

Quantum Search for Lightweight Block Ciphers: GIFT, SKINNY, SATURNIN

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Abstract. Grover’s search algorithm gives a quantum attack against block ciphers with query complexity $O(\sqrt{N})$ to search a keyspace of size N , when given a sufficient number of plaintext-ciphertext pairs. At EUROCRYPT 2020, Jaques, Naehrig, Roetteler, and Virdia have estimated the cost of quantum key search attacks against AES under different security categories as defined in NIST’s PQC standardization process.

In this work, we extend their approach to lightweight block ciphers for the cost estimates of quantum key search attacks under circuit depth restrictions. We design quantum circuits for the lightweight block ciphers GIFT, SKINNY, and SATURNIN. Our circuits give overall cost in both the gate count and depth-times-width cost models. Based on the NIST’ security categories for maximum depth, we present the concrete cost of quantum key search against GIFT, SKINNY, and SATURNIN.

We implement the full Grover oracle for GIFT-64, GIFT-128, SKINNY-64, SKINNY-128 and SATURNIN-256 in Q# quantum programming language for unit tests and automatic resource estimations.

Keywords: Quantum cryptanalysis, quantum search, lightweight block ciphers, GIFT, SKINNY, SATURNIN

1 Introduction

Quantum computing devices are expected to solve problems that are infeasible for classical computers. In recent times, a significant progress in quantum computing technologies has prompted the viability of a large-scale quantum computer. Consequently, much of the traditional public-key cryptosystems such as RSA, ECDSA, ECDH will be completely broken due to Shor’s algorithm [15]. However, it is widely believed that symmetric cryptosystems like block ciphers and hash functions are quantum-immune. The only known principle is the square-root speed-up over classical key search or pre-image search attacks with Grover’s algorithm [8].

The national institute of standards and technology (NIST) has also initiated a process to standardize the cryptographic primitives that are designed to remain secure in the presence of quantum computers. NIST [13] defined various security categories defined based on the concrete cost of an exhaustive key search on the

block cipher AES as a reference point. The relevant cost metrics include the number of qubits, the number of Clifford+ T gates, and the T -depth and overall circuit-depth.

In 2016, Grassl et al. [7] studied the quantum circuits of AES and estimated the cost of quantum resources needed to apply Grover’s algorithm to the AES oracle for key search. Almazrooie et al. [1] improved the quantum circuit of AES-128. The work by Grassl et al. [7] focused on minimizing the number of qubits. In contrast, Almazrooie et al. [1] focused on reducing the total number of Toffoli gates by saving one multiplication in a binary field inversion circuit. Amy et al. [2] estimated the cost of generic quantum pre-image attacks on SHA-2 and SHA-3. Later, Kim et al. [11] discussed the time-space trade-off cost of quantum resources on block ciphers in general and used AES as an example.

Since quantum computers are still in the early stage of its development, it is difficult to decide the exact cost for each gate. Most of the previous works [1, 7, 12, 18] focused on reducing the number of T gates and the number of qubits in their circuit construction. Recently, Jaques et al. [9] studied the quantum key-search attacks against AES under NIST’s MAXDEPTH constraint [13] at the cost of few qubits. As a working example, they implemented the AES Grover oracle in Q# quantum programming language. They provided lower-cost estimates by considering different time-space trade-offs based on the NIST security categories for maximum depth. In this work, we study the quantum key search attacks against lightweight block ciphers.

Our contributions. In this work, we present quantum circuits for lightweight block ciphers – GIFT, SKINNY, and SATURNIN. We derive the lower cost estimates for the number of qubits and the number of 1-qubit Clifford, CNOT, Toffoli gates, and the circuit depth. We also provide the precise cost estimates for quantum key search attack in both the gate count and depth-times-width cost models. To implement the full quantum circuits of these ciphers, we separately present the quantum circuits for S-box, SboxLayer, and the permutation layer. For the invertible linear maps, we adopt an in-place PLU decomposition method as implemented in SageMath [17]. We implement the full Grover oracle for GIFT-128, SKINNY-128, and SATURNIN-256 in Q# quantum programming language [16] for automatic resource estimations. We also derive quantum search cost estimates against all these ciphers under different security categories as defined by the NIST-PQC standardization process. The source code of Q# implementations of Grover oracles for GIFT-64, GIFT-128, SKINNY-64, SKINNY-128 and SATURNIN-256 is publicly available³ under a free license to allow independent verification of our results.

Organization. In Section 2, we review basic facts concerning quantum computation and quantum search. In Section 2.3, we examine how the Grover search works with parallelization improving upon the generic Grover-based attacks. Sections 3, 4 and 5 describe the quantum circuits for block ciphers GIFT, SKINNY and SATURNIN, and also provide the cost estimates for each of their components. In Section 6, we estimate the resources needed for quantum key search attack against GIFT,

³ <https://github.com/amitcrypto/LWC-Q>

SKINNY, and SATURNIN in both the gate count and depth-time-width cost models. In Section 7, we conclude this work.

2 Preliminaries

2.1 Quantum computation

A quantum computer acts on quantum states by applying quantum gates to its quantum bits (qubits). A qubit ($|0\rangle$ or $|1\rangle$) is a quantum system defined over a finite set $B = \{0, 1\}$. The state of a 2-qubit quantum system $|\psi\rangle$ is the superposition defined as $|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$, where $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$ and $|\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1$. In general, the states of an n -qubit quantum system can be described as unit vectors in \mathbb{C}^{2^n} under the orthonormal basis $\{|0\dots 00\rangle, |0\dots 01\rangle, \dots, |1\dots 11\rangle\}$, alternatively written as $\{|i\rangle : 0 \leq i < 2^n\}$. Any quantum algorithm is described by a sequence of gates in the form of a quantum circuit, and all quantum computations are reversible. The algorithms we analyze are considered in a fault-tolerant era of quantum computing, where quantum error correction enables large computations. As surface codes are the most promising error correction candidate today [6], we focus on costs relevant to surface codes. We pay special attention to the number of T-gates, which are the most expensive gate on surface codes.

We use the universal fault-tolerant Clifford+T gate set with measurements (denoted throughout as M gates), though we design circuits using only Pauli-X (NOT), CNOT, SWAP and Toffoli operations. These operations act like classical bit operations on bitstrings, hence they are efficient to simulate. The SWAP gates can be implemented using three CNOT gates. The Toffoli operations are further decomposed into Clifford+T operations, and only Toffoli require T operations. We adopt the Selinger's implementation [14] of Toffoli gate, which requires 7 T gates, 16 CNOT gates, 2 single-qubit Clifford gates and 4 ancillas with having the T -depth 1 and overall depth 7. Figure 1 summarizes the quantum gates we use to implement reversible classical circuits.

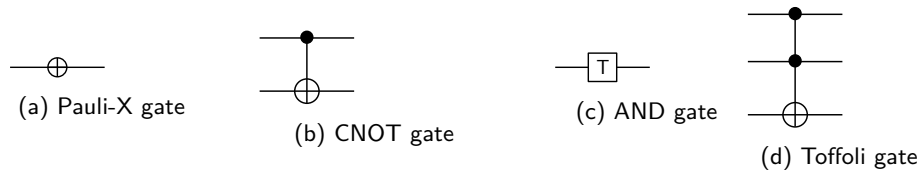


Fig. 1: Quantum gates used in quantum implementations of classical circuits

We use *Q# programming language* [16] to implement and test the block ciphers.

2.2 The key-search problem for block ciphers

Let $E : \{0, 1\}^k \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ be a block cipher with block size n and a key size k for a key $K \in \{0, 1\}^k$. Given a sufficient number of plaintext-ciphertext pairs,

our goal is to recover the unknown key K by exhaustive search methods. Formally, these plaintext-ciphertext pairs are given in the following set:

$$\{(P_1, C_1), \dots, (P_r, C_r) \in \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^n : E(K, P_i) = C_i\} \quad (1)$$

for some unknown user's key $K \in \{0, 1\}^k$. The exhaustive search method can be modelled by a special Boolean function $f : \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ which is defined as

$$f_r(K) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } E(K, P_i) = C_i \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq r \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

so that we can evaluate f_r upon elements of the domain $\{0, 1\}^k$ until we find the unique element (the user's key) for which we are searching.

For a fixed plaintext P , the encryption function $E(\cdot, P) : \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ is expected to act as a pseudorandom function. Now let K be the correct key that is used for the encryption. It follows that for a single plaintext block of length n , we have $\Pr[E(K, P) = E(K', P)] = 2^{-n}$. For r plaintext blocks given in equation (1), we have

$$\Pr[(E(K, P_1), \dots, E(K, P_r)) = (E(K', P_1), \dots, E(K', P_r))] = \prod_{i=0}^{r-1} \frac{1}{2^n - i} \quad (3)$$

which is 2^{-rn} for $r^2 \leq 2^n$. Since the number of keys different from K is $2^k - 1$, we expect number of spurious keys for an t -block plaintext to be $(2^k - 1) \cdot 2^{-rn} \approx 2^{k-rn}$. Therefore, we must choose r such that the chance of obtaining such a spurious key is negligible if we are performing a search via evaluating f_r . The probability that K is the unique key consistent with r plaintext-ciphertext pairs is $e^{-2^{k-rn}}$ (see Section 2.2 of [9]). Thus, if $rn = k + 10$ gives the probability 0.999 for correctly identifying the key. When $rn = k$, the probability for identifying a unique key is $\frac{1}{e} \approx 0.37$. Hence, r must be at least $\lceil \frac{k}{n} \rceil$.

The classical exhaustive search for the user's key would require on average $O(2^k)$ classical evaluations of $f_r : \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$. On the other hand, Grover's quantum search algorithm [8] gives us the user's key with high probability if we implement $f_r : \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ as a quantum circuit and then we need to execute this quantum circuit $O(2^{k/2})$ times. This quantum circuit is referred as a *quantum oracle* and has a non-trivial cost to implement, and can be constructed out of r quantum circuits which each evaluate GIFT, SKINNY, and SATURNIN.

2.3 Grover's search algorithm

We briefly recall the interface that we need to provide for realizing a key search, namely Grover's algorithm [8]. Given a search space of 2^k elements, say $\{x : x \in \{0, 1\}^k\}$ and a Boolean function or predicate $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$, the Grover's algorithm requires about $O(\sqrt{2^k})$ evaluations of the quantum oracle \mathcal{U}_f that outputs

$\sum_x a_x |x\rangle |y \oplus f(x)\rangle$ upon input of $\sum_x a_x |x\rangle |y\rangle$. First, we construct a uniform superposition of states

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^k}} \sum_{x \in \{0,1\}^k} |x\rangle,$$

by applying the Hadamard transformation $H^{\otimes k}$ to $|0\rangle^{\otimes k}$. We prepare the joint state $|\psi\rangle \otimes |\phi\rangle$ with $|\psi\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle = (|0\rangle - |1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$. We define the Grover operator G as

$$G = (2|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| - I)U_f,$$

where $(2|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| - I)$ can be viewed as an inversion about the mean amplitude. We then iteratively apply the Grover operator $(2|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| - I)U_f$ to $|\psi\rangle$ such that the amplitudes of those values x with $f(x) = 1$ are amplified. Each iteration can be viewed as a rotation of the state vector in the plane spanned by two orthogonal vectors; the superposition of all indices corresponding to solutions and non-solutions, respectively. The operator G rotates the vector by a constant angle towards the superposition of solution indices. Let $1 \leq M \leq N$ be the number of solutions and let $0 < \theta \leq \pi/2$ such that $\sin^2(\theta) = M/N$.

When measuring the first qubits after $j > 0$ iterations of G , the success probability $p(j)$ for obtaining one of the solutions is $p(j) = \sin^2((2j+1)\theta)$, which is close to 1 for $j \approx \frac{\pi}{4\theta}$. Hence, after $\lceil \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{\frac{N}{M}} \rceil$ iterations, measurement yields a solution with overwhelming probability of at least $1 - \frac{N}{M}$. The exact complexity of the Grover search can be estimated by implementing the oracle circuit efficiently. It is thus essential to have a precise estimate of the quantum resources needed to implement the oracle.

2.4 Cost metrics for quantum circuits

In this work, we consider the two cost metrics proposed by Jaques and Schanck [10]. The first cost metric is the G-cost as the total number of gates. The second cost metric is the DW-cost as the product of circuit depth and width.

From the recent work by Jaques et al. [9], we briefly recall the following discussion on the cost of Grover's algorithm with or without depth restriction.

The cost of Grover's algorithm. Let the search space have size $N = 2^k$. Suppose we use an oracle G such that a single Grover iteration costs G_g gates, has depth G_d , and uses G_w qubits. Let $S = 2^s$ be the number of parallel machines that are used with the inner parallelization method by dividing the search space in S disjoint parts. In order to achieve a certain success probability p , the required number of iterations can be deduced from $p \leq \sin^2((2j+1)\theta)$ which yields $j_p = \lceil (\sin^{-1}(\sqrt{p})/\theta - 1)/2 \rceil \approx \sin^{-1}(\sqrt{p})/2 \cdot \sqrt{N/S}$. Let $c_p = \sin^{-1}(\sqrt{p})/2$, then the total depth of a j_p -fold Grover iteration is

$$D = j_p G_d \approx c_p \sqrt{N/S} \cdot G_d = c_p 2^{\frac{k-s}{2}} G_d \text{ cycles.} \quad (4)$$

Each machines uses $j_p G_g \approx c_p \sqrt{N/S} \cdot G_g = c_p 2^{\frac{k-s}{2}} G_g$ gates, i.e., the total G-cost over all S machines is

$$G = S \cdot j_p G_g \approx c_p \sqrt{N \cdot S} \cdot G_g = c_p 2^{\frac{k+s}{2}} G_g \text{ cycles.} \quad (5)$$

Finally the total width is $W = S \cdot G_w = 2^s G_w$ qubits, which leads to a DW-cost

$$DW \approx c_p \sqrt{N \cdot S} \cdot G_d G_w = c_p 2^{\frac{k+s}{2}} G_d G_w \text{ qubit-cycles.} \quad (6)$$

These cost expressions show that minimizing the number $S = 2^s$ of parallel machines minimizes both G-cost and DW-cost. Thus, under fixed limits on depth, width, and the number of gates, an adversary's best course of action is to use the entire depth budget and parallelize as little as possible. Under this premise, the depth limit fully determines the optimal attack strategy for a given Grover oracle.

Optimizing the oracle under a depth limit. Grover's full algorithm does not parallelize well; thus it is generally preferable to parallelize it within the oracle circuit. Reducing its depth allows more iterations within the depth limit, hence reducing the necessary parallelization.

Let D_{max} be a fixed depth limit. Given the depth G_d of the oracle, we are able to run $j_{max} = \lfloor D_{max}/G_d \rfloor$ Grover iterations of the oracle G . For a target success probability p , we obtain the number S of parallel instances to achieve this probability in the instance whose keyspace partition contains the key from

$$S = \left\lceil \frac{N \cdot \sin^{-1}(\sqrt{p})}{(2 \cdot \lfloor D_{max}/G_d \rfloor + 1)^2} \right\rceil \approx c_p^2 2^k \frac{G_d^2}{D_{max}^2}. \quad (7)$$

Using this in equation (5) give the total gate count of

$$G = c_p^2 2^k \frac{G_d G_g}{D_{max}^2} \text{ gates.} \quad (8)$$

The total DW-cost under the depth constraint is

$$DW = c_p^2 2^k \frac{G_d^2 G_w}{D_{max}^2} \text{ qubit-cycles.} \quad (9)$$

Therefore, our goal is to minimize $G_d^2 G_w$ cost of the oracle circuit to minimize total DW-cost. In its call for proposals to the post-quantum cryptography standardization effort [13], NIST introduces the parameter MAXDEPTH as such a bound and suggests that reasonable values are between 2^{40} and 2^{96} . Whenever an algorithm's overall depth exceeds this bound, parallelization becomes necessary. We assume that MAXDEPTH constitutes a hard upper bound on the total depth of a quantum attack, including possible repetitions of a Grover instance.

3 A quantum circuit for GIFT-128

GIFT [3] is family of lightweight block ciphers with SPN structure consists of two ciphers, namely GIFT-64/128 and GIFT-128/128. GIFT-64/128 uses 64-bit

plaintext, 128-bit initial key and consists of 28 rounds. Whereas GIFT-128/128 uses 128-bit plaintext, 128-bit initial key and consists of 40 rounds. We implement GIFT in Q# programming language and provide the cost for full quantum circuits of GIFT-64/128 and GIFT-128/128.

Round function. Each round of GIFT-128 consists of three major subroutines: SubCells, PermBits and AddRoundKey, which are described as follows:

- **Initialization:** The cipher receives an n -bit plaintext $b_{n-1}b_{n-2}\dots b_0$ as the cipher state S , where $n = 64, 128$ and b_0 being the least significant bit. The cipher state can also be expressed as s many 4-bit nibbles $S = w_{s-1}||w_{s-2}||\dots||w_0$, where $s = 16, 32$. The cipher also receives a 128-bit key $K = k_7||k_6||\dots||k_0$ as the key state, where k_i is a 16-bit word.
- **SubCells:** The Sbox is applied to each nibble of the cipher state X . The GIFT-128 Sbox is given in Table 1.

x	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
GS(x)	1	10	4	12	6	15	3	9	2	13	11	7	5	0	8	14

Table 1: Specifications of 4-bit S-box of GIFT.

The quantum circuit implementation of GIFT-128 Sbox requires 4 Toffoli gates, 2 CNOT gates, and 6 Pauli-X gates. The quantum circuit for 4-bit S-box is shown in Figure 2.

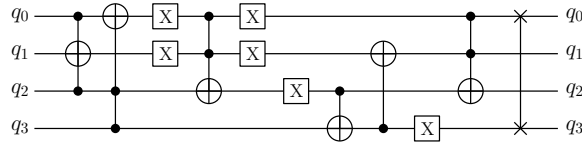


Fig. 2: In-place implementation of GIFT-128 S-box.

- **PermBits:** The bit permutations used in GIFT-64 and GIFT-128 maps bits from bit position i of the cipher state to bit position $P(i)$. As given in [3], the permutation $P_{64}(i)$ and $P_{128}(i)$ are defined as

$$P_{64}(i) = 4 \left\lfloor \frac{i}{16} \right\rfloor + 16 \left(\left(3 \left\lfloor \frac{i \bmod 16}{4} \right\rfloor + (i \bmod 4) \right) \bmod 4 \right) + (i \bmod 4)$$

$$P_{128}(i) = 4 \left\lfloor \frac{i}{16} \right\rfloor + 32 \left(\left(3 \left\lfloor \frac{i \bmod 16}{4} \right\rfloor + (i \bmod 4) \right) \bmod 4 \right) + (i \bmod 4)$$

The quantum circuit implementation of PermBits operation requires no quantum gates, since it is just a permutation of qubits which can be taken care of during the code implementation of wires.

- **AddRoundKey:** This step consists of adding the round key and round constants. An $n/2$ -bit round key RK is extracted from the key state, it is further partitioned into 2 s -bit words $RK = U||V = u_{31} \dots u_0 || v_{31} \dots v_0$, where $s = 16, 32$ for GIFT-64 and GIFT-128 respectively.

For GIFT-64, U and V are xored to b_{4i+1} and b_{4i} of the cipher state.

$$b_{4i+1} \leftarrow b_{4i+1} \oplus u_i, b_{4i} \leftarrow b_{4i} \oplus v_i, \forall i \in \{0, \dots, 15\}.$$

For GIFT-128, U and V are xored to b_{4i+2} and b_{4i+1} of the cipher state.

$$b_{4i+2} \leftarrow b_{4i+2} \oplus u_i, b_{4i+1} \leftarrow b_{4i+1} \oplus v_i, \forall i \in \{0, \dots, 31\}.$$

Furthermore, a single bit "1" and a 6-bit round constant $C = c_5 \dots c_0$ are xored into the cipher state at bit position 127, 23, 19, 15, 11, 7 and 3 respectively.

The quantum circuit implementation of AddRoundKey operation requires 32 CNOT gates for one round of GIFT-64. While the quantum circuit implementation of AddRoundKey operation requires 64 CNOT gates for one round of GIFT-128.

Key schedule and round constants. The key schedule and round constants are the same for both versions of GIFT, the only difference is the round key extraction. A round key is first extracted from the key state before the key state update.

For GIFT-64, two 16-bit words of the key state are extracted as $RK = U||V$.

$$U \leftarrow k_1, V \leftarrow k_0.$$

For GIFT-128, four 16-bit words of the key state are extracted as $RK = U||V$.

$$U \leftarrow k_5 || k_4, V \leftarrow k_1 || k_0.$$

The key state is then updated as follows:

$$k_7 || k_6 || \dots || k_0 \leftarrow k_1 \ggg 2 || k_0 \ggg 12 || k_7 || \dots || k_2,$$

where $\ggg i$ is an i bits right rotation within a 16-bit word.

The round constants are generated using the same 6-bit affine LFSR as SKINNY-128, whose state is denoted as $(c_5, c_4, c_3, c_2, c_1, c_0)$. Its update function is defined as:

$$(c_5, c_4, c_3, c_2, c_1, c_0) \leftarrow (c_4, c_3, c_2, c_1, c_0, c_5 \oplus c_4 \oplus 1).$$

The quantum circuit implementation of updating the key state requires no quantum gates since it is just a permutation of wires which can be taken care of during the code implementation of wires. We precompute the round constants, and thus adding them to proper qubits in each round requiring only 4 Pauli-X gates.

3.1 Quantum resource estimates of GIFT-128

Here, we give the precise cost estimates for GIFT-64/128 and GIFT-128/128. The GIFT S-box can be naturally implemented using Toffoli gates. Using Selinger's work [14], a Toffoli gate can be implemented using 7 T gates, 16 CNOT gates, 2 single-qubit Clifford gates, and 4 ancillae with having T -depth one and overall depth 7. We compute the cost of one round of GIFT-128 for S-box, SubCells, PermBits, AddRoundKey, KeySchedule, and AddRoundConstants operations implemented in Q# programming language. The cost estimates for one round of GIFT-64/128 and GIFT-128/128 are given in Tables 2 and 3 respectively. The total cost estimates of full GIFT-64/128 and GIFT-128/128 encryption circuits are given in Table 4.

Operation	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width
In-place S-box	66	14	28	0	4	32	8
SubCells	1056	224	448	0	4	32	68
PermBits	0	0	0	0	0	0	64
AddRoundKey	32	0	0	0	0	1	192
KeySchedule	0	0	0	0	0	0	128
AddRoundConstants	0	4	0	0	0	1	128
Total cost (one round)	1088	225	448	0	4	33	196

Table 2: Cost estimates for in-place circuits implementing GIFT-64.

Operation	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width
In-place S-box	66	14	28	0	4	32	8
SubCells	2112	448	896	0	4	32	132
PermBits	0	0	0	0	0	0	128
AddRoundKey	64	0	0	0	0	1	256
KeySchedule	0	0	0	0	0	0	128
AddRoundConstants	0	4	0	0	0	1	128
Total cost (one round)	2176	449	896	0	4	33	260

Table 3: Cost estimates for in-place circuits implementing GIFT-128.

Operation	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width
GIFT-64/128 (28 rounds)	61056	12768	25088	0	224	1851	260
GIFT-64/128 (40 rounds)	174336	36160	71680	0	320	2643	388

Table 4: Costs estimates for the full encryption circuits for GIFT.

4 A quantum circuit for SKINNY-128

SKINNY [4] is a family of lightweight tweakable block ciphers, with several block sizes and tweak key sizes, namely SKINNY-64/64, SKINNY-64/128, SKINNY-64/192 and SKINNY-128/128, SKINNY-128/256, SKINNY-128/384. The internal state of SKINNY can be viewed as a (4×4) square array of cells, where each cell is a nibble (in the $n = 64$ case) or a byte (in $n = 128$ case). The number of rounds depends upon the tweak key size, for example, SKINNY-64/64 has 32 rounds, and SKINNY-128/128 has 40 rounds. We implement SKINNY in Q# programming language and provide the cost full quantum circuits of all versions of SKINNY-64 and SKINNY-128.

Round function. Each round of SKINNY-128 is composed of five operations: SubCells (SC), AddConstants (AC), AddRoundTweakey (ART), ShiftRows (SR) and MixColumns (MC).

- **SubCells:** A s -bit S-box is applied to every cell of the cipher internal state. For $s = 4, 8$, SKINNY cipher uses a S-box S_4 and S_8 respectively. The Sbox is applied to every cell of the internal state X .

The S-box S_4 can be described with four NOR and four XOR operations. If x_0, \dots, x_3 represent the eight input bits of the S-box, it basically applies the following transformation on the 4-bit state:

$$(x_3, x_2, x_1, x_0) \rightarrow (x_3, x_2, x_1, x_0 \oplus (\overline{x_3 \vee x_2})),$$

followed by a left shift bit rotation.

An 8-bit Sbox is applied to every cell of the internal state X . If x_0, \dots, x_7 represent the eight input bits of the Sbox, it basically applies the following transformation on the 8-bit state:

$$(x_7, x_6, x_5, x_4, x_3, x_2, x_1, x_0) \rightarrow (x_7, x_6, x_5, x_4 \oplus (\overline{x_7 \vee x_6}), x_3, x_2, x_1, x_0 \oplus (\overline{x_3 \vee x_2})),$$

followed by the bit permutation:

$$(x_7, x_6, x_5, x_4, x_3, x_2, x_1, x_0) \rightarrow (x_2, x_1, x_7, x_6, x_4, x_3, x_3, x_5),$$

repeating this process 4 times, except the last iteration where there is just a bit swap between x_1 and x_2 .

The quantum circuit for 4-bit S-box and 8-bit S-box are shown in Figures 3 and 4 respectively. The quantum circuit implementation of 4-bit S-box operation requires 4 Toffoli gates and 10 Pauli-X gates. The quantum circuit implementation of 8-bit S-box operation requires 8 Toffoli gates and 22 Pauli-X gates.

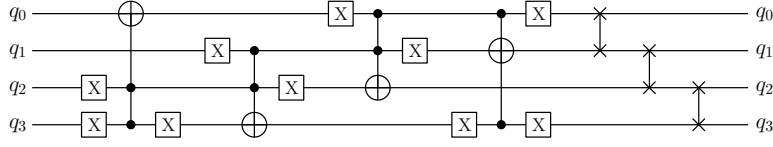


Fig. 3: In-place implementation of 4-bit S-box of SKINNY-64.

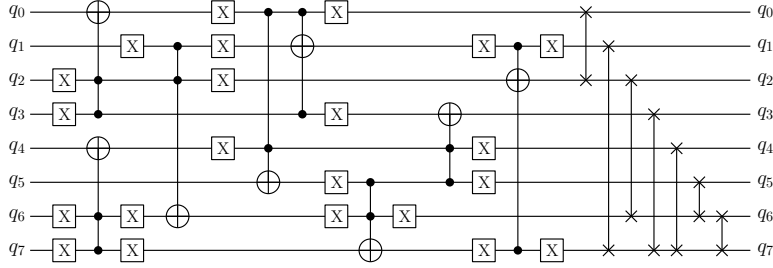


Fig. 4: In-place implementation of 8-bit S-box of SKINNY-128.

- **AddConstants:** A 6-bit affine LFSR, whose state is denoted as $(rc_5, rc_4, rc_3, rc_2, rc_1, rc_0)$ and is used to generate round constants. Its update function is defined as

$$(rc_5, rc_4, rc_3, rc_2, rc_1, rc_0) \rightarrow (rc_4, rc_3, rc_2, rc_1, rc_0, rc_4 \oplus rc_4 \oplus 1).$$

The six bits are initialized to zero, and updated before use in a given round. The bits from LFSR are arranged into $1 \ 4 \times 4$ array (only the first column of the state is affected by the LFSR bits), depending on the internal state's size.

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ c_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ c_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with $c_2 = 0x2$ and

$$(c_0, c_1) = (0||0||0||0||rc_3||rc_2||rc_1||rc_0, 0||0||0||0||0||0||rc_5||rc_4).$$

The round constants are combined with the state, respecting array positioning, using bitwise exclusive-or. We precompute all the round constants, and thus adding constants to proper qubits in each round requires only 4 Pauli-X gates.

- **AddRoundTweakey:** The first and second rows of all tweakey arrays are extracted and bitwise exclusive-xored to the cipher internal state X . More formally, for $i = \{0, 1\}$ and $j = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$, we have:

- $X_{i,j} = X_{i,j} \oplus TK1_{i,j}$ when $z = 1$
- $X_{i,j} = X_{i,j} \oplus TK1_{i,j} \oplus TK2_{i,j}$ when $z = 2$
- $X_{i,j} = X_{i,j} \oplus TK1_{i,j} \oplus TK2_{i,j} \oplus TK3_{i,j}$ when $z = 3$.

Tweakey arrays are updated according to a fixed permutation as given in [4].

The quantum circuit implementation of AddRoundTweakey operation for SKINNY-128 with 128-bit tweakey size requires $(8 \times 6) = 48$ CNOT gates.

- **ShiftRows:** The rows of the cipher state cell array are rotated to the right. The second, third, and fourth cell rows are rotated by 1, 2, and 3 positions to the right, respectively. This operation is similar to AES.

The quantum circuit implementation of ShiftRows operation is free, since it is just a permutation of qubits which can be taken care of during the code implementation of wires.

- **MixColumns:** Each column of the cipher internal state array is multiplied by the following binary matrix M :

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The PLU decomposition of matrix M implemented in SageMath [17] gives

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The permutation P does not require any quantum gates and instead, is realized by appropriately keeping track of the necessary rewiring. While the lower- and upper-triangular components L and U of the decomposition can be implemented using the appropriate CNOT gate. The quantum circuit implementation of binary matrix M requires $4 \times 6 = 24$ CNOT gates and $8 \times 6 = 48$ CNOT gates for SKINNY-64 and SKINNY-128 respectively. As for the full MixColumns operation, we need to apply M four times on each column, therefore, we need $(4 \times 24) = 96$ and $(4 \times 48) = 192$ CNOT gates for SKINNY-64 and SKINNY-128 respectively to implement MixColumns operation.

4.1 Quantum resource estimates of SKINNY-128

Here, we give the cost estimates of SKINNY-64 and SKINNY-128 with various tweakey sizes. We implement all subroutines: S-box, SubCells, AddConstants, AddRoundTweakey, TweakeyUpdate, ShiftRows, and MixColumns in Q# programming language for automatic resource computations. The complete cost estimates of one round and full quantum circuits of SKINNY-64 and SKINNY-128 are given in Tables 5 and 6 and 7 respectively.

Operation	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width
In-place S-box	64	18	28	0	4	32	8
SubCells	1024	288	448	0	4	32	68
AddRoundConstants	0	4	0	0	0	1	64
AddRoundTweakey	32	0	0	0	0	1	128
TweakeyUpdate	0	0	0	0	0	0	64
ShiftRows	0	0	0	0	0	0	64
MixColumns	96	0	0	0	0	5	64
Total cost (one round)	1152	289	448	0	4	41	132

Table 5: Cost estimates for in-place circuits implementing SKINNY-64.

Operation	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width
In-place S-box	128	38	56	0	4	33	12
SubCells	2048	608	896	0	4	33	132
AddRoundConstants	0	4	0	0	0	1	128
AddRoundTweakey	64	0	0	0	0	1	256
TweakeyUpdate	0	0	0	0	0	0	128
ShiftRows	0	0	0	0	0	0	128
MixColumns	192	0	0	0	0	5	128
Total cost (one round)	2304	612	896	0	4	42	260

Table 6: Cost estimates for in-place circuits implementing SKINNY-128.

Operation	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width
SKINNY-64/64 (32 rounds)	73792	18720	28672	0	256	2537	196
SKINNY-64/128 (36 rounds)	85888	21054	32256	0	288	2851	260
SKINNY-64/192 (40 rounds)	98624	23396	35840	0	320	3176	324
SKINNY-128/128 (40 rounds)	184448	48996	71680	0	320	3243	388
SKINNY-128/256 (48 rounds)	228224	58772	86016	0	384	3891	516
SKINNY-128/384 (56 rounds)	254720	63666	93184	0	416	4215	644

Table 7: Cost estimates for full encryption circuits of SKINNY.

5 A quantum circuit for SATURNIN-256

The SATURNIN-256 [5] is an SPN based block cipher with an even number of rounds. It uses a 256-bit internal state X and a 256-bit key state K , and both are represented as a $(4 \times 4 \times 4)$ -cube of nibbles. Two additional 16-bit words RC_0 and RC_1 are also used for generating the successive round constants.

Round function. Round 0 starts by xoring K to the internal state X . Then each round applies the internal state by the following transformations:

- **Sbox layer:** An Sbox layer applies a 4-bit Sbox σ_0 to all nibbles with an even index, and a 4-bit Sbox σ_1 to all nibbles with an odd index. These two Sboxes are defined in Table 8, and their quantum circuit implementations are shown in Figure 8 and Figure 6.

Table 8: Specifications of SATURNIN-256 Sboxes

x	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
$\sigma_0(x)$	0	6	14	1	15	4	7	13	9	8	12	5	2	10	3	11
$\sigma_1(x)$	0	9	13	2	15	1	11	7	6	4	5	3	8	12	10	14

The quantum circuit implementation SATURNIN S-boxes requires 10 Toffoli gates, 4 CNOT gates, and 24 Pauli-X gates.

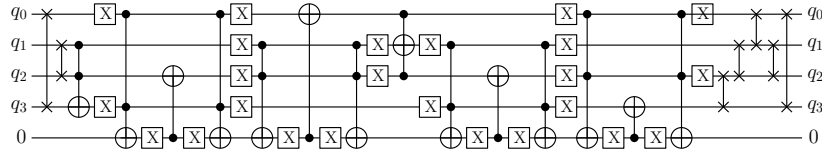


Fig. 5: SATURNIN-256 S-box σ_0 .

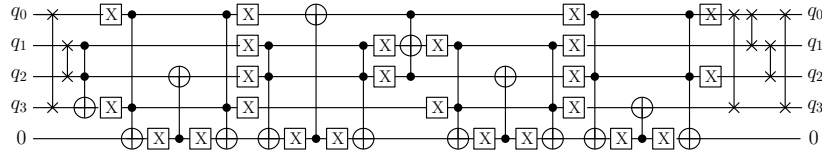


Fig. 6: SATURNIN-256 S-box σ_1 .

- **Nibble permutation:** A nibble permutation SR_r depends on the round number r . For all even rounds, SR_r is an identity function. For odd rounds of index

r with $r \bmod 4 = 1$, $SR_r = SR_{\text{slice}}$ maps each nibble with with coordinates (x, y, z) to $(x + y \bmod 4, y, z)$. For odd rounds of index r with $r \bmod 4 = 3$, $SR_r = SR_{\text{sheet}}$ maps each nibble with with coordinates (x, y, z) to $(x, y, z + y \bmod 4)$.

No quantum gate is required to implement the nibble permutation since it is just a reshuffling of the wires which can be taken care of during the implementation.

- **Linear layer:** A linear layer MC is composed of 16 copies of a linear operation M over $(\mathbb{F}_2^4)^4$ which is applied in parallel to each column of the internal state. The transformation M is defined as

$$M : \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^2(a) \oplus \alpha^2(b) \oplus \alpha(b) \oplus c \oplus d \\ a \oplus \alpha(b) \oplus b \oplus \alpha^2(c) \oplus c \oplus \alpha^2(d) \oplus \alpha(d) \oplus d \\ a \oplus b \oplus \alpha^2(c) \oplus \alpha^2(d) \oplus \alpha(d) \\ \alpha^2(a) \oplus a \oplus \alpha^2(b) \oplus \alpha(b) \oplus b \oplus c \oplus \alpha(d) \oplus d \end{pmatrix}$$

where a is the nibble with the lowest index, and α transforms the four bits x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3 of each nibble by the following multiplication

$$\alpha : \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

The PLU decomposition of the above binary matrix gives

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

One CNOT gate is required to implement the transformation α and two CNOT gates are required to implement the transformation α^2 . Overall, only $(8 \times 4 + 2 \times 1 + 2 \times 2) = 38$ CNOT gates are required to implement one transformation M . As linear layer needs 16 parallel copies of the linear transformation M , we need a total of $(16 \times 38) = 608$ CNOT gates to implement the linear layer MC.

- **Inverse of nibble permutation:** Apply the inverse of the previous nibble permutation SR_r^{-1} .

The quantum circuit implementation of the inverse of nibble permutation is free, i.e., no quantum gate is required.

- **AddRoundKey:** The sub-key addition is performed at odd rounds only.

The quantum circuit implementation of key addition requires 256 CNOT gates for every two consecutive rounds (one super-round) of SATURNIN-256.

Key schedule and round constants. The subkey is composed of the XOR of a round constant and either master key or a rotated version of master key:

- **Round constant:** The round constants RC_0 and RC_1 are updated by clocking 16 times two independent LFSR of length 16 in Galois mode with respective feedback polynomial $X^{16} + X^5 + X^3 + X^2 + 1$ and $X^{16} + X^6 + X^4 + X + 1$. In other words, we repeat 16 times the following operation: if the most significant bit of RC_i is 0, then RC_i is replaced by $RC_i \ll 1$, otherwise it is replaced by $(RC_i \ll 1) \wedge poly_i$ with $poly_0 = 0x1002d$ and $poly_1 = 0x10053$. The two words RC_0, RC_1 are then xored to the internal state. Bit number i in RC_0 is added to bit 0 of the nibble with index $4i$ for $0 \leq i \leq 15$, and bit number i in RC_1 is added to bit 0 of the nibble with index $(4i+2)$ for $0 \leq i \leq 15$.

We precompute the round constants on a classical computer. Thus, the quantum circuit implementation of adding round constants to the current states requires 16 Pauli-X gates only.

- **Round key:** If the round index r is such that $r \bmod 4 = 3$, the master key is xored to the internal state; otherwise a rotated version of the key is added instead. The nibble with index i receives the key nibble with index $(i + 20) \bmod 64$ for $0 \leq i \leq 63$.

The quantum circuit implementation of subkey generation requires no quantum gates, since it is simply a rotation of key bits.

5.1 Quantum resource estimates of SATURNIN-256

The block cipher SATURNIN-256 based on SPN structure uses an even number of rounds, numbered with 0. The composition of two consecutive rounds is called *super-round*. We implement SATURNIN's subroutines: S-box, SboxLayer, (Inverse) NibblePermutation, MixColumns, AddRoundConstants and SubKeyGeneration operations implemented in Q# programming language. The complete cost estimates for one super-round and full SATURNIN-256 are given in Table 9.

6 Quantum key search resource estimates

In this section, we describe the implementations of full Grover oracles for lightweight block ciphers: GIFT, SKINNY, and SATURNIN. Since Q# implementation provides cost estimates automatically for these Grover oracles, we provide quantum resource estimates for full key search attacks via Grover's algorithm. Similar to the work by Jaques et al. [9], we also consider NIST's MAXDEPTH limit to evaluate the cost of our algorithms by inner parallelization via splitting up the search space.

Operation	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width
In-place S-box	164	44	70	0	10	86	9
SboxLayer	10496	2816	4480	0	10	86	261
NibblePermutation	0	0	0	0	0	0	256
MixColumns	608	0	0	0	0	7	256
InverseNibblePermutation	0	0	0	0	0	0	256
AddRoundKey	256	0	0	0	0	1	512
AddRoundConstants	0	16	0	0	0	1	256
SubKeyGeneration	0	0	0	0	0	0	256
Total cost (one super-round)	11360	2832	4480	0	10	94	517
Total cost (20 rounds)	455168	112960	179200	0	400	3763	773

Table 9: Cost estimates for quantum circuits implementing SATURNIN-256.

6.1 Grover oracles

To recover the key successfully, we require sufficient number of known plaintext-ciphertext pairs. The Grover oracle encrypts r plaintext blocks under the same candidate key and computes a Boolean value that encodes whether all r resulting ciphertext blocks match the given classical results. A circuit for the block cipher allows us to build an oracle for any r by simply fanning out the key qubits to the r instances and running the r block cipher circuits in parallel. Then a comparison operation with the classical ciphertexts conditionally flips the result qubit and the r encryptions are uncomputed. Figure 7 illustrates the construction for GIFT and $r = 2$, using ForwardGIFT operation from Section 3.

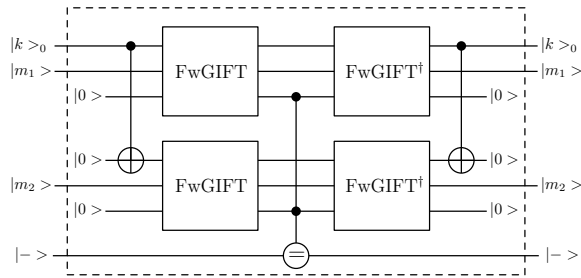


Fig. 7: Grover oracle construction from AES using two message-ciphertext pairs. FwGIFT represents the ForwardGIFT operator. The middle operator “=” compares the output of GIFT with the provided ciphertexts and flips the target qubit if they are equal.

The explicit computation of the probabilities in Equation (3) shows that using $r = 2$ for GIFT-128 guarantees a unique key with overwhelming probability. If we consider the key recovery with a success probability lower than 1, it suffices

to use $r = \lceil k/n \rceil$ blocks of plaintext-ciphertext pairs. In this case, it is enough to use $r = 1$ for GIFT-64/64, GIFT-128/128, SKINNY-64/64, SKINNY-128/128, SATURNIN-256. For GIFT-64/128, SKINNY-64/128, SKINNY-128/256, we need $r = 2$ plaintext-ciphertext pairs., while we need $r = 3$ plaintext-ciphertext pairs for SKINNY-64/192, SKINNY-128/384.

Grover oracle cost for GIFT. The resources for the implementation of full GIFT-64 and GIFT-128 Grover oracles for the relevant values of $r \in \{1, 2\}$ are shown in Table 10.

Operation	r	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width
GIFT-64/128	1	61567	13288	25340	63	224	1850	2049
GIFT-128/128	1	175365	37204	72188	127	320	2642	5505
GIFT-64/128	2	123387	26560	50684	127	224	1851	4097
GIFT-128/128	2	350951	74328	144380	255	320	2644	11009

Table 10: Cost estimates for the GIFT Grover oracle operator for $r = 1$ and 2 plaintext-ciphertext pairs. All operations are performed in-place.

Grover oracle cost for SKINNY. The resources for the implementation of full SKINNY-64 and SKINNY-128 Grover oracles for the relevant values of $r \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ are shown in Table 11.

Grover oracle cost for SATURNIN. The resources for the implementation of full SATURNIN Grover oracle for the relevant values of $r \in \{1, 2\}$ are shown in Table 12.

6.2 Cost estimates for lightweight block cipher key search

Using the cost estimates for the GIFT-128, SKINNY-128, and SATURNIN-256 Grover oracles from Section 7.1, this section provides cost estimates for full key search attacks on lightweight block ciphers. Firstly, we provide cost estimates without any depth limit and parallelization requirements. Table 13 shows cost estimates for a full run of Grover’s algorithm when using $\lfloor \frac{\pi}{4} 2^{k/2} \rfloor$ iterations of the GIFT-128 Grover operator without parallelization. We only consider the costs imposed by the unitary operator U_f and ignore the cost of the operator $2|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| - I$. The G -cost is the total number of gates, which is the sum of the first three columns in the table, corresponding to the numbers of 1-qubit Clifford and CNOT gates, T gates, and measurements. The DW -cost is the product of full circuit depth and width, corresponding to columns 5 and 6 in the table.

Tables 14 and 15 show cost estimates for SKINNY-128 and SATURNIN-256 respectively in the same setting as GIFT-128.

Operation	r	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width
SKINNY-64/64	1	74289	19212	28924	63	256	2536	2241
SKINNY-64/128	1	86381	21538	32508	63	288	2850	2561
SKINNY-64/192	1	99113	23872	36092	63	320	3176	2881
SKINNY-128/128	1	185487	50060	72188	127	320	3242	5505
SKINNY-128/256	1	229245	59800	86524	127	384	3890	6657
SKINNY-128/384	1	275311	69560	100860	127	448	4538	7809
SKINNY-64/64	2	148731	38464	57852	127	256	2536	4481
SKINNY-64/128	2	173027	43084	65020	127	288	2850	5121
SKINNY-64/192	2	198657	47828	72188	127	320	3176	5761
SKINNY-128/128	2	371195	100040	144380	255	320	3242	11009
SKINNY-128/256	2	458999	119584	173052	255	384	3890	13313
SKINNY-128/384	2	551421	139172	201724	255	448	4538	15617
SKINNY-64/64	3	223175	57720	86780	191	256	2536	6721
SKINNY-64/128	3	259693	64670	97532	191	288	2850	7681
SKINNY-64/192	3	298137	71656	108284	191	320	3176	8641
SKINNY-128/128	3	556909	150032	216572	383	320	3242	16503
SKINNY-128/256	3	688749	179360	259580	383	384	3890	19969
SKINNY-128/384	3	827499	208720	302588	383	448	4538	23425

Table 11: Cost estimates for the SKINNY Grover oracle operator for $r = 1, 2, 3$ plaintext-ciphertext pairs. All operations are performed in-place.

Operation	r	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width
SATURNIN-256	1	457197	114980	180220	255	400	3762	5889
SATURNIN-256	2	914655	229960	360444	511	400	3764	11777

Table 12: Cost estimates for the SATURNIN Grover oracle operator for $r = 1$ and 2 plaintext-ciphertext pairs. All operations are performed in-place.

Scheme	r	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width	G -cost	DW -cost	p_s
GIFT-64/128	1	$1.47 \cdot 2^{79}$	$1.27 \cdot 2^{77}$	$1.21 \cdot 2^{78}$	$1.54 \cdot 2^{69}$	$1.37 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.41 \cdot 2^{74}$	2049	$1.19 \cdot 2^{80}$	$1.41 \cdot 2^{85}$	$1/e$
GIFT-64/128	2	$1.47 \cdot 2^{80}$	$1.27 \cdot 2^{78}$	$1.21 \cdot 2^{79}$	$1.55 \cdot 2^{70}$	$1.37 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.41 \cdot 2^{74}$	4097	$1.19 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.41 \cdot 2^{86}$	1
GIFT-128/128	1	$1.05 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.78 \cdot 2^{78}$	$1.73 \cdot 2^{79}$	$1.55 \cdot 2^{70}$	$1.96 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.01 \cdot 2^{75}$	5505	$1.70 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.35 \cdot 2^{88}$	$1/e$
GIFT-128/128	2	$1.05 \cdot 2^{82}$	$1.78 \cdot 2^{79}$	$1.73 \cdot 2^{80}$	$1.56 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.96 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.01 \cdot 2^{75}$	11009	$1.70 \cdot 2^{82}$	$1.35 \cdot 2^{88}$	1

Table 13: Cost estimates for Grover's algorithm with $\lfloor \frac{\pi}{4} 2^{k/2} \rfloor$ GIFT oracle iterations for attacks with high success probability, without a depth restriction.

Scheme	r	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width	G -cost	DW -cost	p_s
SKINNY-64/64	1	$1.78 \cdot 2^{47}$	$1.84 \cdot 2^{45}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{46}$	$1.54 \cdot 2^{37}$	$1.57 \cdot 2^{39}$	$1.94 \cdot 2^{42}$	2241	$1.46 \cdot 2^{48}$	$1.06 \cdot 2^{54}$	$1/e$
SKINNY-64/64	2	$1.78 \cdot 2^{48}$	$1.84 \cdot 2^{46}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{47}$	$1.55 \cdot 2^{38}$	$1.57 \cdot 2^{39}$	$1.94 \cdot 2^{42}$	4481	$1.46 \cdot 2^{49}$	$1.06 \cdot 2^{55}$	1
SKINNY-64/128	2	$1.03 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.03 \cdot 2^{79}$	$1.55 \cdot 2^{79}$	$1.55 \cdot 2^{70}$	$1.76 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.09 \cdot 2^{75}$	5121	$1.67 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.36 \cdot 2^{87}$	$1/e$
SKINNY-64/128	3	$1.55 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.55 \cdot 2^{79}$	$1.16 \cdot 2^{80}$	$1.17 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.76 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.09 \cdot 2^{75}$	7681	$1.25 \cdot 2^{82}$	$1.02 \cdot 2^{88}$	1
SKINNY-64/192	2	$1.19 \cdot 2^{113}$	$1.14 \cdot 2^{111}$	$1.73 \cdot 2^{111}$	$1.55 \cdot 2^{102}$	$1.96 \cdot 2^{103}$	$1.21 \cdot 2^{107}$	5761	$1.90 \cdot 2^{113}$	$1.70 \cdot 2^{119}$	$1/e$
SKINNY-64/192	3	$1.78 \cdot 2^{113}$	$1.71 \cdot 2^{111}$	$1.29 \cdot 2^{112}$	$1.17 \cdot 2^{103}$	$1.96 \cdot 2^{103}$	$1.21 \cdot 2^{107}$	8641	$1.42 \cdot 2^{113}$	$1.27 \cdot 2^{120}$	1
SKINNY-128/128	1	$1.11 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.19 \cdot 2^{79}$	$1.73 \cdot 2^{79}$	$1.55 \cdot 2^{70}$	$1.96 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.24 \cdot 2^{75}$	5505	$1.84 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.66 \cdot 2^{87}$	$1/e$
SKINNY-128/128	2	$1.11 \cdot 2^{82}$	$1.19 \cdot 2^{80}$	$1.73 \cdot 2^{80}$	$1.56 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.96 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.24 \cdot 2^{75}$	11009	$1.84 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.66 \cdot 2^{88}$	1
SKINNY-128/256	2	$1.37 \cdot 2^{146}$	$1.43 \cdot 2^{144}$	$1.03 \cdot 2^{145}$	$1.56 \cdot 2^{135}$	$1.17 \cdot 2^{136}$	$1.49 \cdot 2^{139}$	13313	$1.12 \cdot 2^{147}$	$1.21 \cdot 2^{153}$	$1/e$
SKINNY-128/256	3	$1.03 \cdot 2^{147}$	$1.07 \cdot 2^{145}$	$1.55 \cdot 2^{145}$	$1.17 \cdot 2^{136}$	$1.17 \cdot 2^{136}$	$1.49 \cdot 2^{139}$	19969	$1.68 \cdot 2^{147}$	$1.81 \cdot 2^{153}$	1
SKINNY-128/384	2	$1.65 \cdot 2^{210}$	$1.66 \cdot 2^{208}$	$1.20 \cdot 2^{209}$	$1.56 \cdot 2^{199}$	$1.37 \cdot 2^{200}$	$1.74 \cdot 2^{203}$	15617	$1.33 \cdot 2^{211}$	$1.65 \cdot 2^{217}$	$1/e$
SKINNY-128/384	3	$1.23 \cdot 2^{211}$	$1.25 \cdot 2^{209}$	$1.81 \cdot 2^{209}$	$1.17 \cdot 2^{200}$	$1.37 \cdot 2^{200}$	$1.74 \cdot 2^{203}$	23425	$1.99 \cdot 2^{211}$	$1.23 \cdot 2^{218}$	1

Table 14: Cost estimates for Grover’s algorithm with $\lfloor \frac{\pi}{4} 2^{k/2} \rfloor$ SKINNY oracle iterations for attacks with high success probability, without a depth restriction.

Scheme	r	#CNOT	#1qClifford	# T	# M	T -depth	full depth	width	G -cost	DW -cost	p_s
SATURNIN-256	1	$1.37 \cdot 2^{146}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{144}$	$1.08 \cdot 2^{145}$	$1.56 \cdot 2^{135}$	$1.22 \cdot 2^{136}$	$1.44 \cdot 2^{139}$	5889	$1.13 \cdot 2^{147}$	$1.03 \cdot 2^{152}$	$1/e$
SATURNIN-256	2	$1.37 \cdot 2^{147}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{145}$	$1.08 \cdot 2^{146}$	$1.56 \cdot 2^{136}$	$1.22 \cdot 2^{136}$	$1.44 \cdot 2^{139}$	11777	$1.13 \cdot 2^{148}$	$1.03 \cdot 2^{153}$	1

Table 15: Cost estimates for Grover’s algorithm with $\lfloor \frac{\pi}{4} 2^{k/2} \rfloor$ SATURNIN oracle iterations for attacks with high success probability, without a depth restriction.

6.3 Cost of Grover search under NIST’s MAXDEPTH limit

Tables 16, 17, 18 and 19 show cost estimates for running Grover’s algorithm against GIFT, SKINNY-64, SKINNY-128, and SATURNIN-256 under a given depth limit, respectively. This restriction is proposed in the NIST call for proposals for standardization of post-quantum cryptography [13]. We use the notation and example values for MAXDEPTH from the call. Imposing a depth limit forces the parallelization of Grover’s algorithm, which we assume uses inner parallelization.

7 Conclusion

We explored the Grover key search resource estimates for lightweight block ciphers GIFT, SKINNY, and SATURNIN under MAXDEPTH limitations as proposed by NIST’s PQC standardization process. First, we implemented the Grover oracle for GIFT-64, GIFT-128, SKINNY-64, SKINNY-128, and SATURNIN-256 in Q# quantum programming language. We then presented the concrete cost of quantum circuits of these ciphers. We also provided the concrete cost estimations for all ciphers with parallelization of Grover’s algorithm under NIST’s MAXDEPTH limit.

As future work, it would be interesting to explore other lightweight schemes submitted to NIST-LWC standardization process for quantum resource estimates using exhaustive search methods. Since we have studied key search problems for a single target only, it will be interesting to explore the resource cost of multi-target attacks. Further, implementing quantum circuits for other block ciphers in any quantum programming language for concrete cost estimation will be worthwhile to increase confidence in the post-quantum security of lightweight schemes.

scheme	MD	r	S	$\log_2(\text{SKP})$	D	W	$G\text{-cost}$	$DW\text{-cost}$
GIFT-64/128	2^{40}	1	$1.01 \cdot 2^{69}$	-69.01	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.01 \cdot 2^{80}$	$1.70 \cdot 2^{114}$	$1.01 \cdot 2^{120}$
GIFT-128/128	2^{40}	1	$1.03 \cdot 2^{70}$	-70.04	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{82}$	$1.73 \cdot 2^{116}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{122}$
GIFT-64/128	2^{64}	1	$1.01 \cdot 2^{21}$	-21.01	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.01 \cdot 2^{32}$	$1.70 \cdot 2^{90}$	$1.01 \cdot 2^{96}$
GIFT-128/128	2^{64}	1	$1.03 \cdot 2^{22}$	-22.04	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{34}$	$1.73 \cdot 2^{92}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{98}$
GIFT-64/128	2^{96}	2	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-128.00	$1.42 \cdot 2^{74}$	$1.00 \cdot 2^{12}$	$1.20 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.42 \cdot 2^{86}$
GIFT-128/128	2^{96}	2	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-128.00	$1.01 \cdot 2^{75}$	$1.34 \cdot 2^{13}$	$1.71 \cdot 2^{82}$	$1.36 \cdot 2^{88}$

(a) The depth cost metric is the full depth D .

scheme	MD	r	S	$\log_2(\text{SKP})$	$T\text{-}D$	W	$G\text{-cost}$	$T\text{-}DW\text{-cost}$
GIFT-64/128	2^{40}	1	$1.89 \cdot 2^{62}$	-62.92	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.89 \cdot 2^{73}$	$1.65 \cdot 2^{111}$	$1.89 \cdot 2^{113}$
GIFT-128/128	2^{40}	1	$1.93 \cdot 2^{63}$	-63.95	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.30 \cdot 2^{76}$	$1.68 \cdot 2^{113}$	$1.30 \cdot 2^{116}$
GIFT-64/128	2^{64}	2	$1.89 \cdot 2^{14}$	-142.92	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.89 \cdot 2^{26}$	$1.65 \cdot 2^{88}$	$1.89 \cdot 2^{90}$
GIFT-128/128	2^{64}	2	$1.93 \cdot 2^{15}$	-143.95	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.30 \cdot 2^{29}$	$1.68 \cdot 2^{90}$	$1.30 \cdot 2^{93}$
GIFT-64/128	2^{96}	2	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-128.00	$1.37 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.00 \cdot 2^{12}$	$1.20 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.37 \cdot 2^{83}$
GIFT-128/128	2^{96}	2	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-128.00	$1.96 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.34 \cdot 2^{13}$	$1.71 \cdot 2^{82}$	$1.32 \cdot 2^{85}$

(b) The depth cost metric is the T -depth $T\text{-}D$ only.

Table 16: Circuit sizes for parallel Grover key search against GIFT-64 and GIFT-128 under a depth limit MAXDEPTH with *inner* parallelization. MD is MAXDEPTH, r is the number of plaintext-ciphertext pairs used in the Grover oracle, S is the number of subsets in which the key-space is divided into, SKP is the probability that spurious keys are present in the subset holding the target key, W is the qubit width of the full circuit, D is the full depth, $T\text{-}D$ is the T depth, DW cost uses the full depth and $T\text{-}DW\text{-cost}$ uses the T -depth. After the Grover oracle is completed, each of the S measured candidate keys is classically checked against 2 plaintext-ciphertext pairs.

scheme	MD	r	S	$\log_2(\text{SKP})$	D	W	$G\text{-cost}$	$DW\text{-cost}$
SKINNY-64/64	2^{40}	1	$1.91 \cdot 2^5$	-69.93	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{17}$	$1.43 \cdot 2^{51}$	$1.03 \cdot 2^{57}$
SKINNY-64/128	2^{40}	1	$1.19 \cdot 2^{70}$	-70.26	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.49 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.84 \cdot 2^{115}$	$1.49 \cdot 2^{121}$
SKINNY-64/192	2^{40}	1	$1.48 \cdot 2^{134}$	-70.57	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{146}$	$1.16 \cdot 2^{180}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{186}$
SKINNY-64/64	2^{64}	1	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-64.00	$1.95 \cdot 2^{42}$	$1.09 \cdot 2^{11}$	$1.47 \cdot 2^{48}$	$1.06 \cdot 2^{54}$
SKINNY-64/128	2^{64}	1	$1.19 \cdot 2^{22}$	-22.26	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.49 \cdot 2^{33}$	$1.84 \cdot 2^{91}$	$1.49 \cdot 2^{97}$
SKINNY-64/192	2^{64}	1	$1.48 \cdot 2^{86}$	-22.57	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{98}$	$1.16 \cdot 2^{156}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{162}$
SKINNY-64/64	2^{96}	1	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-64.00	$1.95 \cdot 2^{42}$	$1.09 \cdot 2^{11}$	$1.47 \cdot 2^{48}$	$1.06 \cdot 2^{54}$
SKINNY-64/128	2^{96}	2	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-128.00	$1.09 \cdot 2^{75}$	$1.25 \cdot 2^{12}$	$1.69 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.37 \cdot 2^{87}$
SKINNY-64/192	2^{96}	2	$1.48 \cdot 2^{22}$	-86.57	$1.00 \cdot 2^{96}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{35}$	$1.16 \cdot 2^{125}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{131}$

(a) The depth cost metric is the full depth D .

scheme	MD	r	S	$\log_2(\text{SKP})$	$T\text{-}D$	W	$G\text{-cost}$	$T\text{-}DW\text{-cost}$
SKINNY-64/64	2^{40}	1	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-64.00	$1.57 \cdot 2^{39}$	$1.09 \cdot 2^{11}$	$1.47 \cdot 2^{48}$	$1.72 \cdot 2^{50}$
SKINNY-64/128	2^{40}	1	$1.56 \cdot 2^{63}$	-63.64	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.95 \cdot 2^{74}$	$1.49 \cdot 2^{112}$	$1.95 \cdot 2^{114}$
SKINNY-64/192	2^{40}	1	$1.93 \cdot 2^{127}$	-63.95	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.36 \cdot 2^{139}$	$1.87 \cdot 2^{176}$	$1.36 \cdot 2^{179}$
SKINNY-64/64	2^{64}	1	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-64.00	$1.57 \cdot 2^{39}$	$1.09 \cdot 2^{11}$	$1.47 \cdot 2^{48}$	$1.72 \cdot 2^{50}$
SKINNY-64/128	2^{64}	2	$1.56 \cdot 2^{15}$	-143.64	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.95 \cdot 2^{27}$	$1.49 \cdot 2^{89}$	$1.95 \cdot 2^{91}$
SKINNY-64/192	2^{64}	2	$1.93 \cdot 2^{79}$	-143.95	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.36 \cdot 2^{92}$	$1.88 \cdot 2^{153}$	$1.36 \cdot 2^{156}$
SKINNY-64/64	2^{96}	1	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-64.00	$1.57 \cdot 2^{39}$	$1.09 \cdot 2^{11}$	$1.47 \cdot 2^{48}$	$1.72 \cdot 2^{50}$
SKINNY-64/128	2^{96}	2	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-128.00	$1.77 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.25 \cdot 2^{12}$	$1.69 \cdot 2^{81}$	$1.10 \cdot 2^{84}$
SKINNY-64/192	2^{96}	2	$1.93 \cdot 2^{15}$	-79.95	$1.00 \cdot 2^{96}$	$1.36 \cdot 2^{28}$	$1.88 \cdot 2^{121}$	$1.36 \cdot 2^{124}$

(b) The depth cost metric is the T -depth $T\text{-}D$ only.

Table 17: Circuit sizes for parallel Grover key search against SKINNY-64 under a depth limit MAXDEPTH with *inner* parallelization. MD is MAXDEPTH, r is the number of plaintext-ciphertext pairs used in the Grover oracle, S is the number of subsets in which the key-space is divided into, SKP is the probability that spurious keys are present in the subset holding the target key, W is the qubit width of the full circuit, D is the full depth, $T\text{-}D$ is the T depth, DW cost uses the full depth and $T\text{-}DW\text{-cost}$ uses the T -depth. After the Grover oracle is completed, each of the S measured candidate keys is classically checked against 2 plaintext-ciphertext pairs.

scheme	MD	r	S	$\log_2(\text{SKP})$	D	W	$G\text{-cost}$	$DW\text{-cost}$
SKINNY-128/128	2^{40}	1	$1.55 \cdot 2^{70}$	-70.63	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{83}$	$1.15 \cdot 2^{117}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{123}$
SKINNY-128/256	2^{40}	1	$1.11 \cdot 2^{199}$	-71.15	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.81 \cdot 2^{211}$	$1.68 \cdot 2^{245}$	$1.81 \cdot 2^{251}$
SKINNY-128/384	2^{40}	1	$1.51 \cdot 2^{327}$	-71.60	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.44 \cdot 2^{340}$	$1.16 \cdot 2^{374}$	$1.44 \cdot 2^{380}$
SKINNY-128/128	2^{64}	1	$1.55 \cdot 2^{22}$	-22.63	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{35}$	$1.15 \cdot 2^{93}$	$1.04 \cdot 2^{99}$
SKINNY-128/256	2^{64}	1	$1.11 \cdot 2^{151}$	-23.15	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.81 \cdot 2^{163}$	$1.68 \cdot 2^{221}$	$1.81 \cdot 2^{227}$
SKINNY-128/384	2^{64}	1	$1.51 \cdot 2^{279}$	-23.60	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.44 \cdot 2^{292}$	$1.16 \cdot 2^{350}$	$1.44 \cdot 2^{356}$
SKINNY-128/128	2^{96}	2	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-128.00	$1.24 \cdot 2^{75}$	$1.34 \cdot 2^{13}$	$1.85 \cdot 2^{82}$	$1.67 \cdot 2^{88}$
SKINNY-128/256	2^{96}	2	$1.11 \cdot 2^{87}$	-87.15	$1.00 \cdot 2^{96}$	$1.81 \cdot 2^{100}$	$1.68 \cdot 2^{190}$	$1.81 \cdot 2^{196}$
SKINNY-128/384	2^{96}	2	$1.51 \cdot 2^{215}$	-87.60	$1.00 \cdot 2^{96}$	$1.44 \cdot 2^{229}$	$1.16 \cdot 2^{319}$	$1.44 \cdot 2^{325}$

(a) The depth cost metric is the full depth D .

scheme	MD	r	S	$\log_2(\text{SKP})$	$T\text{-}D$	W	$G\text{-cost}$	$T\text{-}DW\text{-cost}$
SKINNY-128/128	2^{40}	1	$1.93 \cdot 2^{63}$	-63.95	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.30 \cdot 2^{76}$	$1.81 \cdot 2^{113}$	$1.30 \cdot 2^{116}$
SKINNY-128/256	2^{40}	1	$1.14 \cdot 2^{192}$	-64.19	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.85 \cdot 2^{204}$	$1.20 \cdot 2^{242}$	$1.85 \cdot 2^{244}$
SKINNY-128/384	2^{40}	1	$1.89 \cdot 2^{320}$	-64.92	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.80 \cdot 2^{333}$	$1.84 \cdot 2^{370}$	$1.80 \cdot 2^{373}$
SKINNY-128/128	2^{64}	2	$1.93 \cdot 2^{15}$	-143.95	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.30 \cdot 2^{29}$	$1.81 \cdot 2^{90}$	$1.30 \cdot 2^{93}$
SKINNY-128/256	2^{64}	2	$1.14 \cdot 2^{144}$	-144.19	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.85 \cdot 2^{157}$	$1.20 \cdot 2^{219}$	$1.85 \cdot 2^{221}$
SKINNY-128/384	2^{64}	2	$1.89 \cdot 2^{272}$	-144.92	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.80 \cdot 2^{286}$	$1.84 \cdot 2^{347}$	$1.80 \cdot 2^{350}$
SKINNY-128/128	2^{96}	2	$1.00 \cdot 2^0$	-128.00	$1.96 \cdot 2^{71}$	$1.34 \cdot 2^{13}$	$1.85 \cdot 2^{82}$	$1.32 \cdot 2^{85}$
SKINNY-128/256	2^{96}	2	$1.14 \cdot 2^{80}$	-80.19	$1.00 \cdot 2^{96}$	$1.85 \cdot 2^{93}$	$1.20 \cdot 2^{187}$	$1.85 \cdot 2^{189}$
SKINNY-128/384	2^{96}	2	$1.89 \cdot 2^{208}$	-80.92	$1.00 \cdot 2^{96}$	$1.80 \cdot 2^{222}$	$1.84 \cdot 2^{315}$	$1.80 \cdot 2^{318}$

(b) The depth cost metric is the T -depth $T\text{-}D$ only.

Table 18: Circuit sizes for parallel Grover key search against SKINNY-128 under a depth limit MAXDEPTH with *inner* parallelization. MD is MAXDEPTH, r is the number of plaintext-ciphertext pairs used in the Grover oracle, S is the number of subsets in which the key-space is divided into, SKP is the probability that spurious keys are present in the subset holding the target key, W is the qubit width of the full circuit, D is the full depth, $T\text{-}D$ is the T depth, DW cost uses the full depth and $T\text{-}DW\text{-cost}$ uses the T -depth. After the Grover oracle is completed, each of the S measured candidate keys is classically checked against 2 plaintext-ciphertext pairs.

scheme	MD	r	S	$\log_2(\text{SKP})$	D	W	$G\text{-cost}$	$DW\text{-cost}$
SATURNIN-256	2^{40}	1	$1.04 \cdot 2^{199}$	-199.06	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.50 \cdot 2^{211}$	$1.63 \cdot 2^{246}$	$1.50 \cdot 2^{251}$
SATURNIN-256	2^{64}	1	$1.04 \cdot 2^{151}$	-151.06	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.50 \cdot 2^{163}$	$1.63 \cdot 2^{222}$	$1.50 \cdot 2^{227}$
SATURNIN-256	2^{96}	1	$1.04 \cdot 2^{87}$	-87.06	$1.00 \cdot 2^{96}$	$1.50 \cdot 2^{99}$	$1.63 \cdot 2^{190}$	$1.50 \cdot 2^{195}$

(a) The depth cost metric is the full depth D .

scheme	MD	r	S	$\log_2(\text{SKP})$	$T\text{-}D$	W	$G\text{-cost}$	$T\text{-}DW\text{-cost}$
SATURNIN-256	2^{40}	1	$1.51 \cdot 2^{192}$	-192.59	$1.00 \cdot 2^{40}$	$1.08 \cdot 2^{205}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{243}$	$1.08 \cdot 2^{245}$
SATURNIN-256	2^{64}	1	$1.51 \cdot 2^{144}$	-144.59	$1.00 \cdot 2^{64}$	$1.08 \cdot 2^{157}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{219}$	$1.08 \cdot 2^{221}$
SATURNIN-256	2^{96}	1	$1.51 \cdot 2^{80}$	-80.59	$1.00 \cdot 2^{96}$	$1.08 \cdot 2^{93}$	$1.38 \cdot 2^{187}$	$1.08 \cdot 2^{189}$

(b) The depth cost metric is the T -depth $T\text{-}D$ only.

Table 19: Circuit sizes for parallel Grover key search against SATURNIN-256 under a depth limit MAXDEPTH with *inner* parallelization. MD is MAXDEPTH, r is the number of plaintext-ciphertext pairs used in the Grover oracle, S is the number of subsets in which the key-space is divided into, SKP is the probability that spurious keys are present in the subset holding the target key, W is the qubit width of the full circuit, D is the full depth, $T\text{-}D$ is the T depth, DW cost uses the full depth and $T\text{-}DW\text{-cost}$ uses the T -depth. After the Grover oracle is completed, each of the S measured candidate keys is classically checked against 2 plaintext-ciphertext pairs.

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