ECE 404 HW 5

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1 Programming Problem

For this programming problem, we were tasked to extend our implementation of the AES-256 bit encryption and decryption algorithms from Homework 4 to create the ANSI X.931 pseudorandom number generator and encrypting a ppm image file using the counter (CTR) mode in AES. For part 1, the X.931 function takes in three parameters: a 128-bit date-and-time BitVector object denoted by dt, a key file name denoted by the string variable key_file, and 128-bit seed value BitVector object denoted by v0. We first obtain the key from the key file through simple file reading operations. Next, we generate the substitution tables that will help us generate the keywords and ultimately the round keys for the AES algorithm. As noted in the diagram in Section 10.6, there are 3 EDE blocks, which stands for encrypt-decrypt-encrypt for the 3DES algorithm. We replace the DES components with AES encryption and decryption, but the XORing of components remains the same. Since we are generating three numbers, the loop will run 3 times and the seed value v0 will change each after each iteration.

For encrypting the ppm file in Part 2, the process is very similar except we now have read and write in binary mode since it is an image file and we are encrypting the image using the counter (CTR) mode. The function ctr_aes_image takes in iv, a 128-bit initialization vector that is a BitVector object, the input image file image.ppm, the encrypted image file enc_image.ppm, and the name of the key file keyCTR.txt. After obtaining the ppm headers from the input image file, we create our initialization vectors as a list of integers, which makes it easier to add 1 to each vector as shown in the diagram in Section 9.5.5 in Lecture 9. Using the list of initialization vectors, we go through each block (128-bit chunks) to get the plaintext block, encrypt the initialization vector as a BitVector object with the key, and XOR with the plaintext block to produce our ciphertext block, which will be written to the output ppm file each iteration. The main difference between encrypting the helicopter image in AES as opposed to DES is that you could still see the outline of the helicopter in DES unlike AES, where there is no outline of the helicopter.



The encrypted ppm file after AES as a png file.