Cryptography: Key Management, Distribution and User Authentication

CNS MODULE 2 L1

Contents

Block cipher modes of operation, Data Encryption Standard, Advanced Encryption Standard (AES). RC5 algorithm.
Public key cryptography: RSA algorithm.
Hashing Techniques: SHA256, SHA-512, HMAC and CMAC,
Digital Signature Schemes – RSA, DSS.
Remote user Authentication Protocols, Kerberos, Digital Certificate: X.509, PKI

Block Ciphers and the Data Encryption Standard

All the afternoon Mungo had been working on Stern's code, principally with the aid of the latest messages which he had copied down at the Nevin Square drop. Stern was very confident. He must be well aware London Central knew about that drop. It was obvious that they didn't care how often Mungo read their messages, so confident were they in the impenetrability of the code.

***—Talking to Strange Men,* Ruth Rendell**

Modern Block Ciphers

- now look at modern block ciphers
- one of the most widely used types of cryptographic algorithms
- provide secrecy /authentication services
- focus on DES (Data Encryption Standard)
- to illustrate block cipher design principles

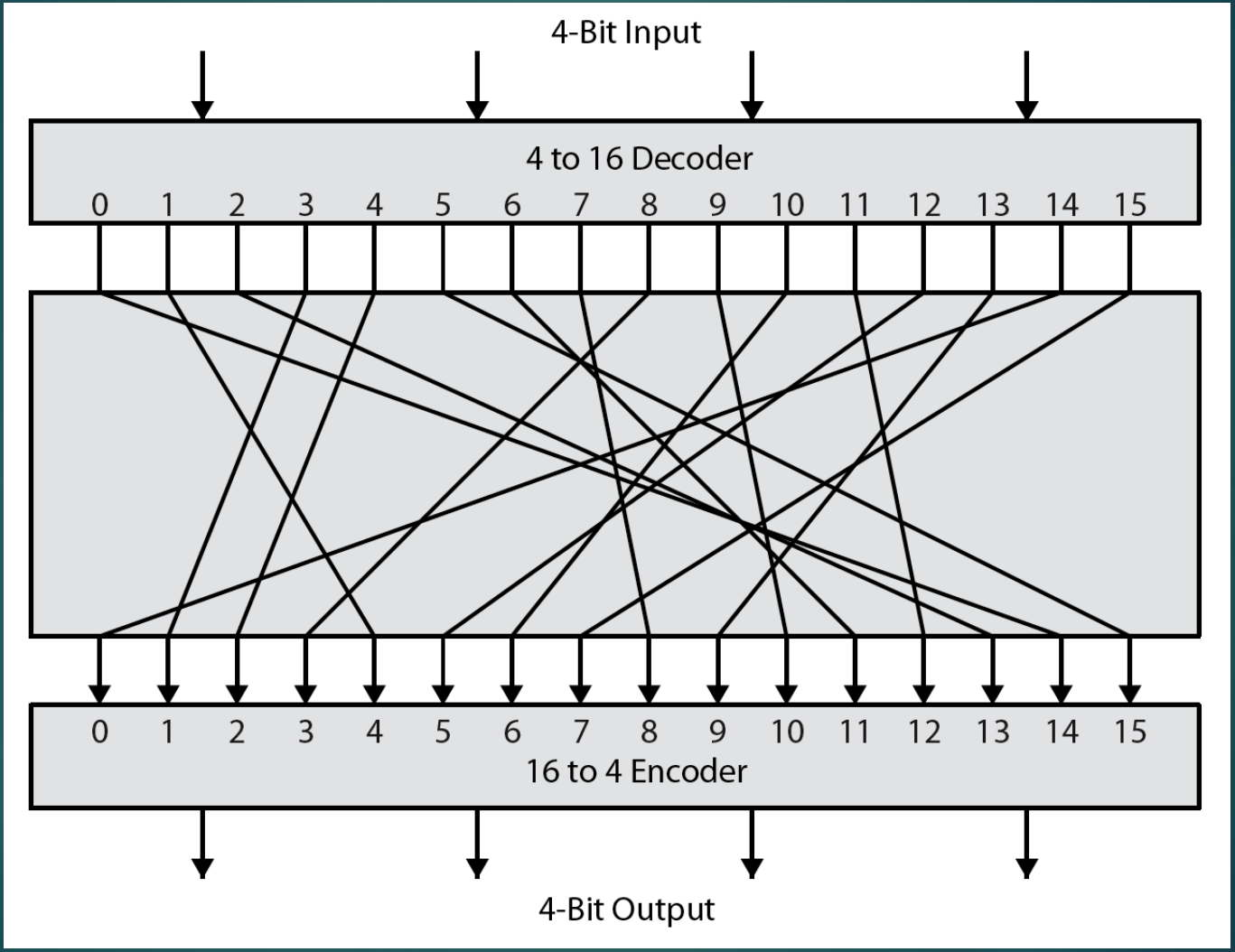
Block vs Stream Ciphers

- block ciphers process messages in blocks, each of which is then en/decrypted
- like a substitution on very big characters
  - 64-bits or more
- stream ciphers process messages a bit or byte at a time when en/decrypting
- many current ciphers are block ciphers
- broader range of applications

Block Cipher Principles

- most symmetric block ciphers are based on a **Feistel Cipher Structure**
- needed since must be able to **decrypt** ciphertext to recover messages efficiently
- block ciphers look like an extremely large substitution
- would need table of 2^{64} entries for a 64-bit block
- instead create from smaller building blocks
- using idea of a product cipher

Ideal Block Cipher



Claude Shannon and Substitution-Permutation Ciphers

- Claude Shannon introduced idea of substitution-permutation (S-P) networks in 1949 paper
- form basis of modern block ciphers
- S-P nets are based on the two primitive cryptographic operations seen before:
  - *substitution* (S-box)
  - *permutation* (P-box)
- provide *confusion* & *diffusion* of message & key

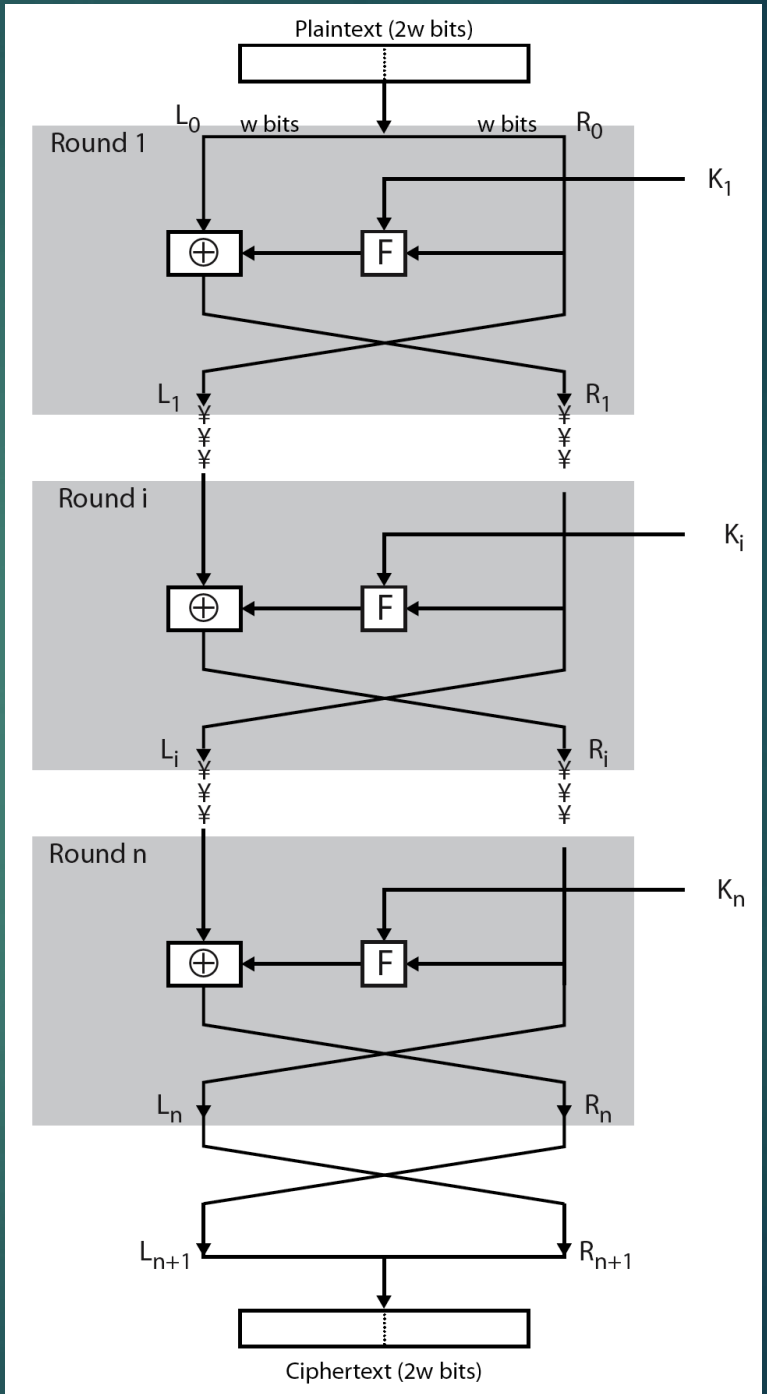
Confusion and Diffusion

- cipher needs to completely obscure statistical properties of original message
- a one-time pad does this
- more practically Shannon suggested combining S & P elements to obtain:
- **diffusion** – dissipates statistical structure of plaintext over bulk of ciphertext
- **confusion** – makes relationship between ciphertext and key as complex as possible

Feistel Cipher Structure

- Horst Feistel devised the **feistel cipher**
  - based on concept of invertible product cipher
- partitions input block into two halves
  - process through multiple rounds which
  - perform a substitution on left data half
  - based on round function of right half & subkey
  - then have permutation swapping halves
- implements Shannon's S-P net concept

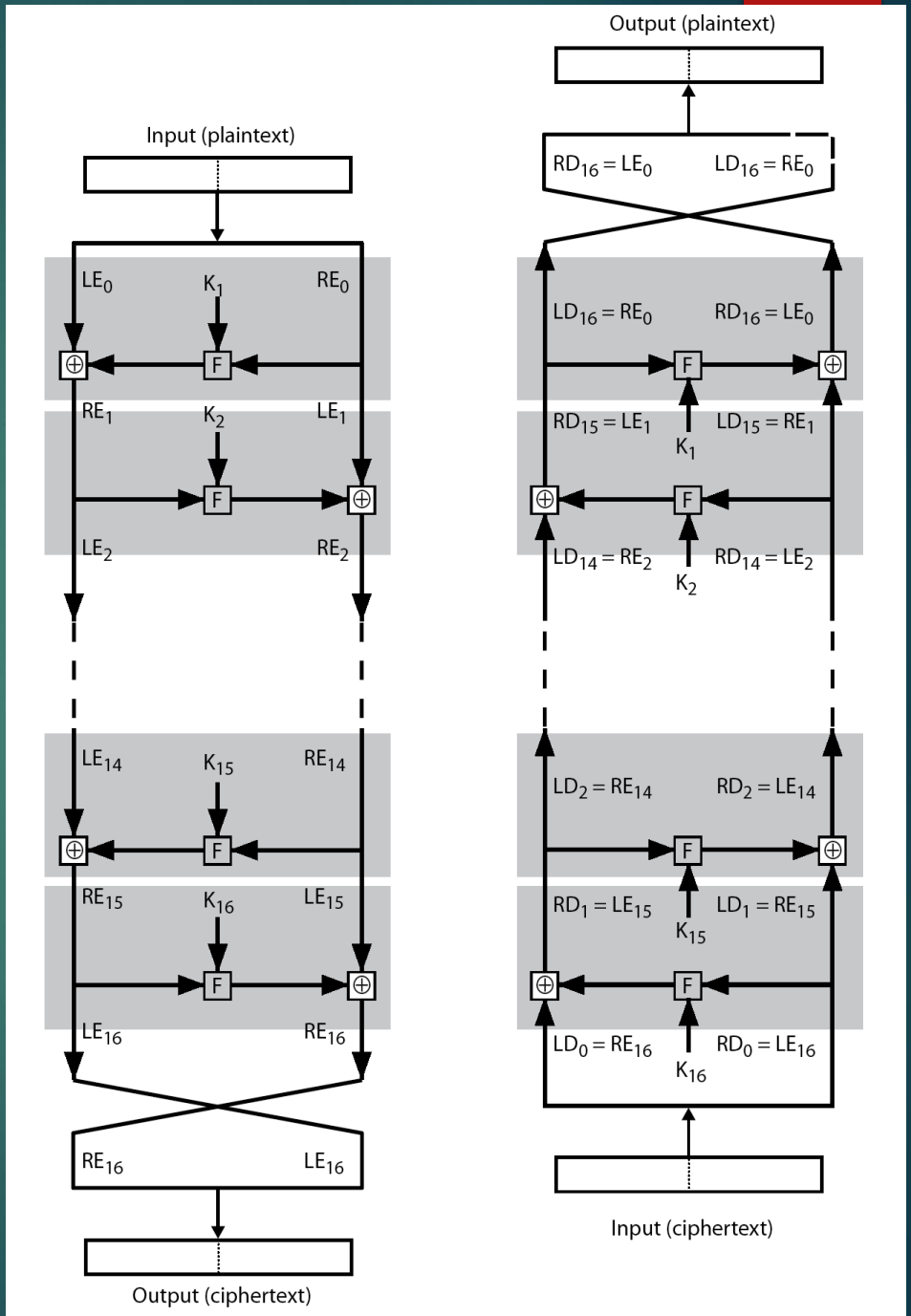
Feistel Cipher Structure



Feistel Cipher Design Elements

- block size
- key size
- number of rounds
- subkey generation algorithm
- round function
- fast software en/decryption
- ease of analysis

Feistel Cipher Decryption



Data Encryption Standard (DES)

- most widely used block cipher in world
- adopted in 1977 by NBS (now NIST)
  - as FIPS PUB 46
- encrypts 64-bit data using 56-bit key
- has widespread use
- has been considerable controversy over its security

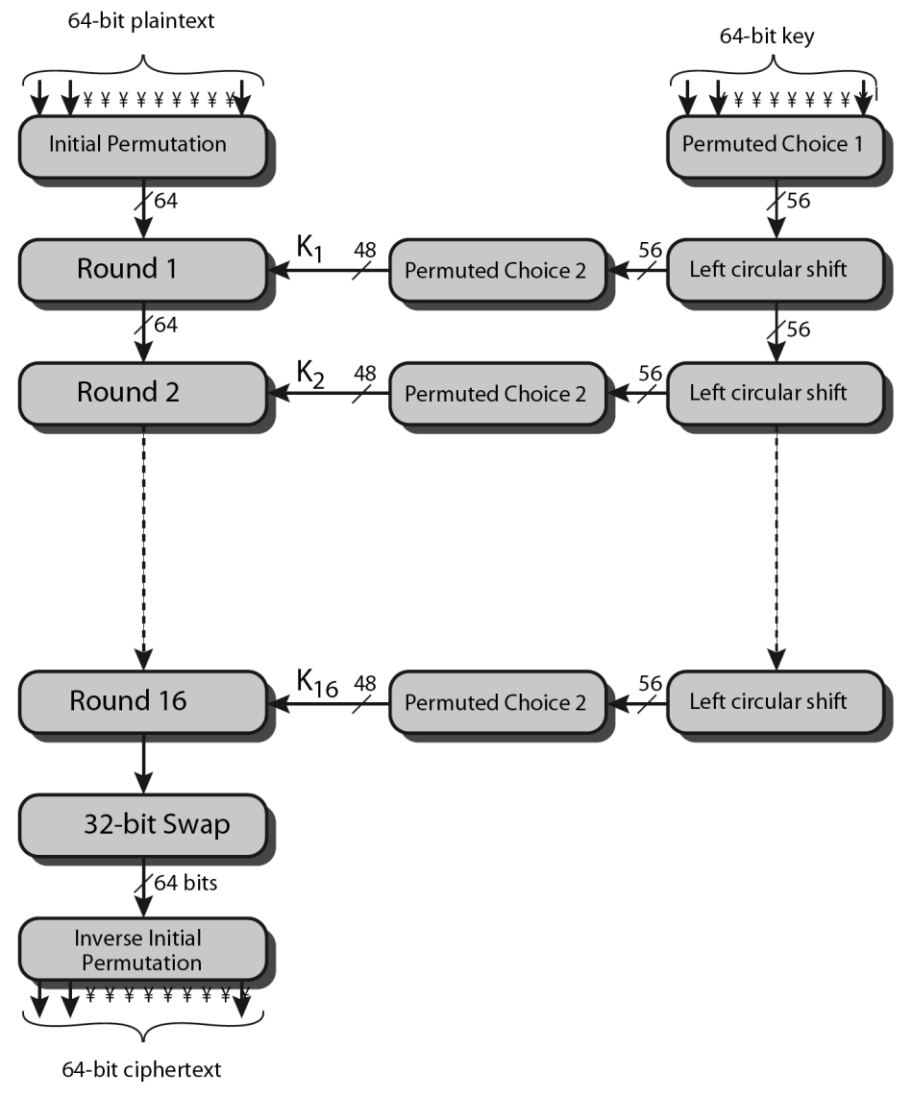
DES History

- IBM developed Lucifer cipher
  - by team led by Feistel in late 60's
  - used 64-bit data blocks with 128-bit key
- then redeveloped as a commercial cipher with input from NSA and others
- in 1973 NBS issued request for proposals for a national cipher standard
- IBM submitted their revised Lucifer which was eventually accepted as the DES

DES Design Controversy

- although DES standard is public
- was considerable controversy over design
  - in choice of 56-bit key (vs Lucifer 128-bit)
  - and because design criteria were classified
- subsequent events and public analysis show in fact design was appropriate
- use of DES has flourished
  - especially in financial applications
  - still standardised for legacy application use

DES Encryption Overview



Initial Permutation IP

- first step of the data computation
- IP reorders the input data bits
- even bits to LH half, odd bits to RH half
- quite regular in structure (easy in h/w)
- example:

```
IP(675a6967 5e5a6b5a) =
(ffb2194d 004df6fb)
```

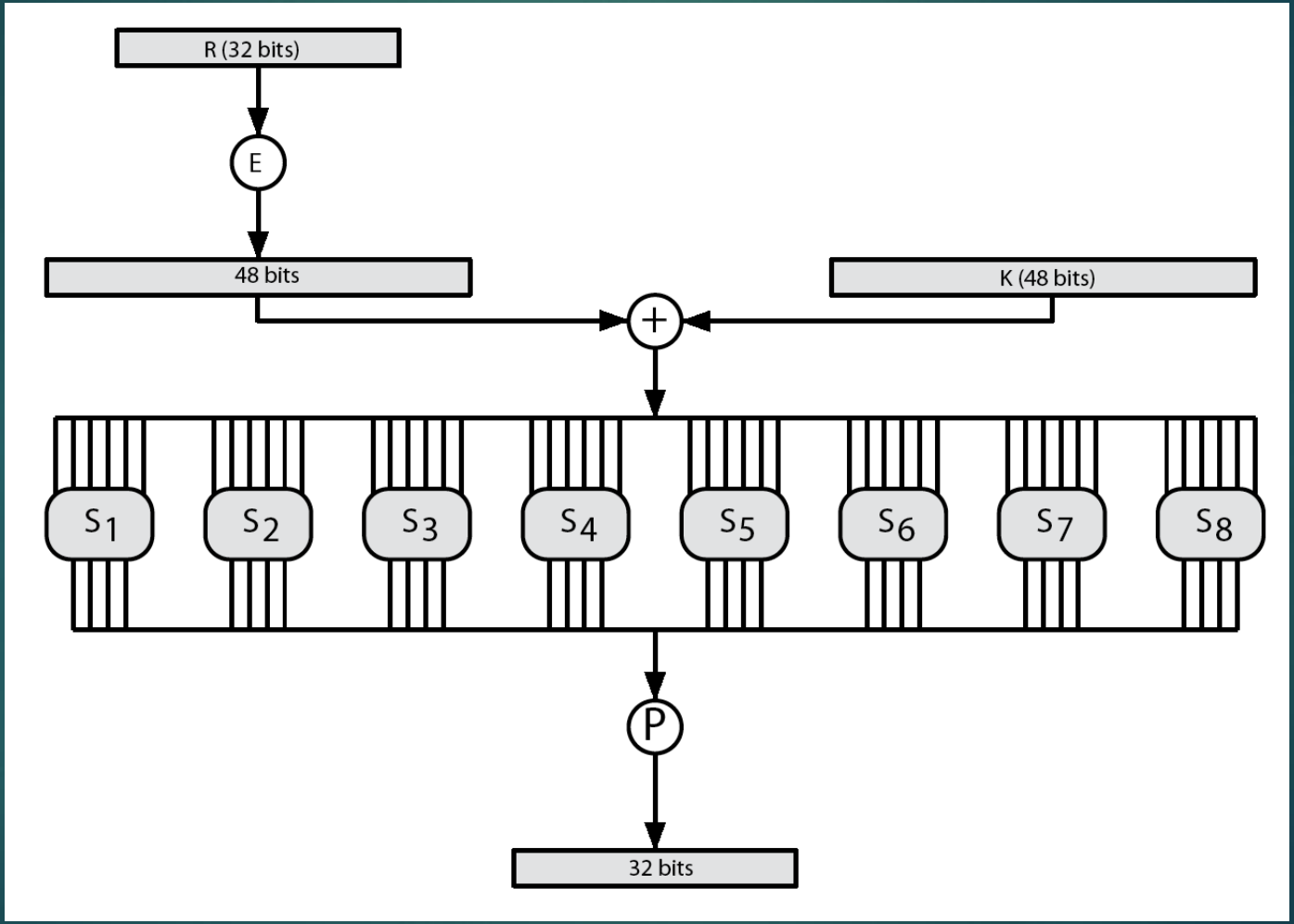
DES Round Structure

- uses two 32-bit L & R halves
- as for any Feistel cipher can describe as:

  $L_i = R_{i-1}$

  $R_i = L_{i-1} \oplus F(R_{i-1}, K_i)$
- F takes 32-bit R half and 48-bit subkey:
  - expands R to 48-bits using perm E
  - adds to subkey using XOR
  - passes through 8 S-boxes to get 32-bit result
  - finally permutes using 32-bit perm P

DES Round Structure



Substitution Boxes S

- have eight S-boxes which map 6 to 4 bits
- each S-box is actually 4 little 4 bit boxes
  - outer bits 1 & 6 (**row** bits) select one row of 4
  - inner bits 2-5 (**col** bits) are substituted
  - result is 8 lots of 4 bits, or 32 bits
- row selection depends on both data & key
  - feature known as autoclaving (autokeying)
- example:
  - `S(18 09 12 3d 11 17 38 39) = 5fd25e03`

DES Key Schedule

- forms subkeys used in each round
  - initial permutation of the key (PC1) which selects 56-bits in two 28-bit halves
  - 16 stages consisting of:
    - rotating **each half** separately either 1 or 2 places depending on the **key rotation schedule** K
    - selecting 24-bits from each half & permuting them by PC2 for use in round function F
- note practical use issues in h/w vs s/w

DES Decryption

- decrypt must unwind steps of data computation
- with Feistel design, do encryption steps again using subkeys in reverse order (SK16 … SK1)
  - IP undoes final FP step of encryption
  - 1st round with SK16 undoes 16th encrypt round
  - ….
  - 16th round with SK1 undoes 1st encrypt round
  - then final FP undoes initial encryption IP
  - thus recovering original data value

Avalanche Effect

- key desirable property of encryption alg
- where a change of **one** input or key bit results in changing approx **half** output bits
- making attempts to "home-in" by guessing keys impossible
- DES exhibits strong avalanche

Strength of DES – Key Size

- 56-bit keys have $2^{56} = 7.2 \times 10^{16}$ values
- brute force search looks hard
- recent advances have shown is possible
  - in 1997 on Internet in a few months
  - in 1998 on dedicated h/w (EFF) in a few days
  - in 1999 above combined in 22hrs!
- still must be able to recognize plaintext
- must now consider alternatives to DES

Strength of DES – Analytic Attacks

- now have several analytic attacks on DES
- these utilise some deep structure of the cipher
  - by gathering information about encryptions
  - can eventually recover some/all of the sub-key bits
  - if necessary then exhaustively search for the rest
- generally these are statistical attacks
- include
  - differential cryptanalysis
  - linear cryptanalysis
  - related key attacks

Strength of DES – Timing Attacks

- attacks actual implementation of cipher
- use knowledge of consequences of implementation to derive information about some/all subkey bits
- specifically use fact that calculations can take varying times depending on the value of the inputs to it
- particularly problematic on smartcards

Differential Cryptanalysis

- one of the most significant recent (public) advances in cryptanalysis
- known by NSA in 70's cf DES design
- Murphy, Biham & Shamir published in 90's
- powerful method to analyse block ciphers
- used to analyse most current block ciphers with varying degrees of success
- DES reasonably resistant to it, cf Lucifer

Differential Cryptanalysis

- a statistical attack against Feistel ciphers
- uses cipher structure not previously used
- design of S-P networks has output of function *f* influenced by both input & key
- hence cannot trace values back through cipher without knowing value of the key
- differential cryptanalysis compares two related pairs of encryptions

Differential Cryptanalysis Compares Pairs of Encryptions

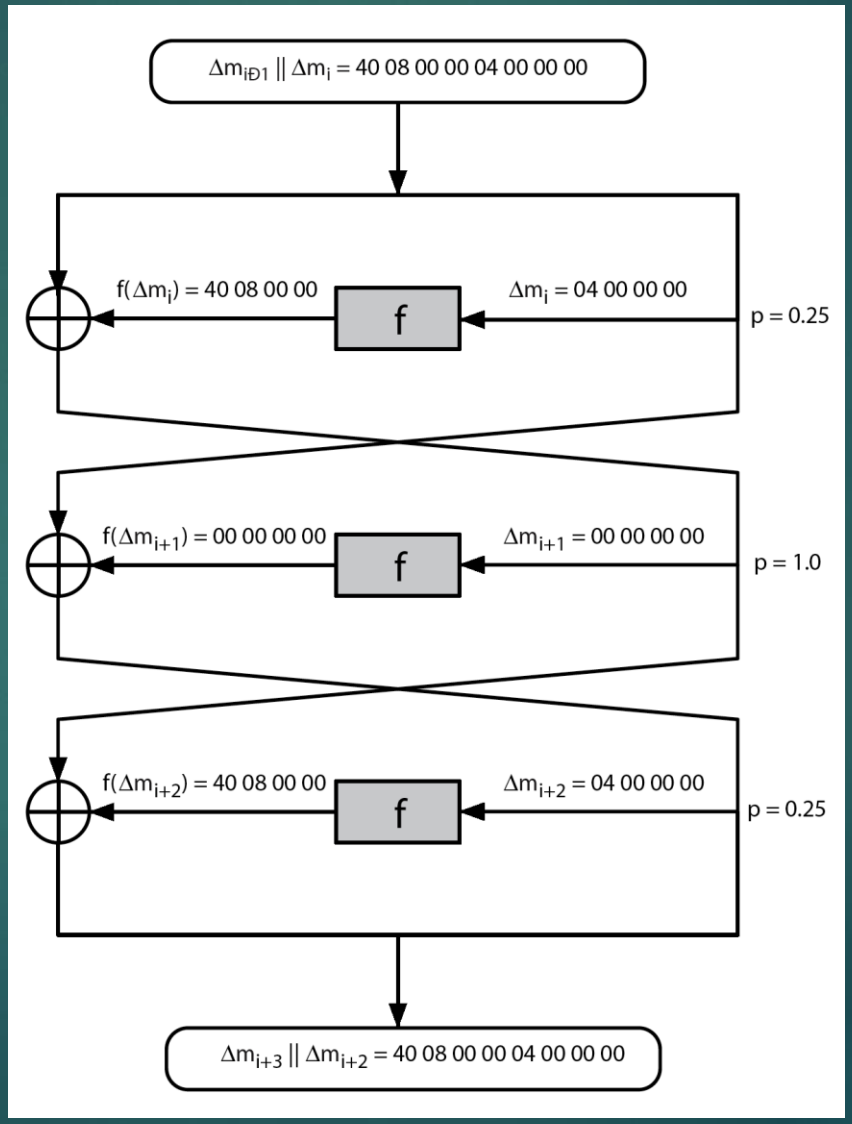
- with a known difference in the input
- searching for a known difference in output
- when same subkeys are used

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Delta m_{i+1} &= m_{i+1} \oplus m'_{i+1} \\
&= [m_{i-1} \oplus \mathrm{f}(m_i, K_i)] \oplus [m'_{i-1} \oplus \mathrm{f}(m'_i, K_i)] \\
&= \Delta m_{i-1} \oplus [\mathrm{f}(m_i, K_i) \oplus \mathrm{f}(m'_i, K_i)]
\end{aligned}
$$

Differential Cryptanalysis

- have some input difference giving some output difference with probability p
- if find instances of some higher probability input / output difference pairs occurring
- can infer subkey that was used in round
- then must iterate process over many rounds (with decreasing probabilities)

Differential Cryptanalysis



Differential Cryptanalysis

- perform attack by repeatedly encrypting plaintext pairs with known input XOR until obtain desired output XOR
- when found
  - if intermediate rounds match required XOR have a **right pair**
  - if not then have a **wrong pair**, relative ratio is S/N for attack
- can then deduce keys values for the rounds
  - right pairs suggest same key bits
  - wrong pairs give random values
- for large numbers of rounds, probability is so low that more pairs are required than exist with 64-bit inputs
- Biham and Shamir have shown how a 13-round iterated characteristic can break the full 16-round DES

Linear Cryptanalysis

- another recent development
- also a statistical method
- must be iterated over rounds, with decreasing probabilities
- developed by Matsui et al in early 90's
- based on finding linear approximations
- can attack DES with 2^{43} known plaintexts, easier but still in practise infeasible

Linear Cryptanalysis

- find linear approximations with prob p != ½

  $P[i_1, i_2, \ldots, i_a] \oplus C[j_1, j_2, \ldots, j_b] = K[k_1, k_2, \ldots, k_c]$

  where i_a, j_b, k_c are bit locations in P,C,K

- gives linear equation for key bits
- get one key bit using max likelihood alg
- using a large number of trial encryptions
- effectiveness given by: $|p - 1/2|$

DES Design Criteria

- as reported by Coppersmith in [COPP94]
- 7 criteria for S-boxes provide for
  - non-linearity
  - resistance to differential cryptanalysis
  - good confusion
- 3 criteria for permutation P provide for
  - increased diffusion

Block Cipher Design

- basic principles still like Feistel's in 1970's
- number of rounds
  - more is better, exhaustive search best attack
- function f:
  - provides "confusion", is nonlinear, avalanche
  - have issues of how S-boxes are selected
- key schedule
  - complex subkey creation, key avalanche

Summary

- have considered:
  - block vs stream ciphers
  - Feistel cipher design & structure
  - DES
    - details
    - strength
  - Differential & Linear Cryptanalysis
  - block cipher design principles

Reference

William Stallings, Cryptography and Network Security, Principles and Practice, 6th Edition, Pearson Education, March 2013.