# Why One Should Also Secure RSA Public Key Elements

#### Eric Brier, Benoît Chevallier-Mames, Mathieu Ciet and **Christophe Clavier**

Gemalto, Security Labs

CHES 2006, Yokohama - October 13, 2006

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# Outline

### Introduction

- Previous work
- Our attack
- The threat model

### 2 Description of the attack

- Common Principle
- The bias based variant
- The collision based variant
- The full consistency exploitation variant

### 3 Conclusion

- Some interesting properties
- Counter-measures
- Open problems

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Previous work Our attack The threat model

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#### What is it about ?

Fault analysis on public key cryptosystems by corrupting the value of public parameters

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#### What is it about ?

Fault analysis on public key cryptosystems by corrupting the value of public parameters

#### Motivation

It is usualy considered less important to secure public parameters than private ones

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# Previous work

• Elliptic Curve Cryptosystems

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Principle: alter public parameters of the curve to make the DL base point to be of small order.

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- Do not reveal the signer's RSA key
- Rely on some specific fault model

Previous work Our attack The threat model

# Our attack

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- ... applies also to other RSA functions (in standard mode, no CRT):

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• Not realized in practice, but validated by extensive simulations

Previous work Our attack The threat model

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# The threat model

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Previous work Our attack The threat model

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### The threat model

• Given a public RSA key (*e*, *n*), the attacker is able to obtain many faulty signatures for known varying inputs.

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- Given a public RSA key (e, n), the attacker is able to obtain many faulty signatures for known varying inputs.
- A faulty signature is one computed modulo a corrupted modulus value n':

 $s' = \mu^d \mod n'$ 

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Example: On a smart card, the modulus value is altered during transfert from NVM to RAM.

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Common Principle The bias based variant The collision based variant The full consistency exploitation variant

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# **Common Principle**

• Our attack comes with three variants:

Common Principle The bias based variant The collision based variant The full consistency exploitation variant

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#### • Our attack comes with three variants:

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- Whenever

 $\prod_{j} \mathbf{q}_{j} \geqslant d$ 

d may be retrieved using Chinese Remainder Theorem techniques.

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 Variants ② and ③ rely on a fault model, but need much less fault injections than variant ④ (and than [Sei05]).

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#### The bias based variant

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### The bias based variant

• The attacker obtains many signatures for the computation of which the modulus was corrupted:

$$s'_i = \mu^d_i \mod n'_i \qquad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

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•  $\mu_i = \operatorname{hash}(m_i)$ 

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- $\mu_i = \operatorname{hash}(m_i)$
- Inputs *m<sub>i</sub>* may be arbitrarily chosen
- He thus collects many couples  $(\mu_i, s'_i, n'_i)$

Faulty moduli  $n'_i$  are unknown from the attacker who only knows  $(\mu_i, s'_i)$ 

Common Principle The bias based variant The collision based variant The full consistency exploitation variant

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#### The bias based variant

• The attacker obtains many signatures for the computation of which the modulus was corrupted:

$$s'_i = \mu^d_i \mod {n'_i}$$
  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ 

- $\mu_i = \operatorname{hash}(m_i)$
- Inputs m<sub>i</sub> may be arbitrarily chosen
- He thus collects many couples (μ<sub>i</sub>, s'<sub>i</sub>, n'<sub>i</sub>)
   Faulty moduli n'<sub>i</sub> are unknown from the attacker who only knows (μ<sub>i</sub>, s'<sub>i</sub>)
- For any given small prime *q*, let *p* be the smallest prime *s.t. q* | *p* − 1 (Possible generalization : *q<sup>e</sup>* | φ(*p<sup>a</sup>*))

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- For any given small prime q, let p be the smallest prime s.t. q | p 1 (Possible generalization : q<sup>e</sup> | φ(p<sup>a</sup>))
- Considering equation

$$s_i' = \mu_i^d \mod p$$
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a statistical process on the collection  $(\mu_i, s_i')_i$  will reveal the value  $d \mod q$ 

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## The bias based variant

#### Notation

Let  $q \mid p-1$ , and  $\mu \in (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^*$ We denote:

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We denote:

DL(µ, s', p) the discrete logarithm of s' to the base µ (provided s' ∈ ⟨µ⟩)

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We denote:

- DL(µ, s', p) the discrete logarithm of s' to the base µ (provided s' ∈ ⟨µ⟩)
- $DL(\mu, s', p, q) = DL(\mu, s', p) \mod q$  (provided  $q \mid \operatorname{ord}_{p}(\mu)$ )

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#### Theorem

Common Principle The bias based variant The collision based variant The full consistency exploitation variant

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## The bias based variant

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#### Theorem

• If  $p \mid n'$  then, whenever  $DL(\mu, s', p, q)$  exists, we have:

$$\mathsf{DL}(\mu, s', p, q) = d \mod q$$

 If p ∤ n' then, DL(µ, s', p, q) is supposed to be uniformly randomly distributed over the integers modulo q

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### The bias based variant

 As the sum of two components, the statistical distribution of DL(μ, s', p, q) shows a bias:

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## The bias based variant

- As the sum of two components, the statistical distribution of  $\mathsf{DL}(\mu,s',p,q)$  shows a bias:
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With enough faulty samples, the statistical bias in the distribution of  $DL(\mu, s', p, q)$  will make the correct value  $d \mod q$  emerge

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The private exponent of a 1024-bit key is fully retrieved within 20,000 faults

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## Dictionary of faulty moduli

• Let S be the set of all reachable values for a faulty modulus

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- Let S be the set of all reachable values for a faulty modulus
- This dictionary depends on:

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- Let S be the set of all reachable values for a faulty modulus
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- Let S be the set of all reachable values for a faulty modulus
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Model: ra	ndom register value	Architecture: 8 bits	Injection: precise (no CM)
n	92DC14230A32B821F	F23ED094B18A0C837294	20C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB
<i>S</i>   = 256	92DC**230A32B821F	F23ED094B18A0C837294	20C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB

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#### Example

Model: ra	ndom register value Architecture: 8 bits Injection: precise (no CM)	
n	92DC14230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FF	3
<i>S</i>   = 256	92DC**230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9F	3

Model: ra	ndom register value	Architecture: 32 bits	Injection: precise (no CM)
n	92DC14230A32B821FF	23ED094B18A0C837294	20C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB
$ S  = 2^{32}$	92DC1423******FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB		

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Model: randor	n register value Arch.: 8 bits Injection: unprecise (random order or delay)
n	92DC14230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB
	**DC14230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB
	92**14230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB
$ S  = 2^{15}$	92DC**230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB
(1024 bits)	
	92DC14230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256**FB
	92DC14230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9**

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# Example

Model: randor	n register value Arch.: 8 bits Injection: unprecise (random order or delay)
n	92DC14230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB
	**DC14230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB
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	92DC14230A32B821FF23ED094B18A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9**

Model: fixed re	egister value (0)	Arch.: 32 bits	Injection: unprecise (random order or delay
n	92DC14230A32B8	321FF23ED094B18	A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB
S  = 32 (1024 bits)	00000000A32B 92DC142300000	321FF23ED094B18 000FF23ED094B18	A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29023256F9FB 
	92DC14230A32B8	321FF23ED094B18	A0C83729420C928CD020A0EE29020000000

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### The collision based variant

• The *collision based* variant needs a dictionary *S* of possible faulty moduli.

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#### The collision based variant

- The *collision based* variant needs a dictionary S of possible faulty moduli.
- It aims at identifying, for some  $(\mu_i, s'_i)$ , which faulty modulus value  $n'_i \in S$  actually occured.

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• Once a hit for  $n'_i$  is obtained, it is possible to derive  $d \mod q$  for (almost) all primes q verifying  $q \mid p-1$  where p is a known prime factor of  $n'_i$ :

$$d \mod q = \mathsf{DL}(\mu_i, s'_i, p, q)$$

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• Each hit yields more than 50 bits of modular information about *d* on average.

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• Each hit yields more than 50 bits of modular information about *d* on average.

 $\rightarrow$  Only about 10 to 20 hits suffice to recover the private exponent.

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# How to identify hits ?

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## How to identify hits ?

• For as much  $\nu \in S$  as possible, find some *marker*  $(p_{\nu}, q_{\nu})$  verifying:

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# How to identify hits ?

- For as much  $\nu \in S$  as possible, find some *marker*  $(p_{\nu}, q_{\nu})$  verifying:
  - $q_{\nu}$  is a not too small prime (say  $10^6$  to  $10^9$ )
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- $q_{
  u} \mid p_{
  u} 1$  and  $p_{
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    u$
- For each i = 1, 2, ..., compute  $DL(\mu_i, s'_i, p_\nu, q_\nu)$  for all markers  $(p_\nu, q_\nu)$ .

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- Each  $DL(\mu_i, s'_i, p_\nu, q_\nu)$  gives an hypothesis for  $d \mod q_\nu$  which is ...

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- Each DL(μ<sub>i</sub>, s'<sub>i</sub>, p<sub>ν</sub>, q<sub>ν</sub>) gives an hypothesis for d mod q<sub>ν</sub> which is ...
   correct if n'<sub>i</sub> = ν

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  - correct if  $n'_i = \nu$
  - $\bullet~$  random in  $\left\{0,\ldots,q_{\nu}-1\right\}$  with high probability if  $n_i^\prime\neq\nu$

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- A hit will be identified as soon as a collision of DL will occur for some  $q_{\nu}$ :

$$\mathsf{DL}(\mu_i, s_i', p_\nu, q_\nu) = \mathsf{DL}(\mu_j, s_j', p_\nu, q_\nu) \implies n_i' = n_j' = \nu$$

(see the paper for a discussion on false positive occurence probability)

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(see the paper for a discussion on false positive occurence probability)

• The number of required fault is  $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{\frac{t}{\alpha}|S|})$ .

 $(t = \# \text{ of hits and } \alpha \cdot |S| = \# \text{ of markers})$ 

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## The full consistency exploitation variant

Eric Brier, Benoît Chevallier-Mames, Mathieu Ciet and Christophe Clavier CHES 2006, Yokohama

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## The full consistency exploitation variant

• The *full consistency exploitation* variant needs a dictionary *S* of possible faulty moduli.

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#### Definition

For any  $\nu \in S$  and any prime q, let  $\Psi(\nu, q) = \{p : p \mid \nu \text{ and } q \mid p-1\}$ 

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#### Intra-signature consistency

For any faulty signature  $(\mu_i, s'_i, n'_i)$ , and for any prime q:

 $\Big| ig\{ \mathsf{DL}(\mu_i, \pmb{s}_i', \pmb{p}, \pmb{q}) \, : \, \pmb{p} \in \Psi(\pmb{n}_i', \pmb{q}) ig\} \Big| \leqslant 1$ 

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• Any candidate modulus  $\nu$  for the signature  $(\mu_i, \mathbf{s}'_i)$  must be excluded as soon as

$$ig \{ \left. \mathsf{DL}(\mu_i, s_i', p, q) \, : \, p \in \Psi(
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ight\} ig \geqslant 2 \; ext{ for some } q$$

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## The full consistency exploitation variant

#### Inter-signature consistency

For any faulty signatures  $(\mu_{i_1}, s'_{i_1}, n'_{i_1})$  and  $(\mu_{i_2}, s'_{i_2}, n'_{i_2})$ , and any prime q:

 $\left|\left\{\left.\mathsf{DL}(\mu_{i_1},s_{i_1}',p,q):p\in\Psi(n_{i_1}',q)\right\}\cup\left\{\left.\mathsf{DL}(\mu_{i_2},s_{i_2}',p,q):p\in\Psi(n_{i_2}',q)\right\}\right|\leqslant 1$ 

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- The consistency check may be generalized to sets of candidate moduli with respect to sets of signatures.

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- This full consistency exploitation method allows to identify nearly *t* hits when considering *t* signatures.

This method recovers the private exponent within only 10 to 20 faults

Some interesting properties Counter-measures Open problems

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# Outline

### Introduction

- Previous work
- Our attack
- The threat model

### 2 Description of the attack

- Common Principle
- The bias based variant
- The collision based variant
- The full consistency exploitation variant

### 3 Conclusion

- Some interesting properties
- Counter-measures
- Open problems

Some interesting properties Counter-measures Open problems

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## Some interesting properties

• Our new attack present some notable properties:

Eric Brier, Benoît Chevallier-Mames, Mathieu Ciet and Christophe Clavier CHES 2006, Yokohama

Some interesting properties Counter-measures Open problems

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Some interesting properties Counter-measures Open problems

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The first fault attack on standard RSA ever published, which does not rely on any fault model, nor any implementation assumption.

The fault attack on standard RSA, which reveals the private exponent with the smallest number of required faults.

Some interesting properties Counter-measures Open problems

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### Counter-measures

• The previously described fault attack on standard RSA is very efficient on non-protected implementations, but ...

Some interesting properties Counter-measures Open problems

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Some interesting properties Counter-measures Open problems



The fault attack presented here raises some open questions:

In standard mode, is it possible to recover the RSA private key by only corrupting the modulus when the private exponent is randomized ?



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In standard mode, is it possible to recover the RSA private key by only corrupting the modulus when the private exponent is randomized ?

Is it possible to adapt the attack in the case of a probabilistic padding with randomness recovery (e.g. RSA-PSS) ?

In this paper:

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### **APOLOGIES** !

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# Thank you for your attention !

Questions ?

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