

### Security Challenges in the era of Internet-of-Things and Deep Learning

Elena Dubrova School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Royal Institute of Technology (KTH)





# What concerns you about a world of connected IoT devices?



#### Results of a a global customer survey (2016) [1]



source: http://www.dlink.com/se/sv/products/



#### New trust models



source: http://www.littleindia.se



source: http://sdxcentral.com

Access and interconnect networks may not be trustworthy

- Access network may be operated by a shopping mall, a coffee shop, etc.
- 3rd parties may access to interconnect network, e.g., for analysis

Intermediaries on which IoT systems rely may not be trustworthy

- IoT devices which mostly sleep rely on proxies to cache requests and responses
- In mesh networks, every node is an intermediary



#### Increased privacy concerns



source: http://www.asahi.com

- Big data generated in IoT opens great opportunities for analytics, automation, and process and resource optimization
- But it also increases the risk of privacy
  breaches
  Secret surveillance of Norway's
  leaders detected

SECURITY

### Hacker looks to sell 9.3 million alleged patient healthcare records on the dark web

Members of parliament and the prime minister of Norway are being monitored by means of secret espionage equipment.

By James Rogers Published June 28, 2016





#### **Evolved threat landscape**



source: http://www.dqindia.com/cognizant-is-betting-big-on-connected-cars/



source: http://www.one7group.com/english/portfolio/ graphic\_design/oil\_company.html



- Increased value for attackers
- Decreased cost of performing attacks
- Increased damage when attack happen



source: https://keranews.org



source: https://blog.econocom.com/en/blog/smartbuildingand-bms-a-little-glossary/



#### **Limited resources**

- IoT devices with limited computing, storage, and communication resources may not be able to afford standard cryptographic algorithms and protocols
- Battery-operated IoT devices need to be energy efficient to prolong their lifetime
- Ensuring robust over-the-air firmware and software updates is crucial, but challenging when:
  - there is not enough memory to save both old and new updates
  - applications are infected by viruses blocking the updates



#### How to assure IoT devices?





### **Assuring Tamper Resistance**





#### Why tampering?



source: www.clearwater-fl.com

- Theft of service
  - Getting a service for free
    - pay-TV, parking cards, electricity meters, ...
- Denial of service
  - Dishonest competition
- Theft of Intellectual Property (IP)
  - Reverse engineering/cloning/counterfeiting for marketplace advantage
  - Theft of sensitive data/personal information
  - Steal the secret key

source: www.tek.com



#### How to tamper?



source: sec.ei.tum.de



source: hackaday.com

- Invasively intrude a chip/board
- Measure side-channel signals, e.g. power consumption, EM emissions, timing
- Inject faults to corrupt the computation and exploit the effect



### Traditional key storage methods

- Fuses
- Non-volatile memories (Flash, EEPROM, ...)
- Volatile memories (SRAM) with a battery
- Problem with memory-based storage
  - Residuals of data may remain after erasure
    - data remanence



#### Data remanence in volatile memories

Volatile memories (SRAM, DRAM) do not entirely lose their contents when power is turned off

- for SRAM, at room temperature the data retention time varies from 0.1 to 10 sec
- cooling SRAM to -20°C increases the retention time to 1 sec to 17 min
- at -50°C the retention time is 10 sec to 10 hours



source: revision3.com

"Physical Attacks on Tamper Resistance: Progress and Lessons", S. Skorobogatov, Special Workshop on HW Assurance, 2011



#### Novel key storage method: Physical Unclonable Functions (PUFs)

- Due to manufacturing process variations, every chip is slightly different
- We can use these differences to create a unique "fingerprint" for each chip





#### **Arbiter PUF**

#### Creates a race between two identical paths

process variations cause small differences in delays





#### Advantages of PUF-based key storage

	PUF	TRNG + Memory	<b>External Key Injection</b>
Key Generated on-chip		$\checkmark$	X
No Secure Storage Nee	eded 🗸	×	×
Key Invisible at Power	Off 🖌	×	×
l l			



#### **PUF research at KTH**

#### We design PUFs which are among the best in the state-of-theart in terms of energy efficiency and reliability

"Temperature Aware Phase/Frequency Detector-Based RO-PUFs Exploiting Bulk-Controlled Oscillators", S. Tao, E. Dubrova, DATE'2017, March 27-31







#### Side-channel attacks

- Side-channel signals are related to the data processed
  - e.g. different amount of power is consumed
- Do not require expensive equipment
- Deep Learning (DL) makes possible a new type of side-channel attacks



source: hackaday.com



#### Side-channel attacks before and after DL



![](_page_19_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### **DL-based side-channel attack - Profiling stage**

## 2. Create traning/validation labeled data sets

![](_page_19_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### **DL-based side-channel attack – Attack stage**

#### Trained Model 0.02 0.02 2. Capture 0.01 power trace 1. Apply 0.02 random 0.05 HW = 4 plaintext 0.15 HW = 5 0 0.65 HW = 6 0.07 HW = 7 0.01 Softmax ( $\sum p_i = 1$ )

3. Classify key candidates

source: riscure.com

![](_page_21_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Side-channel attack research at KTH

- Attack on USIM card using power consumption
- Attack on a Bluetooth device using EM far filed emissions
- Attack on a protected arbiter PUF implemented in FPGA using power consumption combined with bitstream modification

![](_page_22_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### **USIM** attack

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

photo credit: Martin Brisfors

# The secret key can be extracted from USIM using 4 power traces on average (20 in the worst case) [3]

![](_page_23_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### **Bluetooth device attack**

![](_page_23_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_3.jpeg)

photo credit: Katerina Gurova

The AES encryption key can be extracted from a Bluetooth device (Nordic Semiconductor nRF52 DK) from 10K EM traces captured at 15 m distance [4]

![](_page_24_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### **PUF** attack

![](_page_25_Picture_2.jpeg)

photo credit: Yang Yu

Responses of a protected arbiter PUF can be extracted from its FPGA implementation (Xilinx 28 nm Artix 7) using power traces [5]

![](_page_26_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Summary and future work

- Needs for tamper-resistance of IoT devices grow due to
  - physical accessibility
  - increased value of stored/processed information
- Difficulty to assure tamper-resistance also grows due to
  - constrained resources
  - recent progress in physical attacks
  - lack of protection
- We need to understand possibilities and limitations of physical attacks making use of DL and develop defenses

![](_page_27_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### References

[1] Mobile Ecosystem Forum, *The Impact of Trust on IoT*, http://mobileecosystemforum.com/initiatives/analytics/iot-report-2016

[2] IoT Security, Ericsson White paper, 2017

[3] *How deep learning helps compromising USIM*, M. Brisfors, S. Forsmark, E. Dubrova, IACR Cryptology ePrint Archive, 2020

[4] *Far filed side-channel attack on AES using deep learning*, R. Wang, H. Wang, E. Dubrova, ACM Workshop on Attacks and Solutions in Hardware Security, ASHES'2020, Nov 9-13, 2020, Orlando, USA

[5] Profiled deep learning side-channel attack on a protected arbiter PUF combined with bitstream modification, Y. Yu, M. Moraitis, E. Dubrova, IACR Cryptology ePrint Archive, 2020/1031