

Subject: Security Lab-Assignment 3

Aim: **Block Cipher Modes of operation**

Theory:

Common Block Cipher Modes of Operation

1. Electronic Code Book (ECB):

- Simplest mode: Each plaintext block is encrypted independently. ○ Vulnerable to frequency analysis due to identical ciphertext blocks for identical plaintext blocks.
- Rarely used in practice due to security concerns.

2. Cipher Block Chaining (CBC):

- Each plaintext block is XORed with the previous ciphertext block before encryption. ○ Introduces dependency between blocks, improving security.
- Requires an initialization vector (IV) for the first block.

3. Cipher Feedback (CFB):

- Converts a block cipher into a stream cipher. ○ Previous ciphertext is encrypted, and the result is XORed with the plaintext to produce the ciphertext.
- Similar to CBC but with feedback based on ciphertext.

4. Output Feedback (OFB):

- Another stream cipher mode.
- Generates a keystream by encrypting a counter.
- Keystream is XORed with plaintext to produce ciphertext.

5. Counter (CTR):

- Similar to OFB but uses a counter instead of feedback. ○ Provides high performance and can be parallelized.
- Offers advantages in terms of error propagation and random access.

Key Considerations

- **Security:** Different modes offer varying levels of security against attacks.

- **Performance:** Some modes are more efficient than others.
- **Error propagation:** Some modes are more resilient to bit errors.
- **Random access:** Some modes allow for random access to ciphertext blocks.

Implementation:

[illegible]

