

# Beetle Family of Lightweight and Secure Authenticated Encryption Ciphers

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 Motivation
- 3 Specification for Beetle
- 4 Hardware Implementation Results of Beetle
- 5 Conclusions

Figure: Data Transmission

A symmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{AE} = (K; E; D)$

$E: K \times M \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$

$D: K \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow M \cup \{?\}$

$\mathcal{C}$  : set of **tagged** ciphertexts ( $(C; T)$  pair)

? : special symbol to denote **reject**

## Nonce

Arbitrary number used only **once** for each encryption

Useful as initialization vectors. Example: **Counter**

## Associated Data

Header of the Message (not **encrypted** but **authenticated**)

Example: **IP Address**

## Why AE?

In practice both **privacy** and **authenticity** are desirable

A doctor wishes to send medical information about Alice to the medical database.  
Then

We want data **privacy** to ensure Alice's medical records remain **con dential**

We want **integrity** to ensure the person sending the information is really the doctor and the information was **not modi ed** in transit

We refer to this as authenticated encryption

## Privacy

We want **IND-CPA**

## Integrity

Adversary's goal: Receiver accepts a **forged** tuple  $(T; N; A)$

**INT-CTXT**: Any forged tuple is rejected with high probability

Goal - **IND-CPA + INT-CTXT**

Adversary  $A$  runs in time  $t$

$A$  makes  $q_e$  **enc** queries ( $e$  enc blocks)

$q_f$  **one** permutation queries to  $f$  or  $f^{-1}$  (simply  $f$ )

$q_d$  **forge** queries ( $d$  forge blocks)

$\text{Adv}_E^{\text{AE}}(A) = \Pr_{A((f; E_K; D_K); (f; \$; ?))}$

$\$$  returns a **random** string from the range set  $E_K$

$?$  oracle always return  $\$$  (reject always)

$\text{Adv}_E^{\text{AE}}((q_e; q_f; q_d); (e; d); t) = \max_A \text{Adv}_E^{\text{AE}}(A)$

- 1 Introduction
- 2 **Motivation**
- 3 Specification for Beetle
- 4 Hardware Implementation Results of Beetle
- 5 Conclusions



## Designing Highly Secure Lightweight AE

The mode should be **very light**

It should provide **sufficient** security level

It should achieve better **area-security** trade-off among the existing designs

## Several Ways of Designing AE

**Blockcipher**(BC) based

**Streamcipher** (SC) based

**Permutation based (Sponge)** etc.

## Our target: Highly Secure Lightweight AE

Best Choice: Sponge Based

**Sequential** nonce-based AE

**b**-bit state: **r**-bit rate + **c**-bit capacity ( $b = r + c$ )

**r**-bit: process then feedback, **c**-bit: direct feedback

Introduced as a hash mode with Keccak<sup>a</sup> hash (SHA-3)

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<sup>a</sup>Guido Bertoni, Joan Daemen, Michael Peeters, and Gilles Van Assche, Keccak, In EUROCRYPT 2013

Sponge based AE designed in Duplex<sup>a</sup> mode

$c=2$ -bit AE security

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<sup>a</sup>Guido Bertoni, Joan Daemen, Michael Peeters, and Gilles Van Assche. Duplexing the sponge: Single-pass authenticated encryption and other applications, SAC 2011

## Improved Bound (Jovanovic et al's Result)

Showed  $\min_{b=2}^{c-g}$ -bit AE security<sup>a</sup> of Duplex sponge

Assumed number of decryption blocks  $2^{c-2}$  (Impractical in real life)

Essentially  $c-2$ -bit security remains (considering decryption blocks)

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<sup>a</sup>Philipp Jovanovic, Atul Luykx, and Bart Mennink, Beyond  $2^{c-2}$  security in sponge-based authenticated encryption modes, ASIACRYPT 2014

## Main Challenge of This Work

Main Difficulty: Ciphertext is injected directly to the permutation

Can we stop that and increase the security adding simple tweaks in the design?

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Motivation
- 3 Speci cation for Beetle**
  - Design of Beetle
  - Security Bounds
  - Properties
- 4 Hardware Implementation Results of Beetle
- 5 Conclusions

## Possible Options for Feedback

**Message** Feedback: Current  $M[i]$  is the feedback  $X[i]$  for the next primitive call

**Ciphertext** Feedback: Current  $C[i]$  is the feedback  $X[i]$

**Output** Feedback: Previous primitive output  $Y[i-1]$  is the feedback  $X[i]$

## Combined Feedback

Exactly one of  $M[i]$ ,  $C[i]$ ,  $Y[i-1]$  can not compute  $X[i]$ . Adversary can not control  $X[i]$  (by enc/dec queries). Introduced in COFB

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<sup>a</sup>Avik Chakraborti, Tetsu Iwata, Kazuhiko Minematsu and Mridul Nandi, Blockcipher Based Authenticated Encryption: How small can we go?, CHES 2017





Beetle: Uses **Combined Feedback** in the  $r$ sbit

## State Size

It needs only  $ab$  bits for storing the permutation  $f$  state

## Effect of Combined Feedback

Each  $f$  output is processed with  $M$  using a combined feedback

$(X; C) = (Y; M)$ :  $X$  is **influenced** by both  $Y$  and  $M$

High security bound: due to feedback function, **hard** to forge

$\text{Const}_M = 1$  if  $M \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $n$  divides  $|M|$ ,  $\text{Const}_M = 2$  else

$(X; C) = (Y; M) = (G^{-1}(Y; M); Y \oplus M)$ , where

$X = G^{-1}(Y; M) := G \cdot Y \oplus M, C = Y \oplus M$

Both  $G$  and  $G + I$ : Full rank matrix

During decryption:  $X = (G + I)^{-1} \cdot Y + C$

Distinction of  $G$  and  $I$  makes combined feedback

$G : y = (y_1; y_2) \mapsto (y_2; y_2 \oplus y_1)$  where  $y_1; y_2 \in \mathbb{F}_2^{r/2}$ ;  $1g^{r/2}$

Efficient to implement ( $r/2$ -bit left shift +  $r/2$ -bit XOR)

$$G_{r/2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \\ I & I \end{pmatrix}$$

## Recommended Versions

Beetle[Light+]: Lightweight

Beetle[Secure+]: High security level

## Underlying

For Beetle[Light+]: PHOTON<sup>a</sup>  $P_{144}$  with  $b = 144$ ;  $r = 64$ ;  $c = 80$

For Beetle[Secure+]: PHOTON  $P_{256}$  with  $b = 256$ ;  $r = 128$ ;  $c = 128$

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<sup>a</sup>Jian Guo, Thomas Peyrin, and Axel Poschmann, The PHOTON family of lightweight hash functions, CRYPTO 2011

## AE Security Bound

Nonce-respecting adversary

$\min\{b/2, c - \log r, r\}$  bit AE security

Beetle[Light+] has 64-bit security

Beetle[Secure+] has 121-bit security

Table: Comparative Study on the State size and Security Trade-off. Assume  $r = c = b/2$

Design	State size	Security
Beetle	$b$	$b/2 \quad \log b/4$
SpongeAE	$b$	$b/4$

## Advantages

Very low **state** size of  $b$  ( $b$ : state size)

Very **flexible** mode (any permutation  $f$  can be used)

**Inverse free**

**Simple** linear feedback

Very lightweight and consumes **low** hardware area

## Limitations

Both the encryption and decryption are completely **serial**

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Motivation
- 3 Specification for Beetle
- 4 Hardware Implementation Results of Beetle**
- 5 Conclusions

**a** block AD, **m** block M ( $\ell = 64$ -bit blocks, i.e, 8 byte blocks)

cycle count =  $13(a + m) + 12$  (In this calculation, we assume  $a = m$ )

**cpb** =  $\frac{\text{cycle count}}{\text{len}}$ , len is length of M in bytes (actually  $\frac{13 \cdot 2m + 12}{8m} = 3.25 + \frac{1.5}{m}$ )

**Table:** Clock cycles per message byte for Beetle[Light+] with  $\ell = 64$ .

	Message length (Bytes)										
	8	16	24	32	64	128	256	512	1024	2048	16384
cpb	3.4375	3.3437	3.3125	3.2969	3.2734	3.2617	3.2559	3.2529	3.2514	3.2507	3.2500





**Serial** processing of data

**Round-based** architecture of PHOTON  $P_{144}$  permutation

Processes **64** bits per **12** clock cycles

Uses very **low** storage registers (**only** 1 bit)

**Minimum** hardware area among all the known implementations

Table: Beetle[Light+]. Not compatible with CAESAR API

Platform	# Slice Registers	# LUTs	# Slices	Frequency (MHZ)	Gbps	Mbps/LUT	Mbps/Slice
Vertex 6	185	616	252	381.592	1.879	3.050	7.369
Vertex 7	185	608	312	425.595	2.095	3.445	6.715

Table: Beetle[Secure+]

Platform	# Slice Registers	# LUTs	# Slices	Frequency (MHZ)	Gbps	Mbps/LUT	Mbps/Slice
Vertex 6	281	998	434	256.000	2.520	2.525	5.806
Vertex 7	305	1101	512	303.965	2.993	2.718	5.846

We admit our implementation does not follow CAESAR API

Scheme	Underlying Primitive	Security (in Bits)	# LUTs	# Slices	Gbps	Mbps/LUT	Mbps/Slice
Beetle[Light+]	Sponge(144, 64)	64	616	252	1.879	3.050	7.369
Ketje-JR	Sponge(200, 16)	96	1236	412	2.832	2.292	6.875
ASCON-128	Sponge(320, 64)	128	1274	451	3.118	2.447	6.914
JAMBU-SIMON96	BC(64)	48	1035	386	0.931	0.899	2.411
CLOC-TWINE80	BC(80)	32	1689	532	0.343	0.203	0.645
SILC-LED80	BC(80)	32	1684	579	0.245	0.145	0.422
SILC-PRESENT80	BC(80)	32	1514	548	0.407	0.269	0.743
COFB-AES	BC(128)	58	1075	442	2.850	2.240	6.450

Scheme	Underlying Primitive	Security (in Bits)	# LUTs	# Slices	Gbps	Mbps/LUT	Mbps/Slice
Beetle[Secure+]	Sponge(256, 128)	121	998	434	2.520	2.525	5.806
ASCON-128	Sponge(320, 64)	128	1274	451	3.118	2.447	6.914
NORX	Sponge(1024, 768)	128	5495	1724	24.524	4.463	9.139
Ketje-SR	Sponge(400, 32)	128	1903	613	5.772	3.033	9.416
Riverkeyak	Sponge(800, 544)	128	6234	1751	7.417	1.190	4.236
Lakekeyak	Sponge(1600, 1344)	128	19860	7130	12.603	0.635	1.768
Gibbon	Sponge(280, 40)	120	1807	653	1.280	0.708	1.960
Hanuman	Sponge(280, 40)	120	1769	626	0.693	0.392	1.107
ICEPOLE128a	Sponge(1280, 1024)	128	5734	1995	44.464	7.754	22.288

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Motivation
- 3 Specification for Beetle
- 4 Hardware Implementation Results of Beetle
- 5 **Conclusions**

Beetle : Permutation based AE mode

Security level:  $m \cdot \log_2 r$ ,  $c - \log_2 r$ ,  $rg$

Low area AE and can be used in low resource embedded devices

