Hardware Trojans in Wireless Networks: Risks & Remedies

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Motivation

"Gap" between wireless transceiver operating point and physical limits of communication introduces opportunities for hardware Trojans to compromise security of wireless networks

Project Objectives:

- Model the risk posed by hardware Trojans in wireless networks
- Elucidate feasibility of hardware Trojan attacks in an 802.11a/g network
- Develop detection and prevention methodologies
- Experimentally evaluate attacks and defenses

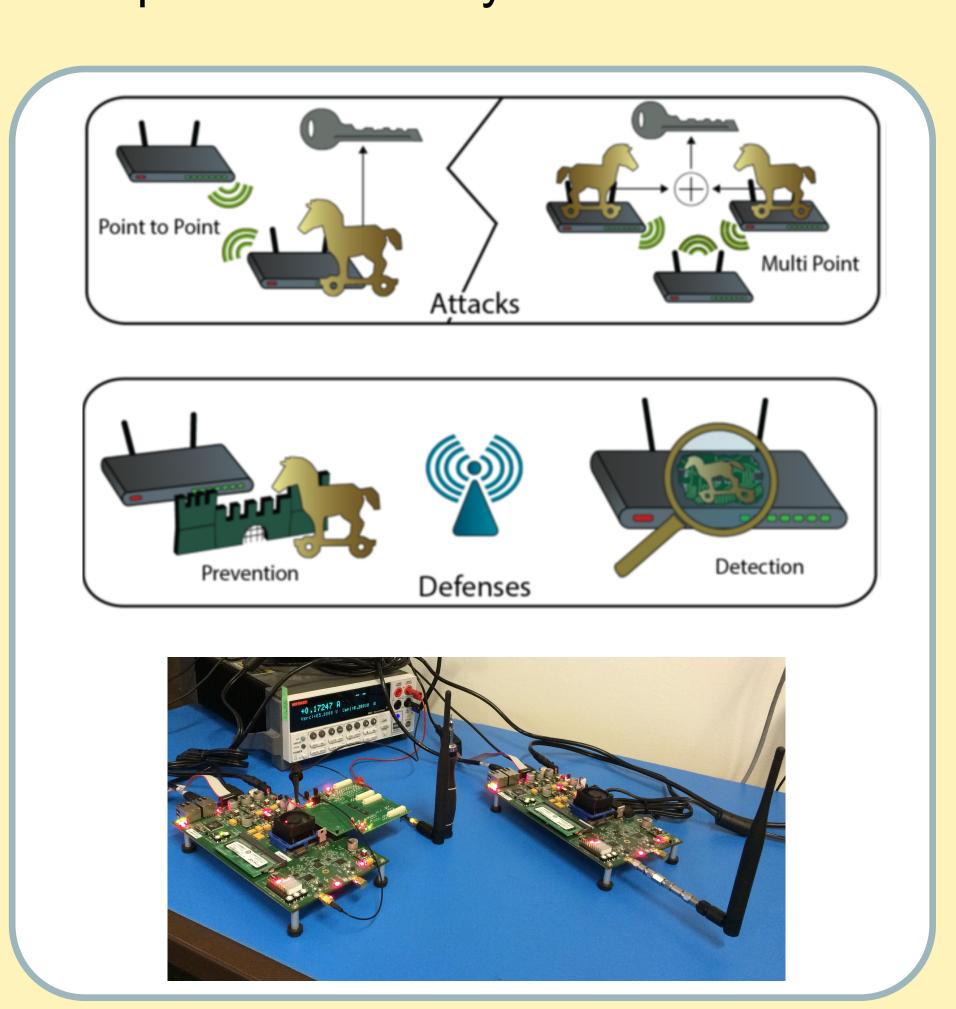
Initial Demonstrations:

Baseband Trojan

- FEC-based Trojan
- Negligible overhead
- Inconspicuous
- Robust
- High rogue data rate

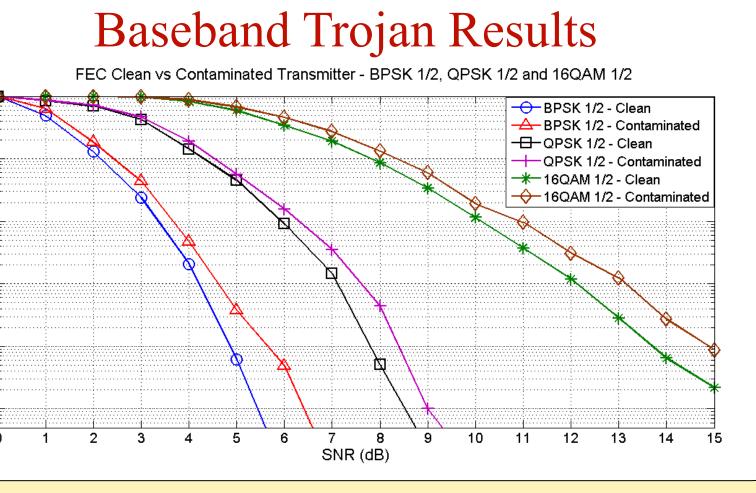
RF Trojan

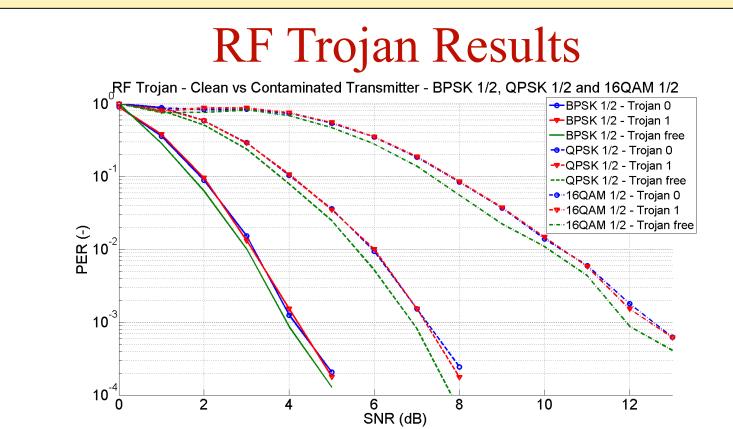
- Modifies termination impedance
- Minute power variations
- Stealthy and robust



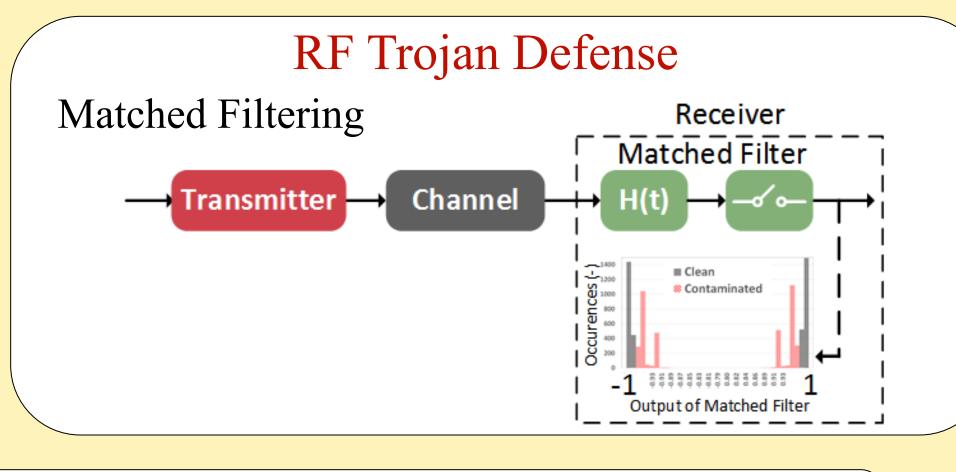
Trojan Model 1000 VGA Legitimate $Z_{out} =$ 1010 50Ω IEEE 802.11 a/g 50Ω Data Baseband Contaminated **FEC Encoder** Mixer Data **Leaked Information** Rogue Substitution $30 \, k\Omega$ $0.8~\mathrm{k}\Omega$ Block Data Rogue Transmitter **FEC Encoder** RF Trojan Model

Baseband Trojan Model





Baseband Trojan Defense Channel Noise Profiling Channel **Encoder** Decoder Volume 10 × 10⁴ Volume 10 × 10⁴ Volume 10 × 10⁴ Trojan noise ← Channel noise Trojan noise **Encoder**



Interested in meeting the PIs? Attach post-it note below!



