

# Tightening Leakage Resilience of the Suffix Keyed Sponge

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# Introduction

## The Suffix Keyed Sponge (SuKS)



- MAC function based on the sponge hash function [BDPV07]
- Used in NIST LWC finalist ISAP [DEM+21]
- Formal analysis by Dobraunig and Mennink [DM19]

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- Security proof involves *multicollisions*

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$$\mathsf{Adv}_F^{\mathrm{prf}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \frac{2N^2}{2^c} + \frac{\mu_{b-s,s}^{2(N-q)} \cdot N}{2^{\min\{\delta,\varepsilon\}}} + \frac{\mu_{t,b-t}^{2q} \cdot N}{2^{b-t}}$$

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#### This work: analyse tightness of leakage resilience security bound

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This work: analyse tightness of leakage resilience security bound This presentation: focus on third term in the bounds

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- Applying leakage model to SuKS:
  - Key blended into state at the end: no leakage in absorption phase
  - Function G assumed to be *strongly protected*

# **Tightness Analysis**

#### **Black Box Matching Attack**

• Recall: black box and leakage resilience bounds are very similar

$$rac{\mu_{t,b-t}^{2q}\cdot N}{2^{b-t}}$$
 versus  $rac{\mu_{t,b-t}^{2q}\cdot N}{2^{b-t-\lambda}}$ 

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#### **Attacker Capabilities**

• Attacker can make q construction queries



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  - For 'close to uniform' distribution D,  $\mu_{r,c}^{q,D} \leq \mu_{r,c}^{2q}$  [DMV17]

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- Leakage function leaking the first  $\lambda$  bits of W after the tag T:

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• Intuition: view leakage as longer tag



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- Bound is easily tightened for leakage function  $L_p^W$ :
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  - Replace  $\mu_{t,b-t}^{2q}$  with  $\mu_{t+\lambda,b-t-\lambda}^{2q}$
  - Holds for all 'fixed position' leakage functions
- How can the bound be tightened for other types of leakage?
Hamming Weight Leakage

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#### Leakage and Multicollisions

- Due to non-uniformity, largest multicollision size depends on leakage value
- Multicollision limit function must take into account:
  - Non-uniform nature of Hamming weight leakage
  - The value of the Hamming weight leakage

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  - The first t bits forming the tag T
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#### **Balls-and-bins Experiment**

• One bin for each (T, w)-pair

$$2^t \operatorname{tags} \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} n+1 \ \mathsf{HW} \ \mathsf{values} \\ (0^t,0) \ \cdots \ (0^t,n) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ (1^t,0) \ \cdots \ (1^t,n) \end{array} \right.$$

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Example:  $D_{HW}(0)$  n + 1 HW values $2^t \text{ tags} \begin{cases} (0^t, 0) \cdots (0^t, n) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ (1^t, 0) \cdots (1^t, n) \end{cases}$ 

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## **Balls-and-bins Experiment**

- One bin for each (T, w)-pair
- Balls thrown according to  $D_{HW}(w)$ :
  - Hamming weight distribution
  - Only counts specific bins
- Results in  $\mu_{t',b-t'}^{q,D_{\mathsf{HW}}(w)}$ :
  - $t' = t + \log_2(n+1)$
  - $2^{t'} = 2^t \cdot (n+1)$

Example:  $D_{HW}(n)$  n + 1 HW values $2^t \text{ tags} \begin{cases} (0^t, 0) \cdots (0^t, n) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ (1^t, 0) \cdots (1^t, n) \end{cases}$  • Problem:  $\mu_{r,c}^{q,D_{\mathsf{HW}}(w)}$  is hard to compute

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  - $D_{\rm HW}(w)$  is too far from uniform
  - Our result (proof inspired by [DMV17]):
    - $\mu_{r,c}^{q,D_{\mathsf{HW}}(w)} \le \mu_{r,c}^{\alpha(w)q}$
    - More frequent Hamming weight  $w\implies$  larger  $\alpha(w)$



$$\mathsf{Adv}_{F,\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{HW}}}^{\mathrm{nalr-prf}}(\mathcal{A}) \lesssim \max_{w} \frac{\mu_{t',b-t'}^{\alpha(w)q} \cdot N}{\binom{n}{w} 2^{b-t-n}}$$



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- Attacker exploits 'worst-case' leakage value w

Improvements in the Bound

#### **Comparing the Bounds with ISAP Parameters**

- Ascon-p parameters: (b, c, r, k) = (320, 256, 64, 128) with s = t = k
- $\lambda = 3$ , n = 7
  - 7 bits  $\implies$  8 Hamming weight values
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#### Order: original, fixed position leakage, HW leakage

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{Adv}_{F,\mathcal{L}}^{\text{nalr-prf}}(\mathcal{A}) &\leq \frac{2N^2}{2^c} + \frac{\mu_{b-s,s}^{2(N-q)} \cdot N}{2^{\min\{\delta,\varepsilon\} - \mu_{s,b-s}^{2(N-q)}\lambda}} + \frac{\mu_{t,b-t}^{2q} \cdot N}{2^{b-t-\lambda}} + \frac{\mu_{s,b-s}^{2(N-q)}}{2^{b-s}} \\ \mathsf{Adv}_{F,\mathcal{L}_{\text{fixed}}}^{\text{nalr-prf}}(\mathcal{A}) &\leq \frac{2N^2}{2^c} + \frac{\mu_{b-s+\lambda,s-\lambda}^{2(N-q)} \cdot N}{2^{\min\{\delta,\varepsilon\} - \lambda}} + \frac{\mu_{t+\lambda,b-t-\lambda}^{2q} \cdot N}{2^{b-t-\lambda}} \\ \mathsf{Adv}_{F,\mathcal{L}_{\text{HW}}}^{\text{nalr-prf}}(\mathcal{A}) &\leq \frac{2N^2}{2^c} + \max_{w} \frac{\mu_{b-s',s'}^{\alpha(w)(N-q)} \cdot N}{\binom{n}{w} 2^{\min\{\delta,\varepsilon\} - n}} + \max_{w} \frac{\mu_{t',b-t'}^{\alpha(w)q} \cdot N}{\binom{n}{w} 2^{b-t-n}} \end{aligned}$$

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Security

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{Adv}_{F,\mathcal{L}}^{\text{nalr-prf}}(\mathcal{A}) &\leq \frac{2N^2}{2^c} + \frac{\mu_{b-s,s}^{2(N-q)} \cdot N}{2^{\min\{\delta,\varepsilon\} - \mu_{s,b-s}^{2(N-q)}\lambda}} + \frac{\mu_{t,b-t}^{2q} \cdot N}{2^{b-t-\lambda}} + \frac{\mu_{s,b-s}^{2(N-q)}}{2^{b-s}} & \text{110 bits} \\ \mathsf{Adv}_{F,\mathcal{L}_{\text{fixed}}}^{\text{nalr-prf}}(\mathcal{A}) &\leq \frac{2N^2}{2^c} + \frac{\mu_{b-s+\lambda,s-\lambda}^{2(N-q)} \cdot N}{2^{\min\{\delta,\varepsilon\} - \lambda}} + \frac{\mu_{t+\lambda,b-t-\lambda}^{2q} \cdot N}{2^{b-t-\lambda}} & \text{122 bits} \\ \mathsf{Adv}_{F,\mathcal{L}_{\text{HW}}}^{\text{nalr-prf}}(\mathcal{A}) &\leq \frac{2N^2}{2^c} + \max_{w} \frac{\mu_{b-s',s'}^{\alpha(w)(N-q)} \cdot N}{\binom{n}{w} 2^{\min\{\delta,\varepsilon\} - n}} + \max_{w} \frac{\mu_{t',b-t'}^{\alpha(w)q} \cdot N}{\binom{n}{w} 2^{b-t-n}} & \text{118 bits} \end{aligned}$$

Conclusion

## **Our Contribution**

- SuKS leakage resilience security bound is not tight
- Tightened bounds improve security, but only for specific leakage types
- Multicollision limit function analysis carries over to other schemes

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#### **Future Work**

- Adaptive leakage
- Leakage of bits in dynamic positions

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#### **Future Work**

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## Thank you for your attention!

# **Supporting Slides**

#### **Multicollision Limit Function Definition**

 $\mu^q_{r,c}$  is smallest x such that  $\Pr\left(|\mathsf{fullest \ bin}| > x
ight) \leq rac{x}{2^c}$ 

- Attacker knows  $\boldsymbol{r}$  bits of state, has to guess remaining  $\boldsymbol{c}$  bits
- Attacker has a multicollision for r bits
- Attacker's success probability with N guesses is at most  $\frac{\mu_{r,c}^{2q}\cdot N}{2^c}$
- Exception: size of largest multicollision is greater than  $\mu_{r,c}^{2q}$
- Probability of this is at most  $\frac{\mu_{r,c}^{2q}}{2^c}$  by definition
- Accumulated probability bound of  $\frac{\mu^{2q}_{r,c}\cdot(N+1)}{2^c}$

#### Definition $2^{-\delta}$ -uniformity

G is  $2^{-\delta}$ -uniform if, for a randomly drawn K and any  $X,Y,\,\delta$  is the largest real number such that  $\Pr\left(G(K,X)=Y\right)\leq 2^{-\delta}$ 

#### **Definition** $2^{-\varepsilon}$ -universality

G is  $2^{-\varepsilon}$ -universal if, for a randomly drawn K and any distinct  $X, X', \varepsilon$  is the largest real number such that  $\Pr(G(K, X) = G(K, X')) \leq 2^{-\varepsilon}$ 

- We assume that G is 'strongly protected':
  - G is  $2^{-\delta}$ -uniform and  $2^{-\varepsilon}$ -universal even under internal leakage

## **Black Box Matching Attack**



- (1) q construction queries on distinct plaintexts  $P_i$  give tags  $T_i$
- (2) Primitive queries on these  $P_i$  give the corresponding  $U_i$
- (3) Find a  $\mu$ -fold collision T in the tags  $T_i$
- (4) For each  $P_i$  in the  $\mu$ -fold collision, find a collision in the left<sub>s</sub>( $U_i$ )
- (5) Make N primitive queries  $p^{-1}(T||Z_j)$  for varying  $Z_j$
- (6) For outcome  $Y \| \operatorname{right}_{b-s}(U_i)$ , use collision of step (4) to mount a forgery



- (1) q construction queries on distinct plaintexts  $P_i$  give tags and leakages  $T_i || L_i$
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- (3) Find a  $\mu$ -fold collision  $T \parallel L$  in the tag-leakage pairs
- (4) For each  $P_i$  in the  $\mu$ -fold collision, find a collision in the left<sub>r</sub>( $U_i$ )
- (5) Make N primitive queries  $p^{-1}(T||L||Z_j)$  for varying  $Z_j$
- (6) For outcome  $Y \| \operatorname{right}_{b-s}(U_i)$ , use collision of step (4) to mount a forgery

## Matching Attack Hamming Weight Leakage



- (1) q construction queries on distinct plaintexts  $P_i$  give tag-leakage pairs  $T_i, w_i$
- (2) Primitive queries on these  $P_i$  give the corresponding  $U_i$
- (3) For the optimal w, find a  $\mu$ -fold collision T, w in the tag-leakage pairs
- (4) For each  $P_i$  in the  $\mu$ -fold collision, find a collision in the left<sub>r</sub>( $U_i$ )
- (5) Make N primitive queries  $p^{-1}(T||Z_j)$  for varying  $Z_j$ , taking into account the leaked Hamming weight w of n bits
- (6) For outcome  $Y \| \text{right}_{b-s}(U_i)$ , use collision of step (4) to mount a forgery

### **Proof Strategy for Bounding the Multicollision Limit Function**

(1) Consider two balls-and-bins experiments:

exp1.  $\alpha(w)q$  balls,  $2^r$  bins (corresponds to  $\mu_{r,c}^{q,D_{\mathsf{HW}}(w)}$ ) exp2. q balls thrown according to  $D_{\mathsf{HW}}$ ,  $2^r$  bins (corresponds to  $\mu_{r,c}^{\alpha(w)q}$ ) (2) Find a lower bound t for  $\mu_{r,c}^{\alpha(w)q}$ 

(3) Show that for all  $y \ge t$  and every bin i,

 $\Pr(|i$ th bin in exp $1| = y) \ge \Pr(|i$ th bin in exp2| = y)

(4) From step (3) it follows that for all  $y \ge t$ ,

 $\mathbf{Pr}\left(|\mathsf{fullest \ bin \ in \ exp1}| > y\right) \geq \mathbf{Pr}\left(|\mathsf{fullest \ bin \ in \ exp2}| > y\right)$ 

(5) From step (4) it follows that  $\mu_{r,c}^{q,D_{\text{HW}}(w)} \leq \mu_{r,c}^{\alpha(w)q}$ 

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