

Lecture 3. Symmetric encryption

Passive adversaries, small shared secret

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<https://membres-ljk.imag.fr/Bruno.Grenet/IntroCrypto.html>

Introduction to cryptology

Université Grenoble Alpes – IM²AG

M1 INFO, MOSIG & AM

Block ciphers are not enough

Block ciphers offer

- ▶ One-to-one (deterministic) encryption
- ▶ Fixed-size messages

We need

- ▶ One-to-many (non-deterministic) encryption
- ▶ Variable-size messages

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Symmetric encryption scheme

$$\begin{cases} \text{Enc} : \{0, 1\}^\kappa \times \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^* \\ \text{Dec} : \{0, 1\}^\kappa \times \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^* \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Enc is a *randomized* encryption algorithm
- ▶ Dec is a (deterministic) decryption algorithm

Correctness: for all $k \in \{0, 1\}^\kappa$, $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$ and $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}_k(m)$, $\text{Dec}_k(c) = m$

Efficiency: for all $k \in \{0, 1\}^\kappa$, $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$ and $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}_k(m)$, $|c| \simeq |m|$

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- ▶ How to build symmetric encryption schemes?
- ▶ What are *good* encryption schemes?

From block ciphers to symmetric encryption schemes

The tool: modes of operations

- ▶ Transforms a block cipher into a *symmetric encryption scheme*

$$E : \{0, 1\}^{\kappa} \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} \text{Enc} : \{0, 1\}^{\kappa} \times \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^* \\ \text{Dec} : \{0, 1\}^{\kappa} \times \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^* \end{cases}$$

- ▶ A mode is *good* if it turns *good BCs* into *good encryption schemes*

Another approach: from stream ciphers

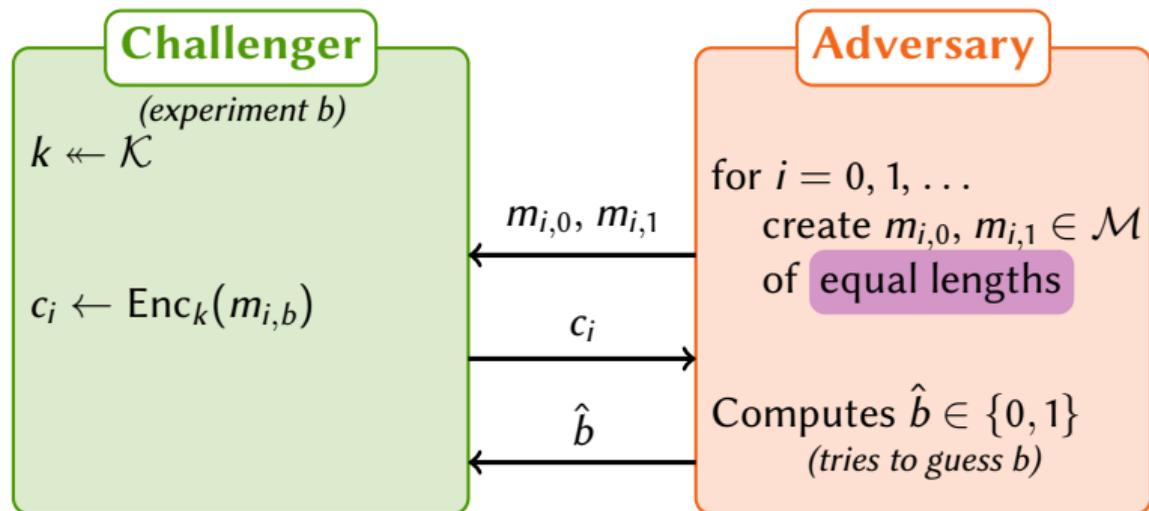
- ▶ Basic (incomplete) idea:
 - ▶ Use one-time pad with *pseudo-random* bits
 - ▶ Produce the pseudo-random bits on the fly
- ▶ In terms of security:
 - ▶ block cipher \leftrightarrow pseudo-random permutation
 - ▶ stream cipher \leftrightarrow pseudo-random generator

Contents

1. Security notions for symmetric encryption schemes

2. From block ciphers to symmetric encryption schemes: modes of operation

Reminder: IND-CPA game



Remarks

- ▶ Oracle access to Enc_k during the whole experiment
 - ▶ To get $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}_k(m)$, create $m_{i,0} = m_{i,1} = m$
- ▶ Equal-length messages \rightsquigarrow message length not hidden!
 - ▶ Impossible to hide if messages of any length
 - ▶ Use padding beforehand if message length is sensitive

Reminder: IND-CPA advantage

IND-CPA advantage of an adversary \mathcal{A}

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{Enc}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{A}) = \left| \Pr [\mathcal{A}^{\text{Enc}_k} \rightarrow 1 | b = 1] - \Pr [\mathcal{A}^{\text{Enc}_k} \rightarrow 1 | b = 0] \right|$$

Extremal cases

- ▶ Guessing \hat{b} at random \rightsquigarrow advantage 0
- ▶ Resource-unbounded \mathcal{A} \rightsquigarrow advantage 1

IND-CPA advantage function

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{Enc}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(q, t) = \max_{\mathcal{A}_{q,t}} \text{Adv}_{\text{Enc}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{A}_{q,t})$$

where $\mathcal{A}_{q,t}$ is an alg. that runs in time $\leq t$ and makes $\leq q$ queries to the challenger

From lecture 1: Two approaches

IND-CPA secure: **any** *efficient* adversary has *negligible* advantage

Asymptotic security

complexity-theoretic definition

- ▶ Expressed in terms of the *security parameter* λ
- ▶ Efficient: polynomial in λ
- ▶ Negligible: $< 1/p(\lambda)$ for any polynomial p

$$q = \text{poly}(\lambda), t = \text{poly}(\lambda)$$

$$\text{Enc is IND-CPA secure} \iff \text{Adv}_{\text{Enc}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(\text{poly}(\lambda), \text{poly}(\lambda)) \ll 1/\text{poly}(\lambda)$$

Concrete security

mostly chosen in this course

- ▶ No formal definition of *efficient* or *negligible*
- ▶ Compare schemes by comparing their advantage functions
- ▶ Plug some explicit values:
 - ▶ what is an *reasonable* number of operations / number of queries?
 - ▶ what is an *acceptable* advantage?

From lecture 1: Orders of magnitude (time)

Computation time: number of elementary operations

- ▶ $t \simeq 2^{40}$: \sim 1 day on my laptop
- ▶ $t \simeq 2^{60}$: possible on a large CPU/GPU cluster done in academia
- ▶ $t \simeq 2^{80}$: possible with an ASIC cluster Bitcoin mining
- ▶ $t \simeq 2^{128}$: *very hard*

How much time for 2^{128} operations?

- ▶ With all 500 fastest super-computers, assuming parallelizability $10 \cdot 10^9$ gFLOPS
- ▶ Time: $2^{128} / (10 \cdot 10^9 \cdot 10^9 \times 365 \cdot 24 \cdot 3600) \approx 10^{12}$ years $\approx 4 \times$ age of Earth

How much power for 2^{128} operations in 100 years?

- ▶ With hardware at 10^6 gFLOPS using 1000W per device pretty good!
- ▶ Number of devices: $2^{128} / (10^6 \cdot 10^9 \times 100 \cdot 365 \cdot 24 \cdot 3600) \approx 10^{14}$
- ▶ Power: $10^{14} \times 1000W \approx 100\,000$ TW $\approx 65 \cdot 10^6$ EPR

From lecture 1: Orders of magnitude (probabilities)

Probabilities

- ▶ $p = \frac{1}{2}$: get a TAIL with a fair coin
- ▶ $p = \frac{1}{6}$: get a 6 with a fair die
- ▶ $p \approx 2^{-24}$: probability to win at French lottery
- ▶ $p \approx 2^{-72}$: probability to win 3 times in a row at French lottery

Examples

- ▶ An attack that takes 1 second and has a probability of success of 2^{-60} is expected to have succeeded less than once since the Big Bang
- ▶ Errors in CPU due to cosmic rays happen with much larger probabilities!

Combining orders of magnitude

If $\text{Adv}_{\text{Enc}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(2^{128}, 2^{128}) < 2^{-60}$, Enc is pretty (IND-CPA) secure!

Comments on IND-CPA security

- ▶ No formal definition of IND-CPA secure, only a measure (*but in asymptotic security*)
- ▶ IND-CPA \Rightarrow non-determinism
- ▶ IND-CPA \Rightarrow the adversary cannot compute any single bit of the message
- ▶ IND-CPA \Rightarrow the adversary can compute *very few* information on the message

Stronger security notion: IND-CCA

Indistinguishability under chosen ciphertext attack

- ▶ Access to both an encryption oracle and a decryption oracle
- ▶ 2 variants: non-adaptative (IND-CCA) or adaptative (IND-CCA2)

Contents

1. Security notions for symmetric encryption schemes
2. From block ciphers to symmetric encryption schemes: modes of operation

Goal

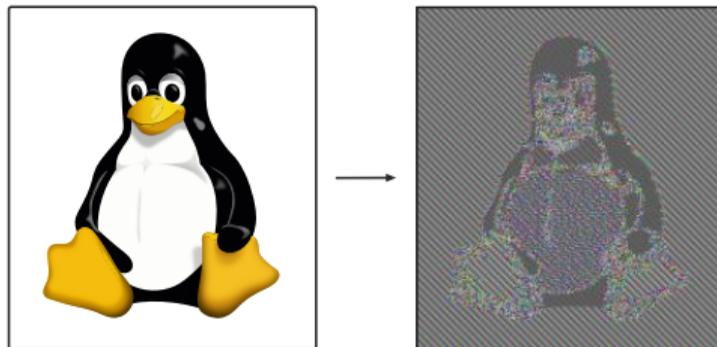
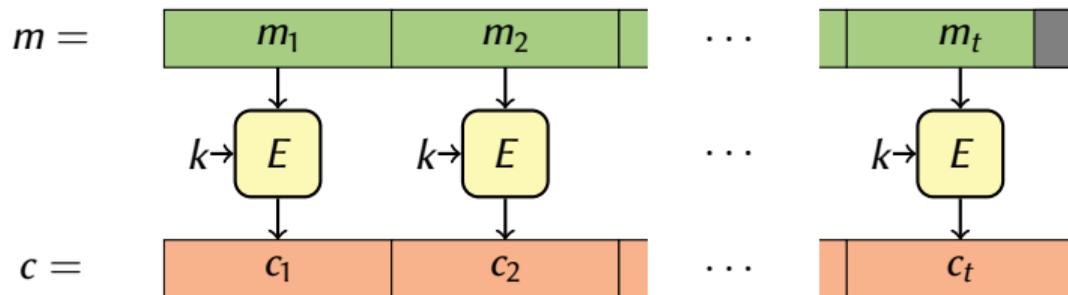
$$E : \{0, 1\}^{\kappa} \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} \text{Enc} : \{0, 1\}^{\kappa} \times \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^* \\ \text{Dec} : \{0, 1\}^{\kappa} \times \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^* \end{cases}$$

- ▶ E is made to encrypt **one block** of data
- ▶ Enc should encrypt **any number of blocks**
→ Use E several times to encrypt a message $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$

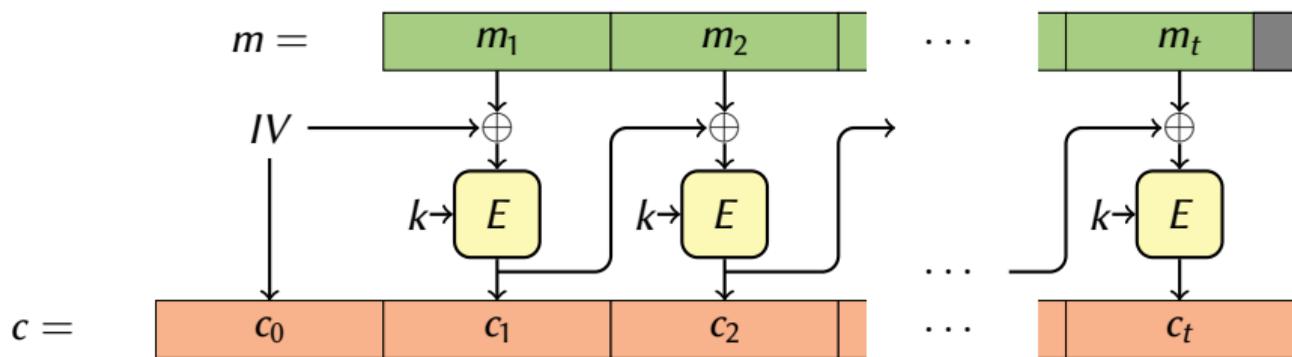
Desired properties

- ▶ Security:
 - ▶ E secure \implies Enc secure
 - ▶ Low (S)PRP advantage \implies low IND-CPA advantage
- ▶ Efficiency:
 - ▶ Efficient encryption and decryption if E is efficient
 - ▶ Ciphertext not too large compared to message

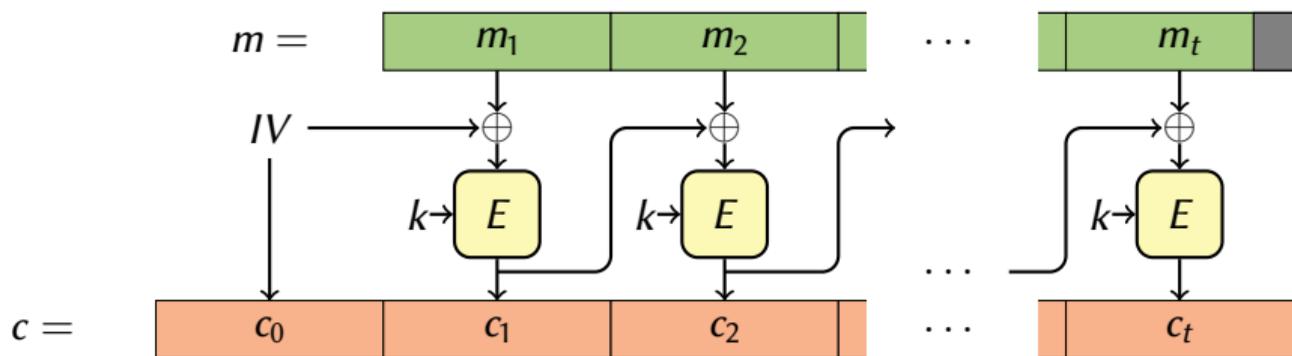
Obvious (bad) idea: Electronic Code Book (ECB)



First (real) example of mode of operation: Cipher Block Chaining (CBC)



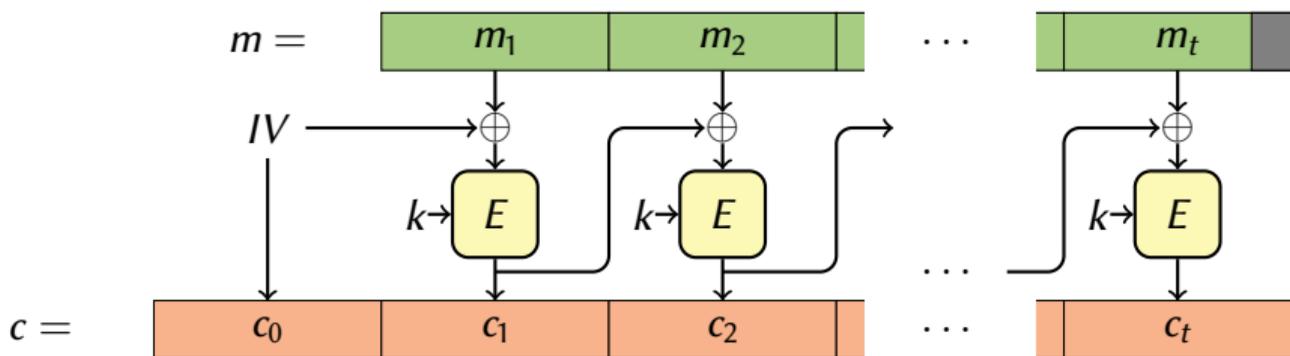
First (real) example of mode of operation: Cipher Block Chaining (CBC)



- ▶ IV: *random* initialization vector in $\{0, 1\}^n$
- ▶ Input: $m = m_1 \| \dots \| m_t$
- ▶ Output: $c = c_0 \| c_1 \| \dots \| c_t$
- ▶ IND-CPA security if E is a good PRP and IV truly random

padding if needed
size $n(t + 1)$

First (real) example of mode of operation: Cipher Block Chaining (CBC)



Adversary when IV is not uniform

1. One-block query: $m \rightarrow r \| c = r \| E_k(m \oplus r)$

r is IV

2. Guess the next IV: r'

3. Challenges:

▶ $m_0 = m \oplus r \oplus r'$

▶ m_1 uniform

$$\begin{aligned} &\rightarrow r'' \| c_b = r \| E_k(m_b \oplus r'') \\ E_k(m_0 \oplus r'') &= E_k(m \oplus r \oplus r' \oplus r'') \end{aligned}$$

4. If $r' = r''$ (correct guess), return $\begin{cases} b = 0 & \text{if } c = c_b \\ b = 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$, otherwise answer at random

Generic CBC collision attack

Observation

- ▶ For fixed k , E_k is a permutation $\rightarrow E_k(x) = E_k(y) \iff x = y$
- ▶ In CBC, inputs to E_k are of the form $m_i \oplus c_{i-1}$

$$c_0 = IV$$

$$E_k(m_i \oplus c_{i-1}) = E_k(m'_j \oplus c'_{j-1}) \iff m_i \oplus c_{i-1} = m'_j \oplus c'_{j-1}$$

Consequence

- ▶ Two identical ciphertext blocks $c_i = c'_j$ reveal information on m_i and m'_j :

$$c_i = c'_j \iff E_k(m_i \oplus c_{i-1}) = E_k(m'_j \oplus c'_{j-1})$$

$$\iff m_i \oplus c_{i-1} = m'_j \oplus c'_{j-1}$$

$$\iff m_i \oplus m'_j = c_{i-1} \oplus c'_{j-1}$$

- ▶ Breaks IND-CPA security

no matter how good E !

Probability to get collisions?

Assumption

The distribution of the $(m_i \oplus c_{i-1})$ is approx. uniform

- ▶ If c_0 is the IV, it has to be approx. uniform
- ▶ If c_{i-1} is a ciphertext, non (approx.) uniformity would imply an attack

Birthday bound

Draw y_1, \dots, y_q uniformly from a size- N set, with $q \leq \sqrt{2N}$. Then

$$\frac{q(q-1)}{4N} \leq 1 - e^{-q(q-1)/2N} \leq \Pr[\exists i \neq j, y_i = y_j] \leq \frac{q(q-1)}{2N}$$

Consequence

- ▶ Collision found w.h.p. if $q \simeq \sqrt{N}$
- ▶ For CBC: Collision w.h.p. after observing $\simeq 2^{n/2}$ ciphertext blocks
- ▶ Note: does not depend on key size κ

Proof of the birthday upper bound

If $y_1, \dots, y_q \leftarrow S$ with $|S| = N$, then $\Pr[\exists i \neq j, y_i = y_j] \leq \frac{q(q-1)}{2N}$

$$\cdot \Pr[\exists i \neq j, y_i = y_j] = \Pr\left[\bigvee_{i \neq j} y_i = y_j\right] \stackrel{\text{union bound}}{\leq} \sum_{i \neq j} \Pr[y_i = y_j]$$

$$\cdot \Pr[y_i = y_j] = \frac{1}{N}$$

$$\cdot \Pr[\exists i \neq j, y_i = y_j] \leq \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{1}{N} = \frac{1}{N} \binom{q}{2}$$

Proof of the birthday lower bound

If $y_1, \dots, y_q \leftarrow S$ with $|S| = N$, then $\Pr[\exists i \neq j, y_i = y_j] \geq 1 - e^{-\frac{q(q-1)}{2N}}$
($\geq \frac{q(q-1)}{4N}$ if $q \leq \sqrt{2N}$)
admitted

$$- p = \Pr[\forall i \neq j, y_i \neq y_j] = \Pr[y_2 \notin \{y_1\} \wedge y_3 \notin \{y_1, y_2\} \wedge \dots \wedge y_q \notin \{y_1, \dots, y_{q-1}\}]$$

$$- E_i = "y_i \notin \{y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}\}" : p = \Pr[E_2 \wedge E_3 \wedge \dots \wedge E_q]$$

$$= \Pr[E_2] \cdot \Pr[E_3 | E_2] \cdot \Pr[E_4 | E_2 \wedge E_3] \cdot \dots \cdot \Pr[E_q | E_2 \wedge \dots \wedge E_{q-1}]$$

$$- \Pr[E_i | E_2 \wedge \dots \wedge E_{i-1}] = \frac{N - (i-1)}{N} = 1 - \frac{i-1}{N}$$

$$\Rightarrow p = \prod_{i=2}^q \left(1 - \frac{i-1}{N}\right) \leq \prod_{i=2}^q e^{-\frac{i-1}{N}} = e^{-\sum_{i=2}^q \frac{i-1}{N}} = e^{-\frac{q(q-1)}{2N}}$$

The birthday attack against CBC

Adversary $\mathcal{A}_{\text{BIRTHDAY}}$

- ▶ Sends two messages with $\simeq 2^{n/2}$ blocks each
 - ▶ m_0 with only zeroes
 - ▶ m_1 with pairwise distinct blocks
- ▶ Gets back $c = \text{Enc}_k(m_b)$
 - ▶ If there are two blocks $c_i = c_j$, return 0 if $c_{i-1} \oplus c_{j-1} = 0 \cdots 0$, 1 otherwise
 - ▶ If not, return 0 or 1 at random

Analysis

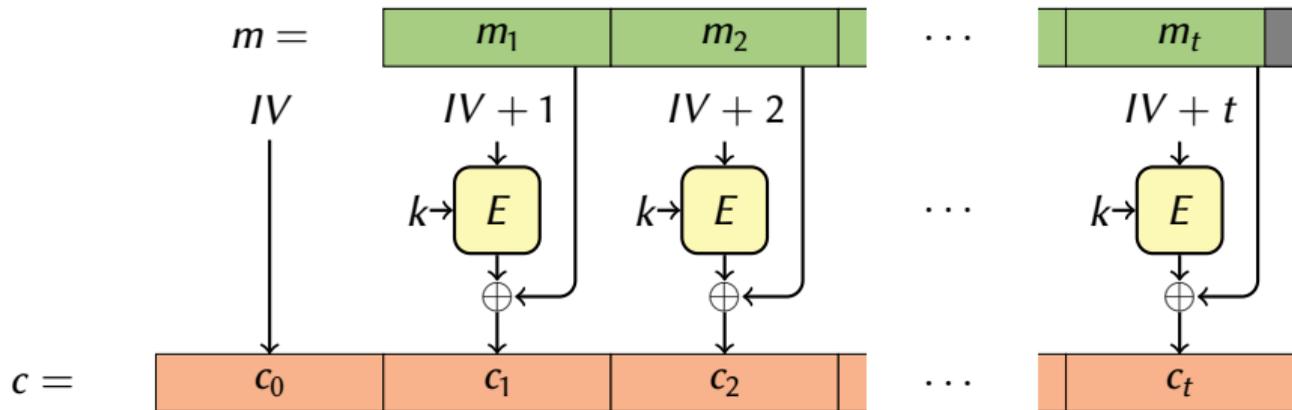
- ▶ Correct answer if there exists $i \neq j$ s.t. $c_i = c_j$, since $c_{i-1} \oplus c_{j-1} = m_i \oplus m_j$
- ▶ $\Pr[\exists i \neq j, c_i = c_j] \gtrsim \frac{1}{4} \rightarrow \text{advantage} \gtrsim \frac{1}{4}$
- ▶ Time to find collisions: $O(2^{n/2})$

should be the same

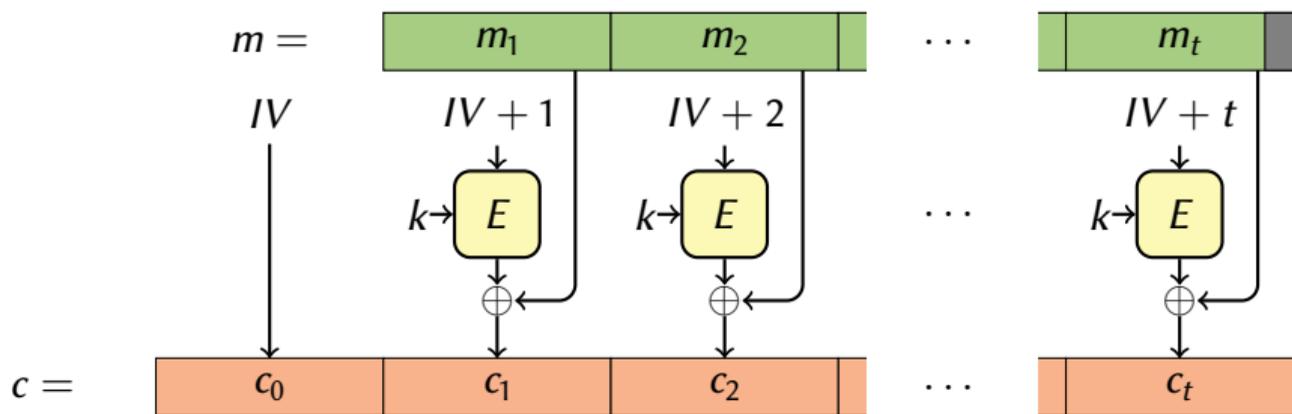
Conclusion

- ▶ $\text{Adv}_{\text{Enc-CBC}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(2^{n/2}, 2^{n/2}) \geq \text{Adv}_{\text{Enc-CBC}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{A}_{\text{BIRTHDAY}}) \gtrsim \frac{1}{2}$
- ▶ CBC mode should not be used for too long with the same key!

Second example of mode of operation: Counter (CTR)



Second example of mode of operation: Counter (CTR)



- ▶ IV: **random** initialization vector in $\{0, 1\}^n$
- ▶ Input: $m = m_1 || \dots || m_t$
- ▶ Output: $c = c_0 || c_1 || \dots || c_t$
- ▶ Parallel encryption (fast!)
- ▶ Also sensitive to birthday bound
- ▶ IND-CPA security from PRF security

size $n(t + 1)$

similar to a *stream cipher*

variant of PRP security

IND-CPA security for CTR: sketch of the proof

1. PRF Security

on the board .

IND-CPA security for CTR: sketch of the proof

2. Proof Given an ^{IND-CPA} adv. A_0 for $\text{CTR}[E]$, build a PRF adv. for E

• A_0 : adversary in the IND-CPA game with q queries and time t

$$\text{Queries: } m_{i,0} = m_{i,0}^1 \parallel m_{i,0}^2 \parallel \dots \parallel m_{i,0}^{t_i}$$

$$m_{i,1} = m_{i,1}^1 \parallel m_{i,1}^2 \parallel \dots \parallel m_{i,1}^{t_i}$$

$$\text{Answers: } c_i = c_i^0 \parallel c_i^1 \parallel \dots \parallel c_i^{t_i} \quad \text{where } \begin{cases} c_i^0 = IV_i \\ c_i^s = E_k(IV_i + s) \oplus m_{i,b}^s \end{cases}$$

$$\text{let } \boxed{Q = \sum_{i=0}^{q-1} t_i}$$

IND-CPA security for CTR: sketch of the proof

- Consider $\text{CTR}[f] \rightsquigarrow$ counter mode with a uniform function f instead of F_k .

$$\left| \Pr[A_b^{\text{CTR}[E_n]} \rightarrow 1 | b] - \Pr[A_b^{\text{CTR}[f]} \rightarrow 1 | b] \right| \leq \text{Adv}_E^{\text{PRF}}(Q, t)$$

- Assume (in $\text{CTR}[f]$) that there is no collision $IV_i + s = IV_{i'} + s'$
Then all the $f(IV_i + s)$ are uniform and independent
 \rightarrow $\text{CTR}[f]$ is the one-time pad under this assumption

(under the assumption) $\left| \Pr[A_b^{\text{CTR}[f]} \rightarrow 1 | b=1] - \Pr[A_b^{\text{CTR}[f]} \rightarrow 1 | b=0] \right| = 0$

IND-CPA security for CTR: sketch of the proof

$$\bullet \Pr[\exists i, i', s, s', IV_i + s = IV_{i'} + s'] \leq \frac{Q(Q-1)}{2 \cdot 2^n} \quad (\text{birthday bound})$$

3. Conclusion

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_{\text{CTR}[E]}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(q, t) &= \left| \Pr[A_B^{\text{CTR}[E]} \rightarrow 1 \mid b=1] - \Pr[A_B^{\text{CTR}[E]} \rightarrow 1 \mid b=0] \right| \\ &\leq \left| \Pr[A_B^{\text{CTR}[E]} \rightarrow 1 \mid b=1] - \Pr[A_B^{\text{CTR}[E]} \rightarrow 1 \mid b=0] \right| + 2 \cdot \text{Adv}_E^{\text{PRF}}(Q, t) \\ &\leq \frac{Q(Q-1)}{2^{n+1}} + 2 \text{Adv}_E^{\text{PRF}}(Q, t) \end{aligned}$$

Finally

Modes of operations

- ▶ *good* mode of operation + *secure* block cipher \Rightarrow *secure* symmetric encryption scheme
- ▶ Different mode of operations require different security for the block cipher
 - ▶ PRP *pseudo-random permutation*
 - ▶ PRF *pseudo-random function*
 - ▶ Ideal Block Cipher
- ▶ Proofs of security \rightarrow reductions between problems
- ▶ Usually: need more \rightarrow *ad hoc* analysis of the resulting system

Other symmetric encryption schemes

- ▶ Other modes of operations OFB, CFB
- ▶ Stream ciphers *Wifi, 5G, ...*

Conclusion

Symmetric encryption, as we saw it

- ▶ Two ingredients:
 - ▶ a block cipher
 - ▶ a mode of operation
- ▶ Security notions:
 - ▶ PRP advantage
 - ▶ IND-CPA advantage
- ▶ More advanced security definitions:
 - ▶ strong PRP adv., (strong) PRF adv., ideal block cipher
 - ▶ IND-CCA, IND-CCA2

fixed-size, deterministic
variable-size, non-deterministic

block cipher
symmetric encryption

In practice

- ▶ Block cipher: mainly AES, with key size 128 bits
- ▶ Modes of operations: *e.g.* extension of CTR in TLS

Final words: **Definitions and proofs are important!**