Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)

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Based on: *Cryptography and Network Security - Principles and Practice, 8th Edition, William Stallings*

Finite Field Arithmetic (Recap)

- In the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) all operations are performed on 8-bit bytes

  AES uses the irreducible polynomial $x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1$

- The arithmetic operations of addition, multiplication, and division are performed over the finite field $GF(2^8)$

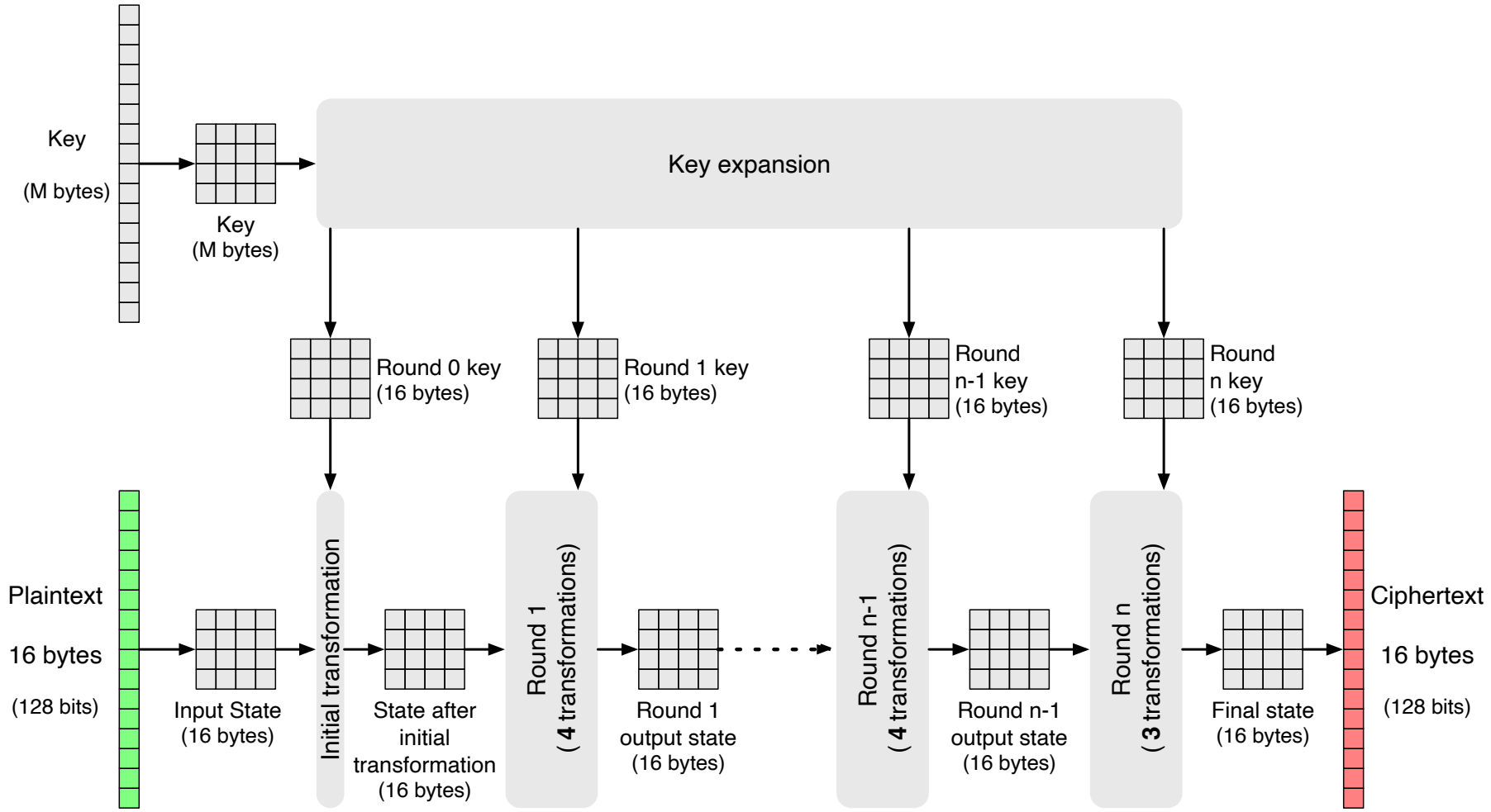
- A field is a set in which we can do addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division without leaving the set
- Division is defined with the following rule: $a/b = a(b^{-1})$
- An example of a finite field (one with a finite number of elements) is the set Z_p consisting of all the integers $\{0, 1, \ldots, p-1\}$, where p is a prime number and in which arithmetic is carried out modulo p

Finite Field Arithmetic (Recap)

- For convenience and for implementation efficiency, we would like to work with integers that fit exactly into a given number of bits with no wasted bit patterns
  - Integers in the range 0 through $2^n - 1$, which fit into an n-bit word.
- If one of the operations used in the algorithm is division, then we need to work in arithmetic defined over a field.
  - Division requires that each nonzero element has a multiplicative inverse
- The set of such integers, Z_{2^n}, using modular arithmetic, is not a field
  - For example, the integer 2 has no multiplicative inverse in Z_{2^n}, that is, there is no integer b, such that $2b \ mod \ 2^n = 1$
- A finite field containing 2^n elements is referred to as $GF(2^n)$.

  Every polynomial in $GF(2^n)$ can be represented by an n-bit number.

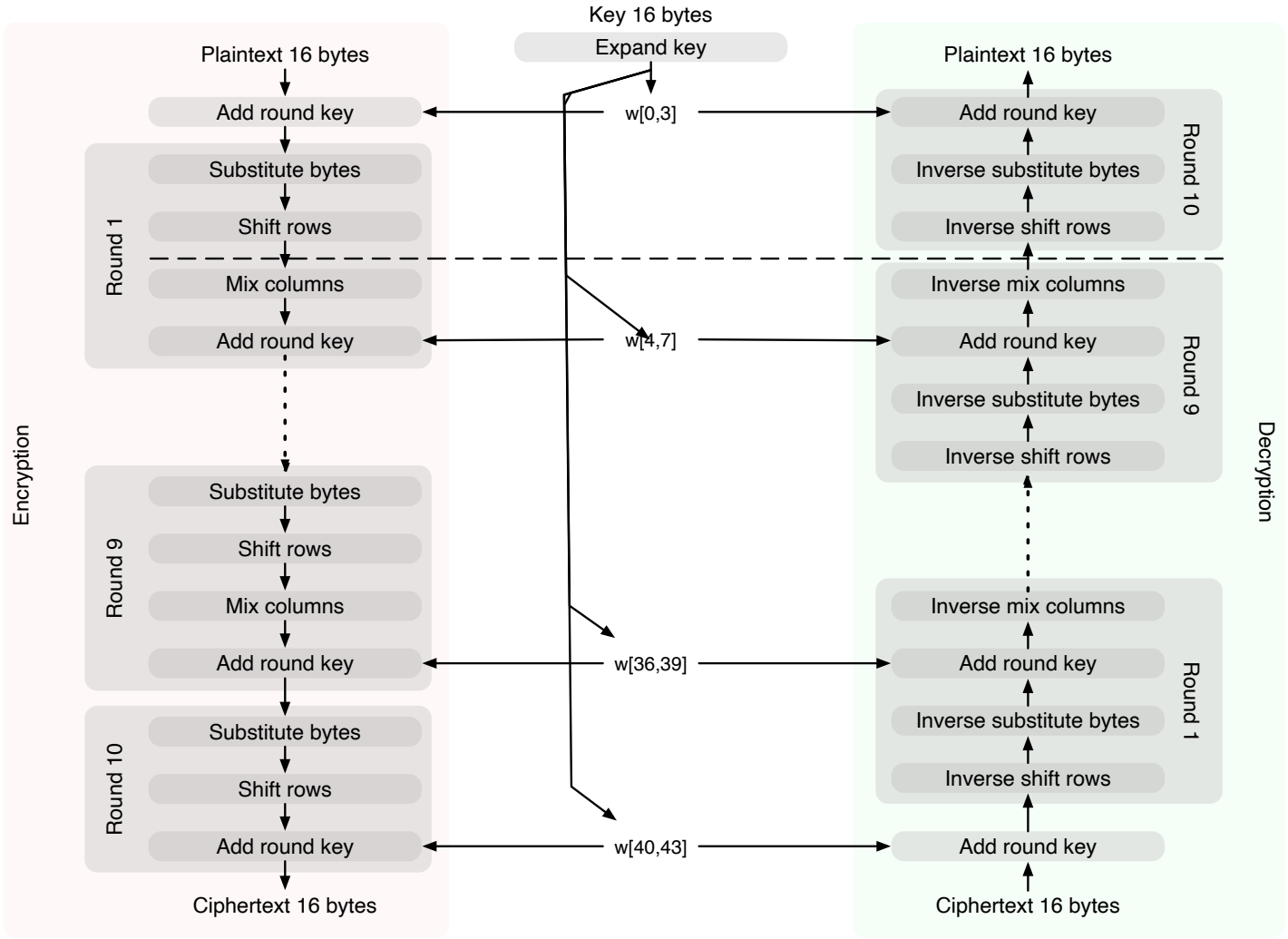
AES Encryption Process



AES Parameters

Key Size (words/bytes/bits)	4/16/128	6/24/192	8/32/256
Plaintext Block Size (words/bytes/bits)	4/16/128	4/16/128	4/16/128
Number of Rounds	10	12	14
Round Key Size (words/bytes/bits)	4/16/128	4/16/128	4/16/128
Expanded Key Size (words/bytes)	44/176	52/208	60/240

AES Encryption and Decryption Process



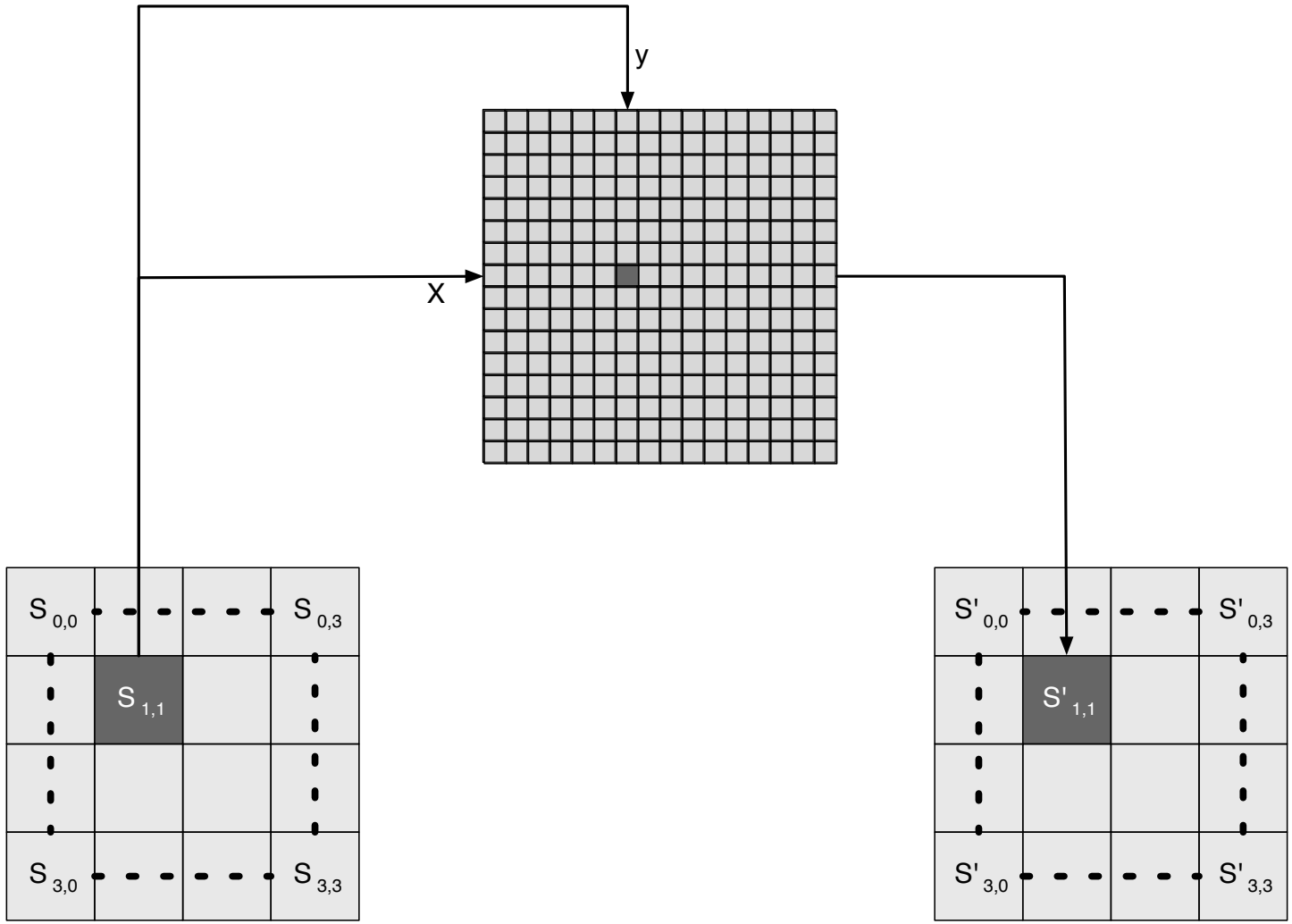
AES Detailed Structure

- Processes the entire data block as a single matrix during each round using substitutions and permutation.
- The key that is provided as input is expanded into an array of forty-four 32-bit words, w[i].
- The cipher begins and ends with an AddRoundKey stage.
- Can view the cipher as alternating operations of XOR encryption (AddRoundKey) of a block, followed by scrambling of the block (the other three stages), followed by XOR encryption, and so on.
- Each stage is easily reversible.
- The decryption algorithm makes use of the expanded key in reverse order, however the decryption algorithm is not identical to the encryption algorithm.
- State is the same for both encryption and decryption.
- Final round of both encryption and decryption consists of only three stages.

AES Uses Four Different Stages

Substitute bytes:	uses an S-box to perform a byte-by-byte substitution of the block
ShiftRows:	a simple permutation
MixColumns:	a substitution that makes use of arithmetic over GF(28)
AddRoundKey:	a simple bitwise XOR of the current block with a portion of the expanded key

AES Substitute byte transformation



AES S-box

x^y	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
0	63	7C	77	7B	F2	6B	6F	C5	30	01	67	2B	FE	D7	AB	76
1	CA	82	C9	7D	FA	59	47	F0	AD	D4	A2	AF	9C	A4	72	C0
2	B7	FD	93	26	36	3F	F7	CC	34	A5	E5	F1	71	D8	31	15
3	04	C7	23	C3	18	96	05	9A	07	12	80	E2	EB	27	B2	75
4	09	83	2C	1A	1B	6E	5A	A0	52	3B	D6	B3	29	E3	2F	84
5	53	D1	00	ED	20	FC	B1	5B	6A	CB	BE	39	4A	4C	58	CF
6	D0	EF	AA	FB	43	4D	33	85	45	F9	02	7F	50	3C	9F	A8
7	51	A3	40	8F	92	9D	38	F5	BC	B6	DA	21	10	FF	F3	D2
8	CD	0C	13	EC	5F	97	44	17	C4	A7	7E	3D	64	5D	19	73
9	60	81	4F	DC	22	2A	90	88	46	EE	B8	14	DE	5E	0B	DB
A	E0	32	3A	0A	49	06	24	5C	C2	D3	AC	62	91	95	E4	79
B	E7	C8	37	6D	8D	D5	4E	A9	6C	56	F4	EA	65	7A	AE	08
C	BA	78	25	2E	1C	A6	B4	C6	E8	DD	74	1F	4B	BD	8B	8A
D	70	3E	B5	66	48	03	F6	0E	61	35	57	B9	86	C1	1D	9E
E	E1	F8	98	11	69	D9	8E	94	9B	1E	87	E9	CE	55	28	DF
F	8C	A1	89	0D	BF	E6	42	68	41	99	2D	0F	B0	54	BB	16

Each individual byte of State is mapped into a new byte in the following way: The leftmost 4 bits of the byte are used as a row value and the rightmost 4 bits are used as a column vlaue. These two values serve as indexes into the S-box.

AES Inverse S-box

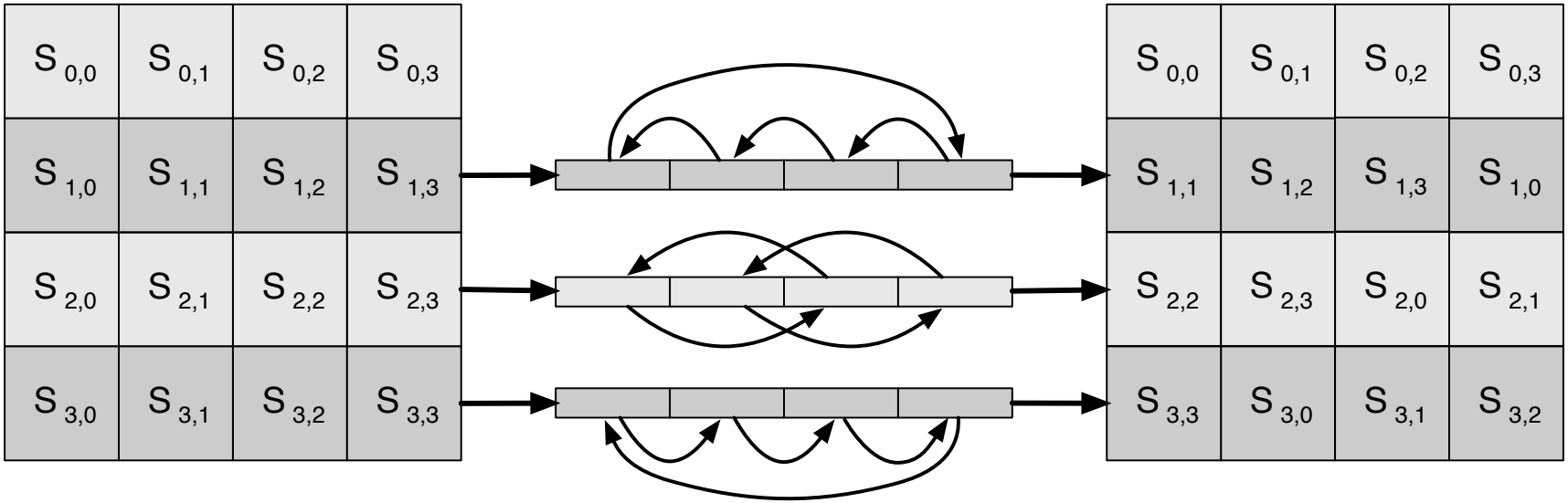
x^y	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
0	52	09	6A	D5	30	36	A5	38	BF	40	A3	9E	81	F3	D7	FB
1	7C	E3	39	82	9B	2F	FF	87	34	8E	43	44	C4	DE	E9	CB
2	54	7B	94	32	A6	C2	23	3D	EE	4C	95	0B	42	FA	C3	4E
3	08	2E	A1	66	28	D9	24	B2	76	5B	A2	49	6D	8B	D1	25
4	72	F8	F6	64	86	68	98	16	D4	A4	5C	CC	5D	65	B6	92
5	6C	70	48	50	FD	ED	B9	DA	5E	15	46	57	A7	8D	9D	84
6	90	D8	AB	00	8C	BC	D3	0A	F7	E4	58	05	B8	B3	45	06
7	DO	2C	1E	8F	CA	3F	OF	02	C1	AF	BD	03	01	13	8A	6B
8	3A	91	11	41	4F	67	DC	EA	97	F2	CF	CE	FO	B4	E6	73
9	96	AC	74	22	E7	AD	35	85	E2	F9	37	E8	1C	75	DF	6E
A	47	FI	1A	71	1D	29	C5	89	6F	B7	62	0E	AA	18	BE	1B
B	FC	56	3E	4B	C6	D2	79	20	9A	DB	CO	FE	78	CD	5A	F4
C	1F	DD	A8	33	88	07	C7	31	B1	12	10	59	27	80	EC	5F
D	60	51	7F	A9	19	B5	4A	OD	2D	E5	7A	9F	93	C9	9C	EF
E	A0	E0	3B	4D	AE	2A	F5	BO	C8	EB	BB	3C	83	53	99	61
F	17	2B	04	7E	BA	77	D6	26	E1	69	14	63	55	21	0C	7D

Example: The (hex)value 0xA3 (x=A and y=3) is mapped by the S-box to the (hex)value 0x0A. **The inverse S-box maps the value 0x0A (x=0 and y=A) back to the original value**.

S-Box Rationale

- The S-box is designed to be resistant to known cryptanalytic attacks
- The Rijndael developers sought a design that has a low correlation between input bits and output bits and the property that the output is not a linear mathematical function of the input
- The nonlinearity is due to the use of the multiplicative inverse in the construction of the S-box

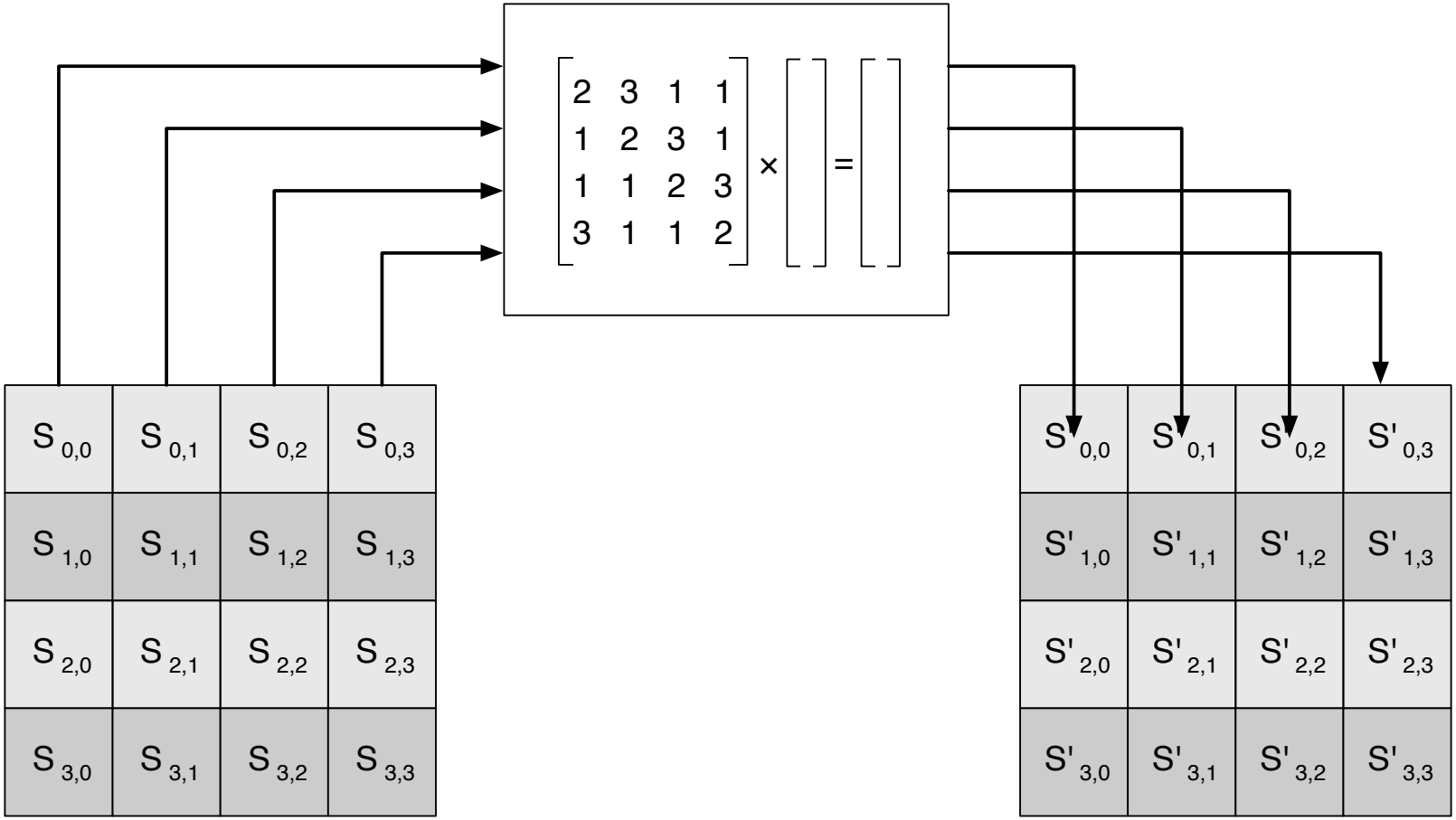
Shift Row Transformation



Shift Row Transformation - Rationale

- More substantial than it may first appear!
- The State, as well as the cipher input and output, is treated as an array of four 4-byte columns
- On encryption, the first 4 bytes of the plaintext are copied to the first column of State, and so on
- The round key is applied to State column by column
- Thus, a row shift moves an individual byte from one column to another, which is a linear distance of a multiple of 4 bytes
- Transformation ensures that the 4 bytes of one column are spread out to four different columns

Mix Column Transformation



Mix Column Transformation - Rationale

- Coefficients of a matrix based on a linear code with maximal distance between code words ensures a good mixing among the bytes of each column.
- The mix column transformation combined with the shift row transformation ensures that after a few rounds all output bits depend on all input bits.

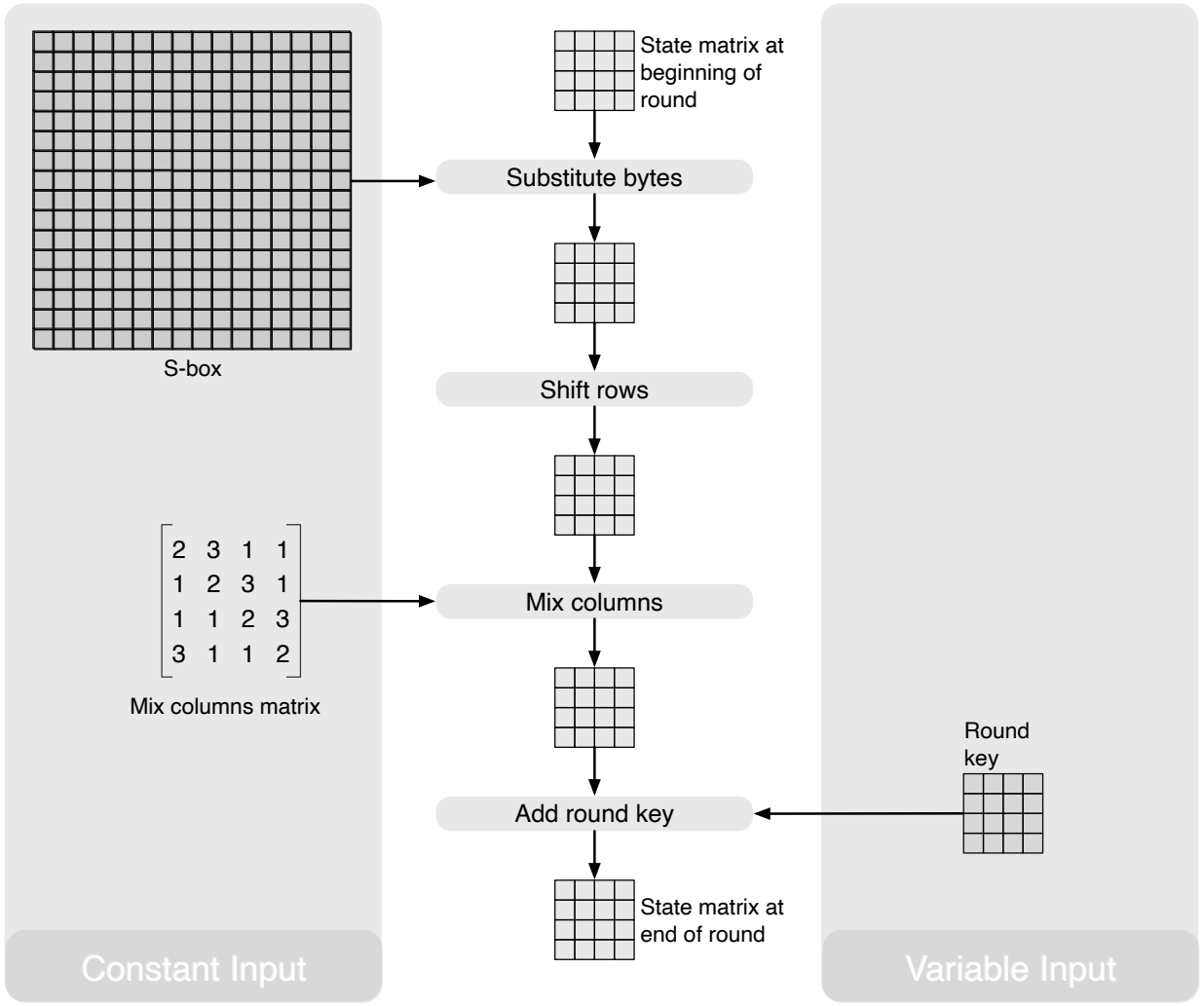
AddRoundKey Transformation

- The 128 bits of State are bitwise XORed with the 128 bits of the round key.
- Operation is viewed as a columnwise operation between the 4 bytes of a State column and one word of the round key.
- *Can also be viewed as a byte-level operation*.

Rationale

- It is as simple as possible and affects every bit of State.
- The complexity of the round key expansion plus the complexity of the other stages of AES ensure security!

Input for a Single AES Round

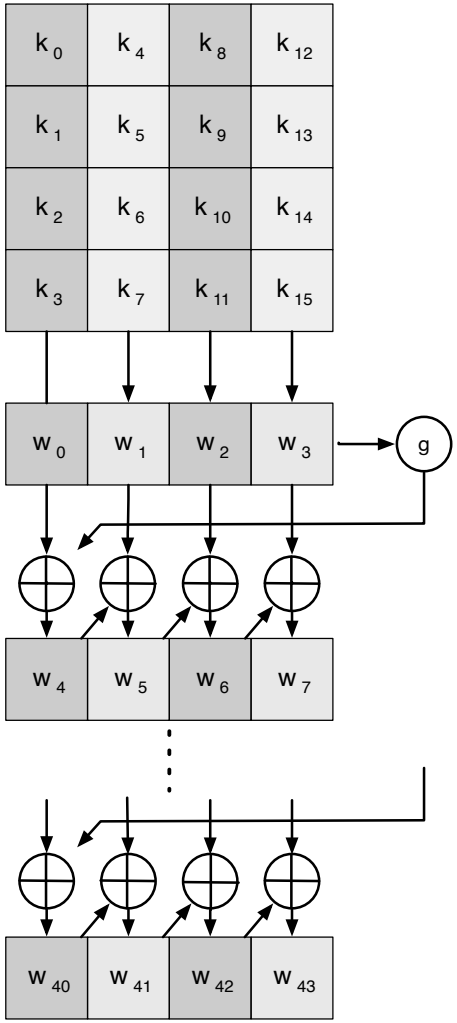


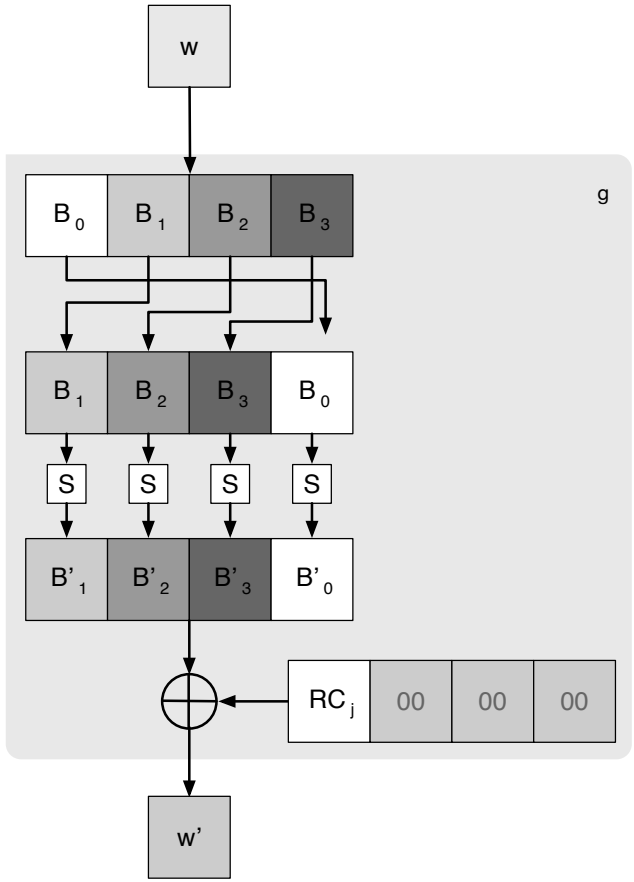
AES Key Expansion

- Takes as input a four-word (16 byte) key and produces a linear array of 44 words (176) bytes
- This is sufficient to provide a four-word round key for the initial *AddRoundKey* stage and each of the 10 rounds of the cipher.
- Key is copied into the first four words of the expanded key
- The remainder of the expanded key is filled in four words at a time.

- Each added word $w[i]$ depends on the immediately preceding word, $w[i-1]$, and the word four positions back, $w[i-4]$
- In three out of four cases a simple XOR is used
- For a word whose position in the w array is a multiple of 4, a more complex function is used

AES Key Expansion - Visualized





AES Round Key Computation

$$r_i = (r_{c_i}, 00, 00, 00)$$

$$r_{c_1} = 01$$

$$r_{c_{i+1}} = xtime(r_{c_i})$$

$xtime$ Function

$$y_7 y_6 y_5 y_5 y_4 y_3 y_2 y_1 y_0 = xtime(x_7 x_6 x_5 x_5 x_4 x_3 x_2 x_1 x_0) \qquad (x_i, y_i \in \{0, 1\})$$

$$y_7 y_6 y_5 y_5 y_4 y_3 y_2 y_1 y_0 = \begin{cases} x_6 x_5 x_5 x_4 x_3 x_2 x_1 x_0 0, & if\, x_7 = 0 \\ x_6 x_5 x_5 x_4 x_3 x_2 x_1 x_0 0 \oplus 00011011, & if\, x_7 = 1 \end{cases}$$

The (Fixed) Round Key Values:

$r_{c_1} = 01, r_{c_2} = 02, r_{c_3} = 04, r_{c_4} = 08, r_{c_5} = 10, r_{c_6} = 20, r_{c_7} = 40, r_{c_8} = 80, r_{c_9} = 1B = 00011011, r_{c_{10}} = 36$

AES Key Expansion - Example (Round 1)

Let's assume: $w[3] = (67, 20, 46, 75)$:

- $g(w[3])$:
  - circular byte left shift of $w[3]$: $(20, 46, 75, 67)$
  - byte substitution using s-box: $(B7, 5A, 9D, 85)$
  - adding round constant $(01, 00, 00, 00)$ gives: $g(w[3]) = (B6, 5A, 9D, 85)$
- $w[4] = w[0] \oplus g(w[3]) = (E2, 32, FC, F1)$
- $w[5] = w[4] \oplus w[1] = (91, 12, 91, 88)$
- $w[6] = w[5] \oplus w[2] = (B1, 59, E4, E6)$
- $w[7] = w[6] \oplus w[3] = (D6, 79, A2, 93)$
- First roundkey is: $w[4]||w[5]||w[6]||w[7]$

AES Key Expansion - Rationale

- The Rijndael developers designed the expansion key algorithm to be resistant to known cryptanalytic attacks
- Inclusion of a round-dependent round constant eliminates the symmetry between the ways in which round keys are generated in different

  rounds

Note

The specific criteria that were used are:

- Knowledge of a part of the cipher key or round key does not enable calculation of many other round-key bits
- An invertible transformation
- Speed on a wide range of processors
- Usage of round constants to eliminate symmetries
- Diffusion of cipher key differences into the round keys
- Enough nonlinearity to prohibit the full determination of round key differences from cipher key differences only
- Simplicity of description

Avalanche Effect in AES: Change in Plaintext

Round		Number of Bits that Differ
	0123456789abcdeffedcba9876543210 0023456789abcdeffedcba9876543210	1
0	0e3634aece7225b6f26b174ed92b5588 0f3634aece7225b6f26b174ed92b5588	1
1	657470750fc7ff3fc0e8e8ca4dd02a9c c4a9ad090fc7ff3fc0e8e8ca4dd02a9c	20
2	5c7bb49a6b72349b05a2317ff46d1294 fe2ae569f7ee8bb8c1f5a2bb37ef53d5	58
3	7115262448dc747e5cdac7227da9bd9c ec093dfb7c45343d689017507048 5e62	59
4	f867aee8b437a5210c24c1974cffeabc 43efdb697244df808e8d9364ee0ae6f5	61
5	721eb200ba06206dcbd4bce704fa654e 7b28a5d5ed643287e006c099bb375302	68
6	0ad9d85689f9f77bc1c5f71185e5fb14 3bc2d8b6798d8ac4fe36ald891ac181a	64
7	db18a8ffa16d30d5f88b08d777ba4eaa 9fb8b5452023c70280e5c4bb9e555a4b	67
8	f91b4fbfe934c9bf8f2f85812b084989 20264e1126b219aef7feb3f9b2d6de40	65
9	cca104a13e678500f£59025f3bafaa34 b56a0341b2290ba7dfdfbddcd8578205	61
10	ff0b844a0853bf7c6934ab4364148fb9 612b89398d0600cde116227ce72433f0	58

Avalanche Effect in AES: Change in Key

Round		Number of Bits that Differ
	0123456789abcdeffedcba9876543210 0123456789abcdeffedcba9876543210	0
0	0e3634aece7225b6f26b174ed92b5588 0f3634aece7225b6f26b174ed92b5588	1
1	657470750fc7ff3fc0e8e8ca4dd02a9c c5a9ad090ec7ff3fcle8e8ca4cd02a9c	22
2	5c7bb49a6b72349b05a2317ff46d1294 90905fa9563356d15f3760f3b8259985	58
3	7115262448dc747e5cdac7227da9bd9c 18aeb7aa794b3b66629448d575c7cebf	67
4	f867aee8b437a5210c24c1974cffeabc f81015f993c978a876ae017cb49e7eec	63
5	721eb200ba06206dcbd4bce704fa654e 5955c91b4e769f3cb4a94768e98d5267	81
6	0ad9d85689f9f77bc1c5f71185e5fb14 dc60a24d137662181e45b8d3726b2920	70
7	db18a8ffa16d30d5f88b08d777ba4eaa fe8343b8f88bef66cab7e977d005a03c	74
8	f91b4fbfe934c9bf8f2f85812b084989 da7dad581d1725c5b72fa0f9d9d1366a	67
9	cca104a13e678500ff59025f3bafaa34 Occb4c66bbfd912f4b511d72996345e0	59
10	ff0b844a0853bf7c6934ab4364148fb9 fc8923ee501a7d207ab670686839996b	53

Equivalent Inverse Cipher

AES decryption cipher is not identical to the encryption cipher.

- The sequence of transformations differs although the form of the key schedules is the same
- Has the disadvantage that two separate software or firmware modules are needed for applications that require both encryption and decryption

Two separate changes are needed to bring the decryption structure in line with the encryption structure:

1. The first two stages of the decryption round need to be interchanged
2. The second two stages of the decryption round need to be interchanged

Interchanging *InvShiftRows* and *InvSubBytes*

- *InvShiftRows* affects the sequence of bytes in State but does not alter byte contents and does not depend on byte contents to perform its transformation
- *InvSubBytes* affects the contents of bytes in State but does not alter byte sequence and does not depend on byte sequence to perform its transformation

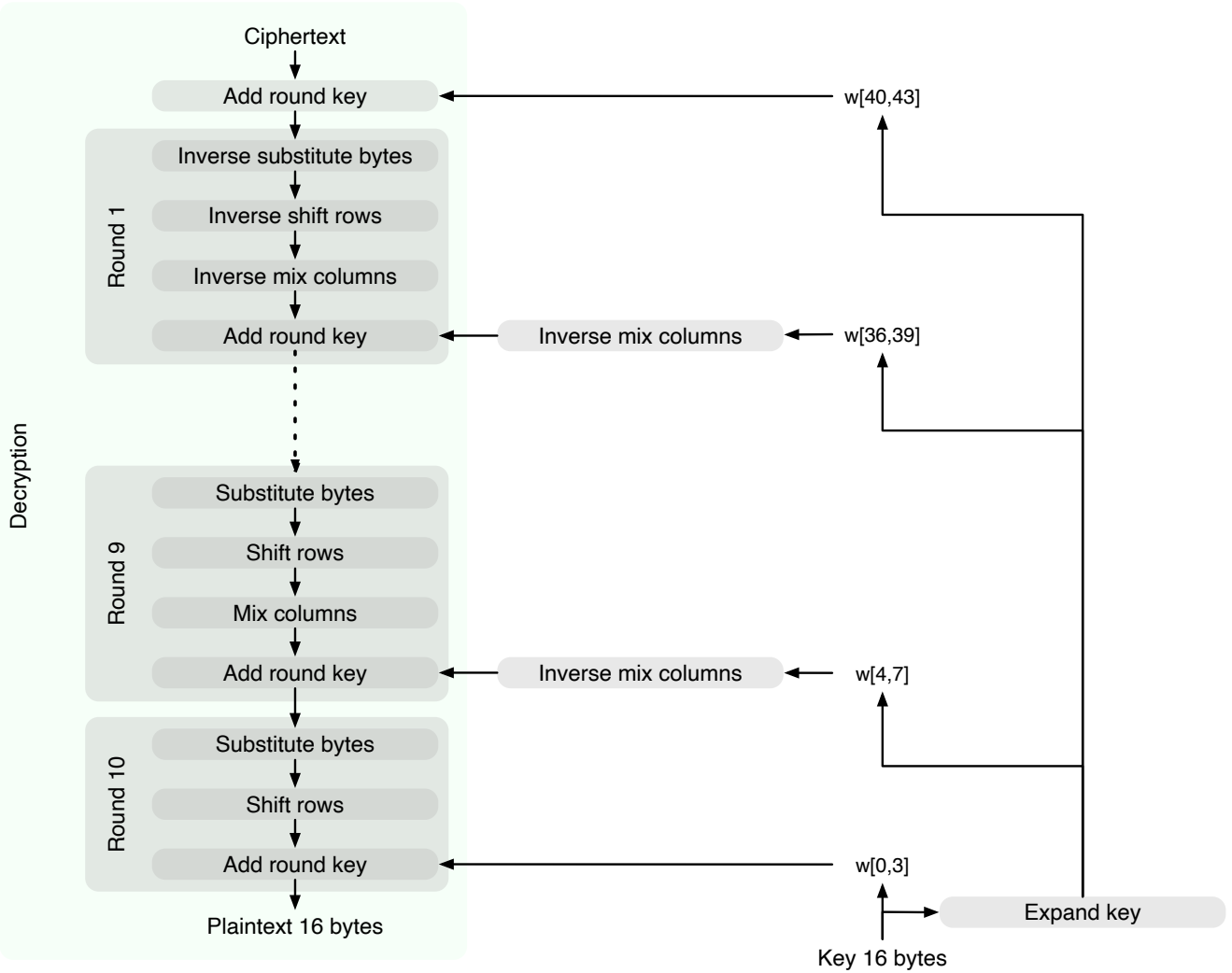
Important

Thus, these two operations commute and can be interchanged.

Interchanging *AddRoundKey* and *InvMixColumns*

- The transformations *AddRoundKey* and *InvMixColumns* do not alter the sequence of bytes in State
- If we view the key as a sequence of words, then both AddRoundKey and InvMixColumns operate on State one column at a time
- These two operations are linear with respect to the column input

Equivalent Inverse Cipher



Implementation Aspects

AES can be implemented very efficiently on an 8-bit processor:

AddRoundKey:	is a bytewise XOR operation
ShiftRows:	is a simple byte-shifting operation
SubBytes:	operates at the byte level and only requires a table of 256 bytes
MixColumns:	requires matrix multiplication in the field $GF(2^8)$, which means that all operations are carried out on bytes

Implementation Aspects

Can be efficiently implemented on a 32-bit processor:

- Redefine steps to use 32-bit words
- Can precompute 4 tables of 256-words
- Then each column in each round can be computed using 4 table lookups + 4 XORs
- At a cost of 4Kb to store tables
- Designers believe this very efficient implementation was a key factor in its selection as the AES cipher