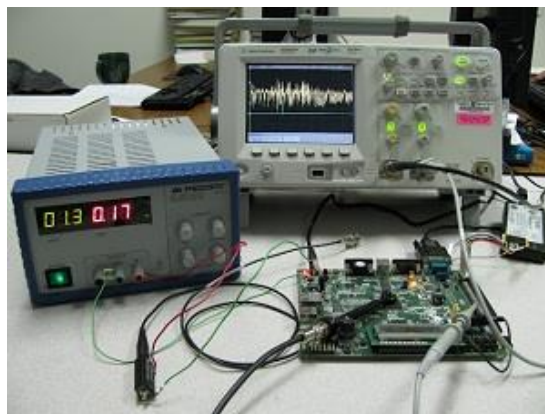


Evaluating and Designing Against Side-Channel Leakage: White Box or Black Box?



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IHMMSec 2021, Virtual

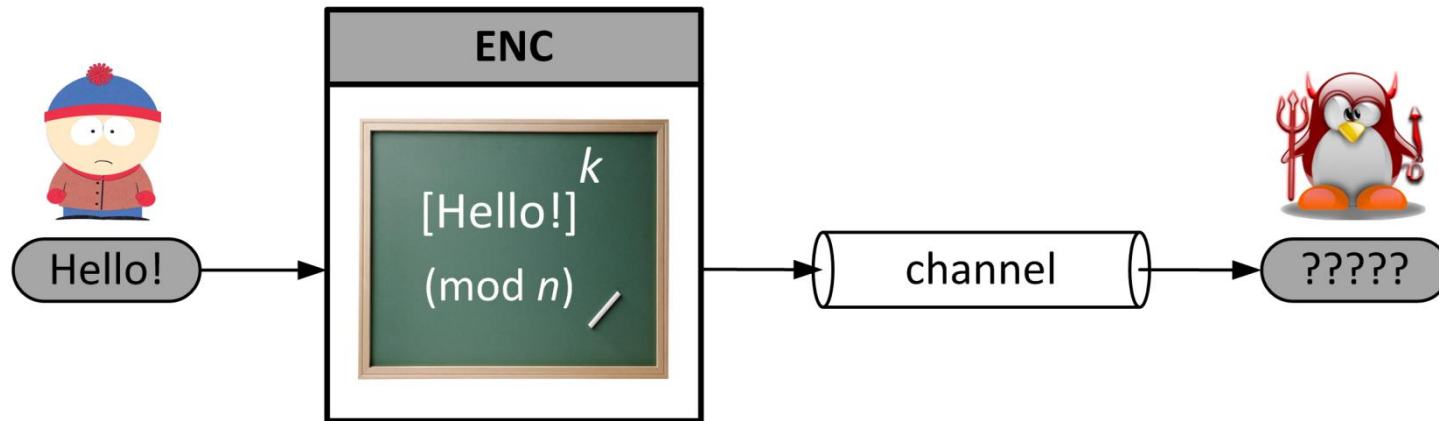
Outline

- Introduction to side-channel analysis
- Masking (aka secret sharing) countermeasure
- Leakage evaluation and certification
 - Problem statement & first approach
 - Bounding the Perceived Information
- Conclusions: white box design & evaluation

Outline

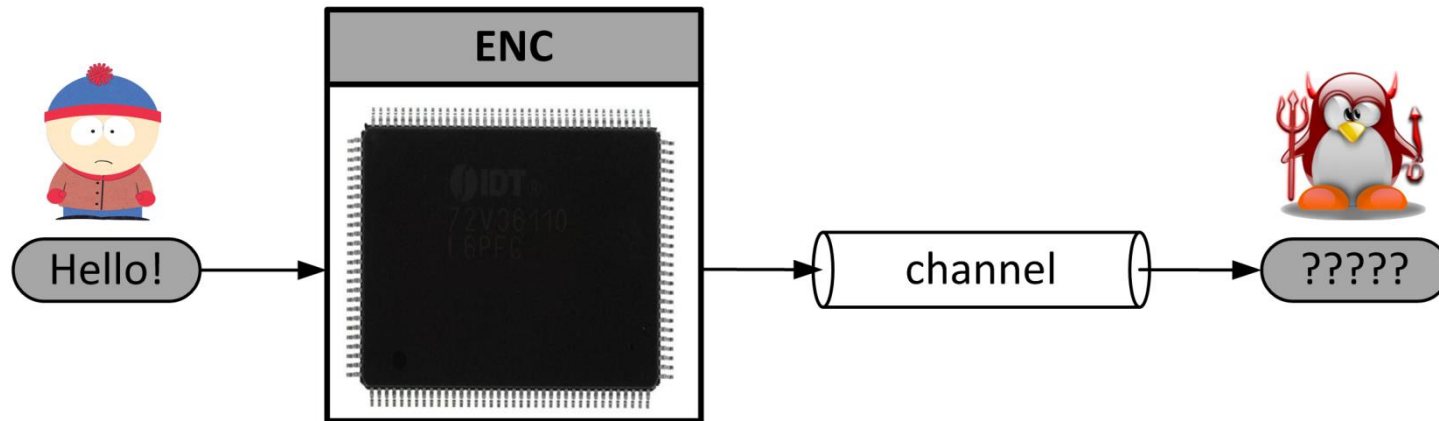
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- e.g. encryption:

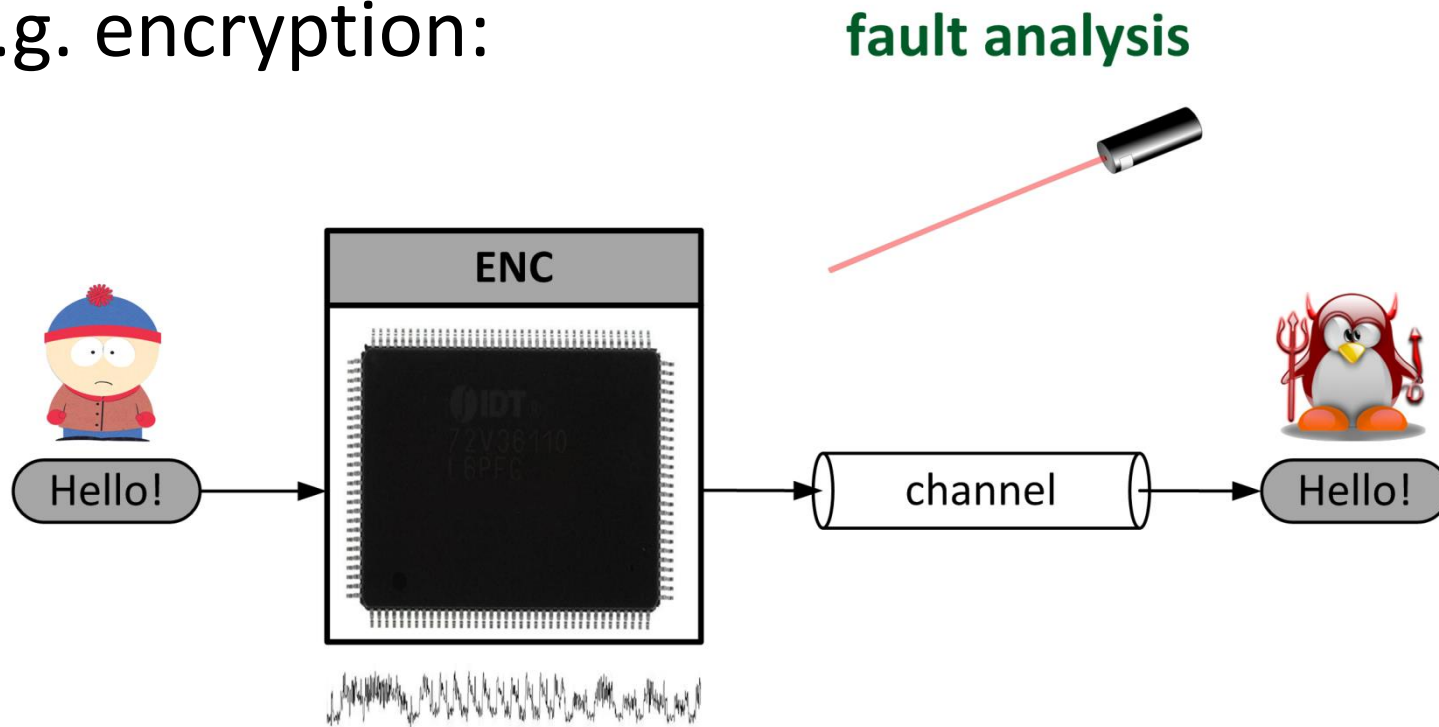


- Public algorithms and secret keys
 - Essential for both security and trust

- e.g. encryption:



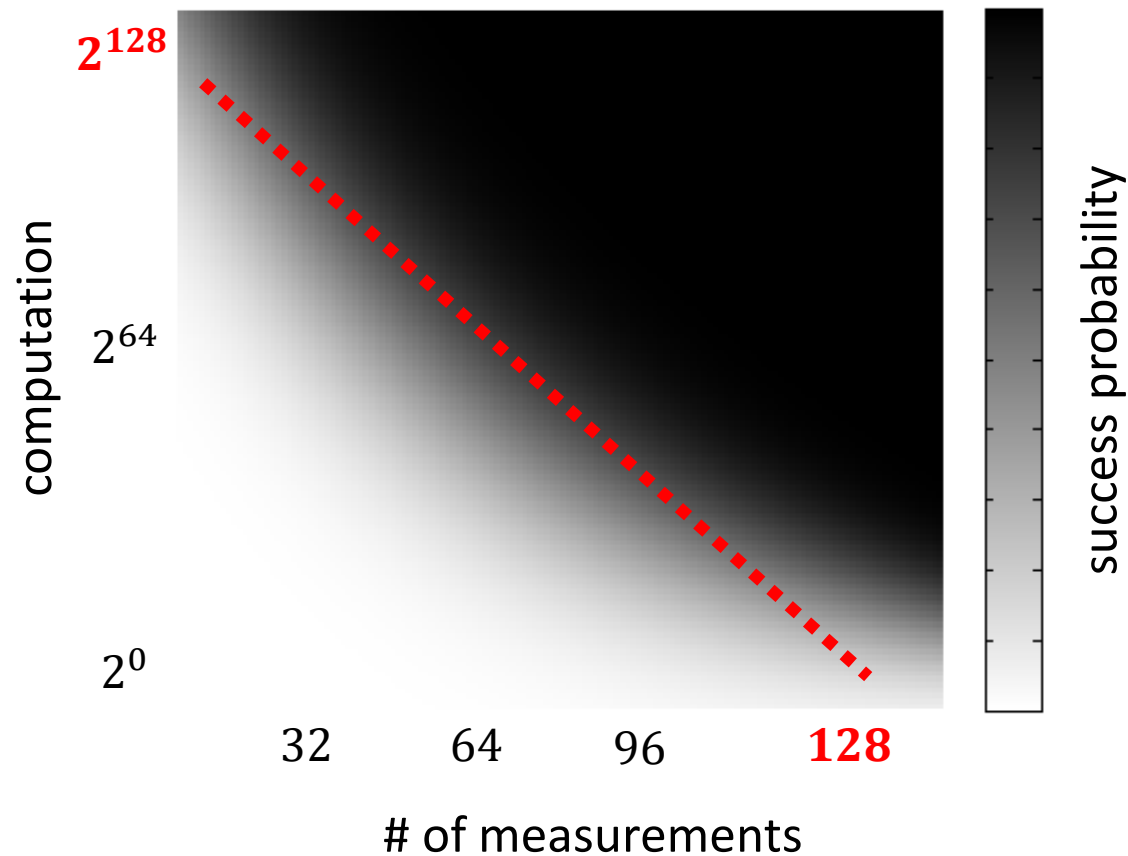
- e.g. encryption:



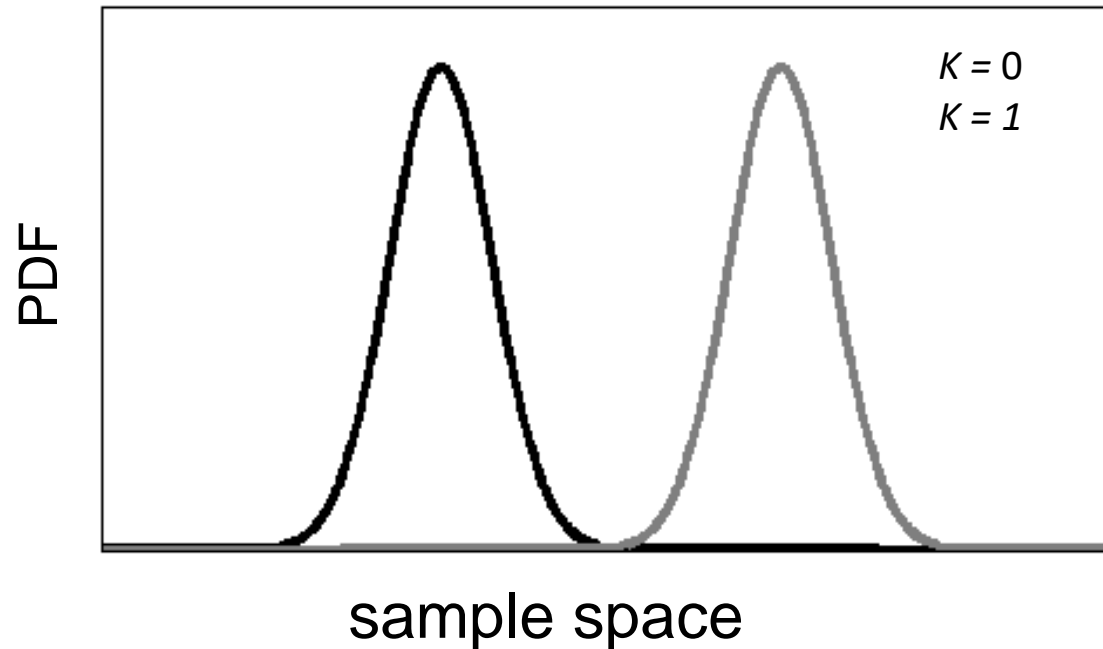
fault analysis



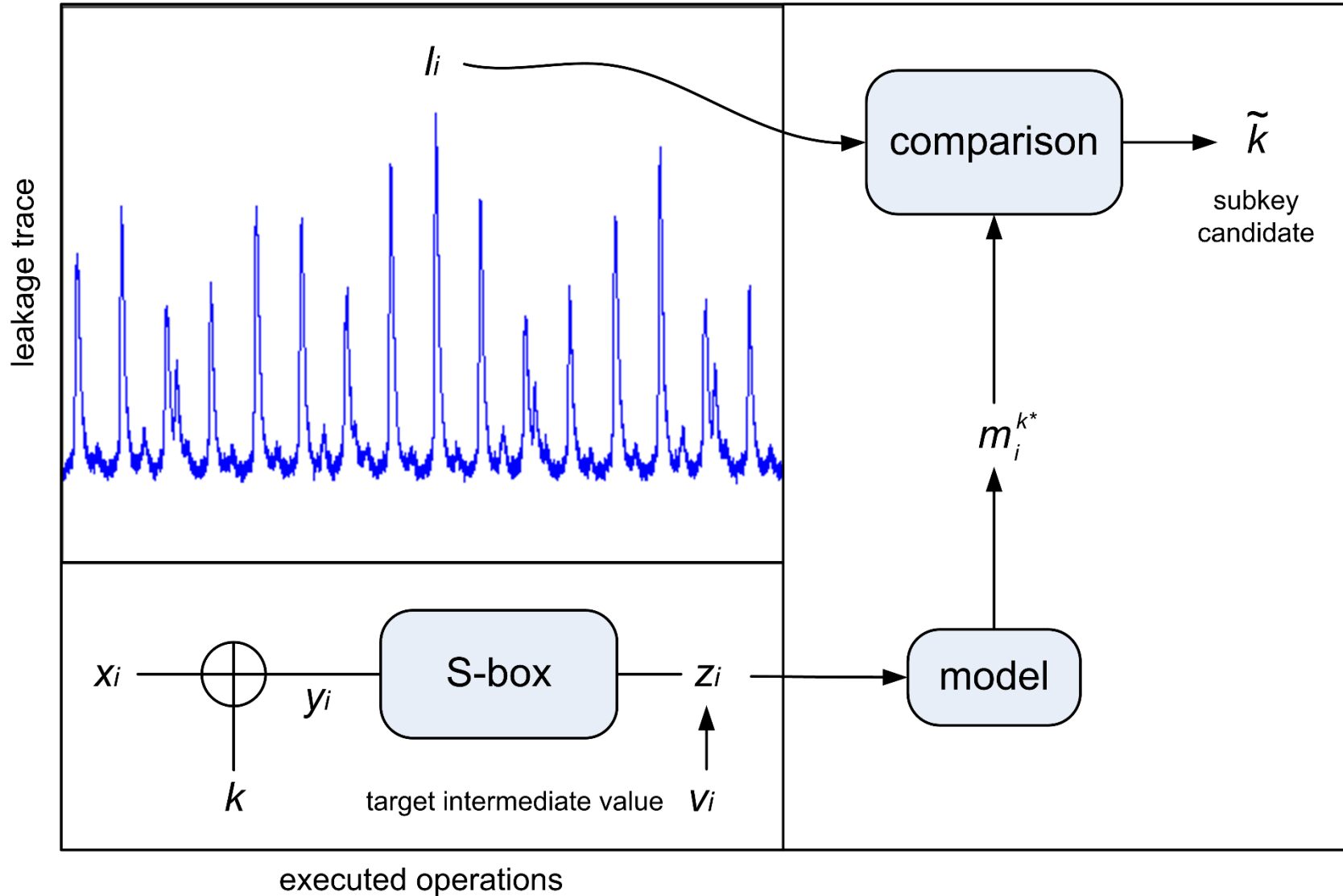
side-channel analysis

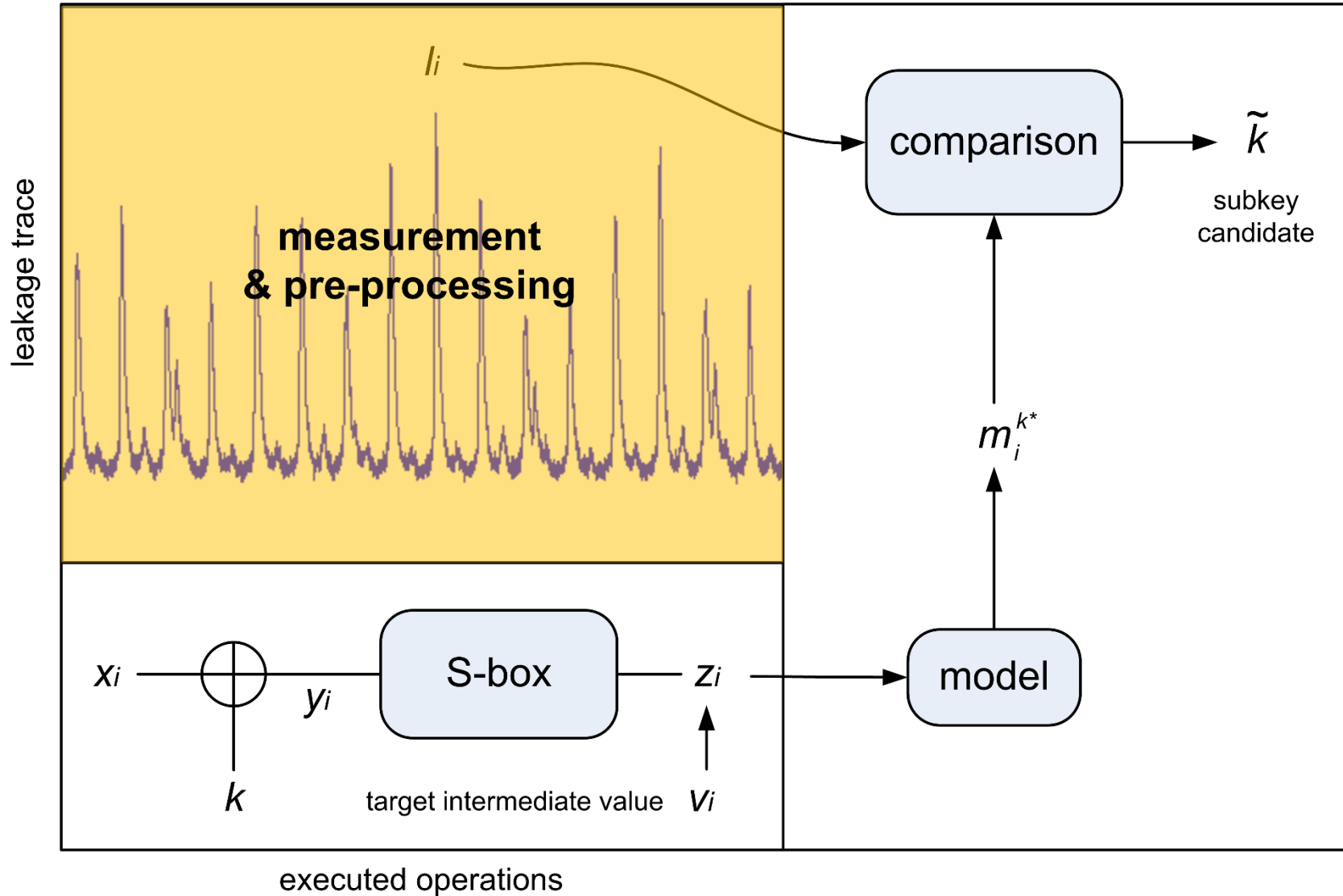


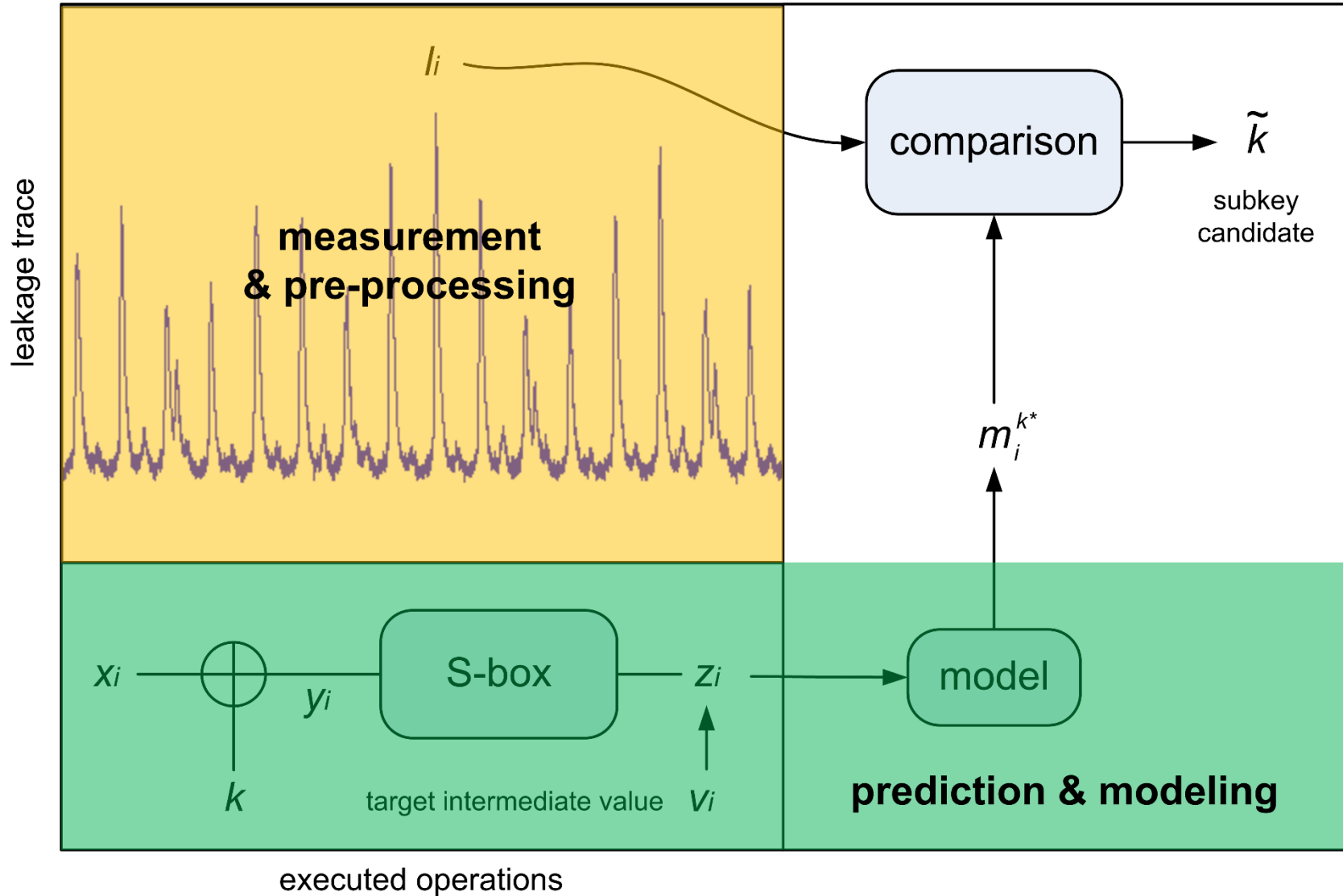
- \approx physical attacks that decrease security exponentially in the # of measurements

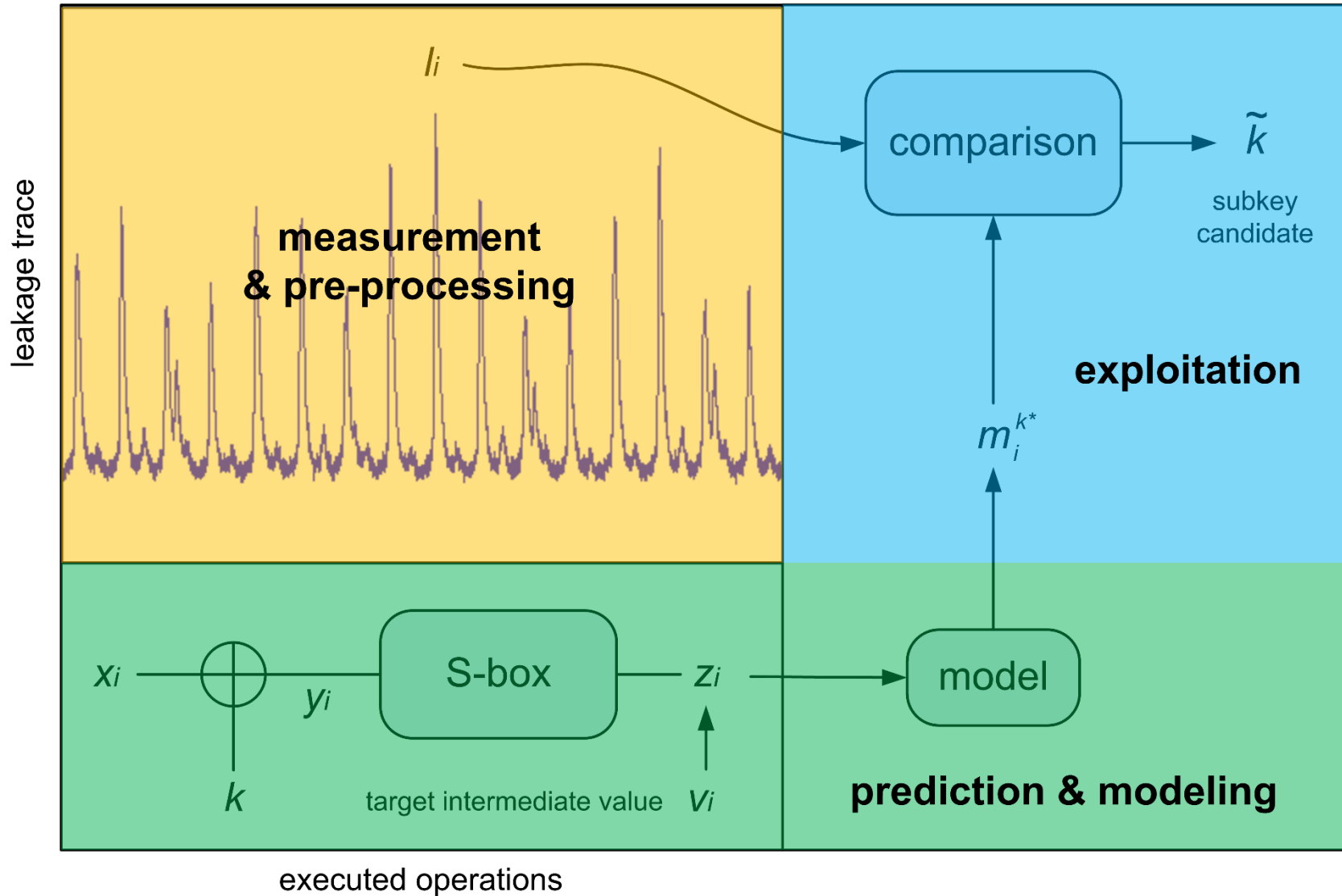


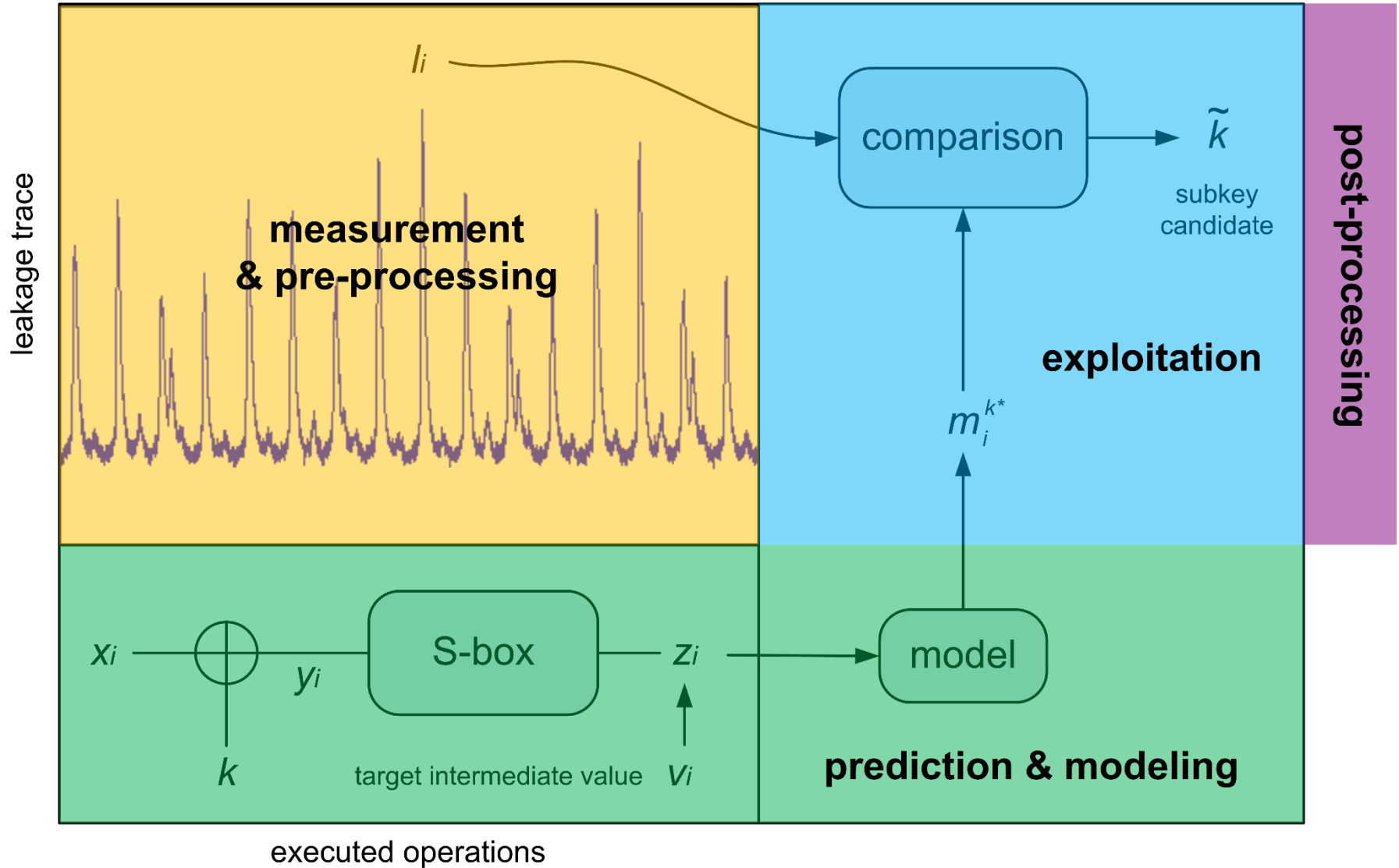
- ... & where each bit of secret is learned by distinguishing noisy (leakage) distributions





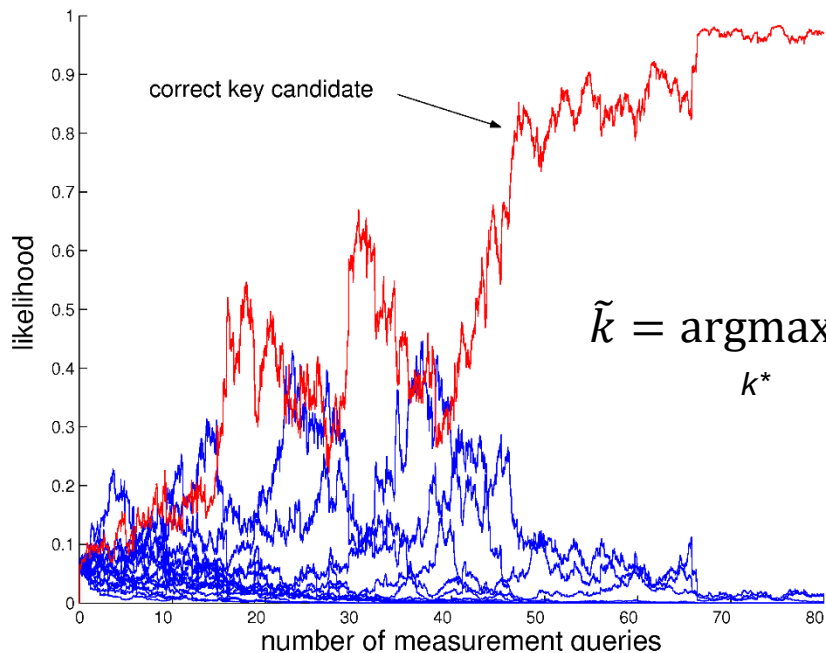






- General case: profiled DPA [CRR02]
 - Build “*templates*”, i.e. $\hat{f}(l_i | k, x_i)$
 - e.g. Gaussian, regression-based
 - Maximum likelihood attack

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 - Maximum likelihood attack



$$\tilde{k} = \operatorname{argmax}_{k^*} \prod_{i=1}^q \frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \cdot \pi \cdot \sigma(L)}} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{l_i - m_i^{k^*}}{\sigma(L)}\right)^2\right)$$

- Side-channel attacks are continuous
 - Better evaluated with information theoretic metrics that capture the attack data complexity

$$\text{SR} \leq 1 - (1 - \text{MI}(Y; \mathbf{L}_Y))^m$$

$$\Rightarrow \# \text{ of traces } m \text{ to reach } \text{SR} \approx 1 \propto \frac{c(n)}{\text{MI}(Y; \mathbf{L}_Y)}$$

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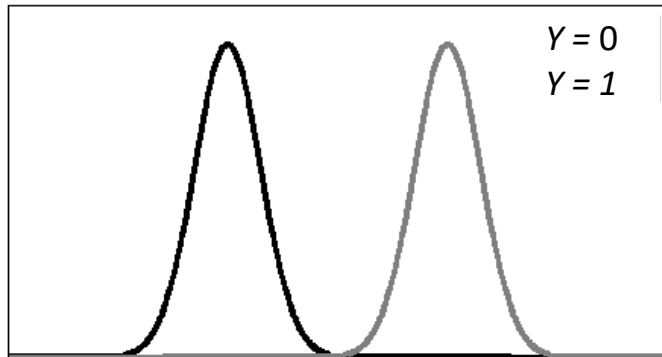
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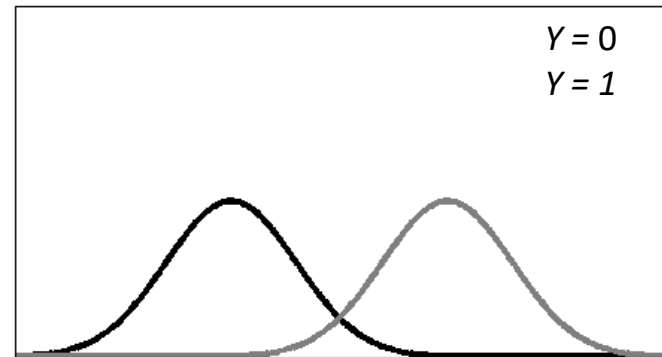
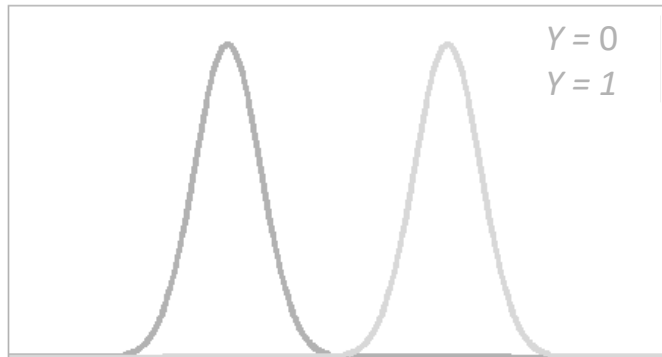
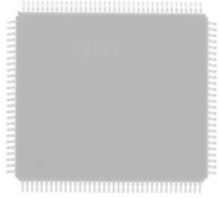
\Rightarrow # of traces m to reach $SR \approx 1 \propto \frac{c(n)}{MI(Y; L_Y)}$

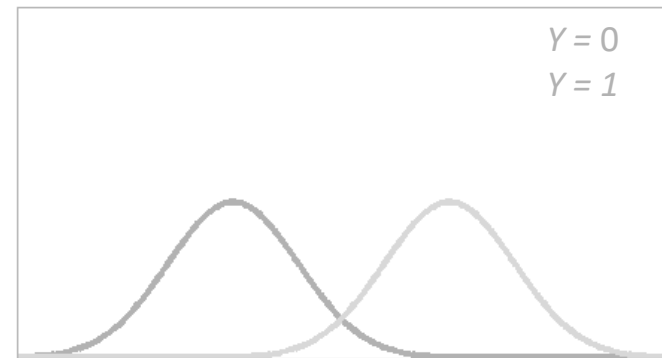
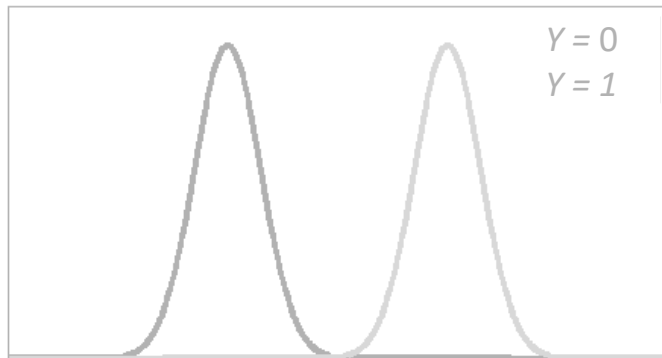
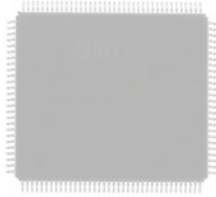
- Attacks target two secrets in parallel
 - The block cipher long-term key
 - The leakage model of the implementation
- \Rightarrow An optimal attack requires a perfect model

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- Additive noise \approx cost $\times 2 \Rightarrow$ security $\times 2$
 \Rightarrow not a good (crypto) security parameter
- \approx same holds for all hardware countermeasures

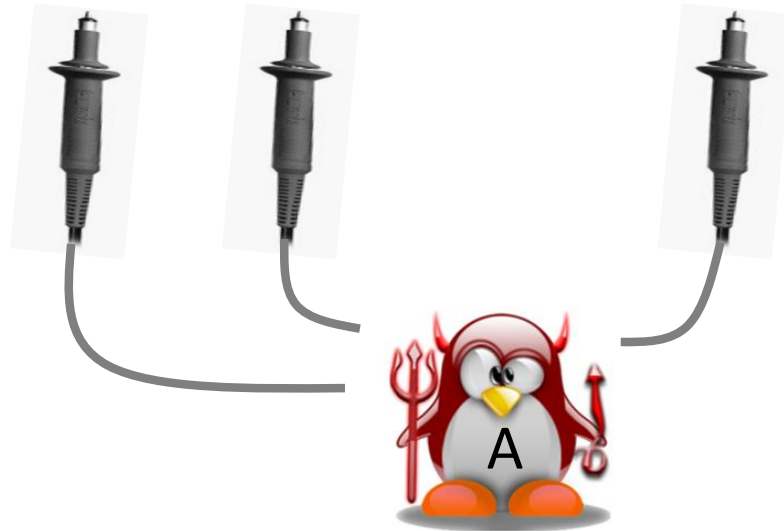
- Example: Boolean encoding

$$y = y_1 \oplus y_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus y_{d-1} \oplus y_d$$

- With $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{d-2}, y_{d-1} \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n$

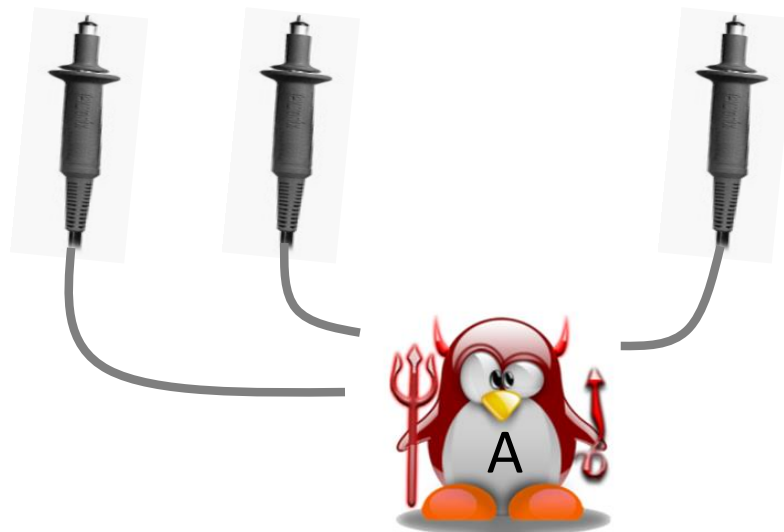
- Private circuits / probing security [ISW03]

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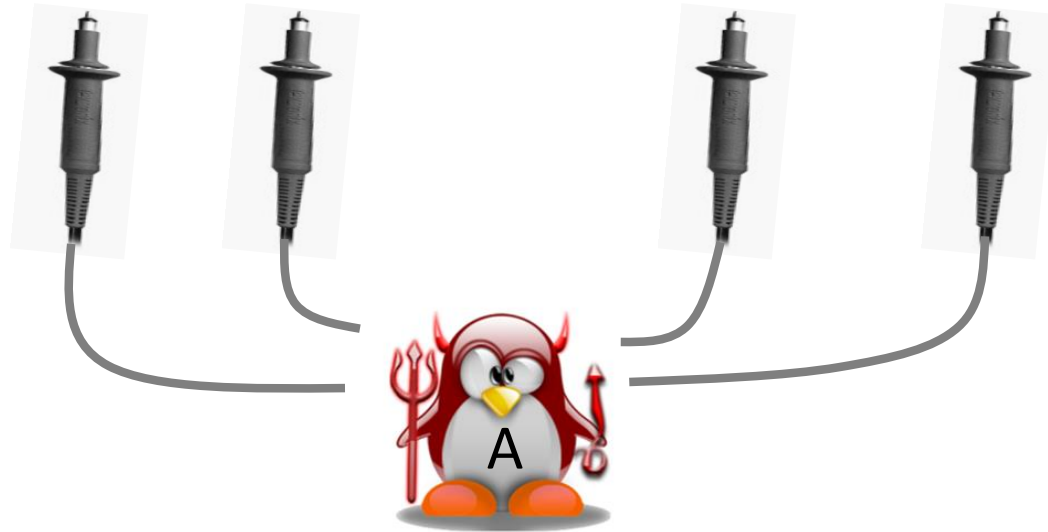
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- $d - 1$ probes do not reveal anything on y

- Private circuits / probing security [ISW03]

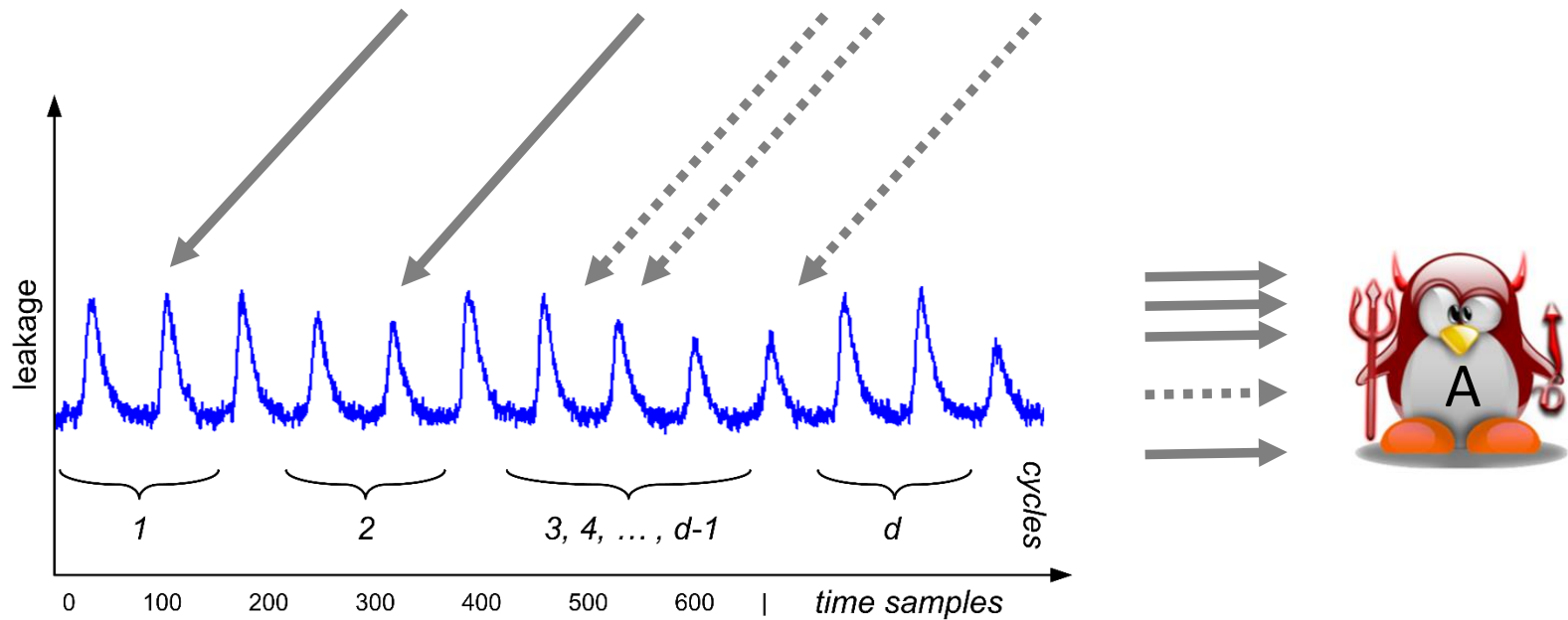
$$y = y_1 \oplus y_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus y_{d-1} \oplus y_d$$



- But d probes completely reveal y

- Private circuits / probing security [ISW03]

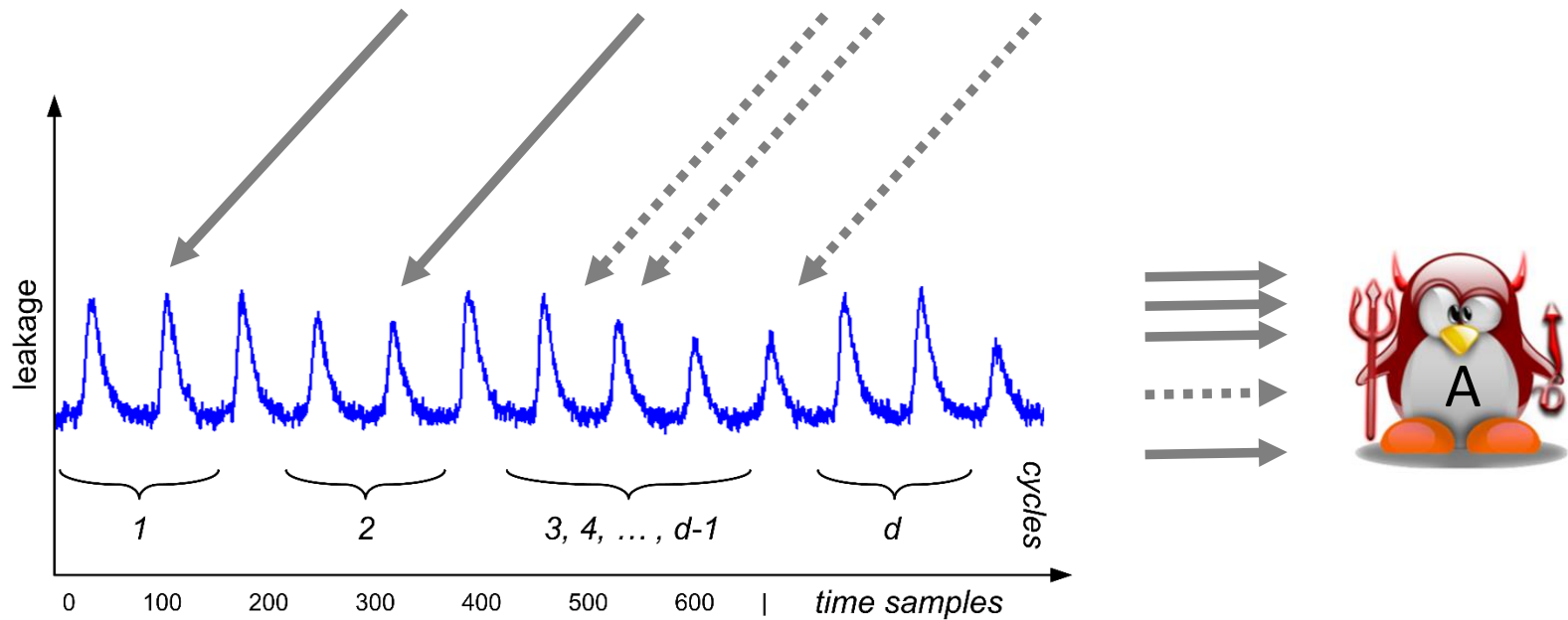
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- Noisy leakage security [PR13]

- Private circuits / probing security [ISW03]

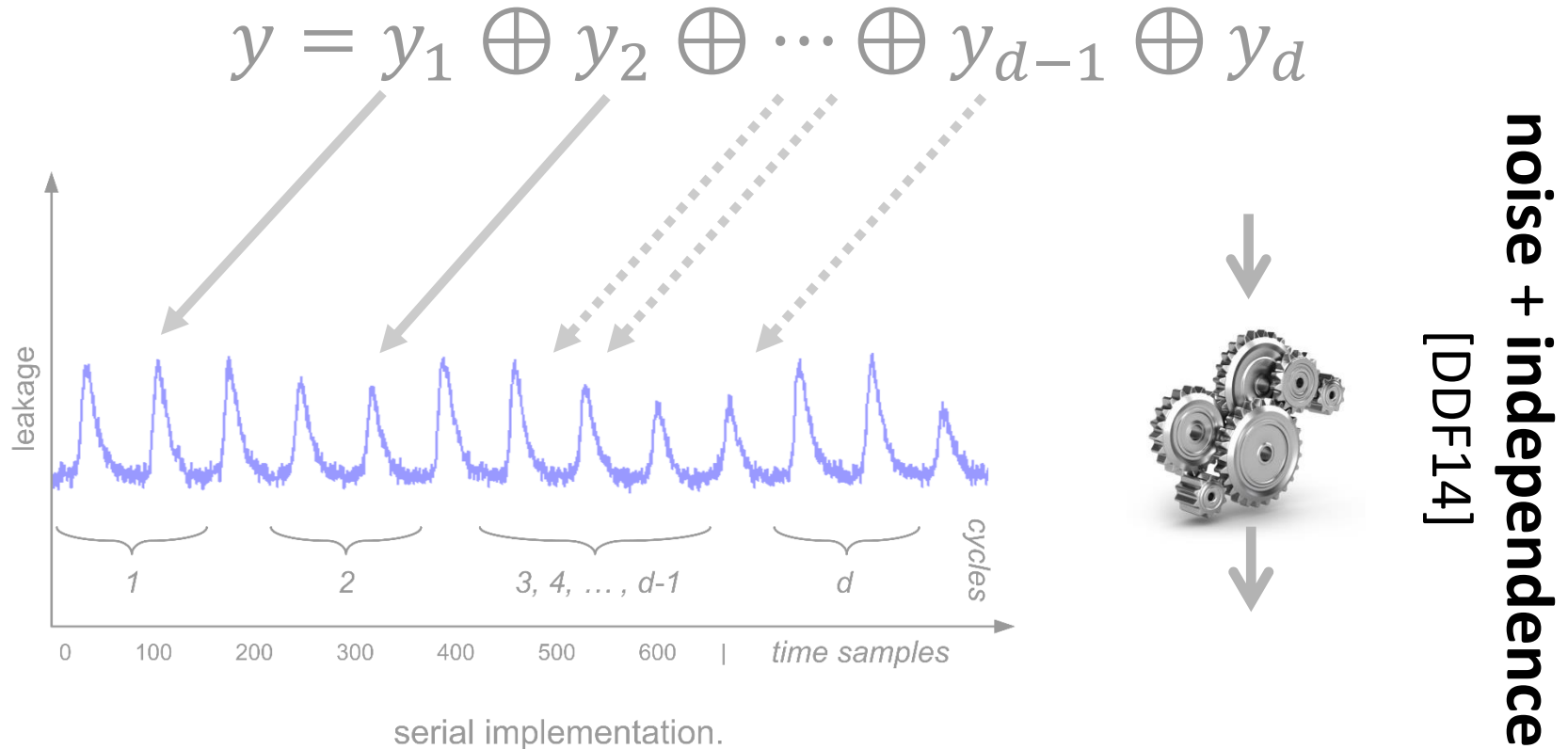
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serial implementation.

- Bounded information $MI(Y; \mathbf{L}) < MI(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i})^d$

- Private circuits / probing security [ISW03]



- Bounded information $MI(Y; \mathbf{L}) < MI(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i})^d$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 b_1 & a_1 b_2 & a_1 b_3 \\ a_2 b_1 & a_2 b_2 & a_2 b_3 \\ a_3 b_1 & a_3 b_2 & a_3 b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

partial products

- Linear operations: $f(a) = f(a_1) \oplus f(a_2) \oplus \dots \oplus f(a_d)$
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partial products

refreshing

- Linear operations: $f(a) = f(a_1) \oplus f(a_2) \oplus \dots \oplus f(a_d)$
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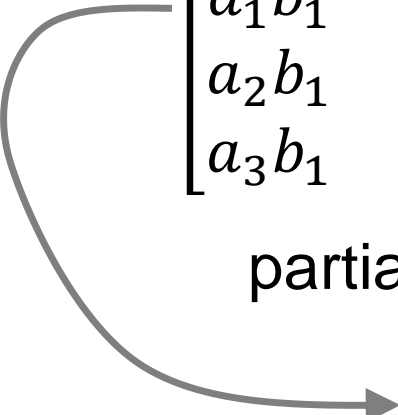
partial products

refreshing

compression

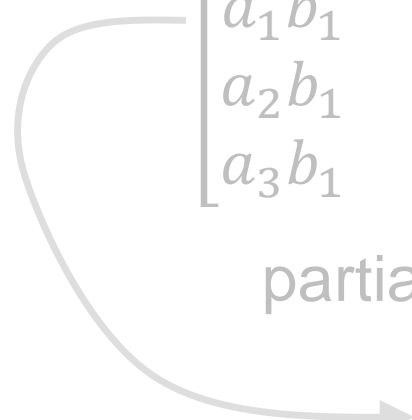
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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
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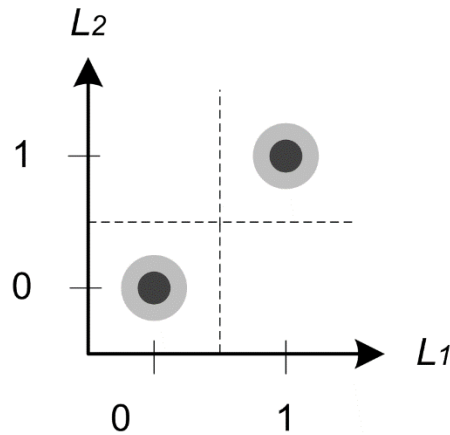
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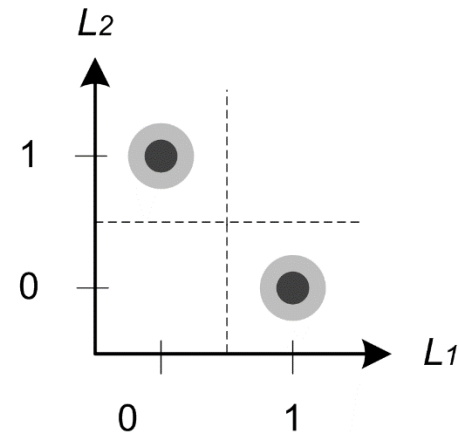
$$a_1b_1 \oplus a_1b_2 \oplus a_1b_3 = a_1b \text{ leaks on } b$$

⇒ Quadratic overheads & randomness

- (Many published optimizations [R+15,Be+16,GM18])

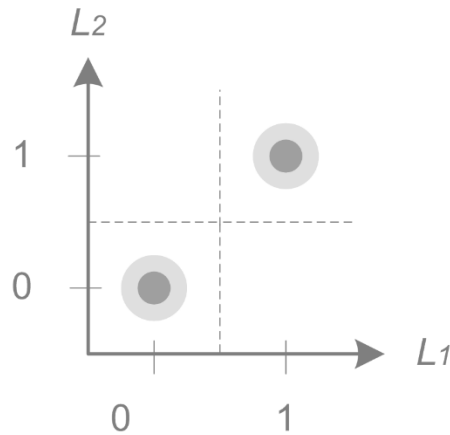


(a) $Y = 0$, serial.

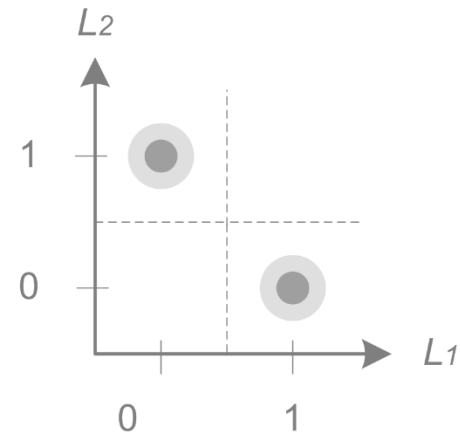


(b) $Y = 1$, serial.

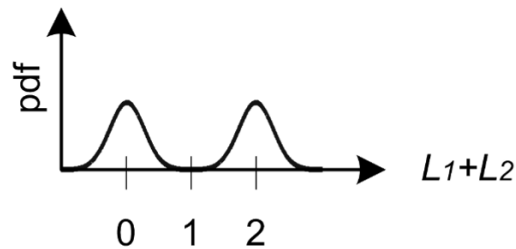
- Leakage mean vector for $Y = 0,1 = [0.5 \ 0.5]$



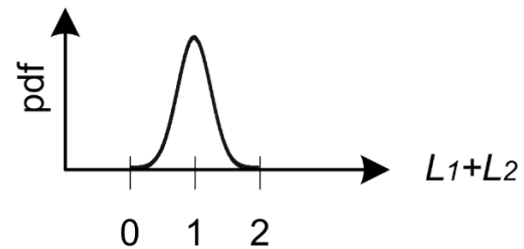
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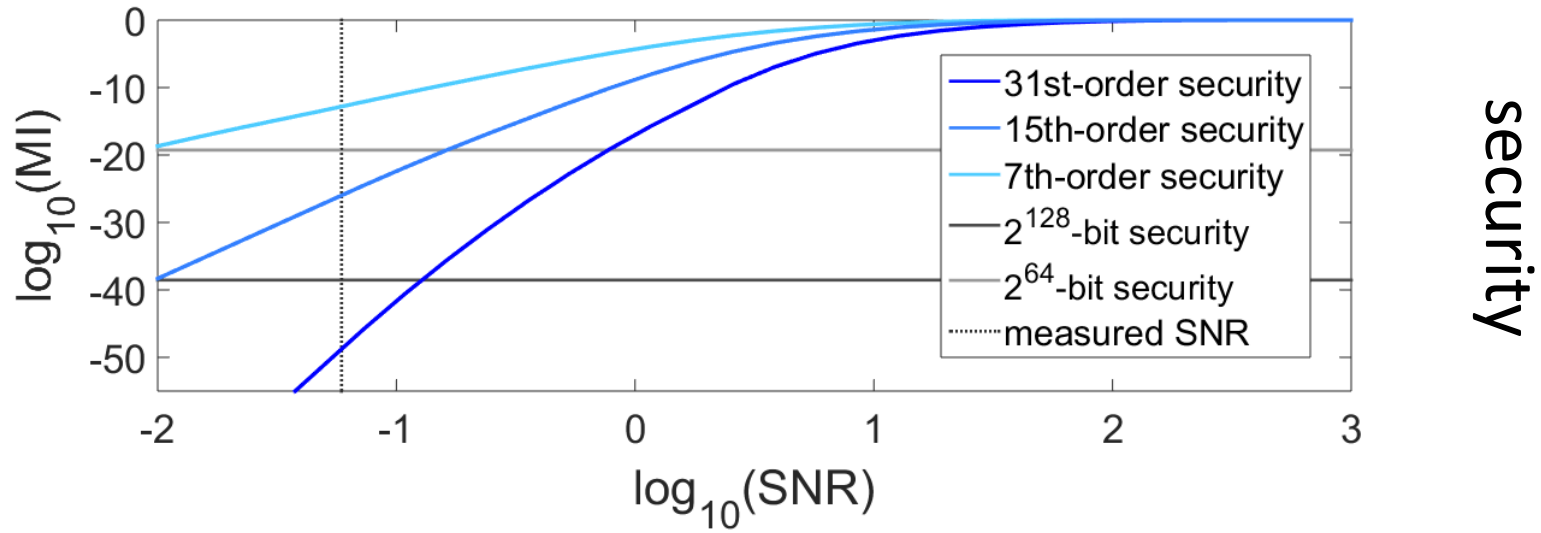


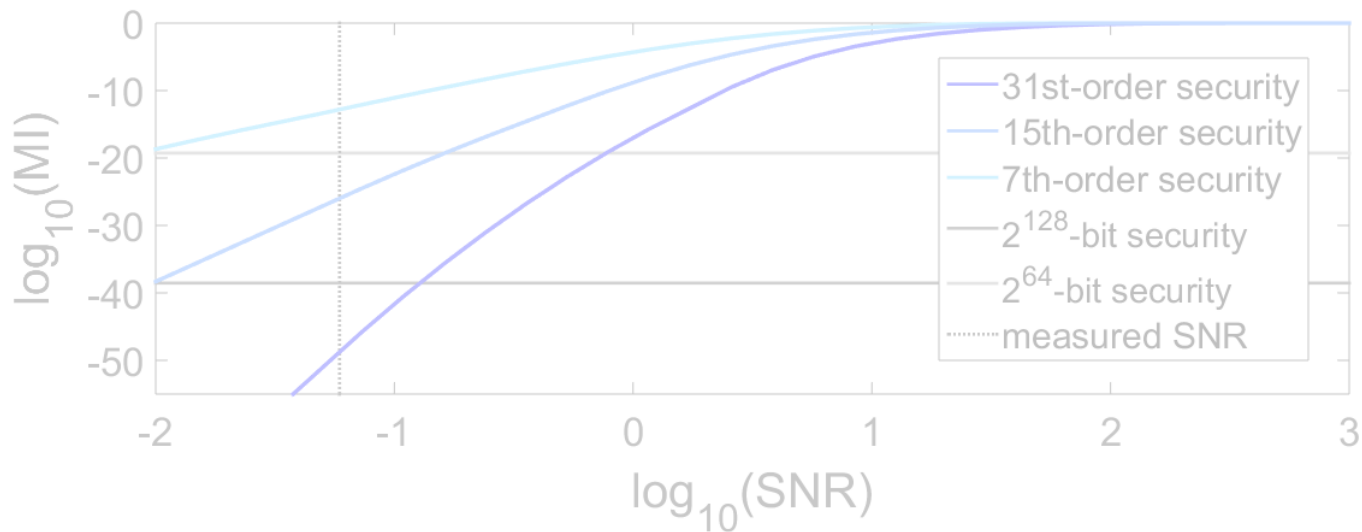
(c) $Y = 0$, parallel.



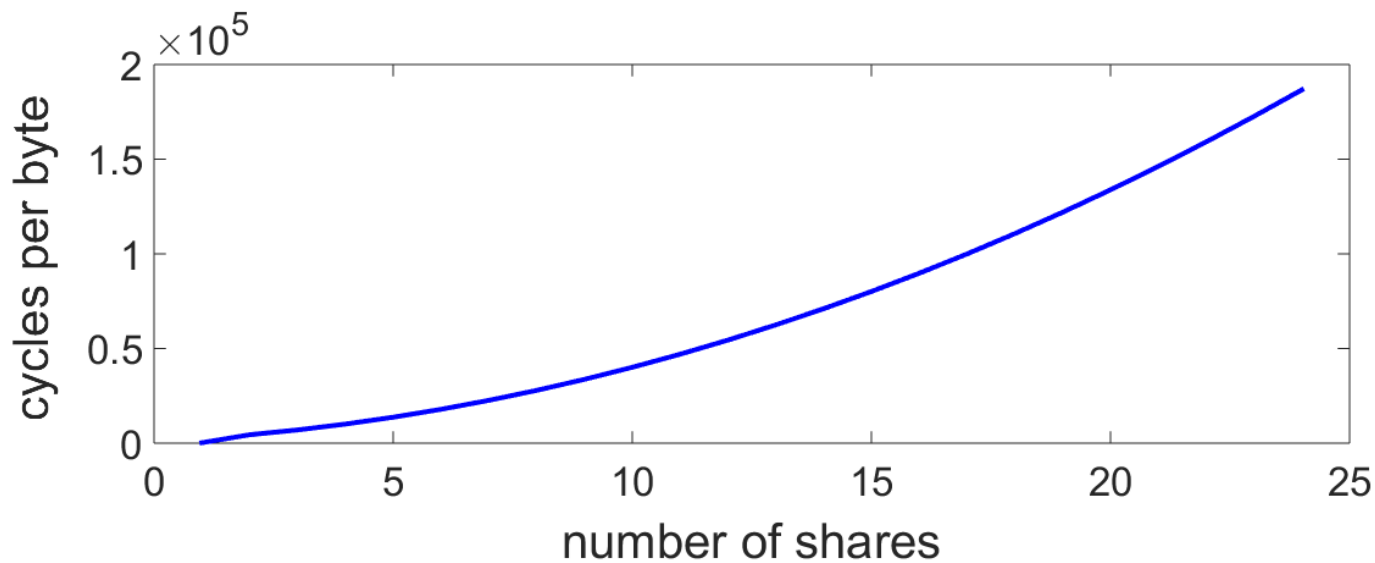
(d) $Y = 1$, parallel.

- Leakage mean value for $Y = 0, 1 = 1$



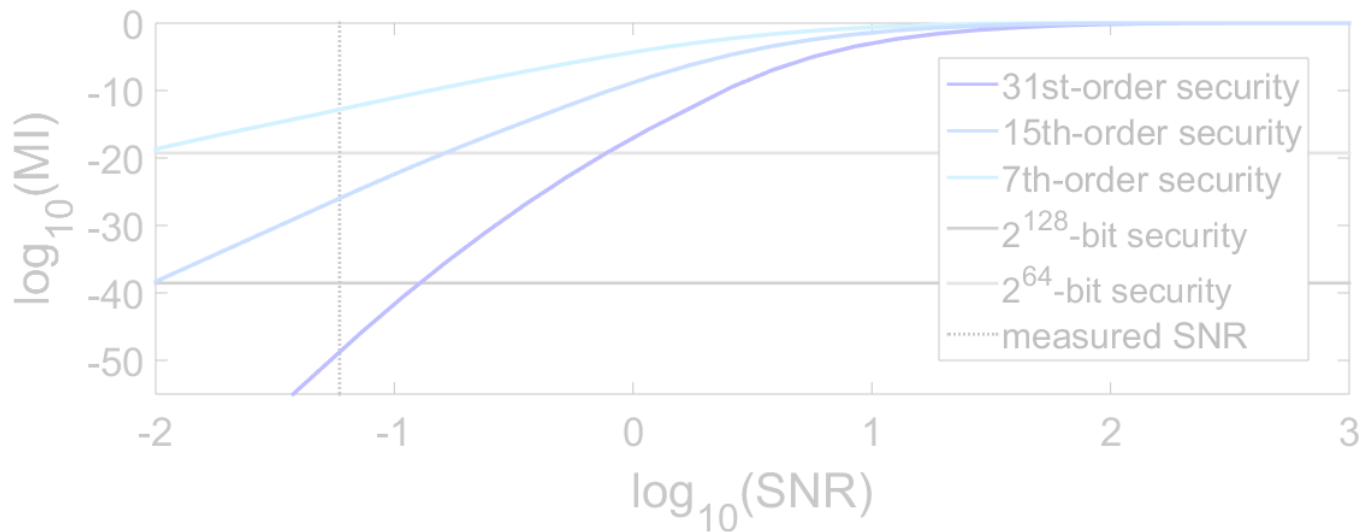


security

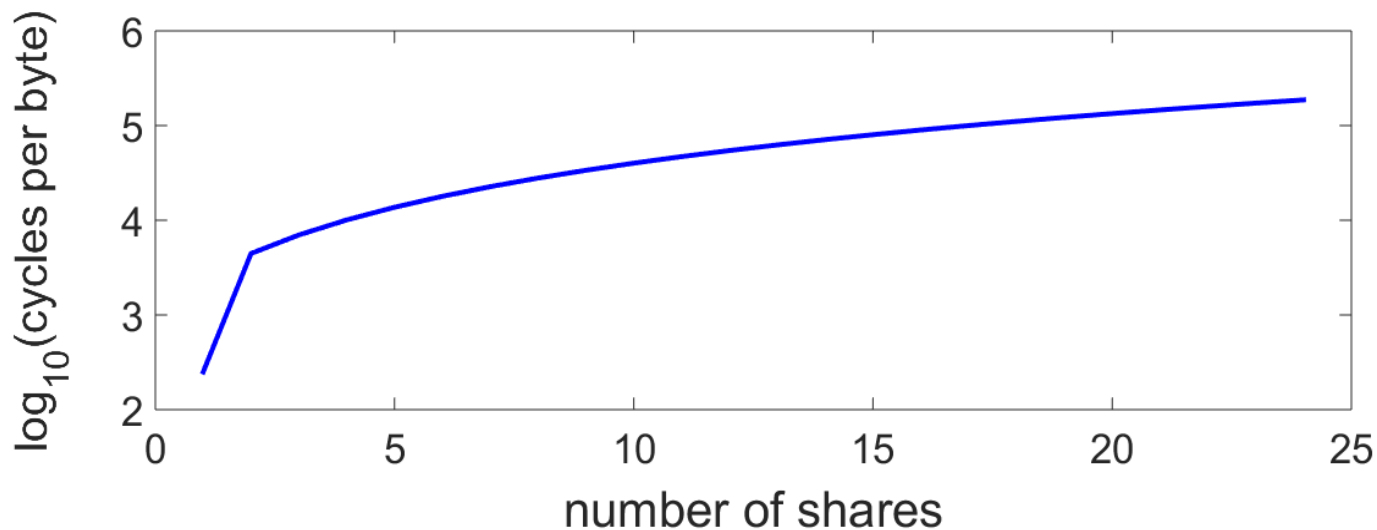


performance

security



performance



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- SPA security expected to be (much) cheaper

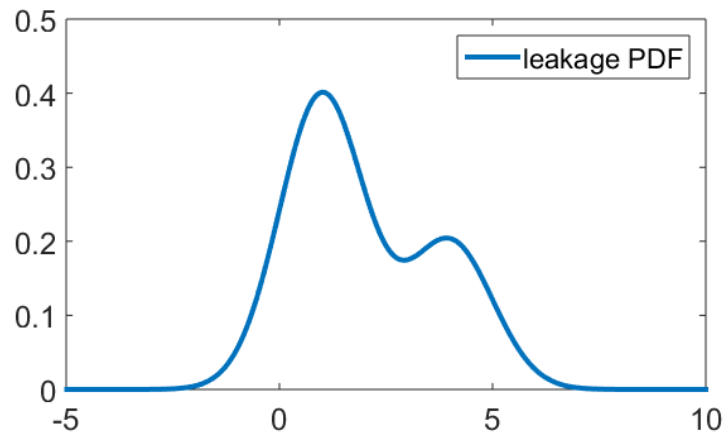
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1. Directly estimate the leakage PDF (or PMF)
2. Try to attack with this estimated model
 - Good if it works (but no guarantees of optimality)
 - Hard to interpret if it does not work:
 - either the leakages are sufficiently noisy, or
 - the model is not accurate (*“false sense of security”*)

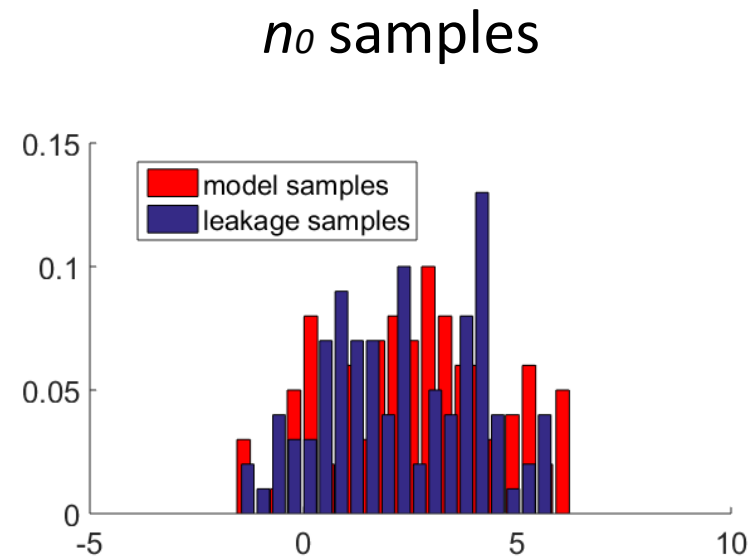
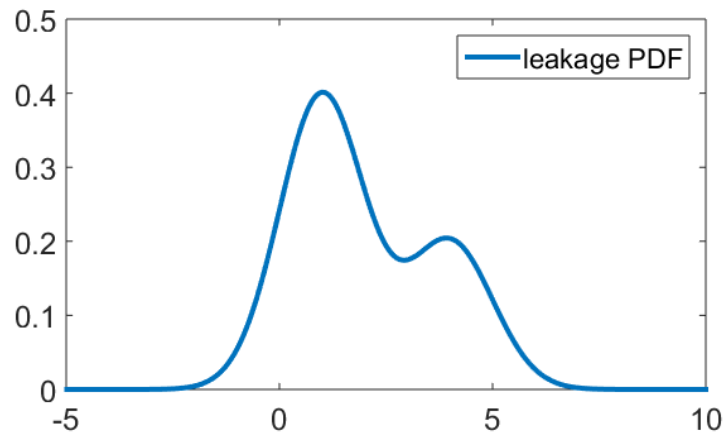
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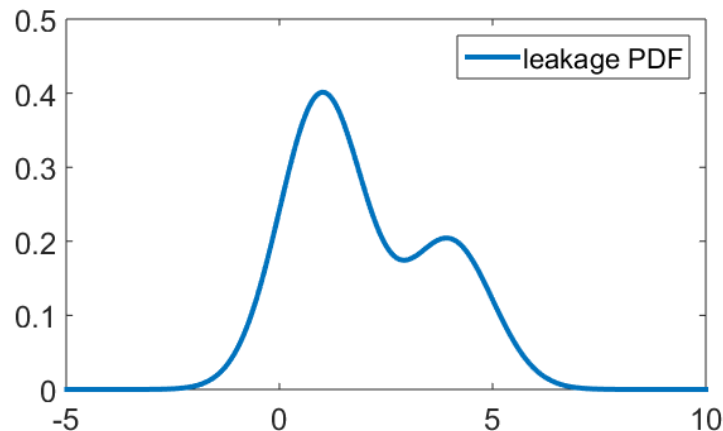
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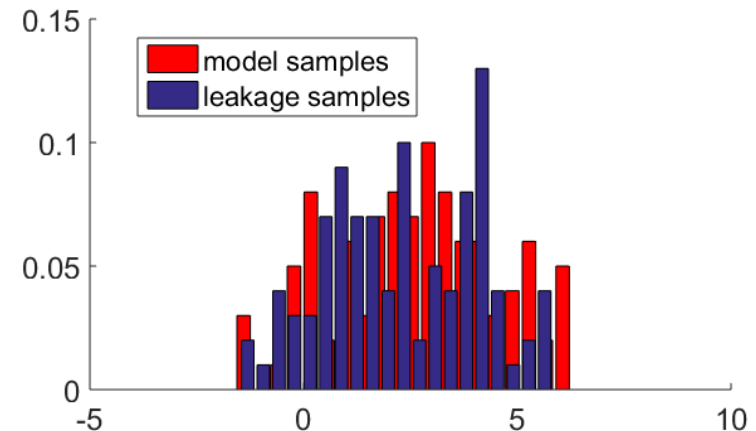


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- Example:



estimation errors dominate

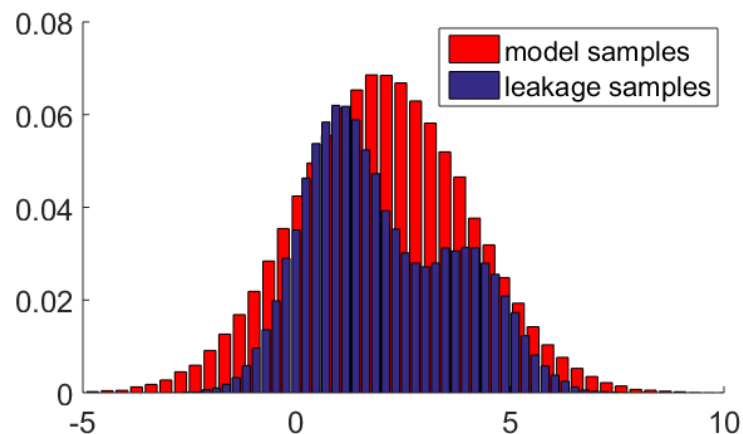
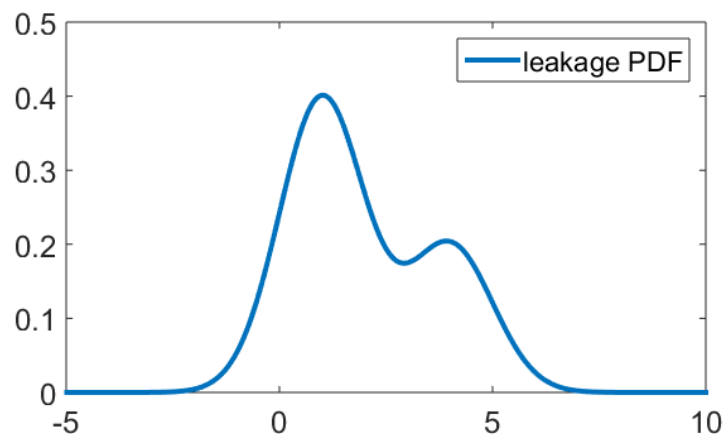


⇒ need to measure more

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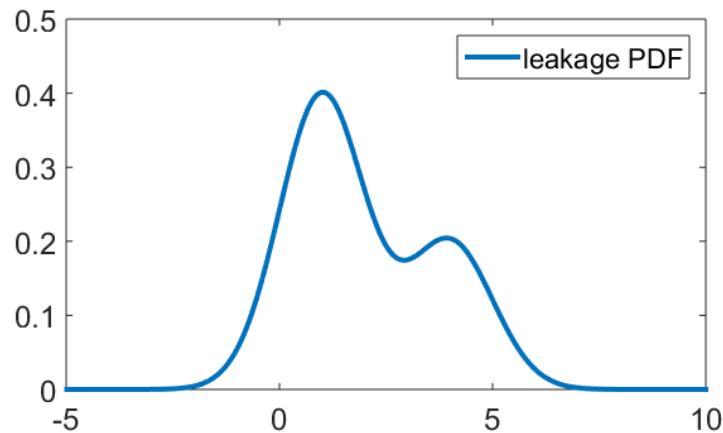
- **Example:**

$n_1 > n_0$ samples

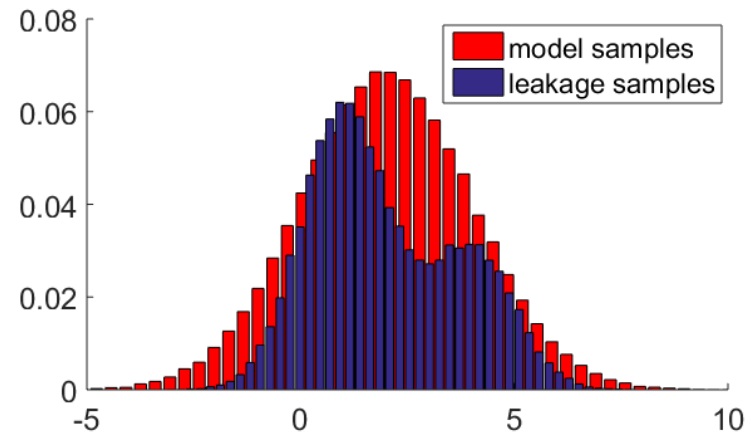


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- Example:

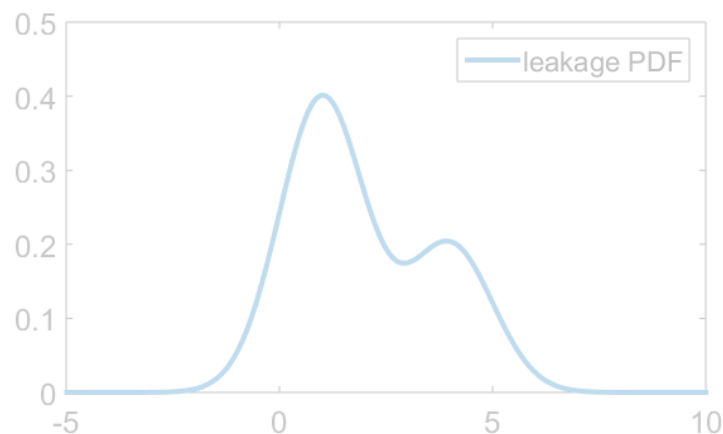


assumption errors dominate

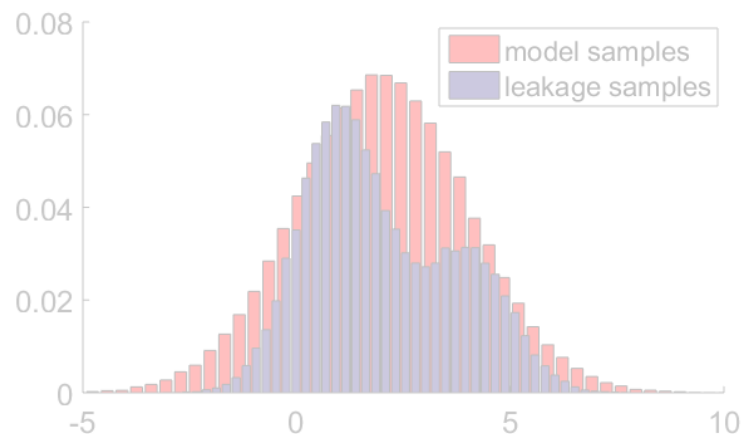


⇒ need another statistical model

1. Directly estimate the leakage PDF (or PMF)
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- Example:



assumption errors dominate



⇒ need another statistical model

⇒ good enough model: *ass. err* \ll *est. err.* given n

$$\text{PI}(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i}) = H(Y_i) + \sum_y p(y_i) \cdot \int_l f(\mathbf{l}_{y_i}|y_i) \cdot \log_2 \tilde{\mathbf{m}}_n(y_i|\mathbf{l}_{y_i}) dl$$

- Information extracted by a statistical model
 - Possibly biased by estimation & assumption errors

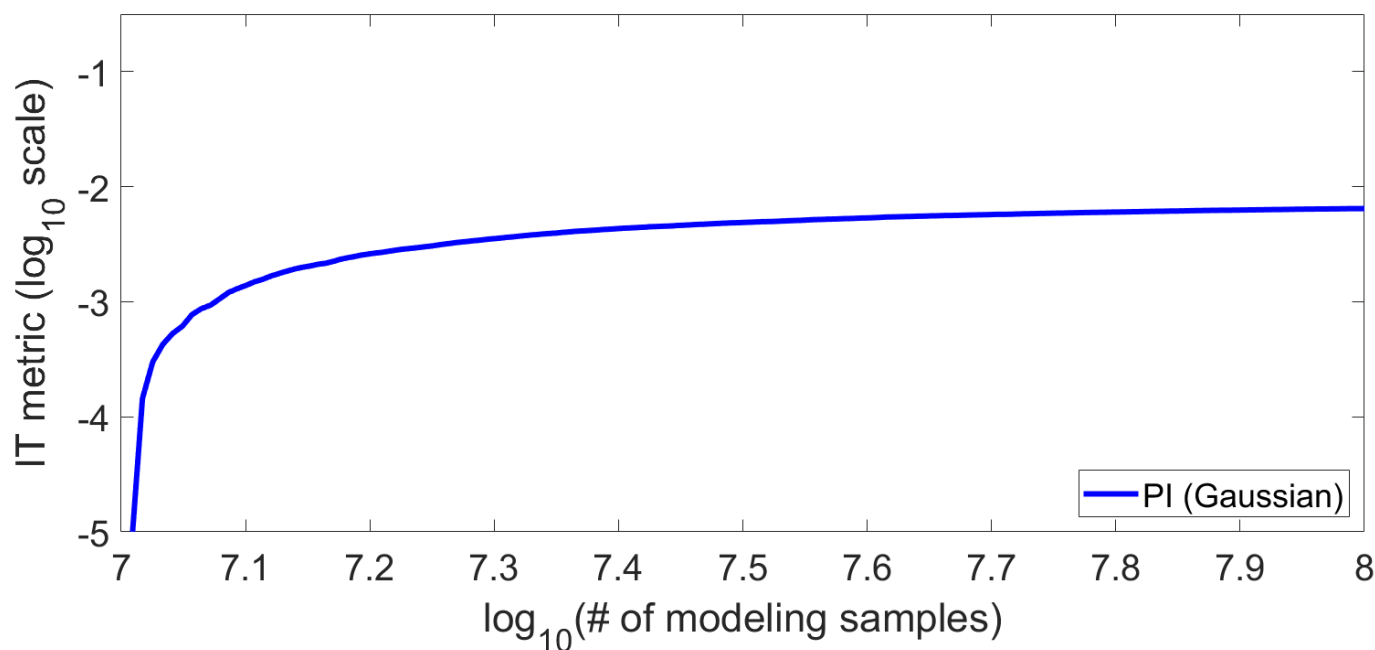
$$\widehat{\text{PI}}(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i}) = H(Y_i) + \sum_y p(y_i) \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n_t(y_i)} \frac{1}{n_t(y_i)} \cdot \log_2 \tilde{\mathbf{m}}_n(y_i | \mathbf{l}_{y_i})$$

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- Computed in two 2-steps: (1) model estimation
(2) integral by sampling (the true distribution)

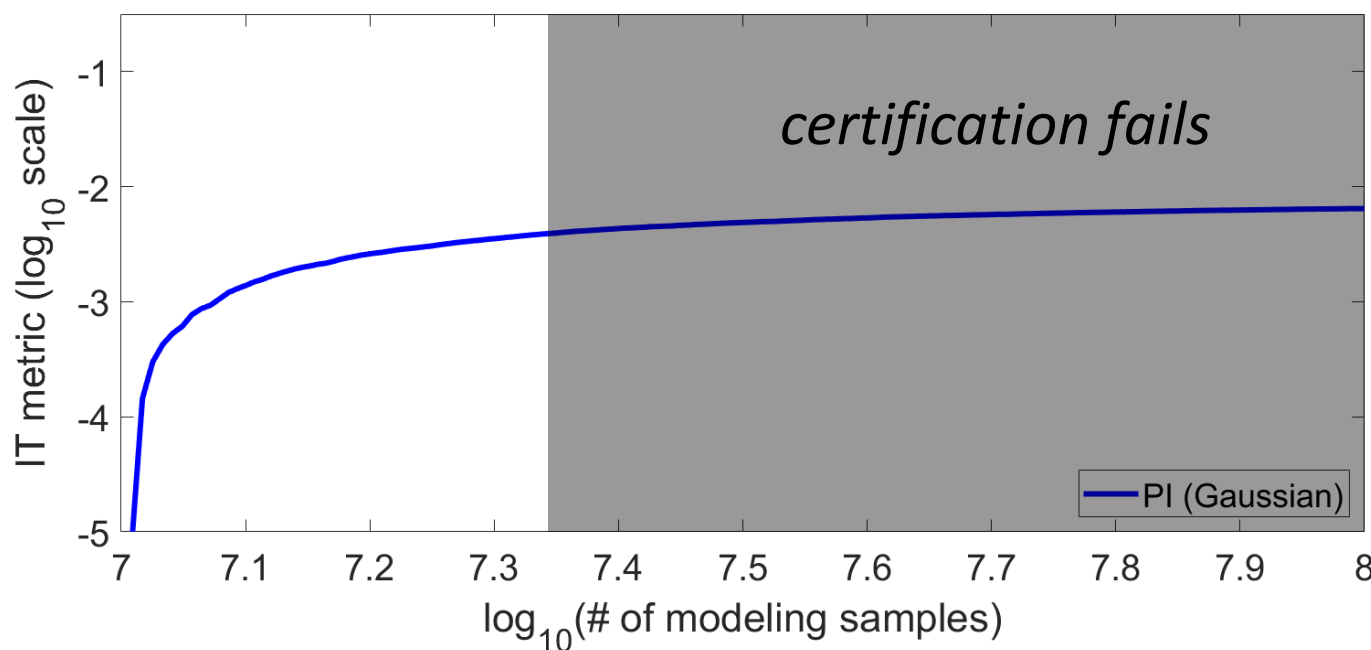
$$\widehat{\text{PI}}(Y_i; L_{Y_i}) = H(Y_i) + \sum_y p(y_i) \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n_t(y_i)} \frac{1}{n_t(y_i)} \cdot \log_2 \tilde{m}_n(y_i | L_{y_i})$$

- Information extracted by a statistical model
 - Possibly biased by estimation & assumption errors
- Computed in two 2-steps: (1) model estimation (2) integral by sampling (the true distribution)
- **PI=MI if the model is perfect (PI \neq MI otherwise)**
 - E.g., can be negative if the model is too incorrect

$$\hat{\text{PI}}(Y_i; L_{Y_i}) = H(Y_i) + \sum_y p(y_i) \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n_t(y_i)} \frac{1}{n_t(y_i)} \cdot \log_2 \tilde{m}_n(y_i | L_{y_i})$$

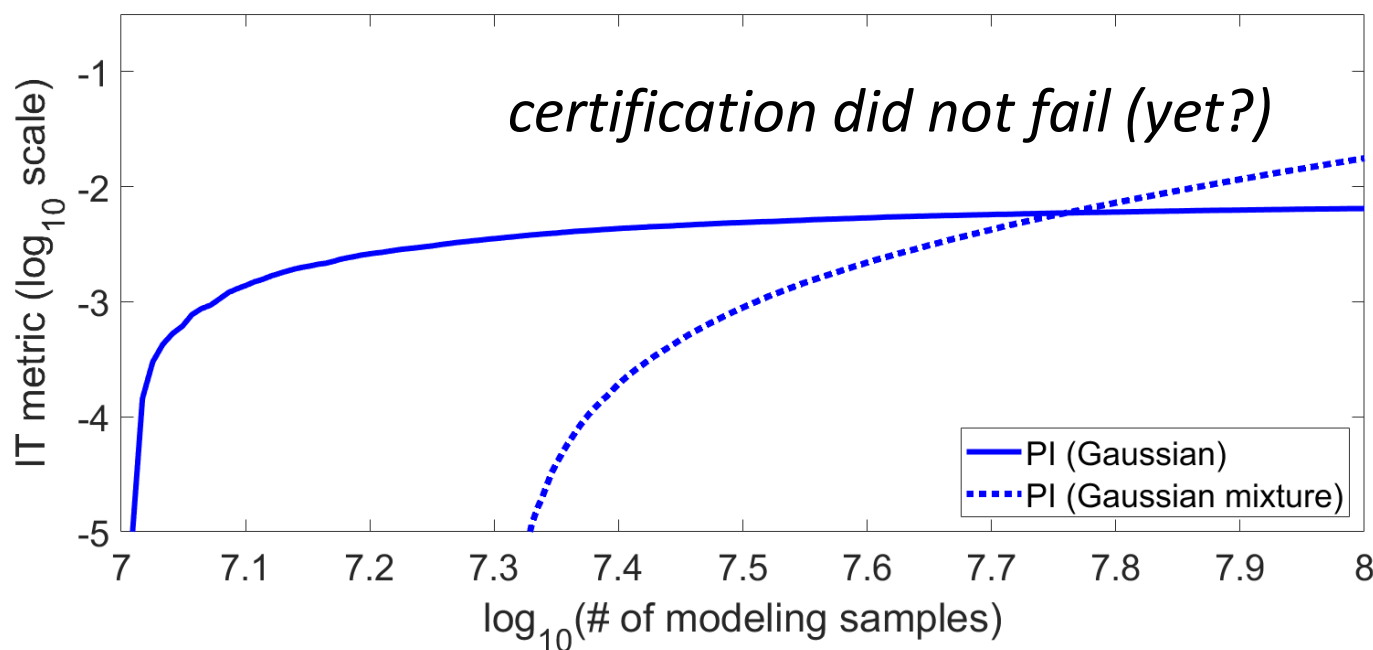


$$\hat{\text{PI}}(Y_i; L_{Y_i}) = H(Y_i) + \sum_y p(y_i) \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n_t(y_i)} \frac{1}{n_t(y_i)} \cdot \log_2 \tilde{m}_n(y_i | L_{y_i})$$



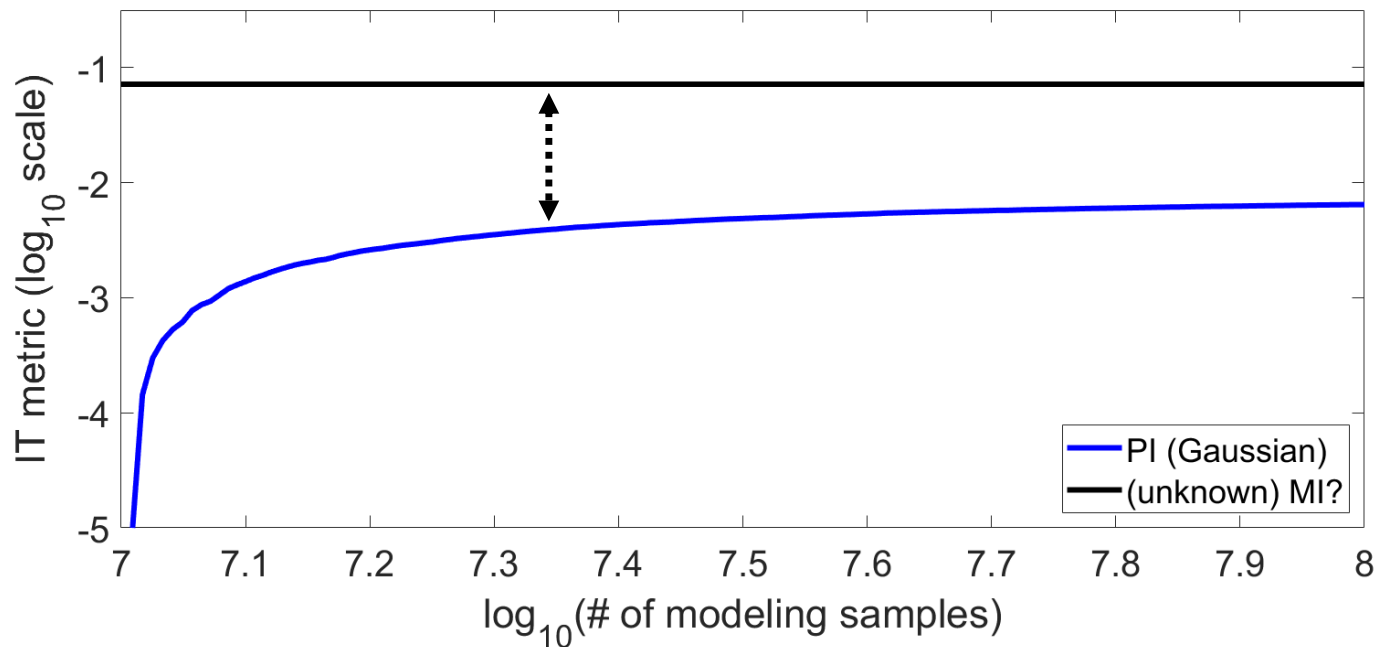
- PI curve “saturates” too far from the MI
 - Evaluator has to look for another statistical model

$$\hat{\text{PI}}(Y_i; L_{Y_i}) = H(Y_i) + \sum_y p(y_i) \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n_t(y_i)} \frac{1}{n_t(y_i)} \cdot \log_2 \tilde{m}_n(y_i | L_{y_i})$$



- We may lack samples to be conclusive
 - Because estimation errors decrease slowly

$$\hat{P}\mathbb{I}(Y_i; L_{Y_i}) = H(Y_i) + \sum_y p(y_i) \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n_t(y_i)} \frac{1}{n_t(y_i)} \cdot \log_2 \tilde{m}_n(y_i | L_{y_i})$$



- Such certification tests are only qualitative
 - They give no indication about the security loss

Outline

- Introduction to side-channel analysis
- Masking (aka secret sharing) countermeasure
- **Leakage evaluation and certification**
 - Problem statement & first approach
 - **Bounding the Perceived Information**
- Conclusions: white box design & evaluation

$$\text{HI}(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i}) = H(Y_i) + \sum_y p(y_i) \cdot \sum_l \tilde{m}_n(y_i | \mathbf{l}_{y_i}) \cdot \log_2 \tilde{m}_n(y_i | \mathbf{l}_{y_i})$$

- Information that would be extractable from the samples *if* the true distribution was the model

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 - Remains positive even if model is incorrect

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- Information that would be extractable from the samples *if* the true distribution was the model
 - + Easier/faster to compute (known distribution)
 - Disconnected from the true distribution
 - Remains positive even if model is incorrect
 - Unless specific model families are considered
 - Next: empirical distribution $e\text{HI}_n(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i})$

- Upper bound for the MI metric

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\text{eHI}_n(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i}) \right) \geq \text{MI}(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i})$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{eHI}_n(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i}) = \text{MI}(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i})$$

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{eHI}_n(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i}) = \text{MI}(Y_i; \mathbf{L}_{Y_i})$$

- Uniform (constant) distribution for the secret Y_i
 \Rightarrow MI biased upwards everywhere (like the entropy)
- Monotonic convergence of the empirical distrib.

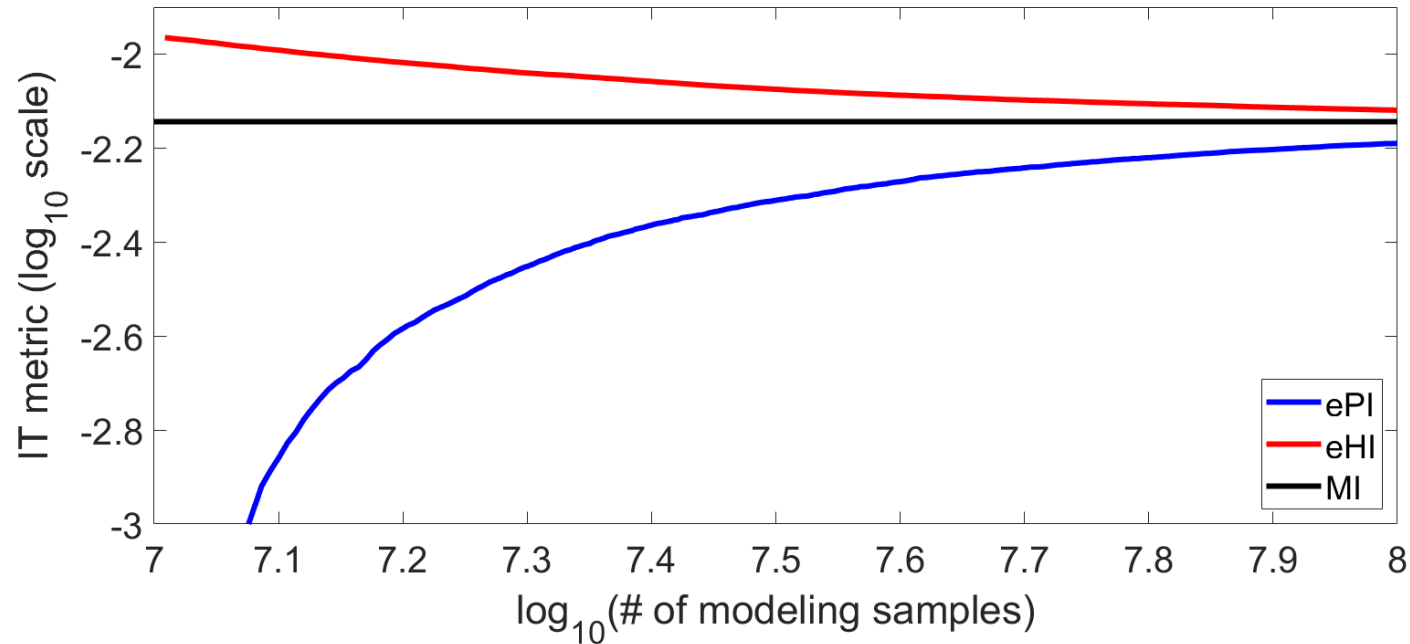
- Upper bound for the MI metric

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\text{eHI}_n(Y_i; L_{Y_i}) \right) \geq \text{MI}(Y_i; L_{Y_i})$$

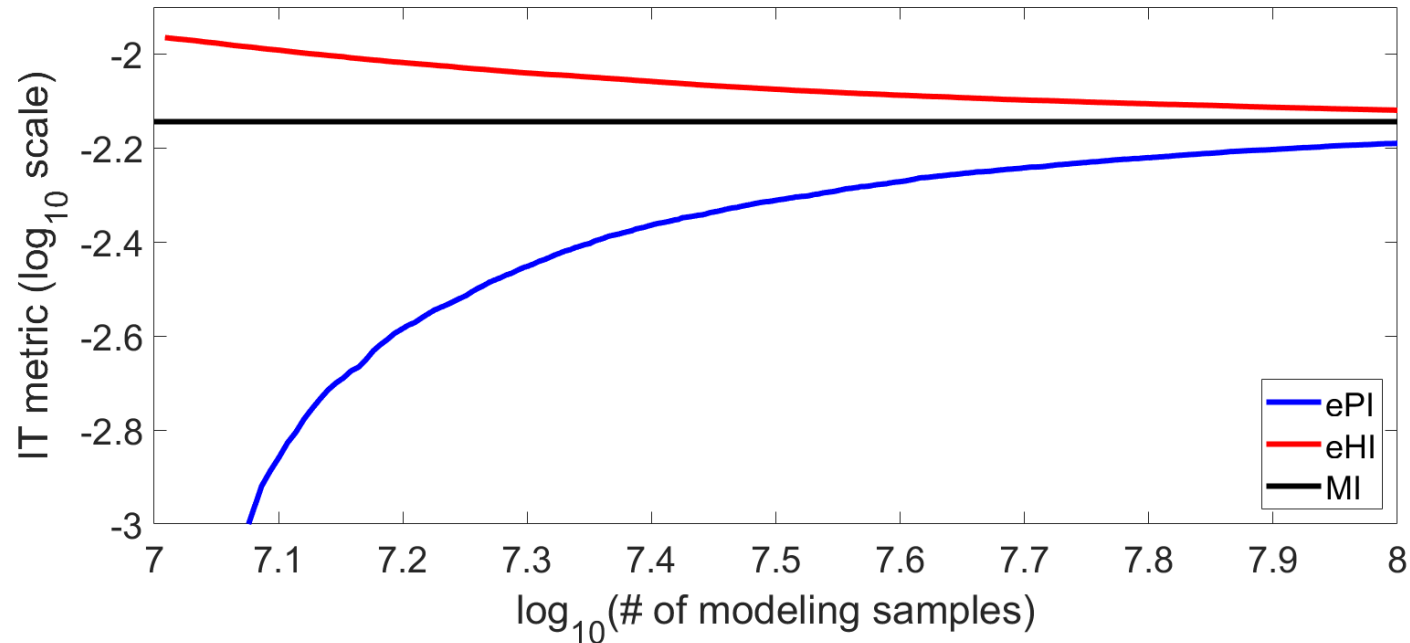
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{eHI}_n(Y_i; L_{Y_i}) = \text{MI}(Y_i; L_{Y_i})$$

- Uniform (constant) distribution for the secret Y_i
 \Rightarrow MI biased upwards everywhere (like the entropy)
- Monotonic convergence of the empirical distrib.
- Lower bound for the MI metric

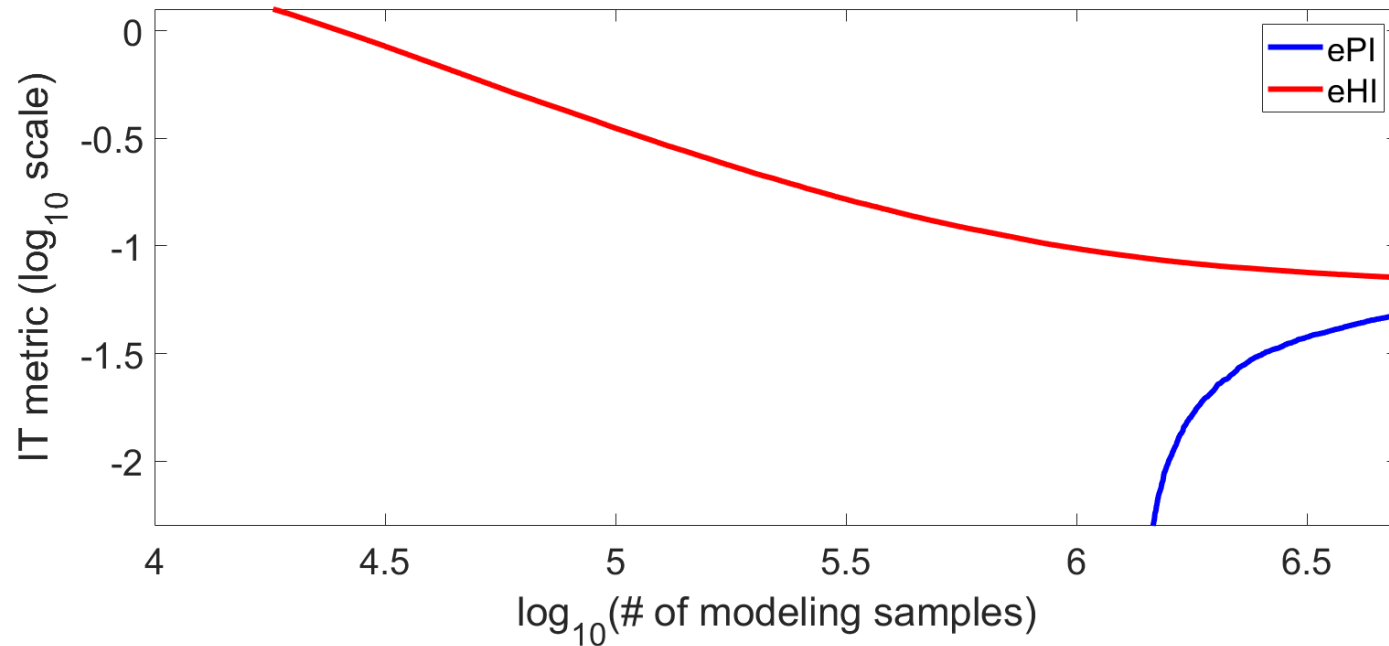
$$\text{PI}_n(Y_i; L_{Y_i}) \leq \text{MI}(Y_i; L_{Y_i})$$
- We can only loose information if $\tilde{\mathbf{m}}_n(y_i | \mathbf{l}_{y_i}) \neq p(y_i | \mathbf{l}_{y_i})$



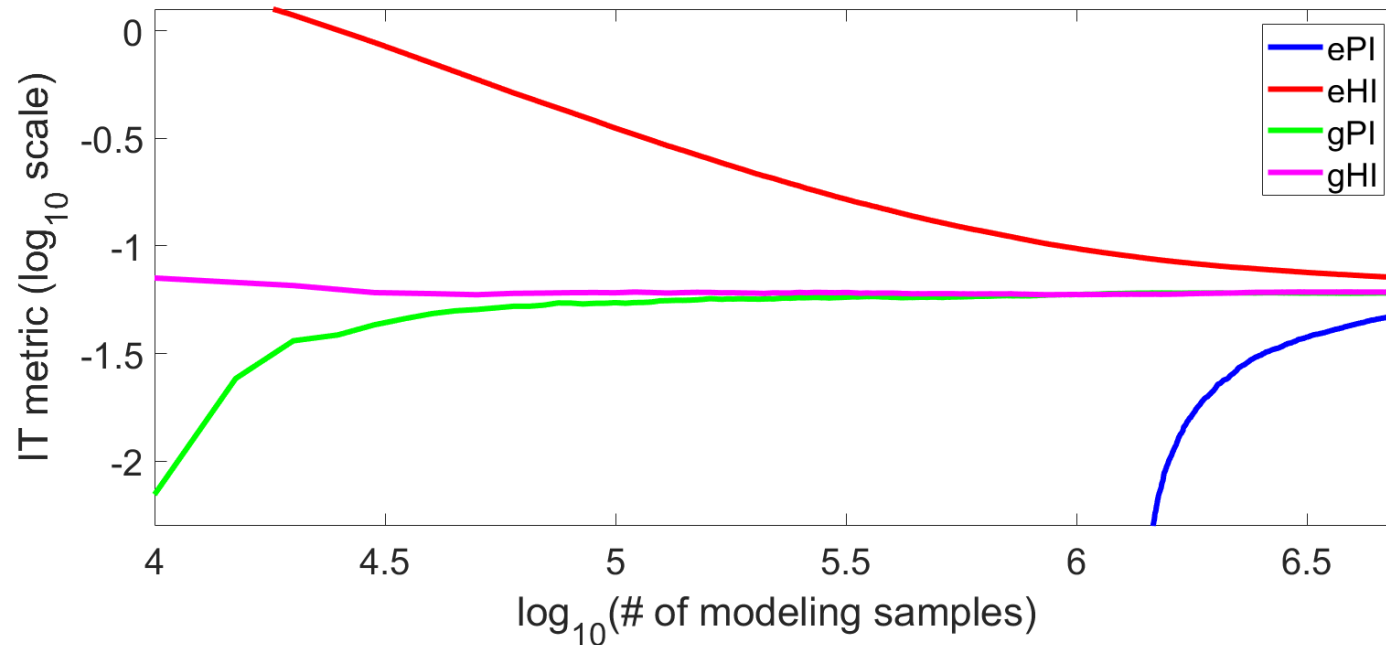
- eHI converges faster than ePI (no cross-validation)



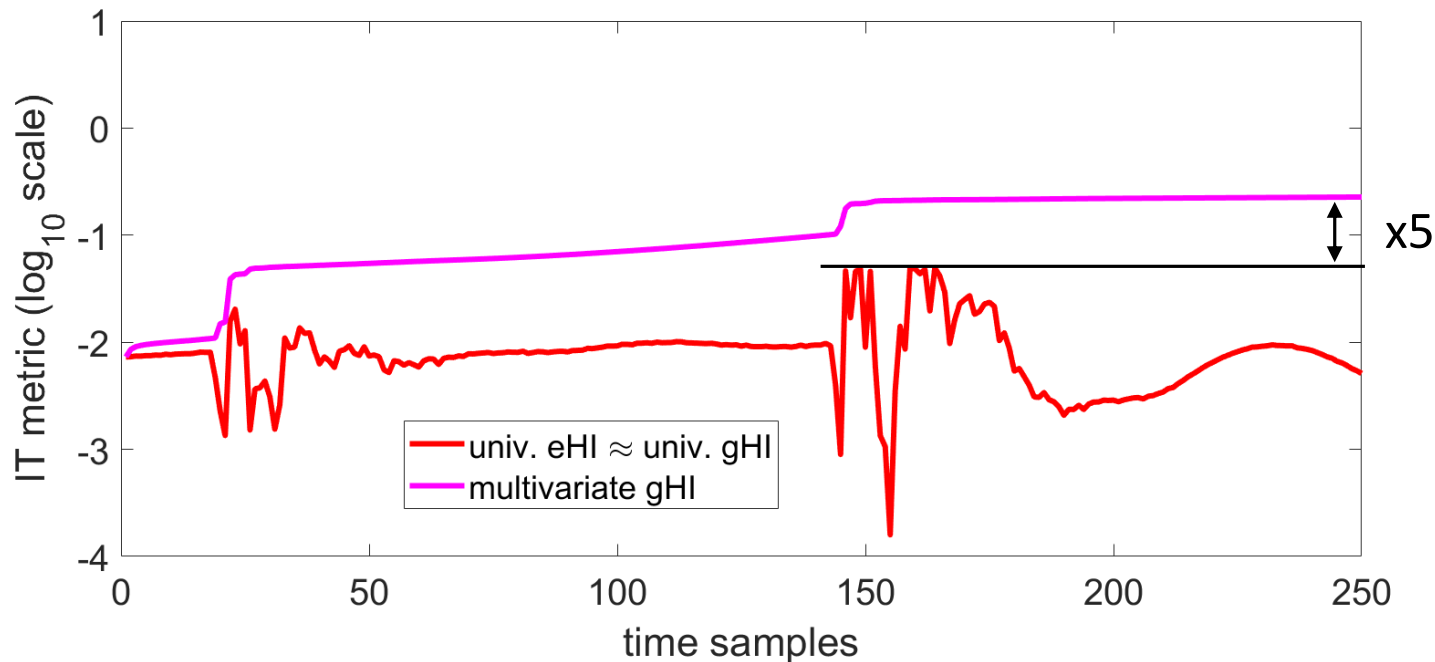
- eHI converges faster than ePI (no cross-validation)
- Bound becomes tighter as n increases
 - More eval. efforts lead to better sec. guarantees



- Quite similar results (but unknown MI & lower n)



- Quite similar results (but unknown MI & lower n)
- Gaussian HI/PI converge (much) faster
 - And are close to the eHI/ePI (*in our case study!*)



- Curse of dimensionality \Rightarrow need assumptions?
 - (But then the connection with the MI is lost)
- Nice learning problem: multivariate & higher-order
 - Link with statistical learning theory (Vapnik)

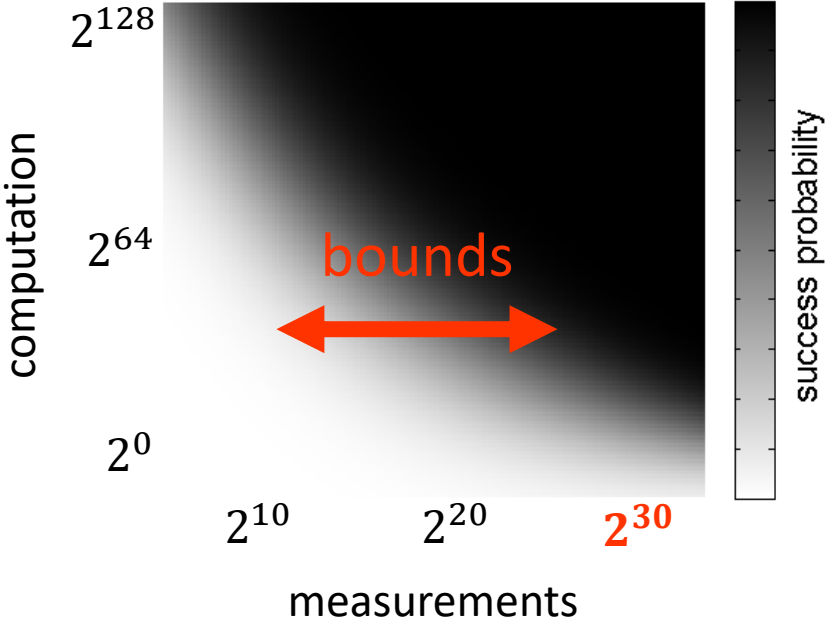
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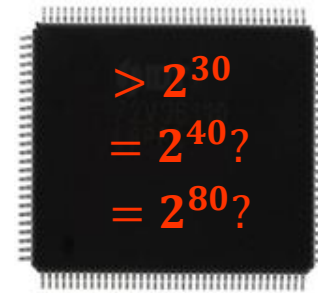
standard practice



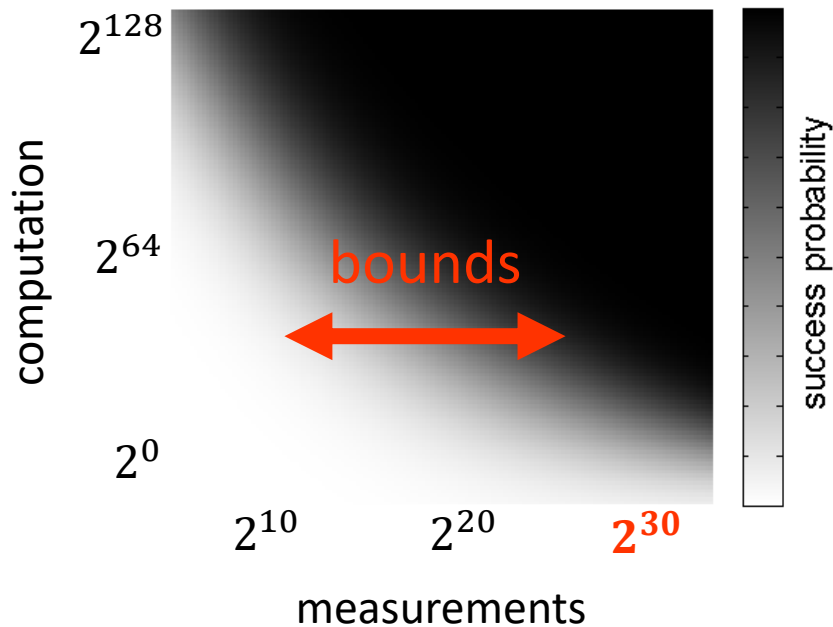
evidence-based evaluations
(assumptions tested per device!)



standard practice



evidence-based evaluations
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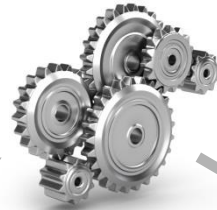


standard practice

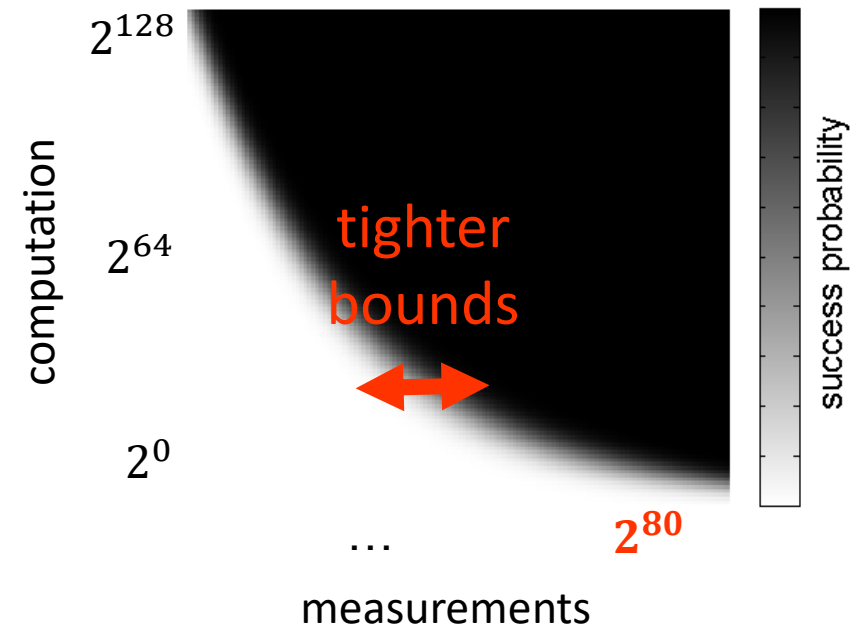
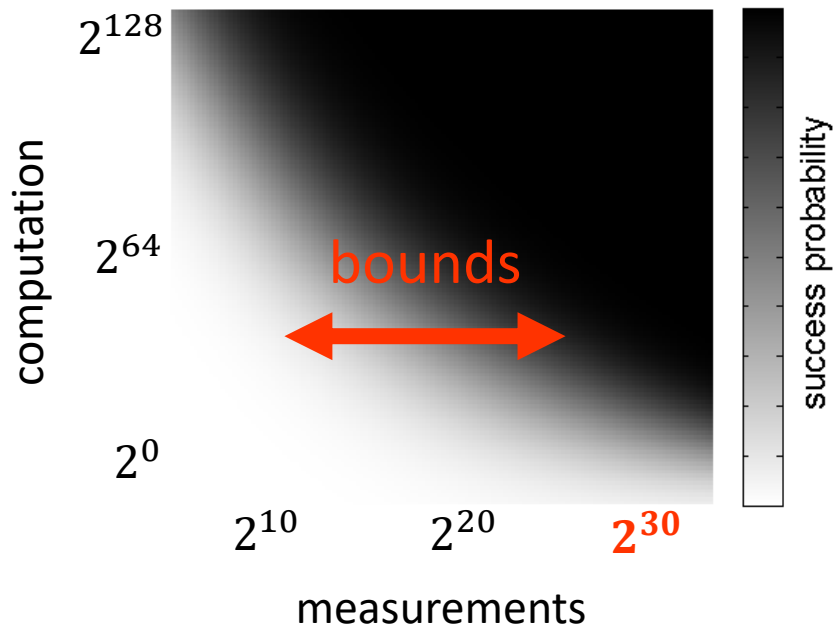


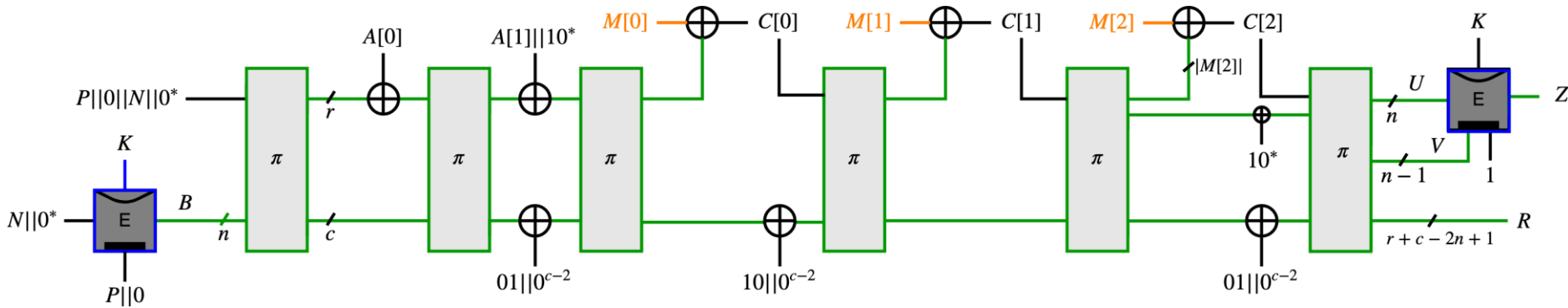
evidence-based evaluations
on reduced versions

open design & evaluation

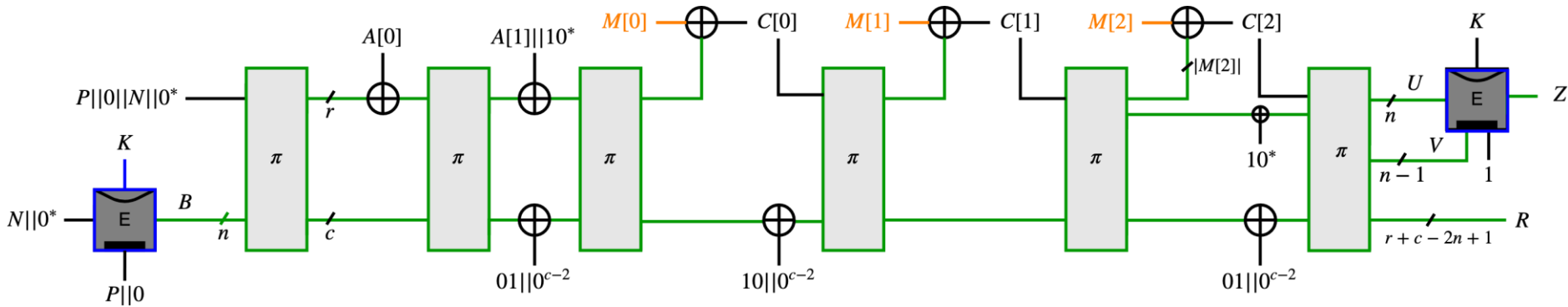


proof-based evaluations [DFS15,GS18]

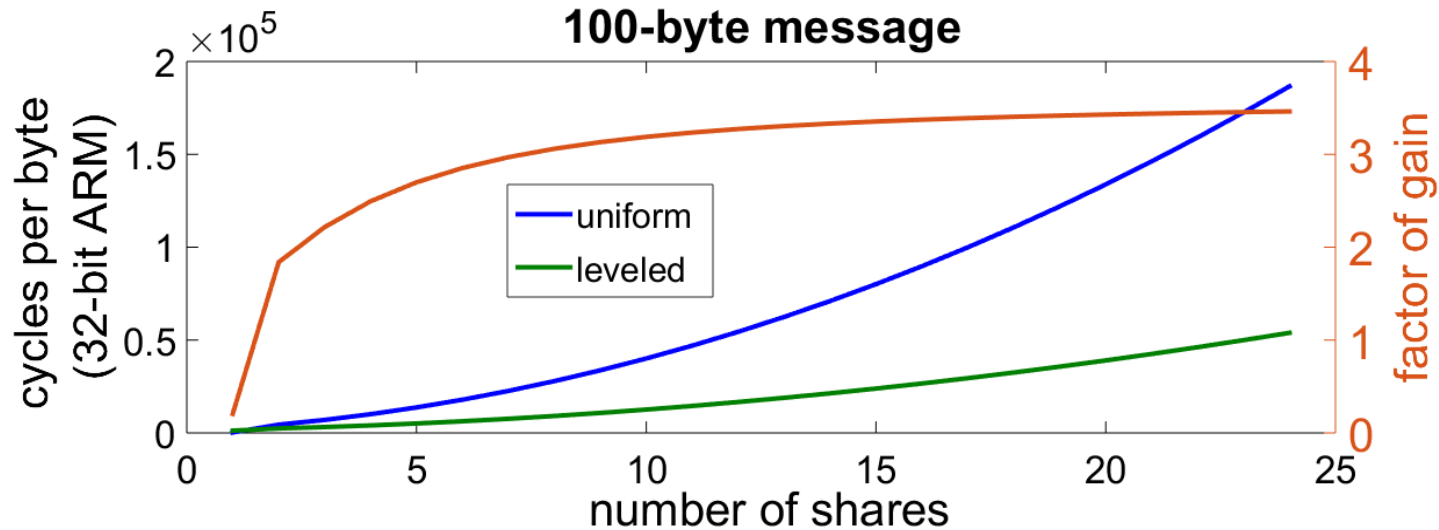


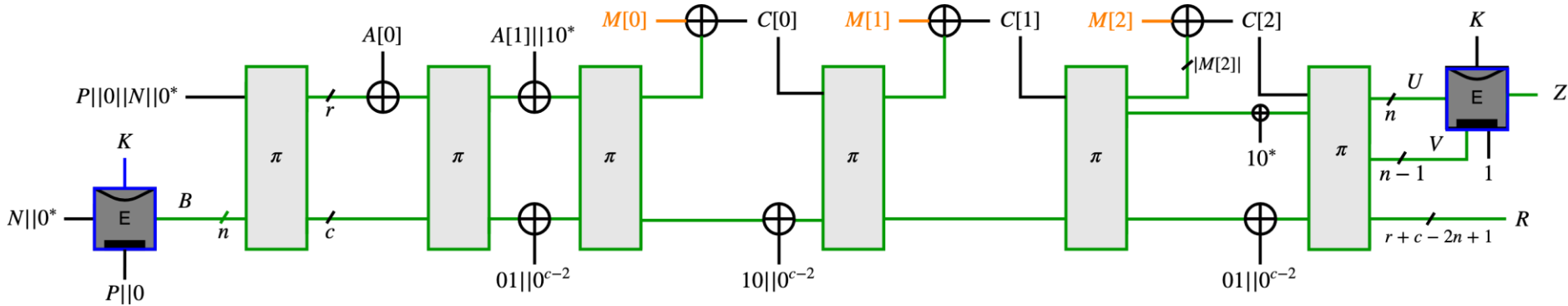


- Try leveraging « leveled implementations »
 - Strongly protected BC: high-order masking
 - Weakly protected permutation: low-latency
- Raises many definitional challenges (leakage-resilience)
- For such implementations, two different primitives are not an issue (since implementations are different)

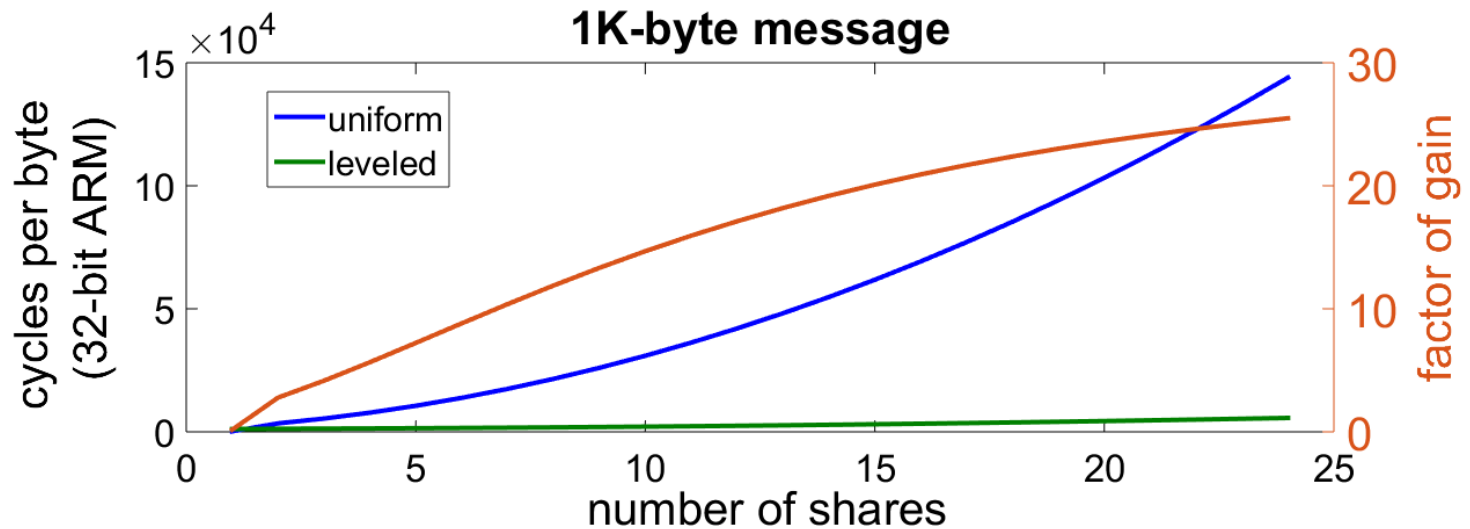


- Performance gains of leveled implementations

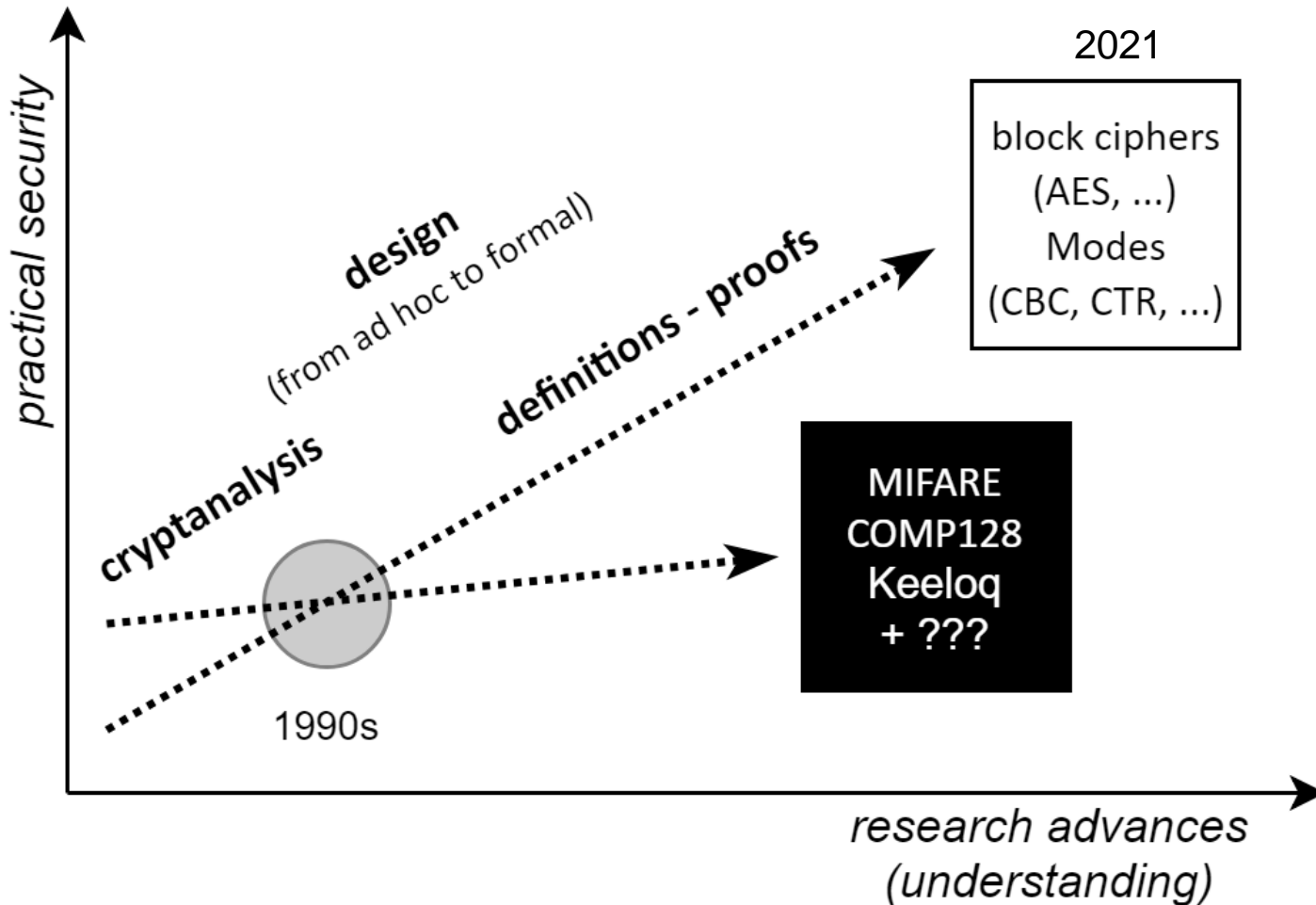




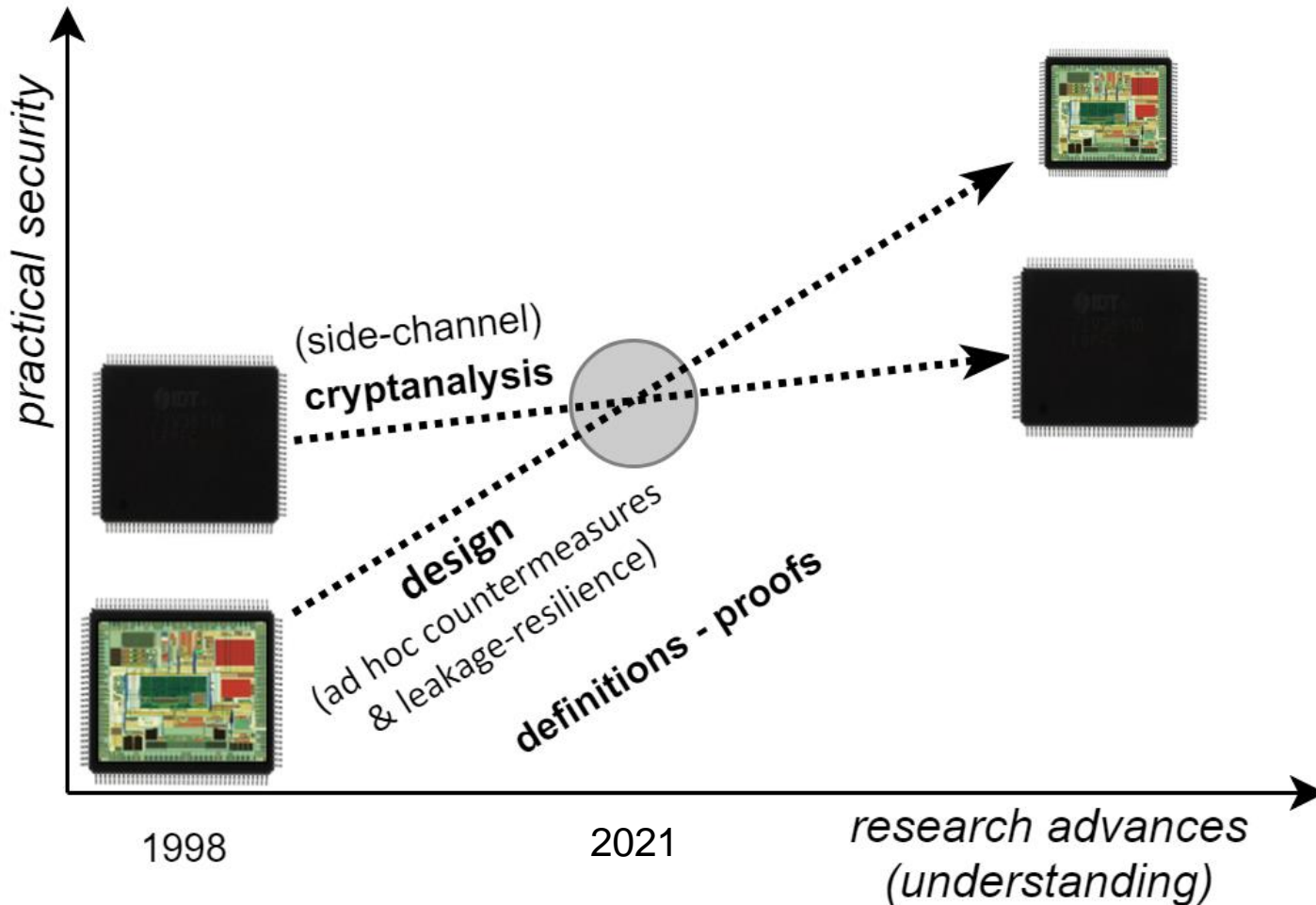
- Performance gains of leveled implementations



- Block ciphers & symmetric encryption



- Secure cryptographic implementations



THANKS

<http://perso.uclouvain.be/fstandae/>