



Provably-secure masking for side-channel security

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Outline

Masking

Masking circuits: the composition challenge

Composable masking

Masking in hardware

Masking

Masking

Replace **every intermediate variable** x in a computation by a sharing

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

such that

$$x = x_1 \star \dots \star x_n$$

in a group (\mathbb{G}, \star) . Most often: \mathbb{F}_{2^k} or \mathbb{Z}_k .

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Replace **every computation** by operations on the shares:

Elementary operation \rightarrow Gadget

Why does it work?

Statistical security:

Assume $x \in \mathbb{F}_2$, $L = l(x_1) + \dots + l(x_n)$.

$(n - 1)$ -th statistical order security:

$$n \geq 2 \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}(L|x = 0) = \mathbb{E}(L|x = 1)$$

$$n \geq 3 \Rightarrow \mathbb{V}(L|x = 0) = \mathbb{V}(L|x = 1)$$

...

Share-recombination security:

For any $S \subsetneq \{1, \dots, n\}$:

$$(x_i)_{i \in S} \perp\!\!\!\perp x$$

Recombine noisy information on n shares (distribution convolution): $\exp(n)$.

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- Covers whole execution

⇒ Testing and validation

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⇒ Testing and validation

- Needs device
- Depends on circuit synthesis & layout
- Depends on evaluator's setup

⇒ Design and pre-silicon validation

Threshold probing model

t -probing security:

Any tuple of t intermediate values in the computation is independent of the secrets.

Requires $t \leq n - 1$, generalizes single sharing security. (In this talk: $t = n - 1$, for efficiency.)

Often needed and often good enough.

Masking circuits: the composition challenge

Masked addition gadget G_+

Compute

$$z = x + y$$

Inputs:

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$(y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

Outputs:

$$(z_1, \dots, z_n)$$

Such that

$$(z_1 + \dots + z_n) = (x_1 + \dots + x_n) + (y_1 + \dots + y_n)$$

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G_+ algorithm:

$$z_1 = x_1 + y_1$$

$$\vdots$$

$$z_n = x_n + y_n$$

Generalization: $(d - 1)$ -probing secure sharewise gadget for any affine operation.

Masked multiplication: ISW gadget G_x

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Proposal:

$$z_1 = (x_1 \times y_1 \quad) + (x_1 \times y_2 \quad) + (x_1 \times y_3 \quad)$$

$$z_2 = (x_2 \times y_1 \quad) + (x_2 \times y_2 \quad) + (x_2 \times y_3 \quad)$$

$$z_3 = (x_3 \times y_1 \quad) + (x_3 \times y_2 \quad) + (x_3 \times y_3 \quad)$$

$$x_1 \times y_1 + x_1 \times y_2 + x_1 \times y_3 = x_1 \times y$$

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ISW multiplication gadget:

$$z_1 = (x_1 \times y_1 \quad) + (x_1 \times y_2 + r_1) + (x_1 \times y_3 + r_2)$$

$$z_2 = (x_2 \times y_1 - r_1) + (x_2 \times y_2 \quad) + (x_2 \times y_3 + r_3)$$

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$$x_1 \times y_1 + x_1 \times y_2 + x_1 \times y_3 = x_1 \times y$$

Solution: add randomness r_1, r_2, r_3

A masked AES circuit

In first AES round (\mathbb{F}_{256}):

$$a = p + k$$

$$z = \text{Sbox}(a)$$

A masked AES circuit

In first AES round (\mathbb{F}_{256}):

$$a = p + k$$

Addition gadget

$$c = a^2$$

Linear gadget

$$d = b \otimes c$$

Multiplication gadget

\vdots

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Linear gadget

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Multiplication gadget

\vdots

Masked design:

$$(a_1, a_2, a_3) = G_{\oplus}((p_1, p_2, p_3), (k_1, k_2, k_3)) = (p_1 \oplus k_1, p_2 \oplus k_2, p_3 \oplus k_3)$$

$$(c_1, c_2, c_3) = G_2((a_1, a_2, a_3)) = (a_1^2, a_2^2, a_3^2)$$

$$(d_1, d_2, d_3) = G_{\otimes}((a_1, a_2, a_3), (c_1, c_2, c_3)) = G_{\otimes}((a_1, a_2, a_3), (a_1^2, a_2^2, a_3^2))$$

Composition problem

$$(d_1, d_2, d_3) = G_{\otimes}((a_1, a_2, a_3), (a_1^2, a_2^2, a_3^2))$$

$$d_1 = (a_1 \otimes a_1^2) \oplus (a_1 \otimes a_2^2 \oplus r_1) \oplus (a_1 \otimes a_3^2 \oplus r_2)$$

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Not 2-probing secure: probing $a_1 \otimes a_2^2$ and a_3 reveals information about a .

$a_1 \otimes a_2^2 = 0$ if $a_1 = 0$ or $a_2 = 0$, that is if $a_1 \in \{0, a \oplus a_3\}$.

Since a_1 is uniform,

$$\Pr[a_1 \otimes a_2^2 = 0 \mid a = a_3] = \frac{1}{2} \Pr[a_1 \otimes a_2^2 = 0 \mid a \neq a_3]$$

and therefore

$$\Pr[a = a_3 \mid a_1 \otimes a_2^2 = 0] \approx \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{|\mathbb{F}_{256}|}$$

Refreshing to make sharings independent

Fix proposal: Input sharings must be independent, we refresh one of the input sharings.

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Simple refresh gadget:

for $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$ **do**

$$r_i \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}$$

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Back to “AES”:

- multiply
 - (a_1, a_2, a_3) , and
 - $(b_1, b_2, b_3) = (a_1 \oplus r_1, a_2 \oplus r_2, a_3 \oplus r_1 \oplus r_2)$
- Probes:
 - $(a_1 \oplus r_1) \times a_2^2$
 - $a_3 \oplus r_1 \oplus r_2$

$a_3 + r_1 + r_2$ is independent of a_3 .

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- Probes:
 - $(a_1 \oplus r_1) \times a_2^2$
 - $a_3 \oplus r_1$

A new sharing: $(a_1 \oplus r_1, a_2, a_3 \oplus r_1)$.

Composable masking

Simulatability

A set of **probes** \mathcal{P} in a gadget can be simulated with the **input shares** \mathcal{I} if there exists an algorithm \mathcal{S} such that $\mathcal{P} \approx \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{I})$.

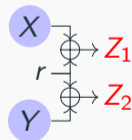
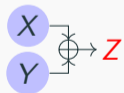
In other words, \mathcal{P} is independent of all inputs except \mathcal{I} .

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E.g. (randomness \$):

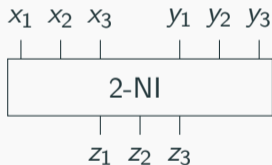


Non-Interference

A gadget G is t -non-interferent (t -NI) if any set of t probes can be simulated with t shares of each input sharing.

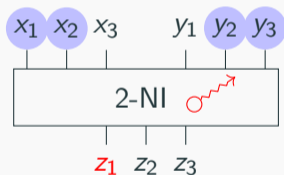
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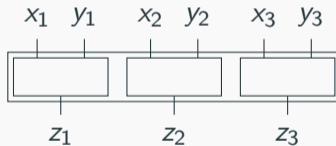
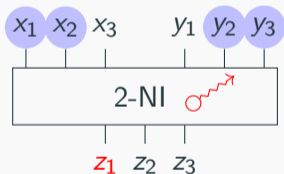
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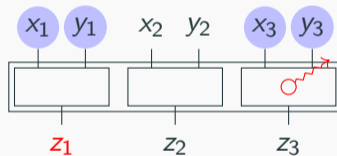
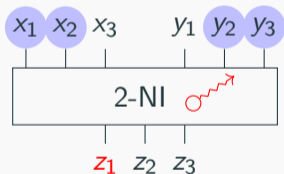
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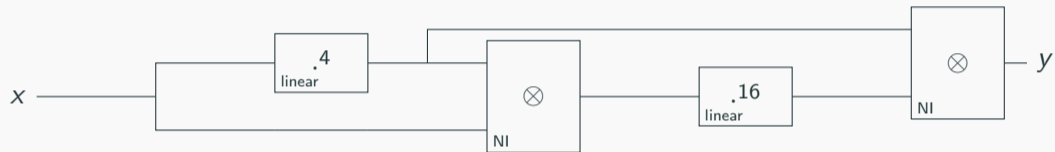
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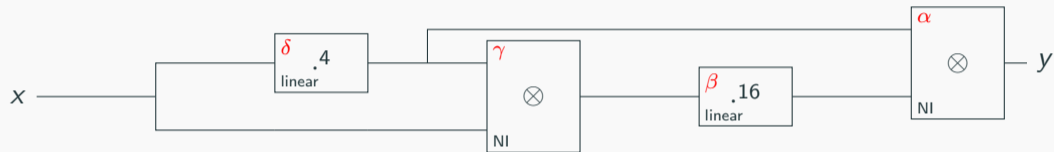


Sharewise gadgets are NI.

Probe propagation

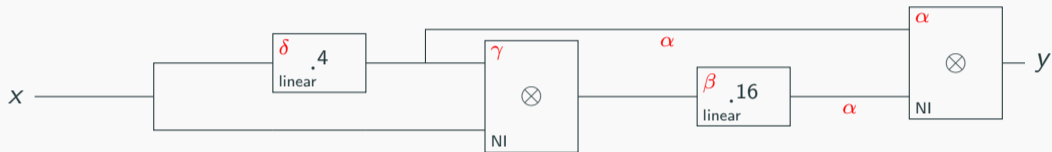


Probe propagation



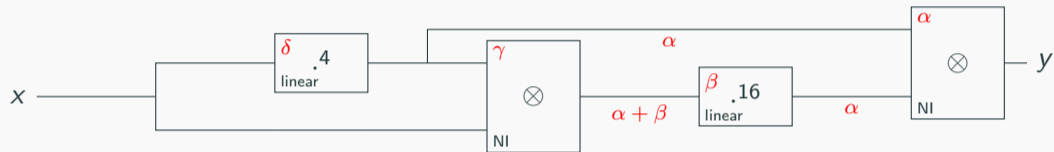
- $\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta \leq t$

Probe propagation



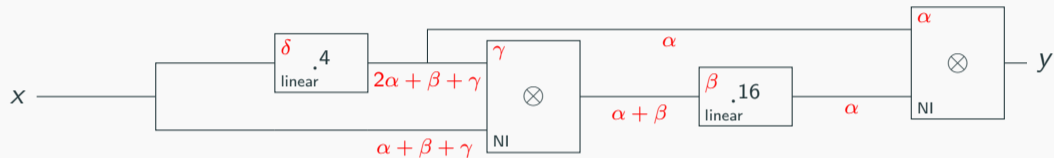
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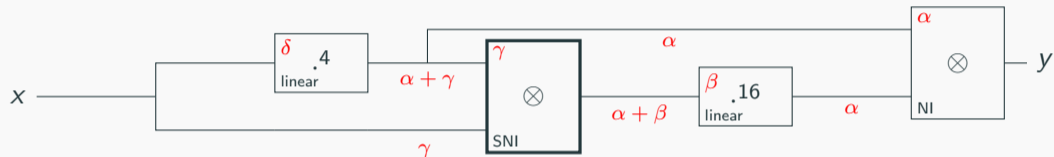
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Probe propagation



- $\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta \leq t$
- $2\alpha + \beta + \gamma$ above threshold

Probe propagation



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- $2\alpha + \beta + \gamma$ above threshold
- **Strong** non-interference

Strong non-interference

A gadget G is t -strongly non-interferent (t -SNI) if any set of t_1 internal probes and t_2 output probes can be simulated with t_1 shares of each input sharing ($t_1 + t_2 = t$).

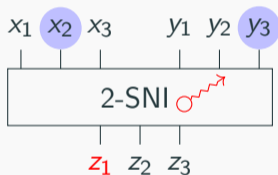
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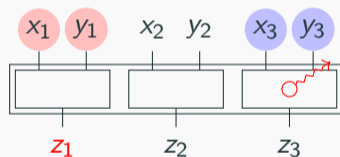
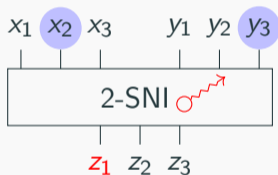
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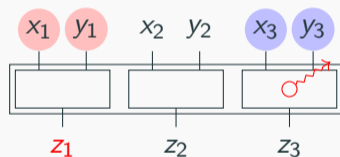
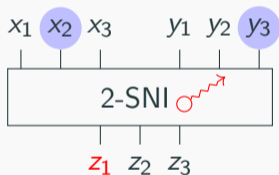
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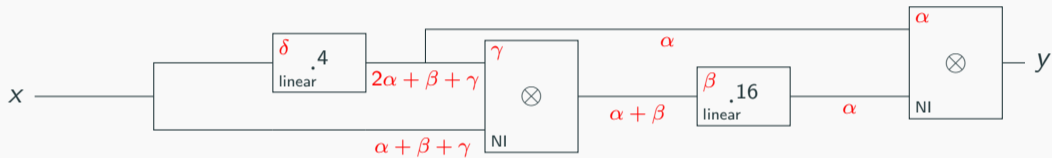
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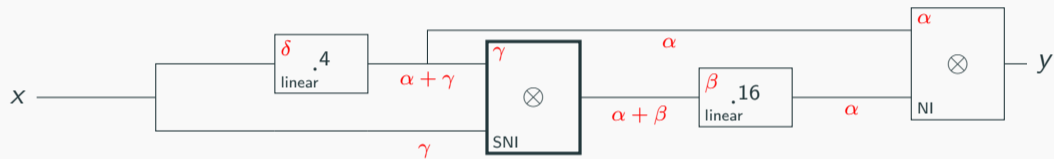


SNI is trivially composable: any composition of t -SNI gadgets is a t -SNI gadget.

Probe propagation with SNI gadgets

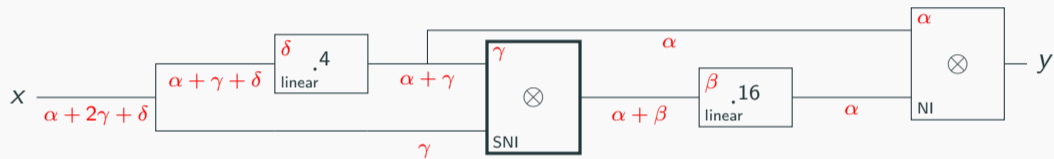


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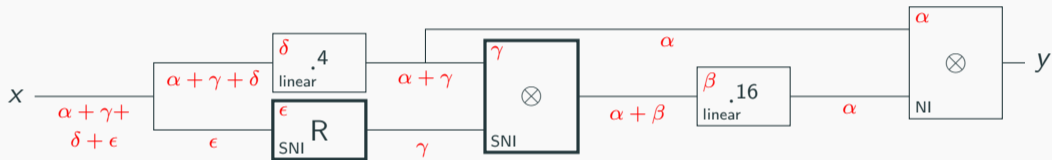
- SNI “stops” probe propagation.

Probe propagation with SNI gadgets



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Probe propagation with SNI gadgets



- SNI “stops” probe propagation.
- SNI refreshing for composition with non-SNI gadgets

Simple refresh is not SNI

2 shares simple refresh:

$$r_1, r_2 \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}$$

$$z_1 \leftarrow x_1 + r_1$$

$$z_2 \leftarrow x_2 + r_2$$

$$y \leftarrow x_3 - r_1$$

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Generalization: $\mathcal{O}(n)$

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Possible sets of probes:

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Possible sets of probes:

- 2 internal probes:
subset of $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, r_1, r_2, y\}$

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- $\{z_i, z_j\}$: output sharing is uniform

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Generalization: $\mathcal{O}(n)$

Possible sets of probes:

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depends on at most 2 inputs
- $\{z_i, z_j\}$: output sharing is uniform
- $\{z_i, r_j\}$: depends on at most 1 input
- $\{x_i, z_j\}$: $z_j \perp\!\!\!\perp x_i$

Simple refresh is not SNI

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$$z_1 \leftarrow x_1 + r_1$$

$$z_2 \leftarrow x_2 + r_2$$

$$y \leftarrow x_3 - r_1$$

$$z_3 \leftarrow y - r_2$$

Generalization: $\mathcal{O}(n)$

Possible sets of probes:

- 2 internal probes:
subset of $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, r_1, r_2, y\}$
depends on at most 2 inputs
- $\{z_i, z_j\}$: output sharing is uniform
- $\{z_i, r_j\}$: depends on at most 1 input
- $\{x_i, z_j\}$: $z_j \perp\!\!\!\perp x_i$
- $\{z_i, y\}$:

Simple refresh is not SNI

2 shares simple refresh:

$$r_1, r_2 \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}$$

$$z_1 \leftarrow x_1 + r_1$$

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- $\{z_i, y\}$: $\{z_1, y\}$

Simple refresh is not SNI

2 shares simple refresh:

$$r_1, r_2 \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}$$

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- $\{x_i, z_j\}$: $z_j \perp\!\!\!\perp x_i$
- $\{z_i, y\}$: $\{z_1, y\} = \{x_1 + r_1, x_3 - r_1\}$

SNI refresh

A 2-SNI refresh:

$$r_1, r_2 \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}$$

$$z_1 \leftarrow x_1 + r_1$$

$$z_2 \leftarrow x_2 + r_2$$

$$y \leftarrow r_1 + r_2$$

$$z_3 \leftarrow x_3 - y$$

Generalization: $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$

A 2-SNI refresh:

$$r_1, r_2 \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}$$

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Generalization: $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$

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Composition theorem: t -NI gadget + t -SNI output refresh \rightarrow t -SNI gadget

ISW multiplication is NI

Gadget (with $r_{i,j} = -r_{j,i}$):

$$z_1 = (x_1 \times y_1 \quad) + (x_1 \times y_2 + r_{1,2}) + (x_1 \times y_3 + r_{1,3})$$

$$z_2 = (x_2 \times y_1 + r_{2,1}) + (x_2 \times y_2 \quad) + (x_2 \times y_3 + r_{2,3})$$

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1. **Select simulation inputs.**
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Input selection invariants:

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- If any $r_{i,j}/r_{j,i}$ appears in 2 probes, $\{x_i, y_i, x_j, y_j\}$.

ISW multiplication is NI

Simulation:

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Simulation:

- any probe except intermediate sum: trivial

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- any probe except intermediate sum: trivial
- intermediate sum: for each $x_i \times y_j + r_{i,j}$ term:
 - if x_i and y_j are selected: trivial

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- any probe except intermediate sum: trivial
- intermediate sum: for each $x_i \times y_j + r_{i,j}$ term:
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 - otherwise: *simulate as fresh random*

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Correctness:

ISW multiplication is NI

Gadget (with $r_{i,j} = -r_{j,i}$):

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- any probe except intermediate sum: trivial
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Correctness:

- *fresh random* for $x_i \times y_i + r_{i,j}$,

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- any probe except intermediate sum: trivial
- intermediate sum: for each $x_i \times y_j + r_{i,j}$ term:
 - if x_i and y_j are selected: trivial
 - otherwise: *simulate as fresh random*

Correctness:

- *fresh random* for $x_i \times y_i + r_{i,j}$,
- all others: trivial.

ISW multiplication is NI

Gadget (with $r_{i,j} = -r_{j,i}$):

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 - if x_i and y_j are selected: trivial
 - otherwise: *simulate as fresh random*

Correctness:

- *fresh random* for $x_i \times y_j + r_{i,j}$,
- all others: trivial.

SNI: at most $n - 2$ internal probes, but $n - 1$ randoms in each sum...

Composable masking

Isolation

Share isolation

Linear composition

$$(c_1, c_2, c_3) = (a_1 \oplus b_1, a_2 \oplus b_2, a_3 \oplus b_3)$$

$$(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (c_1^2, c_2^2, c_3^2)$$

Trivially $(d - 1)$ -probing secure.

Linear composition

$$(c_1, c_2, c_3) = (a_1 \oplus b_1, a_2 \oplus b_2, a_3 \oplus b_3)$$

$$(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (c_1^2, c_2^2, c_3^2)$$

Trivially $(d - 1)$ -probing secure.

Sharewise implementation

- Implies t -probing security
- Composable
- Only for affine gadgets

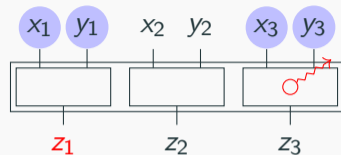
Not for non-linear gadgets

→ Let's simulate it: PINI

PINI: Probe-Isolating Non-Interference

Sharewise gadgets and simulation:

- For each probe, you get the circuit share.



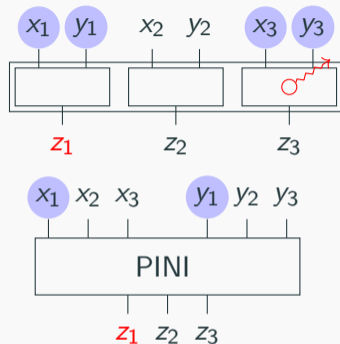
PINI: Probe-Isolating Non-Interference

Sharewise gadgets and simulation:

- For each probe, you get the circuit share.

PINI

- For each **output** probe, you get the circuit share.



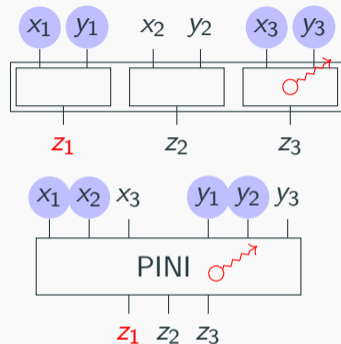
PINI: Probe-Isolating Non-Interference

Sharewise gadgets and simulation:

- For each probe, you get the circuit share.

PINI

- For each **output** probe, you get the circuit share.
- For each **internal** probe, you **choose** one circuit share.



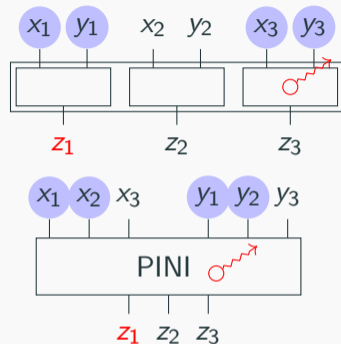
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PINI

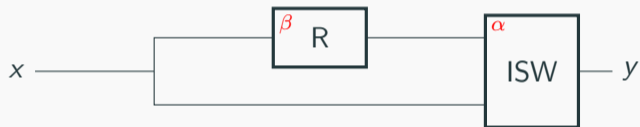
- For each **output** probe, you get the circuit share.
- For each **internal** probe, you **choose** one circuit share.



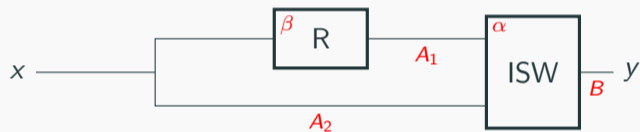
A gadget G is t -probe-isolating non-interferent (t -PINI) if, for any set P of internal probes and any set $B \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that $|P| + |B| \leq t$, there exists $A \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$, $|A| = |P|$ such that the probes in P and the output shares with index in B can be simulated with the input shares with index in $A \cup B$.

PINI gadgets are trivially composable.

PINI multiplication with refreshing

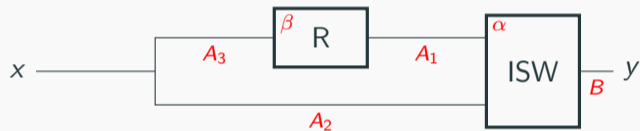


PINI multiplication with refreshing



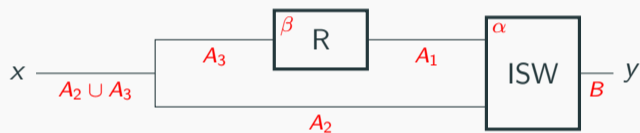
$$|A_1| \leq \alpha, |A_2| \leq \alpha$$

PINI multiplication with refreshing



$$|A_1| \leq \alpha, |A_2| \leq \alpha, |A_3| \leq \beta$$

PINI multiplication with refreshing



$$|A_1| \leq \alpha, |A_2| \leq \alpha, |A_3| \leq \beta \Rightarrow |A_2 \cup A_3| \leq \alpha + \beta = |P|$$

“Native” PINI multiplication

ISW multiplication gadget: not PINI

$$\begin{aligned} z_1 &= (x_1 \times y_1 &&) + (x_1 \times y_2 + r_1 &&) + (x_1 \times y_3 + r_2 &&) \\ z_2 &= (x_2 \times y_1 - r_1 &&) + (x_2 \times y_2 &&) + (x_2 \times y_3 + r_3 &&) \\ z_3 &= (x_3 \times y_1 - r_2 &&) + (x_3 \times y_2 - r_3 &&) + (x_3 \times y_3 &&) \end{aligned}$$

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Masked multiplication trick:

$$x \times y + r = (x + 1) \times r + x \times (y - r) = (\cancel{x} \times r + r) + (x \times y - \cancel{x} \times r)$$

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PINI multiplication gadget:

$$z_1 = (x_1 \times y_1 \quad \quad \quad) + ((x_1 + 1) \otimes r_1 + x_1 \times (y_2 + r_1)) + ((x_1 + 1) \times r_3 + x_1 \times (y_3 - r_2))$$

$$z_2 = ((x_2 - 1) \times r_1 + x_2 \times (y_1 - r_1)) + (x_2 \times y_2 \quad \quad \quad) + ((x_2 + 1) \times r_3 + x_2 \times (y_3 - r_3))$$

$$z_3 = ((x_3 - 1) \times r_1 + x_3 \times (y_1 - r_2)) + ((x_3 - 1) \times r_2 + x_3 \times (y_2 - r_3)) + (x_3 \times y_3 \quad \quad \quad)$$

Masked multiplication trick:

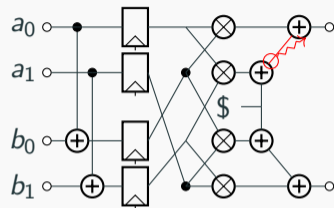
$$x \times y + r = (x + 1) \times r + x \times (y - r)$$

Masking in hardware

Robust probing model

Real-world: CMOS, not arithmetic circuits.

Modeled with extended probes:

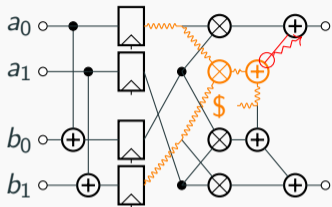


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- Glitches
→ all inputs of combinational circuit.

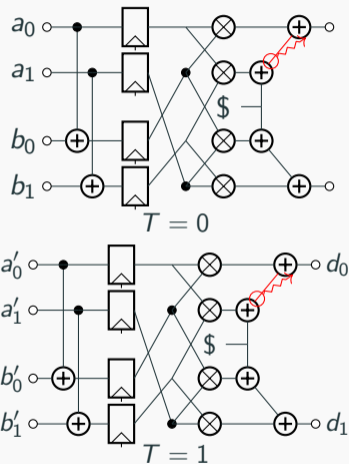


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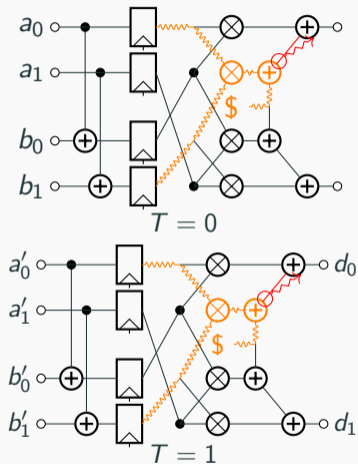


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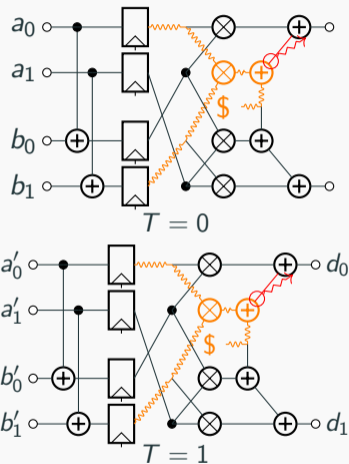


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Sharewise circuits are robust: glitches and transitions confined to one circuit share.

Glitches captured by gadget interfaces

- being carried by wires

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Glitch-robust simulatability

- applies to *NI notions
- glitch-robust version of composition theorems

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Where do we need registers?

Transition-robustness: OPINI

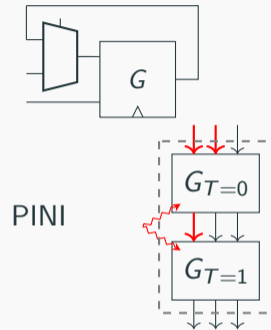
For share-isolating, if you know the input, you can simulate the corresponding output.



Transition-robustness: OPINI

For share-isolating, if you know the input, you can simulate the corresponding output.

- Not for PINI



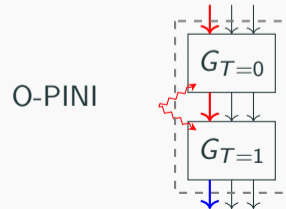
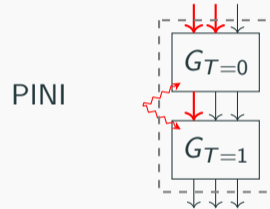
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OPINI (Output-PINI):

- PINI
- *For each input you know, simulate the corresponding output.*



Transition-robustness: OPINI

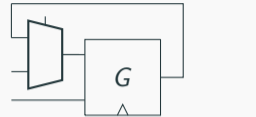
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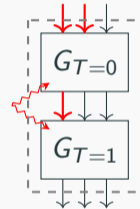
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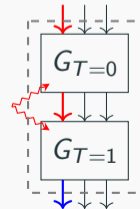
OPINI gadgets trivially compose under transitions.



PINI



O-PINI



Transition-robustness: OPINI

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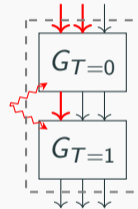
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OPINI gadgets trivially compose under transitions.

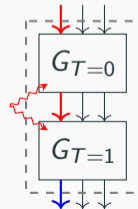
OPINI costs randomness, area and/or latency.



PINI



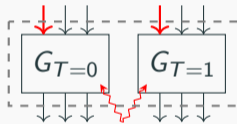
O-PINI



Cheap transition-robustness

Transitions can be worked around:

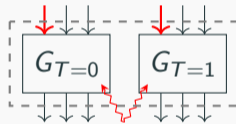
- with transitions, PINI gadgets compose in parallel,



Cheap transition-robustness

Transitions can be worked around:

- with transitions, PINI gadgets compose in parallel,
- pipeline bubbles remove transition leakage.



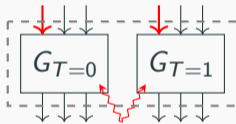
Cheap transition-robustness

Transitions can be worked around:

- with transitions, PINI gadgets compose in parallel,
- pipeline bubbles remove transition leakage.

For cheap transition-robustness:

- Put PINI gadgets in a pipeline
- Insert a bubble between iterations
 - Rare event in many crypto designs
- Use sharewise gadgets freely



Hardware Private Circuits: PINI in hardware

Masked AND gate cost

Gadget	Security	Latency		Area (GE)			Area w/ RNG (GE)		
		x	y	$t = 1$	$t = 2$	$t = 3$	$t = 1$	$t = 2$	$t = 3$
DOM-indep	NI	1	1	35	85	156	74	203	392
HPC1	PINI	2	1	51	127	217	130	324	611
HPC2	PINI	2	1	82	209	393	121	327	629
HPC3	PINI	1	1	69	165	301	148	401	773
HPC4	OPINI	1	1	93	238	451	290	829	1632

- Nangate45 / Yosys / Trivium RNG.
- There optimized variants exist.
- Some gadgets can be extended to larger fields.
- Non-exhaustive list!

SMAesH: SIMPLE-Crypto's Masked AES in Hardware

Masked AES-128 implementation:

- Arbitrary-order with HPC1& HPC3.
- 32-bit architecture
- 86 cycles latency
- Includes key schedule & PRNG (Trivium)
- Open-source:
<https://github.com/simple-crypto/SMAesH>
- Verified (fullVerif, SILVER)
- CHES23 challenge: 290k traces (first order)

t	Area (kGE)		Full AES w/ RNG
	S-box w/o RNG	S-box w/ RNG	
1	1.9	3.4	24.4
2	4.6	8.3	47.4
3	8.1	15.6	81.2

Version 2 just released (area and latency optimizations).

Composable masking schemes:

- provable security
- automated generation & verification
- good efficiency & flexibility

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Challenges:

- tooling
- security beyond threshold probing model
- randomness reduction/re-use