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Y. Nir
Check Point
A. Langley
Google Inc
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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.

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1. Introduction

The Advanced Encryption Standard (AES - [\[FIPS-197\]](#)) has become the gold standard in encryption. Its efficient design, wide implementation, and hardware support allow for high performance in many areas. On most modern platforms, AES is anywhere from 4x to 10x as fast as the previous most-used cipher, 3-key Data Encryption Standard (3DES - [\[FIPS-46\]](#)), which makes it not only the best choice, but the only practical choice.

The problem is that 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 implementations to use 3DES. [\[standby-cipher\]](#) describes this issue and the need for a standby cipher in greater detail.

This document defines such a standby cipher. We use ChaCha20 ([\[chacha\]](#)) with or without the Poly1305 ([\[poly1305\]](#)) authenticator. These algorithms are not just fast and secure. They are fast even in software-only C-language implementations, allowing for much quicker deployment when compared with algorithms such as AES that are significantly accelerated by hardware implementations.

These document does not introduce these new algorithms. 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.

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 DJB'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 to 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):

```
o a += b; d ^= a; d <<= 16;
o c += d; b ^= c; b <<= 12;
o a += b; d ^= a; d <<= 8;
o c += d; b ^= c; b <<= 7;
```

Where "+" denotes integer addition without carry, "^" denotes a bitwise XOR, and "<< n" denotes an n-bit left rotation (towards the high bits).

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

```
o b = 0x01020304
o a = 0x11111111
o d = 0x01234567
o a = a + b = 0x11111111 + 0x01020304 = 0x12131415
o d = d ^ a = 0x01234567 ^ 0x12131415 = 0x13305172
o d = d << 16 = 0x51721330
```

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 = 0xea2a92f4
- 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 `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	*b	6	7
8	*c	10	11
12	*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
44c20ef3	3390af7f	d9fc690b	2a5f714c
53372767	b00a5631	974c541a	359e9963
5c971061	3d631689	2098d9d6	91dbd320

We will apply the `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	974c541a	359e9963
5c971061	ccc07c79	2098d9d6	91dbd320

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 8 32-bit little-endian integers.
- o A 96-bit nonce, treated as a concatenation of 3 32-bit little-endian 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^{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 15th word is the last 32 bits.

```

cccccccc cccccccc cccccccc cccccccc
kkkkkkkk kkkkkkkk kkkkkkkk kkkkkkkk
kkkkkkkk kkkkkkkk kkkkkkkk kkkkkkkk
bbbbbbbb nnnnnnnn nnnnnnnn nnnnnnnn

```

c=constant k=key b=blockcount 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, the original input words are added to the output words, and the result is serialized by sequencing the words one-by-one in little-endian order.

2.3.1. 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 3320646e 79622d32 6b206574
03020100 07060504 0b0a0908 0f0e0d0c
13121110 17161514 1b1a1918 1f1e1d1c
00000001 09000000 4a000000 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 5950bb2f
c4f2d0c7 fc62bb2f 8fa018fc 3f5ec7b7
335271c2 f29489f3 eabda8fc 82e46ebd
d19c12b4 b04e16de 9e83d0cb 4e3c50a2
```

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 4e6cd4c3
466482d2 09aa9f07 05d7c214 a2028bd9
d19c12b5 b94e16de e883d0cb 4e3c50a2
```

After we serialize the state, we get this:

Serialized Block:

```
000 10 f1 e7 e4 d1 3b 59 15 50 0f dd 1f a3 20 71 c4 .....;Y.P.... q.
016 c7 d1 f4 c7 33 c0 68 03 04 22 aa 9a c3 d4 6c 4e ....3.h.."....lN
032 d2 82 64 46 07 9f aa 09 14 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. The resulting state is then serialized 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, which is then XOR-ed 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 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. 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 = (00:00:00:00:00:00:00:00:4a: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):

Plaintext Sunscreen:

000	4c 61 64 69 65 73 20 61 6e 64 20 47 65 6e 74 6c	Ladies and Gentl
016	65 6d 65 6e 20 6f 66 20 74 68 65 20 63 6c 61 73	emen of the clas
032	73 20 6f 66 20 27 39 39 3a 20 49 66 20 49 20 63	s of '99: If I c
048	6f 75 6c 64 20 6f 66 66 65 72 20 79 6f 75 20 6f	ould offer you o
064	6e 6c 79 20 6f 6e 65 20 74 69 70 20 66 6f 72 20	nly one tip for
080	74 68 65 20 66 75 74 75 72 65 2c 20 73 75 6e 73	the future, suns
096	63 72 65 65 6e 20 77 6f 75 6c 64 20 62 65 20 69	creen would be i
112	74 2e	t.

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	3320646e	79622d32	6b206574
03020100	07060504	0b0a0908	0f0e0d0c
13121110	17161514	1b1a1918	1f1e1d1c
00000001	00000000	4a000000	00000000

Second block setup:

61707865	3320646e	79622d32	6b206574
03020100	07060504	0b0a0908	0f0e0d0c
13121110	17161514	1b1a1918	1f1e1d1c
00000002	00000000	4a000000	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	28feca22	7ec44dec
6d34d426	738cb970	3ac5e9f3	45590cc4
da6e8b39	892c831a	cdea67c1	2b7e1d90
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:

```

000  6e 2e 35 9a 25 68 f9 80 41 ba 07 28 dd 0d 69 81  n.5.%h..A..(..i.
016  e9 7e 7a ec 1d 43 60 c2 0a 27 af cc fd 9f ae 0b  .~z..C`...'.....
032  f9 1b 65 c5 52 47 33 ab 8f 59 3d ab cd 62 b3 57  ..e.RG3..Y=..b.W
048  16 39 d6 24 e6 51 52 ab 8f 53 0c 35 9f 08 61 d8  .9.$.QR..S.5..a.
064  07 ca 0d bf 50 0d 6a 61 56 a3 8e 08 8a 22 b6 5e  ....P.jaV....".^
080  52 bc 51 4d 16 cc f8 06 81 8c e9 1a b7 79 37 36  R.QM.....y76
096  5a f9 0b bf 74 a3 5b e6 b4 0b 8e ed f2 78 5e 42  Z...t.[.....x^B
112  87 4d                                     .M

```


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.

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 (non-secret) 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 $2^{130}-5$:
3fffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffb. 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^{128} to the number. For the shorter block it can be 2^{120} , 2^{112} , or any power of two that is evenly divisible by 8, all the way down to 2^8 .
- o If the block is not 17 bytes long (the last block), pad it with zeros. This is meaningless if you're treating it them 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](#). 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:a8:01:03:80:8a: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:

Message to be Authenticated:

```
000  43 72 79 70 74 6f 67 72 61 70 68 69 63 20 46 6f  Cryptographic Fo
016  72 75 6d 20 52 65 73 65 61 72 63 68 20 47 72 6f  rum Research Gro
032  75 70                                           up
```

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 = 016f4620636968706172676f7470797243
Acc + block = 016f4620636968706172676f7470797243
(Acc+Block) * r =
    b83fe991ca66800489155dcd69e8426ba2779453994ac90ed284034da565ecf
Acc = ((Acc+Block)*r) % P = 2c88c77849d64ae9147ddeb88e69c83fc
```

Block #2

```
Acc = 2c88c77849d64ae9147ddeb88e69c83fc
Block = 6f7247206863726165736552206d7572
Block with 0x01 byte = 016f7247206863726165736552206d7572
Acc + block = 437febea505c820f2ad5150db0709f96e
(Acc+Block) * r =
    21dcc992d0c659ba4036f65bb7f88562ae59b32c2b3b8f7efc8b00f78e548a26
Acc = ((Acc+Block)*r) % P = 2d8adaf23b0337fa7cccfb4ea344b30de
```

Last Block

```
Acc = 2d8adaf23b0337fa7cccfb4ea344b30de
Block = 7075
Block with 0x01 byte = 017075
Acc + block = 2d8adaf23b0337fa7cccfb4ea344ca153
(Acc + Block) * r =
    16d8e08a0f3fe1de4fe4a15486aca7a270a29f1e6c849221e4a6798b8e45321f
((Acc + Block) * r) % P = 28d31b7caff946c77c8844335369d03a7
```

Adding s we get this number, and serialize it 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 (r,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 ([RFC5996](#)), 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.

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 an 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 sender, 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 one-time 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 Test Vector

For this example, we'll set:

Key:

```
000  80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 8a 8b 8c 8d 8e 8f  .....
016  90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 9a 9b 9c 9d 9e 9f  .....
```


Nonce:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07      .....
```

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

```
61707865  3320646e  79622d32  6b206574
83828180  87868584  8b8a8988  8f8e8d8c
93929190  97969594  9b9a9998  9f9e9d9c
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 81 50 40 27 4a b2 94 71  ....._...P@'J..q
016  a8 33 b6 37 e3 fd 0d a5 08 db b8 e2 fd d1 a6 46  .3.7.....F
```

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([\[RFC5996\]](#)) 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. This section does not specify such a function.

Poly-1305 is an obvious choice, because MAC functions are often used as PRFs. However, Poly-1305 prohibits using the same key twice, whereas the PRF in IKEv2 is used multiple times with the same key. This issue can be solved by adding a nonce or a counter to Poly-1305, much as we do when using this function as a MAC, but that would require changing the interface for the PRF function.

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)

The ChaCha20 and Poly1305 primitives are combined into an AEAD that takes a 256-bit key and 64-bit IV as follows:

- o First the 96-bit nonce is constructed by prepending a 32-bit constant value to the IV. This could be set to zero, or could be derived from keying material, or could be assigned to a sender. It is up to the specific protocol to define the source for that 32-bit value.
- o Next, a Poly1305 one-time key is generated from the 256-bit key and nonce using the procedure described in [Section 2.6](#).
- o 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 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). TBD: bit count rather than octets? network order?
 - * The length of the ciphertext in octets (as a 64-bit little-endian integer). TBD: bit count rather than octets? network order?

Decryption is pretty much the same thing.

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.

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^{64} bytes, or sixteen thousand petabytes (18,446,744,073,709,551,616 bytes to be exact).

[2.8.1.](#) 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:

000	4c 61 64 69 65 73 20 61 6e 64 20 47 65 6e 74 6c	Ladies and Gentl
016	65 6d 65 6e 20 6f 66 20 74 68 65 20 63 6c 61 73	emen of the clas
032	73 20 6f 66 20 27 39 39 3a 20 49 66 20 49 20 63	s of '99: If I c
048	6f 75 6c 64 20 6f 66 66 65 72 20 79 6f 75 20 6f	ould offer you o
064	6e 6c 79 20 6f 6e 65 20 74 69 70 20 66 6f 72 20	nly one tip for
080	74 68 65 20 66 75 74 75 72 65 2c 20 73 75 6e 73	the future, suns
096	63 72 65 65 6e 20 77 6f 75 6c 64 20 62 65 20 69	creen would be i
112	74 2e	t.

AAD:

000	50 51 52 53 c0 c1 c2 c3 c4 c5 c6 c7	PQRS.....
-----	-------------------------------------	-----------

Key:

000	80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 8a 8b 8c 8d 8e 8f	
016	90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 9a 9b 9c 9d 9e 9f	

IV:

000	40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47	@ABCDEFG
-----	-------------------------	----------

32-bit fixed-common part:

000	07 00 00 00	
-----	-------------	------

Set up for generating poly1305 one-time key (sender id=7):

```
61707865 3320646e 79622d32 6b206574
83828180 87868584 8b8a8988 8f8e8d8c
93929190 97969594 9b9a9998 9f9e9d9c
00000000 00000007 43424140 47464544
```

After generating Poly1305 one-time key:

```
252bac7b af47b42d 557ab609 8455e9a4
73d6e10a ebd97510 7875932a ff53d53e
decc7ea2 b44ddbada e49c17d1 d8430bc9
8c94b7bc 8b7d4b4b 3927f67d 1669a432
```

Poly1305 Key:

```
000 7b ac 2b 25 2d b4 47 af 09 b6 7a 55 a4 e9 55 84 { .+%- .G...zU..U.
016 0a e1 d6 73 10 75 d9 eb 2a 93 75 78 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 34 64 8e 60 db 7b 86 af bc 53 ef 7e c2 ...4d.`.{...S.~.
016 a4 ad ed 51 29 6e 08 fe a9 e2 b5 a7 36 ee 62 d6 ...Q)n.....6.b.
032 3d be a4 5e 8c a9 67 12 82 fa fb 69 da 92 72 8b =..^..g....i..r.
048 1a 71 de 0a 9e 06 0b 29 05 d6 a5 b6 7e cd 3b 36 .q.....)....~.;6
064 92 dd bd 7f 2d 77 8b 8c 98 03 ae e3 28 09 1b 58 ...-w.....(..X
080 fa b3 24 e4 fa d6 75 94 55 85 80 8b 48 31 d7 bc ..$....u.U...H1..
096 3f f4 de f0 8e 4b 7a 9d e5 76 d2 65 86 ce c6 4b ?....Kz..v.e...K
112 61 16 a.
```


AEAD Construction for Poly1305:

```

000  50 51 52 53 c0 c1 c2 c3 c4 c5 c6 c7 00 00 00 00 PQRS.....
016  d3 1a 8d 34 64 8e 60 db 7b 86 af bc 53 ef 7e c2 ...4d.`.{...S.~.
032  a4 ad ed 51 29 6e 08 fe a9 e2 b5 a7 36 ee 62 d6 ...Q)n.....6.b.
048  3d be a4 5e 8c a9 67 12 82 fa fb 69 da 92 72 8b =..^..g....i..r.
064  1a 71 de 0a 9e 06 0b 29 05 d6 a5 b6 7e cd 3b 36 .q.....)....~.;6
080  92 dd bd 7f 2d 77 8b 8c 98 03 ae e3 28 09 1b 58 ....-w.....(..X
096  fa b3 24 e4 fa d6 75 94 55 85 80 8b 48 31 d7 bc ..$....u.U...H1..
112  3f f4 de f0 8e 4b 7a 9d e5 76 d2 65 86 ce c6 4b ?....Kz..v.e...K
128  61 16 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 a.....
144  0c 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 72 00 00 00 00 00 .....r.....

```

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, it is copied aside only to be added in later. This would be correct, but it saves a few operations to instead copy the state and do the work on the copy. This way, for the next block you don't need to recreate the 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 DJB'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^{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^{64} legitimate messages, so it is SUF-CMA 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.

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.

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 some times be under 2^{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.

5. IANA Considerations

There are no IANA considerations for this document.

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 and Ilari Liusvaara for their helpful comments and explanations. Thanks to Niels Moeller for suggesting a more efficient AEAD construction.

7. References

7.1. Normative References

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7.2. Informative 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

Test Vector #1:

=====

Key:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
016  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
```

Nonce:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....

```

Block Counter = 0

ChaCha State at the end

```
ade0b876 903df1a0 e56a5d40 28bd8653
b819d2bd 1aed8da0 ccef36a8 c70d778b
7c5941da 8d485751 3fe02477 374ad8b8
f4b8436a 1ca11815 69b687c3 8665eeb2
```

Keystream:

```
000  76 b8 e0 ad a0 f1 3d 90 40 5d 6a e5 53 86 bd 28 v.....=.@]j.S.(
016  bd d2 19 b8 a0 8d ed 1a a8 36 ef cc 8b 77 0d c7 .....6...w..
032  da 41 59 7c 51 57 48 8d 77 24 e0 3f b8 d8 4a 37 .AY|QWH.w$.?...J7
048  6a 43 b8 f4 15 18 a1 1c c3 87 b6 69 b2 ee 65 86 jC.....i...e.
```

Test Vector #2:

=====

Key:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
016  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
```

Nonce:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....

```

Block Counter = 1

ChaCha State at the end

```
bee7079f 7a385155 7c97ba98 0d082d73
a0290fcb 6965e348 3e53c612 ed7aee32
7621b729 434ee69c b03371d5 d539d874
281fed31 45fb0a51 1f0ae1ac 6f4d794b
```

Keystream:

```
000  9f 07 e7 be 55 51 38 7a 98 ba 97 7c 73 2d 08 0d ....UQ8z...|s-..
016  cb 0f 29 a0 48 e3 65 69 12 c6 53 3e 32 ee 7a ed ..).H.ei...S>2.z.
032  29 b7 21 76 9c e6 4e 43 d5 71 33 b0 74 d8 39 d5 ).!v...NC.q3.t.9.
048  31 ed 1f 28 51 0a fb 45 ac e1 0a 1f 4b 79 4d 6f 1..(Q..E....KyMo
```


Test Vector #3:

=====

Key:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
016  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 .....
```

Nonce:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....

```

Block Counter = 1

ChaCha State at the end

```
2452eb3a 9249f8ec 8d829d9b ddd4ceb1
e8252083 60818b01 f38422b8 5aaa49c9
bb00ca8e da3ba7b4 c4b592d1 fdf2732f
4436274e 2561b3c8 ebdd4aa6 a0136c00
```

Keystream:

```
000  3a eb 52 24 ec f8 49 92 9b 9d 82 8d b1 ce d4 dd  :.R$.I.....
016  83 20 25 e8 01 8b 81 60 b8 22 84 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 27 36 44 c8 b3 61 25 a6 4a dd eb 00 6c 13 a0  N'6D..a%.J...l..
```

Test Vector #4:

=====

Key:

```
000  00 ff 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
016  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
```

Nonce:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....

```

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:

```
000  72 d5 4d fb f1 2e c4 4b 36 26 92 df 94 13 7f 32  r.M....K6&....2
016  8f ea 8d a7 39 90 26 5e c1 bb be a1 ae 9a f0 ca  ....9.&^.....
032  13 b2 5a a2 6c b4 a6 48 cb 9b 9d 1b e6 5b 2c 09  ..Z.l..H.....[,.
048  24 a6 6c 54 d5 45 ec 1b 73 74 f4 87 2e 99 f0 96  $.lT.E..st.....
```


Test Vector #5:

=====

Key:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
016  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
```

Nonce:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 02 .....

```

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 36 37 4a e2 04 b9 ef 93 3f cd  ..M7..67J.....?.
016  1a 8b 22 88 b3 df a4 96 72 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 14 83 62 fa 19 8a 39 53 1b ed 6d  _.....b...9S..m
```

[A.2.](#) ChaCha20 Encryption

Test Vector #1:

=====

Key:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
016  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
```

Nonce:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....

```

Initial Block Counter = 0

Plaintext:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
016  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
032  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
048  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
```

Ciphertext:

```
000  76 b8 e0 ad a0 f1 3d 90 40 5d 6a e5 53 86 bd 28 v.....=.@]j.S.(
016  bd d2 19 b8 a0 8d ed 1a a8 36 ef cc 8b 77 0d c7 .....6...w..
032  da 41 59 7c 51 57 48 8d 77 24 e0 3f b8 d8 4a 37 .AY|QWH.w$.?...J7
048  6a 43 b8 f4 15 18 a1 1c c3 87 b6 69 b2 ee 65 86 jC.....i..e.
```

Test Vector #2:

=====

Key:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
016  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 .....
```

Nonce:

```
000  00 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 Any submission t
016  6f 20 74 68 65 20 49 45 54 46 20 69 6e 74 65 6e o the IETF inten
032  64 65 64 20 62 79 20 74 68 65 20 43 6f 6e 74 72 ded by the Contr
048  69 62 75 74 6f 72 20 66 6f 72 20 70 75 62 6c 69 ibutor for publi
064  63 61 74 69 6f 6e 20 61 73 20 61 6c 6c 20 6f 72 cation as all or
080  20 70 61 72 74 20 6f 66 20 61 6e 20 49 45 54 46 part of an IETF
096  20 49 6e 74 65 72 6e 65 74 2d 44 72 61 66 74 20 Internet-Draft
112  6f 72 20 52 46 43 20 61 6e 64 20 61 6e 79 20 73 or RFC and any s
128  74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e 74 20 6d 61 64 65 20 77 69 tatement made wi
144  74 68 69 6e 20 74 68 65 20 63 6f 6e 74 65 78 74 thin the context
```


160 20 6f 66 20 61 6e 20 49 45 54 46 20 61 63 74 69 of an IETF acti
 176 76 69 74 79 20 69 73 20 63 6f 6e 73 69 64 65 72 vity is consider
 192 65 64 20 61 6e 20 22 49 45 54 46 20 43 6f 6e 74 ed an "IETF Cont
 208 72 69 62 75 74 69 6f 6e 22 2e 20 53 75 63 68 20 ribution". Such
 224 73 74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e 74 73 20 69 6e 63 6c 75 statements inclu
 240 64 65 20 6f 72 61 6c 20 73 74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e de oral statemen
 256 74 73 20 69 6e 20 49 45 54 46 20 73 65 73 73 69 ts in IETF sessi
 272 6f 6e 73 2c 20 61 73 20 77 65 6c 6c 20 61 73 20 ons, as well as
 288 77 72 69 74 74 65 6e 20 61 6e 64 20 65 6c 65 63 written and elec
 304 74 72 6f 6e 69 63 20 63 6f 6d 6d 75 6e 69 63 61 tronic communica
 320 74 69 6f 6e 73 20 6d 61 64 65 20 61 74 20 61 6e tions made at an
 336 79 20 74 69 6d 65 20 6f 72 20 70 6c 61 63 65 2c y time or place,
 352 20 77 68 69 63 68 20 61 72 65 20 61 64 64 72 65 which are addre
 368 73 73 65 64 20 74 6f ssed to

Ciphertext:

000 a3 fb f0 7d f3 fa 2f de 4f 37 6c a2 3e 82 73 70 ...}../.07l.>.sp
 016 41 60 5d 9f 4f 4f 57 bd 8c ff 2c 1d 4b 79 55 ec A`].00W..., .KyU.
 032 2a 97 94 8b d3 72 29 15 c8 f3 d3 37 f7 d3 70 05 *....r)....7..p.
 048 0e 9e 96 d6 47 b7 c3 9f 56 e0 31 ca 5e b6 25 0dG...V.1.^.%.
 064 40 42 e0 27 85 ec ec fa 4b 4b b5 e8 ea d0 44 0e @B.'....KK....D.
 080 20 b6 e8 db 09 d8 81 a7 c6 13 2f 42 0e 52 79 50/B.RyP
 096 42 bd fa 77 73 d8 a9 05 14 47 b3 29 1c e1 41 1c B..ws....G.)..A.
 112 68 04 65 55 2a a6 c4 05 b7 76 4d 5e 87 be a8 5a h.eU*....vM^...Z
 128 d0 0f 84 49 ed 8f 72 d0 d6 62 ab 05 26 91 ca 66 ...I..r..b..&..f
 144 42 4b c8 6d 2d f8 0e a4 1f 43 ab f9 37 d3 25 9d BK.m-....C..7.%.
 160 c4 b2 d0 df b4 8a 6c 91 39 dd d7 f7 69 66 e9 28l.9...if.(
 176 e6 35 55 3b a7 6c 5c 87 9d 7b 35 d4 9e b2 e6 2b .5U;.l\..{5....+
 192 08 71 cd ac 63 89 39 e2 5e 8a 1e 0e f9 d5 28 0f .q..c.9.^.....(
 208 a8 ca 32 8b 35 1c 3c 76 59 89 cb cf 3d aa 8b 6c ..2.5.<vY...=.l
 224 cc 3a af 9f 39 79 c9 2b 37 20 fc 88 dc 95 ed 84 .:..9y.+7
 240 a1 be 05 9c 64 99 b9 fd a2 36 e7 e8 18 b0 4b 0bd....6....K.
 256 c3 9c 1e 87 6b 19 3b fe 55 69 75 3f 88 12 8c c0k.;.Uiu?....
 272 8a aa 9b 63 d1 a1 6f 80 ef 25 54 d7 18 9c 41 1f ...c..o..%T...A.
 288 58 69 ca 52 c5 b8 3f a3 6f f2 16 b9 c1 d3 00 62 Xi.R..?.o.....b
 304 be bc fd 2d c5 bc e0 91 19 34 fd a7 9a 86 f6 e6 ...-.....4.....
 320 98 ce d7 59 c3 ff 9b 64 77 33 8f 3d a4 f9 cd 85 ...Y...dw3.=....
 336 14 ea 99 82 cc af b3 41 b2 38 4d d9 02 f3 d1 abA.8M.....
 352 7a c6 1d d2 9c 6f 21 ba 5b 86 2f 37 30 e3 7c fd z....o!.[./70.|.
 368 c4 fd 80 6c 22 f2 21 ...l"!.

Test Vector #3:

=====

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.

```

Nonce:

```

000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 02  .....

```

Initial Block Counter = 42

Plaintext:

```

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

```

Ciphertext:

```

000  62 e6 34 7f 95 ed 87 a4 5f fa e7 42 6f 27 a1 df  b.4...._..Bo'..
016  5f b6 91 10 04 4c 0d 73 11 8e ff a9 5b 01 e5 cf  _....L.s....[...
032  16 6d 3d f2 d7 21 ca f9 b2 1e 5f b1 4c 61 68 71  .m=..!...._Lahq
048  fd 84 c5 4f 9d 65 b2 83 19 6c 7f e4 f6 05 53 eb  ...0.e...l...S.
064  f3 9c 64 02 c4 22 34 e3 2a 35 6b 3e 76 43 12 a6  ..d.."4.*5k>vC..
080  1a 55 32 05 57 16 ea d6 96 25 68 f8 7d 3f 3f 77  .U2.W....%h.}??w
096  04 c6 a8 d1 bc d1 bf 4d 50 d6 15 4b 6d a7 31 b1  ....MP..Km.1.
112  87 b5 8d fd 72 8a fa 36 75 7a 79 7a c1 88 d1    ....r..6uzyz...

```

[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.

000 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

Test Vector #2:

=====

One-time Poly1305 Key:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
016  36 e5 f6 b5 c5 e0 60 70 f0 ef ca 96 22 7a 86 3e 6.....`p...."z.>
```

Text to MAC:

```
000  41 6e 79 20 73 75 62 6d 69 73 73 69 6f 6e 20 74 Any submission t
016  6f 20 74 68 65 20 49 45 54 46 20 69 6e 74 65 6e o the IETF inten
032  64 65 64 20 62 79 20 74 68 65 20 43 6f 6e 74 72 ded by the Contr
048  69 62 75 74 6f 72 20 66 6f 72 20 70 75 62 6c 69 ibutor for publi
064  63 61 74 69 6f 6e 20 61 73 20 61 6c 6c 20 6f 72 cation as all or
080  20 70 61 72 74 20 6f 66 20 61 6e 20 49 45 54 46 part of an IETF
096  20 49 6e 74 65 72 6e 65 74 2d 44 72 61 66 74 20 Internet-Draft
112  6f 72 20 52 46 43 20 61 6e 64 20 61 6e 79 20 73 or RFC and any s
128  74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e 74 20 6d 61 64 65 20 77 69 tatement made wi
144  74 68 69 6e 20 74 68 65 20 63 6f 6e 74 65 78 74 thin the context
160  20 6f 66 20 61 6e 20 49 45 54 46 20 61 63 74 69 of an IETF acti
176  76 69 74 79 20 69 73 20 63 6f 6e 73 69 64 65 72 vity is consider
192  65 64 20 61 6e 20 22 49 45 54 46 20 43 6f 6e 74 ed an "IETF Cont
208  72 69 62 75 74 69 6f 6e 22 2e 20 53 75 63 68 20 ribution". Such
224  73 74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e 74 73 20 69 6e 63 6c 75 statements inclu
240  64 65 20 6f 72 61 6c 20 73 74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e de oral statemen
256  74 73 20 69 6e 20 49 45 54 46 20 73 65 73 73 69 ts in IETF sessi
272  6f 6e 73 2c 20 61 73 20 77 65 6c 6c 20 61 73 20 ons, as well as
288  77 72 69 74 74 65 6e 20 61 6e 64 20 65 6c 65 63 written and elec
304  74 72 6f 6e 69 63 20 63 6f 6d 6d 75 6e 69 63 61 tronic communica
320  74 69 6f 6e 73 20 6d 61 64 65 20 61 74 20 61 6e tions made at an
336  79 20 74 69 6d 65 20 6f 72 20 70 6c 61 63 65 2c y time or place,
352  20 77 68 69 63 68 20 61 72 65 20 61 64 64 72 65 which are addre
368  73 73 65 64 20 74 6f ssed to
```

Tag:

```
000  36 e5 f6 b5 c5 e0 60 70 f0 ef ca 96 22 7a 86 3e 6.....`p...."z.>
```


Test Vector #3:

=====

One-time Poly1305 Key:

```
000 36 e5 f6 b5 c5 e0 60 70 f0 ef ca 96 22 7a 86 3e 6.....`p...."z.>
016 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....

```

Text to MAC:

```
000 41 6e 79 20 73 75 62 6d 69 73 73 69 6f 6e 20 74 Any submission t
016 6f 20 74 68 65 20 49 45 54 46 20 69 6e 74 65 6e o the IETF inten
032 64 65 64 20 62 79 20 74 68 65 20 43 6f 6e 74 72 ded by the Contr
048 69 62 75 74 6f 72 20 66 6f 72 20 70 75 62 6c 69 ibutor for publi
064 63 61 74 69 6f 6e 20 61 73 20 61 6c 6c 20 6f 72 cation as all or
080 20 70 61 72 74 20 6f 66 20 61 6e 20 49 45 54 46 part of an IETF
096 20 49 6e 74 65 72 6e 65 74 2d 44 72 61 66 74 20 Internet-Draft
112 6f 72 20 52 46 43 20 61 6e 64 20 61 6e 79 20 73 or RFC and any s
128 74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e 74 20 6d 61 64 65 20 77 69 tatement made wi
144 74 68 69 6e 20 74 68 65 20 63 6f 6e 74 65 78 74 thin the context
160 20 6f 66 20 61 6e 20 49 45 54 46 20 61 63 74 69 of an IETF acti
176 76 69 74 79 20 69 73 20 63 6f 6e 73 69 64 65 72 vity is consider
192 65 64 20 61 6e 20 22 49 45 54 46 20 43 6f 6e 74 ed an "IETF Cont
208 72 69 62 75 74 69 6f 6e 22 2e 20 53 75 63 68 20 ribution". Such
224 73 74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e 74 73 20 69 6e 63 6c 75 statements inclu
240 64 65 20 6f 72 61 6c 20 73 74 61 74 65 6d 65 6e de oral statemen
256 74 73 20 69 6e 20 49 45 54 46 20 73 65 73 73 69 ts in IETF sessi
272 6f 6e 73 2c 20 61 73 20 77 65 6c 6c 20 61 73 20 ons, as well as
288 77 72 69 74 74 65 6e 20 61 6e 64 20 65 6c 65 63 written and elec
304 74 72 6f 6e 69 63 20 63 6f 6d 6d 75 6e 69 63 61 tronic communica
320 74 69 6f 6e 73 20 6d 61 64 65 20 61 74 20 61 6e tions made at an
336 79 20 74 69 6d 65 20 6f 72 20 70 6c 61 63 65 2c y time or place,
352 20 77 68 69 63 68 20 61 72 65 20 61 64 64 72 65 which are addre
368 73 73 65 64 20 74 6f ssed to

```

Tag:

```
000 f3 47 7e 7c d9 54 17 af 89 a6 b8 79 4c 31 0c f0 .G~|.T.....yL1..

```


Test Vector #4:

=====

One-time Poly1305 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.

```

Text to MAC:

```

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

```

Tag:

```

000  45 41 66 9a 7e aa ee 61 e7 08 dc 7c bc c5 eb 62  EAf.~...a...|...b

```

[A.4.](#) Poly1305 Key Generation Using ChaCha20

Test Vector #1:

=====

The key:

```

000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  .....
016  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  .....

```

The nonce:

```

000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  .....

```

Poly1305 one-time key:

```

000  76 b8 e0 ad a0 f1 3d 90 40 5d 6a e5 53 86 bd 28  v.....=.@]j.S..(
016  bd d2 19 b8 a0 8d ed 1a a8 36 ef cc 8b 77 0d c7  .....6...w..

```


Test Vector #2:

=====

The key:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
016  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 .....
```

The nonce:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 02 .....

```

Poly1305 one-time key:

```
000  ec fa 25 4f 84 5f 64 74 73 d3 cb 14 0d a9 e8 76 ..%0._dts.....v
016  06 cb 33 06 6c 44 7b 87 bc 26 66 dd e3 fb b7 39 ..3.lD{..&f....9
```

Test Vector #3:

=====

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.
```

The nonce:

```
000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 02 .....

```

Poly1305 one-time key:

```
000  96 5e 3b c6 f9 ec 7e d9 56 08 08 f4 d2 29 f9 4b .^;...~.V....).K
016  13 7f f2 75 ca 9b 3f cb dd 59 de aa d2 33 10 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:

```
000  64 a0 86 15 75 86 1a f4 60 f0 62 c7 9b e6 43 bd  d...u...`.b...C.
016  5e 80 5c fd 34 5c f3 89 f1 08 67 0a c7 6c 8c b2  ^.\.4\....g..l..
032  4c 6c fc 18 75 5d 43 ee a0 9e e9 4e 38 2d 26 b0  Ll..u]C....N8-&.
048  bd b7 b7 3c 32 1b 01 00 d4 f0 3b 7f 35 58 94 cf  ...<2.....;5X..
064  33 2f 83 0e 71 0b 97 ce 98 c8 a8 4a bd 0b 94 81  3/..q.....J....
080  14 ad 17 6e 00 8d 33 bd 60 f9 82 b1 ff 37 c8 55  ...n...3.`....7.U
096  97 97 a0 6e f4 f0 ef 61 c1 86 32 4e 2b 35 06 38  ...n...a...2N+5.8
112  36 06 90 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 52 16 cd e7 a4 e9  ..lv{.MF..R.....
144  90 40 c5 a4 04 33 22 5e e2 82 a1 b0 a0 6c 52 3e  .@...3"^.....lR>
160  af 45 34 d7 f8 3f a1 15 5b 00 47 71 8c bc 54 6a  .E4...?..[.Gq..Tj
176  0d 07 2b 04 b3 56 4e ea 1b 42 22 73 f5 48 27 1a  ..+..VN..B"s.H'.
192  0b b2 31 60 53 fa 76 99 19 55 eb d6 31 59 43 4e  ..1`S.v..U..1YCN
208  ce bb 4e 46 6d ae 5a 10 73 a6 72 76 27 09 7a 10  ..NFm.Z.s.rv'.z.
224  49 e6 17 d9 1d 36 10 94 fa 68 f0 ff 77 98 71 30  I....6...h..w.q0
240  30 5b ea ba 2e da 04 df 99 7b 71 4d 6c 6f 2c 29  0[.....{qMlo,)
256  a6 ad 5c b4 02 2b 02 70 9b  ..\...+.p.
```

The nonce:

```
000  00 00 00 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08  .....
```

The AAD:

```
000  f3 33 88 86 00 00 00 00 00 00 4e 91  .3.....N.
```

Received Tag:

```
000  ee ad 9d 67 89 0c bb 22 39 23 36 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
    a94af0bd 89dee45c b64bb195 afec8fa1
    508f4726 63f554c0 1ea2c0db aa721526
    11b1e514 a0bacc0f 828a6015 d7825481
    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 89 95 b1 4b b6 a1 8f ec af ...J.\.....K.....
016 26 47 8f 50 c0 54 f5 63 db c0 a2 1e 26 15 72 aa &G.P.T.c....&.r.
```

Next, we construct the AEAD buffer

Poly1305 Input:

```
000 f3 33 88 86 00 00 00 00 00 00 4e 91 00 00 00 00 .3.....N.....
016 64 a0 86 15 75 86 1a f4 60 f0 62 c7 9b e6 43 bd d...u...`.b...C.
032 5e 80 5c fd 34 5c f3 89 f1 08 67 0a c7 6c 8c b2 ^.\.4\....g..l..
048 4c 6c fc 18 75 5d 43 ee a0 9e e9 4e 38 2d 26 b0 Ll..u]C....N8-&.
064 bd b7 b7 3c 32 1b 01 00 d4 f0 3b 7f 35 58 94 cf ...<2.....;.5X..
080 33 2f 83 0e 71 0b 97 ce 98 c8 a8 4a bd 0b 94 81 3/..q.....J....
096 14 ad 17 6e 00 8d 33 bd 60 f9 82 b1 ff 37 c8 55 ...n..3.`....7.U
112 97 97 a0 6e f4 f0 ef 61 c1 86 32 4e 2b 35 06 38 ...n...a..2N+5.8
128 36 06 90 7b 6a 7c 02 b0 f9 f6 15 7b 53 c8 67 e4 6..{j|.....{S.g.
144 b9 16 6c 76 7b 80 4d 46 a5 9b 52 16 cd e7 a4 e9 ..lv{.MF..R.....
160 90 40 c5 a4 04 33 22 5e e2 82 a1 b0 a0 6c 52 3e .@...3"^.....lR>
176 af 45 34 d7 f8 3f a1 15 5b 00 47 71 8c bc 54 6a .E4...?..[.Gq..Tj
192 0d 07 2b 04 b3 56 4e ea 1b 42 22 73 f5 48 27 1a ..+...VN..B"s.H'.
208 0b b2 31 60 53 fa 76 99 19 55 eb d6 31 59 43 4e ..1`S.v...U..1YCN
224 ce bb 4e 46 6d ae 5a 10 73 a6 72 76 27 09 7a 10 ..NFm.Z.s.rv'.z.
240 49 e6 17 d9 1d 36 10 94 fa 68 f0 ff 77 98 71 30 I....6...h...w.q0
256 30 5b ea ba 2e da 04 df 99 7b 71 4d 6c 6f 2c 29 0[.....{qMlo,)
272 a6 ad 5c b4 02 2b 02 70 9b 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ..\...+.p.....
288 0c 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 09 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
```


We calculate the Poly1305 tag and find that it matches

Calculated Tag:

[000](#) ee ad 9d 67 89 0c bb 22 39 23 36 fe a1 85 1f 38 ...g..."9#6....[8](#)

Finally, we decrypt the ciphertext

Plaintext::

```
000  49 6e 74 65 72 6e 65 74 2d 44 72 61 66 74 73 20  Internet-Drafts
016  61 72 65 20 64 72 61 66 74 20 64 6f 63 75 6d 65  are draft docume
032  6e 74 73 20 76 61 6c 69 64 20 66 6f 72 20 61 20  nts valid for a
048  6d 61 78 69 6d 75 6d 20 6f 66 20 73 69 78 20 6d  maximum of six m
064  6f 6e 74 68 73 20 61 6e 64 20 6d 61 79 20 62 65  onths and may be
080  20 75 70 64 61 74 65 64 2c 20 72 65 70 6c 61 63  updated, replac
096  65 64 2c 20 6f 72 20 6f 62 73 6f 6c 65 74 65 64  ed, or obsoleted
112  20 62 79 20 6f 74 68 65 72 20 64 6f 63 75 6d 65  by other docume
128  6e 74 73 20 61 74 20 61 6e 79 20 74 69 6d 65 2e  nts at any time.
144  20 49 74 20 69 73 20 69 6e 61 70 70 72 6f 70 72  It is inappropri
160  69 61 74 65 20 74 6f 20 75 73 65 20 49 6e 74 65  ate to use Inte
176  72 6e 65 74 2d 44 72 61 66 74 73 20 61 73 20 72  rnet-Drafts as r
192  65 66 65 72 65 6e 63 65 20 6d 61 74 65 72 69 61  eference materia
208  6c 20 6f 72 20 74 6f 20 63 69 74 65 20 74 68 65  l or to cite the
224  6d 20 6f 74 68 65 72 20 74 68 61 6e 20 61 73 20  m other than as
240  2f e2 80 9c 77 6f 72 6b 20 69 6e 20 70 72 6f 67  /...work in prog
256  72 65 73 73 2e 2f e2 80 9d  res./...
```

Authors' Addresses

Yoav Nir
Check Point Software Technologies Ltd.
5 Hasolelim st.
Tel Aviv 6789735
Israel

Email: ynir.ietf@gmail.com

Adam Langley
Google Inc

Email: agl@google.com

