

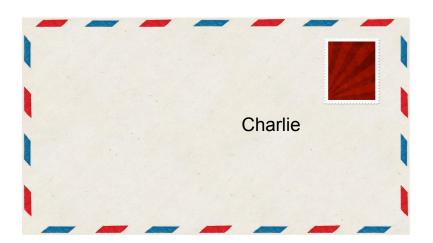
Introduction to Onion Routing

Dr. Christian Decker

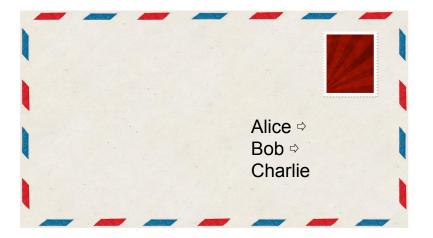
Core Tech Engineer

Source-based vs Distance Vector Routing

Distance Vector Routing



Source-based routing



Routing with an Onion

Α	В	С	D	E
В	С	D	E	Т

Routing with a Variable Onion

Α	В	С	D	Е
В	С	D	E	Т

1 Simple Onion

Simple Onion Routing protocol



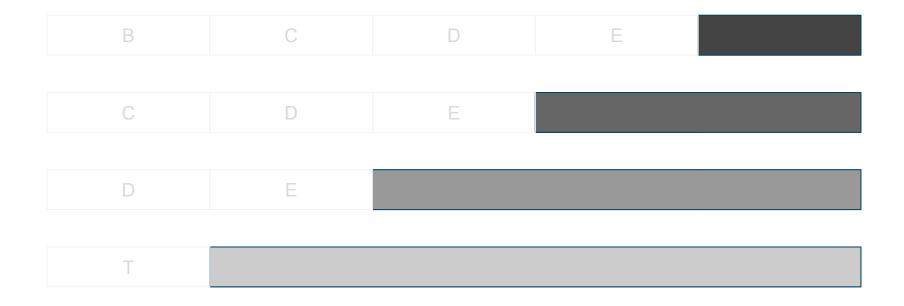
2 Constant Size Onion

Constant Size Onion

Α

3 Sphinx

Filler for HMACs



Sphinx

V ephemeral key hop payloads HMAC

Pseudocode

Unwrapping the onion

- ECDH with ephemeral key and node ID ⇒ shared secret
- Verify HMAC
- Append filler
- Decrypt using shared secret
- Extract hop payload
 - Next HMAC
 - Next hop
 - CLTV delta
 - Forward amount
- Serialize next onion

Wrapping the onion

- Generate ephemeral key and shared secrets in forwards order with ECDH
- Serialize last hop payload (HMAC = $32 \times 0 \times 00$ bytes)
- In reverse order for each hop:
 - Right pad to 1365 0x00 bytes
 - Derive ChaCha20 stream from shared secret
 - Encrypt Onion using stream
 - Compute the HMAC of the first 1300 bytes
 - Add HMAC to prior hop
 - Right-shift by 65 bytes
 - Serialize previous hop payload into shifted in bytes
- Serialize onion packet

Sphinx in Lightning

- Encryption Stream: ChaCha20
- HMAC: SHA256
- Shared Secret: ECDH
- Key generation: HMAC with key-type
 - rho
 - mu
 - um

4 Returning an Error

5 Recent Developments

Thank You

- Snyke
- @Blockstream

