

# Low-Memory Attacks against 2-Round Even-Mansour using the 3-XOR Problem

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Inria, France

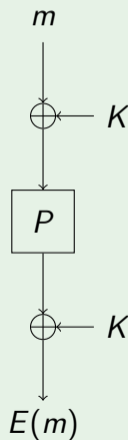
Crypto 2019



# 1-Round Even-Mansour

Most-Simple **permutation**-based block cipher.  
Original by Even and Mansour, Asiacrypt 91.  
Single-key by Dunkelman *et al.*, Eurocrypt 2012.

## 1EM



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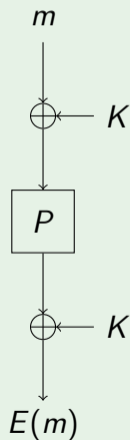
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$n$ -bit to  $n$ -bit **public** permutation  $P$ .  
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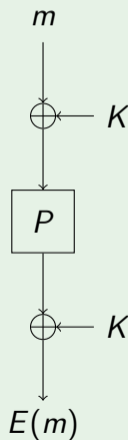
$D$  = number of calls to keyed  $E$ ,

$Q$  = number of calls to the public  $P$ ,

1EM provable security up to  $DQ \ll 2^n$ .

$\implies$  Security up to birthday bound  $2^{n/2}$ .

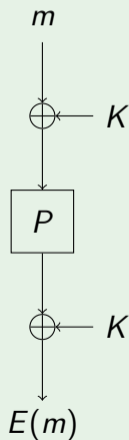
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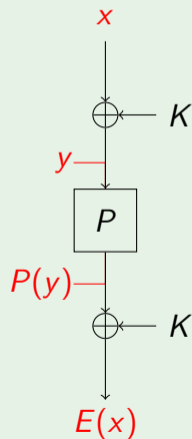
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$\forall x, y \in \{0, 1\}^n,$

$$x \oplus y = K \iff P(y) \oplus E(x) = K$$

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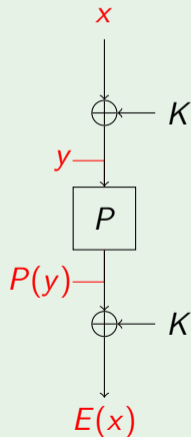
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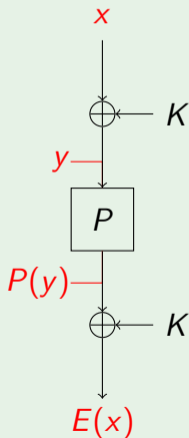
## Cryptanalysis via $n$ -bit collision search

Let  $f_0(x) = x \oplus E(x)$  and  $f_1(y) = y \oplus P(y)$ .

Find a collision between  $f_0$  and  $f_1$ , guess  $K = x \oplus y$ .

$\implies$  **No gap** between the best proofs and attacks.

## 1EM

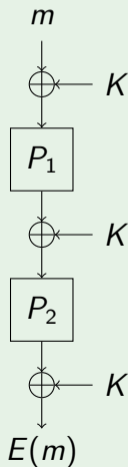




## 2-Round Even-Mansour

Extension by Bogdanov *et al.*, Eurocrypt 2012.  
Keeps it simple and secure **beyond** birthday-bound.

### 2EM



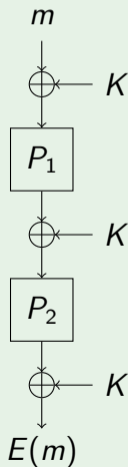
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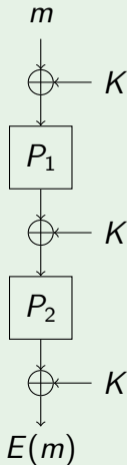
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### GAP

There remains a significant gap between the proof,  $2^{2n/3}$ , and the best attacks in  $T = 2^n/n$ .

### 2EM



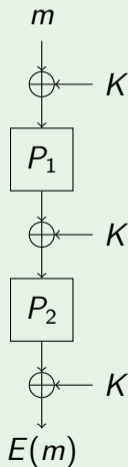
## Our Approach

Best information theoretic attack trade-off:  $DQ^2 = 2^{2n}$ .

This matches the proof only in  $D = Q = 2^{2n/3}$ .

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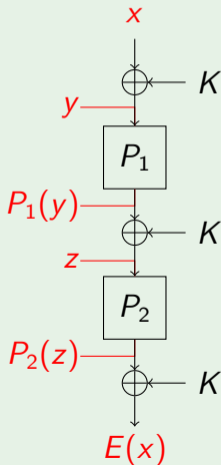
Best time complexity cryptanalysis in  $T = 2^n/n$  but it uses also a lot of **memory and/or online data!**

In this work, we use the fact that:

$\forall x, y, z \in \{0, 1\}^n$ ,

$$\begin{cases} x \oplus y & = K \\ P_1(y) \oplus z & = K \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} x \oplus y & = K \\ P_1(y) \oplus z & = K \\ P_2(z) \oplus E(x) & = K \end{cases}$$

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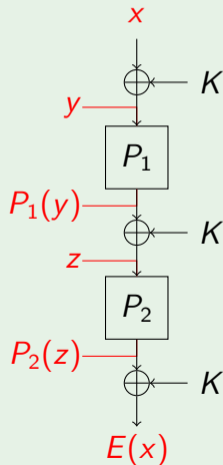
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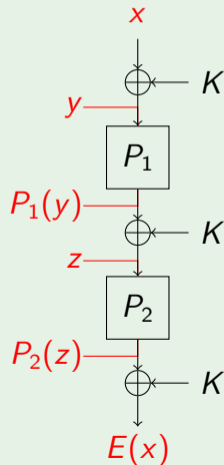
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## First result : A Link to the 3-XOR

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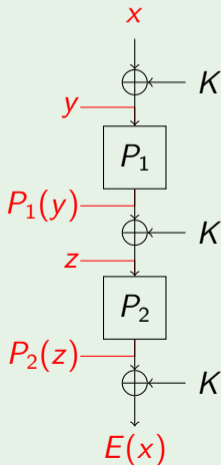
### Cryptanalysis via the 3-XOR Problem with $2n$ -bit functions

$$\begin{array}{l} f_0(x) = x \quad || \quad x \oplus E(x) \\ f_1(y) = y \oplus P_1(y) \quad || \quad y \\ f_2(z) = z \quad || \quad P_2(z) \end{array}$$

Solve the 3-XOR problem between  $f_0$ ,  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ .

Guess  $K = x \oplus y$ .

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## 3-XOR Problem

### Definition (Collision problem)

Given two functions  $f_0, f_1$ , find two inputs  $(x_0, x_1)$  such that

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### Definition (3-XOR problem with lists)

Given three lists  $L_0, L_1, L_2$ , find three elements  $(e_0, e_1, e_2) \in L_0 \times L_1 \times L_2$  such that  $e_0 \oplus e_1 \oplus e_2 = 0$ .

## Gap of the 3-XOR Problem

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### Solving Random 3-XOR with $2n$ -bit elements

Requires  $|L_0| \cdot |L_1| \cdot |L_2| = 2^{2n}$  so at least one list of size  $2^{2n/3}$ .

$|L_0| = |L_1| = |L_2| = 2^{2n/3}$  is enough: compute sum of all triples to find a solution.

So we have a proof and Information Theoretical attack in  $2^{2n/3}$ .

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$\implies$  We found the same gap... again !

# Our Strategy

## 3-XOR solving

Two main techniques:

Multicollision based [Nikolic&Sasaki15] and Linear algebra based [Joux09].

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## 2EM cryptanalysis

Except for one, [DDKS16], all previous cryptanalysis use **multicollision** based techniques.

Exhibiting the link to 3-XOR allows us to deeply explore **linear algebra based techniques for cryptanalysis**.

Benefits : **Reduced online complexity AND memory** both arguably costlier than time.



## 2-Round Even-Mansour: Results

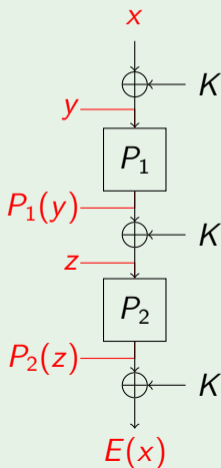
Ref	Data	Queries	Time	Memory	Param.
[NWW13]	$2^n \ln n/n$ KP	$2^n \ln n/n$	$2^n \ln n/n$	$2^n \ln n/n$	
[DDKS13]	$2^{\lambda n}$ KP	$2^n \ln n/n$	$2^n \ln n/n$	$2^n \ln n/n$	
[DDKS16]	$2^n/\lambda n$ CP	$2^n/\lambda n$	$2^n/\lambda n$	$2^{\lambda n}$	$0 < \lambda < \frac{1}{3}$
[IsoShi17]	$2^n \ln n/n$ CP	$2^n \ln n/n$	$2^n \ln n/n$	$2^n \ln n/n$	
	$2^{\lambda n}$ CP	$2^n \ln n/n$	$2^n \ln n/n$	$2^n \ln n/n$	
	$2^n \beta/n$ CP	$2^n/2^\beta$	$2^n \beta/n$	$2^n/2^\beta$	$\log n \leq \beta < n$
This Work	$n$ KP	$2^n/\sqrt{n}$	$2^n/\sqrt{n}$	$2^n/\sqrt{n}$	
This Work	$2^d$ KP	$2^{n-d/2}$	$2^n/n$	$2^{n-d/2}$	$0 < d < n$
This Work	$2^d$ KP	$2^{n-d/2}$	$2^n \ln^2 n/n^2$	$2^{n-d/2}$	$0 < d < n$
This Work	$\lambda n$ KP	$2^n/\lambda n$	$2^n/\lambda n$	$2^{\lambda n}$	$0 < \lambda < 1$

red means  $\tilde{\Theta}(2^n)$

## First attack on 2EM

1.  $L_0 \ni x \parallel x \oplus E(x)$
2.  $L_1 \ni y \oplus P_1(y) \parallel y$
3.  $L_2 \ni z \parallel P_2(z)$
4. Solve the 3-XOR over  $L_0, L_1, L_2$ .
5. Guess  $K = x \oplus y$  for the solution found.

### 2EM



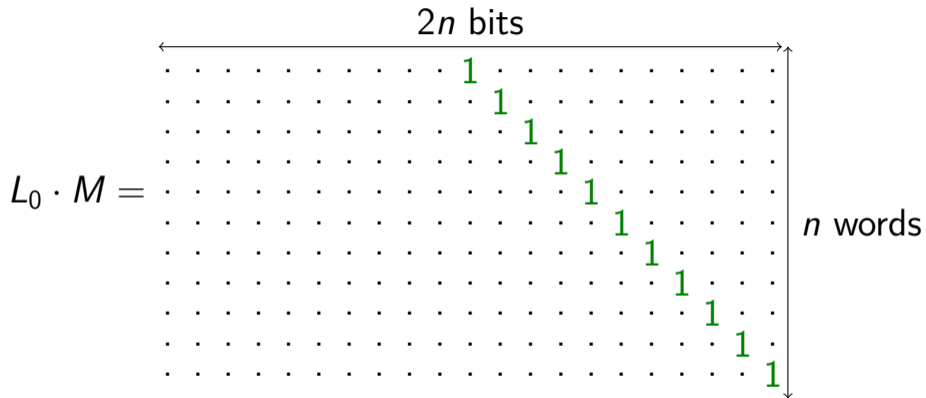
# Joux's Technique

$2n$  bits

$$L_0 = \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccc} 1 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \cdot & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 1 \\ \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 1 \\ \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 1 \end{array}$$

$n$  words

# Joux's Technique



$$e_0 \oplus e_1 \oplus e_2 = 0 \iff e_0 \cdot M \oplus e_1 \cdot M \oplus e_2 \cdot M = 0$$

$$3\text{-XOR with } L_0, L_1, L_2 \iff 3\text{-XOR with } L_0 \cdot M, L_1 \cdot M, L_2 \cdot M$$

## Joux's Technique

1. Compute  $M$  s.t.  $L_0 \cdot M = 0_n || I_n$ ;
2.  $L'_1 = L_1 \cdot M$ ;
3.  $L'_2 = L_2 \cdot M$ ;
4. Look for partial  $n$ -bit collisions between  $L'_1$  and  $L'_2$ ;
5. Check if Solution.

### Complexity

$$|L_0| = n$$

$$|L_1| = |L_2| = \frac{2^n}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\implies |L_0| \cdot |L_1| \cdot |L_2| = 2^{2n} \checkmark$$

$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{2^n}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$  memory and computations.

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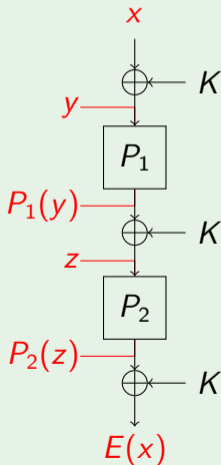
### Complexity using Joux's technique $w = 2n$

$D = n$  online queries (Known Plaintext)

$Q = \frac{2^n}{\sqrt{n}}$  offline queries

$\mathcal{O}(\frac{2^n}{\sqrt{n}})$  memory and computations.

### 2EM

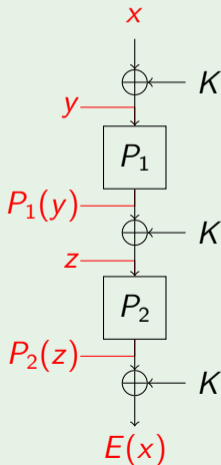


## Easy Clamping

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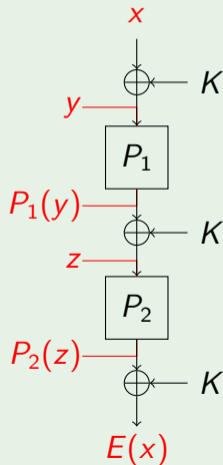


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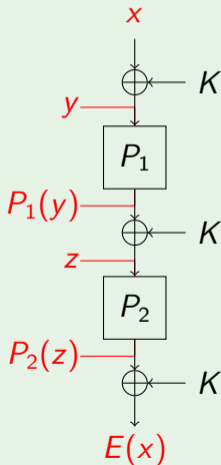
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Let  $D = 2^d$  thus  $Q = 2^{n-d/2} \implies DQ^2 = 2^{2n} \checkmark$

Only compute for  $y$  and  $z'$  with  $d/2$  trailing zeroes.

Only keep  $x \oplus E(x)$  with  $d/2$  trailing zeroes.

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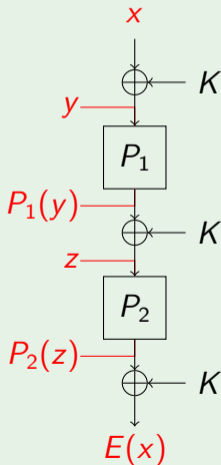
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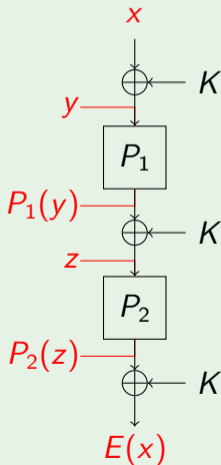
### 3-XOR after clamping

$$|L_0| = D/2^{d/2} = 2^{d/2}$$

$$|L_1| = |L_2| = Q = 2^{n-d/2}$$

Reduced lists of  $2n - d/2$ -bit elements.

### 2EM



## Other 3-XOR algorithms

Generalized 3-XOR algorithm for  $w$ -bit elements and  $|L_0| \cdot |L_1| \cdot |L_2| = 2^w$ :

### Wagner's generalized birthday

Combine two lists and look for a collision.

$$T = \mathcal{O}\left(\left(|L_0| \cdot |L_1|\right) + |L_2|\right)$$

$$M = \mathcal{O}\left(|L_1| + |L_2|\right)$$

And two more by [Bouillaguet, Delaplace, Fouque. ToSC 2018]:

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And two more by [Bouillaguet, Delaplace, Fouque. ToSC 2018]:

### Repeat $\mathcal{O}(|L_0|/w)$ times Joux's algorithm.

Realistic 3-XOR algorithm.

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## Other 3-XOR algorithms

Generalized 3-XOR algorithm for  $w$ -bit elements and  $|L_0| \cdot |L_1| \cdot |L_2| = 2^w$ :

### Wagner's generalized birthday

Combine two lists and look for a collision.

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### Revisited Baran-Demaine-Pătrașcu 3-SUM algorithm

Best known asymptotic complexity but impractical for realistic  $w$ .

$$T = \mathcal{O}(|L_0| \cdot |L_1| + |L_2|) \cdot \ln^2(w)/w^2$$

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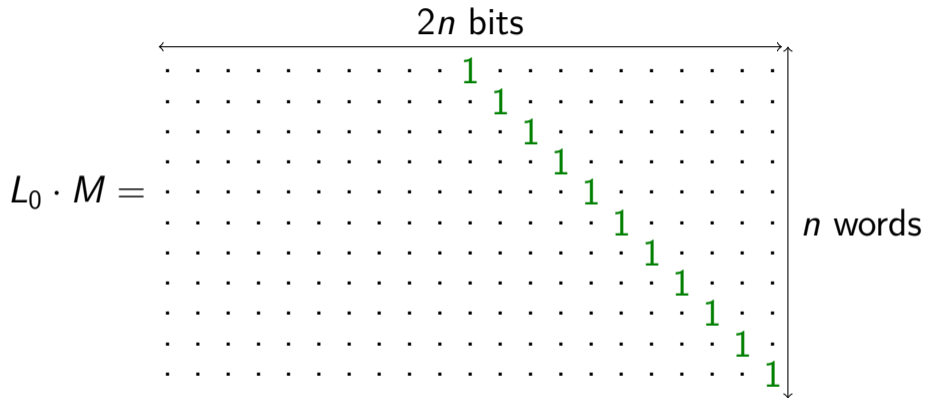
## 2-Round Even-Mansour: Results

Strategy	Data	Queries	Time	Memory	Param.	
Joux's technique	$n$	KP	$2^n/\sqrt{n}$	$2^n/\sqrt{n}$	$2^n/\sqrt{n}$	
Clamping + BDF algo	$2^d$	KP	$2^{n-d/2}$	$2^n/n$	$2^{n-d/2}$	$0 < d < n$
Clamping + BDP algo	$2^d$	KP	$2^{n-d/2}$	$2^n \ln^2 n/n^2$	$2^{n-d/2}$	$0 < d < n$
Low-Data	$\lambda n$	KP	$2^n/\lambda n$	$2^n/\lambda n$	$2^{\lambda n}$	$0 < \lambda < 1$

red means  $\tilde{\Theta}(2^n)$



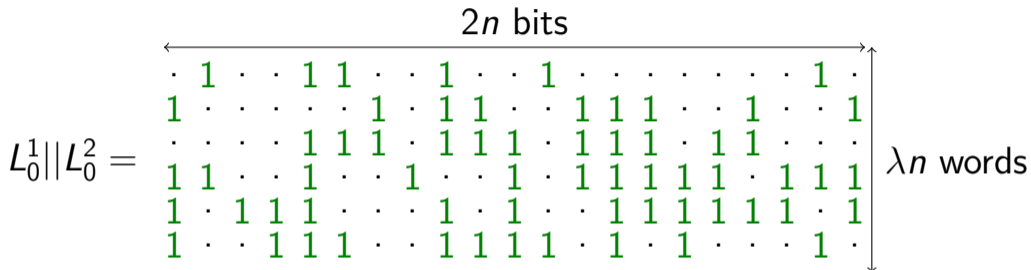
# Joux's Technique



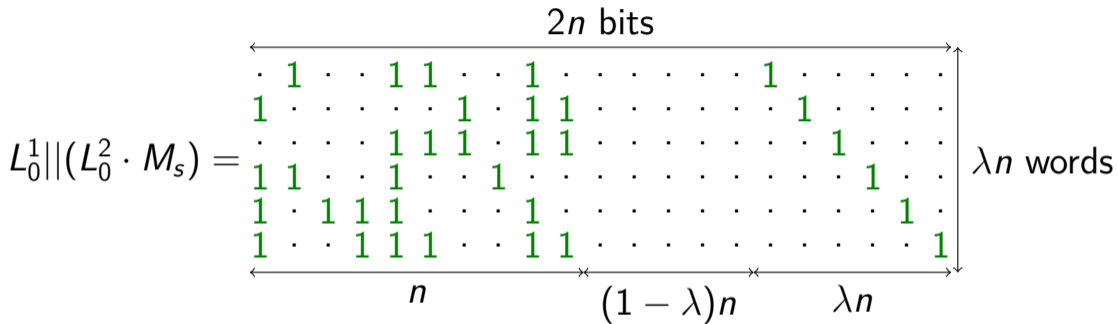
$$e_0 \oplus e_1 \oplus e_2 = 0 \iff e_0 \cdot M \oplus e_1 \cdot M \oplus e_2 \cdot M = 0$$

$$3\text{-XOR with } L_0, L_1, L_2 \iff 3\text{-XOR with } L_0 \cdot M, L_1 \cdot M, L_2 \cdot M$$

## Joux's Technique... but smaller



## Joux's Technique... but smaller



## Joux's Technique... but smaller

$$L_0^1 || (L_0^2 \cdot M_s) =$$

←----- 2n bits ----->																				λn words		
·	1	·	·	1	1	·	·	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	1	·	·	·		·	
1	·	·	·	·	·	1	·	1	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	1	·	·		·	
·	·	·	·	1	1	1	·	1	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	1	·		·	
1	1	·	·	1	·	·	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	1		·	
1	·	1	1	1	·	·	·	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·		1	
1	·	·	1	1	1	·	·	1	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·		1	
←-----				n	×-----							(1 - λ)n	×-----							λn	----->	

$$L_1 \ni \quad y \oplus P_1(y) \quad || \quad y$$

$$L_2 \ni \quad P_2^{-1}(z') \quad || \quad z'$$

## Joux's Technique... but smaller

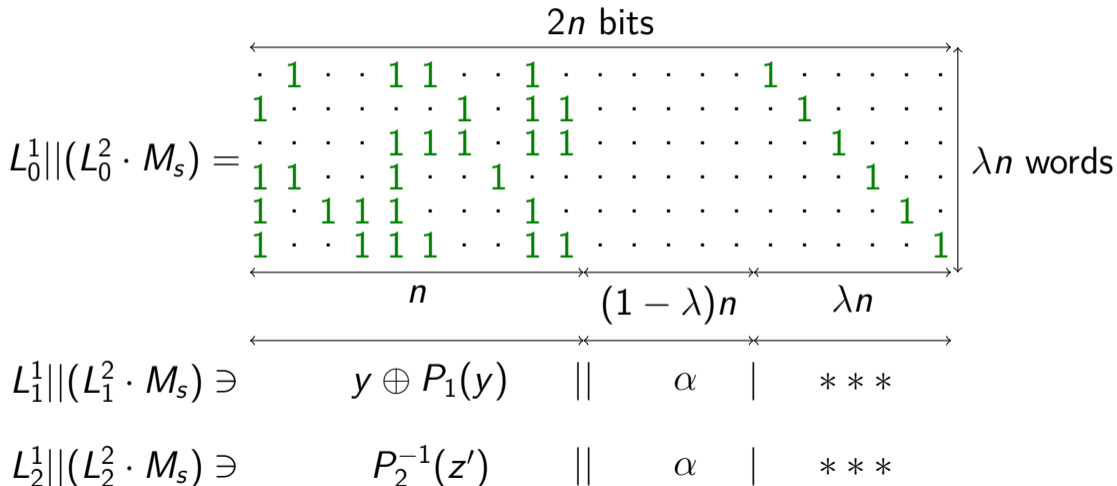
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·	·	·	·	1	1	1	·	1	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	1	·		·
1	1	·	·	1	·	·	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	1		·
1	·	1	1	1	·	·	·	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·		1
1	·	·	1	1	1	·	·	1	1	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·	·		1
←----- n -----→				←----- (1 - λ)n -----→							←----- λn -----→										

$$L_1^1 || (L_1^2 \cdot M_s) \ni y \oplus P_1(y) \quad || \quad y \cdot M_s$$

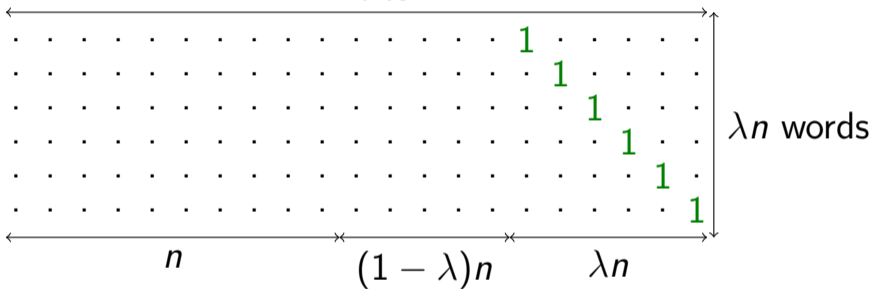
$$L_2^1 || (L_2^2 \cdot M_s) \ni P_2^{-1}(z') \quad || \quad z' \cdot M_s$$

## Joux's Technique... but smaller



## Joux's Technique... but smaller

2n bits



$$(L_0^1 || L_0^2) \cdot M =$$

$$L_1^1 || (L_1^2 \cdot M_s) \ni \quad y \oplus P_1(y) \quad || \quad \alpha \quad | \quad ***$$

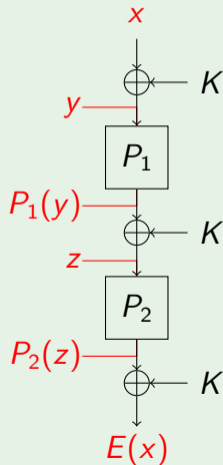
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## Low-Data Attack on 2EM

Collision over  $(1 - \lambda)n$  bits **for free**.

$L_1$  and  $L_2$  contain  $2^{\lambda n}$  elements and **reused** for different  $\alpha$ .

### 2EM





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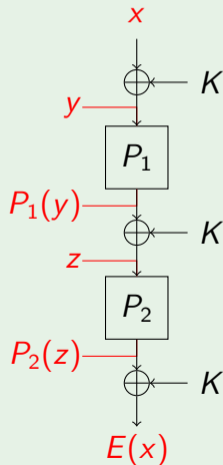
### Complexity

Data  $D = \lambda n$ .

Memory  $\mathcal{O}(2^{\lambda n})$ .

Time  $T = Q = \mathcal{O}(\frac{2^n}{\lambda n})$ .

### 2EM

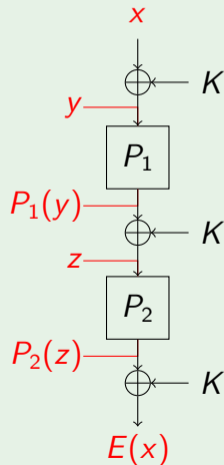


## Some Take-aways

### Clamping + algo

After easy clamping we can use a **generic 3-XOR algorithm**.  
Faster 3-XOR solver  $\implies$  Faster 2EM cryptanalysis!

### 2EM



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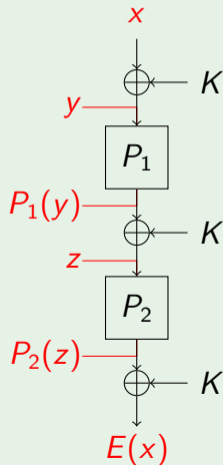
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Roughly as much computations.  
**But less memory.**

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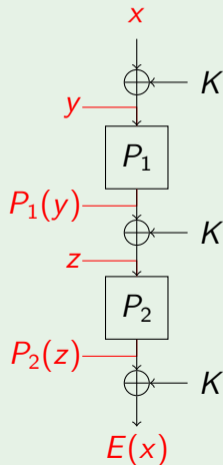
Roughly as much computations.  
**But less memory.**

### Low-Data Attack

Uses  $D = \lambda n$  and  $T = 2^n / (\lambda n)$ .  
 $\implies DT = 2^n$

Matches the 1EM proof  $DT \leq 2^n$  for  $0 < \lambda \leq 1 - \frac{\ln(n \ln 2)}{n \ln 2} + o(1)$ .

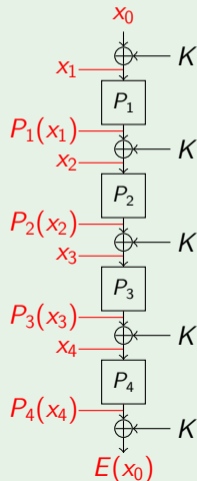
### 2EM



## Generalization of the Reduction

We've shown 2EM as a 3-XOR with  $2n$ -bit elements and...

### 4EM



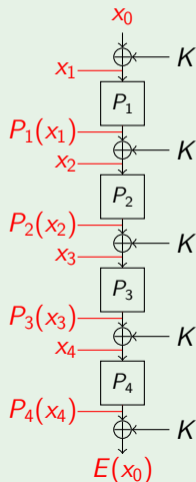
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We've shown 2EM as a **3-XOR with  $2n$ -bit** elements and...

Lists for 4EM cryptanalysis using the 5-XOR problem.

$L_0 \ni$	$x_0$	.	.	$E(x_0)$
$L_1 \ni$	$x_1 \oplus P_1(x_1)$	$P_1(x_1)$	.	.
$L_2 \ni$	$x_2$	$x_2 \oplus P_2(x_2)$	$P_2(x_2)$	.
$L_3 \ni$	.	$x_3$	$x_3 \oplus P_3(x_3)$	$P_3(x_3)$
$L_4 \ni$	.	.	$x_4$	$x_4 \oplus P_4(x_4)$

### 4EM



## Generalization of the Reduction

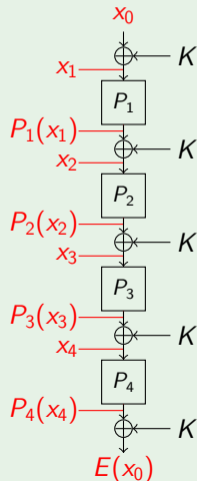
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$L_4 \ni$	.	.	$x_4$	$x_4 \oplus P_4(x_4)$

$r$ EM cryptanalysis as a special  $(r + 1)$ -XOR with  $rn$ -bit elements.  
Can we use this to improve cryptanalysis of  $r$ EM with  $r \geq 3$ ?

### 4EM



## 2-Round Even-Mansour: Results

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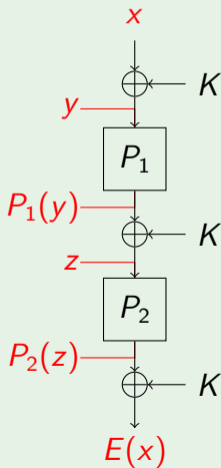
- **Link** between 2EM cryptanalysis and the 3-XOR Problem.
- Explore existing and new **linear algebra** techniques.
- Significantly **reduce online data and memory** usage (previous bottleneck).



## Low-Data Attack on 2EM

1. Collect  $\lambda n$  plaintext/ciphertext pairs for  $L_0$  and compute  $M_s$ .
2. Pick a new  $(1 - \lambda n)$ -bit value  $\alpha$ :
  - 2.1 For all  $\lambda n$ -bit value  $u$ : let  $y = z' = (\alpha || u) \cdot M_s^{-1}$  and fill  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ .
  - 2.2 Solve the 3-XOR over  $L_0, L_1, L_2$  using Joux's technique.  
(Only an  $(n + \lambda n)$ -bit collision)
  - 2.3 Clear  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . Loop if no solution.
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### 2EM



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### Complexity of Low-Data Attack

Each loop pr. of success:  $\lambda n 2^{2\lambda n} / 2^{(n+\lambda n)} = \lambda n 2^{\lambda n - n}$ .

Each loop uses  $2^{\lambda n}$  computations.

$D = \lambda n$ .

$T = Q = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{2^n}{\lambda n}\right)$ .

$\mathcal{O}(2^{\lambda n})$  memory.

### 2EM

