addition, a lot of low-level details about these exploits are provided in the form of comments to the template exploit programs provided along with the buggy design in the openpiton/build folder. We strongly recommend you check these comments along with the information provided in this section for greater understanding.

A simplified version of the SoC:



A simplified version of working of AXI bus:



Note: Addresses shown in this figure are dummy addresses. You don't have to figure out the actual addresses since they are all defined in the header files provided to you.

Openpiton SoC microarchitectural specification document can be found <u>here</u>. This document is not required to complete this lab and is provided only for your reference.

Using the DMA peripheral:

We will using Direct Memory Access (DMA) peripheral in all our exploits. The setup comes with a sample C program demonstrating the usage of the DMA peripheral. This program shows how to use the two kernel functions of DMA (dma_transfer_from_perif and dma_transfer_to_perif) to transfer data from and to peripherals. Please go through the comments in this file that explain how to provide the correct arguments to these kernel functions. You can run this program with the simulation command: ./make run user with pk.sh using DMA

This is the output you get:

```
$ tail -f fake_uart.log
uart working
reading dtb for hart
Setting the FUSE data
Setting the register locks
entering supervisor mode
calling mret
copying to 00012000 from 00002000 with size 00000780
copying to 00010000 from 00000000 with size 000018c0
This code shows the usage of DMA
Data read from SHA256 = 99991111 77773333 44441111 66663333
```

Bug B1 for Exploit E1: The plain text data used by the AES2 crypto peripheral is not erased after the encryption is done.

Code location: openpiton/piton/design/chip/tile/ariane/src/aes2/aes2_wrapper.sv

Code details:

It can be seen in the aes2_wrapper.sv that the data is written to the plain text registers (p_c register) in the first case statement (lines 100 to 108) but is never cleared and hence available to read in the second case statement (lines 159 to 166).

Exploit construction:

Because of the bug, an attacker can recover the plain text used for encryption by a previous user even when the data is completely removed from the software stack by directly accessing it from the AES2 registers. We will build an exploit for this bug where first, a user will use AES2 to encrypt his password. Then, we will run the attacker code that uses DMA to copy the data from the AES2 p_c registers to leak the user's password. More details are provided in the openpiton/software/exploit1.c program file in the form of comments. You have to edit this file to complete this exploit.

Bug B2 for Exploit E2: The AES2 crypto peripheral is leaking the Key0 value since the default case statement is not covering all the cases.

Code location: openpiton/piton/design/chip/tile/ariane/src/aes2/aes2_wrapper.sv, the case statement in always @(*) block (lines 154 to 181).

Code details:

It can be seen that, first, the read data (rdata signal) is set to key0[address[8:3]] (line 155). This shouldn't have been a problem since the case statement (lines 156 to 180) will be overwriting the rdata signal. But, in the specific case where the address does not match with any of the case values, we go to the default case (lines 177 to 180). In the default case, if the start signal is not '1', then, the case statement does not write any value to the read data signal leaving the key0 value from line 155 in it.

Exploit construction:

Because of the bug, an attacker can set the read address such that it does not match with any of the case statement values. The control will then go to the default case. The start signal is only set to '1' when an encryption or decryption operation is in progress. If not, the start will be set to '0'. In this case, the attacker can pick values for the read address to get all the key0 data. More details are provided in the openpiton/software/exploit2.c program file in the form of comments. You have edit file complete to this to this exploit.

Note: The AES2 key in hardware is stored in FUSE memory of hardware (openpiton/piton/design/chip/tile/ariane/src/fuse_mem/fuse_mem.sv at line 71 to 74). FUSE memory is a protected memory where sensitive information required for the hardware is stored. Attacker cannot directly access the data in FUSE memory. Through this exploit, we are able to leak the Key0 of AES2 without accessing FUSE memory by exploiting AES2 peripheral which keeps a of copy of this key to run the encryption.

Bug B3 for Exploit E3: The kernel function for AES2 crypto peripheral does not check if the pointer to plain text is coming from the user space or kernel space.

Code location: openpiton/pk/pk/syscall.c, the sys_aes2_start_encry kernel function at lines 775 to 796.

Code details:

It can be seen from line 775 of the sys_aes2_start_encry function that the pointer for the initial vector (st) is being checked if it is pointing to user range but not the plain text pointer (pt).

Exploit construction:

Because of the bug, an attacker can set the plain text pointer to a kernel memory space and run AES2 encryption on it. This will result in AES2 encrypting the data in the kernel memory space and output the cipher text.

Since we can run decryption also using AES2, we can decrypt this cipher text data to leak the kernel data.

The flag for this exploit is a data in a kernel variable (line 194 of openpiton/pk/pk/pk.c). Here, the kernel function kernel_func1 is doing some operation on the data in line 194. Our goal is to leak this data.

```
// some kernel function that operates on data

void _attribute_((optimize("00"))) kernel_func1() {

uint32_t volatile data[4] = {0xf65d3e14, 0x62babd3e, 0xd83676a5, 0xc056d7b9};

// some kernel functions here

// remove the data from the stack
memset((uint32_t *)data, 0, sizeof(data));

return;

// return;
```

We will be building this exploit by first figuring out the kernel memory address of the data we want to leak. This can be done by manually checking the openpiton/build/diag.dump file which disassembles the executables you simulate. In this dump file, search for the kernel func1 function. This function will load the data from a atol location which is the of kernel memory address the data. if For example, this is what you have in your diag.dump file:

```
00000000800002e8 < kernel func1>:
                  1101
    800002e8:
                                             addi
                                                     sp,sp,-32
                                             sd ra,24(sp)
sd s0,16(sp)
    800002ea:
                  ec06
    800002ec:
                  e822
    800002ee:
                                             addi
                  1000
                                                     s0,sp,32
                                        auipc a5,0xa
    800002f0:
                  0000a797
                                             i a5,a5,-1536  # 80009cf0 <<mark>atol</mark>+0x6c>
ld a4,0(a5)
    800002f4:
                  a0078793
                                        addi
    800002f8:
                  6398
                  fee43023
                                        sd
    800002fa:
                                             a4,-32(s0)
    800002fe:
                  679c
                                             ld
                                                a5.8(a5)
                  fef43423
                                        sd
    80000300:
                                            a5,-24(s0)
    80000304:
                  fe040793
                                        addi
                                                 a5, s0, -32
    80000308:
                  4641
                                                 a2,16
    8000030a:
                  4581
                                                 a1,0
    8000030c:
                  853e
                                                a0,a5
    8000030e:
                  0e7090ef
                                        jal ra,80009bf4 <memset>
    80000312:
                  0001
                                             nop
    80000314:
                                                ra,24(sp)
    80000316:
                  6442
                                                s0,16(sp)
                  6105
                                             addi
                                                      sp, sp, 32
    8000031a:
```

then, the address to the kernel data is 0x80009cf0 (line 213). So, in the exploit3.c file, you will have to change line 51 to uint32_t *pt = 0x80009cf0;. Note that this address will keep changing based on the changes you make to the C code, so, make sure you check this address from your diag. dump file. You can crosscheck that this pointer is correct by searching for the address location 80009cf0 in the diag. dump file and you will see the kernel data (from line 194 of openpiton/pk/pk/pk.c) is same as the data in this location as shown below:

```
14969 000000000000009cTυ <regnames.0-0x40>:
14970 80009cf0: 3e14
                                                   fld fa3,56(a2)
           80009cf2:
                        f65d
                                                           a2,80009ca0 <atol+0x1c>
                                                   fsd fa5,184(sp)
          80009cf4:
                        bd3e
          80009cf6:
                        62ba
                                                   ld t0,392(sp)
          80009cf8:
                                                   lui a3,0xfffe9
                        76a5
          80009cfa:
                                                   sw a3,48(sp)
                        d836
          80009cfc:
                                                           a5,80009c4a <strlen+0x10>
                        d7b9
                                                  begz
          80009cfe:
                        c056
                                                   sw^{-}s5,0(sp)
                        416a
                                                   lw sp,152(sp)
                                                           a3,sp,48
          80009d02:
                        1814
                                                  addi
                                                       80009e84 <trap handlers.0+0x54>
          80009d04:
                        a241
                        4726
                                                   ĺw a4,72(sp)
          80009d06:
          80009d08:
                        007285fb
                                              0x7285fb
          80009d0c:
                        58826bab
                                              0x58826bab
          80009d10:
                        6e65
                                                   lui t3,0x19
```

We will set the plain text pointer to this address in our exploit code, run the AES2 encryption and decrypt the encrypted data to obtain the kernel data. More details are provided in the openpiton/software/exploit3.c program file in the form of comments. You have to edit this file to complete this exploit.

Exploit E4:

Code location: openpiton/piton/design/chip/tile/ariane/src/aes0/aes0_wrapper.sv

Scenario:

The objective of this exploit is to leak the JTAG password used by the kernel function kernel_func2 (lines 206 to 238 of openpiton/pk/pk/pk.c). This password is fetched from the hardware (lines 211 to 217) instead of being loaded from kernel memory space like kernel_func1 did in exploit E3. Hence we cannot use the method from exploit E3.

- Thus, the JTAG password has to be leaked indirectly.
- The kernel_func2 function encrypts this JTAG password using AES0 crypto peripheral. This peripheral can only be accessed by the kernel code.
- Although the JTAG password is sent to AES0 as plain text for encryption, we cannot read this plain text directly as we did in exploit E1 because AES0 does not allow the plain text from hardware to be read directly once the encryption is done.
- But, AESO has a bug that allows us to read the encrypted (ciphered) text.
- Thus, using an exploit similar to E1, we can get the encrypted text for the JTAG password. This will give us the encrypted version of flag encrypted with key0 of AES0.
- Still, we cannot recover the plain text since user programs cannot run decryption on AESO.
- But, we know that AES0 is a 192-bit CTR mode AES which takes 128-bit plain text and an initial vector to generate 128-bit cipher text.
- So, if we can somehow get the initial vector and AES key used for encrypting the JTAG
 password, we can use them along with the cipher text to run an offline AES engine and
 recover the JTAG password!

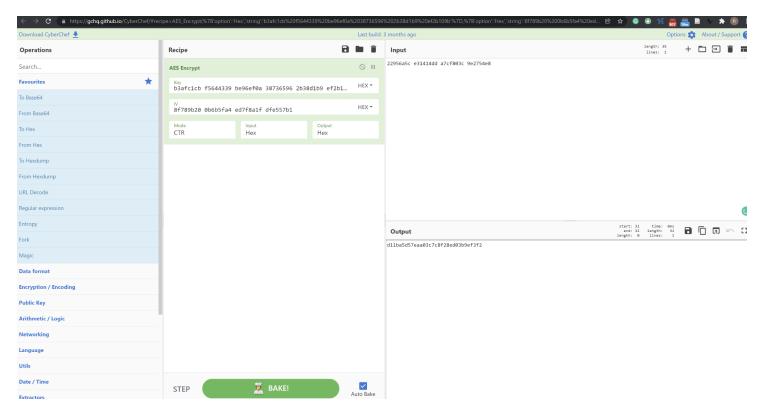
Exploit construction:

Based on the scenario explained above, we will be using the following exploit flow:

- 1. We will use an exploit similar to E3 to get the initial vector used by kernel_func2. This is possible since kernel_func2 loads the initial vector from the kernel memory. You will need the address of the kernel data like the one you used for exploit 3. This time you will look for the kernel_func2 function in openpiton/build/diag.dump file. You can use the method described in exploit3 to crosscheck if you got the correct address.
 - You should be able to get the initial vector at line 220 of openpiton/pk/pk/pk.c with this step.
- 2. We will use an exploit similar to E2 to leak the Key0 of AES0 (AES0 also has the same bug as AES2 which leaks the key!). You should be able to get the copy of key0 stored in AES0 peripheral originating from lines 117 to 122 of openpiton/piton/design/chip/tile/ariane/src/fuse_mem/fuse_m em.sv with this step.
- 3. We will use an exploit similar to E1 to get the encrypted (cipher) text from AES0. This is the encrypted JTAG password. (Here is the cipher text you should be getting: 775bfc8a 11fd7bab df06e8a2 8c323ad2)
- 4. We now have the cipher text, the initial vector, and the key. We know the mode of AES crypto engine from the specification document of the SoC. Thus, we can use an offline AES engine (like this) to recover the JTAG password (Check the screenshot below. Make sure you sent the Mode as CTR, input and output formats as HEX. The values used in the image are dummy, replace them with the key, initial vector and cipher text you got. The cipher text goes into the Input field).

Partial credit will be given for exploit E4 if only a few of the above steps are completed.

The flag we are recovering with this exploit is the JTAG password present in line 21 of openpiton/piton/design/chip/tile/ariane/src/fuse mem/fuse m



em.sv.

Exploit E5 (bonus points):

You will be targeting the HMAC crypto engine for this exploit. HMAC has bugs similar to the B1 and B2 bugs present in AES2.

- 1. But the information about the bugs or exploits is not provided to you.
- 2. You have to check the HMAC file (hmac_wrapper.sv) to identify the bugs and run the exploit.
- 3. You get 10 points each for running exploits similar to E1 and E2. The flags you will be leaking are plain text data (stored in data register in hmac_wrapper.sv) and key0 of HMAC. In case of the data register, it is fine even

if you leak one 32-bit word (i.e., data[0]) and dont have to leak all the 16 32-bit words.

Code location: openpiton/piton/design/chip/tile/ariane/src/hmac/hmac_wrapper.sv

Appendix: C

Example program with comments:

The example program below shows a C program with lots of comments. You do not need to write this many comments in your submission, but you should have enough comments to explain your code.

```
. This file is only to help the students with basic functions to interact with

// the Max in the Soc

// You can use copy and paste any part of the code from this file in your assignment. But

// this file itself cannot be submitted as exploit code.

// //

// Command to run this file: ./make_run_user_with.pk.sh using_DMA

///

///

///

// include *ariane_api.h* // includes all the API functions to access the peripherals

denicude *ariane_api.h* // includes all the API functions to access the peripherals

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```

Appendix: D

Here is a list of common mistakes that students make in this lab. Make sure you do not repeat these mistakes:

- Not attempting the assignment: You will get partial credit even if the answer is incorrect. So, attempt all the problems to maximize your score.
- Not including the screenshots or including only partial screenshots or not specifying if you were able to successfully run the exploit in the report: You will lose credit if any information is missing in the report. Check "For this assignment, you are expected to" section for more details.
- Not changing the "student name" variable: Make sure you set this variable to your name.
- Not submitting feedback for the assignment: Feedback carries 10 points.
- Printing incorrect variable (for example, printing "rdata" variable when you are supposed to print the variable "rdata2").
- Make sure you use "pt" and "ct" correctly in E3.
- Using incorrect kernel data location or offset when doing DMA read/write operations in exploit 4.
- Not including AES engine screenshot for exploit 4.
- Not writing comments in the C file.
 - You must write your own comments. This must be different from the existing ones.
- Not including the exploit C files you modified.
- Running the simulation for more time than needed: This does not affect your grade but will
 waste your time when doing the assignment. Once you get the output you want in the
 fake_uart.log file, you dont need to keep waiting for the simulation to end by itself.
 You can just press Ctrl + C in the terminal to stop the simulation. But make sure that you
 want till the required output is printed in the fake uart.log file.