

# Construction of Differential Characteristics in ARX Designs

## Application to Skein

Gaëtan Leurent

UCL Crypto Group\*\*

Gaetan.Leurent@uclouvain.be

**Abstract.** In this paper, we study differential attacks against ARX schemes. We build upon the generalized characteristics of de Cannière and Rechberger and the multi-bit constraints of Leurent. We describe a more efficient way to propagate multi-bit constraints, that allows us to use the complete set of  $2^{32}$  2.5-bit constraints, instead of the reduced sets used by Leurent.

As a result, we are able to build complex non-linear differential characteristics for reduced versions of the hash function Skein. We present several characteristics for use in various attack scenarios; this results in attacks with a relatively low complexity, in relatively strong settings. In particular, we show practical free-start and semi-free-start collision attacks for 20 rounds and 12 rounds of Skein-256, respectively.

To the best of our knowledge, these are the first examples of complex differential trails built for pure ARX designs. We believe this is an important work to assess the security of ARX designs against differential cryptanalysis. Our improved tools will be publicly available with the final version of this paper.

## 1 Introduction

A popular way to construct cryptographic primitives is the so-called ARX design, where the construction only uses Additions ( $a \boxplus b$ ), Rotations ( $a \ggg i$ ), and Xors ( $a \oplus b$ ). These operations are very simple and can be implemented efficiently in software or in hardware, but when mixed together, they interact in complex and non-linear ways. In particular, two of the SHA-3 finalists, BLAKE and Skein, follow this design strategy. More generally, functions of the MD/SHA family are built using Additions, Rotations, Xors, but also bitwise Boolean functions, and logical shifts; they are sometimes also referred to as ARX. This strategy has also been used for stream ciphers such as Salsa20 and ChaCha, and block ciphers, such as TEA, XTEA, HIGHT, or SHACAL (RC5 uses additions and data-dependant rotations, but we only consider construction with fixed rotations).

The ARX design philosophy is opposed to S-Box based designs such as the AES. Analysis of S-Box based designs usually happens at the word-level; differential characteristics are relatively easy to build, but efficient attacks often need novel techniques, such as the rebound attack against hash functions [MRST09]. For ARX designs, the analysis is done on a bit-level; finding good differential characteristics remains an important challenge. In particular, the seminal attacks on the MD/SHA-family by the team of X. Wang are based on differential characteristics built by hand [WLF<sup>+</sup>05, WY05, WYY05, YCKW11], and an important effort has been devoted to building tools to construct automatically such characteristics [dCR06, SO06, FLN07a, MNS11, SLdW07]. This effort has been quite successful for functions of the MD/SHA family, and it has allowed new attacks based on specially designed characteristics: attacks against HMAC [FLN07b], the construction of a rogue MD5 CA certificate [SSA<sup>+</sup>09], and attacks against combiners [MRS09].

However, this body of work is mainly focused on MD/SHA designs, as opposed to pure ARX designs such as Skein or BLAKE. In MD/SHA-like functions, the Boolean functions play an important role, and the possibility to absorb differences gives a lot of freedom for the construction of differential characteristics. In pure ARX designs, the addition is the only source of non-linearity, and the freedom in the carry expansions is much harder to use than the absorption property of Boolean functions.

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\*\* Part of this work was done when the author was at the University of Luxembourg

To this effect, Leurent introduced multi-bit constraints [Leu12] involving several consecutive bits of a variable (*i.e.*  $x^{[i]}$  and  $x^{[i-1]}$ ), instead of considering bits one by one. He describes reduced sets of 1.5-bit and 2.5-bit constraints, and explains how to propagate these constraints using S-systems and automata. This set of constraints is well suited to study ARX designs because it can extract a lot of information about the carries extensions in modular additions.

## 1.1 Our Results

In this paper, we study the problem of constructing differential characteristics for ARX schemes. This work is heavily inspired by the framework of generalized characteristics from de Cannière and Rechberger [dCR06], and the multi-bit constraints of Leurent. We build upon those previous works and introduce a more efficient way to perform the constraint propagation in Section 2. We show how to use this constraint propagation tool in a differential characteristic search algorithm in Section 3, and we present our results on Skein in Section 4.

**Constraint propagation.** Our first result is an alternative way to perform the constraint propagation for multi-bit constraints. Our approach is significantly more efficient than the previous one, and uses the full set of  $2^{32}$  constraints instead of a reduced set of 16 carefully chosen constraints. The reduced set is sufficient in most situations, but we show that the full set extracts some more information. Our approach can also deal with larger systems than the previous technique with a reasonable complexity. In particular, we can deal with the 3-input modular sums, and 3-input Boolean functions used in functions of the MD/SHA family.

**Construction of differential characteristics.** We use this new tool to construct differential characteristics automatically. We show that we can actually build complex non-linear characteristics using some simple heuristics and our efficient constraint propagation tool.

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time complex differential trails are built for ARX designs (a previous attempt by Yu *et al.* [YCKW11] has been shown to be flawed [Leu12]). We believe this is an important result to assess the security of ARX designs against differential cryptanalysis.

**Application to Skein.** Finally, we apply this technique to reduced versions of the Skein hash function, where we build rebound-like characteristics by connecting two high-probability trails.

We compare our results with previous works in Table 1. Most previous work on Skein are either weak distinguishers (such as boomerang properties or free-tweak free-start near-collisions), or attack with marginal improvement over brute-force (such as some biclique-based results). In this work, we present attacks in relatively strong settings (collisions and free-start collisions) with a relatively low complexity (several attacks are practical, and all our attacks gain at least a factor  $2^8$ ).

## 2 Analysis of Differential Characteristics

The first step for working with differential characteristics (or trails) is to choose a way to represent a characteristic, and to evaluate its probability. The main idea of differential cryptanalysis is to consider the computation of the function for a pair of input  $X, X'$ , and to specify the difference between  $x$  and  $x'$  for every internal state variable  $x$ . The difference can be an xor difference, a modular difference, or more generally, use any group operation. However, this approach is not efficient for ARX design, because both the modular difference and the xor difference play an important role. Several works have proposed better ways to represent a differential characteristic for ARX designs.

**Table 1.** Comparison of attacks on Skein-256 (we omit attack on previous versions, and weak distinguishers). In order to compare various attack settings, we count the number of extra degrees of freedom used by the attack.

Extra Degrees of freedom	Ref	Rounds	Time	Note
Collision	[KRS11]	4	$2^{96}$	Biclique based
		8	$2^{120}$	
		9	$2^{124}$	
		12	$2^{126.5}$	
Free-start collision	[LIS12]	$22^\dagger$	$2^{253.8^\dagger}$	Biclique based
		$37^\dagger$	$2^{255.7^\dagger}$	
Free-tweak partial-collision	[YCKW11]	32	$2^{105}$	51 active bits — <b>Invalid characteristic</b>
Collision	4.4	12	$\approx 2^{114}$	
Semi-free-start collision	4.4	12	$\approx 2^{40}$	
Free-start collision	4.5	20	$\approx 2^{40}$	
Free-tweak near-collision	$10^*$	24	$\approx 2^{40}$	3 active bits
Free-tweak partial-collision	$10^*$	32	$\approx 2^{119}$	51 active bits

<sup>†</sup> Attacks on Skein-512. For Skein-256, fewer round will be attacked, with a complexity slightly below  $2^{256}$ .

\* We use freedom degrees in the tweak *difference*, but the tweak *value* can be arbitrary.

**Signed bitwise difference.** The groundbreaking results of Wang *et al.* [WLF<sup>+</sup>05,WY05,WYY05] are based on a bitwise signed difference. For each bit of the state, they specify whether the bit is inactive ( $x = x'$ ), active with a positive sign ( $x = 0, x' = 1$ ), or active with a negative sign ( $x = 1, x' = 0$ ). This information express both the xor difference and the modular difference.

**Generalized characteristics.** This was later generalized by de Cannière and Rechberger [dCR06]: for each bit of the state, they look at all possible values of the pair  $(x, x')$ , and they specify which values are allowed. This give a set of 16 constraints as shown in Table 2. The constraints  $-$ ,  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{n}$  correspond to the bitwise signed difference of Wang. De Cannière and Rechberger also describe an algorithm to build differential characteristics using this set of constraints.

**Multi-bit constraints.** Recently, Leurent studied differential characteristics for ARX designs, and introduced multi-bit constraints [Leu12]. These constraints are applied to the values of consecutive bits of a state variable (*e.g.*  $x^{[i]}$  and  $x^{[i-1]}$ ) instead of being purely bitwise. Multi-bit constraints are quite efficient to study ARX designs because they can capture the behaviour of carries in the modular addition. Two set of constraints are introduced in [Leu12]:

- a set of 16 constraints involving  $(x^{[i]}, x'^{[i]}, x^{[i-1]})$  called 1.5-bit constraints;
- a set of 16 constraints involving  $(x^{[i]}, x'^{[i]}, x^{[i-1]}, x'^{[i-1]}, x^{[i-2]})$  called 2.5-bit constraints.

The full sets of  $2^8$  and  $2^{32}$  constraint are not used because the propagation method of [Leu12] becomes impractical with such large sets.

## 2.1 Constraint Propagation and Probability Computation

In [Leu12], a set of constraints is represented by an S-system, and an automaton is built to compute the probability of a each operation. To perform constraints propagation, each constraint is split into two disjoint subsets; if one of the subsets result in an incompatible system, the constraint can be restricted to the other subset without reducing the number of solutions.

This approach allows to achieve a good efficiency when the automaton is fully determinized: one can test whether a system is compatible with only  $n$  table access. However, the table become impractically large if the set of constraint is too large, or if the operation is too complex. In [Leu12], the automaton is fully determinized for 1.5-bit constraints, but could not be determinized for 2.5-bit constraints; this results in a quite inefficient propagation algorithm for 2.5-bit constraints.

**Table 2.** Generalized constraints used in [dCR06].

	$(x, x')$ :	(0, 0)	(0, 1)	(1, 0)	(1, 1)
?	<i>anything</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
-	$x = x'$	✓	-	-	✓
x	$x \neq x'$	-	✓	✓	-
0	$x = x' = 0$	✓	-	-	-
u	$(x, x') = (0, 1)$	-	✓	-	-
n	$(x, x') = (1, 0)$	-	-	✓	-
1	$x = x' = 1$	-	-	-	✓
#	<i>incompatible</i>	-	-	-	-
3	$x = 0$	✓	✓	-	-
5	$x' = 0$	✓	-	✓	-
7		✓	✓	✓	-
A	$x' = 1$	-	✓	-	✓
B		✓	✓	-	✓
C	$x = 1$	-	-	✓	✓
D		✓	-	✓	✓
E		-	✓	✓	✓

In this work, we explore a different option using non-deterministic automata. This allows to deal with large set of constraints and more complex operations. We need to perform many operations to verify whether a system is compatible, but the automata are very sparse and can be represented by small tables fitting in the cache (the tables of [Leu12] take hundreds of megabytes); this gives good results in practice. In addition we show special properties of the automata allowing an efficient propagation algorithm without splitting the constraints into subsets.

## 2.2 Our New Approach

In this work we describe a method that is specific to systems of the following form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 u &= f(a, b, c, \dots) & u' &= f(a', b', c', \dots) & (1) \\
 \delta(a, a') &= A & \delta(b, b') &= B & \delta(c, c') = C & \dots \\
 & & \delta(u, u') &= U,
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $f$  is an S-function, and the difference  $\delta$  is given by a set of constraints which fully determines  $x^{[i]}$ ,  $x'^{[i]}$ ,  $x^{[i-1]}$ , and  $x'^{[i-1]}$ . We consider  $a, a', b, b' \dots$  as variables, and  $A, B, \dots U$  as parameters.

**Building the automaton.** To deal with 2.5-bit constraints, we use a base alphabet  $\mathcal{B}$  of 32 constraints, each specifying one possible value for  $x^{[i]}$ ,  $x'^{[i]}$ ,  $x^{[i-1]}$ ,  $x'^{[i-1]}$ ,  $x^{[i-2]}$  (for 2-bit constraints, the base alphabet has 16 constraints). Since the system given by (1) with the constraints in  $\mathcal{B}$  is an S-system, we can compute a set of *states*  $\mathcal{S}$ , and a transition function:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tau : \quad \mathcal{S} \times (\mathcal{B} \times \{0, 1\} \times \{0, 1\})^{p-1} \times \mathcal{B} &\rightarrow \mathcal{S} \\
 q, (\overline{A}, a, a'), (\overline{B}, b, b'), \dots, \overline{U} &\mapsto q'
 \end{aligned}$$

so that each solution to the system corresponds to a path in the automaton with transition function  $\tau$ . More details about the construction of  $\tau$  are given in [MVCP10, Leu12]. In our implementation, we use the tools of [Leu12] to compute the transition table.

When we describe a differential characteristic, we use an alphabet  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B})$  consisting the  $2^{32}$  subsets of the base alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$  ( $2^{16}$  subsets for 2-bit constraints). We transform an automaton

on the alphabet  $\mathcal{B}$  to operate on the alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$  by changing the transition function into a non-deterministic transition function:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau' : \quad S \times (\mathcal{A} \times \{0, 1\} \times \{0, 1\})^{p-1} \times \mathcal{A} &\rightarrow \mathcal{P}(S) \\ q, (A, a, a'), (B, b, b'), \dots, U &\mapsto \bigcup_{\bar{A} \in A, \dots, \bar{U} \in U} \tau(q, (\bar{A}, a, a'), \dots, \bar{U}) \end{aligned}$$

This automaton can test whether the constraints are satisfied for given values of the parameters  $A, B, \dots, U$ , of the variables  $a, a', b, b', \dots$ , and with  $u = f(a, b, c, \dots)$ ,  $u' = f(a', b', c', \dots)$ . We further transform the automaton by removing the information about  $a, a', \dots$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \tau'' : \quad S \times \mathcal{A}^p &\rightarrow \mathcal{P}(S) \\ q, A, B, \dots, U &\mapsto \bigcup_{a, a', b, b', \dots \in \{0, 1\}} \tau'(q, (A, a, a'), \dots, U) \end{aligned}$$

This new automaton can decide whether there exists solutions to System (1) for given parameters  $A, B, \dots, U$ . The transition function is highly non-deterministic, but we still use the original automaton by relabelling the transitions, and reading several transitions at each step.

**Lemma 1.** *The transition automaton of a system following (1) with  $p$  parameters,  $v$  variables, and  $s$  bits of state has the following properties:*

- i) Each state can be labelled with a 1-bit value for value of  $a, a', b, b' \dots, x, x'$ . All the input transitions share this value for  $a^{[i]}, a'^{[i]}, b^{[i]}, b'^{[i]} \dots, x^{[i]}, x'^{[i]}$ , while all the output transitions share this value for  $a^{[i-1]}, a'^{[i-1]}, b^{[i-1]}, b'^{[i-1]} \dots, x^{[i-1]}, x'^{[i-1]}$ .*
- ii) No pair of states are linked by two different transitions;*
- iii) Each state has exactly  $2^{2v}$  output transitions (the transition table is sparse);*

*Proof.* *i)* In order to reject incoherent constraints for bit  $i - 1$  and  $i$  of a variable, the automaton must store the values of the previous bits that are used for the constraint on bit  $i$  in the state.

*ii)* Let's assume we have two transitions from a state  $q$  to a state  $q'$ . Since the two transition go to the same state, they must specify the same values of the parameters on bit  $i$ . Moreover, the two transition come from the same state, so they must also specify the same values on bits before  $i$ . Therefore the two transitions are the same.

*iii)* Because the system follows the form  $x = f(a, b, c, \dots)$ ,  $x' = f(a', b', c', \dots)$ , any choice of the variables  $a, a', b, b', \dots$  is valid with exactly one value of  $x, x'$ .

**Propagation.** We use the properties of Lemma 1 in order to build an efficient propagation algorithm. Thanks to property *ii)*, we have a one to one correspondence between the paths in the original automaton, and the paths in the relabelled automaton. Therefore we can easily identify the constraints corresponding to actual solutions of the system. To propagate constraints, we first build the set of paths allowed by the initial constraints, we look at which edges are actually used in paths, and we build the new constraints by identifying the constraints corresponding to the edges.

**Notations.** We use the symbols from [Leu12] to denote the most common constraints as shown in Table 5. When a characteristic uses a less common constraint, we use an hexadecimal mask to represent it. The less common constraints used in the characteristics given in Appendix C are given in Table 9.

When the constraints on the current bit and the constraints on previous bits are independent, we write the constraints involving previous bit in exponent (*e.g.* see Figure 7). For instance, we have can write the constraints  $<$  as  $\mathbf{u}^{\mathbf{u}} \cup \mathbf{n}^{\mathbf{n}}$ .

### 2.3 Propagation for a Differential Characteristic

A differential characteristic is given by a set of constraints for each internal state variable. An ARX design (or a more general MD/SHA-like design) is built with two kinds of operations:

- Operations that are **S-functions**: additions, xors, and bitwise Boolean functions. We build a system for each operation following (1), and we use them to propagate constraints between the inputs and the output of the operation (the propagation goes both ways). To propagate a full characteristic, we propagate every operation until no new constraints are found.
- **Rotations**: since the constraints are local and only involve consecutive bits, we deal with a rotation  $y = x \ggg i$  by just rotating the constraint pattern: if  $\delta x = \Delta_x$  then we use  $\delta y = \Delta_x \ggg i$ . However, we have to relax some constraints if the multi-bit relations are broken by the rotation.

### 2.4 Propagation Example

Let us show how the propagation operates with a simple example. For this example, we use 2-bit constraints, and we consider the operation  $u = a \vee (a \boxplus a)$ . This leads to the following system:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= a \vee (a \boxplus a) & u' &= a' \vee (a' \boxplus a') \\ \delta(a, a') &= A & \delta(u, u') &= U. \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

This system has 2 parameters, 2 variables and 4 bits of state (two for each  $\delta$  operation; the state of  $a \boxplus a$  is already included in the state of  $\delta(a, a')$ ). The automaton corresponding to this system is given in Figure 7. Note that the automaton only needs 9 states out of the  $2^4 = 16$  possible values for the state of the S-system. In our work we always minimize the automata, and this usually results in a significant reduction of the number of states. We can verify that Lemma 1 is respected.

We will show how the propagation algorithm works with the following input:

$$\delta(a, a') = \text{-x--} \qquad \delta(u, u') = \text{----}. \tag{3}$$

This corresponds to a situation where an input difference must be absorbed through the operation.

We first build a graph with a copy of the transitions for each bit. Then for each bit, we remove the transitions that are not acceptable according to the initial constraints (3). More precisely, we only keep constraints that are subsets of -/- for the first and second bits, subsets of x/- for the third bit, and subsets of -/- for the fourth bit. We get the graph of Figure 8, and we look for paths starting from state 0 in the initial layer, and ending in any state of the final layer. (Note that the least significant bit is on the left in the graph, but on the right when we write  $\delta x = \text{-x--}$ ). The nodes and edges involved in these paths are shown in black. We note that the constraints are compatible because such paths exist, and we can count the number of paths to compute the number of solutions: there are 4 different paths in the graph, so there are 4 different solutions to System (2) satisfying (3). We can read the solution by following the paths:

$\delta(a, a')$ :	1n10	1u10	1n11	1u11
$\delta(u, u')$ :	1110	1110	1111	1111

Let us now do the constraint propagation. For each bit, we look at the active edges in Figure 8, and we list the corresponding constraints for  $a$  and  $u$  in Table 4. The new constraints will be the union of all the active constraints. We get the following output (we disregard restriction on previous bits for bit 0):

$$\delta(a, a') = 1^x \mathbf{x} 1 1^- \quad \delta(u, u') = 1^1 1^1 1^-.$$

Here, the constraints on previous bits do not add any information, so we can omit them:

$$\delta(a, a') = 1x1- \qquad \delta(u, u') = 111- \qquad (4)$$

It is easy to verify that any solution to the System (2) satisfying the initial constraints (3) also satisfies the deduced constraints.

## 2.5 Comparison with Previous Works

We show a comparison of our approach with previous methods in Table 3. We use the same settings as [Leu12]:

1. a reduced Skein with two rounds and 4 words of 4 bits each;
2. a reduced Skein with three rounds and 4 words of 6 bits each.

These experiments show that using the full set of 2.5-bit constraints gives better result than using the reduced set of [Leu12]. We also give timing informations<sup>1</sup>: our new approach for constraint propagation is one order of magnitude faster than the previous method with a reduced set of 2.5-bit constraints, and somewhat slower than the previous method with 1.5-bit constraints.

**Table 3.** Experiments with a few rounds of a 4-bit Skein. We give the number of input/output differences accepted by each technique, and the ratio of false positive.

Method	2 rounds / 4 bits (total: $2^{32}$ )		3 rounds / 6 bits (sparse <sup>1</sup> )		
	Accepted	F pos.	Accepted	F pos.	Time <sup>2</sup>
Exhaustive search	$2^{25.1}$ (35960536)	–	$2^{18.7}$ ( 427667)	–	
<b>2.5-bit full set</b>	$2^{25.3}$ (40597936)	0.13	$2^{19.2}$ ( 619492)	0.4	2.5 ms
2.5-bit reduced set [Leu12]	$2^{25.3}$ (40820032)	0.14	$2^{19.5}$ ( 746742)	0.7	50 ms
1.5-bit reduced set [Leu12]	$2^{25.3}$ (40820032)	0.14	$2^{20.4}$ (1372774)	2.2	0.5 ms
1-bit constraints [dCR06]	$2^{25.4}$ (43564288)	0.21	$2^{20.7}$ (1762857)	3.1	0.5 ms
Check adds independently	$2^{25.8}$ (56484732)	0.57			

<sup>1</sup> Weight 4 differences. The total number of input/output differences is  $(\sum_{i=0}^4 \binom{24}{i})^2 \approx 2^{26.75}$ .

<sup>2</sup> Average time to verify one input/output difference (over the false positives of the 1.5-bit reduced set).

## 3 Automatic Construction of Differential Characteristics

In order to build a differential attack for a hash function or a block cipher, an important task is to build a differential characteristic. For the analysis of ARX primitives (and MD/SHA-like designs), the characteristic is usually designed at the bit level. This turns out to be a very challenging task because of the complex interactions between the operations, and the large number of state elements to consider. This problem has been heavily studied for attacks on the MD/SHA family of hash functions: a series of attack by X. Wang and her team are based on differential characteristics build by hand [WLF<sup>+</sup>05,WY05,WYY05,YCKW11], while later works gave algorithms to build such characteristics automatically [dCR06,SO06,FLN07a,MNS11,SLdW07].

In this section, we show that the multi-bit constraints can be used to design a successful algorithm for this task on ARX designs. Our algorithm is heavily inspired by the pioneer work of de Cannière and Rechberger [dCR06], and the more detailed explanation given in [Pey08] and [MdCIP09].

<sup>1</sup> The comparison is done with similar implementations.

### 3.1 Types of Trails

Differential trails can be classified in two categories: iterative and non-iterative. An iterative characteristic exploits the round-based nature of many cryptographic constructions: if a trail can be built over a few rounds with the same input and output difference  $\Delta$ , then this characteristic can be repeated to reach a larger number of rounds. In practice very few iterative characteristics have been found for ARX constructions, because many design use different rotation amounts or Boolean functions over the rounds, or a non-iterative key-schedule. Notable exceptions include the attacks of den Boer and Bosselaers against MD5 [dBB93], and the recent work of Dunkelman and Khovratovich on BLAKE [DK11]. In this work, we focus on non-iterative trails.

The main way to build non-iterated trails is to connect two simple and high-probability trails using a complex and low-probability section in between. The choice of the high-probability trails will depend on the attack setting, and should be done by the cryptanalyst using specific properties of the design, while the complex section will be build automatically by an algorithm (or by hand). When the characteristic is used in a hash-function attack, the cost of the low-probability section can usually be avoided.

For instance, the characteristics used for the attacks on SHA-1 use a linear section build using local collisions [CJ98,WYY05], and a non-linear section to connect a given input difference to the linear characteristic. This general idea is also the core of the rebound attack [MRST09]: it combines two high-probability trails using a low-probability transition through an S-box layer.

In our applications, we will use a rebound-like approach to connect two high-probability trails with a complex low-probability section. Using rebound-like differential trails for ARX designs has been proposed in [YCKW11], but the path they give has been shown to be flawed.

### 3.2 Algorithm

Our algorithm takes as input a characteristic representing the high-probability parts of the trail  $\Delta_1 \rightarrow \Delta_2$  and  $\Delta_3 \rightarrow \Delta_4$ . The main part of the algorithm is a search phase which tries to fill the middle part with a valid characteristic. We follow the general idea of the algorithm of de Cannière and Rechberger, by repeating the following operations, as illustrated in Figure 1:

**Propagation:** deduce more information from the current characteristic by running the propagation algorithm on each operation.

**Guessing:** select an unconstrained state bit (*i.e.* a ? constraint), and reduce the set of allowed values (*e.g.* to a - or x constraint).

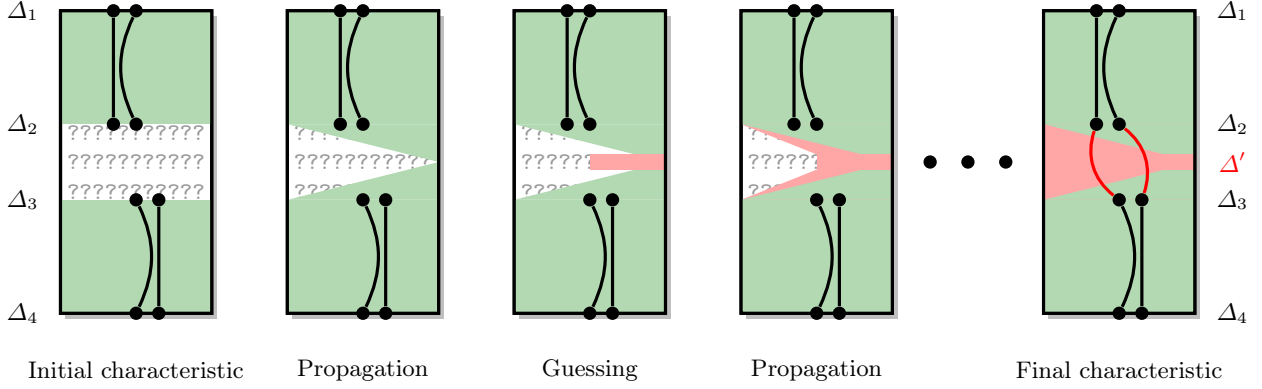
When a contradiction is found, we go back to the last guess, and make the opposite choice, leading to a backtracking algorithm. However, we abort after some number of trials and restart from scratch because mistakes in the early guesses would never be corrected.

Our algorithm is build from the idea that the constraint propagation is relatively efficient to check if a transition  $\Delta \rightarrow \Delta'$  is possible. Therefore to connect the differences  $\Delta_2$  and  $\Delta_3$  from the high-probability trails, we essentially guess the middle difference  $\Delta'$  and we check whether the transitions  $\Delta_2 \rightarrow \Delta'$  and  $\Delta' \rightarrow \Delta_3$  are possible.

This leads to the following difference with the algorithm of de Cannière and Rechberger:

- We specify in advance which words of the state will be restricted in the guessing phase, using state words in the middle of the unspecified section.
- We guess from the low bits to the high bits, and we can compare incomplete characteristics by counting how many bits have been guessed before aborting the search.
- Every time the backtracking process is aborted, we remember which guess was best and the random guesses of the next run are biased toward this choice.
- We only use signed differences, *i.e.* we use the constraints -, u, and n.



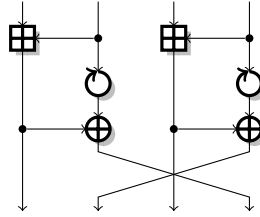


**Fig. 1.** Overview of the search algorithm. We start with high-probability trails  $\Delta_1 \rightarrow \Delta_2$  and  $\Delta_3 \rightarrow \Delta_4$ , and we connect them through a difference  $\Delta'$

## 4 Application to Skein-256

In this section, we apply our algorithm to build characteristics for several attack scenarios on Skein-256.

### 4.1 Short Description of Threefish and Skein



**Fig. 2.** Threefish-256 round

The compression function of Skein is based on the block cipher Threefish. In this paper we only study Threefish-256, which uses a 256-bit key (as 4 64-bit values), a 128-bit tweak (as 2 64-bit values), and a 256-bit state (as 4 64-bit values). The full version of Skein has 72 rounds. We denote the  $i$ th word of the state after  $r$  rounds as  $e_{r,i}$ . There is a key addition layer every 4 rounds:

$$e_{r,i} = \begin{cases} v_{r,i} + k_{r/4,i} & \text{if } r \bmod 4 = 0 \\ v_{r,i} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where  $k_{r/4,i}$  is the  $i$ th word of the round key at round  $r/4$ . The round function is shown by Figure 2. The state  $v_{r+1,i}$  (for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n_w$ ) after round  $r + 1$  is obtained from  $e_{r,i}$  by applying a MIX transformation and a permutation of 4 words as following:

$$\begin{aligned} (f_{r,2j}, f_{r,2j+1}) &:= \text{MIX}_{r,j}(e_{r,2j}, e_{r,2j+1}) & \text{for } j = 0, 1, \dots, n_w/2 \\ v_{r+1,i} &:= f_{r,\sigma(i)} & \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, n_w \end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma$  is the permutation (0 3 2 1) (specified in [FLS<sup>+</sup>10]) and  $(c, d) = \text{MIX}_{r,j}(a, b)$  is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} c &= a \boxplus b \\ d &= (b \lll R_{r \bmod 8,j}) \oplus c \end{aligned}$$

The rotations  $R_{r \bmod 8, j}$  are specified in [FLS<sup>+</sup>10]. The key scheduling algorithm of Threefish produces the round keys from a tweak  $(t_0, t_1)$  and a key as following:

$$\begin{aligned} k_{l,0} &= k_{(l-1) \bmod 5} & k_{l,1} &= k_{(l+1) \bmod 5} + t_{l \bmod 3} \\ k_{l,2} &= k_{(l+2) \bmod 5} + t_{(l+1) \bmod 3} & k_{l,3} &= k_{(l+3) \bmod 5} + l, \end{aligned}$$

where  $k_4 = C_{240} \oplus \bigoplus_{i=0}^4 k_i$  with  $C_{240}$  a constant specified in [FLS<sup>+</sup>10], and  $t_2 = t_0 \oplus t_1$ . The compression function  $F$  for Skein is given as  $F(M, H, T) = E_{H,T}(M) \oplus M$ , where  $H$  is the chaining value,  $M$  is the message, and  $T$  is a block counter. This follows the Matyas-Meyer-Oseas construction for the compression function, and the Haifa construction for the iteration.

In this work, we only consider attack on multiples of four rounds, because the structure of Skein is build with 4-round blocks with key additions in between. We describe attacks in three different settings in Sections 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6. The attack are based on different kinds of trails shown in Figures 4, 5, and 6, and examples of characteristics are given in Tables 10, 11, and 12, respectively. All the characteristics have been verified by building a conforming pair.

## 4.2 Building Characteristics

To describe a differential characteristic for Skein with our framework, we write constraints for each  $e_{r,i}$  value, and for the  $v_{r,i}$  values before a key addition (*i.e.* when  $r \bmod 4 = 0$ ). For each round, we have 4 equations and 2 rotations, corresponding to two MIX functions. We also write the full key schedule as a system of equations.

We note that the variables  $e_{r,2j}$  with  $r \bmod 4 = 0$  are only involved in modular additions:  $f_{r,2j} = e_{r,2j} \boxplus e_{r,2j+1}$  and  $e_{r,2j} = v_{r,2j} \boxplus k_{r/4,2j}$ . Therefore, we could remove these variables, and write  $f_{r,2j} = v_{r,2j} \boxplus k_{r/4,2j} \boxplus e_{r,2j+1}$  using a three-input modular addition. In practice, the propagation algorithm for three-input modular addition take significantly longer, so we keep the variables, but we try to avoid constraining them since the multi-bit constraints can propagate the modular difference.

**Choosing the high-probability characteristics.** In attacks setting with differences in the key, we build the high-probability trails starting from a non-active state, with a low-weight key difference. When we go through the key addition, a difference is introduced in the state, and we propagate the difference by linearizing the function. If we have no difference in the key, we start with a single active bit in the state and we propagate the difference for a few rounds by linearizing the function. Most of our trails use the most significant bit as active bit in order to avoid a few probabilities.

## 4.3 General Results

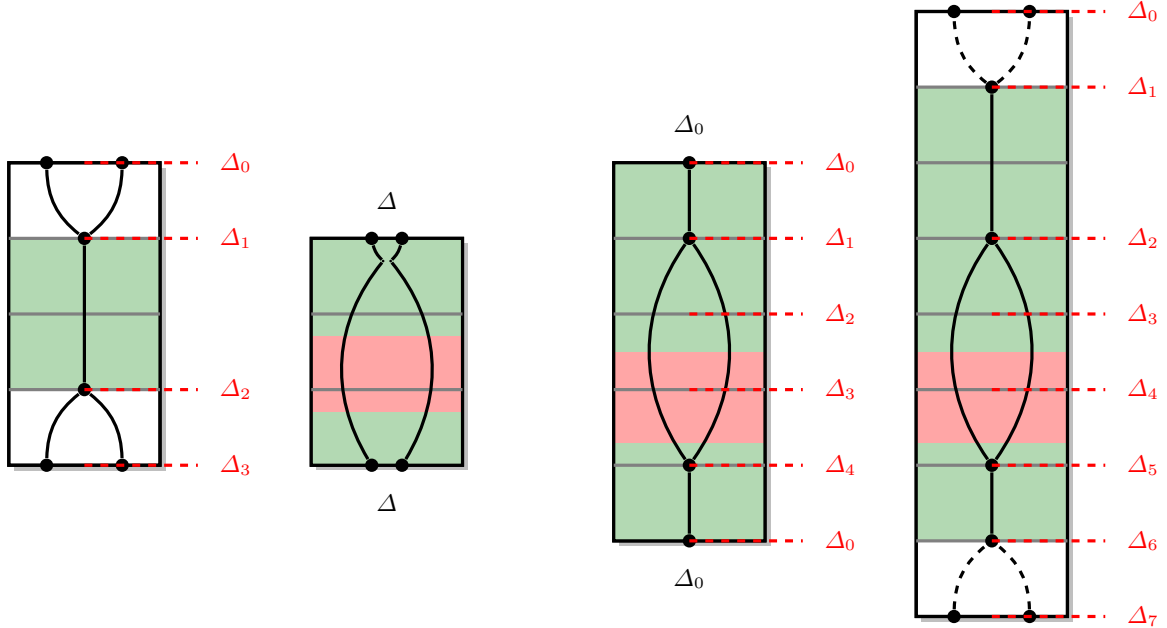
For the algorithm to work successfully, we need to find a delicate balance in the initial characteristic. If the unconstrained section is too short, there will not be enough degrees of freedom to connect the high-probability parts. On the other hand, if the unconstrained section is too long, the propagation algorithm will not filter bad characteristics efficiently.

In practice, we can only build characteristics when we have a key addition layer in the unconstrained part of the characteristic. This way, the algorithm can use degrees of freedom from the key to connect the initial characteristics. In general it seems hard to find enough degree of freedom to build a valid trail without using degrees of freedom from the key: for arbitrary differences  $\Delta_2$  and  $\Delta_3$ , we expect on average a single pair satisfying  $f(x + \Delta_2) = f(x) + \Delta_3$  and that would hardly be a differential trail.

In order to let the algorithm use the degree of freedom in the key efficiently, we use the registers before and after a key addition as guessing points:  $v_{r,0}, v_{r,1}, v_{r,2}, v_{r,3}, e_{r,1}, e_{r,3}$  with  $r \bmod 4 = 0$  (as discussed above we do not constrain  $e_{r,0}$  and  $e_{r,2}$ ).

We find that the characteristics built by the algorithm are rather dense, and use all the degrees of freedom in the state, and many degrees of freedom in the key. This is not a problem for attacks on the compression function, but the characteristics are harder to use in attacks against the full hash function, where fewer degrees of freedom are available to the attacker. We note that this problem is less acute for attack against functions of the MD/SHA family, where the message block is much larger than the state.

On the other hand, the trail of [YCKW11] built by hand by Yu *et al.* was quite sparse, but it has been shown to be invalid [Leu12]. It remains an open question to see whether valid sparse trails can be built.



**Fig. 3.** Previous trails: rel-key, rel-tweak.

**Fig. 4.** Collision trails: fixed key.

**Fig. 5.** Collision trails: related-key.

**Fig. 6.** (Near-)Collision trails: rel-key, rel-tweak.

#### 4.4 Collision Attacks

We first study attacks with no difference in the key (*i.e.* the chaining value) so that they can be applied to the full hash function. We try to build characteristics for a collision attack, therefore we use the same difference in the initial state and in the final state so that they can cancel out in the feed-forward<sup>2</sup>. We start with a low-weight difference in one of the first rounds and we propagate by linearization through rounds 0–4 and backward through round 11.

We show an example of such characteristic in Table 10. This characteristic can be used for a practical semi-free-start collision attack on 12-round Skein, and we give an example of collision in Table 6.

**Full collision attack.** To build a collision attack on the full hash function, we have to deal with the fact that the characteristic is only valid for a small fraction of the keys (*i.e.* a small fraction of the chaining values). We use a large number of characteristics, and a large number of random chaining values, in a meet-in-the-middle fashion.

Our experiments indicate that we can build characteristics with about  $2^{70}$  solutions for a cost of  $2^{40}$ . If we extrapolate this experimental result, we expect that it is possible to build many

<sup>2</sup> We could build characteristics for 20 rounds if we consider near-collisions, but this would not work on the full hash function because of the finalization step.

such characteristics. Let's assume that we can build  $N$  characteristics for a cost of  $N \times 2^{40}$ ; each characteristic has  $2^{70}$  solutions out of  $2^{150}$  valid keys. In a second phase, we will hash  $M$  random message blocks and test if they can give a collision using one of the characteristics. Out of the  $M$  chaining values generated, we expect that  $M \times N \times 2^{150-256}$  will be valid for one characteristic, and  $M \times N \times 2^{70-256}$  values will actually lead to a collision after verification. An important step of the attack will be to find for which characteristic a given chaining value can be valid, but this can be done efficiently using a hash table indexed by the bits of the chaining value which are imposed by the characteristics.

The optimal complexity is achieved with  $N = 2^{73}$  and  $M = 2^{113}$ . With these parameters we only have to verify  $2^{80}$  valid chaining values, so the verification step is negligible. This gives a collision attack on 12-round Skein-256 with a time complexity of  $2^{114}$ , using memory to store  $2^{73}$  characteristics<sup>3</sup>. We believe that this estimation is a safe upper bound, and that better characteristics can be found by running the search algorithm for longer times.

#### 4.5 Free-start Collision Attack

For a collision attack on the compression function, *i.e.* a free-start attack on the hash function, we can use a difference in the key (*i.e.* the chaining value). We note that the key schedule of Skein-256 repeats itself every 20 rounds when there is no tweak difference. Therefore, we build trails with two inactive blocks as shown in Figure 5: the difference introduced in the initial state by  $k_0$  cancels out with the difference introduced in the final state by  $k_5$ .

We give a characteristic build using this idea in Table 11, and a collision pair in Table 7.

#### 4.6 Free-tweak Free-start Near-collision Attack

Finally, we can use degrees of freedom in the tweak to reach the maximum number of rounds possible. Previous works has shown that the key schedule allows to have one round without any active key words if we use a difference in the tweak in order to cancel a difference in the key. Using this property we can build a 24-round trail, and extend it to 32 round by propagating the external difference for four extra rounds in each direction, as shown in Figure 6. This is the approach used in [YCKW11].

We give a characteristic build using this idea in Table 12, and an example of pair following the characteristic in rounds 4 to 28 in Table 8. This results in a low weight difference for the input and output, with many zero bits in predetermined position. Moreover, we can follow the approach of [YCKW11] and also specify a fixed characteristic for round 0 to 4 and 28 to 32. It costs about  $2^{40}$  to build a characteristic that allows  $2^{20}$  solutions, so we can estimate that the amortized costs of building a valid pair for rounds 4 to 28 is about  $2^{20}$ . Using the analysis of [YCKW11], we would build a conforming pair for rounds 0 to 32 for a cost of  $2^{20+43+43} = 2^{119}$ . That is comparable with the complexity given in [YCKW11], but this work is based on an incompatible trail.

## Conclusion

In this paper we describe an algorithm to build differential characteristics for ARX designs, and we apply the algorithm to find characteristics for various attack scenarios on Skein. Our attacks do not threaten the security of Skein, but we achieve good results when compared to previous attacks with low-complexity attacks in relatively strong settings. In particular, we show practical free-start and semi-free-start collision attacks for 20 rounds and 12 rounds of Skein-256, respectively.

<sup>3</sup> To store a characteristic, we just need to store masks defining the valid keys, and one state in the middle (if is not necessary to store all the intermediate constraints). Then, we can test a chaining value candidate by just computing all the intermediate states and checking if we reach a collision. This would take about  $4 \times 256$  bits

This seems to be the first time complex differential trails are built for pure ARX functions (as opposed to MD/SHA-like functions with Boolean functions). Since our approach is rather generic, we expect that our technique can be applied to other ARX designs, and will be used to evaluate the security of these designs against differential cryptanalysis.

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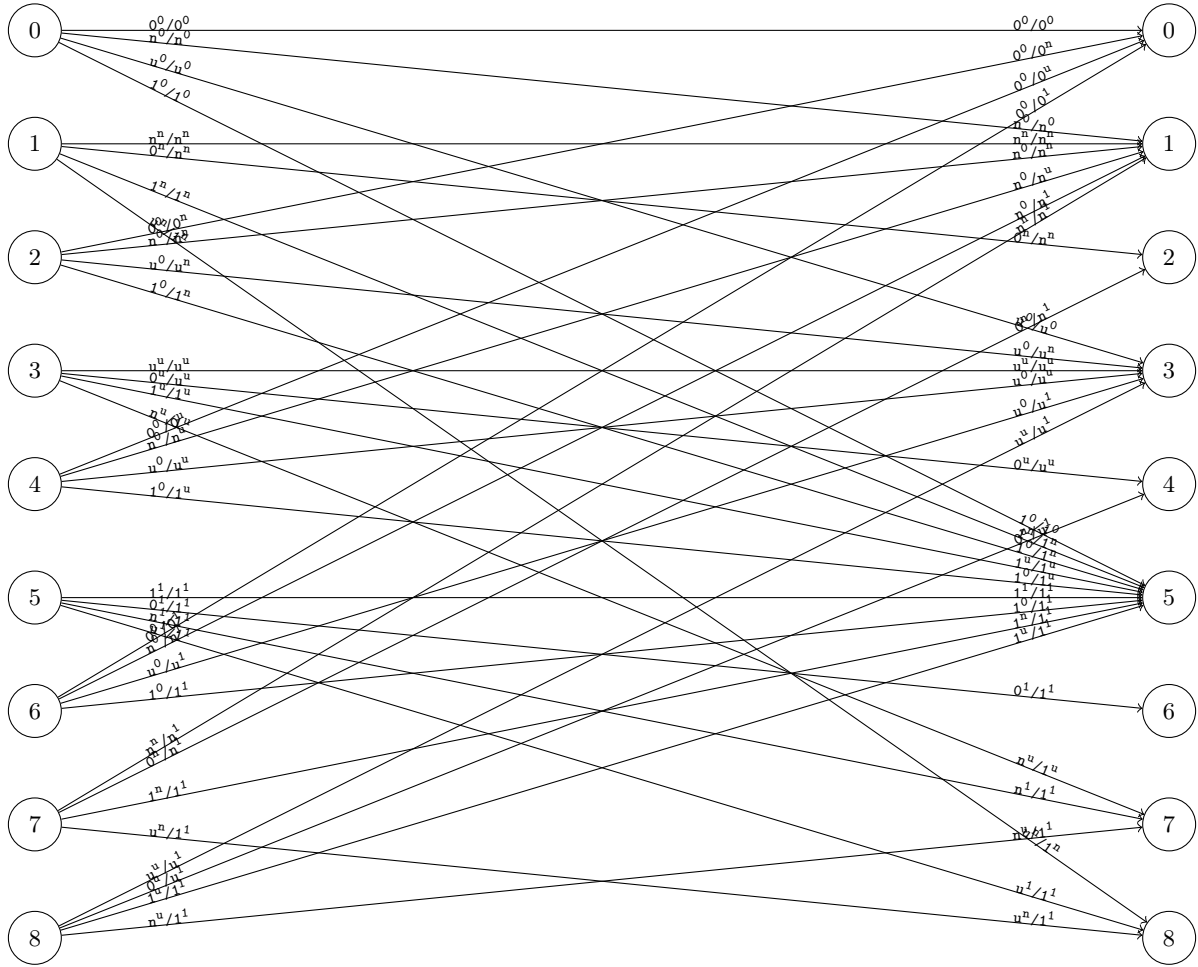
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## A Constraint Propagation



State	Transitions			
0	$0 \xrightarrow{0^0/0^0} 0$	$0 \xrightarrow{n^0/n^0} 1$	$0 \xrightarrow{u^0/u^0} 3$	$0 \xrightarrow{1^0/1^0} 5$
1	$1 \xrightarrow{n^n/n^n} 1$	$1 \xrightarrow{0^n/n^n} 2$	$1 \xrightarrow{1^n/1^n} 5$	$1 \xrightarrow{u^n/u^n} 8$
2	$2 \xrightarrow{0^0/0^n} 0$	$2 \xrightarrow{n^0/n^n} 1$	$2 \xrightarrow{u^0/u^n} 3$	$2 \xrightarrow{1^0/1^n} 5$
3	$3 \xrightarrow{u^u/u^u} 3$	$3 \xrightarrow{0^u/u^u} 4$	$3 \xrightarrow{1^u/1^u} 5$	$3 \xrightarrow{n^u/n^u} 7$
4	$4 \xrightarrow{0^0/0^u} 0$	$4 \xrightarrow{n^0/n^u} 1$	$4 \xrightarrow{u^0/u^u} 3$	$4 \xrightarrow{1^0/1^u} 5$
5	$5 \xrightarrow{1^1/1^1} 5$	$5 \xrightarrow{0^1/1^1} 6$	$5 \xrightarrow{n^1/1^1} 7$	$5 \xrightarrow{u^1/1^1} 8$
6	$6 \xrightarrow{0^0/0^1} 0$	$6 \xrightarrow{n^0/n^1} 1$	$6 \xrightarrow{u^0/u^1} 3$	$6 \xrightarrow{1^0/1^1} 5$
7	$7 \xrightarrow{n^n/n^1} 1$	$7 \xrightarrow{0^n/n^1} 2$	$7 \xrightarrow{1^n/1^1} 5$	$7 \xrightarrow{u^n/n^1} 8$
8	$8 \xrightarrow{u^u/u^1} 3$	$8 \xrightarrow{0^u/n^1} 4$	$8 \xrightarrow{1^u/1^1} 5$	$8 \xrightarrow{n^u/n^1} 7$

Fig. 7. Transitions for System (2)

Table 4. Active edges in figure 8, and new deduced constraints.

$i$	edges ( $\delta a/\delta u$ )	$a$ constraints	$u$ constraints
0	$0^0/0^0, 1^0/1^0$	$0^0 \cup 1^0 \equiv -^0$	$0^0 \cup 1^0 \equiv -^0$
1	$1^0/1^0, 1^1/1^1$	$1^0 \cup 1^1 \equiv 1^-$	$1^0 \cup 1^1 \equiv 1^-$
2	$n^1/1^1, u^1/1^1$	$n^1 \cup u^1 \equiv x^1$	$1^1 \cup 1^1 \equiv 1^1$
3	$1^n/1^1, 1^u/1^1$	$1^n \cup 1^u \equiv 1^x$	$1^1 \cup 1^1 \equiv 1^1$





	$(x, x', 2x, 2x', 4x)$ :																																
	00000	00001	00010	00011	00100	00101	00110	00111	01000	01001	01010	01011	01100	01101	01110	01111	10000	10001	10010	10011	10100	10101	10110	10111	11000	11001	11010	11011	11100	11101	11110	11111	
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x	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
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B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
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X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
U	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
N	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
/	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
\	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
V	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

**Table 5.** Constraints identified in [Leu12] and written as full 2.5-bit constraints.

## B (Near-)Collision Pairs for Skein-256

**Table 6.** Semi-free-start collision for 12-round Skein-256. This pair is the same as given in Table 10.

	Input 1	Input 2	Difference	Weight
$m_0$	97c787b0252f1bef	97c787b0252f1bef	0000000000000000	0
$m_1$	9ba673bd9a918263	9ba673bd9a918263	0000000000000000	0
$m_2$	59f24b2909ae5223	59f24b2909ae5223	0000000000000000	0
$m_3$	963151773356523a	963151773356523a	0000000000000000	0
$t_0$	0000000000000000	0000000000000000	0000000000000000	0
$t_1$	0000000000000000	0000000000000000	0000000000000000	0
$v_{4,0}$	b9ded48b4e413597	39ded48b4e413597	8000000000000000	1
$v_{4,1}$	5a63d56d9481f1d6	5a63d56d9481f1d6	0000000000000000	0
$v_{4,2}$	0accb31ed067ae77	0accb31ed067ae77	0000000000000000	0
$v_{4,3}$	734e405bed9d64cc	734e405bed9d64cc	0000000000000000	0

	Output 1	Output 2	Difference	Weight
$e_{16,0}$	f3424f9d5f6d8c50	73424f9d5f6d8c50	8000000000000000	1
$e_{16,1}$	74a4ddb5e6e65d54	74a4ddb5e6e65d54	0000000000000000	0
$e_{16,2}$	bc4c51d904f3425d	bc4c51d904f3425d	0000000000000000	0
$e_{16,3}$	b511e49ca126be77	b511e49ca126be77	0000000000000000	0

**Table 7.** Free-start collision for 20-round Skein-256. This pair is the same as given in Table 11.

	Input 1	Input 2	Difference	Weight
$m_0$	5f977cfdd64d2f57	5f977cfdd64d2f57	0000000000000000	0
$m_1$	35839193022be6f4	b5839193022be6f4	8000000000000000	1
$m_2$	05e168930700458f	85e168930700458f	8000000000000000	1
$m_3$	6f47d57f8b6f9b78	6f47d57f8b6f9b78	0000000000000000	0
$t_0$	0000000000000000	0000000000000000	0000000000000000	0
$t_1$	0000000000000000	0000000000000000	0000000000000000	0
$v_{0,0}$	627f37f95152438c	627f37f95152438c	0000000000000000	0
$v_{0,1}$	0532b3fdf499d0d7	8532b3fdf499d0d7	8000000000000000	1
$v_{0,2}$	91c792ab31ba535c	11c792ab31ba535c	8000000000000000	1
$v_{0,3}$	72e80ac1aee8118	72e80ac1aee8118	0000000000000000	0

	Output 1	Output 2	Difference	Weight
$e_{20,0}$	6627a3d5c18e2057	6627a3d5c18e2057	0000000000000000	0
$e_{20,1}$	7a1e999992b2202d	fa1e999992b2202d	8000000000000000	1
$e_{20,2}$	2bf3a5067fac9218	abf3a5067fac9218	8000000000000000	1
$e_{20,3}$	b0ccc2f709dc2e35	b0ccc2f709dc2e35	0000000000000000	0

**Table 8.** Pair of input with low-weight difference for 32-round Skein-256. This pair is the same as given in Table 12; we don't specify how the differences are propagated in rounds 0 to 4 and 28 to 32.

	Input 1	Input 2	Difference	Weight
$m_0$	edb22ce30810011a	edb22ce30810011a	0000000000000000	0
$m_1$	08142e9044b0054a	08142e9044b0054a	0000000000000000	0
$m_2$	1e06bd5779535f97	1e06bd5779535f97	0000000000000000	0
$m_3$	82a5e785e5c5b836	02a5e785e5c5b836	8000000000000000	1
$t_0$	0000000000000000	8000000000000000	8000000000000000	1
$t_1$	0000000000000000	0000000000000000	0000000000000000	0
$v_{0,0}$	c0097c86ad089acd	c0decb29fae7a20d	00d7b7af57ef38c0	35
$v_{0,1}$	0eef94c587c9f8fc	91efc569f9eaf0fc	9f0051ac7e230800	23
$v_{0,2}$	a5333c6b7af97e18	a272f89740fdbae4	0741c4fc3a04c4fc	28
$v_{0,3}$	49df6d34f9ebc32f	cc9f6d0935eb8663	8540003d3c00454c	19

	Output 1	Output 2	Difference	Weight
$e_{32,0}$	650f11ac87162f96	650f119c82f63796	0000003005e01800	9
$e_{32,1}$	22ed455a3e3dd26a	e5f12d8d8431cafa	c71c68d7ba0c1890	28
$e_{32,2}$	ef0d1179583e8671	ed0d118994327e51	020000f0cc0cf820	17
$e_{32,3}$	5de99dad57671f6a	5ec99dbd5347076a	0320001004201800	8

## C Differential Characteristics for Skein-256

The characteristics given in Tables 10, 11, and 12 follow the general structure described in Figures 4, 5, and 6. For more details of the attacks, see Sections 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6, respectively.

We use the following colors in the characteristics:

- **red constraints** for active bits;
- **green constraints** for inactive bits;
- **orange constraints** for carry bits (inactive if the previous bit is inactive);
- **blue constraints** for other situations.

The most common characteristics are given in Table 5, while the unusual one are assigned a two digit code, and given in Table 9 in hexadecimal notation. The 32-bit hexadecimal values correspond to the columns of Table 5; for instance the constraint N would be represented by `f30c0cf3`. The two-digit codes are just used as shorthand so that all the information for the trails fit in the tables.

When using those characteristics, we start with the middle state given by the characteristic, we select a key satisfying the key constraints, and we check the remaining rounds. Therefore, the probabilities given for the upper rounds are probability in the backward direction, while probabilities in the lower round are in the forward direction.

When the tweak is not given in the characteristic, it should be taken as zero.

**Table 9.** Description of the uncommon constraints used in the characteristics

Sym.	Mask	Sym.	Mask	Sym.	Mask	Sym.	Mask
00	00fff200	01	00f08f00	02	0001ff00		
10	cf003000	11	000c0cf3	12	cf300000	13	f00f0ff0
14	0f00f000	15	00f0f00f	16	cf303000	17	c030000f
18	8030004f	19	c330000f	1a	0ff0100f	1b	00f0000f
1c	003030cf	1d	810c0cf3	1e	000030c0	1f	000f0ff0
20	730c00f2	21	cf3030cc	22	0ff0f00f	23	f30c04e0
24	0000f00f	25	030c0000	26	0ff00000	27	0f102000
28	0400f008	29	0f00f00f	2a	f00f0000	2b	000030cf
2c	cf3030c0	2d	c0300000	2e	0000cf3	2f	830c00f2
30	030c0c03	31	00000ff0	32	0f0030c0	33	c03030cf
34	c03030c0						
40	3001cf30	41	30c0c030	42	0cf3f300	43	00f3f30c
44	00f0030c	45	000f00f0	46	0cf30000	47	30c04f00
48	00f3000c	49	0000c030	4a	30cf0000	4b	0c03f200
4c	00cf0030	4d	00cf8030	4e	0c030000		
50	8000004f	51	8f0000ff	52	f000004f	53	010000f2
54	ff000081	55	4f0000f2	56	f00000ff	57	4f0000f0
58	f200004f	59	810000ff	5a	800000ff	5b	ff0000f2
5c	f200000f	5d	0f0000ff	5e	ff000080	5f	020000ff
60	f2000001	61	ff0000f0	62	ff00000f	63	f10000ff
64	4f0000ff	65	420000ff	66	ff000040	67	ff000002
68	0f0000f2	69	0f0000f1	6a	4f000080	6b	010000ff
6c	ff00004f	6d	4000008f	6e	ff0000f1	6f	ff000004
70	080000ff	71	ff000001	72	04000008	73	ff00008f
74	f20000ff	75	ff000042	76	f1000002	77	ff000082
78	410000ff	79	280000ff	7a	f200008f	7b	f100000f
7c	8f000040	7d	82000041	7e	f100008f	7f	400000ff
80	8f0000f2	81	4f0000f1	82	f000008f	83	40000080
84	820000ff						



Table 11. Free-start collision characteristic for rounds 0 to 20.  $2^{56.7}$  valid keys, probability  $2^{-43}$

	Constraints	Prob.	Example
$m_0$	$-1-1-1111001^{65}-----111^6_{a}--1111!---5^a-010-1001001-0^{65}-----111!---01!==-$		5f977cfdd64d2f57
$m_1$	$x0-1010110000!---110010001100100110-000-1000101!>=7^1-----011^5_{b}--110!=-$		35839193022be6f4
$m_2$	$x0-0-101--0-----010^6_{a}--0010-----000==!7^4--0-5^1_{b}-----010--00^6_{a}---$		05e168930700458f
$m_3$	$-11011110!-0!==5^8_{c}---1010101111-110001-110^6_{b}--11111-0110110111^6_{a}--0$		6f47d57f8b6f9b78
$m_4$	$00011011!=-000110100101101011-00111100!==7^1--0101000011010111^5_{b}--0$		1b634b58f1f50d76
$e_{4,0}$	$x-----$	0.0	dd5113862e4682f2
$e_{4,1}$	$x-----$	0.0	976b12a915df1438
$e_{4,2}$	$-----$	0.0	2682e7ab2b50853e
$e_{4,3}$	$-----$	0.0	c21caeeb08ac00af
$e_{5,0}$	$-----$	0.0	74bc262f4425972a
$e_{5,1}$	$-----$	0.0	f9c797c9b7c5d83b
$e_{5,2}$	$-----$	0.0	e89f969633fc85ed
$e_{5,3}$	$-----n-----$	0.0	26979807350b410f
$e_{6,0}$	$-----$	1.0	6e83bdf8fbeb6f65
$e_{6,1}$	$-----7^4_{d}-----11-----u-----7^6_{e}-----x-----5^5_{f}-----!-----$	0.0	76b75dcd173495
$e_{6,2}$	$-----!^6_{c}-----8^1-----n-----$	1.3	0f372e9d6907c6fc
$e_{6,3}$	$-----==9^9-----10-----!^7_{3}-----7^8_{7}-----5^5_{a}-----!^4_{4}-----10^5_{1}---$	0.7	188d43891e190294
$e_{7,0}$	$-----5^4_{a}-----6^6_{41}-----0u-----1-----7^9_{06}-----5^5_{b}-----5^6_{c}---$	2.5	e53b1bc6d902a3fa
$e_{7,1}$	$-----7^7_{a}-----7^6_{bd3}-----7^8_{7}-----!!^6_{c}-----!-----01^0_{1c}-----7^2_{2}-----!!^6_{5}-----1000---$	0.0	c583f4662226eac0
$e_{7,2}$	$0010^6_{a}--5^5_{cd}-----01000-11001000!^5_{2}--!--000011n0^5_{e}--000^5_{2}--01001100^6_{a}--0$	0.3	27c472268720c990
$e_{7,3}$	$10110-00--00!==000110101n--1-n10111u01-10n1^5_{1}--111110010--00$	0.0	b0e1c6b1ee76ff28
$v_{8,0}$	$-0-0-01^6_{8}--5^5_{a}-----!==5^5_{b}--01u1-----==5^5_{b}5^5_{5b}-----5^5_{c}-----==5^5_{a}-----6^6_{c}---$	2.6	aabf102cfb298eba
$v_{8,1}$	$-u11011u11-10u0^6_{1}--00111111n0-001n000-01!^7_{1}--0n!==001110000u^6_{4}--1$	0.1	36d0c7f0c5760e09
$v_{8,2}$	$1101100010-0011000111000110n!-000n110101!^5_{2}--0n11110010001011^6_{4}--0$	0.0	d8a638d87597c8b8
$v_{8,3}$	$==!-00u10011^5_{5}-----110!--11u11--5^5_{b}-----1010101-1^5_{5}--101^5_{5}--011!=-$	0.4	8899faec3eaa7adc
$e_{8,0}$	$n01100001010000001111000110u00000000010001010011101010001001001$		b0a078c00229d449
$e_{8,1}$	$1u10011u00011u0010011101011n00000n01000011100n0110101001100u0001$		a6189d7050e5a981
$e_{8,2}$	$11110100000100110000100001n0001n0011110001n001101011000101110$		f4098431678362e
$e_{8,3}$	$111010000100110001110111111u1010000101001111011010101000110101$		e83177ea14f7aa35
$e_{9,0}$	$0n01011u10111u0100010110001100000n01001100001n110111101110u1010$		56b91630530f7dca
$e_{9,1}$	$1010101n110n000011101000111011001n01011010110u010110100u01010010$		abd0e8ecd6b16852
$e_{9,2}$	$1101110u001110101111100000110110n1111001000n00100000001100011$		dc3afc1b7c848063
$e_{9,3}$	$0n11000n11100101000u00100000100n0u1110010110111000n01000n0u110u$		71e50209396f144c
$e_{10,0}$	$uu000010nuuuu1u0111111110001110nu0101001110000001110011u00un1100$		0289ff1d29c0e61c
$e_{10,1}$	$nnu101n0n1nann0uuuunn01000n00uuu101001n1n00uuu01010u10101000unn$		d6fc3420a7814a87
$e_{10,2}$	$0n00111000unnannnnnn111000100nnu10110101111nuu11100n01001n0nnnn$		4e1ffe24b5f394af
$e_{10,3}$	$nu0u0111nnuu0u11010u001u0001001nn010011100001n011000110n0uuu1010$		87a34213a70d8d0a
$e_{11,0}$	$11u1nuun10uuu11uunn0011001nn10nn10nuuuuu10uuu100unn000u101u0unn$		d986333dd14230a3
$e_{11,1}$	$n1un1u00u1uun1u0n0u101unu1nnn1n1nnn1nuuuu0u01n00nn0010uu0111nu$		d84e4abffe43321e
$e_{11,2}$	$n1un0101n1uu0u1101u0000u0011nu0uu101110nuuuuu00100nu000n1u1110un$		d5c340385d0121b9
$e_{11,3}$	$11uuuu01n1unu101nnuun1100n100nu00nu0101u0nu0n01u0nnnnununuuuu$		c9d5f39892a94eb9
$v_{12,0}$	$nu1n00u11nu1nu0u1n111un1nnnn1un110u1n1n1000un0n01n00u01n0u0001$		b1d47dfdcf8562c1
$v_{12,1}$	$nn00n010nu1nu0001nn00100n110n00nn10nnun00010100uu000011011u000u$		cab0e4e9d5140360
$v_{12,2}$	$nu011n1nuunnu0nu01nuu1n1nu1uuu01110n111101u1unu011100u001n100n0$		9f9933d0efaa7072
$v_{12,3}$	$1u111u00uu011n01u01un01uu0u01uu0u0u11111n0u0nn00uuuu100u11un0$		b81d2a0207e3211a
$e_{12,0}$	$xunu00u!==nn^4_{33}V^2_{33}x10unn0nnnn-un01un^2_{2}xnu1^6_{55}--9^4_{93}>=-1nnnn000nn^6_{2}--1$	0.0	211c537d5af4fe39
$e_{12,1}$	$nnuu1nuuu-nuuuuunuuuuuuuuuuuu-nnnuuu1nn0^5_{5}--1001uu0100001un^5_{5}-u$	0.0	e6143042c70910d6
$e_{12,2}$	$2<-1-n1n0u1^4_{5b7}U^2_{2}x-nu^4_{2}x-nuu1^2_{8}x-2^2_{8}xuuu-unnnnn^2_{2}x^2_{2}Vn^1_{1}xnn^2_{2}xu0^1_{6}>--$	0.5	ff30b0cec5f79fc9
$e_{12,3}$	$-n-unnnunuuuu-ununnnunnnunuuuuuuu-uun-nuuuuun1nn---nuu0--u100u-$	0.3	eda0bb950a0f0811
$e_{13,0}$	$xuuu0nnuuunuuu^6_{1}--000111nuuuuuuu0100-unnnnnnnnuu-uunnnnuuuunnnn$	7.1	073083c021fe0f0f
$e_{13,1}$	$xnnn1uunnnuunnn^5_{a}--11100010000000-00101101000-nnnnunuunnnuuuuu$	5.4	f8cf7c400b47d0f0
$e_{13,2}$	$x110-1001101u00---unn0--n100u--n-unuuuuuuuu-101010011111011010$	11.2	ecd16c63d006a7da
$e_{13,3}$	$-000-0101011n11---1000nnnnuuuuuuuu---000011u0100-1001101010111$	0.0	82be91e18c32276f
$e_{14,0}$	$xuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuu!!=-0101000-!==-01111111111111$	3.6	000000002d45dff
$e_{14,1}$	$-00---0100100011110011---000==0^5_{a}--100100==!==-11-111-1100010$	0.0	8691e6867e4e3762
$e_{14,2}$	$x11^6_{1}-111100unnnnnnnnnn--1000!--u^6_{1}!--000011!-01=-0011101001001$	4.4	6f8ffe455c38cf49
$e_{15,3}$	$-11101000011110000-111n0001100111^6_{2}-----1001010-!==-0-1101001011-$	0.3	f43c3e33f255dd2e
$e_{15,0}$	$-00-----0100100011110011---000==n^6_{b}--11100^7_{1}-6^5_{1}-01-111-1100001$	0.6	8691e686ab941761
$e_{15,1}$	$-1!^6_{1}-111001^7_{4}----10-0100==7^4--u^7_{4}-----010-1-6^1_{1}-1--!-00110111==$	0.0	ef30a90e0533a378
$e_{15,2}$	$x1!^6_{2}-0111100110000-1110-111!=-u^5_{5}--101000^5_{a}-1!^6_{1}!--11000111!=-$	0.7	63cc3c794e8eac77
$e_{15,3}$	$-00---01---0111010000--011--n^5_{9}--1^6_{1}!--5^6_{6}--6^6_{2}!--!---0-111-0$	0.0	0c8ba11cb26d2fbc
$v_{16,0}$	$-5^0_{0}-----11!^5_{c}-----!==!====5^5_{c}-----0!^5_{a}-----6^6_{55}-5^5_{0}-01!-1!^5_{b}-00-$	0.0	75c28f94b0c7bad9
$v_{16,1}$	$-----7^3_{3}-----5^6_{6}!---6^6_{6}-----6^6_{55}-----7^7_{7}-----6^6_{6}!---!-----01---$	0.0	c23af22a0c707d2f
$v_{16,2}$	$x^5_{03}-----0^6_{8}-----1111!--111^6_{4}-----0^6_{55}-----6^6_{55}-----6^6_{6}!--!^6_{0}-0-10^5_{5}---$	0.0	7057dd9600fbd33
$v_{16,3}$	$x-----01-----!====5^5_{c}-----1=7^4_{4}-----01-----!-----$	0.0	70f12cec5ff713d7

**Table 12.** Free-start, free-tweak, (Near-)Collision characteristic for rounds 0 to 32.  $2^{44.9}$  valid keys, probability  $2^{-25.1}$

	Constraints	Prob.	Example
$k_0$	$-11011011011001000101100111000110000!===5-0100000000010001!-10$		edb22ce30810011a
$k_1$	$00001000000101000010111010010000010001005-110000000010101001010$		08142e9044b0054a
$k_2$	$-0!655-54-55-----01111016-0!-111!===5688--08--11--011111!8-10-11$		1e06bd5779535f97
$k_3$	$>===60-5c-66-----1111001111000010111100-0111000101--11100006-1!-10$		82a5e785e5c5b836
$k_4$	$x-!8-----56-----10000116-1=-011!===-----08--10--1110017-1--11$		62d4437b79caf9d3
$t_0$	$u00$		0000000000000000
$t_1$	$00$		0000000000000000
$t_2$	$u00$		0000000000000000
$e_{12,0}$	$x-----$	0.0	87ad0104ef83d5a7
$e_{12,1}$	$-----$	0.0	da552a21bd36c3ad
$e_{12,2}$	$-----$	0.0	d9fd1666ce2e3e47
$e_{12,3}$	$-----$	0.0	980fe1445c75f41a
$e_{13,0}$	$x-----$	0.0	62022b26acba9954
$e_{13,1}$	$-----$	0.0	cae71f9e1abbf0e9
$e_{13,2}$	$-----$	0.0	720cf7ab2aa43261
$e_{13,3}$	$x-----!5-----5-----$	0.0	217846a1f70e3300
$e_{14,0}$	$x-----$	0.0	2ce94ac4c7768a3d
$e_{14,1}$	$x-----111!5-----=-----0010663-u5--01-----$	0.0	17ef213dc2826776
$e_{14,2}$	$02-----51--00!5a-----!-1171651-----06-----5d-1!52-----6b66-----$	0.0	93853e4d21b26561
$e_{14,3}$	$n-----0110100--0-110==6-----0-----1001065--0-----$	0.0	d0d3387d00910c93
$e_{15,0}$	$-----101!5-----!5-----11u0663-15--11$	1.0	44d86c0289f8f1b3
$e_{15,1}$	$!=5d-----0---=-0100165--0--01-----n-----1000101--1-010$	0.0	7b18528906b7453a
$e_{15,2}$	$01100!=c6--011000011101101100!-!=-01000106-0000110111000111110100$	0.0	645876ca224371f4
$e_{15,3}$	$100111u5b--00011110100001000!-10-111110111100101111n0000n01110$	0.0	9c87d0867ef2f82e
$v_{16,0}$	$--=6-----1-----01111105d-80-011!=7-----n7--00--11u11533--0--01$	0.5	bff0be8b90b036ed
$v_{16,1}$	$-11111n0000100101011n11101n1110001111u1d-1100011011n01010n0!-00$	0.0	7e12bf7e3db1baa4
$v_{16,2}$	$000000u01110000001000111010100001010000!62-1101100110m01000n00010$	0.0	00e04750a1366a22
$v_{16,3}$	$-015-8-5b--u-----11110115d-11-0011110616--n5--=6--10u100!5-0!-00$	0.9	b947fbb1eba86464
$e_{16,0}$	$u01000101100010100000010000001110000101001n110110011u00011000000$		22c502070a7b30c0
$e_{16,1}$	$011010n1110001001110n10001n00001010001u1110000011011n01110n11110$		6bc4ec6145c1bbbe
$e_{16,2}$	$u00010u01111010001110101111000001110010111001100110n11101n01100$		08f475e0e5e66f6c
$e_{16,3}$	$1101011101u0111010111001000010010110010011n110111100u0111111111$		d74eb90964fbc3ff
$e_{17,0}$	$n00011n0100010011110n11001n01000010100u000n111001110110001n11110$		8e89ee68503cec7e
$e_{17,1}$	$u10110u101u010100100101000u100011000n00100u111011110010000100101$		594a4a11891de425
$e_{17,2}$	$n11000u001u0001100101110111010100100101011n000100011001101n01011$		e0432eea4ae2336b
$e_{17,3}$	$n01101011001u0011011n111u0u110000011111011u1u01101110110n0u01111$		b591bf183ed3768f
$e_{18,0}$	$1110011111u101000011n000011110011101n0u101011010110100001n000011$		e7d43879d95ad0a3
$e_{18,1}$	$1u0010nu10n1n111110un101u1nn110u1u1110011100n0000u0u1111u001011n$		8abfcd7cb9c80f17
$e_{18,2}$	$100101u111u1u1001110n110u0u00010100010011011u10110101001n1111010$		95d4ee0289b5a9fa
$e_{18,3}$	$1010010110u0u00110n0n1u011011101011n0000100001u10000u101n11101$		a581acdd7842417d
$e_{19,0}$	$un1100nu100nu100000001unn1nn011u1u0nuun100nuu01unnu1nannnn0n110nu$		729405f69322dfba
$e_{19,1}$	$01111uu10uun01n1nn1u0nannu10uunnuu0u0uuun0nnu1nu0110nnuu0u0n111$		7917e745805b360f
$e_{19,2}$	$00111un1unun0110nuun1unun11uuuuuuuuu0unnnnn0nnnn1101unnu1n10111$		3b569ae001f7eb77
$e_{19,3}$	$n10un1uun1uun00011100uunn11nu00n000nnuu0n11uu1111uuuu0uuu1u1nnuu$		ccc8e1f118e7805c
$v_{20,0}$	$nn1un0nn1u1un0n1nn1un1u1001nnnu00un00nnun1nnnnuuun0n011100n00n$		ebabed3c137e15c9
$v_{20,1}$	$0u01unu011101nnn0n1nu1n1un00n0u01uu0uu1n1n0uuunnuun010111nnu0u0$		14ef774883c355f0
$v_{20,2}$	$u00unu0u0001n11101n1nnuu11unu00n00nn0n01n0nnnnn011010nn110nu01n$		081ffcd11adf6bd3
$v_{20,3}$	$110u1u0n0101011100u0u10mnuu01n00u01n0000uu1nnuu1101010u0010u11u$		c957058c1818d426
$e_{20,0}$	$xn011uunununn1u0uunnun000nn1n100un10nn5d-uunnuuuun0n10114b<-1n$	0.0	d95e1a1f1b8e16e3
$e_{20,1}$	$uuunnnnunuuuuuunnunuu10nnn01n0uunnun0uu6-nnuunnnun101100n1nun0$	0.0	1d03a5d8c8735b3a
$e_{20,2}$	$-01424N4UU22x-----0n1n014<6-1u-uuu124e21x4U2xn2N33>--0010nn333326>-nu$	0.8	26263a289432cb6a
$e_{20,3}$	$u10u1u-n--7-----unnnunnu1uuuuuuunn11n-unnnu111nu--00110u!8-0u-un$	0.3	4bfced11fdde8c61
$e_{21,0}$	$xnnn0nnuunuuuu11unnnnnnnn1unnnn1nuunuuuuuuunnnnnuunuuuu1-un$	1.6	f661bff7e401721d
$e_{21,1}$	$xuuu1uunnuunnn000111111111000000u-0-----uunuuunnnnnnuuu$	5.6	899e3ff805e88de8
$e_{21,2}$	$-nn1-01000nu01--01001n!6-1n-unu10u10-n--08--01010101n111001011$	13.3	7223273a921157cb
$e_{21,3}$	$-nu001111111u005d-10110010100uunnuu100u0001101101110101010-10$	0.0	47f15941903b7556
$e_{22,0}$	$xnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnn110!1-0-----1000000000000-01$	0.0	7ffffef9ea0005
$e_{22,1}$	$-!5--11110000=6-100110016-1-11110010667--77--011-10-00101!===10$	0.0	af80997f9519a95e
$e_{22,2}$	$x!===01000010!5-nuuuuuu09-11-1000010055d--8801--0011001nu100!===01$	1.1	ba14807c224ccd21
$e_{23,3}$	$-10111001000010111-11u1100010000110!-1-----0000000u-0-----$	0.0	5c85dd886614017f
$e_{23,0}$	$-!5--11110000=6-100110016-10-111u1115d-----111-10-00101! =6-11$	0.0	2f80996f7f03a963
$e_{23,1}$	$-111-10010000-1-----58==100n-0-----11111011 =6-----$	0.0	7483db04d7b7efd7
$e_{23,2}$	$x001-1101001105d-01-111! =58==100100!56d-----00110011! =6-----$	0.0	169a5e048860cea0
$e_{23,3}$	$-!-----1!5--11=5d-100=5d-1162-00-05d-10-061-----84-----11-11=6-10$	0.0	553e9b0a8157cfc6
$v_{24,0}$	$-55b--100000061-5-----16-! =66-2-----111-055-555-----$	0.0	a404747456bb993a
$v_{24,1}$	$x78-----78-----61-----$	0.0	ea8f36c95c86056c
$v_{24,2}$	$x6-----!-15d-156e====5d-a1-65-65-5-00-d-----56e-----$	0.0	6bd8f90f09b89e66
$v_{24,3}$	$x-----6b-----56-----0-----$	0.0	73b39ba32238423e