

# Modes of Operation

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## 1 Modes of Operation

Problem: We have more plaintext than fits into one block.

Break ciphertext into multiple blocks

$$P_1, P_2, P_3$$

How do we encrypt all of these blocks of plaintext?

## 2 Electronic Code Book(ECB)

$$C_i = E_i(P_i)$$

Each block of plaintext is encrypted separately.

Benefit: Super easy

Downside: The same block will always encrypt to the same block of ciphertext.

## 3 Cipherblock Chaining(CBC)

Start with an initial

$C_0$  - Random block

Sent in clear text(Unencrypted)

Method of encryption

$$C_i = E_k(P_i \oplus C_{i-1})$$

Because each plaintext gets *XOR'd* with the previous ciphertext before encrypting even if

we sort the same plaintext over and over each time it would get *XOR'd* with a different ciphertext and so the results would always be different.

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Note that bob knows the values of all the  $C_i$

To decrypt Bob computes

$$D_x(C_i) = P_i \oplus C_{(i-1)}$$

$$P_i = D(C_i \oplus C_{(i-1)})$$

## 4 Cipher Feedback(CFB)

$C_0$  - Random sent in clear text

Instead of encrypting the plaintext we use our encryption algorithm to generate a random stream which will encrypt the plaintext like a one-time-pad

To encrypt

$$C_i = E_k(C_{(i-1)} \oplus P_i)$$

Note the plaintext is outside the encryption!

"Encryption is by *XOR'd* with the "random" string generated  $E_k(C_i)$

## 5 Output Feedback(OFB)

$O_0$  = random block sent in clear text To encrypt

$$O_i = E(O_{(i-1)})$$

$$C_i = P_i \oplus O_i$$

To Decrypt:

$$O_i = E_k(O_{(i-1)})$$

$$P_i = C_i \oplus O_i$$

Benefit: All of the output blocks  $O_i$  can be pre-computed

Good for streaming or other mediums which require lots of blocks to be encrypted quickly.

## 6 Counter(CTR)

$X_0$  = All zero or random number  
To encrypt

$$X_i = X_{(i-1)} + 1$$

$$C_i = E(X_i) \oplus P_i$$

Benefit of CTR is that any block can be encrypted or decrypted without computing all intermediate blocks

Also it doesn't have the problem that one mistake along the way messes up all future blocks(Problem especially for CBC)

Most websites use GCM Which is basically same as CTR using a finite field

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Recall SDES

12 bit block size

9 bit master key

3 rounds

Actual DES

64 bit blocks

56 bit master key(64 bits 8 check bits)

Steps of DES are basically the same as SDES but there was one extra step before the first round the bits we permuted using an initial permutation

No cryptographic purpose just faster to load MTO memory on 1970's era hardware.

Since master keys are 56 bits there are  $2^{56}$  possible master keys.

Brute force attacks require  $2^{56}$  different decryption.

By the 1990's it started to become feasible to perform such an attack

The electronic frontier built a super computer specifically to attack DES in the late 90's, could brute force 1 DES key in about 24 hours.

At this point DES was no longer considered secure.