Block ciphers

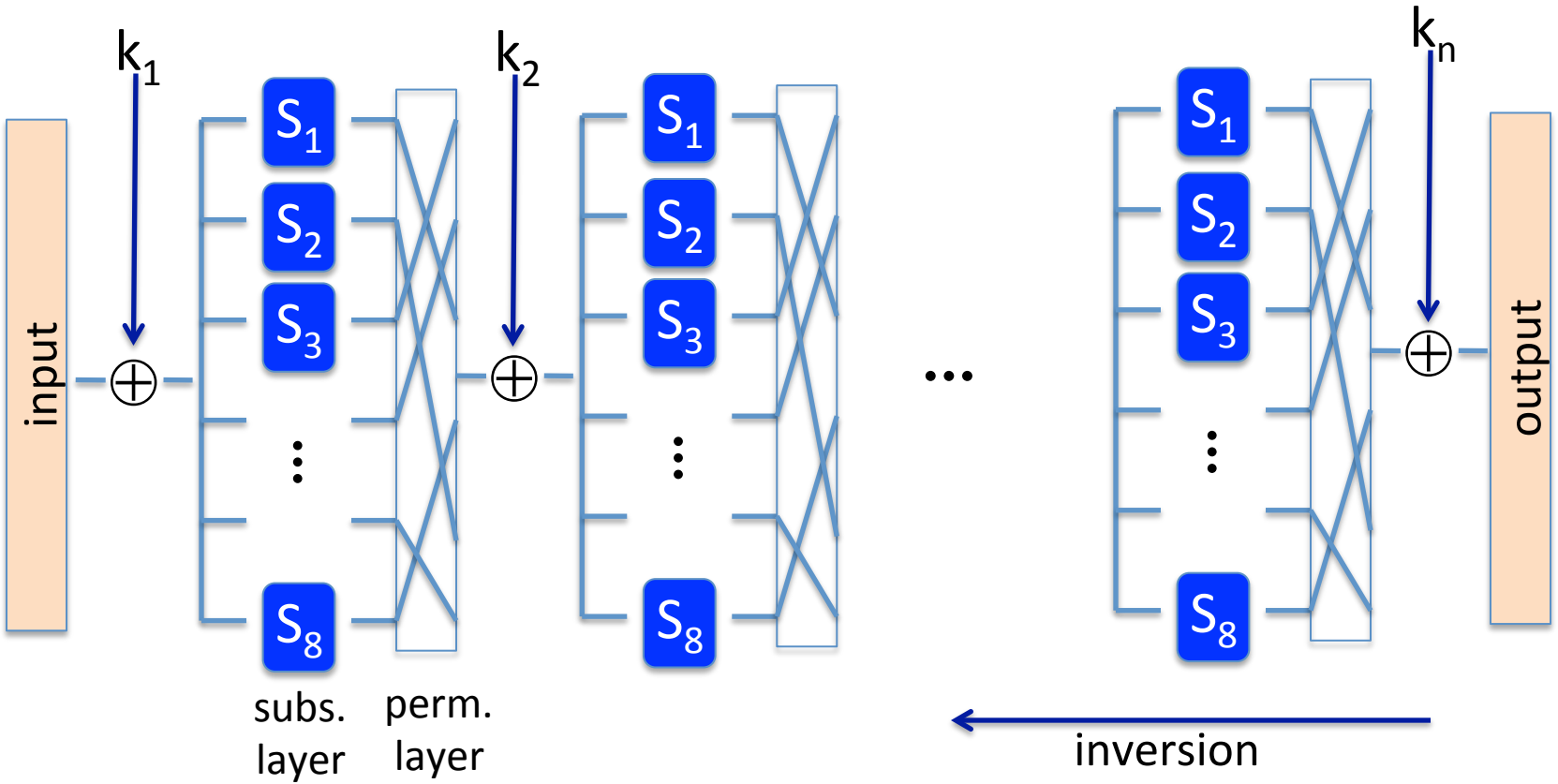
The AES block cipher

The AES process

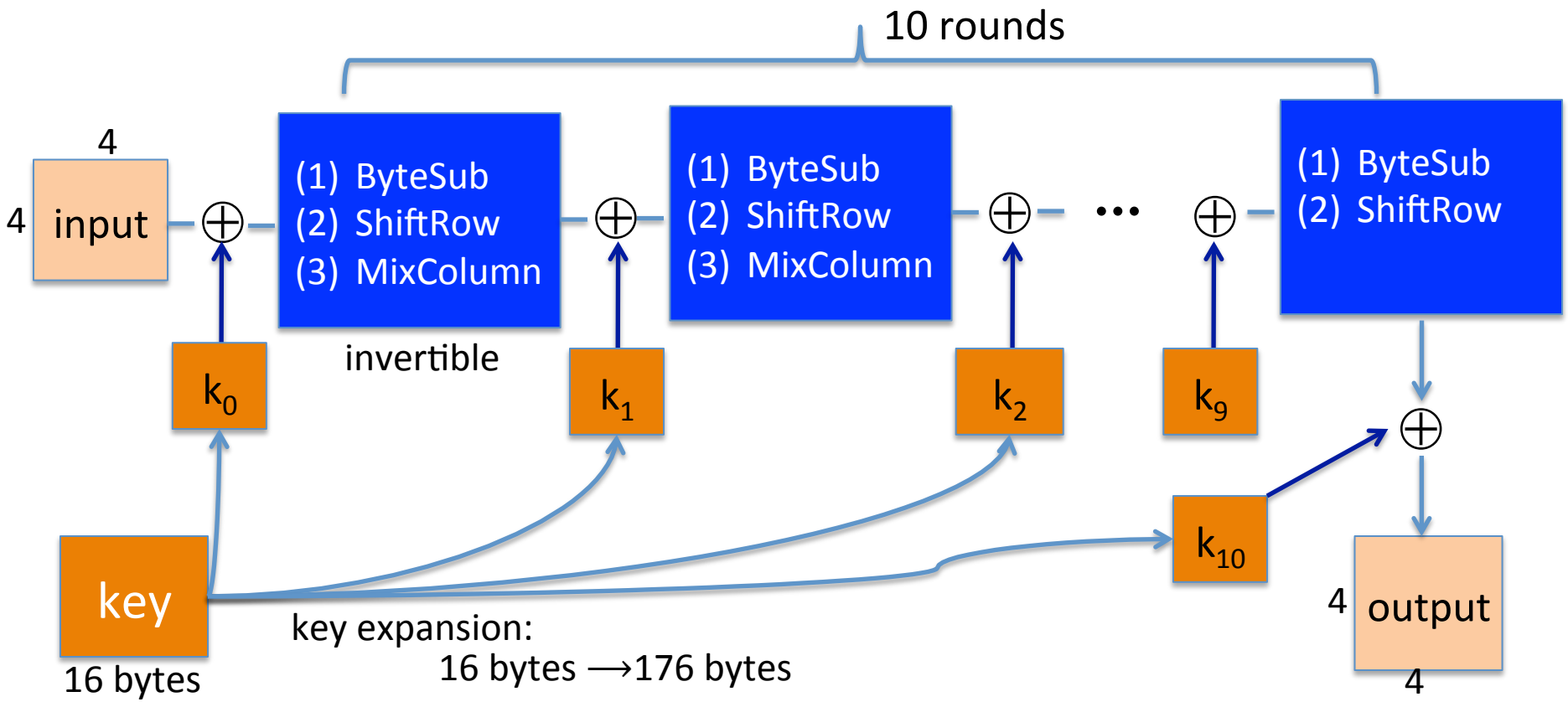
- 1997: NIST publishes request for proposal
- 1998: 15 submissions. Five claimed attacks.
- 1999: NIST chooses 5 finalists
- 2000: NIST chooses Rijndael as AES (designed in Belgium)

Key sizes: 128, 192, 256 bits. Block size: 128 bits

AES is a Subs-Perm network (not Feistel)

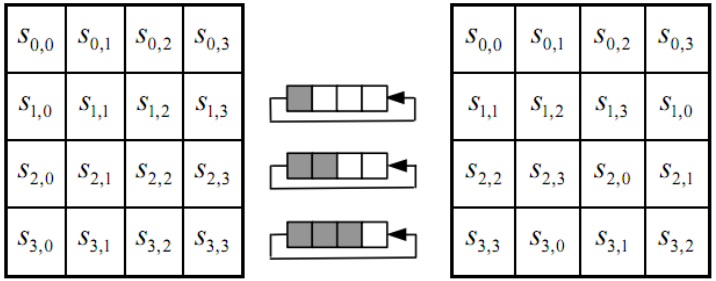


AES-128 schematic

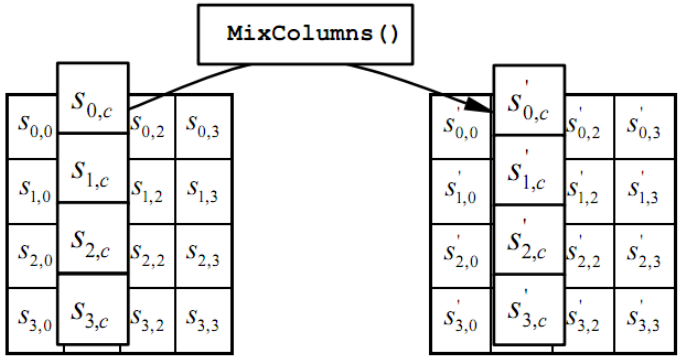


The round function

- **ByteSub**: a 1 byte S-box. 256 byte table (easily computable)
- **ShiftRows**:



- **MixColumns**:

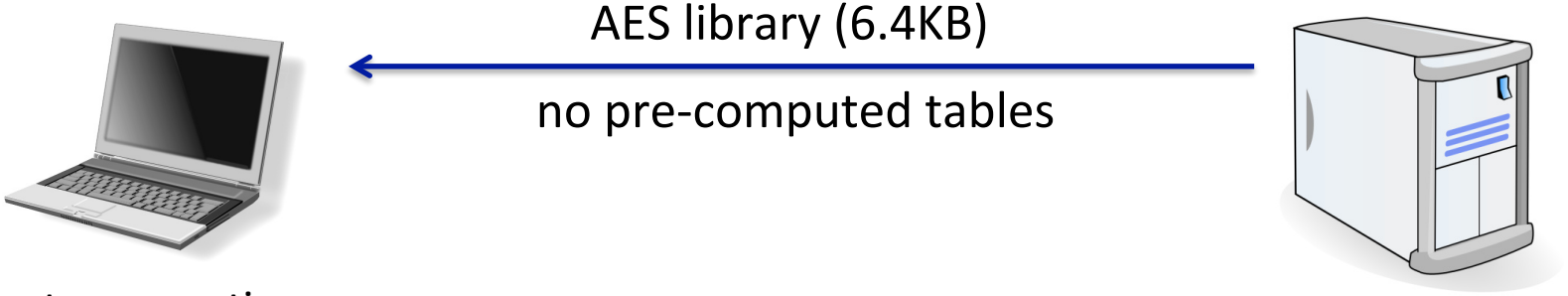


Code size/performance tradeoff

	Code size	Performance
Pre-compute round functions (24KB or 4KB)	largest	fastest: table lookups and xors
Pre-compute S-box only (256 bytes)	smaller	slower
No pre-computation	smallest	slowest

Example: Javascript AES

AES in the browser:



Prior to encryption:
pre-compute tables

Then encrypt using tables

http://crypto.stanford.edu/sjcl/

AES in hardware

AES instructions in Intel Westmere:

- **aesenc, aesenclast**: do one round of AES

  128-bit registers: xmm1=state, xmm2=round key

  aesenc xmm1, xmm2 ; puts result in xmm1

- **aeskeygenassist**: performs AES key expansion

- Claim 14 x speed-up over OpenSSL on same hardware

Similar instructions on AMD Bulldozer

Attacks

Best key recovery attack:

four times better than ex. search [BKR'11]

Related key attack on AES-256: [BK'09]

Given 2^{99} inp/out pairs from **four related keys** in AES-256

can recover keys in time $\approx 2^{99}$

End of Segment