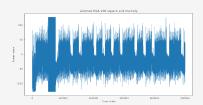
Lecture 2: AES-128

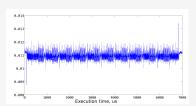
#### Hardware attacks

- Hardware attacks extends the threat model: an adversary can measure and influence on the computation device
- Successful hardware attacks don't mean that an underlying cryptographic algorithm is bad
- Successful hardware attacks mean that this concrete algorithm implementation on that concrete device is vulnerable

## Side-channel leakage



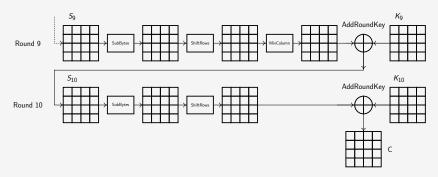
- You worked on simple RSA attack
- Simple side-channel attacks use visually distinguishable patterns
- In case of RSA, the leakage was "horizontal": long signal - 1, short signal - 0



- We will work with AES-128
- We will learn how to perform correlation power analysis
- Contrary to previous RSA example, the leakage is "vertical" (we will work with amplitudes)

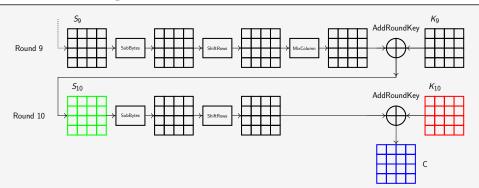
## **AES Example**

#### Advanced Encryption Standard algorithm (AES-128)

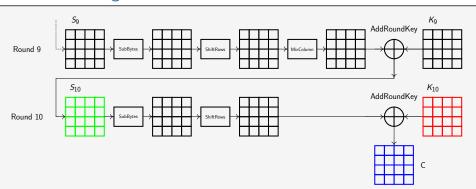


#### Advanced Encryption Standard

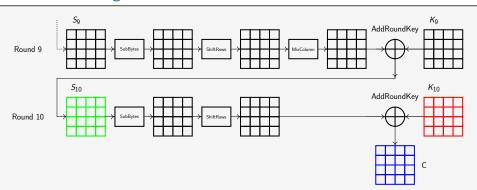
- All operations are reversable for Key Expansion, Encryption and decryption
- A master key can be re-computed from any round key (in your tasks this function is available)
- The number of rounds depend on the key size. We will work only with 128-bit keys (10 rounds).
- In the tasks don't forget about ShiftRows



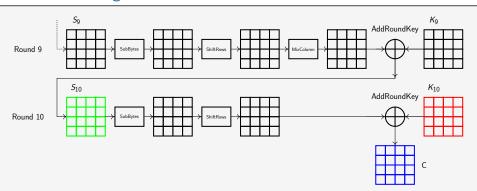
■ A developer left a debug option that prints the state 10 ( $S_{10}$  shown in green) and a ciphertext C shown in blue. What can be wrong with that?



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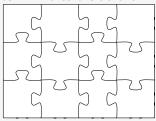


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Roman Korkikian, Nicolas Oberli | March 29, 2023

# Puzzle 2: Law of large numbers A bit of

mathematics... who said side-channels are easy



## Law of large numbers

■ This is the cornerstone law for side-channel attacks

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The average of the results obtained from a large number of trials should be close to the expected value and tend to become closer to the expected value as more trials are performed

$$\lim_{x \to \inf} \sum_{i=0}^{n} \frac{X_i}{n} = \bar{X}$$

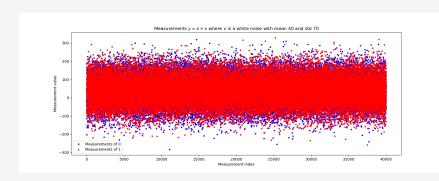
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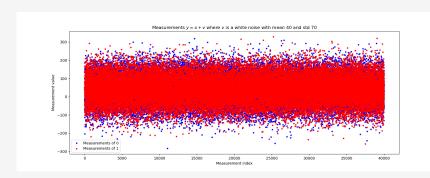
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What does this mean in practice?

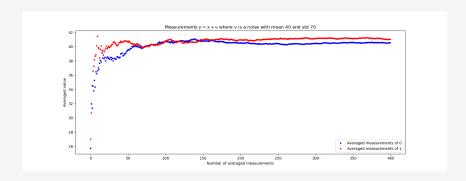


- Consider a situation when we measure a process:  $y = x + \nu$ , where x is 0 or 1 and  $\nu$  is a white noise with mean  $\mu = 40$  and std  $\sigma = 70$
- Use python to emulate measurements

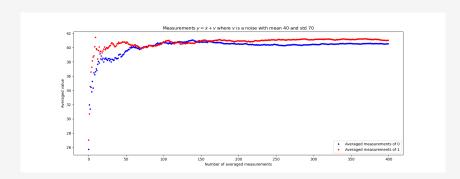




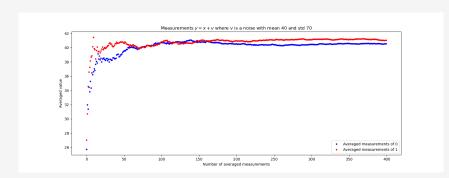
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- Use python to emulate measurements
- By looking at raw measurements, 0 and 1 can not be distinguished



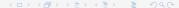
■ Here comes the Law of Large Numbers



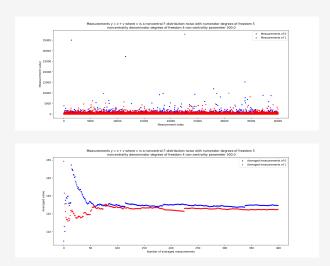
- Here comes the Law of Large Numbers
- For x = 0 the curve converges to 40
- For x = 1 the curve converges to 41



- Here comes the Law of Large Numbers
- For x = 0 the curve converges to 40
- For x = 1 the curve converges to 41
- Now we see a clear difference



## Law of large numbers: more complex noise

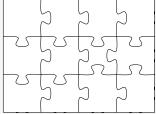


Measurements with the noncentral F-distribution noise

#### Law of large numbers: conclusion

- LLN shows that averaging a "sufficiently" big number of samples will converge noise to constant
- In certain cases, we can directly average measurements for side-channel attacks
- Nevertheless, by averaging, we can lose important information about random numbers

## Puzzle 3: Power models



#### Power models

- We cannot model the exact current drain (power consumption):
  - A digital circuit is too complex, and the number of switching transistors is huge
  - Current drain will depend on technology, DC voltage, temperature and other parameters

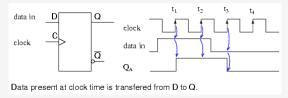
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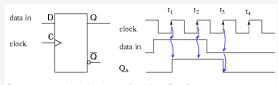
#### Power models

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- Instead, side-channel attacks work with power consumption models

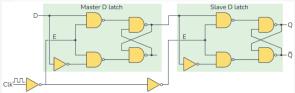
- Digital logic contains multiple registers (e.g., CPU registers)
- Registers are made of flip-flops



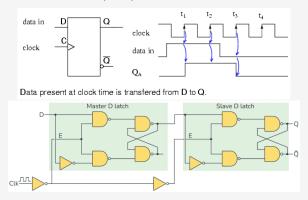
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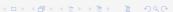
Data present at clock time is transfered from D to Q.

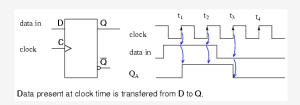


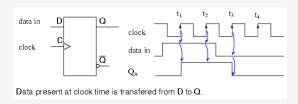
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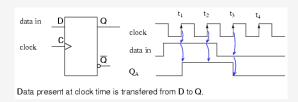
- D flip-flop is made of combinational logic, but the value is updated only on clock rising edge
  - D flip-flop elements drain current



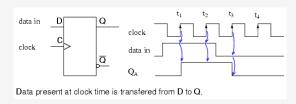




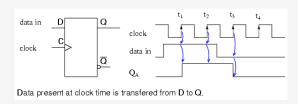
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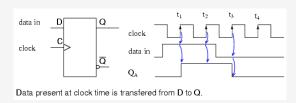


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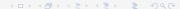


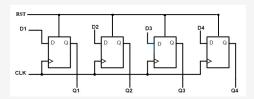
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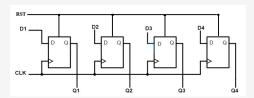


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- Assume that  $\beta = \alpha + \delta$



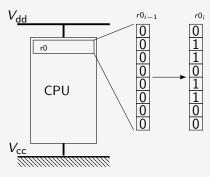


 Flip-flops are assembled into registers (CPU registers, special registers, etc.)

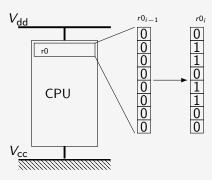


- Flip-flops are assembled into registers (CPU registers, special registers, etc.)
- Register's flip-flops have the same layout and components, so they consume equally

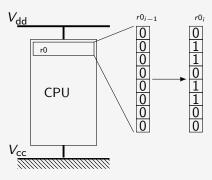
## Power consumption of a register change



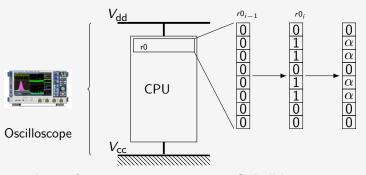
When register switches the current is drained (power is consumed)



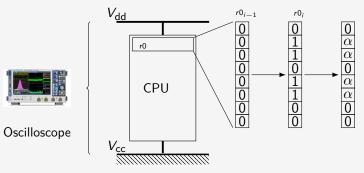
- When register switches the current is drained (power is consumed)
- The exact current consumption is not possible to model



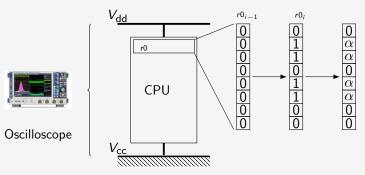
- When register switches the current is drained (power is consumed)
- The exact current consumption is not possible to model
- Instead, side-channel analysis studies the differences between various operations (kind of true)



■ Current drain of a transition  $0 \times 00 \to 0 \times 6C$  shall be proportional to the number of switched bits:  $i(0 \times 00 \to 0 \times 6C) \approx 4 \cdot i(0 \to 1) = 4 \cdot \alpha$ 



- Current drain of a transition  $0x00 \rightarrow 0x6C$  shall be proportional to the number of switched bits:  $i(0x00 \rightarrow 0x6C) \approx 4 \cdot i(0 \rightarrow 1) = 4 \cdot \alpha$
- In practice measurements of the transition will include noise  $\sigma$ :  $i(0x00 \rightarrow 0x6C) = 4 \cdot \alpha + \sigma$



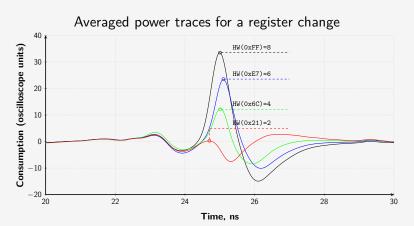
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- The most significant noise is coming from other microcontroller blocks (video processor, modem, DMA) and environment (cross talks, EM signals around, etc.)

■ Hamming distance denotes the number of different bits between the previous and the new register values:  $HD(r_{i-1}, r_i)$ 

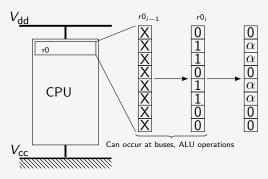
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- If the previous register value is equal to  $0\times00$  then we better use Hamming weight name (the number of bits set to 1 in the new register:  $HW(r_i) = \#1$ )

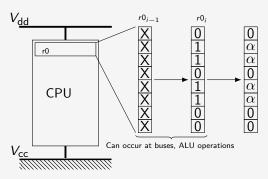
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- If the previous register value is equal to 0x00 then we better use Hamming weight name (the number of bits set to 1 in the new register:  $HW(r_i) = #1$ )
- Hamming weight model is practically confirmed by many side-channel attacks



- $i(0x00 \rightarrow 0x21) = HW(0x21) \cdot \alpha + \sigma = 2 \cdot \alpha + \sigma$
- $i(0x00 \rightarrow 0x6C) = HW(0x6C) \cdot \alpha + \sigma = 4 \cdot \alpha + \sigma$
- $i(0x00 \rightarrow 0xE7) = HW(0xE7) \cdot \alpha + \sigma = 6 \cdot \alpha + \sigma$
- $i(0x00 \rightarrow 0xFF) = HW(0xFF) \cdot \alpha + \sigma = 8 \cdot \alpha + \sigma$



■ Although previous register value can be different from 0x00, this change  $0x00 \rightarrow 0x6C$  can still be observed



- Although previous register value can be different from 0x00, this change  $0x00 \rightarrow 0x6C$  can still be observed
- The reason is that the register value is transmitted over buses (or written to other registers of ALU or other IPs)

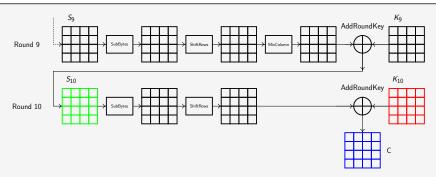
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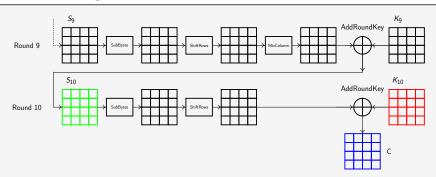
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# Questions?

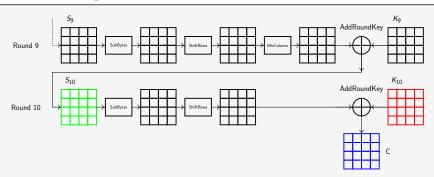
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- The same situation for 128-bit register (hardware implementation of AES):  $HW(r_i) = 0, 1, 2...$ ?



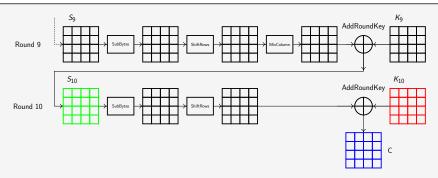
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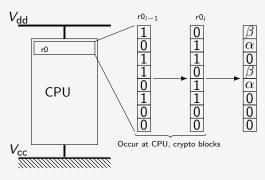
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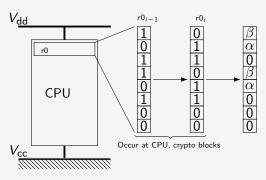
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- lacksquare Find  $K_{10}$  and then get the master key using the provided code
- ullet  $C = ShiftRows(SubBytes[S_{10}]) \oplus K_{10}$
- $HW(S_{10}) = HW(InvSubBytes[InvShiftRows(K_{10} \oplus C)])$

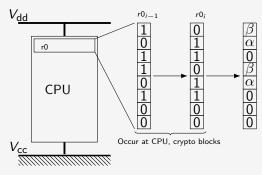


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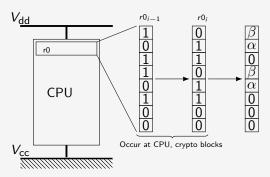


- If a previous register value is different from 0x00, the current drain can be still modelled
- Assume current drains:  $i(0 \rightarrow 1) = \alpha$ , and  $i(1 \rightarrow 0) = \beta$
- The current is never balanced:  $\alpha \neq \beta, \beta = \alpha + \delta$





$$i(0xD4 \rightarrow 0x6C) = 2 \cdot \alpha + 2 \cdot \beta + \sigma$$



- $i(0xD4 \rightarrow 0x6C) = 2 \cdot \alpha + 2 \cdot \beta + \sigma$
- Side-channel attack people were lasy... so they assume that  $|\alpha| >> |\delta|$  and  $|\beta| >> |\delta|$ , so they treat  $|\delta|$  as colored noise
- $i(0xD4 \rightarrow 0x6C) = 2 \cdot \alpha + 2 \cdot \beta + \sigma = 2 \cdot \alpha + 2 \cdot (\alpha + \delta) + \sigma = 4 \cdot \alpha + (2 \cdot \delta + \sigma) = 4 \cdot \alpha + \sigma' = \text{HD}(0xD4, 0x6C) \cdot \alpha + \sigma'$

- If a previous  $r_{i-1}$  and a new  $r_i$  register values are known, side-channel attacks use Hamming Distance model
- $i(r_{i-1} \rightarrow r_i) = \mathsf{HD}(r_{i-1}, r_i) \cdot \alpha + \sigma$



- If a previous  $r_{i-1}$  and a new  $r_i$  register values are known, side-channel attacks use Hamming Distance model
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- lacktriangle Yes, sometime people try to characterize  $\delta$  and use more precise models with weights:
- $\alpha \neq \beta, \beta = 1.1 \cdot \alpha$

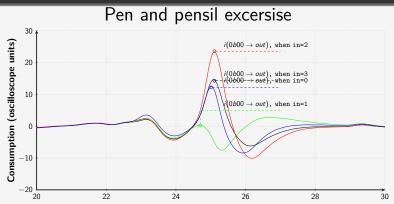
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- In that case our previous Hamming distance become equal:
- $i(0xD4 \rightarrow 0x6C) = 2 \cdot \alpha + 2 \cdot \beta + \sigma = 2 \cdot \alpha + 2 \cdot 1.1 \cdot \alpha + \sigma = 4.2 \cdot \alpha + \sigma$



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- Characterisation of the coefficient  $\theta$ :  $\beta = \theta \cdot \alpha$  takes time, plus it might depend on the current operation

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- $\alpha \neq \beta, \beta = 1.1 \cdot \alpha$
- In that case our previous Hamming distance become equal:
- $i(0xD4 \rightarrow 0x6C) = 2 \cdot \alpha + 2 \cdot \beta + \sigma = 2 \cdot \alpha + 2 \cdot 1.1 \cdot \alpha + \sigma = 4.2 \cdot \alpha + \sigma$
- Characterisation of the coefficient  $\theta$ :  $\beta = \theta \cdot \alpha$  takes time, plus it might depend on the current operation
- Nevertheless, if you get the key with the Hamming distance model you don't need to care of deeper characterisation

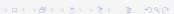




- The CPU computes  $in \oplus key = out$  on 2-bit registers in and out
- Input values are known to an attacker (0,1,2,3)
- lacktriangle Output values are not known to an attacker; but for each *in* value he measured power consumption of the *out* register transition 0b00 o out

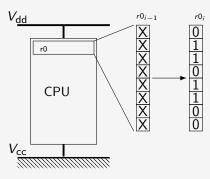
Time. ns

You need to find the key (by hands)

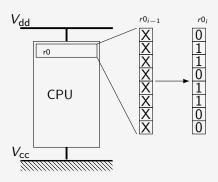


# Hamming distance key points

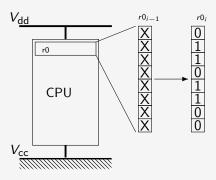
- By looking into power consumption Hamming distance model can be distinguished:  $i(r_{i-1} \rightarrow r_i) = \text{HD}(r_{i-1}, r_i) \cdot \alpha + \sigma$
- The "pen and pensil" attack is kind of side-channel attack
- Real side-channel attacks use slightly more advanced statistics than visual observations



■ What if you don't know the previous register value?



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- What if you don't know the previous register value?
- The only approach is to use Hamming weight model:  $i(0x00 \rightarrow r_i) = HW(r_i) \cdot \alpha + \sigma$
- Hamming weight model also works when the previous register value  $r_{i-1}$  is random

■ Why Hamming weight model works even if the previous register value  $r_{i-1}$  is random

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- Consider a situation of 1 single flip-flop (one bit)

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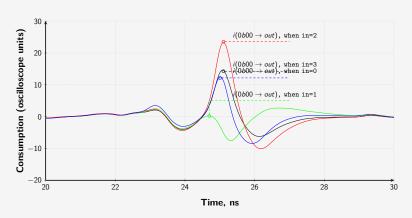
- Why Hamming weight model works even if the previous register value  $r_{i-1}$  is random
- Consider a situation of 1 single flip-flop (one bit)
- Many measurements of the operations i(X o 0) and i(X o 1) are performed
- An attacker only knowns that previous flip-flop value X is random (however he knows the new register value)

■ Let us average the power measurements for  $i(X \rightarrow 0)$  and  $i(X \rightarrow 1)$ 

$$\sum_{0}^{n} \frac{i(X \to 0)}{n} = \sum_{0}^{n/2} \frac{i(0 \to 0)}{n/2} + \sum_{0}^{n/2} \frac{i(1 \to 0)}{n/2} + \sum_{0}^{n} \frac{\sigma}{n} = 0 + \alpha + const$$

$$\sum_{0}^{n} \frac{i(X \to 1)}{n} = \sum_{0}^{n/2} \frac{i(0 \to 1)}{n/2} + \sum_{0}^{n/2} \frac{i(1 \to 1)}{n/2} + \sum_{0}^{n} \frac{\sigma}{n} =$$

$$= \beta + 0 + const = \alpha + \delta + 0 + const$$

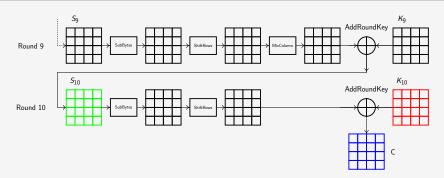


■ Remember this excersise?

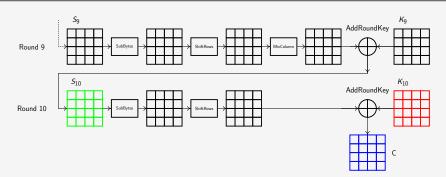
- So far we have considered three pieces of the puzzle:
  - CMOS power consumption to understand the nature of leakage
  - Law of large numbers to deal with noise
  - Power consumption models
- This is normal if you did not catch any of the topics

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  - CMOS power consumption to understand the nature of leakage
  - Law of large numbers to deal with noise
  - Power consumption models
- This is normal if you did not catch any of the topics
- We will consider them by excersises
- All the excersises will be based on AES examples

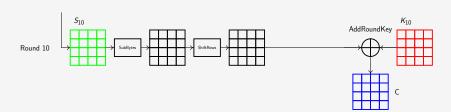


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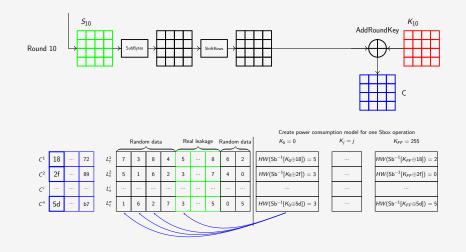
#### AES-128 Assignment 3 Recap

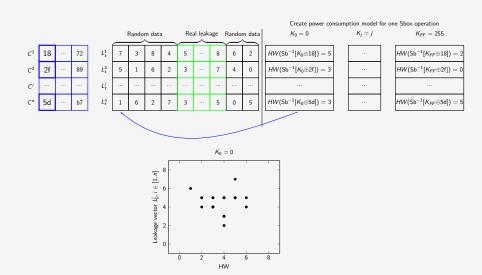


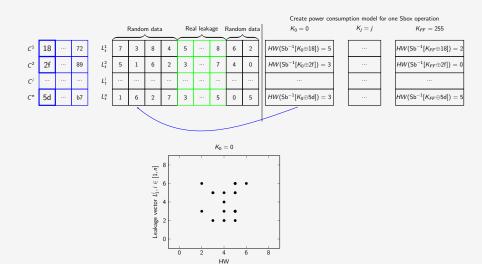
| $C^1$          | 18 | <br>72 |
|----------------|----|--------|
| C <sup>2</sup> | 2f | <br>89 |
| Ci             |    | <br>   |
| C <sup>n</sup> | 5d | <br>b7 |

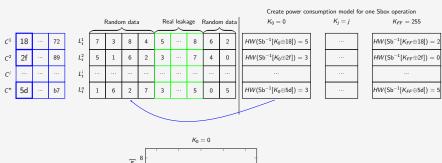
|                             | Random data |   |   |   | Rea | al leak | age | Random data |   |  |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---|---|---|-----|---------|-----|-------------|---|--|
| $L_t^1$                     | 7           | 3 | 8 | 4 | 5   |         | 8   | 6           | 2 |  |
| $L_t^2$                     | 5           | 1 | 6 | 2 | 3   |         | 7   | 4           | 0 |  |
| $L_t^i$                     |             |   |   |   |     |         |     |             |   |  |
| L <sub>t</sub> <sup>n</sup> | 1           | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3   |         | 5   | 0           | 5 |  |

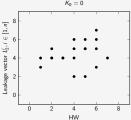
#### AES-128 Assignment 3 Solution scheme



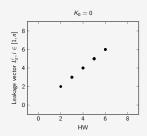












#### Dependency between two vectors

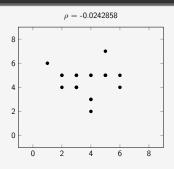
| 142 | f(142) 	o 78             | 78  |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|
| 147 | $f(147) \rightarrow 25$  | 25  |
| 248 | $f(248) \rightarrow 42$  | 42  |
| 132 | $f(132) \rightarrow 126$ | 126 |
| 91  | $f(91) \rightarrow 30$   | 30  |
| 50  | $f(50) \rightarrow 100$  | 100 |
|     |                          |     |
| 160 | f(160) 	o 62             | 62  |
|     |                          |     |

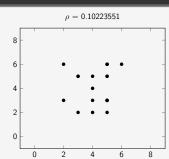
$$x f(x) \rightarrow y y$$

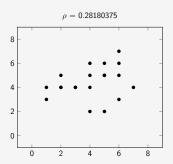
- A dependency between two vectors can be mathematically computed
- There are more than 40 different ways to compute the dependency
- We will focus on Pearson Correlation Coefficient

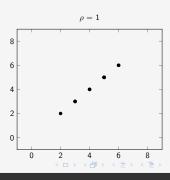
$$\rho = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{n} (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^{n} (x_i - \bar{x}^2)} \sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^{n} (y_i - \bar{y}^2)}}$$

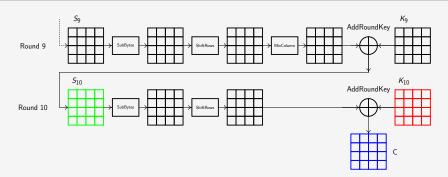
- Pearson Correlation Coefficient shows only if the two vectors have linear dependency
- PCC takes values from -1 to 1



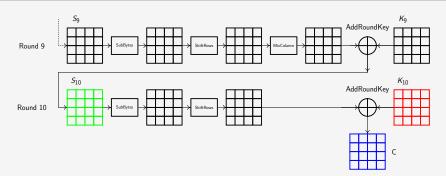








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## AES-128 Assignment 4 Recap

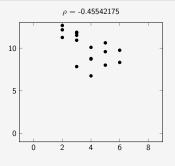
| $C^1$          | 18 | <br>72 |
|----------------|----|--------|
| C <sup>2</sup> | 2f | <br>89 |
| Ci             |    | <br>   |
| C <sup>n</sup> | 5d | <br>b7 |

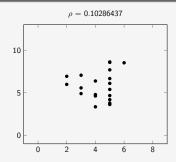
|                             | Random data |     |     |     | Leaka | age + | noise | Rando | m data |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| $L_t^1$                     | 7.8         | 4.4 | 8   | 4.6 | 5.5   |       | 8.4   | 7     | 3.6    |
| $L_t^2$                     | 6.1         | 2.7 | 6.3 | 2.9 | 3.8   |       | 7.7   | 5.3   | 1.9    |
| $L_t^i$                     |             |     |     |     |       |       |       |       |        |
| L <sub>t</sub> <sup>n</sup> | 2.7         | 6.3 | 2.9 | 8.5 | 4.4   |       | 6.3   | 1.9   | 5.5    |

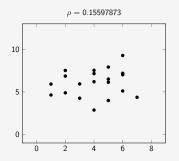
### AES-128 Assignment 3 Recap

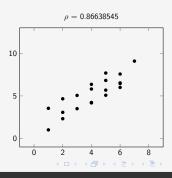
| $C^1$          | 18 | : | 72 |
|----------------|----|---|----|
| C <sup>2</sup> | 2f |   | 89 |
| Ci             |    |   |    |
| C <sup>n</sup> | 5d |   | b7 |

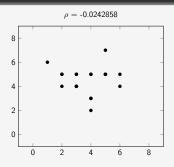
|         | Random data |   |   |   | Rea | al leak | age | Random data |   |  |
|---------|-------------|---|---|---|-----|---------|-----|-------------|---|--|
| $L_t^1$ | 7           | 3 | 8 | 4 | 5   |         | 8   | 6           | 2 |  |
| $L_t^2$ | 5           | 1 | 6 | 2 | 3   |         | 7   | 4           | 0 |  |
| $L_t^i$ |             |   |   |   |     |         |     |             |   |  |
| $L_t^n$ | 1           | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3   |         | 5   | 0           | 5 |  |

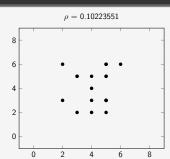


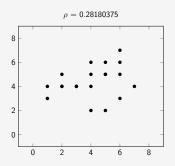


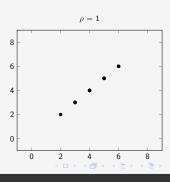


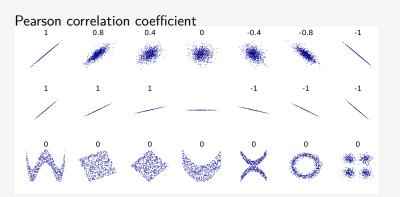










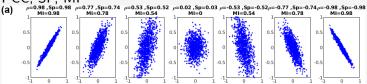


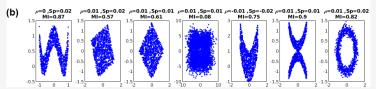
#### Python code for:

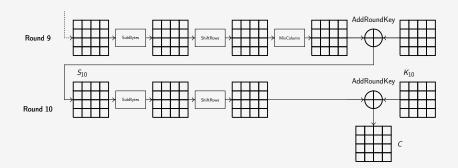
- Pearson Correlation Coefficient
- Spearman Correlation Coefficient
- Mutual Information

```
import numpy
from scipy import stats
from sklearn.metrics import adjusted_mutual_info_score
arr1 = numpy.random.randint(0,20, (5000))
arr2 = numpy.random.randint(0,20, (5000))
pcc = numpy.corrcoef(arr1, arr2)[0,1]
sp = scipy.stats.spearmanr(arr1, arr2)[0]
mi = adjusted_mutual_info_score(arr1,arr2)
print('PCC SP MI', pcc, sp, mi)
```

#### PCC, SP, MI







- This time we have real power measurements taken during AES-128 software implementation on ESP32
- Find the master key



# Thank you!

Roman Korkikian, Nicolas Oberli

Side-channels and Fault Attacks February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 - June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

