

*Design Automation and Test in Europe 2014*

---

# PUFs at a Glance

---

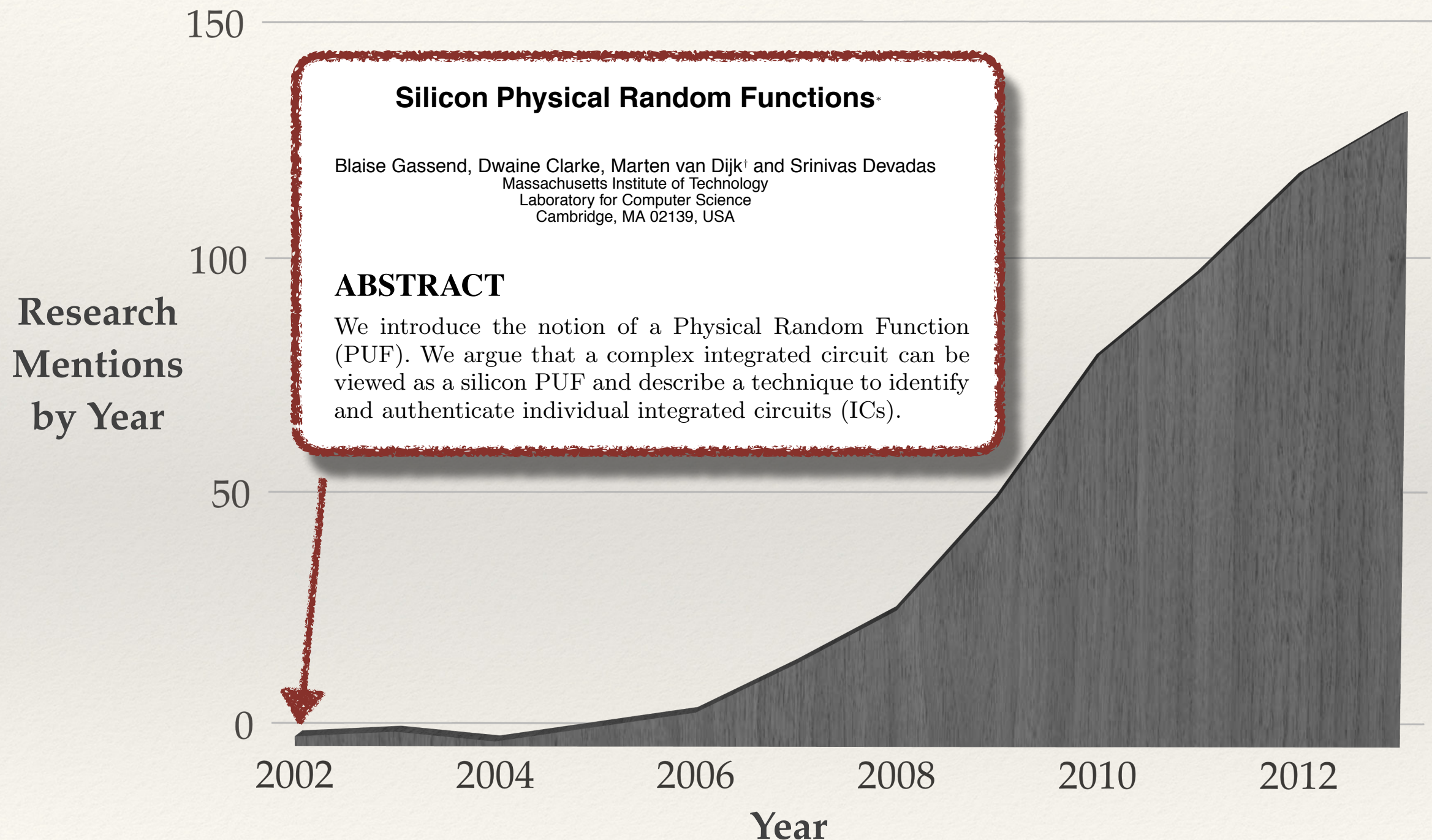
Ulrich Rührmair  
Technische Universität München

Daniel E. Holcomb  
University of Michigan

This work was supported in part by C-FAR, one of six centers of STARnet, a Semiconductor Research Corporation program sponsored by MARCO and DARPA, and NSF CNS-0845874.



# Physical Unclonable Functions





# Overview

Context and motivation for remainder of session

- 1. Brief introduction to PUFs**
2. Weak PUFs and applications
3. Strong PUFs and applications
4. Conclusions



# Physical Unclonable Functions

Challenges



Responses





# Physical Unclonable Functions

- ❖ Function

- ❖ Map challenges to responses

Challenges



Responses





# Physical Unclonable Functions

- ❖ Function

- ❖ Map challenges to responses

- ❖ Physical

- ❖ Mapping depends on physical variations

Challenges



Responses





# Physical Unclonable Functions

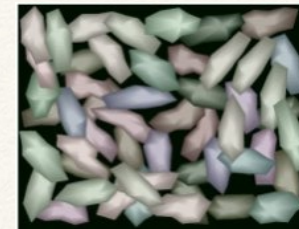
- ❖ Function

- ❖ Map challenges to responses

- ❖ Physical

- ❖ Mapping depends on physical variations

Challenges



Responses





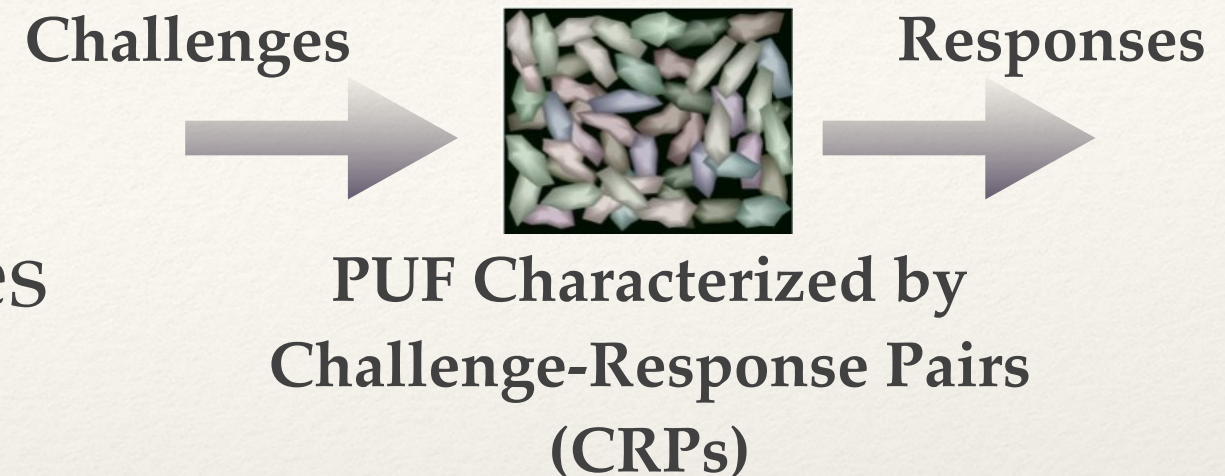
# Physical Unclonable Functions

- ❖ Function

- ❖ Map challenges to responses

- ❖ Physical

- ❖ Mapping depends on physical variations





# Physical Unclonable Functions

- ❖ Function

- ❖ Map challenges to responses

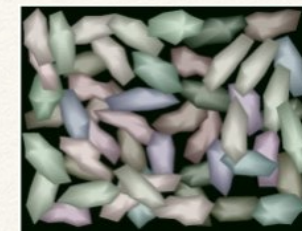
- ❖ Physical

- ❖ Mapping depends on physical variations

- ❖ Unclonable

- ❖ No compact model exists, and CRP space is too large for dictionary

Challenges



Responses



PUF Characterized by  
Challenge-Response Pairs  
(CRPs)



# Physical Unclonable Functions

- ❖ Function

- ❖ Map challenges to responses

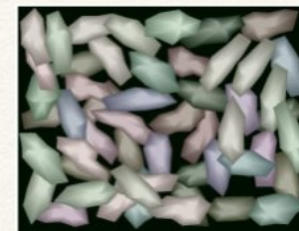
- ❖ Physical

- ❖ Mapping depends on physical variations

- ❖ Unclonable

- ❖ No compact model exists, and CRP space is too large for dictionary
  - ❖ Or, responses kept secret

Challenges



Responses



PUF Characterized by  
Challenge-Response Pairs  
(CRPs)



# Design Considerations for Silicon PUFs

- ❖ Outputs determined by uncorrelated variation
  - ❖ Random dopant fluctuations and small devices
  - ❖ Balanced parasitics and wire lengths to avoid bias



# Design Considerations for Silicon PUFs

- ❖ Outputs determined by uncorrelated variation
  - ❖ Random dopant fluctuations and small devices
  - ❖ Balanced parasitics and wire lengths to avoid bias
- ❖ Variation and noise hard to separate
  - ❖ Mask unreliable outputs
  - ❖ Majority voting
  - ❖ Error correction



# Design Considerations for Silicon PUFs

- ❖ Outputs determined by uncorrelated variation
  - ❖ Random dopant fluctuations and small devices
  - ❖ Balanced parasitics and wire lengths to avoid bias
- ❖ Variation and noise hard to separate
  - ❖ Mask unreliable outputs
  - ❖ Majority voting
  - ❖ Error correction
- ❖ Secure



# Security Considerations

- ❖ Assumed capabilities of adversary
  - ❖ Observe CRPs
  - ❖ Measure side channels
  - ❖ Disassemble and probe chip

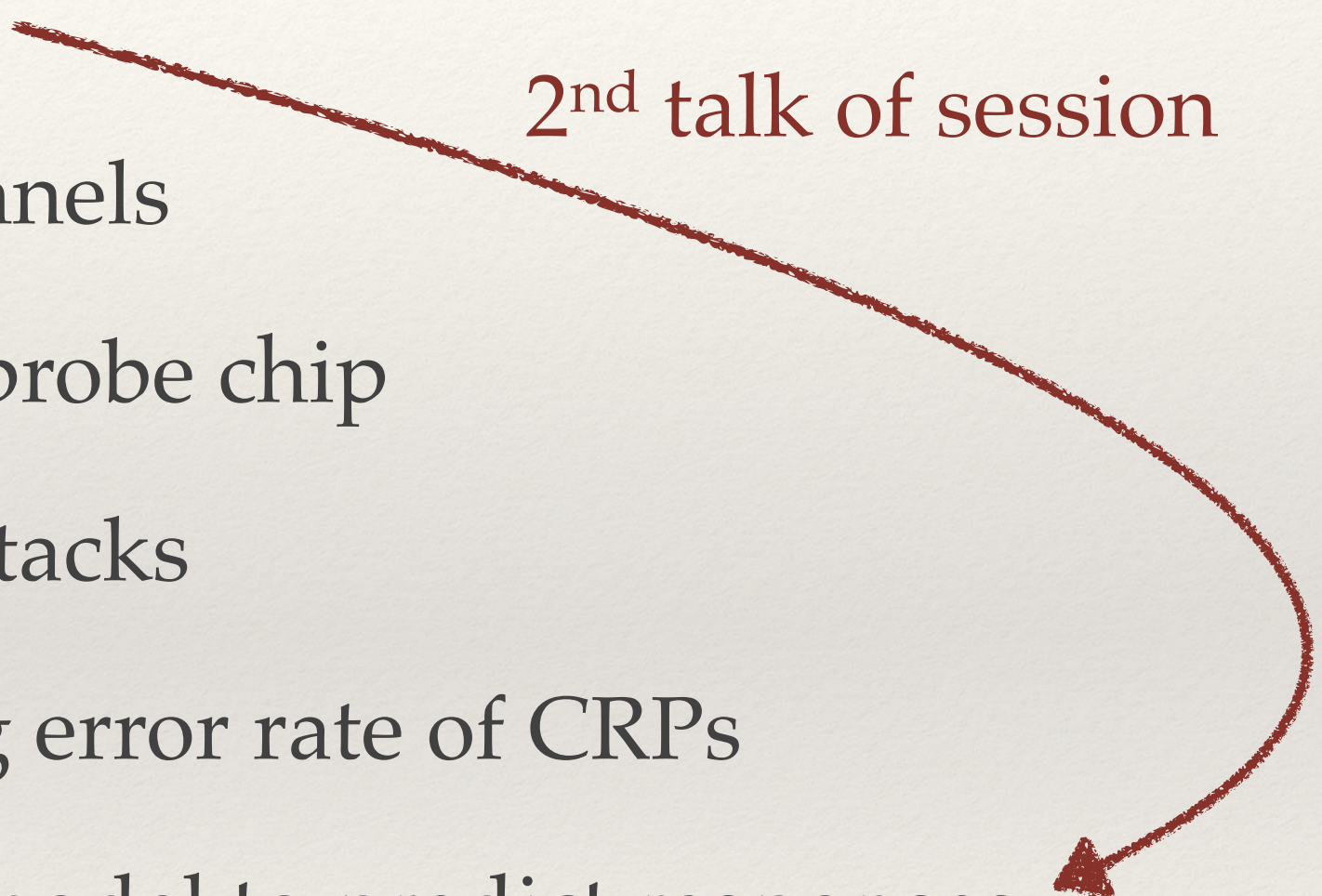


# Security Considerations

- ❖ Assumed capabilities of adversary
  - ❖ Observe CRPs
  - ❖ Measure side channels
  - ❖ Disassemble and probe chip
- ❖ Possible results of attacks
  - ❖ DOS by increasing error rate of CRPs
  - ❖ Train parametric model to predict responses
  - ❖ Clone with another instance of PUF

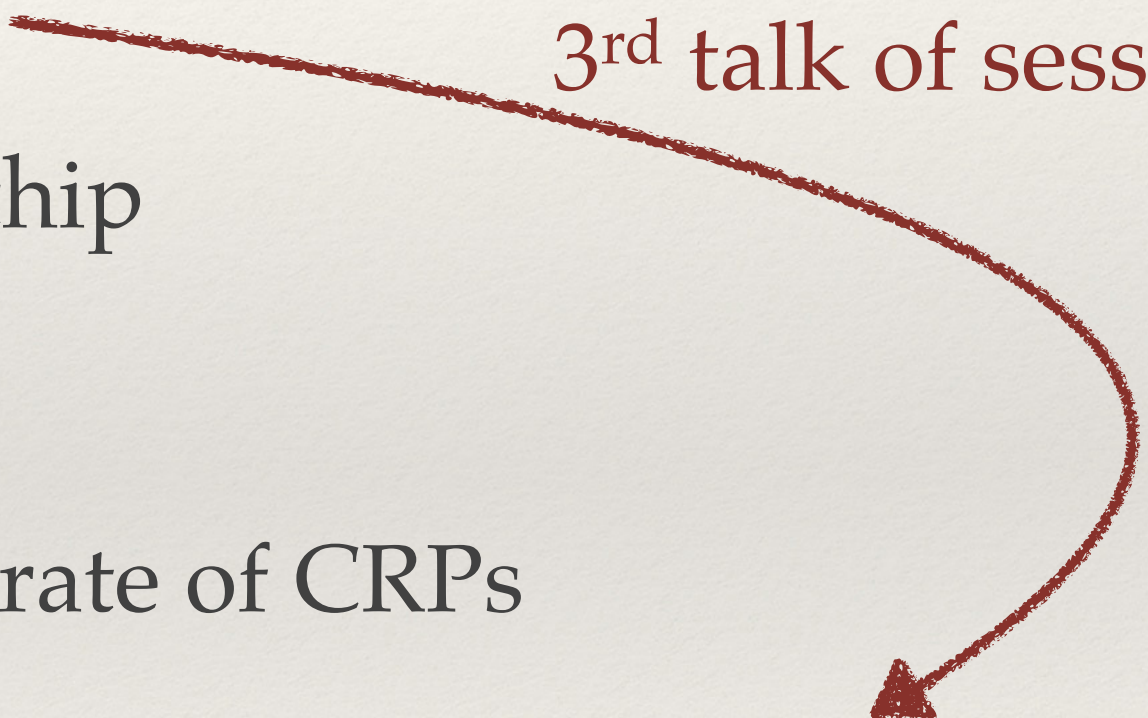


# Security Considerations

- ❖ Assumed capabilities of adversary
    - ❖ Observe CRPs
    - ❖ Measure side channels
    - ❖ Disassemble and probe chip
  - ❖ Possible results of attacks
    - ❖ DOS by increasing error rate of CRPs
    - ❖ Train parametric model to predict responses
    - ❖ Clone with another instance of PUF
- 2<sup>nd</sup> talk of session
- 

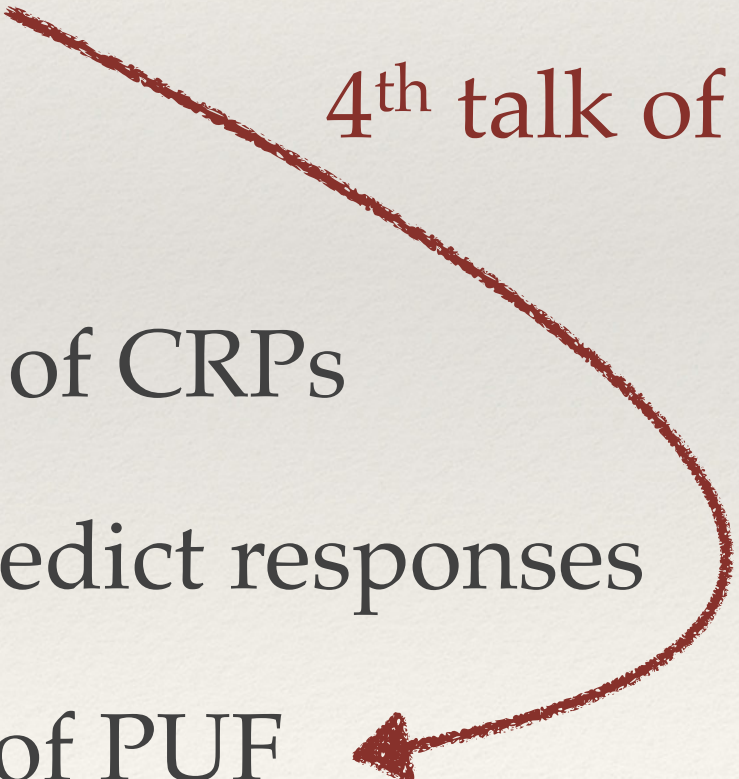


# Security Considerations

- ❖ Assumed capabilities of adversary
    - ❖ Observe CRPs
    - ❖ Measure side channels
    - ❖ Disassemble and probe chip
  - ❖ Possible results of attacks
    - ❖ DOS by increasing error rate of CRPs
    - ❖ Train parametric model to predict responses
    - ❖ Clone with another instance of PUF
- 3<sup>rd</sup> talk of session
- 



# Security Considerations

- ❖ Assumed capabilities of adversary
    - ❖ Observe CRPs
    - ❖ Measure side channels
    - ❖ Disassemble and probe chip
  - ❖ Possible results of attacks
    - ❖ DOS by increasing error rate of CRPs
    - ❖ Train parametric model to predict responses
    - ❖ Clone with another instance of PUF
- 4<sup>th</sup> talk of session
- 



# Weak vs Strong PUFs

Weak PUFs

Strong PUFs



# Weak vs Strong PUFs

## Weak PUFs

- ❖ Few / one challenges

## Strong PUFs

- ❖ Many challenges



# Weak vs Strong PUFs

## Weak PUFs

- ❖ Few / one challenges
- ❖ Responses remain internal
  - ❖ Perfect internal error correction

## Strong PUFs

- ❖ Many challenges
- ❖ Public CRP interface
  - ❖ Error correction outside PUF is possible



# Weak vs Strong PUFs

## Weak PUFs

- ❖ Few / one challenges
- ❖ Responses remain internal
  - ❖ Perfect internal error correction
- ❖ Attacks: Cloning and invasive reading of responses

## Strong PUFs

- ❖ Many challenges
- ❖ Public CRP interface
  - ❖ Error correction outside PUF is possible
- ❖ Attacks: Modeling attacks and protocol attacks



# Weak vs Strong PUFs

## Weak PUFs

- ❖ Few / one challenges
- ❖ Responses remain internal
  - ❖ Perfect internal error correction
- ❖ Attacks: Cloning and invasive reading of responses
- ❖ Use cases: New form of key storage



## Strong PUFs

- ❖ Many challenges
- ❖ Public CRP interface
  - ❖ Error correction outside PUF is possible
- ❖ Attacks: Modeling attacks and protocol attacks



# Weak vs Strong PUFs

## Weak PUFs

- ❖ Few / one challenges
- ❖ Responses remain internal
  - ❖ Perfect internal error correction
- ❖ Attacks: Cloning and invasive reading of responses
- ❖ Use cases: New form of key storage



## Strong PUFs

- ❖ Many challenges
- ❖ Public CRP interface
  - ❖ Error correction outside PUF is possible
- ❖ Attacks: Modeling attacks and protocol attacks
- ❖ Use cases: New cryptographic primitive



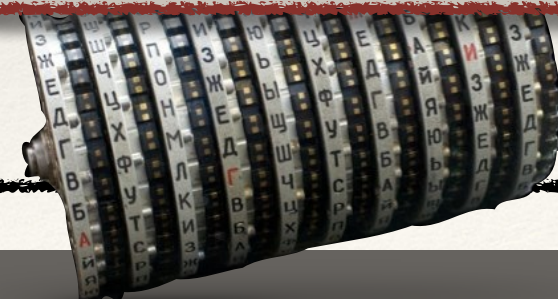


# Weak vs Strong PUFs

## Weak PUFs

## Strong PUFs

- ❖ Weak and strong are two PUF subclasses among many
  - ❖ Controlled PUFs
  - ❖ Public PUFs
  - ❖ SIMPL, etc





# Overview

1. Brief introduction to PUFs
- 2. Weak PUFs and applications**
3. Strong PUFs and applications
4. Conclusions



# Examples of Weak PUFs

- ❖ Using custom circuits
  - ❖ Drain currents [Lofstrom et al. '02]
  - ❖ Capacitive coating PUF [Tuyls et al. '06]
  - ❖ Cross-coupled devices [Su et al. '07]
  - ❖ Sense amps [Bhargava et al. '10]
- ❖ Using existing circuits
  - ❖ Clock skew [Yao et al. '13]
  - ❖ Flash latency [Prabhu et al. '11]
  - ❖ Power-up SRAM state [Guajardo et al. '07, Holcomb et al. '07]



# Examples of Weak PUFs

- ❖ Using custom circuits

- ❖ Drain currents [Lofstrom et al. '02]

- ❖ Capacitive coating PUF [Tuyls et al. '06]

- ❖ Cross-coupled devices [Su et al. '07]

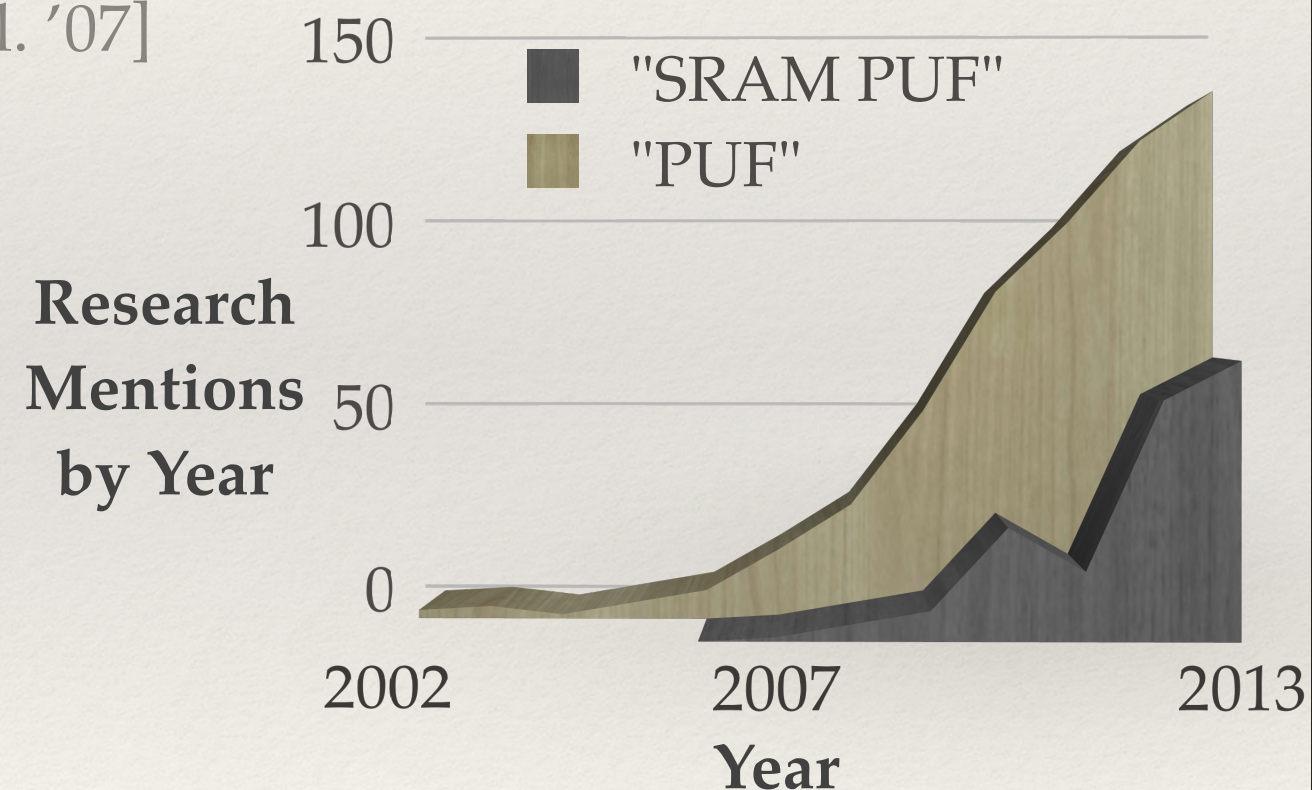
- ❖ Sense amps [Bhargava et al. '10]

- ❖ Using existing circuits

- ❖ Clock skew [Yao et al. '13]

- ❖ Flash latency [Prabhu et al. '11]

- ❖ **Power-up SRAM state** [Guajardo et al. '07, Holcomb et al. '07]





# Applications of Weak PUFs

- ❖ Identification
- ❖ Authentication
- ❖ Secret key
- ❖ Random number generation



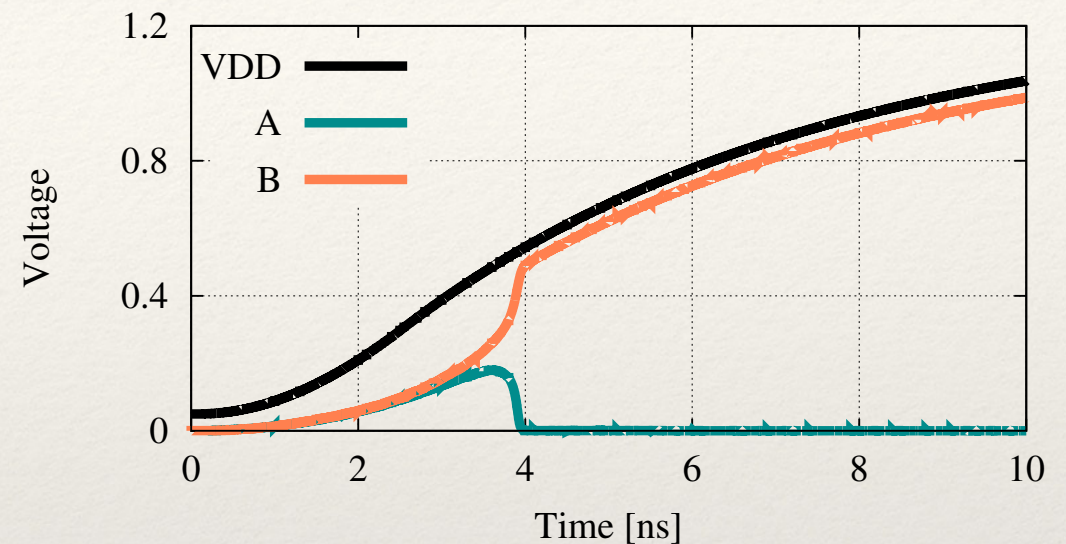
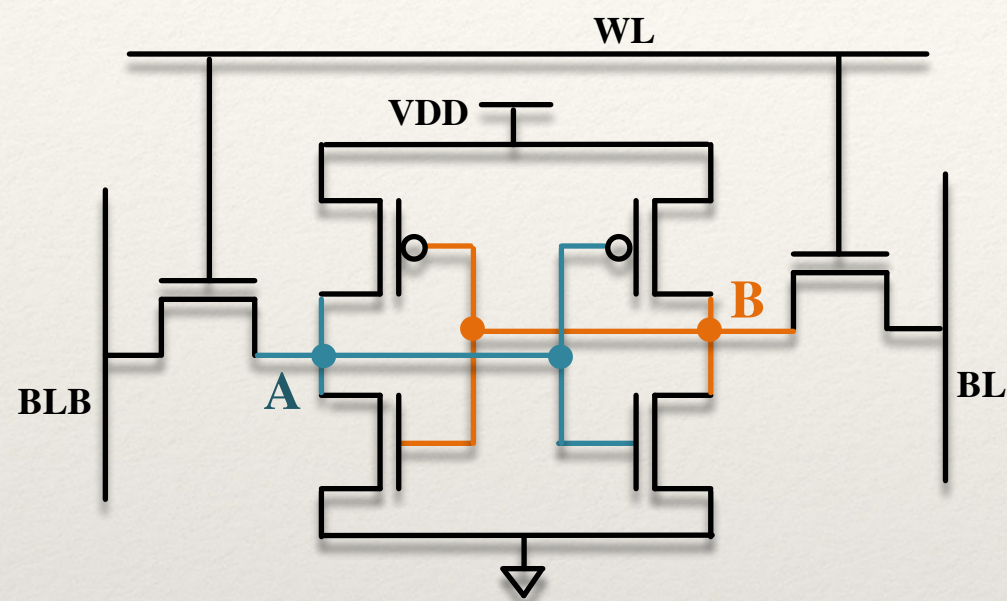
# Applications of Weak PUFs

- ❖ Identification
- ❖ Authentication
- ❖ Secret key
- ❖ Random number generation



# SRAM Power-up State

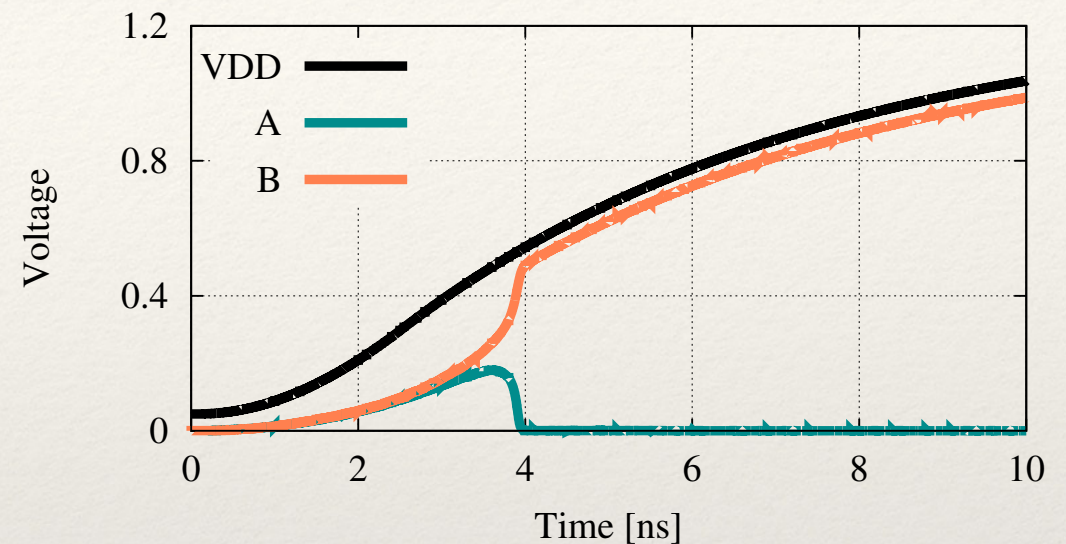
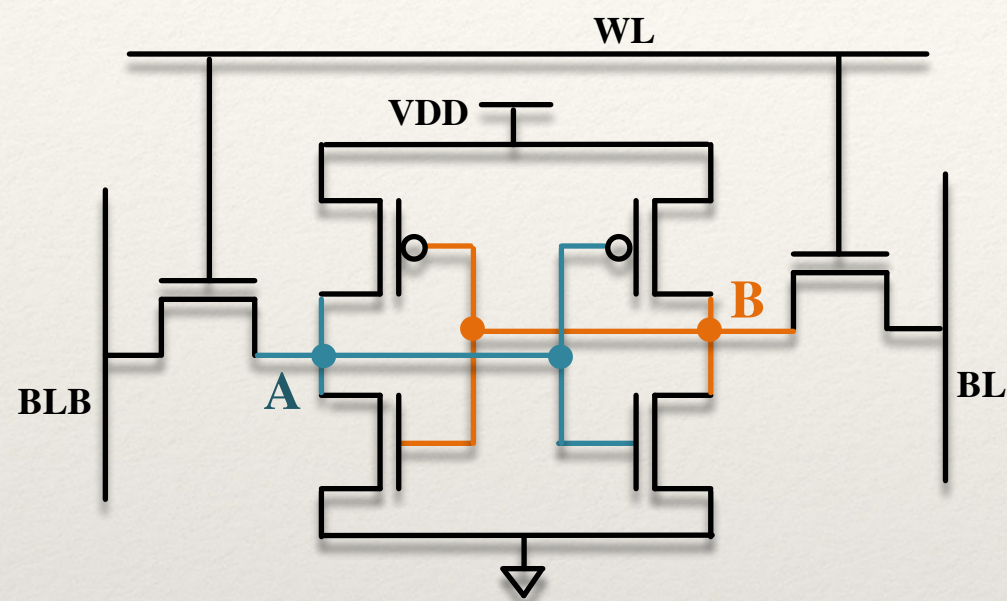
Utilize inherent power-up bias of each SRAM cell





# SRAM Power-up State

## Utilize inherent power-up bias of each SRAM cell

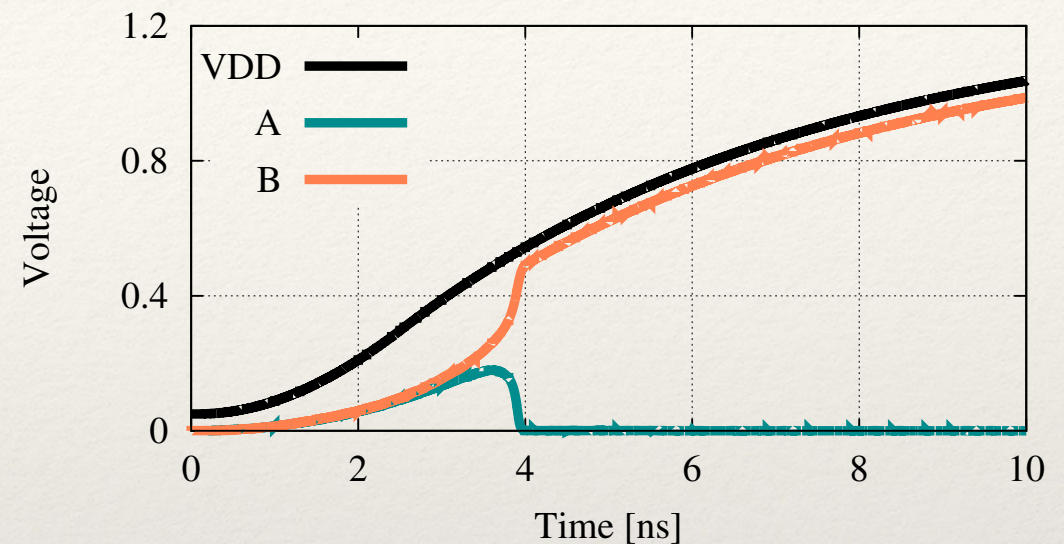
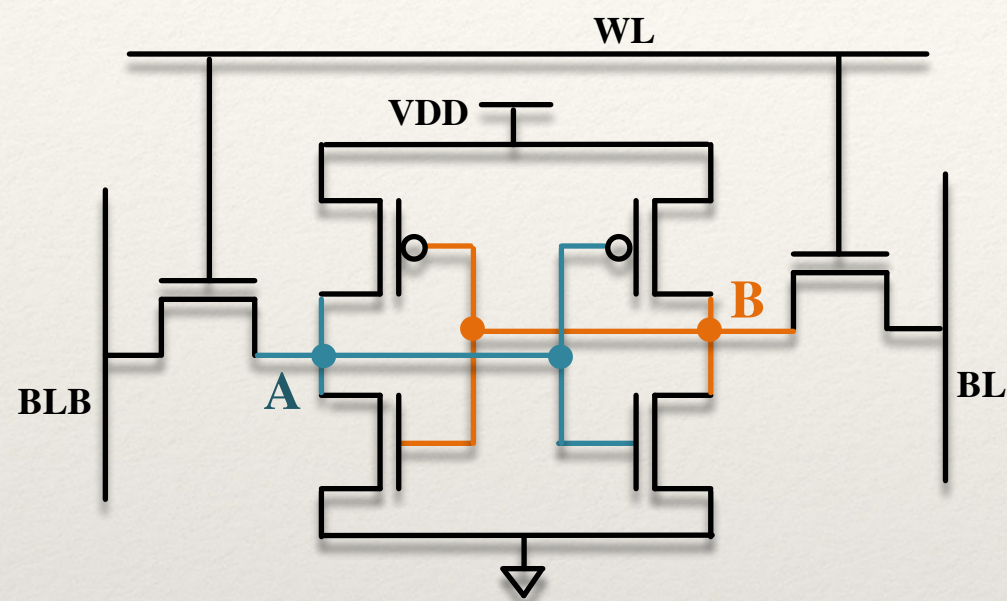


❖ Challenge:  $c$  (selects  $n$  cells)



# SRAM Power-up State

Utilize inherent power-up bias of each SRAM cell

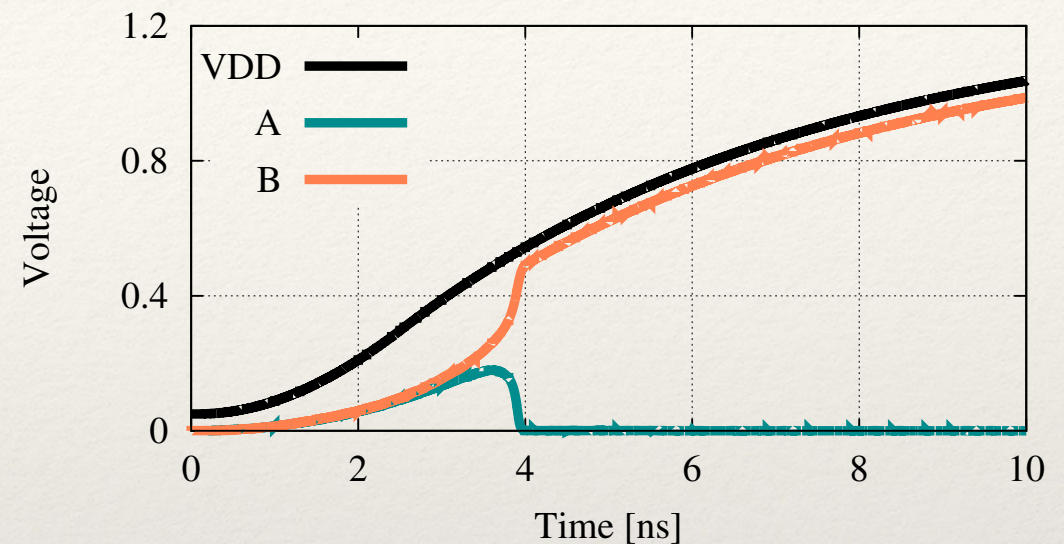
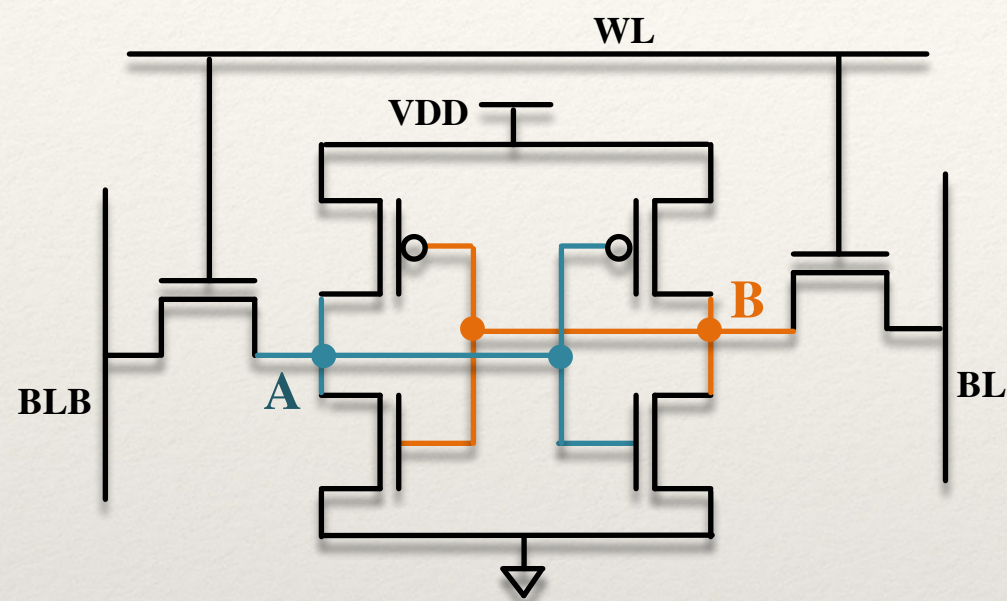


- ❖ Challenge:  $c$  (selects  $n$  cells)
- ❖ Responses:  $r \in 2^n$   
(power-up state of  $n$  cells)



# SRAM Power-up State

Utilize inherent power-up bias of each SRAM cell

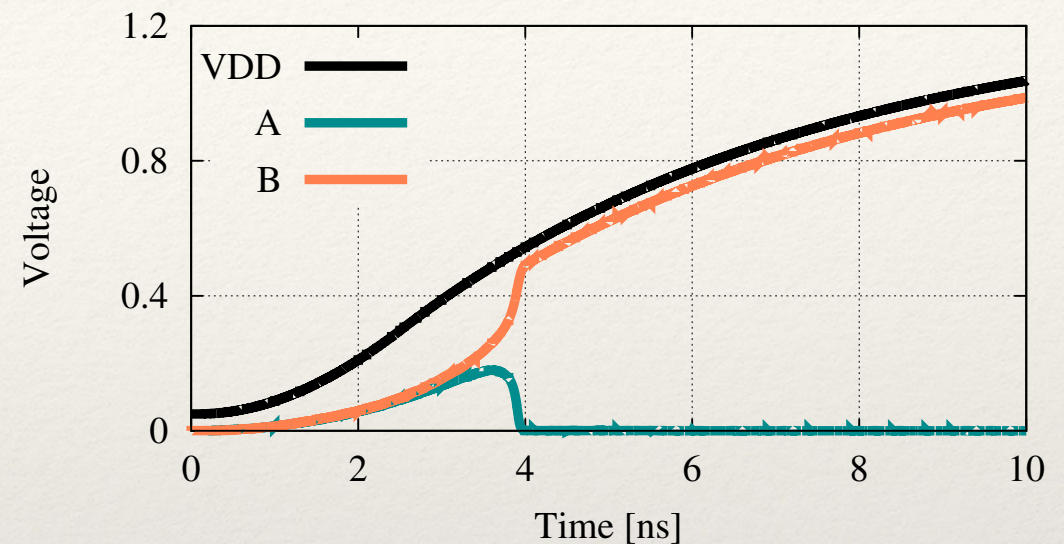
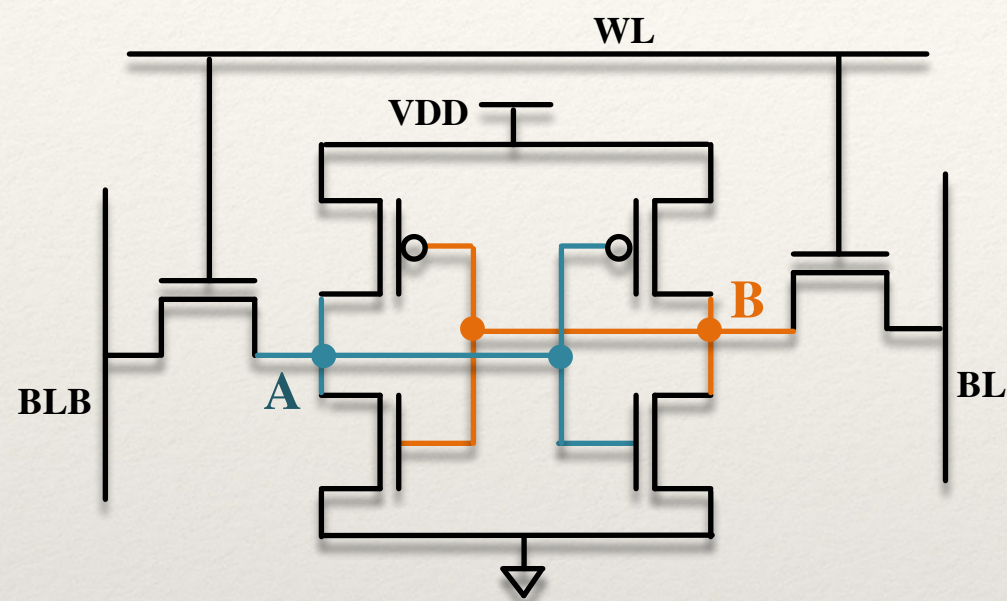


- ❖ Challenge:  $c$  (selects  $n$  cells)
- ❖ Responses:  $r \in 2^n$   
(power-up state of  $n$  cells)
- ❖ Disorder / randomness: Threshold variation of transistors in SRAM cell

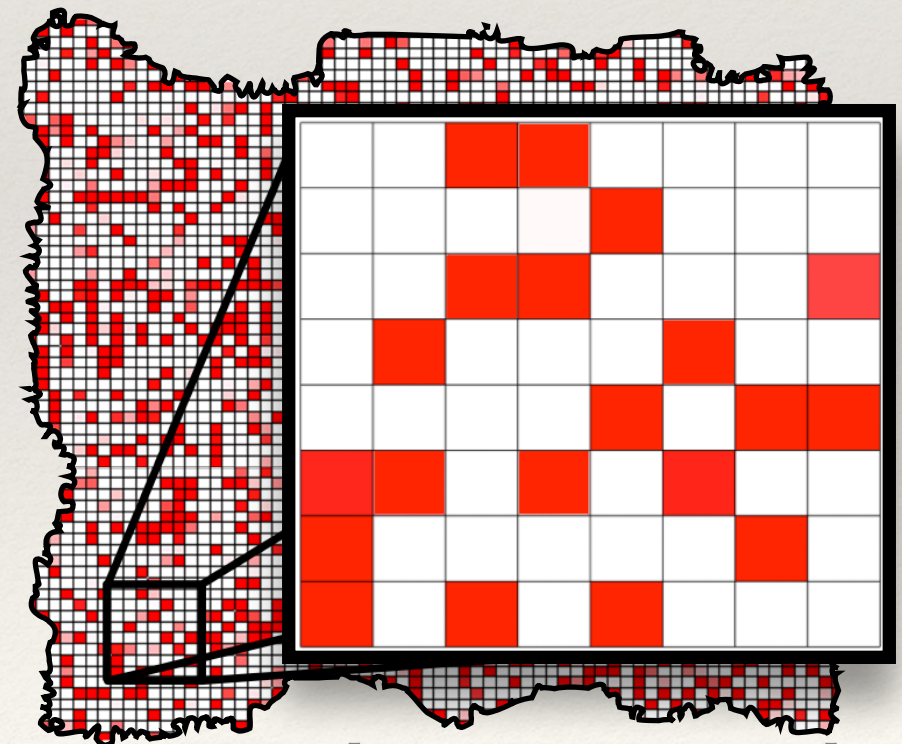


# SRAM Power-up State

Utilize inherent power-up bias of each SRAM cell



- ❖ Challenge:  $c$  (selects  $n$  cells)
- ❖ Responses:  $r \in 2^n$  (power-up state of  $n$  cells)
- ❖ Disorder / randomness: Threshold variation of transistors in SRAM cell



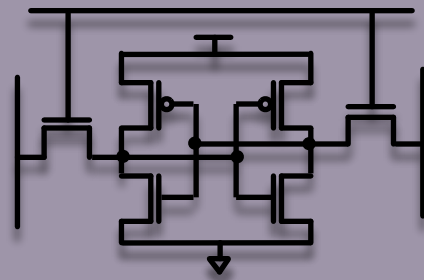
[Holcomb et al., '07]



# Weak PUF as Secret Key

Enroll PUF

Weak PUF



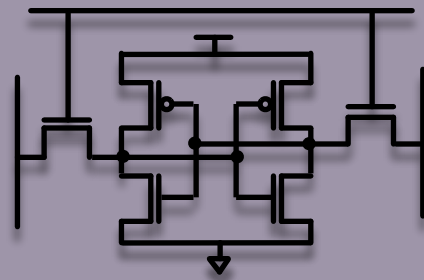


# Weak PUF as Secret Key

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Learn CRP (c,r)

## Weak PUF



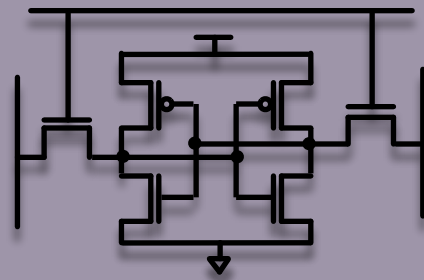


# Weak PUF as Secret Key

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Learn CRP  $(c, r)$
- ❖ Derive public error correcting data  $h$  for  $r$
- ❖ Key  $k = \text{Decode}(r \oplus h)$

## Weak PUF

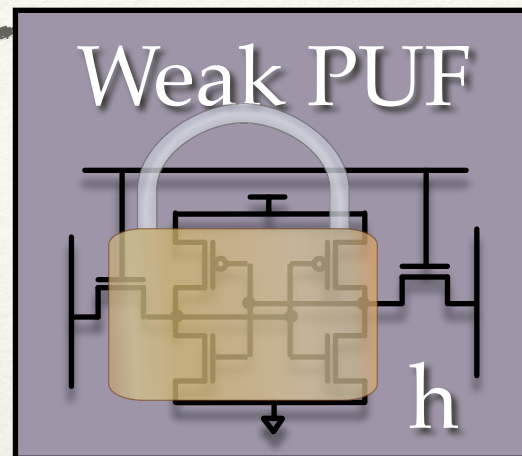




# Weak PUF as Secret Key

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Learn CRP  $(c, r)$
- ❖ Derive public error correcting data  $h$  for  $r$
- ❖ Key  $k = \text{Decode}(r \oplus h)$
- ❖ Store  $h$  with PUF
- ❖ Disable access to response  $r$



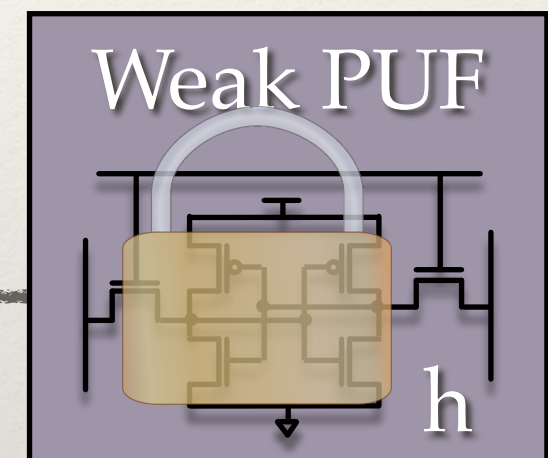


# Weak PUF as Secret Key

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Learn CRP (c,r)
- ❖ Derive public error correcting data h for r
- ❖ Key  $k = \text{Decode}(r \oplus h)$
- ❖ Store h with PUF
- ❖ Disable access to response r

## Generate Key in Field





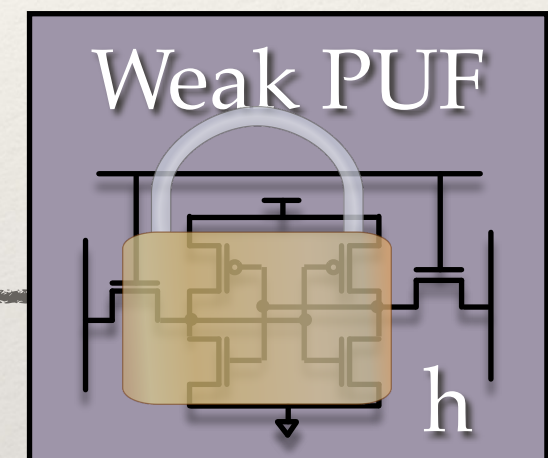
# Weak PUF as Secret Key

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Learn CRP  $(c, r)$
- ❖ Derive public error correcting data  $h$  for  $r$
- ❖ Key  $k = \text{Decode}(r \oplus h)$
- ❖ Store  $h$  with PUF
- ❖ Disable access to response  $r$

$c$

## Generate Key in Field





# Weak PUF as Secret Key

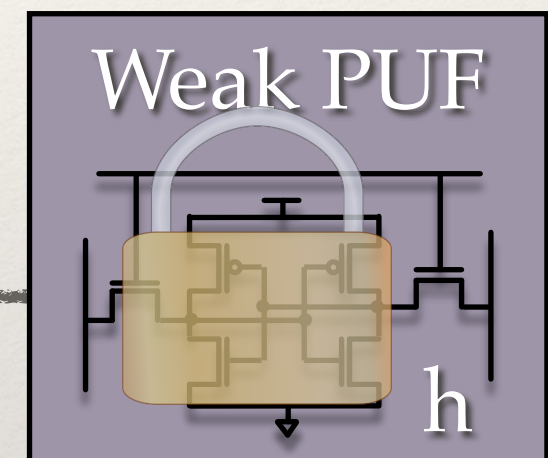
## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Learn CRP  $(c, r)$
- ❖ Derive public error correcting data  $h$  for  $r$
- ❖ Key  $k = \text{Decode}(r \oplus h)$
- ❖ Store  $h$  with PUF
- ❖ Disable access to response  $r$

$c$

## Generate Key in Field

- ❖ Apply  $c$ , obtain  $r' \oplus h$
- ❖ Key  $k = \text{Decode}(r' \oplus h)$





# Weak PUF as Secret Key

## Enroll PUF

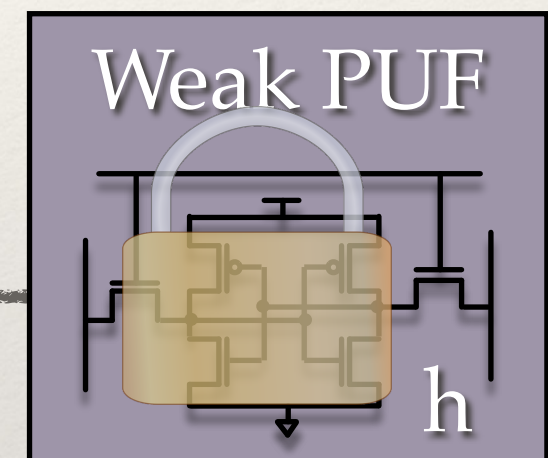
- ❖ Learn CRP  $(c, r)$
- ❖ Derive public error correcting data  $h$  for  $r$
- ❖ Key  $k = \text{Decode}(r \oplus h)$
- ❖ Store  $h$  with PUF
- ❖ Disable access to response  $r$

$c$

**$k$  is reliable  
key**

## Generate Key in Field

- ❖ Apply  $c$ , obtain  $r' \oplus h$
- ❖ Key  $k = \text{Decode}(r' \oplus h)$





# Weak PUF as Secret Key

## Enroll PUF

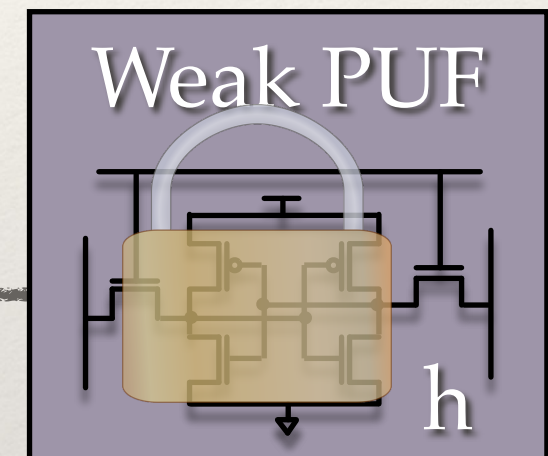
- ❖ Learn CRP  $(c, r)$
- ❖ Derive public error correcting data  $h$  for  $r$
- ❖ Key  $k = \text{Decode}(r \oplus h)$
- ❖ Store  $h$  with PUF
- ❖ Disable access to response  $r$

$c$

**$k$  is reliable  
key**

## Generate Key in Field

- ❖ Apply  $c$ , obtain  $r' \oplus h$
- ❖ Key  $k = \text{Decode}(r' \oplus h)$



- ❖ Reliable unclonable key for crypto
- ❖ Assumes that  $r$  cannot be read in field



# Overview

1. Brief introduction to PUFs
2. Weak PUFs and applications
3. **Strong PUFs and applications**
4. Conclusions



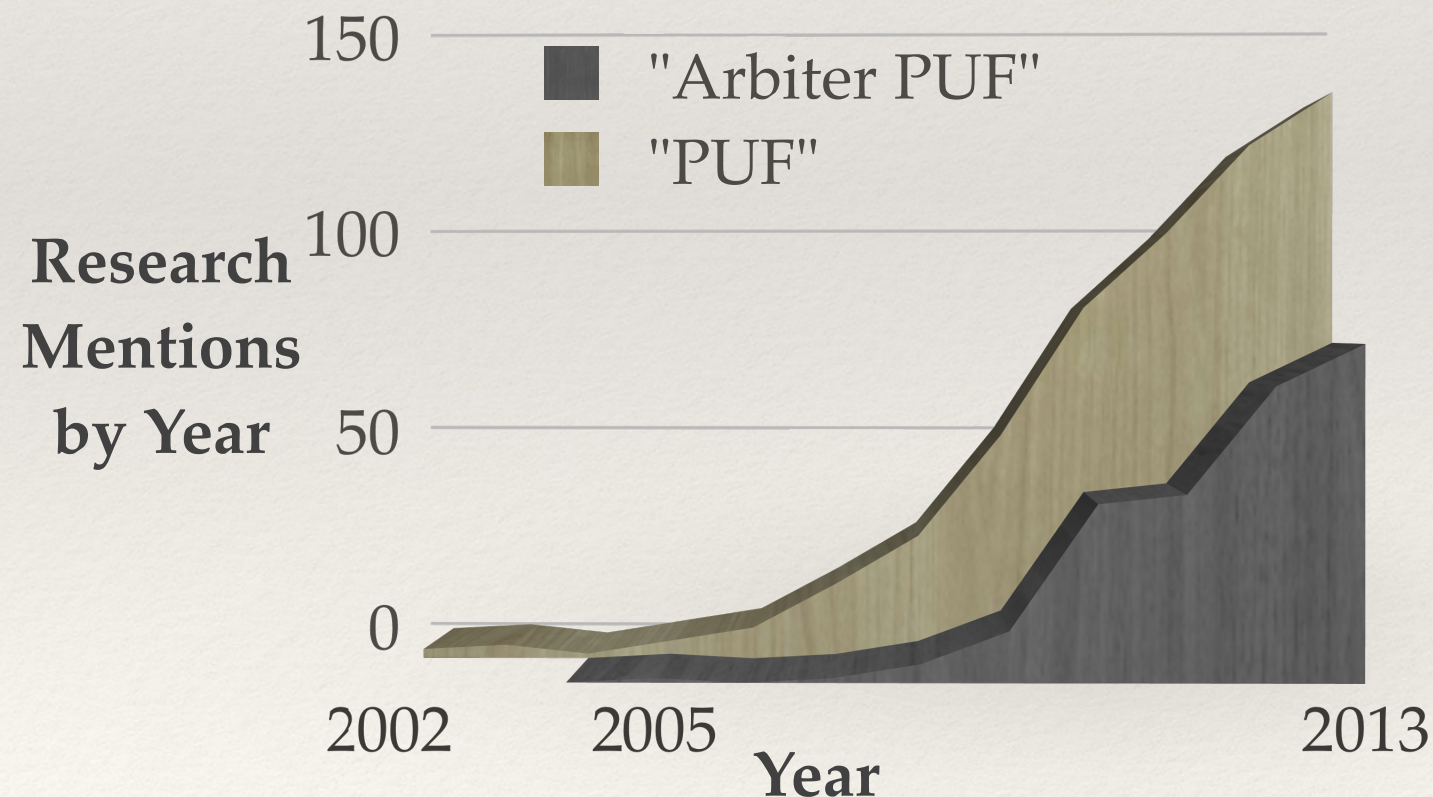
# Examples of Strong PUFs

- ❖ Optical PUF [Pappu et al. '02]
- ❖ Arbiter PUF [Gassend et al. '02, Lim et al. '05]
- ❖ Bistable Ring PUF [Chen et al. '11]
- ❖ Low-power current-based PUF  
[Majzoobi et al. '11]



# Examples of Strong PUFs

- ❖ Optical PUF [Pappu et al. '02]
- ❖ **Arbiter PUF** [Gassend et al. '02, Lim et al. '05]
- ❖ Bistable Ring PUF [Chen et al. '11]
- ❖ Low-power current-based PUF [Majzoobi et al. '11]





# Strong PUF Protocols

- ❖ Identification / Authentication (1)
- ❖ Key Exchange (2,3)
- ❖ Oblivious transfer (4,3,5,6) — enables secure two-party computation
- ❖ Bit commitment (3,5,6,7,8) — enables zero-knowledge proofs
- ❖ Combined key exchange and authentication (9)

(1) R. Pappu et al, Science 2002

(2) M.v.Dijk, US Patent 2,653,197, 2004

(3) C. Brzuska et al, CRYPTO 2011

(4) U. Rührmair, TRUST 2010

(5,6) U. Rührmair, M.v.Dijk, CHES 2012 and JCEN 2013


(7) U. Rührmair, M.v. Dijk, Cryptology ePrint Archive, 2012

(8) Ostrovsky et al., EUROCRYPT 2013

(9) Tuyls and Skorin, Strong Authentication with Physical Unclonable Functions, Springer 2007



# Strong PUF Protocols


- ❖ Identification / Authentication (1)
- ❖ Key Exchange (2,3) 
- ❖ Oblivious transfer (4,3,5,6) — enables secure two-party computation
- ❖ Bit commitment (3,5,6,7,8) — enables zero-knowledge proofs
- ❖ Combined key exchange and authentication (9)

5<sup>th</sup> talk of session

- (1) R. Pappu et al, Science 2002
- (2) M.v.Dijk, US Patent 2,653,197, 2004
- (3) C. Brzuska et al, CRYPTO 2011
- (4) U. Rührmair, TRUST 2010
- (5,6) U. Rührmair, M.v.Dijk, CHES 2012 and JCEN 2013
- (7) U. Rührmair, M.v. Dijk, Cryptology ePrint Archive, 2012
- (8) Ostrovsky et al., EUROCRYPT 2013
- (9) Tuyls and Skorin, Strong Authentication with Physical Unclonable Functions, Springer 2007



# Strong PUF Protocols

- ❖ Identification / Authentication (1) 5<sup>th</sup> talk of session
- ❖ Key Exchange (2,3) 
- ❖ Oblivious transfer (4,3,5,6) — enables secure two-party computation
- ❖ Bit commitment (3,5,6,7,8) — enables zero-knowledge proofs
- ❖ Combined key exchange and authentication (9)

(1) R. Pappu et al, Science 2002

(2) M.v.Dijk, US Patent 2,653,197, 2004

(3) C. Brzuska et al, CRYPTO 2011

(4) U. Rührmair, TRUST 2010

(5,6) U. Rührmair, M.v.Dijk, CHES 2012 and JCEN 2013

(7) U. Rührmair, M.v. Dijk, Cryptology ePrint Archive, 2012

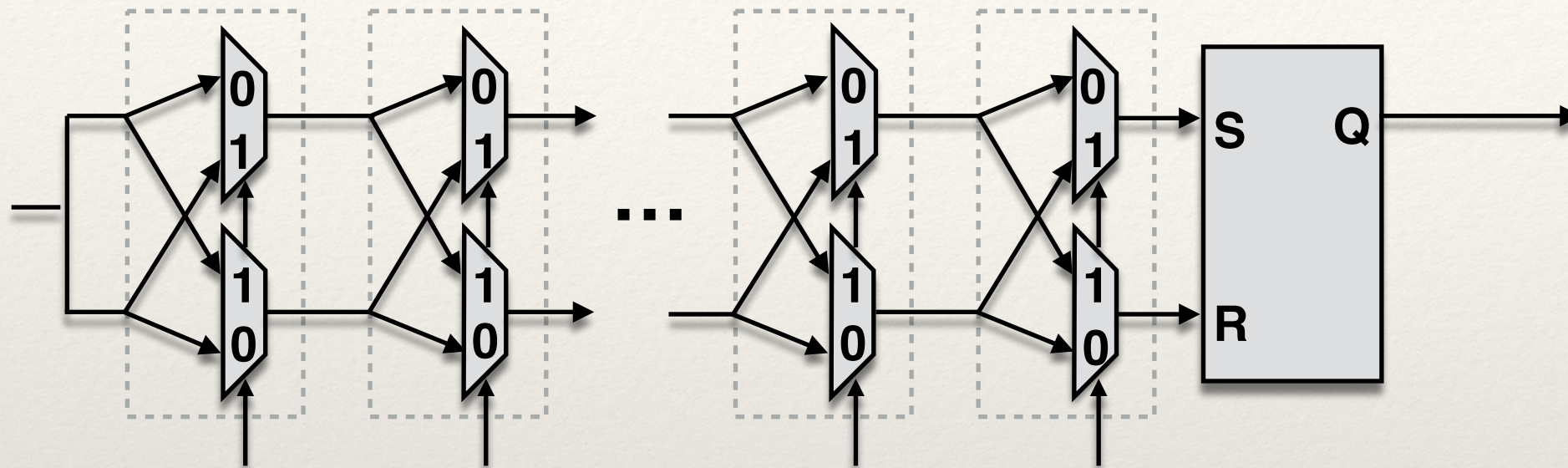
(8) Ostrovsky et al., EUROCRYPT 2013

(9) Tuyls and Skoric, Strong Authentication with Physical Unclonable Functions, Springer 2007



# Arbiter PUF

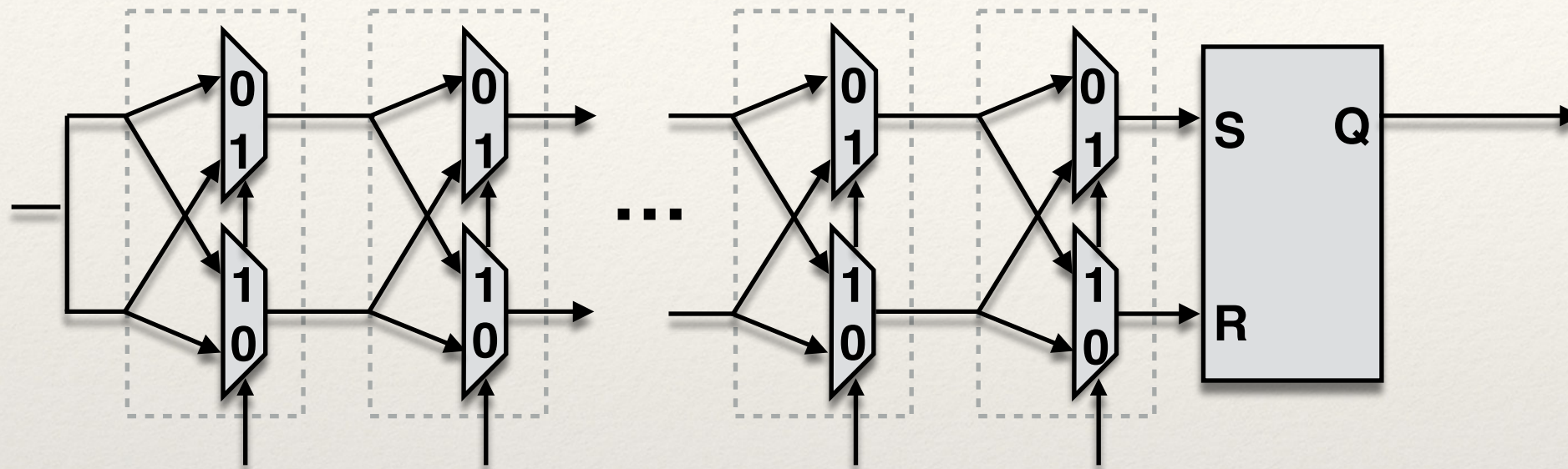
[D. Lim et al., '05]





# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]

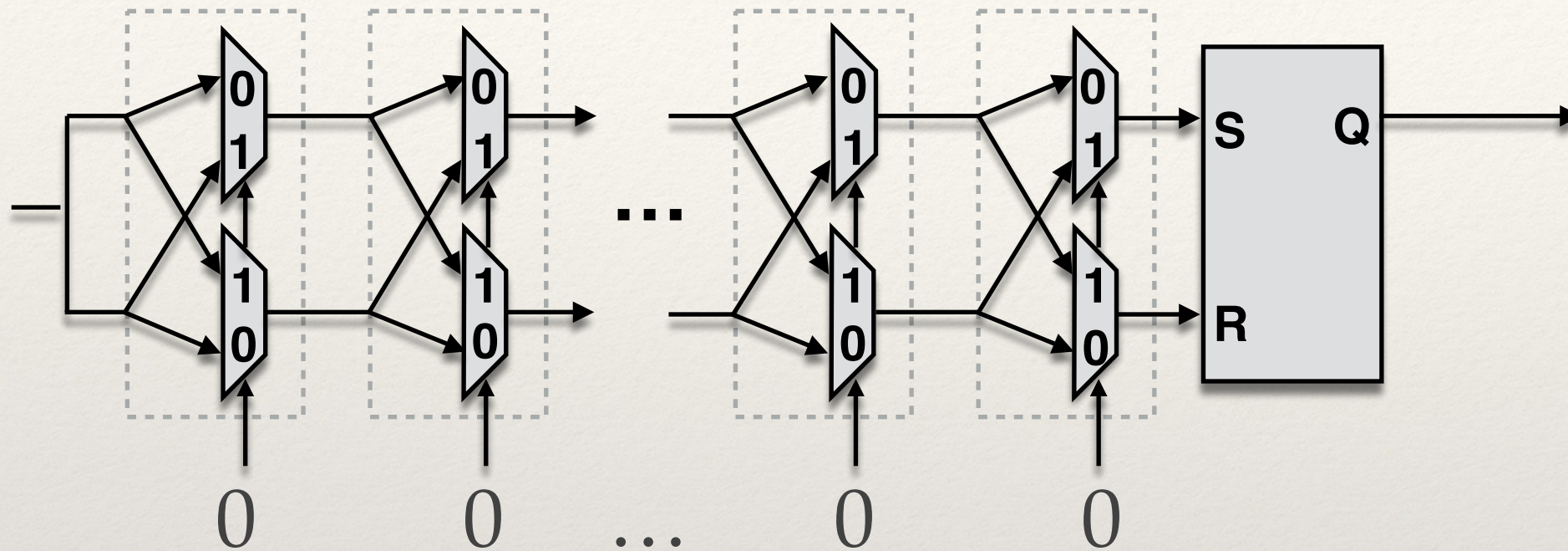


- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )



# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]

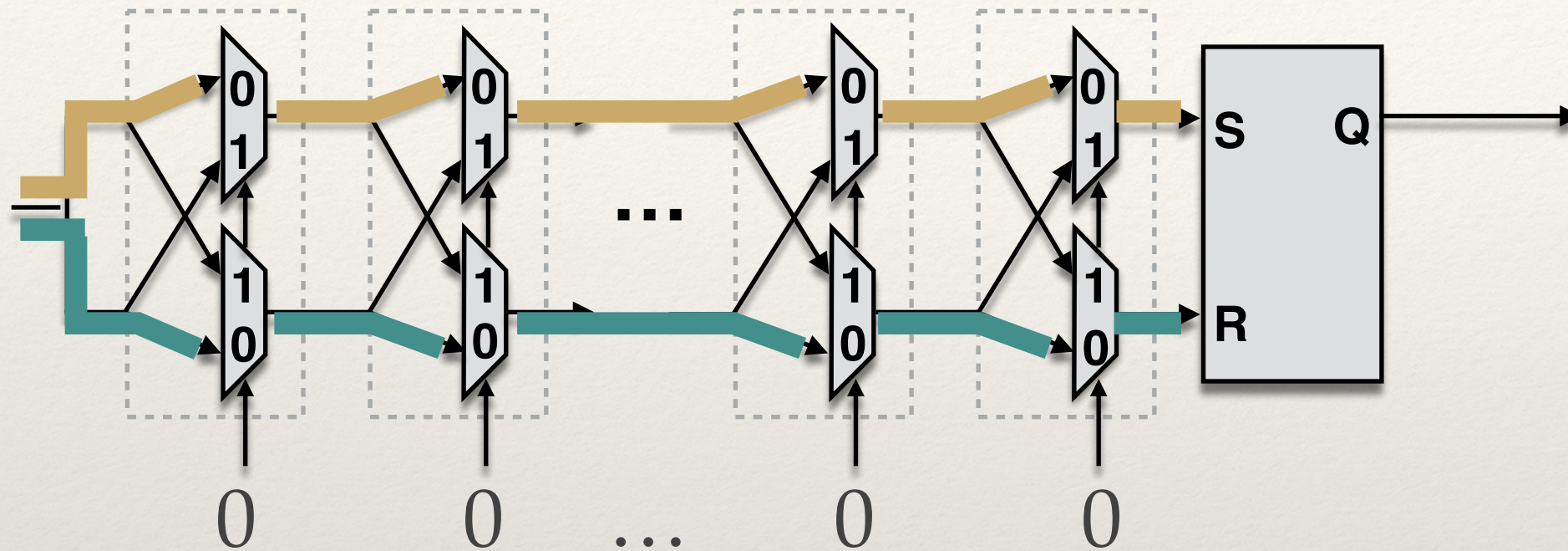


- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )



# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]

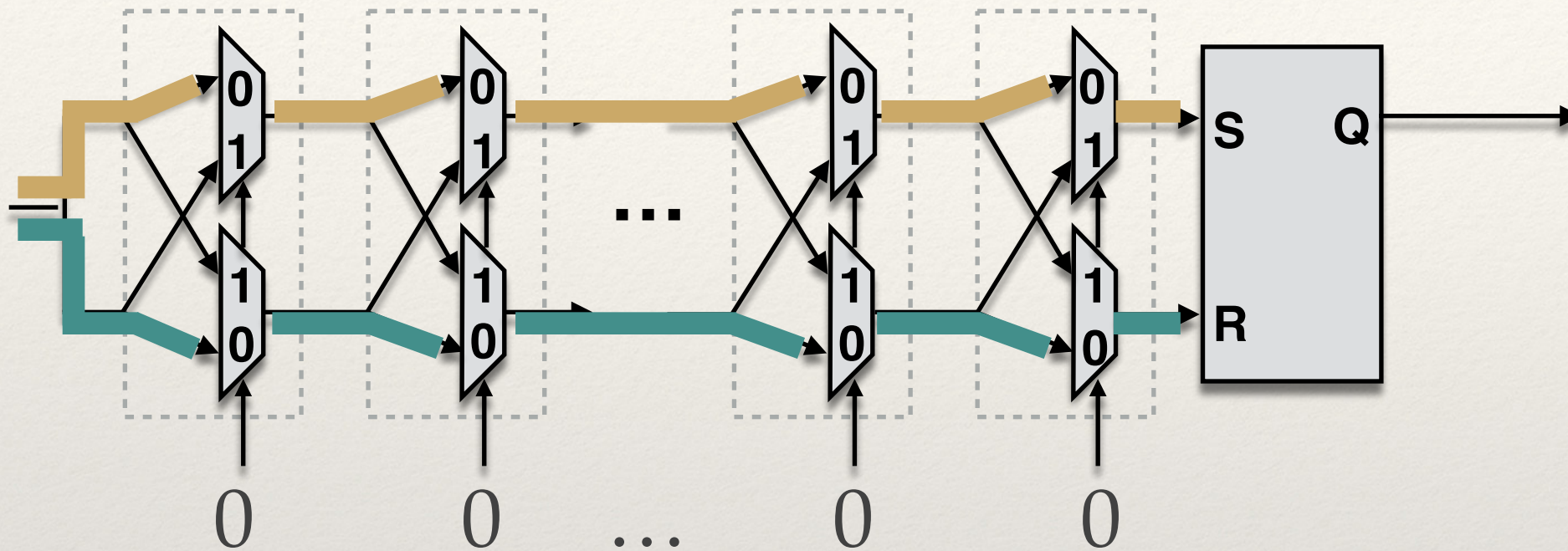


- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m$ = num stages)



# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]

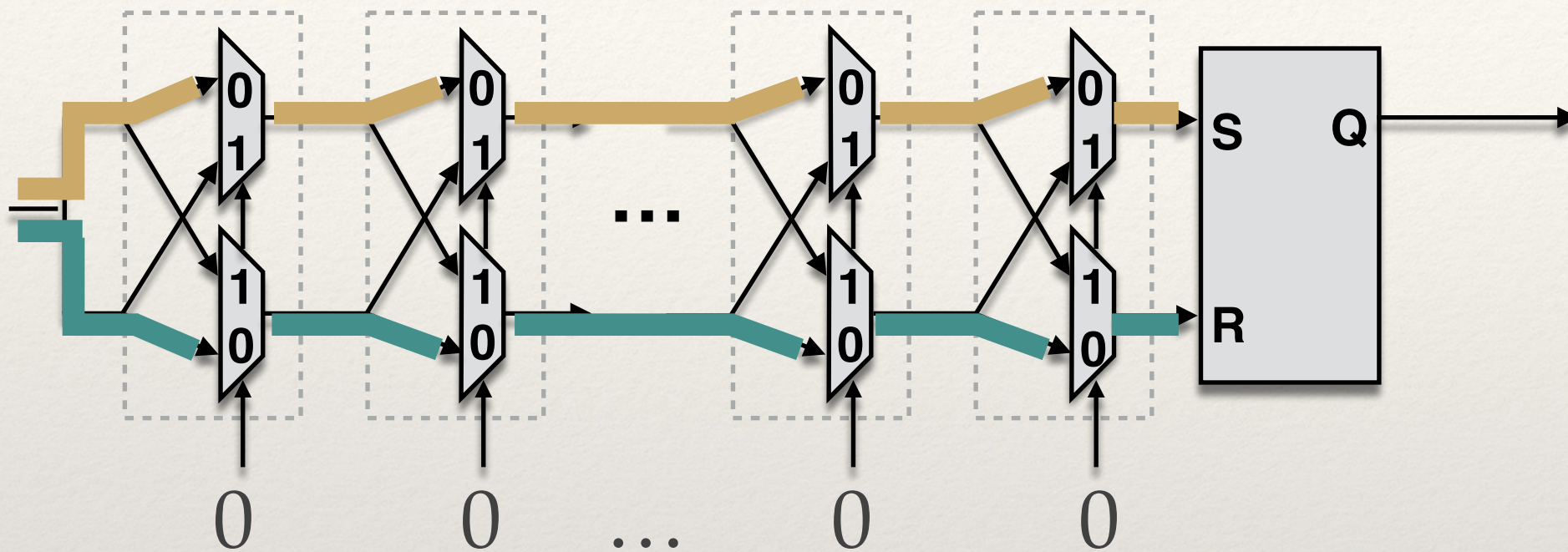


- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )
- ❖ Responses:  $r_i \in 2^n$  ( $n=1$  shown)

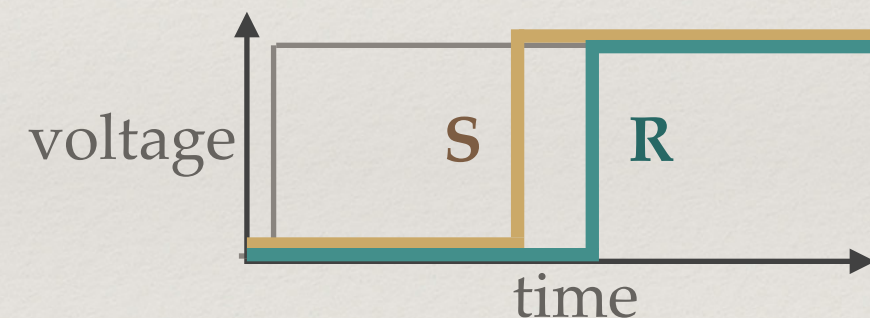


# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]



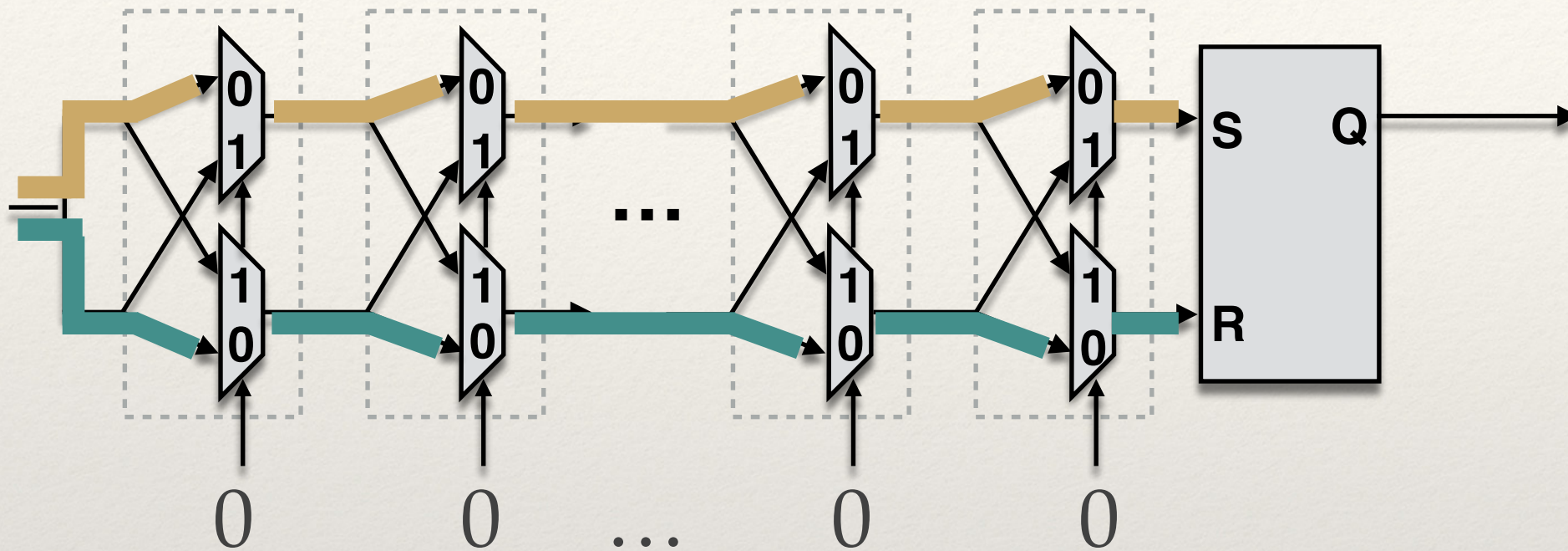
- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )
- ❖ Responses:  $r_i \in 2^n$  ( $n=1$  shown)



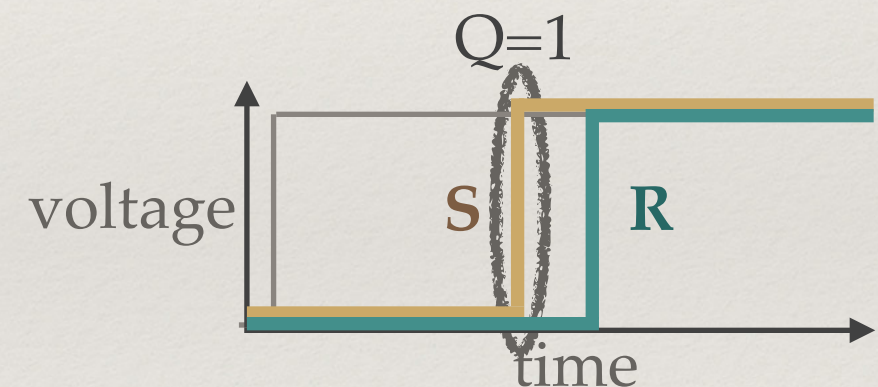


# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]



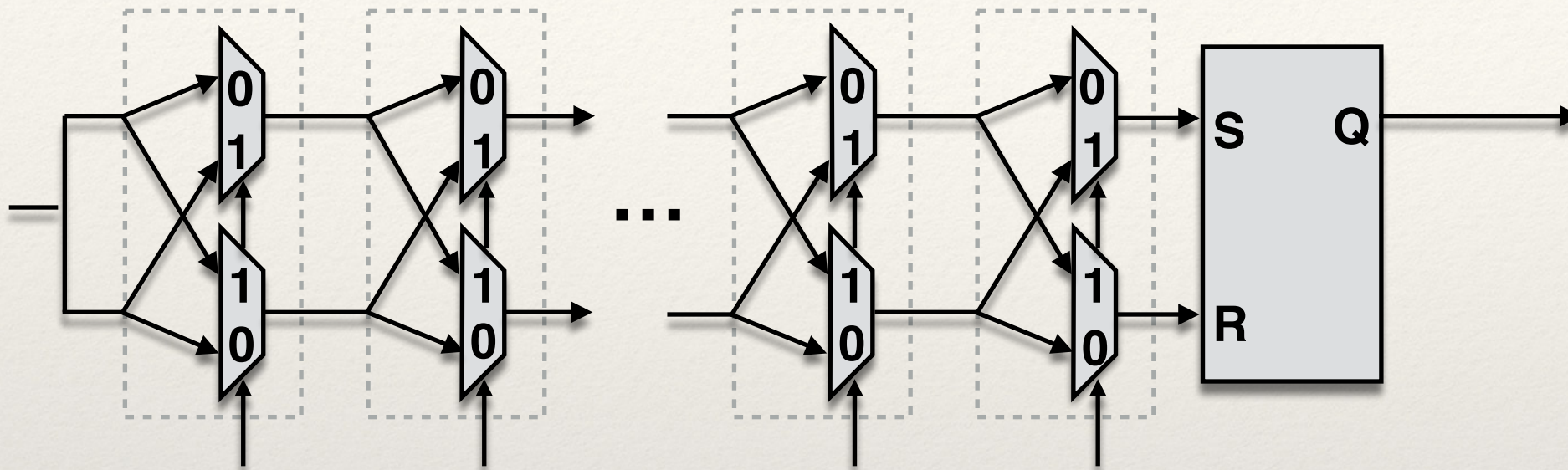
- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m$ = num stages)
- ❖ Responses:  $r_i \in 2^n$  ( $n=1$  shown)



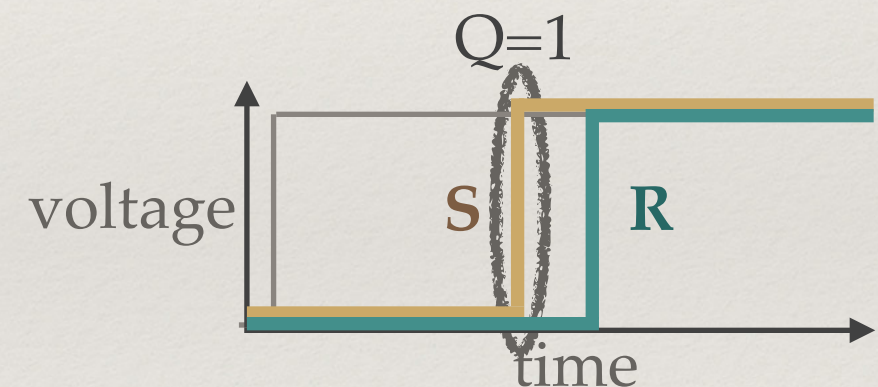


# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]



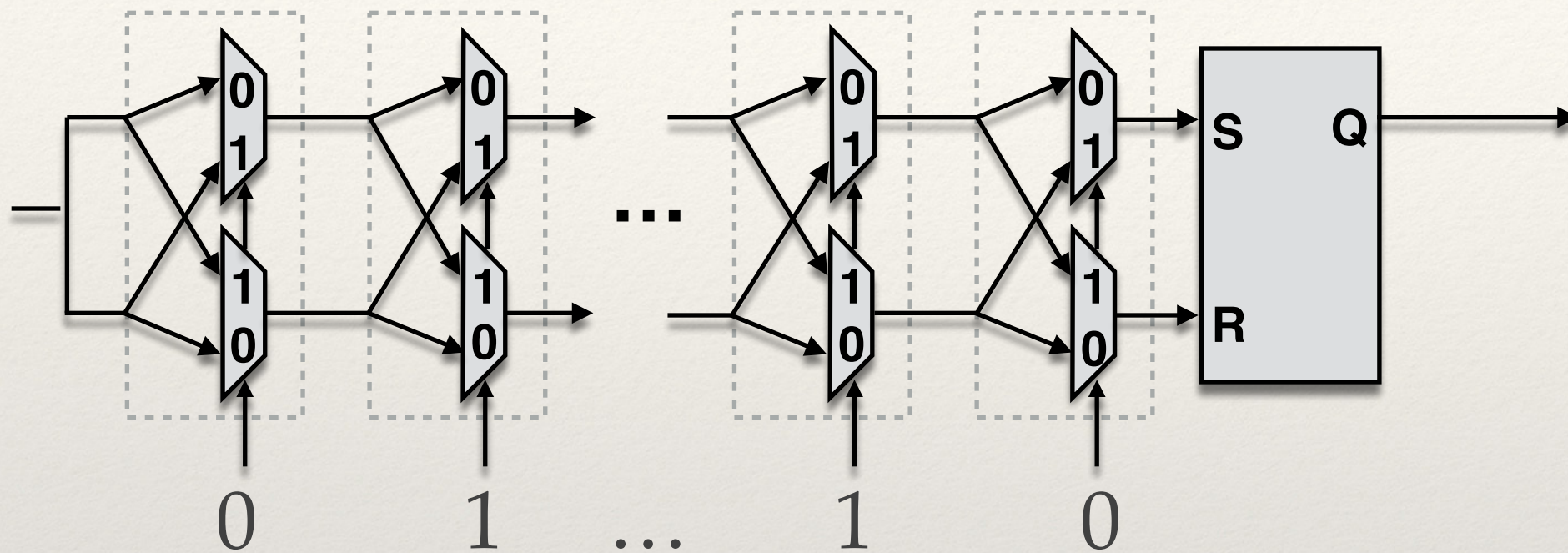
- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )
- ❖ Responses:  $r_i \in 2^n$  ( $n=1$  shown)



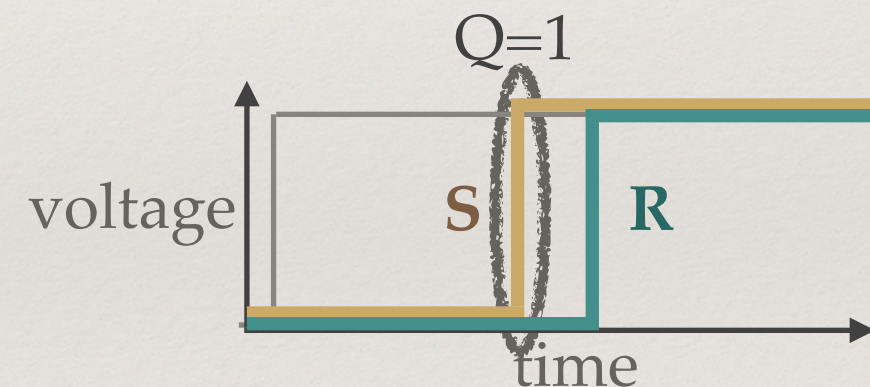


# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]



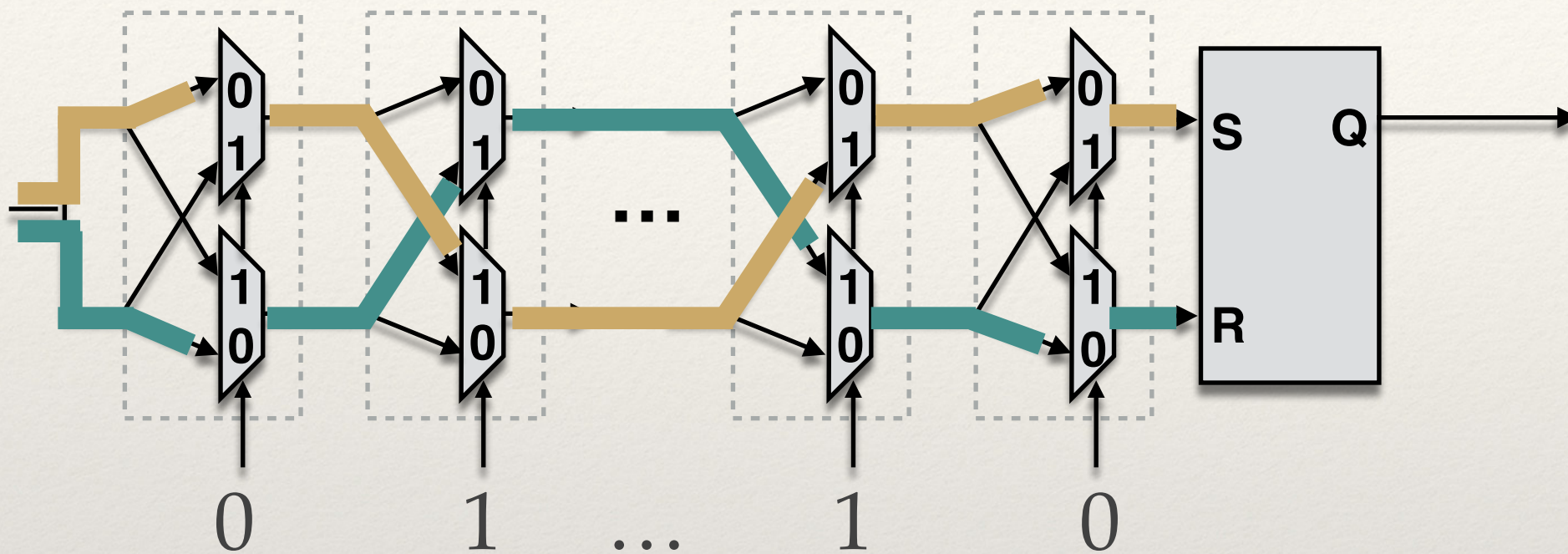
- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m$ = num stages)
- ❖ Responses:  $r_i \in 2^n$  ( $n=1$  shown)



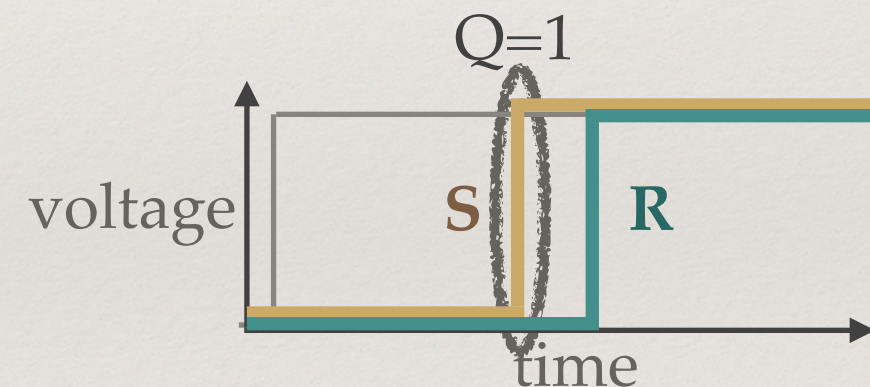


# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]



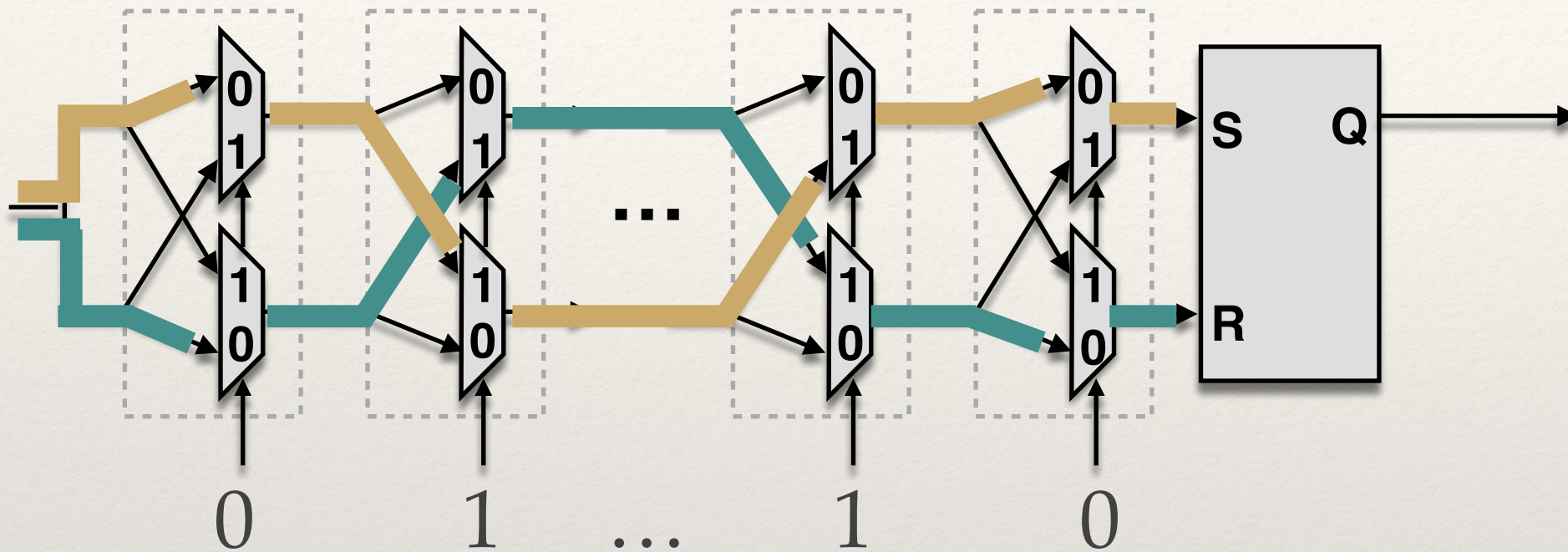
- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )
- ❖ Responses:  $r_i \in 2^n$  ( $n=1$  shown)



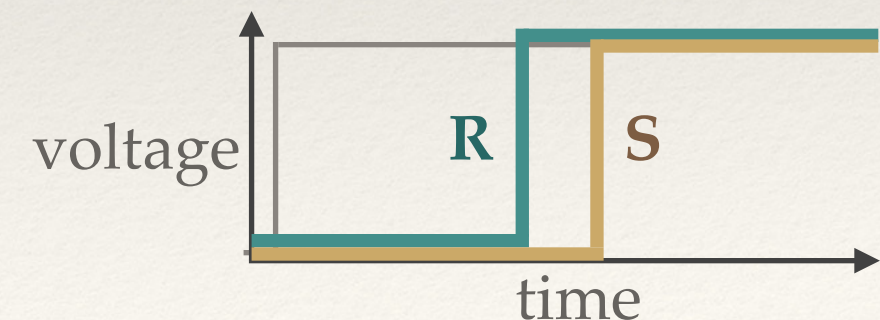
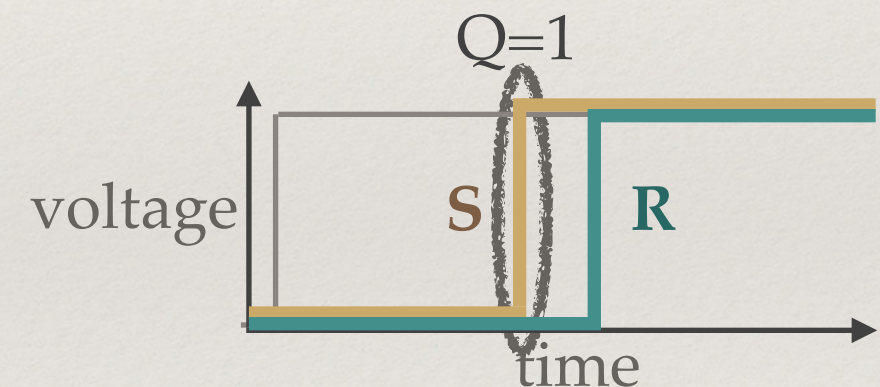


# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]



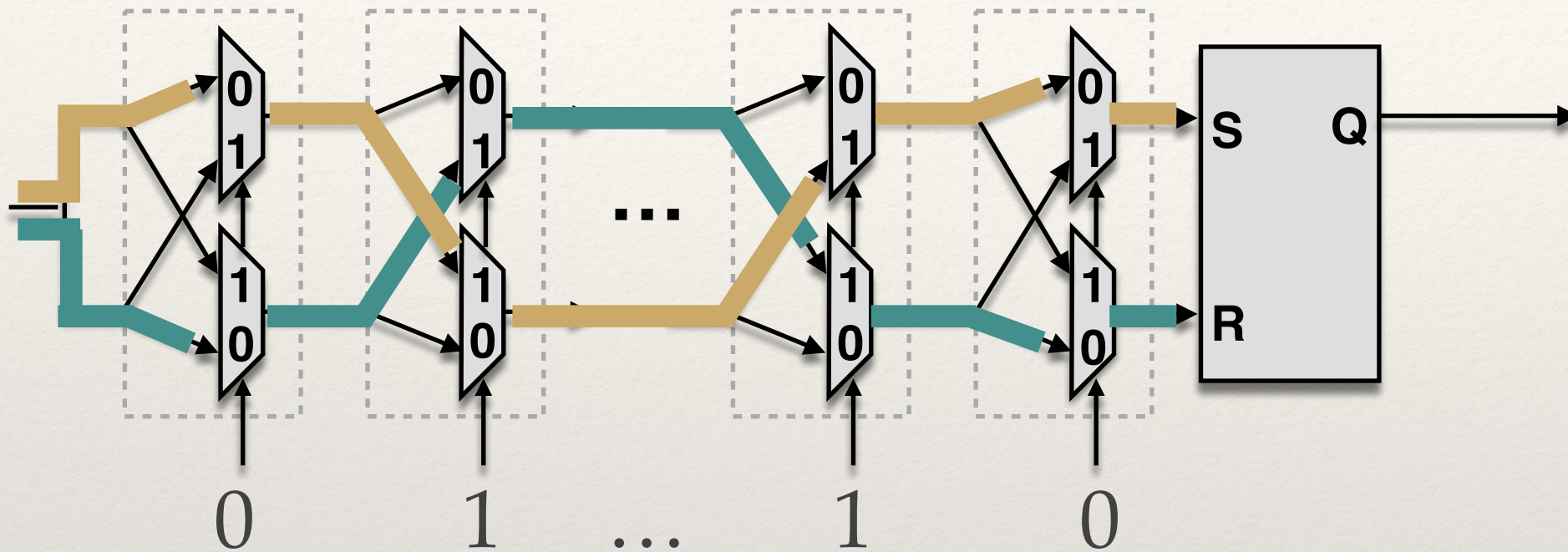
- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )
- ❖ Responses:  $r_i \in 2^n$  ( $n=1$  shown)



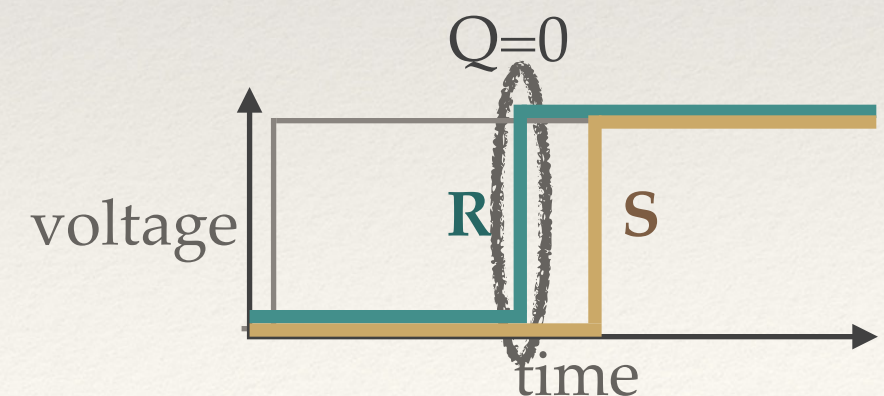
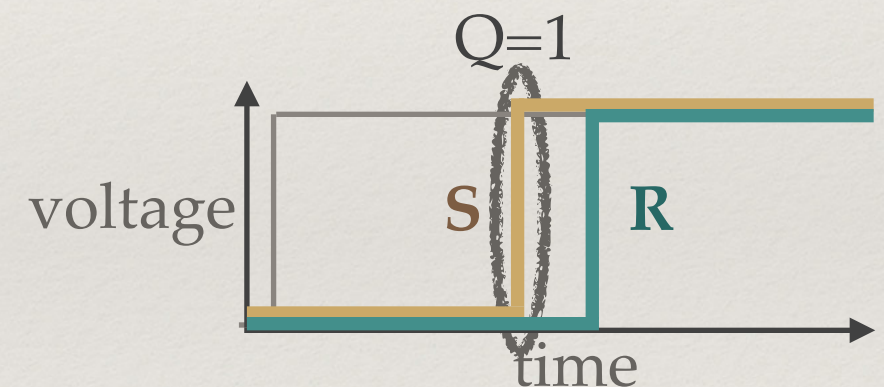


# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]



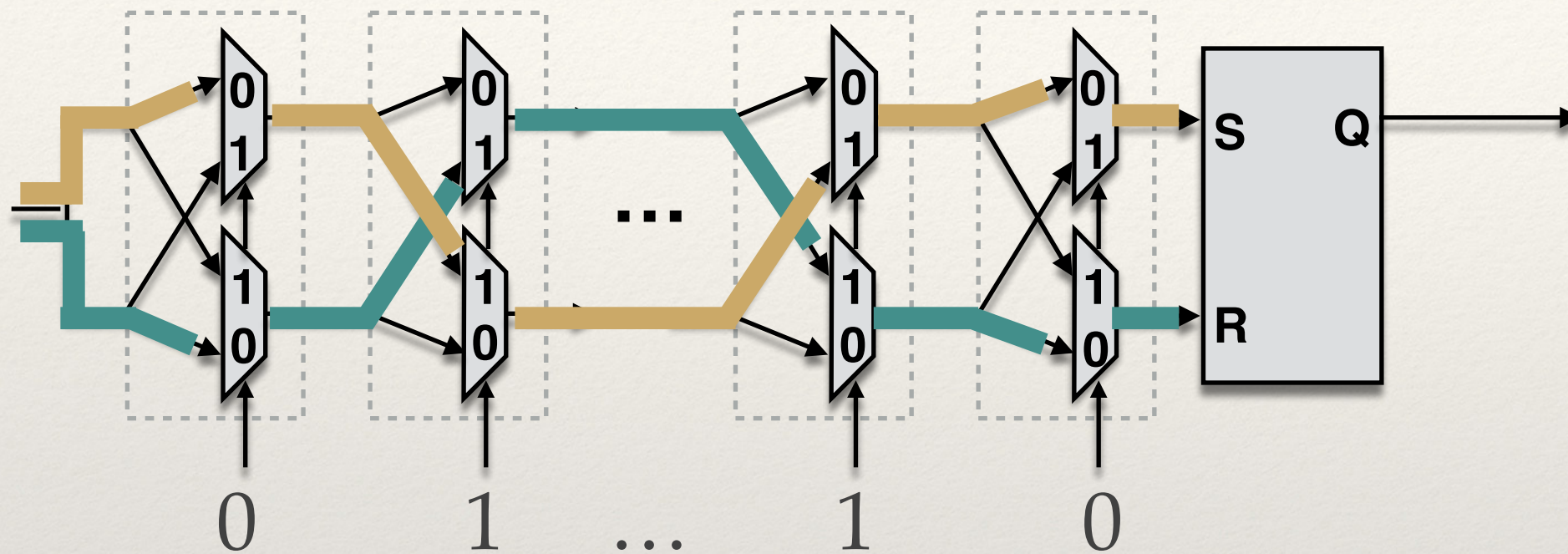
- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )
- ❖ Responses:  $r_i \in 2^n$  ( $n=1$  shown)



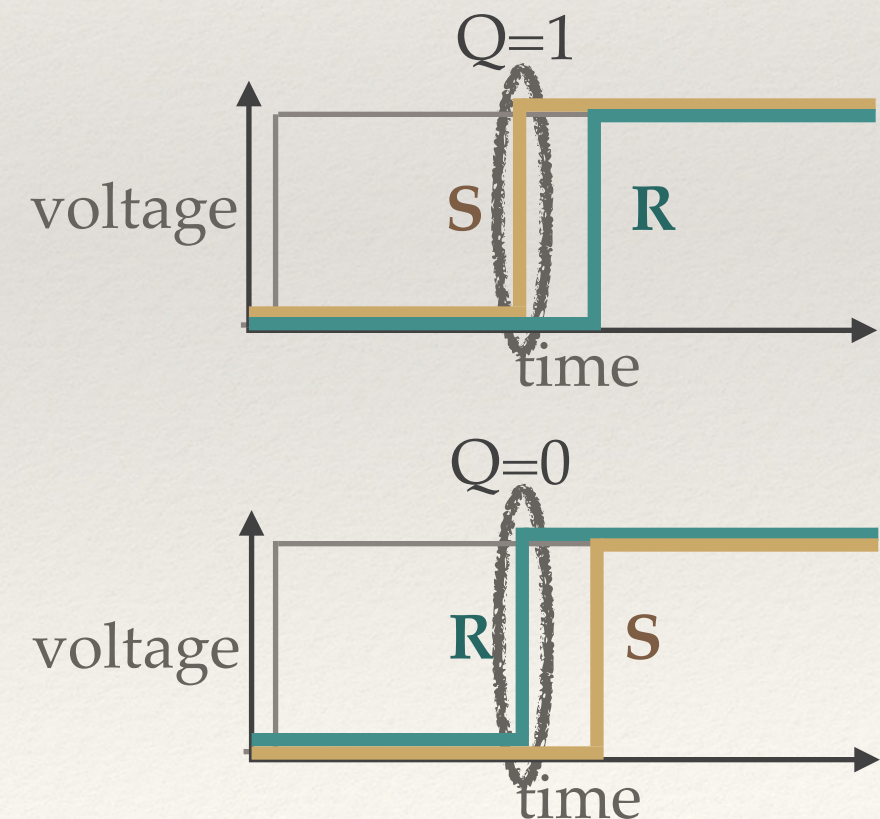


# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]



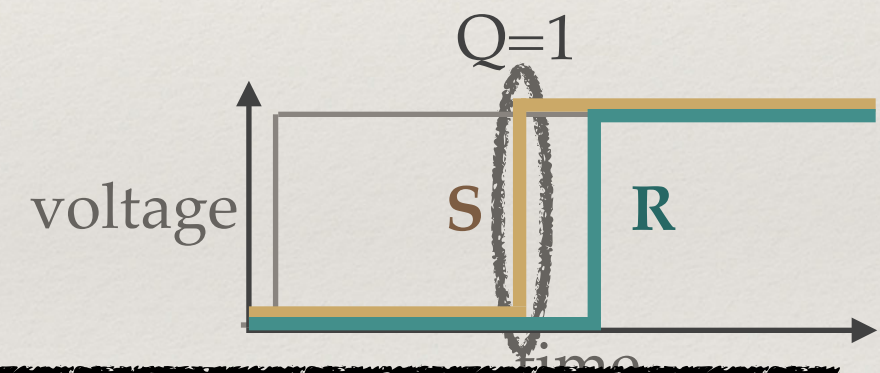
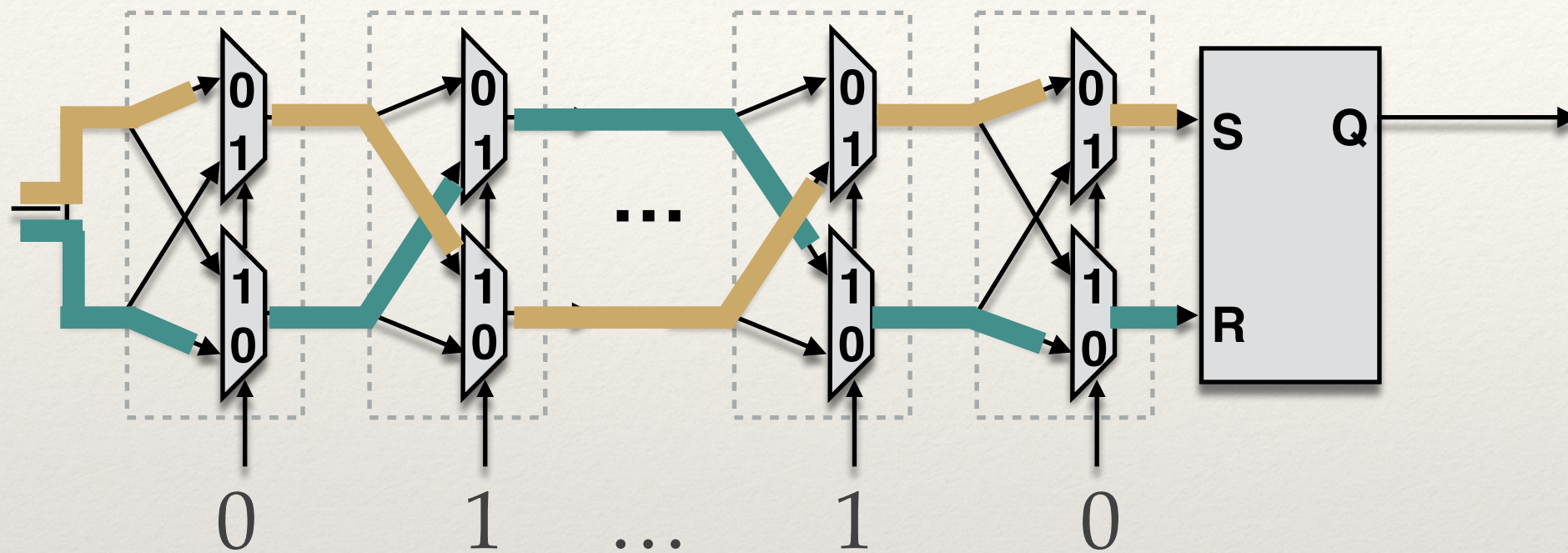
- ❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )
- ❖ Responses:  $r_i \in 2^n$  ( $n=1$  shown)
- ❖ Disorder / randomness: Delays in the subcomponents





# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]



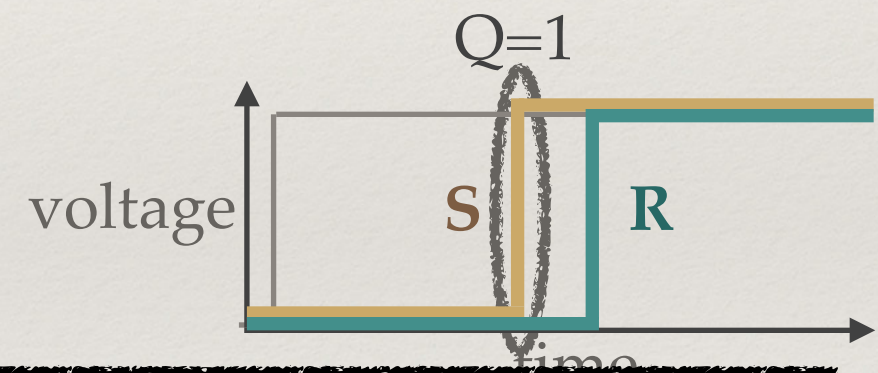
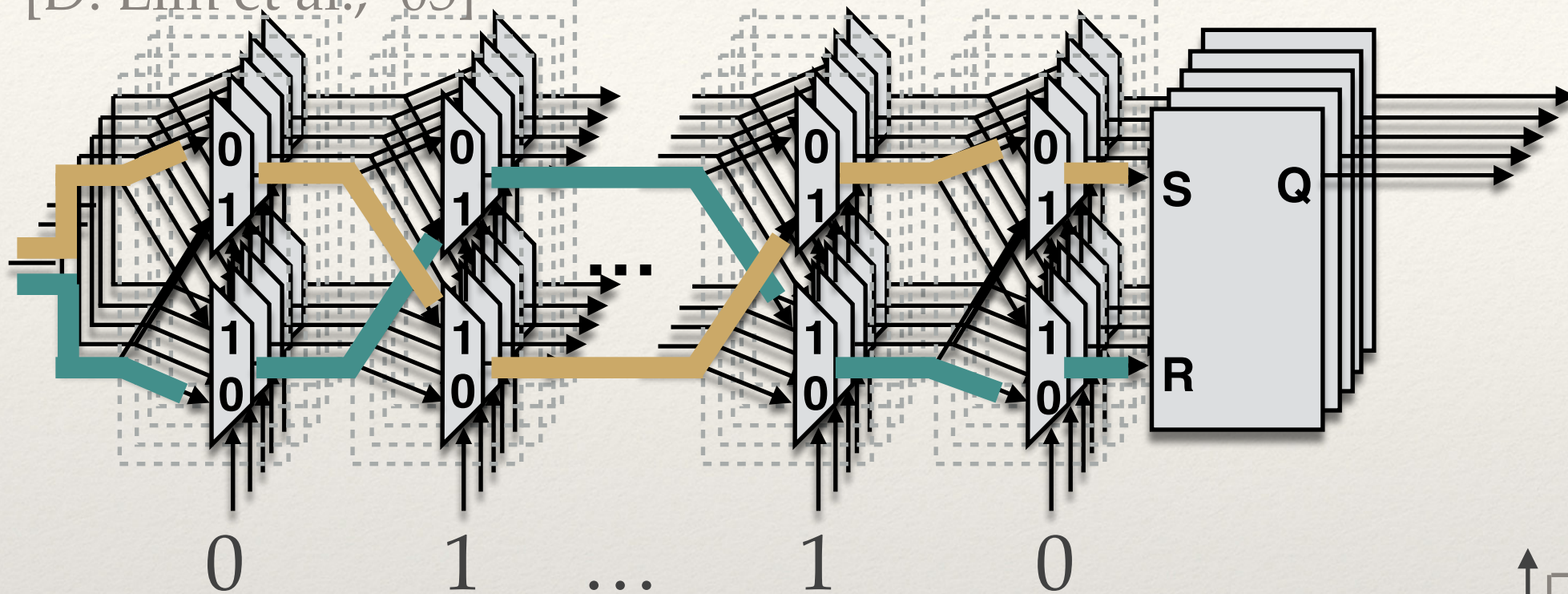
❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )

- ❖ Assumes that model cannot be created by observing CRPs
- ❖ But basic arbiter PUF susceptible to additive delay model



# Arbiter PUF

[D. Lim et al., '05]

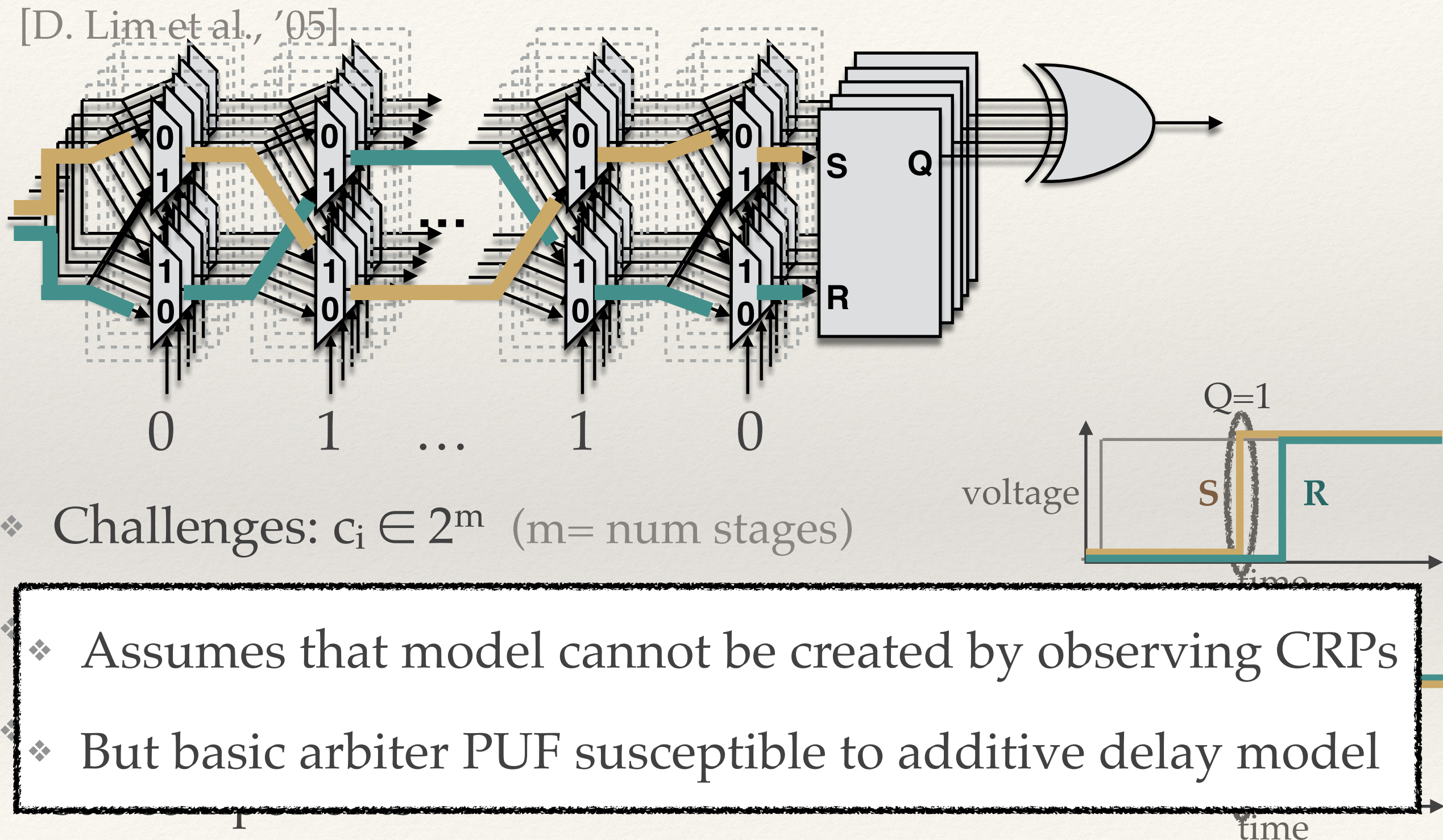


❖ Challenges:  $c_i \in 2^m$  ( $m = \text{num stages}$ )

- ❖ Assumes that model cannot be created by observing CRPs
- ❖ But basic arbiter PUF susceptible to additive delay model

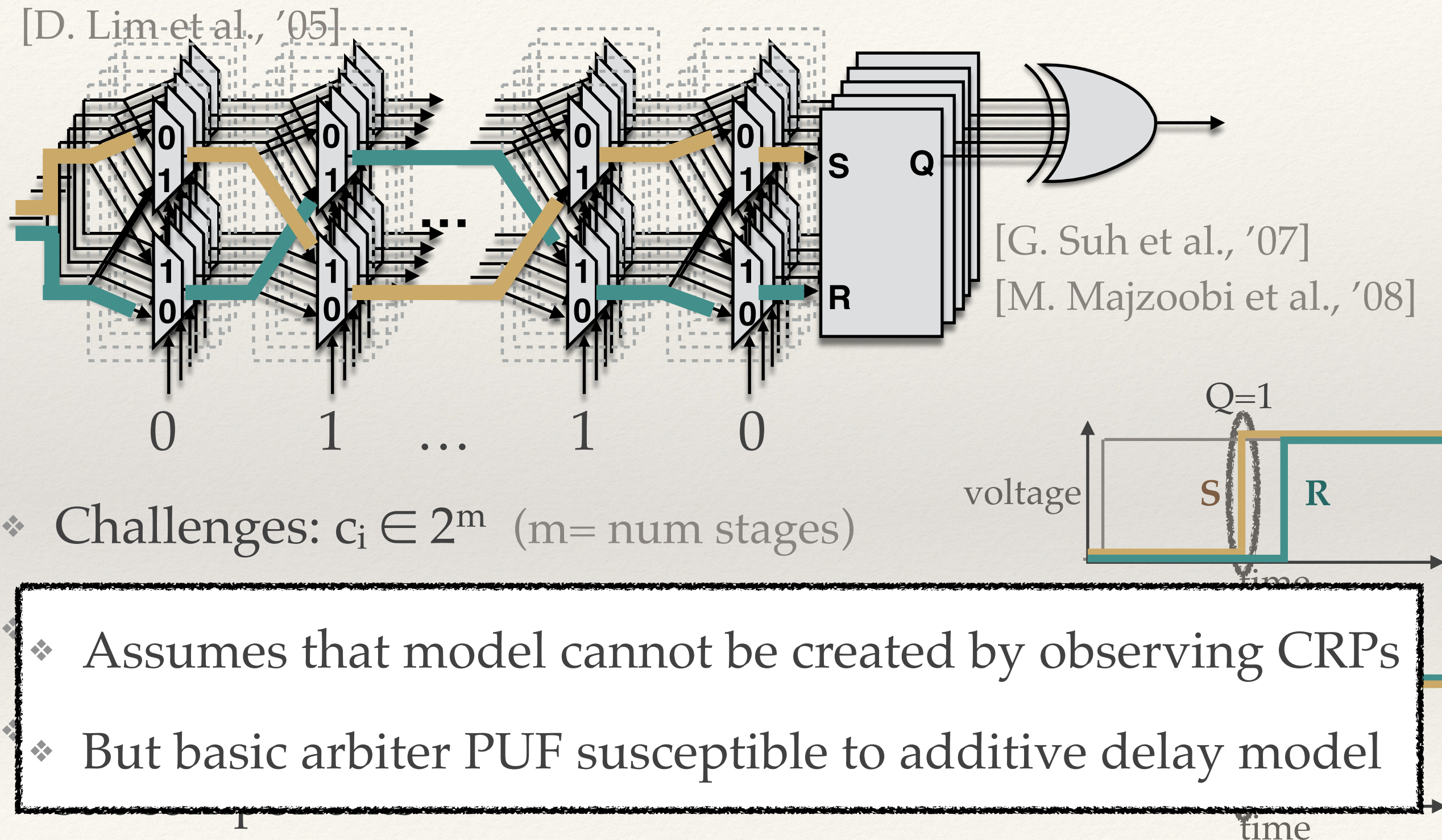


# Arbiter PUF



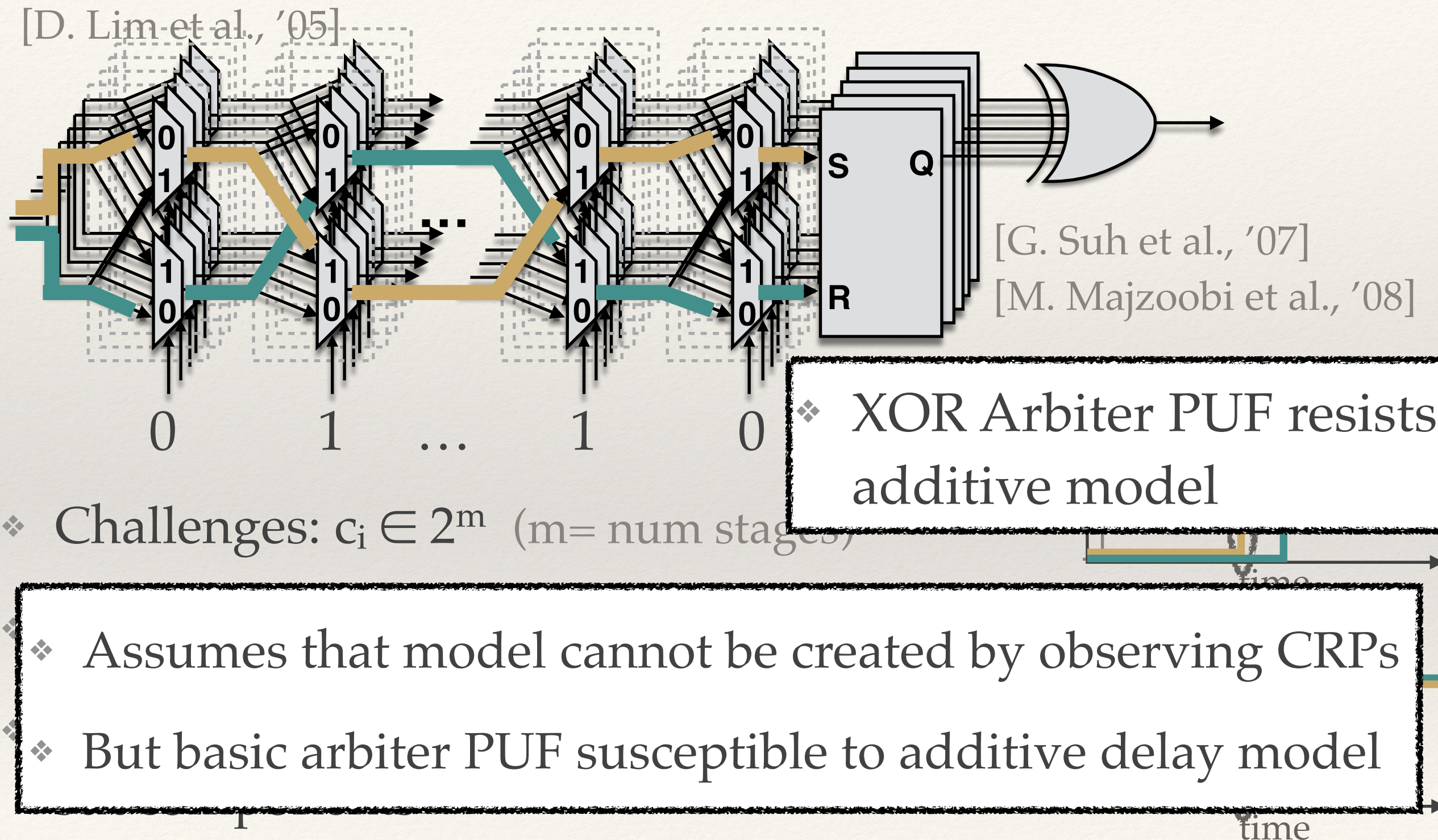


# Arbiter PUF





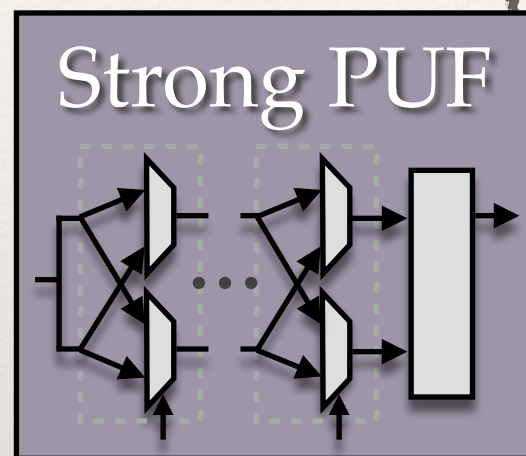
# Arbiter PUF





# Authentication using Strong PUF

Enroll PUF

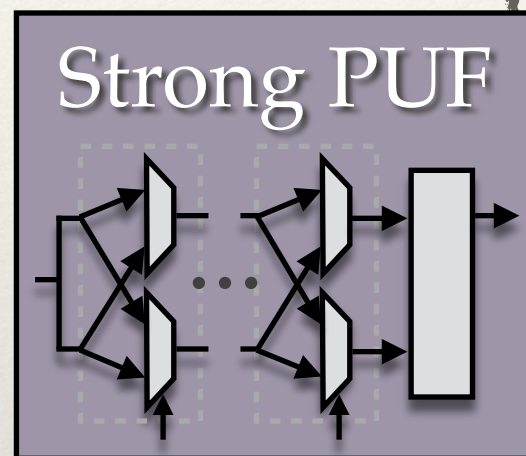




# Authentication using Strong PUF

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Choose random challenges

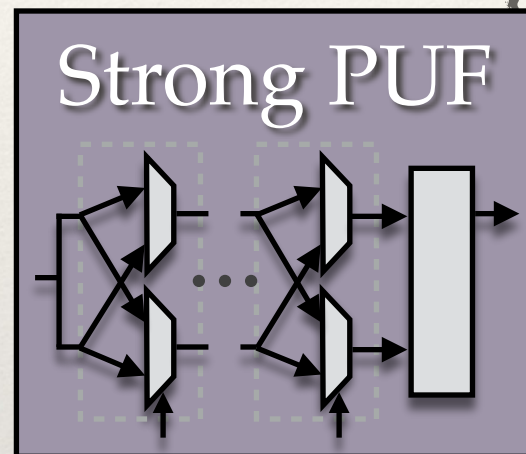




# Authentication using Strong PUF

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Choose random challenges
- ❖ Apply and store private CRPs

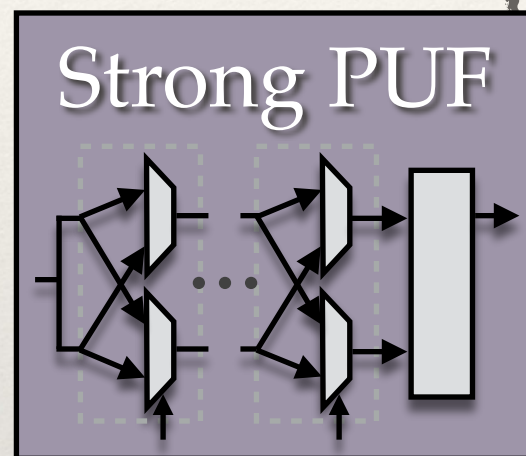
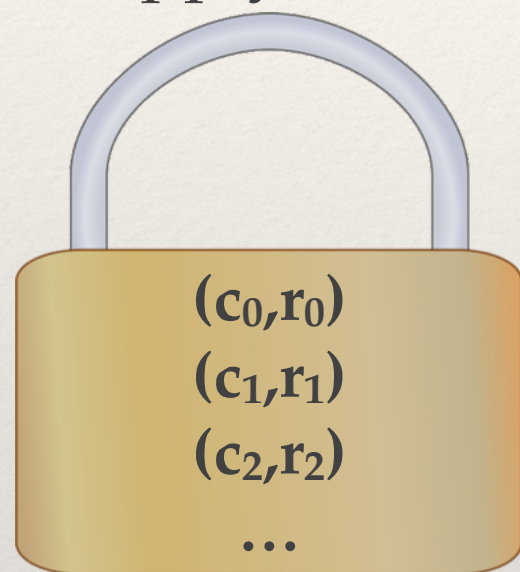




# Authentication using Strong PUF

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Choose random challenges
- ❖ Apply and store private CRPs

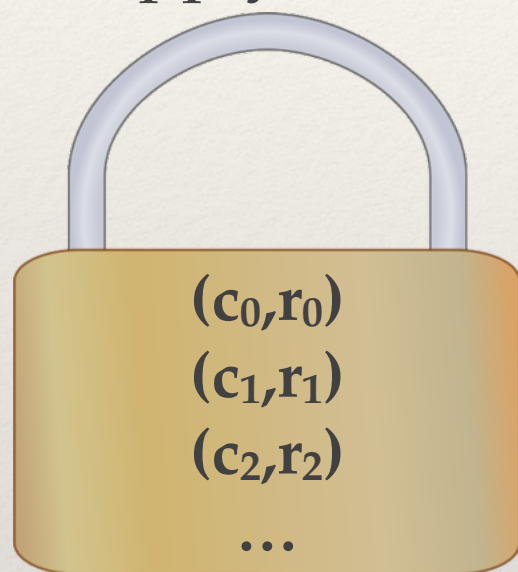




# Authentication using Strong PUF

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Choose random challenges
- ❖ Apply and store private CRPs

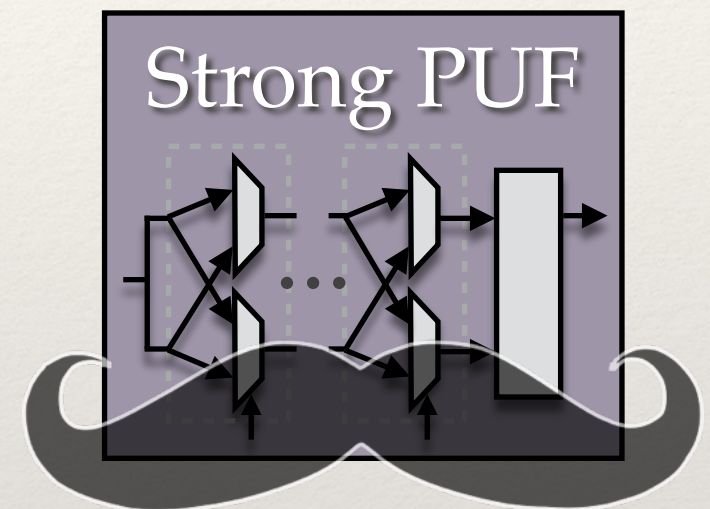
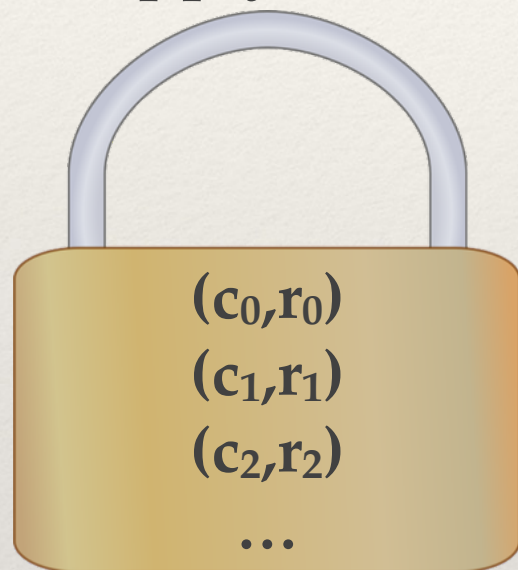




# Authentication using Strong PUF

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Choose random challenges
- ❖ Apply and store private CRPs

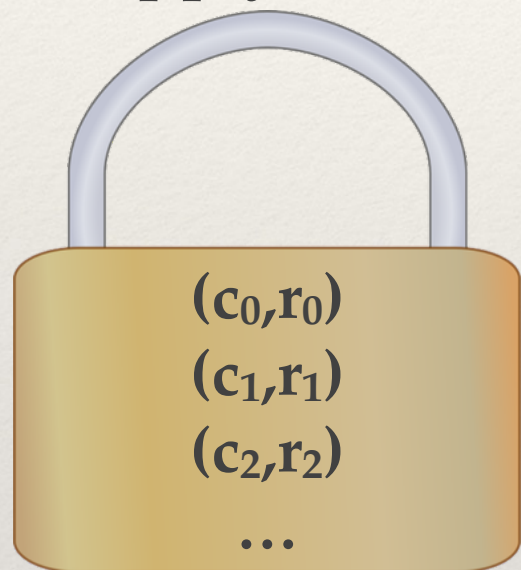




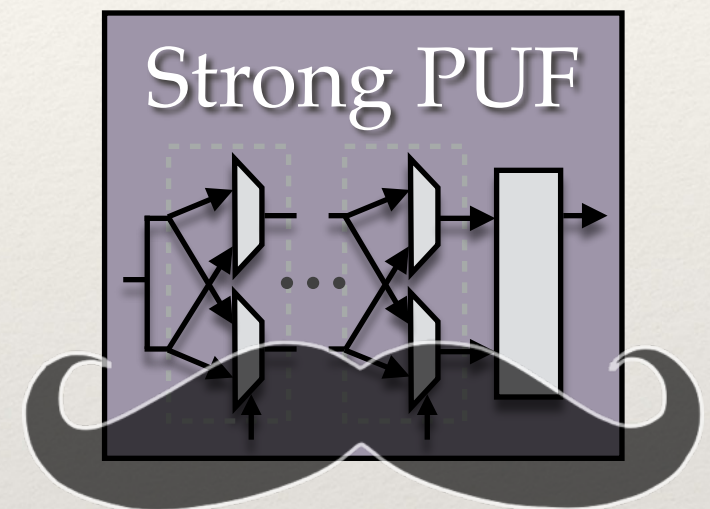
# Authentication using Strong PUF

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Choose random challenges
- ❖ Apply and store private CRPs



$c_0$

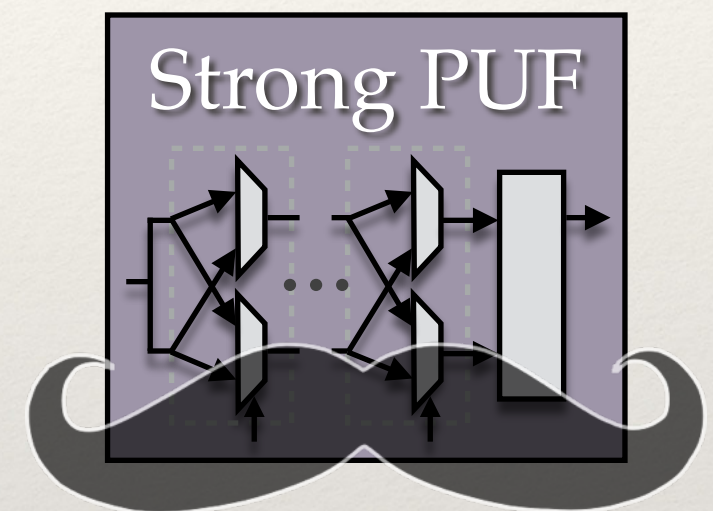
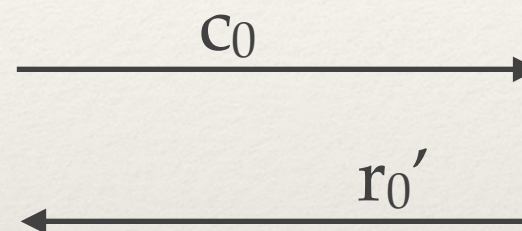
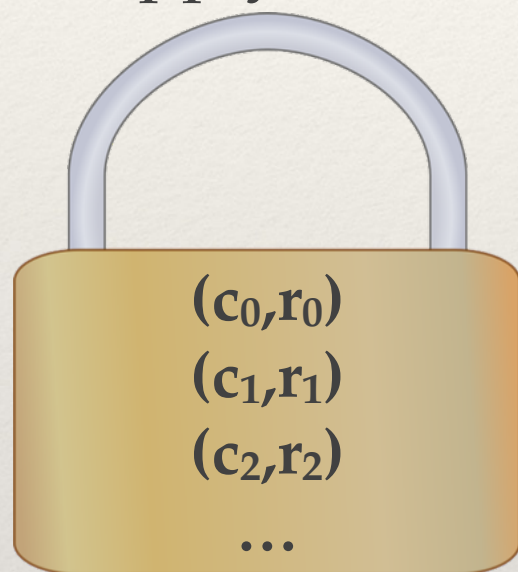




# Authentication using Strong PUF

## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Choose random challenges
- ❖ Apply and store private CRPs

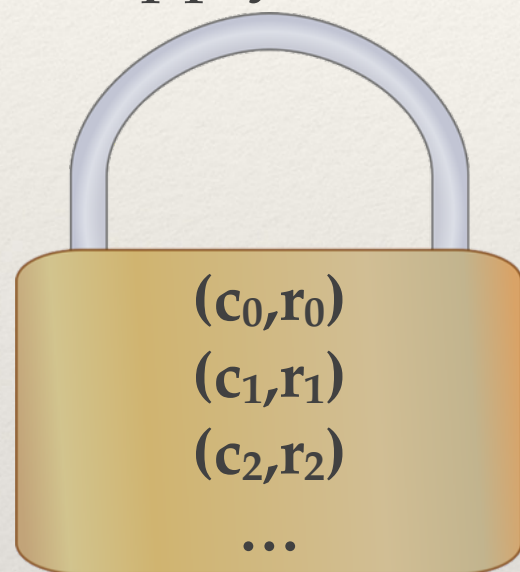




# Authentication using Strong PUF

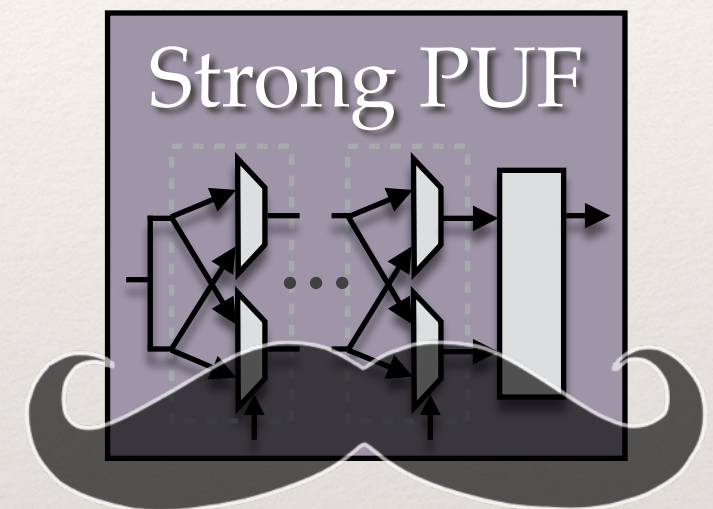
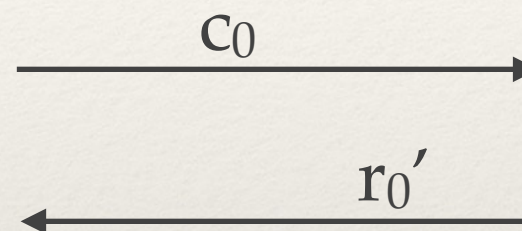
## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Choose random challenges
- ❖ Apply and store private CRPs



## Authenticate

$r_0 \approx r_0' ?$

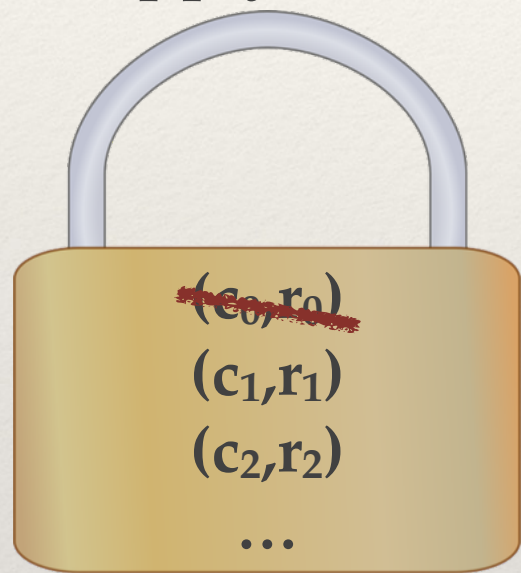




# Authentication using Strong PUF

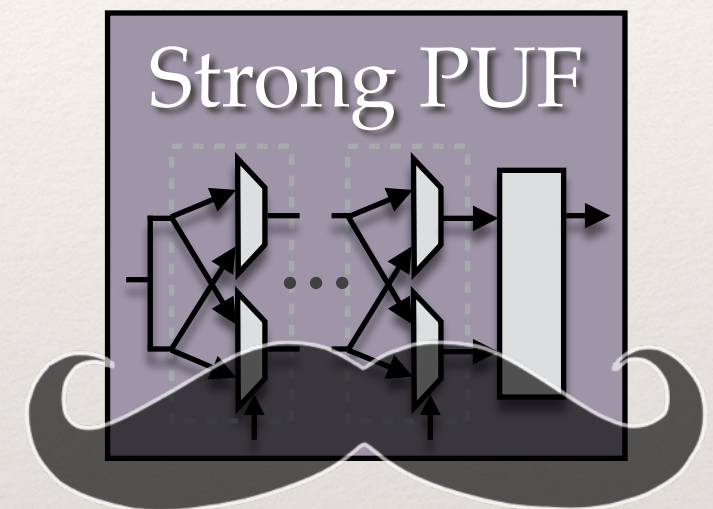
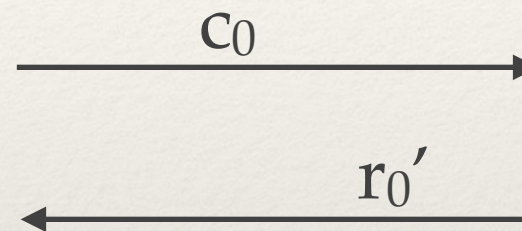
## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Choose random challenges
- ❖ Apply and store private CRPs



## Authenticate

$r_0 \approx r_0' ?$

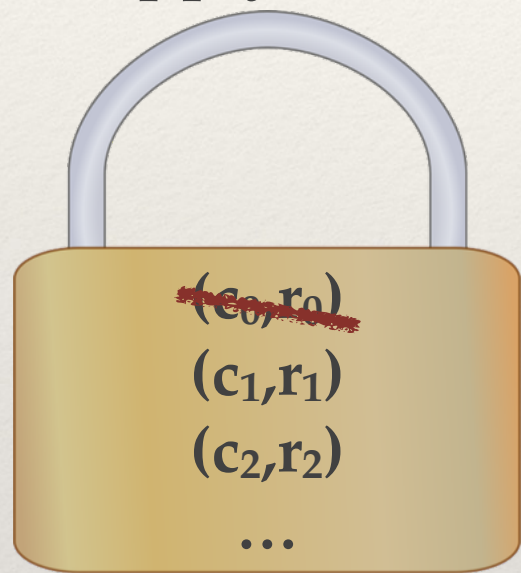




# Authentication using Strong PUF

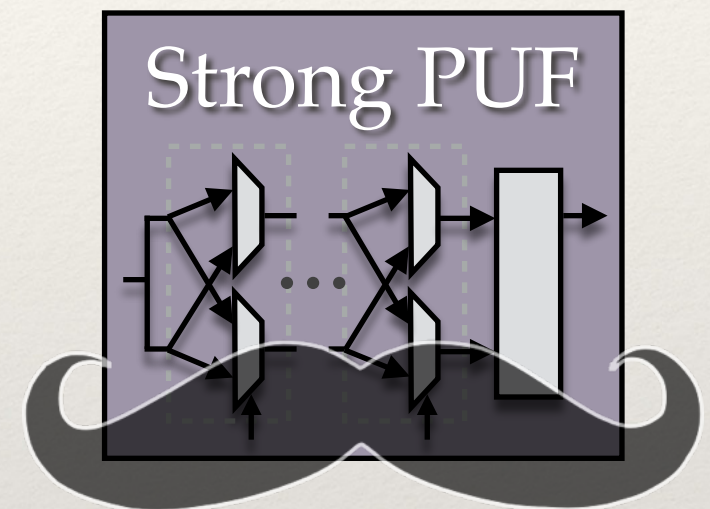
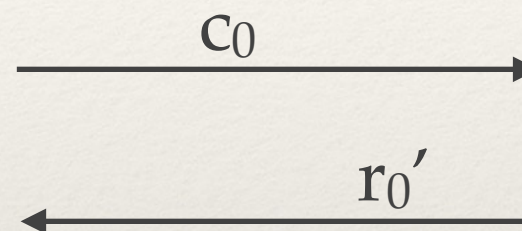
## Enroll PUF

- ❖ Choose random challenges
- ❖ Apply and store private CRPs



## Authenticate

$r_0 \approx r_0' ?$



- ❖ No need to hide responses if PUF cannot be modeled



# Overview

1. Brief introduction to PUFs
2. Weak PUFs and applications
3. Strong PUFs and applications
4. **Conclusions**



# Review

- ❖ PUFs are exciting new security primitive based on physical disorder
- ❖ Desirable properties but also limitations
- ❖ Arms race between designing and breaking



# PReview

- ❖ PUFs are exciting new security primitive based on physical disorder

1. ~~PUFs at a Glance~~
2. Modeling attacks
3. Modeling attacks using side-channel information
4. Invasive attacks
5. Requirements for secure PUF protocols
6. Forward-looking trends and challenges