

# PHOTON-Beetle Cipher Family

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# Introduction

1. It uses a sponge-based mode Beetle with the  $P_{256}$  being the underlying permutation.
2. We denote this permutation by  $\text{PHOTON}_{256}$ .
3. Based on the functionalities, PHOTON-Beetle can be classified into two categories:
  - (i) a family of authenticated encryptions, dubbed as PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD.
  - (ii) a family of hash functions, dubbed as PHOTON-Beetle-Hash.
4. Both these families are parameterized by  $r$ , the rate of message absorption.

# Notations

1.  $\{0,1\}^*$  we denote the set of all strings, and by  $\{0,1\}^n$  the set of strings of length  $n$ .
2.  $|A|$  denotes the number of the bits in the string  $A$ .
3. We use the notation  $\oplus$  and  $\odot$  to refer the binary addition and matrix multiplication respectively.
4. For  $A, B \in \{0,1\}^*$ ,  $A||B$  denotes the concatenation of  $A$  and  $B$ .
5. We use the notation  $V_1 || \dots || V_v \xleftarrow{(a_1, \dots, a_v)} V$  to denote parsing of the string  $V$  into  $v$  vectors of size  $a_1, \dots, a_v$  respectively.
6.  $B \ggg k$  denotes  $k$  bit right-rotation of the bit string  $B$ .
7. The expression  $E ? a : b$  evaluates to  $a$  if  $E$  holds and  $b$  otherwise.

# Notations

8.  $(E1 \text{ and } E2) ? a : b : c : d$  evaluates to  $a$  if both  $E1$  and  $E2$  holds,  $b$  if only  $E1$  holds,  $c$  if only  $E2$  holds and  $d$  otherwise.
9.  $\text{Trunc}(V, i)$  is a function that returns the most significant  $i$  bits of the  $V$  and  $\text{Ozs}_r$  is the function that applies 10\* padding on  $r$  bits, i.e.  $\text{Ozs}_r(V) = V \| 1 \| 0^{r-|V|-1}$  When  $|V| < r$ .
10. For any two integers  $m$  and  $n$ , we use  $m | n$  to denote that  $m$  divides  $n$ .
11. For any matrix  $X$ , we use the notation  $X[i, j]$  to denote the element at  $i$ -th row and  $j$ -th column of  $X$ .

# Notations

12. We represent a serial matrix  $\text{Serial}[a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6, a_7]$  by

$$\text{Serial}[a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6, a_7] := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ a_0 & a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_6 & a_7 \end{pmatrix}.$$

# PHOTON<sub>256</sub> PERMUTATION

1. We use PHOTON<sub>256</sub> as the underlying 256-bit permutation in our mode.
2. It is applied on a state of 64 elements of 4 bits each, which is represented as a  $(8 \times 8)$  matrix  $X$ .
3. It is composed of 12 rounds, each containing four layers AddConstant, SubCells, ShiftRows and MixColumnSerial.
4. AddConstant adds fixed constants to the cells of the internal state.
5. SubCells applies an 4-bit S-Box to each of the 64 4-bit cells.
6. ShiftRows rotates the position of the cells in each of the rows.
7. MixColumnSerial linearly mixes all the columns independently using a serial matrix multiplication. The multiplication with the coefficients in the matrix is in  $\mathbb{GF}(2^4)$  with  $x^4 + x + 1$  being the irreducible polynomial.

# PHOTON<sub>256</sub> PERMUTATION

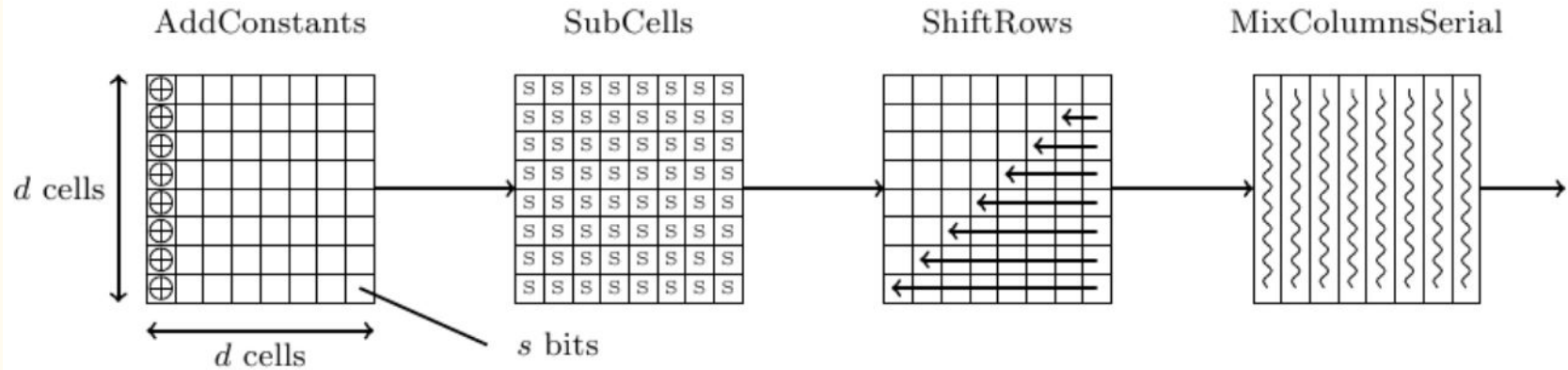


Figure 1. One Round of PHOTON Internal Permutation

# The PHOTON S-box

$x$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
S-box	C	5	6	B	9	0	A	D	3	E	F	8	4	7	1	2



# Formal description of all operations

## PHOTON<sub>256</sub>( $X$ )

```
1 :  for  $i = 0$  to 11 :
2 :     $X \leftarrow \text{AddConstant}(X, i)$ ;
3 :     $X \leftarrow \text{SubCells}(X)$ ;
4 :     $X \leftarrow \text{ShiftRows}(X)$ ;
5 :     $X \leftarrow \text{MixColumnSerial}(X)$ ;
return  $X$ ;
```

## AddConstant( $X, k$ )

```
1 :   $RC[12] \leftarrow \{1, 3, 7, 14, 13, 11, 6, 12, 9, 2, 5, 10\}$ ;
2 :   $IC[8] \leftarrow \{0, 1, 3, 7, 15, 14, 12, 8\}$ ;
3 :  for  $i = 0$  to 7 :
4 :     $X[i, 0] \leftarrow X[i, 0] \oplus RC[k] \oplus IC[i]$ ;
return  $X$ ;
```

## SubCells( $X$ )

```
1 :  for  $i = 0$  to 7,  $j = 0$  to 7 :
2 :     $X[i, j] \leftarrow \text{S-Box}(X[i, j])$ ;
return  $X$ ;
```

## ShiftRows( $X$ )

```
1 :  for  $i = 0$  to 7,  $j = 0$  to 7 :
2 :     $X'[i, j] \leftarrow X[i, (j + i) \% 8]$ ;
return  $X'$ ;
```

## MixColumnSerial( $X$ )

```
1 :   $M \leftarrow \text{Serial}[2, 4, 2, 11, 2, 8, 5, 6]$ ;
2 :   $X \leftarrow M^8 \odot X$ ;
return  $X$ ;
```

# Specification of PHOTON-Beetle Family

## 1. Mathematical Component $\rho$ and $\rho^{-1}$

$\rho(S, U)$	$\rho^{-1}(S, V)$	Shuffle( $S$ )
$1: V \leftarrow \text{Trunc}(\text{Shuffle}(S),  U ) \oplus U;$ $2: S \leftarrow S \oplus \text{Ozs}_r(U);$ <b>return</b> $(S, V);$	$1: U \leftarrow \text{Trunc}(\text{Shuffle}(S),  V ) \oplus V;$ $2: S \leftarrow S \oplus \text{Ozs}_r(U);$ <b>return</b> $(S, U);$	$1: S_1 \  S_2 \xleftarrow{r/2} S;$ <b>return</b> $S_2 \  (S_1 \ggg 1);$

Where  $\rho$  is a linear function, state  $S \in \{0, 1\}^r$  and input data  $U \in \{0, 1\}^{\leq r}$ .  $\rho$  produces an output data  $V \in \{0, 1\}^{|U|}$ .

Where  $\rho^{-1}$  is a inverse function of  $\rho$ , which takes the state  $S$  and the output data  $V$  to reproduce the input data  $U$  and update the state.

# Specification of PHOTON-Beetle Family

## 2. PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD Authenticated Encryption

PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD.ENC[ $r$ ]( $K, N, A, M$ )

```
1:   $IV \leftarrow N \| K; C \leftarrow \lambda;$ 
2:  if  $A = \lambda, M = \lambda$  :
3:     $T \leftarrow \text{TAG}_{128}(IV \oplus 1); \text{return } (\lambda, T);$ 
4:   $c_0 \leftarrow (M \neq \lambda \text{ and } r \mid |A|)? 1 : 2 : 3 : 4$ 
5:   $c_1 \leftarrow (A \neq \lambda \text{ and } r \mid |M|)? 1 : 2 : 5 : 6$ 
6:  if  $A \neq \lambda$  :
7:     $IV \leftarrow \text{HASH}_r(IV, A, c_0);$ 
8:  if  $M \neq \lambda$  :
9:     $M_1 \| \dots \| M_m \xleftarrow{r} M;$ 
10:   for  $i = 1$  to  $m$  :
11:      $Y \| Z \xleftarrow{(r, 256-r)} \text{PHOTON}_{256}(IV);$ 
12:      $(W, C_i) \leftarrow \rho(Y, M_i);$ 
13:      $IV \leftarrow W \| Z;$ 
14:    $IV \leftarrow IV \oplus c_1;$ 
15:    $C \leftarrow C_1 \| \dots \| C_m;$ 
16:    $T \leftarrow \text{TAG}_{128}(IV);$ 
return  $(C, T);$ 
```

PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD.DEC[ $r$ ]( $K, N, A, C, T$ )

```
1:   $IV \leftarrow N \| K; M \leftarrow \lambda;$ 
2:  if  $A = \lambda, C = \lambda$  :
3:     $T^* \leftarrow \text{TAG}_{128}(IV \oplus 1);$ 
4:    return  $(T = T^*)? \lambda : \perp;$ 
5:   $c_0 \leftarrow (C \neq \lambda \text{ and } r \mid |A|)? 1 : 2 : 3 : 4$ 
6:   $c_1 \leftarrow (A \neq \lambda \text{ and } r \mid |C|)? 1 : 2 : 5 : 6$ 
7:  if  $A \neq \lambda$  :
8:     $IV \leftarrow \text{HASH}_r(IV, A, c_0);$ 
9:  if  $C \neq \lambda$  :
10:    $C_1 \| \dots \| C_m \xleftarrow{r} C;$ 
11:   for  $i = 1$  to  $m$  :
12:     $Y \| Z \xleftarrow{(r, 256-r)} \text{PHOTON}_{256}(IV);$ 
13:     $(W, M_i) \leftarrow \rho^{-1}(Y, C_i);$ 
14:     $IV \leftarrow W \| Z;$ 
15:    $IV \leftarrow IV \oplus c_1;$ 
16:    $M \leftarrow M_1 \| \dots \| M_m;$ 
17:    $T^* \leftarrow \text{TAG}_{128}(IV);$ 
return  $(T = T^*)? M : \perp;$ 
```

# Specification of PHOTON-Beetle Family

## 2. PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD Authenticated Encryption

PHOTON-Beetle-Hash $[r](M)$

```
1:  if  $M = \lambda$  :  
2:     $IV \leftarrow 0\|0$ ;  
3:     $T \leftarrow \text{TAG}_{256}(IV \oplus 1)$ ; return  $T$ ;  
4:  if  $|M| \leq 128$  :  
5:     $c_0 \leftarrow (|M| < 128)? 1 : 2$   
6:     $IV \leftarrow \text{Ozs}_{128}(M)\|0$ ;  
7:     $T \leftarrow \text{TAG}_{256}(IV \oplus c_0)$ ; return  $T$ ;  
8:   $M_1\|M' \xleftarrow{(128, |M|-128)} M$ ;  
9:   $c_0 \leftarrow (r \mid |M'|)? 1 : 2$   
10:  $IV \leftarrow M_1\|0$   
11:  $IV \leftarrow \text{HASH}_r(IV, M', c_0)$ ;  
12:  $T \leftarrow \text{TAG}_{256}(IV)$ ;  
return  $T$ ;
```

$\text{HASH}_r(IV, D, c_0)$

```
1:   $D_1\| \dots \| D_d \xleftarrow{r} \text{Ozs}_r(D)$ ;  
2:  for  $i = 1$  to  $d$  :  
3:     $Y\|Z \xleftarrow{(r, 256-r)} \text{PHOTON}_{256}(IV)$ ;  
4:     $W \leftarrow Y \oplus D_i$ ;  
5:     $IV \leftarrow W\|Z$ ;  
6:   $IV \leftarrow IV \oplus c_0$ ;  
return  $IV$ ;
```

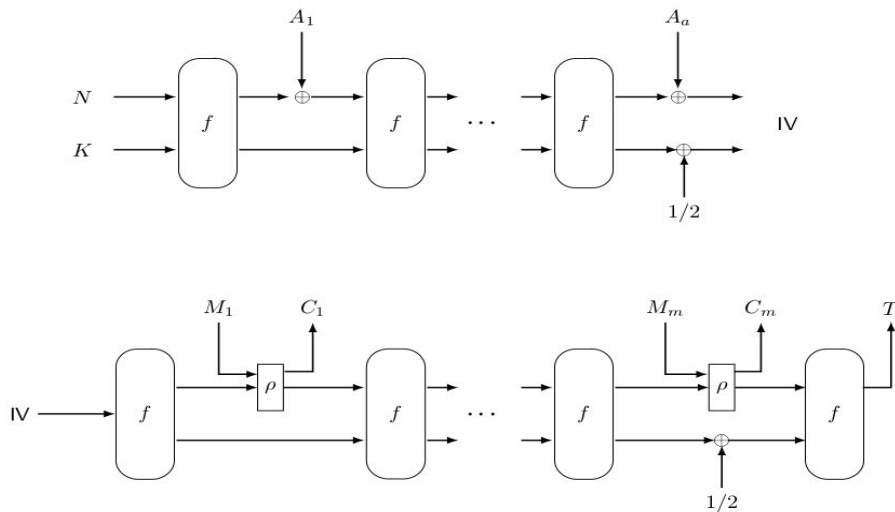
$\text{TAG}_\tau(T_0)$

```
1:  for  $i = 1$  to  $\lceil \tau/128 \rceil$  :  
2:     $T_i \leftarrow \text{PHOTON}_{256}(T_{i-1})$ ;  
3:   $T \leftarrow \text{Trunc}(T_1, 128) \parallel \dots \parallel \text{Trunc}(T_{\tau/128}, 128)$ ;  
return  $T$ ;
```

# Specification of PHOTON-Beetle Family

## PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD Authenticated Encryption

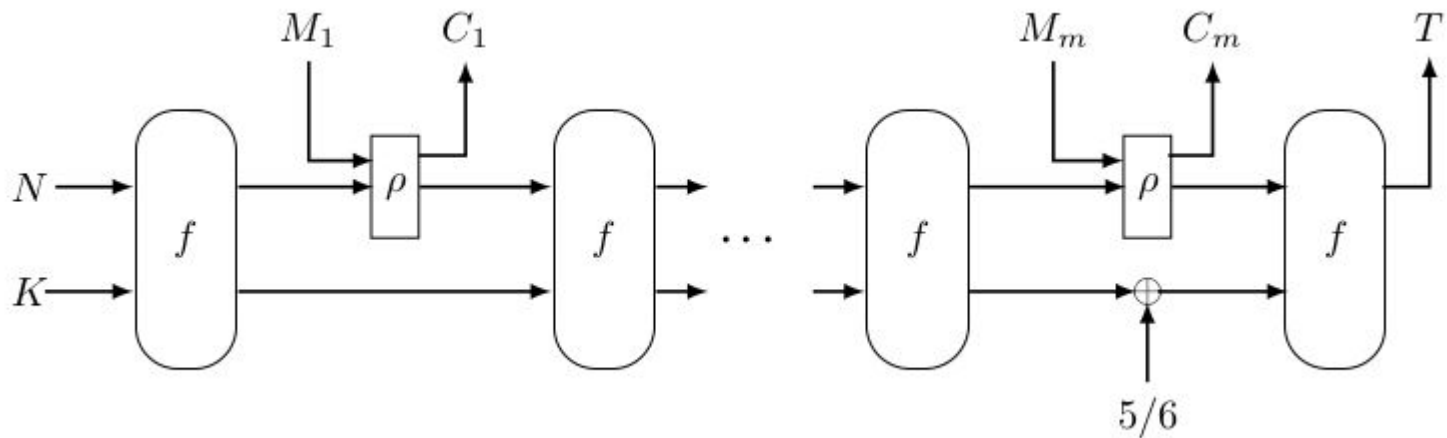
Case 1. PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD.ENC with a AD blocks and m message blocks.



# Specification of PHOTON-Beetle Family

## PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD Authenticated Encryption

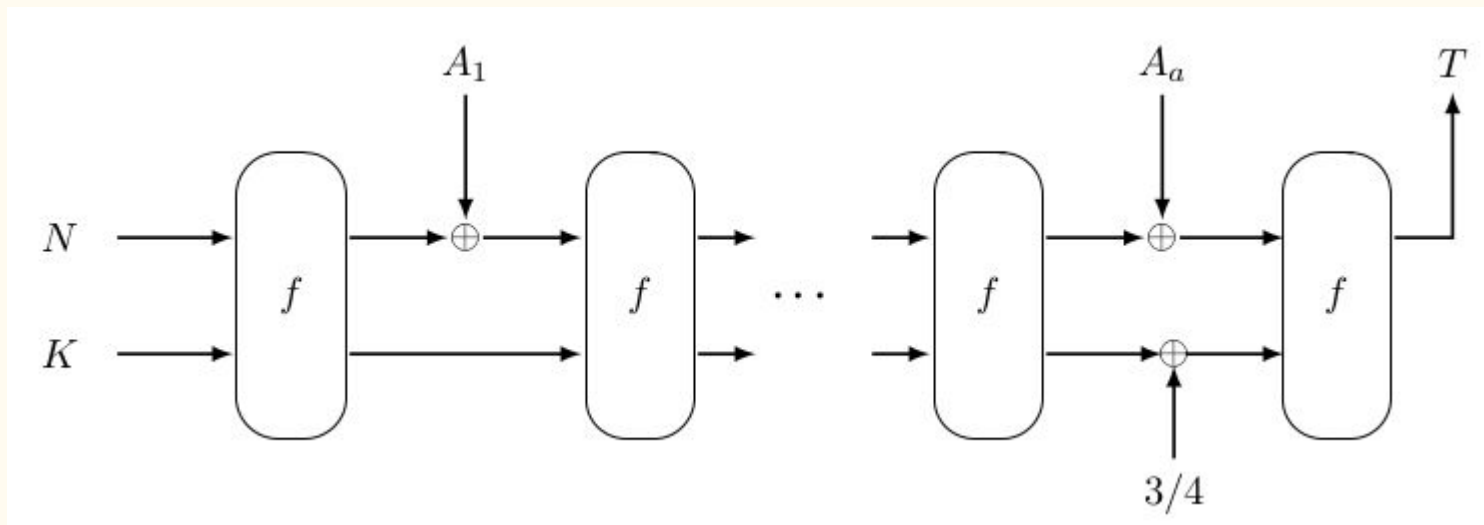
Case 2. PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD.ENC with empty AD and  $m$  message blocks.



# Specification of PHOTON-Beetle Family

## PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD Authenticated Encryption

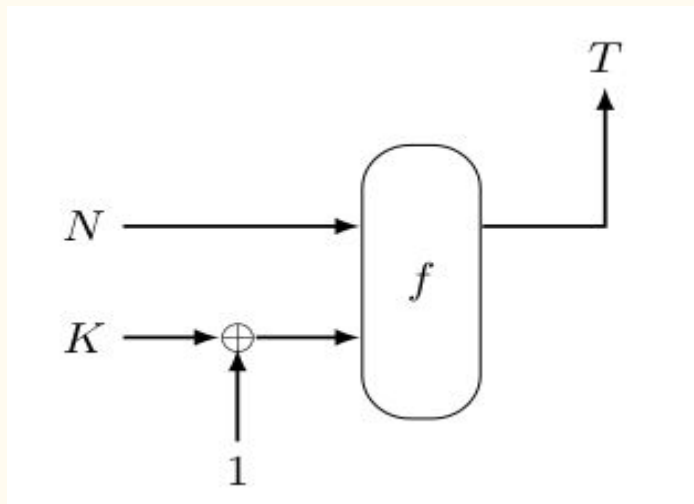
Case 3. PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD.ENC Construction with a AD blocks and empty message.



# Specification of PHOTON-Beetle Family

## PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD Authenticated Encryption

Case 4. PHOTON-Beetle-AEAD.ENC Construction with empty AD and empty message.

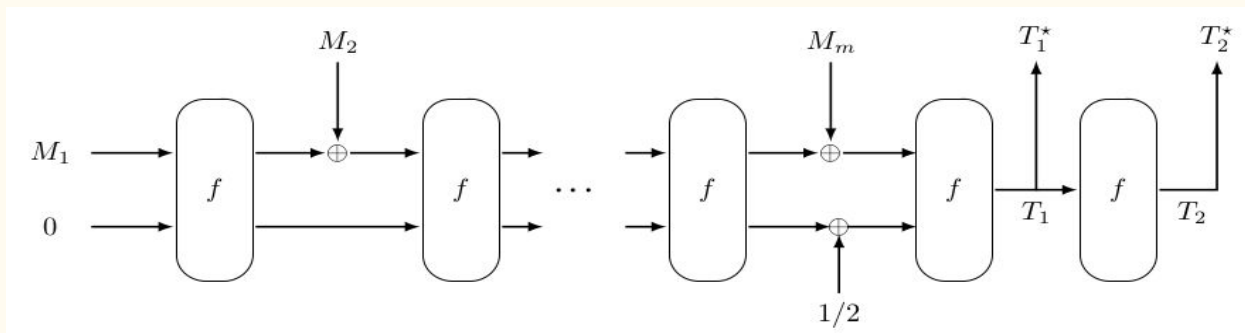




# Specification of PHOTON-Beetle Family

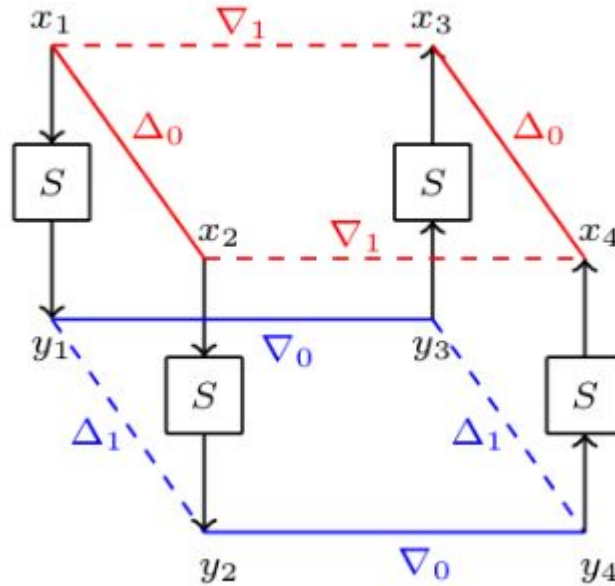
## 3. PHOTON-Beetle-Hash Hash function

PHOTON-Beetle-Hash takes a message  $M \in \{0, 1\}^*$  and generates a tag  $T \in \{0, 1\}^{256}$ .



Here  $|M_1| = 128$ ,  $|M_i| = r$ , for  $i = 2, \dots, m-1$  and  $|M_m| \leq r$ . The tag  $T$  is computed as  $T_1^* || T_2^*$ , where  $T_i^* = \text{Trunc}(T_i, 128)$ .

# SBox Analysis of PHOTON Beetle



# SBox Analysis of PHOTON Beetle

## 1. Difference Distribution Table(DDT)

$$\text{DDT}(\Delta_0, \Delta_1) = \#\{x \in \{0, 1\}^n \mid (S(x) \oplus S(x \oplus \Delta_0) = \Delta_1)\}.$$

## 2. 1-1 bit DDT

Table: 1-1 bit DDT

$\Delta_x \setminus \Delta_y$	0001	0010	0100	1000
bit 0 = 0001	0	0	0	0
bit 1 = 0010	0	0	0	0
bit 2 = 0100	0	0	0	0
bit 3 = 1000	0	0	0	0

# SBox Analysis of PHOTON Beetle

BOGI permutation:

$$|BO| \leq |GI| \Rightarrow |GI| + |GO| \geq 4$$

Note: Score of S-box  $|GI| + |GO| == 8$ .

# SBox Analysis of PHOTON Beetle

## The Boomerang Connectivity Table(BCT)

$$\text{BCT}(\Delta_0, \nabla_0) = \#\{x \in \{0, 1\}^n \mid S^{-1}(S(x) \oplus \nabla_0) \oplus S^{-1}(S(x \oplus \Delta_0) \oplus \nabla_0) = \Delta_0\}.$$

1. The ladder switch is captured by the BCT in the case where at least one of the index equals to zero.
2. The S-box switch is captured by the BCT in the case where  $\Delta_1$  equals  $\nabla_0$ .
3. The incompatibility pointed out by Murthy simply corresponds to zero entries in the BCT.

# Boomerang Connectivity Table(BCT)

In \ Out	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	a	b	c	d	e	f
0	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
1	16	0	4	4	0	16	4	4	4	4	0	0	4	4	0	0
2	16	0	0	6	0	4	6	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	2	0
3	16	2	0	6	2	4	4	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
4	16	0	0	0	0	4	2	2	0	6	2	0	6	0	2	0
5	16	2	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	6	2	2	4	2	0	0
6	16	4	2	0	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	4	2	0	4	8
7	16	4	2	0	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	4	2	0	4	8
8	16	4	0	2	4	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	0	2	4	8
9	16	4	2	0	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	4	2	0	4	8
a	16	0	2	2	0	4	0	0	6	0	2	0	0	6	2	0
b	16	2	0	0	2	4	0	0	4	2	2	2	0	6	0	0
c	16	0	6	0	0	4	0	6	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	0
d	16	2	4	2	2	4	0	6	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
e	16	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0
f	16	8	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	8	16

# S Box Switch

$$\text{BCT}(\Delta \mathbf{0} \text{ , } \nabla \mathbf{0})$$

In \ Out	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	a	b	c	d	e	f
0	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
1	16	0	4	4	0	16	4	4	4	4	0	0	4	4	0	0
2	16	0	0	6	0	4	6	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	2	0
3	16	2	0	6	2	4	4	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
4	16	0	0	0	0	4	2	2	0	6	2	0	6	0	2	0
5	16	2	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	6	2	2	4	2	0	0
6	16	4	2	0	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	4	2	0	4	8
7	16	4	2	0	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	4	2	0	4	8
8	16	4	0	2	4	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	0	2	4	8
9	16	4	2	0	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	4	2	0	4	8
a	16	0	2	2	0	4	0	0	6	0	2	0	0	6	2	0
b	16	2	0	0	2	4	0	0	4	2	2	2	0	6	0	0
c	16	0	6	0	0	4	0	6	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	0
d	16	2	4	2	2	4	0	6	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
e	16	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0
f	16	8	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	8	16

$$\text{DDT}(\Delta 0, \Delta 1)$$
[illegible]

# Zero-Sum Distinguisher for PHOTON Permutation f

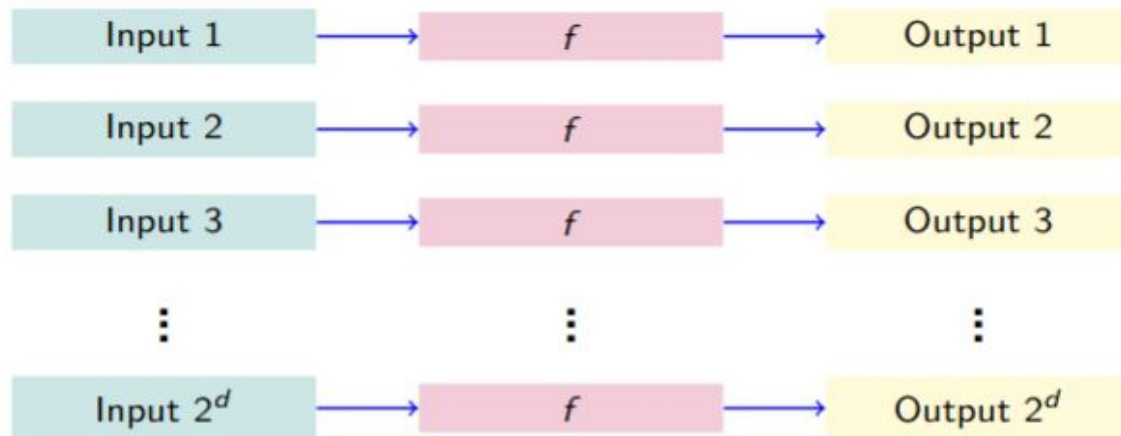
We use Derivative of Boolean Functions to construct Zero Sum Distinguisher for n-Round Distinguisher.

Degree of S Box  $d = 3$  and  $r$  is the number of rounds, then we have to vary our input to  $d^r + 1$  bits.

A distinguisher is infeasible to construct for almost all values of  $n > 4$  on a reasonably powered machine.

For  $n=5$ , our # of inputs are  $2^{244}$ . Very big number.





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$\bigoplus$  Input  $i = 0$   
By Construction

$\bigoplus$  Output  $i = 0$   
if  $d > \deg f$

Zero-Sum Property:  
 $\sum x = 0, \quad \sum f(x) = 0$

***Thank You***

# References:

<https://doc.sagemath.org/html/en/reference/cryptography/sage/crypto/sbox.html>

<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?arnumber=9264171>

<https://www.isical.ac.in/~lightweight/beetle/>

<https://asecuritysite.com/encryption/beetle>