Assignment-3

Aim- To explore the different network reconnaissance tools to gather information about networks.

Electronic Code Block

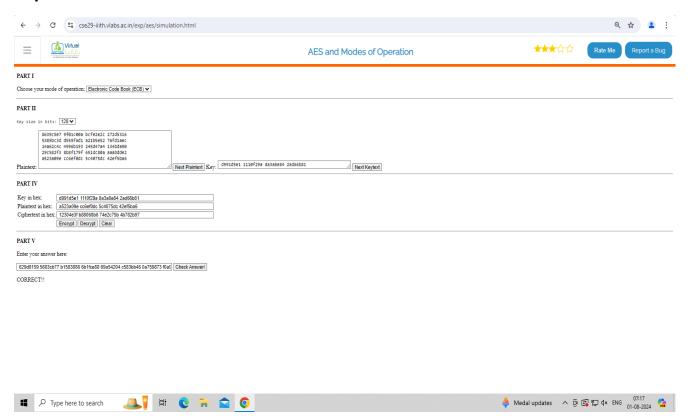
Theory:

Electronic Codebook (ECB) is a simple mode of operation for block ciphers. It encrypts each block of plaintext independently using the same encryption key.

- 1. Block-based: The plaintext is divided into fixed-size blocks (e.g., 64 or 128 bits), and each block is encrypted separately.
- 2. Independent Encryption: Each block is treated independently, meaning identical plaintext blocks will produce identical ciphertext blocks.
- 3. Weakness: Because of this independence, ECB does not hide data patterns well, making it vulnerable to certain types of attacks, especially when encrypting large amounts of data or highly structured data (e.g., images).

Due to these weaknesses, ECB is generally not recommended for encrypting sensitive data.

Implementation:



Cipher Block Chaining

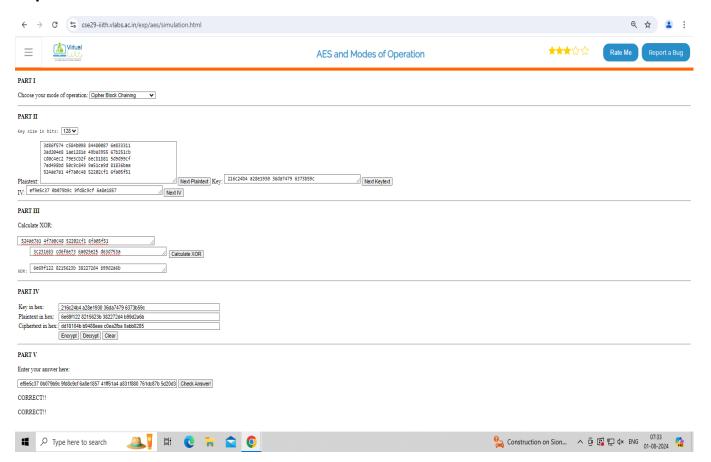
Theory:

Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) is a mode of operation for block ciphers that provides enhanced security by linking the encryption of each block to the previous one.

- Chaining: Each plaintext block is XORed with the previous cipher-text block before encryption.
 This means that the encryption of each block depends on the previous block, making patterns less visible in the cipher-text.
- 2. Initialization Vector (IV): The process starts with an IV, a random block that is XORed with the first plaintext block. This ensures that even if the same plaintext is encrypted multiple times, the resulting cipher-text will be different each time.
- Security: The chaining mechanism helps in hiding patterns in the plaintext, making CBC much more secure than ECB. However, if an error occurs in one block, it can affect the decryption of subsequent blocks.

CBC is widely used in practice due to its improved security features compared to simpler modes like ECB.

Implementation:



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Counter Mode

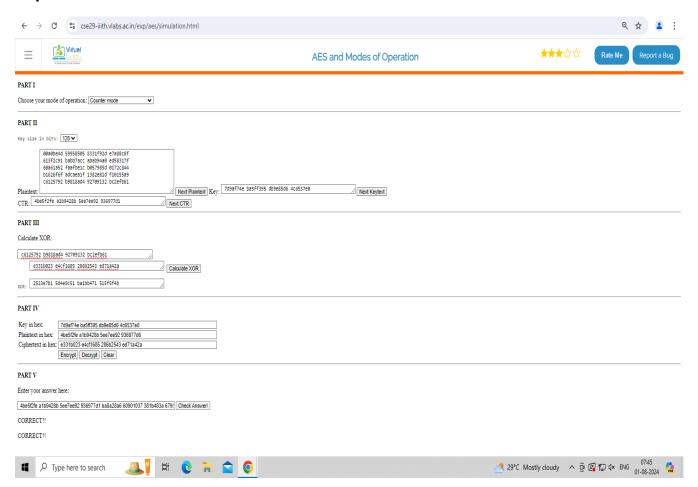
Theory:

Counter (CTR) Mode is a mode of operation for block ciphers that turns a block cipher into a stream cipher by generating a unique key stream for each block.

- 1. Counter-Based: Instead of directly encrypting the plaintext, CTR mode encrypts a counter value, which is then XORed with the plaintext to produce the cipher-text. The counter is usually a simple incrementing number, ensuring that each block uses a different key stream.
- 2. Parallelizable: Unlike other modes like CBC, CTR mode allows for parallel encryption and decryption of blocks because the counter values are independent of the plaintext. This makes CTR mode very efficient for high-speed encryption.
- 3. Initialization Vector (IV): CTR mode uses an IV or a nonce to start the counter sequence, ensuring that the same plaintext encrypted multiple times will produce different cipher-texts.
- 4. Security: CTR mode is secure and widely used, but care must be taken to never reuse the same IV/counter combination with the same key, as it would lead to vulnerabilities.

CTR mode is popular in modern encryption due to its efficiency and ability to handle parallel processing.

Implementation:



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Output Feedback

Theory:-

Output Feedback (OFB) Mode is a mode of operation for block ciphers that turns a block cipher into a stream cipher by generating a key stream independently of the plaintext.

- 1. Stream Generation: OFB mode generates a key stream by encrypting an initialization vector (IV) and then repeatedly encrypting the output of the previous encryption to produce the next part of the key stream.
- 2. XOR Operation: Each block of plaintext is XORed with the corresponding block of the key stream to produce the ciphertext. This makes it similar to a stream cipher.
- 3. No Error Propagation: Errors in one block do not affect the decryption of other blocks, making OFB mode resilient to transmission errors.
- 4. Initialization Vector (IV): The IV is critical in OFB mode and must be unique for each encryption session to ensure security. Reusing an IV with the same key compromises the security of the cipher.

OFB mode is useful for scenarios where error propagation needs to be minimized, such as in noisy communication channels.

Implementation:-

