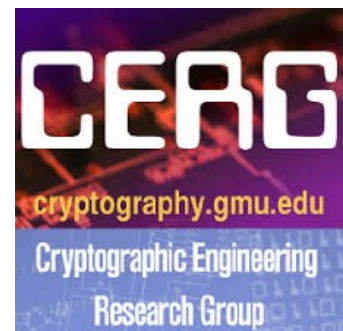


Side-Channel Resistant Implementations of Three Finalists of the NIST Lightweight Cryptography Standardization Process

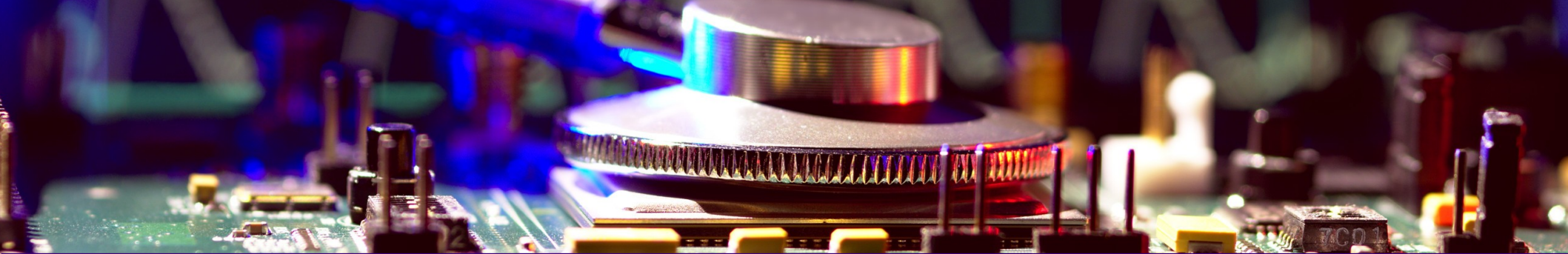
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¹George Mason University

²PQSecure Technologies



May - 2022

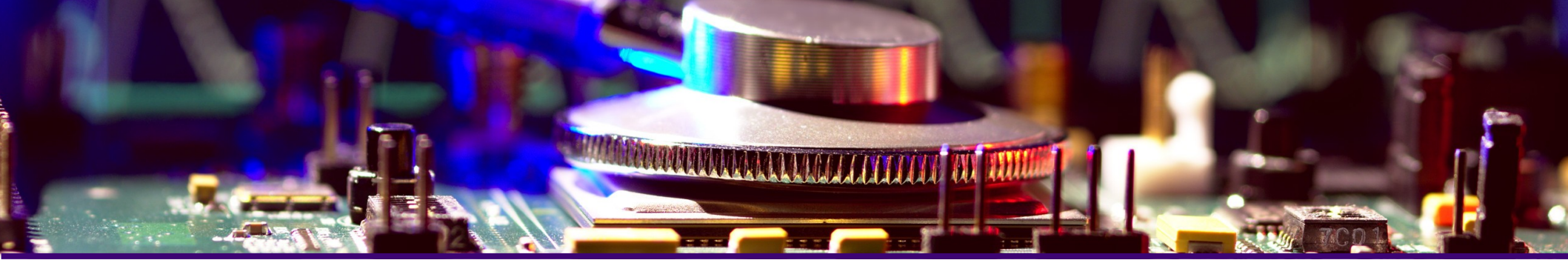


Overview

- Motivation
- Background
- Protected Implementations
- Results
- Conclusion

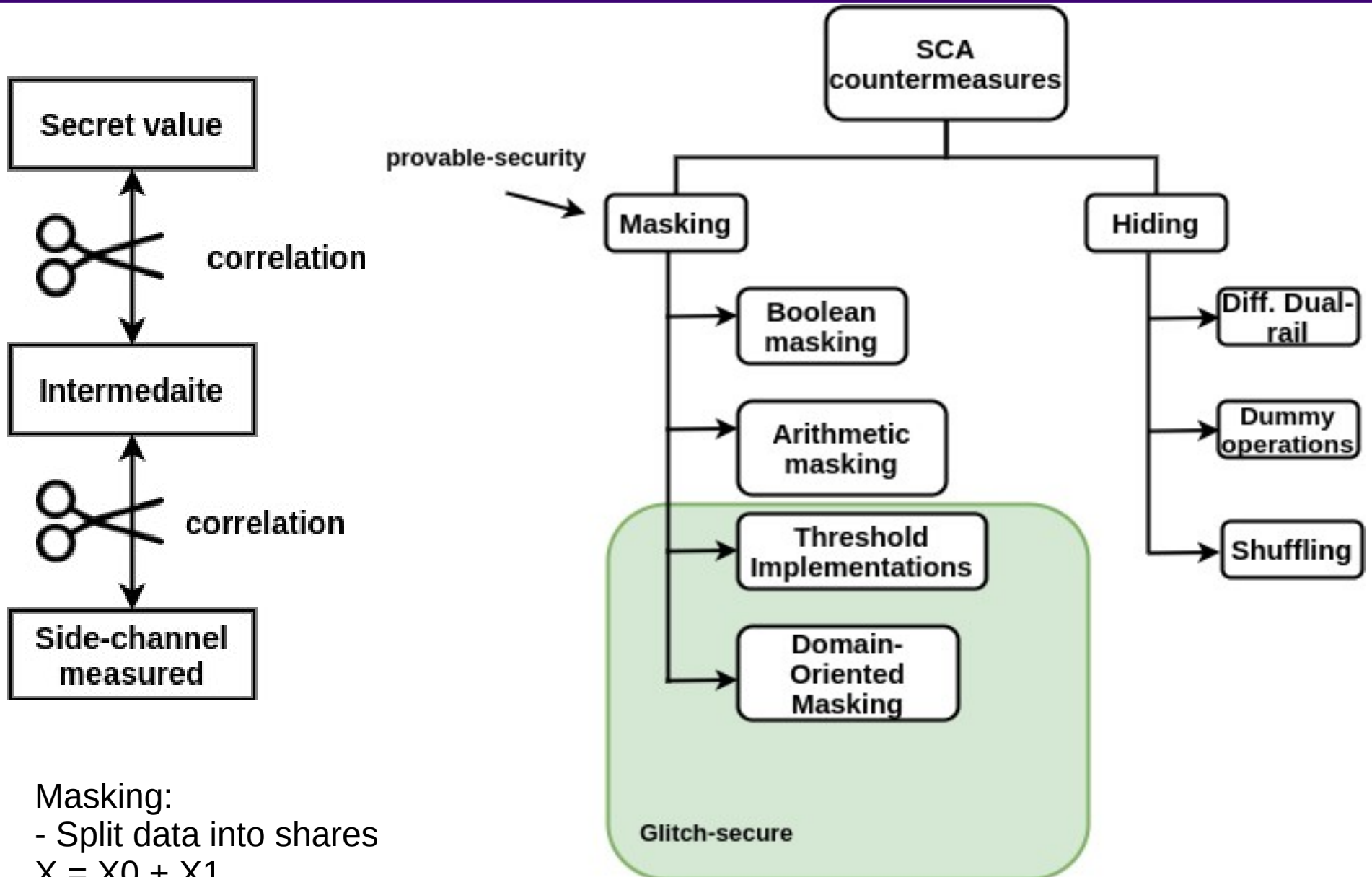
Motivation

- NIST Lightweight Cryptography (LWC) Standardization Process
 - Round 1 (56 candidates) → Round 2 (32 candidates)
 - Ten finalists announced March 2021
- First rounds → Security, Software efficiency
- Final rounds → More interest in HW efficiency and **side-channel attack resistance**
- LWC is specially vulnerable to side-channel analysis due to limits on physical security



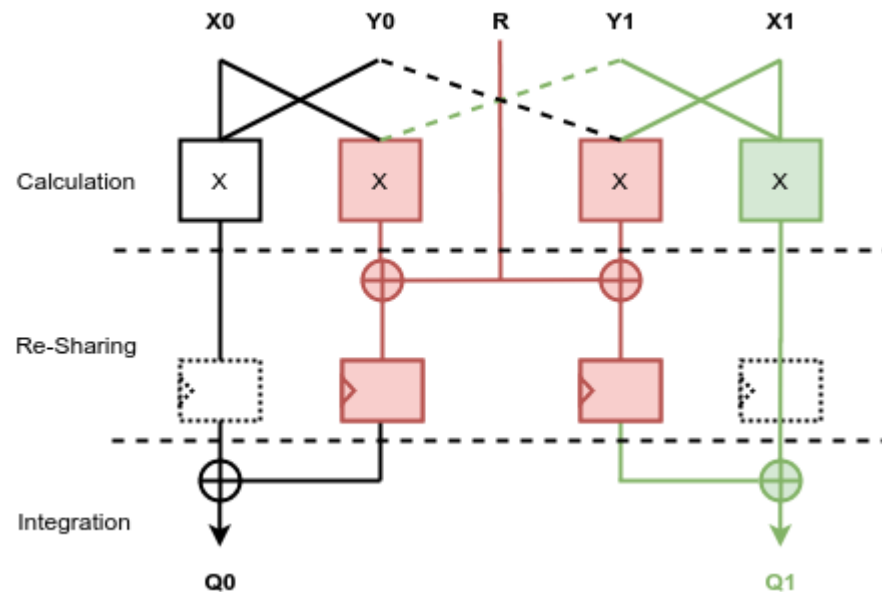
Background

SCA Countermeasures



Domain-oriented Masking

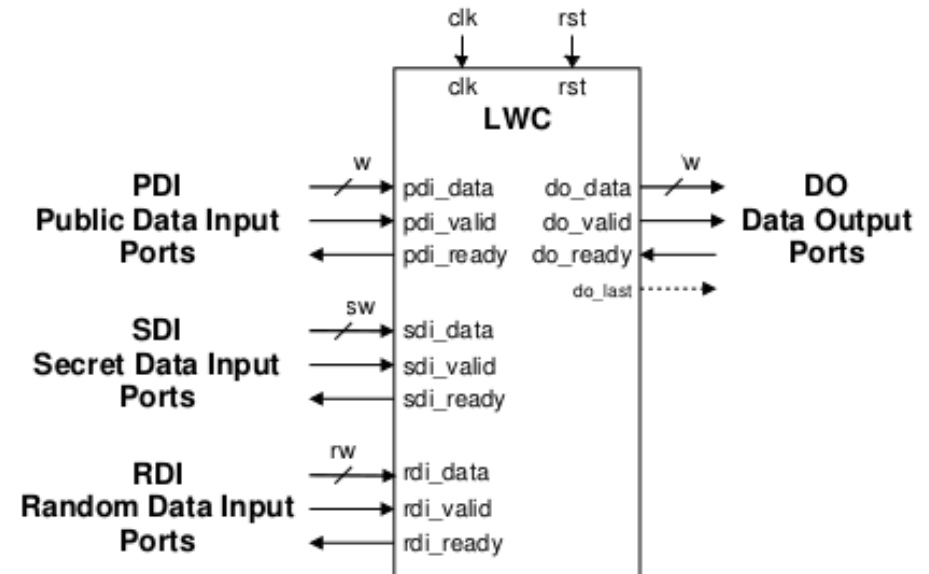
- Published by Gross et. al. In 2016
- Can be used for arbitrary order of protection
- Used $d+1$ shares for d -order protection



[Gross et al 2016]

Methodology

- All designs comply to the GMU LWC hardware API
- Shares are input serially and stored in SIPOs
- Output stored in a PISO
- Input shares generated in software



Lightweight Ciphers

- NIST LWC finalists studied
 - Elephant
 - TinyJAMBU
 - Xoodyak
- Domain-oriented Masking used for SCA-protection
- Compatible with the GMU LWC Hardware API
- Randomness generated using external PRNG

Elephant (1)

- 4-bit Sbox
- Converted to ANF
- Expression optimized to reduce the number of AND gates

$$F[x, w, v, u] = [EDB0214F7A859C36]$$

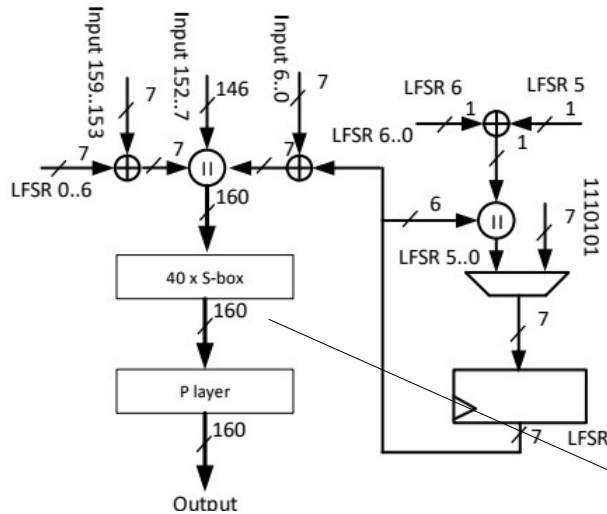
$$F[0] = 0 + u + v + w \cdot v + x$$

$$F[1] = 1 + u + w \cdot v + x \cdot u + x \cdot v + x \cdot w + x \cdot w \cdot v$$

$$F[2] = 1 + v + w + x \cdot u + x \cdot w \cdot v$$

$$F[3] = 1 + v \cdot u + w + x + x \cdot u + x \cdot v + x \cdot v \cdot u + x \cdot w \cdot u$$

Elephant(2)



S-box

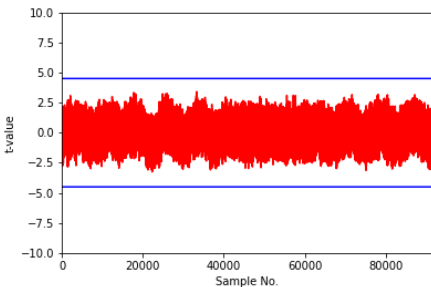
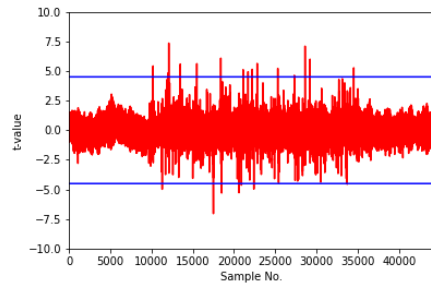
$$F[s3, s2, s1, s0] = [EDB0214F7A859C36]$$

$$F[0] = s0 + s3 + ((s1 + s2) \cdot s1)(\mathbf{2,1})$$

$$F[1] = \text{not}(s0 + s1 + ((s1 + s2) \cdot s1)(\mathbf{2,1}) + (s3 \cdot (s0 + s1) \cdot (s0 + s2))(\mathbf{3,1}) + ((s1 + s2) \cdot (s0 + s3) \cdot s3)(\mathbf{3,2}))$$

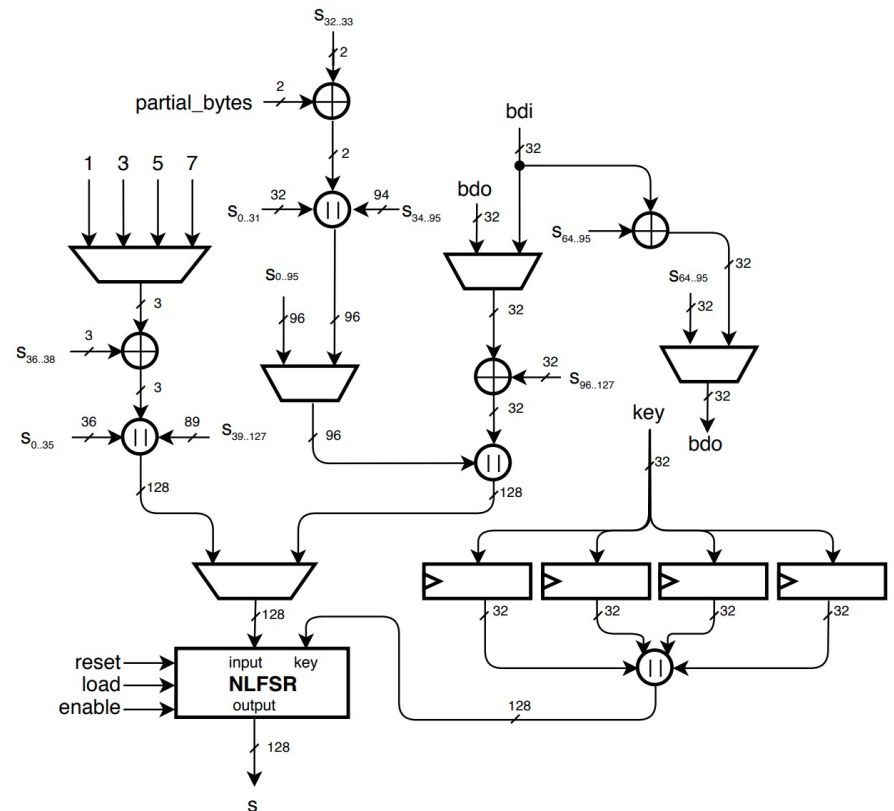
$$F[2] = \text{not}(s1 + s2 + ((s1 + s2) \cdot (s1 + s3))(\mathbf{2,2}) + ((s1 + s2) \cdot s1)(\mathbf{2,1}) + (s3 \cdot (s0 + s1) \cdot (s0 + s2))(\mathbf{3,1}) + ((s1 + s2) \cdot (s0 + s3) \cdot s3)(\mathbf{3,2}))$$

$$F[3] = \text{not}(s0 + s2 + s3 + ((s1 + s2) \cdot (s1 + s3))(\mathbf{2,2}) + ((s0 + s3) \cdot (s0 + s1))(\mathbf{2,3}) + ((s1 + s2) \cdot s1)(\mathbf{2,1}) + ((s1 + s2) \cdot (s0 + s3) \cdot s3)(\mathbf{3,2}));$$



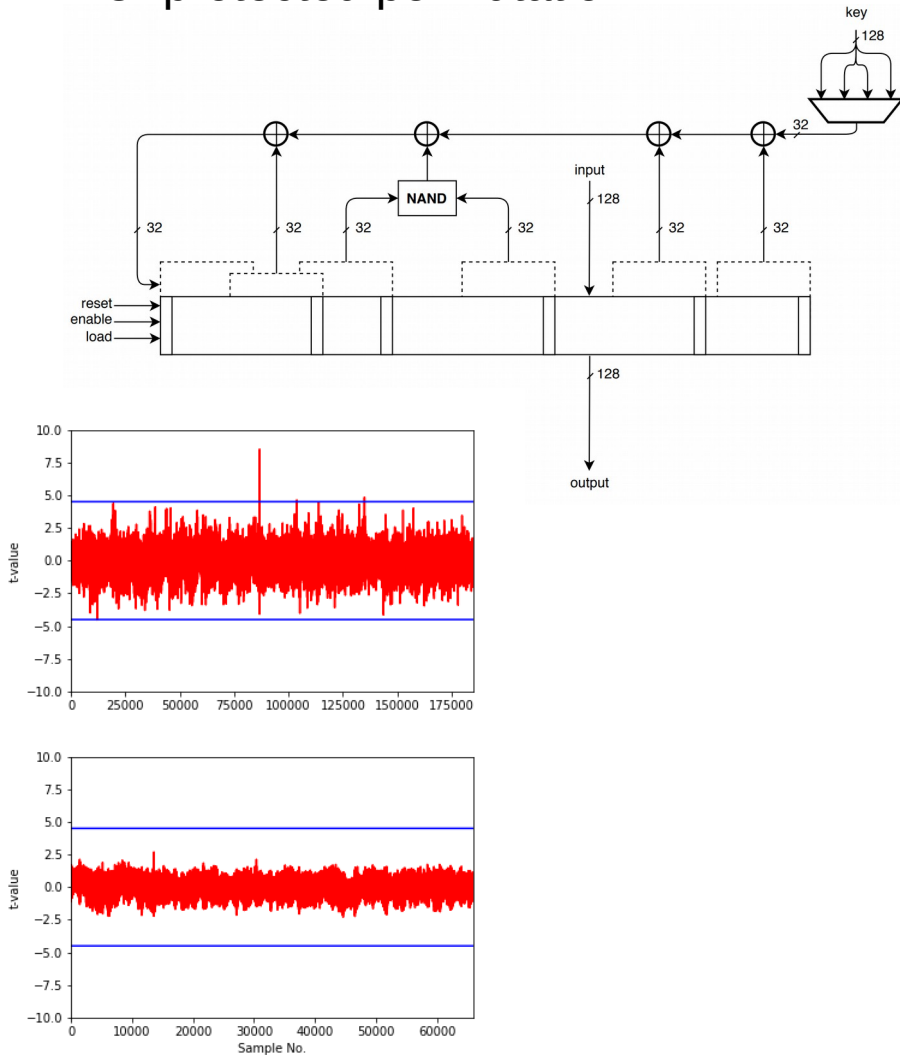
TinyJAMBU (1)

- NLFSR-based permutation
- AND gates used for non-linearity
- Utilized DOM AND gates in protected design

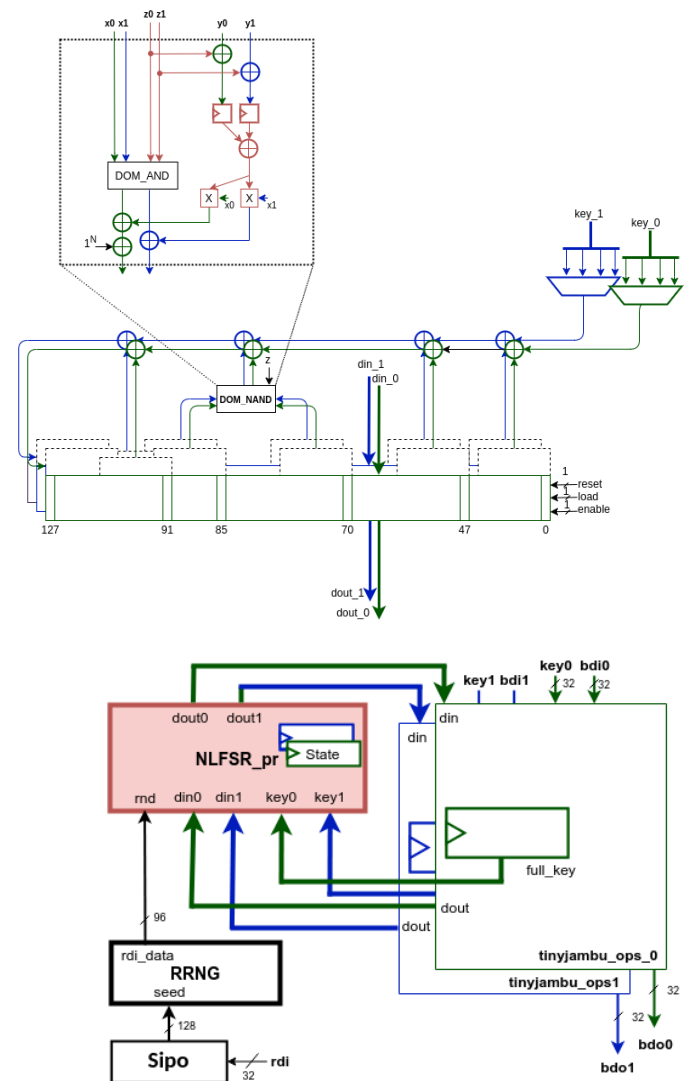


TinyJAMBU (2)

Unprotected permutation

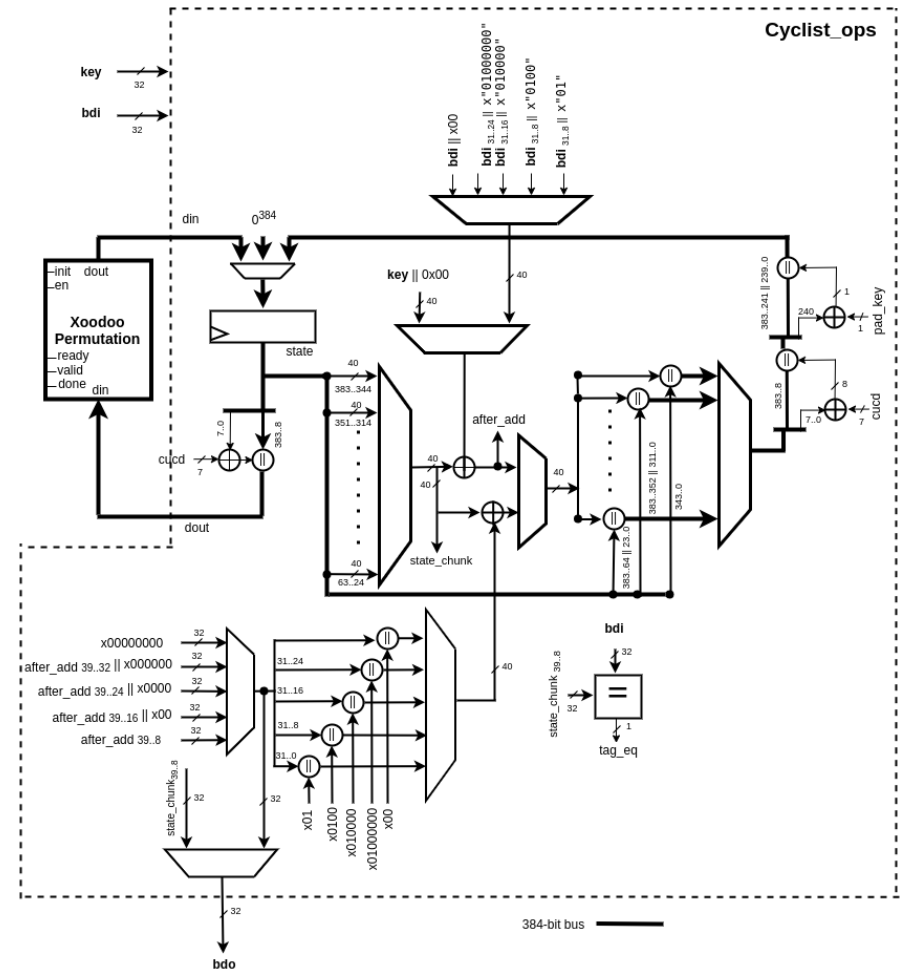


Protected permutation



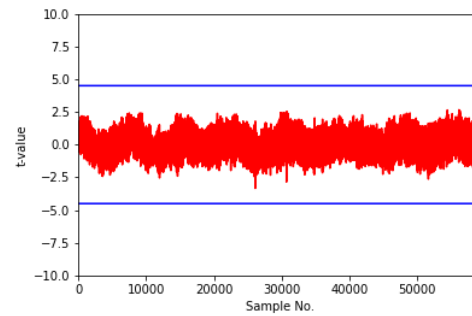
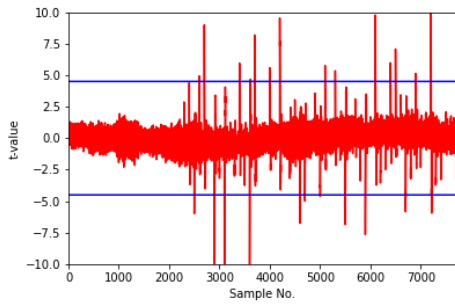
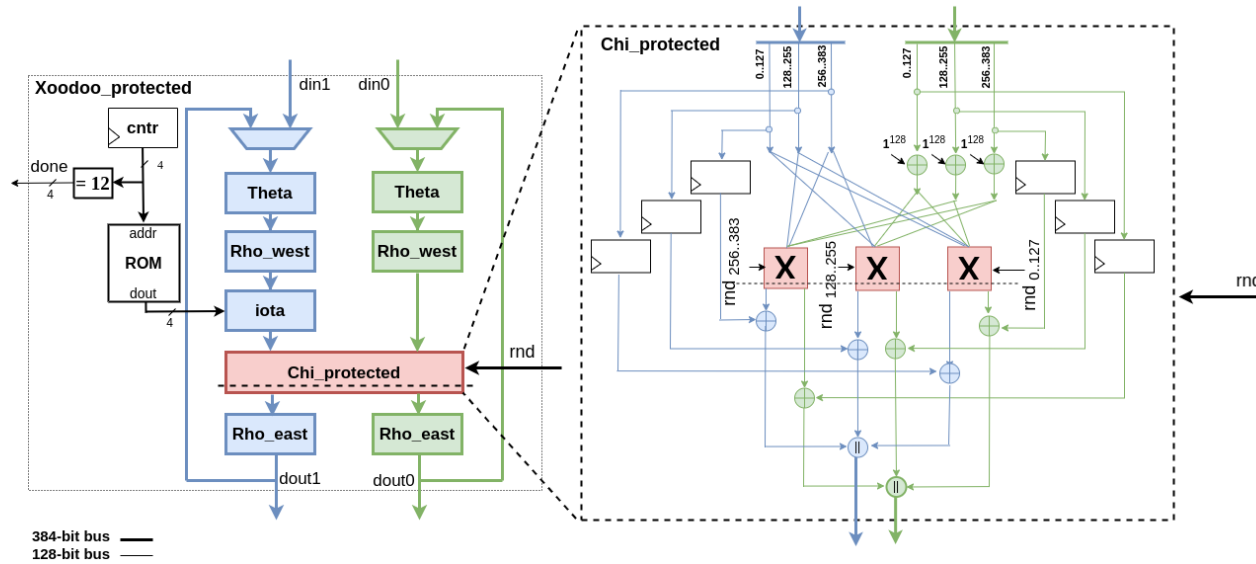
Xoodyak (1)

- Use Xooodoo permutation (Keccak-f inspired)
- Uses the χ operation for nonlinearity

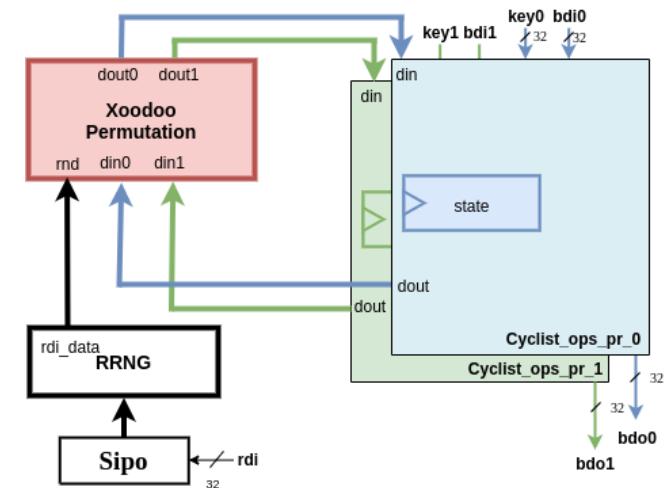


Xoodyak (2)

Protected permutation

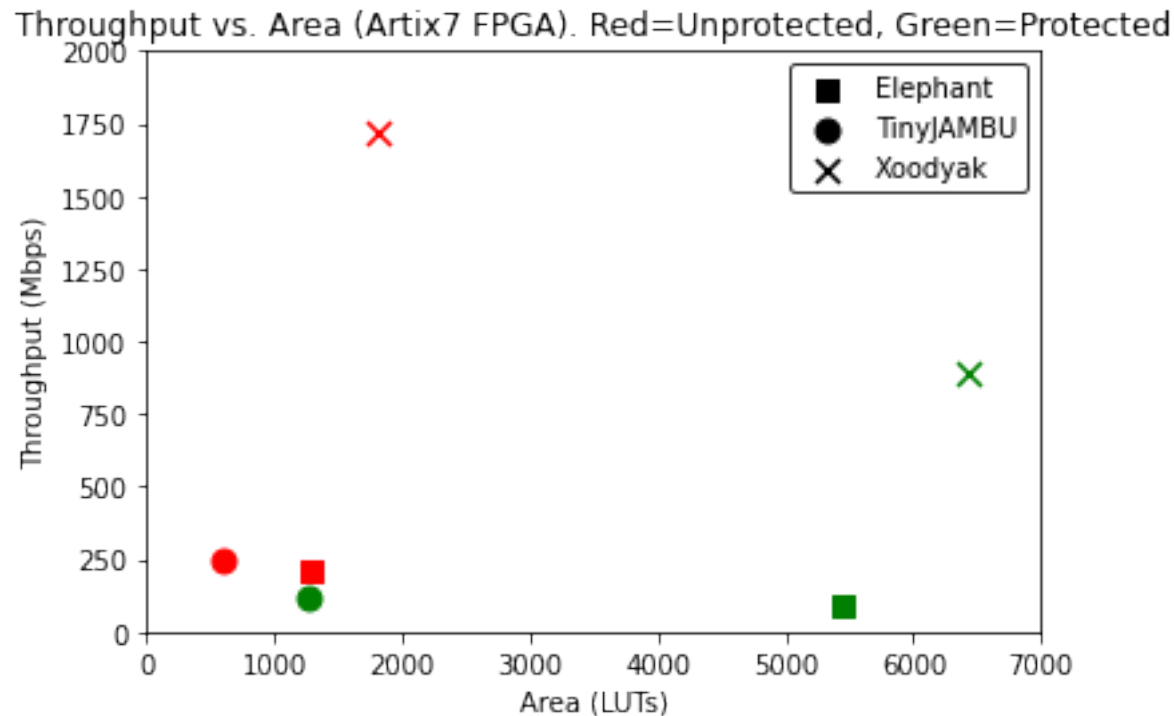


Full design



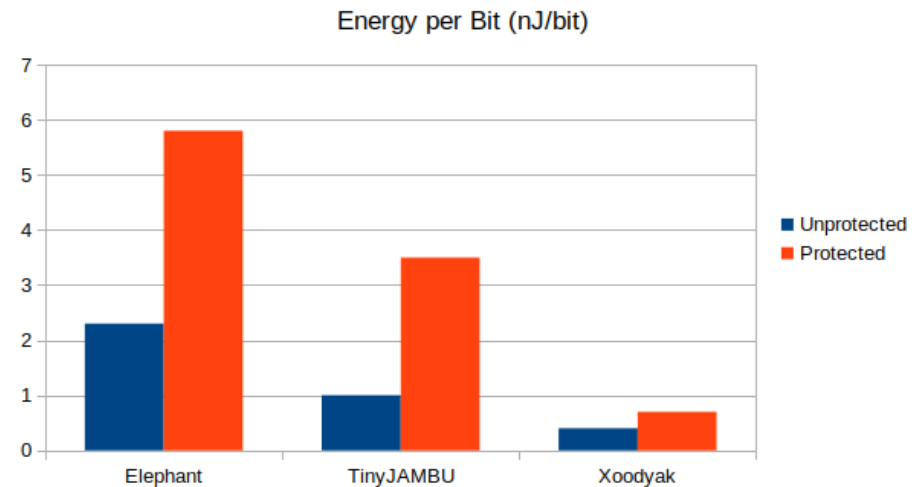
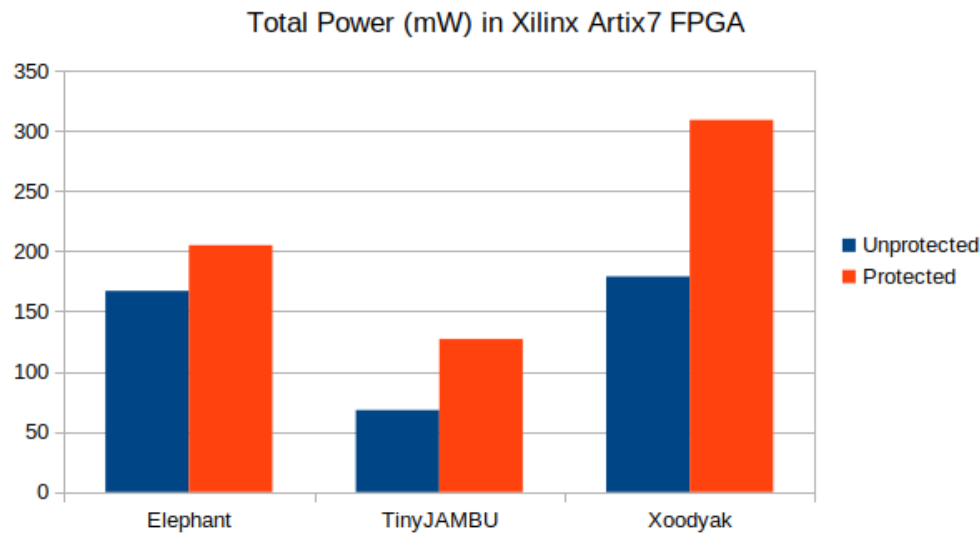
Comparison of Three LWC finalists (1)

- Throughput vs. area



Comparison of Three LWC finalists (2)

- Power Measured using vector-based simulation (post-route)
- Xeda/Vivado were used to simulate/calculate power

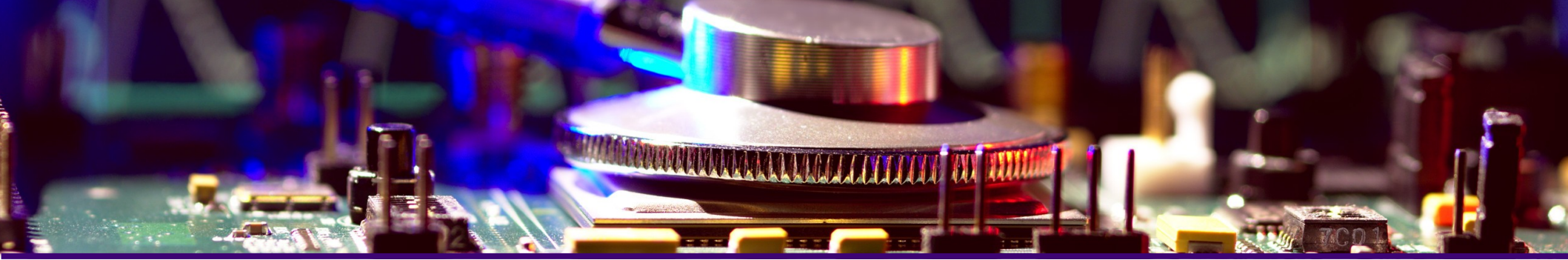


Conclusions

- We showed that among protected Elephant, TinyJAMBU and Xoodyak, our implementations of:
 - Xoodyak has the highest throughput and most energy efficient
 - TinyJAMBU is the most resource and power efficient

Future Work

- High-order designs
- Investigation of other protection methods



Thank you for listening

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