

#4 Symmetric Cryptography

SEGURANÇA NAS ORGANIZAÇÕES E INFORMÁTICA

2024/2025

deti universidade de aveiro
departamento de eletrónica,
telecomunicações e informática

About Cryptography

What is it (in simple terms) ?

Securing communication and information so that it is unintelligible to unwanted entities

Information is subjected to several (reversible) operations that should only be known to those who know the keys or process.

About Cryptography

The two flavors

Symmetric

One key for everything

All participants know the same information.

Asymmetric

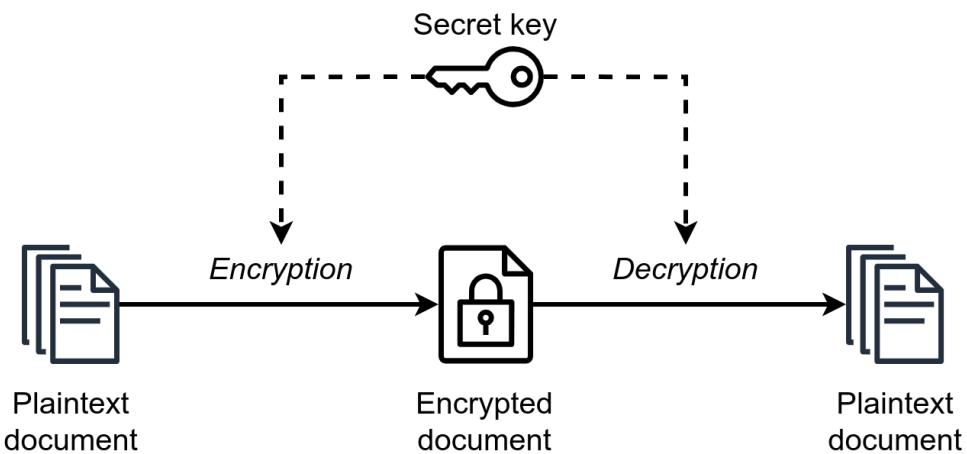
A key pair for different operations

Different participants have different material

About Symmetric Encryption

What is it (in simple terms) ?

It is the process of using the **same shared secret** to cipher and decipher data



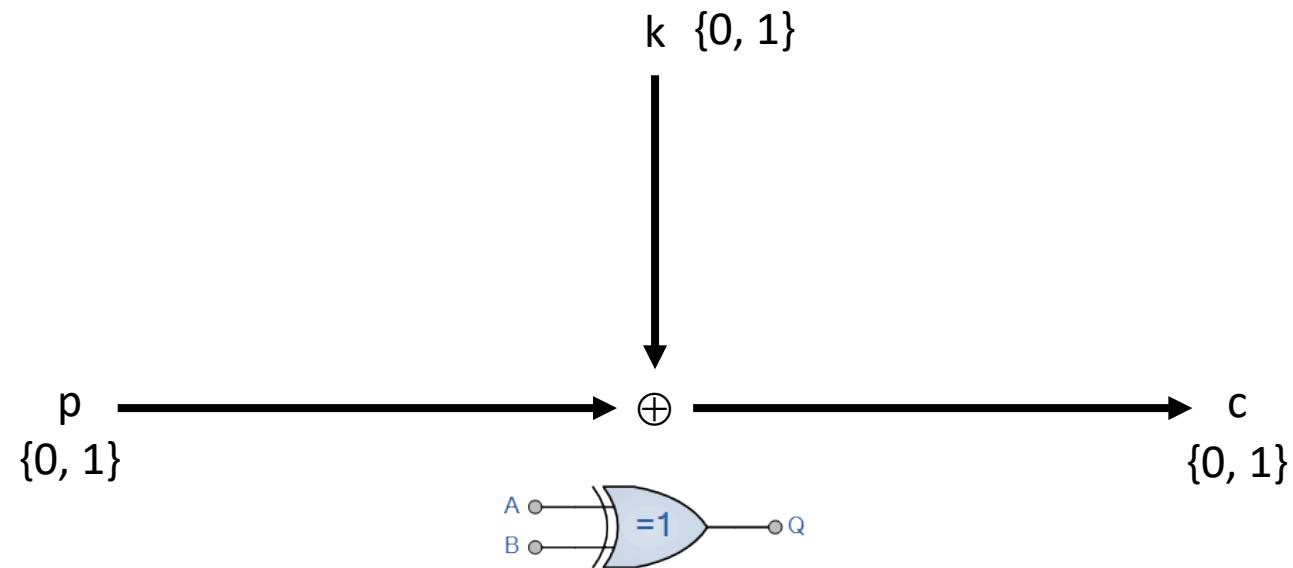
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symmetric-key_algorithm

Symmetric Cryptography

i.e., the same key is used to encrypt and decrypt

One Time Pad

(Vernam, according to the US Patents Office -- disputed)



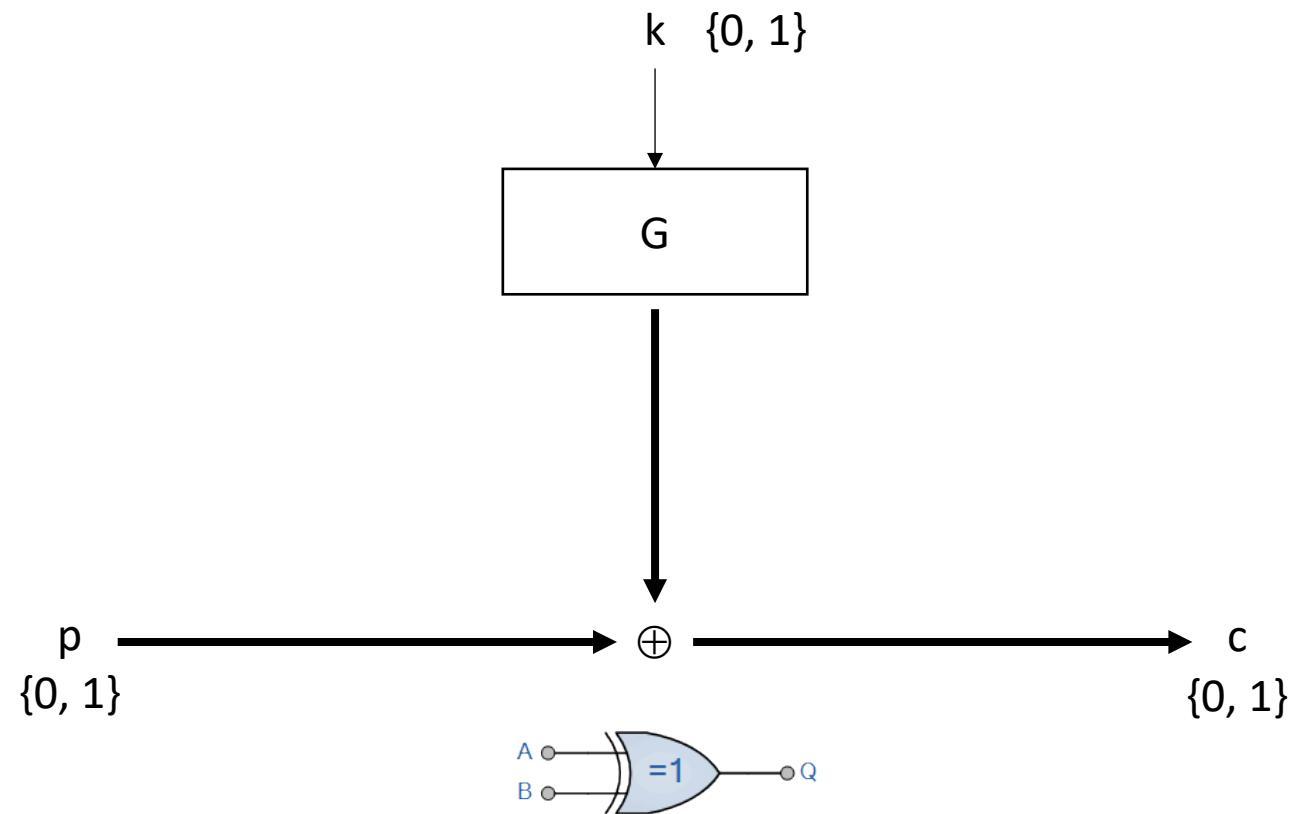
k	p	c
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

If k is truly random

$$P_c(0) = 1/2$$

$$P_c(1) = 1/2$$

Symmetric Cryptography



G	p	c
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

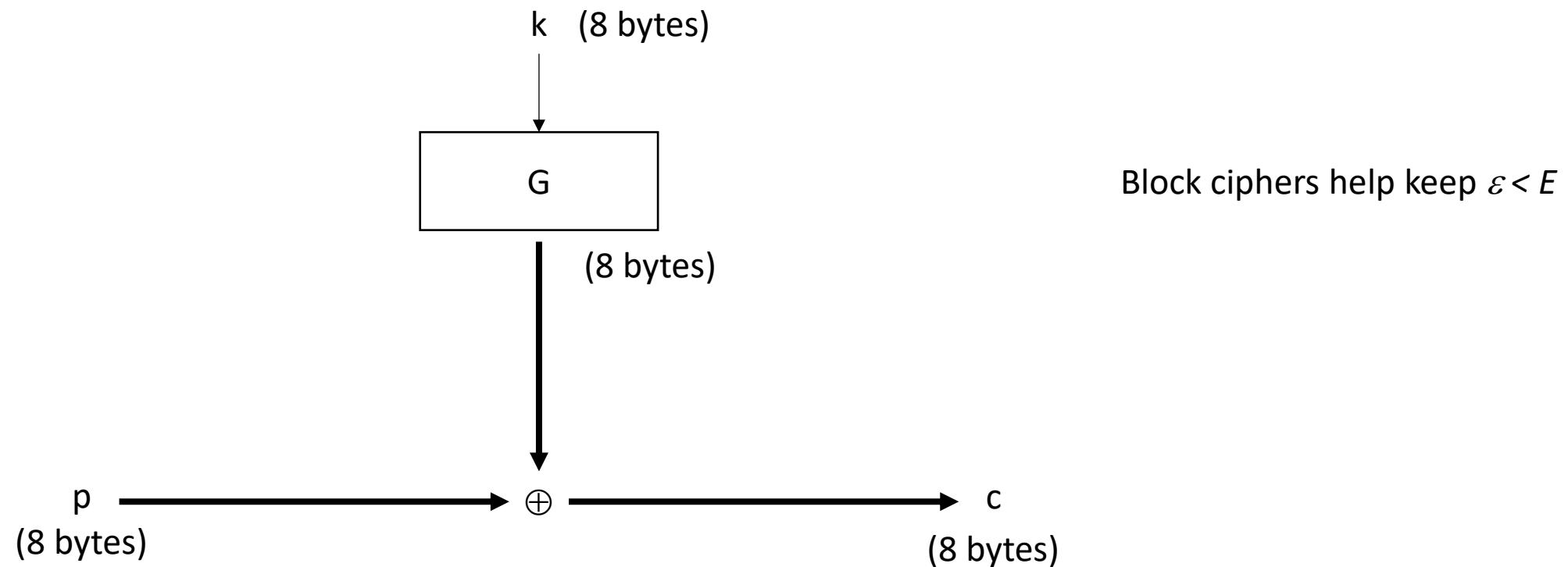
If G is not truly random:

$$P_c(0) = \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$$

$$P_c(1) = \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$$

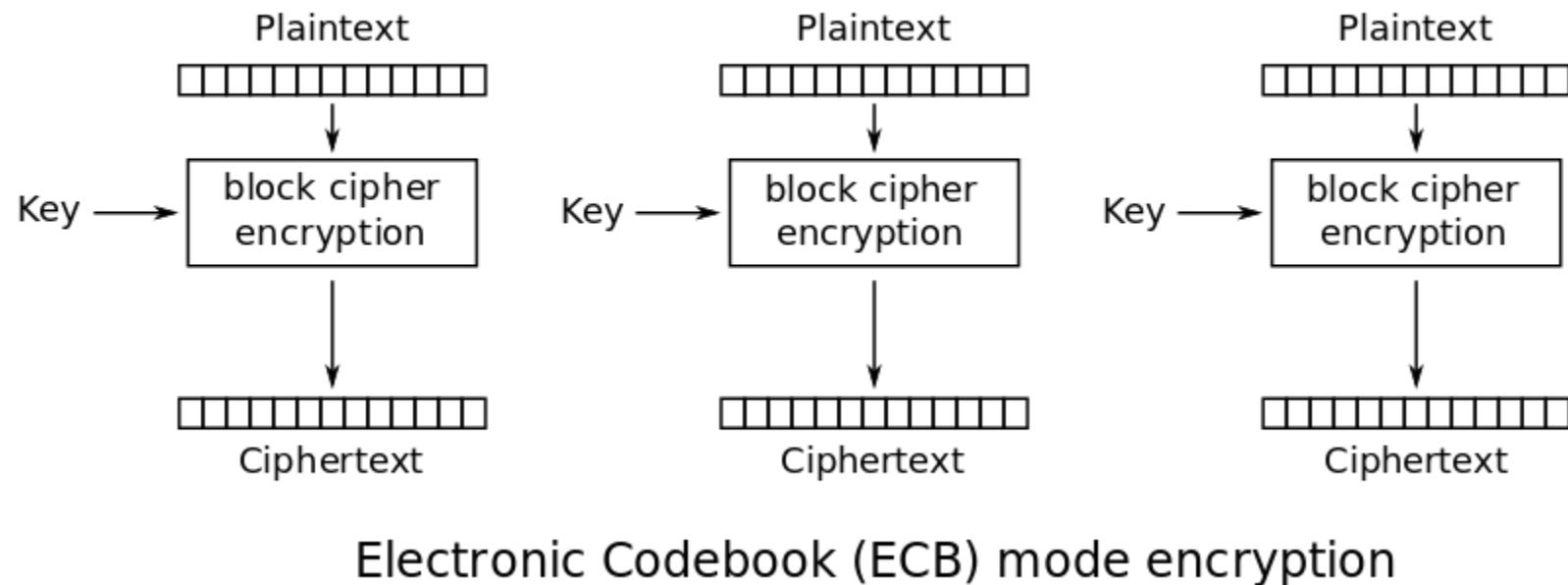
*Computationally Secure
if $\varepsilon < E$*

Symmetric Cryptography



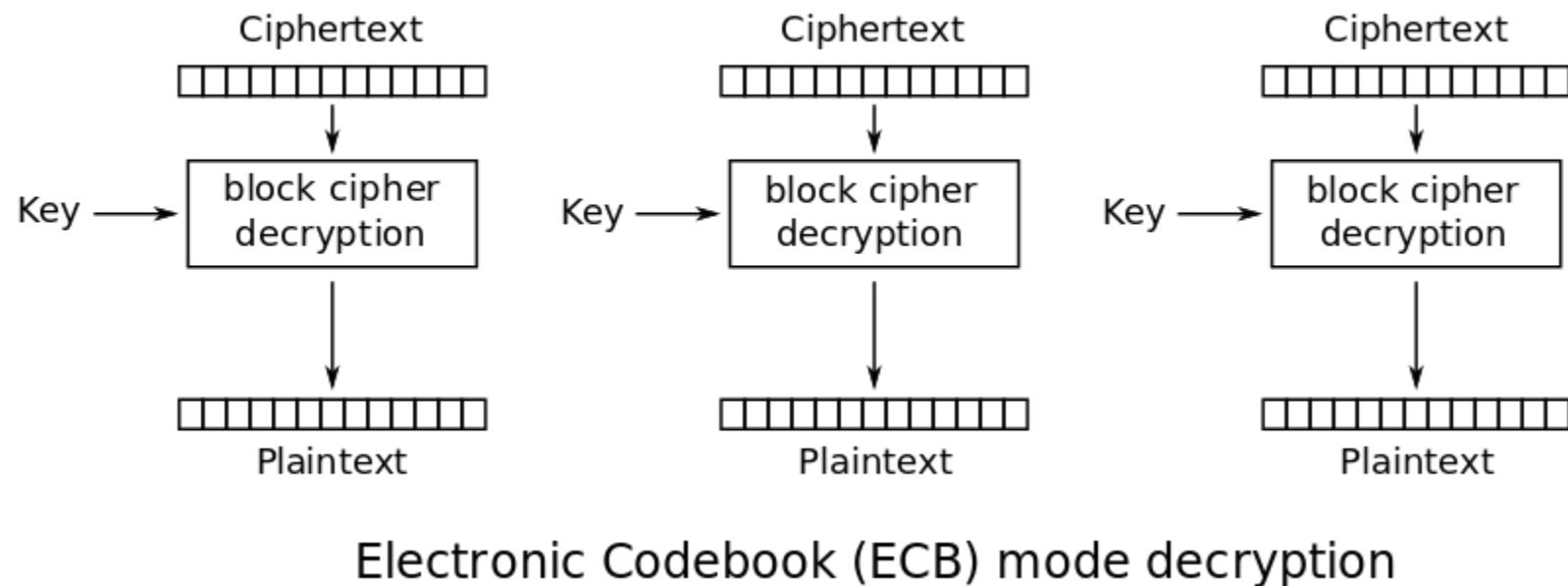
Symmetric Encryption Modes

Block Cipher Modes of Operation - ECB - Encryption



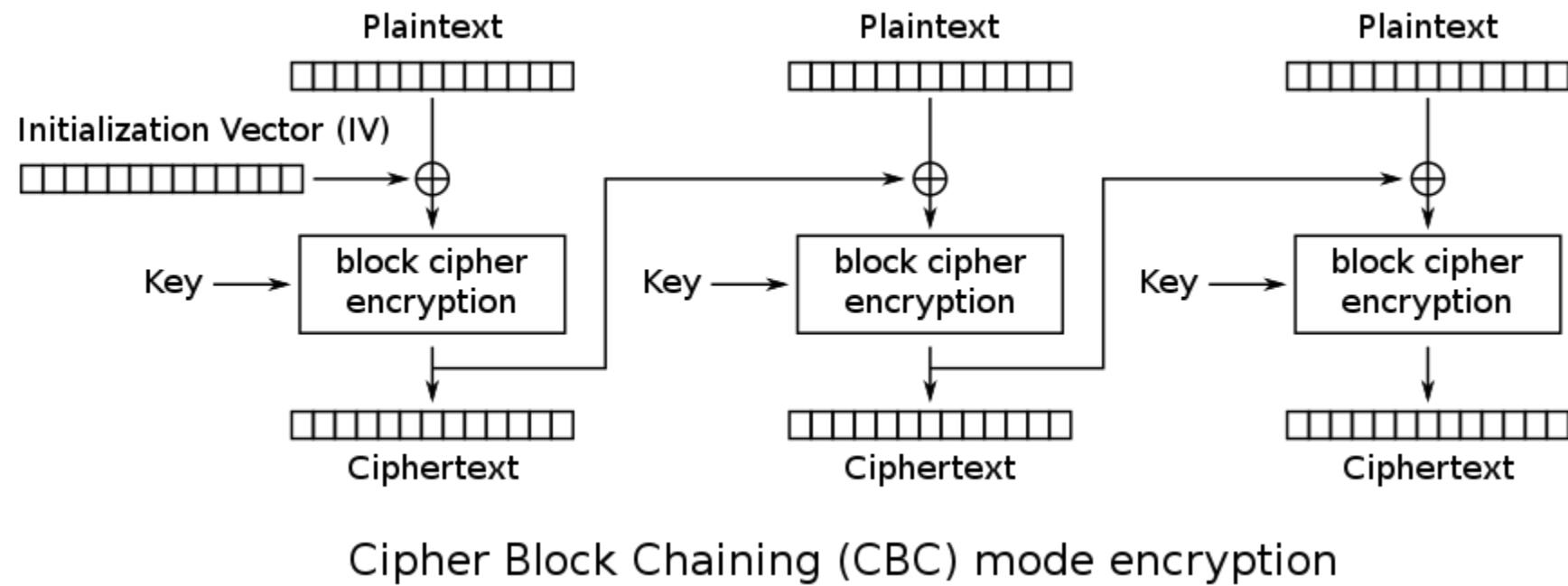
Symmetric Encryption Modes

Block Cipher Modes of Operation - ECB - Decryption



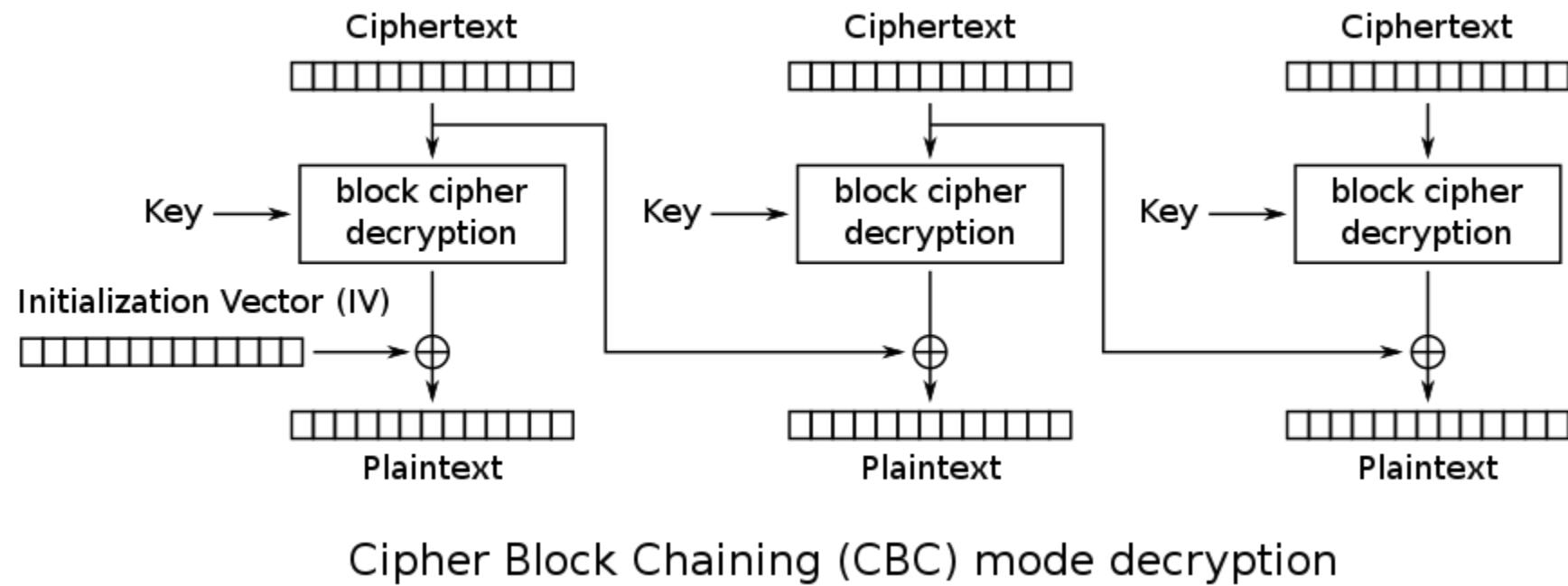
Symmetric Encryption Modes

Block Cipher Modes of Operation - CBC - Encryption



Symmetric Encryption Modes

Block Cipher Modes of Operation - CBC - Decryption



Padding

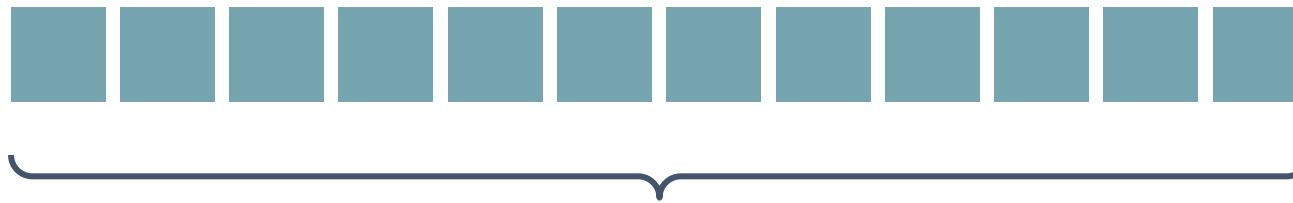
Why it is needed?

- Blocks need to have a well-known size to be ciphered
- All blocks must be complete
- AES has a 128 bit blocks

But what if the message is not a multiple of 128 bits?

Padding

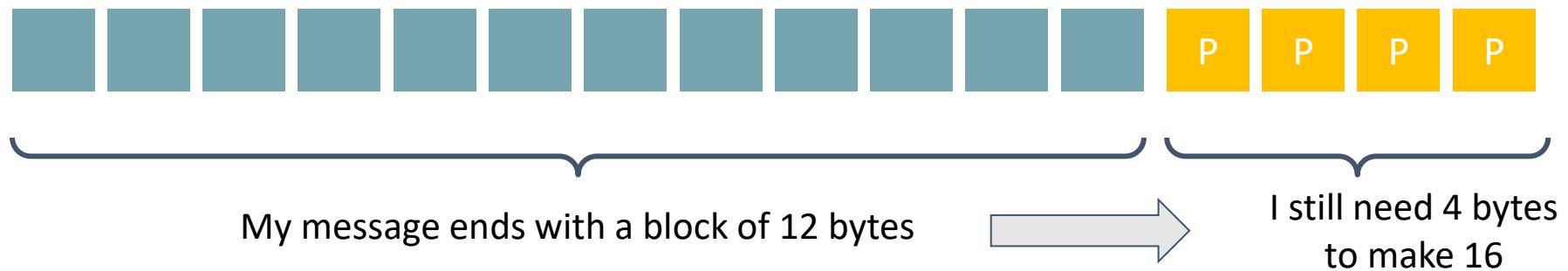
Simple Example



My message ends with a block of 12 bytes

Padding

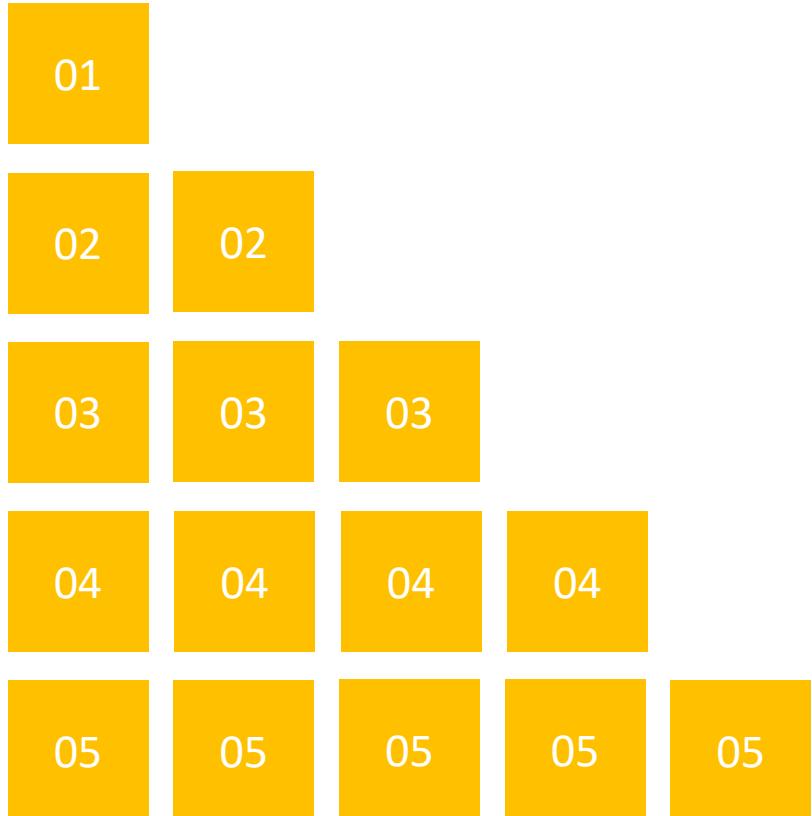
Simple Example



But keep in mind, padding needs to be **identifiable!**

Padding

PKCS-7



The padding is n bytes
whose value is n

Practical Guide

Overview

✓ Three fundamental topics:

- Symmetric encryption
- Symmetric Padding
- Key Derivation Functions.

✓ Use a python cryptography library:

- `cryptography.io` module
- “hazardous materials” documentation

Cryptographic operations

Encrypting and decrypting

```
import os
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.ciphers import Cipher, algorithms, modes

cipher = Cipher(algorithms.AES(key), modes.CBC(iv))

pt  = b"a secret message"
encryptor = cipher.encryptor()
ct = encryptor.update(pt) + encryptor.finalize()

decryptor = cipher.decryptor()
dt = decryptor.update(ct) + decryptor.finalize()
```

Cryptographic operations

Padding

```
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import padding
```

```
{ padder = padding.PKCS7(128).padder()  
    padded_data = padder.update(b"text")  
    padded_data += padder.finalize()
```

```
{ unpadder = padding.PKCS7(128).unpadder()  
    data     = unpadder.update(padded_data)  
    original = data + unpadder.finalize()
```

Cryptographic operations

Password-based Key derivation

```
import os
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import hashes
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.kdf.pbkdf2 import PBKDF2HMAC

salt = os.urandom(16)
kdf = PBKDF2HMAC(
    algorithm=hashes.SHA256(),
    length=32,
    salt=salt,
    iterations=480000,
)
key = kdf.derive(b"my password")
```

Image encryption outputs

ECB

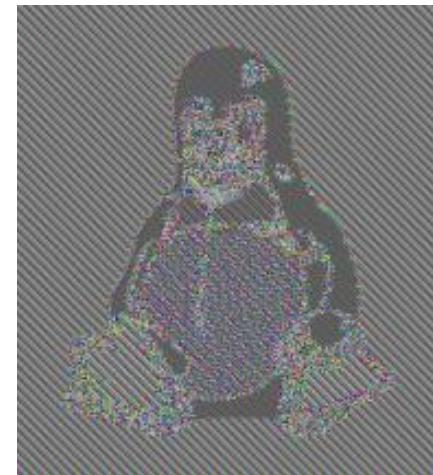
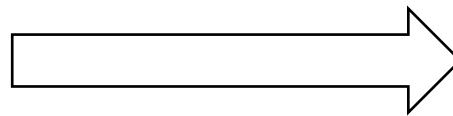
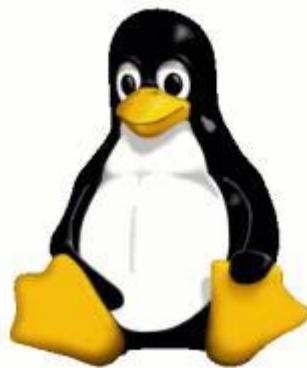


Image encryption outputs

CBC

