RUB

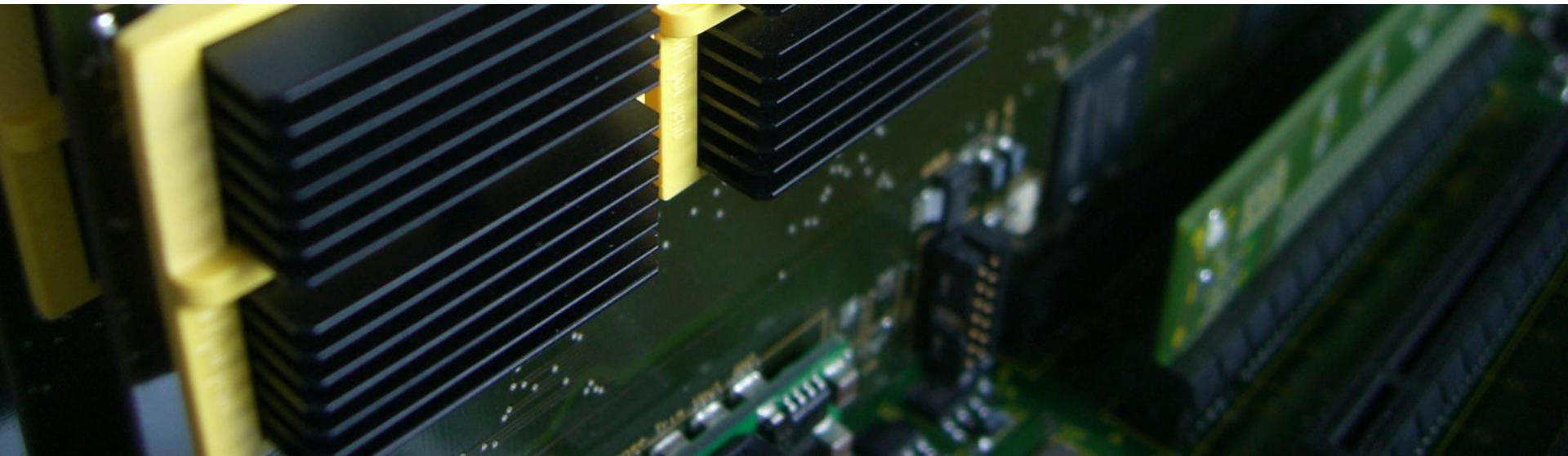# Fault Sensitivity Analysis Meets Zero-Value Attack

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secmobil

EUROPÄISCHE UNION
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Motivation

- Zero-value vulnerability is a known issue (AES S-box)
  - Major weakness in multiplicative masking schemes
  - Also applicable to unmasked implementations
- Not only relevant to Side-Channel Analysis (SCA) but also to Fault Sensitivity Analysis (FSA)
- In fact: Weakness is so severe it can even be used to break several Concurrent Error Detection (CED) schemes
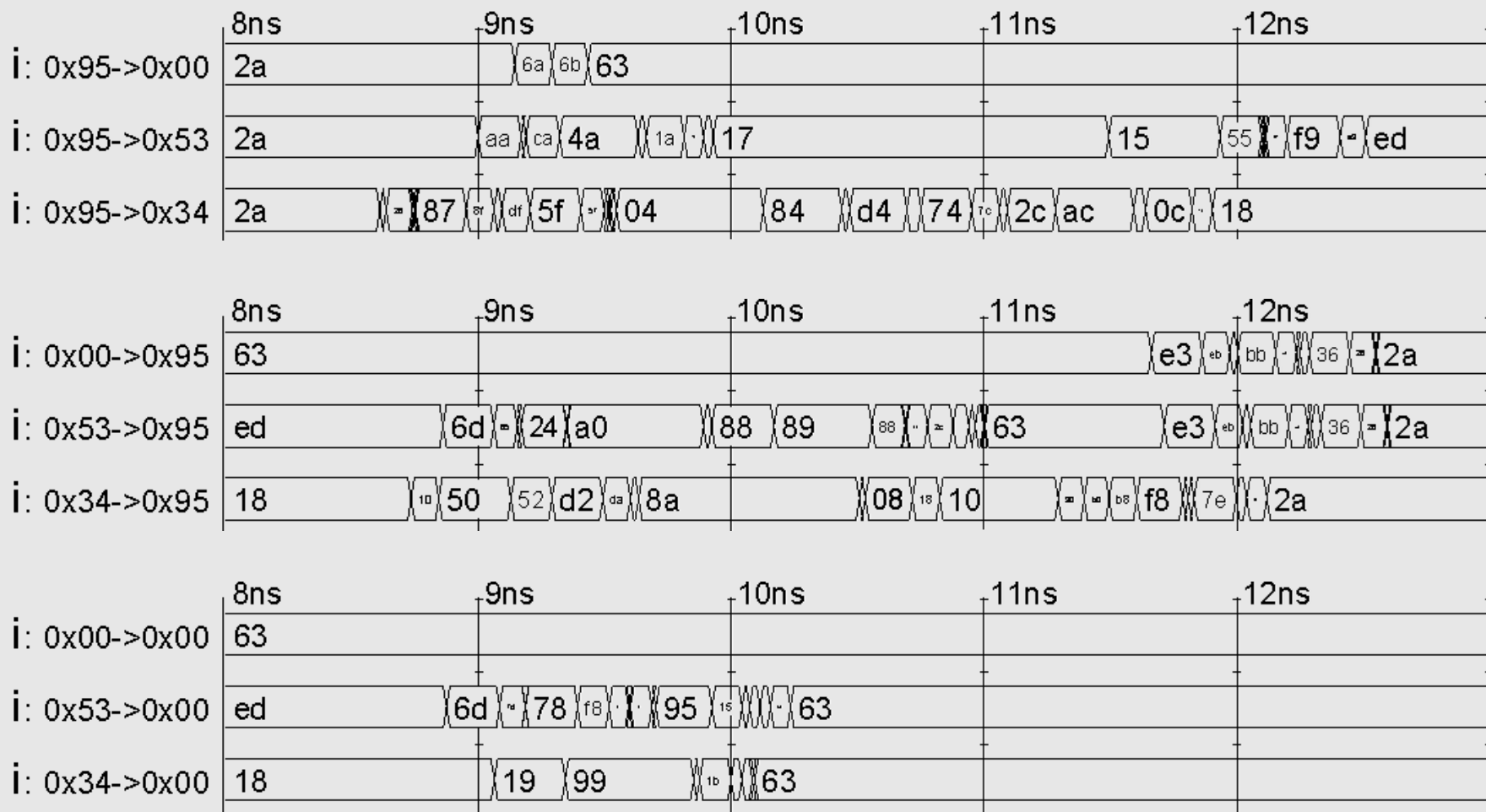
Outline

- Fault Sensitivity Analysis
- Zero-value vulnerability of composite field S-boxes
- Evaluation architecture
- Zero-value attack & results
- Conclusion

Fault Sensitivity Analysis

- Presented by Yang Li *et al.* CHES 2010

- Critical path delay of an AES S-box is input dependent

- Insert faults by clock glitches

- Showed that the critical path of a PPRM S-box correlates to the Hamming weight

- No use of faulty output but of byte-wise fault information/rate

- Extended in CHES 2011 by Correlation Collision Attack

- Model for other S-boxes?

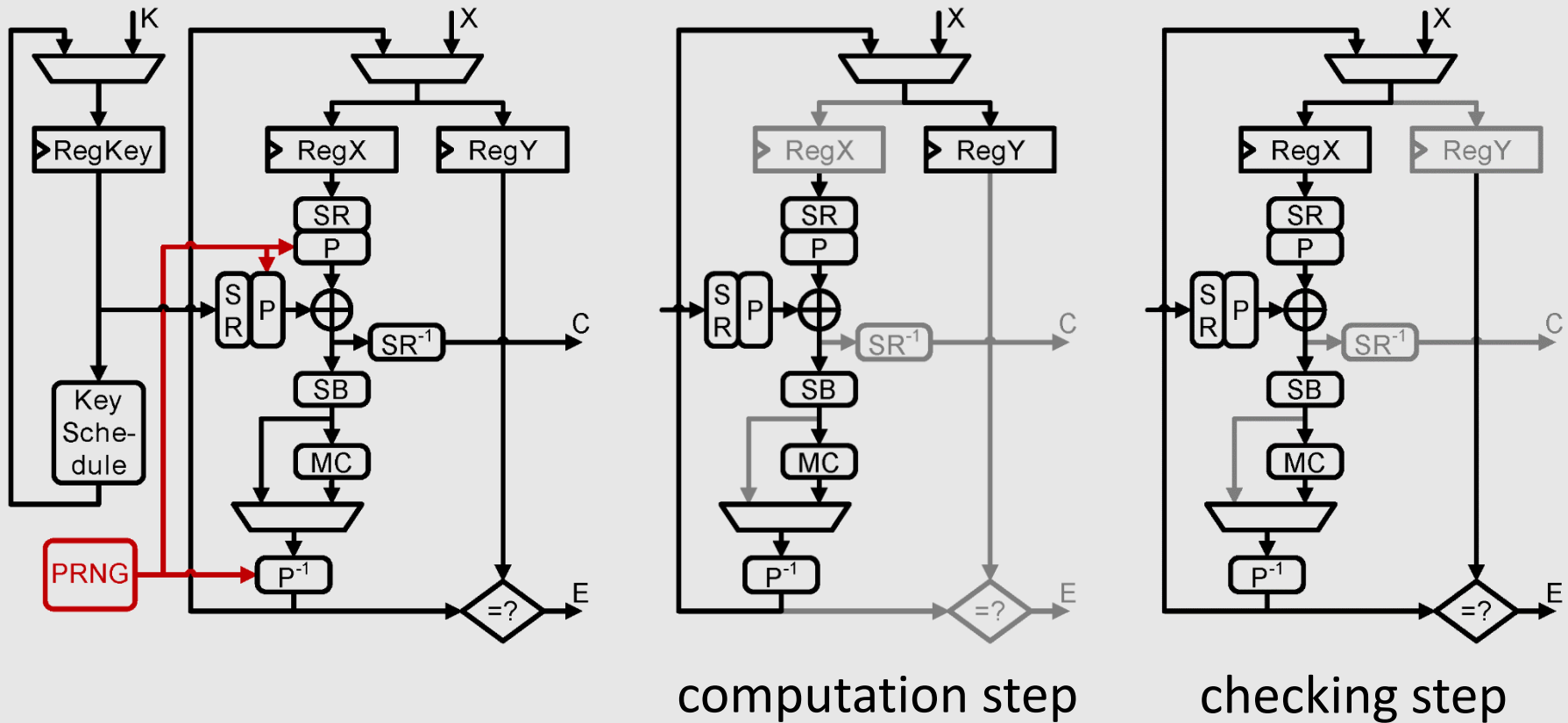# Simulation Results Critical Path Delays of the Used S-box on SASEBO-G2 (Virtex 5)
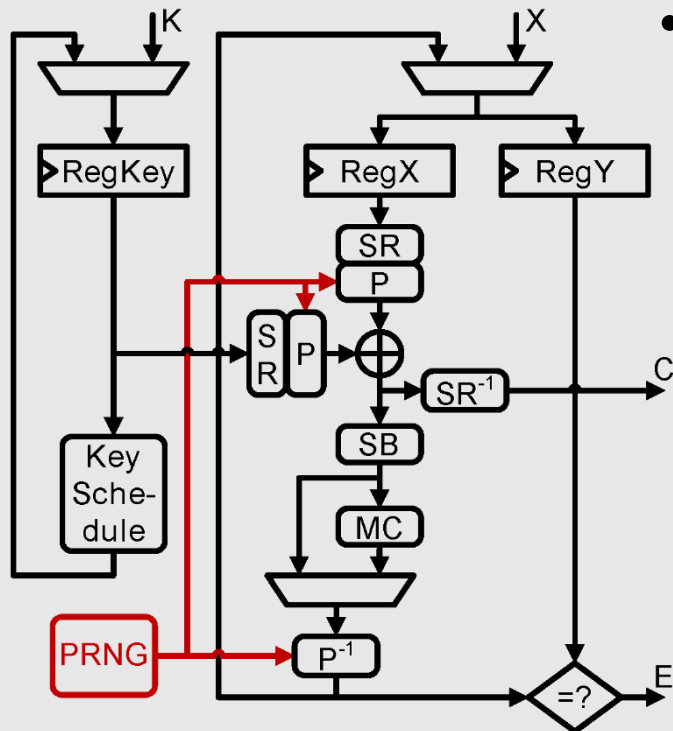
Zero-Value Vulnerability

- Very distinct weakness, clearly exploitable by *standard* FSA

- What if we use a CED scheme?
  - No byte or bit-wise fault information available
  - Key cannot be found directly!

- Indirect approach:
  - Instead of finding the correct key bytes exclude wrong candidates!

Architecture

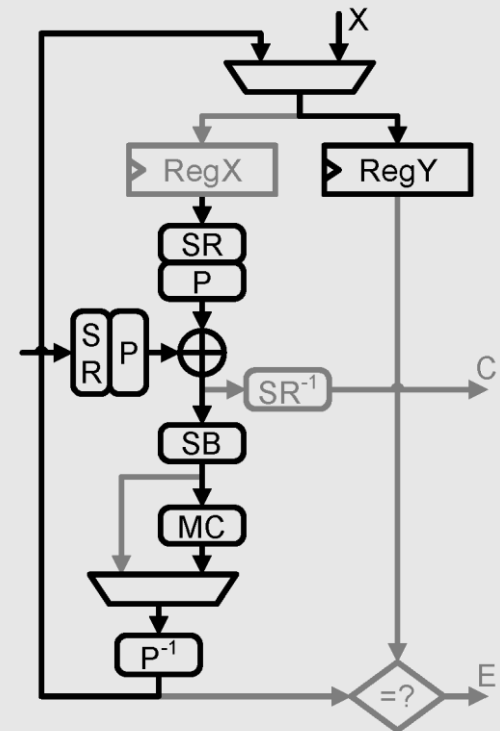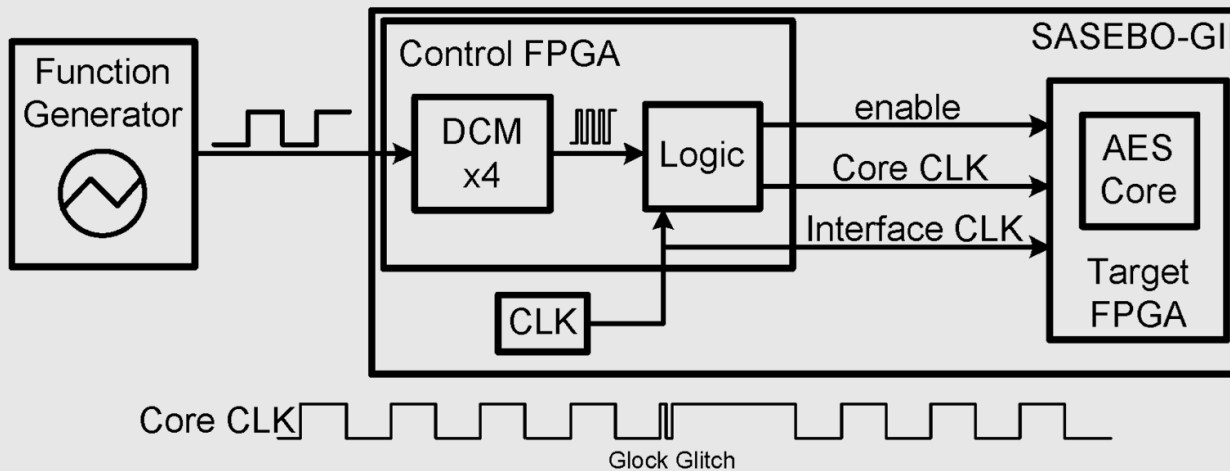- Round-based AES-128, two cycles per round

computation step   checking step

Architecture cont'd

- Circuit can mimic different CED schemes
- Scheme dependent on configuration of **P**:
  - Profile A:
    - 1st and 2nd cycle: **P** = pass through
      → Time redundancy CED
  - Profile B:
    - 1st cycle pass through, 2nd cycle fixed permutation
      → Invariance-based CED (from DAC 2012)
  - Profile C:
    - Both cycles **P** as random column permutation (*shuffling)*
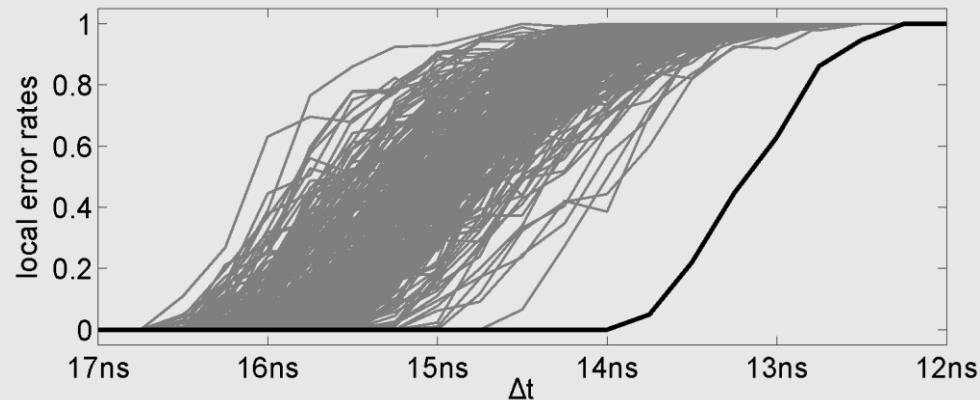
Setup

- SASEBO-G2 (Target: XC5VLX50)
- Agilent 33521A Function Generator

computation step

Profile A: Evaluation of a Single S-box

- 1st round zero input for S-box$_j$ → $p_j = k_j$
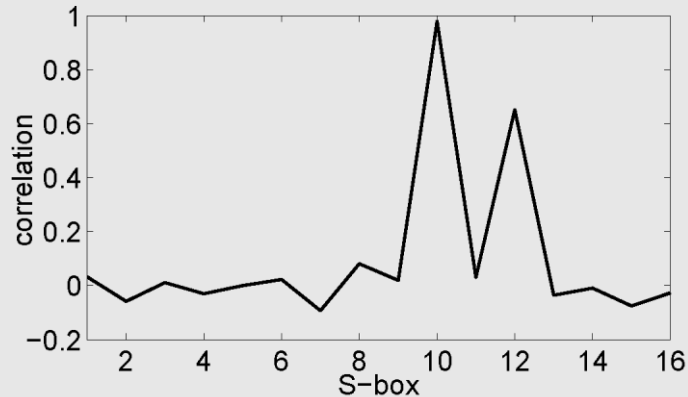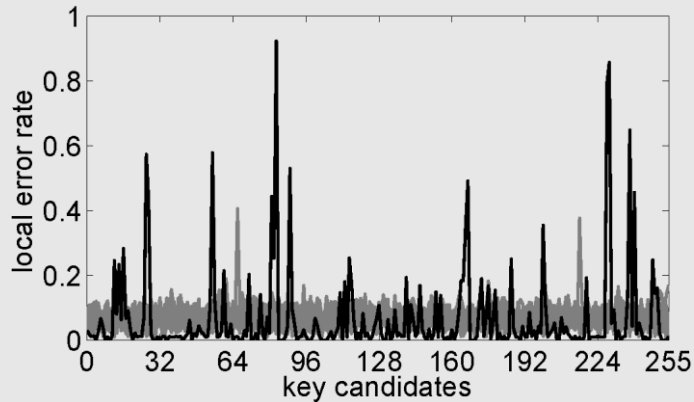- Send *random* plaintext bytes (for target S-box)

→ vulnerability exists in full implementation
- *Similar* picture for all S-boxes
- But: No usable model besides zero-value

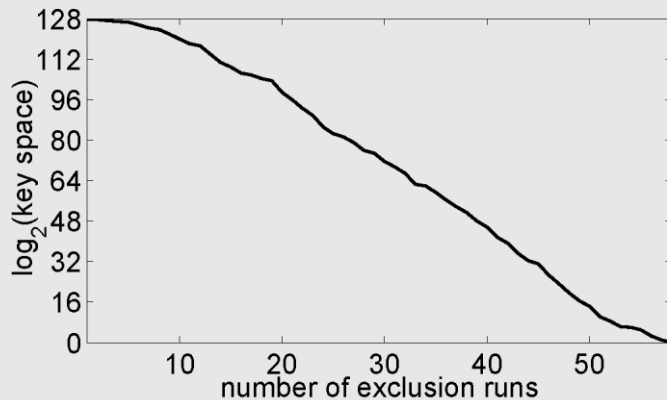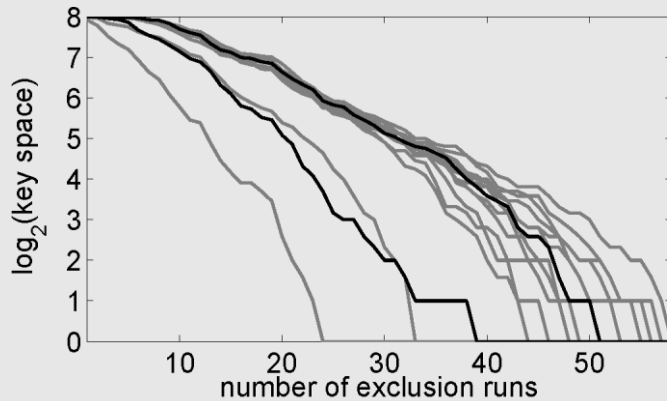# Profile B: Full Key Extraction from CED Protected Circuit

- Long term goal: find full plaintext X which has the shortest critical path

  → all plaintext bytes x_j are equal to their corresponding key bytes

- S-boxes have different critical paths because of placement/routing

- Clock glitch affects some S-boxes more than others

- Try to affect as few S-boxes/input values as possible!

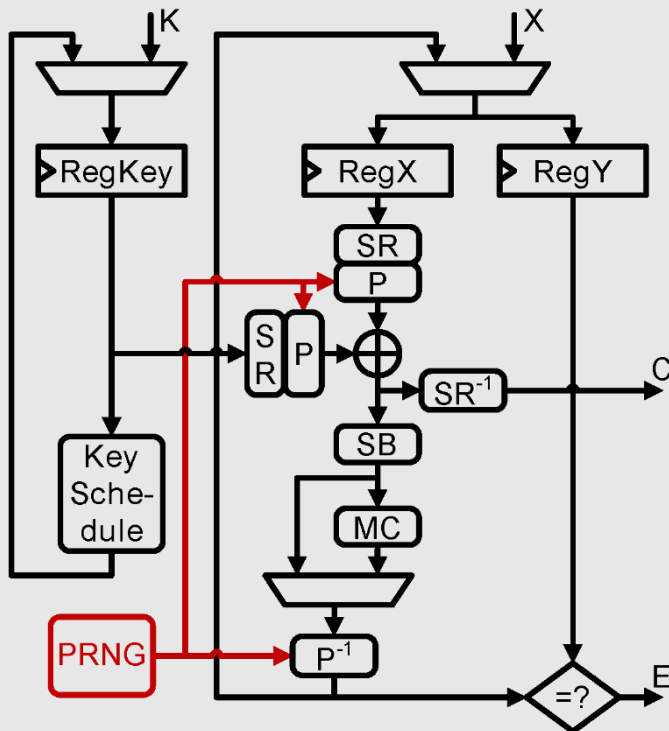# Profile B: Full Key Extraction from CED protected Circuit (First Iteration)

- Start with a clock glitch length which yields a low error rate
- Construct n plaintexts $X^{i \in \{1, \cdots, n\}} = (x_1^i, \ldots, x_{16}^i)$ from *remaining key sets* and send to the device
- Note *total error rate* and *local error rates*
  - Total error rate: faulty outputs/number of sent plaintexts
  - Local error rate: fault rate for each value of a certain plaintext byte x_j
- High local error rate for a value x_j of S-box$_j$ means that it is unlikely to be the correct key byte
  - → discard value from key set k_j
- Repeat!
  - Construct new plaintexts X^i from remaining values of key sets k_j
  - Decrease glitch duration when total error rate gets too low

Profile B: Full Key Extraction from CED Protected Circuit (Results)

- Key sets can be systematically restricted

- Here: complete key recovery after < 60 runs (8 hours)

- Number of runs depends on *aggressiveness* of key exclusion

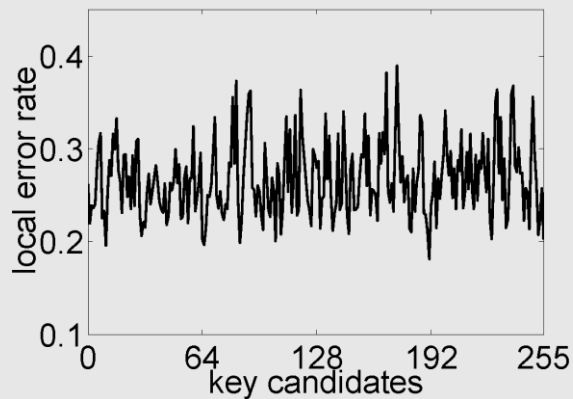- Recovery possible if correct key byte got falsely excluded (see paper)
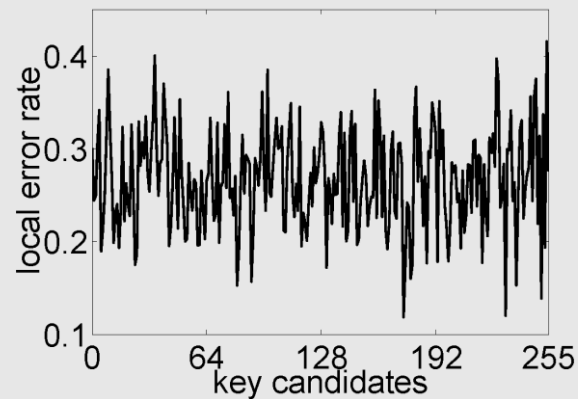
Profile C: Column Shuffling + CED (Idea)

- Use different random permutations **P** in both the computation & checking step
- Original idea: increase attack difficulty
- Local error rates of a state row get mixed (different S-boxes are used)
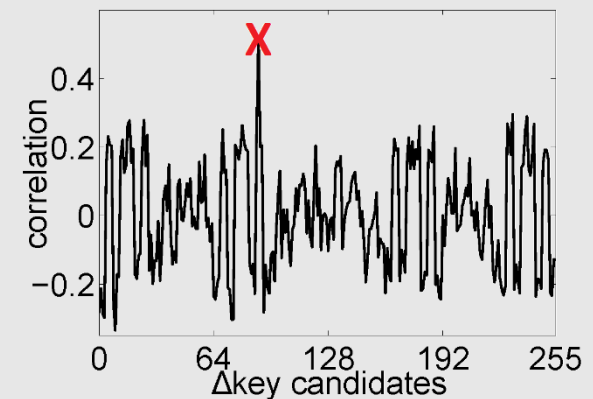
Profile C: Column Shuffling + CED (Results)

- Attack now easier…
- Since inputs to one row now behave the same collision attacks become possible
- Perform exclusion runs as before (ca. 20-30)
- Retrieve linear key differences for each row
- Brute force remaining key space (32bit)

byte 6

byte 10

result collision attack

Conclusion

- Practical proof that composite field S-boxes have a zero-value vulnerability exploitable by FSA
  - vulnerability is problematic for CED schemes if not mitigated
  - combination of CED with other (SCA) counter-measures can either be a mitigation (masking) or make the attack easier (shuffling)
- Attack also applicable to infection fault countermeasures
- Failproof implementation of CED is **tricky**
  - e.g., ensure comparison is not the critical path

Thanks!
Any questions?

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