



got **HW** crypto?

On the (in)security of a Self-Encrypting  
Drive series

Finse Winter School 2018  
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# Speakers intro

## Gunnar Alendal:

Cand.Scient (old skool) in Cryptography from the University of Bergen, UiB, Norway.

Reverse engineering anything with an opcode; x86, x64, ARM, MIPS, M68k, ARC, 8051, ..

Security researcher with 18+ years of professional experience.

# Talk motivation

- “Old” research from 2015 (eprint 2015/1002)
- Still very relevant
- Everything is a SoC  $\Rightarrow$  “FW is the new SW”
- **HW/FW** less exposed to security research
- Rarely open source  $\Rightarrow$  Reverse engineering

# Research motivation

is HW crypto more secure?

JMS538S

X

SW6316

X

OXUF943SE

X

INIC-1607E

X

JMS569

X

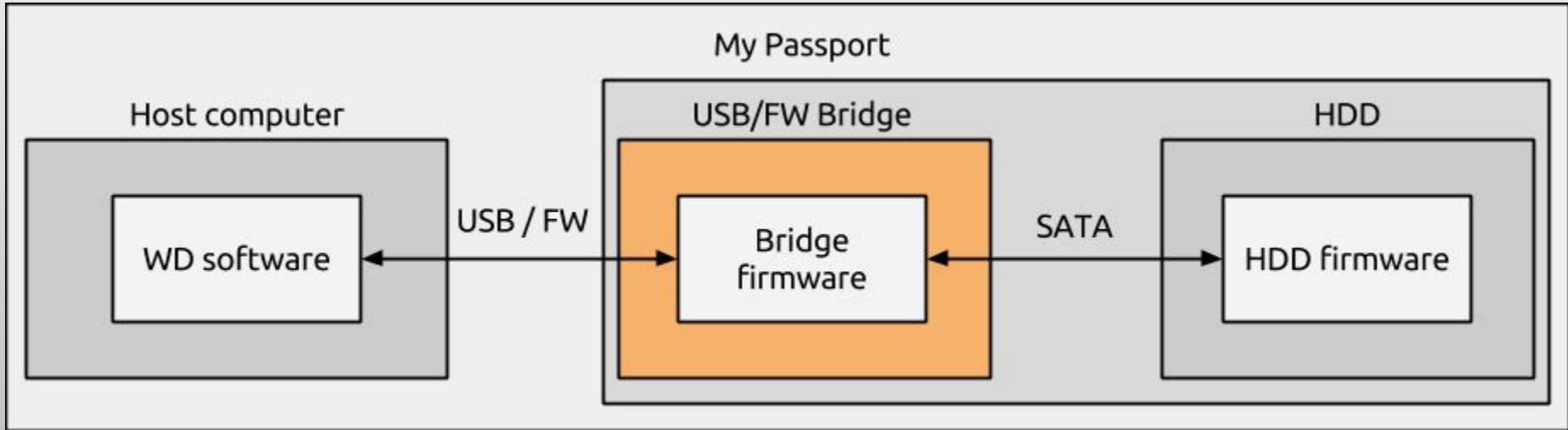
INIC-3608

X

# Western Digital **My Passport / Book**

- Self-encrypting external HDD series\*
- Crypto done in either:
  1. 1st-gen : USB/FW-to-SATA bridge
  2. 2nd-gen : HDD itself
- Can't fit everything in talk  $\Rightarrow$  read full paper

# Generic setup



# Different USB bridges researched

Vendor	Model (1st-gen/2nd-gen)	Architecture
JMicron	JMS538S	Intel 8051
Symwave	SW6316	Motorola M68k
PLX	OXUF943SE	ARM7
Initio	INIC-1607E	Intel 8051
Initio	INIC-3608	ARC 600
JMicron	JMS569	Intel 8051

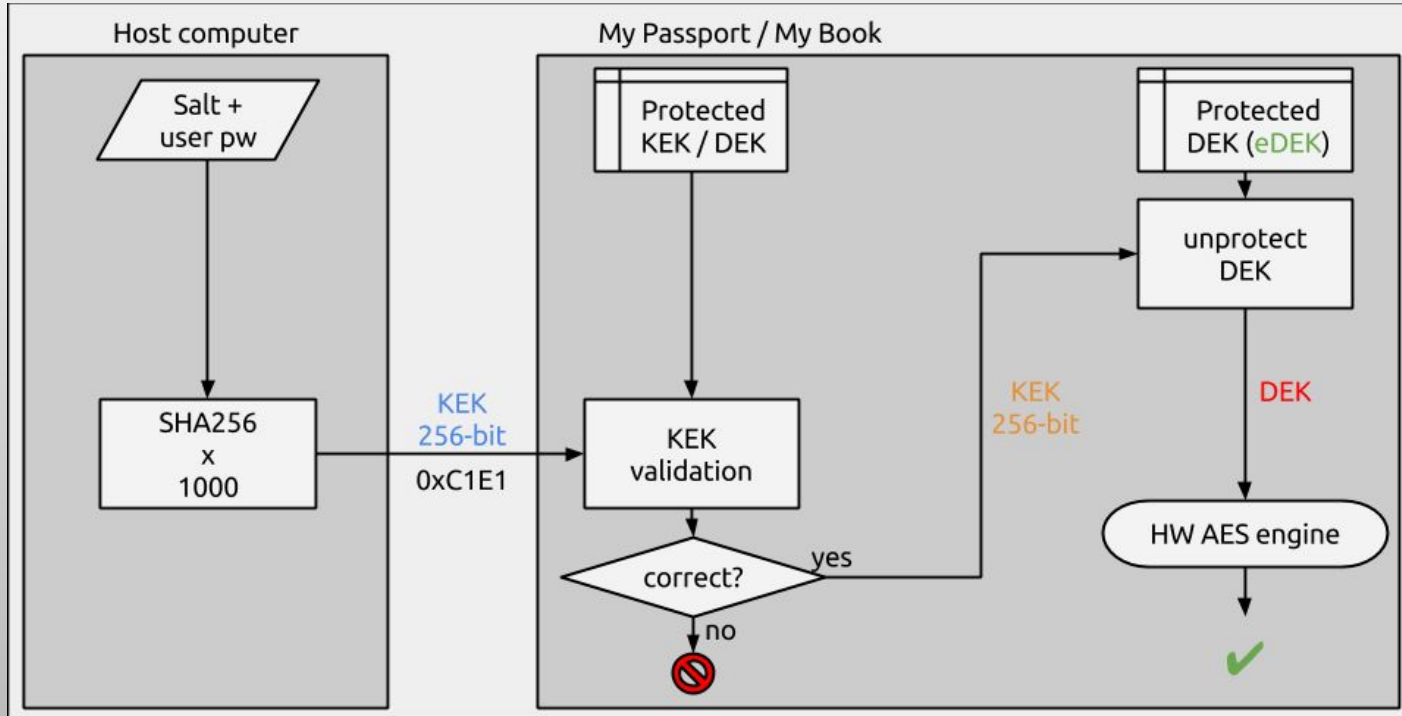
# Overall security design

- User PW  $\Rightarrow$  Key-Encryption-Key (**KEK**):
  - $\text{KDF}(\text{salt}+\text{PW}) = \text{KEK}$
  - salt + KDF iterations are **constant** in SW
- **KEK** protects Data-Encryption-Key (**DEK**)
- **DEK** = holy long-term HW AES Key



# 1st-gen bridges w/AES

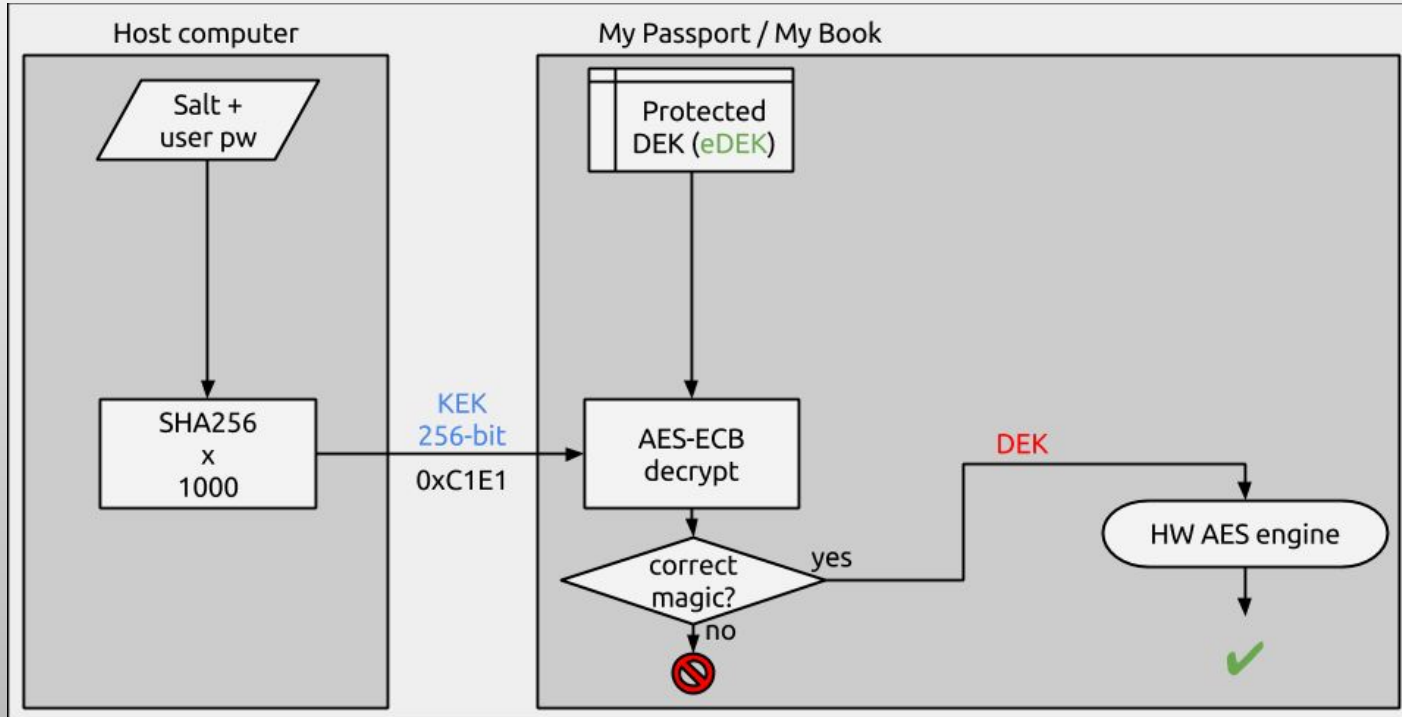
# Overall security design



# The protected DEK - eDEK

- a KEK-encrypted blob containing the raw DEK
- eDEK stored on disk + USB bridge EEPROM
  - EEPROM is marked “U14” on most PCBs
- retrieve eDEK  $\Rightarrow$  off-device pw brute force

# Authentication - JMS538S/INIC-1607E



# Mandatory HW encryption

- No PW set  $\Leftrightarrow$  *hardcoded* KEK unlocks DEK
- *Hardcoded* KEK = “PI” AES-256 key

03 14 15 92 65 35 89 79 32 38 46 26 43 38 32 79  
FC EB EA 6D 9A CA 76 86 CD C7 B9 D9 BC C7 CD 86

# data recovery

- no pw + broken USB bridge? no problem:
  - eDEK stored on HDD + EEPROM
  - decrypt eDEK with “PI” KEK  $\Rightarrow$  DEK decrypts HDD
- pw set? off-device brute force
  - Constant salt + KDF iteration counter
  - GPU-impl. benchmark: ~1 mill pw/s (single card)
  - Pre-calculated hash/rainbow-table

# Retrieve the **eDEK**: “no eeprom for you”

- no EEPROM on boot..
- ⇒ raw USB-to-SATA bridge or “DFU mode”
- ⇒ read **eDEK** from HDD



VID/PID: 1058/0748  
Bridge: JMS538S

# Retrieve the eDEK

- JMS538S - “no eeprom for you”
- SW6316 - PC-3k / “no eeprom for you”
- OXUF943SE - SATA + hidden eDEK sector
- INIC-1607E - “no eeprom for you” + 3-byte  
FW patch to dump eDEK



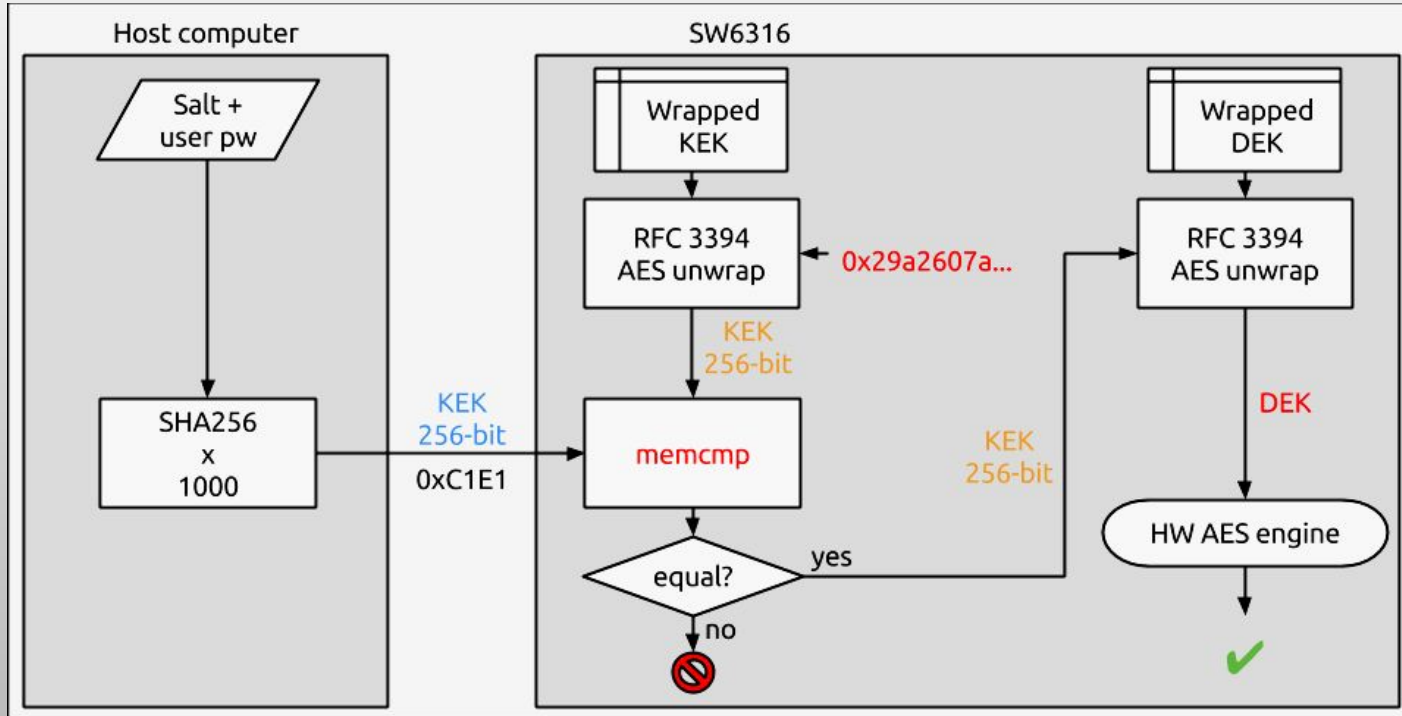
# Attackers progress...

Model	no pw set, recovery	pw brute force	break auth.	crack DEK
JMS538S	✓	✓		
SW6316	✓	✓		
OXUF943SE	✓	✓		
INIC-1607E	✓	✓		

# Breaking auth. - aka. **backdoors**

- Two 1st-gen chips **fail** on authentication
- **SW6316** stores the **KEK** in EEPROM/HDD
  - Protection: **Hardcoded key** (0x29A2607A..)
- **OXUF943SE** saves a “PI” encrypted **eDEK**
  - Protection: **Hardcoded key** (0x03141592..)

# SW6316 authentication/backdoor



# Attackers progress...

Model	no pw set, recovery	pw brute force	break auth.	crack DEK
JMS538S	✓	✓		
SW6316	✓	✓	✓	
OXUF943SE	✓	✓	✓	
INIC-1607E	✓	✓		

**..but before we crack DEKs:**

**2nd-gen bridges  
with no AES**

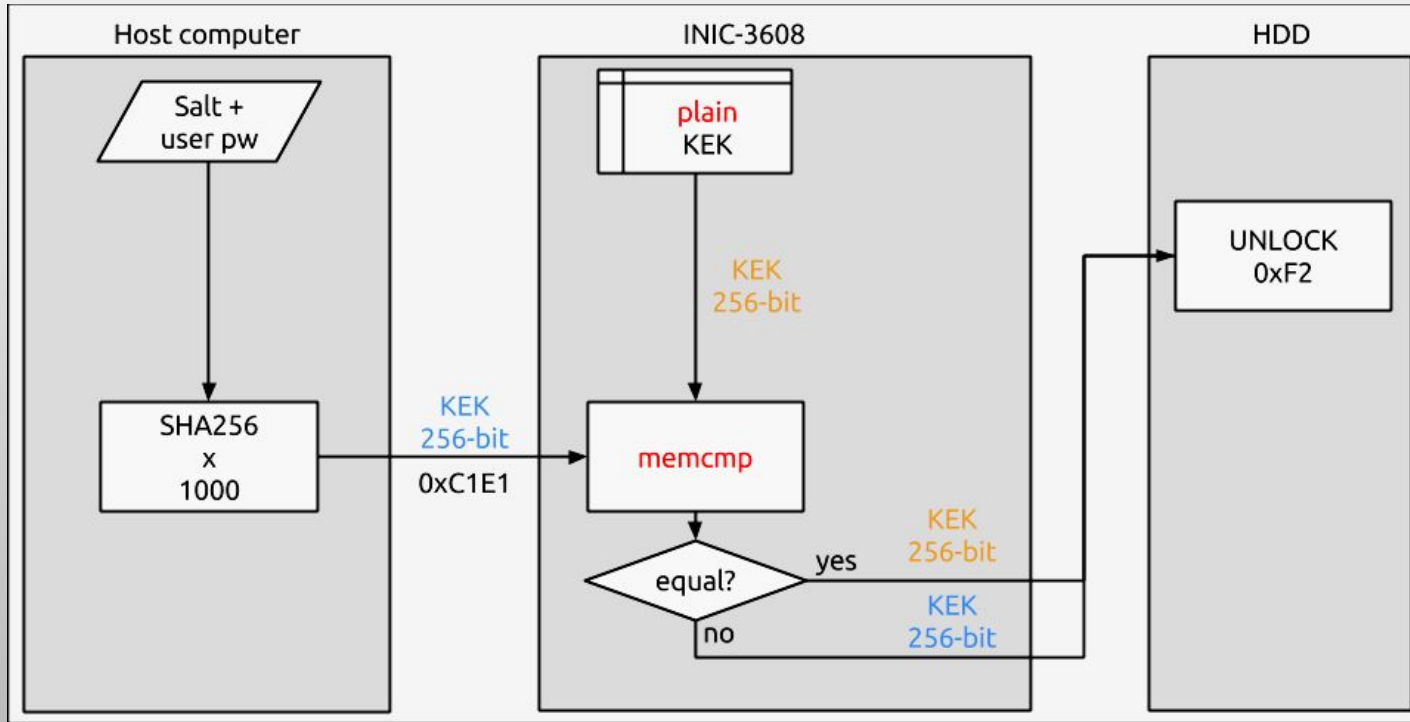
# Initio INIC-3608 / JMicron JMS 569

- no HW AES in USB bridge
- HDD does crypto:
  - “ATA Security feature Set”; ATA 0xF1, 0xF2, ...
- VSC “status” (0xC045) reports only cipher mode 0x30 (FDE)

# INIC-3608 backdoor

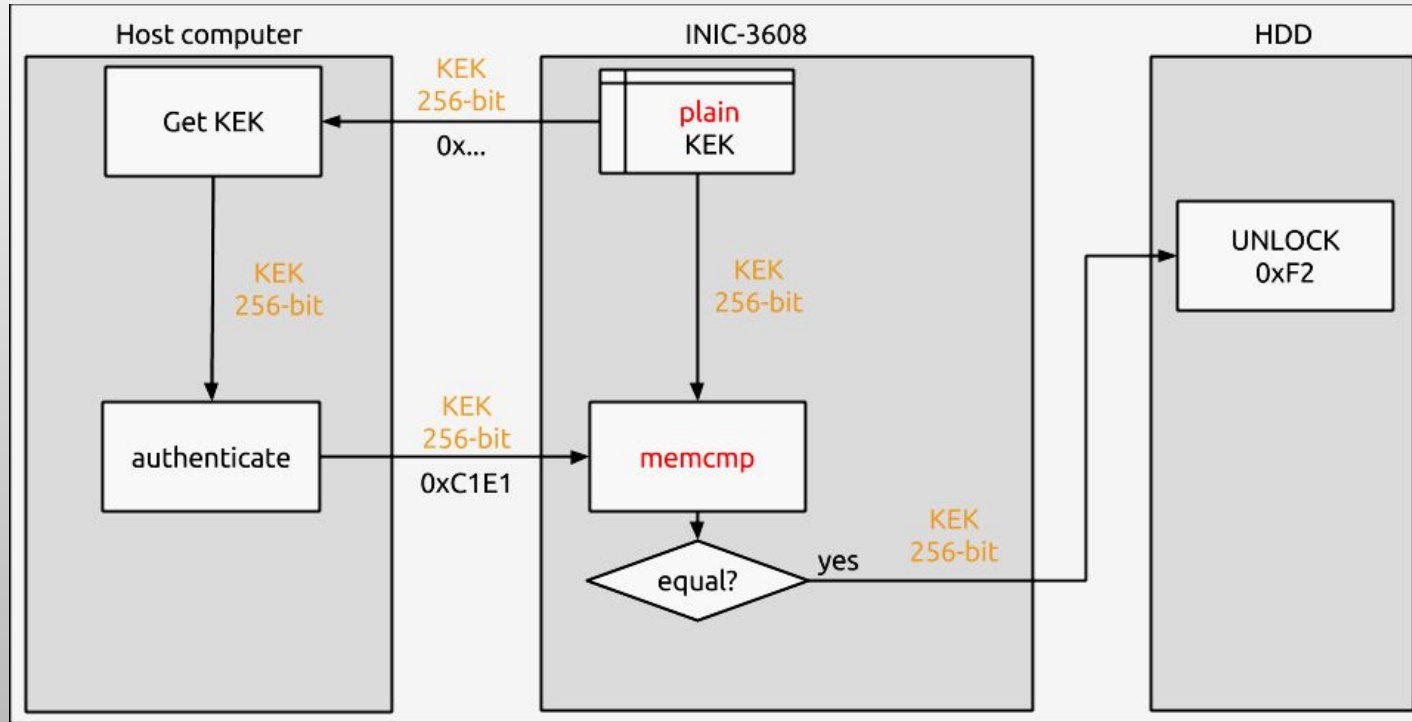
- INIC-3608 does authentication, no crypto
- EEPROM, U14, contains the raw KEK(!)
- Dump EEPROM ⇒ Get KEK ⇒ authenticate
- **..or** get KEK with secret VSC ⇒ authenticate

# INIC-3608 authentication





# INIC-3608 backdoor



# INIC-3608 Backdoor DEMO

# JMicron JMS569

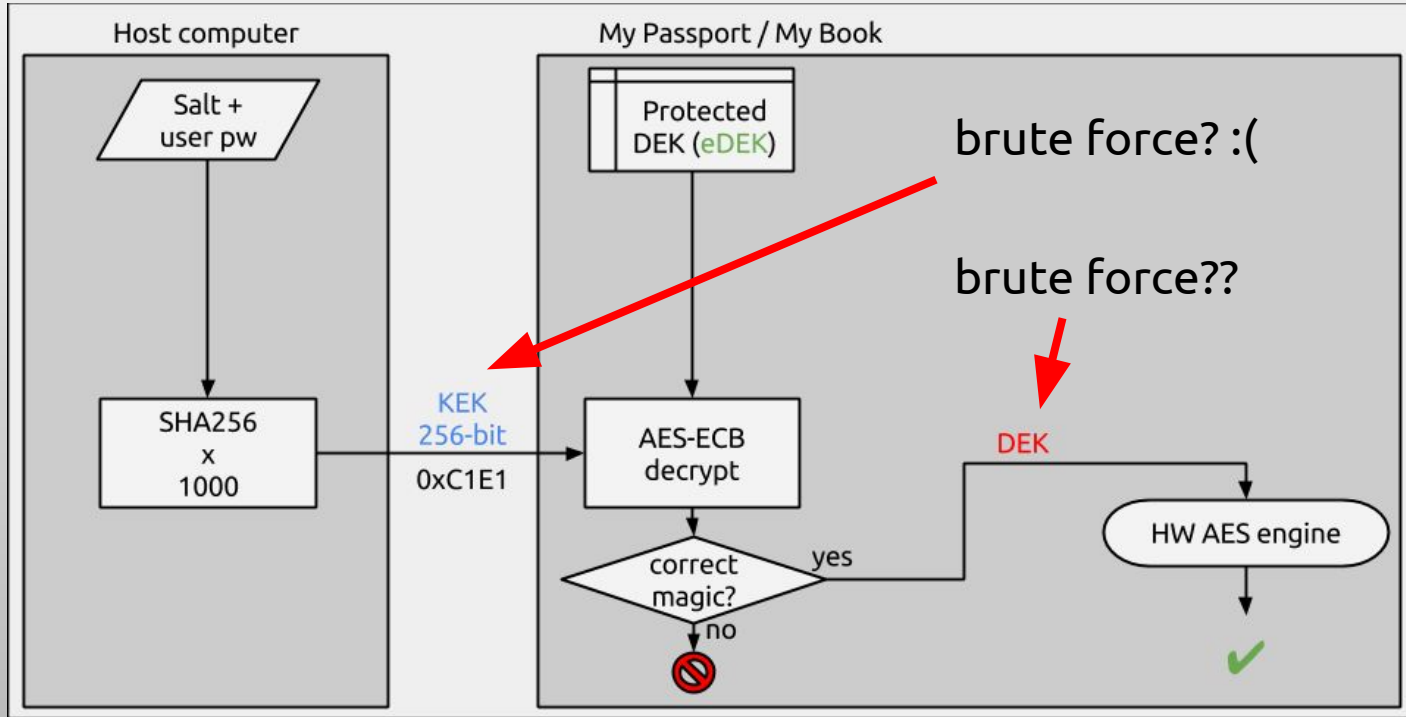
- Connect to pc3k in kernel-mode
  - Get privileges as always by bit shifting
  - Erase ATA-module XX
  - HDD unlocks, decrypting everything on the fly
- By now, pc3k found their own way
  - Details in the forums

# Attackers progress...

Model	no pw set, recovery	pw brute force	break auth.	crack DEK
JMS538S	✓	✓		
SW6316	✓	✓	✓	
OXUF943SE	✓	✓	✓	
INIC-1607E	✓	✓		
INIC-3608	✓	✓	✓	
JMS569	✓		✓	

# **JMS538S and INIC-1607E still standing tall\***

# Recap: Authentication - JMS538S



# Crack **DEK** directly?

- How is the HW AES-256 **DEK** created?
- Entropy source?
- can we beat a  $2^{256}$  complexity?

# DEK creation $\Rightarrow$ device “erase”

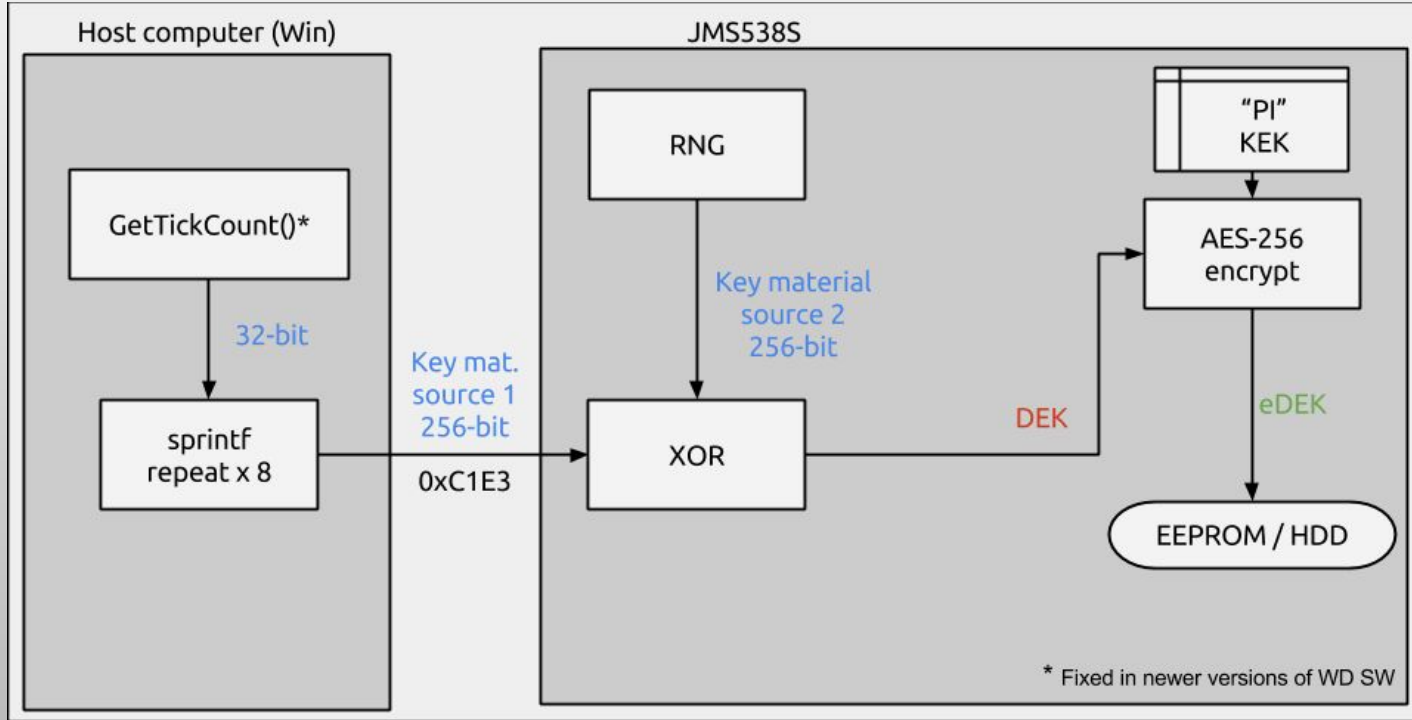
- How is the DEK created on a device “erase”?
  - aka. “I forgot my password”
- Entropy source(s)?
- Can we assume the factory uses this “erase” command?



# DEK creation by device “erase”

- “erase” VSC: CDB[0:1] = 0xC1E3
- 2 entropy sources:
  - host computer ⇒ Key material source 1
  - on-board RNG ⇒ Key material source 2

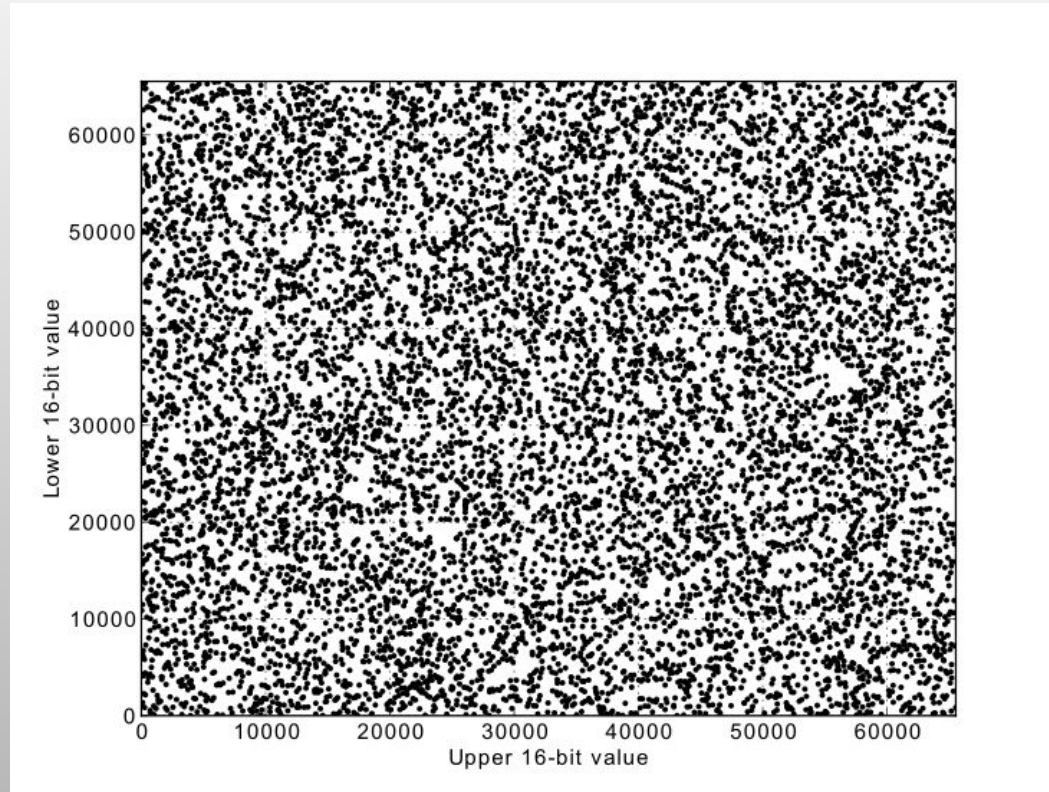
# JMS538S “erase” VSC



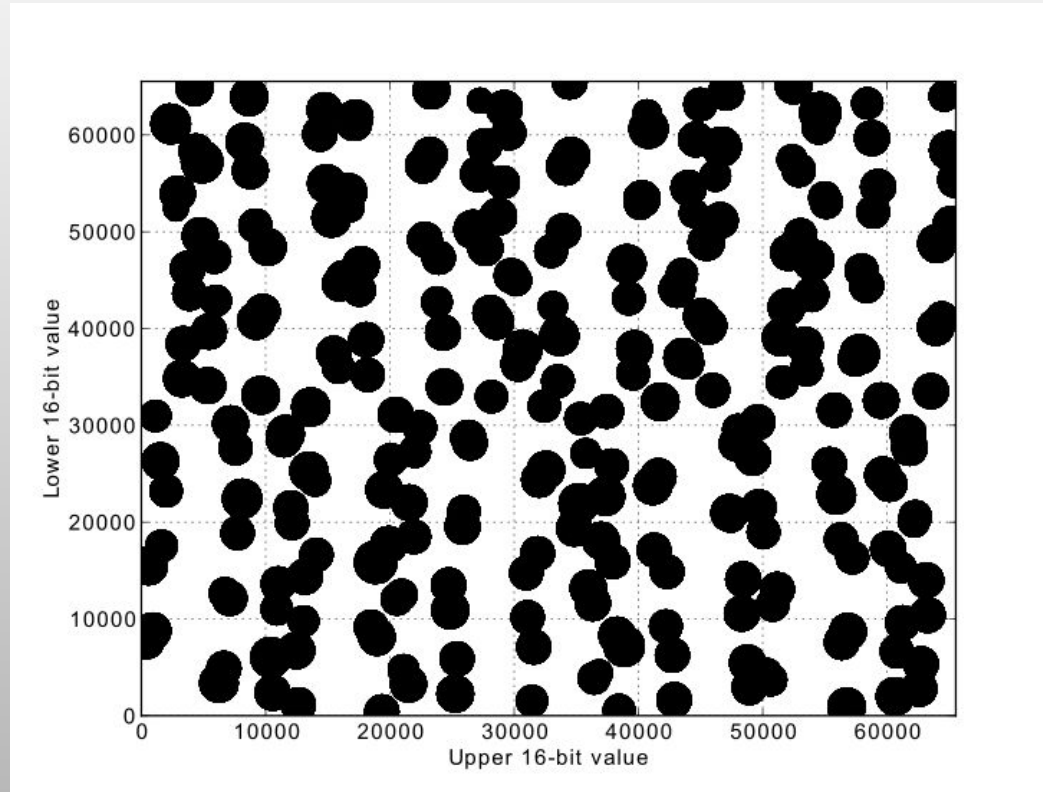
# JMS538S on-board RNG

- Implemented in chip “somewhere”
- Gather samples and plot
- Gather by “status” (4 bytes) or “erase” (32 bytes) VSC

# /dev/urandom - 32-bit x 10 000



# JMS538S “status” unmask x 10 000



# JMS538S on-board RNG

- “status” command masks RNG output:
  - xor with 0x271828af
- “erase” uses raw RNG - no mask
- RNG turns out to be a 8-bit LFSR with period 255

# JMS538S on-board RNG

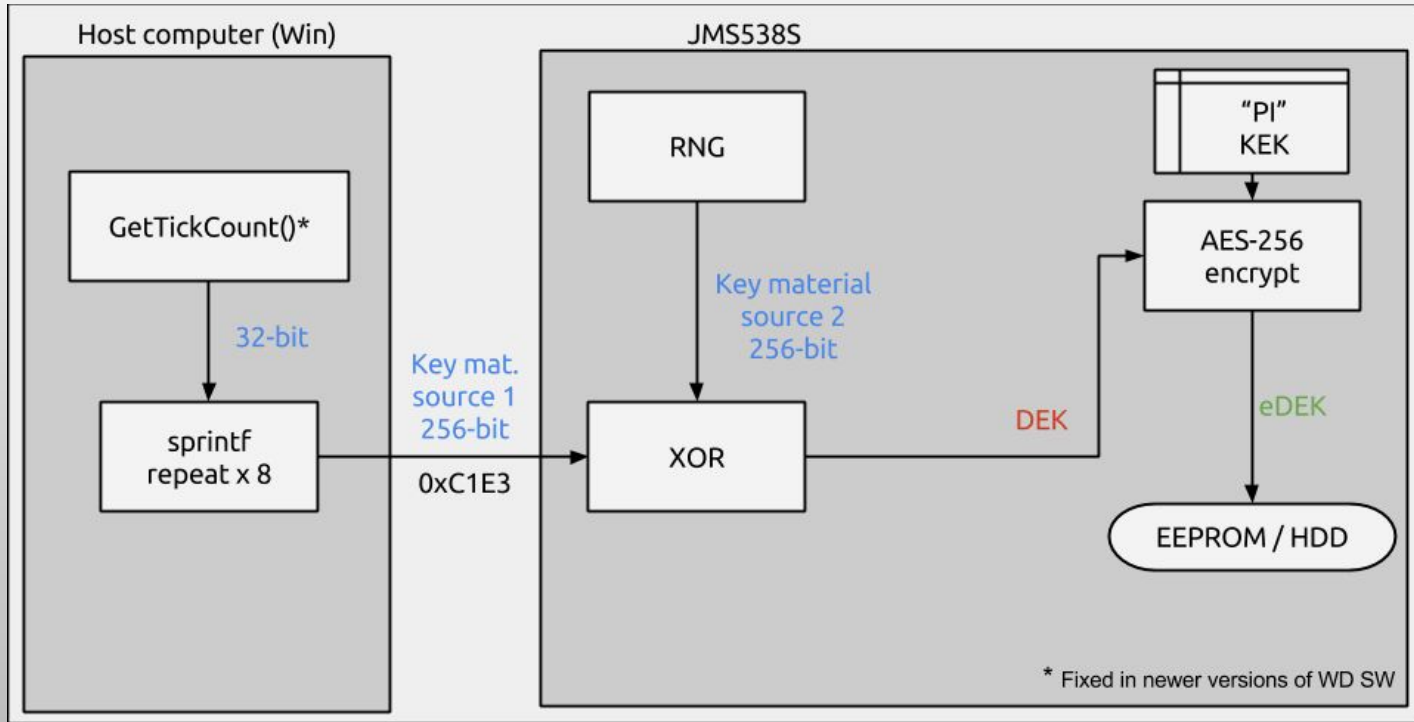
- ..eh, a RNG with period of 255?!
- ..adding a poor  $\sim 2^8$  to the complexity!
- ..so we have total  $2^{32} \times \sim 2^8 = \sim 2^{40}$  complexity!

# JMS538S “erase” attack

- You erase the drive + set sooper pw
- We recover the **DEK** with  $2^{40}$  complexity
  - $\sim 2^{36}$  if set from a MAC
- ..done in “no time” on any computer



# JMS538S “erase” VSC



# JMS538S factory keys

- “most people don’t erase their drives”
- ..so what about the factory set **DEKs**?
- Does the factory use the “erase” command?

# JMS538S factory keys analysis

- Grab factory set **DEK** from an **eDEK** + reverse the “erase” command flow
- Generate 255 possible “Host provided key material” (source 1)
- Find the correct one by guessing...?

# JMS538S factory keys - RNG leak

- The default out-of-the-box **eDEK** leaks
- Decrypted **eDEK** leaks RNG status at creation time
- ... which is the same time as **DEK** creation!

# decrypted factory eDEK - RNG leak

Magic	0x00:	"DEK1"
CRC	0x04:	3f97
Unknown	0x06:	0000
random1	0x08:	b1f065be
key 0x3ee2 128 bit	0x0c:	dde91629a8f503a41847e9956386a5d3
random2	0x1c:	2aa98576
key 0x3ef2 128 bit	0x20:	fea9c0d0ad395397772420a0563a604b
random3	0x30:	074195db
key 0x3f02 256 bit	0x34:	
		3b00e300f7002700e1004d003800040069003e00d70048000c00bb0042006400
random4	0x54:	8e832cf3
key size (byte)	0x58:	20 => 256 bits
Unknown	0x59:	0000000000000000

factory DEK

RNG status leak

# JMS538S factory keys - RNG leak

- The default out-of-the-box **eDEK** says it all
- It gives the raw **DEK**
- + the *state of the RNG* after **DEK** creation
- ⇒ We know the host provided key material!

# example host provided key material

Raw stream: 14 F9 DD 69 49 81 D4 63 CE 22 30 51 23 1B 2C 18 28 3B  
3D 15 0F 3F 98 39 E4 C3 1F 4A 57 F3 9A 79

Little endian, 32-bit values: 69DDF914 63D48149 513022CE 182C1B23  
153D3B28 39983F0F 4A1FC3E4 799AF357

```
srand(0x4fd45d3f)    ← Seed with this...  
rand() ⇒ 69DDF914    ← ... and get these  
rand() ⇒ 63D48149    ← ...  
..  
rand() ⇒ 799AF357    ← ...
```

# example host provided key material

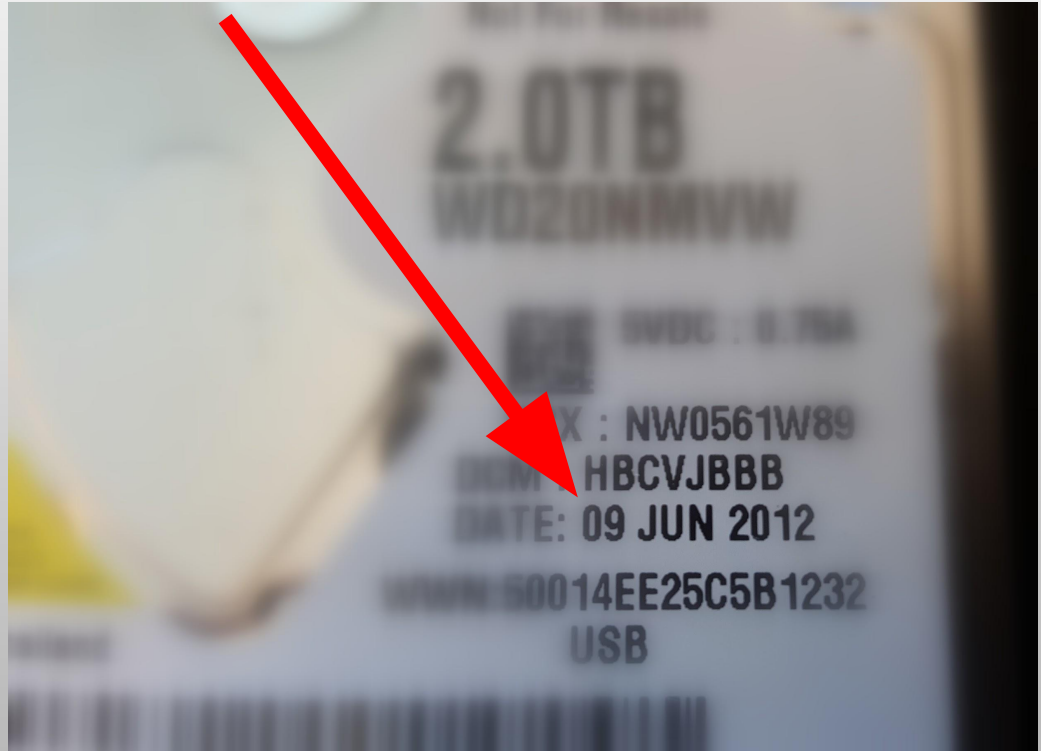
- `srand(0x4fd45d3f)` is the entropy source
- `0x4fd45d3f`  $\Rightarrow$  UNIX time
- `0x4fd45d3f`  $\Rightarrow$  2012-06-10 08:39:27 UTC
- It was on a Sunday ..and it was sunny



**DEK** created: **10 JUN 2012** 08:39:27 UTC

Ouch!

HDDs have a  
printed  
production  
date..



# JMS538S factory **DEK** attack

- a **single** 128-bit known-plaintext AES block needed from HDD  $\Rightarrow$  e.g.  $E_{\text{DEK}}(00..00)$
- Recover the 256-bit **DEK** with  $2^{36}$  complexity:
  - Brute force creation time (2007 - 2015) + RNG state

# JMS538S factory **DEK** attack

- ..done in “no time” on any computer
- ..or **instant** with a 1.2 TB lookup-table!
  - pre-gen all  $2^{36}$  possible factory **DEKs**
  - store  $E_{\text{DEK}}(00..00)$  + seed + RNG idx

# JMS538S factory DEK attack DEMO

# Attackers progress...

Model	no pw set, recovery	pw brute force	break auth.	crack DEK
JMS538S	✓	✓		✓
SW6316	✓	✓	✓	
OXUF943SE	✓	✓	✓	
INIC-1607E	✓	✓		(✓)
INIC-3608	✓	✓	✓	
JMS569	✓		✓	

badUSB and evil-maid?

# No FW signing $\Rightarrow$ security problems

- can patch FW devices, pre authentication  $\Rightarrow$  bad, bad USB
- ..resulting in spreading of evilness
  - malware in 8051, M68k and ARC. Infect-on-the-fly.
  - no easy clean (self-protecting evil FW)
  - add crypto backdoor
  - nullifying poor auth. schemes

# Summary

- **All 6** bridges analyzed had **serious security vulnerabilities**
- **3** bridges have **backdoors**, **2 weak key setup**, **1 broken auth**.
- All 6 vulnerable to unauthorized FW patching ⇒ badUSB, evil-maid, ..



**Thank You, WD and EFF**

Questions?