Scan chain encryption, a countermeasure against scan attacks
Mathieu da Silva, Giorgio Di Natale, Marie-Lise Flottes, Bruno Rouzeyre

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SCAN CHAIN ENCRYPTION, A COUNTERMEASURE AGAINST SCAN ATTACKS

Mathieu Da Silva, Marie-Lise Flottes, Giorgio Di Natale, Bruno Rouzeyre

PHISIC 2018
Test of circuit is a mandatory step in IC production.
**CONTEXT**

- Most popular method for Design-for-Test = Scan chains
  - Replace original FF by Scan FF connected serially together
  - Extra port « Scan-In » => controllability on internal states
  - Extra port « Scan-Out » => observability on internal states
Test standards

- IEEE 1149 (JTAG) for board testing
- IEEE 1500 for cores testing in a SoC
- IEEE 1687 (IJTAG) for embedded instruments
**CONTEXT**

- **Threats**
  - **Untrusted devices**
    - [Rosenfeld et al., Attacks and Defenses for JTAG, IEEE Design & Test 2010](#)
  - **Malicious users**
    - (example: scan attacks)
    - [Yang et al., Secure Scan: A Design-for-Test Architecture for Crypto Chips, TCAD’06](#)
SUMMARY

1) Scan attacks

2) A new countermeasure: Scan chain encryption

3) Implementation with block cipher

4) Implementation with stream cipher

5) Conclusion
SCAN ATTACK PRINCIPLE

- Goal: Retrieve embedded secret data
- Exploit observability or controllability offered by scan chains
- Principle: switch between functional and scan modes
- Main target: secret key of crypto-processors (example: AES)
SCAN ATTACK ON AES

- Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)
  - Ciphertext after 10 rounds
  - Not secure after 1 round

- Attack pre-requisites
  - Attacker can switch between functional and test modes
  - Scan chain includes FFs of the round register

- Attack principle
  - Observation of the scan chain after 1 round
Application of a first vector

1) Reset

2) Normal mode
   • 1 AES round

3) Test mode
   • Scan out the round register content

Yang et al., Secure Scan: A Design-for-Test Architecture for Crypto Chips, TCAD’06
24/05/2018
DIFFERENTIAL ATTACK

- Application of a second vector
  1) Reset
  2) Normal mode
     - 1 AES round
  3) Test mode
     - Scan out the round register content

Yang et al., Secure Scan: A Design-for-Test Architecture for Crypto Chips, TCAD’06
24/05/2018
DIFFERENTIAL ATTACK

- Hamming distance

- Attacker applies pairs of input values until hamming distance equal to specific values => key byte revealed

- On average, 32 trials
  ⇒ 512 trials to retrieve the whole 128-bit key

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24/05/2018
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SCAN CHAIN ENCRYPTION

- Solution: test communication encryption

- **Input decryption** prevents sending desired test data
- **Output encryption** prevents reading plain test responses
Solution: test communication encryption

- Input decryption prevents sending desired test data
- Output encryption prevents reading plain test responses
- Test/debug only possible by authorized user knowing the secret key
**Symmetric Cipher**

- **Symmetric Encryption**

- 2 types of symmetric cipher: stream and block ciphers
Stream cipher / Block cipher

- Stream cipher encryption
  - Keystream XORed \textit{bitwise} with the plaintext

- Block cipher encryption
  - Confusion and diffusion on a \textbf{block} of plaintext

- Preference for stream ciphers
  - "Naturally" adapted to serial test communication (JTAG, IEEE 1500, IJTAG)
  - Smaller area footprint compared to block ciphers
  - But ..
**Two-times pad: stream cipher requirement**

- **Two-times pad**: same key and IV re-used ⇒ same keystream generated to encrypt different data

⇒ Possible to carry out attacks if requirement is not fit

\[ R_1 \oplus S(IV, Key) \oplus R_2 \oplus S(IV, Key) \]

⇒ Solution: IV generated randomly at each circuit reset

\[ R_1 \oplus S(IV_1, Key) \oplus R_2 \oplus S'(IV_2, Key) \]
Assumption: original circuit embedded a crypto-core with its key management and storing

Scan chain encryption solution shares the key management and storing already implemented
SUMMARY

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**Block Cipher-based Scan Encryption**

- Implementation on scan chain with 2 PRESENT block ciphers:
  - Lightweight (1 PRESENT = 2 139 GE)
  - Encryption by 64-bits block size
64 bits encrypted every 32 clock cycles

\[ \#SFF = P \times 64 \]

\[ \text{No test time overhead on each pattern} \]
U bits = Unused bits

\[ S_1 \]
\[ R + U = 64 \text{ bits} \]

\[ R = \#SFF \mod 64 \]

\[ U \text{ bits added} \]

\[ \Rightarrow \#SFF = P \times 64 + R \]

\[ \Rightarrow \text{Loss of } U \text{ clock cycles per pattern} \]
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STREAM CIPHER-BASED SCAN ENCRYPTION

- Implementation on JTAG:
  - 1 TRIVIUM stream cipher (2 016 GE)
  - TRNG to generate random IV
  - New instruction GetIV with a test data register IV

- Mode of operations in 2 phases: initialization and encryption
1) TRNG initialization: reach sufficient entropy to generate random number
INITIALIZATION PHASE

2) Shift IV in the dedicated Test Data Register
INITIALIZATION PHASE

3) Stream cipher setup

- Test Patterns
- Stream Cipher
  - TRNG
  - IV, Keystream_so
  - Key, Keystream_si
- Original Circuit
  - Key Management and Storing
  - Scan chain
  - TDI, TDO
  - Off-Chip Encryption
  - On-Chip Decryption
  - On-Chip Encryption
  - Off-Chip Decryption
- Test Responses

Off-Chip Encryption
On-Chip Decryption
On-Chip Encryption
Off-Chip Decryption

24/05/2018
INITIALIZATION PHASE

Initialization phase finished => Encryption phase

Test Patterns → TDI

Test Responses → TDO

Off-Chip Encryption

On-Chip Decryption

On-Chip Encryption

Off-Chip Decryption
**ENCRYPTION PHASE**

- Send *GETIV* instruction
  - Shift the content of the IV register out the circuit
ENCRYPTION PHASE

- User can encrypt and decrypt test data with the obtained IV and the shared secret key.
TIME FOR THE INITIALIZATION PROCESS

- $T_{\text{TRNG}\_\text{init}}$ to initialize the TRNG
- 80 clock cycles to shift the $IV$ in the register
- 1 152 clock cycles for the stream cipher setup

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original circuit</th>
<th>Triple-DES</th>
<th>Pipelined AES-128</th>
<th>Pipelined AES-256</th>
<th>RSA 1024</th>
<th>LEON3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test time*</td>
<td>687 101</td>
<td>1 944 877</td>
<td>4 559 845</td>
<td>39 405 239</td>
<td>11 612 051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(clock cycles)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Test time overhead

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Block-based solution (%)</th>
<th>Stream-based solution (%)**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+0.31</td>
<td>+0.18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+0.81</td>
<td>+0.06</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+0.006</td>
<td>+0.03</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+0.33</td>
<td>+0.003</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+0.004</td>
<td>+0.01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*: Test time considered for a fault coverage of 100%, except for LEON3 where it reaches 70%

**: test time overhead without the initialization of the TRNG
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## Comparison Between Both Solutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Block cipher-based solution (PRESENT)</th>
<th>Stream cipher-based solution (TRIVIUM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Security</strong></td>
<td>Protected</td>
<td>Protected (two times pad not possible)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Scan attacks</td>
<td>Protected</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Malicious core</td>
<td>Protected</td>
<td>Protected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost</strong></td>
<td>10 658.96 µm²</td>
<td>5 408.52 µm² (+ 31 200 µm² for TRNG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Test time</td>
<td>Depends on the scan length (multiple or not of the block size)</td>
<td>Clock cycles required for the initialization phase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Integration</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Diagnosis &amp; debug</td>
<td>Still possible in-field</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Key management</td>
<td>Re-use key management already implemented</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Integration in test daisy-chain</td>
<td>Possible issue with the padding of test data</td>
<td>No issue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank You
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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