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# Efficient Attacks on Robust Ring Oscillator PUF with Enhanced Challenge-Response Set

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## Outline



- 2 Classic RO-PUF Design
- Enhanced RO-PUF Design
  - Proposed Attacks on Enhanced RO-PUF
- 5 Experimental Results



### PUF Introduction

- 2 Classic RO-PUF Design
- 3 Enhanced RO-PUF Design
- 4 Proposed Attacks on Enhanced RO-PUF
- 5 Experimental Results
- 6 Conclusion

#### What is PUF

- Physically Unclonable Functions (PUF) is a physical embedded entity in hardware device.
- PUF performs a Challenge and Response behavior: for a given challenge **C**, a random response **R** is generated.
- Challenge and Response Behavior of a given PUF can not be physically cloned and it is unique, i.e., different PUF instances have different Challenge-Response Behaviors.



## Application of PUF

- Since PUF is a device and can not be cloned, it can be used as a secret in secure system which is assumed to be secure against physical attacks. The secure systems based on stored secrets in Non Volatile Memory (NVM) do not provide this property.
- PUF is used for IP protection because of its uniqueness.
- PUF can be used for key generation, etc.

## Security Aspects of PUF

- **Unclonability:** Challenge-Response Behavior of a PUF can not be cloned mathematically and physically.
- **Unpredictability:** Generation of the response **r** for a given challenge **c** should be randomly and unpredictable.
- **Reliability:** Reproduction of response for any challenge **c** should be highly reliable
  - In practice, the reliability of reproduction is always less than 100%
  - Error Correction Circuit (ECC) is used to achieve the high reliability property
  - In ECC, to achieve this goal, the concept helper data W

#### 1 PUF Introduction



- 3 Enhanced RO-PUF Design
- 4 Proposed Attacks on Enhanced RO-PUF
- 5 Experimental Results
- 6 Conclusion

## **Design Description**

- RO-PUF<sup>1</sup> is constructed based on  $2 \times 2^m$  Ring Oscillators (RO).
- Response *r* (1-bit) generated by comparing frequencies of a pair of ROs based on challenge c = (c<sub>1</sub>, · · · , c<sub>m</sub>), c<sub>i</sub> ∈ {0, 1}.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>G. E. Suh and S. Devadas, "Physical unclonable functions for device authentication and secret key generation," in *Design Automation Conference*. New York, NY, USA: ACM Press, 2007, pp. 9–14

#### Shortcomings

- Large hardware overhead: 2 × 2<sup>m</sup> ROs are required for RO-PUF with *m*-bit challenge.
- Poor reliability property: RO is very sensitive to the environmental variations.



#### PUF Introduction



#### Enhanced RO-PUF Design

#### Proposed Attacks on Enhanced RO-PUF

#### 5 Experimental Results

#### 6 Conclusion

### **Advantages**

Enhanced RO-PUF<sup>1</sup> has the following advantages:

- Small hardware overhead: m ROs are required for RO-PUF with m-bit challenge. This improvement is made based on subset selection concept. A subset of frequencies is chosen instead of a pair of frequencies for a given challenge c.
- High reliability property: ECC-based helper data W is introduced to correct the output of the enhanced RO-PUF.
- It is shown that it is a secure PUF

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>I</sup>A. Maiti, I. Kim, and P. Schaumont, "A Robust Physical Unclonable Function With Enhanced Challenge-Response Set," *IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics and Security*, vol. 7, no. 1, pp. 333 –345, feb. 2012

#### **Notations**

- Set of ROs: m ROs  $RO_1, \ldots, RO_m$  which have frequencies  $f_1, \ldots, f_m$ , respectively.
- **2** *m*-bit challenge:  $\mathbf{c} = (c_1, \ldots, c_m)$ .
- 1-bit response: r.
- Security parameters: e, q
- Some state is a real number.
- Quantification value: Q which is a real number. In the original RO-PUF design, quantification function is the comparision function.



## Computation of Response r

## Computation of Helper Data W



## Response Correction Based on W

$$\mathbf{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_m) \qquad Q = \sum_{u=1}^{t-1} \sum_{v=u+1}^t |i_u - i_v| |f_{i_u} - f_{i_v}|^e$$

$$\downarrow (1)$$

$$c_{i_1} = \dots = c_{i_t} = 1 \xrightarrow{(2)} f_{i_1}, \dots, f_{i_t} \xrightarrow{(3)} Q \text{ and } W \xrightarrow{(4)} r$$



## Example: Computation of *Q*, *r*



## Example: Computation of W

## Example: Response Correction Based on W

$$\mathbf{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_m) \qquad Q = \sum_{u=1}^{t-1} \sum_{v=u+1}^t |i_u - i_v| |f_{i_u} - f_{i_v}|^e$$

$$\downarrow (1)$$

$$c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 1 \qquad \xrightarrow{(2)} \qquad f_1, f_2, f_3 \qquad \xrightarrow{(3)} Q_{noisy} \text{ and } W \xrightarrow{(4)} r$$

 $Q_{noisy} + W = 10.6 + 0.7 = 11.3$ , where  $Q_{noisy} = 10.6$  (4) Thus r = 0 and r = reference r = 0

$$\begin{vmatrix} r = 1 & r = 0 & r = 1 & \dots & reference r = 0 \\ 0 & & & & \\ q = 1 & & & 2 & 3 \\ \hline \end{matrix}$$

## **Full Examples**

Table : Example of Enrollment and Evaluation Phase Computations (q = 1 and  $Q_{noisy} = Q' = Q$ )

r <sub>ref</sub>	0	0	1	1
Q	8.3	8.7	9.3	9.7
ĥ	4	5	4	5
W	-0.8	0.8	-0.8	0.8
Q' + W	7.5	9.5	8.5	10.5
r	0	0	1	1

#### D PUF Introduction

- 2 Classic RO-PUF Design
- 3 Enhanced RO-PUF Design



#### Proposed Attacks on Enhanced RO-PUF

5) Experimental Results

#### 6 Conclusion

## Security Notion of Enhanced RO-PUF

#### Definition

**[security notion]** Let *P* denote a PUF instance with *m*-bit challenge and 1-bit response. A PUF *P* is considered to be secure if and only if there is no algorithm which can predict, for a given challenge **c**, the corresponding response *r*, under the following condition: the accuracy of the prediction is greater than  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

## Observation [1/2]

Table : Relationship between Q, n,  $\delta$  and W where  $Q = n + \delta$ 

Q	8.3	8.7	9.3	9.7
n	8	8	9	9
$\delta$	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.7
W	-0.8	0.8	-0.8	0.8
$\delta$	0.5 + (-0.8)	$1-\left 0.8-0.5\right $	0.5 + (-0.8)	$1-\left 0.8-0.5\right $

We define  $Q = n + \delta$  where  $0 < \delta < 1$  and  $n = \lfloor Q \rfloor$ . We have the following observation

#### Observation

- The parity of n and reference r: if reference r = 0, then n is even, otherwise n is odd
- **2** Computing  $\delta$  based on *W*: if *W* < 0, then  $\delta = |0.5 + W|$ , otherwise d = 1 |W 0.5|

# Observation [2/2]

$$\mathbf{c}_{i_{u}i_{v}} = (c_{1}, \dots, c_{m})$$

$$\downarrow (1)$$

$$c_{i_{u}} = c_{i_{v}} = 1 \xrightarrow{(2)} f_{i_{u}}, f_{i_{v}} \xrightarrow{(3)} Q_{i_{u}i_{u}} \xrightarrow{r_{i_{u}i_{v}}} W_{i_{u}i_{v}}$$
(4)
$$\downarrow W_{i_{u}i_{v}}$$
(5)

$$\mathbf{c} \to Q = \sum_{u=1}^{t-1} \sum_{v=u+1}^{t} \frac{Q_{i_u i_v}}{Q_{i_u i_v}}, \text{ where } Q_{i_u i_v} \leftarrow \mathbf{c}_{i_u i_v}$$

Linear relationship between challenge **c** and challenges 
$$\mathbf{c}_{i_u i_v}$$
  
challenge  $\mathbf{c} = (1, 1, 1, 0, 0, ..., 0)$ , i.e.,  $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 1$   
challenge  $\mathbf{c}_{12}, \mathbf{c}_{13}, \mathbf{c}_{23}, Q_{12}, Q_{13}, Q_{23}$  and  $Q = Q_{123} = Q_{12} + Q_{13} + Q_{23}$   
 $Q = n + \delta, Q_{12} = n_{12} + \delta_{12}, Q_{13} = n_{13} + \delta_{13}$  and  $Q_{23} = n_{23} + \delta_{23}$   
 $n + \delta = (n_{12} + \delta_{12}) + (n_{13} + \delta_{13}) + (n_{23} + \delta_{23})$   
 $n + \delta = (n_{12} + n_{13} + n_{23}) + (\delta_{12} + \delta_{13} + \delta_{23})$ 

#### Attack 1: With Helper data W

 $(\mathbf{c}, r)$  is associated with  $(Q, W, n, \delta)$  where  $Q = n + \delta$ 

The Observation tells us:

1. If r = 0, then n is even. Otherwise n is odd

2. If W < 0, then  $\delta = |0.5 + W|$ . Otherwise  $\delta = 1 - |W - 0, 5|$ .

We define the parity function p(n) = 0 if n is even and p(n) = 1 if n is odd

Without loss of generality, we predict response r of  $\mathbf{c} = (1, 1, 1, 0, ..., 0)$ 

$$Q = Q_{12} + Q_{13} + Q_{23} = (n_{12} + n_{13} + n_{23}) + (\delta_{12} + \delta_{13} + \delta_{23})$$

The adversary collects:  $(\mathbf{c}_{12}, r_{12}, W_{12}), (\mathbf{c}_{13}, r_{13}, W_{13})$  and  $(\mathbf{c}_{23}, r_{23}, W_{23})$ The adversary knows:  $(p_{12}, W_{12}), (p_{13}, W_{13})$  and  $(p_{23}, W_{23})$ The adversary knows:  $(p_{12}, \delta_{12}), (p_{13}, \delta_{13})$  and  $(p_{23}, \delta_{23})$ The adversary computes:  $\Sigma = \delta_{12} + \delta_{13} + \delta_{23}$  and then The adversary computes:  $p(\Sigma)$  and  $\delta_{\Sigma}$ The adversary computes:  $p(n) = (p_{12} + p_{13} + p_{23} + p(\Sigma))\%2$ Based on the observation, the adversary predicts r = 0 if p(n) = 0. Otherwise r = 1

#### Attack 2: Without Helper data W [1/2]

 $(\mathbf{c},r)$  is associated with  $(Q, {\bf W}, n, \delta)$  where  $Q=n+\delta$ 

The Observation tells us:

1. If r = 0, then n is even. Otherwise n is odd

2. If W < 0, then  $\delta = |0.5 + W|$ . Otherwise  $\delta = 1 - |W - 0.5|$ .

We define p(n) = 0 if n is even and p(n) = 1 if n is odd

Without loss of generality, we predict response r of  $\mathbf{c} = (1, 1, 1, 0, ..., 0)$  $Q = Q_{12} + Q_{13} + Q_{23} = (n_{12} + n_{13} + n_{23}) + (\delta_{12} + \delta_{13} + \delta_{23})$ 

The adversary collects:  $(\mathbf{c}_{12}, r_{12}, \mathbf{W}_{12}), (\mathbf{c}_{13}, r_{13}, \mathbf{W}_{13})$  and  $(\mathbf{c}_{23}, r_{23}, \mathbf{W}_{23})$ The adversary knows:  $(p_{12}, \mathbf{W}_{12}), (p_{13}, \mathbf{W}_{13})$  and  $(p_{23}, \mathbf{W}_{23})$ The adversary knows:  $(p_{12}, \delta_{12}), (p_{13}, \delta_{13})$  and  $(p_{23}, \delta_{23})$ The adversary computes:  $\Sigma = \delta_{12} + \delta_{13} + \delta_{23}$  and then The adversary computes:  $p(\Sigma)$  and  $\delta_{\Sigma}$ 

The adversary computes:  $p(n) = (p_{12} + p_{13} + p_{23} + p(\Sigma))\%2$ 

The adversary CAN NOT predict r

PHUONG HA NGUYEN

#### Attack 2: Without Helper data W [2/2]

 $(\mathbf{c}, r)$  is associated with  $(Q, \mathbf{W}, n, \delta)$  where  $Q = n + \delta$ 

The Observation tells us:

1. If r = 0, then n is even. Otherwise n is odd

2. If W < 0, then  $\delta = |0.5 + W|$ . Otherwise  $\delta = 1 - |W - 0.5|$ .

We define p(n) = 0 if n is even and p(n) = 1 if n is odd

Without loss of generality, we predict response r of  $\mathbf{c} = (1, 1, 1, 0, ..., 0)$ 

$$Q = Q_{12} + Q_{13} + Q_{23} = (n_{12} + n_{13} + n_{23}) + (\delta_{12} + \delta_{13} + \delta_{23})$$

The adversary focuses on :  $\Sigma = \delta_{12} + \delta_{13} + \delta_{23}$  where  $0 < \delta_{12}, \delta_{13}, \delta_{23} < 1$ 



The adversary computes:  $Pr(p(\Sigma) = 0) = \frac{2}{3}$  and  $Pr(p(\Sigma) = 1) = \frac{1}{3}$ 

The adversary computes:  $p(n) = (p_{12} + p_{13} + p_{23} + p(\Sigma))/2$ 

The adversary CAN predict r with prediction accuracy = 2/3 > 1/2

## **Experimental Results**

#### • Ring oscillator dataset:

[Online] http://rijndael.ece.vt.edu/puf/download.html

Table : Theoretical bias vs. Average Observed bias

t	Theoretical Bias (%)	Average Observed Bias(%)
3	(2/3)*100 = 66.66	66.99
4	(2/4)*100 = 50.00	50.05
5	(3/5)*100 = 60.00	56.77
6	(7/13)*100 = 53.84	50.18

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## Conclusion

# • Security of the Enhanced RO-PUF is **NOt** guaranteed.

- With helper data *W*: the adversary can predict the response *r* for a given challenge **c** with very high prediction accuracy.
- Without helper data *W*: the adversary can still develop a cryptanalytic algorithm to predict the response *r* for a given challenge **c** with prediction accuracy > 0.5.

#### • Our future work:

- Improve the efficiency of the attack without helper data *W*.
- Improve the security of Enhanced RO-PUF by modifying the original design.

# Thank You for Your Attention Any Question, Please ?