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(71) Applicants:
• **Technische Universität München**
80333 München (DE)
• **Rührmair, Ulrich**
83679 Sachsenkam (DE)

(72) Inventors:
• **Stutzmann, Martin**
85435 Erding (DE)
• **Csaba, György**
80634 München (DE)
• **Schlichtmann, Ulf**
81549 München (DE)
• **Lugli, Paolo**
85399 Halfbergmoos (DE)
• **Rührmair, Ulrich**
83679 Sachsenkam (DE)

(74) Representative: **Herrmann, Franz**
Dendorfer & Herrmann
Patentanwälte Partnerschaft
Bayerstrasse 3
80335 München (DE)

(54) **On-Chip Electric Waves: An Analog Circuit Approach to Physical Unccloneable Functions: PUF**

(57) This application proposes the use of Cellular Non-Linear Networks (CNNs) as physical uncloneable functions (PUFs). We argue that analogue circuits offer higher security than existing digital PUFs and that the CNN paradigm allows us to build large, unclonable, and scalable analogue PUFs, which still show a stable and repeatable input-output behaviour.

CNNs are dynamical arrays of locally-interconnected cells, with a cell dynamics that depends upon the inter-connection strengths to their neighbours. They can be designed to evolve in time according to partial differential equations. If this equation describes a physical phenomenon, then the CNN can simulate a complex physical system on-chip. This can be exploited to create electrical PUFs with high relevant structural information content. To illustrate our paradigm at work, we design a circuit that directly emulates nonlinear wave propagation phenomena in a random media. It effectively translates the

complexity of optical PUFs into electrical circuits. This, leading to better practicality, while maintaining or even improving the security properties of their optical counterparts.

FIG 18

