



**RÉPUBLIQUE
FRANÇAISE**

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*



LA RECHERCHE DE LIMOGES À L'ANSSI

Retour sur plus de 10 ans de recherche

Guillaume BOUFFARD

Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des Systèmes d'Information (ANSSI)

<https://cyber.gouv.fr>

1. About Me



Who am I?

2005	Baccalauréat STI GE <i>Sciences et Technologies Industrielles en Génie Électrotechnique</i>
2007	DUT Génie Electrique et Informatique Industriel (GEII)
2008	Licence Informatique
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Since 2023: ANSSI > Hardware and Software Architectures Lab (LAM)
- 2025 HDR at University of Grenoble-Alpes
Contributions to the Security of Embedded Software in the Chain of Trust
<https://www.bouffard.info/hdr.html>



What is ANSSI?

ANSSI: French Cybersecurity Agency.

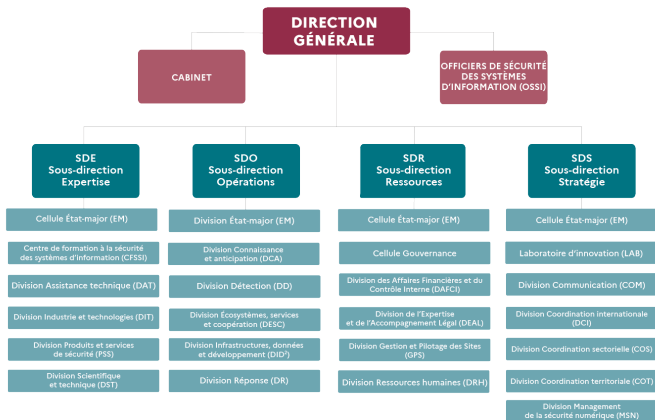
- Is the **national authority** in charge of cybersecurity in France.
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What is ANSSI? (cont.)

Main missions:

(<https://cyber.gouv.fr/en/what-we-do>)

-  **Defending** critical information systems and the victims of large-scale cyberattacks;
-  **Knowing** the state of the art in cybersecurity and cyberspace threats;
-  **Sharing** knowledge, recommendations, and expertise in digital safety;
-  **Assisting** the national and international ecosystem;
-  **Regulating** cybersecurity organisations, goods, and services.



Laboratoire

Acronyme

Hardware and Software Architectures Lab

LAM

Cryptography Lab

LCR

Detection Research and Exploration Lab

LED

Protocol, network security Lab

LRP

Component Security Lab

LSC

Software Security Lab

LSL

Wireless Security Lab

LSF



ANSSI: Research Labs Activities

💡 Expertise

👤 Training

- Design and delivery of CFSSI training courses.
- Support for awareness and outreach events.

🧪 R&D



💡 Expertise

- Technical support to internal teams and certification bodies.
- Contributions to GlobalPlatform and JHAS workgroups.
- Collaboration with EU partners (e.g., BSI, ...).
- Support to national and European projects (e.g., France Identité, EU-Digital Identity).

👤 Training

- Design and delivery of CFSSI training courses.
- Support for awareness and outreach events.
- **Design and delivery of university courses** (in my personal time).

🧪 R&D (≈33%)

- Focus on how to protect **embedded software**:
 - software and hardware attacks studies.
 - design of countermeasures.
- Supervision of Ph.D. students and interns.

2. Background



The Root of Trust (RoT)

- **Several functionalities** must be executed in an environment that is capable of:
 - **hosting sensitive apps:**
 - where sensitive data is protected;
 - performing **sensitive operations:**
 - with no **leakage**.



The Root of Trust (RoT)

- **Several functionalities** must be executed in an environment that is capable of:
 - **hosting sensitive apps:**
 - where sensitive data is protected;
 - performing **sensitive operations:**
 - with no **leakage**.
- Root of Trust (RoT) is defined by GlobalPlatform [Glo18] as:
 - an element with a processing unit, code and data.
 - whose **integrity cannot be verified**.

[Glo18] **GlobalPlatform**. *Root of Trust Definitions and Requirements*. **Version 1.1. June 2018** (https://globalplatform.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/GP_RoT_Definitions_and_Requirements_v1.1_PublicRelease-2018-06-28.pdf).



In the 2000s, Cybersecurity Relied on Smart Cards



- **Tamper-resistant** computing platform;
- Ubiquitous in daily life:
 - credit cards;
 - (U)SIM cards;
 - health cards (e.g., French *Carte Vitale*);
 - pay TV access cards;
 - ...

The smart card is a **Secure Element** designed to act as a **hardware RoT**.



Secure Element: Minimalism for Maximum Security

Highly constrained architecture:

- Minimal hardware & software layout.
- Very limited embedded functionalities.
- Ultra-low power consumption.



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Security evaluations

- Resistance to **high attack potential**
- Long and rigorous process.
- Based on a few **targets of evaluation**:
 - threats and protections are clearly defined.
 - evaluations may rely on **Protection Profiles (PPs)** for common use cases.

(Common Criteria **AVA_VAN.5** level).

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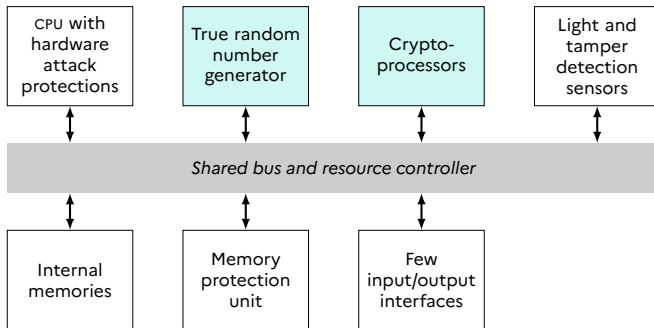
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Between 2010 and 2018, more than **35 billion sEs** were deployed [Glo19].

[Glo19] "6.2 Billion GlobalPlatform-Compliant Secure Elements Deployed in 2018". 2019 (<https://globalplatform.org/latest-news/6-2-billion-globalplatform-compliant-secure-elements-deployed-in-2018/>).

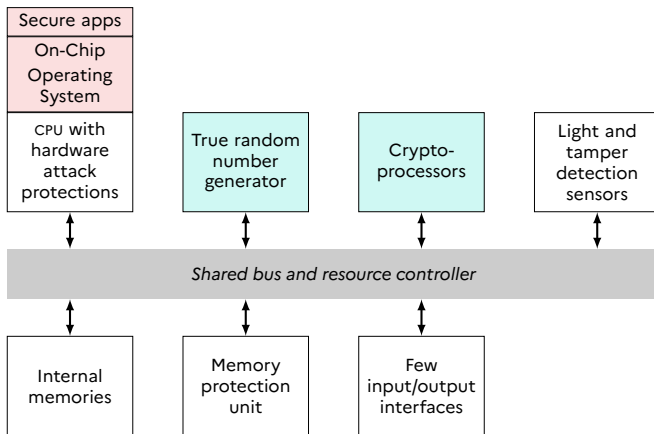


Typical Secure Element (SE) Architecture

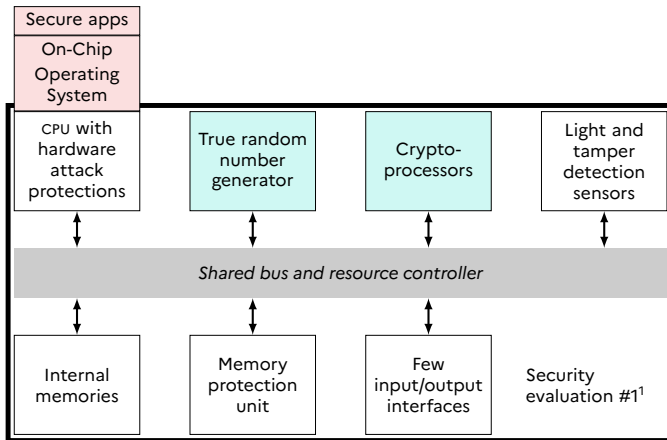




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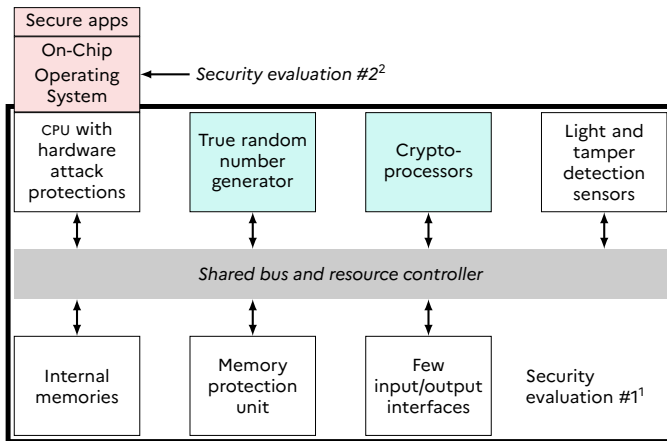


Typical Secure Element (SE) Architecture



¹SE PP [Eur14] or embedded SE PP [Eur22].

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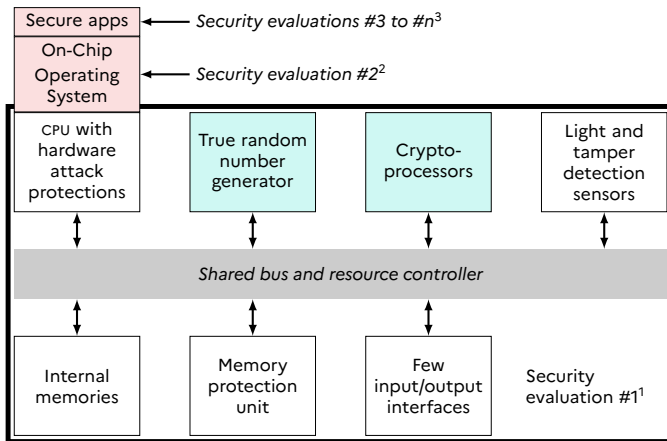


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Typical Secure Element (SE) Architecture



¹SE PP [Eur14] or embedded SE PP [Eur22].

²Java Card PP [Ora21].

³Secure apps' PP: (U)SIM [Rad10], identity [Sic12], payment [BS10], tachograph [Cen17], ...



Secure Element: Limitations

- SE are designed with a **minimal attack surface**:
 - only **one app** running at a time.
 - very **limited interfaces and resources**.
- **Strong isolation**



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 - **low performance**.
 - **limited extensibility**.
 - **restricted developer access**.

Secure Element: Limitations

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- **Strong isolation**, but at the cost of:
 - **low performance**.
 - **limited extensibility**.
 - **restricted developer access**.

Not suitable for modern use cases requiring both **security** and **rich functionality**:

- Secure biometric authentication + encrypted storage + remote attestation.
- Running multiple secure services in parallel (e.g., payments + identity + DRM).

SEs need to be **complemented** with **more flexible secure environments**.



Trusted Execution Environment (TEE)

Initially designed as a **performance**-oriented emulation of a **hardware** RoT.

A Trusted Execution Environment (TEE) [Glo22] is an execution environment that:

- Mixes **security and performance** for sensitive applications;
- Runs only sensitive applications **signed by a trusted entity**;
- Ensures resistance to **software attacks** and certain **hardware attacks** [Glo20].

[Glo20] **GlobalPlatform**. *TEE Protection Profile*. GPD_SPE_021. Version 1.3. July 2020 (<https://globalplatform.org/specs-library/tee-protection-profile-v1-3/>).

[Glo22] **GlobalPlatform**. *TEE System Architecture*. Version 1.3. May 2022 (<https://globalplatform.org/specs-library/tee-system-architecture/>).



Rich Execution Environment (REE)

Designed for **rich functionalities** with direct access to system resources.

The Rich Execution Environment (REE) is an execution environment that:

- Runs a **standard Operating System (OS)** designed to support a **wide range of devices**;
 - primarily **functionality- and performance-oriented**;
- Hosts applications from **multiple sources**; (app stores, Internet, etc.)

Provides **limited isolation guarantees, compared to a TEE.**



Hardware Root of Trust (RoT)



Small attack surface

Large attack surface

High trust level

Low trust level

Hardware
Root of Trust (RoT)

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Hardware
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Trusted Execution
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Small attack surface

Large attack surface

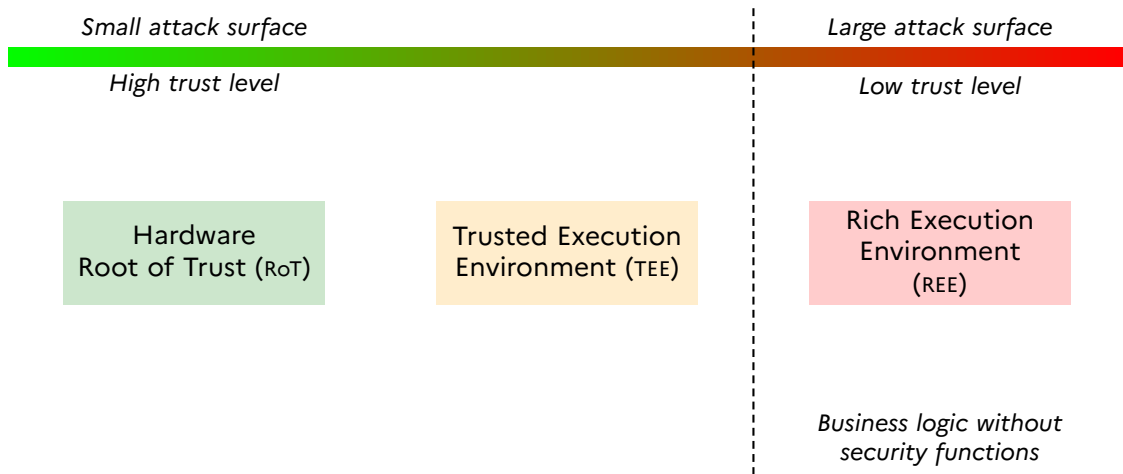
High trust level

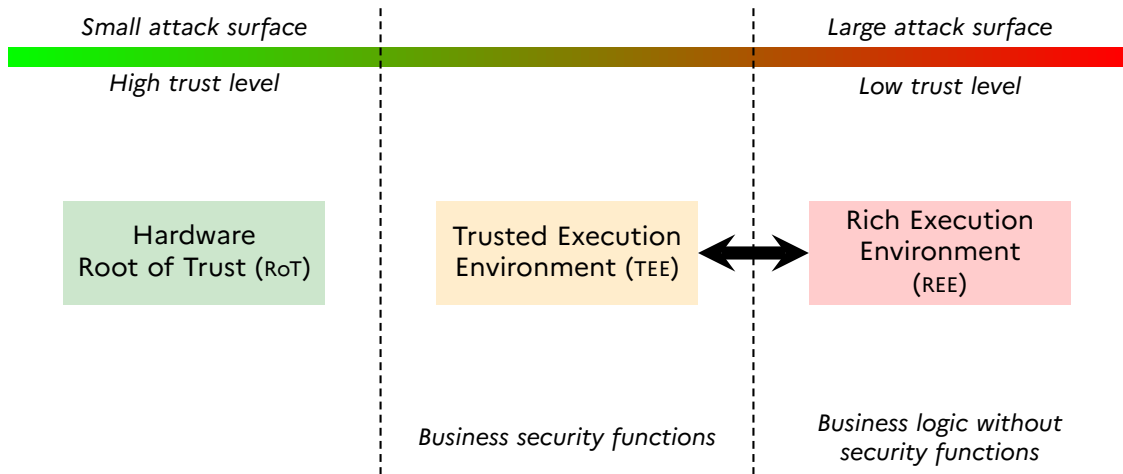
Low trust level

Hardware
Root of Trust (RoT)

Trusted Execution
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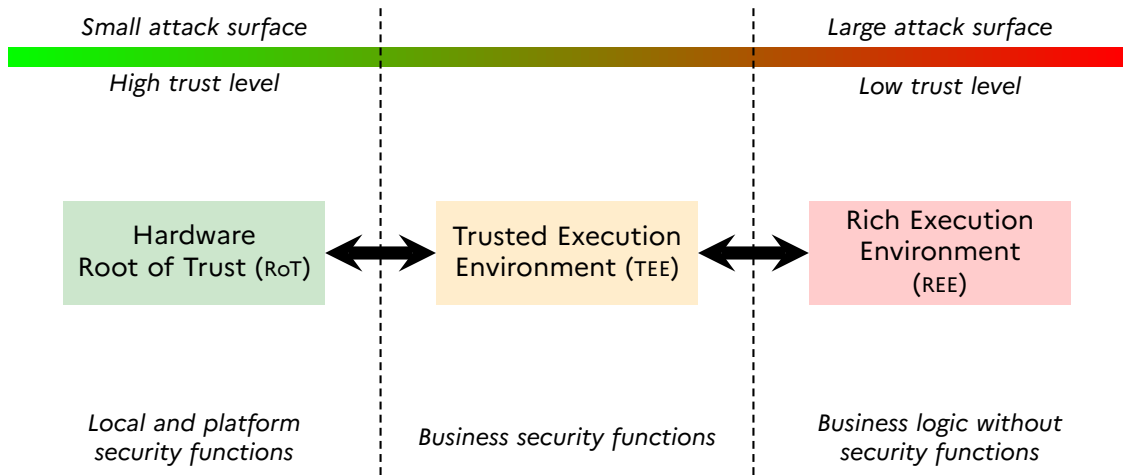
Rich Execution
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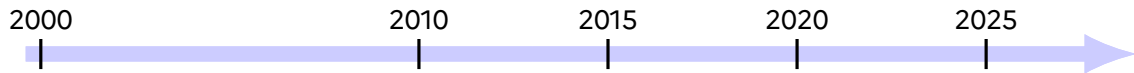
The Chain of Trust (CoT)

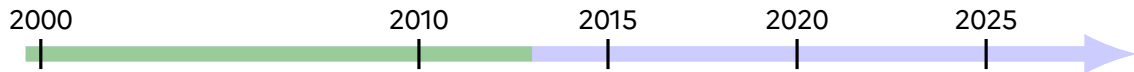


3. My Research Activities

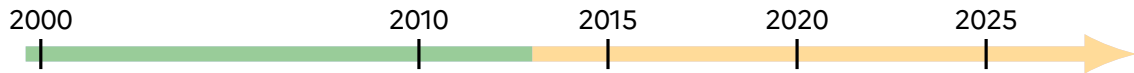


Research Context

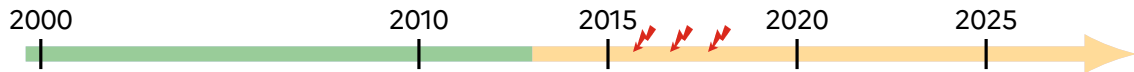




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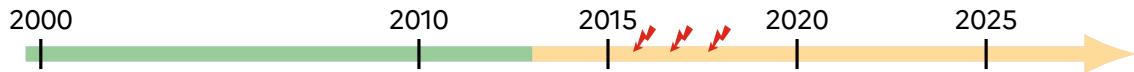
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Transposition of hardware attacks from SE to TEEs [Vas+17; YSW18] and to REEs [Bos+16].

[Bos+16] "Differential Computation Analysis: Hiding Your White-Box Designs is Not Enough", *CHES 2016*.

[Vas+17] "Laser-Induced Fault Injection on Smartphone Bypassing the Secure Boot", *FDTC 2017*.

[YSW18] "Fault Attacks on Secure Embedded Software: Threats, Design, and Evaluation", *JHSS 2018*.



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Today

Digital services are ubiquitous, making **robust protection of the entire CoT** essential for trust and data security.

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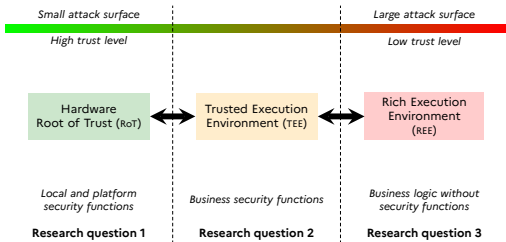
My Research Activities

Focusing on **embedded softwares security**



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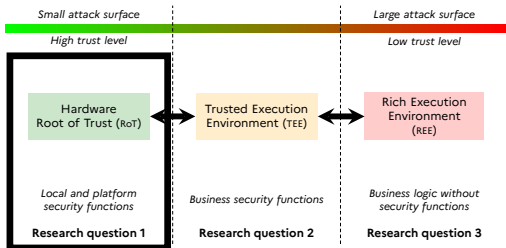
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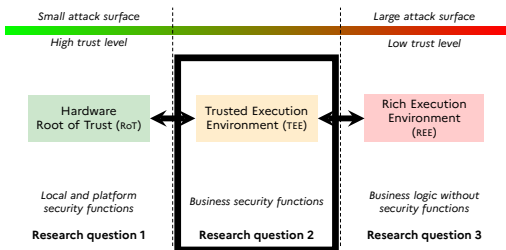


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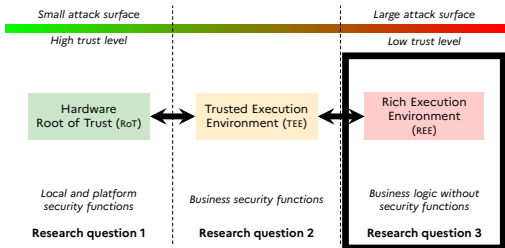


- 1 How are *local and platform security functions* developed and used to enhance security?
- 2 How to achieve high security in TEEs for *business security functions*?



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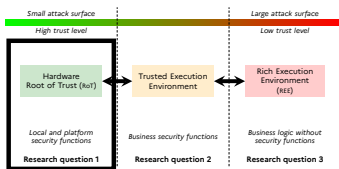


- 1 How are *local and platform security functions* developed and used to enhance security?
- 2 How to achieve high security in TEEs for *business security functions*?
- 3 How can sensitive apps run securely in the REE?

4. My Contributions



4. My Contributions



Research question 1:
How are *local and platform security functions*, provided by hardware RoT, developed and used to enhance security?

Secure Elements as Hardware RoTs

SE are the most widely deployed hardware RoTs worldwide.

- Resistance to **high attack potential**.

(Common Criteria **AVA_VAN.5**)

My early research started on **closed SEs**:

- Both software and hardware implementations are **proprietary and closed source**.
- Focus on existing **software implementations** to understand design choices:

- secure applications mostly studied by the community. (EMVCo [AM14; BST21], (U)SIM [Sec25])

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Focus on the **software stack beneath secure applications**.

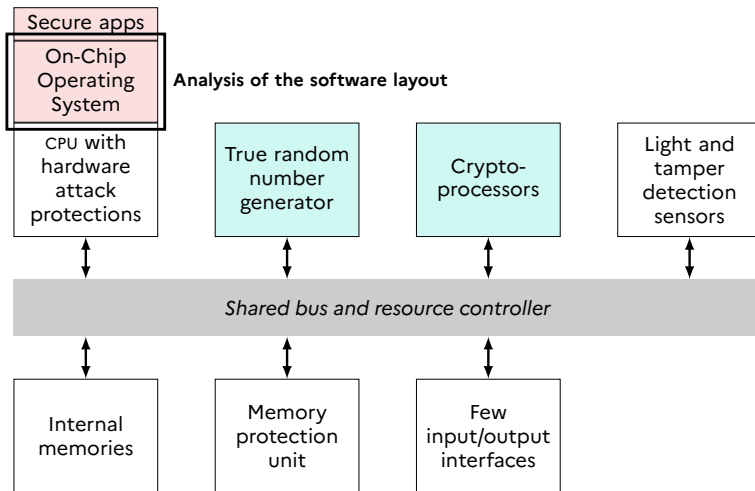
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Contributions to Hardware RoT Security





The On-Chip Operating System

Most of the on-chip OS embedded in SE includes:

- A minimal and hardened OS;
- A **Java Card Virtual Machine (JCVM)**. (≈ 150 Common Criteria certified products per year)
 - 6 billion devices embed a JCVM are deployed annually [Pas22].

[Pas22] "Oracle Celebrates the Java Card Forum's 25th Anniversary". 2022 (<https://blogs.oracle.com/java/post/java-card-forum-25-years-anniversary>).



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The Java Card technology provides:

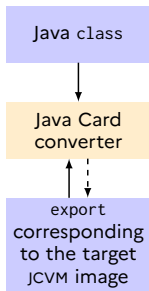
- A development environment to build secure applications;
- A platform-independent runtime environment;
- A multiple-applicative environment;
- A strong application isolation.



[Pas22] "Oracle Celebrates the Java Card Forum's 25th Anniversary". 2022 (<https://blogs.oracle.com/java/post/java-card-forum-25-years-anniversary>).



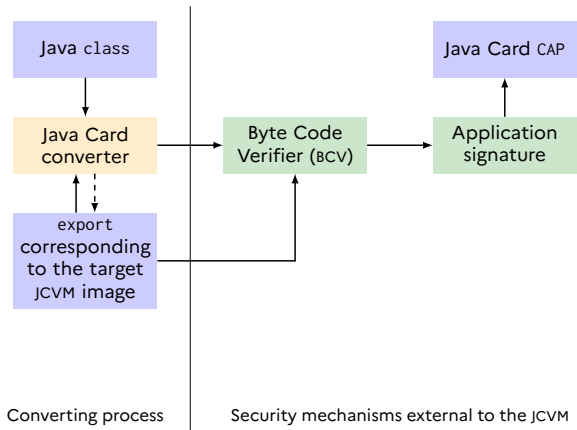
Analysis of the Java Card Platform Security



Converting process

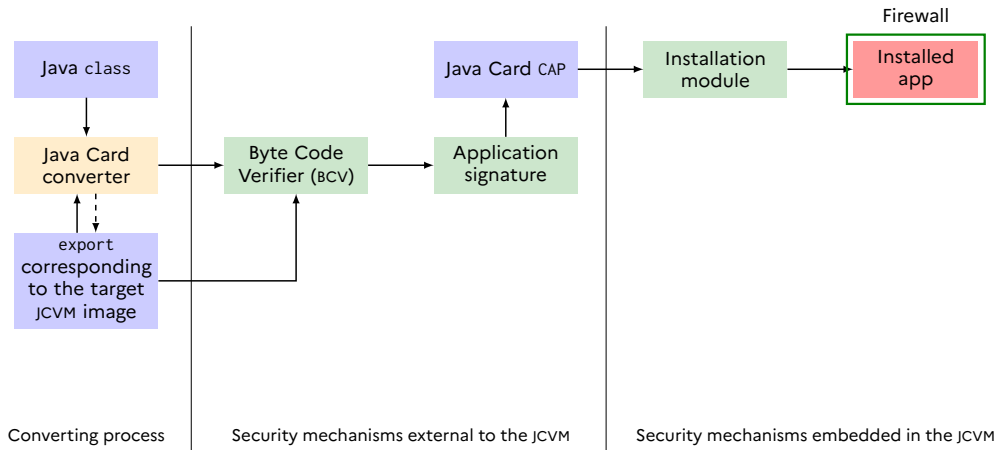


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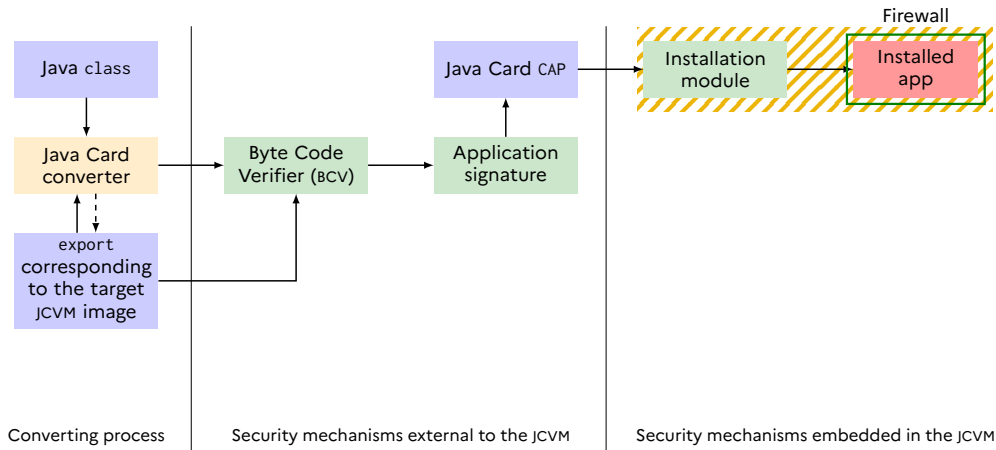


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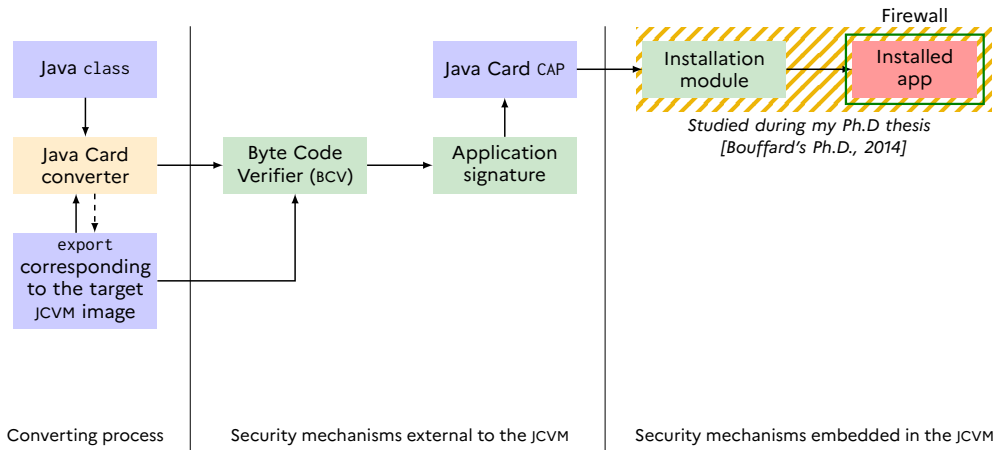


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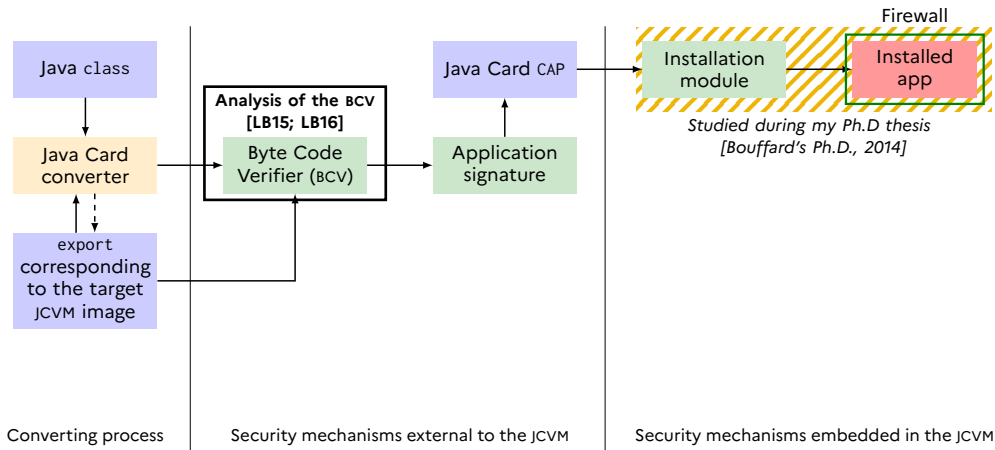


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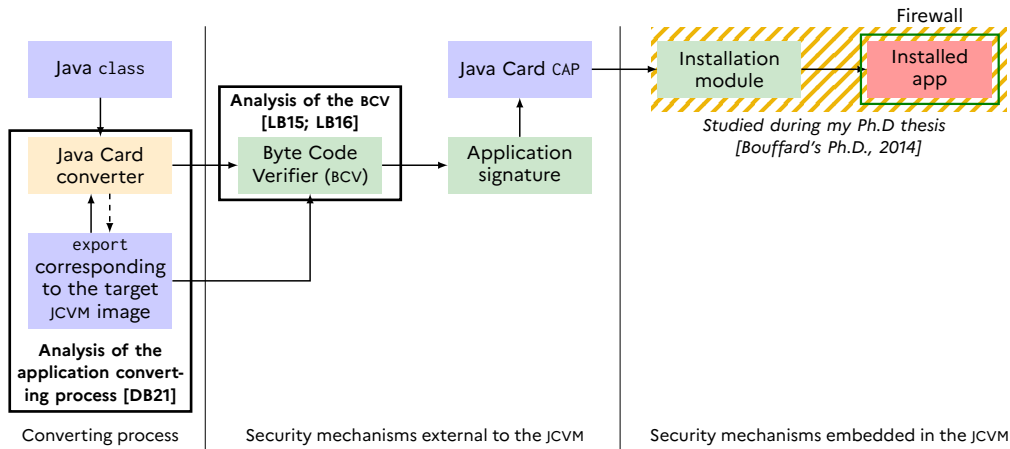


[LB15] "Java Card Virtual Machine Compromising from a Bytecode Verified Applet", *CARDIS 2015*.

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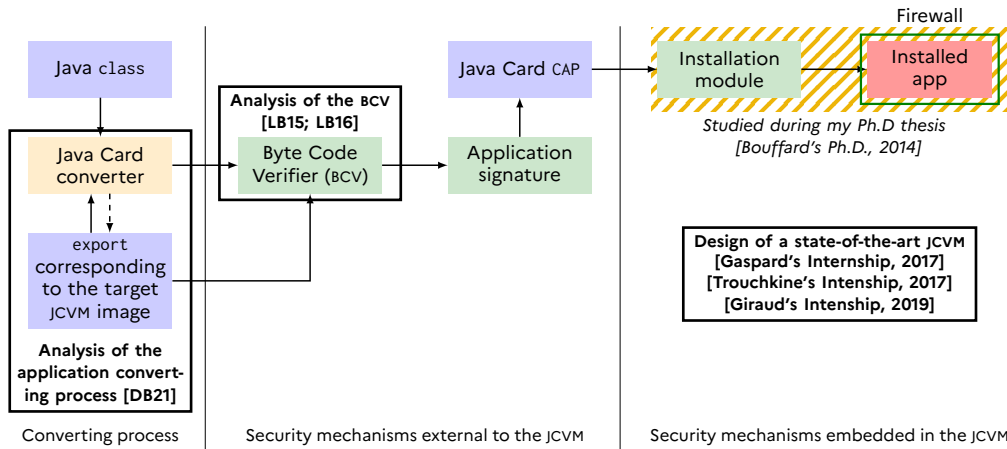


[DB21] "PhiAttack - Rewriting the Java Card Class Hierarchy", *CARDIS 2021*.

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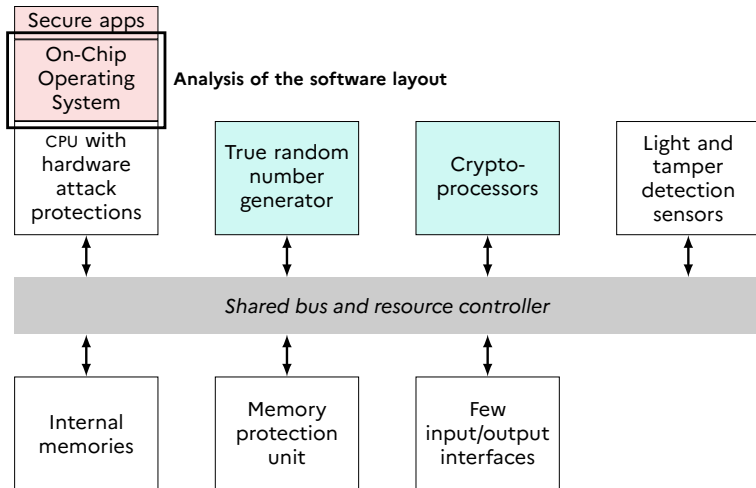


[Gaspard's Internship, 2017] "Implementation of a Secure Operating System for Java Card-based Secure Element", École Polytechnique.

[Giraud's Internship, 2019] "Secure Implementation of GlobalPlatform for Java Card Platform", INSA.

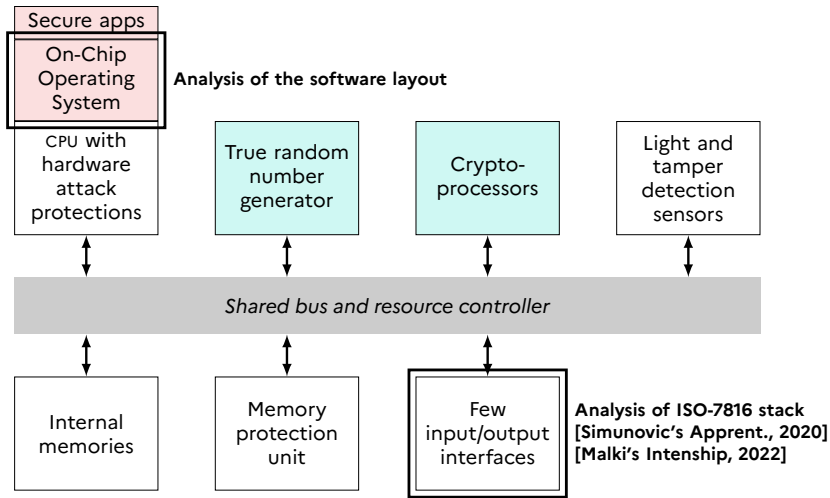
[Trouchkine's Internship, 2017] "Hardware Implementation of a Java Card Virtual Machine", École des Mines de Saint-Étienne.

Contributions to Hardware RoT Security (cont.)





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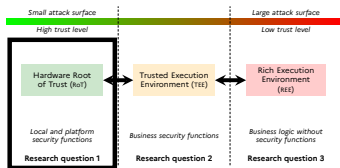


[Malki's Intership, 2022] "Fingerprinting of Embedded Software Implementation", École 42.

[Simunovic's Apprent., 2020] "Security Analysis of the ISO-7816 Stack", ESISAR.



Research Question 1: Summary of Contributions



Research question 1:

How are *local and platform security functions*, provided by hardware RoT, developed and used to enhance security?

SEs = **strongest Hardware RoTs** but hardware & software are **closed and proprietary**.

Research focus: **embedded software security** without access to target internals.

1 Anticipated risks from **misused tools and environments**

- by studying deployed JCVM implementation and toolchains.

2 Designed a **state-of-the-art JCVM**

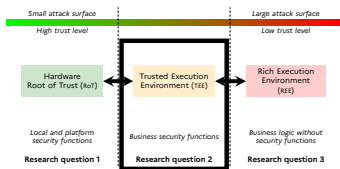
- minimizing reliance on external elements to strengthen implementation security.

3 Evaluated the security of **communication interfaces**

- by uncovering leakage and fingerprinting opportunities in deployed implementations.



4. My Contributions



Research question 2:
How to achieve high security in TEEs for *business security functions*?



TEE Security: Requirements and Challenges

The TEE must be both **high-performance** and **secure** area

- Deployed in application SoCs (> 2015)
- Security evaluations:
 - PP for TEE [Glo20]
 - Resistance to **Basic** or **Enhanced-Basic** attack potential (Common Criteria **AVA_VAN.2** or **3** level)

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The TEE PP requires:

- Resistance to software attacks
- Resistance to hardware attacks

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TEE Security: Requirements and Challenges

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- Deployed in application SoCs (> 2015)
- Security evaluations:
 - PP for TEE [Glo20]
 - Resistance to **Basic** or **Enhanced-Basic** attack potential (Common Criteria **AVA_VAN.2** or **3** level)

The TEE PP requires:

- Resistance to software attacks $\Rightarrow$ ✓ (covered in evaluations)
- Resistance to hardware attacks



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[Glo20] **GlobalPlatform. TEE Protection Profile. GPD_SPE_021. Version 1.3. July 2020** (<https://globalplatform.org/specs-library/tee-protection-profile-v1-3/>).

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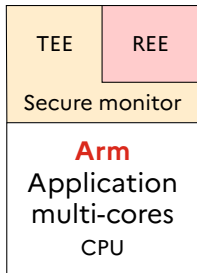
In this work, I focus on **Arm TrustZone**. (99% of the deployed mobile CPUs [Kin24])

[Glo20] **GlobalPlatform**. *TEE Protection Profile*. GPD_SPE_021. Version 1.3. July 2020 (<https://globalplatform.org/specs-library/tee-protection-profile-v1-3/>).

[Kin24] *Arm Stock: AI Chip Favorite Is Overpriced*, Forbes 2024.

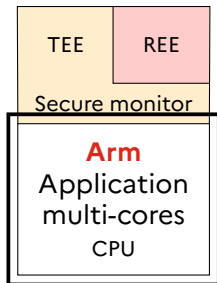


TEE Architecture on Arm Application CPUs





TEE Architecture on Arm Application CPUs



Impact analysis of hardware attacks on **application CPU**:

- Prior work confirmed side-channel threats on application CPUs [Bal+15; Lon+15].
- Mid-2010s, the exploitability of **fault injection** was **still debated**.
 - Unlike SEs, application CPU **complexity hinders analysis**.

[Bal+15] "DPA, Bitslicing and Masking at 1 GHz", *CHES 2015*.

[Lon+15] "SoC It to EM: ElectroMagnetic Side-Channel Attacks on a Complex System-on-Chip", *CHES 2015*.



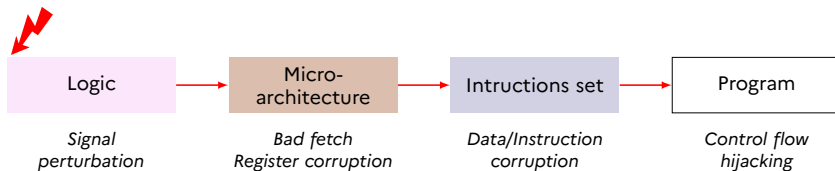
Fault Effects Characterization



inspired from [YSW18]

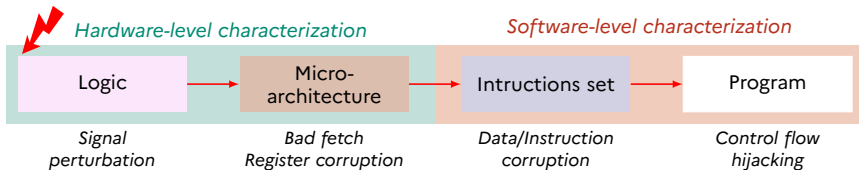


Fault Effects Characterization



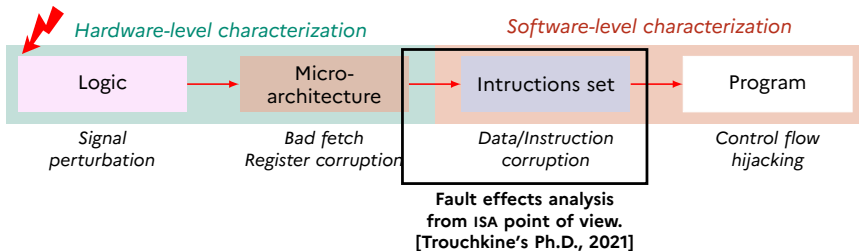
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Fault Effects Characterization



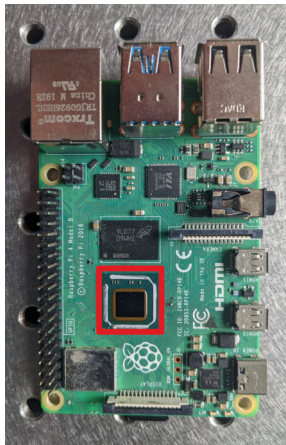
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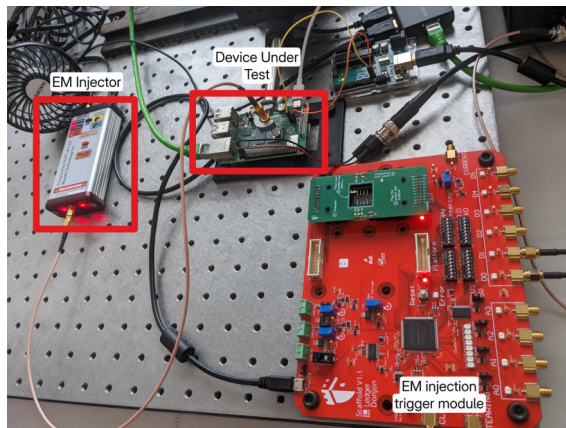
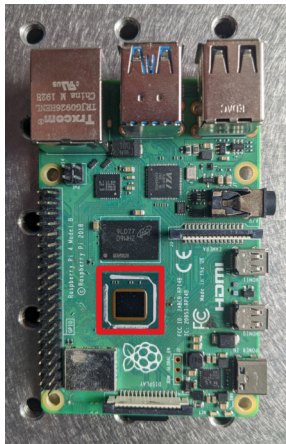
inspired from [YSW18]

[Trouchkine's Ph.D., 2021] "System-on-Chip Physical Security Evaluation", Université Grenoble Alpes.
[YSW18] "Fault Attacks on Secure Embedded Software: Threats, Design, and Evaluation", *JHSS 2018*.

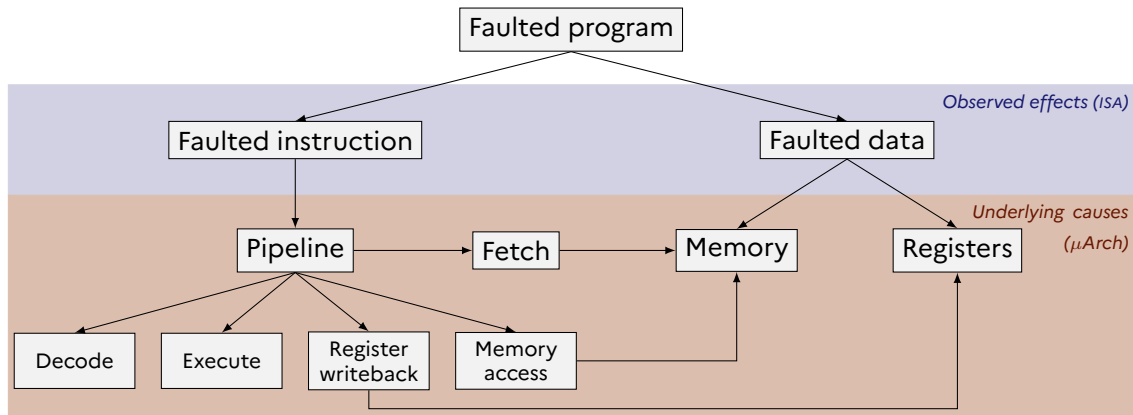


Fault Effects Analysis from ISA Point of View

Trouchkine's Ph.D., 2021



[ITB23] "Pew Pew, I'm root! De la caractérisation à l'exploitation: un voyage plein d'embûches", JAIF 2023.



[TBC19] "Fault Injection Characterization on Modern CPUs", *WISTP 2019*.

[Tro+21] "Electromagnetic fault injection against a complex CPU, toward new micro-architectural fault models", *JCEN 2021*.

Architecture-agnostic
approach [TBC21]





Key findings

- 1 Defined an **architecture-agnostic approach** to measure fault effects [TBC19] on **microarchitecture blocks** [Tro+21] from the ISA level;
 - analysis of faults disturbing the **MMU** and **cache management** [Tro+21].
- 2 Applied the methodology on **Arm** and **Intel** CPUs embedding TEE [TBC21].

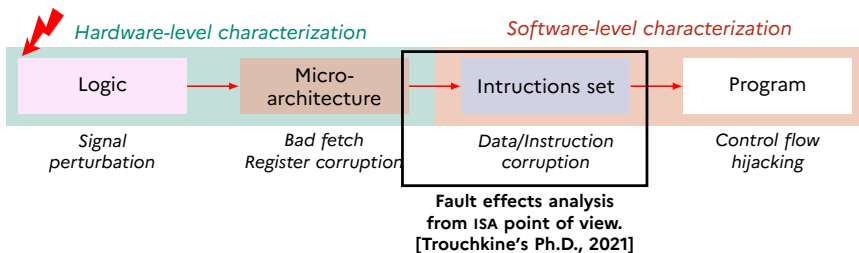
Demonstrated that **faults directly affect execution** in **simple software contexts**.

[TBC19] "Fault Injection Characterization on Modern CPUs", *WISTP 2019*.

[Tro+21] "Electromagnetic fault injection against a complex CPU, toward new micro-architectural fault models", *JCEN 2021*.

[TBC21] "EM Fault Model Characterization on SoCs: From Different Architectures to the Same Fault Model", *FDTC 2021*.

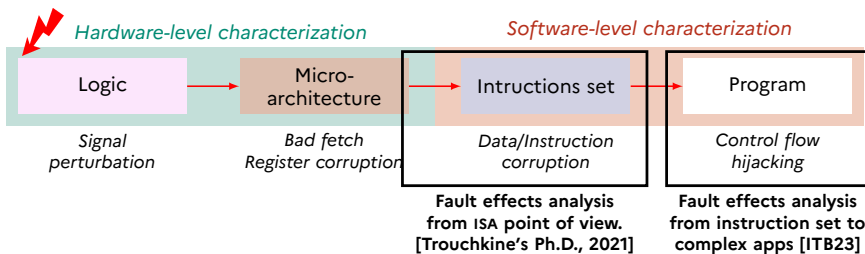
Fault Effects Characterization (cont.)



inspired from [YSW18]



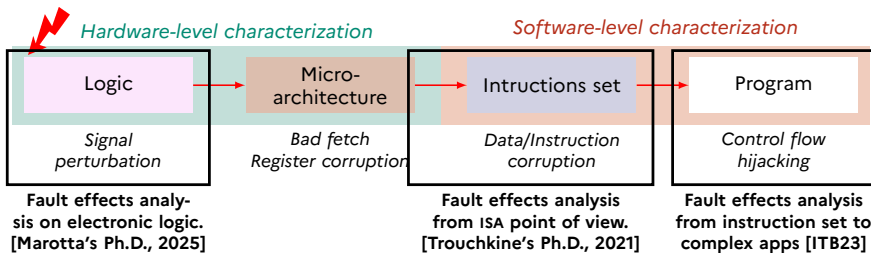
Fault Effects Characterization (cont.)



inspired from [YSW18]

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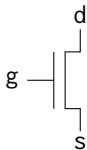
inspired from [YSW18]

[Marotta's Ph.D., 2025] "Effects of synchronous clock glitch on the security of integrated circuits", Université de Rennes.

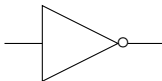
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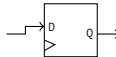
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Transistors

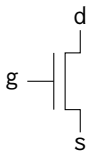


Logic gates

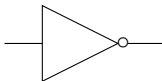


Latches

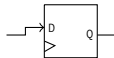
(Flip-flops)



Transistors

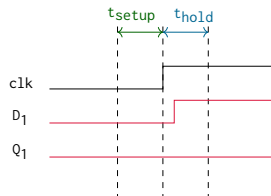
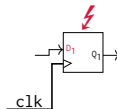
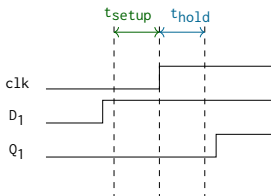
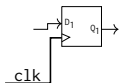


Logic gates



Latches

(Flip-flops)





Electromagnetic Fault Injection (EMFI) attack: [CB19; Yua+12]

- Perturbs the clock distribution $\Rightarrow$ **Phase-Locked Loop (PLL)**;
- Results in **unintended glitches** on the clock signal.

[CB19] "Microcontroller Sensitivity to Fault-Injection Induced by Near-Field Electromagnetic Interference", *EMC 2019*.

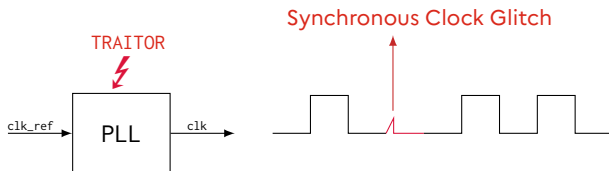
[Yua+12] "Electromagnetic interference analysis using an embedded phase-lock loop", *APEMC 2012*.

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Observation:

- Fault effects comparable to **controlled clock glitches**; (injectable by TRAITOR [Cla+21])
- The **observed fault model** does not match with the literature [Deh+12; DLM21; Nab+23].



[Cla+21] "TRAITOR: A Low-Cost Evaluation Platform for Multifault Injection", *AsiaCCS 2021*.

[Deh+12] "Electromagnetic Transient Faults Injection on a Hardware and a Software Implementations of AES", *FDTC 2012*.

[DLM21] "Modeling and Simulating Electromagnetic Fault Injection", *TCAD 2021*.

[Nab+23] "A Tale of Two Models: Discussing the Timing and Sampling EM Fault Injection Models", *FDTC 2023*.

Method:

- Target: **LFSR implemented with flip-flops (FF)** embedded in an FPGA;
- FPGA experiments with controlled clock glitches using TRAITOR [Cla+21];
- Complemented with transistor-level simulations.

Findings: [Mar+24]

- Introduced the **Energy-Threshold Fault Model**;
 - fault sensitivity depends on **intrinsic** (manufacturing variability, routing) and **extrinsic factors** (cross-talk, neighboring activity);
- Voltage amplitude **is more significant than** glitch width in determining correct sampling.

[Cla+21] "TRAITOR: A Low-Cost Evaluation Platform for Multifault Injection", *AsiaCCS 2021*.

[Mar+24] "Characterizing and Modeling Synchronous Clock-Glitch Fault Injection", *COSADE 2024*.

Key findings

- 1 Proposed an approach to **simulate EMFI at the logic level** [Mar+24]; (based on TRAITOR)
 - discovered a new **Energy-Threshold Fault Model**.
- 2 Transposed this model to study and explain **fault effects on microcontrollers** [Mar25].

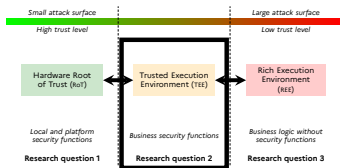
Showed that the study was **limited to a single latch type**,
not **fully reflecting complex designs**.

[Mar+24] "Characterizing and Modeling Synchronous Clock-Glitch Fault Injection", *COSADE 2024*.

[Marotta's Ph.D., 2025] "Effects of synchronous clock glitch on the security of integrated circuits", *Université de Rennes*.



Research Question 2: Summary of Contributions



Research question 2:
How to achieve high security in TEEs for *business security functions*?

TEEs = **secure environments** within application CPUs, but exposed to **hardware attacks**.

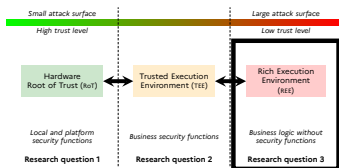
Research focus: **fault injection characterization** at multiple abstraction levels.

- 1 From **ISA-level analysis** of closed CPUs implementation; (Arm TrustZone)
- 2 To **logic-level analysis** of known implementations. (flip-flops on FPGA/ASIC)

Identified the need for **dedicated countermeasures** for application CPUs



4. My Contributions



Research question 3:
How can sensitive apps run securely in the REE?



REE: Requirements and Challenges

The REE is a **high-performance, feature-rich** environment



REE: Requirements and Challenges

The REE is a **high-performance, feature-rich** environment where apps' security relies:

- On **general-purpose** mitigations; (MMU, ASLR, CFI, sandboxing)
- On services offloaded to TEE/hardware RoT.

REE reality:

- **Untrusted by design;** (user-controlled, multi-users, third-party apps)
- No formal **Common Criteria** evaluation of the full stack;
- Diverse threats:
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In this work, I study how **sensitive applications can run in the REE** when access to TEE/RoT is **limited or unavailable**.
(agreements required with each smartphone vendor)



How to Protect Sensitive Applications in the REE?

Adversary with **full control of the execution.**

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Method: $\Rightarrow$ Defense in depth

- Use obfuscated apps to **store and manipulate sensitive assets.**

New threat model: $\Rightarrow$ Hardware attacks transposed into software

- Fault injection via binary instrumentation [Bos+16]. (inspired by methods originally targeting SEs)



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- Fault injection via binary instrumentation [Bos+16]. (inspired by methods originally targeting SEs)

Current focus:

- Protect **implementations of symmetric algorithms** in obfuscated apps against software-level fault injection;
- [Giraud's Ph.D., 2024]: extend this protection to **implementations of asymmetric algorithms.**

[Bos+16] "Differential Computation Analysis: Hiding Your White-Box Designs is Not Enough", *CHES 2016*.

[Giraud's Ph.D., 2024] "Application security on uncontrolled systems", École Normale Supérieure.



Security Analysis [GB23]

- Target: McEliece cryptosystem on Arm platforms [Pet+15];

[GB23] "Faulting original McEliece's implementations is possible", *SILM@EuroS&PW 2023*.

[Pet+15] "Countermeasure against the SPA attack on an embedded McEliece cryptosystem", *MAREW 2015*.

Security Analysis [GB23]

- Target: McEliece cryptosystem on Arm platforms [Pet+15];
- Apply software-level fault injection on decryption:
 - replace EOR with RSB instruction;
 - 40–70% entropy reduction of secret key.
- Mitigation: design a variant of McEliece **immune** to this attack.

(1-bit instruction modification)

```

1  uint32_t accu[1024/32] = {0};
2  for(int i = 0; i < 1024; i++) {
3      if(((vector[i/32] >> (31-(i%32))) & 0x01) != 0) {
4          for(int j = 0; j < (1024/32); j++) {
5              accu[j] =
6                  accu[j] ^ matrix[i*(1024/32)+j];
7          }}}
  
```

```

10684 e51b300c    ldr r3, [fp, #-12]
10688 e0822003    add r2, r2, r3
1068c e59f30d8    ldr r3, [pc, #216]
10690 e08f3003    add r3, pc, r3
10694 e7933102    ldr r3, [r3, r2, lsl #2]
10698 e0212003    eor r2, r1, r3
1069c e51b300c    ldr r3, [fp, #-12]
106a0 e1a03103    lsl r3, r3, #2
106a4 e24b1004    sub r1, fp, #4
106a8 e0813003    add r3, r1, r3
106ac e5032024    str r2, [r3, #-36]
  
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} 000001000000 \\ 000010000000 \\ 000000000001 \\ 001000000000 \\ 000000000100 \\ 000000001000 \\ 100000000000 \\ 000100000000 \\ 000000100000 \\ 000000000010 \\ 000000010000 \\ 010000000000 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0000100010000 \\ 0001000000100 \end{bmatrix}$$

[GB23] "Faulting original McEliece's implementations is possible", *SILM@EuroS&PW 2023*.

[Pet+15] "Countermeasure against the SPA attack on an embedded McEliece cryptosystem", *MAREW 2015*.



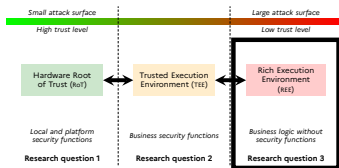
Key findings

- 1 Studied **obfuscated applications** in untrusted environments;
 - focusing on resilience against **binary instrumentation attacks**;
- 2 Applied the approach to a **post-quantum asymmetric algorithm** [GB23]. (McEliece)

Demonstrated that **trust cannot be directly extended** to REE.



Research Question 3: Summary of Contributions



Research question 3:
How can sensitive apps run securely in the REE?

REE = open and potentially untrusted environment
Sensitive applications must be secured **without strong isolation**.

Research focus: protecting **sensitive assets** in the REE.

- 1 Investigated **white-box security models**;
- 2 Applied **software-level fault injection**;
- 3 Proposed **obfuscation and modified designs**.



Summary of my Contributions

Analyzed the security of embedded software:

- 1 In SEs, focusing on risks from **misused environments**;
- 2 Characterized the impact of **fault injection attacks** across system levels
 - to better understand their consequences;
- 3 Work mainly based on **closed implementations**
 - limiting internal visibility but reflecting real-world constraints;
- 4 Measured the **limits of existing solutions**
 - highlighting the need for **dedicated countermeasures** in performance-oriented implementations.



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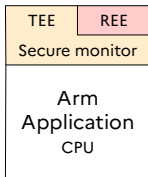
What comes next

- Contribute to the **design of secure and performance-oriented implementations**;
- Propose **hardware attack-resistant solutions** for future TEE platforms.

5. Perspectives

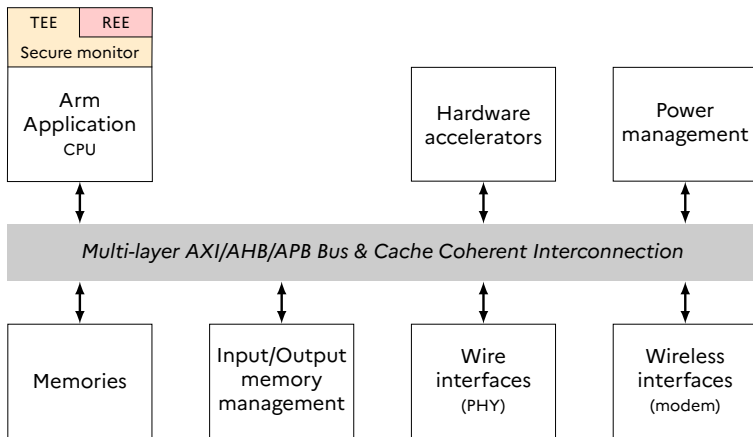


Application System on Chip (SoC) Hardware Architecture

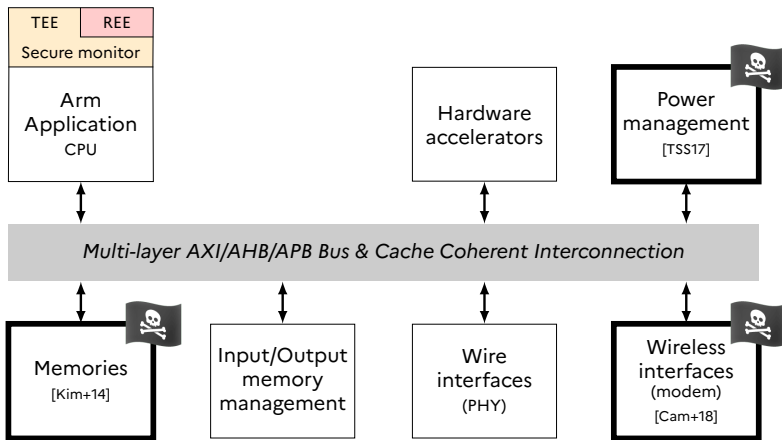




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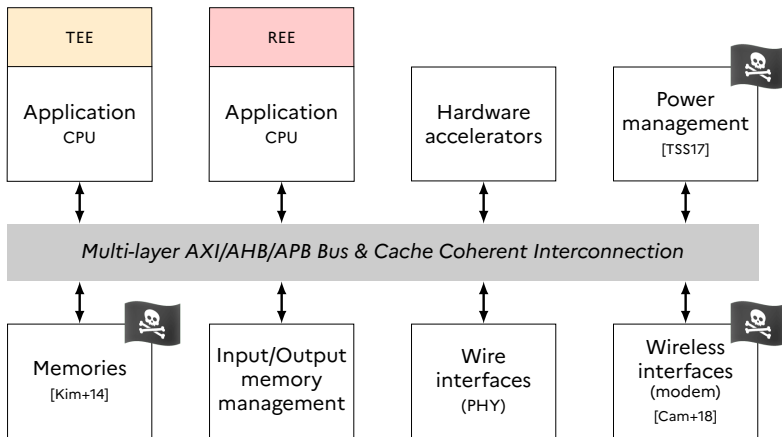
[Kim+14] "Flipping bits in memory without accessing them: An experimental study of DRAM disturbance errors", *ISCA 2014*.

[Cam+18] "Screaming Channels: When Electromagnetic Side Channels Meet Radio Transceivers", *ACM CCS 2018*.

[TSS17] "CLKSCREW: Exposing the Perils of Security-Oblivious Energy Management", *USENIX Security 2017*.



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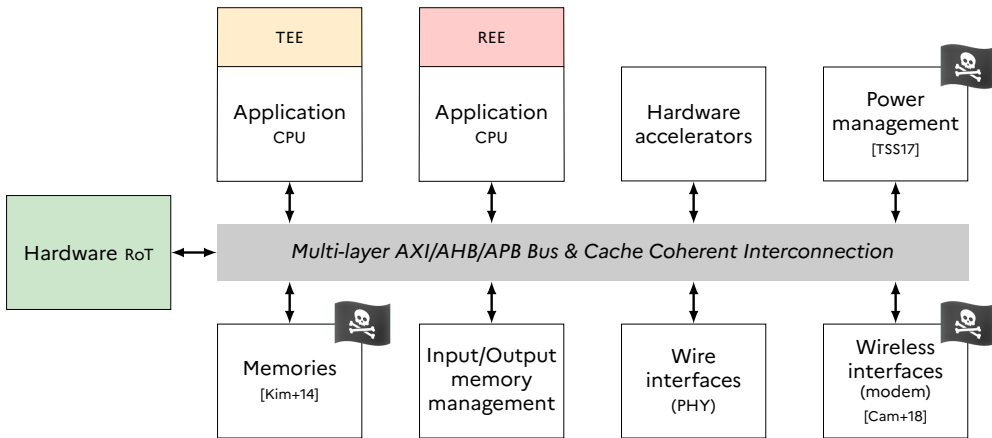
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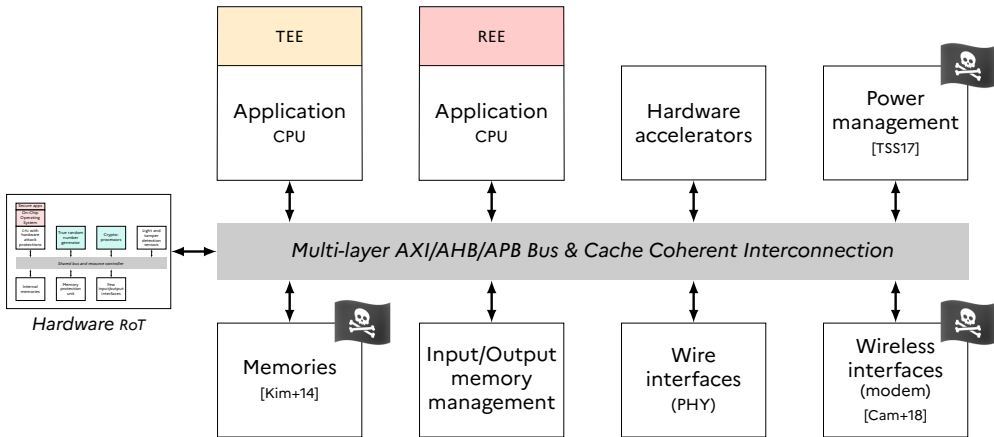


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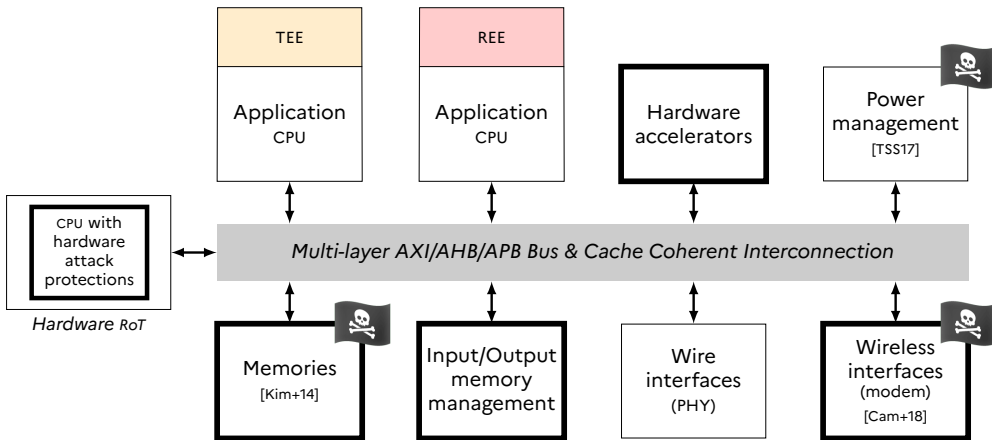
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[Eur14] Eurosmart. Smartcard IC Platform Protection Profile with Augmentation Packages. BSI-CC-PP-0084. Version 1.0. Jan. 2014 (https://www.commoncriteriaportal.org/files/ppfiles/pp0084b_pdf.pdf).



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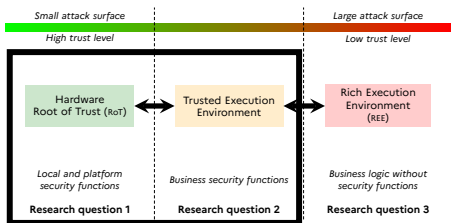


Toward Hardware-Resilient TEEs on Application SoCs

How can the TEE be secured **against hardware attacks** in application SoCs?

Research directions:

- 1 Understand **security design in modern SE hardware**;
- 2 Analyze the **specificities of application SoCs**;
(shared modules, application central processing units (CPUs), complex interconnects)
- 3 **Scale SEs protections** to secure TEEs against **hardware attacks**.





From Security-oriented CoT ...

The **CoT** is not only a foundation for **securing sensitive apps** ...



...to Safety-Critical CoT

... it can also be **transposed to safety-critical systems**,
where both **safety** and **security** must coexist.



...to Safety-Critical CoT

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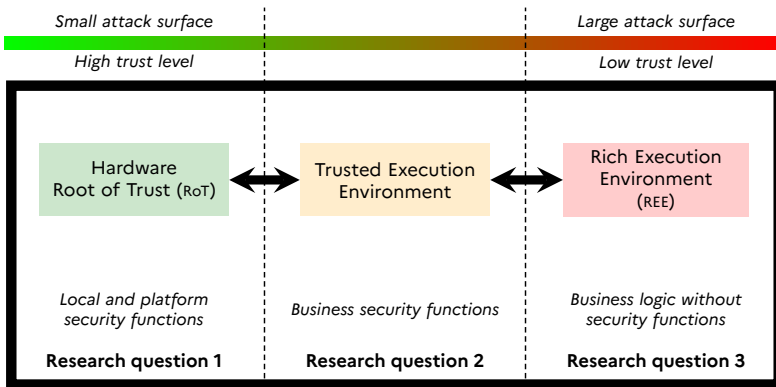
Safety-Critical Systems = systems whose failure may cause harm from **people**, **assets**, or the **environment**.

- Deployed in **medical**, **industrial**, and **transportation** sectors;
- Growing connectivity $\Rightarrow$ stronger **security requirements**.

Safety constraints: functions cannot be disabled, even under attack.

New Research Question

How can the CoT model be adapted to strengthen **safety**?





Case Study: Connected Vehicles

- **High connectivity** (Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, cellular) + **sensors** (cameras, LiDAR, radars);



Case Study: Connected Vehicles

- **High connectivity** (Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, cellular) + **sensors** (cameras, LiDAR, radars);
- Internal ANSSI project on a representative 2020 vehicle [TB25];
- **Bluetooth** chosen as focus: always active, even without user connection.
 - the Bluetooth stack is implemented **within the REE**.

[TB25] "300 secondes chrono: prise de contrôle d'un infodivertissement automobile à distance", SSTIC 2025.

Case Study: Connected Vehicles

- **High connectivity** (Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, cellular) + **sensors** (cameras, LiDAR, radars);
- Internal ANSSI project on a representative 2020 vehicle [TB25];
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```
struct sdpServInfo[0] {  
    /* 0x0000 */ void * next;  
    /* 0x0004 */ void * prev;  
    /* 0x0008 */ uint8_t * ptr_pkt_data;  
    // ...  
    /* 0x0088 */ uint8_t pkt_header [5];  
    /* 0x008D */ uint8_t pkt_data [507];  
};  
struct sdpServInfo[1] {  
    /* 0x0288 */ void * next;  
    /* 0x028C */ void * prev;  
    /* 0x0290 */ uint8_t * ptr_pkt_data;  
    // ...  
    /* 0x0310 */ uint8_t pkt_header [5];  
    /* 0x0314 */ uint8_t pkt_data [507];  
}; // size = 648 (0x288) bytes  
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```

Discovery of a **0-click unauthenticated RCE** vulnerability.

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Discovery of a **0-click unauthenticated RCE** vulnerability.

Security Implications

- **Compromise of the REE** ⇒ send unauthorized CAN messages. (existing hardware RoT filters some critical CAN messages)
- Highlights the need for **a more complete CoT** [Glo23].

[TB25] “300 secondes chrono: prise de contrôle d’un infodivertissement automobile à distance”, SSTIC 2025.

[Glo23] GlobalPlatform. *Trust & Security in Automotive Systems*. Tech. rep. Oct. 2023 (https://globalplatform.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/GP-Trust-for-Secure-AutoServices-White-Paper_Web_Spreads.pdf).



Towards a Unified Perspective on Safety and Security

Objective: Improved **security** with **functional safety** in connected and critical systems.

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- Builds on expertise from hardware RoTs and TEEs security;
- Focus on **connected and autonomous vehicles**:
 - resistance to **hardware attacks** [Küh+25; Mel24; OFI20; Wer+23]; (fault injection, side-channel)
 - integration with **new infrastructures** [Dud19]. (in-motion charging, connected roads)
- Broader scope: **medical and industrial sectors**: (studied by several ANSSI teams)
 - where **security and safety must coexist**;

[Dud19] "V2G Injector: Whispering to cars and charging units through the Power-Line", *SSTIC 2019*.

[Küh+25] "Three Glitches to Rule One Car: Fault Injection Attacks on a Connected EV", *Asia CCS 2025*.

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- Advocacy for rigorous **evaluation and certification** of vehicle CoT [CAR21].

[CAR21] **CAR 2 CAR Communication Consortium**. *Protection Profile V2X Hardware Security Module*. **BSI-CC-PP-0114**. **Version 1.0.1**. **Dec. 2021** (https://commoncriteriaportal.org/nfs/ccpfiles/files/ppfiles/pp0114a_pdf.pdf).

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Propose solutions where **security reinforces safety**, ensuring resilience in increasingly interconnected environments.

6. Conclusion



Conclusion

Research within ANSSI:

- Only **33%** of my time dedicated to research;
- Strong link with national security missions and evaluations.

Research areas:

- From hardware RoTs to TEEs and **safety-critical systems**;
- Contributions at both **academic** and **operational** levels;
 - built on **strong collaborations** with CEA/Leti, CEA/List, DGA-MI, IETR, INRIA, UBS/Lab-STICC, and several ANSSI teams;
- Supervision of **5 Ph.D. thesis** (3 defended / 2 ongoing), **9 internships** and **1 apprenticeship**.

Summary and Future Directions:

- Understanding and securing **the full Chain of Trust**;
- Towards bridging **security** and **safety**.



Questions ?

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31, quai de Grenelle

75015 Paris

Contact :

Dr. G. Bouffard (guillaume.bouffard@ssi.gouv.fr)



1 About Me

2 Background

3 My Research Activities

4 My Contributions

- How are *local and platform security functions*, provided by hardware RoT, developed and used to enhance security?
- How to achieve high security in TEEs for *business security functions*?
- How can sensitive apps run securely in the REE?

5 Perspectives

- Towards a Secure and Reliable Chain of Trust
- Safety-Critical Systems need High-Level of Cybersecurity

6 Conclusion

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