

# ML-PUF Linear Model

CS771 Course Project: Group MLNG89

*Project Report*

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## Part 1: Predicting ML-PUF Response

$$\begin{aligned}t_i^u &= (t_{i-1}^u + p_i) (1 - c_i) + c_i (t_{i-1}^l + s_i) \\t_i^l &= (t_{i-1}^l + q_i) (1 - c_i) + c_i (t_{i-1}^u + r_i) \\ \Delta_i^u &= t_i^u - t_i^l \quad \text{where, } \Delta_i^u \text{ is the lag} \\ \Delta_i^u &= (1 - c_i) (\Delta_{i-1} + p_i - q_i) + c_i (s_i - r_i - \Delta_{i-1}) \\ \Delta_i^u &= (1 - 2c_i) \Delta_{i-1} + (q_i - p_i + s_i - r_i) c_i + (p_i - q_i)\end{aligned}$$

assuming

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_i &= (p_i - q_i + r_i + s_i) / 2 \\ \beta_i &= (p_i - q_i - r_i + s_i) / 2\end{aligned}$$

Solving the arbiter PUF gives the above solution as

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_T &= \omega_0 \cdot x_0 + \omega_1 \cdot x_1 + \dots + \omega_7 \cdot x_7 + \beta_7 \\ \text{where, } x_i &= d_i + d_{i+1} + \dots + d_7 \\ d_i &= (1 - 2C_i)\end{aligned}$$

adding  $t_i^u$  and  $t_i^l$

$$\begin{aligned}s_i &= t_i^u + t_i^l \\ &= (1 - c_i) (t_{i-1}^u + t_{i-1}^l + p_i + q_i) + C_i (t_{i-1}^u + t_{i-1}^l + s_i + r_i) \\ &= (1 - c_i) (s_{i-1} + p_i + q_i) + c_i (s_{i-1} + s_i + r_i) \\ &= s_{i-1} + (1 - c_i) (p_i + q_i) + c_i (s_i + r_i) \\ &= s_{i-1} + c_i (s_i + r_i - p_i - q_i) + p_i + q_i\end{aligned}$$

Solving this will give

$$s_7 = \omega'_0 \cdot x'_0 + \omega'_1 \cdot x'_1 + \dots + \omega'_7 \cdot x'_7 + \gamma_7$$

where,

$$\begin{aligned}x'_i &= c_i \\ \omega'_i &= s_i + r_i - p_i - q_i \\ \gamma_i &= \sum (p_i + q_i)\end{aligned}$$

Now, we have solved both sum and difference for upper and lower time in an arbiter PUF, so now

$$\begin{aligned}t_7^u &= (\Delta_7 + S_7) / 2 \\ t_7^u &= \frac{\omega_0 \cdot x_0}{2} + \frac{\omega_1 \cdot x_1}{2} + \dots + \frac{\omega_7 \cdot x_7}{2} + \frac{\omega'_0 \cdot x'_0}{2} + \dots + \frac{\omega'_7 \cdot x'_7}{2} + \frac{\beta_7 + \gamma_7}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Simplyfing,

$$\begin{aligned}t_7^u &= \omega_0 \cdot x_0 + \omega_1 \cdot x_1 + \dots + \omega_7 \cdot x_7 + \omega'_0 \cdot x'_0 + \dots + \omega'_7 \cdot x'_7 + \beta'_7 \\ &= \omega^\top x + b\end{aligned}$$

Where,

$$\begin{aligned}x_i &= d_i + d_{i-1} + \dots + d_7 \\d_i &= (1 - 2c_i) \\x'_i &= c_i\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can find

$$\begin{aligned}t_7^l &= (s_7 - \Delta_7) / 2 \\ \text{or, } t_7^l &= \omega'_0 \cdot x'_0 + \omega'_1 \cdot x'_1 + \dots + \omega'_7 \cdot x'_7 - \omega_0 \cdot x_0 - \omega_1 x_1 - \dots - \omega_7 \cdot x_7 + \beta'' \\ &= w^\top x' + b'\end{aligned}$$

where,

$$\begin{aligned}x_i &= d_i + d_{i+1} + \dots + d_7 \\d_i &= (1 - 2c_i) \\x'_i &= c_i\end{aligned}$$

From above derivation, it is clear that a linear model can Predict the time it takes for the upper signal to reach the finish line for a simple arbiter PUF & similarly for the lower signal.

Now, we have to show that a linear model can predict response 0 and a different linear model can predict response 1.

Let,

$$\begin{aligned}A_i &= p_i - a_i \\B_i &= s_i - d_i \\Q_i &= q_i - b_i \\P_i &= r_i - e_i \\T_i^u &= (t_{i-1}^u + p_i) (1 - C_i) + C_i (t_{i-1}^l + s_i) \\T_i^l &= (t_{i-1}^l + q_i) (1 - C_i) + C_i (t_{i-1}^u + r_i) \\K_i^u &= (K_{i-1}^u + a_i) (1 - C_i) + C_i (K_{i-1}^l + d_i) \\K_i^l &= (K_{i-1}^l + b_i) (1 - C_i) + C_i (K_{i-1}^u + e_i) \\\Delta_i^u &= (T_i^u - K_i^u) = (T_{i-1}^u - K_{i-1}^u + p_i - a_i) \\\Delta_i^u &= (T_{i-1}^u - K_{i-1}^u + p_i - a_i) * (1 - C_i) + C_i (T_{i-1}^l - K_{i-1}^l + s_i - d_i) \\\Delta_i^u &= (\Delta_{i-1}^u + p_i - a_i) (1 - C_i) + C_i (\Delta_{i-1}^l + s_i - d_i) \\\Delta_i^u &= C_i (\Delta_{i-1}^l - \Delta_{i-1}^u) + (B_i - A_i) (C_i) + \Delta_{i-1}^u + A_i \\\Delta_i^l &= C_i (\Delta_{i-1}^l) + \Delta_{i-1}^u + (P_i - Q_i) C_i + \Delta_{i-1}^l + Q_i \\X_i &= \Delta_i^u + \Delta_i^l = (B_i + P_i + Q_i - A_i) C_i + \Delta_{i-1}^u + \Delta_{i-1}^l + A_i + Q_i \\Y_i &= \Delta_i^u - \Delta_i^l = (1 - 2C_i) (\Delta_{i-1}^u - \Delta_{i-1}^l) + (B_i - A_i + Q_i - P_i) C_i + A_i - Q_i\end{aligned}$$

$Y_i$  is similar to arbiter PUF  $X$  :

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_i &= (A_i - B_i + P_i - Q_i) / 2 \\\beta_i &= (A_i - B_i - P_i + Q_i) / 2 \\d_i &= (1 - 2C_i) \\Y_7 &= \omega_0 x_0 + \omega_1 x_1 + \dots + \omega_7 x_7 + \beta_7 = \omega^\top x + b \\ \text{where, } x_i &= d_i \cdot d_{i+1} \cdot \dots \cdot d_7 \\\omega_0 &= \alpha_0 \\\omega_i &= \alpha_i + \beta_{i-1}\end{aligned}$$

Now for  $X$  :

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_i &= B_i - A_i + P_i - Q_i \\ X_7 &= \omega'_0 \cdot x'_0 + \omega'_1 \cdot x'_1 + \dots + x'_7 \omega'_7 + E_7 \\ \text{where, } \quad \omega_i &= \gamma_i \\ E_i &= \sum (A_j + Q_j) \\ E_i &= \beta'_i \\ x'_i &= C_i\end{aligned}$$

So, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_7^u &= (X_7 + Y_7) / 2 \\ \Delta_7^l &= (X_7 - Y_7) / 2\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\Delta_7^u$  represents a linear model  $\frac{1+\text{sign}(\omega_1^\top x+b)}{2}$  and  $\Delta_7^l$  represents a linear model  $\frac{1+\text{sign}(\omega_2^\top x+b)}{2}$ . The output of the *XOR* is.

$$\begin{aligned}& \frac{(1 + (-1)^{k+1} \pi_i \text{sign}(\omega_i^\top x))}{2} \\ &= \frac{1 - \text{sign}(\pi_i (\omega_i^\top x))}{2}\end{aligned}$$

where  $k$  is the number of PUFs

## Part 2: Dimensionality Of The Linear Model

The ML-PUF takes an 8-bit challenge  $c = [c_0, c_1, \dots, c_7]$ , where  $c_i \in \{0, 1\}$ .

We represent this challenge as variables  $C_0, C_1, \dots, C_7$ . To capture non-linear behavior introduced by the XOR operations in the ML-PUF, we include a bias term (constant), denoted by 1.

Thus, we now consider a 9-variable input vector:

$$[C_0, C_1, \dots, C_7, 1]$$

We apply a **degree-2 polynomial transformation** over these 9 variables to model pairwise interactions:

- Degree-1 terms (linear):  
 $C_0, C_1, \dots, C_7, 1 \Rightarrow \binom{9}{1} = 9$  terms
- Degree-2 terms (quadratic):  
 $C_0 C_1, C_0 C_2, \dots, C_7 \cdot 1 \Rightarrow \binom{9}{2} = 36$  terms

Hence, the local dimensionality  $\tilde{D}$  is:

$$\tilde{D} = \binom{9}{1} + \binom{9}{2} = 9 + 36 = 45$$

The linear model therefore requires a 45-dimensional feature space ( $\tilde{D} = 45$ ) to predict the response of an ML-PUF.

## Part 3: Kernel Selection For Classification Of ML-PUF Response

The ML-PUF response  $r(c)$  is computed as the XOR of two linear models (Response 0, Response 1). Since  $XOR$  is non linear, it behaves like a degree -3 polynomial in the challenge bits. A Kernel-SVM must map  $C$  to a higher-dimensional space where the responses are linearly separable.

The Polynomial Kernel definition:

$$k(x, z) = (\gamma \cdot x^\top z + \text{coeff } 0)^d$$

Where,

$d = 3$  : degree of the polynomial

$\gamma$  : Scale factor for the dot product. A reasonable default is  $\gamma = 1$

Coeff0: Constant added before exponentiation. Coeff 0 = 1 to include bias and lower degree terms.

$$k(x, z) = (x^T Z + 1)^3 = \tilde{\mathcal{Z}}(x)^\top \tilde{\mathcal{Z}}(z)$$

This kernel implicitly spans all monomials of  $x$  and  $z$  up to degree 3 , including linear. Quadratic and cubic terms and the bias term - exactly matching the 93-dimensional feature map.

**Why not other Kernels:**

- **RBF Kernel:**

$$\kappa(x, z) = \exp(-\gamma \|x - z\|^2)$$

The RBF Vernal maps data to an infinite-dimensional space, which is overkill for this task. It may work but lack interpretability and risks overfitting on small datasets.

- **Matern Kernel:**

This is typically used in Gaussian Processes for continuous -valued data and is not well-suited to discrete binary inputs like challenges bits.

## Part 4: Method For Recovering Non-Negative Delays

For a  $k$ -bit Arbiter PUF, We define

$$\alpha_i = \frac{p_i - q_i + r_i - s_i}{2}$$

$$\beta_i = \frac{p_i - q_i - r_i + s_i}{2}$$

Then the linear model  $\omega, b$  is given by:

$$\omega_0 = \alpha_0$$

$$\omega_i = \alpha_i + \beta_{i-1} \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3 \dots 63$$

$$b = \beta_{63}$$

Thus, the vector  $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^{64}$  and scalar  $b$  are computed from:

$$\begin{cases} \omega_0 = \alpha_0 \\ \omega_1 = \alpha_1 + \beta_0 \\ \vdots \\ \omega_{63} = \alpha_{63} + \beta_{62} \\ b = \beta_{63} \end{cases}$$

Now, let  $x = [p_0, q_0, r_0, S_0, \dots, p_{63}, q_{63}, r_{63}, s_{63}]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{256}$

The system  $Ax = b$  is

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_\alpha \\ A_\beta \end{bmatrix} x = \begin{bmatrix} w \\ b \end{bmatrix}$$

where,

$A_\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{64 \times 256}$  is a sparse matrix encodes  $\alpha_i$  equations

$A_\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 256}$  encodes  $\beta_{63} = b$

We have a linear system with **more variables (256) than equations (65) -an underdetermined system. Thus, there are infinitely many solutions.**

To get a feasible and meaningful solution:-

#### Option 1: Non-Negative Least Squares (NNLS)

$$\min_{x \geq 0} \|Ax - b\|_2^2$$

**Pros:** Simple, satisfies the non-negativity constraint directly.

**Tools:** `scipy.optimize.nnls` or `sklearn.linear_model.LinearRegression` with constraint.

#### Option 2: Sparse Regularized Least Squares (SRLS)

$$\min_{x \geq 0} \|Ax - y\|_2^2 + \lambda \|x_1\|$$

**Pros:** Encourages sparse delay vectors.

**Tools:** `sklearn.linear_model.Lasso` with Positive Constraint.

#### Option 3: Recursive Back-Substitution (Custom Method)

Let us define

$$\alpha_i = \frac{p_i - q_i + r_i - S_i}{2}, \beta_i = \frac{p_i - q_i - r_i + s_i}{2}$$

Compute  $\alpha_i, \beta_i$  recursively

$$\alpha_0 = \omega_0$$

for  $i \geq 1; \alpha_i = \omega_i - \beta_{i-1}$

$\beta_{63} = b$

Choose  $a_i = r_i = 0$  then

$$\begin{aligned} p_i &= \alpha_i + \beta_i, & s_i &= \alpha_i - \beta_i \\ \text{if } p_i < 0 : & \text{set } q_i = -\min(0, \alpha_i + \beta_i) + \varepsilon \\ \text{if } s_i < 0 : & \text{set } r_i = -\min(0, \alpha_i - \beta_i) + \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

#### Implementation Notes

- Scarcity utilization: The matrix  $A$  is sparse - using solvers like `scipy.sparse.linalg.lsnnls` improves performance.
- Numerical Stability: Normalize rows of  $A$  and scale inputs to avoid ill-conditioning
- Validation: Ensure  $\|A_x - y\|_2 \approx 0$  and  $x \geq 0$ .

## Part 7: LinearSVC vs. LogisticRegression

**Key observations.**

- **Effect of  $C$ .** A very small  $C$  (0.01) under-fits, giving noticeably lower accuracy. Medium and high values (1 and 100) saturate at 100% accuracy for all models, but training time grows with  $C$ .
- **Effect of loss (LinearSVC).** `squared_hinge` is slightly slower for large  $C$  yet attains the same accuracy ceiling; for  $C = 0.01$  it outperforms plain `hinge`.

Table 1: LinearSVC – influence of **loss** and  $C$  on training time and test accuracy

<b>Loss</b>	$C$	<b>Train time (s)</b>	<b>Test acc. (%)</b>
hinge	0.01	0.10	88.38
hinge	1	1.67	100.00
hinge	100	1.84	100.00
squared_hinge	0.01	0.16	93.50
squared_hinge	1	1.51	100.00
squared_hinge	100	2.94	100.00

Table 2: LogisticRegression – influence of **penalty** and  $C$ 

<b>Penalty</b>	$C$	<b>Train time (s)</b>	<b>Test acc. (%)</b>
$\ell_2$	0.01	0.04	81.69
$\ell_2$	1	0.09	100.00
$\ell_2$	100	0.07	100.00
$\ell_1$	0.01	0.04	78.12
$\ell_1$	1	0.92	100.00
$\ell_1$	100	1.25	100.00

- **Effect of penalty (LogReg).** With  $C \geq 1$ , both  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$  reach perfect accuracy.  $\ell_1$  costs more time because of the iterative feature-selection nature of the solver.

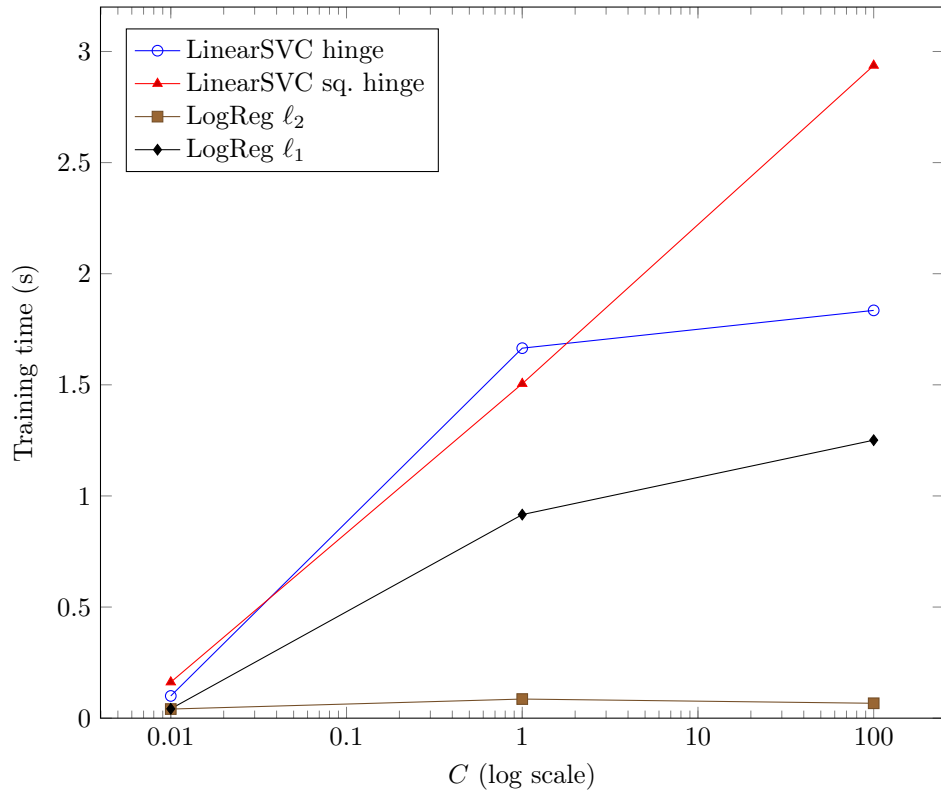


Figure 1: Training time vs. regularisation strength  $C$  for each loss/penalty setting.