

Symmetric encryption

CS642: Computer Security



Professor Ristenpart

<http://www.cs.wisc.edu/~rist/>

rist at cs dot wisc dot edu



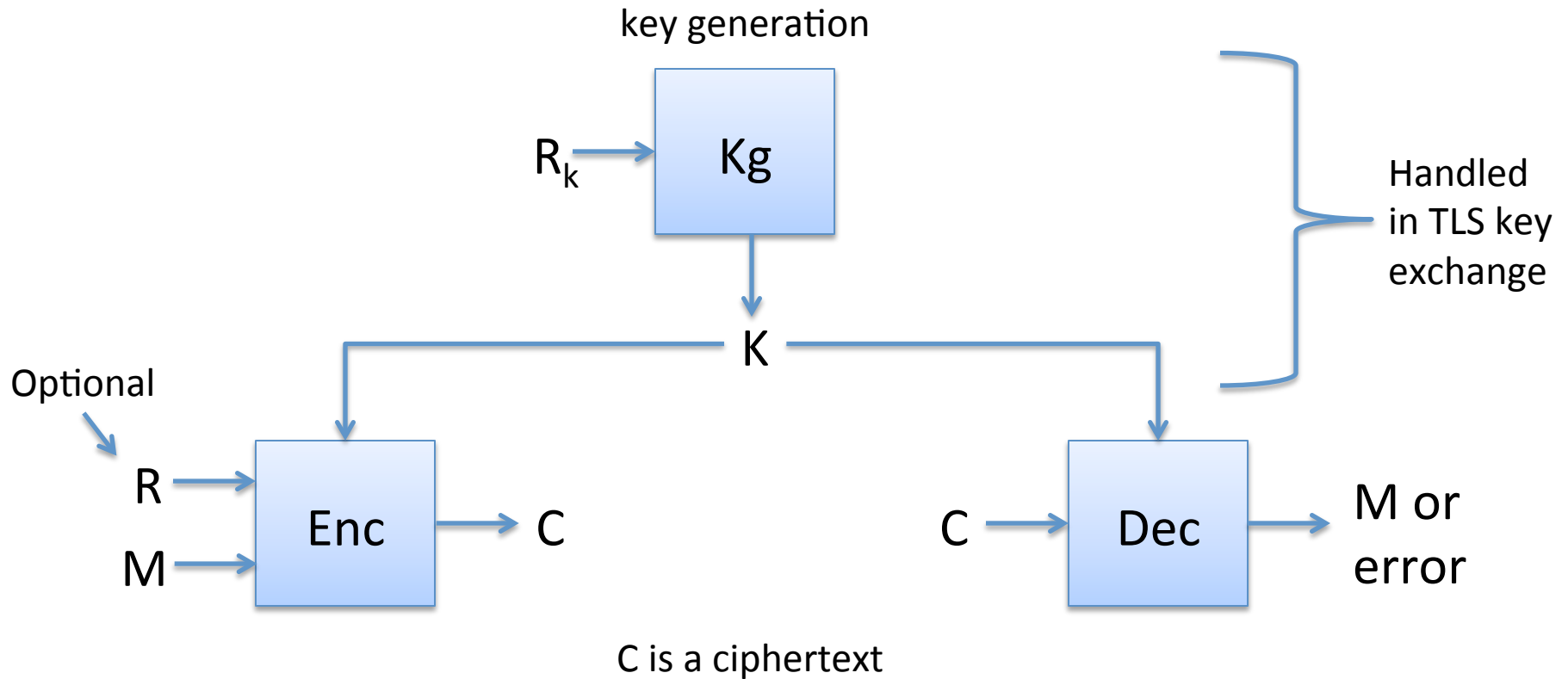
US Army May Relax Physical Requirements To Recruit Cyber Warriors

[samzenpus](#) posted yesterday | from the couch-patrol dept.

[HughPickens.com](#) writes

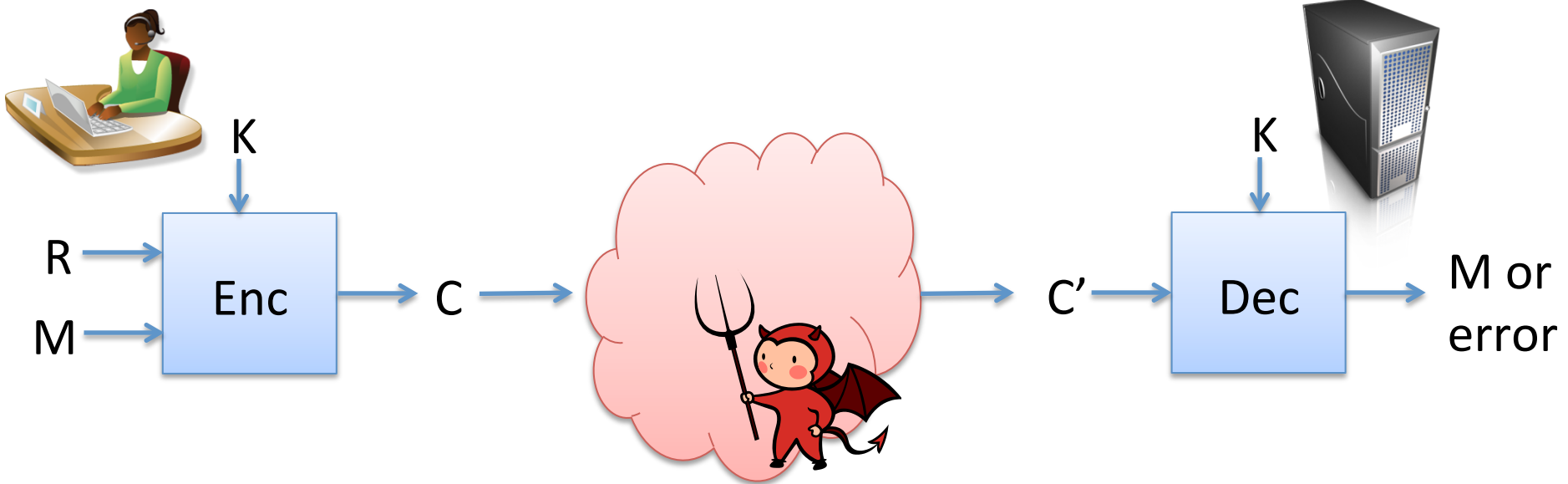
Clifford Davis reports that only 30% of young people between the ages of 17 and 24 are qualified to become soldiers. This is primarily due to **three issues: obesity or health problems; lack of a high school education; and criminal histories**. While cognitive and moral disqualifications have held steady, **weight issues account for 18% of disqualifications, and the number is rising steadily**. It's projected to hit 25% by 2025. The current Army policy is that every recruit, whether enlisting for infantry or graphic design, has to meet the same physical requirements to join — but that requirement may be changing. "Today, we need cyber warriors, so we're starting to recruit for Army Cyber," says Major General Allen Batschelet.

Symmetric encryption



Correctness: $D(K, E(K, M, R)) = M$ with probability 1 over randomness used

In TLS symmetric encryption underlies the Record Layer

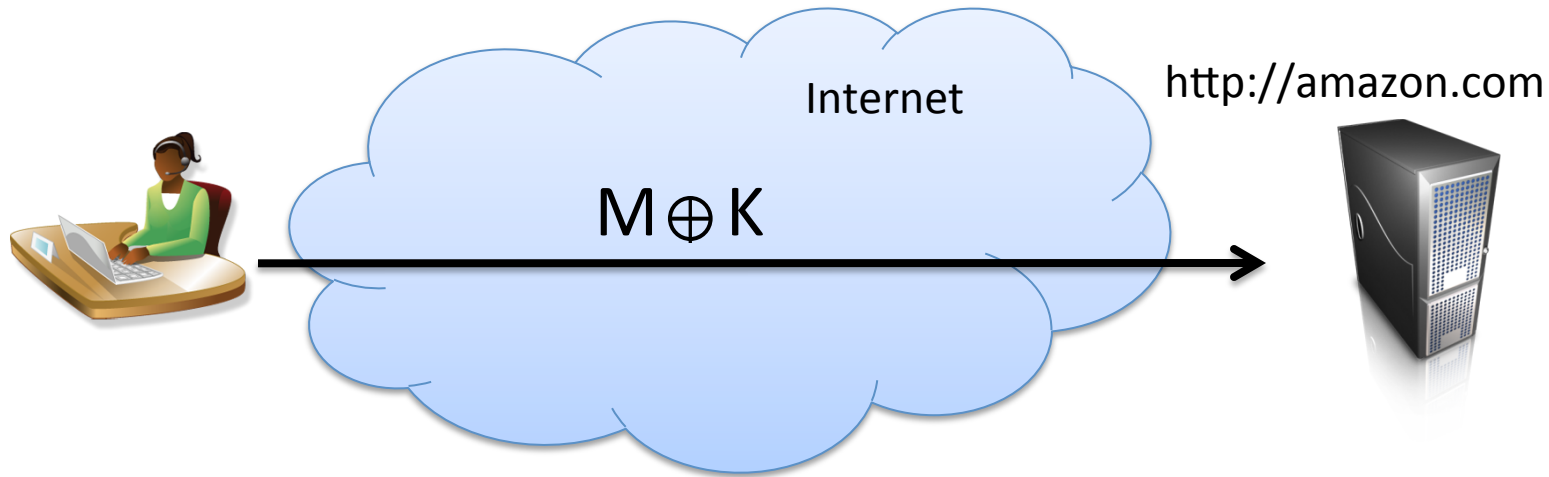


What security properties do we need from symmetric encryption?

- 1) **Confidentiality**: should not learn any information about M
- 2) **Authenticity**: should not be able to forge messages

Often referred to as Authenticated Encryption security

Back to our application



Does OTP provide a secure channel?

Integrity easily violated

Reuse of K for messages M, M' leaks $M \oplus M'$

Encrypting same message twice under K leaks the message equality

K must be as large as message

Message length revealed

Cryptography as **computational science**

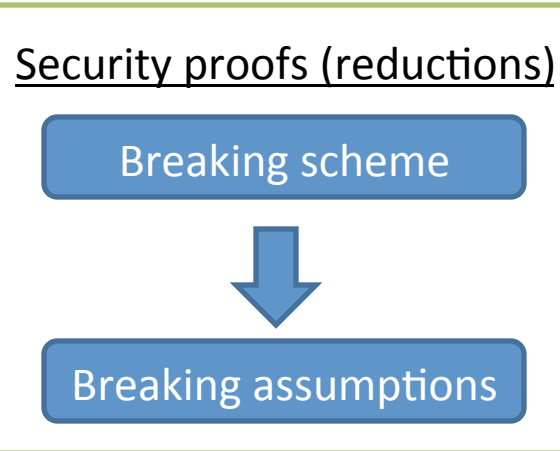
Use computational intractability as basis for confidence in systems

1. Design a cryptographic scheme
2. Provide **proof** that no attacker with limited computational resources can break it



Goldwasser, Micali and Blum circa 1980's

Formal definitions
Scheme semantics
Security



Example:

Attacker can **not recover credit card**



Can **not** factor large composite numbers

As long as assumptions holds we believe in security of scheme!

Provable security yields

- 1) **well-defined assumptions and security goals**
- 2) **cryptanalysts can focus on assumptions and models**

But no one knows how to do this. It's been studied for a very long time!

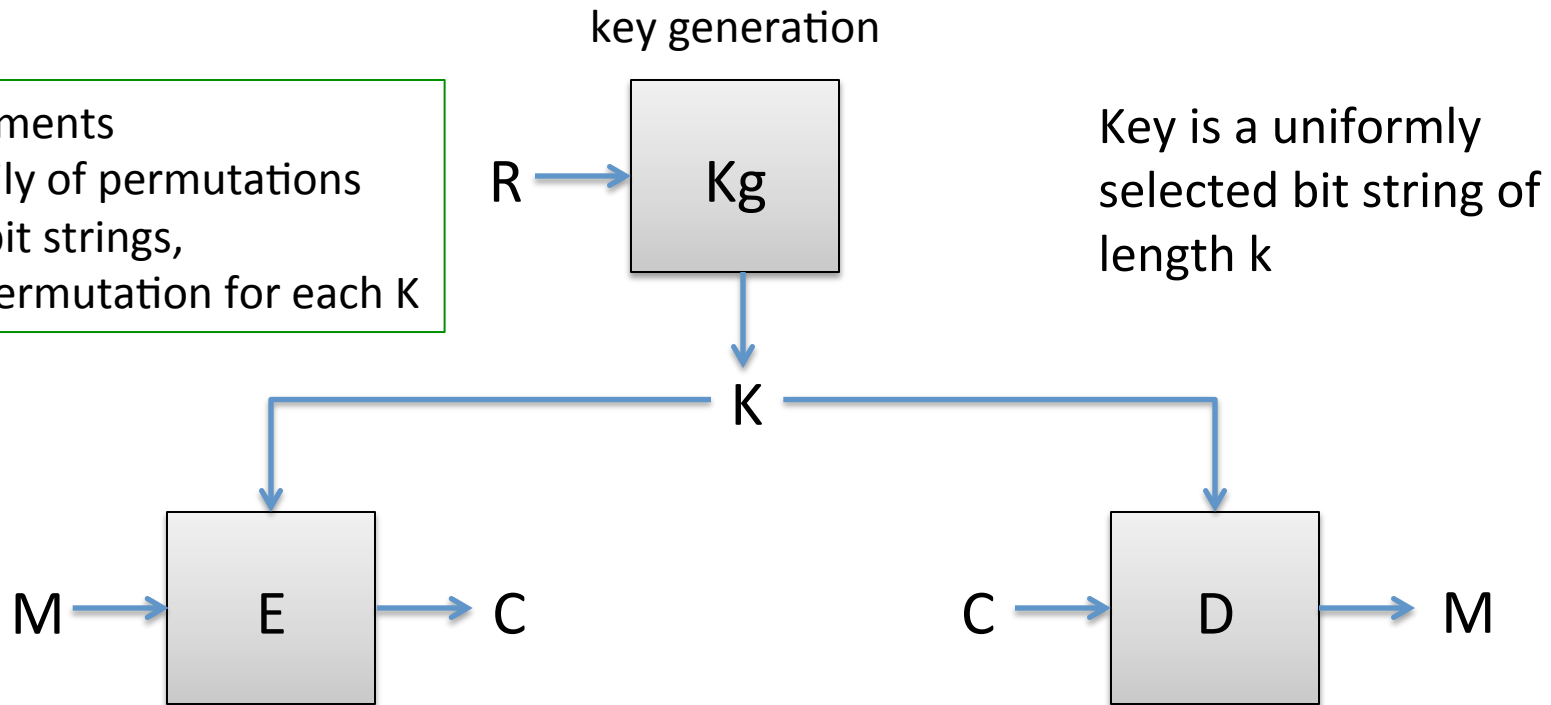
Typical assumptions

- Basic atomic primitives are hard to break:
 - Factoring of large composites intractable
 - RSA permutation hard-to-invert
 - Block ciphers (AES, DES) are good pseudorandom functions (PRFs)
 - Hash functions are collision resistant

Confidence in atomic primitives is gained by cryptanalysis, public design competitions

Block ciphers

Implements a family of permutations on n bit strings, one permutation for each K



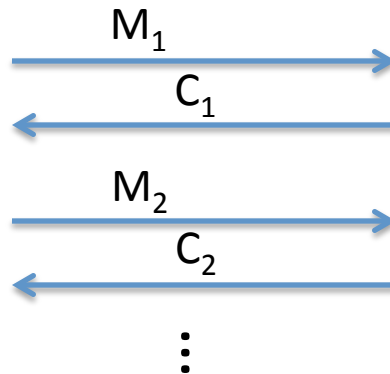
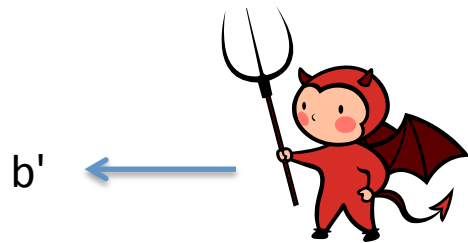
$$E: \{0,1\}^k \times \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^n$$

Security goal: $E(K,M)$ is indistinguishable from random n -bit string for anyone without K

Block cipher security

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

Adversary gets to submit **distinct** messages to oracle



PRF Security Game

$F_n(M)$

If $b == 1$ then

$C \leftarrow E(K, M)$

If $b == 0$ then

$C \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n$

Ret C

Adversary outputs guess b' of b

Wins if $b' = b$

Insecure if adversary wins with probability close to 1

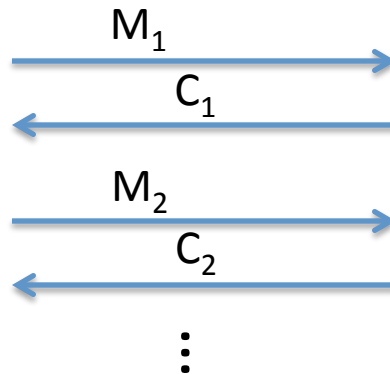
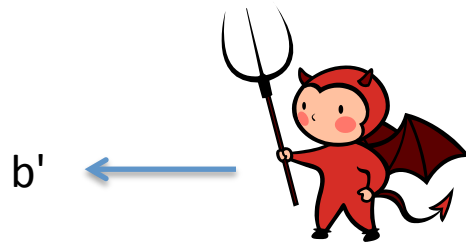
Secure if no adversary can get probability more than $1/2$

b is a uniformly sampled bit
and K is uniformly sampled key
Both hidden from adversary

Security goal: $E(K, M)$ is indistinguishable from random n -bit string for anyone without K

One-time pad is not a secure PRF

Adversary gets to submit **distinct** messages to oracle



PRF Security Game

```
Fn(M)
If b == 1 then
  C <- K ⊕ M
If b == 0 then
  C <- $ {0,1}^n
Ret C
```

Adversary outputs guess b' of b

Wins if $b' = b$

Insecure if adversary wins with probability close to 1

Secure if no adversary can get probability more than $1/2$

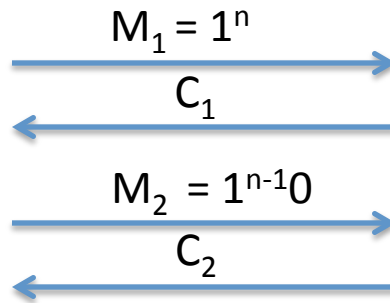
b is a uniformly sampled bit
and K is uniformly sampled key
Both hidden from adversary

Security goal: $E(K,M)$ is indistinguishable from random n -bit string for anyone without K

One-time pad is not a secure PRF

Adversary gets to submit *distinct* messages to oracle

Adversary
 $C_1 \leftarrow \text{Fn}(1^n)$
 $C_2 \leftarrow \text{Fn}(1^{n-1}0)$
 If $C_1 \oplus C_2 == 0^{n-1}1$ then
 Ret 1
 Ret 0



PRF Security Game
 $\text{Fn}(M)$
 If $b == 1$ then
 $C \leftarrow K \oplus M$
 If $b == 0$ then
 $C \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n$
 Ret C

Adversary outputs guess b' of b
 Wins if $b' = b$

Insecure if adversary wins with probability close to 1

Secure if no adversary can get probability more than $1/2$

b is a uniformly sampled bit
 and K is uniformly sampled key
 Both hidden from adversary

If $b = 1$ then:

$$C_1 \oplus C_2 = (1^n \oplus K) \oplus (1^{n-1}0 \oplus K) = 0^{n-1}1$$

If $b = 0$ then C_1 and C_2 are both random n -bit strings. Their xor equals $0^{n-1}1$ with probability at most $1/2^n$

Data encryption standard (DES)

Originally called Lucifer

- team at IBM
- input from NSA
- standardized by NIST in 1976

$n = 64$

$k = 56$

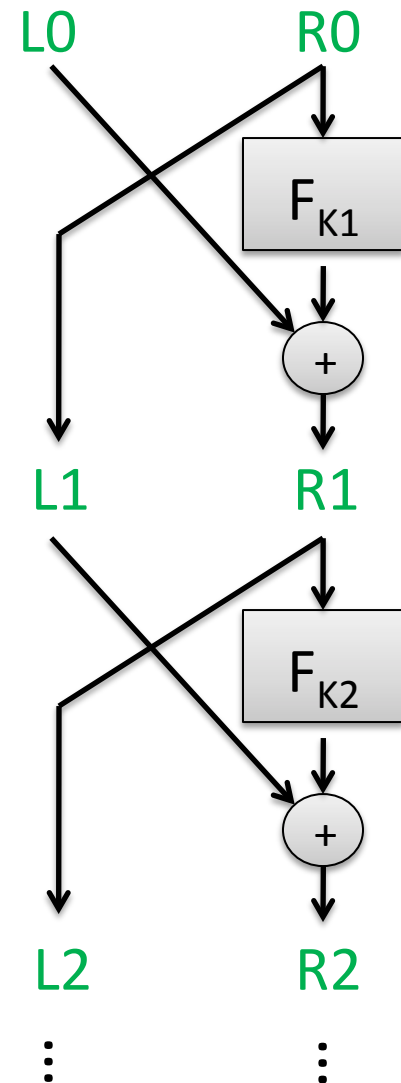
Number of keys:

72,057,594,037,927,936

Split 64-bit input into L_0, R_0 of 32 bits each

Repeat Feistel round 16 times

Each round applies function F using separate round key



Best attacks against DES

| Attack | Attack type | Complexity | Year |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|------|
| Biham, Shamir | Chosen plaintexts, recovers key | 2^{47} plaintext, ciphertext pairs | 1992 |
| DESCHALL | Unknown plaintext, recovers key | $2^{56/4}$ DES computations 41 days | 1997 |
| EFF Deepcrack | Unknown plaintext, recovers key | ~4.5 days | 1998 |
| Deepcrack + DESCHALL | Unknown plaintext, recovers key | 22 hours | 1999 |

- DES is still used in some places
- 3DES (use DES 3 times in a row with more keys) expands keyspace and still used widely in practice

Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)

Response to 1999 attacks:

- NIST has design competition for new block cipher standard
- 5 year design competition
- 15 designs, Rijndael design chosen

Best attacks against AES

| Attack | Attack type | Complexity | Year |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|------|
| Bogdanov, Khovratovich, Rechberger | chosen ciphertext, recovers key | $2^{126.1}$ time + some data overheads | 2011 |

- Brute force requires time 2^{128}
- Approximately factor 4 speedup

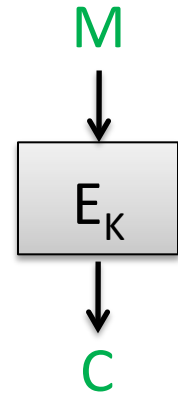
Are block ciphers good for record layers?

Functional limitations:

- Only encrypt messages that fit in n bits

Security limitations:

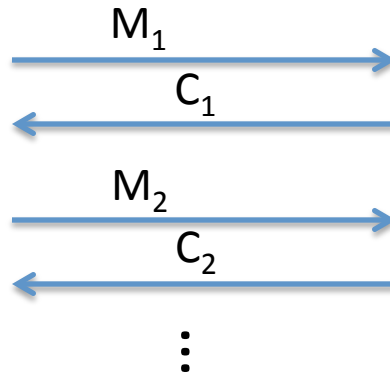
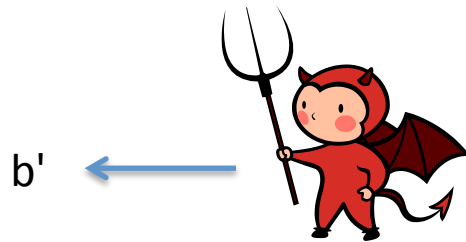
- Confidentiality: $M = M' \Rightarrow E(K, M) = E(K, M')$
- Authenticity: any C of length n is valid ciphertext



Symmetric encryption security

Encryption algorithm denoted Enc

Adversary gets to submit messages to oracle



Chosen-plaintext attack security Game

```
Encrypt(M)
C' <- Enc(K, M)
If b == 1 then
  C <- C'
If b == 0 then
  C <- {0,1}^{|C'|}
Ret C
```

Adversary outputs guess b' of b
Wins if $b' = b$

b is a uniformly sampled bit
and K is uniformly sampled key
Both hidden from adversary

Security goal: Enc(K,M) looks like random bit string to attackers that can obtain encryptions of chosen plaintexts

Verizon's 'Perma-Cookie' Is a Privacy-Killing Machine

BY ROBERT MCMILLAN 10.27.14 | 6:30 AM | [PERMALINK](#)

Verizon Wireless has been subtly altering the web traffic of its wireless customers for the past two years, inserting a string of about 50 letters, numbers, and characters into data flowing between these customers and the websites they visit.

The company—one the country's largest wireless carriers, providing cell phone service for about 123 million subscribers—calls this a Unique Identifier Header, or UIDH. It's a kind of short-term serial number that advertisers can use to identify you on the web, and it's the lynchpin of the company's internet advertising program. But critics say that it's also a reckless misuse of Verizon's power as an internet service provider—something that could be used as a trump card to obviate established privacy tools such as private browsing sessions or “do not track” features.

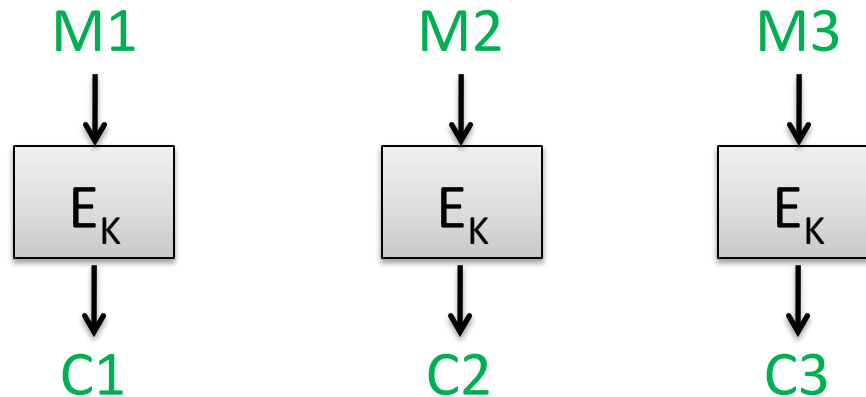
Block cipher modes of operation

How can we build an encryption scheme for arbitrary message spaces out of a block cipher?

Electronic codebook (ECB) mode

Pad message M to M_1, M_2, M_3, \dots where each block M_i is n bits

Then:



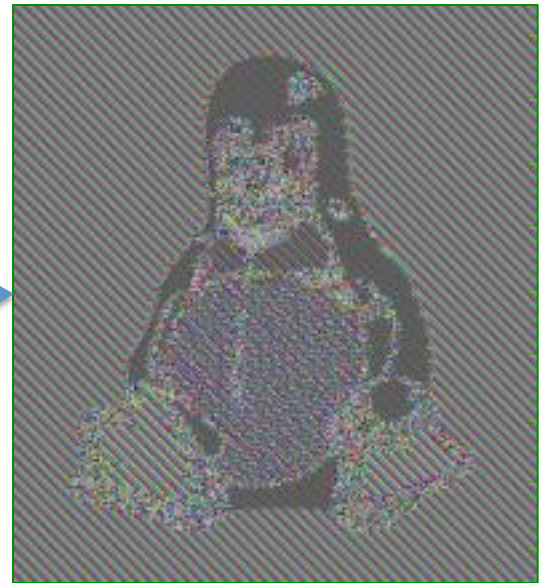
ECB mode is a more complicated looking substitution cipher

Recall our credit-card number example.

ECB: substitution cipher with alphabet n-bit strings instead of digits



Encrypted with ECB



Images courtesy of
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Block_cipher_modes_of_operation

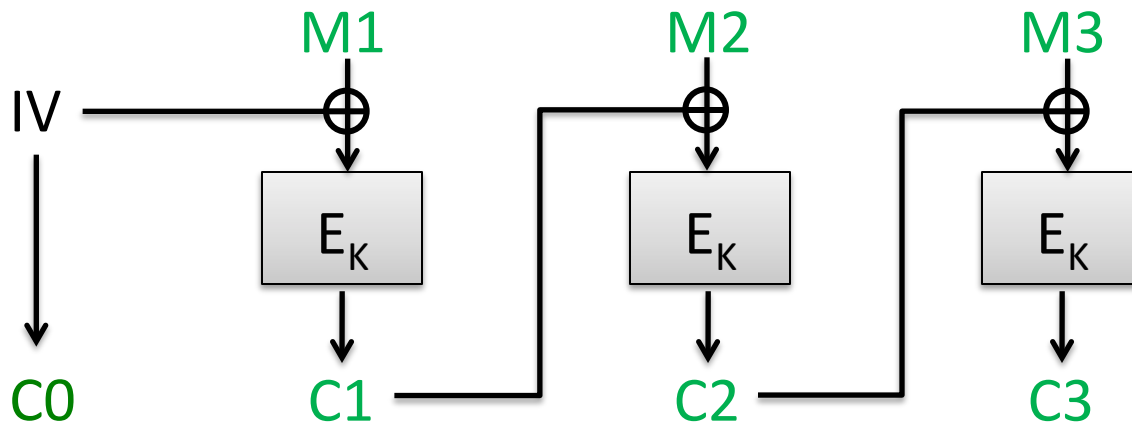
CBC mode

Ciphertext block chaining (CBC)

Pad message M to M_1, M_2, M_3, \dots where each block M_i is n bits

Choose random n -bit string IV

Then:



How do we decrypt?

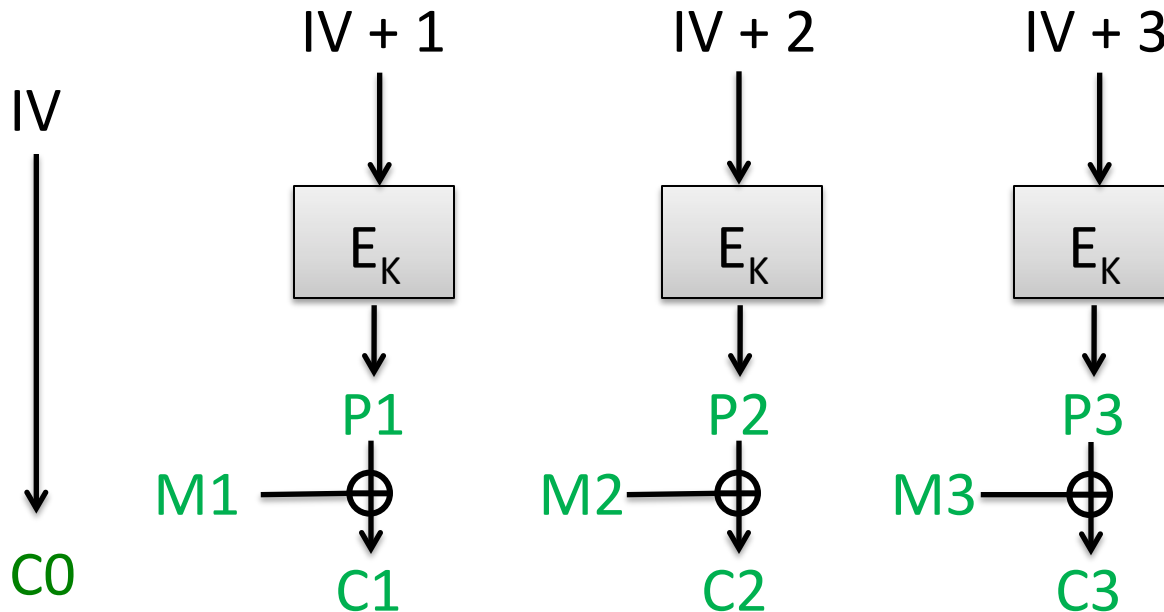
OTP-like encryption using block cipher

Counter mode (CTR)

Pad message M to M_1, M_2, M_3, \dots where each is n bits except last

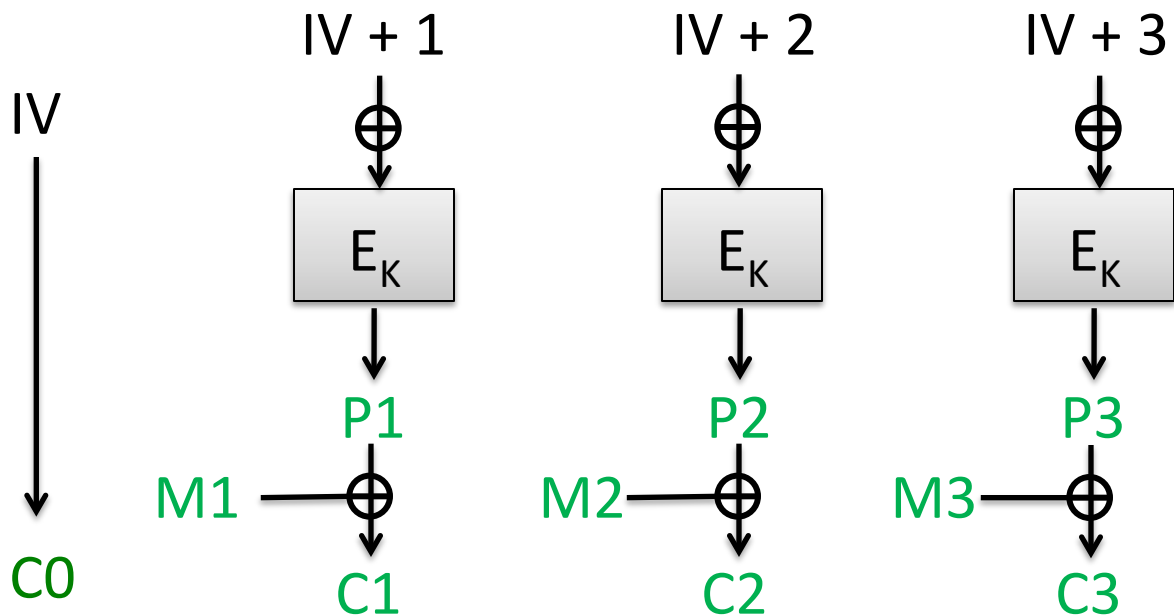
Choose random n -bit string IV

Then:



Maybe use less than full n bits of P_3

How do we decrypt?



Can attacker learn K from just C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3 ?

Implies attacker can break E , i.e. recover block cipher key

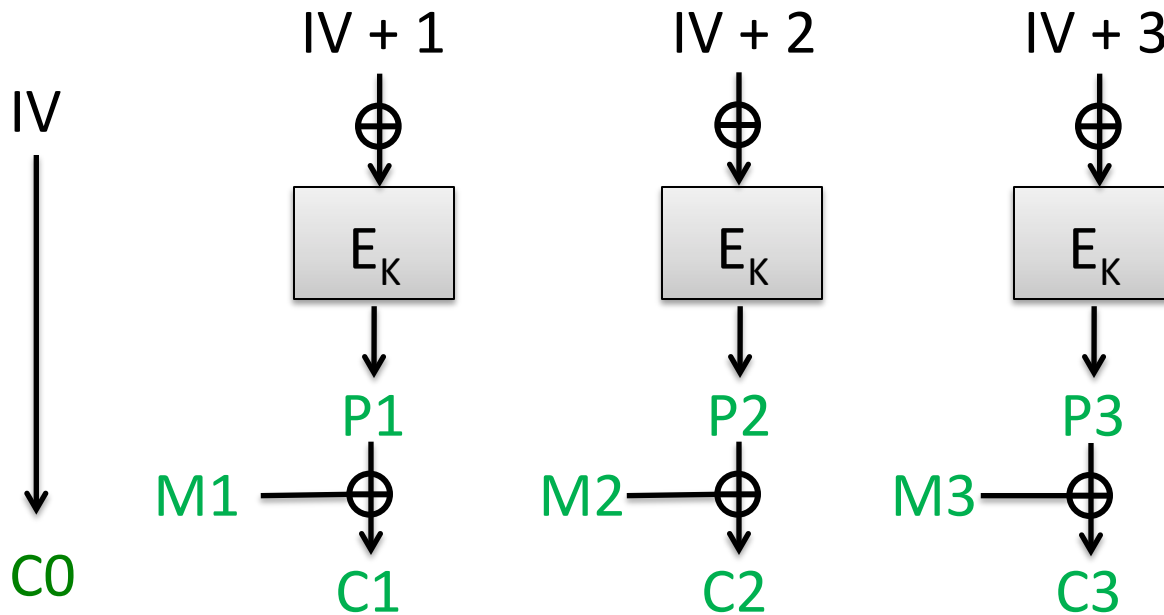
Can attacker learn $M = M_1, M_2, M_3$ from C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3 ?

Implies attacker can invert the block cipher without knowing K

Can attacker learn one bit of M from C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3 ?

Implies attacker can break PRF security of E

Passive adversaries cannot learn anything about messages



Theorem (informal).

Let A be a successful, efficient attacker against security of CBC mode. Then there exists a PRF adversary B against E that is efficient and successful.

Security proofs (reductions)

Breaking scheme



Breaking assumptions

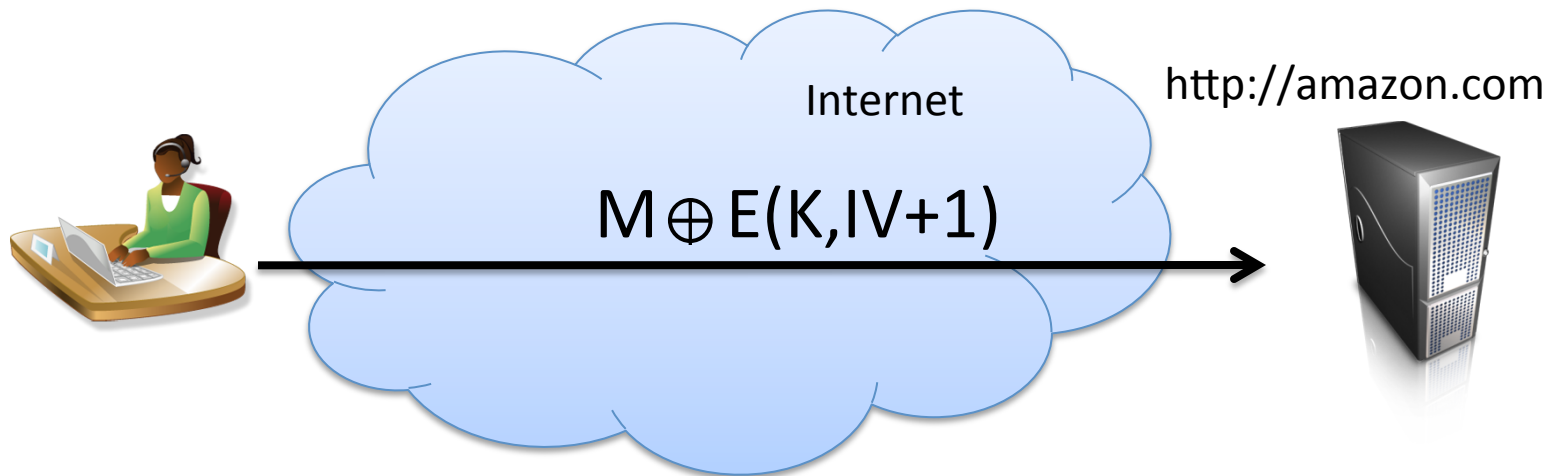
Attacker can ~~not~~ break CBC confidentiality



Can ~~not~~ break PRF security

Reduces analysis now to E and to security definition / model

Back to our application



Does CTR mode provide a secure channel?

Integrity easily violated

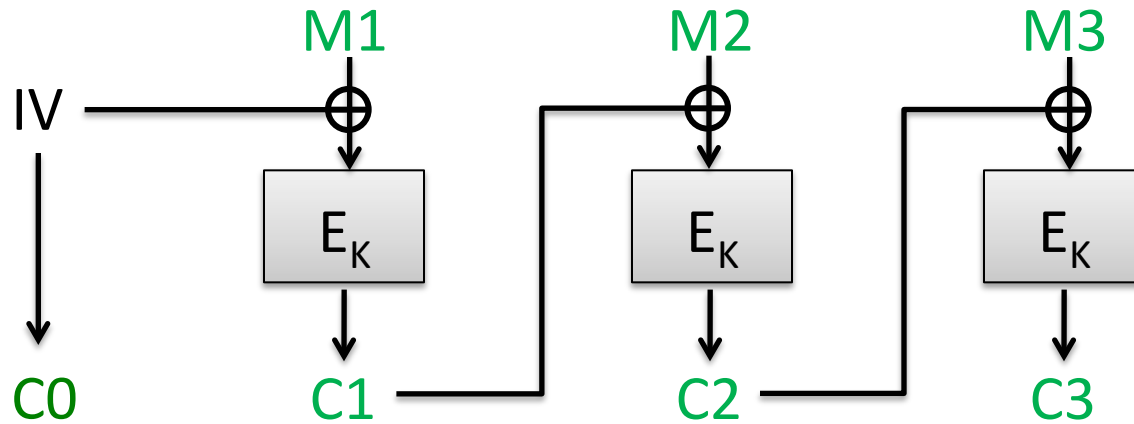
~~Reuse of K for messages M, M' leaks $M \oplus M'$~~

~~Encrypting same message twice under K leaks the message equality~~

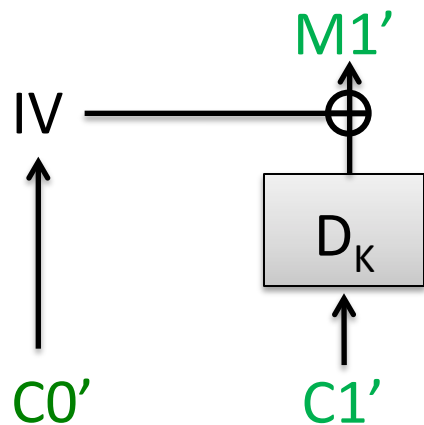
~~K must be as large as message~~

Message length revealed

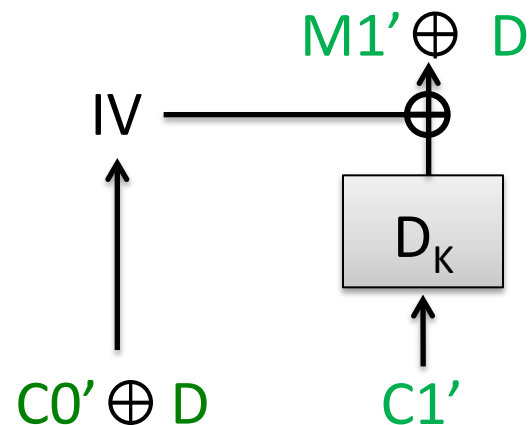
Active security of CBC mode



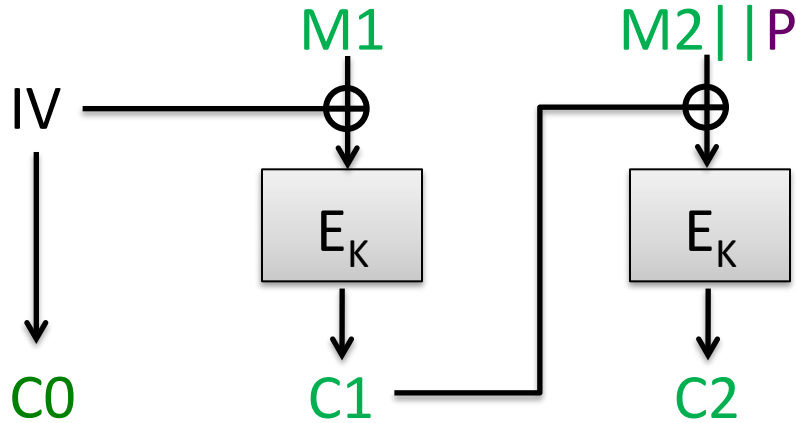
What about forging a message? Pick any $C0'$, $C1'$...



Better yet
for any D :



Padding oracle attack

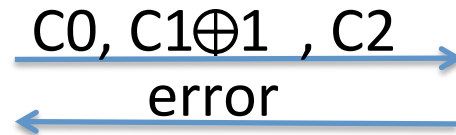
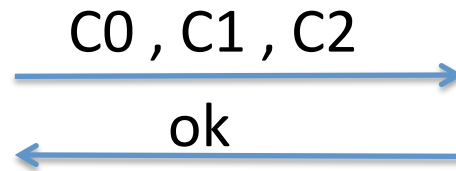


Assume that $M1 || M2$ has length $2n-8$ bits

P is one byte of padding that must equal 0x00



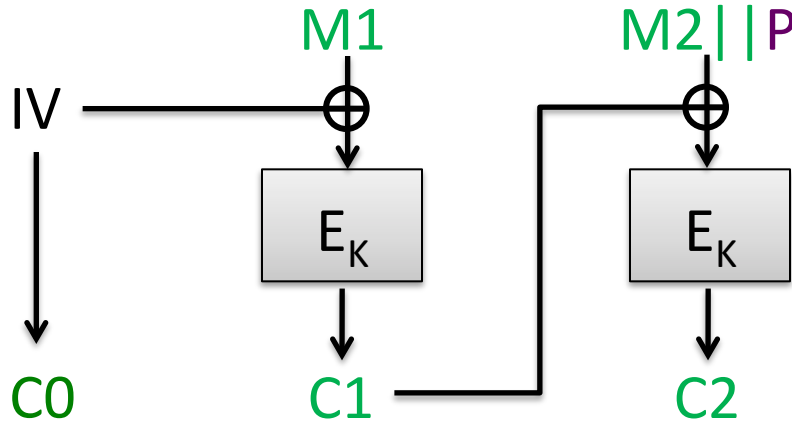
Adversary obtains Ciphertext $C0, C1, C2$



```

Dec(K, C')
M1' || M2' || P' = CBC-Dec(K, C')
If P' ≠ 0x00 then
    Return error
Else
    Return ok
    
```

Padding oracle attack



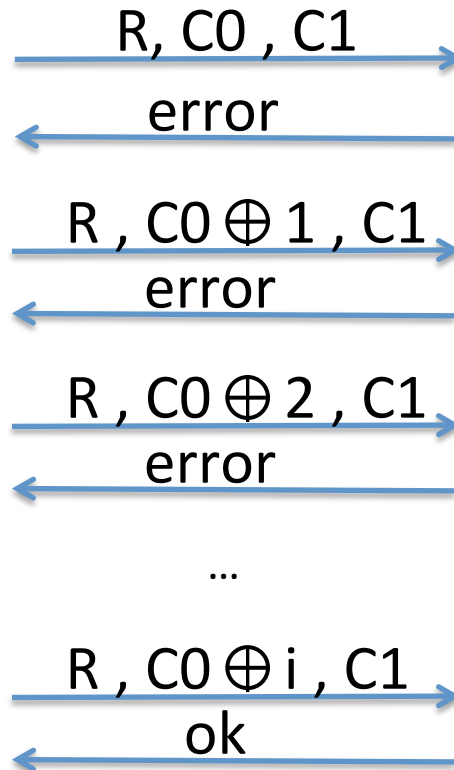
Assume that $M1 || M2$ has length $2n-8$ bits

P is one byte of padding that must equal 0x00

Low byte of M1 equals i



Adversary obtains ciphertext $C = C0, C1, C2$
 Let R be arbitrary n bits



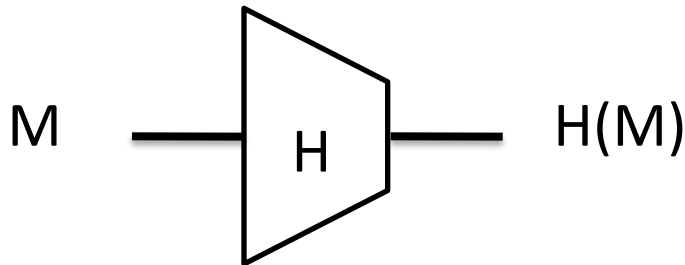
Dec(K, C')
 $M1' || M2' || P' = \text{CBC-Dec}(K, C')$
 If $P' \neq 0x00$ then
 Return error
 Else
 Return ok

Chosen ciphertext attacks against CBC

| Attack | Description | Year |
|----------------------|---|------|
| Vaudenay | 10's of chosen ciphertexts, recovers message bits from a ciphertext. Called "padding oracle attack" | 2001 |
| Canvel et al. | Shows how to use Vaudenay's ideas against TLS | 2003 |
| Degabriele, Paterson | Breaks IPsec encryption-only mode | 2006 |
| Albrecht et al. | Plaintext recovery against SSH | 2009 |
| Duong, Rizzo | Breaking ASP.net encryption | 2011 |
| Jager, Somorovsky | XML encryption standard | 2011 |
| Duong, Rizzo | "Beast" attacks against TLS | 2011 |

Hash functions and message authentication

Hash function H maps arbitrary bit string to fixed length string of size m



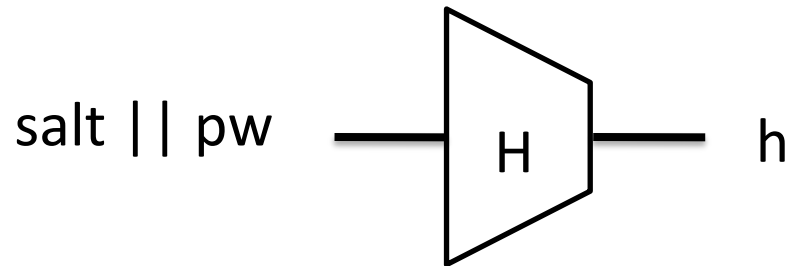
MD5: $m = 128$ bits
SHA-1: $m = 160$ bits
SHA-256: $m = 256$ bits

Some security goals:

- collision resistance: can't find $M \neq M'$ such that $H(M) = H(M')$
- preimage resistance: given $H(M)$, can't find M
- second-preimage resistance: given $H(M)$, can't find M' s.t.
 $H(M') = H(M)$

Hash function application example

Password hashing. Choose random salt and store (salt,h) where:



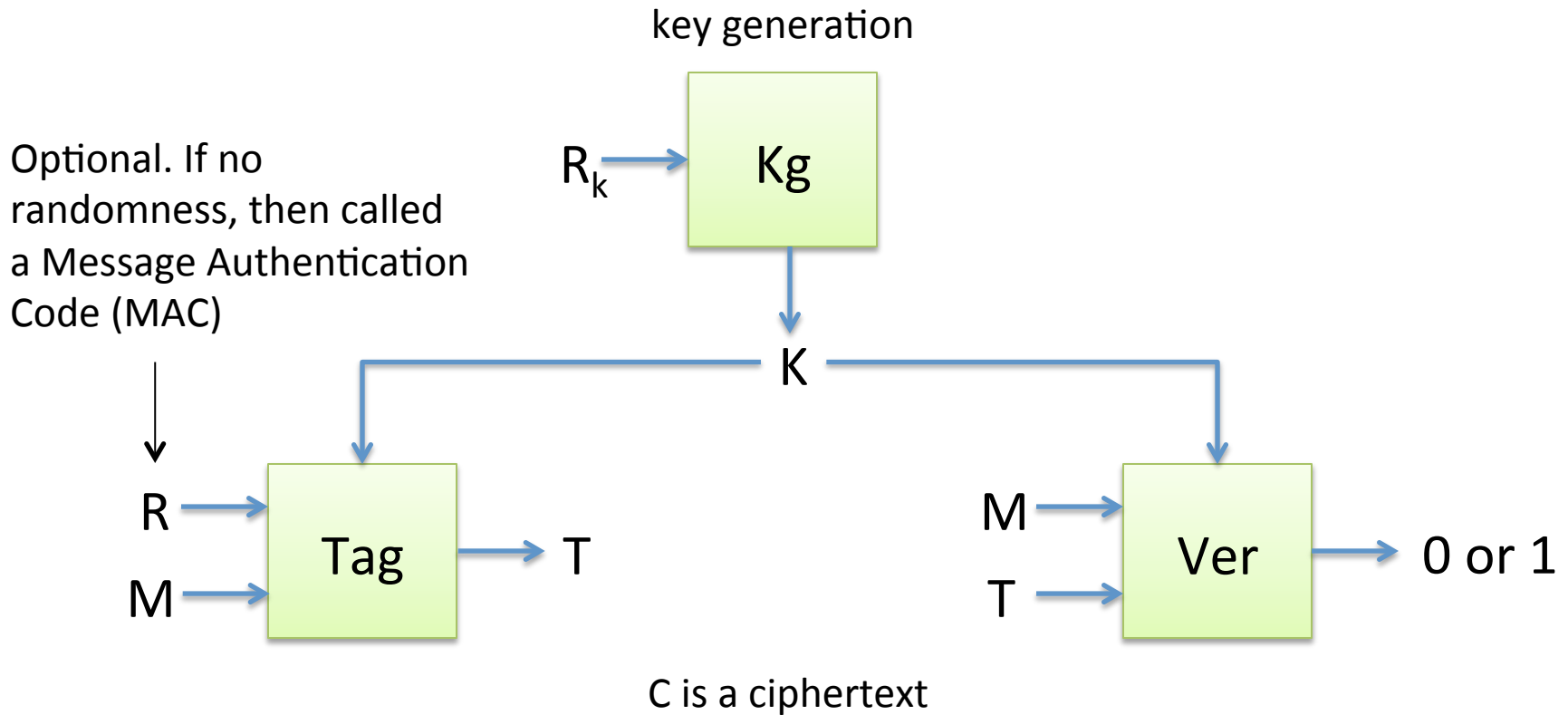
The idea: Attacker, given (salt,h), should not be able to recover pw

Or can they?

For each guess pw' :
If $H(\text{salt} || pw') = h$ then
Ret pw'

Rainbow tables speed this up in practice by way of precomputation. Large salts make rainbow tables impractical

Message authentication



Correctness: $\text{Ver}(K, \text{Tag}(K, M, R)) = 1$ with probability 1 over randomness used

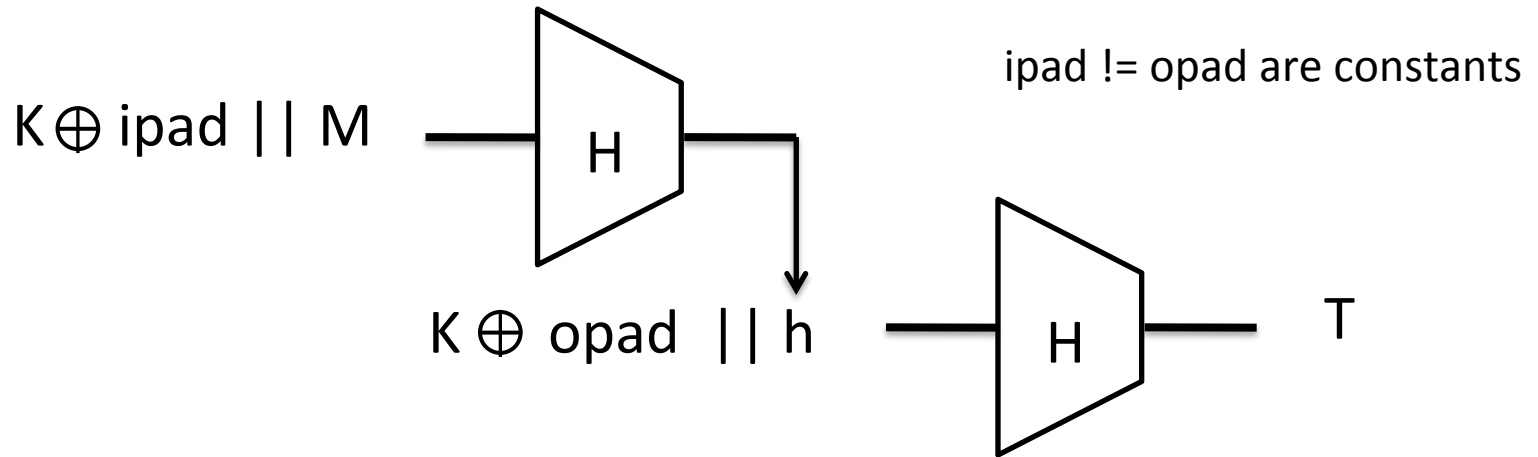
Unforgeability: Attacker can't find M', T such that $V(K, M', T) = 1$

Message authentication with HMAC

Use a hash function H to build MAC.

K_g outputs uniform bit string K

$\text{Tag}(K,M) = \text{HMAC}(K,M)$ defined by:



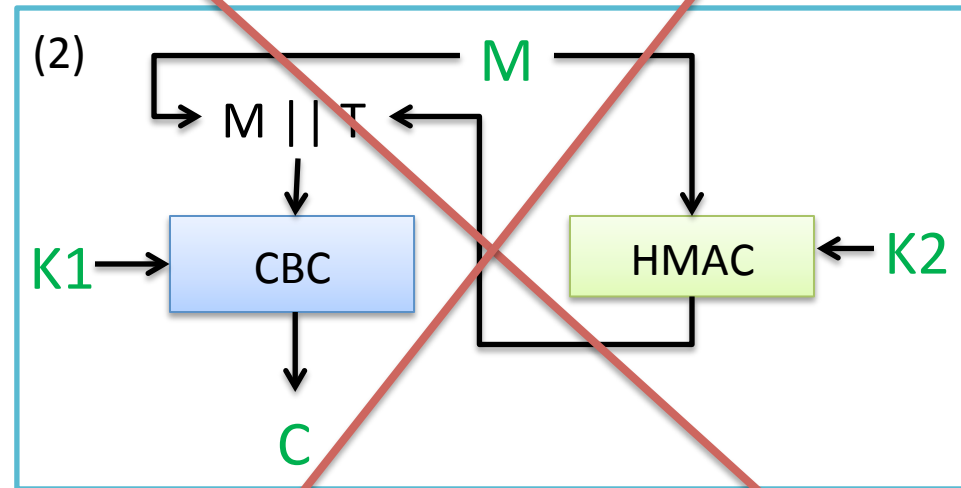
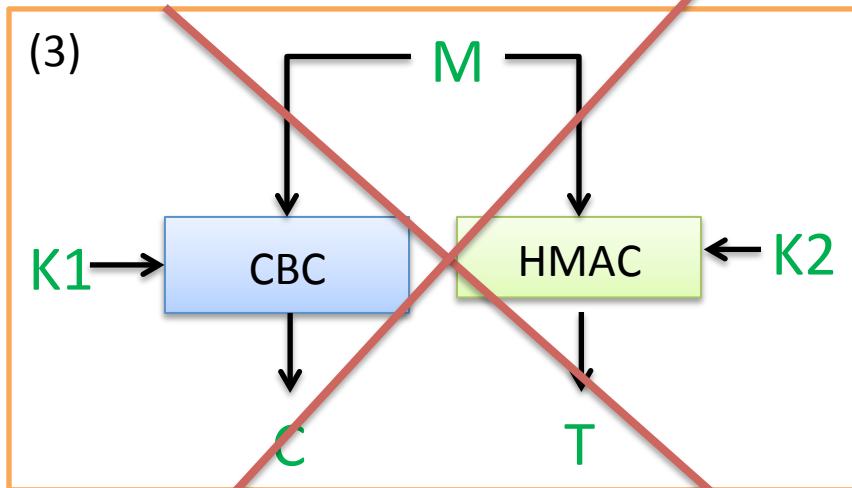
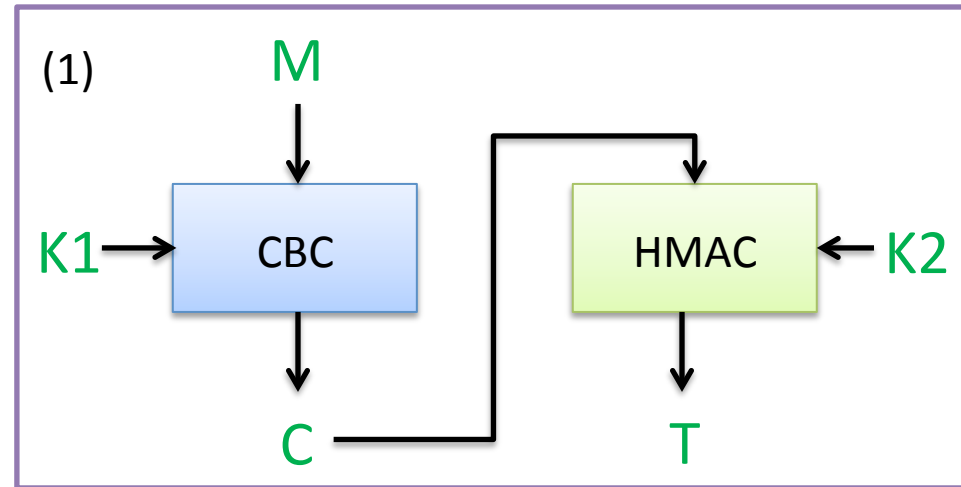
To verify a M,T pair, check if $\text{HMAC}(K,M) = T$

Unforgeability holds if H is a secure PRF when so-keyed

Build a new scheme from CBC and HMAC
Kg outputs CBC key K1 and HMAC key K2

Several ways to combine:

- (1) encrypt-then-mac
- (2) mac-then-encrypt
- (3) encrypt-and-mac



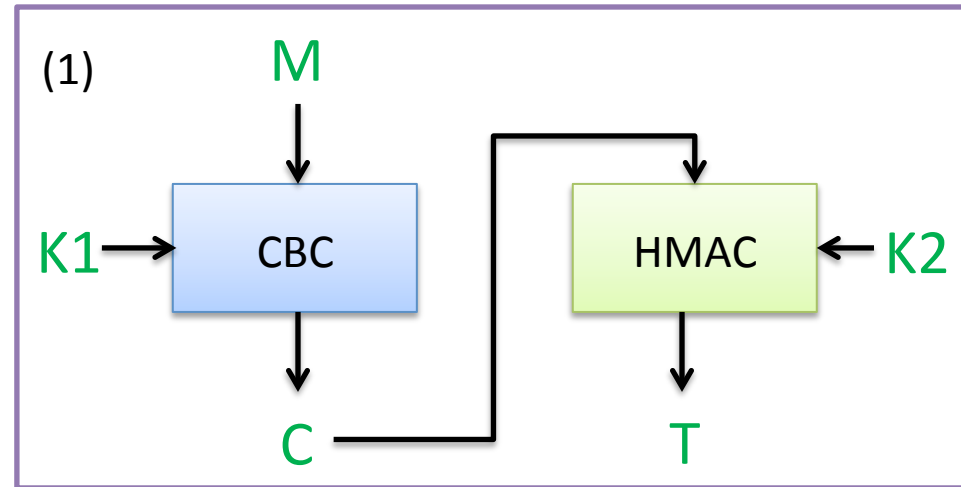
Build a new scheme from CBC and HMAC
Kg outputs CBC key K1 and HMAC key K2

Several ways to combine:

(1) encrypt-then-mac

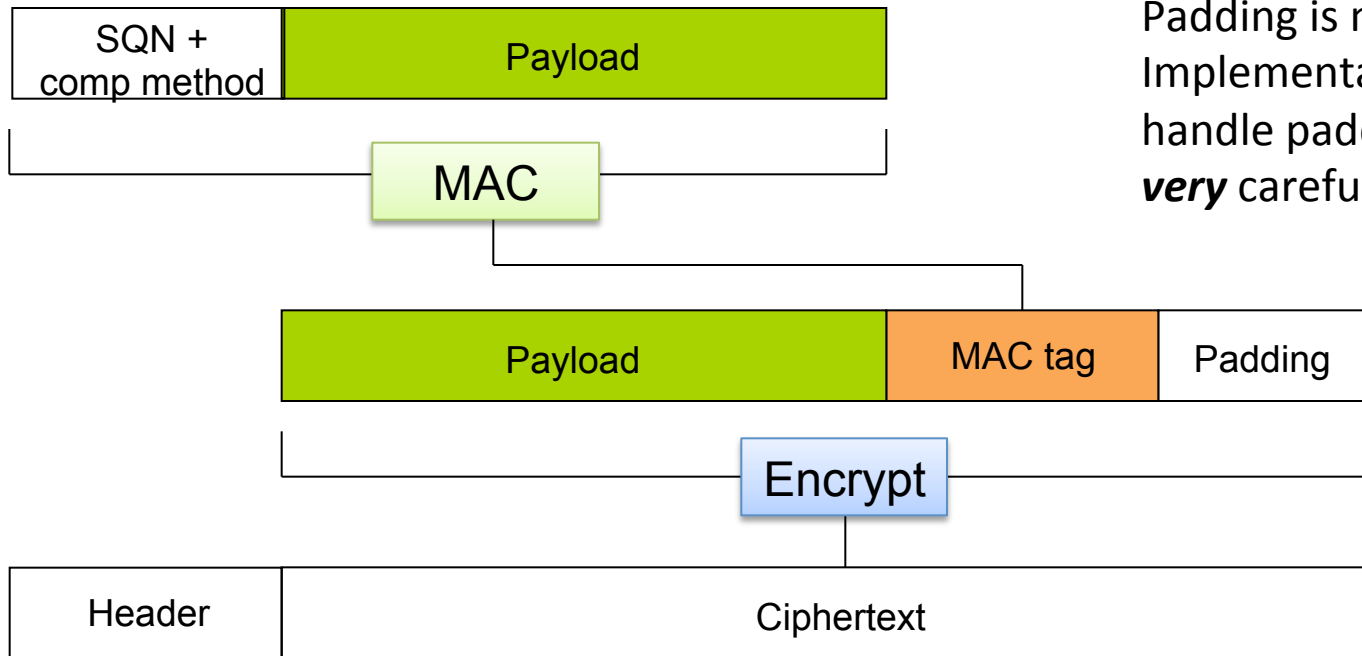
(2) mac-then-encrypt

(3) encrypt-and-mac



Thm. If encryption scheme provides confidentiality against passive attackers and MAC provides unforgeability, then Encrypt-then-MAC provides secure authenticated encryption

TLS record protocol: MAC-Encode-Encrypt (MEE)



Padding is not MAC'd.
Implementations must
handle padding checks
very carefully.

MAC

HMAC-MD5, HMAC-SHA1, HMAC-SHA256

Encrypt

CBC-AES128, CBC-AES256, CBC-3DES, RC4-128

Dedicated authenticated encryption schemes

| Attack | Inventors | Notes |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| OCB (Offset Codebook) | Rogaway | One-pass |
| GCM (Galios Counter Mode) | McGrew, Viega | CTR mode plus specialized MAC |
| CWC | Kohno, Viega, Whiting | CTR mode plus Carter-Wegman MAC |
| CCM | Housley, Ferguson, Whiting | CTR mode plus CBC-MAC |
| EAX | Wagner, Bellare, Rogaway | CTR mode plus OMAC |

Symmetric Encryption Advice

Never use CTR mode or CBC mode by themselves

Passive security is almost never good enough!!

Encrypt-then-MAC better than MAC-then-Encrypt,
Encrypt and MAC

Dedicated modes that have been analyzed thoroughly
are also good

