

# Masking - Defeating Power Analysis Attacks

Side-Channel Security

**Rishub Nagpal**

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IAIK – Graz University of Technology

Recap

Masking an algorithm

- Inputs sharing

- Masking a circuit

- Unmask the result

Masking in practice: Hardware implementations

Masking in practice: Software implementations

Masking AES

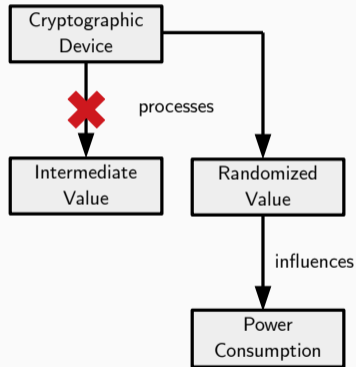
Notes regarding task 3

## Recap

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We want to...

- Operate on randomized intermediate values
- But still require correct algorithm output



- Compute  $f$  on input  $x$  and secret  $s \dots$ 
  - But avoid using  $s$  directly

$$f(x, s) = y$$

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  - But avoid using  $s$  directly
- Idea: Split  $s$  into e.g. 3 shares  $s_1, s_2, s_3$  such that:
  - $s = s_1 \circ s_2 \circ s_3$
  - Individual shares do not reveal  $s$
  - Each 2-combination of shares does not reveal  $s$
  - The computed  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  can be combined to  $y$

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  - The computed  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  can be combined to  $y$
- For technical reasons:
  - Split  $x$  into 3 shares  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  as well

$$f(x, s) = y$$

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$$f(x_3, s_3) = y_3$$

$$y = y_1 \circ y_2 \circ y_3$$

- Application to crypto operations:
  - Split key  $k$  into  $k_1, k_2, k_3$
  - Split plaintext  $x$  into  $x_1, x_2, x_3$
  - Compute ciphertext  $y = y_1 \circ y_2 \circ y_3$
  - (Use new shares for each encryption!)

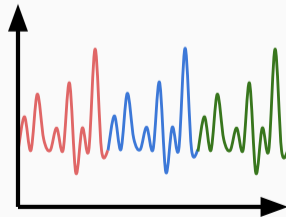
$$\text{enc}(x_1, k_1) = y_1$$

$$\text{enc}(x_2, k_2) = y_2$$

$$\text{enc}(x_3, k_3) = y_3$$

$$y = y_1 \circ y_2 \circ y_3$$

- We do secret sharing on one device and multiple shares of the key  $k$ :  $k_1, k_2, k_3 \rightarrow$





# Masking an algorithm

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1. Write your computation as an algebraic circuit.
2. Share the inputs.
3. Implement the circuit, replacing gates with masked gadgets.
4. Unmask the result.

# Masking an algorithm

---

Inputs sharing

Input:  $x$ .

1:  $x_0 \leftarrow x$

2: **for**  $i = 1$  to  $d - 1$  **do**

3:    $x_i \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{F}_2$

4:  $x_0 \leftarrow x \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^{d-1} x_i$

Output:  $(x_0, \dots, x_{d-1})$ .

If  $x$  is sensitive, run ahead of time.

Input:  $(x_0, \dots, x_{d-1})$ .

1: **for**  $i = 1$  to  $d - 1$  **do**

2:    $r_i \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{F}_2$

3:  $r_0 \leftarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^{d-1} r_i$

4: **for**  $i = 0$  to  $d - 1$  **do**

5:    $y_i \leftarrow x_i \oplus r_i$

Output:  $(y_0, \dots, y_{d-1})$ .

# Masking an algorithm

---

Masking a circuit

Input:  $(x_0, \dots, x_{d-1}, (y_0, \dots, y_{d-1}))$ .

1: **for**  $i = 0$  to  $d - 1$  **do**

2:  $z_i \leftarrow x_i \oplus y_i$

Output:  $(z_0, \dots, z_{d-1})$ .

Input:  $(x_0, \dots, x_{d-1})$

1:  $y_0 \leftarrow \neg x_0$

2: **for**  $i = 1$  to  $d - 1$  **do**

3:    $y_i \leftarrow x_i$

Output:  $(y_0, \dots, y_{d-1})$ .



Input:  $(x_0, \dots, x_{d-1}, y_0, \dots, y_{d-1})$ .

```
1: for  $i = 0$  to  $d - 1$  do
2:   for  $j = i + 1$  to  $d - 1$  do
3:      $r_{ij} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{F}_2, r_{ji} \leftarrow r_{ij}$ 
4:   for  $i = 0$  to  $d - 1$  do
5:     for  $j = 0$  to  $d - 1$  do
6:        $p_{ij} \leftarrow x_i \odot y_j$ 
7:       if  $i \neq j$  then
8:          $t_{ij} \leftarrow p_{ij} \oplus r_{ij}$ 
9:       else
10:         $t_{ij} \leftarrow p_{ij}$ 
11:   for  $i = 0$  to  $d - 1$  do
12:     $z_i = \bigoplus_{j=0}^{d-1} t_{ij}$ 
```

Output:  $(z_0, \dots, z_{d-1})$ .

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Other 2-input gates: NAND, OR, NOR? De Morgan laws

More than 2 inputs? Why not? Challenging to make efficient.

What happens when we connect gadgets together in a larger circuit?

Are we still “secure” ?

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Are we still “secure” ?

Masking security:  $t$ -probing model:

*A circuit is  $t$ -probing secure if any observation of  $t$  wires in the circuit is independent of the secret (unmasked) inputs.*



# Masking an algorithm

---

Unmask the result

XOR shares together :)

## Other masking approaches

- Arithmetic masking in  $\mathbb{F}_{2^n}, \mathbb{Z}_n$
- Table-based masking
- Threshold implementations
- Code-based masking

## Other security models:

- region probing model
- random probing model
- noise leakage model

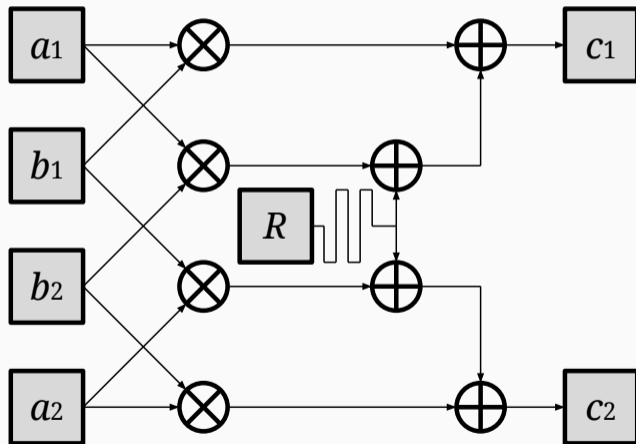
# Masking in practice: Hardware implementations

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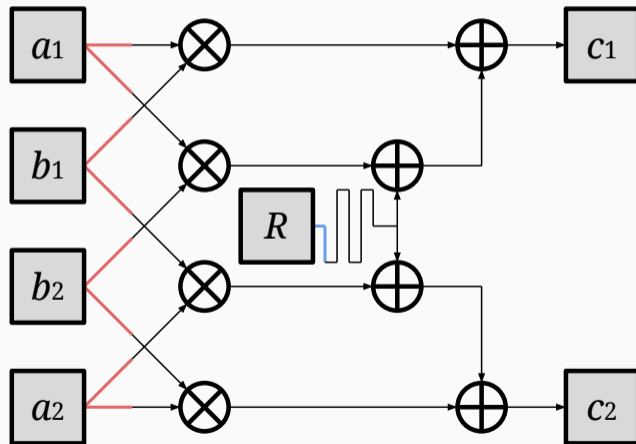
- Value overwriting: load  $x_0$  then  $x_1$ .
- Transition leakage  $\sim x_0 \oplus x_1$ .
- To be avoided!  $\rightarrow$  Hardwired “domains”.
  
- In HW multiple operations are performed in a single clock cycle
- Logic gates cause a certain delay of the signal
- Propagation of signals in a combinatorial logic can lead to “glitches”
  - Ephemeral incorrect computations
  - Leakage

Modelled in the *robust t-probing model*.

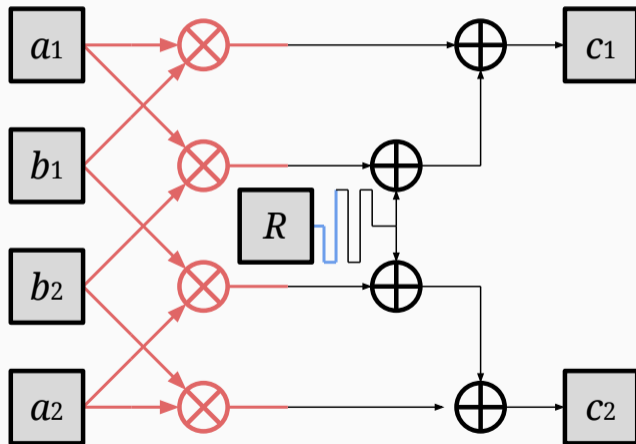
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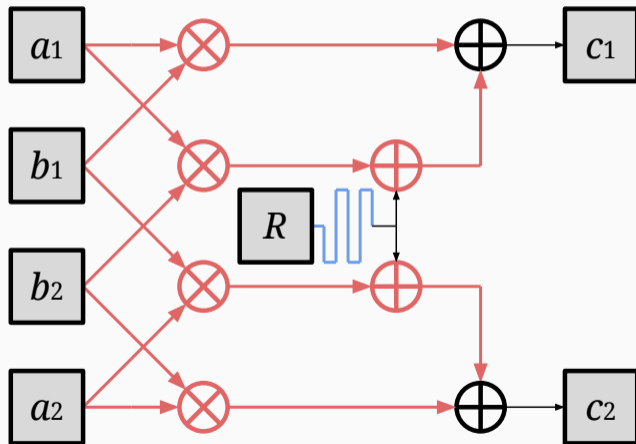


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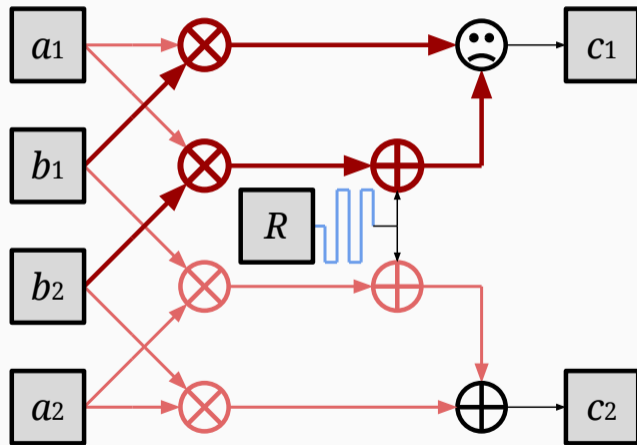




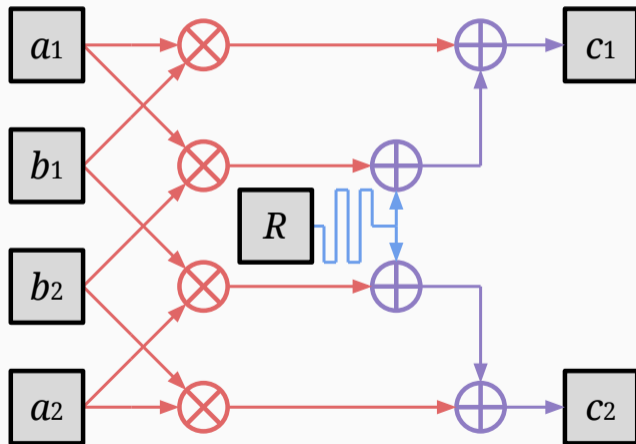
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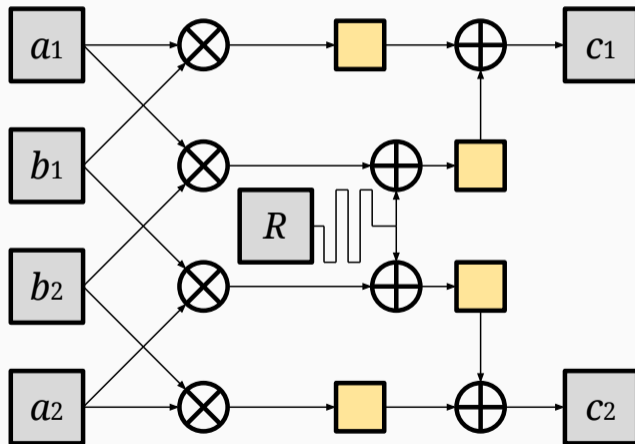
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Example: Glitches in first-order ISW AND gadget  $\rightarrow$  DOM gadget



# Masking in practice: Software implementations

---

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  - Compilers can reorder instructions as long as logic is the same.
  - Compilers can change logic as long as result is the same.
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- A processor is still hardware...
  - Transitions:  
STORE R1 x0  
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  - Glitches: less of a problem.
  - Countermeasures
    - “Lazy engineering”: double number of shares.
    - + “Only one share in the processor”
    - ...



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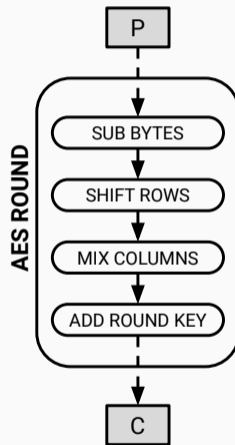
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- That data still leaks but has no correlation the original (unmasked) data
- $\Rightarrow$  First-order power analysis does not work anymore
- Attacker could now consider combinations of points in the power trace
- How to choose the masking order? Depends on noise, etc.
  - Security:  $1/\text{SNR}^d$  (provable – but tricky).
  - Cost:  $\mathcal{O}(d^2)$  (for non-linear gadgets).
  - Deployed: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order masking (?).
  - Practically-relevant order increase (stronger attacks, PQ Crypto).

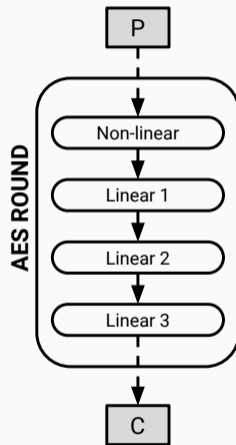
# Masking AES

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- AES consists of iterative application of 4 functions
  - In case of AES-128 we have 10 (+1 initial) rounds
  - Initial/final rounds are smaller

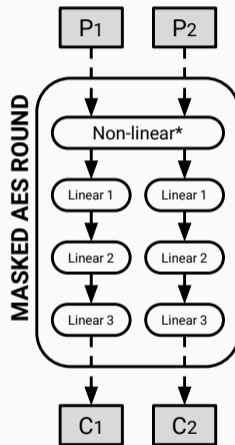


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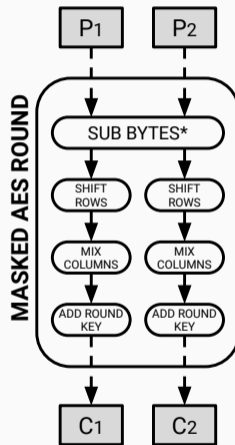




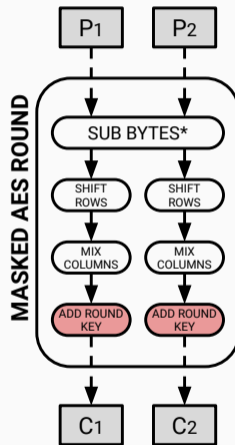
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- Identify linear/non-linear functions
- Split computation into shares accordingly
  - XOR each byte of  $P$  with randomness  $\rightarrow P_1, P_2$
  - Calculate functions on shares
  - Pairwise XOR each byte of  $C_1, C_2 \rightarrow C$



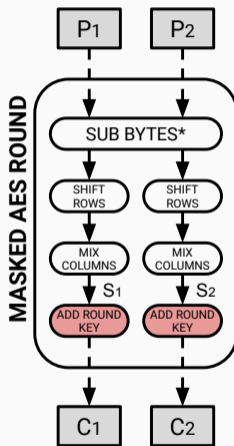
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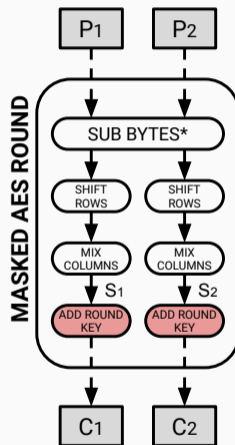
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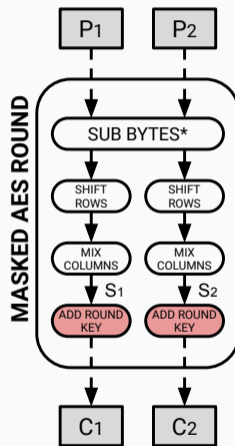
- Takes two inputs: State & Key
  - State ( $S_1, S_2$ ) is already shared, key is not
  - XOR-ing key to both shares cancels out!
  - $C_1 = S_1 \oplus K$
  - $C_2 = S_2 \oplus K$
  - $C = C_1 \oplus C_2 = (S_1 \oplus K) \oplus (S_2 \oplus K) = S_1 \oplus S_2$



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- Solution 2: XOR shared key to both shares
  - Actually works
  - Where do we get a shared key?



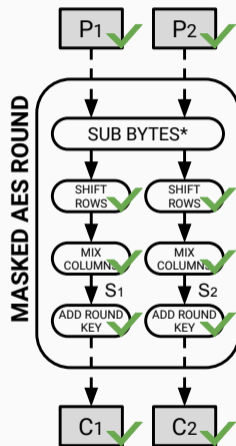
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- Harder way:
  - Calculate rounds keys on the fly...

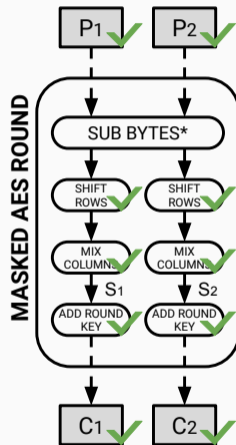


- Operates on the 128-bit key state (4x4 bytes)
- Consists of:
  - ROT WORD (one-byte left circular shift in one 4-byte array)
  - SUB WORD (SUB BYTES applied to one 4-byte array)
  - RCON (XOR of 4-byte round constant)

- We know how to:
  - Split inputs into shares
  - Calculate linear functions
  - Handle keys
  - Recover output

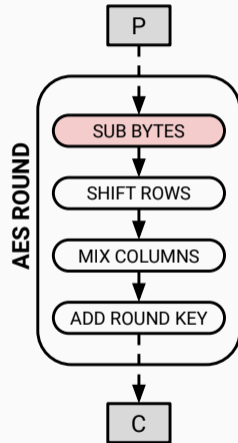


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- Remaining:
  - Calculate non-linear functions

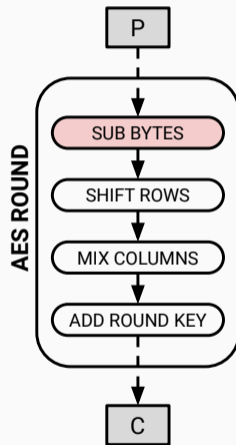


SUB BYTES\*

- AES would be a linear function without SUB BYTES



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- Attack:
  - Setup equation system that relates key bits to P and C
  - Collect pairs of P and C
  - Solve system using Gaussian elimination



- Implementation:  $\text{SUB BYTES}(x) = y$ 
  - Table-lookup
  - One byte (8-bits) input/output
  - Performed for each byte of the state

X <sub>0</sub>	X <sub>4</sub>	X <sub>8</sub>	X <sub>12</sub>
X <sub>1</sub>	X <sub>5</sub>	X <sub>9</sub>	X <sub>13</sub>
X <sub>2</sub>	X <sub>6</sub>	X <sub>10</sub>	X <sub>14</sub>
X <sub>3</sub>	X <sub>7</sub>	X <sub>11</sub>	X <sub>15</sub>

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```
      | .0 .1 .2 .3 .4 .5 .6 .7 .8 .9 .a .b .c .d .e .f
-----+-----
0. | 63 7c 77 7b f2 6b 6f c5 30 01 67 2b fe d7 ab 76
1. | ca 82 c9 7d fa 59 47 f0 ad d4 a2 af 9c a4 72 c0
2. | b7 fd 93 26 36 3f f7 cc 34 a5 e5 f1 71 d8 31 15
3. | 04 c7 23 c3 18 96 05 9a 07 12 80 e2 eb 27 b2 75
4. | 09 83 2c 1a 1b 6e 5a a0 52 3b d6 b3 29 e3 2f 84
5. | 53 d1 00 ed 20 fc b1 5b 6a cb be 39 4a 4c 58 cf
6. | d0 ef aa fb 43 4d 33 85 45 f9 02 7f 50 3c 9f a8
7. | 51 a3 40 8f 92 9d 38 f5 bc b6 da 21 10 ff f3 d2
8. | cd 0c 13 ec 5f 97 44 17 c4 a7 7e 3d 64 5d 19 73
9. | 60 81 4f dc 22 2a 90 88 46 ee b8 14 de 5e 0b db
a. | e0 32 3a 0a 49 06 24 5c c2 d3 ac 62 91 95 e4 79
b. | e7 c8 37 6d 8d d5 4e a9 6c 56 f4 ea 65 7a ae 08
c. | ba 78 25 2e 1c a6 b4 c6 e8 dd 74 1f 4b bd 8b 8a
d. | 70 3e b5 66 48 03 f6 0e 61 35 57 b9 86 c1 1d 9e
e. | e1 f8 98 11 69 d9 8e 94 9b 1e 87 e9 ce 55 28 df
f. | 8c a1 89 0d bf e6 42 68 41 99 2d 0f b0 54 bb 16
```



- Desired behavior:

$$x = x_1 \oplus x_2$$

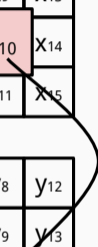
$$\text{SUB BYTES}(x_1, x_2) = (y_1, y_2)$$

$$y = y_1 \oplus y_2$$

- Fix one share, precompute lookup table for the other share
- This approach is not so popular anymore...
  - Requires pre-calculation of 16 tables each round
  - Memory demanding

X <sub>0</sub>	X <sub>4</sub>	X <sub>8</sub>	X <sub>12</sub>
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- Find out algebraic description of SUB BYTES
- Implement it using ordinary mathematical operations
- Mask those...

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4. Interpret resulting polynomial as 8-bit output

1. Interpret 8-bit input as polynomial over  $GF(2)$ 
  - $GF(2) = \text{Galois Field}(2) = \text{Finite Field with two elements } (0,1)$

1. Interpret input
2. Calculate inverse
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- Input (hex): 0xee
- Input (bin): 0b11101110
- $1x^7 + 1x^6 + 1x^5 + 0x^4 + 1x^3 + 1x^2 + 1x + 0$

1. Interpret input

2. Calculate inverse

3. Transform inverse

4. Interpret result

## 1. Interpret 8-bit input as polynomial over GF(2)

- GF(2) = Galois Field(2) = Finite Field with two elements (0,1)
- Input (hex): 0xee
- Input (bin): 0b11101110
- $1x^7 + 1x^6 + 1x^5 + 0x^4 + 1x^3 + 1x^2 + 1x + 0$
- $x = x^7 + x^6 + x^5 + x^3 + x^2 + x$

2. Calculate multiplicative inverse of  $x$  in  $GF(2^8)$ 
  - $GF(2^8)$  = Finite Field with 256 elements  
(degree 7 polynomials, binary coefficients)

1. Interpret input
2. Calculate inverse
3. Transform inverse
4. Interpret result

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- One small problem: 0 has no inverse, hence we simply map 0 to 0

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- $x^{-1}$  is calculated, e.g., via  $x^{254}$  since  $x \times x^{254} = x^{255} = 1$  in  $GF(2^8)$   
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- $x^{254}$  could be calculated via square & multiply in  $GF(2^8)$ ...
- Alternative more efficient methods were extensively studied...



## 3. Transform the inverse using an affine transformation

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \\ x_6 \\ x_7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \\ x_6 \\ x_7 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

1. Interpret input
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## 4. Interpret resulting polynomial as 8-bit output

- $x = x^5 + x^3$
- Output (hex): 0x28
- Output (bin): 0b00101000

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- Primarily used for software implementations (and in Task 3)

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- Bitwise description

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- Bitwise description
- Consists of three layers:
  - Top Linear Layer
  - Middle Non-Linear Layer
  - Bottom Linear Layer

u0=input [0]  
u1=input [1]  
u2=input [2]  
u3=input [3]  
u4=input [4]  
u5=input [5]  
u6=input [6]  
u7=input [7]

t1=u0 $\oplus$ u3  
t2=u0 $\oplus$ u5  
t3=u0 $\oplus$ u6  
t4=u3 $\oplus$ u5  
t5=u4 $\oplus$ u6  
t6=t1 $\oplus$ t5  
t7=u1 $\oplus$ u2  
t8=u7 $\oplus$ t6  
t9=u7 $\oplus$ t7

t10=t6 $\oplus$ t7  
t11=u1 $\oplus$ u5  
t12=u2 $\oplus$ u5  
t13=t3 $\oplus$ t4  
t14=t6 $\oplus$ t11  
t15=t5 $\oplus$ t11  
t16=t5 $\oplus$ t12  
t17=t9 $\oplus$ t16  
t18=u3 $\oplus$ u7

t19=t7 $\oplus$ t18  
t20=t1 $\oplus$ t19  
t21=u6 $\oplus$ u7  
t22=t7 $\oplus$ t21  
t23=t2 $\oplus$ t22  
t24=t2 $\oplus$ t10  
t25=t20 $\oplus$ t17  
t26=t3 $\oplus$ t16  
t27=t1 $\oplus$ t12

$$m1=t13\times t6$$

$$m2=t23\times t8$$

$$m3=t14\oplus m1$$

$$m4=t19\times u7$$

$$m5=m4\oplus m1$$

$$m6=t3\times t16$$

$$m7=t22\times t9$$

$$m8=t26\oplus m6$$

$$m9=t20\times t17$$

$$m10=m9\oplus m6$$

$$m11=t1\times t15$$

$$m12=t4\times t27$$

$$m13=m12\oplus m11$$

$$m14=t2\times t10$$

$$m15=m14\oplus m11$$

$$m16=m3\oplus m2$$

$$m17=m5\oplus t24$$

$$m18=m8\oplus m7m$$

$$m19=m10\oplus m15$$

$$m20=m16\oplus m13$$

$$m21=m17\oplus m15$$

$$m22=m18\oplus m13$$

$$m23=m19\oplus t25$$

$$m24=m22\oplus m23$$

$$m25=m22\times m20$$

$$m26=m21\oplus m25$$

$$m27=m20\oplus m21$$

$$m28=m23\oplus m25$$

$$m29=m28\times m27$$

$$m30=m26\times m24$$

$$m31=m20\times m23$$

$$m32=m27\times m31$$

$$m33=m27\oplus m25$$

$$m34=m21\times m22$$

$$m35=m24\times m34$$

$$m36=m24\oplus m25$$

$$m37=m21\oplus m29$$

$$m38=m32\oplus m33$$

$$m39=m23\oplus m30$$

$$m40=m35\oplus m36$$

$$m41=m38\oplus m40$$

$$m42=m37\oplus m39$$

$$m43=m37\oplus m38$$

$$m44=m39\oplus m40$$

$$m45=m42\oplus m41$$

$$m46=m44\times t6$$

$$m47=m40\times t8$$

$$m48=m39\times u7$$

$$m49=m43\times t16$$

$$m50=m38\times t9$$

$$m51=m37\times t17$$

$$m52=m42\times t15$$

$$m53=m45\times t27$$

$$m54=m41\times t10$$

$$m55=m44\times t13$$

$$m56=m40\times t23$$

$$m57=m39\times t19$$

$$m58=m43\times t3$$

$$m59=m38\times t22$$

$$m60=m37\times t20$$

$$m61=m42\times t1$$

$$m62=m45\times t4$$

$$m63=m41\times t2$$

$$10 = m61 \oplus m62$$

$$11 = m50 \oplus m56$$

$$12 = m46 \oplus m48$$

$$13 = m47 \oplus m55$$

$$14 = m54 \oplus m58$$

$$15 = m49 \oplus m61$$

$$16 = m62 \oplus 15$$

$$17 = m46 \oplus 13$$

$$18 = m51 \oplus m59$$

$$19 = m52 \oplus m53$$

$$110 = m53 \oplus 14$$

$$111 = m60 \oplus 12$$

$$112 = m48 \oplus m51$$

$$113 = m50 \oplus 10$$

$$114 = m52 \oplus m61$$

$$115 = m55 \oplus 11$$

$$116 = m56 \oplus 10$$

$$117 = m57 \oplus 11$$

$$118 = m58 \oplus 18$$

$$119 = m63 \oplus 14$$

$$120 = 10 \oplus 11$$

$$121 = 11 \oplus 17$$

$$122 = 13 \oplus 112$$

$$123 = 118 \oplus 12$$

$$124 = 115 \oplus 19$$

$$125 = 16 \oplus 110$$

$$126 = 17 \oplus 19$$

$$127 = 18 \oplus 110$$

$$128 = 111 \oplus 114$$

$$129 = 111 \oplus 117$$

$$\text{output}[0] = 16 \oplus 124$$

$$\text{output}[1] = \neg 116 \oplus 126$$

$$\text{output}[2] = \neg 119 \oplus 128$$

$$\text{output}[3] = 16 \oplus 121$$

$$\text{output}[4] = 120 \oplus 122$$

$$\text{output}[5] = 125 \oplus 129$$

$$\text{output}[6] = \neg 113 \oplus 127$$

$$\text{output}[7] = \neg 16 \oplus 123$$



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- Still  $\approx 8 \times$  slower than lookup tables
- AES was never meant to be used that way, but we have to...

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- Remaining problem: Masking  $\times$  (AND-gate)



## Notes regarding task 3

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- Your task: implement a masked AES.
  - Send key shares (always fresh).
  - Do the masked computation (ISW).
- Keep it simple, no premature optimization!
- Ensure that you get the correct values at the end.

- Masking PRNG
  - No need for cryptographically-secure PRNG.
  - Can be fairly simple, e.g. Linear congruential generator (LCG). *Use fresh seeds.*
- `__attribute__((noinline))` “hides” the content of a function to the optimizer (write bitwise AND, XOR, NOT functions...).
- If you want to avoid transitions (optional):
  - Gadgets as functions with an inline assembly blocks.
  - Gadget functions takes pointers shares arrays.
  - C code calls gadgets, does not touch the shares
- To disable masking: set input sharings as  $(x, 0, \dots, 0)$  and set PRNG output to 0.

**Thank you!**

Questions:

[rishub.nagpal@iaik.tugraz.at](mailto:rishub.nagpal@iaik.tugraz.at)

# Masking - Defeating Power Analysis Attacks

Side-Channel Security

**Rishub Nagpal**

June 6, 2023

IAIK – Graz University of Technology