

# IIS Tutorial - Advanced Fault Attack

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# Organisational Information

- Tutorial slides are already available on the wiki
- No specification needed for advanced Fault Attack
- Data for DPA and advanced Fault attack will be released soon

# Notation

- $\Delta$  denotes the XOR difference between two values

$$\Delta_{A,B} = A \oplus B$$

$$\Delta_{5,7} = 2$$

$$\Delta_{6,6} = 0$$

# Notation

- AES State in round [Round] after [Operation]  
(128-bit = 4 x 4 x 8 bytes)

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_0 & A_4 & A_8 & A_{12} \\ A_1 & A_5 & A_9 & A_{13} \\ A_2 & A_6 & A_{10} & A_{14} \\ A_3 & A_7 & A_{11} & A_{15} \end{pmatrix}$$

Valid State:  $S_{[Round],[Operation]}$

Faulty State:  $F_{[Round],[Operation]}$

# Notation

- Differential AES State in round [Round] after [Operation]

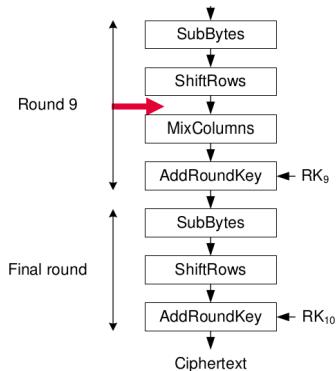
$$\begin{pmatrix} \Delta_0 & \Delta_4 & \Delta_8 & \Delta_{12} \\ \Delta_1 & \Delta_5 & \Delta_9 & \Delta_{13} \\ \Delta_2 & \Delta_6 & \Delta_{10} & \Delta_{14} \\ \Delta_3 & \Delta_7 & \Delta_{11} & \Delta_{15} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_{[Round],[Operation]}$$

$$= S_{[Round],[Operation]} \oplus F_{[Round],[Operation]}$$

# Attack Overview

- Induce random (non-zero) error in one byte before MixColumns in Round 9
- Collect valid/faulty ciphertext pairs
- Recover key bytes...



# Fault Propagation

- Induce random (non-zero) error
- Error is in one byte of the state
- 255 possibilities ( $2^8 - 1$ )
- Before MixColumns and after ShiftRows in Round 9
- Exact position of error not known
- Here the error is induced in the first byte

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_{9, \text{ShiftRows}}$$



# Fault Propagation

- MixColumns spreads 1 byte difference over the whole column
- Now 4 bytes contain differences
- The 4 differences are not equal
- Still only 255 possibilities because MixColumns is linear

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_{9, \text{MixColumns}}$$

# Fault Propagation

- AddRoundKey is just XOR with constant value
- No effect on differences

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_{9, \text{AddRoundKey}}$$

# Fault Propagation

- SubBytes changes the values of the differences
- No additional differences are introduced

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_{10, SubBytes}$$

# Fault Propagation

- ShiftRows exchanges positions of bytes in each row of the state

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \Delta \\ 0 & 0 & \Delta & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_{10, \text{ShiftRows}}$$

# Fault Propagation

- MixColumns is skipped (round 10)
- AddRoundKey has no effect on differences
- This is the observable output difference

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \Delta \\ 0 & 0 & \Delta & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_{10, \text{AddRoundKey}}$$

# Example

1.

$$S_{9, \text{ShiftRows}} = \begin{pmatrix} 87 & F2 & 4D & 97 \\ 6E & 4C & 90 & EC \\ 46 & E7 & 4A & C3 \\ A6 & 8C & D8 & 95 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. Induce fault “1E” in first byte

3.

$$F_{9, \text{ShiftRows}} = \begin{pmatrix} 99 & F2 & 4D & 97 \\ 6E & 4C & 90 & EC \\ 46 & E7 & 4A & C3 \\ A6 & 8C & D8 & 95 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Example

4.

$$S_{10,AddRoundKey} = \begin{pmatrix} 39 & 02 & DC & 19 \\ 25 & DC & 11 & 6A \\ 84 & 09 & 85 & 0B \\ 1D & FB & 97 & 32 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$F_{10,AddRoundKey} = \begin{pmatrix} DE & 02 & DC & 19 \\ 25 & DC & 11 & 3B \\ 84 & 09 & C2 & 0B \\ 1D & 62 & 97 & 32 \end{pmatrix}$$

5. Observable differences are “E7”, “99”, “47” and “51”

# Fault Propagation Cont.

- So we know that...

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \Delta \\ 0 & 0 & \Delta & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- But also...

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \Delta & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \Delta \\ 0 & 0 & \Delta & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- We need to consider all four cases
- Be aware of what happens if the fault is induced in column 2-4 (not needed for this assignment)



# Recover Key

- Generate 1020 ( $4 \times 255$ ) possible output differentials for MixColumns in Round 9
- Guess 4 key bytes and calculate the output difference for MixColumns in Round 9
- Make list of all key combinations that result in one of the 1020 possible differentials
- Repeat attack with different valid/faulty ciphertext pairs and narrow down key combinations

# Recover Key

- Guessing 4 key bytes is quite some work ( $2^{32}$  operations)
- Calculate  $\text{SubBytes}^{-1}$  for one key byte
- Check if differentials are actually possible
- Repeat for other key bytes

# Remarks

- Basis for attack from G. Piret and J. Quisquater [\[PQ03\]](#)
- Also works if fault is instead induced somewhere between MixColumns in round 8 and MixColumns in round 9 (not needed for this assignment)
- Already quite practical attack
- Can be extended to an even more powerful attack easily

# Submissions

## For Final Delivery

- Implement simple Fault Attack
- Implement advanced Fault Attack
  - You only need to find 4 bytes of the key (error in first column)
  - The other 12 bytes of the last round key are provided by us
  - We know that simple brute force would work as well...
- Implement DPA

# Submissions

- Programming language is Matlab/Octave or Sage
- Add Readme with instructions if necessary
- We need to be able to run your code
- Write summary for each solved challenge  
(2-4 Pages in total)

# Timeline

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- < 24<sup>th</sup> December - Give progress update to tutor
- 21<sup>th</sup> January - Final deliverable
- ~ 28<sup>th</sup> January - Final interviews