

Title of the Experiment: Hardware Trojan Attack I

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Abstract

This experiment is about Hardware trojan attack. Hardware trojans can be integrated in a system which does malicious activities (such as information leakage, information modification etc.) in the chip while in operation. In this experiment, we implemented combinational and sequential trojans and checked how those trojans are triggered and changed the important information (here the key of the des encryption and encrypted data). First, we implemented a given DES encryption module on MAX 10 FPGA on HAHA board and checked the encrypted data in RAM. In the second step, we implemented the combinational trojan and observed the changed output. In the third step, we implemented sequential trojan using finite state machine and without using finite state machine. We did not observe any change in the finite state machine implementation but observed a change in the encrypted data without using FSM.

Experiment Details

Goals: The goal of this experiment is to implement a Hardware trojan and trigger that trojan at a certain condition.

Experimental Setup: We used Hardware Hacking (HaHa) board and Quartus software on a computer for this experiment

Part I:

Experiment Steps and results:

1. We have created a new project with the given code files and added RAM to complete the design. We generated bitstream and loaded the given code to MAX 10 FPGA on HaHa board. We opened the In-System Memory Content Editor and observed the DES encrypted 16 round data on the editor. The screenshot is given below.
2. The module "key_sel" is creating the key. Permutation is used to generate the round keys.
3. The module crp is doing the Fiestel function.
4. 693 total logic elements are used.

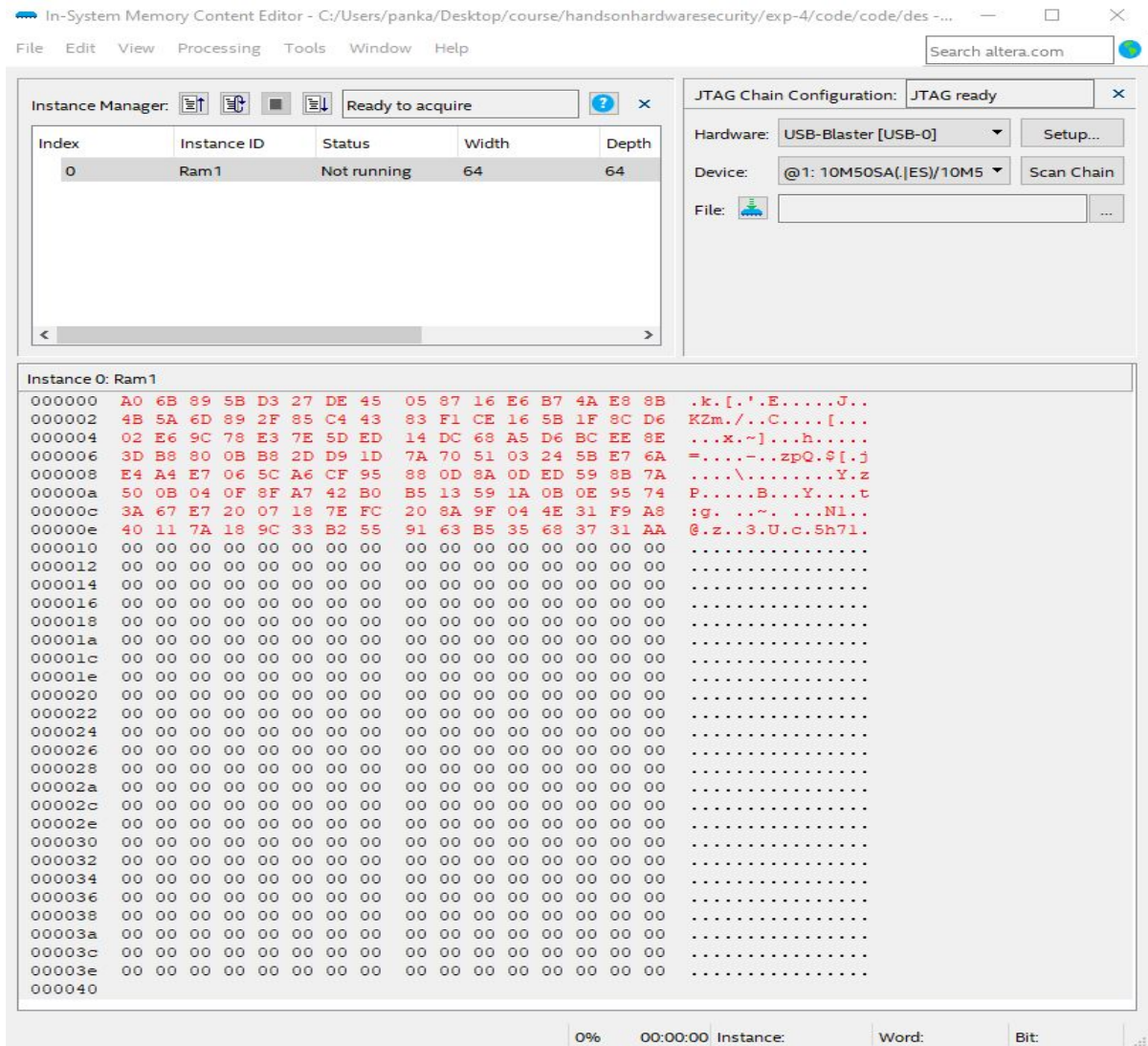


Figure 1: The screenshot of DES encrypted data in the memory window

Part II:

Experiment Steps and results:

1. We have implemented a combinational Trojan in the des.v file. When the trojan is activated, the LSB of the key for DES is inverted. The trigger condition is if the least significant 4 bits of F function output is 4'b0110. We observed the change of the encrypted data in the memory window after 10 rounds. The screenshot is attached here.
2. We did the same for trigger condition 4'b1001. We observed the change of the encrypted data in the memory window after 1 round. The screenshot is attached here.
3. We have done the same for trigger condition 4'b1010. We did not observe any change of data for this trigger condition. That's why no screenshot is attached.

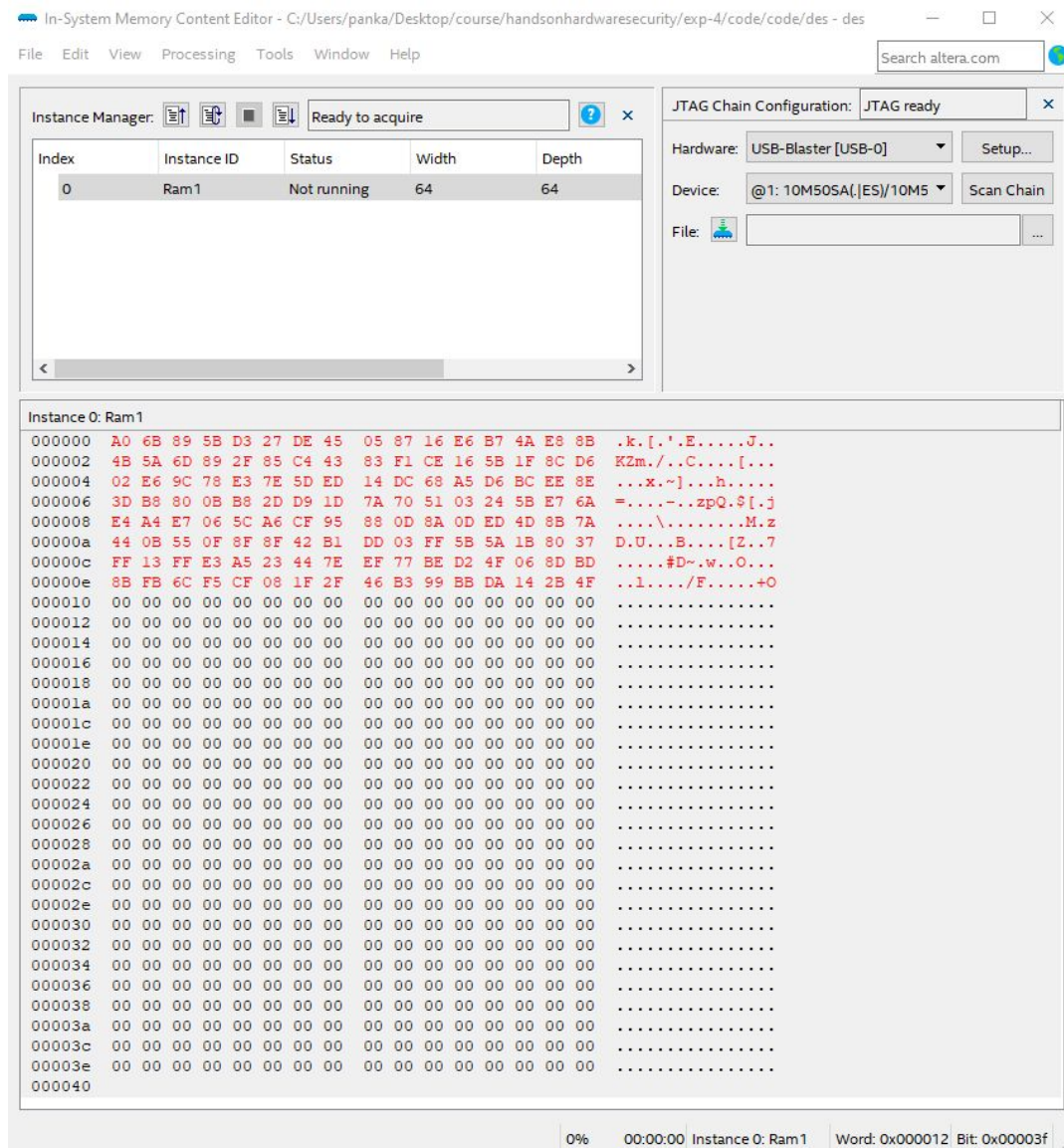


Figure 2: The screenshot of DES encrypted data when combinational trojan is triggered at 4'b0110

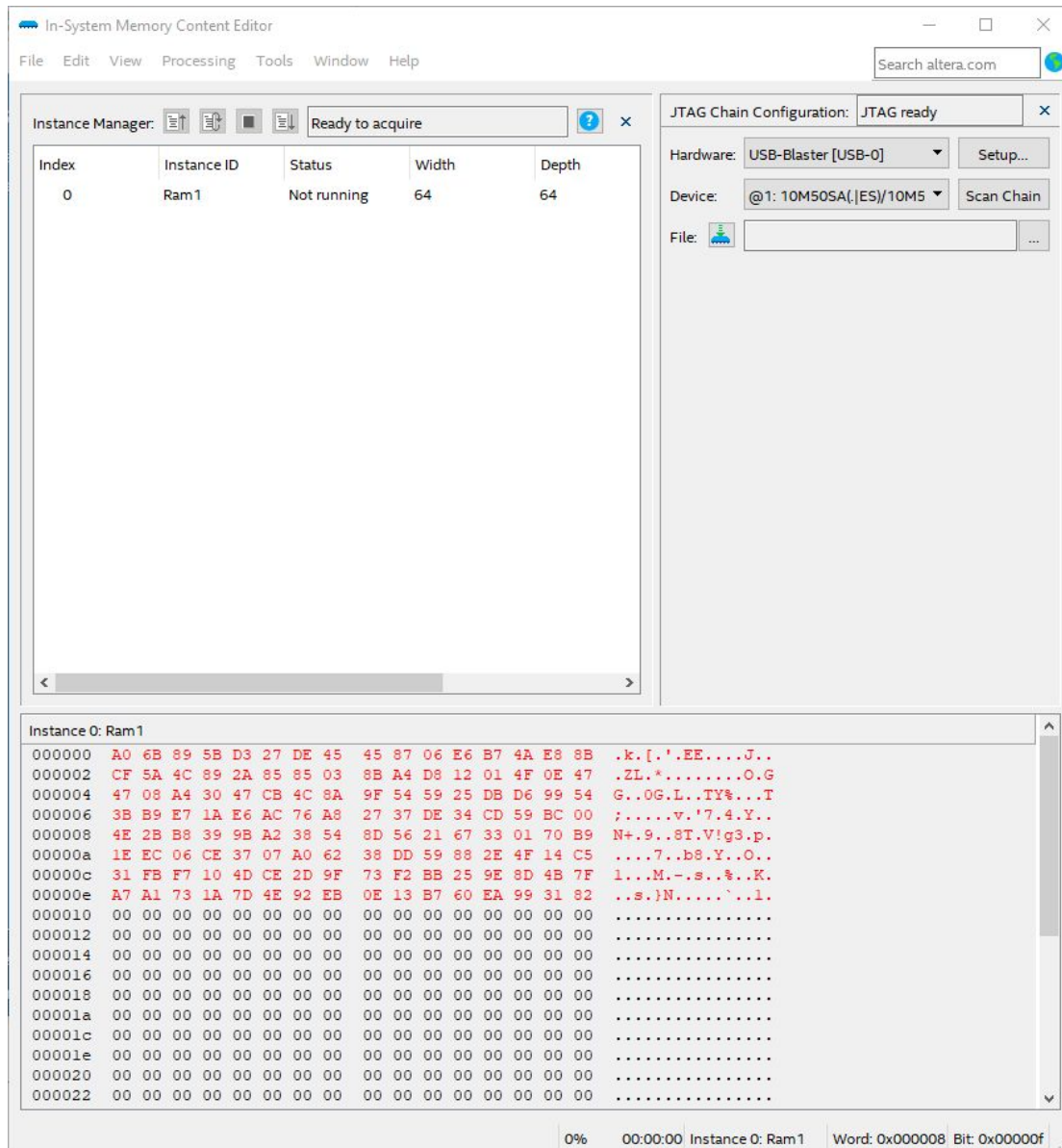


Figure 3: The screenshot of DES encrypted data when combinational trojan is triggered at 4'b1001

Part III:

Experiment Steps and results:

1. We have implemented a sequential Trojan in the des.v file by using a finite state machine with four states. We used one 2-bit register for current state, one 2-bit register for next state, three 2-bit register for state values and one 56 bit register for intermediate key value. When the trojan is activated, the LSB of the key for DES is inverted. The trigger condition is if the least significant 2 bits of F function output is 2'b01, 2'b10 and 2'b11 sequentially one after another. We did not observe any change in the encrypted data.
2. We did the same for trigger condition of 2'b11, 2'b01 and 2'b00 but did not observe any change in encrypted data.
3. We implemented the sequential trojan in the des.v file in a different way without using finite state machine. That modification is commented in the attached file. By using that implementation, we observed the change in the encrypted data after 8 rounds. The screenshot is attached here.

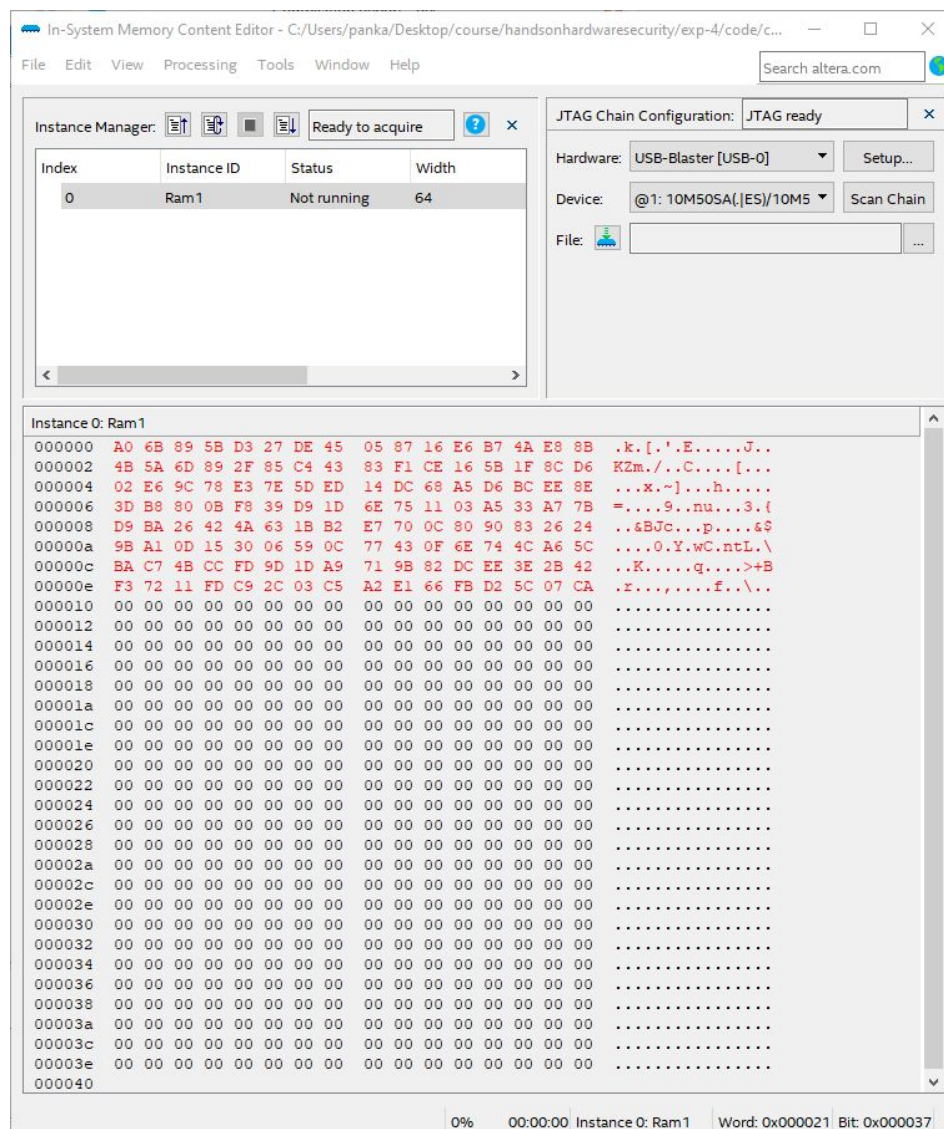


Figure 4: The screenshot of DES encrypted data when sequential trojan is triggered at 2'b01->2'b10->2'b11

Summary:

We implemented hardware trojan attacks in the system and observed the malicious activities performed by the trojans. We faced had to figure out the clock pin for the system. We used pin 88 for our system. We also used pin 30 for reset. Unfortunately, pin 30 was high and we were not getting 16 round data. We were getting one round data. With the help of our TA, we figured out that mistake and got 16 round data using reset pin low. Overall, this experiment is a good learning for us to know how malicious activities can be inserted in a system.