

# Symmetric-Key Encryption

CS 466: Applied Cryptography

Adam O'Neill

Adapted from <http://cseweb.ucsd.edu/~mihir/cse107/>

# Setting the Stage

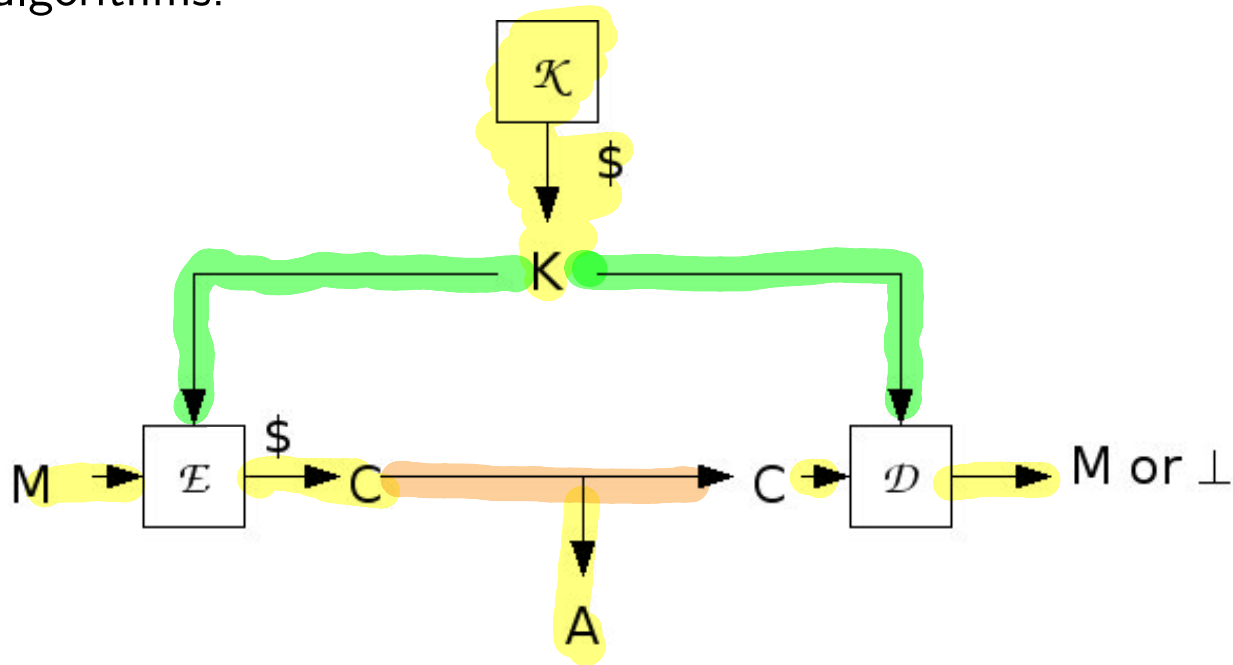
- We have studied our first lower-level primitive, **blockciphers**.

# Setting the Stage

- We have studied our first lower-level primitive, **blockciphers**.
- Today we will study how to use it to build our first higher-level primitive, **symmetric-key encryption**.

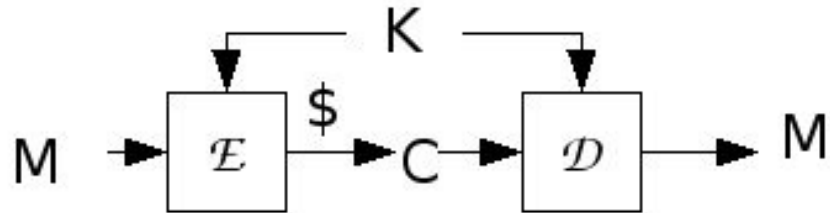
# Syntax

A symmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{SE} = (\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  consists of three algorithms:



$\mathcal{K}$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  may be randomized, but  $\mathcal{D}$  must be deterministic.

# Correctness



**More formally:** For all keys  $K$  that may be output by  $\mathcal{K}$ , and for all  $M$  in the *message space*, we have

$$\Pr[\mathcal{D}_K(\mathcal{E}_K(M)) = M] = 1,$$

where the probability is over the coins of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

$K \in \mathcal{M}$   
are  
fixed

A scheme will usually specify an associated message space.

# Blockcipher Modes of Operation

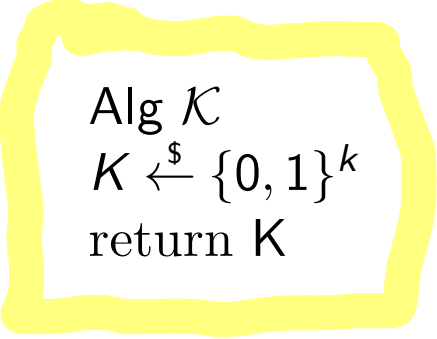
assume msg length is multiple of block length.

$E : \{0, 1\}^k \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  a block cipher

**Notation:**  $x[i]$  is the  $i$ -th  $n$ -bit block of a string  $x$ , so that  $x = x[1] \dots x[m]$

if  $|x| = nm$ .

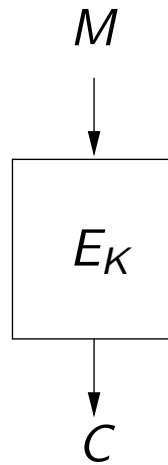
Always:



```
Alg  $\mathcal{K}$   
 $K \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^k$   
return  $K$ 
```

# Modes of operation

Block cipher provides parties sharing  $K$  with



which enables them to encrypt a 1-block message.

How do we encrypt a long message using a primitive that only applies to  $n$ -bit blocks?

# Electronic Codebook Mode (ECB)

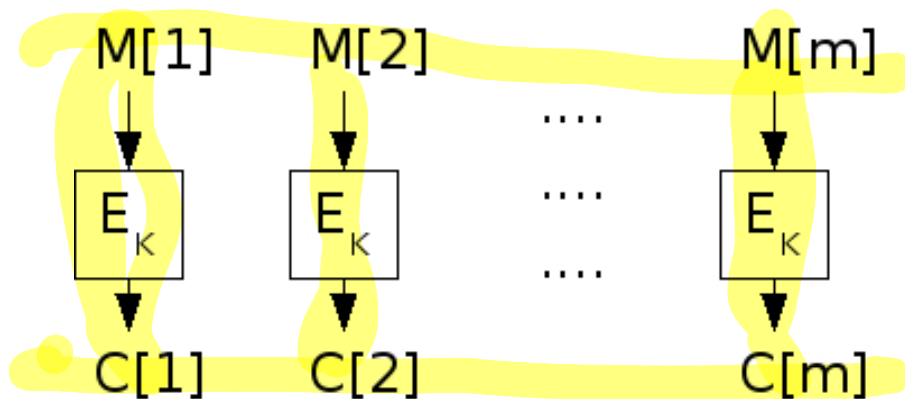
$\mathcal{SE} = (\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  where:

**Alg**  $\mathcal{E}_K(M)$

for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  do  
     $C[i] \leftarrow E_K(M[i])$   
return C

**Alg**  $\mathcal{D}_K(C)$

for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  do  
     $M[i] \leftarrow E_K^{-1}(C[i])$   
return M

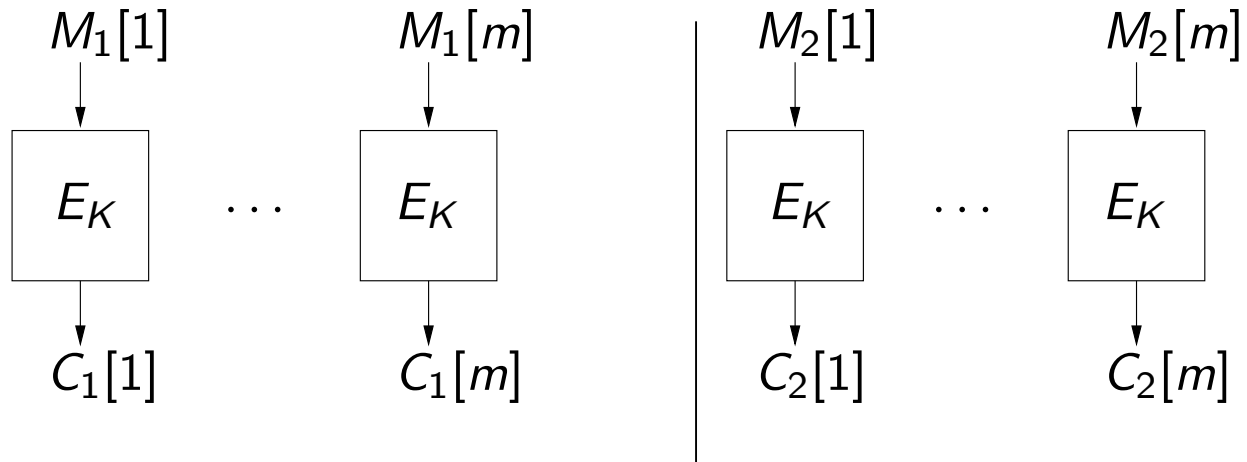




# Weakness of ECB

Weakness:  $M_1 = M_2 \Rightarrow C_1 = C_2$

Why is the above true? Because  $E_K$  is deterministic:



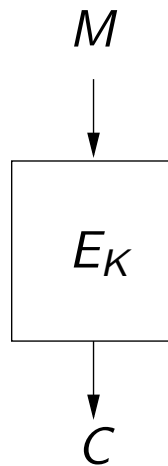
Why does this matter?

# Weakness of ECB

Suppose we know that there are only two possible messages,  $Y = 1^n$  and  $N = 0^n$ , for example representing

- FIRE or DON'T FIRE a missile
- BUY or SELL a stock
- Vote YES or NO

Then ECB algorithm will be  $\mathcal{E}_K(M) = E_K(M)$ .



# Is this avoidable?

Let  $\mathcal{SE} = (\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  be **ANY** encryption scheme.

Suppose  $M_1, M_2 \in \{Y, N\}$  and

- Sender sends ciphertexts  $C_1 \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_K(M_1)$  and  $C_2 \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_K(M_2)$
- Adversary  $A$  knows that  $M_1 = Y$

Adversary says: If  $C_2 = C_1$  then  $M_2$  must be  $Y$  else it must be  $N$ .

Does this attack work?

Even if  $M_1 = M_2$   
it need not be the case  
that  $C_1 = C_2$ .

[GM '84]

# Introducing Randomized Encryption

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For encryption to be secure it must be randomized

That is, algorithm  $\mathcal{E}_K$  flips coins.

If the same message is encrypted twice, we are likely to get back different answers. That is, if  $M_1 = M_2$  and we let

$$C_1 \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{E}_K(M_1) \text{ and } C_2 \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{E}_K(M_2) \quad m_1 = m_2$$

then

$$\underline{\underline{\Pr[C_1 = C_2]}}$$

small !!!

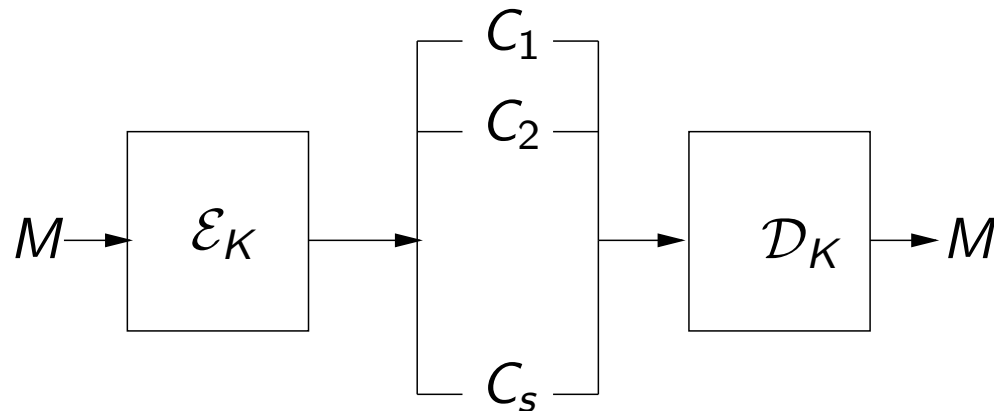
will (should) be small, where the probability is over the coins of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

# Randomized Encryption

There are many possible ciphertexts corresponding to each message.

If so, how can we decrypt?

We will see examples soon.



# Randomized Encryption

A fundamental departure from classical and conventional notions of encryption.

Classically, encryption (e.g., substitution cipher) is a code, associating to each message a unique ciphertext.

Now, we are saying no such code is secure, and we look to encryption mechanisms which associate to each message a number of different possible ciphertexts.

Mode of operation

CBC- $\$$ :

# Cipher-block Chaining Mode with Random IV

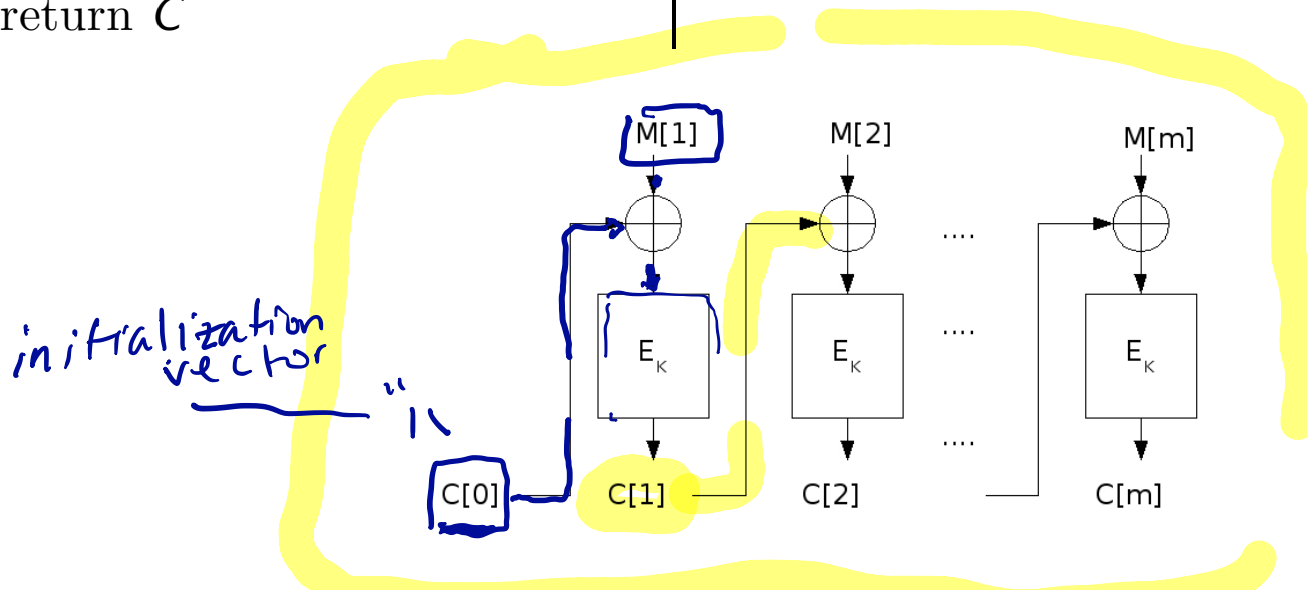
$\mathcal{SE} = (K, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  where:

**Alg  $\mathcal{E}_K(M)$**

$\rightarrow C[0] \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^n$  // set IV  
for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  do  
     $C[i] \leftarrow E_K(M[i] \oplus C[i-1])$   
return  $C$

**Alg  $\mathcal{D}_K(C)$**

for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  do  
     $M[i] \leftarrow E_K^{-1}(C[i]) \oplus C[i-1]$   
return  $M$



Correct decryption relies on  $E$  being a block cipher.

# CTR- $\$$ Mode

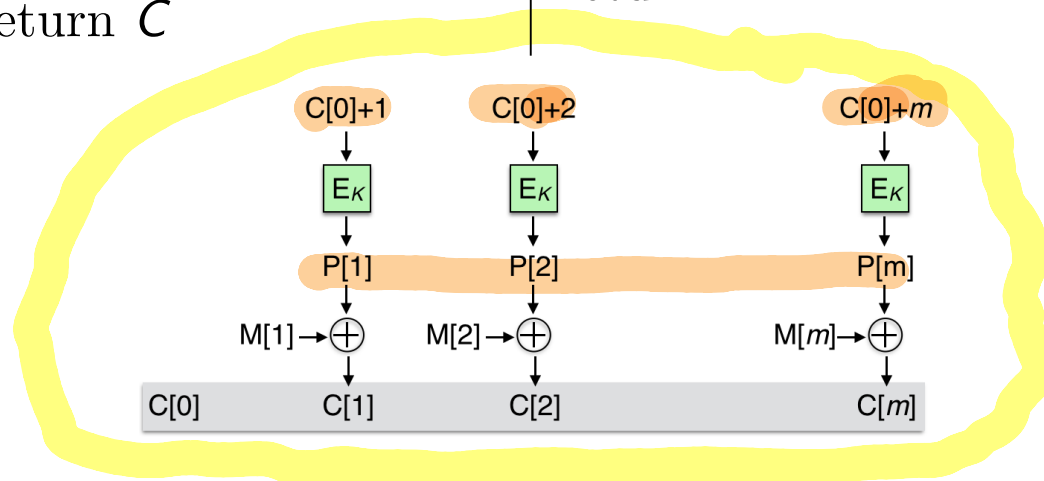
Let  $E: \{0, 1\}^k \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\ell$  be a family of functions. If  $X \in \{0, 1\}^n$  and  $i \in \mathbf{N}$  then  $X + i$  denotes the  $n$ -bit string formed by converting  $X$  to an integer, adding  $i$  modulo  $2^n$ , and converting the result back to an  $n$ -bit string. Below the message is a sequence of  $\ell$ -bit blocks:

**Alg**  $\mathcal{E}_K(M)$

$C[0] \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^n$   
for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  do  
     $P[i] \leftarrow E_K(C[0] + i)$   
     $C[i] \leftarrow P[i] \oplus M[i]$   
return  $C$

**Alg**  $\mathcal{D}_K(C)$

for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  do  
     $P[i] \leftarrow E_K(C[0] + i)$   
     $M[i] \leftarrow P[i] \oplus C[i]$   
return  $M$





A simple way to encrypt a long message with a short key.

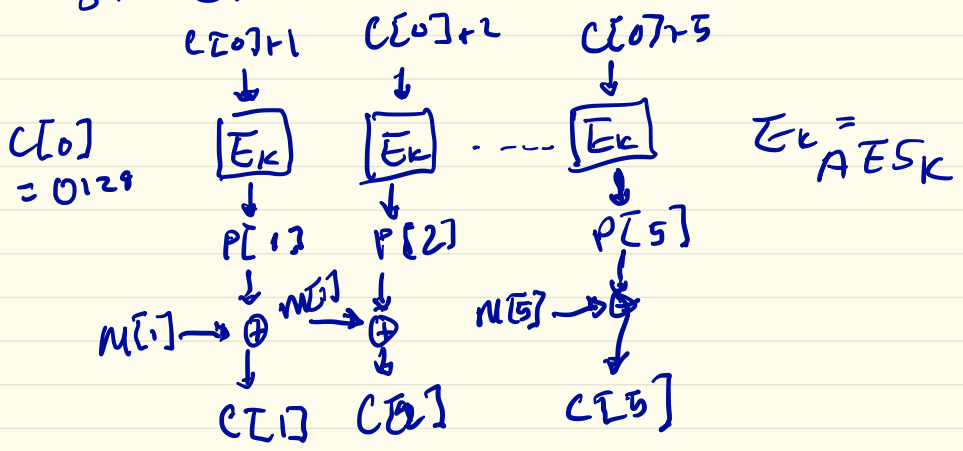
$$M = M[1]M[2] \dots M[5]$$

$$M[i] \in \{0,1\}^{128}$$

$$K \in \{0,1\}^{128}$$

Question: how to use  $K$  to encrypt  $M$  if  $K$  will never be used again?

Answer: Use simplified version of CTR mode where  $c[0] = 0^{128}$ .



# CTR-\$ Mode

**Alg**  $\mathcal{E}_K(M)$

$C[0] \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^n$

for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  do

$P[i] \leftarrow E_K(C[0] + i)$

$C[i] \leftarrow P[i] \oplus M[i]$

return  $C$

**Alg**  $\mathcal{D}_K(C)$

for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  do

$P[i] \leftarrow E_K(C[0] + i)$

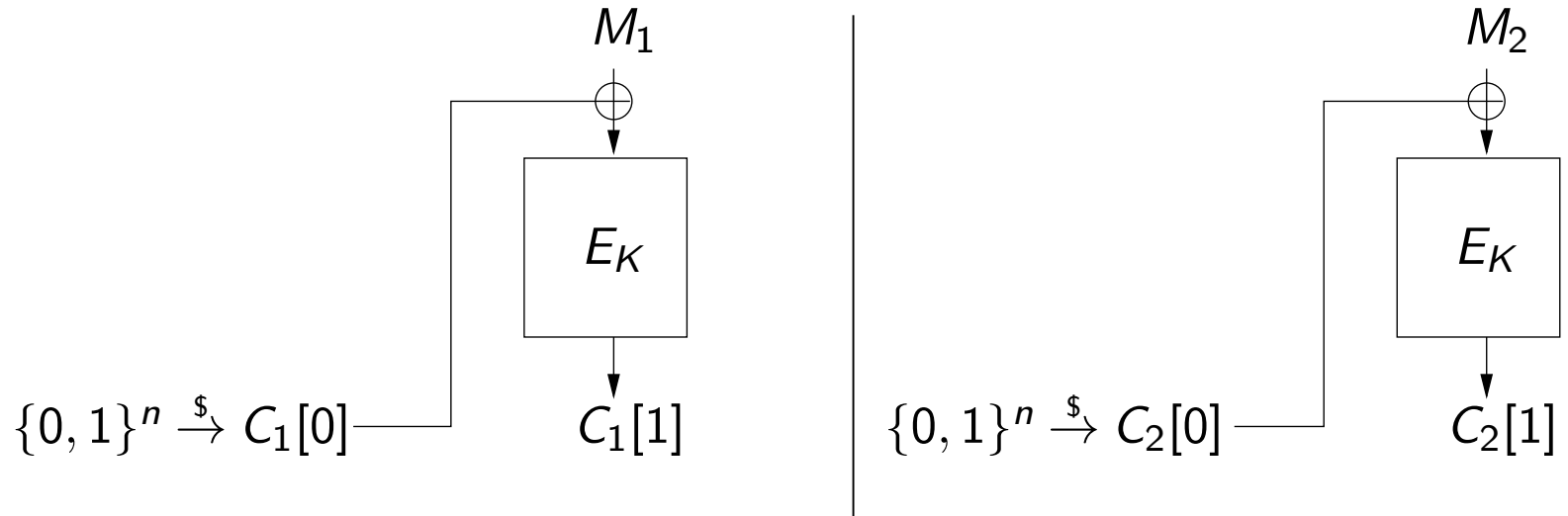
$M[i] \leftarrow P[i] \oplus C[i]$

return  $M$

- $\mathcal{D}$  does not use  $E_K^{-1}$ ! This is why CTR\$ can use a family of functions  $E$  that is not required to be a blockcipher.
- Encryption and Decryption are parallelizable.

# Voting with CBC-\$

Suppose we encrypt  $M_1, M_2 \in \{Y, N\}$  with CBC\$.



Adversary  $A$  sees  $C_1 = C_1[0]C_1[1]$  and  $C_2 = C_2[0]C_2[1]$ .

Suppose  $A$  knows that  $M_1 = Y$ .

Can  $A$  determine whether  $M_2 = Y$  or  $M_2 = N$ ?

# Assessing Security

- How to determine which modes of operations are “good” ones?

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- E.g., CBC- $\$$  seems better than ECB. But is it **secure**? Or are there still attacks?

# Assessing Security

- How to determine which modes of operations are “good” ones?
- E.g., CBC- $\$$  seems better than ECB. But is it **secure**? Or are there still attacks?
- Important since CBC- $\$$  is **widely used**.

# Security requirements

Suppose sender computes

$$C_1 \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{E}_K(M_1); \dots; C_q \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{E}_K(M_q)$$

Adversary  $A$  has  $C_1, \dots, C_q$

What if $A$	
Retrieves $K$	Bad!
Retrieves $M_1$	Bad!

But also we want to hide all partial information about the data stream, such as

- Does  $M_1 = M_2$ ?
- What is first bit of  $M_1$ ?
- What is XOR of first bits of  $M_1, M_2$ ?

*joint functions of  
the data*

Something we won't hide: the length of the message

# Intuition

The master property MP is called IND-CPA (indistinguishability under chosen plaintext attack).

Consider encrypting one of two possible message streams, either

$$M_0^1, \dots, M_0^q$$

or

$$M_1^1, \dots, M_1^q,$$

where  $|M_0^i| = |M_1^i|$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq q$ . Adversary, given ciphertexts  $C^1, \dots, C^q$  and both data streams, has to figure out which of the two streams was encrypted.

We will even let the adversary pick the messages: It picks  $(M_0^1, M_1^1)$  and gets back  $C^1$ , then picks  $(M_0^2, M_1^2)$  and gets back  $C^2$ , and so on.



1: "I'm in the Right game"

0: I'm in the **IND-CPA**  
Left game

Let  $\mathcal{SE} = (\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  be an encryption scheme

Game **Left** $_{\mathcal{SE}}$

**procedure Initialize**

$K \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{K}$

**procedure LR**( $M_0, M_1$ )

Return  $C \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{E}_K(M_0)$

Game **Right** $_{\mathcal{SE}}$

**procedure Initialize**

$K \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{K}$

**procedure LR**( $M_0, M_1$ )

Return  $C \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{E}_K(M_1)$

Associated to  $\mathcal{SE}$ ,  $A$  are the probabilities

$$\Pr \left[ \text{Left}_{\mathcal{SE}}^A \Rightarrow 1 \right] \quad | \quad \Pr \left[ \text{Right}_{\mathcal{SE}}^A \Rightarrow 1 \right]$$

that  $A$  outputs 1 in each world. The (ind-cpa) **advantage** of  $A$  is

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{SE}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A) = \Pr \left[ \text{Right}_{\mathcal{SE}}^A \Rightarrow 1 \right] - \Pr \left[ \text{Left}_{\mathcal{SE}}^A \Rightarrow 1 \right]$$

Adaptive attack!

# Message length restriction

It is required that  $|M_0| = |M_1|$  in any query  $M_0, M_1$  that  $A$  makes to **LR**.  
An adversary  $A$  violating this condition is considered invalid.

This reflects that encryption is not aiming to hide the length of messages.

Query  $(m_0, m_1)$

$$|m_0| = |m_1|$$

lengths of messages can  
vary across queries

# Advantage Interpretation

$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{SE}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A) \approx 1$  means  $A$  is doing well and  $\mathcal{SE}$  is not ind-cpa-secure.

$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{SE}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A) \approx 0$  (or  $\leq 0$ ) means  $A$  is doing poorly and  $\mathcal{SE}$  resists the attack  $A$  is mounting.

Adversary resources are its running time  $t$  and the number  $q$  of its oracle queries, the latter representing the number of messages encrypted.

**Security:**  $\mathcal{SE}$  is **IND-CPA-secure** if  $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{SE}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A)$  is “small” for **ALL**  $A$  that use “practical” amounts of resources.

**Insecurity:**  $\mathcal{SE}$  is **not IND-CPA-secure** if we can specify an explicit  $A$  that uses “few” resources yet achieves “high” ind-cpa-advantage.

# Security Analysis of ECB

Let  $E : \{0, 1\}^k \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  be a block cipher. Recall that ECB mode defines symmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{SE} = (\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  with

$$\mathcal{E}_K(M) = E_K(M[1])E_K(M[2]) \cdots E_K(M[m])$$

Can we design  $A$  so that

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{SE}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A) = \Pr \left[ \text{Right}_{\mathcal{SE}}^A \Rightarrow 1 \right] - \Pr \left[ \text{Left}_{\mathcal{SE}}^A \Rightarrow 1 \right]$$

is close to 1?

$$\begin{array}{l} (0^n, 0^n) = \text{query } 1 \\ (1^n, 0^n) = \text{query } 2 \\ \text{left stream} \quad \text{right stream} \end{array}$$

# Adversary

Let  $\mathcal{E}_K(M) = E_K(M[1]) \cdots E_K(M[m])$ .

**adversary A**

$C_1 \leftarrow \mathbf{LR}(0^n, 0^n); C_2 \leftarrow \mathbf{LR}(1^n, 0^n)$

if  $C_1 = C_2$  then return 1 else return 0

legitimate adversary:

$$|0^n| = |0^n|$$

$$|1^n| = |0^n|$$

$(x_1, y_2) \quad (x_3, y_4) \quad x_1 \neq x_2 \neq x_3 \neq x_4$

# Right Game Analysis

$\mathcal{E}$  is defined by  $\mathcal{E}_K(M) = E_K(M[1]) \cdots E_K(M[m])$ .

adversary  $A$

$C_1 \leftarrow \text{LR}(0^n, 0^n)$ ;  $C_2 \leftarrow \text{LR}(1^n, 0^n)$

if  $C_1 = C_2$  then return 1 else return 0

Game  $\text{Right}_{S\mathcal{E}}$

**procedure Initialize**

$K \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{K}$

**procedure LR**( $M_0, M_1$ )

Return  $\mathcal{E}_K(M_1)$

Then

$$\Pr[\text{Right}_{S\mathcal{E}}^A \Rightarrow 1] = \frac{1}{2}$$

$E_K(0^n) = E_K(0^n)$  since  $E$  is deterministic.

by def of blockcipher

# Left Game Analysis

$\mathcal{E}$  is defined by  $\mathcal{E}_K(M) = E_K(M[1]) \cdots E_K(M[m])$ .

*holds even for randomized encryption*

**adversary A**

$C_1 \leftarrow \text{LR}(0^n, 0^n); C_2 \leftarrow \text{LR}(1^n, 0^n)$

if  $C_1 = C_2$  then return 1 else return 0

Game  $\text{Left}_{S\mathcal{E}}$

**procedure Initialize**

$K \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{K}$

**procedure LR**( $M_0, M_1$ )

Return  $\mathcal{E}_K(M_0)$

Then

$$\Pr[\text{Left}_{S\mathcal{E}}^A \Rightarrow 1] = 0$$

$E_K(0^n) \neq E_K(1^n)$  since  $E_K$  is a perm.  
 $\mathcal{E}_K(0^n) \neq \mathcal{E}_K(1^n)$  by correctness of  $E_K$ .

# Conclusion

**adversary**  $A$

$C_1 \leftarrow \mathbf{LR}(0^n, 0^n)$ ;  $C_2 \leftarrow \mathbf{LR}(1^n, 0^n)$

if  $C_1 = C_2$  then return 1 else return 0

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{S}\mathcal{E}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A) &= \overbrace{\Pr[\text{Right}_{\mathcal{S}\mathcal{E}}^A = 1]}^1 - \overbrace{\Pr[\text{Left}_{\mathcal{S}\mathcal{E}}^A = 1]}^0 \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

And  $A$  is very efficient, making only two queries.

Thus ECB is **not** IND-CPA secure.



# Other Attacks?

- Can you find an attack where **all messages** queried to the LR oracle (counting both sides) are **distinct**?

Adversary  $A'$

$$c_1 \leftarrow \text{LR}(0^n 1^n, 0^n 0^n)$$

$$c_2 \leftarrow \text{LR}(1^n 0^n, 1^n 1^n)$$

IF  $c_1[0] = c_2[1]$  ret 0

Else ret 1

Advantage:

$$\text{Adv}_{SE}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A) =$$

$$Pr[\text{RIGHT}_{SE}^A \Rightarrow 1]$$

$$- Pr[\text{LEFT}_{SE}^A \Rightarrow 1]$$

Claim.  $Pr[\text{RIGHT}_{SE}^A \Rightarrow 1] = 1.$

proof:

$$c_1[0] = E_k(0^n) \neq E_k(1^n)$$

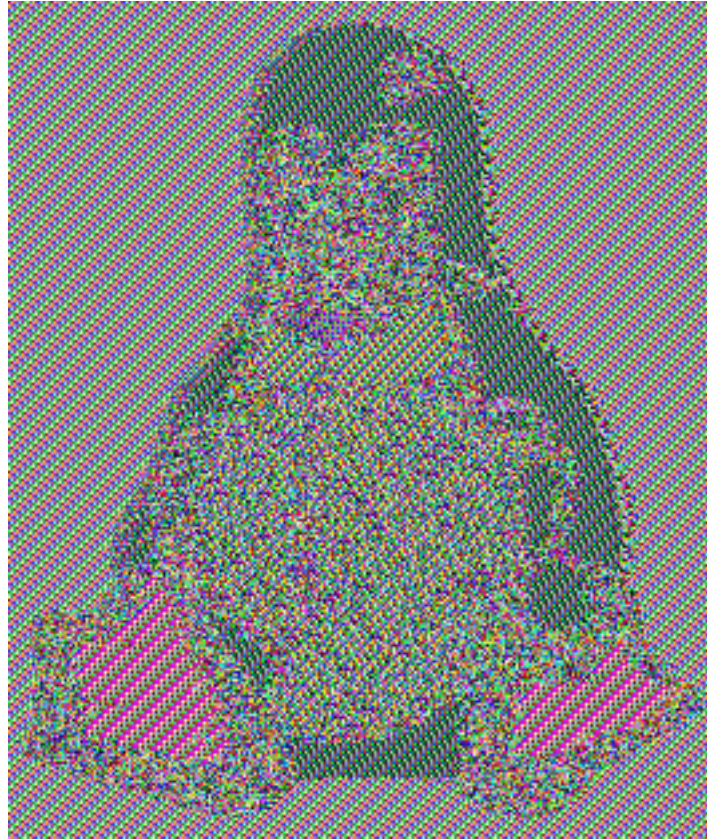
$$= c_2[1]$$

by def of blockcipher. ✓

Claim.  $Pr[\text{LEFT}_{SE}^A \Rightarrow 1] = 0.$

running-time: 2 LR queries +  $O(n)$

# ECB Penguin



# IND-CPA

We claim that if encryption scheme  $\mathcal{SE} = (\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  is IND-CPA secure then the ciphertext hides ALL partial information about the plaintext.

For example, from  $C_1 \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{E}_K(M_1)$  and  $C_2 \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{E}_K(M_2)$  the adversary cannot

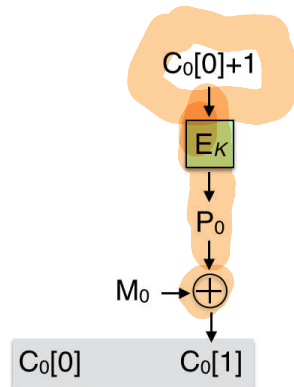
- get  $M_1$
- get 1st bit of  $M_1$
- get XOR of the 1st bits of  $M_1, M_2$
- etc.

IV  $E_{K_1}$   $\dots$   $E_{K_n}$

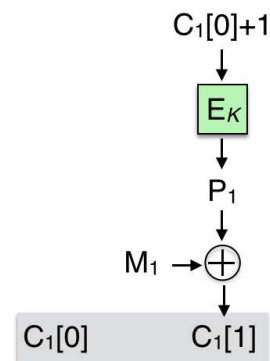
# Security Analysis of CTR-\$

Let  $E : \{0, 1\}^k \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  be a blockcipher and  $\mathcal{SE} = (K, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  the corresponding CTR\$ symmetric encryption scheme. Suppose 1-block messages  $M_0, M_1$  are encrypted:

$$C_0[0]C_0[1] \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{E}(K, M_0)$$



$$C_1[0]C_1[1] \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{E}(K, M_1)$$



Let us say we are **lucky** If  $C_0[0] = C_1[0]$ . If so:

$$C_0[1] = C_1[1] \text{ if and only if } M_0 = M_1$$

So if we are lucky we can detect message equality and violate IND-CPA.

If  $C_0[1] = C_1[1]$  then  $\left. \begin{matrix} E_K(x+1) \oplus M_0 \\ E_K(x+1) \oplus M_1 \end{matrix} \right\} = \text{if } M_0 = M_1$

# The Adversary

*q-query birthday attack adversary*

Let  $1 \leq q < 2^n$  be a parameter and let  $\langle i \rangle$  be integer  $i$  encoded as an  $l$ -bit string.

adversary A

for  $i = 1, \dots, q$  do

$C^i[0]C^i[1] \xleftarrow{\$} \text{LR}(\langle i \rangle, \langle 0 \rangle)$

$S \leftarrow \{(j, t) : C^j[0] = C^t[0] \text{ and } j < t\}$

If  $S \neq \emptyset$ , then

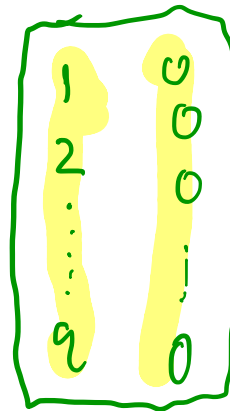
$(j, t) \xleftarrow{\$} S$

If  $C^j[1] = C^t[1]$  then return 1

return 0

*IND-CPA*

*adversary*



will discuss in detail next lecture

# Right Game Analysis

## adversary A

for  $i = 1, \dots, q$  do

$C^i[0]C^i[1] \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \text{LR}(\langle i \rangle, \langle 0 \rangle)$

$S \leftarrow \{(j, t) : C^j[0] = C^t[0] \text{ and } j < t\}$

If  $S \neq \emptyset$ , then

$(j, t) \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} S$

If  $C^j[1] = C^t[1]$  then return 1

return 0

Game  $\text{Right}_{S\mathcal{E}}$

**procedure Initialize**

$K \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{K}$

**procedure LR**( $M_0, M_1$ )

$C[0] \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0, 1\}^n$

$P \leftarrow E(K, C[0] + 1)$

$C[1] \leftarrow P \oplus M_1$

Return  $C[0]C[1]$

If  $C^j[0] = C^t[0]$  (lucky) then

$$C^j[1] = \langle 0 \rangle \oplus E_K(C^j[0] + 1) = \langle 0 \rangle \oplus E_K(C^t[0] + 1) = C^t[1]$$

so

$$\Pr[\text{Right}_{S\mathcal{E}}^A \Rightarrow 1] = \Pr[S \neq \emptyset] = C(2^n, q) \approx \frac{2^2}{2^n} q^2$$

$C(n, q)$  is the probability of a collision when choosing  $q$  items at random from domain of size  $n$ .

# Left game analysis

## adversary A

for  $i = 1, \dots, q$  do

$C^i[0]C^i[1] \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \text{LR}(\langle i \rangle, \langle 0 \rangle)$

$S \leftarrow \{(j, t) : C^j[0] = C^t[0] \text{ and } j < t\}$

If  $S \neq \emptyset$ , then

$(j, t) \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} S$

If  $C^j[1] = C^t[1]$  then return 1

return 0

## Game $\text{Left}_{S\mathcal{E}}$

### procedure Initialize

$K \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{K}$

### procedure $\text{LR}(M_0, M_1)$

$C[0] \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0, 1\}^n$

$P \leftarrow E(K, C[0] + 1)$

$C[1] \leftarrow P \oplus M_0$

Return  $C[0]C[1]$

If  $C^j[0] = C^t[0]$  (lucky) then

$$C^j[1] = \langle j \rangle \oplus E_K(C^j[0] + 1) \neq \langle t \rangle \oplus E_K(C^t[0] + 1) = C^t[1]$$

so

unequal  $\Pr[\text{Left}_{S\mathcal{E}}^A \Rightarrow 1] = 0.$  equal

not lucky  $\rightarrow$  always outputs 0



# Conclusion

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{SE}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A) &= \Pr \left[ \text{Right}_{\mathcal{SE}}^A \Rightarrow 1 \right] - \Pr \left[ \text{Left}_{\mathcal{SE}}^A \Rightarrow 1 \right] \\ &= C(2^n, q) - 0 \geq 0.3 \cdot \frac{q(q-1)}{2^n}\end{aligned}$$

**Conclusion:** CTR\$ can be broken (in the IND-CPA sense) in about  $2^{n/2}$  queries, where  $n$  is the block length of the underlying block cipher, regardless of the cryptanalytic strength of the block cipher.

# Excercise

The above attack on CTR\$ uses 1-block messages. Letting  $\mathcal{SE}$  be the same scheme, give an adversary  $A$  that makes  $q$  **LR**-queries, each consisting of two  $m$ -block messages, and achieves

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{SE}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A) = \Omega\left(\frac{mq^2}{2^n}\right)$$

The running time of  $A$  should be about  $\mathcal{O}(mq(n + \ell) \cdot \log(mq(n + \ell)))$ .

# Security of CTR-\$

So far: A  $q$ -query adversary can break CTR\$ with advantage  $\approx \frac{q^2}{2^{n+1}}$

Question: Is there any better attack?

# Security of CTR-\$



So far: A  $q$ -query adversary can break CTR\$ with advantage  $\approx \frac{q^2}{2^{n+1}}$

Question: Is there any better attack?

Answer: NO!

We can prove that the best  $q$ -query attack short of breaking the block cipher has advantage at most

$$\frac{\sigma^2}{2^n}$$

where  $\sigma$  is the total number of blocks encrypted.

Example: If  $q$  1-block messages are encrypted then  $\sigma = q$  so the adversary advantage is not more than  $q^2/2^n$ .

For  $E = \text{AES}$  this means up to  $2^{64}$  blocks may be securely encrypted, which is good.

# Theorem Statement

**Theorem:** [BDJR98] Let  $E : \{0, 1\}^k \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  be a block cipher and  $\mathcal{SE} = (\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  the corresponding CTR\$ symmetric encryption scheme. Let  $A$  be an ind-cpa adversary against  $\mathcal{SE}$  that has running time  $t$  and makes at most  $q$  LR queries, these totalling at most  $\sigma$  blocks. Then there is a prf-adversary  $B$  against  $E$  such that

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{SE}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A) \leq 2 \cdot \text{Adv}_E^{\text{prf}}(B) + \frac{\sigma^2}{2^n}$$

Furthermore,  $B$  makes at most  $\sigma$  oracle queries and has running time  $t + \Theta(\sigma \cdot n)$ .

# Intuition

- Analogous theorem holds for CBC-\$.

- Analogous theorem holds for **CBC- $\$$** .
- Provides a **quantitative guarantee** on how many blocks can be securely encrypted using these modes (assuming the underlying block cipher is good).



# Theorem for CBC-\$

**Theorem:** [BDJR97] Let  $E : \{0, 1\}^k \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  be a block cipher and  $\mathcal{SE} = (\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  the corresponding CBC\$ symmetric encryption scheme. Let  $A$  be an ind-cpa adversary against  $\mathcal{SE}$  that has running time  $t$  and makes at most  $q$  **LR** queries, the messages across them totaling at most  $\sigma$  blocks. Then there is a prf-adversary  $B$  against  $E$  such that

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{SE}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(A) \leq 2 \cdot \mathbf{Adv}_E^{\text{prf}}(B) + \frac{\sigma^2}{2^n}$$

Furthermore,  $B$  makes at most  $\sigma$  oracle queries and has running time  $t + \Theta(\sigma \cdot n)$ .

# Exercise

You are hired at a top company with an extravagant salary. Your boss asks you how secure is CBC\$ based on AES. Give a clear and full answer which includes an explanation of security metrics, their relative merits, attacks and proofs. This should include an interpretation of the theorem we just saw. Your description should cover both the value and the limitations of this theorem and give a realistic picture of security aimed at someone with little understanding of cryptography.

Regarding note on run-time  
(on course website)

Symbolic

$T_{AES}$

$T_G, T_F$

Asymptotic

XOR

string comp.

bit-wise  
comp.

Adversary A // PKE  
Choose  $m_1, m_2 \in \{0, 1\}^{128}$  // adversary  
arbitrarily  
 $c_1 \leftarrow F_n(m_1)$   
 $c_2 \leftarrow F_n(m_2)$   
 $c_1' \leftarrow AES_{m_1}(c_1)$   
 $c_2' \leftarrow AES_{m_2}(c_2)$   
If  $c_2' \oplus c_1' = 0^{128}$   
ret 1  
else ret 0

2  $F_n$  queries + 2  $T_{AES} + O(L)$ . where  
 $L=128$  for AES.

\* Do NOT count computation  
inside an oracle in  
running-time of an adversary