Advanced Encryption Standard

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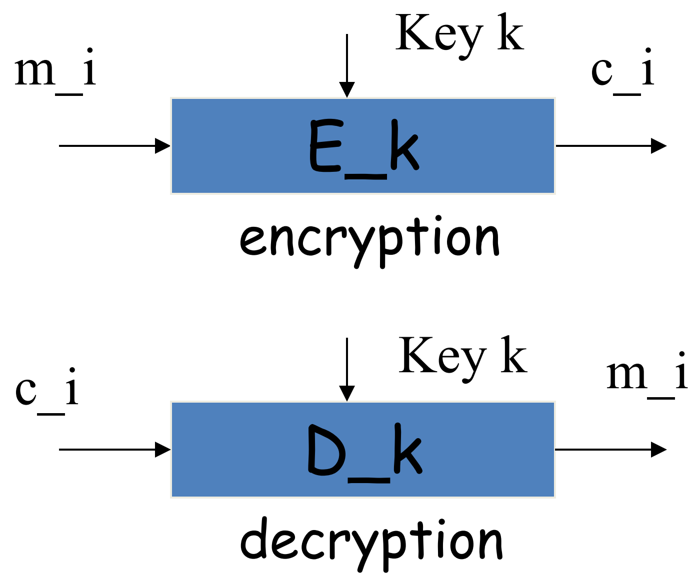
Block Ciphers

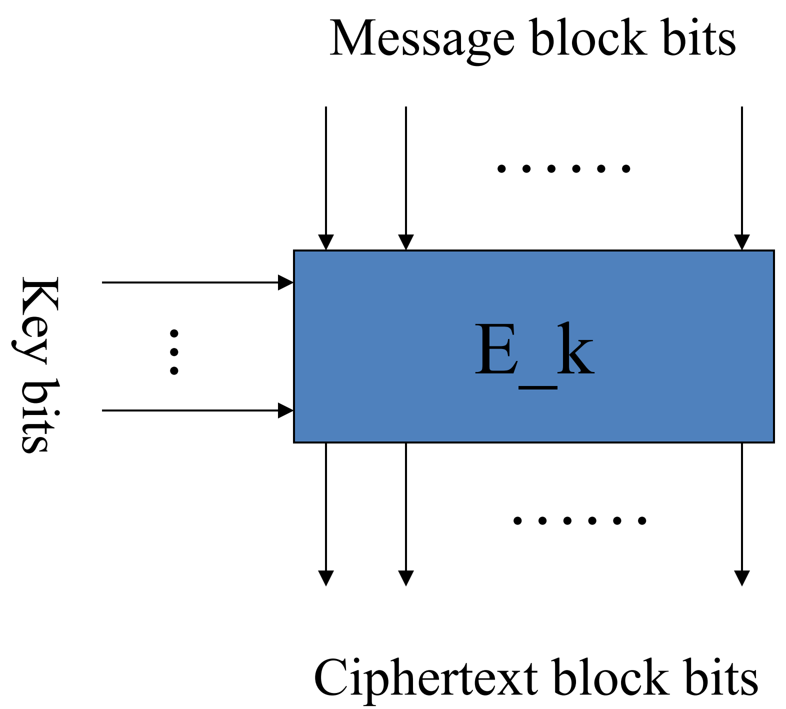
Pictorial discription



- Definition: the ciphertext c=E_k(m) is time-independent, and depends only on m and k.
- Example:
  - E_k(m_i) = m_i + k, where + is the bitwise exclusive-or operation.
- How to design a secure block cipher?
  - Two basic security requirements.

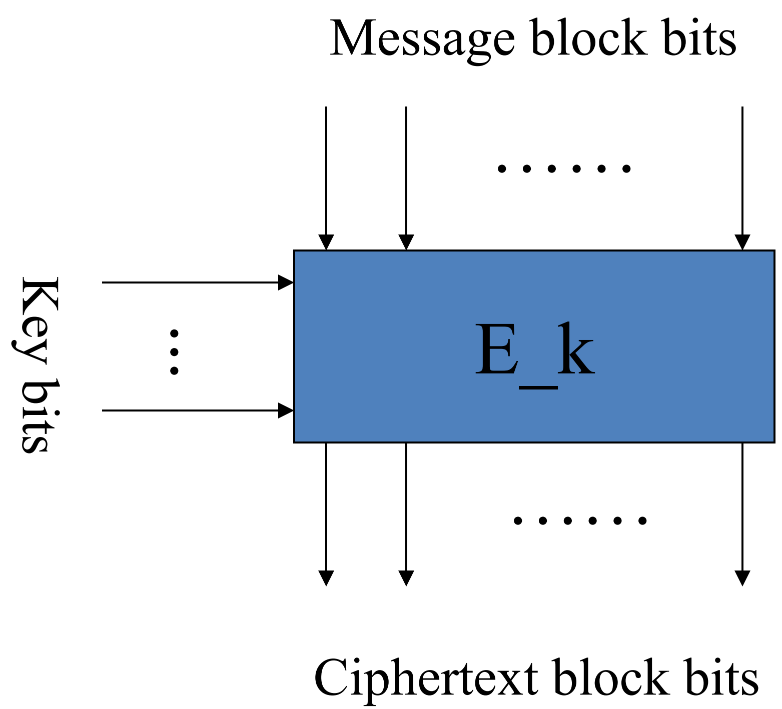
Shannon's Idea of Diffusion

- Good diffusion
  - Every message block bit is involved in many ciphertext block bits.
  - Every key bit is involved in many ciphertext block bits.
  - Linear functions for diffusion purpose



Shannon's Idea of Confusion

- Good confusion
  - Every ciphertext bit is a function of message block bits and key bits.
  - These functions should be very complex in format.
  - Nonlinear functions for confusion



Design Ideas of Block Ciphers

- Use linear functions for diffusion purpose
- Use nonlinear functions for confusion purpose
- Iterate a simple round function a number of times.

- Almost all block ciphers follow these design strategies
- In this course, we introduce only
  - The Data Encryption Standard
  - The Advanced Encryption Standard

The Data Encryption Standard (DES)

- It is a "block" cipher with key length 56 bits.
- It was designed by IBM in 1976 for the National Bureau of Standards (NBS), with approval from the National Security Agency (NSA).
- It had been used as a standard for encryption until 2000.
- A new encryption standard was adopted in 2000, as a replacement of DES.

The Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)

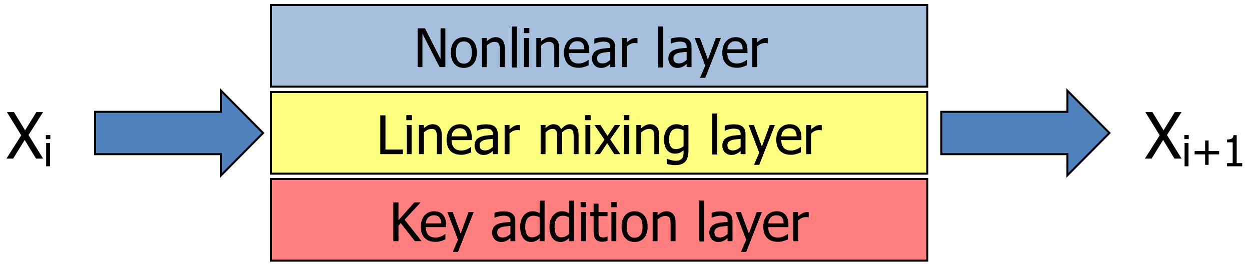
- A replacement for DES was needed because DES is subject to exhaustive key search attacks.
- US NIST issued a call for ciphers in 1997
- 15 candidates accepted in Jun 98
- 5 were shortlisted in Aug-99
- Rijndael was selected as the AES in Oct-2000
- Issued as FIPS PUB 197 standard in Nov-2001

AES Design Requirements

- A private key symmetric block cipher
- 128-bit plaintext block
- 128/192/256-bit keys
- Stronger & faster than "Triple-DES"
- Active life of 20-30 years
- Efficient in both software and hardware implementations
- Simple in design
- Suitable for smart cards (memory requirement)

Rijndael: Design Techniques

- Shannon's idea of diffusion and confusion
- Iterated block cipher
- The round function has the form



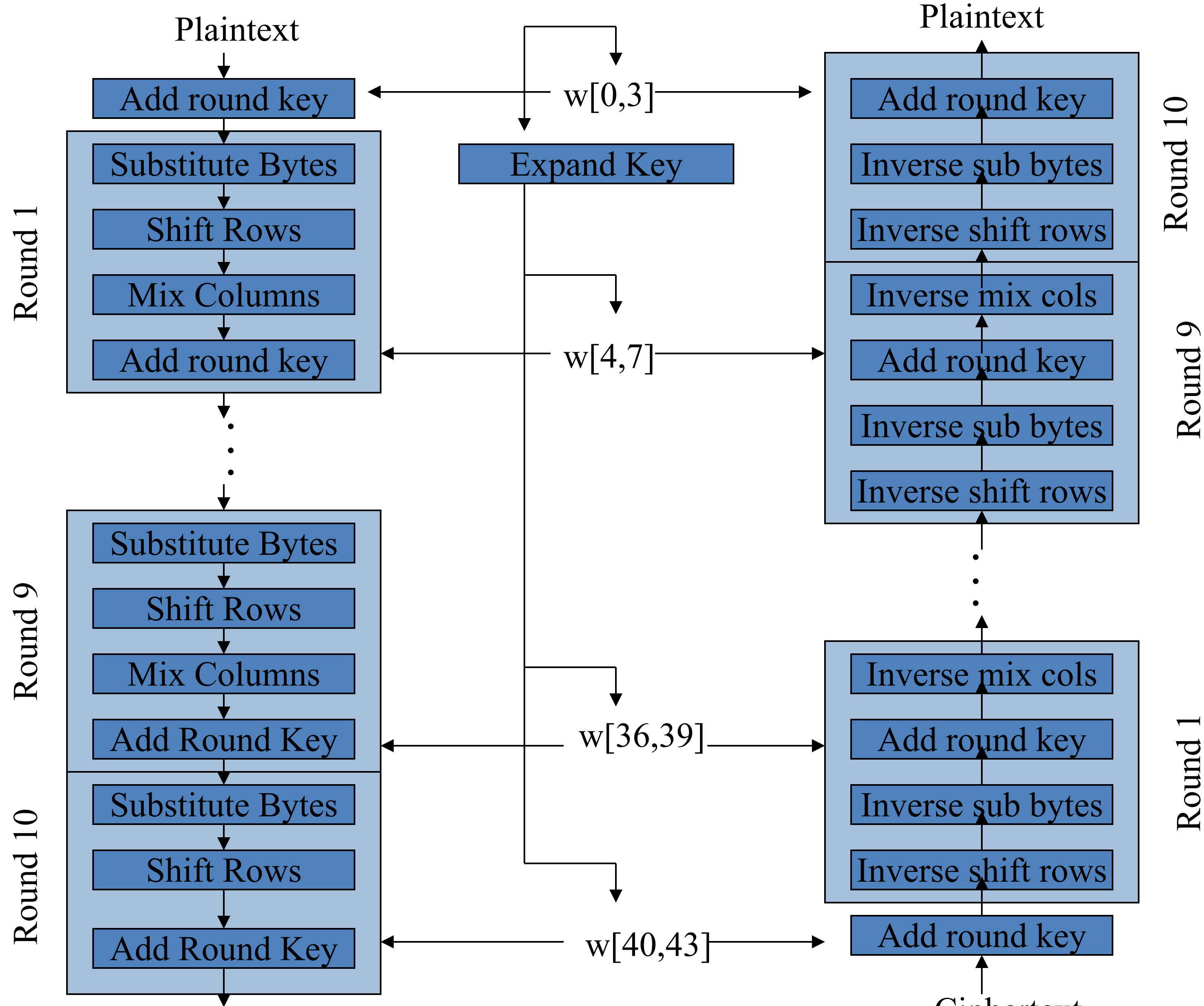
Rijndael: Key and Block Size

Key Size (words/bytes/bits)	4/16/128	6/24/192	8/32/256
Plaintext block size (words/bytes/bits)	4/16/128	4/16/128	4/16/128
Number of rounds	10	12	14
Round key size (words/bytes/bits)	4/16/128	4/16/128	4/16/128
Expanded key size (words/bytes)	44/176	52/208	60/240

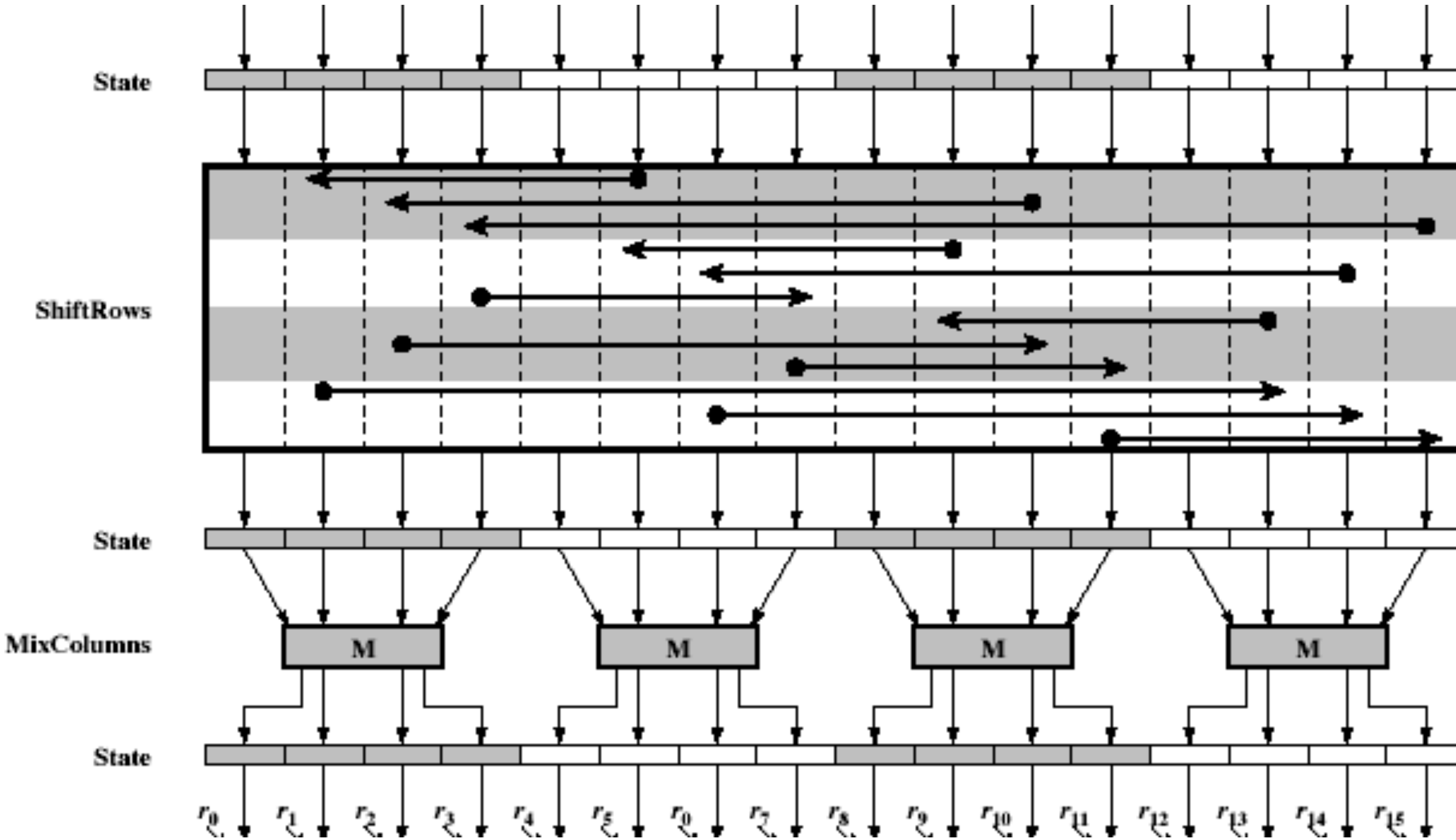
Main Steps

- An initial round-key addition
- 9/11/13 rounds, corresponds to 128/192/156 bit keys
- A final round, similar to other round, but without mixed column operations

AES Encryption & Decryption



AES Round Function



Key and State Bytes in Rectangular Arrays

$k_{0,0}$	$k_{0,1}$	$k_{0,2}$	$k_{0,3}$	$k_{0,4}$	$k_{0,5}$	$k_{0,6}$	$k_{0,7}$
$k_{1,0}$	$k_{1,1}$	$k_{1,2}$	$k_{1,3}$	$k_{1,4}$	$k_{1,5}$	$k_{1,6}$	$k_{1,7}$
$k_{2,0}$	$k_{2,1}$	$k_{2,2}$	$k_{2,3}$	$k_{2,4}$	$k_{2,5}$	$k_{2,6}$	$k_{2,7}$
$k_{3,0}$	$k_{3,1}$	$k_{3,2}$	$k_{3,3}$	$k_{3,4}$	$k_{3,5}$	$k_{3,6}$	$k_{3,7}$

Variable Key size :

16, 24 or 32 bytes

Variable State size:

16, 24 or 32 bytes

$a_{0,0}$	$a_{0,1}$	$a_{0,2}$	$a_{0,3}$	$a_{0,4}$	$a_{0,5}$	$a_{0,6}$	$a_{0,7}$
$a_{1,0}$	$a_{1,1}$	$a_{1,2}$	$a_{1,3}$	$a_{1,4}$	$a_{1,5}$	$a_{1,6}$	$a_{1,7}$
$a_{2,0}$	$a_{2,1}$	$a_{2,2}$	$a_{2,3}$	$a_{2,4}$	$a_{2,5}$	$a_{2,6}$	$a_{2,7}$
$a_{3,0}$	$a_{3,1}$	$a_{3,2}$	$a_{3,3}$	$a_{3,4}$	$a_{3,5}$	$a_{3,6}$	$a_{3,7}$

Round Function : ByteSub

$a_{0,0}$	$a_{0,1}$	$a_{0,2}$	$a_{0,3}$
$a_{1,0}$	$a_{1,1}$	$a_{1,2}$	$a_{1,3}$
$a_{2,0}$	$a_{2,1}$	$a_{2,2}$	$a_{2,3}$
$a_{3,0}$	$a_{3,1}$	$a_{3,2}$	$a_{3,3}$

S-box

$a_{i,j}$ $b_{i,j}$

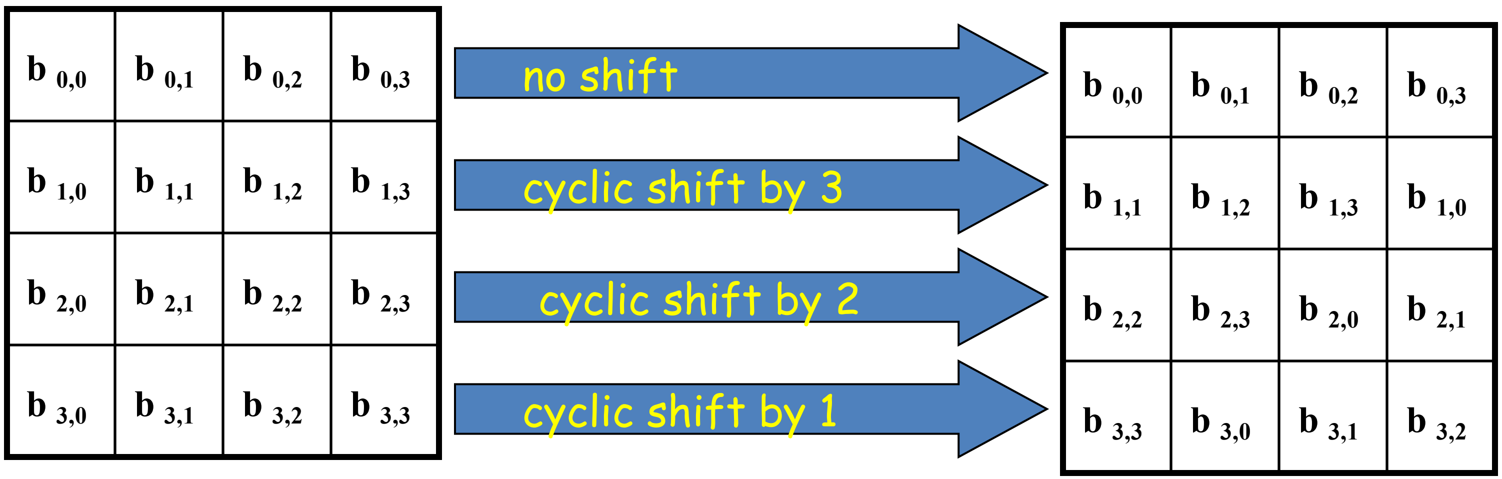
$b_{0,0}$	$b_{0,1}$	$b_{0,2}$	$b_{0,3}$
$b_{1,0}$	$b_{1,1}$	$b_{1,2}$	$b_{1,3}$
$b_{2,0}$	$b_{2,1}$	$b_{2,2}$	$b_{2,3}$
$b_{3,0}$	$b_{3,1}$	$b_{3,2}$	$b_{3,3}$

ByteSub acts on individual bytes of the State.

Every byte is identified as an element in in $GF(2^8)$

$S(y) = y^{254}$

Round Function : ShiftRow



ShiftRow operates on the rows of the State.
The purpose is to provide inter column diffusion.

Round Function : MixColumn

b $_{0,0}$	**b** $_{0,1}$	**b** $_{0,2}$	**b** $_{0,3}$
b $_{1,1}$	**b** $_{1,2}$	**b** $_{1,3}$	**b** $_{1,0}$
b $_{2,2}$	**b** $_{2,3}$	**b** $_{2,0}$	**b** $_{2,1}$
b $_{3,3}$	**b** $_{3,0}$	**b** $_{3,1}$	**b** $_{3,2}$

$\times$ C(x)

d $_{0,0}$	**d** $_{0,1}$	**d** $_{0,2}$	**d** $_{0,3}$
d $_{1,0}$	**d** $_{1,1}$	**d** $_{1,2}$	**d** $_{1,3}$
d $_{2,0}$	**d** $_{2,1}$	**d** $_{2,2}$	**d** $_{2,3}$
d $_{3,0}$	**d** $_{3,1}$	**d** $_{3,2}$	**d** $_{3,3}$

MixColumn operates on the columns of the State.

The columns of the State are considered as polynomials of degree 3 over GF(2^8) and multiplied module x^4+1 with a fixed polynomial c(x) :
$c(x) = 03x^3 + 01x^2 + 01x + 02$
Each element in GF(2^8) is expressed as uv, where u, v in
{0, 1, …, 9, A, B, C, D, E, F}, where A=:10, …, F=:15.
MixColumn is implemented using operations of XOR, conditional bit-shifts.
Purpose – inter-byte diffusion within columns (based on ECC theory)
Together with ShiftRow, it ensures that after a few rounds, all output bits depend on all input bits. Coefficients of the matrix were also chosen for efficient implementation.

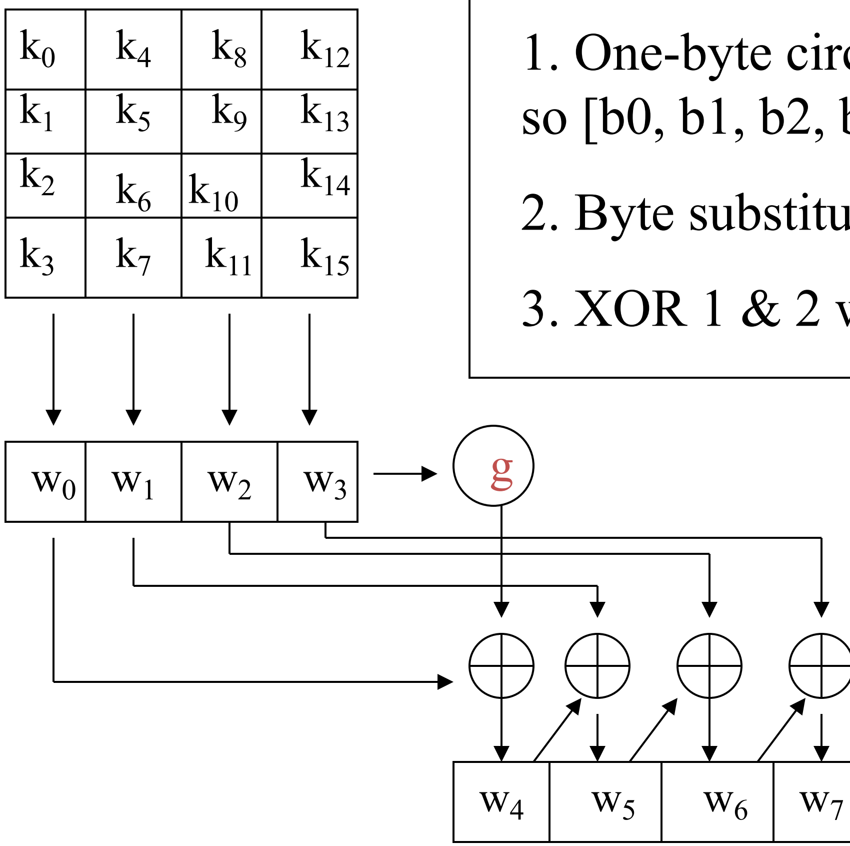
Round Function : AddRoundKey

$$\begin{bmatrix} d_{0,0} & d_{0,1} & d_{0,2} & d_{0,3} \\ d_{1,0} & d_{1,1} & d_{1,2} & d_{1,3} \\ d_{2,0} & d_{2,1} & d_{2,2} & d_{2,3} \\ d_{3,0} & d_{3,1} & d_{3,2} & d_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} \oplus \begin{bmatrix} k_{0,0} & k_{0,1} & k_{0,2} & k_{0,3} \\ k_{1,0} & k_{1,1} & k_{1,2} & k_{1,3} \\ k_{2,0} & k_{2,1} & k_{2,2} & k_{2,3} \\ k_{3,0} & k_{3,1} & k_{3,2} & k_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e_{0,0} & e_{0,1} & e_{0,2} & e_{0,3} \\ e_{1,0} & e_{1,1} & e_{1,2} & e_{1,3} \\ e_{2,0} & e_{2,1} & e_{2,2} & e_{2,3} \\ e_{3,0} & e_{3,1} & e_{3,2} & e_{3,3} \end{bmatrix}$$

In AddRoundKey, the Round Key is bitwise XORed to the State.
Purpose is to make round function key-dependent.

Key-XORing with plaintext or ciphertext is sometimes called **whitening**. This is a cheap way of adding to the security of the cipher by preventing the collection of plaintext-ciphertext pairs.

AES Key Expansion



Function g:

1. One-byte circular left shift on a word so [b0, b1, b2, b3] is now [b1, b2, b3, b0]

2. Byte substitution using S-box

3. XOR 1 & 2 with a round constant

Decryption

- Not identical to encryption
- Equivalent structure exists
- May need different implementations if encryption and decryption are needed
- Quite often only encryption needed
  - Digest

Conclusions

- Simple
- Symmetric and parallel structure
- Flexible implementation
- Secure against all known cryptanalytic attacks
- Suitable modern processors
- Suitable for smart cards (8-bit processor)