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Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2211 66315-CS-REP.1			
12. DISTRIBUTION AVAILIBILITY STATEMENT			
Approved for Public Release; Distribution Unlimited			
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES			
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14. ABSTRACT			
The acquired instrumentation was used to assess a device's resistance to side-channel attacks (e.g. SPA, EMA,			
DEMA, DPA, and FI). The EM module provides electromagnetic SCA capabilities. It enables non-contact			
measurements for side-channel testing of complex systems and embedded system designs. Additional equipment			
includes an integrated receiver, a hardware down sampling module, EM probes, and software. Data capture, signal			
and visualization tools are included to support side-channel analysis, enabling rapid identification and isolation of			
15. SUBJECT TERMS			
Side channel analysis, fault injection.			
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF: 17. LIMITATION OF 15. NUMBER 19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON			
a. REPORT b. ABSTRACT c. THIS PAGE ABSTRACT OF PAGES Kevin Kornegay			
UUUU19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER443-885-4869			

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Report Title

Final Report: Embedded Mobile Tactical Systems -- Reverse Engineering and Countermeasures

ABSTRACT

The acquired instrumentation was used to assess a device's resistance to side-channel attacks (e.g. SPA, EMA, DEMA, DPA, and FI). The EM module provides electromagnetic SCA capabilities. It enables non-contact measurements for side-channel testing of complex systems and embedded system designs. Additional equipment includes an integrated receiver, a hardware down sampling module, EM probes, and software. Data capture, signal and visualization tools are included to support side-channel analysis, enabling rapid identification and isolation of side-channel signals from noise and interference.

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Scientific Progress

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4. Statement of the Problem

In 2011, and later in 2013, the Cyber Priorities Steering Council presented a science and technology roadmap and initiatives that address a critical DOD problem which states, "the DOD lacks agile cyber operations and resilient infrastructure to assure military missions" [1,2]. There are many factors that contribute to this problem however one of particular interest and one that we will address in this research proposal, is that cyber systems are becoming increasingly more complex thus making them more susceptible to cyber attacks and difficult to defend. These systems utilize globalized commercial hardware that compromises the underlying cyber infrastructure. They have fundamental flaws in that they lack resiliency in their inability to stop attack spread and trustworthiness in that you can't trust the global supply chain for mission critical components. Malicious hardware insertions such as Trojan circuits that act as kill switches, sensitive IP extraction via hardware-based side-channels, and system disruption and diversion using backdoors in hardware all pose serious threats to the DOD cyber infrastructure. Embedded, mobile, tactical (EMT) systems comprise the physical layer of the cyber infrastructure in the battlefield. At the core of these systems is a cryptographic device in the form of a field-programmable-gate array (FPGA), which is an integrated circuit that can be configured for a particular application by the user using a program written in a hardware description language. The program used to configure the FPGA is usually stored as an encrypted bitstream, which is loaded from external memory and exposed during power up. FPGAs, like most hardware such as custom logic in application specific integrated circuits and standard CPU chips executing cryptographic software or firmware, leak information through side-channels. These unintended sidechannels include the instantaneous power consumption of the hardware, radiated electromagnetic fields, or timing information. Side-channel analysis (SCA) is a passive reverse engineering (RE) technique used to reveal the encryption key via noninvasive side-channel monitoring. SCA attacks can only be effective while the hardware is performing cryptographic operations. SCA attacks have been used successfully to uncover the encryption key of several commercial FPGAs [3]. Countermeasures are necessary to secure the EMT system's ability to withstand SCA attacks, and sustain or recover critical functions. The U.S. DOD's antitamper security policies and other security requirements mandate that devices include countermeasures against SCA. Therefore, our research objective is twofold: 1) to assess the vulnerabilities of a state-of-theart FPGA system using SCA; and 2) to develop countermeasures to mitigate SCA attacks. More importantly, the instrumentation acquired with this award has helped us establish side-channel analysis and fault injection capability. Additionally, the instrumentation was augmented by education and outreach activities that allow Morgan State University (MSU) meet DOD's workforce demand for US engineers with the requisite skill set to work in cyberspac.

5. Summary of the Most Important Results

The instrumentation purchased with this award includes the following.

- Agilent N9030A PXA Signal Analyzer -- to provide real-time SDR spectrum measurements for countermeasure analysis.
- Tektronix DPO 7104 Oscilloscope for data capture and display.
- **Zynq SDR II Evaluation Kit** -- this kit enables a broad range of transceiver applications for wireless communications. Tuned to a narrower RF range in the 2400 2500 MHz region, the kit is ideal for the RF engineer seeking optimized system performance meeting datasheet specifications in a defined range of RF spectrum.

The acquired instrumentation was used to support a wide variety of reverse engineering research activities. Several typical configurations are illustrated below.

Final Progress Report



Fig. 1: Embedded system SCA configuration.



Fig. 2: Embedded system FI configuration.

Recognize routines or instructions from a trace:



Statistical analysis to retrieve information or secrets:



Fig. 3: 16-Bit DES SCA attack example.

New capabilities established with instrumentation.

- Side channel analysis
 - Simple power analysis
 - Differential power analysis
 - Correlation power analysis
 - Differential electromagnetic analysis
- Fault injection
 - Power and clock glitching
 - Electromagnetic pulse
 - o Laser

Agilent N9030A PXA Signal Analyzer

The instrumentation has been fully integrated into CETACT and Embedded Systems Cybersecurity Research laboratories to support the design and evaluation of embedded systems. During the performance period, the instrumentation was leveraged to support the design and evaluation of a frequency-hopping receiver for a funded project. The following spectral and time-domain verifications were performed as illustrated in the below figure.



Research Impact: Without the instrumentation, we would not have been able to perform the verification of the frequency-hopping capabilities and develop the technical expertise in designing with industry-leading, low-cost software-defined radio platform. As directed result of this work, we are in position to securing additional funding from industry and government sources. Lastly, we envision this instrumentation will impact our new activities in the area of embedded hardware security.

Student Impact: Graduate and undergraduate students have been trained on the using the instrumentation to support their research projects. Community access to the instrumentation for faculty and students as a part of the Center for Reverse Engineering and Assured Microelectronics. (CREAM)

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