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Improved Attacks on Full GOST

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Abstract: GOST is a well known block cipher which was developed in the Soviet Union during the 1970's as an alternative to the US-developed DES. In spite of considerable cryptanalytic effort, until very recently there were no published single key attacks against its full 32-round version which were faster than the 2^{256} time complexity of exhaustive search. In February 2011, Isobe used in a novel way the previously discovered reflection property in order to develop the first such attack, which requires 2^{32} data, 2^{64} memory and 2^{224} time. Shortly afterwards, Courtois and Mitztal used a different technique to attack the full GOST using 2^{64} data, 2^{64} memory and 2^{226} time. In this paper we introduce a new fixed point property and a better way to attack 8-round GOST in order to find improved attacks on full GOST: Given 2^{32} data we can reduce the memory complexity from an impractical 2^{64} to a practical 2^{36} without changing the 2^{224} time complexity, and given 2^{64} data we can simultaneously reduce the time complexity to 2^{192} and the memory complexity to 2^{36} .

Category / Keywords: secret-key cryptography / Block cipher, cryptanalysis, GOST, reflection property, fixed point property, 2D meet in the middle attack

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