

Notations:

m_i – stream of plaintext

c_i – stream of ciphertext

z_i – keystream

h =SW function;

f =AD function;

S_i – internal state i ; S_0 – initial state;

g =XOR;

Key mixing

Role of this module is to mix enough the provided key and is using as an initialization value $kkey$, set to 512; the output is a new $kkey$ value.

$m_key[i] = i, i=0,63$

There are four sets of values:

$S1=[7,26,45]$

$S2=[5,22,39,56]$

$S3=[3,16,29,42,55]$

$S4=[2,13,24,35,46,57]$

If j (for $j=0,63$) is in first set of values then $kkey$ value is decreased with $i^{key[j]}$, and if it is in the second set of values becomes the remainder of the division with $i^{key[j]}$ (modulo operation) plus a fixed value of 512 in order to avoid possible intermediate zero values.

If it is in the third set, $kkey$ is increased with $i^{key[j]}$ and for the last one is multiplied with i .

A number of rounds equal with $kkey \% 512$ is performed for mixing the m_key vector, in each round being calculated the sum of the m_key values and used to calculate the next m_key values as the remainder of the division with the value $67-i, i=0,63$.

Key initialization

In this part of the algorithm, transform key in order to obtain a proper initialization before it can be used to generate the keystream. It is done using two major functions: one is the “switch” function (SW), which will mix the bytes of the data key as follows: every byte j is switched with byte k in the data key, where k is the value from the mixed key (mk) in the i position.

The next function is an additive function (AD) that will replace the value from each position with the sum between two near bytes, excepting the last value, which is obtained as a sum between the last byte and the first byte.

After these two transformations, obtain an intermediate data key; to initialize the data key properly, these rounds will be repeated T times (a variable number comparing with HENKOS design which uses a fixed 64 value), without producing any output, where $T=64+kkey\%64$. After the last round a mixed key is released in order to be used for stream generation.

Keystream generation

To obtain the keystream, $z_i = g(S_{i+1}, t(S_i))$, where S_i is the output from the last cycle of key initialization.

For generation of a keystream with predefined length, function g must be applied as long as necessary.

Encryption/decryption

The encryption/decryption between the plaintext/ciphertext is done using XOR:

$$c_i = h(m_i, z_i); m_i = h(c_i, z_i);$$

c_i = ciphertext, m_i = plaintext, z_i = keystream;

2. Performance

The provided source code from the annex implementation using C language running on a Celeron 1.73 GHz reporting speed about 60MB/s at keystream generation, an optimized or assembler version could perform better.

3. Security analysis

Time/Memory/Data tradeoff attacks

This kind of attack has two phases: During pre-computation phase the attacker exploits the structure of the stream cipher and summarizes his findings in large tables. During the attack phase, the attacker uses these tables and the observed data to determine the secret key or the internal state of the stream cipher.

The size of the tables in the pre-computation stage, the required keystream, and the computational effort required to recover the secret key determine the feasibility of this attack. A simple way to provide security against this attack in stream ciphers is to increase the search space. In Nofish stream cipher the size of the internal state and the secret key space is 512 bits.

Related key Attack

Related key attack is attempted to find two different keys that will produce the same keystream. The cipher isn't vulnerable to this kind of attack, it was verified correlation between keystream produces from keys that differ through one bit one of another.

It can be assumed that for keys that differ through more bits, the possibility to appear correlation between produced keystreams under the same data key become negligible.

Statistical tests analysis

A keystream generator that exhibits basic statistical biases or detectable characteristics is weak. The output from Nofish has been tested using the statistical test packages like Ent, Diehard, Rabin and have detected no statistical weaknesses.

4. Summary

The proposed Nofish algorithm is fast, in particular faster than AES in counter and CBC mode, has a small size which made it quite flexible for various platforms and implementations and it seems to provide an adequate level of security.

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References:

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Appendix A

This appendix presents the ANSI C source code for Nofish.

```
/* filename nofishg.c*/
/*Author: Marius Oliver Gheorghita e-mail: redwire05@yahoo.com*/
/*Bugfixes and Changes: Philipp Guehring e-mail: pg@futureware.at */
/*THIS SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED ``AS IS" AND ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED
WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF
MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND AGAINST
INFRINGEMENT ARE DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE AUTHOR OR
CONTRIBUTORS BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL,
EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,
PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR
PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF
LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING
NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS
SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.
*/

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <time.h>
#include <stdio.h>

#define keylen 65
#define isize 65

FILE *fd=NULL,*fp=NULL;
unsigned long cacheidx=0,cachesize=0,kkey=0;
long num_blocks=0;
unsigned int input[isize];
unsigned int m_key[isize];
unsigned char *cache=NULL,key[isize];
unsigned int start,stop,sump;
unsigned int i,k=0,primul,handle;
char file_d[128];
```

```
/* Takes 64 bytes from key[64] and distributes the entropy to kkey, m_key[64] and input[64] */
```

```
void mix_key()
{
    int j=0;
    kkey=512;
    for(i=0;i<64;i++)
    {
        if(i%19==7) kkey-=i^key[i];
        else if(i%17==5) kkey%=i^key[i]+512;
        else if(i%13==3) kkey+=i^key[i];
        else if(i%11==2) kkey*=i;
    }
    kkey=abs(kkey);

    for(i=0;i<64;i++)
        m_key[i]=i;

    for(j=0;j<=kkey%512;j++)
    {
        sump=0;
        for(i=0;i<64;i++)
            sump+=m_key[i];
        for(i=0;i<64;i++)
            m_key[i]=sump%(67-i);
    }

    for(i=0;i<64;i++)
    {
        input[i]=m_key[i]^key[i];
    }
}
```

```
/* Generates the stream into output.
```

```
* Please fill key[64] with 64 byte key before calling this function.
```

```
*/
```

```
void generare_secv(unsigned char *output,unsigned long X)
```

```
{
    register int i,x;
    cacheidx=0;
    k=0;
    memset(input,0,sizeof(input));
    cachesize=X;
    cache=output;
    if(X<1) return;
    if(cache==NULL)
    {
        printf("Not enough memory to store result\n");
        return;
    }
    mix_key();
    while(k<(64+kkey%64))
    {
        for(i=0;i<64;i++)
        {
            x=input[m_key[i]];
            input[m_key[i]]=input[i];
            input[i]=x;
        }
        primul=input[0];
        for(i=0;i<(keylen-1);i++)
            input[i]=((input[i]+input[i+1])%256)^(int)key[i];
        input[keylen-1]=((input[keylen-1]+primul)%256)^(int)key[keylen-1];
        k++;
    }
    num_blocks=(X+keylen-1)/keylen;
    while(num_blocks--)
    {
        for(i=0;i<64;i++)
        {
```

```

        x=input[m_key[i]];
        input[m_key[i]]=input[i];
        input[i]=x;
    }
    primul=input[0];
    for(i=0;i<(keylen-1);i++)
        input[i]=((input[i]+input[i+1])%256)^(int)key[i];
    input[keylen-1]=((input[keylen-1]+primul)%256)^(int)key[keylen-1];
    for(i=0;i<keylen-1 && cacheidx<X;i++)
        cache[cacheidx++]=((char)(input[i]^((input[i]+input[i+1])%256)^key[i]));
    if(cacheidx<X)
        cache[cacheidx++]=((char)(input[keylen-1]^((input[keylen-1]+input[0])%256)^key[keylen-1]));
}
}

#ifdef __MAIN__
int main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    if(argc<4)
    {
        printf("\n usage: nofishg <key_path> <stream_number_of_bytes> <stream_path>\n");
        printf("key_path  path to keyfile with 64 bytes binary key\n");
        return -1;
    }
    if((fd=fopen(argv[1],"rb"))==NULL)
    {
        printf("Error opening key file %s",argv[1]);
        return -1;
    }
    memset(key,0,sizeof(key));
    for(i=0;i<64 && !feof(fd) ; i++)
    {
        key[i]=(int)fgetc(fd);
    }
    fclose(fd);
    num_blocks=atoi(argv[2]);
    fd=fopen(argv[3],"wb");
    if(fd!=NULL)
    {
        unsigned char buffer[100000];
        start=clock();
        genereare_secv(buffer,num_blocks);
        num_blocks=atoi(argv[2]);
        fwrite(buffer,1,num_blocks,fd);
        stop=clock();
        fclose(fd);
        printf("\n\nTime: %f s\n", (double)(stop-start)/CLOCKS_PER_SEC);
    }
    return 0;
}
#endif

```