

# PUFs, Protection, Privacy, PRNGs

an overview of physically unclonable functions

Pol Van Aubel

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# Presenting

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This lecture features work from many authors, a list of citations is provided on the final slides.



# Outline

Egocentric blathering

Problem statement

Some history in anti-counterfeiting

Physical One-Way Functions

Intermezzo: Secure Storage of Cryptographic Keys

Silicon Physical Random Functions

Your very own memory PUFs

Privacy

References



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# Unique identification and authentication of integrated circuits



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- distinguish chips



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- distinguish chips
- uniquely



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- distinguish chips
- uniquely
- from the same mask



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- with high accuracy



# Unique identification and authentication of integrated circuits

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# Counterfeiting



# Counterfeiting

- Money



# Counterfeiting

- Money
- Magstripe cards



# Counterfeiting

- Money
- Magstripe cards
- Identity documents



# Counterfeiting

- Money
- Magstripe cards
- Identity documents
- Nuke Counters



# Counterfeiting

- Money
- Magstripe cards
- Identity documents
- “Treaty Limited Item” identifiers



# Money



# Money

- Highly intricate imagery



# Money

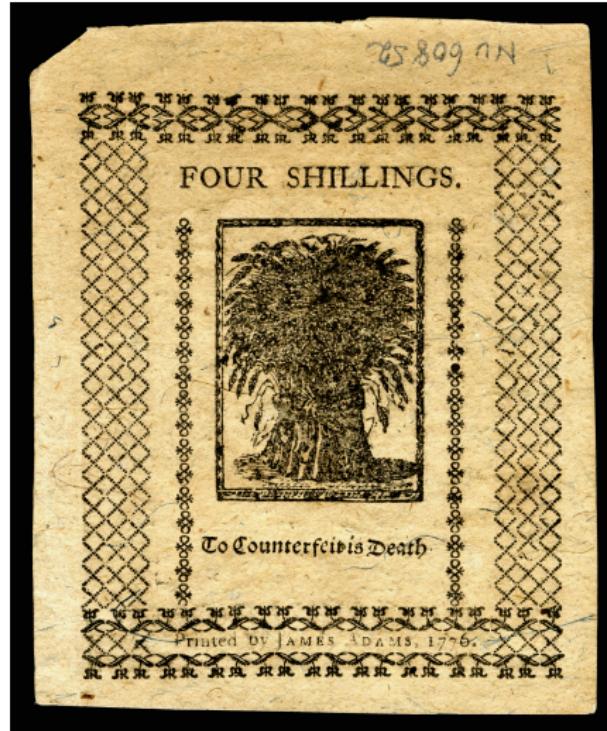
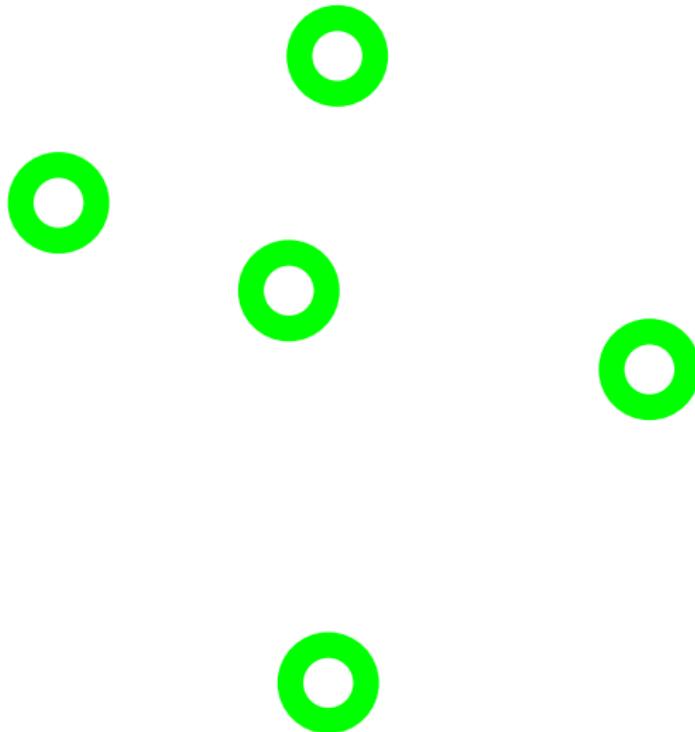


Image from the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.

Money



# Money

- Highly intricate imagery
- Photocopiers and the EURion constellation<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> M. Kuhn, *The eurion constellation*, Feb. 2002. [Online]. Available: <http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/~mgk25/eurion.pdf>.

# Money

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- Common theme: same mark for valid bills

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# Money

- Highly intricate imagery
- Photocopiers and the EURion constellation<sup>1</sup>
- Common theme: same mark for valid bills
- Alternative: different marks for valid bills and *sign the marking*
- Sprinkle random-length optical fibres into the paper pulp, sign the dot pattern caused by a lightbar scan<sup>2,3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> D. W. Bauder, "An anti-counterfeiting concept for currency systems", *Sandia National Labs, Albuquerque, NM, Tech. Rep. PTK-11990*, 1983.

<sup>3</sup> G. J. Simmons, "Identification of data, devices, documents and individuals", in *Proceedings. 25th Annual 1991 IEEE International Carnahan Conference on Security Technology*, 1991, pp. 197–218. DOI: [10.1109/CCST.1991.202215](https://doi.org/10.1109/CCST.1991.202215).

# Cards



# Cards

- Magnetic stripes + PIN



## Cards

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- Surely nobody knows how to copy... oh.



# Cards

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- Holograms?



## Cards

- Magnetic stripes + PIN
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- Randomly disperse magnetic fibers, scan them, turn into pulses, AND the pulses with clock...<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> J. Brosow and E. Furugard, *Method and a system for verifying authenticity safe against forgery*, US Patent 4,218,674, Aug. 1980. [Online]. Available: <https://www.google.com/patents/US4218674>.



## Cards

- Magnetic stripes + PIN
- Surely nobody knows how to copy... oh.
- Holograms?
- Randomly disperse magnetic fibers, scan them, turn into pulses, AND the pulses with clock...<sup>4</sup>
- Randomly disperse conductive particles in insulating material, scan with a microwave.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> J. Brosow and E. Furugard, *Method and a system for verifying authenticity safe against forgery*, US Patent 4,218,674, Aug. 1980. [Online]. Available: <https://www.google.com/patents/US4218674>.

<sup>5</sup> J. Samyn, *Method and apparatus for checking the authenticity of documents*, US Patent 4,820,912, Apr. 1989. [Online]. Available: <https://www.google.com/patents/US4820912>.



# (Identity) documents



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- Translucency<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> R. Goldman, *Verification system for document substance and content*, US Patent 4,689,477, Aug. 1987. [Online]. Available: <https://www.google.com/patents/US4689477>.

## (Identity) documents

- Translucency<sup>6</sup>
- Exact 3-dimensional cotton fibre pattern<sup>7</sup>

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## (Identity) documents

- Translucency<sup>6</sup>
- Exact 3-dimensional cotton fibre pattern<sup>7</sup>
- Texture hash of postal envelope<sup>8</sup>

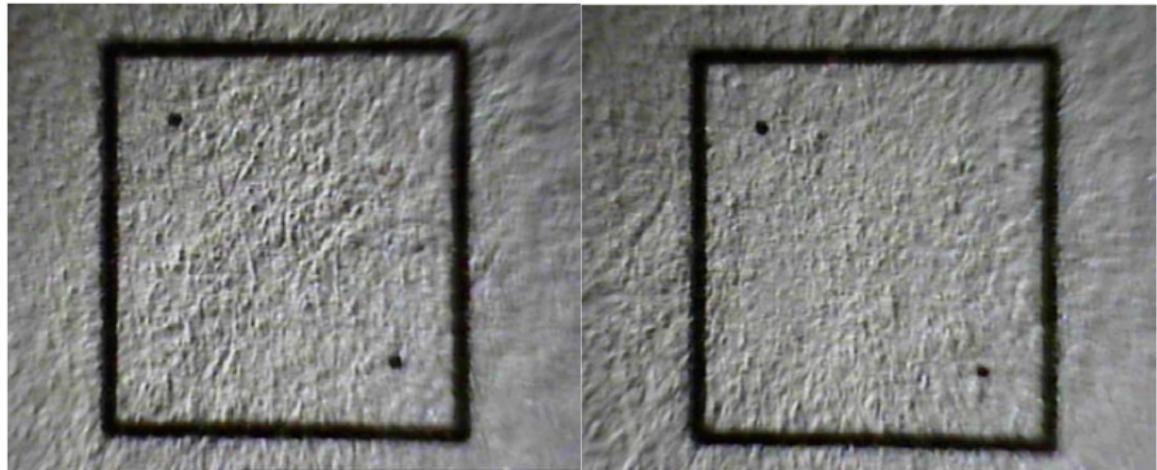
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<sup>8</sup> J. R. Smith and A. V. Sutherland, "Microstructure based indicia", in *Proceedings of the Second Workshop on Automatic Identification Advanced Technologies*, 1999, pp. 79–83.

## Paper texture hash



# Treaty Limited Items



## Treaty Limited Items

- Reflective Particle Tags<sup>9</sup>

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## Treaty Limited Items

- Reflective Particle Tags<sup>9</sup> (for if you ever have a bunch of nukes to count)

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# The common theme



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## 1. Intrinsic aspect



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2. Infeasible to copy



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3. Easily readable



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4. Unpredictable



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5. Unchanging

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# Physical One-Way Functions



# Physical One-Way Functions

- Epoxy with minuscule glass spheres<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> R. Pappu, B. Recht, J. Taylor et al., “Physical one-way functions”, *Science*, vol. 297, no. 5589, pp. 2026–2030, 2002, ISSN: 0036-8075. DOI: [10.1126/science.1074376](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1074376). [Online]. Available: <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/297/5589/2026>.

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- Emulation requires storage: huge challenge/response space

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# Protocol

1. Read on trusted terminal



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2. Collect random challenge/response pairs

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3. Authentication request from untrusted terminal



# Protocol

1. Read on trusted terminal
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5. Receive response-key



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7. Repeat steps 4–6 a few times
8. Goto 1



# Physical One-Way Functions



# Physical One-Way Functions

- Connection with cryptography



# Physical One-Way Functions

- Connection with cryptography
- Defined protocol



# Physical One-Way Functions

- Connection with cryptography
- Defined protocol
- “Special” equipment required



# Physical One-Way Functions

- Connection with cryptography
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- “Special” equipment required
- Same possibility in silicon?



# Physical One-Way Functions

- Connection with cryptography
- Defined protocol
- “Special” equipment required
- Same possibility in silicon?
- “it may become possible to employ a similar mesoscopic approach in an electronic system by using the scattering of electrons from atomic-scale inhomogeneities within their coherence length.”<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> R. Pappu, B. Recht, J. Taylor et al., “Physical one-way functions”, *Science*, vol. 297, no. 5589, pp. 2026–2030, 2002, ISSN: 0036-8075. DOI: [10.1126/science.1074376](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1074376). [Online]. Available: <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/297/5589/2026>.

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# The old days



## The old days

"In the fuel rod placement monitor . . . high radiation levels in the "hot" cell provided the general tamper resistance . . ."<sup>12</sup>

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## The old days

"In the fuel rod placement monitor . . . high radiation levels in the "hot" cell provided the general tamper resistance . . ."<sup>12</sup>

"The seismic sensors . . . would detect any attempt to gain physical access to the package long before the information security is in jeopardy."

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## RSA in 1984

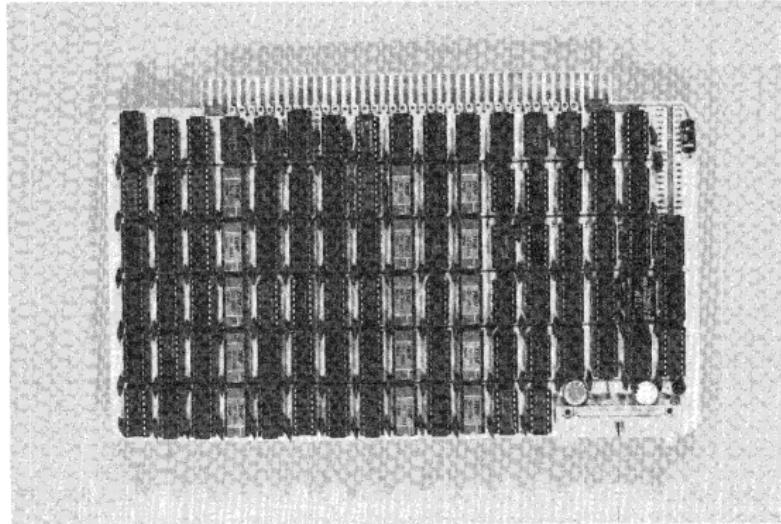


Figure 7. RSA Cryptoboard for PPIV.

The bottom line to this discussion is that equipment exists to measure various individual attributes to implement the identification technique described before. The first reduction to practice by the Sandia National Laboratories in the PPIV, using hand geometry measurements, illustrates the general principle.

# Other solutions



## Other solutions

- Hardware security modules (HSM)



## Other solutions

- Hardware security modules (HSM)
- Smart Cards



## Other solutions

- Hardware security modules (HSM)
- Smart Cards
- Trusted Platform Modules



# Aspects



# Aspects

- Key never leaves the device



## Aspects

- Key never leaves the device
- How does the key enter the device?



# Aspects

- Key never leaves the device
- How does the key enter the device?
- What can the key do?



## Aspects

- Key never leaves the device
- How does the key enter the device?
- What can the key do?
- Possible to emulate once you have the key?



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# The case for PUFs



## The case for PUFs

- Tamper-resistance: expensive and difficult



## The case for PUFs

- Tamper-resistance: expensive and difficult
- Process Variations across “identical” Integrated Circuits<sup>13</sup>

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## The case for PUFs

- Tamper-resistance: expensive and difficult
- Process Variations across “identical” Integrated Circuits<sup>13</sup>
- Use for secure device identification / authentication<sup>14</sup>

---

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<sup>14</sup> B. Gassend, D. Clarke, M. van Dijk et al., “Silicon physical random functions”, in *Proceedings of the 9th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security*, ser. CCS ’02, Washington, DC, USA: ACM, 2002, pp. 148–160, ISBN: 1-58113-612-9. DOI: [10.1145/586110.586132](https://doi.acm.org/10.1145/586110.586132). [Online]. Available: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/586110.586132>.

oscillator block

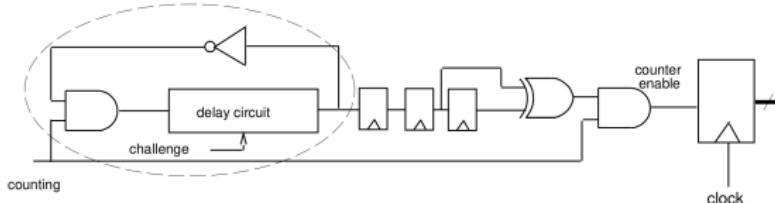


Figure 1: Self-Oscillating Loop Circuit.

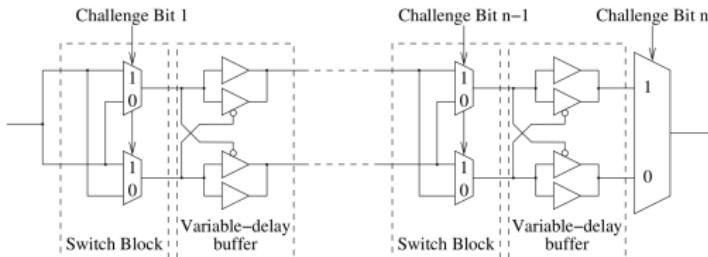


Figure 2: Non-Monotonic Delay Circuit.

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<sup>15</sup> B. Gassend, D. Clarke, M. van Dijk *et al.*, “Silicon physical random functions”, in *Proceedings of the 9th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security*, ser. CCS ’02, Washington, DC, USA: ACM, 2002, pp. 148–160, ISBN: 1-58113-612-9. DOI: [10.1145/586110.586132](https://doi.acm.org/10.1145/586110.586132). [Online]. Available: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/586110.586132>.

# Attacks



# Attacks

- Duplication



# Attacks

- Duplication
- Emulation from measuring



# Attacks

- Duplication
- Emulation from measuring
- Emulation from modelling



# Attacks

- Duplication
- Emulation from measuring
- Emulation from modelling
- Control algorithm attack



# Controlled Physically Unclonable Functions



# Controlled Physically Unclonable Functions

- As before, with bells on!<sup>16</sup>

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# Controlled Physically Unclonable Functions

- As before, with bells on!<sup>16</sup>
- Access function for the PUF as part of the PUF

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## Controlled Physically Unclonable Functions

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## Controlled Physically Unclonable Functions

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- Proof of execution on specific device
- Code that only runs on specific device

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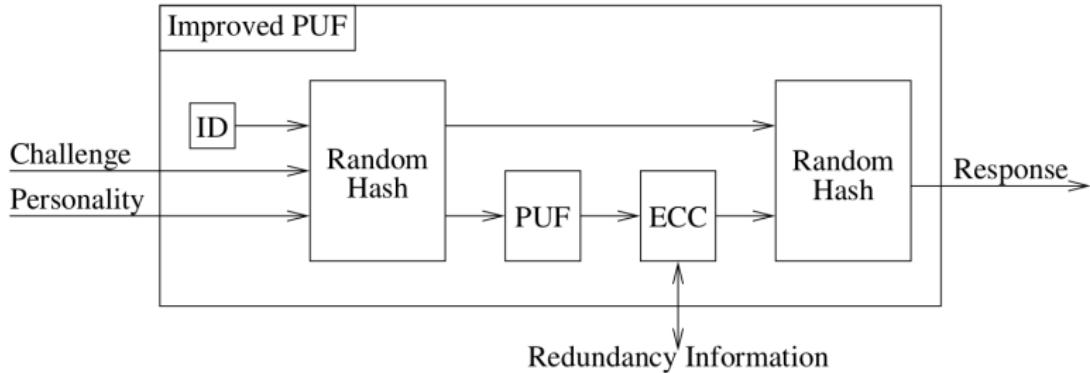
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# Controlled Physically Unclonable Functions

- As before, with bells on!<sup>16</sup>
- Access function for the PUF as part of the PUF
- Proof of execution on specific device
- Code that only runs on specific device
- Whatever you need a secure cryptographic key for...

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# Formal model



## Formal model

- Robustness<sup>18</sup>

---

<sup>18</sup> F. Armknecht, R. Maes, A. R. Sadeghi *et al.*, “A formalization of the security features of physical functions”, in *2011 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy*, 2011, pp. 397–412. DOI: [10.1109/SP.2011.10](https://doi.org/10.1109/SP.2011.10).

## Formal model

- Robustness<sup>18</sup>
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## Formal model

- Robustness<sup>18</sup>
- Physical unclonability
- Unpredictability

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# Proposals (& attacks!)



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- Arbiter PUFs<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> J. W. Lee, D. Lim, B. Gassend *et al.*, “A technique to build a secret key in integrated circuits for identification and authentication applications”, in *2004 Symposium on VLSI Circuits. Digest of Technical Papers (IEEE Cat. No.04CH37525)*, 2004, pp. 176–179. DOI: [10.1109/VLSIC.2004.1346548](https://doi.org/10.1109/VLSIC.2004.1346548).

# Proposals (& attacks!)

- Arbiter PUFs<sup>19</sup>
- ... with modelling attacks<sup>20,21,22</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> J. W. Lee, D. Lim, B. Gassend *et al.*, “A technique to build a secret key in integrated circuits for identification and authentication applications”, in *2004 Symposium on VLSI Circuits. Digest of Technical Papers (IEEE Cat. No.04CH37525)*, 2004, pp. 176–179. DOI: [10.1109/VLSIC.2004.1346548](https://doi.org/10.1109/VLSIC.2004.1346548).

<sup>20</sup> U. Rührmair, J. Sölder and F. Sehnke, “On the foundations of physical unclonable functions.”, *IACR Cryptology ePrint Archive*, vol. 2009, p. 277, 2009.

<sup>21</sup> M. Majzoobi, F. Koushanfar and M. Potkonjak, “Testing techniques for hardware security”, in *2008 IEEE International Test Conference*, 2008, pp. 1–10. DOI: [10.1109/TEST.2008.4700636](https://doi.org/10.1109/TEST.2008.4700636).

<sup>22</sup> F. Ganji, S. Tajik and J.-P. Seifert, “Pac learning of arbiter pufs”, *Journal of Cryptographic Engineering*, vol. 6, no. 3, pp. 249–258, 2016, ISSN: 2190-8516. DOI: [10.1007/s13389-016-0119-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13389-016-0119-4). [Online]. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s13389-016-0119-4>.

# Proposals (& attacks!)

- Arbiter PUFs
- ...with modelling attacks



# Proposals (& attacks!)

- Arbiter PUFs
- ... with modelling attacks
- ... and now also measuring delays at 6ps accuracy!<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> S. Tajik, E. Dietz, S. Frohmann *et al.*, “Photonic side-channel analysis of arbiter pufs”, *Journal of Cryptology*, pp. 1–22, 2016, ISSN: 1432-1378. DOI: [10.1007/s00145-016-9228-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00145-016-9228-6). [Online]. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00145-016-9228-6>.

# Proposals (& attacks!)



# Proposals (& attacks!)

- Memory-based (bistable) PUFs<sup>24,25,26,27,28</sup>

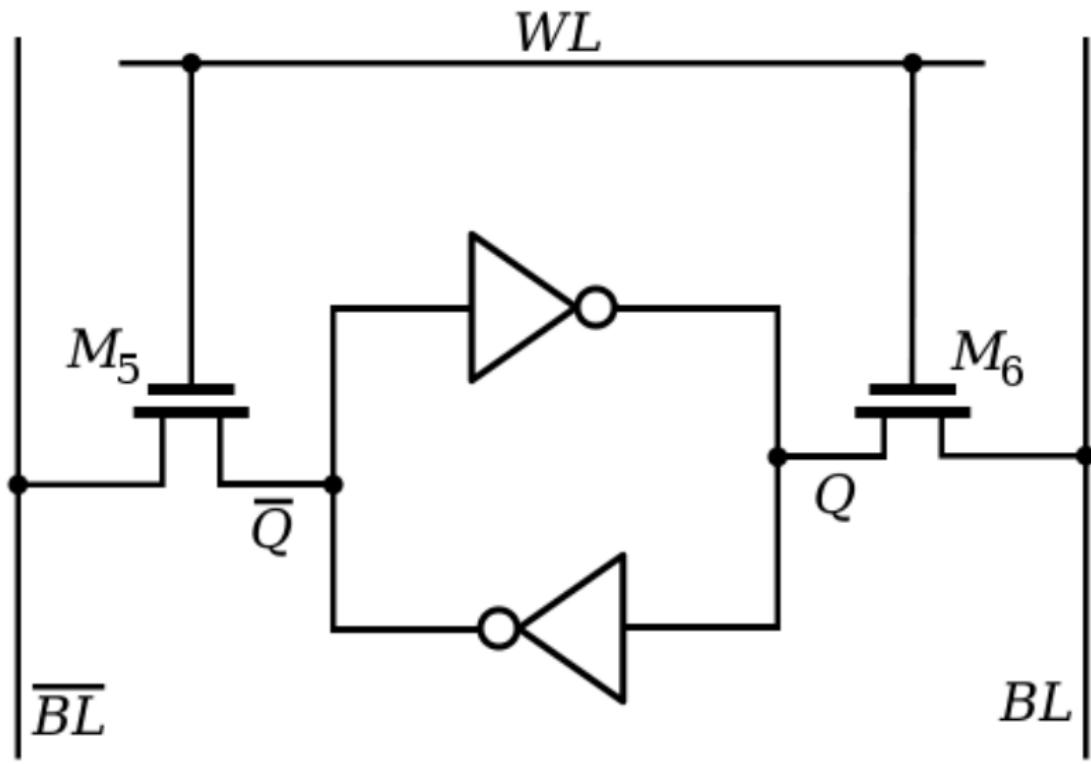
<sup>24</sup> J. Guajardo, S. S. Kumar, G.-J. Schrijen *et al.*, “Fpga intrinsic pufs and their use for ip protection”, in *Cryptographic Hardware and Embedded Systems - CHES 2007: 9th International Workshop, Vienna, Austria, September 10-13, 2007. Proceedings*, P. Paillier and I. Verbauwhede, Eds. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2007, pp. 63–80, ISBN: 978-3-540-74735-2. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-540-74735-2\\_5](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-74735-2_5).

<sup>25</sup> D. E. Holcomb, W. P. Burleson and K. Fu, “Initial sram state as a fingerprint and source of true random numbers for rfid tags”, in *In Proceedings of the Conference on RFID Security*, 2007.

<sup>26</sup> R. Maes, P. Tuyls, I. Verbauwhede *et al.*, *Intrinsic pufs from flip-flops on reconfigurable devices*, in *wissec*, 2008.

<sup>27</sup> V. van der Leest, G.-J. Schrijen, H. Handschuh *et al.*, “Hardware intrinsic security from d flip-flops”, in *Proceedings of the Fifth ACM Workshop on Scalable Trusted Computing*, ser. STC ’10, Chicago, Illinois, USA: ACM, 2010, pp. 53–62, ISBN: 978-1-4503-0095-7. DOI: [10.1145/1867635.1867644](https://doi.org/10.1145/1867635.1867644).

<sup>28</sup> S. S. Kumar, J. Guajardo, R. Maes *et al.*, “Extended abstract: The butterfly puf protecting ip on every fpga”, in *2008 IEEE International Workshop on Hardware-Oriented Security and Trust*, 2008, pp. 67–70. DOI: [10.1109/HST.2008.4559053](https://doi.org/10.1109/HST.2008.4559053).



# Proposals (& attacks!)

- Memory-based (bistable) PUFs



## Proposals (& attacks!)

- Memory-based (bistable) PUFs
- ... with cloning<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>29</sup> C. Helfmeier, C. Boit, D. Nedospasov *et al.*, “Cloning physically unclonable functions”, in *2013 IEEE International Symposium on Hardware-Oriented Security and Trust (HOST)*, 2013, pp. 1–6. DOI: [10.1109/HST.2013.6581556](https://doi.org/10.1109/HST.2013.6581556).

## Proposals (& attacks!)

- Memory-based (bistable) PUFs
- ...with cloning<sup>29</sup> and emulation attacks

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<sup>29</sup> C. Helfmeier, C. Boit, D. Nedospasov *et al.*, “Cloning physically unclonable functions”, in *2013 IEEE International Symposium on Hardware-Oriented Security and Trust (HOST)*, 2013, pp. 1–6. DOI: [10.1109/HST.2013.6581556](https://doi.org/10.1109/HST.2013.6581556).

# Proposals (& attacks!)



## Proposals (& attacks!)

- Decay-based PUFs<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>30</sup> W. Xiong, A. Schaller, N. A. Anagnostopoulos et al., "Run-time accessible dram pufs in commodity devices", in *Cryptographic Hardware and Embedded Systems – CHES 2016: 18th International Conference, Santa Barbara, CA, USA, August 17–19, 2016, Proceedings*, B. Gierlichs and A. Y. Poschmann, Eds. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2016, pp. 432–453, ISBN: 978-3-662-53140-2. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-662-53140-2\\_21](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-662-53140-2_21). [Online]. Available: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-662-53140-2\\_21](http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-662-53140-2_21).

## Proposals (& attacks!)

- Decay-based PUFs<sup>30</sup>
- ...

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<sup>30</sup> W. Xiong, A. Schaller, N. A. Anagnostopoulos et al., "Run-time accessible dram pufs in commodity devices", in *Cryptographic Hardware and Embedded Systems – CHES 2016: 18th International Conference, Santa Barbara, CA, USA, August 17–19, 2016, Proceedings*, B. Gierlichs and A. Y. Poschmann, Eds. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2016, pp. 432–453, ISBN: 978-3-662-53140-2. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-662-53140-2\\_21](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-662-53140-2_21). [Online]. Available: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-662-53140-2\\_21](http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-662-53140-2_21).

# Outline

Egocentric blathering

Problem statement

Some history in anti-counterfeiting

Physical One-Way Functions

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## Academic cop-out

This is trivial and left as an exercise for the reader.



J/K



# Why? It's hopeless!



# Why? It's hopeless!

- Protection: Some > None



# Why? It's hopeless!

- Protection: Some > None
- No silver bullets



## If nothing else

Read *this<sup>31</sup>* paper about using a PUF to create a secure boot loader on small embedded ARM and other SoC devices (the following slides contain material from this paper),

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<sup>31</sup> A. Schaller, T. Arul, V. van der Leest *et al.*, "Lightweight anti-counterfeiting solution for low-end commodity hardware using inherent pufs", in *Trust and Trustworthy Computing: 7th International Conference, TRUST 2014, Heraklion, Crete, June 30 – July 2, 2014. Proceedings*, T. Holz and S. Ioannidis, Eds. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2014, pp. 83–100, ISBN: 978-3-319-08593-7. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-319-08593-7\\_6](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-08593-7_6). [Online]. Available: <http://www2.seceng.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/assets/schaller-2/docs/trust2014.pdf>.

## If nothing else

and *this*<sup>32</sup> more recent paper on hardware-assisted software protection.

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<sup>32</sup> F. Kohnhäuser, A. Schaller and S. Katzenbeisser, “Puf-based software protection for low-end embedded devices”, in *Trust and Trustworthy Computing: 8th International Conference, TRUST 2015, Heraklion, Greece, August 24–26, 2015, Proceedings*, M. Conti, M. Schunter and I. Askoxylakis, Eds. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2015, pp. 3–21, ISBN: 978-3-319-22846-4. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-319-22846-4\\_1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-22846-4_1). [Online]. Available: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-22846-4\\_1](http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-22846-4_1).

## What you'll need

A device with:



## What you'll need

A device with:

- a masked ROM to hold the boot loader



## What you'll need

A device with:

- a masked ROM to hold the boot loader
- modifiable startup code (1st stage bootloader)



## What you'll need

A device with:

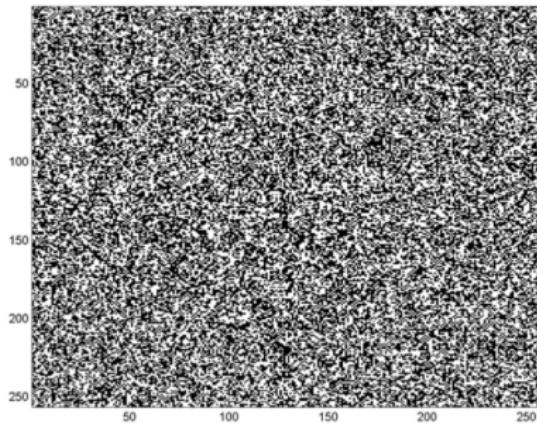
- a masked ROM to hold the boot loader
- modifiable startup code (1st stage bootloader)
- on-board SRAM

## What you'll need

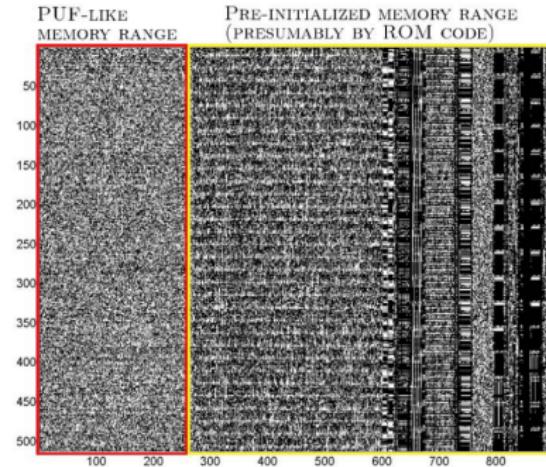
A device with:

- a masked ROM to hold the boot loader
- modifiable startup code (1st stage bootloader)
- on-board SRAM
- non-volatile memory for encrypted firmware & helper data

# Analyze the PUF

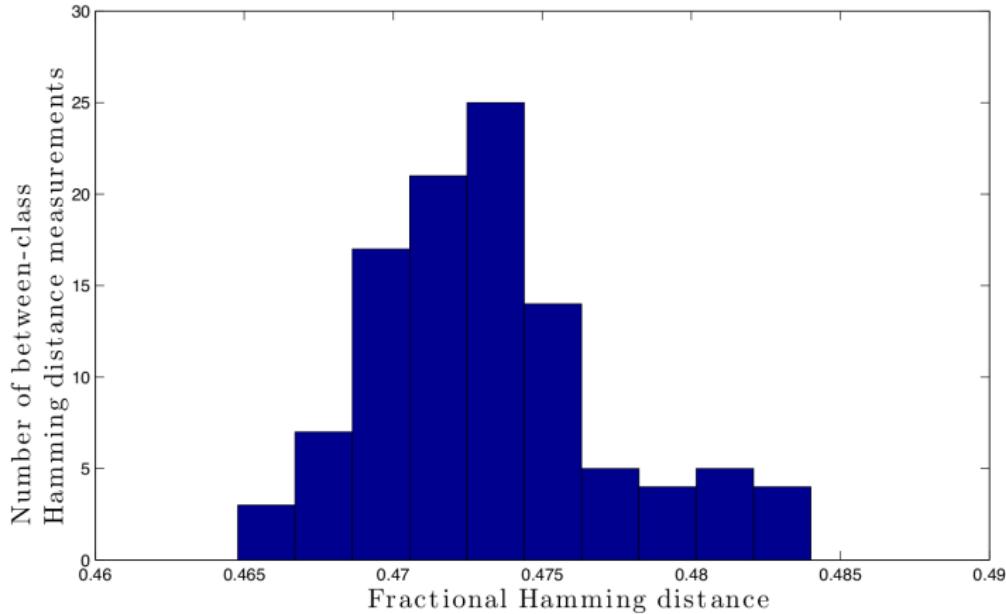


(a) STM32F100B



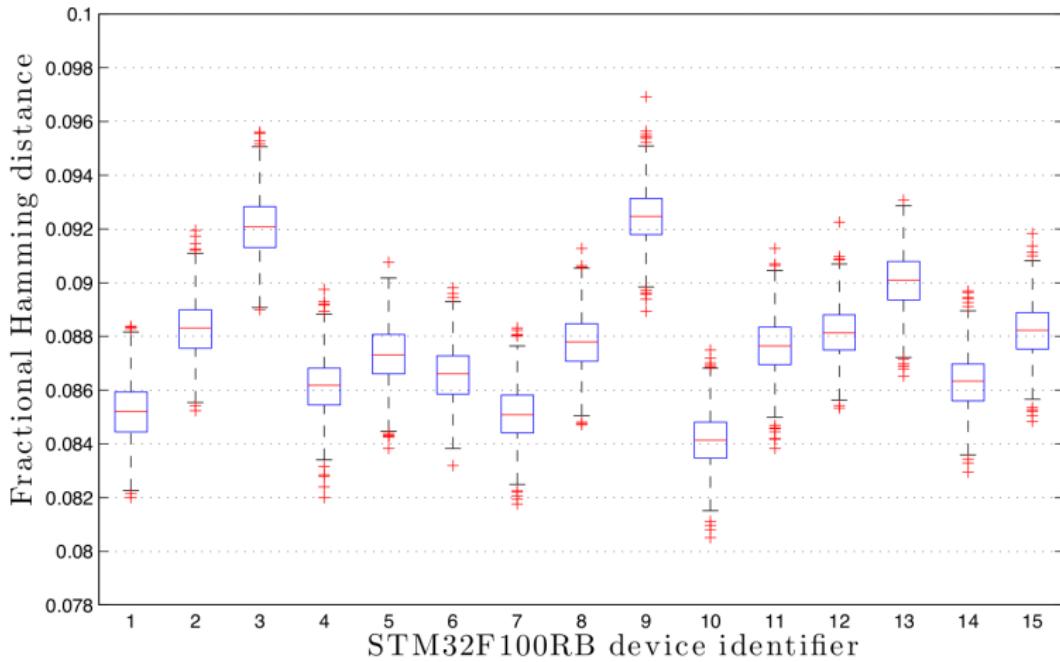
(b) PandaBoard

## Analyze the PUF



(c) Between-class Hamming distance

# Analyze the PUF

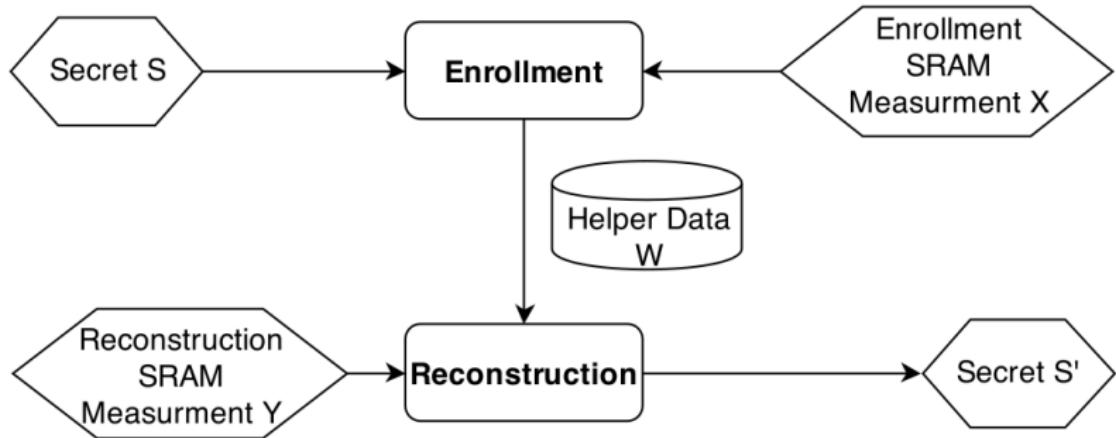


## Analyze the PUF

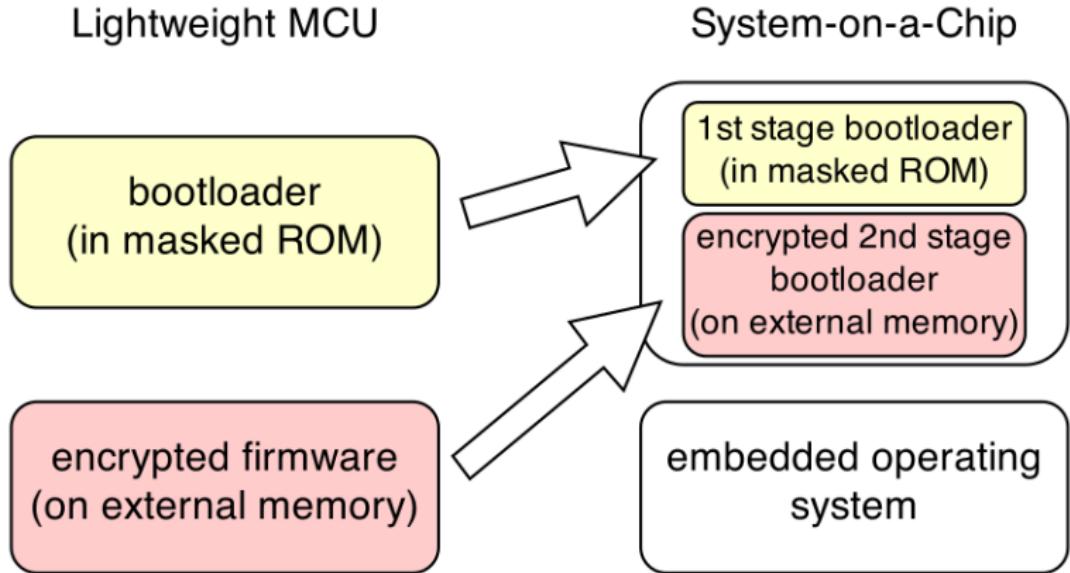
Will need error correction, e.g. using Golay codes

Fuzzy extractor enrollment / usage described in paper

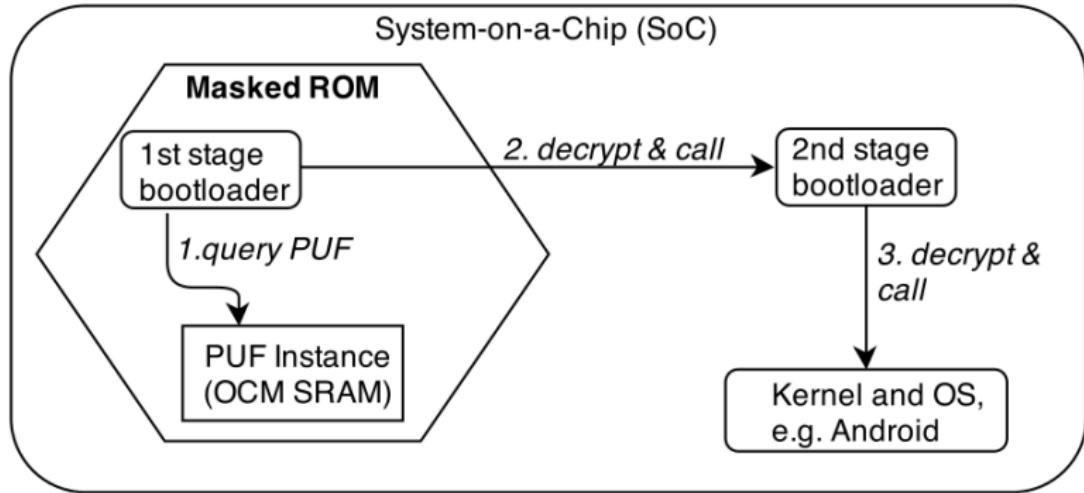
## Now build this

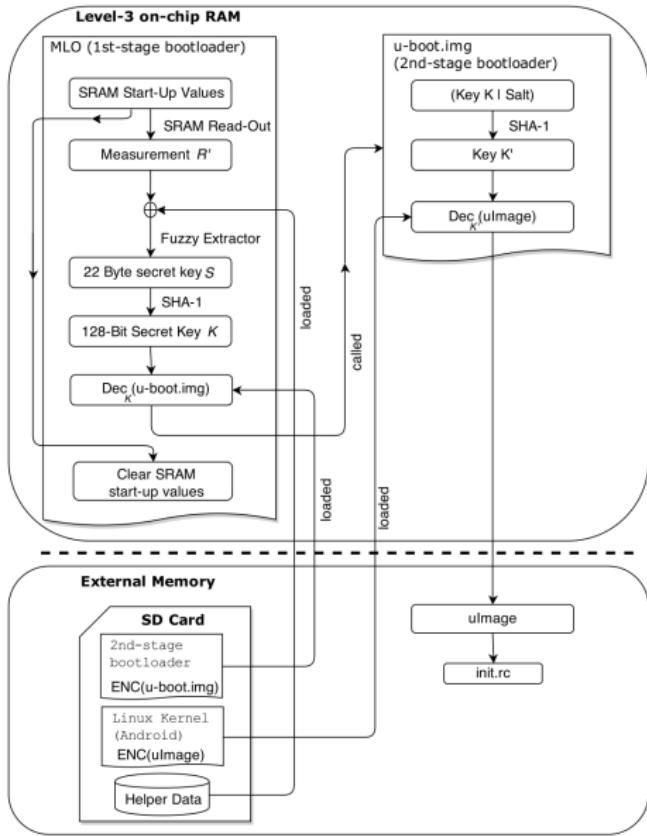


## Now build this

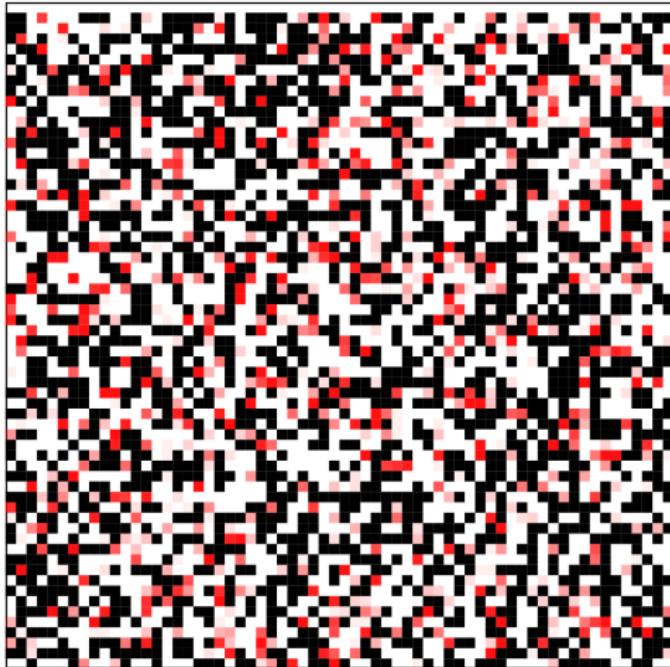


## Now build this



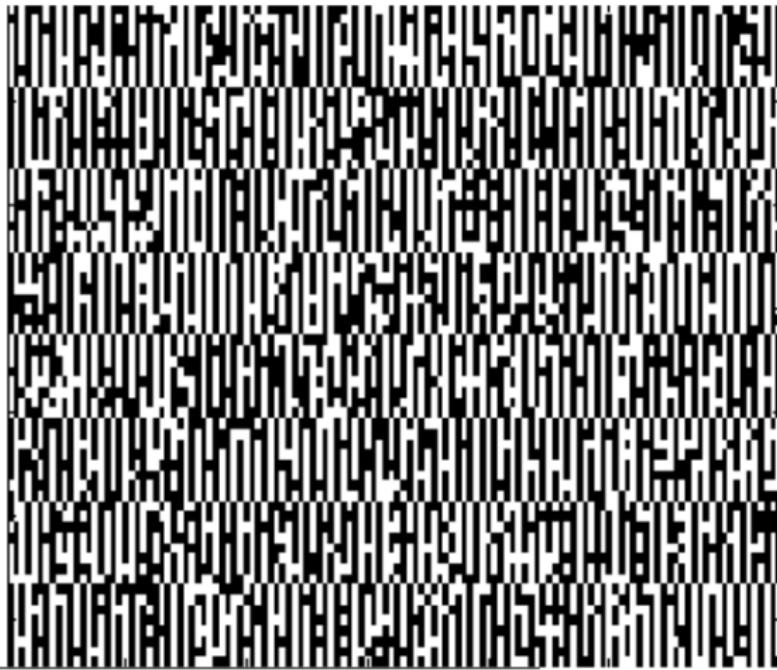


And you'll also have this



**But hopefully not this**





33

- <sup>33</sup> A. Van Herrewege, V. van der Leest, A. Schaller et al., "Secure prng seeding on commercial off-the-shelf microcontrollers", in *Proceedings of the 3rd International Workshop on Trustworthy Embedded Devices*, ser. TrustED '13, Berlin, Germany: ACM, 2013, pp. 55–64, ISBN: 978-1-4503-2486-1. DOI: [10.1145/2517300.2517306](https://doi.acm.org/10.1145/2517300.2517306). [Online]. Available: [http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/2517300.2517306](https://doi.acm.org/10.1145/2517300.2517306).

## x86\_64?

Unfortunately, won't be possible<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> P. Van Aubel, D. J. Bernstein and R. Niederhagen, "Investigating sram pufs in large cpus and gpus", in *Security, Privacy, and Applied Cryptography Engineering: 5th International Conference, SPACE 2015, Jaipur, India, October 3-7, 2015, Proceedings*, R. S. Chakraborty, P. Schwabe and J. Solworth, Eds. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2015, pp. 228–247, ISBN: 978-3-319-24126-5. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-319-24126-5\\_14](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-24126-5_14). [Online]. Available: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-24126-5\\_14](http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-24126-5_14).

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## Out of time, but...

Privacy concerns: “past experience shows that users feel uncomfortable with processors that have unique identifiers, because they *feel* that they can be tracked. Users could have the same type of concern with the use of PUFs, given that PUFs are a form of unique identifier.”<sup>35</sup> (emphasis added)

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<sup>35</sup> B. Gassend, D. Clarke, M. van Dijk *et al.*, “Silicon physical random functions”, in *Proceedings of the 9th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security*, ser. CCS ’02, Washington, DC, USA: ACM, 2002, pp. 148–160, ISBN: 1-58113-612-9. DOI: [10.1145/586110.586132](https://doi.acm.org/10.1145/586110.586132). [Online]. Available: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/586110.586132>.

## Out of time, but . . .

Privacy concerns: “past experience shows that users feel uncomfortable with processors that have unique identifiers, because they *feel* that they can be tracked. Users could have the same type of concern with the use of PUFs, given that PUFs are a form of unique identifier.”<sup>35</sup> (emphasis added)

Damn users, being paranoid and all . . .

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<sup>35</sup> B. Gassend, D. Clarke, M. van Dijk *et al.*, “Silicon physical random functions”, in *Proceedings of the 9th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security*, ser. CCS ’02, Washington, DC, USA: ACM, 2002, pp. 148–160, ISBN: 1-58113-612-9. DOI: [10.1145/586110.586132](https://doi.acm.org/10.1145/586110.586132). [Online]. Available: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/586110.586132>.

# Controlled PUF

with multiple personalities.



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# Google

Seriously. Google Scholar is your friend.



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# Presenting

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