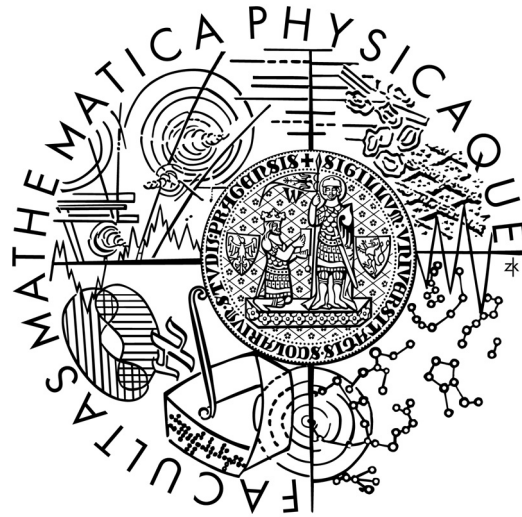


# Known-Plaintext-Only Attack on RSA-CRT with Montgomery Multiplication

Martin Hlaváč



Department of Algebra, Charles University in Prague  
IT Security Department, Czech Insurance Corporation

September 7, CHES 09, Lausanne, Switzerland

# Outline

- Electronic Passport
- Electro-Magnetic Interface
- Active Authentication
- RSA-CRT with Mont. Multiplication
- Schindler's Attack, Tomoeda's Attack
- New attack
- Simulation Results
- Conclusion

# Outline

- Electronic Passport
- Electro-Magnetic Interface
- Active Authentication
- RSA-CRT with Mont. Multiplication
- Schindler's Attack, Tomoeda's Attack
- New attack
- Simulation Results
- Conclusion

Motivation  
&  
strong  
assumptions

# Outline

- Electronic Passport
- Electro-Magnetic Interface
- Active Authentication
- RSA-CRT with Mont. Multiplication
- Schindler's Attack, Tomoeda's Attack
- New attack
- Simulation Results
- Conclusion

Motivation  
&  
strong  
assumptions

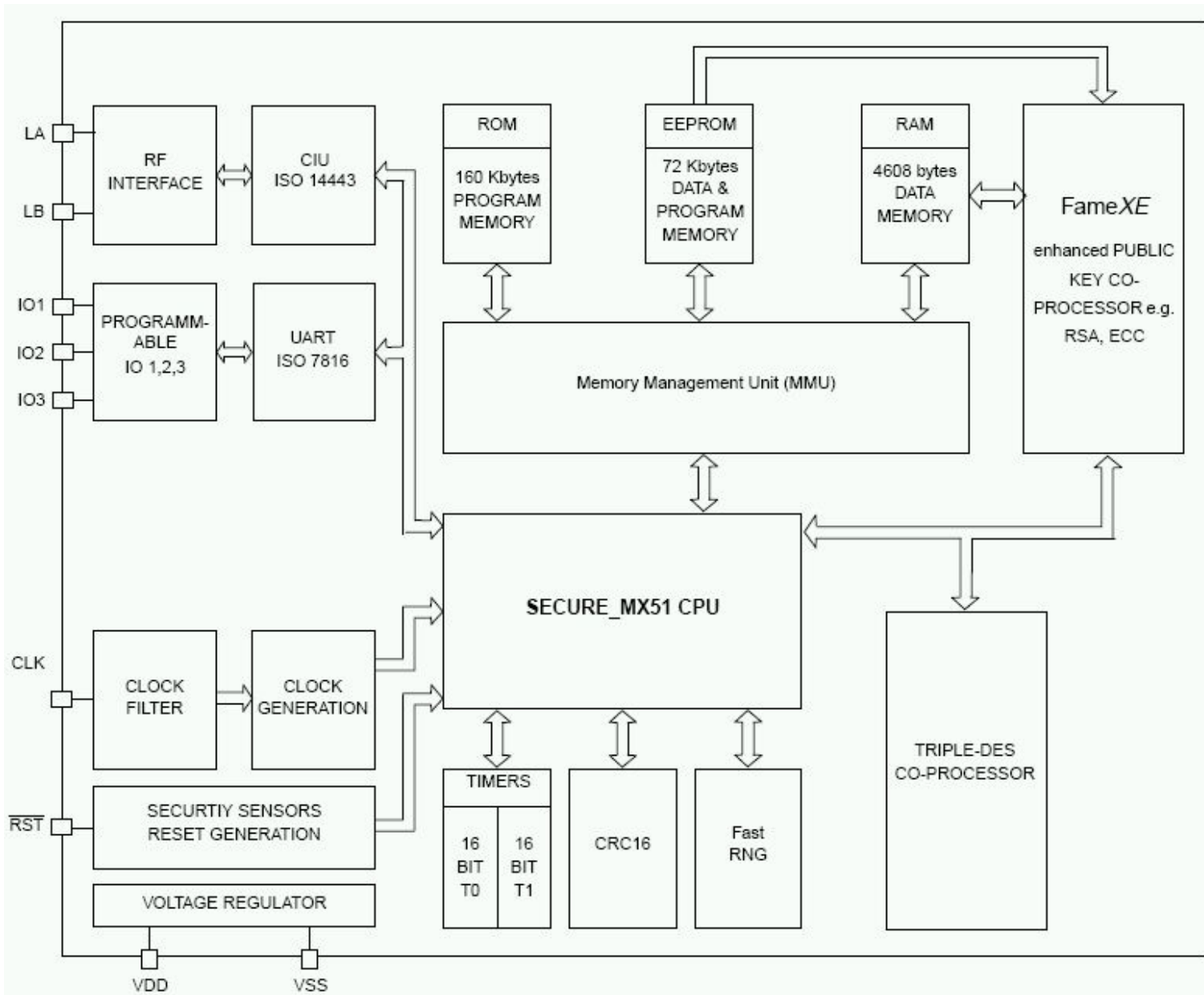
Attack

# Post-Conference Remarks!!

- Based on the discussions with Jean-Jacques Quisquater and an NXP representative during and after CHES 2009 in Lausanne regarding the assumptions made in the presentation, the author completes these slides with the remarks shown in **red**
- Specifically, Jean-Jacques Quisquater states
  - **FameXE cryptographic coprocessor should never use Montgomery multiplication**
  - **If someone implemented Montgomery multiplication on top of FameXE, it was highly unusual and unfortunate decision**
  - **Fame-X uses “Quisquater” multiplication algorithm**
- NXP confirms
  - **Electronic passport referred to in this work does NOT use Montgomery multiplication algorithm**
- As a result, these facts do not affect the validity of the mathematical attack described here. It can not be applied in the electronic passport scenario, however.



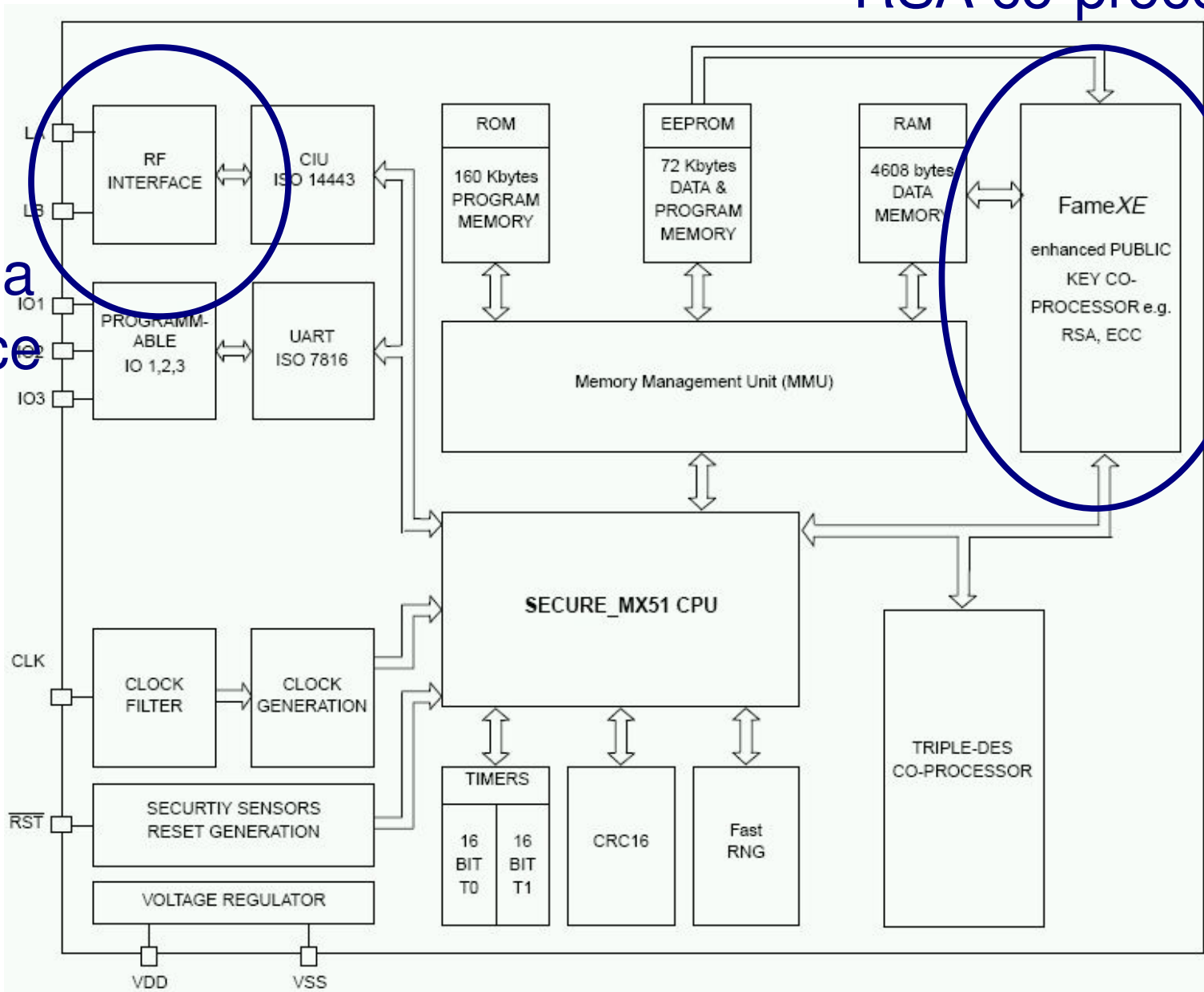
# Electronic Passport II.



# Electronic Passport II.

## FameXE RSA co-processor

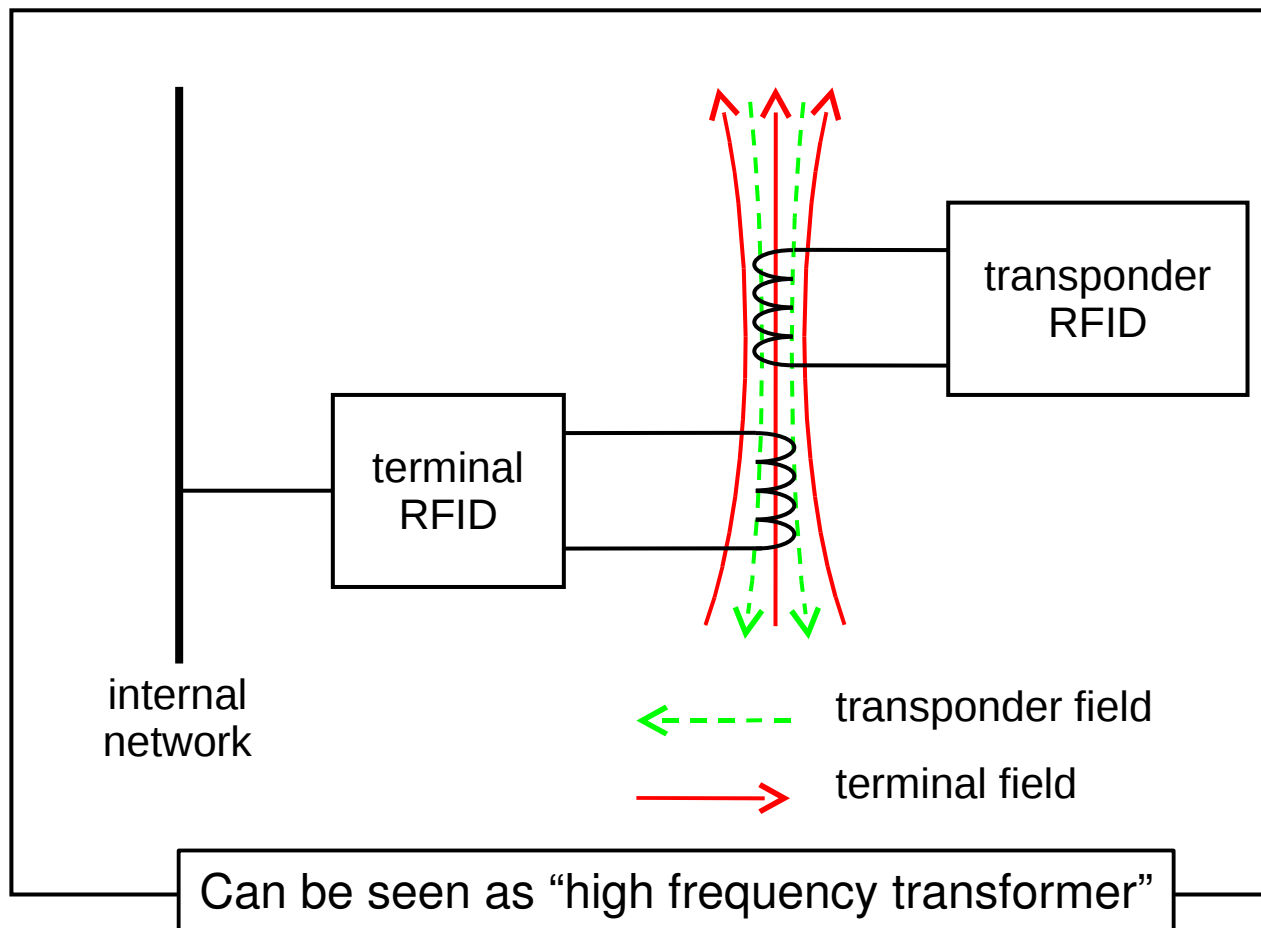
antenna  
interface





# Electro-Magnetic Interface

- HF range (13.56 MHz)
- Operation distance ~10 cm (4 in)
- Near-field communication



# Active Authentication

- passport's anti-cloning countermeasure
- optional
- simple challenge-response protocol based on RSA
  - public key signed by national authority
  - private key in protected memory
- challenge chosen by **both**, passport and reader
- chosen plaintext attacks do not work

# Active Authentication II.

---

**Algorithm 1** Active authentication

---

Parties: **T** ... terminal, **P** ... passport

- 1: **T**: generate random 8-byte value  $V$
  - 2: **T**  $\rightarrow$  **P**:  $V$
  - 3: **P**: generate random 106-byte value  $U$
  - 4: **P**: compute  $s = m^d \bmod N$ , where  $m = \text{"6A"} \parallel U \parallel w \parallel \text{"BC"}$ ,  $w = \text{SHA-1}(U \parallel V)$  and  $d$  is the passport's secret AA key securely stored in the protected memory
  - 5: **P**  $\rightarrow$  **T**:  $s, U$
  - 6: **T**: verify  $m = s^e \bmod N$ , where  $e$  is the passport's public key stored in publicly accessible part of passport memory
-

# Active Authentication II.

---

## Algorithm 1 Active authentication

---

Parties: **T** ... terminal, **P** ... passport

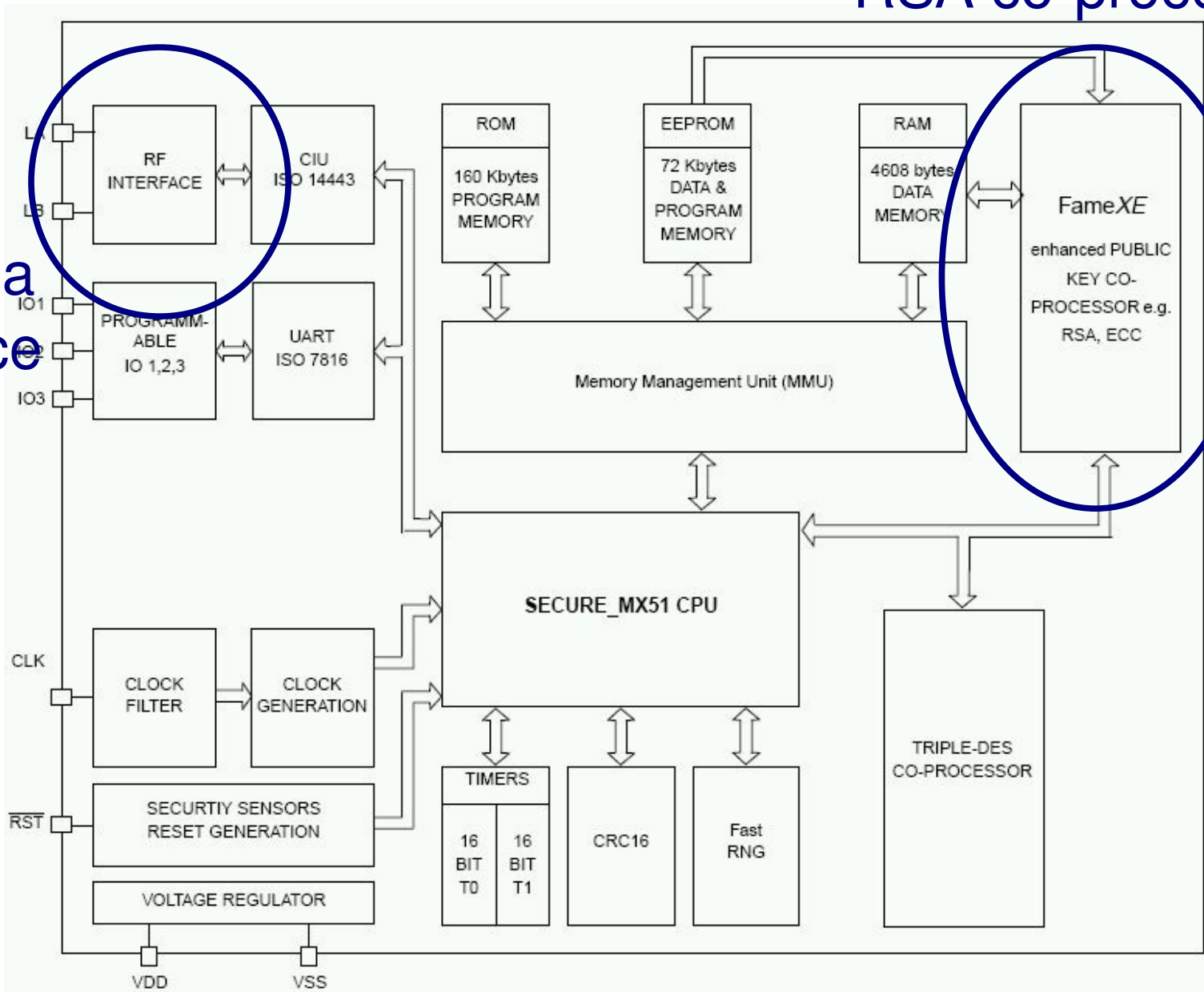
- 1: **T**: generate random 8-byte value  $V$
  - 2: **T** → **P**:  $V$
  - 3: **P**: generate random 106-byte value  $U$
  - 4: **P**: compute  $s = m^d \bmod N$ , where  $m = \text{"6A"} \parallel U \parallel w \parallel \text{"BC"}$ ,  $w = \text{SHA-1}(U \parallel V)$  and  $d$  is the passport's secret AA key securely stored in the protected memory
  - 5: **P** → **T**:  $s, U$
  - 6: **T**: verify  $m = s^e \bmod N$ , where  $e$  is the passport's public key stored in publicly accessible part of passport memory
- 

chosen jointly

# Electronic Passport II.

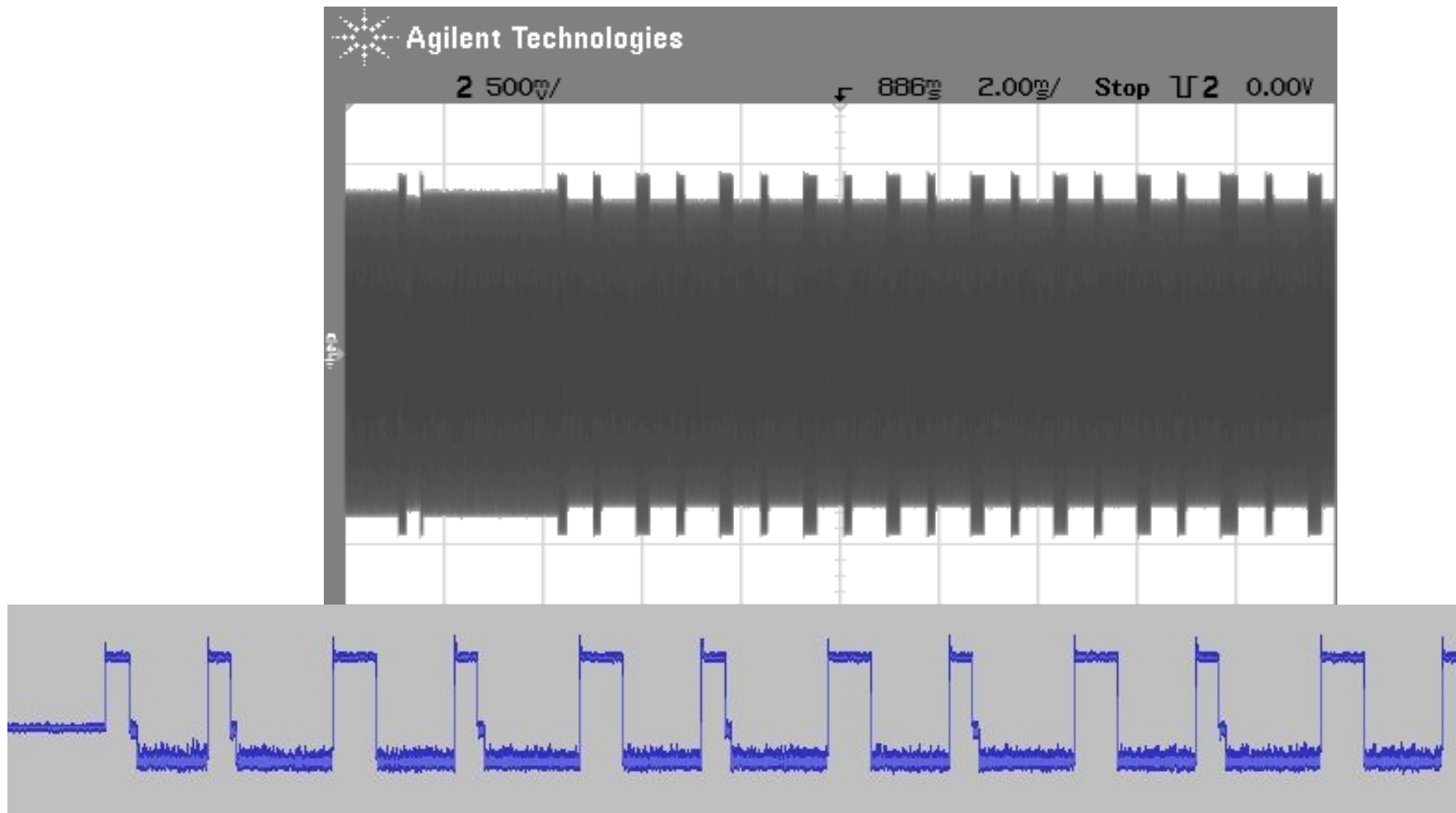
## FameXE RSA co-processor

antenna  
interface



# FameXP exposure in EM field

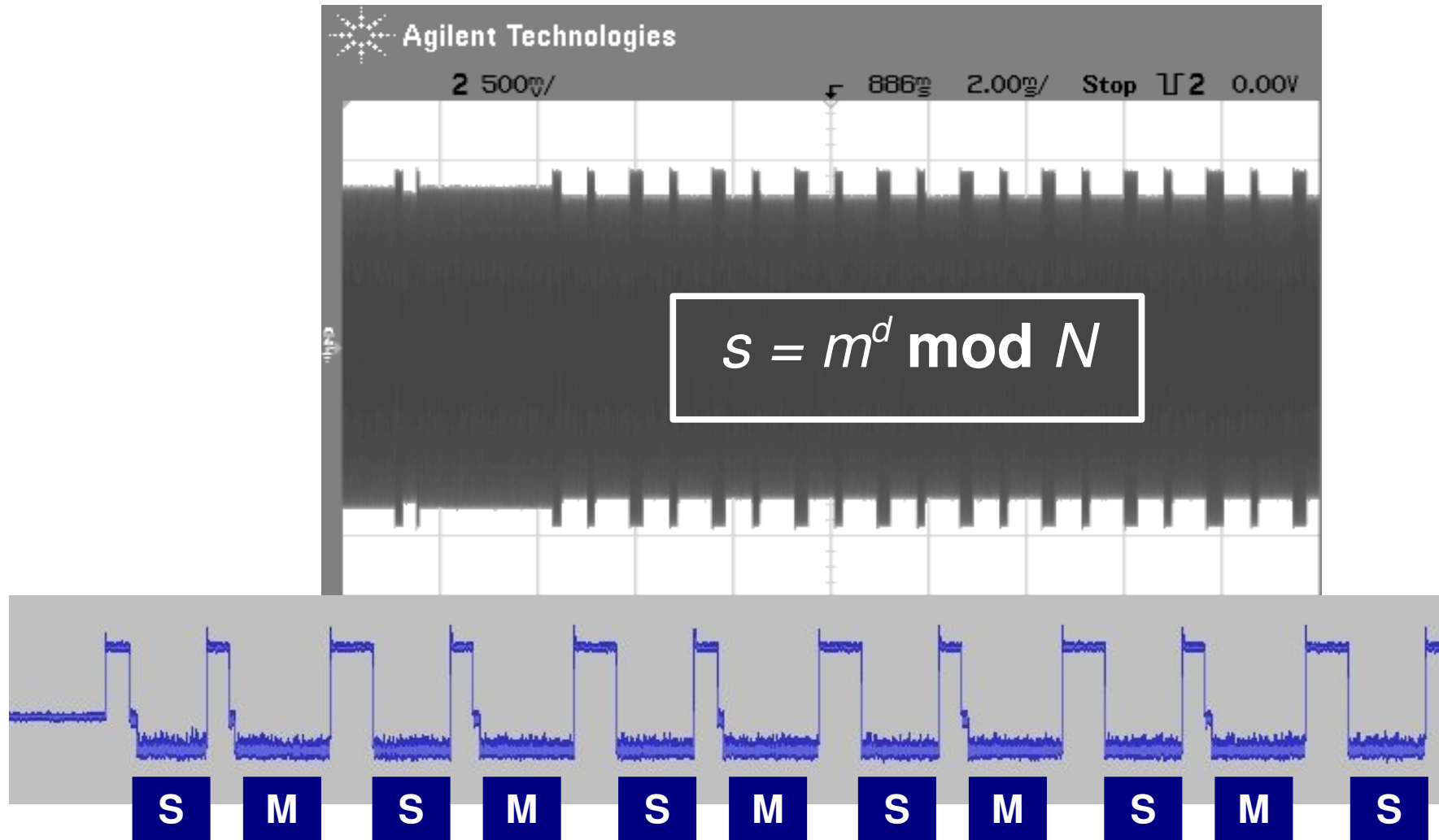
- Sensitive operation should **not** be visible



Measurements by doc. Lórencz's team, FEL CTU in Prague, april 2007

# FameXP exposure in EM field

- Sensitive operation should **not** be visible



Measurements by doc. Lórencz's team, FEL CTU in Prague, april 2007

# RSA with Chinese Remainder Theorem

- Private RSA operation  $m^d \bmod N$  is computed using CRT as follows

$$s_p = (m_p)^{d_p} \bmod p$$

$$s_q = (m_q)^{d_q} \bmod q$$

$$s = ((s_q - s_p) p_{inv} \bmod q) p + s_p$$

- Faster than simple exponentiation
- Use of secret  $p, q$  make CRT vulnerable



# RSA with Chinese Remainder Theorem

- Private RSA operation  $m^d \bmod N$  is computed using CRT as follows

$$s_p = (m_p)^{d_p} \bmod p$$

$$s_q = (m_q)^{d_q} \bmod q$$

$$s = ((s_q - s_p) p_{inv} \bmod q) p + s_p$$

- Faster than simple exponentiation
- Use of secret  $p, q$  make CRT vulnerable

Assumption n. 1:  
RSA blinding is NOT employed.  
(Time consuming.)

# Montgomery exponentiation

---

**Algorithm 3** Montgomery exponentiation  $expmont()$

---

**Input:**  $m, p, d (= (d_{n-1}e_{d-2} \dots d_1d_0)_2)$

**Output:**  $x = m^d \bmod p$

```
1:  $u \leftarrow mR \bmod p$ 
2:  $z \leftarrow u$ 
3: for  $i \leftarrow n - 2$  to 0
4:    $z \leftarrow mont(z, z, p)$ 
5:   if  $d_i == 1$  then
6:      $z \leftarrow mont(z, u, p)$ 
7:   else
8:      $z' \leftarrow mont(z, u, p)$ 
9:   endfor
10:  $z \leftarrow mont(z, 1, p)$ 
11: return  $z$ 
```

---

- mod&div  $R=2^{512}$
- fast

---

**Algorithm 2** Montgomery multiplication  $mont()$

---

**Input:**  $x, y \in Z_p$

**Output:**  $w = xyR^{-1} \bmod p$

```
1:  $s \leftarrow xy$ 
2:  $t \leftarrow s(-p^{-1}) \bmod R$ 
3:  $g \leftarrow s + tp$ 
4:  $w \leftarrow g/R$ 
5: if  $w > p$  then
6:    $w \leftarrow w - p$  (final subtraction)
7: return  $w$ 
```

---

# Montgomery exponentiation

---

**Algorithm 3** Montgomery exponentiation  $expmont()$

---

**Input:**  $m, p, d (= (d_{n-1}e_{d-2} \dots d_1d_0)_2)$

**Output:**  $x = m^d \bmod p$

```
1:  $u \leftarrow mR \bmod p$ 
2:  $z \leftarrow u$ 
3: for  $i \leftarrow n - 2$  to 0
4:    $z \leftarrow mont(z, z, p)$ 
5:   if  $d_i == 1$  then
6:      $z \leftarrow mont(z, u, p)$ 
7:   else
8:      $z' \leftarrow mont(z, u, p)$ 
9:   endfor
10:  $z \leftarrow mont(z, 1, p)$ 
11: return  $z$ 
```

Assumption n. 2:  
No constant-time  
multiplication is used.

- mod&div  $R=2^{512}$
- fast

---

**Algorithm 2** Montgomery multiplication  $mont()$

---

**Input:**  $x, y \in Z_p$

**Output:**  $w = xyR^{-1} \bmod p$

```
1:  $s \leftarrow xy$ 
2:  $t \leftarrow s(-p^{-1}) \bmod R$ 
3:  $g \leftarrow s + tp$ 
4:  $w \leftarrow g/R$ 
5: if  $w > p$  then
6:    $w \leftarrow w - p$  (final subtraction)
7: return  $w$ 
```

# Montgomery exponentiation

---

**Algorithm 3** Montgomery exponentiation  $expmont()$

---

**Input:**  $m, p, d (= (d_{n-1}e_{d-2} \dots d_1d_0)_2)$

**Output:**  $x = m^d \bmod p$

```
1:  $u \leftarrow mR \bmod p$ 
2:  $z \leftarrow u$ 
3: for  $i \leftarrow n - 2$  to 0
4:    $z \leftarrow mont(z, z, p)$ 
5:   if  $d_i == 1$  then
6:      $z \leftarrow mont(z, u, p)$ 
7:   else
8:      $z' \leftarrow mont(z, u, p)$ 
9:   endfor
10:  $z \leftarrow mont(z, 1, p)$ 
11: return  $z$ 
```

Assumption n. 2:  
No constant-time  
multiplication is used.

- mod&div  $R=2^{512}$
- fast

See remarks  
on slide 5.

---

**Algorithm 2** (Montgomery multiplication  $mont()$ )

---

**Input:**  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_p$

**Output:**  $w = xyR^{-1} \bmod p$

```
1:  $s \leftarrow xy$ 
2:  $t \leftarrow s(-p^{-1}) \bmod R$ 
3:  $g \leftarrow s + tp$ 
4:  $w \leftarrow g/R$ 
5: if  $w > p$  then
6:    $w \leftarrow w - p$  (final subtraction)
7: return  $w$ 
```

# Schindler's Timing Attack

- With  $x$  fixed and  $B$  random in  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ , the probability final subtraction occurs during  $\text{mont}(x, B)$  is

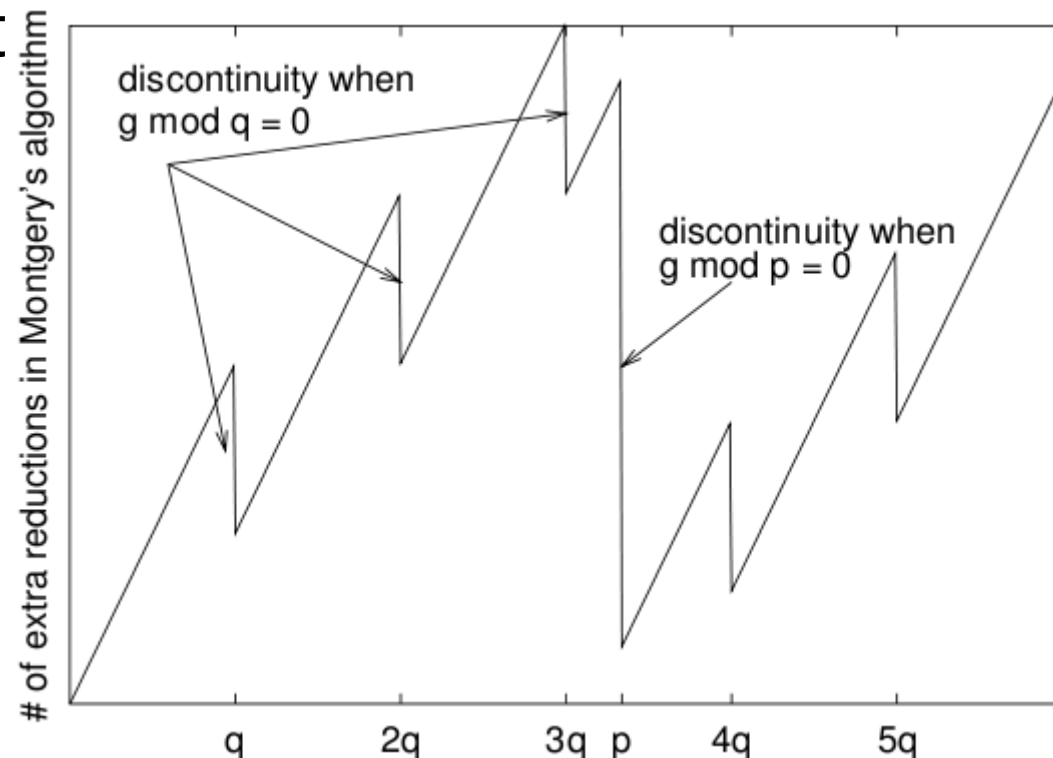
$$\frac{x \bmod p}{2R}$$

# Schindler's Timing Attack

- With  $x$  fixed and  $B$  random in  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ , the probability final subtraction occurs during  $\text{mont}(x, B)$  is

$$\frac{x \bmod p}{2R}$$

- Careful choice of plaintext allows **timing** ACPA.



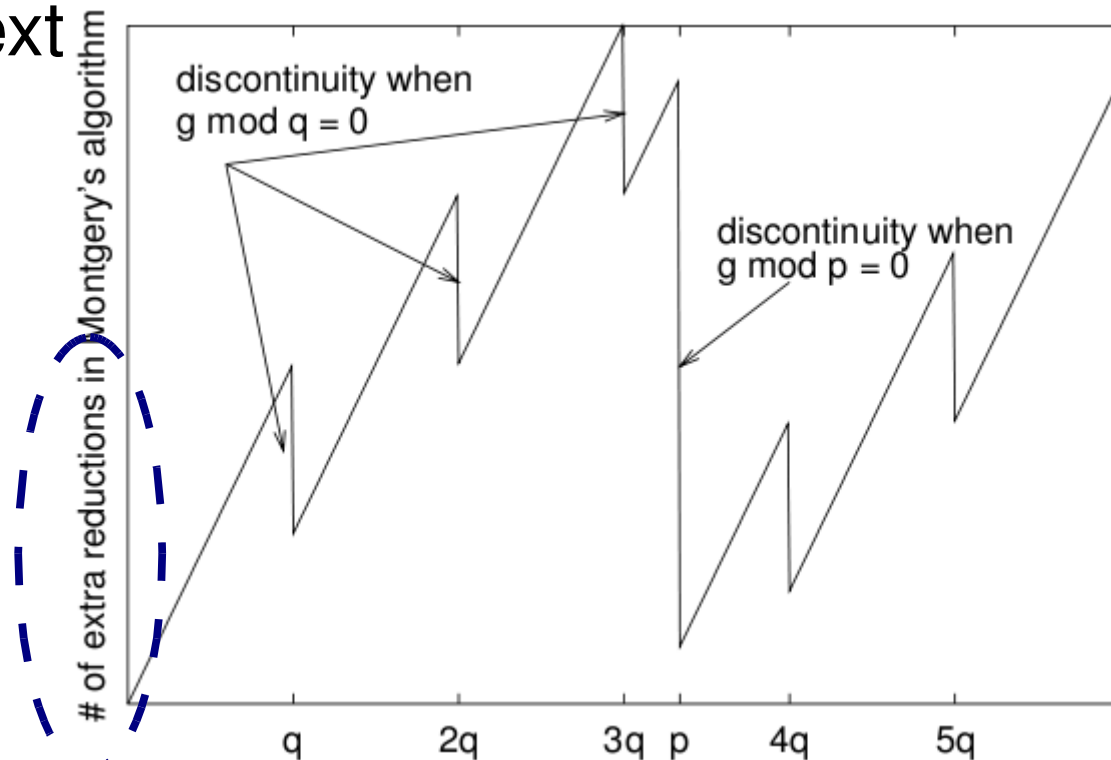
# Schindler's Timing Attack

- With  $x$  fixed and  $B$  random in  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ , the probability final subtraction occurs during  $\text{mont}(x, B)$  is

$$\frac{x \bmod p}{2R}$$

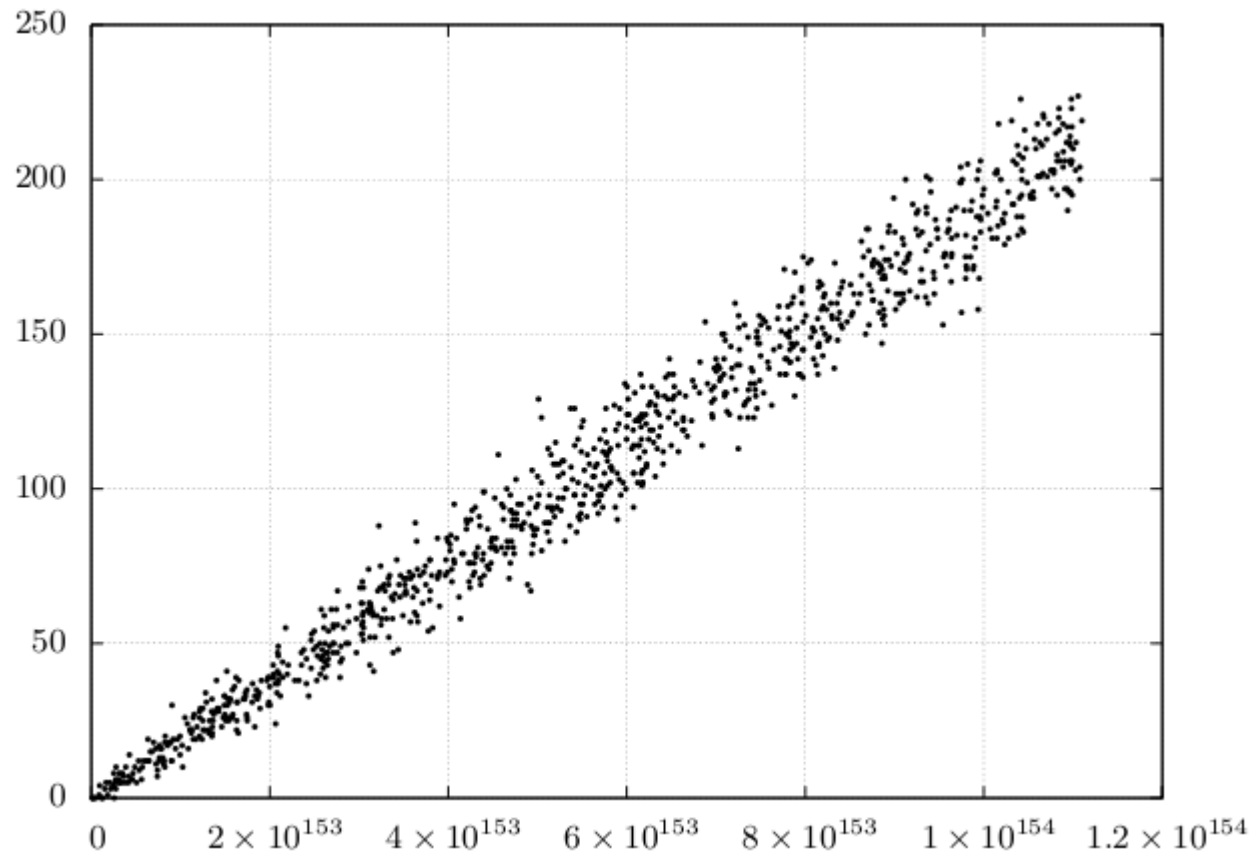
- Careful choice of plaintext allows **timing** ACPA.

Assumption n. 3:  
Amount of final  
subtractions is revealed.



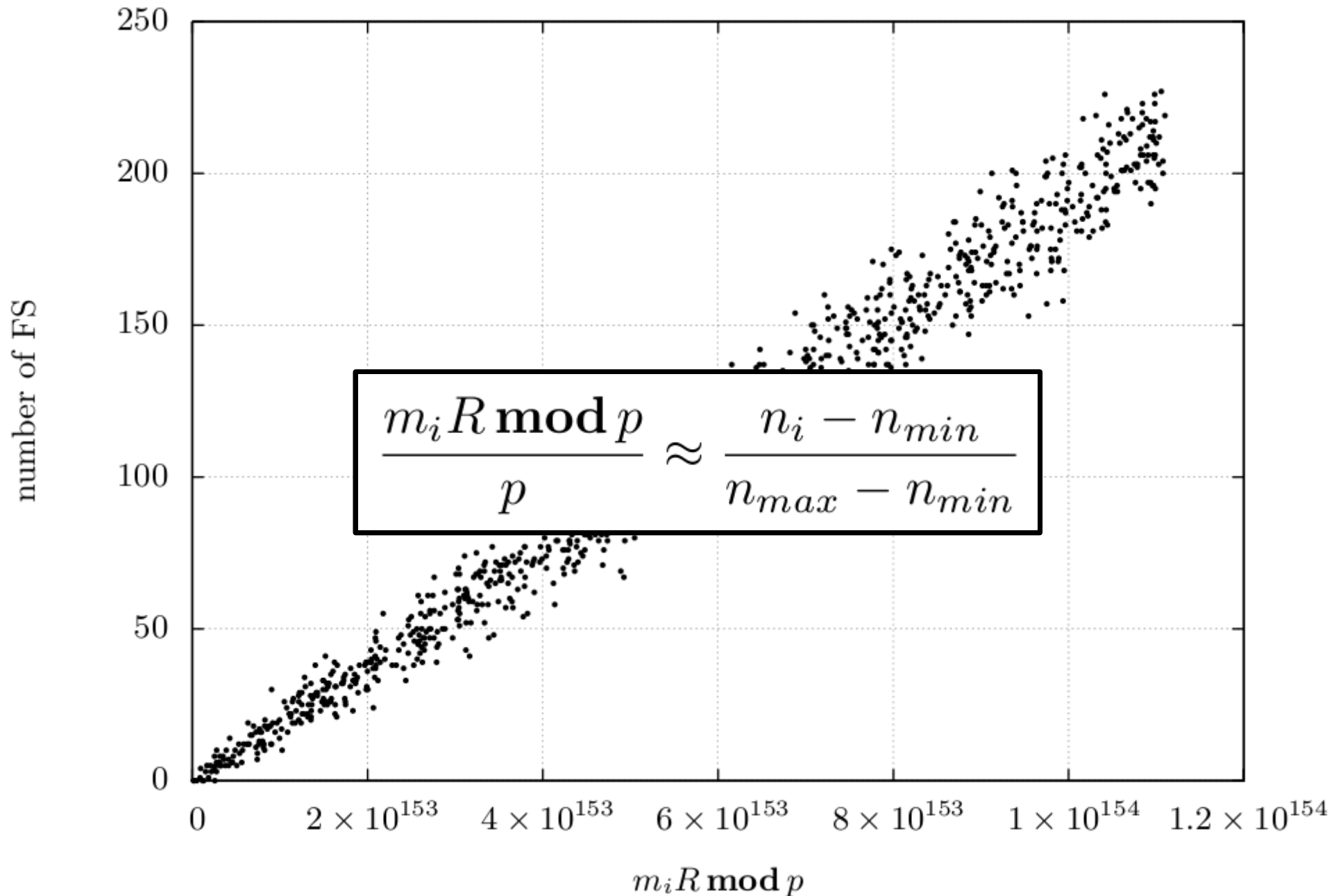
# CPA attack by Tomoeda et al.

- Tomoeda et al. observed “almost linear” modular relation between
  - (function of) **unknown** factor  $p$ , and
  - **known** amount of final substitutions





# CPA attack by Tomoeda et al. II.



## New attack – Basic Idea

$$\frac{m_i R \bmod p}{p} \approx \frac{n_i - n_{min}}{n_{max} - n_{min}}$$

## New attack – Basic Idea

$$\frac{m_i R \bmod p}{p} \approx \frac{n_i - n_{\min}}{n_{\max} - n_{\min}}$$

- Multiply by  $N$

$$m_i Rq - k_i N \approx \frac{n_i - n_{\min}}{n_{\max} - n_{\min}} N$$

## New attack – Basic Idea

$$\frac{m_i R \bmod p}{p} \approx \frac{n_i - n_{\min}}{n_{\max} - n_{\min}}$$

- Multiply by  $N$

$$m_i R q - k_i N \approx \frac{n_i - n_{\min}}{n_{\max} - n_{\min}} N$$

- Substitute

$$t_i = m_i R \bmod N$$

$$u_i = \frac{n_i - n_{\min}}{n_{\max} - n_{\min}} N$$

$$|t_i q - u_i|_N \leq \frac{N}{2} 2^{-l_i}$$

# New attack – Basic Idea

$$\frac{m_i R \bmod p}{p} \approx \frac{n_i - n_{\min}}{n_{\max} - n_{\min}}$$

- Multiply by  $N$

$$m_i R q - k_i N \approx \frac{n_i - n_{\min}}{n_{\max} - n_{\min}} N$$

- Substitute

$$t_i = m_i R \bmod N$$

$$u_i = \frac{n_i - n_{\min}}{n_{\max} - n_{\min}} N$$

$$|t_i q - u_i|_N \leq \frac{N}{2} 2^{-l_i}$$

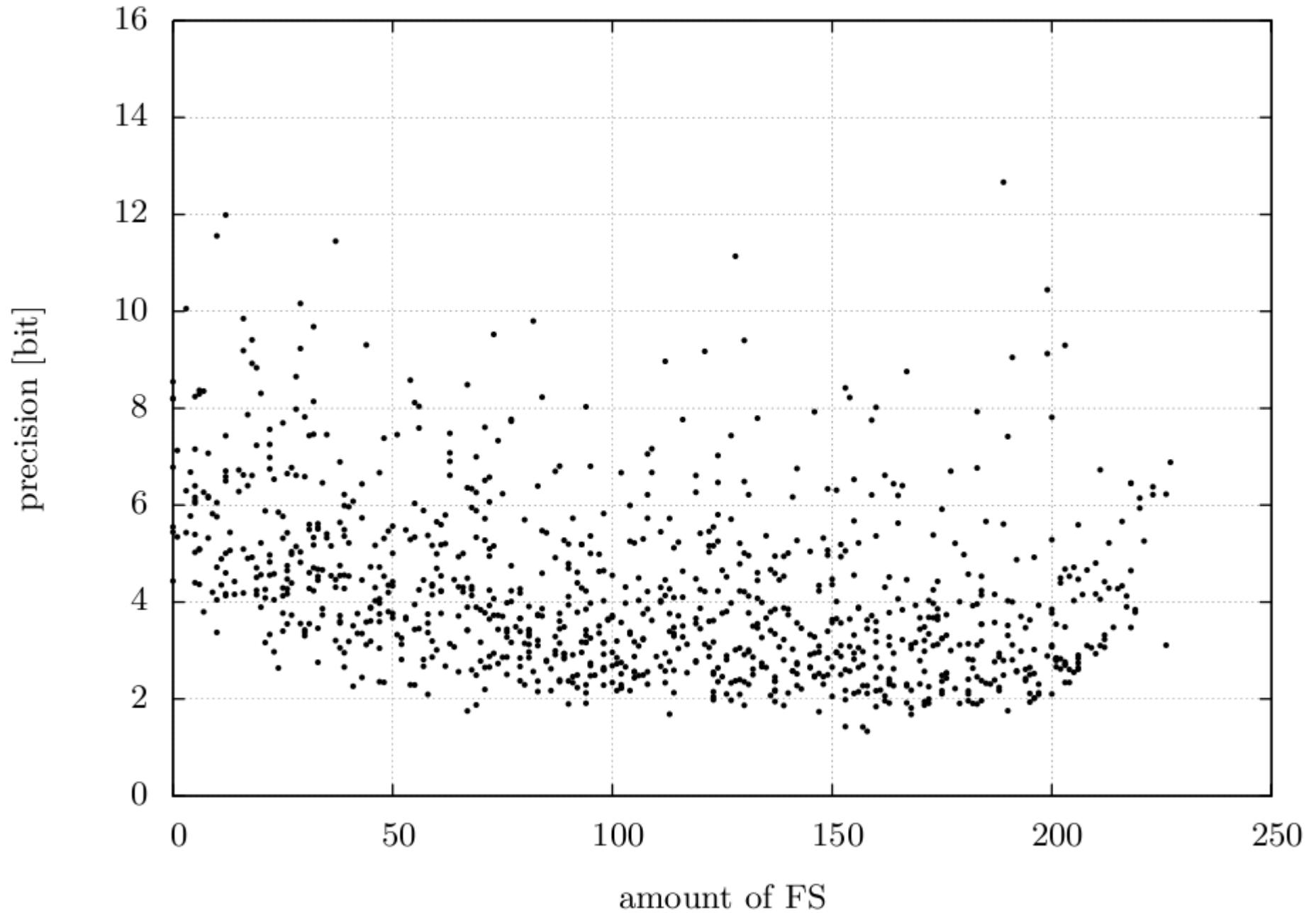
- use Hidden Number Problem

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} N & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & N & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & N & 0 \\ t_0 & \cdots & \cdots & t_{k-1} & N^{\frac{1}{2}}/2^{l+1} \end{pmatrix}$$

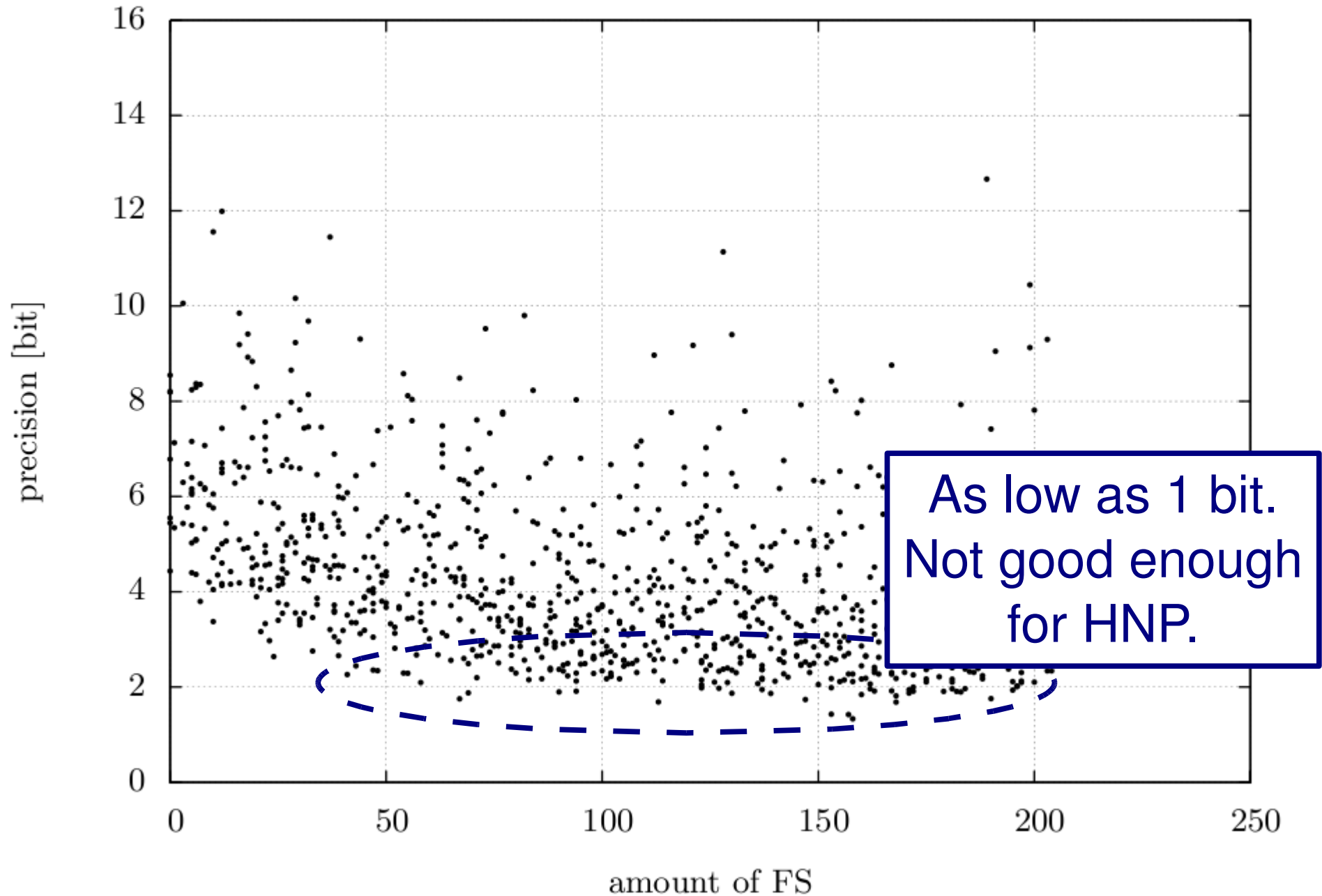
# Precision of approximations

- How good is “ $\approx$ ” in  $\frac{m_i R \bmod p}{p} \approx \frac{n_i - n_{min}}{n_{max} - n_{min}}$  ?
- one-time pre-computation with
  - $2^{12}$  RSA instances
  - $2^{12}$  signatures per instance
- $n$  bit precision if difference below  $2^{-n}$

# Precision of approximations II.

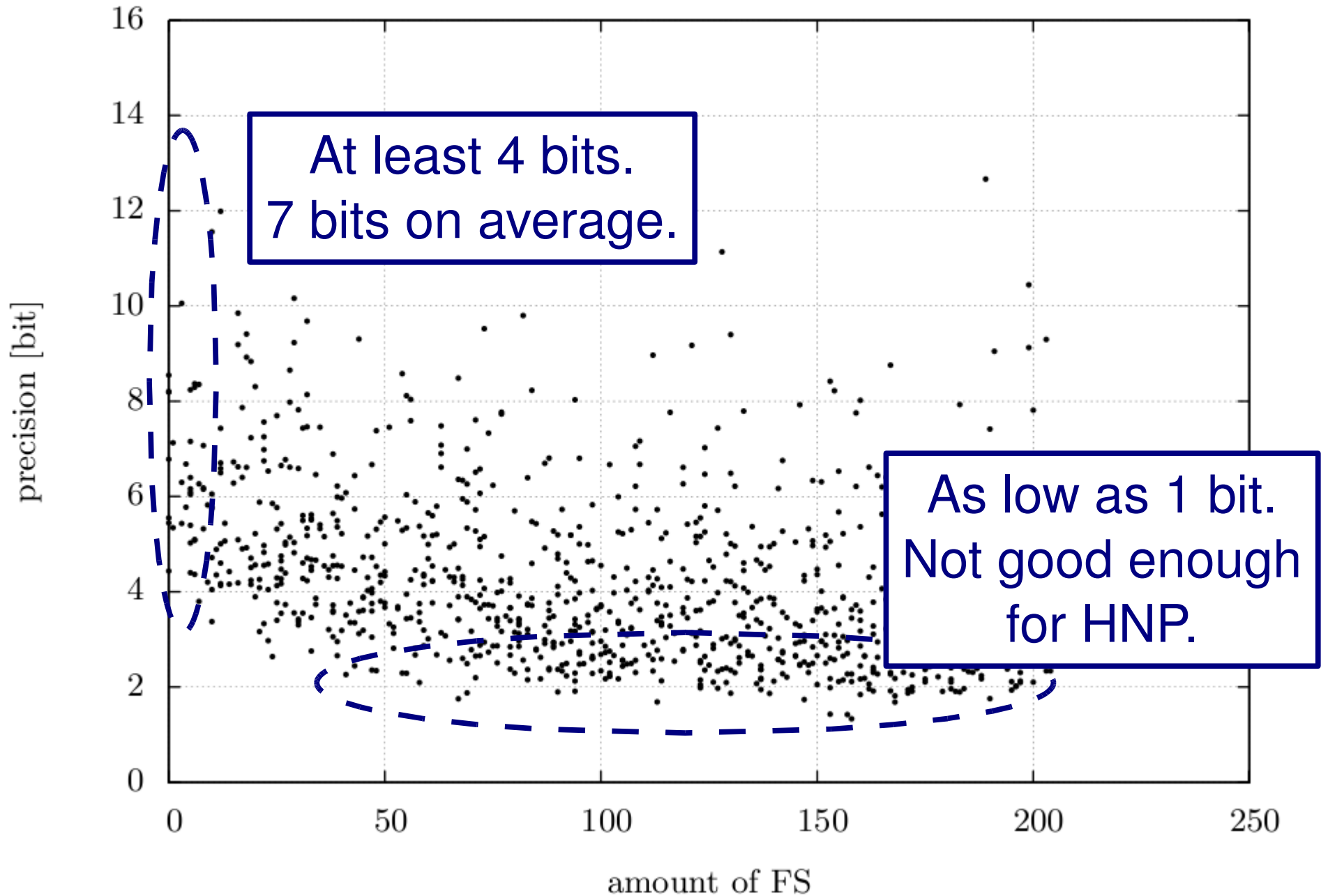


# Precision of approximations II.





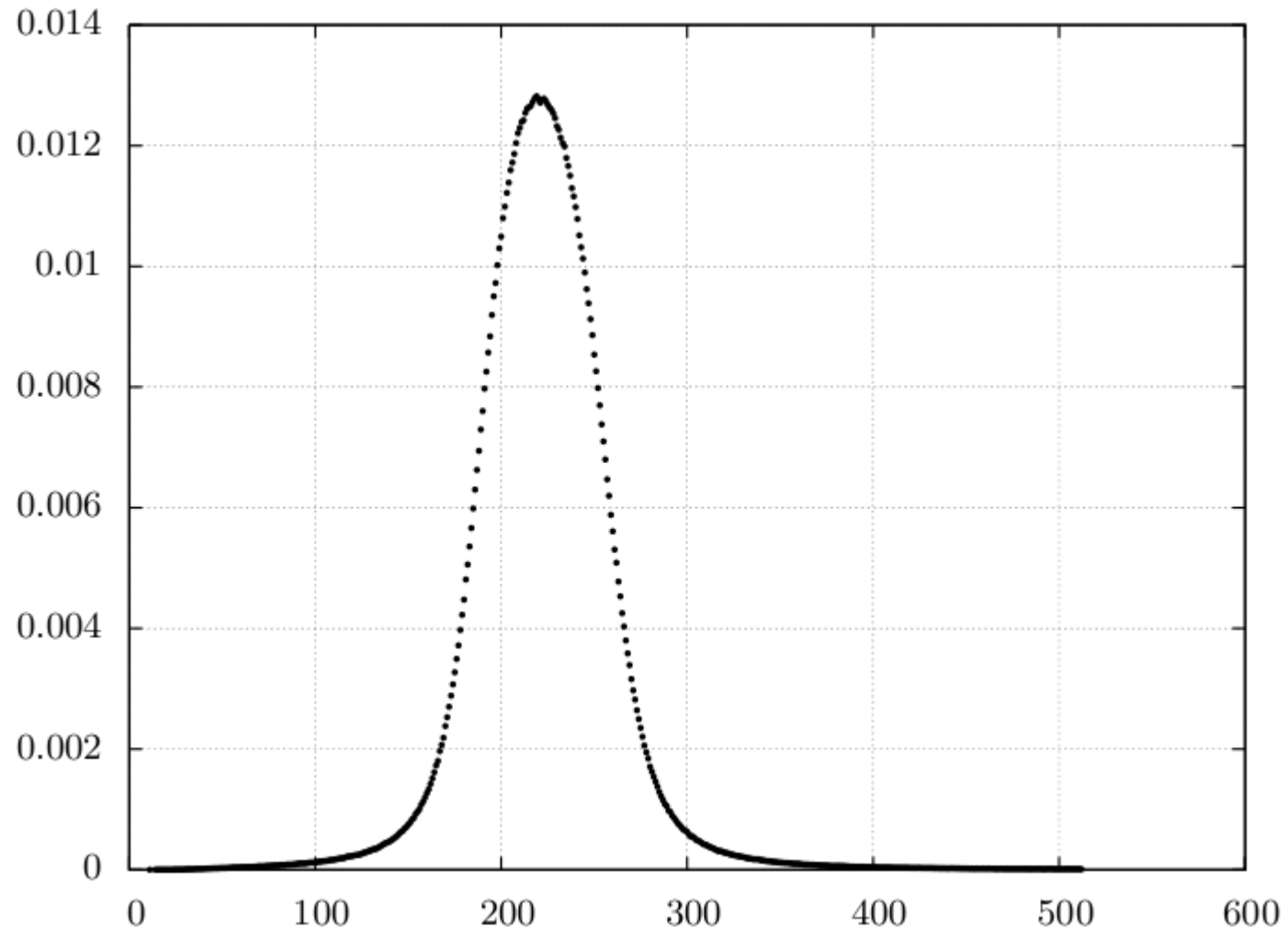
# Precision of approximations II.



## Tweaking $n_{max}$

$$\frac{m_i R \bmod p}{p} \approx \frac{n_i - n_{min}}{n_{max} - n_{min}}$$

- Instead of using max. number of FS, precompute ideal value



- Increases minimal precision by 1 bit

# Hidden Number Problem

- Classical tool to solve modular approximations for  $x$

$$|t_i x - u_i|_N < \frac{N}{2^{l+1}}$$

- Create lattice spanned by

$$\begin{pmatrix} N & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & N & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & N & 0 \\ t_0 & \cdots & \cdots & t_{k-1} & N^{\frac{1}{2}}/2^{l+1} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Find lattice vector close to  $(u_0, \dots, u_{k-1}, 0)$
- Hope it is  $\left(t_0 x - \alpha_0 N, \dots, t_{k-1} x - \alpha_{k-1} N, \frac{x N^{\frac{1}{2}}}{2^{l+1}}\right)$

# Experiments

- 5 RSA instances
- Simulated side information leakage
- 150 signatures filtered from app. 7000
  - Up to 4 final subtractions taken into account
- Minimal precision presumed from 3.5 to 8.5 bits
- Factorization found in 40 minutes for each instance
- Computing platform
  - 20x Opteron 844 (1.8 GHz)
  - Debian 64bit
  - NTL/GMP

# Future work

- Is SCH information available in ePassport scenario?
- Other scenarios?
- Extend to pure timing attack
- Improve attack
  - Other tweaks to increase precision
  - Handle RSA blinding
- Provide proof and limits when attack works
  - probability
  - Time complexity

# Conclusion

- New attack on RSA-CRT with Mont. Multiplication
- Known plaintext only (previous attacks were CCA)
- Another use of lattices and LLL algorithm
- If assumptions are true, active authentication can be broken, i.e. e-passport cloned
- Attack possible in other scenarios

# Conclusion

- New attack on RSA-CRT with Mont. Multiplication
- Known plaintext only (previous attacks were CCA)
- Another use of lattices and LLL algorithm
- If assumptions are true, active authentication can be broken, i.e. e-passport cloned
- Attack possible in other scenarios

See remarks  
on slide 5.

**Thank you for your attention! Questions?**

Martin Hlaváč

Department of Algebra  
Charles University in Prague

IT Security Department  
Czech Insurance Corporation