

# Cryptography Notes

Raffaele Castagna

Academic Year 2025-2026

## Contents

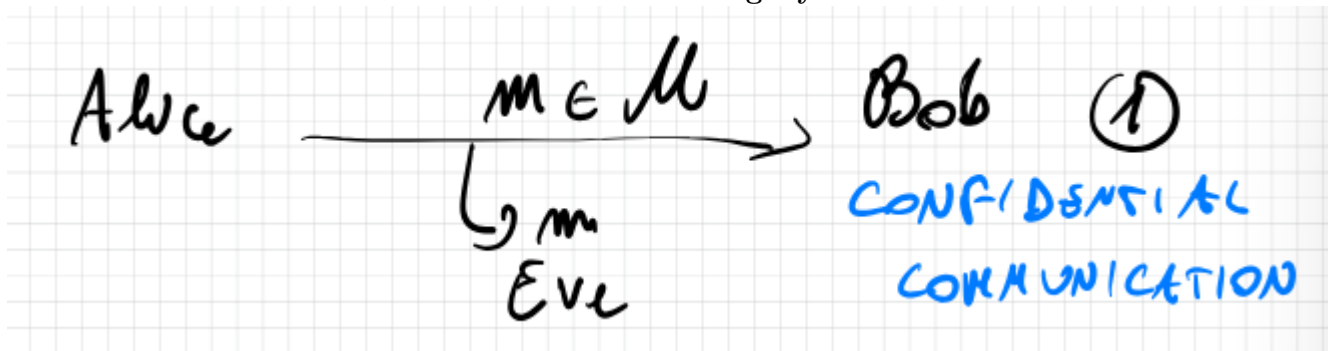
<b>1</b>	<b>Intro to Cryptography</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Secure Communication . . . . .	2
1.2	Unconditional Security . . . . .	2
1.3	Perfect Secrecy . . . . .	3
1.4	OTP . . . . .	3
1.5	Proof that the lemmas imply eachother . . . . .	4
1.6	Message Authentication Codes . . . . .	5
1.7	Randomness Extraction . . . . .	6
<b>2</b>	<b>Computational Security</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1	Pseudorandomness . . . . .	10
2.2	Symmetric Key Encryption . . . . .	16

# 1 Intro to Cryptography

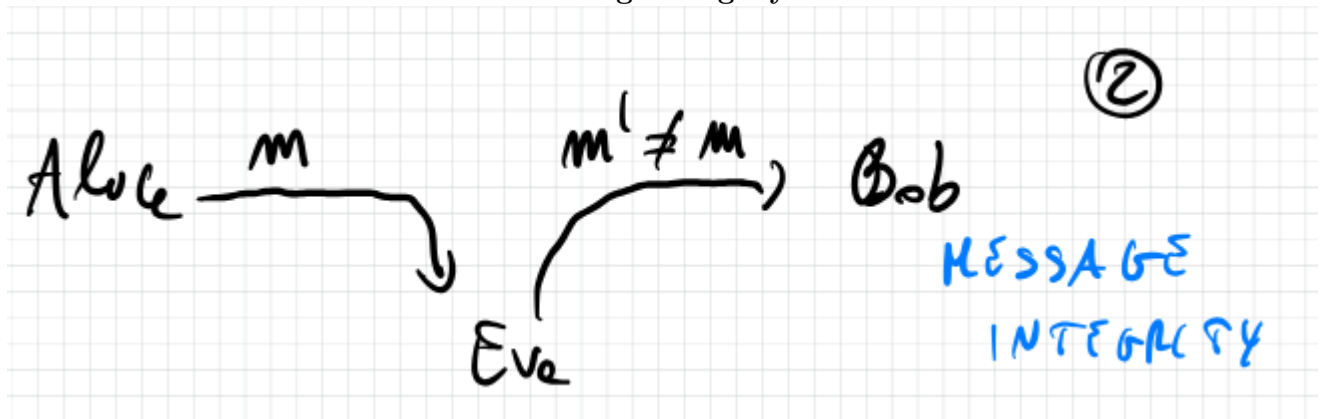
## 1.1 Secure Communication

We have multiple goals in cryptography, the most important ones being:

### Confidential Integrity



### Message Integrity



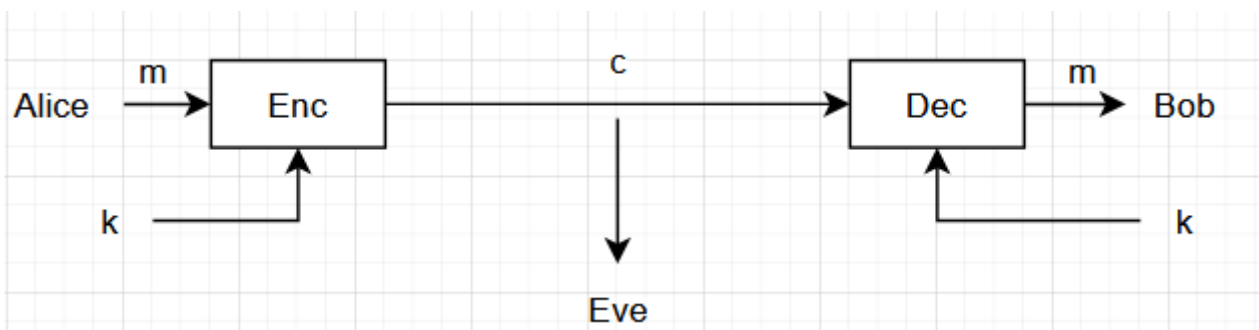
Basically we want our message to be both **confidential**, so no-one except the intended target sees it and we it to be unmodified, so that its **integrity** has not been compromised.

There are many different ways to do this, but in our case we only see two major ways:

- **Symmetric Cryptography:** Where Alice and Bob share a key  $k \in \mathcal{K}$ , the key is random and unknown to
- **Asymmetric Cryptography:** Where Alice and Bob do not share a key, but they have each their own key pair  $(p_k, s_k)$  where  $p_k$  is the public key and  $s_k$  is the secret/private key

## 1.2 Unconditional Security

To achieve confidential communication, we use symmetric cryptography.



With  $m \in \mathcal{M}, c \in \mathcal{C}, k \in \mathcal{K}$

In this case we have Alice sending a message  $m$  which is then encrypted utilizing a randomly generate key  $k$  to generate the cyphertext  $c$ , after that to get back to the initial message  $m$ , Bob will then need to decrypt it utilizing his own key  $k$  on cyphertext  $c$ .

In a more formal way we can define Symmetric encryption (SKE) as  $\Pi = (Enc, Dec)$  such that:

- $Enc : \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$
- $Dec : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$
- $k$  is uniform over  $\mathcal{K}$  ( $k$  is chosen according to some distribution)

An encryption scheme must satisfy the correctness requirement:

**Definition 1.**  $\forall k \in \mathcal{K}, \forall m \in \mathcal{M}$  it holds that  $Dec(k, Enc(k, m)) = m$

**Kerchoff's Principle:**

**Definition 2.** Security should not depend on the secrecy of the algorithm but on the secrecy of the key.

### 1.3 Perfect Secrecy

**Definition 3.** Let  $M$  be any distribution over  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $K$  be uniform over  $\mathcal{K}$  (Then observe  $C = Enc(K, M)$  in a distribution over  $\mathcal{C}$ ), we say that  $(Enc, Dec) = \Pi$  is **perfectly secret** if  $\forall M, \forall m \in \mathcal{M}, \forall c \in \mathcal{C} : Pr[M = m] = Pr[M = m | C = c]$  (The probability that  $M$  is  $m$  is equal to the probability that  $M$  is  $m$  knowing that  $C$  is  $c$ , so by knowing the cyphertext, we don't gain additional information).

**Lemma 1.** The following are equivalent:

- Perfect Secrecy
- $M$  and  $C$  are independent
- $\forall m, m' \in \mathcal{M}, \forall c \in \mathcal{C} : Pr[Enc(k, m) = c] = Pr[Enc(k, m') = c]$  with  $k$  being uniform over  $\mathcal{K}$

### 1.4 OTP

Let us see if OTP (One Time Pad) is perfectly secret

We know that the OTP uses  $\oplus$  to generate and later decypher the cyphertext, we have that  $K = M = C = \{0, 1\}^N$  with  $N$  being the length of the string, we know that:

- $Enc(k, m) = k \oplus m$
- $Dec(k, c) = c \oplus k = (k \oplus m) \oplus k = m$

To prove that it is perfectly secret let us utilize the third lemma:

$$Pr[C = c | M = m'] = Pr[Enc_k(m') = c] = Pr[m' \oplus K = c] = Pr[K = m' \oplus c] = 2^{-N}$$

and therefore:

$$Pr[Enc(k, m') = c] = 2^{-N}$$

There seem to be some limitations, the key can only be used once and it must as long as the message, let's assume we encrypt  $m$  and  $m'$ :  $c_1 = k \oplus m_1$   $c_2 = k \oplus m_2$  therefore  $c_1 \oplus c_2 = m_1 \oplus m_2$ , so if I know a pair  $(m_1, c_1)$  then I could compute  $m_2$ , therefore we cannot encrypt two messages with the same key.

**Theorem 1 (Shannon).** Let  $\Pi$  be any perfectly secret SKE then we have  $|\mathcal{K}| \geq |\mathcal{M}|$ .

*Proof.* Take  $\prod$  to be uniform over  $\mathcal{M}$ . Take any  $c$  s.t.  $\Pr[C=c] > 0$ .

Consider  $\mathcal{M}' = \{Dec(k, c) : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$  and assume  $|\mathcal{K}| < |\mathcal{M}|$  by contraddiction, then:

$$|\mathcal{M}'| \leq |\mathcal{K}| < |\mathcal{M}| \rightarrow |\mathcal{M}'| < |\mathcal{M}| \rightarrow \exists m \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \mathcal{M}'$$

Now:

$$\Pr[M = m] = |\mathcal{M}|^{-1} \text{ but } \Pr[M = m|C = c] = 0$$

□

## 1.5 Proof that the lemmas imply eachother

Let us prove that  $1 \implies 2 \implies 3 \implies 1$

Let us start by proving that  $1 \implies 2$ :

*Proof.* We know that  $\Pr[M = m] = \Pr[M = m|C = c] \rightarrow \frac{\Pr[M=m \wedge C=c]}{\Pr[C=c]} = \Pr[M = m \wedge C = c] = \Pr[M = m] * \Pr[C = c]$  and therefore we have proved their independence, so  $I(M; C) = 0$

□

Let us prove that  $2 \implies 3$

*Proof.* Let us fix an  $m$  from  $M$  and  $c$  from  $C$ :

$$\Pr[Enc(K, m) = c] = \Pr[Enc(K, M) = c|M = m] \implies \Pr[C = c|M = m] = \Pr[C = c]$$

Remember that  $Enc(\dots)$  is  $c$ !

We do the same thing for  $m'$  and we get:  $\Pr[C = c|M = m] = \Pr[C = c]$  for both of them. Therefore:  $\Pr[Enc(K, m') = c] = \Pr[C = c]$

□

And now  $3 \implies 1$ : Take any  $c$  from  $C$ :

$$\Pr[C = c] = \Pr[C = c|M = m] \text{ by 2 (we are claiming this)}$$

If the claim is true then:

$$\Pr[M = m|C = c] * \Pr[C = c] = \Pr[M = m \wedge C = c] = \Pr[C = c|M = m] * \Pr[M = m] \implies$$

$$\implies \Pr[M = m] = \frac{\Pr[M=m|C=c]*\Pr[C=c]}{\Pr[C=c|M=m]}$$

However we still need to prove the claim:

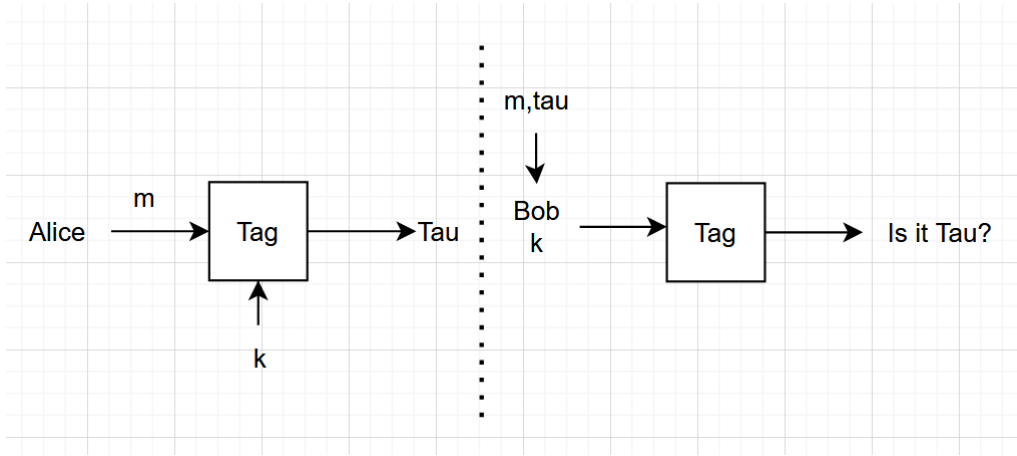
$$\Pr[C = c] = \sum_{m'} \Pr[C = c \wedge M = m'] = \sum_{m'} \Pr[C = c|M = m'] * \Pr[M = m'] =$$

$$\sum_{m'} \Pr[Enc(K, m') = c|M = m'] * \Pr[M = m'] = \sum_{m'} \Pr[Enc(K, m') = c] * \Pr[M = m']$$

$$\sum_{m'} \Pr[Enc(k, m) = c] * \Pr[M = m'] = \Pr[Enc(k, m) = c] * \sum_{m'} \Pr[M = m'] \Leftarrow 1$$

$$\Pr[Enc(k, m) = c] = \Pr[Enc(K, M) = c|M = m] \rightarrow \Pr[C = c|M = m]$$

## 1.6 Message Authentication Codes



In case it is  $\tau$  then we accept it, else no.

There is no need to prove correctness as  $\tau$  is deterministic, so if we had the same  $k$  and  $m$ , we should get the same  $\tau$

### Unforgeability

It should be hard to forge  $\tau'$  such on msg  $m'$  and it should be hard to produce  $(m, \tau)$  as long as  $m' \neq m$

**Definition 4. Statistical secure MAC** We say that  $\Pi = \text{Tag}$  has  $\epsilon$ -statistical security (unforgeability) if  $\forall m, m' \in \mathcal{M}$  with  $m \neq m' \forall \tau, \tau' \in \mathcal{T}$ :

$$\Pr[\text{Tag}(K, m') = \tau' \mid \text{Tag}(K, m) = \tau] \leq \epsilon$$

**TLDR:** Fix any  $m, m'$  with  $m' \neq m$  take  $\tau, \tau'$  on the condition that  $\tau$  is tag of  $m$  and given  $\tau'$ , it is always less than or equal to  $\epsilon$

Here  $\epsilon$  is a parameter e.g.  $2^{-80}$

**Exercise** Let us prove that it is impossible to get  $\epsilon = 0$

Because a random  $\tau' \in \mathcal{T}$  has probability  $\geq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|}$  to be correct it is impossible.

Note that the definition is valid for One-Time!

We will show:

- The notion is Achievable
- It's inefficient, in fact:

**Theorem 2.** Any  $t$ -time  $2^{-\lambda}$  statistically secure Tag has a key of some  $(t+1)^*\lambda$

We will now show that any form of hash function with a particular property satisfies the definition.

**Definition 5. Pairwise independence** A family  $\mathcal{H} = \{h_k : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}\}_{k \in \mathcal{K}}$  is pairwise independent if:  $\forall m, m' \in \mathcal{M}$  s.t.  $m \neq m'$  then:  $(h(K, m), h(K, m'))$  is uniform over  $\mathcal{T}^2 = \mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{T}$  for  $K$  uniform over  $\mathcal{K}$

**Theorem 3.** Any family  $\mathcal{H}$  of pairwise independent functions directly gives a  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|}$  - statistically secure MAC.

*Proof.* Fix any  $m \in \mathcal{M}, \tau \in \mathcal{T}$ :

$$\Pr[\text{Tag}(K, m) = \tau] =$$

$$Pr_k[h(K, m) = \tau] = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|} \text{ by pairwise independence}$$

Similiarly, for any  $m, m'$  s.t.  $m \neq m', \tau, \tau' \in \mathcal{T}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} Pr_k[Tag(K, m) = \tau \wedge Tag(K, m') = \tau'] &= \\ Pr_k[h(K, m) = \tau \wedge h(K, m') = \tau'] &= \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|^2} \end{aligned}$$

By Bayes:

$$\begin{aligned} Pr[Tag(K, m') = \tau' | Tag(K, m) = \tau] &= \\ \frac{Pr[h(K, m') = \tau' \wedge h(K, m) = \tau]}{Pr[h(K, m) = \tau]} &= \\ \frac{\frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|^2}}{\frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|}} &= \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|} \end{aligned}$$

□

Now we need to instantiate it, here is a construction, Let  $p$  be a prime:

$$\begin{aligned} h_{a,b}(m) &= am + b \pmod{p} \\ k = (a, b) &\in \mathbb{Z}_p^2 = \mathcal{K} \\ \mathbb{Z}_p &= \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{T} \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 2.** *The above  $\mathcal{H}$  is pairwise independant.*

*Proof.* For all  $m, m' \in \mathbb{Z}_p, \tau, \tau' \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  with  $m \neq m'$

$$\begin{aligned} Pr_{(a,b) \in \mathbb{Z}_p^2} [h_{a,b}(m) = \tau \wedge h_{a,b}(m') = \tau'] &= \\ Pr_{(a,b) \in \mathbb{Z}_p^2} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} m & 1 \\ m' & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \tau' \end{pmatrix} \right] &= \\ Pr_{(a,b) \in \mathbb{Z}_p^2} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} m & 1 \\ m' & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \tau' \end{pmatrix} \right] &= \\ \frac{1}{p^2} = \frac{1}{|\mathbb{Z}_p|^2} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|^2} \end{aligned}$$

□

## 1.7 Randomness Extraction

Alice and Bob need a **random** key, how can they generate it?

Randomness is crucial for crypto, and two components are necessary in any RNG (e.g. Fortuna, /dev/rand):

- Randomness extraction: By measuring physical quantities we can get an **unpredictable** sequence of bits (Not necessarily uniform or for cheap!)  
From this we extract a **random**  $Y$  which is short (e.g. 256 bits)
- Expand it to any amount (polynomial) using a psedorandom generator (PRG) - but this requires computational assumptions.

We want to understand how to extract from an unpredictable source  $X$ .

**Example Von Neumann Extractor** Assume  $B \in \{0, 1\}$  s.t.  $\Pr[B = 0] = p < \frac{1}{2}$ .

- Sample  $b_1 \in B, b_2 \in B$
- if  $b_1 = b_2$  then Resample
- Else output 1  $\iff b_1 = 0, b_2 = 1$ , or 0 if  $b_1 = 1, b_2 = 0$

Assuming it outputs something, this will be s.t.

$$\Pr[\text{Output } 0] = \Pr[\text{Output } 1] = p * (1 - p)$$

$$\Pr[\text{No output after } N \text{ tries}] = (1 - 2p(1 - p))^N \text{ which becomes small for large enough } N$$

We want to generalize this question, ideally we want to design a function  $\text{Ext}$  that takes a random variable  $X$  and outputs an uniform  $\text{Ext}(X)$ , but this is impossible as the source must be unpredictable and  $\text{Ext}$  is deterministic

**Definition 6** (Min-Entropy). *The min-entropy of  $X$  is:  $H_\infty = -\log_2 \max \Pr[X = x]$*

**Example:** Let  $X \equiv U_m$  Uniform over  $\{0, 1\}^N$ .  $H_\infty(X) = N$

If  $X$  is a constant we have  $H_\infty(X) = 0$

Here's the next best thing:

Design  $\text{Ext}$  that extracts UNIFORM  $Y = \text{Ext}(X)$  for every  $X$  s.t.  $H_\infty(X) \geq k$

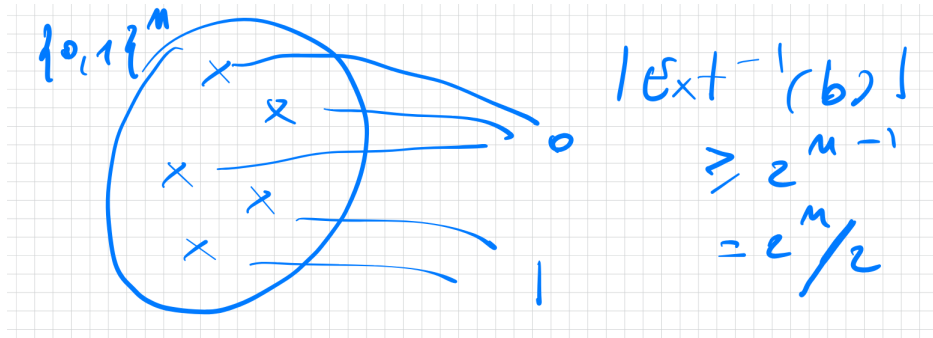
But this is also impossible, even if

$$\text{Ext}(X) = b \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$k = n - 1$$

$$x \in \{0, 1\}^n$$

And here's why: fix any  $\text{Ext}: \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  and let  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  be the output of maximizing  $|\text{Ext}^{-1}(b)|$



The bad  $X$ : Define  $X$  to be Uniform over  $\text{Ext}^{-1}(b)$ . Since it is uniform:  $H_\infty(X) \geq n - 1$  but  $\text{Ext}(X) = b$  so not uniform.

Solution: Swap the quantifiers.

**Definition 7** (Seeded Extractor). *A function  $\text{Ext} : \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is a  $(k, \epsilon)$ -seeded extractor if for every  $X$  over s.t.  $H_\infty(X) \geq k$ :*

$$(S, \text{Ext}(S, X)) \approx_\epsilon (S, U_e)$$

for  $S \equiv U_d$  (uniform over  $\{0, 1\}^d$ ). (Note that  $(S, U_e) \equiv U_{d+\epsilon}$ ).

What does this mean? There is a standard way to measure distance between distributions:

$$Z \equiv_{\epsilon} Z' \iff SD(Z, Z') \leq \epsilon$$

$$SD(Z, Z') = \frac{1}{2} \sum_z |Pr[Z = z] - Pr[Z' = z]|$$

This is equivalent:  $\forall$  Unbounded adversary  $A$ :

$$|Pr[A(z) = 1 : z \in Z] - Pr[A(z) = 1 : z \in Z']| \leq \epsilon$$

**Theorem 4** (Leftover Hash Lemma). *Let  $\mathcal{H} = \{h_s : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^l\}_{s \in \{0, 1\}^d}$  be a family of pairwise independent hash functions. Then  $Ext(x, s) = h_s(x)$  is a  $(k, \epsilon)$ -seeded extractor for  $k \geq l + 2 \log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon}) - 2$ .*

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $Y$  be a RV over  $\mathcal{Y}$ . Such that:*

$$Col(Y) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} Pr[Y = y]^2 \leq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}|} * (1 + 4\epsilon^2)$$

Then,  $SD(Y, U) \leq \epsilon$

*Proof.*

$$SD(Y, U) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} |Pr[Y = y] - Pr[U = y]|$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} |Pr[Y = y] - \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}|}|$$

$$\text{Let } q_y = Pr[Y = y] - \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}|}$$

$$\text{Let } s_y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } q_y \geq 0 \\ -1 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Hence } SD(Y, U) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} s_y q_y$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2} \langle s, q \rangle \leq \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\langle \vec{q}, \vec{q} \rangle * \langle \vec{s}, \vec{s} \rangle} \text{ by Cauchy-Schwarz} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} q_y^2 * |\mathcal{Y}|} \end{aligned}$$

Now, We analyze the term  $\sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} q_y^2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} q_y^2 &= \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} (Pr[Y = y] - \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}|})^2 = \\ &= \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} Pr[Y = y]^2 + \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}|^2} - 2 \frac{Pr[Y = y]}{|\mathcal{Y}|} = \\ &= \underbrace{\sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} Pr[Y = y]^2}_{Col(Y)} + \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}|} - 2 \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}|} = \\ &= Col(Y) - \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}|} \leq \frac{4\epsilon^2}{|\mathcal{Y}|} \end{aligned}$$

Then:

$$SD(Y, U) \leq \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{4\epsilon^2}{|\mathcal{Y}|} * |\mathcal{Y}|} = \epsilon$$

□



Next we apply the lemma to prove the Leftover Hash Lemma:

*Proof.*

$$Y = (S, \text{Ext}(X, S)) = (S, h(S, X))$$

and compute  $\text{Col}(Y)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Col}(Y) &= \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \Pr[Y = y]^2 = \Pr[Y = Y'] \\ &= \Pr[S = S' \wedge h(S, X) = h(S', X')] \\ &= \Pr[S = S' \wedge h(S, X) = h(S, X')] \\ &= \Pr[S = S'] * \Pr[h(S, X) = h(S, X')] \\ &= \frac{1}{2^d} * \Pr[h(S, X) = h(S, X')] \\ &= \frac{1}{2^d} * (\Pr[X = X'] + \Pr[h(S, X) = h(S, X') \wedge X \neq X']) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2^d} * \left(\frac{1}{2^k} + \frac{1}{2^l}\right) \text{ by pairwise independence and } H_\infty(X) \geq k \\ &= \frac{1}{2^{d+l}}(1 + 2^{l-k}) \leq \frac{1}{2^{d+l}}(2^{2-2\log_2(\frac{1}{\epsilon})} + 1) \\ &= \frac{1}{|\mathcal{Y}|} * (1 + 4\epsilon^2) \end{aligned}$$

□

## 2 Computational Security

We know that without any assumptions we can do Symmetric crypto and randomness generation, with some strong limitations.

- Privacy:  $|msg| = |key|$  and one-time use
- Integrity: same as above.
- Randomness We can't extract more than  $k$  from  $p_y k$

We want to overcome all these limitations. We'll do so off of the base of some assumptions

- Adversary is Computationally Bounded
- Hard Problems exist

We will make conditional statements:

**Theorem 5.** *If Problem  $X$  is hard (against efficient solvers), Then cryptosystem  $\Pi$  is secure (against efficient adversaries)*

Consequence: if  $\Pi$  is insecure,  $\exists$  efficient solver for  $X$ !

Depending on what  $X$  is, the above could be **Groundbreaking**.

**Examples:**

$X = "P \neq NP"$   $X = "Factoring is hard"$

$X = "Discrete Log is hard"$

We are not able to just assume  $P \neq NP$ , we need a stronger assumption: **One-Way Functions:**  
These are functions that are easy to compute but hard to invert.

Clearly  $\text{OWF} \implies P \neq NP$ , why?

Because if  $P = NP$ , OWF do not exist as checking if  $f(x) = y$  is efficient and this it's in  $NP=P$   
 We cannot exclude that  $P \neq NP$  but still, OWF do not exist.

To better demonstrate this, we can refer to the following worlds created by Russel Impagliazzo:

- Algorithmica:  $P=NP$
- Heuristica:  $P \neq NP$  but no "average-hard" problems
- Pessiland:  $P \neq NP$  and "average-hard" problems exist, but no OWF
- Minicrypt: OWFs exist
- Cryptomania: OWF exist + Public-key crypto exist

First we must start by fixing a model of computation: Turing Machines  
 efficient computation = polynomial time TMs.

Let's be generous: Adversaries can use any amount (polynomial) of randomness: Probabilistic Polynomial Time (PPT) TMs.

In what comes next we could define two approaches:

- **Concrete Security** Security holds w.r.t.  $t$ -time TMs except w.p.  $\leq \epsilon$  (e.g.  $t = 2^{20}$  steps,  $\epsilon = 2^{-80}$ )
- **Asymptotic Security** Let  $\lambda$  be a security parameter. Adversaries are  $\text{poly}(\lambda)$ -time PPT TMs ( $\epsilon = \text{negligible} = \text{negl}(\lambda)$ )

**Definition 8** (Negligible).  $\epsilon : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is negligible if  $\forall p(\lambda) = \text{poly}(\lambda) \exists \lambda_0 \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } \forall \lambda > \lambda_0 : \epsilon(\lambda) \leq \frac{1}{p(\lambda)}$

(In other words,  $\epsilon(\lambda) \leq O(\frac{1}{p(\lambda)}) \forall p(\lambda) = \text{poly}(\lambda)$ )

## 2.1 Pseudorandomness

This is our first step towards efficient symmetric crypto. Moreover, pseudorandomness is used in modern computers to simulate real randomness. We will see that OWF are enough for pseudorandomness.

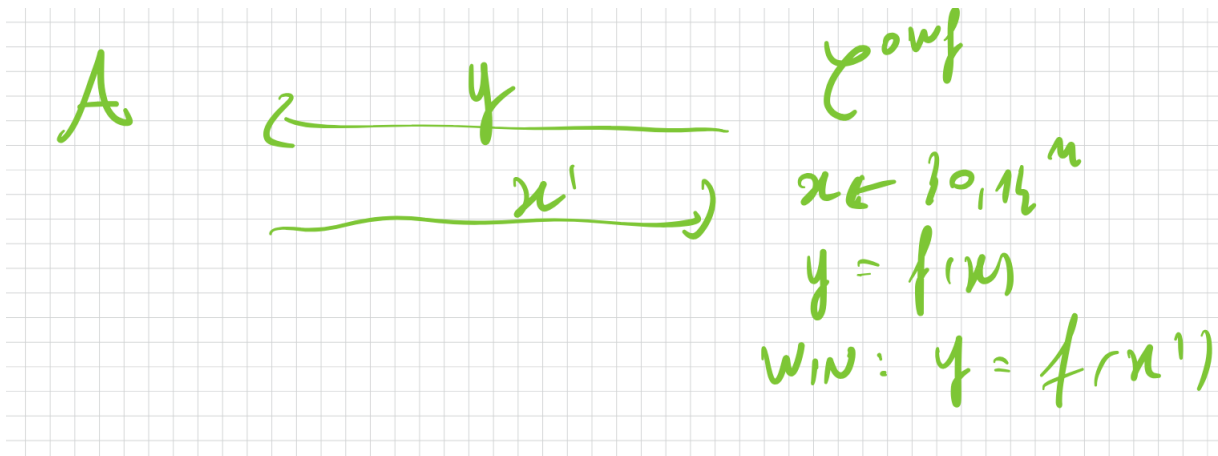
**Definition 9** (OWF). A function  $f : \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^n$  is One-Way, if:  $\forall \text{PPT } \mathcal{A}$ :

$$\Pr_{x \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n} [f(x') = y : y = f(x); x' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(y)] \leq \text{negl}(n)$$

Informally, it goes to zero faster than any inverse of a polynomial function.

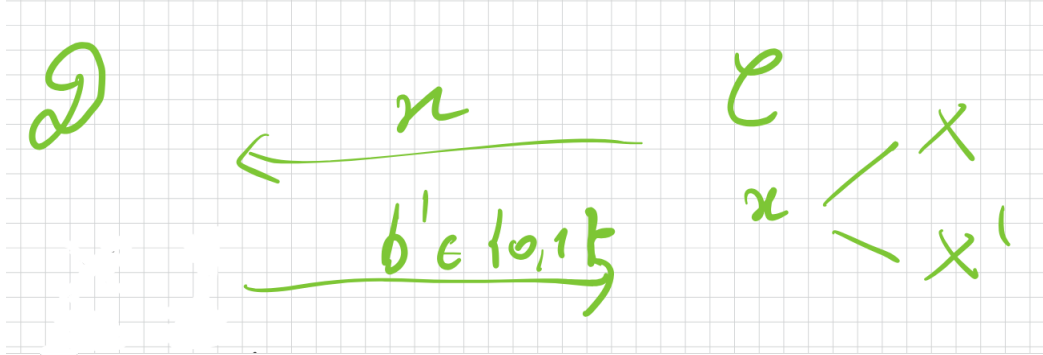
Example of  $\text{negl}(n)$  is  $2^{-n}$

An alternative way to think about it:



**Definition 10** (Pseudorandomness). *Pseudorandomness is a sequence of bits that are not random, but look random. We capture this requirement using **Indistinguishability (computational)**. We have already seen something like this in SD. Given  $X, X'$  RVs over some domain,  $SD(X, X') \leq \epsilon$  is equivalent to:  $\forall \mathcal{D}$  (adversary):*

$$|Pr[\mathcal{D}(x) = 1 : x \leftarrow X] - Pr[\mathcal{D}(y) = 1 : y \leftarrow X']| \leq \epsilon$$



**Definition 11.**  $X (X_n), Y (Y_n)$  are computationally indistinguishable ( $X \approx_c Y$ ) if  $\forall PPT \mathcal{D}$ :

$$|Pr[\mathcal{D}(z) = 1 : z \leftarrow X_n] - Pr[\mathcal{D}(z) = 1 : z' \leftarrow Y_n]| \leq \text{negl}(n)$$

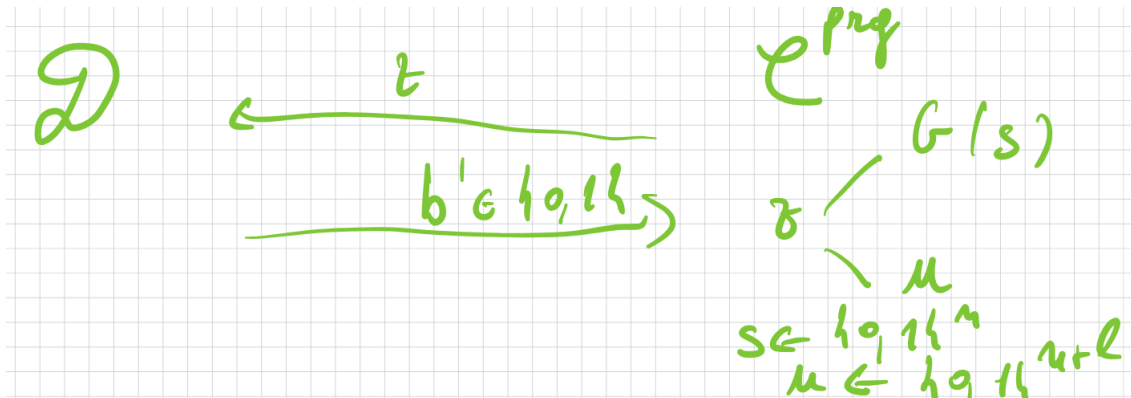
With this we can define pseudorandomness:

**Definition 12** (Pseudorandom Generator (PRG)). A function  $G : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{n+l}$  with  $l \geq 1$  (The Stretch) is secure if:

$$G(U_n) \approx_c U_{n+l}$$

$$U_n \equiv \text{uniform over } \{0, 1\}^n$$

$$U_{n+l} \equiv \text{uniform over } \{0, 1\}^{n+l}$$



Let's understand how to build PRGs:

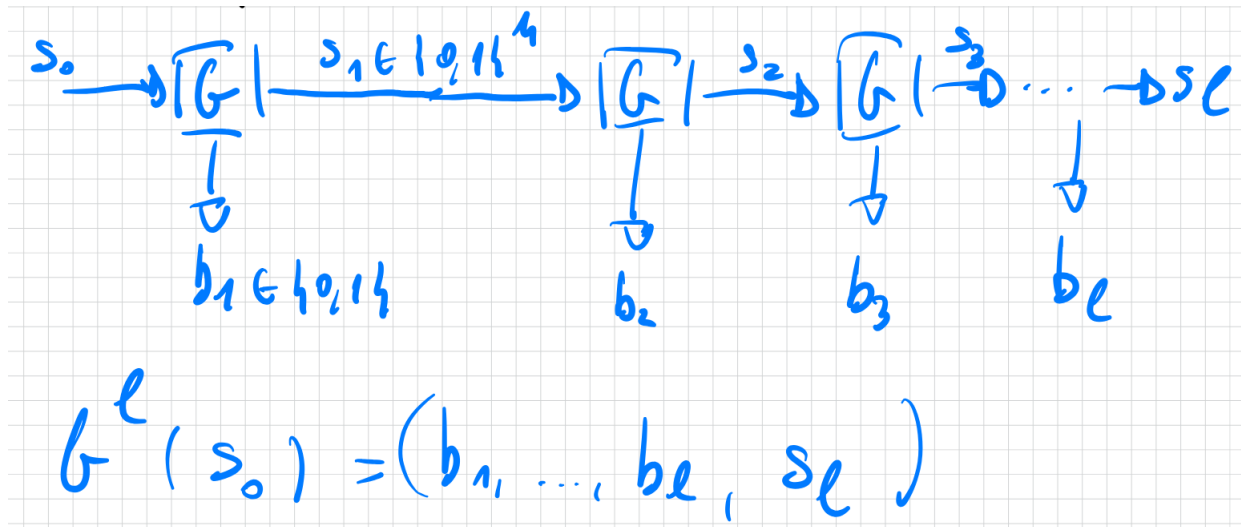
- Use a randomness extractor to get a uniform seed  $s \in \{0, 1\}^n$ .
- Define a simple PRG  $G : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{n+1}$  with minimal stretch  $l = 1$ .
- Use  $G$  to stretch any  $l(n) = \text{poly}(n)$ .

Theory vs Practice:

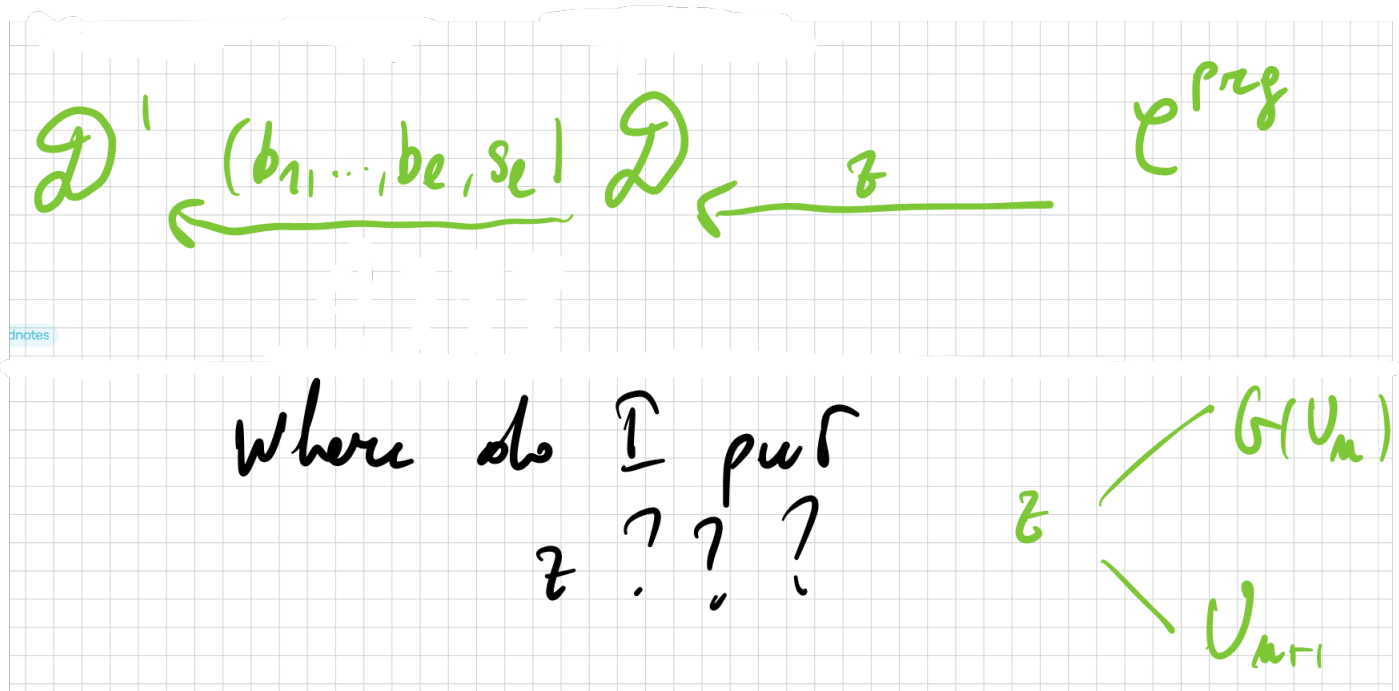
- Randomness extraction is what we already studied. But in practice it is done using Hash Functions.
- Theoretical  $G$  can be obtained from any OWF. Practical  $G$  is Heuristic

- Stretch is the same
- In practice the seed is refreshed periodically collecting new entropy

**Theorem 6.** If there exists a PRG  $G : \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{n+1}$ , then there exists a PRG  $G^l : \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{n+l}$  for any  $l(n) = \text{poly}(n)$



*Proof.* Assume  $G^l$  not secure,  $\exists$  PPT  $\mathcal{D}^l$  that can distinguish  $G^l(U_n)$  from  $U_{n+l}$  with probability  $\geq \frac{1}{p(n)}$  for some polynomial. We want to build PPT  $\mathcal{D}$  that can distinguish  $G(U_n)$  from  $U_{n+1}$  with probability  $\frac{1}{p(n)}$ . ( $\mathcal{D}$  is called a reduction)



## Hybrid argument

$$H_0(n) \equiv G^n(U_m)$$

$$b_1, \dots, b_\ell \leftarrow \{0,1\}^\ell$$

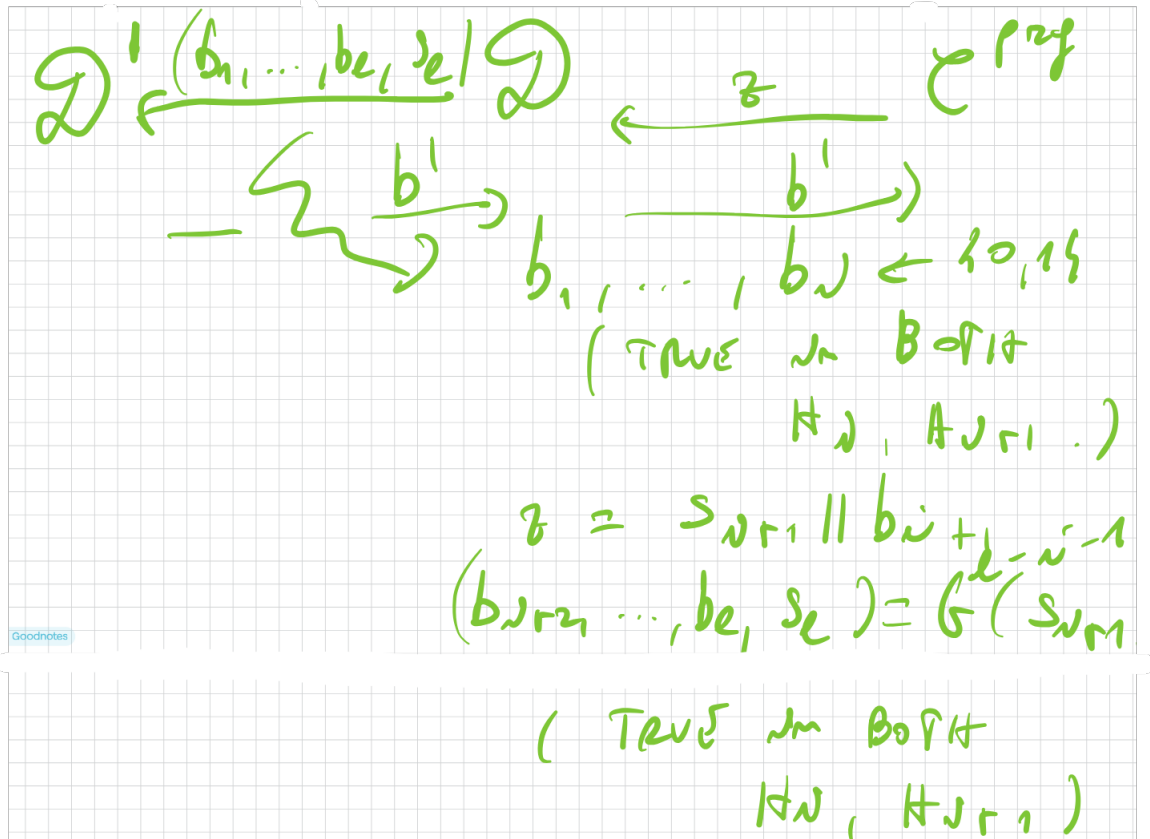
$$H_i(M) \equiv \begin{cases} b_1, \dots, b_i \leftarrow \{0, 1\} \\ s_i \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n \\ (b_{i+1}, \dots, b_\ell, s_\ell) = G(s_i) \end{cases}$$

$$H_\ell(n) \equiv U_{\ell+m}$$

□

**Lemma 4.**  $\forall i : H_i \approx_c H_{i+1}$ .

*Proof.* By reduction (as before):



By the above observations:

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[\mathcal{D}(z) = 1 : z = G(s); s \in \{0, 1\}^n] \\ &= \Pr[\mathcal{D}'(b_1, \dots, b_\ell, s_\ell) = 1 : (b_1, \dots, b_\ell, s_\ell) \in H_i(n)] \\ \Pr[\mathcal{D}(z) = 1 : z \leftarrow U_{n+1}] &= \Pr[\mathcal{D}'(b_1, \dots, b_\ell, s_\ell) = 1 : (b_1, \dots, b_\ell, s_\ell) \in H_{n+1}(n)] \implies \\ & |\Pr[\mathcal{D}(z) = 1 : z = G(U_n)] - \Pr[\mathcal{D}(z) = 1 : z \in U_n + 1]| \geq \frac{1}{p'(n)}. \\ & \implies H_i \approx_c H_{i+1} \end{aligned}$$

□

The next question is: How do we build  $G : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{n+1}$ ?

- Practical: Heuristic construction
- Theoretical: From any OWF

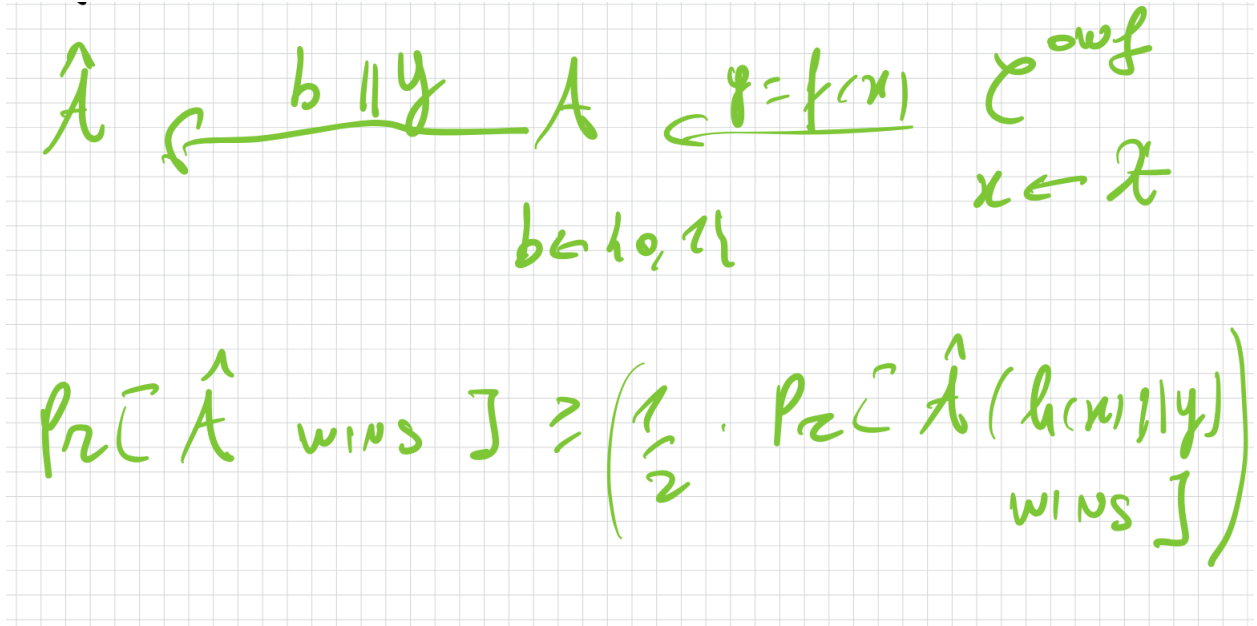
So we need to build a PRG from a OWF. To do so we need to introduce the concept of **Hardcore bits**. They are bits of info about  $x$  that are hard to compute given  $y = f(x)$ . It's a predicate  $h(x)$  s.t.  $h(x) \in \{0, 1\}$  is **hard** to compute given  $f(x)$  (w.p. better than  $\frac{1}{2}$ ).

First: Can there be a single  $h$  such that  $h$  is hardcore for all OWF?

No, because suppose we fix any  $h$ ; Take  $f$  for a OWF, consider:

$$\hat{f}(x) = h(x) || f(x)$$

.  $h$  is not hard-core for  $\hat{f}$ , but is  $\hat{f}$  a OWF?



$$\Pr[\hat{\mathcal{A}} \text{ wins}] \geq \left( \frac{1}{2} * \Pr[\hat{\mathcal{A}}(h(x) || y) \text{ wins}] \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[\hat{\mathcal{A}} \text{ wins}] &= \Pr[\hat{\mathcal{A}}(b, y) \text{ wins} \wedge b = h(x)] + \Pr[\hat{\mathcal{A}}(b, y) \text{ wins} \wedge b \neq h(x)] \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} * \Pr[\hat{\mathcal{A}}(h(x), y) \text{ wins}] \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} * \frac{1}{\text{poly}} \end{aligned}$$

Solution: swap the quantifiers.

**Definition 13.** Let  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  be a OWF. Then  $h$  is hard-core for  $f$  if either of the following is true:

- $\forall$  PPT  $\mathcal{P}$ :  $\Pr[\mathcal{P}(y) = h(x) : \substack{x \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n \\ y = f(x)}] \leq \frac{1}{2}$
- $(f(x), h(x)) \approx_c (f(x), b)$  for  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$  and  $x \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$

*Proof.* We show that the following are equivalent for a predicate  $h$  and a function  $f$ :

1. For all PPT algorithms  $\mathcal{P}$ ,

$$\Pr[\mathcal{P}(y) = h(x) : x \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n, y = f(x)] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$$

2.  $(f(x), h(x)) \approx_c (f(x), b)$ , where  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$  is uniform and  $x \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ .

(2)  $\implies$  (1):

Suppose  $(f(x), h(x)) \approx_c (f(x), b)$ . Assume, for contradiction, that there exists a PPT  $\mathcal{P}$  such that

$$\Pr[\mathcal{P}(f(x)) = h(x)] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon$$

for some non-negligible  $\epsilon$ . Construct a distinguisher  $\mathcal{D}$  that, given  $(y, b')$ , outputs 1 if  $\mathcal{P}(y) = b'$ , else 0. Then:

$$|\Pr[\mathcal{D}(f(x), h(x)) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{D}(f(x), b) = 1]| = |\Pr[\mathcal{P}(f(x)) = h(x)] - \Pr[\mathcal{P}(f(x)) = b]|$$

But  $\Pr[\mathcal{P}(f(x)) = b] = \frac{1}{2}$  since  $b$  is uniform and independent. Thus, the advantage is at least  $\epsilon$ , contradicting computational indistinguishability.  $\square$

It also true that 1  $\implies$  2.

**Theorem 7.** *If one-way permutations exist (OWP), then there exist  $f: \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ , then  $\exists G: \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{n+1}$  PRG.*

*Proof.*

$$G(s) = f(s) || h(s) \text{ where } h \text{ is hard-core for } f.$$

$$G(U_n) \equiv f(U_n) || h(U_n) \approx_c f(U_n) || U_1 \equiv U_{n+1}$$

$\square$

**Theorem 8.** *If OWF exist, then PRGs with  $l(n) = 1$  exist.*

All that is left is to build  $h$  for every given  $f$ .

**Theorem 9** (Goldreich-Levin). *Let  $f: \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  be a OWF  $g: \{0, 1\}^{2n} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{2n}$  with hard-core predicate:*

$$h(x, r) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n x_i * r_i = \langle x, \vec{r} \rangle \pmod{2}$$

*Proof.* Proof ideas: If  $\exists$  PPT  $\mathcal{P}$  for  $h(x, r)$ , then  $\exists$  PPT  $\mathcal{A}$  breaking  $g$ , in particular  $\mathcal{A}$  can find  $x$ . Simple cases:

Assume  $\mathcal{P}$  is super good:  $\forall x, r \Pr[\mathcal{P}(y) = h(x, r)] = 1$

Then  $\mathcal{A}$  will just run  $\mathcal{P}$  on

$$y_1 = (f(x), \vec{e}_1)$$

$$y_2 = (f(x), \vec{e}_2)$$

$$\vec{e}_i = (0 \cdots 0 1 0 \cdots) \quad (1 \text{ in position } i, 0 \text{ elsewhere})$$

Second idea: Assume  $\mathcal{P}$  is very good:  $\forall x \in \{0, 1\}^n$ :

$$\Pr_{r \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n} [\mathcal{P}(f(x), r) = h(x, r)] \geq \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{\text{poly}}$$

Run  $\mathcal{P}$  on  $r$  random and  $r \oplus e_i$ .

$$x_i = \langle x, r \oplus e_i \rangle \oplus \langle x, r \rangle = \langle x, e_i \rangle$$

Still you can amplify by taking majority of many queries.  $\square$

## 2.2 Symmetric Key Encryption

Recap from:  $G$  is a Pseudorandom Generator (PRG) with stretch  $l(\lambda) = \text{poly}(\lambda)$ .

Today, we will apply what we have learned to Symmetric Key Encryption (SKE).

Let us apply what we have learned to SKE, simple idea:

- **Encryption:**  $\mathcal{Enc}(k, m) = G(k) \oplus m = c$

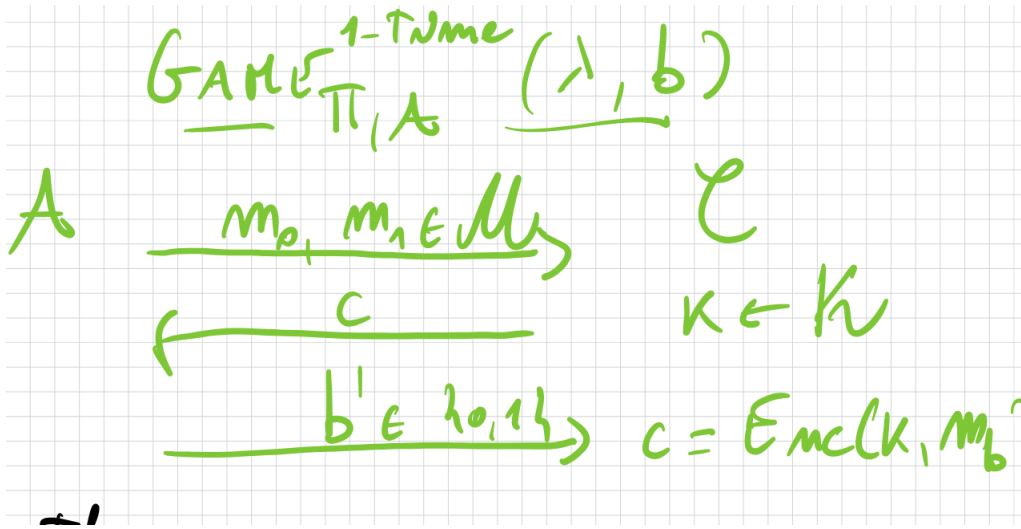
- **Decryption:**  $\mathcal{Dec}(k, c) = G(k) \oplus c = m$

$k \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ , but  $m \in \{0, 1\}^{\lambda+l}$  for any  $l = \text{poly}$ .

What does it mean for the above scheme to be computationally secure? Let's start with a warm-up definition.

**Definition 14** (One-Time Computational Security for SKE). Let  $\Pi = (\mathcal{Enc}, \mathcal{Dec})$  be a Symmetric Key Encryption scheme. We say  $\Pi$  is **one-time computationally secure** if:

$$\text{GAME}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{1-time}}(\lambda, 0) \approx_c \text{GAME}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{1-time}}(\lambda, 1)$$



Recall this means:

$$|\Pr[b' = 1 : \text{GAME}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{1-time}}(\lambda, 0)] - \Pr[b' = 1 : \text{GAME}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{1-time}}(\lambda, 1)]| \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$$

Why is this definition good? Because it captures natural properties every SKE has:

This definition captures several natural properties that a secure SKE should have:

- It should be hard to compute the secret key.
- It should be hard to compute the entire message.
- It should be hard to compute even the first bit of the message.

On the negative side, this notion is strictly for a **one-time** scenario (i.e., one key, one message). If the same key is used to encrypt two different messages:

$$c_1 = G(k) \oplus m_1$$

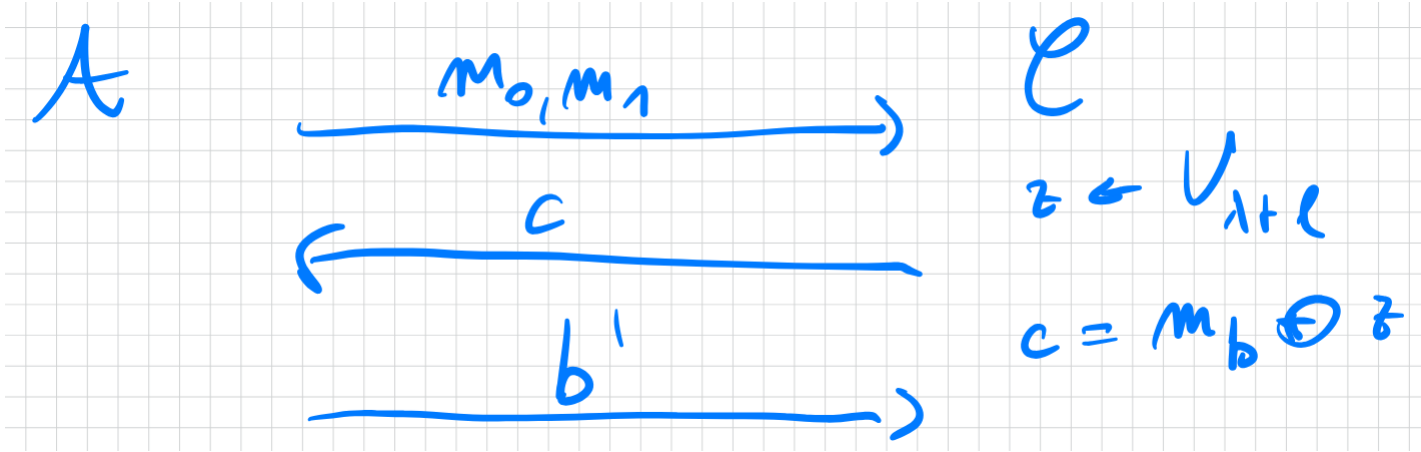
$$c_2 = G(k) \oplus m_2$$

Then an adversary can compute  $c_1 \oplus c_2 = (G(k) \oplus m_1) \oplus (G(k) \oplus m_2) = m_1 \oplus m_2$ . If the adversary knows  $m_1$ , they can easily recover  $m_2$ .

**Theorem 10.** If  $G$  is a PRG, then the scheme  $\Pi$  defined by  $\mathcal{Enc}(k, m) = G(k) \oplus m$  is one-time computationally secure.



*Proof.* Starting with the initial experiment  $\text{GAME}(\lambda, b) \equiv \text{GAME}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{1-time}}(\lambda, b)$ , we will introduce a hybrid experiment  $\text{HYB}(\lambda, b)$  and show that:

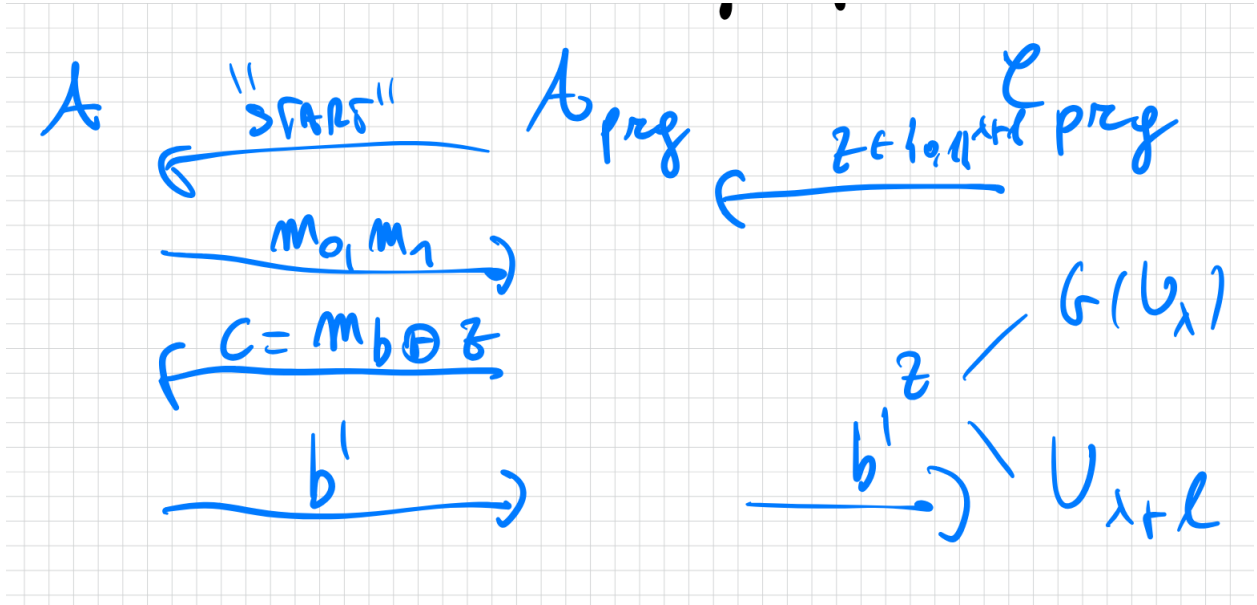


Easy to see that  $\text{HYB}(\lambda, 0) \equiv \text{HYB}(\lambda, 1)$  (perfect indistinguishability) because the distribution of  $c$  is uniform and independent of  $b$ .

On the other hand:  $\text{GAME}(\lambda, b) \approx_c \text{HYB}(\lambda, b) \forall b \in \{0, 1\}$  (computational indistinguishability). By reduction: assume  $\exists \text{PPT } \mathcal{A}$  such that:

$$|\Pr[\text{GAME}(\lambda, b = 1)] - \Pr[\text{HYB}(\lambda, b) = 1]| \geq \frac{1}{p(\lambda)}$$

Then build PPT  $\mathcal{A}_{\text{prg}}$  against  $G$ :



By inspection:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[b' = 1 : z \leftarrow G(U_{\lambda})] &= \Pr[b' = 1 : \text{GAME}(\lambda, b)] \\ \Pr[b' = 1 : z \leftarrow U_{\lambda+l}] &= \Pr[b' = 1 : \text{HYB}(\lambda, b)] \\ \implies |\Pr[b' = 1 : z \leftarrow G(U_{\lambda})] - \Pr[b' = 1 : z \leftarrow U_{\lambda+l}]| &\geq \frac{1}{p(\lambda)} \\ \implies \text{GAME}(\lambda, 0) &\approx_c \text{HYB}(\lambda, 0) \\ &\equiv \text{HYB}(\lambda, 1) \\ &\approx_c \text{GAME}(\lambda, 1) \end{aligned}$$

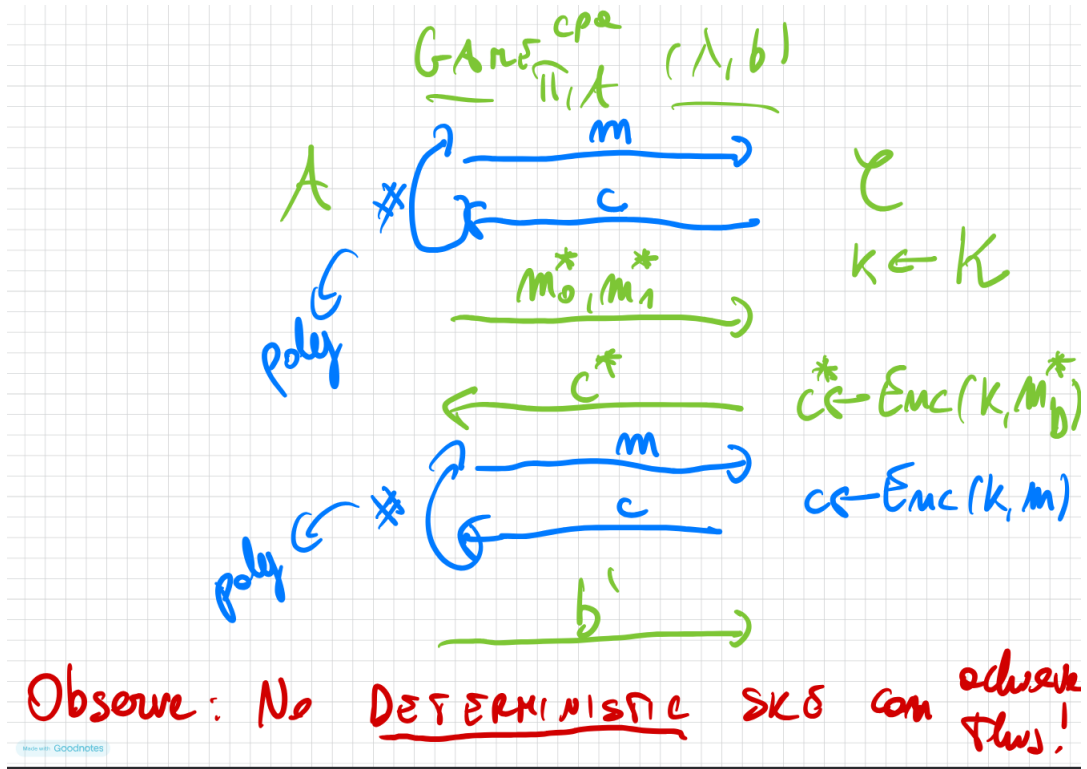
$$\Rightarrow \text{GAME}(\lambda, 0) \approx_c \text{GAME}(\lambda, 1)$$

□

Our Next goal: Chosen-Plaintext Attack (CPA) Security.

**Definition 15.** Let  $\Pi = (\text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  be an SKE scheme. We say  $\Pi$  is **CPA-secure** (secure against chosen-plaintext attacks) if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ :

$$\text{GAME}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{CPA}}(\lambda, 0) \approx_c \text{GAME}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{CPA}}(\lambda, 1)$$



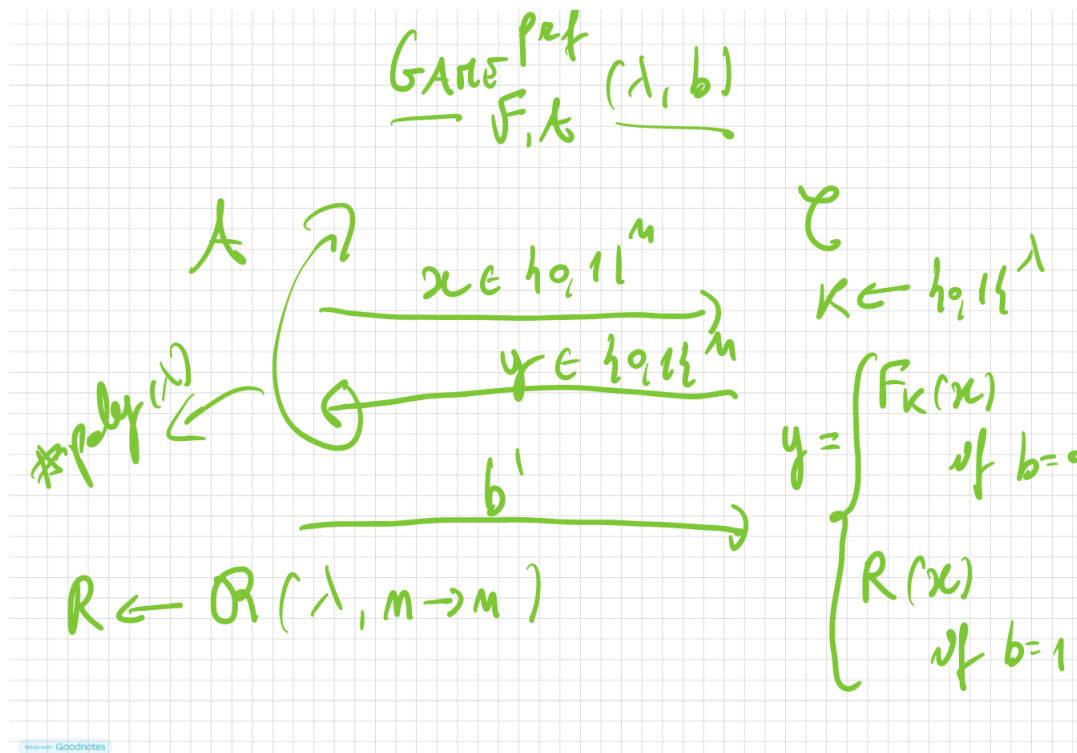
**Observation:** No deterministic SKE can be CPA-secure. An adversary could query the oracle on  $m_0^*$  to get  $c_0$ , then submit  $(m_0^*, m_1^*)$  as the challenge. If the challenge ciphertext  $c^*$  equals  $c_0$ , it knows  $b = 0$ . Therefore, CPA-secure encryption must be randomized or stateful.

The previous one-time scheme is not CPA-secure because it is deterministic. We need a new tool.

**Definition 16** (Pseudorandom Function (PRF)).

A function family  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_k : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n\}_{k \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda}$  is a PRF if:

$$\text{GAME}_{\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{prf}}(\lambda, 0) \approx_c \text{GAME}_{\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{prf}}(\lambda, 1)$$



Note:  $R$  is not efficiently computable as it takes exponential space to store it.  $F(k, x)$  instead is efficiently computable for all  $k, x$ .

Plan:

1. Build a PRF.
2. Use it to get CPA secure SKE and more!

How to build a PRF?

1. Practice: many examples like DES, AES (more accurately, PRP, pseudorandom permutations, which are invertible PRFs).
2. Theory: The existence of OWF implies the existence of PRG, which in turn implies the existence of PRF.

$$\text{OWF} \implies \text{PRG} \implies \text{PRF} \implies \text{PRP}$$

We cover our construction of PRFs.

**Definition 17** (The Goldreich-Goldwasser-Micali (GGM) Construction). *We will show one construction that proves PRGs imply PRFs:*

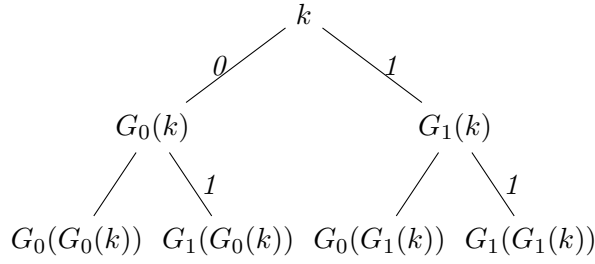
The GGM tree, basically, is a proof that  $\text{PRG} \implies \text{PRF}$ . Let  $G : \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{2n}$  be a PRG. We can split its output into two halves:  $G(s) = (G_0(s), G_1(s))$ , where  $|G_0(s)| = |G_1(s)| = n$ .

In other words:

$$F_k(x_1 x_2 \dots x_n) = G_{x_n}(G_{x_{n-1}}(\dots G_{x_1}(k) \dots))$$

Think of  $G$  as  $F(k, x)$  for  $x \in \{0,1\}$ .





In general:

$$F_k(x_1x_2\dots x_n) = G_{x_n}(G_{x_{n-1}}(\dots G_{x_1}(k)\dots))$$

**Theorem 11.** If  $G$  is a secure PRG, then the GGM construction  $F$  is a secure PRF.  $\mathcal{F} = \{f_k\}$  is a PRF.

The proof relies on a hybrid argument and the following lemmas.

- **Lemma 1:** If  $G : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{2n}$  is a PRG, then for any polynomial  $t(\lambda)$ , the following two ensembles are computationally indistinguishable:

$$\{(G(k_1), \dots, G(k_t))\} \approx_c \{(U_{2n}, \dots, U_{2n})\}$$

$$k_1, \dots, k_t \leftarrow U_n$$

Next, given  $F'_k : \{0, 1\}^{n-1} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  a PRF, then define:

$$F_k(x, y) = G_x(F'_k(y)) \text{ with } x \in \{0, 1\}, y \in \{0, 1\}^{n-1}$$

- **Lemma 2:** If  $F'_k$  is a secure PRF, then  $F_k$  is also a secure PRF.

Recall the GGM (Goldreich-Goldwasser-Micali) construction:

$$G : \{0, 1\}^\lambda \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{2\lambda}$$

$$G(k) = (G_0(k), G_1(k))$$

We build  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_k : \{0, 1\}^{n(\lambda)} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda\}$  with  $k \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  such that

$$F_k(x) = G_{x_n}(G_{x_{n-1}}(\dots G_{x_1}(k)\dots))$$

where  $x = x_1x_2\dots x_n \in \{0, 1\}^n$ .

### Proof of Security (by Induction)

For the proof, let  $n(\lambda) = \text{poly}(\lambda)$ . We use induction on  $n$ .

Let  $F'_k : \{0, 1\}^{n-1} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  be the GGM construction for inputs of length  $n - 1$ . We can write  $F_k$  for  $n$ -bit inputs as:

$$F_k(x, y) = G_x(F'_k(y))$$

where  $x \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $y \in \{0, 1\}^{n-1}$ .

**Lemma 5.** If  $\{F'_k\}$  (GGM on  $n - 1$  inputs) is a PRF, then  $\{F_k\}$  (GGM on  $n$  inputs) is also a PRF family.

We can use this lemma to prove the security of GGM by induction.

### Base Case ( $n = 1$ )

For  $n = 1$ , the GGM construction is:

$$F_k(x) = G_x(k), \quad x \in \{0, 1\}$$

This is:

$$F_k(x) = \begin{cases} G_0(k) & \text{if } x = 0 \\ G_1(k) & \text{if } x = 1 \end{cases}$$

This is a PRF because  $G$  is a PRG, so  $(G_0(k), G_1(k)) \approx_c U_{2\lambda}$ . An adversary querying  $F_k(0)$  and  $F_k(1)$  just gets the output of the PRG, which is indistinguishable from two random  $\lambda$ -bit strings  $R(0)$  and  $R(1)$ .

### Inductive Step

Assume  $\{F'_k\}$  (GGM on  $n - 1$  inputs) is a PRF. We want to prove  $\{F_k\}$  (GGM on  $n$  inputs) is a PRF. This is exactly what the Lemma states.

*Proof (of Lemma).* We use a hybrid argument. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a PPT adversary.

- **HYB 0:** The real world.

$$z = F_k(x, y) = G_x(F'_k(y))$$

where  $k \leftarrow U_\lambda$ .

- **HYB 1:**

$$z = G_x(R'(y))$$

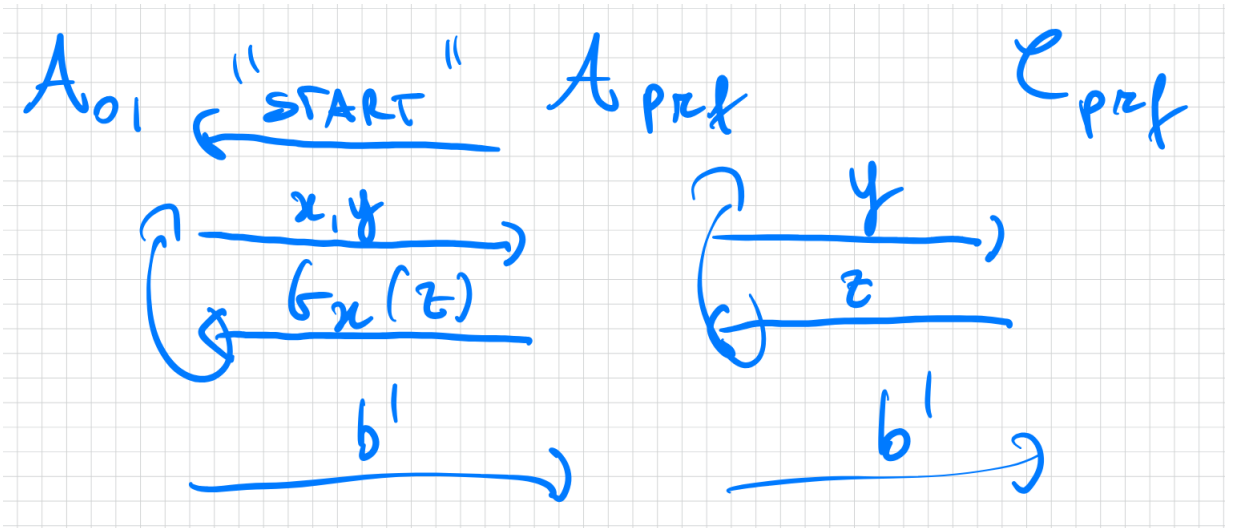
where  $R' \leftarrow \mathcal{R}(\lambda, n - 1 \rightarrow \lambda)$  is a truly random function from.

- **HYB 2:** The ideal world.

$$z = R(x, y)$$

where  $R \leftarrow \mathcal{R}(\lambda, n \rightarrow \lambda)$  is a truly random function.

**Step 1:**  $HYB_0 \approx_c HYB_1$  We show  $HYB_0(\lambda) \approx_c HYB_1(\lambda)$  by reduction. Assume a PPT  $\mathcal{A}_{01}$  distinguishes  $HYB_0$  and  $HYB_1$  with non-negligible probability. We build a reduction  $\mathcal{A}_{prf}$  that breaks the PRF security of  $\{F'_k\}$ .



If  $z = F'_k(y)$ , then  $G_x(z)$  is identical to what  $\mathcal{A}_{prf}$  receives in  $HYB_0$ . On the other hand, if  $z = R'(y)$ , then  $G_x(z)$  is identical to what  $\mathcal{A}_{prf}$  receives in  $HYB_1$ .

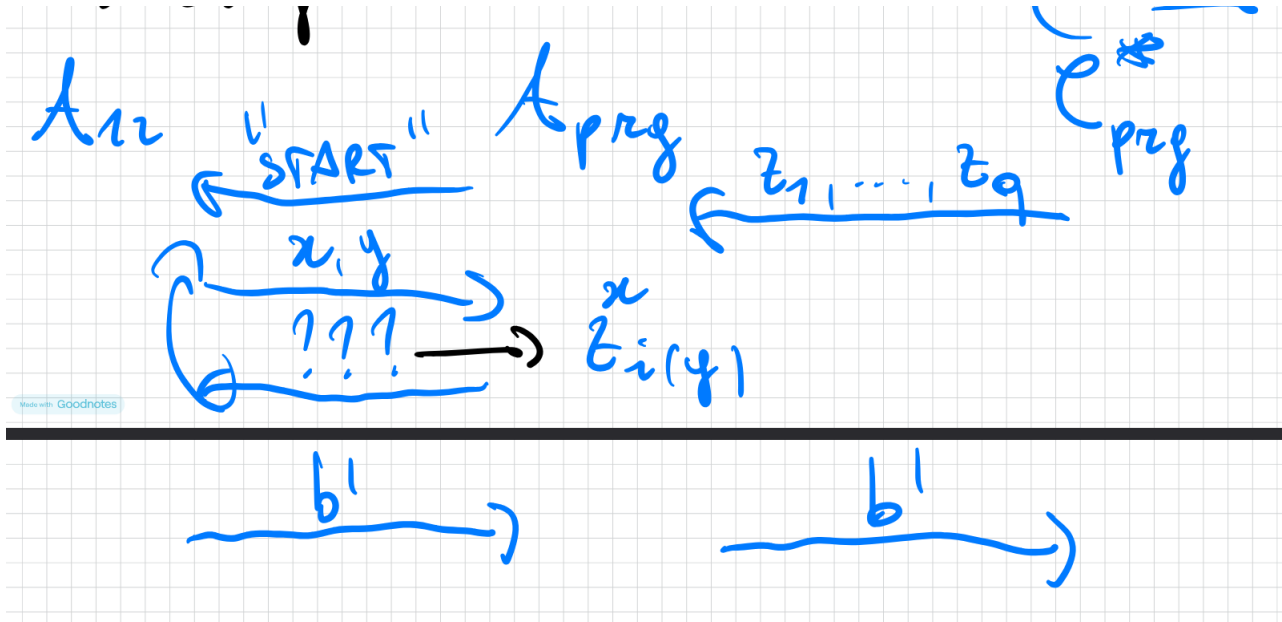
**Step 2:**  $HYB_1 \approx_c HYB_2$  Here, we use the property that  $G$  is a PRG.

**Lemma 6** (PRG Expansion). *If  $G : \{0, 1\}^\lambda \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{2\lambda}$  is a PRG, then for any  $t = \text{poly}(\lambda)$ :*

$$(G(k_1), \dots, G(k_t)) \approx_c (U_{2\lambda}, \dots, U_{2\lambda}) \equiv U_{2\lambda \cdot t}$$

where  $k_1, \dots, k_t \leftarrow U_\lambda$  are chosen independently.

Now, assume a PPT  $\mathcal{A}_{12}$  distinguishes  $HYB_1$  and  $HYB_2$ . We build a PPT  $\mathcal{A}_{prg}$  breaking the above claim.



Let  $t(\lambda) = q(\lambda)$  - the number of queries made by  $\mathcal{A}_{12}$ . Each of  $z_i \in \{0, 1\}^{2\lambda}$  and we can think of it as:

$$z_i = (z_i^0, z_i^1)$$

With each corresponding to  $\lambda$  bits.

In the above reduction,  $i(y)$  is the index of the sample  $z_i$  that was used when  $\mathcal{A}_{12}$  asked already for  $x, y$ . If it never asked use the next available  $z_i$ . □

In the next few lectures, we'll see PRFs are enough to do practical symmetric crypto:

- CPA-Secure SKE (Symmetric Key Encryption) for messages of variable length (VIL).
- MACs (Message Authentication Codes) for messages of VIL.
- Non-malleable SKE (a.k.a. CCA-Secure SKE), which is equivalent to combining message privacy and message authentication.

It will be important that our PRF  $F$  is a **PRP (Pseudorandom Permutation)**, namely it is an efficient, length-preserving permutation for a given key. In practice, we call it a **BLOCKCIPHER**. We will show that  $PRPs \approx PRFs$ . This will also explain the real-world design of some blockciphers (e.g., DES, AES).

## CPA-Secure SKE for Variable Length Messages

Let's start with encryption (CPA-security). Recall the CPA indistinguishability game ( $\text{GAME}^{\text{CPA}}$ ): The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  submits two messages  $m_0, m_1$  of the same length ( $|m_0| = |m_1|$ ) to a challenger. The challenger picks  $k \leftarrow \mathcal{K}$ , computes  $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(k, m_b)$  for a random bit  $b$ , and sends  $c$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  wins if it guesses  $b$ . We need this to work for messages of any polynomial length (VIL).

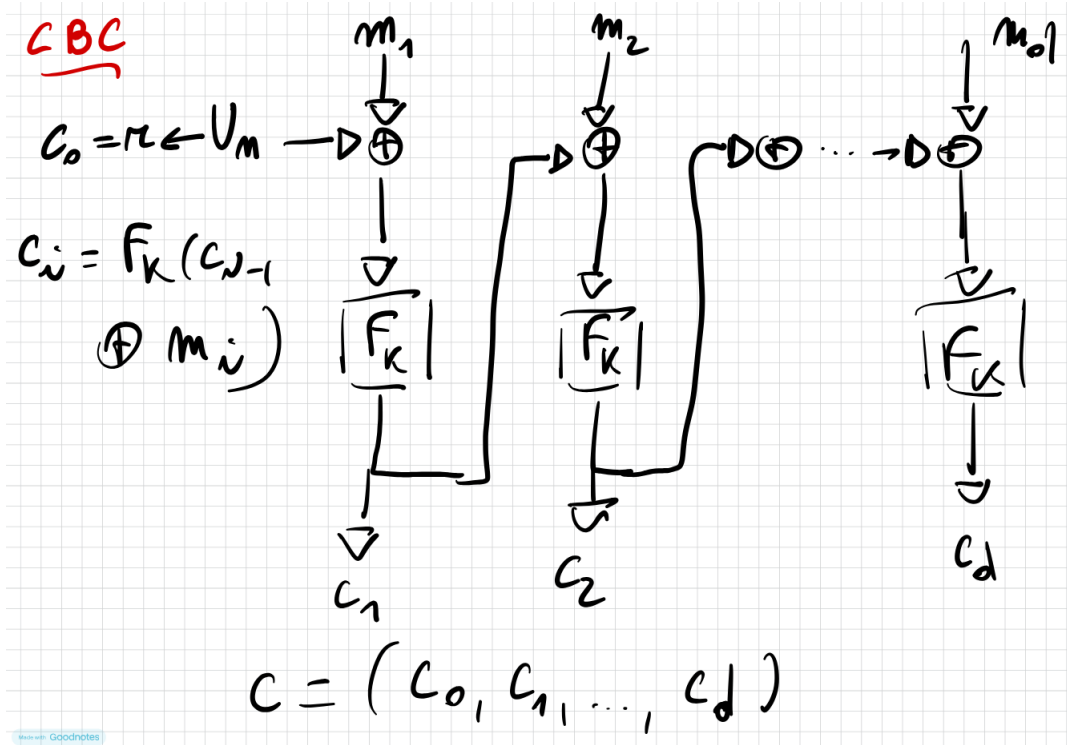
## Mode of Operation

A mode of operation is a standardized way to encrypt messages  $m = (m_1, \dots, m_d)$ , where  $m_i \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , using a PRF  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_k : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n\}$ .

**Remark 1.** We can't just use  $c = (F_k(m_1), \dots, F_k(m_d))$ . This is Electronic Codebook (ECB) mode, and it's not secure (it leaks equalities between blocks). This is true even if  $F$  is a PRP.

## CBC (Cipher Block Chaining) Mode

- $c_0 = IV \in U_n$  (Initialization Vector)
- $c_i = F_k(c_{i-1} \oplus m_i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, d$
- Output:  $c = (c_0, c_1, \dots, c_d)$

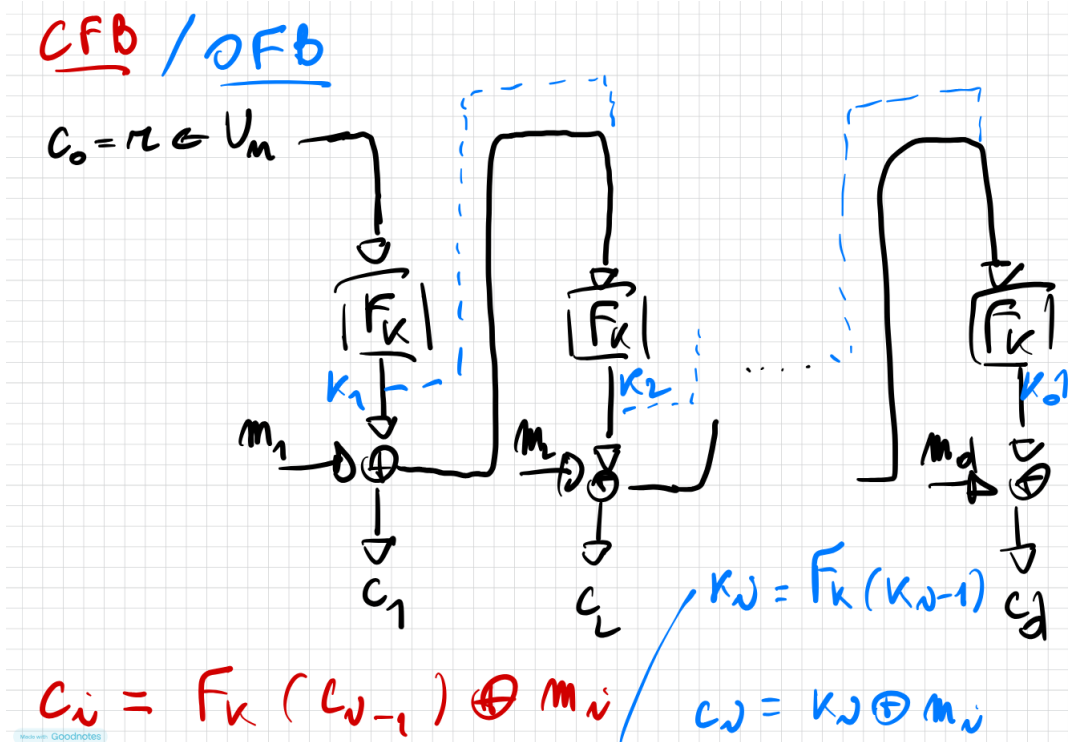


Decryption requires  $F_k^{-1}$ , so  $F$  must be a PRP. Encryption is sequential.

**Theorem 12.** If  $F$  is a PRP, then CBC-Mode is CPA-secure for VIL.

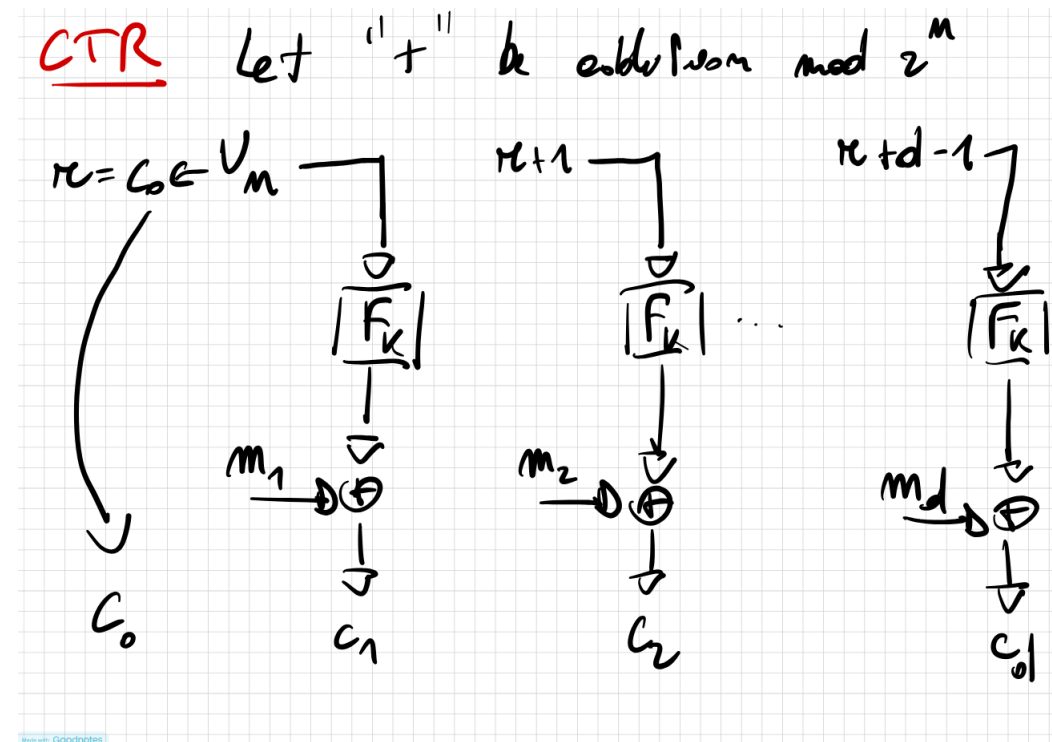
## OFB (Output Feedback) Mode

- $c_0 = r \in U_n$
- $k_0 = r$
- $k_i = F_k(k_{i-1})$  for  $i = 1, \dots, d$
- $c_i = k_i \oplus m_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, d$
- Output:  $c = (c_0, c_1, \dots, c_d)$



### CTR (Counter) Mode

- $c_0 = r \in U_n$  (where  $r$  is a counter)
- $c_i = F_k(r + i - 1) \oplus m_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, d$
- Output:  $c = (c_0, c_1, \dots, c_d)$
- Note: "+" can be modulo  $2^n$  arithmetic.



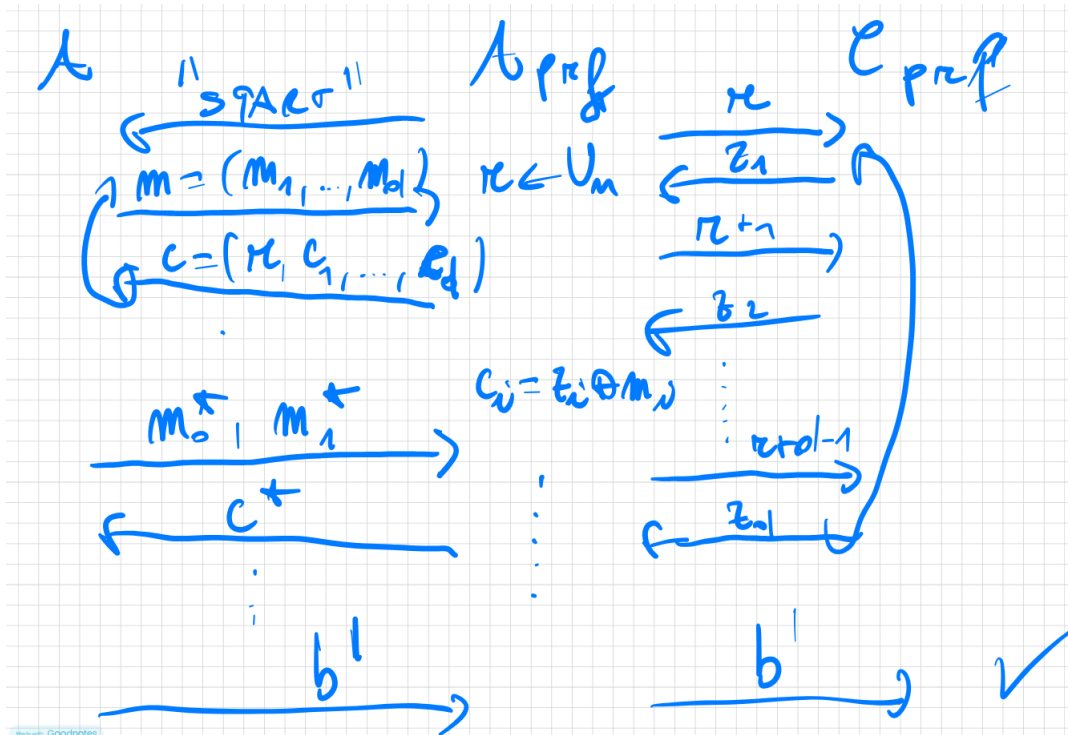
**Theorem 13.** Assuming  $F$  is a PRF, CTR mode is a CPA-secure SKE for VIL.



For the challenge  $m_b^* = (m_{b,1}^*, \dots, m_{b,d^*}^*)(d^* \in \text{Nisthedimension})$ , we return  $c^* = (c_0^*, \dots, c_{d^*}^*)$  such that  $c_0^* = r^* \in U_n$  and  $c_i^* = F_k(r^* + i - 1) \oplus m_{b,i}^*$ .

- **Game**  $G(\lambda, b)$ : Real game.
  - Encryption query  $m = (m_1, \dots, m_d)$ : return  $c = (c_0, \dots, c_d)$  where  $c_0 = r \in U_n$  and  $c_i = F_k(r + i - 1) \oplus m_i$ .
  - Challenge query  $m_b^*$ : return  $c^* = (c_0^*, \dots, c_d^*)$  where  $c_0^* = r^* \in U_n$  and  $c_i^* = F_k(r^* + i - 1) \oplus m_{b,i}^*$ .
- **Hybrid**  $H_1(\lambda, b)$ : Same as  $G(\lambda, b)$ , but replace  $F_k(\cdot)$  with a truly random function  $R(\cdot)$ .
- **Hybrid**  $H_2(\lambda)$ : The challenge ciphertext  $c^*$  is uniform and independent of  $b$ . (i.e.,  $c_0^* = r^*$  and  $c_i^* = u_i \oplus m_{b,i}^*$  where  $u_i$  are fresh uniform strings. This is equivalent to  $c^*$  being  $c_0^*$  and  $d^*$  fresh uniform strings, which is independent of  $b$ .)

*Proof.* Standard reduction. Fix  $b$ . Assume a PPT  $\mathcal{A}$  distinguishes  $G(\lambda, b)$  and  $H_1(\lambda, b)$ . We build a PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}_{prf}$  against the PRF  $F$ .



Let **BAD** be the event that any counter value used for the challenge overlaps with any counter value used for any encryption query.

$$\text{BAD} = \exists j, i, i' \text{ s.t. } r^* + i' = r_j + i$$

$(i' \in [0, d^* - 1], i \in [0, d_j - 1])$

Conditioned on  $\neg \text{BAD}$ , all values  $r^* + i'$  are "fresh" inputs to the random function  $R$ . This means all outputs  $R(r^* + i')$  are independent and uniformly random. In this case,  $c_i^* = R(r^* + i - 1) \oplus m_{b,i}^*$  is a one-time pad encryption, and the ciphertext  $c^*$  is uniform and independent of  $b$ . This is exactly  $H_2(\lambda)$ .

By the properties of statistical distance:

$$SD(H_1(\lambda, b); H_2(\lambda)) \leq \Pr[\text{BAD}]$$

We just need to bound  $\Pr[\text{BAD}]$ . Let  $q = q(\lambda)$  be the number of queries. Let  $\text{BAD}_j$  be the event that the challenge overlaps with query  $j$ .  $\Pr[\text{BAD}] = \Pr[\cup_{j=1}^q \text{BAD}_j] \leq \sum_{j=1}^q \Pr[\text{BAD}_j]$  (by Union Bound).

Let's bound  $\Pr[\text{BAD}_j]$ . WLOG, assume all message lengths are at most  $q$ . Overlap  $\text{BAD}_j$  occurs if  $\{r^*, \dots, r^* + q - 1\}$  overlaps with  $\{r_j, \dots, r_j + q - 1\}$ .  $r^*$  and  $r_j$  are chosen uniformly from  $\{0, \dots, 2^n - 1\}$ . Overlap happens if  $r_j \in [r^* - q + 1, r^* + q - 1]$ . The size of this interval is  $(r^* + q - 1) - (r^* - q + 1) + 1 = 2q - 1$ . So,  $\Pr[\text{BAD}_j] = \frac{2q-1}{2^n}$ .

$$\Pr[\text{BAD}] \leq \sum_{j=1}^q \frac{2q-1}{2^n} = q \cdot \frac{2q-1}{2^n} \leq \frac{2q^2}{2^n} = \text{negl}(\lambda)$$

Since  $q = \text{poly}(\lambda)$  and  $n$  (the block size) is related to  $\lambda$  (e.g.,  $n = \lambda$ ),  $2^n$  is exponential in  $\lambda$ .  $\square$

**Conclusion:**  $G(\lambda, 0) \approx_c H_1(\lambda, 0) \approx_c H_2(\lambda) \approx_c H_1(\lambda, 1) \approx_c G(\lambda, 1)$ . The advantages  $G(\lambda, 0) \approx_c H_1(\lambda, 0)$  and  $H_1(\lambda, 1) \approx_c G(\lambda, 1)$  are negligible by Lemma 1. The advantages  $H_1(\lambda, 0) \approx_c H_2(\lambda)$  and  $H_2(\lambda) \approx_c H_1(\lambda, 1)$  are negligible by Lemma 2. Thus,  $G(\lambda, 0) \approx_c G(\lambda, 1)$  by the triangle inequality, and CTR mode is CPA-secure.  $\square$

### 2.3 Message Authentication Codes (MACs)

We now switch to the problem of message authentication. We need a security guarantee that it is computationally hard to forge a message/tag pair  $(m^*, \tau^*)$  such that  $\text{Vrfy}(k, m^*) = \text{accept}$  (or  $\text{Tag}(k, m^*) = \tau^*$ ) without knowing the secret key  $k$ .

**Definition 18** (UF-CMA). *We say a MAC scheme  $\Pi = (\text{Gen}, \text{Tag}, \text{Vrfy})$  is **Unforgeable Under a Chosen-Message Attack (UF-CMA)** if for all PPT adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\Pr[\text{GAME}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{ufcma}}(\lambda) = 1] \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .*

*The game  $\text{GAME}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}}^{\text{ufcma}}(\lambda)$  proceeds as follows:*

1.  $k \leftarrow \text{Gen}(\lambda)$
2.  $\mathcal{A}$  gets oracle access to  $\text{Tag}(k, \cdot)$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  makes queries  $m_1, \dots, m_q$  and receives  $\tau_i = \text{Tag}(k, m_i)$ .
3.  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a pair  $(m^*, \tau^*)$ .
4.  $\mathcal{A}$  wins if  $\text{Vrfy}(k, m^*) = \text{accept}$  (i.e.,  $\text{Tag}(k, m^*) = \tau^*$ ) AND  $m^* \notin \{m_1, \dots, m_q\}$ .

**Theorem 14.** *If  $\mathcal{F} = \{F_k\}$  is a PRF, then the MAC scheme  $\text{Tag}(k, m) = F_k(m)$  is UF-CMA for fixed-length messages.*