

How hardware design choices can make the life of attackers difficult in IOT Security



IOT



IoT Edge Node &
Building blocks



Examples of IoT
Hacking



Chip level
Attacks: An
overview



Hardware
Solutions

WILL THE INTERNET OF THINGS AND HEALTH DATA REALLY CHANGE PEOPLE'S BEHAVIOURS?



"YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE IS 160/90
BMI 50 & LIFE EXPECTANCY IS
5 YEARS..."

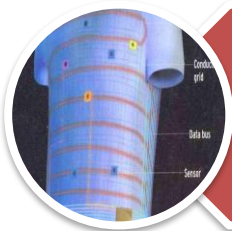
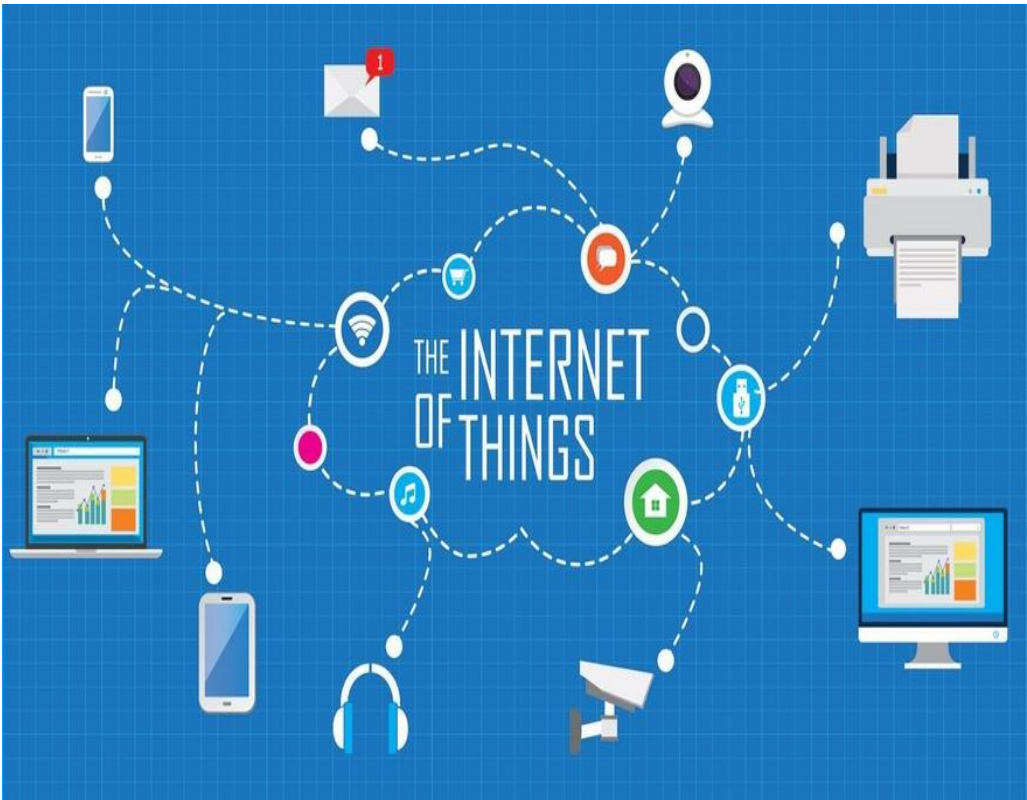


"FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS
HAVE BEEN BOOKED IN
YOUR CALENDAR"



I NEED PIZZA

IOT



Shirt with super powers can tell you when you're ill



The kettle that the boiled water is cooling and you should hurry up and make that cup of tea before it gets too cold.



Your Kids toothbrush lets you know that they have brushed their teeth for two minutes, that they have cavity?

A network of Internet connected objects with Unique Identifiers and unique data

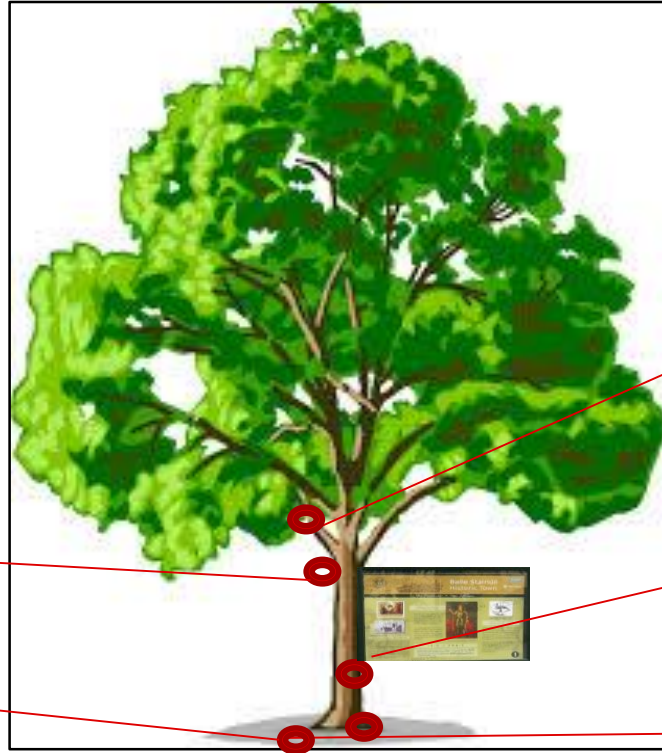
Creativity is limitless in IoT

There are 3.04 trillion trees in the world

*Assume you can
interact with them
and connect to
them*

*Solar enabled
smart lighting*

*Environment
and Seismic
Sensors*



*Image Sensors,
Proximity Sensor,
Pedestrian count,
Auto FB tags with
User enabled control*

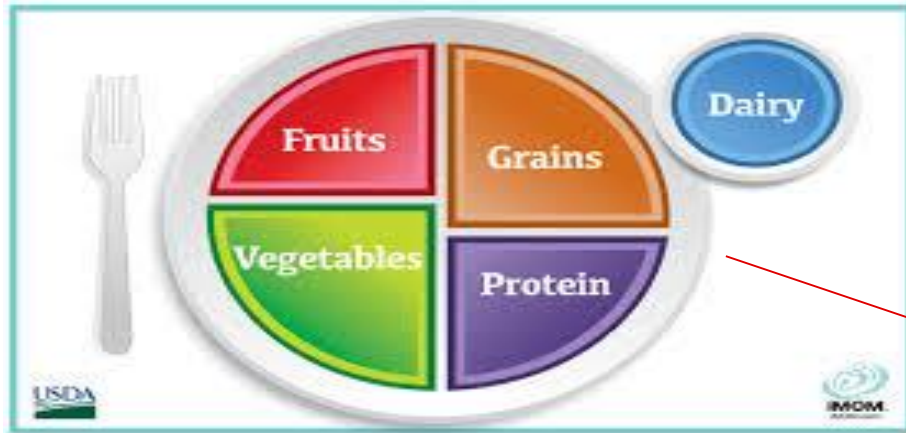
*Digital map info,
navigation,
Traffic alerts
Water level
detector*

IoT – when applied on “things” – that are naturally around us – leads to innovations and opportunities

Creativity is limitless in IoT

*There are 7 billion people in the world.
~0.2 billion people are DIET CONSCIOUS*

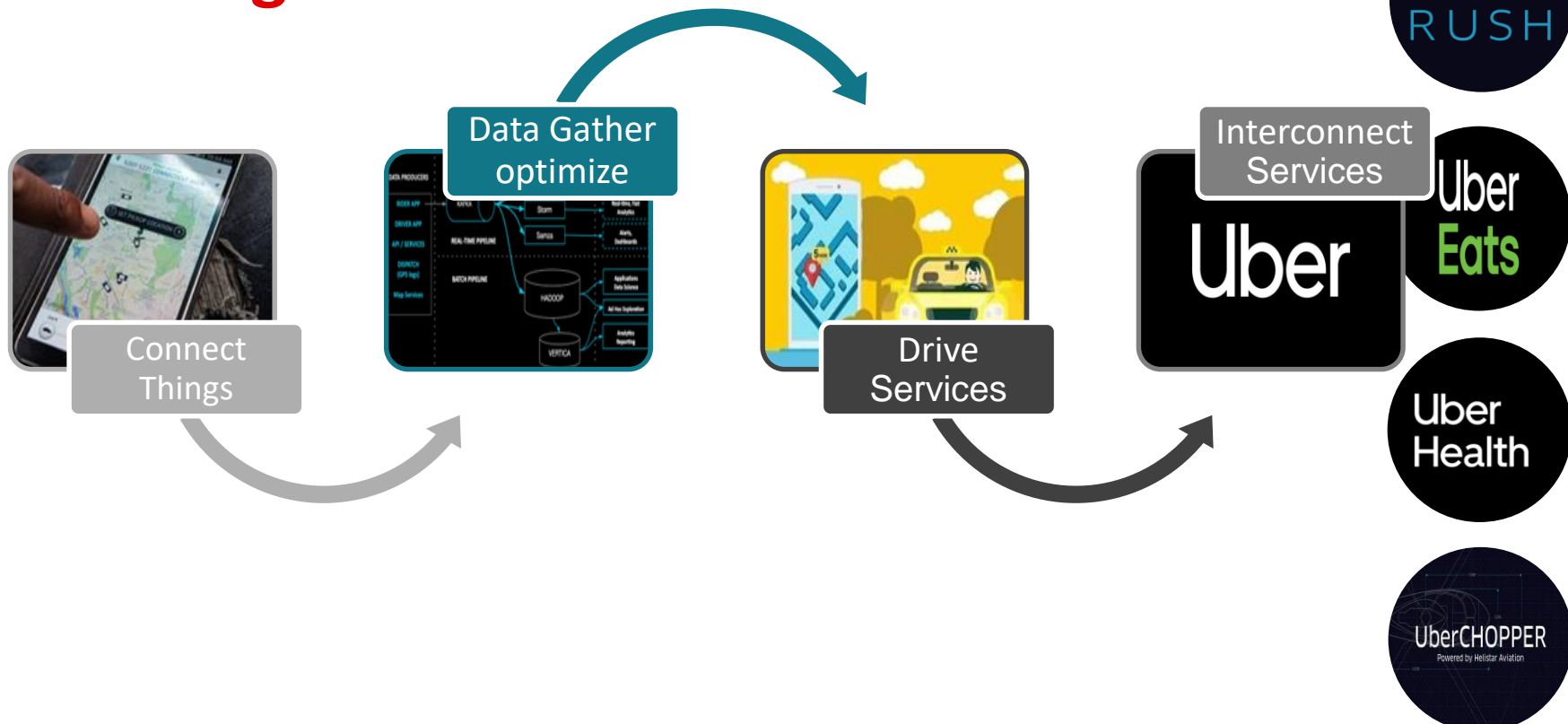
**CREATE “SMART
PLATES”**



*Weights, warns, analyzes based on health,
Customizes based on people*

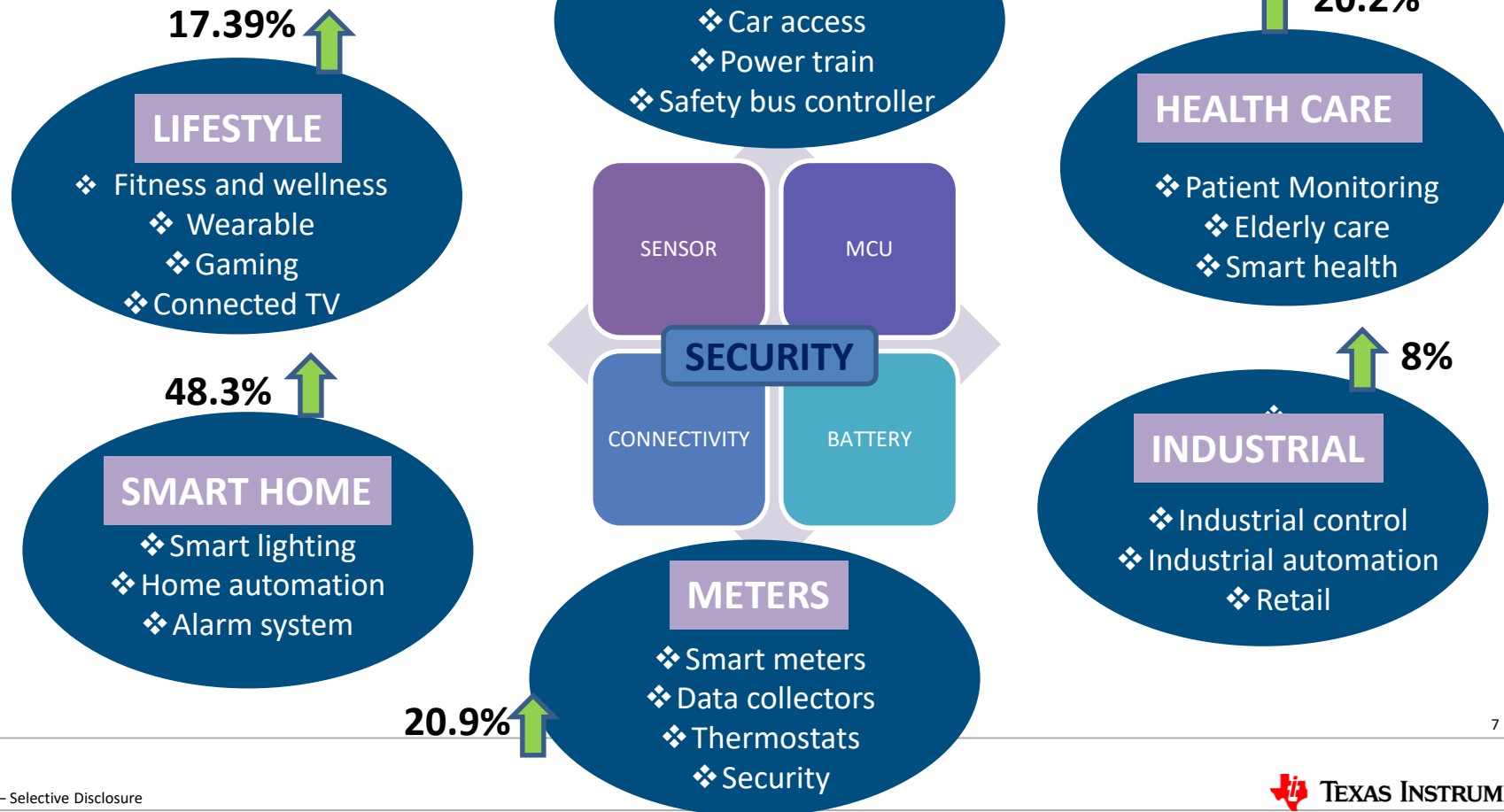
IoT – when applied on “things” – that are needed by us in day to day life – leads to innovations and opportunities

Monetizing IoT



IoT service can be MONETIZED via a strong ecosystem of interconnect services

IoT Edge Node Growth



Examples of IoT Hacking

- ❖ *Hacker remotely raises home temperature by 12 degree Celsius on smart thermostat => Demand ransom money to release the control of thermostat*

- ❖ *The Hackable Cardiac Devices from St. Jude => Life threatening for a patient*

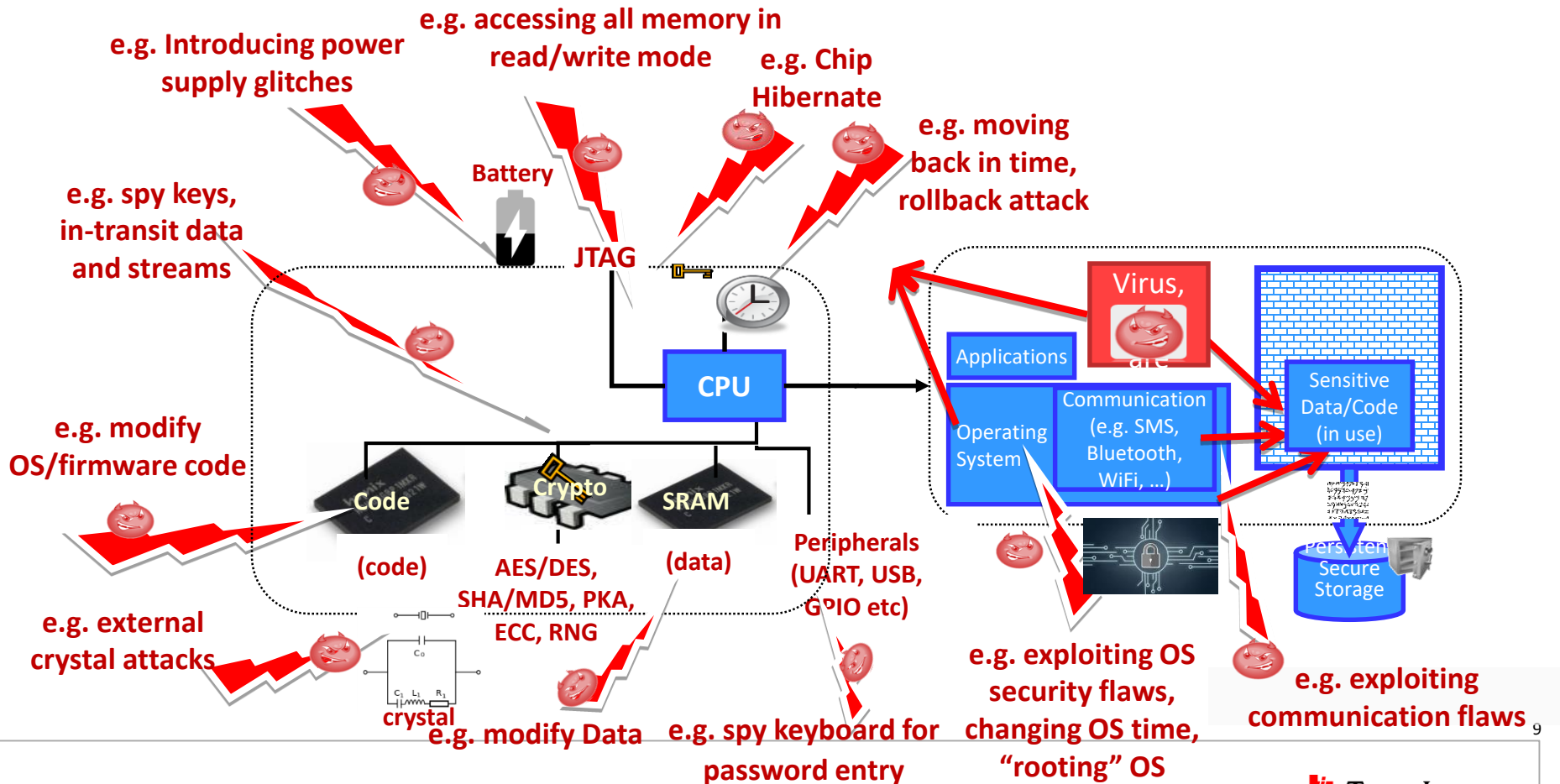
- ❖ *The Owlet WiFi Baby Heart Monitor Vulnerabilities => Misleading information leading to incorrect diagnosis*

- ❖ *The TRENDnet Webcam Hack => Leak private information*

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Chip level Attacks : An overview



Hardware design solutions for security

**REGION BASED
MEMORY
PROTECTION**

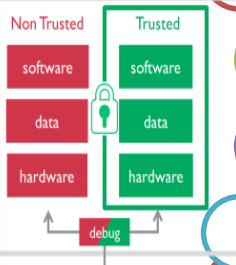
**ROLL BACK
ATTACK
PROTECTION**

**FIRMWARE ATTACK
PROTECTION**

**SECURITY &
PERFORMANCE**

TAMPER DETECTION

TAMPER PROTECTION



Code Protection

Peripheral Protection

Data Protection

Debug Protection

Secure Hash Algorithm(SHA-256), True Random number generator (RNG)

Elliptic curve digital signature Algorithm (ECDSA)

Public Key Authentication (PKA), Crypto accelerators

Battery backup for Chip Hibernate modes

On chip Clock Monitor with Battery backup

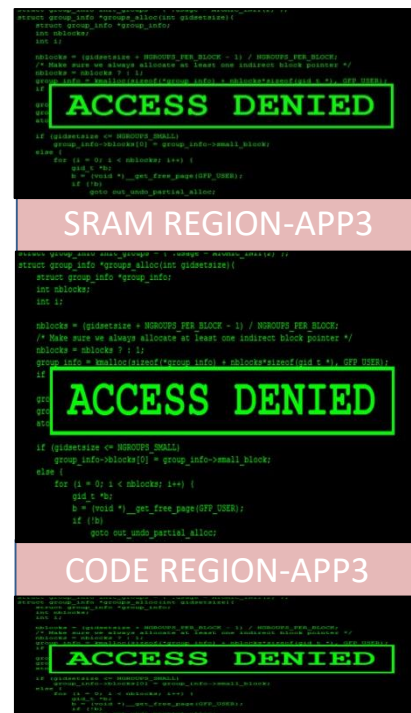
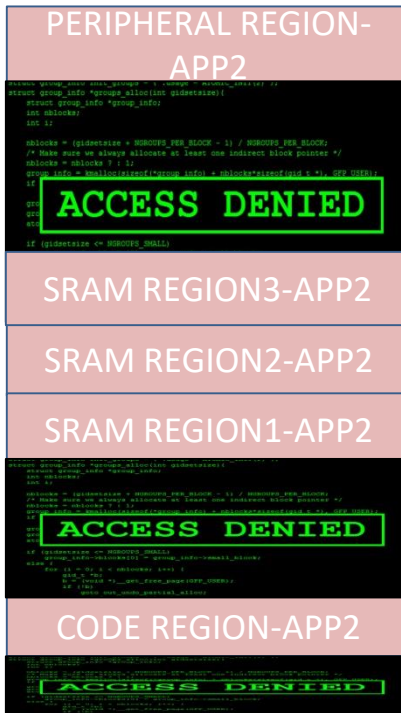
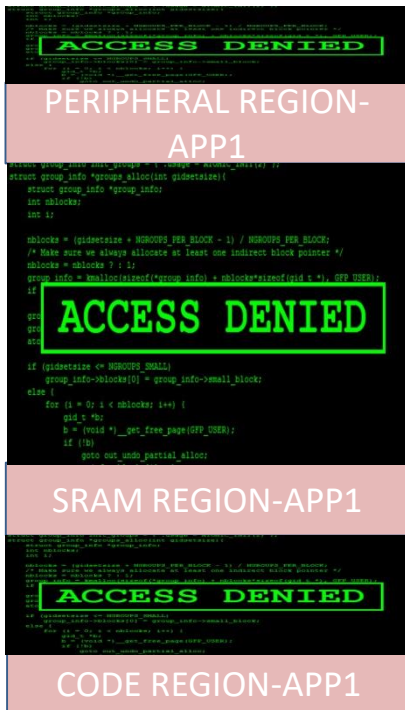
On chip Voltage Monitor with Battery backup

On chip Temperature Monitor with Battery backup, Temperature Sensors



TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

Why Memory Protection ?



Multiple parallel threads are required to be supported with isolated environment

Region based Memory Protection (TrustZone)

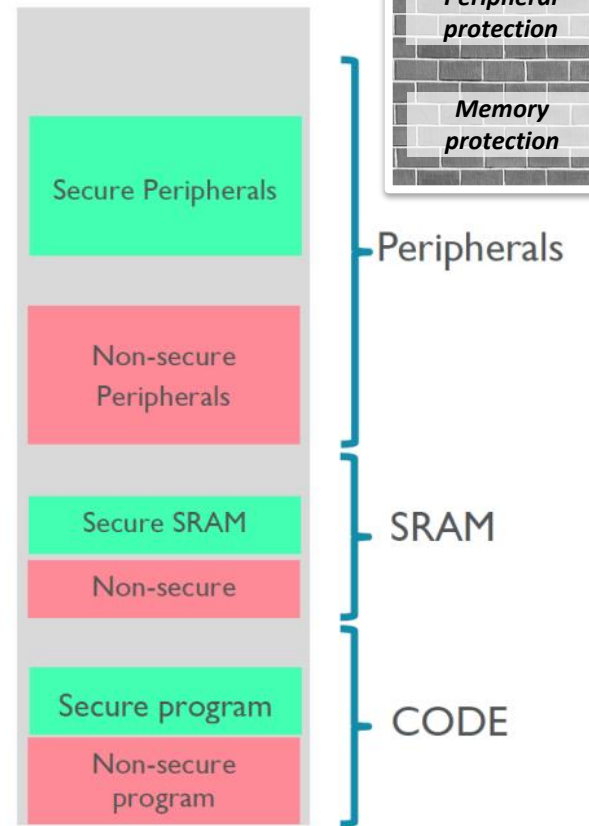
ARMv8-M system with TrustZone provides programmable hardware that supports region based memory protection [S(Secure)/NS(Non-secure)]

Maximum 8 distinct memory regions are allowed to be programmed

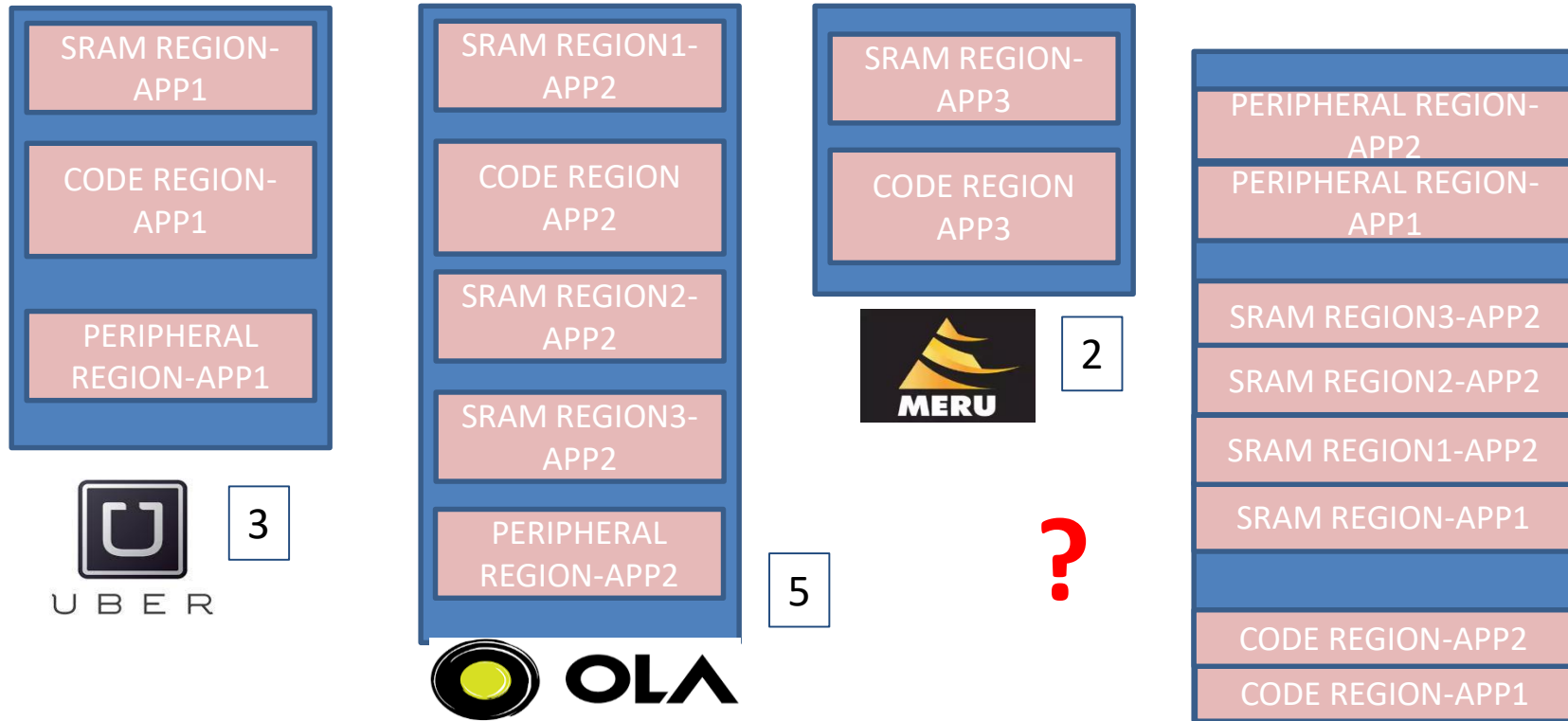
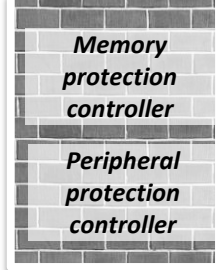
Allows CODE, SRAM and Peripheral regions to be programmed as Secure or Non-secure

Each Application/Process/thread owns some Peripherals, SRAM and CODE regions

Each Application/Process/thread belongs to either Secure or Non-secure state



Region Based Memory Protection



MPC (Memory Protection controller) & PPC (Peripheral protection controller) enables granular memory partitioning with Protection

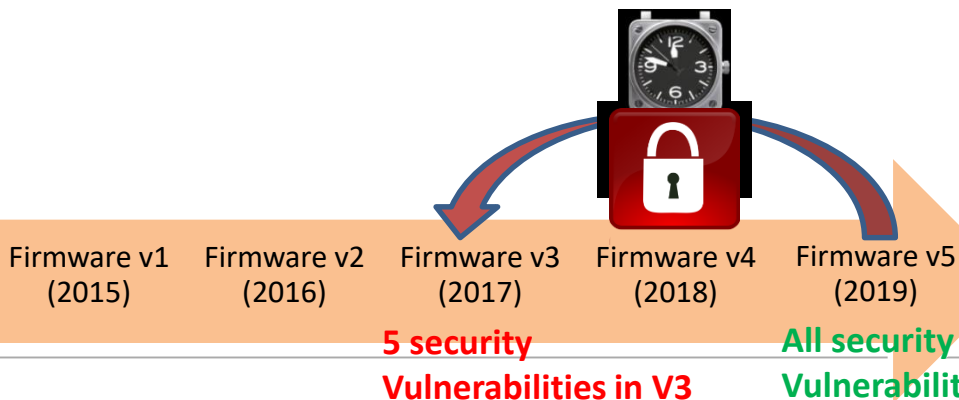
*Source ARM

Roll back Attacks Protection

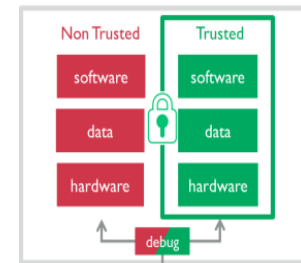
Rolling the time backwards by tampering
Real time clock

Hacker installed an older firmware version

Device is **NOW vulnerable** to **security
THREATS** ☹️☹️



Hardware-
reinforced debug
port protection



Peripheral
protection
controller
(secure clock)

Peripheral Protection

Secure storage

Battery Backup

Security & Performance

Hardware Crypto
Accelerators
ECDSA, PKI, TRNG

Digital Signature

Eves Dropping into
Patient Medical Records,
Data Manipulation

Man in the middle attacks
on by rogue devices –
manipulating the robotic
remote commands

Remote Robotic Surgery

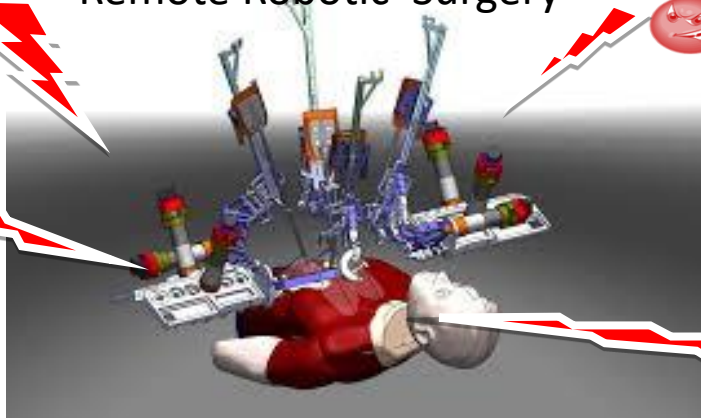
Hibernating the
operation devices
to lose security
information

Public key
Infrastructure(PKI);
TRNG(True Random
Number generator)

Sluggishness of the IoT
device

BATTERY BACKUP FOR
SECURE KEYS

Hardware Crypto
Accelerators for FAST
ENCRYPTION &
DECRYPTION



UNPRECEDENTED HACK OF UKRAINE'S POWER GRID

December 23 2015, in Ivano-Frankivsk region of Western Ukraine, hackers brought down 30 power substations, leaving more than 230,000 residents in the dark.

The hackers managed to get worker credentials, some of them for VPNs the grid workers used to remotely log in to the power grid network.

Then they wrote malicious firmware to replace the legitimate firmware on serial-to-Ethernet converters at more than a dozen substations.

Their malicious firmware rendered the converters thereafter inoperable and unrecoverable, unable to receive commands. You have to be at that site and manually replace converters.

What is Firmware Attack ?

To ensure that the target embedded device runs only authorized firmware or uses only authorized configuration data, we need to provide a way to verify both authenticity and integrity of the information. This means making sure that the data is trusted and not subsequently modified, otherwise it can lead to :-

Output confidential and sensitive data

Force the device to operate incorrectly

Induce unpredictable device behavior

Firmware Attack Protection

Hardware-
reinforced debug
port protection

Hardware unique key-based
cryptography
secure boot, Code protection

R&D Facility



SHA-256

PKI

ECDSA

Random Number
Generator



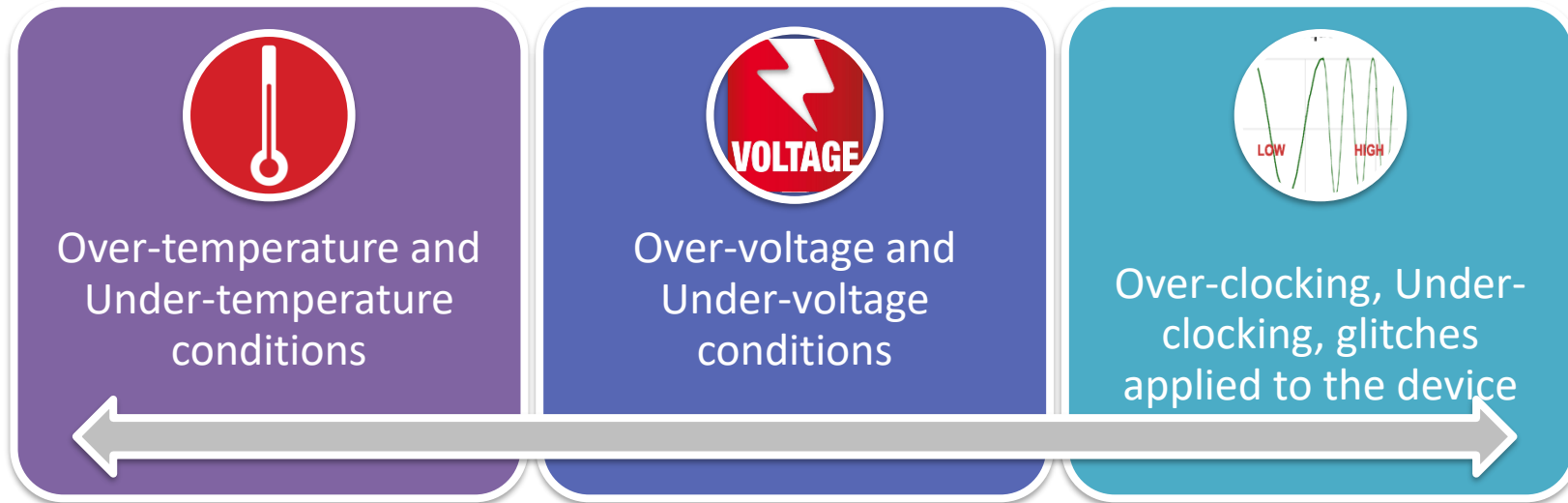
Secure Boot

Secure Boot and Secure Download

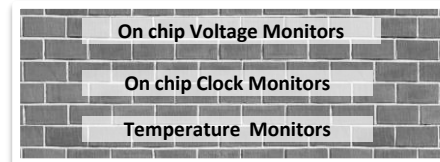
What is TAMPER ?

Tamper refers to intentional alteration or manipulation to the system such that it compromises the secrets in the system or enables unauthorized operation of the system.

To alter the device environmental or operational conditions with the intent to operate the MCU or other components in an unintended way, following types of attacks can be used :-



Tamper Protection



On-Chip TAMPER Sensors

Voltage Monitors

Temperature Monitors

Clock Monitors

TAMPER
DETECTION



TAMPER
EVIDENCE

TAMPER
RESPONSE

Tamper Event Timestamp

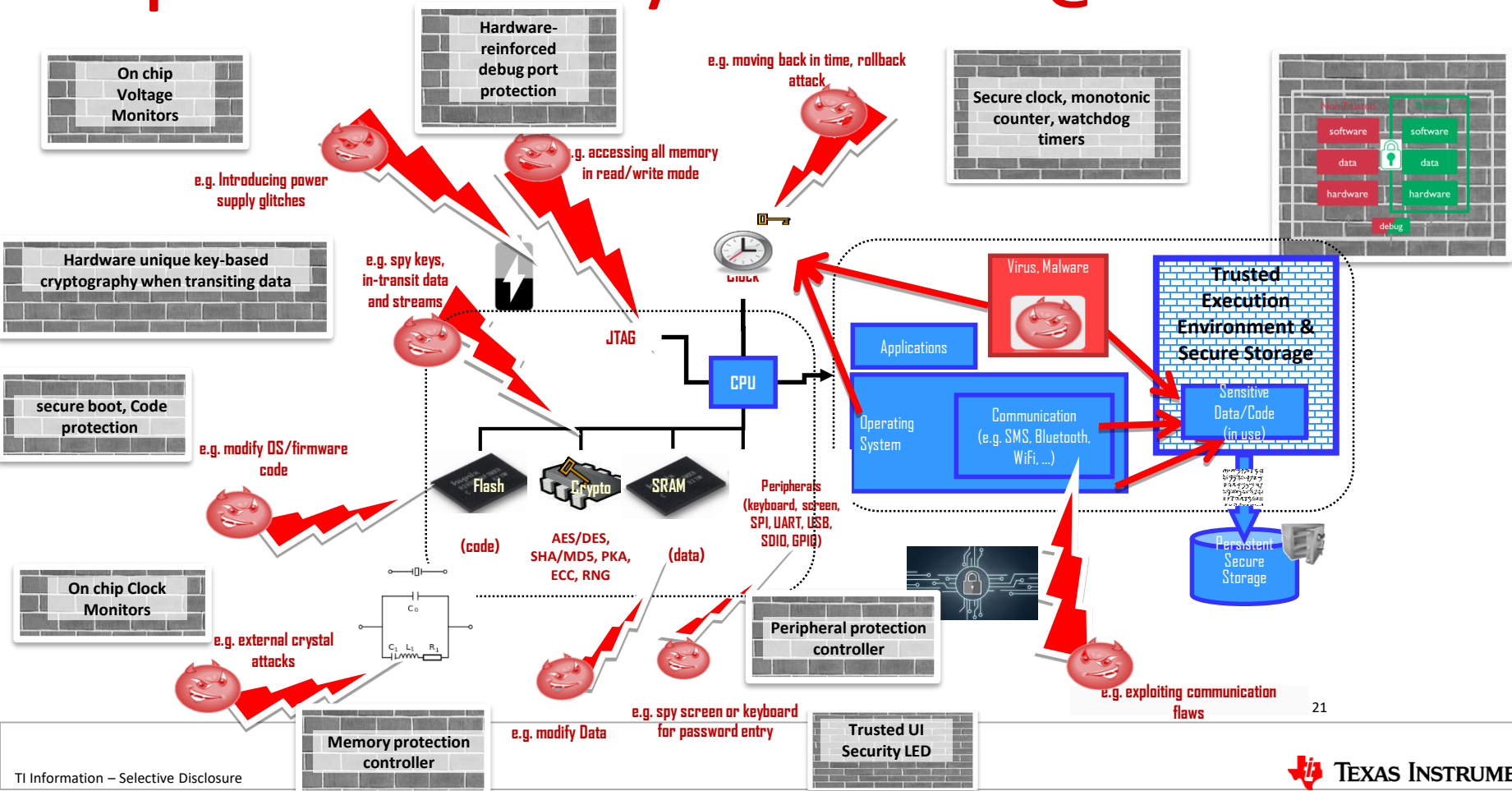
Tamper Event Source

Enter fail-safe
applications mode

Reset Device

Erase keys

Chip level Attacks :H/W Solutions @ Glance



Key Takeaways

IoT is a Huge Opportunity, but IoT Security is a Huge Problem.

The Key to IoT security and Performance is strong Hardware Foundation.

Mitigate IoT security Threats by using an effective combination of Software and Hardware solutions.

Thank You