

# The $t$ -wise Independence of Substitution-Permutation Networks

Tianren Liu<sup>1</sup>   Stefano Tessaro<sup>1</sup>   Vinod Vaikuntanathan<sup>2</sup>

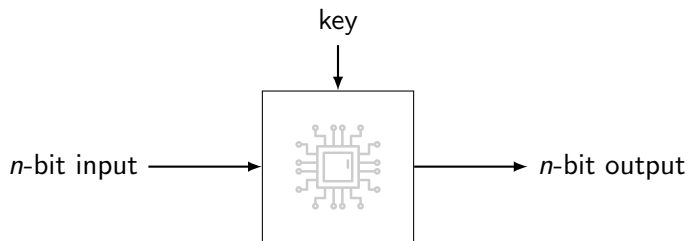
<sup>1</sup>University of Washington, Seattle

<sup>2</sup>MIT, Cambridge

CRYPTO 2021

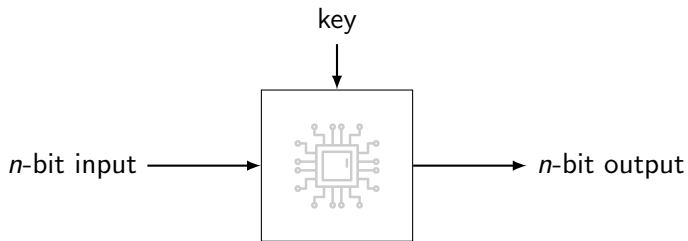
# Random-looking Keyed Permutation

indistinguishable from a random permutation



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indistinguishable from a random permutation



theory

Pseudorandom Permutation

Provable security  
based on hardness assumptions

practice

Block Cipher

Heuristic security  
resisting known attacks

theory

Pseudorandom Permutation

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## Pseudorandom Permutation

provable security based on ...

Feistel [LR88] plus

- one-way functions [GGM84]
- factoring [NR04, ...]
- lattice problems [BPR12, ...]

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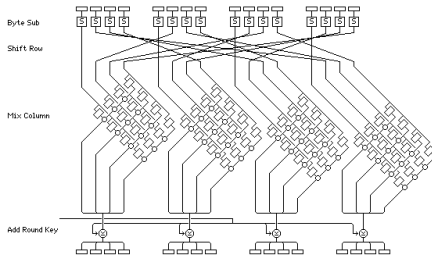
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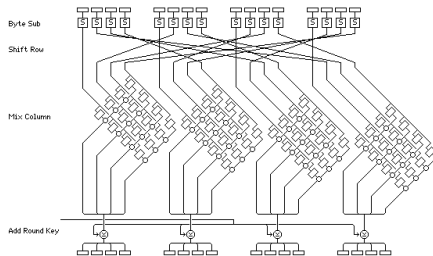
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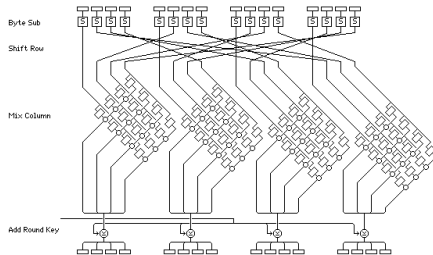
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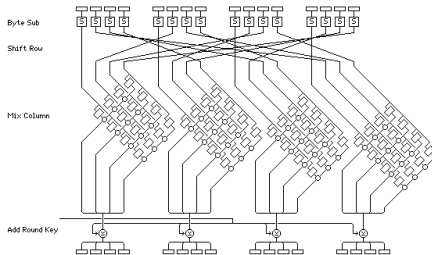
Idealized model

BKL+12, Ste12, ABD+13, LS14, CS14,  
CLL+14, HT16, DSSL16, GL15, DKS+17,  
CDK+18, CL18, WYCD20, etc

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## Cryptanalysis

linear [MY92] and differential [BS91]  
cryptanalysis, higher-order [Lai94] and truncated [Knu94] differential attacks, impossible differential attacks [Knu98], algebraic attacks [JK97], integral cryptanalysis [KW02], biclique attacks [BKR11], etc

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## Provable bounds

on the advantage of known attacks

NK95, KMT01, PSC+02, PSSL03,  
Kel04, KS07, etc

# Prove bounds against an attack class

integral  
cryptanalysis

algebraic  
attacks

truncated higher-order  
differential attacks

biclique  
attacks

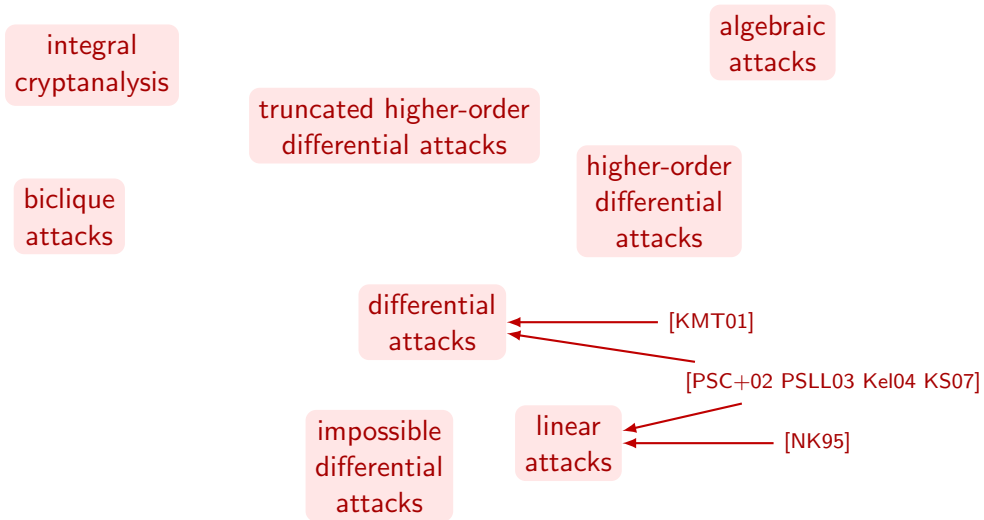
higher-order  
differential  
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impossible  
differential  
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# Prove bounds against an attack class



# This paper: $t$ -wise independence

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[KMT01]

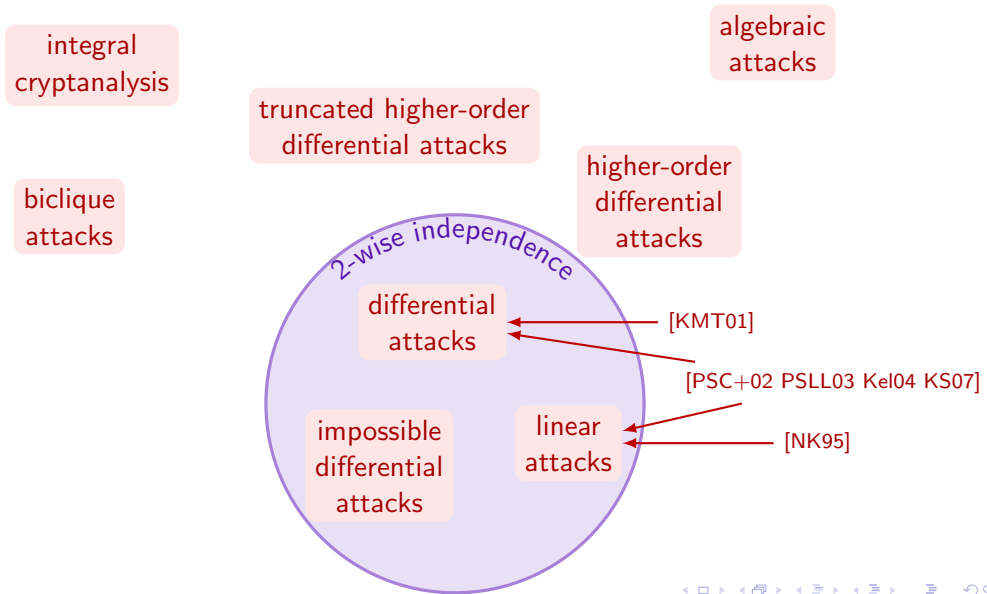
[PSC+02 PSLL03 KeI04 KS07]

impossible  
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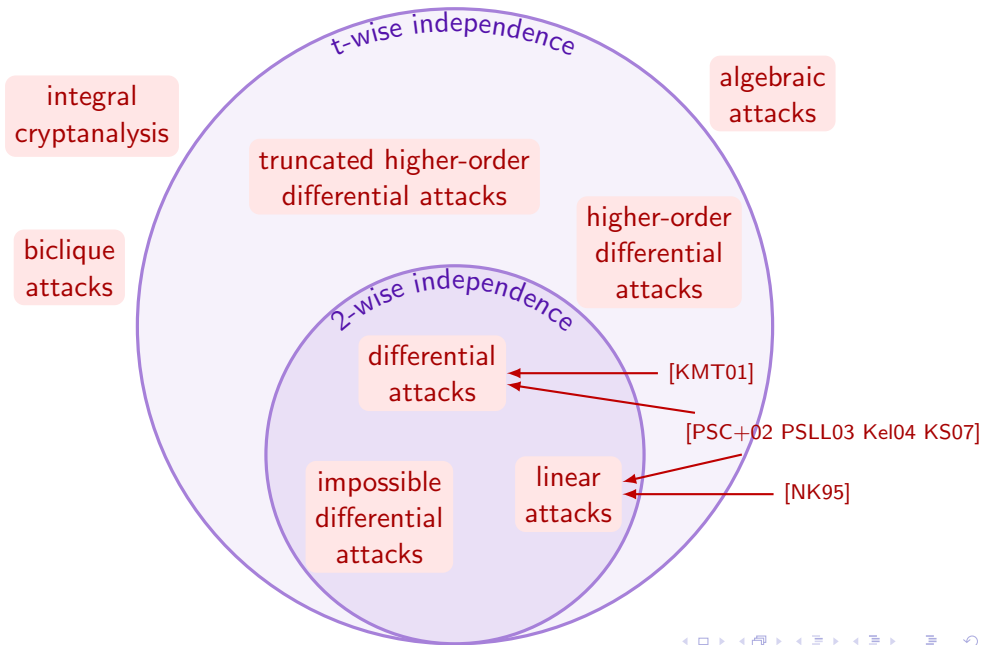
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[NK95]

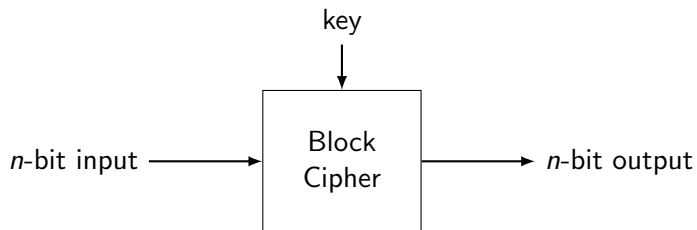
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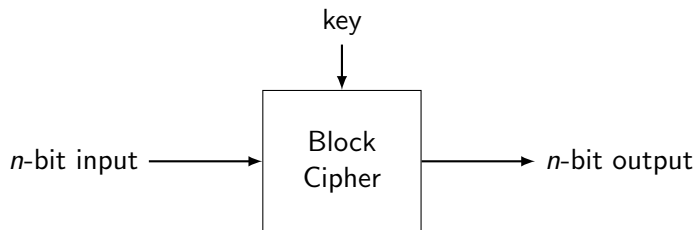




## ***t*-wise Independence**

$\forall \text{input}_1, \dots, \text{input}_t$   
 $\text{output}_1, \dots, \text{output}_t$  are i.i.d. uniform

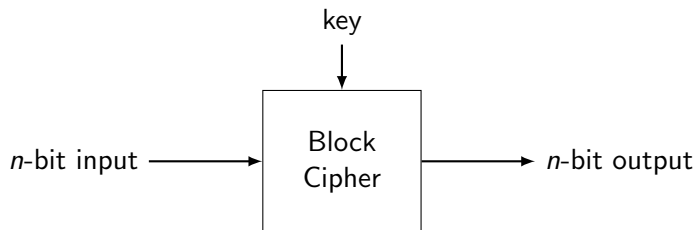
used in [HMMR05, KNR05, BH08, AL13]



## $\epsilon$ -close to $t$ -wise Independence

$$\forall \text{input}_1, \dots, \text{input}_t$$
$$\text{StatisticalDistance}(\text{output}_1, \dots, \text{output}_t, \text{uniform}) \leq \epsilon$$

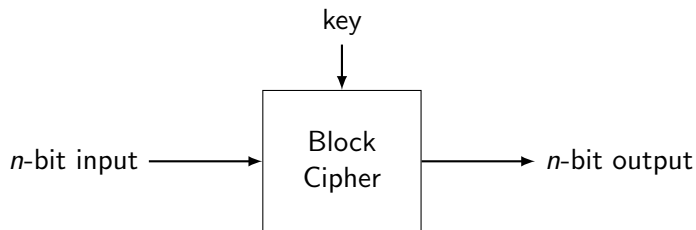
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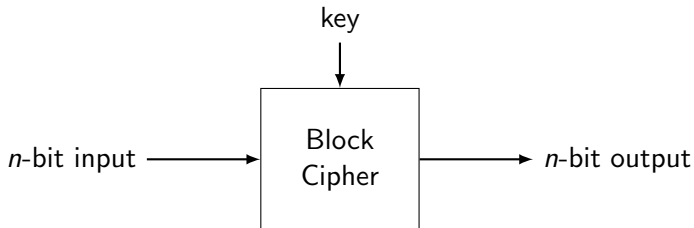
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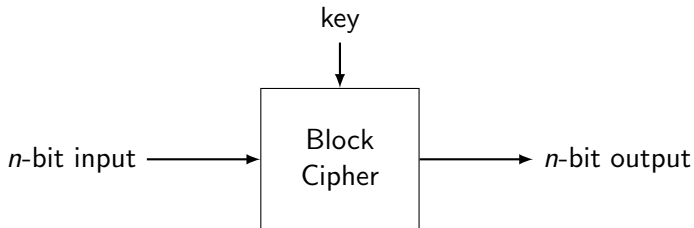


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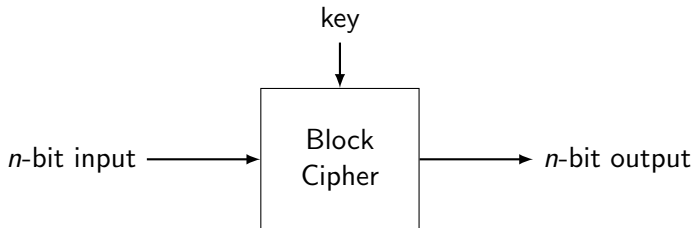
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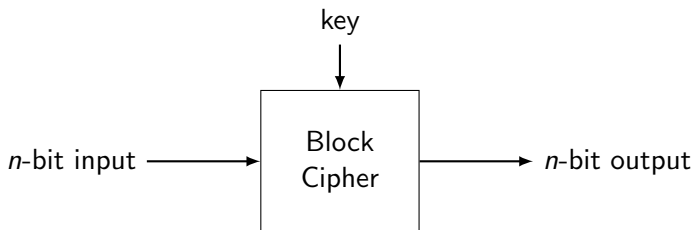
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- $2^d$  non-adaptive queries **order- $d$  differential attacks**



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$$\epsilon\text{-close to 2-wise indep} \implies \begin{cases} \text{MEDP} \leq \epsilon + \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} & \text{(differential attack)} \\ \text{CORR} \leq 8\epsilon + \frac{4}{2^n} & \text{(linear attack)} \end{cases}$$



# Key-Alternating Cipher (KAC)

Substitution-Permutation Network (SPN)

Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)

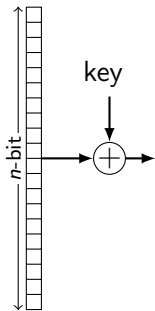
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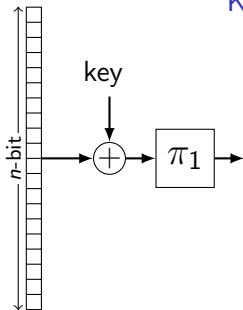
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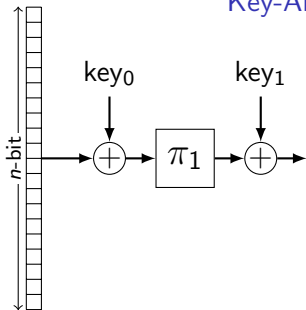
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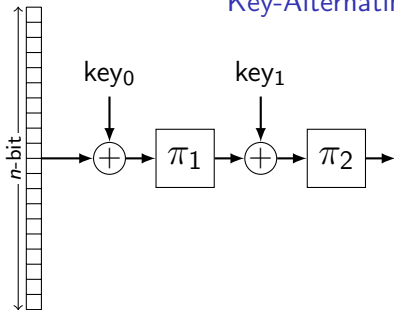
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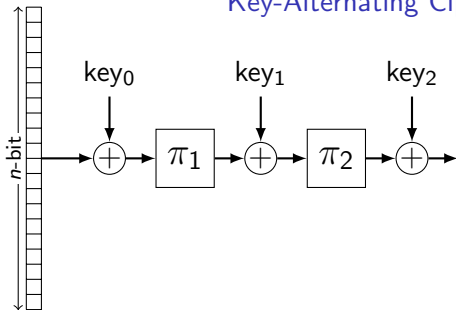
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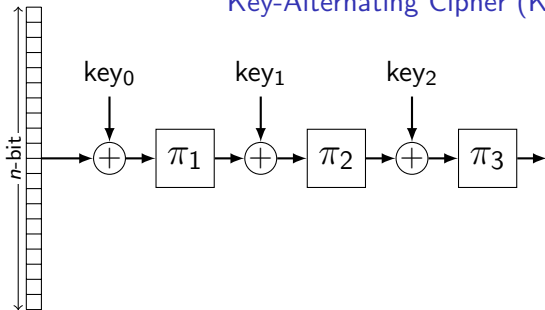
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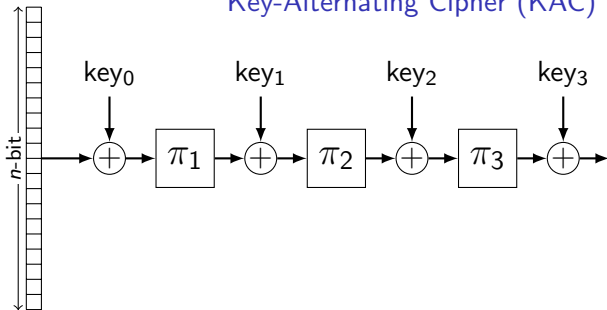


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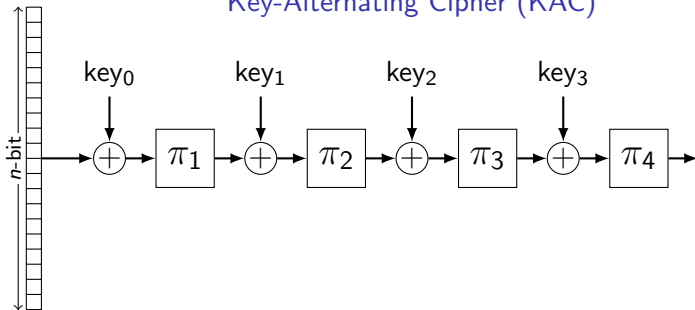
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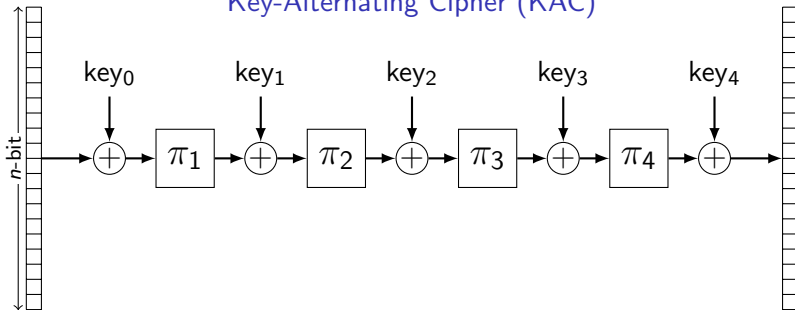
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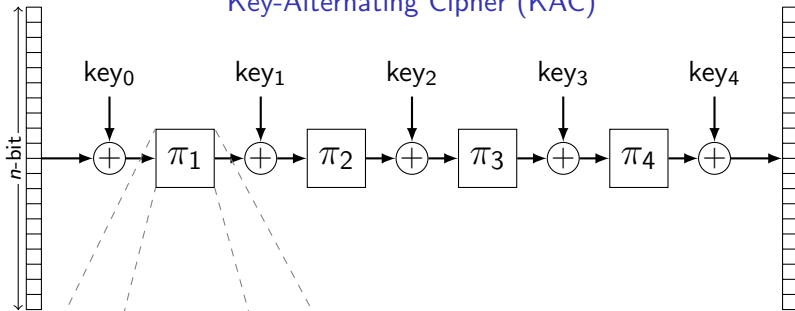
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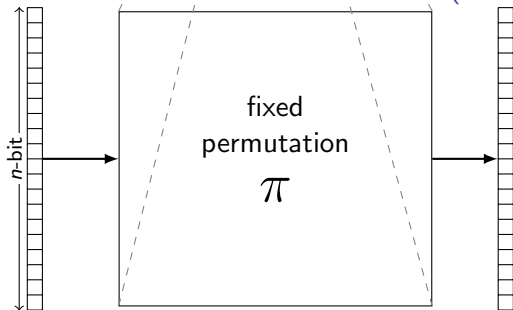
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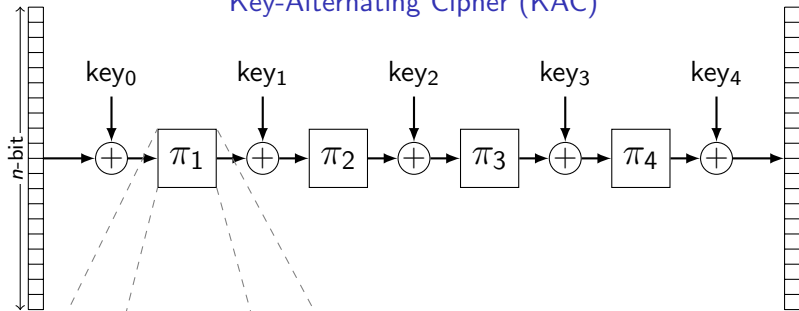


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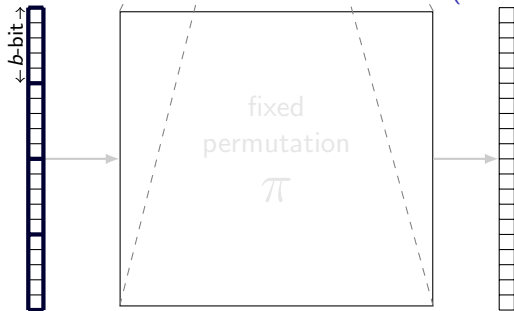


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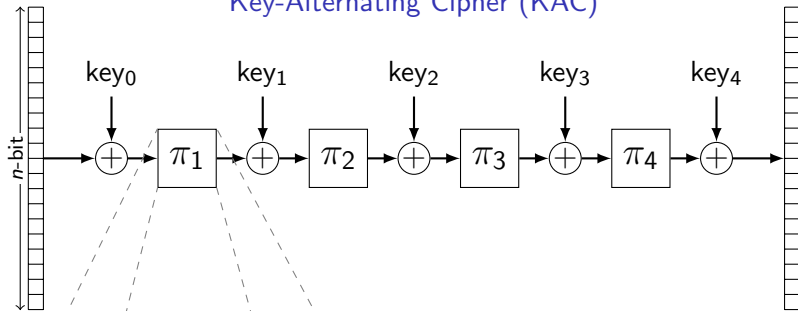


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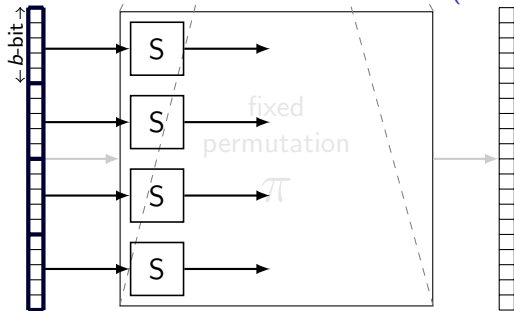


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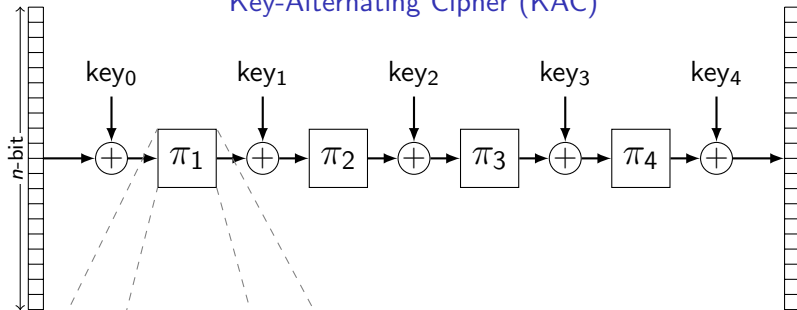


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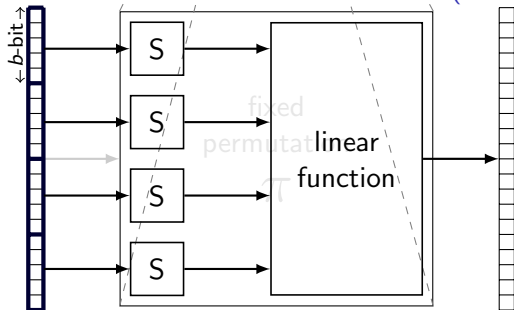


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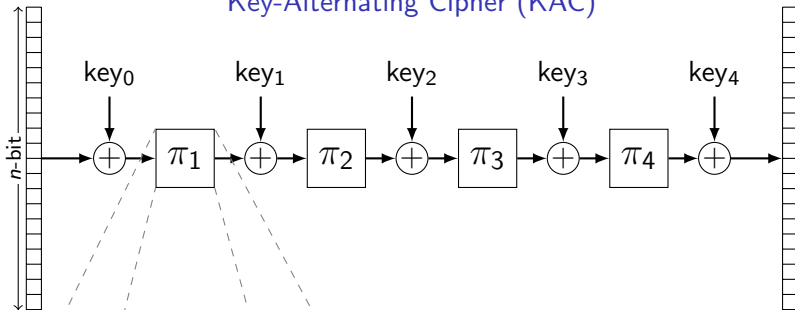


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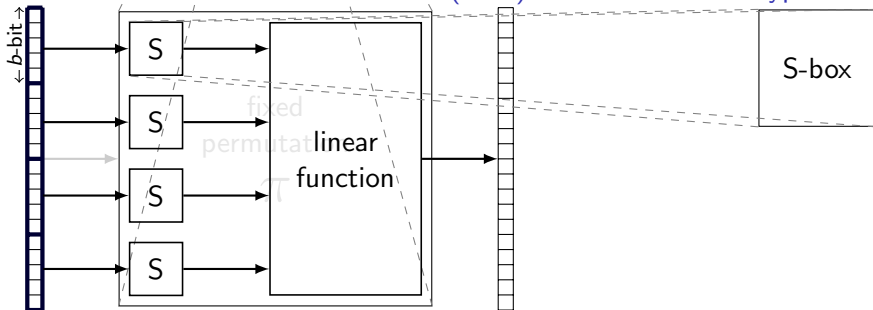
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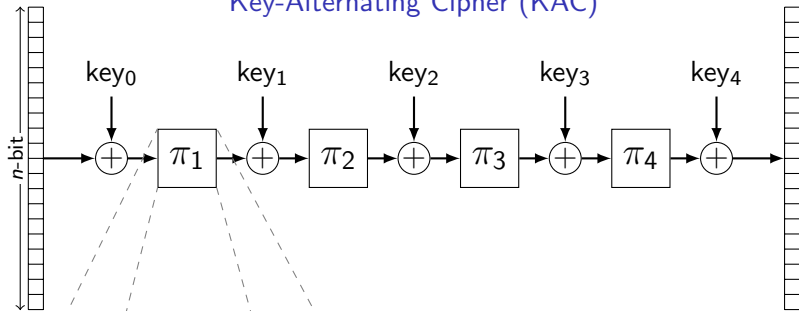
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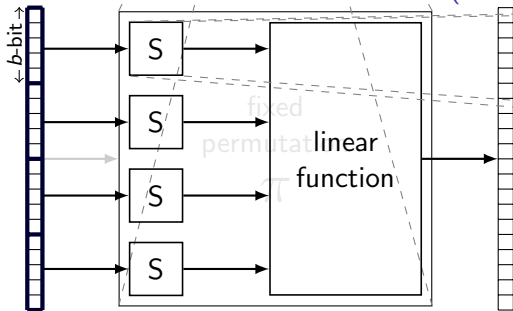




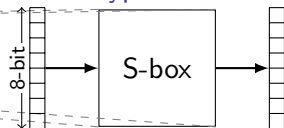
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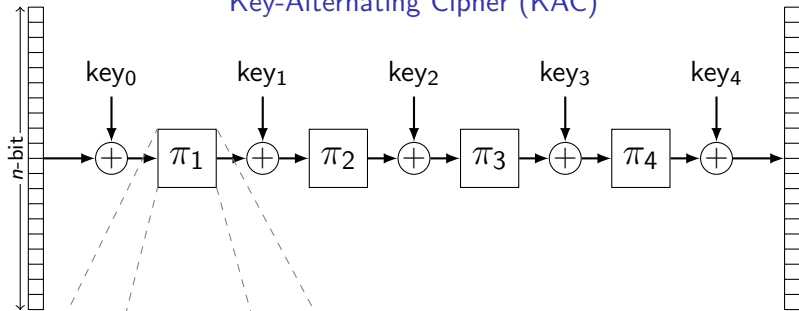
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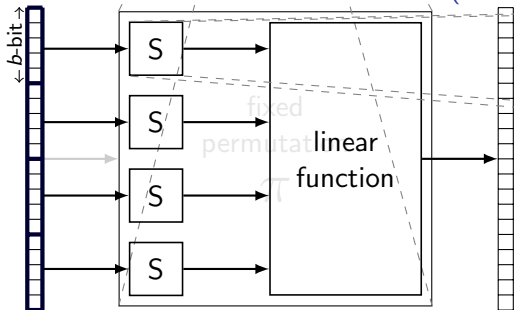
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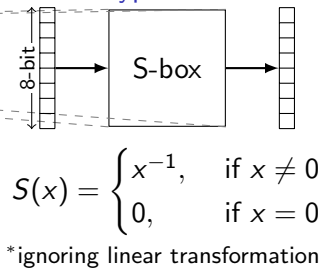
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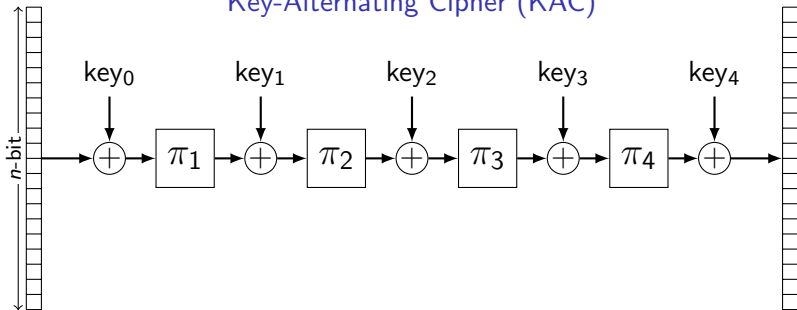
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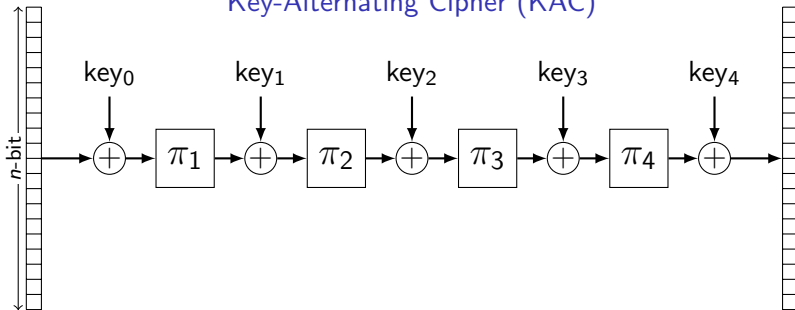
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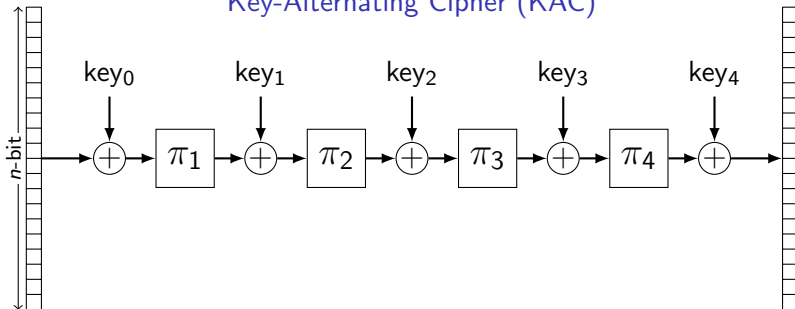


## Key-Alternating Cipher (KAC)



$r$ -round  $KAC(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_r)$  is not  $(r + 2)$ -wise independent

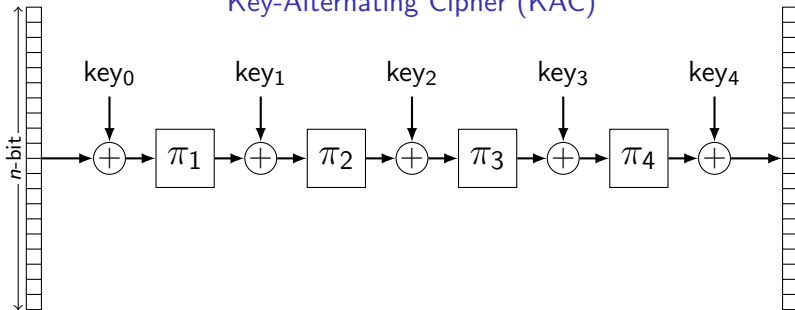
## Key-Alternating Cipher (KAC)



### Our Results (KAC)

$r$ -round  $\text{KAC}(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_r)$  is close to  
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for most  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_r$

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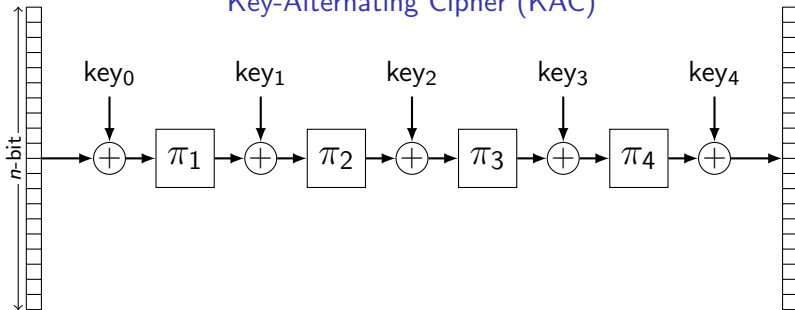


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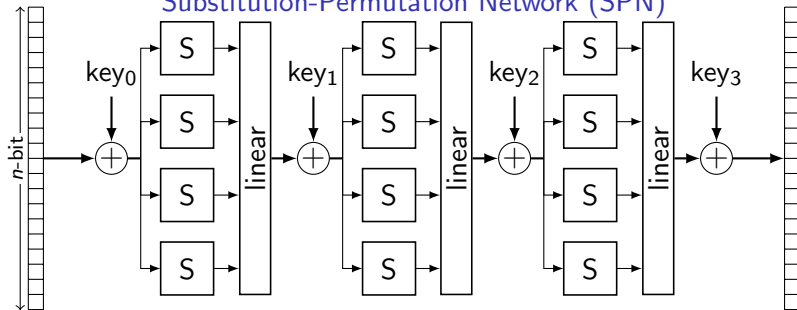
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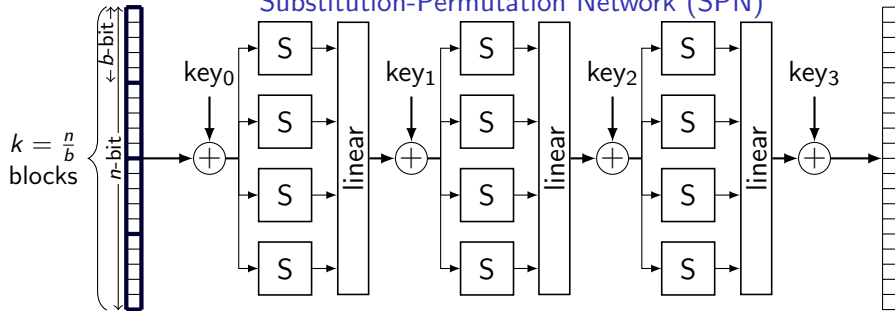
\*unlike ideal model results,  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_r$  are completely known to adv

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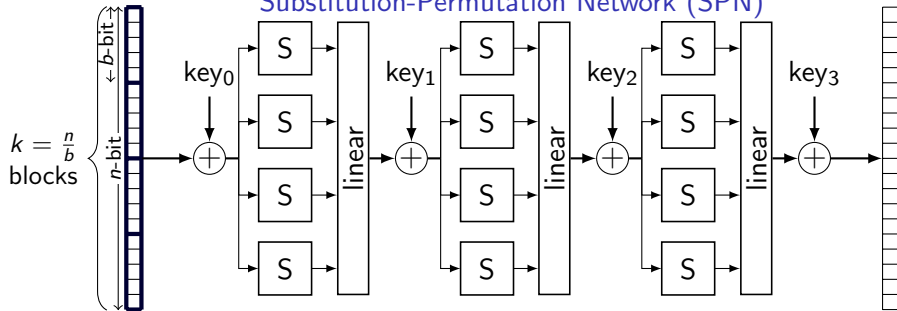




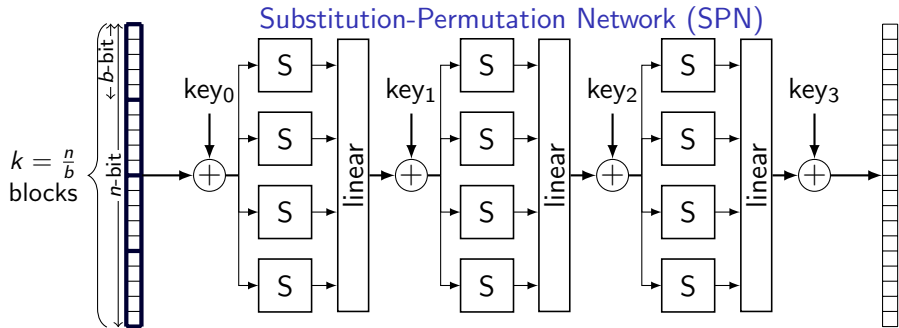
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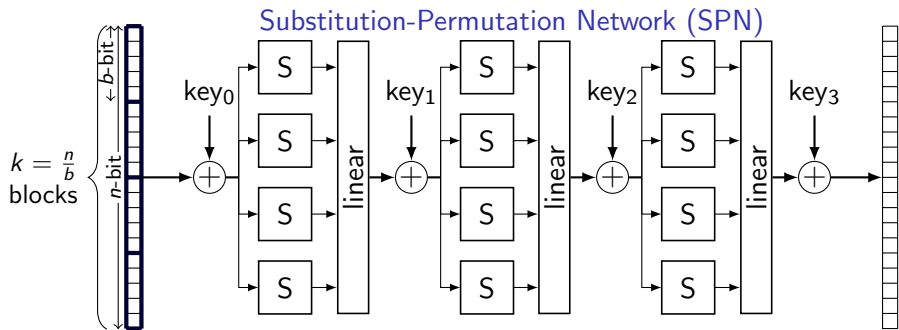


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2-round SPN is  $(\frac{4k}{2^b} + \sqrt{\frac{2k}{2^b}})$ -close to 2-wise independent.

3-round SPN is  $(\frac{8k}{2^b} + \sqrt{\frac{k}{2^b}})$ -close to 2-wise independent.



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6-round AES is 0.472-close to 2-wise independent.

## Our Results (SPN & AES)

2-round SPN is  $(\frac{4k}{2^b} + \sqrt{\frac{2k}{2^b}})$ -close to 2-wise independent.

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**def** pointwise  $\varepsilon$ -close to uniform

$$1 - \varepsilon \leq \frac{\Pr[X \leftarrow \text{distribution}; X=v]}{\Pr[X \leftarrow \text{uniform}; X=v]} \leq 1 + \varepsilon$$

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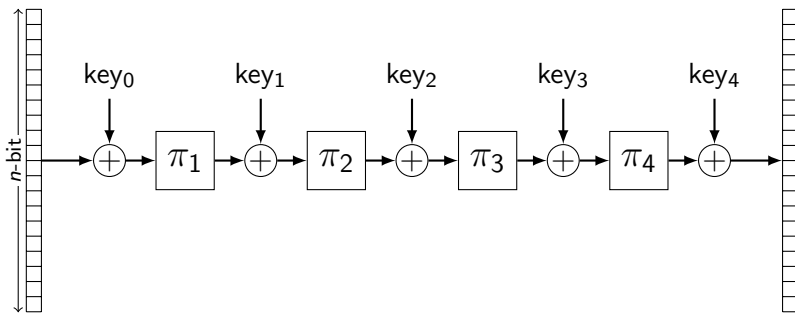
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## Amplifying Our Results

$6r$ -round AES is  $(2^{r-1}0.472^r)$ -close to 2-wise independent.

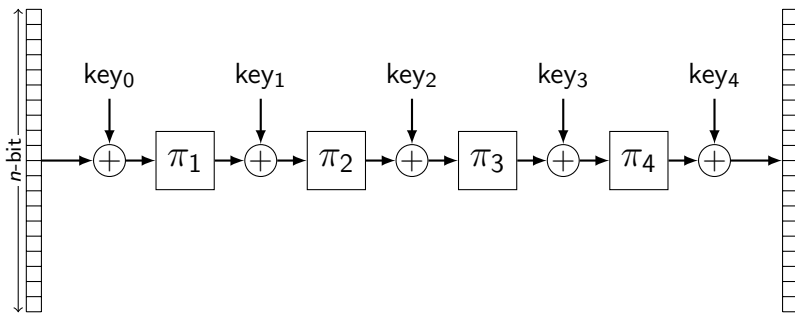
# Proof Overview (KAC)



## Our Results (KAC)

$r$ -round  $\text{KAC}(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_r)$  is close to  
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for most  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_r$

# Proof Overview (KAC)



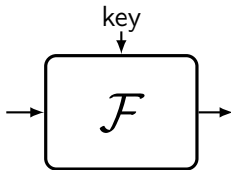
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Prove by induction

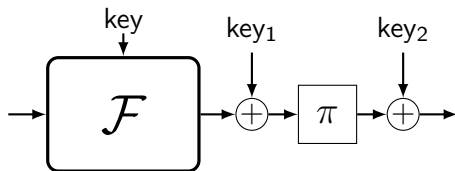
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$\mathcal{F}$  is  $t$ -wise indep.



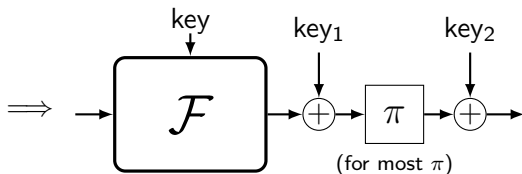
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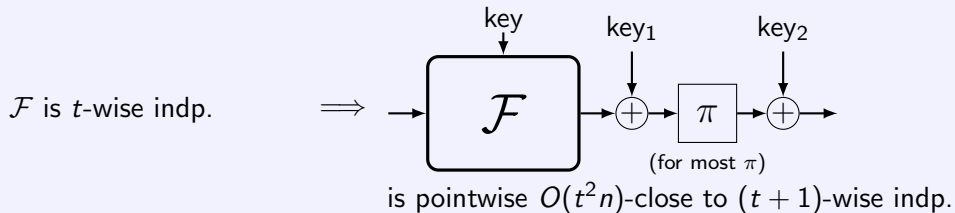
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is pointwise  $O(t^2 n)$ -close to  $(t + 1)$ -wise indp.

# Proof Overview (KAC)

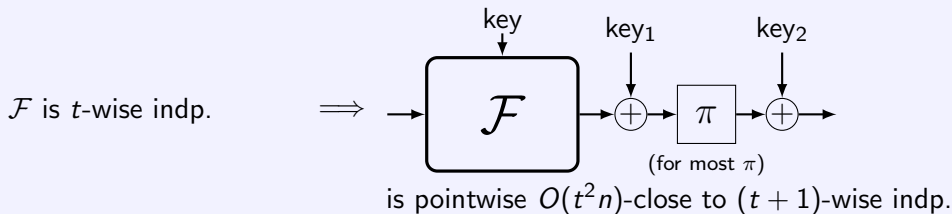
## Independence Amplification Lemma



\*existential result & probabilistic method on  $\pi$

# Proof Overview (KAC)

## Independence Amplification Lemma



**pointwise**  $\varepsilon$ -close to  $t$ -wise independence

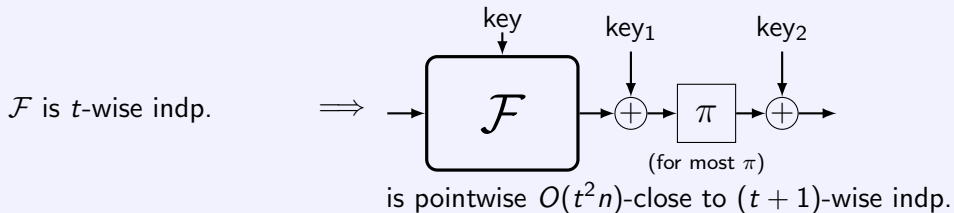
$\forall \text{input}_1, \dots, \text{input}_t, \text{output}_1, \dots, \text{output}_t$

$$\frac{1 - \varepsilon}{2^{tn}} \leq \Pr[\text{output}_1, \dots, \text{output}_t] \leq \frac{1 + \varepsilon}{2^{tn}}$$



# Proof Overview (KAC)

## Independence Amplification Lemma



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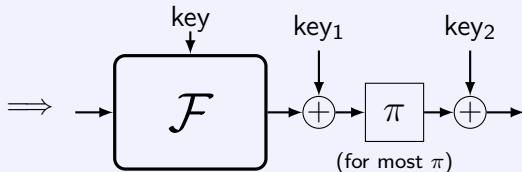
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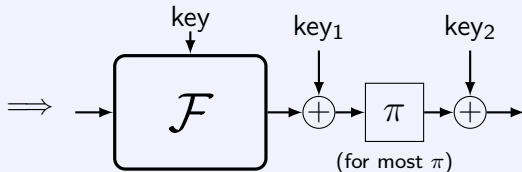
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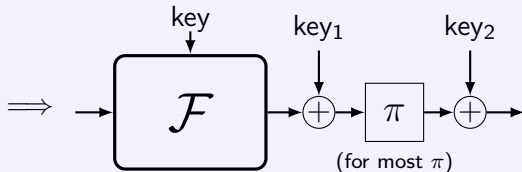
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0-round KAC (=one-time pad) is 1-wise indp.

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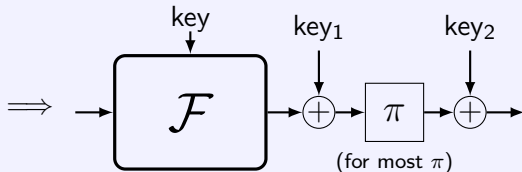
$\Downarrow$

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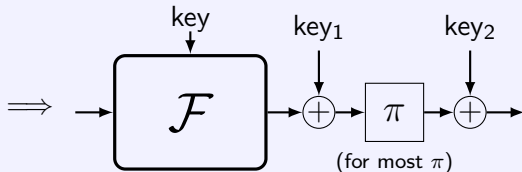
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2-round KAC is pointwise  $O(n^2)$ -close to 3-wise indp.

# Proof Overview (KAC)

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$\Downarrow$

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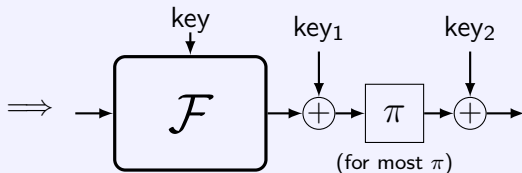
$\Downarrow$

$r$ -round KAC is pointwise  $n^r r^{O(r)}$ -close to  $(r + 1)$ -wise indep.

# Proof Overview (KAC)

## Independence Amplification Lemma

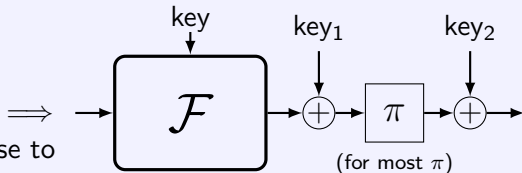
$\mathcal{F}$  is pointwise  
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is pointwise  $O((1 + \varepsilon)t^2 n)$ -close to  $(t + 1)$ -wise indep.

## Distance Amplification Lemma

$\mathcal{F}$  is  
pointwise **very** close to  
 $t$ -wise indep. &  
pointwise **somewhat** close to  
 $(t + 1)$ -wise indep.

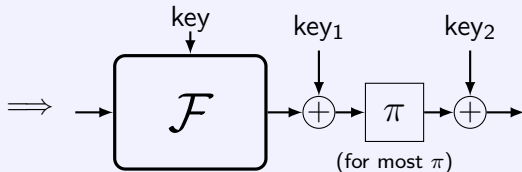


is pointwise **very** close to  $(t + 1)$ -wise indep.

# Proof Overview (KAC)

## Independence Amplification Lemma

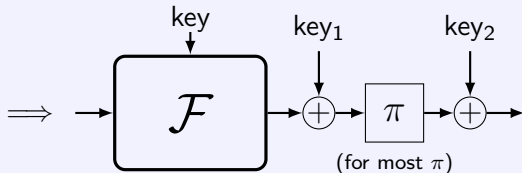
$\mathcal{F}$  is pointwise  
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$\mathcal{F}$  is  
pointwise  $\varepsilon$ -close to  
 $t$ -wise indep. &  
pointwise  $\varepsilon'$ -close to  
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is pointwise  $(\varepsilon + \frac{O(\varepsilon' t)}{2^{n/3}})$ -close to  $(t + 1)$ -wise indep.



# Proof Overview (KAC)

number of rounds	0-round	1-round	2-round	3-round	4-round
closeness to 1-wise indp.					
closeness to 2-wise indp.					
closeness to 3-wise indp.					
closeness to 4-wise indp.					
closeness to 5-wise indp.					

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number of rounds	0-round	1-round	2-round	3-round	4-round
closeness to 1-wise indep.	0	0	0	0	0
closeness to 2-wise indep.					
closeness to 3-wise indep.					
closeness to 4-wise indep.					
closeness to 5-wise indep.					

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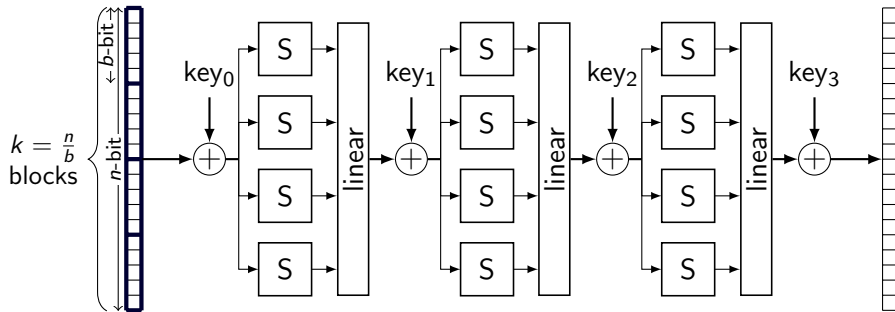
number of rounds	0-round	1-round	2-round	3-round	4-round
closeness to 1-wise indp.	0	0	0	0	0
closeness to 2-wise indp.		$O(n)$			
closeness to 3-wise indp.			$O(n^2)$		
closeness to 4-wise indp.				$O(n^3)$	
closeness to 5-wise indp.					$O(n^4)$

----->  
Independence  
Amplification

# Proof Overview (KAC)

number of rounds	0-round	1-round	2-round	3-round	4-round
closeness to 1-wise indep.	0	0	0	0	0
closeness to 2-wise indep.		$O(n)$	$O(\frac{n}{2^{n/3}})$	$O(\frac{n}{2^{2n/3}})$	$O(\frac{n}{2^n})$
closeness to 3-wise indep.			$O(n^2)$	$O(\frac{n^2}{2^{n/3}})$	$O(\frac{n^2}{2^{2n/3}})$
closeness to 4-wise indep.				$O(n^3)$	$O(\frac{n^3}{2^{n/3}})$
closeness to 5-wise indep.					$O(n^4)$

# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



## Our Results (SPN & AES)

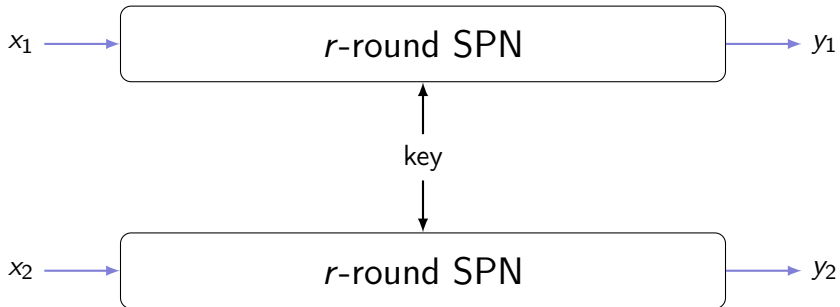
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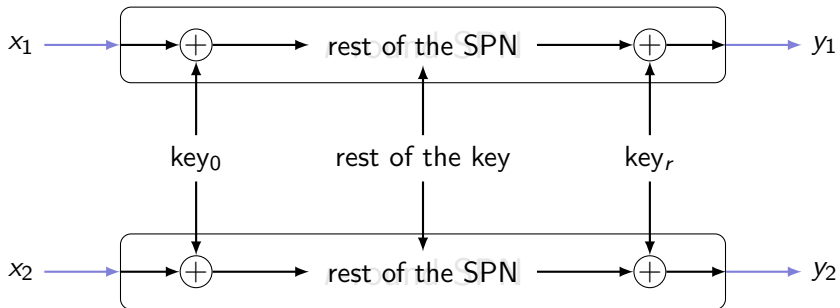
# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)

Only the difference matters



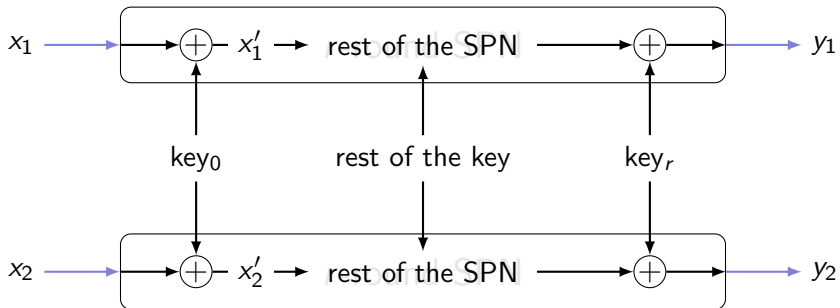
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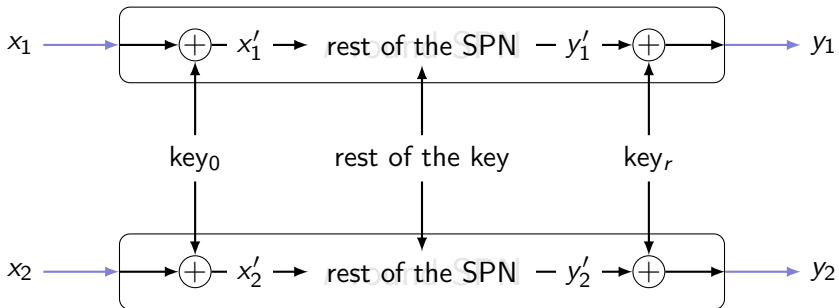


$(x'_1, x'_2)$  is random conditioning on  $x'_1 - x'_2 = x_1 - x_2$



# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)

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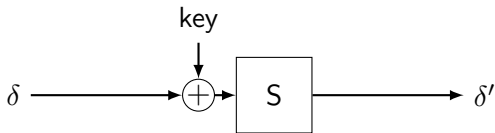


$(x'_1, x'_2)$  is random conditioning on  $x'_1 - x'_2 = x_1 - x_2$

$$SD((y_1, y_2), \text{uniform}) = SD(y'_1 - y'_2, \text{uniform})$$

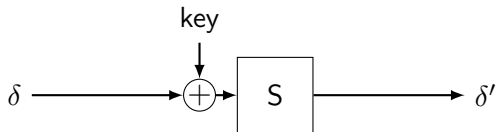
## Proof Overview (SPN & AES)

S-box: input difference  $\delta \mapsto$  output difference  $\delta'$



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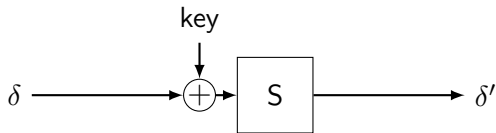
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given inputs  $x_1, x_2$  s.t.  $x_1 \oplus x_2 = \delta$ ,  
what is the distribution of  $\delta' = S(x_1 \oplus \text{key}) \oplus S(x_2 \oplus \text{key})$ ?

## Proof Overview (SPN & AES)

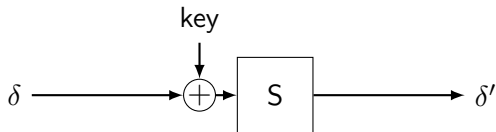
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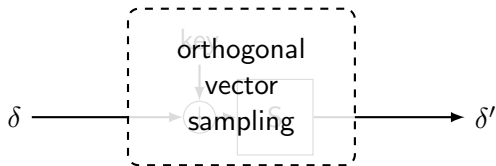
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### Subspace Sampling Lemma

View  $\delta, \delta'$  as dimension- $n$  vectors in  $\mathbb{F}_2^n$   
 $\delta'$  is a random vector orthogonal to  $\delta$ !

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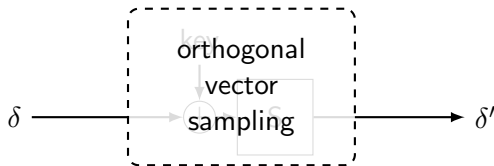
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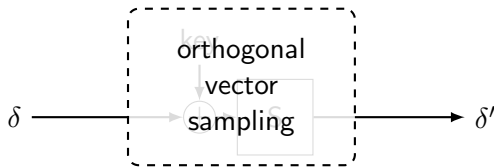
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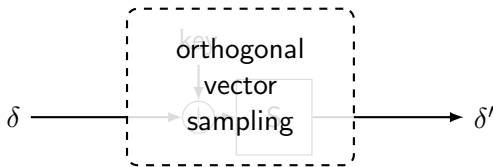
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►  $\delta = 0 \implies \delta' = 0$



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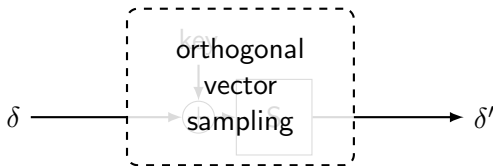
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- ▶  $\exists \pi, \pi'$  s.t.  $\pi(\delta')$  is a random vector orthogonal to  $\pi'(\delta)$

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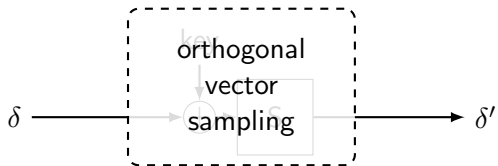
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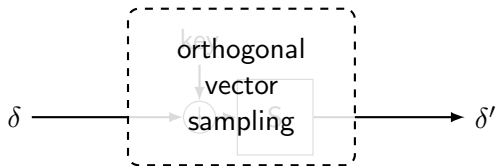
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## Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



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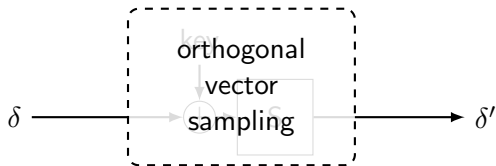


fixed  $\delta \neq 0$

$\implies$

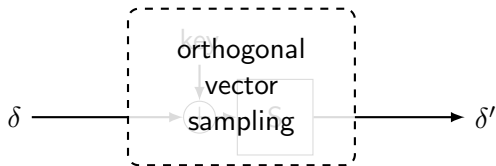
$H_\infty(\delta') = n - 1$

## Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



$$H_{\infty}(\delta) \geq n - 1 \quad \implies \quad ???$$

# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)

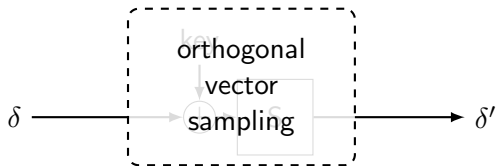


## Extraction Lemma

$$H_{\infty}(\delta) \geq n - 1$$

$$\implies$$
$$\delta' \text{ close to uniform}$$

# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)

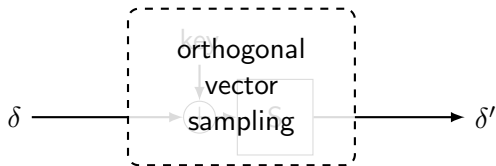


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Proved by Fourier analysis

# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



## Extraction Lemma

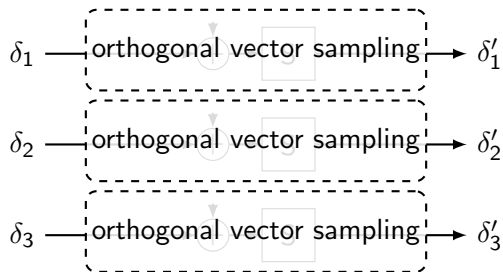
$$H_{\infty}(\delta) \geq n - 1 \quad \implies \quad \delta' \text{ close to uniform}$$

Proved by Fourier analysis

(full version) Proved by collision probability



## Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



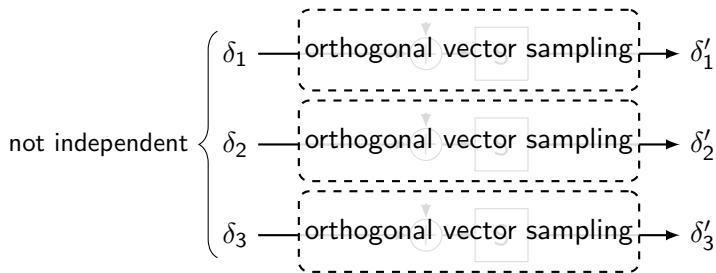
### Extraction Lemma

$$\forall i \ H_{\infty}(\delta_i) \geq n - 1 \quad \implies \quad (\delta'_1, \dots, \delta'_k) \text{ close to uniform}$$

Proved by Fourier analysis

(full version) Proved by collision probability

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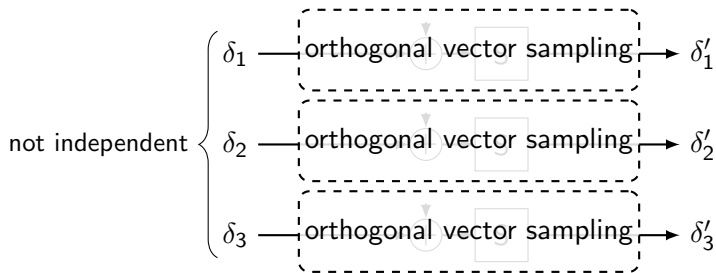
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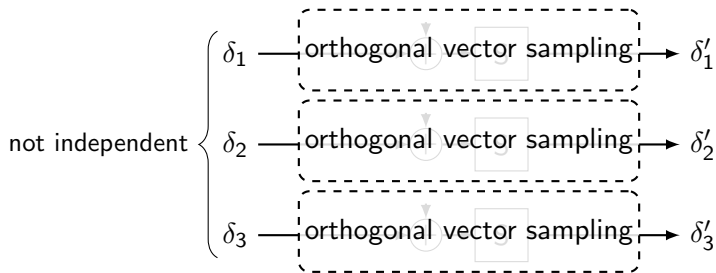
$$H_\infty(\{\delta_i\}_{i \in S}) \geq (n - 1) \cdot |S| \quad \implies \quad (\delta'_1, \dots, \delta'_k) \text{ very close to uniform}$$

for any subset  $S \subseteq [k]$

Proved by Fourier analysis

(full version) Proved by collision probability

# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



## Extraction Lemma

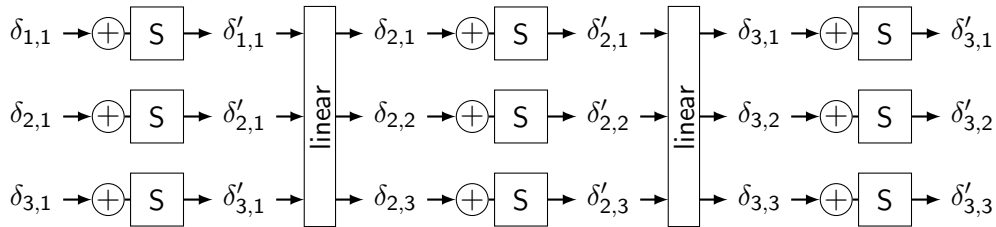
$$\forall i \ H_\infty(\delta_i) \geq n - 1 \quad \implies \quad \text{SD}((\delta'_1, \dots, \delta'_k), \text{uniform}) \leq \sqrt{\frac{2^k - 1}{2^b}}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} H_\infty(\{\delta_i\}_{i \in S}) \geq (n - 1) \cdot |S| \\ \text{for any subset } S \subseteq [k] \end{array} \quad \implies \quad \text{SD}((\delta'_1, \dots, \delta'_k), \text{uniform}) \leq \sqrt{\frac{k}{2^b}}$$

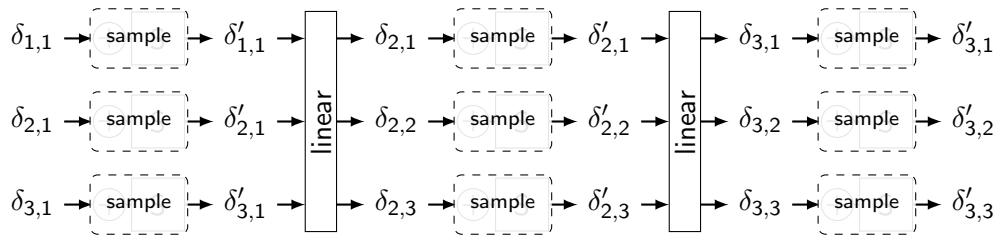
Proved by Fourier analysis

(full version) Proved by collision probability

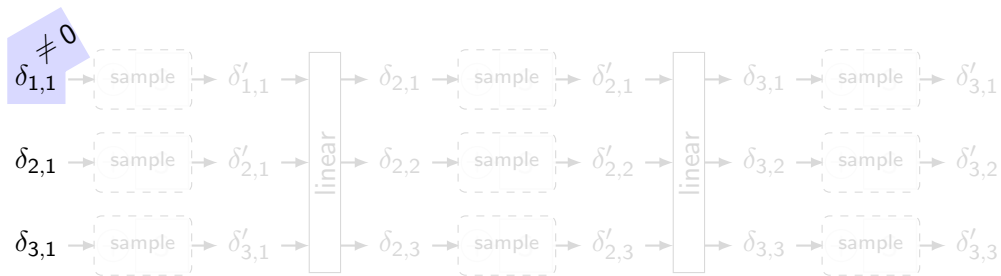
## Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



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# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



w.l.o.g.  
 $\implies \delta_{1,1} \neq 0$

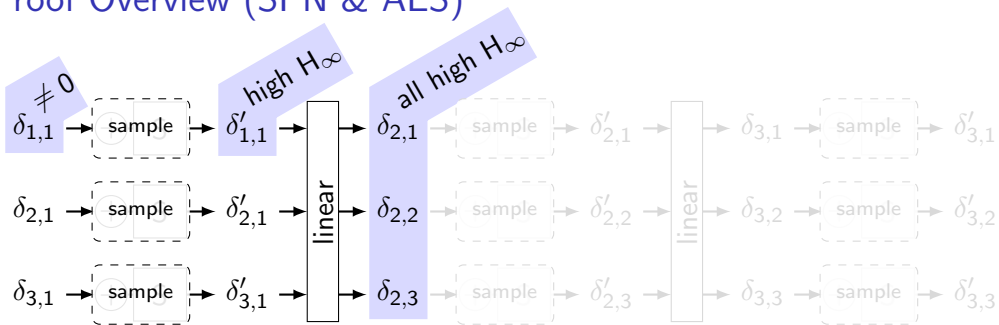
# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



w.l.o.g.  $\Rightarrow \delta_{1,1} \neq 0 \Rightarrow H_\infty(\delta'_{1,1}) = n - 1$

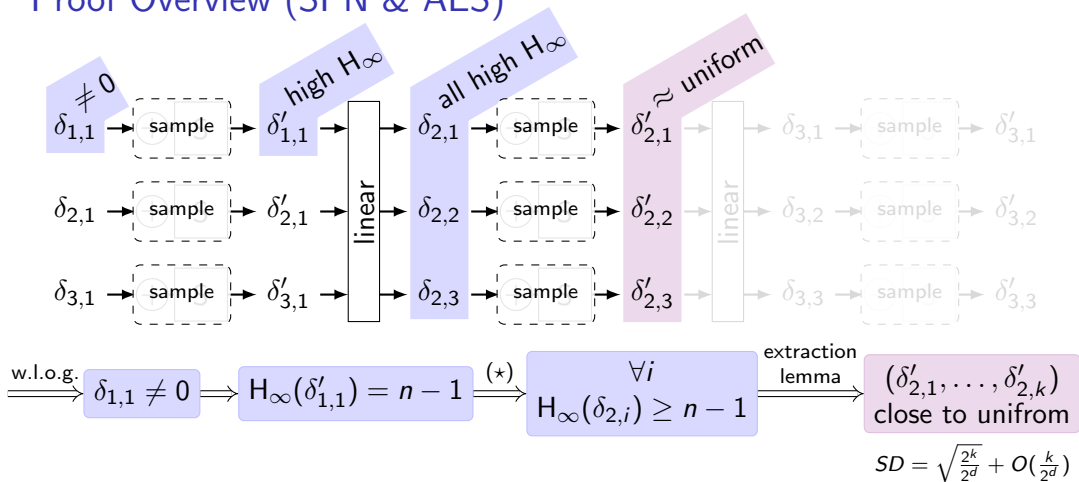


# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)

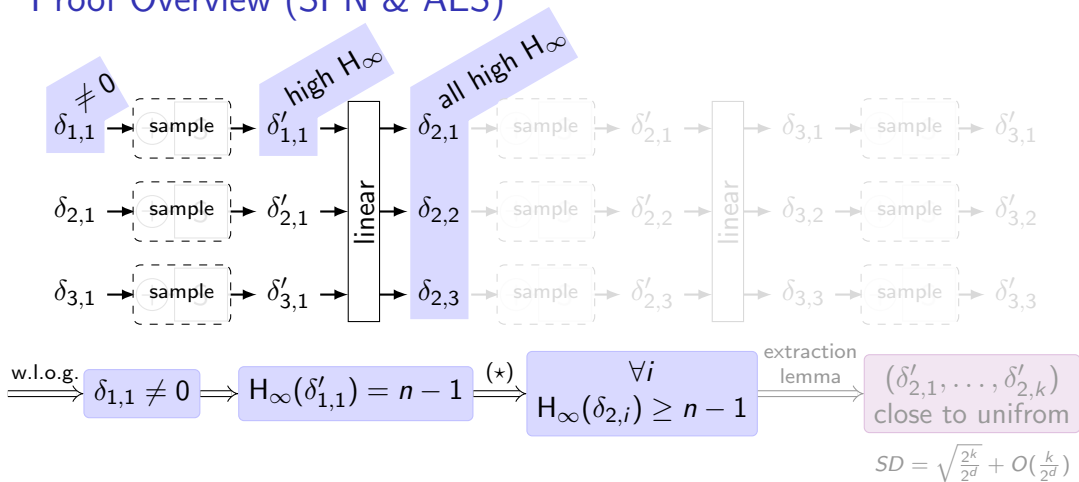


w.l.o.g.  $\delta_{1,1} \neq 0 \implies H_\infty(\delta'_{1,1}) = n - 1 \xrightarrow{(*)} \forall i \quad H_\infty(\delta_{2,i}) \geq n - 1$

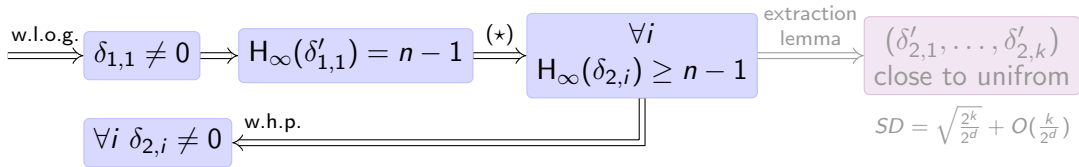
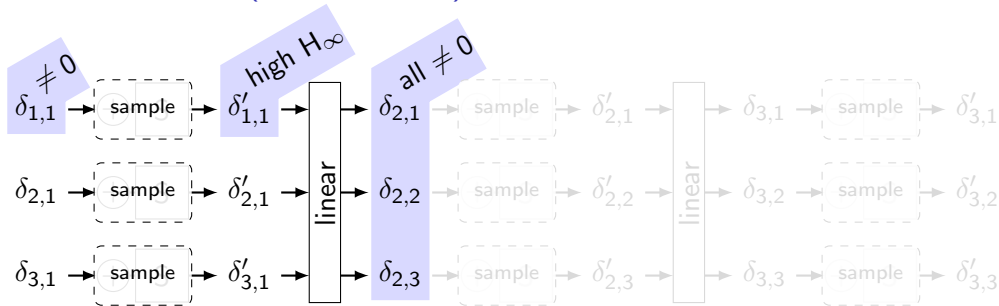
# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



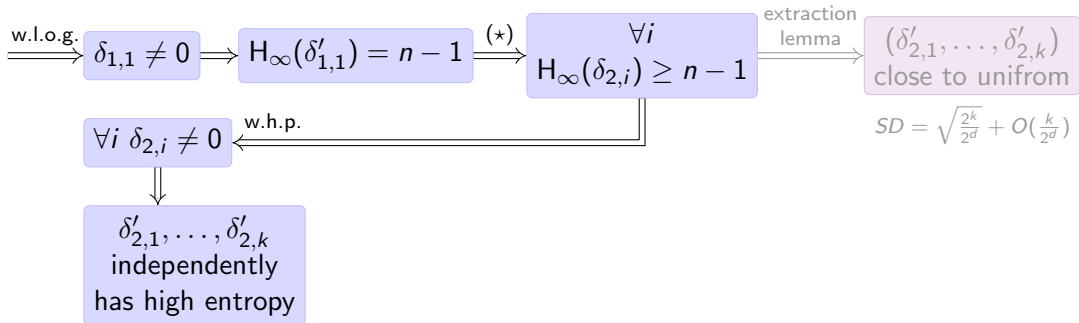
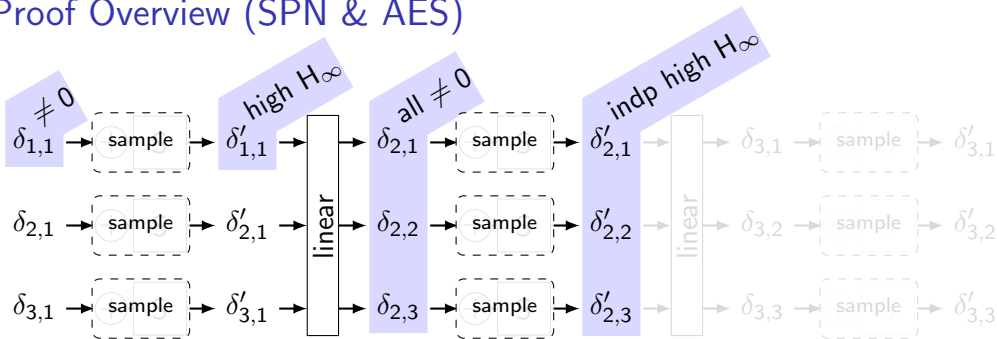
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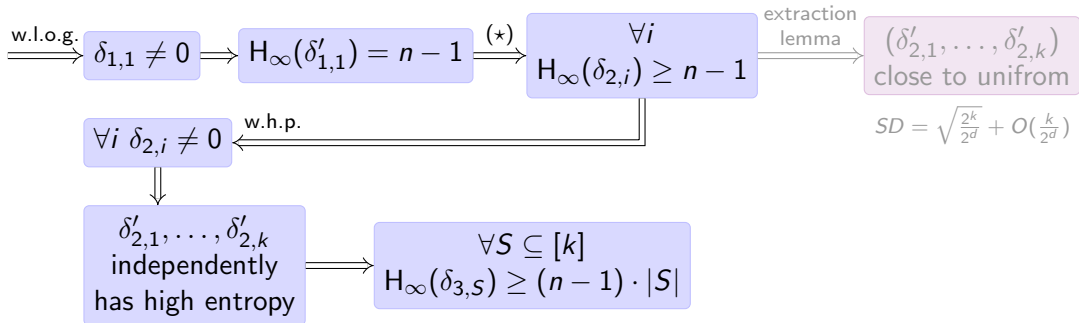
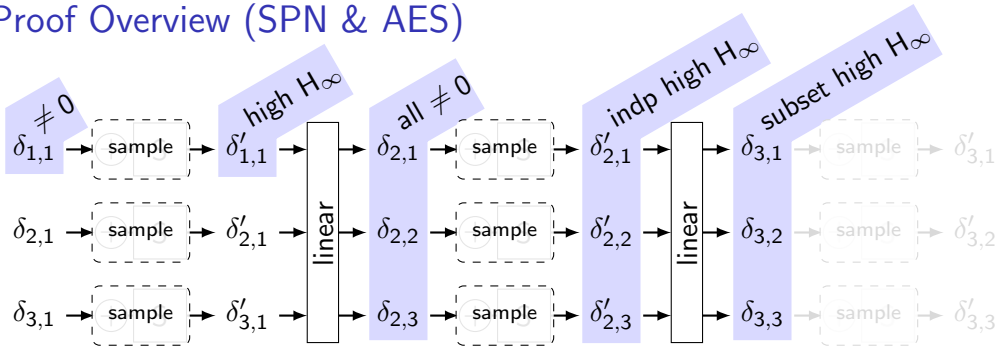
# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



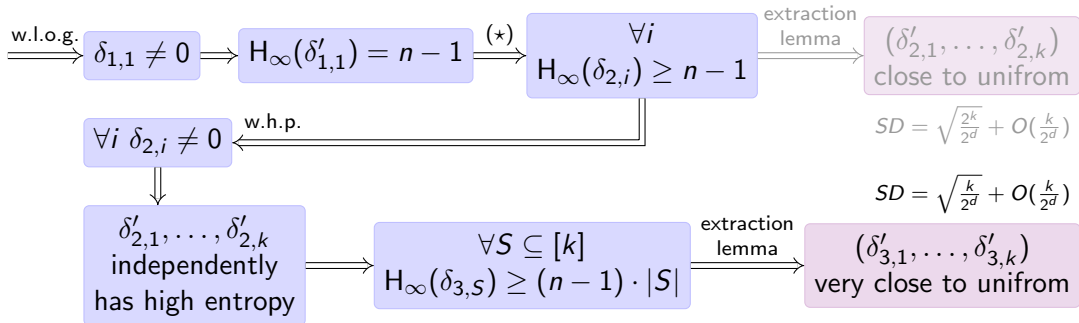
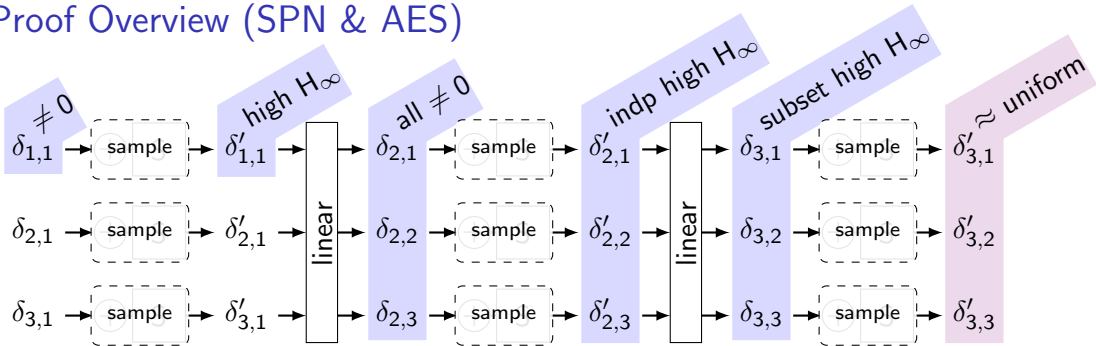
# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



# Proof Overview (SPN & AES)



## Our Results (SPN & AES)

2-round SPN is  $(\frac{4k}{2^b} + \sqrt{\frac{2^k}{2^b}})$ -close to 2-wise independent.

3-round SPN is  $(\frac{8k}{2^b} + \sqrt{\frac{k}{2^b}})$ -close to 2-wise independent.



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6-round AES is 0.472-close to 2-wise independent.

## Our Results (KAC)

$r$ -round KAC( $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_r$ ) is close to  $(r - o(r))$ -wise indp  
for most  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_r$

## Our Results (SPN & AES)

2-round SPN is  $(\frac{4k}{2^b} + \sqrt{\frac{2^k}{2^b}})$ -close to 2-wise independent.

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6-round AES is 0.472-close to 2-wise independent.

## $t$ -wise independence has a really rich body of problems . . .

- ▶ Amplify independence like what we did in KAC
  - 3-wise independence of a concrete cipher
- ▶ The role of key scheduling
- ▶ Analysis of other concrete cipher design
  - e.g. add–rotate–xor (ARX) cipher
- ▶ The relationship between  $t$ -wise independent and other class(es) of attack