

# An Introduction to Distributed Symmetric Encryption

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**KU LEUVEN**

- Setting
- Applications
- DiSE
- MPC-based Distributed Encryption
- for AES

# Symmetric-key Encryption

- Alice and Bob share a secret key  $k$
- Alice computes  $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(k, m)$
- Alice sends  $c$  to Bob
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## Examples

AES-CBC, AES-GCM, ChaCha20-Poly1305, ...

## Setting: Distributed Encryption

- Goal: distribute Alice/Bob's operations among  $P_1, \dots, P_n$
- Why? no small group of parties should learn the secret key  $k$  (threshold from secret sharing)
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## Protocol $\Pi_2$

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# Distributed Decryption

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Protocol  $\Pi_1 = \text{DiSE}$

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$\Pi_2 = \text{MPC-based distributed encryption/decryption}$

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## Privacy

- Corrupted  $P_j$  cannot learn anything about  $k$
- $(\Pi_1)$  If  $P_1$  is honest,  $P_j$  cannot learn anything about  $m$  (except for its length)
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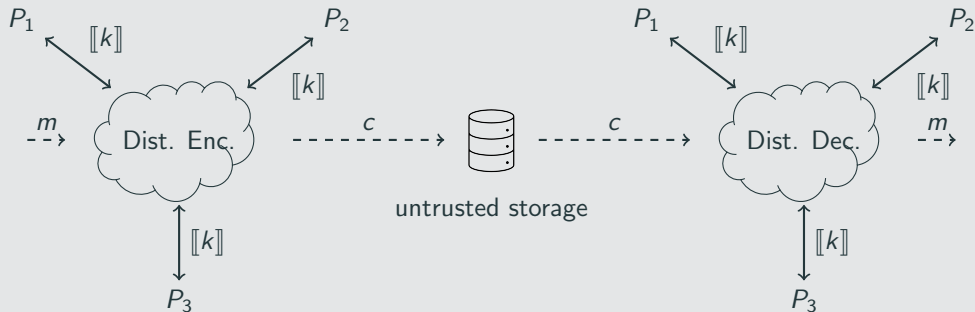
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## Authenticity

A corrupted party cannot forge a message

- A corrupted  $P_1$  cannot make honest parties output  $m'$  given  $c'$

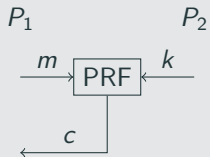
## Protect Keys in Use: Encrypted Storage



→ secret key  $k$  is shared among  $P_1, P_2, P_3$



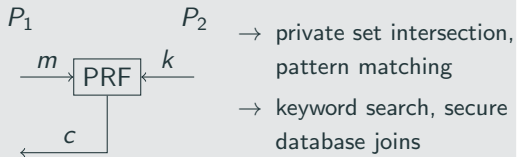
## Oblivious PRFs



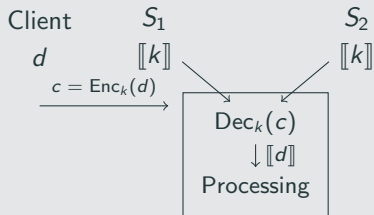
→ private set intersection,  
pattern matching

→ keyword search, secure  
database joins

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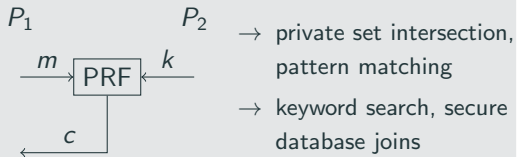


## Distributed Encryption/Decryption

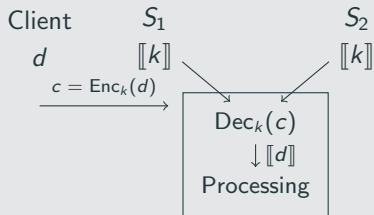


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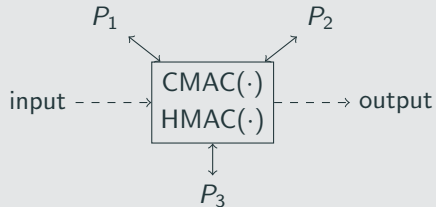


## Distributed Encryption/Decryption



→ transciphering, “encrypt to the future”

## virtual hardware security module



- protect cryptographic keys during use
- decentralize Kerberos Key Distribution Center
- distributed authentication/identification systems

NIST threshold cryptography project:  
<https://csrc.nist.gov/projects/threshold-cryptography>

# Distributed Symmetric-key Encryption (DiSE)

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# Distributed Symmetric-key Encryption (DiSE) [AMMR18]

Paper by Visa Research in CCS'18 with a few follow-up works

Main Idea:

- ① Initiating party  $P_1$  derives randomness  $\alpha$  from  $m$
- ② All parties compute  $w \leftarrow \text{DPRF}(k, \alpha)$ ,  $P_1$  obtains  $w$
- ③  $P_1$  encrypts  $m$  with  $w$
- ④  $P_1$  outputs  $c = (\text{"Enc"}(w, m), \alpha)$

# Distributed Pseudo-random Function (DPRF)

Syntax:

- $\text{Setup} \rightarrow \llbracket k \rrbracket_1, \dots, \llbracket k \rrbracket_n, p$
- $\text{Eval}(\llbracket k \rrbracket_i, x, p) \rightarrow z^i$
- $\text{Combine}(z^1, \dots, z^s, p) \rightarrow z$

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Properties

## Pseudo-random

Output  $z$  is indistinguishable from output of a random function

## Correctness

By sending  $z^{j'}$ , corrupted parties cannot bias  $z$   
 $\rightarrow$  honest parties either output  $z$  or abort

# Commitment Scheme

Syntax:

- $\text{Setup}_{\text{Com}} \rightarrow \text{pCom}$
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Properties

## Hiding

Output  $\alpha$  hides  $x$  (for random  $r$ )

## Binding

The adversary cannot produce  $(x_0, r_0) \neq (x_1, r_1)$  where  $\text{Com}(x_0, r_0, \text{pCom}) = \text{Com}(x_1, r_1, \text{pCom})$

# The Encryption Protocol

Setup: Run DPRF and commitment scheme setup;

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$P_1$

①  $\alpha \leftarrow \text{Com}(m, r, p_{\text{Com}})$  for a fresh  
random  $r$

$P_i, i \neq 1$

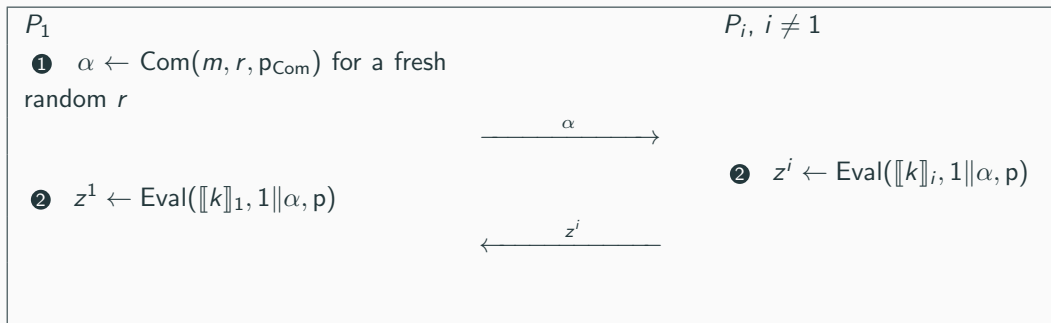
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③  $w \leftarrow \text{Combine}(z^1, \dots, z^s, p)$

④  $e \leftarrow \text{PRG}(w) \oplus (m \parallel r)$

⑤ output  $c = (e, \alpha)$

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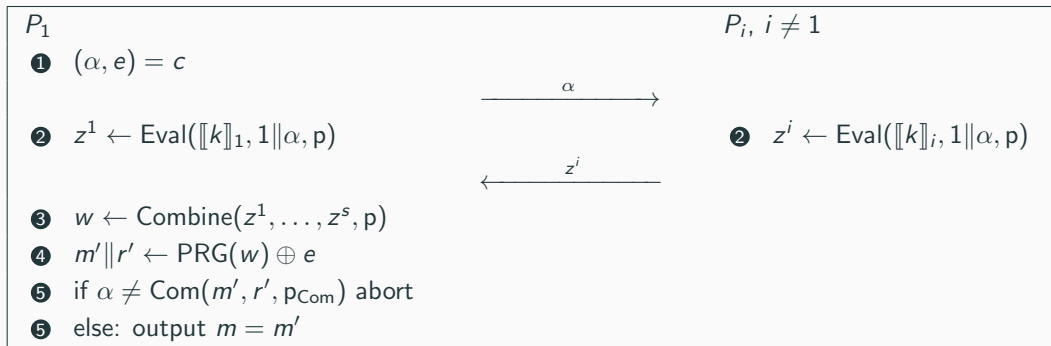
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# The Decryption Protocol

Setup: Run DPRF and commitment scheme setup;

$P_i$  holds  $p, p_{\text{Com}}, \llbracket k \rrbracket_i$

Ciphertext  $c$  known to  $P_1$



# Instantiating DPRF

for a threshold  $t$ -out-of- $n$  sharing



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## PRF-based (Naor, Pinkas, Reingold)

Let  $F$  be a PRF.

- choose  $k_1, \dots, k_d$  at random
- key share  $[[k]]_i$  is replicated secret sharing using  $k_1, \dots, k_d$  as additive shares of the secret
- (after reconstruction) computes  $F(k_1, x) \oplus \dots \oplus F(k_d, x)$

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## DDH-based

Let  $G$  be a multiplicative cyclic group of prime order  $p$  where DDH assumption holds.

$\mathcal{H}(\cdot)$  hashes to  $G$

- $\llbracket k \rrbracket_i$  is a Shamir sharing of a random  $s \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$
- $\text{Eval}(\llbracket k \rrbracket_i, x, p) = \mathcal{H}(x)^{\llbracket k \rrbracket_i}$
- (after reconstruction) computes  $\mathcal{H}(x)^s$ .

→ for  $n \leq 24$  PRF-based DPRF is still faster despite exponential overhead

$n$	$t$	Throughput (enc/s)	
		PRF-based	DDH-based
4	2	1 113 090	555
6	2	1 095 770	556
18	6	45 434	297
24	16	445	100

numbers from Fig.9 [AMMR18]

# MPC-based Distributed Symmetric-key Encryption

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## Another Approach: Using MPC

- focus on MPC evaluation of a block cipher
- use a block cipher in a mode of operation to encrypt (see tomorrow's talks)

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- Goal: construct MPC protocol to compute  $F(\llbracket k \rrbracket, \llbracket m \rrbracket) \rightarrow c$  and  $F^{-1}(\llbracket k \rrbracket, c) \rightarrow \llbracket m \rrbracket$ .



# Additive Secret Sharing

secret  $x \in \text{GF}(2^k)$ :

- choose  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  at random s.t.  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = x$
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Addition of secret shared values  $\langle x \rangle, \langle y \rangle$

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$$\sum \langle x + b \rangle_i = (\sum \langle x \rangle_i) + b = x + b$$

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Linear operation  $L$ :  $\llbracket L(x) \rrbracket_i = (L(\langle x \rangle_i), L(\langle x \rangle_{i+1})) \rightarrow$  no communication

Squaring/other  $\text{GF}(2)$ -linear operations: also linear

## Multiplication $\llbracket x \rrbracket \cdot \llbracket y \rrbracket$

Given  $\langle 0 \rangle$  from preprocessing

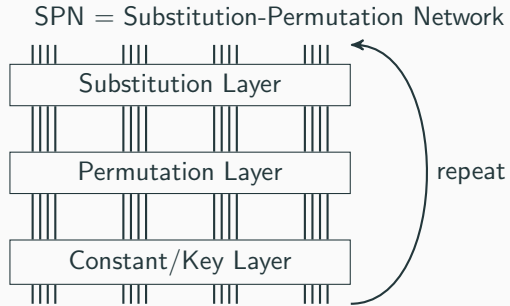
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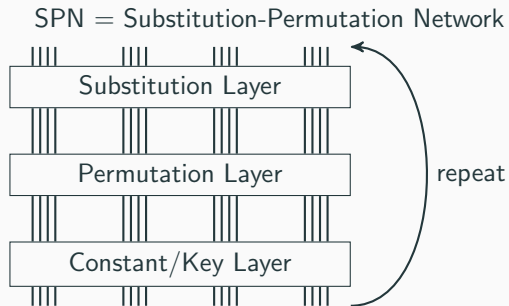
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- ② Send  $\langle xy \rangle_i + \langle 0 \rangle_i$  to  $P_{i-1}$ , set  $\llbracket xy \rrbracket_i = (\langle xy \rangle_i + \langle 0 \rangle_i, \langle xy \rangle_{i+1} + \langle 0 \rangle_{i+1})$

# Structure of a SPN Block Cipher

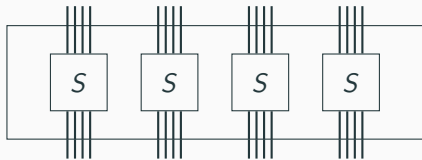


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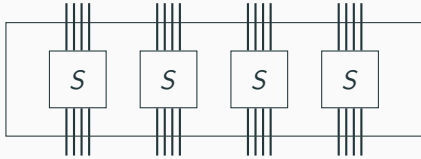
- “algorithm” structure
- substitution: non-linear
- permutation, constant/key layer: linear

# The Substitution Layer



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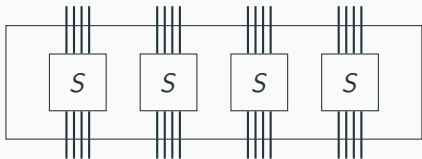


Substitution Layer

$S$  is a very non-linear  $s$ -bit to  $s$ -bit function  
(here: 4-bit to 4-bit)



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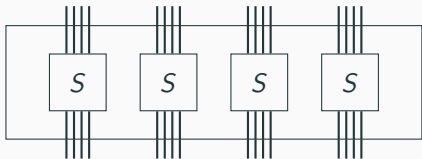


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$S$  is a very non-linear  $s$ -bit to  $s$ -bit function  
(here: 4-bit to 4-bit)

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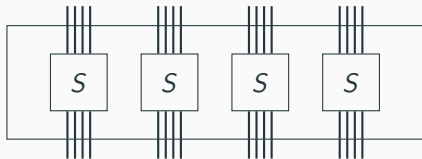
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represent  $S$

- ① as Boolean circuit
- ② as (uni-variate) polynomial
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represent  $S$

- ① as Boolean circuit
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similar approaches in literature for  
constant-time / software side-channel  
protection for block ciphers!

What properties should the approach have?

- Low multiplicative complexity:
  - low total number of multiplications/AND gates
  - $R \times n_S \times mult_S$

# Useful/MPC-friendly Properties

What properties should the approach have?

- Low multiplicative complexity:
  - low total number of multiplications/AND gates
  - $R \times n_S \times mult_S$
- Low multiplicative depth:
  - round-based structure:  $R \times rounds_S$  in total

## AES as Example

---

## Prelude: Galois Fields

We write  $\text{GF}(2^k) = \mathbb{F}_2[X]/F(X)$

- $F(X)$  irreducible polynomial of degree  $k$ :  $F(X) = X^4 + X + 1$
- element  $x \in \text{GF}(2^k)$ : polynomial of degree  $< k$ :  $X^2 + X + 1$

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### Addition

coefficient-wise addition in  $\mathbb{F}_2$

$$(X^3 + 1) + (X^2 + X + 1) = X^3 + X^2 + X$$



## Multiplication

polynomial multiplication modulo  $F(X)$

schoolbook division:  $(X^3 + 1) \cdot (X^2 + X + 1) = (X^5 + X^4 + X^3 + X^2 + X + 1) \bmod F(X)$

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$$\begin{array}{r} X^5 + X^4 + X^3 + X^2 + X + 1 \\ -X^5 \phantom{+ X^4 + X^3 + X^2 + X + 1} \\ \hline \phantom{X^5} X^4 + X^3 \phantom{+ X^2 + X + 1} \\ -X^4 \phantom{+ X^3 + X^2 + X + 1} \\ \hline \phantom{X^5} \phantom{X^4} X^3 \phantom{+ X^2 + X + 1} \\ -X^3 \phantom{+ X^2 + X + 1} \\ \hline \phantom{X^5} \phantom{X^4} \phantom{X^3} X^2 + X + 1 \\ -X^2 - X - 1 \\ \hline \phantom{X^5} \phantom{X^4} \phantom{X^3} \phantom{X^2} \phantom{+ X} \phantom{+ 1} \end{array} \quad / (X^4 + X + 1) = X + 1$$

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$$\begin{array}{r}
 X^5 + X^4 + X^3 + X^2 + X + 1 \quad / (X^4 + X + 1) = X + 1 \\
 \underline{-X^5} \phantom{+X^4} \phantom{+X^3} \phantom{+X^2} \phantom{+X} \phantom{+1} \\
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 \end{array}$$

$$\rightarrow (X^3 + 1) \cdot (X^2 + X + 1) \bmod F(X) = X^3 + X + 1$$

We write binary encoding:  $13 = 2^3 + 2^2 + 2^0 = (X^3 + X^2 + 1)$

# The AES

- AES = Advanced Encryption Standard
- Rijndael block cipher standardized by NIST 2001
- block size: 128-bit
- key sizes: **128-bit**, 192-bit, 256-bit
- Block cipher composed of 10 rounds (AES-128)
- defined over  $\text{GF}(2^8) = \mathbb{F}_2[X]/X^8 + X^4 + X^3 + X + 1$ .

- 128-bit Input:  $b_0 b_1 \dots b_{127}$ 
  - group by 8:  $\underbrace{(b_0 b_1 \dots b_7)}_{s_0} \underbrace{(b_8 \dots)}_{s_1} \dots \underbrace{(\dots b_{127})}_{s_{15}}$

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  - arrange column-first in  $4 \times 4$  matrix

$$\text{state} = \begin{pmatrix} s_0 & s_4 & s_8 & s_{12} \\ s_1 & s_5 & s_9 & s_{13} \\ s_2 & s_6 & s_{10} & s_{14} \\ s_3 & s_7 & s_{11} & s_{15} \end{pmatrix}$$

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- Key Schedule takes 128-bit key: produces 11 round keys

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} rk_0^{(0)} & rk_4^{(0)} & rk_8^{(0)} & rk_{12}^{(0)} \\ rk_1^{(0)} & rk_5^{(0)} & rk_9^{(0)} & rk_{13}^{(0)} \\ rk_2^{(0)} & rk_6^{(0)} & rk_{10}^{(0)} & rk_{14}^{(0)} \\ rk_3^{(0)} & rk_7^{(0)} & rk_{11}^{(0)} & rk_{15}^{(0)} \end{pmatrix}}_{RK_0} \quad \dots \quad \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} rk_0^{(10)} & rk_4^{(10)} & rk_8^{(10)} & rk_{12}^{(10)} \\ rk_1^{(10)} & rk_5^{(10)} & rk_9^{(10)} & rk_{13}^{(10)} \\ rk_2^{(10)} & rk_6^{(10)} & rk_{10}^{(10)} & rk_{14}^{(10)} \\ rk_3^{(10)} & rk_7^{(10)} & rk_{11}^{(10)} & rk_{15}^{(10)} \end{pmatrix}}_{RK_{10}}$$



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③ MixColumns: 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 02 & 03 & 01 & 01 \\ 01 & 02 & 03 & 01 \\ 01 & 01 & 02 & 03 \\ 03 & 01 & 01 & 02 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} s_0 & s_4 & s_8 & s_{12} \\ s_1 & s_5 & s_9 & s_{13} \\ s_2 & s_6 & s_{10} & s_{14} \\ s_3 & s_7 & s_{11} & s_{15} \end{pmatrix}$$

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④ AddRoundKey:  $\text{state} + RK_r$

# AES S-box as Boolean Circuit

due to Boyar and Peralta [BP10]: 32 AND gates, 83 XOR gates

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$y_{14} = x_3 + x_5$	$y_{13} = x_0 + x_6$	$y_9 = x_0 + x_3$
$y_8 = x_0 + x_5$	$t_0 = x_1 + x_2$	$y_1 = t_0 + x_7$
$y_4 = y_1 + x_3$	$y_{12} = y_{13} + y_{14}$	$y_2 = y_1 + x_0$
$y_5 = y_1 + x_6$	$y_3 = y_5 + y_8$	$t_1 = x_4 + y_{12}$
$y_{15} = t_1 + x_5$	$y_{20} = t_1 + x_1$	$y_6 = y_{15} + x_7$
$y_{10} = y_{15} + t_0$	$y_{11} = y_{20} + y_9$	$y_7 = x_7 + y_{11}$
$y_{17} = y_{10} + y_{11}$	$y_{19} = y_{10} + y_8$	$y_{16} = t_0 + y_{11}$
$y_{21} = y_{13} + y_{16}$	$y_{18} = x_0 + y_{16}$	

$t_{46} = z_{15} + z_{16}$	$t_{47} = z_{10} + z_{11}$	$t_{48} = z_5 + z_{13}$
$t_{49} = z_9 + z_{10}$	$t_{50} = z_2 + z_{12}$	$t_{51} = z_2 + z_5$
$t_{52} = z_7 + z_8$	$t_{53} = z_0 + z_3$	$t_{54} = z_6 + z_7$
$t_{55} = z_{16} + z_{17}$	$t_{56} = z_{12} + t_{48}$	$t_{57} = t_{50} + t_{53}$
$t_{58} = z_4 + t_{46}$	$t_{59} = z_3 + t_{54}$	$t_{60} = t_{46} + t_{57}$
$t_{61} = z_{14} + t_{57}$	$t_{62} = t_{52} + t_{58}$	$t_{63} = t_{49} + t_{58}$
$t_{64} = z_4 + t_{59}$	$t_{65} = t_{61} + t_{62}$	$t_{66} = z_1 + t_{63}$
$s_0 = t_{59} + t_{63}$	$s_6 = t_{56} \text{ XNOR } t_{62}$	$s_7 = t_{48} \text{ XNOR } t_{60}$
$t_{67} = t_{64} + t_{65}$	$s_3 = t_{53} + t_{66}$	$s_4 = t_{51} + t_{66}$
$s_5 = t_{47} + t_{65}$	$s_1 = t_{64} \text{ XNOR } s_3$	$s_2 = t_{55} \text{ XNOR } t_{67}$

$t_2 = y_{12} \times y_{15}$	$t_3 = y_3 \times y_6$	$t_4 = t_3 + t_2$
$t_5 = y_4 \times x_7$	$t_6 = t_5 + t_2$	$t_7 = y_{13} \times y_{16}$
$t_8 = y_5 \times y_1$	$t_9 = t_8 + t_7$	$t_{10} = y_2 \times y_7$
$t_{11} = t_{10} + t_7$	$t_{12} = y_9 \times y_{11}$	$t_{13} = y_{14} \times y_{17}$
$t_{14} = t_{13} + t_{12}$	$t_{15} = y_8 \times y_{10}$	$t_{16} = t_{15} + t_{12}$
$t_{17} = t_4 + t_{14}$	$t_{18} = t_6 + t_{16}$	$t_{19} = t_9 + t_{14}$
$t_{20} = t_{11} + t_{16}$	$t_{21} = t_{17} + y_{20}$	$t_{22} = t_{18} + y_{19}$
$t_{23} = t_{19} + y_{21}$	$t_{24} = t_{20} + y_{18}$	
$t_{25} = t_{21} + t_{22}$	$t_{26} = t_{21} \times t_{23}$	$t_{27} = t_{24} + t_{26}$
$t_{28} = t_{25} \times t_{27}$	$t_{29} = t_{28} + t_{22}$	$t_{30} = t_{23} + t_{24}$
$t_{31} = t_{22} + t_{26}$	$t_{32} = t_{31} \times t_{30}$	$t_{33} = t_{32} + t_{24}$
$t_{34} = t_{23} + t_{33}$	$t_{35} = t_{27} + t_{33}$	$t_{36} = t_{24} \times t_{35}$
$t_{37} = t_{36} + t_{34}$	$t_{38} = t_{27} + t_{36}$	$t_{39} = t_{29} \times t_{38}$
$t_{40} = t_{25} + t_{39}$		
$t_{41} = t_{40} + t_{37}$	$t_{42} = t_{29} + t_{33}$	$t_{43} = t_{29} + t_{40}$
$t_{44} = t_{33} + t_{37}$	$t_{45} = t_{42} + t_{41}$	$z_0 = t_{44} \times y_{15}$
$z_1 = t_{37} \times y_6$	$z_2 = t_{33} \times x_7$	$z_3 = t_{43} \times y_{16}$
$z_4 = t_{40} \times y_1$	$z_5 = t_{29} \times y_7$	$z_6 = t_{42} \times y_{11}$
$z_7 = t_{45} \times y_{17}$	$z_8 = t_{41} \times y_{10}$	$z_9 = t_{44} \times y_{12}$
$z_{10} = t_{37} \times y_3$	$z_{11} = t_{33} \times y_4$	$z_{12} = t_{43} \times y_{13}$
$z_{13} = t_{40} \times y_5$	$z_{14} = t_{29} \times y_2$	$z_{15} = t_{42} \times y_9$
$z_{16} = t_{45} \times y_{14}$	$z_{17} = t_{41} \times y_8$	

→ in circuit form: <https://nigelsmart.github.io/MPC-Circuits/>

Cost: 32 GF(2) multiplications in 6 rounds

# AES S-box as Polynomial

Goal: find  $P(Z)$  s.t.

$$P(0) = f(0)$$

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## Approach 1: due to [DKLMS12]

$$\begin{aligned} P(z) = & 0x63 + 0x8Fz^{127} + 0xB5z^{191} + z^{223} + 0xF4z^{239} + 0x25z^{247} \\ & + 0xF9z^{251} + 0x09z^{253} + 0x05z^{254} \end{aligned}$$

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Cost: shortest addition chain for the set  $\{127, 191, 223, 239, 247, 251, 253, 254\}$

- 18 secure multiplications in  $GF(2^8)$  in 12 rounds

## Approach 2: Using BitDecomposition

BitDecomposition:  $\llbracket b_7 X^7 + \dots + b_1 X + b_0 \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket b_7 \rrbracket, \dots, \llbracket b_1 \rrbracket, \llbracket b_0 \rrbracket$

→ computing  $z^2 \in \text{GF}(2^8)$  is bit-linear!

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- write  $z^{254}$  as

$$\textcircled{1} \quad z^3 = z \cdot z^2 \quad (1 \text{ mult.})$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad z^{15} = (z^3)^4 \cdot z^3, \quad z^{14} = (z^3)^4 \cdot z^2 \quad (2 \text{ mult.})$$

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Cost: 4  $\text{GF}(2^8)$  multiplications in 3 rounds

cf. [DK10], [CHIKP18]

### Approach 3: Using Tower Fields [MPSSTT25]

Isomorphism  $\phi : \text{GF}(2^8) \rightarrow \text{GF}(2^4)^2$

①  $\phi(z) = (a_h, a_\ell)$

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Cost: 5  $\text{GF}(2^4)$  multiplications in 4 rounds

# Oblivious Table Lookup Protocol

Goal: compute table lookup LUT  $\llbracket T[x] \rrbracket$  from table  $T$  and  $\llbracket x \rrbracket$

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$$\llbracket \mathbf{e}^{(r)} \rrbracket = (\underbrace{\llbracket 0 \rrbracket, \dots, \llbracket 0 \rrbracket}_r, \llbracket 1 \rrbracket, \llbracket 0 \rrbracket, \dots)$$

- 1 Reveal value  $c = r + x$
- 2 Local computation  $\llbracket T[x] \rrbracket = \sum_i T[c - i] \cdot \llbracket e_i^{(r)} \rrbracket$

# AES S-box as Oblivious Table Lookup

AES S-box table: 256 elements

→ costly preprocessing of length-256 random one-hot vector ( $\approx 247$  bit-multiplications)

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using replicated secret sharing reduce cost with a trick

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- ② *local* tensor product  $\langle \mathbf{e}^{(r)} \rangle \leftarrow \llbracket \mathbf{e}^{(u)} \rrbracket \otimes \llbracket \mathbf{e}^{(v)} \rrbracket$   
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→ cost: 22 GF(2) multiplications in 2 rounds (preprocessing)

→ cost: 16 bits in 1 round (online)

# Performance

→ measure throughput in AES blocks/s

Protocol	Throughput (blocks/s)					
	Online	Total	Online	Total	Online	Total
Polynomial Approach 2	568 504	568 504	124 290	124 290	13 392	13 392
Polynomial Approach 3	729 822	<b>729 822</b>	179 369	<b>179 369</b>	<b>18 497</b>	<b>18 497</b>
Oblv. Table Lookup	641 302	108 114	148 917	39 156	16 574	5 216
Network	10 Gbit/s ≤ 1ms RTT		1 Gbit/s ≤ 1ms RTT		100 MBit/s 30ms RTT	

semi-honest security, 16-core 128GB RAM

→ measure throughput in AES blocks/s

Protocol	Throughput (blocks/s)					
	Online	Total	Online	Total	Online	Total
Polynomial Approach 2*	<b>152 127</b>	10 100	<b>33 646</b>	4 490	4 707	1 039
Polynomial Approach 3	48 924	<b>48 924</b>	18 829	<b>18 829</b>	<b>5 396</b>	<b>5 396</b>
Oblv. Table Lookup	32 508	25 409	13 547	10 560	3 370	2 345
Network	10 Gbit/s ≤ 1ms RTT		1 Gbit/s ≤ 1ms RTT		100 MBit/s 30ms RTT	

\* with [FLNW17]

active security, 16-core 128GB RAM

**Thank you!**

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