

ENEE 459E/CMSC 498R: Introduction to Cryptology
Stream Cipher Class Exercise 3/29/18

ALGORITHM 6.1

Init algorithm for RC4

Input: 16-byte key k

Output: Initial state (S, i, j)

(Note: All addition is done modulo 256)

for $i = 0$ to 255:

$S[i] := i$

$k[i] := k[i \bmod 16]$

$j := 0$

for $i = 0$ to 255:

$j := j + S[i] + k[i]$

Swap $S[i]$ and $S[j]$

$j := 0, i := 0$

return (S, i, j)

ALGORITHM 6.2

GetBits algorithm for RC4

Input: Current state (S, i, j)

Output: Updated state (S, i, j) ; output byte y

(Note: All addition is done modulo 256)

$i := i + 1$

$j := j + S[i]$

Swap $S[i]$ and $S[j]$

$t := S[i] + S[j]$

$y := S[t]$

return $(S, i, j), y$

Let S^0 denote the initial state, S^i denote the state after i calls to **GetBits**.

Consider Event 1: $(S^0[2] = 0) \wedge (S^0[1] = X \neq 2)$

What is the probability that Event 1 occurs? (For this part, assume Init outputs a perfectly random permutation of the values from 0 to 255) $1/256 * (1 - 1/256) \sim 1/256$

Assuming Event 1 occurs, what is the value of $S^1[X]$ (i.e. the value in position $S[X]$ after the first iteration)? X

Assuming Event 1 occurs, what is the value of $S^2[X], S^2[2]$ (i.e. the values in positions $S[X]$ and $S[2]$ after the second iteration)? $0, X$

Assuming Event 1 occurs, what value (call this V) is outputted in the second iteration?
 0

Assuming Event 1 does not occur, V is uniformly distributed.

Towards what value is V biased and with what probability? biased towards 0

Probability: $1 * 1/256 + 1/256 * (1 - 1/256) \sim 2/256$