

THE ALGEBRAIC FREELUNCH: EFFICIENT GRÖBNER BASIS ATTACKS AGAINST ARITHMETIZATION-ORIENTED PRIMITIVES

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Crypto 2024, Santa Barbara

Anemoi
Crypto23

Griffin
Crypto23

ArionHash
arXiv

Anemoi
Crypto23

~~**Griffin**
Crypto23~~

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Full-round break
of some instances

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Three main improvements on previous algebraic cryptanalysis:

1. Free Gröbner basis for some monomial orders.
2. Better approach to solving the system than generic FGLM variants.
3. Bypassing the first few rounds of Griffin and Arion with symmetric-like techniques.

ARITHMETIZATION-ORIENTED PRIMITIVES

FREELUNCH SYSTEMS FOR FREE GRÖBNER BASES

SOLVING THE SYSTEM GIVEN A GRÖBNER BASIS

ARITHMETIZATION-ORIENTED PRIMITIVES

AOPs: dedicated primitives for advanced protocols (ZK proofs, MPC, FHE...)

| Classic | Arithmetization-Oriented |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Binary operations | Arithmetic operations |
| Algebraically complex (for cheap) | Algebraically simple |
| Small field (\mathbb{F}_{2^8}) | Large field ($\mathbb{F}_q, q > 2^{64}$) |
| e.g. AES, SHA-3 | e.g. Griffin, Anemoi |

QUICK OVERVIEW OF GRIFFIN, ARION, ANEMOI

Our targets:

Anemoi
Crypto23

Griffin
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arXiv

- Griffin, ArionHash and AnemoiSponge = Arithmetization-Oriented families of hash functions.
- Instantiated with the Griffin- π , Arion- π and Anemoi families of permutations.

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- Griffin, ArionHash and AnemoiSponge = Arithmetization-Oriented families of hash functions.
- Instantiated with the Griffin- π , Arion- π and Anemoi families of permutations.
- **Many** instances are defined: variable \mathbb{F}_p , number of branches, exponents for monomial permutations...

⇒ We attack some instances better than others.

CICO PROBLEM

CICO Problem of size c (capacity of the sponge) for permutation P :

$$P(*, \dots, *, \underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{c \text{ elements}}) = (*', \dots, *', \underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{c \text{ elements}})$$

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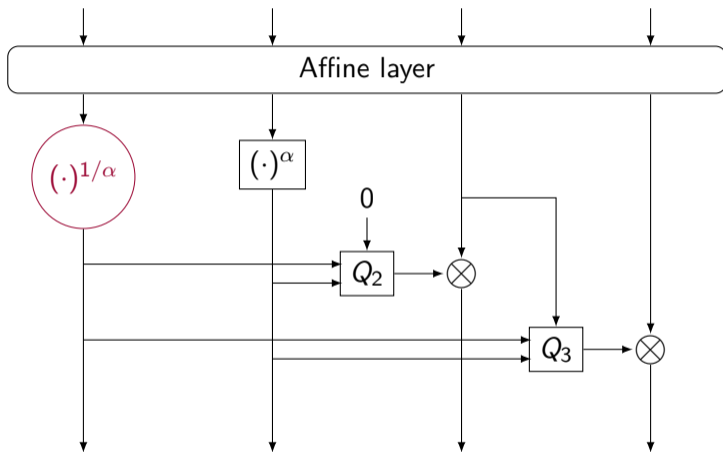
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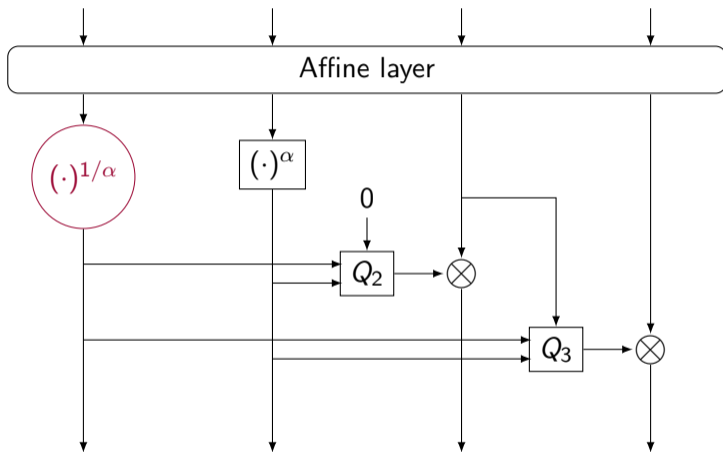
Solving CICO of size c gives collisions to the hash function.

⇒ Multivariate attack: solve CICO faster than brute-force attacks using a model of P .

⇒ We focus on $c = 1$.

$$P(x, *, \dots, *, 0) = (*', \dots, *', 0).$$

GRIFFIN- π - ROUND FUNCTION (4 BRANCHES)

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$(\cdot)^{1/\alpha}$ is the only high-degree operation \implies add one variable per $(\cdot)^{1/\alpha}$.

GRIFFIN- π - MODEL

- **CICO problem:** $\mathcal{G}_\pi(\dots || 0) = (\dots || 0)$.
 \implies One variable x_0 in the input. One equation for the output (last branch at 0).
- N_{rounds} equations of the form $x_i^\alpha = P_i(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$ $\left((\cdot)^{1/\alpha}$ S-boxes $\right)$.

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EXAMPLE ($\alpha = 3$, ONE ROUND)

$$x_1^3 = ax_0 + b$$

$$x_0^7 + cx_0^4x_1 + dx_0x_1^2 + \dots = 0$$

GENERIC SYSTEM SOLVING

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_1(x_1, \dots, x_N) = 0 \\ \vdots \\ p_{k-1}(x_1, \dots, x_N) = 0 \\ p_k(x_1, \dots, x_N) = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

1. Define system

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2. Find a **Gröbner Basis**

$$\begin{cases} g_1^*(x_1, \dots, x_N) = 0 \\ \vdots \\ g_{N-1}^*(x_{N-1}, x_N) = 0 \\ g_N^*(x_N) = 0 \end{cases}$$

3. Change order to **lex** (FGLM)

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1. Define system
2. Find a **Gröbner Basis**
3. Change order to **lex** (FGLM)
4. Find the roots in \mathbb{F}_q of g_N^* with univariate methods, etc.

Step 2 and **Step 3** are the most costly. Designers of Anemoi and Griffin base their security on the hardness of **Step 2**.

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But we can skip it!

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GRÖBNER BASIS - EXAMPLES

USEFUL PROPOSITION

If $LM_{<}(p_1), \dots, LM_{<}(p_k)$ are pairwise **coprime** (e.g. x^2 and y), then G is a Gröbner basis.

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- $\{y^3 + x, y^3 + x^2\}$ is a Gröbner basis for **weighted degree** orders with $\mathbf{wt}(x) = 2$ and $\mathbf{wt}(y) = 1$, as then $LM(y^3 + x) = y^3$ and $LM(y^3 + x^2) = x^2$ are **coprime**.

GRIFFIN- π - MODELEXAMPLE ($\alpha = 3$, TWO ROUNDS)

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\implies **It's a Gröbner basis!** (coprime leading monomials)

\implies This generalizes for more rounds.

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FGLM IN A NUTSHELL

- Given a Gröbner basis G_1 for some ordering $<_1$, and an ordering $<_2$, FGLM computes a Gröbner basis G_2 for $<_2$ in $O(n_{var} D_l^3)$.
- D_l the number of **solutions of the system** in the algebraic closure (in our case the product of the degrees of the leading monomials of the GB).

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- **Order change is interesting** because a GB in **lex** order **must have** a univariate polynomial in the smallest variable, which we can solve. (This corresponds to eliminating the other variables.)
- Free Gröbner basis, FGLM and symmetric techniques to bypass the first rounds is already enough to break some instances of Griffin and Arion.

FASTER CHANGE OF ORDER STRATEGY

- Idea from a 2022 paper by Jérémy Berthomieu, Vincent Neiger, Mohab Safey El Din.
- Strategy: for the smallest variable x , compute the characteristic polynomial χ of the linear operation $P \mapsto \text{Red}_{<}(x \cdot P, G)$.
- $\chi(x) = 0$.
- **Issue:** our systems **do not** verify an important property of the original paper.

COMPUTING THE CHARACTERISTIC POLYNOMIAL

Step 1: Compute the matrix T of the linear operation in $\mathbb{F}[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_N]$ that maps P to $\text{Red}_{<}(x_0 \cdot P, G)$. **We only have very loose complexity bounds for this step.**

Step 2: Compute $\det(XI - T)$.

$\implies T$ is sparse. With block matrix reasoning, this reduces to computing the determinant of a polynomial matrix of size $D_1 = d_1 \cdots d_N$.

\implies In Griffin and Arion, d_0 is by far the highest degree, so this reduces complexity by a lot.

\implies This can be computed with fast linear algebra, in $\mathcal{O}(d_0 \log(d_0)^2 d_1^\omega \cdots d_N^\omega)$.

OUR FULL ALGORITHM

1. `sysGen`: Compute the Freelunch system and the order for a free Gröbner basis.
2. `matGen`: Compute the multiplication matrix T of multiplication by x_0 .
⇒ **Complexity hard to evaluate.**
3. `polyDet`: Compute the characteristic polynomial χ of T ($\chi(x_0) = 0$).
⇒ **Longest step aside from `matGen`.**
4. `uniSol`: Find roots of χ with Berlekamp-Rabin in $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(D_l)$.

CONCLUSION

- These Arithmetization-Oriented hash functions (and similar) should not base their security on the complexity of finding a Gröbner basis (F4/F5).
- Instead, designers can focus on the growth of D_i with the number of rounds (impacts the complexity of solving algorithms).
- Anemoi, Griffin and Arion need to recompute their numbers of rounds in order to be secure.

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Ongoing work:

- Better approach for `matGen` (stay tuned).
- Other contexts where we can get free or “cheap” Gröbner bases?
- CICO on more than one branch?

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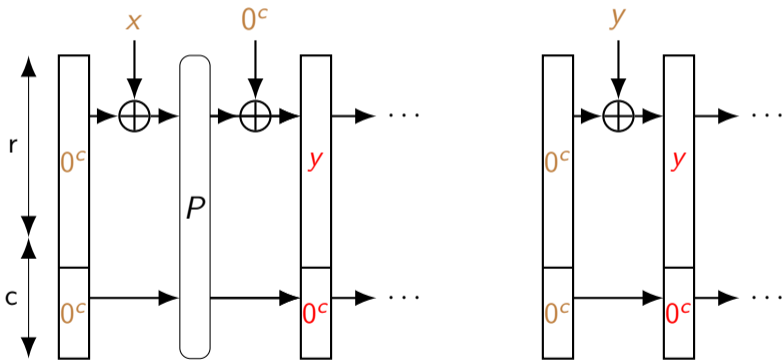
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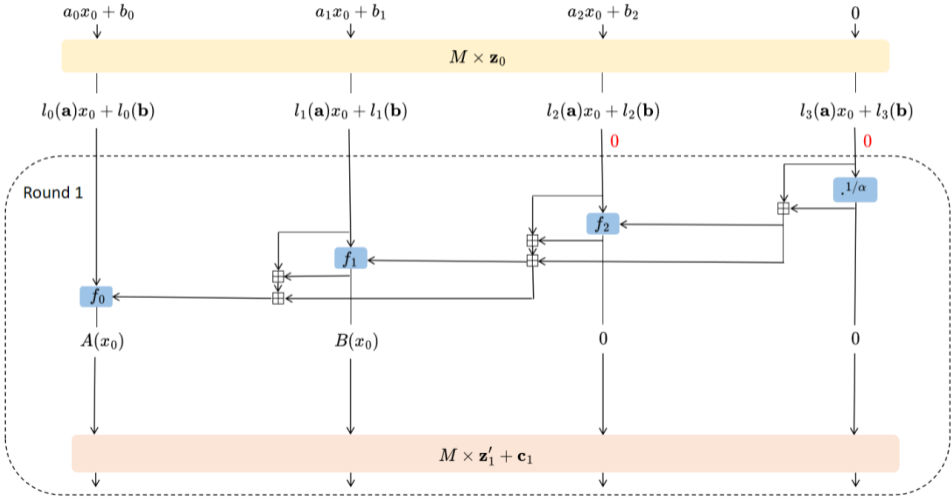
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

COLLISION FROM THE CICO PROBLEM

- Suppose you know x such that $P(x \parallel 0^c) = (y \parallel 0^c)$.



ARION TRICK



WHAT DO WE WANT?

Consider a multivariate polynomial ring $\mathbb{F}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N]$.

We want to solve:

$$\begin{cases} p_1(x_1, \dots, x_N) = 0 \\ p_2(x_1, \dots, x_N) = 0 \\ \vdots \\ p_k(x_1, \dots, x_N) = 0 \end{cases}$$

WHAT DO WE WANT?

$$\begin{cases} m_{1,1}x_1 + \cdots + m_{1,N}x_N + a_1 = 0 \\ m_{2,1}x_1 + \cdots + m_{2,N}x_N + a_2 = 0 \\ \vdots \\ m_{k,1}x_1 + \cdots + m_{k,N}x_N + a_k = 0 \end{cases}$$

Polynomials of **degree 1**: Linear system \Rightarrow **Linear algebra**.

WHAT DO WE WANT?

$$\begin{cases} p_1(x_1) = 0 \\ p_2(x_1) = 0 \\ \vdots \\ p_k(x_1) = 0 \end{cases}$$

One variable: Univariate root finding \Rightarrow **Euclidian division** (for Berlekamp-Rabin algorithm).

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Several variables, high degree: **Linear algebra** + **Euclidian division** (F4/F5, FGLM, Fast-FGLM...).

THE PROBLEM WITH MULTIVARIATE

- Euclidian division on **integers**:

$$a = bq + r, \quad 0 \leq r < b.$$

Division of 13 by 3:

$$13 = 4 \times 3 + 1.$$

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- Euclidian division on **univariate polynomials** ($\mathbb{F}[X]$):

$$A = BQ + R, \quad \deg(R) < \deg(B).$$

Division of $X^3 + X + 1$ by X :

$$X^3 + X + 1 = (X^2 + 1)X + 1.$$

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Division of x by $x + y$ in $\mathbb{F}[x, y]$:

$$x = 0 \cdot (x+y) + x$$

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$$x = 1 \cdot (x+y) - y ?$$

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or

$$x = 1 \cdot (x+y) - y \quad \Leftarrow y < x$$

Need to define a **monomial ordering**.

\implies Division steps determined by **leading monomials (LM)**.

MONOMIAL ORDERINGS

In $\mathbb{F}[x, y, z]$:

- **LEXicographical:** Compare degree of highest variable, then second-highest, etc.

$$x <_{\text{lex}} y <_{\text{lex}} z, \quad x^{1000} \quad ? \quad y$$

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- **Weighted Graded LEX:** Compare the **weighted sum** of degrees, then lex if equality. Examples for $x <_{\text{lex}} y <_{\text{lex}} z$ and $\text{wt}(x) = 6, \text{wt}(y) = 1, \text{wt}(z) = 2$:

$$x \quad ? \quad y z^2$$

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$$x >_{\text{wglex}} y z^2 \text{ because } \mathbf{wt}(x) = 6 \text{ and } \mathbf{wt}(y z) = \mathbf{wt}(y) + 2\mathbf{wt}(z) = 5.$$

$$x^2 \quad ? \quad z^6$$

MONOMIAL ORDERINGS

In $\mathbb{F}[x, y, z]$:

- **LEXicographical:** Compare degree of highest variable, then second-highest, etc.

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Consider a system $\{p_1, \dots, p_k\}$.

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 \Downarrow \\
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 \text{no further red.} \\
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|-------------------|-----------------|
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| \Downarrow | \Downarrow |
| red. by $y^2 - 1$ | red. by $y - x$ |
| 1 | xy |
| \Downarrow | \Downarrow |
| no further red. | red. by $y - x$ |
| 1 | x^2 |

The solution: Gröbner Bases.

WHAT IS A GRÖBNER BASIS?

Let $G = \{p_1, \dots, p_k\}$ and $<$ a monomial ordering.

DEFINITION

G is a Gröbner basis iff reduction defined by $<$ of any polynomial P does not depend on the order chosen for the reductors.

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USEFUL PROPOSITION

If $LM_{<}(p_1), \dots, LM_{<}(p_k)$ are pairwise **coprime** (e.g. x^2 and y), then G is a Gröbner basis.

GRÖBNER BASIS - EXAMPLES

In $\mathbb{F}[x, y]$:

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- However, it is a Gröbner basis for **weighted degree** orders with $\text{wt}(x) = 2$ and $\text{wt}(y) = 1$, as then $\text{LM}(y^3 + x) = y^3$ and $\text{LM}(y^3 + x^2) = x^2$ are **coprime**.

ANEMOI - MODEL

EXAMPLE ($\alpha = 3$, ONE ROUND)

$$x_1^3 = ax_0^2 + bx_0 + c$$

$$x_0x_1 + dx_1^2 + ex_0 + fx_1 + g = 0$$

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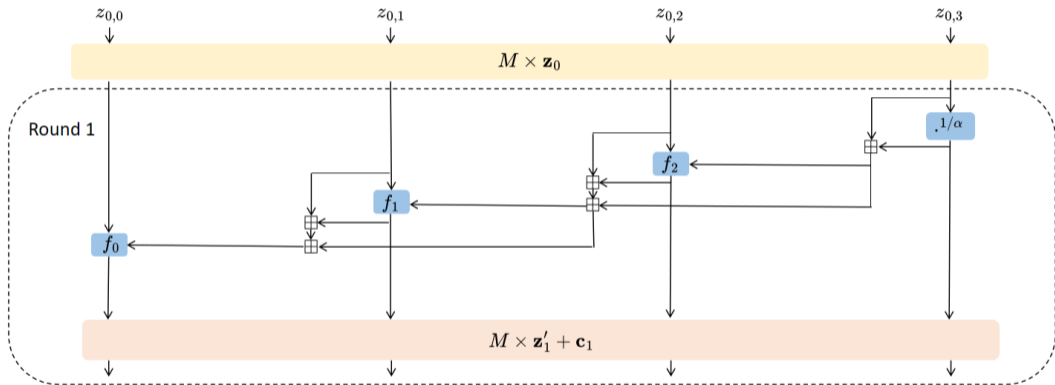
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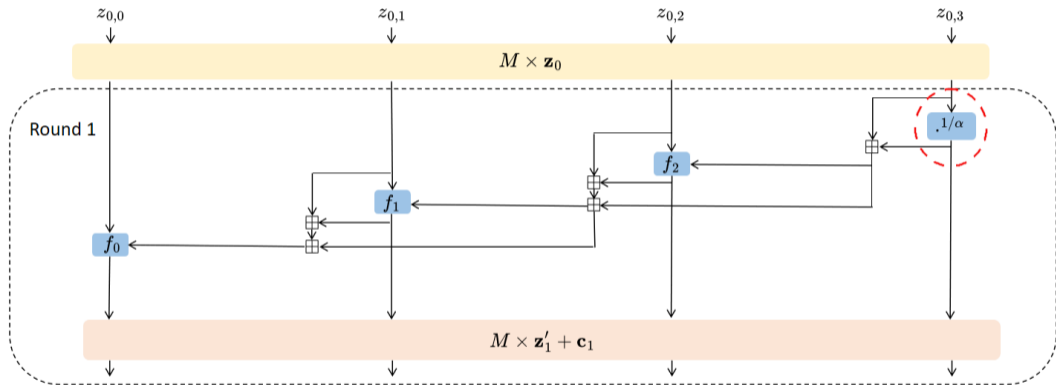
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- ⇒ The first equation and p^* are a Gröbner basis for some weighted order.
- ⇒ This adds a few parasitic solutions (corresponding to $x_1 = 0$), but not many.
- ⇒ This generalizes for more rounds (multiply the last polynomial by some of the x_i and reduce it). **Freelunch is saved!**

ARION- π - ROUND FUNCTION (4 BRANCHES)

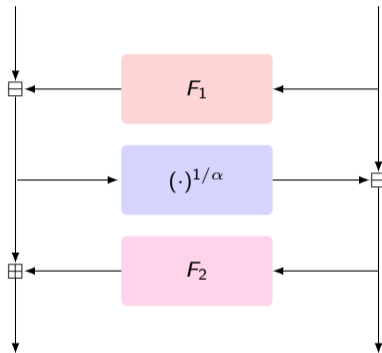


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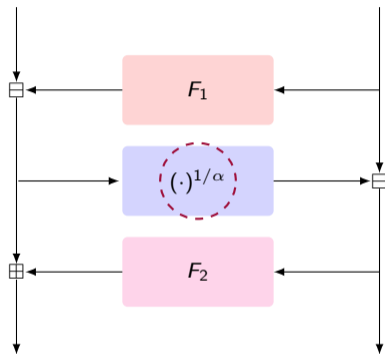


$(\cdot)^{1/\alpha}$ is the only high-degree operation \implies add one variable per $(\cdot)^{1/\alpha}$.

ANEMOI - NONLINEAR LAYER (2 BRANCHES)

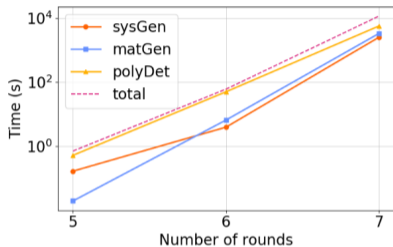


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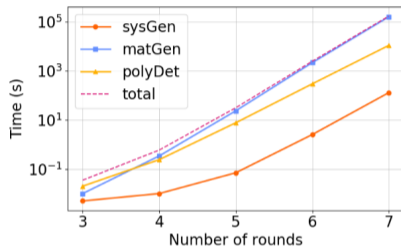


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EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

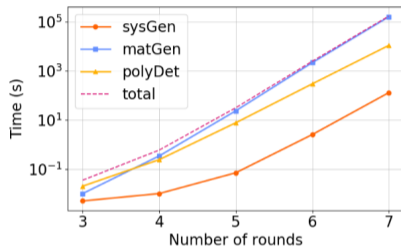
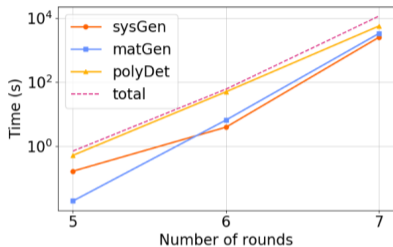


Complexity of Griffin
 (broke up to 7 out of 10 rounds, $\alpha=3$)
 21 rounds, $\alpha = 3$)



Complexity of Anemol
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⇒ For Griffin, polyDet upper-bounds the others up to 7 rounds.

⇒ For Anemoi, matGen is the bottleneck.