

# Mind the TWEAKEY Schedule: Cryptanalysis on SKINNYe-64-256

Lingyue Qin<sup>1</sup>, Xiaoyang Dong<sup>2</sup>, Anyu Wang<sup>2</sup>,  
Jialiang Hua<sup>2</sup>, and Xiaoyun Wang<sup>2,3,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> BNRist, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China  
qinly@tsinghua.edu.cn

<sup>2</sup> Institute for Advanced Study, BNRist, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China  
{xiaoyangdong, anyuwang, hua\_jl18, xiaoyunwang}@tsinghua.edu.cn

<sup>3</sup> Key Laboratory of Cryptologic Technology and Information Security, Ministry of Education, Shandong University, Jinan, China

<sup>4</sup> School of Cyber Science and Technology, Shandong University, Qingdao, China

**Abstract.** Designing symmetric ciphers for particular applications becomes a hot topic. At EUROCRYPT 2020, Naito, Sasaki and Sugawara invented the threshold implementation friendly cipher SKINNYe-64-256 to meet the requirement of the authenticated encryption PFB.Plus. Soon, Thomas Peyrin pointed out that SKINNYe-64-256 may lose the security expectation due the new tweakable schedule. Although the security issue of SKINNYe-64-256 is still unclear, Naito *et al.* decided to introduce SKINNYe-64-256 v2 as a response.

In this paper, we give a formal cryptanalysis on the new tweakable schedule of SKINNYe-64-256 and discover unexpected differential cancellations in the tweakable schedule. For example, we find the number of cancellations can be up to 8 within 30 consecutive rounds, which is significantly larger than the expected 3 cancellations. Moreover, we take our new discoveries into rectangle, MITM and impossible differential attacks, and adapt the corresponding automatic tools with new constraints from our discoveries. Finally, we find a 41-round related-tweakable rectangle attack on SKINNYe-64-256 and leave a security margin of 3 rounds only.

As STK accepts arbitrary tweakable size, but SKINNY and SKINNYe-64-256 v2 only support up to  $4n$  tweakable size. We introduce a new design of tweakable schedule for SKINNY-64 to further extend the supported tweakable size. We give a formal proof that our new tweakable schedule inherits the security requirement of STK and SKINNY.

**Keywords:** SKINNY · TWEAKEY · Rectangle · Meet-in-the-middle · Impossible differential

## 1 Introduction

The design of symmetric cryptographic constructions for important security goals and practical applications becomes more and more popular. Typical algorithms including LowMC [3], MiMC [2], etc., provide efficient implementation for

multi-party secure computing (MPC), fully homomorphic encryption (FHE), and zero-knowledge proofs (ZK). Another important topic is to design symmetric ciphers that can be efficiently implemented against side-channel attacks [28,13,45], especially because NIST lightweight cryptography competition optionally takes into account the security of the cryptographic modules against side-channel attack (SCA). Masking is by far the most common countermeasure against SCA [39,49]. Threshold implementation (TI) introduced by Nikova *et al.* [49] is a masking particularly popular for hardware implementation. Several TI-friendly Sboxes [14,36] are proposed. At TCHES 2020, Naito and Sugawara [48] discovered that for recently ciphers such as SKINNY [10] and GIFT [7], the complexity of TI for the linear key schedule function is significantly smaller than the non-linear round function. With this asymmetry, Naito and Sugawara [48] proposed a TBC-based scheme PFB which is particularly efficient with TI. To further exploit this asymmetry, at EUROCRYPT 2020, Naito, Sasaki and Sugawara [46] invented tweakable block cipher (TBC) based AE modes PFB\_Plus, PFB $w$ , as well as a new TBC, i.e. SKINNYe-64-256, which are very efficient in threshold implementations.

At ASIACRYPT 2014, Jean, Nikolić and Peyrin introduced the TWEAKEY framework [41] with the goal to unify the design of tweakable block ciphers and allow to build a primitive with arbitrary tweak and key sizes. It treats the key input and the tweak input in the same way as the tweakey. Towards simplifying the security analysis when the tweakey size is large, Jean *et al.* identified a subclass of TWEAKEY, named as STK construction, which updates the round tweakey by the use of finite field multiplications on low hamming weight constants. SKINNY [10] is a well-known lightweight block cipher family proposed by Beierle *et al.* at CRYPTO 2016, which follows closely the STK construction [41]. However, instead of using multiplications by non-zero constants in a finite field adopted by STK construction, SKINNY updates the tweakey cells by the cheap 4-bit or 8-bit LFSRs (depending on the size of the cell) to minimize the hardware cost, while maintaining the cancellation behavior required by the STK construction: for a given position,  $z - 1$  cancellations can only happen every 15 rounds for TK- $z$ <sup>5</sup>.

As a concrete STK-like design, SKINNY only supports TK-1/-2/-3, while for STK construction, the size of tweakey can be of arbitrary length. However, in practical applications, tweakable block ciphers with large tweakeys may be required, such as the TI-friendly AE modes PFB\_Plus and PFB $w$  proposed by Naito, Sasaki and Sugawara [46]. Without TK-4 available for SKINNY, Naito *et al.* decided to build the SKINNYe-64-256 to support  $zn = 4n$  tweakey with  $n = 64$ . In order to inherit the numerous cryptanalytic efforts on SKINNY-64 [37,31,44,5,30,50,24], SKINNYe-64-256 does not modify any components to realize  $TK_1$ ,  $TK_2$ , and  $TK_3$ , and only find a new LFSR for updating  $TK_4$ . With the expectation of keeping a similar security margin with 36-round SKINNY-64-128 and 40-round SKINNY-64-192, the authors decided to keep the same rate for increasing the number of rounds, namely 44 rounds for SKINNYe-64-256. However, Thomas Peyrin found that the security claim of SKINNYe-64-256 may not

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<sup>5</sup>For TK- $z$ , if the size of internal state is  $n$ , the size of tweakey will be  $zn$ .

hold due to the tweakey schedule. Although the authors of SKINNYe-64-256 were unclear whether this issue causes some attacks against the whole cipher [47, Section 7], they proposed an updated version of SKINNYe-64-256, named as SKINNYe-64-256 v2 in Eprint 2020/542 [47].

**Our Contributions.** In this paper, we try to clarify the security issue of SKINNYe-64-256 [46] by delving into its new tweakey schedule. There are some previous works considered the relations of keys, such as the key-bridging technique [33,26]. The relations of subtweakeys for SKINNY and SKINNYe-64-256 are mostly dependent on the LFSR<sub>*m*</sub> updating the cells of the tweakey states. For LFSR<sub>2</sub> used for  $TK_2$  and LFSR<sub>4</sub> used for  $TK_4$  of SKINNYe-64-256, both of them shift the 4-bit input to the left by 1 bit, while LFSR<sub>2</sub> updates 1 output bit with 1 XOR and LFSR<sub>4</sub> updates 2 output bits with 3 XORs. Suppose for a given cell of  $TK_2$  and  $TK_4$  with the initial value 0x8, then apply LFSR<sub>2</sub> and LFSR<sub>4</sub> respectively to the given cell for 14 times and we get two sequences, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} & [\underline{0x8}, \underline{0x1}, \underline{0x2}, 0x4, \underline{0x9}, \underline{0x3}, 0x6, 0xd, \underline{0xa}, 0x5, \underline{0xb}, 0x7, 0xf, 0xe, 0xc], \\ & [\underline{0x8}, \underline{0x1}, \underline{0x2}, 0x5, \underline{0x9}, \underline{0x3}, 0x7, 0xc, \underline{0xa}, 0x4, \underline{0xb}, 0x6, 0xe, 0xf, 0xd]. \end{aligned}$$

For example, run LFSR<sub>2</sub> or LFSR<sub>4</sub> on 0x8 for 3 times, we get LFSR<sub>2</sub><sup>3</sup>(0x8)=0x4 and LFSR<sub>4</sub><sup>3</sup>(0x8)=0x5, respectively. Intuitively, the longest common subsequence of the two sequences is [0x8, 0x1, 0x2, 0x9, 0x3, 0xa, 0xb] which is highlighted with underlines. In other words, when the initial values (or differences) for a given cell position of  $TK_2$  and  $TK_4$  are 0x8 and  $TK_1$  and  $TK_3$  are set to 0x0, the difference cancellations can happen 7 times within 15 LFSR applications.

In order to further clarify the cancellation property of the new tweakey schedule, we give a formal analysis of relations of subtweakeys. Since the tweakey schedule of SKINNYe-64-256 is linear, each cell of subtweakeys can be derived via multiplying some cells of the master tweakeys by certain binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , which is determined by cell updating functions, i.e., LFSRs. The differential cancellation behavior means active input leads to zero output by multiplying  $\mathbf{A}$ . We analyze the properties of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , especially for the influence of its rank on the cancellations in the differential-like distinguishers, as well as the subtweakey guessing strategy in the key-recovery phase. For the differential cancellation behavior, we find the number of cancellations can be up to 8 within 30 consecutive rounds for SKINNYe-64-256 (a cell is updated by LFSR in every two rounds in SKINNY), which is significantly larger than the expected 3 cancellations. By exploring the properties of  $\mathbf{A}$  in rectangle attack, meet-in-the-middle (MITM) attack and impossible differential attack, we discover unexpected distinguishers or key-recovery attacks:

- **Related-tweakey rectangle attacks.** The properties can not only extend the rectangle distinguisher significantly, but also improve the key-recovery phase. At EUROCRYPT 2022, Dong *et al.* [30] introduced the attacks on the 25-round SKINNY-64-128 with an 18-round distinguisher as well as the 31-round SKINNY-64-192 with a 22-round distinguisher. With our discoveries on SKINNYe-64-256, we find a 30-round rectangle distinguisher, where the

gap between SKINNY-64-192 and SKINNYe-64-256 is significantly increased to  $30-22=8$  rounds comparing to  $22-18=4$  rounds between SKINNY-64-128 and SKINNY-64-192. Moreover, in the key-recovery phase, we explore the key relations in detail with the help of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , and finally perform a 41-round key-recovery attack on SKINNYe-64-256.

In order to find the optimal configurations of the rectangle attack, we tweak Dong *et al.*'s automatic model by applying the properties of the new tweakey schedule into the model. Our attack leaves only a 3-round security margin for SKINNYe-64-256, which is significantly reduced comparing to the 11-round and 9-round security margins for SKINNY-64-128 and SKINNY-64-192.

- **MITM attacks in single-tweakey setting.** Not only the differential cancellation property can be used to improve attacks, but also the non-full rank property of  $\mathbf{A}$ . The MITM attack explores two independent chunks that overlap in a match point. Suppose  $\mathbf{A}$  is of non-full rank, we compute the solution space of  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{c}$  for given vector  $\mathbf{c}$ . In SKINNYe-64-256,  $\mathbf{x}$  is the master tweakey bits and  $\mathbf{c}$  is the subtweakey bits that will XORed into the internal state. Denote solution set as  $\{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{c}\}$ , if it is not empty, then its size will be  $|\{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{c}\}| > 1$  due to non-full rank property of  $\mathbf{A}$ . In the MITM, those  $\mathbf{x} \in \{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{c}\}$  will have the same effect on the internal states, i.e., the vector  $\mathbf{c}$ . When building independent forward and backward chunks in MITM, we may prefix  $\mathbf{c}$  and  $\mathbf{c}'$  for these two chunks, then the values in  $\{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{c}\}$  and  $\{\mathbf{y} : \mathbf{A}'\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{c}'\}$  will have independent effects.

We adapt the previous automatic tools [8,29] for MITM attacks by taking the non-full rank properties of  $\mathbf{A}$  into the model. Finally, we find 31-round MITM attack on SKINNYe-64-256, while previous MITM attacks on SKINNY-64-128 and SKINNY-64-192 reach 18 and 23 rounds, respectively. In other words, the gaps of the attacked rounds increase from  $23-18=5$  rounds between SKINNY-64-128 and SKINNY-64-192 to currently  $31-23=8$  rounds between SKINNY-64-192 and SKINNYe-64-256.

- **Related-tweakey impossible differential attack.** With the differential cancellation properties, we find a 21-round impossible differential for SKINNYe-64-256 based on a cancellation pattern, while previous impossible differential reaches 16 rounds [44] for SKINNY-64-192 and 15 rounds [52] for SKINNY-64-128, respectively.

Our cryptanalysis proves that SKINNYe-64-256 does not keep a similar security margin to SKINNY-64-128 and SKINNY-64-192 as expected by the designers. The non-trivial properties of the new tweakey schedule can be used to improve the attacks from the distinguishers to key-recovery.

In addition, we also analyze the updated version, i.e., SKINNYe-64-256 v2 [47], and obtain a 37-round related-tweakey rectangle attack, a 27-round MITM attack, as well as an 18-round impossible differential. Comparing to the attacks on SKINNY-64-128 and SKINNY-64-192, the attacked rounds on SKINNYe-64-256 v2 keep the same rate as expected by the designers. We summarize results on SKINNY-64 and SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2 in Table 1 and Table 2.

Table 1: Rectangle attacks on SKINNY-64 and SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2

Version	Rounds	Data	Time	Memory	Distinguisher	Setting	Ref.
SKINNY-64-128	23/36	$2^{60.54}$	$2^{120.7}$	$2^{60.9}$	19	RK	[37]
	24/36	$2^{61.67}$	$2^{96.83}$	$2^{84}$	18	RK	[50]
	25/36	$2^{61.67}$	$2^{118.43}$	$2^{64.26}$	18	RK	[30]
SKINNY-64-192	29/40	$2^{62.92}$	$2^{181.7}$	$2^{80}$	23	RK	[37]
	30/40	$2^{62.87}$	$2^{163.11}$	$2^{68.05}$	22	RK	[50]
	31/40	$2^{62.78}$	$2^{182.07}$	$2^{62.79}$	22	RK	[30]
SKINNYe-64-256	41/44	$2^{62.24}$	$2^{237.06}$	$2^{62.26}$	30	RK	Sect. 4.3
SKINNYe-64-256 v2	37/44	$2^{62.8}$	$2^{240.03}$	$2^{62.8}$	26	RK	Sect. C.2

Table 2: MITM attacks on SKINNY-64 and SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2

Version	Rounds	Data	Time	Memory	Approach	Setting	Ref.
SKINNY-64-128	18/36	$2^{16}$	$2^{124}$	$2^4$	MITM	SK	[38]
SKINNY-64-192	23/40	$2^{52}$	$2^{188}$	$2^4$	MITM	SK	[29]
SKINNYe-64-256	31/44	$2^{52}$	$2^{254}$	$2^{52}$	MITM	SK	Sect. 5.2
SKINNYe-64-256 v2	27/44	$2^{52}$	$2^{252}$	$2^{52}$	MITM	SK	Sect. D.3

Note that STK construction supports arbitrary length of tweak, but SKINNY and SKINNYe-64-256 v2 supports upto  $4n$ -bit tweak. As stated in [46, Page 5]: “... there is no consensus about the adequate tweak size to support”. SKINNY with larger tweak size may be useful in future applications, such as the TI-friendly AE modes PFB\_Plus and PFB $w$  with SKINNYe-64-256 v2. Therefore, as another contribution, we propose a uniformed design strategy for tweak schedule of SKINNY- $n$ - $zn$  for positive integer  $z \leq 14$ . Our uniformed tweak schedule satisfies the security requirements of the STK construction with a formal proof. Interestingly, our schedule will be reduced to SKINNY-64 when  $z = 1, 2, 3$ , and to SKINNYe-64-256 v2 when  $z = 4$ .

## 2 Preliminaries

### 2.1 The TWEAKEY Framework

At ASIACRYPT 2014, Jean *et al.* [41] proposed a generic framework for tweakable block ciphers, named as the TWEAKEY framework. They consider the tweak and key inputs in a unified manner, i.e., tweak, that can be used to design a tweakable block cipher with any key and any tweak sizes. The TWEAKEY framework uses the tweak scheduling algorithm. The ciphertext is computed from the plaintext by applying the permutation  $f$  iteratively. Each round is composed of three parts, a sub-tweak extraction function  $g$  from the tweak state, an internal update permutation  $f$  and a tweak state update function  $h$ . Based on the TWEAKEY framework, many designs of tweakable block ciphers are proposed, including Deoxys [42], SKINNY [10], and CRAFT [12], etc. Moreover, Jean *et al.* identified a subclass of tweak for AES-like ciphers named as Superposition TWEAKEY (STK) construction shown in Figure 1. In the STK construction, the  $n$ -

bit internal state and  $zn$ -bit tweakkey state (denoted as TK- $z$ ) are partitioned into  $n/c$  and  $zn/c$   $c$ -bit cells respectively. The functions  $g$  and  $h$  become:

- the function  $g$  simply XORs all the  $z$   $n$ -bit words of the tweakkey state to the internal state (**AddRoundTweakey**, denoted ART).
- the function  $h$  first applies the same cell position permutation function  $P$  to each of the  $z$   $n$ -bit words of the tweakkey state, and then multiply each  $c$ -bit cell of the  $j$ -th  $n$ -bit word by a nonzero coefficient  $\alpha_j$  in the finite field  $GF(2^c)$  (with  $\alpha_i \neq \alpha_j$  for all  $1 \leq i \neq j \leq z$ ).

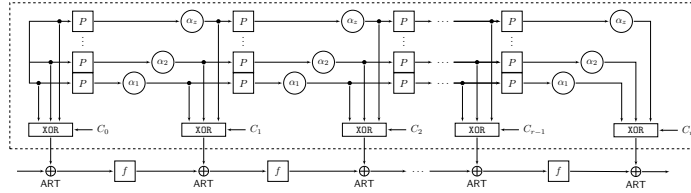


Fig. 1: The STK [41]. (Thanks to <https://www.iacr.org/authors/tikz/>)

## 2.2 SKINNY family and SKINNYe-64-256

SKINNY is a family of lightweight block cipher proposed by Beierle *et al.* at CRYPTO 2016 [10]. Following the TWEAKEY framework and STK construction [41], the round function of SKINNY that replaces the  $f$  function of STK in Figure 1 is given in Figure 2. There are six main versions SKINNY- $n$ - $zn$ :  $n = 64, 128$ ,  $z = 1, 2, 3$ . The internal state is viewed as a  $4 \times 4$  square arrays of cells. The tweakkey state is viewed as  $z \times 4 \times 4$  square arrays of cells, denoted as  $(TK_1)$  when  $z = 1$ ,  $(TK_1, TK_2)$  when  $z = 2$ , and  $(TK_1, TK_2, TK_3)$  when  $z = 3$ . Denote the  $i$ -th cell of  $TK_m$  as  $TK_{m,i}$  ( $1 \leq m \leq z$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq 15$ ). An important difference between the STK construction [41] and SKINNY is that in the tweakkey schedule the cells of the tweakkey are updated by LFSRs for SKINNY instead of multiplying  $\alpha_j$ . As shown in Figure 2, the round function applies 5 transformations: **SubCells** (SC), **AddConstants** (AC), **AddRoundTweakey** (ART), **ShiftRows** (SR) and **MixColumns** (MC). For the details, please refer to [10].

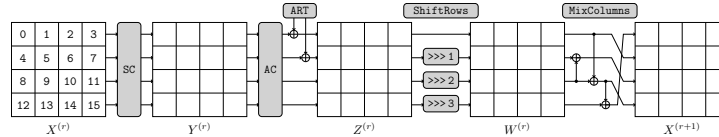


Fig. 2: Round function of SKINNY

For the block size  $n = 64$ , SKINNY supports the tweakkey sizes up to 192 bits. At EUROCRYPT 2020, to support the TI-friendly AE modes PFB\_Plus and PFB $w$ , Naito, Sasaki, and Sugawara [46] extended the design of SKINNY-64 to support a 256-bit tweakkey and derived SKINNYe-64-256, which applies the

same round function of SKINNY but a new tweak schedule. However, Thomas Peyrin found that the security claim of SKINNYe-64-256 may not hold due to the new tweak schedule. In response, Naito *et al.* decided to propose an updated version of SKINNYe-64-256, i.e., SKINNYe-64-256 v2 in Eprint 2020/542 [47].

**New Tweak Schedule.** The 256-bit tweak state is viewed as  $4 \times 4$  square arrays of nibbles as  $(TK_1, TK_2, TK_3, TK_4)$ . Denote the tweak arrays as  $TK_1^{(r)}, TK_2^{(r)}, TK_3^{(r)}$  and  $TK_4^{(r)}$  in round  $r$  ( $r \geq 0$ ), where  $TK_m^{(0)} = TK_m$  ( $1 \leq m \leq 4$ ). For  $r \geq 1$ ,  $TK_m^{(r)}$  is generated in two steps.

First, apply the permutation  $P = [9, 15, 8, 13, 10, 14, 12, 11, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7]$  on each nibble of all tweak arrays:

$$TK_{m,i}^{(r)} \leftarrow TK_{m,P[i]}^{(r-1)}, \quad 1 \leq m \leq 4, \quad 0 \leq i \leq 15, \quad r \geq 1. \quad (1)$$

Then, apply LFSR $_m$  to update each nibble of the first and second rows of  $TK_m^{(r)}$  with  $2 \leq m \leq 4$ . The LFSR for  $TK_4^{(r)}$  used in SKINNYe-64-256 and SKINNYe-64-256 v2 is different. The LFSRs are given in Table 3.

Table 3: The LFSRs used in SKINNYe-64-256 and SKINNYe-64-256 v2

TK	LFSRs
$TK_2$	$(x_3 \  x_2 \  x_1 \  x_0) \rightarrow (x_2 \  x_1 \  x_0 \  x_3 \oplus x_2)$
$TK_3$	$(x_3 \  x_2 \  x_1 \  x_0) \rightarrow (x_0 \oplus x_3 \  x_3 \  x_2 \  x_1)$
$TK_4$	$(x_3 \  x_2 \  x_1 \  x_0) \rightarrow (x_2 \  x_1 \  x_2 \oplus x_0 \  x_3 \oplus x_2 \oplus x_1)$
$TK_4$ v2	$(x_3 \  x_2 \  x_1 \  x_0) \rightarrow (x_1 \  x_0 \  x_3 \oplus x_2 \  x_2 \oplus x_1)$

In the ART operation, only the first two rows of subtweak  $STK^{(r)}$  are xored to the internal state, where

$$STK_i^{(r)} = TK_{1,i}^{(r)} \oplus TK_{2,i}^{(r)} \oplus TK_{3,i}^{(r)} \oplus TK_{4,i}^{(r)}, \quad 0 \leq i \leq 7, \quad r \geq 0. \quad (2)$$

**Lemma 1.** For any given SKINNY S-box  $S$  and any two non-zero differences  $\delta_{in}$  and  $\delta_{out}$ , the equation  $S_i(y) \oplus S_i(y \oplus \delta_{in}) = \delta_{out}$  has one solution on average.

### 3 Properties of the Tweak Schedule of SKINNYe-64-256

In round  $r \geq 0$ , each of the 64-bit tweak  $TK_m^{(r)}$  ( $1 \leq m \leq 4$ ) of SKINNYe-64-256 can be represented as a  $4 \times 16$  binary matrix  $TK_m^{(r)}$  ( $1 \leq m \leq 4, r \geq 0$ ) as

$$TK_m^{(r)} = \begin{pmatrix} x_{m,0}^{(r)} & x_{m,4}^{(r)} & \dots & x_{m,60}^{(r)} \\ x_{m,1}^{(r)} & x_{m,5}^{(r)} & \dots & x_{m,61}^{(r)} \\ x_{m,2}^{(r)} & x_{m,6}^{(r)} & \dots & x_{m,62}^{(r)} \\ x_{m,3}^{(r)} & x_{m,7}^{(r)} & \dots & x_{m,63}^{(r)} \end{pmatrix},$$

with  $x_{m,j}^{(r)} \in \{0, 1\}$  ( $0 \leq j \leq 63$ ). Denote  $TK_m^{(r)}[* , i]$  as the  $i$ -th column of the binary matrix  $TK_m^{(r)}$ . Then  $TK_m^{(r)}[* , i]$  is actually the  $i$ -th nibble of  $TK_m^{(r)}$ , i.e.,  $TK_{m,i}^{(r)}$  ( $0 \leq i \leq 15$ ), which is denoted as a binary vector  $tk_{m,i}^{(r)} \in \mathbb{F}_2^4$ ,

$$tk_{m,i}^{(r)} = [x_{m,4i}^{(r)}, x_{m,4i+1}^{(r)}, x_{m,4i+2}^{(r)}, x_{m,4i+3}^{(r)}]^T, \quad 0 \leq i \leq 15, \quad 1 \leq m \leq 4, \quad r \geq 0.$$

Since  $TK_m^{(0)} = TK_m$ , we also write  $\mathbf{tk}_{m,i}^{(0)} = [x_{m,4i}, x_{m,4i+1}, x_{m,4i+2}, x_{m,4i+3}]^T$  for simplicity. We can deduce the relations between the subtweakeys transformed from the same nibble of the master tweakey. For  $TK_1$ , only the permutation  $P$  is applied in each round. Assume  $P^r$  means to apply the permutation  $P$  for  $r$  times. We have  $\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(r)} = \mathbf{tk}_{1,P^r[i]}^{(0)}$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq 15$ .

For  $TK_2$ ,  $TK_3$  and  $TK_4$ , after applying the permutation, a LFSR is applied to update each cell of the 1st and 2nd rows in each round, which is equivalent to multiplying the cell by a  $4 \times 4$  binary matrix. For SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2, the LFSRs used for  $TK_2$  and  $TK_3$  are the same, whose corresponding matrices are denoted as  $\mathbf{L}_2$  and  $\mathbf{L}_3$ . The LFSRs used in  $TK_4$  for SKINNYe-64-256 and version 2 are different, which are denoted as  $\mathbf{L}_4$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{L}}_4$ . We have

$$\mathbf{L}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{L}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{L}_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{\mathbf{L}}_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since only the first two rows of subtweakey are XORed to the internal state, the tweakey cells involved in the  $r$ -th round encryption will be involved again in the  $(r+2)$ -th round according to  $P = [9, 15, 8, 13, 10, 14, 12, 11, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7]$ . For simplicity, we first consider the formulas of subtweakeys for SKINNYe-64-256, and for version 2, the formulas are different only for  $TK_4$ . Assume  $\mathbf{L}_m^i$  represents the  $i$ -th power of matrix  $\mathbf{L}_m$  in  $GF(2)$  and  $\mathbf{L}_m^0 = \mathbf{I}$  ( $2 \leq m \leq 4$ ). Note that the LFSRs for  $TK_2$  and  $TK_3$  in SKINNY and the new LFSR for  $TK_4$  in SKINNYe-64-256 have the same cycle of 15, which lead to  $\mathbf{L}_m^{15} = \mathbf{I}$  ( $2 \leq m \leq 4$ ). For SKINNYe-64-256 v2, although the update function for  $TK_4$  is not a LFSR, it also has a cycle of 15, i.e.,  $\tilde{\mathbf{L}}_4^{15} = \mathbf{I}$ . In the tweakey schedule, for each nibble of  $TK_m^{(r)}$ , the LFSR is applied in every two rounds, we deduce:  $\forall m \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ ,

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{tk}_{m,i}^{(r)} = \mathbf{L}_m^{\lceil r/2 \rceil} \cdot \mathbf{tk}_{m,P^r[i]}^{(0)}, & 0 \leq i \leq 7, \\ \mathbf{tk}_{m,i}^{(r)} = \mathbf{L}_m^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \cdot \mathbf{tk}_{m,P^r[i]}^{(0)}, & 8 \leq i \leq 15. \end{cases}$$

Denote the nibble  $STK_i^{(r)}$  ( $0 \leq i \leq 7$ ) as a binary vector  $\mathbf{stk}_i^{(r)} = (y_{4i}^{(r)}, y_{4i+1}^{(r)}, y_{4i+2}^{(r)}, y_{4i+3}^{(r)})^T$ . Then we obtain  $\mathbf{stk}_i^{(r)} = \bigoplus_{m=1}^4 \mathbf{tk}_{m,i}^{(r)}$  for  $0 \leq i \leq 7$ . Considering subtweakey cells  $\mathbf{stk}_i^{(r)}$  derived from master tweakey, we get

$$\mathbf{stk}_i^{(r)} = [\mathbf{I} \quad \mathbf{L}_2^{\lceil r/2 \rceil} \quad \mathbf{L}_3^{\lceil r/2 \rceil} \quad \mathbf{L}_4^{\lceil r/2 \rceil}] \cdot \left( \mathbf{tk}_{1,P^r[i]}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,P^r[i]}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,P^r[i]}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,P^r[i]}^{(0)} \right)^T. \quad (3)$$

Without losing generality, we analyze the subtweakeys in the even rounds, which are all transformed from the first two rows of master tweakeys. Let  $\bar{P} = [8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 2, 0, 4, 7, 6, 3, 5, 1]$  be the inverse permutation of  $P$ . For a set  $\mathbf{Index} = \{r_1, \dots, r_t\}$  ( $|\mathbf{Index}| = t$ ), which corresponding to a set of subtweakeys  $\{STK^{(2r_1)}, STK^{(2r_2)}, \dots, STK^{(2r_t)}\}$ , we can get a set of linear equations as



$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2r_1}[i]}^{(2r_1)} \\ \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2r_2}[i]}^{(2r_2)} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2r_t}[i]}^{(2r_t)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^{r_1} \mathbf{L}_3^{r_1} \mathbf{L}_4^{r_1} \\ \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^{r_2} \mathbf{L}_3^{r_2} \mathbf{L}_4^{r_2} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^{r_t} \mathbf{L}_3^{r_t} \mathbf{L}_4^{r_t} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad 0 \leq i \leq 7. \quad (4)$$

Because the tweak schedule only contains the permutation and LFSRs, Equation (4) is linear equation. Denote coefficient matrix as  $\mathbf{A}$  and its rank as  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = a$ . The image space of  $\mathbf{A}$  represents the solution space of  $\{STK_{\bar{P}^{2r_1}[i]}^{(2r_1)}, STK_{\bar{P}^{2r_2}[i]}^{(2r_2)}, \dots, STK_{\bar{P}^{2r_t}[i]}^{(2r_t)}\}$  with arbitrary  $\{\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)}\}$ , whose size is  $|\text{Im}(\mathbf{A})| = 2^a$ . Let the kernel space of  $\mathbf{A}$  be  $\text{Ker}(\mathbf{A}) = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{F}_2^{4t} : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = 0\}$ , then the size of the kernel space is  $|\text{Ker}(\mathbf{A})| = 2^{16-a}$ . For example, assuming  $\text{Index} = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ , we can obtain the equations of  $\{STK^{(0)}, STK^{(2)}, STK^{(4)}, STK^{(6)}\}$  as Equation (4). For  $i = 0$ , there is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{stk}_0^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{stk}_2^{(2)} \\ \mathbf{stk}_4^{(4)} \\ \mathbf{stk}_6^{(6)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^0 \mathbf{L}_3^0 \mathbf{L}_4^0 \\ \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^1 \mathbf{L}_3^1 \mathbf{L}_4^1 \\ \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^2 \mathbf{L}_3^2 \mathbf{L}_4^2 \\ \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^3 \mathbf{L}_3^3 \mathbf{L}_4^3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{tk}_{1,0}^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{tk}_{2,0}^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{tk}_{3,0}^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{tk}_{4,0}^{(0)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_{1,0} \\ x_{1,1} \\ x_{1,2} \\ x_{1,3} \\ x_{2,0} \\ x_{2,1} \\ x_{2,2} \\ x_{2,3} \\ x_{3,0} \\ x_{3,1} \\ x_{3,2} \\ x_{3,3} \\ x_{4,0} \\ x_{4,1} \\ x_{4,2} \\ x_{4,3} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (5)$$

The rank of the coefficient matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  in Equation (5) is 14. Therefore, the size of its kernel space and image space is  $|\text{Ker}(\mathbf{A})| = 2^2$  and  $|\text{Im}(\mathbf{A})| = 2^{14}$ .

Let  $\mathbf{A}_{r_j} = [\mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^{r_j} \mathbf{L}_3^{r_j} \mathbf{L}_4^{r_j}]$ , which is a  $4 \times 16$  matrix. Then the coefficient matrix of Equation (4) can be represented as  $\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}} = [\mathbf{A}_{r_1}^T \mathbf{A}_{r_2}^T \dots \mathbf{A}_{r_t}^T]^T$ , which is a  $4t \times 16$  matrix. Since  $\mathbf{L}_i^{15} = \mathbf{I}$  for  $2 \leq i \leq 4$ , we can assume that all subscripts of  $\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}$  are mod 15. We call  $\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}$  a full rank matrix if and only if  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}) = \min\{4t, 16\}$ . We find that when  $t \geq 4$ , certain sets of  $\text{Index}$  lead to non-full rank coefficient matrices. Let  $\mathcal{K} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 14\}$ , for any subset  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\} \subset \mathcal{K}$  and  $0 \leq r' \leq 14$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{A}_{\{r_1+r', r_2+r', \dots, r_t+r'\}} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^{r_1+r'} \mathbf{L}_3^{r_1+r'} \mathbf{L}_4^{r_1+r'} \\ \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^{r_2+r'} \mathbf{L}_3^{r_2+r'} \mathbf{L}_4^{r_2+r'} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^{r_t+r'} \mathbf{L}_3^{r_t+r'} \mathbf{L}_4^{r_t+r'} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^{r_1} \mathbf{L}_3^{r_1} \mathbf{L}_4^{r_1} \\ \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^{r_2} \mathbf{L}_3^{r_2} \mathbf{L}_4^{r_2} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{I} \mathbf{L}_2^{r_t} \mathbf{L}_3^{r_t} \mathbf{L}_4^{r_t} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{L}_2^{r'} \\ \mathbf{L}_3^{r'} \\ \mathbf{L}_4^{r'} \end{pmatrix} \quad (6) \\ &= \mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}} \cdot \text{diag}(\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{L}_2^{r'}, \mathbf{L}_3^{r'}, \mathbf{L}_4^{r'}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathbf{L}_2$ ,  $\mathbf{L}_3$  and  $\mathbf{L}_4$  are all  $4 \times 4$  full rank matrices,  $D_{r'} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{L}_2^{r'}, \mathbf{L}_3^{r'}, \mathbf{L}_4^{r'})$  is a  $16 \times 16$  full rank matrix. Then we can deduce that

$$\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1+r', r_2+r', \dots, r_t+r'\}}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}). \quad (7)$$

Since the rank of the coefficient matrix is our most concern, we introduce the concept of *rank-equivalent* as follows.

**Definition 1 (rank-equivalent).** *Given two subsets  $x = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}$ ,  $y = \{r'_1, r'_2, \dots, r'_t\} \subset \mathcal{K}$ , we say  $x$  and  $y$  are rank-equivalent if there exists an integer  $r'$  such that*

$$r_i \equiv r'_i + r' \pmod{15} \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq t.$$

*The rank-equivalence class of the subset  $x$  is defined by*

$$[x] := \{y \subset \mathcal{K} : x \text{ and } y \text{ are rank-equivalent}\}.$$

From Eq. (7),  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_x) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_y)$  holds for any rank-equivalent subsets  $x$  and  $y$ .

For SKINNYe-64-256, we compute all the rank-equivalence classes whose corresponding coefficient matrix is non-full rank with Algorithm 2 in Supplementary Material A and list the results in Table 4.

Similarly, for SKINNYe-64-256 v2, we set  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{r_j} = [\mathbf{I} \ \mathbf{L}_2^{r_j} \ \mathbf{L}_3^{r_j} \ \tilde{\mathbf{L}}_4^{r_j}]$ , which is also a  $4 \times 16$  matrix. Then the coefficient matrix of Equation (4) can be represented as  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}} = [\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{r_1} \ \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{r_2} \ \dots \ \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{r_t}]^T$ , which is a  $4t \times 16$  matrix. For arbitrary  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\} \subset \mathcal{K}$ , the matrix  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}$  is full rank. That is, when  $t \leq 4$ , the rank of  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}$  is  $4t$ , otherwise the rank is 16.

**The Subtweakey Difference Cancellations.** For a given active tweakey cell,  $z - 1$  subtweakey difference cancellation happens every 30 rounds for SKINNY- $n$ - $zn$  [10] with  $z = 2, 3$ . However, for SKINNYe-64-256, although  $z = 4$ , we have more cancellations than  $z - 1 = 3$ . Since the tweakey schedule is linear, the differences of subtweakeys can be computed by the differences injected in the master tweakey with Equation (4). Assume that there is at least one  $1 \leq m \leq 4$  that  $\Delta TK_{m,i} \neq 0$ . Set  $\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)}]^T = \mathbf{0}$ , which means the subtweakey difference cancellations happen at  $\{STK_{\bar{p}^{2r_1}[i]}^{(2r_1)} \dots, STK_{\bar{p}^{2r_t}[i]}^{(2r_t)}\}$  if  $0 \leq i \leq 7$ , or  $\{STK_{\bar{p}^{2r_1+1}[i]}^{(2r_1+1)} \dots, STK_{\bar{p}^{2r_t+1}[i]}^{(2r_t+1)}\}$  if  $8 \leq i \leq 15$ . When  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}) = 16$ , the size of its kernel space is 1. Then  $[\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)}]$  has only one zero solution, which means  $\Delta TK_{m,i} = 0$  for all  $m = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . When  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}) < 16$ , we have non-zero solutions for  $\Delta TK_{m,i}$ , i.e., the subtweakey difference cancellations happen. Obviously, when  $t \leq 3$ ,  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}) = 4t \leq 16$ . For  $t \geq 4$ , we obtain all rank-equivalence classes whose corresponding coefficient matrices are non-full rank from Table 4. So each rank-equivalence class corresponds to a set of positions of the subtweakey difference cancellations. We find several properties of the rank-equivalence classes:

Table 4: Rank-equivalence class of non-full rank coefficient matrix for SKINNYe-64-256

$rank$	$t$	Rank-equivalence class $[\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}]$
14	4	$[\{0,1,2,3\}, \{0,1,2,10\}, \{0,1,3,4\}, \{0,1,3,7\}, \{0,1,3,13\}, \{0,1,4,5\}, \{0,1,4,12\}, \{0,1,5,6\}, \{0,1,5,8\}, \{0,1,5,11\}, \{0,1,6,7\}, \{0,1,6,10\}, \{0,1,6,12\}, \{0,1,7,8\}, \{0,1,7,9\}, \{0,1,11,13\}, \{0,2,4,6\}, \{0,2,5,7\}, \{0,2,5,12\}, \{0,2,6,8\}, \{0,2,6,11\}, \{0,2,7,9\}, \{0,2,7,10\}, \{0,2,7,11\}, \{0,2,9,12\}, \{0,3,6,9\}, \{0,3,7,10\}, \{0,3,7,11\}]$
15	4	$[\{0,1,2,4\}, \{0,1,2,5\}, \{0,1,2,6\}, \{0,1,2,7\}, \{0,1,2,8\}, \{0,1,2,9\}, \{0,1,2,11\}, \{0,1,2,12\}, \{0,1,2,13\}, \{0,1,3,5\}, \{0,1,3,6\}, \{0,1,3,8\}, \{0,1,3,9\}, \{0,1,3,10\}, \{0,1,3,11\}, \{0,1,3,12\}, \{0,1,4,6\}, \{0,1,4,7\}, \{0,1,4,8\}, \{0,1,4,9\}, \{0,1,4,10\}, \{0,1,4,11\}, \{0,1,4,13\}, \{0,1,5,7\}, \{0,1,5,9\}, \{0,1,5,10\}, \{0,1,5,12\}, \{0,1,5,13\}, \{0,1,6,8\}, \{0,1,6,9\}, \{0,1,6,11\}, \{0,1,6,13\}, \{0,1,7,10\}, \{0,1,7,11\}, \{0,1,7,12\}, \{0,1,7,13\}, \{0,1,8,10\}, \{0,1,8,11\}, \{0,1,8,12\}, \{0,1,8,13\}, \{0,1,9,11\}, \{0,1,9,12\}, \{0,1,9,13\}, \{0,1,10,12\}, \{0,1,10,13\}, \{0,2,4,7\}, \{0,2,4,8\}, \{0,2,4,9\}, \{0,2,4,10\}, \{0,2,4,11\}, \{0,2,4,12\}, \{0,2,5,8\}, \{0,2,5,9\}, \{0,2,5,10\}, \{0,2,5,11\}, \{0,2,6,9\}, \{0,2,6,10\}, \{0,2,6,12\}, \{0,2,7,12\}, \{0,2,8,11\}, \{0,2,8,12\}, \{0,3,6,10\}, \{0,3,6,11\}]$
	5	$[\{0,1,2,3,7\}, \{0,1,2,3,10\}, \{0,1,2,3,11\}, \{0,1,2,3,13\}, \{0,1,2,4,5\}, \{0,1,2,4,8\}, \{0,1,2,4,10\}, \{0,1,2,5,8\}, \{0,1,2,5,10\}, \{0,1,2,6,9\}, \{0,1,2,6,10\}, \{0,1,2,6,12\}, \{0,1,2,7,10\}, \{0,1,2,7,11\}, \{0,1,2,7,13\}, \{0,1,2,8,10\}, \{0,1,2,9,10\}, \{0,1,2,9,12\}, \{0,1,2,10,11\}, \{0,1,2,10,12\}, \{0,1,2,10,13\}, \{0,1,2,11,13\}, \{0,1,3,4,7\}, \{0,1,3,4,9\}, \{0,1,3,5,6\}, \{0,1,3,5,7\}, \{0,1,3,5,8\}, \{0,1,3,5,12\}, \{0,1,3,6,7\}, \{0,1,3,6,8\}, \{0,1,3,6,12\}, \{0,1,3,7,8\}, \{0,1,3,7,9\}, \{0,1,3,7,10\}, \{0,1,3,7,11\}, \{0,1,3,7,12\}, \{0,1,3,7,13\}, \{0,1,3,8,12\}, \{0,1,3,10,11\}, \{0,1,3,10,13\}, \{0,1,3,11,13\}, \{0,1,4,5,8\}, \{0,1,4,5,10\}, \{0,1,4,6,11\}, \{0,1,4,6,12\}, \{0,1,4,6,13\}, \{0,1,4,7,9\}, \{0,1,4,8,10\}, \{0,1,4,11,13\}, \{0,1,5,6,12\}, \{0,1,5,7,8\}, \{0,1,5,7,12\}, \{0,1,5,8,9\}, \{0,1,5,8,10\}, \{0,1,5,8,11\}, \{0,1,5,8,12\}, \{0,1,5,8,13\}, \{0,1,5,9,11\}, \{0,1,5,9,13\}, \{0,1,5,11,13\}, \{0,1,6,7,12\}, \{0,1,6,8,12\}, \{0,1,6,9,12\}, \{0,1,6,10,12\}, \{0,1,6,11,13\}, \{0,1,7,10,13\}, \{0,1,7,11,13\}, \{0,1,8,11,13\}, \{0,1,9,11,13\}, \{0,2,4,6,11\}, \{0,2,4,7,11\}, \{0,2,4,8,10\}, \{0,2,4,9,12\}, \{0,2,5,7,11\}, \{0,2,5,8,10\}, \{0,2,5,9,12\}, \{0,2,6,9,12\}]$
	6	$[\{0,1,2,3,7,10\}, \{0,1,2,3,7,11\}, \{0,1,2,3,7,13\}, \{0,1,2,3,10,11\}, \{0,1,2,3,10,13\}, \{0,1,2,3,11,13\}, \{0,1,2,4,5,8\}, \{0,1,2,4,5,10\}, \{0,1,2,4,8,10\}, \{0,1,2,5,8,10\}, \{0,1,2,6,9,10\}, \{0,1,2,6,9,12\}, \{0,1,2,6,10,12\}, \{0,1,2,7,10,11\}, \{0,1,2,7,10,13\}, \{0,1,2,7,11,13\}, \{0,1,2,9,10,12\}, \{0,1,2,10,11,13\}, \{0,1,3,4,7,9\}, \{0,1,3,5,6,8\}, \{0,1,3,5,6,12\}, \{0,1,3,5,7,8\}, \{0,1,3,5,7,12\}, \{0,1,3,5,8,12\}, \{0,1,3,6,7,12\}, \{0,1,3,6,8,12\}, \{0,1,3,7,8,12\}, \{0,1,3,7,10,11\}, \{0,1,3,7,10,13\}, \{0,1,3,7,11,13\}, \{0,1,4,5,8,10\}, \{0,1,4,6,11,13\}, \{0,1,5,7,8,12\}, \{0,1,5,8,11,13\}, \{0,1,5,9,11,13\}]$
	7	$[\{0,1,2,3,7,10,11\}, \{0,1,2,3,7,10,13\}, \{0,1,2,3,7,11,13\}, \{0,1,2,3,10,11,13\}, \{0,1,2,4,5,8,10\}, \{0,1,2,6,9,10,12\}, \{0,1,2,7,10,11,13\}, \{0,1,3,5,6,8,12\}, \{0,1,3,5,7,8,12\}]$
	8	$[\{0,1,2,3,7,10,11,13\}]$

- When  $t = 4$ , we find the matrix  $A_{\{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4\}}$  with arbitrary  $\{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4\} \subset \mathcal{K}$  is non-full rank. That is, for the given active nibbles in the master key, the subtweakey difference cancellations can happen four times in arbitrary round for every 30 rounds. Especially for  $rank(\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}}) = 14$  and  $|Ker(\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}})| = 2^2$ , there are 3 non-zero solutions of the difference for the active nibbles of the master tweakey. For SKINNYe-64-256, there can be nine consecutive rounds with fully inactive internal states.
- When  $t \geq 5$ , for all  $[\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}]$  in Table 4,  $rank(\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}) = 15$ . For  $\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)}]^T = \mathbf{0}$ , there is only one nonzero solution. We find that for some different rank-equivalence classes, the solutions are the same. For example, for rank-equivalence classes  $[\{0, 1, 2, 7, 10\}]$  and  $[\{0, 1, 3, 11, 13\}]$ , when  $0 \leq i \leq 7$  we set

$$A_{\{0,1,2,7,10\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)}]^T = \mathbf{0}, \quad (8)$$

$$A_{\{0,1,3,11,13\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)}]^T = \mathbf{0}, \quad (9)$$

where the cancellations happen at  $\{STK_i^{(0)}, STK_{\bar{P}^2[i]}^{(2)}, STK_{\bar{P}^4[i]}^{(4)}, STK_{\bar{P}^{14}[i]}^{(14)}, STK_{\bar{P}^{20}[i]}^{(20)}\}$  for Equation (8) and  $\{STK_i^{(0)}, STK_{\bar{P}^2[i]}^{(2)}, STK_{\bar{P}^6[i]}^{(6)}, STK_{\bar{P}^{22}[i]}^{(22)}, STK_{\bar{P}^{26}[i]}^{(26)}\}$  for Equation (9). The non-zero solutions of both two linear equations are  $\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)} = [0, 0, 0, 1]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)} = [0, 1, 1, 1]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)} = [0, 0, 0, 0]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)} = [0, 1, 1, 0]^T$ . Namely, the cancellations happen at  $\{STK_i^{(0)}, STK_{\bar{P}^2[i]}^{(2)}, STK_{\bar{P}^4[i]}^{(4)}, STK_{\bar{P}^6[i]}^{(6)}, STK_{\bar{P}^{14}[i]}^{(14)}, STK_{\bar{P}^{20}[i]}^{(20)}, STK_{\bar{P}^{22}[i]}^{(22)}, STK_{\bar{P}^{26}[i]}^{(26)}\}$  at the same time, which corresponds to the rank-equivalence class  $[\{0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13\}]$ . The situation for  $8 \leq i \leq 15$  is the same. Further, we find that for arbitrary  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\} \subset \{0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13\}$  ( $t \geq 5$ ), the solution of  $A_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)}]^T = \mathbf{0}$  is the same to  $A_{\{0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)}]^T = \mathbf{0}$ , which means that there is only one difference cancellation behaviour for those rank-equivalence classes. In summary, there are only two kinds of the difference cancellation behaviours:

- For rank-equivalence class  $[\{0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10\}]$ , the subtweakey difference cancellations happen 7 times in the fixed positions for the given active nibble of the master key in every 30 rounds. Assuming  $A_{\{0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)}]^T = \mathbf{0}$ , we can compute the only one nonzero solution, where  $\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)} = [0, 0, 0, 0]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)} = [1, 0, 0, 0]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)} = [0, 0, 0, 0]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)} = [1, 0, 0, 0]^T$ .
- For rank-equivalence class  $[\{0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13\}]$ , the subweakey difference cancellations happen 8 times in the fixed positions every 30 rounds. Assuming  $A_{\{0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)}]^T = \mathbf{0}$ , the nonzero solution is  $\mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)} = [0, 0, 0, 1]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)} = [0, 1, 1, 1]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{tk}_{3,i}^{(0)} = [0, 0, 0, 0]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{tk}_{4,i}^{(0)} = [0, 1, 1, 0]^T$ .

For SKINNYe-64-256 v2, there is  $rank(\tilde{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4\}}) = 16$  for arbitrary  $\{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4\} \subset \mathcal{K}$ . That is, at most three difference cancellations can happen every 30 rounds for a given active tweakey nibble and there can be seven rounds of fully inactive internal states at most.

**Key Guessing Strategy Based on the Relations of Subtweakeys.** In key-recovery attacks, several rounds are added before and after the distinguisher and the involved subtweakeys should be guessed to recover the master tweakey. We can use the relations of subtweakeys to get more accurate and efficient key guessing strategy following similar idea of the key-bridge technique [33, 26]. For example, assume that a set of subtweakeys  $\{\mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2r_1}[i]}^{(2r_1)}, \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2r_2}[i]}^{(2r_2)} \dots, \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2r_t}[i]}^{(2r_t)}, \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2r_{t+1}}[i]}^{(2r_{t+1})}\}$  derived from the same  $i$ -th ( $0 \leq i \leq 7$ ) nibble of the master tweakey are involved in the key-recovery phase. Suppose  $rank(A_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}) = a$  and  $rank(A_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{t+1}\}}) = b$  ( $b > a$ ). The number of possible values for  $\{\mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2r_1}[i]}^{(2r_1)}, \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2r_2}[i]}^{(2r_2)} \dots, \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2r_t}[i]}^{(2r_t)}\}$  is  $|Im(A_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}})| = 2^a$ . After we guessed

$\{stk_{\tilde{P}^{2r_1}[i]}^{(2r_1)}, stk_{\tilde{P}^{2r_2}[i]}^{(2r_2)} \cdots, stk_{\tilde{P}^{2r_t}[i]}^{(2r_t)}\} \in Im(\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}})$ , the number of possible guesses for the last nibble  $stk_{\tilde{P}^{2r_{t+1}}[i]}^{(2r_{t+1})}$  will be  $2^{b-a}$ .

## 4 Rectangle Attacks on SKINNYe-64-256 and Its Version 2

### 4.1 Preliminary for Boomerang and Rectangle Attacks

The boomerang attack proposed by Wagner [58] is a differential-based attack, which uses two short differential characteristics instead of one long characteristic as shown in Figure 3. The boomerang attack is developed into the amplified boomerang attack [43] and rectangle attack [17], which require only chosen plaintext queries. To clarify the probability of boomerang, Biryukov *et al.* [19] introduced the *boomerang switch* technique, which is generalized by Dunkelman *et al.* [34] as the *sandwich attack*. In the attack, the cipher  $E_d$  is considered as  $\tilde{E}_1 \circ E_m \circ \tilde{E}_0$ , where  $\tilde{p}$  and  $\tilde{q}$  are the probability of the differentials used for the  $r_0$ -round  $\tilde{E}_0$  and  $r_1$ -round  $\tilde{E}_1$ . The middle part  $r_m$ -round  $E_m$  handles the dependence of the two short differentials. If the probability of generating a right quartet for  $E_m$  is  $\xi$ , the probability of the whole rectangle distinguisher is  $2^{-n}\tilde{p}^2\tilde{q}^2\xi$ . Then, Cid *et al.* [23] introduced the boomerang connectivity table (BCT) to clarify the probability around the boundary of boomerang and compute its probability more accurately. Further, various studies or improvements [21,57,59,24] on BCT technique enrich boomerang attacks.

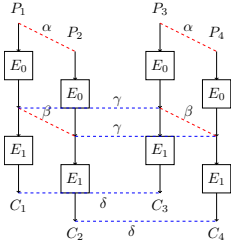


Fig. 3: Boomerang attack

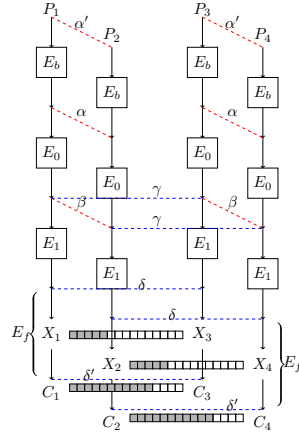


Fig. 4: Rectangle attack on  $E$

Related-key boomerang and rectangle attacks were proposed by Biham *et al.* [18]. As shown in Figure 4, the cipher  $E$  is decomposed into  $E_f \circ E_d \circ E_b$ , where  $E_d = E_1 \circ E_0$  is the related-key rectangle distinguisher and  $E_b$  and  $E_f$  are the extended rounds before and after the distinguisher. Assuming we use a related-key differential  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  over  $E_0$  under a key difference  $\Delta K$  and  $\delta \rightarrow \gamma$  over  $E_1$  under a key difference  $\nabla K$ . If the master key  $K_1$  is known, the other

three keys are all determined, where  $K_2 = K_1 \oplus \Delta K$ ,  $K_3 = K_1 \oplus \nabla K$ , and  $K_4 = K_1 \oplus \Delta K \oplus \nabla K$ . Denote  $r_b$  as the number of unknown bits in the difference  $\alpha'$  of plaintexts. Let  $k_b$  be the set of subkey bits that involved in  $E_b$  while encrypting the plaintext to the known difference  $\alpha$  and decrypting to get the corresponding plaintext. Denote the number  $m_b = |k_b|$ . Similarly, we have  $r_f$  and  $m_f = |k_f|$  for  $E_f$ .

There are several key-recovery frameworks of rectangle attacks [17,16,15,44] in both single-key setting and related-key setting. As shown by Biham *et al.* [15], when the key schedule is linear (e.g. SKINNY), the differences between the subkeys of  $K_1$ ,  $K_2$ ,  $K_3$  and  $K_4$  are all determined in each round. Exploring this property, Dong *et al.* [30] proposed a new related-key rectangle attack for ciphers with linear key schedule (see Supplementary Material B.1). They try to guess all  $k_b$  and part of  $k_f$ , denoted as  $k'_f$  before generating quartets. Then with partial decryption, they may gain  $h_f$  inactive bits (or bits with fixed differences) from the internal state as filters. They also built a uniform automatic tool to search for the entire rectangle key-recovery attack on SKINNY, which is based on a series of automatic tools [37,24,50].

#### 4.2 Automatic Search for Related-Tweakey Rectangle Attacks for SKINNYe-64-256 and its Version 2

We apply Dong *et al.*'s automatic tool [30] by modifying the constraints of the subtweakey to include more differential cancellation behaviours studied in Section 3. For simplicity, we put Dong *et al.*'s automatic tool in Supplementary Material B.2, and only list the differences of the modelling here.

In previous automatic models [10,24,37] for SKINNY- $n$ - $zn$  ( $z = 1, 2, 3$ ), for a given cell position in the tweakey schedule, the number of cancellations can only be  $z - 1$  within 30 consecutive rounds. The constraints for the cancellations are given by the designers of SKINNY [11, Page 52], e.g., for 0-th nibble of the master tweakey within the 30 consecutive rounds:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LANE}_0 - stk_0^{(0)} &\geq 0, \text{LANE}_0 - stk_{P^{2i}[0]}^{(2i)} \geq 0, 1 \leq i \leq 14, \\ stk_0^{(0)} + stk_{P^2[0]}^{(2)} + \cdots + stk_{P^{28}[0]}^{(28)} - 15 \cdot \text{LANE}_0 &\geq -(z - 1), \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where the binary variable  $\text{LANE}_0$  is 0 only if  $TK_{m,0} = 0$  for all  $1 \leq m \leq z$ , and the binary variable  $stk_{P^r[0]}^{(r)}$  is 0 if and only if the nibble  $STK_{P^r[0]}^{(r)}$  is inactive. Similar constraints are applied to other nibble positions.

However, for SKINNYe-64-256, although  $z = 4$ , we have more cancellations than  $z - 1 = 3$  according to Section 3. The possible number and positions of cancellations are diverse, which needs to be modeled by new constraints for the upper and lower differentials besides Constraint (10). According to Section 3, the automatic models are divided into two cases according to different subtweakey difference cancellation behaviours to search for the distinguisher suitable for Dong *et al.*'s rectangle attack framework:

- $t \leq 4$ : When  $t \leq 3$ , the rank of  $\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, \dots, r_t\}}$  is  $4t \leq 16$ . When  $t = 4$ , the matrix  $\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4\}}$  is non-full rank. That is, when  $t \leq 4$ ,  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, \dots, r_t\}}) < 16$ . For a given active nibble in the master key, the subtweakey difference cancellations can happen at most four times in arbitrary 30 rounds. In this case, we only need to modify the last constraint of Eq. (10) to be ( $z = 4$ ):

$$\text{stk}_0^{(0)} + \text{stk}_{P^2[0]}^{(2)} + \dots + \text{stk}_{P^{28}[0]}^{(28)} - 15 \cdot \text{LANE}_0 \geq -z.$$

- $t > 4$ : There are only two kinds of the difference cancellation behaviours in Section 3, i.e.,  $[\{0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10\}]$  and  $[\{0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13\}]$ . For the rank-equivalence class  $[\{0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10\}]$ , we fixed the positions of difference cancellations for the  $i$ -th active nibble of the master tweakey to build the model. For each  $0 \leq r' \leq 14$ , we set the subtweakey differences to 0 in  $\{2r', 2(r'+1) \bmod 30, 2(r'+2) \bmod 30, 2(r'+4) \bmod 30, 2(r'+5) \bmod 30, 2(r'+8) \bmod 30, 2(r'+10) \bmod 30\}$  rounds when  $0 \leq i \leq 7$ , and in  $\{2r'+1, (2(r'+1)+1) \bmod 30, (2(r'+2)+1) \bmod 30, (2(r'+4)+1) \bmod 30, (2(r'+5)+1) \bmod 30, (2(r'+8)+1) \bmod 30, (2(r'+10)+1) \bmod 30\}$  rounds when  $8 \leq i \leq 15$  to run the model. Similar for case  $[\{0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13\}]$ .

Searching with different automatic models, we select a 30-round related-tweakey (RTK) boomerang distinguisher for SKINNYe-64-256 in Table 5, where the difference cancellation behaviour  $[\{0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13\}]$  is used both in the upper and lower differentials. We also experimentally verify the probabilities of the middle part of the distinguishers, and list details of the distinguisher, the experimental results and full figures in Table 12, Table 14 and Figure 14 in Supplementary Material C.1 and I. Our source codes are based on the open source in [24,30], which is provided in <https://github.com/skinny64/Skinny64-256>.

For SKINNYe-64-256 v2, we find a 26-round related-tweakey boomerang distinguisher in Table 11 and 13 in Supplementary Material C.1.

Table 5: The 30-round RTK boomerang distinguisher for SKINNYe-64-256.

$r_0 = 12, r_m = 5, r_1 = 13, \tilde{p} = 2^{-3.46}, \xi = 2^{-30.95}, \tilde{q} = 2^{-9.30}, \tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2 = 2^{-56.47}$
$\Delta TK_1 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0$
$\Delta TK_2 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 5, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0$
$\Delta TK_3 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0$
$\Delta TK_4 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 4, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0$
$\Delta X^{(0)} = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 4$
$\nabla TK_1 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1$
$\nabla TK_2 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 8$
$\nabla TK_3 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0$
$\nabla TK_4 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 8$
$\nabla X^{(30)} = 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1$

### 4.3 Rectangle Attack on 41-round SKINNYe-64-256

We use the 30-round rectangle distinguisher for SKINNYe-64-256 in Table 5, whose probability is  $2^{-n} \tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2 = 2^{-64-56.47} = 2^{-120.47}$ . The attack follows the

Dong *et al.*'s rectangle attack framework [30], which is also given in Algorithm 3 in Supplementary Material B.1 for completeness. Adding 4-round  $E_b$  and 7-round  $E_f$ , we attack 41-round SKINNYe-64-256, as illustrated in Figure 5. For simplicity, let  $STK_{j_1, j_2}^{(i)}$  be the  $j_1$ -th and  $j_2$ -th nibble of the  $i$ -th round  $STK$ . In the first round, we use subweakey  $ETK^{(0)} = MC \circ SR(STK^{(0)})$  instead of  $STK^{(0)}$ , and there is  $ETK_i^{(0)} = ETK_{i+4}^{(0)} = ETK_{i+12}^{(0)} = STK_i^{(0)}$  for  $0 \leq i \leq 3$ , and  $ETK_8^{(0)} = STK_7^{(0)}$ ,  $ETK_9^{(0)} = STK_4^{(0)}$ ,  $ETK_{10}^{(0)} = STK_5^{(0)}$ ,  $ETK_{11}^{(0)} = STK_6^{(0)}$ . Construct the structures at  $\bar{W}^{(0)}$  and  $r_b = 12 \cdot 4 = 48$ . The cells need to be guessed in  $E_b$  are  $k_b = \{STK_{0,2,4}^{(2)}, STK_{0-3,5-7}^{(1)}, STK_{0-7}^{(0)}\}$  and  $m_b = 18 \cdot 4 = 72$ . In  $E_f$ , we have  $r_f = 16 \cdot 4 = 64$  and  $m_f = 45 \cdot 4 = 180$  where  $k_f = \{STK_{3,7}^{(34)}, STK_{2-4,7}^{(35)}, STK_{1-7}^{(36)}, STK_{0-7}^{(37)}, STK_{0-7}^{(38)}, STK_{0-7}^{(39)}, STK_{0-7}^{(40)}\}$ . The subweakey cells guessed in advance are marked by red boxes, which are  $k'_f = \{STK_{3,6,7}^{(37)}, STK_{0-2,4-7}^{(38)}, STK_{0-7}^{(39)}, STK_{0-7}^{(40)}\}$ , and we have  $m'_f = 26 \cdot 4 = 104$ . Then, we get 7 cells in the internal states (marked by red boxes in  $W^{(37)}$  and  $W^{(36)}$ ) as additional filters with the guessed  $m'_f$ -bit key, i.e.,  $h_f = 7 \cdot 4 = 28$  as  $\{W_{6,11,15}^{(36)}, W_{5,6,11,12}^{(37)}\}$ .

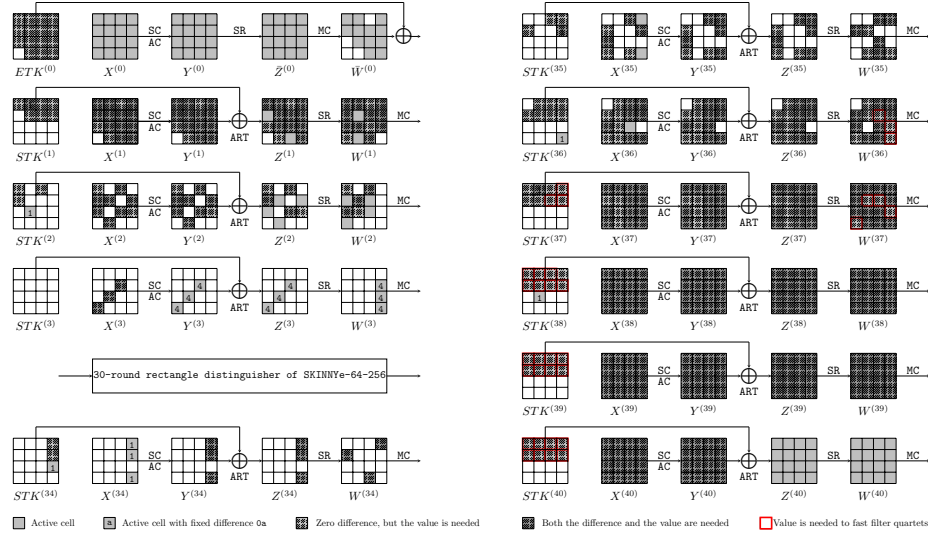


Fig. 5: The 41-round attack against SKINNYe-64-256.

**Key bridges.** To further accelerate our attack, we identify some tweakey relations in  $E_b$  and  $E_f$  according to the analysis in Section 3. We list the subweakeys transformed from the  $i$ -th ( $0 \leq i \leq 15$ ) nibble of the master key  $TK_m^{(0)}$  ( $1 \leq m \leq 4$ ) in Table 6. For example in line 0 of Table 6, there are 5



subtweakeys in  $k_b$  and  $k_f$  transformed from the 0-th nibbles of  $TK_m^{(0)}$ , where  $\left(\mathit{stk}_0^{(0)}, \mathit{stk}_2^{(2)}, \mathit{stk}_4^{(36)}, \mathit{stk}_6^{(38)}, \mathit{stk}_5^{(40)}\right)^T = \mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,3,4,5\}} \cdot \left(\mathit{tk}_{1,0}^{(0)}, \mathit{tk}_{2,0}^{(0)}, \mathit{tk}_{3,0}^{(0)}, \mathit{tk}_{4,0}^{(0)}\right)^T$ . Since  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,3,4,5\}}) = 16$ , the number of possible values of  $\{ETK_0^{(0)} = STK_0^{(0)}, STK_2^{(2)}, STK_4^{(36)}, STK_6^{(38)}, STK_5^{(40)}\}$  is  $|\text{Im}(A_{\{0,1,3,4,5\}})| = 2^{16}$ . Similarly, the number of possible values of  $\{ETK_0^{(0)}, STK_2^{(2)}, STK_6^{(38)}, STK_5^{(40)}\} \in k_b \cup k'_f$  is  $|\text{Im}(A_{\{0,1,4,5\}})| = 2^{14}$ . In total, the key size involved in  $E_b$  and  $E_f$  is only 224-bit due to the key relations although  $m_b + m_f = 72 + 180 = 252$ , denoted as  $|k_b \cup k_f| = 2^{224}$ . Similarly, we have  $|k_b \cup k'_f| = 2^{170}$  although  $m_b + m'_f = 72 + 104 = 176$ .

Table 6: Relations of the subtweakeys involved in the 41-round attack on SKINNYe-64-256, where the subtweakeys marked in bold are among  $k'_f$ .

$i$	$k_b$	$k_f$		
0	$ETK_0^{(0)}, STK_2^{(2)}$	$STK_4^{(36)}, STK_6^{(38)}, STK_5^{(40)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,1,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{16}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,1,4,5\}})  = 2^{14}$
1	$ETK_1^{(0)}, STK_0^{(2)}$	$STK_2^{(36)}, STK_4^{(38)}, STK_3^{(40)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,1,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{16}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,1,4,5\}})  = 2^{14}$
2	$ETK_2^{(0)}, STK_4^{(2)}$	$STK_6^{(36)}, STK_5^{(38)}, STK_3^{(40)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,1,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{16}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,1,4,5\}})  = 2^{14}$
3	$ETK_3^{(0)}$	$STK_0^{(34)}, STK_1^{(36)}, STK_9^{(38)}, STK_2^{(40)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,2,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{15}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$
4	$ETK_9^{(0)}$	$STK_5^{(36)}, STK_3^{(38)}, STK_7^{(40)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{15}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,5\}})  = 2^8$
5	$ETK_{10}^{(0)}$	$STK_3^{(34)}, STK_1^{(36)}, STK_1^{(38)}, STK_0^{(40)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,2,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{15}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$
6	$ETK_{11}^{(0)}$	$STK_3^{(36)}, STK_7^{(38)}, STK_1^{(40)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{15}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$
7	$ETK_5^{(0)}$	$STK_2^{(38)}, STK_4^{(40)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{0,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$
8	$STK_2^{(1)}$	$STK_4^{(35)}, STK_6^{(37)}, STK_6^{(39)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{15}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$
9	$STK_0^{(1)}$	$STK_2^{(35)}, STK_4^{(37)}, STK_6^{(39)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{15}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,5\}})  = 2^8$
10		$STK_5^{(37)}, STK_3^{(39)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{4,5\}})  = 2^8$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{5\}})  = 2^4$
11	$STK_7^{(1)}$	$STK_0^{(37)}, STK_2^{(39)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,5\}})  = 2^8$
12	$STK_6^{(1)}$	$STK_8^{(37)}, STK_7^{(39)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$
13	$STK_3^{(1)}$	$STK_3^{(35)}, STK_1^{(37)}, STK_0^{(39)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{15}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,5\}})  = 2^8$
14	$STK_5^{(1)}$	$STK_3^{(35)}, STK_1^{(37)}, STK_1^{(39)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,3,4,5\}})  = 2^{15}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$
15	$STK_1^{(1)}$	$STK_2^{(37)}, STK_4^{(39)}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,4,5\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ \text{Im}(A_{\{1,5\}})  = 2^8$
			$ k_b \cup k_f  = 2^{224}$	$ k_b \cup k'_f  = 2^{170}$

The details of our attack are given as follows:

- Construct  $y = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{n/2-r_b} / \sqrt{\tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2} = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{12.24}$  structures of  $2^{r_b} = 2^{48}$  plaintexts each. For each structure, encrypt the  $2^{48}$  plaintexts under the four related tweakeys  $K_1, K_2, K_3$  and  $K_4$  to get corresponding ciphertexts and store the plaintext-ciphertext pairs in  $L_1, L_2, L_3$  and  $L_4$ . The data and memory complexity here is both  $\sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{n/2+2} / \sqrt{\tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2} = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{62.24}$ .
- Guess  $2^x$  possible values of  $k_b \cup k'_f$  ( $2^x \leq |k_b \cup k'_f|$ ):
  - Initialize  $|k_b \cup k'_f|/2^x = 2^{224-x}$  counters with memory cost  $2^{224-x}$ .
  - Guess all the remaining  $|k_b \cup k'_f|/2^x = 2^{170-x}$  possible values in  $k_b \cup k'_f$ :
    - For each structure, partially encrypt each plaintext  $P_1$  under the guessed values of  $k_b$  to  $Y_{6,9,12}^{(3)}$ . After xoring the known difference  $\alpha$ , partially decrypt it to get the plaintext  $P_2$ . Do the same for each  $P_3$  to get  $P_4$ . Store the pairs in  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , whose sizes are  $y \cdot 2^{r_b} = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{60.24}$ .
    - For each element in  $S_1$ , partially decrypt  $(C_1, C_2)$  under guessed  $k'_f$  to get  $W_{6,11,15}^{(36)} \| W_{5,6,11,12}^{(37)}$ . Insert the element in  $S_1$  into a hash table  $H$  indexed by the  $h_f = 28$ -bit  $W_{6,11,15}^{(36)} \| W_{5,6,11,12}^{(37)}$  of  $C_1$  and  $h_f =$

28-bit  $\tilde{W}_{6,11,15}^{(36)} \parallel \tilde{W}_{5,6,11,12}^{(37)}$  of  $C_2$ . For each element in  $S_2$ , partially decrypt  $(C_3, C_4)$  under guessed  $k'_f$  to get the  $2h_f = 56$  internal state bits, and check against  $H$  to find the pairs  $(C_1, C_2)$ , where  $(C_1, C_3)$  and  $(C_2, C_4)$  collide at the  $2h_f = 56$  bits. The time complexity here is  $T_1 = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{|k_b \cup k'_f| + n/2 + 1} / \sqrt{\tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2} = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{170+32+1+28 \cdot 24} = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{231.24}$ . We get  $s \cdot 2^{|k_b \cup k'_f| - 2h_f - n + 2r_f} / (\tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2) = s \cdot 2^{170-56-64+128+56 \cdot 47} = s \cdot 2^{234.47}$  quartets

- iii. For each of the  $s \cdot 2^{234.47}$  quartets, determine the key candidates step by step, whose time complexity is  $\varepsilon$ :

**A: In round 38**, guess  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_3^{(38)}$ . As shown in Table 7, with other guessed  $k'_f$  together, we compute  $Z_{0,12}^{(37)}$  and deduce  $\Delta Y_0^{(37)}$  and  $\Delta X_{12}^{(37)}$ . For the 1st column of  $X^{(37)}$  of  $(C_1, C_3)$ , we obtain  $\Delta X_0^{(37)} = \Delta X_{12}^{(37)}$  by property of MC, and deduce  $STK_0^{(37)}$  by Lemma 1. Similarly, we deduce  $STK_0'^{(37)}$  for  $(C_2, C_4)$ . Then the fixed  $\Delta STK_0^{(37)} = STK_0^{(37)} \oplus STK_0'^{(37)}$  is a 4-bit filter.  $s \cdot 2^{234.47} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^{-4} = s \cdot 2^{234.47}$  quartets remain.

**B: In round 37**, guessing  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_2^{(37)}$ , following Table 7 we compute  $Z_{3,15}^{(36)}$  and deduce  $\Delta Y_3^{(36)}$  and  $\Delta X_{15}^{(36)}$ . For the 4-th column of  $X^{(36)}$  of  $(C_1, C_3)$ , we deduce  $\Delta X_3^{(36)} = \Delta X_{15}^{(36)}$  by MC and deduce  $STK_3^{(36)}$ . Since the number of possible values<sup>6</sup> of  $STK_3^{(36)}$  is only  $2^3$  as shown in Table 7, which acts as a filter of  $2^3/2^4 = 2^{-1}$ . Similarly, we deduce  $STK_3'^{(36)}$  for  $(C_2, C_4)$ . Then the fixed  $\Delta STK_3^{(36)}$  is a 4-bit filter.  $s \cdot 2^{234.47} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^{-1} \cdot 2^{-4} = s \cdot 2^{233.47}$  quartets remain.

**C: Guessing  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_4^{(37)}$** , we compute  $Z_7^{(36)}$  and deduce  $\Delta Y_7^{(36)}$ . For the 4-th column of  $X^{(36)}$  of  $(C_1, C_3)$ , we can obtain  $\Delta X_7^{(36)} = \Delta X_{15}^{(36)}$  by MC. With the known  $\Delta X_{15}^{(36)}$  in **step B**, we deduce  $STK_7^{(36)}$ . The number of possible values of  $STK_7^{(36)}$  is  $2^3$ , which can act as a filter of  $2^3/2^4 = 2^{-1}$ . Similarly, we deduce  $STK_7'^{(36)}$  for  $(C_2, C_4)$ . Then the fixed  $\Delta STK_7^{(36)}$  is a 4-bit filter.  $s \cdot 2^{233.47} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^{-1} \cdot 2^{-4} = s \cdot 2^{232.47}$  quartets remain.

**D: Guessing  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_1^{(37)}$** , we compute  $Z_{6,10,14}^{(36)}$ . Then  $\Delta Y_6^{(36)}$  and  $\Delta X_{10,14}^{(36)}$  are deduced. For the 3rd column of  $X^{(36)}$  of  $(C_1, C_3)$ , we can obtain  $\Delta X_6^{(36)} = \Delta X_{10}^{(36)} \oplus \Delta X_{14}^{(36)}$  by MC and deduce  $STK_6^{(36)}$ . The number of possible values of  $STK_6^{(36)}$  is  $2^2$ ,

<sup>6</sup>The number of possible values of  $STK_3^{(36)}$  is computed via Table 6. For example, in line 6 of Table 6,  $\{ETK_{11}^{(0)}, STK_7^{(38)}, STK_1^{(40)}\} \in k_b \cup k'_f$  derived from the 6-th nibble have already been guessed, so the number of possible values of  $STK_3^{(36)}$  is  $|Im(A_{\{0,3,4,5\}})|/|Im(A_{\{0,4,5\}})| = 2^{15-12} = 2^3$ . Similarly, we compute all the number of possible values for subkey cells involved in the guess and filter procedure, which are listed in Table 7.

which acts as a filter of  $2^2/2^4 = 2^{-2}$ . Similarly, we deduce  $STK_6^{(36)}$  for  $(C_2, C_4)$  and  $\Delta STK_6^{(36)}$  can act as a 4-bit filter.  $s \cdot 2^{232.47} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^{-2} \cdot 2^{-4} = s \cdot 2^{230.47}$  quartets remain.

**E: In round 36**, guessing  $2^4 \times 2^2 \times 2^2$  possible values for  $(STK_5^{(37)}, STK_2^{(36)}, STK_4^{(36)})$ , we compute  $Z_{3,7,15}^{(35)}$  and deduce  $\Delta Y_{3,7}^{(35)}$  and  $\Delta X_{15}^{(35)}$ . For the 4-th column of  $X^{(35)}$  of  $(C_1, C_3)$ , we can obtain  $\Delta X_3^{(35)} = \Delta X_7^{(35)} = \Delta X_{15}^{(35)}$  by MC and deduce  $STK_3^{(35)}$  and  $STK_7^{(35)}$ . Both the numbers of possible values of  $STK_3^{(35)}$  and  $STK_7^{(35)}$  are  $2^3$ , which acts as two filters of  $2^3/2^4 = 2^{-1}$ . Similarly, we deduce  $STK_3^{(35)}$  and  $STK_7^{(35)}$  for  $(C_2, C_4)$ . Then the fixed  $\Delta STK_3^{(35)}$  and  $\Delta STK_7^{(35)}$  can act as two 4-bit filters. Thereafter, in round 34, we deduce  $Z_3^{(34)}$  from  $Z_7^{(35)}$  and  $STK_7^{(35)}$ . Since  $STK_3^{(34)}$  only has one possible value<sup>7</sup>, we deduce  $X_3^{(34)}$ . So  $\Delta X_3^{(34)} = 0x1$  acts a 4-bit filter both for  $(C_1, C_3)$  and  $(C_2, C_4)$ .  $s \cdot 2^{230.47} \cdot 2^8 \cdot 2^{-1} \cdot 2^{-1} \cdot 2^{-8} \cdot 2^{-8} = s \cdot 2^{220.47}$  quartets remain.

**F: Guessing**  $2^3 \times 2^3 \times 2^3 \times 2^3$  possible values of  $(STK_1^{(36)}, STK_5^{(36)}, STK_2^{(35)}, STK_4^{(35)})$ , compute  $Z_{7,15}^{(34)}$  and deduce  $X_{15}^{(34)}$ . Since  $STK_7^{(34)}$  only has one possible value, we can deduce  $X_7^{(34)}$ .  $\Delta X_7^{(34)} = 0x1$  and  $\Delta X_{15}^{(34)} = 0x1$  are two 4-bit filters for both  $(C_1, C_3)$  and  $(C_2, C_4)$ .  $s \cdot 2^{220.47} \cdot 2^{12} \cdot 2^{-8} \cdot 2^{-8} = s \cdot 2^{216.47}$  quartets remain.

So for each quartet,  $\varepsilon = 2^4 \cdot \frac{4}{41} + 2^4 \cdot \frac{4}{41} + 2^{-1} \cdot 2^4 \cdot \frac{4}{41} + 2^{-2} \cdot 2^4 \cdot \frac{4}{41} + 2^{-4} \cdot 2^8 \cdot \frac{4}{41} + 2^{-14} \cdot 2^{12} \cdot \frac{4}{41} \approx 2^{2.56}$  and  $T_2 = s \cdot 2^{234.47} \cdot \varepsilon = s \cdot 2^{237.03}$ .

- (c) (Exhaustive search) Select the top  $|k_b \cup k_f| \cdot 2^{-x-h} = 2^{224-x-h}$  hits in the counter as the key candidates. Guess the remaining  $k - 224 = 32$ -bit key to check the full key, and  $T_3 = 2^{k-h}$ .

Set  $s = 1$ ,  $h = 32$  and  $x = 168$  ( $x \leq 170$ ,  $h \leq 224 - x$ ). We have  $T_1 = 2^{231.24}$ ,  $T_2 = 2^{237.03}$  and  $T_3 = 2^{224}$ . The memory complexity is  $2^{62.24} + 2^{56} \approx 2^{62.26}$ . In total, for the 41-round attack on SKINNYe-64-256, the data complexity is  $2^{62.24}$ , the memory complexity is  $2^{62.26}$ , and the time complexity is  $2^{237.06}$ . The success probability is about 70.6%.

In addition, for SKINNYe-64-256 v2 we give a 37-round related-tweakey rectangle attack (given in the Supplementary Material C.2) based on the 26-round related-tweakey boomerang distinguisher (Table 13). The data complexity is  $2^{62.8}$ , the memory complexity is  $2^{62.8}$ , and the time complexity is  $2^{240.03}$ . The success probability is about 66.3%.

## 5 MITM Attacks on SKINNYe-64-256 and its Version 2

The three-subset meet-in-the-middle attack was proposed by Bogdanov and Rechberger [20] and was well summarized by Isobe [40]. Several important tech-

<sup>7</sup>As shown in line 5 of Table 6, with  $STK_7^{(36)}$  deduced in **step C** and other cells guessed in  $k_b \cup k'_f$ , the number of possible values is only 1 for  $STK_3^{(34)}$ .

Table 7: Tweakey recovery for 41-round SKINNYe-64-256. The red cells are among  $k'_f$  or gained in the previous steps. D/G: deduced/guessed subtweakeys.

Step	State	Involved subtweakeys	Number of values
A	$Z_0^{(37)}$	$STK_4^{(38)}, STK_5^{(39)}, STK_{0,6,7}^{(40)}$	G: $STK_3^{(38)} : 2^4$
	$Z_{12}^{(37)}$	$STK_3^{(38)}, STK_{2,7}^{(39)}, STK_{1,4,6}^{(40)}$	D: $STK_0^{(37)} : 2^4$
B	$Z_3^{(36)}$	$STK_7^{(37)}, STK_4^{(38)}, STK_{3,5,6}^{(39)}, STK_{0-2,6,7}^{(40)}$	G: $STK_2^{(37)} : 2^4$
	$Z_{15}^{(36)}$	$STK_2^{(37)}, STK_{1,6}^{(38)}, STK_{0,5,7}^{(39)}, STK_{2-6}^{(40)}$	D: $STK_3^{(36)} : 2^3$
C	$Z_7^{(36)}$	$STK_4^{(37)}, STK_{3,5,6}^{(38)}, STK_{0-2,6,7}^{(39)}, STK_{0-7}^{(40)}$	G: $STK_4^{(37)} : 2^4$
	$Z_6^{(36)}$	$STK_7^{(37)}, STK_{2,4,5}^{(38)}, STK_{0,1,3,5,6}^{(39)}, STK_{0-7}^{(40)}$	D: $STK_7^{(36)} : 2^3$
D	$Z_{10}^{(36)}$	$STK_4^{(37)}, STK_{3,5}^{(38)}, STK_{0,2,6,7}^{(39)}, STK_{1-4,6,7}^{(40)}$	G: $STK_1^{(37)} : 2^4$
	$Z_{14}^{(36)}$	$STK_4^{(37)}, STK_{0,5}^{(38)}, STK_{3,4,6}^{(39)}, STK_{1,2,4,5,7}^{(40)}$	D: $STK_6^{(36)} : 2^2$
	$Z_3^{(35)}$	$STK_7^{(37)}, STK_4^{(38)}, STK_{3,5,6}^{(39)}, STK_{0-2,6,7}^{(40)}, STK_{0-7}^{(39)}$	G: $STK_5^{(37)} : 2^4$
E	$Z_7^{(35)}$	$STK_4^{(36)}, STK_{3,5,6}^{(37)}, STK_{0-2,6,7}^{(38)}, STK_{0-7}^{(39)}, STK_{0-7}^{(40)}$	G: $STK_2^{(36)} : 2^2$
	$Z_{15}^{(35)}$	$STK_2^{(36)}, STK_{1,6}^{(37)}, STK_{0,5,7}^{(38)}, STK_{2-6}^{(39)}, STK_{0-7}^{(40)}$	G: $STK_4^{(36)} : 2^2$
	$Z_3^{(34)}$	$STK_7^{(35)}, STK_4^{(36)}, STK_{3,5,6}^{(37)}, STK_{0-2,6,7}^{(38)}, STK_{0-7}^{(39)}, STK_{0-7}^{(40)}$	D: $STK_3^{(35)} : 2^3$
	$Z_7^{(34)}$	$STK_4^{(35)}, STK_{3,5,6}^{(36)}, STK_{0-2,6,7}^{(37)}, STK_{0-7}^{(38)}, STK_{0-7}^{(39)}, STK_{0-7}^{(40)}$	D: $STK_7^{(35)} : 2^3$ D: $STK_3^{(34)} : 2^0$
F	$Z_7^{(34)}$	$STK_4^{(35)}, STK_{3,5,6}^{(36)}, STK_{0-2,6,7}^{(37)}, STK_{0-7}^{(38)}, STK_{0-7}^{(39)}, STK_{0-7}^{(40)}$	G: $STK_3^{(36)} : 2^3$
	$Z_{15}^{(34)}$	$STK_2^{(35)}, STK_{1,6}^{(36)}, STK_{0,5,7}^{(37)}, STK_{2-6}^{(38)}, STK_{0-7}^{(39)}, STK_{0-7}^{(40)}$	G: $STK_5^{(36)} : 2^3$ G: $STK_2^{(35)} : 2^3$ G: $STK_4^{(35)} : 2^3$ D: $STK_7^{(34)} : 2^0$

niques significantly enhance and enrich the MITM methodology, including the *splice-and-cut* technique [6], initial structure [55,54], (indirect-)partial matching [55,54], sieve-in-the-middle [22], match-box technique [35], and dissection [27], etc. Recently, several automatic tools [25,53,8,9,56] on MITM attacks are presented. At CRYPTO 2021, Dong *et al.* [29] developed the MILP model for MITM key-recovery attack on SKINNY, and the related definitions and symbols of MITM attack are given in Supplementary Material D.1.

### 5.1 MILP Model for MITM Attacks on SKINNYe-64-256

The MITM attack cuts the whole cipher into forward and backward computation chunks, which overlaps in a common intermediate round (i.e. matching point). In each of the chunks, the computation involves a set of key bits, such that they can be computed over all values of the involved key bits independently from the key bits involved in the other chunk (the distinct key bits are called neutral words). In order to perform a successful MITM attack, both the number of possible values of forward and backward neutral words (denoted as degrees of freedom of forward and backward neutral words) must be larger than 1. In Dong *et al.*'s model [29], the degree of freedom for forward and backward neutral words is counted in cells, which is denoted as  $\text{DoF}^+$  and  $\text{DoF}^-$ , respectively. Then, they add the constraint  $\text{DoF}^+ \geq 1$  and  $\text{DoF}^- \geq 1$  in the model to ensure the number of possible values of the neutral words to be larger than 1. The reason behind is that for SKINNY when  $\text{DoF}^+ = 0$  or  $\text{DoF}^- = 0$ , the linear constraints for the neutral words will lead to a full-rank linear system (i.e., the Equation (24) or

(25) in Supplementary Material D.1 will have only one solution), which leads to the size of neutral words to be 1 and fails the MITM attack.

When applying Dong *et al.*'s model to SKINNYe-64-256, the situation becomes different due to the new tweakey schedule. For example, assume the initial degrees of freedom from the key schedule path as  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^+ = \lambda_{\text{KSA}}^- = 4$  and the consumed degrees of freedom  $l_{\text{KSA}}^+ = l_{\text{KSA}}^- = 4$ . In this case we will get  $\text{DoF}^+ = 4 - 4 = 0, \text{DoF}^- = 4 - 4 = 0$ , which will never be the solutions of Dong *et al.*'s MILP model (invalidate the constraints  $\text{DoF}^+ \geq 1, \text{DoF}^- \geq 1$ ). However, when building the linear constraint systems for the neutral key words as Equation (24) and (25), the coefficient matrices (denoted as  $\mathbf{A}$ ) can be of non-full rank even though  $\text{DoF}^+ = 0$  or  $\text{DoF}^- = 0$ . More precisely, according to Section 3 and Table 4, those coefficient matrices with  $\text{rank} = 14$  will make the degree of freedom for the neutral words be  $2^2$ , which therefore validates the MITM attack. In order to cover all the possible solutions for the MITM attacks on SKINNYe-64-256, we build two different kinds of models:

- The first one maintain similar constraints from Dong *et al.*'s model including the constraints  $\text{DoF}^+ \geq 1, \text{DoF}^- \geq 1$ .
- The second one takes the property in Section 3 into account. We only consider those coefficient matrices with  $\text{rank} = 14$  in Table 4, and discard those with  $\text{rank} = 15$  since they will lead to attacks with almost exhaustive attack. Let  $st^+, st^-$  be the starting rounds of the degrees of freedom consumption for forward and backward chunks. Suppose for forward chunk and backward chunk, the equivalence classes used are  $[\{r_1^+, r_2^+, r_3^+, r_4^+\}]$  and  $[\{r_1^-, r_2^-, r_3^-, r_4^-\}]$  (selected from equivalence classes with  $\text{rank} = 14$  in Table 4), respectively. Then, the following constraints will be added to replace  $\text{DoF}^+ \geq 1, \text{DoF}^- \geq 1$ :

$$\begin{cases} \text{DoF}^+ = 0, \text{DoF}^- = 0, \\ \sum_{i=0}^{15} \delta_{\text{KSA}}^{(r^+)}[i] = 1, \text{ for } r^+ = st^+ + 2r_j^+ \text{ and } j = 1, 2, 3, 4, \\ \sum_{i=0}^{15} \delta_{\text{KSA}}^{(r^+)}[i] = 0, \text{ otherwise,} \\ \sum_{i=0}^{15} \delta_{\text{KSA}}^{(r^-)}[i] = 1, \text{ for } r^- = st^- + 2r_j^- \text{ and } j = 1, 2, 3, 4, \\ \sum_{i=0}^{15} \delta_{\text{KSA}}^{(r^-)}[i] = 0, \text{ otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

where Boolean variable  $\delta_{\text{KSA}}^{(r^{+/-})}[i] = 1$  if and only if the degrees of freedom of the forward/backward neutral words are consumed in  $i$ -th cell in round  $r^+$  or round  $r^-$ . We build different MILP models for parameters  $(st^+, st^-, r_i^+, r_i^-)$  with  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ .

The other parts of the model for SKINNYe-64-256 similar with Dong *et al.*'s model can refer to Supplementary Material D.2 and the source code is provided in <https://github.com/skinny64/Skinny64-256>. We run different kinds of the models to find optimal solutions.

## 5.2 MITM Attack on 31-Round SKINNYe-64-256

The best MITM attack we discover is based on the rank-equivalence class  $[\{0, 1, 2, 3\}]$  for both forward and backward chunk, which is a 31-round single-key attack on SKINNYe-64-256 as shown in Figure 10 in Supplementary Material D.3. The starting states are  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}} = X^{(1)}$  and  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}} = (TK_1^{(1)}, TK_2^{(1)}, TK_3^{(1)}, TK_4^{(1)})$ . The matching point is between  $Z^{(16)}$  and  $X^{(17)}$ , which forms a 1-cell filter. There are 4  $\blacksquare$  cells and 4  $\blacksquare$  cells in  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}$ , so  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^+ = \lambda_{\text{KSA}}^- = 4$ . For the forward computation, we need to make the Equation (12) hold:

$$\begin{cases} TK_{1,2}^{(6)} \oplus TK_{2,2}^{(6)} \oplus TK_{3,2}^{(6)} \oplus TK_{4,2}^{(6)} = a_1, \\ TK_{1,4}^{(8)} \oplus TK_{2,4}^{(8)} \oplus TK_{3,4}^{(8)} \oplus TK_{4,4}^{(8)} = a_2, \\ TK_{1,6}^{(10)} \oplus TK_{2,6}^{(10)} \oplus TK_{3,6}^{(10)} \oplus TK_{4,6}^{(10)} = a_3, \\ TK_{1,5}^{(12)} \oplus TK_{2,5}^{(12)} \oplus TK_{3,5}^{(12)} \oplus TK_{4,5}^{(12)} = a_4, \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

where  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4$  are constants. Assume  $\{TK_{1,2}^{(6)}, TK_{2,2}^{(6)}, TK_{3,2}^{(6)}, TK_{4,2}^{(6)}\}$  represents the master tweakey and  $\mathbf{c}^+ = (a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4) \in \mathbb{F}_2^{16}$ . Using the notations in Section 3, the Equation (12) can be rewritten as

$$\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,2}^{(6)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,2}^{(6)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,2}^{(6)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,2}^{(6)}]^T = \mathbf{c}^+. \quad (13)$$

For Equation (13), we can know  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}}) = 14$  from Table 4 and the size of its image space  $|\text{Im}(\mathbf{A})| = 2^{14}$ . Therefore, if  $\mathbf{c}^+ \in \text{Im}(\mathbf{A})$ , there will be  $2^2$  solutions of Equation (13). Otherwise, it will have no solution. Before the attack, we precompute the image space of  $\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}}$  and store it in a table  $\text{Im}_{\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}}}^+$ .

Similarly, for the backward computation, there needs Equation (14) to hold:

$$\begin{cases} TK_{1,0}^{(23)} \oplus TK_{2,0}^{(23)} \oplus TK_{3,0}^{(23)} \oplus TK_{4,0}^{(23)} = b_1, \\ TK_{1,2}^{(25)} \oplus TK_{2,2}^{(25)} \oplus TK_{3,2}^{(25)} \oplus TK_{4,2}^{(25)} = b_2, \\ TK_{1,4}^{(27)} \oplus TK_{2,4}^{(27)} \oplus TK_{3,4}^{(27)} \oplus TK_{4,4}^{(27)} = b_3, \\ TK_{1,6}^{(29)} \oplus TK_{2,6}^{(29)} \oplus TK_{3,6}^{(29)} \oplus TK_{4,6}^{(29)} = b_4. \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

Let  $\mathbf{c}^- = (b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4) \in \mathbb{F}_2^{16}$  be constants, there is

$$\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,0}^{(23)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,0}^{(23)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,0}^{(23)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,0}^{(23)}]^T = \mathbf{c}^-. \quad (15)$$

Precompute the solution space of  $\mathbf{c}^-$  in table  $\text{Im}_{\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}}}^-$ .

We give the details of 31-round MITM key-recovery attack in Algorithm 1. The data and memory complexity is  $2^{52}$ , which is bounded by Line 3 in Algorithm 1. According to the Equation (26), we can get the time complexity is about  $2^{254}$ .

In addition, we give a 27-round MITM attack on SKINNYe-64-256 v2 (see Supplementary Material D.3). The time complexity is about  $2^{252}$ , the data and memory complexity is  $2^{52}$ .

**Algorithm 1:** The MITM key-recovery attack on SKINNYe-64-256

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1 Compute the  $\text{Im}_{\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}}}^+$  and  $\text{Im}_{\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}}}^-$ 
2  $X_{0,10,14}^{(0)} \leftarrow 0, X_{2,3,9,11,13}^{(1)} \leftarrow 0, X_{2,8,10,12}^{(2)} \leftarrow 0, Y_1^{(2)} \leftarrow 0, X_{1,9}^{(3)} \leftarrow 0, Y_0^{(4)} \leftarrow 0.$ 
3 Collecting structure of plaintext-ciphertext pairs and store them in table  $H$ ,
  which traverses the non-constant 16-3=13 cells in the plaintext
4 for All possible values of the  $\blacksquare$  cells in  $(TK_1^{(1)}, TK_2^{(1)}, TK_3^{(1)}, TK_4^{(1)})$  do
5   Compute all other unknown Gray cells according to the values assigned in
  step 2 and step 3.
6   for  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4) \in \text{Im}_{\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}}}^+$  and  $(b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4) \in \text{Im}_{\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}}}^-$  do
7     Derive the solution space of the  $\blacksquare$  cells by Eq. (12) and store it in  $T_1$ .
8     Derive the solution space of the  $\blacksquare$  cells by Eq. (14) and store it in  $T_2$ .
9     Initialize  $L$  to be an empty hash table.
10    for the values in  $T_2$  do
11      Compute  $X_{11}^{(17)}$  along the backward computation path:
12       $X^{(4)} \rightarrow X^{(0)} \rightarrow E_K(X^{(0)}) \rightarrow X^{(17)}$  by accessing  $H$ 
13      Insert relative information into  $L$  indexed by  $X_{11}^{(17)}$ 
14    end
15    for the values in  $T_1$  do
16      Compute  $Z_7^{(16)}$  and  $Z_{11}^{(16)}$  along the forward computation path:
17       $X^{(1)} \rightarrow Z^{(16)}$ 
18      for Candidate keys in  $L[Z_7^{(16)} \oplus Z_{11}^{(16)}]$  do
19        | Test the guessed key with several plaintext-ciphertext pairs.
20      end
21    end
22  end

```

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## 6 Related-Tweakey Impossible Differential Attacks

For SKINNYe-64-256, applying the properties of subtweakey difference cancellations introduced in Section 3 we construct a 21-round related-tweakey impossible differential. The impossible differential is placed at Round 3 to Round 24 as illustrated in Figure 12 in Supplementary Material E, which has only one active nibble in the master tweakey. For the active 9-th nibble of the master tweakey, the subtweakey difference cancellations happen 6 times at Round 5, 7, 9, 13, 15 and 21, where  $(stk_4^{(5)}, stk_6^{(7)}, stk_5^{(9)}, stk_7^{(13)}, stk_1^{(15)}, stk_4^{(21)})^T = \mathbf{A}_{\{3,4,5,7,8,11\}} \cdot (tk_{1,9}^{(0)}, tk_{2,9}^{(0)}, tk_{3,9}^{(0)}, tk_{4,9}^{(0)})^T = \mathbf{0}$ . With  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{3,4,5,7,8,11\}}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_{\{0,1,2,4,5,8\}}) = 15$ , we find the only one nonzero solution, i.e.,  $tk_{1,9}^{(0)} = [0, 0, 0, 0]^T$ ,  $tk_{2,9}^{(0)} = [1, 1, 1, 1]^T$ ,  $tk_{3,9}^{(0)} = [0, 0, 0, 0]^T$  and  $tk_{4,9}^{(0)} = [1, 1, 1, 0]^T$ . Then the subtweakey differences in each round can be deduced. The impossible differential is represented as

$$(0010 \ 0000 \ 0000 \ 0000) \rightsquigarrow (0000 \ 0000 \ 0001 \ 0000).$$

*Remark.* With the difference cancellation properties, we find a 21-round impossible differential for SKINNYe-64-256 based on a cancellation pattern, while previous impossible differentials reach 16 rounds [44] for SKINNY-64-192 and 15 rounds [52] for SKINNY-64-128, respectively.

For SKINNYe-64-256 v2, the impossible differential is 18 rounds, which is in the expectation of the designers (see Supplementary Material E).

## 7 Tweakey Schedule For SKINNY Family

At ASIACRYPT 2014, Jean *et al.* [41] introduced the STK construction as shown in Figure 1, which absorbs arbitrary length of tweakey. It updates each cell of the tweakey states by multiplying a non-zero  $\alpha_j$ . For SKINNY- $n$ - $zn$ , the tweakey cells are updated by dedicated chosen lightweight LFSRs, which guarantees at most  $z - 1$  cancellations within 30 consecutive rounds. However, SKINNY family [10] only gives instances for  $z = 1, 2, 3$ . SKINNYe-64-256 [46] extends  $z$  to 4, but fails to satisfy its expected security claim\*. In the updated version SKINNYe-64-256 v2 [47], the designers fixed the issue and claimed that the LFSR for  $TK_4$  is the only one to ensure at most 3 cancellations after exhaustively testing  $2^{16}$  choices. It is not trivial to extend SKINNY to support arbitrary length of tweakey with similar *subtweakey difference cancellation property* to STK construction: for a given cell position,  $z - 1$  cancellations can only happen every 15 rounds for TK- $z$  (or every 30 rounds for SKINNY- $n$ - $zn$ ).

As stated by Naito *et al.* [46, Page 5] that PFB.Plus “... give new insight to TBC designers considering that there is no consensus about the adequate tweak size to support”. It is interesting to consider a uniformed tweakey schedule to extend SKINNY to support larger tweakey size, while obeying the property of STK construction, which may have potential application, such as SKINNYe-64-256 v2 in TI-friendly constructions.

For general  $z \leq 14$ , the output nibbles can be represented by linear combinations of the input nibbles as in equation (4), i.e.,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2 \times 0}[i]}^{(2 \times 0)} \\ \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2 \times 1}[i]}^{(2 \times 1)} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{stk}_{\bar{P}^{2 \times 14}[i]}^{(2 \times 14)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & L_2^0 & \cdots & L_z^0 \\ \mathbf{I} & L_2^1 & \cdots & L_z^1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{I} & L_2^{14} & \cdots & L_z^{14} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{tk}_{1,i}^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{tk}_{2,i}^{(0)} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{tk}_{z,i}^{(0)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad 0 \leq i \leq 7. \quad (16)$$

---

\*Similar issue happens to Lilliput-AE [1], one of the first-round candidates at the NIST competition, specifies TBCs with up to  $z = 7$ . However, they also ignored the rationale of the original tweakey framework to ensure the security, and were actually attacked practically [32].



To satisfy the subtweakey difference cancellation property, the coefficient matrix in (16) must satisfy the ‘block-MDS’ property [41], i.e.,

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{L}_2^{r_1} & \cdots & \mathbf{L}_z^{r_1} \\ \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{L}_2^{r_2} & \cdots & \mathbf{L}_z^{r_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{L}_2^{r_z} & \cdots & \mathbf{L}_z^{r_z} \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \quad (17)$$

for all  $0 \leq r_1 < r_2 < \cdots < r_z \leq 14$ . In other words, the goal of our design is to choose  $\mathbf{L}_i$ ’s such that the ‘block-MDS’ property is guaranteed. Although the coefficient matrix in (16) has a block Vandermonde form, there is no simple formula to compute the determinant of its squared sub-matrices for general  $\mathbf{L}_i$ ’s. When the  $\mathbf{L}_i$ ’s are pairwise commutable, a formula can be deduced for squared block Vandermonde matrices, which we refer to Supplementary Material F.

### 7.1 The Choice of $\mathbf{L}_i$

Our construction can be viewed as an extension of the generator matrices of Reed-Solomon codes to the block matrix form. Specifically, denoting  $\mathbf{L}_1 = \mathbf{I}$ , and we choose the  $\mathbf{L}_i$ ’s to be consecutive powers of a matrix  $\mathbf{L}$ , i.e.,

$$\{\mathbf{L}_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq z} = \{\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1}, \dots, \mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z}\} \quad (18)$$

for some integer  $\alpha \in [-z, -1]$ . Then we can show that the ‘block-MDS’ property is guaranteed if the matrix  $\mathbf{L}$  satisfies specific property.

**Proposition 1.** *Suppose  $\mathbf{L}$  is a  $4 \times 4$  matrix over  $GF(2)$  such that the characteristic polynomial  $p_{\mathbf{L}}(\lambda)$  is a primitive polynomial of degree 4 over  $GF(2)$ . Then  $\mathbf{L}$  has cycle 15, and for any integer  $\alpha$ ,*

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1})^{r_1} & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+2})^{r_1} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z})^{r_1} \\ (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1})^{r_2} & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+2})^{r_2} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z})^{r_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1})^{r_z} & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+2})^{r_z} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z})^{r_z} \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \quad (19)$$

for all  $0 \leq r_1 < r_2 < \cdots < r_z \leq 14$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\lambda_i, 1 \leq i \leq 4$ , be the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{L}$ , then  $\lambda_i$  is primitive in  $GF(2^4)$  and  $\mathbf{L}^r$  has eigenvalues  $\lambda_i^r, 1 \leq i \leq 4$ . For  $1 \leq r < 15$ , we have  $\lambda_i^r \neq 1, 1 \leq i \leq 4$ , and thus  $\mathbf{L}^r \neq \mathbf{I}$ . For  $r = 15$ , note that  $p_{\mathbf{L}}(\lambda) \mid (\lambda^{15} - 1)$ , and by the Cayley–Hamilton theorem (see Section 9 of [51]) we have  $p_{\mathbf{L}}(\mathbf{L}) = \mathbf{0}$ . Then it follows that  $\mathbf{L}^{15} - \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{0}$ .

To show the determinant is nonzero, we observe that

$$\begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1})^{r_1} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z})^{r_1} \\ (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1})^{r_2} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z})^{r_2} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1})^{r_z} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z})^{r_z} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{L}^{\alpha r_1} & & & \\ & \mathbf{L}^{\alpha r_2} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \mathbf{L}^{\alpha r_z} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{L}^{r_1} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{r_1})^z \\ \mathbf{L}^{r_2} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{r_2})^z \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{L}^{r_z} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{r_z})^z \end{pmatrix}. \quad (20)$$

Then it suffices to show that  $\det((\mathbf{L}^{r_i})^j)_{1 \leq i, j \leq z} \neq 0$  for all  $0 \leq r_1 < r_2 < \dots < r_z \leq 14$ , which we refer to Supplementary Material F.  $\square$

**Construction of  $L$ .** One simple way to construct  $L$  is to take  $L$  to be the companion matrix of a primitive polynomial. For example, for the primitive polynomial  $\lambda^4 + \lambda + 1$ , we can take  $L$  to be the companion matrix

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (21)$$

It can be readily checked that the characteristic polynomial  $p_L(\lambda) = \lambda^4 + \lambda + 1$  and thus the eigenvalues of  $L$  are distinct primitive elements in  $GF(2^4)$ . On the other hand, taking companion matrices of primitive polynomials is not the only way to obtain  $L$ . In fact, we perform an exhaustive search of all binary  $4 \times 4$  binary matrices, and find totally 1344 distinct  $L$  whose characteristic polynomial is primitive over  $GF(2)$ .

**An Example for  $z = 4$ .** Taking  $\alpha = -2$  and  $L$  equals to that in (21), then

$$\{\mathbf{L}_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq 4} = \{\mathbf{L}^{-1}, \mathbf{L}^0, \mathbf{L}^1, \mathbf{L}^2\}. \quad (22)$$

Without loss of generality, let

$$\mathbf{L}_2 = \mathbf{L}^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{L}_3 = \mathbf{L}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{L}_4 = \mathbf{L}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (23)$$

Considering the LFSRs defined by (23), we found that the LFSRs for  $TK_2$  and  $TK_3$  coincide with the original LFSRs in SKINNY, and the LFSRs for  $TK_4$  coincides with that constructed in SKINNYe-64-256 v2. *From this point of view, our construction can be viewed as a natural extension of the original SKINNY-64 and SKINNYe-64-256 v2.*

For general  $z \leq 14$ , the ‘block-MDS’ property of our construction guarantees there are at most  $z-1$  difference cancellations every 15 rounds for TK- $z$  (or every 30 rounds SKINNY- $n$ - $zn$ ). We derive the lower bounds of the number of active S-boxes for SKINNY- $n$ - $zn$  ( $z \leq 14$ ) with our construction of the tweakey schedule (see Supplementary Material H). The results (see Table 16) show that our new tweakey schedule for TK- $z$  ( $z \leq 14$ ) leads to a natural increase of the bounds compared to TK-1, TK-2 and TK-3 in [10] and TK-4 in [47].

**Efficiency Considerations.** How to choose  $L_i$ ’s to optimize the implementation efficiency is also an important issue. As pointed in [46], one direction of optimization is to minimize the total number of XORs required by the LFSRs. For  $z = 4$ , the LFSRs constructed through (23) require only 4 XORs totally, i.e.,  $L_2$  and  $L_3$  require only 1 XOR respectively, and  $L_4$  requires 2 XORs. Note that

in [46] it was proved that there is no secure LFSRs for  $TK_4$  with only a single XOR, therefore the LFSRs constructed through (23) is optimal with respect to the number of XORs. For all  $4 \leq z \leq 7$ , we enumerate all possible  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\alpha$ , and give the optimal number of XORs required in our construction in Table 8.

Table 8: Optimal number of XORs required in our construction.

$z$	$\mathbf{L}$	$\{\mathbf{L}_i\}_{2 \leq i \leq z}$	Number of XORs	Total XORs
4	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}, \mathbf{L}^2\}$	$\{1, 1, 2\}$	4
5	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^{-2}\}$	$\{1, 1, 2, 3\}$	7
6	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^{-2}, \mathbf{L}^3\}$	$\{1, 1, 2, 3, 3\}$	10
7	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^{-2}, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^4\}$	$\{1, 1, 2, 3, 3, 5\}$	15

Another direction of optimization is to minimize the circuit area of the LFSRs. In our construction, all  $\mathbf{L}_i$ 's are powers of a matrix  $\mathbf{L}$ , therefore a minimal area implementation can be supported by instantiating only one circuit of  $\mathbf{L}$  and computing each  $\mathbf{L}_i$  iteratively. For example, for  $z = 4$  we take  $\alpha = -1$  and  $\mathbf{L}_2 = \mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}_3 = \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}_4 = \mathbf{L}^3$ . Then  $\mathbf{L}_2, \mathbf{L}_3$  and  $\mathbf{L}_4$  can be computed by repeating  $\mathbf{L}$  in 1, 2 and 3 times respectively, and the total latency is as 6 times as that of a single  $\mathbf{L}$ . On the other hand, we propose an area-latency trade-off to reduce the latency by slightly increasing the area. Again we take  $z = 4$  and  $\mathbf{L}_2 = \mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}_3 = \mathbf{L}^2$  and  $\mathbf{L}_4 = \mathbf{L}^3$  for an example. In this case we instantiate a circuit of  $\mathbf{L}$  and a circuit of  $\mathbf{L}^2$ . Then taking  $\mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3, \mathbf{x}_4 \in GF(2)^4$  as inputs, the output states  $\mathbf{L}_2\mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{L}_3\mathbf{x}_3, \mathbf{L}_4\mathbf{x}_4$  can be computed in two steps, i.e., firstly compute  $\mathbf{L}\mathbf{x}_2$  and  $\mathbf{L}^2\mathbf{x}_4$ , then compute  $\mathbf{L}(\mathbf{L}^2\mathbf{x}_4)$  and  $\mathbf{L}^2\mathbf{x}_3$ . As a result, the total latency is reduced by a third at the cost of double area<sup>†</sup>. In Table 9 we list the area-latency trade-off for our construction for  $4 \leq z \leq 7$ .

**Extension to  $c \times c$  sub-matrices.** Our construction can be naturally extended to choosing  $c \times c$  matrices  $\mathbf{L}_i$ 's such that the 'block-MDS' property in (17) is satisfied for all  $0 \leq r_1 < r_2 < \dots < r_z \leq 2^c - 2$  and  $z \leq 2^c - 2$ . We provide a discussion in Supplementary Material G.

## 8 Conclusion

The unexpected cancellations in the new tweakable schedule of SKINNYe-64-256 significantly enhances several attacks on SKINNYe-64-256 when compared to that on SKINNY-64-128 and SKINNY-64-192, and leaves a security margin of 3 rounds in related-tweakable setting. Moreover, we give some cryptanalysis results

<sup>†</sup>The area of the trade-off implementation mainly includes the circuit for  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{L}^2$  and two 4-bit registers. In area optimization implementation, the area is the circuit of  $\mathbf{L}$  and one 4-bit register. Assume the registers bound the area, we can say trade-off method costs double area.

Table 9: The area-latency trade-off for our construction.

$z$	$\{\mathbf{L}_i\}_{2 \leq i \leq z}$	Instantiated circuit	Area	Latency
4	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}\}$	1	6
	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2\}$	2	2
5	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^4\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}\}$	1	10
	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^{-2}\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}\}$	2	3
	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^4\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3\}$	3	2
6	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^4, \mathbf{L}^5\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}\}$	1	15
	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^4, \mathbf{L}^5\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2\}$	2	4
	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^4, \mathbf{L}^5\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^4\}$	3	3
	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^4, \mathbf{L}^5\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^4\}$	4	2
7	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^4, \mathbf{L}^5, \mathbf{L}^6\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}\}$	1	21
	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^{-2}, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^{-3}\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}\}$	2	6
	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^4, \mathbf{L}^5, \mathbf{L}^6\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^4\}$	3	3
	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^{-2}, \mathbf{L}^3, \mathbf{L}^{-3}\}$	$\{\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}, \mathbf{L}^2, \mathbf{L}^{-2}\}$	4	2

on the updated version 2, which indicates that the current version satisfies the security claims of the designers. At last, we introduce a uniformed design strategy for the tweakable schedule of SKINNY- $n$ - $zn$  ( $z \leq 14$ ), and prove that it satisfies the security requirements of the STK construction .

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## Supplementary Material

### A The algorithm of computing the equivalence classes with non-full rank coefficient matrix for SKINNYe-64-256

The algorithm of computing the equivalence classes with non-full rank coefficient matrix for SKINNYe-64-256 is given in Algorithm 2.

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**Algorithm 2:** Computing the equivalence classes with non-full rank coefficient matrix

---

```

1 Input:  $\mathcal{K} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 14\}$ 
2  $H \leftarrow []$ 
3 for all  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\} \subset \mathcal{K}$  /* about  $2^{15}$  iterations */
4 do
5   Compute the rank of  $\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}$ ,  $Flag \leftarrow 0$ 
6   if  $rank(\mathbf{A}_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}}) \neq \min\{4t, 16\}$  then
7     for  $0 \leq r' \leq 14$  do
8        $B \leftarrow \{(r_1 + r') \bmod 15, (r_2 + r') \bmod 15, \dots, (r_t + r') \bmod 15\}$ 
9       if  $B \in H$  then
10         $Flag \leftarrow 1$ 
11        break
12      end
13    end
14  end
15  if  $Flag = 0$  then
16     $H \leftarrow \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t\}$ 
17  end
18 end
19 Output:  $H$ 

```

---

### B Automatic Rectangle Attack by Dong *et al.* At EUROCRYPT 2022

This section gives the new rectangle attack framework in [30] and briefly introduces their automatic model.

#### B.1 Dong *et al.*'s Rectangle Attack Framework [30]

At EUROCRYPT 2022, Dong *et al.* [30] introduce a new related-key rectangle attack on ciphers with linear key schedule, which is listed in Algorithm 3.



---

**Algorithm 3:** Related-key rectangle attack with linear key-schedule  
 [30]
 

---

```

1 Construct  $y$  structures of  $2^{r_b}$  plaintexts each
2 For structure  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq y$ ), query the  $2^{r_b}$  plaintexts by encryption under  $K_1$ ,
    $K_2$ ,  $K_3$  and  $K_4$  and store them in  $L_1[i]$ ,  $L_2[i]$ ,  $L_3[i]$  and  $L_4[i]$ 
3 for each of the  $x$ -bit key  $K_x$ , which is a part of  $(m_b + m'_f)$ -bit  $K_1$  do
4    $K_c \leftarrow []$  /* Key counters of size  $2^{m_b+m'_f-x}$  */
5   for each of  $(m_b + m'_f - x)$ -bit  $K_{\bar{x}}$  of  $K_1$  involved in  $E_b$  and  $E_f$  do
6      $S_1 \leftarrow [], S_2 \leftarrow []$ 
7     for  $i$  from 1 to  $y$  do
8       for  $(P_1, C_1) \in L_1[i]$  do
9         /* Partially encrypt  $P_1$  to  $\alpha$  under guessed  $K_1$  and
10          partially decrypt to get the plaintext  $P_2 \in L_2[i]$  */
11          $P_2 = E_{b_{K_1 \oplus \Delta K}}^{-1}(E_{b_{K_1}}(P_1) \oplus \alpha)$ 
12          $S_1 \leftarrow (P_1, C_1, P_2, C_2)$ 
13       end
14       for  $(P_3, C_3) \in L_3[i]$  do
15          $P_4 = E_{b_{K_1 \oplus \Delta K \oplus \nabla K}}^{-1}(E_{b_{K_1 \oplus \nabla K}}(P_3) \oplus \alpha)$ 
16          $S_2 \leftarrow (P_3, C_3, P_4, C_4)$ 
17       end
18     end
19     /*  $S_1 = \{(P_1, C_1, P_2, C_2) : (P_1, C_1) \in L_1, (P_2, C_2) \in L_2, E_{b_{K_1}}(P_1) \oplus E_{b_{K_2}}(P_2) = \alpha\}$ 
20     /*  $S_2 = \{(P_3, C_3, P_4, C_4) : (P_3, C_3) \in L_3, (P_4, C_4) \in L_4, E_{b_{K_3}}(P_3) \oplus E_{b_{K_4}}(P_4) = \alpha\}$  */
21      $H \leftarrow []$ 
22     for  $(P_1, C_1, P_2, C_2) \in S_1$  do
23       /* Assuming the first  $h_f$ -bit internal states of  $X_1$  and
24        $X_2$  are derived by decrypting  $(C_1, C_2)$  with  $k'_f$  */
25        $X_1[1, \dots, h_f] = E_{f_{K_1}}^{-1}(C_1)$ ,  $X_2[1, \dots, h_f] = E_{f_{K_1 \oplus \Delta K}}^{-1}(C_2)$ 
26       /* Assume the inactive bits of  $\delta'$  are first  $n - r_f$  bits */
27        $\tau = (X_1[1, \dots, h_f], X_2[1, \dots, h_f], C_1[1, \dots, n - r_f], C_2[1, \dots, n - r_f])$ 
28        $H[\tau] \leftarrow (P_1, C_1, P_2, C_2)$ 
29     end
30     for  $(P_3, C_3, P_4, C_4) \in S_2$  do
31        $X_3[1, \dots, h_f] = E_{f_{K_1 \oplus \nabla K}}^{-1}(C_3)$ ,  $X_4[1, \dots, h_f] = E_{f_{K_1 \oplus \Delta K \oplus \nabla K}}^{-1}(C_4)$ 
32        $\tau' = (X_3[1, \dots, h_f], X_4[1, \dots, h_f], C_3[1, \dots, n - r_f], C_4[1, \dots, n - r_f])$ 
33       Access  $H[\tau']$  to find  $(P_1, C_1, P_2, C_2)$  to generate quartet
34        $(C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4)$ .
35       for each generated quartet do
36         Determine the other  $(m_f - m'_f)$ -bit key  $k''_f$  involved in  $E_f$ 
37          $K_c[K_{\bar{x}} \| k''_f] \leftarrow K_c[K_{\bar{x}} \| k''_f] + 1$  /* Denote the time as  $\varepsilon$  */
38       end
39     end
40   end
41 end
42 /* Exhaustive search step */
43 Select the top  $2^{m_b+m'_f-x-h}$  hits in the counter to be the candidates, which
44 delivers an  $h$ -bit or higher advantage. Guess the remaining  $k - (m_b + m_f)$ 
45 bit keys combined with the guessed  $x$  subkey bits to check the full key.
46 end

```

---

## B.2 Dong *et al.*'s Model to Determine the Optimal Distinguisher

Following the previous automatic models [50,24,37], Dong *et al.* introduced a uniform automatic model to search for the entire  $(N_b + N_d + N_f)$  rounds of the new rectangle attack framework in Algorithm 3, by adding new constraints and new objective function. The notations used in the new constraints are listed below:

- $X_r^u$  and  $X_r^l$ : the internal state before **SubCells** in round  $r$  of the upper and lower differentials
- $W_r^l$ : the internal state before **MixColumns** in round  $r$  of the lower differential
- $\text{DXU}[r][i]$ : active cells in the internal states  $X_r^u$  ( $0 \leq r \leq N_b + r_0 + r_m, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{DXL}[r][i]$ : active cells in the internal states  $X_r^l$  ( $0 \leq r \leq r_m + r_1 + N_f, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{KnownEnc}[r][i]$ : the cells involved in the  $m_b$ -bit subkeys in the  $N_b$  extended rounds ( $0 \leq r \leq N_b - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{DXFixed}[r][i]$ : the cells with fixed differences in  $X_r^l$  ( $0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{DWFixed}[r][i]$ : the cells with fixed differences in  $W_r^l$  ( $0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{DXFilter}[r][i]$ : the cells can be used as filters in  $X_r^l$  ( $0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{DWFilter}[r][i]$ : the cells can be used as filters in  $W_r^l$  ( $0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{DXisFilter}[r][i]$ : the cells chosen as filters in  $X_r^l$  ( $0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{DWisFilter}[r][i]$ : the cells chosen as filters in  $W_r^l$  ( $0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{DXGuess}[r][i]$ : the cells need to know in the decryption from ciphertexts to the filters in  $X_r^l$  ( $0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{DWGuess}[r][i]$ : the cells need to know in the decryption from ciphertexts to the filters in  $W_r^l$  ( $0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{KnownDec}[r][i]$ : the cells need to know in the decryption from ciphertext to the position of known  $\delta$  in  $Y_r^l$  ( $0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ )
- $\text{Adv}$ : the advantage  $h$
- $x$ : the bit size of  $K_x$  in Algorithm 3

### B.2.1 Modelling propagation of cells with known differences in $E_f$ .

Since certain cells of the internal state with fixed differences can be used to filter quartets, the propagation of fixed differences are needed to be modelled in  $E_f$ . For the first extended round after the lower differential, the difference of each cell is fixed:  $\forall 0 \leq i \leq 15, \text{DXFixed}[0][i] = 1$ .

In the propagation of the fixed differences, after the **SC** operation, only the differences of inactive cells are fixed. In the **ART** operation, the subkey differences do not affect whether the differences are fixed. Let permutation  $P_{\text{SR}} = [0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 12]$  represent the **SR** operation,

$$\text{DWFixed}[r][i] = \neg \text{DXL}[r_m + r_1 + r][P_{\text{SR}}[i]], \forall 0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15.$$

The constraints on the impact of the MC operation on the internal state are given below:  $\forall 0 \leq r \leq N_f - 2, 0 \leq i \leq 3$ ,

$$\begin{cases} \text{DXFixed}[r+1][i] = \text{DWFixed}[r][i] \wedge \text{DWFixed}[r][i+8] \wedge \text{DWFixed}[r][i+12], \\ \text{DXFixed}[r+1][i+4] = \text{DWFixed}[r][i], \\ \text{DXFixed}[r+1][i+8] = \text{DWFixed}[r][i+4] \wedge \text{DWFixed}[r][i+8], \\ \text{DXFixed}[r+1][i+12] = \text{DWFixed}[r][i] \wedge \text{DWFixed}[r][i+8]. \end{cases}$$

**B.2.2 Modelling cells that could be used to filter quartets in  $E_f$ .** In Algorithm 3,  $m'_f$ -bit  $k'_f$  of  $k_f$  involved in  $N_f$  extended rounds are guessed to obtain a  $2h_f$ -bit filter. For each cell in  $X_r^l$ , if the difference is nonzero and fixed, it can be chosen as a filter. If the difference is fixed as zero, the cell is not a filter because it has been used as filter in  $W_r^l$ . The valid valuations of **DXFixed**, **DXL** and **DXFilter** are given in Table 10.

Table 10: All valid valuations of **DXFixed**, **DXL** and **DXFilter** for SKINNY.

<b>DXFixed</b> [ $r$ ][ $i$ ]	<b>DXL</b> [ $r_m + r_1 + r$ ][ $i$ ]	<b>DXFilter</b> [ $r$ ][ $i$ ]
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

In the last round,  $W_{N_f-1}^l$  can be computed from the ciphertexts, and the cells with fixed differences of  $W_{N_f-1}^l$  can be used as filters, i.e., the  $(n - r_f)$  inactive bits:  $\forall 0 \leq i \leq 15, \text{DWFilter}[N_f - 1][i] = \text{DWFixed}[N_f - 1][i]$ .

Since the  $N_f$  rounds is extended with probability 1 at the bottom of the distinguisher, then the differences of  $W_r^l$  are propagated to  $X_{r+1}^l$  with probability 1 with the MC operation, and there will be more cells of  $W_r^l$  with fixed differences than the cells of  $X_{r+1}^l$  with fixed differences. Hence, these extra cells with fixed differences in  $W_r^l$  can act as filters. The details and all valid valuations of **DWFixed** and **DWFilter** please refer to the full version of [30]. Note that **DXFixed** is only used as the intermediate variable to determine **DWFilter**, since **DXFixed** is fully determined by **DWFixed**. Denoting the sets of all possible valuations listed in Table 10 and Table 8 in the full version of [30] by  $\mathbb{P}_i$  and  $\mathbb{Q}_i$ , there are

$$\begin{cases} (\text{DXFixed}[r][i], \text{DXL}[r_m + r_1 + r][i], \text{DXFilter}[r][i]) \in \mathbb{P}_i, \forall 0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15, \\ (\text{DWFixed}[r][i], \text{DWFixed}[r][i+4], \text{DWFixed}[r][i+8], \text{DWFixed}[r][i+12]), \\ (\text{DWFilter}[r][i], \text{DWFilter}[r][i+4], \text{DWFilter}[r][i+8], \text{DWFilter}[r][i+12]) \in \mathbb{Q}_i, \\ \forall 0 \leq r \leq N_f - 2, 0 \leq i \leq 3. \end{cases}$$

Then,  $\forall 0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15$ , there have  $\text{DXisFilter}[r][i] \leq \text{DXFilter}[r][i]$  and  $\text{DWisFilter}[r][i] \leq \text{DWFilter}[r][i]$ .

**B.2.3 Modeling the guessed subweakey cells in  $E_f$  for generating the quartets.** For the round 0, only cells used to be filters in the internal state need to be known:  $\forall 0 \leq i \leq 15, \text{DXGuess}[0][i] = \text{DXisFilter}[0][i]$ .

From round 0 to round  $N_f - 1$ , the cells in  $W_r^l$  need to be known involve two types: cells to be known from  $X_r^l$  over the SR operation, and cells used to be filters in  $W_r^l$ :

$$\text{DWGuess}[r][i] = \text{DWisFilter}[r][i] \vee \text{DXGuess}[r][P_{\text{SR}}[i]], \forall 0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 15.$$

In round 0 to round  $N_f - 2$ , the cells in  $X_{r+1}^l$  need to be known involve two types: cells to be known from  $W_r^l$  over the MC operation, and cells used to be filters in  $X_{r+1}^l$ :  $\forall 0 \leq r \leq N_b - 2, 0 \leq i \leq 3$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{DXGuess}[r+1][i] = \text{DWGuess}[r][i+12] \vee \text{DXisFilter}[r+1][i], \\ \text{DXGuess}[r+1][i+4] = \text{DWGuess}[r][i] \vee \text{DWGuess}[r][i+4] \vee \text{DWGuess}[r][i+8] \vee \\ \quad \text{DXisFilter}[r+1][i+4], \\ \text{DXGuess}[r+1][i+8] = \text{DWGuess}[r][i+4] \vee \text{DXisFilter}[r+1][i+8], \\ \text{DXGuess}[r+1][i+12] = \text{DWGuess}[r][i+4] \vee \text{DWGuess}[r][i+8] \vee \text{DWGuess}[r][i+12] \vee \\ \quad \text{DXisFilter}[r+1][i+12]. \end{array} \right.$$

So  $\sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 7} \text{DXGuess}[r][i]$  indicates the  $m'_f$ -bit key guessed for generating quartets.

**B.2.4 Modelling the advantage  $h$  in the key-recovery attack.** In Algorithm 3, the advantage  $h$  determines the exhaustive search time, where  $h$  should be smaller than the number of key counters, i.e.  $h \leq m_b + m_f - x$ . The  $x$ -bit guessed subkey should satisfy  $x \leq m_b + m'_f$ , and also determine the size of memory  $2^{m_b + m_f - x}$  to store the key counters. So there needs a balance between  $x$  and  $h$  to achieve a low time and memory complexities. In the first round extended after the distinguisher, only the active cells need to be known:  $\forall 0 \leq i \leq 15, \text{KnownDec}[0][i] = \text{DXL}[r_m + r_1][i]$ .

In round 1 to round  $N_f - 1$ , the cells in  $Y_{r+1}^l$  need to be known involve two types: cells to be known from  $W_r^l$  over the MC and SB operation, and active cells in  $X_{r+1}^l$ :  $\forall 0 \leq r \leq N_b - 2, 0 \leq i \leq 3$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{KnownDec}[r+1][i] = \text{DXL}[r_m + r_1 + r + 1][i] \vee \text{KnownDec}[r][P_{\text{SR}}[i+12]], \\ \text{KnownDec}[r+1][i+4] = \text{DXL}[r_m + r_1 + r + 1][i+4] \vee \text{KnownDec}[r][P_{\text{SR}}[i]] \vee \\ \quad \text{KnownDec}[r][P_{\text{SR}}[i+4]] \vee \text{KnownDec}[r][P_{\text{SR}}[i+8]], \\ \text{KnownDec}[r+1][i+8] = \text{DXL}[r_m + r_1 + r + 1][i+8] \vee \text{KnownDec}[r][P_{\text{SR}}[i+4]], \\ \text{KnownDec}[r+1][i+12] = \text{DXL}[r_m + r_1 + r + 1][i+12] \vee \text{KnownDec}[r][P_{\text{SR}}[i+4]] \vee \\ \quad \text{KnownDec}[r][P_{\text{SR}}[i+8]] \vee \text{KnownDec}[r][P_{\text{SR}}[i+12]]. \end{array} \right.$$

So  $\sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_f - 1, 0 \leq i \leq 7} \text{KnownDec}[r][i]$  indicates the  $m_f$ -bit key.

**B.2.5 The objective function.** The time complexities of the attack framework in Algorithm 3 involve three parts: **Time I** ( $T_1$ ), **Time II** ( $T_2$ ) and **Time III** ( $T_3$ ).

The constraints for probability  $\tilde{p}^2 t \tilde{q}^2$  of the boomerang distinguisher are same as [24], where DXU, DXL and DXU  $\wedge$  DXL are on behalf of  $\tilde{p}$ ,  $\tilde{q}$  and  $t$ . KnownEnc is on behalf of  $m_b$ . To describe  $T_1$ , there is:

$$T_1 = \sum_{0 \leq r \leq r_0-1, 0 \leq i \leq 15} w_0 \cdot \text{DXU}[N_b + r][i] + \sum_{0 \leq r \leq r_1-1, 0 \leq i \leq 15} w_1 \cdot \text{DXL}[r_m + r][i] + \\ \sum_{0 \leq r \leq r_m-1, 0 \leq i \leq 15} w_m \cdot (\text{DXU}[N_b + r_0 + r][i] \wedge \text{DXL}[r][i]) + \\ \sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_b-2, 0 \leq i \leq 7} w_{m_b} \cdot \text{KnownEnc}[r][i] + \sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_f-1, 0 \leq i \leq 7} w_{m_f} \cdot \text{DXGuess}[r][i] + c_{T_1},$$

where  $c_{T_1}$  indicates the constant factor  $2^{n/2+1}$ , and  $w_0, w_1, w_m, w_{m_b}, w_{m_f}$  are weights factors.

For describing  $T_2$  (let  $\varepsilon = 1$ ), there is:

$$T_2 = \sum_{0 \leq r \leq r_0-1, 0 \leq i \leq 15} 2w_0 \cdot \text{DXU}[N_b + r][i] + \sum_{0 \leq r \leq r_1-1, 0 \leq i \leq 15} 2w_1 \cdot \text{DXL}[r_m + r][i] + \\ \sum_{0 \leq r \leq r_m-1, 0 \leq i \leq 15} 2w_m \cdot (\text{DXU}[N_b + r_0 + r][i] \wedge \text{DXL}[r][i]) + \\ \sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_b-2, 0 \leq i \leq 7} w_{m_b} \cdot \text{KnownEnc}[r][i] + \sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_f-1, 0 \leq i \leq 7} w_{m_f} \cdot \text{DXGuess}[r][i] - \\ \sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_f-1, 0 \leq i \leq 15} w_{h_f} \cdot (\text{DXisFilter}[r][i] + \text{DWisFilter}[r][i]) + c_{T_2},$$

where  $\sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_f-1, 0 \leq i \leq 15} w_{h_f} \cdot (\text{DXisFilter}[r][i] + \text{DWisFilter}[r][i])$  corresponds to the total filter  $2(n - r_f) + 2h_f$ , and  $c_{T_2}$  indicates a constant factor  $2^n$ .

For  $T_3$ , there is  $T_3 = c_{T_3} - \text{Adv}$ , where  $c_{T_3} = \tilde{n}$  for SKINNY- $n-\tilde{n}$ .

For the advantage  $h$  and  $x$ , there are:

$$\begin{cases} x \leq \sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_b-2, 0 \leq i \leq 7} \text{KnownEnc}[r][i] + \sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_f-1, 0 \leq i \leq 7} \text{DXGuess}[r][i], \\ \text{Adv} + x \leq \sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_b-2, 0 \leq i \leq 7} \text{KnownEnc}[r][i] + \sum_{0 \leq r \leq N_f-1, 0 \leq i \leq 7} \text{KnownDec}[r][i]. \end{cases}$$

So the uniformed objective is

$$\text{Minimize } obj, \quad obj \geq T_1, \quad obj \geq T_2, \quad obj \geq T_2.$$

## C The Boomerang Distinguishers and Rectangle Attack on SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2

### C.1 The details of boomerang distinguishers of SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2

In this section, we give the 26-round related-tweakey boomerang distinguisher for SKINNYe-64-256 v2 in Table 11. The differentials of the two boomerangs for SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2 are listed in Table 12 and Table 13.

Table 11: The 26-round RTK boomerang distinguisher for SKINNYe-64-256 v2.

$r_0 = 12, r_m = 6, r_1 = 8, \tilde{p} = 2^{-19.05}, \xi = 2^{-19.5}, \tilde{q} = 1, \tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2 = 2^{-57.6}$
$\Delta TK_1 = 0, 6, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, d, 0, 0, 0, 0$
$\Delta TK_2 = 0, 9, 0, 8, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3, 0, 0, 0, 0$
$\Delta TK_3 = 0, c, 0, b, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 8, 0, 0, 0, 0$
$\Delta TK_4 = 0, a, 0, 9, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 5, 0, 0, 0, 0$
$\Delta X^{(0)} = 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0$
$\nabla TK_1 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2$
$\nabla TK_2 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 6$
$\nabla TK_3 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 9$
$\nabla TK_4 = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1$
$\nabla X^{(26)} = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0$

Especially, we also experimentally verify the probabilities of the middle part similar with [30,50]. The experiments use one computer equipped with one RTX 2080 Ti and the results are listed in Table 14. The source code of the experiments can refer to <https://github.com/skinny64/Skinny64-256>.

### C.2 Rectangle Attack on 37-round SKINNYe-64-256 v2

We use the 26-round related-tweakey rectangle distinguisher for SKINNYe-64-256 v2 given in Table 11, whose probability is  $2^{-n} \tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2 = 2^{-64-57.6} = 2^{-121.6}$ .

Adding 4-round  $E_b$  and 7-round  $E_f$ , we attack 37-round SKINNYe-64-256 v2 as illustrated in Figure 6, where  $r_b = 12 \cdot 4 = 48$ ,  $m_b = 18 \cdot 4 = 72$ ,  $r_f = 16 \cdot 4 = 64$  and  $m_f = 40 \cdot 4 = 160$ . With  $k'_f = \{STK_{1,4,5}^{(33)}, STK_{0,1,3,5-7}^{(34)}, STK_{0-7}^{(35)}, STK_{0-7}^{(36)}\}$  and  $X_{10}^{(32)} \| W_{4,5,13}^{(32)} \| W_{7,9,13}^{(33)}$  as internal filters, we have  $m'_f = 25 \cdot 4 = 100$  and  $h_f = 7 \cdot 4 = 28$ . For SKINNYe-64-256 v2, the LFSR used for  $TK4$  is different from the one in SKINNYe-64-256. According to the property of  $\tilde{A}_{\{r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{t-1}\}}$  analyzed in Section 3, we list the relations of the subtweakeys involved in  $E_b$  and  $E_f$  in Table 15.

In the data collection process, there is  $y = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{n/2-r_b} / \sqrt{\tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2} = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{12.8}$  structures and the data complexity is  $\sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{n/2+2} / \sqrt{\tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2} = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{62.8}$ . The time complexity of generating quartets is  $T_1 = \sqrt{s} \cdot |k_b \cup k'_f| \cdot 2^{n/2+1} / \sqrt{\tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2} =$

Table 12: The differentials of the 30-round distinguisher for SKINNYe-64-256, where R12 to R16 denote  $r_m = 5$ -round middle part,  $u$  satisfies  $DDT[0x4][u] > 0$  and  $DDT[u][0x1] > 0$ , and  $v$  and  $w$  satisfy  $DDT[0x2][v] > 0$ ,  $DDT[v][w] > 0$  and  $DDT[w][0x1] > 0$ .

	Upper differential	Lower differential
R0	0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,4 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,u 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0	
R1	0,0,u,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0	
R2-R10	0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0	
R11	0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1	
R12	0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,*,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0	-, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, - -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, - 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
R13-R15	middle part	middle part
R16	-, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, - -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, - 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0	*,0,0,0,0,*,*,*,*,0,*,0,0,0,0,* 2,0,0,0,0,2,2,2,2,0,2,0,0,0,0,2 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
R17		0,0,0,0,2,0,0,0,0,0,0,2,0,0,2,0 0,0,0,0,v,0,0,0,0,0,0,v,0,0,v,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
R18		0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,v,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,w,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
R19		w,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
R20-R28		0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
R29		0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0

Table 13: The differentials of the 26-round distinguisher for SKINNYe-64-256 v2, where R12 to R17 denote  $r_m = 6$ -round middle part,  $u$  satisfies  $DDT[0x1][u] > 0$  and  $DDT[u \oplus 0x9][0xb] > 0$ ,  $v$  satisfies  $DDT[0x1][v] > 0$  and  $DDT[v][0xb] > 0$ .

	Upper differential	Lower differential
R0	0,1,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,9,0,8,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,9,0,8,0,0,0,0	
R1-R6	0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0	
R7	0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,d,0,0,0,0,0	
R8	0,0,d,0,0,0,d,0,0,0,0,0,0,d,0 0,0,2,0,0,0,u,0,0,0,0,0,0,v,0 0,0,2,0,0,0,6,0	
R9	0,v,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,u ⊕ 0x6,0,0,0,0 0,4,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,4,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,4,0,0,0	
R10	0,0,0,0,0,4,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,2,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,e,2,0,0	
R11	0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,e,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,9,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,9,0	
R12	0,0,0,9,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,9 0,0,0,*,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,* 0,0,0,4,0,0,c,0	-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,- -,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,- 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
R13-R16	middle part	middle part
R17	-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,- -,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,- 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,8	0,*,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,8,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,8,0,0,0,0,0,0
R18-R24		0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
R25		0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,0,0,0,0,2,0



Table 14: Experiments on the middle part of boomerang distinguishers for SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2.

Version	$N_d$	$r_m$	Probability $\xi$	Complexity	Time
SKINNYe-64-256	30	5	$2^{-30.95}$	$2^{40}$	8405s
SKINNYe-64-256 v2	26	6	$2^{-19.50}$	$2^{34}$	132s

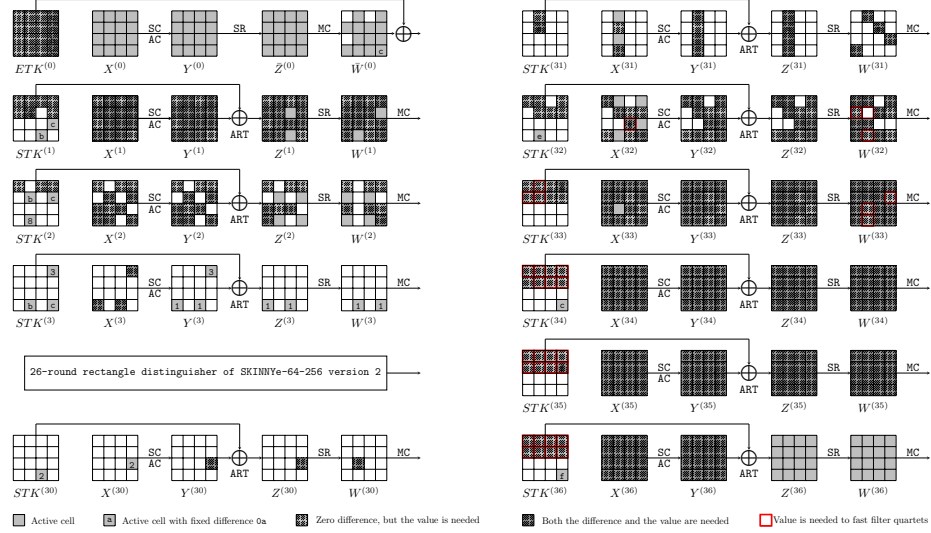


Fig. 6: The 37-round attack against SKINNYe-64-256 version 2.

$\sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{72+100+32+1+28.8} = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{233.8}$ . We get  $s \cdot |k_b \cup k'_f| \cdot 2^{-2h_f - n + 2r_f} / (\tilde{p}^2 \xi \tilde{q}^2) = s \cdot 2^{72+100-56-64+128+57.6} = s \cdot 2^{237.6}$  quartets. The memory complexity is  $\sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{62.8} + |k_b \cup k'_f|/2^x = \sqrt{s} \cdot 2^{62.8} + 2^{212-x}$ . For each of the  $s \cdot 2^{237.6}$  quartets, the key-recovery process is as follows, whose time complexity is  $\varepsilon$ :

- In round 34:** guessing  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_2^{(34)}$ , we compute  $Z_{3,15}^{(33)}$  together with guessed  $k'_f$ . Then  $\Delta Y_3^{(33)}$  and  $\Delta X_{15}^{(33)}$  are deduced. For the 4th column of  $X^{(33)}$  of  $(C_1, C_3)$ , we obtain  $\Delta W_{15}^{(32)} = \Delta X_3^{(33)} \oplus \Delta X_{15}^{(33)} = 0$ . Hence, we obtain  $\Delta X_3^{(33)}$  and deduce  $STK_3^{(33)}$  by Lemma 1. Similarly, we deduce  $STK_3'^{(33)}$  for  $(C_2, C_4)$ .  $\Delta STK_3^{(33)}$  can act as a 4-bit filter.  $s \cdot 2^{237.6} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^{-4} = s \cdot 2^{237.6}$  quartets remain.
- Guessing  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_4^{(34)}$ , we compute  $Z_{33}[7]$  and peel off round 34, 35 and 36. Then  $\Delta Y_7^{(33)}$  is deduced. For the 4th column of  $X^{(30)}$  of  $(C_1, C_3)$ , we obtain  $\Delta W_{11}^{(32)} = \Delta X_7^{(33)} \oplus \Delta X_{15}^{(33)} = 0$ , where  $\Delta X_{15}^{(33)}$  is obtained in step 1. Hence, we obtain  $\Delta X_7^{(33)}$  and deduce  $STK_7^{(33)}$  by Lemma 1. Similarly, we deduce  $STK_7'^{(33)}$  for  $(C_2, C_4)$ . Then fixed  $\Delta STK_7^{(33)}$  can act as a 4-bit filter.  $s \cdot 2^{237.6} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^{-4} = s \cdot 2^{237.6}$  quartets remain.

Table 15: Relations of the subtweakeys involved in the 37-round attack on SKINNYe-64-256 v2, where the subtweakeys marked in bold are among  $k'_f$ .

$i$	$k_b$	$k_f$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{16}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,3\}})  = 2^{12}$
0	$ETK_0^{(0)}, STK_2^{(2)}$	$STK_0^{(32)}, STK_2^{(34)}, STK_4^{(36)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{16}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,3\}})  = 2^{12}$
1	$ETK_1^{(0)}, STK_0^{(2)}$	$STK_1^{(32)}, STK_0^{(34)}, STK_2^{(36)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{16}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{16}$
2	$ETK_2^{(0)}$	$STK_4^{(34)}, STK_6^{(36)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,3\}})  = 2^8$
3	$ETK_3^{(0)}$	$STK_3^{(32)}, STK_7^{(34)}, STK_1^{(36)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{16}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$
4	$ETK_9^{(0)}$	$STK_6^{(34)}, STK_5^{(36)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$
5	$ETK_{10}^{(0)}, STK_3^{(2)}$	$STK_5^{(32)}, STK_3^{(34)}, STK_7^{(36)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{16}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{16}$
6	$ETK_{11}^{(0)}$	$STK_6^{(32)}, STK_5^{(34)}, STK_3^{(36)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{16}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$
7	$ETK_8^{(0)}$	$STK_7^{(32)}, STK_1^{(34)}, STK_0^{(36)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{16}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{0,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$
8	$STK_2^{(1)}$	$STK_2^{(33)}, STK_4^{(35)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,3\}})  = 2^8$
9	$STK_0^{(1)}$	$STK_1^{(31)}, STK_0^{(33)}, STK_2^{(35)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,3\}})  = 2^8$
10	$STK_4^{(1)}$	$STK_4^{(33)}, STK_6^{(35)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$
11	$STK_7^{(1)}$	$STK_7^{(33)}, STK_1^{(35)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,3\}})  = 2^8$
12		$STK_6^{(33)}, STK_5^{(35)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{2,3\}})  = 2^8$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{3\}})  = 2^4$
13	$STK_3^{(1)}$	$STK_5^{(31)}, STK_3^{(33)}, STK_7^{(35)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,1,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,3\}})  = 2^8$
14	$STK_5^{(1)}$	$STK_5^{(33)}, STK_3^{(35)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$
15	$STK_1^{(1)}$	$STK_1^{(33)}, STK_0^{(35)}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$	$ Im(\tilde{A}_{\{1,2,3\}})  = 2^{12}$
			$ k_b \cup k_f  = 2^{212}$	$ k_b \cup k'_f  = 2^{172}$

- In round 33:** guessing  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_2^{(33)}$ , we compute  $Z_{3,11,15}^{(32)}$ . Then  $\Delta Y_3^{(32)}$  and  $\Delta X_{11,15}^{(32)}$  are deduced. For the 4th column of  $X^{(32)}$  of  $(C_1, C_3)$ , we can obtain  $\Delta X_3^{(32)} = \Delta X_{11}^{(32)} = \Delta X_{15}^{(32)}$ . Hence, we obtain  $\Delta X_3^{(32)}$  and deduce  $STK_3^{(32)}$ . Similarly, we deduce  $STK_3'^{(32)}$  for  $(C_2, C_4)$ . Then fixed  $\Delta STK_3^{(32)}$  which is a 4-bit filter. For both  $(C_1, C_3)$  and  $(C_2, C_4)$ ,  $\Delta X_{11}^{(32)} = \Delta X_{15}^{(32)}$  is a 4-bit filter.  $s \cdot 2^{237.6} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^{-4} \cdot 2^{-4} \cdot 2^{-4} = s \cdot 2^{229.6}$  quartets remain.
- Guessing  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_0^{(33)}$  and  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_6^{(33)}$ , we compute  $Z_{1,5,13}^{(32)}$  and peel off round 33. Since  $STK_1^{(32)}$  and  $STK_5^{(32)}$  has only one solution, we can compute  $X_{1,5,13}^{(32)}$ . For the 4th column of  $X^{(32)}$ ,  $\Delta X_1^{(32)} = \Delta X_5^{(32)} = \Delta X_{13}^{(32)}$  is a 8-bit filter for both  $(C_1, C_3)$  and  $(C_2, C_4)$ .  $s \cdot 2^{229.6} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^{-8} \cdot 2^{-8} = s \cdot 2^{221.6}$  quartets remain.
- In round 32:** guessing  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_6^{(32)}$ ,  $2^4$  possible values of  $STK_7^{(32)}$  and together with the one solution of  $STK_0^{(32)}$ , we compute  $Z_{1,5,9,13}^{(31)}$  and peel off round 32. Then  $\Delta X_{9,13}^{(31)}$  are deduced. Since there is only one solution of  $STK_1^{(31)}$ , we can compute  $X_1^{(31)}$  and  $\Delta X_1^{(31)}$ . For the 2nd column of  $X^{(31)}$ , we can obtain  $\Delta X_1^{(31)} = \Delta X_9^{(31)} = \Delta X_{13}^{(31)}$ , which is a 8-bit filter for both  $(C_1, C_3)$  and  $(C_2, C_4)$ .  $s \cdot 2^{221.6} \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^4 \cdot 2^{-8} \cdot 2^{-8} = s \cdot 2^{213.6}$  quartets remain.

6. **In round 31:** With the only one solution of  $STK_5^{(31)}$ , we decrypt one round to get  $X_{11}^{(30)}$ .  $\Delta X_{11}^{(30)} = 0x2$  is a 4-bit filter for both  $(C_1, C_3)$  and  $(C_2, C_4)$ .  $s \cdot 2^{213.6} \cdot 2^{-8} = s \cdot 2^{205.6}$  quartets remain.

So for each quartet,  $\varepsilon = 2^4 \cdot \frac{4}{37} + 2^4 \cdot \frac{4}{37} + 2^4 \cdot \frac{4}{37} + 2^{-8} \cdot 2^8 \cdot \frac{4}{37} + 2^{-16} \cdot 2^8 \cdot \frac{4}{37} + 2^{-24} \cdot \frac{4}{37} \approx 2^{2.41}$  and  $T_2 = s \cdot 2^{237.6}$ .  $\varepsilon = s \cdot 2^{240.01}$ .

Set the expected number of right quartets  $s = 1$ , the advantage  $h = 24$  and  $x = 168$  ( $x \leq 172$ ,  $h \leq 212 - x$ ). Then we have  $T_1 = 2^{233.8}$ ,  $T_2 = 2^{240.01}$  and  $T_3 = 2^{232}$ . In total, the data complexity is  $2^{62.8}$ , the memory complexity is  $2^{62.8}$ , and the time complexity is  $2^{240.03}$ . The success probability is about 66.3%.

## D Automatic MITM on SKINNYe-64-256

### D.1 Definitions and Symbols of MITM Attack

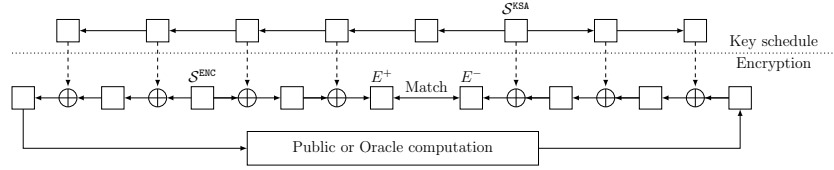


Fig. 7: A high-level overview of the MITM attacks [29]

The high-level overview of the MITM attacks introduced by Dong *et al.* is shown in Figure 7 and the notations are listed below.

- $\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}$ : starting state in the encryption data path (contains  $n$   $w$ -bit cells)
- $\mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}$ : starting state in the key schedule data path (contains  $\bar{n}$   $w$ -bit cells)
- $E^+$ : ending state of the forward computation
- $E^-$ : ending state of the backward computation
- $\mathcal{N}$ :  $\mathcal{N} = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$
- $\bar{\mathcal{N}}$ :  $\bar{\mathcal{N}} = \{0, 1, \dots, \bar{n}-1\}$
- $\mathcal{B}^{\text{ENC}}$ : subset of  $\mathcal{N}$ , index of Blue cells in  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}$ , visualized by ■ cells.
- $\bar{\mathcal{B}}^{\text{KSA}}$ : subset of  $\bar{\mathcal{N}}$ , index of Blue cells in  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}$ , visualized by ■ cells.
- $\mathcal{R}^{\text{ENC}}$ : subset of  $\mathcal{N}$ , index of Red cells in  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}$ , visualized by ■ cells.
- $\bar{\mathcal{R}}^{\text{KSA}}$ : subset of  $\bar{\mathcal{N}}$ , index of Red cells in  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}$ , visualized by ■ cells.
- $\mathcal{G}^{\text{ENC}}$ : subset of  $\mathcal{N}$ , index of Gray cells in  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}$ , visualized by ■ cells.
- $\bar{\mathcal{G}}^{\text{KSA}}$ : subset of  $\bar{\mathcal{N}}$ , index of Gray cells in  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}$ , visualized by ■ cells.
- $\mathcal{M}^+$ : subset of  $\mathcal{N}$ , index of cells in  $E^+$  which can be computed in the forward computation
- $\mathcal{M}^-$ : subset of  $\mathcal{N}$ , index of cells in  $E^-$  which can be computed in the backward computation
- $\lambda^+$ :  $\lambda^+ = |\mathcal{B}^{\text{ENC}}| + |\bar{\mathcal{B}}^{\text{KSA}}|$ , the initial degrees of freedom for the forward computation, which is the number of ■ in  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}, \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}})$ .

- $\lambda^-$ :  $\lambda^- = |\mathcal{R}^{\text{ENC}}| + |\mathcal{R}^{\text{KSA}}|$ , the initial degrees of freedom for the backward computation, which is the number of  $\blacksquare$  in  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}, \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}})$ .
- $\lambda_{\text{ENC}}^+$ :  $\lambda_{\text{ENC}}^+ = |\mathcal{B}^{\text{ENC}}|$ , the initial degrees of freedom from the encryption data path for the forward computation.
- $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^+$ :  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^+ = |\mathcal{B}^{\text{KSA}}|$ , the initial degrees of freedom from the key schedule data path for the forward computation.
- $\lambda_{\text{ENC}}^-$ :  $\lambda_{\text{ENC}}^- = |\mathcal{R}^{\text{ENC}}|$ , the initial degrees of freedom from the encryption data path for the backward computation.
- $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^-$ :  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^- = |\mathcal{R}^{\text{KSA}}|$ , the initial degrees of freedom from the key schedule data path for the backward computation.
- DoM: the degrees of matching
- $f_i^+$ : a function maps  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{KSA}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{KSA}}])$  to a word
- $f_i^-$ : a function maps  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{KSA}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{KSA}}])$  to a word
- $\mathbf{f}^+$ :  $\mathbf{f}^+ = (f_1^+, \dots, f_{l^+}^+)$ ,  $l^+$  constraints on the neutral words for the forward computation
- $\mathbf{f}^-$ :  $\mathbf{f}^- = (f_1^-, \dots, f_{l^-}^-)$ ,  $l^-$  constraints on the neutral words for the backward computation
- DoF $^+$ : the degrees of freedom for the forward computation
- DoF $^-$ : the degrees of freedom for the backward computation

From  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}, \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}})$  leading to  $E^+$  and  $E^-$  are the forward and backward computations respectively. The cells of  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}, \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}})$  are partitioned into different subsets with different meanings. The cells  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{KSA}}])$  and  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{KSA}}])$  are the neutral words for the forward and backward computations respectively. The matching point is between  $E^+$  and  $E^-$ , DoM =  $m$  if  $E^+[\mathcal{M}^+]$  and  $E^-[\mathcal{M}^-]$  form an  $m$ -cell filter. If the values of  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{KSA}}])$  are fixed, for any fixed  $\mathbf{c}^+ = (a_1, \dots, a_{l^+}) \in \mathbb{F}_2^{w \cdot l^+}$  and  $\mathbf{c}^- = (b_1, \dots, b_{l^-}) \in \mathbb{F}_2^{w \cdot l^-}$ , the neutral words  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{KSA}}])$  and  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{KSA}}])$  fulfill the following systems of equations:

$$\begin{cases} f_1^+(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{KSA}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{KSA}}]) = a_1 \\ f_2^+(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{KSA}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{KSA}}]) = a_2 \\ \dots \dots \\ f_{l^+}^+(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{KSA}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{B}^{\text{KSA}}]) = a_{l^+} \end{cases} \quad (24)$$

and

$$\begin{cases} f_1^-(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{KSA}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{KSA}}]) = b_1 \\ f_2^-(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{KSA}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{KSA}}]) = b_2 \\ \dots \dots \\ f_{l^-}^-(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{G}^{\text{KSA}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{ENC}}], \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}[\mathcal{R}^{\text{KSA}}]) = b_{l^-} \end{cases} \quad (25)$$

If there are  $2^{w \cdot (\lambda^+ - l^+)}$  and  $2^{w \cdot (\lambda^- - l^-)}$  solutions of Equation (24) and (25) respectively, we can get DoF $^+ = \lambda^+ - l^+$  and DoF $^- = \lambda^- - l^-$ , which are the *degrees of freedom* for the forward and backward computations. The overall time complexity of MITM attack is

$$\begin{aligned} & (2^w)^{\bar{n} - \text{DoF}^+ - \text{DoF}^-} ((2^w)^{\text{DoF}^+} + (2^w)^{\text{DoF}^-} + (2^w)^{\text{DoF}^+ + \text{DoF}^- - m}) \\ & \approx (2^w)^{\bar{n} - \min\{\text{DoF}^+, \text{DoF}^-, m\}} \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

In order to find the MITM key-recovery attacks, Dong *et al.* [29] mentioned that the degrees of freedom for the forward or backward computation from  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}$  should be used up while the degrees of freedom for the forward or backward computation from  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}}$  cannot be depleted. That means the degrees of freedom from  $\lambda_{\text{ENC}}^+$  and  $\lambda_{\text{ENC}}^-$  must be consumed, so the remaining degrees of freedom are  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^+$  and  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^-$  for forward and backward computations respectively. If there are  $l_{\text{KSA}}^+$  and  $l_{\text{KSA}}^-$  degrees of freedom consumed from  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^+$  and  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^-$ , then we can get  $\text{DoF}^+ = \lambda^+ - \lambda_{\text{ENC}}^+ - l_{\text{KSA}}^+ = \lambda_{\text{KSA}}^+ - l_{\text{KSA}}^+$  and  $\text{DoF}^- = \lambda^- - \lambda_{\text{ENC}}^- - l_{\text{KSA}}^- = \lambda_{\text{KSA}}^- - l_{\text{KSA}}^-$ .

## D.2 Programming the MITM attacks on SKINNYe-64-256 with MILP

Based on Dong *et al.*'s MILP model on SKINNY-n-3n, we briefly show how to build the MILP model for SKINNYe-64-256. We use the same coloring scheme, each cell of a state is represented by two 0-1 variables  $(x_i^S, y_i^S)$ .

1. Gray:  $(x_i^S, y_i^S) = (1, 1)$ , predefined constant.
2. Red:  $(x_i^S, y_i^S) = (0, 1)$ , the values are determined by ■ cells and neutral words for backward computation.
3. Blue:  $(x_i^S, y_i^S) = (1, 0)$ , the values are determined by ■ cells and neutral words for forward computation.
4. White:  $(x_i^S, y_i^S) = (1, 1)$ , dependent on ■ cells in the backward computation or ■ cells in the forward computation.

For the starting states, we introduce variables  $\alpha_i$  and  $\beta_i$  for each cell of  $(\mathcal{S}^{\text{ENC}}, \mathcal{S}^{\text{KSA}})$ , where  $\alpha_i = 1$  if and only if the cell is ■ and  $\beta_i = 1$  if and only if the cell is ■. Therefore, we can compute the initial degrees of freedom by  $\lambda_{\text{ENC}}^+ = \sum_i \alpha_i^{\text{ENC}}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^+ = \sum_i \alpha_i^{\text{KSA}}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{ENC}}^- = \sum_i \beta_i^{\text{ENC}}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^- = \sum_i \beta_i^{\text{KSA}}$ .

For the ending states, we assume the matching only happens at the **Mixcolumns**, for each pair of columns of  $E^+$  and  $E^-$ , we introduce a variable  $m_i$  to indicate the degrees of matching in column  $i$  which can be constrained by the number of ■, ■ and ■ cells. The total degrees of matching DoM can be computed by  $\text{DoM} = \sum_{i=0}^3 m_i$ . For more details, we refer to [29].

Then attribute propagation rules for each operation of SKINNY-64-256 need to be built, and the consumption of the degrees of freedom need to be recorded. The rules for XOR are shown in Figure 8. As mentioned in [29], we can use the rules of XOR to build the rules of **Mixcolumns** because it contains only XOR operation. **SubCells** and **AddConstants** do not change the color of input cell so we can ignore them. We can easily build the rules of **ShiftRows** because it just permutes the colors scheme of the input state. In order to build the rules for **AddRoundTweakey** of SKINNY-n-3n, Dong *et al.* introduced **3-XOR-RULE** to model the rules for three XORs as a whole which can avoid missing important coloring patterns. Similarly, we can build the rules for **AddRoundTweakey** of SKINNYe-64-256 by introducing **4-XOR-RULE** which is the whole of four XORs. We show how to model the rule for **4-XOR<sup>+</sup>-RULE**, which is the rule of **4-XOR-RULE** for the forward computation. We use  $\delta_{\text{ENC}}^-$  and  $\delta_{\text{KSA}}^-$  to denote the consumed degrees of freedom from  $\lambda_{\text{ENC}}^-$  and  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^-$  respectively, and we should consume  $\lambda_{\text{ENC}}^-$

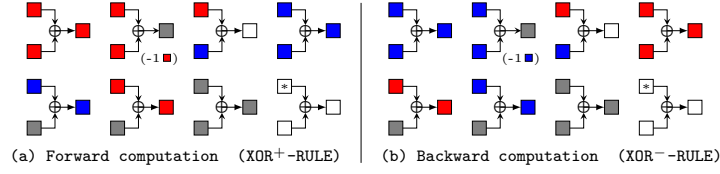
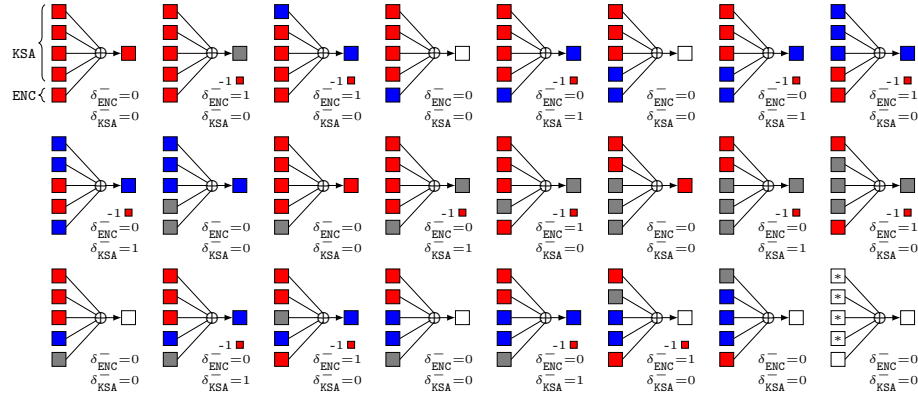


Fig. 8: Rules for XOR ("\*" represents the cell can be any color)

first as far as possible. Some valid coloring patterns are shown in Figure 9. Then we need to convert the rule to linear inequalities. Let  $\#a, \#b, \#c, \#d, \#e$  be the input cells and  $\#f$  be the output cell. Then, the set of rules 4-XOR<sup>+</sup>-RULE restricts  $(x^{\#a}, y^{\#a}, x^{\#b}, y^{\#b}, x^{\#c}, y^{\#c}, x^{\#d}, y^{\#d}, x^{\#e}, y^{\#e}, x^{\#f}, y^{\#f}, \delta_{ENC}^-, \delta_{KSA}^-)$  to subsets of  $\mathbb{F}_2^{14}$ , which can be described by a system of linear inequalities by using the convex hull computation method. Similarly, the rule of 4-XOR<sup>-</sup>-RULE which is the rule of 4-XOR-RULE for the backward computation can be built by the same way.

Fig. 9: 4-XOR<sup>+</sup>-RULE ("\*" represents the cell can be any color)

Let  $l_{ENC}^+, l_{KSA}^+$  and  $l_{ENC}^-, l_{KSA}^-$  be the accumulated degrees of freedom that have been consumed in the backward and forward computations in the encryption and key schedule data paths. We need to let  $\lambda_{ENC}^+ - l_{ENC}^+ = 0, \lambda_{ENC}^- - l_{ENC}^- = 0$  to make sure that the degrees of freedom from the encryption data paths have been used up. Therefore, we can get  $\text{DoF}^+ = \lambda_{KSA}^+ - l_{KSA}^+, \text{DoF}^- = \lambda_{KSA}^- - l_{KSA}^-$ . Because the time complexity is given by Equation (26), we need to maximize the value of  $\min\{\text{DoF}^+, \text{DoF}^-, \text{DoM}\}$  to find the optimal attacks. We introduce an auxiliary variable  $v_{obj}$  and impose the constraints

$$\{v_{obj} \leq \text{DoF}^+, v_{obj} \leq \text{DoF}^-, v_{obj} \leq \text{DoM}\}. \quad (27)$$

### D.3 MITM Attack on SKINNYe-64-256 and version 2

The 31-round MITM attack on SKINNYe-64-256 is given in Figure 10.

**D.3.1 MITM attack on 27-round SKINNYe-64-256 v2** As mentioned in Section 3, the corresponding coefficient matrices of equivalence classes for SKINNYe-64-256 v2 are all full rank. So we can use Dong *et al.*'s method directly which adds constraints  $\text{DoF}^+ \geq 1, \text{DoF}^- \geq 1$  to the MILP model to search attacks. Finally, we find a 27-round MITM attack as shown in Figure 11.

The starting states are  $X^{(1)}$  and  $(TK_1^{(1)}, TK_2^{(1)}, TK_3^{(1)}, TK_4^{(1)})$ , and the matching is between  $Z^{(14)}$  and  $X^{(15)}$ . We can get  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^+ = 4, \lambda_{\text{KSA}}^- = 4$  and  $\text{DoM} = 1$ . For the forward computation, we require Equation (28) hold:

$$\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,2\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,0}^{(6)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,0}^{(6)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,0}^{(6)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,0}^{(6)}]^T = \mathbf{c}^+. \quad (28)$$

Hence,  $\lambda_{\text{KSA}}^+ = 3$ , and  $\text{DoF}^+ = 4 - 3 = 1$ . For the backward computation, we require Equation (29) hold:

$$\tilde{A}_{\{0,1,2\}} \cdot [\mathbf{tk}_{1,4}^{(21)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,4}^{(21)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,4}^{(21)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,4}^{(21)}]^T = \mathbf{c}^-. \quad (29)$$

Similarly, We can get  $\text{DoF}^- = 1$ . The whole MITM attack on SKINNYe-64-256 v2 is shown in Algorithm 4. The time complexity is about  $2^{252}$ , the data and memory complexity is  $2^{52}$ .

## E The Related-tweakey Impossible Differential for SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2

The 21-round related-tweakey impossible differential of SKINNYe-64-256 is given in Figure 12.

For SKINNYe-64-256 v2, the subtweakey cancellations only can happen three times every 30 rounds. We find a 18-round related-tweakey impossible differential placed at Round 4 to Round 22 as shown in Figure 13. For the active 3-th nibble of the master tweakey, the subtweakey cancellations happen at Round 6, 8 and 10, where

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{stk}_0^{(6)} \\ \mathbf{stk}_2^{(8)} \\ \mathbf{stk}_4^{(10)} \end{pmatrix} = \tilde{A}_{\{3,4,5\}} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{tk}_{1,3}^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{tk}_{2,3}^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{tk}_{3,3}^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{tk}_{4,3}^{(0)} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0}.$$

With  $\text{rank}(\tilde{A}_{\{3,4,5\}}) = 12$ , there are totally  $(2^4 - 1) = 15$  nonzero solutions of  $[\mathbf{tk}_{1,3}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{2,3}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{3,3}^{(0)}, \mathbf{tk}_{4,3}^{(0)}]$ . Let  $\Delta^{(r)}$  denote the difference of subtweakey  $STK_{P^{2r}[3]}^{(r)}$  in round  $r$ . The 18-round impossible differential can be represented as

$$(0\Delta^{(4)}00\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000) \leftrightarrow (0000\ 0000\ 00N0\ 0000),$$

where  $\Delta^{(4)}$  denotes a fixed non-zero difference and N denotes an arbitrary non-zero difference.

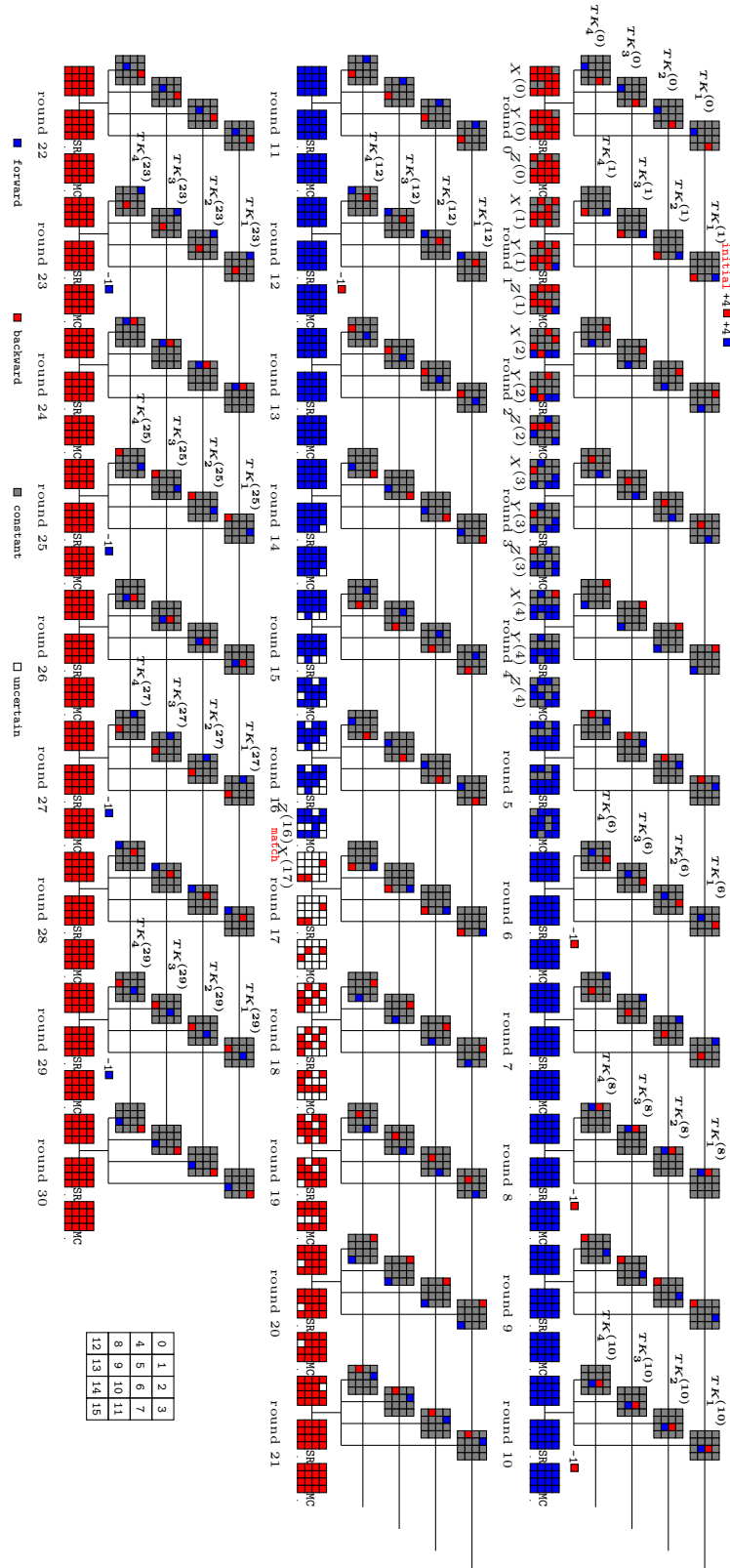


Fig. 10: The 31-round MITM attack on SKINNYe-64-256.



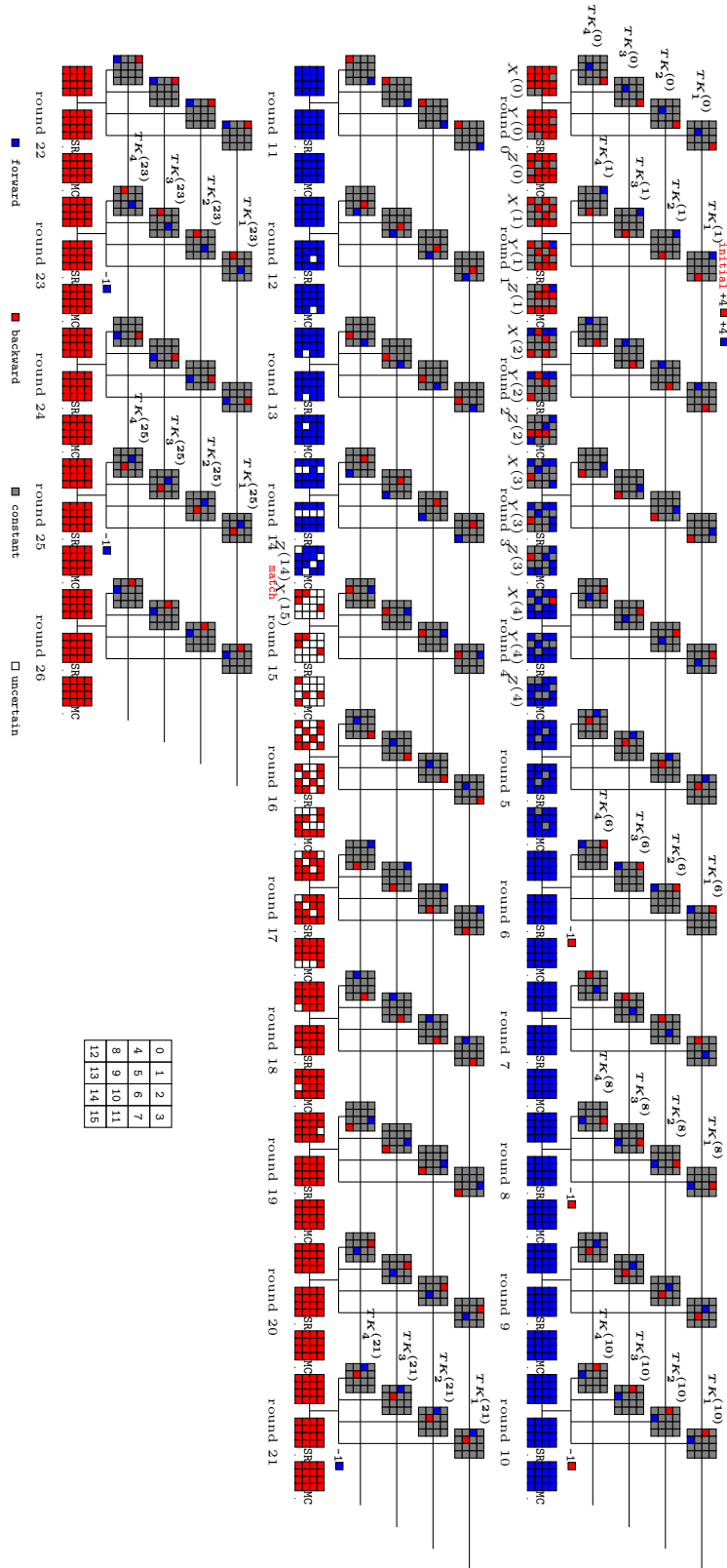


Fig. 11: The 27-round MITM attack on SKINNYe-64-256 v2.

**Algorithm 4:** The MITM key-recovery attack on SKINNYe-64-256 v2

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1  $X_{1,11,15}^{(0)} \leftarrow 0, X_{0,8,10,14,15}^{(1)} \leftarrow 0, X_{3,9,11,13}^{(2)} \leftarrow 0, Y_7^{(2)} \leftarrow 0, X_{2,10}^{(3)} \leftarrow 0, Y_1^{(4)} \leftarrow 0$ 
2 Collecting structure of plaintext-ciphertext pairs and store them in table  $H$ ,
  which traverses the non-constant 16-3=13 cells in the plaintext
3 for All possible values of the ■ cells in  $(TK_1^{(1)}, TK_2^{(1)}, TK_3^{(1)}, TK_4^{(1)})$  do
4   Compute all other unknown Gray cells according to the values assigned in
   step 1 and step 3.
5   for  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, b_1, b_2, b_3) \in \mathbb{F}_2^{6 \times 4}$  do
6     Derive the solution space of the ■ cells by Equation (28) and store it
     in a table  $T_1$ .
7     Derive the solution space of the ■ cells by Equation (29) and store it
     in a table  $T_2$ .
8     Initialize  $L$  to be an empty hash table.
9     for the values in  $T_2$  do
10      Compute  $X_8^{(15)}$  along the backward computation path:
       $X^{(4)} \rightarrow X^{(0)} \rightarrow E_K(X^{(0)}) \rightarrow X^{(15)}$  by accessing  $H$ 
11      Insert relative information into  $L$  indexed by  $X_8^{(15)}$ 
12    end
13    for the values in  $T_1$  do
14      Compute  $Z_4^{(14)}$  and  $Z_8^{(14)}$  along the forward computation path:
       $X^{(1)} \rightarrow Z^{(14)}$ 
15      for Candidate keys in  $L[Z_4^{(14)} \oplus Z_8^{(14)}]$  do
16        Test the guessed key with several plaintext-ciphertext pairs
17      end
18    end
19  end
20 end

```

---

## F The Determinant of Block Vandermonde Matrices

**Lemma 2.** Suppose  $L_1, L_2, \dots, L_n$  are pairwise commutable square matrices over a field  $\mathbb{K}$ . Then the determinant of the block Vandermonde matrix can be computed by

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} I & I & \cdots & I \\ L_1 & L_2 & \cdots & L_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ L_1^{n-1} & L_2^{n-1} & \cdots & L_n^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \prod_{1 \leq j < i \leq n} \det(L_i - L_j). \quad (30)$$



Fig. 12: The 21-round related-tweakey impossible differential of SKINNYe-64-256.

*Proof.* Observe that

$$\begin{pmatrix} I & \cdots & I \\ L_1 & \cdots & L_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ L_1^{n-1} & \cdots & L_n^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I & & \\ L_n & I & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \\ L_n^{n-1} & L_n^{n-2} & \cdots & I \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} I & I & \cdots & I \\ 0 & L_2 - L_1 & \cdots & L_n - L_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & L_2^{n-1} - L_2^{n-2}L_1 & \cdots & L_n^{n-1} - L_n^{n-2}L_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus it has

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} I & \cdots & I \\ L_1 & \cdots & L_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ L_1^{n-1} & \cdots & L_n^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \det \begin{pmatrix} L_2 - L_1 & \cdots & L_n - L_1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ L_2^{n-1} - L_2^{n-2}L_1 & \cdots & L_n^{n-1} - L_n^{n-2}L_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

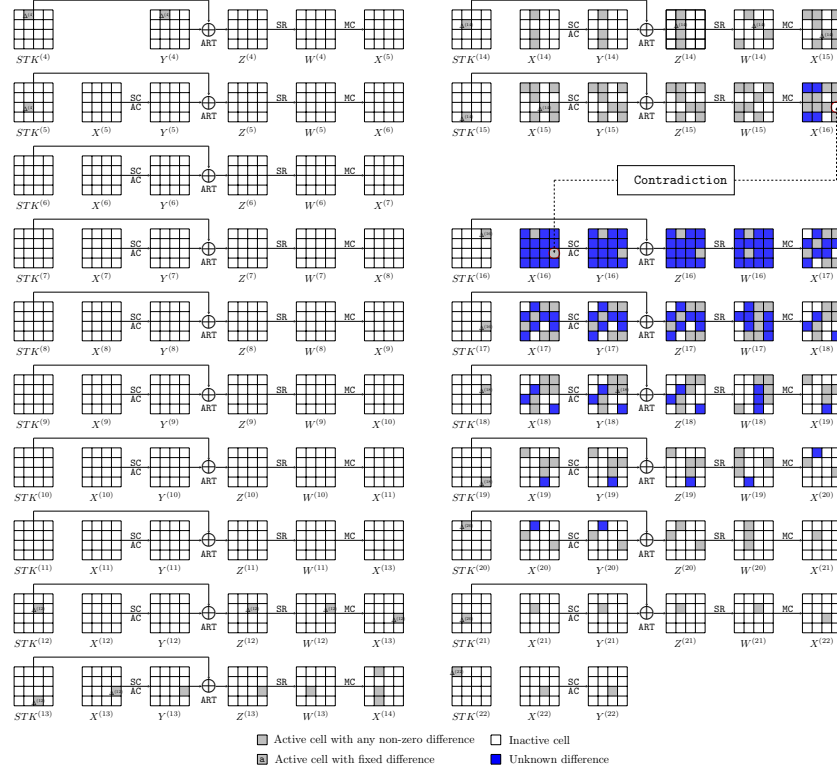


Fig. 13: The 18-round related-tweakey impossible differential of SKINNYe-64-256 v2

$$= \det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \cdots & \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{L}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{L}_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{L}_2^{n-2} & \cdots & \mathbf{L}_n^{n-2} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \prod_{2 \leq j \leq n} \det(\mathbf{L}_j - \mathbf{L}_1).$$

Then the lemma follows directly by induction since

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{L}_{n-1} & \mathbf{L}_{n-2} \end{pmatrix} = \det(\mathbf{L}_{n-1} - \mathbf{L}_{n-2}). \quad (31)$$

**Lemma 3.** *Suppose the eigenvalues of the  $c \times c$  matrix  $\mathbf{L}$  are primitive elements of  $GF(2^c)$ , then*

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{L}^{r_1} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{r_1})^z \\ \mathbf{L}^{r_2} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{r_2})^z \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{L}^{r_z} & \cdots & (\mathbf{L}^{r_z})^z \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \quad (32)$$

for all  $0 \leq r_1 < r_2 < \dots < r_z \leq 2^c - 2$ .

*Proof.* Using the formula in Lemma 2, we have

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{L}^{r_1} & \dots & (\mathbf{L}^{r_1})^z \\ \mathbf{L}^{r_2} & \dots & (\mathbf{L}^{r_2})^z \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{L}^{r_z} & \dots & (\mathbf{L}^{r_z})^z \end{pmatrix} = \prod_{1 \leq j < i \leq z} \det(\mathbf{L}^{r_i} - \mathbf{L}^{r_j}). \quad (33)$$

Since the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{L}$  are primitive in  $GF(2^c)$ , then it has  $\det(\mathbf{L}^r - \mathbf{I}) \neq 0$  for any  $1 \leq r \leq 2^c - 2$ . Therefore we have

$$\det(\mathbf{L}^{r_i} - \mathbf{L}^{r_j}) = \det(\mathbf{L}^{r_j}) \cdot \det(\mathbf{L}^{r_i - r_j} - \mathbf{I}) \neq 0 \quad (34)$$

for all  $0 \leq r_j < r_i \leq 2^c - 2$ , and thus the lemma holds.  $\square$

## G Extension to $c \times c$ Sub-Matrices

Suppose  $z \leq 2^c - 2$ . Denoting  $\mathbf{L}_1 = \mathbf{I}$ , we choose the  $\mathbf{L}_i$ 's to be consecutive powers of a  $c \times c$  matrix  $\mathbf{L}$ , i.e.,  $\{\mathbf{L}_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq z} = \{\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1}, \dots, \mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z}\}$  for some integer  $\alpha \in [-z, -1]$ . Then the following 'block-MDS' property can be proved similar to Proposition 1.

**Proposition 2.** *Suppose  $\mathbf{L}$  is a  $c \times c$  matrix over  $GF(2)$  such that the characteristic polynomial  $p_{\mathbf{L}}(\lambda)$  is a primitive polynomial of degree  $c$  over  $GF(2)$ . Then  $\mathbf{L}$  has cycle  $2^c - 1$ , and for any integer  $\alpha$ ,*

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1})^{r_1} & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+2})^{r_1} & \dots & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z})^{r_1} \\ (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1})^{r_2} & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+2})^{r_2} & \dots & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z})^{r_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+1})^{r_z} & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+2})^{r_z} & \dots & (\mathbf{L}^{\alpha+z})^{r_z} \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \quad (35)$$

for all  $0 \leq r_1 < r_2 < \dots < r_z \leq 2^c - 2$ .

*Proof.* Clearly  $\mathbf{L}^r \neq \mathbf{I}$  for  $1 \leq r < 2^c - 1$  because the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{L}^r$  do not equal 1. On the other hand,  $\mathbf{L}^{2^c-1} = \mathbf{I}$  since  $p_{\mathbf{L}}(\mathbf{L}) = \mathbf{0}$  and  $p_{\mathbf{L}}(\lambda) \mid (x^{2^c-1} - 1)$ . The determinant statement follows directly from Lemma 3.  $\square$

Again, taking the companion matrix of any primitive polynomial of degree  $c$  over  $GF(2)$  gives  $c \times c$  matrix  $\mathbf{L}$  satisfying the requirement in Proposition 2. On the other hand, applying similarity transformation to such companion matrix also gives matrix satisfying the requirement in Proposition 2 since similar matrices have the same characteristic polynomial.

## H The Security Analysis of our New Tweakey Schedule for SKINNY Family

**Lower bounds on the number of active Sboxes.** The designers of SKINNY evaluated the tight bounds of the number of active S-boxes by MILP models in [10]. Then Alfarano *et al.* updated tight bounds of the number of active S-boxes for the single-tweakey setting [4]. The authors of SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2 extended the [10]’s model to derive the lower bounds in [46,47]. They also derived the tight bounds of the number of linear active Sboxes. Since the difference cancellations can happen more than 3 times for SKINNYe-64-256, we reevaluate the lower bounds of active S-boxes by extending the MILP model, which is similar with Sect 4.2. In addition, for SKINNY- $n-zn$  with our proposition of the tweakey schedules ( $z \leq 14$ ), we also use the MILP models by modifying the constraints of subtweakey difference cancellations to search the lower bounds of active S-boxes. All our results of the lower bounds of the number of active S-boxes are given in Table 16.

The results of these word-oriented models determines a lower bound on the number of differential active Sboxes. As pointed out by the designers in [10], if the Sbox can be chosen independently for every cell and every round, the bound is tight. However, in the related-tweakey settings, it may be hard to achieve the lower bounds as expected. So, the results we derived in Table 16 are only lower bounds and not tight, where the actual bounds of active Sboxes may be higher. We makes some experiments on the proved tight bounds in Table 17.

## I Automatically Produced Figures of the Rectangle Attack on SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2

Based on the open source of Delaune et al. [24], we automatically produce the figures including the key-recovery phase and the distinguishers for the rectangle attack on SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2.

The full figure on 41-round key-recovery attack on SKINNYe-64-256 is shown in Figure 14.

The full figure on 37-round key-recovery attack on SKINNYe-64-256 v2 is shown in Figure 15.

We also refer the readers to [https://github.com/skinny64/Skinny64-256/tree/main/article\\_boom/pic](https://github.com/skinny64/Skinny64-256/tree/main/article_boom/pic) to see the larger figures.

Table 16: Lower bounds on the number of active Sboxes, where the bounds with upper bar are upper bounds. The bounds for SK[10], TK-1[10], TK-2[10], TK-3[10] and SK Lin[10] are given by the designers of SKINNY. SK[4] is updated by Alfarano *et al.* TK-4 v2 [47] and SK Lin'[46] are given by the designers of SKINNYe-64-256 and its version 2. We reevaluate the bounds for TK-4 and search for TK- $z$  ( $5 \leq z \leq 14$ ).

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
SK[10]	1	2	5	8	12	16	26	36	41	46	51	55	58	61	66
TK-1[10]	0	0	1	2	3	6	10	13	16	23	32	38	41	45	49
TK-2[10]	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	6	9	12	16	21	25	31	35
TK-3[10]	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	6	10	13	16	19	24
TK-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	6	9
TK-4 v2 [47]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	6	9	12	16
TK-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	6	9
TK-6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3
TK-7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TK-8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TK-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TK-10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TK-11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TK-12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TK-13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TK-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SK Lin[10]	1	2	5	8	13	19	25	32	38	43	48	52	55	58	64

	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
SK[10]	75	82	88	92	96	102	108	114	116	124	132	138	136	148	158
SK[4]	75	82	88	92	96	102	108	112	116	124	128	132	136	142	148
TK-1[10]	54	59	62	66	70	75	79	83	85	88	95	102	108	112	120
TK-2[10]	40	43	47	52	57	59	64	67	72	75	82	85	88	92	96
TK-3[10]	27	31	35	43	45	48	51	55	58	60	65	72	77	81	85
TK-4	13	16	19	21	24	29	32	35	39	43	46	49	53	55	58
TK-4 v2 [47]	19	21	24	30	35	39	41	43	46	50	54	58	62	66	72
TK-5	13	16	19	21	24	29	32	35	39	43	46	49	53	55	58
TK-6	6	9	12	15	17	20	23	26	29	32	36	39	42	46	51
TK-7	2	3	6	9	10	13	17	20	22	25	28	30	34	37	40
TK-8	0	1	2	4	4	6	10	13	15	18	21	24	26	29	33
TK-9	0	0	0	1	2	3	4	6	8	11	14	17	21	22	24
TK-10	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	4	6	8	11	14	17	21
TK-11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	4	6	8	11	14
TK-12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	4	6	8
TK-13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	4	4
TK-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
SK Lin[10]	70	76	80	85	90	96	102	107	110	118	122	128	136	141	143
SK Lin'[46]	70	76	80	85	90	96	102	107	110	115	121	127	130	135	141

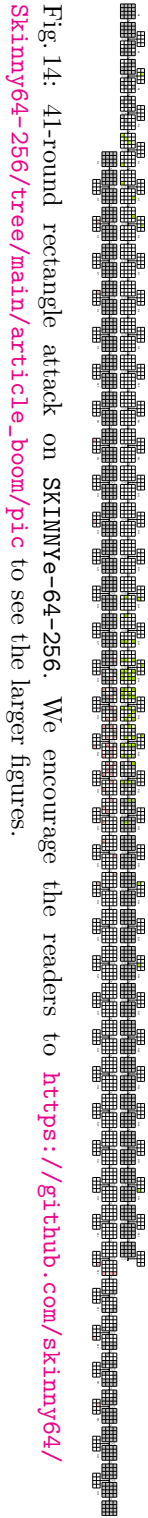


Fig. 14: 41-round rectangle attack on SKINNY-64-256. We encourage the readers to [https://github.com/skinny64/Skinny64-256/tree/main/article\\_boom/pic](https://github.com/skinny64/Skinny64-256/tree/main/article_boom/pic) to see the larger figures.





Fig. 15: 37-round rectangle attack on SKINNYe-64-256 v2. We encourage the readers to [https://github.com/skinny64/Skinny64-256/tree/main/article\\_boom/pic](https://github.com/skinny64/Skinny64-256/tree/main/article_boom/pic) to see the larger figures.

Table 17: Proved lower bounds on the number of active Sboxes, where **TK4** and **TK4 v2** use the tweakey schedules in [46] and [47], where the bounds marked by bold have gaps with the results in Table 16.

	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>TK4</b>	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	6	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>TK4 v2</b>	0	0	0	1	2	3	6	9	12	16	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>