

key derivation with easier measurable security

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hi — i propose *ciphart*, a sequential memory-hard key derivation function that has a security gain that's measurable more objectively and more conveniently than anything in class known to date.

to nail this goal, *ciphart*'s security gain is measured in the unit of *relative entropy bits*. relative to what? relative to the encryption algorithm that's used later on. therefore, this *relative entropy bits* measure is guaranteed to be true when the encryption algorithm that's used with *ciphart* is also the same one that's used to encrypt the data afterwards.

my reference implementation is available here¹.

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1 ciphart

parameters:

- W each task's size, at least 32 bytes.
- M total memory in multiples of $2W$.
- R number of rounds per task.
- B added security in *relative entropy bits*.
- enc encryption function.
- k initial key.

input:

- T $\leftarrow M/W$
- P $\leftarrow \max(2, \lceil 2^B / (TR) \rceil)$
- $m_{l,s,t}$ memory for t^{th} task, in s^{th} segment, in l^{th} lane to work on.
- n $\leftarrow 0$, a variable with enough bytes to store nonces in. $n[0]$ means first 64 bits. $n[1]$ means second 64 bits.

output:

- \hat{k} better key, with B , or more, *relative entropy bits*.

Algorithm 1: ciphart version 6

```
1 while true do
2   for  $s = 1, 2, \dots, S$  do
3     for  $l = 1, 2, \dots, L$  do
4       for  $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$  do
5         for  $r = 1, 2, \dots, R$  do
6           if  $t = 1$  then
7              $m_{l,s,t} \leftarrow \text{enc}(m_{l,s,T}, n, k)$ ;
8           else
9              $m_{l,s,t} \leftarrow \text{enc}(m_{l,s,t-1}, n, k)$ ;
10             $n[1] \leftarrow n[1] + 1$ ;
11             $k \leftarrow f(m_{l,s,t}[-64:], p, l, s, t)$ ;
12          if  $\log_2(n[0] \times SLTR + n[1]) \geq B$  then
13            go to step 15;
14           $n[0] \leftarrow n[0] + 1$ ;
15 while true do
16    $n[0] \leftarrow n[0] + 1$ ;
17   for  $l = 1, 2, \dots, L$  do
18     if  $\text{len}(\hat{k}) \geq K$  then
19       return  $\hat{k}[0:K]$ 
20      $\hat{k} \leftarrow \hat{k} \parallel \text{enc}(m_{l,s,T}[1], n, k)$ ;
21      $n[1] \leftarrow n[1] + 1$ ;
```

¹<https://github.com/Al-Caveman/ciphart>

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