

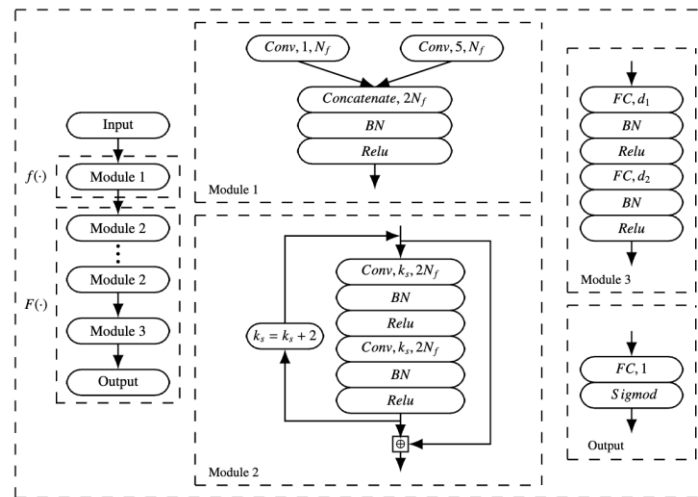
# Improved Differential-neural Cryptanalysis for Round-reduced Simeck32/64

**Liu ZHANG, Jinyu LU, Zilong WANG, Chao LI**

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# Problems & Ideas

- The question of how to improve differential-neural cryptanalysis:
  - Design the most reasonable and effective neural network for Simeck.
  - A fair and reasonable comparison of the performance of differential-neural distinguisher and DDT-distinguisher.
- Ideas: Use multiple parallel convolutional layers to capture the multi-dimensional features of the ciphertext, improve the performance of the distinguisher.



The network architecture for Simeck32/64. Module 2: Each convolutional block consists of two layers of  $2N_f$  filters. Each block applies first the convolution with kernel size  $k_s$ , then a batch normalization, and finally a rectifier layer. At the end of the convolutional block, a skip connection is added. It transfers the result to the next block. After each convolutional block, the  $k_s$  increases by 2 where  $k_s=3$ . The number of convolutional blocks is 5 in our model.

# Main Contributions

- Contributions:
  - Modify the Inception neural network according to the round function of Simeck32/64; Use multiple-ciphertext pairs as input of the neural network to capture the connections between ciphertext pairs .
  - Compute the full distribution of differences induced by the input difference (0x0000, 0x0040) up to 13 rounds for Simeck32/64.
  - Improve the 15-round and launch the first practical 16-, 17-round key recovery attacks for Simeck32/64 based on Neural Distinguisher.

**Table 3** Summary of key recovery attacks on SIMECK32/64

$R$	Configure	$m$	$n_b$	$n_{cts}$	$n_{it}$	$c_1$	$c_2$	$n_{byit1/2}$	$n_{cand1/2}$	Success Rate	Data Complexity	Run Time	Time Complexity	Ref.
15	1+3+10+1	8	14	$2^9$	$2^{10}$	10	10	5	32	88%	$2^{24}$	-	$2^{33.90+5^*}$	[2]
15	1+3+10+1	8	$2^8$	$2^{10}$	$2^{11}$	10	10	5	32	99.17%	$2^{22}$	407.90s	$2^{35.31}$	This work
16	1+3+11+1	8	$2^{10}$	$2^{10}$	$2^{11}$	10	10	5	32	100%	$2^{24}$	2889.65s	$2^{38.19}$	This work
17	1+3+12+1	8	$2^{12}$	$2^{10}$	$2^{11}$	20	-120	5	32	30%	$2^{26}$	25774.82s	$2^{45.04}$	This work

$n_{cts}$ : the number of ciphertext structure;  $n_b$ : the number of ciphertext pairs in each ciphertext structure;  $n_{it}$ : the total number of iterations on the ciphertext structures;  $c_1$  and  $c_2$ : the cutoffs with respect to the scores of the recommended last subkey and second to last subkey, respectively;  $n_{byit1}, n_{cand1}$  and  $n_{byit2}, n_{cand2}$ : the number of iterations and a number of key candidates within each iteration in the BAYESIANKEYSEARCH Algorithm for guessing each of the last and the second to last subkeys, respectively.

Note: Time complexity is calculated in terms of the number of full rounds of SIMECK32/64 encryption per second of  $2^{23.304}$  in [2]. For a fair comparison, we convert the time complexity to be calculated in terms of the number of 1-round decryption performed per second. These two benchmarks differ by about  $2^5$ .