

# Cryptography, part 2

## CS5435: Security and Privacy (in the wild?)

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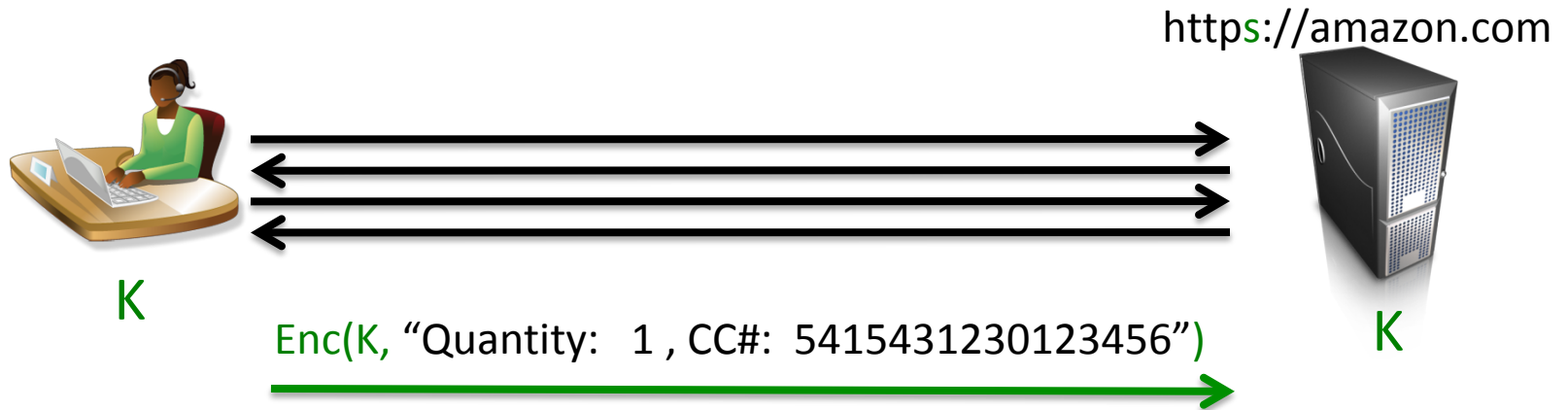
# Today's lecture

- Block cipher modes of operation
- Attacking insecure approaches
- Message authentication
  - fixing (some) problems
- Authenticated encryption
  - fixing (still more) problems

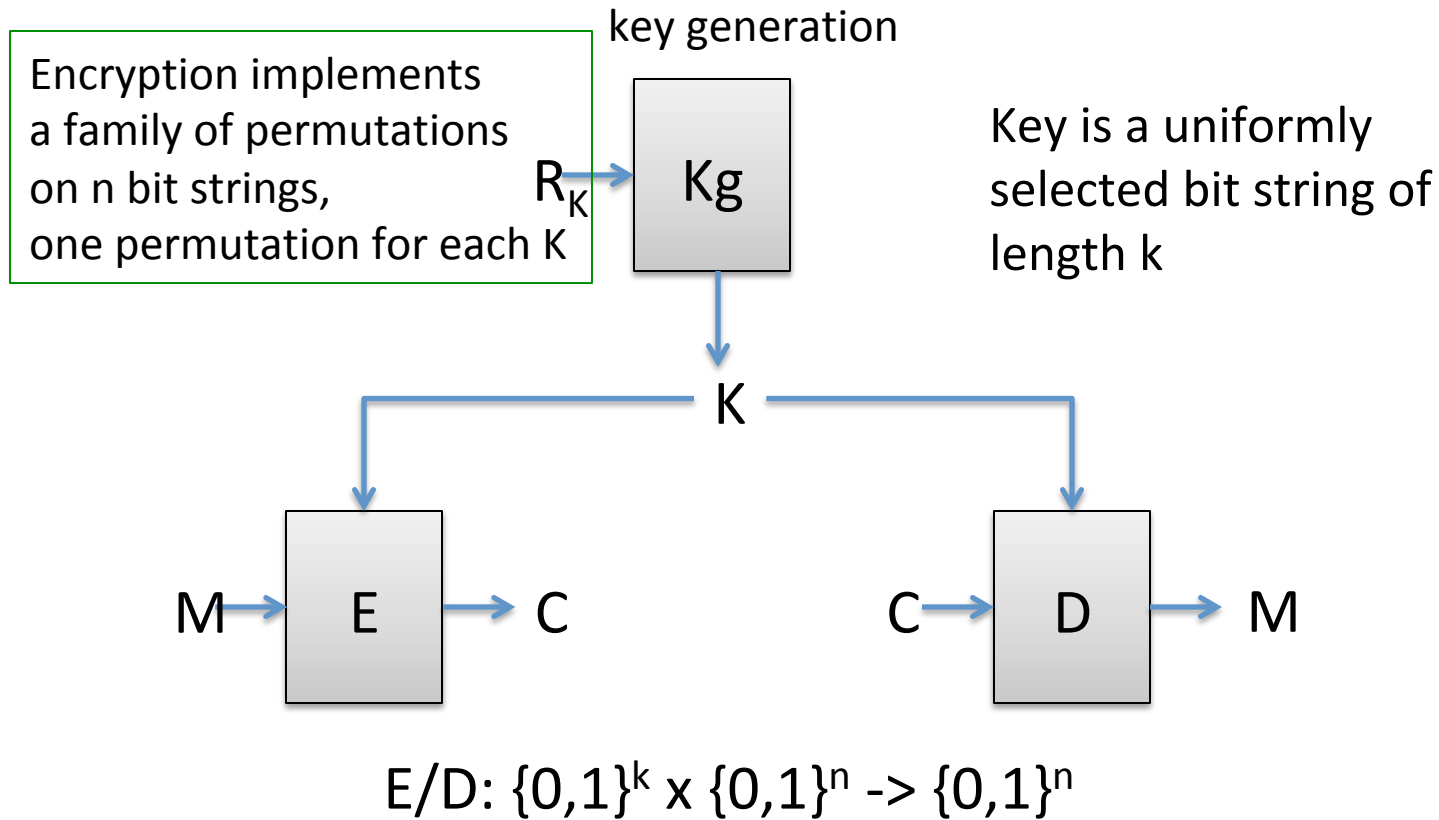
# Recall setting

Two or more parties agree on a secret random value, want to keep communication secret.

Idea: use **symmetric encryption** to scramble messages, using shared random value



# Block ciphers



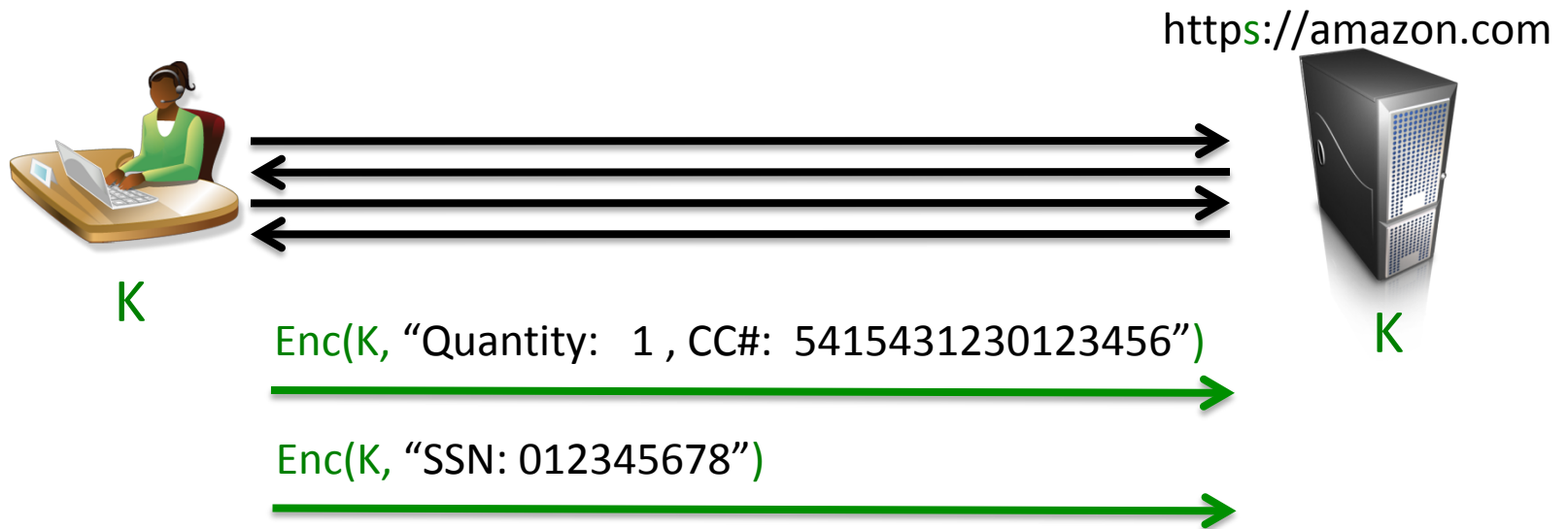
Security goal:  $E(K,M)$  is indistinguishable from random  $n$ -bit string for anyone without  $K$  ( $E$  is ***pseudorandom function/PRF***)

# Are we done?

Unfortunately no – messages can be different sizes,  
but block ciphers have fixed-length inputs and outputs!

Need *mode of operation*:

fixed-length block cipher  variable-length encryption scheme.



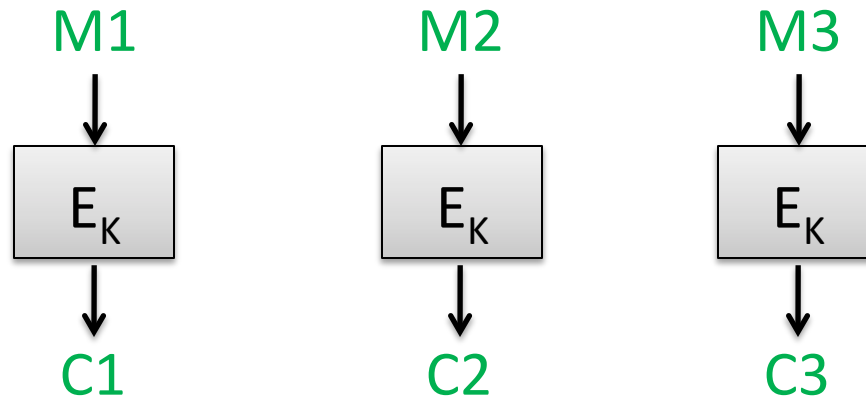
# Block cipher modes of operation

Why don't we apply BC on each (maybe padded) block?

Electronic codebook (ECB) mode

Pad message  $M$  to  $M_1, M_2, M_3, \dots$  where each block  $M_i$  is  $n$  bits

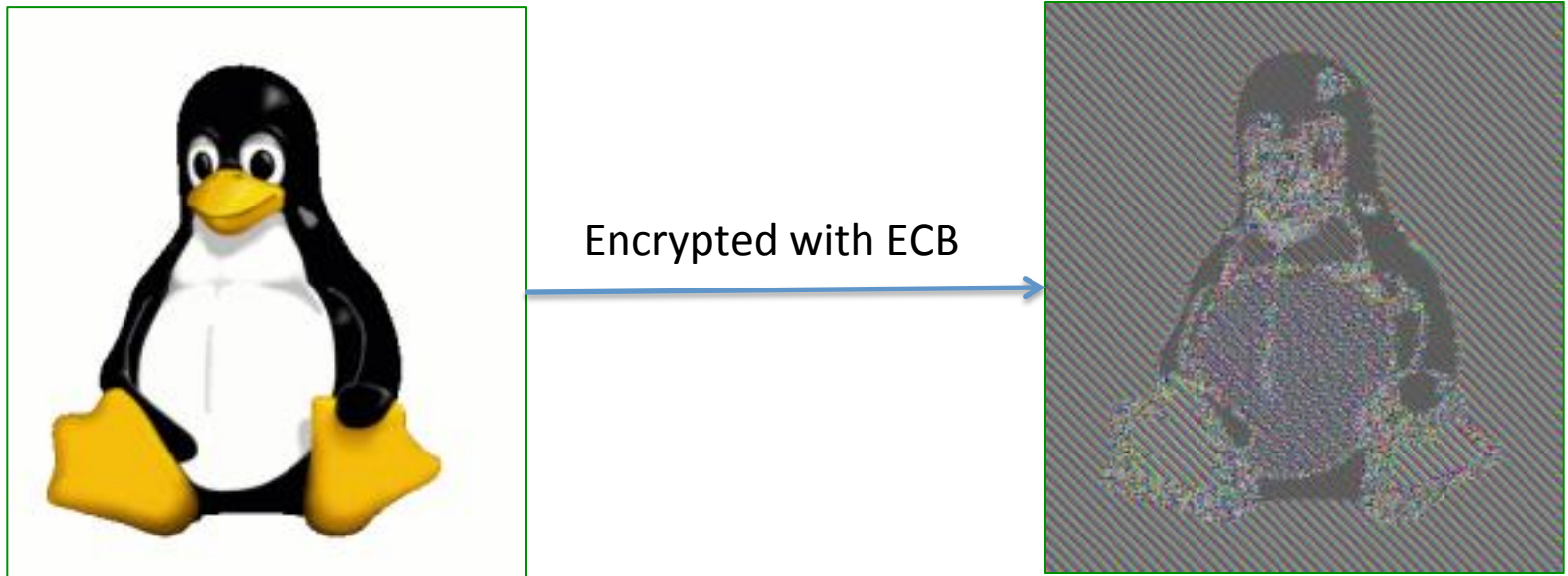
Then:



# ECB mode is a more complicated looking substitution cipher

Recall our credit-card number example.

ECB: substitution cipher with alphabet n-bit strings instead of digits



Images courtesy of  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Block\\_cipher\\_modes\\_of\\_operation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Block_cipher_modes_of_operation)

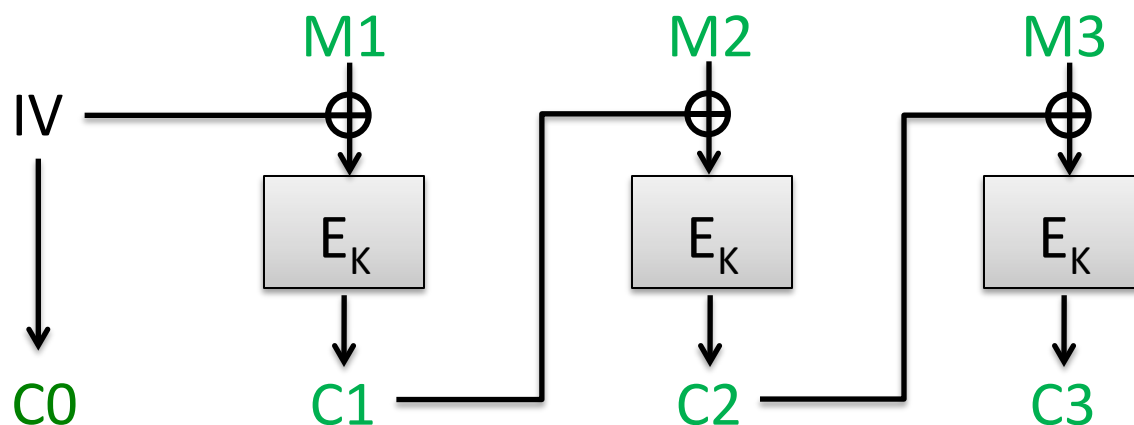
# CBC mode

Ciphertext block chaining (CBC)

Pad message  $M$  to  $M_1, M_2, M_3, \dots$  where each block  $M_i$  is  $n$  bits

Choose random  $n$ -bit string  $IV$

Then:



How do we decrypt?



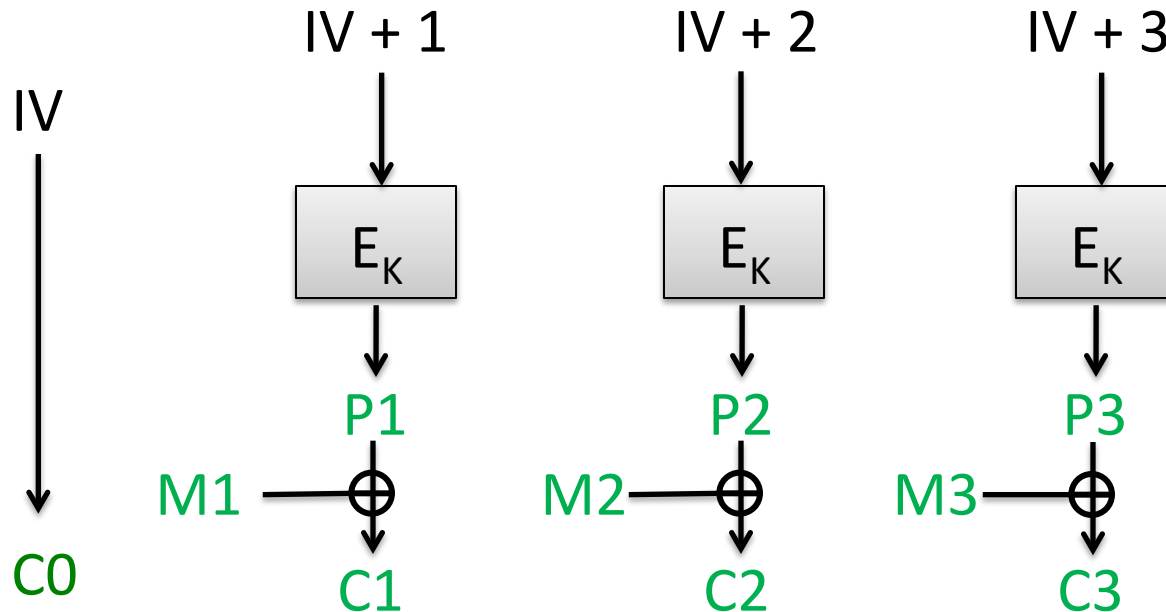
# “OTP” encryption

Counter mode (CTR)

Pad message  $M$  to  $M_1, M_2, M_3, \dots$  where each is  $n$  bits except last

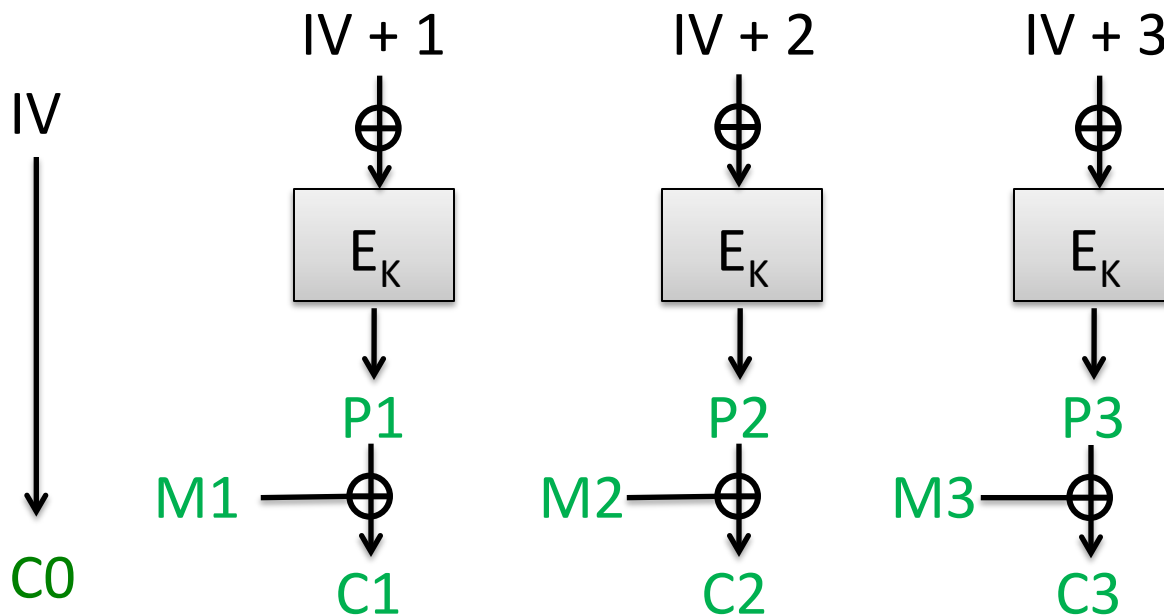
Choose random  $n$ -bit string  $IV$

Then:



Maybe use  
less than full  
 $n$  bits of  $P_3$

How do we decrypt?



Can attacker learn  $K$  from just  $C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3$ ?

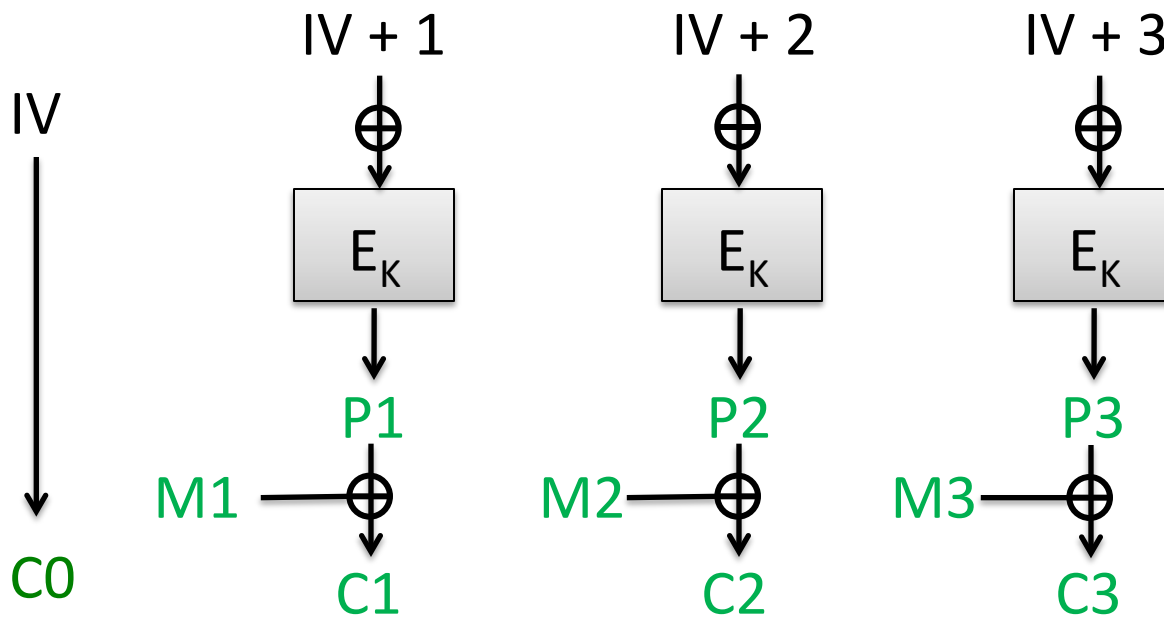
Implies attacker can break  $E$ , i.e. recover block cipher key

Can attacker learn  $M = M_1, M_2, M_3$  from  $C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3$ ?

Implies attacker can invert the block cipher without knowing  $K$

Can attacker learn one bit of  $M$  from  $C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3$ ?

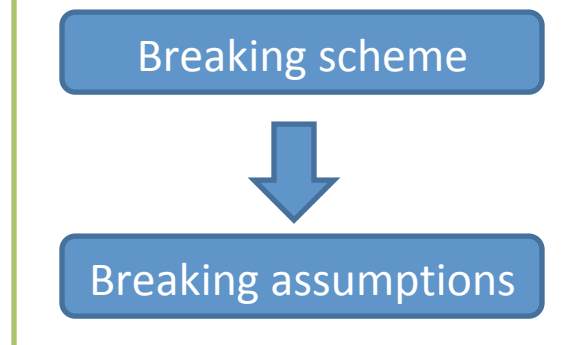
Implies attacker can break PRF security of  $E$



### Theorem (informal).

Let  $A$  be a successful, efficient attacker against security of CTR mode. Then there exists a PRF adversary  $B$  against  $E$  that is efficient and successful.

### Security proofs (reductions)



Attacker can ~~break~~ **not** break CTR confidentiality

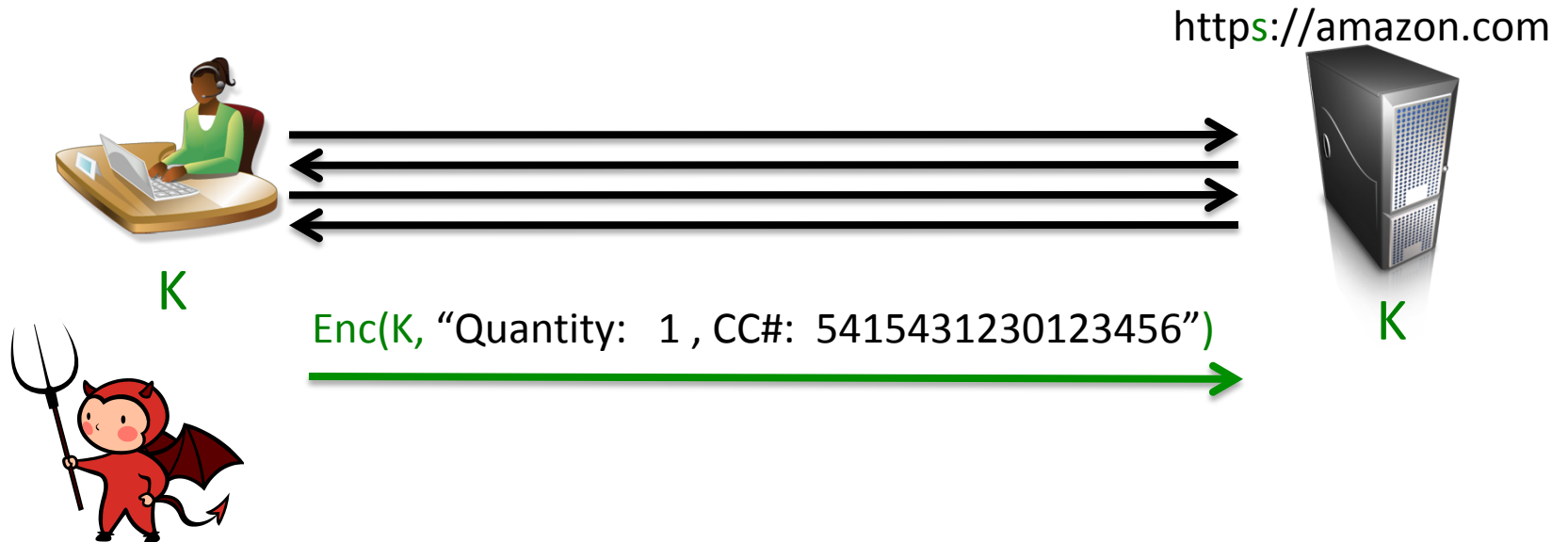


Can ~~break~~ **not** break  $E$  PRF security

Reduces analysis now to  $E$  and to security definition / model

# Are we done?

Still no! Why? Attacker can change message...

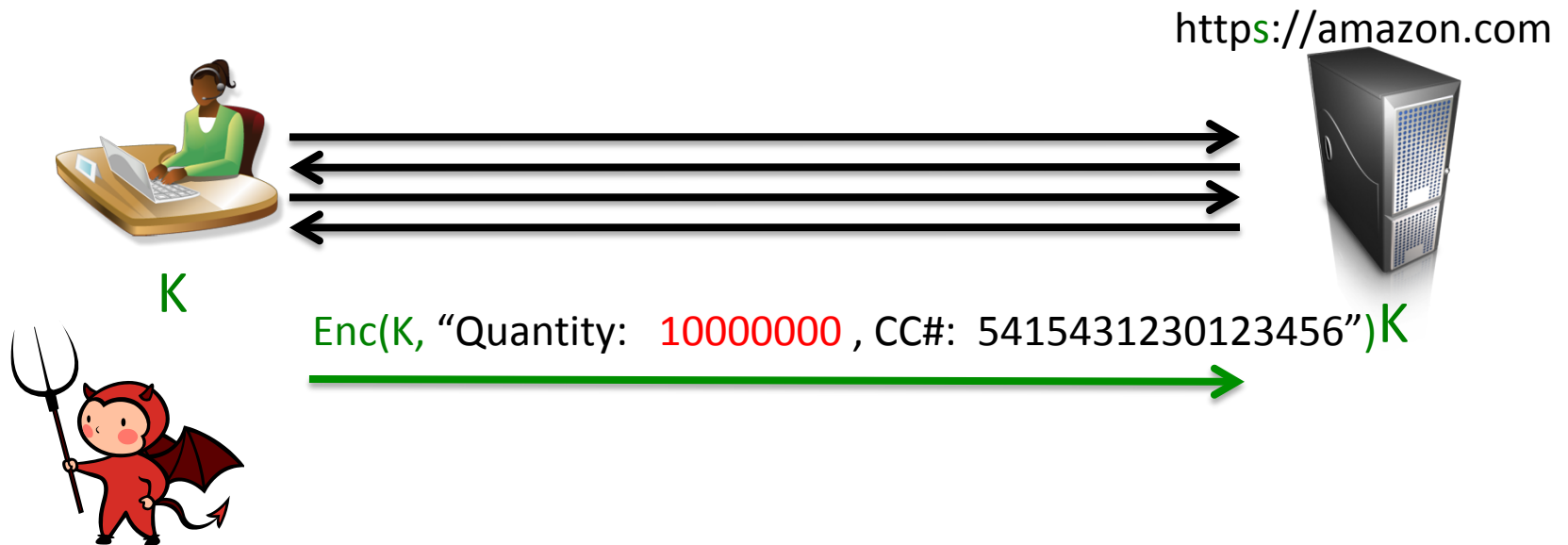


# Are we done?

Still no! Why? Attacker can change message...

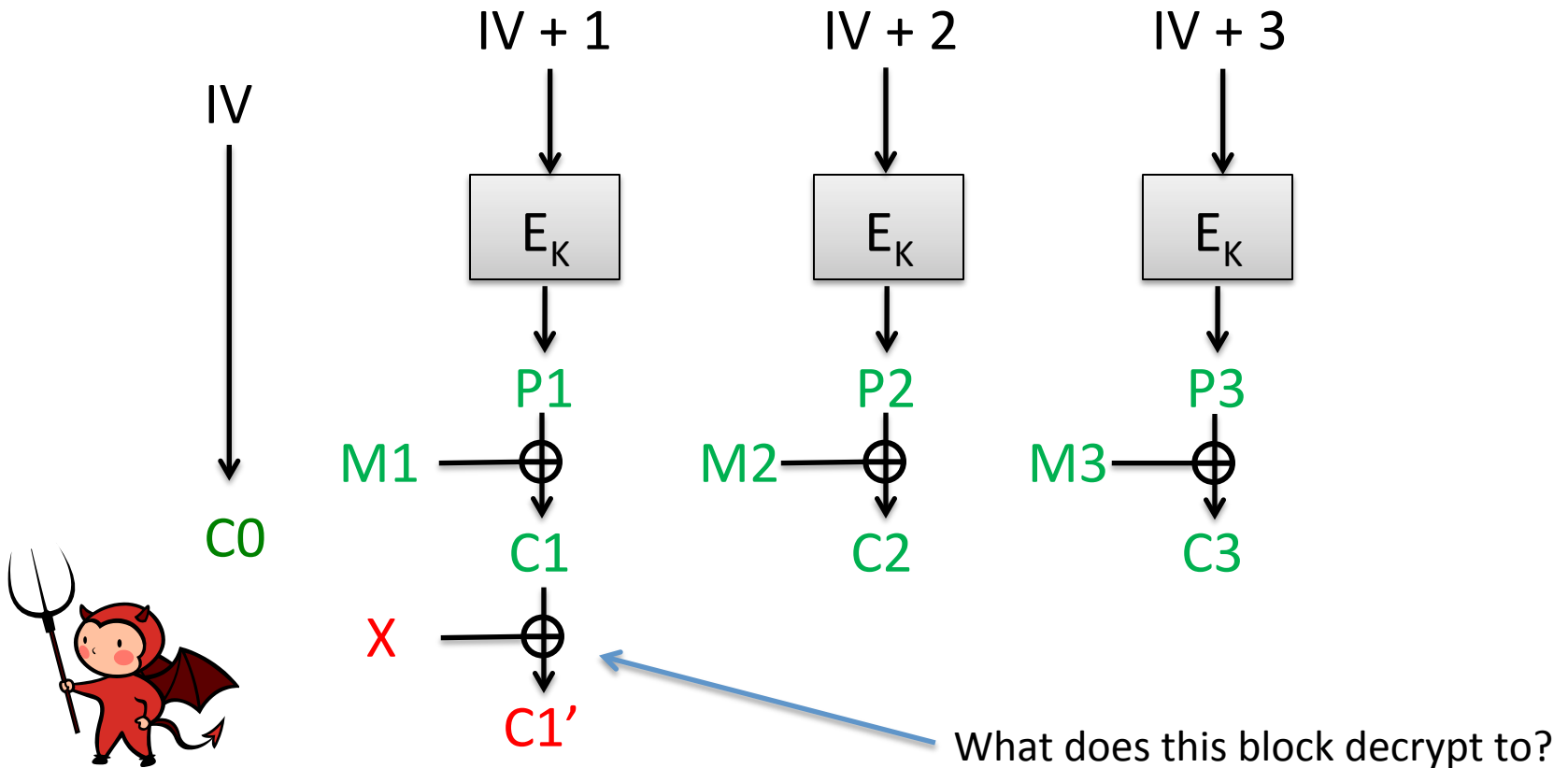
Need to prevent modifications of message in transit!

How can attacker modify messages for CBC and CTR mode?

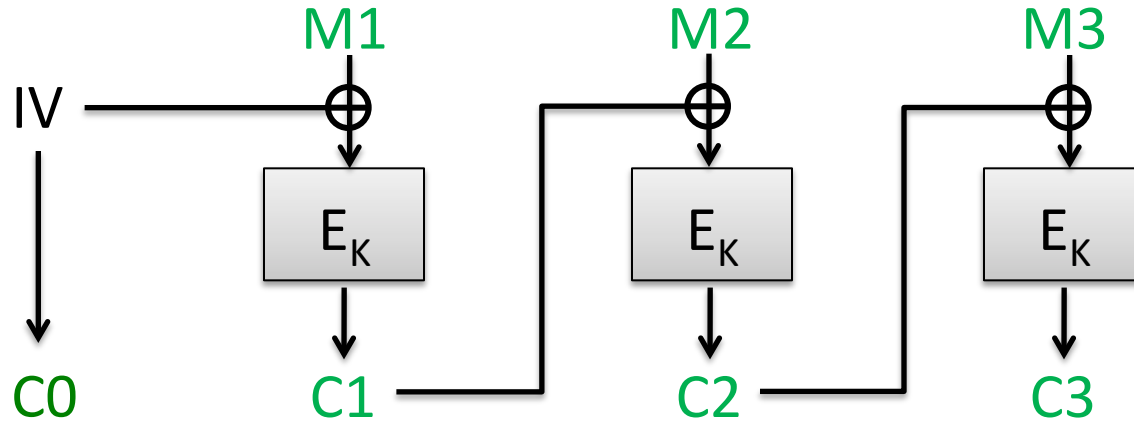


# CTR mode malleability

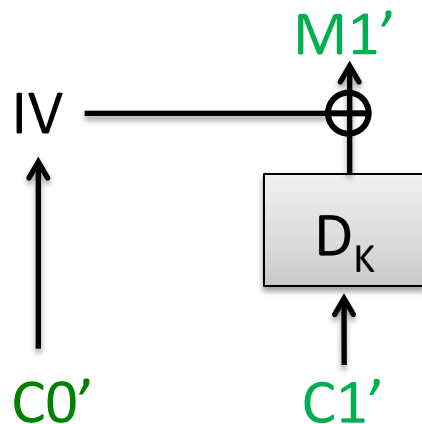
Change message contents via XOR



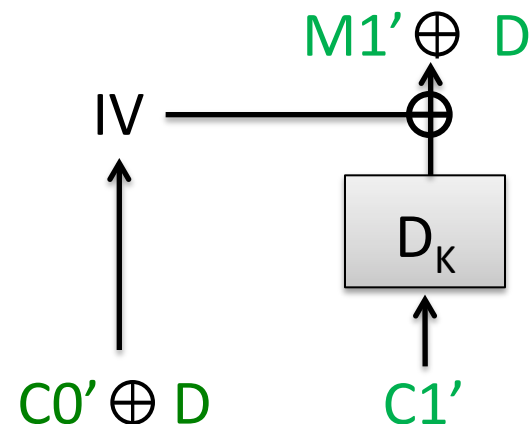
# Active security of CBC mode



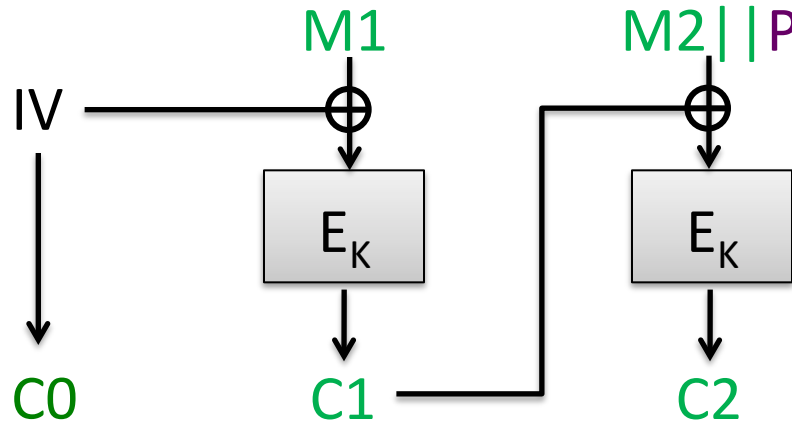
What about forging a message? Pick any  $C0'$ ,  $C1'$  ...



Better yet  
for any  $D$ :



# Padding oracle attack



Assume that

$M1 || M2$  has length  $2n-8$  bits

$P$  is one byte of padding that must equal  $0x00$



Adversary  
obtains  
Ciphertext  
 $C0, C1, C2$

$C0, C1, C2$   
ok



$C0, C1 \oplus 1, C2$   
error

$\text{Dec}(K, C')$

$M1' || M2' || P' = \text{CBC-Dec}(K, C')$

If  $P' \neq 0x00$  then

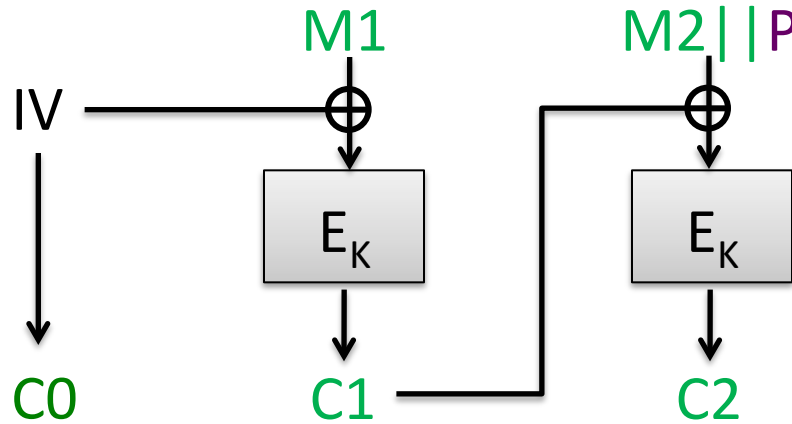
Return error

Else

Return ok



# Padding oracle attack



Assume that

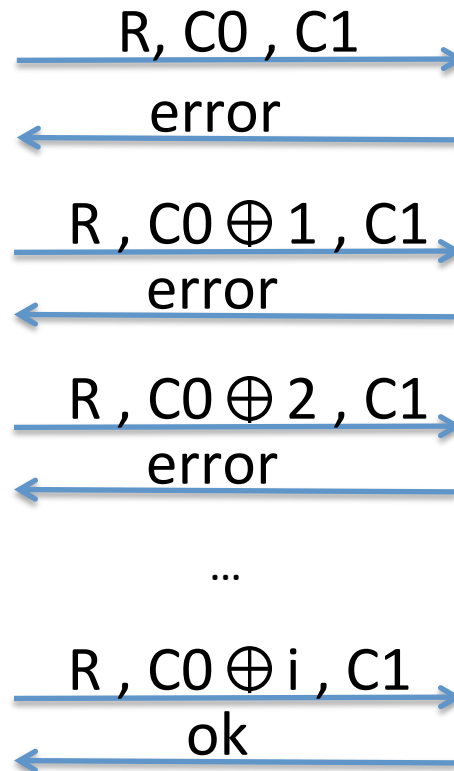
$M1 || M2$  has length  $2n-8$  bits

P is one byte of padding that must equal 0x00

Low byte of M1 equals i



Adversary obtains ciphertext  $C = C0, C1, C2$   
Let R be arbitrary n bits



$\text{Dec}(K, C')$

$M1' || M2' || P' = \text{CBC-Dec}(K, C')$

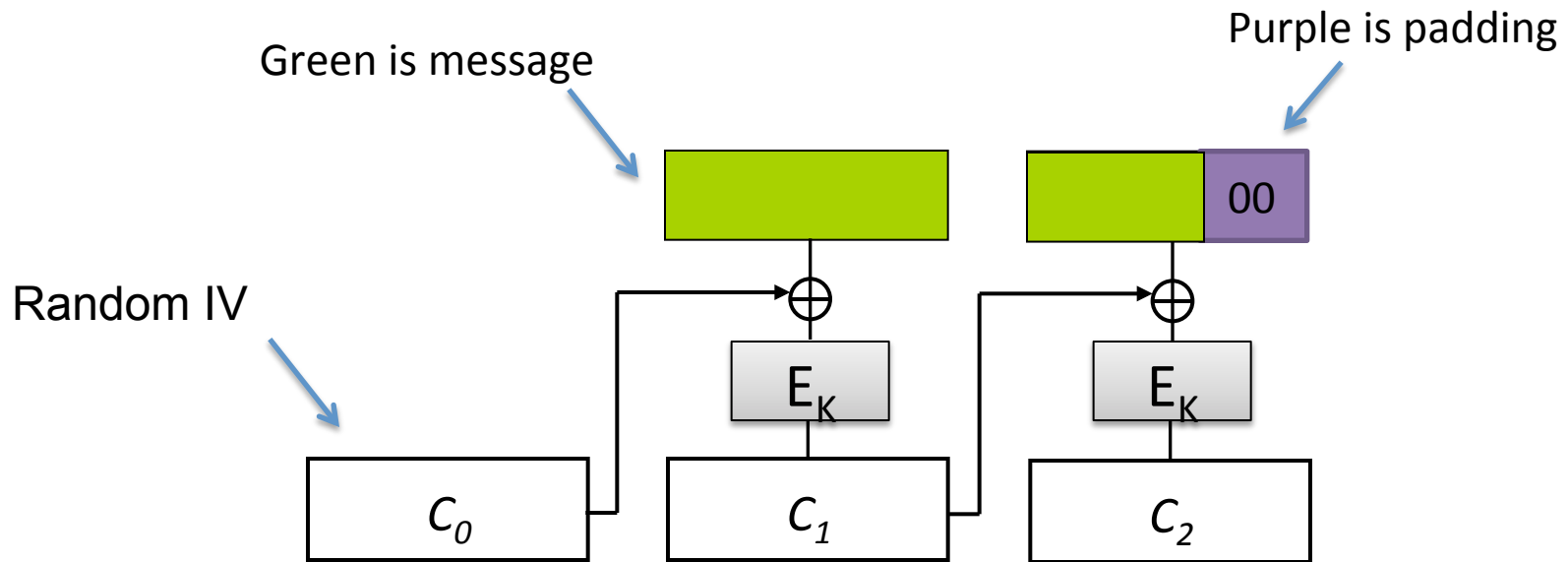
If  $P' \neq 0x00$  then

Return error

Else

Return ok

# Padding for CBC Mode in TLS



Possible paddings in TLS:

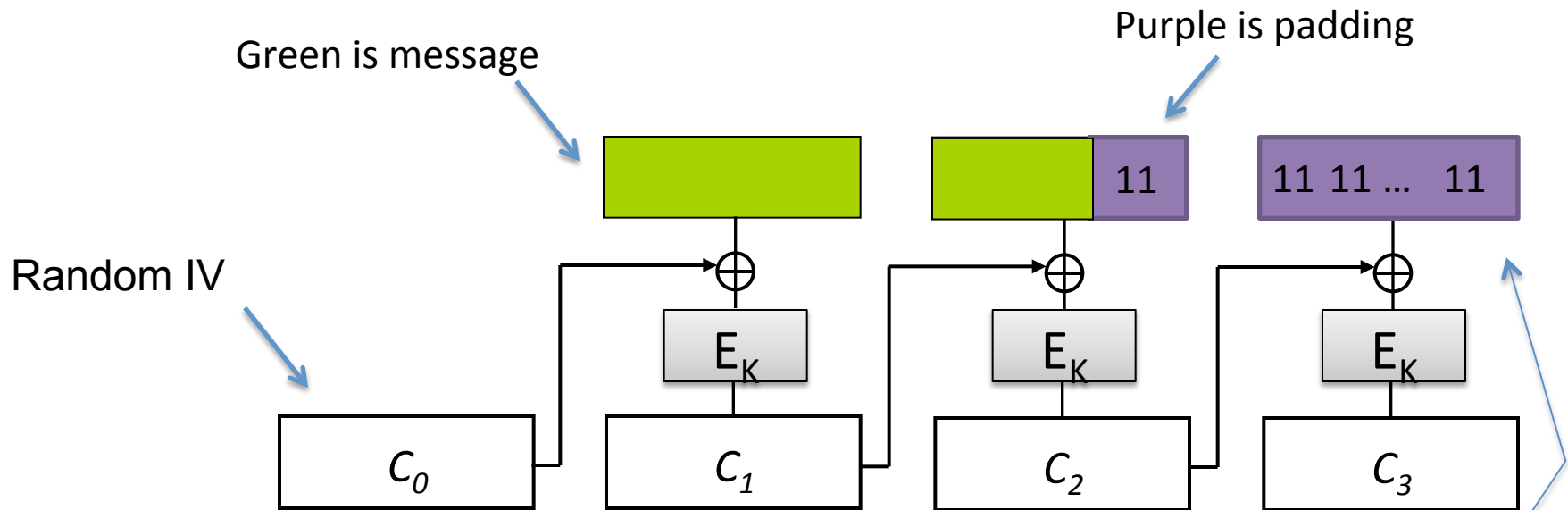
00

01 01

02 02 02

etc.

# Padding for CBC Mode in TLS

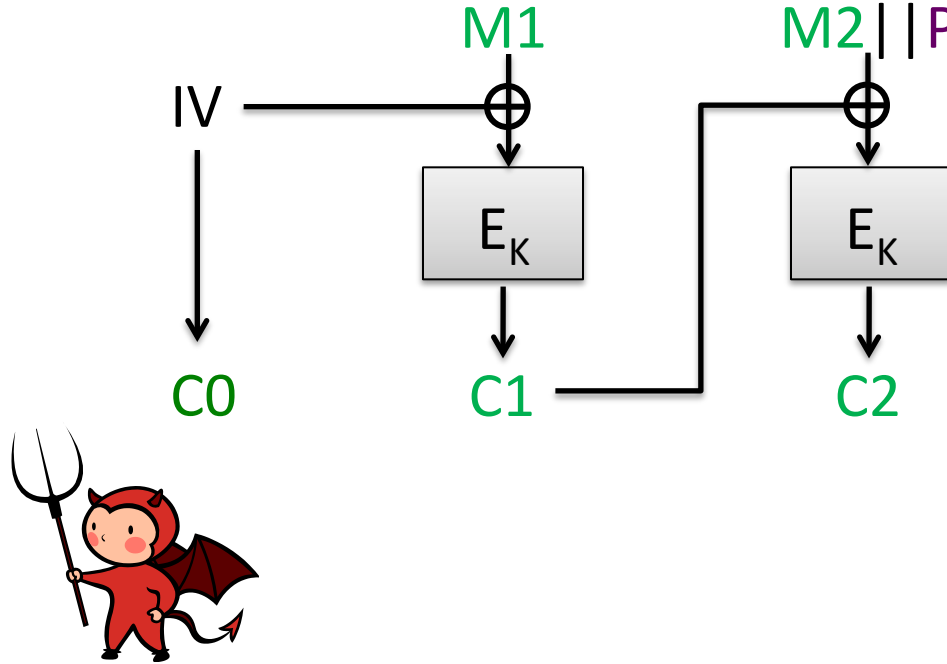


Possible paddings in TLS:

00      01 01      02 02 02      etc.

“Lengths longer than necessary might be desirable to frustrate attacks on a protocol that are based on analysis of the lengths of exchanged messages.” RFC 5246

# Vaudenay's padding oracle attack

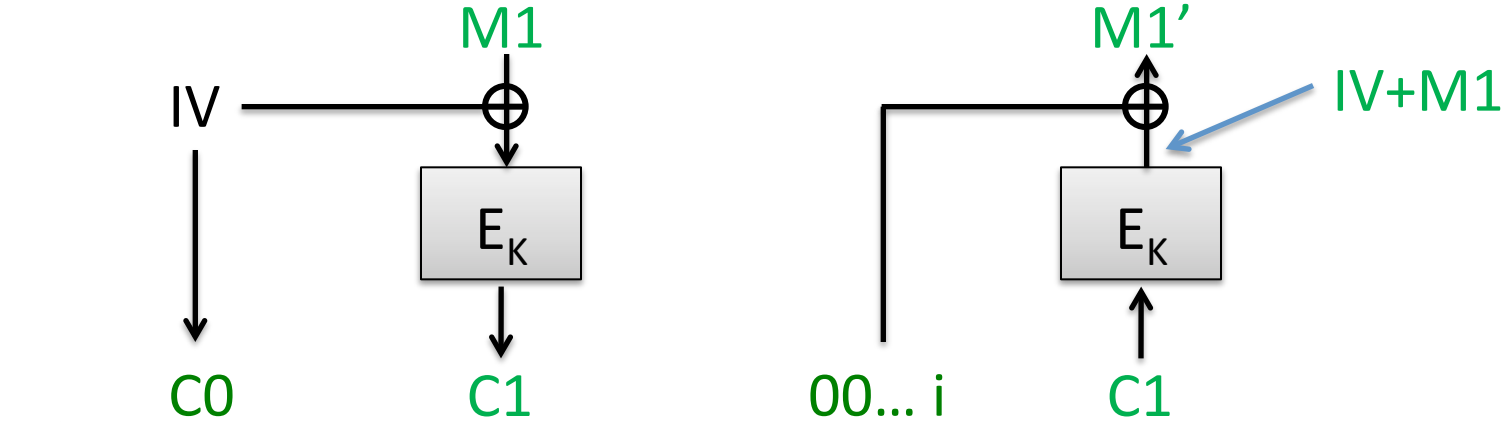


Goal:  
Decrypt entire plaintext



I see this topic in your future...

# Vaudenay's padding oracle attack



We know that:

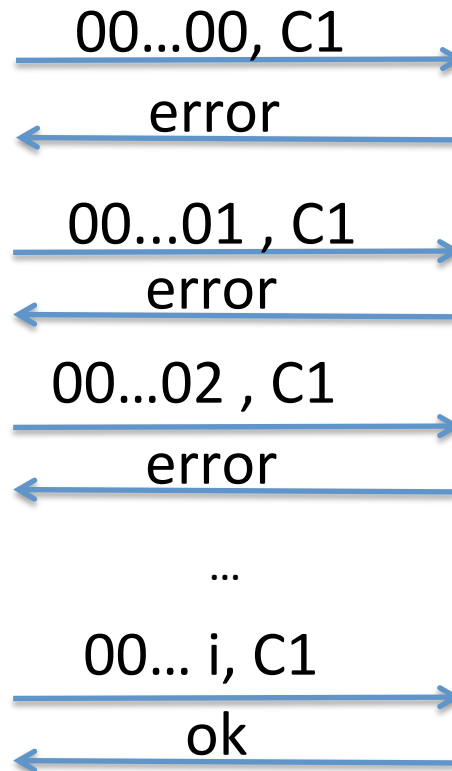
$$00 = i + IV[n] + M1[n]$$

Or do we? Could be:

$$01 = i + IV[n] + M1[n]$$

$$01 = IV[n-1] + M1[n-1]$$

Easy to exclude other cases



Dec(K, C' )

$M1' = \text{CBC-Dec}(K, C')$

$(X, \text{plen}) \leftarrow \text{lastbyte}(M1')$

For  $i = 0$  to  $\text{padlen}$  do

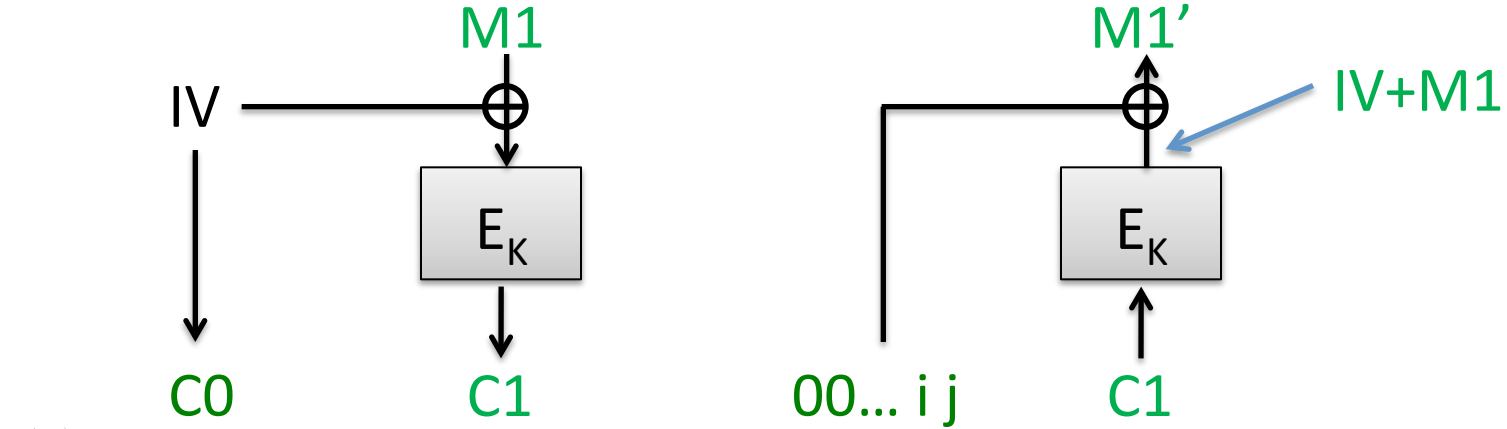
$(X, \text{plen}') \leftarrow \text{lastbyte}(X)$

If  $\text{plen}' \neq \text{plen}$

Return **Error**

Return Ok

# Vaudenay's padding oracle attack



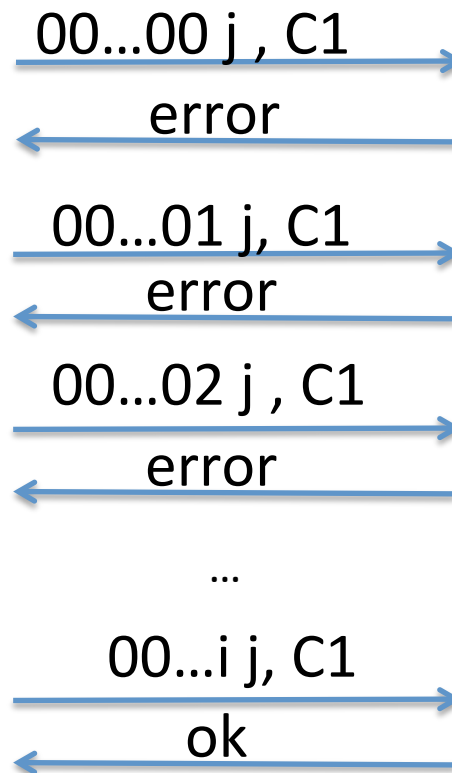
We know  $M1[n]$ . Let's get second to last byte.

Solve  $j$  to make  $M1'[n] = 01$   
 $01 = j + IV[n] + M1[n]$

Know that:

$01 = i + IV[n-1] + M1[n-1]$

**Repeat for all  $n$  bytes**



```

Dec(K, C' )
M1' = CBC-Dec(K,C')
(X,plen) <- lastbyte(M1')
For i = 0 to padlen do
    (X,plen') <- lastbyte(X)
    If plen' != plen
        Return Error
Return Ok
    
```

# Chosen ciphertext attacks against CBC

Attack	Description	Year
Vaudenay	10's of chosen ciphertexts, recovers message bits from a ciphertext. Called "padding oracle attack"	2001
Canvel et al.	Shows how to use Vaudenay's ideas against TLS	2003
Degabriele, Paterson	Breaks IPsec encryption-only mode	2006
Albrecht et al.	Plaintext recovery against SSH	2009
Duong, Rizzo	Breaking ASP.net encryption	2011
Jager, Somorovsky	XML encryption standard	2011
Duong, Rizzo	"Beast" attacks against TLS	2011

# In-class exercise

- Take five minutes and discuss with your neighbor...
  - Are padding oracles possible against CTR mode?
  - Same question, but for ECB (this is subtle...)
  - How would you prevent padding oracle attacks?  
Cryptographic countermeasure or “system-level”?



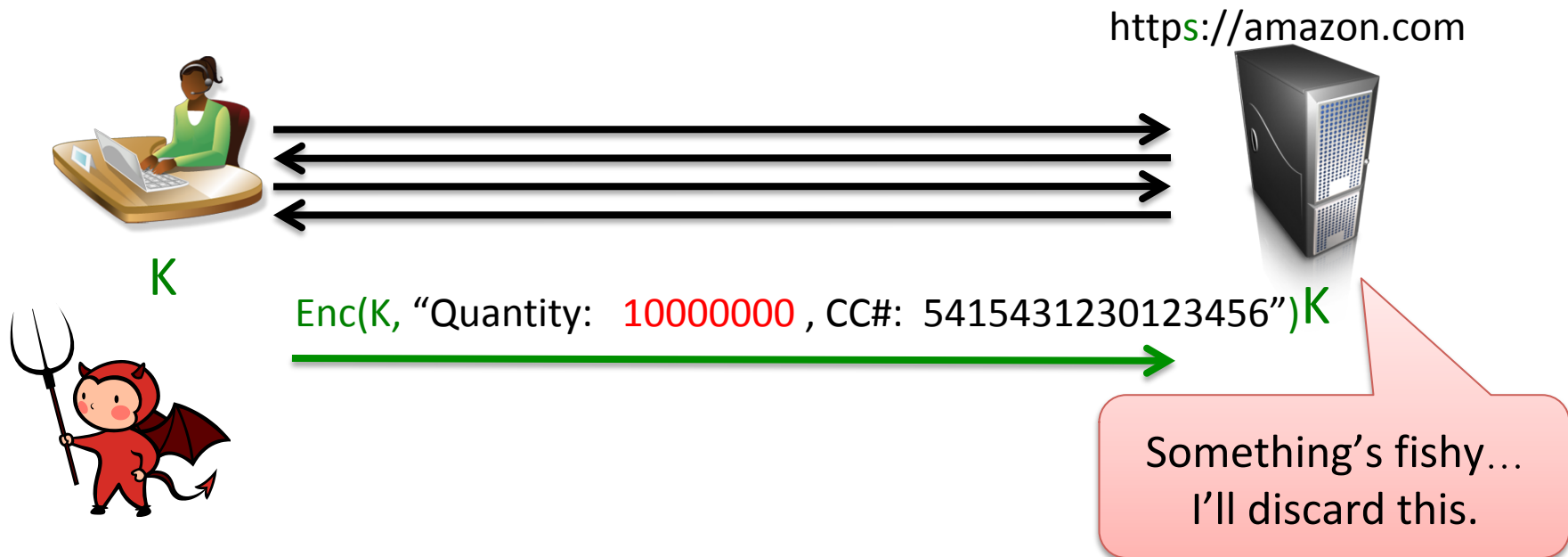
# Are we done?

**Message authentication** prevents this by making modifications detectable.

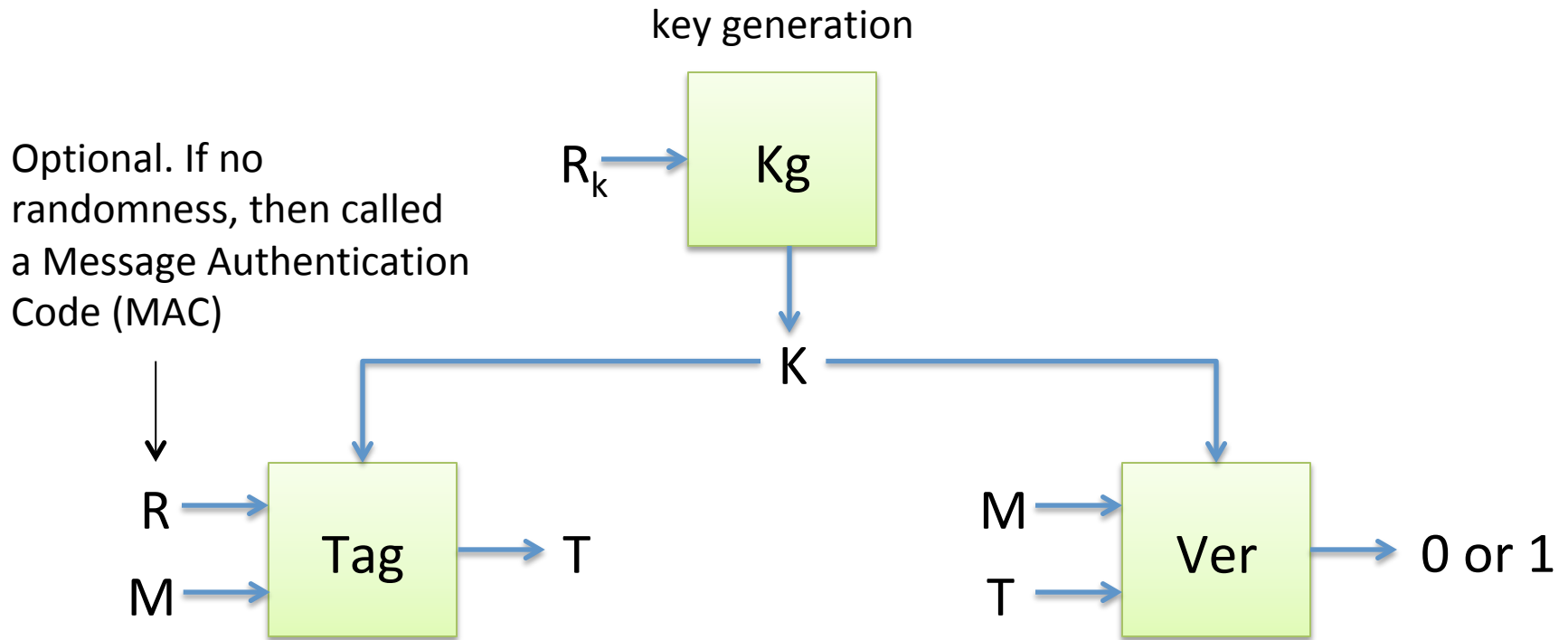
Goal is **Authenticated Encryption** (AE):

Hide message and detect modifications

Can build by combining encryption with a symmetric authentication primitive



# Message authentication

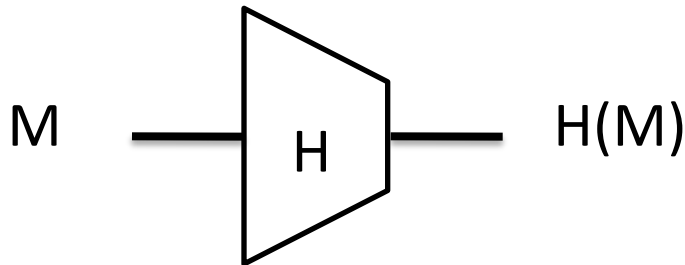


Correctness:  $\text{Ver}(K, \text{Tag}(K, M, R)) = 1$  with probability 1 over randomness used

Unforgeability: Attacker can't find  $M', T$  such that  $V(K, M', T) = 1$

# Hash functions and message authentication

Hash function  $H$  maps arbitrary bit string to fixed length string of size  $m$



~~MD5.  $m = 128$  bits  
SHA-1.  $m = 160$  bits  
SHA-256:  $m = 256$  bits~~

Some security goals:

- collision resistance: can't find  $M \neq M'$  such that  $H(M) = H(M')$
- preimage resistance: given  $H(M)$ , can't find  $M$
- second-preimage resistance: given  $H(M)$ , can't find  $M'$  s.t.  
 $H(M') = H(M)$

# Birthday paradox

- Anyone heard of this?
- Generic upper bound on collision resistance of hash function

**Thm**: For random function of output size  $N$ ,  
need  $\sim$  square root  $N$  inputs to find a collision



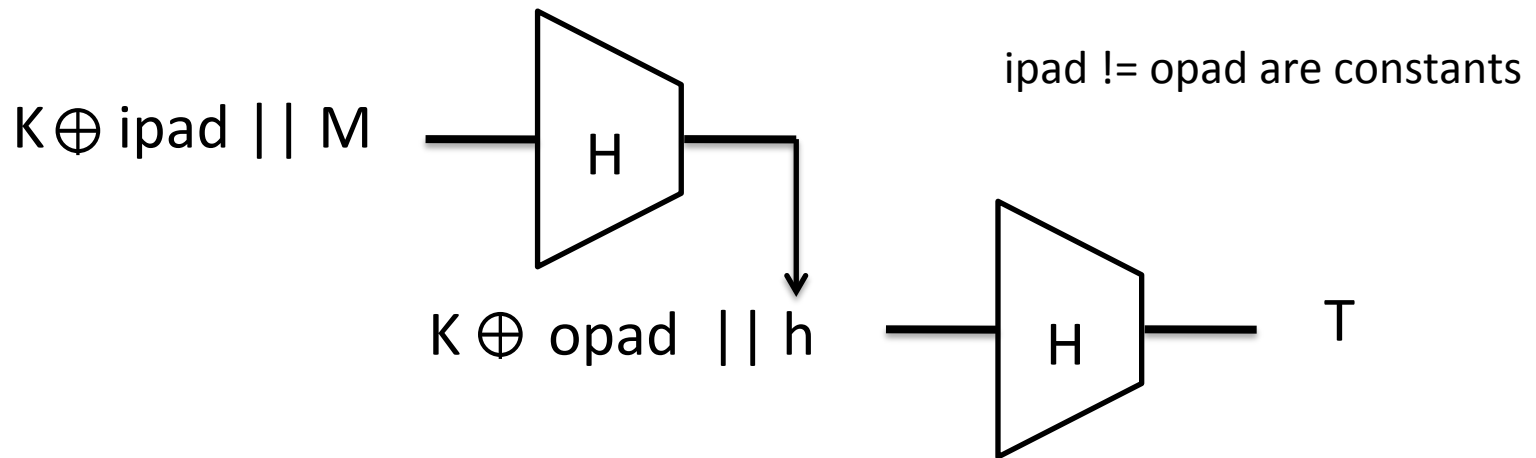
**I see this topic in your future...**

# Message authentication with HMAC

Use a hash function  $H$  to build MAC.

$K_g$  outputs uniform bit string  $K$

$\text{Tag}(K, M) = \text{HMAC}(K, M)$  defined by:

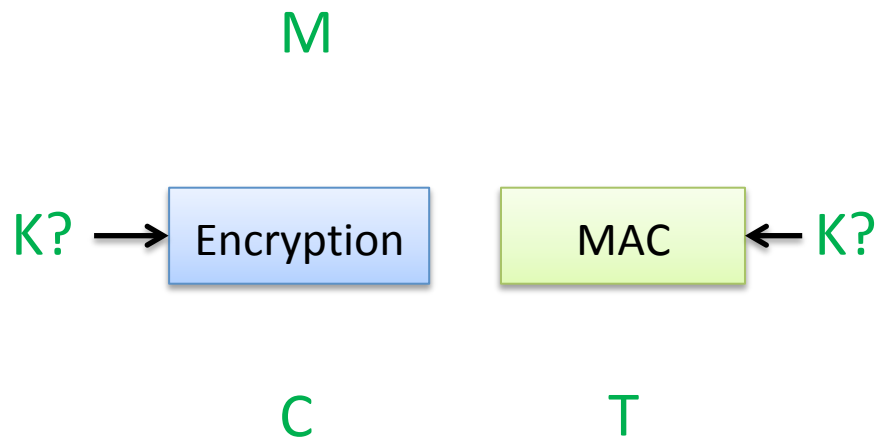


To verify a  $M, T$  pair, check if  $\text{HMAC}(K, M) = T$

Unforgeability holds if  $H$  is a secure PRF when so-keyed

# Build *authenticated encryption*...?

- Recall that our goal is a single “thing” giving both secrecy+authenticity
- Want to combine some encryption scheme with a MAC – how do we do this? Any ideas?



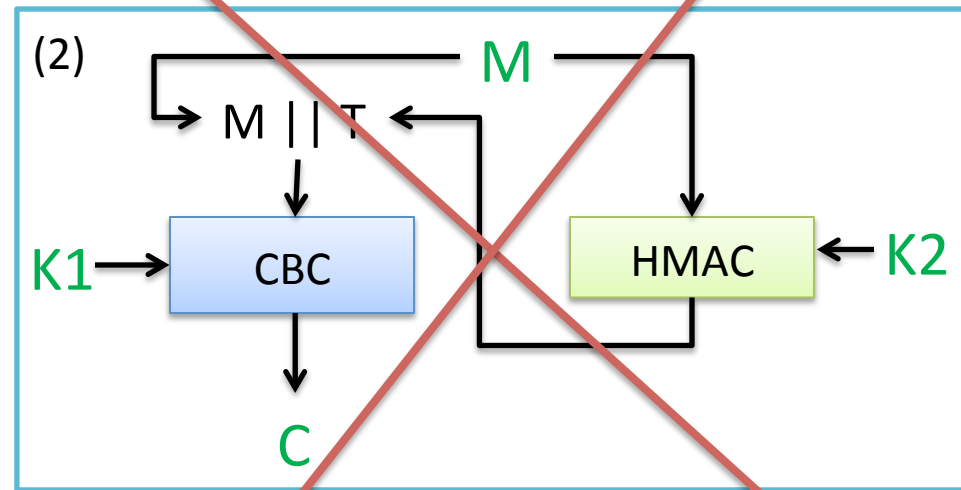
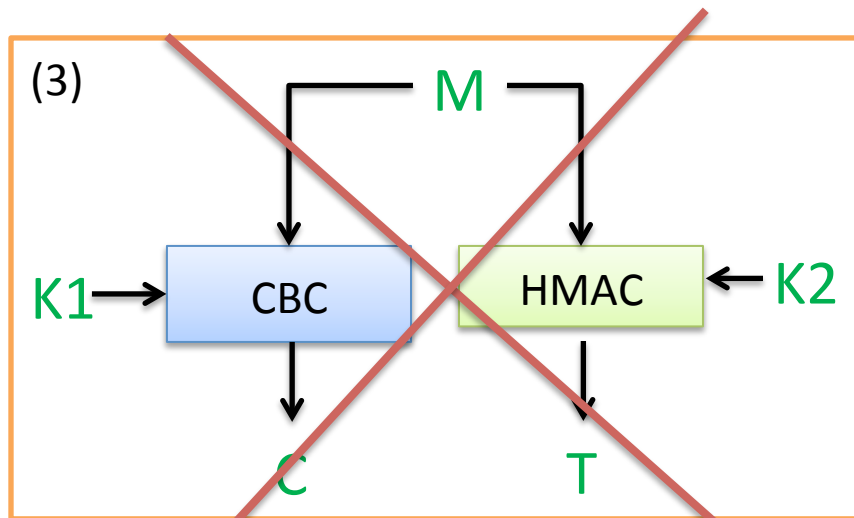
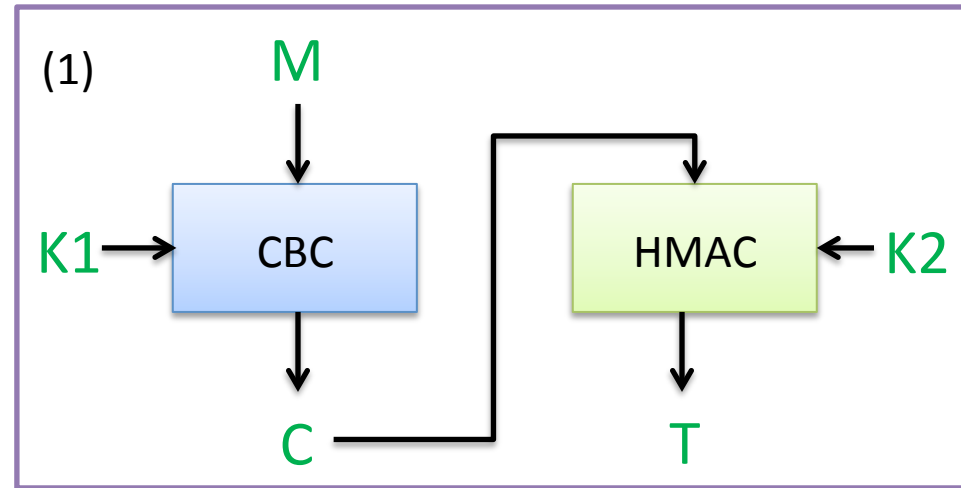
Build a new scheme from CBC and HMAC  
Kg outputs CBC key K1 and HMAC key K2

Several ways to combine:

(1) encrypt-then-mac

(2) mac-then-encrypt

(3) encrypt-and-mac



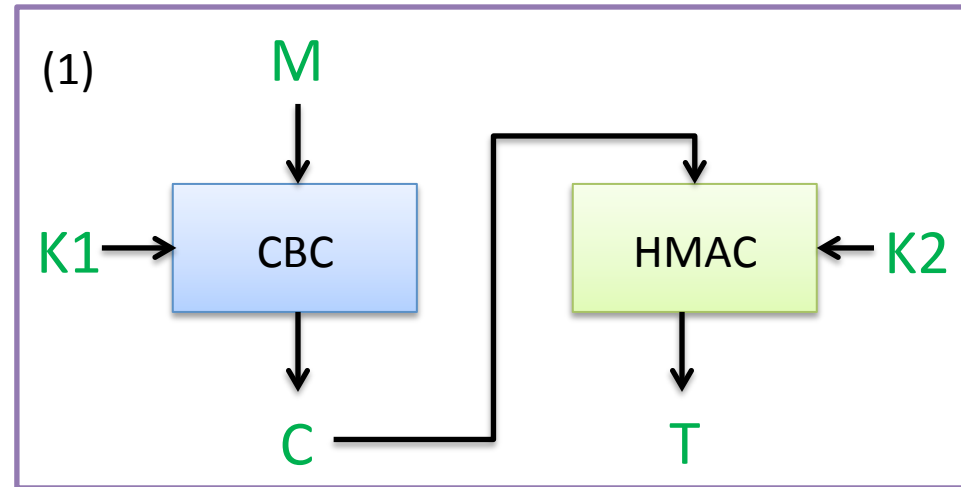
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Several ways to combine:

(1) encrypt-then-mac

(2) mac-then-encrypt

(3) encrypt-and-mac



Thm. If encryption scheme provides confidentiality against passive attackers and MAC provides unforgeability, then Encrypt-then-MAC provides secure authenticated encryption



# Are we done?

It's circa 2002 in crypto research,  
and we're in decent shape...

***Still no!***

Why? Many reasons:

efficiency: latency, code size...

better security: randomness reuse...

Fundamental reason why we're not done:

crypto is *hard to get right*, people make mistakes often.

Need to build crypto that is hard to misuse.



**Build dedicated AE schemes!**

# Dedicated authenticated encryption schemes

Attack	Inventors	Notes
OCB (Offset Codebook)	Rogaway	One-pass
GCM (Galois Counter Mode)	McGrew, Viega	CTR mode plus Carter-Wegman MAC
ChaCha20/ Poly1305	Bernstein	“essentially” CTR mode plus special Carter-Wegman MAC
CCM	Housley, Ferguson, Whiting	CTR mode plus CBC-MAC
EAX	Wagner, Bellare, Rogaway	CTR mode plus OMAC

# Dedicated authenticated encryption schemes

Attack	Inventors	Notes
OCB (Offset Codebook)	Rogaway	One-pass
GCM (Galois Counter Mode)	McGrew, Viega	CTR mode plus Carter-Wegman MAC
ChaCha20/ Poly1305		plus special
CCM	Neailey, Ferguson, Whiting	CTR mode plus CBC MAC
EAX	Wagner, Bellare, Rogaway	CTR mode plus OMAC

**OCB was second AE scheme published.  
By most accounts, still the best.  
Nobody uses it because of patents!**

# Today's lecture

- Block cipher modes of operation
  - ECB, CTR, CBC
- Attacking insecure approaches
  - malleability, padding oracle
- Message authentication
  - HMAC
- Authenticated encryption
  - OCB, GCM