Towards Optimally Secure Deterministic Authenticated Encryption Schemes

soft merge with

Making GCM Great Again: Toward Full Security and Longer Nonces

Ashwin Jha Byeonghak Lee

RUB

Samsung SDS

Eurocrypt 2025

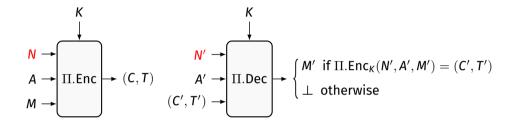
6 May, 2025

Towards Optimally Secure Deterministic Authenticated Encryption Schemes

Yu Long Chen Avijit Dutta Ashwin Jha Mridul Nandi KU Leuven TCG CREST RUB ISI Kolkata Eurocrypt 2025

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Authenticated Encryption with Associated Data

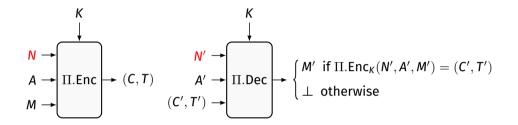


- AEAD encrypts the message M + authenticates the metadata & message (A, M)
- Widely deployed (TLS, IPsec, wireless standards)

GCM CCM ChaCha20-Poly1305 Ascon

• Nonce is supposed to be unique in encryption

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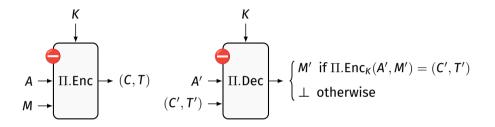


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Deterministic AEAD [RS: EC '06]



- AEAD without a nonce [can be absorbed in the associated data]
- Encryption at rest (iCloud, AWS) and tokenization (PCI-compliant systems)

SIV GCM-SIV

Uniqueness of nonce in encryption ensures security and efficiency

- Security:
 - DAEAD leaks equality when message + metadata repeat.
 - Nonce ensures *fresh* randomness per encryption query
- Efficiency:
 - DAEAD are inherently *two-pass* (rate¹ is capped at 0.5)
 - Nonce allows for *single-pass* schemes

¹The ratio of number of *n*-bit blocks in the input to the number of primitive calls.

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Nonce-reuse is *strictly* prohibited!

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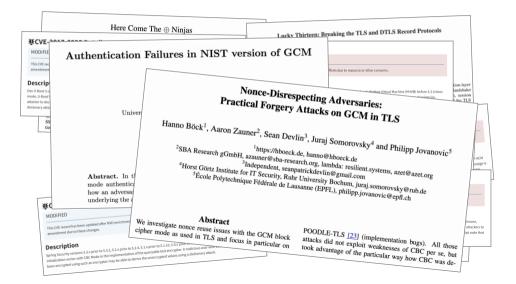
The Curse of Nonce-Misuse

Here Come The ⊕ Ninjas	Lucky Thirteen: Breaking the TLS and DTLS Record Protocols	
VE-2017-3225 Detail		
DIFIED	巣CVE-2014-5386 Detail	
	DEFERRED	
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[]	Abstract. In this note, we study the security of the mode authenticated encryption recently published by I how an adversary can recover the secret key of the keye underlying the authentication, using a chosen IV attack.	NIST. We show d hash function	Detail Id for MO enrichment efforts due to resource or other concerns.	
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The Curse of Nonce-Misuse



- GCM, CCM, and OCB[†] are *limited* to birthday bound security AES-{GCM,CCM,OCB[†]} is secure up to 2^{64} queries
- 64-bit security might be insufficient
 - exabyte-scale $(\simeq 2^{60})$ in use, zetabyte-scale $(\simeq 2^{70})$ expected
 - Limited generic multi-user security
- Standardise a bigger block cipher [an effective long term solution(?)]
 - Replacing AES-128 might not be viable
 - Noticeable setup time expected
- BBB secure (nonce-based) AEAD modes
 - CHM: full *n*-bit security
 - SCM: graceful degradation (limited to n/2-bit security for arbitrary misuse)
 - SIV_r: BBB nonce-misuse security (highly inefficient)

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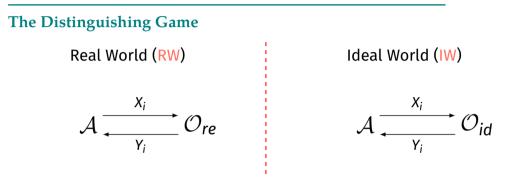
To solve two problems:

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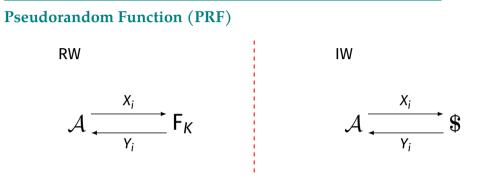
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Design a block cipher-based efficient, misuse-resistant BBB-secure AEAD mode

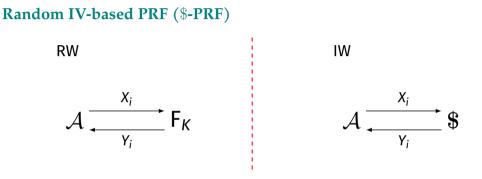


 $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{O}_{re}}^{\mathsf{game}}(\mathcal{A}) \coloneqq \left| \Pr\left(\mathcal{A} \text{ returns } 1 \text{ in } \mathsf{RW}\right) - \Pr\left(\mathcal{A} \text{ returns } 1 \text{ in } \mathsf{IW}\right) \right|$

- Adversary's resources: q (query), ℓ (max. length), σ (total data) etc.
- Game: ideal world functionality + adversary's power

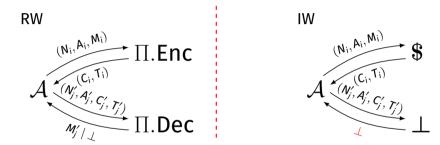


- Ideal world: a uniform random function \$
- \mathcal{A} makes chosen plaintext queries
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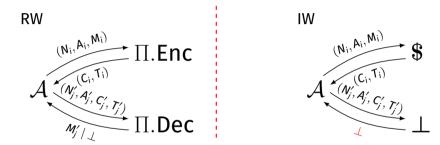
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- *A* makes random plaintext queries
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Misuse-resistant AE (MRAE)

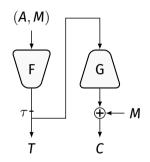


- Ideal world: a uniform random function \$ and the *reject* oracle \bot
- \mathcal{A} 's queries must satisfy $(N'_i, A'_i, C'_i, T'_i) \neq (N_i, A_i, C_i, T_i)$
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- DAEADs achieve MRAE security naturally!

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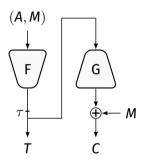


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- Two main components:
 - F: a PRF
 - G: a random IV-based PRF
- Inverse-free
- Parallelizable
- Composition Bound [RS: EC '06, IM: ToSC '16]:

$$\mathbf{Adv}^{\mathsf{mrae}}_{\mathsf{SIV}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \mathbf{Adv}^{\mathsf{prf}}_{\mathsf{F}}(\mathcal{B}) + \mathbf{Adv}^{\$\text{-prf}}_{\mathsf{G}}(\mathcal{C}) + \frac{\mathsf{q}}{2^{\tau}}$$



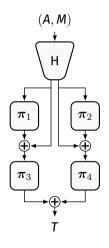
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TODOs:

- 1. A BBB secure PRF component with au > n bits of output
- 2. A BBB secure random IV-based PRF component

Revisiting HtmB-p2 [CJN: AC '20]



- Hashing solves two purposes:
 - Handling arbitrary length inputs
 - Inputs to $\pi_{\{1,2\}}$ have controlled collisions

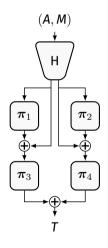
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• HtmB-p2 PRF Bound [CJN: AC '20, CDNPS EC '23]:

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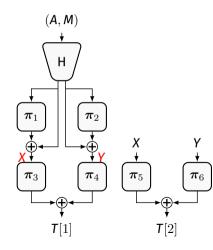
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F*: **A BBB secure PRF with** 2*n***-bit outputs**



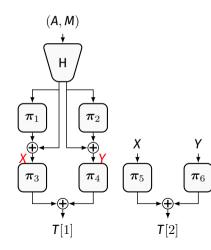
- HtmB-p2*:
 - Duplicates the HtmB-p2 finalization
 - Additional *n* bits at the cost of two calls

• F*: HtmB-p2* with a PMAC+ like hash

 * is $\operatorname{optimally}$ secure [for lengths up to $\sqrt{2^n}$]

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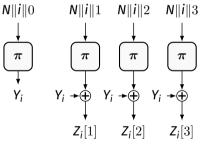


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Revisiting CENC [Iwata: FSE '06]



The *i*-th chunk of keystream (r=3)

- Keystream is generated in chunks of *r* blocks
- Fully parallelizable

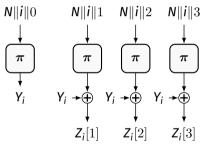
• Rate
$$\approx \left(\frac{r}{r+1}\right)$$

• Optimally secure if IVs are *unique* [IMV: ePrint '16]

• Limitations:

- |N| < n (we require $\approx 2n$)
 - Only birthday-bound \$-PRF secure

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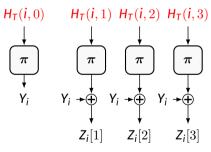
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GiantStar: A BBB secure random IV-based PRF



The *i*-th chunk of keystream (r=3)

- CTR-based encoding \rightarrow *lightweight* hash
 - Use the random IV as key
- Inherits all the the efficiency traits of CENC

• Secure if hash is 2-wise independent

GiantStar is BBB secure [for moderately large l]

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathsf{GiantStar}}^{\$-\mathsf{prf}}(\mathcal{A}) = O\left(\frac{r\sigma}{2^n} + \frac{r\sigma^2\ell}{2^{2n}}\right)$$

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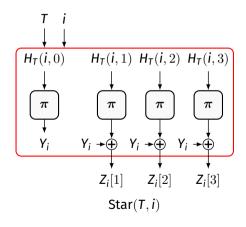
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Star: A fixed-length BBB secure random IV-based PRF

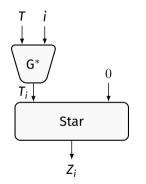


- Star \equiv GiantStar with
 - Fixed chunk index *i*
 - Restricted to \leq *r*-block outputs

Star is optimally secure

$$\mathbf{Adv}^{\$ ext{-prf}}_{\mathsf{Star}}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathbf{O}\left(rac{\mathbf{rq}}{2^n}
ight)$$

Snowflake: A length-independent BBB secure random IV-based PRF



The *i*-th chunk of keystream

• Fresh 2*n*-bit randomness per chunk

$$\mathbf{Adv}^{\$\text{-prf}}_{\mathsf{Snowflake}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \mathbf{Adv}^{\$\text{-prf}}_{\mathsf{Star}}(\mathcal{B}) + \mathbf{Adv}^{\$\text{-prf}}_{\mathsf{G}^*}(\mathcal{C})$$

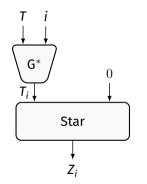
- G* must have length-independent bound!
- G* can be relatively heavier
 - in the paper: 6 calls per chunk

Snowflake is optimally secure

$$\mathbf{Adv}^{\$ ext{-prf}}_{\mathsf{Snowflake}}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathbf{O}\left(rac{r\sigma}{2^n}
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The Random-IV PRF Component (Option 2)

Snowflake: A length-independent BBB secure random IV-based PRF



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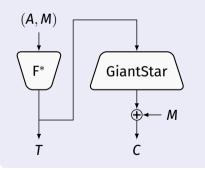
Our Contributions

Two misuse-resistant BBB-secure AEAD modes

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DENC1



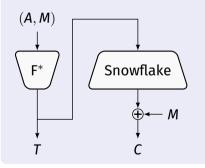
- Highly parallelizable
- Tag size $\tau = 2n$ -bit
- Max. input length $\ell \leq \sqrt{2^n}$ -block
- Rate $\geq \left(rac{r}{2r+0.5}
 ight)$ (pprox 0.498 for r=64)
- BBB secure for moderate message lengths

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathsf{DENC1}}^{\mathsf{mrae}}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathbf{O}\left(\frac{\mathbf{r}\sigma^{2}\ell}{2^{2n}}\right)$$

Our Contributions

Two misuse-resistant BBB-secure AEAD modes

DENC2



- Highly parallelizable
- Tag size $\tau = 2n$ -bit
- Max. input length $\ell \leq \sqrt{2^n}$ -block
- Rate $\geq \left(\frac{r}{2r+3.5}\right)$ (≈ 0.486 for r = 64)
- Length-independent optimal security

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathsf{DENC1}}^{\mathsf{mrae}}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathbf{O}\left(\frac{\mathbf{r}\sigma}{2^n}\right)$$

Making GCM Great Again: Toward Full Security and Longer Nonces

Woohyuk Chung¹ Seongha Hwang¹ Seongkwang Kim² **Byeonghak Lee**² Jooyoung Lee¹

¹KAIST, Korea ²Samsung SDS, Korea

Eurocrypt 2025

2025. 05. 06.

Same Motivation, Different Goal

Recall: We require BBB-secure AEAD with low nonce misusing risk.

- 1. Design a misuse-resistant AE
 - AES-GCM-SIV, DENC1, DENC2, ...
 - Best for security, but inherently two pass
- 2. Design a nonce-based AE with extended nonces
 - DNDK-GCM: requires carefully generated nonces and BC with 2n-bit key

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Our Goal:

- Block cipher based AE with full security
 - + Provably secure under standard PRP assumption
- Efficiency is comparable to GCM
- Support extended nonces or provide nonce misuse resistance
- Support arbitrary length message

Starting Point: CENC

Cipher-based ENCryption (CENC)

• CTR-type encryption mode with full security

$$\mathsf{Adv}^{\mathsf{prf}}_{\mathsf{CENC}[E,r]}(oldsymbol{q},oldsymbol{\sigma},oldsymbol{l}) \leq oldsymbol{O}\left(rac{oldsymbol{\sigma}}{2^{oldsymbol{n}}}
ight)$$

- limitation: $|\text{nonce}| + |\text{counter}| \le n$
 - \Rightarrow still have nonce misusing risk and short length limitation

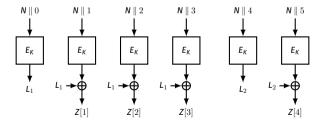


Figure: The first 4 keystream blocks from $CENC[E_K, w](N, \cdot)$ with w = 3.

Building Blocks - eCTR

enhanced CTR (eCTR) (\simeq GiantStar !)

• almost fully secure variable output length PRF (VOL-PRF) with 2n-bit random IV

$$\mathbf{Adv}^{\$-\mathsf{prf}}_{\mathsf{eCTR}[E,r]}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \mathbf{O}\left(\frac{r\sigma}{2^n} + \frac{r\sigma^2l}{2^{2n}}\right)$$

limitation: requires random IV
 ⇒ enough for iv-based AE, but we want nonce-based

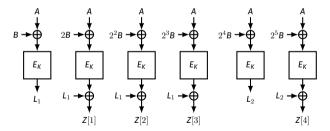


Figure: The first 4 blocks from $eCTR[E_K, w](A, B)$ with w = 3.

Building Blocks - HteC

Hash-then-eCTR (HteC)

• almost fully secure variable input/output length PRF (VIL-VOL-PRF)

$$\mathsf{Adv}_{\mathsf{HteC}[\mathsf{H},\mathsf{E},w]}^{\mathsf{prf}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \mathsf{O}\left(\frac{w\sigma}{2^n} + \frac{w\sigma^2 l}{2^{2n}}\right)$$

where *H* is δ -universal hash (UH)

• UH-then-PRP outputs (= A, B) are not fully random but enough for eCTR input

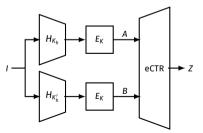


Figure: The HteC VIL-VOL pseudorandom function.

Our Contribution

eGCM/eGCM-SIV: enhanced variant of GCM/GCM-SIV

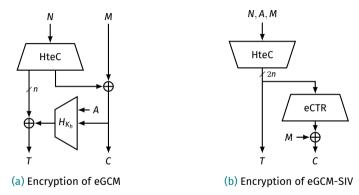
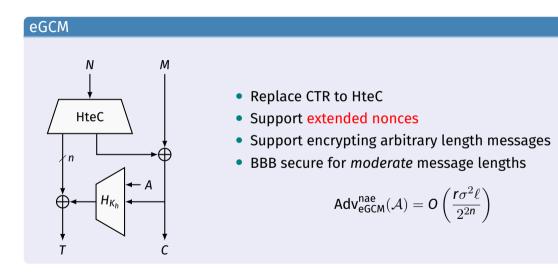
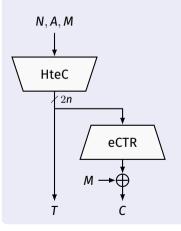


Figure: The eGCM and eGCM-SIV AE schemes. A nonce, an associated data, and a message are denoted *N*, *A* and *M*, respectively

Our Contribution



eGCM-SIV



- Use HteC as PRF and replace CTR to eCTR
- Support encrypting arbitrary length messages
- BBB secure for moderate message lengths

$$\mathsf{Adv}^{\mathsf{dae}}_{\mathsf{eGCM-SIV}}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{O}\left(rac{\mathit{r}\sigma^{2}\ell}{2^{2n}}
ight)$$

Comparison

AEAD	Rate -	Security		
AEAU	Rate	NR	NM	
OCB3	1	n/2	-	
GCM	1/2	${\it n}/2$	-	
CIP, CHM, mGCM, eGCM	$\lesssim 1/2^{\dagger}$	n	-	
AES-GCM-SIV	1/2	n	n/2	
SCM	1/2	n	n/2	
CWC+	$\lesssim 1/2^{\dagger}$	3n/4	n/2 (auth only)	
eGCM-SIV, DENC1, DENC2	$\stackrel{\sim}{\lesssim} 1/2^{\dagger}$	n	n	

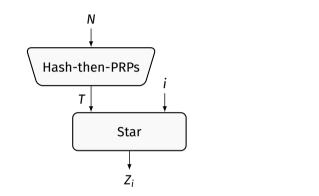
^{*} Depends on the parameter w, while we write $\lesssim 1/2$ since the rate approaches 1/2 as w increases and w can be set to a large enough value.

Table: Comparion of eGCM, eGCM-SIV, DENC1 and DENC2 and other block cipher based AE schemes. The maximum message length (= l) is assumed to be a small constant. Note that DENC2 has length-independent security.

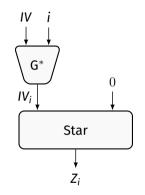
Benchmark

Message			
1KB	4KB	64KB	
0.52	0.47	0.45	
1.65	1.02	0.83	
0.93	0.89	0.88	
1.33	1.07	0.99	
1.19	1.11	1.07	
1.33	1.15	1.12	
1.31	1.20	1.18	
1.42	1.38	1.32	
	0.52 1.65 0.93 1.33 1.19 1.33 1.31	1KB 4KB 0.52 0.47 1.65 1.02 0.93 0.89 1.33 1.07 1.19 1.11 1.33 1.15 1.31 1.20	

Table: Benchmark of eGCM, eGCM-SIV, DAE1 and DAE2 and other block cipher based AE schemes. Throughput is measured in cycles per byte, for empty associated data.

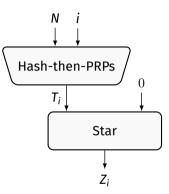


- Use arbitrary length nonces
- Simpler compressing function
- Length-dependent security



- Use random IVs (enough for SIV)
- Length-independent security
- G* is heavy!

Combining Two Papers: **HteC** + **SnowFlake**



- G* is replaced by Hash-then-PRPs \Rightarrow faster and support nonce!
- VIL-VOL-PRF with (output) length-independent security
- Can be used to construct fully secure NAE and DAE

Towards Optimally Secure DAEs

- DENC1: almost fully secure DAE
- DENC2: fully secure DAE (length-independent security)

Making GCM Great Again

- HteC: almost fully secure VIL-VOL-PRF
- eGCM: almost fully secure NAE with extended nonces
- eGCM-SIV: almost fully secure DAE

Our results can also be applied to:

- Accordion ciphers: Hash-CTR-Hash \Rightarrow Hash-(eCTR/SnowFlake)-Hash
- Nonce-key derivation: HteC and HteC+SnowFlake are PRF

Thank you for your attention!