## CS5760: Yoyo Tricks with AES

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- Introduction
- Yoyo Analysis of Generic SPNs

Zero Difference Pattern and its Properties Mixture of Pairs and its Properties Analysis of Two Generic SP-Rounds Analysis of Three Generic SP-Rounds

### Applications to AES

**Preliminaries** 

Yoyo Distiguisher for Three Rounds of AES Yoyo Distinguisher for Four Rounds of AES Yoyo Distinguisher for Four Rounds of AES A Five Round Key Recovery Yoyo on AES

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- Main idea is to make new pairs of plaintexts and ciphertexts that preserve a property from the original plaintext.
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- 4 Similar to the boomerang attack and works with both Feistel networks and substitution permutation networks (SPNs) that iterate a round function  $A \circ S$ , where A is an affine transformation and S is a non-linear S-box layer.
- **6** For analysis, we consider permutations that iterate  $L \circ S$ , where L is a linear transformation.



### Zero Difference Pattern

Suppose  $q=2^k$ . Let  $\alpha=(\alpha_0,\alpha_1,\ldots,\alpha_{n-1})\in\mathbb{F}_q^n$ , where each  $\alpha_i\in\mathbb{F}_q$  is called a *word*.

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### Definition 1 (Zero Difference Pattern)

Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$ . Then, the zero difference pattern of  $\alpha$  is given by

$$\nu(\alpha) \triangleq (z_0, z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}) \tag{1}$$

where  $z_i = 1$  if  $\alpha_i = 0$  or  $z_i = 0$  otherwise.

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Observe that  $\nu(\alpha) \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ . The complement of  $\nu(\alpha)$  is called the *activity pattern*.

## Properties of Zero Difference Pattern

#### Lemma 1

For two states  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$ , the zero pattern of their difference is preserved through S. Mathematically,

$$\nu(\alpha \oplus \beta) = \nu(S(\alpha) \oplus S(\beta)). \tag{2}$$

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#### Proof.

This is evident from the fact that  $\alpha_i \oplus \beta_i = 0 \iff s(\alpha_i) \oplus s(\beta_i) = 0$  since s is a permutation.



## Mixture of Pairs

#### Definition 2

For a vector  $v \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$  and a pair of states  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$  define  $\rho^v(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$  where

$$\rho^{\mathbf{v}}(\alpha,\beta)_{i} \triangleq \alpha_{i}\mathbf{v}_{i} \oplus \beta_{i}(\mathbf{v}_{i} \oplus 1) = \begin{cases} \alpha_{i} & \mathbf{v}_{i} = 1\\ \beta_{i} & \mathbf{v}_{i} = 0 \end{cases}$$
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From the definition it is evident that

$$\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\alpha,\beta) \oplus \rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\beta,\alpha) = \alpha \oplus \beta. \tag{4}$$

## Effect of a Permutation

#### Lemma 2

Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$  and  $v \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ . Then,  $\rho$  commutes with the S-box layer. Mathematically,

$$\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(S(\alpha), S(\beta)) = S(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\alpha, \beta)) \tag{5}$$

and thus

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#### Proof.

S operates on each word independently and the result follows immediately from definition 2.



## Effect of a Linear Transformation

#### Lemma 3

For a linear transformation  $L(x) = L(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$  and for any  $v \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ ,

$$L(\alpha) \oplus L(\beta) = L(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\alpha, \beta)) \oplus L(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\beta, \alpha)) \tag{7}$$



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#### Proof.

Using (4) and the linearity of L, we have

$$L(\alpha) \oplus L(\beta) = L(\alpha \oplus \beta) = L(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\alpha, \beta) \oplus \rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\beta, \alpha)) \tag{8}$$

$$= L(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\alpha,\beta)) \oplus L(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\beta,\alpha)) \tag{9}$$



### Combined Effect

① Using Lemma 2 and Lemma 3, we have

$$L(S(\alpha)) \oplus L(S(\beta)) = L(S(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\alpha,\beta))) \oplus L(S(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\beta,\alpha))), \tag{10}$$



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- $\odot$  Switching S and L does not guarantee equality in (10).
- 3 Zero difference pattern does not change when L or S is applied to any pair  $\alpha' = \rho^{\nu}(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $\beta' = \rho^{\nu}(\beta, \alpha)$ . Thus,

$$\nu(S(L(\alpha)) \oplus S(L(\beta))) = \nu(S(L(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\alpha,\beta))) \oplus S(L(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\beta,\alpha)))). \quad (11)$$

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4 Although equality may not hold, differences are zero in exactly the same positions when  $S \circ L$  is applied.

## Summary Theorem

#### Theorem 1

Let 
$$\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$$
 and  $\alpha' = \rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\alpha, \beta), \beta' = \rho^{\mathsf{v}}(\beta, \alpha)$ . Then,

$$\nu(S \circ L \circ S(\alpha) \oplus S \circ L \circ S(\beta)) = \nu(S \circ L \circ S(\alpha') \oplus S \circ L \circ S(\beta')). \quad (12)$$

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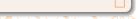
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#### Proof.

The proof follows from the following observations.

- **1** Lemma 2 gives  $S(\alpha) \oplus S(\beta) = S(\alpha') \oplus S(\beta')$ .
- 2 The linearity of L gives  $L(S(\alpha)) \oplus L(S(\beta)) = L(S(\alpha')) \oplus L(S(\beta'))$ .
- 3 Finally, Lemma 1 gives (12).



# Analysis of Two Generic SP-Rounds

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- § Fix a pair of plaintexts  $p^0$ ,  $p^1$  with a paritcular zero difference pattern  $\nu(p^0 \oplus p^1)$ .
- 4 From the corresponding ciphertexts  $c^0, c^1$ , construct another pair of new ciphertexts  $c'^0, c'^1$  such that their decrypted plaintexts  $p'^0, p'^1$  also have the same zero difference pattern. This follows directly from Theorem 1 and holds with probability 1.

## Summary Theorem

### Theorem 2 (Generic Yoyo Game for Two SP-Rounds)

Let  $p^0 \oplus p^1 \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$ ,  $c^0 = G_2(p^0)$  and  $c^1 = G_2(p^1)$ . Then for any  $v \in bF_2^n$ , let  $c'^0 = \rho^v(c^0, c^1)$  and  $c'^1 = \rho^v(c^1, c^0)$ . Then,

$$\nu(G_2^{-1}(c^{\prime 0}) \oplus G_2^{-1}(c^{\prime 1})) = \nu(p^{\prime 0} \oplus p^{\prime 1}) = \nu(p^0 \oplus p^1). \tag{13}$$

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#### Proof.

Since  $S^{-1}$  is also a permutation and  $L^{-1}$  is a linear transformation, we invoke Theorem 1 on  $G_2^{-1} = S^{-1} \circ L^{-1} \circ S^{-1}$  to obtain (13).



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# Distiguisher for Two SP-Rounds

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- Theorem 2 gives us a straightforward distinguisher for two generic SP-rounds requiring two plaintexts and two adaptively chosen ciphertexts.
- A random permutation would not give back a pair of decrypted plaintexts that still have the same zero difference pattern with very high probability.
- One can also generate two ciphertexts and then observe the ciphertexts of the adaptively chosen plaintexts.

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- **2** For two states  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , using Theorem 2, it follows that

$$\nu(G_2^{-1}(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(G_2(\alpha), G_2(\beta))) \oplus G_2^{-1}(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(G_2(\beta), G_2(\alpha)))) = \nu(\alpha \oplus \beta).$$
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Since  $G_2$  and  $G_2^{-1}$  have identical forms, we have

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4 Finally, from Lemma 2, zero difference patterns are preserved through an S-box layer.

#### Summary Theorem

#### Theorem 3 (Generic Yoyo Game for Three SP-Rounds)

Let  $G_3=S\circ L\circ S\circ L\circ S$ . If  $p^0,p^1\in \mathbb{F}_q^n$  and  $c^0=G_3(p^0),\ c^1=G_3(p^1),$  then

$$\nu(G_2(\rho^{\nu_1}(p^0, p^1)) \oplus G_2(\rho^{\nu_1}(p^1, p^0)))$$

$$= \nu(G_2^{-1}(\rho^{\nu_2}(c^0, c^1)) \oplus G_2^{-1}(\rho^{\nu_2}(c^1, c^0))) \quad (16)$$

for any  $v_1, v_2 \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ .

#### Summary Theorem

#### Theorem 3 (Generic Yoyo Game for Three SP-Rounds)

Moreover, for any  $z \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ , define

$$R_P(z) \triangleq \{ (p^0, p^1) \mid \nu(G_2(p^0) \oplus G_2(p^1)) = z \}$$
 (16)

$$R_C(z) \triangleq \{(c^0, c^1) \mid \nu(G_2^{-1}(c^0) \oplus G_2^{-1}(c^1)) = z\}$$
 (17)

Then, for any  $(p^0, p^1) \in R_P(z)$ ,

$$(G_3(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(p^0, p^1)), G_3(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(p^1, p^0))) \in R_C(z),$$
 (18)

and for any  $(c^0, c^1) \in R_C(z)$ ,

$$(G_3^{-1}(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(c^0,c^1)), G_3^{-1}(\rho^{\mathsf{v}}(c^1,c^0))) \in R_{\mathsf{C}}(z).$$
 (19)



#### Distinguisher for Three Generic SP-Rounds

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- **3** The probability that a random pair of plaintexts has a sum with nonzero difference pattern containing exactly m zeros is  $\binom{n}{m}\frac{(q-1)^m}{q^n}$  where  $q=2^k$ .

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- 4 Thus, we need to test approximately the inverse of that number of pairs to find one correct pair.

### Distinguisher for Three Generic SP-Rounds

• Detecting a correct pair is more involved. Suppose  $(p_1, p_2) \in R_P(z)$  and let the respective ciphertexts be  $(c_1, c_2)$ . Let A be the affine layer in an SASAS construction.

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- ② Assume that  $S^{-1}(c^0) = x \oplus z$  and  $S^{-1}(c^1) = y \oplus z$ , where  $A^{-1}(x), A^{-1}(y)$  and  $A^{-1}(z)$  are non-zero only in the positions where z is zero.

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- § It follows that x and y belong to a linear subspace U of dimension n-m while z belongs to the complementary linear subspace V of dimension m such that  $U \oplus V = \mathbb{F}_q^n$ .
- 4 We need to investigate whether  $c^0 \oplus c^1 = S(x \oplus z) \oplus S(y \oplus z)$  has some distinguishing properties.

#### Round Function of AES

• The round function in AES is represented as operations over  $\mathbb{F}_q^{4\times 4}$  where  $q=2^8$ . One round of AES can be written as  $R=AK\circ MC\circ SR\circ SB$ .

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- Since differences are used, strip AK operations. SR and SB commute.
- 3 Two rounds of AES can be written as

$$R^{2\prime} = MC \circ SR \circ (SB \circ MC \circ SB) \circ SR \tag{20}$$

where  $S = SB \circ MC \circ SB$  can be thought of as four parallel 32-bit super S-boxes.

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where  $S = SB \circ MC \circ SB$  can be thought of as four parallel 32-bit super S-boxes.

4 The initial SR has no effect, thus  $R^2 = MC \circ SR \circ S$ .





### Representing AES as Generic SP-rounds

• Considering  $S = SB \circ MC \circ SB$  and  $L = SR \circ MC \circ SR$ , four rounds of AES can be represented using (20) as  $R^{4\prime} = MC \circ SR \circ S \circ L \circ S \circ SR$  which ends up becoming  $R^4 = S \circ L \circ S$ .

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  - 5 active super S-boxes due to the linear layer.
  - At least 5 active S boxes inside a super S-box due to MixColumns.
- Similarly, six rounds of AES can be written as

$$R^6 = S \circ L \circ S \circ L \circ S. \tag{21}$$

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Since two rounds of AES correspond to one generic SPN round, we exploit the properties of one AES round to create distinguishers for an odd number of rounds.

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- Since two rounds of AES correspond to one generic SPN round, we exploit the properties of one AES round to create distinguishers for an odd number of rounds.
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# Definitions of Q, Q'

For convenience, we introduce the following definition.

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- 2 Adding another round at the end of (20), three rounds of AES can be written as  $Q \circ S$ .
- **3** Similarly, five rounds of AES can be written as  $S \circ L \circ S \circ Q'$ .

# Properties of Q, Q'

• For a binary vector  $z \in \mathbb{F}_4^2$  of weight t, let  $V_z$  denote the subspace of  $q^{4\cdot (4-t)}$  states  $x=(x_0,x_1,x_2,x_3)$  where  $x_i \in \mathbb{F}_q^4$  if  $z_i=0$  or  $x_i=0$  otherwise.

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$$T_i^{z,a} \triangleq SB \circ MC(H_i).$$
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Since SB and MC operate on each word individually, we obtain the following.

# Properties of Q, Q'

#### Lemma 4

The set  $T_{z,a}$  satisfies

$$T_{z,a} = T_0^{z,a} \times T_1^{z,a} \times T_2^{z,a} \times T_3^{z,a}$$
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#### Proof.

Each word of  $Q(a \oplus x)$  contributes one byte to each word after SR. If 4-t words are nonzero, it follows that each word after SR can take exactly  $q^{4-t}$  values. Thus,  $T_i^{z,a} = SB \circ MC(H_i)$ .



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A similar property can be derived for Q' and its inverse as well.

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# The SimpleSWAP Algorithm

Algorithm 1 is a primitive used to perform the yoyo itself.

**Algorithm 1** Swaps the first word where texts are different and returns one word.

1: **function** SIMPLESWAP( $x^0$ ,  $x^1$ )

 $\triangleright x^0 \neq x^1$ 

- 2:  $x'^0 \leftarrow x'^1$
- 3: **for** *i* from 0 to 3 **do**
- 4: if  $x_i^0 \neq x_i^1$  then
- 5:  $x_i^{\prime 0} \leftarrow x_i^{\prime 1}$
- 6: return  $x'^0$



### Distinguisher for Three Rounds of AES

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**6** Any other  $c' \neq c^0, c^1 \in T'_{z,a}$  satisfies  $\nu(Q^{-1}(c') \oplus S(p^0)) = \nu(Q^{-1}(c') \oplus S(p^1)) = \nu(S(p^0) \oplus S(p^1)).$ 

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- **5** Any other  $c' \neq c^0, c^1 \in T'_{z,a}$  satisfies  $\nu(Q^{-1}(c') \oplus S(p^0)) = \nu(Q^{-1}(c') \oplus S(p^1)) = \nu(S(p^0) \oplus S(p^1)).$
- **6** In particular,  $\nu(R^{-3}(c') \oplus p^0) = \nu(R^{-3}(c') \oplus p^1) = \nu(p^0 \oplus p^1)$ .
- 7 With a random permutation, the chosen ciphertext c' would satisfy this condition with probability  $2^{-96}$ .

# Distinguisher for Three Rounds of AES

#### Algorithm 2 Distinguisher for Three Rounds of AES

**Require:** Plaintexts  $p^0$ ,  $p^1$  with  $hw(\nu(p^0 \oplus p^1)) = 3$ 

**Ensure:** 1 for AES, -1 otherwise

1: 
$$c^0 \leftarrow enc_k(p^0,3), c^1 \leftarrow enc_k(p^1,3)$$

2: 
$$c' \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(c^0, c^1)$$

3: 
$$p' \leftarrow dec_k(c',3)$$

4: if 
$$\nu(p^0 \oplus p^1) = \nu(p' \oplus p^1)$$
 then

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Data complexity: two plaintexts and one adaptively chosen ciphertext.

# Distinguisher for Four Rounds of AES

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- 2 Theorem 2 is invoked to create the distinguisher.
- Again, the new ciphertexts are created by simply exchanging words between the two obtined ciphertexts, as shown in Algorithm 3.

# Distinguisher for Four Rounds of AES

#### Algorithm 3 Distinguisher for Four Rounds of AES

**Require:** Plaintexts  $p^0$ ,  $p^1$  with  $hw(\nu(p^0 \oplus p^1)) = 3$ 

**Ensure:** 1 for AES, -1 otherwise

1: 
$$c^0 \leftarrow enc_k(p^0, 4), c^1 \leftarrow enc_k(p^1, 4)$$

2: 
$$c'^0 \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(c^0, c^1), c'^1 \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(c^1, c^0)$$

3: 
$$p'^0 \leftarrow dec_k(c'^0, 4), p'^1 \leftarrow dec_k(c'^1, 4)$$

4: **if** 
$$\nu(p^0 \oplus p^1) = \nu(p'^0 \oplus p'^1)$$
 **then**

6: **else** 

7: **return** -1

Data complexity: two plaintexts and two adaptively chosen ciphertexts.

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#### Lemma 5

Let M denote a 4  $\times$  4 MixColumns matrix and  $x \in \mathbb{F}_q^4$ . If t bytes in x are zero, then  $x \cdot M$  or  $x \cdot M^{-1}$  cannot contain 4 - t or more zeros.



#### Summary Theorem

#### Theorem 4

Let a and b denote two states where  $\nu(Q'(a) \oplus Q'(b))$  has weight t. Then, the probability that any 4-t bytes are simultaneously zero in a word in the difference  $a \oplus b$  is  $q^{t-4}$ . When this happens, all bytes in the difference are zero.

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#### Proof.

From Lemma 4, words in same positions are drawn from  $T_i^{z,a}$  with size  $q^{4-t}$ , thus they are equal with probability  $q^{t-4}$ . Since t words are zero in  $Q'(a) \oplus Q'(b)$ , each word of  $SR^{-1}(Q'(a)) \oplus SR^{-1}(Q'(b))$  has t zero bytes. From Lemma 5, 4-t bytes cannot be zero in each word after  $MC^{-1}$ . This is preserved through  $SB^{-1}$  and XOR with the round key.



### Distinguisher for Five Rounds of AES

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- 4 This would imply  $Q'(p^0) \oplus Q'(p^1)$  has t zero words.
- **6** Playing the yoyo game on  $R^4$  will return at most 7 new plaintext pairs which have the same zero difference pattern after one round and obey Theorem 4.

### Attack Analysis

① The probability that a pair  $(p^0, p^1)$  with a zero difference pattern of weight 3 has a zero difference pattern of weight t when encrypted through Q' is (where  $q=2^8$ )

$$p_b(t) = \binom{4}{t} q^{-t}. (26)$$

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② We require  $p_b(t)^{-1}$  pairs to get one such pair. To distinguish it, notice that for a random pair of plaintexts, the probability that 4-t bytes are zero simultaneously in any of the 4 words is approximately

$$4p_b(4-t) = 4 \cdot \binom{4}{t} \cdot q^{t-4} \tag{27}$$

while for a correct pair it is  $4 \cdot q^{t-4}$ .

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#### Data Complexity

**1** Each pair of plaintexts requires  $\frac{p_b(4-t)^{-1}}{4}$  plaintext pairs using the yoyo game.

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§ For t = 2, the data complexity is minimum at approximately  $2^{25.8}$ . The overall distinguisher is shown in section 4.

```
Ensure: 1 for AES, -1 otherwise
```

- 1:  $cnt1 \leftarrow 0$ .
- 2: while  $cnt1 < 2^{13.4}$  do
- 3:  $cnt1 \leftarrow cnt1 + 1$ .
- 4:  $p^0, p^1 \leftarrow$  generate random pair with  $hw(\nu(p^0 \oplus p^1)) = 3$ .
- 5:  $cnt2 \leftarrow 0$ ,  $WrongPair \leftarrow False$ .
- 6: while  $cnt2 < 2^{11.4}$  & WrongPair = False do
- 7:  $cnt2 \leftarrow cnt2 + 1$ .
- 8:  $c^0 \leftarrow enc_k(p^0, 5), c^1 \leftarrow enc_k(p^1, 5).$
- 9:  $c'^0 \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(c^0, c^1), c'^1 \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(c^1, c^0).$
- 10:  $p'^0 \leftarrow dec_k(c'^0, 5), p'^1 \leftarrow dec_k(c'^1, 5).$
- 11: **for** *i* from 0 to 3 **do**

```
12: if hw(\nu(p_i)) \ge 2 then
13: WrongPair = True
14: p'^0 \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(p^0, p^1), \ p'^1 \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(p^1, p^0).
15: if WrongPair = False then
16: return 1 \triangleright Did not find difference with two or more zeros.
17: return -1
```

#### Five Round Key Recovery Yoyo on AES

• Want to find the first round key  $k_0$  XORed in front of  $R^5$ .

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$$M = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \alpha \oplus 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \alpha & \alpha \oplus 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & \alpha & \alpha \oplus 1 \\ \alpha \oplus 1 & 1 & 1 & \alpha \end{pmatrix}. \tag{29}$$

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**6** Pick two plaintexts  $p^0$  and  $p^1$  where the first words are given by  $p_0^0 = (0, i, 0, 0)$  and  $p_0^1 = (z, z \oplus i, 0, 0)$  where  $z \in \mathbb{F}_q \setminus \{0\}$  and the three other words are equal. Let  $k_0 = (k_{0,0}, k_{0,1}, k_{0,2}, k_{0,3})$  denote key bytes XORed with the first word of the plaintext.

#### Five Round Key Recovery Yoyo on AES

**1** The difference between the first words after partial encryption of the two plaintexts  $MC \circ SB \circ AK$  becomes

$$\alpha b_0 \oplus (\alpha \oplus 1)b_1 = y_0 \tag{30}$$

$$b_0 \oplus \alpha b_1 = y_1 \tag{31}$$

$$b_0 \oplus b_1 = y_2 \tag{32}$$

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where 
$$b_0 = s(k_{0,0}) \oplus s(z \oplus k_{0,0})$$
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(32) can be written as

$$s(k_{0,0}) \oplus s(k_{0,0} \oplus z) \oplus s(k_{0,1} \oplus i) \oplus s(k_{0,1} \oplus z \oplus i) = y_2. \tag{34}$$

#### Five Round Key Recovery Yoyo on AES

**1** The difference between the first words after partial encryption of the two plaintexts  $MC \circ SB \circ AK$  becomes

$$\alpha b_0 \oplus (\alpha \oplus 1)b_1 = y_0 \tag{30}$$

$$b_0 \oplus \alpha b_1 = y_1 \tag{31}$$

$$b_0 \oplus b_1 = y_2 \tag{32}$$

$$(\alpha \oplus 1)b_0 \oplus b_1 = y_3 \tag{33}$$

where 
$$b_0=s(k_{0,0})\oplus s(z\oplus k_{0,0})$$
 and  $b_1=s(k_{0,1}\oplus i)\oplus s(k_{0,1}\oplus z\oplus i)$ .

(32) can be written as

$$s(k_{0,0}) \oplus s(k_{0,0} \oplus z) \oplus s(k_{0,1} \oplus i) \oplus s(k_{0,1} \oplus z \oplus i) = y_2. \tag{34}$$

**③** Note that  $y_2 = 0$  for  $i \in \{k_{0,0} \oplus k_{0,1}, k_{0,0} \oplus k_{0,1} \oplus z\}$ . Hence, there will be at least two values of  $i \in \mathbb{F}_q$  for which  $y_2 = 0$ .

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- 6 Prepare a set  $\mathcal{P}$  of plaintexts  $p^0$  and  $p^1$  where  $p_0^0 = (0, i, 0, 0)$  and  $p_0^1 = (z, z \oplus i, 0, 0)$ . Let  $c^0, c^1$  be the respective ciphertexts.

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- Pick 5 new ciphertext pairs  $(c'^0, c'^1) = (\rho^v(c^0, c^1), \rho^v(c^1, c^0))$  and let  $p'^0, p'^1$  be the respective plaintexts.

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- 8 A correct pair will satisfy

$$B(p_0^{\prime 0} \oplus k_0) \oplus B(p_0^{\prime 1} \oplus k_0) = (z_0, z_1, 0, z_3).$$
 (35)

### Five Round Key Recovery Yoyo on AES

**9** The adversary can now test the remaining  $2^{24}$  candidate keys and find whether the third byte of the first word is zero for all 5 pairs of plaintexts, where  $k_{0,0} \oplus k_{0,1} \in \{i, i \oplus z\}$  for known i and z.

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- **1** This holds for all 5 pairs at random with probability  $2^{-8.5} = 2^{-40}$ .
- $\bullet$  A false positive might occur with probability  $2^{-16}$  when testing  $2^{24}$  keys. This probability can be reduced by testing with additional pairs when the test succeeds on the first five pairs, which is rare.

#### Attack Analysis

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- 3 This cooresponds to approximately 2<sup>31</sup> 5-rounds of AES (assuming 80 S-box lookups per encryption).

#### Extracting the Full Subkey

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- 6 However, this pair is useless in recovering the other subkeys since the last three words are equal.
- ① The yoyo can be used from this initial pair to generate pairs  $(p'^0, p'^1)$  that are with high probability different in the last three words and whose difference after  $SR \circ MC \circ SB \circ AK$  is non-zero only in the first word.

### Extracting the Full Subkey

**6** To attack  $k_1$ , notice that each of the m pairs returned by the yoyo satisfy

$$B(p_1^{\prime 0} \oplus k_1) \oplus B(p_1^{\prime 1} \oplus k_1) = (0, w, 0, 0)$$
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for some  $w \in \mathbb{F}_q$  and fixed  $k_1$ . This is because the *i*-th byte of the *i*-th word can be nonzero before SR.

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- **13** This can be used to solve for  $k_1$  on fixing any byte in  $k_1$ . At most  $4 \cdot 2^8$  guesses are spent on getting the correct key.
- ① Similarly,  $k_2$  and  $k_3$  can be found using analogous relationships with columns of  $M^{-1}$ .

#### Recovering all Round Subkeys

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- 2 Since the initial pair is useless, 5 pairs are used to recover the full key.

#### Key Recovery Algorithm for Five Rounds of AES I

```
Ensure: Secret key k_0
  1: for i from 0 to 2^8 - 1 do
          p^0 \leftarrow 0, p^1 \leftarrow 0
 2:
           p_0^0 \leftarrow (0, i, 0, 0), p_0^1 \leftarrow (1, 1 \oplus i, 0, 0)
 3:
           \mathcal{S} \leftarrow \{(p^0, p^1)\}
  4:
           while |S| < 5 do
  5:
                 c^0 \leftarrow enc_k(p^0, 5), c^1 \leftarrow enc_k(p^1, 5)
  6:
                 c'^0 \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(c^0, c^1), c'^1 \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(c^1, c^0)
  7:
                 p'^{0} \leftarrow dec_{k}(c'^{0}, 5), p'^{1} \leftarrow dec_{k}(c'^{1}, 5)
  8:
                 p^0 \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(p'^0, p'^1), p^1 \leftarrow \text{SIMPLESWAP}(p'^1, p'^0)
 9:
                 \mathcal{S} \leftarrow \mathcal{S} \cup \{(p^0, p^1)\}
10:
           for all 2^{24} key candidates k_0 do
11:
```

### Key Recovery Algorithm for Five Rounds of AES II

```
12: for all (p^0, p^1) \in \mathcal{S} do

13: if l_3(s^4(p^0_0 \oplus k_0) \oplus s^4(p^1_0 \oplus k_0)) \neq 0 then

14: Break and jump to next key

15: return k_0
```