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HUMAN
ELEMENT

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Generic Attack on Iterated Tweakable FX Constructions



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#RSAC

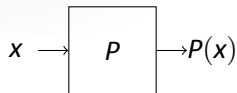
Introduction

Permutation

A bijective pseudorandom function.

$$P : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$$

Example: Keccak-f

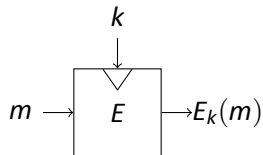


Block Cipher

A family of permutations indexed by a (secret) key.

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

Example: AES, DES



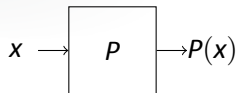
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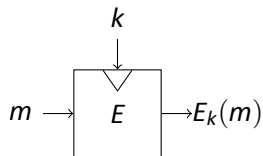


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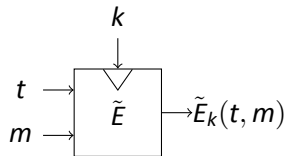


Tweakable Block Cipher

A family of permutations indexed by a key and a (public) tweak.

$$\tilde{E} : \{0, 1\}^\kappa \times \{0, 1\}^\tau \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$$

Example: Deoxys, Skinny



Introduction

All those primitives are used for Authenticated Encryption.

- Permutation: Sponge based modes (Monkey duplex, Beetle, ...)
- Block Cipher: Most common (GCM, CCM, ...)
- Tweakable Block Cipher: Needed for analysis of OCB, XTS, PMAC, ...

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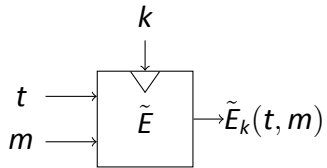
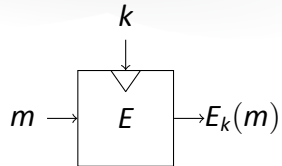
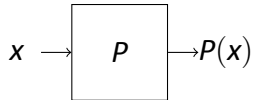
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2-Step Proofs

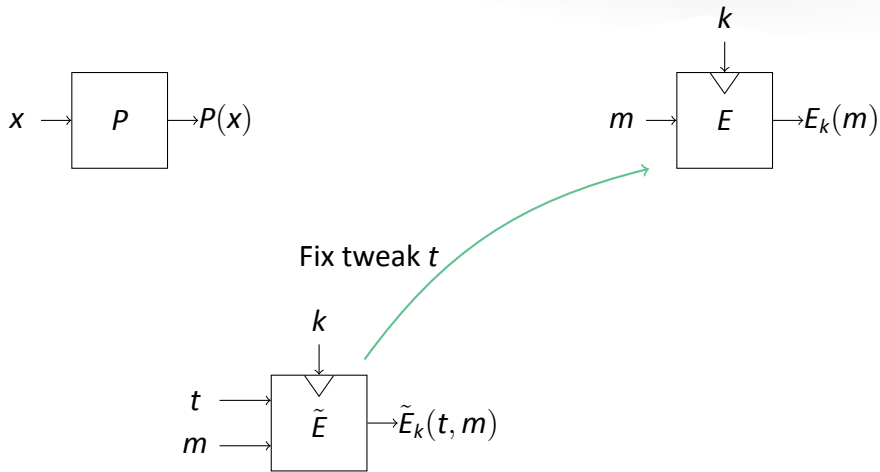
First prove a mode is secure using a Tweakable Block Cipher.

Then build a Tweakable Block Cipher from an existing Block Cipher.

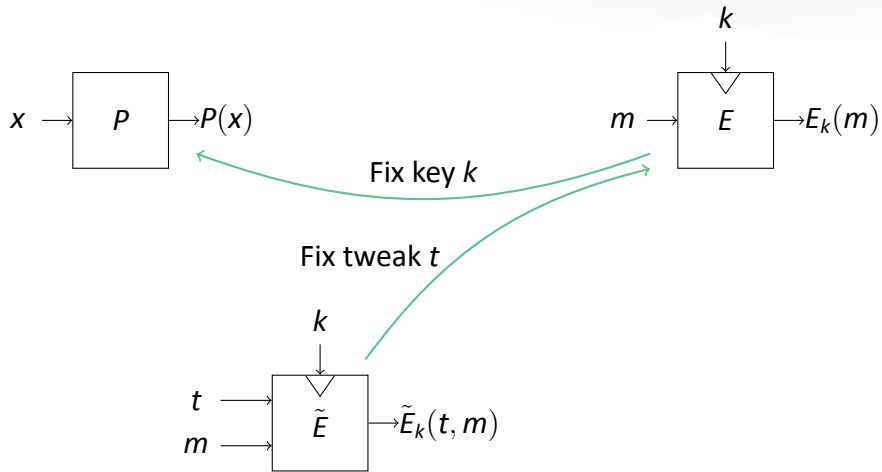
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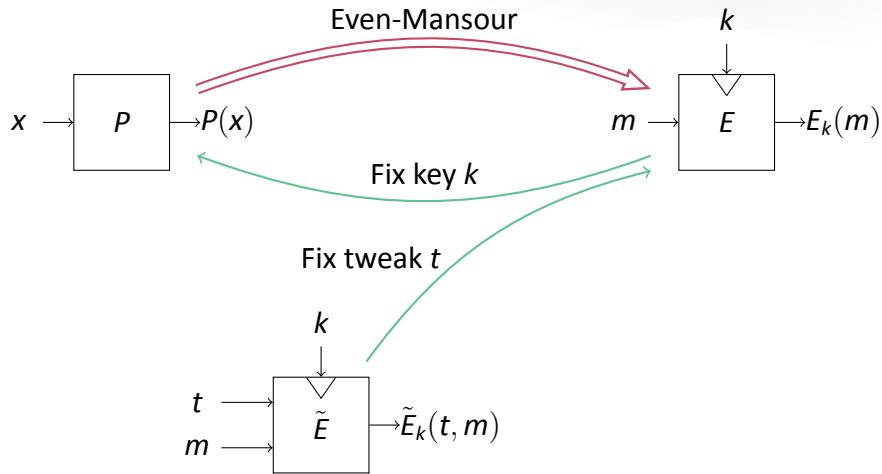
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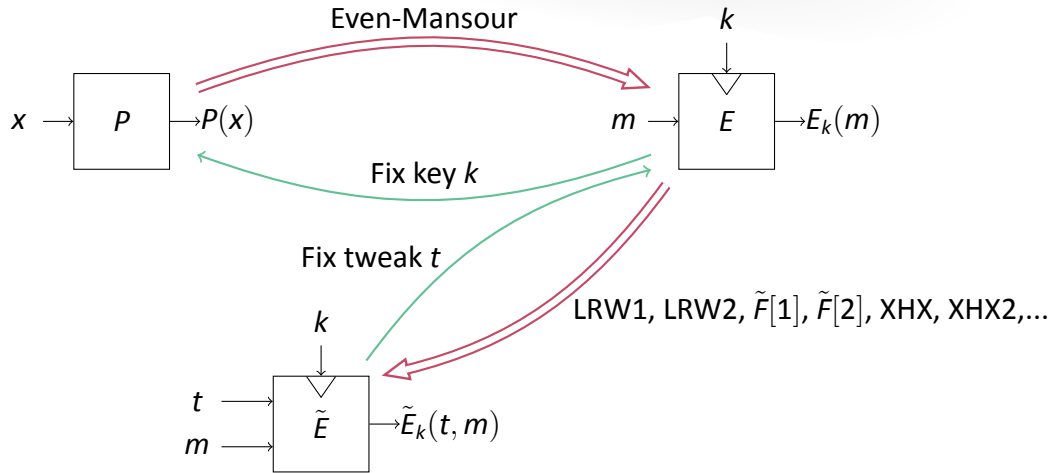
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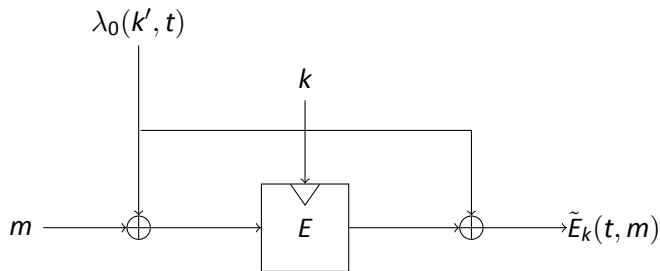
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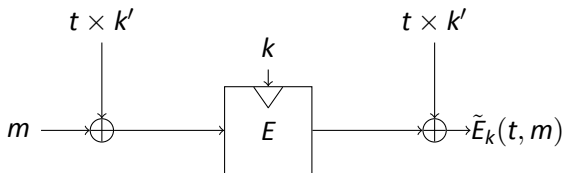
LRW2[Liskov, Rivest, Wagner, 2011]

It uses:

- 1 n -bit AXU function $\lambda_0(k', t)$.
- 2 secret values k, k' .



Secure Tweakable Block Cipher up to $2^{n/2}$ calls.

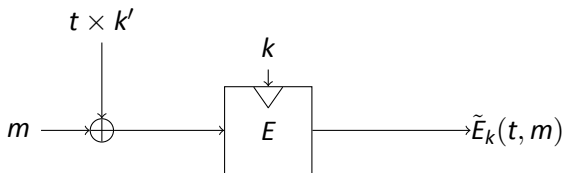
XEX[Rogaway, 2004]

Uses Galois field multiplication $t \times k'$ for a secret value k' .

Preserves **CCA** security.

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XE[Rogaway, 2004]

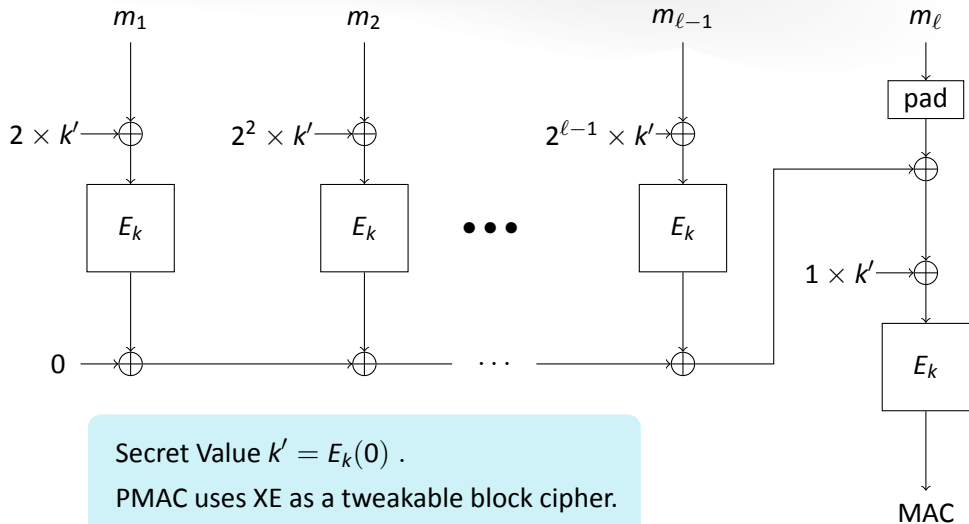


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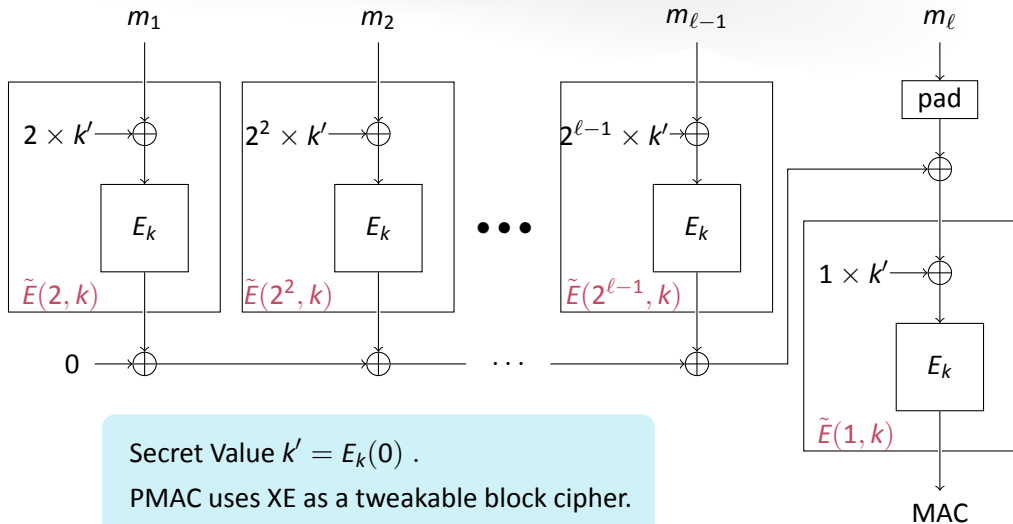
Preserves CPA security.

Secure Tweakable Block Cipher up to $2^{n/2}$ calls.

2-step proof for PMAC



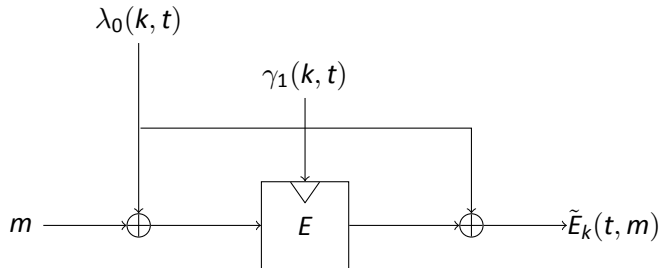
2-step proof for PMAC



XHX[Jha, List, Minematsu, Mishra, Nandi]

It uses:

- 1 n -bit subkey $\lambda_0(k, t)$.
- 1 κ -bit subkey $\gamma_1(k, t)$.

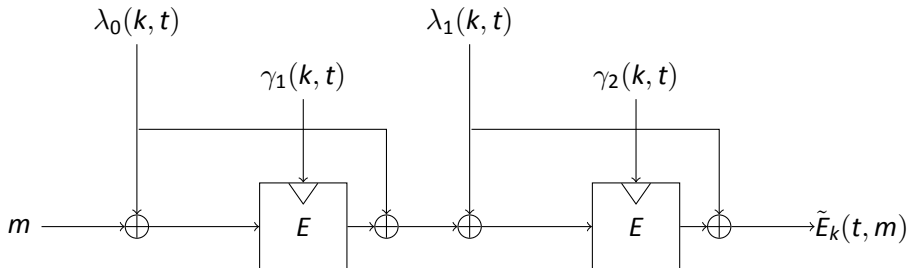


Typically λ_0 and γ_1 can use field multiplication with a secret derived with k .
Allowing rekeying improves the security up to $2^{\frac{n+\kappa}{2}}$.

XHX2 [Lee, Lee]

It uses:

- 2 n -bit subkeys $\lambda_0(k, t)$, $\lambda_1(k, t)$.
- 2 κ -bit subkeys $\gamma_1(k, t)$, $\gamma_2(k, t)$.



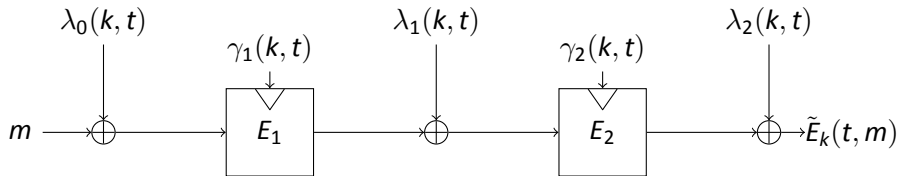
Cascade of two independent XHX.

Cascading improves the security up to $2^{\frac{2}{3}(n+\kappa)}$.

2-Round Tweakable FX

It uses:

- 3 n -bit subkeys $\lambda_0(k, t)$, $\lambda_1(k, t)$, $\lambda_2(k, t)$.
- 2 κ -bit subkeys $\gamma_1(k, t)$, $\gamma_2(k, t)$.



Generalization

We don't assume anything on subkey functions.

\implies Attack works for any 2-round schemes !

Information Theoretic Setting

Proofs say an attacker needs **at least** this much data.

Proofs can get better, it is a **lower bound**.

Information Theoretic cryptanalysis shows an **upper bound** on the provable security.

A proof is **tight** when cryptanalysis matches.

Computations are **irrelevant**.

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Information Theoretic Key Recovery

It's all about the **query complexity**.

We count calls to tweakable block cipher $\tilde{E}_k(\cdot, \cdot)$ and block ciphers $E_1(\cdot, \cdot), E_2(\cdot, \cdot)$.

Computation of subkey functions are **not counted**.

GOAL: Recover the **master key** k .

Our Result

How far can we hope to go by cascading and rekeying?
Is the proof for XHX2 tight?

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This work

Information theoretic cryptanalysis.

Query complexity of $\mathcal{O}(2^{\frac{r}{r+1}(n+\kappa)})$.

Show that XHX and XHX2 proofs are tight.

Our Strategy

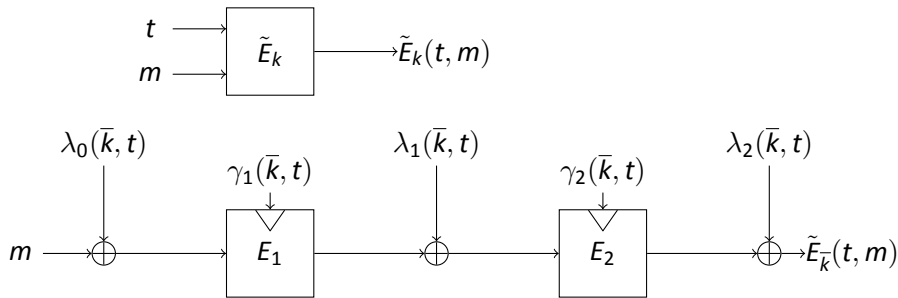
We follow the same strategy as [Gaži, 2013] to improve and apply it in the tweakable block cipher setting.

Strategy

Build a **contradictory path** for each wrong key guesses until one is left.

Contradictory Path

1. Query $c = \tilde{E}_k(t, m)$ for some (t, m) .
2. Make a guess \bar{k} of the master key k .
3. Compute $\bar{c} = \tilde{E}_{\bar{k}}(t, m)$.
4. If $c \neq \bar{c}$ then **Contradictory Path** then $\bar{k} \neq k$.



Counting queries

- No issue with **guessing all the keys** in information theoretic setting.
- However we can't make a block cipher query for each guess, it's too much !
- We need to **store and reuse previous queries** as much as we can.

Tweakable Block Cipher

As we can have security $\gg 2^n$ we also can have online queries $\gg 2^n$!

Notations

- n and κ the block ciphers state and key size respectively.
- ℓ_0 the number of online queries to $\tilde{E}_k(t, m)$.
- ℓ the number of offline queries to $E(\bar{k}, m)$..

Total Asymptotic Query Complexity is $\mathcal{O}(\ell_0 + \ell)$.

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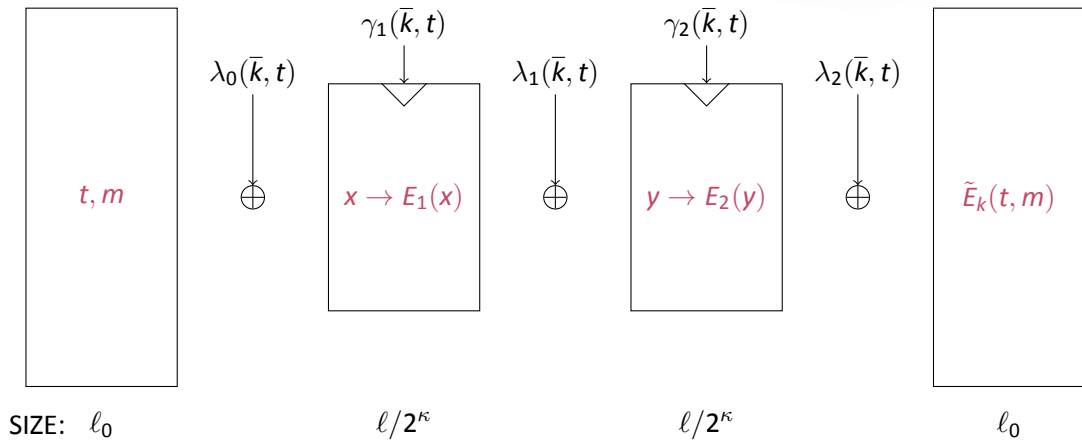
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Non-Adaptative Known Plaintext Attack

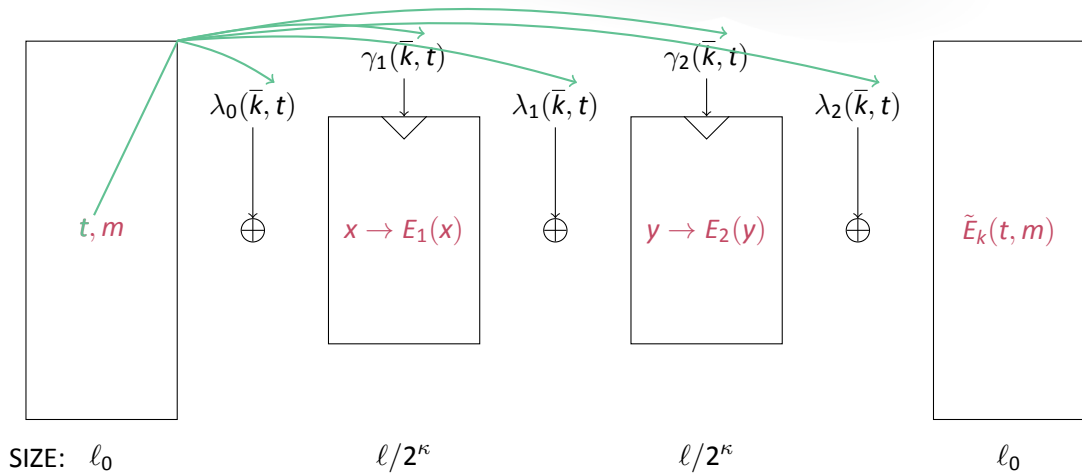
Observed ℓ_0 tweak/plaintext/ciphertext triples.

Compute random $\ell/2^\kappa$ input/output of block ciphers under each κ -bit subkey.

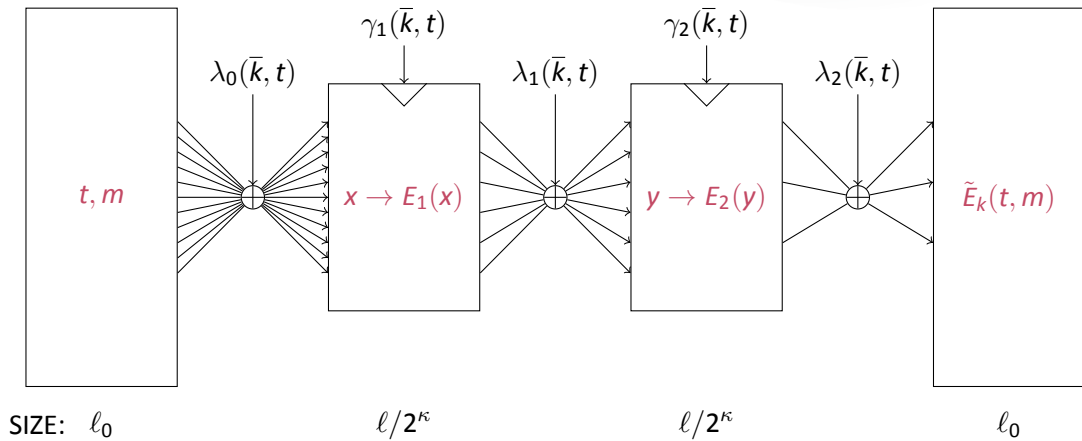
Random Path Reconstruction for 2 Rounds



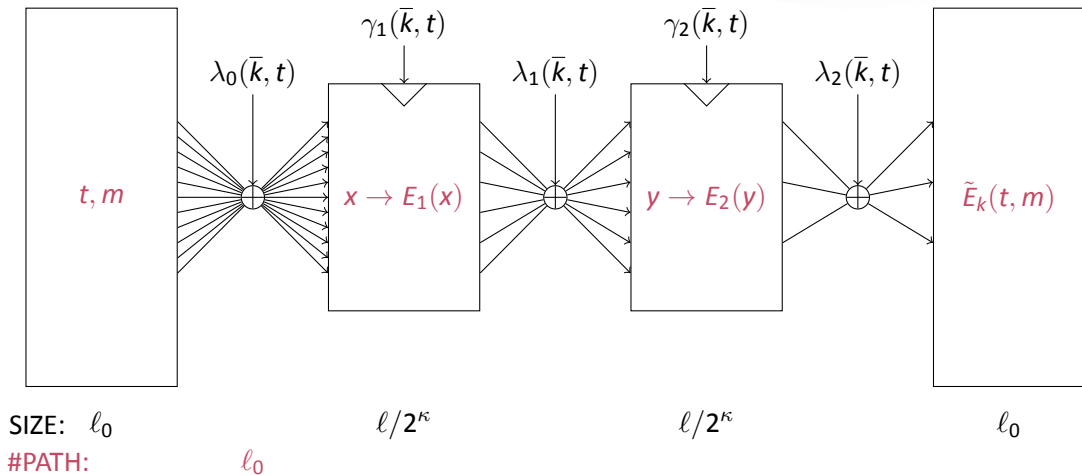
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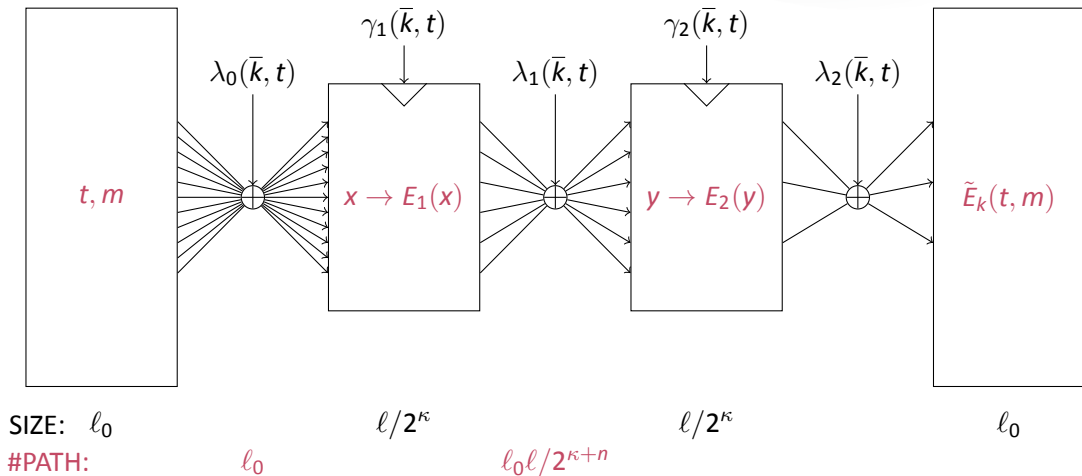
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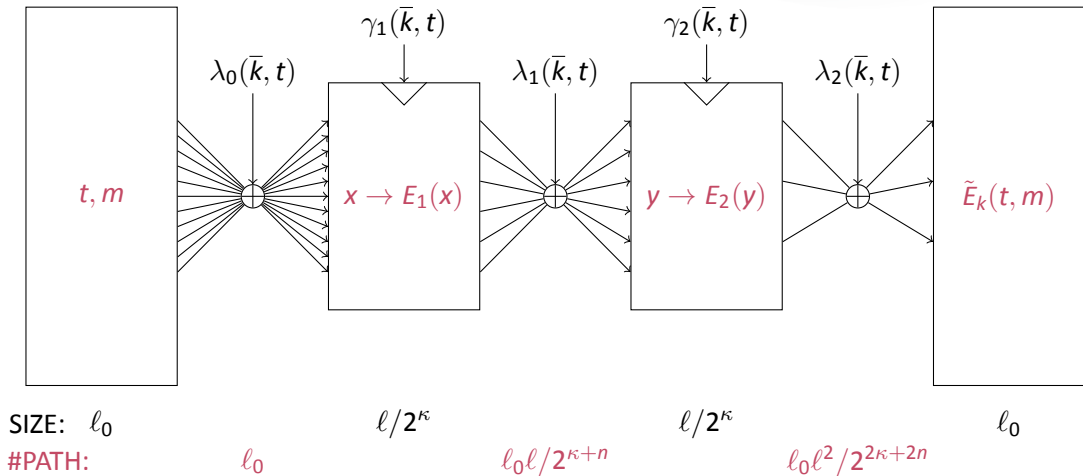
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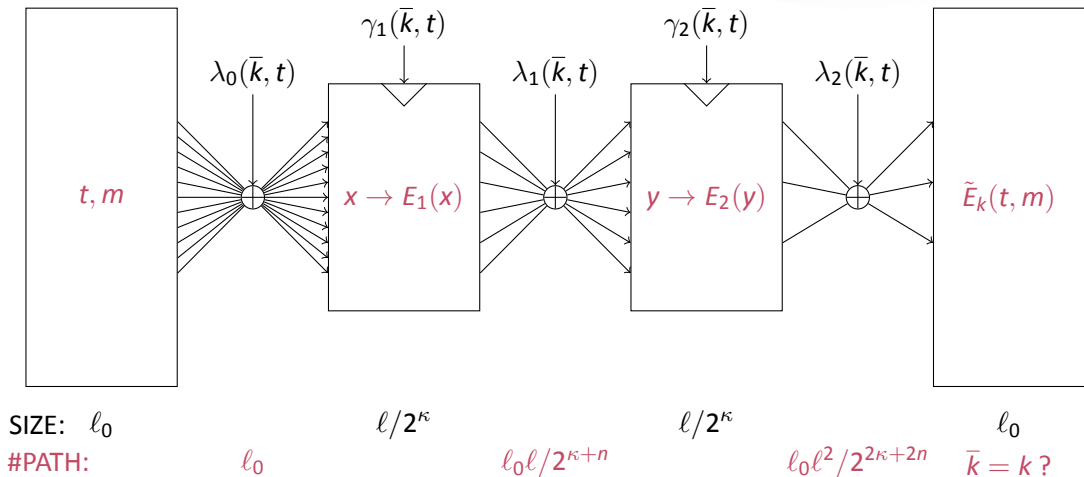
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Query Complexity

The number of path we can reconstruct is $\ell_0 \ell^2 / 2^{2\kappa+2n}$ on average for all guesses \bar{k} .

We put $\ell_0 = \ell$ to minimize $\ell_0 + \ell$.

$$\ell_0 \ell^2 / 2^{2\kappa+2n} = 1$$

$$\ell^3 / 2^{2\kappa+2n} = 1$$

$$\ell^3 = 2^{2\kappa+2n}$$

$$\ell = 2^{\frac{2}{3}(\kappa+n)} = \ell_0$$

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Result

The query complexity of the attack is $\mathcal{O}(2^{\frac{2}{3}(\kappa+n)})$.

Parameter Constraint

There is no issue with having $\ell_0 > 2^n$ as the tweak can be of arbitrary size.
However we need $\ell/2^\kappa \geq 1$ for our previous reasoning to hold.

$$\ell/2^\kappa \geq 1$$

$$2^{\frac{2}{3}(\kappa+n)}/2^\kappa \geq 1$$

$$\frac{2}{3}\kappa + \frac{2}{3}n - \kappa \geq 0$$

$$-\kappa + 2n \geq 0$$

$$\kappa \leq 2n$$

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Constraint

Cryptanalysis works when the block cipher key size is **less or equal** to twice the state size.

Generalization for r rounds

The attack works for any number r of rounds.

Result

The query complexity of the attack is $\mathcal{O}(2^{\frac{r}{r+1}(\kappa+n)})$.

Constraint

Cryptanalysis works when $\kappa \leq rn$.

Technical Details

Need to ensure that the right key k is detected while **all the wrong guesses** be dismissed.
Possible false positive when the master key k is large !

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Need to ensure that the right key k is detected while **all the wrong guesses** be dismissed.

Possible false positive when the master key k is large !

Let k be a $\tilde{\kappa}$ -bit value then:

Affined query complexity

The asymptotic query complexity is $\mathcal{O}(2^{\frac{r}{r+1}(n+\kappa)} \cdot \sqrt[r+1]{\tilde{\kappa}/n})$.

It is still $\mathcal{O}(2^{\frac{r}{r+1}(n+\kappa)})$ whenever $\tilde{\kappa}$ is a multiple of n .

Each tweak must give different subkey values for this **key recovery** to work but if not, then, we have a **distinguisher**.

Results

Ref	Scheme	r	Proof	Known Attack	Our Generic Attack
[LisRivWag11]	LRW2	1	$2^{n/2}$	$2^{n/2}$	$2^{\frac{1}{2}(n+\kappa)}$
[Mennink15]	$\tilde{F}[1]$	1	$2^{\frac{2}{3}n}$	2^n	2^n (as $\kappa = n$)
[Mennink16]	XPX	1	$2^{n/2}$	$2^{n/2}$	$2^{n/2}$ (as $\kappa = 0$)
[JLMMN17]	XHX	1	$2^{\frac{1}{2}(n+\kappa)}$	$2^{\frac{1}{2}(n+\kappa)}$	$2^{\frac{1}{2}(n+\kappa)}$
[JLMMN17]	GXXH	1	$2^{\frac{1}{2}(n+\kappa)}$	none	$2^{\frac{1}{2}(n+\kappa)}$
[Mennink15]	$\tilde{F}[2]$	1	2^n	2^n	N.A.
[LisRivWag11]	LRW1	2	$2^{n/2}$	$2^{n/2}$	$2^{\frac{2}{3}(n+\kappa)}$
[LanShrTer12]	CLRW2	2	$2^{3n/4}$	$2^{3n/4}$	$2^{\frac{2}{3}(n+\kappa)}$
[LeeLee18]	XHX2	2	$2^{\frac{2}{3}(n+\kappa)}$	none	$2^{\frac{2}{3}(n+\kappa)}$

Take-Aways

- Cryptanalysis of the generalized tweakable FX construction for $r \geq 1$ rounds in $\mathcal{O}(2^{\frac{r}{r+1}(n+\kappa)})$ query complexity under standard assumptions.
- Shows tightness of proofs of GXHX and XHX2 which in turn show it is information theoretically optimal for $r = 1, 2$ rounds.
- Gives a security upper-bound for this strategy with $r \geq 3$ rounds.

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- Shows tightness of proofs of GXHX and XHX2 which in turn show it is information theoretically **optimal for $r = 1, 2$ rounds**.
- Gives a **security upper-bound** for this strategy with $r \geq 3$ rounds.

Open Questions:

- How simple can the subkey functions be while maintaining security?
- Can we prove security for $r \geq 3$ rounds?
- What concrete application for those improved schemes?