CSE 484: Computer Security and Privacy

Symmetric Cryptography

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Thanks to Franzi Roesner, Dan Boneh, Dieter Gollmann, Dan Halperin, David Kohlbrenner, Yoshi Kohno, Ada Lerner, John Manferdelli, John Mitchell, Vitaly Shmatikov, Bennet Yee, and many others for sample slides and materials ...

Admin

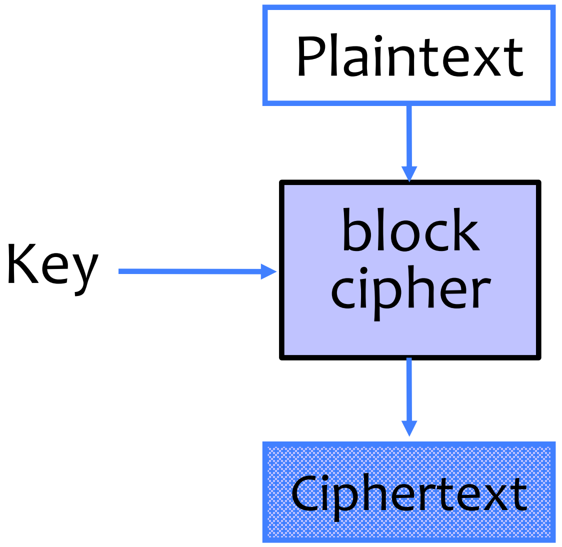
- Lab 1 Checkpoint: Today
  - Additional TA office hours offered today

- Homework 2: Out ~early next week

Block Cipher Review

Block Ciphers

- Operates on a single chunk ("block") of plaintext
  - For example, 64 bits for DES, 128 bits for AES
  - Each key defines a different permutation
  - Same key is reused for each block (can use short keys)



Keyed Permutation

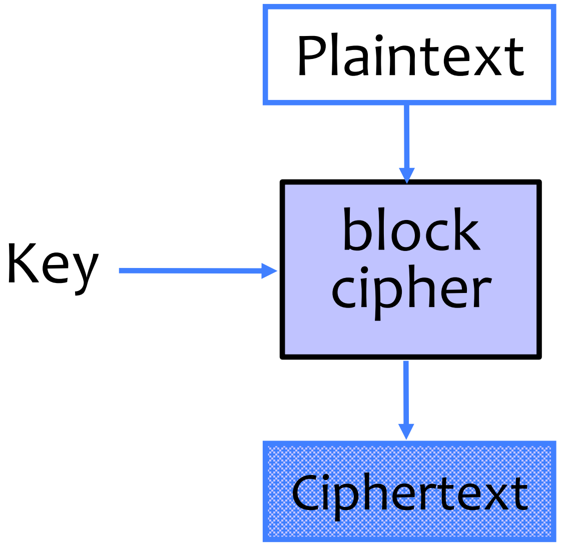
input	possible output (K=00)	possible output (K=01)	etc.
000	010	111	…
001	111	110	…
010	101	000	…
011	110	101	…
…	…		…
111	000	110	…

For N-bit input, $2^N!$ possible permutations

For K-bit key, 2^K possible keys

Keyed Permutation

- Not just shuffling of input bits!
  - Suppose plaintext = “111”.
  - Then “111” is **not** the only possible ciphertext!
- Instead:
  - **Permutation of possible outputs**
  - Use secret key to pick a permutation

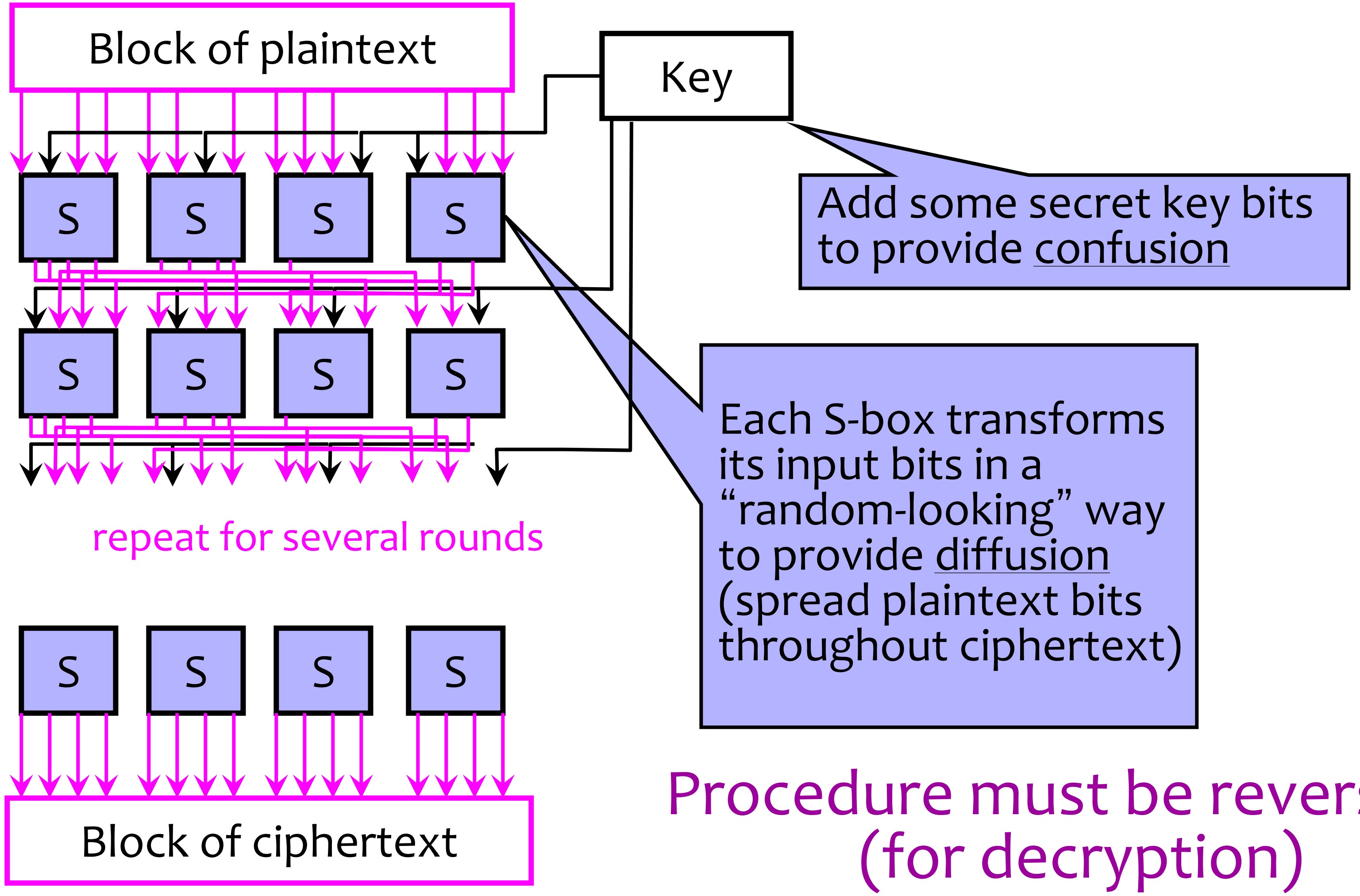


Block Cipher Security

- Result should look like a random permutation on the inputs
  - Recall: not just shuffling bits. N-bit block cipher permutes over 2^N inputs.
- Only computational guarantee of secrecy
  - Not impossible to break, just very expensive
    - If there is no efficient algorithm (unproven assumption!), then can only break by brute-force, try-every-possible-key search
  - Time and cost of breaking the cipher exceed the value and/or useful lifetime of protected information
  - “Break” could mean recovering key, or it could mean distinguishing the block cipher’s behavior from that of a randomly selected permutation over the 2^N possible inputs

New Block Cipher Slides

Block Cipher Operation (Simplified)



Procedure must be reversible (for decryption)

Standard Block Ciphers

- **DES: Data Encryption Standard**
  - Feistel structure: builds invertible function using non-invertible ones
  - Invented by IBM, issued as federal standard in 1977
  - 64-bit blocks, 56-bit key + 8 bits for parity

DES and 56 bit keys

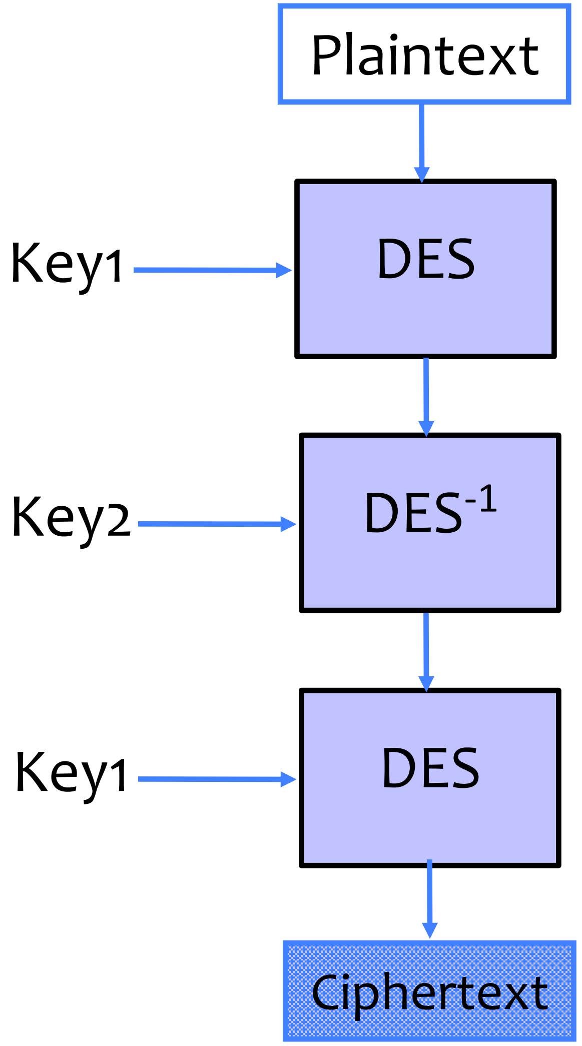
- 56 bit keys are quite short

Key Size (bits)	Number of Alternative Keys	Time required at 1 encryption/μs	Time required at 10^6 encryptions/μs
32	$2^{32} = 4.3 \times 10^9$	$2^{31}\ \mu s = 35.8$ minutes	2.15 milliseconds
56	$2^{56} = 7.2 \times 10^{16}$	$2^{55}\ \mu s = 1142$ years	10.01 hours
128	$2^{128} = 3.4 \times 10^{38}$	$2^{127}\ \mu s = 5.4 \times 10^{24}$ years	5.4×10^{18} years
168	$2^{168} = 3.7 \times 10^{50}$	$2^{167}\ \mu s = 5.9 \times 10^{36}$ years	5.9×10^{30} years
26 characters (permutation)	$26! = 4 \times 10^{26}$	$2 \times 10^{26}\ \mu s = 6.4 \times 10^{12}$ years	6.4×10^6 years

- 1999: EFF DES Crack + distributed machines
  - < 24 hours to find DES key
- DES ---> 3DES
  - 3DES: DES + inverse DES + DES (with 2 or 3 diff keys)

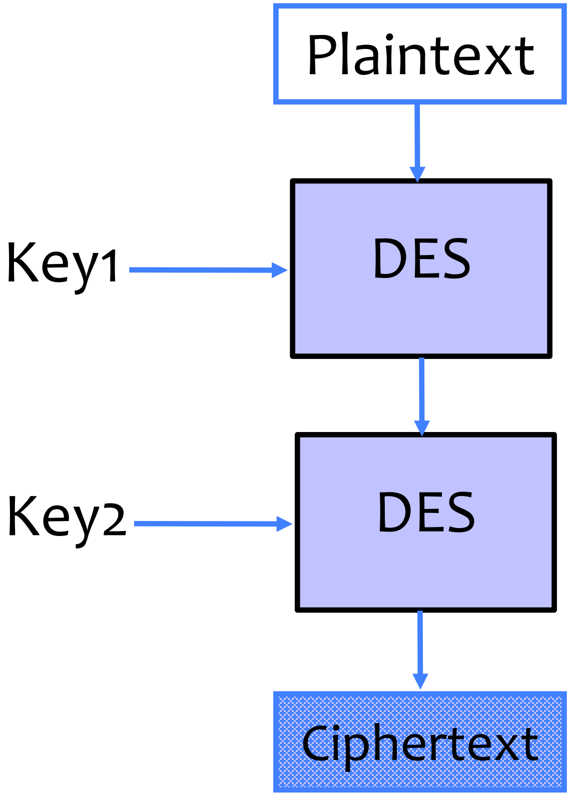
3DES

- Two-key 3DES increases security of DES by doubling the key length



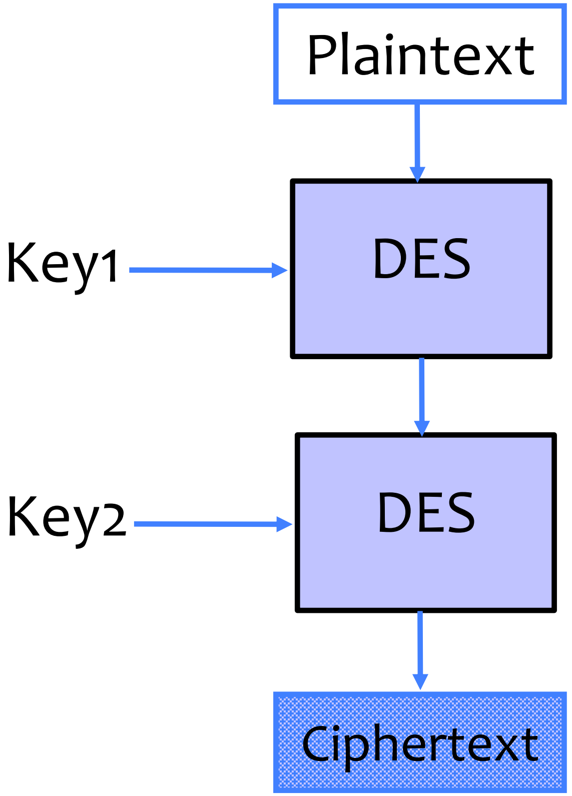
But wait... what about *2DES*?

- Suppose you are given plaintext-ciphertext pairs (P1,C1), (P2,C2), (P3,C3)
- Suppose Key1 and Key2 are each 56-bits long
- Can you figure out Key1 and Key2 if you try all possible values for both (2^{112} possibilities) → Yes
- Can you figure out Key1 and Key2 more than that? → Breakout



Meet-in-the-Middle Attack

- Guess 2^{56} values for Key1, and create a table from P1 to a middle value M1 for each key guess ($M1^{G1}$, $M1^{G2}$, $M1^{G3}$, …)
- Guess 2^{56} values for Key2, and create a table from C1 to a middle value M'1 for each key guess ($M'1^{G1}$, $M'1^{G2}$, $M'1^{G3}$, …)
- Look for collision in the middle values → if only one collision, found Key1 and Key2; otherwise repeat for (P2,C2), …



Defining the strength of a scheme

- *Effective Key Strength*
  - Amount of ‘work’ the adversary needs to do
- DES: 56-bits
  - 2^56 encryptions to try ‘all keys’
- 2DES: 57-bits
  - 2*(2^56) encryptions = 2^57
- 3DES: 112-bits (or sometimes 80-bits)
  - Meet-in-the-middle + more work = 2^112 (for 3 keys, e.g. K1, K2, K3)
  - Various attacks = 2^80 (for 2 keys, e.g. K1, K2, K1)

Standard Block Ciphers

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  - Feistel structure: builds invertible function using non-invertible ones
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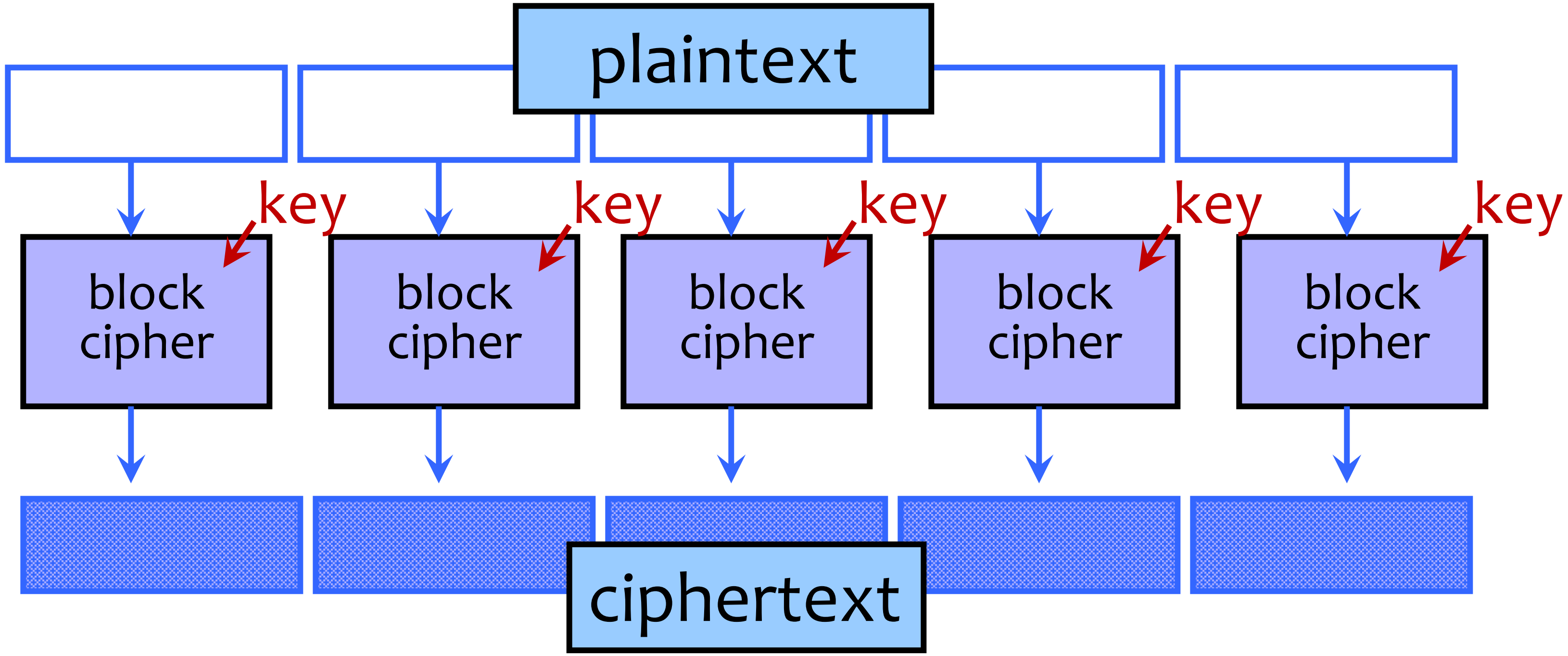
- **AES: Advanced Encryption Standard**
  - New federal standard as of 2001
    - NIST: National Institute of Standards & Technology
  - Based on the Rijndael algorithm
    - Selected via an open process
  - 128-bit blocks, keys can be 128, 192 or 256 bits

Encrypting a Large Message

- So, we've got a good block cipher, but our plaintext is larger than 128-bit block size
- What should we do?

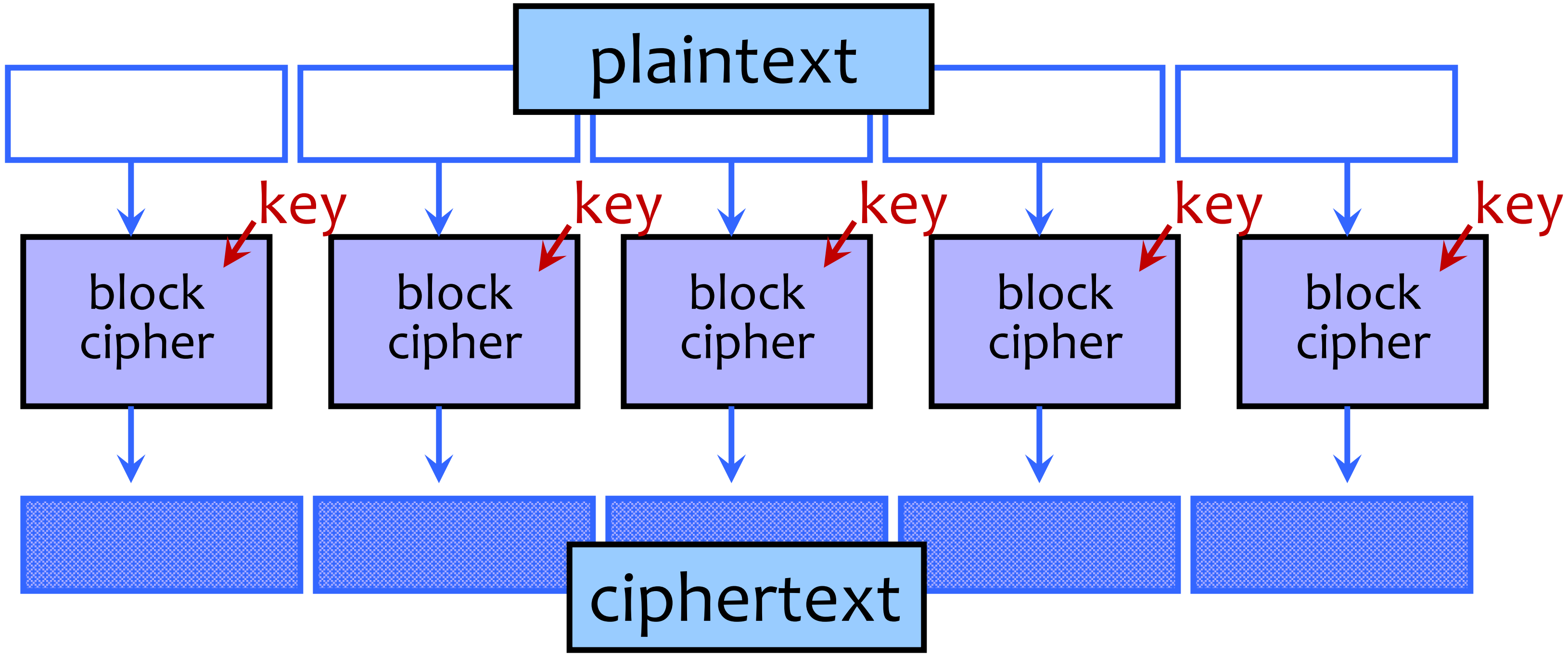
Electronic Code Book (ECB) Mode



- Plaintext message is broken into blocks (e.g., 128-bit blocks if the block cipher operates on 128-bit inputs).
- Each block is encrypted with a block cipher with the key.
- The ciphertext is the concatenation of each block cipher output.

Breakout

- What security concerns do you see with the ECB ("electronic code book") block cipher mode?



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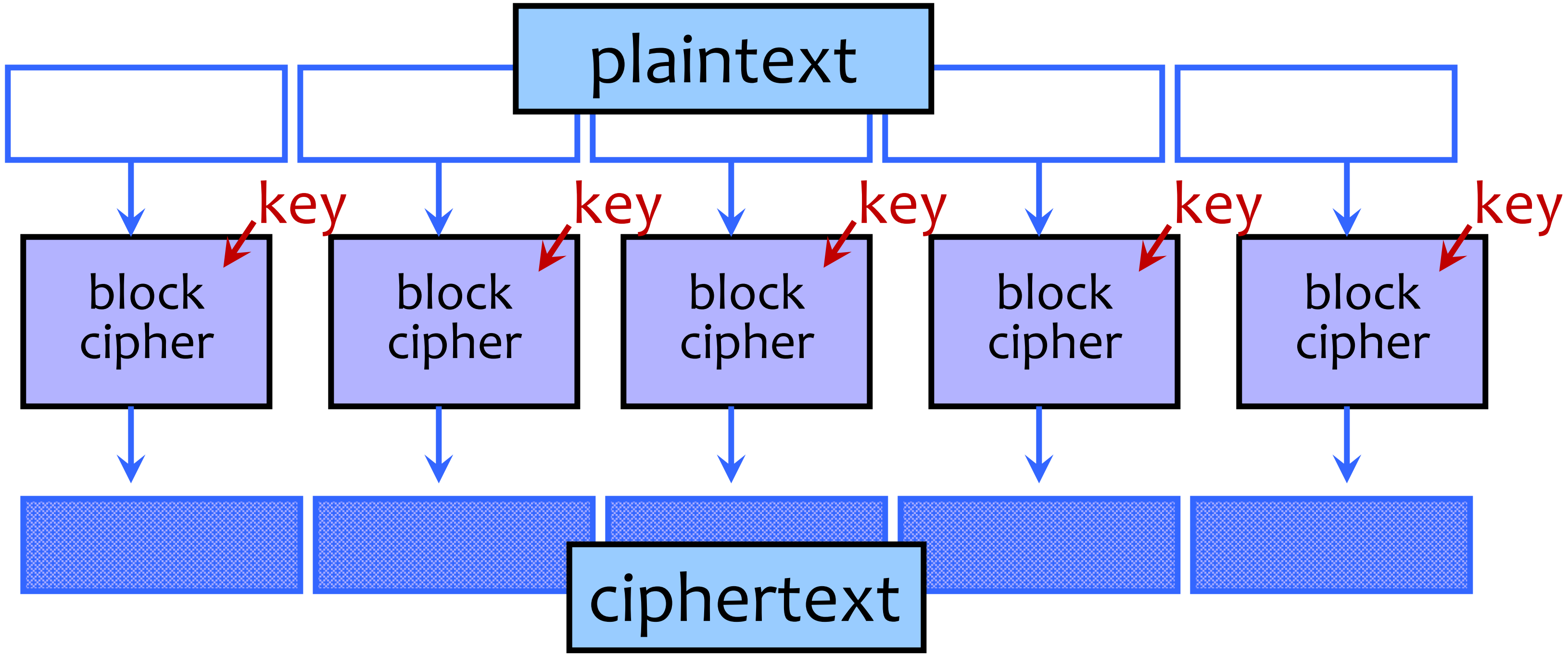
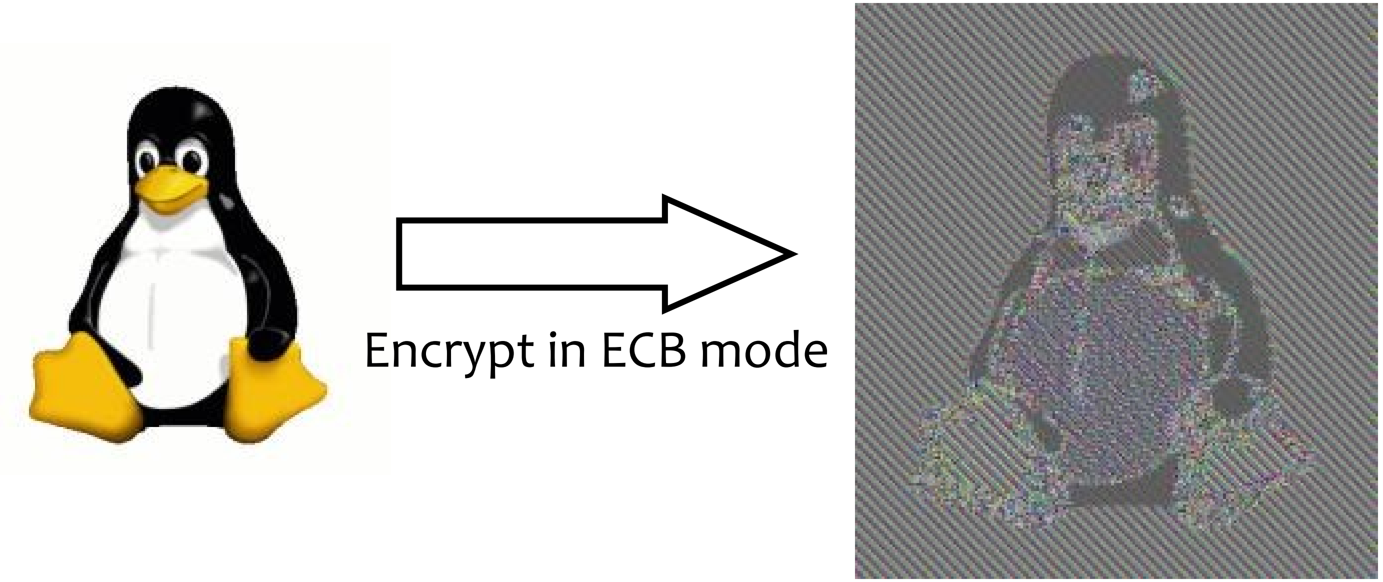
Electronic Code Book (ECB) Mode



- Identical blocks of plaintext produce identical blocks of ciphertext
- No integrity checks: can mix and match blocks

Information Leakage in ECB Mode



[Wikipedia]

Even Recent Examples

Move Fast and Roll Your Own Crypto

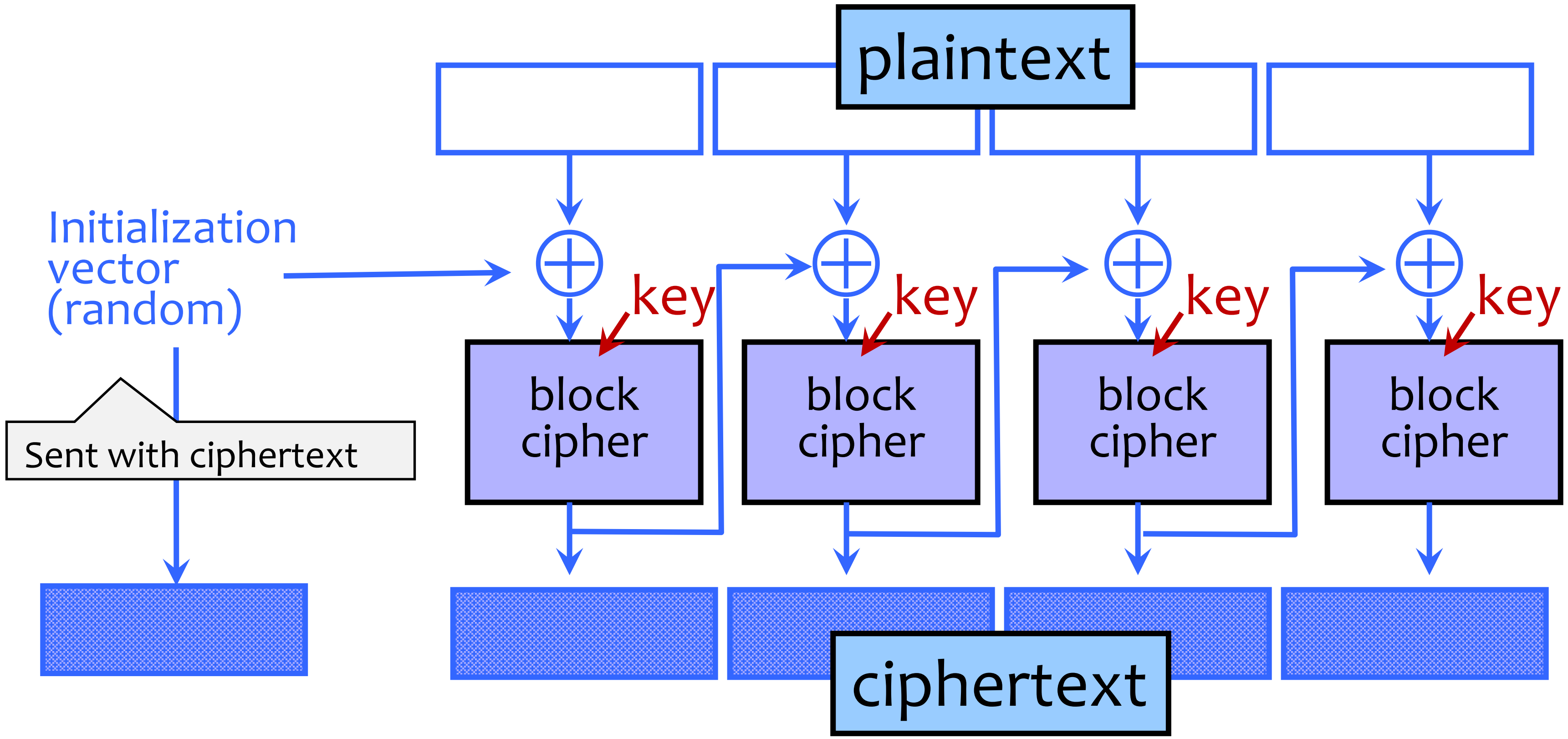
A Quick Look at the Confidentiality of Zoom Meetings

By Bill Marczak and John Scott-Railton April 3, 2020

- Zoom documentation claims that the app uses "AES-256" encryption for meetings where possible. However, we find that in each Zoom meeting, a single AES-128 key is used in ECB mode by all participants to encrypt and decrypt audio and video. The use of ECB mode is not recommended because patterns present in the plaintext are preserved during encryption.

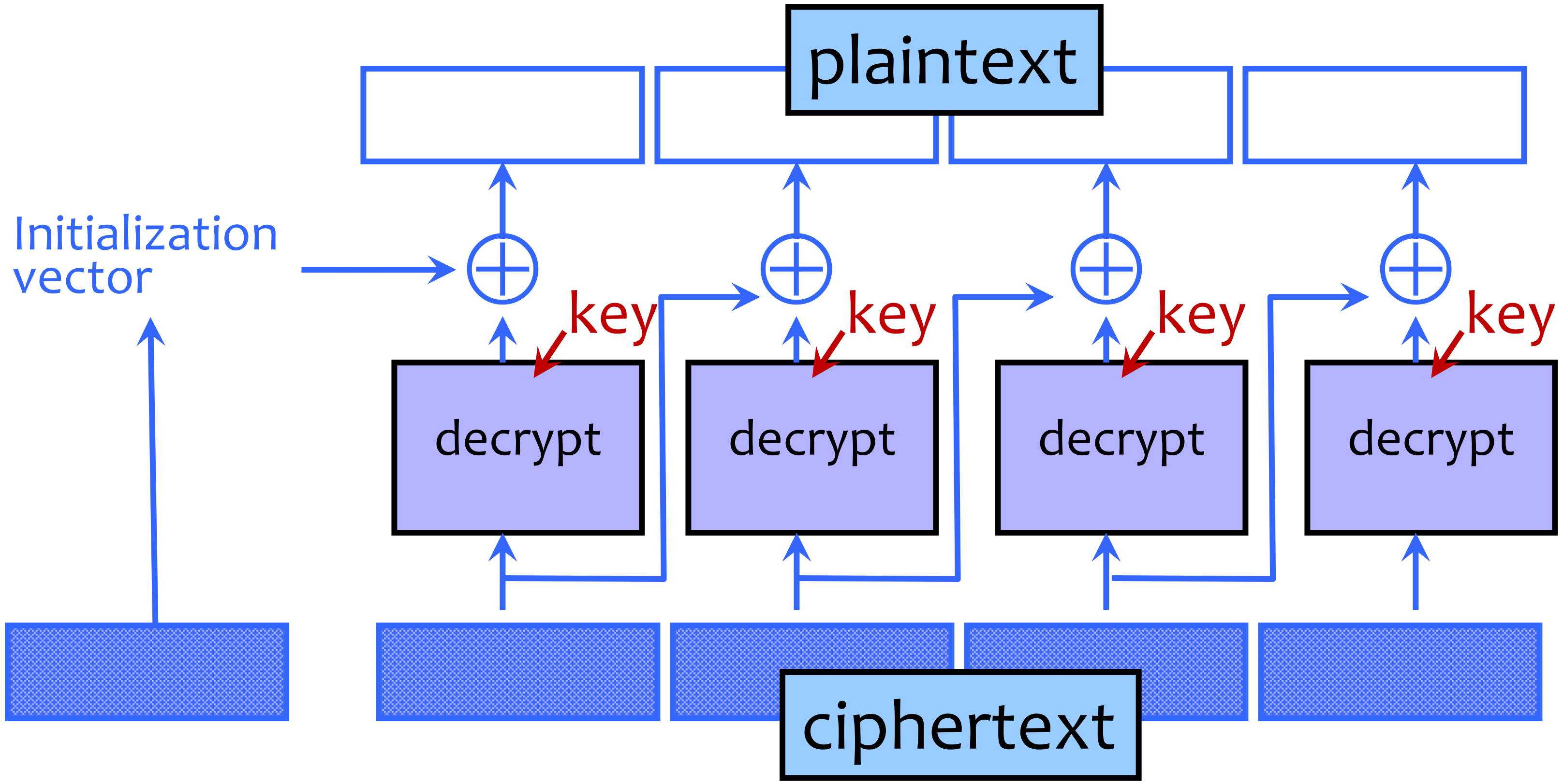
https://citizenlab.ca/2020/04/move-fast-roll-your-own-crypto-a-quick-look-at-the-confidentiality-of-zoom-meetings/

Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) Mode: Encryption

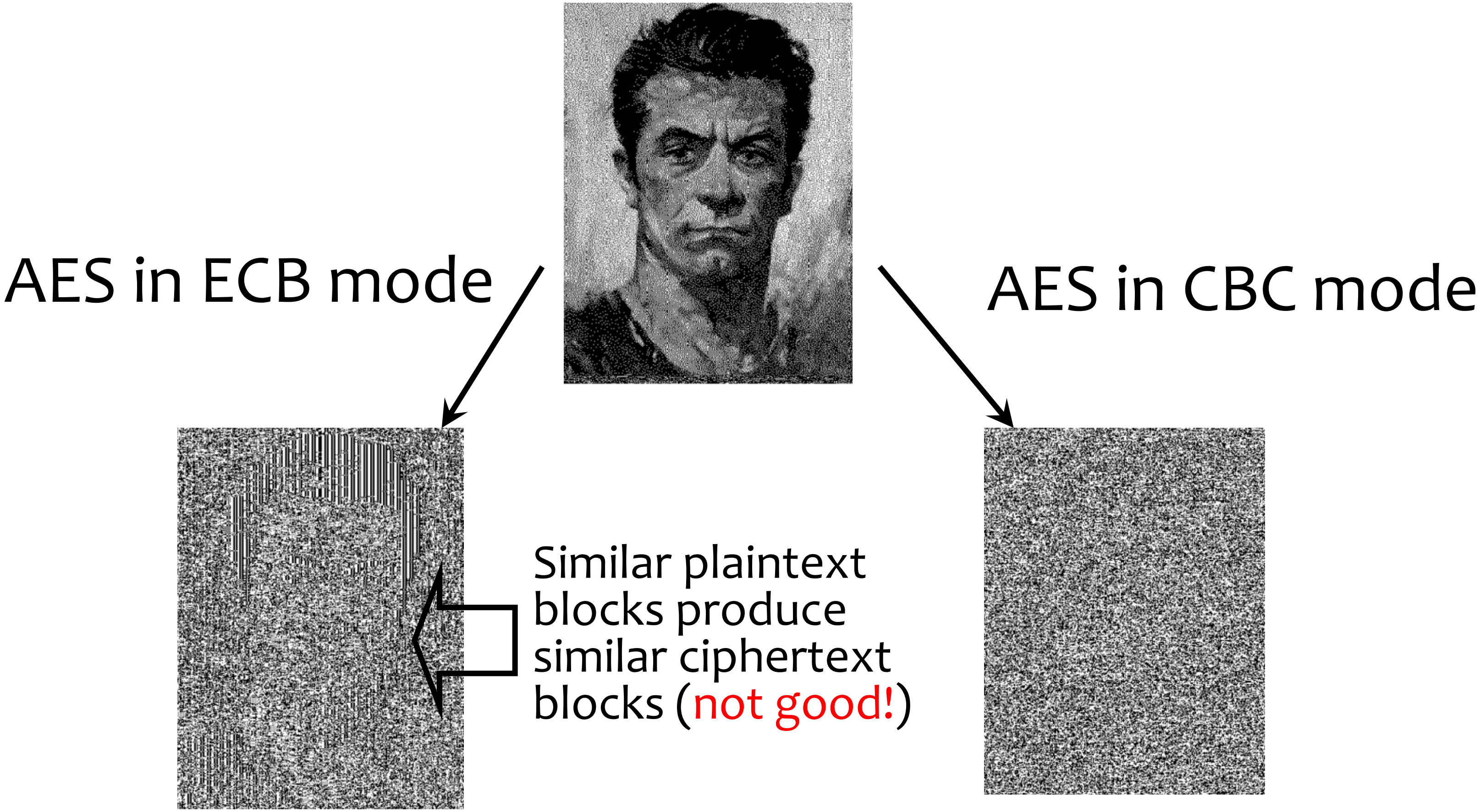


- Identical blocks of plaintext encrypted differently
- Last cipherblock depends on entire plaintext
  - Still does not guarantee integrity

CBC Mode: Decryption

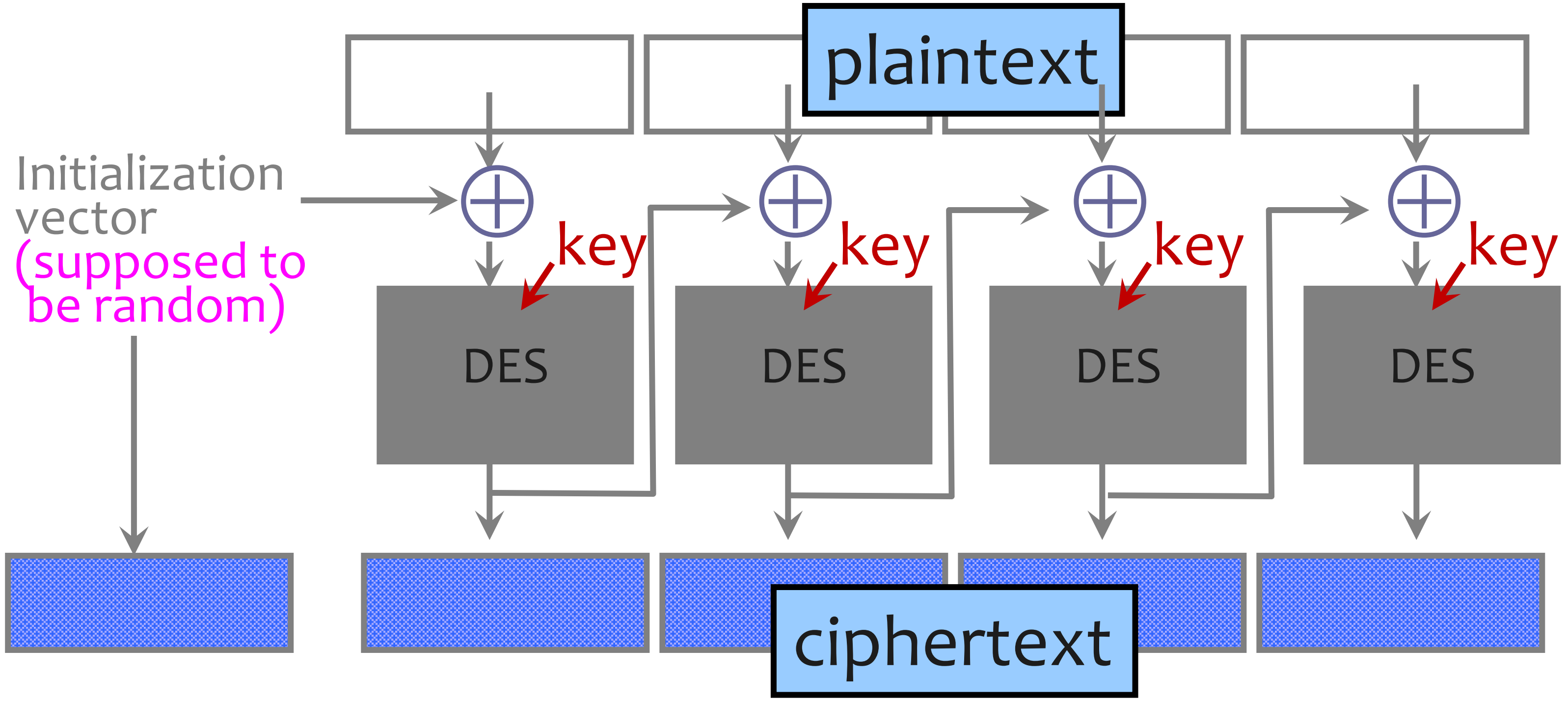


ECB vs. CBC



[Picture due to Bart Preneel]

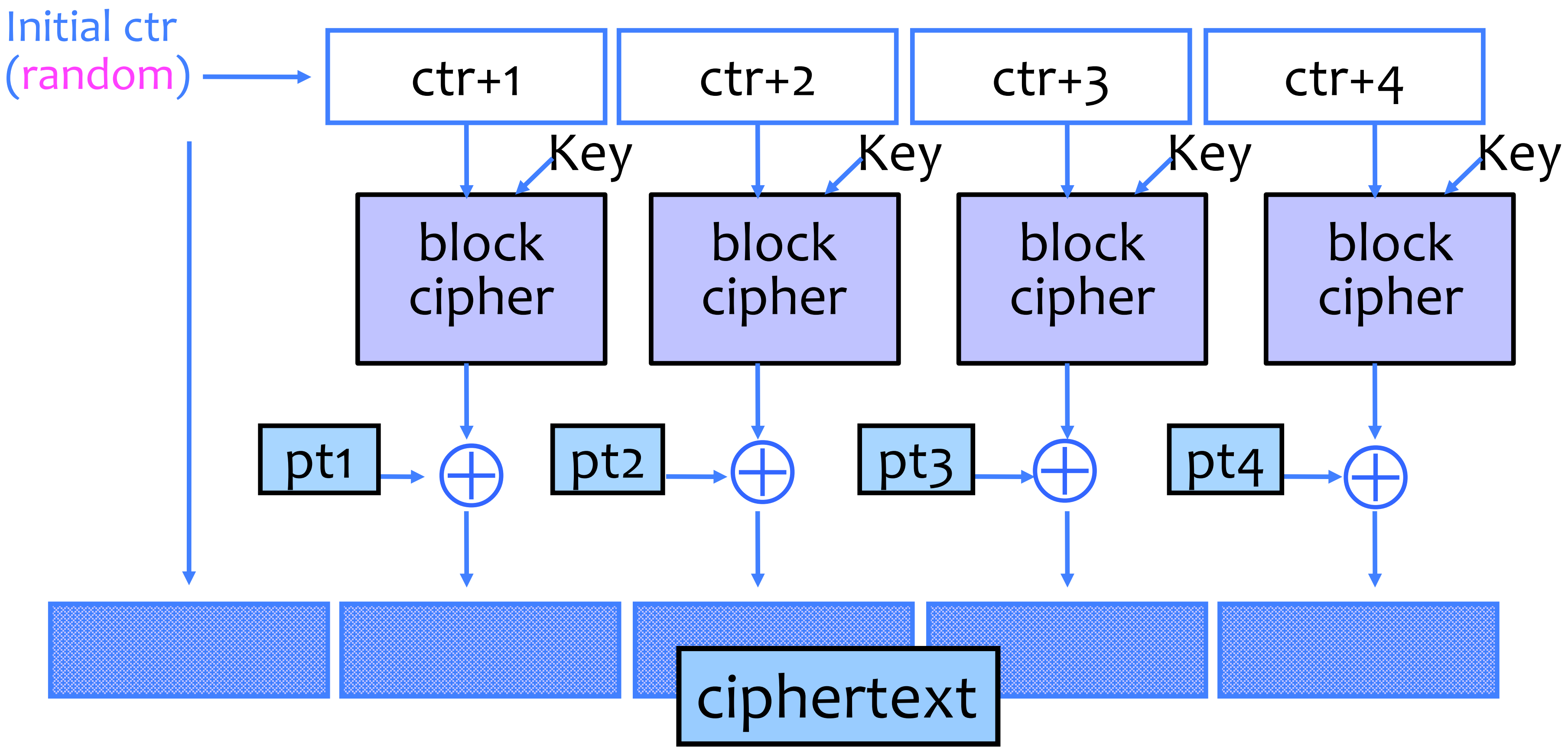
Initialization Vector Dangers



Found in the source code for Diebold voting machines:

```
DesCBCEncrypt((des_c_block*)tmp, (des_c_block*)record.m_Data,
        totalSize, DESKEY, NULL, DES_ENCRYPT)
```

Counter Mode (CTR): Encryption



- Identical blocks of plaintext encrypted differently
- Still does not guarantee integrity; Fragile if ctr repeats

Counter Mode (CTR): Decryption