



Aalto University  
School of Science

# Multiple differential cryptanalysis using LLR and $\chi^2$ Statistics

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joint work with Benoît Gérard and Kaisa Nyberg

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# Outline

## Introduction

- Block Ciphers
- Differential Cryptanalysis
- Last Round Attacks

## Multiple Differential Cryptanalysis

- Definition
- Partitioning Function
- Complexities

## Experiments

- Experimental Results
- Analyse

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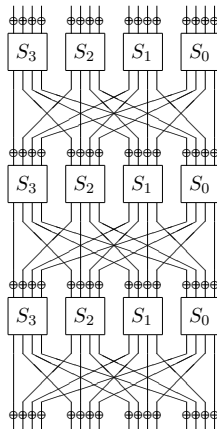
- Experimental Results
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# Block ciphers



$$E_K : \mathbb{F}_2^m \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^m$$

- ▶  $K$ : Master key
- ▶  $F$ : Round function
- ▶  $K_i$ : Round key



SMALLPRESENT-4]

# Statistical Attacks

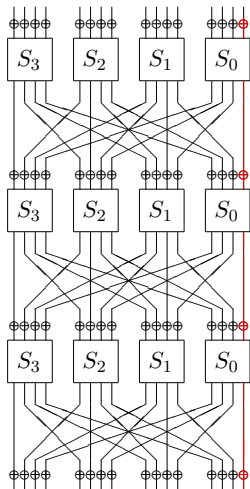
## Statistical attacks:

- ▶ Take advantage of a non-uniform behavior of the cipher
- ▶ Two families: Linear and Differential cryptanalysis

## Improvement of differential cryptanalysis

- ▶ Differential cryptanalysis [Biham Shamir 91]
- ▶ Truncated differential cryptanalysis [Knudsen 95]
- ▶ Impossible differential cryptanalysis [Biham Biryukov Shamir 99]
- ▶ Higher order differential cryptanalysis [Lai 94] [Knudsen 95]
- ▶ Multiple differential cryptanalysis (First approach) [BG 11]

# Linear cryptanalysis



[Tardy-Gilbert91], [Matsui93]

Linear relation using

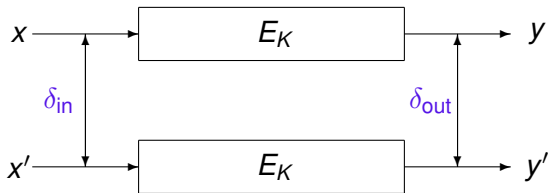
- ▶ plaintext bits,
- ▶ key bits,
- ▶ ciphertext bits.

$$\pi \cdot X \oplus \kappa \cdot K \oplus \gamma \cdot y = 0$$

with probability  $p = \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$

# Differential Cryptanalysis

Given an **input difference** between two plaintexts, some **output differences** occur more often than others.

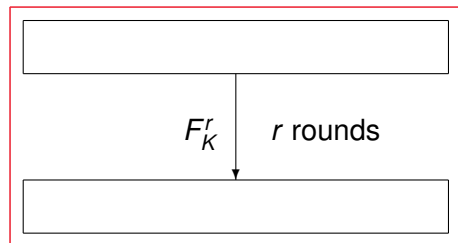


**Differential:** pair of **input** and **output** difference ( $\delta_{in}, \delta_{out}$ )

**Differential probability:**  $p = P_{X,K}[ E_K(X) \oplus E_K(X \oplus \delta_{in}) = \delta_{out} ]$

**Uniform probability:**  $\theta = 2^{-m}$

# Last Round Attack



Distinguisher

Plaintext

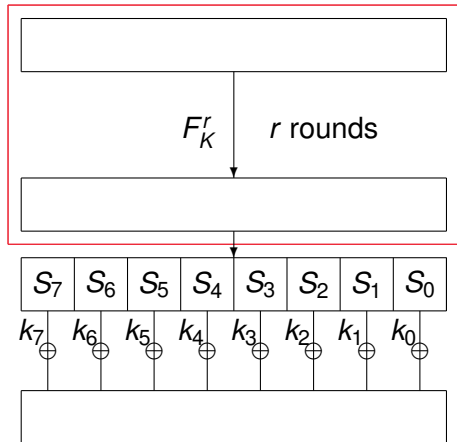


Characteristic

Partial State



# Last Round Attack



Distinguisher

Plaintext

Characteristic

Partial State

Substitution Layer

Key addition

Ciphertext

# Related Work

## Linear Cryptanalysis:

- ▶ Multiple linear cryptanalysis [Baignères, Junod, Vaudenay 04]
- ▶ Multidimensional linear cryptanalysis [Hermelin, Cho, Nyberg 08]

Both use LLR and/or  $\chi^2$  statistical tests.

## Differential Cryptanalysis:

- ▶ [Blondeau, Gérard 11]:  
The frequencies are sum up
- ▶ Here:  
We study the LLR and/or  $\chi^2$  statistical tests.

# Multiple differential cryptanalysis (First Approach)

- ▶ Set of differences  $\delta_{in}^{(v)}, \delta_{out}^{(v)}$
- ▶ With probabilities  $p_v = P_{X,K}[ E_K(X) \oplus E_K(X \oplus \delta_{in}^{(v)}) = \delta_{out}^{(v)} ]$ .
- ▶ Set of input differences  $\delta_{in}^{(v)} \in \Delta_{in}$ .
- ▶  $p = \frac{1}{\Delta_{in}} \sum_v p_v$  expected probability.
- ▶  $\theta = \frac{1}{\Delta_{in}} \sum_v \frac{1}{2^m}$  uniform probability.

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# Multiple Differential Cryptanalysis

- ▶ Fix input difference  $\delta_{\text{in}}$  (To simplify the analysis)
- ▶ Vector of “difference”:  $V = [\delta_{\text{out}}^{(i)}]$  after  $r$  rounds,
- ▶  $p = [p_v]_{v \in V}$  vector of expected probabilities.
- ▶  $\theta = [\theta_v]_{v \in V}$  vector of uniform probabilities.

# Discussion

Parallel Work for small ciphers: [\[Albrecht Leander 2012\]](#)

Whole distribution taken for SMALLPRESENT-[4] (16-bit cipher)

Whole distribution taken for KATAN-32 (32-bit cipher)

Limits:

For actual ciphers the output size is too large ( $2^{64}$  or  $2^{128}$ )

Application to real cipher:

Introduction of partitioning functions.

# Partitioning function

We analyze two “orthogonal” cases

- ▶ Unbalanced partitioning
  - ▶ Take a subset of simple differences
- ▶ Balanced partitioning
  - ▶ Group the differences in order to be able to use information of the whole output space.

# Unbalanced Partitioning

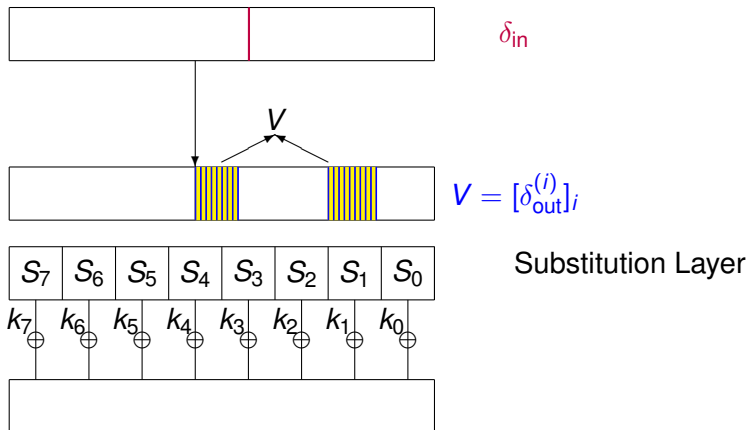
Idea: Subset of simple differences

- ▶ Output differences  $(\delta_{out}^{(i)})_{1 \leq i \leq A}$ ,
- ▶ Counter for each of these differentials  $q_i^k$ .
  
- ▶ As  $\sum_{i=1}^A q_i^k \neq 1$
- ▶ We have a “trash” counter  $q_0^k$  which gather all other output differences.

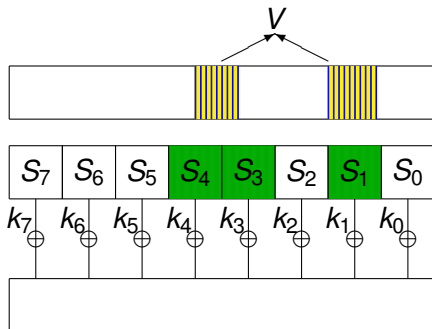
We increment the counter  $q_i^k$   
if the difference  $\delta_{out}^{(i)}$  is obtained after partial deciphering.



# Unbalanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



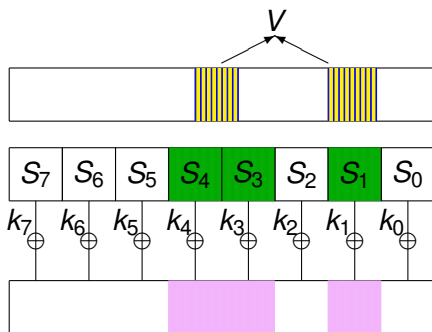
# Unbalanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



$$V = [\delta_{\text{out}}^{(i)}]_i$$

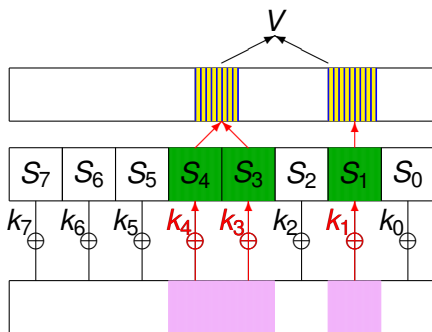
Active Sboxes

# Unbalanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



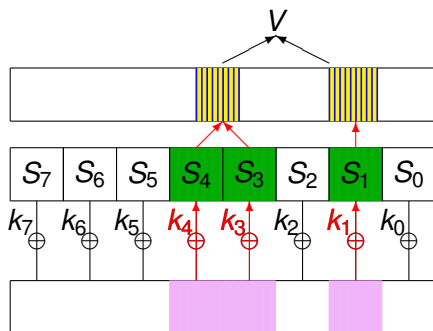
Sieving process  
Discard some ciphertext pairs

# Unbalanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



For all key candidates,  
partially decipher

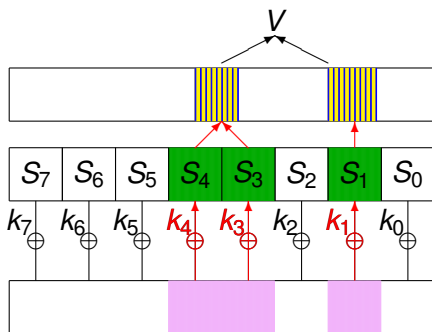
# Unbalanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



If  $\delta = \delta_{\text{out}}^{(i)}$   
Increment  $q_i^k$

Otherwise  
Increment  $q_0^k$

# Unbalanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



If  $\delta = \delta_{\text{out}}^{(i)}$   
Increment  $q_i^k$

Otherwise  
Increment  $q_0^k$

Analyse the vectors  $q^k$  for each key  
Scoring function

# Unbalanced Partitioning: Remarks

Corresponding known/former attacks:

- ▶ Differential cryptanalysis.

Advantage:

- ▶ A sieving process  $\Rightarrow$  “smaller” time complexity

Disadvantage:

- ▶ Subset of output space  $\Rightarrow$  not all information
- ▶ Small Probabilities  $\Rightarrow$  Non-tightness of the information

# Balanced Partitioning

**Idea:** Using information from all output differences by grouping them.

Let  $V = [\delta_{\text{out}}^{(i)}]_i$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{F}_2^m$

A group of differences  $\Delta_{\text{out}}^{(i)} = \delta_{\text{out}}^{(i)} \oplus \bar{V} \quad (\bar{V} \oplus V = \mathbb{F}_2^m)$

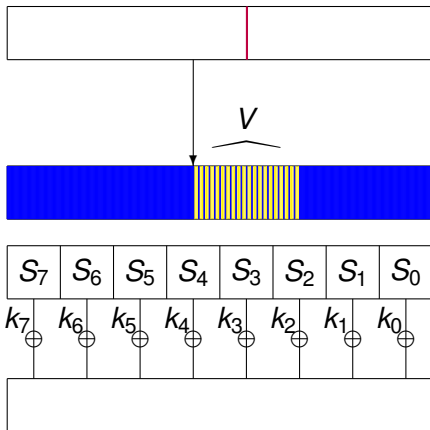
A counter  $q_i^k$  for each group of differences.

We increment the counter  $q_i^k$

if the difference  $\delta \in \Delta_{\text{out}}^{(i)}$  is obtained partial deciphering.



# Balanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack

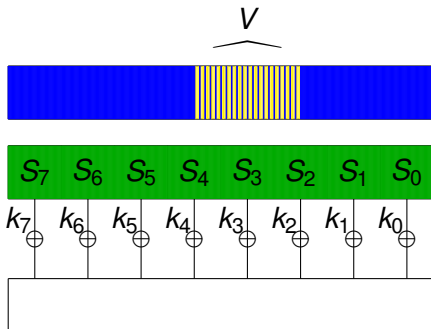


$\delta_{in}$

$$\Delta_{out} = \delta_{out} \oplus \bar{V}$$

Substitution Layer

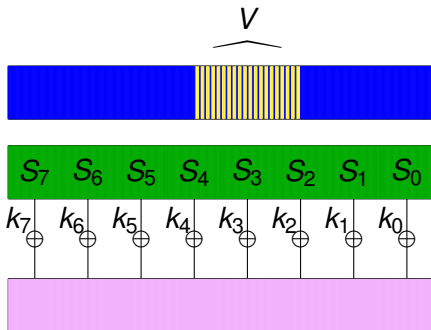
# Balanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



$$\Delta_{\text{out}} = \delta_{\text{out}} \oplus \bar{V}$$

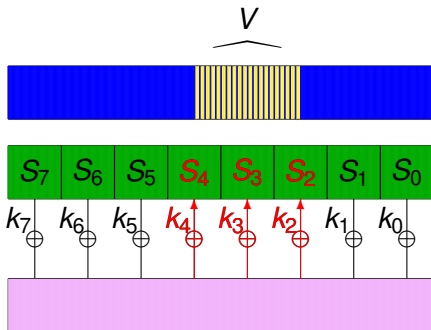
Active Sboxes

# Balanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



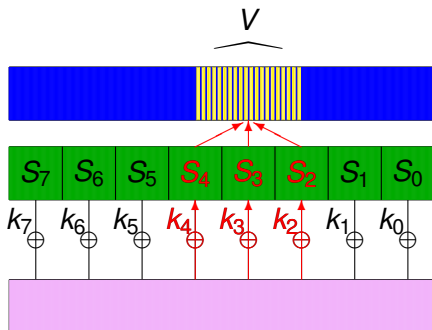
No Sieving process  
Partially decipher for all pairs

# Balanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



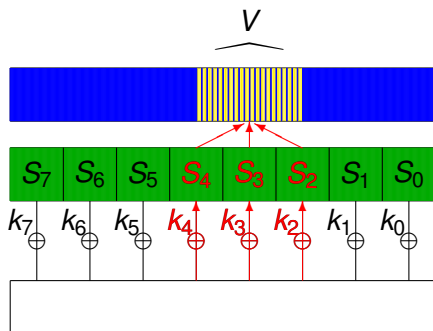
For all key candidates,  
partially decipher

# Balanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



If  $\delta \in \delta_{\text{out}}^{(i)} \oplus \bar{V}$   
Increment  $q_i^k$

# Balanced Partitioning: Last Round Attack



If  $\delta \in \delta_{\text{out}}^{(i)} \oplus \bar{V}$   
Increment  $q_i^k$

Analyse the vectors  $q^k$  for each key  
Scoring function

# Balanced Partitioning: Remarks

Corresponding known/former attacks:

- ▶ Truncated Differential cryptanalysis.

Advantage:

- ▶ Whole output space  $\Rightarrow$  More information
- ▶ Bigger Probabilities  $\Rightarrow$  Tightness of the information

Disadvantage:

- ▶ No sieving process  $\Rightarrow$  More time complexity

# Statistical Tests

Probability distribution vectors

- ▶ Expected:  $p = [p_v]_{v \in V}$
- ▶ Uniform:  $\theta$
- ▶ Observed:  $q^k$  (for a given key candidate)

LLR test: requires the knowledge of the theoretical probability  $p$ .

$$S_k = \text{LLR}_k(q^k, p, \theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} N_s \sum_{v \in V} q_v^k \log \left( \frac{p_v}{\theta_v} \right).$$

$\chi^2$  test: Does not require the knowledge of  $p$  for the attack

$$S_k = \chi_k^2(q^k, \theta) = N_s \sum_{v \in V} \frac{(q_v^k - \theta_v)^2}{\theta_v}.$$



# Complexities

Let  $S(k)$  be the statistic obtained for a key candidate  $k$ .

$$S(k) = \text{LLR}_k(q^k, p, \theta) \text{ or } = \chi_k^2(q^k, \theta)$$

Then,

$$S(k) \sim \begin{cases} \mathcal{N}(\mu_R, \sigma_R^2) & \text{if } k = K_r, \\ \mathcal{N}(\mu_W, \sigma_W^2) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In the paper:

- ▶ Estimates of the value of  $\mu_R, \mu_W, \sigma_R, \sigma_W$  for both LLR and  $\chi^2$  statistical tests.
- ▶ Estimates of the **Data Complexity**

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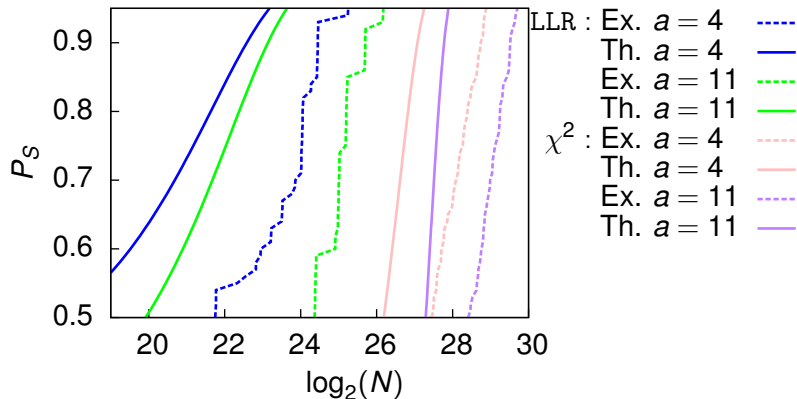
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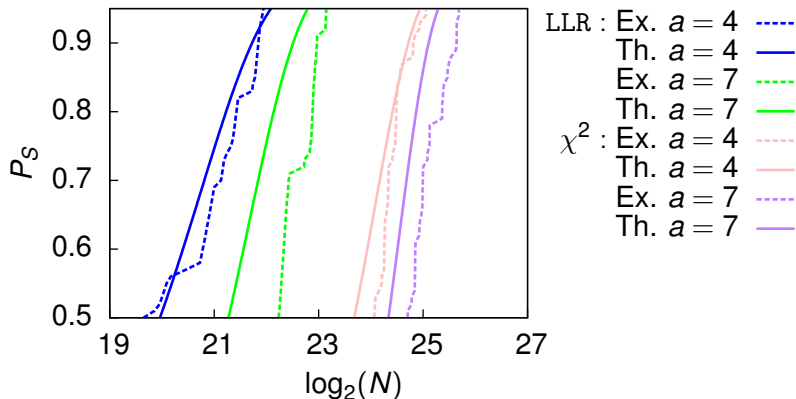
# Using unbalanced partitioning

Subset of output differences



# Using balanced partitioning

Set of groups of output differences



# Conclusions

## Balanced or Unbalanced partitioning ?

- ▶ Time Complexity: unbalanced  $\Rightarrow$  faster attack.
- ▶ Data Complexity: depends on the cipher.

## LLR or $\chi^2$ ?

- ▶ If we have a good estimate of the expected probabilities  $\Rightarrow$  LLR provides better Data and Memory complexities
- ▶ Otherwise LLR is not effective

# Work in Progress

## Estimation of the Differential Probabilities

### In Theory

- ▶ Estimation of truncated differential probabilities can be done correlations.

### In Practice

- ▶ Estimation of the correlations are “easy” on PRESENT CHO
- ▶ We use them to compute the distribution vector.
- ▶ We provide a multiple differential attack on PRESENT