**Chapter 6: Block Cipher Operation**

**TRUE OR FALSE**

T F 1. Once the plaintext is converted to ciphertext using the

encryption algorithm the plaintext is then used as input and the algorithm is applied again.

T F 2. There are no practical cryptanalytic attacks on 3DES.

T F 3. A mode of operation is a technique for enhancing the effect of a

cryptographic algorithm or adapting the algorithm for an application.

T F 4. The XTS-AES standard describes a method of decryption for data

stored in sector-based devices where the threat model includes

possible access to stored data by the adversary.

T F 5. S-AES is the most widely used multiple encryption scheme.

T F 6. Given the potential vulnerability of DES to a brute-force attack, an

alternative has been found.

T F 7. A number of Internet based applications have adopted two-key

3DES, including PGP and S/MIME.

T F 8. The sender is the only one who needs to know an initialization

vector.

T F 9. A typical application of Output Feedback mode is stream oriented

transmission over noisy channel, such as satellite communication.

T F 10. Cipher Feedback (CFB) is used for the secure transmission of

single values.

T F 11. Cipher Block Chaining is a simple way to satisfy the security

deficiencies of ECB.

T F 12. It is possible to convert a block cipher into a stream cipher using

cipher feedback, output feedback and counter modes.

T F 13. Cipher Feedback Mode conforms to the typical construction of a

stream cipher.

T F 14. OFB mode requires an initialization vector that must be unique to

each execution of the encryption operation.

T F 15. The XTS-AES mode is based on the concept of a tweakable block

cipher.

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

1. In the first instance of multiple encryption plaintext is converted to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

using the encryption algorithm.

A. block cipher B. ciphertext

C. S-AES mode D. Triple DES

1. Triple DES makes use of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stages of the DES algorithm, using a total of two or three distinct keys.

A. nine B. six

C. twelve D. three

1. Another important mode, XTS-AES, has been standardized by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Security in Storage Working Group.

A. IEEE B. ISO

C. NIST D. ITIL

1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ block cipher modes of operation are used for

authentication.

A. OFB, CTR B. ECB, CBC

C. CFB, OFB D. CBC, CFB

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ modes of operation have been standardized by NIST for use with

symmetric block ciphers such as DES and AES.

A. Three B. Five

C. Nine D. Seven

1. The output of the encryption function is fed back to the shift register in Output Feedback mode, whereas in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the ciphertext unit is fed back to the shift register.

A. Cipher Block Chaining mode B. Electronic Codebook mode

C. Cipher Feedback mode D. Counter mode

1. The simplest form of multiple encryption has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ encryption stages and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ keys.

A. four, two B. two, three

C. two, two D. three, two

1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ algorithm will work against any block encryption cipher and does not depend on any particular property of DES.

A. cipher block chaining B. meet-in-the-middle attack

C. counter mode attack D. ciphertext stealing

1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ method is ideal for a short amount of data and is the appropriate mode to use if you want to transmit a DES or AES key securely.

A. cipher feedback mode B. counter mode

C. output feedback mode D. electronic codebook mode

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ mode is similar to Cipher Feedback, except that the input to the encryption algorithm is the preceding DES output.

A. Cipher Feedback B. Counter

C. Output Feedback D. Cipher Block Chaining

1. “Each block of plaintext is XORed with an encrypted counter. The counter is incremented for each subsequent block", is a description of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ mode.

A. Cipher Block Chaining B. Counter

C. Cipher Feedback D. Electronic Codebook

1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ mode operates on full blocks of plaintext and ciphertext, as opposed to an *s*-bit subset.

A. CBC B. ECB

C. OFB D. CFB

1. Because of the opportunities for parallel execution in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ mode, processors that support parallel features, such as aggressive pipelining, multiple instruction dispatch per clock cycle, a large number of registers, and SIMD instructions can be effectively utilized.

A. CBC B. CTR

C. ECB D. CFB

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ mode is suitable for parallel operation. Because there is no chaining, multiple blocks can be encrypted or decrypted simultaneously. Unlike CTR mode, this mode includes a nonce as well as a counter.

A. OFB B. S-AES

C. 3DES D. XTS-AES

1. Both \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ produce output that is independent of both the plaintext and the ciphertext. This makes them natural candidates for stream ciphers that encrypt plaintext by XOR one full block at a time.

A. CBC and ECB B. OFB and CTR

C. ECB and OFB D. CTR and CBC

**SHORT ANSWER**

1. The Multiple is a technique in which an encryption algorithm is used multiple times.
2. The most significant characteristic of ECB is that if the same b-bit block of plaintext appears more than once in the message, it always produces the same ciphertext.
3. A mode of operation is a technique for enhancing the effect of a cryptographic algorithm or adapting the algorithm for an application, such as applying a block cipher to a sequence of data blocks or a data stream.
4. Five modes of operation have been standardized by NIST for use with symmetric block ciphers such as DES and AES: electronic codebook mode, cipher block chaining mode, cipher feedback mode, OFB and counter mode.
5. One of the most widely used multiple-encryption scheme is triple DES.
6. "The input to the encryption algorithm is the XOR of the next 64 bits of plaintext and the preceding 64 bits of ciphertext" is a description of CBC mode.
7. The simplest mode of operation is the ECB mode, in which plaintext is handled one block at a time and each block of plaintext is encrypted using the same key.
8. The requirements for encrypting stored data, also referred to as data at rest, differ somewhat from those for transmitted data.
9. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ block cipher mode of operation is a general purpose block oriented transmission useful for high speed requirements.
10. "Input is processed s bits at a time. Preceding ciphertext is used as input to the encryption algorithm to produce pseudorandom output, which is XORed with plaintext to produce next unit of ciphertext", is a description of the CTR mode of operation.
11. The CFB must be a data block that is unique to each execution of the encryption operation and may be a counter, a timestamp, or a message number.
12. A nonce cipher can operate in real time and eliminates the need to pad a message to be an integral number of blocks.
13. Hardware efficiency, software efficiency, preprocessing, random access, provable security, and simplicity are all advantages of CTR mode.
14. The plaintext of a sector or data unit is organized in to blocks of 128 bits. For encryption and decryption, each block is treated independently. The only exception occurs when the last block has less than 128 bits. In that case the last two blocks are encrypted/decrypted using a Counter technique instead of padding.
15. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ standard describes a method of encryption for data stored in sector-based devices where the threat model includes possible access to stored data by the adversary. Some characteristics of this standard include: the ciphertext is freely available for an attacker, the data layout is not changed on the storage medium and in transit, and the same plaintext is encrypted to different ciphertexts at different locations.