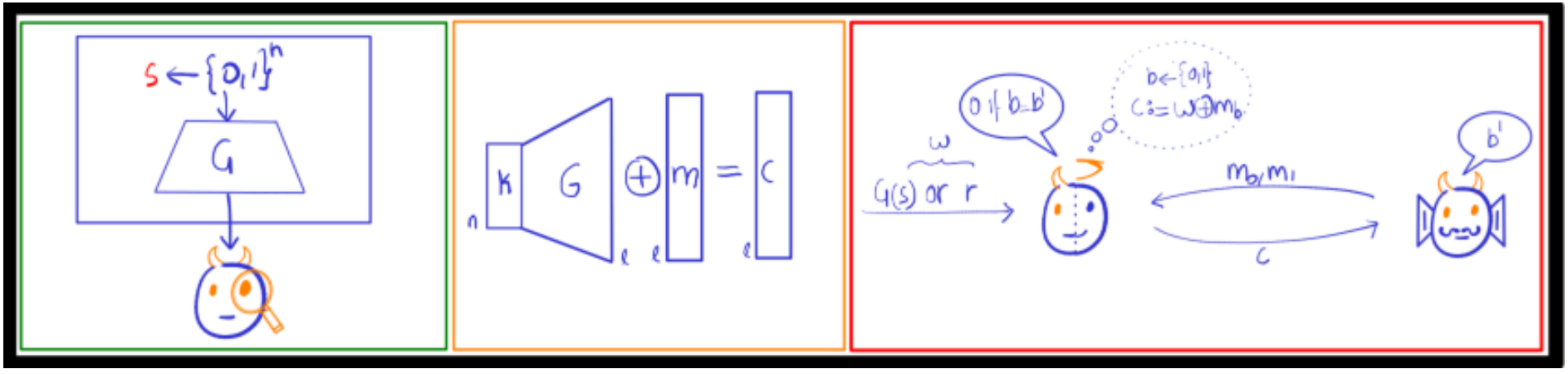


CS409m: Introduction to Cryptography

Lecture 05 (13/Aug/25)

Instructor: Chethan Kamath

Annonuncements

- Grading structure adjusted (as discussed in Lecture 04)

Weightage	Towards
35%	End-sem
25%	Mid-sem
20%	Two (out of three) quizzes
15%	Four lab exercises
5%	Class participation, pop-quizzes

- Lab Exercise 1 (graded)
  - ~~Deadline for submitting flag on CTFd server: 23:59, 11/Aug/25~~
  - Deadline for submitting report on Moodle: 23:59, 13/Aug/25
- Assignment 2 (ungraded) will be uploaded today (13/Aug)

- Reminder: Quiz 1 on 22/Aug, 08:25-09:25 in CC103!

Recall from Previous Lecture

- Task: secure communication of *long messages* with shared keys
- Problem: $\mathcal{K} \geq \mathcal{M}$ for perfect secrecy against eavesdroppers
- Relaxed threat model: computational secrecy against eavesdroppers

Attack Model: Eavesdropping

1. Eve is PPT
2. Knows description of Π (Kerchhoff's principle)
3. Shared key is hidden from Eve
4. Can eavesdrop and learn ciphertext

Break Model: Secrecy, w.h.p.

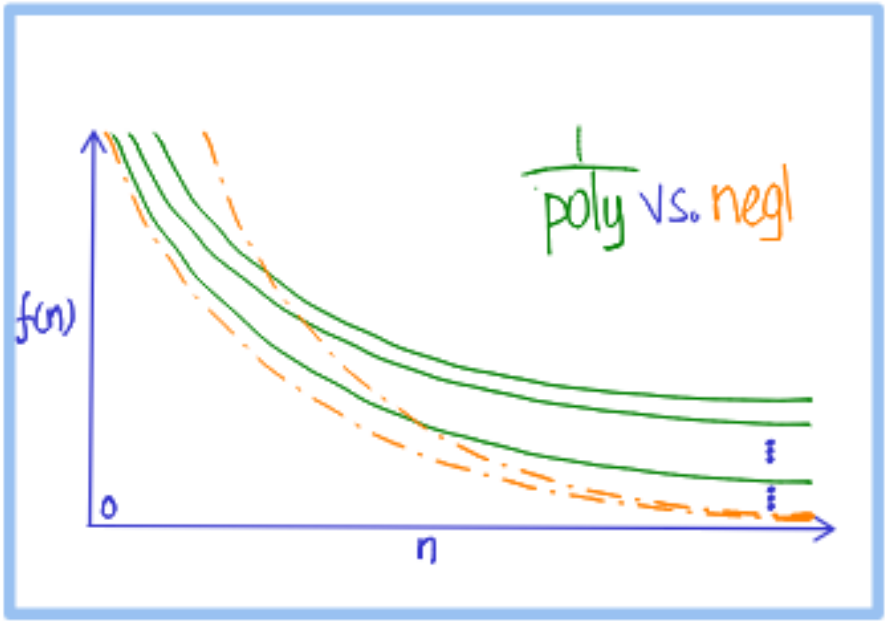
1. Eve breaks with negligible probability
   - Two worlds definition

Recall from Previous Lecture...

Probabilistic Poly. Time (PPT)

- "Efficient computation"
- Polynomial-time on probabilistic Turing Machine

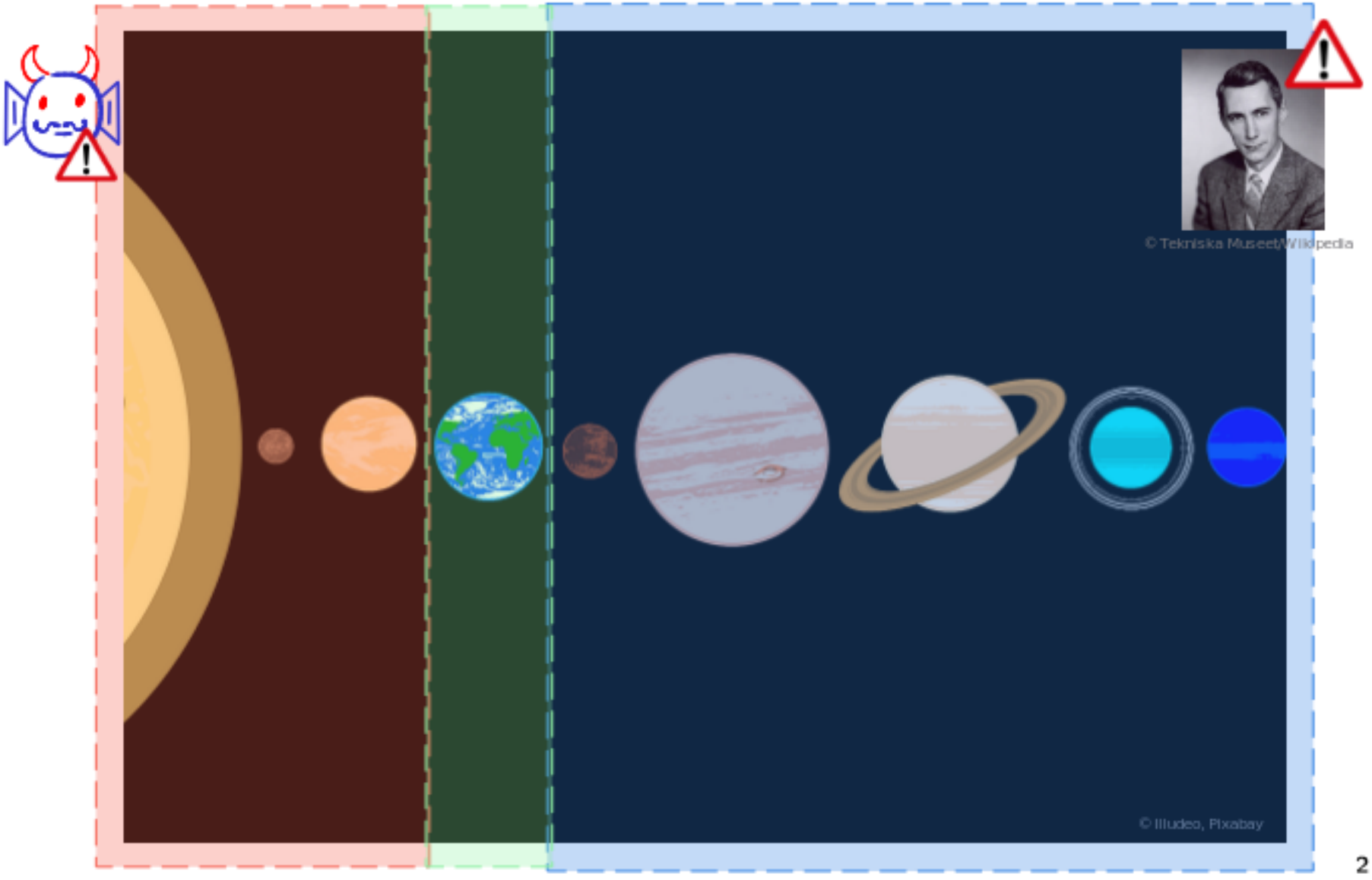
Negligible Function



- "Low probability" event
- Decays faster than *any* inverse polynomial function

Recall from Previous Lecture...

- Why PPT and negligible? Goldilocks zone!

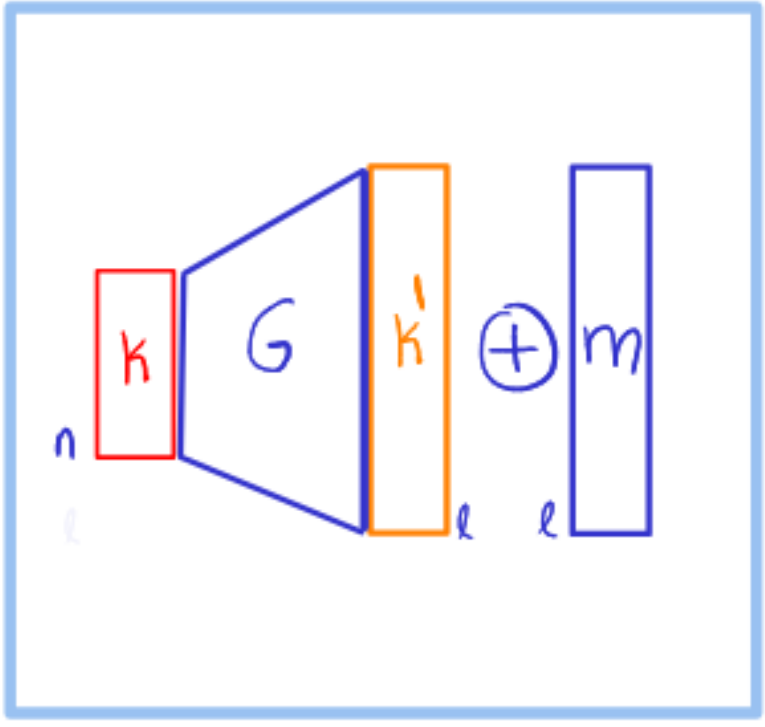


Plan for Today's Lecture

Goal: construct SKE computationally-secret against eavesdroppers

NEW Pseudorandom Generator (PRG)

NEW Computational One-Time Pad



New tool: proof by reduction

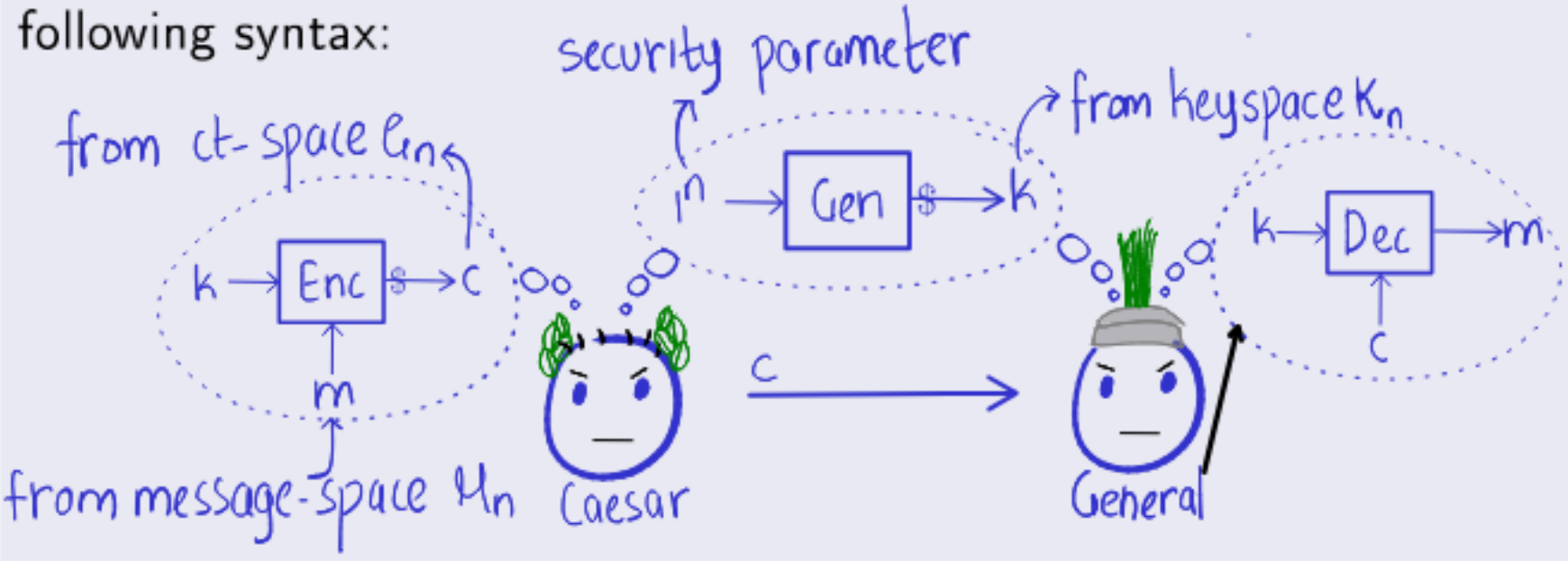
Plan for Today's Lecture...

1. Recall: Computational Secrecy Against Eavesdroppers
2. Pseudo-Random Generator (PRG)
3. Computational One-Time Pad

Recall: SKE with Security Parameter

Definition 1 (Shared/Symmetric-Key Encryption (SKE))

An SKE Π is a triple of efficient algorithms (Gen, Enc, Dec) with the following syntax:



- Correctness of decryption: for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, message $m \in \mathcal{M}_n$,

$$\Pr_{k \leftarrow \mathsf{Gen}(1^n), c \leftarrow \mathsf{Enc}(k,m)} [\mathsf{Dec}(k,c) = m] = 1$$

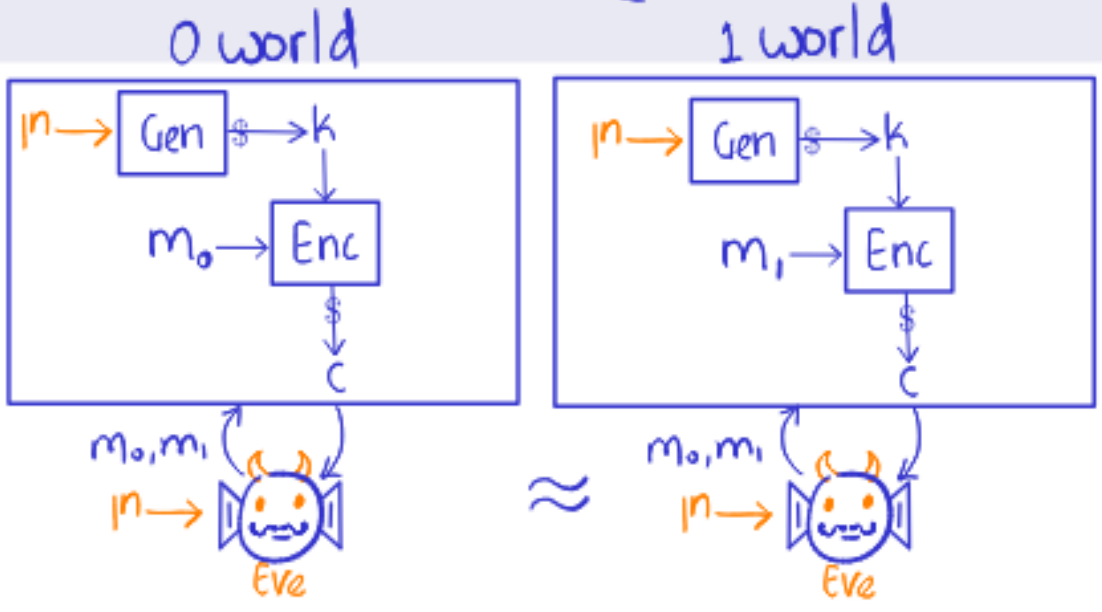
Recall: Computational Secrecy

Definition 2 (Two-Worlds Definition)

An SKE $\Pi = (\mathsf{Gen}, \mathsf{Enc}, \mathsf{Dec})$ is computationally-secret against eavesdroppers if for *every* (stateful) PPT Eve

$$\delta(n) := \left| \Pr_{\substack{(m_0,m_1)\leftarrow \mathsf{Eve}(1^n) \\ k\leftarrow \mathsf{Gen}(1^n) \\ c\leftarrow \mathsf{Enc}(k,m_0)}} [\mathsf{Eve}(c) = 0] - \Pr_{\substack{(m_0,m_1)\leftarrow \mathsf{Eve}(1^n) \\ k\leftarrow \mathsf{Gen}(1^n) \\ c\leftarrow \mathsf{Enc}(k,m_1)}} [\mathsf{Eve}(c) = 0] \right|$$

is negligible.



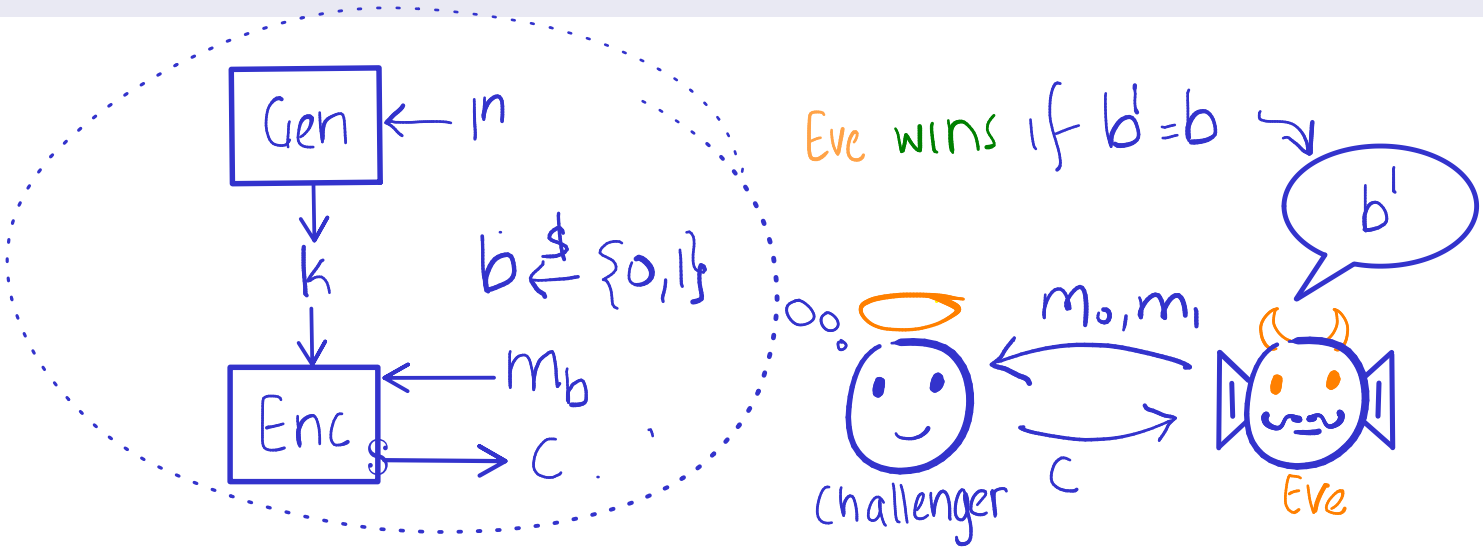
Alternatively: Adversarial Indistinguishability

Definition 3 (Adversarial Indistinguishability)

An SKE $\Pi = (\mathsf{Gen}, \mathsf{Enc}, \mathsf{Dec})$ is computationally-secret against eavesdropper if for *every* (stateful) PPT Eve

$$\delta(n) := \Pr_{\substack{(m_0,m_1)\leftarrow \mathsf{Eve}(1^n) \\ k\leftarrow \mathsf{Gen}(1^n) \\ b\leftarrow\{0,1\} \\ c\leftarrow \mathsf{Enc}(k,m_b)}}[\mathsf{Eve}(c) = b] - \frac{1}{2}$$

is negligible.



The Two Definitions are Equivalent!

Claim 1 (Other direction exercise!)

Definition 3 implies Definition 2.

Proof (using basic probability from Lecture 02).

Definition 3 implies for every PPT Eve the following is negligible

$$\Pr\left[\begin{array}{l}m_0,m_1\leftarrow \mathrm{Eve}(1^n)\\ k\leftarrow \mathrm{Gen}(1^n),\ b\leftarrow\{0,1\}\\ c\leftarrow \mathrm{Enc}(k,m_b)\end{array}:\ \mathrm{Eve}(c)=0,b=0\right] + \Pr\left[\begin{array}{l}m_0,m_1\leftarrow \mathrm{Eve}(1^n)\\ k\leftarrow \mathrm{Gen}(1^n),\ b\leftarrow\{0,1\}\\ c\leftarrow \mathrm{Enc}(k,m_b)\end{array}:\ \mathrm{Eve}(c)=1,b=1\right] - \frac{1}{2}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\left|\Pr\left[\begin{array}{l}m_0,m_1\leftarrow \mathrm{Eve}(1^n)\\ k\leftarrow \mathrm{Gen}(1^n)\\ c\leftarrow \mathrm{Enc}(k,m_0)\end{array}:\ \mathrm{Eve}(c)=0\right] - \Pr\left[\begin{array}{l}m_0,m_1\leftarrow \mathrm{Eve}(1^n)\\ k\leftarrow \mathrm{Gen}(1^n)\\ c\leftarrow \mathrm{Enc}(k,m_1)\end{array}:\ \mathrm{Eve}(c)=0\right]\right| \text{ is negl.}$$

? Where did I cheat?

More Generally: Computational Indistinguishability

- Ciphertext distributions $\mapsto$ *any* two distributions

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More Generally: Computational Indistinguishability

- Ciphertext distributions $\mapsto$ *any* two distributions

Definition 4 (computational indistinguishability)

Two distributions $\mathrm{X}_0 := (\mathrm{X}_{0,n})_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ and $\mathrm{X}_1 := (\mathrm{X}_{1,n})_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ are *computationally indistinguishable* if for every PPT *distinguisher* D,

$$\delta(n) := \left| \Pr_{x\leftarrow \mathrm{X}_{0,n}}[\mathrm{D}(x) = 0] - \Pr_{x\leftarrow \mathrm{X}_{1,n}}[\mathrm{D}(x) = 0] \right|$$

is negligible.

- Computational secrecy against eavesdroppers: the ciphertext distribution of m_0 and m_1 are computationally indistinguishable

Exercise 1

Formally write down the two distributions

Plan for Today's Lecture

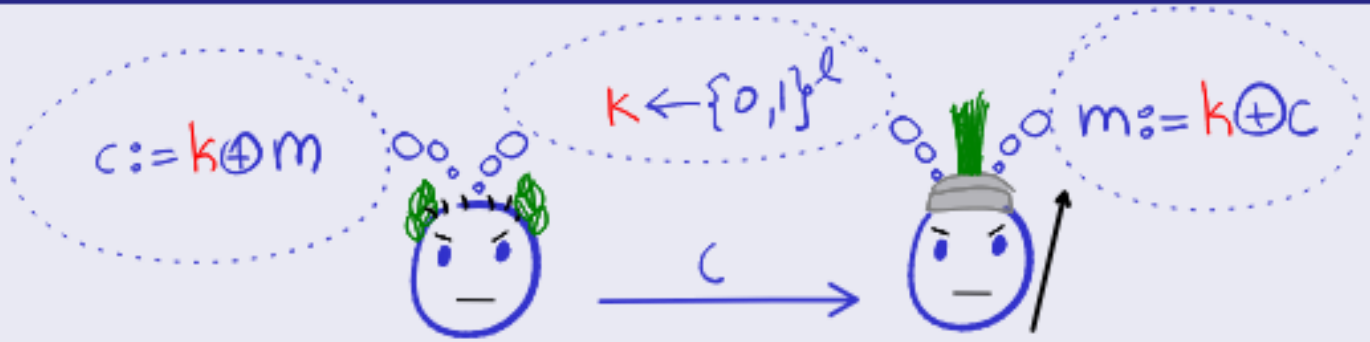
Goal: construct SKE computationally-secret against eavesdroppers

NEW **Pseudorandom Generator (PRG)** NEW Computational One-Time Pad

New tool: proof by reduction

Recall One-Time Pad (Vernam's Cipher)

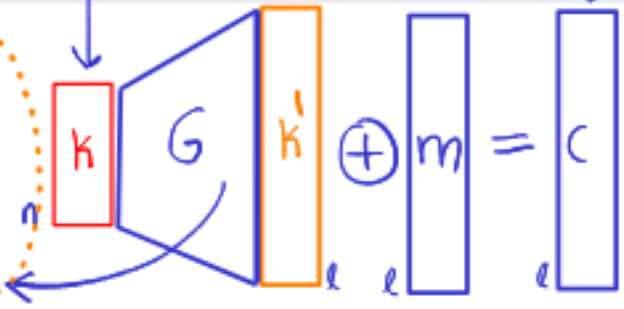
Construction 1 (Message space $\{0,1\}^\ell$)



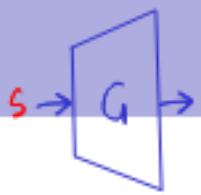
Pseudocode 1 (Message space $\{0,1\}^\ell$)

- Key generation $\mathsf{Gen}(1^\ell)$: output $k \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n$ $n < \ell$
- Encryption $\mathsf{Enc}(k, m)$: output $c := k' \oplus m$
- Decryption $\mathsf{Dec}(k, c)$: output $m := k \oplus c$

Requirement:
G expands $k \to k'$ such that k' "seems random" to



Pseudo-Random Generator (PRG)



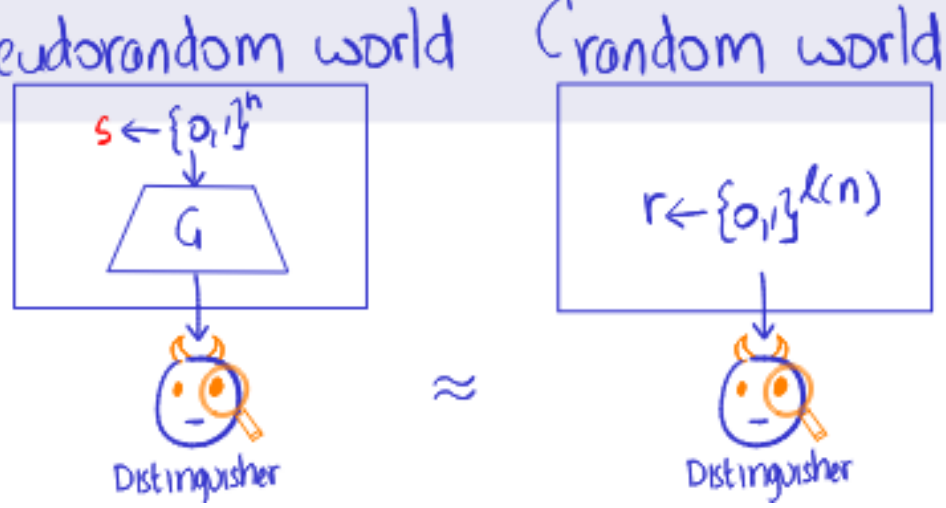
Intuitive definition: expanding function whose output (on uniformly random input) "seems random" to PPT *distinguishers*.

Definition 5 (Two worlds definition)

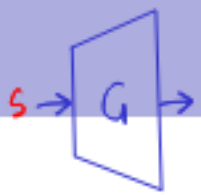
Let G be an efficient deterministic algorithm that for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and input $s \in \{0,1\}^n$, outputs a string of length $\ell(n) > n$.
G is PRG if for every PPT *distinguisher* D

$$\delta(n) := \left| \Pr_{s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n}[D(G(s)) = 0] - \Pr_{r \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\ell(n)}}[D(r) = 0] \right|$$

is negligible.



Pseudo-Random Generator (PRG)



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$$\delta(n) := \left| \Pr_{s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n}[D(G(s)) = 0] - \Pr_{r \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\ell(n)}}[D(r) = 0] \right|$$

is negligible.

Exercise 2

1. Write up "adversarial indistinguishability" definition of PRG
2. Show that the two definitions are equivalent

Pseudo-Random Generator...

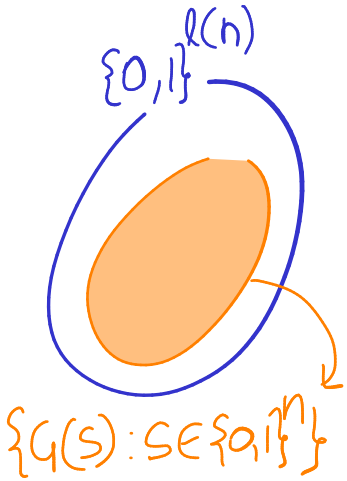
Definition 5 (Two worlds definition)

Let G be an efficient deterministic algorithm that for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and input $s \in \{0,1\}^n$, outputs a string of length $\ell(n) > n$.
G is PRG if for every PPT *distinguisher* D

$$\delta(n) := \left| \Pr_{s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n}[D(G(s)) = 0] - \Pr_{r \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\ell(n)}}[D(r) = 0] \right|$$

is negligible.

- Let's check your understanding of Definition 5
  - How can an *unbounded* distinguisher break PRG?
  - Is G a PRG or not? Below G_1 and G_2 are PRGs
    - 1 $G(s) := G_1(s) \| 0$
    - 2 $G(s) := s \| s_1 \oplus \ldots \oplus s_n$
    - 3 $G(s_1 \| s_2) := G_1(s_1) \| G_2(s_2)$
    - 4 $G(s) := G_1(s) \| G_2(s)$
    - 5 $G(s) := G_1(s) \oplus G_2(s)$

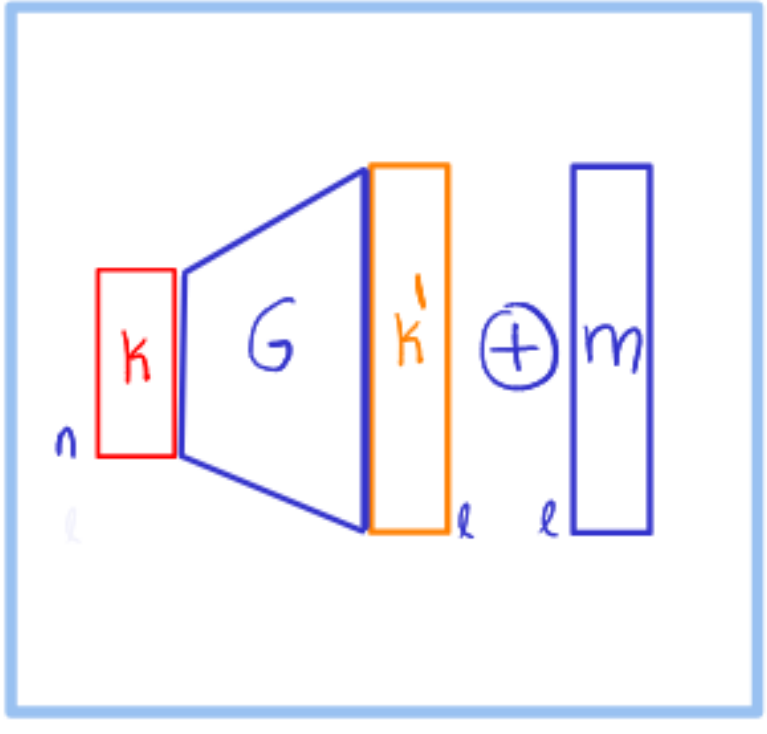


Plan for Today's Lecture

Goal: construct SKE computationally-secret against eavesdroppers

NEW Pseudorandom Generator (PRG)

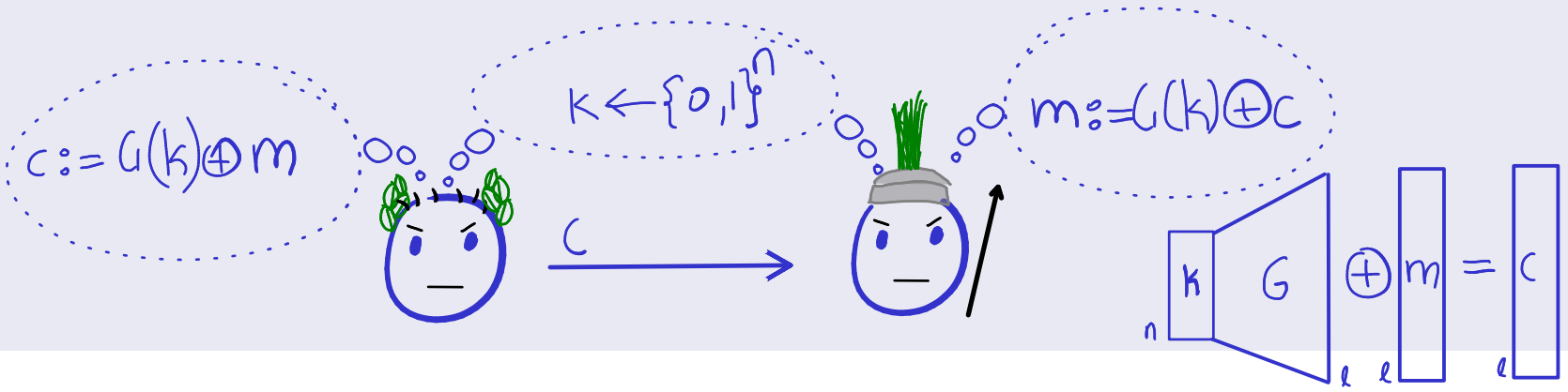
NEW Computational One-Time Pad



New tool: proof by reduction

"Computational" One-Time Pad from PRG G

Construction 2 (Message space $\{0,1\}^{\ell(n)}$)



Pseudocode 2 (Message space $\{0,1\}^{\ell(n)}$)

- Key generation $\mathsf{Gen}(1^n)$: output $k \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n$
- Encryption $\mathsf{Enc}(k,m)$: output $c := G(k) \oplus m$
- Decryption $\mathsf{Dec}(k,c)$: output $m := G(k) \oplus c$

- Correctness of decryption: for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $m \in \{0,1\}^{\ell(n)}$,

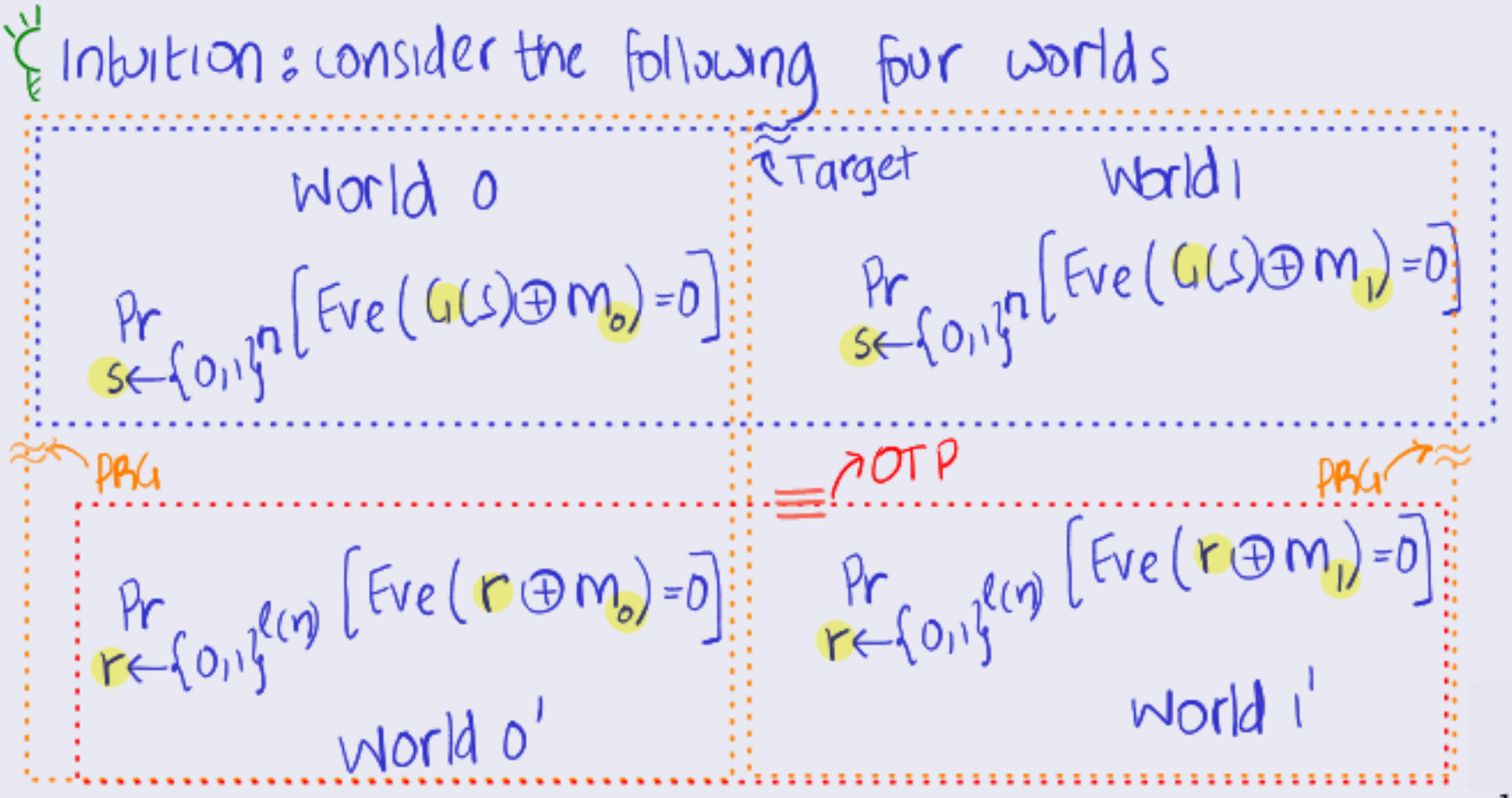
$$\Pr_{k\leftarrow\{0,1\}^n}\left[G(k)\oplus(G(k)\oplus m)=m\right] = \Pr_{k\leftarrow\{0,1\}^n}\left[m=m\right]=1$$

Proof of Computational Secrecy

Theorem 1

If G is a PRG, then Construction 2 is comp. secret against eavesdroppers

Proof by reduction. ∃D for G ⇐ ∃Eve breaking Construction 2.



Proof of Computational Secrecy

Theorem 1

If G is a PRG, then Construction 2 is comp. secret against eavesdroppers

Proof by reduction. ∃D for G ⇐ ∃Eve breaking Construction 2.

Proof of Computational Secrecy...

Exercise 3 (Formalise proof of Theorem 1)

Write down the proof formally:

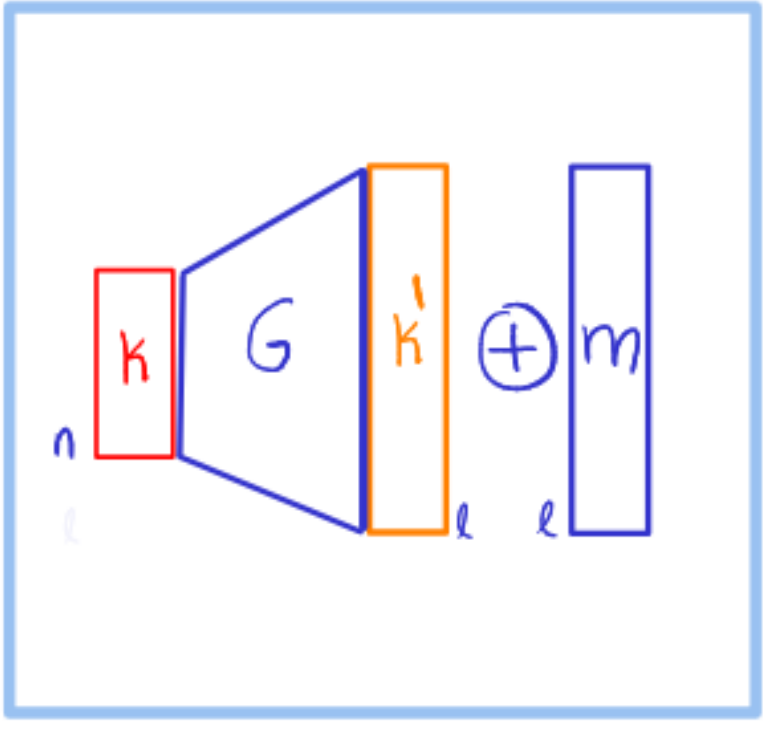
1. Analyse why the reduction works
2. In the analysis, explicitly write down expression for "not negligible"

Plan for Today's Lecture

Goal: construct SKE computationally-secret against eavesdroppers

NEW Pseudorandom Generator (PRG)

NEW Computational One-Time Pad

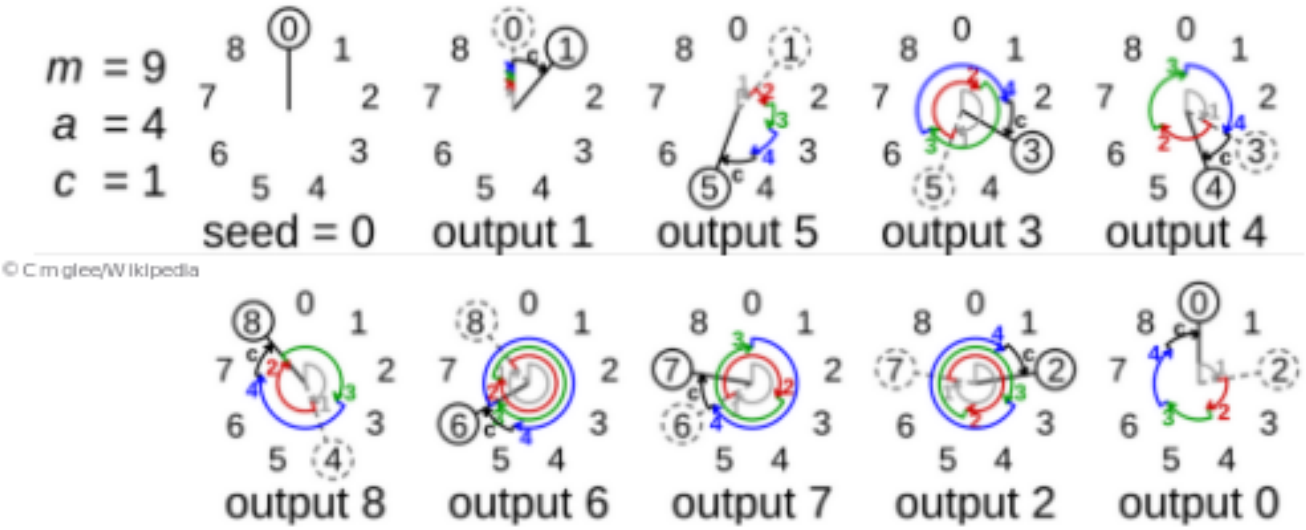


New tool: proof by reduction

Do PRGs Exist?

- What about Linear Congruential Generator (LCG)?
  - Useful for physics simulation
- Defined by following recurrence relation, with "seed" $x_0 \in [0, m-1]$:

$$x_{n+1} = ax_n + c \bmod m$$



- But insecure for cryptographic purposes: "non-cryptographic" PRG

Exercise 4

1) Think of why is LCG insecure 2) Look up LFSR

Do Cryptographic PRGs Exist?

Theoretical constructions

- Rely on well-studied hard problems
- Subset-sum problem:
  - Input: prime p, $a_1, \ldots, a_n \in \mathbb{Z}_p$
  - Solution: $I \subseteq [1, n] : \sum_{i \in I} a_i = 0 \bmod p$
- Believed to be "hard" (even for $a_1, \ldots, a_n \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$)

- E.g., PRG from subset-sum problem:

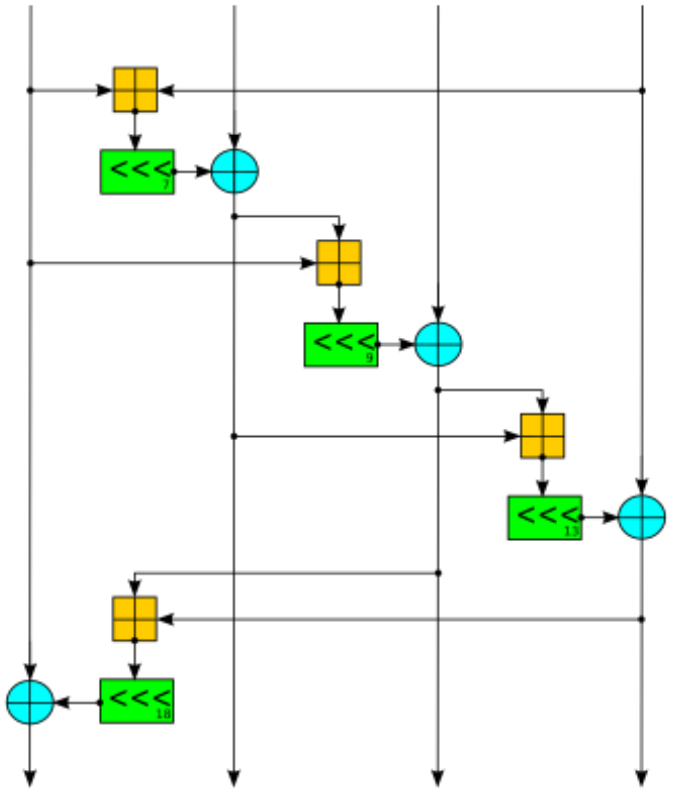
$$G(x_1 \| \ldots \| x_n) := \sum_{i \in [1,n]} x_i a_i \bmod p$$

  - On selecting $p \approx n^2$, G is expanding
  - Pseudorandomness based on hardness of subset-sum problem

Do Cryptographic PRGs Exist?...

Practical constructions

- "Complex" functions, repeated "many times" look random
- Build a candidate construction and do extensive cryptanalysis
- E.g., Stream ciphers like Salsa20 and ChaCha



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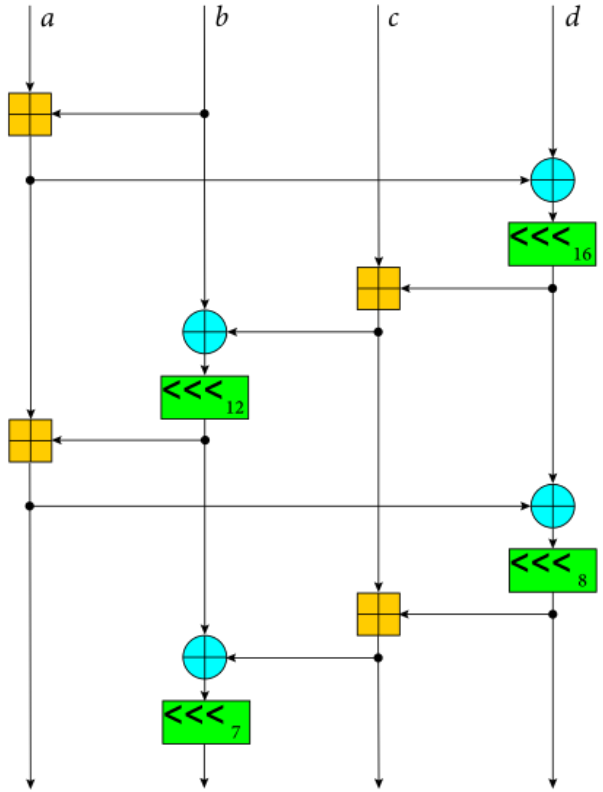

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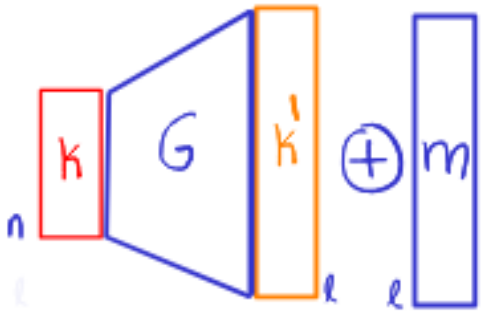
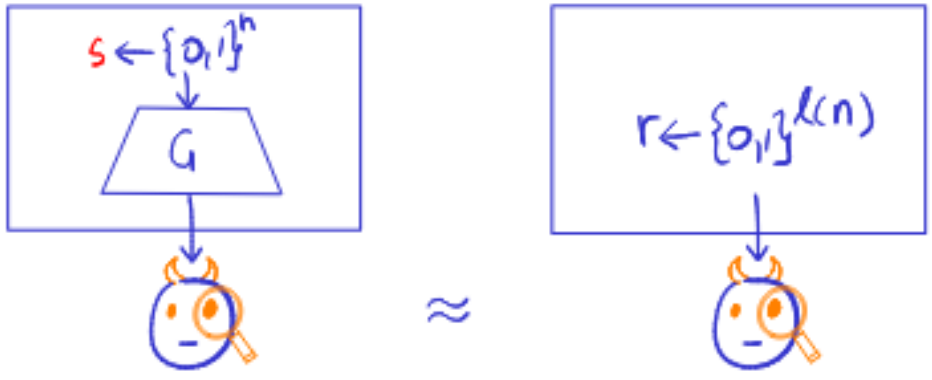
Recap/Next Lecture

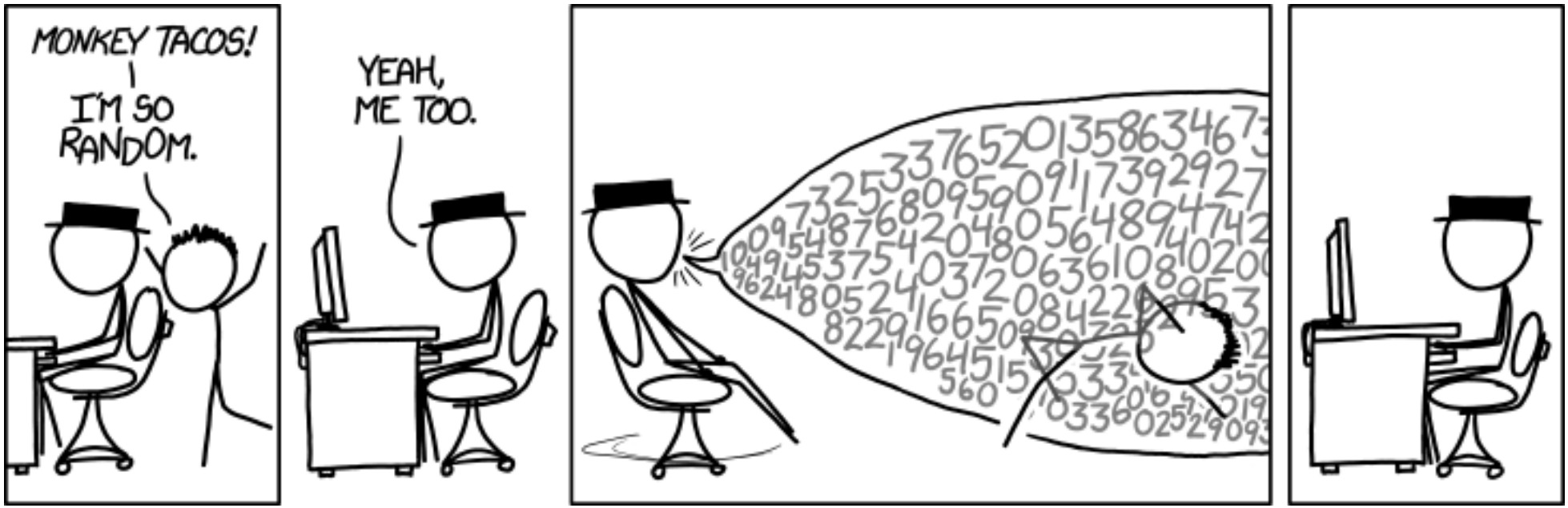
- To recap:
  - Defined PRG
  - Constructed computational OTP from PRG
    - New tool: proof by reduction
  - Constructions of PRG





- Next lecture:
  - Encrypting longer messages!
  - Extending the length of a PRG
    - New tool: hybrid argument

Recap/Next Lecture...



More Questions?

References

1. §3.2 and §3.3 in [KL14] for more details on computational secrecy and computational OTP
2. To read more about stream ciphers, refer to §4 in [BS23]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