

High-speed
elliptic-curve cryptography

D. J. Bernstein

Thanks to:

University of Illinois at Chicago

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Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

Define $p = 2^{255} - 19$; prime.

Define $A = 358990$. Define

Curve : $\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, p - 1, \infty\}$ by

$n \mapsto x$ coordinate of n th multiple

of $(2, \dots)$ on the elliptic curve

$y^2 = x^3 + Ax^2 + x$ over \mathbf{F}_p .

Main topic of this talk: Compute

$U, \text{Curve}(V) \mapsto \text{Curve}(UV)$

in very few CPU cycles.

In particular, use floating point

for fast arithmetic mod p .

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Why cryptographers care

Each user has secret key U ,
public key $\text{Curve}(U)$.

Users with secret keys U, V
exchange $\text{Curve}(U), \text{Curve}(V)$
through an authenticated channel;
compute $\text{Curve}(UV)$; hash it;
use hash as shared secret to
encrypt and authenticate messages.

Curve speed is important
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A **53-bit fp number**

is a real number $2^e f$ with $e, f \in \mathbf{Z}$ and

Round each real number to the closest 53-bit fp number.

Round halves to even.

Examples:

$$\text{fp}_{53}(8675309) = 8675309$$

$$\text{fp}_{53}(2^{127} + 8675309) = 2^{127} + 8675309$$

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Every cycle, UltraSPARC III can do
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“4-cycle fp-operation latency”:
Results available after 4 cycles.

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Exact dot product

If $a, b \in \{-2^{20}, \dots, 2^{20}\}$,

then ab is a 53-bit integer,

so $ab = \text{fp}_{53}(ab)$.

If $a, b, c, d \in \{-2^{20}, \dots, 2^{20}\}$,

then $ab, cd, ab + cd$ are

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UltraSPARC III computes

$a, b, c, d \mapsto ab + cd$ by

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Exact dot products

If $a, b \in \{-2^{20}, \dots, 0, 1, \dots, 2^{20}\}$ then ab is a 53-bit fp number so $ab = \text{fp}_{53}(ab)$.

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UltraSPARC III computes $a, b, c, d \mapsto ab + cd$ with two fp mults, one fp add.

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Bit extraction

Define $\alpha_i = 3 \cdot 2^i$

$\text{top}_i r = \text{fp}_{53}(\text{fp}_{53}(r / \alpha_i))$

$\text{bottom}_i r = \text{fp}_{53}(r - \alpha_i \text{top}_i r)$

If r is a 53-bit fp number

and $|r| \leq 2^{i+51}$ then

$\text{top}_i r \in 2^i \mathbf{Z}$;

$|\text{bottom}_i r| \leq 2^{i-1}$

$r = \text{top}_i r + \text{bottom}_i r$

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Big integers as fp

Every integer mod

can be written as

$u_0 + u_{22} + u_{43} +$

$u_{85} + u_{107} + u_{128}$

$u_{170} + u_{192} + u_{211}$

where $u_i/2^i \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$

Indices i are $\lceil 255j \rceil$

for $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, 1\}$

Representation is

it's not the input/

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Bit extraction

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Big integers as fp sums

Every integer mod $2^{255} - 19$

can be written as a sum

$u_0 + u_{22} + u_{43} + u_{64} +$

$u_{85} + u_{107} + u_{128} + u_{149} +$

$u_{170} + u_{192} + u_{213} + u_{234}$

where $u_i/2^i \in \{-2^{22}, \dots, 2^{22}\}$.

Indices i are $\lceil 255j/12 \rceil$

for $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, 11\}$.

Representation is not unique;

it's not the input/output format.

Uniqueness would cost cycles!

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Assume $u = \sum u_i$
and similarly $v = \sum v_i$
 $uv = w_0 + w_{22} + \dots$
where $w_0 = u_0v_0$,
 $w_{22} = u_0v_{22} + u_{22}v_0$,
 $w_{43} = u_0v_{43} + u_{22}v_{22} + u_{43}v_0$,
etc.

Each w_i is a 53-bit number
Given u_i 's and v_i 's
can compute w_i 's
144 fp mults, 121

Big integers as fp sums

Every integer mod $2^{255} - 19$
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Representation is not unique;
it's not the input/output format.
Uniqueness would cost cycles!

Assume $u = \sum u_i$ as above,
and similarly $v = \sum v_i$. Then
 $uv = w_0 + w_{22} + \dots + w_{468}$
where $w_0 = u_0v_0$,
 $w_{22} = u_0v_{22} + u_{22}v_0$,
 $w_{43} = u_0v_{43} + u_{22}v_{22} + u_{43}v_0$,
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Each w_i is a 53-bit fp number.
Given u_i 's and v_i 's,
can compute w_i 's using
144 fp mults, 121 fp adds.

sums

$$2^{255} - 19$$

a sum

$$u_{64} + u_{149} + \dots + u_{234} \cdot \{2^{22}, \dots, 2^{22}\}.$$

$$\lfloor i/12 \rfloor$$

$$\lfloor 1 \rfloor.$$

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144 fp mults, 121 fp adds.

Furthermore, mod

$$uv \equiv r_0 + r_{22} + \dots$$

where $r_0 = w_0 + \dots$

$$r_{22} = w_{22} + 19 \cdot 2^{22}$$

Each r_i is a 53-bit

Example: r_0 is an

$$|r_0| \leq 381 \cdot 2^{44}.$$

Computing r_i 's from

11 fp mults, 11 fp

Structure: $(\mathbf{Z}[t] \cap \dots)$

$$/(2^{255}t^{12} - 19) \rightarrow \dots$$

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Each w_i is a 53-bit fp number.
 Given u_i 's and v_i 's,
 can compute w_i 's using
 144 fp mults, 121 fp adds.

Furthermore, modulo $2^{255} - 19$,
 $uv \equiv r_0 + r_{22} + \dots + r_{234}$
 where $r_0 = w_0 + 19 \cdot 2^{-255}w_{255}$,
 $r_{22} = w_{22} + 19 \cdot 2^{-255}w_{277}$, etc.

Each r_i is a 53-bit fp number.
 Example: r_0 is an integer;
 $|r_0| \leq 381 \cdot 2^{44}$.

Computing r_i 's from w_i 's takes
 11 fp mults, 11 fp adds.

Structure: $(\mathbf{Z}[t] \cap \overline{\mathbf{Z}}[2^{255/12}t])$
 $/(2^{255}t^{12} - 19) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}/(2^{255} - 19)$.

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Carries

“Carry from r_0 to
 replace r_0 and r_{22}
 bottom₂₂ r_0 and r_{22}
 This takes 4 fp ad
 and guarantees $|r_0$

Series of 13 carries
 in range for subsec
 from r_{192} to r_{213}
 then from r_0 to r_{22}
 to r_{192} to r_{213} .
 This takes 52 fp a

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$$/(2^{255}t^{12} - 19) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}/(2^{255} - 19).$$

Carries

“Carry from r_0 to r_{22} ”:

replace r_0 and r_{22} by

bottom₂₂ r_0 and $r_{22} + \text{top}_{22} r_0$.

This takes 4 fp adds,

and guarantees $|r_0| \leq 2^{21}$.

Series of 13 carries puts all r_i 's

in range for subsequent products:

from r_{192} to r_{213} to r_{234} to w_{255} ;

then from r_0 to r_{22} to r_{43} to ...

to r_{192} to r_{213} .

This takes 52 fp adds.

ulo $2^{255} - 19$,
 $\dots + r_{234}$
 $19 \cdot 2^{-255} w_{255}$,
 $2^{-255} w_{277}$, etc.

fp number.
integer;

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$\bar{\mathbf{Z}}[2^{255/12}t]$
 $\mathbf{Z}/(2^{255} - 19)$.

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Total 155 mults, 1
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 ≥ 184 UltraSPARCO
= 184 cycles? Tw
fp-operation laten
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Schedule instructio
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Carries

“Carry from r_0 to r_{22} ”:
replace r_0 and r_{22} by
bottom₂₂ r_0 and $r_{22} + \text{top}_{22} r_0$.

This takes 4 fp adds,
and guarantees $|r_0| \leq 2^{21}$.

Series of 13 carries puts all r_i 's
in range for subsequent products:
from r_{192} to r_{213} to r_{234} to w_{255} ;
then from r_0 to r_{22} to r_{43} to ...
to r_{192} to r_{213} .

This takes 52 fp adds.

Total 155 mults, 184 adds
to multiply modulo $2^{255} - 19$
in this representation.

≥ 184 UltraSPARC III cycles.

= 184 cycles? Two obstacles:
fp-operation latency;

“load/store” latency imposed by
limited number of “registers.”

Schedule instructions carefully
to bring cycles down to ≈ 184 .

r_{22} ”:

by

$r_{22} + \text{top}_{22} r_0$.

ds,

$|r_0| \leq 2^{21}$.

s puts all r_i 's

quent products:

to r_{234} to w_{255} ;

r_{22} to r_{43} to ...

dds.

Total 155 mults, 184 adds
to multiply modulo $2^{255} - 19$
in this representation.

≥ 184 UltraSPARC III cycles.

= 184 cycles? Two obstacles:

fp-operation latency;

“load/store” latency imposed by
limited number of “registers.”

Schedule instructions carefully
to bring cycles down to ≈ 184 .

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Includes range ver
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Have also used for
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see, e.g., http://.../mac/poly1305_a

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Includes range verification,
guided register allocation, et al.

Lets me write desired code
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Have also used for fast AES,
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Speedup: Squaring

Often know in adv

$u_0u_{64} + u_{22}u_{43} +$
is more efficiently

$2(u_0u_{64} + u_{22}u_{43})$

Even better: First

$2u_0, 2u_{22}, \dots, 2u_{22}$

and then compute

$(2u_0)u_{64} + (2u_{22})$

130 fp adds instead

Makes carry time

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Speedup: Squarings

Often know in advance that $u = v$.

$u_0u_{64} + u_{22}u_{43} + u_{43}u_{22} + u_{64}u_0$
is more efficiently computed as
 $2(u_0u_{64} + u_{22}u_{43})$.

Even better: First compute

$2u_0, 2u_{22}, \dots, 2u_{234}$

and then compute

$(2u_0)u_{64} + (2u_{22})u_{43}$ etc.

130 fp adds instead of 184.

Makes carry time even more visible.

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Speedup: Karatsuba

Say $A_0 = u_0 + u_{22}t$

$$A_1 = u_{128} + u_{149}t$$

$$B_0 = v_0 + \dots, B_1 = v_{128} + v_{149}t$$

Original, 184 adds

$$A_0B_0 + (A_0B_1 + A_1B_0)t + A_1B_1t^2$$

Karatsuba, 182 adds

$$((A_0 + A_1)(B_0 + B_1) - A_0B_0 - A_1B_1)t$$

$$+ A_0B_0 + A_1B_1t^2$$

Improved Karatsuba

$$(A_0 + A_1)(B_0 + B_1) - A_0B_0 - A_1B_1t$$

$$+ (A_0B_0 - A_1B_1)t^2$$

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130 fp adds instead of 184.

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Speedup: Karatsuba's method

$$\text{Say } A_0 = u_0 + u_{22}t + \dots + u_{107}t^5,$$

$$A_1 = u_{128} + u_{149}t + \dots + u_{234}t^5,$$

$$B_0 = v_0 + \dots, B_1 = v_{128} + \dots.$$

Original, 184 adds: Product is

$$A_0 B_0 + (A_0 B_1 + A_1 B_0)t^6 + A_1 B_1 t^{12}.$$

Karatsuba, 182 adds:

$$((A_0 + A_1)(B_0 + B_1) - A_0 B_0 - A_1 B_1)t^6 + A_0 B_0 + A_1 B_1 t^{12}.$$

Improved Karatsuba, 177 adds:

$$(A_0 + A_1)(B_0 + B_1)t^6 + (A_0 B_0 - A_1 B_1 t^6)(1 - t^6).$$

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$u_{43}u_{22} + u_{64}u_0$

computed as

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234

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The Curve function

Overall strategy to

$U, \text{Curve}(V) \mapsto \text{Cu}$

using arithmetic m

For various integer

find x_n, z_n such th

$\text{Curve}(nV) \equiv x_n/.$

i.e., $z_n \text{Curve}(nV)$

e.g. $x_1 = \text{Curve}(V)$

assuming $\text{Curve}(V)$

Can easily restrict

to ensure that ∞

Speedup: Karatsuba's method

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The Curve function

Overall strategy to compute

$U, \text{Curve}(V) \mapsto \text{Curve}(UV)$,

using arithmetic mod $p = 2^{255} - 19$:

For various integers n ,

find x_n, z_n such that

$$\text{Curve}(nV) \equiv x_n/z_n \pmod{p},$$

$$\text{i.e., } z_n \text{Curve}(nV) \equiv x_n \pmod{p}.$$

e.g. $x_1 = \text{Curve}(V)$, $z_1 = 1$,

assuming $\text{Curve}(V) \neq \infty$.

Can easily restrict $U, \text{Curve}(V)$

to ensure that ∞ never appears.

ba's method

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2t + \dots + u_{107}t^5, \\
& t + \dots + u_{234}t^5, \\
& = v_{128} + \dots
\end{aligned}$$

: Product is

$$(A_0 B_0) t^6 + A_1 B_1 t^{12}.$$

ds:

$$(A_0 B_0 - A_1 B_1) t^6$$

2.

pa, 177 adds:

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$$x_m, z_m \mapsto x_{2m}, z_{2m}$$

$$x_m, z_m, x_{m+1}, z_{m+1}$$

$$\mapsto x_{2m+1}, z_{2m+1}.$$

Combine to compute

$$x_m, z_m, x_{m+1}, z_{m+1}$$

$$\mapsto x_n, z_n, x_{n+1}, z_{n+1}$$

where $m = \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$

Conditional branch

input-dependent lo

can leak b via timi

Replace with arith

$$\text{e.g., } (1 - b)x_m +$$

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We'll see how to compute
 $x_m, z_m \mapsto x_{2m}, z_{2m}$; and
 $x_m, z_m, x_{m+1}, z_{m+1}, \text{Curve}(V)$
 $\mapsto x_{2m+1}, z_{2m+1}$.

Combine to compute
 $x_m, z_m, x_{m+1}, z_{m+1}, b, \text{Curve}(V)$
 $\mapsto x_n, z_n, x_{n+1}, z_{n+1}$
where $m = \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$, $b = n \bmod 2$.

Conditional branches and
input-dependent load addresses
can leak b via timing.

Replace with arithmetic:
e.g., $(1 - b)x_m + (b)x_{m+1}$.

n
to compute
 $\text{Curve}(UV)$,
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Conditional branches and
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Replace with arithmetic:
e.g., $(1 - b)x_m + (b)x_{m+1}$.

Eventually reach n
Divide x_U by z_U mod p
to obtain $\text{Curve}(U)$.

Simple division mod p
 $x_U/z_U \equiv x_U z_U^{p-2} \pmod{p}$.
Euclid-type division
are faster but have
input-dependent timing.

Finally convert from
floating-point representation
to byte-string output.

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$x_m, z_m \mapsto x_{2m}, z_{2m}$; and

$x_m, z_m, x_{m+1}, z_{m+1}, \text{Curve}(V)$

$\mapsto x_{2m+1}, z_{2m+1}$.

Combine to compute

$x_m, z_m, x_{m+1}, z_{m+1}, b, \text{Curve}(V)$

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Conditional branches and
input-dependent load addresses
can leak b via timing.

Replace with arithmetic:

e.g., $(1 - b)x_m + (b)x_{m+1}$.

Eventually reach $n = U$.

Divide x_U by z_U modulo p
to obtain $\text{Curve}(UV)$.

Simple division method: Fermat!

$$x_U/z_U \equiv x_U z_U^{p-2}.$$

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compute

x_{m+1} ; and

$x_{m+1}, \text{Curve}(V)$

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$x_{m+1}, b, \text{Curve}(V)$

x_{n+1}

$b = n \pmod 2$.

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From n to $2n$

In \mathbf{Z}/p :

$$x_{2n} = (x_n^2 - z_n^2)^2$$

$$z_{2n} = 4x_n z_n (x_n^2 - z_n^2)$$

Compute as follows

$$(x_n - z_n)^2; (x_n + z_n)^2$$

$$x_{2n} = (x_n - z_n)^2$$

$$4x_n z_n = (x_n + z_n)^2$$

$$(A - 2)x_n z_n = 89$$

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$$x_{2n} = (x_n^2 - z_n^2)^2,$$

$$z_{2n} = 4x_n z_n (x_n^2 + Ax_n z_n + z_n^2).$$

Compute as follows:

$$(x_n - z_n)^2; (x_n + z_n)^2;$$

$$x_{2n} = (x_n - z_n)^2 (x_n + z_n)^2;$$

$$4x_n z_n = (x_n + z_n)^2 - (x_n - z_n)^2;$$

$$(A - 2)x_n z_n = 89747 \cdot 4x_n z_n;$$

$$z_{2n} =$$

$$4x_n z_n ((x_n + z_n)^2 + (A - 2)x_n z_n).$$

$$a = U.$$

modulo p

V).

method: Fermat!

n methods

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$$4x_n z_n ((x_n + z_n)^2 + (A - 2)x_n z_n).$$

From $n, n + 1$ to $2n + 1$

$$x_{2n+1} = 4(x_n x_{n+1} - z_n z_{n+1})^2,$$

$$z_{2n+1} =$$

$$4(x_n z_{n+1} - z_n x_{n+1})^2.$$

Compute as follows:

$$(x_n - z_n)(x_{n+1} + z_{n+1});$$

$$(x_n + z_n)(x_{n+1} - z_{n+1});$$

$$2(x_n x_{n+1} - z_n z_{n+1});$$

$$2(x_n z_{n+1} - z_n x_{n+1});$$

$$x_{2n+1} = (2(x_n x_{n+1} - z_n z_{n+1}))^2;$$

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From $n, n + 1$ to $2n + 1$

$$x_{2n+1} = 4(x_n x_{n+1} - z_n z_{n+1})^2,$$

$$z_{2n+1} =$$

$$4(x_n z_{n+1} - z_n x_{n+1})^2 \text{ Curve}(V).$$

Compute as follows:

$$(x_n - z_n)(x_{n+1} + z_{n+1});$$

$$(x_n + z_n)(x_{n+1} - z_{n+1});$$

$$2(x_n x_{n+1} - z_n z_{n+1}) = \text{sum};$$

$$2(x_n z_{n+1} - z_n x_{n+1}) = \text{difference};$$

$$x_{2n+1} = (2(x_n x_{n+1} - z_n z_{n+1}))^2;$$

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From $n, n + 1$ to $2n + 1$

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$$z_{2n+1} =$$

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$$(x_n + z_n)(x_{n+1} - z_{n+1});$$

$$2(x_n x_{n+1} - z_n z_{n+1}) = \text{sum};$$

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$$(2(x_n z_{n+1} - z_n x_{n+1}))^2;$$

$$z_{2n+1} = (\dots) \text{ Curve}(V).$$

Total time

Slightly over 1600
(520 from carries)
for each bit of U .

Total for 256-bit U
 ≈ 413000 fp adds;
 ≈ 50000 fp adds f

Aiming for 500000
Still have to finish
Should end up even
my NIST P-224 sc
despite 14% more

From $n, n + 1$ to $2n + 1$

$$x_{2n+1} = 4(x_n x_{n+1} - z_n z_{n+1})^2,$$

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Total time

Slightly over 1600 fp adds

(520 from carries)

for each bit of U .

Total for 256-bit U :

≈ 413000 fp adds; plus

≈ 50000 fp adds for final division.

Aiming for 500000 cycles.

Still have to finish software.

Should end up even faster than

my NIST P-224 software,

despite 14% more bits!