

# Differential Cryptanalysis on S-DES

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## ABSTRACT

In this paper differential attack on S-DES is carried out. S-DES is the reduced version of DES algorithm. This algorithm operates on 8-bit message block with 10-bit key and DES operates on 64-bit message block with 56-bit key. This paper analyzed the differential attack on S-DES. Differential attack is used to break a cipher by trying each possible key.

**Keyword** S-DES, encrypt, decrypt, cipher function

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Security is the main concerns of the organizations participating in the information revolution. Although cyber space has become new arena of information exchange and commerce, it can become a place for new forms of old crimes. Cryptographers are constantly searching for the perfect security system, a system that encrypts quickly but is hard or impossible to break. [1]

### 1.1 S-DES

S-DES is a reduced version of the DES algorithm. It has similar properties to DES but deals with a much smaller block and key size (operates on 8-bit message blocks with a 10-bit key). It was designed as a test block cipher for learning about modern cryptanalytic techniques such as differential cryptanalysis.

It is a variant of Simplified DES. The same key is used for encryption and decryption. Though, the schedules of addressing the key bits are altered so that the decryption is the

reverse of encryption. An input block to be encrypted is subjected to an initial permutation  $IP$ . Then, it is applied to two rounds of key-dependent computation. Finally, it is applied to a permutation which is the inverse of the initial permutation. [2]

## 2. DIFFERENTIAL ATTACK ON S-DES

Differential cryptanalysis is a chosen plaintext/ chosen ciphertext attack.[3] In which the attacker is able to select inputs to a cipher and examine the Output. Differential cryptanalysis provides a good understanding of the possible weakness of cipher and techniques to overcome them. Differential cryptanalysis involves the analysis of the effect of the plaintext pair difference on the resulting ciphertext difference.[4] Consider the following basic linear cipher function:

$$C = P \oplus K$$

We take the difference pair of ciphertext with no information about key:

$$C \oplus C' = P \oplus K \oplus P' \oplus K$$

$$C \oplus C' = P \oplus P'$$

The above equation shows us the difference between the plaintext is the same as the difference between ciphertext because of linearity of the function.[4]

|      | $\Delta Y$ given $\Delta X$ |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------|-----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| X    | Y                           | 0  | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 0000 | 01                          | 00 | 10 | 01 | 00 | 11 | 01 |
| 0001 | 11                          | 00 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 01 |
| 0010 | 00                          | 00 | 01 | 01 | 11 | 11 | 10 |
| 0011 | 01                          | 00 | 01 | 10 | 00 | 11 | 10 |

|      |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 0100 | 10 | 00 | 10 | 01 | 00 | 11 | 01 |
| 0101 | 00 | 00 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 01 |

**Table-1: Difference pair table for So**

S-DES is not a linear function. Thus, the difference between ciphertext is not equal to difference between plaintext. In S-DES, the difference in a ciphertext pair for a specific difference of a plaintext pair is influenced by the key [5].

### 2.1. Difference pairs of an s-box

The input difference pairs of an S-Box is denoted as  $\Delta X$  and output difference pairs of an S-Box is denoted as  $\Delta Y$ .

Where,

$$\Delta X = X' \oplus X''$$

And  $\Delta Y = Y' \oplus Y''$

$X'$  and  $X''$  are the plaintext and  $Y'$  and  $Y''$  are output of difference pair table.

### 2.2 Difference distribution table

In this table row is represented by  $\Delta X$  and column by  $\Delta Y$  and the element represents the number of occurrences.

- With the help of this table we can obtained the input and output values from their differences.[5]

We have  $\Delta X = 12$  and  $\Delta Y = 3$ , Number of occurrence = 2. Then input pair is (6,10) & (10,6)

- We can also find the key bits which are involved in S-Box if the input pairs and output difference are known.[5]

Assuming  $X'=6$ ,  $X''=10$  and the S-Box is So. Then  $Y'=3$  and  $Y''=0$  &  $\Delta Y=3$ . Let the inputs of S-Box  $X'$  &  $X''$  are xoring with same key and we will find the output  $I'$  &  $I''$ .  $I'=X' \oplus K$  and  $I''=X'' \oplus K$ . because we used the same key so key has no influenced on the input difference value so from the above analysis- $\Delta X = \Delta I = 6 \oplus 10 = 12$  Now from the distribution table we obtained that  $\Delta X=12$  and  $\Delta Y = 3$  have the 2 possible values, so there are two possible value for the key. since  $\Delta I=12$  then the possible value  $I$  that can satisfy the distribution table is 4

and 8 for these value  $\Delta Y$  must be equal to zero.

$K=X \oplus I$ , the first possible key is obtained from

$$K=I' \oplus X'=4 \oplus 6=2 \text{ and } K=I'' \oplus X''=4 \oplus 10=14.$$

so the obtained keys are 2 and 14. in the same manner,

$$K=I'' \oplus X'=8 \oplus 6=14 \text{ and } K=I' \oplus X''=8 \oplus 10=2.$$

| Input Difference $\Delta X$ | Output difference $\Delta Y$ |    |    |    |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----|----|----|
|                             | 0                            | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 0                           | 16                           | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 1                           | 0                            | 8  | 4  | 4  |
| 2                           | 0                            | 4  | 12 | 0  |
| 3                           | 4                            | 4  | 0  | 8  |
| 4                           | 0                            | 4  | 0  | 12 |
| 5                           | 4                            | 4  | 8  | 0  |
| 6                           | 0                            | 8  | 4  | 4  |
| 7                           | 8                            | 0  | 4  | 4  |
| 8                           | 2                            | 2  | 10 | 2  |
| 9                           | 4                            | 4  | 0  | 8  |
| 10                          | 10                           | 2  | 2  | 2  |
| 11                          | 0                            | 8  | 4  | 4  |
| 12                          | 2                            | 10 | 2  | 2  |
| 13                          | 8                            | 0  | 4  | 4  |
| 14                          | 2                            | 2  | 2  | 10 |
| 15                          | 4                            | 4  | 8  | 0  |

**Table-2: Difference distribution table for So**

### 2.3 Differential characteristics

With the help of differential characteristics we find the subkey,  $k''$  used in the last round. We create a differential characteristic using the following difference pair.[6]

$$\Delta X = 12, \Delta Y = 3$$

$$E = [3 \ 0 \ 1 \ 2 \ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 0]$$

$$\Delta U_i = 10010110$$

Using figure 1 we obtained  $\Delta V_i$

$$\Delta V_i = 01100100$$

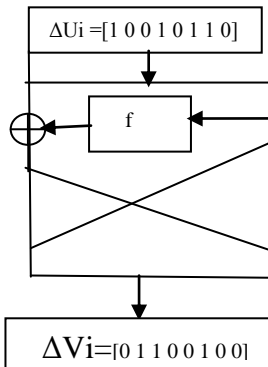


Figure – 1: differential characteristics

### 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF DIFFERENTIAL ATTACK

#### 3.1 Implementation steps

Step followed in differential cryptanalysis as follows

1. The plaintext is encrypt with unknown key.
2. Now for finding the  $\Delta I$  encrypt the plaintext with assumed key.
3. Find the value of  $I'$  &  $I''$  using difference pair table, For that value  $\Delta Y=0$ .
4. Now xoring the plaintexts with  $I'$  &  $I''$  and get possible values of keys  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ .
5. Decrypt the ciphertext using  $K_1$ . If Plaintext is matched then encryption is cracked. Otherwise use  $K_2$ .

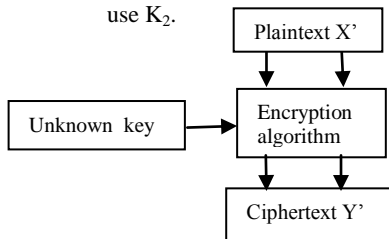


Figure – 2: Generation of ciphertext using unknown key

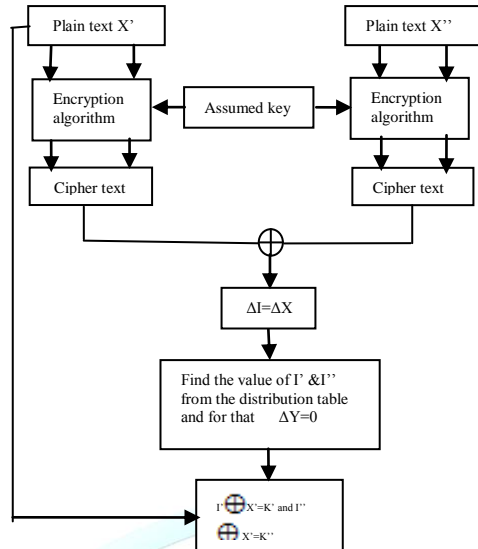


Figure – 3: Generation of  $I'$  &  $I''$  using assumed key

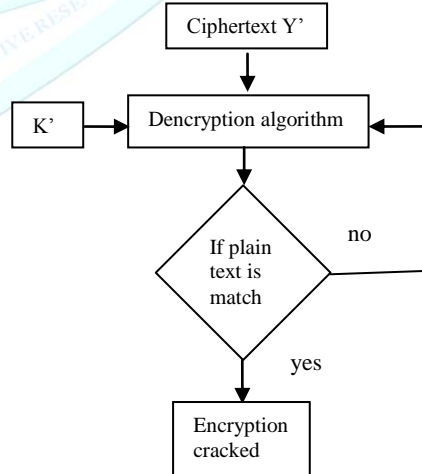


Figure – 4: Evaluation of actual key

### 4. RESULT

This section shows that the result obtained by running the differential attack on S-DES in C.

Round 1 input differential characteristics,  $\Delta U_i=96$

Round 1 output differential characteristics,  
 $\Delta Vi=64$

Expansion E= [3 0 1 2 1 2 3 0]

| S-Box input          | Possible keys        | Actual key |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 00000100<br>00001000 | 00000010<br>00001110 | 00000010   |
| 00000111<br>00001101 | 00000101<br>00001111 | 00000101   |
| 00000010<br>00001010 | 00000010<br>00001010 | 00001010   |

- I. When S – Box input are 4 & 8, possible key 2 & 14 are applied on S-Box & ciphertext is cracked by key 2 then key 2 is actual key.
- II. When S – Box input are 7 & 13, possible key 5 & 15 are applied on S-Box & ciphertext is cracked by key 5 then key 5 is actual key.
- III. When S – Box input are 2 & 10, possible key 2 & 10 are applied on S-Box & ciphertext is cracked by key 10 then key 10 is actual key.

## 5. CONCLUSION

The represented result shows that the differential attack found 8 bit of the subkey of the last round. These sub key bits are the actual 8 bits of the S-DES 10 bit key, 2 bit are still missing i.e. found by matching of  $2^2$  possibilities.

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