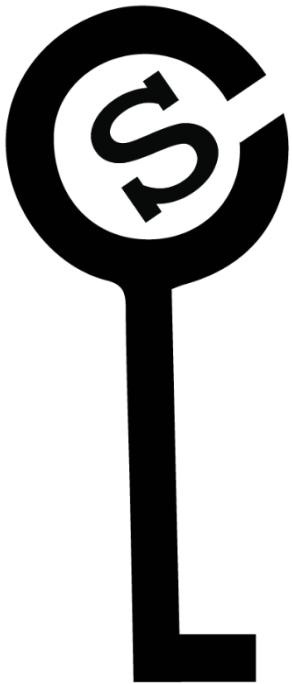


# Secure and Efficient Initialization and Authentication Protocols for SHIELD

---



**Chenglu Jin and Marten van Dijk**

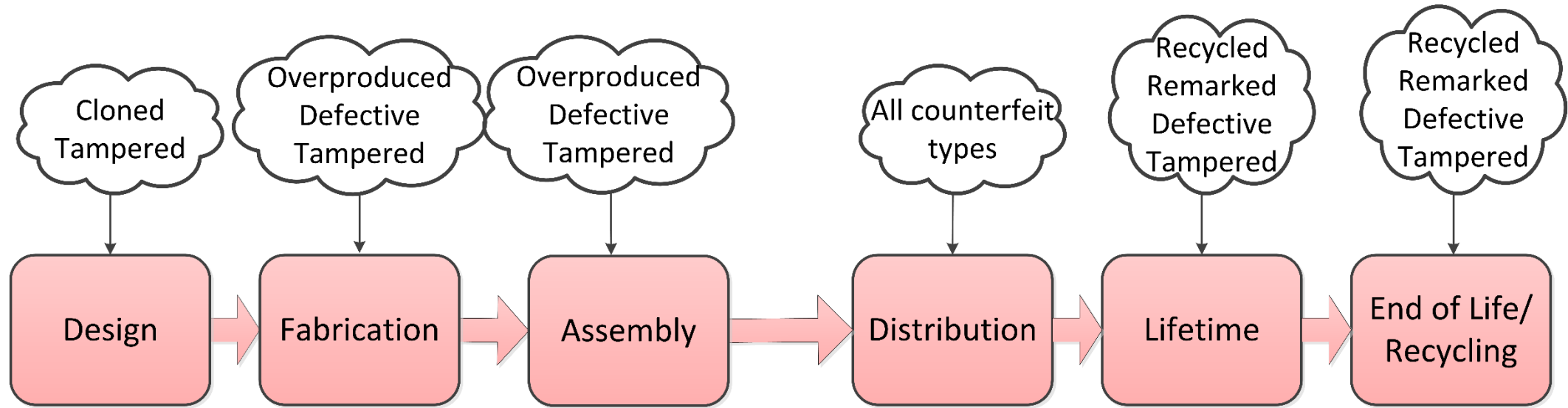
Secure Computation Laboratory  
Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering  
University of Connecticut

Email: [chenglu.jin@uconn.edu](mailto:chenglu.jin@uconn.edu)

- Motivation
- SHIELD
- Adversarial Models
- DARPA's Authentication Protocol
- Try-and-Check Attack
- Proposed Authentication Protocol
- Security Properties and Performance Improvements
- Initialization Protocol
- Conclusion



# Motivation

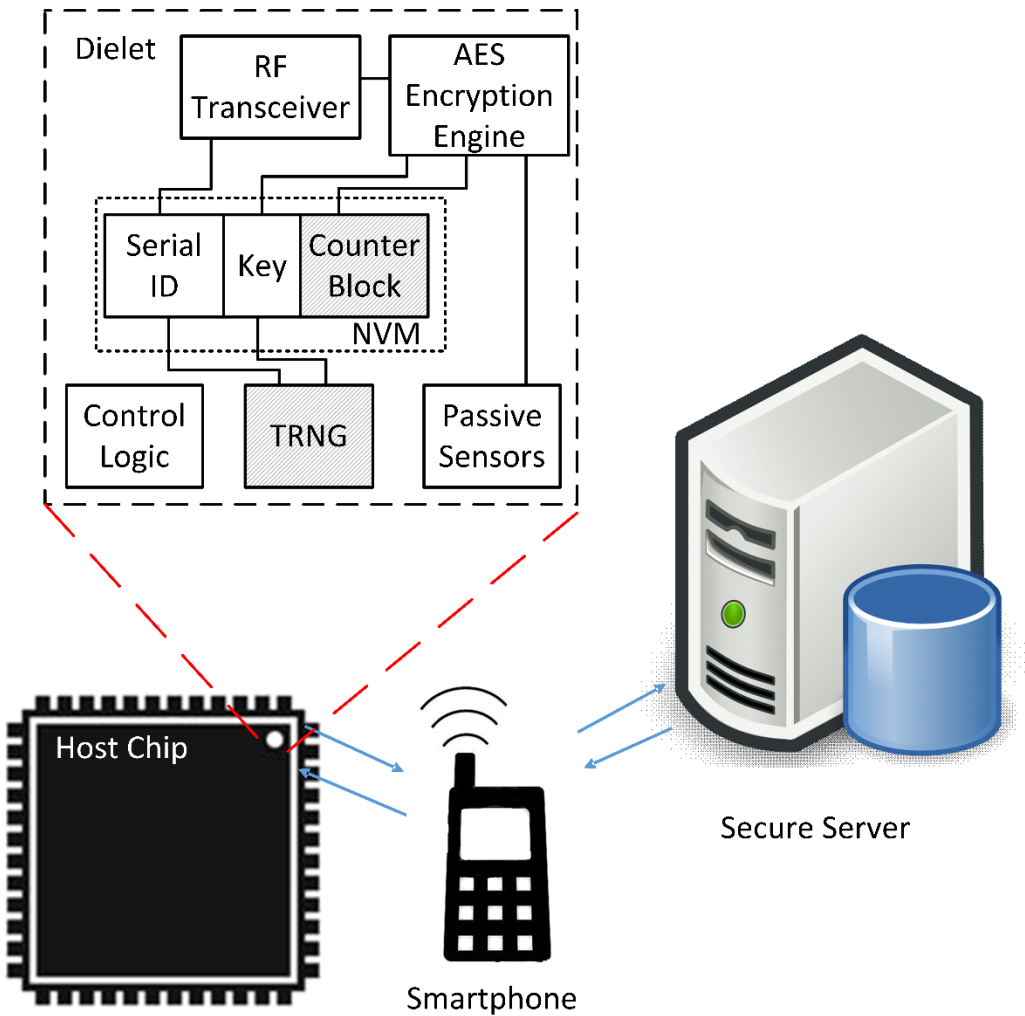


- Nowadays, untrusted IC supply chain introduces a variety of security threats.
- Many countermeasures are proposed. Usually they are specific for one security vulnerability in the supply chain.

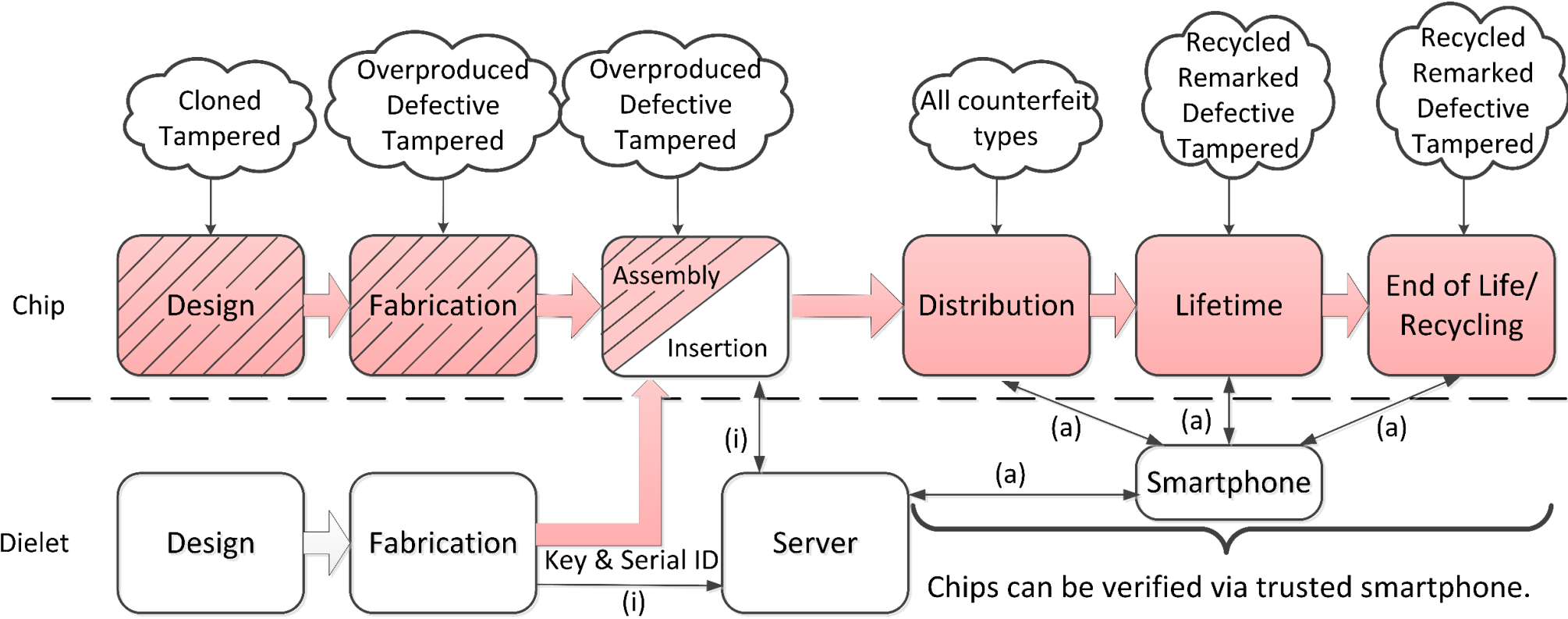


# SHIELD

- SHIELD (Supply Chain Hardware Integrity for Electronics Defense) was proposed by DARPA in 2014.
- A dielet chip inserted in the host package of a legitimate chip, in order to verify the host chip remotely.

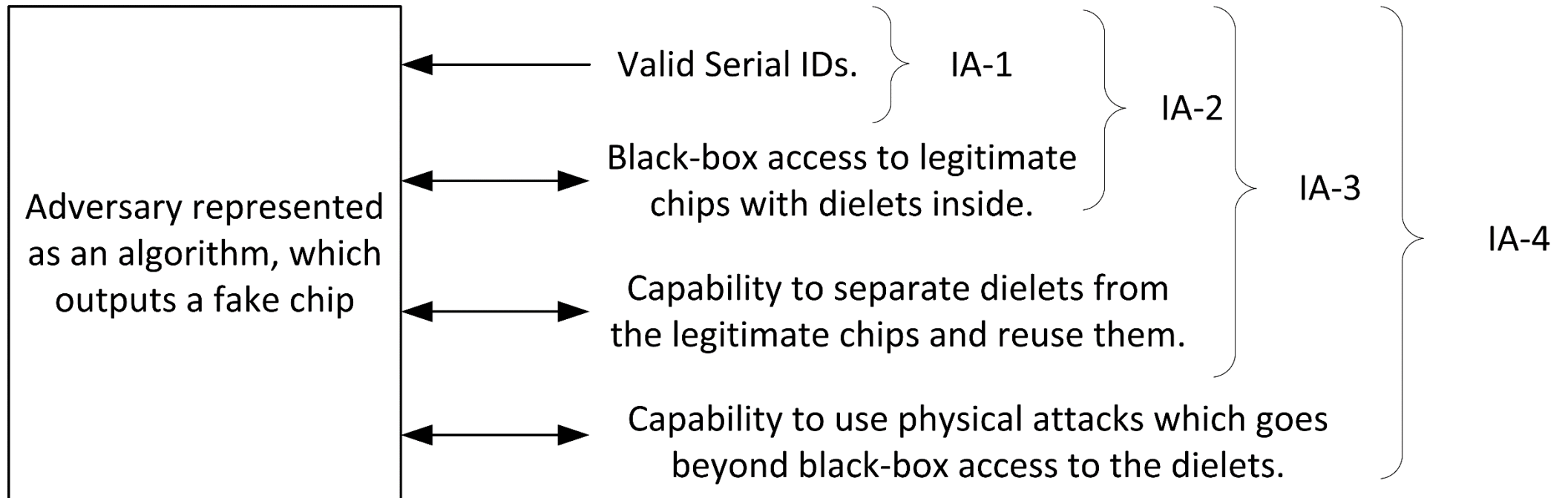


# SHIELD Protected IC Supply Chain



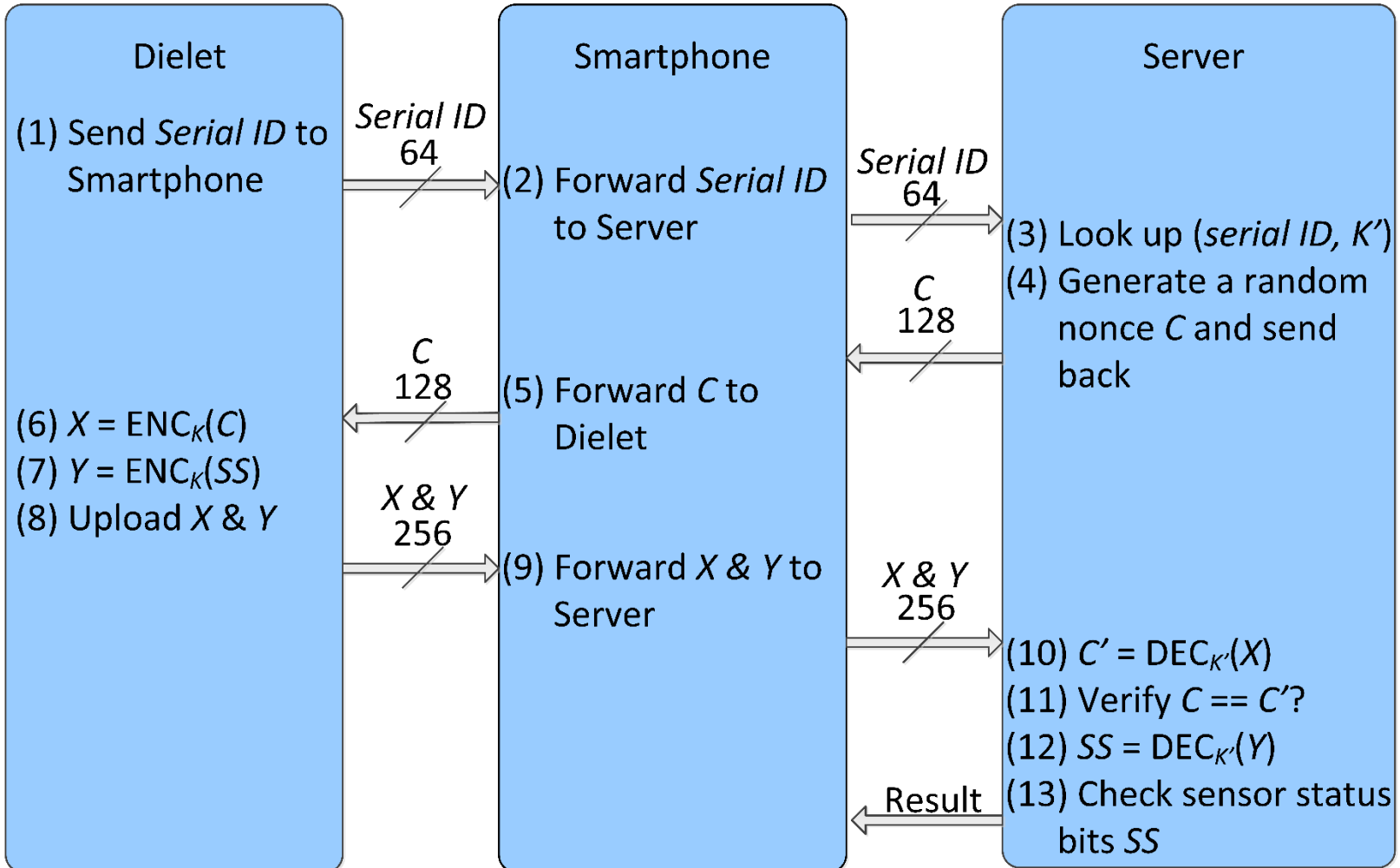
# Adversarial Models

- Denial of Service (DoS):
  - Single dielet DoS: allowed by DARPA
  - Batch mode DoS: needs protection
- Impersonation Attacks (IA):

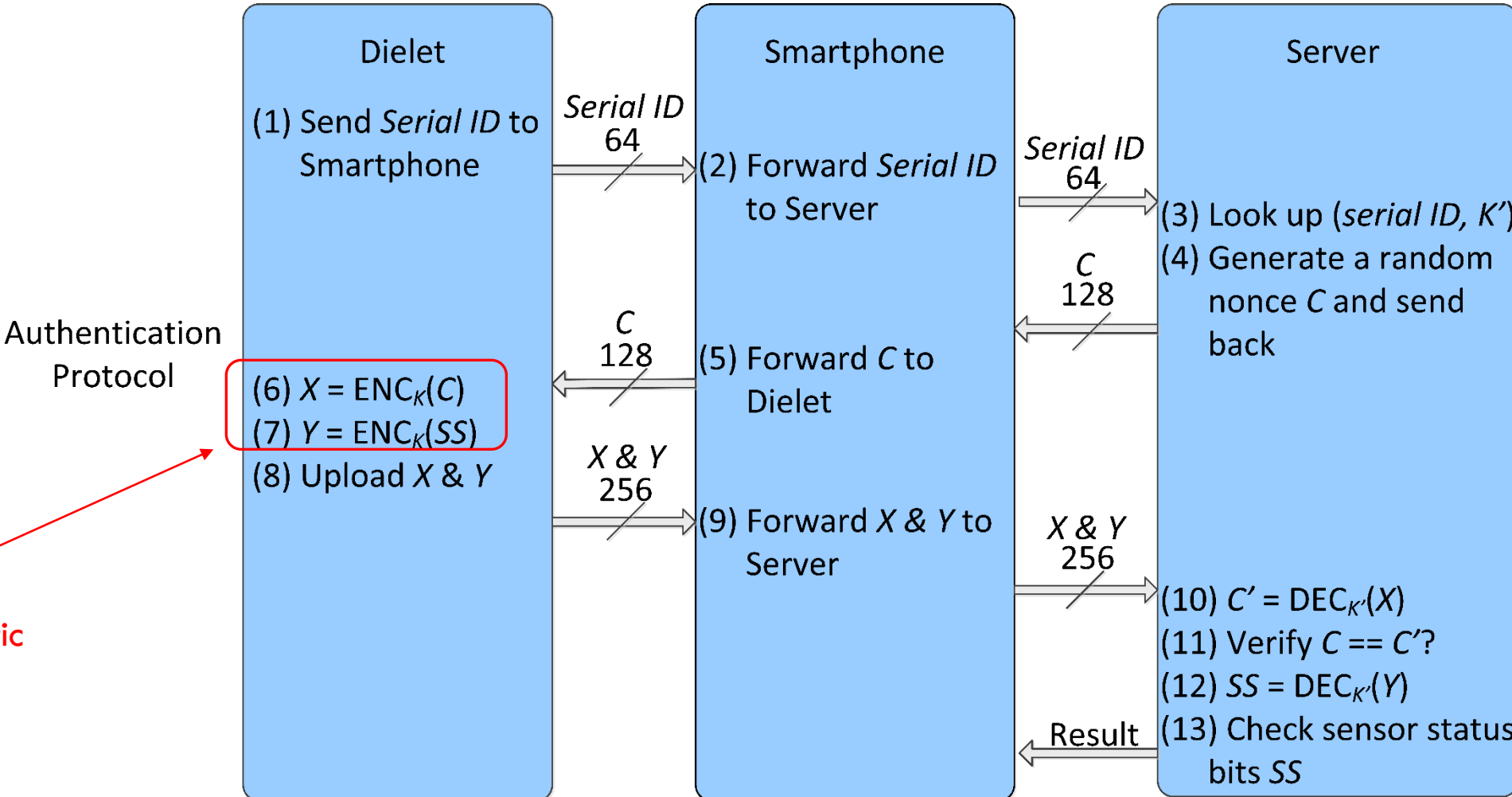


# DARPA's Authentication Protocol

Authentication Protocol



# DARPA's Authentication Protocol



Authentication Protocol

(6)  $X = ENC_K(C)$   
(7)  $Y = ENC_K(SS)$

Deterministic Encryption!





# Try-and-Check Attack

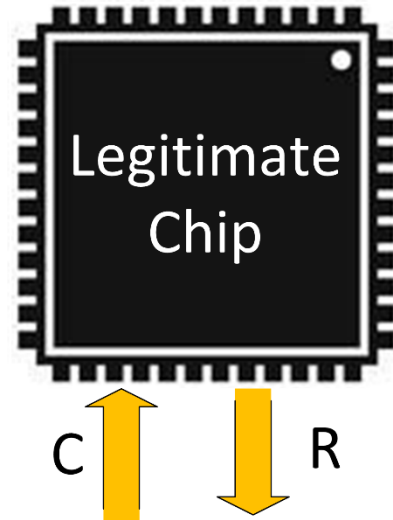
---

- Try-and-Check attack is one IA-3 attack, which nullifies the effectiveness of DARPA's authentication protocol in that the adversarial events will not be recorded and detected by the verifier.



# Try-and-Check Attack

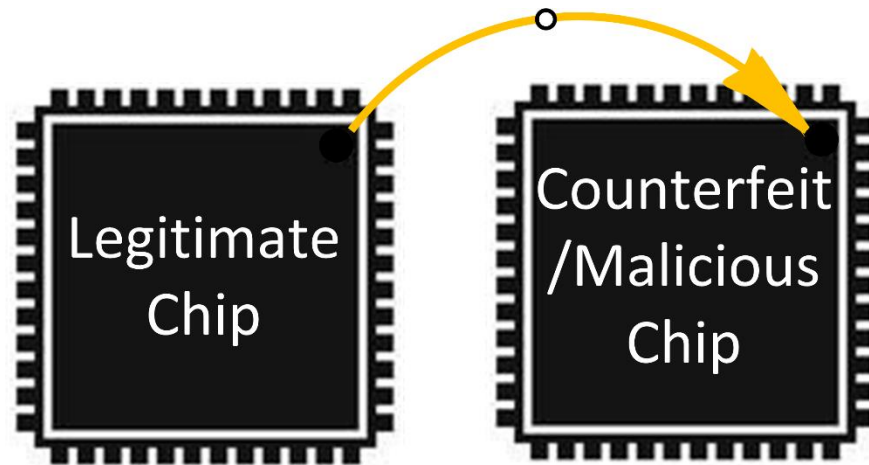
- Try-and-Check attack is one IA-3 attack, which nullifies the effectiveness of DARPA's authentication protocol in that the adversarial events will not be recorded and detected by the verifier.
- 1. Apply Challenge  $C$  to a legitimate chip with a legitimate dielet inside, and store the response  $R = \text{Enc}(C) \mid \text{Enc}(S)$ .  $S$  is the sensor status.



$$R = \text{Enc}(C) \mid \text{Enc}(S)$$

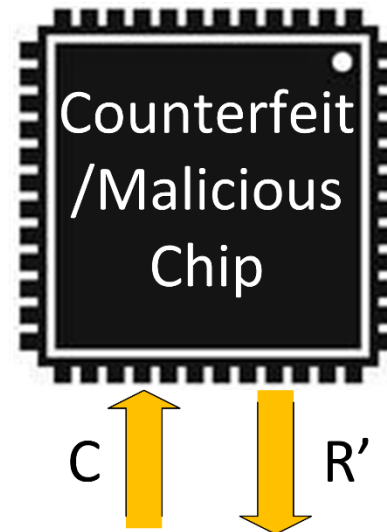
# Try-and-Check Attack

- 2. **Try** to separate the dielet from the legitimate chip, and embed it into a counterfeit or malicious chip. This separation process may alter the sensor status  $S$  on the dielet.



# Try-and-Check Attack

- 3. **Check**  $R = R'$  ? If  $R = R'$ , it means that sensor status is not altered ( $S = S'$ ). Therefore the attackers can conclude that this counterfeit/ malicious chip can be authenticated in the supply chain without being detected.



$$R' = \text{Enc}(C) \mid \text{Enc}(S')$$

# How to fix this loophole?

---

- Use probabilistic encryption instead of deterministic encryption.



# How to fix this loophole?

---

- Use probabilistic encryption instead of deterministic encryption.
- We suggest AES Counter Mode Encryption as an efficient solution.
- $R = \text{Enc}(C \mid \text{Counter}) \text{ XOR } S$ .



# How to fix this loophole?

---

- Use probabilistic encryption instead of deterministic encryption.
- We suggest AES Counter Mode Encryption as an efficient solution.
- $R = \text{Enc}(C \mid \text{Counter}) \text{ XOR } S$ .
- Because this incremental counter value is never repeated, the same sensor status  $S$  will not generate the same response. This prevents Try-and-Check attack.

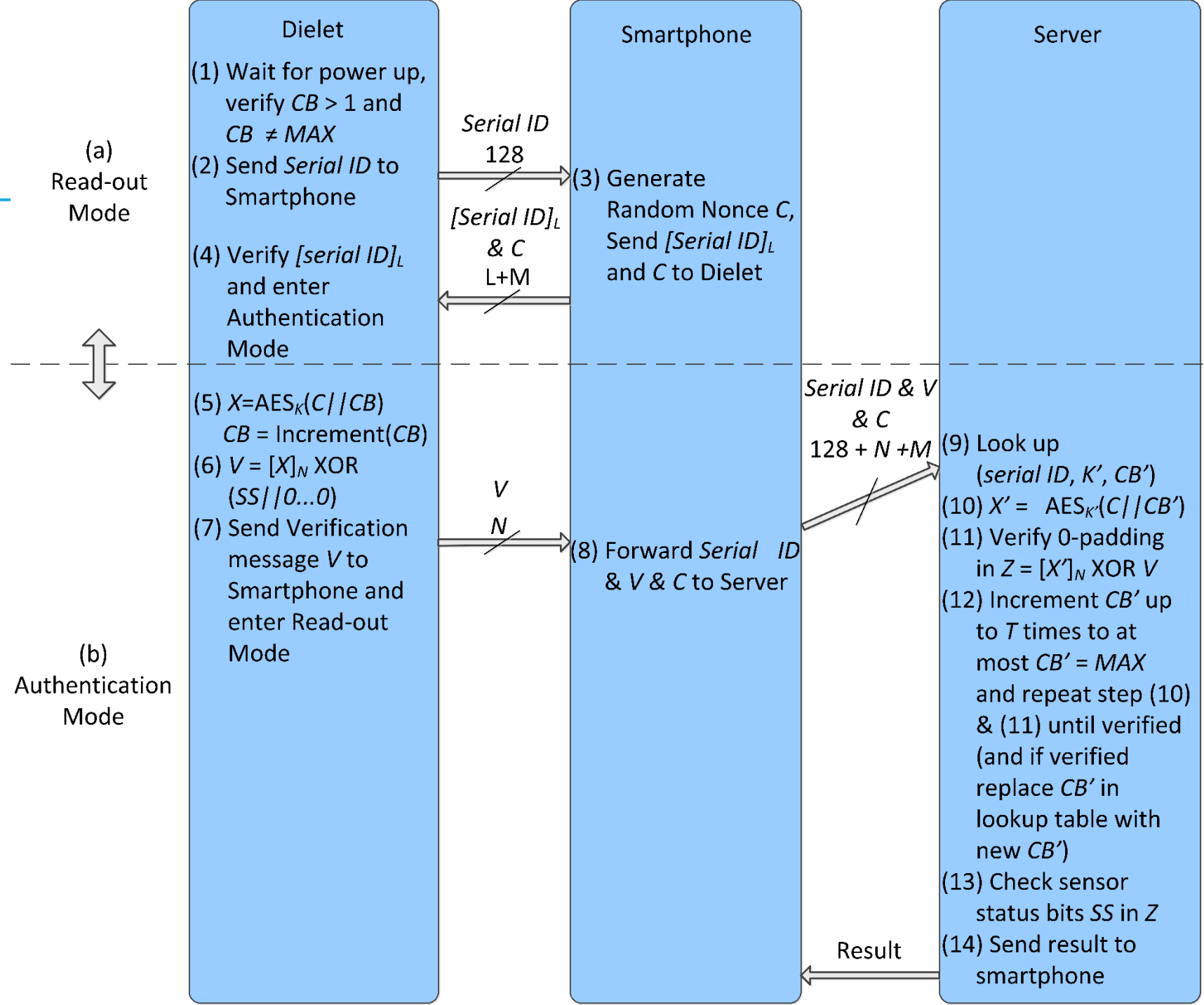


# Proposed Authentication Protocol

---







# Security Benefits

---

- Protect against IA-1, IA-2 and IA-3 attacks.
  - DARPA's protocol is vulnerable to Try-and-Check attack.
- Increase the difficulty of IA-4 attacks by limiting the power traces and incrementing counter values.
- Prevent batch mode DoS attack by adding a read-out mode before authentication mode.
- The counter of AES counter mode can be used as an indicator of suspicious offline behavior.

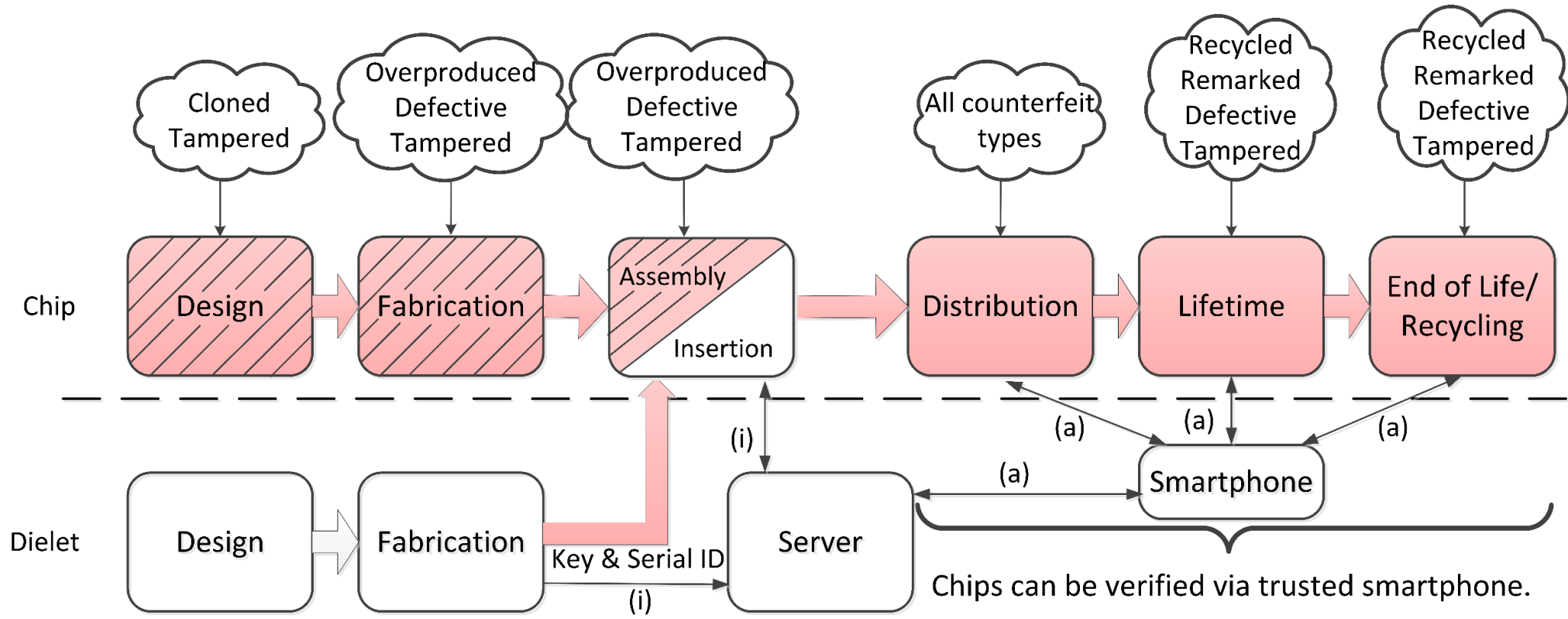


- Reduce the power consumption
  - Number of transmitted bits: 258 bits instead of 448 bits.
  - Number of encryptions: one encryption instead of two encryptions
- Speed up the protocol execution by halving the number of communication rounds with the server.



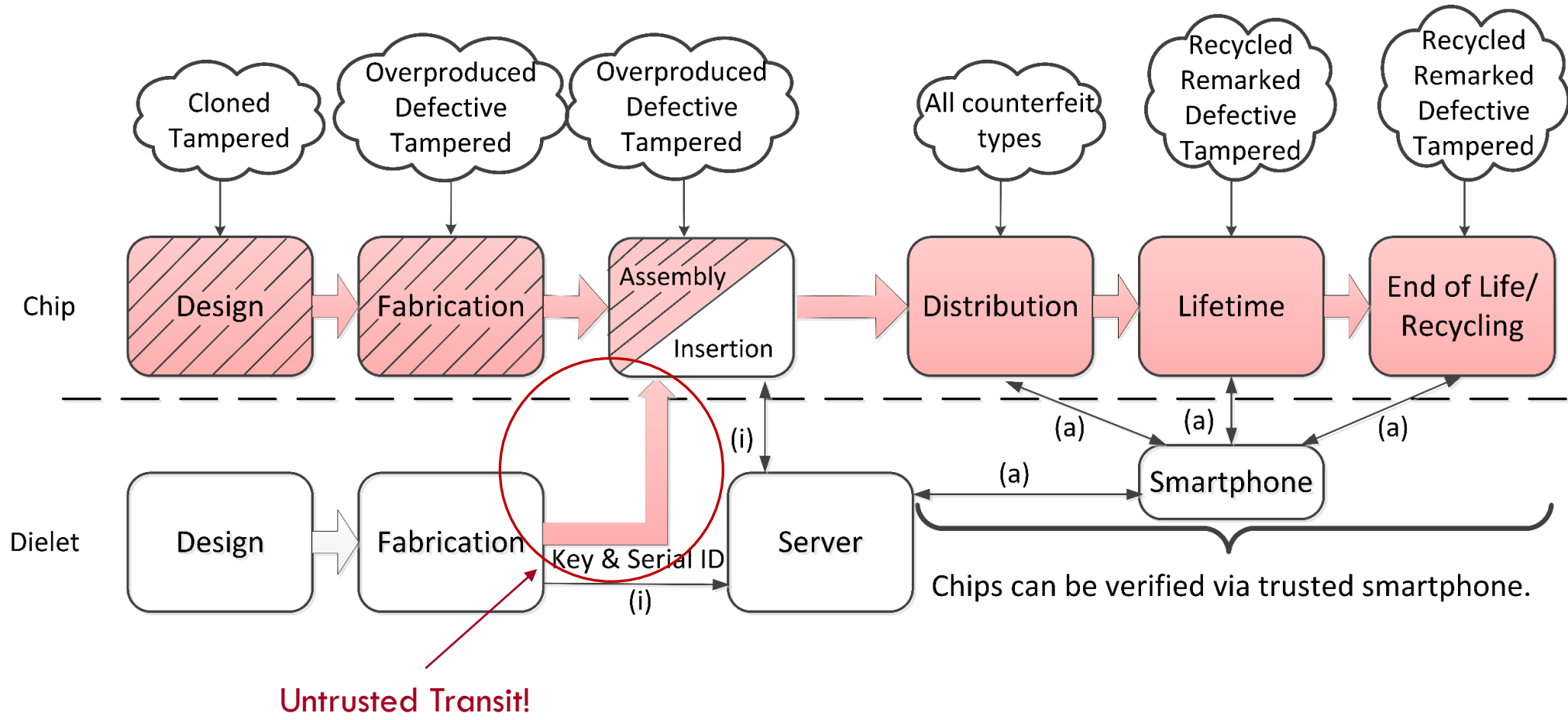
# Dielet Initialization

- The main threat comes from the untrusted transit between dielet fabrication facilities and insertion facilities.



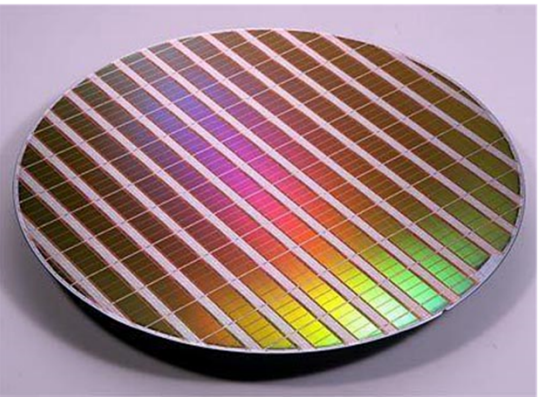
# Dielet Initialization

- The main threat comes from the untrusted transit between dielet fabrication facilities and insertion facilities.



# Initialization Protocol

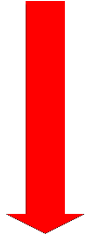
Trusted Fabrication



Untrusted  
Transit



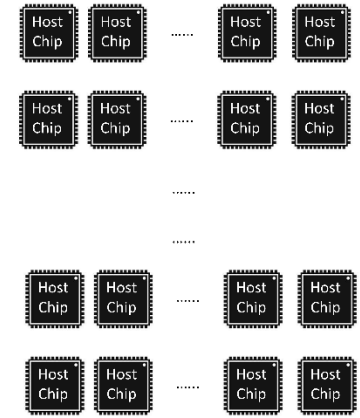
Steal



Inject



Trusted Assembly



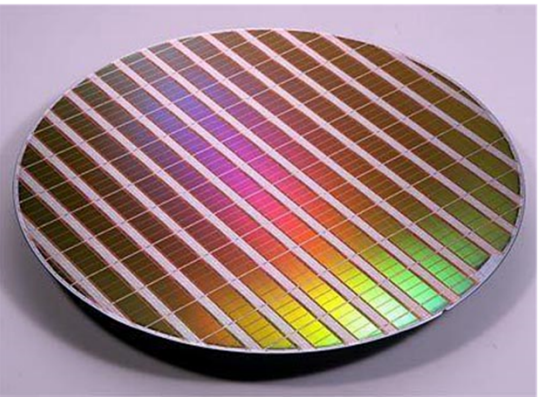
# Initialization Protocol

Register all the serial ID and key in the server



Verify each dielet and validate the corresponding entries in the database for authentication in the future

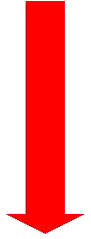
Trusted Fabrication



Untrusted Transit



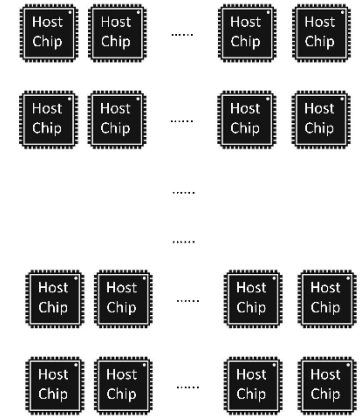
Steal



Inject



Trusted Assembly



# Benefits

---

- Due to a one-time initialization and two-phase activation construct in our initialization protocol, transits between trusted fabrication and trusted assembly facilities can be untrusted.
- On-board TRNG allows dielets to efficiently generate the secret keys and serial IDs in parallel.





- We introduce a “try-and-check” attack which nullifies the effectiveness of one of SHIELD’s main goals of being able to detect and trace adversarial activities with significant probability.
- We introduce an improved authentication protocol which resists the try-and-check attack, compared to DARPA’s example authentication protocol.
- We introduce the first concrete initialization protocol.
- The additional area utilization for our authentication and initialization protocols compared to DARPA’s authentication protocol is only 4% of the allowed area of the dielet ( $0.01\text{mm}^2$ ) in 32nm technology.
- Our findings and rigorous analysis are of utmost importance for the team which received DARPA’s funding for implementing SHIELD.



**Thank you!**

---