

# COS 433/Math 473: Cryptography

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# Announcements/Reminders

HW1 Due September 15 (Today)

- Submit through Canvas

PR1 Due October 6

Assignments due at 11:59pm “Anywhere on Earth”

- Really 7:59am the next day

Bonus: +2 points if submitted on time

- Otherwise, accepted  $\leq 48$  hours late with no penalty (besides losing bonus)

Previously on COS 433...

# Security Parameter $\lambda$

Additional input to system, dictates “security level”

Key, message, ciphertext size all **polynomial** in  $\lambda$

Probability of adversary success is **negligible** in  $\lambda$

# Defining Encryption Again

## Syntax:

- Key space  $\mathbf{K}_\lambda$
- Message space  $\mathbf{M}_\lambda$
- Ciphertext space  $\mathbf{C}_\lambda$
- **Enc:**  $\mathbf{K}_\lambda \times \mathbf{M}_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{C}_\lambda$  (potentially randomized)
- **Dec:**  $\mathbf{K}_\lambda \times \mathbf{C}_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{M}_\lambda$

## Correctness:

- $|k| = \log|\mathbf{K}_\lambda|$ ,  $|m| = \log|\mathbf{M}_\lambda|$ ,  $|c| = \log|\mathbf{C}_\lambda|$  polynomial in  $\lambda$
- For all  $\lambda$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{K}_\lambda$ ,  $m \in \mathbf{M}_\lambda$ ,  
$$\Pr[ \Pr[\text{Dec}(k, \text{Enc}(k,m)) = m ] = 1 ] = 1$$

# Statistical Distance

Given two distributions  $\mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2$  over a set  $\mathbf{X}$ , define

$$\Delta(\mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} | \Pr[\mathbf{D}_1 = \mathbf{x}] - \Pr[\mathbf{D}_2 = \mathbf{x}] |$$

Observations:

$$0 \leq \Delta(\mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2) \leq 1$$

$$\Delta(\mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2) = 0 \iff \mathbf{D}_1 \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbf{D}_2$$

$$\Delta(\mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2) \leq \Delta(\mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_3) + \Delta(\mathbf{D}_3, \mathbf{D}_2)$$

( $\Delta$  is a metric)

# Another View of Statistical Distance

**Theorem:**  $\Delta(\mathcal{D}_1, \mathcal{D}_2) \geq \varepsilon$  iff  $\exists$  (potentially randomized)  $\mathbf{A}$  s.t.

$$\left| \Pr[\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{D}_1) = 1] - \Pr[\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{D}_2) = 1] \right| \geq \varepsilon$$

**Terminology:** for any  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  
 $\left| \Pr[\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{D}_1) = 1] - \Pr[\mathbf{A}(\mathcal{D}_2) = 1] \right|$   
is called the “advantage” of  $\mathbf{A}$  in  
distinguishing  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2$

# Statistical Security (Asymptotic)

**Definition:** A scheme **(Enc, Dec)** has **statistical secrecy for  $d$  messages** if  $\exists$  negligible  $\epsilon$  such that  $\forall$  two sequences  $(m_0^{(i)})_{i \in [d]}$ ,  $(m_1^{(i)})_{i \in [d]} \in \mathcal{M}_\lambda^d$ ,

$$\Delta \left[ \left( \text{Enc}(K_\lambda, m_0^{(i)}) \right)_{i \in [d]}, \left( \text{Enc}(K_\lambda, m_1^{(i)}) \right)_{i \in [d]} \right] < \epsilon(\lambda)$$

We will call such a scheme  **$d$ -time statistically secure**



# Limits of Statistical Security

**Theorem:** Suppose **(Enc,Dec)** has plaintext space  $\mathbf{M} = \{0,1\}^n$  and key space  $\mathbf{K} = \{0,1\}^t$ . Moreover, assume it is **(d, 0.4999)**-secure. Then:

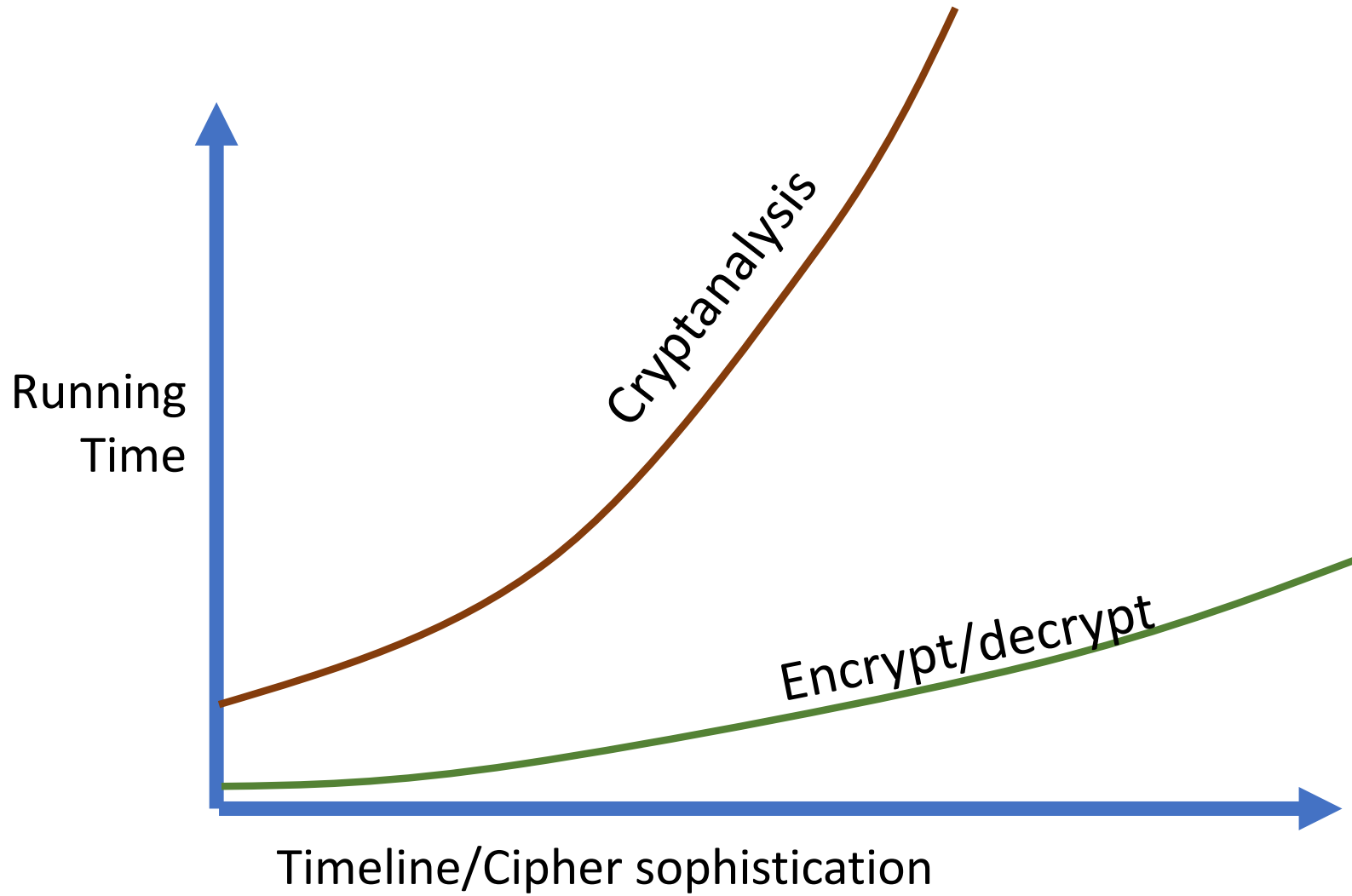
$$t \geq d n$$

In other words, the key must be at least as long as the total length of all messages encrypted

# Takeaway

If you don't want to physically exchange keys frequently, you cannot obtain statistical security

So, now what?



# Computational Security

We are ok if adversary takes a really long time

Only considered attack for adversaries that don't take too long

Today: Continuation of  
Computational Security

# Crypto and P vs NP

What if  $P = NP$ ?

**From this point forward, almost all crypto we will see depends on computational assumptions**

# Defining Encryption Yet Again

## Syntax:

- Key space  $K_\lambda$
- Message space  $M_\lambda$
- Ciphertext space  $C_\lambda$
- **Enc**:  $K_\lambda \times M_\lambda \rightarrow C_\lambda$  (potentially randomized)
- **Dec**:  $K_\lambda \times C_\lambda \rightarrow M_\lambda$

## Correctness:

- $|k|=|K_\lambda|$ ,  $|m|=|M_\lambda|$ ,  $|c|=|C_\lambda|$  polynomial in  $\lambda$
- **Enc**, **Dec** running time polynomial in  $\lambda$
- For all  $\lambda$ ,  $k \in K_\lambda$ ,  $m \in M_\lambda$ ,  
$$\Pr[ \text{Dec}(k, \text{Enc}(k,m) ) = m ] = 1$$

# Defining Security

Consider an attacker as a probabilistic efficient algorithm

Attacker gets to choose two messages

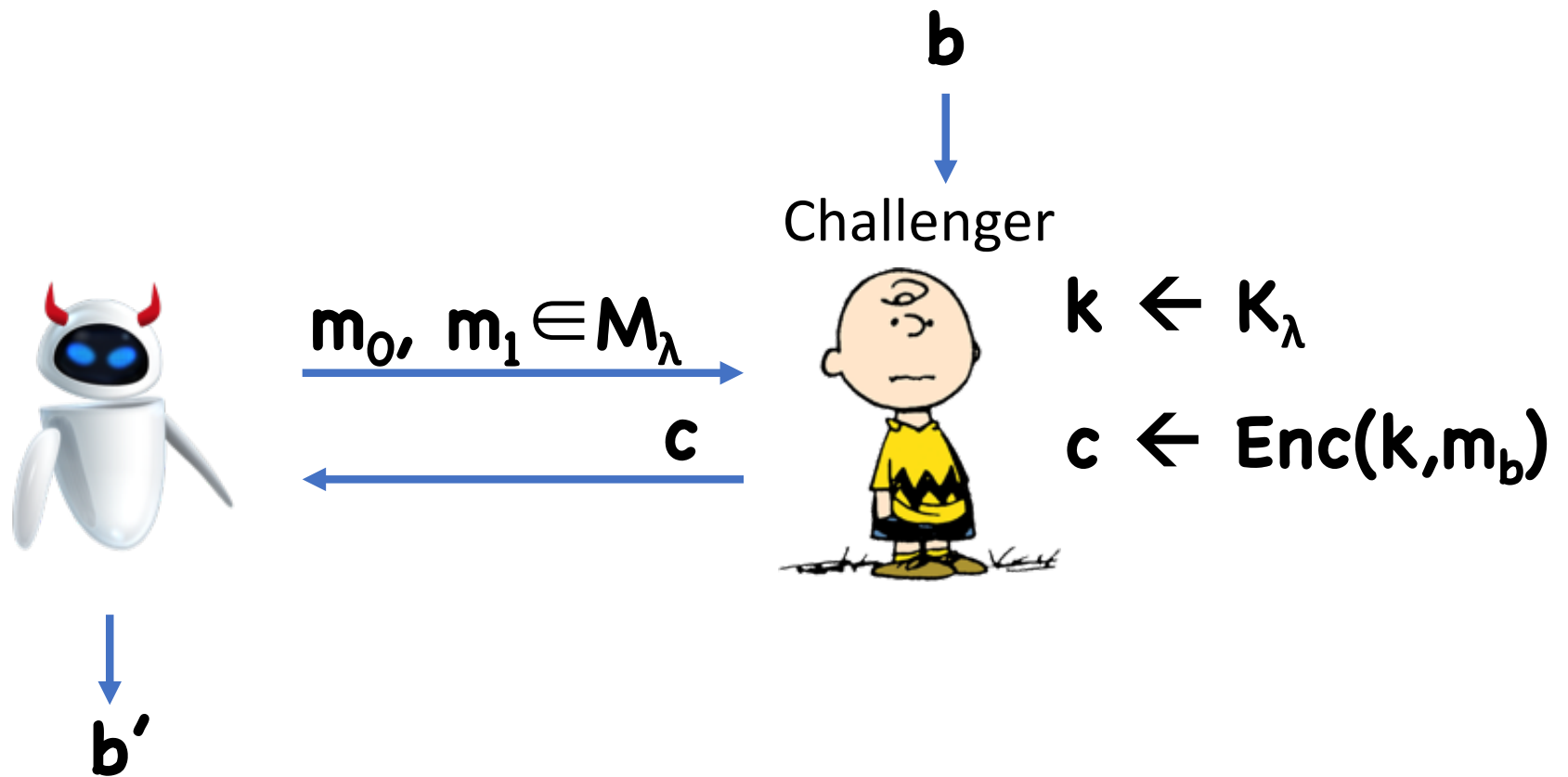
All attacker has to do is distinguish between them

For now, consider only case of a single message

- Main goal: have  $|k| \ll |m|$




# Security Experiment/Game (One-time setting)



$\text{IND-Exp}_b(\text{robot}, \lambda)$

# Security Definition

(One-time setting, concrete)


**Definition: (Enc, Dec) has  $(t, \epsilon)$ -ciphertext indistinguishability** if, for all  running in time at most  $t$

$$\left| \Pr[1 \leftarrow \text{IND-Exp}_0(\text{robot})] \right|$$

$$- \Pr[1 \leftarrow \text{IND-Exp}_1(\text{robot})] \left| \leq \epsilon \right.$$

# Security Definition

(One-time setting, asymptotic)

**Definition: (Enc, Dec) has ciphertext indistinguishability** if, for all  running in polynomial time,  $\exists$  negligible  $\epsilon$  s.t.

$$\left| \Pr[1 \leftarrow \text{IND-Exp}_0(\text{robot}, \lambda)] - \Pr[1 \leftarrow \text{IND-Exp}_1(\text{robot}, \lambda)] \right| \leq \epsilon(\lambda)$$

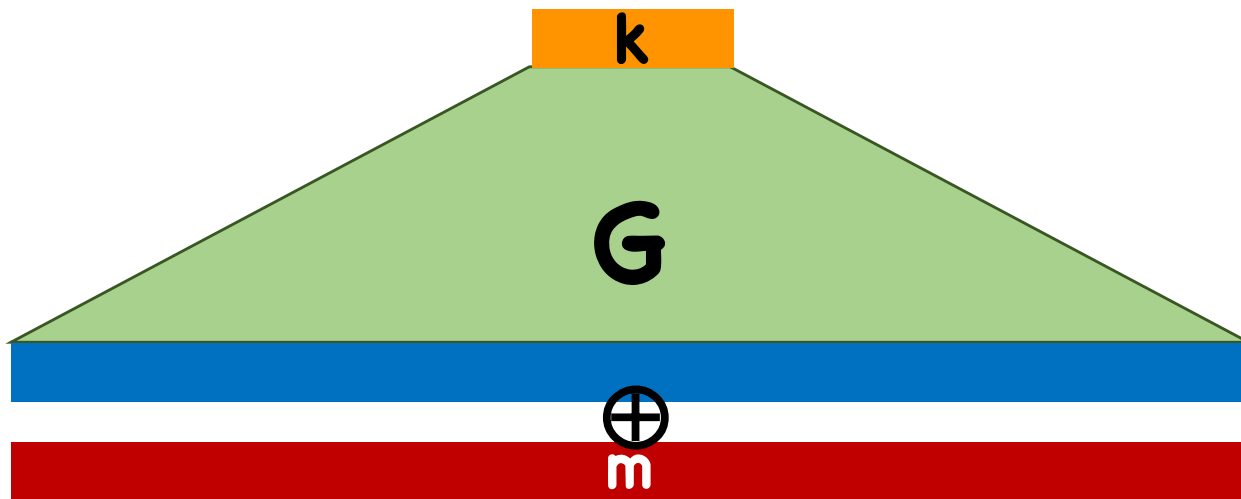
# Semantic Security

Possible to define a computational semantic security notion as well

- Captures that ciphertext “reveals notion” to efficient adversaries
- Equivalent to ciphertext indistinguishability
- Wont cover in this course

# Construction with $|k| \ll |m|$

Idea: use OTP, but have key generated by some expanding procedure  $\mathbf{G}$



What do we want out of  $\mathbf{G}$ ?

# Defining Pseudorandom Generator (PRG)

## Syntax:

- Seed space  $S_\lambda$
- Output space  $X_\lambda$
- $G: S_\lambda \rightarrow X_\lambda$  (deterministic)

## Correctness:

- $|s| = \log|S_\lambda|$ ,  $|x| = \log|X_\lambda|$  polynomial in  $\lambda$ ,
- $|x| > |s| + 1$
- Running time of  $G$  polynomial in  $\lambda$

# Security of (Cryptographic) PRGs

**Definition:**  $G:S_\lambda \rightarrow X_\lambda$  is a **secure pseudorandom generator (PRG)** if:

- For all  running in polynomial time,  $\exists$   $\text{negl } \epsilon$ ,

$$\left| \Pr[\text{ wizard } (G(s))=1 : s \leftarrow S_\lambda] \right.$$

$$\left. - \Pr[\text{ wizard } (x)=1 : x \leftarrow X_\lambda] \right| \leq \epsilon(\lambda)$$

Can also adapt to concrete security

Secure PRG  $\rightarrow$  Ciphertext Indistinguishability

$$K_\lambda = S_\lambda$$

$$M_\lambda = X_\lambda \text{ (assumed to be } \{0,1\}^n)$$

$$C_\lambda = X_\lambda$$

$$\text{Enc}(k,m) = \text{PRG}(k) \oplus m$$

$$\text{Dec}(k,c) = \text{PRG}(k) \oplus c$$



# Security?

Intuitively, security is obvious:

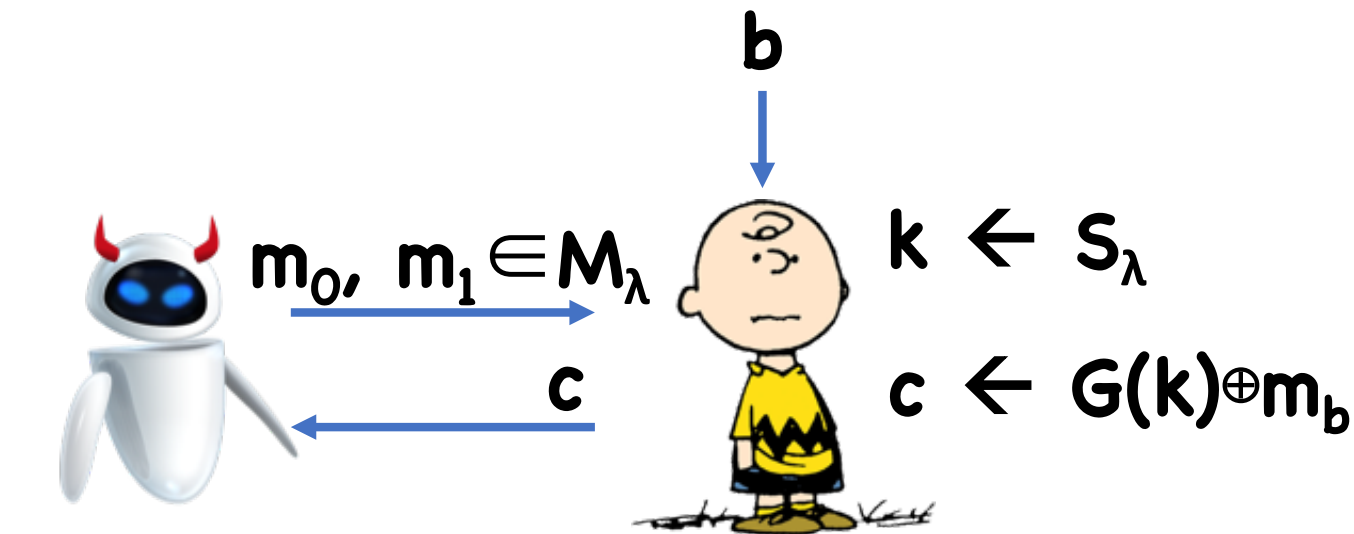
- **PRG(k)** "looks" random, so should completely hide **m** by OTP security
- However, formalizing this argument is non-trivial: how do we simultaneously reason about **all** efficient attacks?

Solution: reductions

- Proof by contradiction: assume adversary for encryption, derive an adversary for PRG

# Security

Assume towards contradiction that there is a



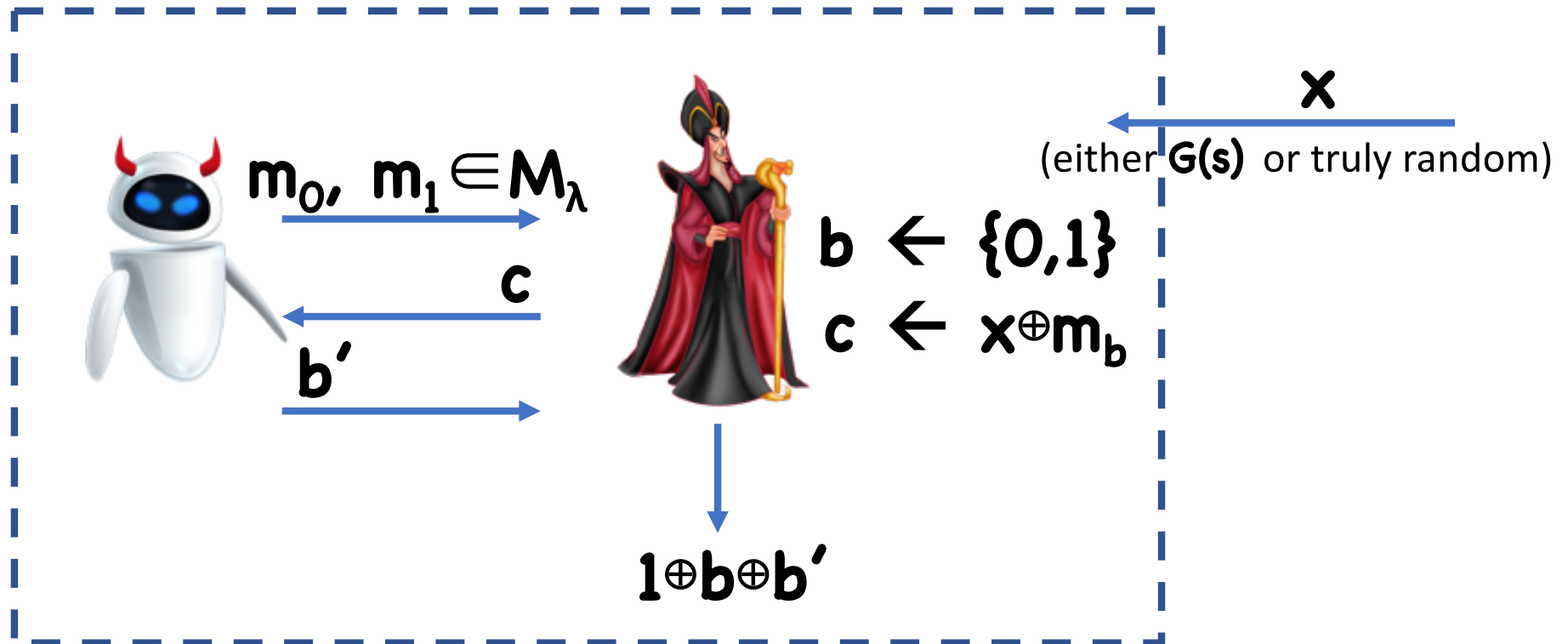
$b'$

$|\Pr[W_0] - \Pr[W_1]| \geq \epsilon$ , non-negligible

$W_b: b' = 1$  in  $\text{IND-Exp}_b$

# Security

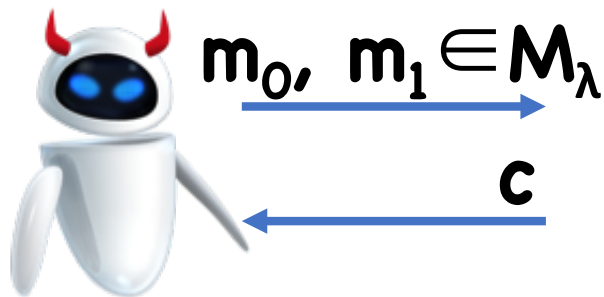
Use  to build .  will run  as a subroutine, and pretend to be .



# Security

Case 1:  $\mathbf{x} = \text{PRG}(\mathbf{s})$  for a random seed  $\mathbf{s}$

-  “sees”  $\text{IND-Exp}_b$  for a random bit  $\mathbf{b}$



$$\mathbf{b} \leftarrow \{0,1\}$$

$$\mathbf{s} \leftarrow S_\lambda$$

$$\mathbf{c} \leftarrow \text{PRG}(\mathbf{s}) \oplus m_b$$

$\downarrow$   
 $\mathbf{b}'$

# Security

Case 1:  $\mathbf{x} = \text{PRG}(\mathbf{s})$  for a random seed  $\mathbf{s}$

-  “sees”  $\text{IND-Exp}_b$  for a random bit  $b$

- $\Pr[1 \oplus b \oplus b' = 1] = \Pr[b = b']$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Pr[b' = 1 \mid b = 1]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} (1 - \Pr[b' = 1 \mid b = 0])$$

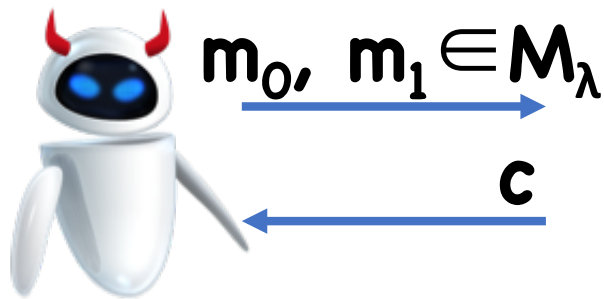
$$= \frac{1}{2}(1 + \Pr[W_0] - \Pr[W_1])$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \epsilon)$$

# Security

Case 2:  $x$  is truly random

- 🤖 “sees” OTP encryption



$$b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$$

$$x \leftarrow M_\lambda$$

$$c \leftarrow x \oplus m_b$$

↓  
 $b'$

# Security

Case 2:  $x$  is truly random

-  “sees” OTP encryption

- Therefore  $\Pr[b'=1 \mid b=0] = \Pr[b'=1 \mid b=1]$

- $\Pr[1 \oplus b \oplus b'=1] = \Pr[b=b']$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Pr[b'=1 \mid b=1]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} (1 - \Pr[b'=1 \mid b=0])$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}$$

# Security

Putting it together:

- $\Pr[\text{👑}(G(s))=1:s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^\lambda] = \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \epsilon(\lambda))$
- $\Pr[\text{👑}(x)=1:x \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n] = \frac{1}{2}$
- Absolute Difference:  $\frac{1}{2}\epsilon$ ,  $\Rightarrow$  Contradiction!



# Security

**Thm:** If  $\mathbf{G}$  is a secure PRG, then  $(\mathbf{Enc}, \mathbf{Dec})$  is has ciphertext indistinguishability

Can also adapt proof to concrete security setting:

Running time of reduction

**Thm:** If  $\mathbf{G}$  is a  $(\mathbf{t} + \text{poly}(\lambda), \epsilon/2)$ -secure PRG, then  $(\mathbf{Enc}, \mathbf{Dec})$  is has  $(\mathbf{t}, \epsilon)$ -ciphertext indistinguishability

# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

Idea: define sequence of “hybrid” experiments  
“between” **IND-Exp<sub>0</sub>** and **IND-Exp<sub>1</sub>**

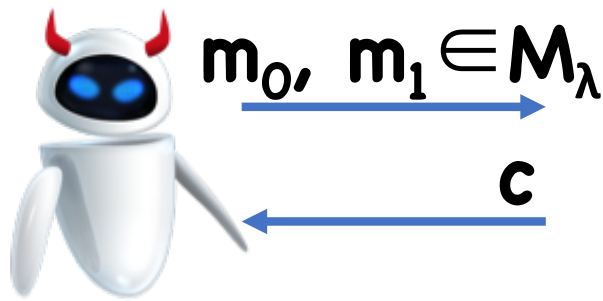
In each hybrid, make small change from previous  
hybrid

Hopefully, each small change is undetectable

Using triangle inequality, overall change from **IND-Exp<sub>0</sub>** and **IND-Exp<sub>1</sub>** is undetectable

# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

## Hybrid 0: IND-Exp<sub>0</sub>



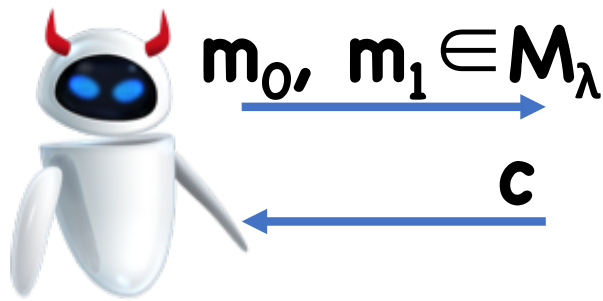
$$k \leftarrow S_\lambda$$

$$c \leftarrow G(k) \oplus m_0$$

$b'$

# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

## Hybrid 1:



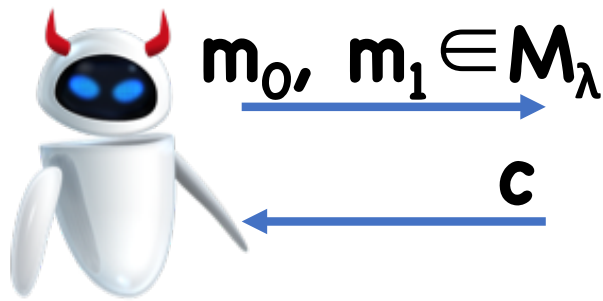
$$x \leftarrow M_\lambda$$

$$c \leftarrow x \oplus m_0$$

$b'$

# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

## Hybrid 2:



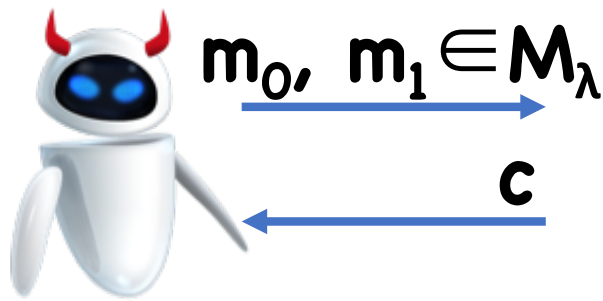
$$x \leftarrow M_\lambda$$

$$c \leftarrow x \oplus m_1$$

$b'$

# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

## Hybrid 3: IND-Exp<sub>1</sub>



$$k \leftarrow S_\lambda$$

$$c \leftarrow G(k) \oplus m_1$$

$\downarrow$   
 $b'$

# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

$$\begin{aligned} & | \Pr[b'=1 : \text{IND-Exp}_0] - \Pr[b'=1 : \text{IND-Exp}_1] | \\ &= | \Pr[b'=1 : \text{Hyb } 0] - \Pr[b'=1 : \text{Hyb } 3] | \\ &\leq | \Pr[b'=1 : \text{Hyb } 0] - \Pr[b'=1 : \text{Hyb } 1] | \\ &\quad + | \Pr[b'=1 : \text{Hyb } 1] - \Pr[b'=1 : \text{Hyb } 2] | \\ &\quad + | \Pr[b'=1 : \text{Hyb } 2] - \Pr[b'=1 : \text{Hyb } 3] | \end{aligned}$$

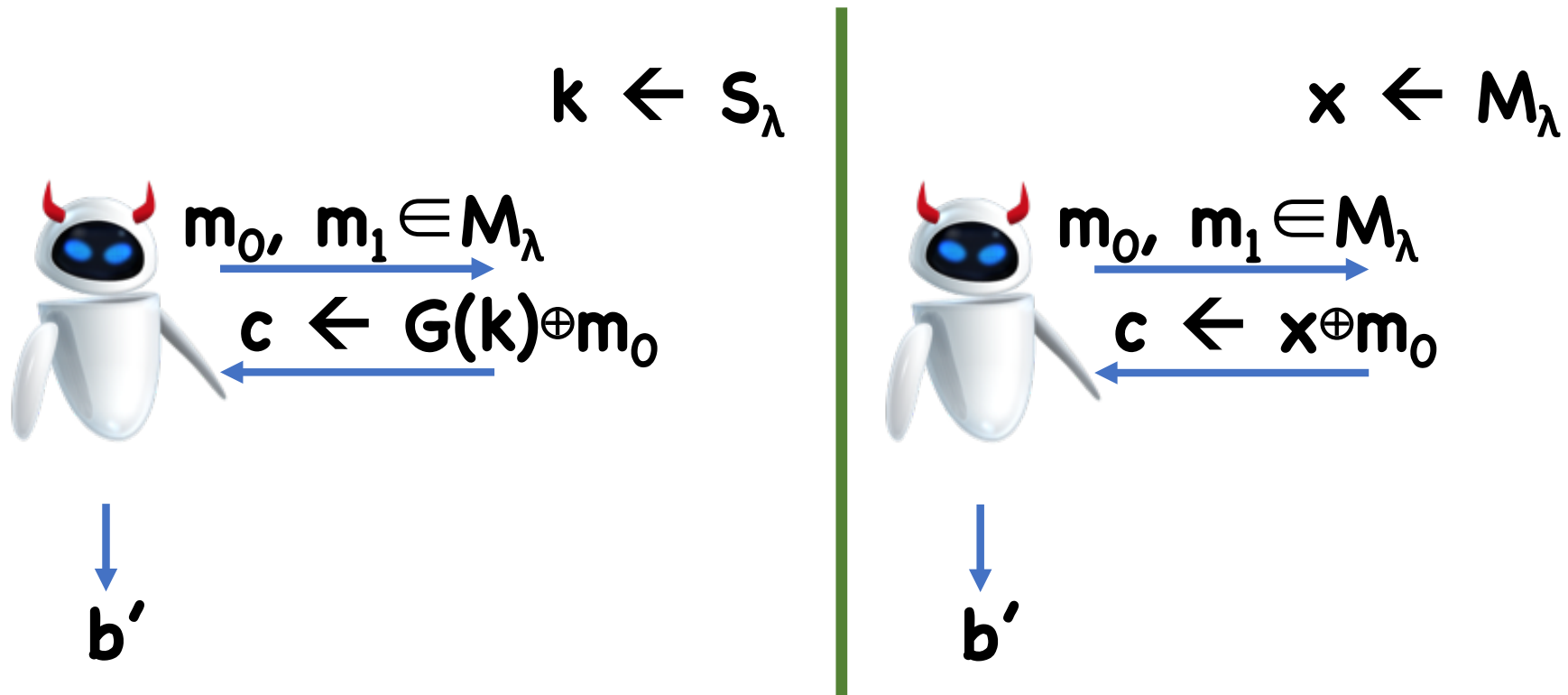
If  $|\Pr[b'=1 : \text{IND-Exp}_0] - \Pr[b'=1 : \text{IND-Exp}_1]| \geq \epsilon$ ,

Then for some  $i=0,1,2$ ,

$$|\Pr[b'=1 : \text{Hyb } i] - \Pr[b'=1 : \text{Hyb } i+1]| \geq \epsilon/3$$



# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

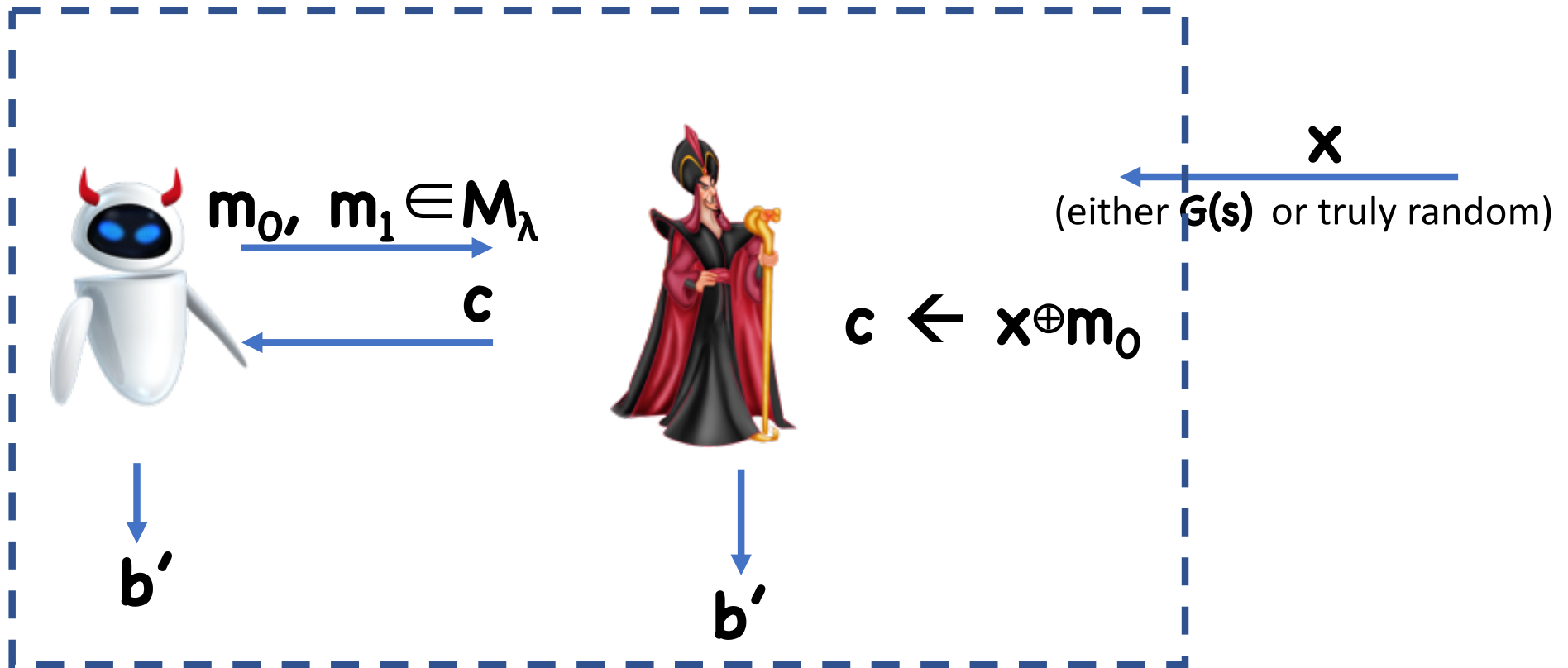
Suppose  distinguishes **Hybrid 0** from **Hybrid 1** with advantage  $\epsilon/3$







# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

Suppose  distinguishes **Hybrid 0** from **Hybrid 1** with advantage  $\epsilon/3 \Rightarrow$  Construct 



# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

Suppose  distinguishes **Hybrid 0** from **Hybrid 1** with advantage  $\epsilon/3 \Rightarrow$  Construct 

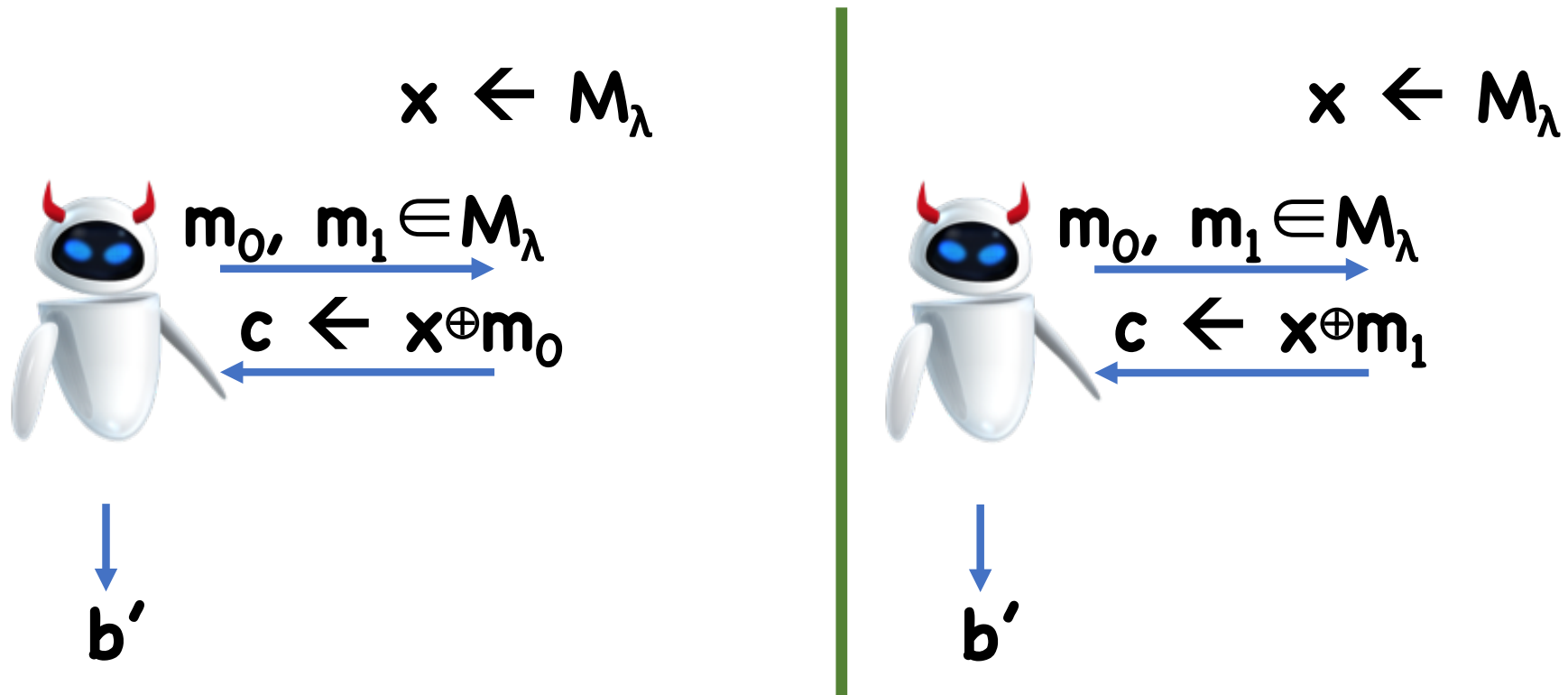
If  is given  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{s})$  for a random  $\mathbf{s}$ ,  sees **Hybrid 0**

If  is given  $\mathbf{x}$  for a random  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  sees **Hybrid 1**

Therefore, advantage of  is equal to advantage of  which is at least  $\epsilon/3 \Rightarrow$  Contradiction!

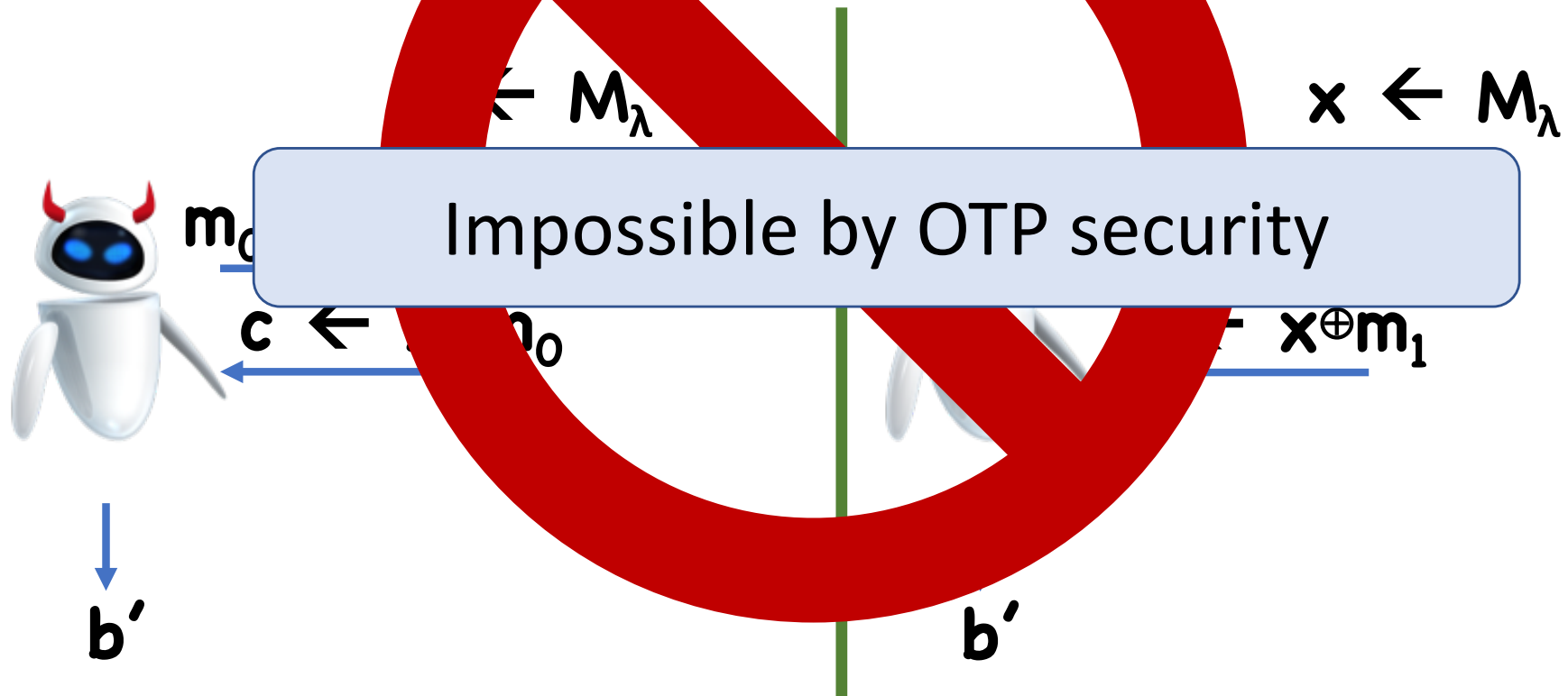
# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

Suppose  distinguishes **Hybrid 1** from **Hybrid 2** with advantage  $\epsilon/3$



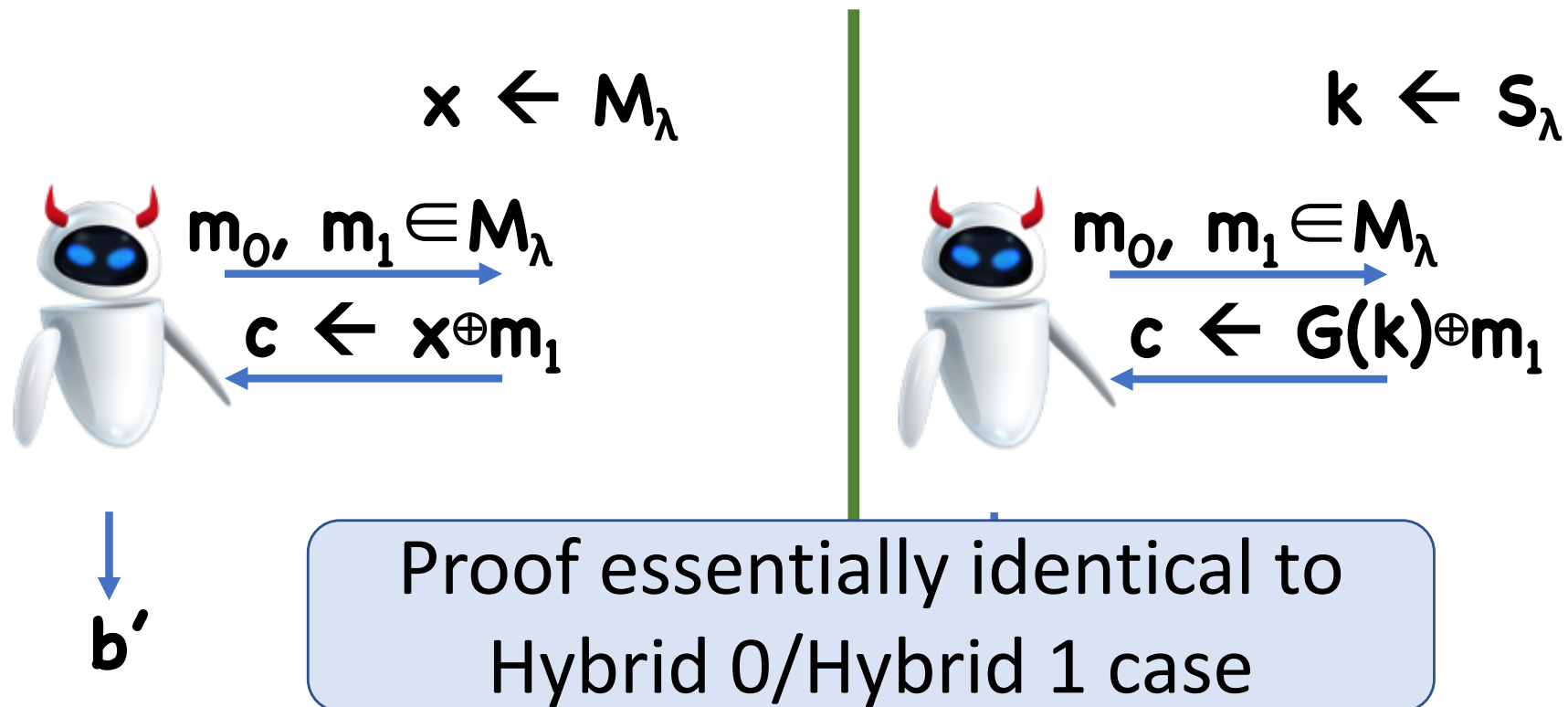
# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

Suppose  distinguishes **Hybrid 1** from **Hybrid 2** with advantage  $\epsilon/3$



# An Alternate Proof: Hybrids

Suppose  distinguishes **Hybrid 2** from **Hybrid 3** with advantage  $\epsilon/3$

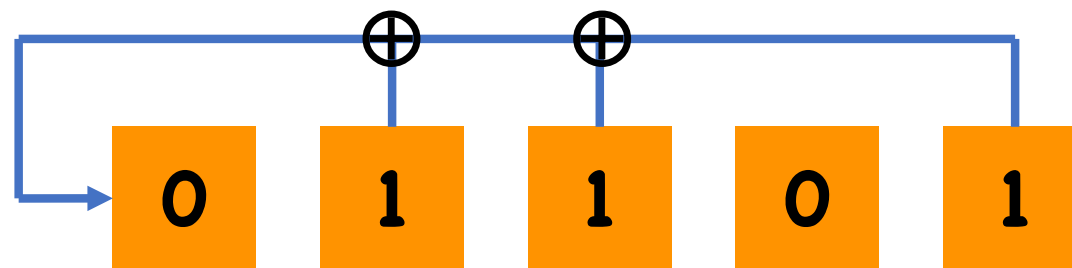


How do we build PRGs?

# Insecure: Linear Feedback Shift Registers

In each step,

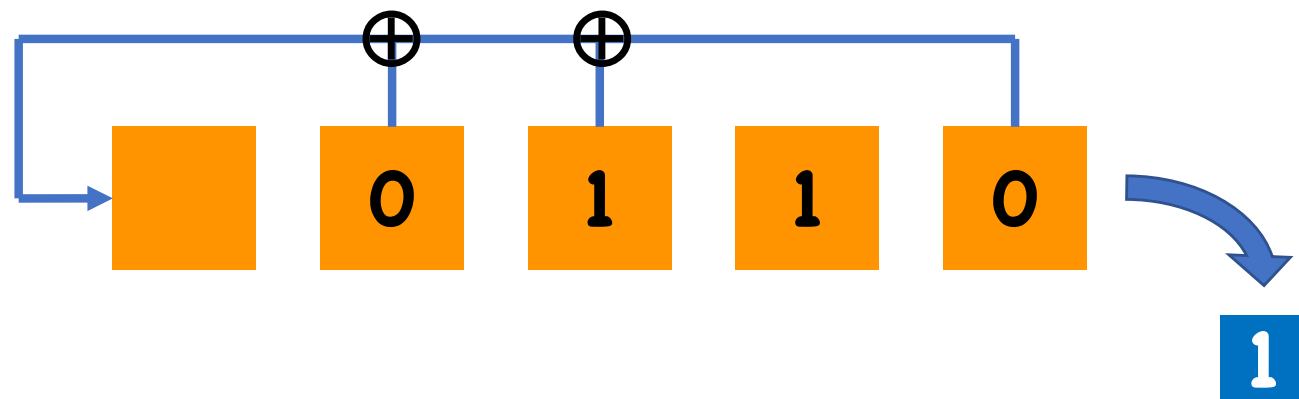
- Last bit of state is removed and outputted
- Rest of bits are shifted right
- First bit is XOR of subset of remaining bits



# Insecure: Linear Feedback Shift Registers

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- Last bit of state is removed and outputted
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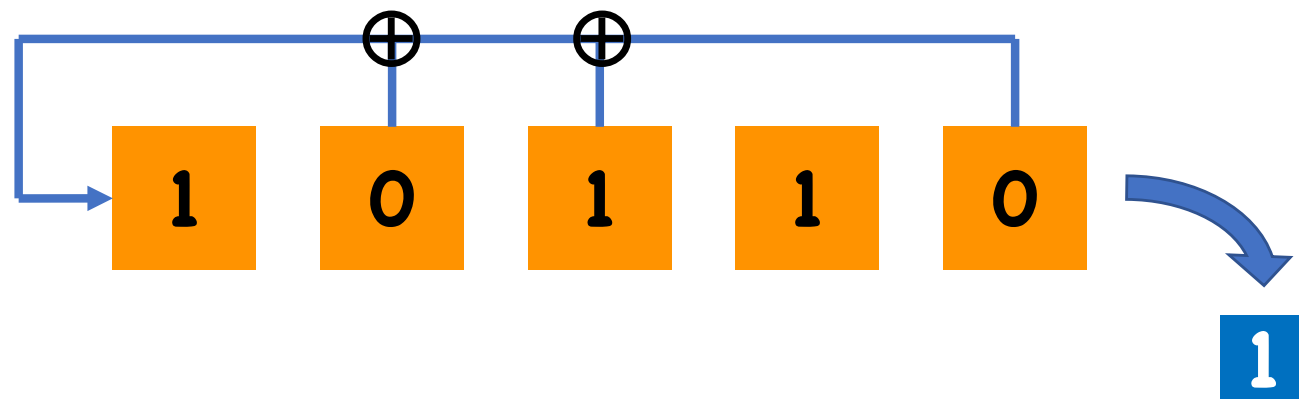




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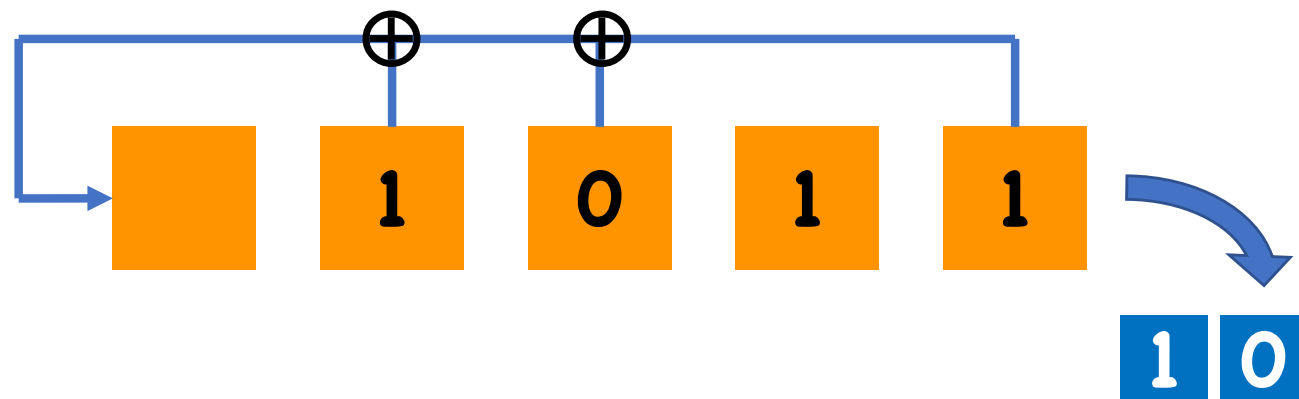
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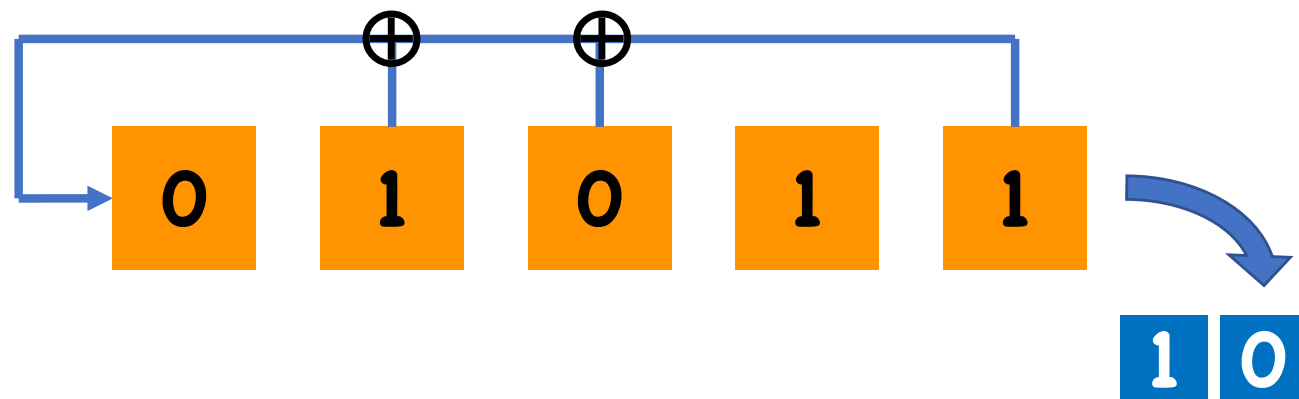
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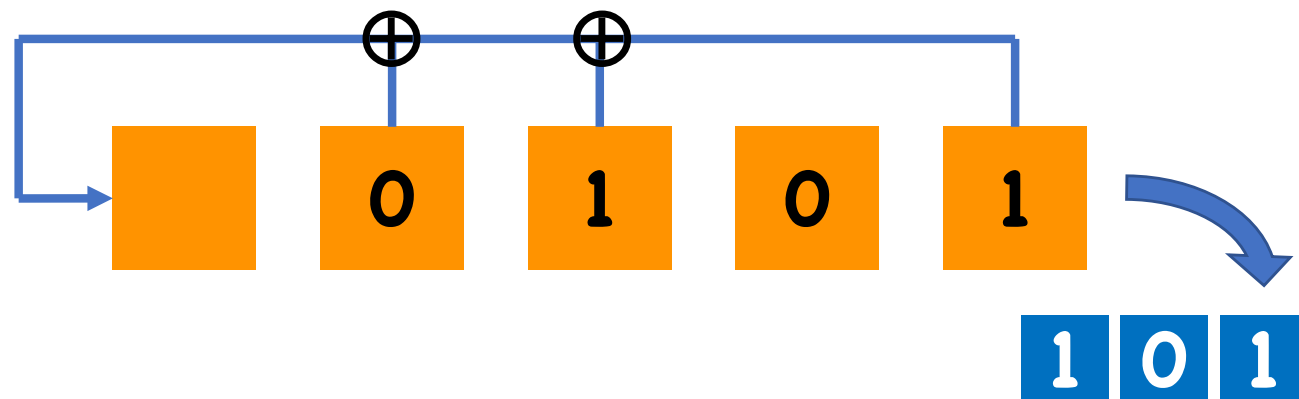
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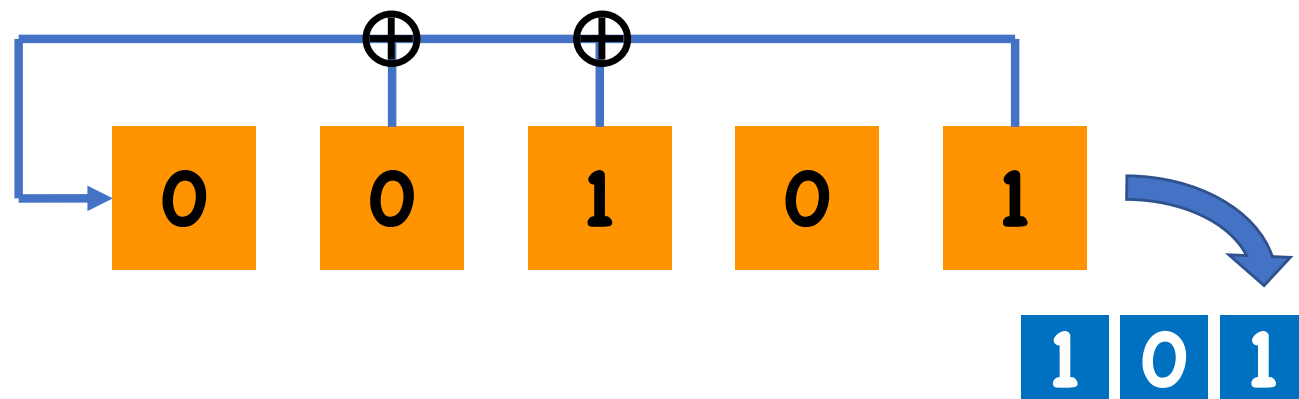
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# Insecure: Linear Feedback Shift Registers

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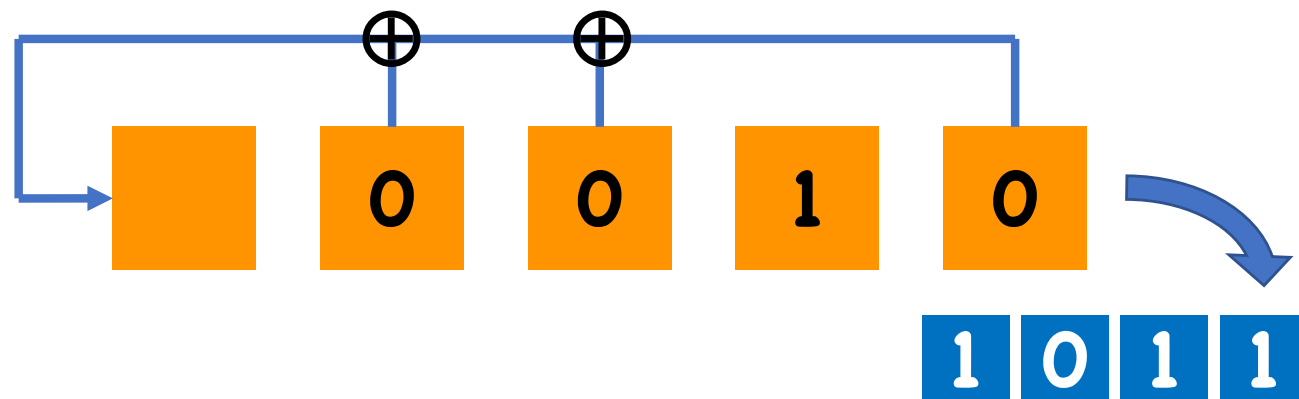
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# Insecure: Linear Feedback Shift Registers

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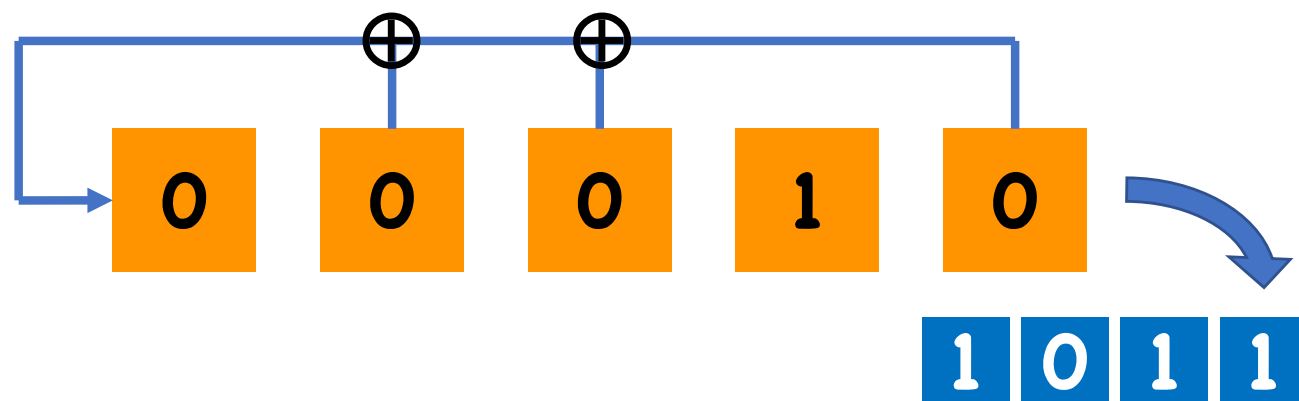
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# Insecure: Linear Feedback Shift Registers

In each step,

- Last bit of state is removed and outputted
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- First bit is XOR of subset of remaining bits



# Insecure: Linear Feedback Shift Registers

Any attacks on LFSRs?



# Linear Feedback Shift Registers

Problem: First  $n$  bits of output = initial state



Write  $\mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n, x'$


Initialize LFSB to have state  $x_1, \dots, x_n$

Run LFSB for  $|\mathbf{x}|$  steps, obtaining  $\mathbf{y}$

Check if  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}$

# PRGs should be Unpredictable

More generally, it should be hard, given some bits of output, to predict subsequent bits

**Definition:**  $G: S_\lambda \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{n(\lambda)}$  is **unpredictable** if, for all polynomial time  and any  $p=p(\lambda)$ ,  $\exists$  negligible  $\epsilon$  such that:

$$\left| \Pr[G(s)_{p+1} \leftarrow \img alt="lion" data-bbox="355 635 425 715"/> (G(s)_{[1,p]}) \right] - \frac{1}{2} \right| \leq \epsilon(\lambda)$$

# PRGs should be Unpredictable

More generally, it should be hard, given some bits of output, to predict subsequent bits

**Theorem:  $G$  is unpredictable iff it is pseudorandom**

# Proof

Pseudorandomness  $\rightarrow$  Unpredictability

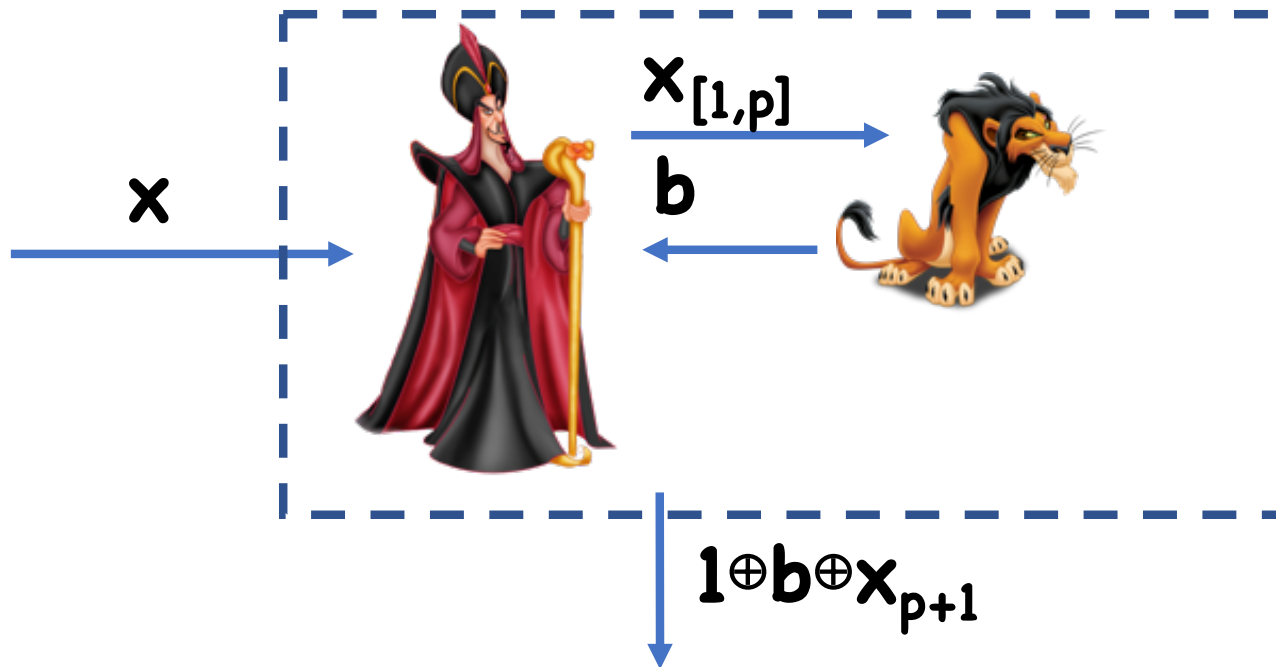
Assume towards contradiction  s.t.

$$\left| \Pr[G(s)_{p+1} \leftarrow \img alt="lion" data-bbox="345 555 399 621"/> (G(s)_{[1,p]}) \right] - \frac{1}{2} \right| > \varepsilon$$

# Proof

Pseudorandomness  $\rightarrow$  Unpredictability

Construct 



# Proof

Pseudorandomness  $\rightarrow$  Unpredictability

Analysis:



- If  $\mathbf{x}$  is random,  $\Pr[\mathbf{1} \oplus \mathbf{b} \oplus \mathbf{x}_{p+1} = 1] = \frac{1}{2}$
- If  $\mathbf{x}$  is pseudorandom,

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[\mathbf{1} \oplus \mathbf{b} \oplus \mathbf{x}_{p+1} = 1] \\ &= \Pr[G(s)_{p+1} \leftarrow \text{🦁} (G(s)_{[1,p]}) ] \\ &> (\frac{1}{2} + \epsilon) \quad \text{or} \quad < (\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon) \end{aligned}$$

# Proof

Unpredictability  $\rightarrow$  Pseudorandomness

Assume towards contradiction  s.t.

$$\left| \Pr[\text{}(G(s))=1 : s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^\lambda] - \Pr[\text{}(x)=1 : x \leftarrow \{0,1\}^t] \right| > \epsilon$$

# Proof

Unpredictability  $\rightarrow$  Pseudorandomness

Hybrids:

$H_i: x_{[1,i]} \leftarrow G(s), x_{[i+1,t]} \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{t-i}$

$H_0$ : truly random  $x$

$H_t$ : pseudorandom  $t$



# Proof

Unpredictability  $\rightarrow$  Pseudorandomness

Hybrids:

$$H_i: x_{[1,i]} \leftarrow G(s), x_{[i+1,t]} \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{t-i}$$

$$\left| \Pr[ \text{A}(x)=1 : x \leftarrow H_s ] \right.$$

$$\left. - \Pr[ \text{A}(x)=1 : x \leftarrow H_0 ] \right| > \epsilon$$

$$\text{Let } q_i = \Pr[ \text{A}(x)=1 : x \leftarrow H_i ]$$

# Proof

Unpredictability  $\rightarrow$  Pseudorandomness

Hybrids:

$$H_i: x_{[1,i]} \leftarrow G(s), x_{[i+1,t]} \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{t-i}$$

$$|q_t - q_0| > \epsilon$$

$$\text{Let } q_i = \Pr[\text{👑}(x)=1: x \leftarrow H_i]$$

# Proof

Unpredictability  $\rightarrow$  Pseudorandomness

Hybrids:

$$H_i: x_{[1,i]} \leftarrow G(s), x_{[i+1,t]} \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{t-i}$$

By triangle inequality, there must exist an  $i$  s.t.

$$|q_i - q_{i-1}| > \epsilon/t$$

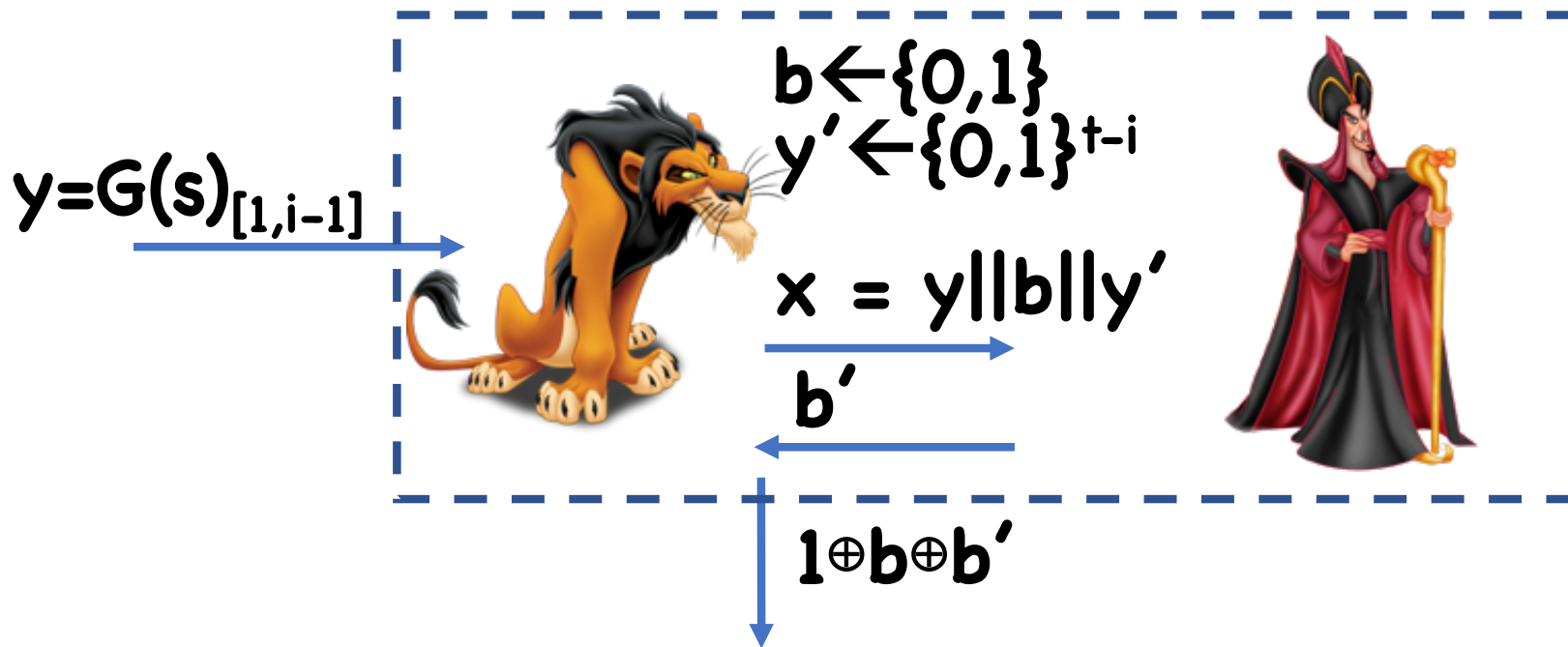
Can assume wlog that

$$q_i - q_{i-1} > \epsilon/t$$

# Proof

Unpredictability  $\rightarrow$  Pseudorandomness




Construct 



# Proof

Unpredictability  $\rightarrow$  Pseudorandomness

Analysis:

- If  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{s})_i$ , then  sees  $\mathbf{H}_i$ 
  - $\Rightarrow$   outputs  $\mathbf{1}$  with probability  $q_i$
  - $\Rightarrow$   outputs  $\mathbf{b}=\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{s})_i$  with probability  $q_i$

# Proof

Unpredictability  $\rightarrow$  Pseudorandomness

Analysis:

• If  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{1} \oplus \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{s})_i$ , then

Define  $q_i'$  as  $\Pr[\text{👤 outputs } \mathbf{1}]$

$$\frac{1}{2}(q_i' + q_i) = q_{i-1} \Rightarrow q_i' = 2q_{i-1} - q_i$$

$\Rightarrow$  🦁 outputs  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{s})_{[1,i]}$  with probability

$$1 - q_i' = 1 + q_i - 2q_{i-1}$$

# Proof

Unpredictability  $\rightarrow$  Pseudorandomness

Analysis:

•  $\Pr[\text{🐶 outputs } G(s)_i]$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (q_i) + \frac{1}{2} (1 + q_i - 2q_{i-1})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} + q_i - q_{i-1}$$

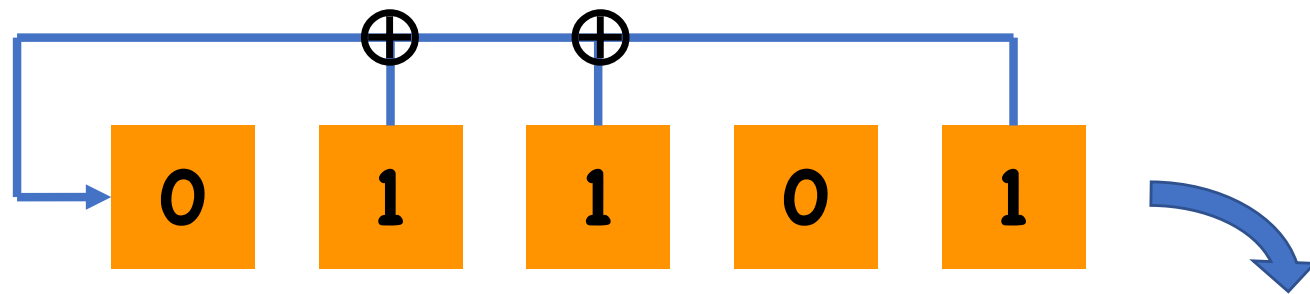
$$> \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon/t$$

Any ideas?



# Linearity

Problem: LFSR's are linear



$$\text{state}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \bullet \text{state (mod 2)}$$

$$\text{output} = (0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1) \bullet \text{state (mod 2)}$$

# Linearity

Problem: LFSR's are linear

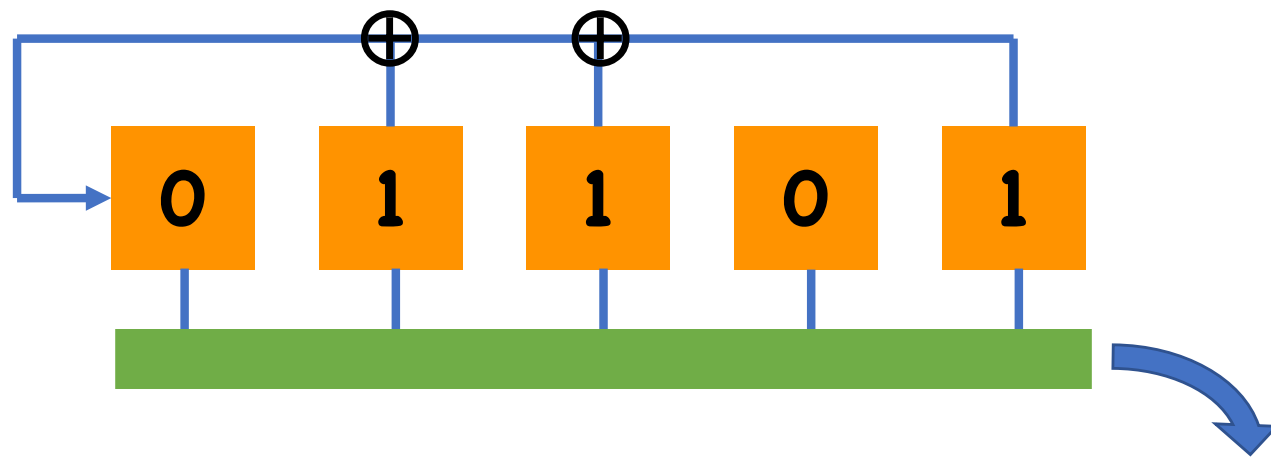
- Each output bit is a linear function of the initial state (that is,  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{s}) = \mathbf{A} \bullet \mathbf{s} \pmod{2}$  )

Any linear  $\mathbf{G}$  cannot be a PRG

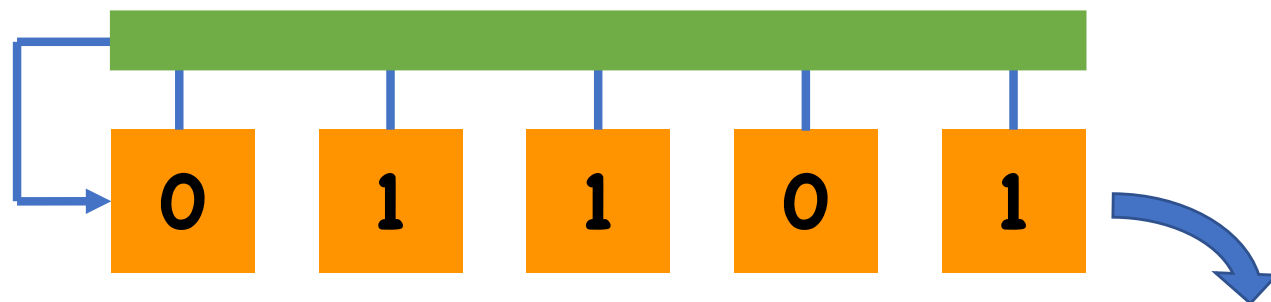
- Can check if  $\mathbf{x}$  is in column-span of  $\mathbf{A}$  using linear algebra mod  $2$

# Introducing Non-linearity

Non-linearity in the output:



Non-linear feedback:



# LFSR period

Period = number of bits before state repeats

After one period, output sequence repeats

Therefore, should have extremely long period

- Ideally almost  $2^\lambda$
- Possible to design LFSR's with period  $2^\lambda - 1$

# Hardware vs Software

PRGs based on LFSR's are very fast in hardware

Unfortunately, not easily amenable to software

# RC4

Fast software based PRG

Resisted attack for several years

No longer considered secure, but still widely used

# RC4

State = permutation on **[256]** plus two integers

- Permutation stored as **256**-byte array **S**

**Init(16-byte k):**

- For  **$i=0, \dots, 255$**

$$S[i] = i$$

- **$j = 0$**

- For  **$i=0, \dots, 255$**

$$j = j + S[i] + k[i \bmod 16] \pmod{256}$$

Swap  **$S[i]$**  and  **$S[j]$**

- Output  **$(S, 0, 0)$**

# RC4

## GetBits(S,i,j):

- $i++ \pmod{256}$
- $j += S[i] \pmod{256}$
- Swap  $S[i]$  and  $S[j]$
- $t = S[i] + S[j] \pmod{256}$
- Output  $(S,i,j), S[t]$

New state

Next output byte





# Insecurity of RC4

Second byte of output is slightly biased towards 0

- $\Pr[\text{second byte} = 0^8] \approx 2/256$
- Should be  $1/256$

Means RC4 is not secure according to our definition

-  outputs **1** iff second byte is equal to  $0^8$
- Advantage:  $\approx 1/256$

Not a serious attack in practice, but demonstrates some structural weakness

# Insecurity of RC4

Possible to extend attack to actually recover the input **k** in some use cases

- The seed is set to **(IV, k)** for some initial value **IV**
- Encrypt messages as  **$RC4(IV, k) \oplus m$**
- Also give **IV** to attacker
- Cannot show security assuming RC4 is a PRG

Can be used to completely break WEP encryption standard

# Summary

Stream ciphers = secure encryption for arbitrary length, number of messages  
(though we did not completely prove it)

However, implementation difficulties due to having to maintaining state

# Reminders

HW1 Due September 15

PR1 Due October 6