

# On the Concrete Security of Goldreich's PRG

Yann Rotella

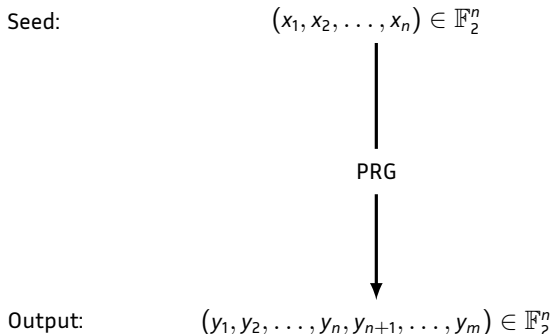
Joint work with Geoffroy Couteau, Aurélien Dupin,  
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January 31, 2019

**Radboud University**



# PseudoRandom Generators

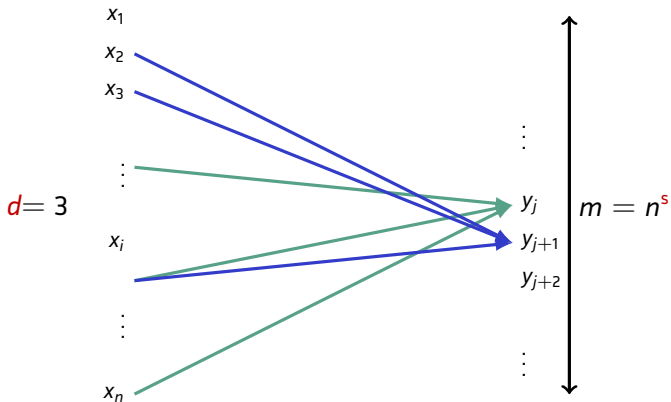


- $(y_i)_{i \leq m}$  should be indistinguishable from a random string;
- it is hard to recover  $(x_i)_{i \leq n}$  using the knowledge of  $(y_i)_{i \leq m}$ .

# Structure of this Talk

- 1 Introduction
- 2 A subexponential-time attack
- 3 Algebraic cryptanalysis
- 4 Generalization on all predicates
- 5 Conclusion

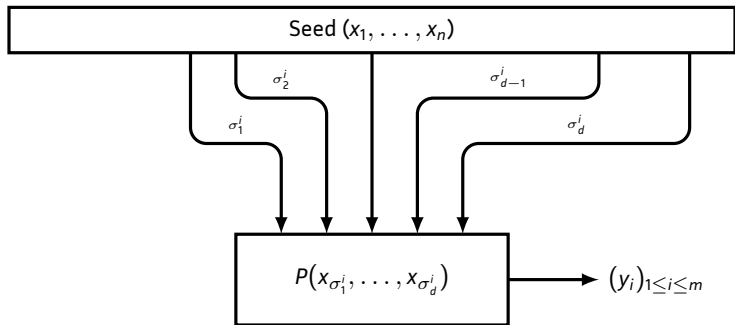
## Stretch and locality



## Theoretical applications

- Semi Secure computation with constant computational overhead [Ishai et al. STOC 2018, Applebaum et al. CRYPTO 2017]
- MPC-friendly primitives [Albrecht et al. EC 2015, Canteaut et al. FSE 2016, Méaux et al. EC 2016, Grassi et al. ACM-CCS 2016]
- Indistinguishability Obfuscation [Sahai and Waters STOC 2014, Lin and Tessaro CRYPTO 2017]
- Cryptographic Capsules [Boyle et al. ACN-CCS 2017]

## Description of Goldreich's PRG



$m = n^s$ ,  $s$  is the stretch.

# Parameters

- Stretch  $s > 1$
- Subsets  $(\sigma^i)_{i \leq 1}$
- Boolean function (predicate)  $P$
- Locality  $d$

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Ok if they are chosen uniformly random

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$$s = 1.45 \text{ and } d = 5 \Rightarrow 2^{n^{0.955}}$$

## Predicate criteria

- **degree** [Goldreich 2000]
- **rational degree (algebraic immunity)** [Applebaum and Lovett STOC 2016]

$$AI(P) > s$$

- **resilience** [O'Donnell and Witmer CCC 2014, Applebaum 2015]

$$\text{res}(P) > 2s$$

# locality

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \textit{degree} \\ \textit{resilience} \\ \textit{Siegenthaler} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow d \geq 5$$



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$$P_5(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4x_5$$

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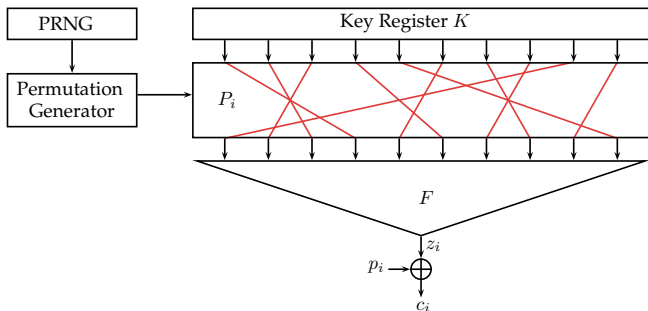
## Our results

- A new subexponential-time attack in  $2^{O(n^{2-s})}$ .
- Linearization and Gröbner-based attacks.
- Generalization of the subexponential attack to all predicates.
- locality and stretch are linked to the size of the seed.

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# Cryptanalysis of FLIP [Duval, Lallemand, Rotella CRYPTO 2016]



$$\begin{aligned}
 F(x) = & x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_{k_1} \\
 & + x_{k_1+1}x_{k_1+2} + \cdots + x_{k_2-1}x_{k_2} \\
 & + x_{k_3} + x_{k_3+1}x_{k_3+2} + \cdots + x_{n-14} \cdots x_{n-1}x_n
 \end{aligned}$$

## FLIP vs Goldreich's PRG

- FLIP: overdetermined
- Goldreich's PRG: underdetermined

$$P_5(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4x_5$$



## Collect linear equations

$$x_1 + x_4 + x_8 + x_9x_{11} = 1$$

$$x_{14} + x_5 + x_7 + x_1x_4 = 0$$

$$x_{13} + x_{10} + x_3 + x_{11}x_9 = 1$$

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number of collisions  $c \in O(n^{2(s-1)})$

## Guessing phase

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- For all possible values of the  $\ell$  bits:
- Solve the corresponding linear system of  $n$  linear equations.

## Analysis and complexity

- **Complexity:**  $\ell < n^{2-s} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}\left(n^3 2^{n^{2-s}}\right)$   
Conjectured secure up to  $s < 1.5$ .

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Conjectured secure up to  $s < 1.5$ .
- The equations might be linearly dependent (almost never the case).  
This leads to a strong distinguisher and allows to determine if the Guess is right or wrong.
- If the equations aren't linearly dependent, then we solve a full rank linear system of size  $n$ .

**Table:** Average number of collisions

$n$	256	512	1024	2048	4096
$s = 1.45$	142	269	506	946	1771
$s = 1.4$	83	145	254	442	773
$s = 1.3$	28	42	64	97	147

**Table:** Experimental number of guesses (average)

$n$	256	512	1024	2048	4096
$s = 1.45$	4	6	9	14	21
$s = 1.4$	6	11	17	27	44
$s = 1.3$	13	23	39	65	110

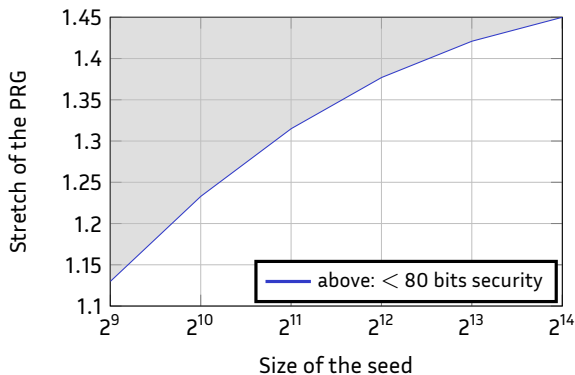
**Table:** Theoretical number of guesses (worst case)

$n$	256	512	1024	2048
$s = 1.45$	4	7	11	18
$s = 1.4$	9	15	23	37
$s = 1.3$	20	34	56	94

**Table:** Complexity of our attack.

	512	1024	2048	4096
$< 2^{80}$	1.120	1.215	1.296	1.361
$< 2^{128}$	1.048	1.135	1.222	1.295

## Complexity



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## Collecting equations of degree 2

$$x_{i_1} + x_{i_2} + x_{i_3} + x_{i_4}x_{i_5} = y_i \quad (1)$$

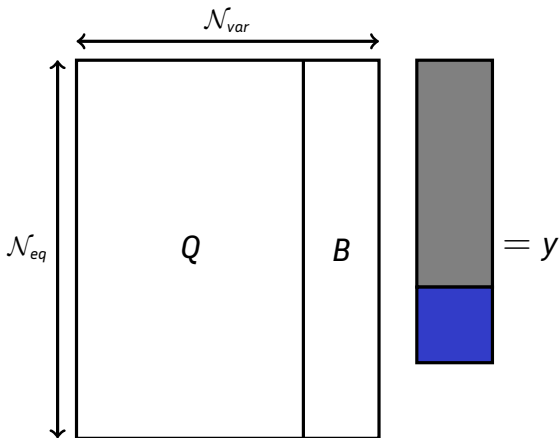
$$x_{j_1} + x_{j_2} + x_{j_3} + x_{j_4}x_{j_5} = y_j \quad (2)$$

**using (1):**  $x_{i_4}x_{i_1} + x_{i_4}x_{i_2} + x_{i_4}x_{i_3} + x_{i_4}x_{i_5} = x_{i_4}y_i$

**if  $x_{i_4}x_{i_5} = x_{j_4}x_{j_5}$ :**  $x_k y_i + x_k y_j = x_k x_{i_1} + x_k x_{i_2} + x_k x_{i_3} + x_k x_{j_1} + x_k x_{j_2} + x_k x_{j_3}$

**if  $x_{i_4} = x_{j_4}$ :**  $x_{j_5} \times (1) + x_{i_5} \times (2)$

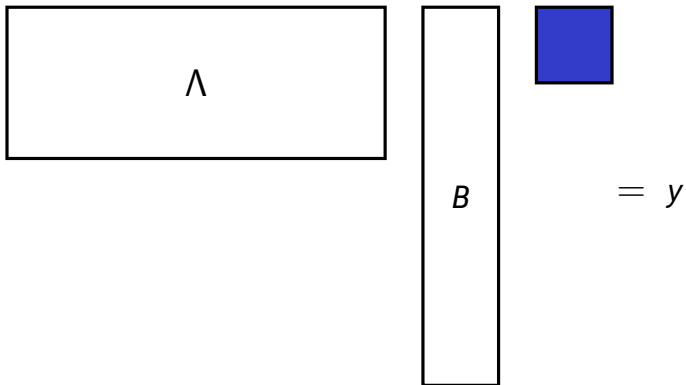
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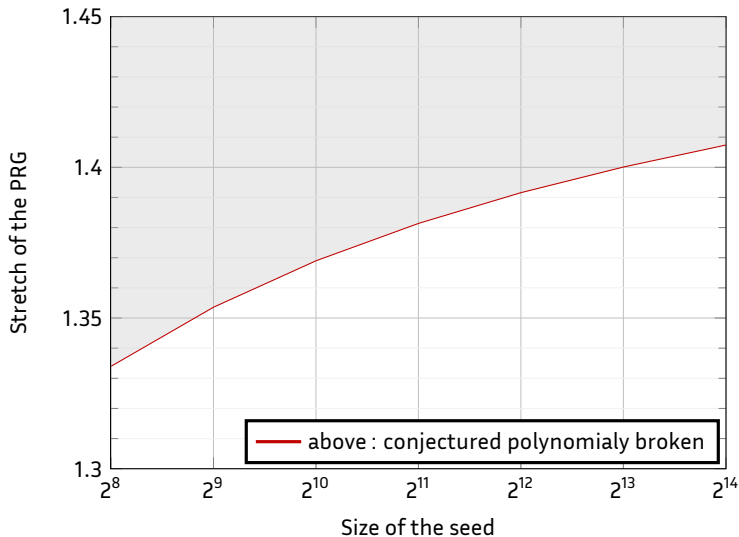
$$Q = B + y$$

## Solving the system

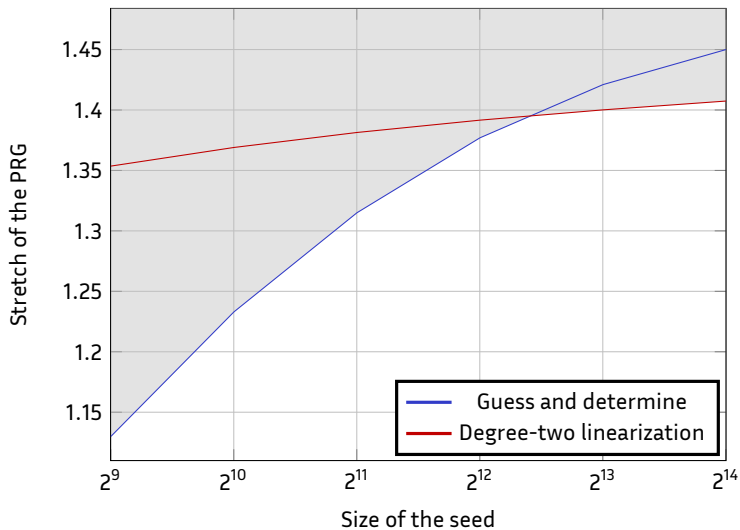




## Experimental results



## Results on $P_5$



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## General sub-exponential time attack

$$P = x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_\ell + f(x_{\ell+1}, \dots, x_d)$$

$$k = d - \ell \Rightarrow$$

$$2^{n^{\frac{k-s}{k-1}}}$$

## $r$ -bit fixing Algebraic Immunity [MJSC, EC 2016]

$$\min_{(b,i)}(\text{AI}(f_{(b,i)}))$$

where bits at positions  $i$  are fixed.

For example, if  $f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = x_1 + x_2x_3x_4 + x_5$ , then

$$f_{(1,2),(0,1)} = x_3x_4 + x_5$$

## Improvement

Fixing  $j$  bits on a predicate of the form

$$P = x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_\ell + f(x_{\ell+1}, \dots, x_d)$$

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If the stretch is "big enough", we can improve the previous generic attack using bounds on  $r$ -bit fixing algebraic immunity.

## Application to XOR-MAJ predicates

- Fix enough bits to 0 (or 1).
- Recover linear equations.

$$O\left(2^{n^{1-\frac{s-1}{k/2+1}}}\right)$$



## Polynomial Attack (AL theorem improvement)

Let  $N_e$  be the dimension of the vectorspace of annihilators of degree  $e$ , then if

$$s \geq e - \frac{\log(N_e)}{\log(n)}$$

then there exists a polynomial-time algorithm that breaks the PRG.

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## Conclusion

- First concrete parameters given.
- Symmetric Cryptanalysis can be applied to theoretical constructions.
- Several techniques that do not capture the same phenomenon.
- If  $s$  is close to 1.5, then the seed size has to be very big.
- New theorems and criteria on predicates.

## Perspectives

- Link between expander graphs, first attack (Guess-and-Determine) and second attack (Gröbner).
- Capture the Gröbner success phenomenon.
- Find best predicate ?

**Thank You !**  
**Questions ?**