

# Optimal Model Search for Hardware Trojan based Bit-level Fault Attacks on Block Ciphers

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## Appendix A Details of the application to DES

We propose three metrics when the fault is injected to the  $q$ -th round:  $\eta_q$ , the average number of faulty ciphertext bytes (or nibbles) in the last round,  $D_q$ , the depth of the fault, and  $\theta_q = \frac{\eta_q}{D_q}$  which denotes the speed of the fault propagation in the last  $D_q$  rounds). To verify the generic feature of the proposed metrics, we also apply them to search the optimal fault model for hardware trojan horse based bit-level fault attack (HTH-BLFA) on the DES block cipher with a Feistel structure.

DES uses a 56-bit key (usually represented on 64 bits including 8 parity check bits) and it operates on 64-bit blocks. It has 16 iterative rounds. There is also an initial and final permutation, termed as IP and FP respectively. Before the main rounds, the block is divided into two 32-bit halves and processed alternately. In each DES round, the 32-bit right block is expanded to 48 output bits by duplicating 16 of them. The round key is then introduced by bitwise addition afterward the block is split into eight 6-bit blocks, each entering into a different S-box producing a 4-bit output. Finally, the 32 bits from the eight S-box outputs are permuted through a bit-permutation which yields the 32-bit output block.

Since DES applies many bit-based permutations, as did in [1], we apply the HTH to flip  $X_{q,j}$ , the  $j$ -th bit of the left half block at the end of the  $q$ -th DES round ( $(0 \leq j \leq 31), 1 \leq q \leq 16$ ).

**Determine the optimal round index  $I_o$ .** For each  $q$  we randomly choose the value of  $j$  for 100,000 times with different plaintexts and calculate  $A_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 16$ ), the average number of faulty nibbles in each round. The results are shown in Fig.A1(a). When  $14 \leq q \leq 16$ , only very few S-boxes in  $R_{16}$  are faulty. When  $q \geq 10$ , the values of  $A_i$  in the last two or three rounds are all close to 8, which means that the time complexity and the memory complexity are quite large for key elimination. Fig.A1(b) presents  $\theta_q$ , the fault propagation speed in the last  $D_q$  rounds. We can see that the value of  $\theta_{12}$  is the maximum. Thus,  $I_o = 12$ .

**Determine the optimal bit index  $J_o$ .** when  $I_o = 12$ , for each  $j$ , we collect 100,000 instances and calculate  $\eta_{16}$ , the average number of active S-boxes in the last round. The results are shown in Fig.A1(c). We can see that when  $j \in \{0, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 19, 20, 23, 24, 27, 28, 31\}$ ,  $\eta_{12}$  is much larger than that in other cases. The reason behind lies in the fact that, since the expansion layer  $E$  duplicates some bits, the single bit fault on those locations propagates to two S-boxes instead of one.  $J_o$  can be selected from  $\{0, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 19, 20, 23, 24, 27, 28, 31\}$ .

**Verify the fault model  $\mathbb{F}_o = X_{I_o, J_o}$ .** As to  $I_o = 12, J_o = 3$ , we build a small tool to convert both of the DES cipher and  $C, C^*$  into algebraic equations and conduct AFA. The attack is repeated for 100 times with  $N = 1$ . The statistics of the remained key entropy  $\phi(K)$  are shown in Fig.A1(d) where  $\phi(K)$  is in the range  $[0, 14]$  and the average value is 5.58. The average solving time is about 7.12 seconds.

**Design and implement the HTH.** We also design a HTH for DES on SASEBO-GII. The HTH is carefully designed to implement the optimal fault model and only one single fault injection is required to recover the secret key of DES. More details of the implementation can be referred to [2]

## References

- 1 M. Rivain. Differential Fault Analysis on DES Middle Rounds. In CHES, Springer, 2009. 457-469.
- 2 F. Zhang, X. Zhao, W. He, et al. Low-cost design of stealthy hardware trojan for bit-level fault attacks on block ciphers. Science China Information Sciences, 2017, 60: 048102.

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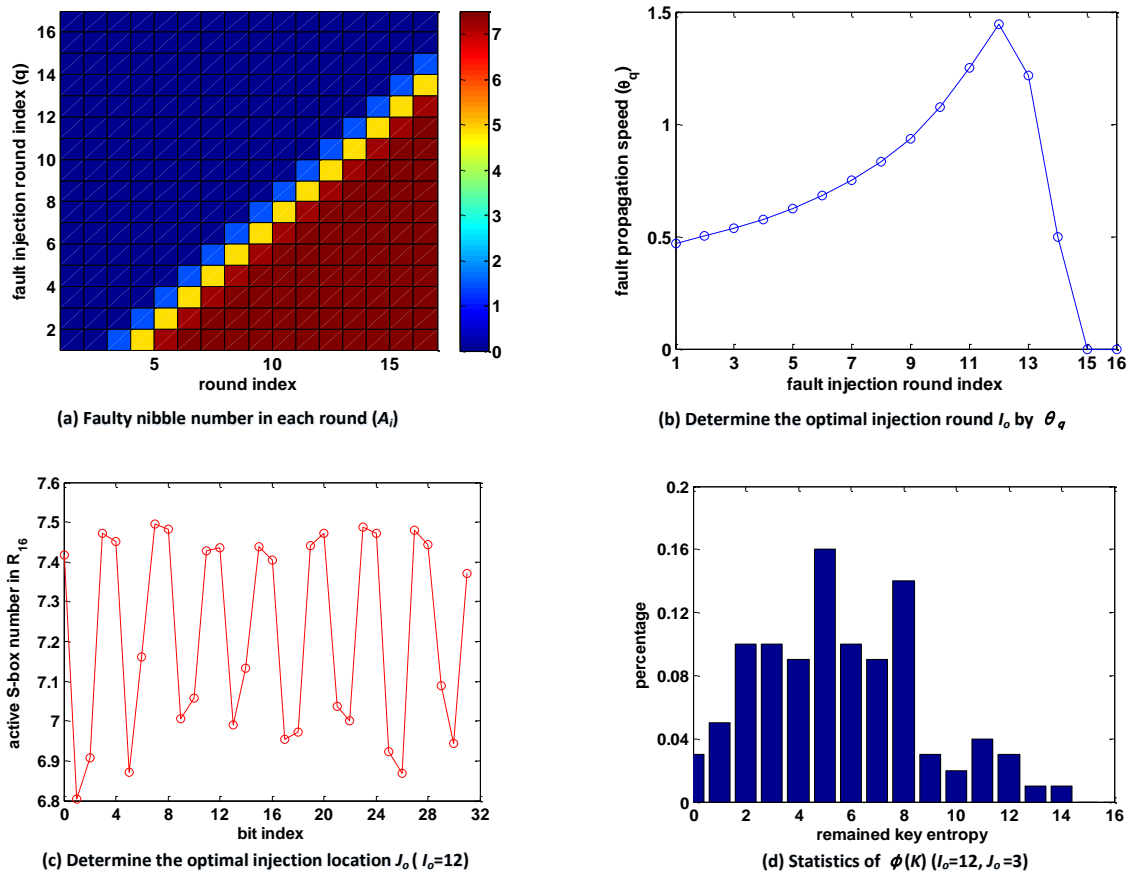


Figure A1 Optimal model search for a HTH-BLFA on DES