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Digital Emulation of a Versatile Memristor With Speech Encryption Application

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ABSTRACT Memristor characteristics such as nonlinear dynamics, state retention and accumulation are useful for many applications. FPGA implementation of memristor-based systems and algorithms provides fast development and verification platform. In this work, we first propose a versatile digital memristor emulator that exhibits either continuous or discrete behaviors, similar to valence change memories (VCM) and the electrochemical metallization memories. Secondly, the proposed memristor emulator is used to design a chaotic generator circuit utilizing the memristor's nonlinearity. Finally, the chaotic system is used to design a speech encryption engine to demonstrate its capabilities. The memristor emulator, chaotic generator, and the encryption system were implemented on Nexys 4 Artix-7 FPGA XC7A100T. The implementation results show an efficiency in throughput and hardware resources utilization compared to the previous works. In addition, the encryption system results show good performance against several perceptual, statistical attacks in addition to resistance to security attacks tests including differential attacks, NIST tests, key space analysis, mean square error (MSE), correlation, histogram and spectrogram.

INDEX TERMS Memristor, emulation, FPGA, chaotic generator, S-box, speech encryption.

I. INTRODUCTION

Memristor is a type of resistive memory technology that has some attractive characteristics and hence attracted the attention of industry and academia [1], [2]. Owning to their non-volatility, non linearity, small size and low cost, memristors have many applications such as memristor-based chaotic circuits, encryption, low-power radiation sensing, in-memory computing, Neural Networks (NNs) and neuromorphic applications [3]–[10]. In addition, memristors have become a hot topic in the area of nonlinear systems, where they are used to generate high-frequency chaotic oscillation signals. [11]. As a controllable nanoscale device, the memristor can be utilized to accelerate the development of the conventional nonlinear field [11]. The memristor switching modes are the bipolar and the unipolar memristor. In bipolar, the voltage polarities

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are used to switch On and Off. In unipolar, the resistance state is changed based on the voltage magnitude and not the polarity [12].

An emulation platform is needed for fast design exploration and development. Hence, different memristors emulators have been proposed in the literature. Memristor emulators mimic the behavior of the memristors based on the modeling equations, which are experimentally deduced from real devices. Memristor emulators can be implemented using either analog or digital design. Analog emulators are built based on MOSFET transistors, diodes, capacitors, resistors, operational amplifiers, and analog multipliers [13]–[16]. The drawbacks of analog emulators are the limitations on power supply voltages, sensitivity to process variations and temperature, number of elements and hardware implementation. In addition, the capacitor needed in the memristor analog model requires a large on-chip area to store the system state [17], [18]. On the other hand,

digital emulator does not demand any analog components, where the system's states are stored in a register. The digital models require small area, exhibit good performance, easily programmable, re-configurable and controllable. Consequently, practical implementation of memristors' emulators favors Field-Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs) over analog ones [14], [15], [17]–[20].

In addition to circuit optimization, it is important to optimize the algorithm to suit the target implementation. The main contributions of this paper includes:

- Tunable and flexible MR emulator that support both discrete and continuous MR behavior. Previous emulator supports either discrete or continuous behaviors but not both [18], [21]–[23].
- The proposed memristor emulator is designed based on an optimized algorithm have a small area and decent performance when implemented on FPGAs. The proposed memristor emulator is suitable for education and research areas, where it can be used in research labs and integrated with different applications.
- The proposed memristor emulator is used to realize a new memristive chaotic generator, where different chaotic attractors can be achieved. The versatility of the proposed memristor module helps to enhance the chaotic generator which adds independent parameters to control the output range.
- A speech encryption scheme based on S-box, data substitutions, using the proposed memristor chaotic generator, and bit permutations is designed and tested against all standard attacks.
- Finally, all proposed implementations; memristor emulator, chaotic generator and encryption system, have been experimentally verified using Nexys 4 Artix-7 FPGA and compared with the previous works.

This paper is organized as follows; Section [II](#page-1-0) presents the state of the art works including digital memristor, memristor chaotic system and encryption system. Section [III](#page-2-0) introduces the proposed generic discrete and continuous memristor models. In Section [IV,](#page-4-0) a memristor-based chaotic oscillator is presented. Section [V](#page-8-0) introduces memristor chaotic oscillators based speech encryption engine. Section [VI](#page-12-0) validates the proposed circuits experimentally. Finally, the paper is concluded in Section [VII.](#page-15-0)

II. PREVIOUS WORKS

Much research work developed digital memristor emulators such as [18], [21], [22], [24]. In [22], a digital memristor has been presented, which can be used as an independent block such as DSP blocks in FPGAs. The implementation was designed based on the theory of Hewlett-Packard (HP) memristor. Another attempt to build a digital memristor emulator based upon the voltage-controlled threshold-type bipolar memristor was introduced in [18] for ANNs. In addition, the implementation of digital chargeor flux-controlled memristor emulator was developed based on wave digital visualization for neuromorphic circuits [24].

Different research works focused on the implementation of memristor based neuromorphic systems [25]–[27] due to the similarities between memristors and biological synapse.

The continuous and discrete memristor emulators are designed to mimic the valence change memories (VCM) and the electrochemical metallization memories (ECM), respectively [28]. The VCM is associated with continuous evolve of the state variable (resistance) while ECM has the signature of sharp change of resistance value. As an application, this memristor IP core model was used to implement a memrisitive-Chua chaotic circuit, where all results were verified experimentally.

In [21], a memristor FPGA IP core was presented, which can generate discrete and continuous versatile memristor models. In discrete mode, the memristor emulator hold its memristive state for specific period then increase or decrease the memristive states according to a condition. On the other hand, the continuous model is built based on switching without adding any conditions which means the continuous can not hold the memristive state. Increasing the number of states in the discrete model leads to have a continuous model with a large number of states. But, It comes with a huge increase of the hardware resources as well which is not desirable. In this paper, we propose a new design for the memristor emulator that works in either discrete or continuous modes, Increasing the number of memristive states in the proposed design does not increases the hardware resources unlike [21]. More discussion and comparison between proposed memristor design and previous works are added in the results section.

Due to the memristor's nonlinearity, several memristive chaotic oscillators were presented [11], [29]–[37], and mathematically analyzed. Nevertheless, few were utilized in image encryption applications [38], [39]. Several research papers studied memristor hardware implementation for biologically inspired and neuromorphic systems [27], [40]. Fractional-order models of memristor and memcapacitor were used to design a memfractor chaotic oscillator in [41]. Moreover, a digital implementation for the memrisitive-Chua chaotic circuit was implemented and experimentally verified in [21].

In [42], the authors introduced FPGA implementation of memristor-chaotic circuit solving the chaotic differential equations including the memristor. There was no hardware dedicated for the memristor emulation. In this paper, we utilize the proposed memristor emulator for chaotic generator to be used as a part of the speech encryption system. The proposed memristor chaotic system offers more flexibility, where the number of memristor states can be easily changed in real time and different chaotic attractors can be generated. In [21], a memristor chaotic system was introduced based on two memristor states only. Moreover, increasing the number of memristor states requires more hardware resources, redesign the system and new synthesis. However, the proposed chaotic system is designed based on multiple memristors states, where increasing the number of memristor states does not demand any change in the hardware resources. In addition

FIGURE 1. The flowchart of the proposed memristor emulator, where $a, \Delta b$ and Δc are constants.

to that, the change in the memristor states can be done in real time without the need to new synthesis.

Some recent research on memristor have exposed the opportunity of improving the resolution of chaos and neural network models of computation [11]. Chaos-based ciphers can provide lightweight encryption with high performance and efficiency compared to more complicated standard ciphers. Amongst different forms of data, speech encryption is required for many applications such as radio, telephone and IP communication [43].

III. PROPOSED MODEL

A two-state bipolar memristor model was introduced as follows [14]:

$$
y(t) = \pm ax(t) \pm b \begin{cases} -x(t) & \varphi(t) \le c \\ x(t) & \varphi(t) > c \end{cases} (1)
$$

where y , x , and (a, b, c) are normalized output, input and constants, respectively. Two state lines $y = (\pm a \pm b)x$ and $y = (\pm a \mp b)x$ are used to define the memristor hysteresis loop. The condition $|b| \leq |a|$ should be held to obtain the memristive behavior. In [21], a multi-state switching model was presented to generalize the two memristive states switching model by adding extra conditions. Discrete and continuous models were introduced alongside their FPGA realizations.

In this work, we follows the standard way to design and validate the proposed memristor emulator. In the first step, we develop an algorithm that shows the memristor functionality. Figure [1](#page-2-1) shows a flow chart of the proposed algorithm works. Then, in the second step, we validate the proposed algorithm with numerical MATLAB simulations, where different scenarios are tested. After that, a block diagram is built for the design and implementation, which assist in the RTL coding stage. The proposed design is implemented using Verilog and realized on Xilinx FPGA kit board using existing DSP blocks. The DSP-based implementation reduces both development and verification time, where the functionality of these blocks is already verified.

The proposed implementations are tested in different stages and the implementation is designed based on different modules. The modules are tested by using a test-bench design to verify the design functionality and fulfills the design requirements. The test-benches cover all possible test cases to eliminate any mistakes. After the test-benches have been successfully passed, all modules are connected together to test the whole system. Then, the design is realized on hardware using the existing software tools and FPGA kit. After realizing the proposed system on FPGA, a ïĄnal test is done at the hardware level to ensure the system is functioning correctly.

In this work, a new digital memristor emulator is proposed, which exhibits continuous or distributed behaviors by controlling the model parameters. The continuous memristor model has been introduced based on the idea of switching without adding any conditions where *b* is changing with the time [21]. In this work, *b* and *c* are dynamically changing as shown in the flow chart shown in Fig. [1.](#page-2-1) The values of *b* and *c* are increased and decreased based on the sign of *x* (*t*) and the comparison of φ (t_{i+1}) $> c_1$. Based on the input sign and the comparator output, *b* and *c* are computed as presented in the table in Fig. [1.](#page-2-1) New memristive state is produced by changing *b* and *c* after the addition or the subtraction operations. When *b* and *c* are not changed, the memristive state does not changed. The hysteresis loops of the discrete and continuous memristor models are similar to the HP model, however a simple linear equation $I(t) = aV(t) \pm bV(t)$ is used instead of $V(t) = (x_d(t)R_{on} + (1 - x_d(t))R_{off}) i(t)$ in the HP model. The memristor model can be realized by following the steps which summarized in the flow chart, shown in Fig. [1:](#page-2-1)

- Initialize the variable $\varphi(t)$, *i*, *a*, *b*, Δb , *c*₁, and Δc .
- The first process introduces the integration of the input $x(t_i)$ where $\varphi(t_{i+1}) = \varphi(t_i) + x(t_i) \Delta t$.
- Based on the sign of the input $x(t_i)$ and the comparator of φ (t_{i+1}) $> c_1$, *b* and *c* are computed.
- In case of $x(t_i)$ is negative, *b* and *c* can be computed as follows: if $\varphi(t_{i+1}) > c_1$ then $c_1 = c_1$ and $b = b$ else $c_1 = c_1 - \Delta c$ and $b = b - \Delta b$.
- In order to keep the condition $|b| \leq |a|$, another comparison is added as follows: if $|b| \leq |a|$ then the output current is computed based on $y(t_i) = ax(t_i) + bx(t_i)$, otherwise the output current is zero.

In order to refer to a device as a memristor; there are three fingerprint should exist. The first and the most important one is the existence of the pinched hysteresis loop, which uniquely identify the memristive devices [1]. Figure [2](#page-3-0) illustrates the discrete and continuous pinched hysteresis loop for input signal $sin(2\pi ft)$ where $a = 4$, $\Delta b = 0.5$ and $\Delta t = 10^{-7}$. The discrete hysteresis loop (*f* = 800 *Hz* and $\Delta c = 1000\Delta t$ and continuous hysteresis loop ($f = 100 Hz$ and $\Delta c = 100\Delta t$ are presented in Figs. 2(a) and 2(b), respectively. The behavior of *c* versus the input is also depicted in Figs. 2(c) and 2(d) for discrete and continuous memristor, respectively. Please note that *c* is continuously/discretely changing for the continuous/discrete cases.

FIGURE 2. Pinched hysteresis loop for input sin($2\pi ft$), where $a = 4$, $\Delta b = 0.5$ and $\Delta t = 10^{-7}$, (a) Hysteresis for $f = 800$ Hz and $\Delta c = 1000$ (b) c vs the input voltage for $f = 800$ Hz and $\Delta c = 1000$, (c) Hysteresis for $f = 100$ Hz and $\Delta c = 100$ and (d) the constant c vs input voltage for $f = 100$ Hz and $\Delta c = 100$.

Table [1](#page-4-1) shows various hysteresis loop examples with different values of Δc and different frequencies. Based on the values of the frequency f and Δc , discrete and continuous loops can be generated. As f and Δc increase, the number of states and area inside the hysteresis loop decreases where the hysteresis loop becomes discrete. On the other hand, for the continuous model, f and Δc must be decreased. The second fingerprint of the memristive devices is shrinking the lobe area with increasing the frequency and reaches zero when *f* tends to ∞ , as shown in Table [1.](#page-4-1) For the same Δc and different frequency, the memristor behavior may change from continuous to discrete modes while the lobe area is decreasing. This change happens because with increasing the frequency, the number of the states inside the lobe becomes smaller which means more discretization. Moreover, the area inside the hysteresis lobe reaching zero when the frequency approaches to infinity. The enclosed area versus the applied signal frequency and Δc in the I-V hysteresis loop of the proposed memristor model is illustrated in Fig. [3.](#page-5-0) The area decreases with increasing either f or Δc . The enclosed area is computed based on the analysis presented in [21].

A. HARDWARE ARCHITECTURE

Figure [4](#page-5-1) presents the hardware architecture for the proposed memristor model. Fixed point arithmetic is used for the design and implementation, where the input is 32 bits divided into 24 bits and 8 bits for the fractional and the integer parts respectively. The output is truncated to 12 bits to be suitable for emulation using FPGA and oscilloscope. The top module of the proposed discrete and continuous memristor model is shown in Fig. 4(a), where $x(t_i)$ is the input signal, Δb , Δc and *a* are input constants used as control parameters. $y(t_i)$

depicts the output signal and *sel* is a selector with 2-bits created based on constants c_1 and *b* operations. The data path circuit for the proposed memristor model is presented in Fig. 4(b). The output $y(t_i)$ is calculated based on $y(t_i)$ = $(a + b)x(t)$. The data path of the proposed memristor model is presented in Fig.4(b). The proposed design is developed based on the flow chart shown in Fig. [1,](#page-2-1) in which, an accumulation is required for the input to compute $\varphi(t_i) = \varphi(t_i) +$ $x(t_i)\Delta t$. This accumulation is done in the design based on the adder. A comparator is required to compare $\varphi(t_i)$ with *c*1. While, the multiplexers are required to select the desire operations.

While $\varphi(t_i)$ is computed by accumulating the input samples, the constant c_1 is calculated by adding the outputs of the two left multiplexers. *cin* is a carry in used to apply the two's complement for the subtraction operation when the multiplexer output is inverted Δc . c_{in} is produced based on an AND gate between the *sel* two bits. As for the two left multiplexers, one is used to get the feedback and one is used to select 0, Δc or inverted Δc . The selection can be done based on *sel* as shown in the table in Fig. 4(a) and the Mux block in Fig. 4(a). Computing the constant *b* is performed using the same method of computing c_1 . Both c_1 and φ (t_i) drive the comparator, where the output of the comparator is either 0 or 1 when φ (t_{i+1}) > c_1 or φ (t_{i+1}) $\leq c_1$, respectively. The comparator output is concatenated with the MSB of *x*(*ti*) to create *sel* signal. Finaly, *a* and *b* are added and multiplied by the input signal $x(t_i)$. Moreover, *a* and *b* drive a comparator where the output is either 1 or 0 when $|b| > |a|$ or $|b| \leq |a|$, respectively. The comparator output is ANDed with the MSB of $\varphi(t_i)$ to drive the multiplexer. The multiplexer selects 0 or the multiplier output when the selector is 1 or 0, respectively.

IV. MEMRISTOR-BASED CHAOTIC OSCILLATOR

Figure [5](#page-5-2) presents the proposed chaotic circuit, which consists of a memristor, two capacitors, two inductors and one negative resistor. The circuit has a parallel type Van der Pol oscillator and a series type LC resonator [44]. The two parallel diodes are replaced by the proposed

FIGURE 3. Enclosed area versus the applied signal frequency and Δc (a) effect of changing the frequency and (b) effect of changing Δc .

FIGURE 4. Proposed memristor model hardware architecture, (a) top module and sel 2-bits created based on constants c, b operations and (b) the data path circuit for the proposed memristor model.

memristor model. The circuit equations are:

$$
C_1 \frac{dv_1}{dt} = \frac{1}{R_1} v_1 - i_2 - i_4,
$$
 (2a)

$$
L_1 \frac{di_2}{dt} = v_1,\tag{2b}
$$

$$
C_2 \frac{dv_3}{dt} = i_4,\tag{2c}
$$

$$
L_{1}\sum_{i=1}^{I_{2}}\cdots\cdots\sum_{i=1}^{I_{m}}\cdots\cdots\sum_{i=1}^{I_{m}}\cdots\cdots\cdots\sum_{i=1}^{I_{m}}\cdots\cdots\sum_{i=1}^{I_{m}}\cdots\sum_{i=1
$$

FIGURE 5. The chaotic circuit using the proposed memristor model.

$$
L_2 \frac{di_4}{dt} = v_1 - v_3 - i_4 R_m \tag{2d}
$$

$$
R_m = a + b, \quad q(t) = \int_0^t i_4(t)dt
$$
 (3)

Following the same scaling presented in [3] for the HP memristor, the variables and parameters in [\(2\)](#page-5-3) can be scaled as follows: $x = \frac{V_1}{V_0}, y = \frac{i_2}{i_0}, z = \frac{V_3}{V_0}$ $\frac{V_3}{V_0}, w = \frac{i_4}{i_0}, \alpha = \frac{R_0}{R_1}$ $\frac{\kappa_0}{R_1}$ $e_0 = \frac{c_0}{c_1}$ $\frac{c_0}{c_1}, e_1 = \frac{L_0}{L_1}$ $\frac{L_0}{L_1}$, $e_2 = \frac{c_0}{c_2}$ $\frac{c_0}{c_2}$ and $e_3 = \frac{L_0}{L_2}$ $\frac{L_0}{L_2}$. After scaling [\(2\)](#page-5-3), the differential equations are normalized as follows:

$$
\dot{x} = e_0 (\alpha x - y - w), \tag{4a}
$$

$$
\dot{y} = e_1(x), \tag{4b}
$$

$$
\dot{z} = e_2 \left(w \right), \tag{4c}
$$

$$
\dot{w} = e_3 (x - z - wR_m) \tag{4d}
$$

Based on backward Euler method, the following equations are obtained:

$$
x_{n+1} = x_n + e_0 h (\alpha x_n - y_n - w_n), \qquad (5a)
$$

$$
y_{n+1} = y_n + e_1 h(x_n),
$$
 (5b)

$$
z_{n+1} = z_n + e_2 h(w_n), \t\t(5c)
$$

$$
w_{n+1} = w_n + e_3 h (x_n - z_n - w_n R_m)
$$
 (5d)

The mathematical model of the chaotic system is derived from the circuit shown in Fig. [5](#page-5-2) and given by (2), which includes four independent state variables corresponding to the circuit currents and voltages. Hyperchaotic systems usually have more than one positive Lyapunov exponent. That is, the dynamics of the system is expanded in two or more directions simultaneously. which result in higher unpredictability, much more complicated structure of the attractors and better performance in chaos based secure communication applications [45].

Figure [6](#page-6-0) shows various projections of the 4D chaotic attractor based on the proposed memristor emulator, where $h = 2^{-7}, \alpha = 0.75, e_0 = 1, e_1 = 0.9, e_2 = 0.5,$ $e_3 = 3.25, \Delta b = 0.9, a = 1, \text{ and } \Delta c = 25.$ Another chaotic case is plotted in Fig. [7,](#page-7-0) after changing some design parameters in the chaotic systems which are $\alpha = 0.5$, $e_1 = 1, \Delta b = 0.5$, and $\Delta c = 6$. The memristance R_m for both cases in Figs. [6](#page-6-0) and [7](#page-7-0) are shown in Fig. [8,](#page-7-1) where its value fluctuates among different levels. Table [2](#page-6-1) presents the effect of changing the memristor parameters (Δc and Δb) on the proposed chaotic generator for $x - w$ projection, where

*C*2

TABLE 2. Effect of changing the memristor parameters (∆c and ∆*b*) on the chaotic generator for *x* − *w* attractor, where $h = 2^{-7}$, $\alpha = 0.75$, $e_0 = 1, e_1 = 0.9, e_2 = 0.5, e_3 = 3.25,$ and $a = 10$.

 $h = 2^{-7}, \alpha = 0.75, e_0 = 1, e_1 = 0.9, e_2 = 0.5, e_3 = 3.25,$ and $a = 10$. It can be inferred that the modification of the proposed memristor parameters Δc and Δb enhances the chaotic generator by introducing independent parameters that control the output ranges.

A. PARAMETERS RANGES

Bifurcation diagrams identify the parameters range corresponding to bounded and also chaotic responses. For a chosen bifurcation parameter, the values of *x* representing local maxima are plotted, i.e., the time series is sampled showing

whether the solution is stable, periodic or chaotic. Figure [9](#page-7-2) shows the bifurcation diagrams of the chaotic system [\(5\)](#page-5-4) against five variables, each fixing the other variables to the values $e_0 = e_1 = 1$, $e_2 = 0.5$ and $e_3 = 3.25$ and $\alpha = 0.5$. At these values, Lyapunov Exponents (LEs) are computed using Wolf's algorithm [46] and equal (0.163967, 0.028446; 0.001874, −2.730914), which indicate hyperchaotic behavior with two positive LEs followed by an LE approaching zero and the last one is negative. Moreover, Fig. [10](#page-8-1) indicates that the Maximum Lyapunov Exponent (MLE) versus α matches the corresponding bifurcation diagram, where the

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FIGURE 7. Chaotic attractor projections where $h = 2^{-7}$, $\alpha = 0.5$, $e_0 = 1$, $e_1 = 1$, $e_2 = 0.5$, $e_3 = 3.25$, $\Delta b = 0.5$, $a = 1$, and $\Delta c = 6$.

FIGURE 8. Time evolution of the memristance for the cases shown in (a) Fig. [6,](#page-6-0) and (b) Fig. [7.](#page-7-0)

output undergoes period doubling bifurcation till the chaotic firing around $\alpha > 0.44$.

B. HARDWARE ARCHITECTURE

Figure [11](#page-9-0) illustrates the design and methodology of the proposed chaotic generator, where the state variables *x*, *y*, *z* and *w* are stored in 4 registers. Fixed point format is used for the design, where each register uses 32 bits with 8 bits integer and 24 bits fractional parts. Furthermore, the numerical solutions for *x*, *y*, *z*, and *w* are computed using the combinational circuits between the registers. The combinational circuits contain the following blocks; Memristor block is used to compute memristance $(R_m = a + b)$; multipliers, subtractors

FIGURE 9. Bifurcation diagrams of the chaotic attractor against each variable fixing the other variables to the given values. The memristor parameters are $\Delta b = 0.5$ and $a = 1$.

and adders are used to perform the multiplication, subtraction and addition operations in [\(5\)](#page-5-4). In order to improve the performance and power consumption of the proposed chaotic generator, all parameters are chosen as a power of two of

FIGURE 10. Maximum Lyapunov Exponent (MLE) diagrams with respect to the parameter α .

sum of powers of two. After using a power of two, simple operations such as bit-shifts and bit-selects are used instead of multipliers. For $h = 2^{-7}$ which is a power of two, a shift operation block with 7-bits shift right is used.

V. SPEECH ENCRYPTION BASED MEMRISTOR CHAOTIC OSCILLATOR

The proposed memristor chaotic oscillator can be used as a building block for any encryption scheme suitable for text, speech and image encryption. This work focuses on the speech encryption. The proposed encryption process is presented in Fig. [12,](#page-9-1) where nine sub-keys $(K_0 : K_8)$ are used to build the whole encryption key. The sub-keys correspond to four initial values and five independent parameters of the chaotic generator as explained in the next subsection. The encryption sub-keys drive the independent parameters calculator along with the fix parameters to produce the four initial values and the five independent parameters of the proposed chaotic generator. Then, the chaotic generator produces four outputs x , y , z and w to drive the encryption scheme. The encryption system is implemented based on pipelining technique to improve the performance. The pipelining allows each block unit including parameters calculation, chaotic generator and encryption scheme to run concurrently. Only three clock cycles latency are required to produce the first encryption sample.

Figure [13](#page-9-2) presents the hardware architecture of the proposed encryption scheme, which utilizes the four outputs of the memristor chaotic generator. The proposed encryption scheme works as follows: each input speech sample is divided into eight parts with 2 bits each. Every 2 bits drive a single S-box block, to use 8 S-box blocks. The general idea of S-Box is taking some number of input bits and substitute them with some number of output bits. The proposed S-box is implemented based on dynamic LookUp Table (LUT), unlike the previous S-box blocks, which were built based on fixed LUT. Fixed LUT S-box are usually required a large LUT to store the data. In contrast, the proposed dynamic S-box is designed to be small to save the hardware resources. For example, 8 bits required $2^8 = 256$ positions with 8 bits for every row in the fixed S-box. On the other hand, the proposed S-box needs only $4 \times 2^2 = 16$ with 2 bits for every row. $x[15:0]$ is the input to the S-box blocks and is partitioned as aforementioned. The stored data in the LUT is created as follows: $x[1]$ is inverted twice then repeated twice. $x[0]$ is inverted for each row of the table. Based on the previous process of inverting *x*, all possibles value *x* will be covered.

The outputs of the S-box blocks are permuted based on the permutation block, where *y*[15 : 0] are used as control bits. Two level permutations are performed based on the algorithm introduced in [47]–[49]. Moreover, a multiplexer is used to select between the output of S-box and the permutation block, where the selector is the Least Significant Bit (LSB) of the feedback signal (Fb). Another multiplexer is used to select between *z* and *w* based on *Fb*[0]. Finally, the encrypted output signal is produced by XORing the outputs of both multiplexers with Fb. The decryption block diagram is presented in Fig. [14,](#page-9-3) which is built by reversing the encryption process in Fig. [13.](#page-9-2)

The speed of encryption block is usually determined by the speed of its primitive operation such as the substitution boxes. To decrease the hardware cost, a smaller S-box datapath is used instead of using large S-Boxes as in the conventional methods. However, using small s-box reduces the security level. To overcome this problem, the proposed S-box is not fixed, and its data change each clock cycle. In [50], $a 8 \times 8$ S-box was introduced, which required 2048bits LUT. Another attempt to decrease the size has been proposed in [42], with 4-bit S-box in which a 16-bits input require 4 LUT with 64 bits each which means 256-bit LUT in total. The proposed S-box design is an optimized version of the hardware architecture, introduced in [42]. Figure 15(a) illustrates the block diagram of the S-box block, where the input is 2 speech bits (sp) and 2 bits from the chaotic output *x*. The table in Fig. 15(a) describes the S-box operation where the two sp bits are replaced by two bits generated from *x*. To build the LUT and cover all possibilities for every 2 bits without repeating any values, the input (sp) is used as an address in the left of the LUT to select among four outputs in the right. The four outputs are created by inverting the two bits from *x* with different inversion cases. The inverse S-box can be built by reversing the S-box operation as presented in Fig. 15(b). The proposed design requires 8 LUT for 16-bits input and each LUT needs 2-bits with 64-bit in total. Thus, the proposed design uses only 1/4 of LUT used in [42] and 1/32 of LUT used in [50].

A. ENCRYPTION KEY DESIGN

The encryption key consists of nine sub-keys K_0 : K_8 , which determine the values of the four initial values and the five independent parameters of the chaotic generator. They are used as perturbation values around fixed values for the parameters, which are known to generate chaos from the bifurcation diagrams presented in previous section. Hence, these perturbations should not be increased

FIGURE 11. Hardware realization of proposed memristor-based chaotic generator, where 4 registers are used to store the numerical solution of x, y, z and w .

FIGURE 12. Encryption process block diagram, where the design is built based on pipelining technique to improve the performance.

Inverse permutation Inv S-box Inv S-box Decrypted \bullet \bullet \bullet Inv S-box $Fb[0]$ Demux Encrypted $w[15:0]$ йих.
Мих X 01 $5:15:0$ Reg Fb

 $y[7:0]$

 $Fb[0]$

 $x[7:0]$

FIGURE 13. Encryption scheme hardware architecture based on s-box, permutation and chaotic generator.

above specific limit or the chaotic generator will not be chaotic. Thus, the sub-keys must be downscaled resulting in upper bounded values x_k , y_k , z_k , and α_k as shown in Fig. [16.](#page-10-0) The effective number of bits for the encryption key are 24, 24, 24, 24, 20, 20, 20, 20 and 20 for the sub-keys K_0, K_1, \ldots and K_8 , respectively. Therefore, the total effective encryption key length is 196 bits, i.e., the key space is 2^{196} , which is resistant to bruteforce attacks [43]. Each sub-key is concatenated with zero's in the MSBs to get 32 bits of x_k, y_k, \ldots and α_k .

FIGURE 14. Decryption scheme hardware architecture.

B. CHAOTIC PARAMETERS COMPUTATION

The computations of chaotic parameters are given by:

$$
x_0 = x_k + x_{fix} + P_{sum}, \quad y_0 = y_k + y_{fix} + P_{sum},
$$

\n
$$
z_0 = z_k + z_{fix} + P_{sum}, \quad w_0 = w_k + w_{fix} + P_{sum},
$$

\n
$$
e_0 = e_{0_k} + e_{0_{fix}} + P_{sum}, \quad e_1 = e_{1_k} + e_{1_{fix}} + P_{sum},
$$

\n
$$
e_2 = e_{2_k} + e_{2_{fix}} + P_{sum}, \quad e_3 = e_{3_k} + e_{3_{fix}} + P_{sum},
$$

\n
$$
\alpha = \alpha_k + \alpha_{fix} + P_{sum}, \quad (6)
$$

FIGURE 15. (a) S-box block diagram and (b) Inverse S-box block diagram.

FIGURE 16. Scaling of sub-key values, where each sub-key is concatenated with specific number of bits to complete 40-bit.

where x_k , y_k , ... and α_k are scaling values extracted from the encryption key. x_{fix} , y_{fix} , ... and α_{fix} depict the fixed values of the chaotic parameters. The value *Psum* depicts an input dependent term, which improves the resistance to differential attacks [49], and is given by:

$$
P_{sum} = mod\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} S_i, 10\right) / 1000, \tag{7}
$$

where S_i are the speech samples.

C. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

The performance of the proposed encryption scheme is evaluated using a set of standard tests as follows.

1) PERCEPTUAL AND STATISTICAL TESTS

The original speech time waveforms and spectrograms are characterized by amplitude variation as shown in Table. [3.](#page-11-0) The spectrogram is a time-frequency decomposition of the magnitude squared of the signal spectrum in a logarithmic scale. It represents the variation of the spectral density with time and frequency, which is specified by the strength of the color. On the other hand, the time waveforms of the encrypted signals are almost random, their spectrograms exhibit

scattered power in the entire spectrum over all times/frequencies as shown in Table. [4.](#page-11-1) The samples of the encrypted speech are uniformly distributed in the histogram.

In order to have a strong encryption, the original and the encrypted signals should be weakly correlated. The correlation coefficient represents this statistical measure and is given by:

$$
r_{xy} = \frac{cov(x, y)}{\sqrt{D(x)D(y)}},\tag{8}
$$

where
$$
cov(x, y) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - E(x)) (y_i - E(y)), D(x) =
$$

 $\frac{1}{N}$ $\sum_{n=1}^{N}$ $\sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - E(x))^2$, $E(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N}$ $\sum_{i=1}$ x_i and *x* and *y* are the two signals. The correlation coefficients between the original and

the encrypted signals should approach zero indicating that the two signals are weakly correlated. The entropy is used to measure the randomness of the speech samples and it is defined as follows:

Entropy
$$
= -\sum_{i=1}^{2^p} P(S_i) \log_2 P(S_i),
$$
 (9)

where $P(S_i)$ is the probability of the sample value S_i and *p* is the number of bits per sample and it is the optimal entropy value. For a random encrypted signal, the entropy value should approach *p*, which equals 16 for the considered test speech files. The Mean Squared Error (MSE) indicates how far the encrypted signal is from the original signal with larger values indicating more security and is given by:

$$
\text{MSE} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - y_i)^2. \tag{10}
$$

Table [5](#page-12-1) summaries the correlation coefficients, the entropy and MSE results showing g the good performance of the proposed encryption system which indicate the high randomness of the ciphered data.

2) ROBUSTNESS AGAINST DIFFERENTIAL ATTACKS

Differential cryptanalysis is based on the idea that for a given encryption key, there is a high probability that a specific difference between two plain texts may cause a specific difference between the corresponding ciphered texts. Thus, the differential attack is achieved by applying a pair of plain texts with fixed differences, investigating the differences in the ciphered texts and assigning probabilities to the key. These probabilities are obtained after studying the characteristics of the encryption algorithm. In order to assess the robustness of an encryption scheme against differential attacks, only one of the input speech signal samples is changed and a modified speech signal is obtained. The original and the modified speech signals are encrypted using the same key and the two encrypted signals, *A* and *A'*, are produced. The encrypted signals are compared based on the Number of Samples Change Rate (NSCR) and the Unified

TABLE 3. Time waveforms, spectrograms, and histograms of the test speech signals.

TABLE 4. Time waveforms, spectrograms, and histograms of the corresponding encrypted speech.

Average Changing Intensity (UACI) given by:

$$
\text{NSCR} = \frac{\sum_{i} D_{i}}{N} \times 100\%,\tag{11a}
$$

$$
\text{UACI} \ = \frac{1}{N} \left(\sum_{i} \frac{|A_i - A'_i|}{2^p - 1} \right) \times 100\%, \qquad (11b)
$$

where $D_i = \left\{$ 1, $A_i \neq A_i'$ $\begin{array}{cc}\n 0, & \text{otherwise}\n \end{array}$

Table [6](#page-13-0) gives the minimum, maximum and average values for 10 randomly chosen samples, which successfully approach the recommended values 100 % and 33.3 %, for NSCR and UACI, respectively [43].

3) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS & TECHNOLOGY (NIST) STATISTICAL TEST SUITE

More advanced statistical tests are provided by the NIST statistical test suite [53], which is a statistical test suite for random and pseudo-random number generators for cryptographic applications. The tests are designed to examine the randomness characteristics of a sequence of bits by evaluating the P-value distribution (PV) and the proportion of passing sequences (PP).

FIGURE 17. Different experimental results for proposed memristor model I-V characteristic and chaotic attractors. (a) Experimental setup, (b-e) different emulated memristor results and (f-i) chaotic attractors.

TABLE 5. Statistical measures of the proposed encryption scheme for speech file 1 and file 2.

In order to run NIST tests, the encrypted speech files have been saved as ".wav"files in their native int16 representation (i.e. 16 bits/sample) with 16 bits sequence length. The tests are performed on 1, 572, 864 sequences. As an example, NIST tests were performed on two encrypted speech files as shown in Table [3.](#page-11-0) Fixed-point representation with

finite precision slightly differs from numerical simulation of the chaotic generator. The memristive and chaotic behaviors are maintained as may be inferred from comparing (Tables [1](#page-4-1) and [2](#page-6-1) and Figs. [6](#page-6-0) and [7\)](#page-7-0) to (Fig. [17\)](#page-12-2). Moreover, the encryption process is successfully performed comparing Table [4](#page-11-1) to Figure [17.](#page-12-2) The two files pass NIST tests as given in Table [7.](#page-13-1)

VI. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The proposed discrete and continuous memristor model, chaotic generator, and encryption system are implemented on Nexys 4 Artix-7 FPGA XC7A100T. To simulate the RTL

FIGURE 18. (a) Binary memristor MATLAB simulation I-V projection, (b) Binary memristor experimental results I-V projection and (c) memristance-V projection experimental results.

FIGURE 19. Oscilloscope experimental results for proposed encryption system.

FIGURE 20. Number of comparators vs the number of memristors' states for proposed memristor design and DMM [21].

codes, ISim simulator in Xilinx ISE 14.5 was used. All results were firstly validated with MATLAB software and then compared with FPGA implementation results. Digital to Analog Converter (DAC) Pmod DA2 powered by Texas Instruments is interfaced with the FPGA to convert the digital data to Analog. Two DAC channels of 12-bit are provided allowing users to obtain a resolution up to about 1 mV. For the memristor, the input voltage is produced using the LUT inside the FPGA kit. The FPGA kit generate two channel of serial bits to derive the Pmod DA2, which converts the two serial **TABLE 6.** Differential attack measures of the proposed encryption scheme for speech file 1 and file 2.

		UACI $(\%)$		NSCR $(\%)$			
	mın	max	avg	min	max	avg	
File 1 [52]			33.2280 33.4176 33.3167 99.9985		-100	99.9992	
File 2 [51]			33.2984 33.6051 33.4979 99.9966		100	99.9983	

TABLE 7. NIST results for the encrypted data.

bits to analog data to be displayed on the oscilloscope. Different experimental results for the proposed memristor model and chaotic generator attractors are illustrated in Fig. [17.](#page-12-2) The implementation process for the experimental results is done as follows: Xilinix ISE software is used to generate the bit file required for the experimental on FPGA. Since the DA chip only can receive positive numbers, a positive number is added to shift the whole output in the positive part. This number can be chosen based on the simulation results given by MATLAB. The Pmods in the FPGA are used to represents a 12-bit for each output signal. DA2 model is interfaced with the pmod to convert the 12-bits outputs to Analog signal to be displayed on the oscilloscope.

Figure [18](#page-13-2) presents the simulation and experimental results for the binary memristor, where Fig. 18(a), 18(b) and 18(c) depict the MATLAB simulation I-V projection, binary experimental results of I-V and memristance-V planes respectively.

FIGURE 21. (a) I-V plane of proposed memristor model for MATLAB vs FPGA results, (b) error between MATLAB and FPGA for proposed memristor model and (c) error between MATLAB and FPGA for proposed chaotic system.

TABLE 8. A comparison between the proposed memristor model and previous works.

		FPGA	Slice	Slice	Max Freq	Throughput	Memristor type		Comparator	Multipliers
			LUT	Reg	"MHz"	bit/sec	Discrete	Continuous		
Proposed Memristor			135	57	189.494	2.2739			\sim	
Ref[21]	DMM 2 states	Artix 7	72	44	231	2.772			0	
	DMM 8 states		289	45	138.17	1.6580		Х	14	
	CMM		106	58	122.20	1.4664				
	Ref[18]	Cyclone	3266 Logic Elements	32	NA	NA	x		NA	NA

Experimental results of proposed encryption system are presented in Fig. [19](#page-13-3) for speech file 2. For speech encryption and decryption FPGA experimental setup, the AC-97 audio Codec interface is used to pass the input speech signal from a microphone to the FPGA with input speech data at up to 18 bits and 48-kHz sampling is supported. The input speech bits are encrypted based on the proposed encryption scheme. The encrypted signal is delivered to the speaker, which sync wire auxiliary audio cable interfaced with AC-97 line out to get the encrypted signal. The decryption can be done by applying the decryption scheme on the encrypted signal inside the FPGA where the encrypted signal is stored in a register in FPGA.

A comparison between the proposed memristor model and previous works is given in Table [8.](#page-14-0) Unlike [18], [21], the proposed memristor model can produce Discrete Memristor Model (DMM) or Continuous Memristor Model (CMM). In [21], increasing the number of memrsitor states in DMM to have CMM increases the hardware complexity and resources as shown in Table [8,](#page-14-0) which requires to redesign of the entire system architecture. It can be inferred that the number of comparators and registers are increased and the performance is decreased with increasing the memristor states. On the other hand, using the proposed memristor model, the number of memristor states can be increased without changing the architecture. It can be simply done by changing the memristor parameters. Figure [20](#page-13-4) shows the number of comparators vs the number of memristor states for both memrsitor emulator and DMM [21]. As can be seen for proposed design, the number of comparators does not change with increasing the memristor states. However, the number of comparators are increased with increasing the memristors states in

DMM [21]. Reference [18] uses different FPGA kits for the implementation. However, the design requires a division operation which affect the performance and cost more hardware resources. On the other hand, proposed design needs simple arithmetic operations (no needs for division) compared with [18]. Generally, the proposed memristor model can be programmed on the fly by loading the proper configuration parameters. A summary of the FPGA hardware resources of proposed chaotic generator and encryption scheme is presented in Table [9.](#page-14-1) The proposed chaotic generator and encryption system achieve a maximum frequency of 73 and 73.10 MHz respectively. As can be seen the frequency of the Encryption is higher than the chaotic generator due to the pipelining in the encryption architecture. Also, only 16 LSBs of the chaotic generator outputs are used in the encryption design which have less processing delay.

Figure [21](#page-14-2) presents the MATLAB (floating-point realization) and FPGA (fixed-point realization) results, where Fig. 21(a), 21(b) and 21(c) show the I-V plane of proposed memristor model for MATLAB vs FPGA results, error between MATLAB and FPGA for proposed memristor model and error between MATLAB and FPGA for proposed chaotic system, respectively. It is worth to note that the error

between the numerical simulation and experiment is negligible because it is due to the quantization only. However, the error is large in the chaotic case because the numerical simulation is floating-point realization and the experiments are based on fixed-point where the quantization causes the chaotic behavior to exhibit different trajectories which result in a large difference error. Meaning that the floating-point realization can be used to decipher the ciphered data with chaotic system implemented with fixed-point and vice versa.

VII. CONCLUSION

In this work, a digital memristor emulator was presented that can be tuned to produce both discrete and continuous behaviors. In addition, a 4D chaotic attractor based on the proposed memristor emulator was proposed. Moreover, the developed chaotic circuit was utilized in a speech encryption scheme based on S-box and bit permutations. The performance of the proposed scheme was validated using multiple evaluation criteria. The proposed discrete and continuous memristor model, chaotic system and speech encryption scheme were realized on FPGA. The proposed s-box uses 1/4 of LUT in previous works, which is a significant reduction in the required hardware resources. In addition, the versatility and flexibility of the proposed memristor can generate any number of states with the same hardware cost, which highly reduces the hardware for memristor having large number of states. The proposed memristor achieved maximum frequency of 189.494 MHz compared with previous works that achieved 138.17 MHz and 122.2 MHz for 8-states DMM and CMM respectively. Furthermore, compared to previous related work the proposed hardware architectures offer a number of advantages that include moderate usage of hardware resources and the memristor state is programmable on the fly through a parameter and with no hardware overhead.

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