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AES-GCM and AES-CCM Authenticated Encryption in Secure RTP (SRTP)
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Abstract

This document defines how AES-GCM and AES-CCM Authenticated Encryption with Associated Data algorithms can be used to provide confidentiality and data authentication in the SRTP protocol.

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1. Introduction

The Secure Real-time Transport Protocol (SRTP) [RFC3711] is a profile of the Real-time Transport Protocol (RTP) [RFC3550], which can provide confidentiality, message authentication, and replay protection to the RTP traffic and to the control traffic for RTP, the Real-time Transport Control Protocol (RTCP). It is important to note that the outgoing SRTP packets from a single endpoint may be originating from several independent data sources.

Authenticated encryption [BN00] is a form of encryption that, in addition to providing confidentiality for the plaintext that is encrypted, provides a way to check its integrity and authenticity. Authenticated Encryption with Associated Data, or AEAD [R02], adds the ability to check the integrity and authenticity of some Associated Data (AD), also called "additional authenticated data", that is not encrypted. This specification makes use of the interface to a generic AEAD algorithm as defined in [RFC5116].

The Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) is a block cipher that provides a high level of security, and can accept different key sizes. Two families of AEAD algorithm families, AES Galois/Counter Mode (AES-GCM) [GCM] and AES Counter with Cipher Block Chaining-Message Authentication Code (AES-CCM) [RFC3610] are based upon AES. This specification makes use of the AES versions that use 128-bit and 256-bit keys, which we call AES-128 and AES-256, respectively.

Any AEAD algorithm provides an intrinsic authentication tag. In many applications the authentication tag is truncated to less than full length. This document only allows three values for the length of the authentication tag: the length of the authentication tags MUST be either 8 octets, 12 octets, or 16 octets in length. As with the size of the key, the length of the authentication tag size is set when the session is initiated and SHOULD NOT be altered. Thus each AEAD will have a total of six configurations, reflecting the two choices for key size (either 128 or 256 bits) and the three choices for the length of the authentication tag (either 8, 12 or 16 octets).

The Galois/Counter Mode of operation (GCM) and the Counter with Cipher Block Chaining-Message Authentication Code mode of operation (CCM) are both AEAD modes of operation for block ciphers. Both use counter mode to encrypt the data, an operation that can be efficiently pipelined. Further, GCM authentication uses operations that are particularly well suited to efficient implementation in hardware, making it especially appealing for high-speed implementations, or for implementations in an efficient and compact

circuit. CCM is well suited for use in compact software implementations. This specification uses GCM and CCM with both AES-128 and AES-256.

In summary, this document defines how to use AEAD algorithms, particularly AES-GCM and AES-CCM, to provide confidentiality and message authentication within SRTP and SRTCP packets.

2. Conventions Used In This Document

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

3. Overview of the SRTP/SRTCP Security Architecture

SRTP/SRTCP security is based upon the following principles:

a) Both privacy and authentication are based upon the use of symmetric algorithms. An AEAD algorithm such as AES-CCM or AES-GCM combines privacy and authentication into a single process.

b) A secret master key is shared by all participating endpoints, both those originating SRTP/SRTCP packets and those receiving these packets. Any given master key MAY be used simultaneously by several endpoints to originate SRTP/SRTCP packets (as well one or more endpoints using this master key to process inbound data).

c) A Key Derivation Function is applied to the shared master key value to form separate encryption keys, authentication keys and salting keys for SRTP and for SRTCP (a total of six keys). This process is described in sections 4.3.1 and 4.3.3 of [RFC3711]. Since AEAD algorithms such as AES-CCM and AES-GCM combine encryption and authentication into a single process, AEAD algorithms do not make use of the authentication keys. The master key MUST be at least as large as the encryption key derived from it.

d) Each time an instantiation of AES-GCM or AES-CCM is invoked to encrypt and authenticate an SRTP or SRTCP data packet a new IV is used. SRTP combines the 4-octet synchronization source (SSRC) identifier, the 4-octet rollover counter (ROC), and the 2-octet sequence number(SEQ) with the 12-octet encryption salt to form a 12-octet IV (see section 9.1). SRTCP combines the SSRC and 31-bit SRTCP index with the encryption salt to form a 12-octet IV (see section 10.1).

4. Terminology

The following terms have very specific meanings in the context of

this RFC:

Crypto Context: For the purposes of this document, a crypto context is the outcome of any process which results in authentication of each endpoint in the SRTP session and possession by each endpoint of a shared secret master key. Various encryption keys, authentication keys and salts are derived from the master key. Aside from making modifications to IANA registries to allow AES-GCM and AES-CCM to work with SDES, DTLS and MIKEY, the details of how the master key is established are outside the scope of this document. Similarly any mechanism for rekeying an existing Cipher Context is outside the scope of the document.

Instantiation: In AEAD, an instantiation is an (Encryption_key, salt) pair together with all of the data structures (for example, counters) needed for it to function properly. In SRTP/SRTCP, each endpoint will need two instantiations of the AEAD algorithm for each master key in its possession, one instantiation for SRTP traffic and one instantiation for SRTCP traffic.

Invocation: SRTP/SRTCP data streams are broken into packets. Each packet is processed by a single invocation of the appropriate instantiation of the AEAD algorithm.

In many applications, each endpoint will have one master key for processing outbound data but may have one or more separate master keys for processing inbound data.

5. Generic AEAD Processing

5.1. Types of Input Data

Associated Data: This is data that is to be authenticated but not encrypted.

Plaintext: Data that is to be both encrypted and authenticated.

Raw Data: Data that is to be neither encrypted nor authenticated.

Which portions of SRTP/SRTCP packets that are to be treated as associated data, which are to be treated as plaintext, and which are

to be treated as raw data are covered in sections 9.2, 10.2 and 10.3.

5.2. AEAD Invocation Inputs and Outputs

5.2.1. Encrypt Mode

```
   Inputs:
     Encryption_key              Octet string, either 16 or 32
                                 octets long
     Initialization_Vector       Octet string, 12 octets long
     Associated_Data             Bit string of variable length
     Plaintext                   Bit string of variable length
     Tag_Size_Flag (CCM only*)   One Octet

   Outputs
     Ciphertext                  Bit string, length =
                                  length(Plaintext)+tag_length
```

(*) For GCM, the algorithm choice determines the tag size.

As defined in [RFC3610], AES-CCM authentication uses a Tag_Size_Flag to specify the length of the intrinsic authentication tag provided by AES-CCM authentication. For the three tag lengths allowed in this document the corresponding Tag_Size_Flag values are as follows:

Tag Length	Tag_Size_Flag (hex)
8 bytes	5A
12 bytes	6A
16 bytes	7A

Once an SRTP/SRTCP session has been initiated the length of the tag is a fixed value and cannot be altered.

5.2.2. Decrypt Mode

```
   Inputs:
     Encryption_key              Octet string, either 16 or 32
                                 Octets long
     Initialization_Vector       Octet string, 12 octets long
     Associated_Data             Octet string of variable length
     Ciphertext                  Octet string of variable length
     Tag_Size_Flag (CCM only*)   One octet
```

```
      Outputs
        Plaintext                  Bit string, length =
                                     length(Ciphertext)-tag_length
```

Validity_Flag	Boolean, TRUE if valid, FALSE otherwise

(*) For GCM, the algorithm choice determines the tag size.

As mentioned in section 5.2.1, only three tag lengths are supported for use in SRTP/SRTCP, namely 8 octetes, 12 octets and 16 octets.

5.3. Handling of AEAD Authentication

AEAD requires that all incoming packets MUST pass AEAD authentication before any other action takes place. Plaintext and associated data MUST NOT be released until the AEAD authentication tag has been validated. Further, when GCM is being used, the ciphertext MUST NOT be decrypted until the AEAD tag has been validated.

Should the AEAD tag prove to be invalid, the packet in question is to be discarded and a Validation Error flag raised. Local policy determines how this flag is to be handled and is outside the scope of this document.

6. Counter Mode Encryption

In both GCM and CCM, each outbound packet uses a 12-octet IV and an encryption key to form two outputs, a 16-octet first_key_block which is used in forming the authentication tag and a keystream of octets which is XORed to the plaintext to form cipher.

When GCM is used, the concatenation of a 12-octet IV (see sections 9.1 and 10.1)with a 4-octet block counter forms the input to AES. This is used to build a key_stream as follows:

```
 def GCM_keystream( Plaintext, IV, Encryption_key ):
     assert len(plaintext)  <= (2**36) - 32 ## measured in octets
     key_stream = ""
     block_counter = 1
     first_key_block = AES_ENC( data=IV||block_counter,
                                key=Encryption_key        )
     while len(key_stream) < len(Plaintext):
         block_counter = block_counter + 1
         key_block = AES_ENC( data=IV||block_counter,
                              key=Encryption_key        )
         key_stream  = key_stream || key_block
     key_stream = truncate( key_stream, len(Plaintext) )
```

```
        return (first_key_block, key_stream )
```

In AES-CCM counter mode encryption, the AES data input consists of the concatenation of a 1-octet flag, a 12-octet IV, and a 3-octet block counter. Note that in this application the flag octet will always have the value 0x02 (see section 2.3 of [RFC3610]). A (first_key_block, key_stream) pair is formed as follows:

```
 def CCM_keystream( Plaintext, IV, Encryption_key ):
     assert len(Plaintext) <= (2**32)-16  ## measured in octets
     key_stream = ""
     block_counter = 0
     first_key_block = AES_ENC( data=0x02||IV||block_counter,
                                key=Encryption_key            )
     while len(key_stream)<len(Plaintext):
         block_counter = block_counter + 1
         key_block = AES_ENC( data=0x02||IV||block_counter,
                              key=Encryption_key            )
         key_stream  = key_stream || key_block
     key_stream = truncate( key_stream, len(Plaintext) )
     return (first_key_block, key_stream )
```

These keystream generation processes allow for a keystream of length up to (2^32)-16 octets for AES-CCM and up to (2^36)-32 octets for AES-GCM.

With any counter mode, if the same (IV, Encryption_key) pair is used twice, precisely the same keystream is formed. As explained in section 9.1 of RFC 3711, this is a cryptographic disaster.

7. AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12 and AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12

AEAD_AES_128_CCM and AEAD_AES_256_CCM are defined in [RFC5116] with an authentication tag length of 16-octets. AEAD_AES_128_CCM_8 and AEAD_AES_256_CCM_8 are defined in [RFC6655] with an authentication tag length of 8-octets. We require two new variants, AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12 and AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12, with 12-octet authentication tags. In each case the authentication tag is formed by taking the 12 most significant octets (in network order) of the AEAD_AES_128/256_CCM authentication tag:

Name	Key Size	tag size (t)
AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12	256 bits	12 octets
AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12	128 bits	12 octets

8. Unneeded SRTP/SRTCP Fields

AEAD counter mode encryption removes the need for certain existing

SRTP/SRTCP mechanisms.

8.1. SRTP/SRTCP Authentication Field

The AEAD message authentication mechanism MUST be the primary message authentication mechanism for AEAD SRTP/SRTCP. Additional SRTP/SRTCP authentication mechanisms SHOULD NOT be used with any AEAD algorithm and the optional SRTP/SRTCP Authentication Tags are NOT RECOMMENDED and SHOULD NOT be present. Note that this contradicts section 3.4 of [RFC3711] which makes the use of the SRTCP Authentication field mandatory, but the presence of the AEAD authentication renders the older authentication methods redundant.

> Rationale. Some applications use the SRTP/SRTCP Authentication Tag as a means of conveying additional information, notably [RFC4771]. This document retains the Authentication Tag field primarily to preserve compatibility with these applications.

8.2. RTP Padding

Neither AES-GCM nor AES-CCM requires that the data be padded out to a specific block size, reducing the need to use the padding mechanism provided by RTP. It is RECOMMENDED that the RTP padding mechanism not be used unless it is necessary to disguise the length of the underlying plaintext.

9. AES-GCM/CCM processing for SRTP

9.1. SRTP IV formation for AES-GCM and AES-CCM

The 12 octet initialization vector used by both AES-GCM and AES-CCM SRTP is formed by first concatenating 2-octets of zeroes, the 4-octet SSRC, the 4-octer Rollover Counter (ROC) and the two octet sequence number SEQ. The resulting 12-octet value is then XORed to the 12-octet salt to form the 12-octet IV.

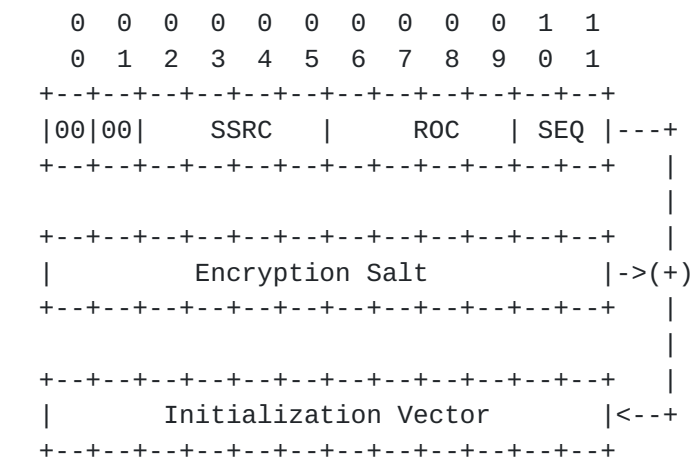


Figure 1: AES-GCM and AES-CCM SRTP
Initialization Vector formation.

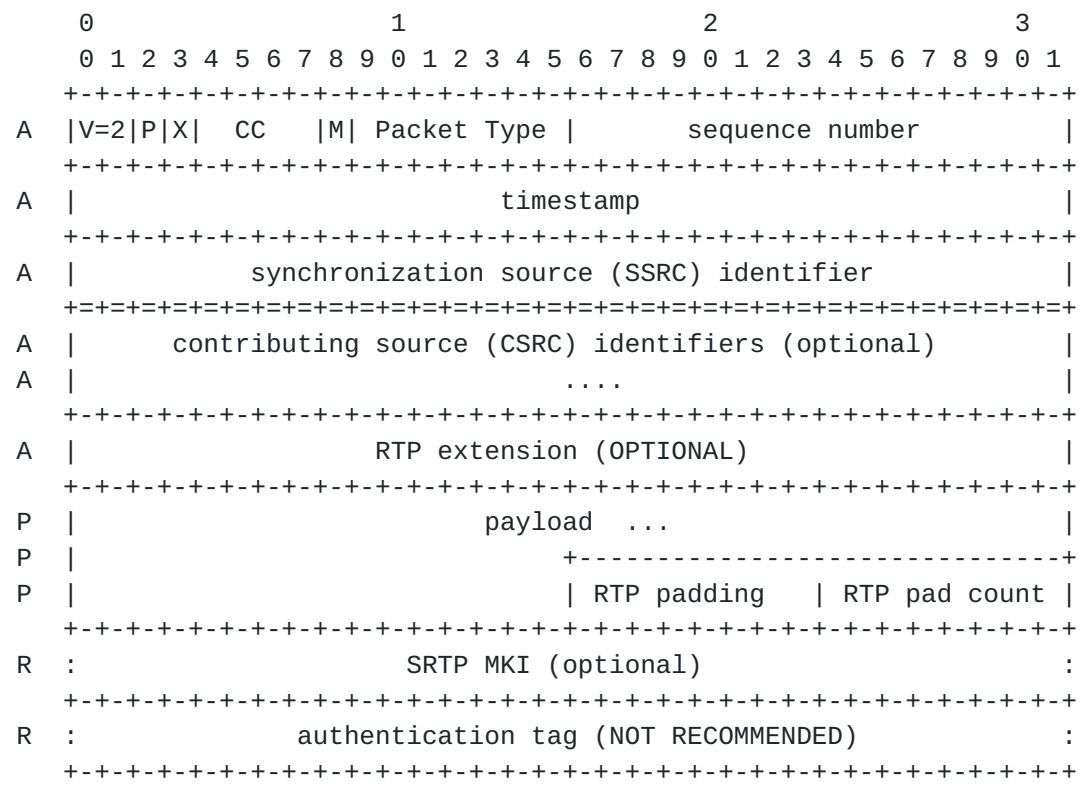
9.2. Data Types in SRTP Packets

All SRTP packets MUST be both authenticated and encrypted. The data fields within the SRTP packets are broken into Associated Data, Plaintext and Raw Data as follows (see figure 2):

Associated Data: The version (2 bits), padding flag (1 bit), extension flag (1 bit), CSRC count (4 bits), sequence number (16 bits), timestamp (32 bits), SSRC (32 bits), optional contributing source identifiers (CSRCs, 32 bits each), and optional RTP extension (variable length).

Plaintext: The RTP payload (variable length), RTP padding (if used, variable length), and RTP pad count (if used, 1 octet).

Raw Data: The optional 32-bit SRTP MKI and the 32-bit SRTP authentication tag (whose use is NOT RECOMMENDED).



P = Plaintext (to be encrypted and authenticated)
A = Associated Data (to be authenticated only)
R = neither encrypted nor authenticated

Note: The RTP padding and RTP padding count fields are optional and are not recommended

Figure 2: AEAD inputs from an SRTP packet

Since the AEAD cipher is larger than the plaintext by exactly the length of the AEAD authentication tag, the corresponding SRTP encrypted packet replaces the plaintext field by a slightly larger field containing the cipher. Even if the plaintext field is empty, AEAD encryption must still be performed, with the resulting cipher consisting solely of the authentication tag. This tag is to be placed immediately before the optional SRTP MKI and SRTP authentication tag fields.

9.3. Handling Header Extensions

RTP header extensions were first defined in RFC 3550. RFC 6904 [RFC6904] describes how these header extensions are to be encrypted in SRTP.

When RFC 6904 is in use, a separate keystream is generated to encrypt selected RTP header extension elements. For the AEAD_AES_128_GCM and the AEAD_AES_128_CCM algorithms, this keystream MUST be generated in

the manner defined in [RFC6904] using the AES_128_CM transform. For the AEAD_AES_256_GCM and the AEAD_AES_256_CCM algorithms, the keystream MUST be generated in the manner defined for the AES_256_CM transform. The originator must perform any required header extension encryption before the AEAD algorithm is invoked.

As with the other fields contained within the RTP header, both encrypted and unencrypted header extensions are to be treated by the AEAD algorithm as Additional Authenticated Data (AAD). Thus the AEAD algorithm does not provide any additional privacy for the header extensions, but does provide integrity and authentication.

9.4. Prevention of SRTP IV Reuse

In order to prevent IV reuse, we must ensure that the (ROC,SEQ,SSRC) triple is never used twice with the same master key. There are two phases to this issue.

Counter Management: A rekey MUST be performed to establish a new master key before the (ROC,SEQ) pair cycles back to its original value.

SSRC Management: For a given master key, the set of all SSRC values used with that master key must be partitioned into disjoint pools, one pool for each endpoint using that master key to originate outbound data. Each such originating endpoint MUST only issue SSRC values from the pool it has been assigned. Further, each originating endpoint MUST maintain a history of outbound SSRC identifiers that it has issued within the lifetime of the current master key, and when a new synchronization source requests an SSRC identifier it MUST NOT be given an identifier that has been previously issued. A rekey MUST be performed before any of the originating endpoints using that master key exhausts its pool of SSRC values.

10. AES-GCM/CCM Processing of SRTCP Compound Packets

All SRTCP compound packets MUST be authenticated, but unlike SRTP, SRTCP packet encryption is optional. A sender can select which packets to encrypt, and indicates this choice with a 1-bit encryption flag (located just before the 31-bit SRTCP index)

10.1. SRTCP IV formation for AES-GCM and AES-CCM

The 12 octet initialization vector used by both AES-GCM and AES-CCM

SRTCP is formed by first concatenating 2-octets of zeroes, the 4-octet Synchronization Source identifier (SSRC), 2-octets of zeroes, a single zero bit, and the 31-bit SRTCP Index. The resulting 12-octet value is then XORed to the 12-octet salt to form the 12-octet IV.

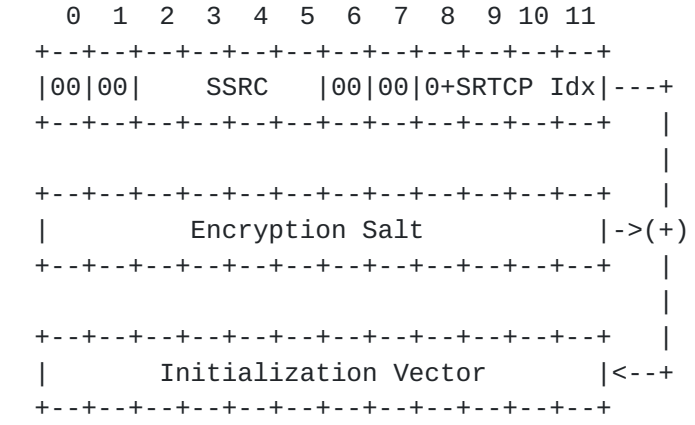


Figure 3: SRTCP Initialization Vector formation

10.2. Data Types in Encrypted SRTCP Compound Packets

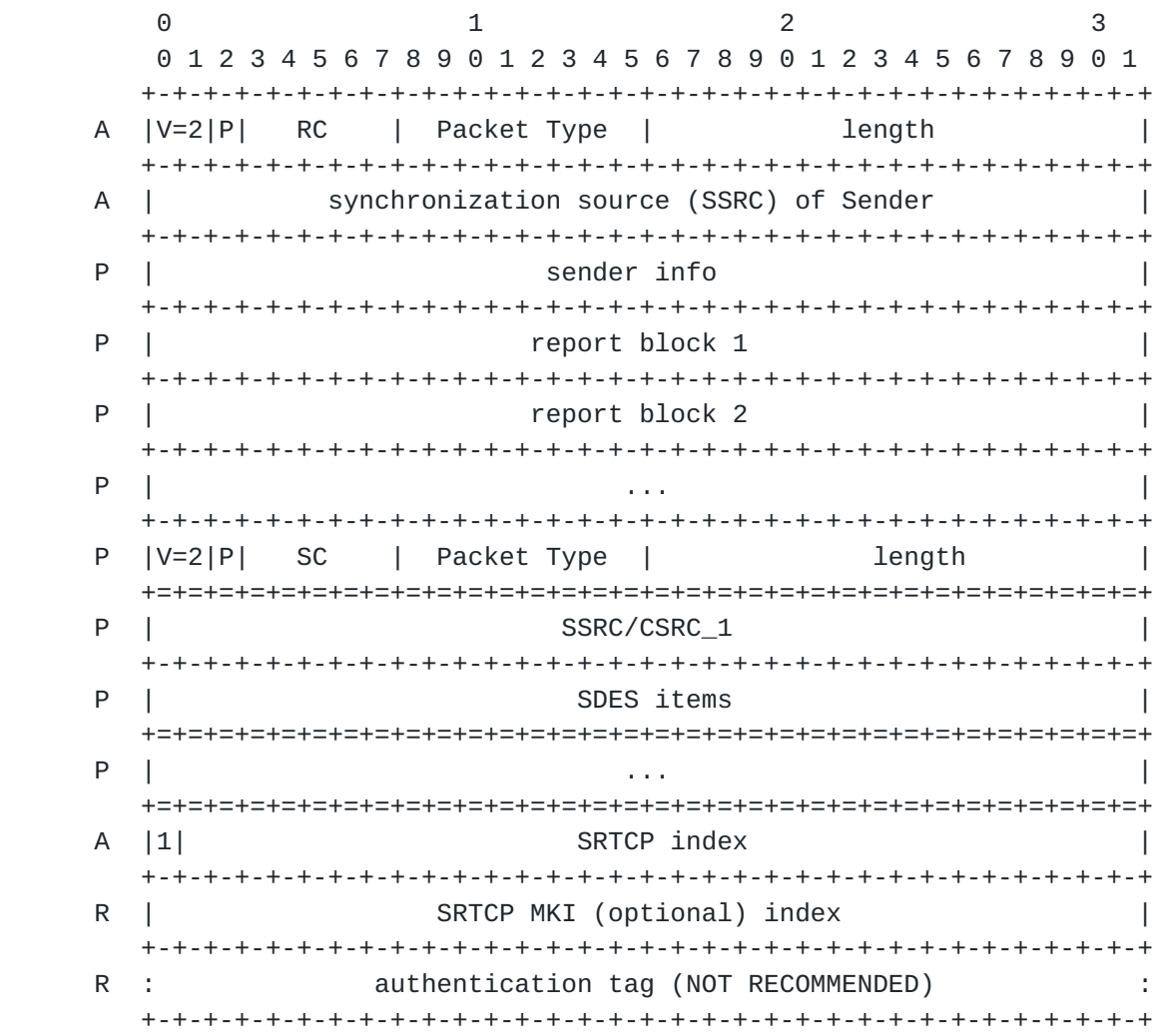
When the encryption flag is set to 1, the SRTCP packet is broken into plaintext, associated data, and raw (untouched) data as listed below (see figure 4):

Associated Data: The packet version (2 bits), padding flag (1 bit), reception report count (5 bits), packet type (8 bits), length (2 octets), SSRC (4 octets), encryption flag (1 bit) and SRTCP index (31 bits).

Raw Data: The 32-bit optional SRTCP MKI index and 32-bit SRTCP authentication tag (whose use is NOT RECOMMENDED).

Plaintext: All other data.

Note that the plaintext comes in one contiguous field. Since the AEAD cipher is larger than the plaintext by exactly the length of the AEAD authentication tag, the corresponding SRTCP encrypted packet replaces the plaintext field with a slightly larger field containing the cipher. Even if the plaintext field is empty, AEAD encryption must still be performed, with the resulting cipher consisting solely of the authentication tag. This tag is to be placed immediately before the encryption flag and SRTCP index.



P = Plaintext (to be encrypted and authenticated)
A = Associated Data (to be authenticated only)
R = neither encrypted nor authenticated

Figure 4: AEAD SRTCP inputs when encryption flag = 1.

10.3. Data Types in Unencrypted SRTCP Compound Packets

When the encryption flag is set to 0, the SRTCP compound packet is broken into plaintext, associated data, and raw (untouched) data as follows (see figure 5):

Plaintext: None.

Raw Data: The 32-bit optional SRTCP MKI index and 32-bit SRTCP authentication tag (whose use is NOT RECOMMENDED).

Associated Data: All other data.

Even though there is no plaintext in this RTCP packet, AEAD encryption returns a cipher field which is precisely the length of

the AEAD authentication tag. This cipher is to be placed before the Encryption flag and the SRTCP index in the authenticated SRTCP packet.

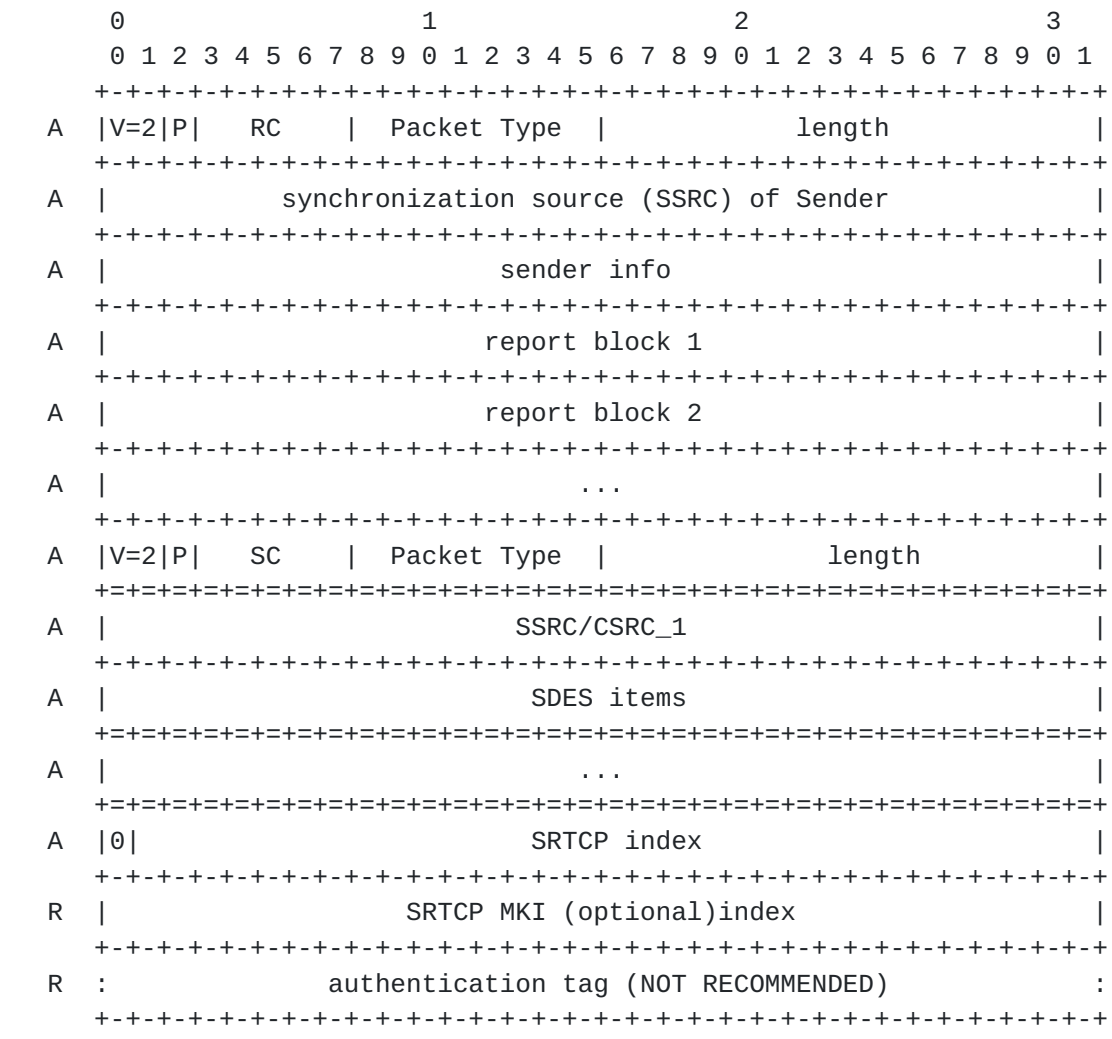


Figure 5: AEAD SRTCP inputs when encryption flag = 0

10.4. Prevention of SRTCP IV Reuse

A new master key MUST be established before the 31-bit SRTCP index cycles back to its original value. Ideally, a rekey performed should be performed and a new master key put in place well before the SRTCP index overflows.

The comments on SSRC management in section 9.4 also apply.

11. Constraints on AEAD for SRTP and SRTCP

In general, any AEAD algorithm can accept inputs with varying

lengths, but each algorithm can accept only a limited range of lengths for a specific parameter. In this section, we describe the constraints on the parameter lengths that any AEAD algorithm must support to be used in AEAD-SRTP. Additionally, we specify a complete parameter set for two specific AEAD algorithms, namely AES-GCM and AES-CCM.

All AEAD algorithms used with SRTP/SRTCP MUST satisfy the three constraints listed below:

PARAMETER	Meaning	Value
A_MAX	maximum additional authenticated data length	MUST be at least 12 octets.
N_MIN	minimum nonce (IV) length	MUST be 12 octets.
N_MAX	maximum nonce (IV) length	MUST be 12 octets.
C_MAX	maximum ciphertext length per invocation	GCM: MUST be <= 2^36-16 octets. CCM: MUST be <= 2^24-16 octets.

The values for C_MAX are based on purely cryptographic considerations.

For sake of clarity we specify two additional parameters:

AEAD Authentication Tag Length	MUST be either 8, 12, or 16 octets
Maximum number of invocations for a given instantiation	MUST be at most 2^48 for SRTP MUST be at most 2^31 for SRTCP
Block Counter size	MUST be 24 bits for CCM, MUST be 32 bits for GCM

The reader is reminded that the ciphertext is longer than the plaintext by exactly the length of the AEAD authentication tag.

12. Key Derivation Functions

A Key Derivation Function (KDF) is used to derive all of the required encryption and authentication keys from a secret value shared by the endpoints. Both the AEAD_AES_128_GCM algorithms and the AEAD_AES_128_CCM algorithms MUST use the (128-bit) AES_CM_PRF Key Derivation Function described in [RFC3711]. Both the AEAD_AES_256_GCM algorithms and the AEAD_AES_256_CCM algorithms MUST use the AES_256_CM_PRF Key Derivation Function described in [RFC6188]
.

13. Summary of Algorithm Characteristics

For convenience, much of the information about the use of AES-GCM and AES-CCM algorithms in SRTP is collected in the tables contained in this section.

13.1. AES-GCM for SRTP/SRTCP

AES-GCM is a family of AEAD algorithms built around the AES block cipher algorithm. AES-GCM uses AES counter mode for encryption and Galois Message Authentication Code (GMAC) for authentication. A detailed description of the AES-GCM family can be found in [RFC5116]. The following members of the AES-GCM family may be used with SRTP/SRTCP:

Table 1: AES-GCM algorithms for SRTP/SRTCP

Name	Key Size	AEAD Tag Size	Reference
AEAD_AES_128_GCM	16 octets	16 octets	[RFC5116]
AEAD_AES_256_GCM	32 octets	16 octets	[RFC5116]
AEAD_AES_128_GCM_8	16 octets	8 octets	[RFC5282]
AEAD_AES_256_GCM_8	32 octets	8 octets	[RFC5282]
AEAD_AES_128_GCM_12	16 octets	12 octets	[RFC5282]
AEAD_AES_256_GCM_12	32 octets	12 octets	[RFC5282]

Any implementation of AES-GCM SRTP SHOULD support both AEAD_AES_128_GCM_8 and AEAD_AES_256_GCM_8, and it MAY support the four other variants shown in table 1. Below we summarize parameters associated with these six GCM algorithms:

Parameter	Value
Master key length	128 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_CM_PRF [RFC3711]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_GCM_8
AEAD authentication tag length	64 bits

Table 2: The AEAD_AES_128_GCM_8 Crypto Suite

Parameter	Value
Master key length	128 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_CM_PRF [RFC3711]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_GCM_12
AEAD authentication tag length	96 bits

Table 3: The AEAD_AES_128_GCM_12 Crypto Suite

Parameter	Value
Master key length	128 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_CM_PRF [RFC3711]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_GCM
AEAD authentication tag length	128 bits

Table 4: The AEAD_AES_128_GCM Crypto Suite

Parameter	Value
Master key length	256 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_256_CM_PRF [RFC6188]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_GCM_8
AEAD authentication tag length	64 bits

Table 5: The AEAD_AES_256_GCM_8 Crypto Suite

Parameter	Value
Master key length	256 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_256_CM_PRF [RFC6188]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_GCM_12
AEAD authentication tag length	96 bits

Table 6: The AEAD_AES_256_GCM_12 Crypto Suite

Parameter	Value
Master key length	256 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_256_CM_PRF [RFC6188]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_GCM
AEAD authentication tag length	128 bits

Table 7: The AEAD_AES_256_GCM Crypto Suite

13.2. AES-CCM for SRTP/SRTCP

AES-CCM is another family of AEAD algorithms built around the AES block cipher algorithm. AES-CCM uses AES counter mode for encryption and AES Cipher Block Chaining Message Authentication Code (CBC MAC) for authentication. A detailed description of the AES-CCM family can be found in [RFC5116]. Four of the six CCM algorithms used in this document are defined in previous RFCs, while two, AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12 and AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12, are defined in section 7 of this document.

Table 8: AES-CCM algorithms for SRTP/SRTCP

Name	Key Size	AEAD Tag Size	Reference
AEAD_AES_128_CCM	128 bits	16 octets	[RFC5116]
AEAD_AES_256_CCM	256 bits	16 octets	[RFC5116]
AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12	128 bits	12 octets	see section 7

AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12	256 bits	12 octets	see section 7
AEAD_AES_128_CCM_8	128 bits	8 octets	[RFC6655]
AEAD_AES_256_CCM_8	256 bits	8 octets	[RFC6655]

Any implementation of AES-CCM SRTP/SRTCP SHOULD support both AEAD_AES_128_CCM_8 and AEAD_AES_256_CCM_8, and MAY support the other four variants.

In addition to the flag octet used in counter mode encryption, AES-CCM authentications also uses a flag octet that conveys information about the length of the authentication tag, length of the block counter, and presence of additional authenticated data (see section 2.2 of [RFC3610]). For AES-CCM in SRTP/SRTCP, the flag octet has the hex value 5A if an 8-octet AEAD authentication tag is used, 6A if a 12-octet AEAD authentication tag is used, and 7A if a 16-octet AEAD authentication tag is used. The flag octet is one of the inputs to AES during the counter mode encryption of the plaintext.

Parameter	Value
Master key length	128 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_CM_PRF [RFC3711]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_CCM_8
AEAD authentication tag length	64 bits

Table 9: The AEAD_AES_128_CCM_8 Crypto Suite

Parameter	Value
Master key length	128 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_CM_PRF [RFC3711]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_CCM_12
AEAD authentication tag length	96 bits

Table 10: The AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12 Crypto Suite

Parameter	Value
Master key length	128 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_CM_PRF [RFC3711]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_CCM
AEAD authentication tag length	128 bits

Table 11: The AEAD_AES_128_CCM Crypto Suite

Parameter	Value
Master key length	256 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_256_CM_PRF [RFC6188]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_CCM_8
AEAD authentication tag length	64 bits

Table 12: The AEAD_AES_256_CCM_8 Crypto Suite

Parameter	Value
Master key length	256 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_256_CM_PRF [RFC6188]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_CCM_12
AEAD authentication tag length	96 bits

Table 13: The AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12 Crypto Suite

Parameter	Value
Master key length	256 bits
Master salt length	96 bits
Key Derivation Function	AES_256_CM_PRF [RFC6188]
Default key lifetime (SRTP)	2^48 packets
Default key lifetime (SRTCP)	2^31 packets
Cipher (for SRTP and SRTCP)	AEAD_AES_CCM
AEAD authentication tag length	128 bits

Table 14: The AEAD_AES_256_CCM Crypto Suite

14. Security Considerations

14.1. Handling of Security Critical Parameters

As with any security process, the implementer must take care to ensure cryptographically sensitive parameters are properly handled. Many of these recommendations hold for all SRTP cryptographic algorithms, but we include them here to emphasize their importance.

- If the master salt is to be kept secret, it MUST be properly erased when no longer needed.
- The secret master key and all keys derived from it MUST be kept secret. All keys MUST be properly erased when no longer needed.
- At the start of each packet, the block counter MUST be reset (to 0 for CCM, to 1 for GCM). The block counter is incremented after each block key has been produced, but it MUST NOT be allowed to exceed 2^32 for GCM and 2^24 for CCM.
- Each time a rekey occurs, the initial values of the SRTCP index and the values of all the SEQ counters MUST be saved.
- Processing MUST cease if the 48-bit Packet Counter or the 31-bit SRTCP index cycles back to its initial value. Processing MUST NOT resume until a new SRTP/SRTCP session has been established using a new SRTP master key. Ideally, a rekey should be done well before either of these counters cycle.

14.2. Size of the Authentication Tag

We require that the AEAD authentication tag must be at least 8

octets, significantly reducing the probability of an adversary successfully introducing fraudulent data. The goal of an authentication tag is to minimize the probability of a successful

forgery occurring anywhere in the network we are attempting to defend. There are three relevant factors: how low we wish the probability of successful forgery to be (prob_success), how many attempts the adversary can make (N_tries) and the size of the authentication tag in bits (N_tag_bits). Then

```
prob_success < expected number of successes
             = N_tries * 2^-N_tag_bits.
```

Suppose an adversary wishes to introduce a forged or altered packet into a target network by randomly selecting an authentication value until by chance they hit a valid authentication tag. The table below summarizes the relationship between the number of forged packets the adversary has tried, the size of the authentication tag, and the probability of a compromise occurring (i.e. at least one of the attempted forgeries having a valid authentication tag). The reader is reminded that the forgery attempts can be made over the entire network, not just a single link, and that frequently changing the key does not decrease the probability of a compromise occurring.

Authentication Tag Size (octets)	Probability of a Compromise Occurring for a given number of forgery attempts		
	prob=2^-30	prob=2^-20	prob=2^-10
4	2^2 tries	2^12 tries	2^22 tries
8	2^34 tries	2^44 tries	2^54 tries
12	2^66 tries	2^76 tries	2^86 tries
16	2^98 tries	2^108 tries	2^118 tries

Table 15: Probability of a compromise occurring for a given number of forgery attempts and tag size.

15. IANA Considerations

15.1. SDES

Session description [RFC4568] defines SRTP "crypto suites". A crypto suite corresponds to a particular AEAD algorithm in SRTP. In order to allow SDP to signal the use of the algorithms defined in this document, IANA will register the following crypto suites into the

subregistry for SRTP crypto suites under Session Description Protocol (SDP) Parameters:

```
srtp-crypto-suite-ext = "AEAD_AES_128_GCM"    /
                        "AEAD_AES_256_GCM"    /
                        "AEAD_AES_128_GCM_8"  /
                        "AEAD_AES_256_GCM_8"  /
                        "AEAD_AES_128_GCM_12" /
                        "AEAD_AES_256_GCM_12" /
                        "AEAD_AES_128_CCM"    /
                        "AEAD_AES_256_CCM"    /
                        "AEAD_AES_128_CCM_8"  /
                        "AEAD_AES_256_CCM_8"  /
                        "AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12" /
                        "AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12" /
                        srtp-crypto-suite-ext
```

15.2. DTLS

DTLS-SRTP [RFC5764] defines a DTLS-SRTP "SRTP Protection Profile". These also correspond to the use of an AEAD algorithm in SRTP. In order to allow the use of the algorithms defined in this document in DTLS-SRTP, we request IANA register the following SRTP Protection Profiles:

```
AEAD_AES_128_GCM    = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_256_GCM    = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_128_GCM_8  = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_256_GCM_8  = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_128_GCM_12 = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_256_GCM_12 = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_128_CCM    = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_256_CCM    = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_128_CCM_8  = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_256_CCM_8  = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12 = {TBD, TBD }
AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12 = {TBD, TBD }
```

Below we list the SRTP transform parameters for each of these protection profile. Unless separate parameters for SRTCP and SRTCP are explicitly listed, these parameters apply to both SRTP and SRTCP.

```
AEAD_AES_128_CCM
     cipher:                AES_128_CCM
     cipher_key_length:     128 bits
     cipher_salt_length:    96 bits
     aead_auth_tag_length:  16 octets
     auth_function:         NULL
```

```
auth_key_length:        N/A
auth_tag_length:        N/A
maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                        at most 2^48 SRTP packets
```

```
   AEAD_AES_256_CCM
        cipher:                 AES_256_CCM
        cipher_key_length:      256 bits
        cipher_salt_length:     96 bits
        aead_auth_tag_length:   16 octets
        auth_function:          NULL
        auth_key_length:        N/A
        auth_tag_length:        N/A
        maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                                at most 2^48 SRTP packets

   AEAD_AES_128_CCM_8
        cipher:                 AES_128_CCM
        cipher_key_length:      128 bits
        cipher_salt_length:     96 bits
        aead_auth_tag_length:   8 octets
        auth_function:          NULL
        auth_key_length:        N/A
        auth_tag_length:        N/A
        maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                                at most 2^48 SRTP packets

   AEAD_AES_256_CCM_8
        cipher:                 AES_256_CCM
        cipher_key_length:      256 bits
        cipher_salt_length:     96 bits
        aead_auth_tag_length:   8 octets
        auth_function:          NULL
        auth_key_length:        N/A
        auth_tag_length:        N/A
        maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                                at most 2^48 SRTP packets

   AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12
        cipher:                 AES_128_CCM
        cipher_key_length:      128 bits
        cipher_salt_length:     96 bits
        aead_auth_tag_length:   12 octets
        auth_function:          NULL
        auth_key_length:        N/A
        auth_tag_length:        N/A
        maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                                at most 2^48 SRTP packets

   AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12
        cipher:                 AES_256_CCM
        cipher_key_length:      256 bits
```

```
cipher_salt_length:     96 bits
aead_auth_tag_length:   12 octets
auth_function:          NULL
auth_key_length:        N/A
```

```
      auth_tag_length:        N/A
      maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                              at most 2^48 SRTP packets

   AEAD_AES_128_GCM
      cipher:                 AES_128_GCM
      cipher_key_length:      128 bits
      cipher_salt_length:     96 bits
      aead_auth_tag_length:   16 octets
      auth_function:          NULL
      auth_key_length:        N/A
      auth_tag_length:        N/A
      maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                              at most 2^48 SRTP packets

   AEAD_AES_256_GCM
      cipher:                 AES_256_GCM
      cipher_key_length:      256 bits
      cipher_salt_length:     96 bits
      aead_auth_tag_length:   16 octets
      auth_function:          NULL
      auth_key_length:        N/A
      auth_tag_length:        N/A
      maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                              at most 2^48 SRTP packets

   AEAD_AES_128_GCM_8
      cipher:                 AES_128_GCM
      cipher_key_length:      128 bits
      cipher_salt_length:     96 bits
      aead_auth_tag_length:   8 octets
      auth_function:          NULL
      auth_key_length:        N/A
      auth_tag_length:        N/A
      maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                              at most 2^48 SRTP packets

   AEAD_AES_256_GCM_8
      cipher:                 AES_256_GCM
      cipher_key_length:      256 bits
      cipher_salt_length:     96 bits
      aead_auth_tag_length:   8 octets
      auth_function:          NULL
      auth_key_length:        N/A
      auth_tag_length:        N/A
      maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                              at most 2^48 SRTP packets
```

```
   AEAD_AES_128_GCM_12
        cipher:                AES_128_GCM
        cipher_key_length:     128 bits
        cipher_salt_length:    96 bits
```

```
      aead_auth_tag_length:   12 octets
      auth_function:          NULL
      auth_key_length:        N/A
      auth_tag_length:        N/A
      maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                              at most 2^48 SRTP packets

AEAD_AES_256_GCM_12
      cipher:                 AES_256_GCM
      cipher_key_length:      256 bits
      cipher_salt_length:     96 bits
      aead_auth_tag_length:   12 octets
      auth_function:          NULL
      auth_key_length:        N/A
      auth_tag_length:        N/A
      maximum lifetime:       at most 2^31 SRTCP packets and
                              at most 2^48 SRTP packets
```

Note that these SRTP Protection Profiles do not specify an auth_function, auth_key_length, or auth_tag_length because all of these profiles use AEAD algorithms, and thus do not use a separate auth_function, auth_key, or auth_tag. The term aead_auth_tag_length is used to emphasize that this refers to the authentication tag provided by the AEAD algorithm and that this tag is not located in the authentication tag field provided by SRTP/SRTCP.

15.3. MIKEY

In accordance with "MIKEY: Multimedia Internet KEYing" [RFC3830], IANA maintains several Payload Name Spaces under Multimedia Internet KEYing (MIKEY). This document requires additions to two of the lists maintained under MIKEY Security Protocol Parameters.

On the SRTP policy Type/Value list (derived from Table 6.10.1.a of [RFC3830]) we request the following addition:

Type	Meaning	Possible values
TBD	AEAD authentication tag length	8, 12, or 16 (in octets)

On the Encryption Algorithm List (derived from Table 6.10.1.b of [RFC3830]) we request the following additions:

SRTP encr alg.	Value	Default Session Encr. Key Length
AES-CCM	TBD	16 octets

AES-GCM	TBD	16 octets

The SRTP encryption algorithm, session encryption key length, and

AEAD authentication tag values received from MIKEY fully determine the AEAD algorithm (e.g., AEAD_AES_256_GCM_8). The exact mapping is described in section 16.

15.4. AEAD registry

We request that IANA make the following additions to the AEAD registry:

```
AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12     = TBD
AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12     = TBD
```

16. Parameters for use with MIKEY

MIKEY specifies the algorithm family separately from the key length (which is specified by the Session Encryption key length) and the authentication tag length (specified by AEAD Auth. tag length).

	Encryption Algorithm	Encryption Key Length	AEAD Auth. Tag Length
AEAD_AES_128_GCM	AES-GCM	16 octets	16 octets
AEAD_AES_128_CCM	AES-CCM	16 octets	16 octets
AEAD_AES_128_GCM_12	AES-GCM	16 octets	12 octets
AEAD_AES_128_CCM_12	AES-CCM	16 octets	12 octets
AEAD_AES_128_GCM_8	AES-GCM	16 octets	8 octets
AEAD_AES_128_CCM_8	AES-CCM	16 octets	8 octets
AEAD_AES_256_GCM	AES-GCM	32 octets	16 octets
AEAD_AES_256_CCM	AES-CCM	32 octets	16 octets
AEAD_AES_256_GCM_12	AES-GCM	32 octets	12 octets
AEAD_AES_256_CCM_12	AES-CCM	32 octets	12 octets
AEAD_AES_256_GCM_8	AES-GCM	32 octets	8 octets
AEAD_AES_256_CCM_8	AES-CCM	32 octets	8 octets

Table 16: Mapping MIKEY parameters to AEAD algorithm

Section 12 in this document restricts the choice of Key Derivation Function for AEAD algorithms. To enforce this restriction in MIKEY, we require that the SRTP PRF has value AES-CM whenever an AEAD algorithm is used. Note that, according to Section 6.10.1 in [RFC3830], the key length of the Key Derivation Function (i.e. the SRTP master key length) is always equal to the session encryption key length. This means, for example, that AEAD_AES_256_GCM will use AES_256_CM_PRF as the Key Derivation Function.

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