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# PHYSICAL FUNCTIONS : THE COMMON FACTOR OF SIDE-CHANNEL AND FAULT ATTACKS ?

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Intensive research on fault and side-channel attacks (i.e. physical attacks) since late 90's.

Several works for unifying side-channel attacks

+ Several publications on combined attacks

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Unify both fault and side channel attacks (except obviously experimental setup) ?

Demonstrate on the AES-128 algorithm

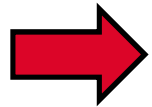
Relationships

Models of physical functions

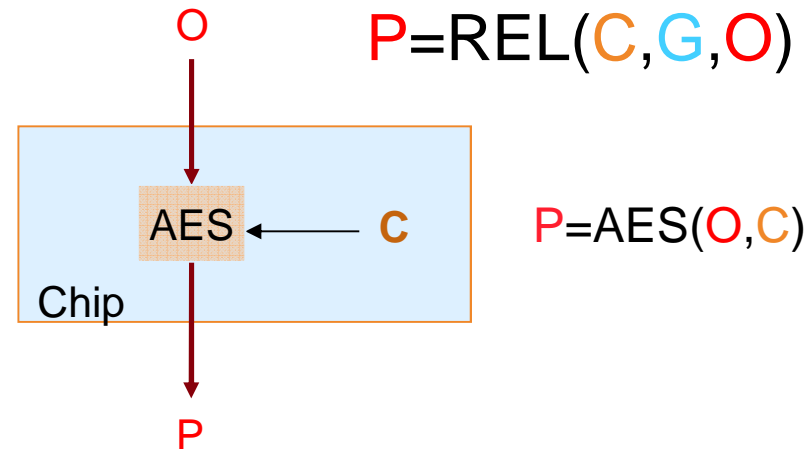
Generic key retrieving algorithms

Giraud's DFA revisited

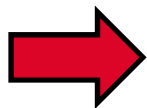
Conclusion



Mathematical relationship REL  
 O,P : observables  
 C: internal data  
 G: known mathematical functions

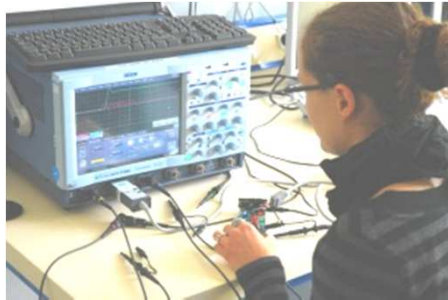
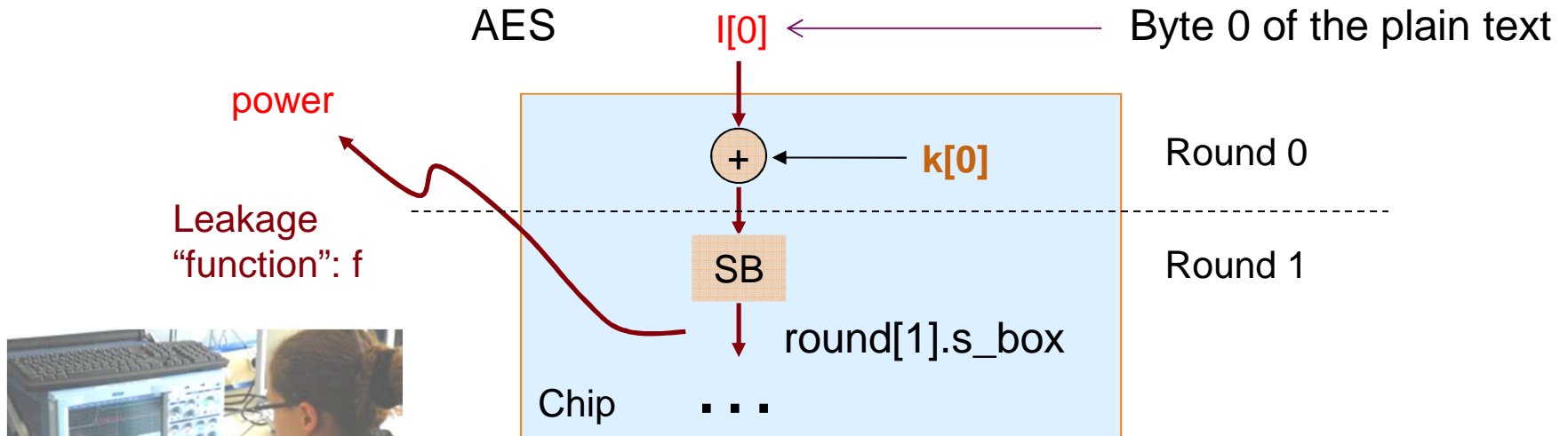


Such mathematical relationships are used for traditional cryptanalysis.  
 Thanks to ad-hoc experimental setup, the attacker goes « **inside the circuit** ».  
 This indirect access to the internal data that enables **divide and conquer** approach.

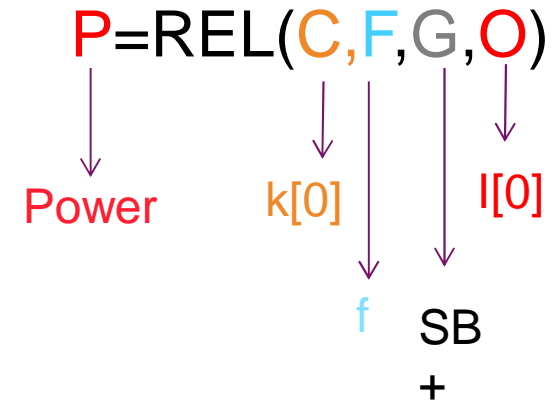


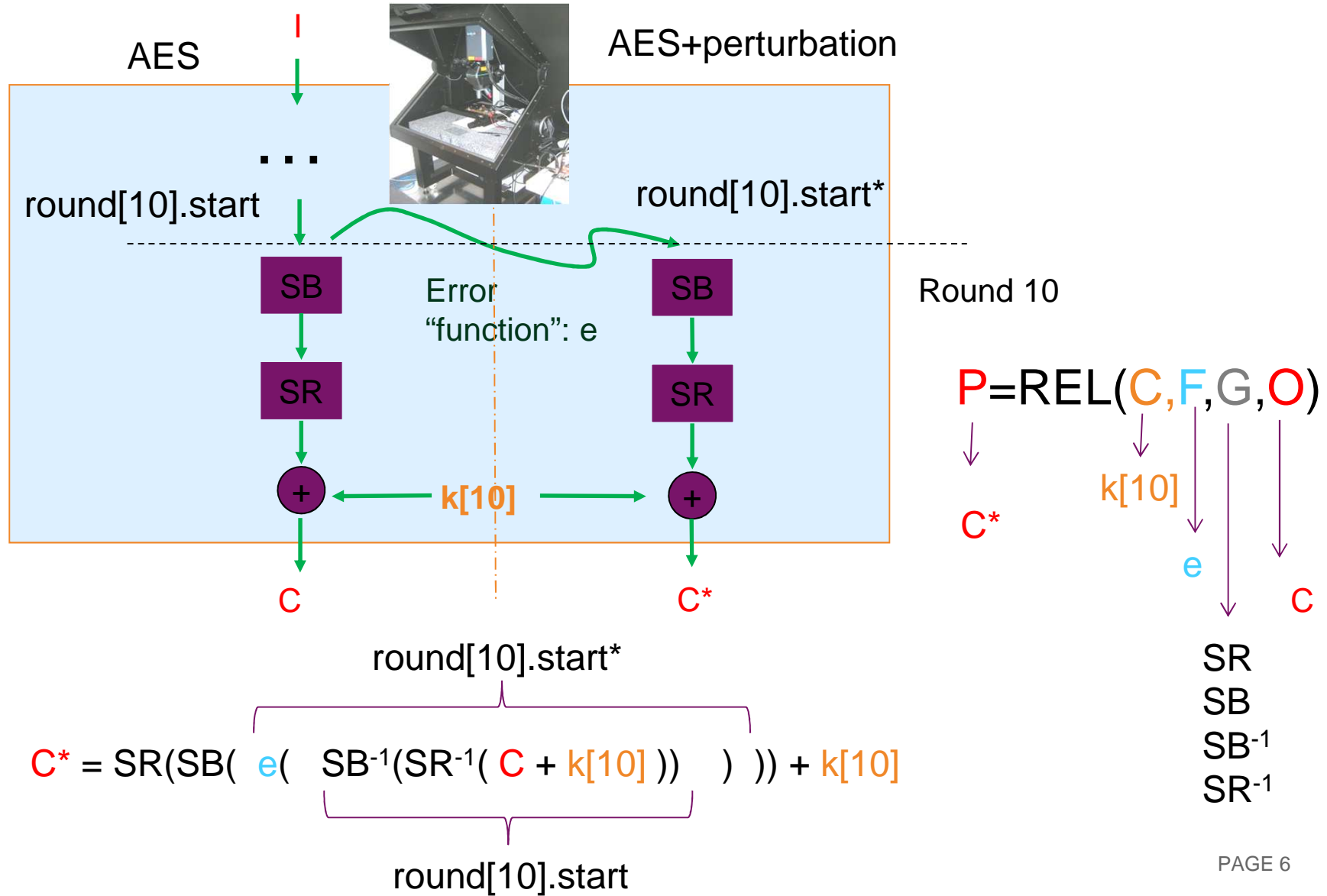
Mathematical and physical relationships REL  
 O,P : observables  
 C: internal data  
 G: mathematical functions  
**F: physical functions**

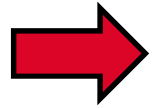
$$P = \text{REL}(C, F, G, O)$$



$$\text{power} = f_1 \left( \underbrace{\text{SB}(\text{I}[0] + \text{k}[0])}_{\text{round}[1].\text{s\_box}} \right)$$







Mathematical and physical relationships REL

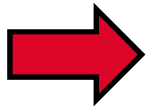
C: internal data

F: (unknown) **physical functions**

G: (known) mathematical functions

O,P : (known) observables

$$P = \text{REL}(C, F, G, O)$$



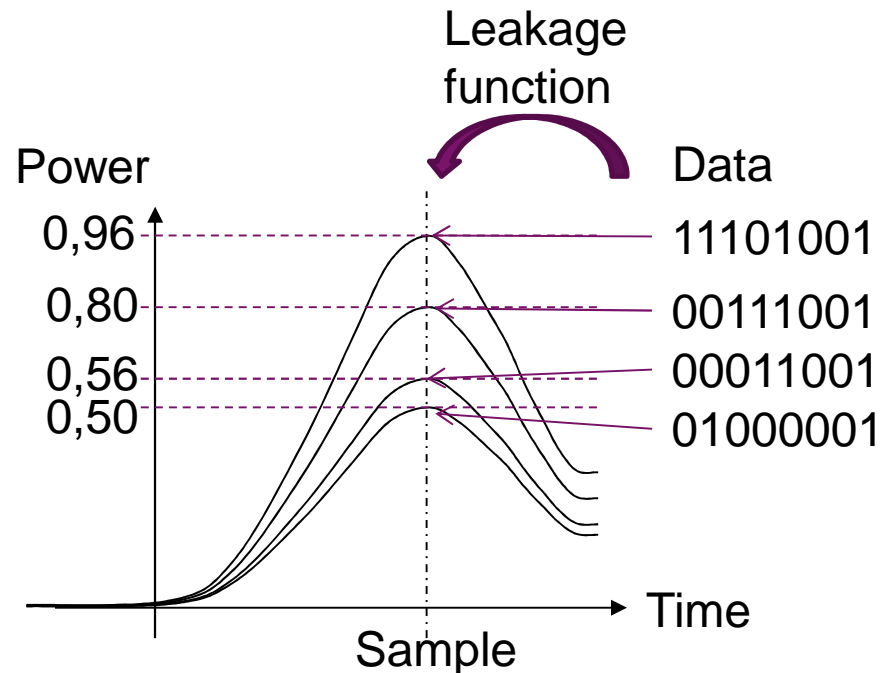
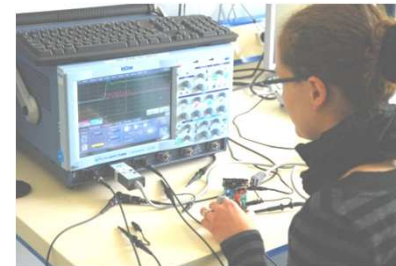
**There is no analytical expression** of physical functions  
**ONLY MODELS** of physical functions

2 kinds of models of physical functions:

- Deterministic (one input → one output)
- Probabilistic (one input → probability for one or several outputs )

Leakage function: DATA → MEASURE

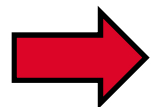
Example 1: power measurement



DATA = 1 byte  
MEASURE = Output of the acquisition chain (power probe+amplifier+oscilloscope) at one instant = power

$$\{0 ; 2^M - 1\} \rightarrow \{0 ; 2^N - 1\}$$

M=# of bits of the data  
N=vertical resolution of the oscilloscope

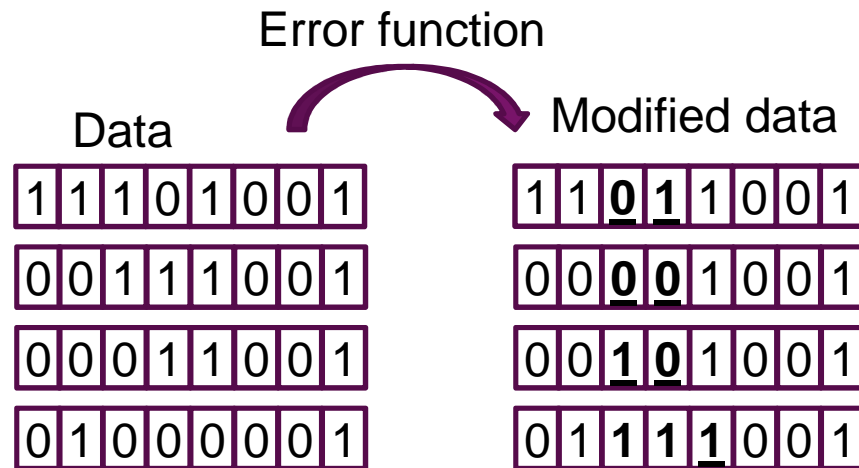
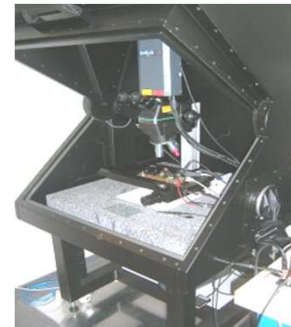


HW, HD, weighted HD or HW are also examples of deterministic leakage functions



Error function : DATA → DATA

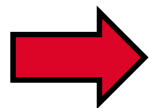
Example: laser bench



DATA = 1 byte  
DATA = DATA modified by the perturbation mean = 1 byte

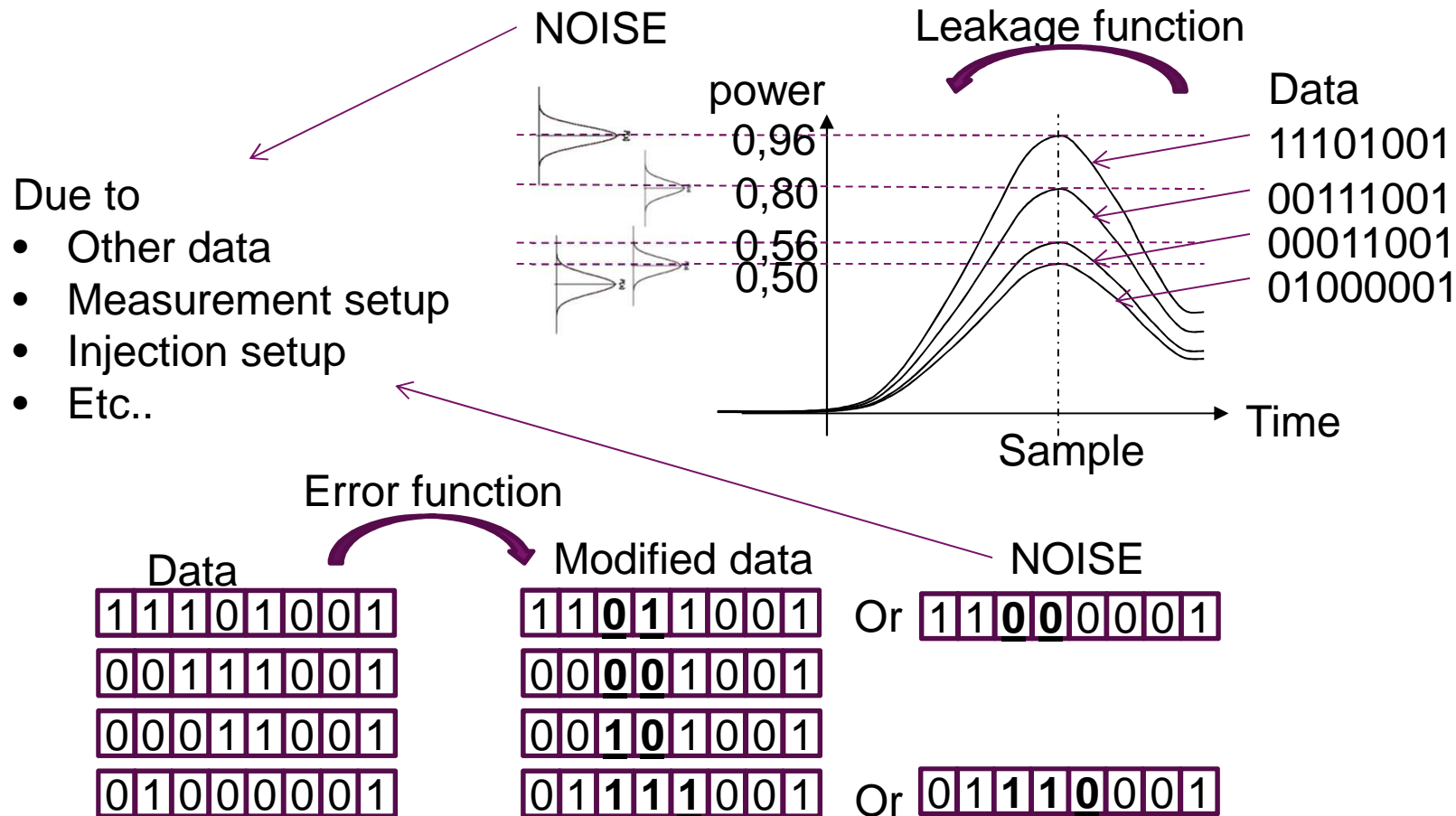
$$\{0 ; 2^M-1\} \rightarrow \{0 ; 2^M-1\}$$

M=# of bits of the data



Bit flip, set, reset, stuck-at, etc. are also examples of deterministic error functions

- ➔ Deterministic physical functions are used for DPA, DBA, FSA, etc.
- ➔ Limitation : experimental setup and other data introduce NOISE → has to be taken into account in the models



Our proposal :

Probabilistic physical function  
=  
Joint probability mass function (pmf)

Example 1:

DATA:  $D \rightarrow R$  and

MEASURE:  $M \rightarrow R$

DATA and MEASURE are considered as two discrete random variables with sample spaces

$D = \{0 ; 2^M - 1\}$  and

$M = \{0 ; 2^N - 1\}$

The joint pmf of the discrete variables DATA\*MEASURE is

$f_{\text{DATA*MEASURE}}: R^2 \rightarrow [0;1]$  defined such that

$f_{\text{DATA*MEASURE}}(x,y) = \Pr(\text{DATA}=x, \text{MEASURE}=y)$  whatever  $x$  and  $y \in R$

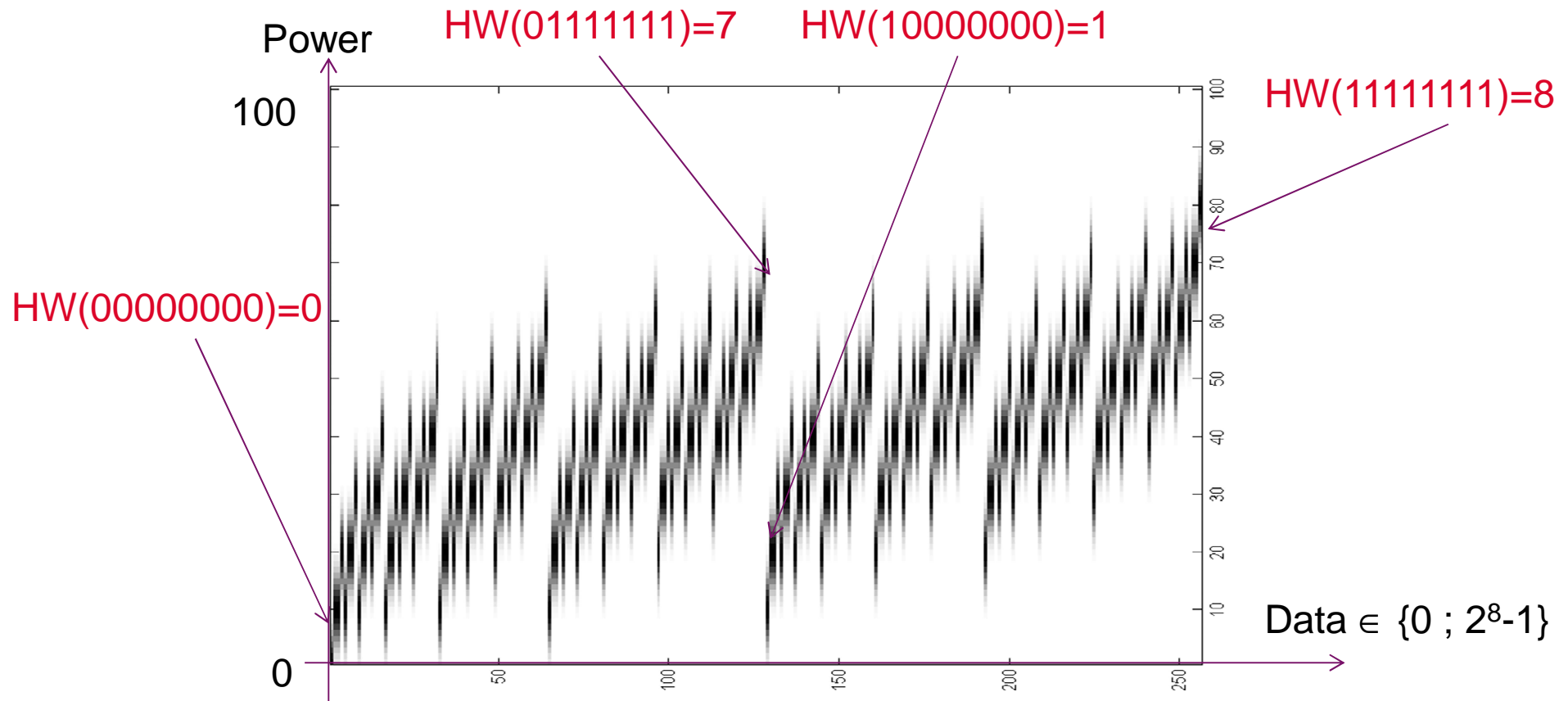
# EXAMPLE 1 : THEORITICAL LEAKAGE FUNCTION

Leakage function:  $y = \text{Power}(x) = \text{Gauss}(10 \cdot \text{HW}(x), 4)$  with  $x \in \{0; 2^8 - 1\}$

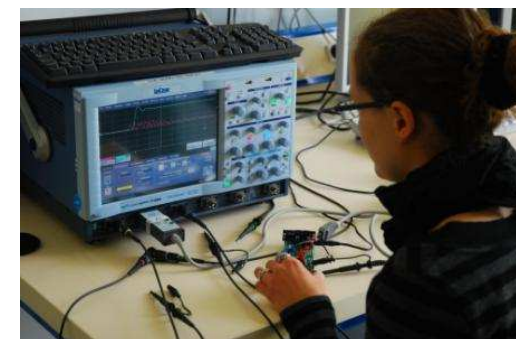
Associated pmf:

↑  
Mean

↑  
Standard deviation

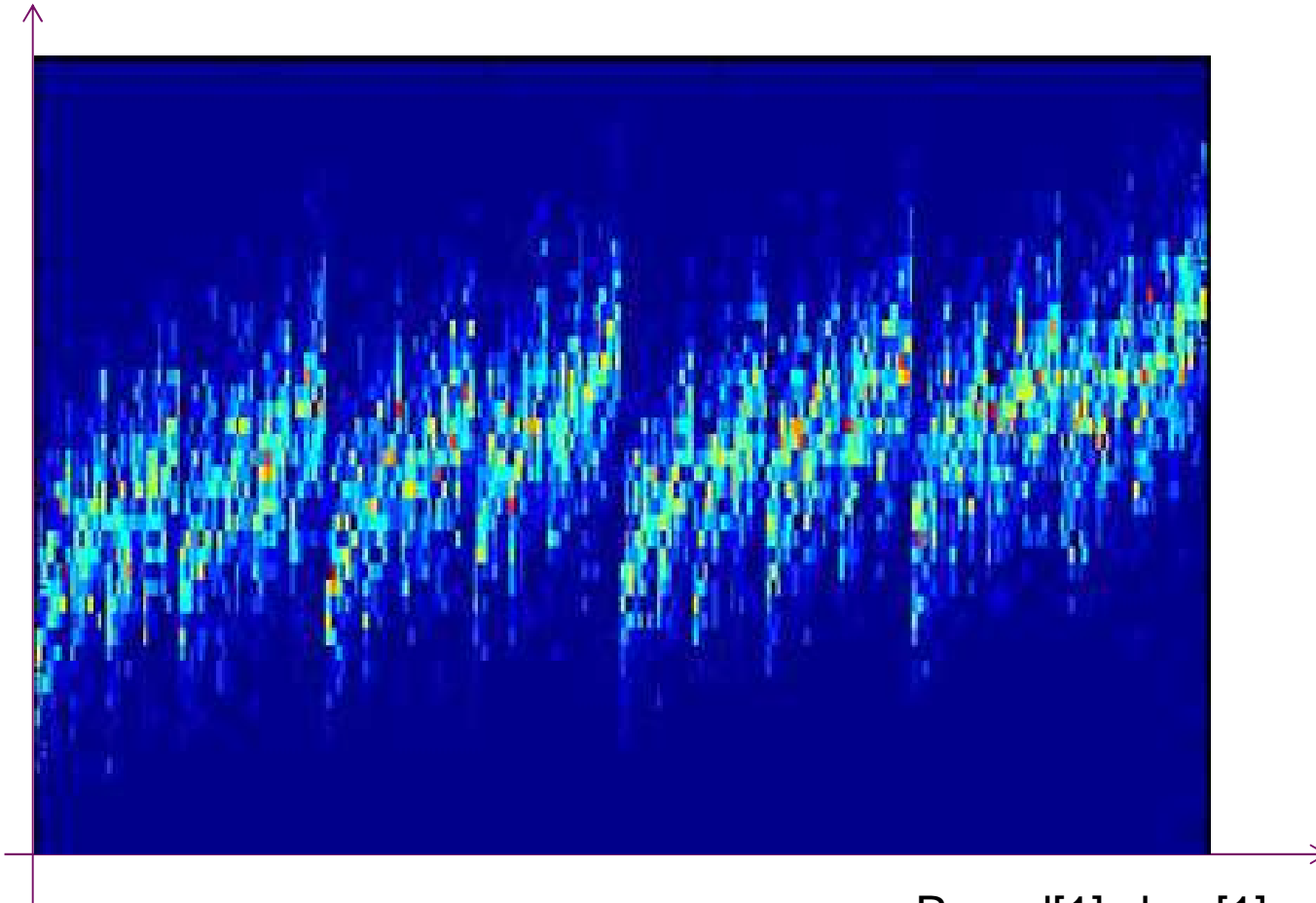


- ➔ 32-bit microcontroller evaluation board (without countermeasure)
- ➔ Software implementation of the AES-128
- ➔ Oscilloscope Tektronix DPO 7104 (1 GHz)
- ➔ Plain texts (known) :  $XX\ 00\ 00\ 00\ 00\ 00\ 00\ 00$  (  $XX \in [0:255]$  )
- ➔ Key (known) :  $43\ 00\ 00\ \dots\ 00\ 00$
- ➔ Measure = power consumption during round 1
- ➔ Data = output of Sbox 1



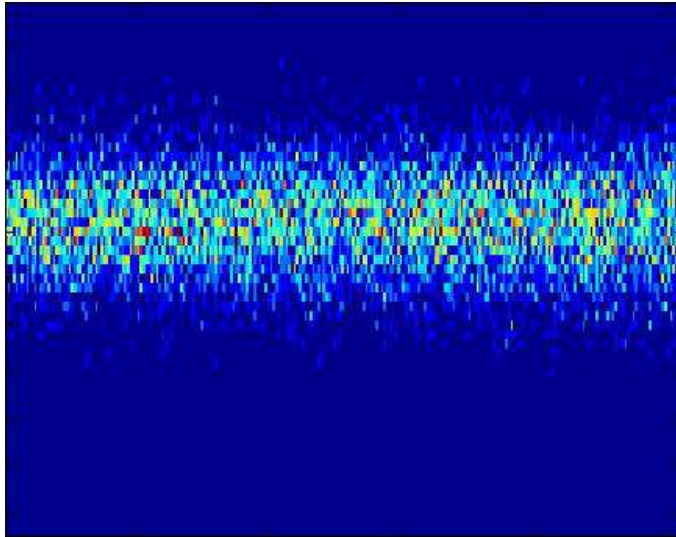
Pmf of a power consumption measured on a 32 bit microcontroller (S Box1, round 1) :

Power

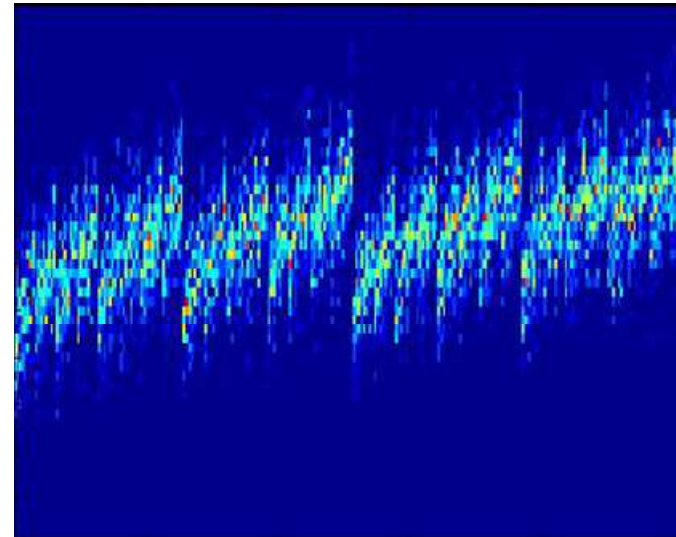


Round[1].sbox[1]  $\in \{0 ; 2^8-1\}$

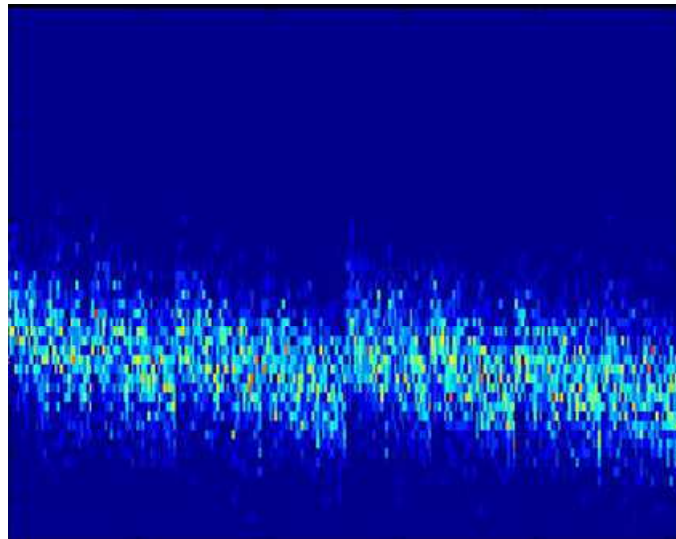
Start of  
round



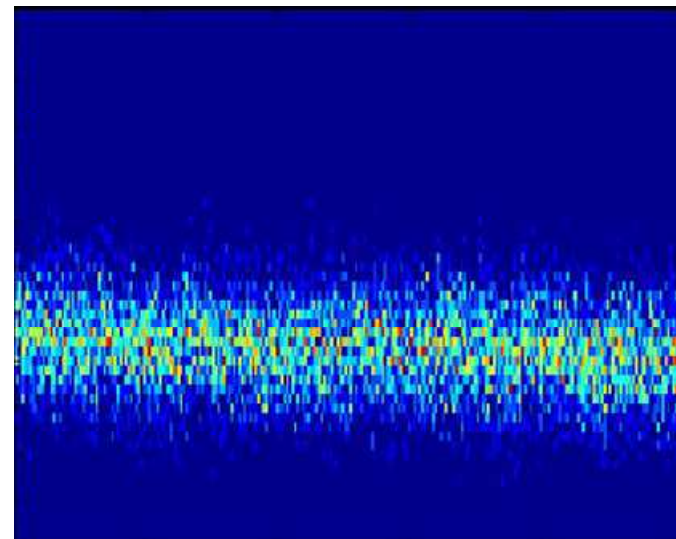
« Start of  
middle  
round »



« End of  
middle  
round »



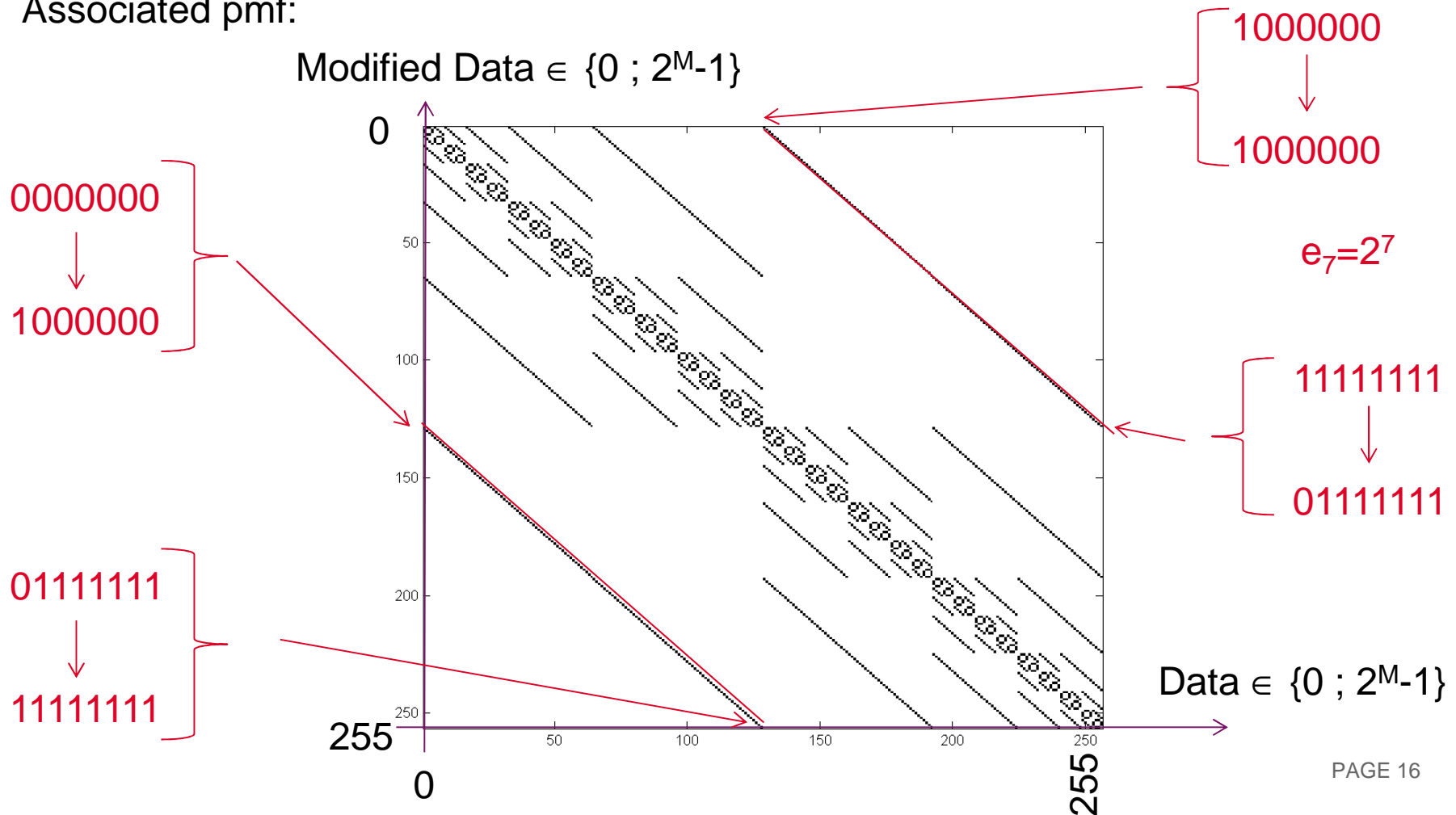
End of  
round



Impact of sample instant

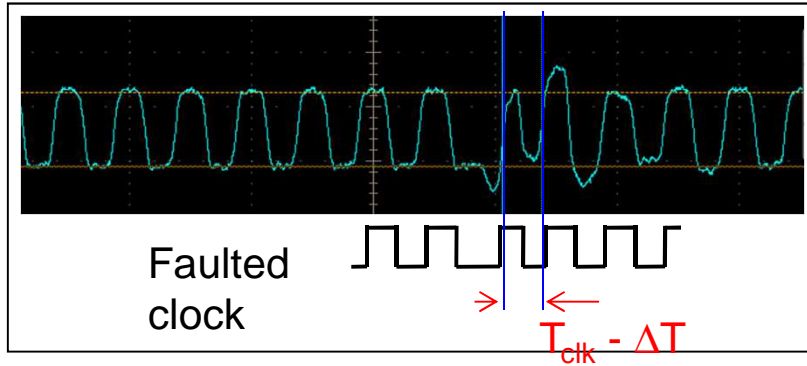
Error function:  $\text{Modified\_Data}(x) = x + e_i$  with  $x \in \{0 ; 2^8-1\}$  and  $e_i = 2^i$  with  $p(e_i) = 1/8$  and  $i \in \{0,7\}$  i.e « random monobit fault »

Associated pmf:





# EXAMPLE 4 : REAL ERROR FUNCTION

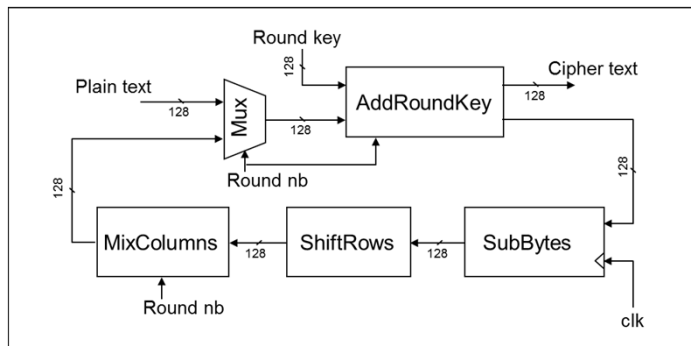
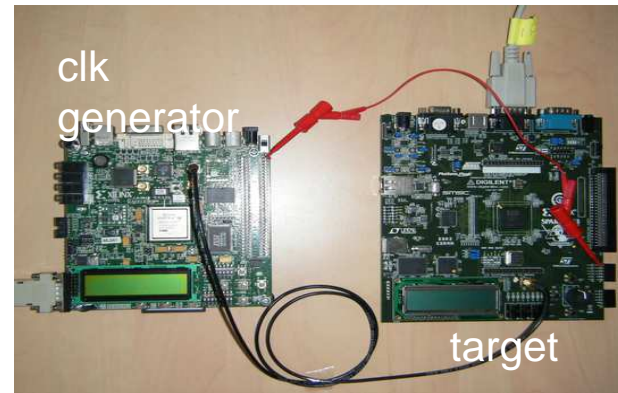


## Fault injection principle :

- reduction of one period of the clock ( $\Delta T$ ) ,
- fault injection by clock set-up time

## Characteristics of clk generator :

- resolution of  $\Delta T$  : ~ 35 ps à 100 MHz,
- low cost platform (FPGA Xilinx),
- easy set-up.

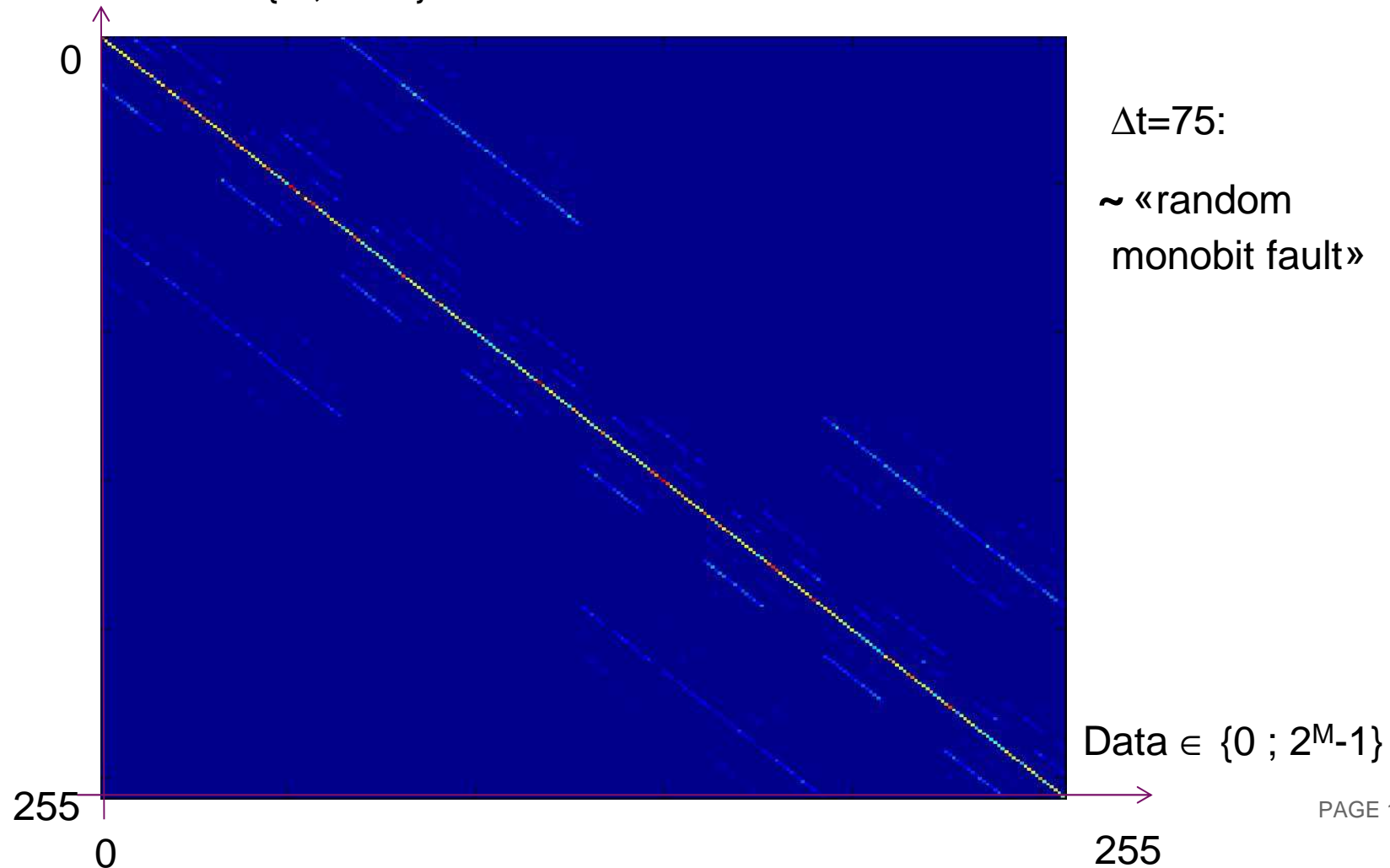


## Target

- AES-128 on FPGA (virtex 3 board)
- Fault during the computation of round 9, i.e fault on round[10].start
- $\Delta t$  from 50 to 130 (\*35ps) by step of 1

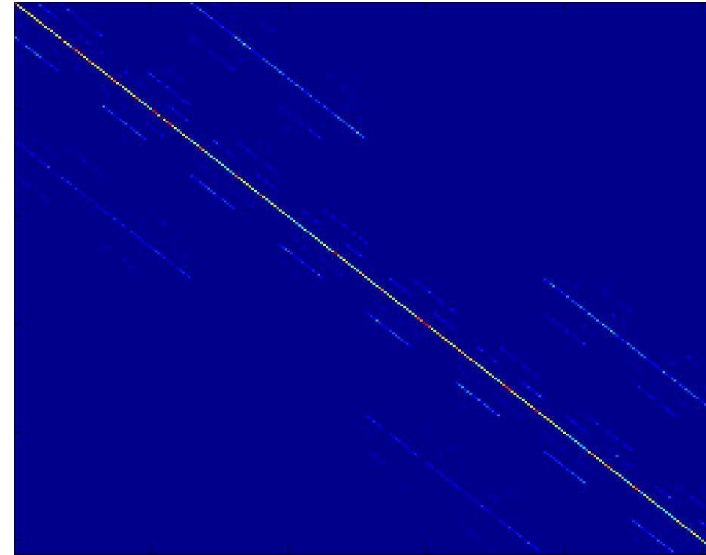
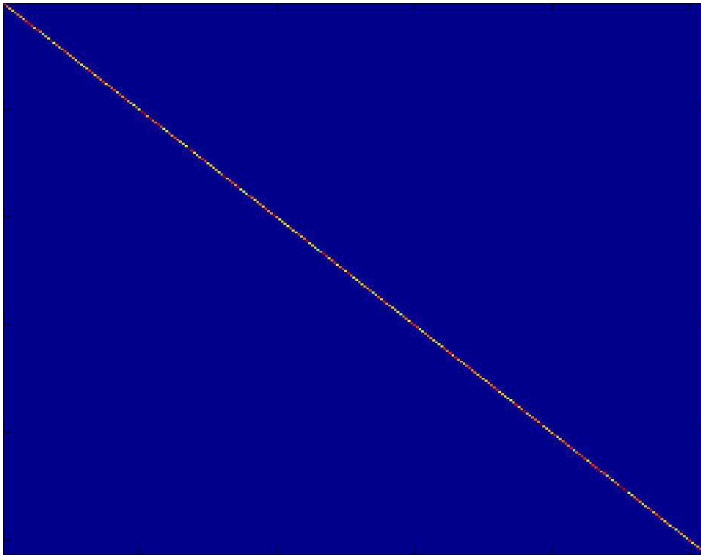
Pmf of an error function measured on an FPGA implementation of the AES (start, round 10) faulted by using clock glitch :

Modified Data  $\in \{0 ; 2^M-1\}$



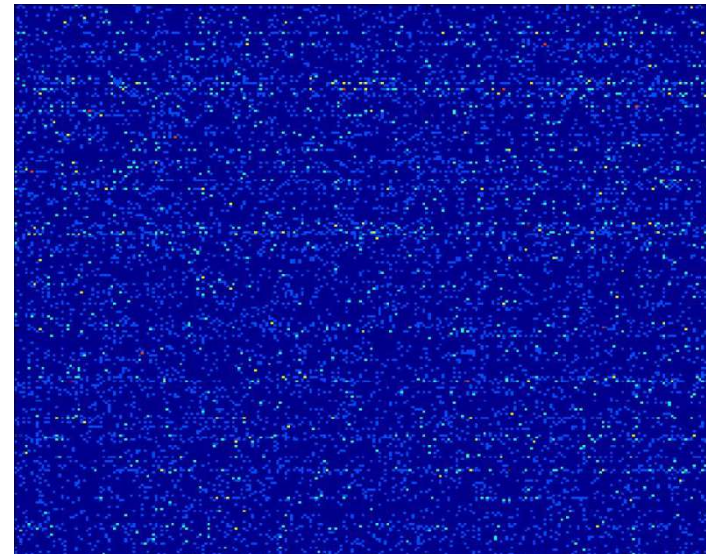
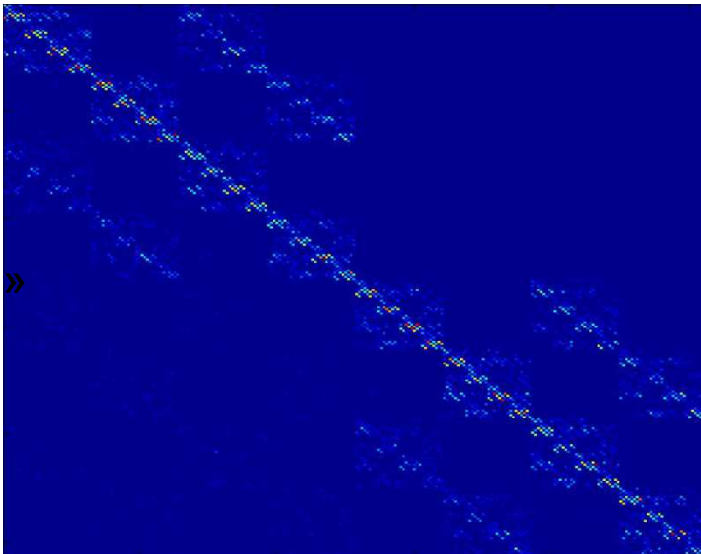
Octet 13

$\Delta t=50$ :  
No fault

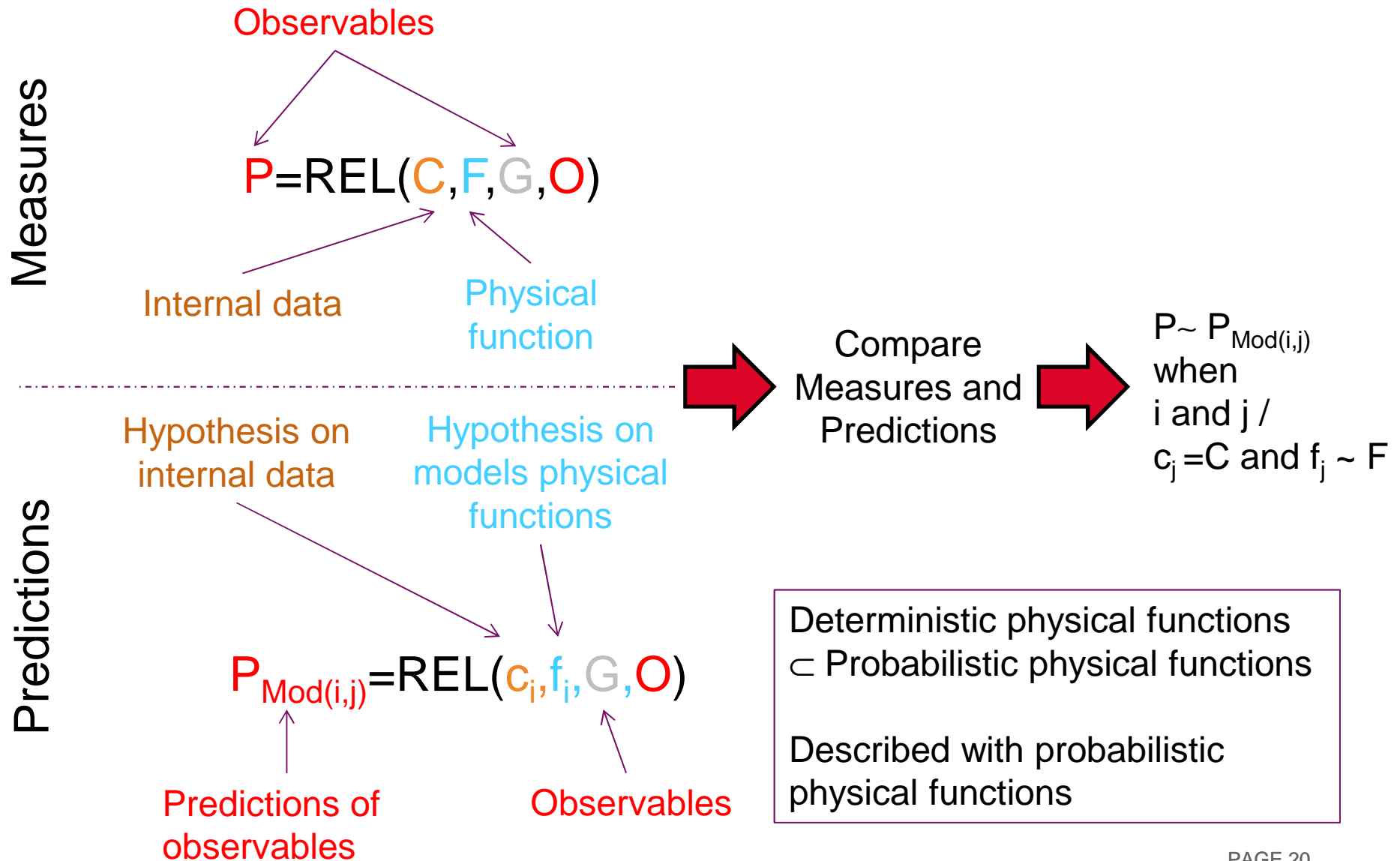


$\Delta t=75$ :  
~ random-  
monobit

$\Delta t=90$   
« strange »



$\Delta t=130$   
random



Measure P for several values O

$$P = \text{REL}(C, F, O)$$



Compute the pmf

$$\Pr(P, O)$$

For all the models of indexes i and j, predict  $\Pr(P_{\text{Mod}(j,i)})$  from the same values of O

$$P_{\text{Mod}(j,i)} = \text{REL}(c_i, f_i, O)$$



Compute the pmfs

$$\Pr(P_{\text{Mod}(i,j)}, O)$$

➔  $\Pr(P, O)$  versus  $\Pr(P_{\text{Mod}(i,j)}, O)$

Any measure of « similarity » between the 2 pmf (see [Cha])

➔  $\Pr(P, O)$  and  $\Pr(P_{\text{Mod}(i,j)}, O) \longrightarrow \Pr(P_{\text{Mod}(i,j)}, P)$

Any measure of « dependancy » between  $P_{\text{Mod}(i,j)}$  and  $P$   
 Ad Hoc : Sieve, count, distance of means,  
 Statistical : mutual information, correlation, etc...

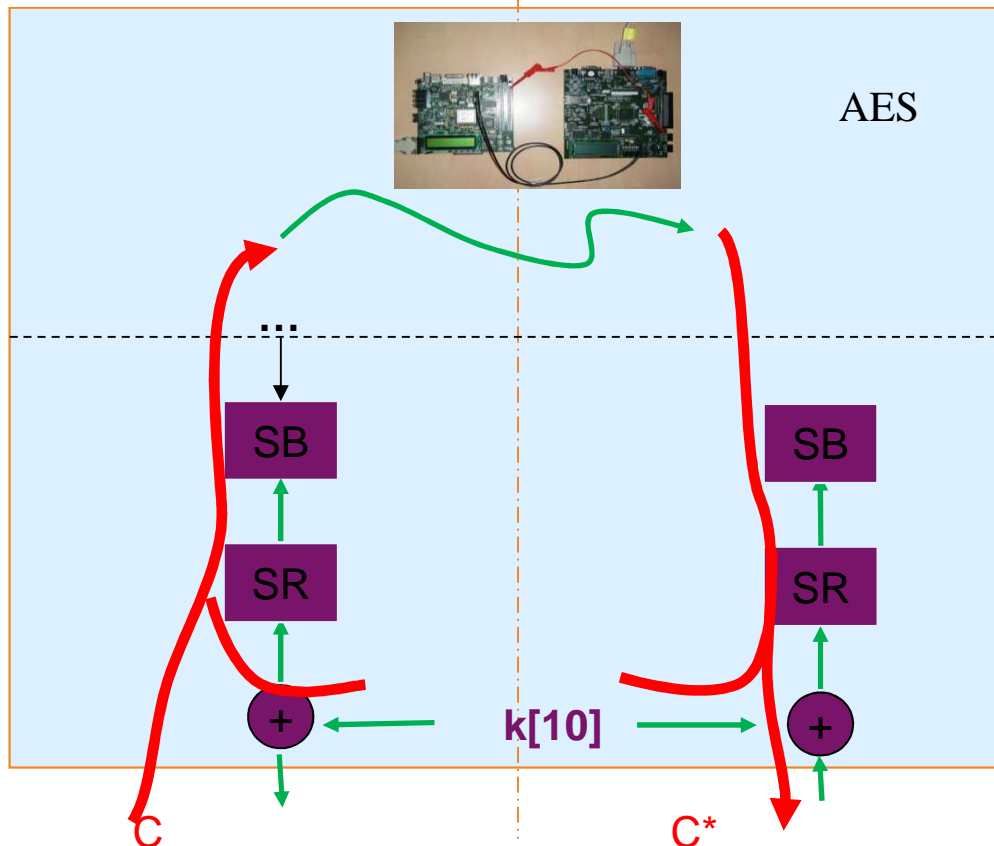
➔  $\Pr(P_{\text{Mod}(i,j)})$  versus  $\Pr(P)$

Any measure of « similarity » between these two pmf (see [Cha])

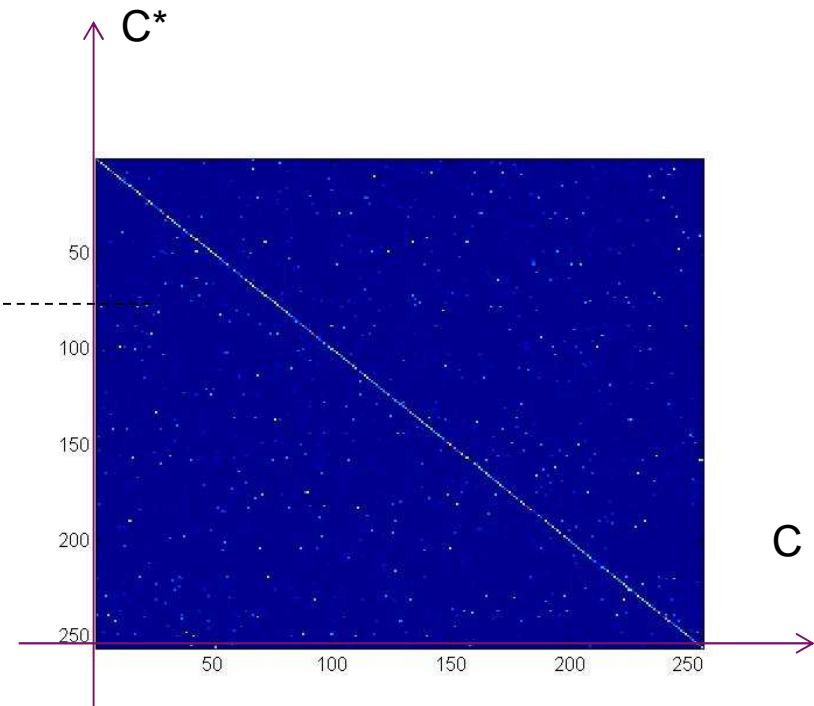
$$\text{Relationship : } C^* = \text{SR}(\text{SB}( e( \underbrace{\text{SB}^{-1}(\text{SR}^{-1}( C + k[10] ))}_{\text{Hypothesis}} ) ) ) ) + k[10]$$

Hypothesis : Random monobit on round[10].start ;

Distinguisher: Sieve



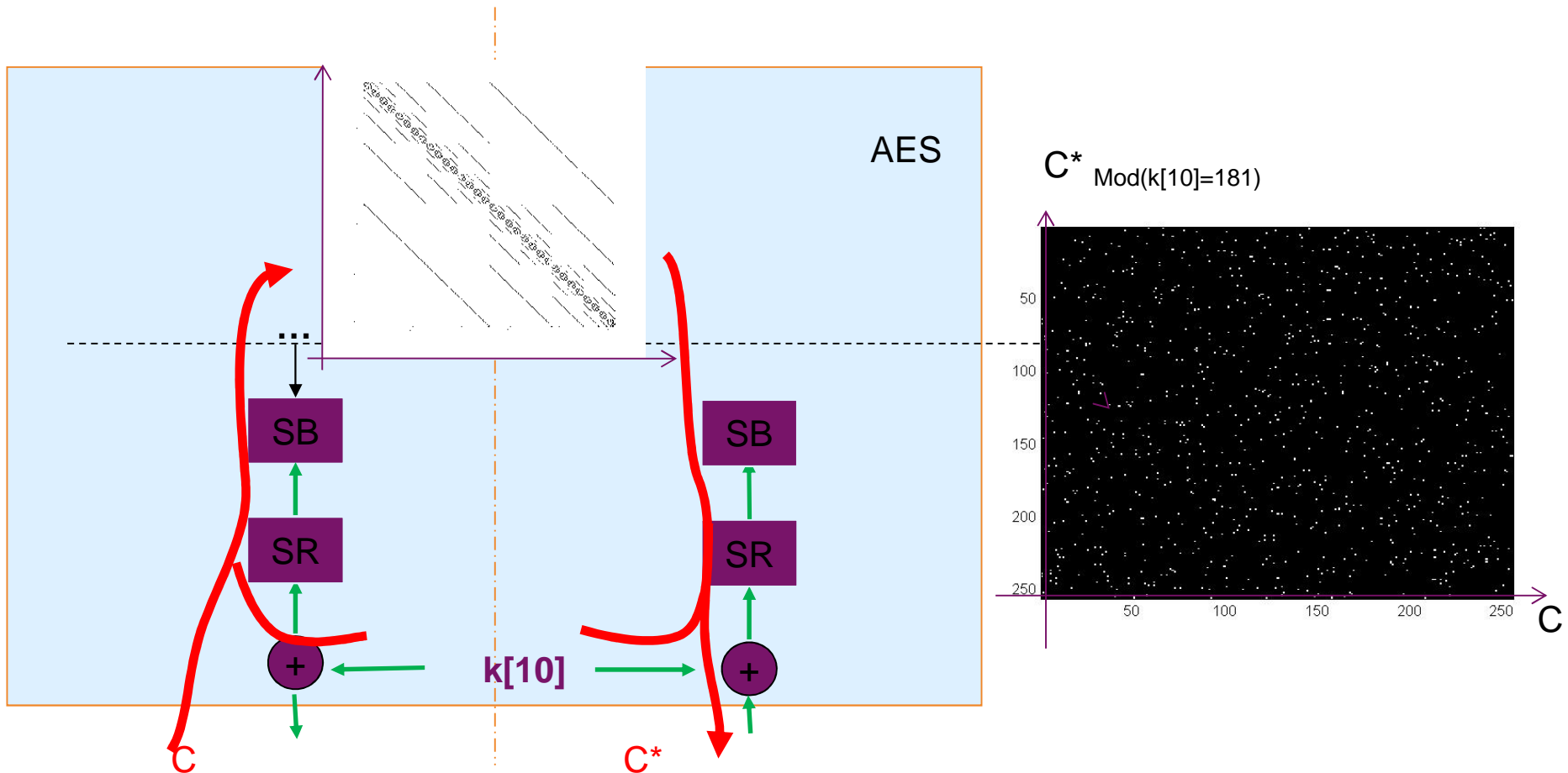
Measure with clock glitch:



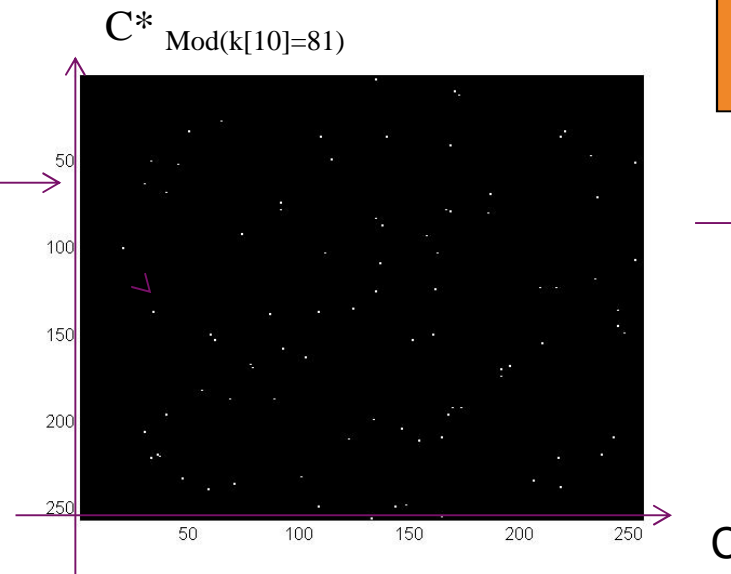
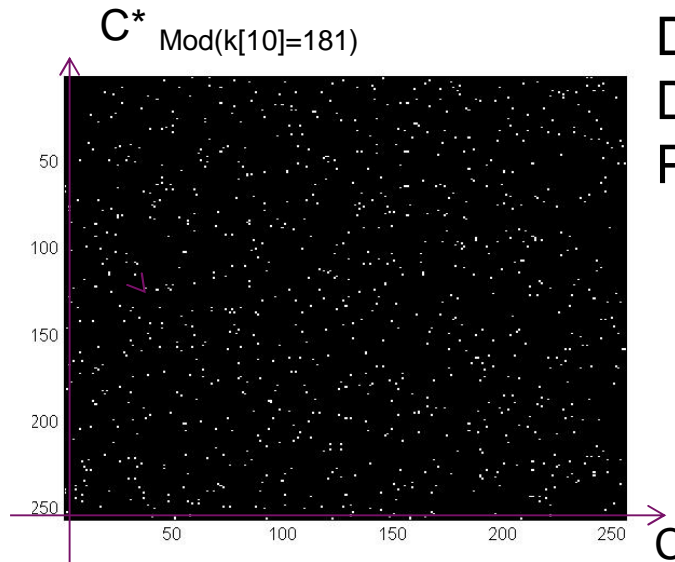
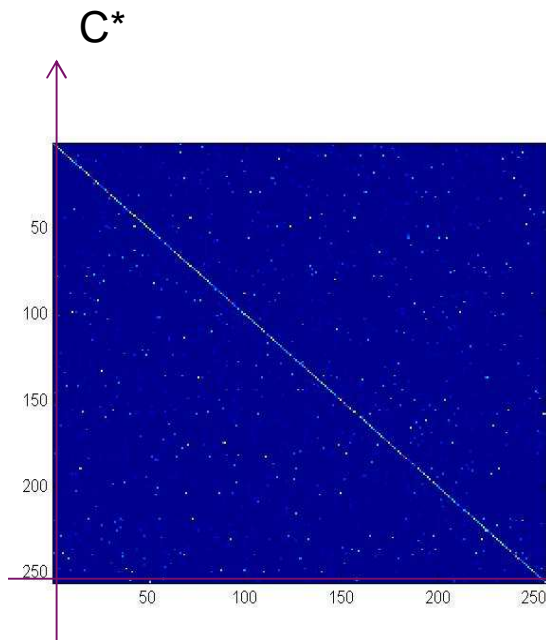


Relationship :  $C^* = SR(SB( e( SB^{-1}(SR^{-1}( C + k[10] ) ) ) ) + k[10]$

Hypothesis : Random monobit on round[10].start







Distinguisher :  
 $D = \sum \sum P_{mf}(C, C^*) \neq 0$  and  
 $P_{mf}(C, C^{**}) \neq 0$

→  $d=937$   
 (1000 experiments)

CPA on  
 $\Pr(C^*_{\text{Mod}(k[10])}, C^*)$   
 works also very  
 well

→  $d=87$   
 (1000 experiments)

A long list of physical attacks are covered by this formalism:

- Described by only three main parameters
- Relationships
  - Models of physical function
  - Distinguisher

| Attack                          | Relationships  | Physical function   | Kind of physical functions | Similarity and distance tools |
|---------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Semi-exhaustive (on octet $j$ ) | $R_0$<br>$O = \{plain\}$<br>$P = \{cipher\}$<br>$C = \{k\_sch[0]\}$                              | $f(x) = x$ if $x$ is the $j^{th}$ octet<br>$f(x) = 0$ else  | Determ.                    | All                           |
| $\mu$ -probing                  | $R_1$<br>$O = \{plain^j\}$<br>$P = \{probe\}$<br>$C = \{k\_sch[0]^j\}$                           | $f(x) = R_\Omega(x)$ with $\Omega \in \{1, 2, 4, \dots, 128\}$  | Determ.                    | All                           |
| DPA [8]                         | $R_2$<br>$O = \{cipher^j\}$<br>$P = \{Power\}$<br>$C = \{k\_sch[10]^j\}$                         | $f(x) = R_\Omega(x)$ with $\Omega \in \{1, 2, 4, \dots, 128\}$  | Determ.                    | DoM or Pearson correlation    |
| CPA [3]                         | $R_1$<br>$O = \{plain^j\}$<br>$P = \{power\}$<br>$C = \{k\_sch[0]^j\}$                           | $f(x) = HW(x \oplus \Omega)$ with $\Omega \in [1, 255]$   | Determ.                    | Pearson correlation           |
| MIA [18]                        | $R_1$<br>$O = \{plain^j\}$<br>$P = \{power\}$<br>$C = \{k\_sch[0]^j\}$                           | $f(x) = HW(x) + N$ with $N$ a Gaussian noise  | Probab.                    | Mutual information            |
| DFA1 [7]                        | $R_3$<br>$O = \{cipher^j\}$<br>$P = \{faulted^j\}$<br>$C = \{k\_sch[10]^j\}$                     | $f(x) = x \oplus \Omega$ with $\Omega \in \{1, 2, 4, \dots, 128\}$ and $(Pr(\Omega) = 1/8) \forall \Omega$                                | Probab.                    | Sieve                         |
| DFA2 [16]                       | $R_4$<br>$O = \{cipher^j\}$<br>$P = \{faulted^j\}$<br>$C = \{k\_sch[10]^j, round[9], m\_col^j\}$ | $h(x) = x$ and $g(x, \Omega) = x \oplus \Omega$ with $\Omega \in [1, 255]$<br>$f(y, \Gamma) = y \oplus \Gamma$ with $\Gamma \in [1, 255]$ | Determ.                    | Count                         |
| DFA+ [16]                       | $R_4$<br>$O = \{cipher^j\}$<br>$P = \{power\}$<br>$C = \{k\_sch[10]^j, round[9], m\_col^j\}$     | $h(x) = HW(x)$<br>$f$ and $g$ as above  | Determ.                    | Pearson correlation           |
| DBA [15]                        | $R_1$<br>$O = \{plain^j\}$<br>$P = \{behavior\}$<br>$C = \{k\_sch[0]^j\}$                        | $f(x) = (R_\Omega(x) == 0)$ with $\Omega \in [1, 255]$  | Determ.                    | Pearson correlation           |
| FSA [12]                        | $R_2$<br>$O = \{cipher^j\}$<br>$P = \{intensity^j\}$<br>$C = \{k\_sch[10]^j\}$                   | $f(x) = HW(x)$ or $f(x) = R_\Omega(x)$ with $\Omega \in \{1, 2, 4, \dots, 128\}$  | Determ.                    | Pearson correlation           |

Table 2. Examples of physical attacks and associated parameters

## Conclusions

- Proposal of a model of physical functions
- Create a formal link between a wide class of fault and side-channel attacks
- Choice of the model more important than the choice of the distinguisher

## Perspectives

- Extend to other attacks (for example on public key algorithms)
- Determine new relationships and combine existing attacks
- Analyze the impact on protections
- Answer many open questions, among them
  - How to find the physical function which leaks the most?

Thanks to D. Aboukassimi, J.-M Dutertre, I. Exurville,  
J. Fournier, R. Lashermes, J.-B. Rigaud, A. Tria and  
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