

# Design and Cryptanalysis of Symmetric-Key Algorithms in Black and White-box Models

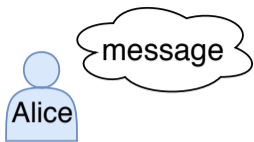
Aleksei Udovenko

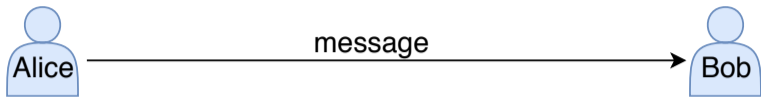
SnT, University of Luxembourg

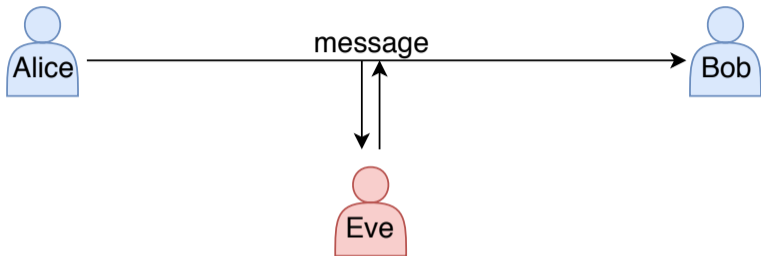
April 9, 2019

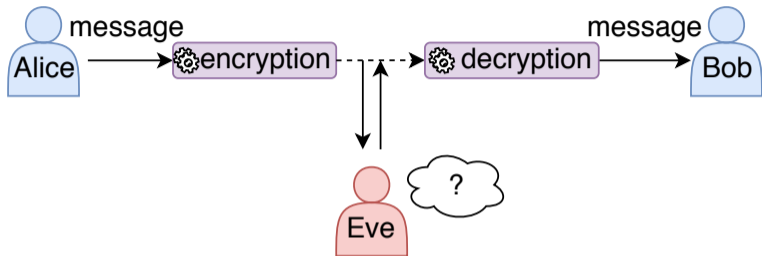
PhD Defense

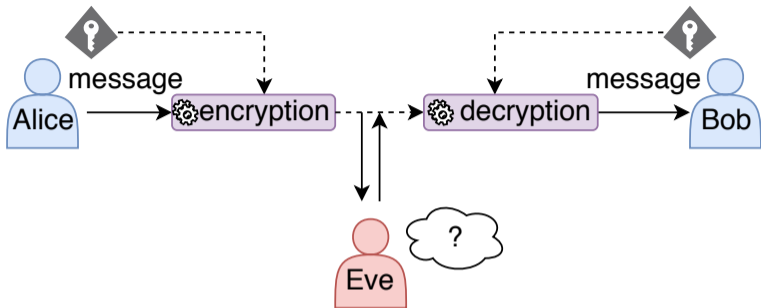


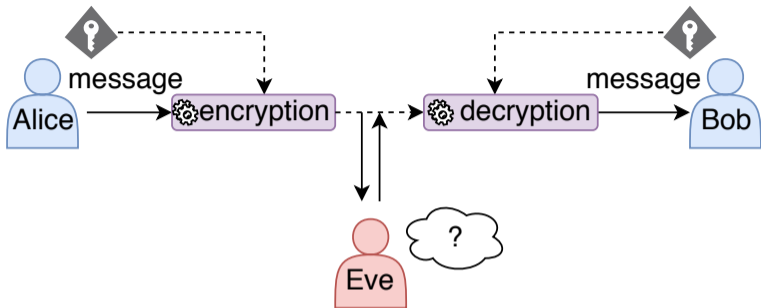




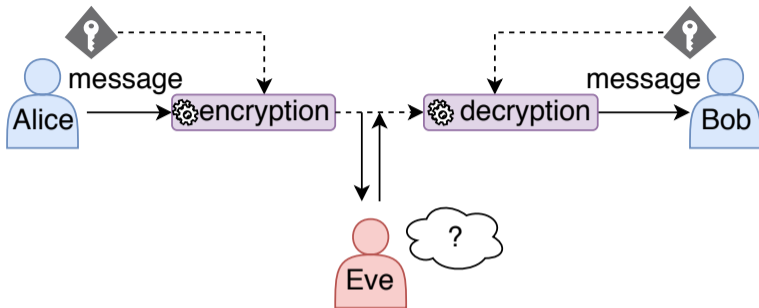








## Symmetric-key Cryptography



## Symmetric-key Cryptography

ensures that the message is:

- 1 secret (**confidentiality**)
- 2 unmodified (**integrity**)
- 3 from the correct person (**authenticity**)



(confidentiality) }  
(integrity) }  
(authenticity) }

(confidentiality)  
(integrity)  
(authenticity)



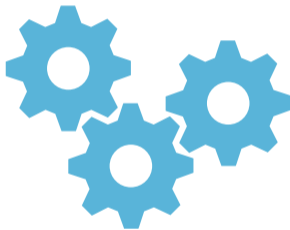
Authenticated  
Encryption

(confidentiality) }  
(integrity) } ⇔ Authenticated  
(authenticity) } Encryption

**The main goal of  
symmetric-key cryptography!**



How does it work?



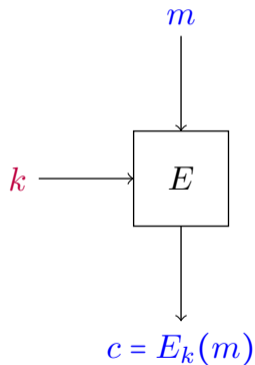
Construction 1:

Block Cipher + Mode of Operation

## Block Cipher

An Algorithm  $E_k$ :

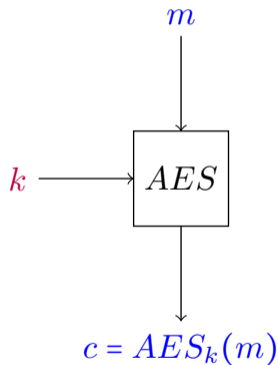
- $n$ -bit message  $m$
- $\kappa$ -bit key  $k$
- $n$ -bit ciphertext  $c$
- $E_k$  is invertible



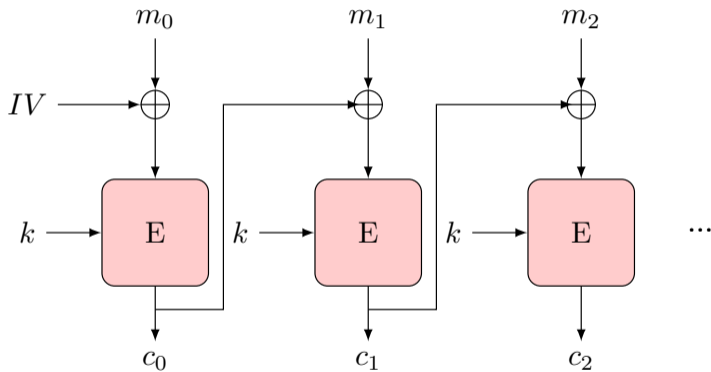
## Example: Advanced Encryption Standard

### AES Algorithm:

- 128-bit message  $m$
- 128/192/256-bit key  $k$
- 128-bit ciphertext  $c$
- designed in 1998  
by V. Rijmen and J. Daemen



## Mode of Operation





# Example: COLM Mode of Operation

One of CAESAR competition winners (2019)

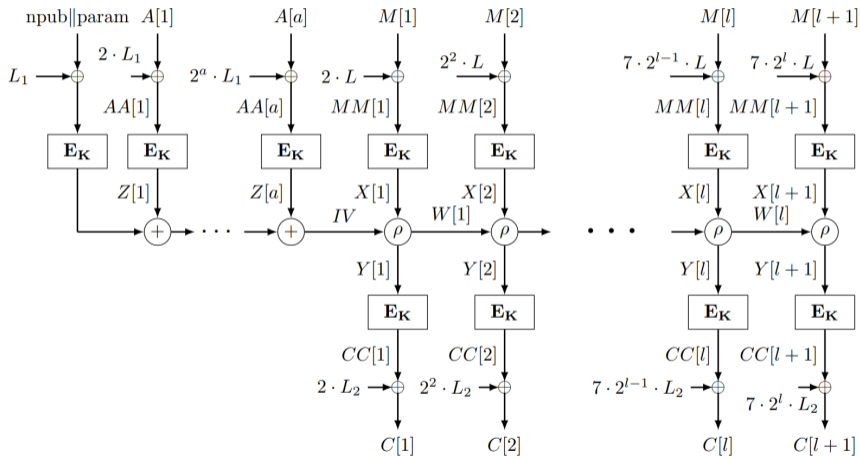
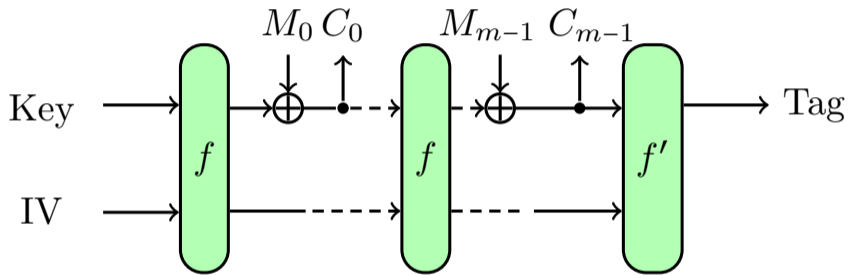


Figure credits: COLM v1 Specification

## Construction 2: Sponge Structure

### (Duplexed) Sponge Structure



$f$ : keyless invertible function (permutation)

# Plan

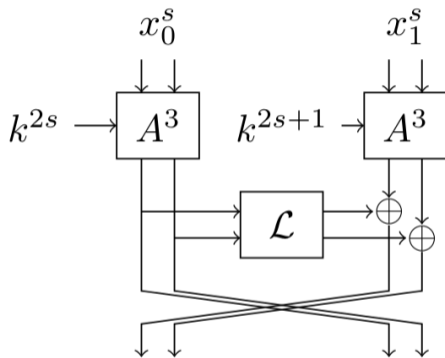
- 1 Introduction
- 2 Thesis Overview
  - Design of Symmetric-key Algorithms
  - Structural and Decomposition Cryptanalysis
  - Nonlinear Invariant Cryptanalysis
  - White-box Cryptography
- 3 White-box Cryptography

## *Design of Symmetric-key Algorithms*

*Lightweight* Cryptography:

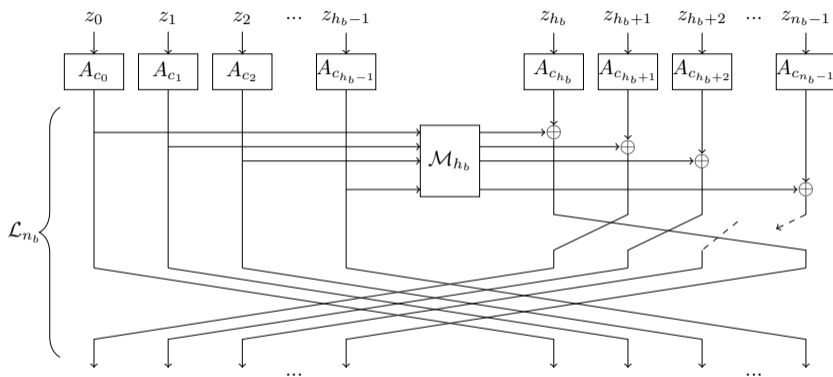
Cryptography for **resource-constrained** devices  
(Internet of Things)

## Design of Symmetric-key Algorithms



**Sparx**: a *lightweight* block cipher  
based on a **new design strategy**

## Design of Symmetric-key Algorithms



**Sparkle, Esch and Schwaemm:**  
cryptographic permutations, hash functions  
and authenticated encryption

## *Design of Symmetric-key Algorithms*

 Daniel Dinu, Léo Perrin, Aleksei Udovenko, Vesselin Velichkov, Johann Großschädl, and Alex Biryukov.

Design Strategies for ARX with Provable Bounds: Sparx and LAX.

In *Advances in Cryptology - ASIACRYPT 2016*, pages 484–513.

<https://www.cryptolux.org/index.php/SPARX>.

 Christof Beierle, Alex Biryukov, Luan Cardoso dos Santos, Johann Großschädl, Léo Perrin, Aleksei Udovenko, Vesselin Velichkov, and Qingju Wang.

Schwaemm and Esch: Lightweight Authenticated Encryption and Hashing using the Sparkle Permutation Family, 2019.

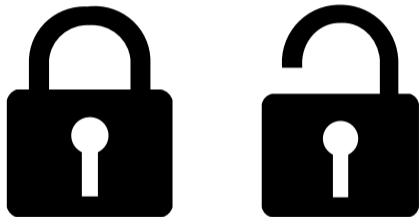
<https://www.cryptolux.org/index.php/Sparkle>.



How to make sure  
that an encryption scheme is **secure**?

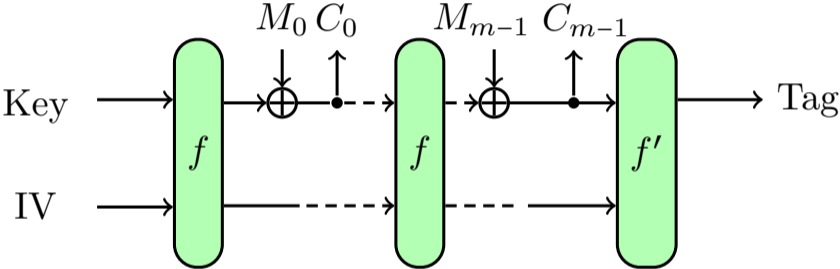


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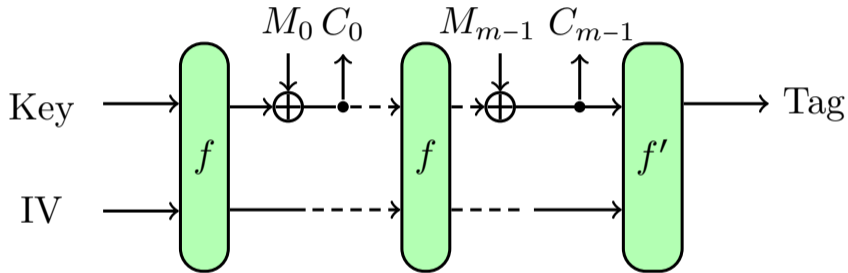


Security Proofs and **Cryptanalysis**!

# Security Proofs: Modes and Structures



## Security Proofs: Modes and Structures



secure **if** the permutation  $f$  is secure (random)

## Cryptanalysis:

an attempt to invalidate  
security claims of a cryptosystem  
by developing an **attack**

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an attempt to invalidate  
security claims of a cryptosystem  
by developing an **attack**

- a large variety of methods: differential, linear, integral, ...
- attacks on simplified versions
- analysis of components

## *Structural and Decomposition Cryptanalysis*

Distinguishing structures and recovering components

# *Structural and Decomposition Cryptanalysis*

$x$



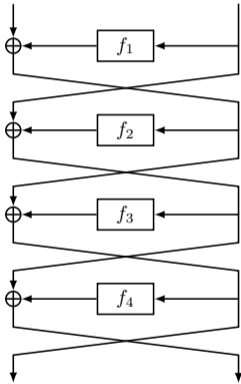
$E(x)$



## *Structural and Decomposition Cryptanalysis*

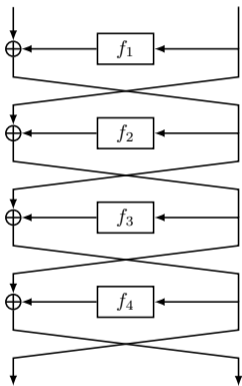
$x$	$E(x)$
0	182
1	210
2	78
3	251
4	97
...	
252	112
253	19
254	224
255	74

# Structural and Decomposition Cryptanalysis



Feistel Networks

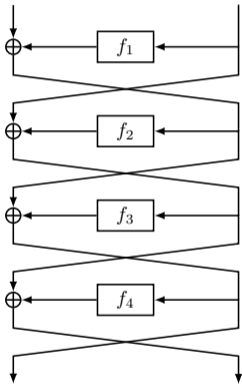
## Structural and Decomposition Cryptanalysis



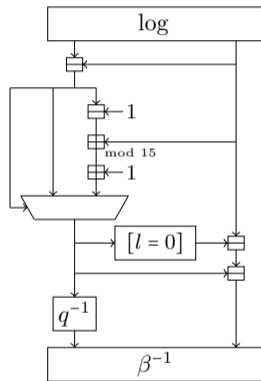
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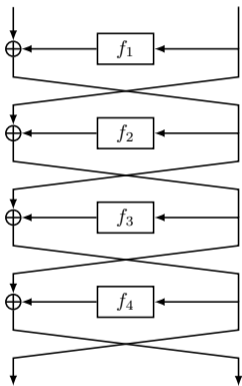


Feistel Networks



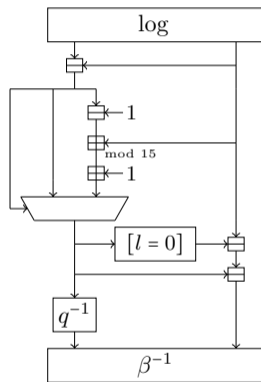
GOST S-Box

## Structural and Decomposition Cryptanalysis



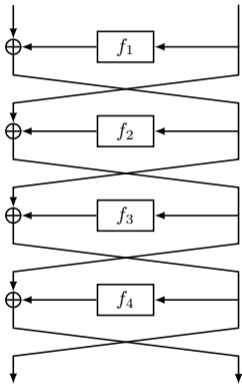
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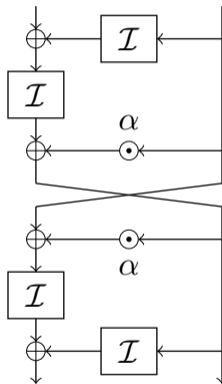


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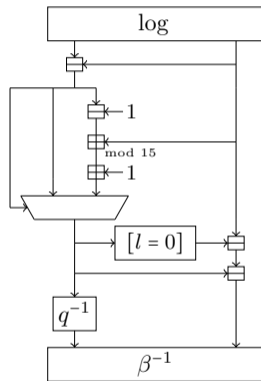
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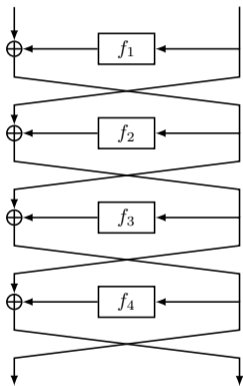


6-bit APN  
Permutation

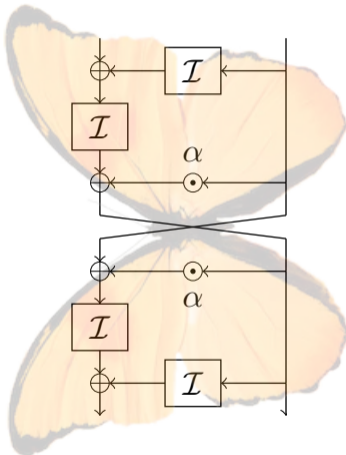


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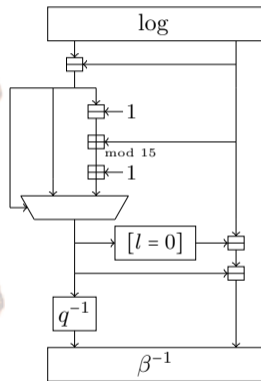
# Structural and Decomposition Cryptanalysis



Feistel Networks



6-bit APN  
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GOST S-Box

## Structural and Decomposition Cryptanalysis



Léo Perrin and Aleksei Udovenko.

Algebraic Insights into the Secret Feistel Network.

In *Fast Software Encryption - FSE 2016*, pages 378–398.



Léo Perrin, Aleksei Udovenko, and Alex Biryukov.

Cryptanalysis of a Theorem: Decomposing the Only Known Solution to the Big APN Problem.

In *Advances in Cryptology - CRYPTO 2016*, pages 93–122.



Alex Biryukov, Léo Perrin, and Aleksei Udovenko.

Reverse-Engineering the S-Box of Streebog, Kuznyechik and STRIBOBr1.

In *Advances in Cryptology - EUROCRYPT 2016*, pages 372–402.



Léo Perrin and Aleksei Udovenko.

Exponential S-Boxes: a Link Between the S-Boxes of BelT and Kuznyechik/Streebog.

*IACR Trans. Symmetric Cryptol.*, 2016(2):99–124.

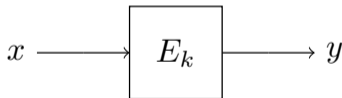


## *Nonlinear Invariant Cryptanalysis*

Properties of messages that are preserved through encryption

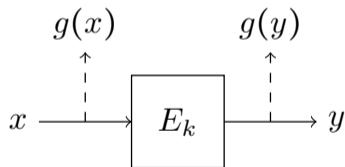
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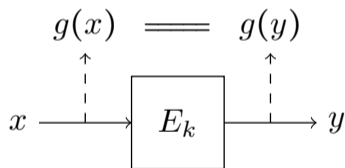
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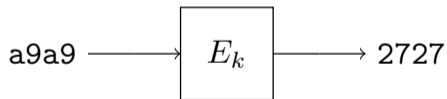
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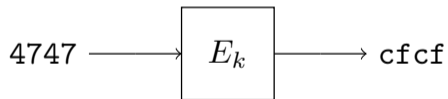
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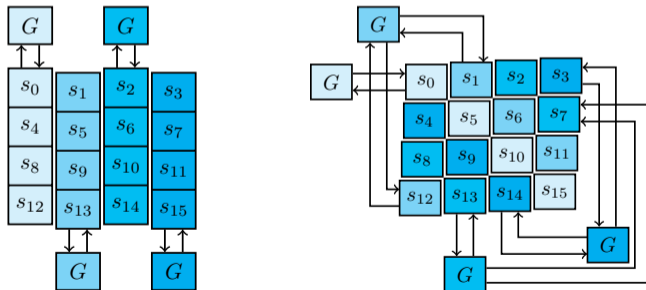
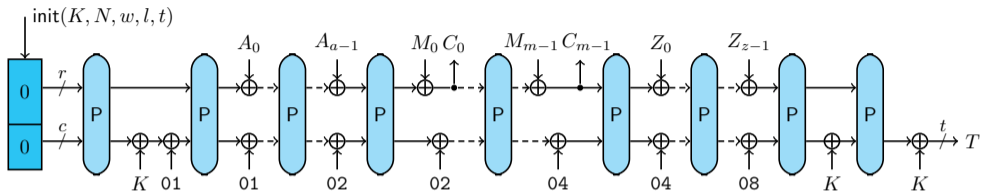


## *Nonlinear Invariant Cryptanalysis*

Properties of messages that are preserved through encryption



# Nonlinear Invariant Cryptanalysis



## Analysis of the NORX Authenticated Encryption

## *Nonlinear Invariant Cryptanalysis*

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Theoretical study of linear layers  
preserving degree- $d$  invariants



## *Nonlinear Invariant Cryptanalysis*



Alex Biryukov, Aleksei Udovenko, and Vesselin Velichkov.

Analysis of the NORX Core Permutation.

Cryptology ePrint Archive, Report 2017/034, 2017.

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2017/034>.



Christof Beierle, Alex Biryukov, and Aleksei Udovenko.

On Degree-d Zero-Sum Sets of Full Rank.

Cryptology ePrint Archive, Report 2018/1194, 2018.

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2018/1194>.

# Plan

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Thesis Overview
- 3 White-box Cryptography
  - Introduction
  - Attack Methods
  - Countermeasures

# White-box Cryptography

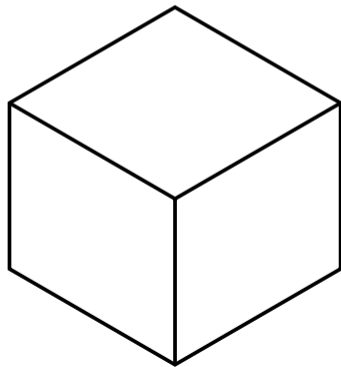


Alex Biryukov and Aleksei Udovenko.

Attacks and Countermeasures for White-box Designs.

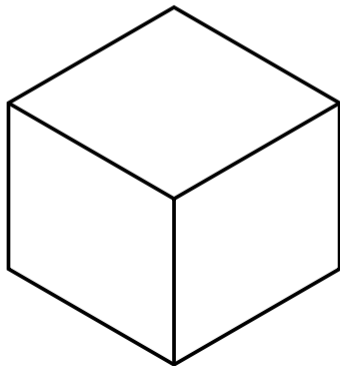
In *Advances in Cryptology - ASIACRYPT 2018 II*, pages  
373–402.

White-box model



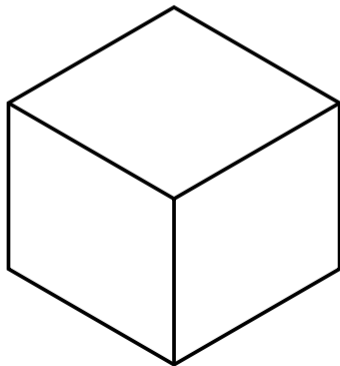
## White-box model

- implementation is fully **available** to an adversary
- secret key should be **unextractable**
- **extra**: one-wayness, incompressibility, traitor traceability, ...

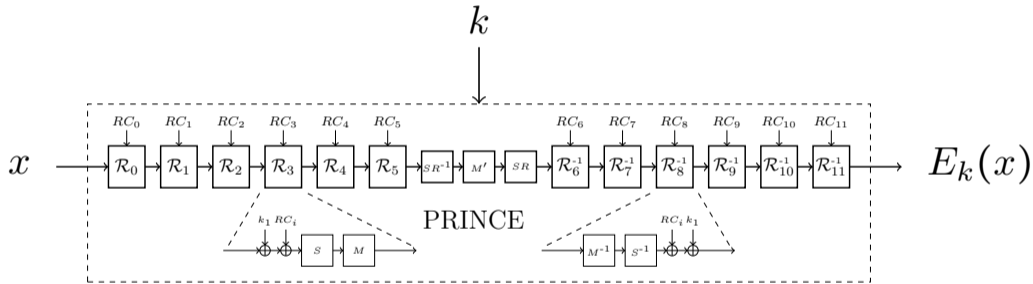


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- The most **challenging** direction (this work):  
white-box implementations of  
**existing** symmetric primitives,  
e.g. the AES block cipher



# Example: Secure White-box



## Example: Secure White-box

$x$	$E(x)$
0000000000000000	9333dd078833edd3
0000000000000001	7072b89243c84359
0000000000000002	7838040f2b7f9af6
0000000000000003	0b502e4231f42da3
0000000000000004	c39ea8c9434252aa
...	
ffffffffffffffffffb	8f1a82bc7af09497
ffffffffffffffffffc	9aaf33009a8e9a2f
ffffffffffffffffffd	5cd335922f9f0236
ffffffffffffffffffe	39d0e8b9a0eded09
fffffffffffffffffff	daf2ced4ab8fc658



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0000000000000004	c39ea8c9434252aa
...	
fffffffffffffffffb	8f1a82bc7af09497
fffffffffffffffffc	9aaf33009a8e9a2f
fffffffffffffffffd	5cd335922f9f0236
fffffffffffffffffe	39d0e8b9a0eded09
ffffffffffffffffff	daf2ced4ab8fc658

Impractical! 128 exbibytes for a 64-bit cipher!

## White-box: Industry vs Academia



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- WB has many applications
- strong need for *efficient* WB
- industry **does** WB:  
**hidden designs**

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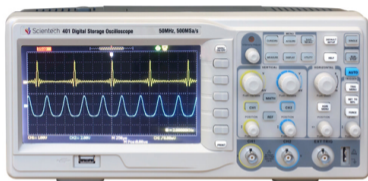


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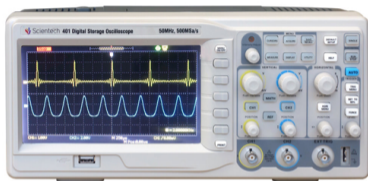
- **theory**: approaches using iO/FE, currently *impractical*
- **practical WB-AES**: few attempts (2002-2017), **all broken**
- powerful DCA attack (CHES 2016)

## White-Box: Differential Computation Analysis (DCA)



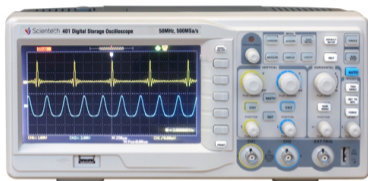
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# White-Box: Differential Computation Analysis (DCA)



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applied to white-box implementations
- Most of the implementations **broken automatically**
- Side-channel protection: **masking schemes**

*this work:*

Can we apply the masking protection for white-box impl.?

## General Setting

- Boolean **circuits**
- **obfuscated** reference implementation



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- **obfuscated** reference implementation
- **predictable values**: computations from ref. impl., e.g.

$$s = \text{Bit}_1(\text{SBox}(pt_1 \oplus k_1))$$

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- Boolean **circuits**
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- **predictable values**: computations from ref. impl., e.g.

$$s = \text{Bit}_1(\text{SBox}(pt_1 \oplus k_1))$$

- **masking**:  $\exists v_1, \dots, v_t$  nodes (*shares*),  $f : \mathbb{F}_2^t \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2$  s.t. for any encryption

$$f(v_1, \dots, v_t) = s$$

## Masking Schemes

- **Example** Boolean masking: linear decoder  $f = \bigoplus_i v_i$
- **Example** FHE: complex non-linear decoder  $f$

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## Masking Schemes

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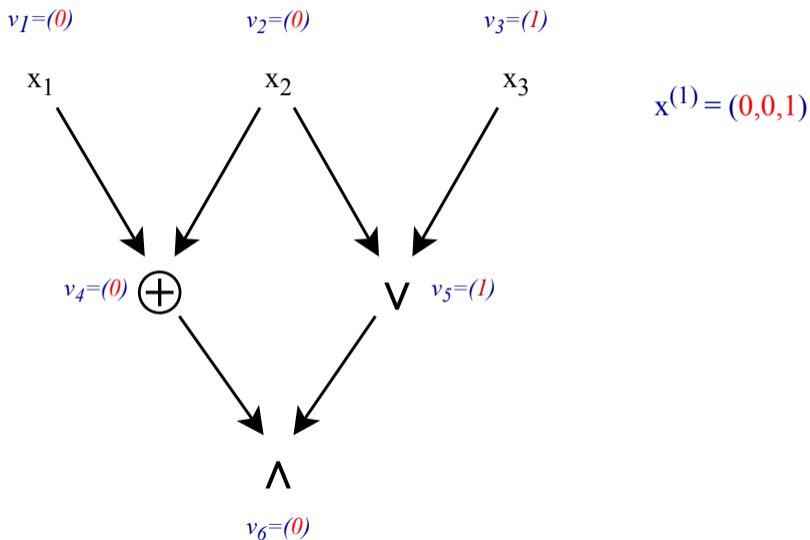
⇒ can be secure only if  
the locations of the shares in the circuit are unknown!

*this work*: exploring this possibility

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  - **Attack Methods**
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# (Generalized) Differential Computation Analysis (DCA)



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$v_1=(0,0)$

$v_2=(0,1)$

$v_3=(1,0)$

$x_1$

$x_2$

$x_3$

$x^{(1)} = (0,0,1)$

$x^{(2)} = (0,1,0)$

$v_4=(0,1)$



$v_5=(1,1)$



$v_6=(0,1)$

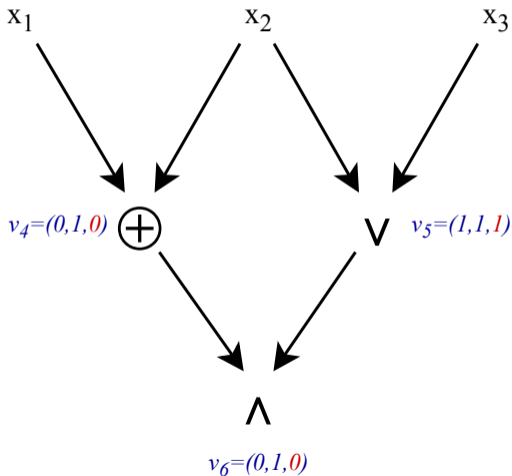


# (Generalized) Differential Computation Analysis (DCA)

$$v_1 = (0, 0, 1)$$

$$v_2 = (0, 1, 1)$$

$$v_3 = (1, 0, 1)$$



$$x^{(1)} = (0, 0, 1)$$

$$x^{(2)} = (0, 1, 0)$$

$$x^{(3)} = (1, 1, 1)$$

# The Linear Algebra Attack

- consider Boolean masking (**linear** decoder)
- matching with a **predictable value**  $s$ :  
a basic linear algebra problem:

$$M \times z = s, \quad M = [v_1 \mid \dots \mid v_n]$$

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- $z$  is the vector indicating **locations** of shares among nodes of the circuit

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higher number of shares does not prevent the attack...

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- matching with a **predictable value**  $s$ :  
a basic linear algebra problem:

$$M \times z = s, \quad M = [v_1 \mid \dots \mid v_n]$$

- $v_i$  is the vector of values computed in a node  $i$  of the circuit
- $z$  is the vector indicating **locations** of shares among nodes of the circuit

higher number of shares does not prevent the attack...

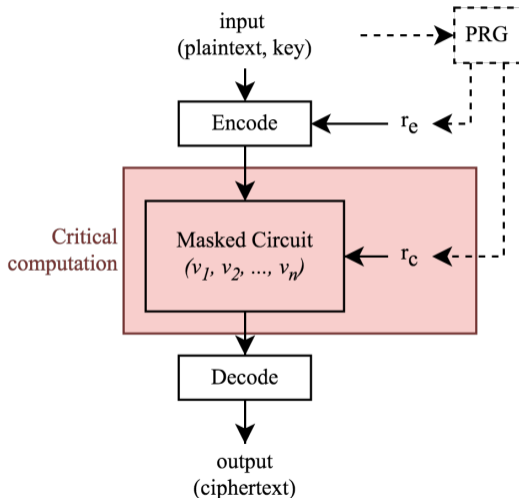
# Plan

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Thesis Overview
- 3 **White-box Cryptography**
  - Introduction
  - Attack Methods
  - **Countermeasures**

# Algebraic Security (1/3)

## Security Model:

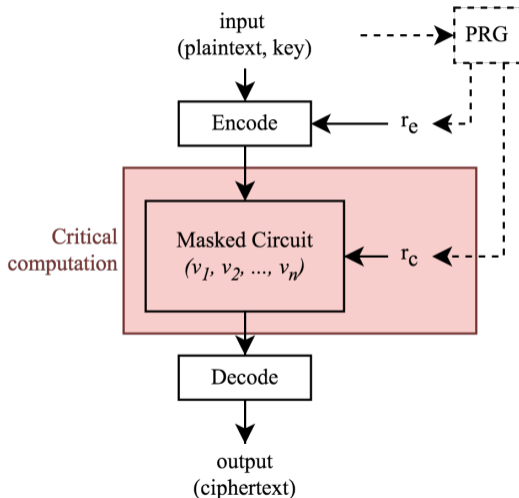
- 1 **random** bits allowed
  - ▶ as in classic masking
  - ▶ model **unpredictability**
  - ▶ in WB impl. as **pseudorandom**



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any  $f \in \text{span}\{v_i\}$  is **unpredictable**

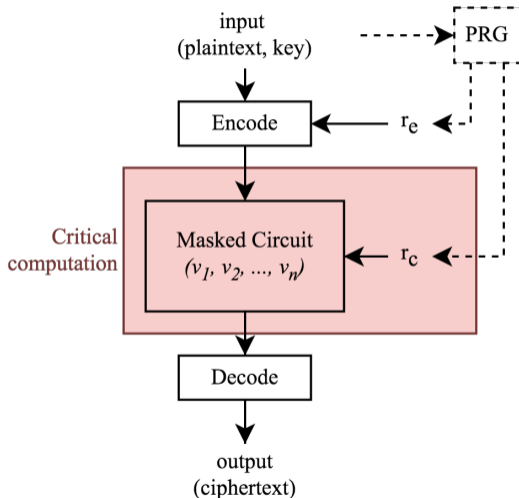




# Algebraic Security (1/3)

## Security Model:

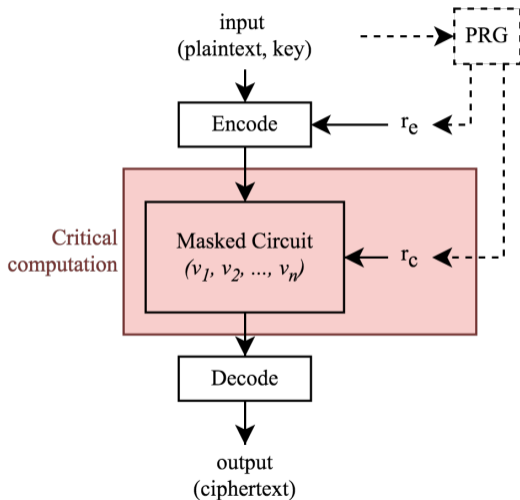
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any  $f \in \text{span}\{v_i\}$  is **unpredictable**
- 3 **isolated** from obfuscation problems



## Algebraic Security (2/3)

Adversary:

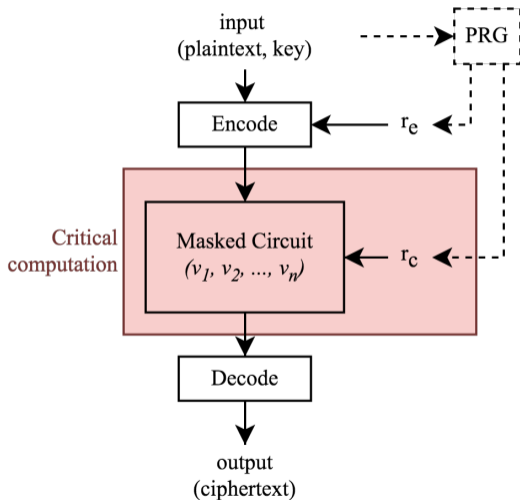
- 1 chooses plaintext/key pairs



## Algebraic Security (2/3)

Adversary:

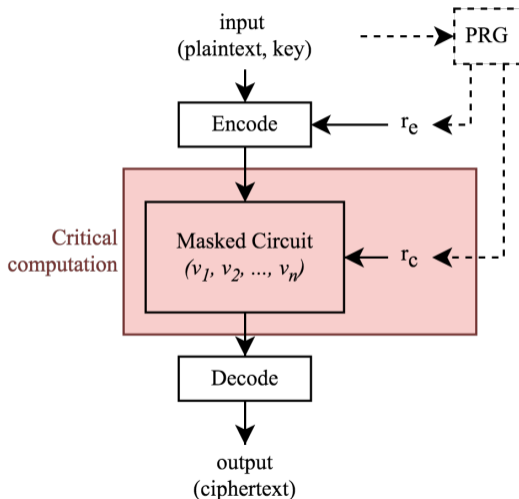
- 1 chooses plaintext/key pairs
- 2 chooses  $f \in \text{span}\{v_i\}$



## Algebraic Security (2/3)

Adversary:

- 1 chooses plaintext/key pairs
- 2 chooses  $f \in \text{span}\{v_i\}$
- 3 tries to **predict** values of this function  
(i.e. before random bits are sampled)



## Algebraic Security (3/3)

### Proposition

Let  $F = \{f(x, \cdot, \cdot) \mid f(x, r_e, r_c) \in \text{span}\{v_i\}, x \in \mathbb{F}_2^N\}$ .

Let  $e = -\log_2(1/2 + \max_{f \in F} \text{bias}(f))$ .

Then for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  choosing  $Q$  inputs

$$\text{Adv}[\mathcal{A}] \leq \min(2^{Q-|r_c|}, 2^{-eQ}).$$

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Let  $k$  be a positive integer. Then for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$

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**Information-theoretic security!**

# Minimalist Quadratic Masking Scheme

## Masking scheme

- **quadratic** decoder:  
 $(a, b, c) \mapsto ab \oplus c$
- set of **gadgets**
- provably secure **composition**

```
function EvalXOR((a, b, c), (d, e, f), (ra, rb, rc), (rd, re, rf))  
  (a, b, c) ← Refresh((a, b, c), (ra, rb, rc))  
  (d, e, f) ← Refresh((d, e, f), (rd, re, rf))  
  x ← a ⊕ d  
  y ← b ⊕ e  
  z ← c ⊕ f ⊕ ae ⊕ bd  
  return (x, y, z)
```

```
function EvalAND((a, b, c), (d, e, f), (ra, rb, rc), (rd, re, rf))  
  (a, b, c) ← Refresh((a, b, c), (ra, rb, rc))  
  (d, e, f) ← Refresh((d, e, f), (rd, re, rf))  
  ma ← bf ⊕ rce  
  md ← ce ⊕ rfb  
  x ← ae ⊕ rf  
  y ← bd ⊕ rc  
  z ← ama ⊕ dmd ⊕ rcrf ⊕ cf  
  return (x, y, z)
```

```
function Refresh((a, b, c), (ra, rb, rc))  
  ma ← ra · (b ⊕ rc)  
  mb ← rb · (a ⊕ rc)  
  rc ← ma ⊕ mb ⊕ (ra ⊕ rc)(rb ⊕ rc) ⊕ rc  
  a ← a ⊕ ra  
  b ← b ⊕ rb  
  c ← c ⊕ rc  
  return (a, b, c)
```



# Minimalist Quadratic Masking Scheme

## Security

- 1 algorithm to verify that bias  $\neq 1/2$
- 2 max. degree on  $r$ : 4

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function EvalXOR((a, b, c), (d, e, f), (ra, rb, rc), (rd, re, rf))  
  (a, b, c) ← Refresh((a, b, c), (ra, rb, rc))  
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  x ← a ⊕ d  
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  z ← c ⊕ f ⊕ ae ⊕ bd  
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  ma ← bf ⊕ rce  
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  x ← ae ⊕ rf  
  y ← bd ⊕ rc  
  z ← ama ⊕ dmd ⊕ rcrf ⊕ cf  
  return (x, y, z)
```

```
function Refresh((a, b, c), (ra, rb, rc))  
  ma ← ra · (b ⊕ rc)  
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  rc ← ma ⊕ mb ⊕ (ra ⊕ rc)(rb ⊕ rc) ⊕ rc  
  a ← a ⊕ ra  
  b ← b ⊕ rb  
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```

# Minimalist Quadratic Masking Scheme

## Security

- 1 algorithm to verify that bias  $\neq 1/2$
- 2 max. degree on  $r$ : 4

$\Rightarrow$  bias  $\leq 7/16$

for 80-bit security  
we need  $|r_c| \geq 940$

```
function EvalXOR((a, b, c), (d, e, f), (r_a, r_b, r_c), (r_d, r_e, r_f))
  (a, b, c) ← Refresh((a, b, c), (r_a, r_b, r_c))
  (d, e, f) ← Refresh((d, e, f), (r_d, r_e, r_f))
  x ← a ⊕ d
  y ← b ⊕ e
  z ← c ⊕ f ⊕ ae ⊕ bd
  return (x, y, z)
```

```
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  (a, b, c) ← Refresh((a, b, c), (r_a, r_b, r_c))
  (d, e, f) ← Refresh((d, e, f), (r_d, r_e, r_f))
  m_a ← bf ⊕ r_c e
  m_d ← ce ⊕ r_f b
  x ← ae ⊕ r_f
  y ← bd ⊕ r_c
  z ← am_a ⊕ dm_d ⊕ r_c r_f ⊕ cf
  return (x, y, z)
```

```
function Refresh((a, b, c), (r_a, r_b, r_c))
  m_a ← r_a · (b ⊕ r_c)
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  r_c ← m_a ⊕ m_b ⊕ (r_a ⊕ r_c)(r_b ⊕ r_c) ⊕ r_c
  a ← a ⊕ r_a
  b ← b ⊕ r_b
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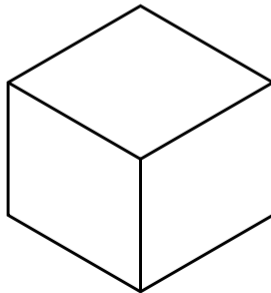
## Proof-of-concept masked AES-128

- ① MQMS + 1-st order Boolean masking
- ② 31,783  $\rightarrow$  2,588,743 gates expansion (x81)
- ③ 16 Mb code / 1 Kb RAM / 0.05s per block on a laptop
- ④ (unoptimized)

[github.com/cryptolu/whitebox](https://github.com/cryptolu/whitebox)

## Conclusions

- 1 new attack methods  $\Rightarrow$  new **constraints** on a white-box impl.
- 2 new results on **provable security** for white-box model
- 3 new links with **side-channel** research



# Design and Cryptanalysis of Symmetric-Key Algorithms in Black and White-box Models

Aleksei Udovenko  
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- Design of Symmetric-key Algorithms
- Structural and Decomposition Cryptanalysis
- Nonlinear Invariant Cryptanalysis
- White-box Cryptography

