

# A geometric approach to symmetric-key cryptanalysis

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KU Leuven

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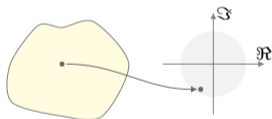
The logo for KU Leuven, consisting of a dark blue rectangle with the text "KU LEUVEN" in white, bold, uppercase letters.

**KU LEUVEN**

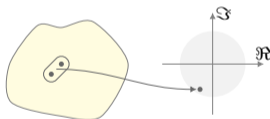
# Overview

## Geometric approach

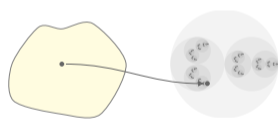
Linear cryptanalysis



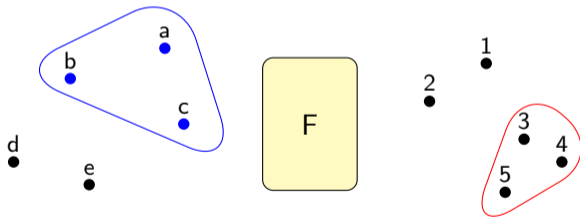
Differential cryptanalysis



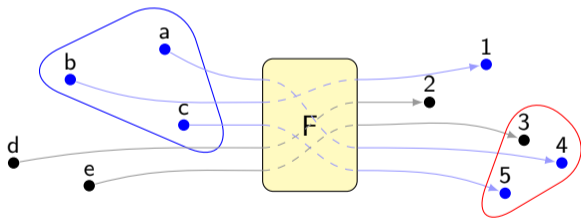
Integral cryptanalysis



# Geometric approach

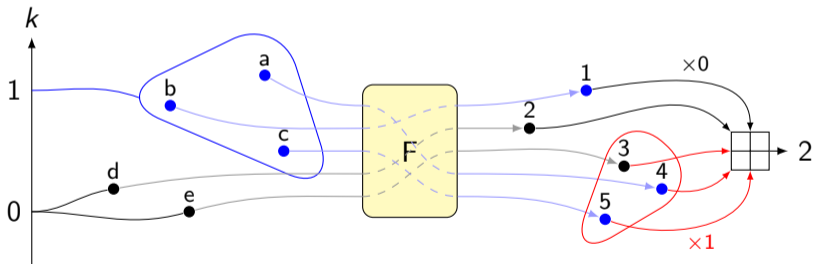


# Geometric approach



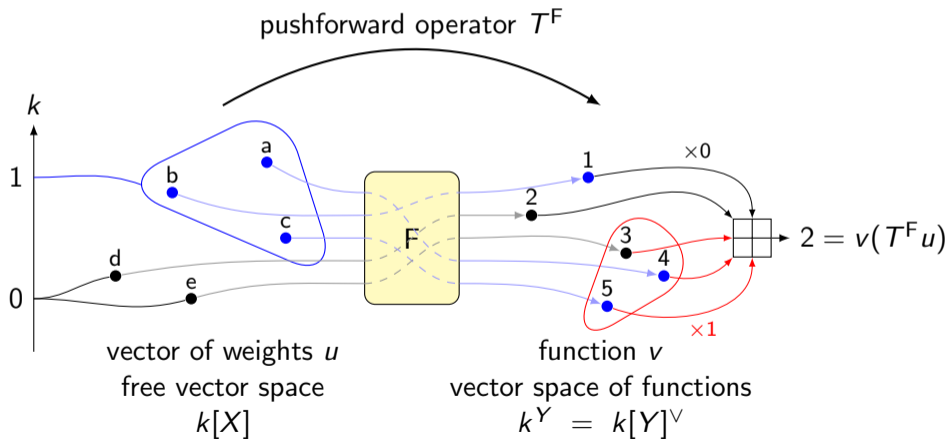
## Geometric approach

- ▶ Assign a weight to every possible input in  $X = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$
- ▶ Compute weighted combinations of the outputs in  $Y = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$



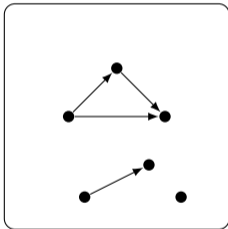
## Geometric approach

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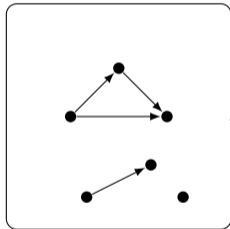
# Geometric approach

Finite sets and functions

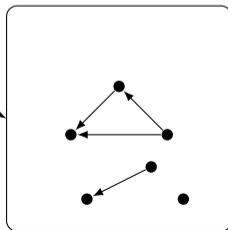


# Geometric approach

Finite sets and functions



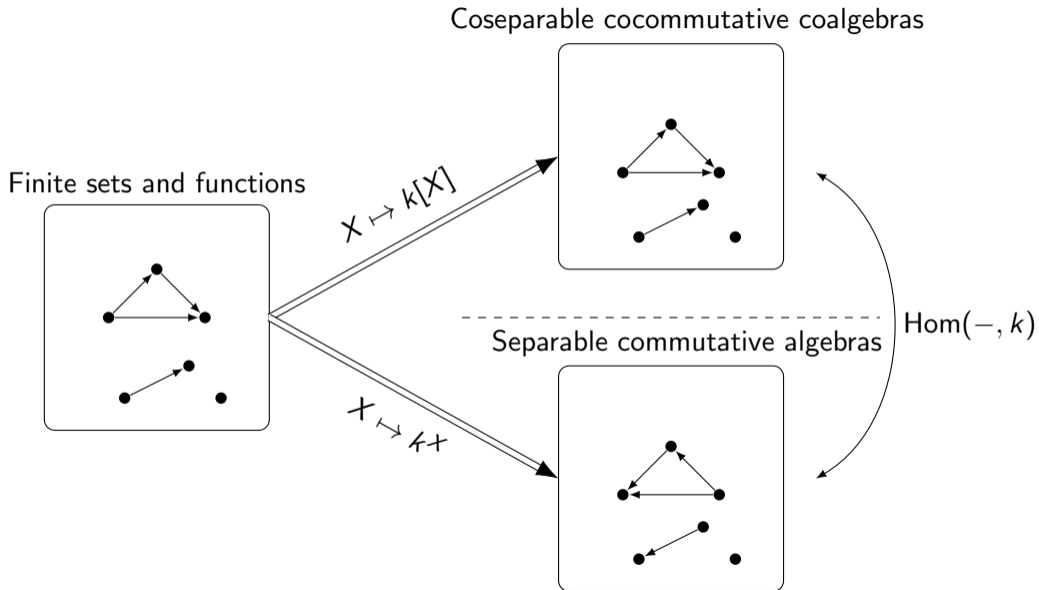
Separable commutative algebras



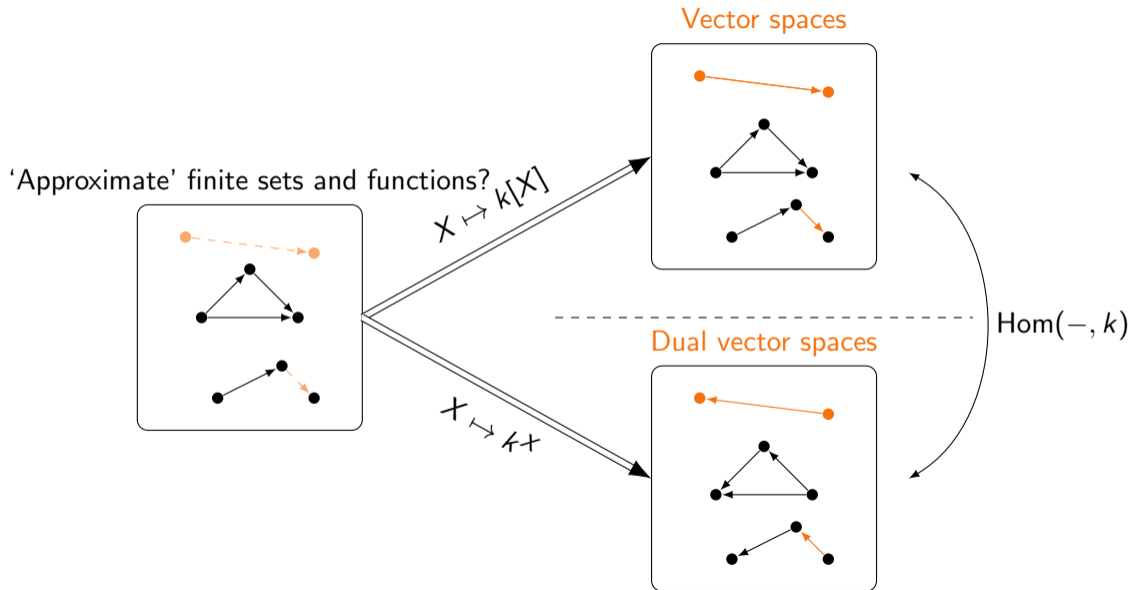
$X \mapsto k[X]$



# Geometric approach



# Geometric approach



## Cryptanalytic properties

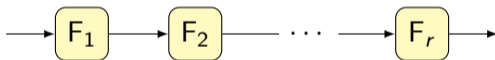
- ▶ Cryptanalytic property of a function  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  consists of
  - A subspace  $U \subset k[X]$
  - A subspace  $V \subset k^Y$
- ▶ Cryptanalysis is about **evaluating** properties:

estimating  $v(T^F u)$  for  $u \in U$  and  $v \in V$

- ▶ These data are equivalent to a map  $U \rightarrow k[Y]/V^0$  or dually  $V \rightarrow k^X/U^0$

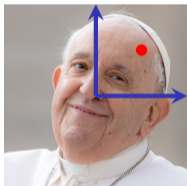
## Pushforward operator

- ▶ Evaluating  $v(T^F u)$  directly is not feasible for real ciphers
- ▶ Iterated structure of  $F$ :

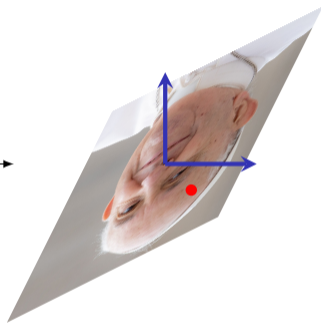


$$T^F = T^{F_r} \dots T^{F_2} T^{F_1}$$

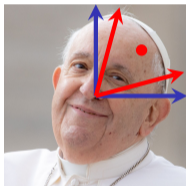
## Change-of-basis



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.15 & -0.58 \\ 0.58 & -1.15 \end{bmatrix}$$



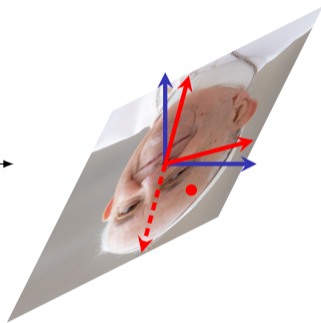
## Change-of-basis



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.15 & -0.58 \\ 0.58 & -1.15 \end{bmatrix}$$

→

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



## Relative pushforward operators

$$T^F \xleftarrow{\text{Change of basis}} B^F$$

$$T^F = T^{F_r} \dots T^{F_2} T^{F_1}$$

$$B^F = B^{F_r} \dots B^{F_2} B^{F_1}$$

- ▶ With the right change of basis, this makes it easier to estimate  $v(T^F u) = \hat{v}(B^F \hat{u})$

## Relative pushforward operators

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- ▶ With the right change of basis, this makes it easier to estimate  $v(T^F u) = \widehat{v}(B^F \widehat{u})$
- ▶ When  $u = b_{\beta_1}$  and  $v = b^{\beta_{r+1}}$  are basis functions:

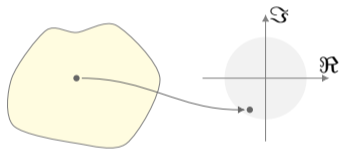
$$b^{\beta_{r+1}}(T^F b_{\beta_1}) = B_{\beta_{r+1}, \beta_1}^F = \sum_{\beta_2, \dots, \beta_r} \prod_{i=1}^r B_{\beta_{i+1}, \beta_i}^{F_i}$$

Trail correlation

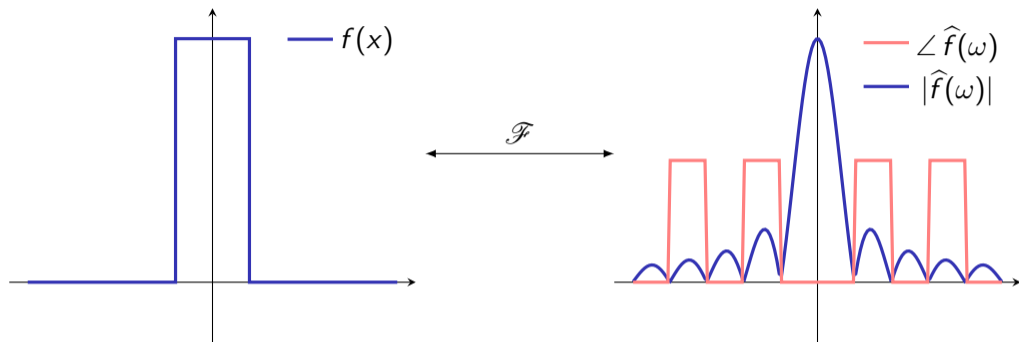
- ▶ A sequence  $(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_{r+1})$  of basis function labels is a 'trail'



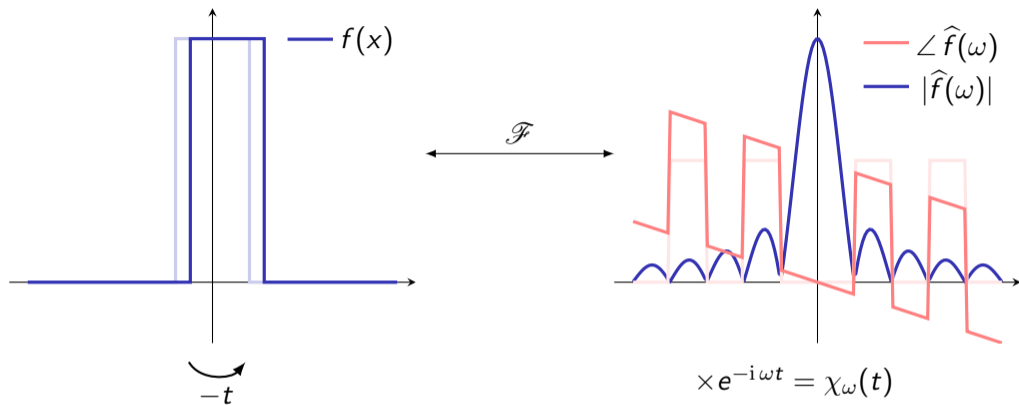
# Linear cryptanalysis



# Fourier transformation



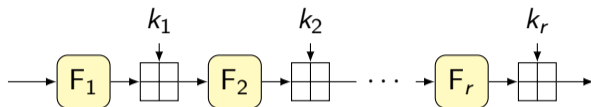
# Fourier transformation



Fourier transformation diagonalizes translation

## Geometric approach to linear cryptanalysis

- ▶ Fourier transformation exists for any finite Abelian group (e.g.  $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ )



$$T^F = T^{k_r} T^{F_r} \dots T^{k_2} T^{F_2} T^{k_1} T^{F_1}$$

$$\Downarrow \mathcal{F}$$

$$C^F = C^{k_r} C^{F_r} \dots C^{k_2} C^{F_2} C^{k_1} C^{F_1}$$

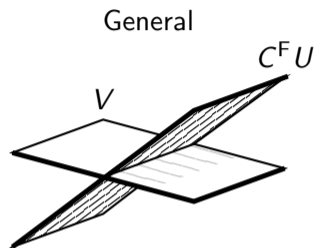
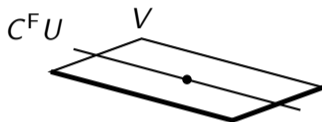
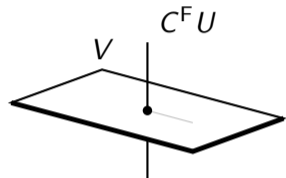
- ▶ Correlation matrices  $C^{F_i}$
- ▶ Expanding the matrix product gives linear trails

$$C_{\chi_{r+1}, \chi_1}^F = \sum_{\chi_2, \dots, \chi_r} \prod_{i=1}^r \chi_{i+1}(k_i) C_{\chi_{i+1}, \chi_i}^{F_i}$$

# Geometric approach to linear cryptanalysis

Zero-correlation

Perfect



$$C^F U \perp V$$

- ▶ Zero-correlation linear approximations
- ▶ Multidimensional  $\sim$

$$C^F U \subseteq V$$

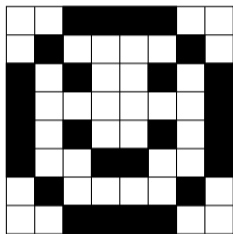
- ▶ Saturation attacks
- ▶ Invariant subspaces
- ▶ Nonlinear invariants

$$\langle V, U \rangle_{\mathbb{F}}$$

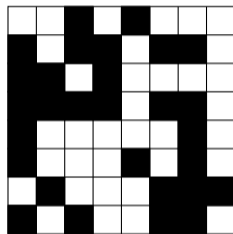
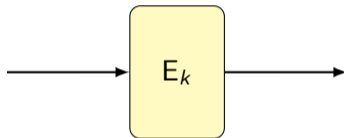
- ▶ (Non)linear approximations
- ▶ Multiple  $\sim$
- ▶ Multidimensional  $\sim$
- ▶ Partitioning

# Invariants

Example: Midori-64\*



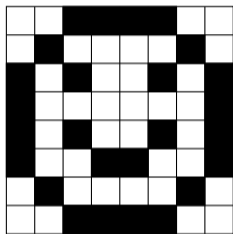
2 3 4 4



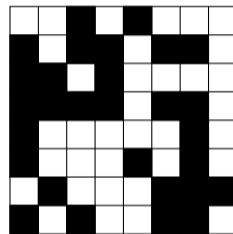
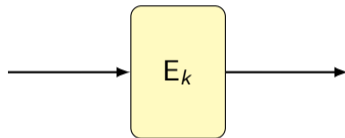
3 3 4 1

# Invariants

Example: Midori-64\*



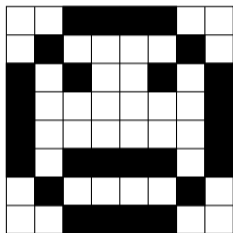
$$2 + 3 + 4 + 4 = \text{odd}$$



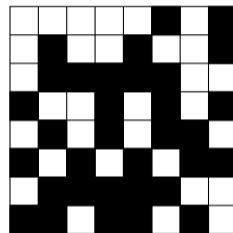
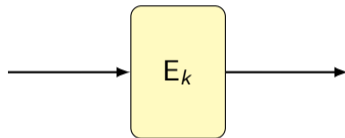
$$3 + 3 + 4 + 1 = \text{odd}$$

# Invariants

Example: Midori-64\*



$$2 + 3 + 4 + 4 = \text{odd}$$
$$2 + 3 + 4 + 4 = \text{odd}$$

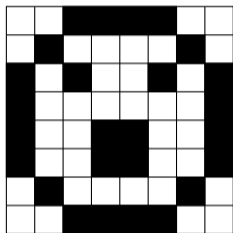


$$3 + 3 + 4 + 1 = \text{odd}$$
$$5 + 5 + 5 + 4 = \text{odd}$$



# Invariants

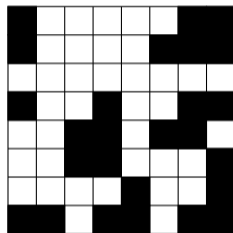
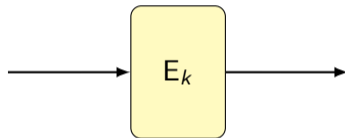
Example: Midori-64\*



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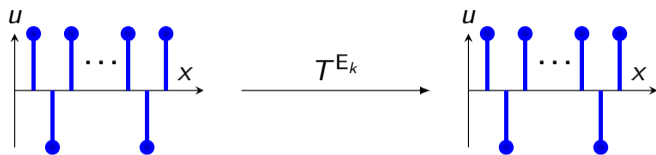


$$3 + 3 + 4 + 1 = \text{odd}$$

$$5 + 5 + 5 + 4 = \text{odd}$$

$$1 + 4 + 2 + 6 = \text{odd}$$

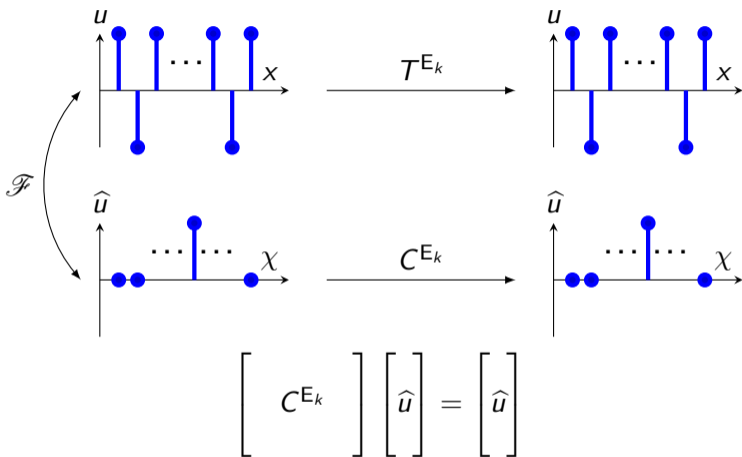
# Invariants




$$\begin{bmatrix} T^{E_k} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u \end{bmatrix}$$

invariants are eigenvectors

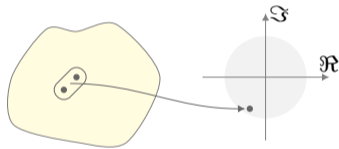
# Invariants



invariants are eigenvectors

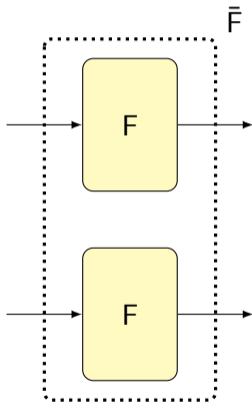
 <https://eprint.iacr.org/2018/763>

# Differential cryptanalysis



## Pairs of values

- ▶ Assign weights (complex numbers) to all pairs of values

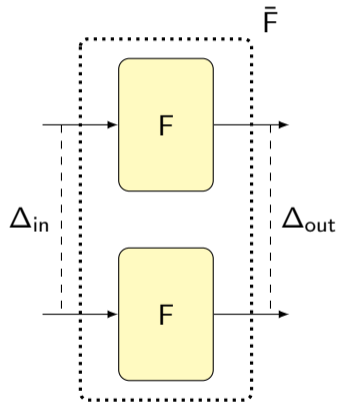


$$T^{\bar{F}} = T^F \otimes T^F$$

pushforward operator for pairs

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- ▶ Assign weights (complex numbers) to all pairs of values

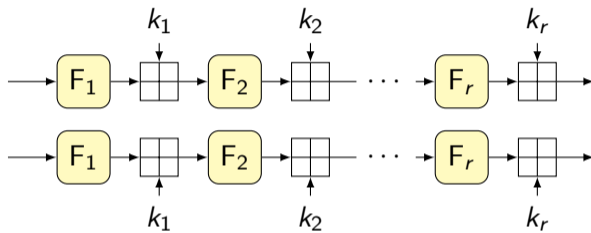


$$T^{\bar{F}} = T^F \otimes T^F$$

pushforward operator for pairs

## Geometric approach to differential cryptanalysis

- ▶ Quasidifferential basis functions  $(x, y) \mapsto \chi(x)\delta_a(y - x)$



$$T^{\bar{F}} = T^{\bar{k}_r} T^{\bar{F}_r} \dots T^{\bar{k}_2} T^{\bar{F}_2} T^{\bar{k}_1} T^{\bar{F}_1}$$

$$\Updownarrow \mathcal{Q}$$

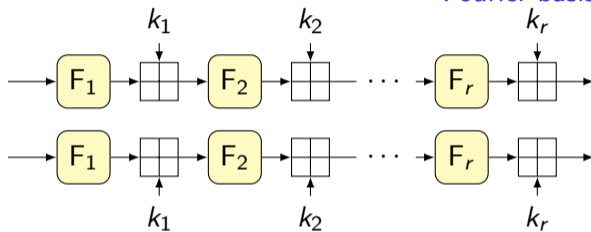
$$D^F = D^{k_r} D^{F_r} \dots D^{k_2} D^{F_2} D^{k_1} D^{F_1}$$

# Geometric approach to differential cryptanalysis

- ▶ Quasidifferential basis functions  $(x, y) \mapsto \chi(x)\delta_a(y - x)$

Constant-difference pairs


Fourier basis



$$T^{\bar{F}} = T^{\bar{k}_r} T^{\bar{F}_r} \dots T^{\bar{k}_2} T^{\bar{F}_2} T^{\bar{k}_1} T^{\bar{F}_1}$$

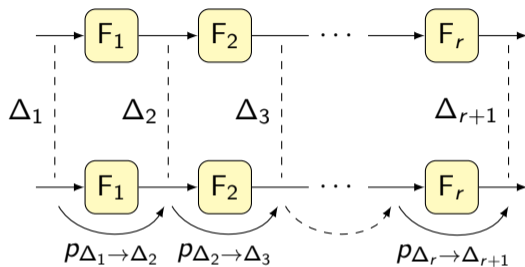
$$\Updownarrow \mathcal{Q}$$

$$D^F = D^{k_r} D^{F_r} \dots D^{k_2} D^{F_2} D^{k_1} D^{F_1}$$

 <https://eprint.iacr.org/2022/837> (with V. Rijmen)

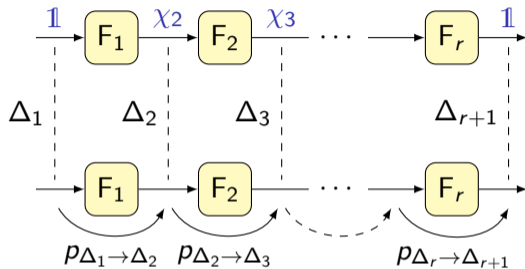


## Independence assumptions



$$\text{probability} = \sum_{\Delta_2, \dots, \Delta_r} p_{\Delta_1 \rightarrow \Delta_2} \times p_{\Delta_2 \rightarrow \Delta_3} \times \dots \times p_{\Delta_r \rightarrow \Delta_{r+1}}$$

## Independence assumptions



$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{probability} &= \sum_{\Delta_2, \dots, \Delta_r} \cancel{p_{\Delta_1 \rightarrow \Delta_2} \times p_{\Delta_2 \rightarrow \Delta_3} \times \dots \times p_{\Delta_r \rightarrow \Delta_{r+1}}} \\
 &= \sum_{\substack{\Delta_2, \dots, \Delta_r \\ \chi_2, \dots, \chi_r}} D_{(\chi_2, \Delta_2), (\mathbb{1}, \Delta_1)}^{F_1} \times D_{(\chi_3, \Delta_3), (\chi_2, \Delta_2)}^{F_2} \times \dots \times D_{(\mathbb{1}, \Delta_{r+1}), (\chi_r, \Delta_r)}^{F_r}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Quasidifferential trails

Example: SPEEDY

- ▶ *Better Steady than Speedy: Full Break of SPEEDY-7-192* (Eurocrypt 2023)  
Boura, David, Boissier, Naya-Plasencia
- ▶ Four-round core-characteristic with claimed probability  $2^{-42}$


# Quasidifferential trails

## Example: SPEEDY

- ▶ *Better Steady than Speedy: Full Break of SPEEDY-7-192* (Eurocrypt 2023)  
Boura, David, Boissier, Naya-Plasencia
- ▶ Four-round core-characteristic with claimed probability  $2^{-42}$
- ▶ Inspection of quasidifferential trails shows that the probability is actually

$$2^{-42} - 2^{-42} = 0$$

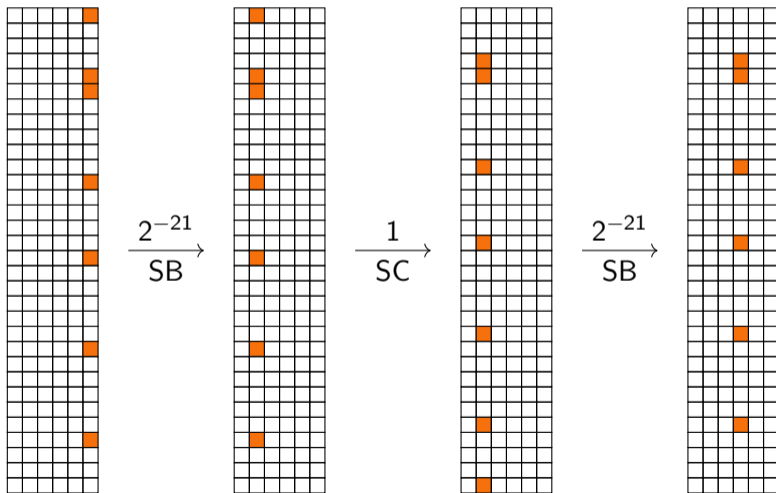
- ▶ Many other invalid attacks on SPEEDY in other papers

 <https://eprint.iacr.org/2024/262> (with A. Neyt)

# Quasidifferential trails

Example: SPEEDY

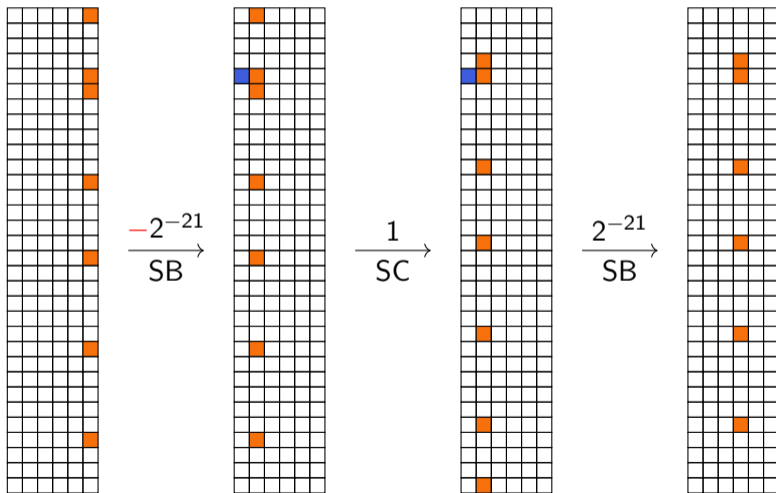
- ▶ First quasidifferential trail for SPEEDY: correlation  $2^{-42}$



# Quasidifferential trails

Example: SPEEDY

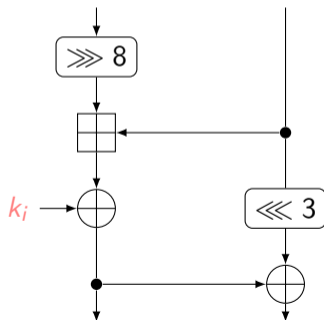
- ▶ Second quasidifferential trail for SPEEDY: correlation  $-2^{-42}$



## Quasidifferential trails

### Example: 7-round Speck-64

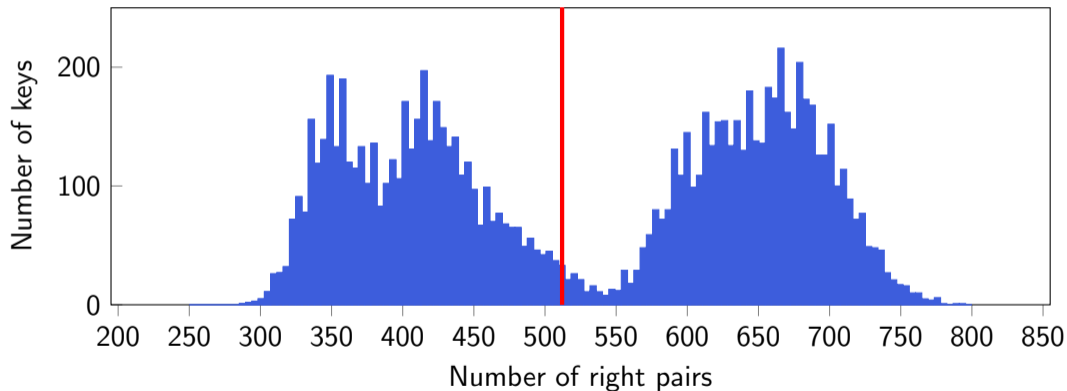
- ▶ Ankele and Kölbl (SAC 2018)
- ▶ Differential (4004092 104204, 8080a080 8481a4a) for 7-round Speck-64
- ▶ Dominant characteristic estimated probability  $2^{-21}$



# Quasidifferential trails

Example: 7-round Speck-64

4004092 1042004  $\xrightarrow{\text{Probability } 2^{-21?}}$  8080a080 8481a4a



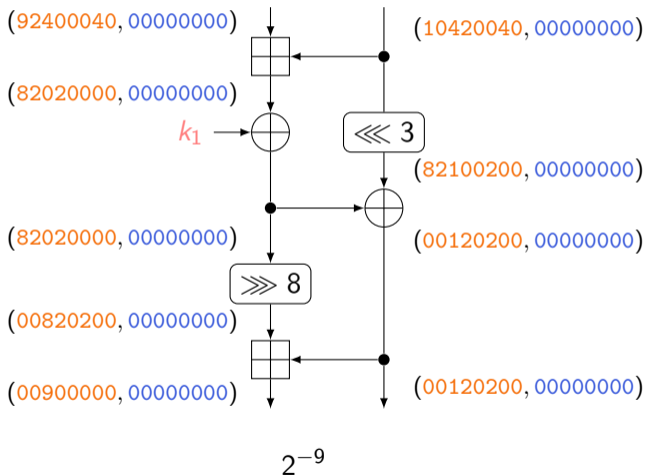
► 10000 keys,  $2^{30}$  pairs per key



# Quasidifferential trails

## Example: 7-round Speck-64

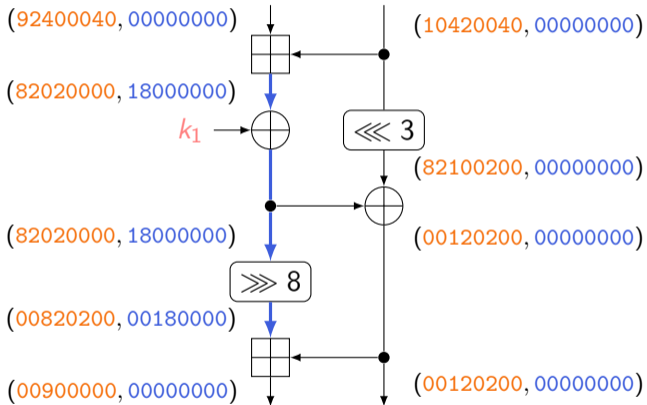
- ▶ Quasidifferential trails over the first two rounds



# Quasidifferential trails

## Example: 7-round Speck-64

- ▶ Quasidifferential trails over the first two rounds

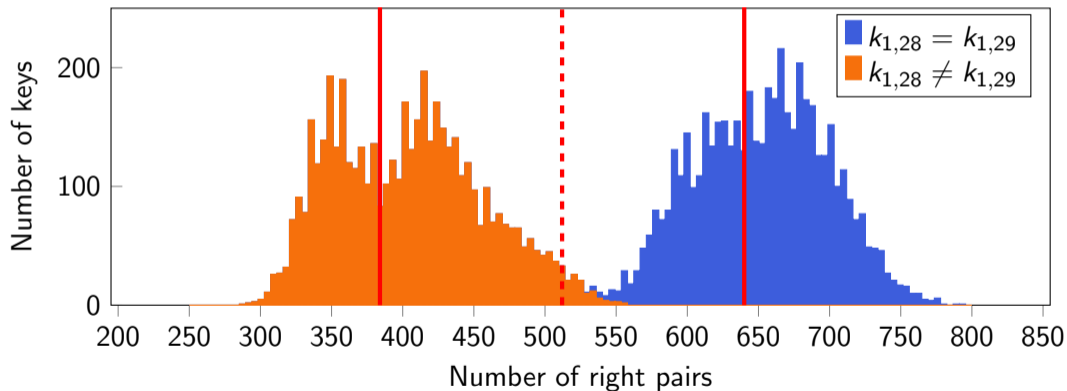


$$2^{-9} + (-1)^{k_{1,28} + k_{1,29}} 2^{-11}$$

# Differential cryptanalysis

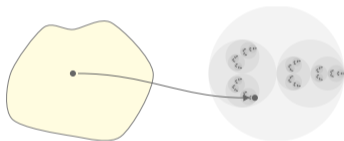
## Example: 7-round Speck-64

4004092 1042004  $\xrightarrow{\text{Probability } 2^{-21} + (-1)^{k_{1,28}+k_{1,29}} 2^{-23}}$  8080a080 8481a4a



- ▶ 10000 keys,  $2^{30}$  pairs per key

# Integral cryptanalysis

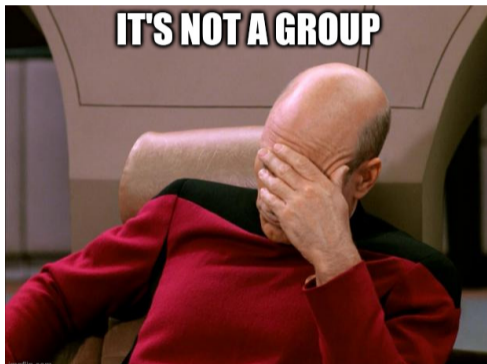


## Geometric approach to integral cryptanalysis

- ▶ The Fourier transformation simplifies additions  
What about multiplications?

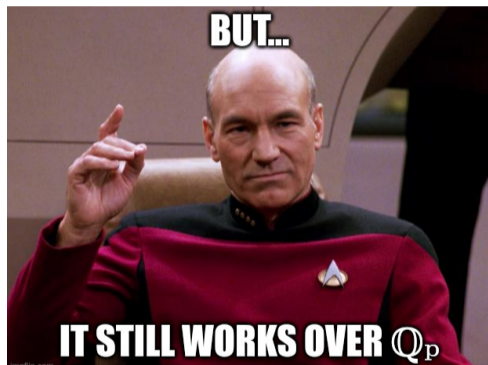
## Geometric approach to integral cryptanalysis

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## Geometric approach to integral cryptanalysis

- ▶ The Fourier transformation simplifies additions  
What about multiplications?



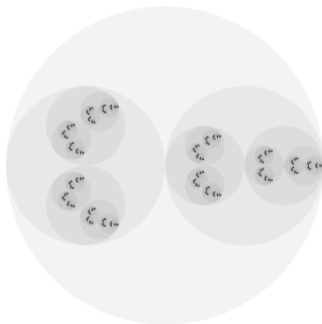
- ▶ Use weights in the  $p$ -adic numbers  $\mathbb{Q}_p$
- ⊕ 'Multiplicative' Fourier transformation that still preserves distances  
... for some definition of distance

## $p$ -adic numbers

- ▶  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  contains the integers, but with a different distance:

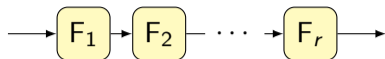
$$\text{distance between 7 and 1} = |7 - 1|_2 = |6|_2 = 1/2$$

$$\text{distance between 9 and 1} = |9 - 1|_2 = |8|_2 = 1/8$$





## Geometric approach to integral cryptanalysis




$$T^F = T^{F_r} \dots T^{F_2} T^{F_1}$$

$$\Updownarrow \mathcal{U}$$

$$A^F = A^{F_r} \dots A^{F_2} A^{F_1}$$

- ▶ Expanding the matrix product gives trails

$$A_{\chi_{r+1}, \chi_1}^F = \sum_{\chi_2, \dots, \chi_r} \prod_{i=1}^r A_{\chi_{i+1}, \chi_i}^{F_i}$$

 <https://eprint.iacr.org/2024/722> (with M. Verbauwhe)

# Ultrametric integral cryptanalysis

- ▶ For  $\mathbb{F}_q^n$  with  $\mu : x \mapsto \tau(x^u)$  and  $\lambda : x \mapsto \tau(x^v)$ :

$$A_{\lambda, \mu}^F \equiv \text{coefficient of } x^u \text{ in the algebraic normal form of } F^v \pmod{p}$$

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- ▶ ‘Approximate’ zero-correlation properties

$$A_{\chi_{r+1}, \chi_1}^F = \sum_{\chi_2, \dots, \chi_r} \prod_{i=1}^r A_{\chi_{i+1}, \chi_i}^{F_i} \approx 0$$

Divisible by  $p^N$

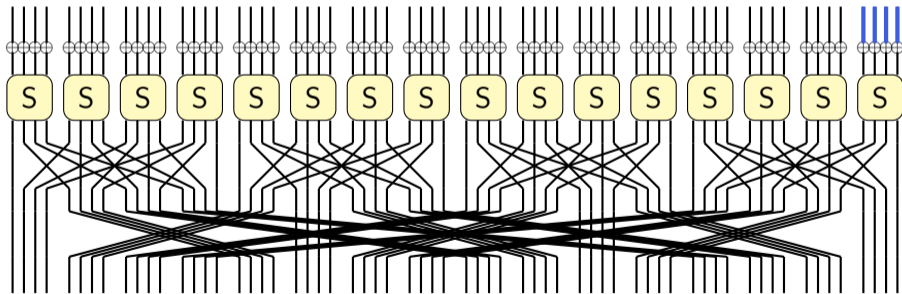
- ▶ Ordinary integral cryptanalysis: take  $p = 2$  and  $N = 1$

# Ultrametric integral cryptanalysis

## Example: 4-round Present

- ▶ Boura and Canteaut (Crypto 2016)

$$\sum_{x \rightsquigarrow 0000000000000000f} \tau(F_2(x)) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

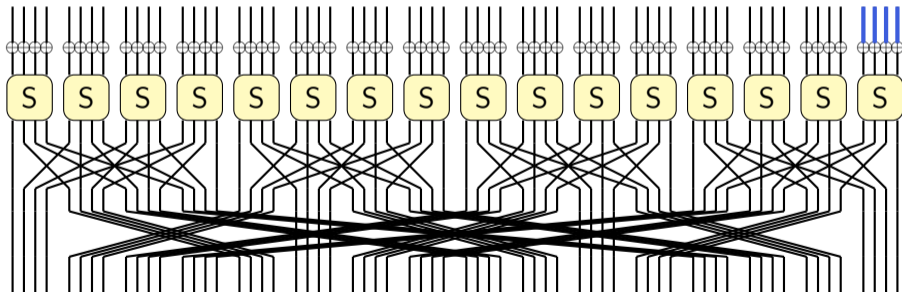


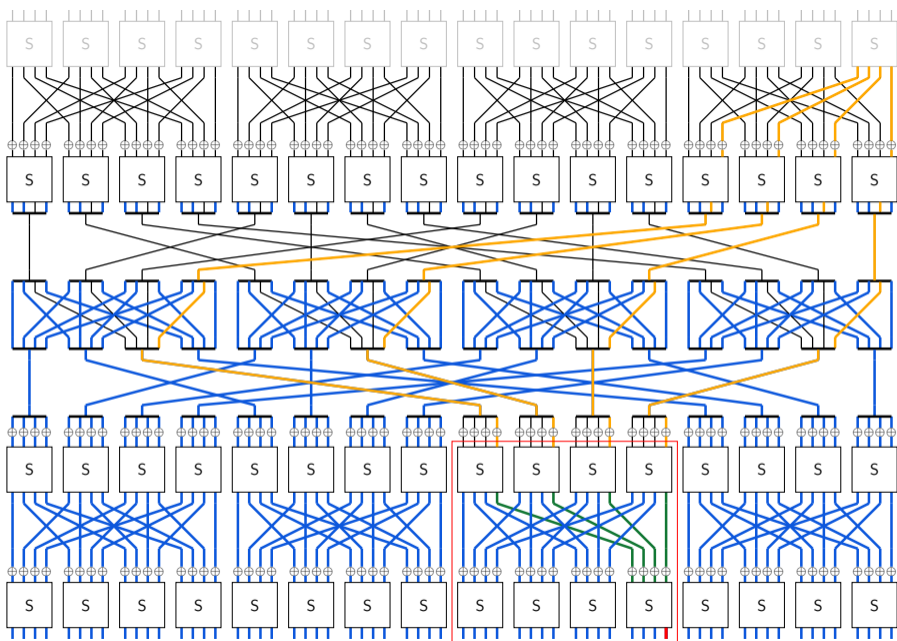
# Ultrametric integral cryptanalysis

## Example: 4-round Present

- ▶ Boura and Canteaut (Crypto 2016)

$$\sum_{x \rightsquigarrow 0000000000000000f} \tau(F_2(x)) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$$





# Ultrametric integral cryptanalysis

## Example from mathematics: planar functions

- ▶ A function  $F : \mathbb{F}_{p^n} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$  is called planar if

$$x \mapsto F(x + \alpha) - F(x)$$

is a permutation for all  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}^\times$

- ▶ Dembowski-Ostrom conjecture: if  $F$  is planar, then  $\deg_p F = 2$  (for  $p > 3$ )

# Ultrametric integral cryptanalysis

## Example from mathematics: planar functions

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- ▶ Dembowski-Ostrom conjecture: if  $F$  is planar, then  $\deg_p F = 2$  (for  $p > 3$ )
- ▶ Theorem (with C. Beierle): If  $F$  is planar, then for all nonzero  $G : \mathbb{F}_{p^n} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ ,

$$\deg_p G \circ F - \deg_p G \leq \frac{n(p-1)}{2}$$

- ▶ We show this implies the conjecture for  $F(x) = x^d$  and  $n = 2^k$  and  $p \geq 7$



# Ultrametric integral cryptanalysis


## Example from mathematics: planar functions

- ▶ Planarity is additive:  $|C_{\chi,\psi}^F| = 1/\sqrt{p^n}$  for nontrivial  $\chi$
- ▶ Degree is multiplicative:  $A_{\mu,\lambda}^F \pmod{p}$  contains the algebraic normal form of  $F$
- ▶  $C^F$  and  $A^F$  represent the same linear map

$$C^F = (\mathcal{F}\mathcal{U}^{-1})A^F(\mathcal{F}\mathcal{U}^{-1})^{-1}$$

- ▶  $p$ -adic absolute value

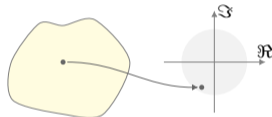
$$|A_{\mu,\lambda}^F|_p \leq p^{\frac{\deg \mu - \deg \lambda}{p-1}} \max_{\chi,\psi \neq 1} \underbrace{|C_{\chi,\psi}^F|_p}_{\sqrt{p^n}}$$

 <https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.04570> (with C. Beierle)

# Conclusions

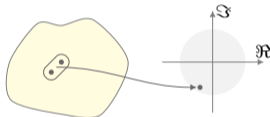
## Geometric approach

Linear cryptanalysis



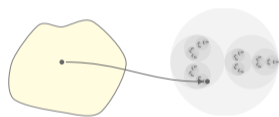
Fourier basis

Differential cryptanalysis





Quasidifferential basis

Integral cryptanalysis



Ultrametric basis

 <https://tim.cryptanalysis.info/>

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