

# Higher-order Differential Properties for Keccak and Luffa

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 New bound on the degree of iterated permutations
- 3 Application to two SHA-3 candidates
  - Keccak
  - Luffa
- 4 Conclusions

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## Objective of this paper

- Study the algebraic degree of some hash function proposals and of their inner primitives.
- Use these results to construct higher-order differential distinguishers and zero-sum structures.

## Previous work (related with the SHA-3 competition)

- Zero-sum Distinguishers for Keccak, Luffa and Hamsi.  
[Aumasson-Meier 09, Aumasson et al. 09, Boura-Canteaut 10]
- Higher-order differential attack on Luffa v1. [Watanabe et al. 10]

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## Question

How to estimate the algebraic degree of an iterated permutation after  $r$  rounds?

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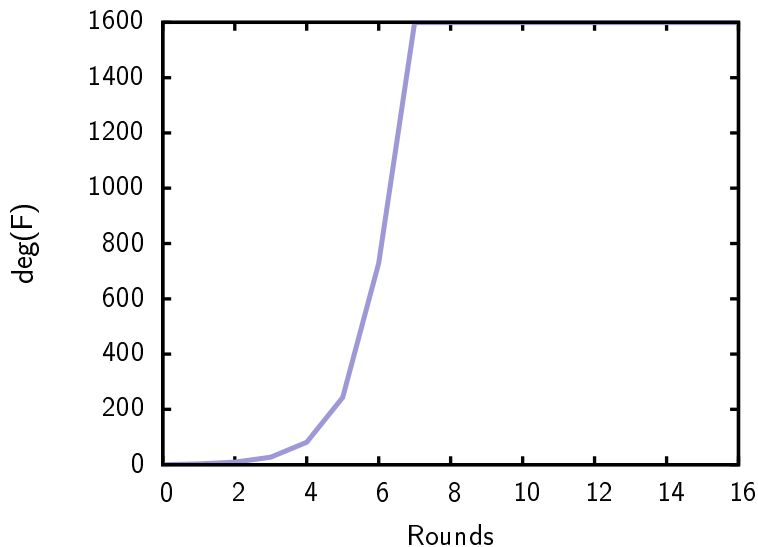
$$\deg(G \circ F) \leq \deg G \deg F$$

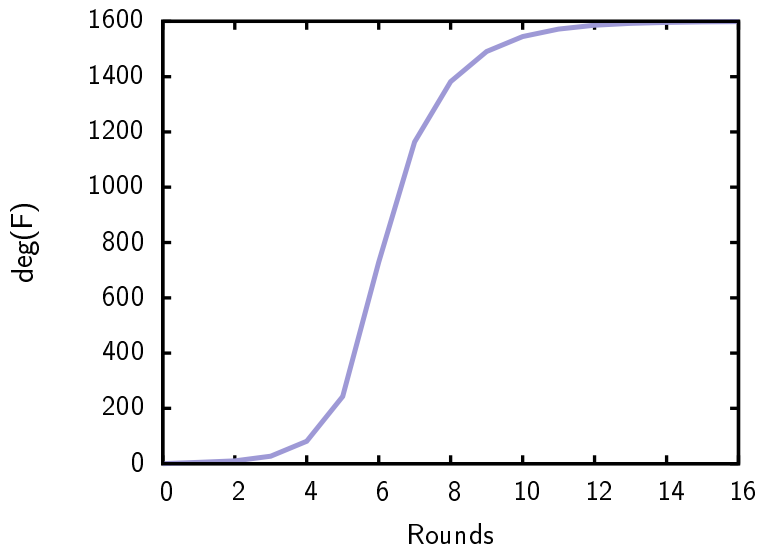
[Canteaut-Videau 02]: **Improvement** when the Walsh spectrum of  $F$  is divisible by a high power of 2.

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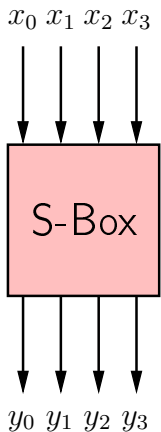


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## Question

If  $S$  is **balanced**, what is the degree of the product of  $k$  coordinates of  $S$ ?

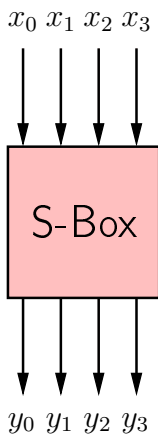


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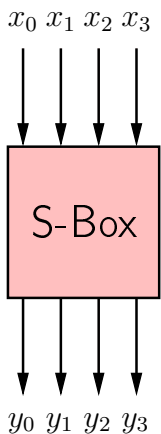
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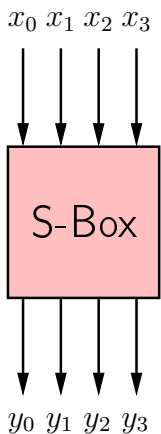
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$k$	$\delta_k$
1	3

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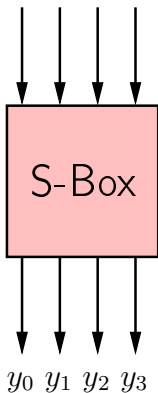
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3	3

$x_0 \ x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3$ 

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## Definition

$\delta_k$  : maximum degree of the product of  $k$  coordinates of  $S$

$k$	$\delta_k$
1	3
2	3
3	3
4	4

$F$  permutation of  $\mathbb{F}_2^n$ :  
 $\delta_k = n$  iff  $k = n$ .

## The new bound

**Theorem.** Let  $F$  be a function from  $\mathbb{F}_2^n$  into  $\mathbb{F}_2^n$  corresponding to the concatenation of  $m$  smaller Sboxes,  $S_1, \dots, S_m$ , defined over  $\mathbb{F}_2^{n_0}$ . Then, for any function  $G$  from  $\mathbb{F}_2^n$  into  $\mathbb{F}_2^\ell$ , we have

$$\deg(G \circ F) \leq n - \frac{n - \deg(G)}{\gamma},$$

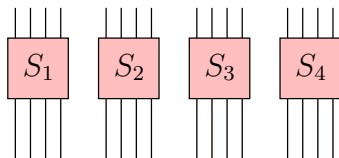
where

$$\gamma = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n_0-1} \frac{n_0 - i}{n_0 - \delta_i}.$$

Most notably, if all Sboxes are balanced, we have

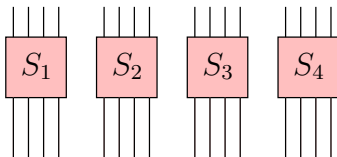
$$\deg(G \circ F) \leq n - \frac{n - \deg(G)}{n_0 - 1}.$$





## Problem

Multiply  $d$  output bits from  $S_1, S_2, S_3, S_4$  in such a way that the degree of their product  $\pi$ ,  $\deg(\pi)$  is maximized.

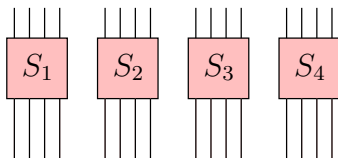


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Multiply  $d$  output bits from  $S_1, S_2, S_3, S_4$  in such a way that the **degree** of their product  $\pi$ ,  $\deg(\pi)$  is **maximized**.

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$x_i = \#$  Sboxes for which exactly  $i$  coordinates are involved in  $\pi$ .



## Problem

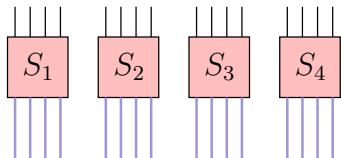
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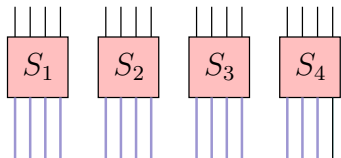
$x_i = \#$  Sboxes for which exactly  $i$  coordinates are involved in  $\pi$ .

$$\deg(\pi) \leq \max_{(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)} (\delta_1 x_1 + \delta_2 x_2 + \delta_3 x_3 + \delta_4 x_4)$$

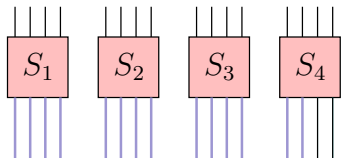
with  $x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 + 4x_4 = d$ .



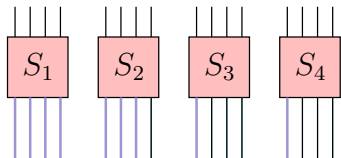
$d$	$x_4$	$x_3$	$x_2$	$x_1$	$\deg(\pi)$
16	4	-	-	-	16
15					
14					
13					
12					
11					
10					
9					
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$



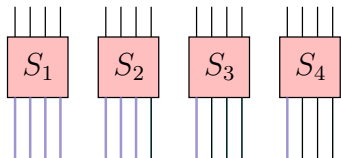
$d$	$x_4$	$x_3$	$x_2$	$x_1$	$\deg(\pi)$
16	4	-	-	-	16
15	3	1	-	-	15
14					
13					
12					
11					
10					
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$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$



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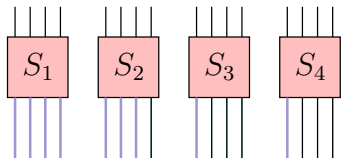
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<b>14</b>	3	-	1	-	15
<b>13</b>	3	-	-	1	15
<b>12</b>	2	1	-	1	14
<b>11</b>	2	-	1	1	14
<b>10</b>	2	-	-	2	14
<b>9</b>	1	1	-	2	13
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$



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$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$

$$16 - \deg(\pi) \geq \frac{16 - d}{3}$$





$d$	$x_4$	$x_3$	$x_2$	$x_1$	$\deg(\pi)$
16	4	-	-	-	16
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$$\deg(\pi) \leq 16 - \frac{16 - d}{3}$$

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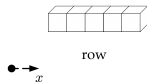
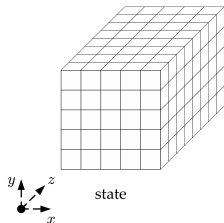
## Keccak [Bertoni-Daemen-Peeters-Van Assche 08]

## 3rd round SHA-3 candidate

Sponge construction

Keccak- $f$  Permutation

- 1600-bit state, seen as a 3-dimensional  $5 \times 5 \times 64$  matrix
- 24 rounds  $R$
- **Nonlinear layer**: 320 parallel applications of a  $5 \times 5$  S-box  $\chi$
- $\deg \chi = 2$ ,  $\deg \chi^{-1} = 3$



# Zero-Sums and Zero-sum Partitions

- For **block ciphers** (known-key attack) [Knudsen - Rijmen 07]
- For **hash functions** [Aumasson - Meier 09, Boura - Canteaut 10]

## Definition [Zero-Sum]

Let  $F : \mathbb{F}_2^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2^n$ .

A **zero-sum** for  $F$  of **size**  $K$  is a subset  $\{x_1, \dots, x_K\} \subset \mathbb{F}_2^n$  such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^K x_i = \sum_{i=1}^K F(x_i) = 0.$$

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## Definition [Zero-sum Partition]

Let  $P$  be a permutation from  $\mathbb{F}_2^n$  into  $\mathbb{F}_2^n$ . A **zero-sum partition** for  $P$  of **size**  $K = 2^k$  is a collection of  $2^{n-k}$  disjoint zero-sums.

The new bound applied on Keccak- $f$ 

Let  $R$  be the round function of Keccak- $f$  and  $R^{-1}$  its inverse.

For any  $F$ ,

$$\deg(F \circ R) \leq 1600 - \frac{1600 - \deg(F)}{3}$$

$$\deg(F \circ R^{-1}) \leq 1600 - \frac{1600 - \deg(F)}{3}$$

**Observation** [Duan-Lai 11] For  $\chi^{-1} : \delta_2 = 3$

Then,

$$\deg(F \circ R^{-1}) \leq 1600 - \frac{1600 - \deg(F)}{2}$$

$r$	$\deg(R^r)$	$\deg(R^{-r})$
1	2	3
2	4	9
3	8	27
4	16	81
5	32	243
6	64	729
7	128	<b>1164</b>
8	256	<b>1382</b>
9	512	<b>1491</b>
10	1024	<b>1545</b>
11	<b>1408</b>	<b>1572</b>
12	<b>1536</b>	<b>1586</b>
13	<b>1578</b>	<b>1593</b>
14	<b>1592</b>	<b>1596</b>
15	<b>1597</b>	<b>1598</b>
16	<b>1599</b>	<b>1599</b>

# Zero-Sum Partitions for the full Keccak- $f$ (24 rounds)

Starting with any collection of 315 rows after the linear layer in the 12-th round, we get

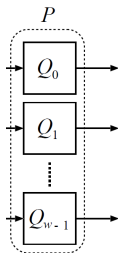
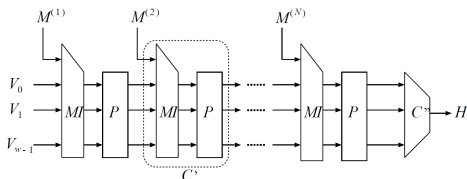
zero-sum partitions of size  $2^{1575}$

for the full Keccak- $f$  permutation.



## Luffa [De Cannière, Sato and Watanabe 08]

- “Sponge-like” construction;
- Linear message injection function  $MI$ ;
- Permutation  $P$ , splitted into  $w$  parallel 256-bit permutations  $Q_0, \dots, Q_{w-1}$ ;
- $Q_j$  : 8-round permutation. Every round called **Step**;



The **Step** function:

- **SubCrumb**: 64 parallel  $4 \times 4$  Sboxes of degree 3;
- **MixWord**: Linear layer mixing the 32-bit words two by two.

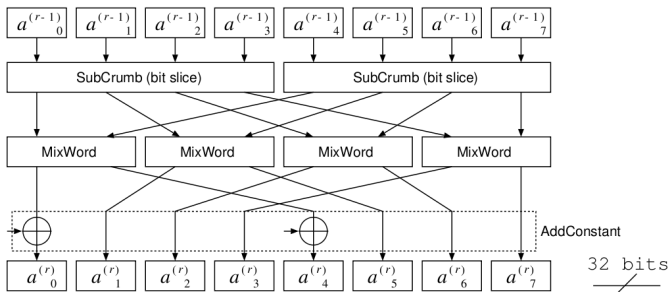


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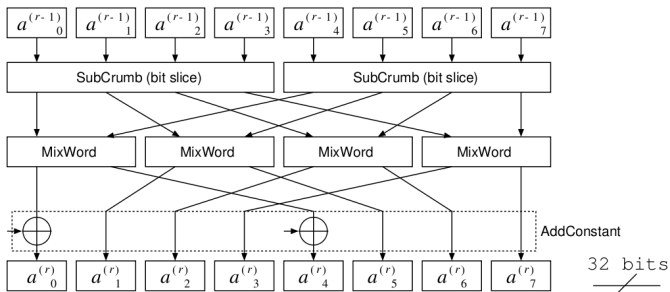


Figure: The Step function

**Different Sbox for Luffa v1 and Luffa v2!**

Bound on the degree of  $Q_j$  for Luffa v1

For  $r \leq 5$ , bound by Watanabe et al.

$r$	$\deg x^r$
1	3
2	8
3	20
4	51
5	130

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$r$	$\deg x^r$
1	3
2	8
3	20
4	51
5	130
6	214
7	242
8	251

For  $r \geq 6$ , we apply,

$$\deg(\text{Step}^{r+1}) \leq \frac{512 + \deg(\text{Step}^r)}{3}$$

# Higher-order differentials for the Luffa v1 hash function

- **Degree** of Luffa v1 hash function, applied to 256-bit messages is at most **251**.
- Distinguisher for **full** Luffa v1 with  $2^{240}$  1-block messages.

**Improvement** of the previous attack applied to Luffa v1 reduced to 7 steps out of 8. [Watanabe et al. 10]

## An observation on the Sbox of Luffa v2

$$\begin{aligned}
 y_0 &= 1 + x_0 + x_1 + x_1x_2 + x_0x_3 + x_1x_3 + \mathbf{x_0x_1x_3} + \mathbf{x_0x_2x_3} \\
 y_1 &= x_0 + x_3 + x_0x_1 + x_1x_2 + x_0x_3 + x_1x_3 + \mathbf{x_0x_1x_3} + \mathbf{x_0x_2x_3} \\
 y_2 &= 1 + x_1 + x_3 + x_0x_2 + x_1x_2 + x_1x_3 + x_2x_3 + \mathbf{x_0x_1x_2} + \mathbf{x_0x_1x_3} \\
 y_3 &= 1 + x_1 + x_2 + x_0x_3 + x_0x_2 + x_1x_2 + x_1x_3 + x_2x_3 + \mathbf{x_0x_1x_2} \\
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$$d = y_0 + y_1 + y_2 + y_3 = 1 + x_1 + x_2 + x_0x_1 + x_0x_3$$



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 &+ \mathbf{x_0x_1x_3}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$d = y_0 + y_1 + y_2 + y_3 = 1 + x_1 + x_2 + x_0x_1 + x_0x_3$$

The sum of the four coordinates is of degree 2!

Algebraic degree of the  $Q_j$  permutation

Sum of 2 distinct monomials of degree 3 in 4 variables,  $x_i, x_j, x_k, x_\ell$ , where  $d = x_i + x_j + x_k + x_\ell$ :

$$x_i x_j x_k + x_i x_j x_\ell = x_i x_j x_k + x_i x_j (x_i + x_j + x_k + d)$$

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## Algebraic degree of the $Q_j$ permutation

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- $x_0^r, x_1^r, x_2^r, x_3^r$  output words of  $r$  rounds of Step.
- $d^r = x_0^r + x_1^r + x_2^r + x_3^r$ .

Algebraic degree of the  $Q_j$  permutation

Sum of 2 distinct monomials of degree 3 in 4 variables,  $x_i, x_j, x_k, x_\ell$ , where  $d = x_i + x_j + x_k + x_\ell$ :

$$\begin{aligned} x_i x_j x_k + x_i x_j x_\ell &= x_i x_j x_k + x_i x_j (x_i + x_j + x_k + d) \\ &= x_i x_j d \end{aligned}$$

- $x_0^r, x_1^r, x_2^r, x_3^r$  output words of  $r$  rounds of Step.
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Upper bounds on the algebraic degree of  $Q_j$  in Luffa v2

$r$	$\deg x^r$	$\deg d^r$
1	3	2
2	8	6
3	22	16
4	60	44
5	164	120

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3	22	16
4	60	44
5	164	120
6	225	210
7	245	240
8	252	250

For  $r \geq 6$ , we apply,

$$\deg(\text{Step}^{r+1}) \leq \frac{512 + \deg(\text{Step}^r)}{3}$$

# Higher-order differential distinguishers for Luffa v2

## Results

- Degree of the compression function at most 252.
- All-zero higher-order differentials for the full compression function.

**Not** extendable to the hash function, because of the addition of a blank round for all the messages.

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 New bound on the degree of iterated permutations
- 3 Application to two SHA-3 candidates
  - Keccak
  - Luffa
- 4 Conclusions

# Application to Grøstl-256

## Permutation $P$

- 512-bit state, seen as an  $8 \times 8$  matrix.
- 10 rounds of AES-like transformations.
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Zero-sum partitions of size  $2^{509}$ .

## Conclusions

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- Zero-sum distinguishers for the full Keccak- $f$  permutation.  
(Contradiction of the so-called hermetic sponge strategy)
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Thank you for your attention!