

# FIMA: Fault Intensity Map Analysis

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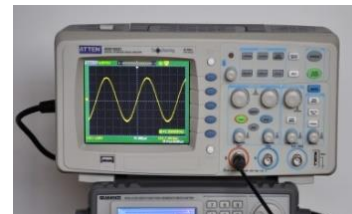
# Outline

- Introduction
- Background
- FIMA: Fault Intensity Map Analysis
- Attack on Ascon
- Results
- Conclusions and Future Directions

# Introduction

# Side-channel Attacks

- Effective information security requires cryptography
- Cryptographic Algorithms mathematically sound
  - Cryptanalysis not much easier than brute-force attacks
- However, cryptography conducted in the physical world
  - Hardware and software
  - Recover secret key
- Side Channel Attack techniques
  - Passive (Power, EM, Timing)
  - Active (Fault injections)

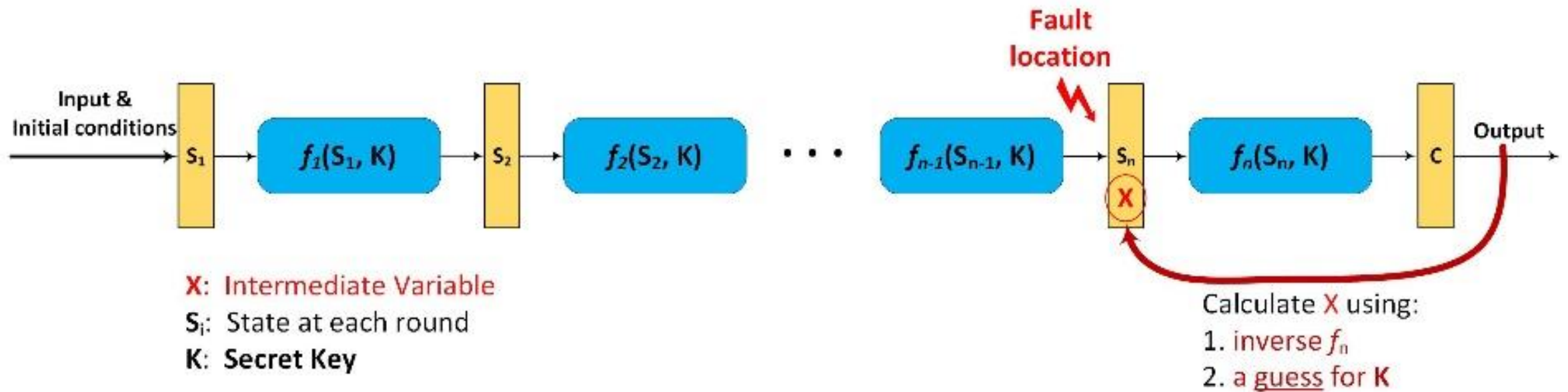


# Our research

- Look to improve previous statistical fault analysis attacks
- Introduce FIMA: Fault Intensity Map Analysis
  - Builds on statistical fault attacks
  - Combines observations of fault *bias* and *intensity*
  - Reduces total number of fault experiments to recover secret key
- Demonstrate on Ascon authenticated cipher

# Background

# Fault Analysis



# Statistical Fault Analysis

## Differential Fault Analysis

- Collect ciphertexts with **and** without faults

### Advantages

Fewer experiments

### Disadvantages

Known state

Precise faults

## Statistical Fault Analysis

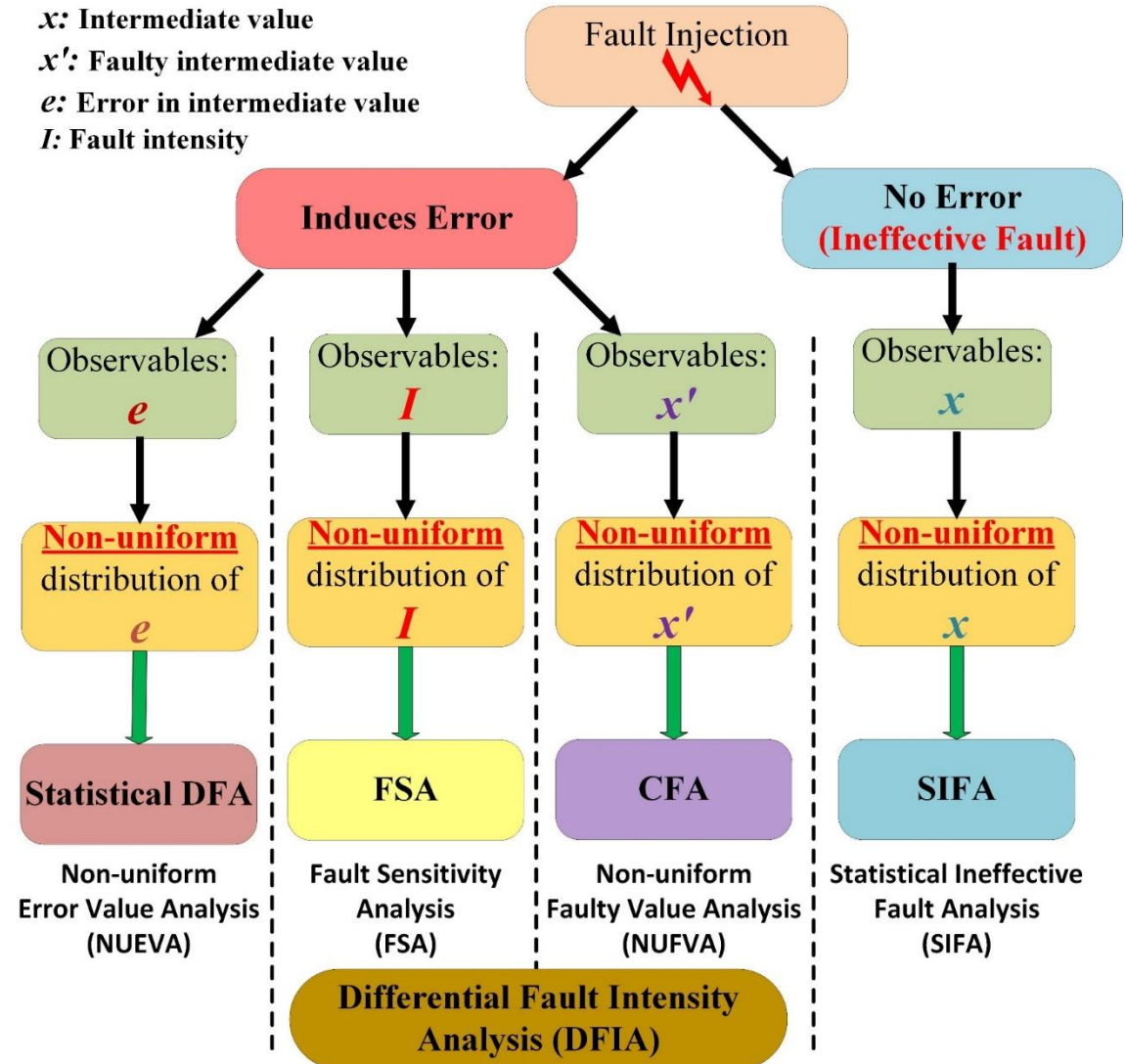
- Collect ciphertexts with **or** without faults
- Look for properties of output data

### Advantages

Relaxed assumptions on state and fault model

### Disadvantages

More experiments



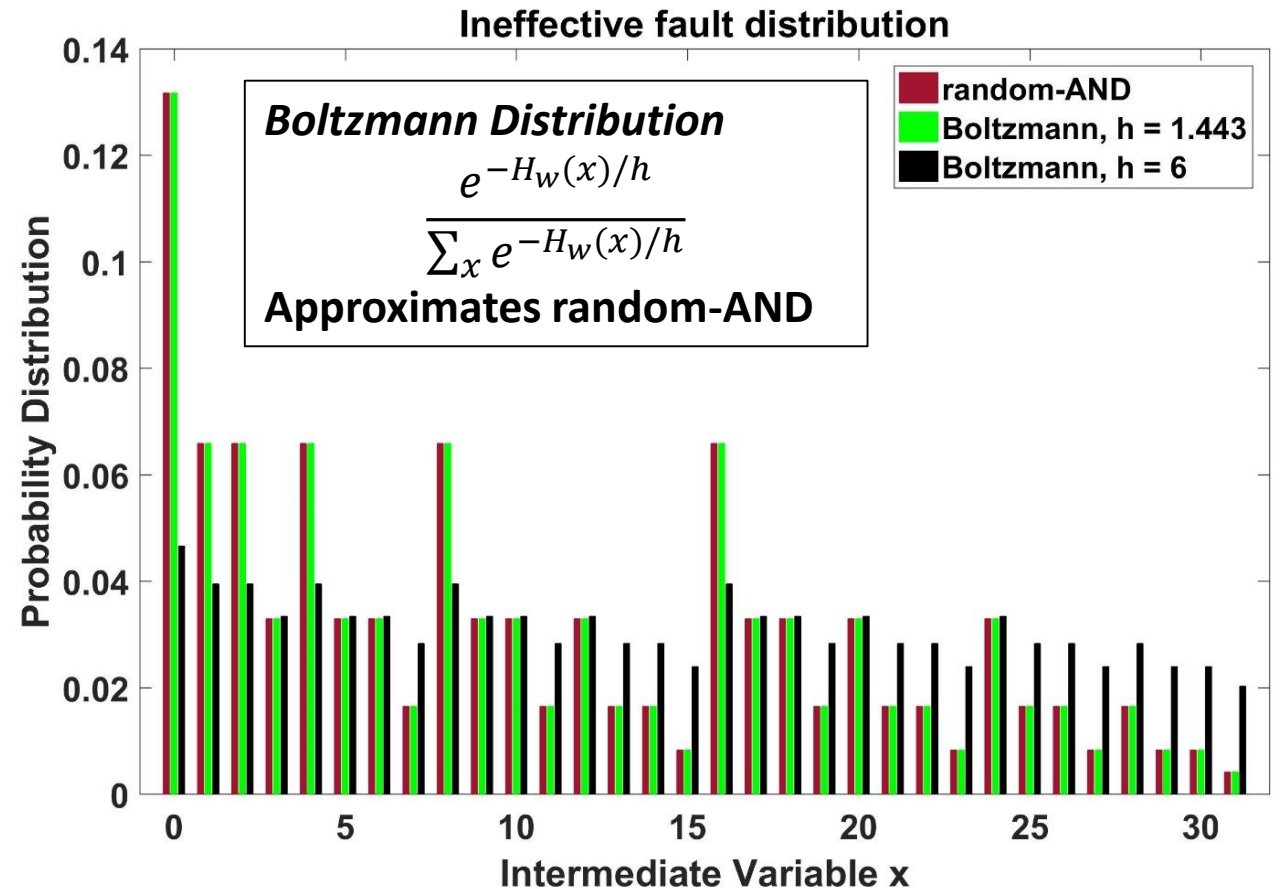


# Data-dependent error results in *fault bias*

- Random AND model

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x} \odot \mathbf{e}$$

- if  $p_x, p_e = 0.5$ 
  - $\mathbf{x}'$  biased to low Hamming weight
  - Values of  $\mathbf{x}$  with **low/high** HW experience fault **less/more** likely;
  - Correct values biased toward low HW
- Suggests analysis of bias to recover  $\mathbf{x}$
- Foundation of SIFA (Dobraunig et al, 2018)

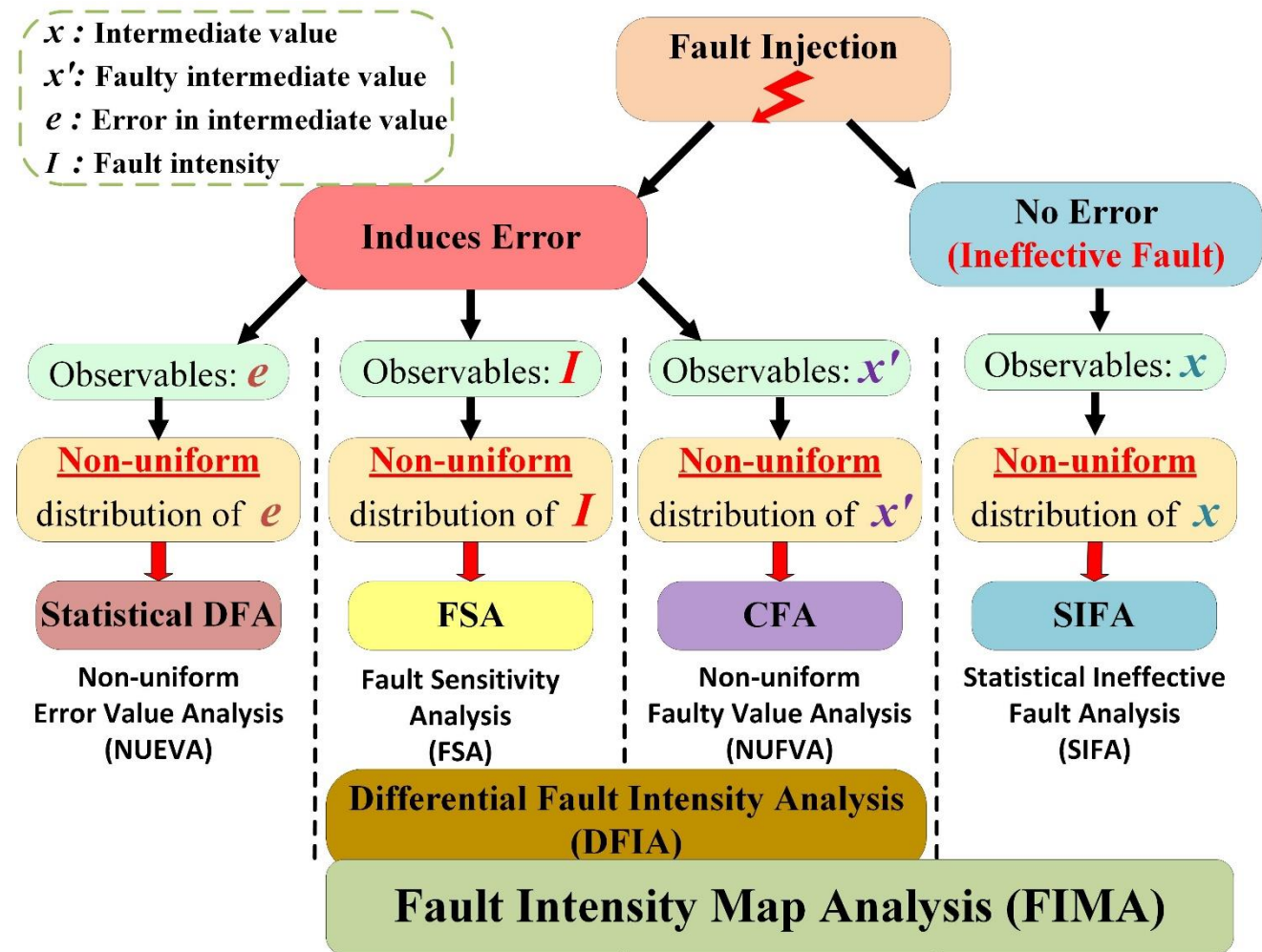


# FIMA: Fault Intensity Map Analysis



# FIMA: Fault Intensity Map Analysis

## FIMA exploits

- Fault bias
- *Intensity disposition*
  - Correlation between fault distribution and intensity



# Correlation of fault distribution with intensity

- Fault intensity is the rate, propensity, or strength at which faults are applied
  - Different meanings for different physical faults (e.g., clock, voltage, optical, etc.)
- With very low intensity, distribution of intermediate variables close to uniform
- With high intensity, probabilities of intermediate variables change
  - some , some 
- *Probability distribution correlated with fault intensity*
  - Used in Fault Sensitivity Analysis (FSA) (Li et al, 2010), Differential Fault Intensity Analysis (DFIA) (Ghalaty et al, 2014)
  - *Stable* intensity profile - *correct* key guess
  - *Changing* intensity profile - *incorrect* key guess

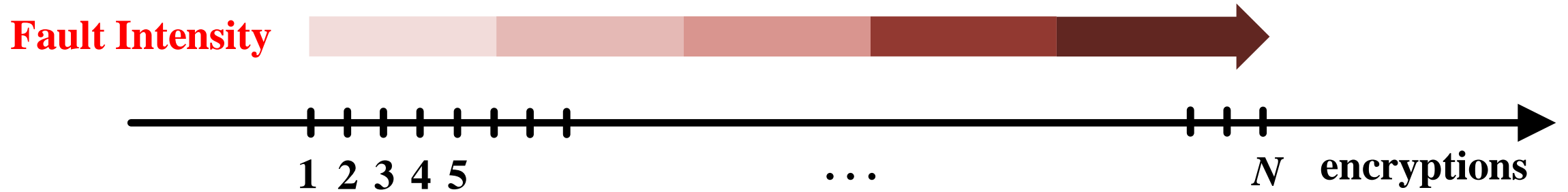
# Random AND model modified for intensity

- random-AND model modified to include the effect of *intensity*:

$$x' = \begin{cases} x, & \text{with probability } 1 - p \\ x \odot e, & \text{with probability } p \end{cases}$$

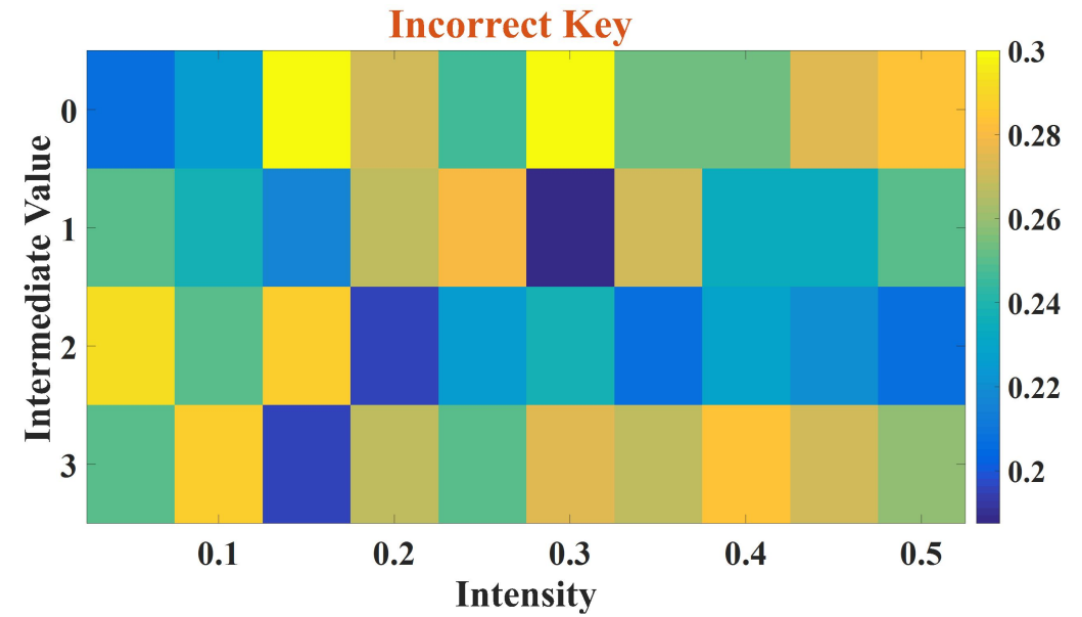
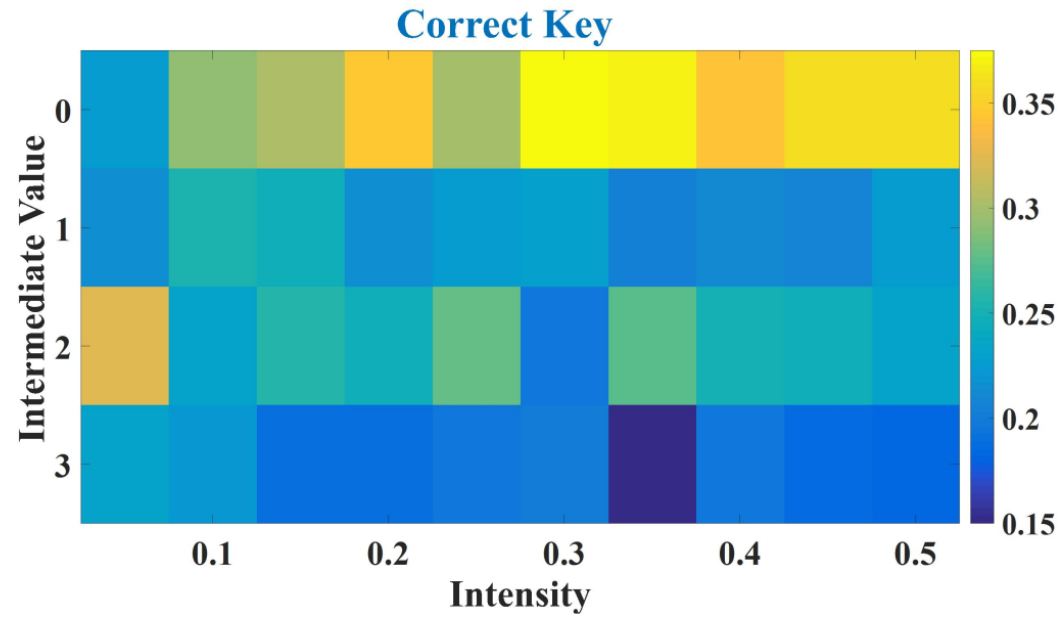
- Where  $p$  is a measure of fault intensity;
- With probability  $p$ :
  - Data distribution follows the random-AND model.
- With probability  $1 - p$  fault intensity not enough to induce any error;
  - Differs from ineffective fault induction!
  - Under ineffective fault induction, intensity is enough to induce errors for *some* data.

# Fault Intensity Map Analysis

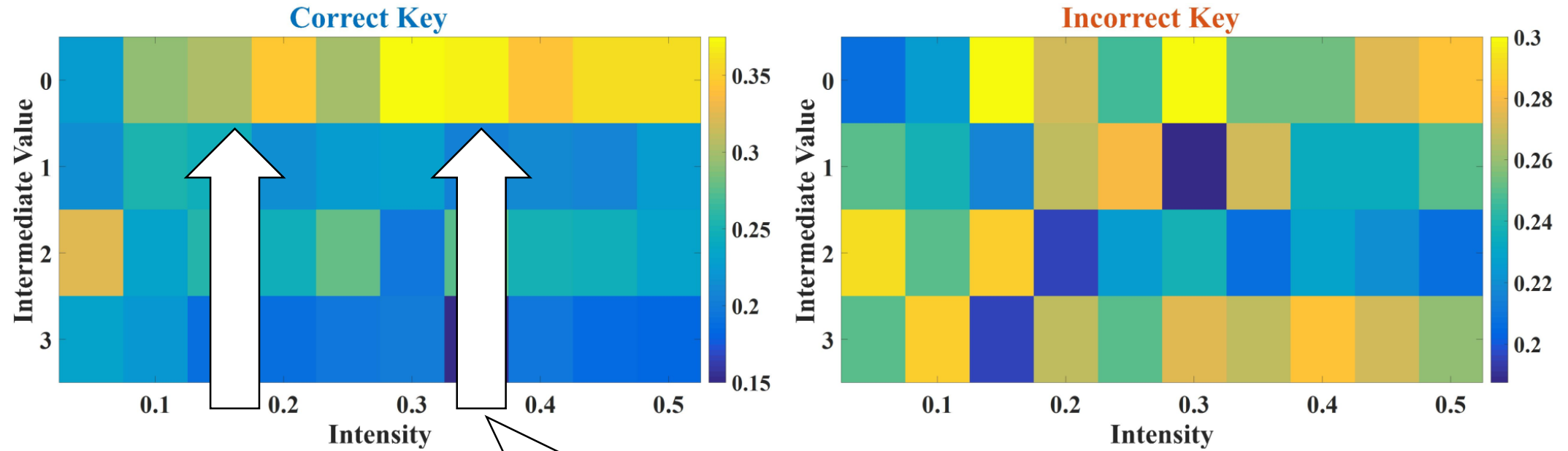


- Collect ciphertexts under fault injection with varying intensities
- Calculate the intermediate variable with a key candidate
- Define *fault images*:
  - 2D map of the distribution of intermediate values at every fault intensity
  - One for each target subkey
- Distinct features of the fault image reveals the correct key.

# Fault Images



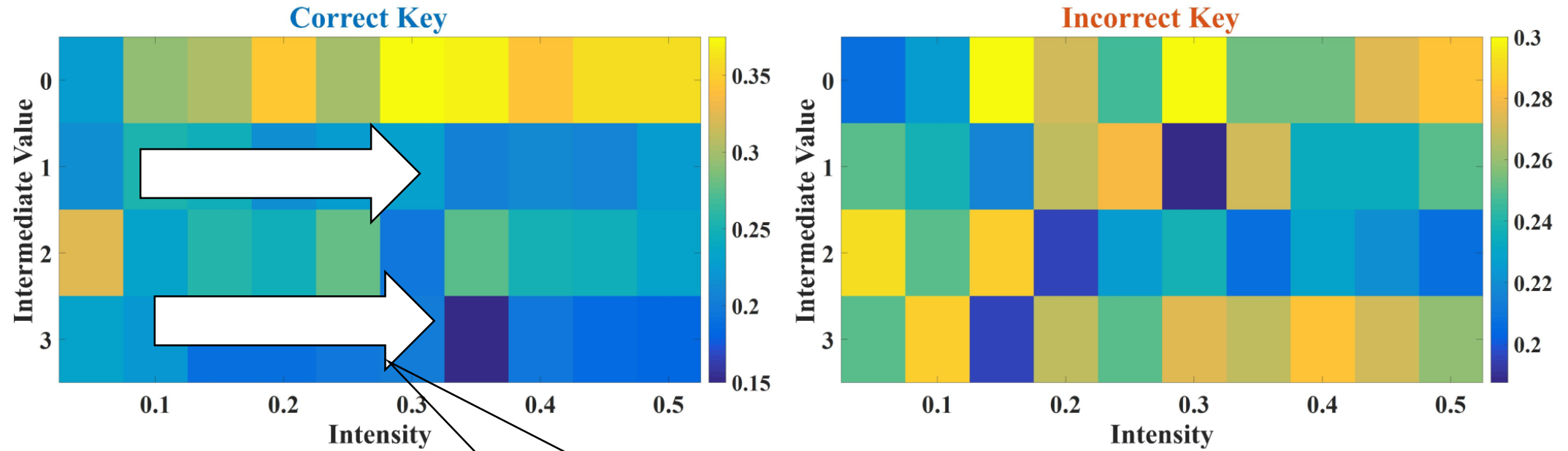
# Fault Images



**Correct key biased toward low HW**

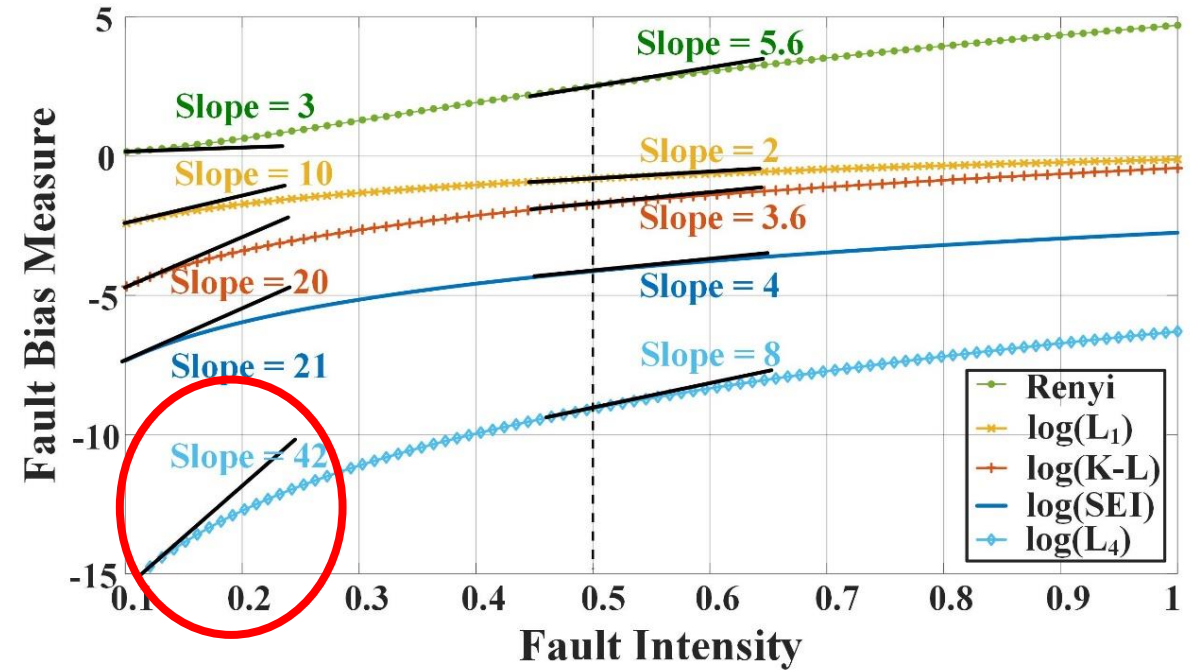
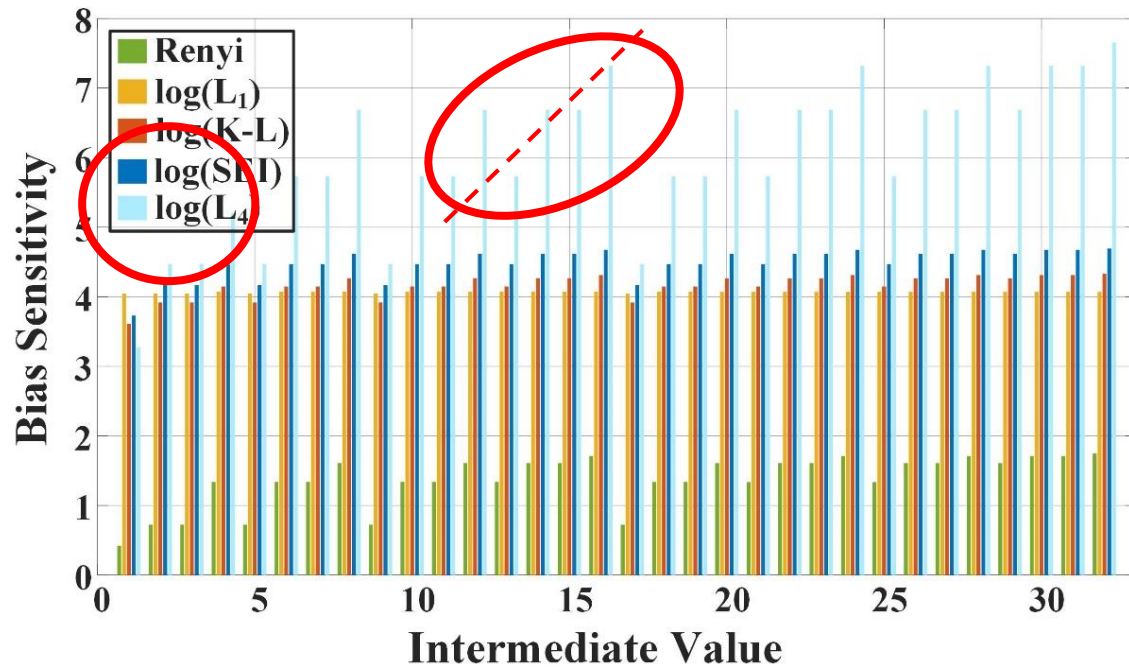


# Fault Images



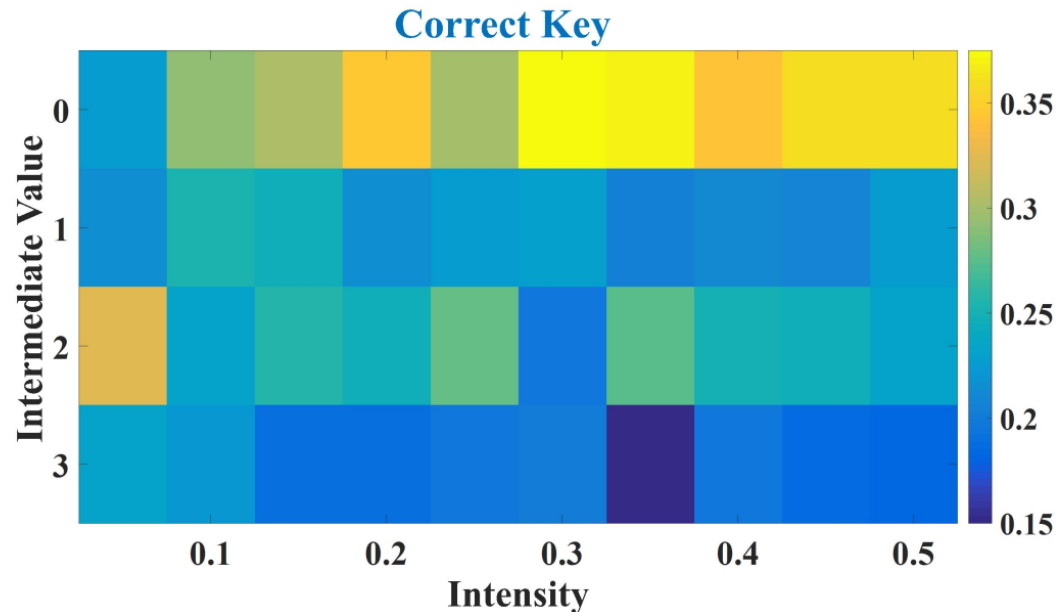
Small intensity changes

# Choice of distance metric



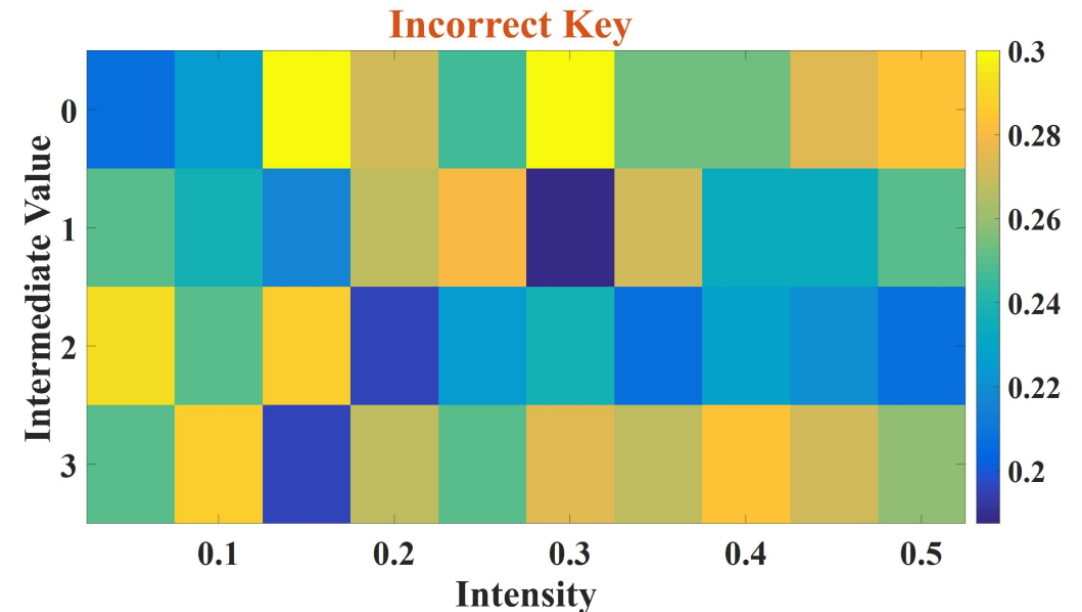
**$L_4$ -norm has highest sensitivity**

# Fault Images



Score value for data bias

$$\mathcal{D}_b(p_X; K) = \log\left(\sum_i (p_i - q_i)^4\right)$$



Score value intensity disposition

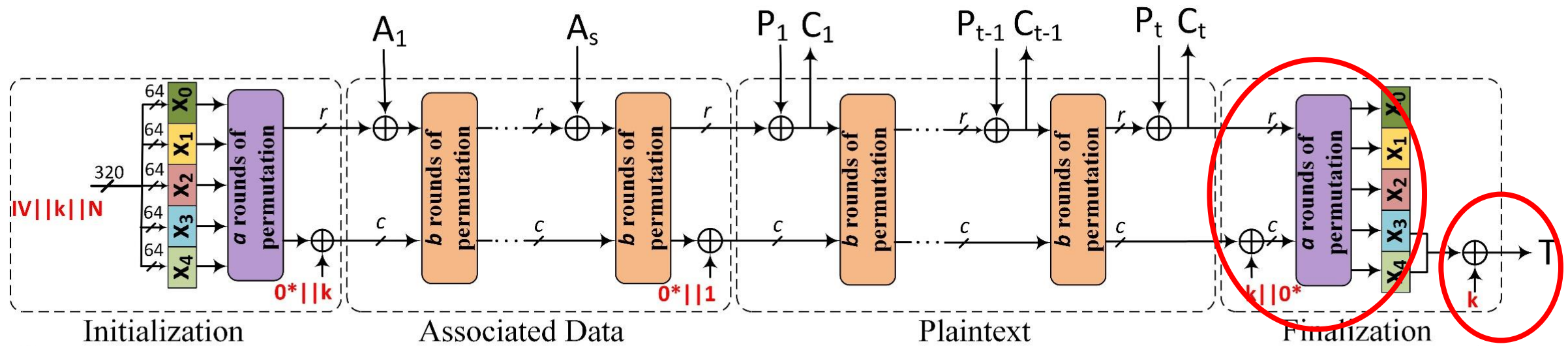
$$D_I(p_X; K) = -\log\left(\frac{1}{R-1} \sum_{i=1}^{R-1} \mathcal{D}_4\left(p_X(x, I_{i+1}; K) || p_X(x, I_i; K)\right)\right)$$

Total score is weighted sum of two components

$$\mathcal{R}(K, \gamma) = (1 - \gamma) \cdot \mathcal{D}_b(p_X; K) + \gamma \cdot D_I(p_X; K)$$

# Attack on Ascon

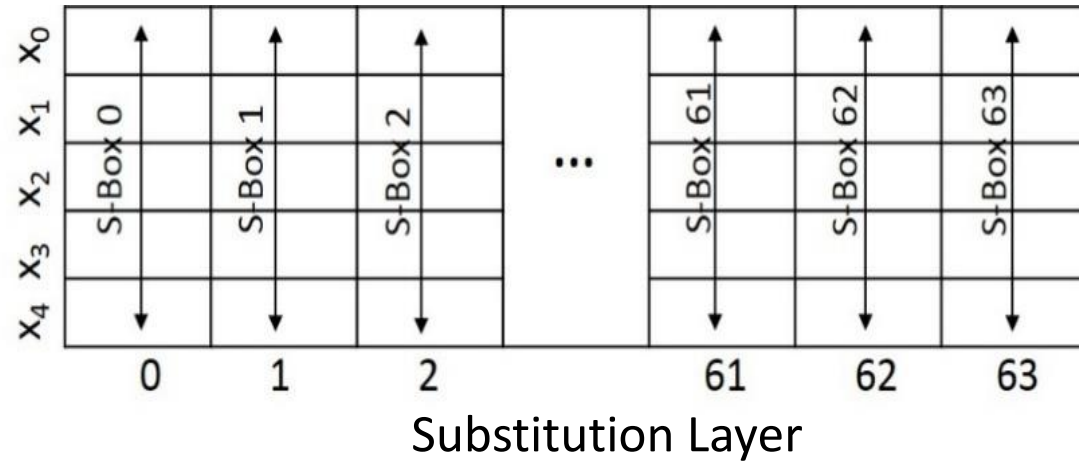
# Ascon Authenticated Cipher



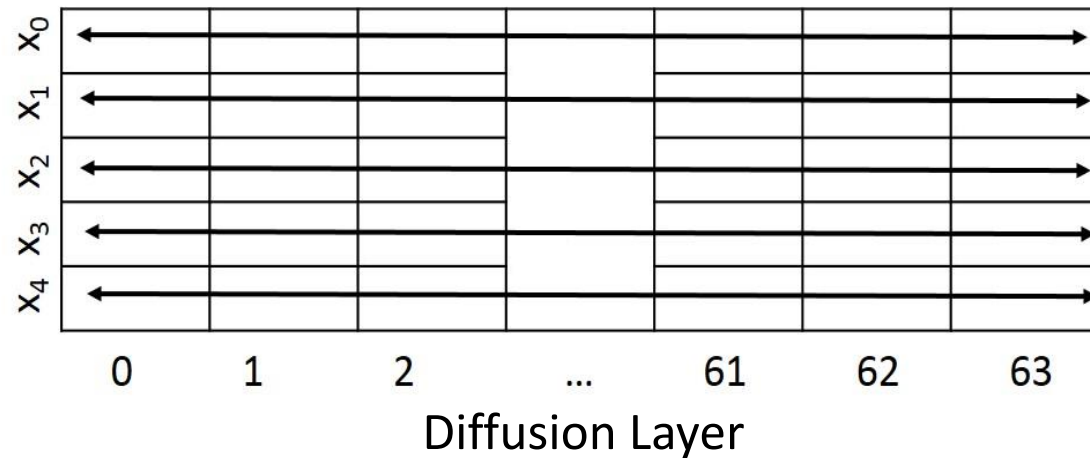
**k**: 128-bit secret key       $\{A_1, \dots, A_s\}$ : Blocks of associated data       $\{C_1, \dots, C_t\}$ : Blocks of ciphertext  
**IV**: Initial Vector    **N**: Nonce       $\{P_1, \dots, P_t\}$ : Blocks of plaintext      **T**: 128-bit tag

# Ascon permutation

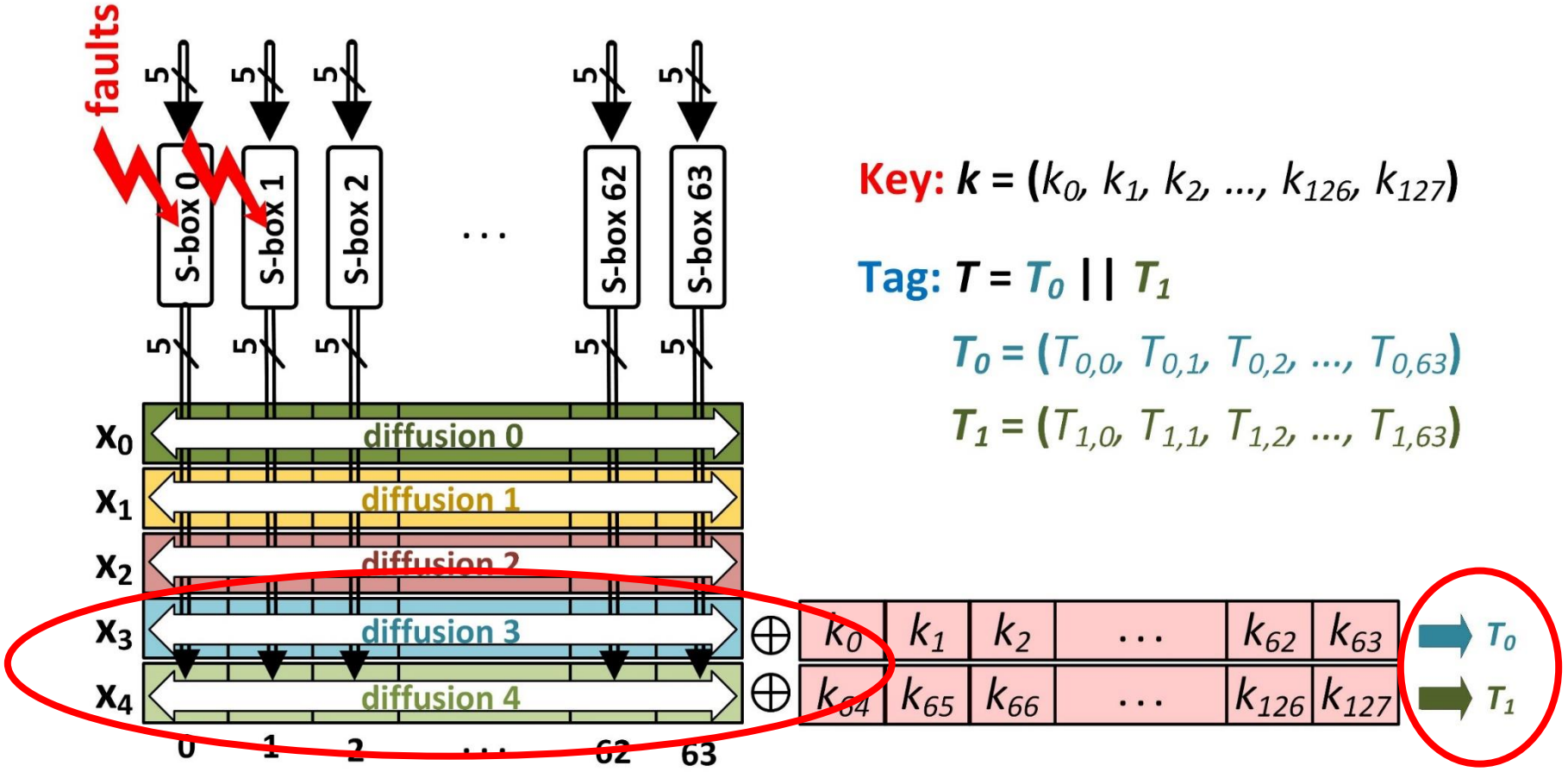
64 x 5-bit S-boxes (bits 0, 1, ... 4)



5 x 64-bit diffusions (bits 0, 1, ... 63)



# Double Fault Injections



Intermediate variable  $x'$  at (S-box  $j$ , S-box  $j+1$ ) at last round of finalization

Tag collected in FIMA (not ciphertext)

# Attack Algorithm

While  $P_{\text{Fail}} > \varepsilon$  :

For increasing intensities  $I$ :

1. For next message, inject fault with intensity  $I$ ; collect tags.
2. For all target subkeys in search space  $(0 \dots 2^n - 1)$ :
  - a. Calculate intermediate variable;
  - b. Update fault image.
3. Adjust score weighting parameter  $\gamma$ .
4. Pick the correct key guess.

Update  $P_{\text{Fail}}$ ;

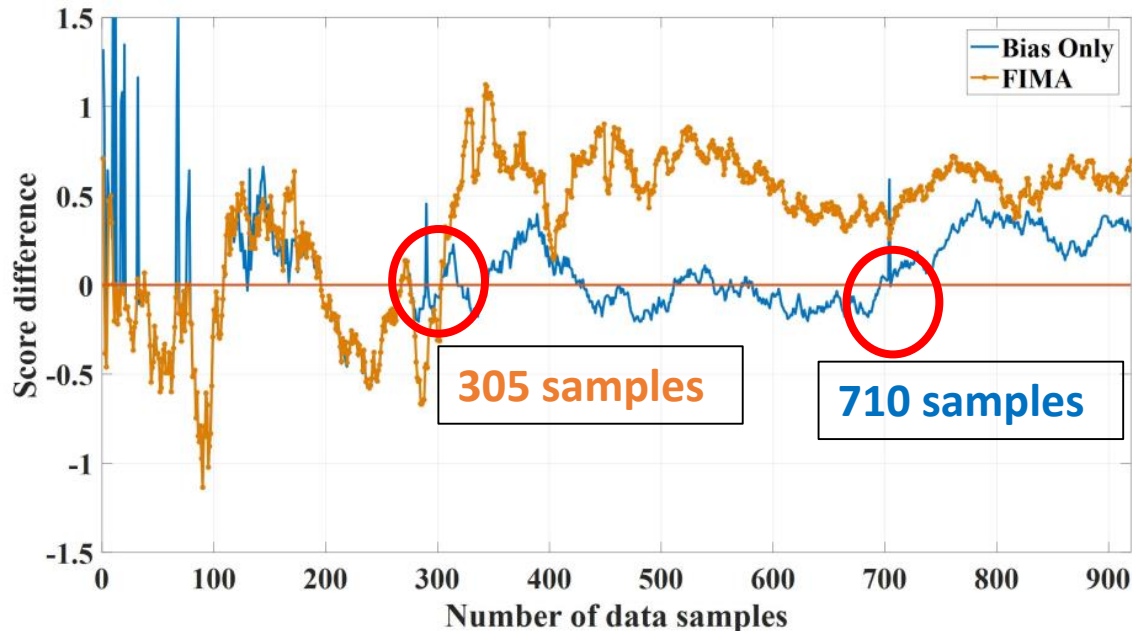
If correct key guess changes, set  $P_{\text{Fail}} = 1$  and continue.

Return Correct Subkey.



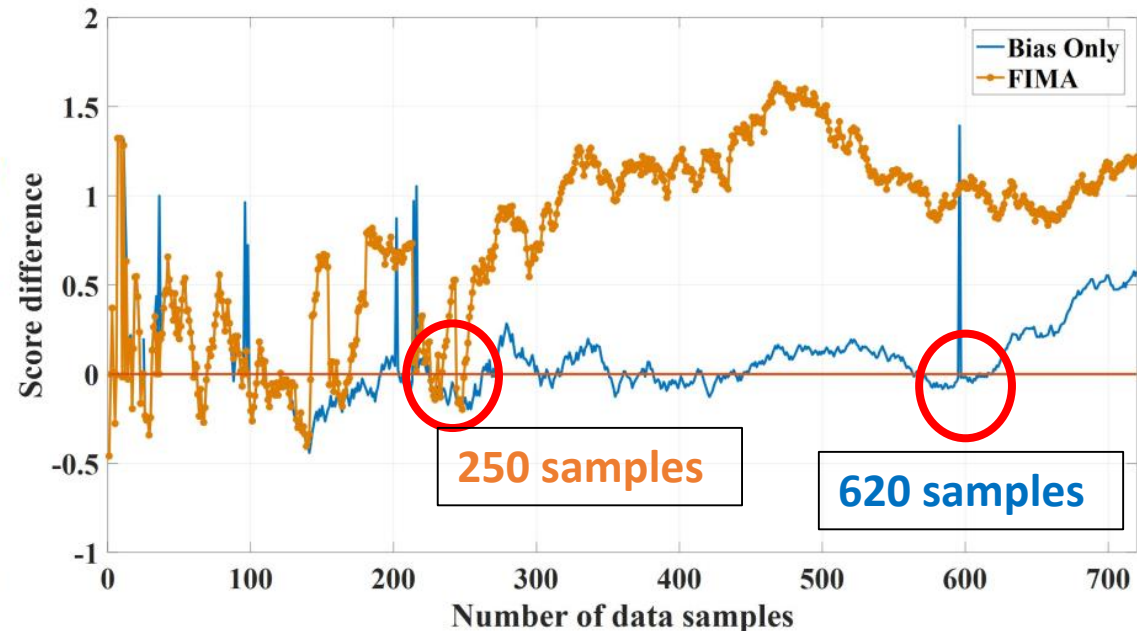
# Results

# # required data samples (no countermeasures)



20 fault intensity values in  $[0, 0.2]$

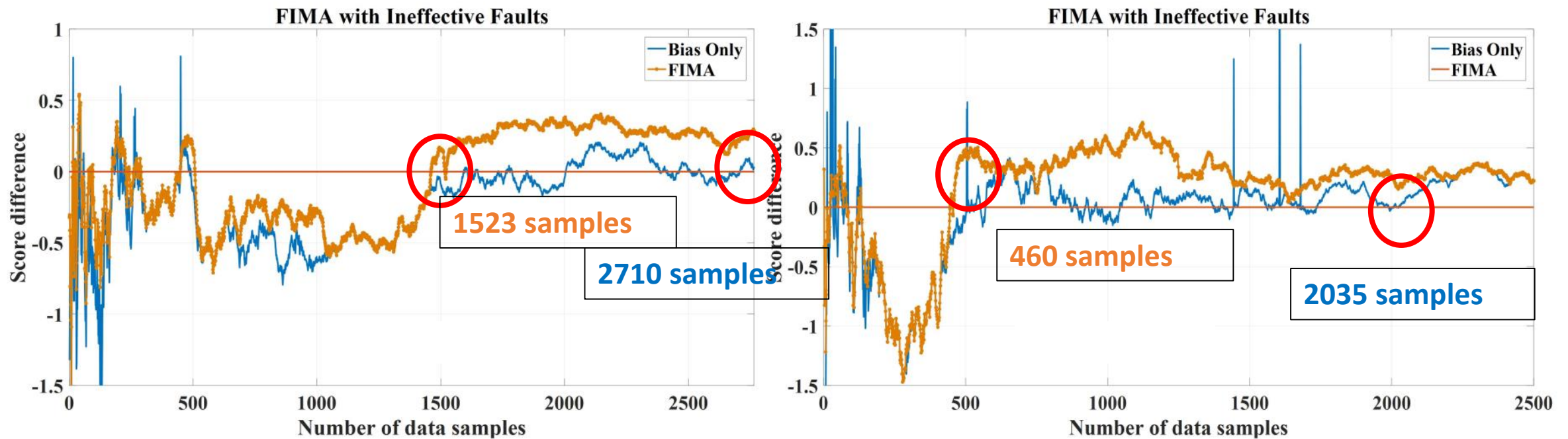
Score difference of correct key and next highest guess diverges



20 fault intensity values in  $[0, 0.3]$

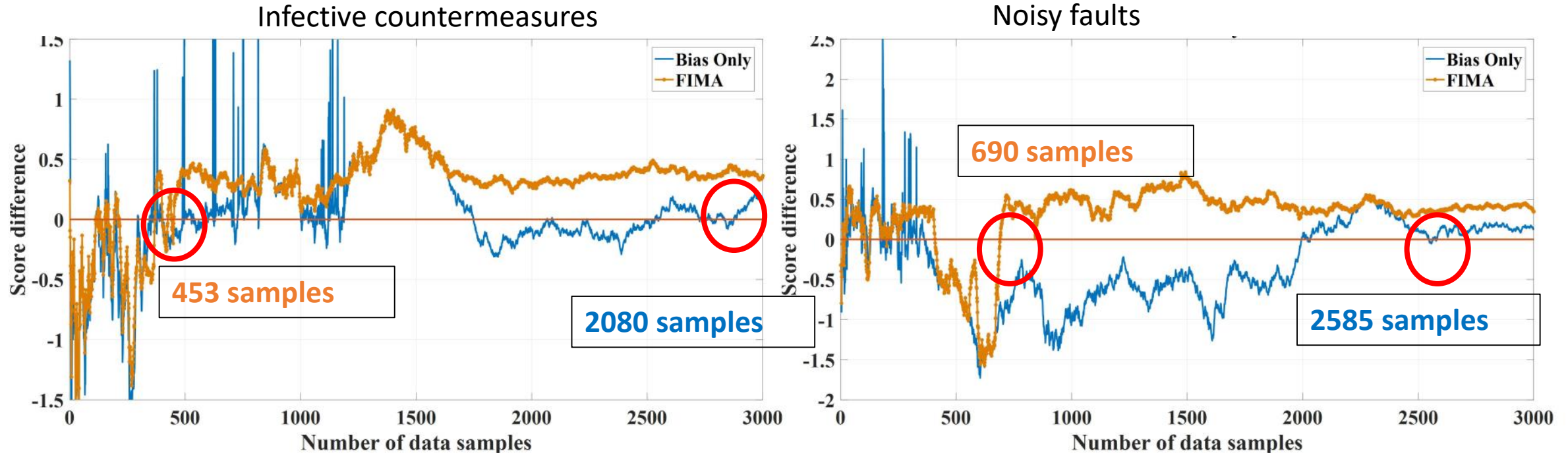
Higher fault intensity reduces number of required samples

# # required data samples (error-detection countermeasures)



Error detection countermeasures suppress faulty output; defeat differential fault analysis attacks  
Bias (SIFA and FIMA) and intensity variation (FIMA) of ineffective faults still leak information about intermediate variable  
However, bias decreases, and required # of samples increases

# # required data samples (*ineffective countermeasures or noisy faults*)



Infective countermeasures randomize fault, which reduces bias  
Therefore, intensity provides relatively much better information  
than bias alone.

Noisy fault injections, where attacker does not  
have precise control (e.g., timing, location)

# Comparison to bias-based technique

Intensity Range	$p \in [0, 0.2]$		$p \in [0, 0.3]$		$p \in [0, 0.3]$		$p \in [0, 0.3]$	
Technique	FIMA	Bias	FIMA	Bias	FIMA	Bias (SIFA)	FIMA	Bias
Countermeasure	N/A		N/A		Error-Detection		Infective	
Data size	305	710	250	620	460	2035	453	2880
FIMA improvement	2.3×		2.5×		4.4×		6.3×	

# Conclusions and Future Directions

# Conclusions

- Introduced Fault Intensity Map Analysis (FIMA)
  - Statistical analysis technique (SIFA + FSA)
  - Uses fault bias + intensity disposition
- Recovered 128-bit secret key of Ascon
- Improvements over previous bias-based techniques
  - More than 2x improvement in efficiency
  - Grows to 6x in presence of countermeasures

# Future Directions

- Improved classifiers for FIMA score
- Different assumptions on fault models
- Development of countermeasures
- Investigation of FIMA on other ciphers
- Effect of FIMA in presence of SCA countermeasures



# Questions?

