

## RC4

### 1. STEP 1: PROGRAM YOUR OWN RC4

From the description on Wikipedia code your own version of RC4 and test Roos bias. This toy implementation will help you to answer the other questions.

### 2. STEP 2: FUNNY VERSIONS OF RC4

In many implementation of RC4, the implementation of  $\text{swap}(S[i_{t+1}], S[j_{t+1}])$  is often coded by:

```
tmp=S[i]
S[i]=S[j]
S[j]=tmp
```

However, it requires 3 variables (and thus 3 registers in CPU). A well-known trick consists to use the xor operation:

```
S[i]^=S[j]
S[j]^=S[i]
S[i]^=S[j]
```

**Question 1:** Compare two implementations of RC4: a classical one and other implementation using the xor trick. What do you observe ?

**Question 2:** What are the consequences on the initialization of RC4 ?

**Question 3:** What are the consequences on the keystream produced by RC4 ?

Question 4. Let consider the full implementation of RC4 but we modify the keystream generation as follows:

```
int i=0, j=0, x, t;
for (x=0; x < len; ++x)
{
    i = (i + 1) % 256;
    j = (j + state[i]) % 256;
    z[x] = state[(state[i] + state[j]) % 256];
}
```

Let denote  $i_t$ ,  $j_t$  and  $z_t$  the respective values of  $i$ ,  $j$  and of the keystream after  $t$  rounds.

Give formula for  $i_{t+256}$ ,  $j_{t+256}$ ,  $j_{t+512}$ ,  $z_{t+256}$  and  $z_{t+512}$ . What do you observe ?

### 3. STEP 3: THE FIRST STEP OF FMS

Let  $S_j[i]$  be the value of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  byte of the permutation  $S$  after the  $j^{\text{th}}$  round. Let denote  $z_j$  the byte of the keystream after  $j$  rounds.

Question 1. Show that if  $S_0[2] = 0$  and  $S_0[1] \neq 2$  then  $z_2 = 1$ .

Question 2. Demonstrate that the distribution of  $z_1$  is not uniform (compare when  $S$  is initialized by a random permutation).

Question 3. What can you conclude ?