

# **Communication Secrecy**

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# Introduction: providing confidentiality

- We'd like to provide confidential communication
  - Only the intended recipient(s) should be able to read the data



- Two types of encryption and decryption
  - Symmetric ciphers
  - Asymmetric ciphers



**I LOVE MATH**

**IT TORTURES PEOPLE**

# Symmetric Ciphers

- A cipher defined over  $(K, M, C)$  is a pair of “comp. eff.” algorithms  $(E, D)$ , where

$$E: K \times M \rightarrow C$$

$$D: K \times C \rightarrow M$$

s. t. for all  $k$  in  $K$  and  $m$  in  $M$ :

$$D(k, E(k, m)) = m$$

- $E$  is often randomized,  $D$  is always deterministic

# Perfect Secrecy

- What is a “secure” cipher?
  - Shannon: Cipher text should reveal “no information” about the plain text
- A cipher  $(E, D)$  over  $(K, M, C)$  has **perfect secrecy** if for all  $m_0, m_1 \in M$  ( $|m_0|=|m_1|$ ) and for all  $c \in C$   
 $\Pr [E(k, m_0) = c] = \Pr [E(k, m_1) = c]$   
where  $k \in K$  is randomly chosen
- Given cipher text  $c$ , one cannot tell whether  $c$  is a cryptogram of  $m_0$  or  $m_1$

# One Time Pad

- Vernam (1917)
  - $M = C = K = \{0, 1\}^n$
  - $E(k, m) = k \oplus m$
  - $D(k, c) = k \oplus c$
- Features
  - Given a truly random key, OTP has ***perfect secrecy***
  - Key has to be ***random*** and it must be used ***only once***
  - Impractical: Shannon shows that perfect secrecy requires keys to be at least as long as the plain text

# Pseudo Random Generator

- Idea: Replace a “random” with a “pseudorandom” key  
 $\mathbf{G}: \{0, 1\}^s \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  where  $n \gg s$
- Pseudo Random Generator (PRG) is a function  $\mathbf{G}$  that maps *seed space* to *key space*
  - Is “efficiently” computable by a deterministic algorithm
  - Its output (keys) “looks random”
- Stream ciphers
  - $E(k, m) := m \oplus \mathbf{G}(k)$
  - $D(k, c) := c \oplus \mathbf{G}(k)$
- Examples: RC4, CSS, eStream, Salsa 20
- Can stream ciphers have perfect secrecy, why?

# Stream Ciphers: perfect secrecy?

- Stream ciphers cannot have perfect secrecy
  - Keys (seeds) are shorter than messages
- Can stream ciphers ever be secure?
  - Need a new definition of security
  - Security will depend on PRG used

# Pseudo Random Generators: defs

- **Statistical test** is an algorithm  $A: \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ 
  - Returns 1 if it *thinks* the input string is random, 0 otherwise
- **Advantage** of st. test  $A$  against PRG  $G$ :  
$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PRG}}[A, G] = |\Pr_{k \xleftarrow{R} K}[A(G(k)) = 1] - \Pr_{r \xleftarrow{R} \{0, 1\}^n}[A(r) = 1]|$$
  - If close to 0,  $A$  cannot distinguish  $G$  from random
  - Otherwise,  $A$  can distinguish  $G$  from random
- **Def.** A PRG  $G$  is secure, if for all eff. stat. tests  $A$ :  
 $\text{Adv}_{\text{PRG}}[A, G]$  is negligible.

Negligible? Assume less than  $2^{-80}$

# Pseudo Random Generators: defs

- **Def:** A PRG is **unpredictable** if given an initial sequence of bits (a prefix), one cannot *efficiently* predict the next bit (with probability higher than  $\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$ )
- **Thm:** A PRG is secure iff. it is unpredictable.
- In practice
  - Unknown if there are provably secure PRG
  - But we have heuristic candidates

# Perfect secrecy, threat model

- (Recall) A cipher  $(E, D)$  over  $(K, M, C)$  has **perfect secrecy** if for all  $m_0, m_1 \in M$  ( $|m_0| = |m_1|$ ) and for all  $c \in C$   
$$\Pr [E(k, m_0) = c] = \Pr [E(k, m_1) = c]$$
where  $k \in K$  is randomly chosen
  - Given cipher text  $c$ , one cannot tell whether  $c$  is a cryptogram of  $m_0$  or  $m_1$
- **Threat model:** basis for reasoning about security
  - **Adversary's power:** what can she do
  - **Adversary's goal:** what is she trying to achieve

# Semantic security: def

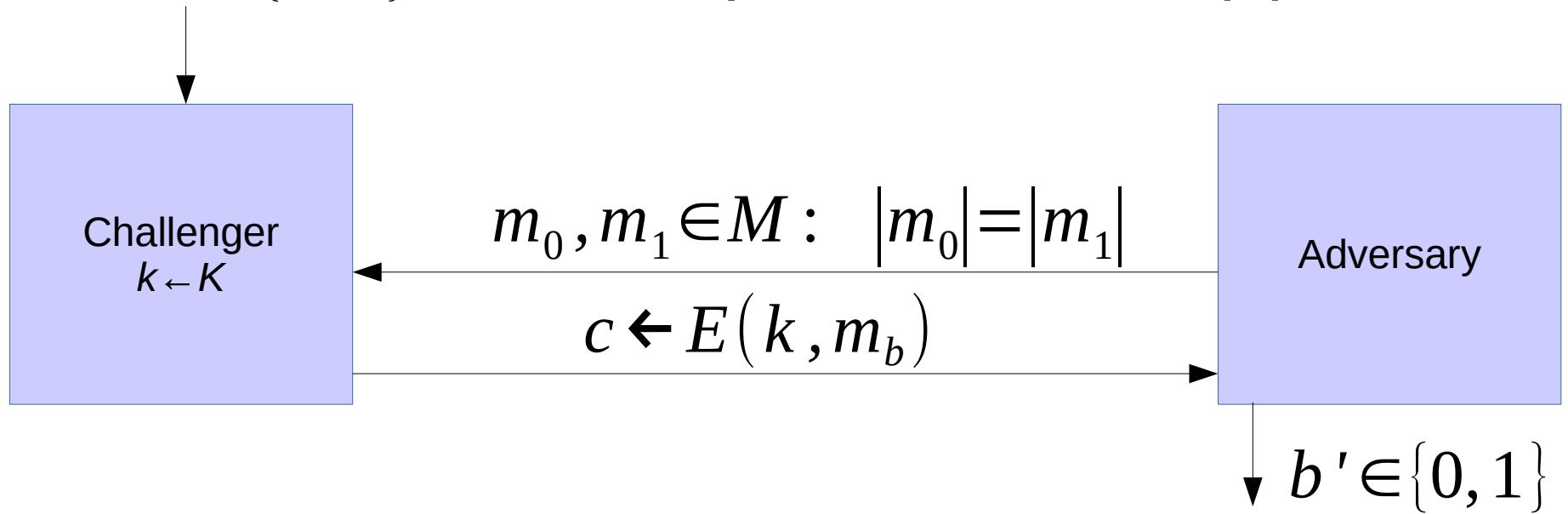
(for one-time key; adv. sees only one CT)

- Adversary's power: **observe one ciphertext**
  - Every message is encrypted with its own key; a particular key is used only once
- Adversary's goal: **learn about the plaintext**

# Semantic security: def

(for one-time key; adv. sees only one CT)

- For  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  define experiments  $\text{EXP}(b)$  as



- Def:  $\zeta = (E, D)$  is **semantically secure** if for all eff. adversaries  $A$   $\text{Adv}_{\text{SS}}[A, \zeta]$  is negligible.

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{SS}}[A, \zeta] := |\Pr[\text{EXP}(0) = 1] - \Pr[\text{EXP}(1) = 1]|$$

# Semantic security

- Informally
  - A cipher has **semantic security** if given only cipher text, an attacker cannot *practically* derive any information about the plain text
- Thm: Given a secure PRG, derived stream cipher is semantically secure

# Final thoughts

- Two-time pad attack
  - Never use stream-cipher key to encrypt more than one message
    - later we show a secure a multi-message exchange

$$c_1 \leftarrow m_1 \oplus \mathbf{G}(k)$$

$$c_2 \leftarrow m_2 \oplus \mathbf{G}(k)$$

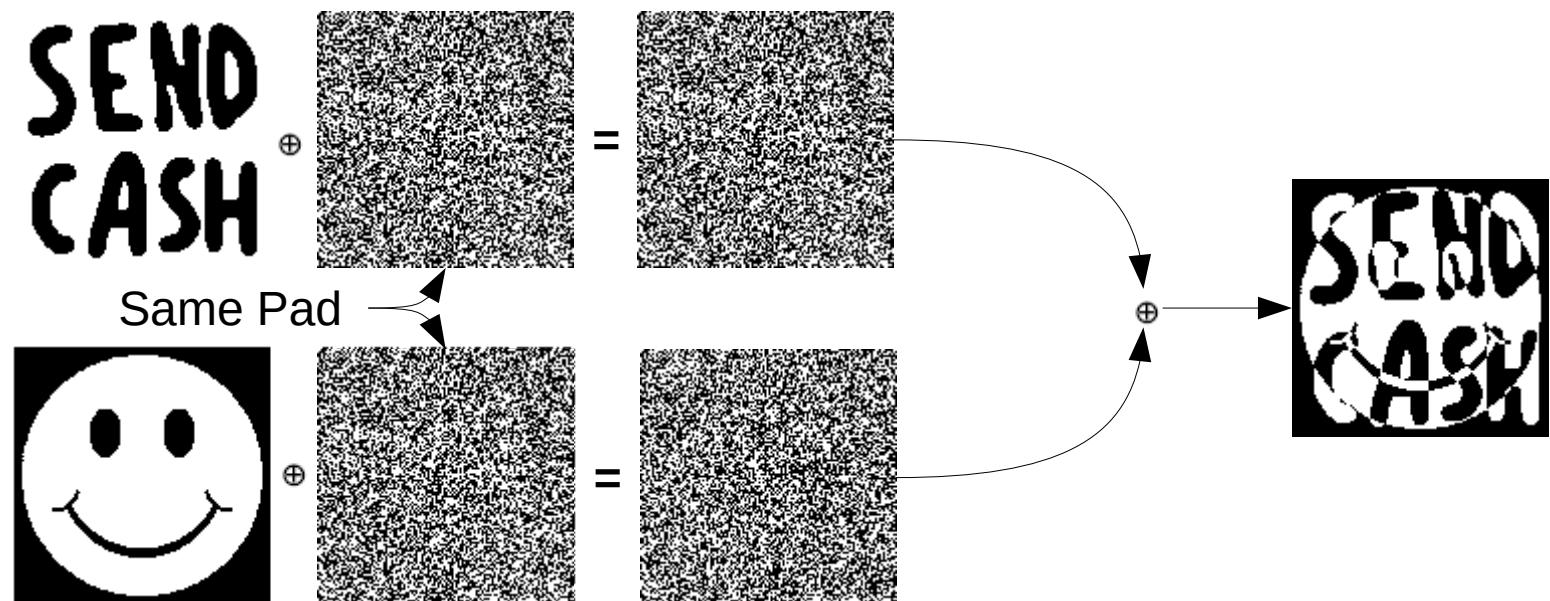
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$$m_1 \oplus m_2 \leftarrow c_1 \oplus c_2$$

- Redundancy in natural languages and in encoding schemes (ASCII, UTF-8, ...) to separate  $m_1 \oplus m_2 \rightarrow m_1, m_2$
- <http://www.crypto-it.net/eng/attacks/two-time-pad.html>

# Final thoughts

- Two-time pad attack



# Final thoughts

- Malleability
  - Modifications to CT are not detected and have predictable impact on the plain text

Encrypt:  $c \leftarrow m \oplus k$

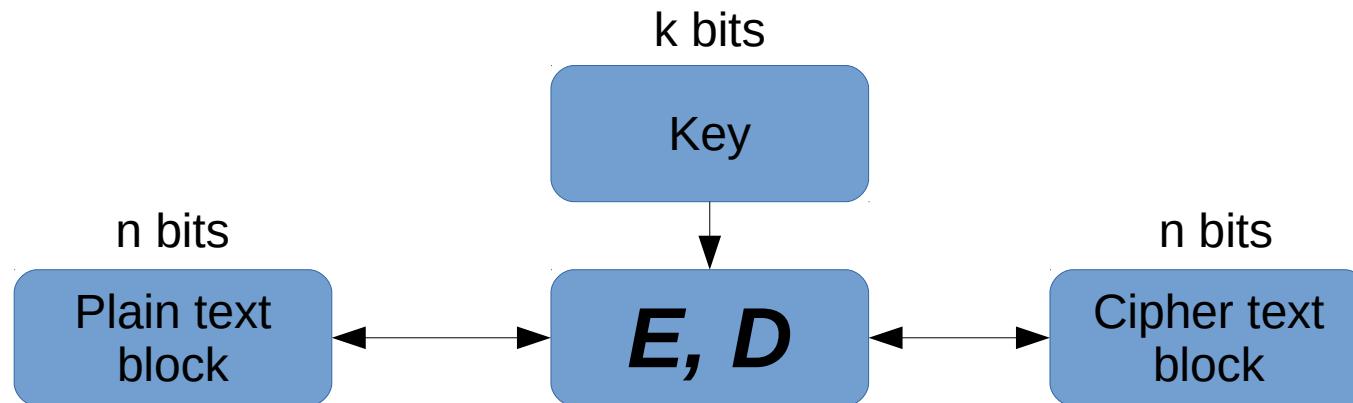
Modify:  $c' \leftarrow c \oplus p$

Decrypt:  $m' \leftarrow c' \oplus k$

- What is the relation between  $m$  and  $m'$ ?

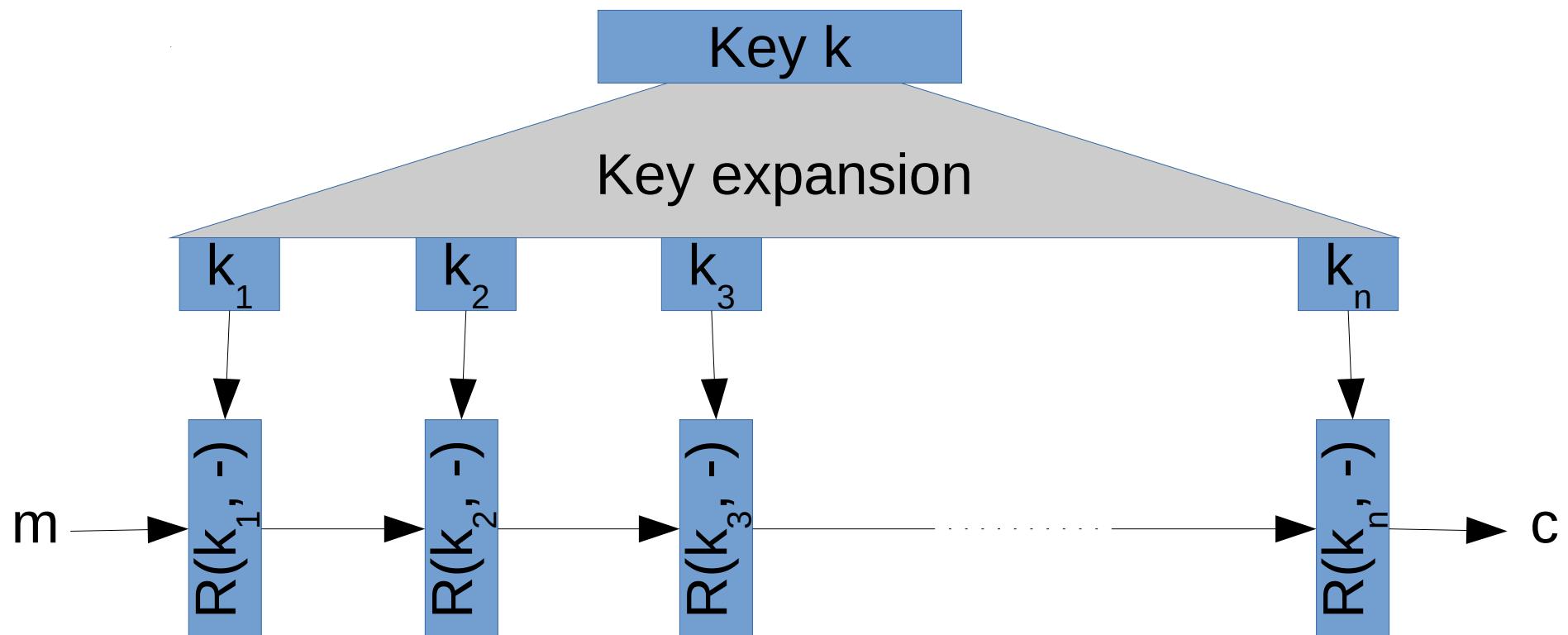
# Block Ciphers

- Notable examples
  - 3DES:  $n = 64$  bits,  $k = 168$  bits
  - AES:  $n = 128$  bits,  $k = 128, 192, 256$  bits



# Block Ciphers: Built by iteration

- $R(k, m)$  is a round function
  - 3DES ( $n = 48$ )
  - AES ( $n = 10$ )



# Abstracting BC: PRF and PRP

- Pseudo Random Function (PRF) defined over  $(K, X, Y)$ :  
 $F: K \times X \rightarrow Y$ 
  - We can evaluate  $F(k, x)$  efficiently
- Pseudo Random Permutation (PRP) defined over  $(K, X)$ :  
 $E: K \times X \rightarrow X$ 
  - We can evaluate  $E(k, x)$  efficiently
  - $E(k, -)$  has an inverse
  - We have an efficient inversion algorithm  $D(k, x)$
  - (All PRPs are PRFs.)

# Secure PRF

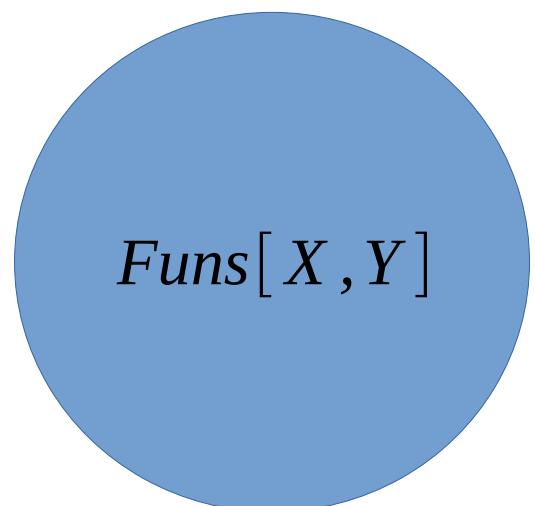
- Let  $F : K \times X \rightarrow Y$  be a PRF
  - $Funs[X, Y]$  the set of all functions from  $X$  to  $Y$
  - $S_F = \{F(k, -) : \forall k \in K\} \subseteq Funs[X, Y]$

Intuitively

- A PRF is secure if a random function in  $Funs[X, Y]$  is indistinguishable from a random function in  $S_F$
- Believed to be secure PRPs:
  - AES, 3DES, Blowfish

$$S_F$$

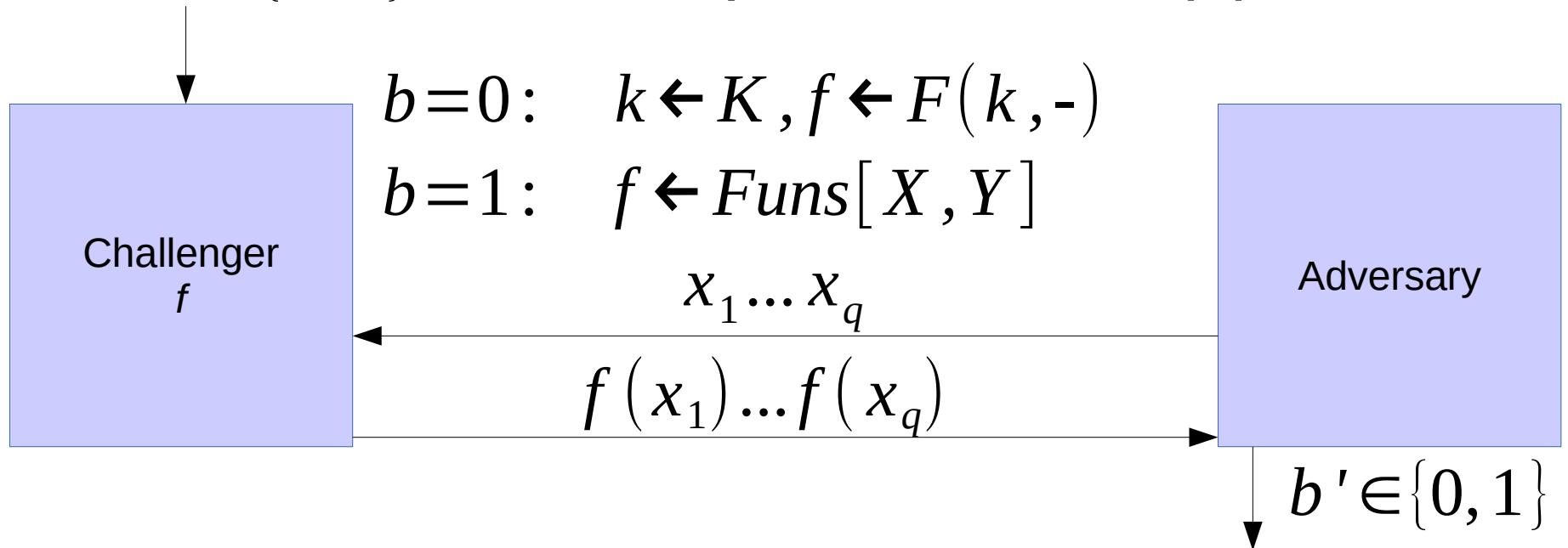
$$|S_F| = |K|$$



$$|Funs[X, Y]| = |Y|^{|X|}$$

# Secure PRF (def.)

- For  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  define experiment  $\text{EXP}(b)$  as

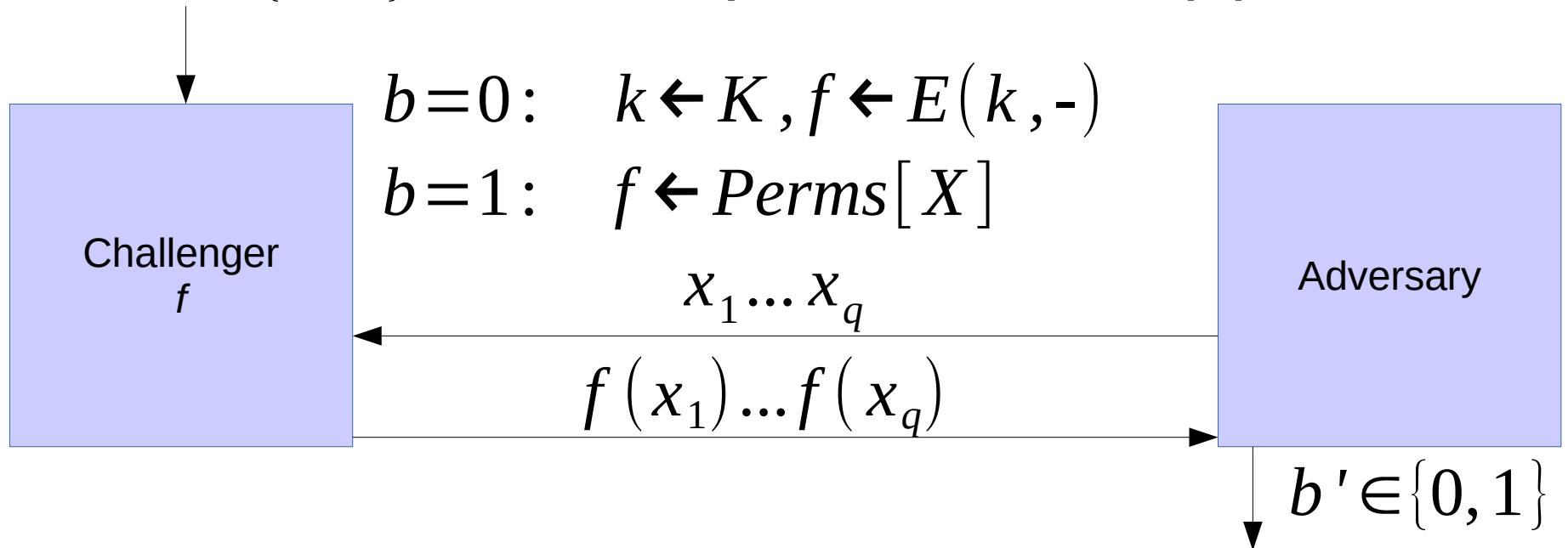


- Def:  $F$  is a secure PRF if for all eff. adversaries  $A$   $\text{Adv}_{\text{PRF}}[A, F]$  is negligible.

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PRF}}[A, F] := |\Pr[\text{EXP}(0)=1] - \Pr[\text{EXP}(1)=1]|$$

# Secure PRP (def.)

- For  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  define experiment  $\text{EXP}(b)$  as



- Def:  $E$  is a secure PRP if for all eff. adversaries  $A$   $\text{Adv}_{\text{PRP}}[A, E]$  is negligible.

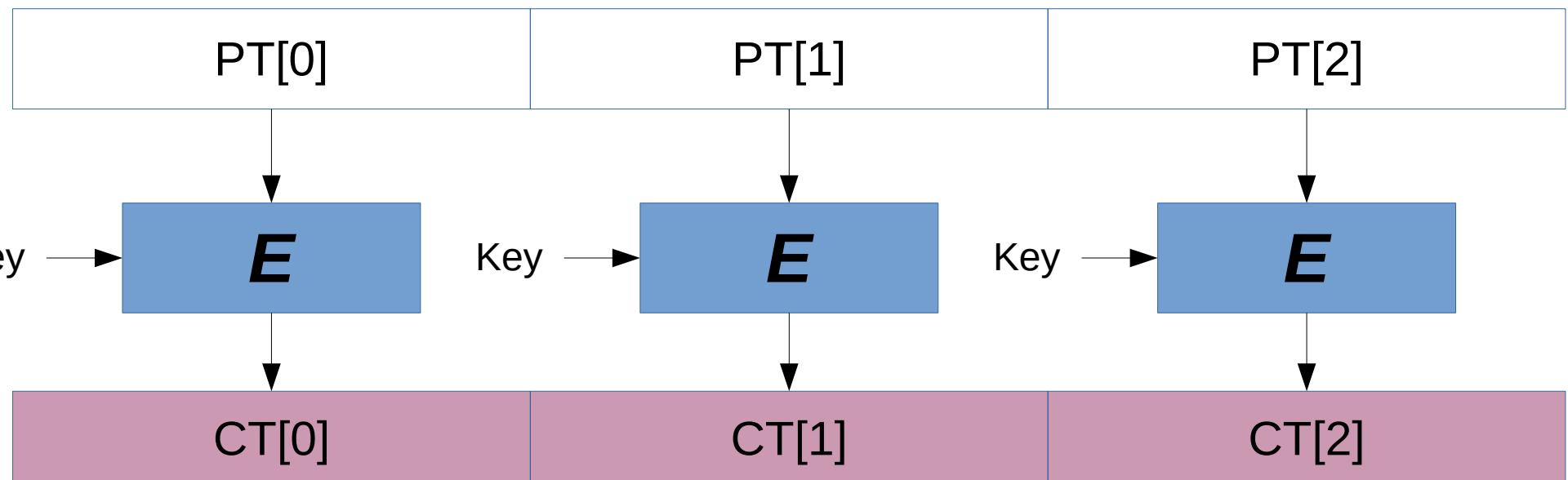
$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PRP}}[A, E] := |\Pr[\text{EXP}(0)=1] - \Pr[\text{EXP}(1)=1]|$$

# Block Ciphers: Modes of Operation

- Goal: How do we build a secure encryption from secure PRP (e.g. AES)
  - A PRP encrypts a single data block. How do we encrypt larger data?
- Semantic security (still for one-time key only)
  - Adversary's power: **observe one ciphertext**
  - Adversary's goal: **learn about plaintext**

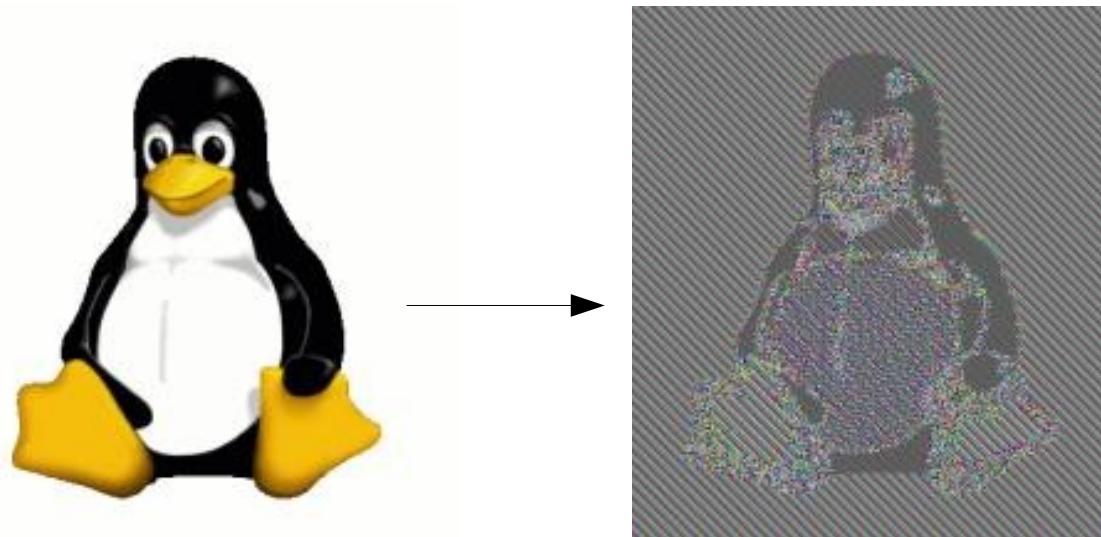
# MO: Electronic Code Book

- “Solution” Electronic Code Book (ECB):
  - Split the data into blocks
    - if needed, extend the last block with padding bits
  - Independently encrypt each block



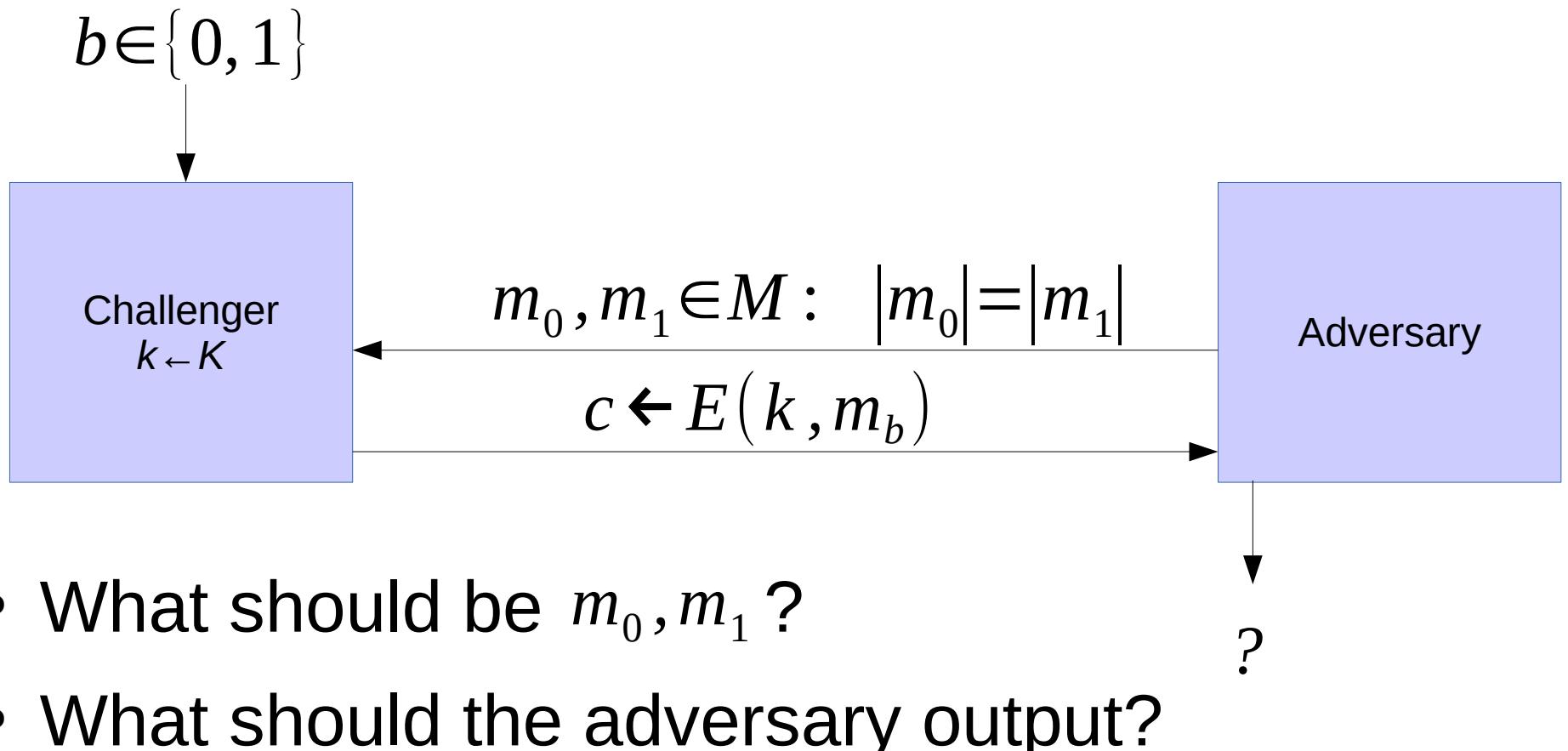
# MO: Electronic Code Book

- Problem: If  $PT[0] == PT[1]$ , then  $CT[0] == CT[1]$ 
  - If two plaintext blocks are the same, so are the corresponding ciphertexts blocks



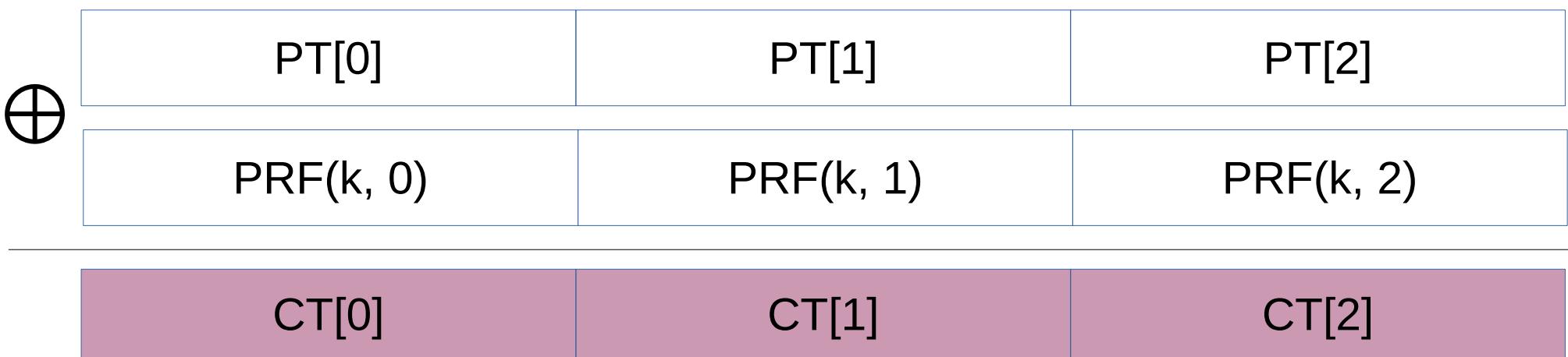
How does the Adversary win the semantic security game against ECB?

# ECB is not semantically secure



# MO: Deterministic counter mode

- Deterministic counter from a pseudorandom function (PRF)



- Creates a stream cipher from a PRF
- Secure (but only for encrypting a single message which may consists of multiple blocks)

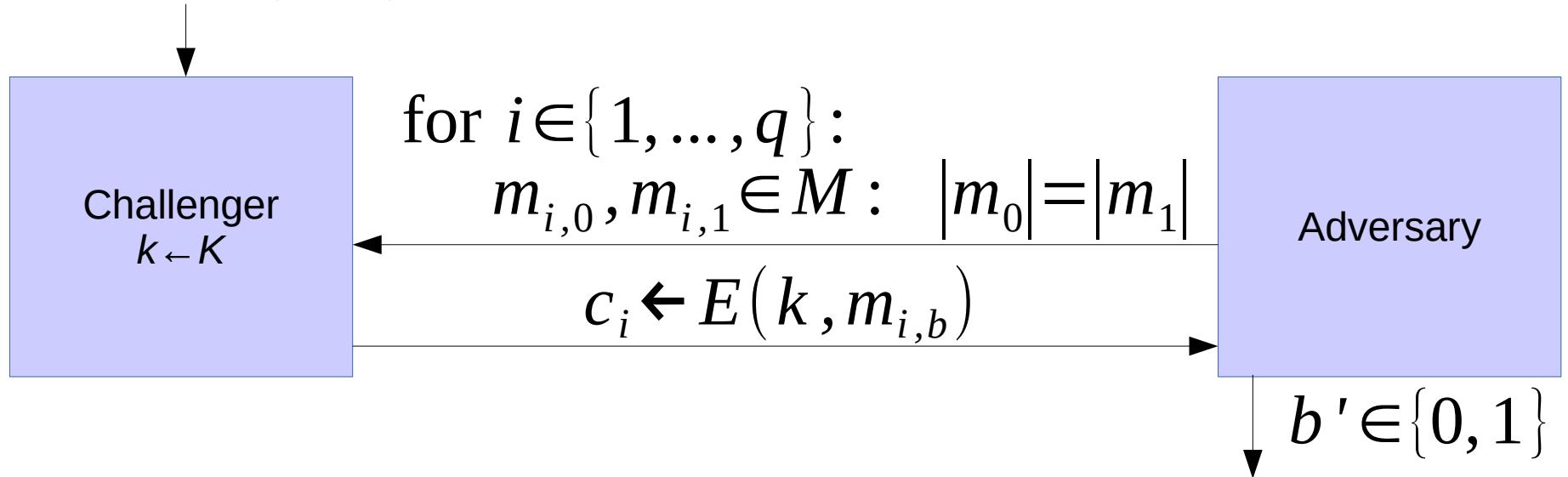
# Semantic security for many-time key

- Key is used more than once: adversary sees many CTs encrypted with the same key
- Adversary's power: **chosen-PT attack (CPA)**
  - Can obtain the encryption of any message of her choice
- Adversary's goal: **break semantic security**
  - Learn about the PT from the CT

# Semantic security for CPA (def)

(for many-time key)

- Let  $\zeta = (E, D)$  be a cipher defined over  $(K, M, C)$
- For  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  define experiments  $\text{EXP}(b)$  as

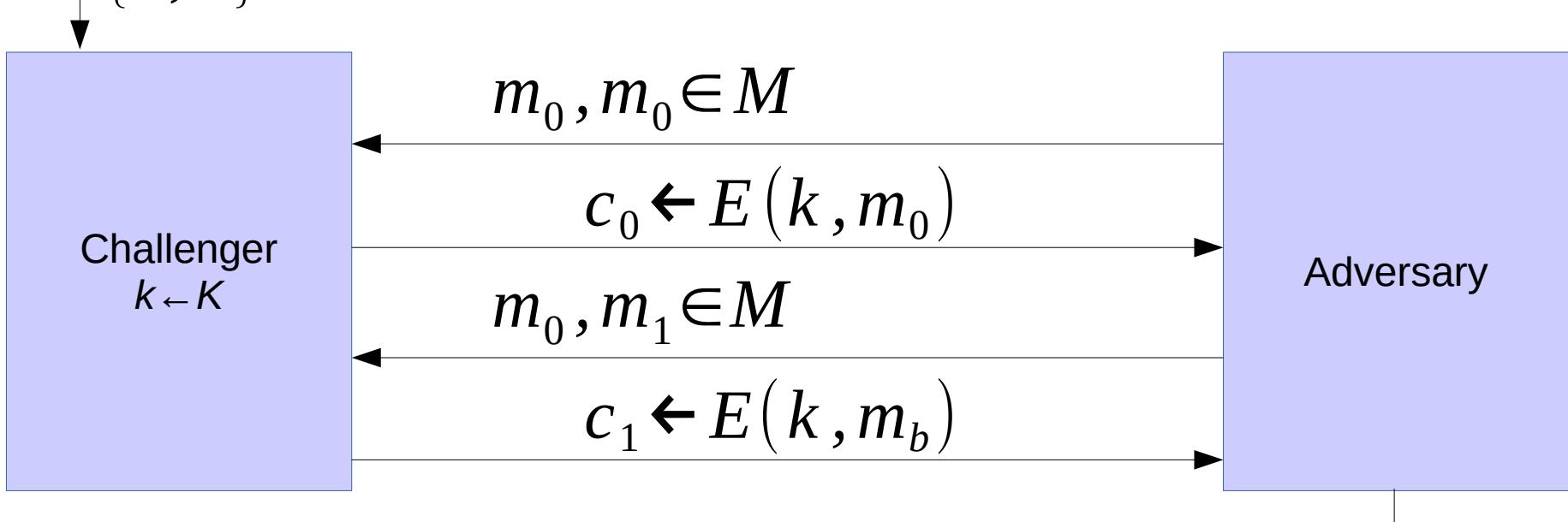


- Def:  $\zeta = (E, D)$  is **semantically secure under CPA** if for all eff. adversaries  $A$   $\text{Adv}_{\text{CPA}}[A, \zeta]$  is negligible.  $\text{Adv}_{\text{CPA}}[A, E] := |\Pr[\text{EXP}(0)=1] - \Pr[\text{EXP}(1)=1]|$

# Ciphers insecure under CPA

- Suppose a cipher is deterministic
  - Given some message  $m$ , the cipher always produces the same ciphertext

$$b \in \{0, 1\}$$



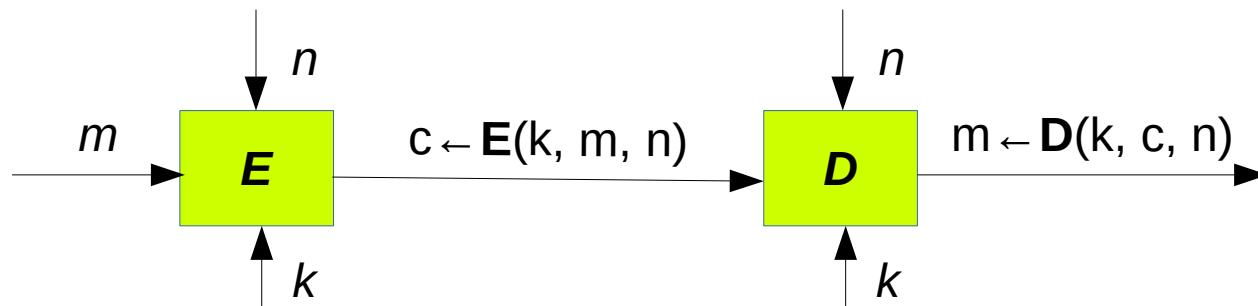
- Implication
  - An attacker can learn that two encrypted elements (files, packets, ...) are the same

# Ciphers insecure under CPA

- If a key is to be used multiple times, the encryption should be **non-deterministic**:
  - Encrypting the same PT twice, must produce different CTs
- Solutions
  - Randomized encryption
  - Nonce-based encryption

# Non-deterministic encryption

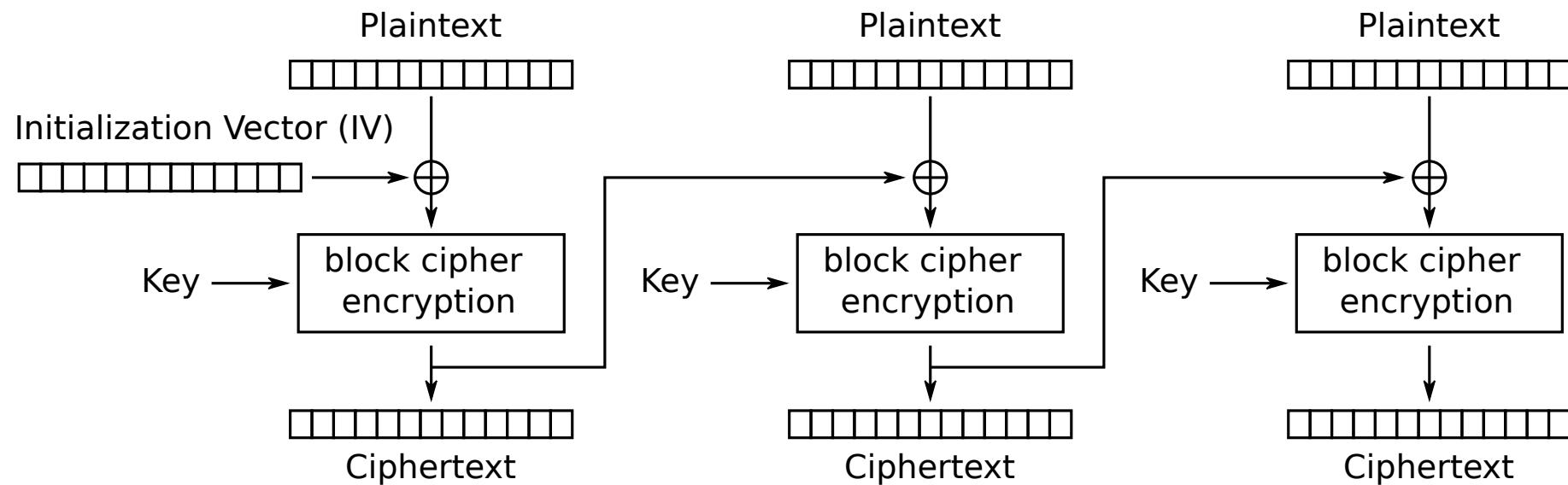
- Nonce  $n$ : a value that changes from message to message
  - Pair  $(key, n)$  must never repeat
- Method 1: Nonce is a random value (AES-CBC)
- Method 2: Nonce is a counter (AES-CTR)



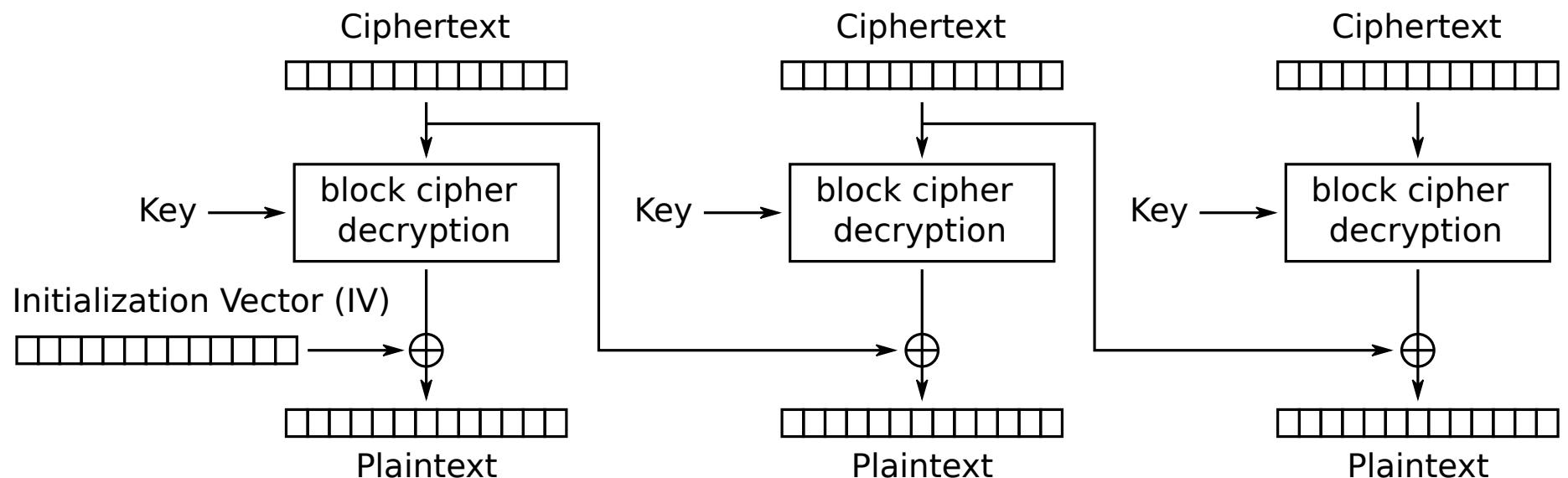
- CPA system should be secure even when the adversary chooses nonces

# Modes of Operation: CBC

- Randomize the encryption with an initialization vector (IV)
  - Sent unencrypted
  - Must generate new random IV for every message: pair **(key, IV)** must never repeat
  - IV must be unpredictable
- Forces encryption to be sequential
  - Decryption may be parallelized



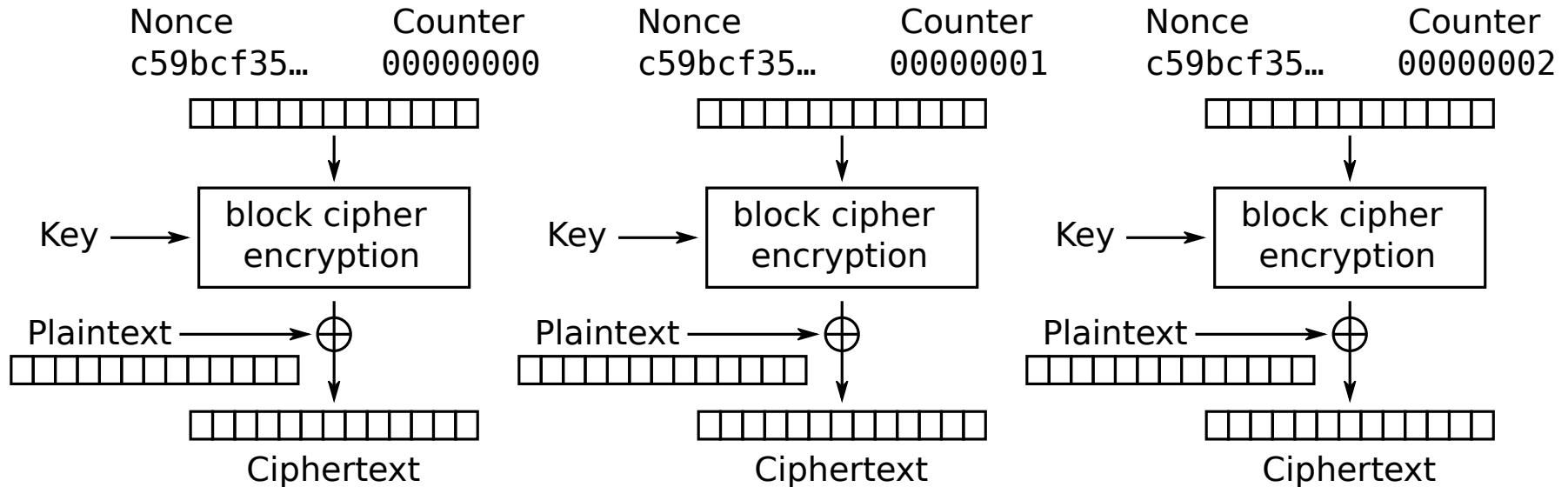
Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode encryption



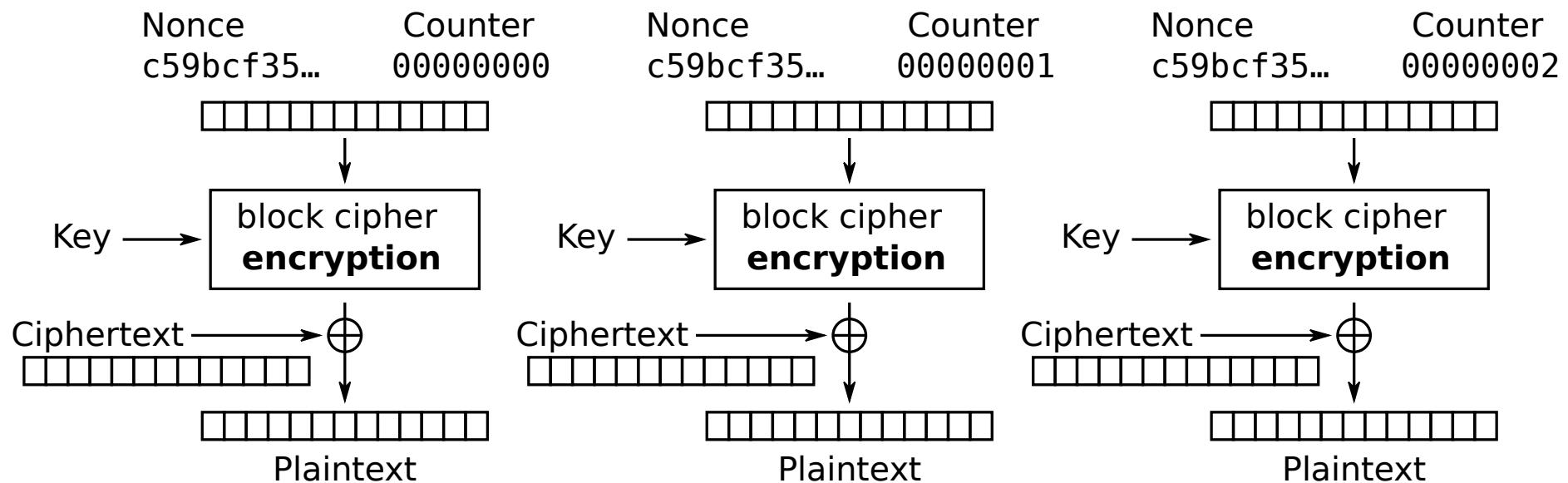
Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode decryption

# Counter Mode

- The random element is a counter
  - Or a combination of a random IV and a counter
  - The combination must not repeat for the lifetime of the key
- Encryption and decryption can be done in parallel
- In effect, creates a stream cipher out of a block cipher



Counter (CTR) mode encryption



Counter (CTR) mode decryption

# Summary

- Two security notions
  - Semantic security against one-time CPA
  - Semantic security against many-time CPA
- Only covered secrecy against passive attackers
  - Adversaries can see, but not modify cipher text
  - We'll cover integrity next week

Goal \ Power	One-time key	Many-time key (CPA)
Semantic security	Stream-ciphers Deterministic CTR-mode	Rand CBC Rand CTR-mode
?	?	?