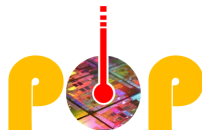


Éteindre votre composant électronique ne le protège pas !

Paul Grandamme, Lilian Bossuet, Jean-Max Dutertre

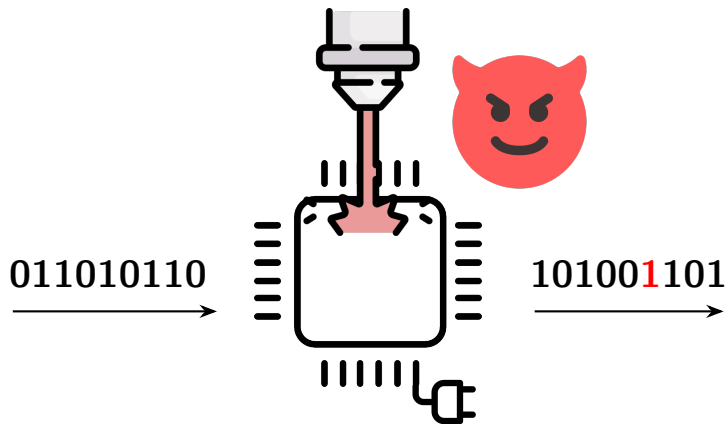


1^{er} Octobre 2024

Context

State of the art

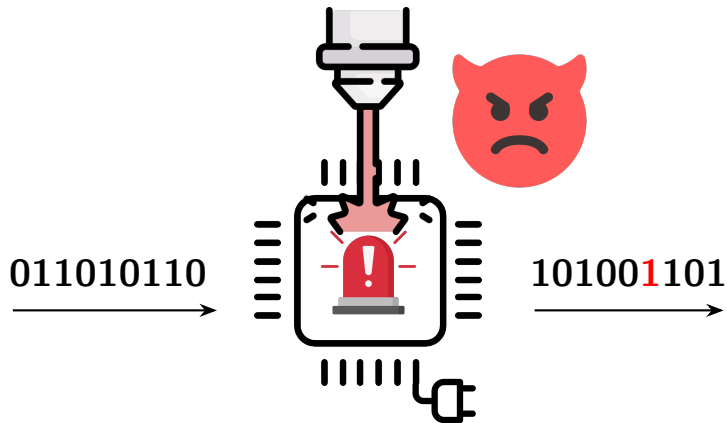
Almost all of the attacks performed on powered devices



Context

State of the art

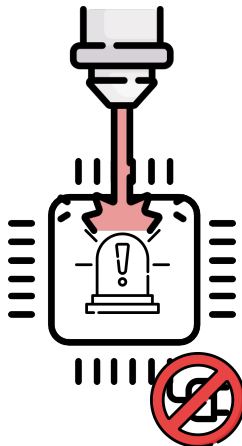
Almost all of the attacks performed on powered devices



Context

State of the art

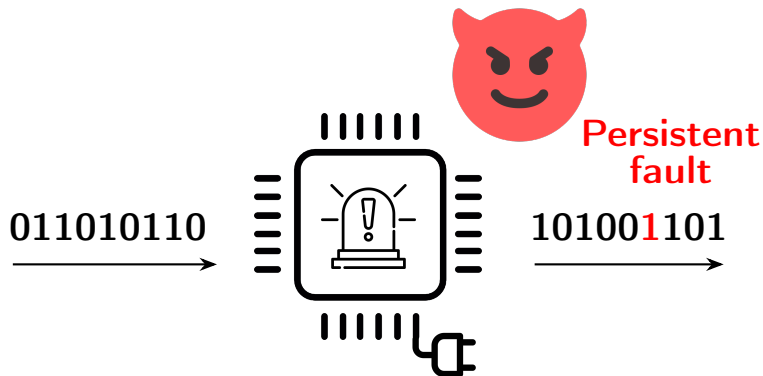
Almost all of the attacks performed on powered devices



Context

State of the art

Almost all of the attacks performed on powered devices



Context

Problem

How to bypass the sensors?

Context

Problem

How to bypass the sensors?

Solution

Attack unpowered devices

Context

Problem

How to bypass the sensors?

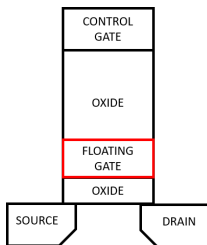
Solution

Attack unpowered devices

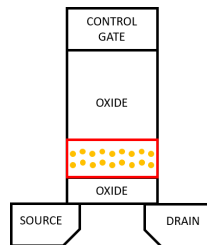
Ideas

- Damage the device: break the sensors
- Corrupt stored information: Non-Volatile Memories (Flash)

Floating gate transistors in Flash memories

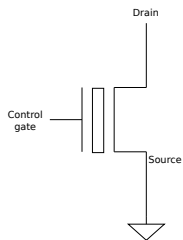


Discharged cell.



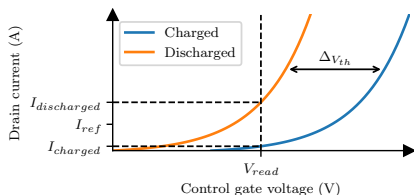
Charged cell.

Read mechanism



Convention:

- Charged = '0'
- Discharged = '1'

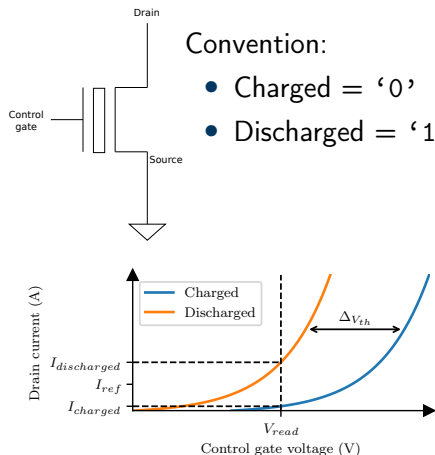


I-V characteristics.

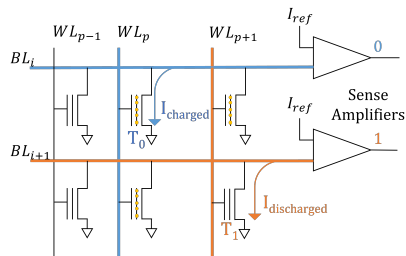
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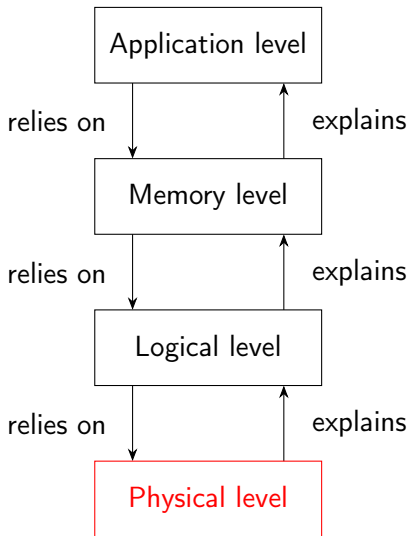


I-V characteristics.



Read operation of a Flash memory.

Abstraction levels



Physical level

- Laser beam energy \Rightarrow Temperature increase
 \Rightarrow Floating gate discharge

Intensity of the laser beam:

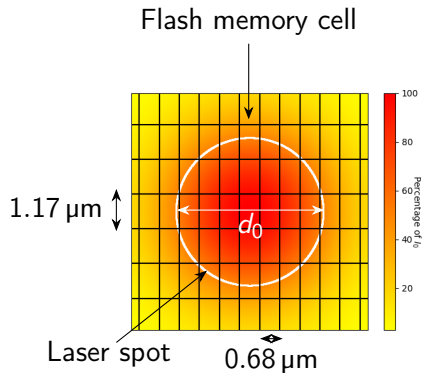
$$I(r) = I_0 \cdot e^{-\frac{2r^2}{\omega_0^2}} \quad (1)$$

with:

$$\omega_0 = \frac{2\lambda}{\pi \times NA} \quad (2)$$

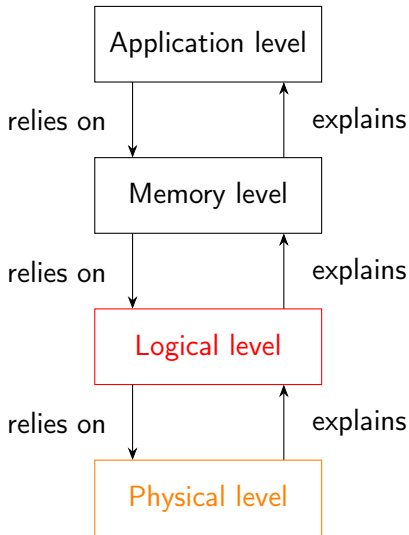
Full-Width-at-Half-Maximum
 criterion \Rightarrow

$$d_0 = \omega_0 \sqrt{\frac{\ln 2}{2}} \approx 5 \mu\text{m} \quad (3)$$



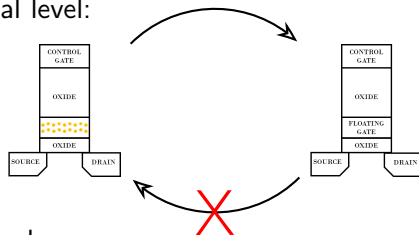
Heatmap induced by the laser exposition (numerical simulation with $\lambda = 1,064 \text{ nm}$ and $NA = 0.16$).

Abstraction levels

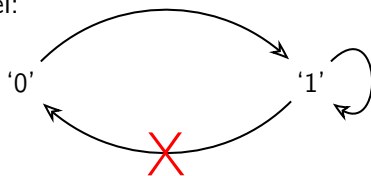


Logical level

From the physical level:

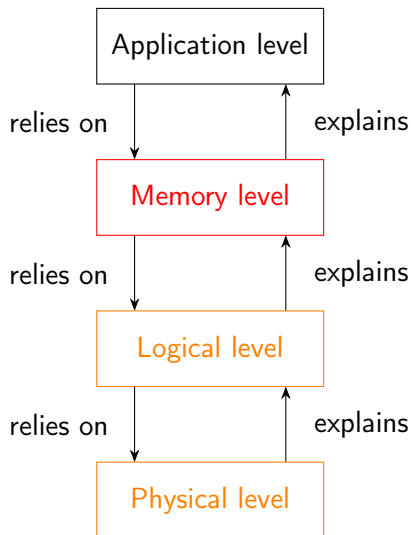


To the logical level:



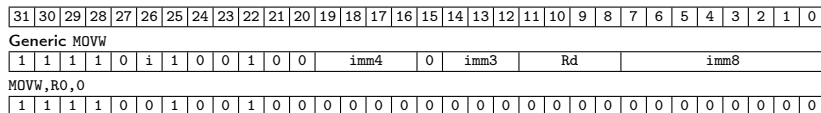
- ⇒ Unidirectional and data-dependent fault model
 - ⇒ Bitsets for our target
 - ⇒ Persistent faults (possible to reprogram the memory)

Abstraction levels



Memory level

Code corruption (ARMv7 ISA)

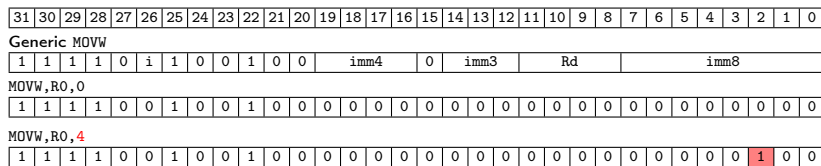


Examples of possible corruptions on a MOVW instruction¹.

¹Brice Colombier et al. "Laser-induced Single-bit Faults in Flash Memory: Instructions Corruption on a 32-bit Microcontroller". In: *IEEE International Symposium on Hardware Oriented Security and Trust, HOST 2019, McLean, VA, USA, May 5-10, 2019*. IEEE.

Memory level

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Memory level

Code corruption (ARMv7 ISA)

31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0		
Generic MOVW																																	
1	1	1	1	0	i	1	0	0	1	0	0	imm4				0	imm3			Rd				imm8									
MOVW,R0,0																																	
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
MOVW,R0,4																																	
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
MOVW,R1,0																																	
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

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Memory level

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MOVW,R0,4																																							
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0				
MOVW,R1,0																																							
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
MOVW,R0,0																																							
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Memory level

Code corruption (ARMv7 ISA)

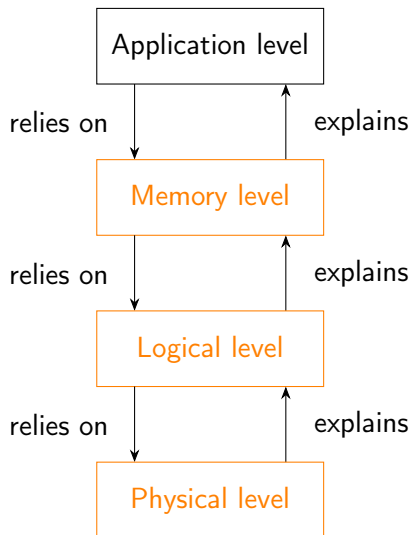
31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0			
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1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
MOVW,R1,0																																		
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
MOVW,R0,0																																		
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Examples of possible corruptions on a MOVW instruction¹.

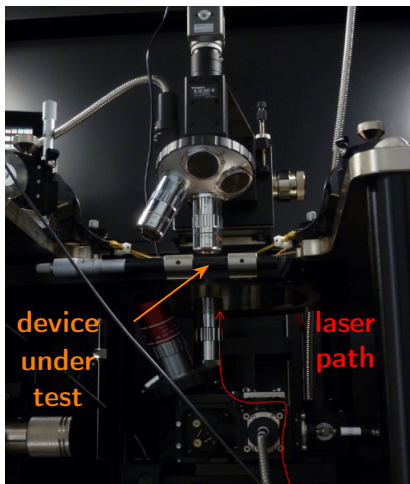
⇒ Also possible to corrupt permanent data

¹Brice Colombier et al. "Laser-induced Single-bit Faults in Flash Memory: Instructions Corruption on a 32-bit Microcontroller". In: *IEEE International Symposium on Hardware Oriented Security and Trust, HOST 2019, McLean, VA, USA, May 5-10, 2019*. IEEE.

Abstraction levels



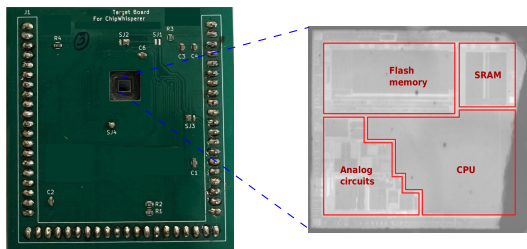
Laser fault injection setup



- Same setup as powered laser fault injection
- 1,064 nm laser source (near-IR)
- Pulse of 0.9 s
- 5 μm spot with a x20 magnifying lens
- Backside view with an IR camera

Hardware target

- STM32F1 open on the backside (32-bit microcontroller)
- Same device preparation as powered laser fault injection
- 128 pages of 1 kB of Flash memory
- 2,048 bitlines and 512 wordlines
- No memory protection mechanism



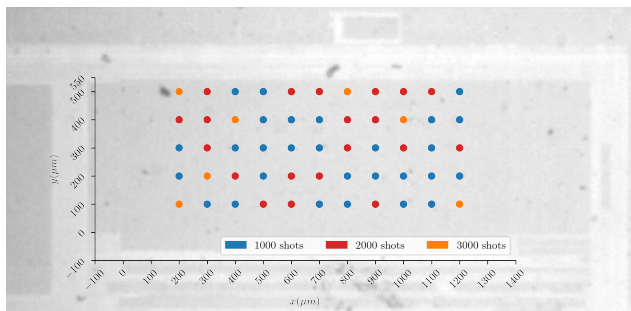
Board (left) and infrared image (right) of the hardware target.

Power OFF mapping of injected faults

```
Require:  $X_{min}, X_{max}, X_{step}, Y_{min}, Y_{max}, Y_{step}$   
1: for  $x \in \text{range}(X_{min}, X_{max}, X_{step})$  do  
2:   for  $y \in \text{range}(Y_{min}, Y_{max}, Y_{step})$  do  
3:     reset target memory  
4:     do  
5:       move laser to  $(x,y)$   
6:       power target off  
7:       for  $i \in [0, \dots, 999]$  do  
8:         laser shot  
9:         power target on  
10:        dump target memory  
11:      while  $\#faults == 0$   
12:         $\text{mapping}[x][y] = \#faults$   
13: return  $\text{mapping}[x][y]$ 
```

Power OFF laser sensitivity map

- Memory initialized to 0x00000000 (programmed) before the laser exposure

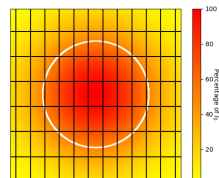
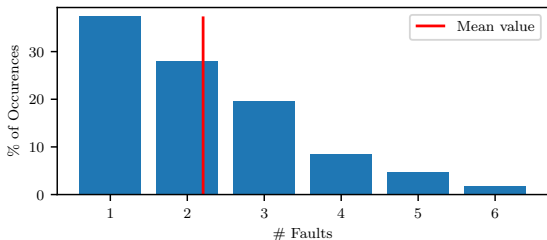


Mapping of obtained faults. $P_{laser} = 1\text{ W}$, $f_{laser} = 1\text{ Hz}$, $T_{pulse} = 0.9\text{ s}$.

⇒ Fault address and fault value known for each position

- bitsets obtained

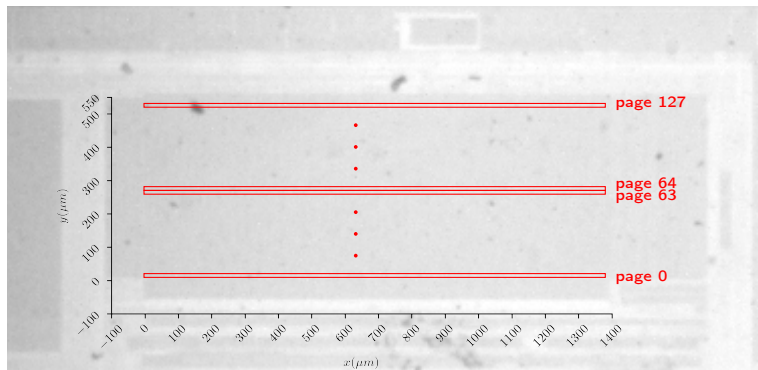
Experimental distribution



Experimental distribution of the number of injected faults.

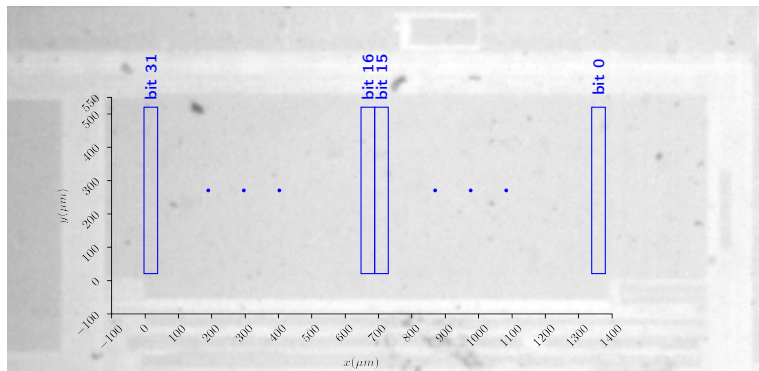
- 2.2 faulty bits on average on 0x00000000 data (median value of 2)
- **Single bit faults** in 33% of cases
- No correlation between #shots and #faults

Reverse engineering 1/2



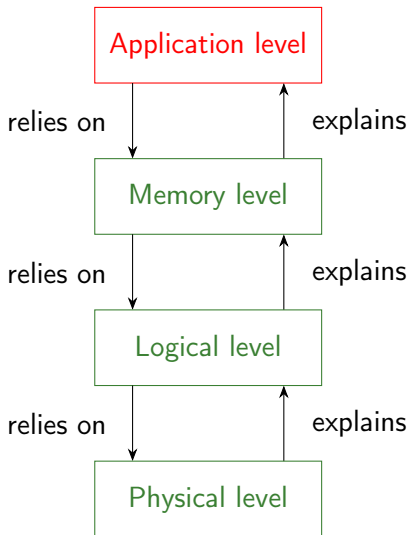
Reverse engineering of the Flash memory mapping: page-level.

Reverse engineering 2/2



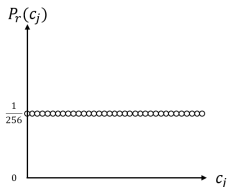
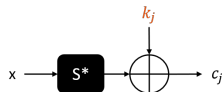
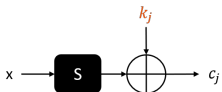
Reverse engineering of the Flash memory mapping: bit-level.

Abstraction levels

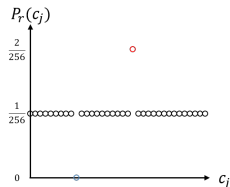


Persistent Fault Analysis: Principle² (CHES 2018)

- Persistent fault injection on the S-box
- Statistical study on the bytes of the ciphertexts



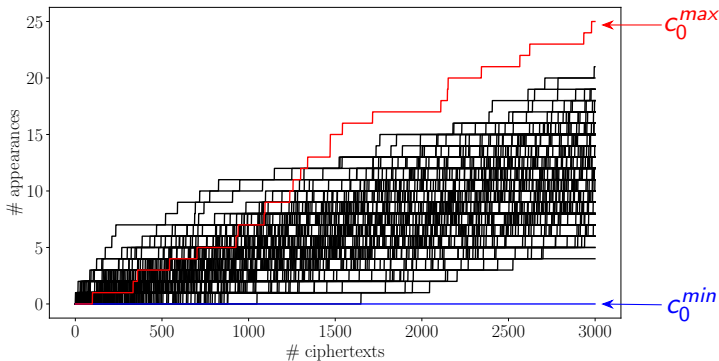
Without fault.



With one faulty byte.

²Fan Zhang et al. "Persistent Fault Analysis on Block Ciphers". In: *IACR Trans. Cryptogr. Hardw. Embed. Syst.* 2018.3 (2018), pp. 150–172.

Appearance of byte values



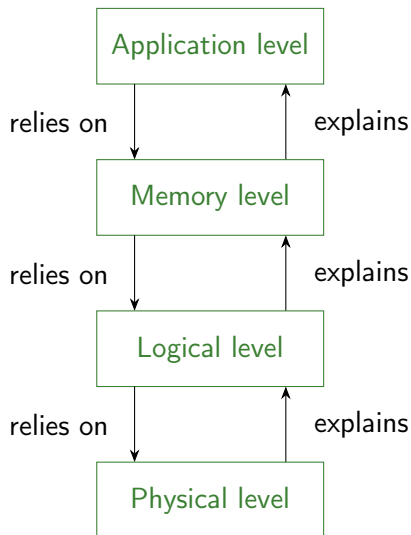
Number of appearance of byte values for byte 0.

Experimental results

- Firmware reverse engineering
⇒ S-box stored between 0x080012F4 and 0x080013F3
- From the previous mapping
⇒ the position $(x,y) = (44.3,300)$ is in the S-box range
- Laser fault injection
⇒ fault 0x00000002 at the address 0x08001310
32nd value of S-box faulted (0xC2 instead of 0xC0)

⇒ Successful PFA

Abstraction levels



Conclusion

- Switching Off your Device Does Not Protect Against Fault Attacks (TCHES 2024)
- Very realistic attack scenario of the PFA
- Semiconductor manufacturers must include systematically memory protection mechanisms
- Same countermeasures for Power ON and Power OFF

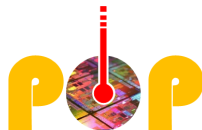
Thank you for your attention !

This work was supported by research grants of the projects POP (ANR-21-CE39-0004) and PROPHY (ANR-22-CE39-0008) from the french Agence Nationale de la Recherche



Éteindre votre composant électronique ne le protège pas !

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1^{er} Octobre 2024