

# Cryptography Part 1

CMSC 23200/33250, Winter 2023, Lecture 9

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<https://www.amazon.com>

## www.amazon.com

Your connection to this site is private.

[Details](#)

Permissions

Connection



Chrome verified that Symantec Class 3 Secure Server CA - G4 issued this website's certificate. The server did not supply any Certificate Transparency information.

[Certificate Information](#)



Your connection to www.amazon.com is encrypted using a modern cipher suite.

The connection uses TLS 1.2.

The connection is encrypted and authenticated using AES\_128\_GCM and uses ECDHE\_RSA as the key exchange mechanism.

[What do these mean?](#)

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Departments

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Today's Deals

Gift Cards

DESTINATION  
ENTERTAINMENT

fire \$499



**The Wi-Fi network "Pat'swifi" requires a WPA2 password.**

Password:

- ☐ Show password
- ☒ Remember this network



Cancel

Join



nothing

Today 11:11

Can you please come over  
asap to help me move the  
couch?

I need to be out of here by  
3pm

I guess you forgot your  
phone at home or  
something

Delivered

Send



iMessage

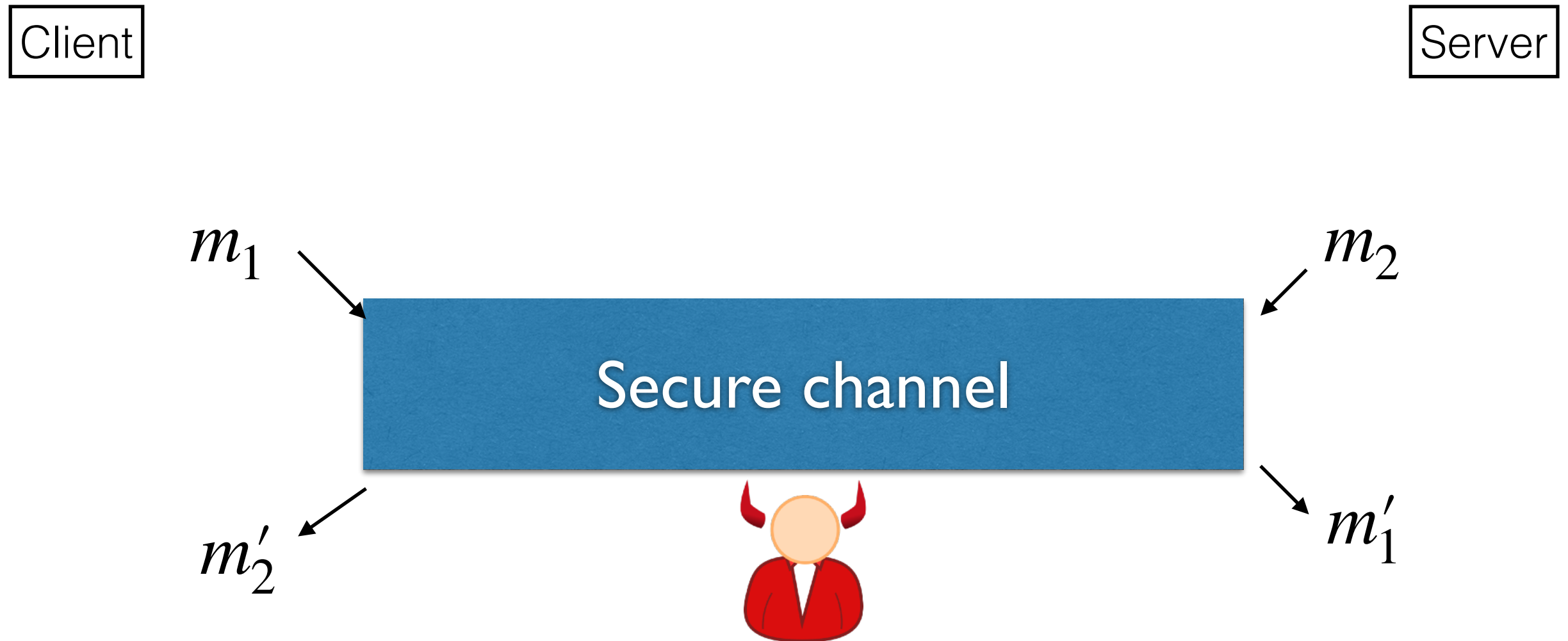


# What is Cryptography?

Cryptography involves algorithms with security goals.

Cryptography involves using math to stop adversaries.

# Common Security Goal: Secure Channel



**Confidentiality:** Adversary does not learn anything about messages  $m_1, m_2$

**Authenticity:**  $m'_1 = m_1$  and  $m'_2 = m_2$

# Crypto in CS23200/33250

- A brief overview of major concepts and tools
- Cover (some of) big “gotchas” in crypto deployments
- Cover background for networking and authentication later

Not going to cover math, proofs, or many details.  
Consider taking CS284 (Cryptography)!

# Four settings for cryptography

| Security Goal        |  | Confidentiality                                     | Authenticity/Integrity               |
|----------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Pre-shared key?      |  |   |                                      |
| Yes<br>("Symmetric") |  | Symmetric Encryption<br>(aka Secret-key Encryption) | Message Authentication Code<br>(MAC) |
| No<br>("Asymmetric") |  | Public-Key Encryption                               | Digital Signatures                   |



## Rest of this lecture

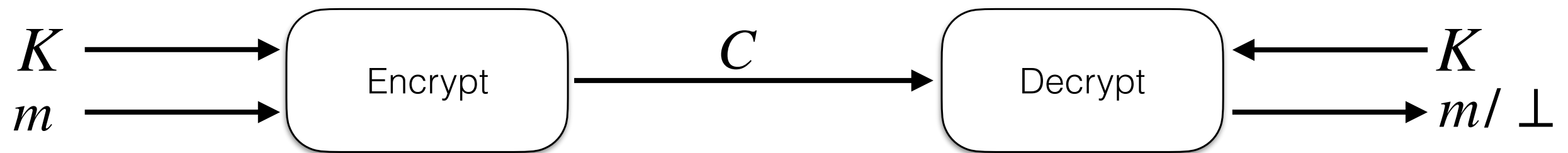
- Symmetric Encryption Basics
- Stream Ciphers
- Message Authentication Codes

# Rest of this lecture

- **Symmetric Encryption Basics**
- Stream Ciphers
- Message Authentication Codes

# Ciphers (a.k.a. Symmetric Encryption)

A cipher is a pair of algorithms Encrypt, Decrypt:



Require that decryption recovers the same message.

# Historical Cipher: ROT13 (“Caesar cipher”)

Encrypt(K,m): shift each letter of plaintext forward by K positions in alphabet (wrap from Z to A).

Plaintext:    **DEFGH**

Key (shift):  3

Ciphertext:  **FGHKL**

Plaintext:    **ATTACKATDAWN**

Key (shift):  13


Ciphertext:  **NGGNPXNGQNJJA**



# Historical Cipher: Substitution Cipher

Encrypt(K,m): Parse key K as a permutation  $\pi$  on  $\{A,\dots Z\}$ .  
Apply  $\pi$  to each character of m.

P: ATTACKATDAWN

K:  $\pi$  

C: ZKKZAMZKYZGT

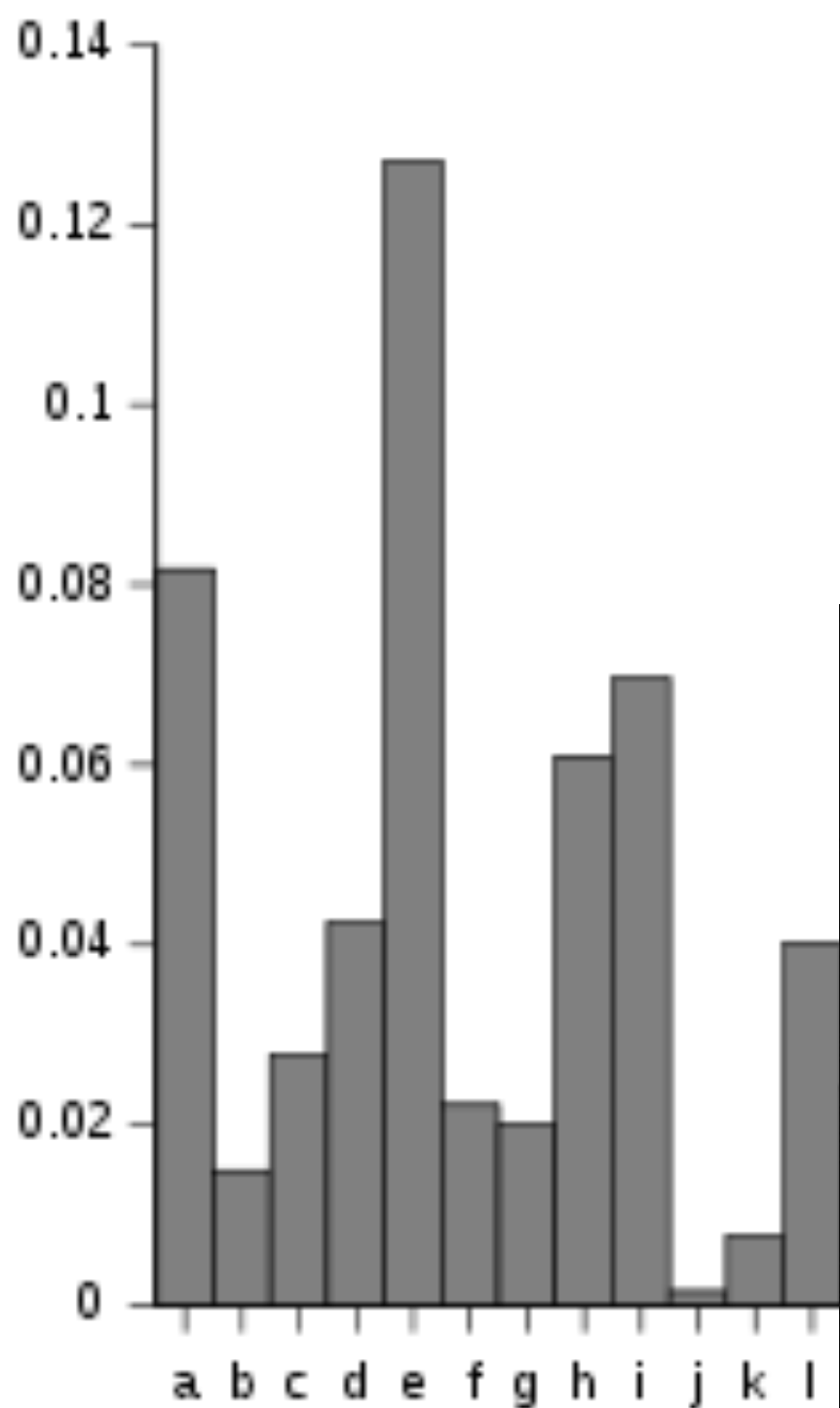
| x | $\pi(x)$ |
|---|----------|
| A | Z        |
| B | U        |
| C | A        |
| D | Y        |
| E | R        |
| F | E        |
| G | X        |
| H | B        |
| I | D        |
| J | C        |
| K | M        |
| L | Q        |
| M | H        |
| N | T        |
| O | I        |
| P | S        |
| Q | V        |
| R | N        |
| S | P        |
| T | K        |
| U | O        |
| V | F        |
| W | G        |
| X | W        |
| Y | L        |
| Z | J        |

How many keys?

$$26! \approx 2^{88}$$

9 million years to try all keys at rate of  
1 trillion/sec

# Cryptanalysis of Substitution Cipher



## CELEBRITY CIPHER by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present.  
Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ U P X E G T H W Z H F X Y L F H O S L N P F X . H M  
T P J S X E P O X V P G A V G P O S L E E B X X O A  
P M L N P F X , T P J ' C X Z P W E E B X V B P Z X  
E B H O S . ” — V . W . Y X G V H O

Previous Solution: “Time is the cruelest teacher; first she gives the test, then teaches the lesson.” — Leonard Bernstein

TODAY'S CLUE: *r sjenθ N*

# Quick recall: Bitwise-XOR operation

We will use bit-wise XOR:

$$\begin{array}{r} 0101 \\ \oplus 1100 \\ \hline 1001 \end{array}$$

## Some Properties:

- $X \oplus Y = Y \oplus X$
- $X \oplus X = 000\dots 0$
- $X \oplus Y \oplus X = Y$

# Cipher Example: One-Time Pad

Key K: Bitstring of length L

Plaintext M: Bitstring of length L

Encrypt(K,M): Output  $K \oplus M$

Decrypt(K,C): Output  $K \oplus C$

Example:

$$\begin{array}{r} 0101 \\ \oplus 1100 \\ \hline 1001 \end{array}$$

Correctly decrypts because

$$K \oplus C = K \oplus (K \oplus M) = (K \oplus K) \oplus M = M$$

Q: Is the one-time pad secure?

Bigger Q: What does “secure” even mean?

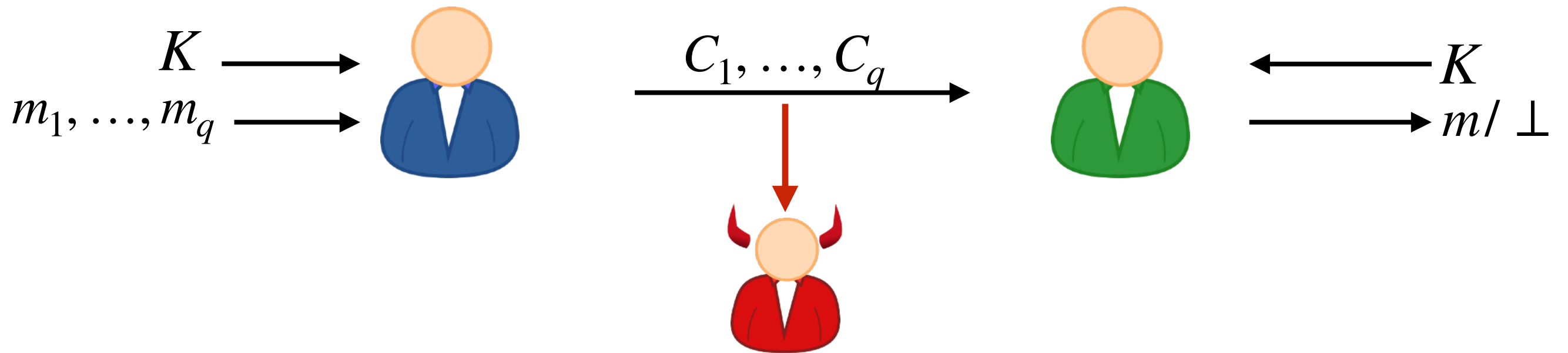


# Evaluating Security of Crypto Algorithms

Kerckhoff's Principle: Assume adversary knows your algorithms and implementation. The only thing it doesn't know is the key.

- Example: Adversary knows you are running SSH, and it knows all of the ciphers that SSH allows by looking at the public standard (or downloading the open-source software itself)
- ... but it does not know the keys involved

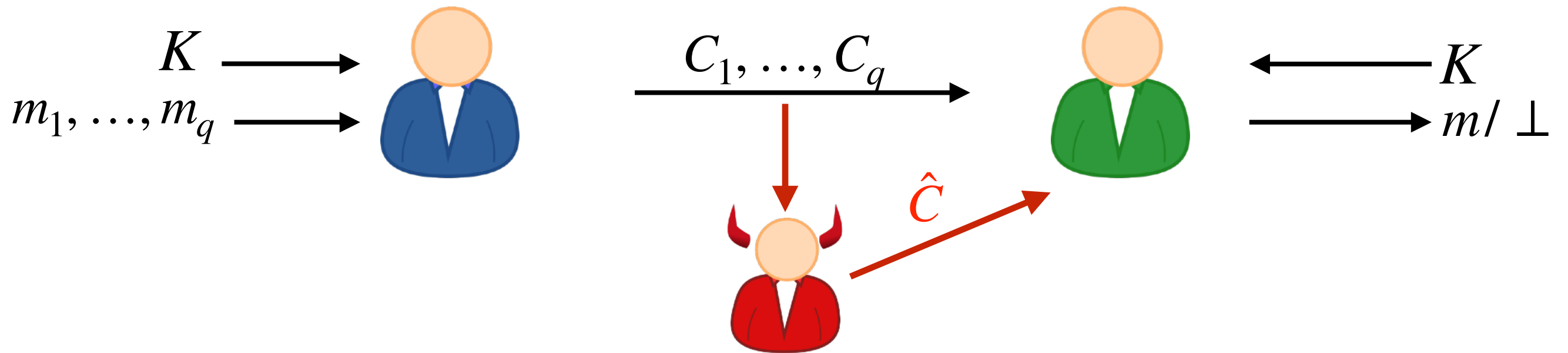
# Adversary Goal #1: Break Confidentiality



The adversary sees ciphertexts and attempts to recover some “useful information” about plaintexts.

Other attack settings are important (e.g. adversary can ask for some encryptions, some decryptions...)

## Adversary Goal #2: Break Authenticity

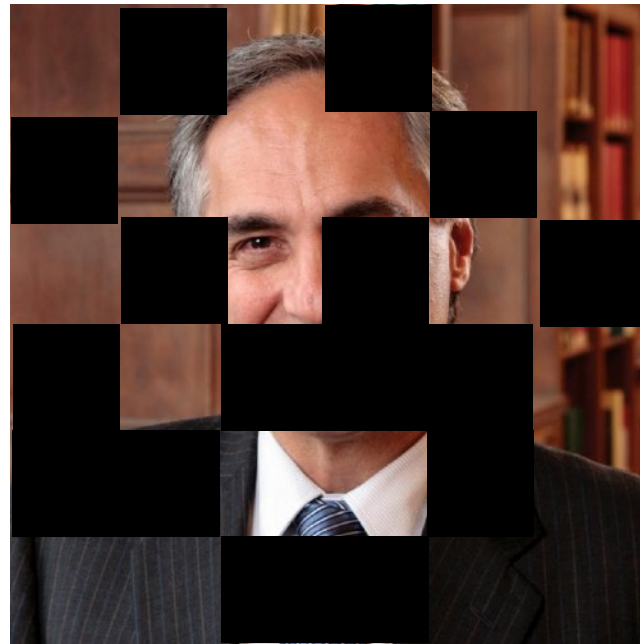


The adversary sees ciphertexts and attempts to create and inject a new ciphertext without being detected by receiver.

Other attack settings are important here too.

# Recovering Partial Information; Partial Knowledge

- Recovering entire messages is useful
- But recovering **partial information** is also be useful



A lot of information is missing here.

But can we say who this is?

- Attacker may know large parts of plaintext already (e.g. formatting strings or application content). The attacker tries to obtain something it doesn't already know.

`M = http://site.com?password=`



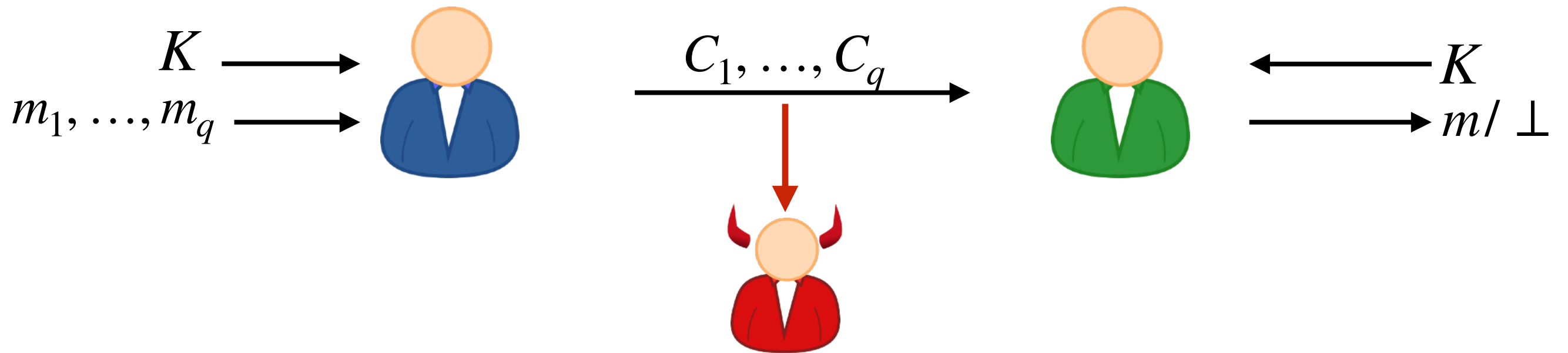


# Confidentiality Goal for Encryption

An **attack** is successful as long as it recovers some info about plaintext that is useful to adversary.

Encryption should hide all possible partial information about plaintexts, since what is useful is situation-dependent.

# Attacks can succeed without recovering the key



**Full break:** Adversary recovers  $K$ , decrypts all ciphertexts.

**However:** Clever attacker may compromise encryption without recovering the key.

# Security of One-Time Pad

Claim: If adversary sees **only one** ciphertext under a random key, then any plaintext is equally likely, so it cannot recover any partial information besides plaintext length.

Ciphertext observed: 10111

Possible plaintext: 00101

⇒ Possible key: 10010

1. Adversary goal: Learn partial information from plaintext
2. Adversary capability: Observe a single ciphertext
3. Adversary compute resources: Unlimited time/memory (!)

# Issues with One-Time Pad

1. Reusing a pad is insecure
2. One-Time Pad does not provide integrity/authenticity
3. One-Time Pad has a long key



# Issue #1: Reusing a One-Time Pad is Insecure



HELLOALICE

$\oplus$

Pad

=

C<sub>1</sub>

$\oplus$

HELLOALICE

=

Pad

PWDHAMSTER

$\oplus$

Pad

=

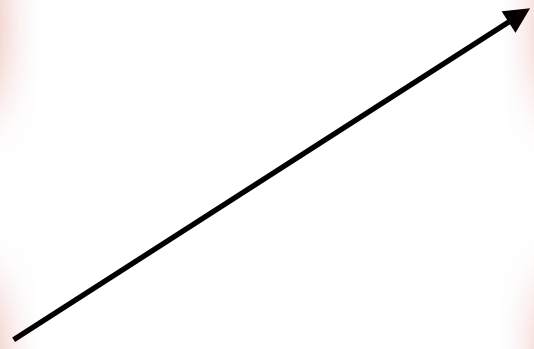
C<sub>2</sub>

$\oplus$

Pad

=

PWDHAMSTER



# Issue #1: Reusing a One-Time Pad is Insecure

Has led to real attacks:

- Project Venona (1940s) attack by US on Soviet encryption
- MS Windows NT protocol PPTP
- WEP (old WiFi encryption protocol)
- Fortiguard routers! [[link](#)]



=  
 $C_1$

=  
 $C_2$

$C_1$

$\oplus$

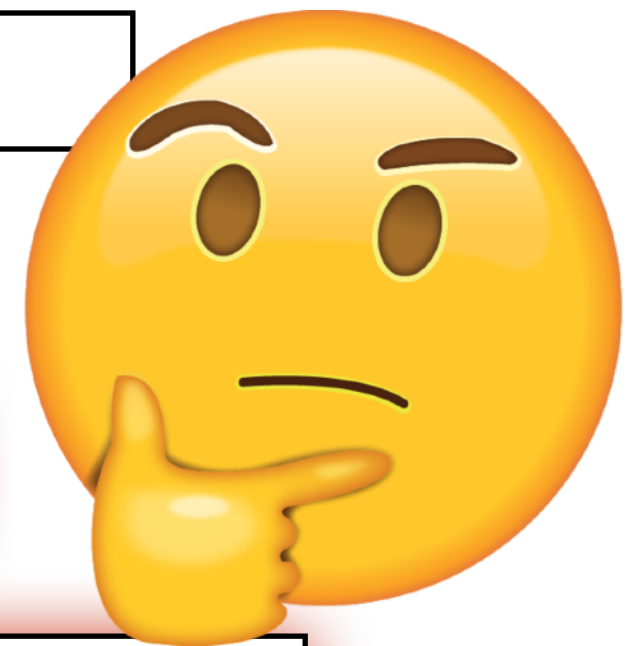
$C_2$

=

S3CR3T1234

$\oplus$

3L33THXRRR



# Issue #2: One-Time Pad Does Not Provide Integrity



PAYALICE\$1

$\oplus$

Pad

=

C

$\oplus$

000ALICE00

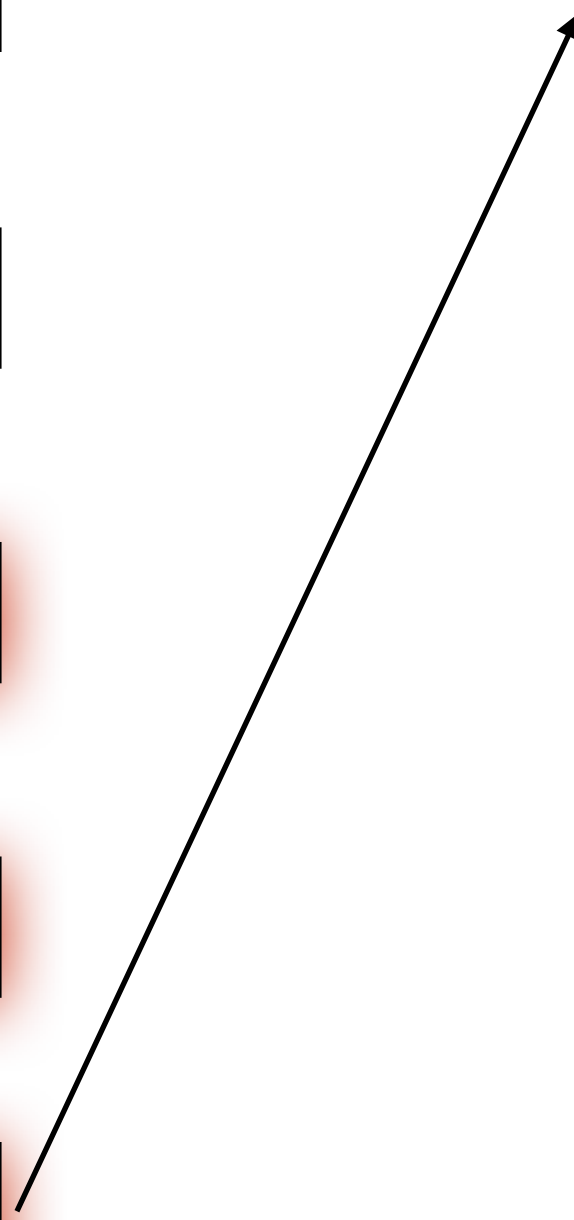
$\oplus$

000DAVID00

=

C'

Decrypt(Pad, C') = PAYDAVID\$1



## Issue #3: One-Time Pad Needs a Long Key

Can prove: Any cipher as secure as the OTP must have:  
Key-length  $\geq$  Plaintext-length

In practice:

- Use *stream cipher*:  $\text{Encrypt}(K, m) = G(K) \oplus m$
- Add *authentication tag*
- Use *nonces* to encrypt multiple messages

# Outline

- Symmetric Encryption Basics
- **Stream Ciphers**
- Block Ciphers

# Tool to address key-length of OTP: Stream Ciphers

Stream cipher syntax: Algorithm  $G$  that takes one input and produces a very long bit-string as output.

Usually very, very large  
(petabytes if needed)

Key/Seed k: 1100..11

- Typically 16 or 32 bytes.

# G

G(k): 11111010001000111010100101000101100100111100..

⊕ DONUTSDONUTSDONUTSDONUTSDONUTSDONUTSDONUTSDON

Use  $G(\text{seed})$  in place of pad.  
Still malleable and still one-time, but key is shorter.



# Stream Cipher Security Goal (Sketch)

Security goal: When  $\mathbf{k}$  is random and unknown,  $G(\mathbf{k})$  should “look” random.

... even to an adversary spending a lot of computation.

Much stronger requirement that “passes statistical tests”.

Brute force attack: Given  $\mathbf{y} = G(\mathbf{k})$ , try all possible  $\mathbf{k}$  and see if you get the string  $\mathbf{y}$ .

Clarified goal: When  $\mathbf{k}$  is random and unknown,  $G(\mathbf{k})$  should “look” random to anyone with less computational power needed for a brute force attack.

(keylength = 256 is considered strong now)

# Aside: Fundamental Physical Property of the Universe\*

There exist (1-to-1) functions (say on bitstrings) that are:

- 1) Very fast to evaluate
- 2) Computationally infeasible to reverse

**The disparity can be almost arbitrarily large!**

Evaluating  $y = f(x)$  may only take a few cycles....

... and finding  $x$  from  $y$  within the lifetime of the universe may not be possible, even with a computer made up of every particle in the universe.

*\*conjectured, but unproven property*

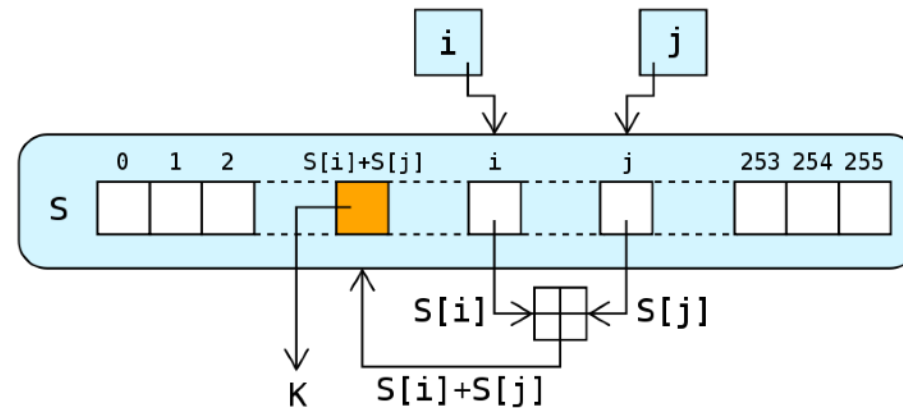
# Computational Strength

| # Steps   | Who can do that many?                                      |
|-----------|--|
| $2^{56}$  | Strong computer with GPUs                                  |
| $2^{80}$  | All computers on Bitcoin network in 4.5 hours              |
| $2^{128}$ | Very large quantum computer? (Ask Diana,Fred,Bill,Robert)* |
| $2^{192}$ | Nobody?  |
| $2^{256}$ | Nobody?  |

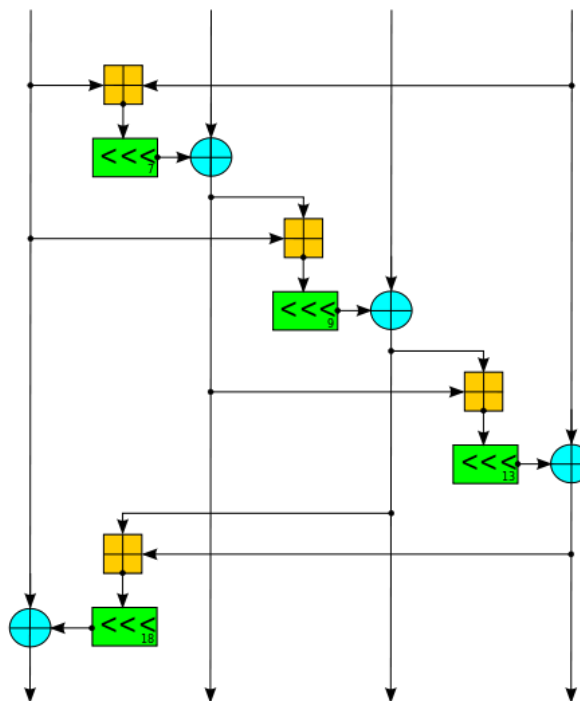
\*Not directly comparable but this is an estimate of equivalent power. Quantum computers are most effective against public-key crypto, but they also speed up attacks on symmetric-key crypto. (More next time.)

# Practical Stream Ciphers (Not covered in this class)

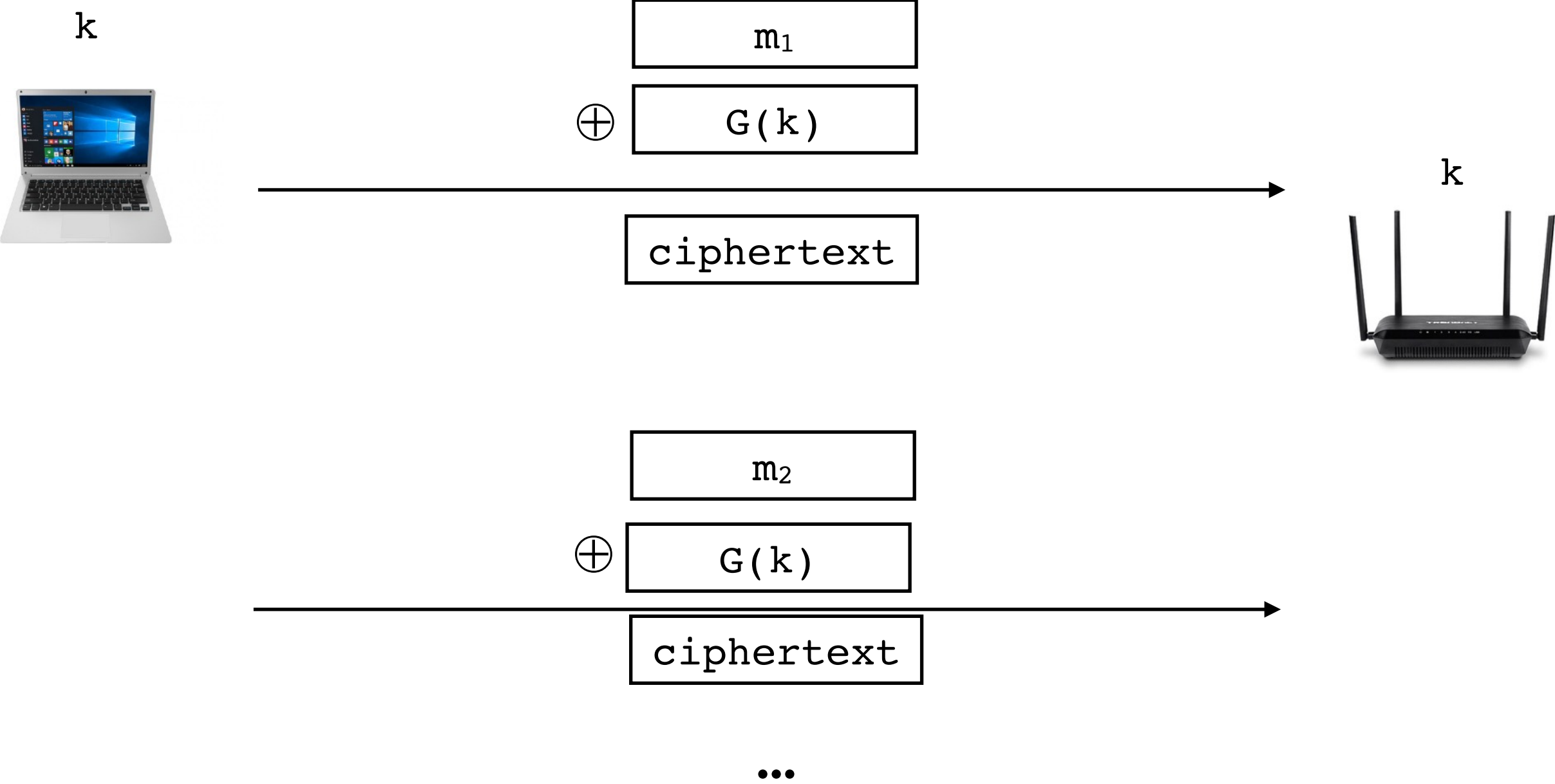
**RC4** (1987): “Ron’s Cipher #4”. Mostly retired by 2016.



**ChaCha20** (2007): Successfully deployed replacement.  
Supports *nonces*.



# Pad reuse can still happen with stream ciphers



# Addressing pad reuse: Stream cipher with a nonce

Stream cipher with a nonce: Algorithm  $G$  that takes **two inputs** and produces a very long bit-string as output.

| <u>Nonce IV:</u> | <u>Key/Seed <math>k</math>:</u> |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1100...11        | 1100...11                       |

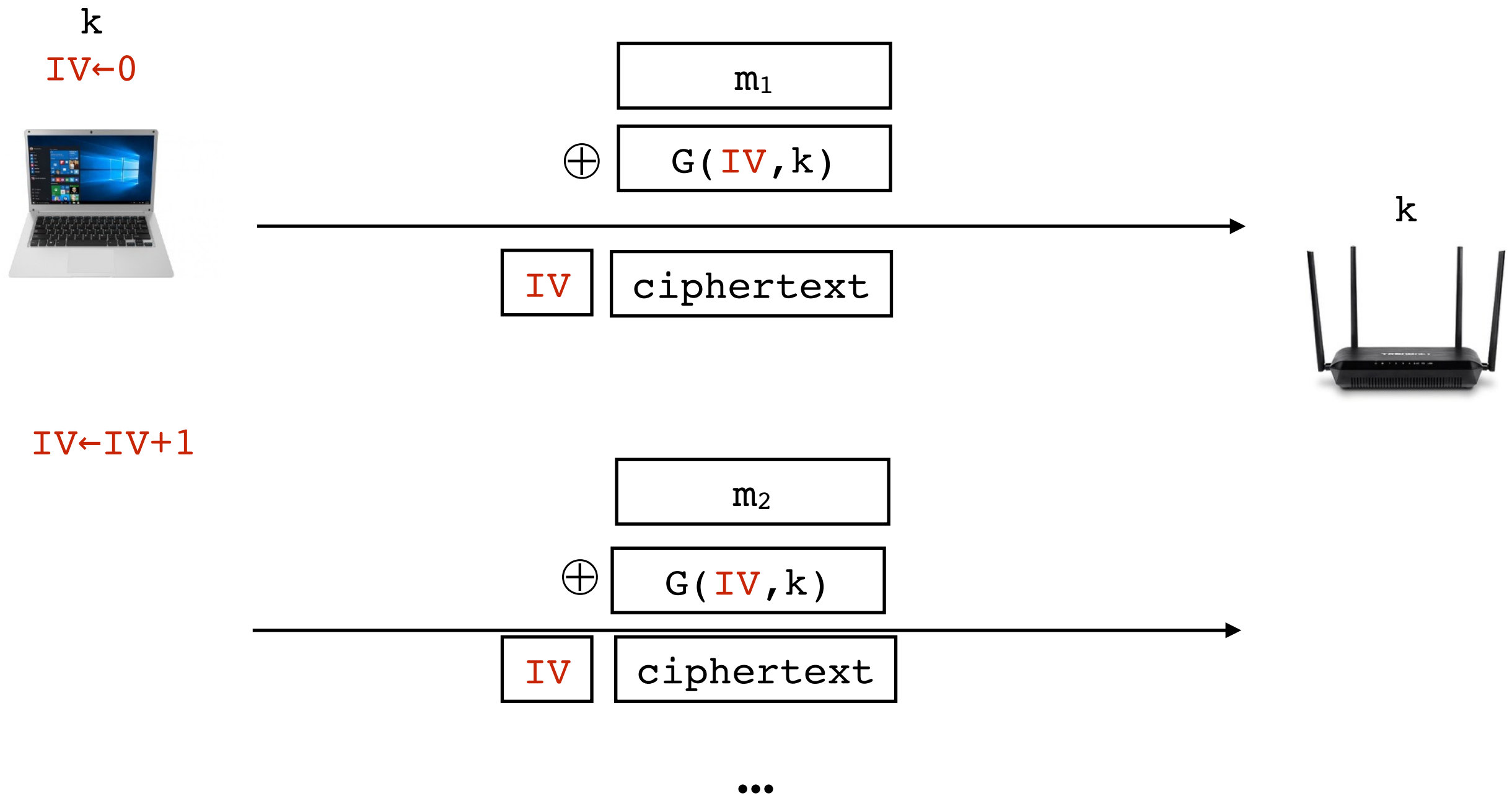


$G(IV, k)$ : 11111010001000111010100101000101100100111100...

- “nonce” = “number once”.
- Usually denoted  $IV$  = “initialization vector”

Security goal: When  $k$  is random and unknown,  $G(IV, k)$  should “look” random and independent for each value of  $IV$ .

# Solution 1: Stream cipher with a nonce



- If nonce repeats, then pad repeats



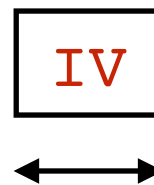
# Example of Pad Re-use: WEP



**Warning: Broken**



IEEE 802.11b WEP: WiFi security standard '97-'03



IV is 24-bit wide counter

- Repeats after  $2^{24}$  frames ( $\approx 16$  million)
- IV is often set to zero on power cycle

Solutions: (WPA2 replacement)

- Larger IV space, or force rekeying more often
- Set IV to combination of packet number, address, etc

# Example of Pad Re-use: WEP



Warning: Broken



IEEE 802.11b WEP: WiFi security standard '97-'03

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- Of

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*BIZ & IT —*

## Serious flaw in WPA2 protocol lets attackers intercept passwords and much more

KRACK attack is especially bad news for Android and Linux users.

DAN GOODIN - 10/15/2017, 11:37 PM



Solutions: (W

- Larger IV sp

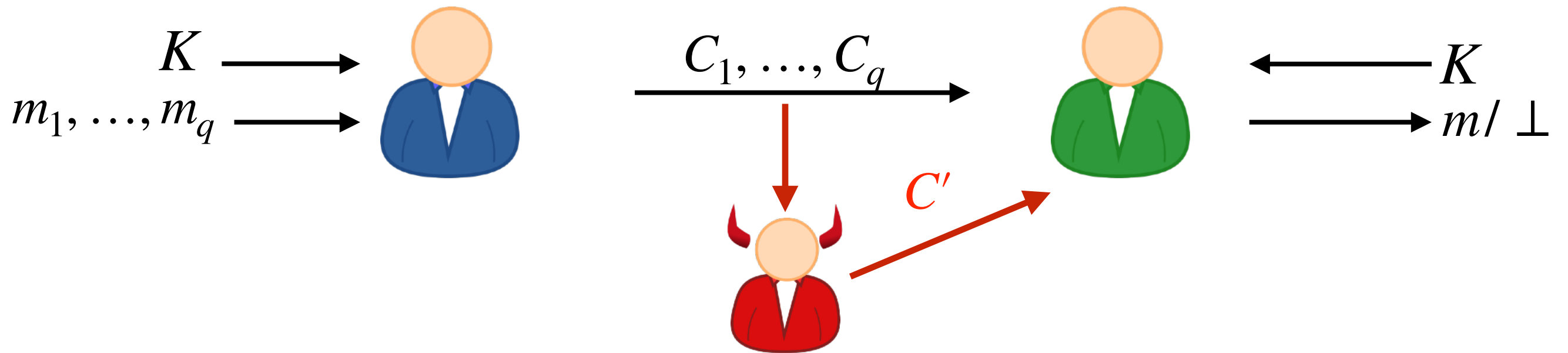
- Set IV to combination of packet number, address, etc

parameters to their initial values. KRACK forces the nonce reuse in a way that allows the encryption to be bypassed. Ars Technica IT editor Sean Gallagher has [much more about KRACK here](#).

# Issues with One-Time Pad

1. Reusing a pad is insecure  *Use unique nonces*
2. One-Time Pad is does not provide integrity/authenticity
3. One-Time Pad has a long key  *Use stream cipher with short key*

## Adversary Goal #2: Break Authenticity



The adversary sees ciphertexts and attempts to create and inject a new ciphertext without being detected by receiver.

Other attack settings are important here too.

# Stream ciphers do not give integrity

M = please pay ben 20 bucks

C = b0595fafd05df4a7d8a04ced2d1ec800d2daed851ff509b3e446a782871c2d



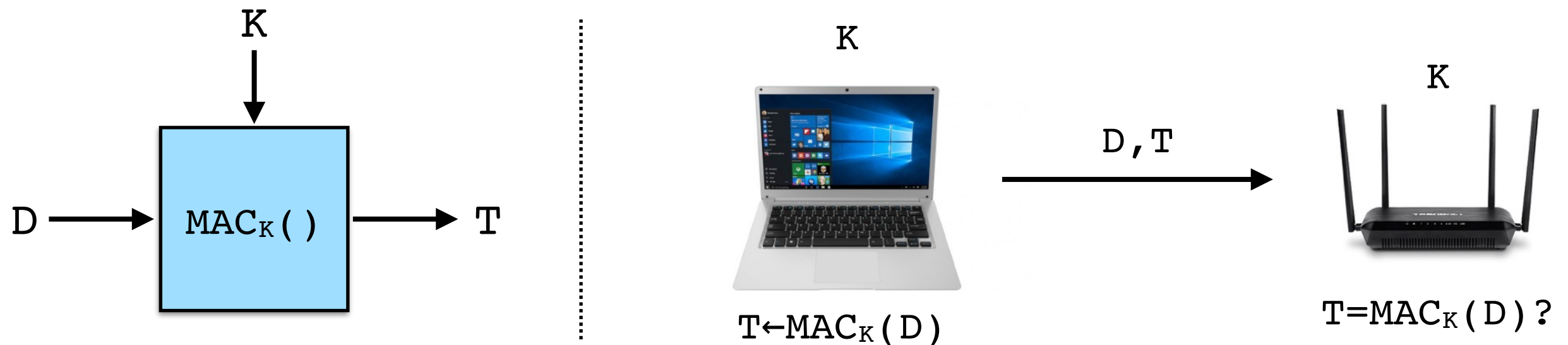
C' = b0595fafd05df4a7d8a04ced2d1ec800d2daed851ff509b3e546a782871c2d

M' = please pay ben 21 bucks

Inherent to stream-cipher approach to encryption.

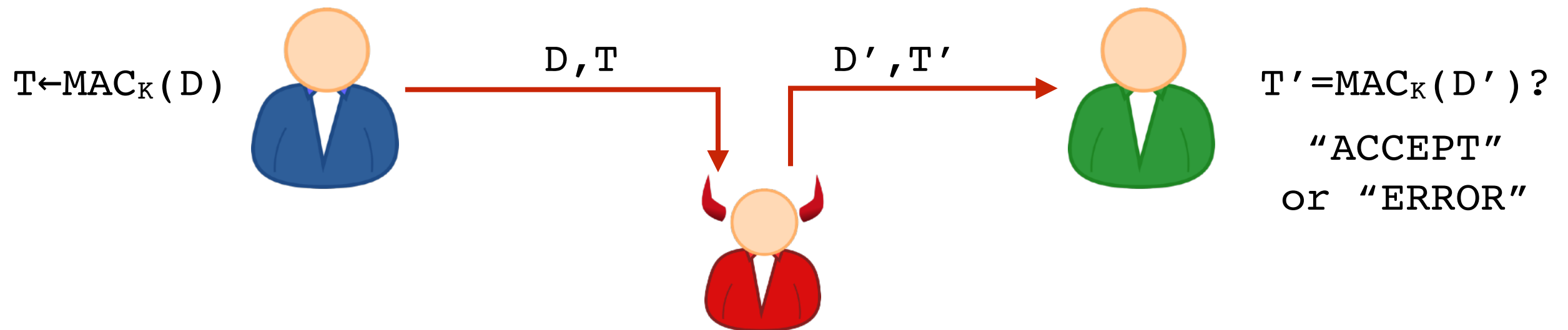
# Message Authentication Code

A **message authentication code (MAC)** is an algorithm that takes as input a key and a message, and outputs an “unpredictable” **tag**.



$D$  will usually be a ciphertext, but is often called a “message”.

# MAC Security Goal: Unforgeability



MAC satisfies **unforgeability** if it is infeasible for Adversary to fool Bob into accepting  $D'$  not previously sent by Alice.

# MAC Security Goal: Unforgeability

*Note: No encryption on this slide.*

$D$  = please pay ben 20 bucks

$T$  = 827851dc9cf0f92ddcdc552572ffd8bc



$D'$  = please pay ben 21 bucks

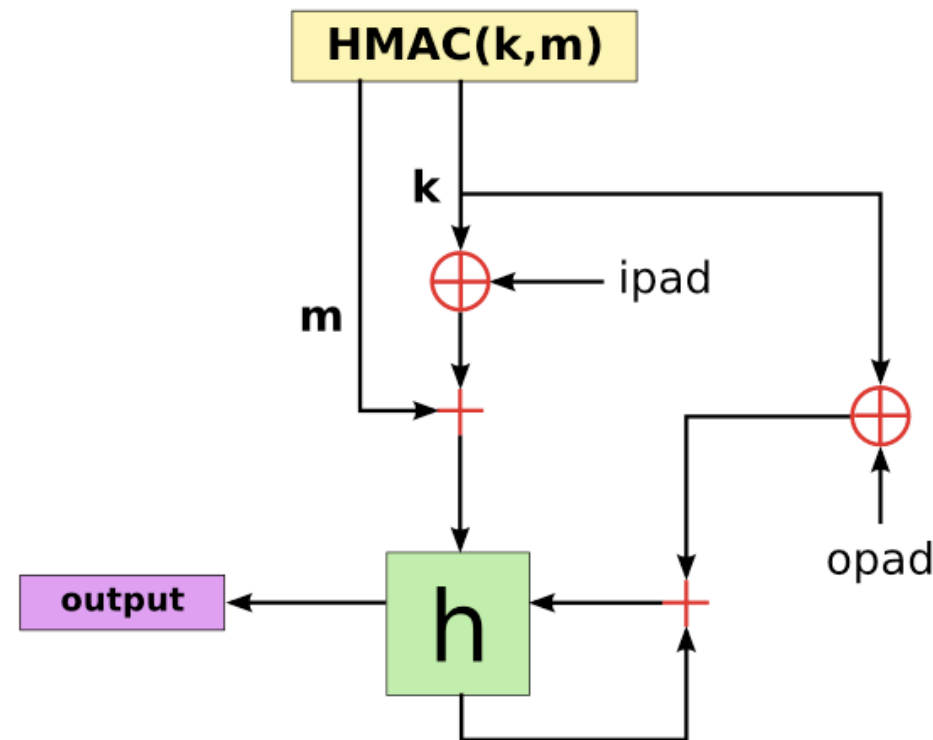
$T'$  = baeaf48a891de588ce588f8535ef58b6

Should be hard to predict  $T'$  for any new  $D'$ .



# MACs In Practice: Use HMAC or Poly1305-AES

- More precisely: Use HMAC-SHA2. More on hashes and MACs in a moment.



- Other, less-good option: AES-CBC-MAC (bug-prone)

# Authenticated Encryption

Encryption that provides **confidentiality** and **integrity** is called **Authenticated Encryption**.

- Built using a good stream cipher and a MAC.
  - Ex: Salsa20 with HMAC-SHA2
- Best solution: Use ready-made Authenticated Encryption
  - Ex: AES-GCM is the standard

The End