



One Time Pad, Block Ciphers, Encryption Modes

Ahmet Burak Can

Hacettepe University

abc@hacettepe.edu.tr



Basic Ciphers

- Shift Cipher
 - Brute-force attack can easily break
- Substitution Cipher
 - Frequency analysis can reduce the search space
- Vigenere Cipher
 - Kasiski test can reveal the length of key
- Enigma Machine
 - The capture of the daily codebook
- How perfect secrecy can be satisfied?

One Time Pad

- Basic Idea: Extend Vigenère cipher so that the key is as long as the plaintext
 - Key is a random string and is used only once
 - Encryption is similar to Vigenère
 - Cannot be broken by frequency analysis or Kasiski test

Plaintext $P = (p_1 \ p_2 \ \dots \ p_n)$

Key $K = (k_1 \ k_2 \ \dots \ k_n)$

Ciphertext $C = (p_1 \ p_2 \ \dots \ p_n)$

$$E_k(X) = (p_1+k_1 \ p_2+k_2 \ \dots \ p_n+k_n) \bmod m$$

$$D_k(Y) = (c_1-k_1 \ c_2-k_2 \ \dots \ c_n-k_n) \bmod m$$

The Binary Version of One-Time Pad

- Plaintext space = Ciphertext space = Keyspace = $\{0,1\}^n$
- Key is chosen randomly
- For example:

| | |
|------------|----------|
| Plaintext | 11011011 |
| Key | 01101001 |
| Ciphertext | 10110010 |



Security of One Time Pad

- How good is the security of one time pad?
 - The key is random, so ciphertext is completely random
 - Any plaintext can correspond to a ciphertext with the same length
- A scheme has perfect secrecy if ciphertext provides no “information” about plaintext
 - *C. E. Shannon, 1949*
- One-time pad has perfect secrecy
 - For example, suppose that the ciphertext is “Hello”, can we say any plaintext is more likely than another plaintext?

Importance of Key Randomness

- For perfect secrecy, $\text{key-length} \geq \text{msg-length}$
- What if a One-Time Pad key is not chosen randomly, instead, texts from, e.g., a book is used.
 - this is not One-Time Pad anymore
 - this does not have perfect secrecy and can be broken
- The key in One-Time Pad should never be reused.
 - If it is reused, it is insecure!
 - How to send the key to the receiver of the ciphertext?
- These requirements make One Time Pad impractical.

Block Ciphers

- Block Cipher = Symmetric key encryption = Conventional Encryption
- Block ciphers can be considered as substitution ciphers with large block size (≥ 64 bits)
- Map n -bit plaintext blocks to n -bit ciphertext blocks (n : block size).
 - For n -bit plaintext and ciphertext blocks and a fixed key, the encryption function is a one-to-one function



Block Ciphers

- **Block size:** in general larger block sizes mean greater security.
- **Key size:** larger key size means greater security (larger key space).
- **Number of rounds:** multiple rounds offer increasing security.
- **Encryption modes:** define how messages larger than the block size are encrypted, very important for the security of the encrypted message.

A Simple Block Cipher: Hill Cipher

- The key k is a matrix. The message is considered as vectors. Encryption and decryption operations are matrix multiplication operations
 - Encryption: $C = k \cdot P \pmod{26}$
 - Decryption: $P = k^{-1} \cdot C \pmod{26}$
- Example: The plaintext is `CAT` converted to numeric values, namely 2, 0, 19.

- If the key is $\begin{pmatrix} 6 & 24 & 1 \\ 13 & 16 & 10 \\ 20 & 17 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$

- Encryption: $\begin{pmatrix} 6 & 24 & 1 \\ 13 & 16 & 10 \\ 20 & 17 & 15 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 19 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 31 \\ 216 \\ 325 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 8 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{26}$

- $C = \text{'FIN'}$



An Insecure Block Cipher

- Hill cipher is insecure since it uses linear matrix operations.
 - Each output bit is a linear combination of the input bits
 - An insecure block cipher uses linear equations
- Hill Cipher can easily be broken by known-plaintext attack
 - An attacker knowing a plaintext and ciphertext pair can easily figure out the key matrix.

Feistel Network

- A Feistel Network is fully specified given
 - the block size: $n = 2w$
 - number of rounds: d
 - d round functions $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_d: \{0, 1\}^w \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^w$
 - Each f function is a SP cipher
- Used in DES, IDEA, RC5, and many other block ciphers.
- Not used in AES

Feistel Network

- Encryption

$$L_1 = R_0 \quad R_1 = L_0 \oplus f_0(R_0)$$

$$L_2 = R_1 \quad R_2 = L_1 \oplus f_1(R_1)$$

...

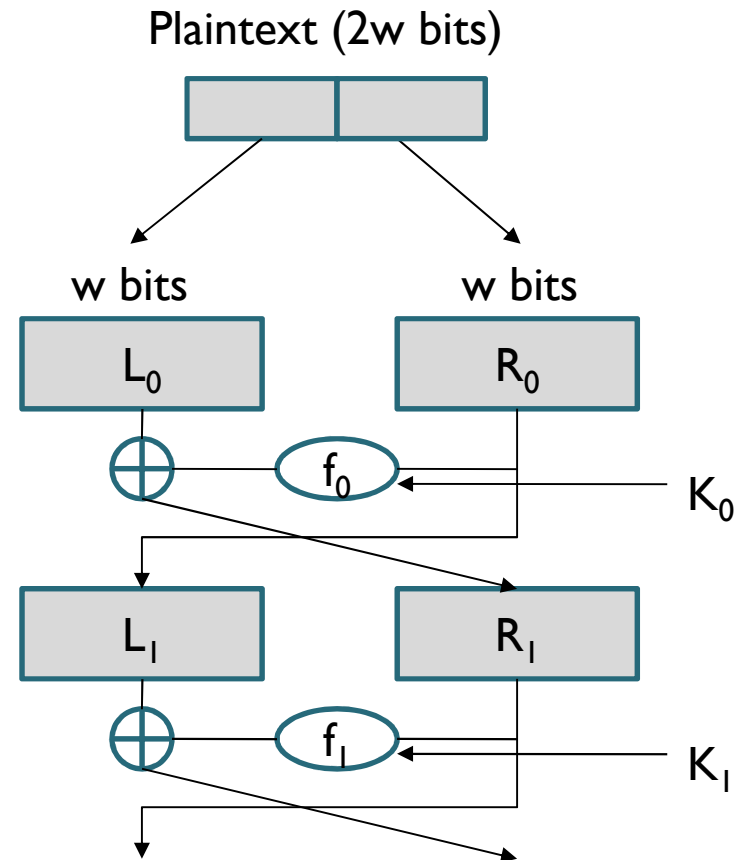
$$L_d = R_{d-1} \quad R_d = L_{d-1} \oplus f_{d-1}(R_{d-1})$$

- Decryption

$$R_{d-1} = L_d \quad L_{d-1} = R_d \oplus f_{d-1}(L_d)$$

...

$$R_0 = L_1 \quad L_0 = R_1 \oplus f_0(L_1)$$



History of Data Encryption Standard (DES)

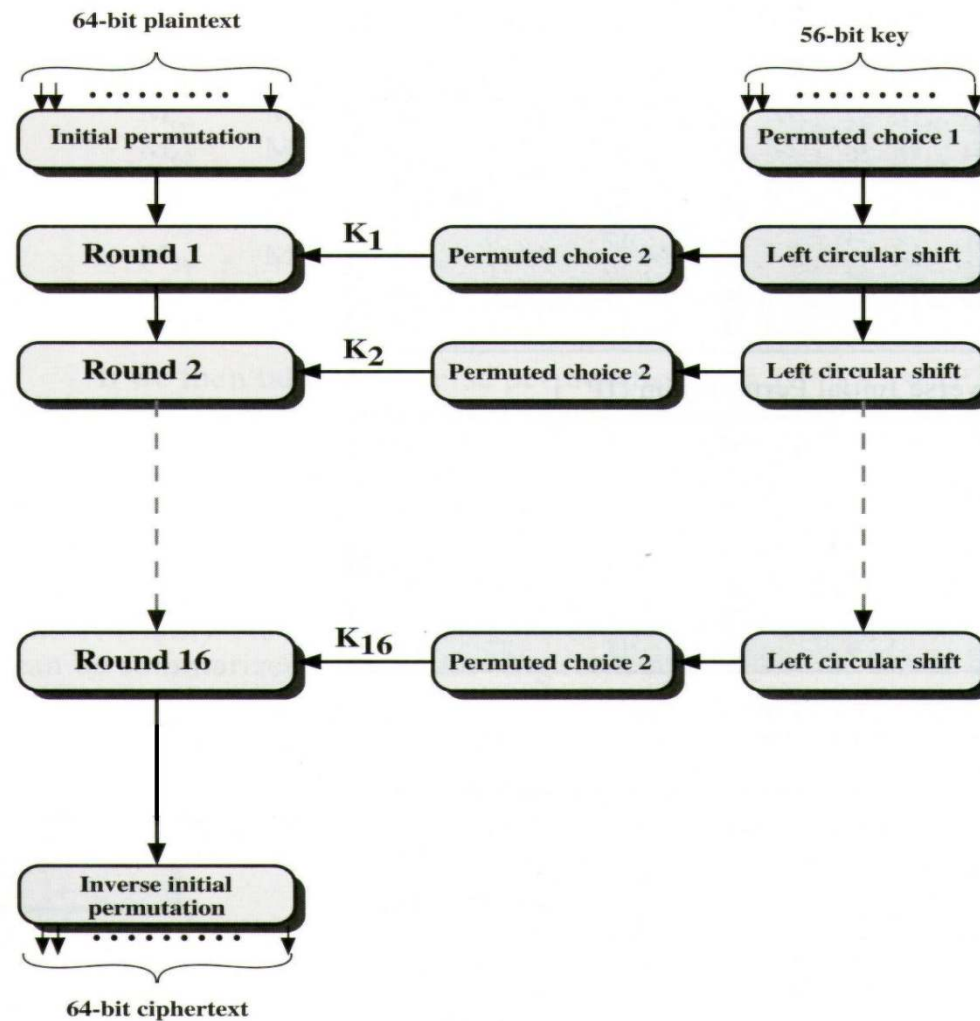
- 1967: Feistel at IBM
 - Lucifer: block size 128; key size 128 bit
- 1972: NBS asks for an encryption standard
- 1975: IBM developed DES (modification of Lucifer)
 - block size 64 bits; key size 56 bits
- 1975: NSA suggests modification
- 1977: NBS adopts DES as encryption standard in (FIPS 46-1, 46-2).
- 2001: NIST adopts Rijndael (AES) as replacement to DES.



DES Features

- Features:
 - Block size = 64 bits
 - Key size = 56 bits
 - Number of rounds = 16
 - 16 intermediary keys, each 48 bits

DES Structure



Details of DES Rounds

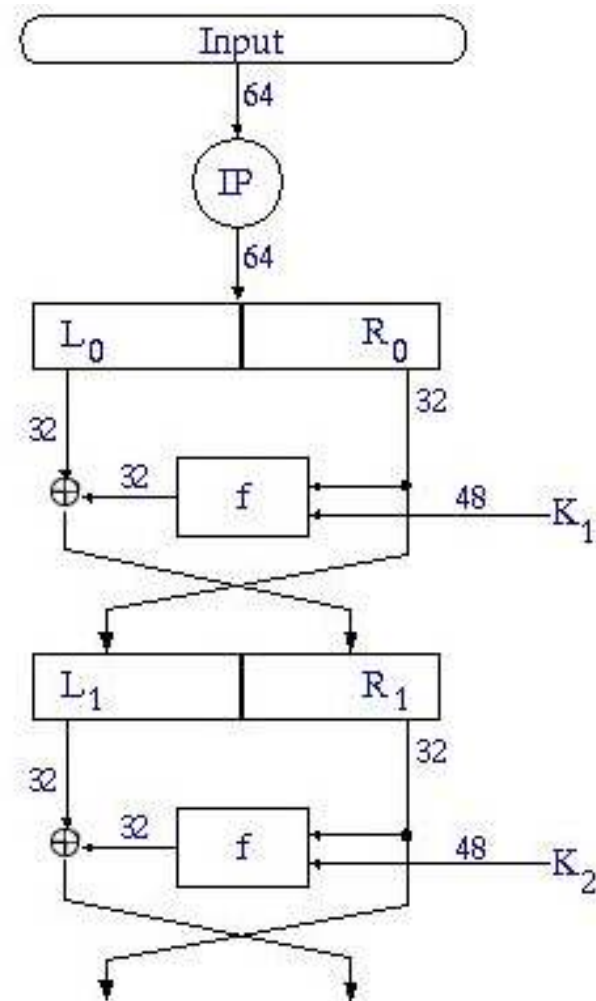
- An initial permutation is applied on the plaintext

$$IP(x) = L_0 R_0$$

- In each round:

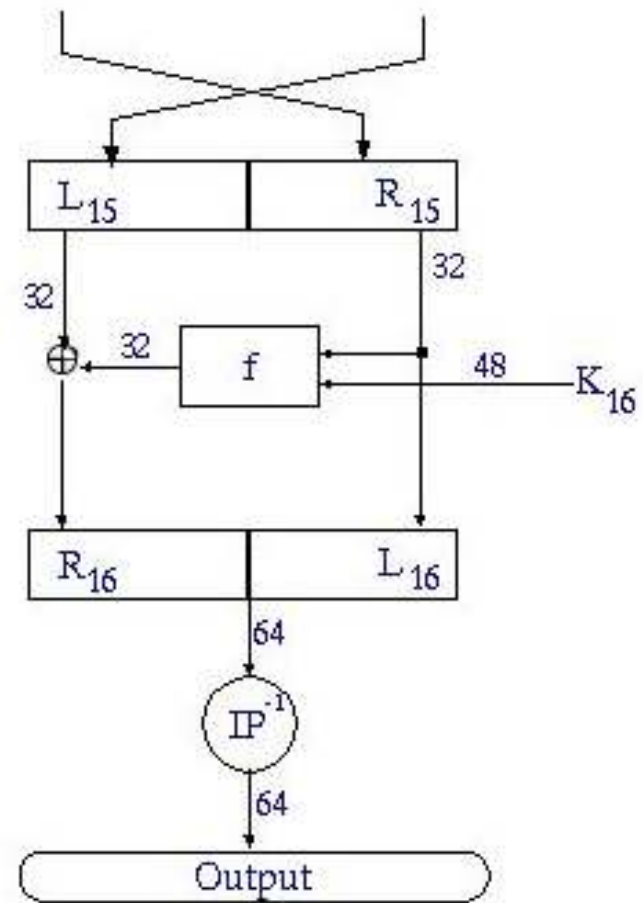
$$L_i = R_{i-1}$$

$$R_i = L_{i-1} \oplus f(R_{i-1}, K_i)$$

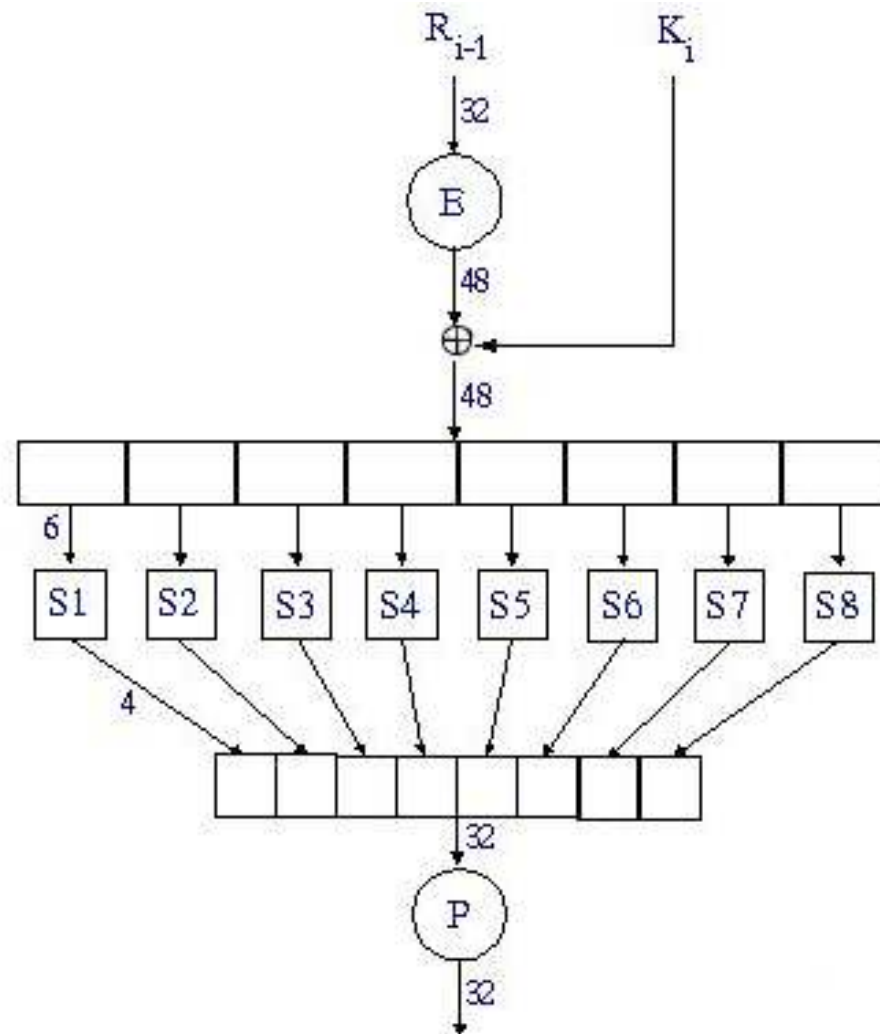


Details of DES Rounds

- After the last round
 $y = IP^{-1}(R_{16}L_{16})$

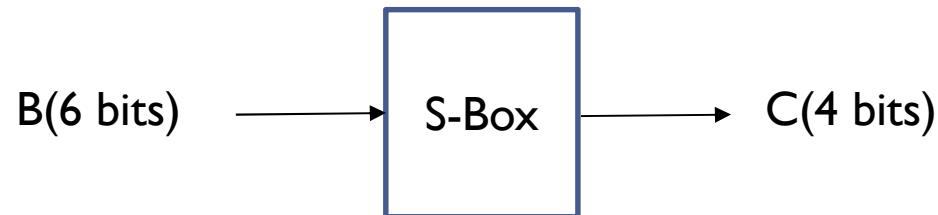


DES f Function



DES S-boxes

- S-boxes are the only non-linear elements in DES design



- $B = b_1b_2b_3b_4b_5b_6$ $\text{row} = b_1b_6$ $\text{column} = b_2b_3b_4b_5$
- Example: $B = 011011$ $\text{row} = 01$ $\text{column} = 1101$

| | | Middle 4 bits of input | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-------|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Outer bits | S_5 | 0000 | 0001 | 0010 | 0011 | 0100 | 0101 | 0110 | 0111 | 1000 | 1001 | 1010 | 1011 | 1100 | 1101 | 1110 | 1111 |
| | 00 | 0010 | 1100 | 0100 | 0001 | 0111 | 1010 | 1011 | 0110 | 1000 | 0101 | 0011 | 1111 | 1101 | 0000 | 1110 | 1001 |
| | 01 | 1110 | 1011 | 0010 | 1100 | 0100 | 0111 | 1101 | 0001 | 0101 | 0000 | 1111 | 1010 | 0011 | 1001 | 1000 | 0110 |
| | 10 | 0100 | 0010 | 0001 | 1011 | 1010 | 1101 | 0111 | 1000 | 1111 | 1001 | 1100 | 0101 | 0110 | 0011 | 0000 | 1110 |
| | 11 | 1011 | 1000 | 1100 | 0111 | 0001 | 1110 | 0010 | 1101 | 0110 | 1111 | 0000 | 1001 | 1010 | 0100 | 0101 | 0011 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

$C = 1001$

DES Weak Keys

- **Weak keys:** keys make the same sub-key to be generated in more than one round.
 - Result: reduce cipher complexity
 - Weak keys can be avoided at key generation. DES has 4 weak keys:
0000000 0000000
0000000 FFFFFFFF
FFFFFFFF 0000000
FFFFFFFF FFFFFFFF
- **Semi-weak keys:** A pair of DES semi-weak keys is a pair (K_1, K_2) with $E_{K_1}(E_{K_2}(x)) = x$
- There are six pairs of DES semi-weak keys

Dictionary Attack to DES

- Even without having weak/semi-weak keys DES is vulnerable to **dictionary attacks**:
- Each plaintext may result in 2^{64} different ciphertexts, but there are only 2^{56} possible different key values.
- Given a PT/CT pair (M,C)
 - Encrypt the known plaintext M with all possible keys.
 - Keep a look up table of size 2^{56} .
 - Look up C in the table

Double DES

- DES uses a 56-bit key, this raised concerns about brute force attacks.
- One proposed solution: double DES.
- Apply DES twice using two keys, K1 and K2.
 - $C = E_{K2} [E_{K1} [P]]$
 - $P = D_{K1} [D_{K2} [C]]$
- This leads to a $2 \times 56 = 112$ bit key, so it is more secure than DES. **Is it?**

Meet-in-the-middle Attack

- Goal: given the pair (P, C) find keys K_1 and K_2 .

- Based on the observation:

$$C = E_{K_2} [E_{K_1} [P]]$$

$$D_{K_2}[C] = E_{K_1} [P]$$

1. Encrypt P with all 2^{56} possible keys K_1
 - Store all pairs ($K_1, E_{K_1}[P]$), sorted by $E_{K_1}[P]$.
2. Decrypt C using all 2^{56} possible keys K_2
 - For each decrypted result, check to see if there is a match $D_{K_2}(C) = E_{K_1}(P)$. If a match is found, (K_1, K_2) is a possible match
3. The attack has a higher chance of succeeding if another pair (P', C') is available to the cryptanalysis.

Triple DES

- Two key version is widely used and standard
 - Key space is $56 \times 2 = 112$ bits
Encrypt: $C = E_{K1} [D_{K2} [E_{K1} [P]]]$
Decrypt: $P = D_{K1} [E_{K2} [D_{K1} [C]]]$
- Three key version is possible but not standard
 - Key space is $56 \times 3 = 168$ bits
Encrypt: $C = E_{K3} [D_{K2} [E_{K1} [P]]]$
Decrypt: $P = D_{K1} [E_{K2} [D_{K3} [C]]]$
- No known practical attack against it.
- Some protocols/applications use 3DES (such as PGP)

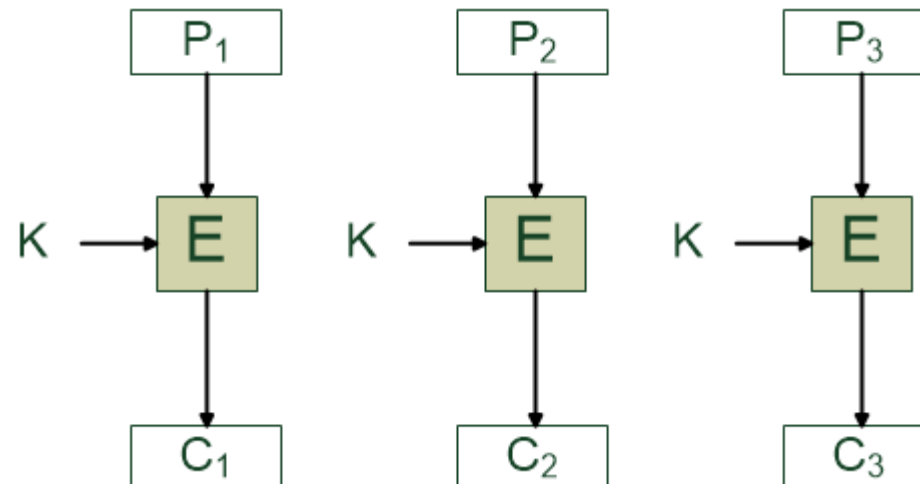


Encryption Modes

- Electronic Code Book (ECB)
- Cipher Block Chaining (CBC)
- Output Feedback Mode (OFB)
- Cipher Feedback Mode (CFB)
- Counter Mode (CTR)

Electronic Code Book (ECB)

- Message is broken into independent blocks of `block_size` bits.
- Electronic Code Book (ECB): each block encrypted separately.
 - Encryption: $C_i = E_k[P_i]$
 - Decryption: $P_i = D_k[C_i]$



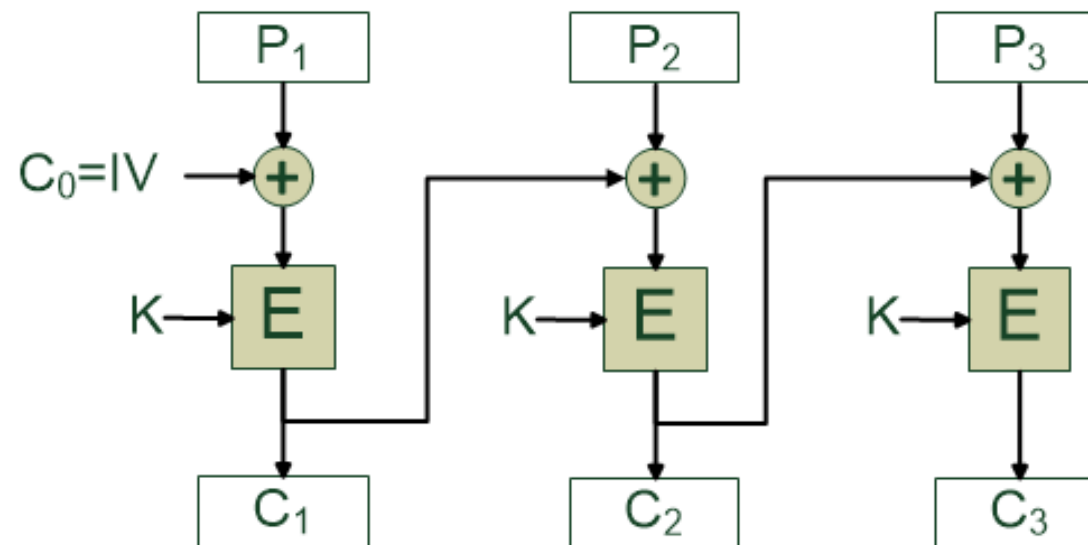


Properties of ECB

- Deterministic: the same data block gets encrypted the same way.
 - This reveals patterns of data when a data block repeats.
- Malleable: reordering ciphertext results in reordered plaintext.
- Errors in one ciphertext block do not propagate.
- Usage: not recommended to encrypt more than one block of data.

Cipher Block Chaining (CBC)

- Cipher Block Chaining (CBC): next input depends upon previous output
 - Encryption: $C_i = E_k [P_i \oplus C_{i-1}]$, with $C_0 = IV$
 - Decryption: $P_i = C_{i-1} \oplus D_k [C_i]$, with $C_0 = IV$



Properties of CBC

- **Randomized encryption**: repeated text gets mapped to different encrypted data.
 - can be proven to be “secure” assuming that the block cipher has desirable properties and that random IV’s are used
- A ciphertext block depends on all preceding plaintext blocks
 - Sequential encryption, cannot use parallel hardware
- Errors in one block of ciphertext propagate to two blocks
 - one bit error in C_j affects all bits in M_j and one bit in M_{j+1}

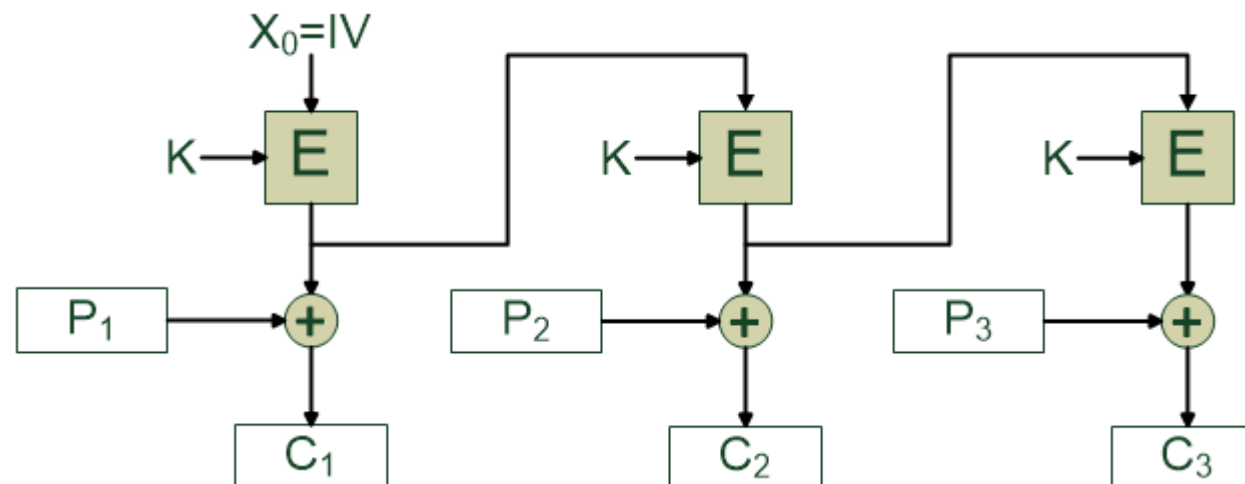


Block Ciphers vs. Stream Ciphers

- A block cipher operates on blocks of fixed length.
- A **stream cipher** is a symmetric key cipher where plaintext bits are combined with a pseudorandom cipher bit stream (keystream), typically by an exclusive-or (xor) operation.

Output Feedback (OFB)

- Output feedback (OFB): construct a **pseudorandom number generator** (PRNG) to obtain a one time pad and XOR the message with the pad
 - Encryption: $X_0=IV$, $X_i = E_k[X_{i-1}]$, $C_i = P_i + X_i$
 - Decryption: $X_0=IV$, $X_i = E_k[X_{i-1}]$, $P_i = C_i + X_i$



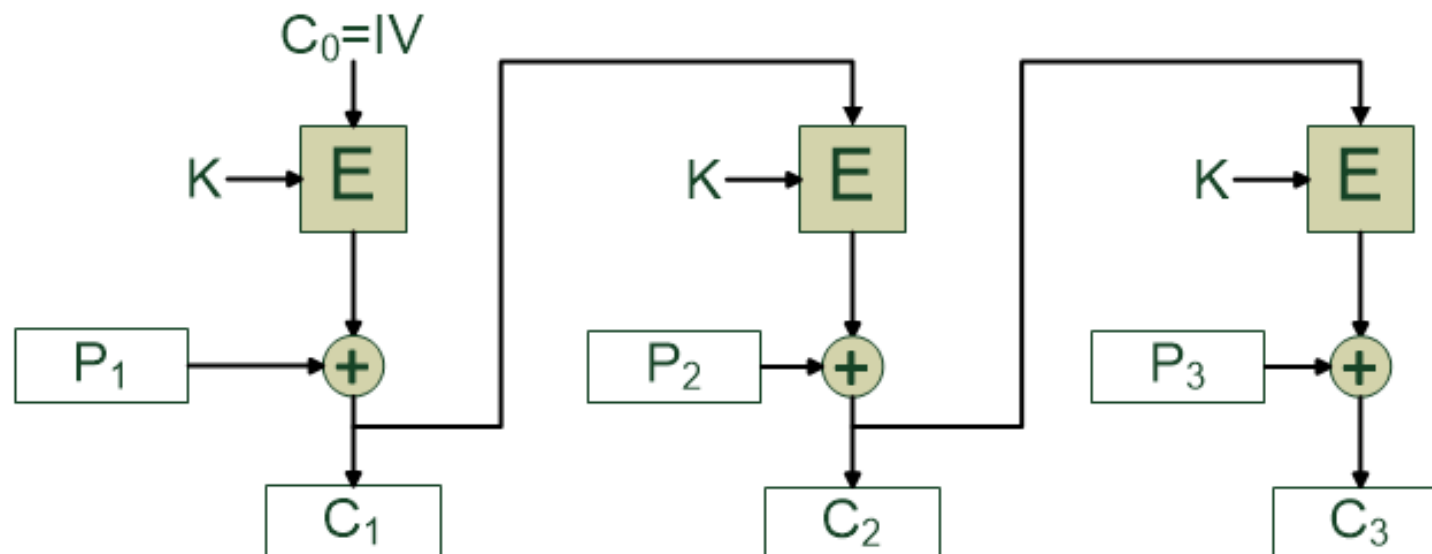


Properties of OFB

- Randomized encryption
- Sequential encryption, but preprocessing possible
 - Generate the key before the message comes
- Error propagation limited
 - Only the changed bits are lost
- It can only be used as a **stream cipher**

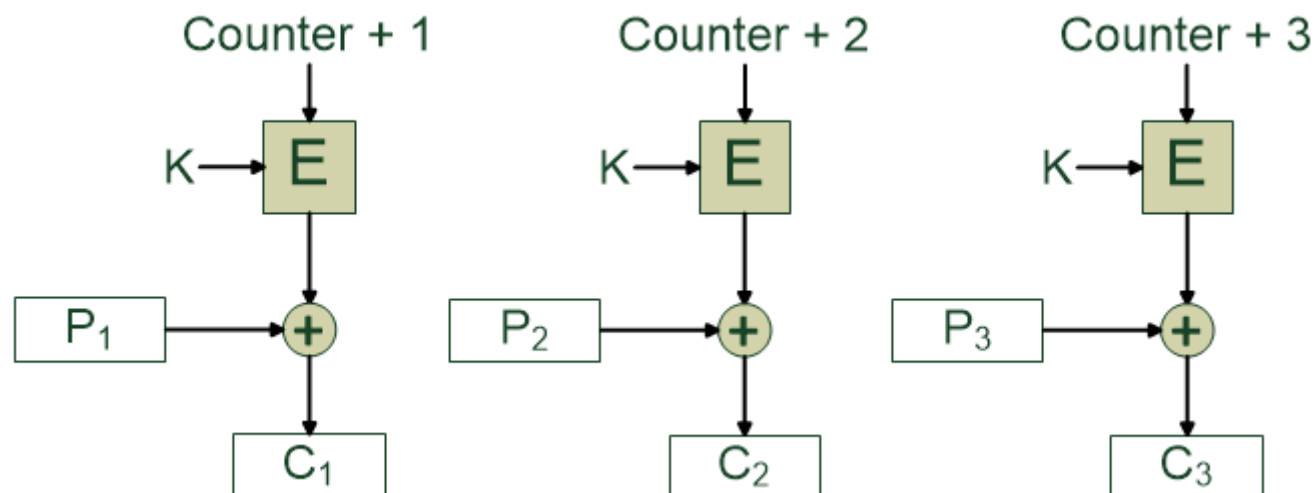
Cipher Feedback (CFB)

- Cipher Feedback (CFB): the message is XORed with the feedback of encrypting the previous block
 - Encryption: $C_0=IV$, $C_i = E_k[C_{i-1}] + P_i$
 - Decryption: $C_0=IV$, $P_i = E_k[C_{i-1}] + C_i$



Counter Mode (CTR)

- Counter Mode (CTR): Another way to construct pseudo random number generator using DES
 - $X_i = E_k[\text{Counter} + i]$
 - $C_i = P_i \oplus X_i$
 - Sender and receiver share a counter value (does not need to be secret) and the secret key





Properties of CTR

- **Software and hardware efficiency**: different blocks can be encrypted in parallel.
- **Preprocessing**: the encryption part can be done offline and when the message is known, just do the XOR.
- **Random Access**: decryption of a block can be done in random order, very useful for hard-disk encryption.
- **Messages of Arbitrary Length**: ciphertext is the same length with the plaintext (i.e., no IV).