

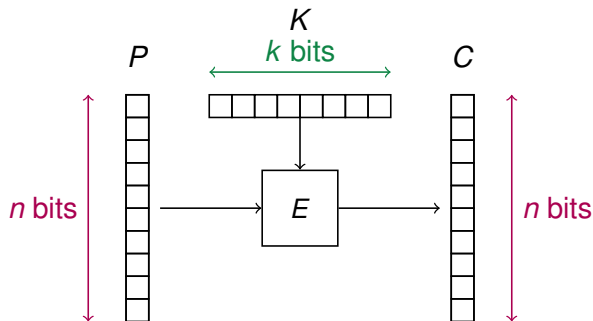
Truncated Boomerang Attacks and Application to AES-based Ciphers

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Block Ciphers



$\forall K \in \{0, 1\}^k$, $E_K : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ is a **permutation**.

► The most famous one: AES.

[Daemen & Rijmen 1997]

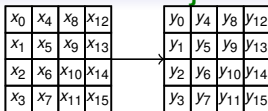
Modes of operation

Split messages in **chunks of n bits** and combine for a **secure encryption**.

The AES

[Daemen & Rijmen, 1997]

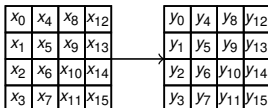
AddKey

 rk : 16-byte round key

$$y_i \leftarrow x_i + rk_i$$

- ▶ Selected by the NIST. [FIPS 197]
- ▶ States of 4x4 bytes.
- ▶ Key schedule not studied here.
- ▶ AES-128: 10 rounds.
- ▶ Security studied with cryptanalysis.

SubBytes

 $S: \{0, 1\}^8 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^8$

$$y_i \leftarrow S(x_i)$$

ShiftRows

 $Row_i \leftarrow Row_i \lll i$

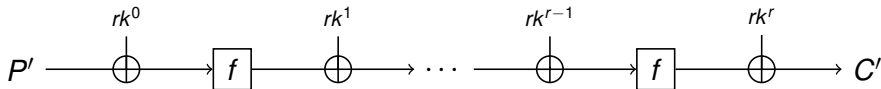
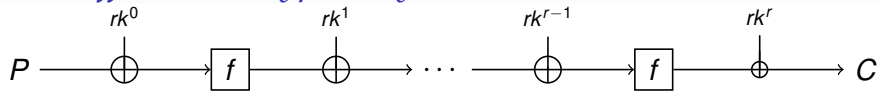
MixColumns

 M : 4x4 matrix (MDS)

$$Col_i \leftarrow M \times Col_i$$

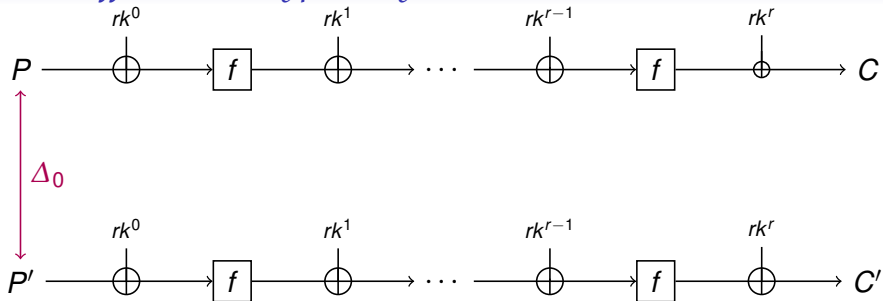
Differential cryptanalysis

[Biham, ECS'91]



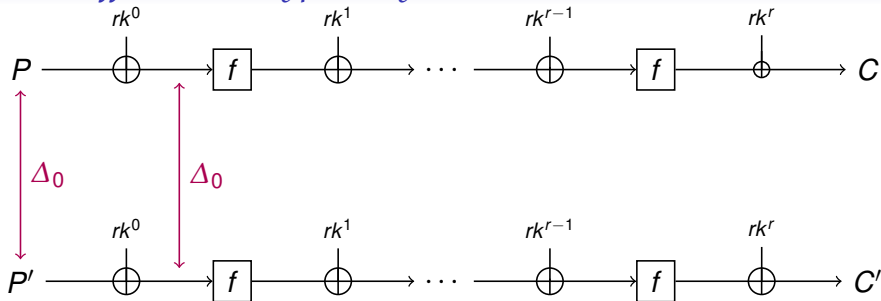
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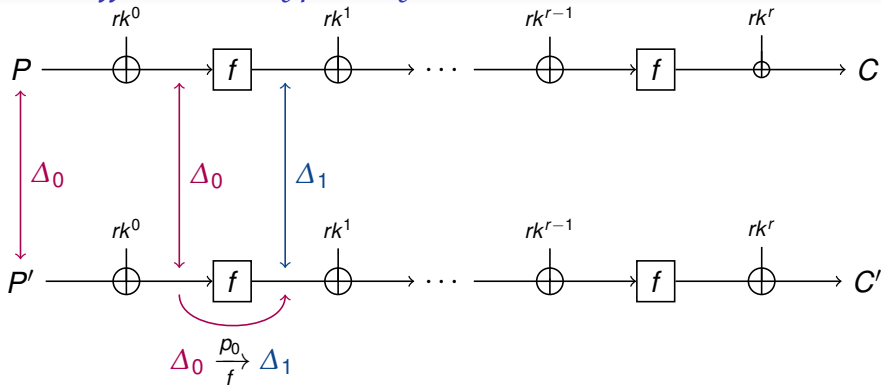
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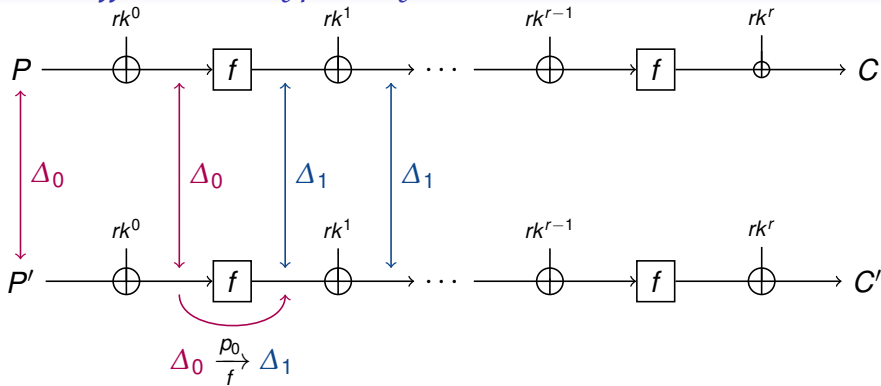
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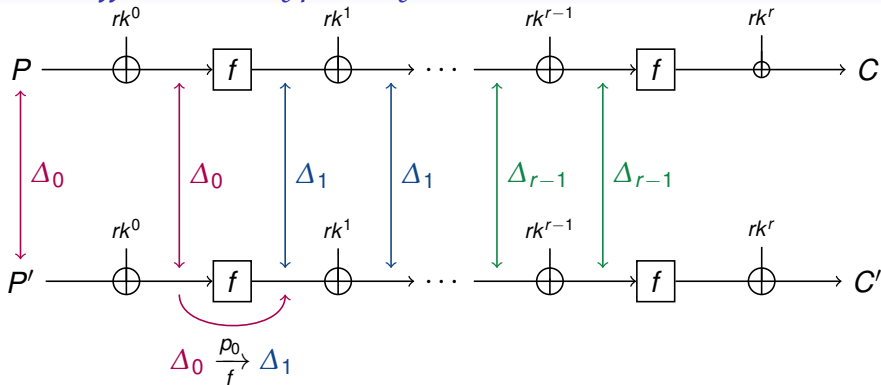
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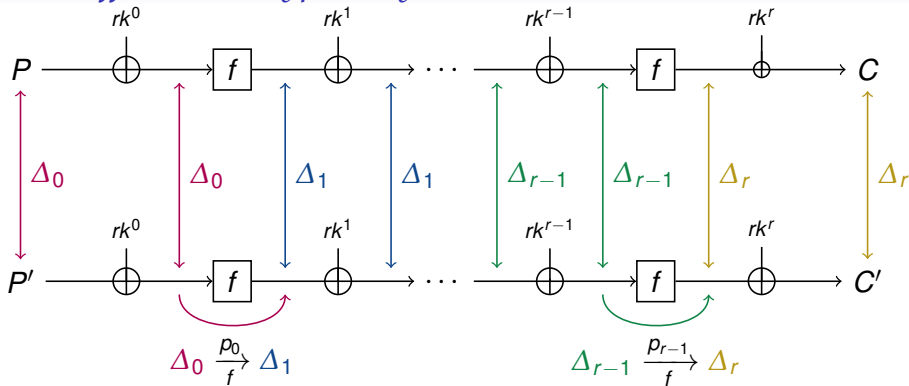
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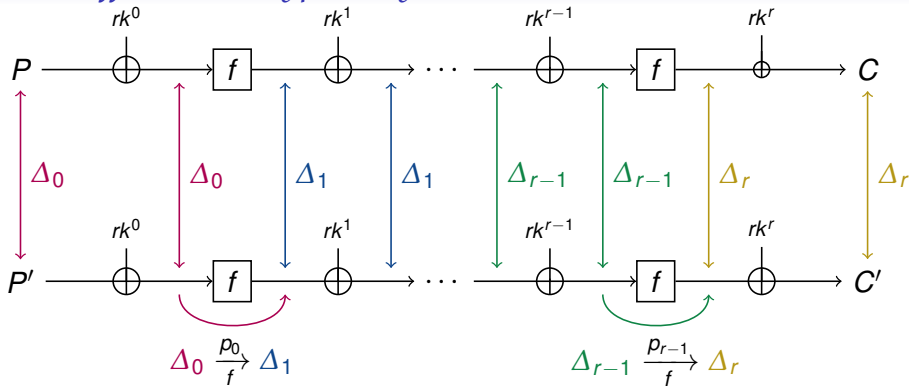
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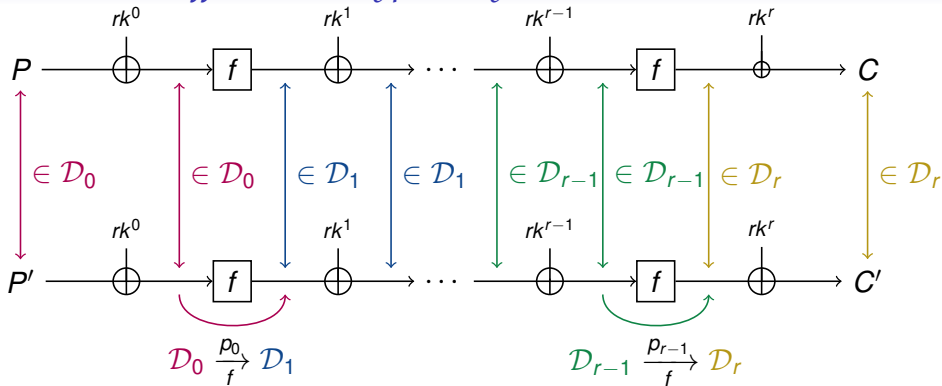
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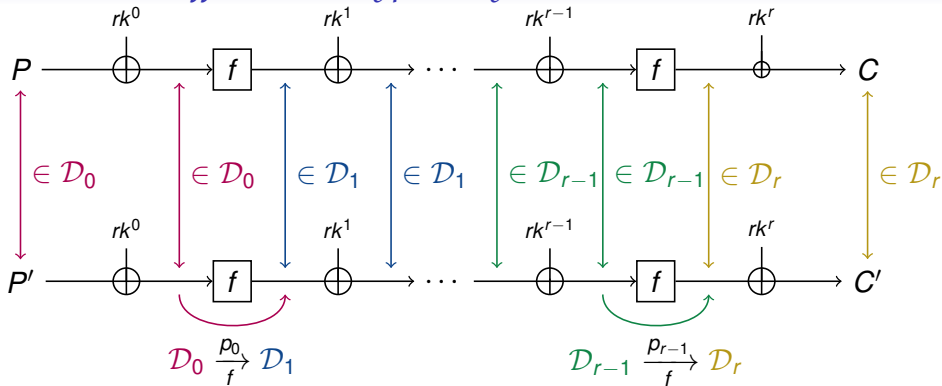
- ▶ $\Pr_{P \leftarrow \mathcal{S}} [E(P) \oplus E(P \oplus \Delta_0) = \Delta_r] = p \approx \prod p_i$.
- ▶ **Distinguisher** if $p \gg 2^{-n}$.

Truncated differential cryptanalysis [Knudsen, FSE'94]



- ▶ \mathcal{D}_i subspaces of \mathbb{F}_2^n .
- ▶ Trail probability $p \approx \prod p_i$.

Truncated differential cryptanalysis [Knudsen, FSE'94]



- ▶ \mathcal{D}_i subspaces of \mathbb{F}_2^n .
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Structures (if \mathcal{D}_0 is a vectorial subspace)

- ▶ Encrypt an affine space $P \oplus \mathcal{D}_0$.
- ▶ Look for $C, C' \in E(P \oplus \mathcal{D}_0)$ s.t. $C \oplus C' \in \mathcal{D}_r$.
- ▶ $|\mathcal{D}_0|$ encryptions but $|\mathcal{D}_0|^2/2$ pairs.

Truncated differentials: TLDR

- ▶ Thanks to **sets of differences**:
 - ▶ Capture multiple differentials → increased probability.
 - ▶ Structures → reduce complexity.

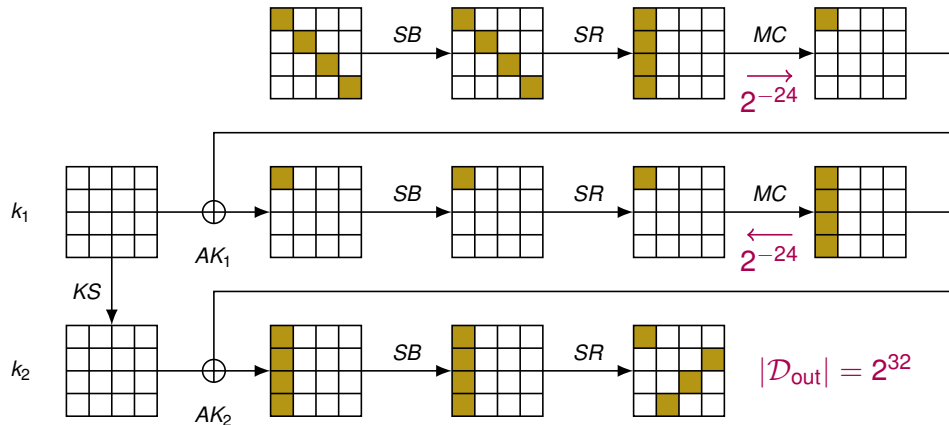
Notation

$$\mathcal{D}_{\text{in}} \begin{matrix} \xleftarrow{p} \\ \xrightarrow{f} \end{matrix} \mathcal{D}_{\text{out}}$$

- ▶ Forward probability \vec{p} .
- ▶ Backward probability \bar{p} .

A Truncated differential of the AES

$$|\mathcal{D}_{in}| = 2^{32}$$

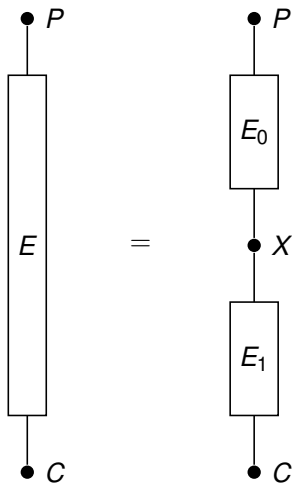


$$\mathcal{D}_{in} \xleftarrow[E]{P} \mathcal{D}_{out}$$

$$\vec{p} = \vec{\bar{p}} = 2^{-24}$$

The Boomerang Attack

[Wagner, FSE'99]



► Prerequisites for the attack:

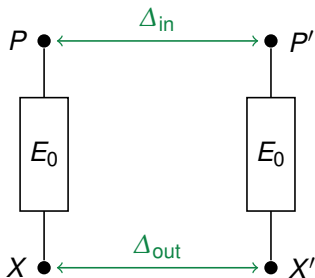
- $E = E_1 \circ E_0$
- $\Delta_{\text{in}} \xrightarrow{E_0} \Delta_{\text{out}}$
- $\nabla_{\text{in}} \xrightarrow{E_1} \nabla_{\text{out}}$

The Boomerang Attack



- ▶ Select a random P .
- ▶ Select P' s.t. $P \oplus P' = \Delta_{in}$.

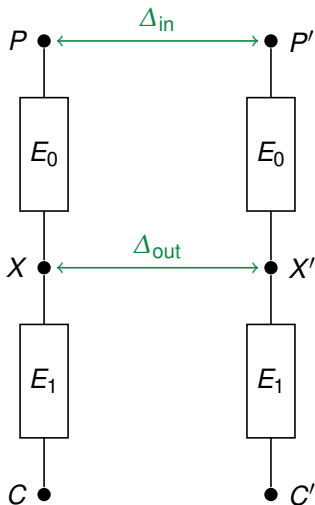
The Boomerang Attack



$$\Delta_{in} \xrightarrow{P} \Delta_{out}$$

- ▶ Select a random P .
- ▶ Select P' s.t. $P \oplus P' = \Delta_{in}$.
- ▶ $\Pr[X \oplus X' = \Delta_{out}] = p$.

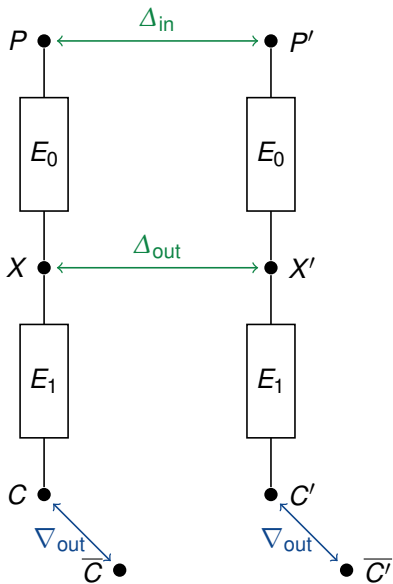
The Boomerang Attack



$$\Delta_{\text{in}} \xrightarrow{E_0} \Delta_{\text{out}}$$

- ▶ Select a random P .
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The Boomerang Attack

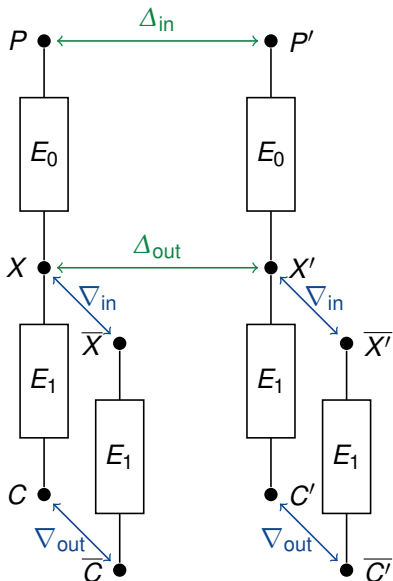


$$\Delta_{in} \xrightarrow{E_0} \Delta_{out}$$

$$\nabla_{in} \xrightarrow{E_1} \nabla_{out}$$

- ▶ Select a random P .
- ▶ Select P' s.t. $P \oplus P' = \Delta_{in}$.
- ▶ $\Pr[X \oplus X' = \Delta_{out}] = p$.
- ▶ Select (\bar{C}, \bar{C}') s.t. $C \oplus \bar{C} = C' \oplus \bar{C}' = \nabla_{out}$.

The Boomerang Attack

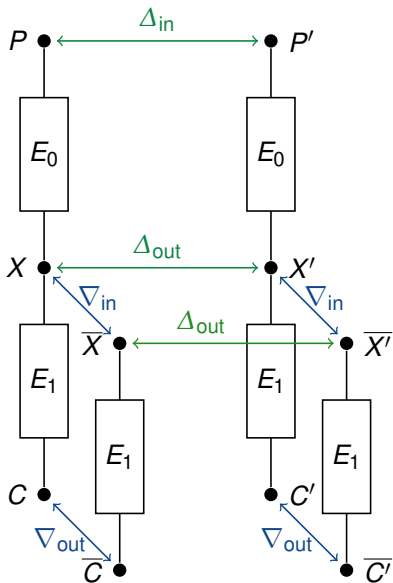


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- ▶ $\Pr[X \oplus \bar{X} = \nabla_{in}] = q$.
- ▶ $\Pr[X' \oplus \bar{X}' = \nabla_{in}] = q$.

The Boomerang Attack

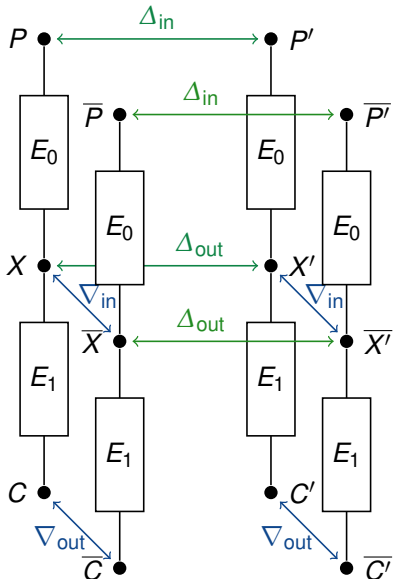


$$\Delta_{in} \xrightarrow{E_0} \Delta_{out}$$

$$\nabla_{in} \xrightarrow{E_1} \nabla_{out}$$

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- ▶ If this holds, then $\bar{X} \oplus \bar{X}' = \Delta_{out}$.

The Boomerang Attack

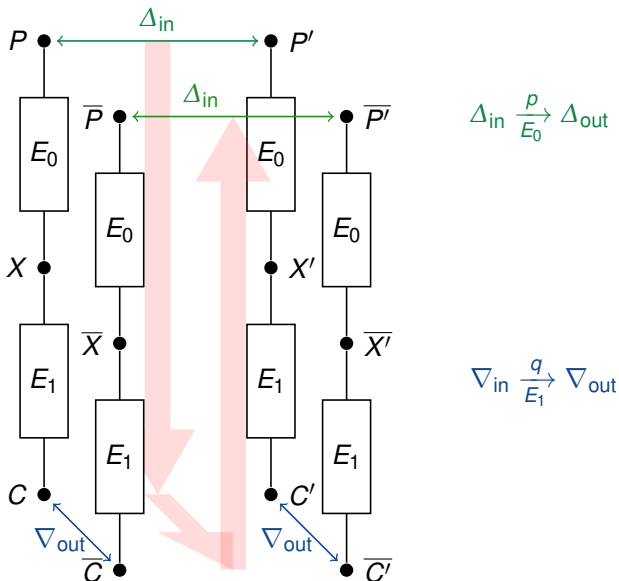


$$\Delta_{in} \xrightarrow{\frac{p}{E_0}} \Delta_{out}$$

$$\nabla_{in} \xrightarrow{\frac{q}{E_1}} \nabla_{out}$$

- ▶ Select a random P .
- ▶ Select P' s.t. $P \oplus P' = \Delta_{in}$.
- ▶ $\Pr[X \oplus X' = \Delta_{out}] = p$.
- ▶ Select (\bar{C}, \bar{C}') s.t. $C \oplus \bar{C} = C' \oplus \bar{C}' = \nabla_{out}$.
- ▶ $\Pr[X \oplus \bar{X} = \nabla_{in}] = q$.
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The Boomerang Attack



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- ▶ If this holds, then $\bar{X} \oplus \bar{X}' = \Delta_{out}$.
- ▶ $\Pr[\bar{P} \oplus \bar{P}' = \Delta_{in}] = p$.

Total boomerang probability: $p^2 q^2$.

$p^2 q^2 \gg 2^{-n} \rightarrow$ Distinguisher

Our results

- 1 Analysis of boomerangs with **truncated differentials**. [Wagner, FSE'99]
- 2 **Application**: improved boomerang attack on 6-round AES.
- 3 **Best attacks** on several AES-based tweakable block ciphers:
 - ▶ TNT-AES. [Bao, Guo, Guo & Song, EC'20]
 - ▶ Kiasu-BC. [Jean, Nikolić & Peyrin, AC'14]
 - ▶ Deoxys-BC. [Jean, Nikolić & Peyrin, AC'14]

The Truncated Boomerang Framework

[This work]

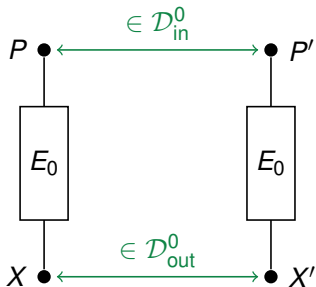


- ▶ Pick a P_0 and encrypt a structure $P_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_{in}^0$.

$$\mathcal{D}_{in}^0 \xleftrightarrow[E_0]{P} \mathcal{D}_{out}^0$$

The Truncated Boomerang Framework

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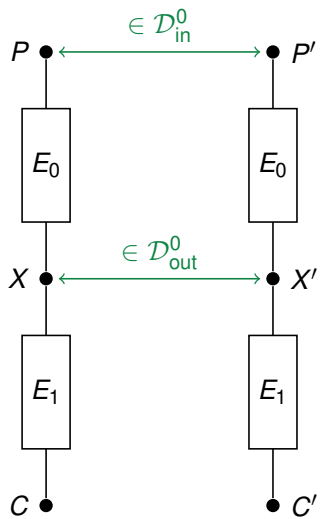


$$\mathcal{D}_{in}^0 \xleftrightarrow[E_0]{P} \mathcal{D}_{out}^0$$

- ▶ Pick a P_0 and encrypt a structure $P_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_{in}^0$.
- ▶ For $P, P' \in P_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_{in}^0$, $\Pr[X \oplus X' \in \mathcal{D}_{out}^0] = \vec{p}$.

The Truncated Boomerang Framework

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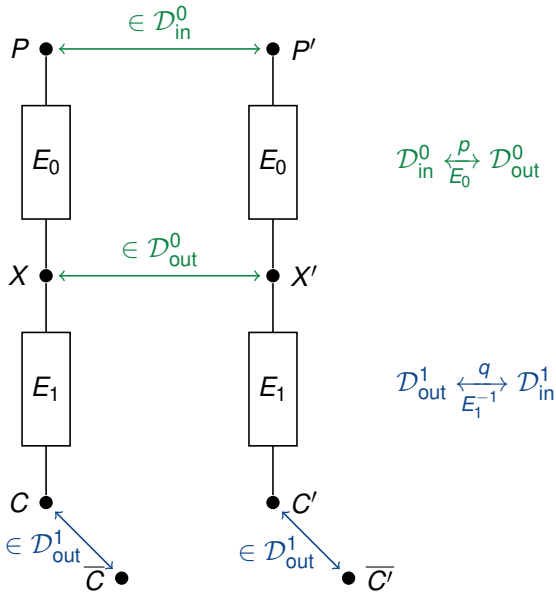


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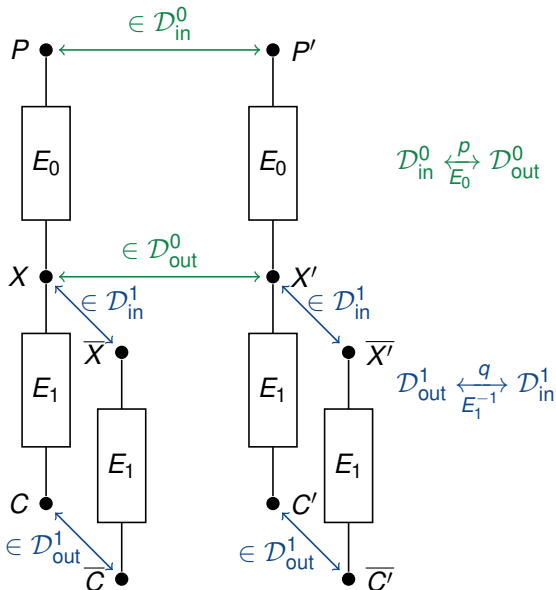
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- ▶ For each $C \in E(P_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_{in}^0)$, **decrypt a structure** $C \oplus \mathcal{D}_{out}^1$.

The Truncated Boomerang Framework

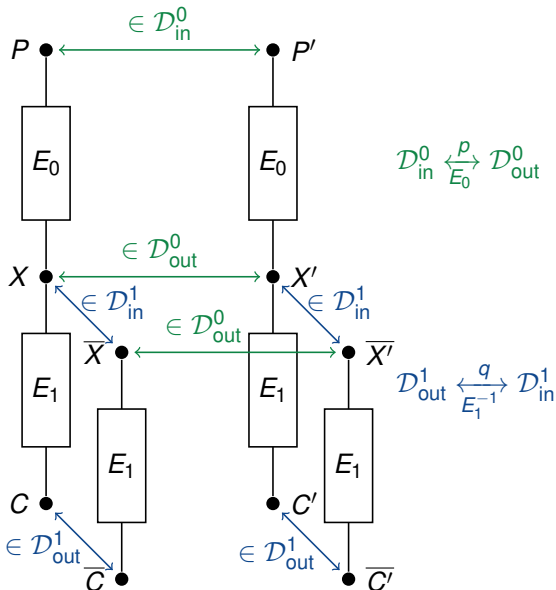
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- ▶ For $\bar{C} \in C \oplus \mathcal{D}_{out}^1$, $\Pr[X \oplus \bar{X} \in \mathcal{D}_{in}^1] = \bar{q}$
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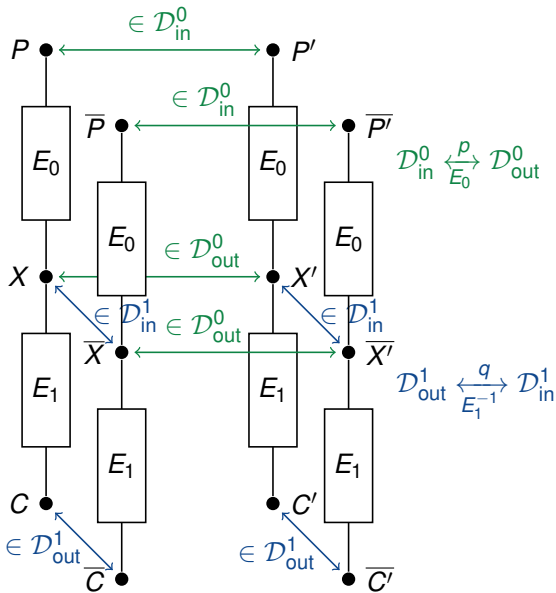
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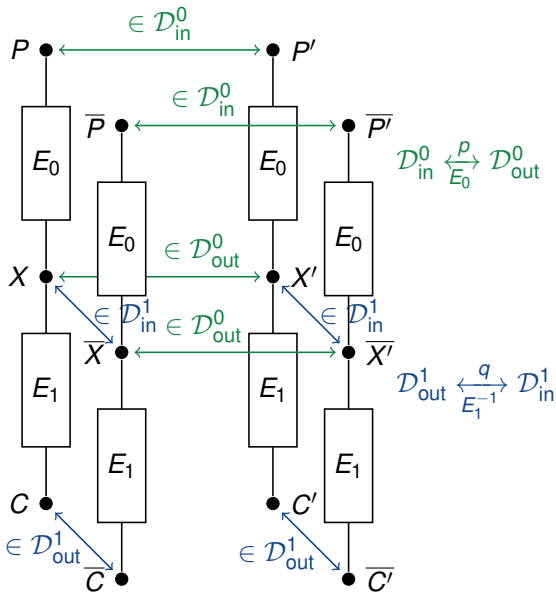
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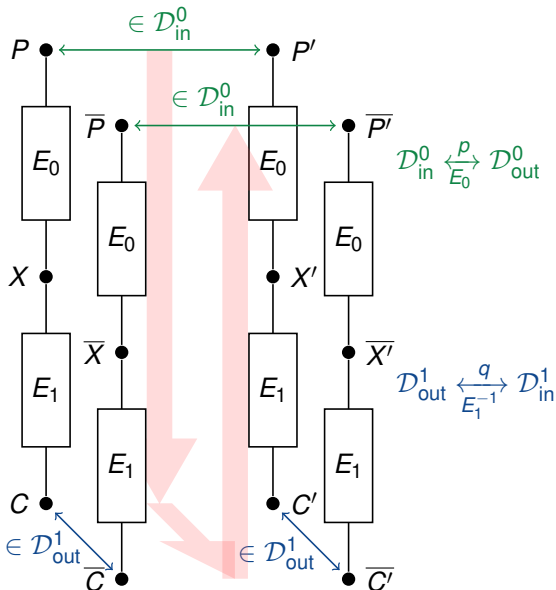


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- ▶ $\Pr[\bar{P} \oplus \bar{P}' \in \mathcal{D}_{in}^0] = \bar{p}$.

▶ Total probability: $p_b = \bar{p} \cdot \bar{q}^2 \cdot r \cdot \bar{p}$.

The Truncated Boomerang Framework

[This work]



Summary

- 1 Select a random P_0 and encrypt a structure $P_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_{in}^0$.
- 2 For each $C \in E(P_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_{in}^0)$, decrypt a structure $C \oplus \mathcal{D}_{out}^1$.
- 3 Look for $\bar{P}, \bar{P}' \in E^{-1}(E(P_0 \oplus \mathcal{D}_{in}^0) \oplus \mathcal{D}_{out}^1)$ s.t. $\bar{P} \oplus \bar{P}' \in \mathcal{D}_{in}^0$.
- 4 If needed, repeat with a new P_0 .

- ▶ Total probability: $p_b = \bar{p} \cdot \bar{q}^2 \cdot r \cdot \bar{p}$.
- ▶ Random probability: $p_{\$} = |\mathcal{D}_{in}^0| \cdot 2^{-n}$.
- ▶ Total structure size: $|\mathcal{D}_{in}^0| |\mathcal{D}_{out}^1|$.

Distinguisher: Distinguishing property

- ▶ Boomerang probability $p_b = \vec{p} \cdot \bar{p} \cdot \check{q}^2 \cdot r$.
- ▶ Random probability $p_{\$} = |\mathcal{D}_{in}^0| \cdot 2^{-n}$.

Distinguishing property

Probability that a quartet returns:

- ▶ Cipher E $\rightarrow p_{\$} + p_b$.
- ▶ Random function $\rightarrow p_{\$}$.

Distinguisher: Analysis

- ▶ Signal to noise $\sigma = p_b / p_\$$.
- ▶ S structures of size $|\mathcal{D}_{in}^0| \cdot |\mathcal{D}_{out}^1|$.
- ▶ $Q = S \times |\mathcal{D}_{in}^0|^2 \cdot |\mathcal{D}_{out}^1|^2 / 2$ quartets.

Distinguisher: Analysis

- ▶ Signal to noise $\sigma = p_b / p_\$$.
- ▶ S structures of size $|\mathcal{D}_{in}^0| \cdot |\mathcal{D}_{out}^1|$.
- ▶ $Q = S \times |\mathcal{D}_{in}^0|^2 \cdot |\mathcal{D}_{out}^1|^2 / 2$ quartets.

If $\sigma \gg 1$

- ▶ A few good quartets are sufficient.
- ▶ $Q = \mathcal{O}(1/p_b)$ quartets needed.

If $\sigma \ll 1$

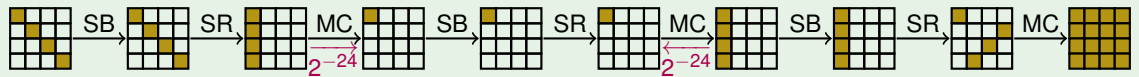
- ▶ More wrong quartets than good.
- ▶ $Q = \mathcal{O}(1/\sigma p_b)$ quartets needed.

- ▶ Time and data complexity:

$$T = D = \frac{2Q}{|\mathcal{D}_{in}^0| \cdot |\mathcal{D}_{out}^1|}$$

Example: 6-round AES distinguisher

3-round AES truncated trail for E_0 and E_1

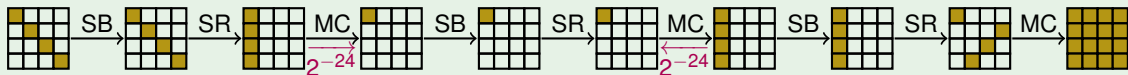


► $\vec{q} = \bar{q} = \vec{p} = \bar{p} = 2^{-24}$

► $|\mathcal{D}_{out}^0| = |\mathcal{D}_{in}^0| = |\mathcal{D}_{out}^1| = |\mathcal{D}_{in}^1| = 2^{32}$

Example: 6-round AES distinguisher

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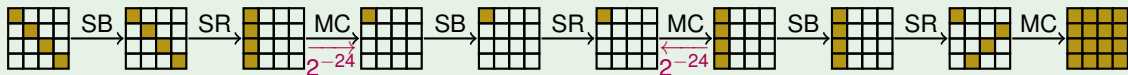
▶ $\vec{q} = \vec{\bar{q}} = \vec{p} = \vec{\bar{p}} = 2^{-24}$

▶ $r = |\mathcal{D}_{in}^1|^{-1} = 2^{-32}$

▶ $|\mathcal{D}_{out}^0| = |\mathcal{D}_{in}^0| = |\mathcal{D}_{out}^1| = |\mathcal{D}_{in}^1| = 2^{32}$

Example: 6-round AES distinguisher

3-round AES truncated trail for E_0 and E_1



▶ $\vec{q} = \bar{q} = \vec{p} = \bar{p} = 2^{-24}$

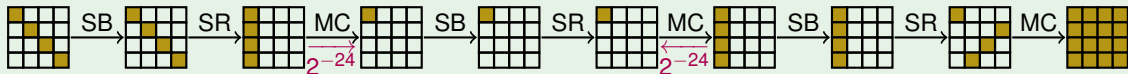
▶ $r = |\mathcal{D}_{in}^1|^{-1} = 2^{-32}$

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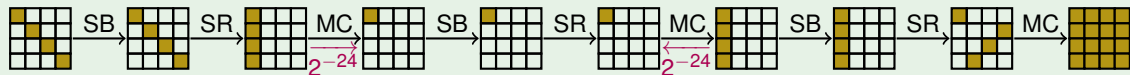
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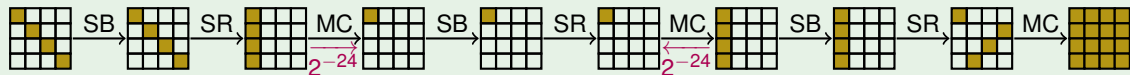
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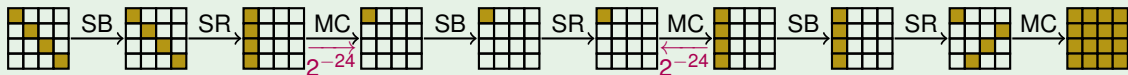
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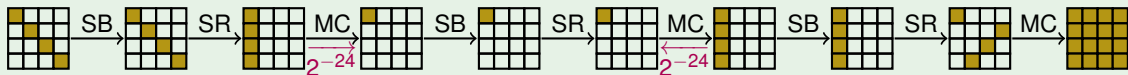
► Choose $Q = 2^{160}$ quartets.

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Possible to detect signal from noise.

Example: 6-round AES distinguisher

Distinguisher

Throw $Q = 2^{160}$ quartets using **structures** of size $|\mathcal{D}_{in}^0| |\mathcal{D}_{out}^1| = 2^{64}$:

- ▶ If $\approx 2^{64}$ quartets return \rightarrow random function.
- ▶ If $> 2^{64} + 2^{31}$ quartets return \rightarrow 6R AES.

$$T = D \approx \frac{Q}{|\mathcal{D}_{in}^0| |\mathcal{D}_{out}^1|} = 2^{96}.$$

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 - ▶ **Example**: $(P, P') \rightarrow (X, X')$ follows $E_0 \rightarrow$ only possible for certain keys.
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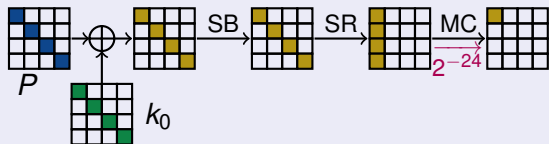
- ▶ Collect **a few right quartets**.
- ▶ For each quartet, recover ℓ candidates for κ key bits.
- ▶ Select the candidate suggested each time.

If $\sigma \ll 1$

- ▶ Initialize 2^κ **key counters**.
- ▶ Collect **many quartets**.
- ▶ For each quartet:
 - ▶ **Increment** ℓ key counters.
- ▶ Right key counter **higher than random**.

Example: 6-round AES boomerang

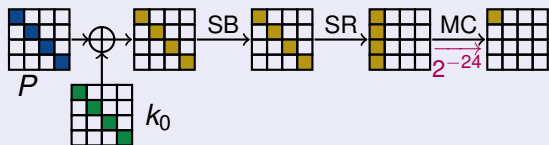
First round



- ▶ Diagonal of k_0 (32 bits):
 - ▶ $(P, P') \rightarrow 2^8$ candidates.
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 - ▶ 2^{-16} candidates for both.

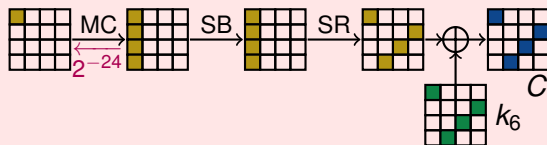
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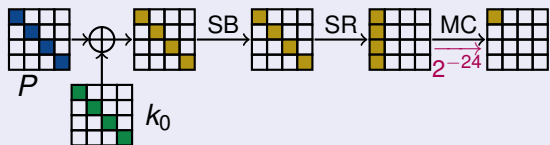
Last round



- ▶ Anti-diagonal of k_6 (32 bits):
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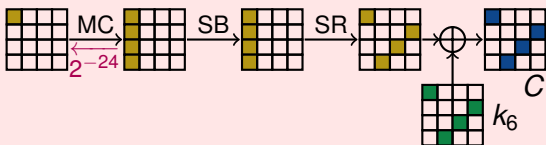
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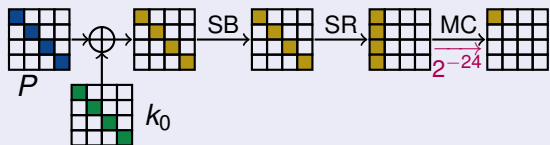


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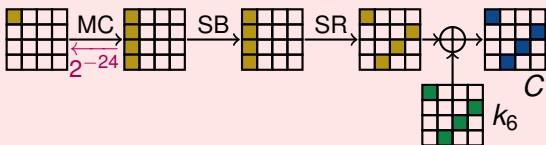
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- ▶ Total: $\ell = 2^{-32}$ candidates for $\kappa = 64$ bits of key.
- ▶ Random counter increased with probability $\frac{\ell}{2^\kappa} = 2^{-96}$.
- ▶ High probability of success with 4 right quartets ($D = T = 2^{67}$).

6-round AES results

| | Type | Data | | Time | Ref |
|----------------|------------------------|-------------|-----|-------------|-------------------------|
| Distinguishers | Yoyo | $2^{122.8}$ | ACC | $2^{121.8}$ | [AC:RonBarHel17] |
| | Exchange attack | $2^{88.2}$ | CP | $2^{88.2}$ | [AC:BarRon19] |
| | Exchange attack | 2^{84} | ACC | 2^{83} | [EPRINT:Bardeh19] |
| | Truncated differential | $2^{89.4}$ | CP | $2^{96.5}$ | [ToSC:BaoGuoLis20] |
| | Truncated boomerang | 2^{87} | ACC | 2^{87} | This work |
| Key-recovery | Square | 2^{32} | CP | 2^{71} | [FSE:DaeKnuRij97] |
| | Partial-sum | 2^{32} | CP | 2^{48} | [FSE:FKLSSWW00] |
| | Boomerang | 2^{71} | ACC | 2^{71} | [biryukov2004boomerang] |
| | Mixture | 2^{26} | CP | 2^{80} | [JC:BDKRS20] |
| | Retracing boomerang | 2^{55} | ACC | 2^{80} | [EC:DKRS20] |
| | Boomeyong | $2^{79.7}$ | ACC | 2^{78} | [ToSC:RahSahPau21] |
| | Truncated boomerang | 2^{59} | ACC | 2^{61} | This work |

Conclusion

- 1 Analysis of **truncated bommerang attacks**.
- 2 **Improving** boomerangs on 6-round AES.
- 3 Applications
 - ▶ Best attack on **KIASU-BC**.
 - ▶ Best attacks on **Deoxys-BC** using MILP.
 - ▶ Distinguisher on full **TNT-AES**.

Thank you for your attention