Security of DES - DES Challenges (brute force contests)

- 1998 Deep Crack, the EFF's DES cracking machine used 1,856 custom chips
 - Speed: matter of days
 - Cost: \$250,000
- 2006 COPACOBANA, the Cost-optimized Parallel CodeBreaker used 120 FPGAs
 - Speed: less than 24h
 - Cost: \$10,000

How about 2DES?

$$2DES_{k1,k2}(m) = E_{k2}(E_{k1}(m))$$

Meet-in-the-middle attack - known-plaintext attack

- I. Brute force $E_{k1}(m)$ and save results in a table called TE (2⁵⁶ entries)
- 2. Brute force $D_{k2}(c)$ and save results in a table called TD (2⁵⁶ entries)
- 3. Match the two tables together to get the key candidates
- → The more plaintext you know, the lesser key candidates
- → Effective key-length (entropy) is **57 bits**
- This attacks applies to every encryption algorithm used as such