

# Quantitative Security of Block Ciphers: Designs and Cryptanalysis Tools

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Information Security Group  
@UCL  
February 5, 2009



# Prologue

# Cryptography: the Basics

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Originally, cryptography aims at ensuring **confidentiality** through an insecure channel.

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Bob



Alice



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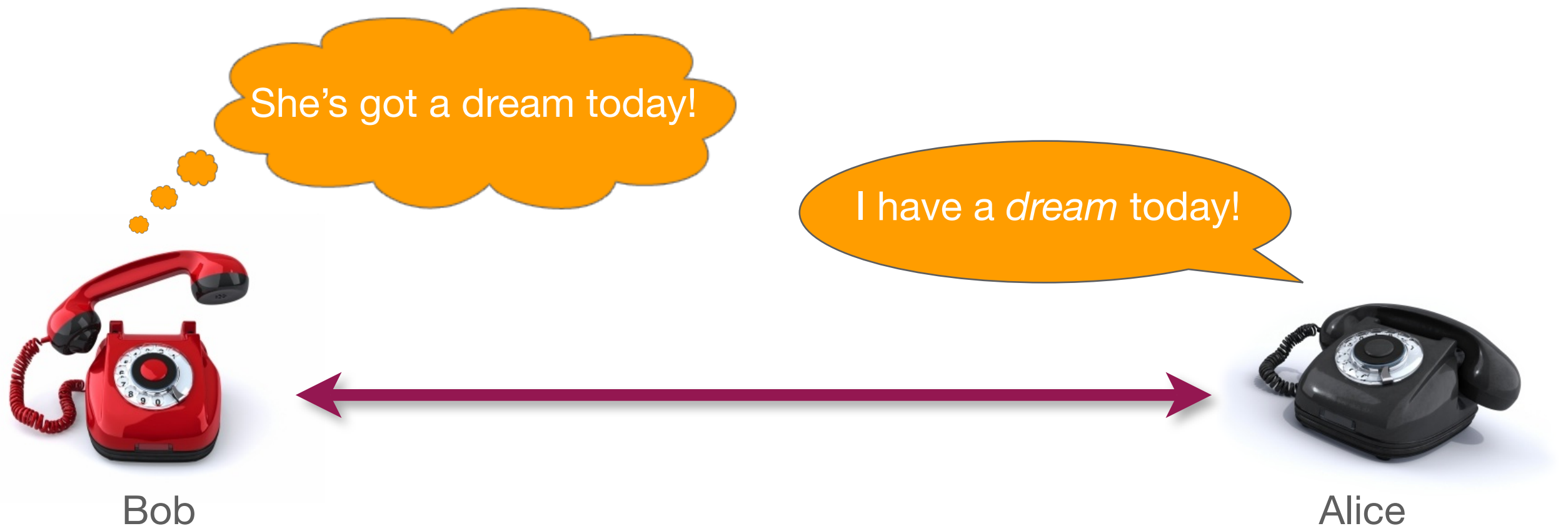


Alice

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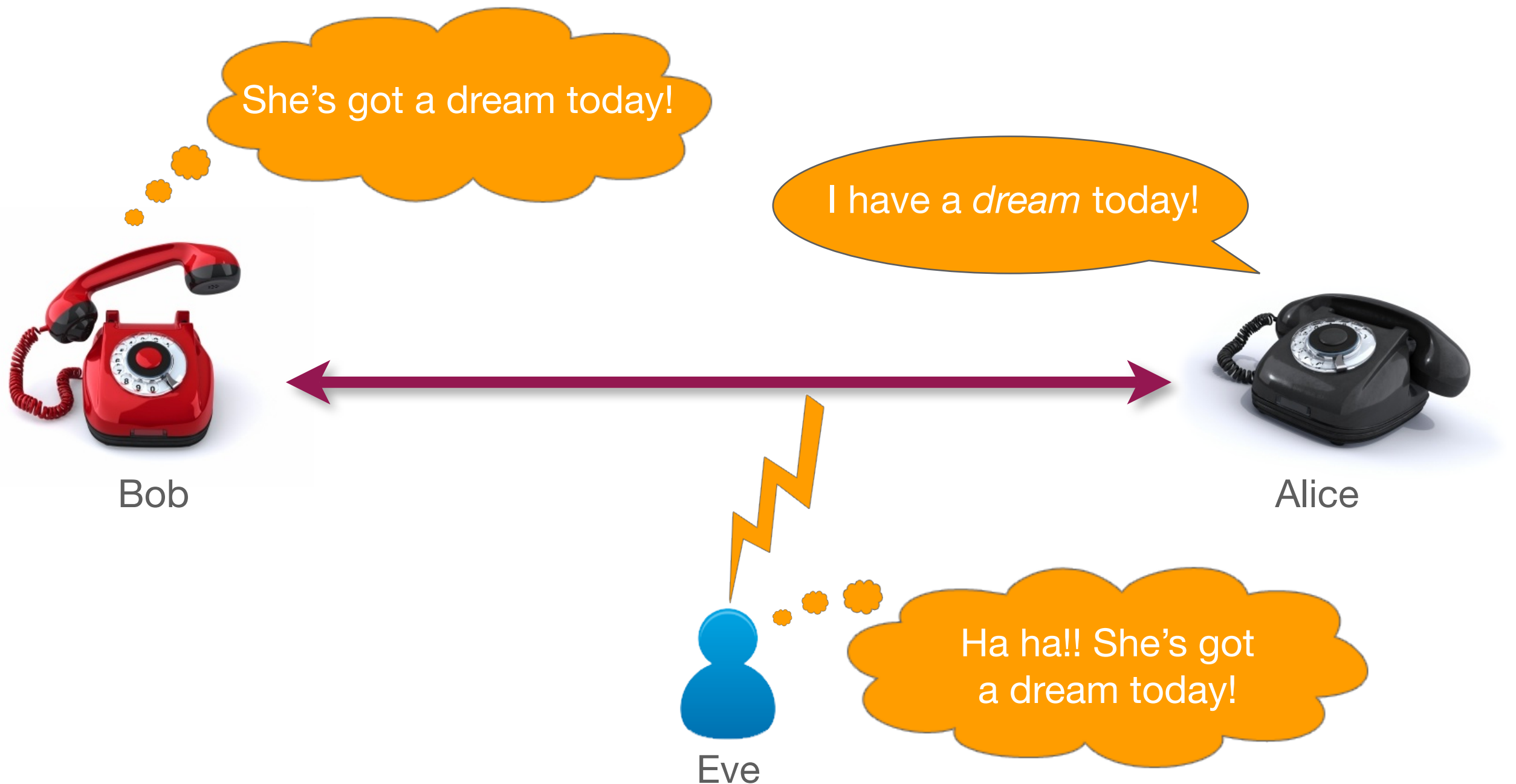
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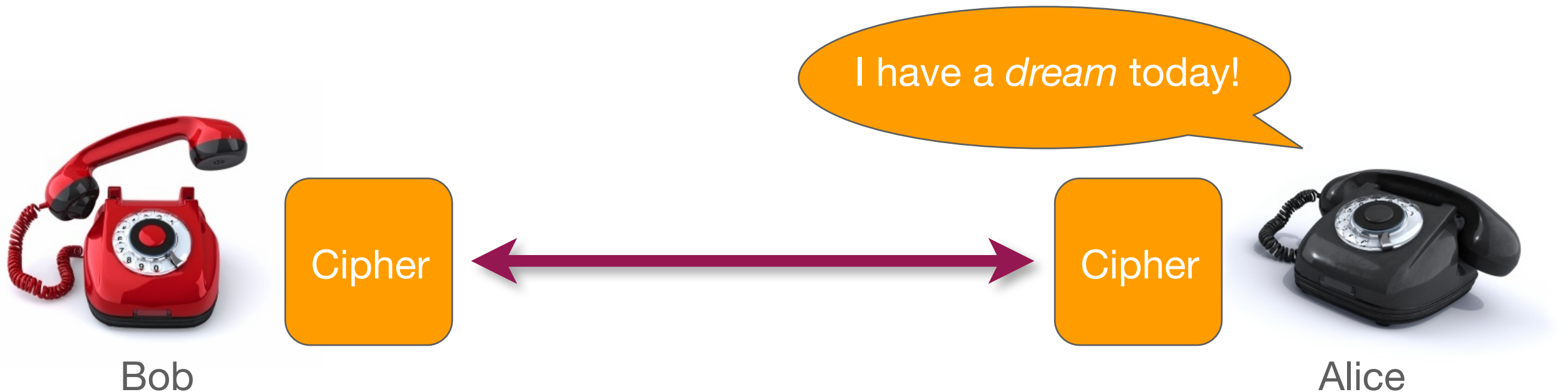
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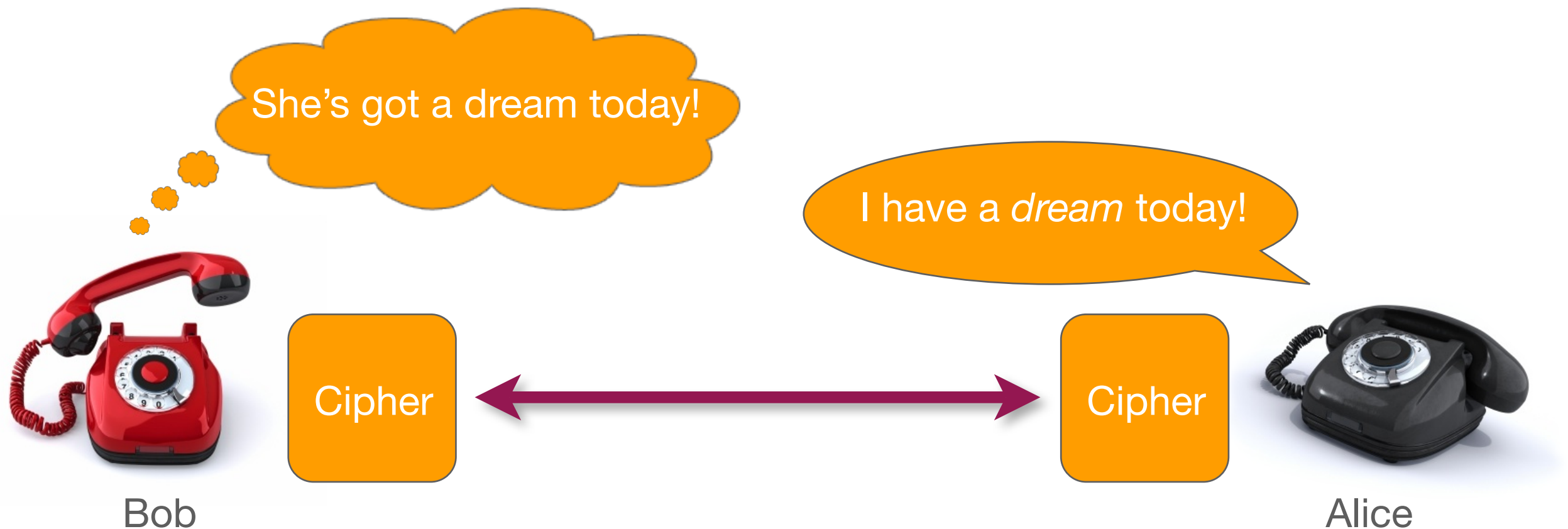




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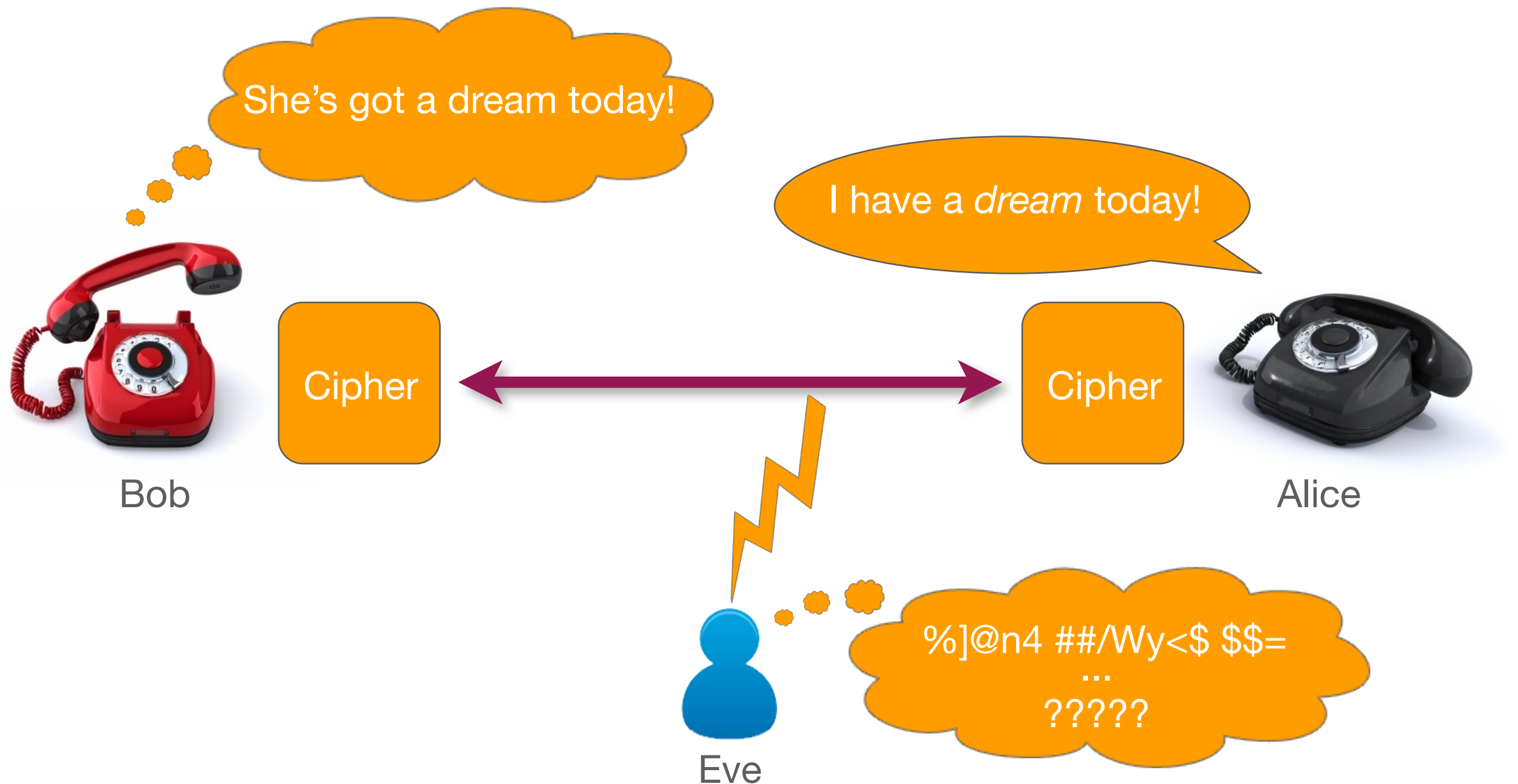
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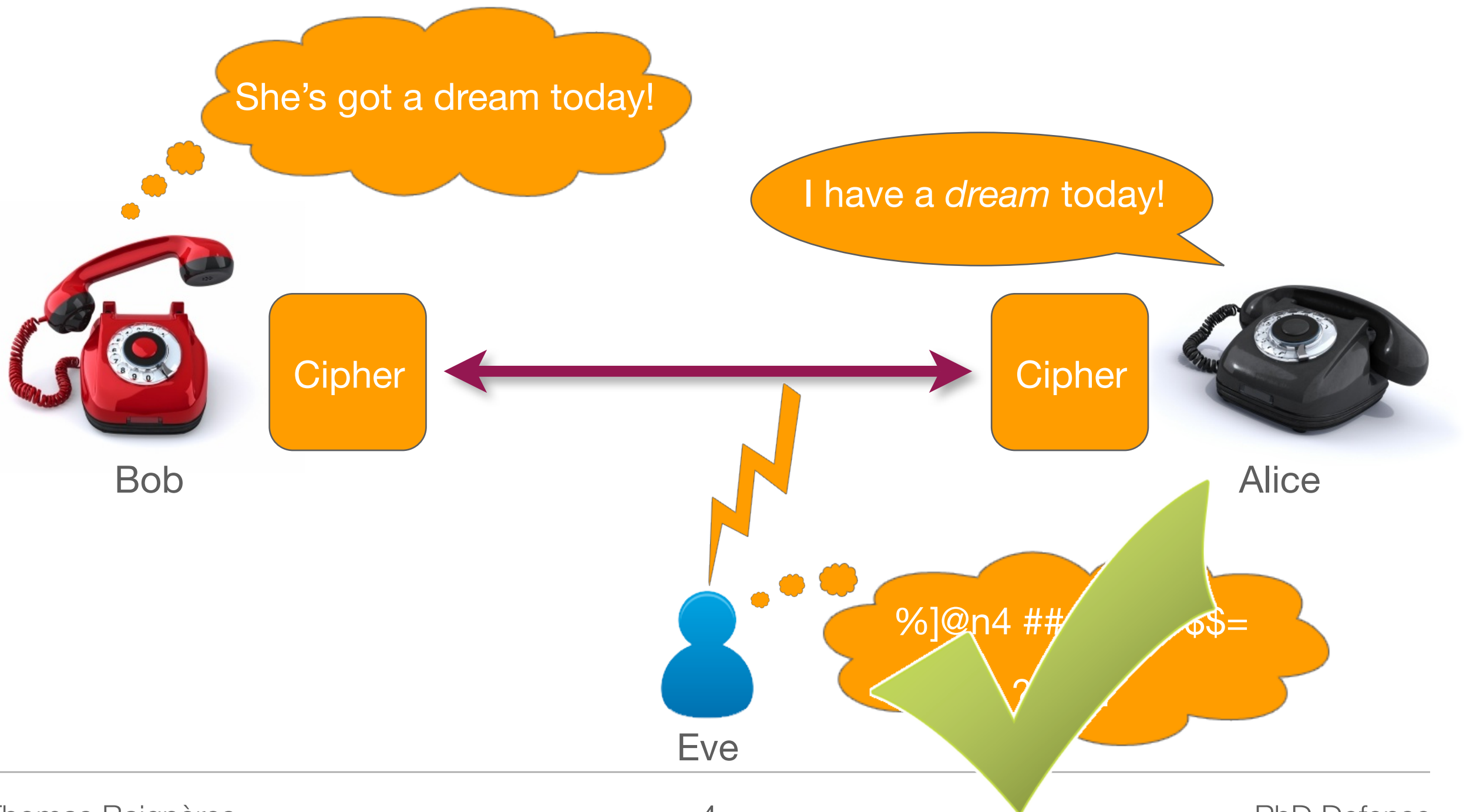
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Fact: cryptographers are paranoid  they sometimes require more !

It should be hard for Eve to guess whether she's looking at an encrypted message (ciphertext) or to pure rubbish (random string).

# The security requirements in terms of a game...

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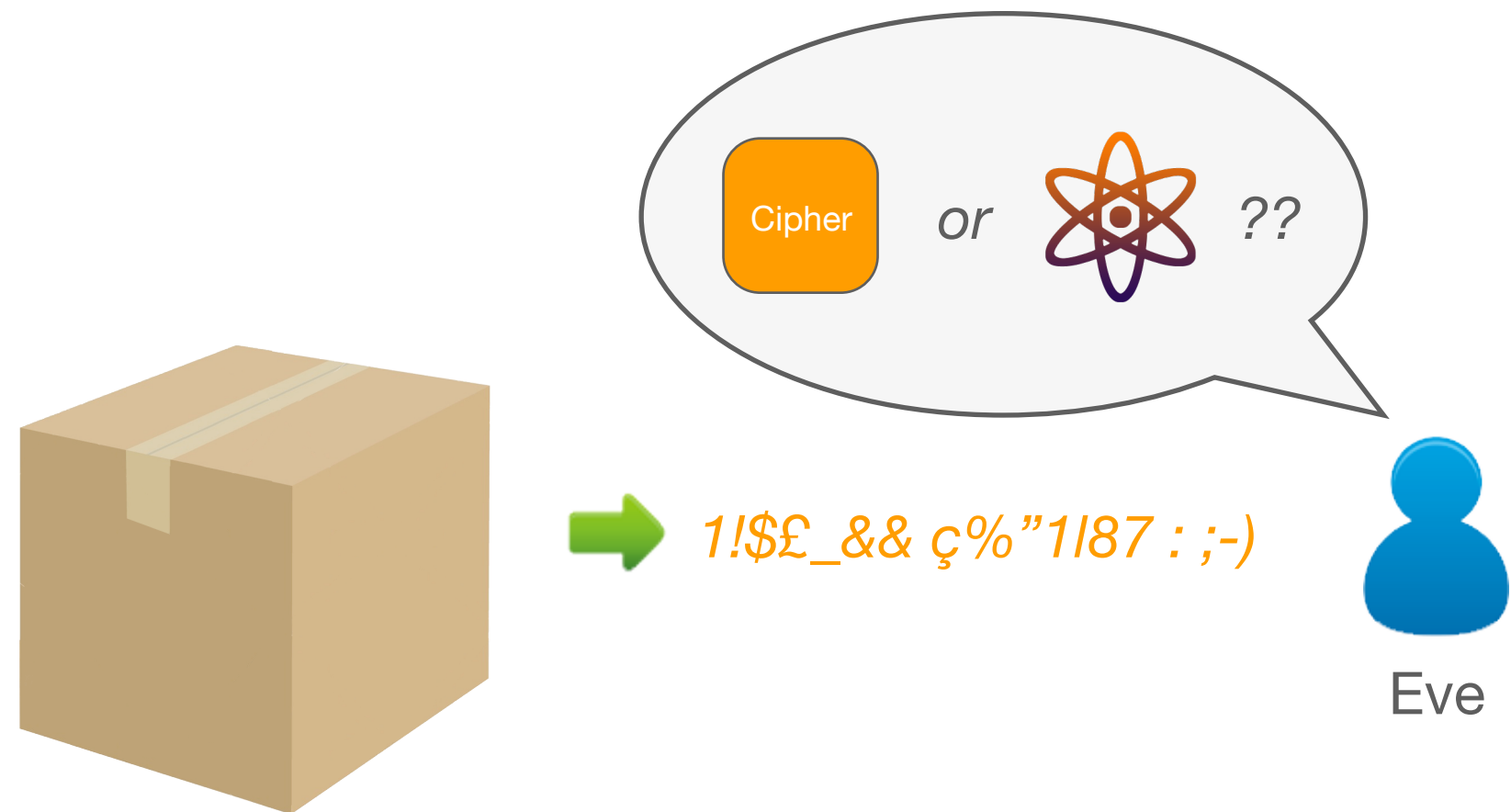
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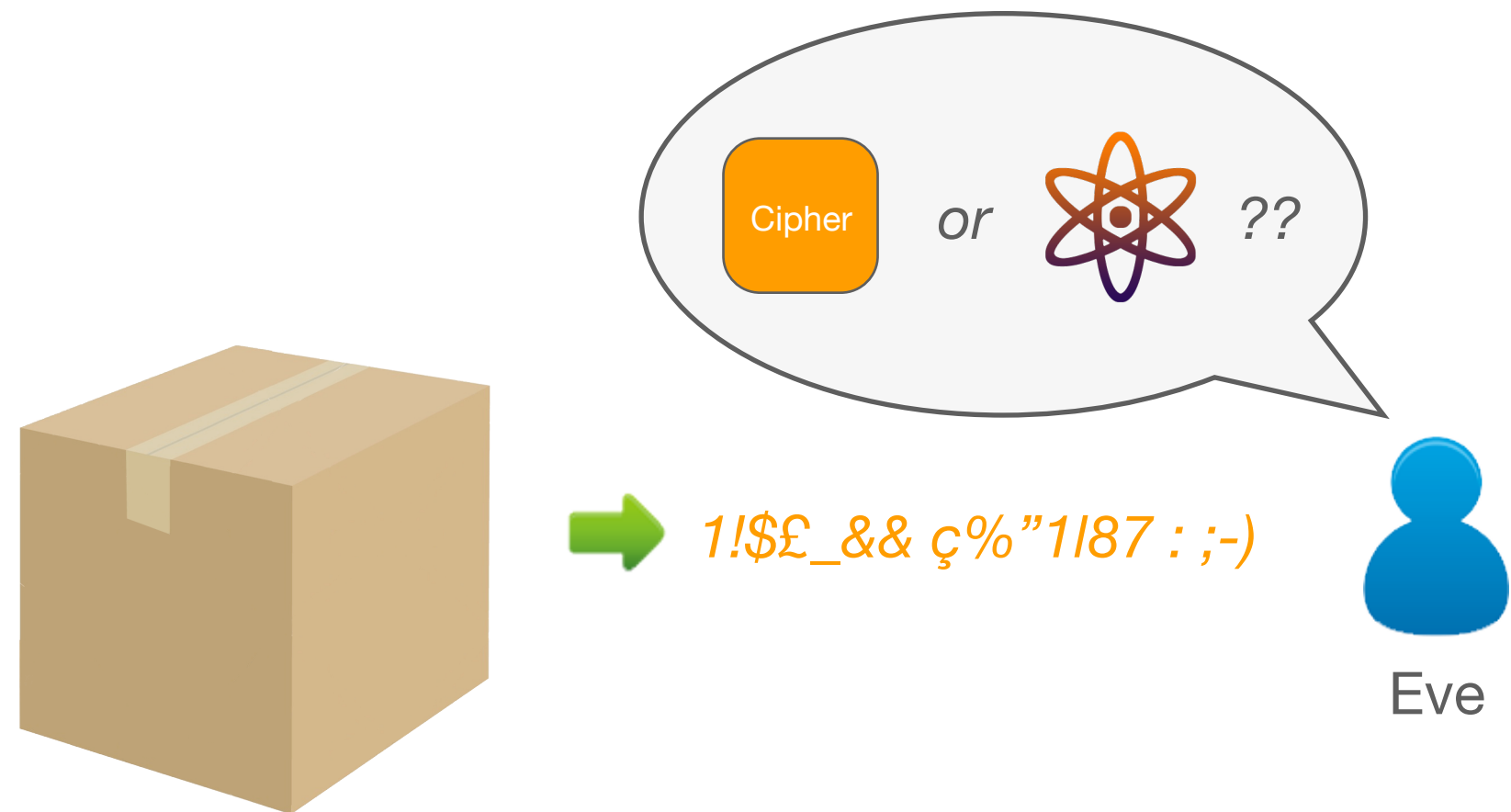
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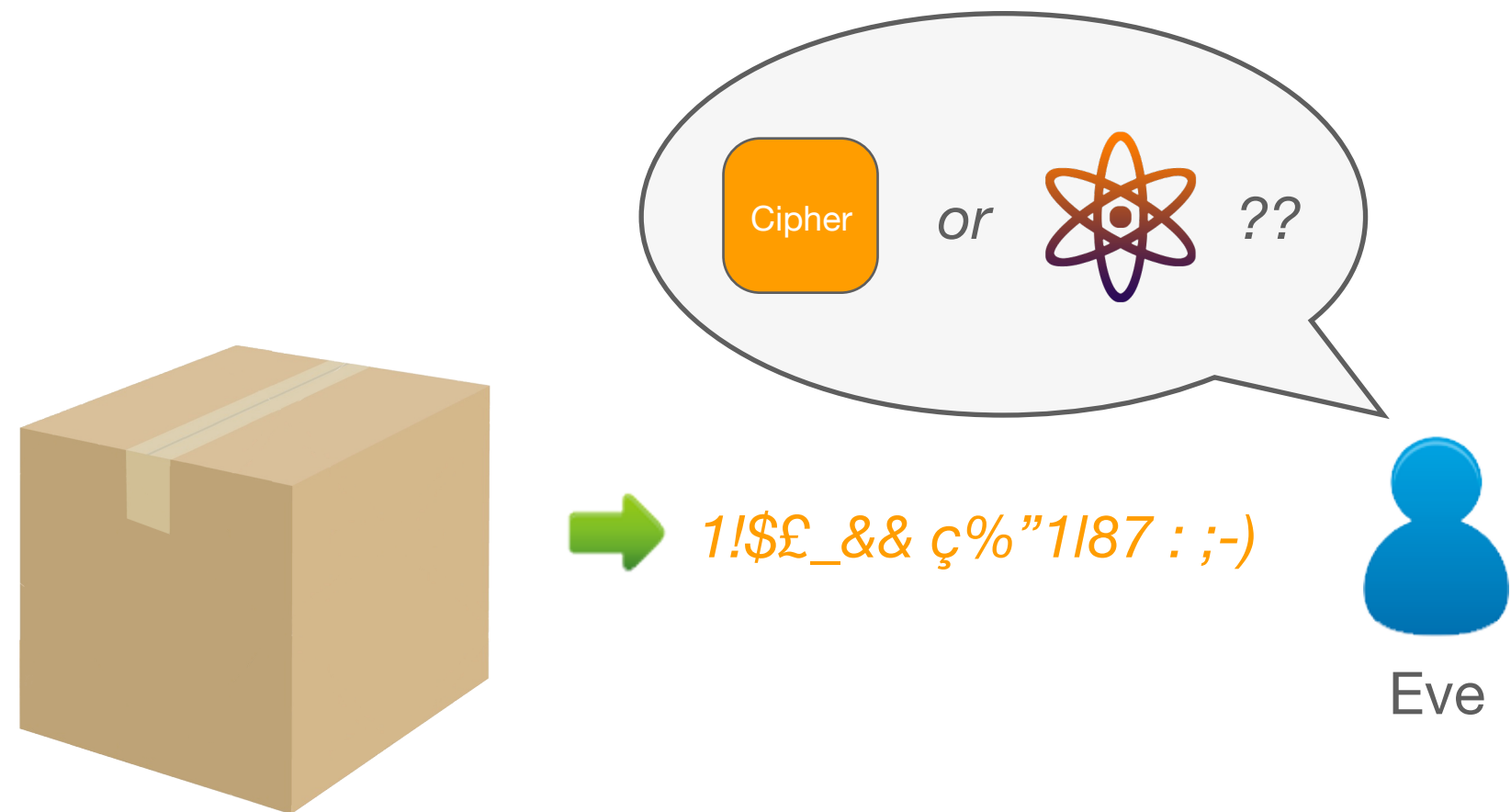
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- Eve wins if she guesses correctly.

# The security requirements in terms of a game...

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- Eve wins if she guesses correctly.
- **Objective for the cryptographer:** make sure that Eve cannot do better than guessing correctly 50% of the time.

# Part I: On the (In)Security of Block Ciphers: Tools for the Security Analysis

# Outline

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Distinguishers between two sources

Projection-based distinguishers  
between two sources

Practical Implications for block ciphers



# Outline

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## Distinguishers between two sources

Projection-based distinguishers  
between two sources

Practical Implications for block ciphers

- The game: distinguishing between two sources of randomness
- The optimal solution
- Complexity analysis: How many samples do we need to distinguish with a given efficiency?

# Outline

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Distinguishers between two sources



Projection-based distinguishers  
between two sources

Practical Implications for block ciphers

- What if the optimal solution cannot be implemented?
- Distinguishing in practice using compression
- Example: Generalized linear distinguisher

# Outline

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Distinguishers between two sources

- Cryptanalysis of SAFER K/SK

Projection-based distinguishers  
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- DEAN



Practical Implications for block ciphers

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Practical Implications for block ciphers

[BJVa04]

[BSVsac07]

[BVicits08]

# Part I: On the (In)Security of Block Ciphers: Tools for the Security Analysis



Distinguisher between two Sources

# The Game

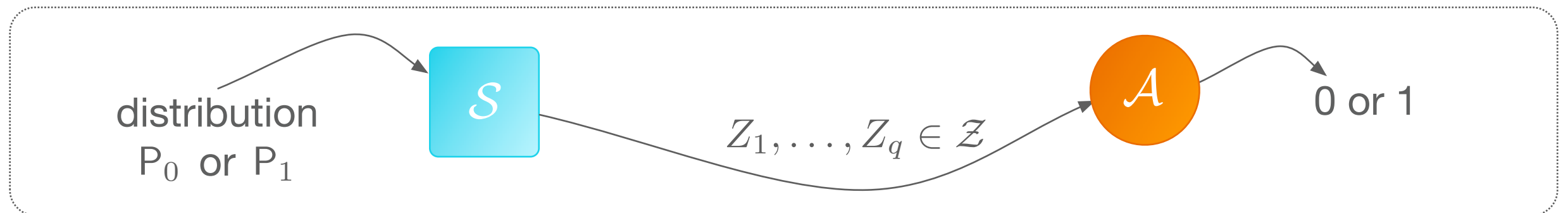
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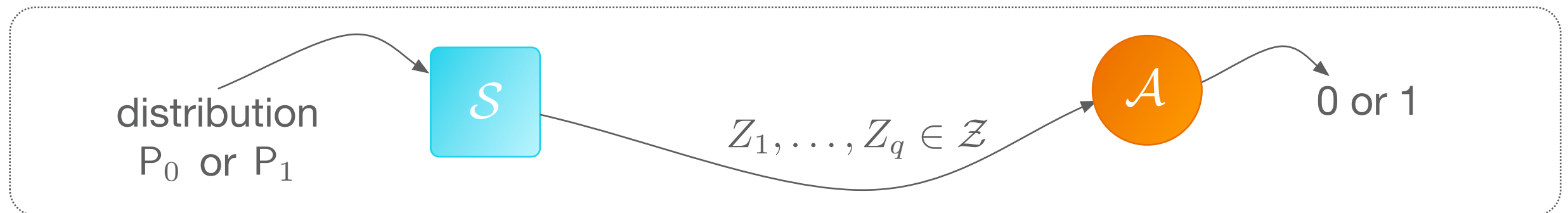
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# The Game

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- $P_0$  and  $P_1$  are two arbitrary distributions over a finite set  $\mathcal{Z}$ .



- The ability of  $\mathcal{A}$  to distinguish  $P_0$  from  $P_1$  is its advantage:

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}(P_0, P_1) = |\Pr_{P_0}[\mathcal{A}(Z_1, \dots, Z_q) = 1] - \Pr_{P_1}[\mathcal{A}(Z_1, \dots, Z_q) = 1]|$$



# Example: Biased Die (pl. dice, from Old French “dé”)

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Probability of throwing a ‘1’ with the first die

$$P_0 = \left( \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6} \right)$$

Probability of throwing a ‘4’ with the first die



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$$P_1 = \left(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{2}{6}, 0, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}\right)$$

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$$P_0 = \left(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}\right)$$



No way to throw a '4' with this dice...

$$P_1 = \left(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{2}{6}, 0, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}\right)$$

That's a VERY biased dice!

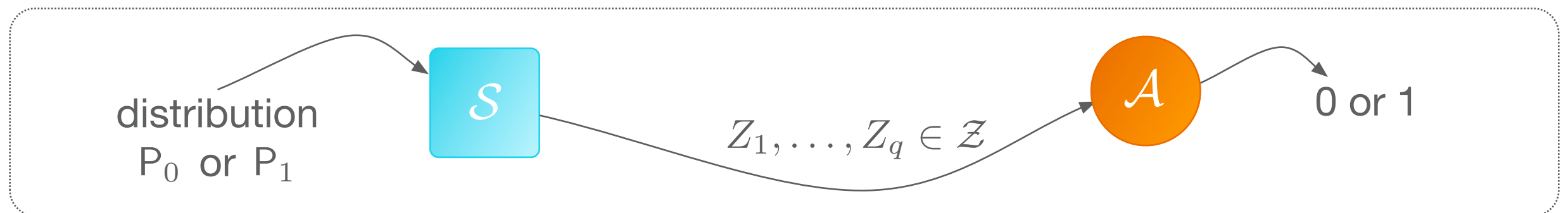
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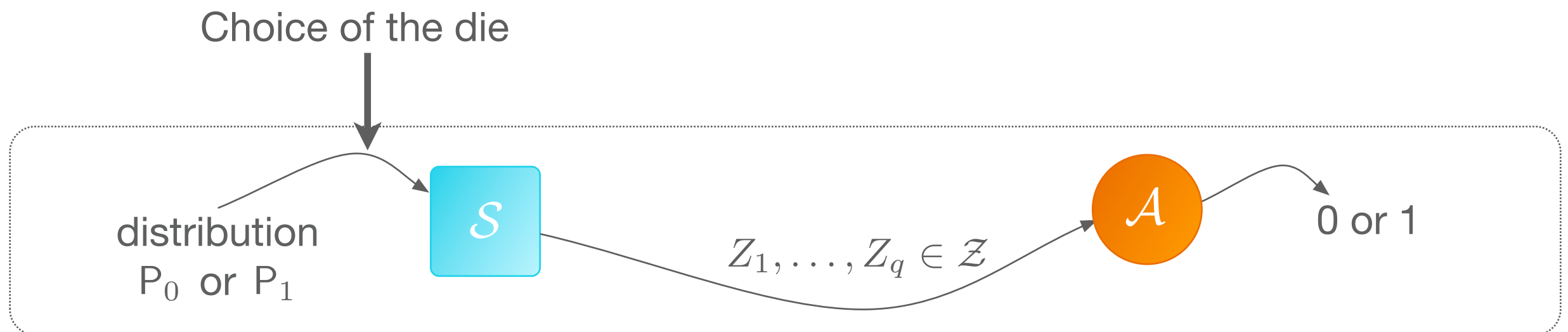
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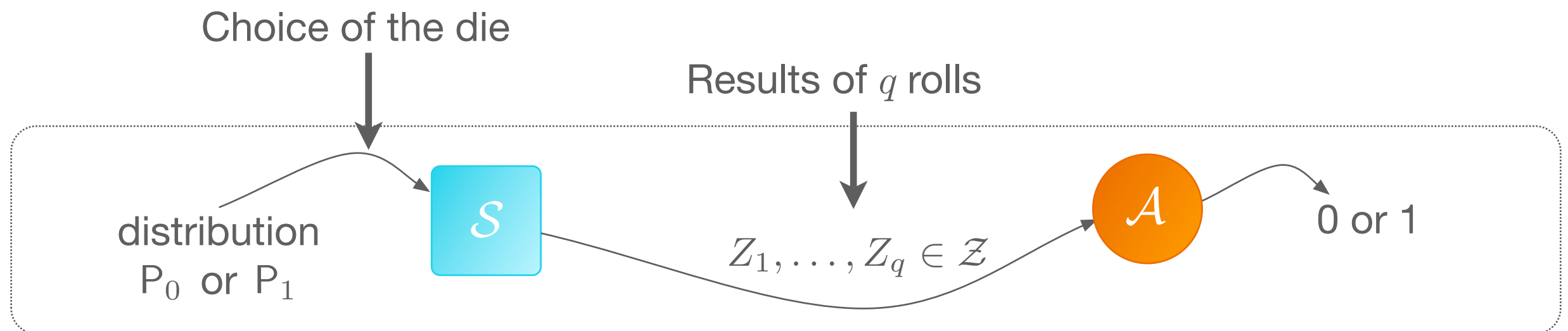


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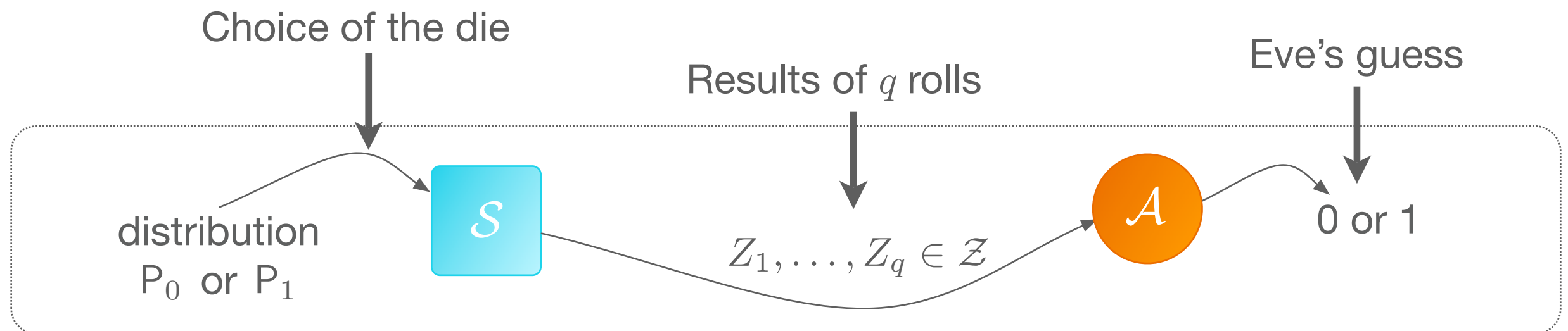


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# An Optimal Distinguisher

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- $\mathcal{A}$  is computationally unbounded (deterministic)
- $q$  samples are **independent** (order is irrelevant)
- What matters: the number of occurrences of each symbol of  $\mathcal{Z}$  in the string  $Z_1, \dots, Z_q$
- Equivalently: the **type**  $P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_q}$  of the sequence:

$$P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_q}[a] = \frac{\#\{i : Z_i = a\}}{q}$$

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- Example:  $\mathcal{Z} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ,  $q = 31$  and

$$Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_{31} = 1\ 6\ 3\ 5\ 6\ 2\ 2\ 3\ 1\ 6\ 3\ 2\ 6\ 3\ 6\ 5\ 5\ 1\ 2\ 3\ 6\ 5\ 1\ 3\ 2\ 2\ 5\ 6\ 5\ 3\ 1$$

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$$P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_{31}}[1] = \frac{5}{31}$$

$$P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_{31}}[2] = \frac{6}{31}$$

$$P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_{31}}[3] = \frac{7}{31}$$

$$P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_{31}}[4] = 0$$

$$P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_{31}}[5] = \frac{6}{31}$$

$$P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_{31}}[6] = \frac{7}{31}$$

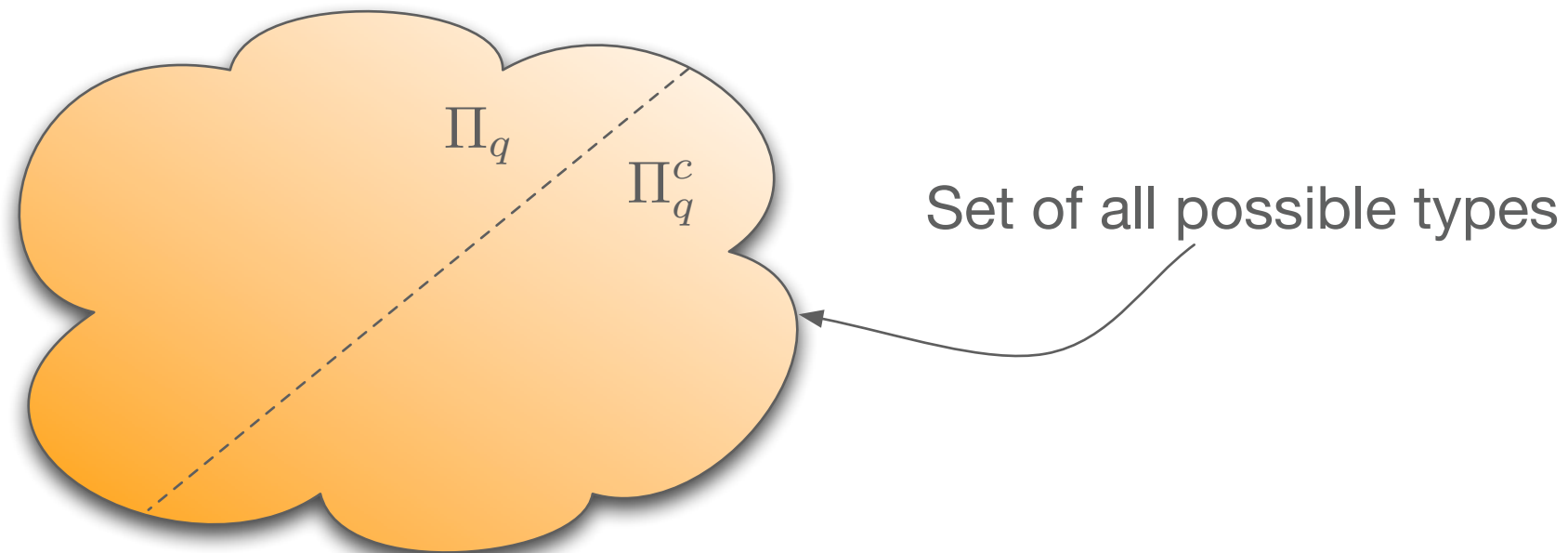
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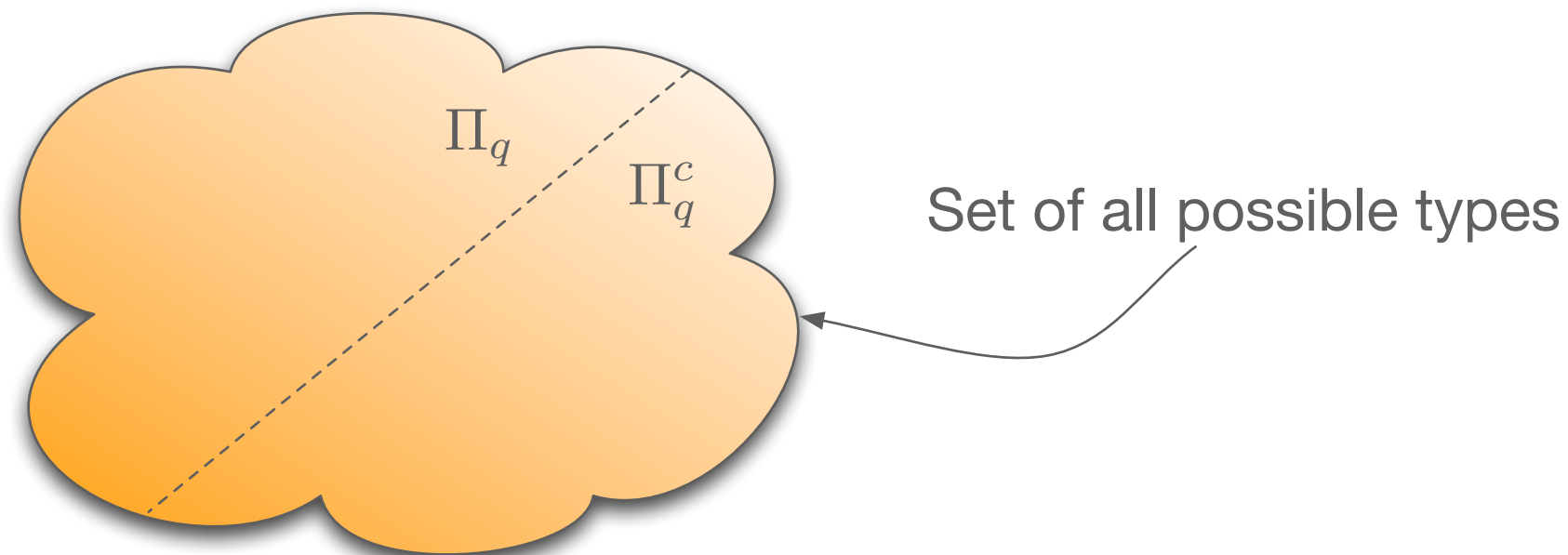
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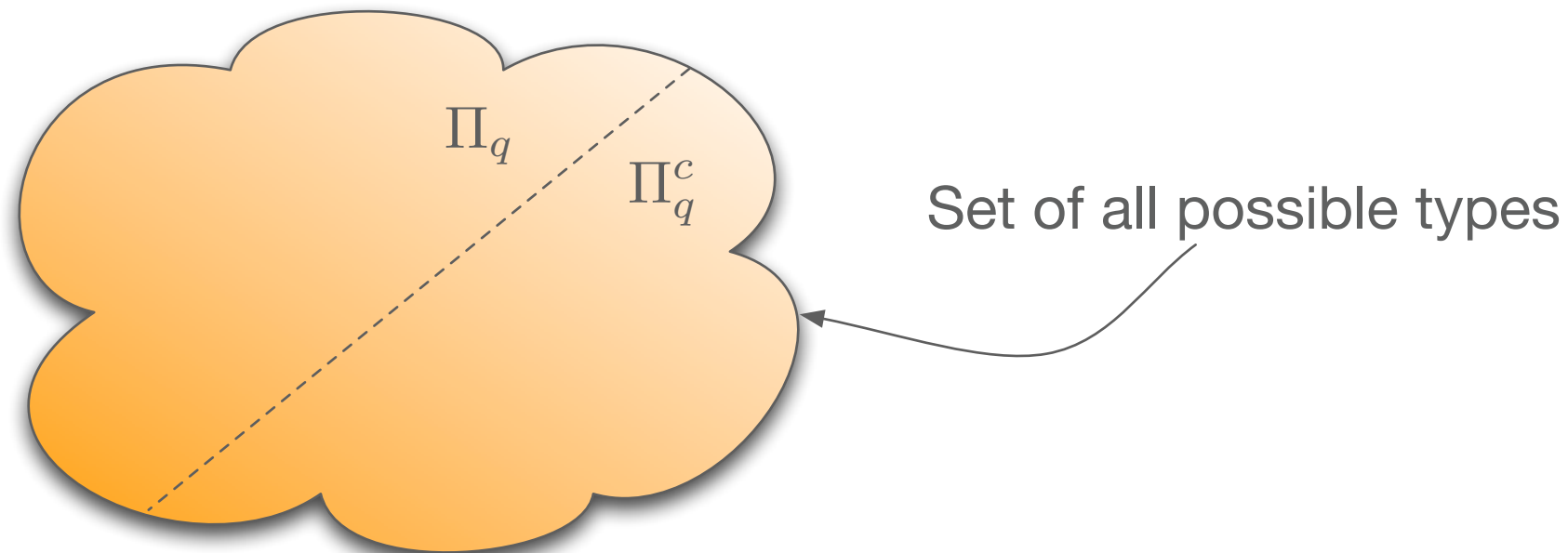
$\mathcal{A}$  uniquely determined by  $\Pi_q$ :  $P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_q} \in \Pi_q \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{A}(Z_1, \dots, Z_q) = 1$

Number of such  $\Pi_q$  is finite  $\rightarrow$  Number of possible adversaries is finite.



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An optimal distinguisher exists!



Can it be determined?

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Using maximum-likelihood techniques, the  $q$ -limited distinguisher  $\mathcal{A}^*$  which outputs 1 when by

$$D(P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_q} \| P_1) \leq D(P_{Z_1, \dots, Z_q} \| P_0)$$

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can be shown to be optimal.

$$D(p \| q) = \sum_{a \in \mathcal{Z}} p[a] \log \frac{p[a]}{q[a]}$$

always non-negative, 0 iff  $p=q$ , infinite iff  $\text{Supp}(p) \not\subseteq \text{Supp}(q)$

# Data Complexity Analysis

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Using the **theory of types** & **Sanov's theorem** asymptotic data complexity of  $\mathcal{A}^*$ .

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## Theorem

Let  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  be two distributions s.t.  $\text{Supp}(P_0) \cup \text{Supp}(P_1) = \mathcal{Z}$ . The advantage of  $\mathcal{A}^*$  verifies

$$1 - \text{BestAdv}_q(P_0, P_1) \doteq 2^{-qC(P_0, P_1)}$$

where

$$C(P_0, P_1) = - \inf_{0 < \lambda < 1} \log \sum_{a \in \text{Supp}(P_0) \cap \text{Supp}(P_1)} P_0[a]^{1-\lambda} P_1[a]^\lambda$$

is the Chernoff information between  $P_0$  and  $P_1$ .

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Notation:  $f(q) \doteq g(q)$  means that  $f(q) = g(q)e^{o(q)}$ , i.e.,  $\lim_{q \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{q} \log \frac{f(q)}{g(q)} = 0$ .

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$$1 - \text{BestAdv}(P_0, P_1)$$

where

Heuristic:  $q \approx 1/C(P_0, P_1)$  allows  $\mathcal{A}^*$  to reach a non-negligible advantage

is the  $\chi^2$  information between  $P_0$  and  $P_1$ .

# Example: Biased Coin

---

$$P_0 = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \quad P_1 = \left(\frac{1}{2}(1 - \epsilon), \frac{1}{2}(1 + \epsilon)\right)$$

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heads      tails



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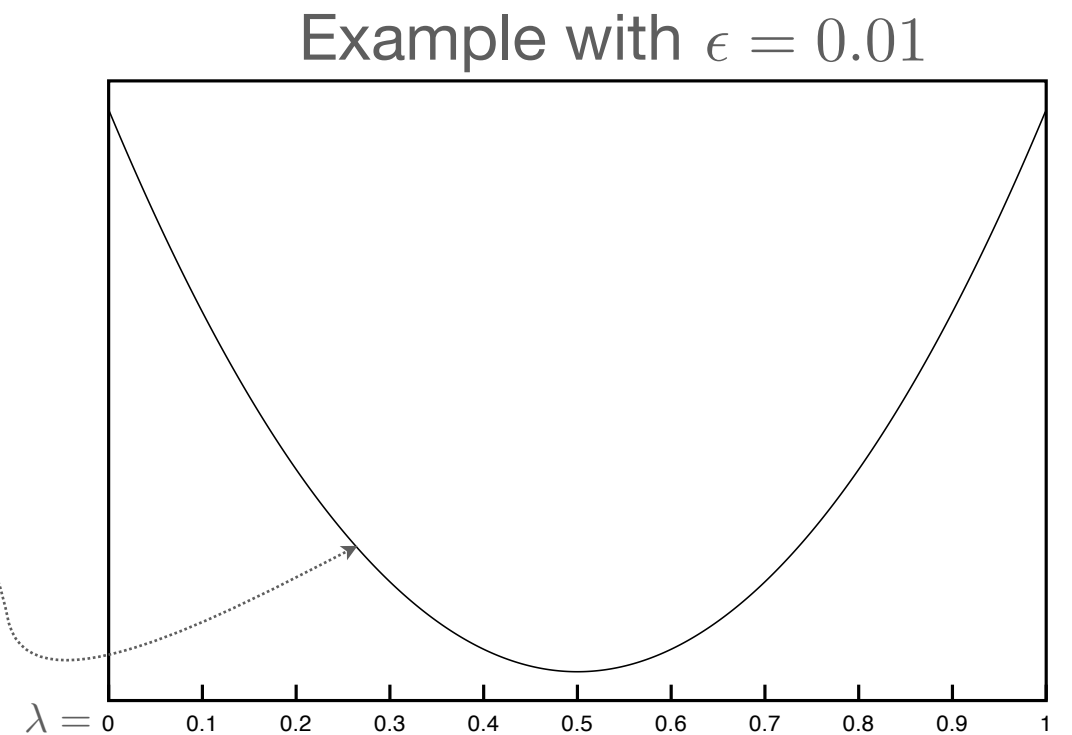
$$C(P_0, P_1) = - \inf_{0 < \lambda < 1} \log \frac{1}{2} \left( (1 - \epsilon)^\lambda + (1 + \epsilon)^\lambda \right)$$



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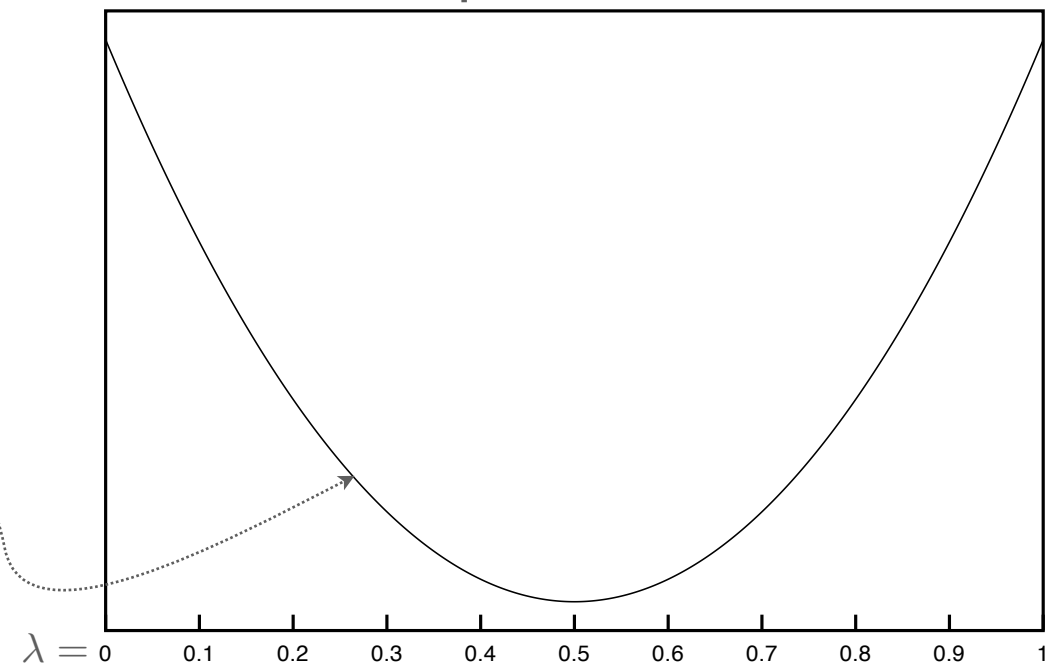
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Minimum reached for  $\lambda \approx \frac{1}{2}$

$$C(P_0, P_1) \approx -\log \left( 1 - \frac{\epsilon^2}{8} \right) \approx \frac{\epsilon^2}{8 \ln 2}$$

Example with  $\epsilon = 0.01$





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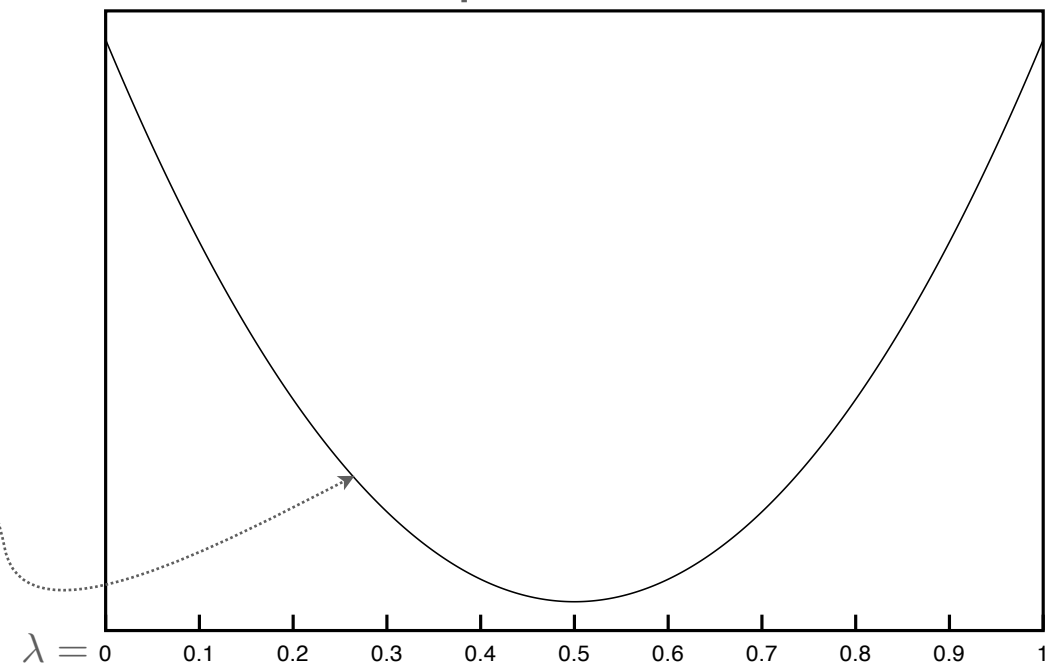
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Minimum reached for  $\lambda \approx \frac{1}{2}$

$$C(P_0, P_1) \approx -\log \left( 1 - \frac{\epsilon^2}{8} \right) \approx \frac{\epsilon^2}{8 \ln 2}$$

$q \approx \frac{8 \ln 2}{\epsilon^2}$  allow to reach a non-negligible advantage.

Example with  $\epsilon = 0.01$



# Example: Biased Dice

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$$P_0 = \left(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}\right) \quad P_1 = \left(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{2}{6}, 0, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}\right)$$

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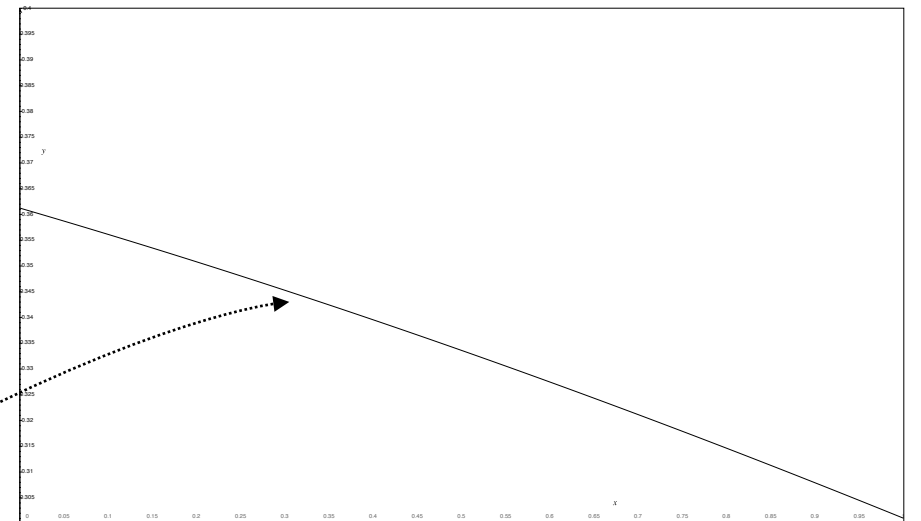
$$C(P_0, P_1) = \max_{0 < \lambda < 1} \log \left( \frac{6}{2^\lambda + 4} \right)$$

# Example: Biased Dice

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$$P_0 = \left(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}\right) \quad P_1 = \left(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{2}{6}, 0, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}\right)$$

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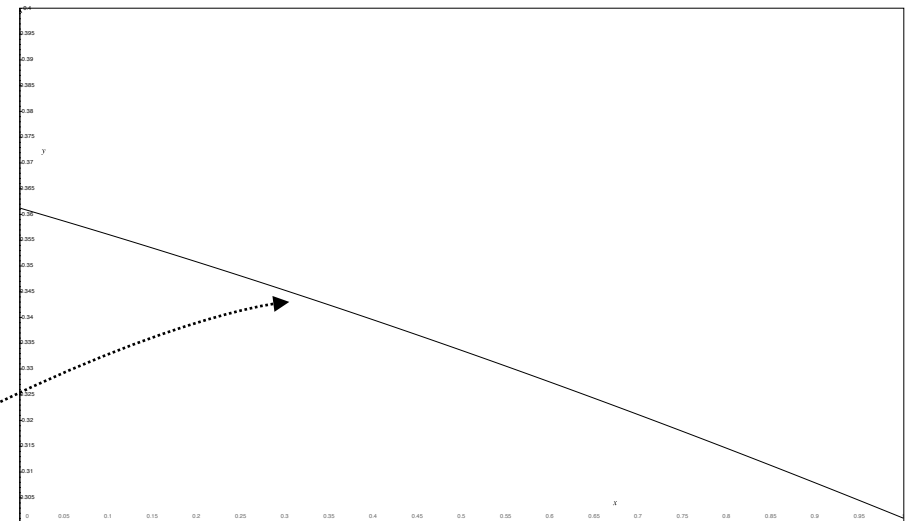
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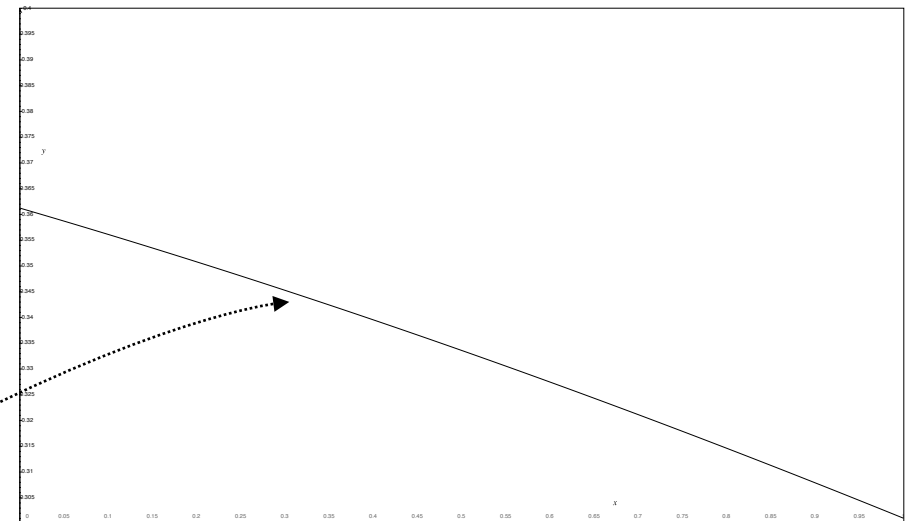


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+ approx.  $\frac{1}{0.263} \approx 3.8$  queries (rolls) are sufficient to distinguish one dice from the other.

+ This is the proof that all this theory has a practical application...

# Possible Extensions

---

- Case where the distributions are “close” to each other
- Case where one of the hypotheses is composite
- Case where one of the two distributions is unknown
- etc.

# Part I: On the (In)Security of Block Ciphers: Tools for the Security Analysis



Projection Based Distinguishers



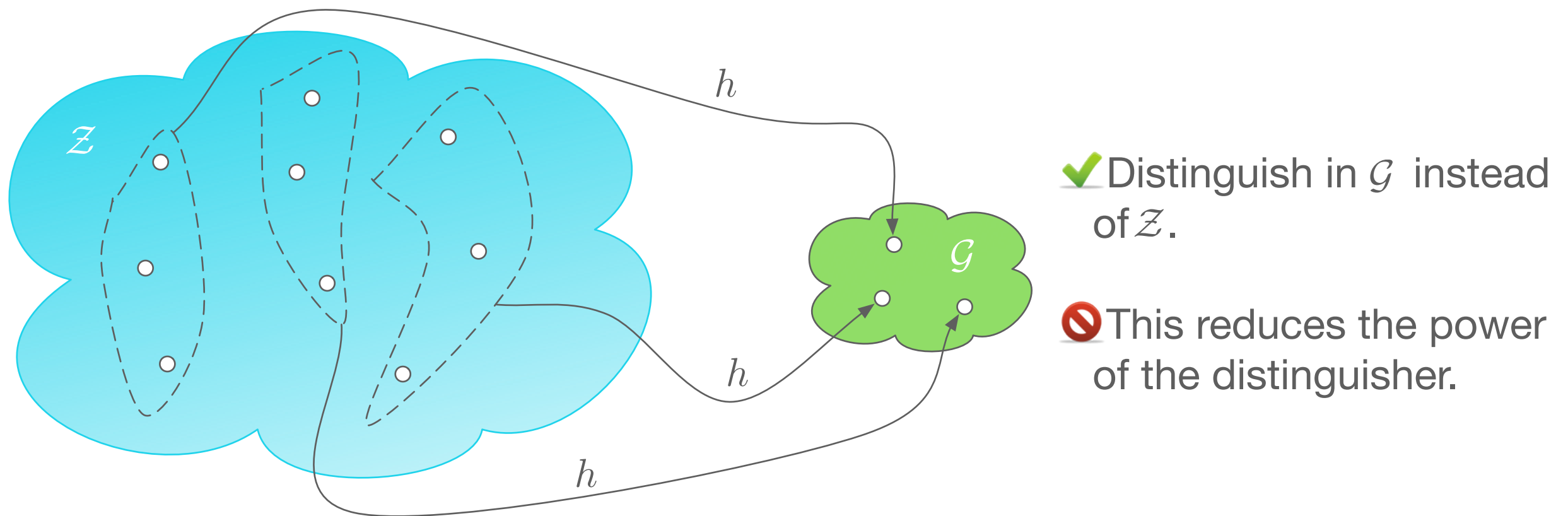
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# On the Need for Projection-Based Distinguishers

- If  $|\mathcal{Z}|$  is too large, the best distinguisher cannot be implemented.
- Possible solution: reduce the sample size using a **projection**:



# Example: Linear Distinguishers

---

- $\mathcal{Z} = \{0, 1\}^n$      $\mathcal{G} = \{0, 1\}$      $P_0 = U$      $P_1 = P$      $h(Z) = a \cdot Z = a_1 Z_1 \oplus \dots \oplus a_n Z_n$
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- Roughly:  $C(\bar{U}, \bar{P}) \approx \frac{\text{LP}_a(P)}{8 \ln 2}$



$$q \approx \frac{8 \ln 2}{\text{LP}_a(P)}$$

are enough (well known...)

# Extending the Notion of Linear Probability

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- The previous example only works for sets of the form  $\mathcal{Z} = \{0, 1\}^n$ .
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- Consequence: when  $\mathcal{Z} = \{0, 1\}^n$  this new definition corresponds to the old one!

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**Lemma 7.5** *Let  $P_0$  be the uniform distribution on a finite subgroup  $H$  of  $\mathbf{C}^\times$  of order  $d$ . Let  $\mathcal{D} = \{P_u : u \in H\}$  be a set of  $d$  distributions on  $H$  defined by (7.10). The  $q$ -limited distinguisher between the null hypothesis  $H_0 : P = P_0$  and the alternate hypothesis  $H_1 : P \in \mathcal{D}$  defined by the distribution acceptance region  $\Pi_q^* = \Pi^* \cap \mathcal{P}_q$ , where*

$$\Pi^* = \left\{ P \in \mathcal{P} : \|P\|_\infty \geq \frac{\log(1 - \epsilon)}{\log(1 - \epsilon) - \log(1 + (d - 1)\epsilon)} \right\}, \quad (7.11)$$

*is asymptotically optimal and its advantage  $\text{BestAdv}_q$  is such that*

$$1 - \text{BestAdv}_q(H_0, H_1) \doteq 2^{q \inf_{0 < \lambda < 1} \log \frac{1}{d} ((1 + (d - 1)\epsilon)^\lambda + (d - 1)(1 - \epsilon)^\lambda)}.$$

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$$\inf_{\Pi_q^*} \sup_{P \in \mathcal{D}} \|\Pi_q^*\|_\infty \geq \frac{\log(1 - \epsilon)}{\log(1 - \epsilon) - \log\left(\frac{1}{d} \sum_{u \in H} (1 - \epsilon)^{\lambda_u}\right)} \quad (7.11)$$

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$$1 - \text{BestAdv}_q(H_0, H_1) \doteq 2^{\inf_{\lambda \in [0,1]} \log \frac{1}{d} \sum_{u \in H} (2^{d\lambda} - 1)\epsilon^\lambda + (d-1)(1-\epsilon)^\lambda}.$$

Which shows how to use the generalized LP to build a linear distinguisher over arbitrary sets...

and allows to conclude that a linear distinguisher needs  $q \approx \frac{8 \ln 2}{(d-1) \text{LP}_\infty(P)}$  to reach a good advantage.

# Part I: On the (In)Security of Block Ciphers: Tools for the Security Analysis



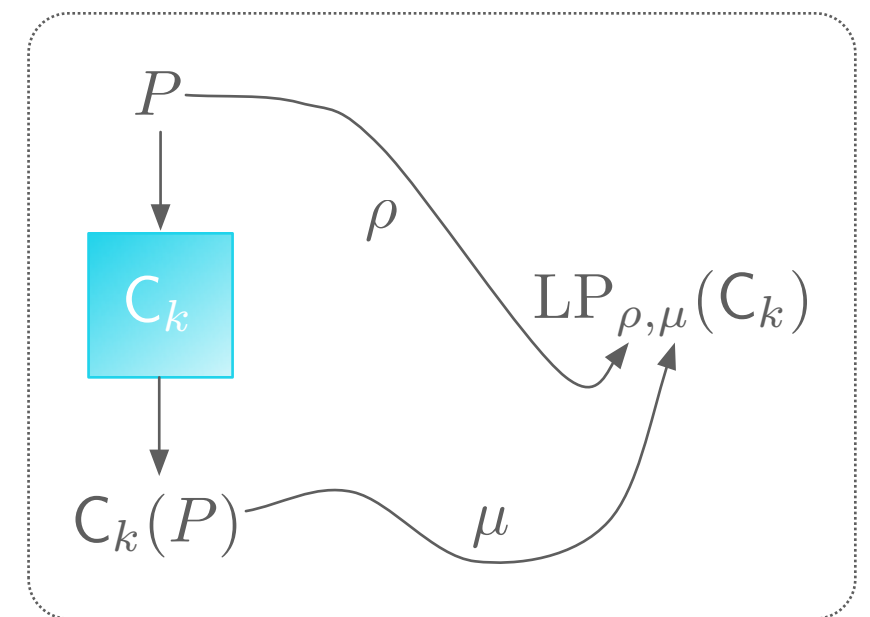
Practical Implications for Block Ciphers

# Distinguishing Random Permutations

---

- A simple trick allows to turn distinguishers of random sources into distinguishers of random permutations (block ciphers).
- All the results on random sources apply to random permutations.
- In the case of the generalization of linear cryptanalysis:

$$\text{LP}_{\rho,\mu}(\mathbf{C}_k) = \left| \mathbb{E}_{P \in \mathcal{U}\mathcal{T}} \left( \bar{\rho}(P) \mu(\mathbf{C}_k(P)) \right) \right|^2$$

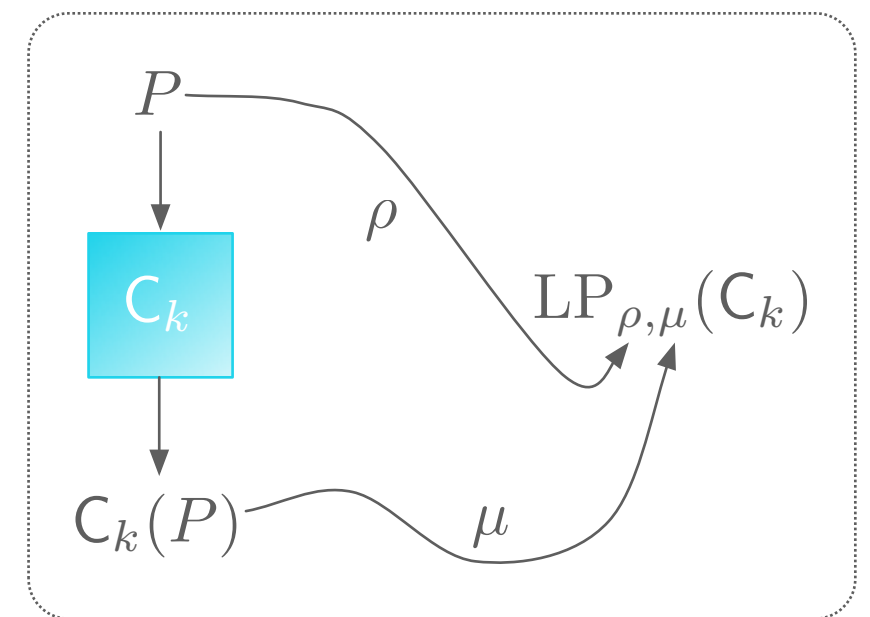




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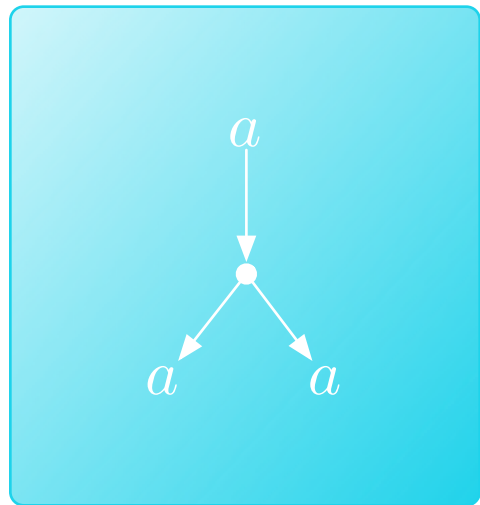
- $\text{ELP}_{\rho,\mu}(\mathbf{C}) = \mathbb{E}_K (\text{LP}_{\rho,\mu}(\mathbf{C}_K))$
- $q \approx 8 \ln 2 / \text{ELP}_{\rho,\mu}(\mathbf{C})$  ➡ find  $\rho$  and  $\mu$  which maximize the ELP

# How to find the best input/output characters?

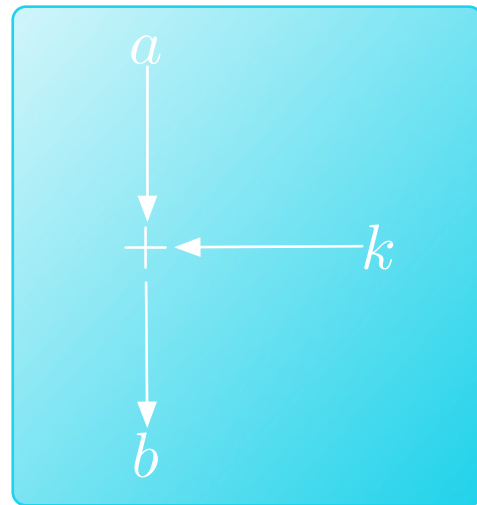
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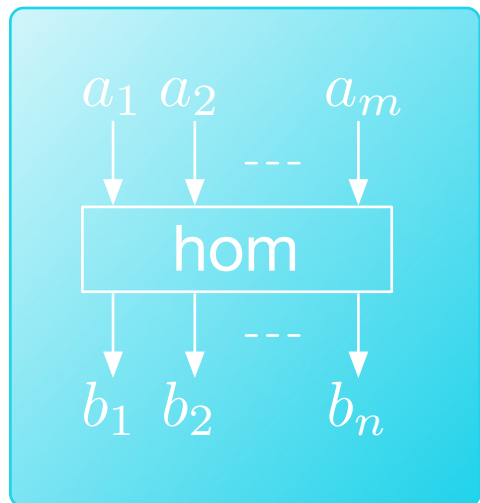


$$\text{LP}_{\chi_1 \chi_2, \chi_1 \| \chi_2} = 1$$



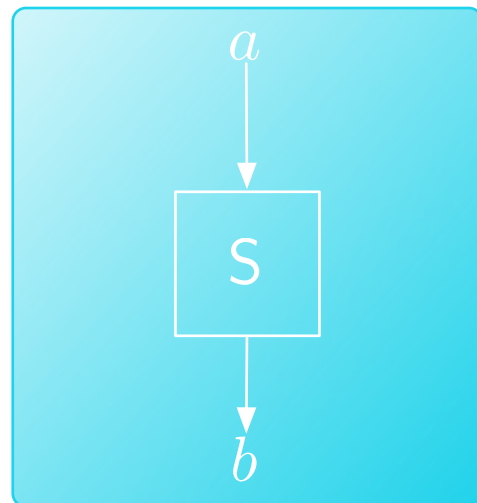
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With  $\chi = \chi_1 \| \cdots \| \chi_n$

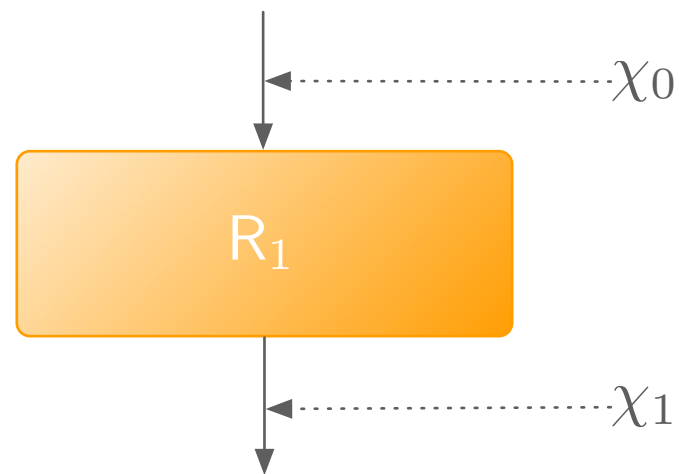
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$\text{LP}_{\chi, \rho}$  “by hand”

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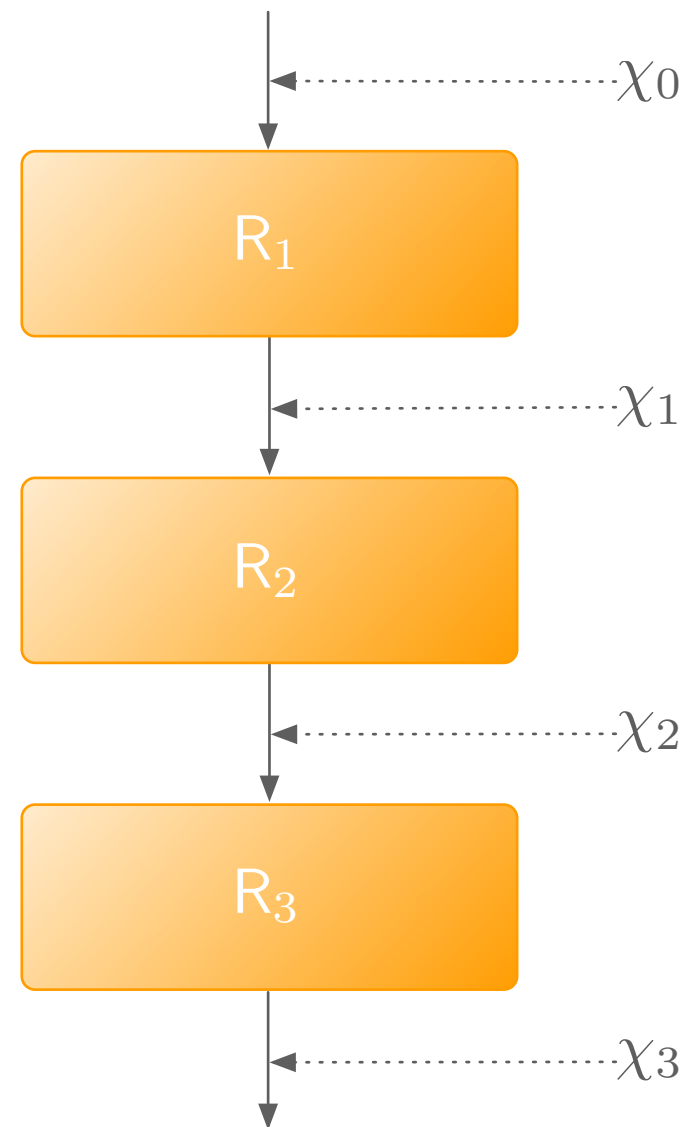
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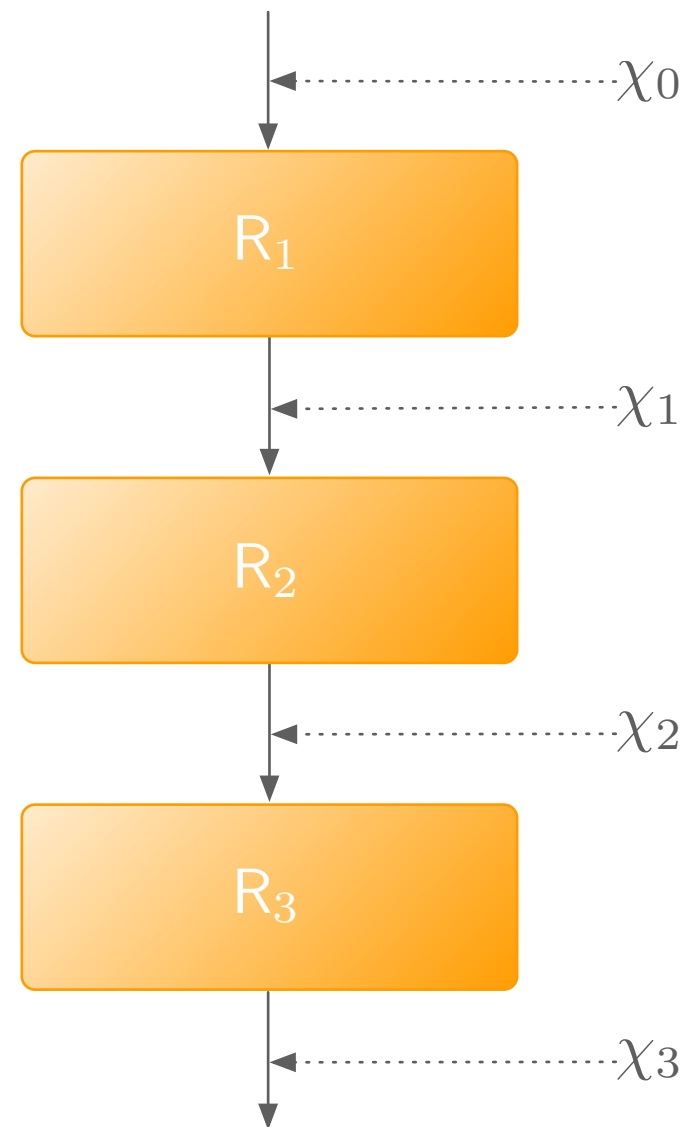
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$$\text{ELP}_{\chi_0, \chi_3}(C) = \sum_{\chi_1, \chi_2} \prod_{i=1}^3 \text{ELP}_{\chi_{i-1}, \chi_i}(R_i)$$

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- Use the last property to pile ELP's up:

$$\text{ELP}_{\chi_0, \chi_3}(C) \geq \prod_{i=1}^3 \text{ELP}_{\chi_{i-1}, \chi_i}(R_i)$$

# Applications on SAFER K/SK

---

- We attack SAFER with a  $\boxplus$ -linear cryptanalysis.
- Use the toolbox to find characteristics within SAFER K/SK.
- To compute the complexities we consider several characteristics among the hull (i.e., all characteristics share the same input/output characters).
- To turn distinguishing attacks into key recovery attacks, we also take advantage of the linearity of the key schedule.

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Nbr Rounds	Complexity
2	$2^{23} / 2^{31}$
3	$2^{38}$
4	$2^{49}$
5	$2^{56}$



# Other Applications

---

- Two new Digital Encryption Algorithm for Numbers (based on the AES): DEAN18 and DEAN27 which respectively encrypts blocks made of 18 and 27 decimal digits.
- Resistance against our generalization of linear cryptanalysis.
- New attacks on TOY100 (toy cipher that encrypts blocks of 32 decimal digits).
- Break 9 (10 ?) rounds out of 12.

## Part II: Designs and Security Proofs

# Outline

---

Block Ciphers

Dial **C** for Cipher

KFC: the Krazy Feistel Cipher

# Outline

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Dial **C** for Cipher

KFC: the Krazy Feistel Cipher

- The Luby-Rackoff Model
- Vaudenay's decorrelation theory

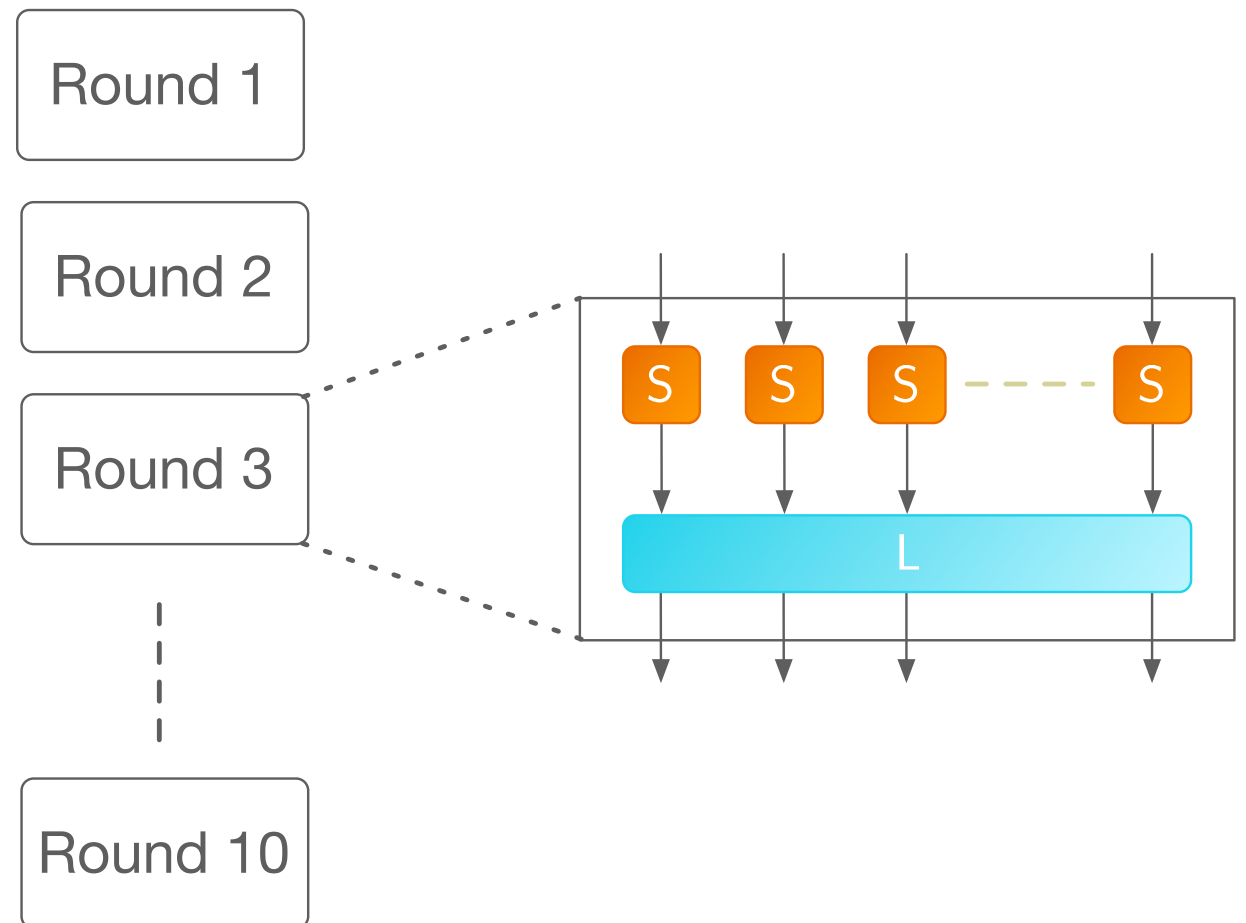
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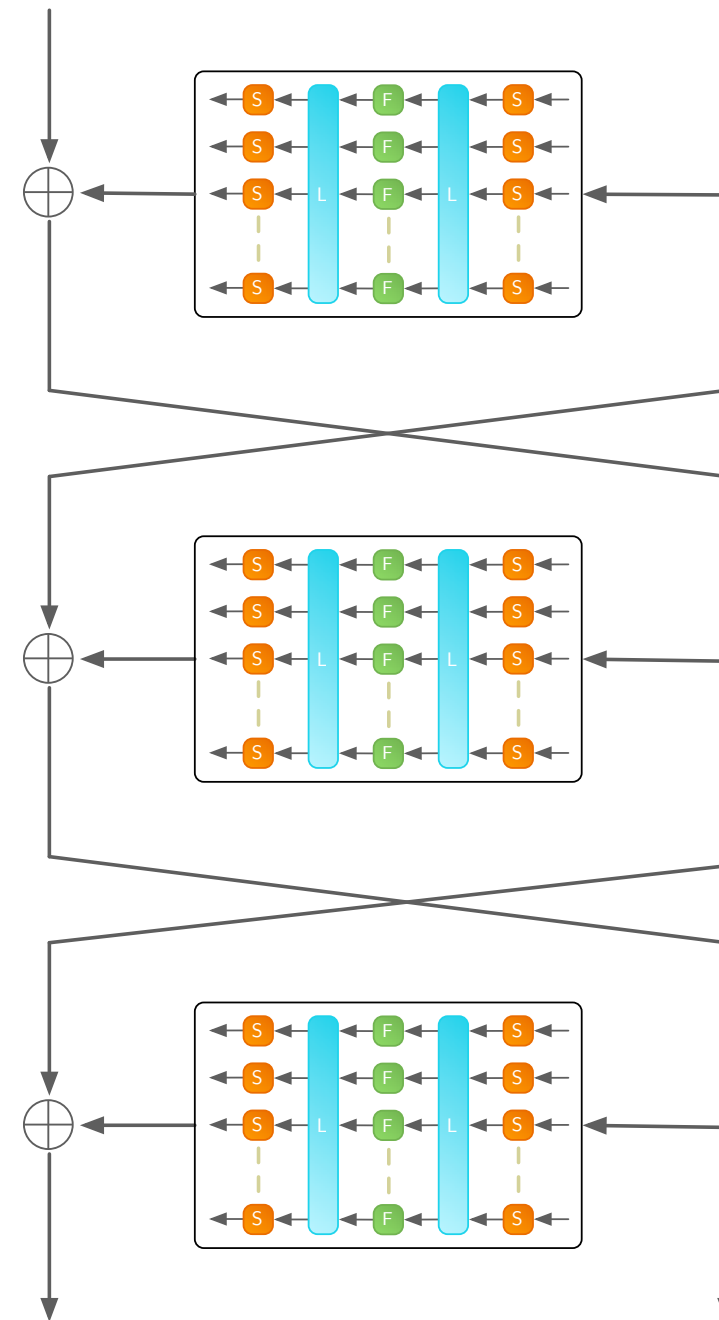


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[BV<sub>sac</sub>05]

[BF<sub>sac</sub>06]

[BF<sub>a</sub>06]

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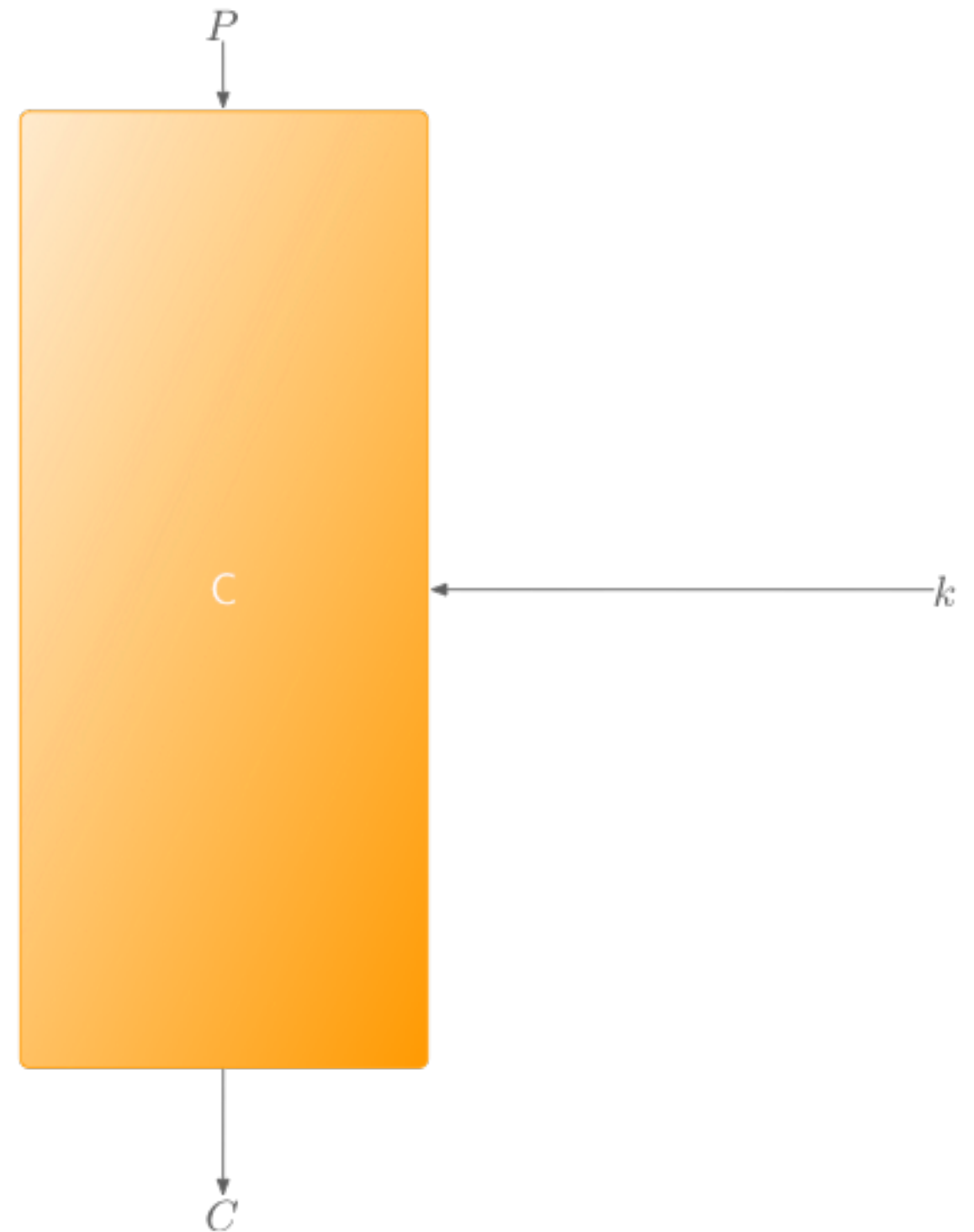
## Block Ciphers



# A Typical Iterated Block Cipher

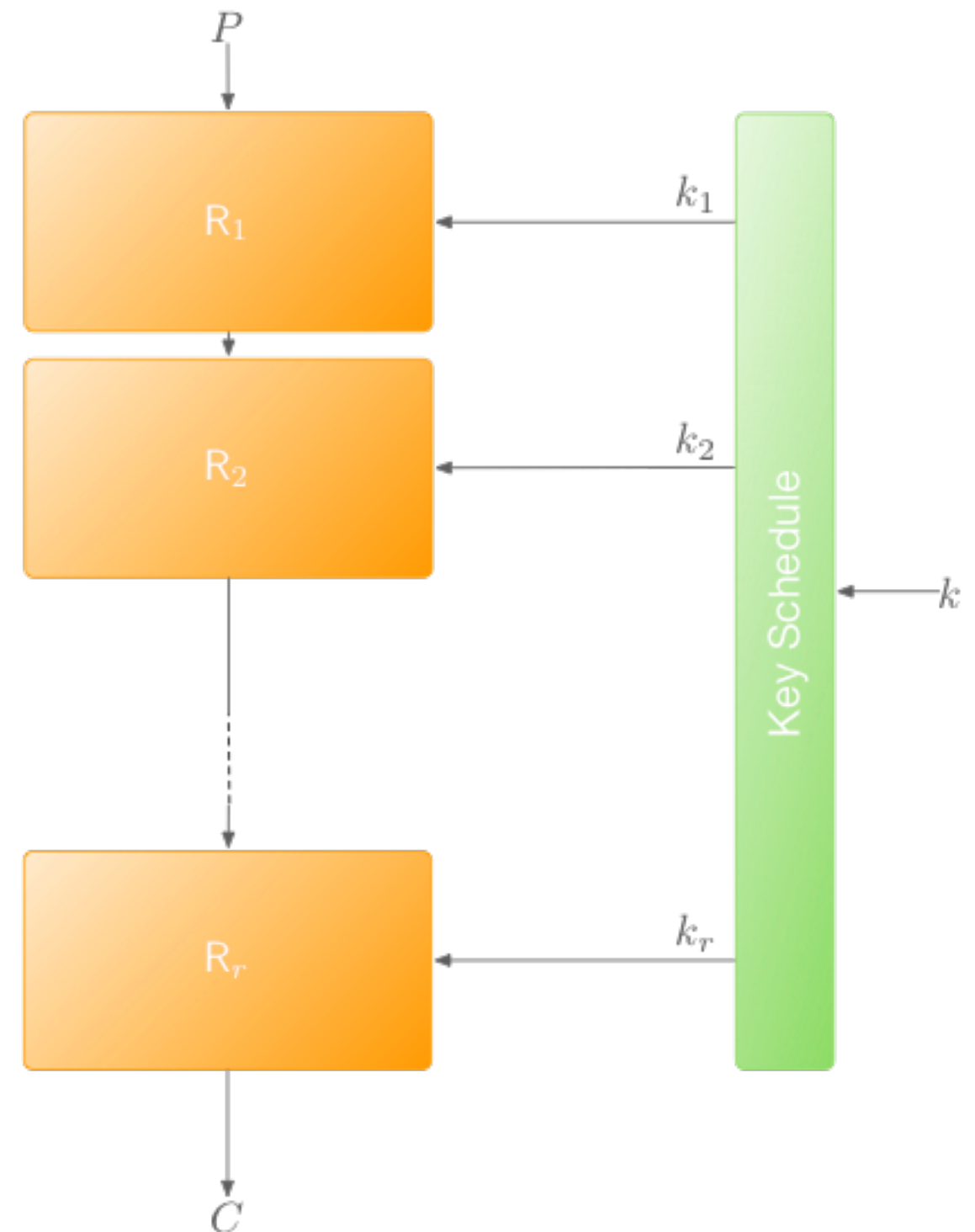
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- A block cipher on a finite set is a family of permutations on that set, indexed by a parameter call the key.



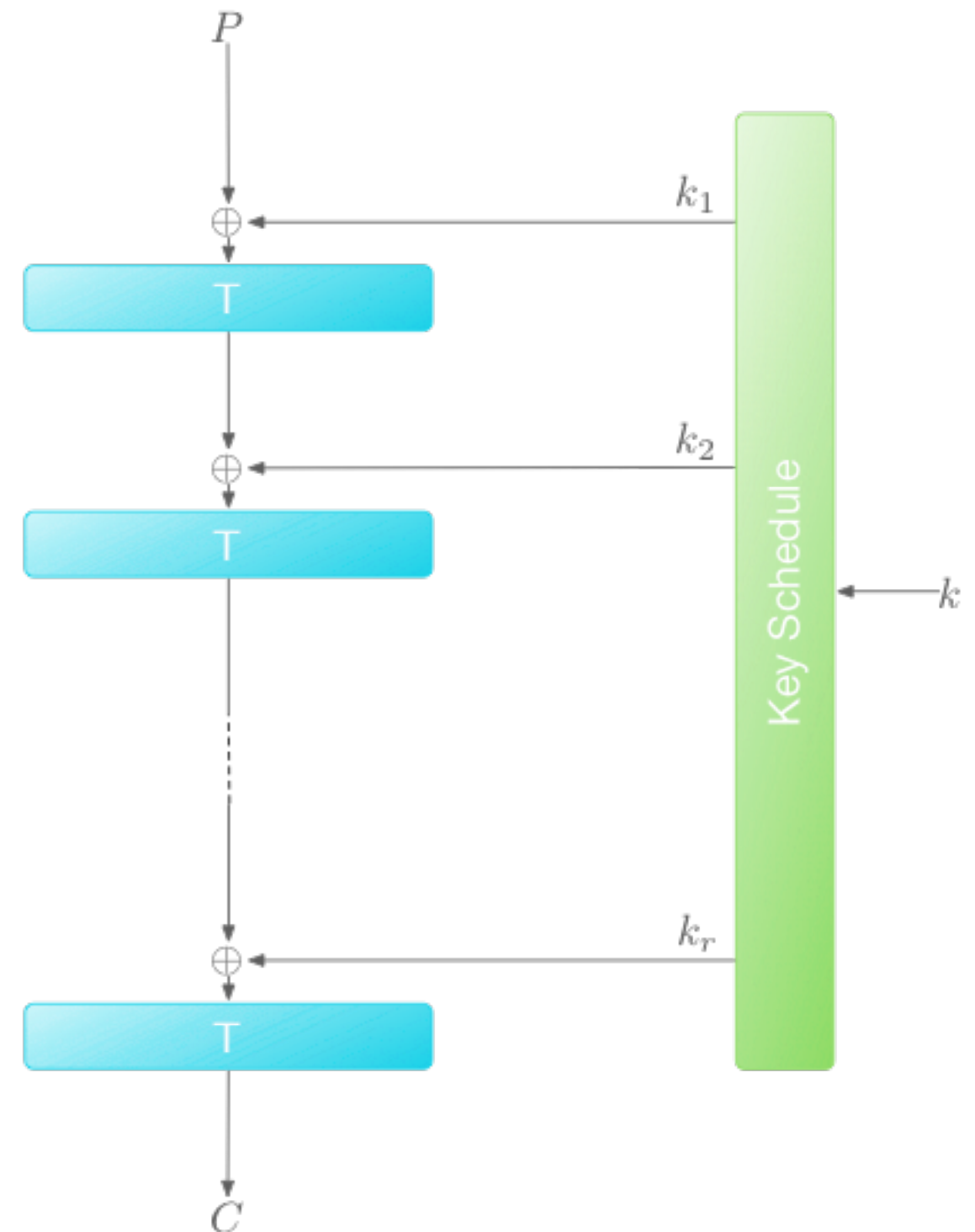
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- Such a cipher is usually iterated, i.e., made of several rounds.
- Each round is parameterized by a key derived from the main secret key by means of a Key Schedule.
- Usually, the rounds all share the same design, e.g., a round key addition followed by a fixed (nonlinear) transformation.



# What Should we Expect from a Block Cipher?

---

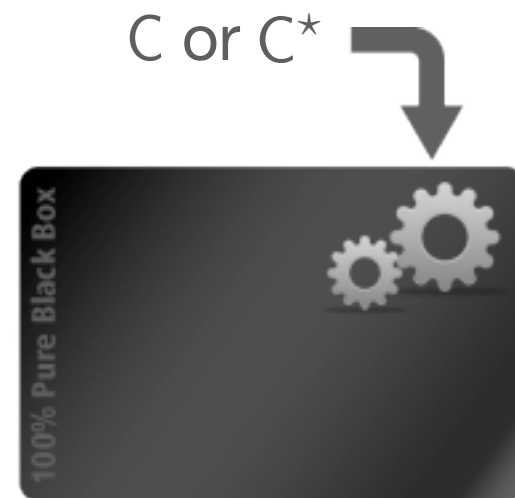
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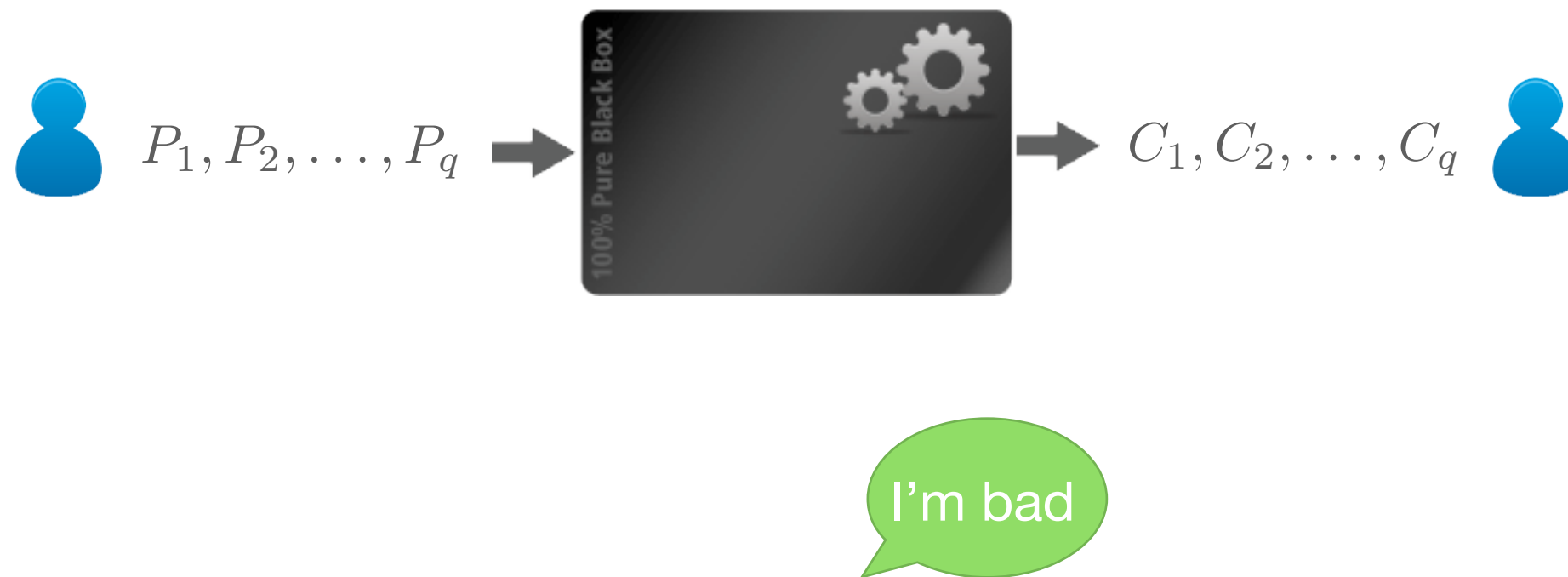
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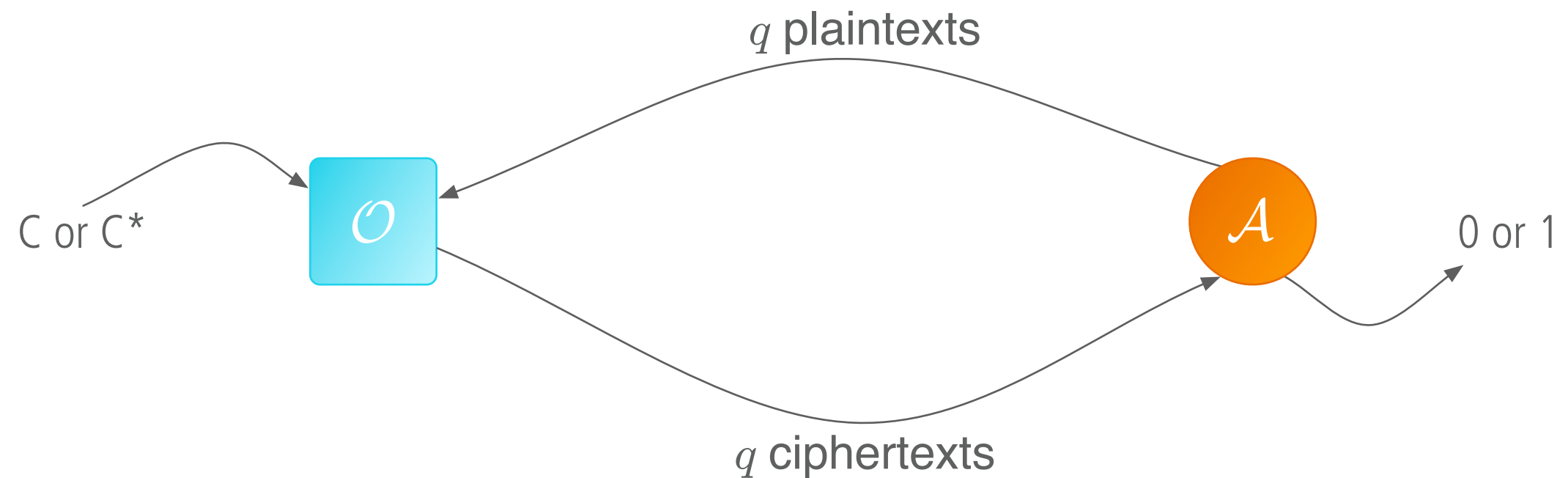
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# The Luby-Rackoff Model

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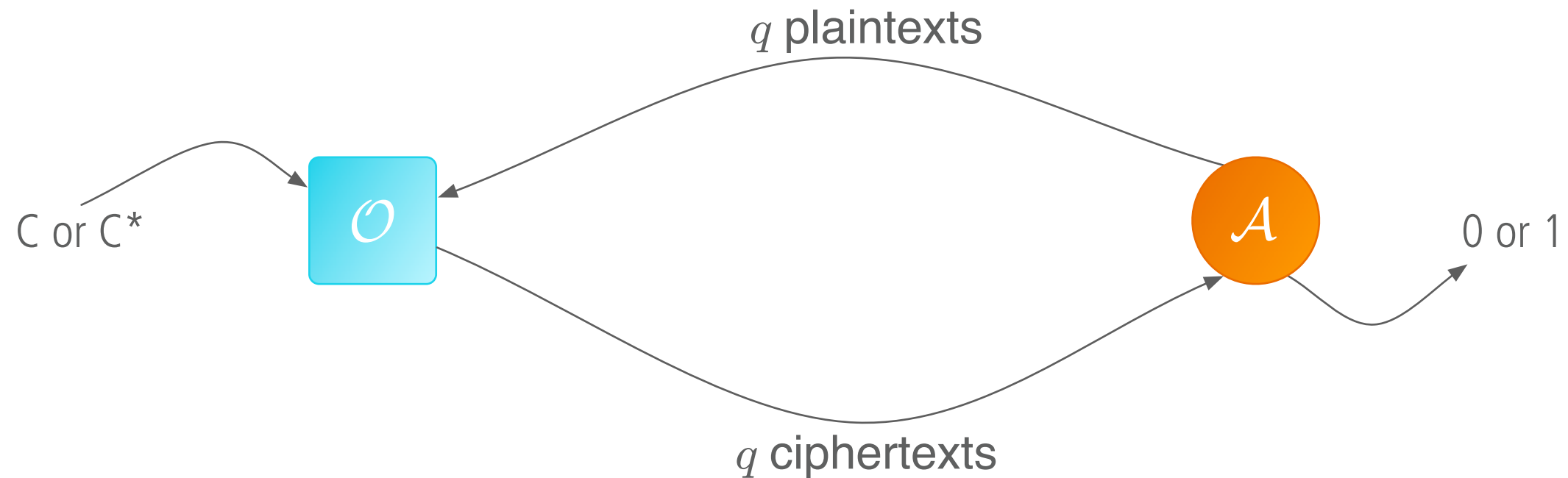
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$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}^*) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{C}) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{C}^*) = 1]|$$

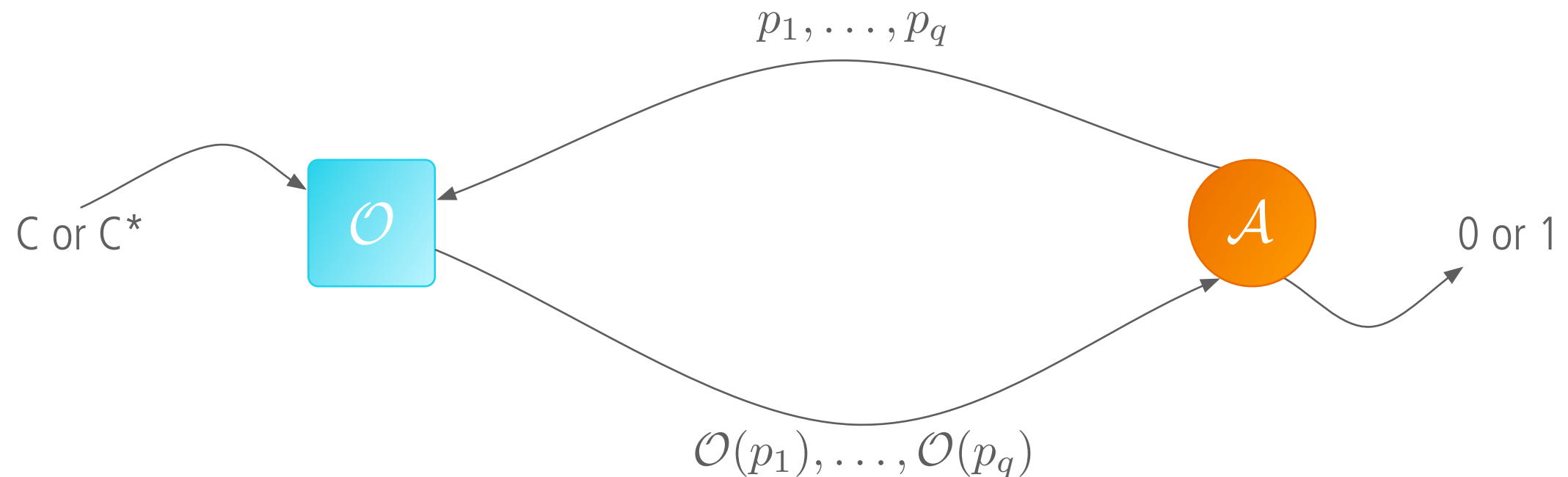
Advantage of the  $q$ -limited adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  between  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}^*$

✓ The block cipher  $\mathcal{C}$  is secure if the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is negligible for all  $\mathcal{A}$ 's.

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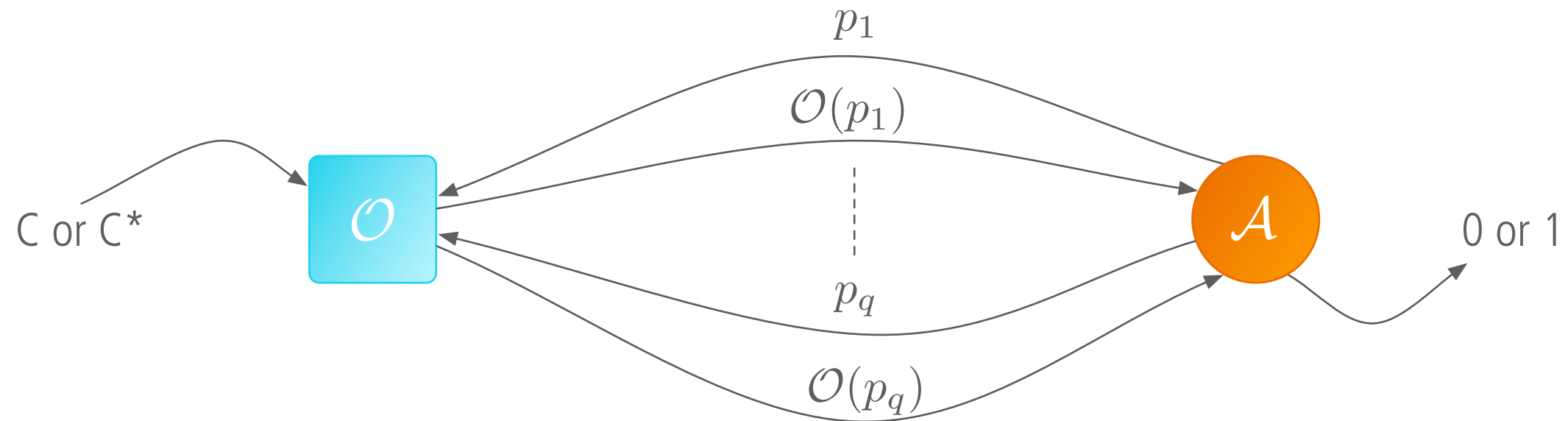


$\mathcal{A}$  is **non-adaptive** if the  $q$  plaintexts are chosen “at once”.

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$\mathcal{A}$  is **adaptive** if plaintext  $i$  depends on ciphertexts  $1, \dots, i - 1$ .

# Computing $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{C}^*)$

---

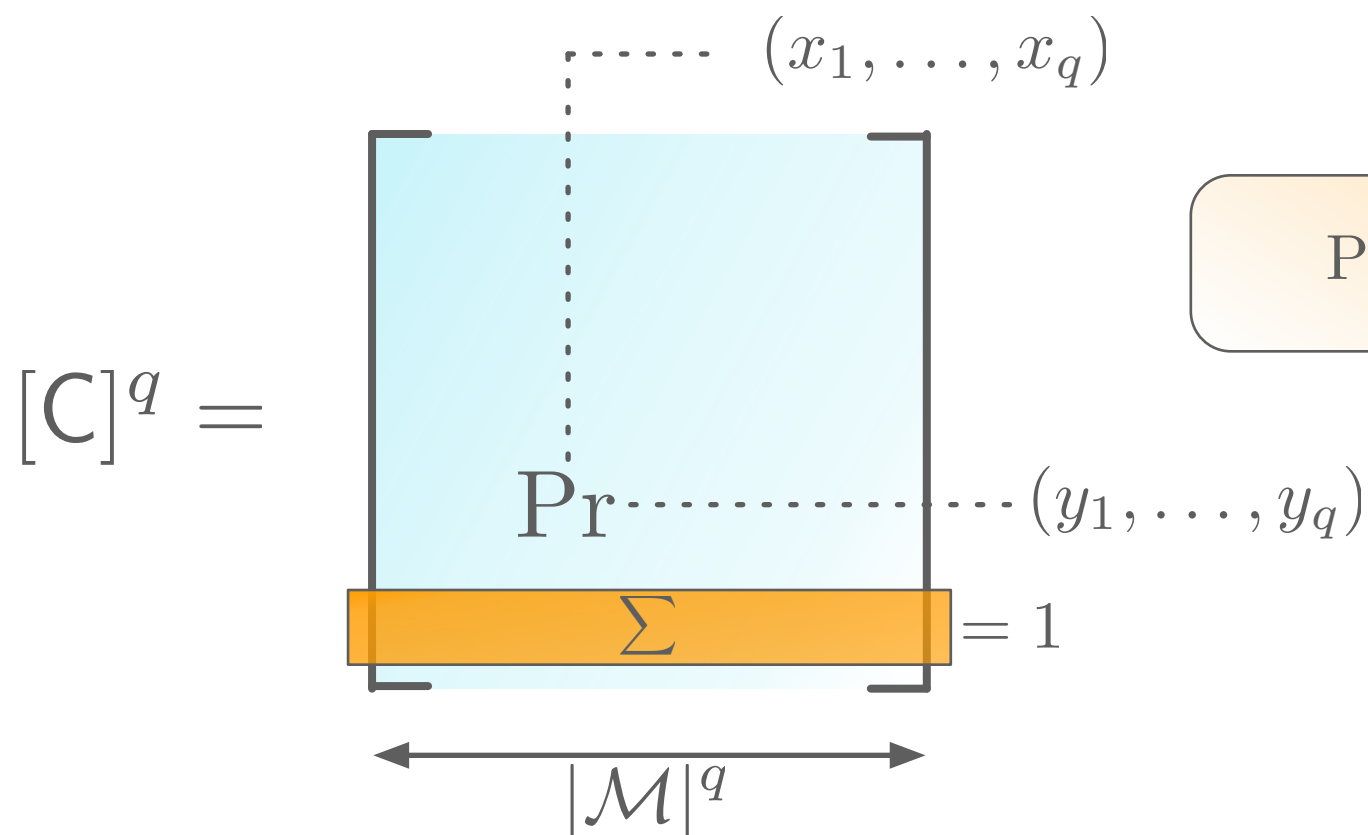
- Computing the advantage is not a trivial task in general.
- Possible solution: use Vaudenay's Decorrelation Theory.

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$$\text{Pr} = \text{Pr}_{\mathbf{C}}[\mathbf{C}(x_1) = y_1, \dots, \mathbf{C}(x_q) = y_q]$$

# Example!

---

On the set  $\mathcal{M}=\{1,2,3\}$ , the distribution matrices of the perfect cipher  $C^*$  look like this (at orders 1 and 2):

$$[C^*]^1 = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \textcircled{1} & \textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \textcircled{1} \\ \textcircled{2} \\ \textcircled{3} \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$[C^*]^2 = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \textcircled{(1,1)} & \textcircled{(1,2)} & \textcircled{(1,3)} & \textcircled{(2,1)} & \textcircled{(2,2)} & \textcircled{(2,3)} & \textcircled{(3,1)} & \textcircled{(3,2)} & \textcircled{(3,3)} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \textcircled{(1,1)} \\ \textcircled{(1,2)} \\ \textcircled{(1,3)} \\ \textcircled{(2,1)} \\ \textcircled{(2,2)} \\ \textcircled{(2,3)} \\ \textcircled{(3,1)} \\ \textcircled{(3,2)} \\ \textcircled{(3,3)} \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 1/6 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

# Adaptive vs. non-Adaptive Adversaries

---

- The norm used to compute the distance between two distribution matrices depends on the kind of adversary we consider.

- If  $\mathcal{A}$  is **adaptive**:

$$\max_{\mathcal{A}_a} \text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}_a}(\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}^*) = \frac{1}{2} \|[\mathbb{C}]^q - [\mathbb{C}^*]^q\|_a$$

$$\|M\|_a = \max_{x_1} \sum_{y_1} \cdots \max_{x_q} \sum_{y_q} |M_{x,y}|$$

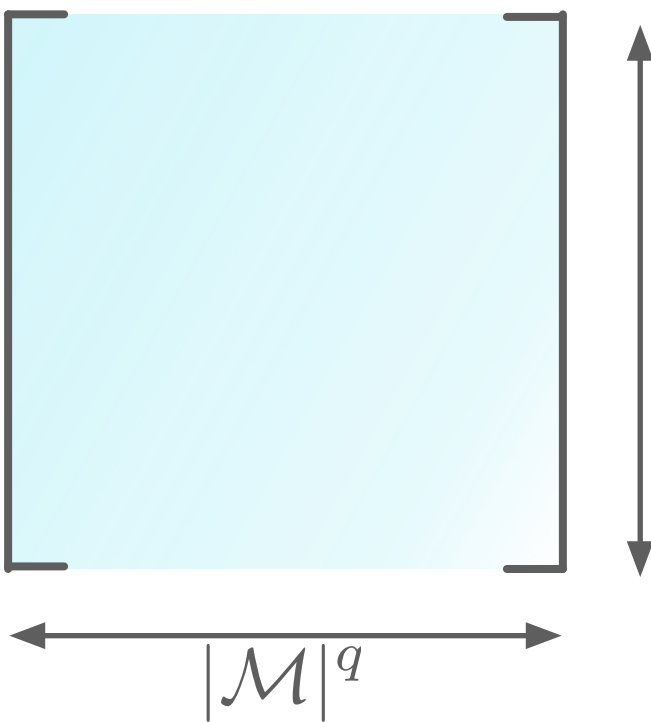
- If  $\mathcal{A}$  is **non-adaptive**:

$$\max_{\mathcal{A}_{na}} \text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}_{na}}(\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}^*) = \frac{1}{2} \|[\mathbb{C}]^q - [\mathbb{C}^*]^q\|_\infty$$

$$\|M\|_\infty = \max_{x_1, \dots, x_q} \sum_{y_1, \dots, y_q} |M_{x,y}|$$

# Are we done then? Not Quite :-<

---

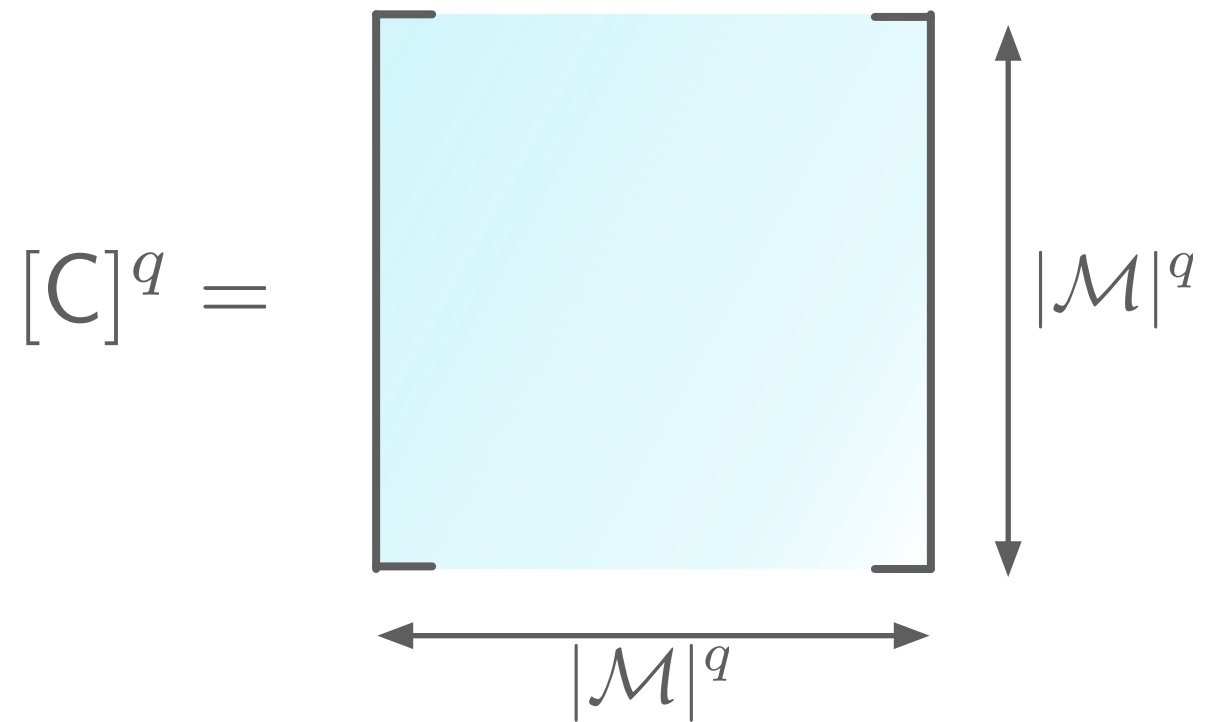
$$[\mathbf{C}]^q = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{ } \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$


The diagram illustrates a square matrix  $[\mathbf{C}]^q$  of size  $|\mathcal{M}|^q \times |\mathcal{M}|^q$ . The square is light blue with a black border. The horizontal dimension is labeled  $|\mathcal{M}|^q$  and the vertical dimension is labeled  $|\mathcal{M}|^q$ .



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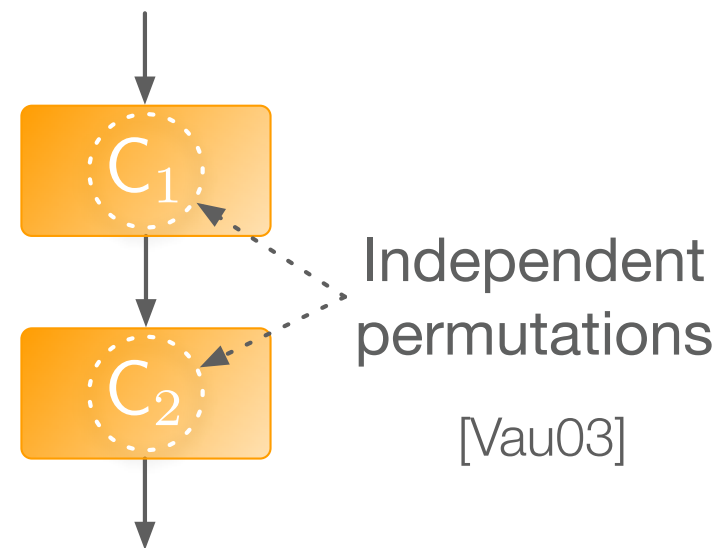
  $|\mathcal{M}^q| = 2^{128 \cdot q}$  for a 128-bits block cipher

# Tricks for Computing $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}^*)$

---

To deal with the size of the distribution matrices:

$\text{+ } [\mathcal{C}_2 \circ \mathcal{C}_1]^q = [\mathcal{C}_1]^q \times [\mathcal{C}_2]^q$

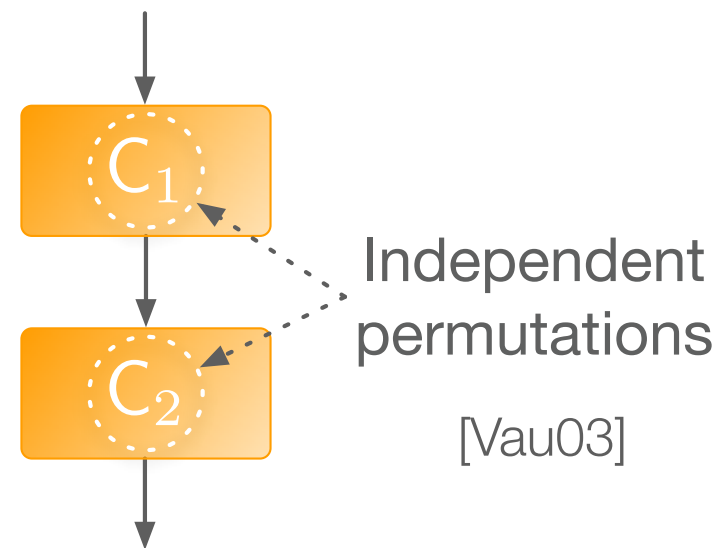


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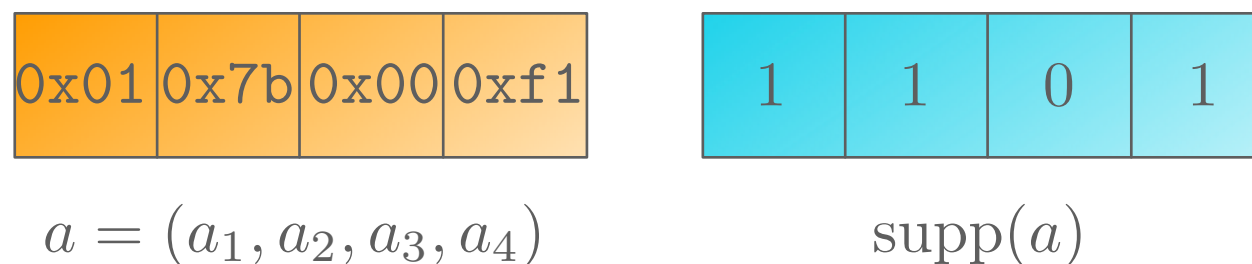
$\text{+}$  Take advantage of the symmetries of the block cipher in order to compute the distribution matrix of each round

# Notations...

---

If  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_\ell)$  is an array of  $m$ -bit strings, the support of  $a$  is the array of  $\{0, 1\}^\ell$  with 0's at the position where the entry of  $a$  is zero and 1's elsewhere

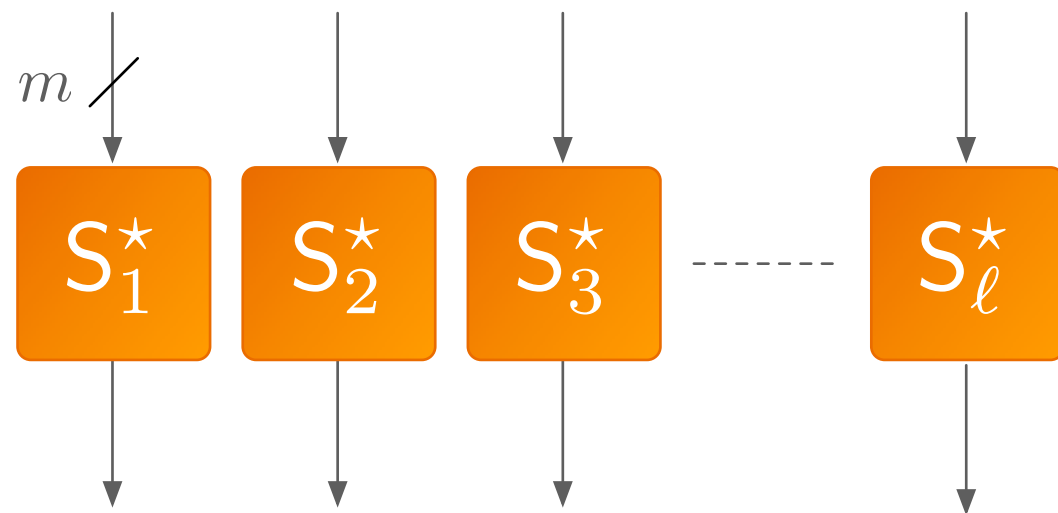
Example:



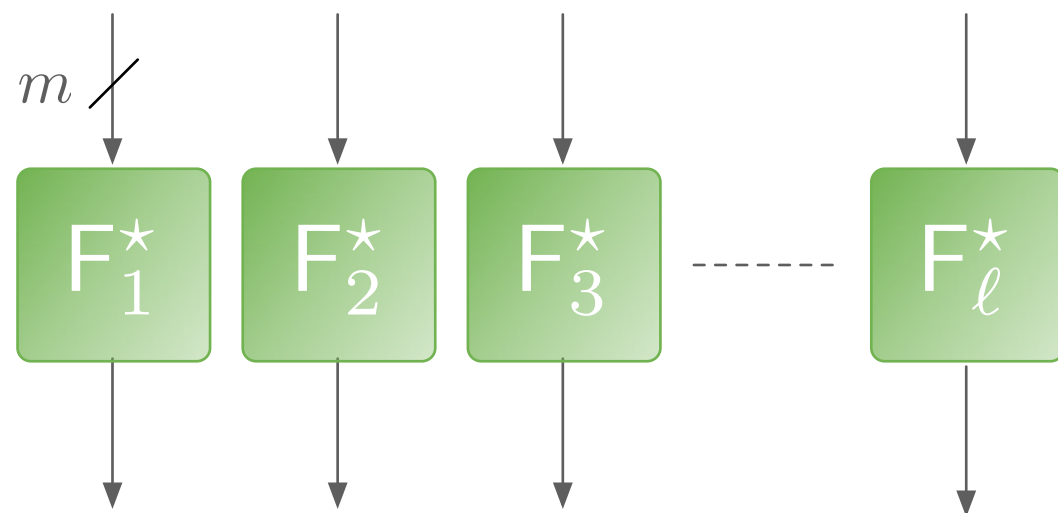
The weight  $w(a)$  of  $a$  is the hamming weight of the support (3 in the example).

# Decorrelation Modules: Layer of Boxes

---



- Independent random permutations
- Distribution matrix:  $[S]^2$

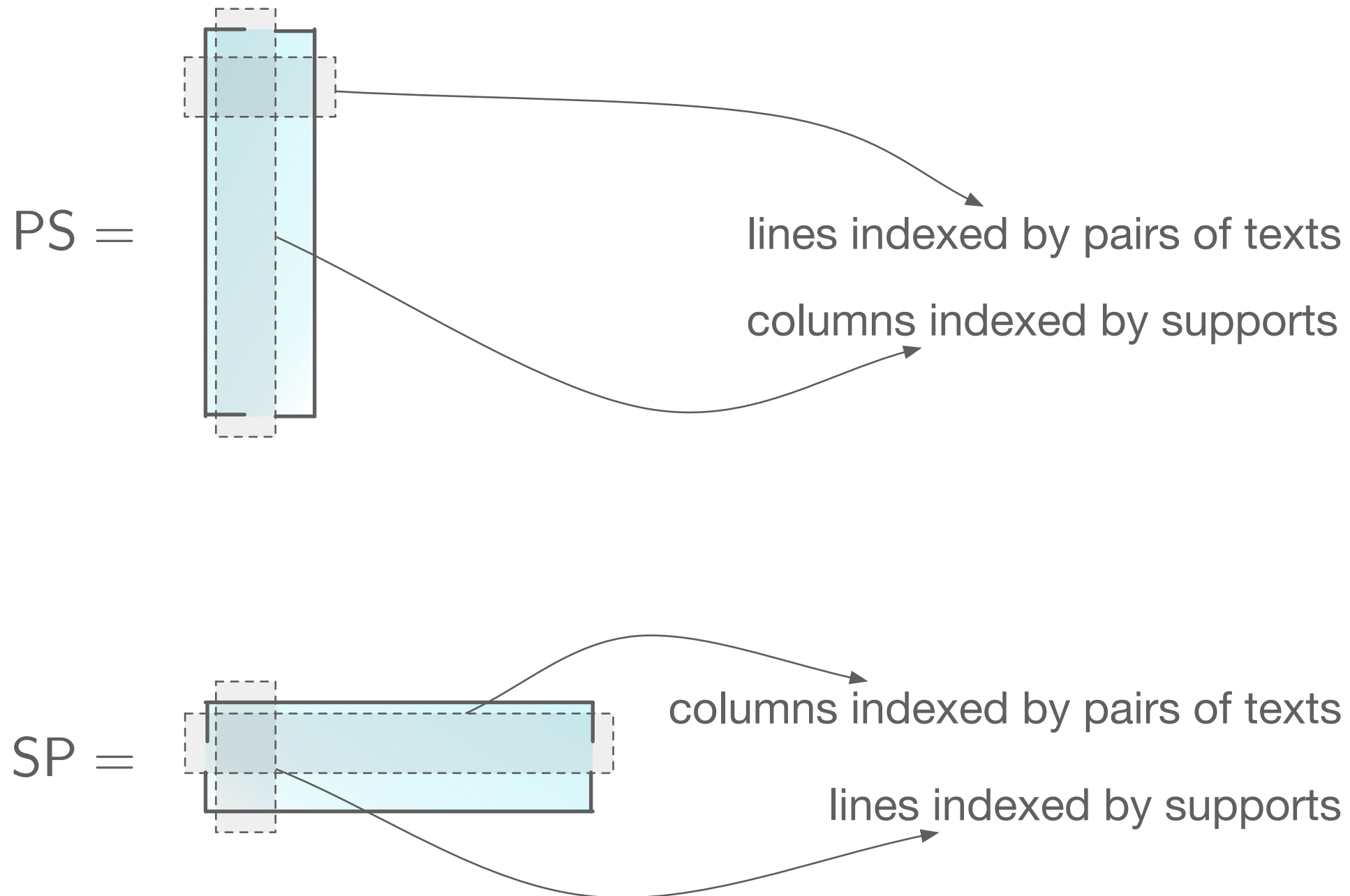


- Independent random functions
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# Properties of the two Decorrelation Modules

---

Introducing the two following transition matrices:



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$$\text{PS}_{(a,a'),\gamma} = \mathbf{1}_{\gamma=\text{supp}(a\oplus a')}$$

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+  $SP \times PS = \text{Id}$  and  $PS \times SP = [S]^2$  (similar result for  $[F]^2$ )

+ If  $M$  is a  $2^{2m\ell} \times 2^{2m\ell}$  matrix such that there exists a  $2^\ell \times 2^\ell$  matrix  $\overline{M}$  verifying

$$M = PS \times \overline{M} \times SP$$

then:

$$\|M\|_a = \|M\|_\infty = \|\overline{M}\|_\infty$$



## Part II: Designs and Security Proofs



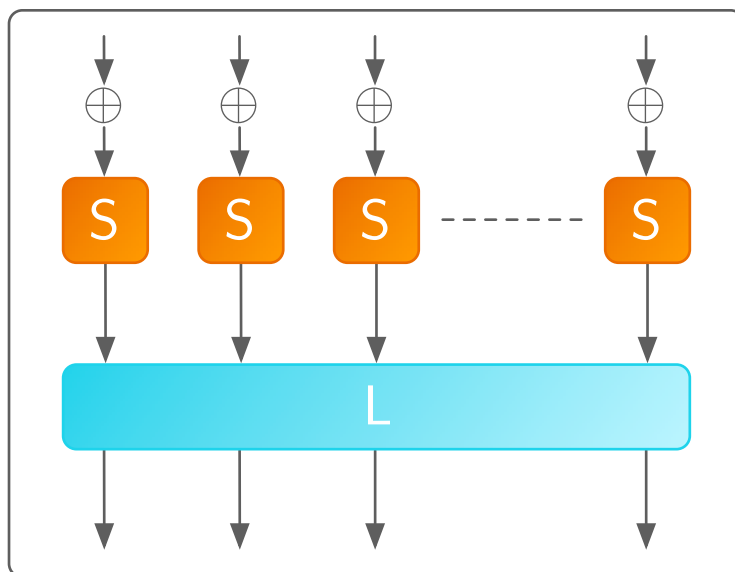
Dial C for Cipher

# Description of **C**

---

**C** corresponds to the AES where “addRoundKeys  $\rightarrow$  SubBytes” is replaced by mutually independent random permutations.

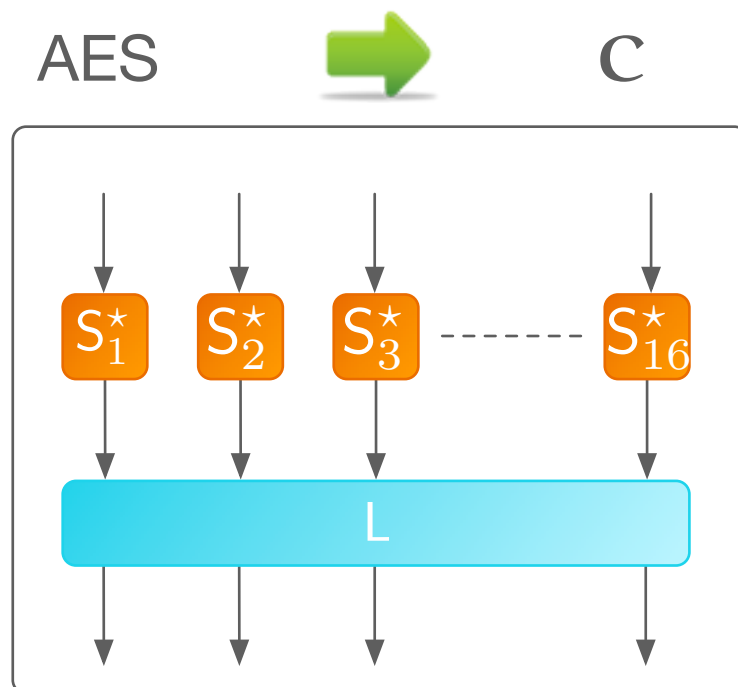
AES



- **C** is made of 9 identical rounds, followed by a layer of substitution boxes.
- **C** uses  $16 \cdot 10 = 160$  mutually independent random 8-bits substitution boxes

# Description of **C**

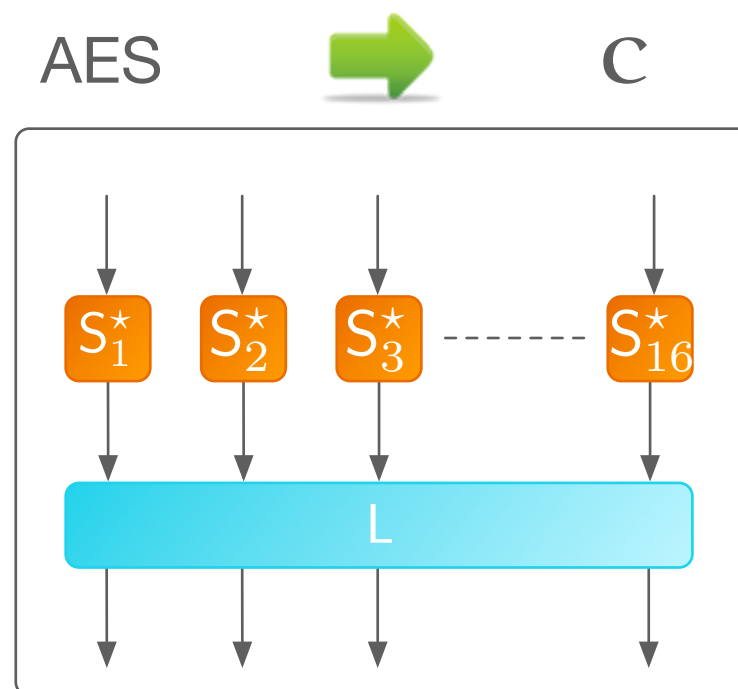
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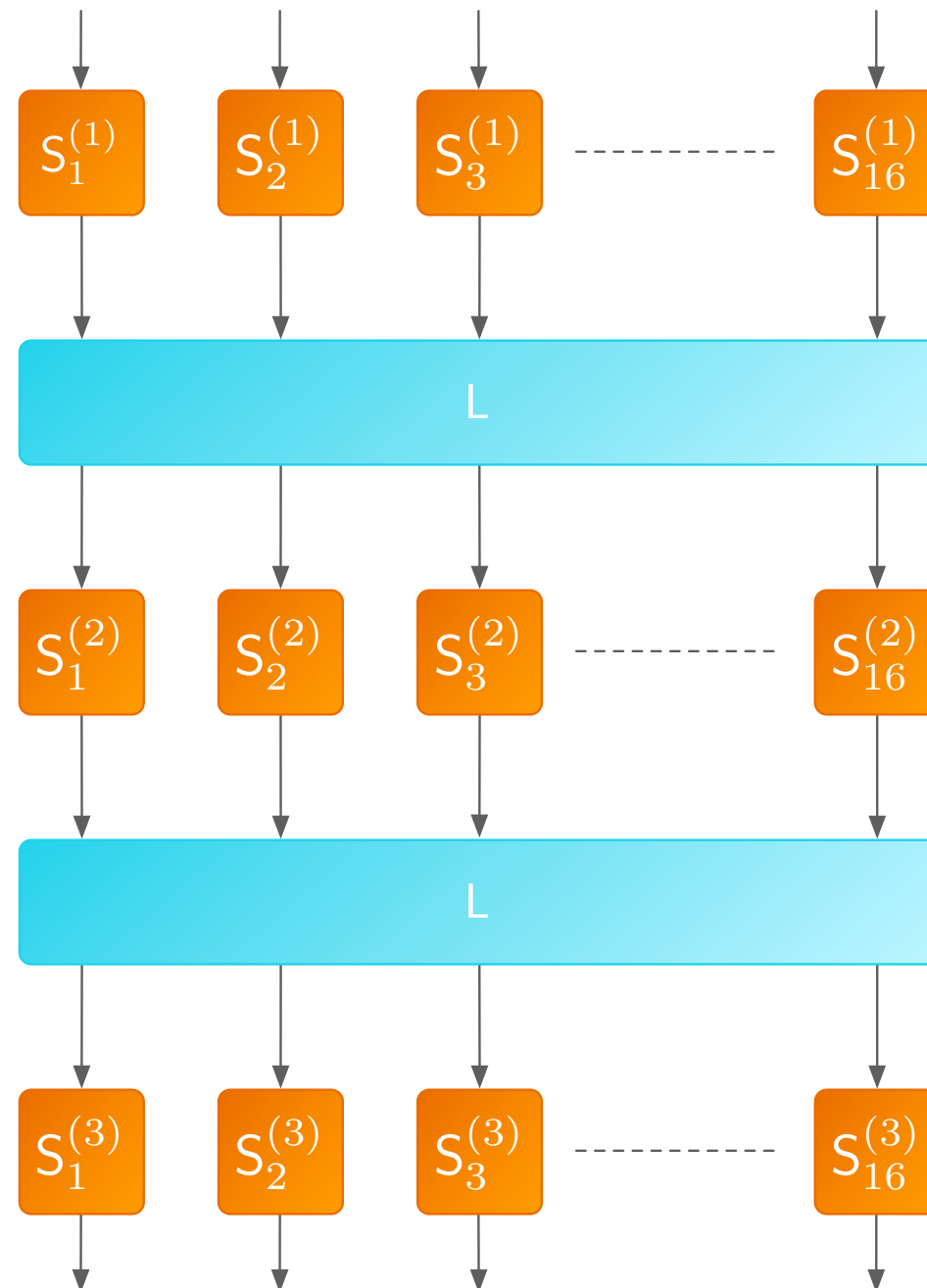
- $\mathbf{C}$  is made of 9 identical rounds, followed by a layer of substitution boxes.
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Objective: Compute the advantage of the best 2-limited adversary

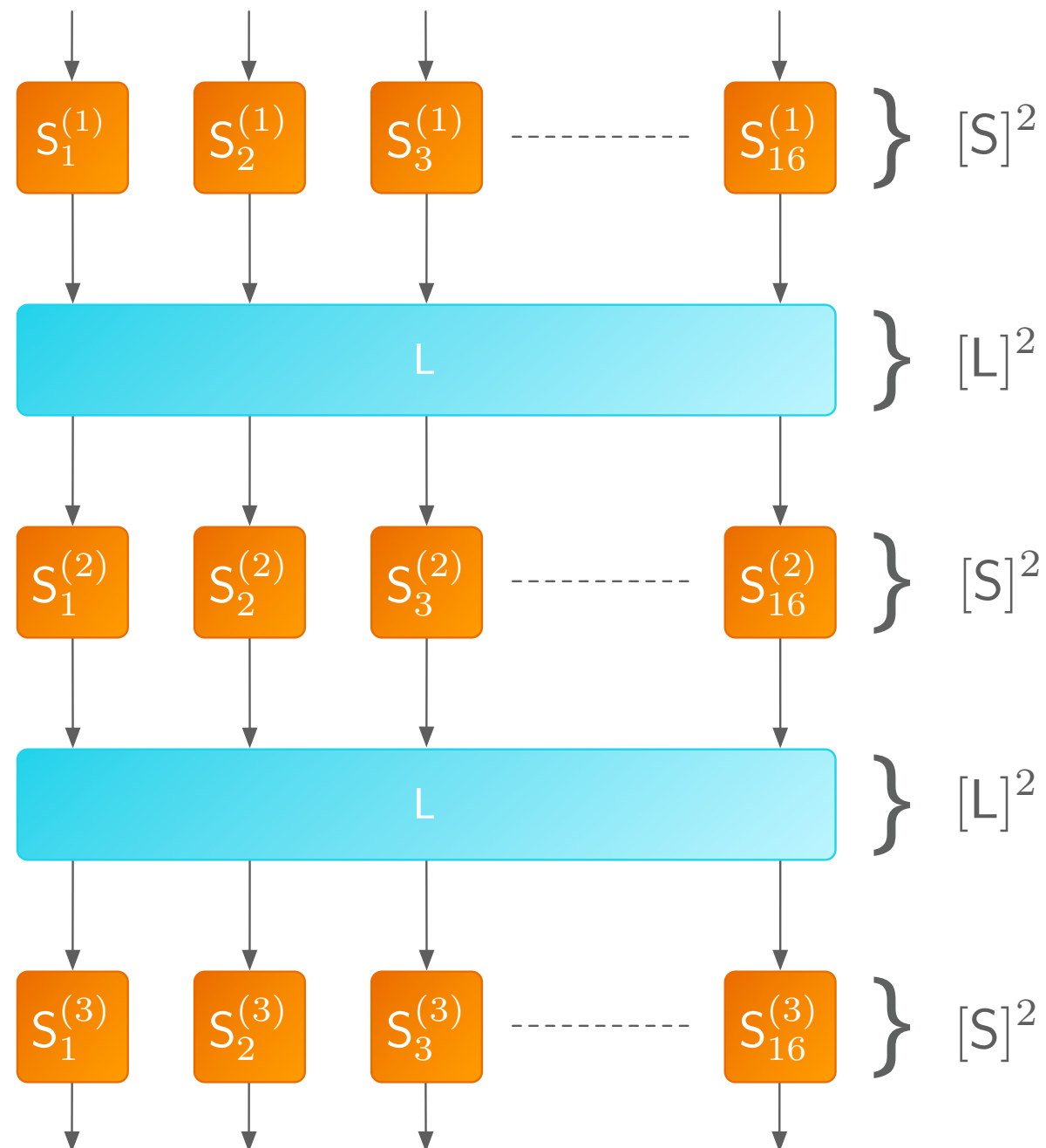
# Computing $[\mathbf{C}]^2$

We consider a version of  $\mathbf{C}$  reduced to 3 rounds:



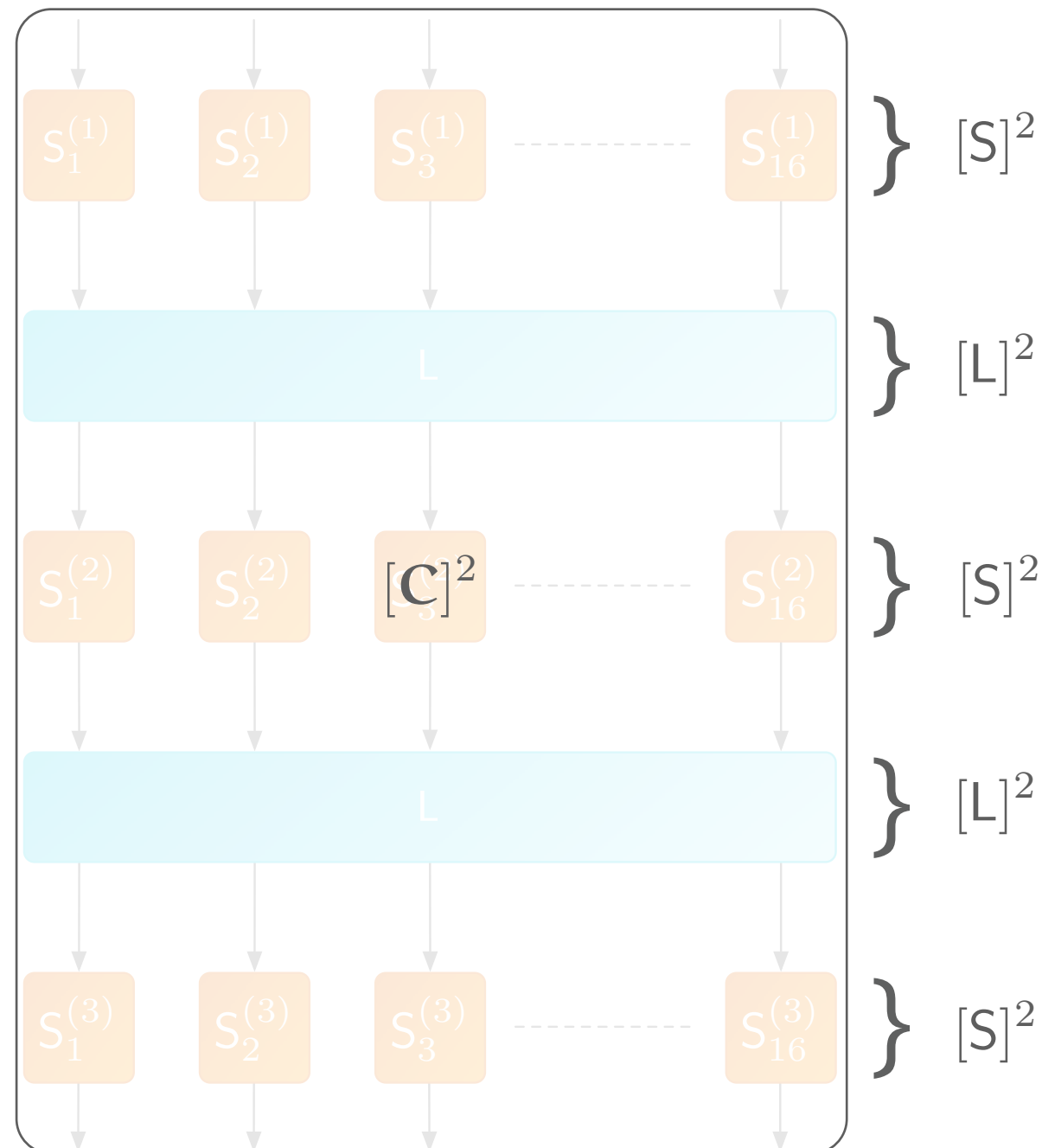
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Yes! But the diffusion has to be chosen with care...

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$$\max_{\mathcal{A}} \text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{C}^*) = \frac{1}{2} ||| (\bar{\mathbf{L}} \times \mathbf{W})^{r-2} \times \bar{\mathbf{L}} - \bar{\mathbf{C}}^* |||_{\infty}$$

Computing the advantage of the best distinguisher (either adaptive or not) only requires operations on  $625 \times 625$  matrices (instead of  $2^{256} \times 2^{256}$  initially).



# Values of $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{C}^*)$

---

$r$	1	2	3	4	5	6
$\text{Adv}(\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{C}^*)$	1	1	$2^{-4.0}$	$2^{-23.4}$	$2^{-45.8}$	$2^{-71.0}$
$r$	7	8	9	10	11	12
$\text{Adv}(\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{C}^*)$	$2^{-126.3}$	$2^{-141.3}$	$2^{-163.1}$	$2^{-185.5}$	$2^{-210.8}$	$2^{-238.9}$

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7 rounds of  $\mathbf{C}$  are enough to obtain provable security against 2-limited adversaries

# Other Security Results

---

Using decorrelation techniques, the security results concerning 2-limited adversaries immediately imply security bounds against:

- **linear** and **differential cryptanalysis** (the linear hull and the differentials effect being taken into account)
- **iterated attacks of order 1**

After some more computations, we manage to compute the exact security against LC and DC, prove that **no impossible differential exists**, and show that  $\mathbf{C}$  tends towards the perfect cipher as  $r$  increases (as far as LC and DC are concerned).

## Part II: Designs and Security Proofs



### KFC: the Krazy Feistel Cipher

# What about Higher Orders?

---

We did not manage to prove the security of  $\mathsf{C}$  against higher  $q$ -limited adversaries for  $q > 2$ .

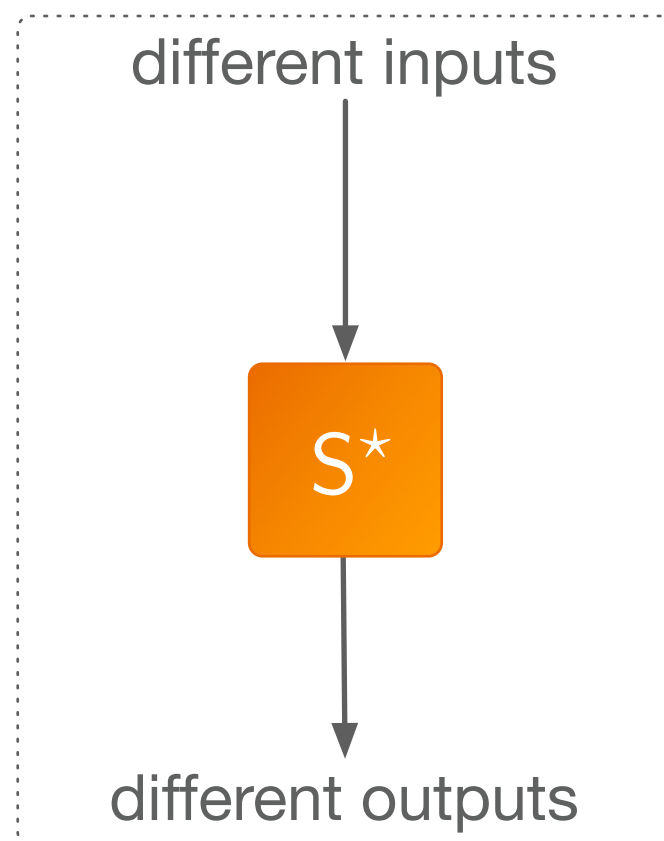
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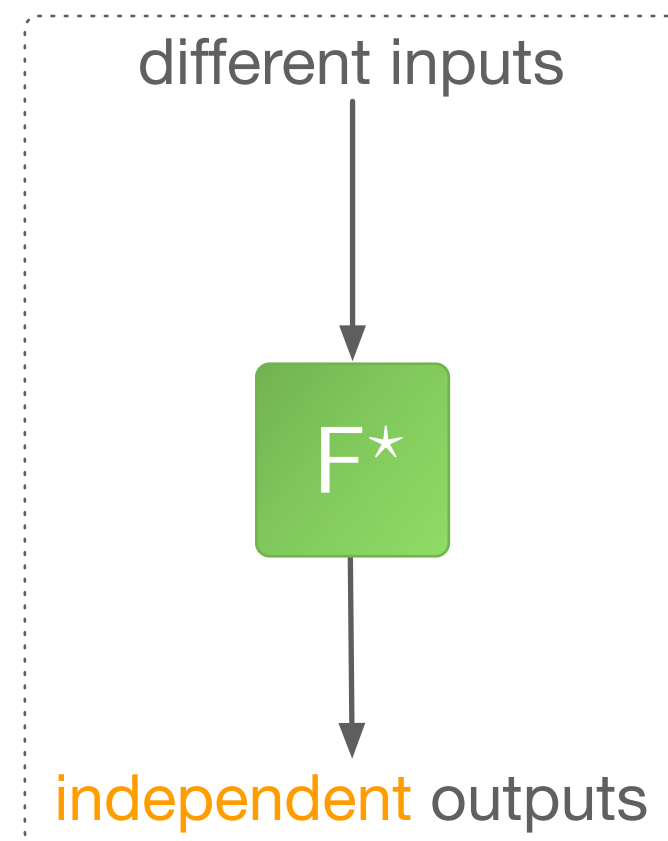
Idea: try to bound the advantage of the best  $q$ -limited adversary by that of the best  $(q-1)$ -limited adversary.

Perfectly random permutation

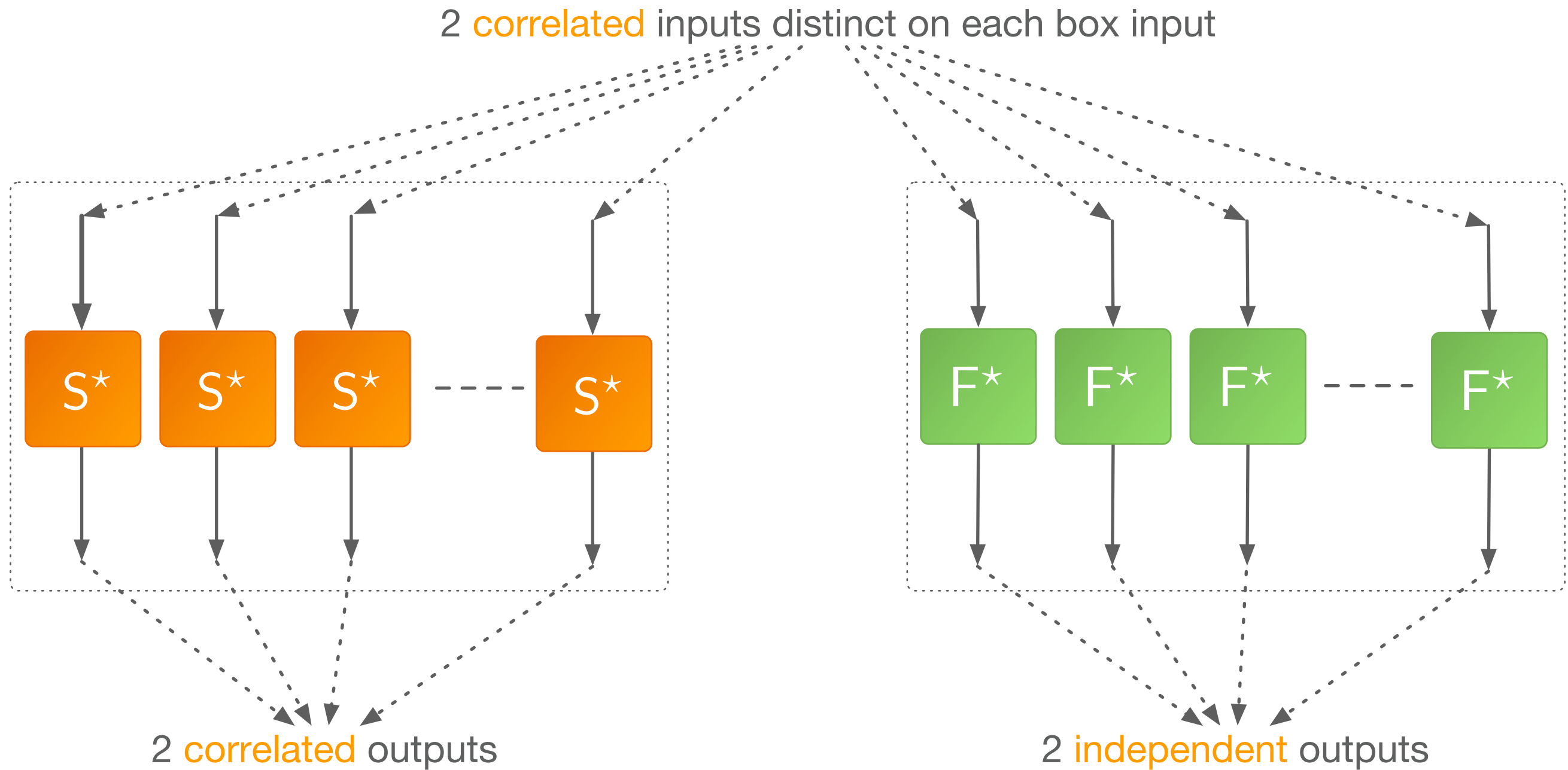


vs.

Perfectly random function

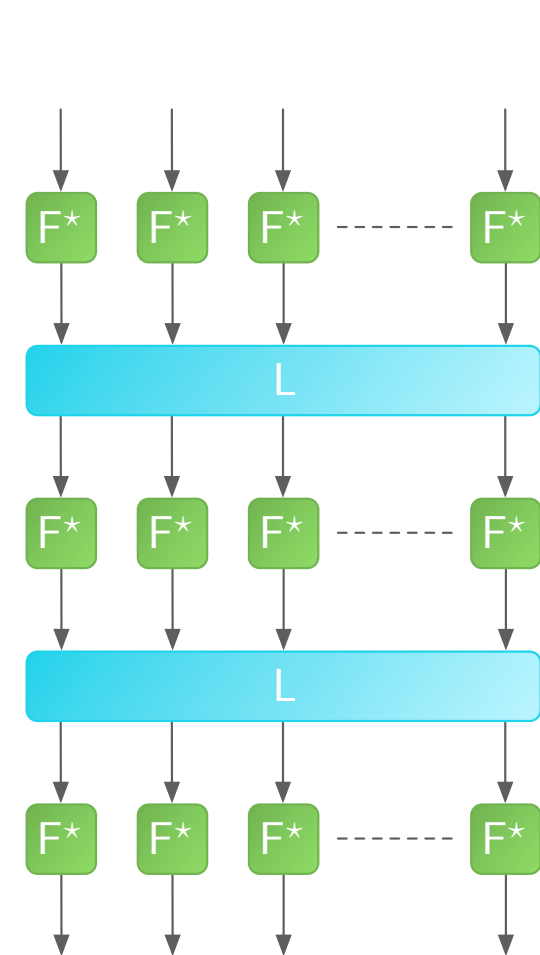


# Rand. Permutations vs. Rand. Functions



# Towards a New Construction

---

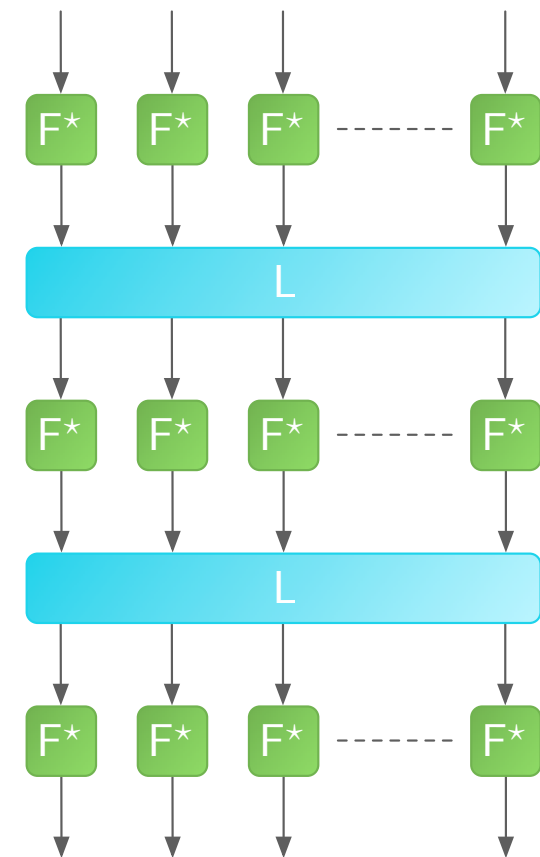




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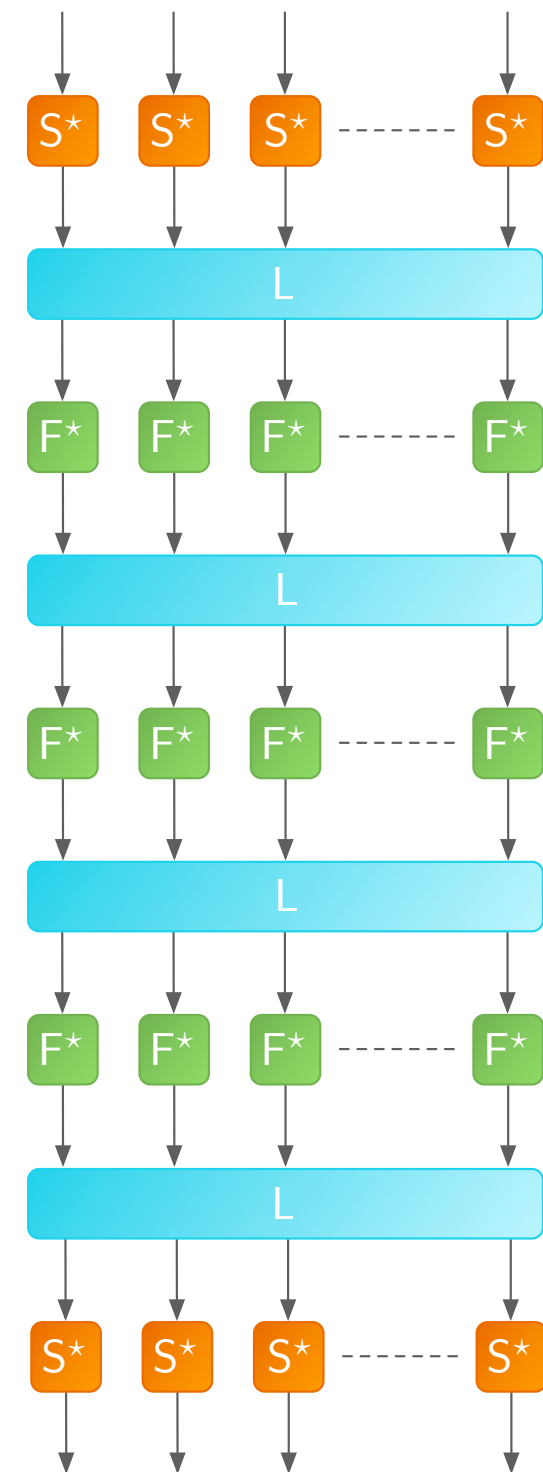
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- Non negligible risk of collision after a F-box



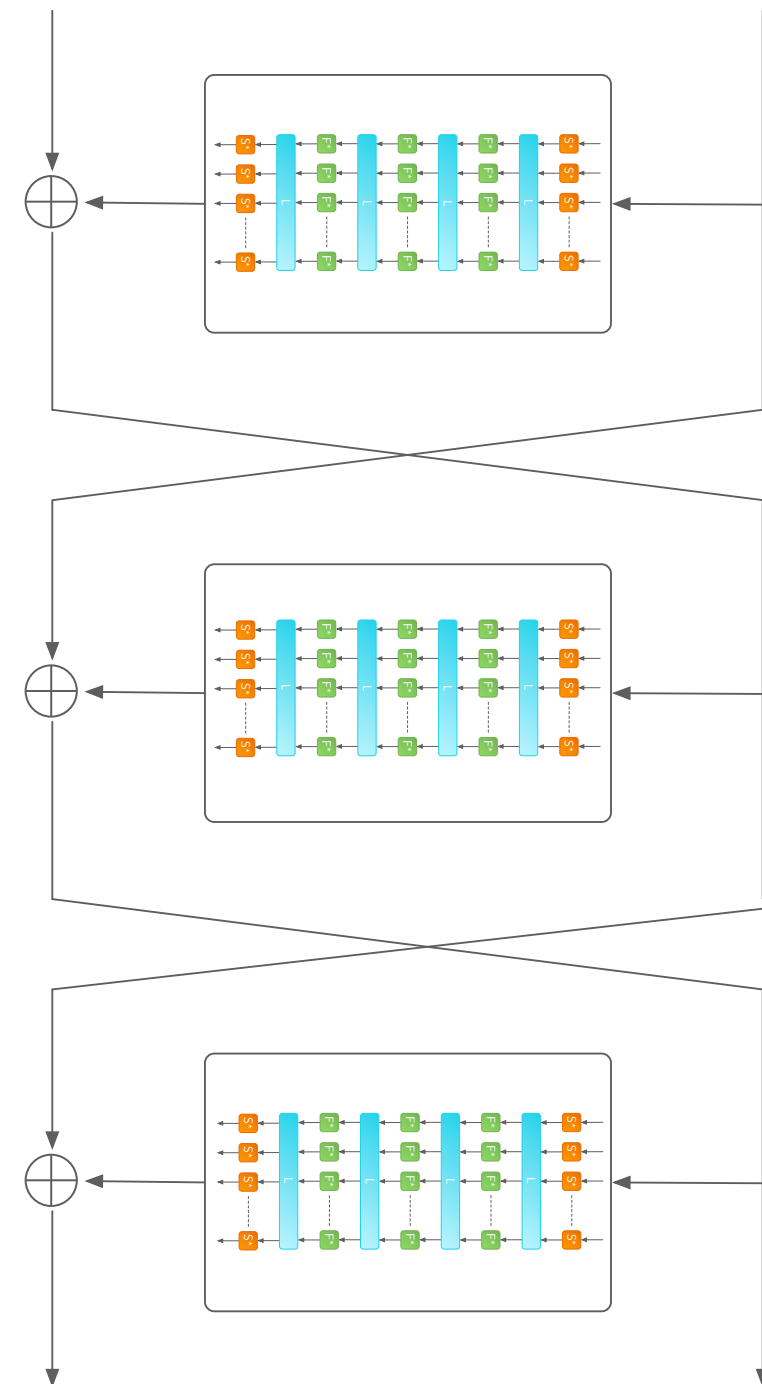
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- Use the “sandwich technique” to obtain (almost) pairwise independent inputs before the layer of random functions.
- The construction is not invertible. We plug it in a Feistel scheme.




# Results obtained on KFC

---

- With this approach, we manage to prove the security against adversaries up to the order 70 (for an unreasonable set of parameters).
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# Part II: Designs and Security Proofs



Critics

# Requirements & Uncovered Attacks

---

- **C** might never fit, say, RFID tags (in the best case, we need 160kB of memory to store the tables).
- We proposed so-called “provably secure” block ciphers...
- ...which are not provably secure against all known attacks.
- e.g., **C** is not provably secure against cache attacks or saturation attacks.

# On the Independence of the Round Keys


---

- Our proofs assume that the rounds are mutually independent.
- This is not true in practice: thousands of bits of randomness are derived from a 128 bit key.
- Using a cryptographically secure PRNG, we can show that if an attack applies on the block cipher with the key schedule, but not on the block cipher with mutually independent rounds, then the PRNG's sequence can be distinguished from pure random.




# Two Sides to Every Story

---

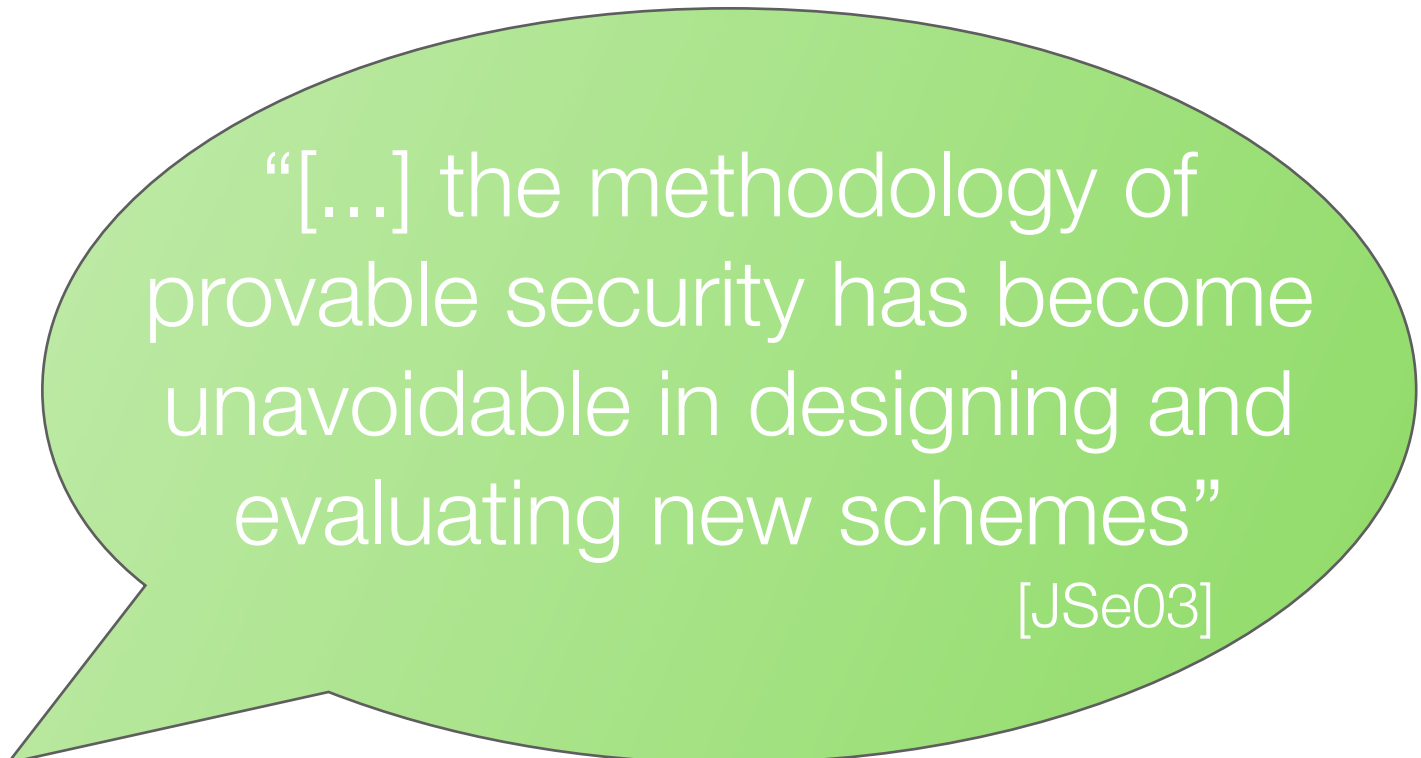
- Pessimistic view (not my favorite):
  - Since we need more bits of randomness to generate the boxes than the number of bits we are allowed to encrypt, why not use the bits generated with BBS or QUAD as a one-time-pad... and throw away all the constructions? ☹
- Optimistic View:
  - The assumption about the independence of the round keys has nothing to do with the block cipher itself, but with the key schedule.
  - If a “provably secure” block cipher is broken by an attack against which it should resist  make the key schedule stronger!
  - Making sure that the distribution matrix of the block cipher considered is close to that of  $C^*$  appears to be very natural. Independently of the key schedule, it's a strong security argument.

Conclusion



“[...] the methodology of  
provable security has become  
unavoidable in designing and  
evaluating new schemes”

[JSe03]



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public key schemes

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[JSe03]

public key schemes

We hope to have made a significant step towards its extension to block ciphers!

Thank you for your attention!



# Publications

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[BVicits08] *The Complexity of Distinguishing Distributions*

Joint work with [Serge Vaudenay](#)

Published in the proceedings of ICITS 08 (Calgary, Canada)

[BSVsac07] *Linear Cryptanalysis of Non Binary Ciphers (with an application to SAFER)*

Joint work with [Jacques Stern](#) & [Serge Vaudenay](#)

Published in the proceedings of SAC 07 (Ottawa, Canada)

[BFa06] *KFC - The Krazy Feistel Cipher*

Joint work with [Matthieu Finiasz](#)

Published in the proceedings of Asiacrypt 06 (Shanghai, China)

[BFsac06] *Dial C for Cipher*

Joint work with [Matthieu Finiasz](#)

Published in the proceedings of SAC 06 (Montreal, Canada)

[BVsac05] *Proving the Security of the AES Substitution-Permutation Network*

Joint work with [Serge Vaudenay](#)

Published in the proceedings of SAC 05 (Kingston, Canada)

[BJVa04] *How Far Can We Go Beyond Linear Cryptanalysis?*

Joint work with [Pascal Junod](#) & [Serge Vaudenay](#)

Published in the proceedings of Asiacrypt 04 (Jeju Island, Korea)

