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

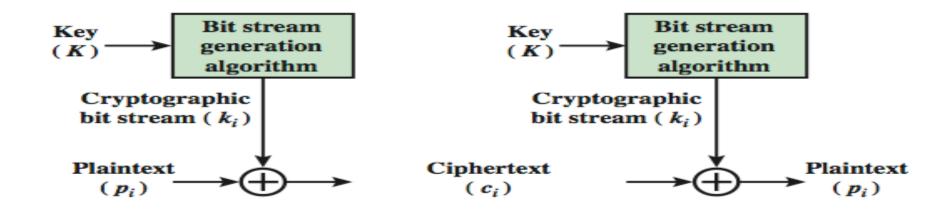
Modern Block Ciphers

- > 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

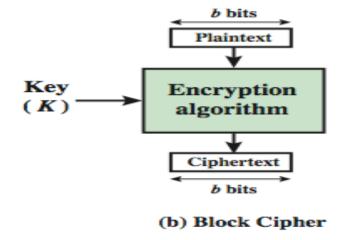
Block vs Stream Ciphers

- 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
 - better analysed
 - broader range of applications

Block vs Stream Ciphers



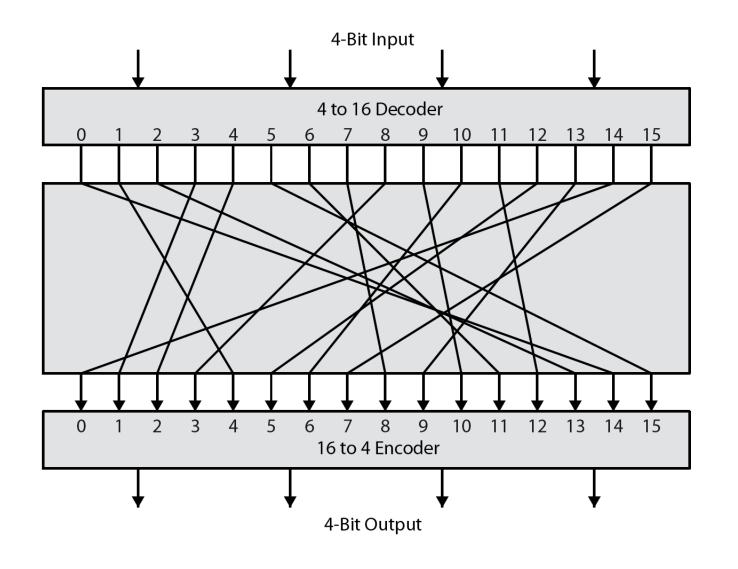
(a) Stream Cipher Using Algorithmic Bit Stream Generator



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 2⁶⁴ 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

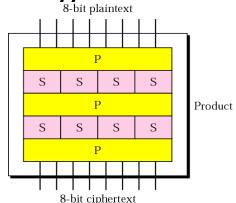
>S-P nets are based on the two primitive cryptographic operations

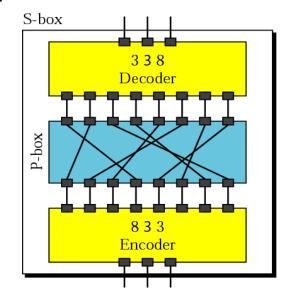
seen before:

•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 Design Elements

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

Data Encryption Standard

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
- Now deprecated due to short key

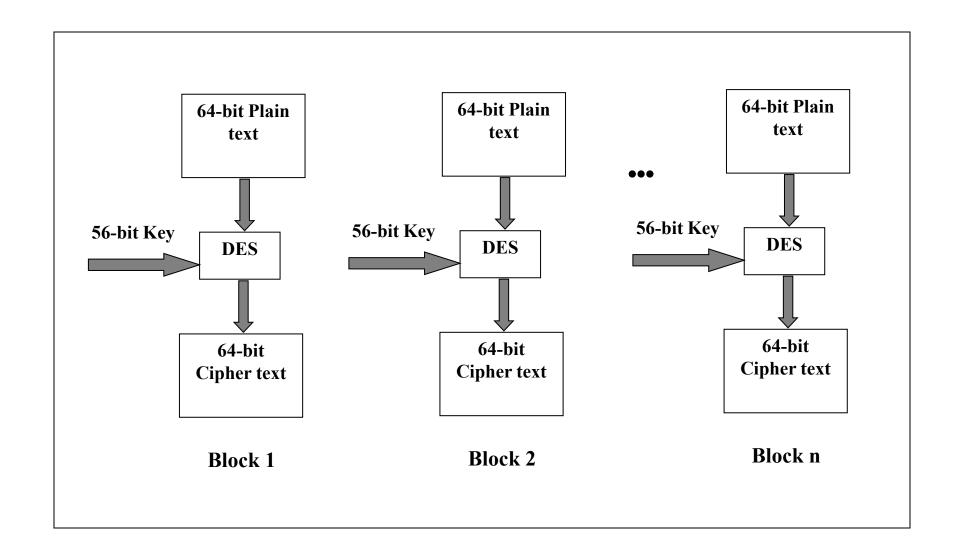
DES History

- > 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

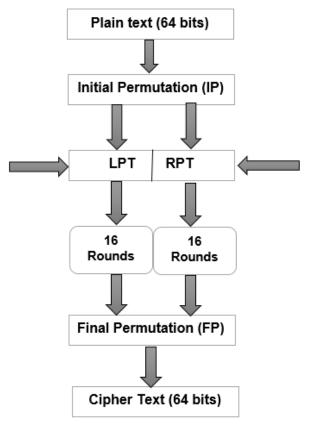
DES Design Controversy

- 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 standardized for legacy application use
 - 3DES still strong (112 bit key)

Conceptual View of DES



Data Encryption Standard



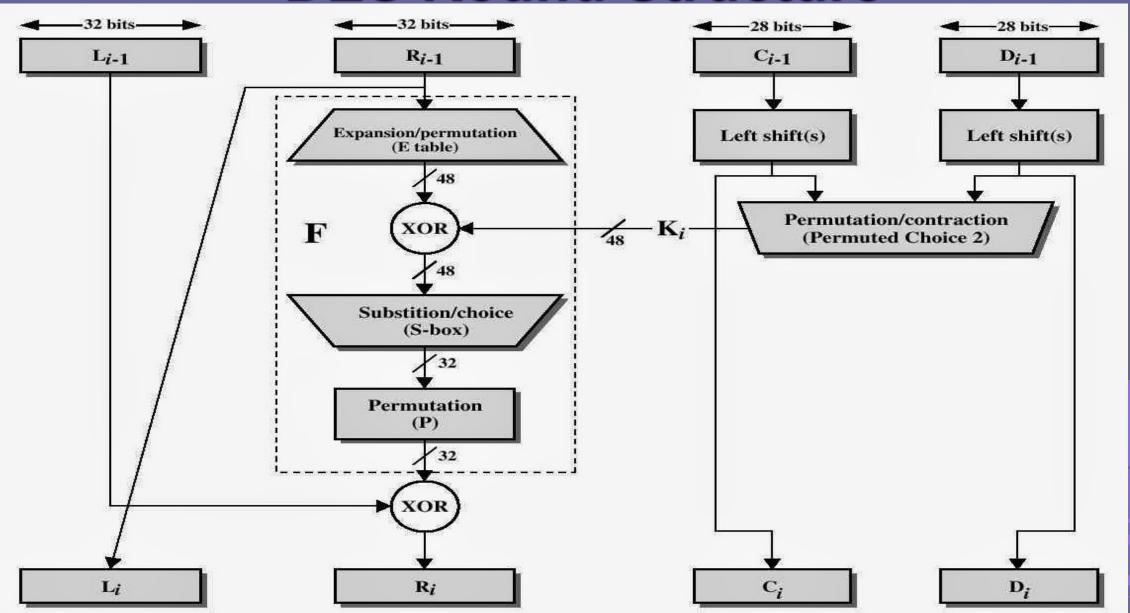
[Figure: Broad level steps in DES]

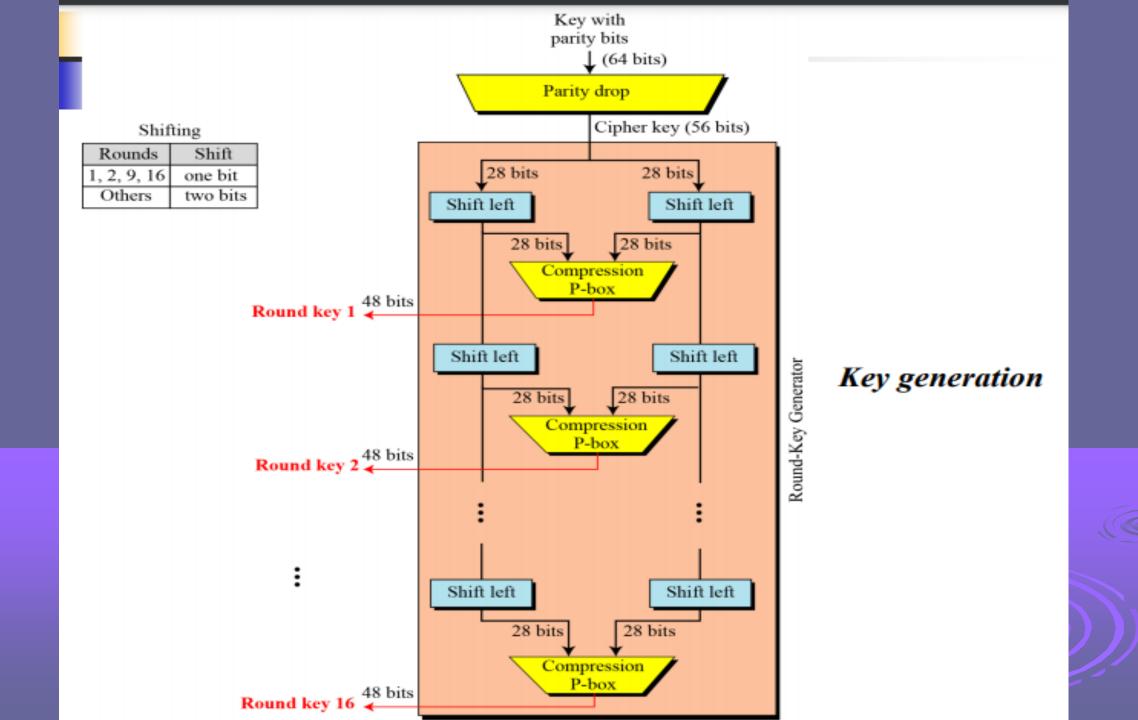
Initial Permutation IP

Table 6.1 Initial and final permutation tables

Initial Permutation	Final Permutation								
58 50 42 34 26 18 10 02	40 08 48 16 56 24 64 32								
60 52 44 36 28 20 12 04	39 07 47 15 55 23 63 31								
62 54 46 38 30 22 14 06	38 06 46 14 54 22 62 30								
64 56 48 40 32 24 16 08	37 05 45 13 53 21 61 29								
57 49 41 33 25 17 09 01	36 04 44 12 52 20 60 28								
59 51 43 35 27 19 11 03	35 03 43 11 51 19 59 27								
61 53 45 37 29 21 13 05	34 02 42 10 50 18 58 26								
63 55 47 39 31 23 15 07	33 01 41 09 49 17 57 25								

DES Round Structure





Compression Permutation of Key

14	17	11	24	1	5	3	28	15	6	21	10
23	19	12	4	26	8	16	7	27	20	13	2
41	52	31	37	47	55	30	40	51	45	33	48
44	49	39	56	34	53	46	42	50	36	29	32

Figure - compression permutation



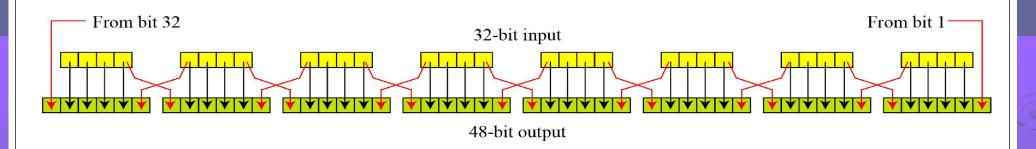


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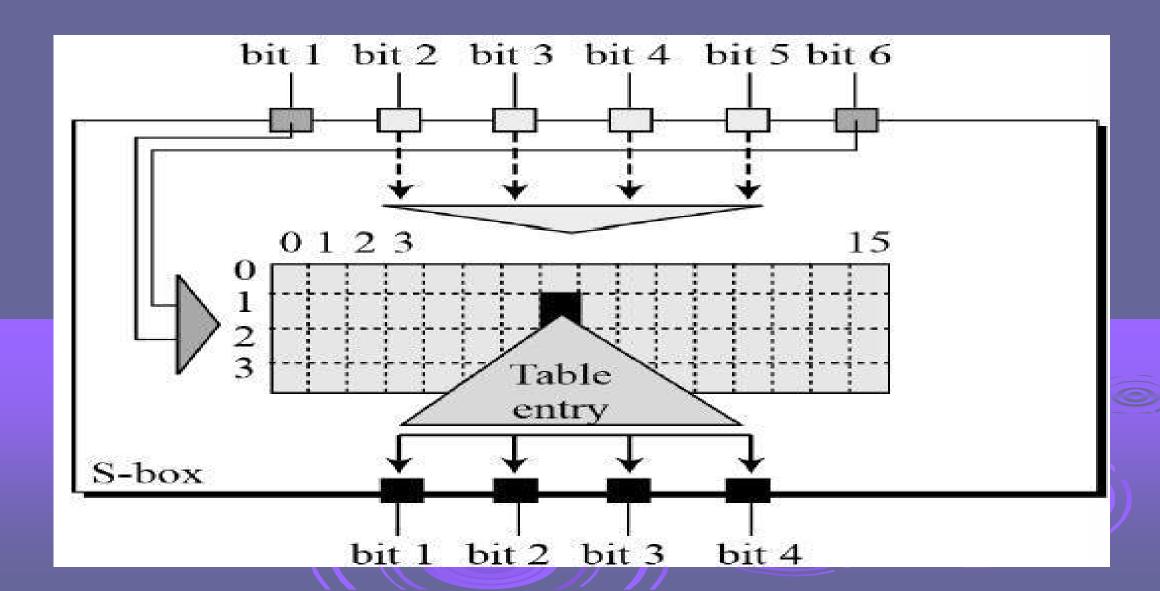
Expansion P-box

Since R_{I-1} is a 32-bit input and K_I is a 48-bit key, we first need to expand R_{I-1} to 48 bits.

Expansion permutation



S-box



S-box

Continue

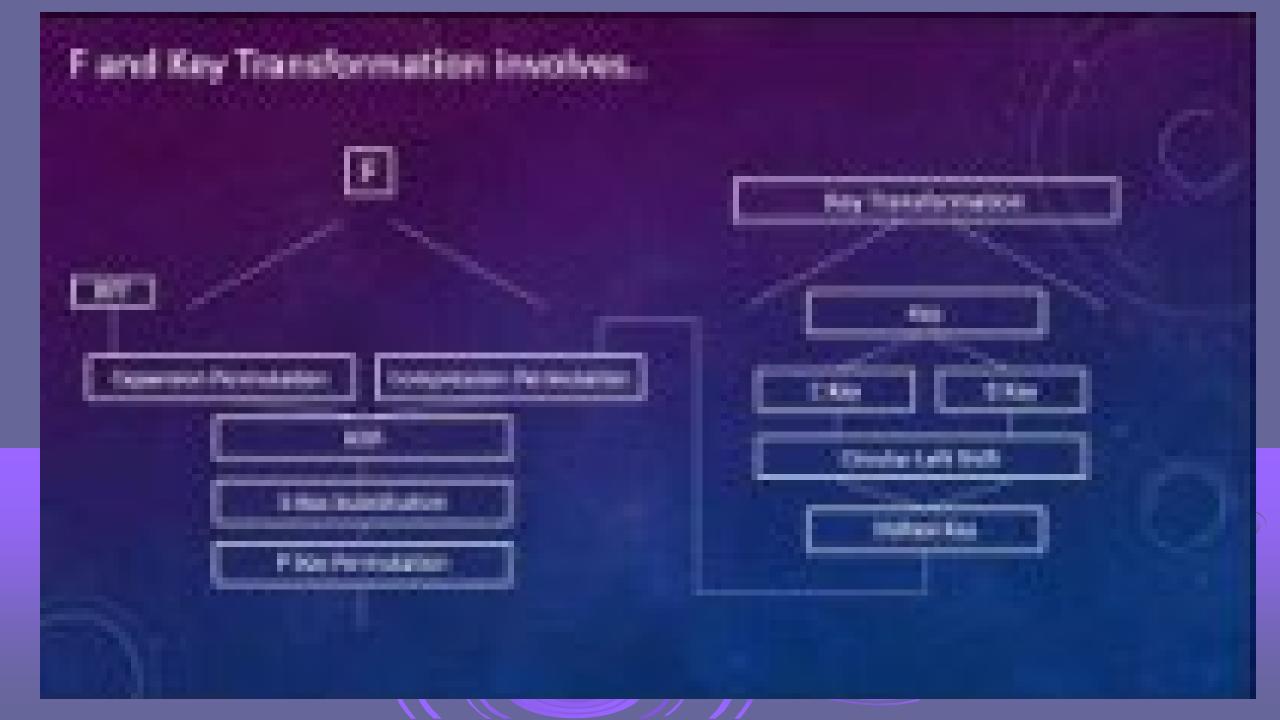
Table shows the permutation for S-box 1. For the rest of the boxes see the textbook.

S-box 1

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
0	14	04	13	01	02	15	11	08	03	10	06	12	05	09	00	07
1	00	15	07	04	14	02	13	10	03	06	12	11	09	05	03	08
2	04	01	14	08	13	06	02	11	15	12	09	07	03	10	05	00
3	15	12	08	02	04	09	01	07	05	11	03	14	10	00	06	13

The input to S-box 1 is 100011. What is the output?

If we write the first and the sixth bits together, we get 11 in binary, which is 3 in decimal. The remaining bits are 0001 in binary, which is 1 in decimal. We look for the value in row 3, column 1 (S-box 1). The result is 12 in decimal, which in binary is 1100. So the input 100011 yields the output 1100.



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