

# **Compilation de protections logicielles contre les attaques par injections de fautes**

**Advanced secu – M2 CySeC 2025**

Damien Couroussé – CEA List Grenoble

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# bio

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## Ingénieur de recherche HDR – CEA-List

- Logiciel embarqué
- Compilateurs
- Microarchitecture des processeurs
- Sécurité matérielle :
  - attaques par canaux auxiliaires,
  - par injections de fautes
- Méthodes formelles pour les analyses de sécurité





# Internships 2025

**Thématique sécurité** : vérification de la robustesse d'un circuit aux injections de fautes

**Design of Fault Injection Models Within Pre-silicon Security Methodologies**

<https://www.emploi.cea.fr>  37787

**Thématique sécurité** : support de calcul pour le chiffrement homomorphe sur RISC-V

**FPGA Prototyping of Fully Homomorphic Encryption on RISC-V Microprocessors**

<https://www.emploi.cea.fr>  37898

**Thématique cryptographie** : implémentation matérielle d'algorithme postquantiques

**Towards Efficient and Secure Keccak Acceleration: Optimizing Masked Hardware Against Side-Channel Attacks**

<https://www.emploi.cea.fr>  37905

**Thématique architecture** : design mémoires, architecture des processeurs et de la hiérarchie mémoire

**Hybrid DRAM: Next gen ferroelectric memory for “normally-off / instant-on” embedded systems**

# agenda

- 1. (re-)Introduction to hardware security**
- 2. Workflow production for numerical systems and the compiler**
  - A standard compiler doesn't know about security... illustrated
- 3. Securing compilers, illustration on simple cases**
- 4. Robustness analysis against fault injection attacks**
  - Fault modelling
- 5. Introduction to the hands-on session: the verifyPin case study**
  - Two main approaches: simulation, formal verification.



# Hardware Security

## ■ Matters

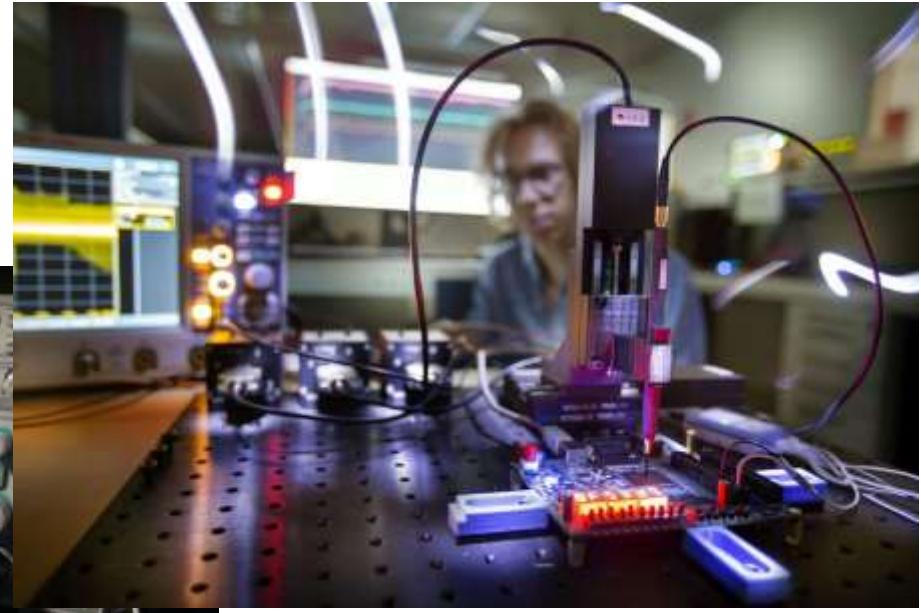
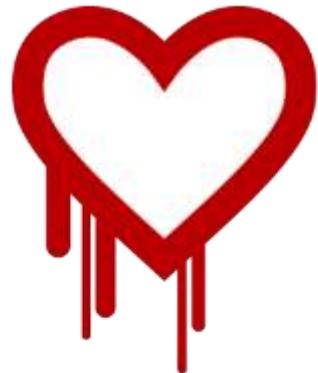
# Cybersecurity: a challenge for the information society



Once there were two “mental chess” experts who had become tired of their pastime. “Let’s play ‘Mental Poker,’ for variety” suggested one. “Sure” said the other. “Just let me deal!”

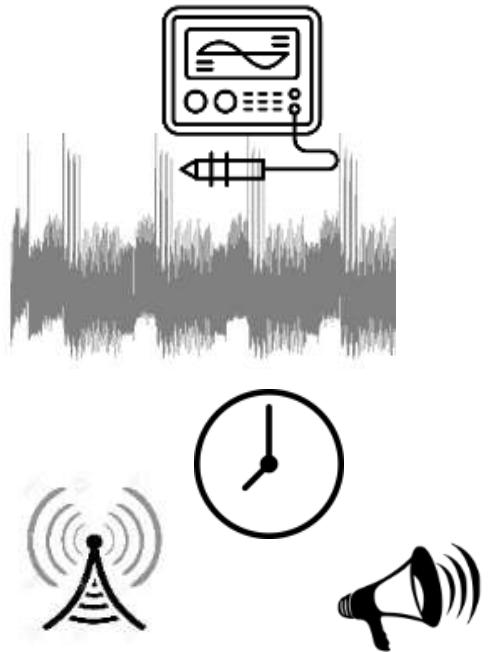


**CVE**<sup>TM</sup>



# Physical attacks

## Side-channel analysis



## Fault injection attacks

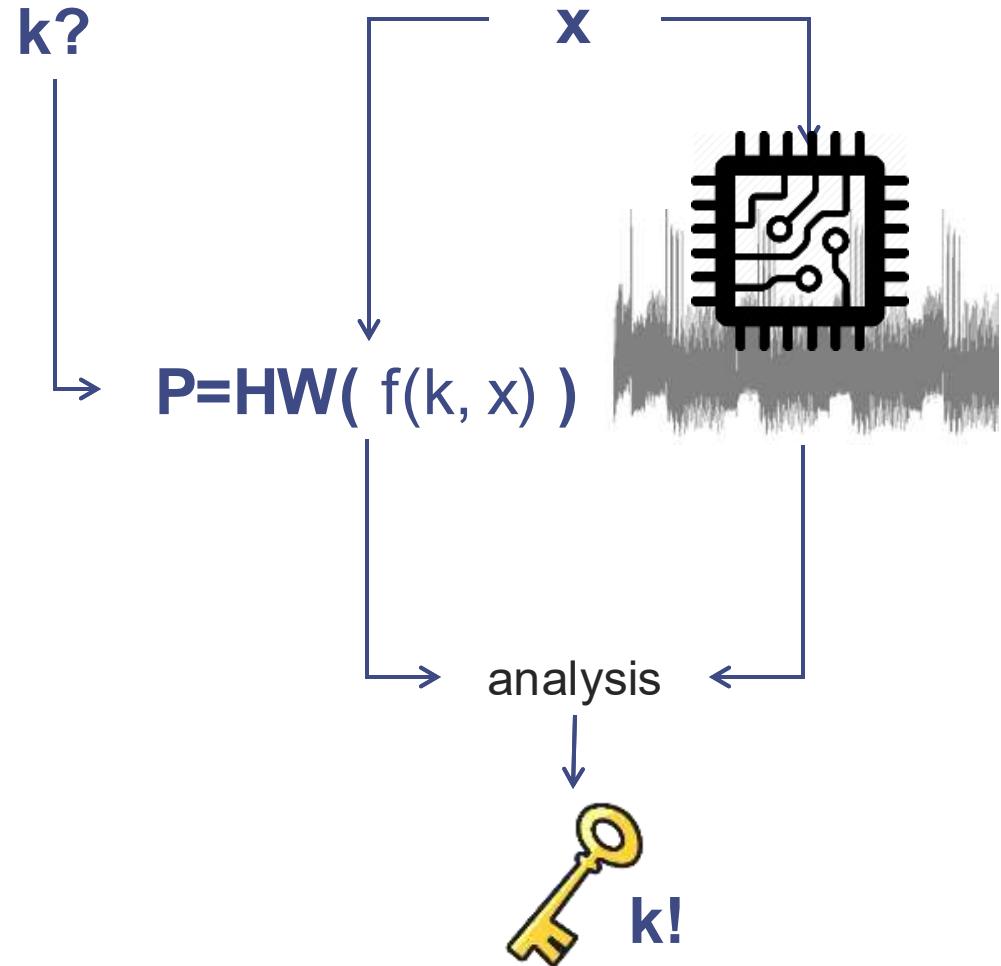


Highly effective against cryptographic implementations  
Can leverage software vulnerabilities [Cui & Rousley, 2017]

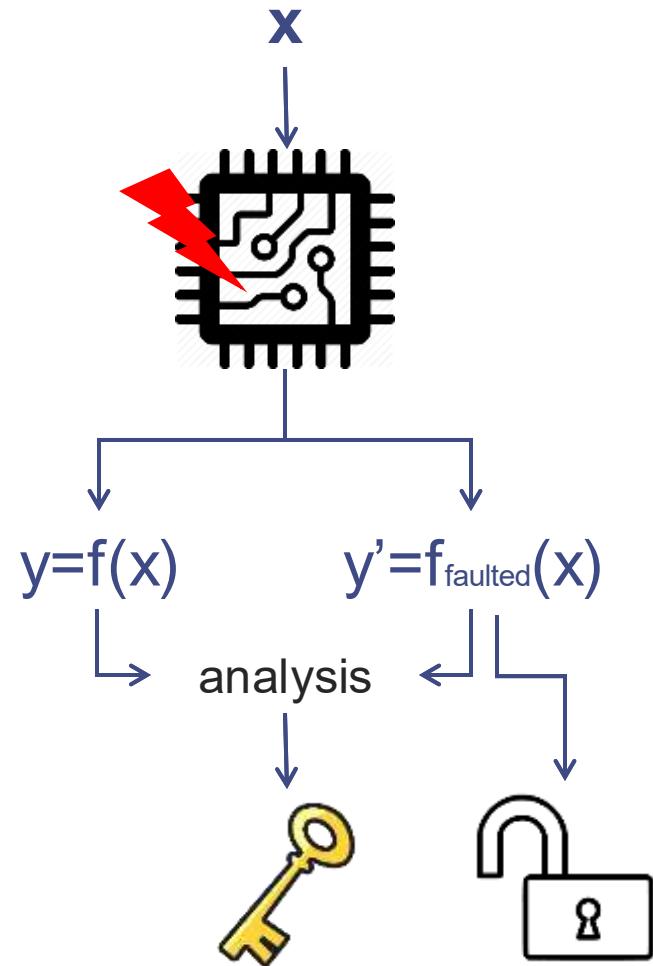


# Physical attacks, conceptually

Side-channel analysis



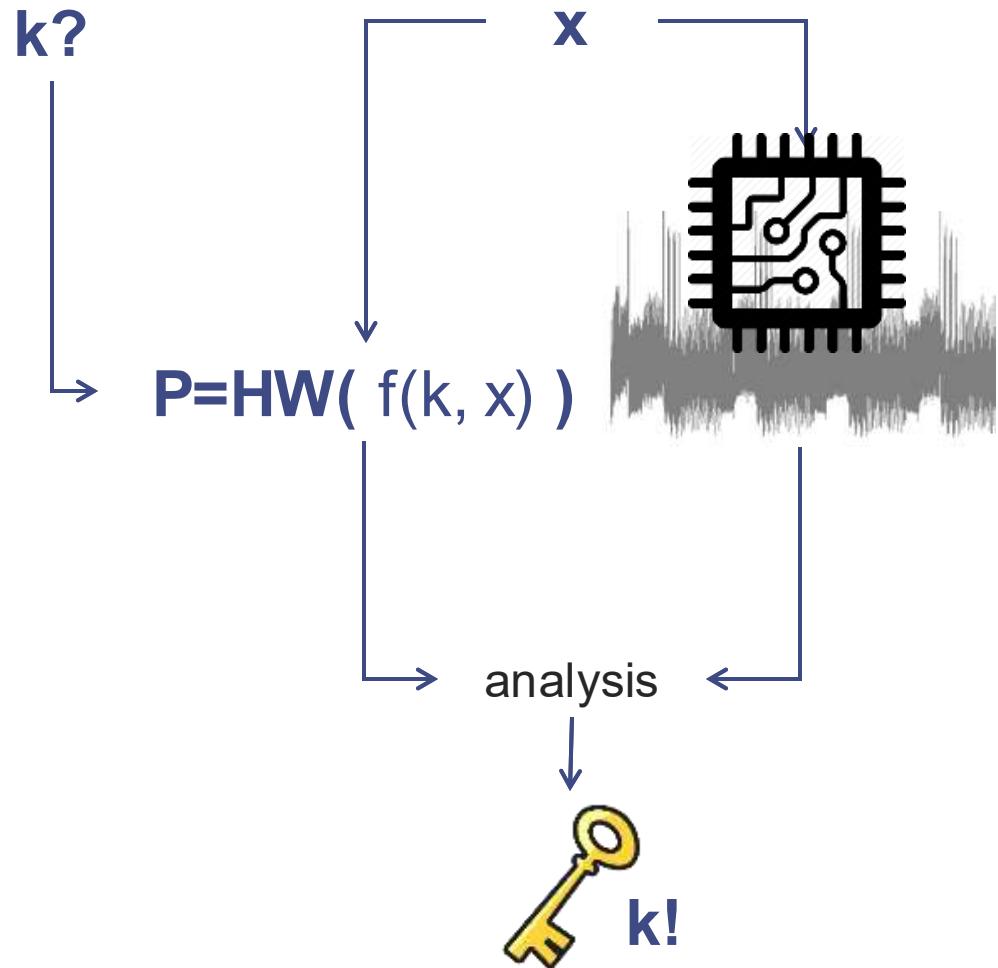
Fault injection attacks



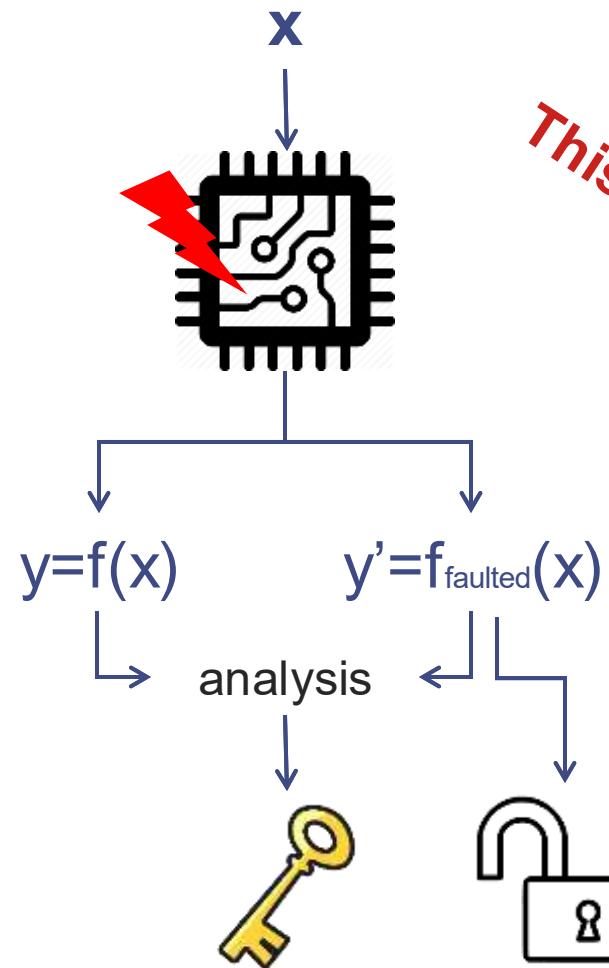
# Physical attacks, conceptually



## Side-channel analysis



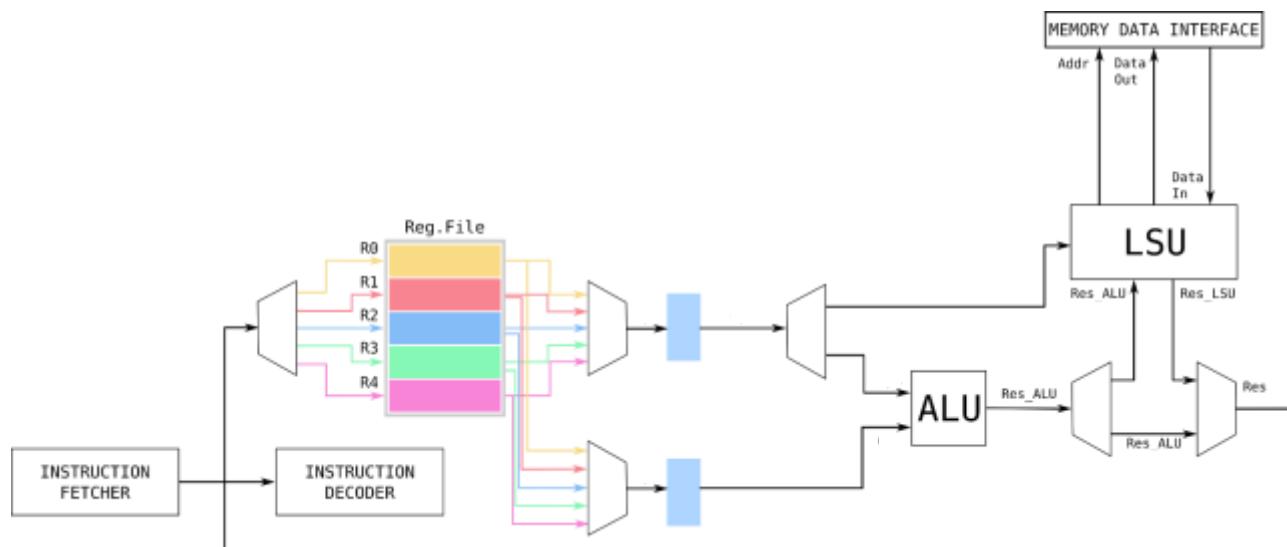
## Fault injection attacks



*This course*

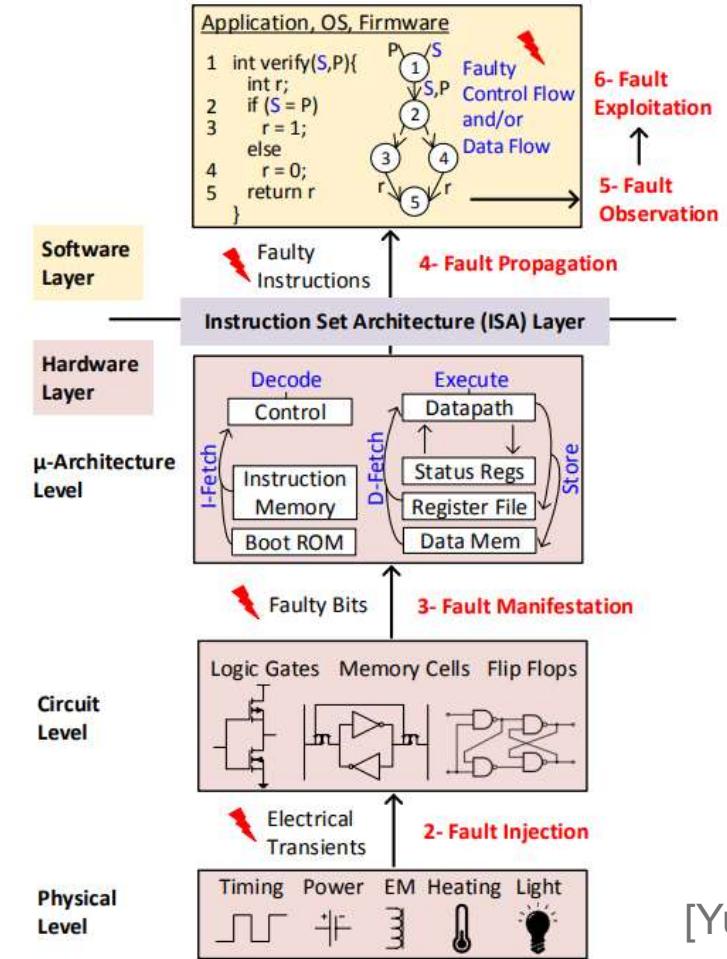
# Physical attacks, behind the scenes

## Side-channel analysis



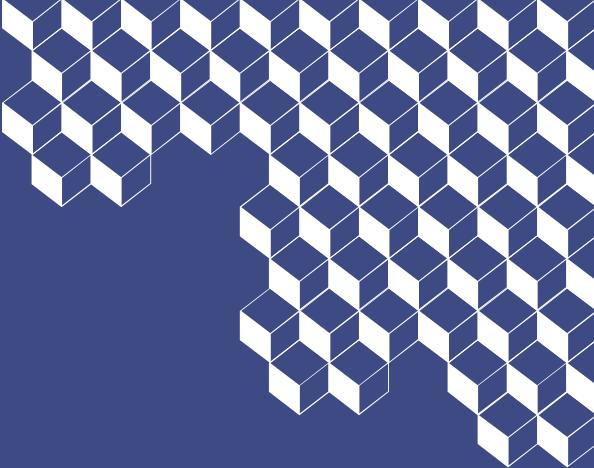
[Casalino PhD, 2024]

## Fault injection attacks



[Yuce & al. 2018]

# Takeway



**“ Hardware security matters...**

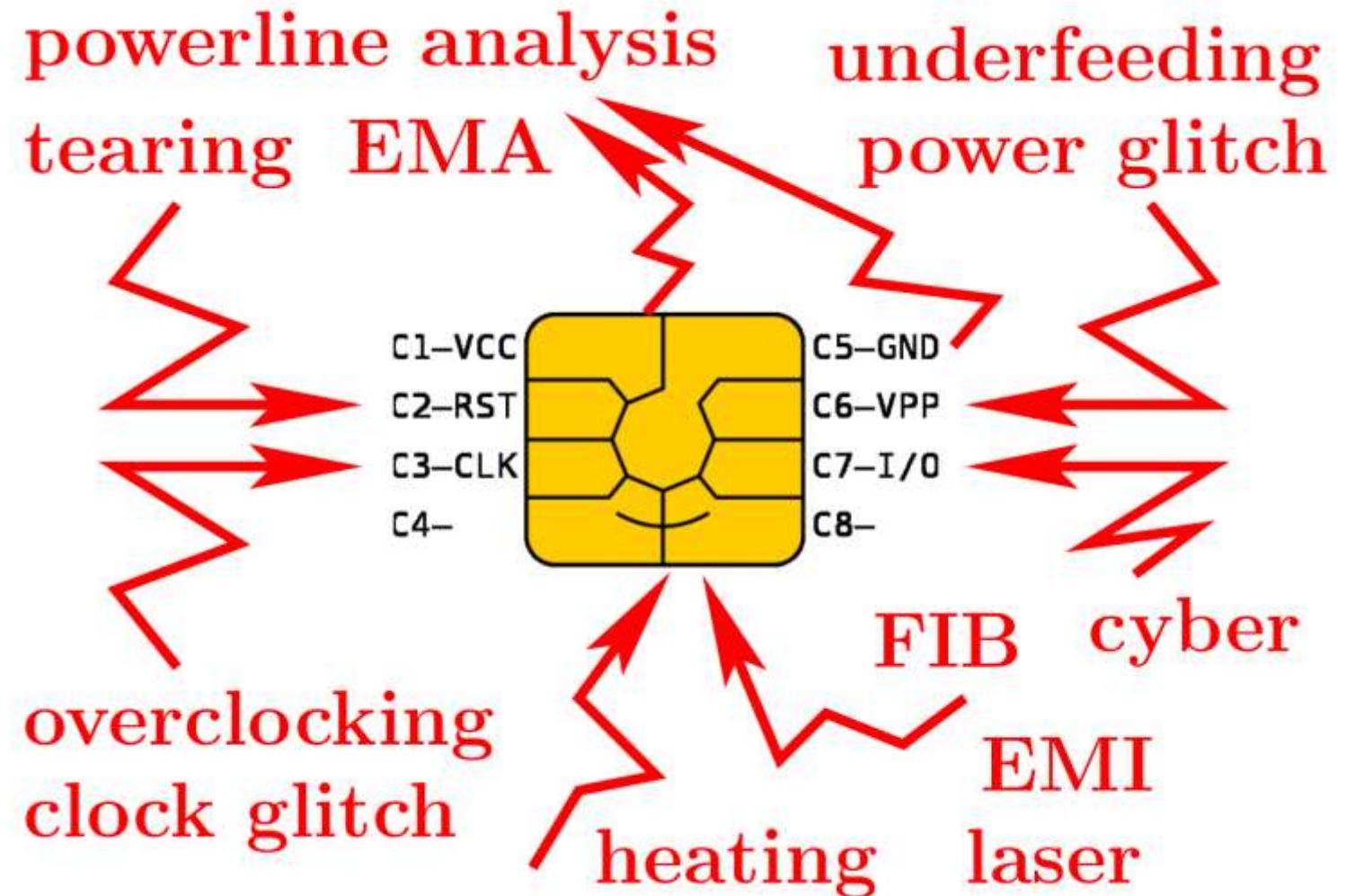
**(... and is challenging, but fun!)**

**Cybersecurity is not only a matter of maths and crypto, it also involves the physical nature of computing, via observation and perturbation.**



# Fault Injection Attacks in the Cybersecurity ■ Landscape

# Hardware security in medieval times



Courtesy of Sylvain Guilley 2015, Télécom ParisTech - Secure-IC



# Fault Injection: Safety, Security



Mario 64 SpeedRunner



## Security

intentional  
exhaustive

## Safety

natural /  
non intentional  
probabilistic

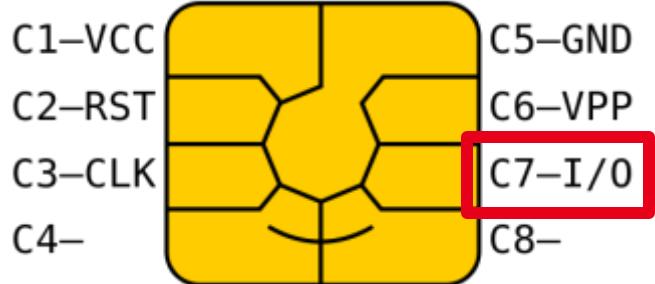
fault injection  
verification method



# From the Secure Element to the IoT

## Secure Element

- The HW and SW architecture is carried out by one main provider – and possibly a few sub-contractors
- Limited connectivity and communication capabilities
- Logical attacks are considered, but are not the main threat.
- **Considered secured**; security evaluated by expensive certification processes before market deployment
- **Impacts of a security breach: mostly limited** to the exploitation of the data stored in the component.



## IoT device

- Integration of many HW and SW components, mostly issued by (untrusted) third parties.
- Lots of communication and sensing capabilities
- **Known to be unsecured**; lots of potential security vulnerabilities, certification is still an open topic and available schemes (e.g. CSPN) are not widely adopted.
- Impacts of a security breach:
  - Device level: usually low. On-device data have low value.
  - **Network/infrastructure level: high**. The device can be used as a stepping stone to attack other systems.
  - **Societal level: high**. Discredits the use of technology.



# Fault injection Target

- Real life attack
  - Xbox360 reset glitch hack (2011) [1]
    - Allows unsigned code execution

Reset Glitch Hack (RGH) is a hardware modification which allows you to **run unsigned code, mods, game backups, and homebrew**. The hack relies on a **vulnerability in the hardware** found by GliGli that is triggered by **sending a reset pulse to the processor** at a specific moment, resulting in a power glitch that causes a bootloader hash check to return "valid" no matter what you have flashed in place of the stock bootloader. The timing of when and how long the pulse should be sent is dependent on the console and it may take some tweaking until it "glitches" and boots.

[https://consolemods.org/wiki/Xbox\\_360:RGH](https://consolemods.org/wiki/Xbox_360:RGH)



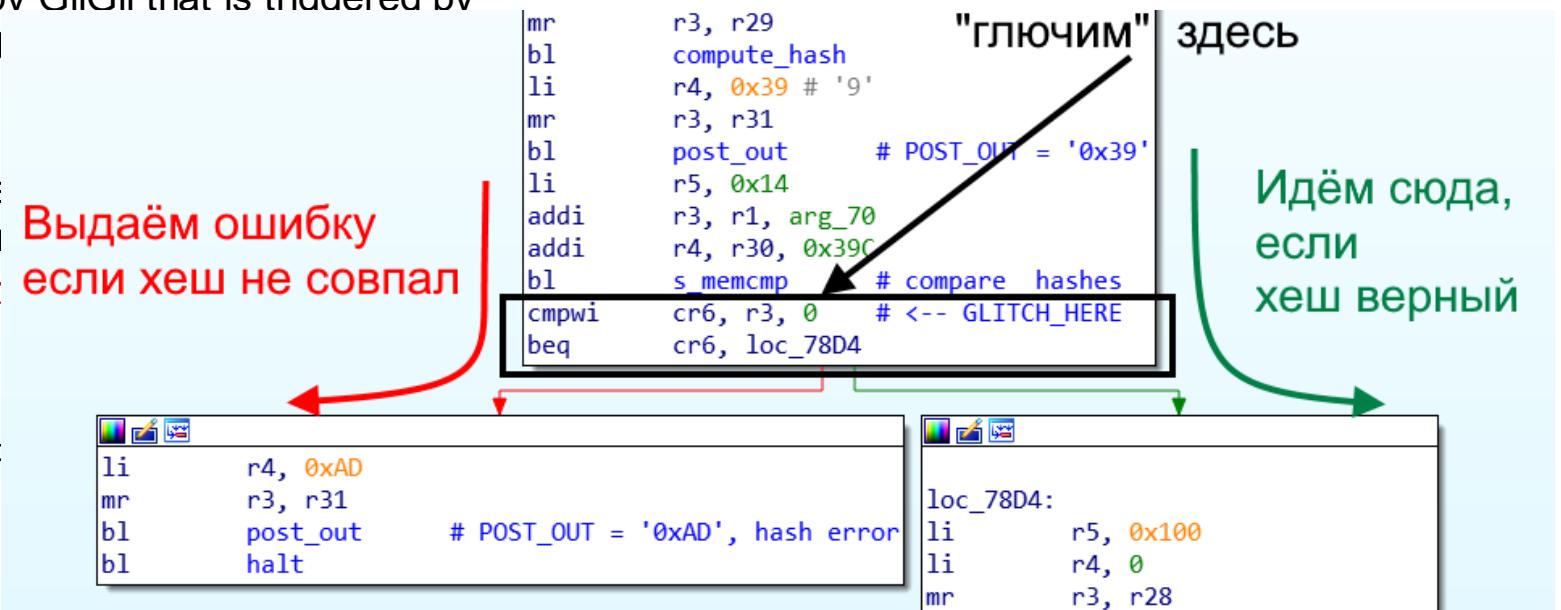
[1] [https://free60project.github.io/wiki/Reset\\_Glitch\\_Hack](https://free60project.github.io/wiki/Reset_Glitch_Hack)

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[1] [https://free60project.github.io/wiki/Reset\\_Glitch\\_Hack](https://free60project.github.io/wiki/Reset_Glitch_Hack)



# Fault injection Target

- Real life attack
  - Xbox360 reset glitch hack (2011) [1]
    - Allows unsigned code execution
- Targets evolution
  - 8 bits AVR micro controller (2011) [2]
  - 32 bits dualcore ARM Cortex A9 (2019) [3]
  - BCM2837 32 bits quadcore ARM Cortex (2019) A53 [4]
  - Mobile devices [5]



[1] [https://free60project.github.io/wiki/Reset\\_Glitch\\_Hack/](https://free60project.github.io/wiki/Reset_Glitch_Hack/)

[2] Balasch, J. et al, "An In-depth and Black-box Characterization of the Effects of Clock Glitches on 8-bit MCUs.", 2011 FDTC

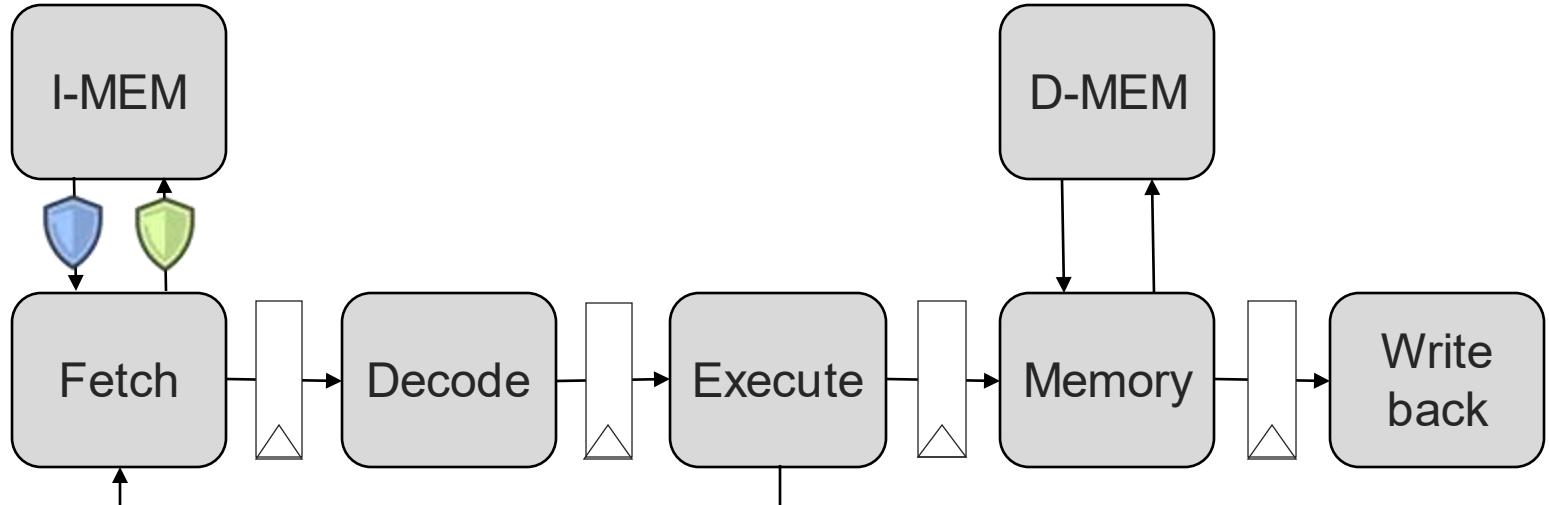
[3] Proy, J. et al, "Studying EM Pulse Effects on Superscalar Microarchitectures at ISA Level.", 2019 CoRR

[4] Trouchkine, et al. "Fault Injection Characterization on Modern CPUs.", 2019 WISTP

[5] "Physical Fault Injection and Side-Channel Attacks on Mobile Devices : A Comprehensive Analysis", Computers & Security (2021).

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cose.2021.102471>

# What to Protect? State of the Art: Security Properties



# What to Protect? State of the Art: Security Properties

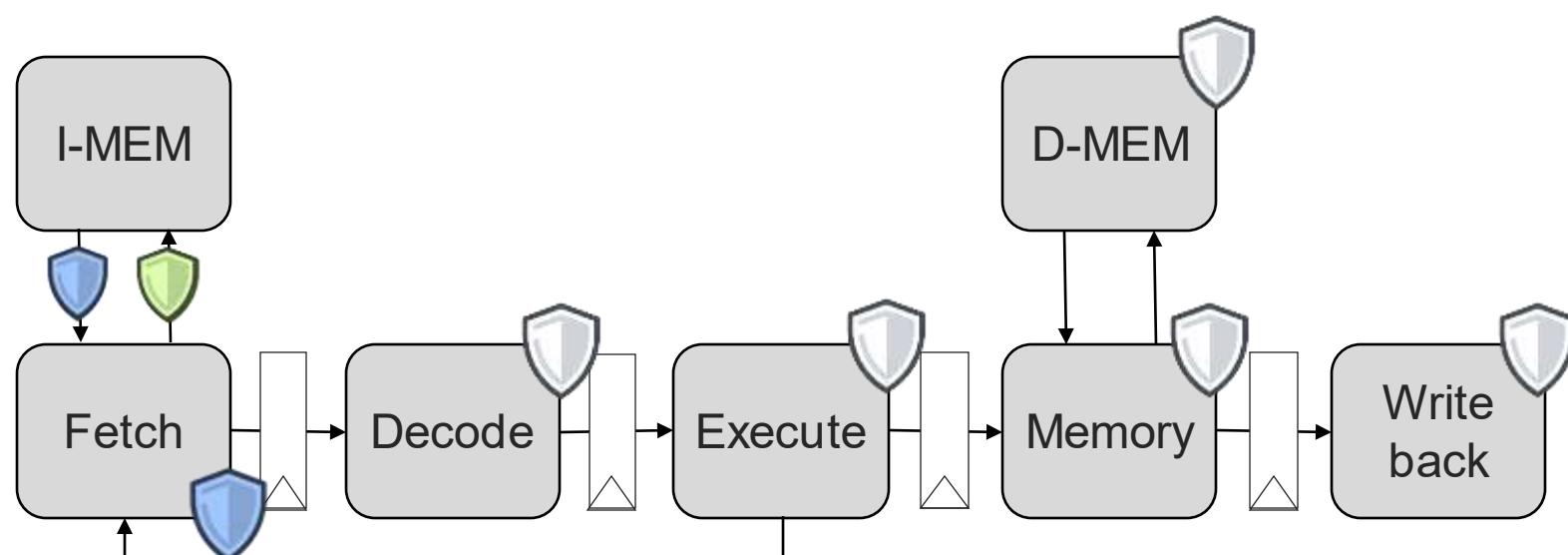


Data integrity

Code authenticity / integrity

Control-flow integrity

- Direct branches / calls
- Indirect branches / calls
- Branchless instructions sequences (a.k.a. *basic blocks*)
  - Execution of all the instructions (e.g. no skip)
  - In correct order



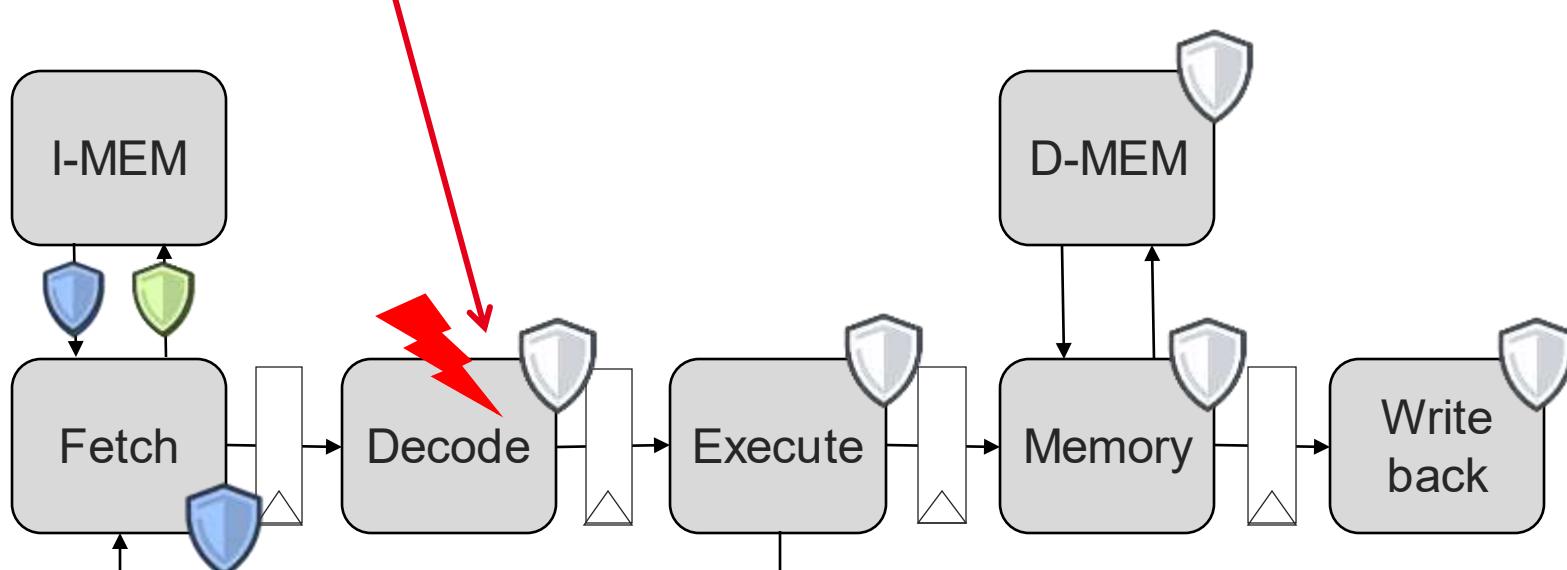
# Problem: faults targeting control signals

A simple loop code:

```
loop:
    addi t0, t0, #-1
    bne t0, zero, loop
```

beq ←

Fault on instruction decode

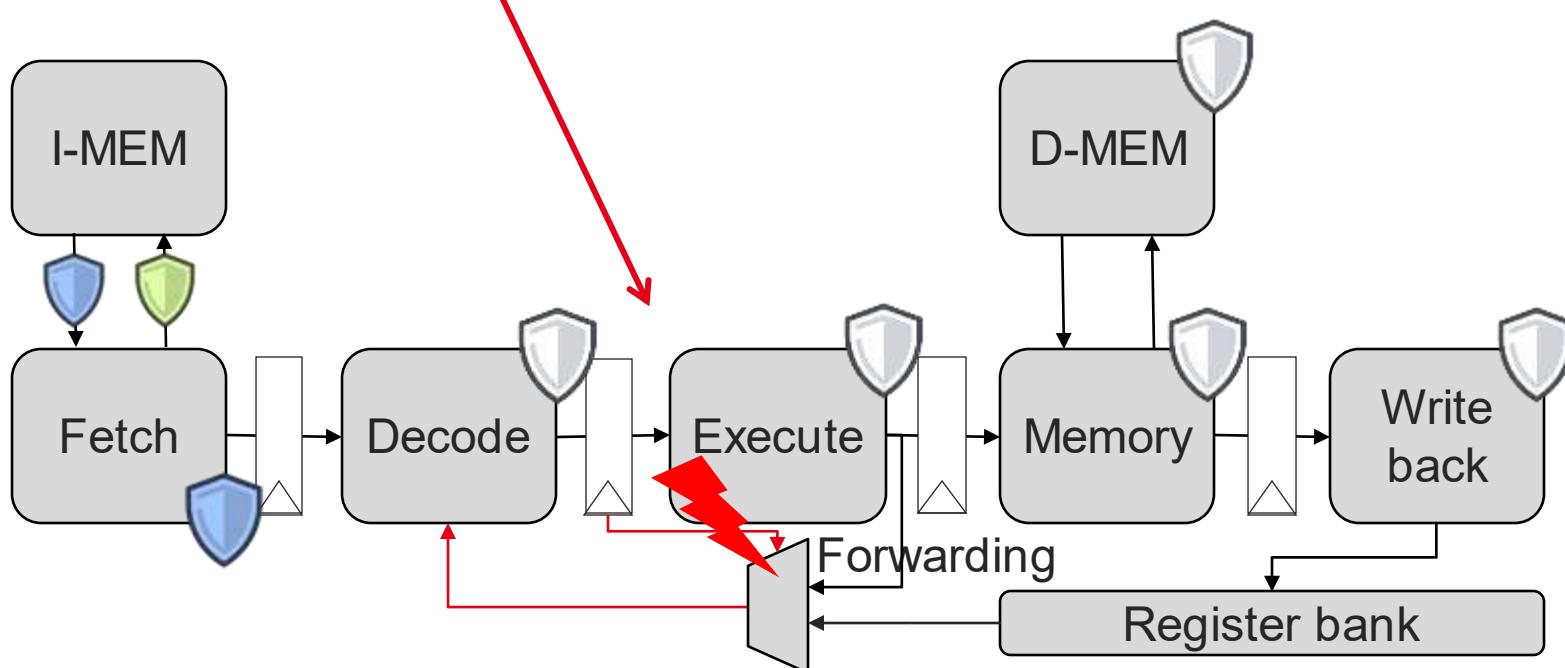


# Problem: faults targeting control signals

A simple loop code:

```
loop:
    addi t0[n], t0[n-1], #-1
    bne t0[n], zero, loop
```

$t0[n-1]$  ← **Fault on forwarding**



# What to Protect? State of the Art: Security Properties



Data integrity



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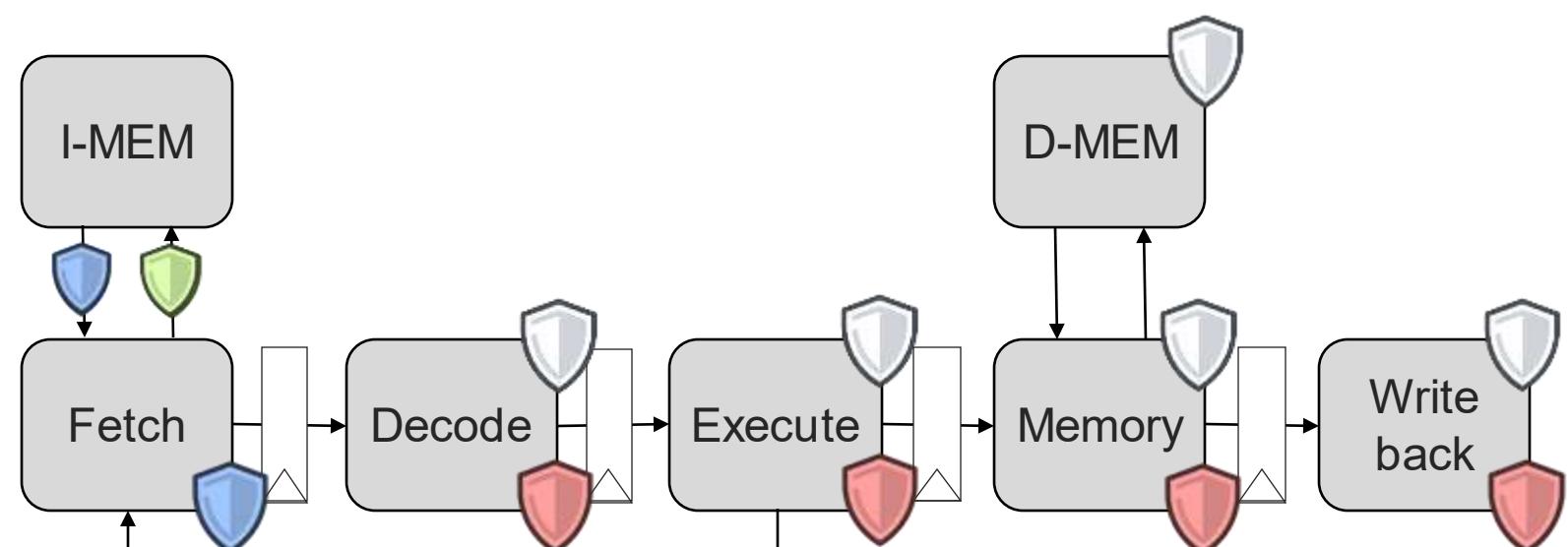


Control-flow integrity

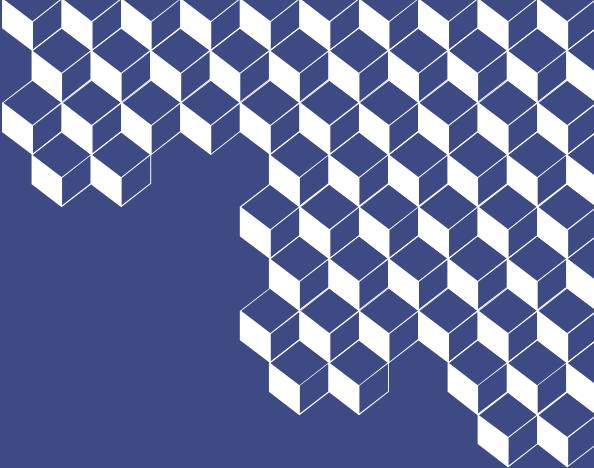
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**Control Signals Integrity**



# Takeway



**“ Fault injection attacks increase the attack surface of embedded systems, and require protections down to the processor microarchitecture.**

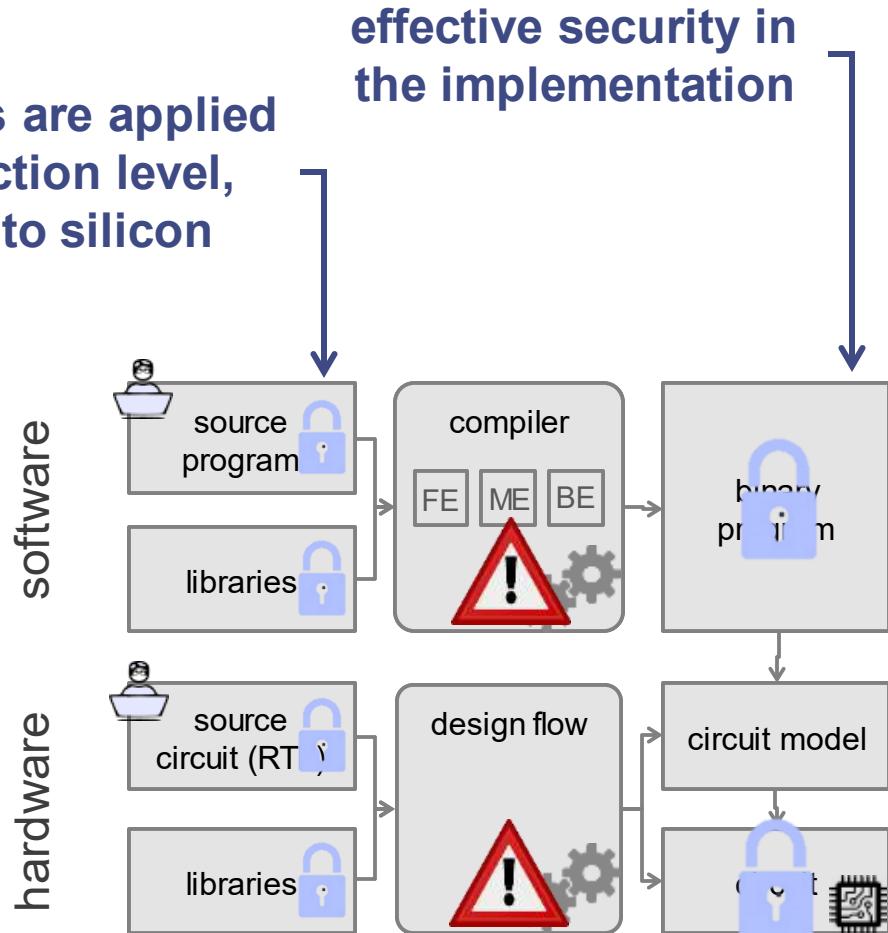


# **Workflow production ■ for numerical systems**

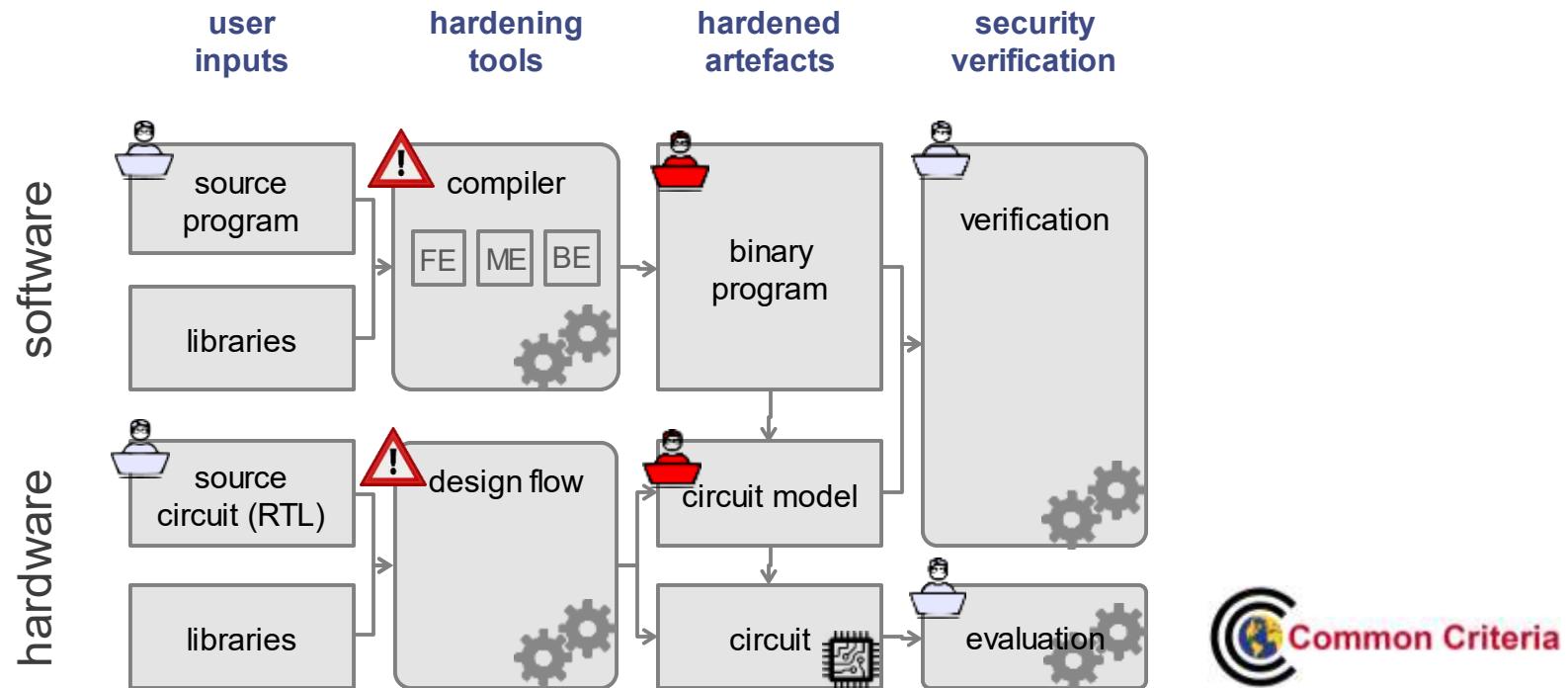
the role of the compiler

# Towards the production of secure digital systems

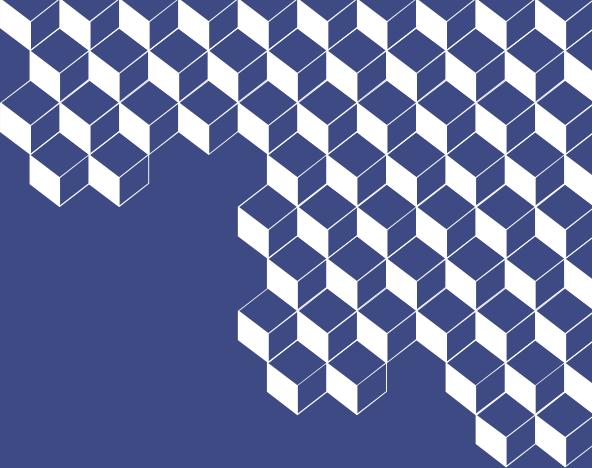
countermeasures are applied  
at every abstraction level,  
from software to silicon



# Towards the production of secure digital systems



# Takeway



**“ The compiler sits between the developer and the final, concrete product. You must consider carefully its impact on countermeasures.**

**(synthesis tools: same story!)**



## ■ Compilers vs. Security

# Compiler duties & objectives

**Duties:** assurance of functional equivalence between source code and machine code

- “functional” / “functionality” is usually not precisely defined
  - Side effects?
  - Determinism of time behaviour? (real time execution)
  - Lazy evaluation?
- No formal assurance
  - Except few works, such as CompCert
- Correctness by construction?
  - The source code written by the developer is not always valid

**Objectives:** optimise one or several performance criteria

- Execution time
- Resources: e.g. memory consumption
- Energy consumption, power consumption
- There is no complete criterion for optimality, and no convergence
  - Nature of the algorithm used
  - Relation to architecture / micro-architecture
  - Data





# Compiler rights

## Rights

- Reorganise contents of the target program, as long as program semantics is preserved
  - Machine instructions, basic blocs
- Select the best translation for a source code operation / instruction
- Remove parts of the program, as long as the program functionality is considered to be preserved (i.e. the computation does not participate in producing the program results)

## Some classical optimisation passes:

- *dead code elimination*
- *global value numbering*
- common-subexpression elimination
- *strength reduction*
- *loop strength reduction, loop simplification, loop-invariant code motion*

## LLVM's Analysis and Transform Passes, the 2016/06/30

- 40 analysis passes
- 56 transformation/optimisation passes
- 10 utility passes
- ... backends, etc.



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will break your security

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# A must read

TURING AWARD LECTURE

## Reflections on Trusting Trust

*To what extent should one trust a statement that a program is free of Trojan horses? Perhaps it is more important to trust the people who wrote the software.*

KEN THOMPSON

### INTRODUCTION

I thank the ACM for this award. I can't help but feel that I am receiving this honor for timing and serendipity as much as technical merit. UNIX<sup>1</sup> swept into popularity with an industry-wide change from central mainframes to autonomous minis. I suspect that Daniel Bobrow [1] would be here instead of me if he could not afford a PDP-10 and had had to "settle" for a PDP-11. Moreover, the current state of UNIX is the result of the labors of a large number of people.

There is an old adage, "Dance with the one that brought you," which means that I should talk about

programs. I would like to present to you the cutest program I ever wrote. I will do this in three stages and try to bring it together at the end.

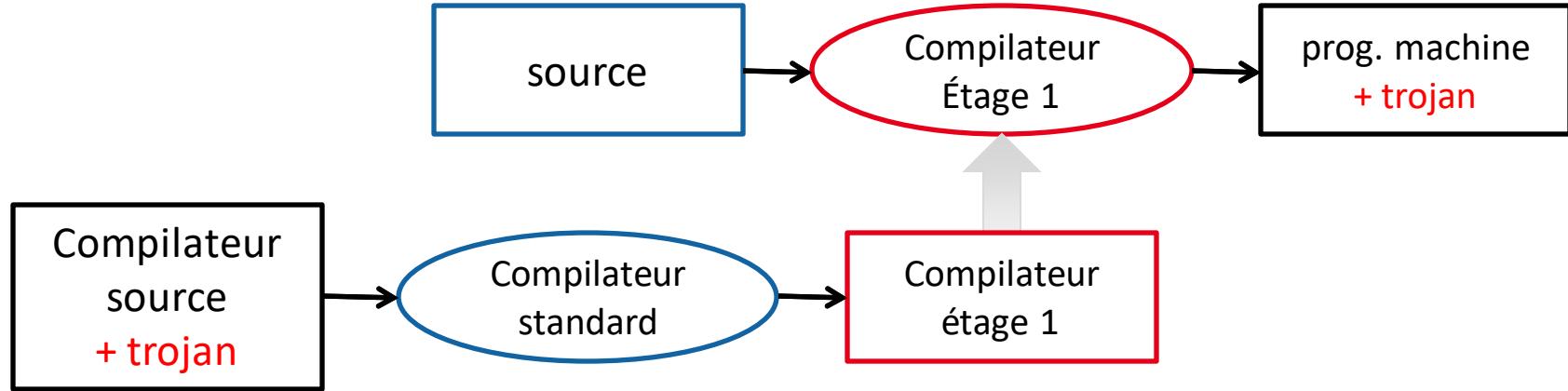
### STAGE I

In college, before video games, we would amuse ourselves by posing programming exercises. One of the favorites was to write the shortest self-reproducing program. Since this is an exercise divorced from reality, the usual vehicle was FORTRAN. Actually, FORTRAN was the language of choice for the same reason that three-legged races are popular.

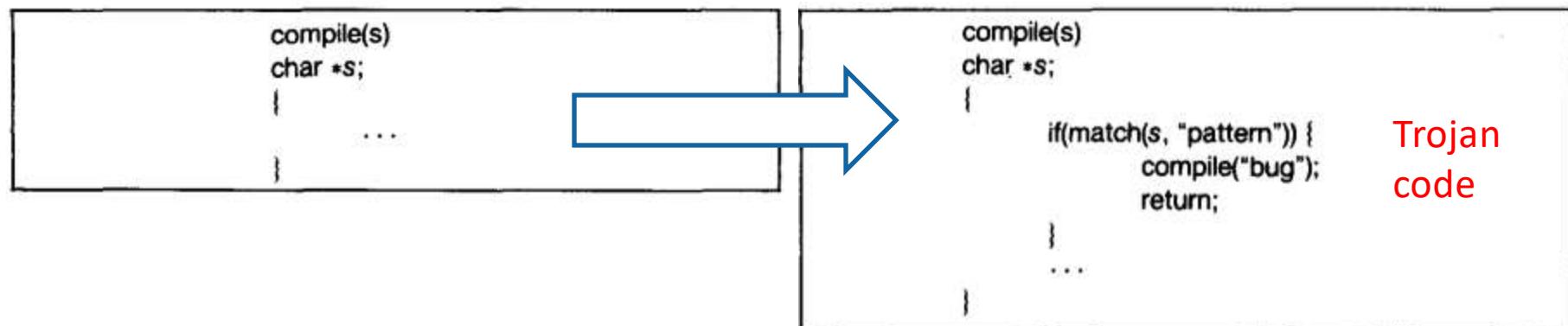
Ken Thompson  
Communications of the ACM  
August 1984,  
vol 28 number 8

Kenneth Lane Thompson is an American pioneer of computer science. Thompson worked at Bell Labs for most of his career where he designed and implemented the original **Unix** operating system. He also invented the **B programming language**, the direct predecessor to the C language, and was one of the creators and early developers of the Plan 9 operating system. Other notable contributions included his work on regular expressions and early computer text editors QED and **ed**, the definition of the UTF-8 encoding, and his work on computer chess that included the creation of endgame tablebases and the chess machine **Belle**. Since 2006, Thompson has worked at Google, where he co-developed the **Go** language.

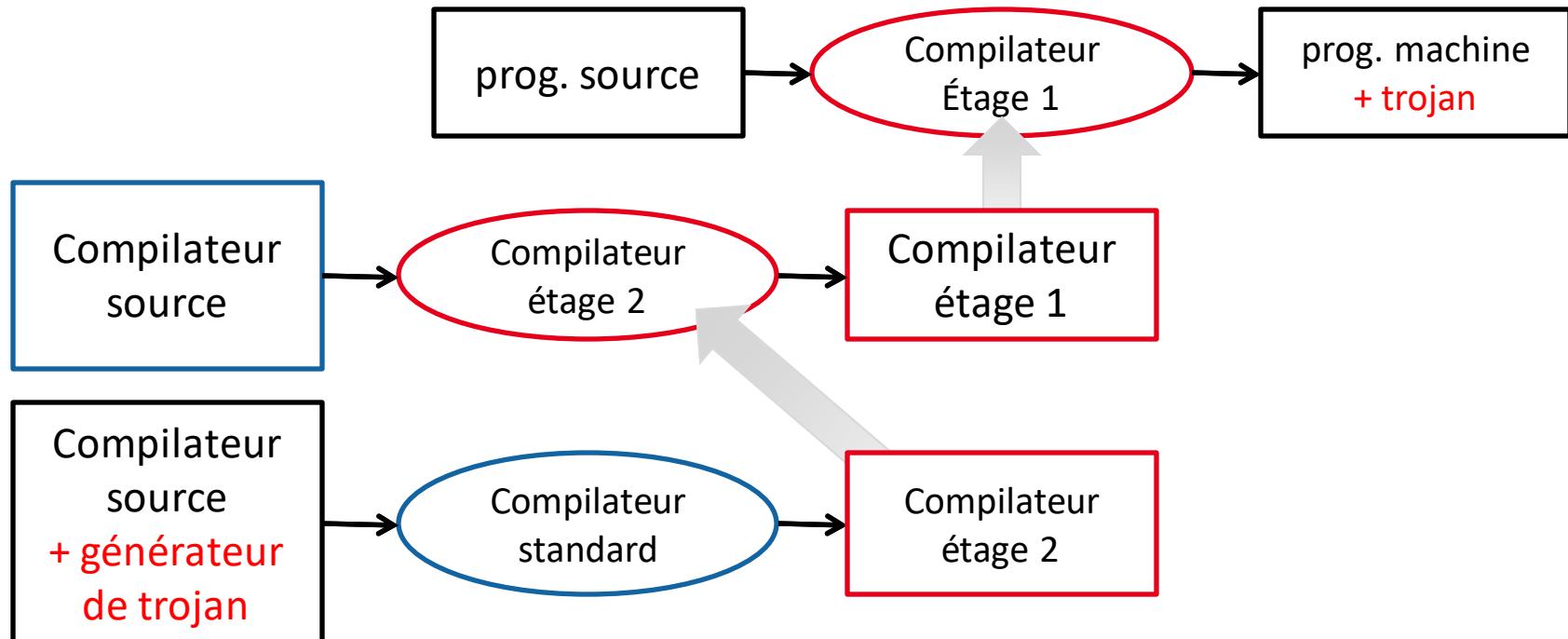
# Reflections on trusting trust. Insertion silencieuse de trojans



## Compilateur étage 1:



# Reflections on trusting trust. Insertion silencieuse de trojans



```
compile(s)
char *s;
{
    if(match(s, "pattern")) {
        compile("bug");
        return;
    }
    ...
}
```

```
compile(s)
char *s;
{
    if(match(s, "pattern1")) {
        compile ("bug1");
        return;
    }
    if(match(s, "pattern 2")) {
        compile ("bug 2");
        return;
    }
    ...
}
```

Trojan code

Trojan code

generator



# A must read

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The moral is obvious. You can't trust code that you did not totally create yourself. (Especially code from companies that employ people like me.) **No amount of source-level verification or scrutiny will protect you from using untrusted code.** In demonstrating the possibility of this kind of attack, I picked on the C compiler. I could have picked on any program-handling program such as an assembler, a loader, or even hardware microcode. **As the level of program gets lower, these bugs will be harder and harder to detect.** A well-installed microcode bug will be almost impossible to detect.



# Another must read

## The Correctness-Security Gap in Compiler Optimization

Vijay D'Silva  
Google Inc.  
San Francisco, CA

Mathias Payer  
Purdue University  
West Lafayette, IN  
mpayer@purdue.edu

Dawn Song  
University of California, Berkeley  
Berkeley, CA  
dawnsong@cs.berkeley.edu

IEEE Security & Privacy Workshops  
2015

**Abstract**—There is a significant body of work devoted to testing, verifying, and certifying the correctness of optimizing compilers. The focus of such work is to determine if source code and optimized code have the same functional semantics. In this paper, we introduce the *correctness-security gap*, which arises when a compiler optimization preserves the functionality of but violates a security guarantee made by source code. We show with concrete code examples that several standard optimizations, which have been formally proved correct, inhabit this correctness-security gap. We analyze this gap and conclude that it arises due to techniques that model the state of the program but not the state of the underlying machine. We propose a broad research programme whose goal is to identify, understand, and mitigate the impact of security errors introduced by compiler optimizations. Our proposal includes research in testing, program analysis, theorem proving, and the development of new, accurate machine models for reasoning about the impact of compiler optimizations on security.

### I. REFLECTIONS ON TRUSTING COMPILERS

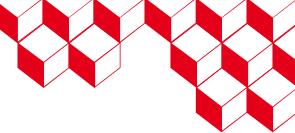
Security critical code is heavily audited and tested, and in some cases, even formally verified. Security concerns have

key from memory before returning to the caller. Scrubbing is performed to avoid the key persisting in memory and eventually being discovered by an attacker or being captured in a memory dump.

```
crypt () {  
    key = 0xC0DE; // read key  
    ... // work with the secure key  
    key = 0x0; // scrub memory  
}
```

The variable `key` is local to `crypt()`. In compiler optimization terminology, the assignment `key = 0x0` is a *dead store* because `key` is not read after that assignment. Dead store elimination will remove this statement in order to improve efficiency by reducing the number of assembler instructions in the compiled code. Dead store elimination is performed by default in GCC if optimization is turned on [20]. This optimization is sound and has been proved formally correct using different techniques [7], [34].

To see why the optimization is problematic, consider a



# Formal verification of a Realistic Compiler

By Xavier Leroy

Communications of the ACM, Vol. 52 No. 7, Pages 107-115

10.1145/1538788.1538814

## Comments

VIEW AS:



SHARE:



This paper reports on the development and formal verification (proof of semantic preservation) of CompCert, a compiler from Clight (a large subset of the C programming language) to PowerPC assembly code, using the Coq proof assistant both for programming the compiler and for proving its correctness. Such a verified compiler is useful in the context of critical software and its formal verification: the verification of the compiler guarantees that the safety properties proved on the source code hold for the executable compiled code as well.

[Back to Top](#)

## 1. Introduction

Can you trust your compiler? Compilers are generally assumed to be semantically transparent: the compiled code should behave as prescribed by the semantics of the source program. Yet, compilers—and especially optimizing compilers—are complex programs that perform complicated symbolic transformations. Despite intensive testing, bugs in compilers do occur, causing the compilers to crash at compile-time or—much worse—to silently generate an incorrect executable for a correct source program.



# Dead Store Elimination

```
#include <string>
using std::string;

#include <memory>

// The specifics of this function are
// not important for demonstrating this bug.
const string getPasswordFromUser() const;

bool isPasswordCorrect() {
    bool isPasswordCorrect = false;
    string Password("password");

    if(Password == getPasswordFromUser()) {
        isPasswordCorrect = true;
    }

    // This line is removed from the optimized code
    // even though it secures the code by wiping
    // the password from memory.
    memset(Password, 0, sizeof(Password));

    return isPasswordCorrect;
}
```

From the GCC mailing list, 2002

[https://gcc.gnu.org/bugzilla/show\\_bug.cgi?id=8537](https://gcc.gnu.org/bugzilla/show_bug.cgi?id=8537)



From: "Joseph D. Wagner" <[wagnerjd@prodigy.net](mailto:wagnerjd@prodigy.net)>  
To: <[fw@gcc.gnu.org](mailto:fw@gcc.gnu.org)>,  
<[gcc-bugs@gcc.gnu.org](mailto:gcc-bugs@gcc.gnu.org)>,  
<[gcc-prs@gcc.gnu.org](mailto:gcc-prs@gcc.gnu.org)>,  
<[nobody@gcc.gnu.org](mailto:nobody@gcc.gnu.org)>,  
<[wagnerjd@prodigy.net](mailto:wagnerjd@prodigy.net)>,  
<[gcc-gnats@gcc.gnu.org](mailto:gcc-gnats@gcc.gnu.org)>  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: optimization/8537: Optimizer Removes Code Necessary for Security  
Date: Sun, 17 Nov 2002 08:59:53 -0600

Direct quote from:

<http://gcc.gnu.org/onlinedocs/gcc-3.2/gcc/Bug-Criteria.html>

"If the compiler produces valid assembly code that does not correctly execute the input source code, that is a compiler bug."

So to all you naysayers out there who claim this is a programming error or poor coding, YES, IT IS A BUG!



# Compiler interference

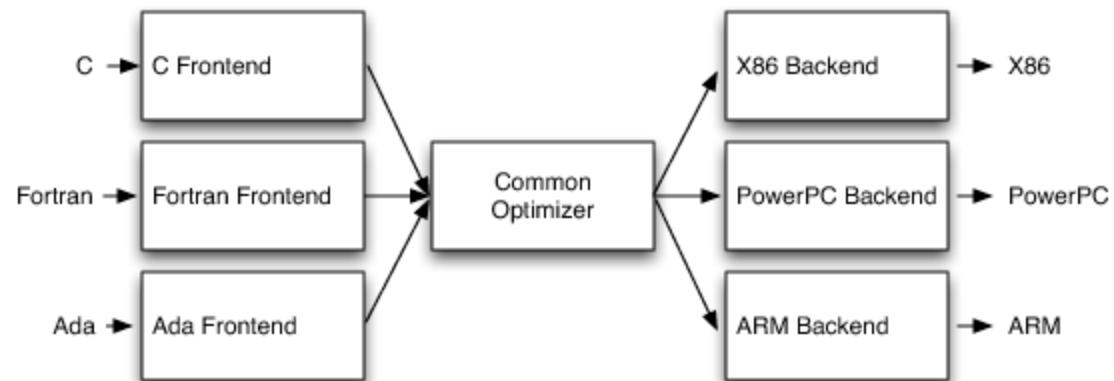
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  - Preserve code functionality,
  - But do not preserve non-functional properties (e.g., execution time, etc.)
- **Several abstraction levels**

# Compiler interference

- **Optimization effects**
  - Preserve code functionality,
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FIGURE 3.1: Components of a three-phase compiler.



# Compiler abstraction levels

- **Optimization effects**
  - Preserve code functionality,
  - But do not preserve non-functional properties (e.g., execution time, etc.)
- **Several abstraction levels**



FIGURE 3.1: Components of a three-phase compiler.

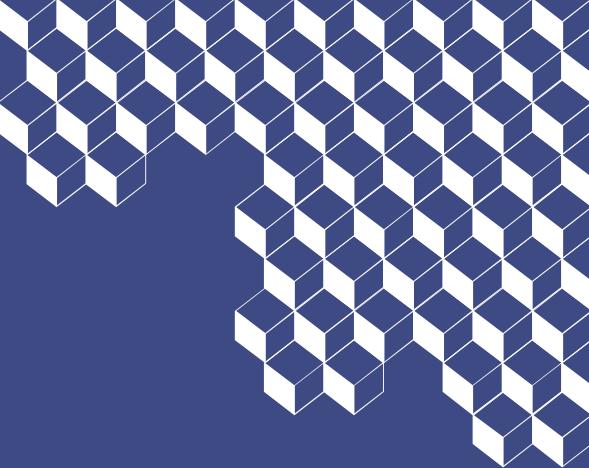
IR → SelectionDAG → MachineDAG → MachineInstr → MCInst



# Compiler abstraction levels

- **Optimization effects**
  - Preserve code functionality,
  - But do not preserve non-functional properties (e.g., execution time, etc.)
- **Several abstraction levels**
- **Structural issues**
  - Some representations miss some information useful for security (but not needed for functionality).
    - E.g. SSA does not describe instruction ordering.

# Takeway



**“ A (standard) compiler only cares  
about functional properties,  
it ~~may~~ will break security features.**

**Do not trust the compiler!**

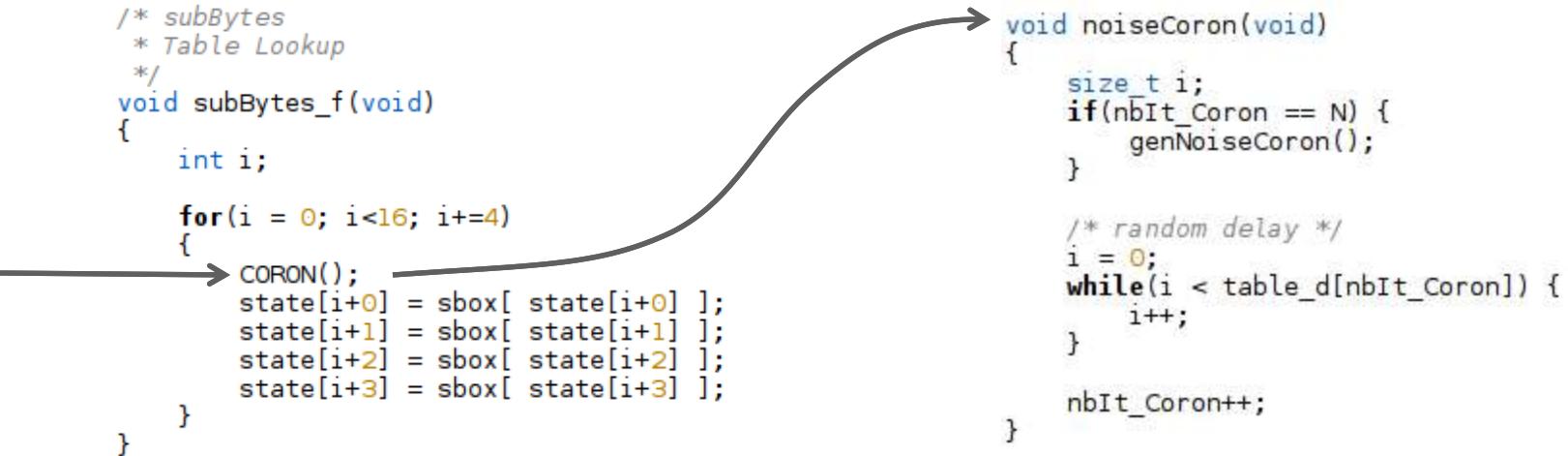


# Compilers and ■ security

Illustrated with simple examples

# Insertion of dummy instructions

- Inserting a static procedure for desynchronisation



```

/* subBytes
* Table Lookup
*/
void subBytes_f(void)
{
    int i;

    for(i = 0; i<16; i+=4)
    {
        CORON();
        state[i+0] = sbox[ state[i+0] ];
        state[i+1] = sbox[ state[i+1] ];
        state[i+2] = sbox[ state[i+2] ];
        state[i+3] = sbox[ state[i+3] ];
    }
}

```

```

void noiseCoron(void)
{
    size_t i;
    if(nbIt_Coron == N) {
        genNoiseCoron();
    }

    /* random delay */
    i = 0;
    while(i < table_d[nbIt_Coron]) {
        i++;
    }

    nbIt_Coron++;
}

```

- Also possible (even better) with a timer and an interrupt handler

Coron, J. S., & Kizhvatov, I. An efficient method for random delay generation in embedded software. In Cryptographic Hardware and Embedded Systems-CHES 2009 (pp. 156-170). Springer (2009).

Coron, J.S., Kizhvatov, I. Analysis and improvement of the random delay countermeasure of CHES 2009. In: CHES. pp. 95–109. Springer (2010).

# Insertion of dummy instructions

```
void noiseCoron(void)
{
    size_t i;
    if(nbIt_Coron == N) {
        genNoiseCoron();
    }

    /* random delay */
    i = 0;
    while(i < table_d[nbIt_Coron]) {
        i++;
    }

    nbIt_Coron++;
}
```

Compiled with -Os:

Dump of assembler code for function noiseCoron:

0x0000859c <+0>:	push	{r4, lr}
0x000085a0 <+4>:	ldr	r4, [pc, #28] ; <noiseCoron+40>
0x000085a4 <+8>:	ldr	r3, [r4] ; r3 ← nbIt_coron
0x000085a8 <+12>:	cmp	r3, #160 ; nbIt_coron ?= N
0x000085ac <+16>:	bne	0x85b4 <noiseCoron+24>
0x000085b0 <+20>:	bl	0x8524 <genNoiseCoron>
0x000085b4 <+24>:	ldr	r3, [r4]
0x000085b8 <+28>:	add	r3, r3, #1 ; nbIt_coron++
0x000085bc <+32>:	str	r3, [r4]
0x000085c0 <+36>:	pop	{r4, pc}
0x000085c4 <+40>:	andeq	r0, r1, r0, lsr r8

End of assembler dump.



# Insertion of dummy instructions

```
void noiseCoron(void)
{
    size_t i;
    if(nbIt_Coron == N) {
        genNoiseCoron();
    }

    /* random delay */
    i = 0;
    while(i < table_d[nbIt_Coron]) {
        i++;
    }

    nbIt_Coron++;
}
```

Compiled with -Os:

Dump of assembler code for function noiseCoron:

0x0000859c <+0>:	push	{r4, lr}
0x000085a0 <+4>:	ldr	r4, [pc, #28] ; <noiseCoron+40>
0x000085a4 <+8>:	ldr	r3, [r4] ; r3 ← nbIt_coron
0x000085a8 <+12>:	cmp	r3, #160 ; nbIt_coron ?= N
0x000085ac <+16>:	bne	0x85b4 <noiseCoron+24>
0x000085b0 <+20>:	bl	0x8524 <genNoiseCoron>
0x000085b4 <+24>:	ldr	r3, [r4]
0x000085b8 <+28>:	add	r3, r3, #1 ; nbIt_coron++
0x000085bc <+32>:	str	r3, [r4]
0x000085c0 <+36>:	pop	{r4, pc}
0x000085c4 <+40>:	andeq	r0, r1, r0, lsr r8

End of assembler dump.

???



# Insertion of dummy instructions

```
void noiseCoron(void)
{
    size_t i;
    if(nbIt_Coron == N) {
        genNoiseCoron();
    }

    /* random delay */
    i = 0;
    while(i < table_d[nbIt_Coron]) {
        i++;
    }
    nbIt_Coron++;
}
```

???

Compiled with -Os:

Dump of assembler code for function noiseCoron:

0x0000859c <+0>:	push	{r4, lr}
0x000085a0 <+4>:	ldr	r4, [pc, #28] ; <noiseCoron+40>
0x000085a4 <+8>:	ldr	r3, [r4] ; r3 ← nbIt_coron
0x000085a8 <+12>:	cmp	r3, #160 ; nbIt_coron ?= N
0x000085ac <+16>:	bne	0x85b4 <noiseCoron+24>
0x000085b0 <+20>:	bl	0x8524 <genNoiseCoron>
0x000085b4 <+24>:	ldr	r3, [r4]
0x000085b8 <+28>:	add	r3, r3, #1 ; nbIt_coron++
0x000085bc <+32>:	str	r3, [r4]
0x000085c0 <+36>:	pop	{r4, pc}
0x000085c4 <+40>:	andeq	r0, r1, r0, lsr r8

End of assembler dump.

???



# Insertion of dummy instructions

```
void noiseCoron(void)
{
    size_t i;
    if(nbIt_Coron == N) {
        genNoiseCoron();
    }

    /* random delay */
    i = 0;
    while(i < table_d[nbIt_Coron]) {
        i++;
        asm("nop");
    }

    nbIt_Coron++;
}
```

Compiled with -Os:

Dump of assembler code for function noiseCoron:

0x0000859c <+0>: push	{r4, lr}
0x000085a0 <+4>: ldr	r4, [pc, #60] ; <noiseCoron+72>
0x000085a4 <+8>: ldr	r3, [r4]
0x000085a8 <+12>: cmp	r3, #160 ; nbIt_coron ?= N
0x000085ac <+16>: bne	0x85b4 <noiseCoron+24>
0x000085b0 <+20>: bl	0x8524 <genNoiseCoron>
0x000085b4 <+24>: ldr	r3, [pc, #44] ; <noiseCoron+76>
0x000085b8 <+28>: ldr	r2, [r4]
0x000085bc <+32>: ldr	r1, [r3, r2, lsl #2]
0x000085c0 <+36>: mov	r3, #0 ; i ← 0
0x000085c4 <+40>: cmp	r3, r1 ; i ?= nbIt_Coron
0x000085c8 <+44>: beq	0x85d8 <noiseCoron+60>
0x000085cc <+48>: add	r3, r3, #1 ; i ← i+1
<b>0x000085d0 &lt;+52&gt;:</b>	<b>nop</b>
0x000085d4 <+56>: b	0x85c4 <noiseCoron+40>
0x000085d8 <+60>: add	r2, r2, #1 ; nbIt_Coron++
0x000085dc <+64>: str	r2, [r4]
0x000085e0 <+68>: pop	{r4, pc}
0x000085e4 <+72>: andeq	r0, r1, r4, asr r8
0x000085e8 <+76>: andeq	r0, r1, r12, asr r8

End of assembler dump.



# Insertion of dummy instructions

```
void noiseCoron(void)
{
    size_t i;
    if(nbIt_Coron == N) {
        genNoiseCoron();
    }

    /* random delay */
    i = 0;
    while(i < table_d[nbIt_Coron]) {
        i++;
        asm("");
    }

    nbIt_Coron++;
}
```

Compiled with -Os:

Dump of assembler code for function noiseCoron:

```

0x0000859c <+0>: push    {r4, lr}
0x000085a0 <+4>: ldr     r4, [pc, #56] ; <noiseCoron+68>
0x000085a4 <+8>: ldr     r3, [r4]
0x000085a8 <+12>: cmp    r3, #160 ; 0xa0
0x000085ac <+16>: bne    0x85b4 <noiseCoron+24>
0x000085b0 <+20>: bl    0x8524 <genNoiseCoron>
0x000085b4 <+24>: ldr    r3, [pc, #40] ; <noiseCoron+72>
0x000085b8 <+28>: ldr    r2, [r4]
0x000085bc <+32>: ldr    r1, [r3, r2, lsl #2]

0x000085c0 <+36>: mov    r3, #0
0x000085c4 <+40>: cmp    r3, r1
0x000085c8 <+44>: beq    0x85d4 <noiseCoron+56>
0x000085cc <+48>: add    r3, r3, #1
0x000085d0 <+52>: b     0x85c4 <noiseCoron+40>

0x000085d4 <+56>: add    r2, r2, #1
0x000085d8 <+60>: str    r2, [r4]
0x000085dc <+64>: pop    {r4, pc}
0x000085e0 <+68>: andeq  r0, r1, r0, asr r8
0x000085e4 <+72>: andeq  r0, r1, r8, asr r8

```

End of assembler dump.



# Random precharging

Protection against power analysis in a Hamming Distance model

- Example: Leakage on value  $v$  is charged in memory or in a register:

```
#1 insn_k
mem <- v
```

```
#2 insn_k
reg <- v
```

**Leakage:  $\text{HD}(v, k)$**

- Random precharging: the variable assignment is preceded by an assignment using a **mask  $m$** , unknown to the attacker:

```
#1 insn_k
mem <- m
mem <- v
```

```
#2 insn_k
reg <- m
reg <- v
```

**Leakage:**  
 $\text{HD}(v, m) = \text{HW}(v+m)$

```
#define SBOX_SIZE 256
uint8_t sbox[SBOX_SIZE];

#define STATE_SIZE 16
uint8_t state[STATE_SIZE];

/* subBytes, table Lookup */
void subBytes(void)
{
    size_t i;
    for(i = 0; i < SBOX_SIZE; i++) {
        state[i] = sbox[state[i]];
    }
}
```

Compiled with -Os:

```
0x0000 <+0>: mov r3, #0
0x0004 <+4>: ldr r2, [pc, #28] ; 0x28 <subBytes+40>
0x0008 <+8>: ldr r0, [pc, #28] ; 0x2c <subBytes+44>
0x000c <+12>: ldrb r1, [r3, r2]
0x0010 <+16>: ldrb r1, [r0, r1]
0x0014 <+20>: strb r1, [r3, r2] ; leaky instruction
0x0018 <+24>: add r3, r3, #1
0x001c <+28>: cmp r3, #16
0x0020 <+32>: bne 0xc <subBytes+12>
0x0024 <+36>: bx lr
0x0028 <+40>: andeq r0, r0, r0
0x002c <+44>: andeq r0, r0, r0
```



# Random precharging

```
#define SBOX_SIZE 256
uint8_t sbox[SBOX_SIZE];

#define STATE_SIZE 16
uint8_t volatile state[STATE_SIZE];

/* subBytes, table Lookup */
void subBytes(void)
{
    size_t i;
    uint8_t mask, tmp_state;

    for(i = 0; i < SBOX_SIZE; i++) {
        tmp_state = state[i];
        mask = rand() & 0xFF;

        state[i] = mask;
        state[i] = sbox[tmp_state];
    }
}
```

Compiled with -Os:

```
0x0000 <+0>: push {r4, r5, r6, r7, r8, lr}
0x0004 <+4>: mov r4, #0
0x0008 <+8>: ldr r5, [pc, #48] ; <subBytes+64>
0x000c <+12>: ldr r7, [pc, #48] ; <subBytes+68>
0x0010 <+16>: ldrb r6, [r5, r4]
0x0014 <+20>: bl <rand>
0x0018 <+24>: and r6, r6, #255 ; 0xff
0x001c <+28>: ldrb r3, [r7, r6]
0x0020 <+32>: and r0, r0, #15
0x0024 <+36>: strb r0, [r5, r4]
0x0028 <+40>: strb r3, [r5, r4]
0x002c <+44>: add r4, r4, #1
0x0030 <+48>: cmp r4, #16
0x0034 <+52>: bne 0x10 <subBytes+16>
0x0038 <+56>: pop {r4, r5, r6, r7, r8, lr}
0x003c <+60>: bx lr
0x0040 <+64>: andeq r0, r0, r0
0x0044 <+68>: andeq r0, r0, r0
```



# Random precharging

```

#define SBOX_SIZE 256
uint8_t sbox[SBOX_SIZE];

#define STATE_SIZE 16
uint8_t volatile state[STATE_SIZE];

void subBytes(void)
{
    size_t i;
    uint8_t mask, tmp_state;

    for(i = 0; i < SBOX_SIZE; i++) {
        tmp_state = state[i];
        mask = rand() & 0x000F;

        state[i] = mask;
        state[i] = sbox[tmp_state];
    }
}

```

Compiled with **-O1**:

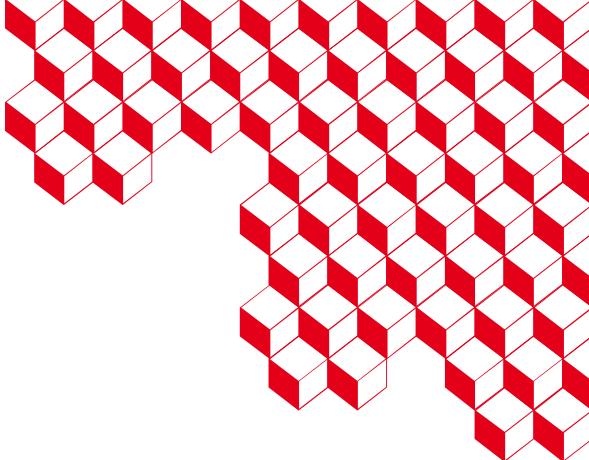
```

0x0000 <+0>: push {r4, r5, r6, r7, r8, lr}
0x0004 <+4>: mov r4, #0
0x0008 <+8>: ldr r6, [pc, #48] ; <subBytes+64>
0x000c <+12>: ldr r7, [pc, #48] ; <subBytes+68>
0x0010 <+16>: ldrb r5, [r6, r4]
0x0014 <+20>: and r5, r5, #255 ; 0xff
0x0018 <+24>: bl <rand>
0x001c <+28>: and r0, r0, #15
0x0020 <+32>: strb r0, [r6, r4]
0x0024 <+36>: ldrb r3, [r7, r5]
0x0028 <+40>: strb r3, [r6, r4]
0x002c <+44>: add r4, r4, #1
0x0030 <+48>: cmp r4, #16
0x0034 <+52>: bne 0x10 <subBytes+16>
0x0038 <+56>: pop {r4, r5, r6, r7, r8, lr}
0x003c <+60>: bx lr
0x0040 <+64>: andeq r0, r0, r0
0x0044 <+68>: andeq r0, r0, r0

```

Instruction reordering  
introduces leakage





Huh??

“

So...

Let's avoid compiler  
optimisations!



# Compiling with -O0

- All program variables are moved onto the stack before anything else
- Register spilling (> -O0): the register value is moved to the stack  
=> Information leakage!
- Bigger code size -> larger attack surface  
=> More potential vulnerabilities

Dump of assembler code for function subBytes:

```
0x84e4 <+0>: push {r11} ; (str r11, [sp, #-4]!)  
0x84e8 <+4>: add r11, sp, #0  
0x84ec <+8>: sub sp, sp, #12  
0x84f0 <+12>: mov r3, #0  
0x84f4 <+16>: str r3, [r11, #-8]  
0x84f8 <+20>: b 0x8530 <subBytes+76>  
0x84fc <+24>: ldr r2, [pc, #68] ; <subBytes+100>  
0x8500 <+28>: ldr r3, [r11, #-8]  
0x8504 <+32>: add r3, r2, r3  
0x8508 <+36>: ldrb r3, [r3]  
0x850c <+40>: ldr r2, [pc, #56] ; <subBytes+104>  
0x8510 <+44>: ldrb r2, [r2, r3]  
0x8514 <+48>: ldr r1, [pc, #44] ; <subBytes+100>  
0x8518 <+52>: ldr r3, [r11, #-8]  
0x851c <+56>: add r3, r1, r3  
0x8520 <+60>: strb r2, [r3]  
0x8524 <+64>: ldr r3, [r11, #-8]  
0x8528 <+68>: add r3, r3, #1  
0x852c <+72>: str r3, [r11, #-8]  
0x8530 <+76>: ldr r3, [r11, #-8]  
0x8534 <+80>: cmp r3, #15  
0x8538 <+84>: bls 0x84fc <subBytes+24>  
0x853c <+88>: sub sp, r11, #0  
0x8540 <+92>: pop {r11} ; (ldr r11, [sp], #4)  
0x8544 <+96>: bx lr
```



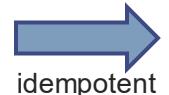
# Securing ■ compilation

# Compilation of a Countermeasure Against Instruction-Skip Faults

Fault model: **instruction skips** [Moro et al., 2014]

Can be protected by the **duplication of idempotent instructions** [Moro et al., 2014]

`cmp r0, #1`



`cmp r0, #1`  
`cmp r0, #1`

`add r1, r1, r2`



`mv rnew, r1`  
`mv rnew, r1`  
`add r1, rnew, r2`  
`add r1, rnew, r2`

`push {r4, r7, lr}`  
`add r7, sp, #4`  
`...`  
  
`bl byte_compare`  
~~`cmp r0, #1`~~ `nop`  
`bne .BB2`  
`b .BB1`

# Compilation of a Countermeasure Against Instruction-Skip Faults

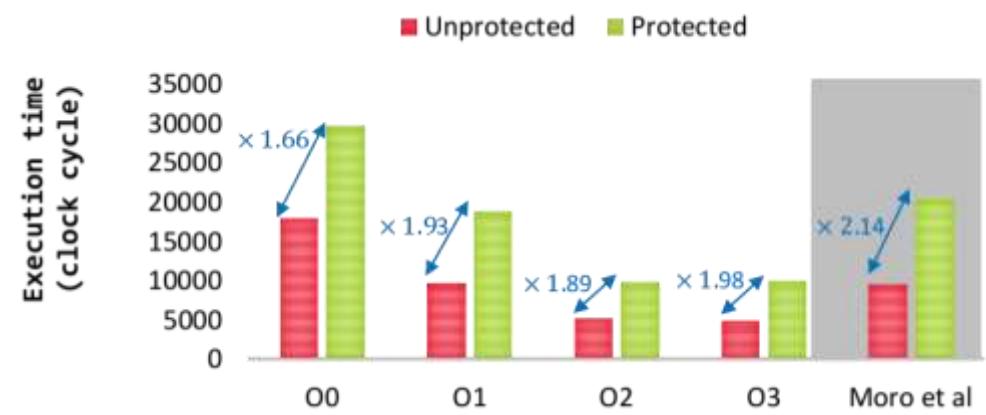
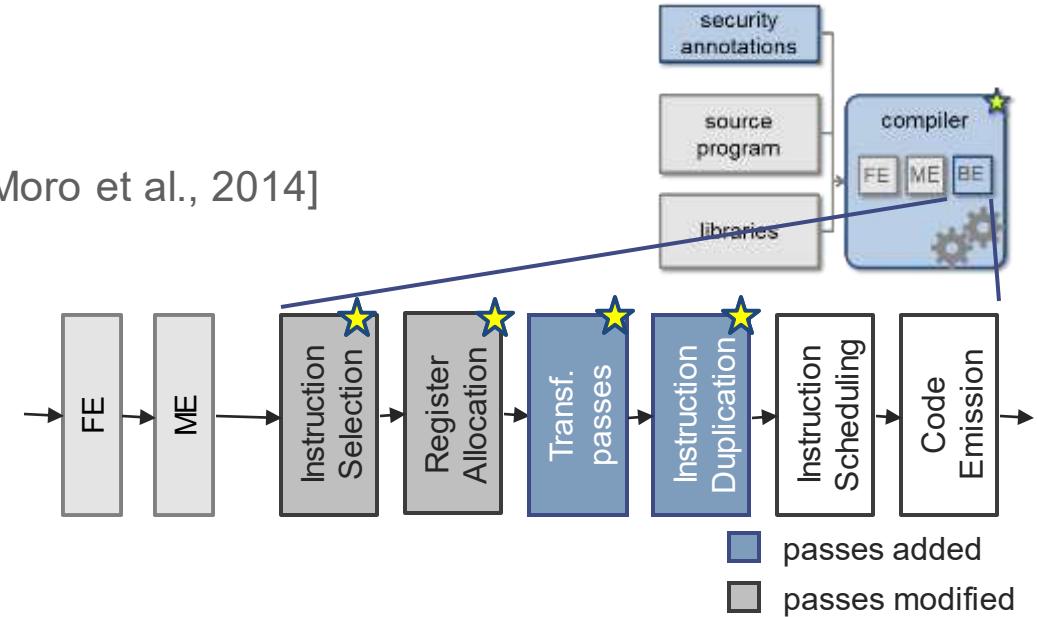


Fault model: **instruction skips** [Moro et al., 2014]

Can be protected by the **duplication of idempotent instructions** [Moro et al., 2014]

add r1, r2, r3  idempotent add r1, r2, r3  
add r1, r2, r3

ldr r3, [r1, #4]		ldr r3, [r1, #4]
ldr r3, [r1, #4]		add r0, r1, r2
add r0, r1, r2		ldr r3, [r1, #4]
add r0, r1, r2	<b>instruction scheduling</b>	add r0, r1, r2
<b>(6 cycles)</b>		<b>(5-6 cycles)</b>



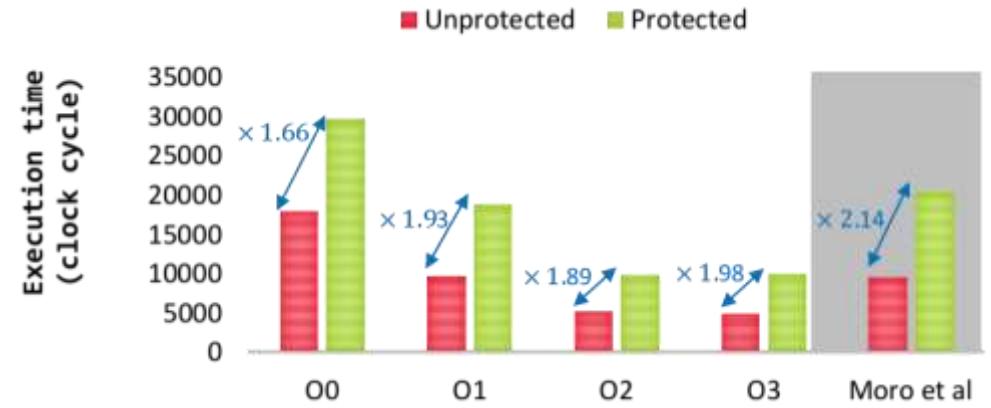
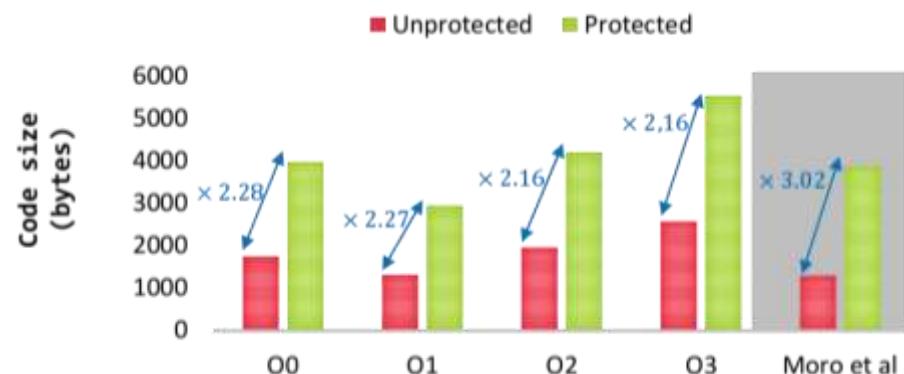
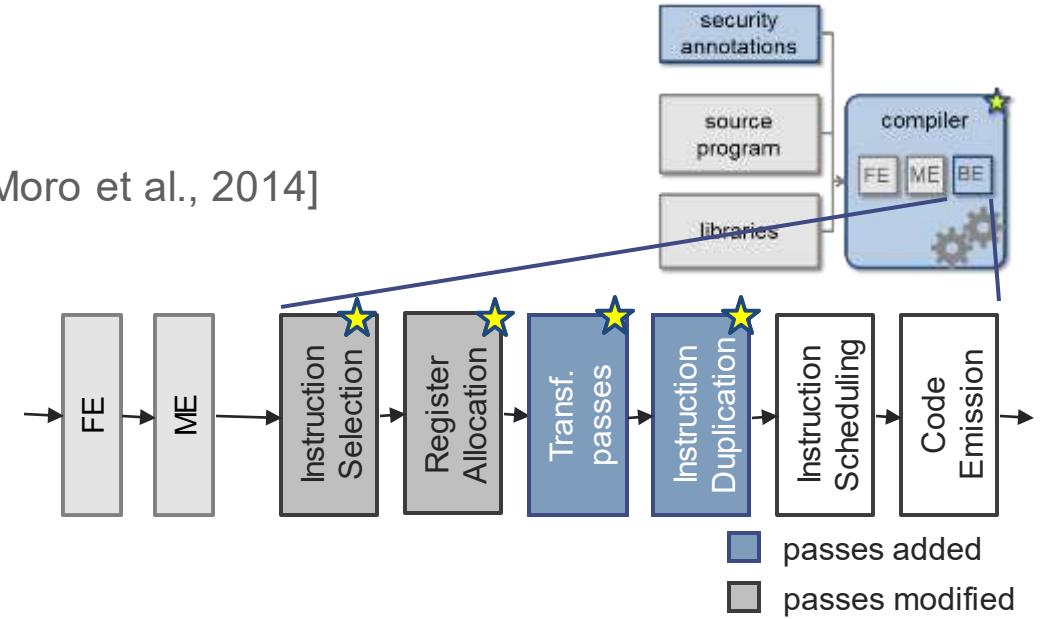


# Compilation of a Countermeasure Against Instruction-Skip Faults

Fault model: **instruction skips** [Moro et al., 2014]

Can be protected by the **duplication of idempotent instructions** [Moro et al., 2014]

`cmp r0, #1`           `cmp r0, #1`  
           `cmp r0, #1`  
  
`add r1, r2, r3`           `add r1, r2, r3`  
           `add r1, r2, r3`



# Compilation of a Countermeasure Against Instruction-Skip Faults

Experimental results:

- Reduced overhead wrt. original implementation (execution time, code size)
- Generalisation of the protection scheme, supported by compilation parameters:
  - **M**: Nb of faults
  - **size**: Fault width
  - **Target functions**
- Fine-grained countermeasure application, to selected functions, reduces the execution overhead below  $\times 1.23$  and size overheads below  $\times 1.12$  [Barry, 2017]
- Formally verified by RobustB / LIP6 (IDROMEL project) [Belleville, 2021]

**But not effective in practice!**

- Experimental evaluation on a **laser bench**
- The target platform (STM32) is **intrinsically vulnerable** to laser FI
- Thin fault coverage:
  - protects instructions only against skip, but not against byte corruption (hypothetical fault model);
  - no data protection
- Software countermeasures, since not effective, increase the attack surface and often lead to easier exploitation of fault injection.

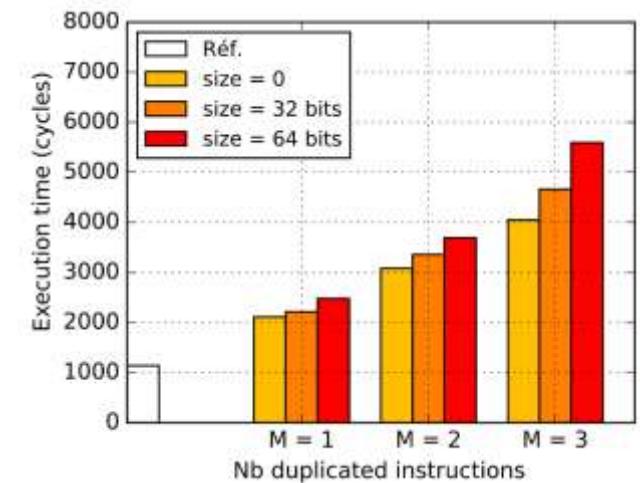
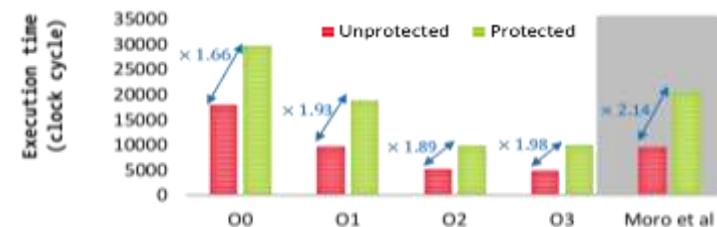
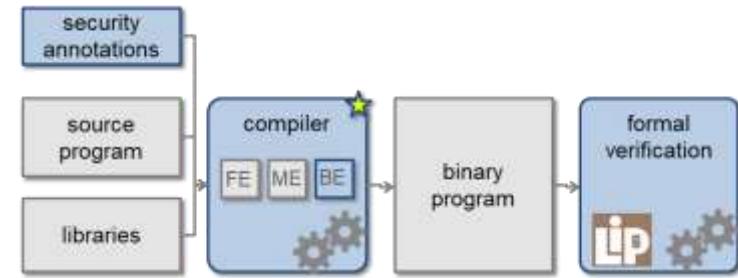
[Moro, 2014] Formal verification of a software countermeasure against instruction skip attacks. doiXXX

[Barry, 2016] Compilation of a Countermeasure Against Instruction-Skip Fault Attacks. doiXXX

[Barry, 2017] XXX

Exemple déposé de page (A modifier dans l'onglet "Insertion"/"En-tête/Pied"

[Belleville, 2021] XXX





# Foot-Shooting Prevention Agreement

I,                   , promise that once  
Your Name

I see how simple AES really is, I will  
not implement it in production code  
even though it would be really fun.

This agreement shall be in effect  
until the undersigned creates a  
meaningful interpretive dance that  
compares and contrasts cache-based,  
timing, and other side channel attacks  
and their countermeasures.

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date