



Aalto University
School of Science

On the (In)Equivalence of Impossible Differential and Zero-Correlation Distinguishers for Feistel- and Skipjack-type Ciphers

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ACNS

Outline

Impossible Differential and Zero-Correlation Linear Distinguishers

- The Distinguishers

- Previously Known Relation

Feistel and Skipjack-Type Ciphers

- Constructions

- The Matrix Method

- Main Results

- Illustration of the Proof

Examples and Conclusion

- Example of (In)Equivalence

- Conclusion

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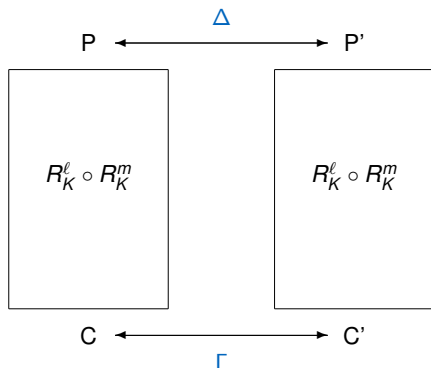
Conclusion

Impossible Differential (ID) Cryptanalysis

[Knudsen 1997]

ID distinguishers :

- ▶ Differentials which never occur
- ▶ Truncated differential (Δ, Γ) with probability 0



$$(0, 0) \notin (\Delta, \Gamma)$$

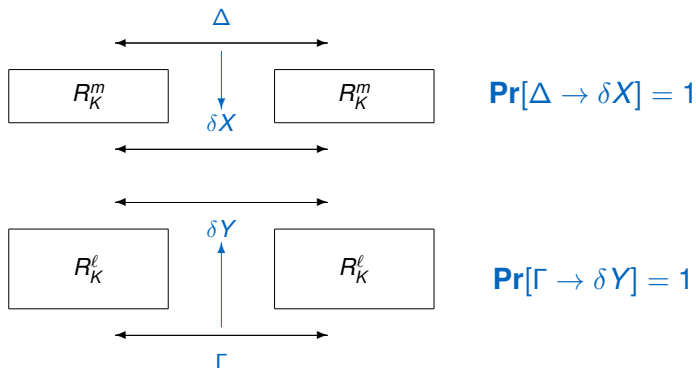
$$\Pr[\Delta \rightarrow \Gamma] = 0$$

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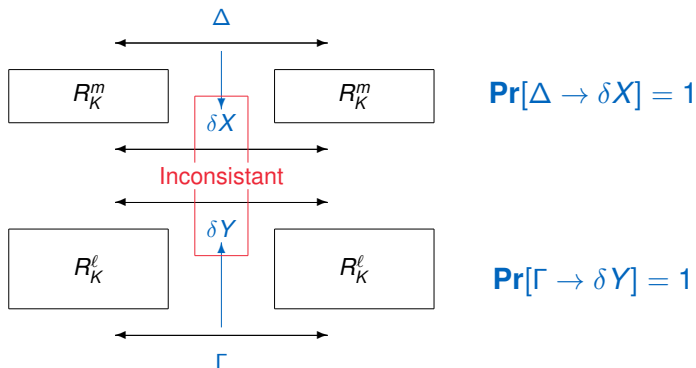


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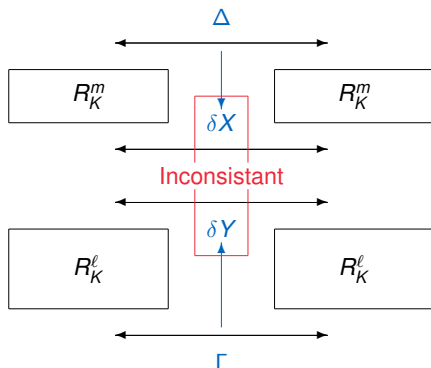


Impossible Differential (ID) Cryptanalysis

[Knudsen 1997]

ID distinguishers :

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$$\Pr[\Delta \rightarrow \delta X] = 1$$

$$\Pr[\Delta \rightarrow \Gamma] = 0$$

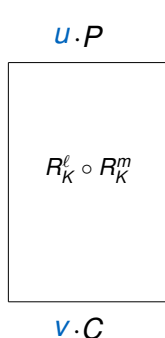
$$\Pr[\Gamma \rightarrow \delta Y] = 1$$

Zero-Correlation (ZC) Linear Cryptanalysis

[Bogdanov et al 2012]

(Multidimensional) ZC distinguishers :

- ▶ Linear approximations with probability $1/2$
- ▶ Multidimensional linear approximation (U, V) with capacity 0



$$\forall u \in U, \forall v \in V,$$

$$\Pr[u \cdot P \oplus v \cdot C = 0] = \frac{1}{2}$$

Or equivalently,

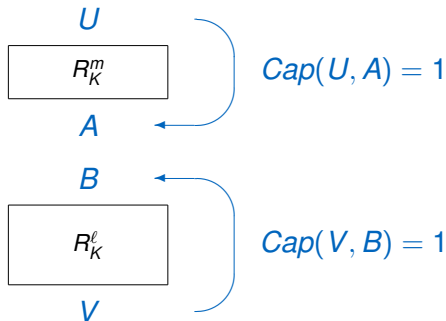
$$\text{Cap}(U, V) = 0$$

Zero-Correlation (ZC) Linear Cryptanalysis

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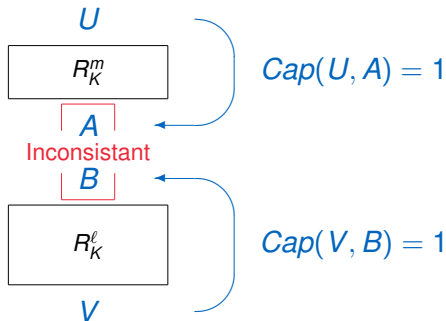


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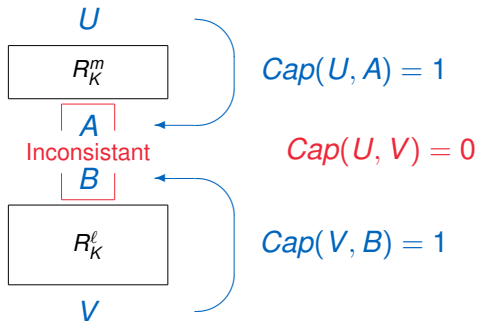


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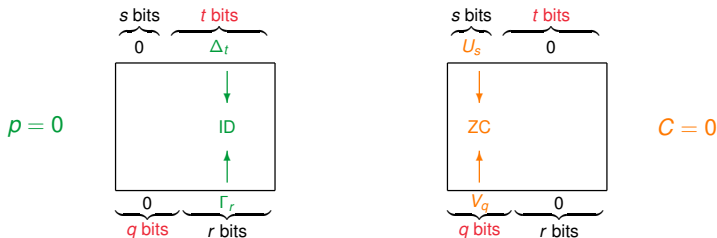


Mathematical Relation between ID and ZC

[Blondeau Nyberg 2013]

- ▶ TD : $[(0, \Delta_t), (0, \Gamma_r)]_{\Delta_t \in \mathbb{F}_2^t \setminus \{0\}, \Gamma_r \in \mathbb{F}_2^r}$ with probability p
- ▶ ML : $[(U_s, 0), (V_q, 0)]_{U_s \in \mathbb{F}_2^s \setminus \{0\}, V_q \in \mathbb{F}_2^q}$ with capacity C

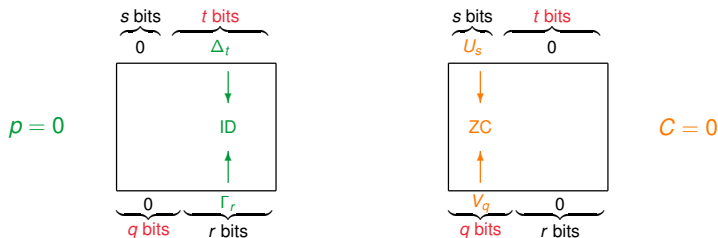
$$\frac{2^t - 1}{2^t} \cdot p = 2^{-q} \cdot (C + 1) - 2^{-t}$$



If $t = q$: ZC and ID distinguishers are mathematically equivalent

Mathematical Relation between ID and ZC

[Blondeau Nyberg 2013]



If $t = q$: ZC and ID distinguishers are mathematically equivalent

Observation :

- ▶ Independent of the cipher and its structure

However: $(2^t - 1)(2^{n-t} - 1) \approx 2^n$ IDs are involved

- ▶ In practice, the considered spaces are smaller

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ID and ZC Distinguishers

Number of Rounds of the Distinguisher:

Ciphers	ID	ZC
LBlock / TWINE	14	14
MARS	11	11
SMS4	11	11
Skipjack	24	17
Skipjack (only rule A)	16	16
Four-Cell	18	12

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Example of Patterns (for LBlock) :

- ▶ Impossible differential :

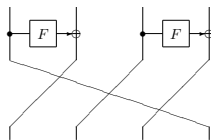
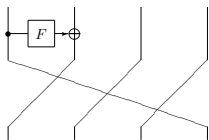
$(00000000, 00\Delta 000000) \rightarrow (0\Gamma 000000, 00000000)$

- ▶ Zero correlation approximation :

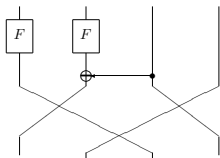
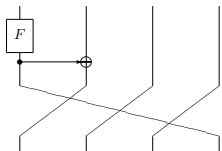
$(000U0000, 00000000) \rightarrow (00000000, 0V000000)$

Example of Constructions

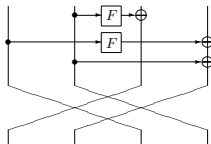
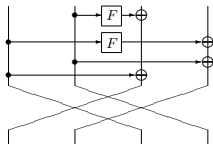
Feistel-Type



Skipjack-Type

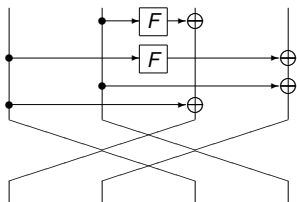


EGNF-Type



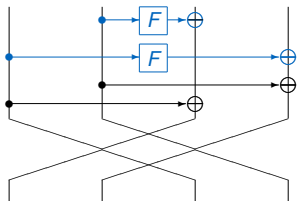
Representation of the Round Function

- ▶ F-layer
- ▶ X-layer
- ▶ P-layer



Representation of the Round Function

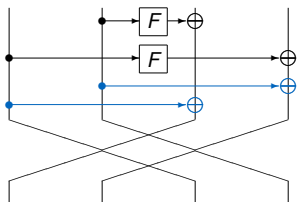
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$$\mathcal{F} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & F & 1 & 0 \\ F & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

Representation of the Round Function

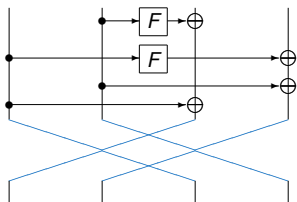
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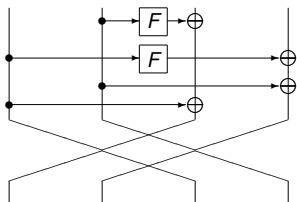


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$$\mathcal{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and } \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X} \cdot \mathcal{F}$$

Rules to find ZC and ID distinguishers

Differential Context :

$$\begin{array}{c} \delta_1 \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ \delta_3 \end{array} \delta_2 \quad \delta_3 = \delta_1 = \delta_2$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \delta_1 \\ | \\ \oplus \\ | \\ \delta_3 \end{array} \delta_2 \quad \delta_3 = \delta_1 \oplus \delta_2$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \delta_1 \\ | \\ \boxed{F} \\ | \\ \delta_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \delta_1 = \delta_2 = 0 \\ \delta_1 \neq 0 \text{ and } \delta_2 \neq 0 \end{array}$$

Linear Context :

$$\begin{array}{c} u_1 \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ u_3 \end{array} u_2 \quad u_3 = u_1 \oplus u_2$$

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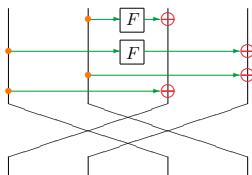
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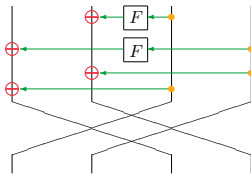
$$\begin{array}{c} u_1 \\ | \\ \boxed{F} \\ | \\ u_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} u_1 = u_2 = 0 \\ u_1 \neq 0 \text{ and } u_2 \neq 0 \end{array}$$

\oplus and \bullet "play orthogonal roles"

Mirror Round Function



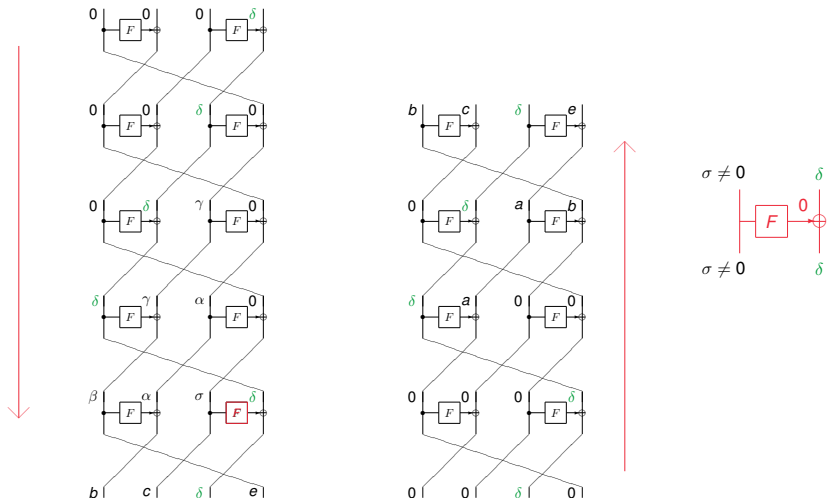
$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X} \cdot \mathcal{F}$$



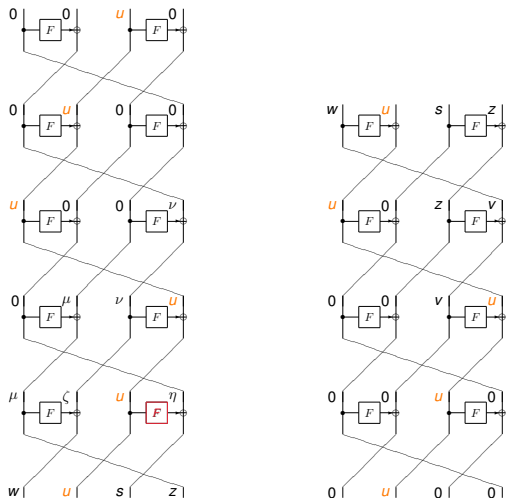
$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X}^T \cdot \mathcal{F}^T$$

- ▶ \mathcal{M} is the matrix representation of the mirror round function
- ▶ In general $\mathcal{M}^T \neq \mathcal{R}$
- ▶ Used to find ZC distinguishers [Soleimany Nyberg 2013]

Example of ID distinguisher



Example of ZC distinguisher



$$\begin{array}{l}
 u \quad \eta = s = 0 \\
 \left| \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \boxed{F} \\ 0 \end{array} \right| \oplus \\
 u \quad \eta = s = 0
 \end{array}$$

Matrix Method

Impossible Differential Context :

- ▶ Truncated input difference Δ
- ▶ Truncated output difference Γ

- ▶ If there is an inconsistency between $\mathcal{R}^m \cdot \Delta$ and $\mathcal{R}^{-\ell} \cdot \Gamma$, we have an ID on $m + \ell$ rounds

Zero-Correlation Context :

- ▶ Truncated input mask U
- ▶ Truncated output mask V

- ▶ If there is an inconsistency between $\mathcal{M}^m \cdot U$ and $\mathcal{M}^{-\ell} \cdot V$, we have a ZC on $m + \ell$ rounds

Equivalence between ID and ZC distinguishers

If it exists a linear relation between \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{R} or \mathcal{R}^{-1} , the existence of an ID distinguisher involving M differentials is equivalent to the existence of a ZC distinguisher involving M linear masks.

Given \mathcal{Q} a permutation matrix, the relation is

- ▶ Feistel-type ($\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{F}$) :

$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{Q} \cdot \mathcal{M} \cdot \mathcal{Q}^{-1} \text{ or } \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{Q} \cdot \mathcal{M}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{Q}^{-1}$$

- ▶ Skipjack-type ($\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X} \cdot \mathcal{F}$) :

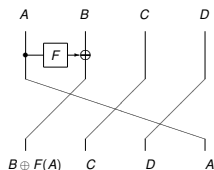
$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{Q} \cdot \mathcal{M} \cdot \mathcal{Q}^{-1} \text{ or } \mathcal{F} \cdot \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X} = \mathcal{Q} \cdot \mathcal{M}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{Q}^{-1}$$

- ▶ EGFN-type ($\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X} \cdot \mathcal{F}$) :

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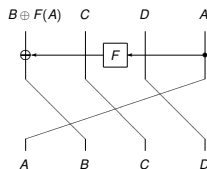
Illustration of the Proof for a Type-I Feistel

Round function



$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{F}$$

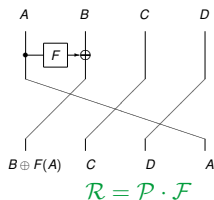
Inverse function



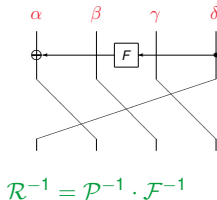
$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}^{-1} &= \mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{F}^{-1} \\ &= \mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot (\mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{F}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1})\end{aligned}$$

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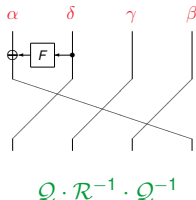
Round function



Inverse function



Permutation of the branches



$$(\alpha, \beta, \delta, \gamma) \rightarrow (\alpha, \delta, \gamma, \beta)$$

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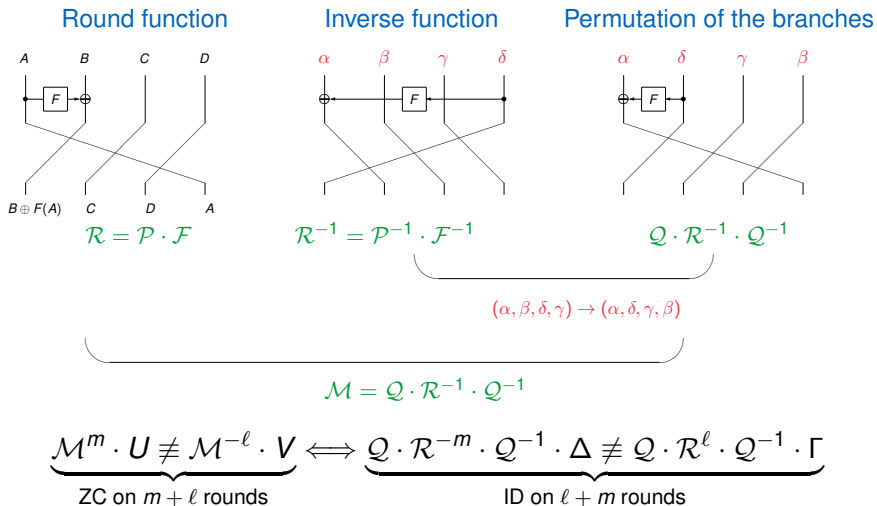
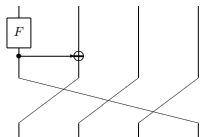


Illustration for Proof for Skipjack Rule-A

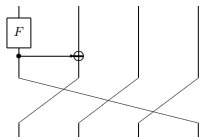
Round function



$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X} \cdot \mathcal{F}$$

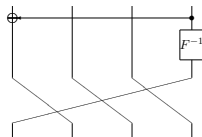
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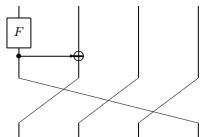
$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}^{-1} &= \mathcal{F}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{X}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1} \\ &= \mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{F}_*^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{X}_*^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_*^{-1} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{F} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1}$$

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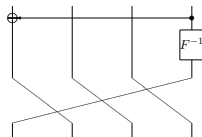
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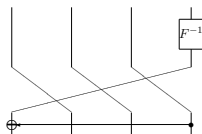


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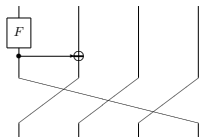
Exchange the order
of the operations



$$\mathcal{X}_*^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{F}_*^{-1}$$

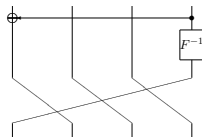
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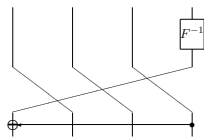


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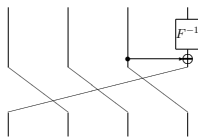
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Exchange the order of the operations



$$\mathcal{X}_*^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{F}_*^{-1}$$

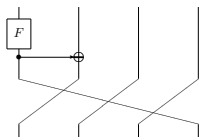
Equivalent formulation



$$\mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot (\mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X}_*^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1}) \cdot \mathcal{F}_*^{-1}$$

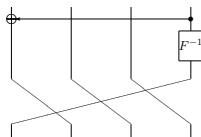
Illustration for Proof for Skipjack Rule-A

Round function



$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X} \cdot \mathcal{F}$$

Inverse function

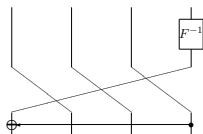


$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}^{-1} &= \mathcal{F}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{X}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1} \\ &= \mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{F}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{X}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_*^{-1} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{F} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1}$$

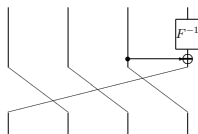
$$\mathcal{X}_*^{-1} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1}$$

Exchange the order of the operations



$$\mathcal{X}_*^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{F}_*^{-1}$$

Equivalent formulation



$$\mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot (\mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X}_*^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1}) \cdot \mathcal{F}_*^{-1}$$

Permutation of the branches

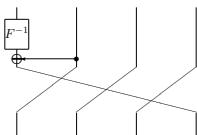
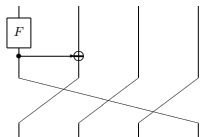


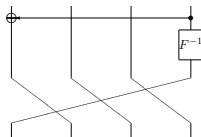
Illustration for Proof for Skipjack Rule-A

Round function



$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X} \cdot \mathcal{F}$$

Inverse function

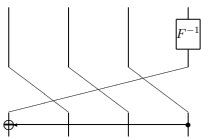


$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}^{-1} &= \mathcal{F}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{X}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1} \\ &= \mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{F}_*^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{X}_*^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_*^{-1} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{F} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1}$$

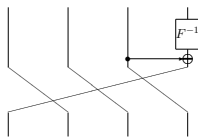
$$\mathcal{X}_*^{-1} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1}$$

Exchange the order of the operations



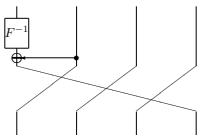
$$\mathcal{X}_*^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{F}_*^{-1}$$

Equivalent formulation



$$\mathcal{P}^{-1} \cdot (\mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{X}_*^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{-1}) \cdot \mathcal{F}_*^{-1}$$

Permutation of the branches



The inverse function is “equivalent” to the mirror function

Outline

Impossible Differential and Zero-Correlation Linear Distinguishers

- The Distinguishers

- Previously Known Relation

Feistel and Skipjack-Type Ciphers

- Constructions

- The Matrix Method

- Main Results

- Illustration of the Proof

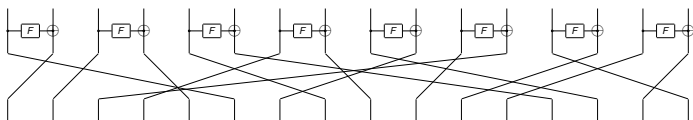
Examples and Conclusion

- Example of (In)Equivalence

- Conclusion

Example of Equivalence

Round Function of the Twine Block Cipher:



$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{F} \text{ with } \mathcal{F} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ F & 1 & 0 & & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & \dots & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & & 0 & F & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

\mathcal{P} defined from $\pi = \{5, 0, 1, 4, 7, 12, 3, 8, 13, 6, 9, 2, 15, 10, 11, 14\}$

We have $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{Q} \cdot \mathcal{R} \cdot \mathcal{Q}^{-1}$ for \mathcal{Q} defined from

$$\gamma = \{16, 15, 12, 11, 14, 13, 10, 9, 8, 7, 4, 3, 6, 5, 2, 1\}$$

Example of Inequivalence

- ▶ Some of the Feistels of [Suzuki et al 2010]

- ▶ For instance $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{F}$ with $\mathcal{F} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ F & 1 & & 0 & 0 \\ & & \dots & & \\ 0 & 0 & & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & & F & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

and \mathcal{P} is defined from $\pi = \{1, 2, 9, 4, 11, 6, 7, 8, 5, 12, 13, 10, 3, 0\}$

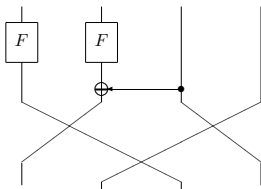
Example of Inequivalence

- ▶ Some of the Feistels of [Suzuki et al 2010]

- ▶ For instance $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{F}$ with $\mathcal{F} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ F & 1 & & 0 & 0 \\ & & \dots & & \\ 0 & 0 & & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & & F & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

and \mathcal{P} is defined from $\pi = \{1, 2, 9, 4, 11, 6, 7, 8, 5, 12, 13, 10, 3, 0\}$

- ▶ The original Skipjack (ID: 24 rounds, ZC: 17 rounds)
 - ▶ Rule-B followed by Rule-A is equivalent to



Conclusions

- ▶ We provide condition of equivalence between ID and ZC distinguishers for different cipher constructions (Feistel-type, Skipjack-type, EGFN-type, ...)
- ▶ The results can be generalized to other constructions
- ▶ This relation can be taken into consideration when designing a cipher

- ▶ Is there a link between the key-recovery attacks?