

# Cryptography on HW Platform

## Modular Arithmetic Techniques

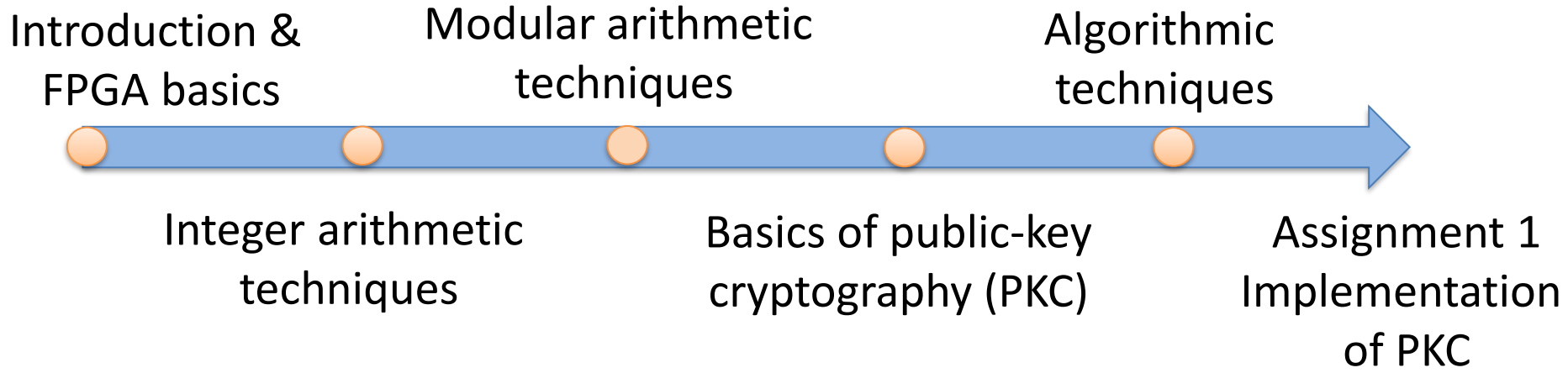
December, 2023

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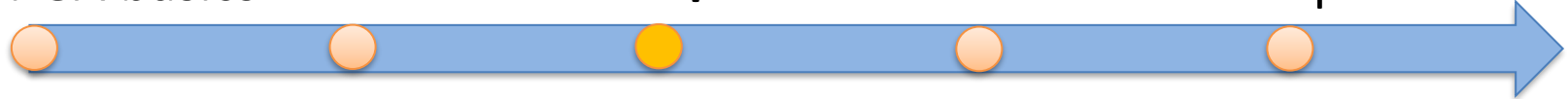
# Roadmap



Introduction &  
FPGA basics

**Modular arithmetic  
techniques**

Algorithmic  
techniques



Integer arithmetic  
techniques

Basics of public-key  
cryptography (PKC)

Assignment 1  
Implementation  
of PKC

## **Reminder**

### **Background on modular arithmetic**

# The “modulo” or mod operation

For any integer  $c$ , we want to compute the result of

$$c \bmod m$$

(we are interested in positive integers in cryptography)

# The “modulo” or mod operation

For any integer  $c$ , we want to compute the result of

$$c \bmod m$$

(we are interested in positive integers in cryptography)

Procedure:

1. Divide  $c$  by  $m$  and obtain the quotient  $q$

$$q = \lfloor c/m \rfloor$$

2. Compute the remainder  $r = c - q * m$

3. Assign  $r = c \bmod m$

# The “modulo” or mod operation

Example 1:

$$23 \bmod 5 = ?$$

# The “modulo” or mod operation

Example 2:

$$? \bmod 5 = 3$$



## Congruence: definition

For modulus  $m$ , and two positive integers  $a$  and  $b$ , we say that  $a$  is congruent to  $b$  modulo  $m$  if

$$m \mid (a - b)$$

The notation is

$$a \equiv b \pmod{m}$$

The binary relationship is called “congruence”.

It indicates that  $a$  and  $b$  have the same remainder modulo  $m$ .

Example:  $23 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$ , similarly  $13 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$ , and  $13 \equiv 23 \pmod{5}$ .

# Properties of congruence

The following relations hold

*i.*  $a \equiv a \pmod{m}$

*ii.*  $a \equiv b \pmod{m} \Rightarrow b \equiv a \pmod{m}$

*iii.*  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  and  $b \equiv c \pmod{m} \Rightarrow a \equiv c \pmod{m}$

*iv.*  $a \equiv a' \pmod{m}$  and  $b \equiv b' \pmod{m}$

$\Rightarrow a + b \equiv a' + b' \pmod{m}$  and

$a * b \equiv a' * b' \pmod{m}$

# Congruence class

The congruence class of  $a$  modulo  $m$  is the set of all integers that are congruent to  $a$  modulo  $m$ .

$$[a]_m = \{b \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } b \equiv a \pmod{m}\}$$

Example:

$$[3]_5 = \{\dots, -7, -2, 3, 8, 13, 18, 23, \dots\}$$

For more information on congruences, you may consider reading chapter-2 of the book:

“A Computational Introduction to Number Theory and Algebra”, by Victor Shoup. <https://shoup.net/ntb/ntb-v2.pdf>

Consider the problem of computing modular multiplication.

**Input:**  $a, b \in [0, m-1]$

**Output:**  $c = a * b \bmod m \in [0, m-1]$

**1:**  $t = a * b \in [0, (m-1)^2]$

**2:**  $r = t \bmod m$

**3: return**  $r$

The number of bits in  $t$  is 2x larger than in  $m$ .

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The number of bits in  $t$  is 2x larger than in  $m$ .

**How to compute the modular reduction of  $t$ ?**

Consider the problem of computing modular multiplication.

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**3:** return  $r$

The number of bits in  $t$  is 2x larger than in  $m$ .

Schoolbook method for calculating  $r$ :

1. Perform division  $q = \lfloor t/m \rfloor$
2. Calculate remainder  $r = t - q * m$

## Schoolbook modular reduction is very inefficient

Division is very expensive to compute.

See how long this PARI/GP code takes for division (/) and multiplication (\*).

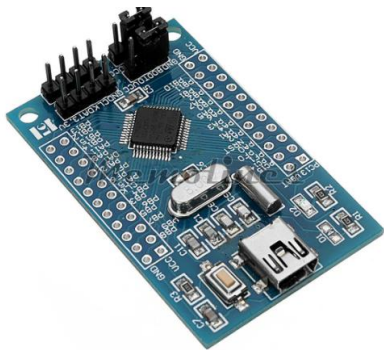
```
a=vector(100000);  
b=vector(100000);  
c=vector(100000);  
  
for(i=1, 100000, a[i] = random(2^4096))  
for(i=1, 100000, b[i] = random(2^2048))  
for(i=1, 100000, c[i]=floor(a[i]/b[i]))
```



# Schoolbook modular reduction is very inefficient

Division is very expensive to compute.

Low-end microcontrollers do not have division instructions.



Division is computed as repeated subtraction.  
→ Extremely slow modular reduction

# Efficient algorithms for modular reduction

In this course, we will study the following algorithms

- Barrett reduction
- Montgomery reduction
- Reduction for special modulus

# Barrett reduction

IMPLEMENTING THE  
RIVEST SHAMIR AND ADLEMAN  
PUBLIC KEY ENCRYPTION ALGORITHM  
ON A  
STANDARD DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSOR

Paul Barrett, MSc (Oxon)  
COMPUTER SECURITY LTD  
August 1986

ABSTRACT

A description of the techniques employed at Oxford University to obtain a high speed implementation of the RSA encryption algorithm on an "off-the-shelf" digital signal processing chip. Using these techniques a two and a half second (average) encrypt time (for 512 bit exponent and modulus) was achieved on a first generation DSP (The Texas Instruments TMS 32010) and times below one second are achievable on second generation parts. Furthermore the techniques of algorithm development employed lead to a provably correct implementation.

P. Barrett, "Implementing the Rivest Shamir and Adleman Public Key Encryption Algorithm on a Standard Digital Signal Processor". CRYPTO' 86.

# Barrett reduction

Barrett's method optimizes reduction for fixed modulus  $m$ .

**Main idea:** Replace division by cheaper multiplication.

Precompute  $1/m$  and multiply  $t \cdot (1/m)$ .

Calculating remainder  $r$ :

1. Perform division  $q = \lfloor t/m \rfloor$
2. Calculate remainder  $r = t - q \cdot m$

Example: Let  $m = 7069$  ( $m$  is a 13-bit number)

$$5044 * 6312 \bmod m = ?$$

Precomputed  $(1/m) = 0.00014146272457207525816947234 \dots$

$$t = 5044 * 6312 = 31837728$$

$$\begin{aligned} t/m = t * (1/m) &= 31837728 * 0.00014146272457207525816947234 \dots \\ &\approx 4503.8517470646484 \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$q = \lfloor t/m \rfloor = 4503$$

$$r = t - q * m = 31837728 - 4503 * 7069 = 6021$$

Matches with PARI/GP

```
(09:25) gp > 5044*6312%7069
%23 = 6021
(09:25) gp >
```

Example: Let  $m = 7069$  ( $m$  is a 13-bit number)

$$5044 * 6312 \bmod m = ?$$

Precomputed  $(1/m) = 0.000141462724$

$$t = 5044 * 6312 = 31837728$$

What precision do we need for correctly computing quotient?

$$t/m = t * (1/m) = 31837728 * 0.00014146272457207525816947234 \dots$$

$$\approx 4503.8517470646484 \dots$$

$$q = \lfloor t/m \rfloor = 4503$$

$$r = t - q * m = 31837728 - 4503 * 7069 = 6021$$

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$$\approx 4503.8517470646484 \dots$$

$$q = \lfloor t/m \rfloor = 4503$$

$$r = t - q * m = 31837728 - 4503 * 7069 = 6$$

Barrett's method takes  $2k$  bits after the  $(.)$  where  $k$  is the length of  $m$ .

## Barrett reduction

Modulus  $m = 7069$  is 13 bits long. Hence  $k = 13$ .



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$$\begin{aligned}
 1/m &= 0.00014146272457207525816947234 \dots_{10} \\
 &= 0.0000000000001001010001010101100111 \dots_2 \\
 &\approx 0.00000000000010010100010101_2 \quad (\text{Truncate after } 2k=26 \text{ bits}) \\
 &= 0.0001414567232131958_{10}
 \end{aligned}$$

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Next, we can do like before

$$\begin{aligned}
 t*(1/m) &\approx 31837728 * 0.0001414567232131958 \\
 &= 4503.66067743301389114240
 \end{aligned}$$

$$q = \lfloor t/m \rfloor = 4503$$

$$r = t - q*m = 31837728 - 4503*7069 = 6021$$

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Can we replace this real multiplication by integer multiplication?

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Replaces the real number by a  $2k$  shifted value of  $1/m$ , which is integer.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu &= 0.00000000000010010100010101_2 \ll 26 \quad (\text{left shift is multiplication by } 2^{26}) \\
 &= 10010100010101_2 \\
 &= 9493_{10}
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$$\begin{aligned}
 q' &= (t * \mu) \ggg 2k = (31837728 * 9493) \ggg 26 \quad (\text{Truncate } 2k=26 \text{ least bits}) \\
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$$r = t - q' * m = 31837728 - 4503 * 7069 = 6021$$

# Barrett reduction: conditional subtraction

Schoolbook method for  $t=a*b$

1. Quotient  $q = \lfloor t/m \rfloor$
2. Remainder  $r = t - q*m$

Barrett method for  $t=a*b$

1. Precomputes approximate  $\mu = \lfloor 2^{2k}/m \rfloor$
2. Approximate quotient  $q' = \lfloor (t*\mu) / 2^{2k} \rfloor$
3. Remainder  $r = t - q'*m$

# Barrett reduction: conditional subtraction

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In the approximation process, we truncate  $1/m$  at  $2k$ -th bit after (.)

→ This causes approximation error.

Because of this error, there are two possibilities:

$$q' = q \quad \text{or} \quad q' = q-1$$



# Barrett reduction: conditional subtraction

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Because of this error, there are two possibilities:

$$q' = q \quad \text{or} \quad q' = q-1$$

If  $q' = q-1$  happens, then  $r$  will be in  $[m, 2m)$ .

→ One additional subtraction of  $m$  from  $r$  will be needed.

## Barrett reduction: conditional subtraction (proof)

For  $\mu = \lfloor 2^{2k}/m \rfloor$ , we have the relation

$$2^{2k}/m - 1 < \mu < 2^{2k}/m$$

Hence,

$$t/m - t/2^{2k} \leq t^*\mu/2^{2k} \leq t/m$$

Because  $t/2^{2k} < 1$ , we write

$$t/m - 1 < t^*\mu/2^{2k} \leq t/m$$

Now consider the floor  $\lfloor (t^*\mu) / 2^{2k} \rfloor$ . There are two possibilities:

- $\lfloor (t^*\mu) / 2^{2k} \rfloor > t/m - 1$  [e.g., floor(7.1) > 6.7]
- $\lfloor (t^*\mu) / 2^{2k} \rfloor < t/m - 1$  [e.g., floor(6.9) > 6.7]

Hence,

$$t/m - 2 < \lfloor t^*\mu/2^{2k} \rfloor \leq t/m$$

# Barrett reduction: conditional subtraction (proof)

... continuing

$$t/m - 2 < \lfloor t^* \mu / 2^{2k} \rfloor \leq t/m$$

or

$$t/m - 2 < q' \leq t/m$$

Hence,

$$t - 2m < q'^* m \leq t$$

Or

$$0 \leq t - q'^* m < 2m$$

Barrett method for  $t = a * b$

1. Precomputes approximate  $\mu = \lfloor 2^{2k} / m \rfloor$
2. Approximate quotient  $q' = \lfloor (t^* \mu) / 2^{2k} \rfloor$
3. Remainder  $r = t - q'^* m$

Hence,  $r$  is in  $[0, 2m]$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Conditional subtraction  $r - m$ .

# Complete Barrett reduction algorithm

**Input:**  $t = a * b \in [0, (m-1)^2]$ ,  $2^{k-1} < m < 2^k$ ,  $\mu = \lfloor 2^{2k}/m \rfloor$

**Output:**  $c = t \pmod{m}$

**1:**  $q' = \lfloor (t * \mu) / 2^{2k} \rfloor$

**2:**  $r = t - q' * m$

**4:** **if**  $(r \geq m)$  **then**  $c = r - m$  **else**  $c = r$

**5:** **return**  $c$

Modulus  $m$  is fixed and  $\mu$  is precomputed.

# Complete Barrett reduction algorithm

Try Barrett algorithm in Sage.

<https://sagecell.sagemath.org/>

```
m = 19
k = 5
mu = floor(2^(2*k)/m)

t = 120

r = t - ((t*mu) >> 2*k)*m
c = r-m if(r >= m) else r

print("t mod m:", t%m)
print("BR(t,m):", c)
```

# Efficient algorithms for modular reduction

In this course, we will study the following algorithms

- Barrett reduction
- **Montgomery reduction**
- Reduction for special modulus

# Montgomery reduction

Replaces expensive division by cheaper shift operation.

MATHEMATICS OF COMPUTATION  
VOLUME 44, NUMBER 170  
APRIL, 1985, PAGES 519-521

## **Modular Multiplication Without Trial Division**

**By Peter L. Montgomery**

**Abstract.** Let  $N > 1$ . We present a method for multiplying two integers (called *N-residues*) modulo  $N$  while avoiding division by  $N$ . *N-residues* are represented in a nonstandard way, so this method is useful only if several computations are done modulo one  $N$ . The addition and subtraction algorithms are unchanged.

P. Montgomery, "Modular Multiplication Without Trial Division". Mathematics of Computation, 1985.

# Montgomery reduction procedure

Let, modulus  $m$  is a  $k$ -bit odd and  $R = 2^k$

and  $m' = (-m)^{-1} \bmod R$

Takes an input  $t$  in the range  $[0, R*m-1]$  and computes  $s$  in the range  $[0, 2m-1]$

$$s = \frac{t + (t*m' \bmod R)*m}{R}$$

$s$  is in the range  $[0, 2m]$ .

After a conditional subtraction of  $m$  from  $s$  (when  $m < s < 2m$ ), we get

$$s = t*R^{-1} \bmod m$$



**Why does this work?**

Our  $2k$  bit integer  $t$

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Our  $2k$  bit integer  $t$

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



Wish  $t$  is like this?

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX000000000000

Least  $k$  bits are zeros

Our  $2k$  bit integer  $t$

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



Wish  $t$  is like this?

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX000000000000

Least  $k$  bits are zeros

We divide by  $R=2^k$  (right shift by  $k$  bits) to obtain

0000000000000000XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Becomes  $k$  bit integer

Our  $2k$  bit integer  $t$

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Wish  $t$  is like this?



XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX000000000000

Least  $k$  bits are zeros

We divide by  $R=2^k$  (right shift by  $k$  bits) to obtain

0000000000000000XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Becomes  $k$  bit integer

Division by  $R$  is equivalent to multiplication by  $R^{-1} \bmod m$

→ We get the desired result  $t * R^{-1} \bmod m$

Our  $2k$  bit integer  $t$



In real world these  $k$  bits may not be all 0s



Can we transform  $t$  into  $t'$  such that,  $t \equiv t' \pmod{m}$  and

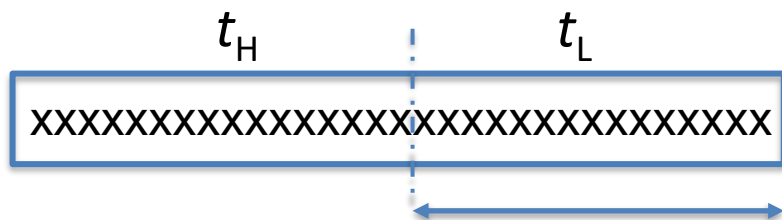
$t' =$



?

Least  $k$  bits are zeros

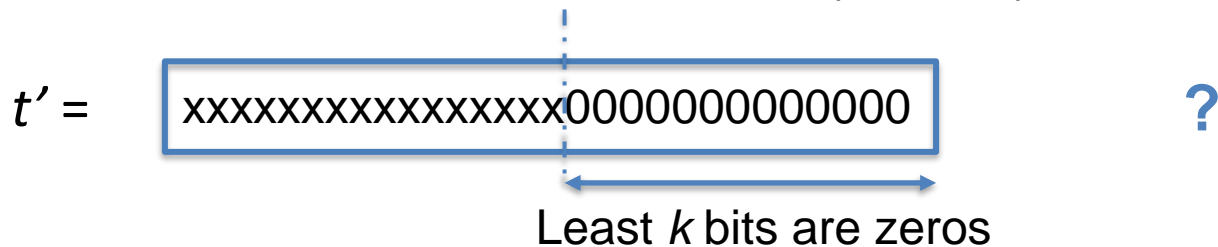
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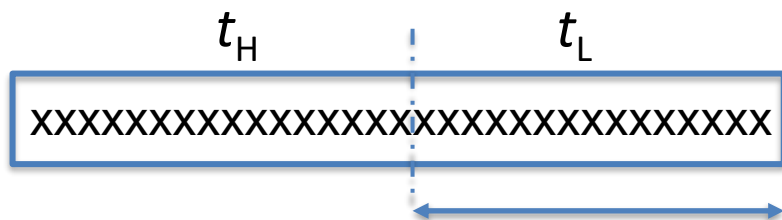


Can we transform  $t$  into  $t'$  such that,  $t \equiv t' \pmod{m}$  and



Let,  $t = t_H 2^k + t_L$

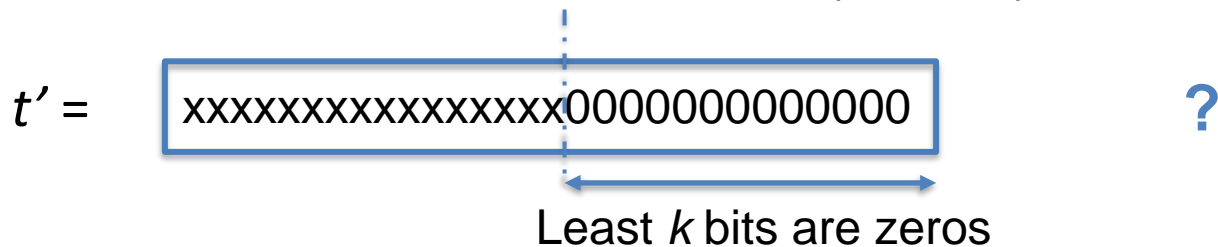
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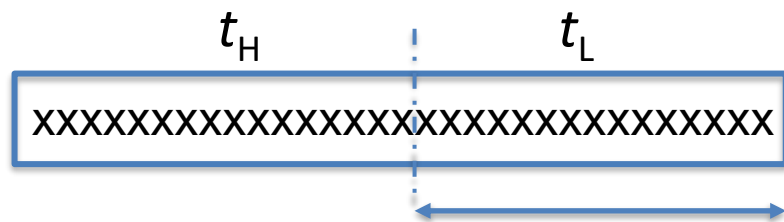
$$\text{Let, } t = t_H 2^k + t_L$$

We add  $m^*q$  to  $t$  such that,  $t' = t_H 2^k + t_L + m^*q \equiv 0 \pmod{2^k}$

Note that with  $t' = t_H 2^k + t_L + m^*q$  we have  $t' \equiv t \pmod{m}$



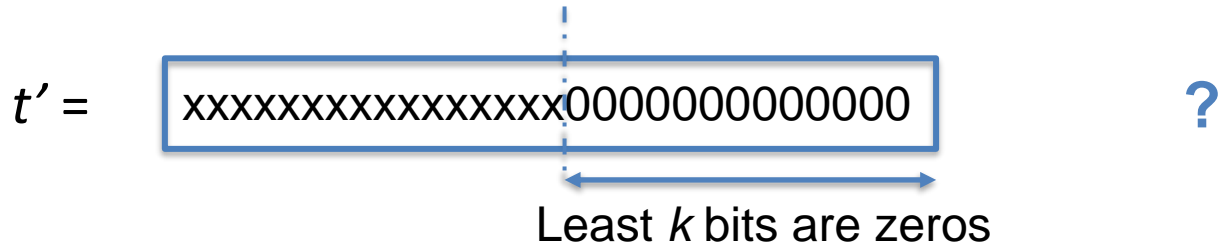
Our  $2k$  bit integer  $t$



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Can we transform  $t$  into  $t'$  such that,  $t \equiv t' \pmod{m}$  and



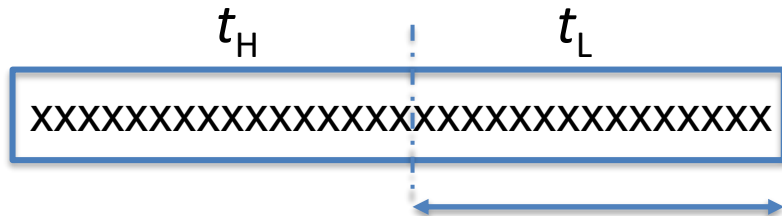
$$\text{Let, } t = t_H 2^k + t_L$$

$$\text{We add } m^*q \text{ to } t \text{ such that, } t' = t_H 2^k + t_L + m^*q \equiv 0 \pmod{2^k}$$

$$\Rightarrow q = t_L^*(-m^{-1}) \pmod{2^k}$$

$$= t_L^*m' \pmod{2^k}$$

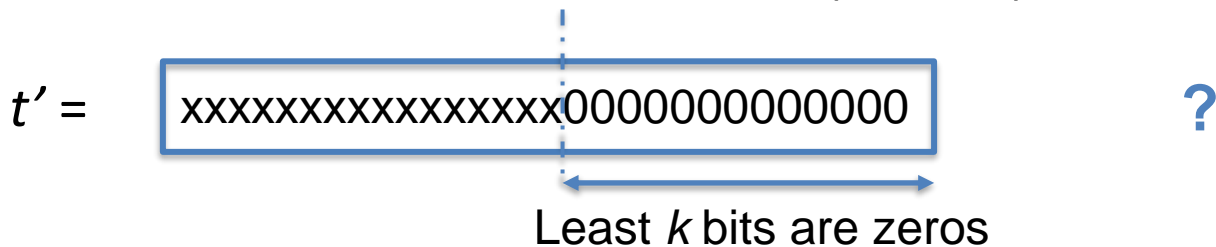
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In real world these  $k$  bits may not be all 0s



Can we transform  $t$  into  $t'$  such that,  $t \equiv t' \pmod{m}$  and



$$\text{Let, } t = t_H 2^k + t_L$$

We add  $m^*q$  to  $t$  such that,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow q &= t_L^*(-m^{-1}) \pmod{2^k} \\ &= t_L^*m' \pmod{2^k} \end{aligned}$$

$$t' = t_H 2^k + t_L + m^*q \equiv 0 \pmod{2^k}$$

$$\text{Our } t' = t + m^*q.$$

## Montgomery reduction: conditional subtraction

Modulus  $m$  is a  $k$ -bit odd,  $R = 2^k$  and  $m' = (-m)^{-1} \bmod R$

For an input  $t$  in the range  $[0, R \cdot m - 1]$  compute the following:

- $q = (t \bmod R) * m' \bmod R$   $\longrightarrow$   $k$  bits, in range  $[0, R-1]$
- $t' = t + q * m$   $\longrightarrow$   $2k + 1$  bits, in range  $[0, 2Rm)$
- $s = t' / R$   $\longrightarrow$   $k + 1$  bits and  $< 2m$

## Montgomery reduction: conditional subtraction

Modulus  $m$  is a  $k$ -bit odd,  $R = 2^k$  and  $m' = (-m)^{-1} \bmod R$

For an input  $t$  in the range  $[0, R*m-1]$  compute the following:

- $q = (t \bmod R) * m' \bmod R$   $\longrightarrow$   $k$  bits, in range  $[0, R-1]$
- $t' = t + q*m$   $\longrightarrow$   $2k + 1$  bits, in range  $[0, 2Rm)$
- $s = t'/R$   $\longrightarrow$   $k + 1$  bits and  $< 2m$
- *If*  $(s \geq m)$  then output  $s - m$   
*else* output  $s$

# Complete Montgomery reduction algorithm

Try Barrett algorithm in Sage.

<https://sagecell.sagemath.org/>

```
m = 19
k = 5
R = 2^(2*k)
mp= -m^(-1) % R          #m'

t = 120

s = (t + (t*mp % R)*m)/R
c = s-m if(s >= m) else s

print("t mod m:", t%m)
print("MR(t,m):", c)
print("c*R mod q:", c*R % m)
```

# Montgomery reduction: input and output forms

In#1	In#2	$t=a*b$	Output	Adjustment
$a$	$b$	$a*b$	$s = a*b*R^{-1} \pmod{m}$	$s*R \pmod{m}$
$a*R$	$b$	$a*b*R$	$s = a*b*R*R^{-1} \pmod{m}$	<i>Not required</i>
$a$	$b*R$	$a*b*R$	$s = a*b*R*R^{-1} \pmod{m}$	<i>Not required</i>
$a*R$	$b*R$	$a*b*R$	$s = a*b*R^2*R^{-1} \pmod{m}$	$s*R^{-1} \pmod{m}$

To obtain  $a*b \pmod{m}$ , removing the  $R$  factor is needed.

## Montgomery reduction: when to use?

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Usual way of computing,  
e.g., with Barret reduction.

$$T = a * a \bmod m$$

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If we use Montgomery **naively**

$$T = \text{Mont}(a * a, m)$$

$$T = T * R \bmod m$$

$$T = \text{Mont}(T * a, m)$$

$$T = T * R \bmod m$$

...

$$T = \text{Mont}(a * a, m)$$

$$= a^5 R^{-1} \bmod m$$

$$T = T * R \bmod m$$





Inputs and outputs all have R factor.

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## Montgomery reduction: when to use?

Consider computing  $a^5 \bmod m$ .

Correct method of using Montgomery

$$b = a * R \bmod m.$$

#Convert to Montgomery form

$$T = \text{MontMultiplier}(b, b)$$

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$$= a^5 R \bmod m$$

$$\text{Result} = T * R^{-1} \bmod m$$

#Convert to normal form

# Efficient algorithms for modular reduction

In this course, we will study the following algorithms

- Barrett reduction
- Montgomery reduction
- **Reduction for special modulus**

## Modular deduction for special modulus

- Some cryptographic primitives use moduli with sparse representation:  
E.g., ECC uses  $m = 2^{192} - 2^{64} - 1$   
E.g., Some ZKP/FHE applications use  $m = 2^{64} - 2^{32} + 1$
- Mersenne primes:  $m = 2^k - 1$  with  $k$  a prime.  
E.g.,  $m = 2^{31} - 1$ ,  
 $m = 2^{61} - 1$  is currently the largest known Mersenne prime.
- Pseudo Mersenne primes (Solinas primes):  $m = 2^k - c$  with small  $c$ .

**Can modular reduction be made fast utilizing sparse structure of  $m$ ?**



## Modular deduction for special modulus

Example: modular reduction for  $m = 2^k - c$

$\Rightarrow$

$$m \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$$

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# Modular deduction for special modulus

Example: modular reduction for  $m = 2^k - c$

⇒

$$m \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$$

$$2^k - c \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$$

$$2^k \equiv c \pmod{m}$$

Perform  $A \pmod{m}$  for  $2k$ -bit  $A$

$$A = A_1 \cdot 2^k + A_0 \pmod{m}$$

$$A = A_1 \cdot c + A_0 \pmod{m} \quad \text{using } 2^k \equiv c \pmod{m}$$

...

# References

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