

# Mysteries of Mysterion

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Cipher Specifications
- 3 Security Analysis
- 4 Brownie Point Nominations
- 5 Conclusion

# Introduction

- Block Cipher
- XLS design
- It's security margins is similar with AES cipher
- It has 4-bit S-boxes and 32-bit L-boxes and Shift Columns operation.

# Bit-Slicing

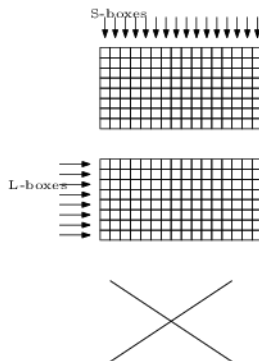
- Converting the cipher into bit-wise operations (like the way we'd implement it in hardware)
- Carrying out those bit wise operations in parallel

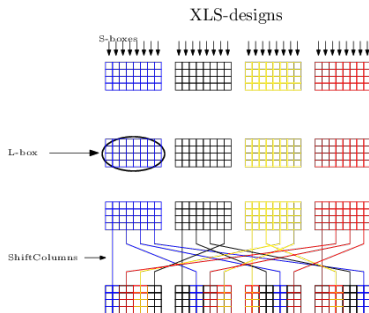
# XLS-Design

- LS Designs are a combination of linear diffusion L-boxes and non-linear bitslice S-boxes.
- These are susceptible to invariant subspace attacks.
- So, XLS (eXtended LS) Designs model is developed by adding the Shiftcolumns operation to LS design models
- XLS-design comprises of SuperS-boxes, made of optimal components - 4-bit S-boxes and 32-bit L-boxes, and ShiftColumns operation.

# LS Design Model

## LS-designs





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# S-box

- Mysterion uses S-boxes that has bitslice representation with a combination of AND (also OR) and XOR gates.
- It has a bitslice representation of 4 AND (precisely 3 AND and 1 OR) gates and 4 XOR gates
- It has a differential probability of  $2^{-2}$  and linear probability  $2^{-1}$

# DDT & LAT

Table 1: DDT of Sbox

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	a	b	c	d	e	f
1	4	.	.	.	4	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	4	.	.
2	.	.	.	4	.	4	.	.	2	2	2	2	2	.	.
3	2	.	2	.	2	.	2	.	2	.	2	2	.	2	.
4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	4	2	2	.	.	2	2
5	4	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	2	2	.	.	2	2
6	.	4	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2	2	2	2
7	2	.	2	.	2	.	2	.	2	2	.	2	.	.	2
8	.	4	4	.	4	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
9	.	2	2	.	.	2	2	.	.	2	2	.	.	2	2
a	.	.	.	4	.	.	4	.	.	2	2	2	2	.	.
b	2	2	.	.	2	2	.	.	2	2	.	2	.	.	2
c	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	4	2	2	.	.	2	2
d	.	2	2	.	.	2	2	4	.	.	.	.	4	.	.
e	.	.	4	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2	2	2	2
f	2	2	.	.	2	2	.	.	2	.	2	2	.	2	.

Table 2: LAT of Sbox

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	a	b	c	d	e	f
1	4	.	-4	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	4	.	.	.	.
2	.	.	.	4	4	4	-4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3	.	.	.	4	.	-4	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	4
4	2	.	2	.	-2	.	-2	4	2	.	-2	.	2	4	-2
5	2	.	2	.	2	.	2	4	2	.	-2	.	-2	-4	2
6	-2	.	-2	.	2	.	2	4	-2	.	2	4	2	.	-2
7	2	.	2	.	2	.	2	-4	2	.	-2	4	2	.	-2
8	.	-4	.	2	-2	2	2	.	.	4	.	2	-2	2	2
9	4	.	.	-2	2	2	2	.	-4	.	.	-2	2	2	2
a	.	4	.	-2	2	-2	-2	.	.	4	.	2	-2	2	2
b	.	.	4	2	2	-2	2	.	.	.	4	-2	-2	2	-2
c	-2	4	-2	2	.	2	4	.	2	.	-4	-2	.	2	.
d	-2	.	2	-2	.	2	.	.	2	-4	2	2	.	2	4
e	2	4	2	2	-4	2	.	.	-2	.	2	2	.	-2	.
f	-2	.	2	-2	.	2	.	.	2	4	2	-2	4	-2	.

## Observations

$$\text{Differential probability} = \frac{4}{16} = 2^{-2}$$

$$\text{Linear probability} = \frac{4}{8} = 2^{-1}$$

# L-box

- Its purpose is to diffuse changes in the state.
- linear transformation
- The algorithm which finds recursive MDS diffusion layers using shortened BCH codes from paper [1]
- When this is run using Magma code paper [2] with  $k = 8$  and  $s = 4$  as input gives polynomials whose companion matrix  $C_m$  raised to power 8  $\implies C_m^8$  gives us the MDS matrix

# Shift Columns

- In Mysterion-128, as there are 4 blocks (with each block having 8 columns) ShiftColumns acts on columns two by two.
- In Mysterion-256 as there are 8 blocks (with each block having 8 columns) ShiftColumns acts on columns one by one

# Diagrams

Figure: Shift Columns-128

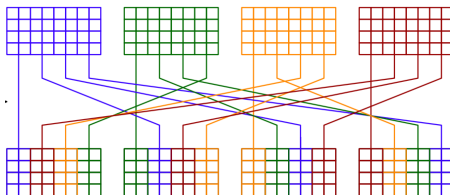
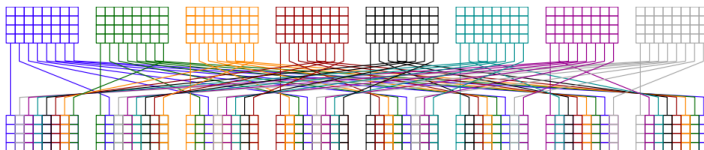


Figure: Shift Columns-256



# Round constant and Key

- Up until now, we have done nothing to make the ciphertext dependent on the key. So to do this, we add the key to the state.
- The Mysterion block cipher has no key schedule. In every round, the same key is added to the state.

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# Boomerang Attack

- Special Differential Cryptanalysis
- two differentials for the two sub ciphers  $C_0$  and  $C_1$  obtained from cipher  $C$
- $C = C_0 \circ C_1$
- shorter differentials have more better probabilities  $\implies$  improved results

## Theorems

**Theorem 1:** Four rounds of Mysterion-128 has at least 45 active S-boxes.

**Theorem 2:** Four rounds of Mysterion-256 has at least 81 active S-boxes.



# Boomerang Attack

- ① For 128 bit :

We use the Theorem 1 to find the max differential prob that can be obtained :

$$\Pr_{diff}(4R) \leq \Pr_{diff}^{max}(Sbox)^{45} = (2^{-2})^{45} = 2^{-90}$$

$$\implies \Pr_{diff}^{max}(8R) = \Pr_{diff}(4R) * \Pr_{diff}(4R) = 2^{-90} * 2^{-90} = 2^{-180}$$

the Pr obtained is way less than brute force probability ( $2^{-128}$ ).

# Boomerang Attack

- 1 For 256 bit:

We use the Theorem 2 to find the max differential prob that can be obtained :

$$\Pr_{diff}^{max}(8R) = \Pr_{diff}(4R) * \Pr_{diff}(4R) = 2^{-81*2} * 2^{-81*2} = 2^{-324}$$

the Pr obtained is way less that brute force probability ( $2^{-256}$ ).

# Integral Attack

- Integral attacks tries to extract information about the key by observing the sum of ciphertext values.
- We may find integral property upto 4 rounds, and then we can mount this attack from 7-9 rounds depending on the key size.
- Sufficient security margin for the full cipher, since there are 12 and 16 rounds for Mysterion -128 and Mysterion-256.

**Division Property - EUROCRYPT 2015** It allows to construct more efficient integral distinguishers exploiting the limited algebraic degree of reduced ciphers.

# Invariant subspace Attack

- LS Design models are vulnerable to this attack
- This was identified by performing an exhaustive analysis on a 32 bit block
- Addition of Shiftcolumns operation to LS design models (which are called as XLS models) ,this attack can no longer be done
- Shiftcolumns operation prevents the propagation of subspace found for the L-box with high probability

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# Jupyter Notebook & Online tool

## ① Jupyter Notebook

- ① Fully interactive
- ② Complete Mysterion-128 implementation
- ③ Inverse of Mysterion-128 implemented
- ④ Implemented Inverse of sbbox, lbox and shift columns-128 and 256
- ⑤ DDT and LAT analysis
- ⑥ Example run of all functions used

- ② Hosted first ever Mysterion online tool at :  
<https://mysterion-tool.herokuapp.com/>

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# Simple yet Secure

- Simple heuristics
- Security margin for physical attacks
- Efficient XLS-design



# Links

- Implementation Source Code Link:  
<https://github.com/Meghana-12/Mysterion>
- Google Collab Link:  
[https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1bmUl7wT4U13XY6n8cB2sV-f5cAsr0\\_vV?usp=sharing](https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1bmUl7wT4U13XY6n8cB2sV-f5cAsr0_vV?usp=sharing)
- Online Tool Link:  
<https://mysterion-tool.herokuapp.com/>
- Online Tool Source code:  
<https://github.com/RotonEvan/mysterious-ions>

# Thanks

## Team Members

- Gundu Shreya
- Varanasi Meghana
- Debajyoti Halder