# ChaCha20 and Poly1305 for IETF protocols draft-irtf-cfrg-chacha20-poly1305-08 

## Abstract

This document defines the ChaCha20 stream cipher, as well as the use of the Poly1305 authenticator, both as stand-alone algorithms, and as a "combined mode", or Authenticated Encryption with Additional Data (AEAD) algorithm.

This document does not introduce any new crypto, but is meant to serve as a stable reference and an implementation guide. It is a product of the Crypto Forum Research Group (CFRG)

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## 1. Introduction

The Advanced Encryption Standard (AES - [FIPS-197]) has become the gold standard in encryption. Its efficient design, widespread implementation, and hardware support allow for high performance in many areas. On most modern platforms, AES is anywhere from $4 x$ to $10 x$ as fast as the previous most-used cipher, 3-key Data Encryption Standard (3DES - [SP800-67]), which makes it not only the best choice, but the only practical choice.

There are several problems with this. If future advances in cryptanalysis reveal a weakness in AES, users will be in an unenviable position. With the only other widely supported cipher being the much slower 3DES, it is not feasible to re-configure deployments to use 3DES. [Standby-Cipher] describes this issue and the need for a standby cipher in greater detail. Another problem is that while AES is very fast on dedicated hardware, its performance on platforms that lack such hardware is considerably lower. Yet another problem is that many AES implementations are vulnerable to cachecollision timing attacks ([cache-collisions]).

This document provides a definition and implementation guide for three algorithms:

1. The ChaCha20 cipher. This is a high-speed cipher first described in [ChaCha]. It is considerably faster than AES in software-only implementations, making it around three times as fast on platforms that lack specialized AES hardware. See Appendix B for some hard numbers. ChaCha20 is also not sensitive to timing attacks (see the security considerations in Section 4) This algorithm is described in Section 2.4
2. The Poly1305 authenticator. This is a high-speed message authentication code. Implementation is also straight-forward and easy to get right. The algorithm is described in Section 2.5.
3. The CHACHA20-POLY1305 Authenticated Encryption with Associated Data (AEAD) construction, described in Section 2.8.

This document does not introduce these new algorithms for the first time. They have been defined in scientific papers by D. J. Bernstein, which are referenced by this document. The purpose of this document is to serve as a stable reference for IETF documents making use of these algorithms.

These algorithms have undergone rigorous analysis. Several papers discuss the security of Salsa and ChaCha ([LatinDances], [LatinDances2], [Zhenqing2012]).

This document represents the consensus of the Crypto Forum Research Group (CFRG).

### 1.1. Conventions Used in This Document

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

The description of the Chacha algorithm will at various time refer to the ChaCha state as a "vector" or as a "matrix". This follows the use of these terms in Prof. Bernstein's paper. The matrix notation is more visually convenient, and gives a better notion as to why some rounds are called "column rounds" while others are called "diagonal rounds". Here's a diagram of how the matrices relate to vectors (using the $C$ language convention of zero being the index origin).

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |

The elements in this vector or matrix are 32-bit unsigned integers.

The algorithm name is "ChaCha". "ChaCha20" is a specific instance where 20 "rounds" (or 80 quarter rounds - see Section 2.1) are used. Other variations are defined, with 8 or 12 rounds, but in this document we only describe the $20-$ round ChaCha, so the names "ChaCha" and "ChaCha20" will be used interchangeably.

## 2. The Algorithms

The subsections below describe the algorithms used and the AEAD construction.

### 2.1. The ChaCha Quarter Round

The basic operation of the Chacha algorithm is the quarter round. It operates on four 32 -bit unsigned integers, denoted $a, b, c$, and $d$. The operation is as follows (in C-like notation):

1. $\mathrm{a}+=\mathrm{b} ; \mathrm{d} \wedge=\mathrm{a} ; \mathrm{d} \lll=16$;
2. $\mathrm{c}+=\mathrm{d} ; \mathrm{b} \wedge=\mathrm{c} ; \mathrm{b} \lll=12$;
3. a += b; d $\wedge=a ; d \lll=8 ;$
4. $\mathrm{c}+\mathrm{+} \mathrm{~d} ; \mathrm{b} \wedge=\mathrm{c} ; \mathrm{b} \lll=7$;

Where "+" denotes integer addition modulo 2^32, "^" denotes a bitwise Exclusive OR (XOR), and " $\lll \mathrm{n}$ " denotes an n -bit left rotation (towards the high bits).

For example, let's see the add, XOR and roll operations from the fourth line with sample numbers:

```
o a = 0x11111111
o b = 0x01020304
o c = 0x77777777
o d = 0x01234567
o c = c + d = 0x77777777 + 0x01234567 = 0x789abcde
o b = b ^ c = 0x01020304 ^ 0x789abcde = 0x7998bfda
o b = b <<< 7 = 0x7998bfda <<< 7 = 0xcc5fed3c
```


### 2.1.1. Test Vector for the ChaCha Quarter Round

For a test vector, we will use the same numbers as in the example, adding something random for c .
o a = 0x11111111
o b = 0x01020304
o c = 0x9b8d6f43
o d = 0x01234567

After running a Quarter Round on these 4 numbers, we get these:
o $a=0 x e a 2 a 92 f 4$
o b = 0xcb1cf8ce
o c = 0x4581472e
o d = 0x5881c4bb

### 2.2. A Quarter Round on the ChaCha State

The ChaCha state does not have 4 integer numbers, but 16. So the quarter round operation works on only 4 of them - hence the name. Each quarter round operates on 4 pre-determined numbers in the Chacha state. We will denote by $\operatorname{QUARTERROUND}(x, y, z, w)$ a quarter-round operation on the numbers at indexes $x, y, z$, and $w$ of the ChaCha state when viewed as a vector. For example, if we apply QUARTERROUND $(1,5,9,13)$ to a state, this means running the quarter round operation on the elements marked with an asterisk, while leaving the others alone:

| 0 | *a | 2 | 3 |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: |
| 4 | ${ }^{*} \mathrm{~b}$ | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | ${ }^{*} \mathrm{c}$ | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | ${ }^{*} \mathrm{~d}$ | 14 | 15 |

Note that this run of quarter round is part of what is called a "column round".

### 2.2.1. Test Vector for the Quarter Round on the ChaCha state

For a test vector, we will use a ChaCha state that was generated randomly:

Sample ChaCha State

| 879531e0 | c5ecf37d | 516461b1 | c9a62f8a |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $44 c 20 e f 3$ | $3390 a f 7 f$ | d9fc690b | $2 a 5 f 714 c$ |
| 53372767 | b00a5631 | $974 c 541 a$ | $359 e 9963$ |
| $5 c 971061$ | $3 d 631689$ | $2098 d 9 d 6$ | $91 d b d 320$ |

We will apply the $\operatorname{QUARTERROUND}(2,7,8,13)$ operation to this state. For obvious reasons, this one is part of what is called a "diagonal round":

After applying QUARTERROUND(2,7,8,13)

| 879531e0 | c5ecf37d | *bdb886dc | c9a62f8a |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 44c20ef3 | 3390af7f | d9fc690b | *cfacafd2 |
| *e46bea80 | b00a5631 | $974 c 541 a$ | $359 e 9963$ |
| 5c971061 | *ccc07c79 | $2098 d 9 d 6$ | $91 d b d 320$ |

Note that only the numbers in positions 2, 7, 8, and 13 changed.

### 2.3. The ChaCha20 block Function

The ChaCha block function transforms a ChaCha state by running multiple quarter rounds.

The inputs to ChaCha20 are:
o A 256-bit key, treated as a concatenation of 832 -bit littleendian integers.
o A 96-bit nonce, treated as a concatenation of 3 32-bit littleendian integers.
o A 32-bit block count parameter, treated as a 32-bit little-endian integer.

The output is 64 random-looking bytes.

The ChaCha algorithm described here uses a 256-bit key. The original algorithm also specified 128 -bit keys and 8 - and 12 -round variants, but these are out of scope for this document. In this section we describe the ChaCha block function.

Note also that the original ChaCha had a 64-bit nonce and 64-bit block count. We have modified this here to be more consistent with recommendations in section 3.2 of [RFC5116]. This limits the use of a single (key, nonce) combination to $2 \wedge 32$ blocks, or 256 GB, but that is enough for most uses. In cases where a single key is used by multiple senders, it is important to make sure that they don't use the same nonces. This can be assured by partitioning the nonce space so that the first 32 bits are unique per sender, while the other 64 bits come from a counter.

The ChaCha20 state is initialized as follows:
o The first 4 words (0-3) are constants: 0x61707865, 0x3320646e, 0x79622d32, 0x6b206574.
o The next 8 words (4-11) are taken from the 256 -bit key by reading the bytes in little-endian order, in 4-byte chunks.
o Word 12 is a block counter. Since each block is 64-byte, a 32-bit word is enough for 256 gigabytes of data.
o Words 13-15 are a nonce, which should not be repeated for the same key. The 13th word is the first 32 bits of the input nonce taken as a little-endian integer, while the 15 th word is the last 32 bits.

| cccccccc | cccccccc | cccccccc | cccccccc |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| kkkkkkkk | kkkkkkkk | kkkkkkkk | kkkkkkkk |
| kkkkkkkk | kkkkkkkk | kkkkkkkk | kkkkkkkk |
| bbbbbbbb | nnnnnnnn | nnnnnnnn | nnnnnnnn |

$\mathrm{c}=$ constant $\mathrm{k}=$ key $\mathrm{b}=\mathrm{blockcount} \mathrm{n}=$ nonce

ChaCha20 runs 20 rounds, alternating between "column" and "diagonal" rounds. Each round is 4 quarter-rounds, and they are run as follows. Quarter-rounds 1-4 are part of a "column" round, while 5-8 are part of a "diagonal" round:

1. QUARTERROUND ( $0,4,8,12$ )
2. QUARTERROUND ( $1,5,9,13$ )
3. QUARTERROUND ( $2,6,10,14$ )
4. QUARTERROUND ( $3,7,11,15$ )
5. QUARTERROUND ( $0,5,10,15$ )
6. QUARTERROUND ( $1,6,11,12$ )
7. QUARTERROUND ( $2,7,8,13$ )
8. QUARTERROUND ( $3,4,9,14$ )

At the end of 20 rounds (or 10 iterations of the above list), we add the original input words to the output words, and serialize the result by sequencing the words one-by-one in little-endian order.

Note: "addition" in the above paragraph is done modulo $2^{\wedge} 32$. In some machine languages this is called carryless addition on a 32-bit word.

### 2.3.1. The ChaCha20 Block Function in Pseudo-Code

Note: This section and a few others contain pseudo-code for the algorithm explained in a previous section. Every effort was made for the pseudo-code to accurately reflect the algorithm as described in the preceding section. If a conflict is still present, the textual explanation and the test vectors are normative.
inner_block (state):
Qround(state, 0, 4, 8,12)
Qround(state, 1, 5, 9,13)
Qround(state, 2, 6,10,14)
Qround(state, 3, 7,11,15)
Qround(state, 0, 5,10,15)
Qround(state, 1, 6,11,12)
Qround(state, 2, 7, 8,13) Qround(state, 3, 4, 9,14) end
chacha20_block(key, counter, nonce):
state $=$ constants | key | counter | nonce
working_state = state
for i=1 upto 10
inner_block(working_state)
end
state += working_state
return serialize(state)
end

### 2.3.2. Test Vector for the ChaCha20 Block Function

For a test vector, we will use the following inputs to the ChaCha20 block function:
o Key = 00:01:02:03:04:05:06:07:08:09:0a:0b:0c:0d:0e:0f:10:11:12:13:
14:15:16:17:18:19:1a:1b:1c:1d:1e:1f. The key is a sequence of octets with no particular structure before we copy it into the ChaCha state.
o Nonce = (00:00:00:09:00:00:00:4a:00:00:00:00)
o Block Count $=1$.

After setting up the ChaCha state, it looks like this:

ChaCha State with the key set up.

| 61707865 | $3320646 e$ | $79622 d 32$ | $6 b 206574$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 03020100 | 07060504 | $0 b 0 a 0908$ | $0 f 0 e 0 d 0 c$ |
| 13121110 | 17161514 | 1b1a1918 | 1f1e1d1c |
| 00000001 | 09000000 | $4 a 000000$ | 00000000 |

After running 20 rounds (10 column rounds interleaved with 10 diagonal rounds), the ChaCha state looks like this:

ChaCha State after 20 rounds

| 837778ab | e238d763 | a67ae21e | $5950 b b 2 f$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| c4f2d0c7 | fc62bb2f | 8fa018fc | $3 f 5 e c 7 b 7$ |
| 335271c2 | f29489f3 | eabda8fc | $82 e 46 e b d$ |
| d19c12b4 | b04e16de | 9e83d0cb | $4 e 3 c 50 a 2$ |

Finally we add the original state to the result (simple vector or matrix addition), giving this:

ChaCha State at the end of the ChaCha20 operation

| e4e7f110 | 15593bd1 | 1fdd0f50 | c47120a3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| c7f4d1c7 | 0368c033 | 9aaa2204 | $4 e 6 c d 4 c 3$ |
| 466482d2 | 09aa9f07 | 05d7c214 | a2028bd9 |
| d19c12b5 | b94e16de | e883d0cb | $4 e 3 c 50 a 2$ |

After we serialize the state, we get this:

Serialized Block:
00010 f1 e7 e4 d1 3b 591550 0f dd 1f a3 2071 c4 .....; Y.P.... q.
016 c7 d1 f4 c7 33 c0 68030422 aa 9 a c3 d4 6c 4e ....3.h.."....lN
032 d2 82644607 9f aa 0914 c2 d7 05 d9 8b 02 a2 ..dF...........
048 b5 12 9c d1 de 16 4e b9 cb d0 83 e8 a2 50 3c 4e ......N...... $P<N$

### 2.4. The ChaCha20 encryption algorithm

ChaCha20 is a stream cipher designed by D. J. Bernstein. It is a refinement of the Salsa20 algorithm, and uses a 256-bit key.

ChaCha20 successively calls the Chacha20 block function, with the same key and nonce, and with successively increasing block counter parameters. Chacha20 then serializes the resulting state by writing the numbers in little-endian order, creating a key-stream block. Concatenating the key-stream blocks from the successive blocks forms a key stream. The ChaCha20 function then performs a XOR of this keystream with the plaintext. Alternatively, each key-stream block can be XOR-ed with a plaintext block before proceeding to create the
next block, saving some memory. There is no requirement for the plaintext to be an integral multiple of 512-bits. If there is extra keystream from the last block, it is discarded. Specific protocols MAY require that the plaintext and ciphertext have certain length. Such protocols need to specify how the plaintext is padded, and how much padding it receives.

The inputs to ChaCha20 are:
o A 256-bit key
o A 32-bit initial counter. This can be set to any number, but will usually be zero or one. It makes sense to use 1 if we use the zero block for something else, such as generating a one-time authenticator key as part of an AEAD algorithm.
o A 96-bit nonce. In some protocols, this is known as the Initialization Vector.
o An arbitrary-length plaintext

The output is an encrypted message, or "ciphertext" of the same length.

Decryption is done in the same way. The ChaCha20 block function is used to expand the key into a key stream, which is XOR-ed with the ciphertext giving back the plaintext.

### 2.4.1. The ChaCha20 encryption algorithm in Pseudo-Code

```
    chacha20_encrypt(key, counter, nonce, plaintext):
        for counter=1 upto ceil(len(plaintext) / 64)
        key_stream = chacha20_block(key, counter, nonce)
        block = plaintext[((counter-1)*64)..(counter*64-1)]
        encrypted_message += block ^ key_stream
        end
        if ((len(plaintext) % 64) != 0)
        key_stream = chacha20_block(key, counter, nonce)
        block = plaintext[(counter*64)..len(plaintext)-1]
        encrypted_message += (block^key_stream)[0..len(plaintext)%64]
        end
        return encrypted_mesage
        end
```


### 2.4.2. Example and Test Vector for the ChaCha20 Cipher

For a test vector, we will use the following inputs to the ChaCha20 block function:
o Key = 00:01:02:03:04:05:06:07:08:09:0a:0b:0c:0d:0e:0f:10:11:12:13: 14:15:16:17:18:19:1a:1b:1c:1d:1e:1f.

```
o Nonce = (00:00:00:00:00:00:00:4a:00:00:00:00).
o Initial Counter = 1.
```

We use the following for the plaintext. It was chosen to be long enough to require more than one block, but not so long that it would make this example cumbersome (so, less than 3 blocks):


The following figure shows 4 ChaCha state matrices:

1. First block as it is set up.
2. Second block as it is set up. Note that these blocks are only two bits apart - only the counter in position 12 is different.
3. Third block is the first block after the ChaCha20 block operation.
4. Final block is the second block after the ChaCha20 block operation was applied.

After that, we show the keystream.

First block setup:

| 61707865 | $3320646 e$ | $79622 d 32$ | $6 b 206574$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 03020100 | 07060504 | 0b0a0908 | 0f0e0d0c |
| 13121110 | 17161514 | $1 b 1 a 1918$ | $1 f 1 e 1 d 1 c$ |
| 00000001 | 00000000 | $4 a 000000$ | 00000000 |

Second block setup:

| 61707865 | $3320646 e$ | $79622 d 32$ | $6 b 206574$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 03020100 | 07060504 | $0 b 0 a 0908$ | $0 f 0 e 0 d 0 c$ |
| 13121110 | 17161514 | 1b1a1918 | 1f1e1d1c |
| 00000002 | 00000000 | $4 a 000000$ | 00000000 |

First block after block operation:
f3514f22 e1d91b40 6f27de2f ed1d63b8
821f138c e2062c3d ecca4f7e 78cff39e
a30a3b8a 920a6072 cd7479b5 34932bed
40ba4c79 cd343ec6 4c2c21ea b7417df0

Second block after block operation:

| 9f74a669 | 410f633f | $28 f e c a 22$ | 7ec44dec |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 6d34d426 | 738cb970 | 3ac5e9f3 | $45590 c c 4$ |
| da6e8b39 | $892 c 831 a$ | cdea67c1 | $2 b 7 e 1 d 90$ |
| 037463f3 | a11a2073 | e8bcfb88 | edc49139 |

Keystream:
22:4f:51:f3:40:1b:d9:e1:2f:de:27:6f:b8:63:1d:ed:8c:13:1f:82:3d:2c:06
e2:7e:4f:ca:ec:9e:f3:cf:78:8a:3b:0a:a3:72:60:0a:92:b5:79:74:cd:ed:2b
93:34:79:4c:ba:40:c6:3e:34:cd:ea:21:2c:4c:f0:7d:41:b7:69:a6:74:9f:3f
63:0f:41:22:ca:fe:28:ec:4d:c4:7e:26:d4:34:6d:70:b9:8c:73:f3:e9:c5:3a
c4:0c:59:45:39:8b:6e:da:1a:83:2c:89:c1:67:ea:cd:90:1d:7e:2b:f3:63

Finally, we XOR the Keystream with the plaintext, yielding the Ciphertext:

Ciphertext Sunscreen:


### 2.5. The Poly1305 algorithm

Poly1305 is a one-time authenticator designed by D. J. Bernstein. Poly1305 takes a 32 -byte one-time key and a message and produces a 16-byte tag. This tag is used to authenticate the message.

The original article ([Poly1305]) is entitled "The Poly1305-AES message-authentication code", and the MAC function there requires a 128-bit AES key, a 128-bit "additional key", and a 128-bit (nonsecret) nonce. AES is used there for encrypting the nonce, so as to get a unique (and secret) 128 -bit string, but as the paper states, "There is nothing special about AES here. One can replace AES with an arbitrary keyed function from an arbitrary set of nonces to 16-byte strings."

Regardless of how the key is generated, the key is partitioned into two parts, called "r" and "s". The pair ( $r, s$ ) should be unique, and MUST be unpredictable for each invocation (that is why it was originally obtained by encrypting a nonce), while "r" MAY be constant, but needs to be modified as follows before being used: ("r" is treated as a 16-octet little-endian number):

```
o r[3], r[7], r[11], and r[15] are required to have their top four
    bits clear (be smaller than 16)
o r[4], r[8], and r[12] are required to have their bottom two bits
    clear (be divisible by 4)
```

The following sample code clamps "r" to be appropriate:
/*
Adapted from poly1305aes_test_clamp.c version 20050207
D. J. Bernstein
Public domain.
*/
\#include "poly1305aes_test.h"
void poly1305aes_test_clamp(unsigned char r[16])
\{
$r[3] \&=15 ;$
$r[7] \&=15 ;$
$r[11] \&=15 ;$
$r[15] ~ \&=15 ;$
$r[4] \&=252 ;$
$r[8] \&=252 ;$
$r[12] \&=252$;
\}

The "s" should be unpredictable, but it is perfectly acceptable to generate both "r" and "s" uniquely each time. Because each of them is 128-bit, pseudo-randomly generating them (see Section 2.6) is also acceptable.

The inputs to Poly1305 are:
o A 256-bit one-time key
o An arbitrary length message
The output is a 128-bit tag.

First, the "r" value should be clamped.
Next, set the constant prime "P" be 2^130-5:
$3 f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f b$. Also set a variable "accumulator" to zero.

Next, divide the message into 16 -byte blocks. The last one might be shorter:
o Read the block as a little-endian number.
o Add one bit beyond the number of octets. For a 16-byte block this is equivalent to adding $2 \wedge 128$ to the number. For the shorter block it can be 2^120, $2^{\wedge} 112$, or any power of two that is evenly divisible by 8, all the way down to $2^{\wedge} 8$.
o If the block is not 17 bytes long (the last block), pad it with zeros. This is meaningless if you are treating the blocks as numbers.
o Add this number to the accumulator.
o Multiply by "r"
o Set the accumulator to the result modulo p. To summarize: Acc = ((Acc+block)*r) \% p.

Finally, the value of the secret key "s" is added to the accumulator, and the 128 least significant bits are serialized in little-endian order to form the tag.

### 2.5.1. The Poly1305 Algorithms in Pseudo-Code

```
clamp(r): r \&= 0x0ffffffc0ffffffc0ffffffc0fffffff
poly1305_mac(msg, key):
    r = (le_bytes_to_num(key[0..15])
    clamp(r)
    s = le_num(key[16..31])
    accumulator \(=0\)
    \(p=(1 \ll 130)-5\)
    for i=1 upto ceil(msg length in bytes / 16)
        \(\mathrm{n}=\) le_bytes_to_num([0x01] | msg[((i-1)*16)..(i*16)])
        a += n
        \(a=(r * a) \% p\)
        end
    a += s
    return num_to_16_le_bytes(a)
    end
```


### 2.5.2. Poly1305 Example and Test Vector

For our example, we will dispense with generating the one-time key using AES, and assume that we got the following keying material:
o Key Material: 85:d6:be:78:57:55:6d:33:7f:44:52:fe:42:d5:06:a8:01:0 3:80:8a:fb:0d:b2:fd:4a:bf:f6:af:41:49:f5:1b
o s as an octet string:
01: 03:80:8a:fb:0d:b2:fd:4a:bf:f6:af:41:49:f5:1b
o s as a 128-bit number: 1bf54941aff6bf4afdb20dfb8a800301
o r before clamping: 85:d6:be:78:57:55:6d:33:7f:44:52:fe:42:d5:06:a8
o Clamped $r$ as a number: 806d5400e52447c036d555408bed685.

For our message, we'll use a short text:


Since Poly1305 works in 16 -byte chunks, the 34 -byte message divides into 3 blocks. In the following calculation, "Acc" denotes the accumulator and "Block" the current block:

Block \#1

Acc $=00$
Block = 6f4620636968706172676f7470797243
Block with 0x01 byte $=016 f 4620636968706172676 f 7470797243$
Acc + block = 016f4620636968706172676f7470797243
(Acc+Block) * $r=$
b83fe991ca66800489155dcd69e8426ba2779453994ac90ed284034da565ecf
Acc $=((A c c+B l o c k) * r) \% ~ P=2 c 88 c 77849 d 64 a e 9147 d d e b 88 e 69 c 83 f c$

Block \#2

Acc $=2 c 88 c 77849 d 64 a e 9147 d d e b 88 e 69 c 83 f c$
Block $=6 f 7247206863726165736552206 d 7572$
Block with $0 \times 01$ byte $=016 f 7247206863726165736552206 d 7572$
Acc + block = 437febea505c820f2ad5150db0709f96e
(Acc+Block) * $r=$
21dcc992d0c659ba4036f65bb7f88562ae59b32c2b3b8f7efc8b00f78e548a26
Acc $=((A c c+B l o c k) * r) \% ~ P=2 d 8 a d a f 23 b 0337 f a 7 c c c f b 4 e a 344 b 30 d e$

Last Block

Acc = 2d8adaf23b0337fa7cccfb4ea344b30de
Block = 7075
Block with $0 x 01$ byte $=017075$
Acc + block = 2d8adaf23b0337fa7cccfb4ea344ca153
(Acc + Block) * $r=$
16d8e08a0f3fe1de4fe4a15486aca7a270a29f1e6c849221e4a6798b8e45321f
((Acc + Block) * r) \% P = 28d31b7caff946c77c8844335369d03a7

Adding s we get this number, and serialize if to get the tag:

Acc + s = 2a927010caf8b2bc2c6365130c11d06a8

Tag: a8:06:1d:c1:30:51:36:c6:c2:2b:8b:af:0c:01:27:a9

### 2.6. Generating the Poly1305 key using ChaCha20

As said in Section 2.5, it is acceptable to generate the one-time Poly1305 pseudo-randomly. This section proposes such a method.

To generate such a key pair ( $\mathrm{r}, \mathrm{s}$ ), we will use the ChaCha20 block function described in Section 2.3. This assumes that we have a 256-bit session key for the MAC function, such as SK_ai and SK_ar in IKEv2 ([RFC7296]), the integrity key in ESP and AH, or the client_write_MAC_key and server_write_MAC_key in TLS. Any document that specifies the use of Poly1305 as a MAC algorithm for some protocol must specify that 256 bits are allocated for the integrity key. Note that in the AEAD construction defined in Section 2.8, the same key is used for encryption and key generation, so the use of SK_a* or *_write_MAC_key is only for stand-alone Poly1305.

The method is to call the block function with the following parameters:
o The 256-bit session integrity key is used as the ChaCha20 key.
o The block counter is set to zero.
o The protocol will specify a 96-bit or 64-bit nonce. This MUST be unique per invocation with the same key, so it MUST NOT be randomly generated. A counter is a good way to implement this, but other methods, such as a Linear Feedback Shift Register (LFSR) are also acceptable. ChaCha20 as specified here requires a 96-bit nonce. So if the provided nonce is only 64-bit, then the first 32 bits of the nonce will be set to a constant number. This will usually be zero, but for protocols with multiple senders it may be different for each sender, but should be the same for all invocations of the function with the same key by a particular sender.

After running the block function, we have a 512-bit state. We take the first 256 bits or the serialized state, and use those as the onetime Poly1305 key: The first 128 bits are clamped, and form "r", while the next 128 bits become "s". The other 256 bits are discarded.

Note that while many protocols have provisions for a nonce for encryption algorithms (often called Initialization Vectors, or IVs), they usually don't have such a provision for the MAC function. In that case the per-invocation nonce will have to come from somewhere else, such as a message counter.

### 2.6.1. Poly1305 Key Generation in Pseudo-Code

```
poly1305_key_gen(key,iv,constant):
    nonce = constant | iv
    counter = 0
    block = chacha20_block(key,counter,nonce)
    return block[0..31]
    end
```


### 2.6.2. Poly1305 Key Generation Test Vector

For this example, we'll set:

Key:
00080818283848586878889 8a 8b 8c 8d 8e 8f ................................
01690919293949596979899 9a 9b 9c 9d 9e 9f .....................................

Nonce:
000000000000001020304050607

The ChaCha state set up with key, nonce, and block counter zero:

| 61707865 | $3320646 e$ | $79622 d 32$ | $6 b 206574$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 83828180 | 87868584 | $8 b 8 a 8988$ | $8 f 8 e 8 d 8 c$ |
| 93929190 | 97969594 | $9 b 9 a 9998$ | $9 f 9 e 9 d 9 c$ |
| 00000000 | 00000000 | 03020100 | 07060504 |

The ChaCha state after 20 rounds:
8ba0d58a cc815f90 27405081 7194b24a
37b633a8 a50dfde3 e2b8db08 46a6d1fd
7da03782 9183a233 148ad271 b46773d1
3cc1875a 8607def1 ca5c3086 7085eb87

Output bytes:
000 8a d5 a0 8b 90 5f 81 cc 81504027 4a b2 9471 .........P@'J..q
016 a8 33 b6 37 e3 fd 0d a5 08 db b8 e2 fd d1 a6 46 .3.7.............

And that output is also the 32 -byte one-time key used for Poly1305.

### 2.7. A Pseudo-Random Function for ChaCha/Poly-1305 based Crypto Suites

Some protocols such as IKEv2([RFC7296]) require a Pseudo-Random Function (PRF), mostly for key derivation. In the IKEv2 definition, a PRF is a function that accepts a variable-length key and a variable-length input, and returns a fixed-length output. Most commonly, HMAC constructions are used for this purpose, and often the same function is used for both message authentication and PRF.

Poly-1305 is not a suitable choice for a PRF. Poly-1305 prohibits using the same key twice, whereas the PRF in IKEv2 is used multiple times with the same key. Additionally, unlike HMAC, Poly-1305 is biased, so using it for key derivation would reduce the security of the symmetric encryption.

Chacha20 could be used as a key-derivation function, by generating an arbitrarily long keystream. However, that is not what protocols such as IKEv2 require.

For this reason, this document does not specify a PRF, and recommends that crypto suites use some other PRF such as PRF_HMAC_SHA2_256 (section 2.1.2 of [RFC4868])

### 2.8. AEAD Construction

AEAD_CHACHA20-POLY1305 is an authenticated encryption with additional data algorithm. The inputs to AEAD_CHACHA20-POLY1305 are:
o A 256-bit key
o A 96-bit nonce - different for each invocation with the same key.
o An arbitrary length plaintext
o Arbitrary length additional authenticated data (AAD)

Some protocols may have unique per-invocation inputs that are not 96-bit in length. For example, IPsec may specify a 64-bit nonce. In such a case, it is up to the protocol document to define how to transform the protocol nonce into a 96-bit nonce, for example by concatenating a constant value.

The ChaCha20 and Poly1305 primitives are combined into an AEAD that takes a 256-bit key and 96-bit nonce as follows:
o First, a Poly1305 one-time key is generated from the 256 -bit key and nonce using the procedure described in Section 2.6.
o Next, the ChaCha20 encryption function is called to encrypt the plaintext, using the same key and nonce, and with the initial counter set to 1.
o Finally, the Poly1305 function is called with the Poly1305 key calculated above, and a message constructed as a concatenation of the following:

* The AAD
* padding1 - the padding is up to 15 zero bytes, and it brings the total length so far to an integral multiple of 16. If the length of the AAD was already an integral multiple of 16 bytes, this field is zero-length.
* The ciphertext
* padding2 - the padding is up to 15 zero bytes, and it brings the total length so far to an integral multiple of 16. If the length of the ciphertext was already an integral multiple of 16 bytes, this field is zero-length.
* The length of the additional data in octets (as a 64-bit little-endian integer).
* The length of the ciphertext in octets (as a 64-bit littleendian integer).

The output from the AEAD is twofold:
o A ciphertext of the same length as the plaintext.
o A 128-bit tag, which is the output of the Poly1305 function.

Decryption is similar with the following differences:
o The roles of ciphertext and plaintext are reversed, so the ChaCha20 encryption function is applied to the ciphertext, producing the plaintext.
o The Poly1305 function is still run on the AAD and the ciphertext, not the plaintext.
o The calculated tag is bitwise compared to the received tag. The message is authenticated if and only if the tags match.

A few notes about this design:

1. The amount of encrypted data possible in a single invocation is 2^32-1 blocks of 64 bytes each, because of the size of the block counter field in the ChaCha20 block function. This gives a total of $247,877,906,880$ bytes, or nearly 256 GB. This should be enough for traffic protocols such as IPsec and TLS, but may be too small for file and/or disk encryption. For such uses, we can return to the original design, reduce the nonce to 64 bits, and use the integer at position 13 as the top 32 bits of a 64-bit block counter, increasing the total message size to over a million petabytes (1,180,591,620,717,411,303,360 bytes to be exact).
2. Despite the previous item, the ciphertext length field in the construction of the buffer on which Poly1305 runs limits the ciphertext (and hence, the plaintext) size to $2 \wedge 64$ bytes, or sixteen thousand petabytes $(18,446,744,073,709,551,616$ bytes to be exact).

The AEAD construction in this section is a novel composition of ChaCha20 and Poly1305. A security analysis of this composition is given in [Procter].

Here is a list of the parameters for this construction as defined in Section 4 of RFC 5116:
o K_LEN (key length) is 32 octets.
o P_MAX (maximum size of the plaintext) is $247,877,906,880$ bytes, or nearly 256 GB.
o A_MAX (maximum size of the associated data) is set to 2^64-1
octets by the length field for associated data.
o N_MIN = N_MAX = 12 octets.
o C_MAX = P_MAX + tag length $=247,877,906,896$ octets.

Distinct AAD inputs (as described in section 3.3 of RFC 5116) shall be concatenated into a single input to AEAD_CHACHA20-POLY1305. It is up to the application to create a structure in the AAD input if it is needed.

### 2.8.1. Pseudo-Code for the AEAD Construction

```
    pad16(x):
        if (len(x) % 16)==0
            then return NULL
            else return copies(0, 16-(len(x)%16))
        end
    chacha20_aead_encrypt(aad, key, iv, constant, plaintext):
        otk = poly1305_key_gen(key, iv, constant)
        nonce = constant | iv
        ciphertext = chacha_encrypt(key, 1, nonce, plaintext)
        mac_data = aad | pad16(aad)
        mac_data |= ciphertext | pad16(ciphertext)
        mac_data |= num_to_4_le_bytes(aad.length)
        mac_data |= num_to_4_le_bytes(ciphertext.length)
        tag = poly1305_mac(mac_data, otk)
        return (ciphertext, tag)
```


### 2.8.2. Example and Test Vector for AEAD_CHACHA20-POLY1305

For a test vector, we will use the following inputs to the AEAD_CHACHA20-POLY1305 function:

Plaintext:


AAD:

```
000 50 51 52 53 c0 c1 c2 c3 c4 c5 c6 c7
```

PQRS.......
Key:
00080818283848586878889 8a 8b 8c 8d 8e 8f
01690919293949596979899 9a 9b 9c 9d 9e 9f
IV:
0004041424344454647 @ABCDEFG
32-bit fixed-common part:
00007000000
... .
Set up for generating Poly1305 one-time key (sender id=7):

| 61707865 | $3320646 e$ | $79622 d 32$ | $6 b 206574$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 83828180 | 87868584 | $8 b 8 a 8988$ | $8 f 8 e 8 d 8 c$ |
| 93929190 | 97969594 | $9 b 9 a 9998$ | $9 f 9 e 9 d 9 c$ |
| 00000000 | 00000007 | 43424140 | 47464544 |

After generating Poly1305 one-time key:
252bac7b af47b42d 557ab609 8455e9a4
73d6e10a ebd97510 7875932a ff53d53e
decc7ea2 b44ddbad e49c17d1 d8430bc9 8c94b7bc 8b7d4b4b 3927f67d 1669a432

Poly1305 Key:
000 7b ac 2b 25 2d b4 47 af 09 b6 7a 55 a4 e9 5584 \{.+\%-.G...zU..U. 016 0a e1 d6 731075 d9 eb 2a 937578 3e d5 53 ff ...s.u..*.ux>.S.

Poly1305 r = 455e9a4057ab6080f47b42c052bac7b
Poly1305 s = ff53d53e7875932aebd9751073d6e10a

Keystream bytes:

```
9f:7b:e9:5d:01:fd:40:ba:15:e2:8f:fb:36:81:0a:ae:
c1:c0:88:3f:09:01:6e:de:dd:8a:d0:87:55:82:03:a5:
4e:9e:cb:38:ac:8e:5e:2b:b8:da:b2:0f:fa:db:52:e8:
75:04:b2:6e:be:69:6d:4f:60:a4:85:cf:11:b8:1b:59:
fc:b1:c4:5f:42:19:ee:ac:ec:6a:de:c3:4e:66:69:78:
8e:db:41:c4:9c:a3:01:e1:27:e0:ac:ab:3b:44:b9:cf:
5c:86:bb:95:e0:6b:0d:f2:90:1a:b6:45:e4:ab:e6:22:
15:38
```


## Ciphertext:

000 d3 1a 8d 34648 e 60 db 7b 86 af bc 53 ef 7e c2 ...4d.`.\{...S.~.
016 a4 ad ed 5129 6e 08 fe a9 e2 b5 a7 36 ee 62 d6 ...Q)n......6.b.
032 3d be a4 5e 8c a9 671282 fa fb 69 da 9272 8b =..^..g....i..r.
048 1a 71 de 0a 9e 06 0b 2905 d6 a5 b6 7e cd 3b 36 .q.....)..... .; 6
06492 dd bd 7f 2d 77 8b 8c 9803 ae e3 2809 1b 58 ....-w..........
080 fa b3 24 e4 fa d6 $75945585808 b 4831$ d7 bc ..\$...u.U...H1..
096 3f f4 de f0 8e 4b 7a 9d e5 76 d2 6586 ce c6 4b ?....Kz..v.e...K
1126116

AEAD Construction for Poly1305:
00050515253 c0 c1 c2 c3 c4 c5 c6 c7 00000000
016 d3 1a 8d 34648 e 60 db 7b 86 af bc 53 ef 7e c2
032 a4 ad ed 5129 6e 08 fe a9 e2 b5 a7 36 ee 62 d6
048 3d be a4 5e 8c a9 671282 fa fb 69 da 9272 8b
064 1a 71 de $0 a \operatorname{9e} 06$ 0b 2905 d6 a5 b6 7e cd 3b 36
08092 dd bd 7f 2d 77 8b 8c 9803 ae e3 2809 1b 58
096 fa b3 24 e4 fa d6 7594558580 8b 4831 d7 bc
$1123 f$ f4 de f0 8e 4b 7a 9d e5 76 d2 6586 ce c6 4b
12861160000000000000000000000000000
PQRS
...4d.`.\{...S.~
...Q)n......6.b.
=..^..g....i..r.
.q.....)....~.; 6
....-W..... (.. $X$
..\$...u.U...H1..
?....Kz..v.e...K
$\qquad$
144 0c 000000000000007200000000000000 $\qquad$

Note the 4 zero bytes in line 000 and the 14 zero bytes in line 128

Tag:
1a:e1:0b:59:4f:09:e2:6a:7e:90:2e:cb:d0:60:06:91

## 3. Implementation Advice

Each block of ChaCha20 involves 16 move operations and one increment operation for loading the state, 80 each of XOR, addition and Roll operations for the rounds, 16 more add operations and 16 XOR operations for protecting the plaintext. Section 2.3 describes the ChaCha block function as "adding the original input words". This implies that before starting the rounds on the ChaCha state, we copy it aside, only to add it in later. This is correct, but we can save a few operations if we instead copy the state and do the work on the copy. This way, for the next block you don't need to recreate the

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state, but only to increment the block counter. This saves approximately $5.5 \%$ of the cycles.

It is not recommended to use a generic big number library such as the one in OpenSSL for the arithmetic operations in Poly1305. Such libraries use dynamic allocation to be able to handle any-sized integer, but that flexibility comes at the expense of performance as well as side-channel security. More efficient implementations that run in constant time are available, one of them in D. J. Bernstein's own library, NaCl ([NaCl]). A constant-time but not optimal approach would be to naively implement the arithmetic operations for a 288-bit integers, because even a naive implementation will not exceed $2 \wedge 288$ in the multiplication of (acc+block) and $r$. An efficient constant-time implementation can be found in the public domain library poly1305-donna ([poly1305_donna]).

## 4. Security Considerations

The ChaCha20 cipher is designed to provide 256-bit security.

The Poly1305 authenticator is designed to ensure that forged messages are rejected with a probability of 1-(n/(2^102)) for a 16n-byte message, even after sending $2 \wedge 64$ legitimate messages, so it is SUFCMA in the terminology of [AE].

Proving the security of either of these is beyond the scope of this document. Such proofs are available in the referenced academic papers ([Chacha],[Poly1305], [LatinDances], [LatinDances2], and [Zhenqing2012])

The most important security consideration in implementing this draft is the uniqueness of the nonce used in ChaCha20. Counters and LFSRs are both acceptable ways of generating unique nonces, as is encrypting a counter using a 64-bit cipher such as DES. Note that it is not acceptable to use a truncation of a counter encrypted with a 128-bit or 256-bit cipher, because such a truncation may repeat after a short time.

Consequences of repeating a nonce: If a nonce is repeated, then both the one-time Poly1305 key and the key-stream are identical between the messages. This reveals the XOR of the plaintexts, because the XOR of the plaintexts is equal to the XOR of the ciphertexts.

The Poly1305 key MUST be unpredictable to an attacker. Randomly generating the key would fulfill this requirement, except that Poly1305 is often used in communications protocols, so the receiver should know the key. Pseudo-random number generation such as by
encrypting a counter is acceptable. Using ChaCha with a secret key and a nonce is also acceptable.

The algorithms presented here were designed to be easy to implement in constant time to avoid side-channel vulnerabilities. The operations used in ChaCha20 are all additions, XORs, and fixed rotations. All of these can and should be implemented in constant time. Access to offsets into the Chacha state and the number of operations do not depend on any property of the key, eliminating the chance of information about the key leaking through the timing of cache misses.

For Poly1305, the operations are addition, multiplication and modulus, all on >128-bit numbers. This can be done in constant time, but a naive implementation (such as using some generic big number library) will not be constant time. For example, if the multiplication is performed as a separate operation from the modulus, the result will sometimes be under $2 \wedge 256$ and some times be above 2^256. Implementers should be careful about timing side-channels for Poly1305 by using the appropriate implementation of these operations.

Validating the authenticity of a message involves a bitwise comparison of the calculated tag with the received tag. In most use cases nonces and AAD contents are not "used up" until a valid message is received. This allows an attacker to send multiple identical messages with different tags until one passes the tag comparison. This is hard if the attacker has to try all $2 \wedge 128$ possible tags one by one. However, if the timing of the tag comparison operation reveals how long a prefix of the calculated and received tags is identical, the number of messages can be reduced significantly. For this reason, with online protocols, implementation MUST use a constant-time comparison function rather than relying on optimized but insecure library functions such as the C language's memcmp().

## 5. IANA Considerations

IANA is requested to assign an entry in the "Authenticated Encryption with Associated Data (AEAD) Parameters" registry with "AEAD_CHACHA20-POLY1305" as the name and this document as reference.

## 6. Acknowledgements

ChaCha20 and Poly1305 were invented by Daniel J. Bernstein. The AEAD construction and the method of creating the one-time Poly1305 key were invented by Adam Langley.

Thanks to Robert Ransom, Watson Ladd, Stefan Buhler, Dan Harkins, and Kenny Paterson for their helpful comments and explanations. Thanks
to Niels Moeller for suggesting the more efficient AEAD construction in this document. Special thanks to Ilari Liusvaara for providing extra test vectors, helpful comments, and for being the first to attempt an implementation from this draft. And thanks to Sean Parkinson for suggesting improvements to the examples and the pseudocode. Thanks to David Ireland for pointing out a bug in the pseudocode, and to Stephen Farrell and Alyssa Rowan for pointing out missing advise in the security considerations.

Special thanks goes to Gordon Procter for performing a security analysis of the composition and publishing [Procter].

## 7. Changes from Previous Versions

NOTE TO RFC EDITOR: PLEASE REMOVE THIS SECTION BEFORE PUBLICATION

### 7.1. Changes from version -01 to version -02

Added IANA considerations and a paragraph in the security considerations detailing the consequences of repeating a nonce.

Added the pseudo-code.

Replaced the example of a quarterround in section 2.1
7.2. Changes from version -00 to version -01

Added references to [LatinDances2] and [Procter].

Added this section.
7.3. Changes from draft-nir-cfrg to draft-irtf-cfrg

Added references to [Zhenqing2012] and [LatinDances].

Many clarifications and improved terminology.

More test vectors from Illari.

## 8. References

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## Appendix A. Additional Test Vectors

The sub-sections of this appendix contain more test vectors for the algorithms in the sub-sections of Section 2.

## A.1. The ChaCha20 Block Functions

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Test Vector \#1:
==============

Key:
00000000000000000000000000000000000
01600000000000000000000000000000000

Nonce:
$000 \quad 000000000000000000000000$

Block Counter = 0

ChaCha State at the end

| ade0b876 | 903df1a0 | e56a5d40 | $28 b d 8653$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| b819d2bd | 1aed8da0 | ccef36a8 | c70d778b |
| 7c5941da | $8 d 485751$ | $3 f e 02477$ | $374 a d 8 b 8$ |
| f4b8436a | $1 c a 11815$ | $69 b 687 c 3$ | $8665 e e b 2$ |

Keystream:
00076 b8 e0 ad a0 f1 3d 9040 5d 6a e5 5386 bd 28 v..... $=$.@]j.S..(
016 bd d2 19 b8 a0 8d ed 1a a8 36 ef cc 8b 77 0d c7 .........6......
032 da 4159 7c 515748 8d 7724 e0 3f b8 d8 4a 37 .AY|QWH.w\$.?..J7
048 6a 43 b8 f4 1518 a1 1c c3 87 b6 69 b2 ee 6586 jC.........i..e.

Test Vector \#2:
==============

Key:
00000000000000000000000000000000000
01600000000000000000000000000000000

Nonce:
$000 \quad 000000000000000000000000$

Block Counter = 1

ChaCha State at the end

| bee7079f | $7 a 385155$ | 7c97ba98 | 0d082d73 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| a0290fcb | $6965 e 348$ | $3 e 53 c 612$ | ed7aee32 |
| 7621b729 | 434ee69c | b03371d5 | d539d874 |
| 281fed31 | 45fb0a51 | 1f0ae1ac | $6 f 4 d 794 b$ |

Keystream:


Test Vector \#3:
==============

Key:
00000000000000000000000000000000000
01600000000000000000000000000000001

Nonce:


Keystream:
000 3a eb 5224 ec f8 4992 9b 9d 82 8d b1 ce d4 dd :.R\$..I........
016832025 e8 01 8b 8160 b8 2284 f3 c9 49 aa 5a . \%......"...I.Z
032 8e ca 00 bb b4 a7 3b da d1 92 b5 c4 2f 73 f2 fd ......;...../s..
048 4e 273644 c8 b3 6125 a6 4a dd eb 00 6c 13 a0 N'6D..a\%.J...l..

Test Vector \#4:
==============

Key:
00000 ff 0000000000000000000000000000
01600000000000000000000000000000000

Nonce:
$000 \quad 000000000000000000000000$

Block Counter = 2

ChaCha State at the end
fb4dd572 4bc42ef1 df922636 327f1394
a78dea8f 5e269039 a1bebbc1 caf09aae
a25ab213 48a6b46c 1b9d9bcb 092c5be6
546ca624 1bec45d5 87f47473 96f0992e

Keystream:


Test Vector \#5:
==============

Key:
00000000000000000000000000000000000
01600000000000000000000000000000000

Nonce:
000000000000000000000000002

Block Counter = 0

ChaCha State at the end
374dc6c2 3736d58c b904e24a cd3f93ef 88228b1a 96a4dfb3 5b76ab72 c727ee54 0e0e978a f3145c95 1b748ea8 f786c297 99c28f5f 628314e8 398a19fa 6ded1b53

Keystream:
000 c2 c6 4d 37 8c d5 3637 4a e2 04 b9 ef 93 3f cd ..M7..67J.....?.
016 1a 8b 2288 b3 df a4 9672 ab 76 5b 54 ee 27 c7 ..".....r.v[T.'.
032 8a 97 0e 0e 95 5c 14 f3 a8 8e 74 1b 97 c2 86 f7 .....\....t....
048 5f 8f c2 99 e8 148362 fa 19 8a 3953 1b ed 6d _......b...9S..m

## A.2. ChaCha20 Encryption

Test Vector \#1:
==============
Key:
$000000000000000 \quad 0000 \quad 0000 \quad 000000000000$ 01600000000000000000000000000000000

Nonce:
$000 \quad 000000000000000000000000$

Initial Block Counter $=0$

Plaintext:
00000000000000000000000000000000000
01600000000000000000000000000000000
$0320000000000000000 \quad 0000000000000000$
04800000000000000000000000000000000

Ciphertext:
00076 b8 e0 ad a0 f1 3d 9040 5d 6a e5 5386 bd 28
016 bd d2 19 b8 a0 8d ed 1a a8 36 ef cc 8b 77 0d c7
032 da 4159 7c 515748 8d 7724 e0 3f b8 d8 4a 37
048 6a 43 b8 f4 1518 a1 1c c3 87 b6 69 b2 ee 6586

Test Vector \#2:
==============

Key:
00000000000000000000000000000000000 01600000000000000000000000000000001

Nonce:

```
000 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 02
Initial Block Counter = 1
Plaintext:
000 41 6e 79 20 73 75 62 6d 69 73 73 69 6f 6e 20 74
016 6f 20 74 68 65 20 49 45 54 46 20 69 6e 74 65 6e
032 64 65 64 20 62 79 20 74 68 65 20 43 6f 6e 74 72
048 69 62 75 74 6f 72 20 66 6f 72 20 70 75 62 6c 69
064 63 61 74 69 6f 6e 20 61 73 20 61 6c 6c 20 6f 72
080 20 70 61 72 74 20 6f 66 20 61 6e 20 49 45 54 46
096 20 49 6e 74 65 72 6e 65 74 2d 44 72 61 66 74 20
112 6f 72 20 52 46 43 20 61 6e 64 20 61 6e 79 20 73
128 74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e 74 20 6d 61 64 65 20 77 69
144 74 68 69 6e 20 74 68 65 20 63 6f 6e 74 65 78 74
160 20 6f 66 20 61 6e 20 49 45 54 46 20 61 63 74 69
```

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```
176 76 69 74 79 20 69 73 20 63 6f 6e 73 69 64 65 72
192 65 64 20 61 6e 20 22 49 45 54 46 20 43 6f 6e 74
208 72 69 62 75 74 69 6f 6e 22 2e 20 53 75 63 68 20
224 73 74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e 74 73 20 69 6e 63 6c 75
240 64 65 20 6f 72 61 6c 20 73 74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e
256 74 73 20 69 6e 20 49 45 54 46 20 73 65 73 73 69
272 6f 6e 73 2c 20 61 73 20 77 65 6c 6c 20 61 73 20
288 77 72 69 74 74 65 6e 20 61 6e 64 20 65 6c 65 63
304 74 72 6f 6e 69 63 20 63 6f 6d 6d 75 6e 69 63 61
320 74 69 6f 6e 73 20 6d 61 64 65 20 61 74 20 61 6e
336 79 20 74 69 6d 65 20 6f 72 20 70 6c 61 63 65 2c
352 20 77 68 69 63 68 20 61 72 65 20 61 64 64 72 65
368 73 73 65 64 20 74 6f
Ciphertext:
000 a3 fb f0 7d f3 fa 2f de 4f 37 6c a2 3e 82 73 70
016 41 60 5d 9f 4f 4f 57 bd 8c ff 2c 1d 4b 79 55 ec
032 2a 97 94 8b d3 72 29 15 c8 f3 d3 37 f7 d3 70 05
048 0e 9e 96 d6 47 b7 c3 9f 56 e0 31 ca 5e b6 25 0d
064 40 42 e0 27 85 ec ec fa 4b 4b b5 e8 ea d0 44 0e
080 20 b6 e8 db 09 d8 81 a7 c6 13 2f 42 0e 52 79 50
096 42 bd fa 77 73 d8 a9 05 14 47 b3 29 1c e1 41 1c
112 68 04 65 55 2a a6 c4 05 b7 76 4d 5e 87 be a8 5a
128 d0 0f 84 49 ed 8f 72 d0 d6 62 ab 05 26 91 ca 66
144 42 4b c8 6d 2d f8 0e a4 1f 43 ab f9 37 d3 25 9d
160 c4 b2 d0 df b4 8a 6c 91 39 dd d7 f7 69 66 e9 28
176 e6 35 55 3b a7 6c 5c 87 9d 7b 35 d4 9e b2 e6 2b
192 08 71 cd ac 63 89 39 e2 5e 8a 1e 0e f9 d5 28 0f
208 a8 ca 32 8b 35 1c 3c 76 59 89 cb cf 3d aa 8b 6c
224 cc 3a af 9f 39 79 c9 2b 37 20 fc 88 dc 95 ed 84
240 a1 be 05 9c 64 99 b9 fd a2 36 e7 e8 18 b0 4b 0b
256 c3 9c 1e 87 6b 19 3b fe 55 69 75 3f 88 12 8c c0
272 8a aa 9b 63 d1 a1 6f 80 ef 25 54 d7 18 9c 41 1f
288 58 69 ca 52 c5 b8 3f a3 6f f2 16 b9 c1 d3 00 62
304 be bc fd 2d c5 bc e0 91 19 34 fd a7 9a 86 f6 e6
320 98 ce d7 59 c3 ff 9b 64 77 33 8f 3d a4 f9 cd 85
336 14 ea 99 82 cc af b3 41 b2 38 4d d9 02 f3 d1 ab
352 7a c6 1d d2 9c 6f 21 ba 5b 86 2f 37 30 e3 7c fd
368 c4 fd 80 6c 22 f2 21
vity is consider ed an "IETF Cont ribution". Such statements inclu de oral statemen ts in IETF sessi ons, as well as written and elec tronic communica tions made at an y time or place, which are addre ssed to
```

```
...}../.071.>.sp
```

...}../.071.>.sp
A`].00W...,.KyU. A`].00W...,.KyU.
*....r)....7..p.
*....r)....7..p.
....G...V.1.^.%.
....G...V.1.^.%.
@B.'....KK....D.
@B.'....KK....D.
........./B.RyP
........./B.RyP
B..ws....G.)..A.
B..ws....G.)..A.
h.eU*....vM^...Z
h.eU*....vM^...Z
...I..r..b..\&..f
...I..r..b..\&..f
BK.m-....c..7.%.
BK.m-....c..7.%.
......l.9...if.(
......l.9...if.(
.5U;.1\..{5....+
.5U;.1\..{5....+
.q..c.9.^.....(.
.q..c.9.^.....(.
..2.5.<vY...=..l
..2.5.<vY...=..l
.:..9y.+7 ......
.:..9y.+7 ......
....d....6....K.
....d....6....K.
....k.;.Uiu?....
....k.;.Uiu?....
...c..o..%T...A.
...c..o..%T...A.
Xi.R..?.o......b
Xi.R..?.o......b
...-.....4.....
...-.....4.....
...Y...dw3.= ....
...Y...dw3.= ....
.......A.8M.....
.......A.8M.....
z....o!.[./70.|.
z....o!.[./70.|.
...l".!

```
...l".!
```

Test Vector \#3:
==============

Key:
000 1c 9240 a5 eb 55 d3 8 a f3 33888604 f6 b5 f0
..@..U...3..... 016473917 c1 40 2b 8009 9d ca 5c bc 207075 c0 G9..@+.... 7. pu.

Nonce:
$000 \quad 00 \quad 00 \quad 00 \quad 00 \quad 00 \quad 00 \quad 000000000002$

Initial Block Counter = 42

Plaintext:

| 000 | 27 | 54 | 77 | 61 | 73 | 20 | 62 | 72 | 69 | $6 c$ | $6 c$ | 69 | 67 | $2 c$ | 20 | 61 | 'Twas brillig, a |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 016 | 6 e | 64 | 20 | 74 | 68 | 65 | 20 | 73 | $6 c$ | 69 | 74 | 68 | 79 | 20 | 74 | $6 f$ | nd the slithy to |
| 032 | 76 | 65 | 73 | $0 a$ | 44 | 69 | 64 | 20 | 67 | 79 | 72 | 65 | 20 | 61 | $6 e$ | 64 | ves. Did gyre and |
| 048 | 20 | 67 | 69 | $6 d$ | 62 | $6 c$ | 65 | 20 | 69 | 6 e | 20 | 74 | 68 | 65 | 20 | 77 | gimble in the w |
| 064 | 61 | 62 | 65 | $3 a$ | $0 a$ | 41 | $6 c$ | $6 c$ | 20 | $6 d$ | 69 | $6 d$ | 73 | 79 | 20 | 77 | abe:.All mimsy w |
| 080 | 65 | 72 | 65 | 20 | 74 | 68 | 65 | 20 | 62 | $6 f$ | 72 | $6 f$ | 67 | $6 f$ | 76 | 65 | ere the borogove |
| 096 | 73 | $2 c$ | $0 a$ | 41 | $6 e$ | 64 | 20 | 74 | 68 | 65 | 20 | $6 d$ | $6 f$ | $6 d$ | 65 | 20 | s, And the mome |
| 112 | 72 | 61 | 74 | 68 | 73 | 20 | $6 f$ | 75 | 74 | 67 | 72 | 61 | 62 | 65 | $2 e$ | raths outgrabe. |  |

## Ciphertext:



## A.3. Poly1305 Message Authentication Code

Notice how in test vector \#2 $r$ is equal to zero. The part of the Poly1305 algorithm where the accumulator is multiplied by $r$ means that with $r$ equal zero, the tag will be equal to $s$ regardless of the content of the Text. Fortunately, all the proposed methods of generating $r$ are such that getting this particular weak key is very unlikely.

Test Vector \#1:
==============

One-time Poly1305 Key:
00000000000000000000000000000000000
01600000000000000000000000000000000 .................

Text to MAC:
00000000000000000000000000000000000
01600000000000000000000000000000000
03200000000000000000000000000000000
04800000000000000000000000000000000 ................................. 0000

Tag:
00000000000000000000000000000000000 .............................

Test Vector \#2:
==============

One-time Poly1305 Key:

01636 e5 f6 b5 c5 e0 6070 f0 ef ca 9622 7a 86 3e 6.....〉...."z.>

Text to MAC:
00041 6e 7920737562 6d 69737369 6f 6e 2074
016 6f $20746865204945544620696 e 74656 e$
$0326465642062792074686520436 f 6 e 7472$
$048696275746 f 722066$ 6f 7220707562 6c 69
$064636174696 f 6 e 2061732061$ 6c 6c $206 f 72$
$0802070617274206 f 6620616 e 2049455446$
$09620496 e 746572$ 6e 6574 2d 447261667420
$1126 f 722052464320616 e 6420616 e 792073$
12874617465 6d $656 e 7420$ 6d 616465207769
$1447468696 \mathrm{e} 2074686520636 f 6 e 74657874$
$160206 f 6620616 e 20494554462061637469$
$1767669747920697320636 f 6 e 7369646572$
$192656420616 e 20224945544620436 f 6 e 74$
$2087269627574696 f 6 e 22$ 2e 205375636820
$22473746174656 d 656 e 747320696 e 636 c 75$
$2406465206 f 72616 c 207374617465$ 6d 65 6e
$256 \quad 747320696 e 2049455446207365737369$
272 6f 6e 73 2c 206173207765 6c 6c 20617320
$2887772697474656 e 20616 e 6420656 c 6563$
3047472 6f 6e $696320636 f 6 d$ 6d $756 e 696361$
$32074696 f 6 e 73206 d 61646520617420616 e$
33679207469 6d $65206 f 722070$ 6c 616365 2c
$352 \quad 20776869636820617265206164647265$
368737365642074 6f
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Tag:
00036 e5 f6 b5 c5 e0 6070 f0 ef ca 9622 7a 86 3e 6.....〉...."z.>

Test Vector \#3:
==============


Tag:
000 f3 47 7e 7c d9 5417 af 89 a6 b8 79 4c 31 0c f0 .G~|.T.....yL1..

Test Vector \#4:
==============


Tag:
000454166 9a 7 e aa ee 61 e7 08 dc 7c bc c5 eb 62 EAf.~..a...|...b

Test Vector \#5: If one uses 130-bit partial reduction, does the code handle the case where partially reduced final result is not fully reduced?

R:
02000000000000000000000000000000 S:
00000000000000000000000000000000 data:
FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF tag:
03000000000000000000000000000000

Test Vector \#6: What happens if addition of s overflows modulo $2^{\wedge} 128$ ?

R:
02000000000000000000000000000000
S:
FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF data:
02000000000000000000000000000000
tag:
03000000000000000000000000000000

```
Test Vector #7: What happens if data limb is all ones and there is
carry from lower limb?
R:
01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
S:
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
data:
FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF
F0 FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF
11 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
tag:
05 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Test Vector #8: What happens if final result from polynomial part is
exactly 2^130-5?
R:
01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
S:
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
data:
FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF
FB FE FE FE FE FE FE FE FE FE FE FE FE FE FE FE
01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01
tag:
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Test Vector #9: What happens if final result from polynomial part is
exactly 2^130-6?
R:
02 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
S:
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
data:
FD FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF
tag:
FA FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF
```

```
Test Vector #10: What happens if 5*H+L-type reduction produces
131-bit intermediate result?
R:
01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
S:
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
data:
E3 35 94 D7 50 5E 43 B9 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
33 94 D7 50 5E 43 79 CD 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
tag:
14 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 55 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Test Vector #11: What happens if 5*H+L-type reduction produces
131-bit final result?
R:
01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
S:
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
data:
E3 35 94 D7 50 5E 43 B9 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
33 94 D7 50 5E 43 79 CD 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
tag:
13 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
```


## A.4. Poly1305 Key Generation Using ChaCha20

Test Vector \#1:

```
==============
```

The key:
00000000000000000000000000000000000
01600000000000000000000000000000000

The nonce:
000000000000000000000000000

Poly1305 one-time key:
00076 b8 e0 ad a0 f1 3d 9040 5d 6a e5 5386 bd 28 v..... $=$.@]j.S.. (
016 bd d2 19 b8 a0 8d ed 1a a8 36 ef cc 8b 77 0d c7 .........6.......

Test Vector \#2:
==============

The key:
00000000000000000000000000000000000
01600000000000000000000000000000001

The nonce:
000000000000000000000000002

Poly1305 one-time key:
000 ec fa $254 f 845 f 647473$ d3 cb 14 0d a9 e8 76 ..\%0._dts......
016 06 cb 3306 6c 44 7b 87 bc 2666 dd e3 fb b7 39 ..3.lD\{..\&f.... 9

Test Vector \#3:
==============

The key:
000 1c 9240 a5 eb 55 d3 8 a f3 33888604 f6 b5 f0
..@..U...3.....
016473917 c1 $402 b 8009$ 9d ca $5 c$ bc 207075 c0 G9..@+.... 70. pu.

The nonce:
$000 \quad 000000000000000000000002$

Poly1305 one-time key:
00096 5e 3b c6 f9 ec 7e d9 560808 f4 d2 29 f9 4b .^;...~.V....).
01613 7f f2 75 ca $9 b 3 f$ cb dd 59 de aa d2 3310 ae ...u..?..Y...3..

## A.5. ChaCha20-Poly1305 AEAD Decryption

Below we'll see decrypting a message. We receive a ciphertext, a nonce, and a tag. We know the key. We will check the tag, and then (assuming that it validates) decrypt the ciphertext. In this particular protocol, we'll assume that there is no padding of the plaintext.

The key:

```
000 1c 92 40 a5 eb 55 d3 8a f3 33 88 86 04 f6 b5 f0 ..@..U...3......
016 47 39 17 c1 40 2b 80 09 9d ca 5c bc 20 70 75 c0 G9..@+....\. pu.
```

Ciphertext:
00064 a0 86157586 1a f4 60 f0 62 c7 9b e6 43 bd d...u.....b...C.
$0165 e 805 c$ fd $345 c$ f3 89 f1 0867 0a c7 6c 8c b2 ^. \.4\....g..l..
032 4c 6c fc 1875 5d 43 ee a0 9e e9 4e 38 2d 26 b0 Ll..u]C....N8-\&.
048 bd b7 b7 3c 32 1b 0100 d4 f0 3b 7f 355894 cf ...<2.....;.5X..
06433 2f 83 0e $710 b 97$ ce 98 c8 a8 4a bd $0 b 9481$ 3/..q...........
08014 ad $176 e 00$ 8d 33 bd 60 f9 82 b1 ff 37 c8 55 ...n..3.`....7.U 0969797 a0 6e f4 f0 ef 61 c1 \(86324 e 2 b 350638\)...n....a..2N+5. 8 112360690 7b 6a 7c 02 b0 f9 f6 15 7b 53 c8 67 e4 6..\{j|......\{S.g. 128 b9 16 6c 76 7b 80 4d 46 a5 9b 5216 cd e7 a4 e9 ..lv\{.MF..R..... 1449040 c5 a4 043322 5e e2 82 a1 b0 a0 6c 52 3e .@...3"^.....lR> 160 af 4534 d7 f8 3f a1 15 5b 004771 8c bc 54 6a .E4..?..[.Gq..Tj 176 0d 07 2b 04 b3 56 4e ea 1b 422273 f5 4827 1a ..+..VN..B"s.H'. 192 0b b2 316053 fa 76991955 eb d6 315943 4e ..1`S.v..U.. 1 YCN
208 ce bb $4 e 46$ 6d ae 5a 1073 a6 $727627097 a 10$..NFm.Z.s.rv'.z.
22449 e6 17 d9 1d 361094 fa 68 f0 ff 77987130 I....6...h.. W. q0
24030 5b ea ba 2e da 04 df 99 7b 71 4d 6c 6f 2c 29 0[.......\{qMlo,)

256 a6 ad 5c b4 02 2b 0270 9b
.. \..+.p.
...........
.3........N.

Received Tag:
000 ee ad 9d 6789 0c bb 22392336 fe a1 85 1f 38 ...g..."9\#6.... 8

First, we calculate the one-time Poly1305 key

```
@@@ ChaCha state with key set up
    61707865 3320646e 79622d32 6b206574
    a540921c 8ad355eb 868833f3 f0b5f604
    c1173947 09802b40 bc5cca9d c0757020
    00000000 00000000 04030201 08070605
```

```
@@@ ChaCha state after 20 rounds
```

@@@ ChaCha state after 20 rounds
a94af0bd 89dee45c b64bb195 afec8fa1
a94af0bd 89dee45c b64bb195 afec8fa1
508f4726 63f554c0 1ea2c0db aa721526
508f4726 63f554c0 1ea2c0db aa721526
11b1e514 a0bacc0f 828a6015 d7825481
11b1e514 a0bacc0f 828a6015 d7825481
e8a4a850 d9dcbbd6 4c2de33a f8ccd912

```
    e8a4a850 d9dcbbd6 4c2de33a f8ccd912
```

@@@ out bytes:
bd:f0:4a:a9:5c:e4:de:89:95:b1:4b:b6:a1:8f:ec:af:
26:47:8f:50:c0:54:f5:63:db:c0:a2:1e:26:15:72:aa

Poly1305 one-time key:
000 bd f0 4a a9 5c e4 de 8995 b1 4b b6 a1 8f ec af ..J. $1 . . . . . K . .$.
0162647 8f 50 c0 54 f5 63 db c0 a2 1e 261572 aa \&G.P.T.c....\&.r.

Next, we construct the AEAD buffer

Poly1305 Input:
000 f3 3388860000000000004 e 9100000000
01664 a0 86157586 1a f4 60 f0 62 c7 9b e6 43 bd
........

032 5e 80 5c fd 34 5c f3 89 f1 0867 0a c7 6c 8c b2
048 4c 6c fc 1875 5d 43 ee a0 9e e9 4e 38 2d 26 b0
064 bd b7 b7 3c 32 1b 0100 d4 f0 3b 7f 355894 cf
08033 2f 830 e 710 b 97 ce 98 c8 a8 4a bd 0b 9481
09614 ad $176 e 00$ 8d 33 bd 60 f9 82 b1 ff 37 c8 55
1129797 a0 6e f4 f0 ef 61 c1 $86324 e 2 b 350638$
128360690 7b 6a 7c 02 b0 f9 f6 15 7b 53 c8 67 e4
144 b9 16 6c 76 7b 80 4d 46 a5 9b 5216 cd e7 a4 e9
1609040 c5 a4 043322 5e e2 82 a1 b0 a0 6c 52 3e
176 af 4534 d7 f8 3f a1 15 5b 004771 8c bc 54 6a
192 0d 07 2b 04 b3 $564 e$ ea 1b 422273 f5 4827 1a
208 0b b2 316053 fa 76991955 eb d6 $3159434 e$
224 ce bb 4e 46 6d ae 5a 1073 a6 $727627097 a 10$
240 49 e6 17 d9 1d 361094 fa 68 f0 ff 77987130
25630 5b ea ba 2e da 04 df 99 7b 71 4d 6c 6f 2c 29
272 a6 ad 5c b4 02 2b 0270 9b 00000000000000
288 0c 000000000000000901000000000000


We calculate the Poly1305 tag and find that it matches

Calculated Tag:
000 ee ad 9d 6789 0c bb 22392336 fe a1 85 1f 38 ...g..."9\#6.... 8

Finally, we decrypt the ciphertext


## Appendix B. Performance Measurements of ChaCha20

The following measurements were made by Adam Langley for a blog post published on February 27th, 2014. The original blog post was available at the time of this writing at https://www.imperialviolet.org/2014/02/27/tlssymmetriccrypto.html .


Table 1: Speed Comparison

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```
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```

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