

# On the Power of Power Analysis in the Real World: A Complete Break of the KeeLoq Code Hopping Scheme

---



**CRYPTO 2008**

August 17-21, 2008

Thomas Eisenbarth, Timo Kasper, Amir Moradi, Christof Paar,  
Mahmoud Salmasizadeh, Mohammad T. Manzuri Shalmani

[www.crypto.rub.de](http://www.crypto.rub.de)

# Acknowledgement

We would like to thank Andrey Bogdanov for bringing KeeLoq to our attention and for many helpful discussions.

# Contents

---

1. Background
2. KeeLoq block cipher
3. Side-channel attacking KeeLoq
4. Results

# Contents

---

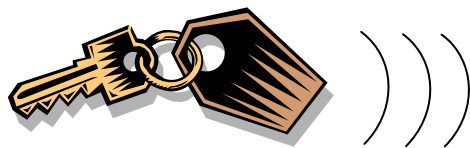
- 1. Background**
2. KeeLoq block cipher
3. Side-channel attacking KeeLoq
4. Results

# History of Side-Channel Attacks (1-slide version)

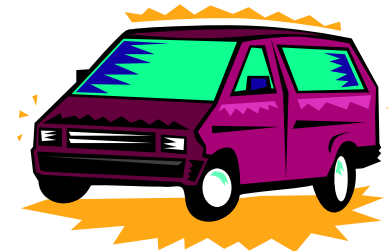
- Existence of side-channels for crypto devices known for several decades, (e.g., „Tempest“)
- Few concrete results / poor understanding prior to 1996 (at least outside intelligence community)
- 2nd half of 1990s: golden years of SCA
  - RSA CRT attack, 1996
  - Timing attacks, 1996
  - SPA, DPA, 1998
- Since 1999: 100's of SCA research papers, e.g. in CHES
- But: very few (if any) documented real-world attacks to date

# Modern Keyless Entry Systems: Hopping Code (aka Rolling Code)

advanced theft control: rolling code



$$\text{code} = e_k(n_i)$$



rolling code (or hopping code) protects  
against replay attacks:

1.  $\text{code} = e_k(n)$
2.  $\text{code} = e_k(n+1)$
3.  $\text{code} = e_k(n+2)$
- ....

$e_k()$  is often a  
block cipher

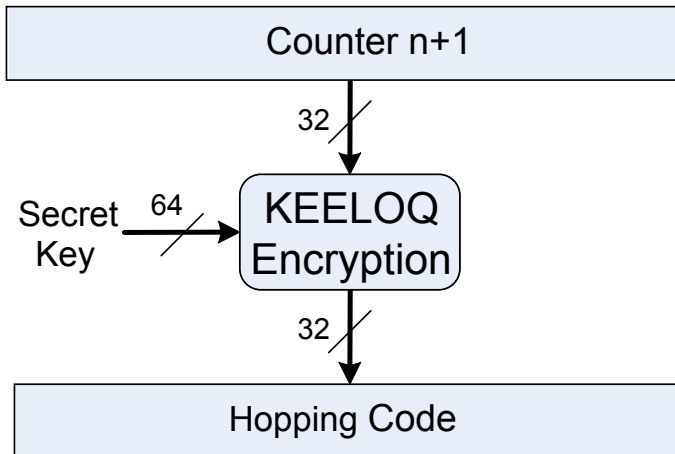
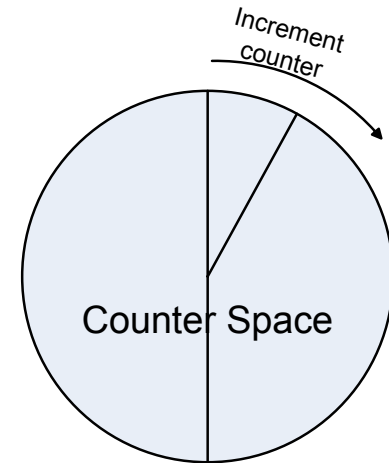
Alternatively, challenge-response  
protocols can be used  
(but require bidirectional channel)

# Contents

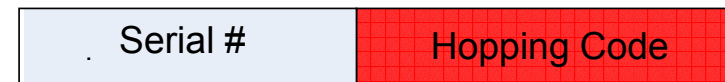
---

1. Background
- 2. KeeLoq block cipher**
3. Side-channel attacking KeeLoq
4. Results

# KeeLoq Rolling Code Scheme



Receiver decrypts & checks validity of counter value

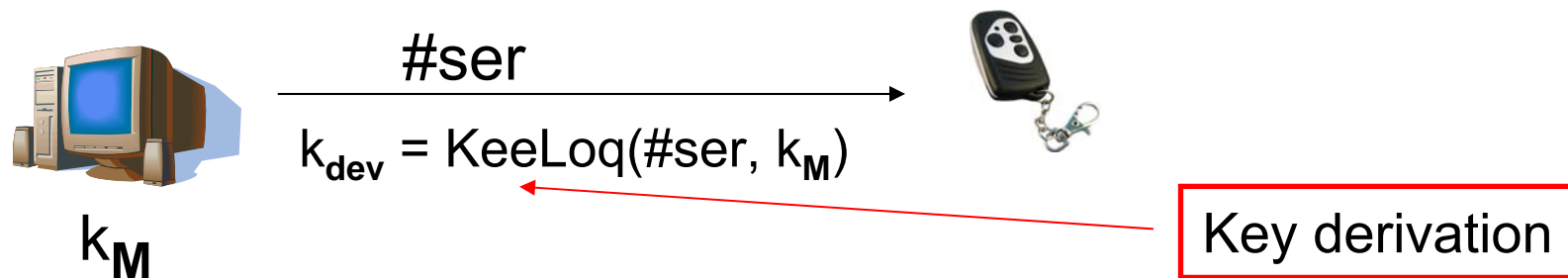




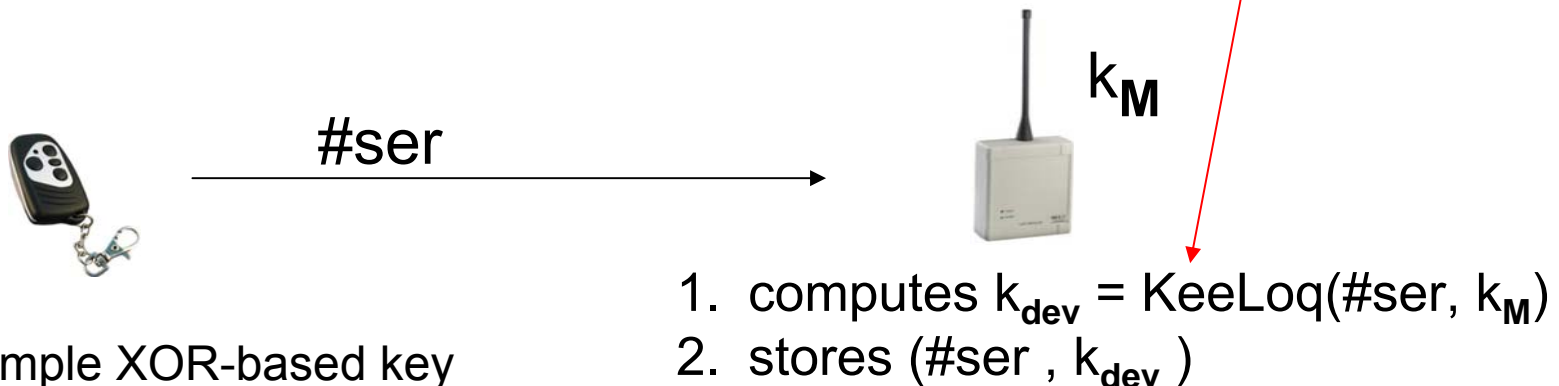
# KeeLoq Key Management

OEM gets *Manufacturer Key*  $k_M$  assigned (burned in all its receivers)

## 1) Creation of new remote (in secure environment)



## 2) Key Learning Phase of receiver (keys are never sent in clear)

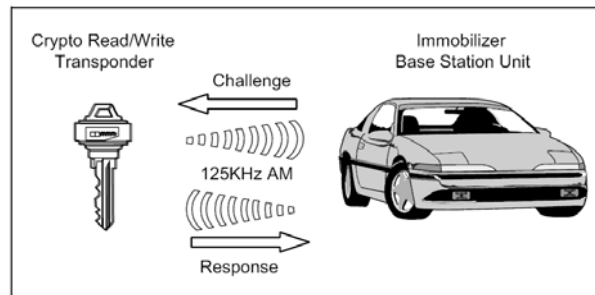


Remark: simple XOR-based key derivation also possible

# KeeLoq Applications



HCS410 IMMOBILIZER  
TRANSPONDER



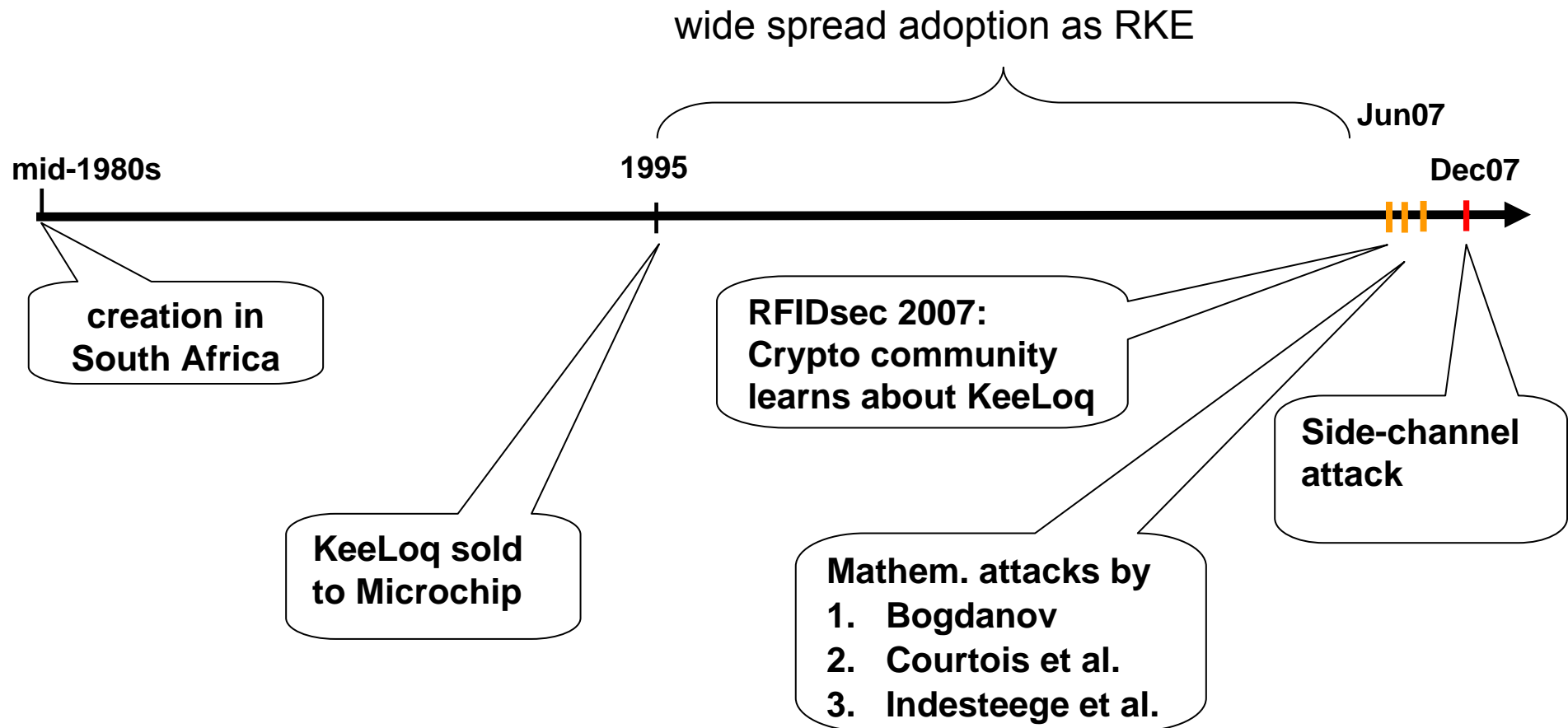
**KEELOQ**  
CODE HOPPING



- automotive and building access authentication
- KeeLoq implemented in hardware (transmitter) or software (receiver)
- can be used as rolling code or challenge-response
- very widely used for **garage doors** in US and Europe
- Wikipedia (?) Car door opening: Chrysler, Daewoo, Fiat, GM, Honda, Toyota, Volvo, Jaguar, ...

Q: How secure is KeeLoq?

# Rise and Fall of KeeLoq



# Mathematical Attacks: Recovery of Manufacturer Key

	XOR Key Derivation	KeeLoq Key Derivation
Challenge- Response	Y	N
Rolling Code	N	N

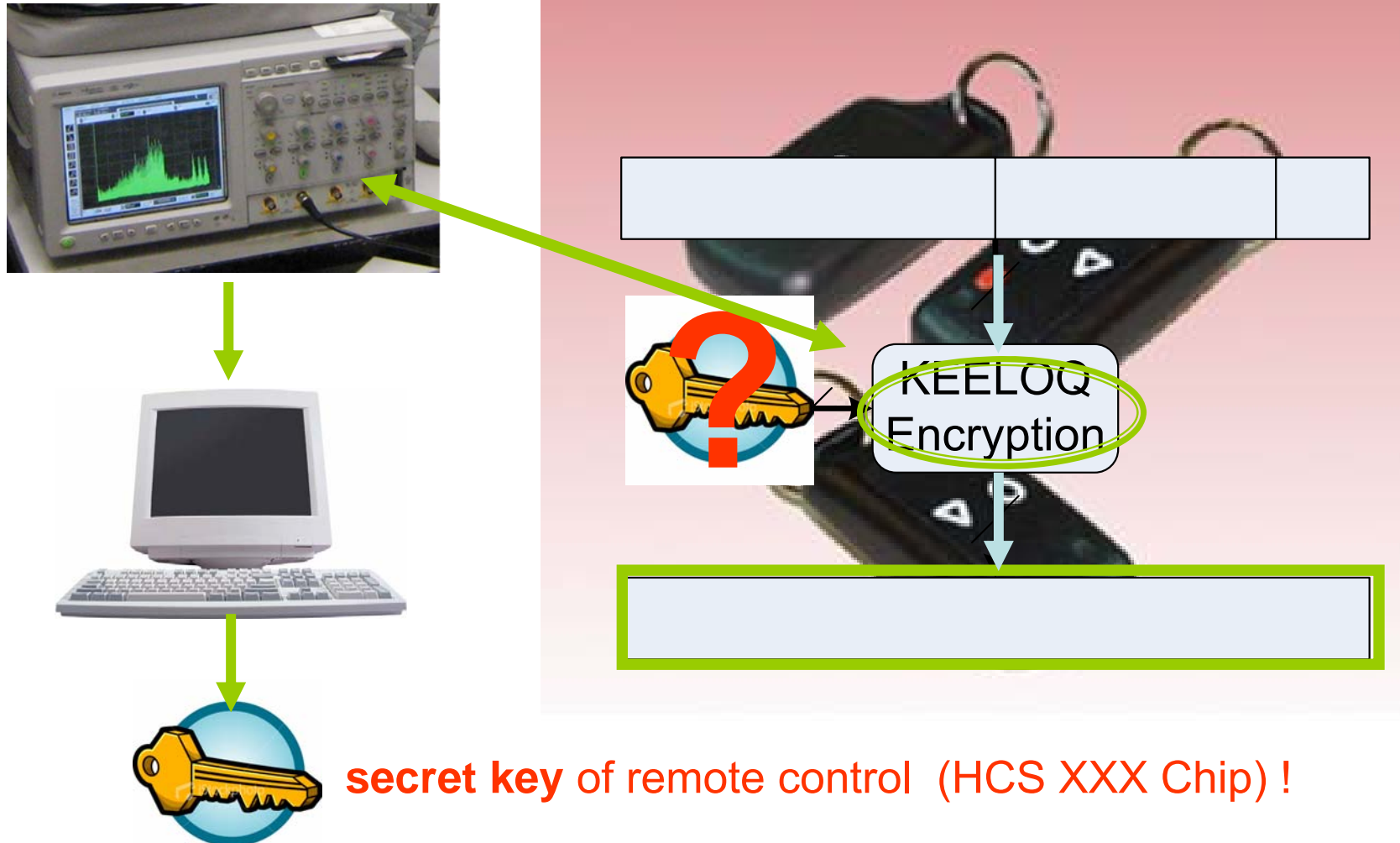
- Mathematical attack (sliding attack) is cryptanalytically very impressive!  
Device Key is recovered from  $2^{16}$  known plain/ciphertext pairs
- Problem: Rolling code mode does not provide plaintext!
- **Q: How dangerous are physical attacks?**

# Contents

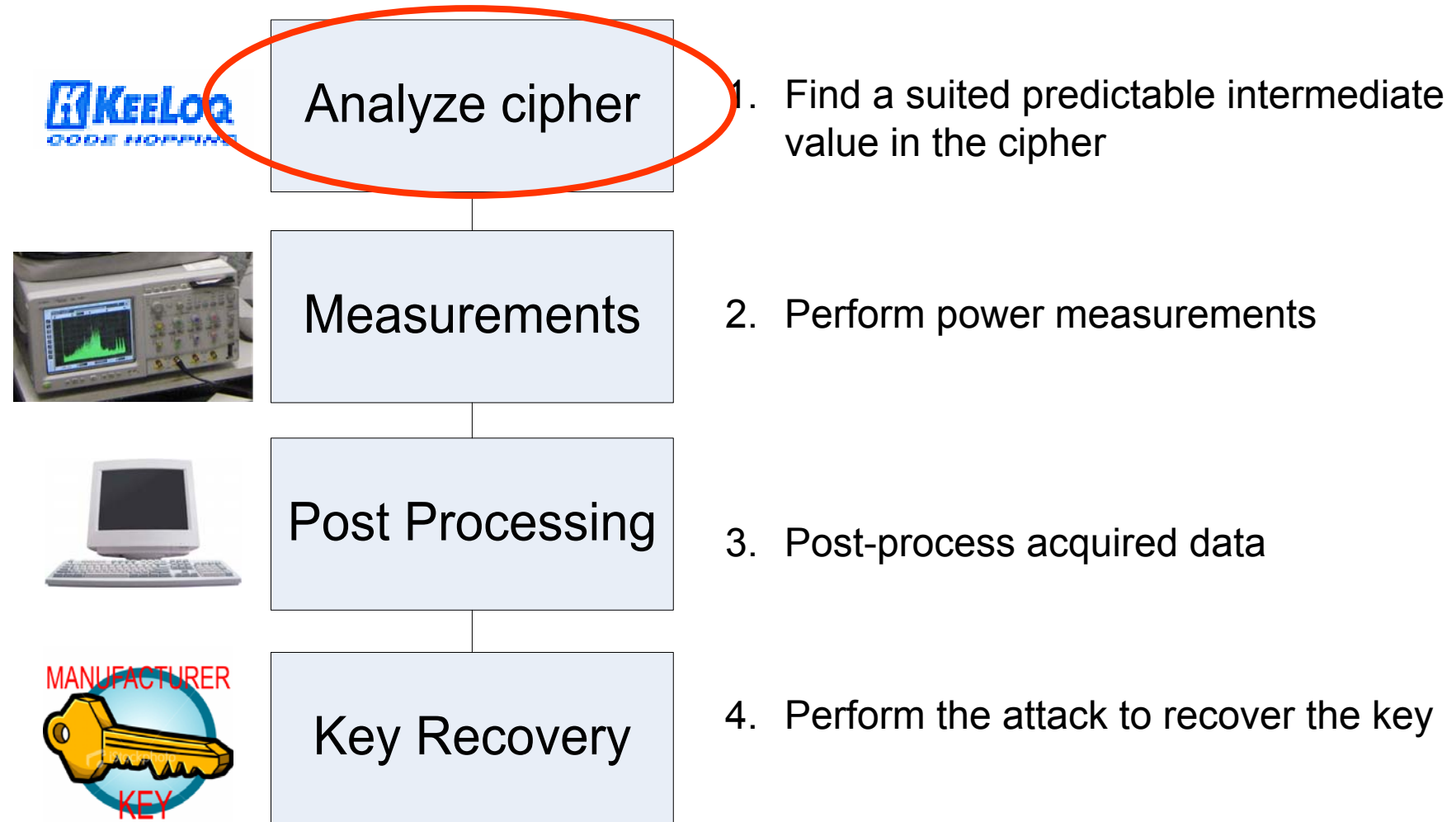
---

1. Background
2. KeeLoq block cipher
3. **Side-channel attacking KeeLoq**
4. Results

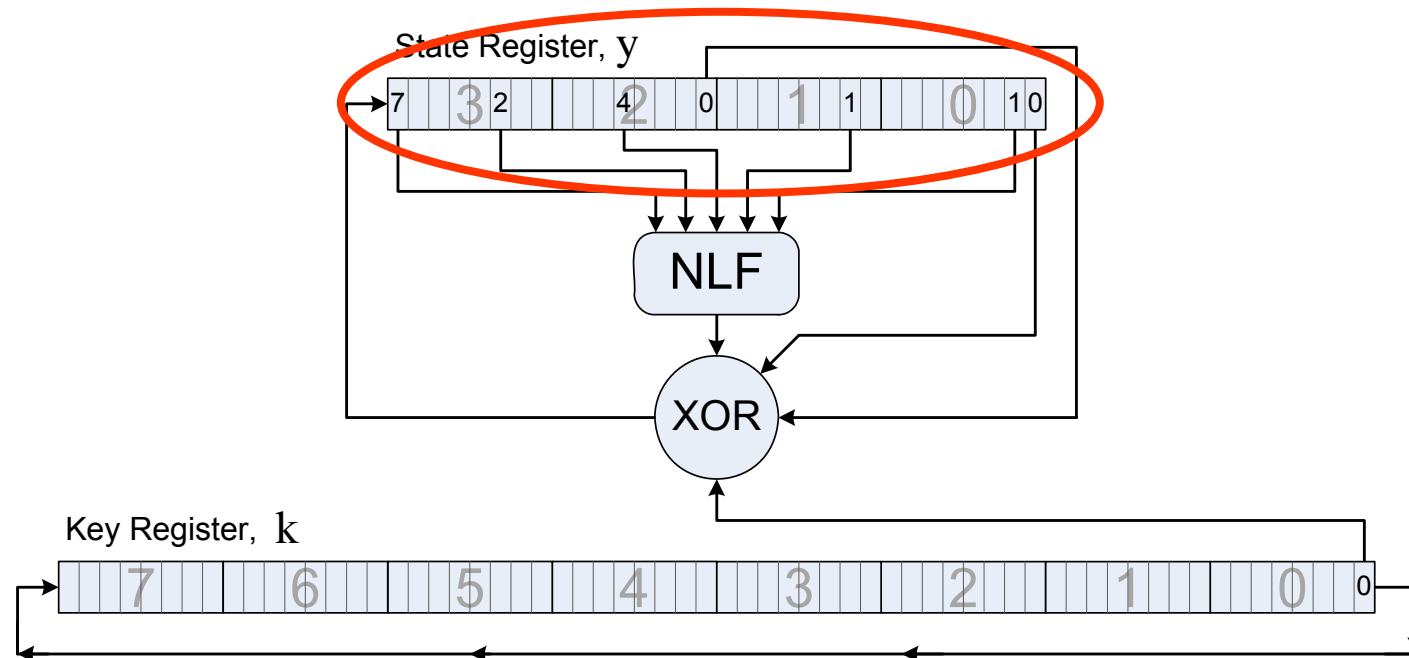
# Side Channel Analysis



# Performing the Side Channel Attack



# KeeLoq – The Algorithm



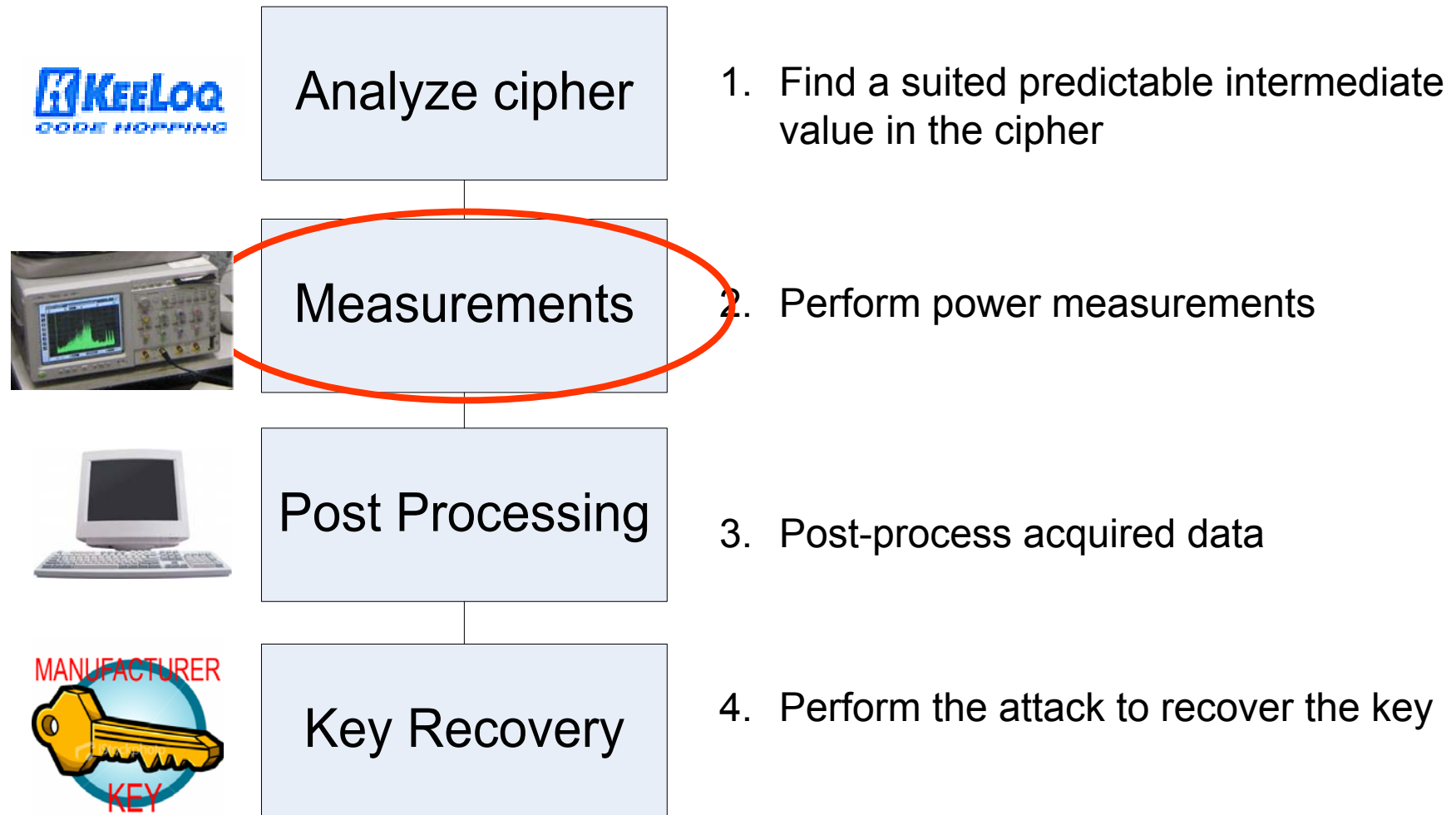
- 64 bit key, 32 bit block length

Power Consumption: comprising a 5x1 non-linear function

- logic is negligible
- simple key schedule: key is rotated
- depends on number of toggling 0s and 1s of the registers
- 928 rounds, each round one key bit is read
- power consumption of Key Register is constant (fixed Hamming distance)
- Lightweight cipher – cheap and efficient in hardware
- **Changes in power consumption is related to state which leaks key information**

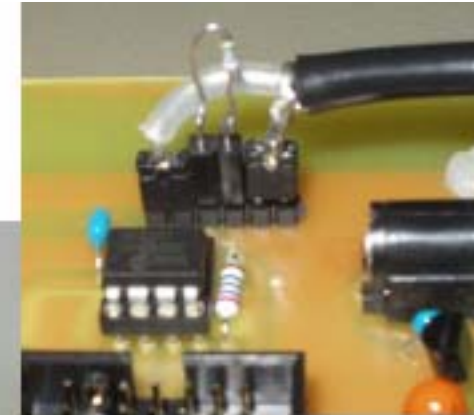
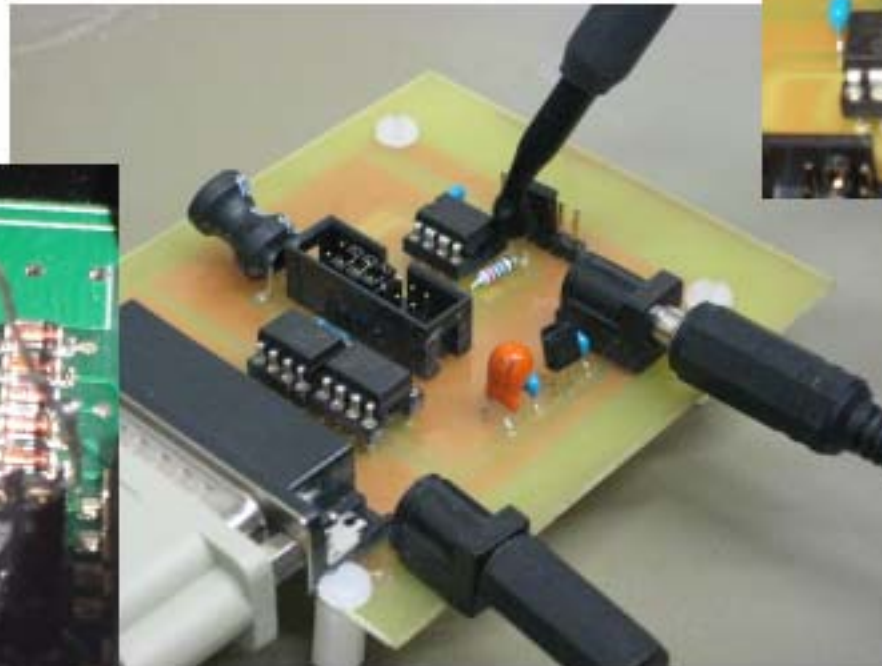


# Performing the Side-Channel Attack

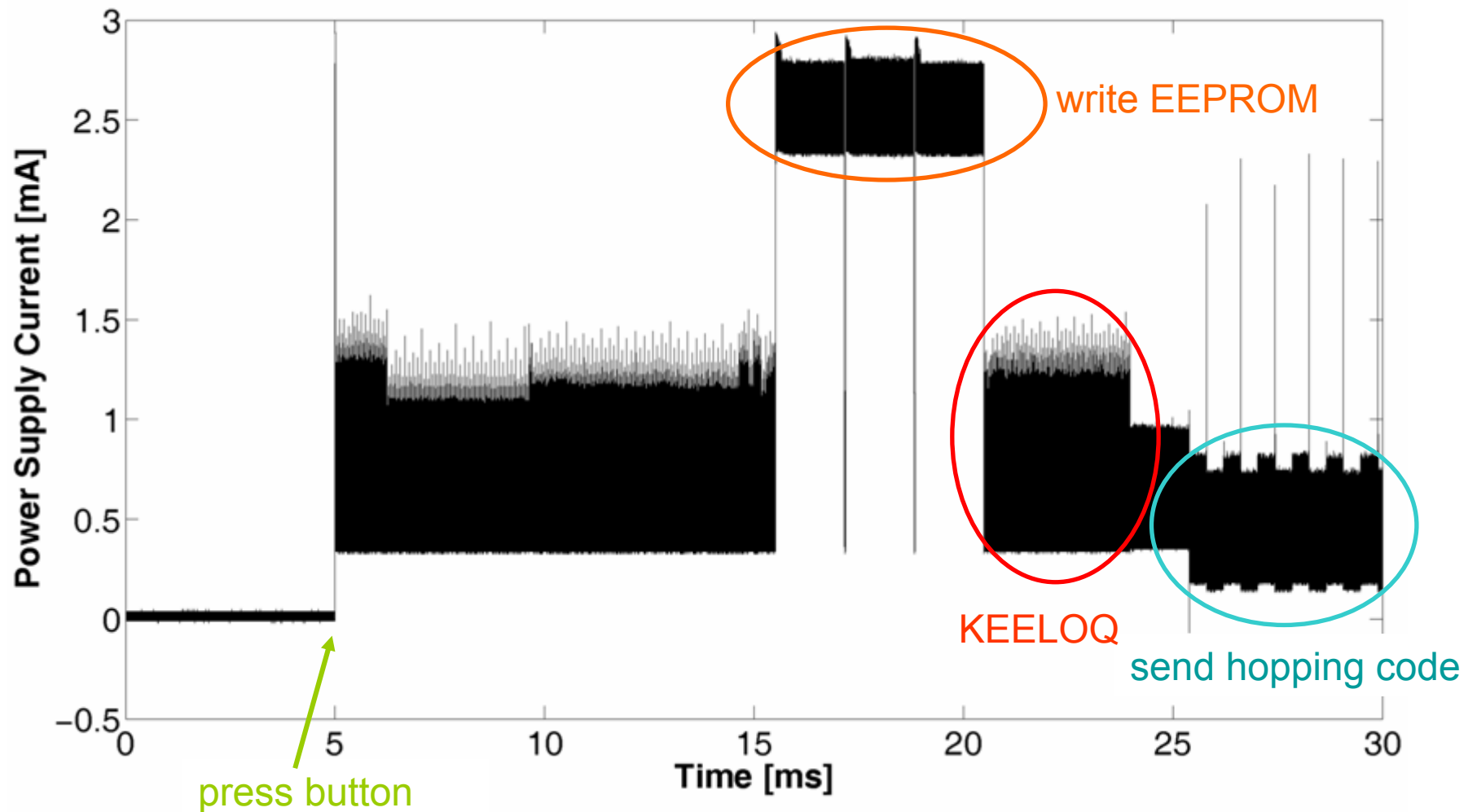


# Measuring the Power Consumption

- digital oscilloscope (max. 1 GS/s sample rate)
- measure electromagnetic field or electric current



# Identifying the KEELOQ - Encryption

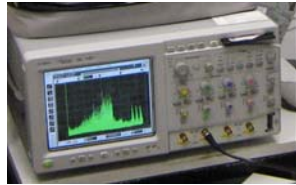


# Performing the Side-Channel Attack



Analyze cipher

1. Find a suited predictable intermediate value in the cipher



Measurements

2. Perform power measurements



Post Processing

3. Post-process acquired data

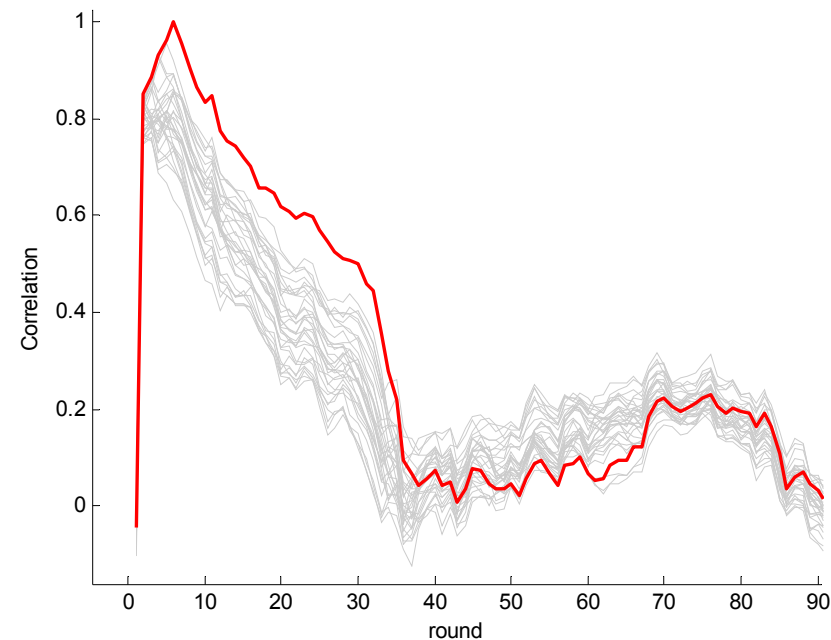


Key Recovery

4. Perform the attack to recover the key

# Performing the Side-Channel Attack Key Recovery

- Correlate measured power consumption to predicted key-dependent value  $y = f(x,k)$
- Divide and conquer approach
- Much off-line number crunching



$$r(I_i(t), D(X_i, K_h)) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^M I_i(t) \cdot D(X_i, K_h)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^M (I_i(t) - \overline{I_i(t)})^2 \cdot \sum_{i=1}^M (D(X_i, K_h) - \overline{D(X_i, K_h)})^2}}$$
$$= \frac{\frac{1}{M} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^M I_i(t) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^M D(X_i, K_h)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^M (I_i(t) - \overline{I_i(t)})^2 \cdot \sum_{i=1}^M (D(X_i, K_h) - \overline{D(X_i, K_h)})^2}}$$

# Contents

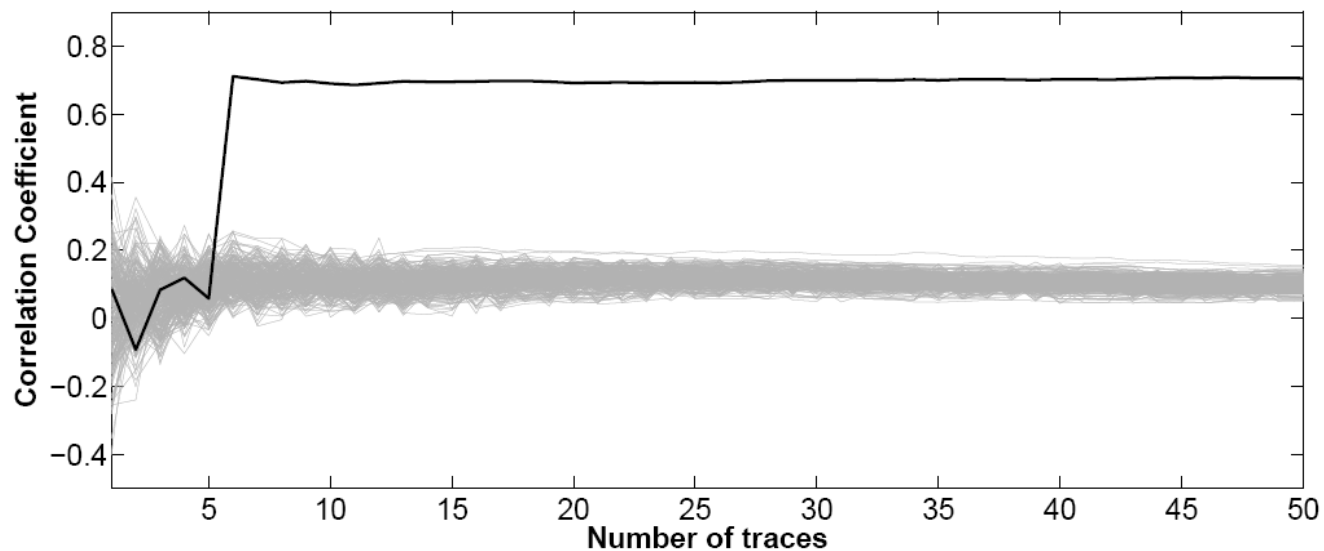
---

1. Background
2. KeeLoq block cipher
3. Side-channel attacking KeeLoq
4. **Results**

# Side Channel Attack on transmitters

KeeLoq implemented in hardware

Total attack time (for known device family):  
5-30 traces,  $\approx$  minutes

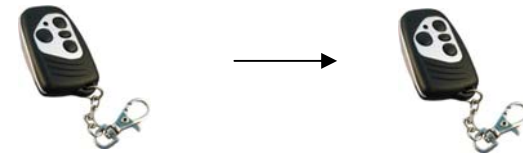


Convergence of correlation coefficient

Rem: low cost  
equipment suffices  
( $<$  \$1000)

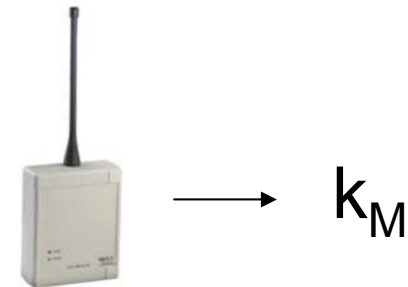
# So what can we do now (1) ?

1. If we have access to a remote:



Recover device key and clone the device

2. If we have access to a receiver:



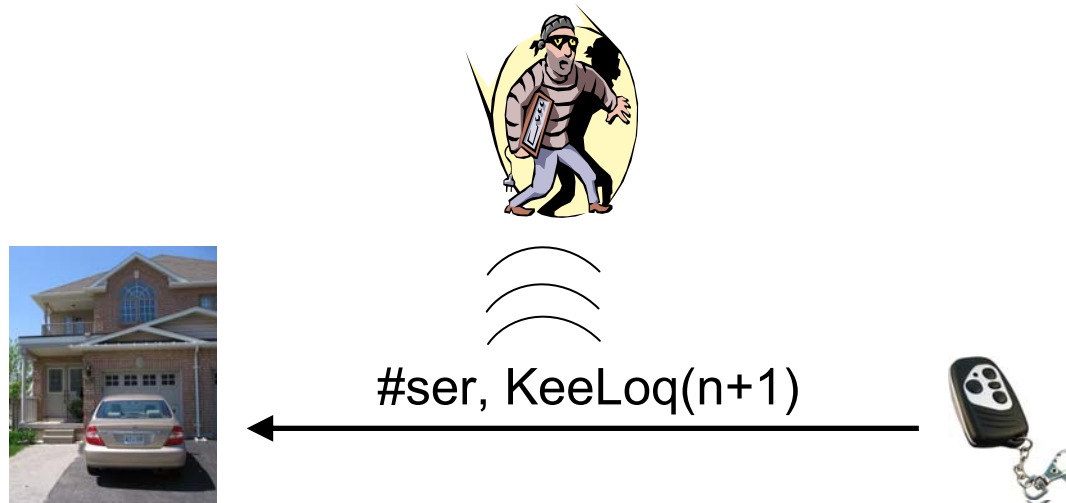
Recover manufacturer key



# So what can we do now (2) ?

After extracting of manufacturing key:

**Remotely eavesdrop on 1-2 communications & clone key!**



- works for all key derivation schemes
- might require a few hours of computation  
(Rem: not necessary for any system we've analysed.)
- SCA attack is not specific to KeeLoq, e.g., unprotected AES is vulnerable too.

**! Side-channel step (recovery of manufacturer key, difficult)  
can be outsourced to criminal cryptographers !**

Thanks for your attention!

more info: [www.crypto.rub/keelooq](http://www.crypto.rub/keelooq)



# DOS - Denial Of Service

- Receiver updates its internal counter according to the last received valid Rolling Code
- Generate valid Rolling Code with chosen counter value
- Counter of original remote control is in the block window → Door will not open.

