

# Self-Encrypting Deception:

Weaknesses in the Encryption of Solid State Drives (SSDs)



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Radboud University Nijmegen  
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Open University of the Netherlands





whoami

Carlo Meijer

- PhD student at Radboud University Nijmegen
- Focused on analysis of crypto systems deployed in the wild
- Independent security researcher at Midnight Blue Labs



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## whoami (2)

Bernard van Gastel

- Assistant professor at Open University of the Netherlands
- Focused on analysis and correctness of systems



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<https://sustailablesoftware.info/>

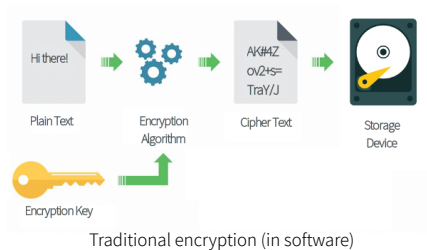




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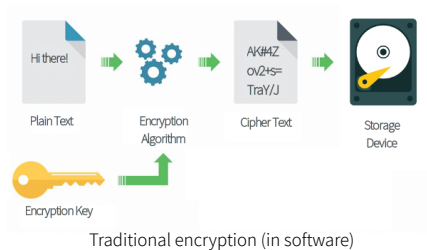


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## What is a Self-Encrypting Drive? (2)

### Samsung 840 EVO mSATA SSD Specifications:

- Max capacity: 1TB
- Memory: 1GB LPDDR2 DRAM
- Controller: Samsung MEX (3x ARM Cortex R4 cores @400MHz)
- NAND: 19nm Samsung TLC
- Interface: SATA
- Form Factor: mSATA
- Power Consumption
  - Start-up: 2.01W
  - Idle: 0.44W
- Dimensions Height x length x Thickness: 3cm x 5cm x 3.85mm
- Weight: 8.5 grams
- Warranty: 3 year limited

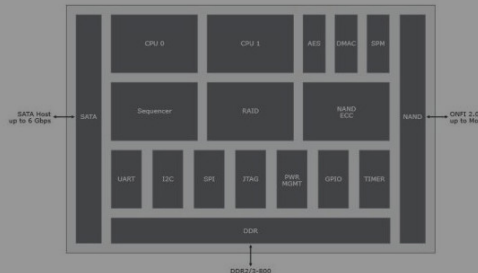


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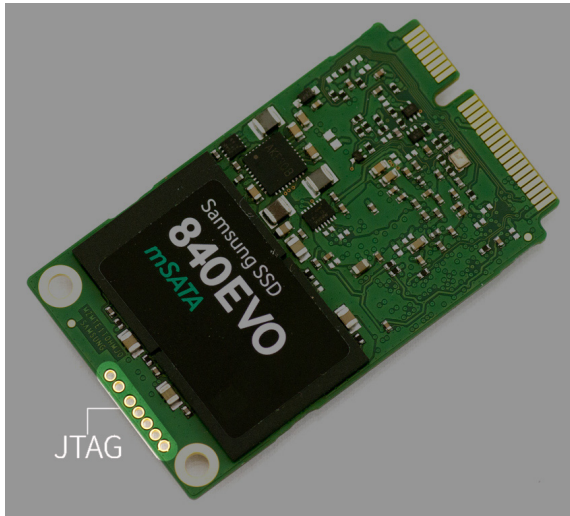
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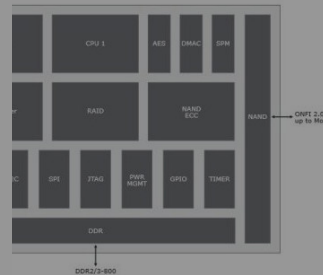


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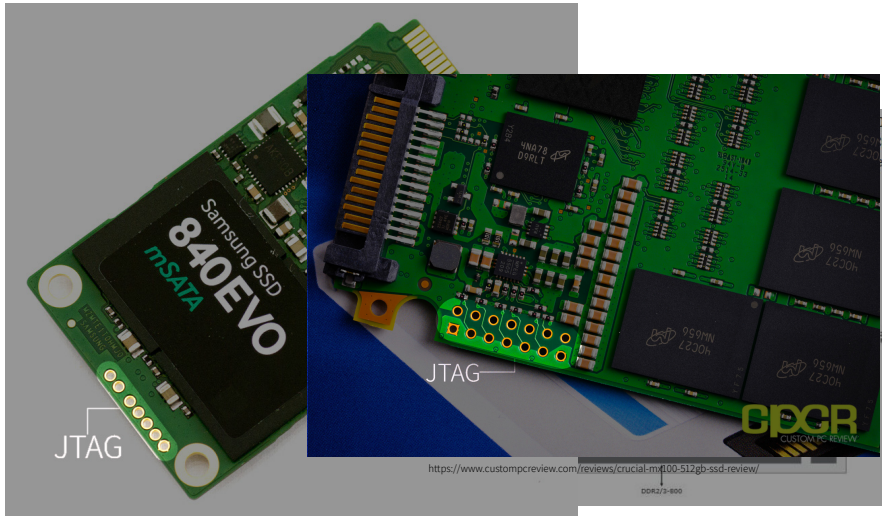
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[https://www.storagereview.com/samsung\\_840\\_evo\\_msata\\_ssd\\_review](https://www.storagereview.com/samsung_840_evo_msata_ssd_review)



# Democratically proven

## The best way to enhance data security: Swap out vulnerable hard drives for self-encrypting SSDs

The best way to protect data stored on servers, desktops, or laptops is to encrypt it at the hardware level on a device's storage drive. This is just one of many standard data security steps, but it's critical – and often overlooked. The reason: New systems often come with low-grade, preinstalled hard drives, which often lack encryption technology. Or, if the hard drive offers encryption, it's typically software-based, which is one of the weakest forms of encryption and may severely slow system performance, plus it's also easier for hackers to attack. Here's why.



<https://www.crucial.com/usa/en/how-self-encrypting-ssds-protect-your-business-and-enhance-data-security-and-limit-liability>



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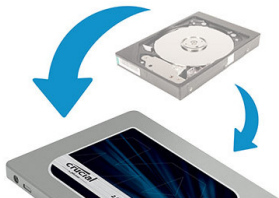
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**A study released a few months ago by TCG and the Ponemon Institute found that most IT professionals agree that hardware based encryption is superior to software varieties at protecting data-at-rest. In fact, 70 percent of the respondents said that self encrypting drives would have an enormous and positive impact on the protection of sensitive and confidential information in the event that a data breach should occur.**

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<https://www.esecurityplanet.com/network-security/The-Pros-and-Cons-of-Opal-Compliant-Drives-3939016.htm>





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Hardware based encryption is very secure; far more secure than any software-based offering. Software can be corrupted or negated, while hardware cannot.

Software runs under an operating system that is vulnerable to viruses and other attacks. An operating system, by definition, provides open access to applications and thus exposes these access points to improper use.

Hardware based security can more effectively restrict access from the outside, especially to unauthorized use. Additionally, dedicated hardware can have superior performance compared to software.

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Hardware based security is not subject to unauthorized use. Additional security software.

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data security steps, systems often come with encryption technology. Software-based, while slow system performance.

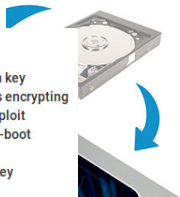
- **Transparency:** No system or application modifications required; encryption key generated in the factory by on-drive random number process; drive is always encrypting
- **Ease of management:** No encryption key to manage; software vendors exploit standardized interface to manage SEDs, including remote management, pre-boot authentication, and password recovery
- **Disposal or re-purposing cost:** With an SED, erase on-board encryption key
- **Re-encryption:** With SED, there is no need to ever re-encrypt the data
- **Performance:** No degradation in SED performance; hardware-based
- **Standardization:** Whole drive industry is building to the TCG/SED Specifications
- **Simplified:** No interference with upstream processes

<https://trustedcomputinggroup.org/resource/self-encrypting-drives-sed-overview/>

Impact on the protection of sensitive and confidential information in the event that a data breach should occur.

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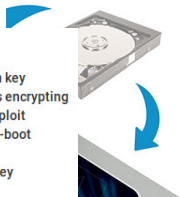
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Most IT professionals agree that hardware-based encryption is the best way to protect data-at-rest. In fact, it has a positive impact on the protection of sensitive and confidential information in the event that a data breach should occur.

BitLocker (built into Windows) opts for hardware encryption by default if available, software as a fall-back



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Overall: Attack opportunities are more or less equivalent



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Overall: SEDs don't offer added protection → equivalent



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- Extremely hard to audit
- Additional pitfalls that apply particularly to hardware (later)



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Thus, security guarantees are equivalent. **At best.**



# Standards

for Self-Encrypting Drives

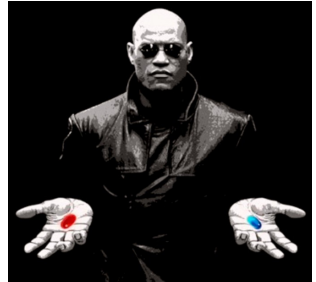


# Standards for Self-Encrypting Drives

Two widely used standards exist

## (i) ATA Security Feature Set

Originally designed for access control only



[https://medium.com/@andrewpgsweeny/](https://medium.com/@andrewpgsweeny/beyond-the-red-pill-and-the-blue-pill-9ef953d6e133)

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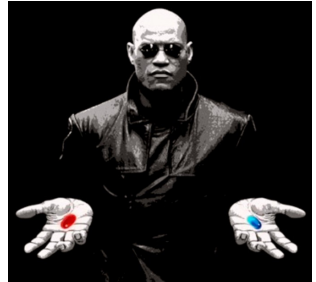
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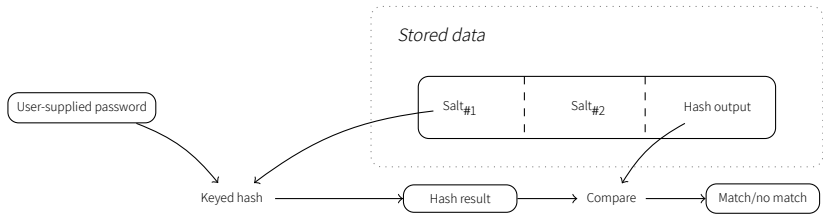
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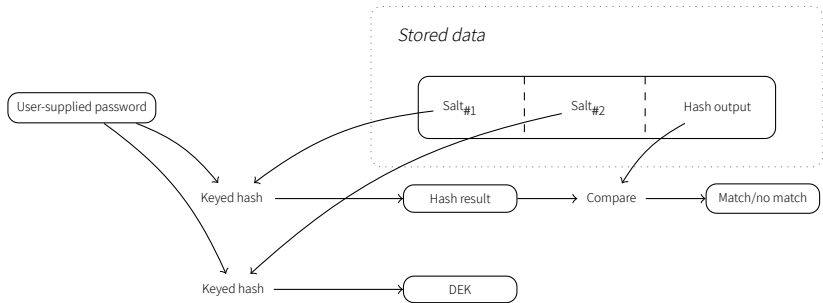
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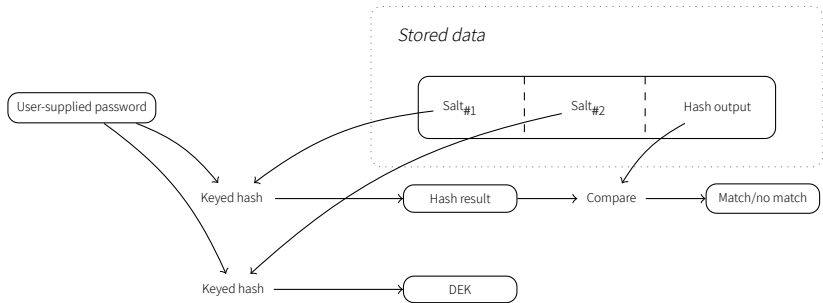
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So far, easy



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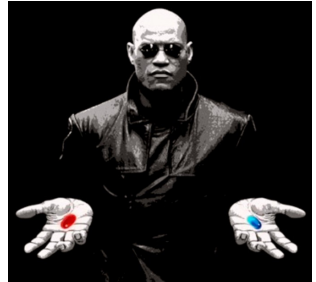
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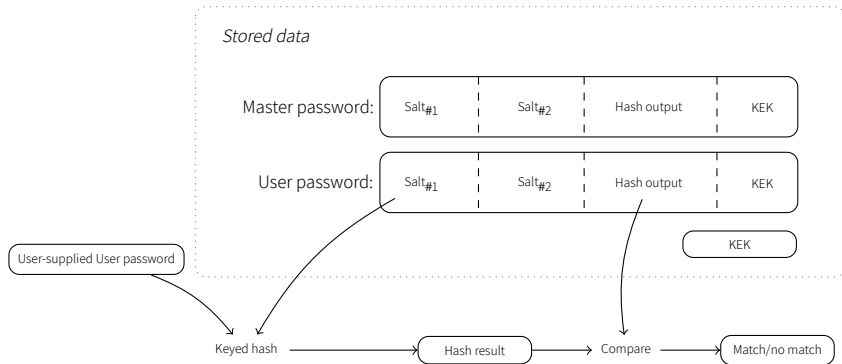


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  - In practice, even this is almost always insufficient (later)

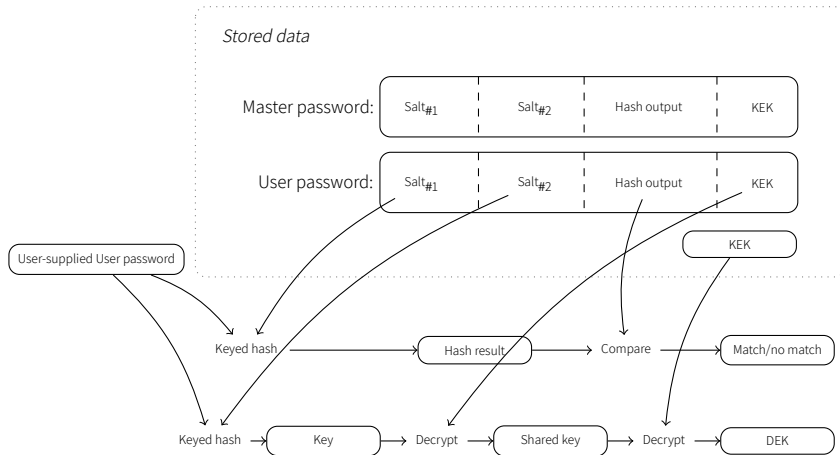


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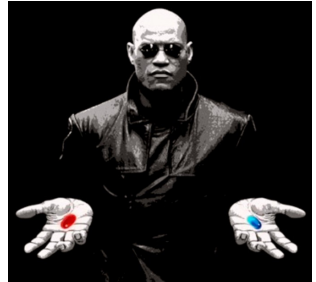
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- Multiple partitions (*locking ranges*)





## TCG Opal

- De facto standard for hardware full-disk encryption
- Multiple partitions (*locking ranges*)
- Multiple passwords (*credentials*)





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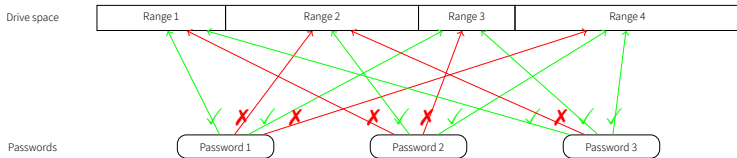
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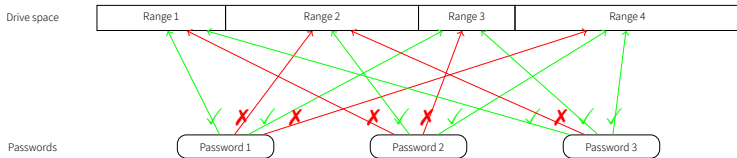
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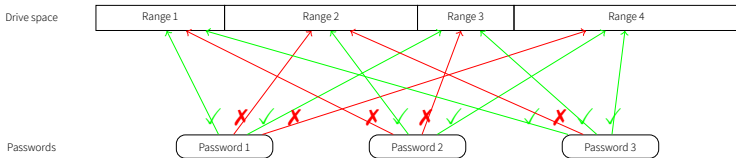
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- “Scramble” (i.e. re-generate key) range independently of others
- Fully trusted by BitLocker

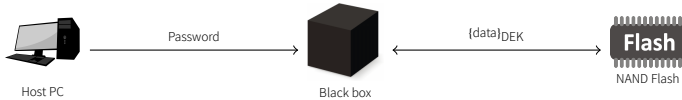




# Pitfalls

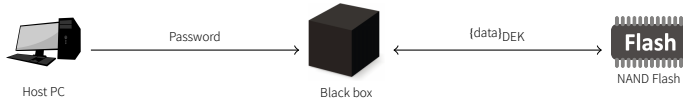


## Pitfall 1: DEK not derived from password





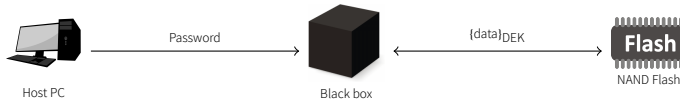
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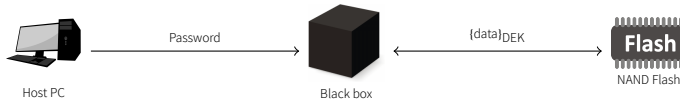
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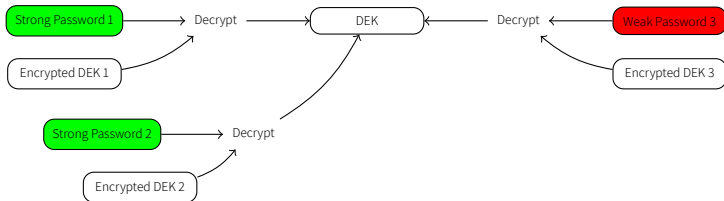
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- Password unlocks drive and DEK is used to encrypt data
- How they are related is unknown
- They might **not be related at all**

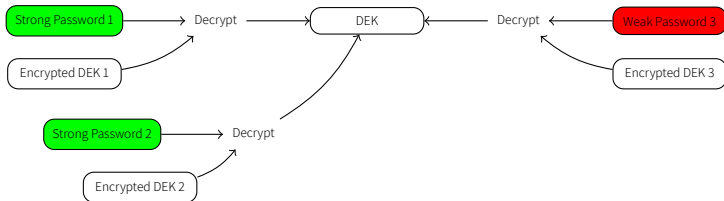


## Pitfall 2: Single DEK for entire drive





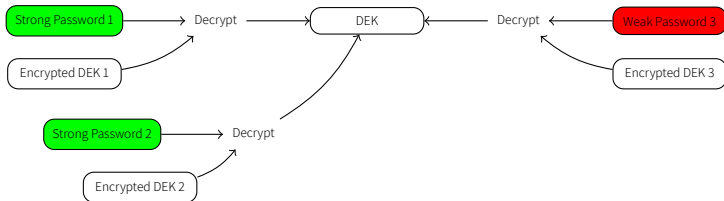
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- **Weakest** password will grant access to all ranges  
Even to ranges for which no permission is granted



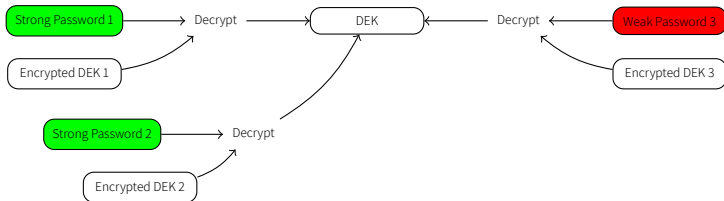
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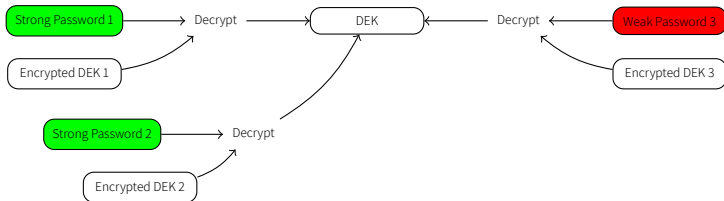
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- **Weakest** password will grant access to all ranges
  - Even to ranges for which no permission is granted
- No cryptographic enforcement, but **if-statements**
- BitLocker leaves an Opal range unprotected (partition table)
  - Thus, in this case, DEK is recoverable **without** a password



## Pitfall 3: ATA Master password re-enable

*Stored data*

Master password:

Salt#1

Salt#2

Hash output

KEK

User password:

Salt#1

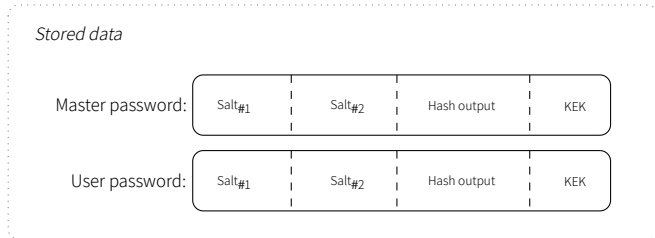
Salt#2

Hash output

KEK



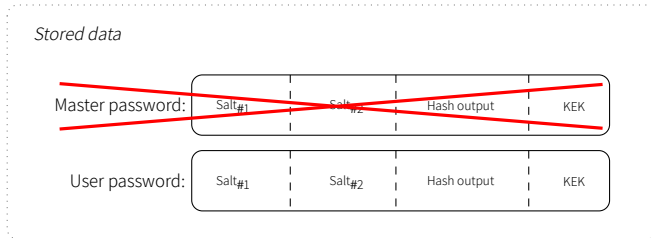
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- Recall: You should set the MASTER PASSWORD CAPABILITY to *Max*



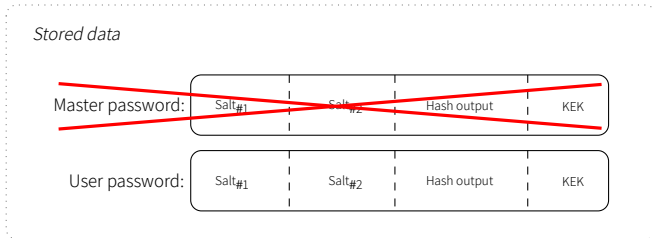
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- Recall: You should set the MASTER PASSWORD CAPABILITY to *Max*
- Ideally, this erases key material



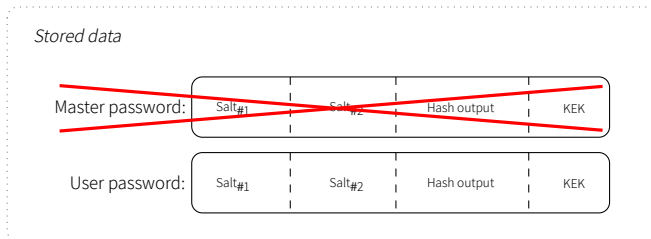
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- However, the standard allows resetting it to *High*, using only the **user** password



## Pitfall 3: ATA Master password re-enable



- Recall: You should set the MASTER PASSWORD CAPABILITY to *Max*
- Ideally, this erases key material
- However, the standard allows resetting it to *High*, using only the **user** password
- In practice, key material remains stored. If unchanged, **factory default master password** allows data to be recovered



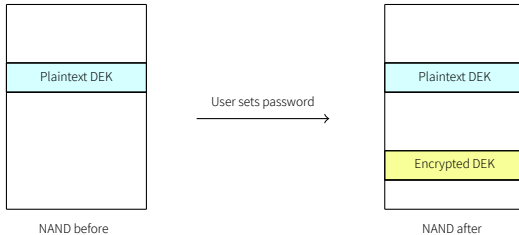
## Pitfall 4: Wear Leveling

Multiple writes to the *same* logical sector trigger writes to *different* physical sectors



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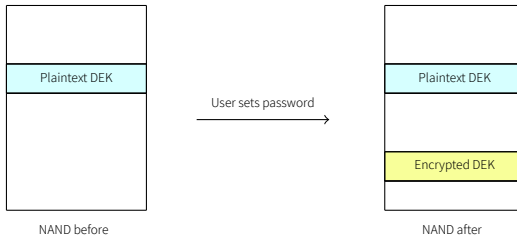
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## Pitfall 4: Wear Leveling

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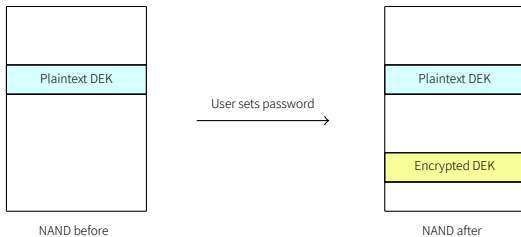


- Set password → overwrite of unprotected DEK with encrypted variant



## Pitfall 4: Wear Leveling

Multiple writes to the *same* logical sector trigger writes to *different* physical sectors



- Set password → overwrite of unprotected DEK with encrypted variant
- Unprotected DEK may still be present in physical flash



## Other pitfalls

- Random entropy generation





## Other pitfalls

- Random entropy generation
- Power-saving mode: DEVSLP





## Other pitfalls

- Random entropy generation
- Power-saving mode: DEVSLP

Drive may dump its RAM **incl. crypto keys** to non-volatile memory, and shut off the RAM.





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- General implementation issues



## Other pitfalls

- Random entropy generation
- Power-saving mode: DEVSLP

Drive may dump its RAM **incl. crypto keys** to non-volatile memory, and shut off the RAM.

- General implementation issues

Mode of operation (ECB, CBC, CTR, XTS) , Side channels, Key derivation, etc.



# Methodology



# Methodology

General approach





# Methodology

## General approach

- (i) Obtain a firmware image



# Methodology

## General approach

- (i) Obtain a firmware image
- (ii) Gain low level control over the device



# Methodology

## General approach

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- (iii) Analyze the firmware



# Methodology

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# Obtain a firmware image

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# Obtain a firmware image

## Obtain a firmware image

(i) Download it (harder than it seems)

- There's usually obfuscation applied
- Capture SSL traffic, reverse engineer, etc.

```
dword_10222A58 = sub_1003E390();  
v131 = 0;  
v130 = 1;  
v129 = 0;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v1, v0, &v129) = 77; // M  
v129 = 1;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v3, v2, &v129) = 54;  
v129 = 2;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v5, v4, &v129) = 97; // a  
v129 = 3;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v7, v6, &v129) = 56;  
v129 = 4;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v9, v8, &v129) = 103; // g  
v129 = 5;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v11, v10, &v129) = 51;  
v129 = 6;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v13, v12, &v129) = 105; // i  
v129 = 7;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v15, v14, &v129) = 37;  
v129 = 8;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v17, v16, &v129) = 99; // c  
v129 = 9;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v19, v18, &v129) = 50;  
v129 = 10;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v21, v20, &v129) = 105; // i  
v129 = 11;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v23, v22, &v129) = 33;  
v129 = 12;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v25, v24, &v129) = 97; // a  
v129 = 13;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v27, v26, &v129) = 122;  
v129 = 14;  
*(_BYTE *)sub_1002D920(v29, v28, &v129) = 110; // n  
v129 = 15;
```

Decompilation of Samsung  
Magician tool



# Obtain a firmware image

## Obtain a firmware image

(i) Download it (harder than it seems)

- There's usually obfuscation applied
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# Obtain a firmware image

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- (i) Download it (harder than it seems)
  - There's usually obfuscation applied
  - Capture SSL traffic, reverse engineer, etc.
  - Image may be encrypted, decryption by the unit itself → dead end
- (ii) Pull the firmware from RAM through JTAG (next)

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# Methodology

## General approach

- (i) Obtain a firmware image
- (ii) Gain low level control over the device
- (iii) Analyze the firmware



# Gaining low level control

More or less equal capabilities:

- (i) JTAG (allows you to halt the CPU, get/set registers, read/write in the address space, etc.)

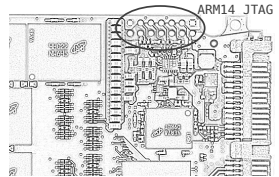




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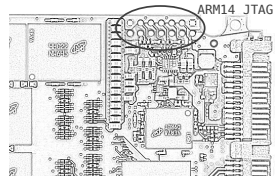
JTAG pins on the Crucial MX100.



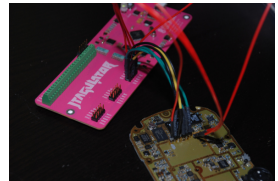
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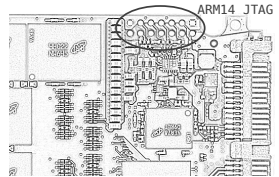
JTAGulator



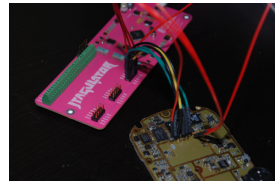
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- (ii) Obtain unsigned code execution



JTAG pins on the Crucial MX100.



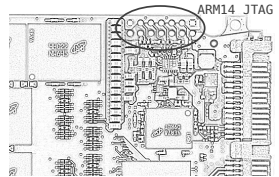
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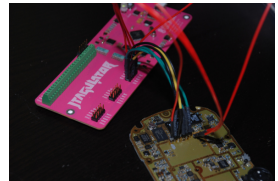
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  - Find an undocumented command that allows this



JTAG pins on the Crucial MX100.



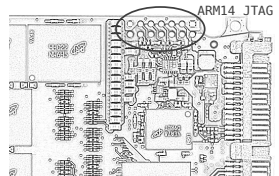
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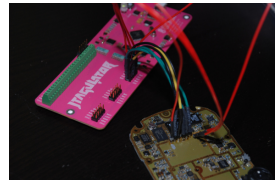
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  - Exploit a vulnerability



JTAG pins on the Crucial MX100.



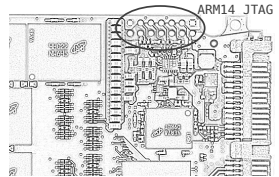
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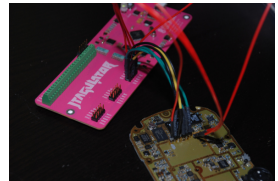
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  - Modify code stored on memory chips



JTAG pins on the Crucial MX100.



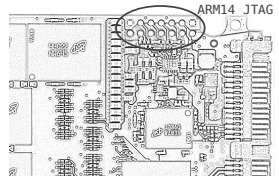
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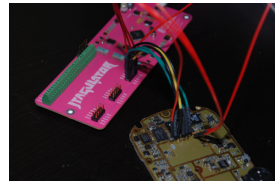
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  - Exploit a vulnerability
  - Modify code stored on memory chips
  - Bypass cryptographic signatures with fault injection



JTAG pins on the Crucial MX100.



JTAGulator



# Methodology

## General approach

- (i) Obtain a firmware image
- (ii) Gain low level control over the device
- (iii) Analyze the firmware



## Analyze the firmware

(i) Figure out the section information



# Analyze the firmware

```
user@pinacolada:~/Documents/ssdproject/crucial$ php parse_fw.php firmware_mx300/M0CR060.bin
[+] found MCRN header -- 80KB
[*] [segment] [type] [source] [dest] [size]
[*] 0 0 0x00000010 0x00000000 117456
[*] 1 0 0x0001cae0 0x0001fa00 352
[*] 2 0 0x0001cc40 0x04002100 2488
[*] 3 0 0x0001d5f8 0x80001000 240
[*] 4 0 0x00000000 0x80000000 16
[*] 5 0 0x0001d6e8 0x80041000 264
[*] 6 0 0x0001d7f0 0x801c4000 1035224
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
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[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] new offset : 0x11aa00
[*] new offset : 0x133c00
[*] new offset : 0xfa540c00
user@pinacolada:~/Documents/ssdproject/crucial$
```

Parsed header of MX300 FW image

- (i) Figure out the section information
  - From image header



# Analyze the firmware

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[+] found MCRN header -- 80KB
[*] [segment] [type] [source] [dest] [size]
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[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] new offset : 0x11aa00
[*] new offset : 0x133c00
[*] new offset : 0xfa540c00
user@pinacolada:~/Documents/ssdproject/crucial$
```

Parsed header of MX300 FW image

- (i) Figure out the section information
  - From image header
- (ii) Load the image into a disassembler  
(We used IDA Pro for this purpose)



# Analyze the firmware

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[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] new offset : 0x11aa00
[*] new offset : 0x133c00
[*] new offset : 0xfa540c00
user@pinacolada:~/Documents/ssdproject/crucial$
```

Parsed header of MX300 FW image

- (i) Figure out the section information
  - From image header
- (ii) Load the image into a disassembler  
(We used IDA Pro for this purpose)
- (iii) Figure out what the firmware does



# Analyze the firmware

```
user@pinacolada:~/Documents/ssdproject/crucial$ php parse_fw.php firmware_mx300/M0C8060.bin
[*] found MCRN header -- 80KB
[*] [segment] [type] [source] [dest] [size]
[*] 0 0 0x00000010 0x00000000 117456
[*] 1 0 0x0001coe0 0x0001fa00 352
[*] 2 0 0x0001cc40 0x04002100 2488
[*] 3 0 0x0001d5f8 0x80001000 240
[*] 4 0 0x00000000 0x80000000 16
[*] 5 0 0x0001d6e8 0x80041000 264
[*] 6 0 0x0001d7f0 0x801c4000 1035224
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] new offset : 0x11aa00
[*] new offset : 0x133c00
[*] new offset : 0xfa540c00
user@pinacolada:~/Documents/ssdproject/crucial$
```

Parsed header of MX300 FW image

```
AtaCommand <0x73, sub_80264C70, 0x404A0000>
AtaCommand <0x45, sub_80264DC0, 0x45DA0023>
AtaCommand <0xF1, sub_8022CA10, 0x47CB0000>
AtaCommand <0xF2, sub_8022CAE8, 0x78900000>
AtaCommand <0xF3, sub_8022C76C, 0x67C90000>
AtaCommand <0xF4, sub_8022C7F4, 0x57C90002>
AtaCommand <0xF5, sub_8022C90C, 0x7CA00000>
AtaCommand <0xF6, sub_8022C6C4, 0x47CB0000>
AtaCommand <0xB0, AtaSmart, 0x48B0003>
AtaCommand <0x10, sub_80264C00, 0x4CA0000>
AtaCommand <0x78, sub_801C6B00, 0x45CA0020>
AtaCommand <0xB4, sub_801C9D60, 0x2E880023>
AtaCommand <6, sub_801CB874, 0x65DA0023>
AtaCommand <0xE7, sub_801CAF14, 0x45DA0000>
AtaCommand <0xEA, sub_801CAF14, 0x45DA0022>
AtaCommand <0xEF, sub_80264780, 0x5C800000>
AtaCommand <0xC6, sub_801CB3A8, 0x5C800000>
AtaCommand <0xEC, sub_802640C8, 0x40800000>
```

ATA Dispatch table in firmware

Command feature set	11h..1Fh	71h..7Fh	94h.
Retired			
Sanitize Device	B4h		O
SECURITY DISABLE PASSWORD	F6h		O
SECURITY ERASE PREPARE	F3h		O
SECURITY ERASE UNIT	F4h		O
SECURITY FREEZE LOCK	F5h		O
SECURITY SET PASSWORD	F1h		O
SECURITY UNLOCK	F2h		O
SET FEATURES	EFh		M
SET MAX ADDRESS	F9h		O
SET MAX ADDRESS EXT	37h		O
SET MULTIPLE MODE	C6h		O
SLEEP	E6h		M
SMART	B0h		O
STANDBY	E2h		M
STANDBY IMMEDIATE	E0h		M
TRUSTED NON-DATA	5Bh		O
TRUSTED RECEIVE	5Ch		O

ATA specification

- Figure out the section information
  - From image header
- Load the image into a disassembler
 

(We used IDA Pro for this purpose)
- Figure out what the firmware does
  - Try to find the ATA dispatch table



# Analyze the firmware

```
user@pinacolada:~/Documents/ssdproject/crucial$ php parse_fw.php firmware_mx300/M0CR060.bin
[+] found MCRN header -- 80KB
[*] [segment] [type] [source] [dest] [size]
[*] 0 0 0x00000010 0x00000000 117456
[*] 1 0 0x0001cae0 0x0001fa00 352
[*] 2 0 0x0001cc40 0x04002100 2488
[*] 3 0 0x0001d5f8 0x80001000 240
[*] 4 0 0x00000000 0x80000000 16
[*] 5 0 0x0001d6e8 0x80041000 264
[*] 6 0 0x0001d7f0 0x801c4000 1035224
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] 255 255 0xffffffff 0xffffffff 4294967295
[*] new offset : 0x11aa00
[*] new offset : 0x133c00
[*] new offset : 0xfa540c00
user@pinacolada:~/Documents/ssdproject/crucial$
```

Parsed header of MX300 FW image

```
AtaCommand <0x73, sub_80264C70, 0x92049800>
AtaCommand <0x45, sub_80264DC0, 0x45DA0023>
AtaCommand <0xF1, sub_8022CA10, 0x47CB0000>
AtaCommand <0xF2, sub_8022CAE8, 0x78900000>
AtaCommand <0xF3, sub_8022C76C, 0x67C90000>
AtaCommand <0xF4, sub_8022C7F4, 0x57C90002>
AtaCommand <0xF5, sub_8022C90C, 0x7CA00000>
AtaCommand <0xF6, sub_8022C6C4, 0x47CB0000>
AtaCommand <0x80, AtaSmart, 0x48B0003>
AtaCommand <0x10, sub_80264C00, 0x4CA0000>
AtaCommand <0x78, sub_801C6B00, 0x45CA0020>
AtaCommand <0xB4, sub_801C9D60, 0x2E800023>
AtaCommand <6, sub_801CB874, 0x65DA0023>
AtaCommand <0xE7, sub_801CAF14, 0x45DA0000>
AtaCommand <0xEA, sub_801CAF14, 0x45DA0022>
AtaCommand <0xEF, sub_80264780, 0x5C800000>
AtaCommand <0xC6, sub_801CB3A8, 0x5C800000>
AtaCommand <0xEC, sub_802640C8, 0x40800000>
```

ATA Dispatch table in firmware

Command feature set	11h..1Fh, 71h..7Fh, 94h.	
Retired	11h..1Fh, 71h..7Fh, 94h.	
Sanitize Device	84h	O
SECURITY DISABLE PASSWORD	F6h	O
SECURITY ERASE PREPARE	F3h	O
SECURITY ERASE UNIT	F4h	O
SECURITY FREEZE LOCK	F5h	O
SECURITY SET PASSWORD	F1h	O
SECURITY UNLOCK	F2h	O
SET FEATURES	EFh	M
SET MAX ADDRESS	F9h	O
SET MAX ADDRESS EXT	37h	O
SET MULTIPLE MODE	C6h	O
SLEEP	E6h	M
SMART	80h	O
STANDBY	E2h	M
STANDBY IMMEDIATE	E0h	M
TRUSTED NON-DATA	5Bh	O
TRUSTED RECEIVE	5Ch	O

ATA specification

- Figure out the section information
  - From image header
- Load the image into a disassembler  
(We used IDA Pro for this purpose)
- Figure out what the firmware does
  - Try to find the ATA dispatch table
  - Look through functions with interesting opcodes



# Results



# Results

- Models studied released in 2014-2018

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

<sup>4</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in proprietary standard

<sup>5</sup> No single key for entire disk

<sup>6</sup> Not vulnerable to ATA Master password re-enabling (only if derivation is present)

<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLP related issues



# Results

- Models studied released in 2014-2018
- Different form factors  
SATA, NVMe, USB

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

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<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLP related issues



# Results

- Models studied released in 2014-2018
- Different form factors  
SATA, NVMe, USB
- Most have severe weaknesses

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

<sup>4</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in proprietary standard

<sup>5</sup> No single key for entire disk

<sup>6</sup> Not vulnerable to ATA Master password re-enabling (only if derivation is present)

<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLP related issues



# Results

- Models studied released in 2014-2018
- Different form factors
  - SATA, NVMe, USB
- Most have severe weaknesses
- Best case scenario: security guarantees are equivalent to software FDE

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

<sup>4</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in proprietary standard

<sup>5</sup> No single key for entire disk

<sup>6</sup> Not vulnerable to ATA Master password re-enabling (only if derivation is present)

<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLP related issues



# Results

- Models studied released in 2014-2018
- Different form factors  
SATA, NVMe, USB
- Most have severe weaknesses
- Best case scenario: security guarantees are equivalent to software FDE
- Worst case: confidentiality relies on an **if-statement**

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

<sup>4</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in proprietary standard

<sup>5</sup> No single key for entire disk

<sup>6</sup> Not vulnerable to ATA Master password re-enabling (only if derivation is present)

<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLP related issues



# Results

- Models studied released in 2014-2018
- Different form factors
  - SATA, NVMe, USB
- Most have severe weaknesses
- Best case scenario: security guarantees are equivalent to software FDE
- Worst case: confidentiality relies on an **if-statement**
- BitLocker delegating trust amplifies the issue

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

<sup>4</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in proprietary standard

<sup>5</sup> No single key for entire disk

<sup>6</sup> Not vulnerable to ATA Master password re-enabling (only if derivation is present)

<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLP related issues



# Results

- TCG Opal is terrible

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

<sup>4</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in proprietary standard

<sup>5</sup> No single key for entire disk

<sup>6</sup> Not vulnerable to ATA Master password re-enabling (only if derivation is present)

<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLP related issues



# Results

- TCG Opal is terrible
  - Over-engineered

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

<sup>4</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in proprietary standard

<sup>5</sup> No single key for entire disk

<sup>6</sup> Not vulnerable to ATA Master password re-enabling (only if derivation is present)

<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLP related issues



# Results

- TCG Opal is terrible
  - Over-engineered
  - Security goals not clear

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

<sup>4</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in proprietary standard

<sup>5</sup> No single key for entire disk

<sup>6</sup> Not vulnerable to ATA Master password re-enabling (only if derivation is present)

<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLEP related issues



# Results

- TCG Opal is terrible
  - Over-engineered
  - Security goals not clear
  - No reference implementation exists

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

<sup>4</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in proprietary standard

<sup>5</sup> No single key for entire disk

<sup>6</sup> Not vulnerable to ATA Master password re-enabling (only if derivation is present)

<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLP related issues



# Results

- TCG Opal is terrible
  - Over-engineered
  - Security goals not clear
  - No reference implementation exists
  - Implementation is not even part of compliance tests

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

<sup>2</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (Max mode)

<sup>3</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in TCG Opal

<sup>4</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in proprietary standard

<sup>5</sup> No single key for entire disk

<sup>6</sup> Not vulnerable to ATA Master password re-enabling (only if derivation is present)

<sup>7</sup> Randomized DEK on sanitize and sufficient random entropy

<sup>8</sup> No wear leveling related issues

<sup>9</sup> No DEVSLP related issues



# Results

- TCG Opal is terrible
  - Over-engineered
  - Security goals not clear
  - No reference implementation exists
  - Implementation is not even part of compliance tests
  - Structural changes needed

Drive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Impact
Crucial MX100 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX200 (all)	✗	✗	✗		✗		✓	✓		Compromised
Crucial MX300 (all)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✓		Compromised
Sandisk X600 (SATA)	✓	✓	✓		✗	✗	✓	✗		Probably compromised
Samsung 840 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	Depends
Samsung 850 EVO (SATA)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Depends
Samsung 950 PRO (NVMe)	✗	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Probably safe
Samsung T3 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised
Samsung T5 (USB)				✗			✓	✓		Compromised

<sup>1</sup> Derivation of the DEK from the password in ATA Security (High mode)

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## Timeline

- Oct 2016 First discovery – Crucial (Mciron) MX100
- Oct 2017 – Apr 2018 Attempts made contacting vendors
  - Apr 2018 Disclosure to Samsung – Meeting in The Hague, Netherlands
  - Apr 2018 Disclosure to Micron
- Nov 2018 Draft paper published – Vendor responses published  
Both vendors release firmware updates
- Dec 2018 Presentation at 35C3
- Dec 2018 Discovery of Sandisk (Western Digital) models



## Timeline (2)

Today:

- CVEs released (CVE-2019-10705, CVE-2019-10706, CVE-2019-10636, CVE-2019-11686)
- Western Digital releases firmware updates available at <https://www.westerndigital.com/productsecurity>  
Reviewed by *Trail of Bits*
- “Western Digital thanks the Radboud researchers, NCSC, and CERT-CC for participating in the coordinated disclosure process. For more information on how we work with researchers - including contact details -, please go to <https://www.westerndigital.com/productsecurity>.”



# Questions

See the paper 'Self-Encrypting Deception'

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