

# Cryptanalysis of the Vesta-2M Stream Cipher

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**Abstract.** In this paper the security of the stream cipher Vesta-2M is investigated. Cryptanalytic algorithm is developed for a known plaintext attack where only a small segment of plaintext is assumed to be known. The complexity the attack is estimated the time of searching through the square root of all possible initial states.

**Keywords.** Cryptanalysis. Stream Cipher. Vesta-2M.

## 1 Introduction

Any keystream generators for practical stream cipher applications can generally be represented as an autonomous finite-state machine whose initial state and possibly next-state and output functions as well are secret key dependent. Many keystream generators proposed in the literature consist of possibly clocked linear feedback shift registers (LFSR) that are combined by a function without or with memory. One of these generators, known as Vesta-2M, has been publicized and described in [1]. Vesta-2M is widely used in commercial products in Russia [3].

In this paper the security of Vesta-2M is investigated. Cryptanalytic algorithm is developed for a known plaintext attack where only a small segment of plaintext is assumed to be known. The complexity the attack is estimated the time of searching through the square root of all possible initial states. However, this still poses no threat to Vesta-2M in practical applications.

The paper is organized as follows. In section 2 we give a description of Vesta-2M. In section 3 we discuss an attack on a simplified version of Vesta-2M. Section 4 describes attacks on the full Vesta-2M. We conclude in section 5.

## 2 Description of Vesta-2M

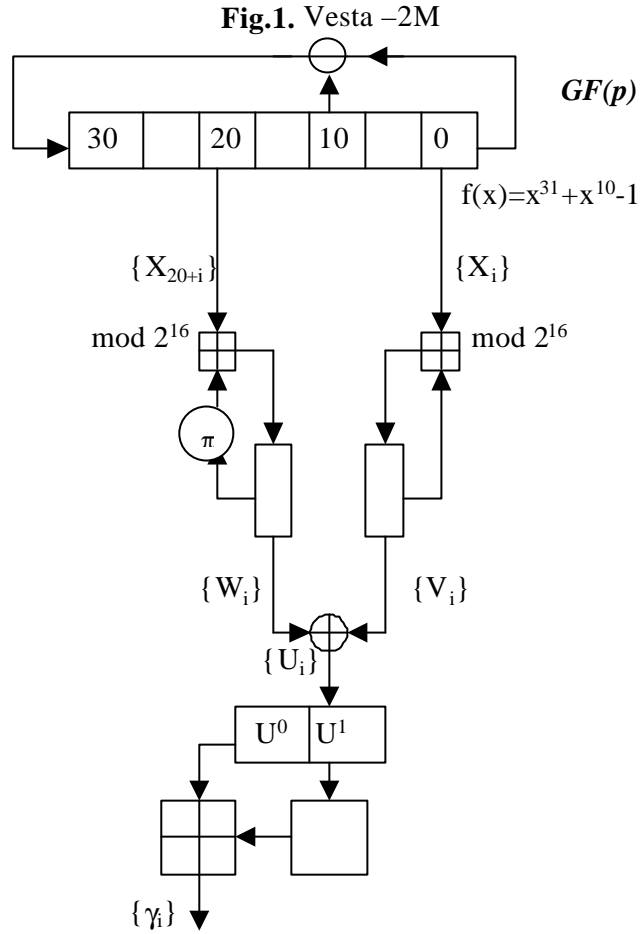
Details of Vesta-2M are given in Figure 1.

Let  $p$  be a prime number of the order  $2^{15}$  and  $\left\{ x_i \right\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  be a linear recurrent sequence satisfying

$$X_{31+i} = X_i - X_{i+10} \pmod{p} \quad (1)$$

The characteristic polynomial of this sequence is

$$f(x) = x^{31} + x^{10} - 1 \quad (2)$$



Calculate  $W_i, V_i, i=1, 2, \dots$ , as follows:

$$W_i = \pi(W_{i-1}) + X_{i-1+20} \pmod{2^{16}} \quad (3)$$

$$V_i = V_{i-1} + X_{i-1} \pmod{2^{16}}. \quad (4)$$

Let  $\pi \in S_{2^{16}}$  be a permutation of bits of a binary representation of numbers  $W_i$  in the inverse order, i.e.  $0 \leftrightarrow 15, \dots, 7 \leftrightarrow 8$ .

Compute

$$U_i = W_i \oplus V_i, \quad (6)$$

Here,  $\oplus$  is exclusive-Or (XOR) operation.

Represent  $U_i$  as follows

$$U_i = U_i^{(0)} + 2^8 \cdot U_i^{(1)}, \quad (7)$$

Compute the output sequence  $\gamma_i, i=1, 2, 3, \dots$ , as follows:

$$\gamma_i \equiv U_i^{(0)} + U_{i-1}^{(1)} \pmod{2^8} = U_i^{(0)} + U_{i-1}^{(1)} - \sigma_i \cdot 2^8, \quad (8)$$

where  $i=1, 2, 3, \dots$ , and  $\sigma_i \in \{0, 1\}$  is a carry bit.

A key of Vesta-2M consists of values  $X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{30}$  and  $U_0, W_0, V_0$ .

### 3 Attack on Vesta-2M without the permutation.

In this section we describe a known plaintext attack on Vesta-2M without permutation  $\pi$ . We begin with definitions. Here and the rest of the paper we keep to them.

Let  $\{z_i^{(15)}, \dots, z_i^{(7)}, z_i^{(6)}, \dots, z_i^{(0)}\}$  be a binary representation of  $Z$ , where  $Z=X_i, p, V_i, U_i, W_i$ .  
Let  $\delta_i^v(j)$  be a carry bit in  $j$  bit of  $V_i = V_{i-1} + X_i \pmod{2^{16}}$  and  $\delta_i^w(j)$  be a carry bit in  $j$  bit of  $W_i = \pi(W_{i-1}) + X_{i-1+20} \pmod{2^{16}}$ .

Let

$$\delta_i^p(j) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } (X_i + p \cdot \xi_{i+31}) \pmod{2^{j-1}} < X_{i+10} \pmod{2^{j-1}} \\ 0, & \text{if } (X_i + p \cdot \xi_{i+31}) \pmod{2^{j-1}} \geq X_{i+10} \pmod{2^{j-1}} \end{cases}$$

Then  $X_{i+31}$  is represented as follows

$$X_{i+31} = X_i - X_{i+10} + p \cdot \xi_{i+31}.$$

Let

$$\xi_{i+31} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } X_i \leq X_{i+10} \\ 0, & \text{if } X_i > X_{i+10} \end{cases}$$

Let  $\delta_{i+31}^x(j)$  be a carry bit in  $j$  bit of  $X_i + p \cdot \xi_{i+31} \pmod{2^{16}}$ .

The attack is based on following propositions.

#### Proposition 1

If we know  $X_0 \pmod{2^8}, X_1 \pmod{2^8}, \dots, X_{30} \pmod{2^8}$  and  $V_0 \pmod{2^8}, U_0 \pmod{2^8}, W_0 \pmod{2^8}$ , then

$$U_{i-1}^{(1)} = \gamma_i - U_i^{(0)} \pmod{2^8},$$

where  $i=1 \dots 29$ .

Proof.

From (3), (4) and (5) we get

$$\begin{aligned} W_i &= W_{i-1} + X_{i+20} \pmod{2^8}, \\ V_i &= V_{i-1} + X_i \pmod{2^8}, \\ U_i^{(0)} &= (W_i \pmod{2^8}) \oplus (V_i \pmod{2^8}). \end{aligned}$$

From (8) we have

$$U_{i-1}^{(1)} = \gamma_i - U_i^{(0)} \pmod{2^8}. \quad (9)$$

where  $i=1 \dots 29$ .

#### Proposition 2

$U_i^{(0)} = (W_0 + X_0 + X_1 + \dots + X_{i-1} + X_i \pmod{2^8}) \oplus (V_0 + X_0 + X_1 + \dots + X_{i-1} + X_i \pmod{2^8})$ .

Proof.

Really, from (3), (4) and (5) we obtain

$$U_i^{(0)} = W_i \oplus V_i = (W_{i-1} + X_i \pmod{2^8}) \oplus (V_{i-1} + X_{i+20} \pmod{2^8}) = \dots = (W_0 + X_0 + X_1 + \dots + X_{i-1} + X_i \pmod{2^8}) \oplus (V_0 + X_0 + X_1 + \dots + X_{i-1} + X_i \pmod{2^8}).$$

**Proposition 3**

$$u_i^{(j)} = (v_0^{(j)} \oplus x_0^{(j)} \oplus x_1^{(j)} \oplus x_2^{(j)} \oplus \dots \oplus x_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_1^v(j) \oplus \delta_2^v(j) \dots \oplus \delta_{i-1}^v(j) \oplus \delta_i^v(j)) \oplus (w_0^{(j)} \oplus x_{20}^{(j)} \oplus x_{21}^{(j)} \oplus x_{22}^{(j)} \oplus \dots \oplus x_{i+19}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_1^w(j) \oplus \delta_2^w(j) \dots \oplus \delta_{i-1}^w(j) \oplus \delta_i^w(j))$$

Proof.

From (3), (4) and (5) we have

$$u_i^{(j)} = v_i^{(j)} \oplus w_i^{(j)} = (v_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_i^v(j)) \oplus (w_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+19}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_i^w(j)) = (v_{i-2}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_i^v(j) \oplus \delta_{i-1}^v(j)) \oplus (w_{i-2}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+19}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_i^w(j) \oplus \delta_{i-1}^w(j)) = \dots = (v_0^{(j)} \oplus x_0^{(j)} \oplus x_1^{(j)} \oplus x_2^{(j)} \oplus \dots \oplus x_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_1^v(j) \oplus \delta_2^v(j) \dots \oplus \delta_{i-1}^v(j) \oplus \delta_i^v(j)) \oplus (w_0^{(j)} \oplus x_{20}^{(j)} \oplus x_{21}^{(j)} \oplus x_{22}^{(j)} \oplus \dots \oplus x_{i+19}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_1^w(j) \oplus \delta_2^w(j) \dots \oplus \delta_{i-1}^w(j) \oplus \delta_i^w(j)).$$

**Proposition 4**

$$u_i^{(j)} = u_1^{(j)} \oplus u_2^{(j)} \oplus \dots \oplus u_{i-2}^{(j)} \oplus u_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_1^v(j) \oplus \delta_{i-1}^v(j) \oplus \dots \oplus \delta_2^v(j) \oplus \delta_1^v(j) \oplus \delta_i^w(j) \oplus \delta_{i-1}^w(j) \oplus \dots \oplus \delta_2^w(j) \oplus \delta_1^w(j) \oplus x_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+19}^{(j)} \tag{10}$$

Proof.

From (3), (4) and (5) we obtain

$$u_i^{(j)} = v_i^{(j)} \oplus w_i^{(j)} = (v_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_i^v(j)) \oplus (w_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+19}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_i^w(j)) = u_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_i^v(j) \oplus \delta_{i-1}^v(j) \oplus \delta_i^w(j) \oplus \delta_{i-1}^w(j) \oplus x_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+19}^{(j)} = \dots = u_1^{(j)} \oplus u_2^{(j)} \oplus \dots \oplus u_{i-2}^{(j)} \oplus u_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_i^v(j) \oplus \delta_{i-1}^v(j) \oplus \dots \oplus \delta_2^v(j) \oplus \delta_1^v(j) \oplus \delta_i^w(j) \oplus \delta_{i-1}^w(j) \oplus \dots \oplus \delta_2^w(j) \oplus \delta_1^w(j) \oplus x_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+19}^{(j)}.$$

**Remark 1**

Let  $C_i^{(j)} = u_1^{(j)} \oplus u_2^{(j)} \oplus \dots \oplus u_{i-2}^{(j)} \oplus u_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_i^v(j) \oplus \delta_{i-1}^v(j) \oplus \dots \oplus \delta_2^v(j) \oplus \delta_1^v(j) \oplus \delta_i^w(j) \oplus \delta_{i-1}^w(j) \oplus \dots \oplus \delta_2^w(j) \oplus \delta_1^w(j) \oplus u_i^{(j)}$ .

Then we can rewrite (10) as follows

$$x_{i-1}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+19}^{(j)} = C_i^{(j)}. \tag{11}$$

**Proposition 5**

If we know  $\{x_0^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_0^{(0)}\}, \{x_1^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_1^{(0)}\}, \{x_2^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_2^{(0)}\}, \dots, \{x_{30}^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_{30}^{(0)}\}$ , then we can determine  $x_{i+31}^{(j)}$  by

$$x_{i+31}^{(j)} = x_i^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+10}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_{i+31}^p(j) \oplus \xi_{i+31} \cdot (\delta_{i+31}^x(j) \oplus p^{(j)}).$$

Proof.

Note that  $(X_i + p \cdot \xi_{i+31})^{(j)} = x_i^{(j)} \oplus \delta_{i+31}^x(j) \oplus \xi_{i+31} \cdot p^{(j)} = x_i^{(j)} \oplus \xi_{i+31} \cdot (\delta_{i+31}^x(j) \oplus p^{(j)})$ .

If  $(X_i + p \cdot \xi_{i+31}) \pmod{2^{j-1}} < X_{i+10} \pmod{2^{j-1}}$ , then

$$x_{i+31}^{(j)} = x_i^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+10}^{(j)} \oplus 1 \oplus \xi_{i+31} \cdot (\delta_{i+31}^x(j) \oplus p^{(j)}).$$

If  $(X_i + p \cdot \xi_{i+31}) \pmod{2^{j-1}} \geq X_{i+10} \pmod{2^{j-1}}$ , then

$$x_{i+31}^{(j)} = x_i^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+10}^{(j)} \oplus \xi_{i+31} \cdot (\delta_{i+31}^x(j) \oplus p^{(j)}).$$

Therefore,

$$x_{i+31}^{(j)} = x_i^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+10}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_{i+31}^p(j) \oplus \xi_{i+31} \cdot (\delta_{i+31}^x(j) \oplus p^{(j)}).$$

**Remark 2**

If we know  $\{x_0^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_0^{(0)}\}, \{x_1^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_1^{(0)}\}, \{x_2^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_2^{(0)}\}, \dots, \{x_{30}^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_{30}^{(0)}\}$  and  $V_0, W_0, \xi_{31}, \xi_{32}, \dots, \xi_{50}$ , then we can compute  $\{C_i^{(k)}\}$ , where  $k=1..j, i=0..50$ , and  $\{\delta_i^x(j)\}, \{\delta_i^p(j)\}$ .

**Theorem 1**

If we know  $\{x_0^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_0^{(0)}\}, \{x_1^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_1^{(0)}\}, \{x_2^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_2^{(0)}\}, \dots, \{x_{30}^{(j-1)}, \dots, x_{30}^{(0)}\}, \xi_{31}, \xi_{32}, \dots, \xi_{50}$  and  $V_0, W_0$ , then we can determine  $\{x_{30}^{(j)}, \dots, x_0^{(j)}\}$  from the following system of linear equations.

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_{20}^{(j)} \oplus x_0^{(j)} &= C_1^{(j)} \\
 x_{21}^{(j)} \oplus x_1^{(j)} &= C_2^{(j)} \\
 x_{22}^{(j)} \oplus x_2^{(j)} &= C_3^{(j)} \\
 &\dots\dots\dots \\
 x_{20+i}^{(j)} \oplus x_i^{(j)} &= C_{i+1}^{(j)}, \text{ when } i < 31 \\
 &\dots\dots\dots \\
 x_{30}^{(j)} \oplus x_{10}^{(j)} &= C_{11}^{(j)} \\
 x_0^{(j)} \oplus x_{10}^{(j)} \oplus x_{11}^{(j)} &= C_{12}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_{31}^p(j) \oplus \xi_{31} \cdot (\delta_{31}^X(j) \oplus p^{(j)}) \\
 x_1^{(j)} \oplus x_{11}^{(j)} \oplus x_{12}^{(j)} &= C_{13}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_{32}^p(j) \oplus \xi_{32} \cdot (\delta_{32}^X(j) \oplus p^{(j)}) \\
 &\dots\dots\dots \\
 x_{i-31}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i-21}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i-20}^{(j)} &= C_{i+1}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_i^p(j) \oplus \xi_i \cdot (\delta_i^X(j) \oplus p^{(j)}), \text{ when } 30 < i < 51 \\
 &\dots\dots\dots \\
 x_{19}^{(j)} \oplus x_{29}^{(j)} \oplus x_{30}^{(j)} &= C_{51}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_{50}^p(j) \oplus \xi_{50} \cdot (\delta_{50}^X(j) \oplus p^{(j)})
 \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

The proof is followed from proposition 4, proposition 5, remark 1 and remark 2.

*Attack on Vesta-2M without  $\pi$ .*

The method of recovering of a key consists of the following stages.

For these values we do.

1. Guess  $\{x_0^{(7)}, x_0^{(6)}, \dots, x_0^{(0)}\}, \{x_1^{(7)}, x_1^{(6)}, \dots, x_1^{(0)}\}, \dots, \{x_{30}^{(7)}, x_{30}^{(6)}, \dots, x_{30}^{(0)}\}$ .
2. Guess  $V_0, W_0$ .
3. Guess  $\xi_{31}, \xi_{32}, \dots, \xi_{50}$ .

Let  $j=8$ .

- a) Using proposition 1, we determine  $\{U_i^{(1)}\}, i=1 \dots 52$ .
- b) Using proposition 4, remark 1 and remark 2 we determine  $\{C_i^{(j)}\}$  and  $\{\delta_i^X(j)\} i=1..52$ .
- c)  $\{x_{30}^{(j)}, \dots, x_0^{(j)}\}$  are determined from (12).
- d) If  $j < 15$  then  $j=j+1$ .
- e) We execute untwisting of the cryptosystem on necessary length of an output sequence for exclusion of false variants of the key.

Let us estimate the complexity of the method.

In the describing attack we guess  $X_0 \pmod{2^8}, X_1 \pmod{2^8}, \dots, X_{30} \pmod{2^8}$  and  $V_0, U_0, W_0$ .

We may assume that the probability distributions of  $V_0, U_0, W_0, X_1 \pmod{2^8}, \dots, X_{30} \pmod{2^8}$  are uniform.

Therefore,

$$P\{V_0=V_0^{(cor)}, W_0=W_0^{(cor)}, U_0=U_0^{(cor)}, \{\xi_{31}, \xi_{32}, \dots, \xi_{50}\}, \{x_0^{(7)}, \dots, x_0^{(0)}\} = X_0^{(cor)} \pmod{2^8}, \dots, \{x_{30}^{(7)}, \dots, x_{30}^{(0)}\} = X_{30}^{(cor)} \pmod{2^8}\} = 1/2^{16 \cdot 3} \cdot 1/2^{p \cdot 31} \cdot 1/2^{20} \approx 1/2^{276}.$$

Thus, the complexity of this attack is approximately  $2^{276}$ . Note that the complexity of the brute force attack is equal to  $2^{543}$ .

## 4 A Known Plaintext Attack on the Vesta-2M Stream Cipher

In this section we describe the method of recovering of a key of full Vesta-2M. The attack is based on following propositions.

### Proposition 6

If we know  $W_i \pmod{2^9}$  and  $W_{i+1} \pmod{2^9}$ , then we can determine  $X_{i+20} \pmod{2^8}$ .

Proof.

Really, from (3) we obtain  $W_{i+1} = \pi(W_i) + X_{i+20} \pmod{2^{16}}$ .

Then  $W_{i+1} = \pi(W_i) + X_{i+20} \pmod{2^8}$ . Therefore,

$$X_{i+20} \pmod{2^8} = W_{i+1} - \pi(W_i) \pmod{2^8}.$$

### Proposition 7

If we know  $W_0 \pmod{2^9}$ ,  $W_1 \pmod{2^9}$ , ...,  $W_{31} \pmod{2^9}$  and the bits  $\xi_{31}, \xi_{32}, \dots, \xi_{50}$ , then we can determine  $X_0 \pmod{2^8}$ ,  $X_1 \pmod{2^8}$ , ...,  $X_{30} \pmod{2^8}$ .

Proof.

Really, from proposition 6 we get  $X_{20} \pmod{2^8}$ ,  $X_{21} \pmod{2^8}$ , ...,  $X_{30} \pmod{2^8}$ ,  $X_{31} \pmod{2^8}$ ,  $X_{32} \pmod{2^8}$ , ...,  $X_{50} \pmod{2^8}$ .

Note that  $X_{i+31} = X_i - X_{i+10} + p \cdot \xi_{i+31}$ , then  $X_{i+31} \pmod{2^8} = (X_i - X_{i+10} + p \cdot \xi_{i+31}) \pmod{2^8}$ .

Therefore,

$$(X_i) \pmod{2^8} = X_{i+31} + X_{i+10} - p \cdot \xi_{i+31} \pmod{2^8}.$$

This means that

$$X_i^{(j)} = X_{i+31}^{(j)} \oplus X_{i+10}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_{i+31}^p(j) \oplus \xi_{i+31} \cdot (\delta_{i+31}^x(j) \oplus p^{(j)}), \text{ where } j=0 \dots 8.$$

We obtain

$$(X_{19}) \pmod{2^8} = X_{29} + X_{50} - p \cdot \xi_{50} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$(X_{18}) \pmod{2^8} = X_{28} + X_{49} - p \cdot \xi_{49} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$(X_{17}) \pmod{2^8} = X_{27} + X_{48} - p \cdot \xi_{48} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$(X_{16}) \pmod{2^8} = X_{26} + X_{47} - p \cdot \xi_{47} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$(X_{15}) \pmod{2^8} = X_{25} + X_{46} - p \cdot \xi_{46} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$(X_{14}) \pmod{2^8} = X_{24} + X_{45} - p \cdot \xi_{45} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$(X_{13}) \pmod{2^8} = X_{23} + X_{44} - p \cdot \xi_{44} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$(X_{12}) \pmod{2^8} = X_{22} + X_{43} - p \cdot \xi_{43} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$\dots \dots \dots$$

$$(X_3) \pmod{2^8} = X_{13} + X_{34} - p \cdot \xi_{34} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$(X_2) \pmod{2^8} = X_{12} + X_{33} - p \cdot \xi_{33} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$(X_1) \pmod{2^8} = X_{11} + X_{32} - p \cdot \xi_{32} \pmod{2^8}$$

$$(X_0) \pmod{2^8} = X_{10} + X_{31} - p \cdot \xi_{31} \pmod{2^8}$$

Consequently, we determine  $X_0 \pmod{2^8}$ ,  $X_1 \pmod{2^8}$ , ...,  $X_{30} \pmod{2^8}$ .

### Proposition 8

If we know  $X_0 \pmod{2^8}$ ,  $X_1 \pmod{2^8}$ ,  $X_2 \pmod{2^8}$ , ...,  $X_{30} \pmod{2^8}$ ,  $V_0 \pmod{2^8}$ ,  $U_0 \pmod{2^8}$  and  $W_0 \pmod{2^9}$ ,  $W_1 \pmod{2^9}$ , ...,  $W_{31} \pmod{2^9}$ , then we can determine by

$$U_{i-1}^{(1)} = \gamma_i - U_i^{(0)} \pmod{2^8},$$

where  $i=1 \dots 31$ .

Proof.

Note that we know  $X_0(\text{mod } 2^8)$ ,  $X_1(\text{mod } 2^8)$ ,  $X_2(\text{mod } 2^8), \dots, X_{30}(\text{mod } 2^8)$ ,  $V_0(\text{mod } 2^8)$ ,  $W_0(\text{mod } 2^8)$ .  
From (3), (4) and (5) we get

$$\begin{aligned} W_{i+1} &= \pi(W_i) + X_{i+20} \pmod{2^8} \\ V_{i+1} &= V_i + X_i \pmod{2^8} = (V_0 + X_0 + X_1 + \dots + X_{i-1} + X_i) \pmod{2^8} \\ U_i^{(0)} &= (W_i \text{ mod } 2^8) \oplus V_i \pmod{2^8} \end{aligned}$$

From (8) we obtain

$$U_{i-1}^{(1)} = \gamma_i - U_i^{(0)} \pmod{2^8},$$

where  $i=1 \dots 31$ .

**Proposition 9**

If we know  $X_0(\text{mod } 2^j)$ ,  $X_1(\text{mod } 2^j)$ ,  $X_2(\text{mod } 2^j), \dots, X_{30}(\text{mod } 2^j)$ ,  $V_0(\text{mod } 2^j)$ ,  $U_0(\text{mod } 2^j)$  and  $W_0(\text{mod } 2^j)$ ,  $W_1(\text{mod } 2^j), \dots, W_{31}(\text{mod } 2^j)$ , then we can determine  $W_0(\text{mod } 2^{j+1})$ ,  $W_1(\text{mod } 2^{j+1})$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $W_{30}(\text{mod } 2^{j+1})$ .

Proof.

Really, from

$$w_{i+1}^{(j)} = w_i^{(j+1)} \oplus x_{i+20}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_{i+1}^{w(j)}.$$

we get

$$w_i^{(j+1)} = w_{i+1}^{(j)} \oplus x_{i+20}^{(j)} \oplus \delta_{i+1}^{w(j)},$$

where  $i=0 \dots 29$ .

**Proposition 10**

If we know  $X_0(\text{mod } 2^j)$ ,  $X_1(\text{mod } 2^j)$ ,  $X_2(\text{mod } 2^j), \dots, X_{30}(\text{mod } 2^j)$  and  $U_0(\text{mod } 2^j)$ ,  $W_0(\text{mod } 2^{j+1})$ ,  $W_1(\text{mod } 2^{j+1}), \dots, W_{31}(\text{mod } 2^{j+1})$ ,  $V_0(\text{mod } 2^{j+1})$ , then we can determine  $X_0(\text{mod } 2^{j+1})$ ,  $X_1(\text{mod } 2^{j+1}), \dots$ ,  $X_{30}(\text{mod } 2^{j+1})$ .

Proof.

Note that from proposition 8 we get  $u_i^{(j+1)} = v_i^{(j+1)} \oplus w_i^{(j+1)}$  then  $v_i^{(j+1)} = u_i^{(j+1)} \oplus w_i^{(j+1)}$ .

From

$$v_i^{(j+1)} = v_{i-1}^{(j+1)} \oplus x_{i-1}^{(j+1)} \oplus \delta_i^{v(j+1)} = (v_0^{(j+1)} \oplus x_0^{(j+1)} \oplus x_1^{(j+1)} \oplus x_2^{(j+1)} \oplus \dots \oplus x_{i-1}^{(j+1)} \oplus \delta_1^{v(j+1)} \oplus \delta_2^{v(j+1)} \dots \oplus \delta_{i-1}^{v(j+1)} \oplus \delta_i^{v(j+1)})$$

we obtain

$$X_0^{(j+1)} = v_0^{(j+1)} \oplus v_1^{(j+1)} \oplus \delta_1^{v(j+1)}$$

$$X_1^{(j+1)} = v_1^{(j+1)} \oplus v_2^{(j+1)} \oplus \delta_2^{v(j+1)}$$

$$X_2^{(j+1)} = v_2^{(j+1)} \oplus v_3^{(j+1)} \oplus \delta_3^{v(j+1)}$$

$$\dots \dots \dots$$

$$X_{i-1}^{(j+1)} = v_{i-1}^{(j+1)} \oplus v_i^{(j+1)} \oplus \delta_i^{v(j+1)}$$

$$\dots \dots \dots$$

$$X_{29}^{(j+1)} = v_{29}^{(j+1)} \oplus v_{30}^{(j+1)} \oplus \delta_{30}^{v(j+1)}$$

$$X_{30}^{(j+1)} = v_{30}^{(j+1)} \oplus v_{31}^{(j+1)} \oplus \delta_{31}^{v(j+1)}$$

Therefore, we determine  $X_0(\text{mod } 2^{j+1})$ ,  $X_1(\text{mod } 2^{j+1}), \dots, X_{30}(\text{mod } 2^{j+1})$ .

## Attack on Vesta-2M

The method of recovering of the key consists of the following stages.

1. We guess  $W_0 \pmod{2^9}$ ,  $W_1 \pmod{2^9}$ , ...,  $W_{30} \pmod{2^9}$ .
2. We guess  $V_0$ ,  $U_0$ ,  $W_{31}$ .
3. We guess  $\xi_{31}$ ,  $\xi_{32}$ , ...,  $\xi_{50}$ .

For these values we do.

- a) Using proposition 7, we calculate  $X_0 \pmod{2^8}$ ,  $X_1 \pmod{2^8}$ , ...,  $X_{30} \pmod{2^8}$
- b) Using proposition 8, we calculate  $\{U_i^{(1)}\}$ , where  $i=1..31$ .  
Let  $j=9$ .
- c) Using proposition 9, we determine values of the bits  $\{w_{30}^{(j+1)}, \dots, w_0^{(j+1)}\}$ .
- d) Using proposition 10, we determine values of the bits  $\{x_{30}^{(j+1)}, \dots, x_0^{(j+1)}\}$ .
- e) If  $j < 15$  then  $j=j+1$ .
- f) We execute untwisting of the cryptosystem on necessary length of an output sequence for exclusion of false variants of the key.

Let us estimate the complexity of the method.

In the describing attack we guess  $W_0 \pmod{2^9}$ ,  $W_1 \pmod{2^9}$ , ...,  $W_{30} \pmod{2^9}$  and  $V_0$ ,  $U_0$ ,  $W_{31}$ .

We may assume that the probability distributions of  $V_0$ ,  $U_0$ ,  $W_{31}$ ,  $W_1 \pmod{2^9}$ , ...,  $W_{30} \pmod{2^9}$  are uniform.

Therefore,

$$P\{V_0=V_0^{(cor)}, W_{31}=W_{31}^{(cor)}, U_0=U_0^{(cor)}, \{\xi_{31}, \xi_{32}, \dots, \xi_{50}\}, \{w_0^{(8)}, \dots, w_0^{(0)}\} = W_0^{(cor)} \pmod{2^9}, \dots, \{w_{30}^{(8)}, \dots, w_{30}^{(0)}\} = W_{30}^{(cor)} \pmod{2^9}\} = 1/2^{16 \cdot 2+8} \cdot 1/2^{9 \cdot 31} \cdot 1/2^{20} \approx 1/2^{339}.$$

Thus, the complexity of this attack is approximately  $2^{338}$ . Note that the complexity of the brute force attack is equal to  $2^{543}$ .

## 5 Conclusion

We have demonstrated several cryptanalytic algorithms on the Vesta-2M stream cipher. The algorithms try to deduce the initial state in a known plaintext attack. The algorithms find the correct initial state using only a small segment of known plaintext. We demonstrated the importance of the permutation  $\pi$  in Vesta-2M and described the attack based on linear approximations.

The complexities of the attacks were approximated to be less than time of searching through the square root of all possible initial states. However, Vesta-2M remains a secure cipher for practical applications.

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