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**Information technology — Security  
techniques — Modes of operation for  
an n-bit block cipher**

**AMENDMENT 1: CTR-ACPKM mode of  
operation**

*Technologies de l'information — Techniques de sécurité — Modes  
opérateurs pour un chiffrement par blocs de n bits*

*AMENDEMENT 1*

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# Information technology — Security techniques — Modes of operation for an $n$ -bit block cipher

## AMENDMENT 1: CTR-ACPKM mode of operation

### *Introduction*

Delete the NOTE and replace the second paragraph with the following:

This document specifies the following modes of operation:

- a) electronic codebook (ECB);
- b) cipher block chaining (CBC);
- c) cipher feedback (CFB);
- d) output feedback (OFB);
- e) counter (CTR);
- f) counter advanced cryptographic prolongation of key material (CTR-ACPKM).

### *Scope*

Replace the first sentence of the first paragraph with the following:

This document establishes the modes of operation for applications of an  $n$ -bit block cipher (e.g. protection of data during transmission or in storage).

Delete NOTE 3 and NOTE 4.

### *Clause 3, Terms and definitions*

Replace the terminological entry with the following:

#### **3.3**

##### **counter**

bit array of length  $n$  bits (where  $n$  is the block size of the underlying block cipher) which is used in CTR mode and CTR-ACPKM mode

Add new entries 3.13 to 3.15 as follows:

#### **3.13**

##### **key lifetime**

maximum amount of data that could be processed using this key by the particular mode of operation without loss of some proven security property

#### **3.14**

##### **section**

part of plaintext that is processed with one key before this key is transformed

### 3.15

#### section key

key used to process one section

#### 4.1

Add the following rows at the end of the table:

$c$	number of bits in a counter which can be modified during incrementing in the CTR-ACPKM mode
$J$	number of constants in the ACPKM transformation
$K^{(z)}$	section key
$len$	length of the plaintext (in bits)
$N$	section size (the number of bits that are processed with one section key before this key is transformed)
$s$	number of sections
$z$	iteration for sections

#### 4.2

Replace the third row with the following:

$a(t)$   $t$ -bit string where the value 'a' (0 or 1) is assigned to every bit

Add the following row at the end of the table:

$\lceil a \rceil$  smallest integer that is greater than or equal to  $a$

#### Clause 5

Add the following sentence after the fourth sentence of the second paragraph:

For the counter advanced cryptographic prolongation of key material (CTR-ACPKM) mode of operation (see Clause 11), three parameters  $c$ ,  $j$  and  $N$  need to be selected.

Replace the first sentence of the fourth paragraph with the following:

For the ECB, CBC, CFB, OFB and CTR modes of operation, the encrypter and all potential decrypters shall agree on a padding method, unless messages to be encrypted are always a multiple of  $m$  bits ( $m = n$  for ECB and CBC modes,  $m = j$  for CFB, OFB and CTR modes) in length or unless the mode does not require padding.

Add the following sentence at the end of the fourth paragraph:

For the CTR-ACPKM mode of operation, padding is not used by default and the bit length of the plaintext need not be a multiple of  $j$  bits. If any padding is applied by the application that invokes the encryption, then the padding method shall be known to the application that invokes the decryption.

Add the following paragraphs at the end of the clause:

The modes of operation specified in this document have been assigned object identifiers in accordance with ISO/IEC 9834 (all parts). Annex A lists the object identifiers which shall be used to identify the modes of operation specified in this document.

Annex B contains comments on the properties of each mode and important security guidance.

Annex C presents figures describing the modes of operation. Annex D provides numerical examples of the modes of operation.

## 7.2

Replace the last sentence with the following:

This procedure is shown on the Figure C.1 for  $m = 1$  and on the left side of Figure C.2 for  $m > 1$ .

## 7.3

Replace the first sentence of the fourth paragraph with the following:

This procedure is shown on the Figure C.1 for  $m = 1$  and on the right side of Figure C.2 for  $m > 1$ .

## Clause 11

Add new Clause 11 as follows:

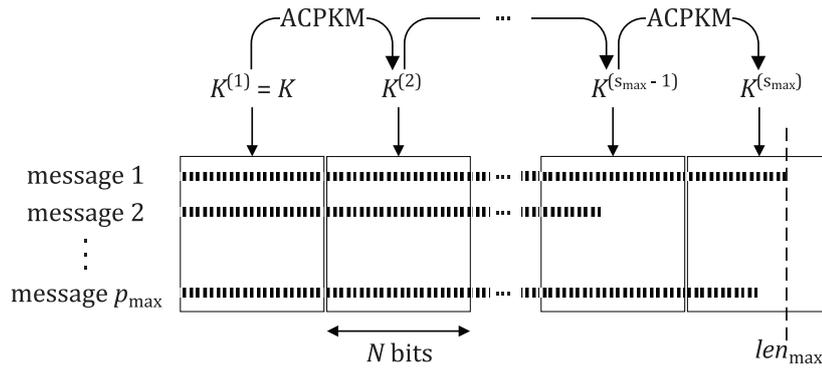
### 11 Counter advanced cryptographic prolongation of key material (CTR-ACPKM) mode

#### 11.1 General

The CTR-ACPKM mode employs an approach to increase the key lifetime by using a transformation of a data processing key (section key) during the processing of each message. Each message is processed starting with the same first section key and each section key is updated after processing one section which consists of  $N$  bits.

NOTE CTR-ACPKM mode is the same as CTR mode except that the key is transformed during processing of the mode.

The main idea behind the CTR-ACPKM mode is presented in Figure 1.



**Key**

- $p_{max}$  maximum number of messages encrypted under one initial key  $K$
- $len_{max}$  maximum length of message (in bits)
- $s_{max} \lceil len_{max} / N \rceil$

**Figure 1 — Basic principles of message processing in the CTR-ACPKM mode**

During the processing of the plaintext message  $P$  of length  $len$  (in bits) in the CTR-ACPKM encryption mode the message is divided into  $s = \lceil len_{max} / N \rceil$  sections (denoted by  $P^1, \dots, P^s$ , where  $P^z$  has an  $N$ -bit length for  $1 \leq z \leq s-1$  and the length of the last section  $P^s$  can be less than or equal to  $N$  bits). The first section of each message is processed with the section key  $K^{(1)}$ , which is equal to the initial key  $K$ . To process the  $(z+1)$ -th section of each message the section key  $K^{(z+1)}$  is calculated using the ACPKM transformation defined in 11.5.

**11.2 Preliminaries**

For the CTR-ACPKM mode the block size  $n$  of the chosen block cipher shall be a multiple of 8.

Three parameters define the CTR-ACPKM mode of operation:

- the size of the plaintext variable  $j$ , where  $1 \leq j \leq n$  and  $j$  is a multiple of 8;
- the section size in bits,  $N$ , where  $N$  is a multiple of  $j$ ;
- the number of bits in a counter to be incremented,  $c$ , where  $0 < c < n$  and  $c$  is a multiple of 8.

The variables employed by the CTR-ACPKM mode of operation when being used for encryption are:

- a) the input variables:
  - 1) a plaintext message  $P$  of length  $len$ , which can be represented as:
    - a concatenation of  $q$  plaintext variables  $P_1 | P_2 | \dots | P_q$ , where  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_{q-1}$  are  $j$ -bit strings and  $P_q$  contains less than or equal to  $j$  bits;
    - a concatenation of  $s$  section variables  $P^1 | P^2 | \dots | P^s$ , where  $P^1, P^2, \dots, P^{s-1}$  are  $N$ -bit strings and  $P^s$  contains less than or equal to  $N$  bits;
  - 2) an initial key  $K$ ;
  - 3) a starting variable  $SV$  of  $n-c$  bits. See Annex B for security guidance on the value of  $SV$ ;
- b) the intermediate results:
  - 1) a sequence of  $s$  section keys  $K^{(1)}, K^{(2)}, \dots, K^{(s)}$ , each of  $k$  bits;

- 2) a sequence of  $q$  block cipher input blocks  $CTR_1, CTR_2, \dots, CTR_q$ , each of  $n$  bits;
  - 3) a sequence of  $q$  block cipher output blocks  $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_q$ , each of  $n$  bits;
  - 4) a sequence of  $q$  variables  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_q$ , each of  $j$  bits;
- c) the output variable: an encrypted message  $C$  of length  $len$ , which can be represented as a concatenation of  $q$  ciphertext variables  $C_1|C_2|\dots|C_q$ , where  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_{q-1}$  are  $j$ -bit strings and  $C_q$  contains less than or equal to  $j$  bits.

Using the CTR-ACPKM mode it is possible to avoid ciphertext expansion by truncating the variable  $E_q$  to the length of the final plaintext/ciphertext variable. The bit length of the plaintext message  $P$  need not be a multiple of  $j$  (the bit length of the last plaintext/ciphertext variable  $P_q/C_q$  can be less than or equal to  $j$ ).

The following limitations should be observed when using the CTR-ACPKM mode (see Annex B for a detailed explanation of these limitations):

- the length  $len$  of every message should be less than or equal to  $j \cdot 2^{c-1}$ ;
- the number of messages encrypted under one initial key  $K$  should be less than or equal to  $2^{n-c}$ .

### 11.3 Encryption

The section keys are generated from the initial key  $K$  using the ACPKM key transformation defined in 11.5.

- a) The first section key  $K^{(1)}$  is equal to the initial key  $K$ :  $K^{(1)} = K$ .
- b) For  $z = 2, \dots, s$ , where  $s = \lceil len/N \rceil$ , the section key  $K^{(z)}$  is generated as follows:

$$K^{(z)} = ACPKM(K^{(z-1)}).$$

The counter  $CTR$  is set using the starting variable padded with  $c$  zeros:

$$CTR_1 = SV | 0(c).$$

The operation of encrypting each plaintext variable  $P_i$  employs the following four steps.

- a)  $Y_i = eK^{(z)}(CTR_i)$ , where  $z = \lceil i \cdot j / N \rceil$  (use of block cipher);
- b)  $E_i = j \sim Y_i$  (selection of leftmost  $j$  bits of  $Y_i$ );
- c)  $C_i = P_i \oplus E_i$  (generation of ciphertext variable);
- d)  $CTR_{i+1} = (CTR_i + 1) \bmod 2^n$  (generation of the next counter value  $CTR$ ).

These steps are repeated for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, q$ , ending with step c) on the last cycle. The procedure is shown in Figure C.6.

The counter value  $CTR_i$  is encrypted under the corresponding section key  $K^{(z)}$  to give an output block  $Y_i$  and the leftmost  $j$  bits of this output block  $Y_i$  are used to encrypt the input value. The counter then increases by one (modulo  $2^n$ ) to produce a new counter value.

### 11.4 Decryption

The variables employed for decryption are the same as those employed for encryption.

The section keys are generated from the initial key  $K$  using the ACPKM key transformation defined in 11.5.

- a) The first section key  $K^{(1)}$  is equal to the initial key  $K$ :  $K^{(1)} = K$ .

b) For  $z = 2, \dots, s$ , where  $s = \lceil len / N \rceil$ , the section key  $K^{(z)}$  is generated as follows:

$$K^{(z)} = ACPKM(K^{(z-1)}).$$

The counter  $CTR$  is set using the starting variable padded with  $c$  zeros:

$$CTR_1 = SV | 0(c).$$

The operation of decrypting each ciphertext variable  $C_i$  employs the following four steps.

- a)  $Y_i = eK^{(z)}(CTR_i)$ , where  $z = \lceil i \cdot j / N \rceil$  (use of block cipher);
- b)  $E_i = j \sim Y_i$  (selection of leftmost  $j$  bits of  $Y_i$ );
- c)  $P_i = C_i \oplus E_i$  (generation of plaintext variable);
- d)  $CTR_{i+1} = (CTR_i + 1) \bmod 2^n$  (generation of the next counter value  $CTR$ ).

These steps are repeated for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, q$ , ending with step (c) on the last cycle. The procedure is shown in Figure C.6.

The counter value  $CTR_i$  is encrypted under the corresponding section key  $K^{(z)}$  to give an output block  $Y_i$  and the leftmost  $j$  bits of this output block  $Y_i$  are used to decrypt the input value. The counter then increases by one (modulo  $2^n$ ) to produce a new counter value.

### 11.5 ACPKM transformation

The  $ACPKM$  function takes as input the  $k$ -bit key  $K^{(z)}$  and outputs the  $k$ -bit key  $K^{(z+1)}$  calculated as follows:

$$K^{(z+1)} = ACPKM(K^{(z)}) = k \sim (eK^{(z)}(D_1) | \dots | eK^{(z)}(D_J)),$$

where  $J = \lceil k/n \rceil$ , and  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_J$  are  $n$ -bit strings calculated as follows:

$$D_1 | D_2 | \dots | D_J = (J \cdot n) \sim D,$$

where  $D$  is the 1 024-bit constant that is defined as follows ( $D$  is presented in hexadecimal notation, where two consecutive hexadecimal digits correspond exactly to one byte and each 8 bytes are separated by a space for better visibility):

```
8081828384858687 88898a8b8c8d8e8f 9091929394959697 98999a9b9c9d9e9f a0a1a2a3a4a5a6a7
a8a9aaabacadaeaf b0b1b2b3b4b5b6b7 b8b9babbbcbdbdbf c0c1c2c3c4c5c6c7 c8c9cacbcccdcecf
d0d1d2d3d4d5d6d7 d8d9dadbdcddeedf e0e1e2e3e4e5e6e7 e8e9eaebecedeeef f0f1f2f3f4f5f6f7
f8f9fafbfcfdfeff
```

### Annex A

#### Change

```
id-mode-abc_cs1 OID ::= { id-mode abc_cs1(6) }
id-mode-abc_cs2 OID ::= { id-mode abc_cs2(7) }
id-mode-abc_cs3 OID ::= { id-mode abc_cs3(8) }
```

to

```
id-mode-abc-cs1 OID ::= { id-mode abc-cs1(6) }
id-mode-abc-cs2 OID ::= { id-mode abc-cs2(7) }
id-mode-abc-cs3 OID ::= { id-mode abc-cs3(8) }
id-mode-ctr-acpkm OID ::= { id-mode ctr-acpkm(9) }
```

## Change

```
{ OID id-mode-cbc_cs1 PARMS CbcParameters } |
{ OID id-mode-cbc_cs1 PARMS CbcParameters } |
{ OID id-mode-cbc_cs1 PARMS CbcParameters },
```

to

```
{ OID id-mode-cbc-cs1 PARMS CbcParameters } |
{ OID id-mode-cbc-cs2 PARMS CbcParameters } |
{ OID id-mode-cbc-cs3 PARMS CbcParameters } |
{ OID id-mode-ctr-acpkm PARMS CtrAcpkmParameters },
```

Add the following strings before "-- Auxiliary definitions --":

```
CtrAcpkmParameters ::= SEQUENCE {
j  INTEGER, -- 1<=j<=n where n is the cipher block length, j is a multiple of 8
N  INTEGER, -- N is a multiple of j
c  INTEGER, -- 0<c<n, c is a multiple of 8
bc  BlockCipher OPTIONAL,
padAlgo PadAlgo DEFAULT specifiedPadAlgo:id-pad-null
}
```

*B.1, first paragraph*

Replace the second sentence with the following:

Proofs of security exist for the CBC mode, the CFB mode, the OFB mode, the CTR mode and the CTR-ACPKM mode.

Replace the fourth sentence with the following:

For the CBC, CFB, OFB and CTR modes the probability of this assumption being invalid increases dramatically as the number of processed blocks increases to  $2^{n/2}$  and beyond.

Add the following sentence at the end:

For the CTR-ACPKM mode in some cases (if the message length is long enough) the number of plaintext blocks encrypted under the same key may exceed  $2^{n/2}$  (for more details see Reference [14]).

*B.7*

Add new Clause B.7 as follows:

**B.7 Counter advanced cryptographic prolongation of key material (CTR-ACPKM) mode of operation****B.7.1 Properties and security guidance**

Properties of the CTR-ACPKM mode are:

- a) the use of different *SV* values prevents the same plaintext encrypting to the same ciphertext by producing different keystreams (the sequence of intermediate results  $E_i$  that are added modulo 2 to the plaintext);
- b) the encryption and decryption processes in the CTR-ACPKM mode both use only the encryption operation of the block cipher;
- c) the CTR-ACPKM mode does not depend on the plaintext to generate the keystream;

- d) in the CTR-ACPKM mode, a ciphertext block  $C_i$  can be decrypted without decrypting the ciphertext block  $C_{i-1}$ ; this is known as a random-access property;
- e) the CTR-ACKPM mode requires approximately  $n/j$  times as many block cipher encryption operations as ECB mode, and hence selection of a small value of  $j$  will cause a significantly greater processing overhead than ECB mode;
- f) selection of a small value of  $N$  will cause a decrease in the performance of encryption, so the parameter  $N$  should be chosen to be as large as possible subject to providing an adequate key lifetime consistent with the security requirements of the particular application;
- g) if the block cipher can be modelled by a pseudo-random permutation and the  $SV$  value for each message that is encrypted under the given initial key has been chosen in a unique manner, the CTR-ACPKM mode can be mathematically proven to be secure (see Reference [14]).

The CTR-ACPKM mode produces the same ciphertext whenever the same plaintext is encrypted using the same initial key and starting variable  $SV$ . Moreover, in CTR-ACPKM mode the same keystream is produced when the same initial key and  $SV$  are used. Consequently, for security reasons, a specific  $SV$  should be used only once for a given initial key and the  $SV$  values should be selected so that any intermediate  $CTR$  value is not used more than once for a given initial key. Furthermore, in CTR-ACPKM mode the section keys are used both for keystream generation and for next section key generation; that is why it is important to prevent collisions of block cipher permutation inputs in the cases of key transformation and message processing.

To meet all the above-mentioned requirements the following limitations should be observed:

- a) The number of messages encrypted under one initial key  $K$  depends on the number of different  $SV$  values and should be less than or equal to  $2^{n-c}$ .

NOTE 1 If  $c = n - 1$ , only two messages can be encrypted under a given key.

NOTE 2 In each specific case the restriction on the number of messages encrypted under one initial key should be chosen carefully in accordance with security bounds provided in Reference [14] and the appropriate security level for the particular application.

- b) The length  $len$  of every message should be less than or equal to  $j \cdot 2^{c-1}$ .

NOTE 3 The constant  $D$  used in the ACPKM transformation (see 11.5) is such that strings  $D_1, \dots, D_j$  are pairwise different for any allowed  $n$  and  $k$  values and the highest bit of each octet of the constant  $D$  is equal to 1. In conjunction with the message length limitation b) it allows to prevent collisions of block cipher permutation inputs in cases of key transformation and message processing (for more details see Section 4.4 of Reference [14]).

### B.7.2 Error propagation

The CTR-ACPKM mode does not extend ciphertext errors in the resultant plaintext output. Every bit in error in the ciphertext causes only one bit to be in error in the decrypted plaintext.

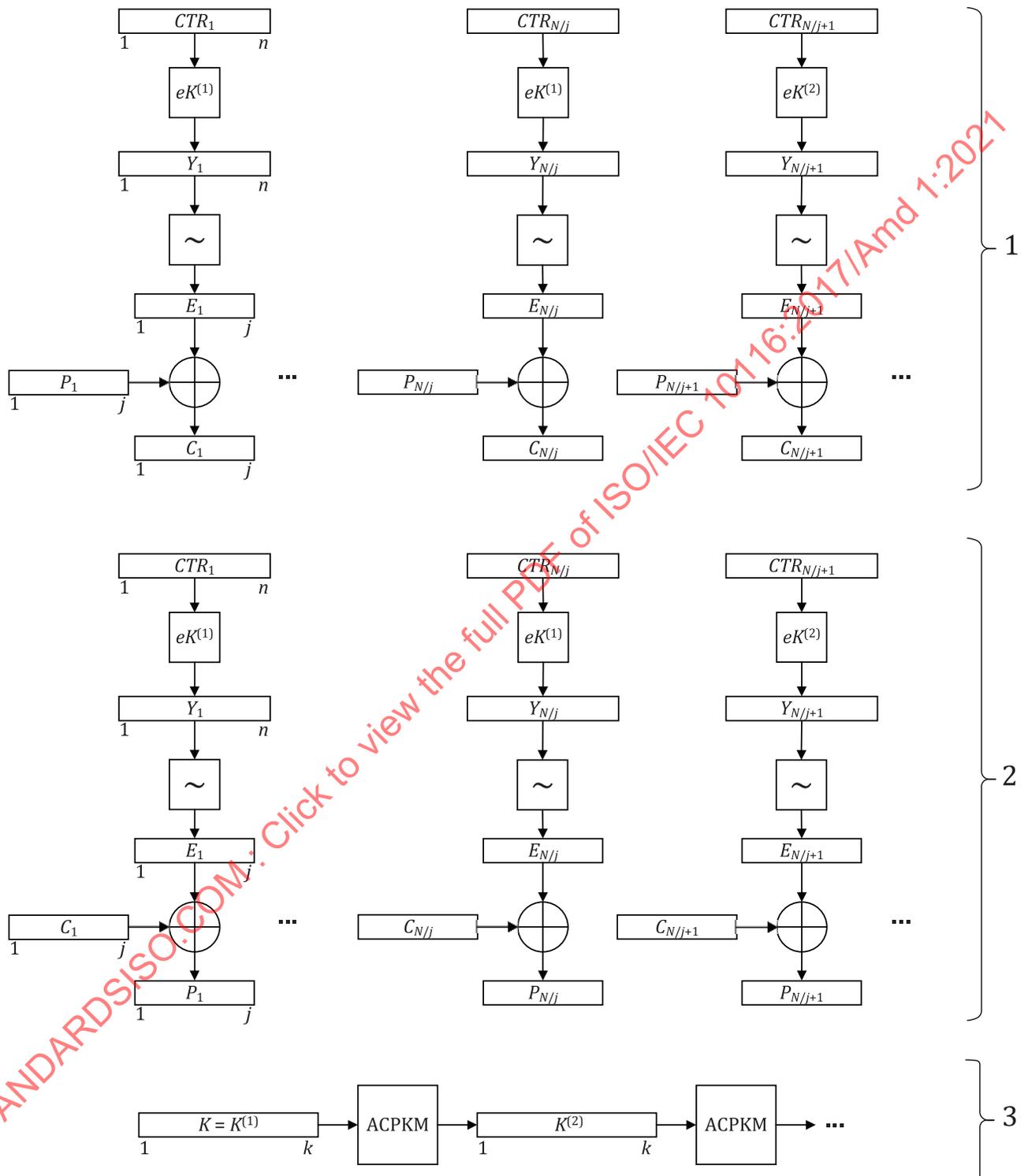
### B.7.3 Synchronization

The CTR-ACPKM mode is not self-synchronizing. If the two operations of encryption and decryption get out of synchronization, the system needs to be re-initialized. Such a loss of synchronism might be caused by any number of inserted or lost ciphertext bits.

Each re-initialization should use a value of  $SV$  different from the  $SV$  values used before with the same initial key and should ensure that counter values are not re-used. The reason for this, as noted above, is that an identical bit stream would be produced each time for the same parameters. This would be susceptible to, for example, known plaintext and known ciphertext attacks.

Annex C

Add new Figure C.6 as follows:



Key

- 1 encryption
- 2 decryption
- 3 key derivation

Figure C.6 — CTR-ACPKM mode of operation

D.2.1

Add the following sentence at the end of list item c):

For the CTR-ACPKM mode, the plaintext is the 7-bit ASCII code for "Now is the time for re-keying mechanism!" (in hexadecimal notation 4E6F772069732074 68652074696D6520 666F722072652D6B 6579696E67206D65 6368616E69736D21).

D.2.7

Add new subclause D.2.7 as follows:

**D.2.7 CTR-ACPKM mode**

**D.2.7.1 CTR-ACPKM mode, encryption**

Examples for the CTR-ACPKM mode of encryption are as follows. For this example, the parameters  $j = 64$ ,  $N = 128$ ,  $c = 32$  have been chosen.

$SV = 00000000$

$D_1 = 8081828384858687$

$D_2 = 88898A8B8C8D8E8F$

$D_3 = 9091929394959697$

Section 1

$K_1^{(1)} = K_1 = 0123456789ABCDEF$

$K_2^{(1)} = K_2 = 23456789ABCDEF01$

$K_3^{(1)} = K_3 = 456789ABCDEF0123$

$CTR_1 = 0000000000000000$

$P_1 = 4E6F772069732074$