Differential characteristics

Boomerang Attacks against ARX Hash Functions

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Differential characteristics

An Ideal Hash Function: the Random Oracle



- Public Random Oracle
- The output can be used as a fingerprint of the document

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An Ideal Hash Function: the Random Oracle





0x1d66ca77ab361c6f

Public Random Oracle

The output can be used as a fingerprint of the document

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A Concrete Hash Function

• A public function with no structural property.

Cryptographic strength without any key!

▶
$$F: \{0,1\}^* \to \{0,1\}^n$$





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A Concrete Hash Function

- A public function with no structural property.
 - Cryptographic strength without any key!

▶
$$F: \{0,1\}^* \to \{0,1\}^n$$





0x1d66ca77ab361c6f

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Security goals

Preimage attack



Given F and \overline{H} , find M s.t. $F(M) = \overline{H}$. Ideal security: 2^n .

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Second-preimage attack



Given F and M_1 , find $M_2 \neq M_1$ s.t. $F(M_1) = F(M_2)$. Ideal security: 2^n .

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Collision attack



Given *F*, find $M_1 \neq M_2$ s.t. $F(M_1) = F(M_2)$. Ideal security: $2^{n/2}$.

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Using Hash Functions

Hash functions are used in many different contexts:

- To generate unique identifiers
 - Hash-and-sign signatures
 - Commitment schemes
- As a one-way function
 - One-Time-Passwords
 - Forward security
- To break the structure of the input
 - Entropy extractors
 - Key derivation
 - Pseudo-random number generator

To build MACs

- HMAC
- Challenge/response authentication

Differential characteristics

Security definitions: difficulties

```
int getRandomNumber()
{
return 4; // chosen by fair dice roll.
// guaranteed to be random.
}
```

http://xkcd.com/221/

- A single function can not be collision resistant.
 - Precomputation is allowed in standard security definition
 - Define a family of function
- Obvious relations between the security definitions do not hold.
 - Even more mess with families of functions!

Introduction

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Hash function design

Build a small compression function, and iterate.

- Cut the message in chunks M₀, ... M_k
- $\bullet H_i = f(M_i, H_{-1})$
- $F(M) = H_k$



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Security proof (Merkle, Damgård)

Theorem

If one finds a collision in the hash function, then one has a collision in the compression function.



• If $|M| \neq |M'|$, collision in last block.

• Else, look for last block with $H_i = H'_i$.

The converse is not true

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Security proof (Merkle, Damgård)

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- Else, look for last block with $H_i = H'_i$.
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Compression Function Attacks

Fist results usually target the compression function

- Because it's easier: more degrees of freedom
- Because good compression function imply good hash function

Compression Function Attacks

- Hash function collision:
- Free-start collision:
- Semi-free-start collision:
- Near-collision:
- Zero-sum:
 - m: $\sum h_i = 0, \ \sum m_i =$
- Attack on a truncated output, Bias, …

f(IV, m) = f(IV, m')f(h, m) = f(h, m')f(h, m) = f(h', m')

 $hw(f(h,m) \oplus f(h',m')) \text{ small}$ $\sum h_i = 0, \ \sum m_i = 0, \ \sum f(h_i,m_i) = 0$

Compression Function Attacks

Fist results usually target the compression function

- Because it's easier: more degrees of freedom
- Because good compression function imply good hash function

MD5 cryptanalysis

1993: Free-start collisions	[den Boer and Bosselaers]
1996: Semi-free-start collisions	[Dobbertin]
2005: Collisions	[Wang et. al]
2009: Rogue certificate	[Stevens et. al]

Wang's and Stevens's attacks are based on the dBB path

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Boomerang Attacks

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Operations used

Two main categories of designs:

ARX designs

- Additions, Rotations, Xors
- Inspired by MD/SHA
- Lots of light rounds
- Bit-level attack
- Known attacks techniques, but finding paths is hard

SBox designs

- SBoxes and Linear Layers
- Inspired by the AES
- Few heavy rounds
- SBox-level attacks
- New attacks techniques, e.g. rebound attack

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Boomerang Attacks

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Wang et. al's attacks

Based on a differential attack:

- Consider a pair of message with a small difference
- Try to control the propagation of the differences

New ideas:

- Use a signed difference
- Use a set of sufficient conditions
- Some conditions are easy to satisfy: message modification

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Wang et al.'s Attack



1 Precomputation:

- Choose a message difference.
- Build a differential path.
- Derive a set of sufficient conditions.

- Start with a random message, check the conditions
- Use message modifications

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Wang et al.'s Attack



Precomputation:

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Precomputation:

- Choose a message difference.
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The SHA-3 competition

After the attacks on the MD4 family, we need new hash functions

The SHA-3 competition

- Organized by NIST
- Similar to the AES competition
- Submission deadline was October 2008: 64 candidiates
- 51 valid submissions
- 14 in the second round (July 2009)
- 5 finalists in December 2010
- Winner in 2012?

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Boomerang Attacks

Differential characteristics



Introduction

Hash Functions Wang et al.'s attack

Boomerang Attacks

Boomerang Attacks and Hash Function Application to Skein Application to Blake

Differential characteristics

How to describe a differential characteristic S-function Analysis Application to Analysis of Differential Paths Incompatibilities

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Differential characteristics

Boomerang Attacks

- Introduced by Wagner, many later improvements
- Combine two short differentials instead of using a long one.
 - $f = f_b \circ f_a$
 - for f_a , $\alpha \to \alpha'$ with probability p_a
 - for f_b , $\gamma \rightarrow \gamma'$ with probability p_b
- Uses an encryprion oracle together with a decryption oracle

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Boomerang Attacks



Start with P⁽⁰⁾, P⁽¹⁾
 Compute C⁽⁰⁾, C⁽¹⁾
 Build C⁽²⁾, C⁽³⁾
 Compute P⁽²⁾, P⁽³⁾

 $C = \frac{1}{p_a} \frac{1}{p_b^2} \frac{1}{p_a}$

 $P^{(0)} \oplus P^{(1)} = \alpha$ $P^{(2)} \oplus P^{(3)} = \alpha$ $C^{(0)} \oplus C^{(1)} = \gamma'$ $C^{(2)} \oplus C^{(3)} = \gamma'$

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Start with P⁽⁰⁾, P⁽¹⁾
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Boomerang Attacks



- **1** Start with $P^{(0)}$, $P^{(1)}$
- 2 Compute *C*⁽⁰⁾, *C*⁽¹⁾
- 3 Build $C^{(2)}$, $C^{(3)}$

4 Compute *P*⁽²⁾, *P*⁽³⁾

$$C = \frac{1}{p_a} \frac{1}{p_b^2} \frac{1}{p_a}$$

 $P^{(0)} \oplus P^{(1)} = \alpha$ $P^{(2)} \oplus P^{(3)} = \alpha$ $C^{(0)} \oplus C^{(1)} = \gamma'$ $C^{(2)} \oplus C^{(3)} = \gamma'$

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- **1** Start with $P^{(0)}$, $P^{(1)}$
- **2** Compute $C^{(0)}$, $C^{(1)}$
- 3 Build $C^{(2)}$, $C^{(3)}$

4 Compute *P*⁽²⁾, *P*⁽³⁾

$$C = \frac{1}{p_a} \frac{1}{p_b^2} \frac{1}{p_a}$$

 $P^{(0)} \oplus P^{(1)} = \alpha$ $P^{(2)} \oplus P^{(3)} = \alpha$ $C^{(0)} \oplus C^{(1)} = \gamma'$ $C^{(2)} \oplus C^{(3)} = \gamma'$

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- Start with P⁽⁰⁾, P⁽¹⁾
 Compute C⁽⁰⁾. C⁽¹⁾
- 3 Build $C^{(2)}, C^{(3)}$

4 Compute $P^{(2)}$, $P^{(3)}$

$$C=\frac{1}{p_a}\frac{1}{p_b^2}\frac{1}{p_a}$$

 $P^{(0)} \oplus P^{(1)} = \alpha$ $P^{(2)} \oplus P^{(3)} = \alpha$ $C^{(0)} \oplus C^{(1)} = \gamma'$ $C^{(2)} \oplus C^{(3)} = \gamma'$

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Differential characteristics

Improvements to the Boomerang Attack



1 Amplified probabilities

• Do not specify α' and γ

$$\hat{p}_{a} = \sqrt{\sum_{\alpha'} \Pr\left[\alpha \to \alpha'\right]}$$
$$\hat{p}_{b} = \sqrt{\sum_{\gamma} \Pr\left[\gamma \to \gamma'\right]}$$

2 Related-key

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Improvements to the Boomerang Attack



1 Amplified probabilities

• Do not specify α' and γ

$$\hat{p}_{a} = \sqrt{\sum_{\alpha'} \Pr\left[\alpha \to \alpha'\right]}$$
$$\hat{p}_{b} = \sqrt{\sum_{\gamma} \Pr\left[\gamma \to \gamma'\right]}$$

2 Related-key • $p_a = \Pr\left[\alpha \xrightarrow{\alpha_k} \alpha'\right]$ $p_b = \Pr\left[\gamma \xrightarrow{\gamma_k} \gamma'\right]$

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Differential characteristics

Boomerang in the Known-key Setting

A boomerang attack gives a quartet:

$$P^{(0)} \oplus P^{(1)} = \alpha \qquad P^{(2)} \oplus P^{(3)} = \alpha \qquad \sum P^{(i)} = 0$$
$$C^{(0)} \oplus C^{(1)} = \gamma' \qquad C^{(2)} \oplus C^{(3)} = \gamma' \qquad \sum C^{(i)} = 0$$

Even if the key is known, this is hard:

- With fixed α, γ', complexity 2ⁿ
 With fixed α, and ∑ C⁽ⁱ⁾ = 0, complexity 2^{n/2}
 - $\sum P^{(i)} = 0$, $\sum C^{(i)} = 0$, best attack $2^{n/2}$, lower bound $2^{n/3}$
- With a known key, one can start from the middle
 - Message modification

Boomerang Attacks on Hash Functions

• A (related-key) boomerang attack gives a quartet:

$$\sum P^{(i)} = 0 \qquad \sum C^{(i)} = 0 \qquad \sum K^{(i)} = 0$$

Most hash functions are based on a block cipher:

Davies-Meyer $f(h, m) = E_m(h) \oplus h$ Matyas-Meyer-Oseas $f(h, m) = E_h(m) \oplus m$

The boomerang quartet gives:

$$\sum h^{(i)} = 0 \qquad \sum m^{(i)} = 0 \qquad \sum f(h^{(i)}, m^{(i)}) = 0$$

$$DM \ h^{(i)} = P^{(i)} \qquad m^{(i)} = K^{(i)} \qquad f(h^{(i)}, m^{(i)}) = P^{(i)} \oplus C^{(i)}$$

$$MMO \ h^{(i)} = K^{(i)} \qquad m^{(i)} = P^{(i)} \qquad f(h^{(i)}, m^{(i)}) = P^{(i)} \oplus C^{(i)}$$

- In general this is hard:
 - ▶ $\sum f(h,m) = 0$, best attack $2^{n/3}$, lower bound $2^{n/4}$ ▶ $\sum f(h,m) = \sum h = \sum m = 0$, best attack $2^{n/2}$, lower bound $2^{n/3}$

New Technique: Using Auxiliary Paths

- Divide f in three sub-functions: $f = f_c \circ f_b \circ f_a$
 - for f_a , $\alpha \to \alpha'$ with probability p_a
 - for f_b , $\beta_j \rightarrow \beta'_j$ with probability p_b
 - for f_c , $\gamma \rightarrow \gamma'$ with probability p_c
- Start with a boomerang quartet for f_b:

$$U^{(1)} = U^{(0)} + \alpha' \qquad U^{(3)} = U^{(2)} + \alpha' V^{(2)} = V^{(0)} + \gamma \qquad V^{(2)} = V^{(1)} + \gamma$$

► Construct $U_*^{(i)} = U^{(i)} + \beta_j$. With probability $p_{b'}^4 V_*^{(i)} = V^{(i)} + \beta'_j$: $U_*^{(1)} = U_*^{(0)} + \alpha'$ $U_*^{(3)} = U_*^{(2)} + \alpha'$ $V_*^{(2)} = V_*^{(0)} + \gamma$ $V_*^{(2)} = V_*^{(1)} + \gamma$



Differential characteristics

New Technique: Using Auxiliary Paths

- Also with related-key paths
- Similar to "Boomerang" of Joux and Peyrin
- Similar to message modifications for Boomerang attacks
 - BlakeSHA-2
 - HAVAL
 - Skein/Threefish

Complexity:

$$\frac{1}{p_a^2 p_c^2} \left(\frac{C}{b \cdot p_b^4} + 1 \right)$$

- Cost C to build an initil quartet
- b paths with probability p_b for f_b
- Very efficient with a large family of probability 1 paths

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Boomerang Attacks against ARX Hash Functions

[BNR '11] [ML '11] [Sasaki '11] [ACMPV '09, Chen & Jia '10]

Introduction

Differential characteristics

Building the Initial Quartet



Usually by extending the top and bottom paths

Special tricks depending on the function...

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Differential characteristics

Application to ARX designs

- Several recent design are based on the ARX design
 - Use only Addition, Rotation, Xor
 - Skein, Blake are SHA-3 finalists
 - Short RK paths with high probability



Hard to build

controlled characteristics

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Boomerang Attacks

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Application to ARX designs

- Several recent design are based on the ARX design
 - Use only Addition, Rotation, Xor
 - Skein, Blake are SHA-3 finalists



Boomerang Attacks

Skein



Threefish-256 round



MMO mode

SHA-3 finalist

- ARX design
 - 64-bit words
 - ▶ MIX(*a*, *b*) :=
 - $\left((a+b) \mod 2^{64}, (b \lll R) \oplus c\right)$
 - Word permutations
 - Key addition every four rounds
- Threefish-256:
 - 256-bit key: K₀, K₁, K₂, K₃
 - 128-bit tweak: T₀, T₁
 - 256-bit text

Differential characteristics

Skein: Differential Trails

Round

Key schedule (Threefish-256):

- 256-bit key: K₀, K₁, K₂, K₃
- 128-bit tweak: T₀, T₁
- $K_4 := K_0 \oplus K_1 \oplus K_2 \oplus K_3 \oplus C$
- $\blacktriangleright T_2 := T_0 \oplus T_1$

0	K ₀	$K_{1} + T_{0}$	$K_{2} + T_{1}$	$K_{3} + 0$
4	K_1	$K_{2} + T_{1}$	$K_{3} + T_{2}$	<i>K</i> ₄ + 1
8	<i>K</i> ₂	$K_{3} + T_{2}$	$K_{4} + T_{0}$	<i>K</i> ₀ + 2
12	K_3	$K_{4} + T_{0}$	$K_0 + T_1$	<i>K</i> ₁ + 3
16	K_4	$K_0 + T_1$	$K_{1} + T_{2}$	<i>K</i> ₂ + 4

16-round trail:



Differential characteristics

Skein: Differential Trails

Round

Key schedule (Threefish-256):

- 256-bit key: K₀, K₁, K₂, K₃
- 128-bit tweak: T₀, T₁
- $\blacktriangleright K_4 := K_0 \oplus K_1 \oplus K_2 \oplus K_3 \oplus C$
- $\blacktriangleright T_2 := T_0 \oplus T_1$

0	K ₀	$K_1 + T_0$	$K_{2} + T_{1}$	<u>K</u> ₃ + 0
4	K_1	$K_{2} + T_{1}$	$K_{3} + T_{2}$	<i>K</i> ₄ + 1
8	<i>K</i> ₂	$K_{3} + T_{2}$	$K_{4} + T_{0}$	<i>K</i> ₀ + 2
12	<i>K</i> 3	$K_{4} + T_{0}$	$K_0 + T_1$	<i>K</i> ₁ + 3
16	<i>K</i> 4	$K_0 + T_1$	$K_1 + T_2$	<i>K</i> ₂ + 4

16-round trail:



Boomerang Attacks

Differential characteristics

Skein: Description of the Attack



Boomerang Attacks

Differential characteristics

Skein: Description of the Attack



Introduction

Differential characteristics



Differential characteristics

Skein: Results

Attack	CF/KP	Rounds	CF/KP calls	Ref.
Unknown Key				
Near collisions (Skein-256)	CF	24	2 ⁶⁰	[CANS '10]
Boomerang dist. (Threefish-512)	KP	32	2 ¹⁸⁹	[ISPEC '10] ¹
Key Recovery (Threefish-512)	KP	34	2 ^{474.4}	[ISPEC '10] ¹
Key Recovery (Threefish-512)	KP	32	2 ³¹²	[AC '09]
Open key				
Boomerang dist. (Threefish-512)	KP	35	2 ⁴⁷⁸	[AC '09]
Near collisions (Skein-256)	CF	32	2 ¹⁰⁵	[ePrint '11] ¹
Boomerang dist. (Skein-256)	CF and KP	24	2 ¹⁸	
Boomerang dist. (Threefish-256)	KP	28	2 ²¹	
Boomerang dist. (Skein-256)	CF	28	2 ²⁴	
Boomerang dist. (Threefish-256)	KP	32	2 ⁵⁷	
Boomerang dist. (Skein-256)	CF	32	2 ¹¹⁴	

¹ problems with paths

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Blake

Differential characteristics





- Column step: G(a₀, b₀, c₀, d₀) G(a₁, b₁, c₁, d₁) G(a₂, b₂, c₂, d₂) G(a₃, b₃, c₃, d₃)
- Diagonal step: G(a₀, b₁, c₂, d₃) G(a₁, b₂, c₃, d₀) G(a₂, b₃, c₀, d₁) G(a₃, b₀, c₁, d₂)

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- Column step: G(a₀, b₀, c₀, d₀) G(a₁, b₁, c₁, d₁) G(a₂, b₂, c₂, d₂) G(a₃, b₃, c₃, d₃)
- Diagonal step: G(a₀, b₁, c₂, d₃) G(a₁, b₂, c₃, d₀) G(a₂, b₃, c₀, d₁) G(a₃, b₀, c₁, d₂)

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- Column step: G(a₀, b₀, c₀, d₀) G(a₁, b₁, c₁, d₁) G(a₂, b₂, c₂, d₂) G(a₃, b₃, c₃, d₃)
- Diagonal step: G(a₀, b₁, c₂, d₃) G(a₁, b₂, c₃, d₀) G(a₂, b₃, c₀, d₁) G(a₃, b₀, c₁, d₂)

Blake: Differential Trails

Key schedule: permutation based σ₃: 7 9 3 1 13 12 11 14 2 6 5 10 4 0 15 8 σ₄: 9 0 5 7 2 4 10 15 14 1 11 12 6 8 3 13

Choose a message word used

- at the beginning of a round
- at the end of the next round
- 4-round trail:



Blake: Differential Trails

- Key schedule: permutation based σ_3 : 7 9 3 1 13 12 11 14 2 6 5 10 4 0 15 8 σ_4 : 9 0 5 7 2 4 10 15 14 1 11 12 6 8 3 13
- Choose a message word used
 - at the beginning of a round
 - at the end of the next round



Blake: Differential Trails

- Key schedule: permutation based σ_3 : 7 9 3 1 13 12 11 14 2 6 5 10 4 0 15 8 σ_4 : 9 0 5 7 2 4 10 15 14 1 11 12 6 8 3 13
- Choose a message word used
 - at the beginning of a round
 - at the end of the next round
- 4-round trail:



Blake: Description of the Attack

The hard part is the middle round

- Column step is part of the top path
- Diagonal step is part of the bottom path
- I Find (state, message) candidates for each diagonal G function
 - Start with middle quartets with all differences fixed
- 2 Look for combinations of candidates that follow the first part of the diagonal step
 - Use the message to randomize
- 3 Look for candidates that follow the full diagonal step
 - Use the message to randomize

Boomerang Attacks

Differential characteristics

Blake-256: Results

Attack	CF/KP	Rounds	CF/KP calls	Ref.
Unknown Key				
Boomerang dist. Boomerang dist.	КР КР	7 8	2 ¹²² 2 ²⁴²	[FSE '11] [FSE '11] ¹
Open Key				
Boomerang dist.	CF w/ Init	7	2 ²³²	[FSE '11]
Boomerang dist. Boomerang dist.	КР КР	7 8	2 ³² 2 ¹ xx	

¹ problems with paths

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Boomerang Attacks

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Limitations of the Technique

Why not attack more rounds?



Paths are incompatible!

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Boomerang Attacks

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Limitations of the Technique

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Paths are incompatible!

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Incompatibilities in Boomerang Paths

- For a Boomerang attack, we usually assume that the path are independent
- We are building a quartet $X^{(0)}$, $X^{(1)}$, $X^{(2)}$, $X^{(3)}$:



$$\begin{array}{l} (X^{(0)}, X^{(1)}) \xrightarrow{f_a} \alpha & (X^{(2)}, X^{(3)}) \xrightarrow{f_a} \alpha \\ (X^{(0)}, X^{(2)}) \xrightarrow{f_b} \gamma' & (X^{(1)}, X^{(3)}) \xrightarrow{f_b} \gamma' \end{array}$$

But these events are not independent!

[Murphy 2011]

► To explain this behaviour, we have to study differential paths

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 $\delta a = 1$

 $\delta b = 5$

 $\delta c = 8$

Differential characteristics \u00ed{0}
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Differential Characteristic



- A differential only specifies the input and output difference
- A difference characteristic specifies
- Wang introduced a signed difference.

Boomerang Attacks against ARX Hash Functions

 $\delta v = 1$

c = a + bu = c + d $v = u \ll 2$

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 $\delta a = 1$

 $\delta d = c$

 $\delta u = 4$

 $\delta v = 1$

c = a + bu = c + d $v = u \ll 2$

 $\delta b = 5$

 $\delta c = 8$

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Differential Characteristic

- ► Choose a difference operation: ⊕
- A differential only specifies the input and output difference
- A difference characteristic specifies the difference of each internal variable
 - Compute probability for each operation
- Wang introduced a signed difference.

Boomerang Attacks against ARX Hash Functions

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Introduction

Differential characteristics

Differential Characteristic

 $\delta b = -x - x$ $\delta a = --x$ $\delta d = xx^{--}$ $\delta c = x - - \delta u = -x - \delta \mathbf{v} = --\mathbf{x}$



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- Choose a difference operation: \oplus
- A differential only specifies the input and output difference
- A difference characteristic specifies the difference of each internal variable
 - Compute probability for each operation
- Wang introduced a signed difference.
 - A path defines a set of good pairs: $\{x, x' : x' = x \oplus \alpha\}$
 - We want to capture:
 - $\{x, x' : x' = x \oplus \alpha \text{ and } x' = x \boxplus \beta\}$ Sign each active bit

Differential characteristics

Problems with Xor-Characteristics

$$\delta a = -x - \delta b = ---x$$

$$\delta d = --x \quad \delta c = ---x$$

$$\delta d = ---x$$

$$\delta u = ----$$

$$c = a + b$$
$$u = c + d$$

- ▶ Probability: 2⁻³ · 2⁻²
- Obviously wrong if you consider modular differences

•
$$\delta a \rightsquigarrow \pm 4$$

•
$$\delta c \rightsquigarrow \pm 1$$

Differential characteristics

Problems with Xor-Characteristics

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δc → ±1

Introduction

Differential characteristics

Differential Characteristic

 $\delta \mathbf{h} = -\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}$ $\delta a = --x$ $\delta d = xx^{--}$ $\delta c = x - - \delta u = -x - \delta \mathbf{v} = --\mathbf{x}$



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 Sign each active bit

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Differential characteristics

Differential Characteristic





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 - Sign each active bit

Generalized constraints [De Cannière & Rechberger 06]

	(<i>x</i> , <i>x</i> '):	(0,0)	(0,1)	(1,0)	(1,1)
?	anything	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
-	x = x'	\checkmark	-	-	\checkmark
x	x eq x'	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	-
0	x = x' = 0	\checkmark	-	-	-
u	(x, x') = (0, 1)	-	\checkmark	-	-
n	(x, x') = (1, 0)	-	-	\checkmark	-
1	x = x' = 0	-	-	-	\checkmark
#	incompatible	-	-	-	-
3	<i>x</i> = 0	\checkmark	\checkmark	-	-
5	x' = 0	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-
7		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	-
Α	x' = 1	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark
В		\checkmark	\checkmark	-	\checkmark
С	<i>x</i> = 1	-	-	\checkmark	\checkmark
D		\checkmark	-	\checkmark	\checkmark
Е		-	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark

Boomerang Attacks

Differential characteristics



Definition

- *T-function* $\forall t, t$ bits of the output can be computed from t bits of the input.
- S-function There exist a state S so that: $\forall t$, bit t of the output and state S[t] can be computed from bit t of the input, and the state S[t-1]. S-system f(P, x) = 0f is an S-function, P is a parameter, x is an unknown

Addition, Xor, and Boolean operations are S-functions

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Differential characteristics

Solving S-Systems

Important Example

$\mathbf{x} \oplus \Delta = \mathbf{x} \boxplus \delta$

- On average one solution
- Easy to solve because it's a T-function.
 - Guess LSB, check, and move to next bit
- How easy exactly?
- ► Backtracking is exponential in the worst case: x ⊕ 0x8000000 = x

For random δ , Δ , most of the time the system is inconsistent

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Solving S-Systems

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Solving S-Systems

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Solving S-Systems

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Differential characteristics

Transition Automata

We use automata to study S-systems:

- States represent the carries
- Transitions are labeled with the variables

Carry transitions for $x \oplus \Delta = x \boxplus \delta$ *.*

Δ	δ	х	c'	с	Δ	δ	х	0
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	
0	1	0	-	1	0	1	0	
0	1	1	-	1	0	1	1	
1	0	0	-	1	1	0	0	
1	0	1	-	1	1	0	1	
1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	

[Mouha et. al]

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Differential characteristics

[Mouha et. al]

Transition Automata

We use automata to study S-systems:

- States represent the carries
- Transitions are labeled with the variables



Introduction

Differential characteristics

Decision Automata

Remove x from the transitions

Convert the non-deterministic automata to deterministic.



• Can decide whether a given Δ , δ is compatible.

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Differential characteristics

Decision Automata

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Convert the non-deterministic automata to deterministic.



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Differential characteristics

Decision Automata

- Remove x from the transitions
- Convert the non-deterministic automata to deterministic.



• Can decide whether a given Δ , δ is compatible.

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Differential characteristics

Solving S-systems

Take an S-system with variables and parameters. e.g. $x \oplus \Delta = x \boxplus \delta$

- 1 Compute carry transitions
- 2 Build transition automaton
- **3** Remove variables and compute equivalent deterministic automaton

For each values of the parameters:

- Test if system is coherent in linear time
- Count solutions in linear time
- Find a solution in linear time

Can also study properties of the systems.

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Generalized Characteristics

• We can write generalized constraints as an S-system:

$$\begin{array}{ll} P_0 = 0 \Rightarrow (x,x') \neq (0,0) & P_1 = 0 \Rightarrow (x,x') \neq (0,1) \\ P_2 = 0 \Rightarrow (x,x') \neq (1,0) & P_3 = 0 \Rightarrow (x,x') \neq (1,1) \end{array}$$

• We can now compute the probability of a generalized characteristic.

- Addition, Xor, Boolean functions are S-functions
- Rotations just rotate the constraints

	(<i>x</i> , <i>x</i> ′):	(0, 0)	(0,1)	(1,0)	(1,1)	<i>P</i> ₀	<i>P</i> ₁	P ₂	P3
?	anything	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	1	1	1	1
-	x = x'	\checkmark	-	-	\checkmark	1	0	0	1
x	x eq x'	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	-	0	1	1	0
0	x = x' = 0	\checkmark	-	-	-	1	0	0	0
u	(x, x') = (0, 1)	-	\checkmark	-	-	0	1	0	0
n	(x, x') = (1, 0)	-	-	\checkmark	-	0	0	1	0
1	x = x' = 0	-	-	-	\checkmark	0	0	0	1
#	incompatible	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0

Differential characteristics

New Constraints

- Carry propagation leads to constraints of the form $x^{[i]} = x^{[i-1]}$
- We use new constraints to capture this information
- We consider subsets of $\left\{x^{[i]}, x'^{[i]}, x^{[i-1]}\right\}$ instead of $\left\{x^{[i]}, x'^{[i]}\right\}$
- This can still be written as an S-system with Boolean filtering on x, x', x ⊞ x.

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Introduction

Differential characteristics

New Constraints Table

(<i>x</i>	$x \oplus x', x \oplus 2x, x)$:	(0, 0, 0)	(0, 0, 1)	(0, 1, 0)	(0, 1, 1)	(1,0,0)	(1, 0, 1)	(1,1,0)	(1, 1, 1)
?	anything	\checkmark							
-	x = x'	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	-	-	-	-
x	x eq x'	-	-	-	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
0	x = x' = 0	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-	-	-	-	-
u	(x, x') = (0, 1)	-	-	-	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-
n	(x, x') = (1, 0)	-	-	-	-	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark
1	x = x' = 0	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-	-	-	-
#	incompatible	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	<i>x</i> = 0	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-
С	<i>x</i> = 1	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark
5	x'=0	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark
A	<i>x</i> ′ = 1	-	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	-
=	x = x' = 2x	\checkmark	\checkmark	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	$x = x' \neq 2x$	-	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	-	-	-	-
>	$x \neq x' = 2x$	-	-	-	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	-	-
<	$x \neq x' \neq 2x$	-	-	-	-	-	-	\checkmark	\checkmark
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Differential characteristics

Propagation of constraints

We use S-systems to propagate constraints:

- **1** Split subsets in two smaller subsets
- 2 If one subset gives zero solutions, the characteristic can be restricted to the other subset.

Boomerang Attacks

Differential characteristics

Summary

- Wang looks for *sufficient* conditions.
- We compute *necessary* conditions.
- This allows to detect cases of incompatibility
- We use a graphic tool to tune paths
- To finish this talk, we will show some problems that can appear in differential paths

Introduction

Differential characteristics

Detecting problems



$$c = a + b$$
$$u = c + d$$

- Consider the 1st addition
 Constraint: c^[1] = c^[0]
- Consider the 2nd addition
 Constraint: c^[1] ≠ c^[0]
- Incompatible!
 - Detected with the new constraints

Introduction

Differential characteristics

Detecting problems



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Introduction

Differential characteristics

Incompatibility in the low bits

	Active b	it:
		х
$\delta a = -\mathbf{x} \qquad \delta b = -\mathbf{x} \qquad \delta c = -\mathbf{x}$	a b c u a+b+c	0 0 1 0
$\delta u = -x$ $u = a + b + c$	► Wla	og,

Wlog, we can put signs

x′

- Compute a + b + c
- Contradiction!

Introduction

Differential characteristics

Incompatibility in the low bits



- Compute a + b + c
- Contradiction!

Differential characteristics

Incompatibility in the low bits



- Wlog, we can put signs
- Compute a + b + c
- Contradiction!

Introduction

Differential characteristics

Carry incompatibility



$$u = a + b$$

Incompatible!

No simple explanation...

Introduction

Differential characteristics

Carry incompatibility (II)

- Consider the 1st addition
 Constraint: c^[2] ≠ c^[3]
- Consider the 2nd addition
 Constraint: c^[2] = c^[3]
- Incompatible!
 - Detected with the new constraints

u = c + d

Introduction

Differential characteristics

Carry incompatibility (II)

$$\delta a = -xx - \qquad \delta b = xxx -$$

$$\delta c = -\neq -- \qquad \delta d = -xx -$$

$$\delta u = -xx -$$

$$c = a + b$$
$$u = c + d$$

Consider the 1st addition
 Constraint: c^[2] ≠ c^[3]

Consider the 2nd addition
 Constraint: c^[2] = c^[3]

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Introduction

Differential characteristics

Carry incompatibility (II)

$$\delta a = -xx - \qquad \delta b = xxx - \delta b = -xx - \delta$$

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 Constraint: c^[2] ≠ c^[3]
- Consider the 2nd addition
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Introduction

Differential characteristics

Carry incompatibility (II)

$$\delta a = -xx - \qquad \delta b = xxx -$$

$$\delta c = -\# - \qquad \delta d = -xx -$$

$$\delta u = -xx -$$

$$c = a + b$$

- Consider the 1st addition
 Constraint: c^[2] ≠ c^[3]
- Consider the 2nd addition
 Constraint: c^[2] = c^[3]
- Incompatible!
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u = c + d

Introduction

Differential characteristics

Boomerang incompatibility



Top path:
$$(a^{(0)}, b^{(0)}; a^{(2)}, b^{(2)}) (a^{(1)}, b^{(1)}; a^{(3)}, b^{(3)})$$

Bottom path: $(a^{(0)}, b^{(0)}; a^{(1)}, b^{(1)}) (a^{(2)}, b^{(2)}; a^{(3)}, b^{(3)})$

	<i>x</i> ⁽⁰⁾	x ⁽¹⁾	<i>x</i> ⁽²⁾	x ⁽³⁾
а	0	1	1	0
b	1	0	0	1

- Wlog, assume $a^{(0)} = 0$
- Compute a⁽ⁱ⁾, deduce sign of b
- Contradiction for b!

Introduction

Differential characteristics

Boomerang incompatibility



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$$(a^{(0)}, b^{(0)}; a^{(2)}, b^{(2)}) (a^{(1)}, b^{(1)}; a^{(3)}, b^{(3)})$$

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Differential characteristics

Boomerang incompatibility



Bottom path: $(a^{(0)}, b^{(0)}; a^{(1)}, b^{(1)}) (a^{(2)}, b^{(2)}; a^{(3)}, b^{(3)})$

	<i>x</i> ⁽⁰⁾	x ⁽¹⁾	<i>x</i> ⁽²⁾	x ⁽³⁾
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Boomerang incompatibility



Top path:
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- Wlog, assume $a^{(0)} = 0$
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Boomerang Attacks

Differential characteristics

Conclusion

1 Boomerang attack on hash functions

- Use auxiliary path to avoid middle rounds
- Significant improvement over previous results
- 2 Analysis of differentials paths
 - New constraints for carries
 - Tools for constraint propagations
 - Problems found in several previous works