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Cryptography Operating modes

Abstract:

When encrypting, there exist a wide variety of algorithms and operation modes to do so, some of them are considered obsolete; therefore, in this paper we try to illustrate the difference between some of the best known algorithms by developing a program capable of showing the results of encryption and decryption in images.

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Introduction

The main reason for so many algorithms and operation modes is that, throughout time multiples vulnerabilities have been discovered, from being easily broken to just being bad at hiding information in specific scenarios. To make the examples more clear, we'll encrypt images.

Literature review

2.1 Triple DES

Triple DES (Data Encryption Standard), sometimes referred to as 3DES, is a block cipher standardized by NIST. Triple DES has known crypto-analytic flaws, however none of them currently enable a practical attack. Nonetheless, Triple DES is not recommended for new applications because it is incredibly slow; old applications should consider moving away from it.

2.2 AES

AES (Advanced Encryption Standard) is a block cipher standardized by NIST. AES is both fast, and cryptographically strong. It is a good default choice for encryption.

2.3 Symmetric encryption

Symmetric encryption is a way to encrypt or hide the contents of material where the sender and receiver both use the same secret key. Note that symmetric encryption is not sufficient for most applications because it only provides secrecy but not authenticity. That means an attacker can't see the message but an attacker can create bogus messages and force the application to decrypt them.

Software (libraries, packages, tools)

The program was developed in Python along with the next libraries

- tkinter
- pillow
- pyca/cryptography

Procedure

The figure 1 shows the UI for the program.

On the right, we can see the current image being used. Below it, there are two buttons, the first one, on the left, to load a new image, and the second one, on the right, to save the current image.

On the left side, we can see two inputs, one for the key, needed for all the encryption modes, and IV, used in all modes but ECB. Below we see 4 main buttons, one for each encryption mode, and below it, there's a button to toggle between encryption and decryption mode.

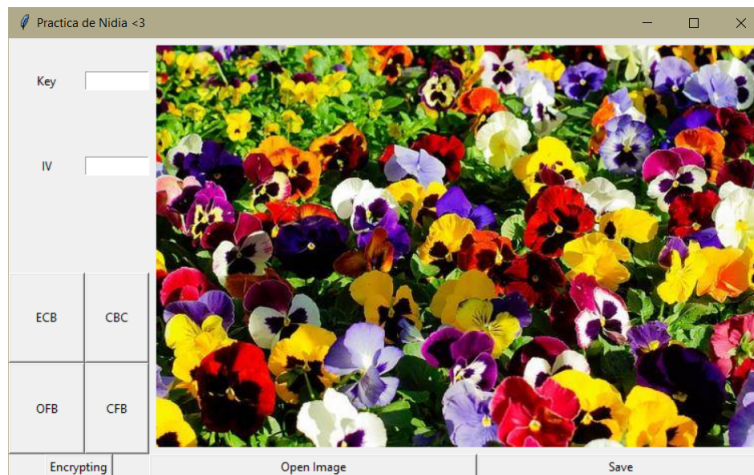


Figure 1: Program after loading an image

Results

The figure 2 shows the results of encrypting using the tripleDES algorithm and the different encryption modes available.

key = asegurar

IV=12345678

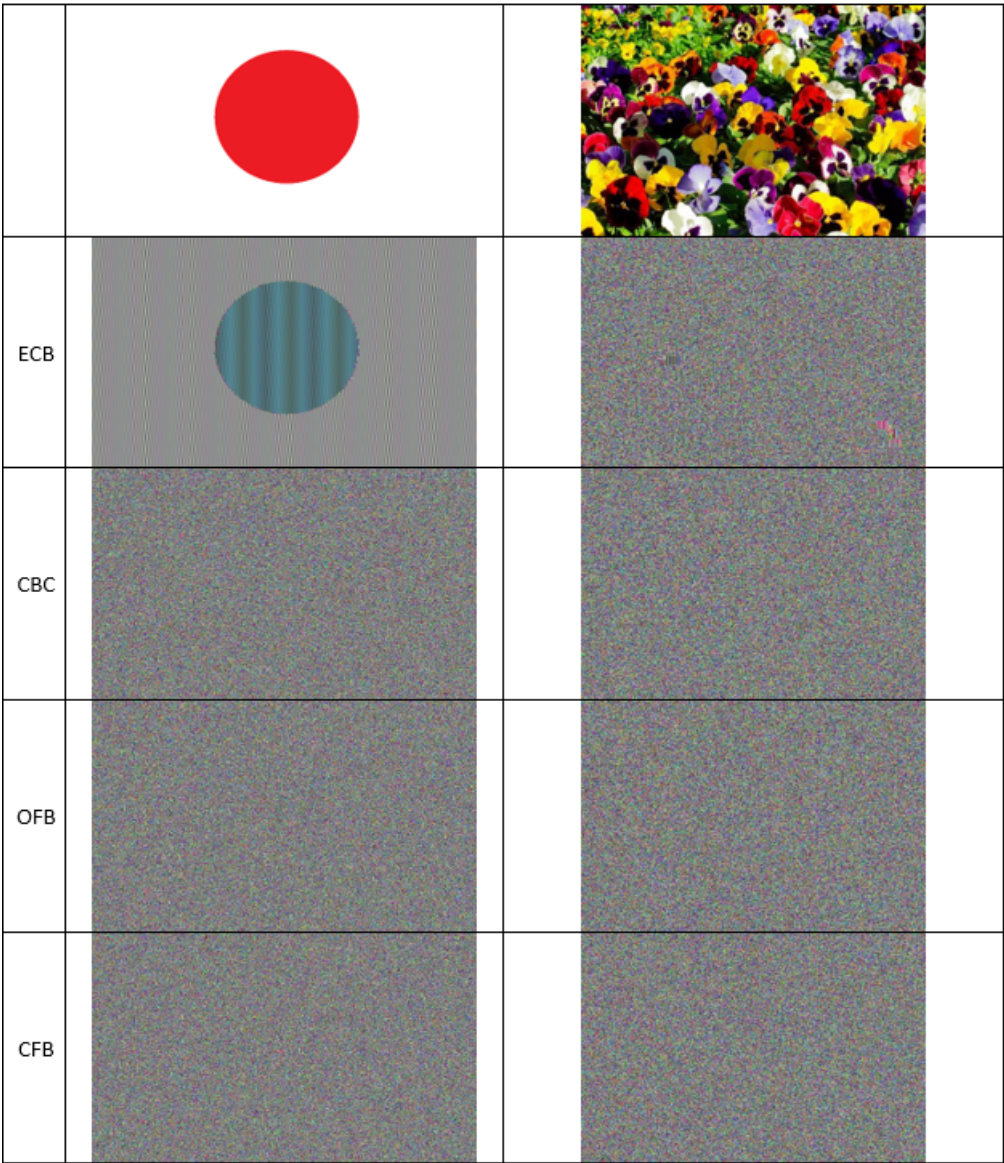


Figure 2: Two images encrypted in different modes with tripleDES algorithm

The figure 3 shows the results of encrypting using the AES algorithm and the different encryption modes available.

key = asegurar12345678

IV=asegurar12345678

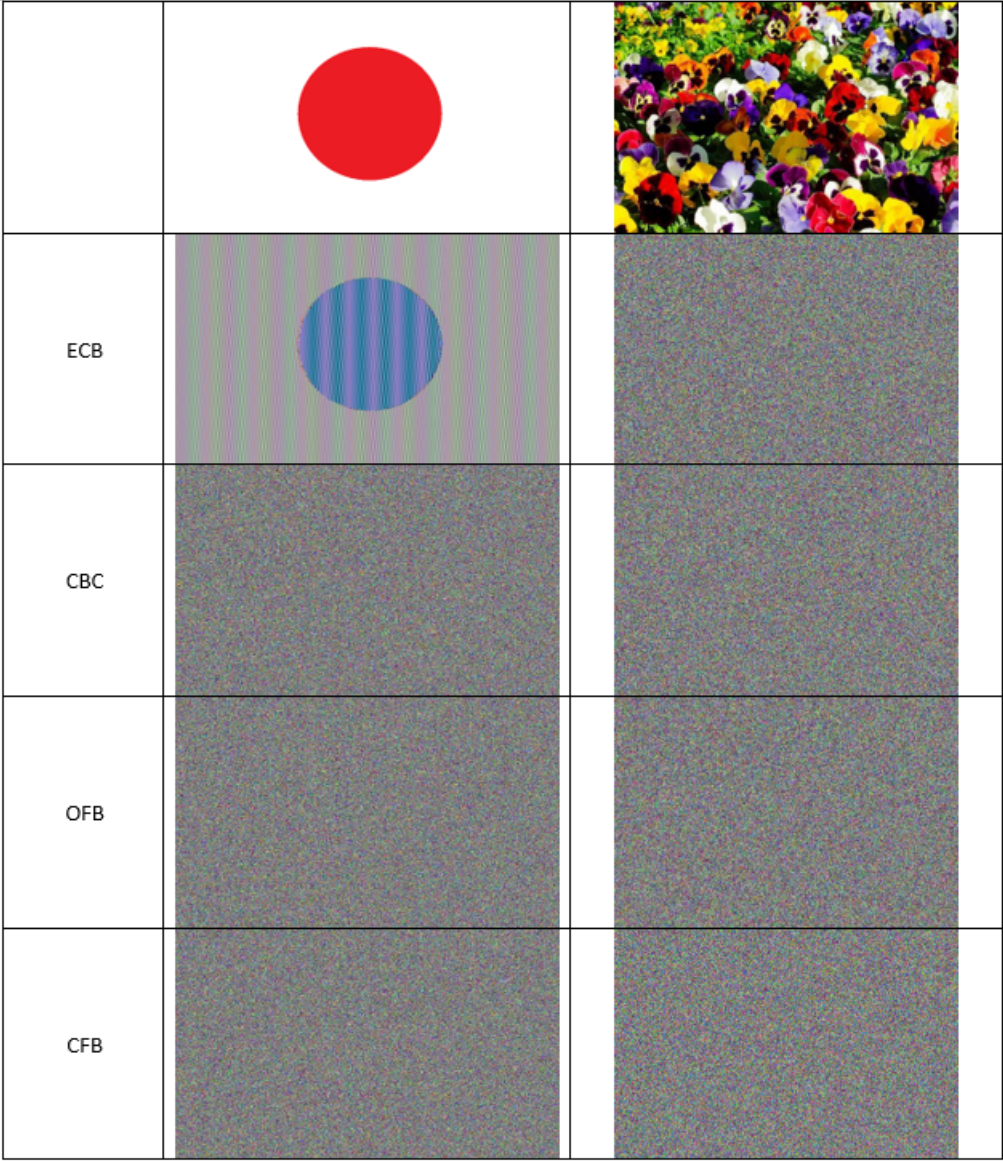


Figure 3: Two images encrypted in different modes with AES algorithm

Discussion

The two images from the results tables were used with the purpose of showing how the use of chaining and feedback allow the results to appear random, where the ECB cipher failed, since similar blocks return similar results, which allows attackers to decipher the content using old cryptanalysis. We can see how the input to the cipher is also important, since repeating patterns can be easy to see in the ECB cipher. Another thing not shown in the table is that ciphers like OFB have the same results in encryption and decryption.

Conclusions

The result of encryption depends on many factors, from the algorithm used, mode, key, vector, and ,obviously, the input; but the reliability of it also depends in other things as the entropy of the input.

References

- [1] P. C. Authority, “Symmetric encryption,” 2013.

Code

```
1 import os
2 import tkinter as tk
3 from PIL import Image, ImageTk
4 from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.ciphers import Cipher,
   ↪ algorithms, modes
5 from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import padding
6 from cryptography.hazmat.backends import default_backend
7 from tkinter import Tk, Label,
   ↪ Button, filedialog, Entry, E, W, N, S, Checkbutton, Label,
   ↪ Radiobutton, messagebox
8
9 class CipherGUI:
10     def __init__(self, master):
11         self.padder = padding.PKCS7(128).padder()
12         self.encMode = None
13         self.algorithm = None
14         self.keyVal = None
15         self.inVect = None
16         self.master = master
17         self.master.title("Practica de Nidia <3")
18         self.lbl_key = Label(master, text="Key", width=10)
19         self.lbl_key.grid(sticky="ew")
20         self.lbl_iv = Label(master, text="IV", width=10)
21         self.lbl_iv.grid(sticky="ew")
22         self.ent_key = Entry(master, width = 10)
23         self.ent_key.grid(row=0, column=1, sticky="ew")
24         self.ent_iv = Entry(master, width=10)
25         self.ent_iv.grid(row=1, column=1, sticky="ew")
26
27         self.bbtn_ECB = Button(master, text="ECB",
28                                command=self.encryptECB)
29         self.bbtn_ECB.grid(row=3, column=0, sticky="nsew")
30         self.bbtn_CBC = Button(master, text="CBC",
31                                command=self.changeCBC)
32         self.bbtn_CBC.grid(row=3, column=1, sticky="nsew")
33         self.bbtn_OFB = Button(master, text="OFB",
34                                command=self.changeOFB)
35         self.bbtn_OFB.grid(row=4, column=0, sticky="nsew")
36         self.bbtn_CFB = Button(master, text="CFB",
```

```
37         command=self.changeCFB)
38     self.bttb_CFB.grid(row=4, column=1, sticky="nsew")
39     self.encrypting = True
40     self.bttb_Mode = Button(master, text="Encrypting",
41                             command=self.changeMode)
42     self.bttb_Mode.grid(row=5, column=0, columnspan=2)
43
44     self.bttb_Open = Button(master, text="Open Image",
45                             ↪ command=self.openFilePath)
46     self.bttb_Open.grid(row=5, column=2, sticky="nsew")
47     self.bttb_Save = Button(master, text="Save",
48                             ↪ command=self.saveFilePath)
49     self.bttb_Save.grid(row=5, column=3, sticky="nsew")
50     self.label_image = Label(root)
51     self.setImagePath('./japan.bmp')
52     self.label_image.grid(row=0, column=2, columnspan=2,
53                             ↪ rowspan=5,
54                             sticky=W+E+N+S, padx=5, pady=5)
55
56 def updateImage(self,p):
57     self.thumbnail = Image.open(p)
58     self.thumbnail = self.thumbnail.resize(
59         (self.thumbnail.size[0], self.thumbnail.size[1]))
60     self.tki = ImageTk.PhotoImage(self.thumbnail)
61     self.label_image.configure(image = self.tki)
62
63 def setImage(self,img):
64     self.tki = ImageTk.PhotoImage(img)
65     self.label_image.configure(image = self.tki)
66
67 def setImagePath(self,p):
68     self.thumbnail = Image.open(p)
69     self.tki = ImageTk.PhotoImage(self.thumbnail)
70     self.label_image.configure(image = self.tki)
71
72 def openFilePath(self):
73     filename = filedialog.askopenfilename(initialdir="./",
74         ↪ title="Select file")
75     if filename == None:
76         return
```

```
73         self.updateImage(filename)
74
75     def saveFilePath(self):
76         filename =
77             ↪ filedialog.asksaveasfilename(defaultextension=".bmp")
78         if filename == None:
79             return
80         self.thumbnail.save(filename, format = 'BMP')
81
82     def getkey(self):
83         if len(self.ent_key.get())!=16:
84             messagebox.showwarning('', 'Key value must be 16
85                 ↪ characters long ')
86             return None
87         else:
88             return bytes(self.ent_key.get(), 'utf-8')
89
90     def getiv(self):
91         if len(self.ent_iv.get()) != 16:
92             messagebox.showwarning('', 'I Vector value must be 16
93                 ↪ characters long ')
94             return None
95         else:
96             return bytes(self.ent_key.get(), 'utf-8')
97
98     def changeMode(self):
99         if self.encrypting:
100             self.btt_n_Mode.configure(text = 'Decrypting')
101         else:
102             self.btt_n_Mode.configure(text = 'Encrypting')
103         self.encrypting = not self.encrypting
104
105     def encryptECB(self):
106         key = self.getkey()
107         if key == None:
108             return
109         cipher = Cipher(algorithms.AES(key),
110                         modes.ECB(), backend=default_backend())
111         if self.encrypting:
112             enc = cipher.encryptor()
```

```
110         padder = padding.PKCS7(128).padder()
111         data = padder.update(self.thumbnail.tobytes()) +
            ↪ padder.finalize()
112         ct = enc.update(data) + enc.finalize()
113     else:
114         dec = cipher.decryptor()
115         padder = padding.PKCS7(128).padder()
116         data = padder.update(self.thumbnail.tobytes()) +
            ↪ padder.finalize()
117         ct = dec.update(data) + dec.finalize()
118     self.thumbnail = Image.frombytes(data = ct,
119         mode=self.thumbnail.mode, size=self.thumbnail.size)
120     self.setImage(self.thumbnail)
121
122
123     def changeCBC(self):
124         key = self.getkey()
125         if key == None:
126             return
127         iv = self.getiv()
128         if iv == None:
129             return
130         cipher = Cipher(algorithms.AES(key),
131             modes.CBC(iv), backend=default_backend())
132         if self.encrypting:
133             enc = cipher.encryptor()
134             padder = padding.PKCS7(128).padder()
135             data = padder.update(self.thumbnail.tobytes()) +
                ↪ padder.finalize()
136             ct = enc.update(data) + enc.finalize()
137         else:
138             dec = cipher.decryptor()
139             padder = padding.PKCS7(128).padder()
140             data = padder.update(self.thumbnail.tobytes()) +
                ↪ padder.finalize()
141             ct = dec.update(data) + dec.finalize()
142         self.thumbnail = Image.frombytes(data=ct,
143             mode=self.thumbnail.mode,
144             ↪ size=self.thumbnail.size)
145         self.setImage(self.thumbnail)
```

```
145
146     def changeOFB(self):
147         key = self.getkey()
148         if key == None:
149             return
150         iv = self.getiv()
151         if iv == None:
152             return
153         cipher = Cipher(algorithms.AES(key),
154                         modes.OFB(iv), backend=default_backend())
155         if self.encrypting:
156             enc = cipher.encryptor()
157             ct = enc.update(self.thumbnail.tobytes()) +
158                 ↪ enc.finalize()
159         else:
160             dec = cipher.decryptor()
161             ct = dec.update(self.thumbnail.tobytes()
162                             ) + dec.finalize()
163         self.thumbnail = Image.frombytes(data=ct,
164                                         mode=self.thumbnail.mode,
165                                         ↪ size=self.thumbnail.size)
166         self.setImage(self.thumbnail)
167
168     def changeCFB(self):
169         key = self.getkey()
170         if key == None:
171             return
172         iv = self.getiv()
173         if iv == None:
174             return
175         cipher = Cipher(algorithms.AES(key),
176                         modes.CFB(iv), backend=default_backend())
177         if self.encrypting:
178             enc = cipher.encryptor()
179             ct = enc.update(self.thumbnail.tobytes()) +
180                 ↪ enc.finalize()
181         else:
182             dec = cipher.decryptor()
183             ct = dec.update(self.thumbnail.tobytes())
```

```
182         ) + dec.finalize()
183     self.thumbnail = Image.frombytes(data=ct,
184                                     mode=self.thumbnail.mode,
185                                     ↪ size=self.thumbnail.size)
186
187     self.setImage(self.thumbnail)
188
189 root = Tk()
190 my_gui = CipherGUI(root)
191 root.mainloop()
```