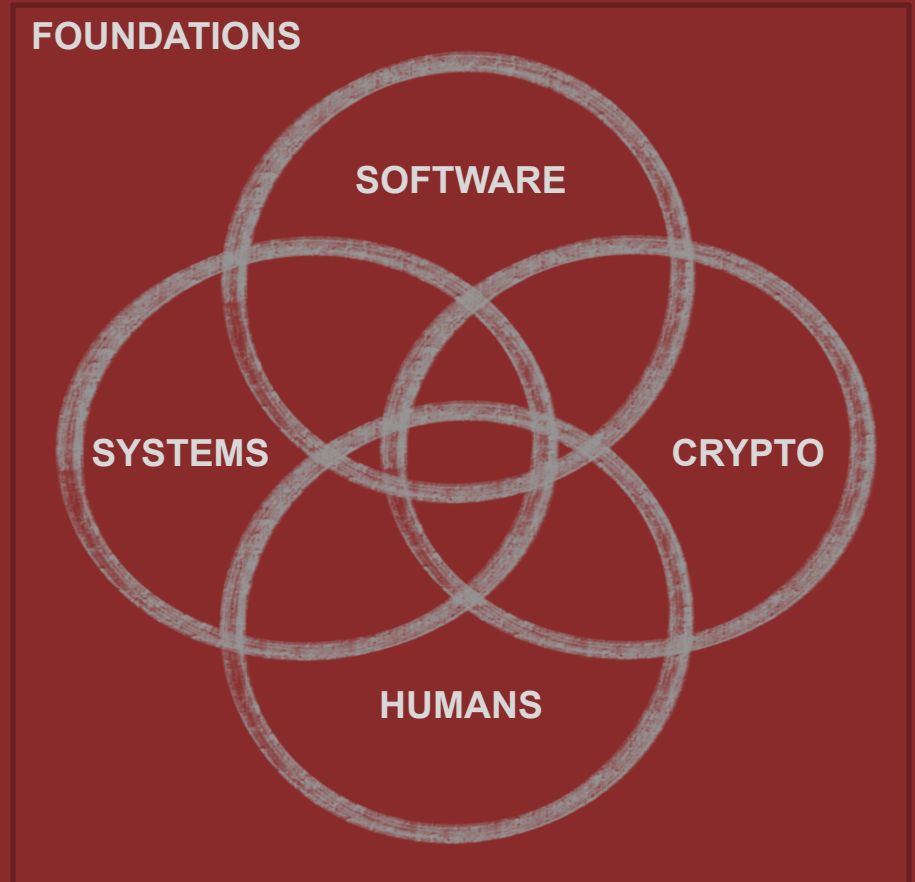


# Διάλεξη #14 - Encryption Modes

Εθνικό και Καποδιστριακό Πανεπιστήμιο Αθηνών

Εισαγωγή στην Ασφάλεια

Θανάσης Αυγερινός



Huge thank you to [David Brumley](#) from Carnegie Mellon University for the guidance and content input while developing this class (some slides from Dan Boneh @ Stanford!)

# Ανακοινώσεις / Διευκρινίσεις

# Την προηγούμενη φορά

- PseudoRandom Functions (PRFs)
- PseudoRandom Permutations (PRPs)
- Block Ciphers
- Semantic Security

# Σήμερα

- Encryption Modes
  - Electronic Code Book (ECB)
  - Cipher Block Chaining (CBC)
  - Counter Mode (CTR)
- Mistakes and Attacks

**Back from Lunch**

# Interview Question #1

You are given an array of  $N$  integers where all of them repeat exactly twice except for one that is unique. Describe an efficient time and space algorithm to find the unique element.

## Interview Question #2

You have a message that you want to transfer from A to B securely and efficiently. Do you:

- (A) Encrypt and then compress -  $\text{Compress}(\text{Enc}(m))$
- (B) Compress and then encrypt -  $\text{Enc}(\text{Compress}(m))$

Why?

# Encryption Modes



Block Ciphers help us encrypt a **single block** of data securely

To encrypt **multiple blocks** with a single key we need to find secure *modes of operation* , i.e., ways to combine block ciphers on messages longer than a single block

# Using PRPs and PRFs

Goal: build “secure” encryption from a secure PRP (e.g. AES).

First: **one-time keys**

1. Adversary’s power:

Adv sees only one ciphertext (one-time key)

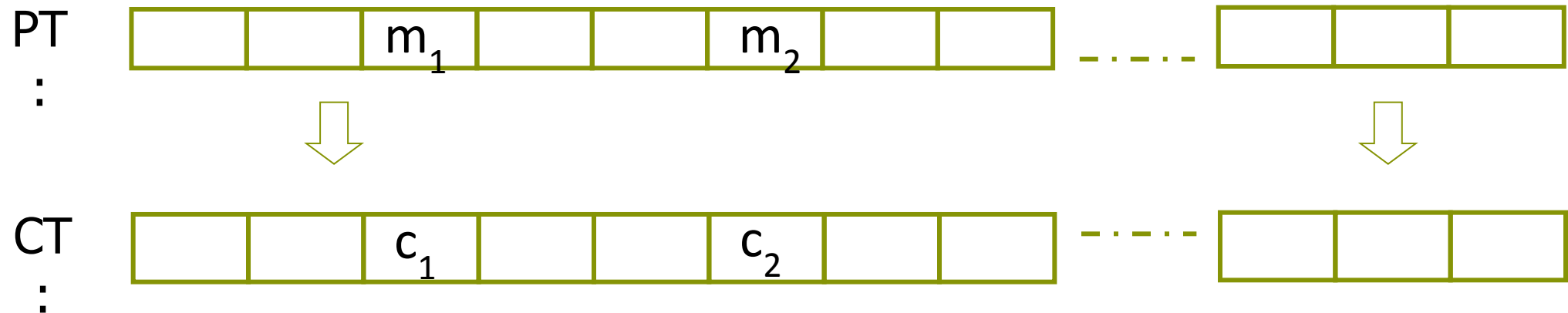
2. Adversary’s goal:

Learn info about PT from CT (semantic security)

Next up: many-time keys (a.k.a chosen-plaintext security)

# ECB Mode: Insecure use of a PRP

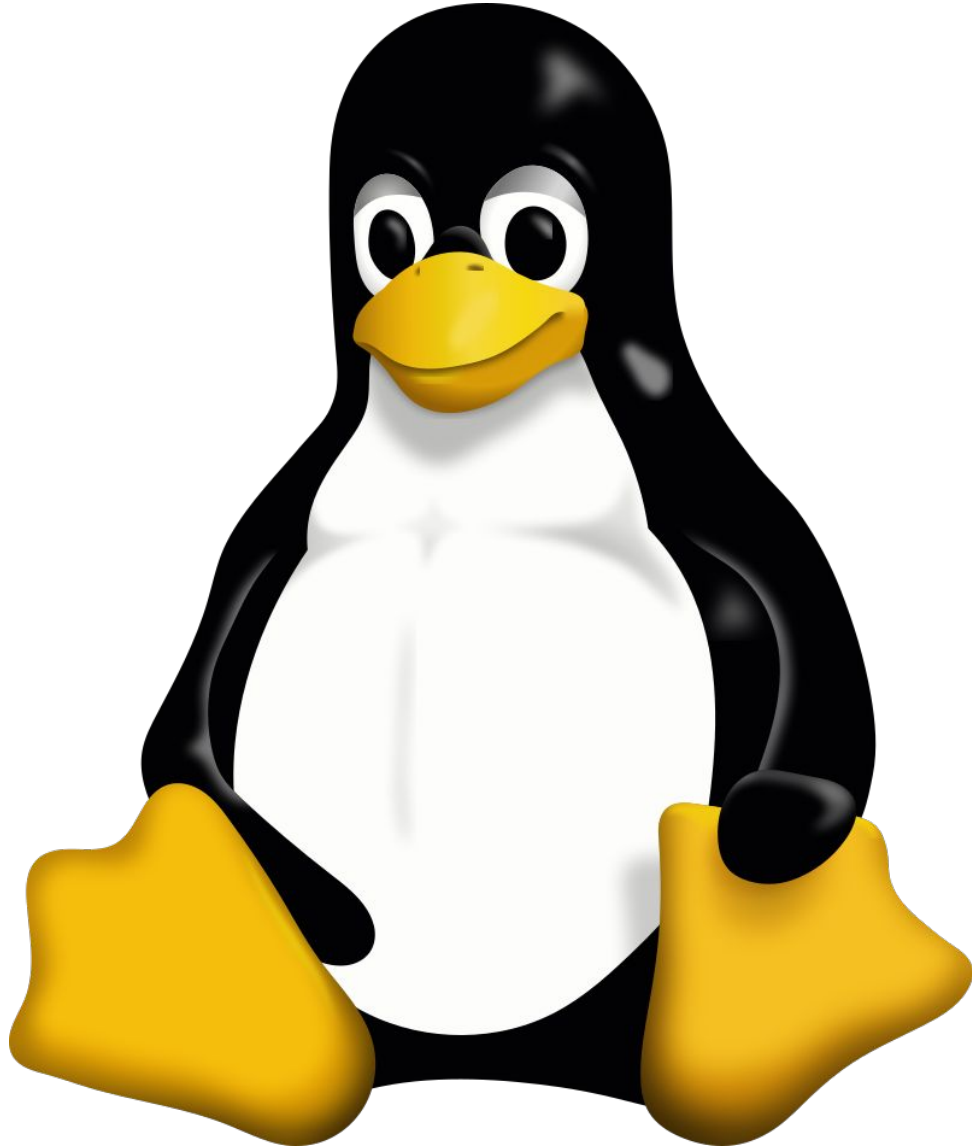
Electronic Code Book (ECB):



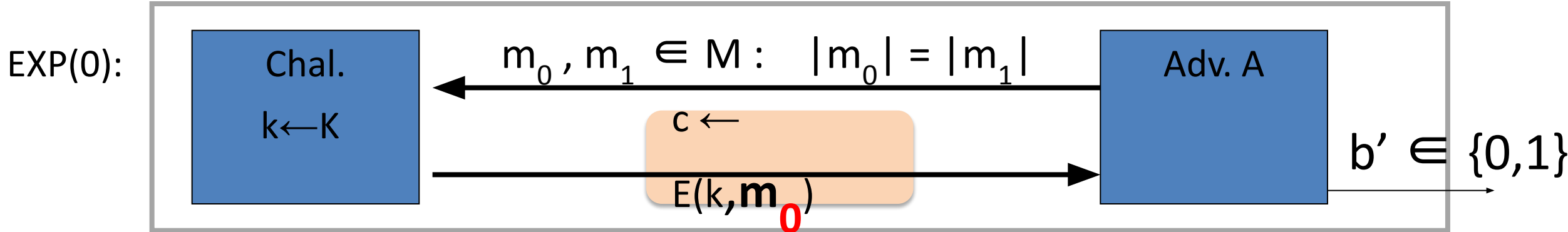
Problem:

– if  $m_1 = m_2$  then  $c_1 = c_2$

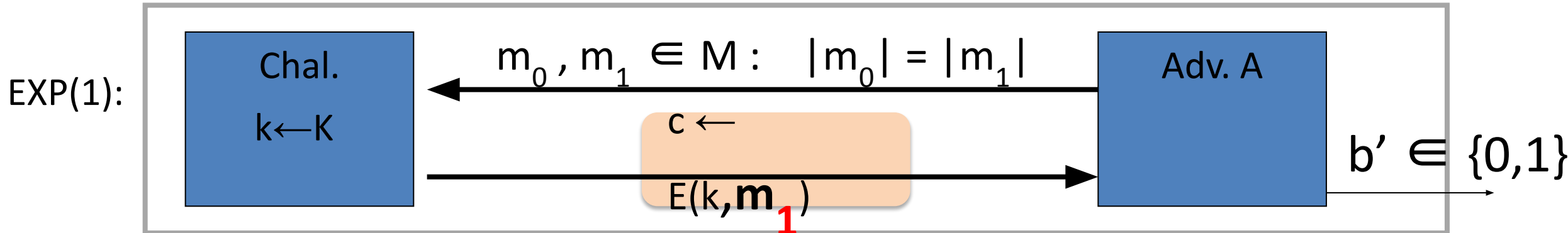
# In pictures



# Semantic Security (one-time key)



one time key  $\Rightarrow$  adversary sees only one ciphertext

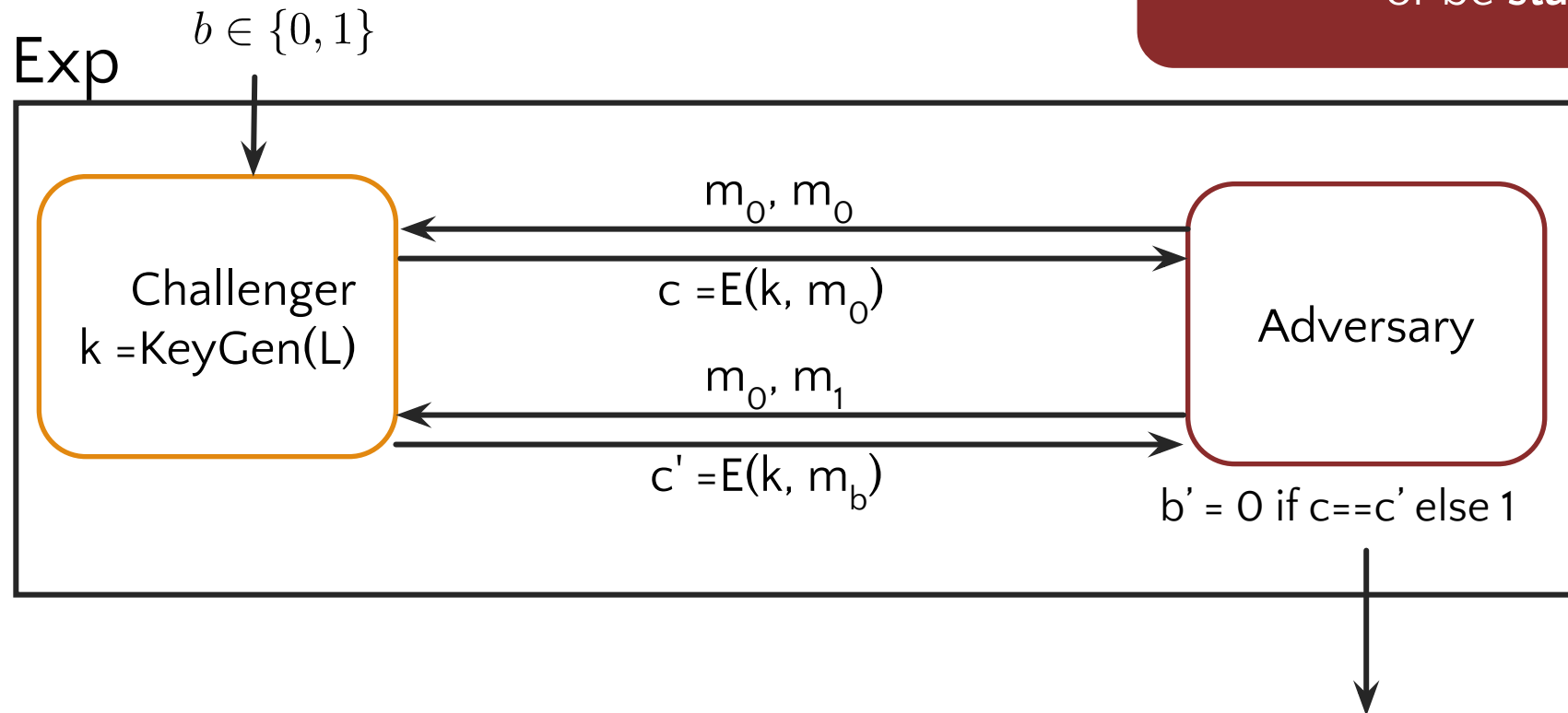


$$\text{Adv}_{\text{SS}}[A, \text{OTP}] = \left| \Pr[\mathbf{EXP(0)}=1] - \Pr[\mathbf{EXP(1)}=1] \right| \text{ should be "neg."}$$

# ECB is not Semantically Secure

ECB is not semantically secure for messages that contain more than one block (many-time key).

For  $b = 0, 1$  define experiment  $Exp(b)$  as:



Encryption must be randomized or be stateful!

# Semantic Security for many-time key

Key used more than once  $\Rightarrow$  adv. sees many CTs with same key

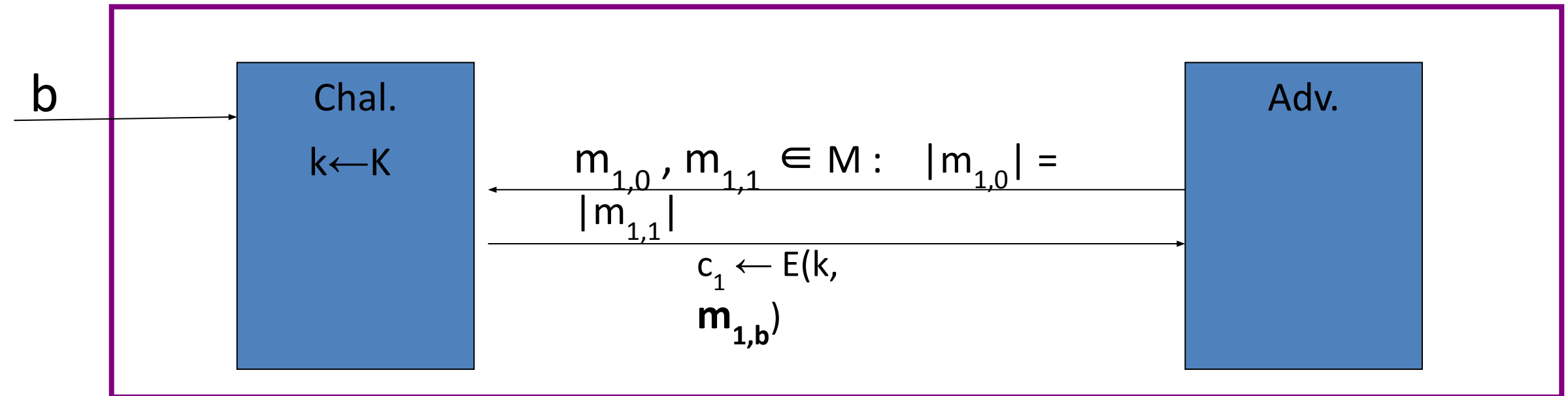
**Adversary's power:** chosen-plaintext attack (CPA)

- Can obtain the encryption of arbitrary messages of his choice  
(conservative modeling of real life)

**Adversary's goal:** Break semantic security

# Semantic Security for many-time key

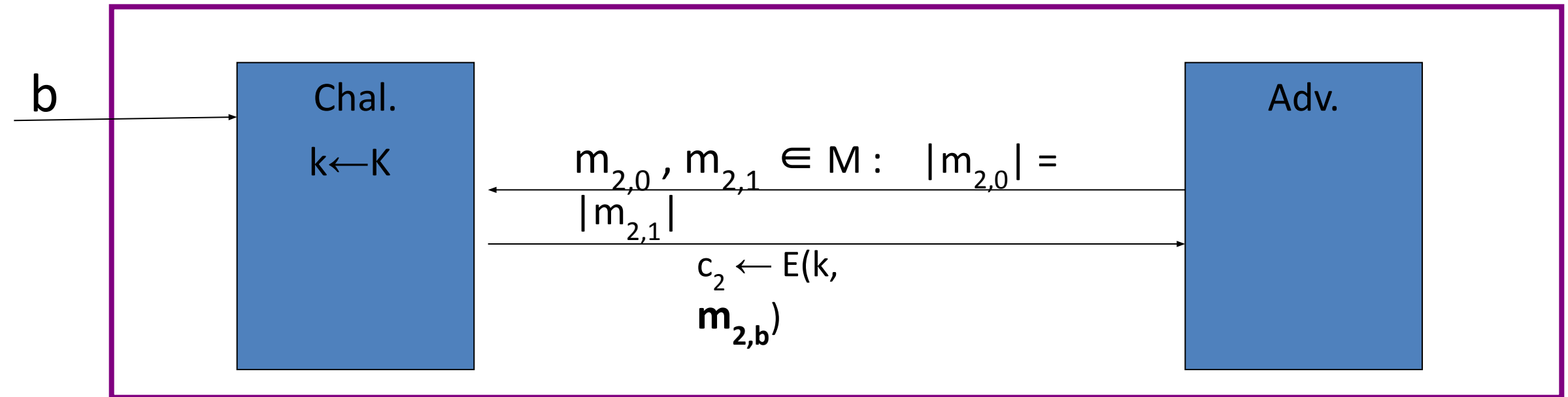
$\mathbb{E} = (E, D)$  a cipher defined over  $(K, M, C)$ . For  $b=0,1$  define  $\text{EXP}(b)$  as:





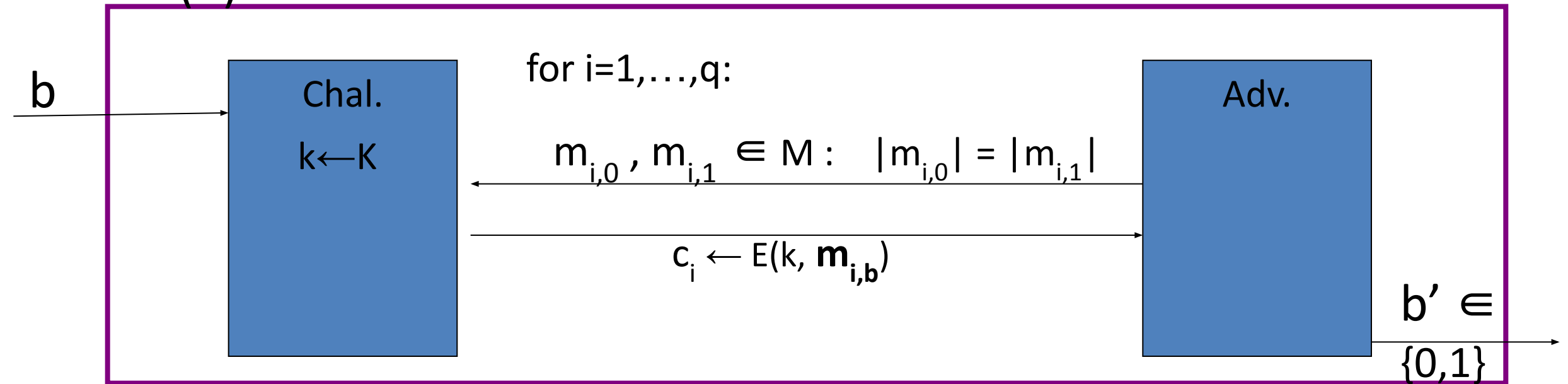
# Semantic Security for many-time key

$\mathbb{E} = (E, D)$  a cipher defined over  $(K, M, C)$ . For  $b=0,1$  define  $\text{EXP}(b)$  as:



# Semantic Security for many-time key (CPA security)

$\mathbb{E} = (E, D)$  a cipher defined over  $(K, M, C)$ . For  $b=0,1$  define  $\text{EXP}(b)$  as:



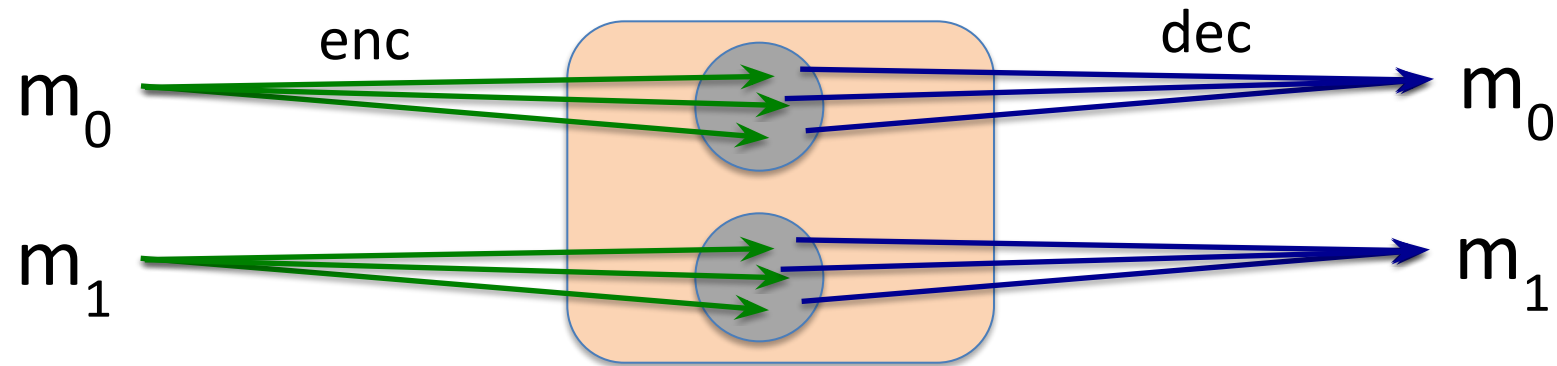
if adv. wants  $c = E(k, m)$  it queries with  $m_{j,0} = m_{j,1} = m$

Def:  $\mathbb{E}$  is sem. sec. under CPA if for all "efficient"  $A$ :

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{CPA}}[A, \mathbb{E}] = \left| \Pr[\text{EXP}(0)=1] - \Pr[\text{EXP}(1)=1] \right| \text{ is "negligible."}$$

# Solution 1: randomized encryption

- $E(k,m)$  is a randomized algorithm:



⇒ encrypting same msg twice gives different ciphertexts (w.h.p)

⇒ ciphertext must be longer than plaintext

Roughly speaking: CT-size = PT-size + “# random bits”

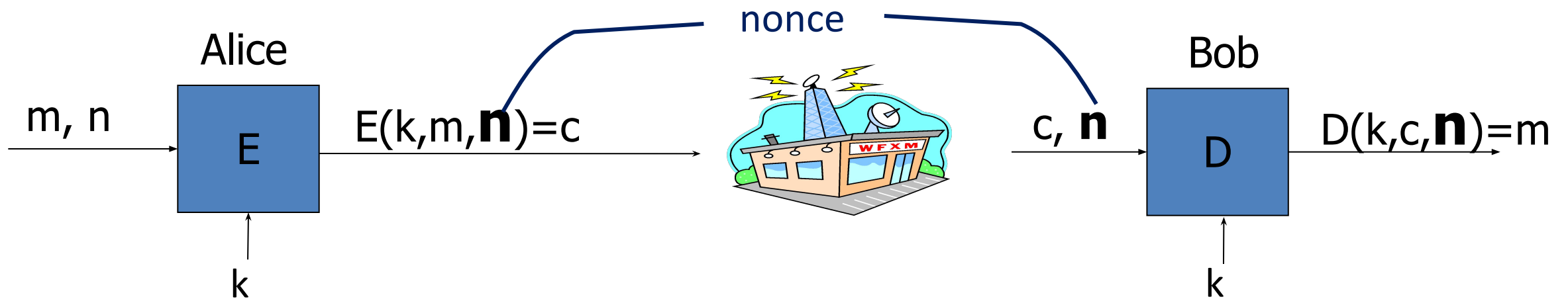
Let  $F: K \times R \rightarrow M$  be a secure PRF.

For  $m \in M$  define  $E(k,m) = [ r \xleftarrow{\$} R, \text{ output } (r, F(k,r) \oplus m) ]$

Is  $E$  semantically secure under CPA?

- Yes, whenever  $F$  is a secure PRF
- No, there is always a CPA attack on this system
- Yes, but only if  $R$  is large enough so  $r$  never repeats (w.h.p)
- It depends on what  $F$  is used

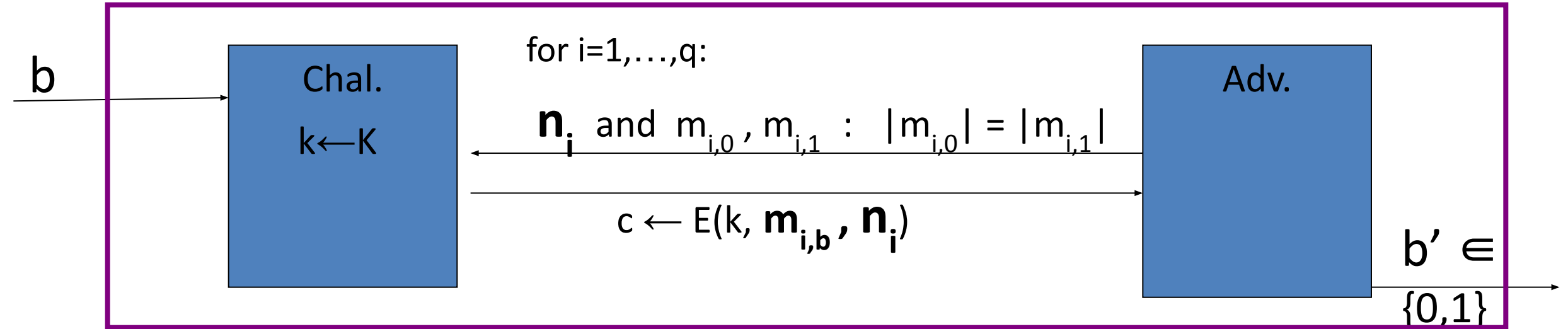
# Solution 2: nonce-based Encryption



- nonce  $n$ : a value that changes from msg to msg.  
( $k, n$ ) pair never used more than once (freshness)
- method 1: nonce is a **counter** (e.g. packet counter)
  - used when encryptor keeps state from msg to msg
  - if decryptor has same state, need not send nonce with CT
- method 2: encryptor chooses a **random nonce**,  $n \leftarrow \mathcal{N}$

# CPA security for nonce-based encryption

System should be secure when nonces are chosen adversarially.



**All nonces  $\{n_1, \dots, n_q\}$  must be distinct.**

Def: nonce-based  $\mathbb{E}$  is sem. sec. under CPA if for all "efficient"  $A$ :

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{nCPA}} [A, \mathbb{E}] = \left| \Pr[\text{EXP}(0)=1] - \Pr[\text{EXP}(1)=1] \right| \text{ is "negligible."}$$

Let  $F: K \times R \rightarrow M$  be a secure PRF. Let  $r = 0$  initially.

For  $m \in M$  define  $E(k,m) = [ r++, \text{output } (r, F(k,r) \oplus m) ]$

Is  $E$  CPA secure nonce-based encryption?

- Yes, whenever  $F$  is a secure PRF
- No, there is always a nonce-based CPA attack on this system
- Yes, but only if  $R$  is large enough so  $r$  never repeats
- It depends on what  $F$  is used

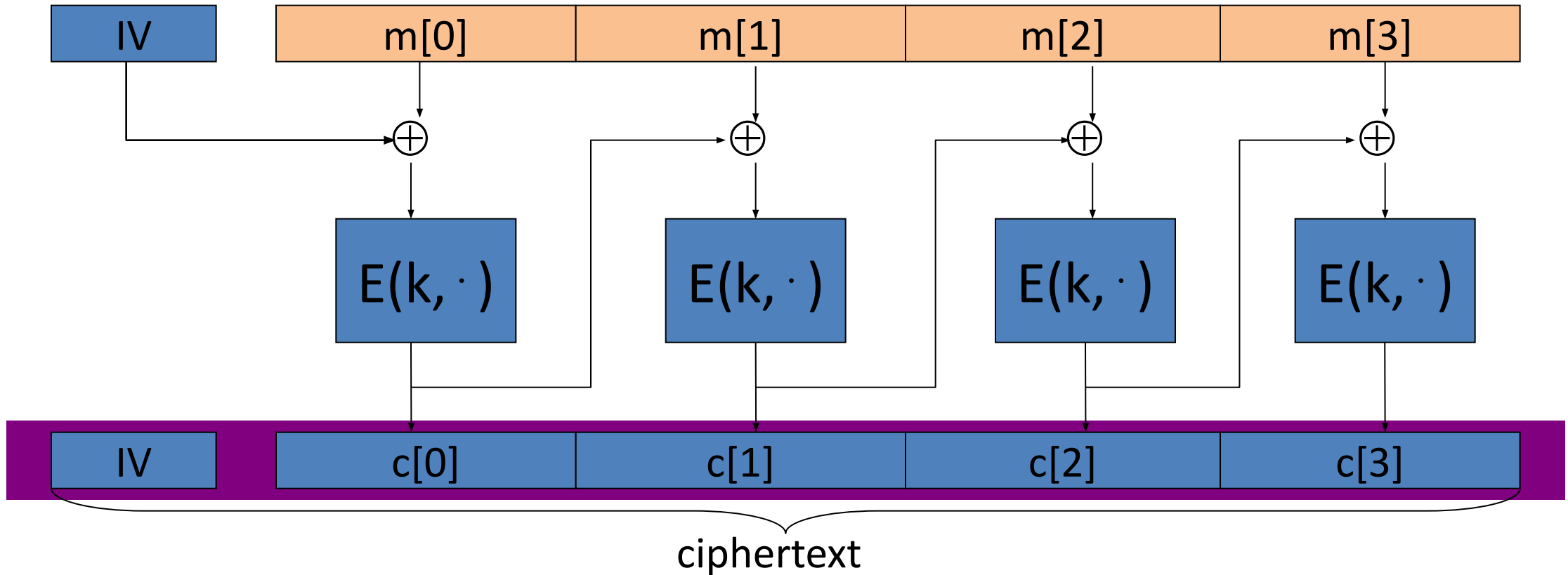


# **Cipher Block Chaining**



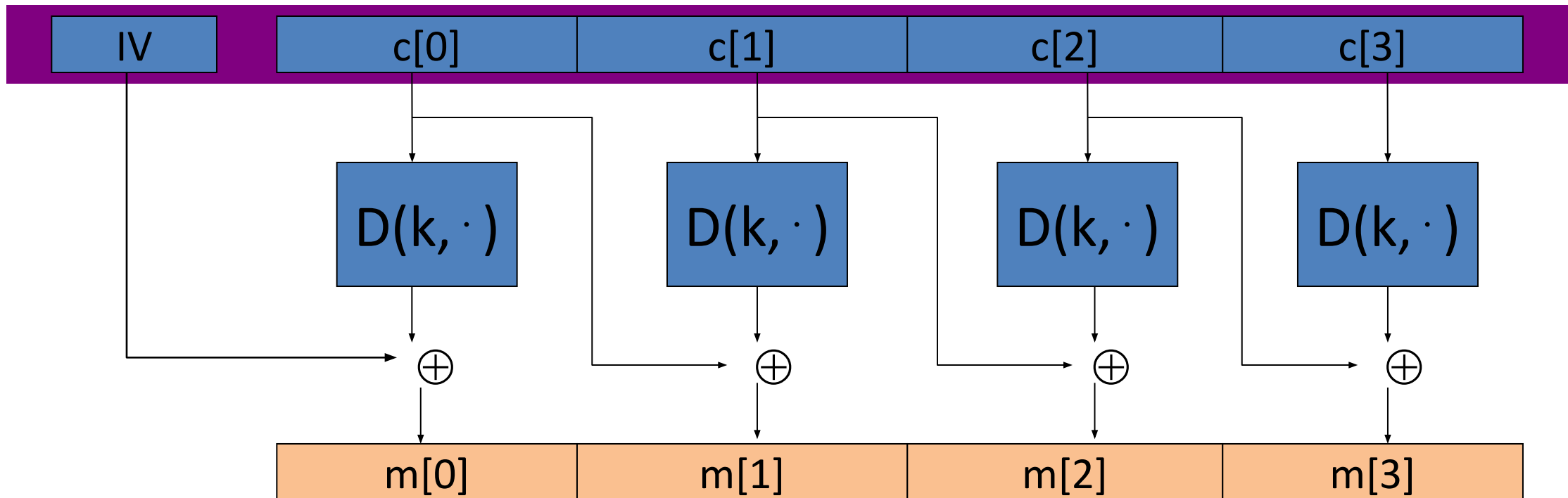
# Construction 1: CBC with random IV

Let  $(E,D)$  be a PRP.  $E_{\text{CBC}}(k,m)$ : choose random  $IV \in X$  and do:



# Decryption circuit

In symbols:  $c[0] = E(k, IV \oplus m[0]) \Rightarrow m[0] =$   



# CBC: CPA Analysis

CBC Theorem: For any  $L > 0$ ,

If  $E$  is a secure PRP over  $(K, X)$  then

$E_{\text{CBC}}$  is a sem. sec. under CPA over  $(K, X^L, X^{L+1})$ .

In particular, for a  $q$ -query adversary  $A$  attacking  $E_{\text{CBC}}$  there exists a PRP adversary  $B$  s.t.:

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{CPA}} [A, E_{\text{CBC}}] \leq 2 \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{PRP}} [B, E] + 2q^2 L^2 / |X|$$

Note: CBC is only secure as long as  $q^2 L^2 \ll |X|$

# An example

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{CPA}} [A, E_{\text{CBC}}] \leq 2 \cdot \text{PRP Adv}[B, E] + 2 q^2 L^2 / |X|$$

$q$  = # messages encrypted with  $k$  ,  $L$  = length of max message

Suppose we want  $\text{Adv}_{\text{CPA}} [A, E_{\text{CBC}}] \leq 1/2^{32} \iff q^2 L^2 / |X| < 1/2^{32}$

- AES:  $|X| = 2^{128} \implies q L < 2^{48}$

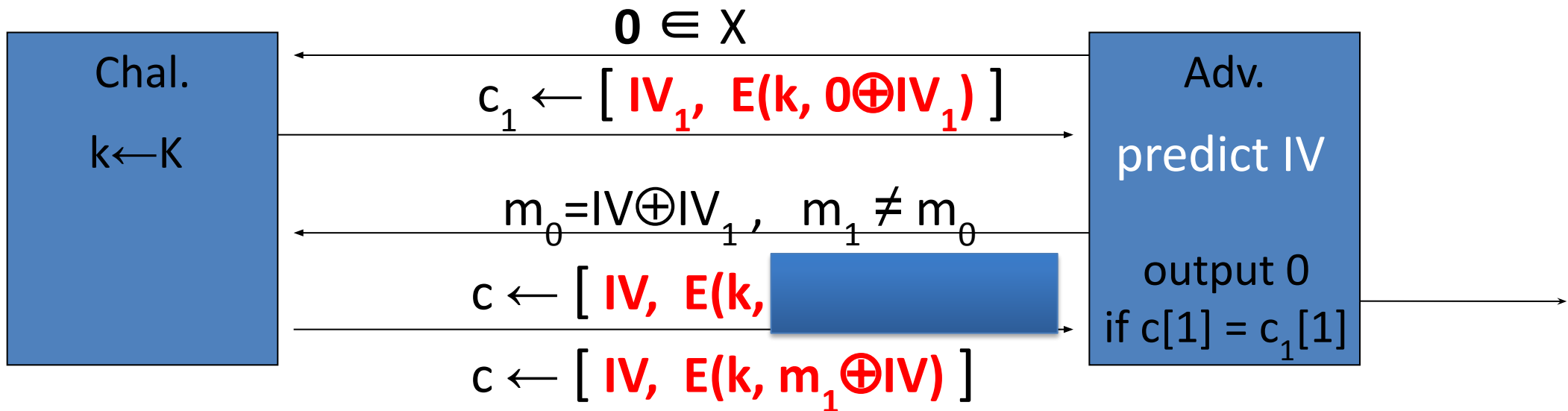
So, after  $2^{48}$  AES blocks, must change key

- 3DES:  $|X| = 2^{64} \implies q L < 2^{16}$

# Warning: an attack on CBC with rand. IV

CBC where attacker can predict the IV is not CPA-secure !!

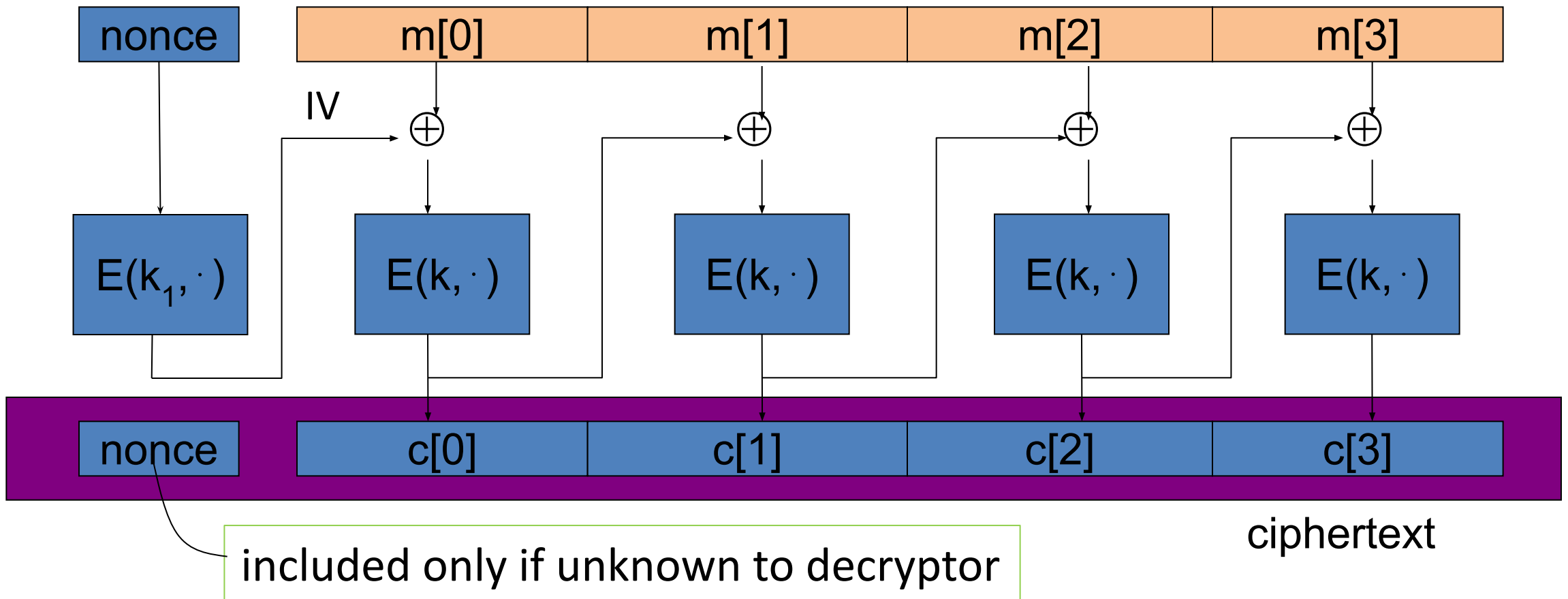
Suppose given  $c \leftarrow E_{\text{CBC}}(k, m)$  can predict IV for next message



Bug in SSL/TLS 1.0: IV for record #i is last CT block of record #(i-1)

# Construction 1': nonce-based CBC

- Cipher block chaining with unique nonce:  $\text{key} = (k, k_1)$   
unique nonce means:  $(\text{key}, n)$  pair is used for only one message

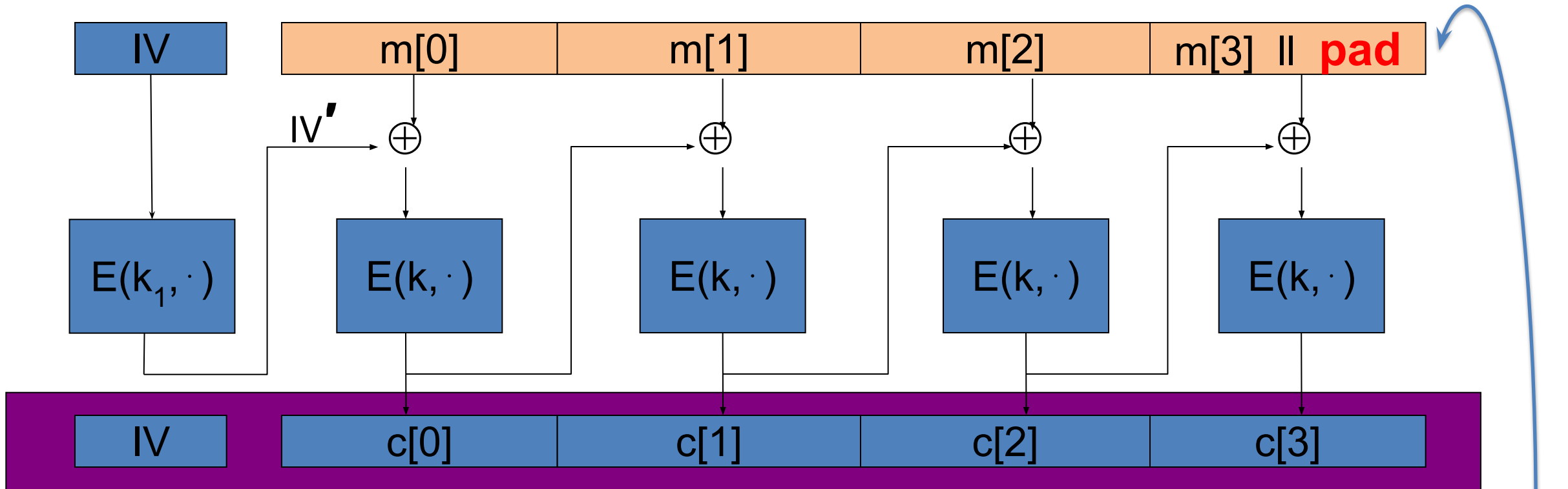


# An example Crypto API (OpenSSL)

```
void AES_cbc_encrypt(  
    const unsigned char *in,  
    unsigned char *out,  
    size_t length,  
    const AES_KEY *key,  
    unsigned char *ivec, ← user supplies IV  
    AES_ENCRYPT or AES_DECRYPT);
```

When nonce is non random need to encrypt it before use

# A CBC technicality: padding



TLS: for  $n > 0$ ,  $n$  byte pad is 

$n$	$n$	$n$	$\dots$	$n$
-----	-----	-----	---------	-----

  
if no pad needed, add a dummy block

[Padding](#)  
[Oracle Attacks](#)

removed  
during  
decryption



Using CBC

# Samsung Shattered Encryption on 100M Phones

One cryptography expert said that 'serious flaws' in the way Samsung phones encrypt sensitive material, as revealed by academics, are 'embarrassingly bad.'

Samsung shipped an estimated 100 million smartphones with botched encryption, including models ranging from the 2017 Galaxy S8 on up to last year's Galaxy S21.

Researchers at Tel Aviv University found what they called "severe" cryptographic design flaws that could have let attackers siphon the devices' hardware-based cryptographic keys: keys that unlock the treasure trove of security-critical data that's found in smartphones.

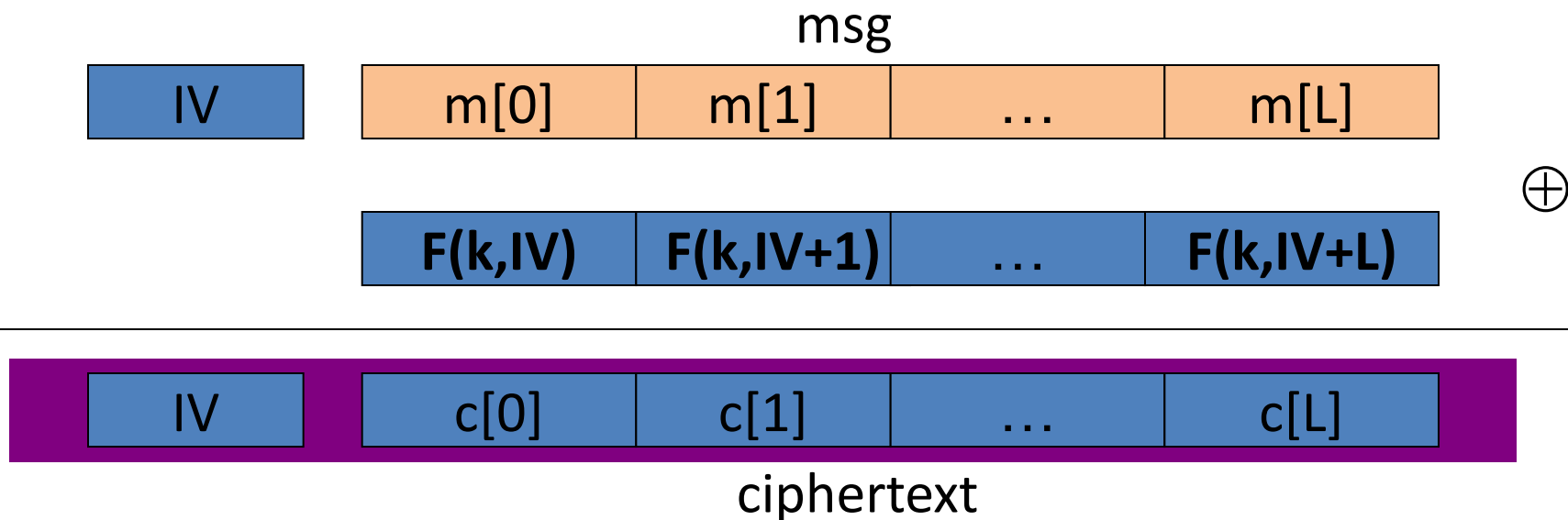
What's more, cyber attackers could even exploit Samsung's cryptographic missteps – since addressed in multiple CVEs – to downgrade a device's security protocols. That would set up a phone to be vulnerable to future attacks: a practice known as **IV (initialization vector) reuse** attacks. IV reuse attacks screw with the encryption randomization that ensures that even if multiple messages with identical plaintext are encrypted, the generated corresponding ciphertexts will each be distinct.

<https://threatpost.com/samsung-shattered-encryption-on-100m-phones/178606/>

# Construction 2: rand ctr-mode

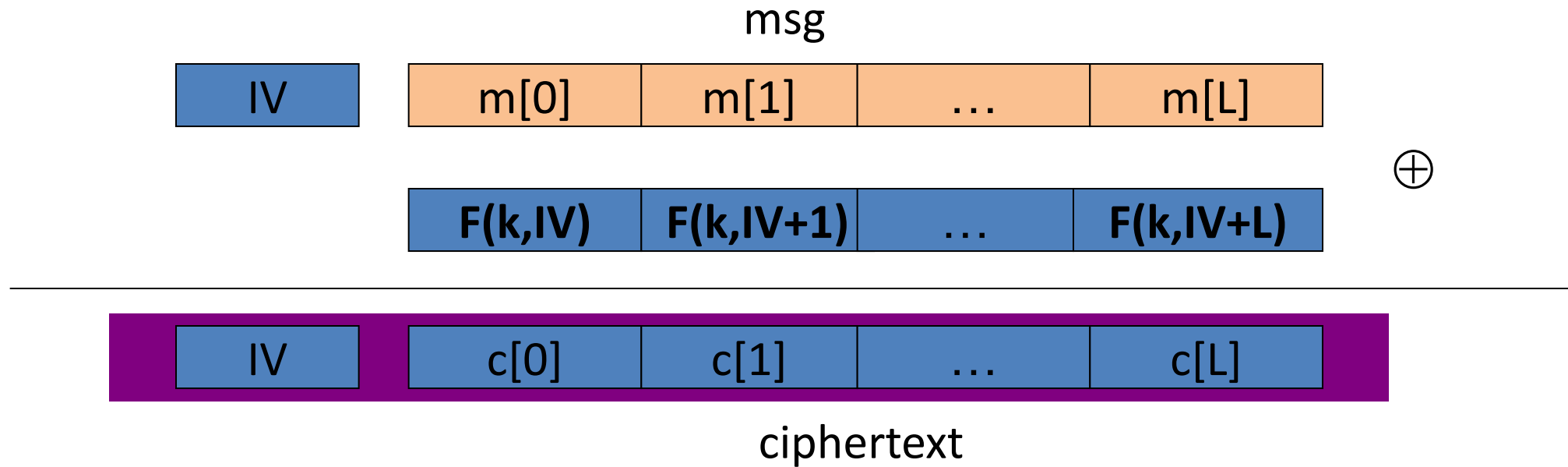
Let  $F: K \times \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^n$  be a secure PRF.

$E(k,m)$ : choose a random  $IV \in \{0,1\}^n$  and do:

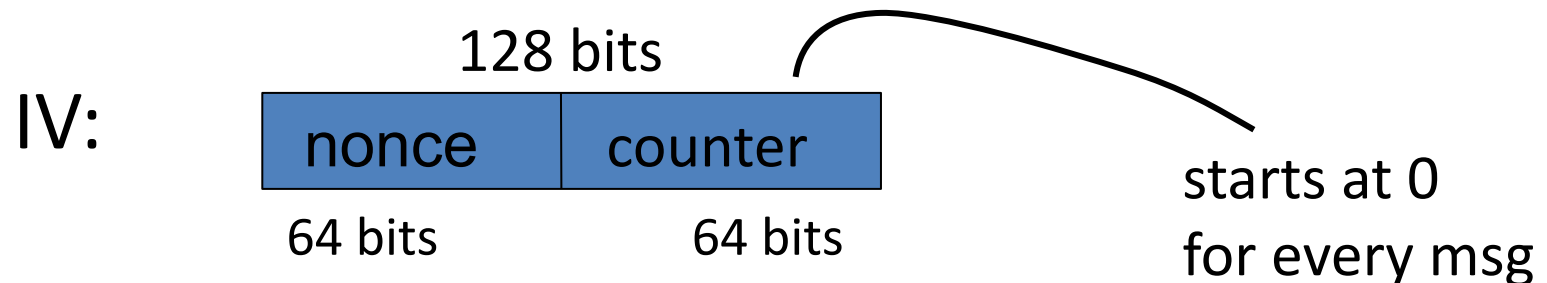


note: parallelizable (unlike CBC)

# Construction 2': nonce ctr-mode



To ensure  $F(k,x)$  is never used more than once, choose IV as:



# rand ctr-mode (rand. IV): CPA analysis

- Counter-mode Theorem: For any  $L > 0$ ,

If  $F$  is a secure PRF over  $(K, X, X)$  then

$E_{\text{CTR}}$  is a sem. sec. under CPA over  $(K, X^L, X^{L+1})$ .

In particular, for a  $q$ -query adversary  $A$  attacking  $E_{\text{CTR}}$

there exists a PRF adversary  $B$  s.t.:

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{CPA}}[A, E_{\text{CTR}}] \leq 2 \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{PRF}}[B, F] + 2q^2L / |X|$$

Note: ctr-mode only secure as long as  $q^2L \ll |X|$ . Better than CBC !

# An example

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{CPA}} [A, E_{\text{CTR}}] \leq 2 \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{PRF}} [B, E] + 2q^2 L / |X|$$

$q$  = # messages encrypted with  $k$  ,  $L$  = length of max message

Suppose we want  $\text{Adv}_{\text{CPA}} [A, E_{\text{CTR}}] \leq 1/2^{32} \iff q^2 L / |X| < 1/2^{32}$

- AES:  $|X| = 2^{128} \implies q L^{1/2} < 2^{48}$

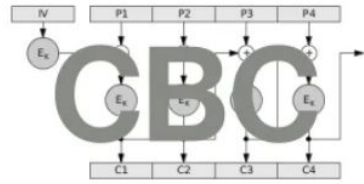
So, after  $2^{32}$  CTs each of len  $2^{32}$ , must change key

(total of  $2^{64}$  AES blocks)

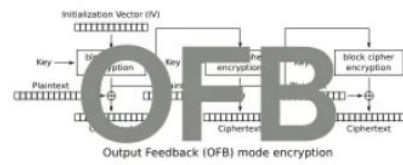
# Comparison: ctr vs. CBC

	CBC	ctr mode
uses	PRP	PRF
parallel processing	No	Yes
Security of rand. enc.	$q^2 L^2 \ll  X $	$q^2 L \ll  X $
dummy padding block	Yes	No
1 byte msgs (nonce-based)	16x expansion	no expansion

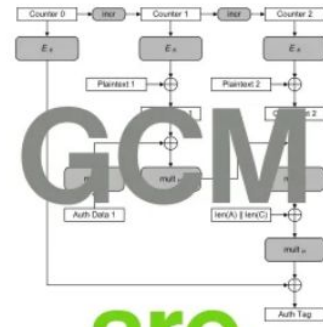
(for CBC, dummy padding block can be solved using ciphertext stealing)



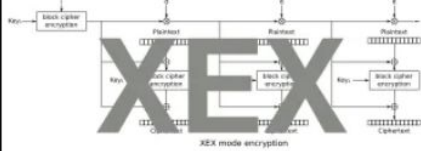
All



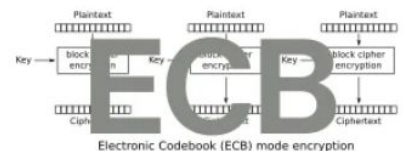
modes



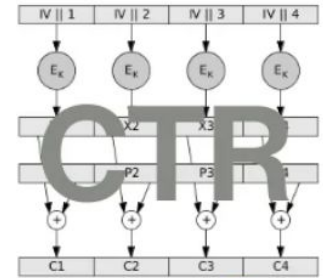
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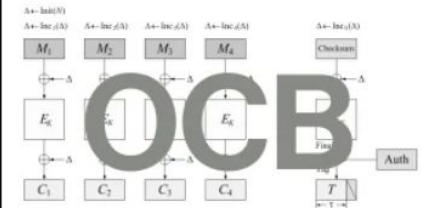
beautiful



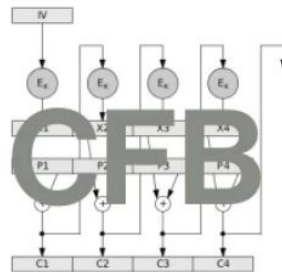
not you



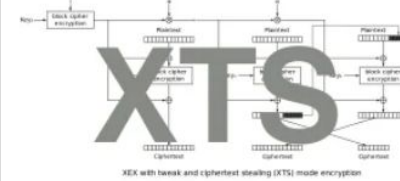
and



deserve



to be



used



# Summary

- PRPs and PRFs: a useful abstraction of block ciphers.
- We examined two security notions: (security against eavesdropping)
  1. Semantic security against one-time CPA.
  2. Semantic security against many-time CPA.

Note: neither mode ensures data integrity.
- Stated security results summarized in the following table:

Goal \ Power	one-time key	Many-time key (CPA)	CPA and integrity
Sem. Sec.	stream-ciphers det. ctr-mode	rand CBC rand ctr-mode	later



# **Block Cipher Attacks**

# Exhaustive Search for block cipher key

**Goal:** given a few input output pairs  $(m_i, c_i = E(k, m_i))$   $i=1,\dots,3$   
find key  $k$ .

Lemma: Suppose DES is an *ideal cipher*

(  $2^{56}$  random invertible functions )

Then  $\forall m, c$  there is at most one key  $k$  s.t.  $c = \text{DES}(k, m)$

Proof:

$$P[\exists k' \neq k : c = \text{DES}(k, m) = \text{DES}(k', m)] \leq \sum_{k' \in \{0,1\}^{56}} P[\text{DES}(k, m) = \text{DES}(k', m)] \leq 2^{56} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{64}} = \frac{1}{2^8}$$

with prob.  $\geq 1 - 1/256 \approx 99.5\%$

# Exhaustive Search for block cipher key

For two DES pairs  $(m_1, c_1 = \text{DES}(k, m_1))$ ,  $(m_2, c_2 = \text{DES}(k, m_2))$   
unicity prob.  $\approx 1 - 1/2^{71}$

For AES-128: given two inp/out pairs, unicity prob.  $\approx 1 - 1/2^{128}$

$\Rightarrow$  two input/output pairs are enough for exhaustive key search.

# Strengthening DES against ex. search

## Method 1: **Triple-DES**

- Let  $E : K \times M \rightarrow M$  be a block cipher
- Define  $\mathbf{3E} : K^3 \times M \rightarrow M$  as

$$\mathbf{3E}((k_1, k_2, k_3), m) = E(k_1, D(k_2, E(k_3, m)))$$

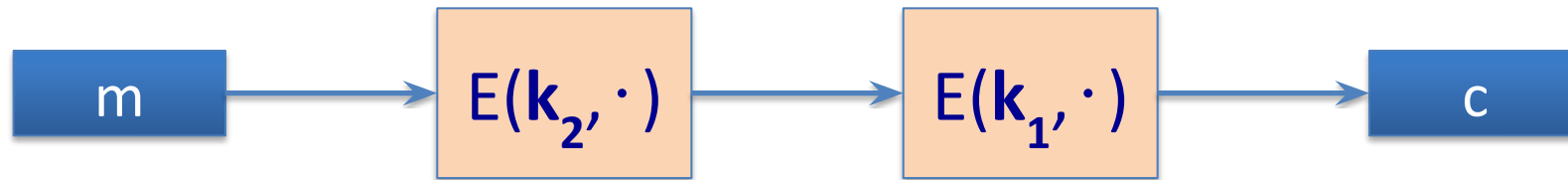
For 3DES: key-size =  $3 \times 56 = 168$  bits.      3×slower than DES.

(simple attack in time  $\approx 2^{118}$ )

# Why not double DES?

- Define  $2E((k_1, k_2), m) = E(k_1, E(k_2, m))$

key-len = 112 bits for DES



Attack:  $M = (m_1, \dots, m_{10})$ ,  $C = (c_1, \dots, c_{10})$ .

- step 1: build table.  
sort on 2<sup>nd</sup> column

$k^0 = 00\dots00$	$E(k^0, M)$
$k^1 = 00\dots01$	$E(k^1, M)$
$k^2 = 00\dots10$	$E(k^2, M)$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$k^N = 11\dots11$	$E(k^N, M)$

} 2<sup>56</sup> entries

# Meet in the middle attack



Attack:  $M = (m_1, \dots, m_{10})$  ,  $C = (c_1, \dots, c_{10})$

- step 1: build table.
- Step 2: for all  $k \in \{0,1\}^{56}$  do:  
test if  $D(k, C)$  is in 2<sup>nd</sup> column.

if so then  $E(k^i, M) = D(k, C) \Rightarrow (k^i, k) = (k_2, k_1)$

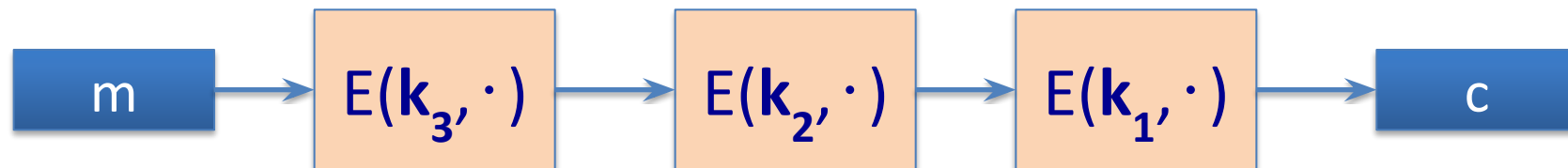
$k^0 = 00\dots00$	$E(k^0, M)$
$k^1 = 00\dots01$	$E(k^1, M)$
$k^2 = 00\dots10$	$E(k^2, M)$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$k^N = 11\dots11$	$E(k^N, M)$

# Meet in the middle attack



Time =  $2^{56} \log(2^{56}) + 2^{56} \log(2^{56}) < 2^{63} \ll 2^{112}$  , space  $\approx 2^{56}$

Same attack on 3DES: Time =  $2^{118}$  , space  $\approx 2^{56}$





# Method 2: DESX

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

Define EX as  $EX((k_1, k_2, k_3), m) = k_1 \oplus E(k_2, m \oplus k_3)$

For DESX: key-len = 64+56+64 = 184 bits

... but easy attack in time  $2^{64+56} = 2^{120}$

Note:  $k_1 \oplus E(k_2, m)$  and  $E(k_2, m \oplus k_1)$  does nothing !!

# Quantum attacks

Generic search problem:

Let  $f: X \rightarrow \{0,1\}$  be a function.

Goal: find  $x \in X$  s.t.  $f(x)=1$ .

Classical computer: best generic algorithm time =  $O(|X|)$

Quantum computer [[Grover '96](#)]: time =  $O(|X|^{1/2})$

Can quantum computers be built: unknown

# Quantum exhaustive search

Given  $m, c=E(k,m)$  define

$$f(k) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } E(k,m) = c \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Grover  $\Rightarrow$  quantum computer can find  $k$  in time  $O(|K|^{1/2})$

DES: time  $\approx 2^{28}$  , AES-128: time  $\approx 2^{64}$

quantum computer  $\Rightarrow$  256-bits key ciphers (e.g. AES-256)

# PRF Switching Lemma

Any secure PRP is also a secure PRF, if  $|X|$  is sufficiently large.

Lemma: Let  $E$  be a PRP over  $(K, X)$

Then for any  $q$ -query adversary  $A$ :

$$\left| \text{Adv}_{\text{PRF}}[A, E] - \text{Adv}_{\text{PRP}}[A, E] \right| < q^2 / 2|X|$$

---

$\Rightarrow$  Suppose  $|X|$  is large so that  $q^2 / 2|X|$  is “negligible”

Then  $\text{Adv}_{\text{PRP}}[A, E]$  “negligible”  $\Rightarrow \text{Adv}_{\text{PRF}}[A, E]$  “negligible”

**Ευχαριστώ και καλή μέρα εύχομαι!**

Keep hacking!