



# Automated Crypto Validation Protocol

- Details of automated validations, assessment and the ACV Protocol
- Barry Fussell(Cisco), Christopher Celi(NIST)
- July 2018

# Agenda

- How did we get here
- Application
- Architecture
- Runtime Assessment
- Demo
- What's Next ?

# Limitations of Traditional Conformance Testing

- **Long validation cycles**
  - Well beyond product development cycles
  - Hinder adoption of new technology by the Federal Agencies
- **Costly and rigid**
  - Difficult to obtain compliance assurance on platforms of actual use
  - Prevents agencies from fixing critical problems, e.g. CVE, without breaking compliance rules
- **Impossible to fix within the existing box**
  - Some improvements help but fall short of solving the problems agencies face today

# CMVP Working Group

- Algorithm Test WG
  - Primary focus is on ACVP
- Software Module WG
  - Defines the sw module functional and failure testing
- Trusted Vendor WG
  - Defines Trusted Vendor acceptance and assurance criteria
- Hardware Module WG
  - Defines the hw module specific requirements
- Cloud WG
  - Defines any cloud specific requirements over and above sw and hw modules.

# Automate as much as possible

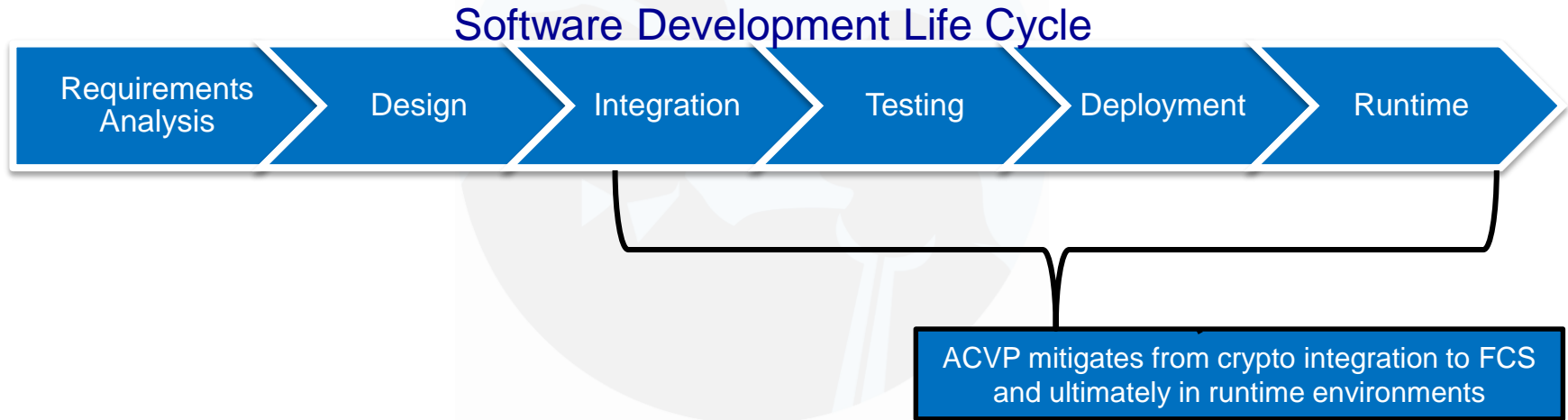
- Reduce the validation cycle length
- Enable Just-In-Place validations
- Reduce the cost of validations
- Open access to international markets
- Provide a standardized way of performing runtime assessments

**Powerful economic incentives for the industry**

# Applying ACVP

An attack can occur at any stage of the software life cycle

Mitigating attacks too early leaves you vulnerable in later stages



“Lightweight standards track protocol built on top of existing standard protocols and encoding.”

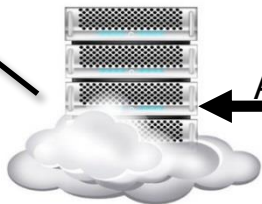
- TLS 1.2
- HTTPS
- Java Script Object Notation(JSON)
- JSON Web Token(JWT) Authorization
- 2 Factor authentication using TOTP
- Client and Protocol Specs open sourced via github

# Base Architecture

## Automated Cryptography Validation Protocol

### ACV Server:

- Web hosted service
- Generates JSON test vectors
- Performs results verification



ACV Server

ACV Protocol

ACV Client

### ACV Client:

- Integrated into Device under test
- May convert JSON test vectors to format acceptable by crypto module under test
- Returns KAT answers to ACV server in JSON format

Entropy Source

Seed

Test Vectors

Responses

DRBG

Public Key Generation

Encryption

Authentication

Key Establishment

Signatures

Crypto Module

Device Under Test

### ACV Protocol:

- Standards-based protocol
- Developed in partnership w/ CMVP
- Extensible to mitigate additional vectors over time
- Open Source to enable independent verification



# Proxy/Validation Authority Architecture

## Automated Cryptographic Validation System

### Validation Authority Server:

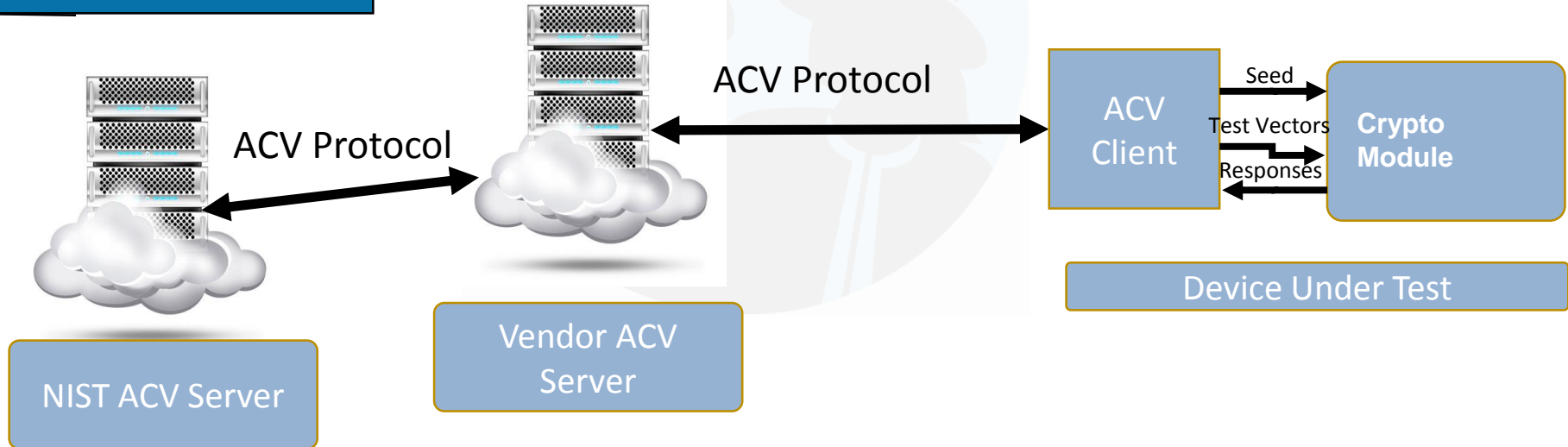
- Web hosted service w/ REST API
- Registers ACV Servers
- Generates JSON KAT vectors
- Validates JSON KAT results
- Publishes validation results from trusted vendor ACV Servers

### ACV Proxy/Server:

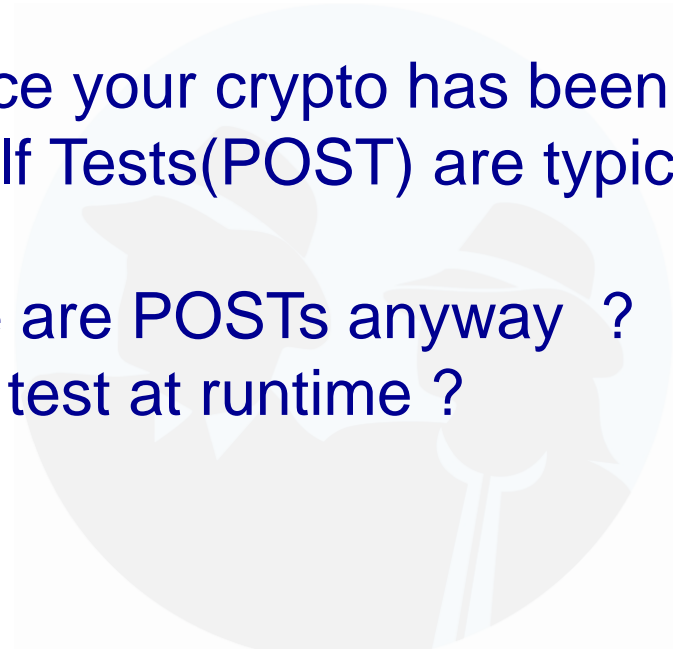
- Web hosted service
- Interacts with NIST ACV Server to obtain JSON KAT data
- Optionally generates JSON test vectors
- Optionally performs results verification
- Reports JSON KAT results to NIST ACV Server

### ACV Client:

- Integrated into Device under test
- May convert JSON test vectors to format acceptable by crypto module under test
- Returns KAT answers to ACV server in JSON format

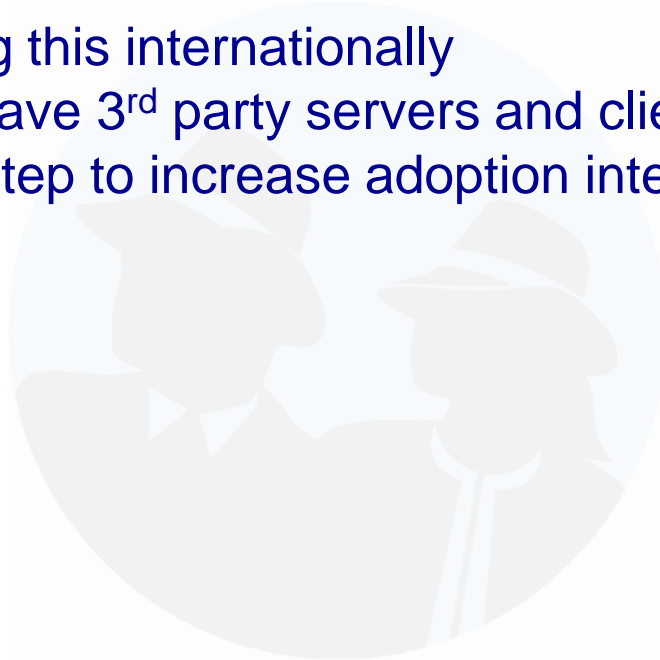


# Runtime Cryptographic Assessment

- How long since your crypto has been assessed ?
  - Power On Self Tests(POST) are typically run once and never again.
  - How effective are POSTs anyway ?
  - What can we test at runtime ?
- 

# International Acceptance

- NIST is promoting this internationally
- The desire is to have 3<sup>rd</sup> party servers and clients
- IETF is the next step to increase adoption internationally



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## Industry Working Group on Automated Cryptographic Algorithm Validation

[720 commits](#)[5 branches](#)[0 releases](#)[12 contributors](#)

Branch: master

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atvassilev Merge pull request #419 from usnistgov/improve-workflow-table-rendering

Latest commit 2594383 5 hours ago

[Images](#)

Delete test

a month ago

[artifacts](#)

Merge pull request #419 from usnistgov/improve-workflow-table-rendering

5 hours ago

[src](#)

Improve the rendering of WF table

a day ago

[Makefile](#)

Renamed HASHMAC -&gt; MAC, updated build scripts

a year ago

[Panama\\_P-24.svg.png](#)

add image

5 months ago

[README.md](#)

Update README.md

3 days ago

[WindowsGenerateAllArtifacts.bat](#)

Adds a more robust batch script for conversions

a year ago

[WindowsGenerateArtifacts.bat](#)

Renames Fcc to Ffc in files/artifact generation #104

10 months ago

[README.md](#)

## ACVP

The Automated Cryptographic Validation Protocol (ACVP) is a protocol currently under development to support a new National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) testing scope at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), <https://www.nist.gov>.

All current information about ACVP may be found within this Github project.

## Background

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The libacvp library is a client-side implementation of the draft ACVP protocol ([github.com/usnistgov/ACVP](https://github.com/usnistgov/ACVP)).

[447 commits](#)[8 branches](#)[0 releases](#)[9 contributors](#)Branch: [master](#)[New pull request](#)[Create new file](#)[Upload files](#)[Find file](#)[Clone or download](#)

flphil Merge pull request #100 from cisco/murl\_110 ...

Latest commit f457b92 7 days ago

<a href="#">app</a>	Support building app with openssl 1.1.0 (#99)	7 days ago
<a href="#">certs</a>	Remove config/certs for Cisco ACVP server.	2 years ago
<a href="#">docs</a>	Cleans up a few things for ICMC	2 months ago
<a href="#">murl</a>	Support building murl with openssl 1.1.0	7 days ago
<a href="#">scripts</a>	Cleans up a few things for ICMC	2 months ago
<a href="#">src</a>	Addresses PR comments	9 days ago
<a href="#">windows</a>	Adds build info to readme	4 months ago
<a href="#">.gitignore</a>	Initial commit	2 years ago
<a href="#">COPYING</a>	Start to lay out directory structure. Update license and provide over...	2 years ago
<a href="#">Doxyfile</a>	Doxygen config file and initial API docs.	2 years ago
<a href="#">LICENSE</a>	Start to lay out directory structure. Update license and provide over...	2 years ago
<a href="#">Makefile</a>	Addresses PR comments	9 days ago
<a href="#">Makefile.fom</a>	Addresses PR comments	9 days ago
<a href="#">Makefile.murl</a>	Addresses PR comments	9 days ago
<a href="#">Makefile.win</a>	Addresses PR comments	9 days ago
<a href="#">README.md</a>	Removes internal crypto module API in example client	3 months ago
<a href="#">doxygen.cfg</a>	Initial doxygen build infra	11 months ago
<a href="#">intro.txt</a>	Initial doxygen build infra	11 months ago

# How to get involved

<https://github.com/usnistgov/ACVP>

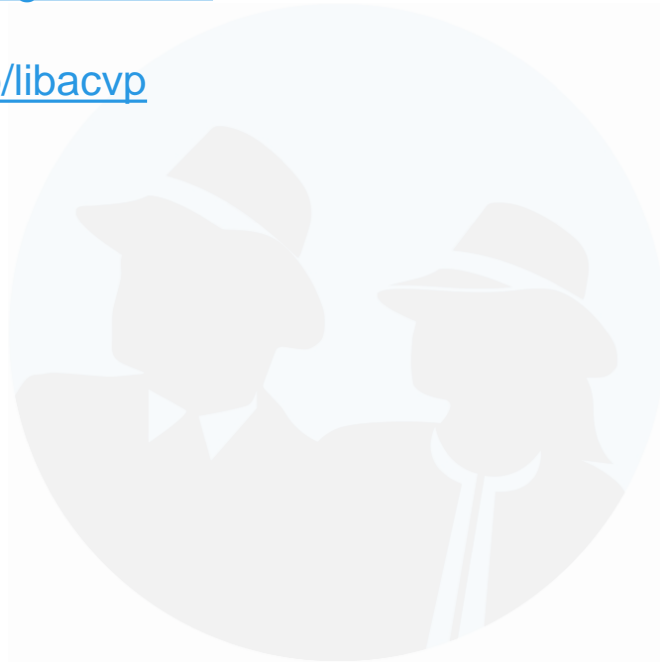
<https://github.com/cisco/libacvp>

[algotest@list.nist.gov](mailto:algotest@list.nist.gov)

[acvp@ietf.org](mailto:acvp@ietf.org)

## Contacts:

**Barry Fussell(Cisco)**  
**David McGrew(Cisco)**  
**Ellie Daw(Cisco)**  
**Philip Perricone(Cisco)**  
**Sam Farthing(Cisco)**  
**Apostol Vassilev(NIST)**  
**Christopher Celi(NIST)**  
**Harold Booth(NIST)**





**DEMO**

# Summary of our goals

- **Address the needs of the validation authority community**
- **Extensible to increase testing coverage**
- **Gain additional industry participation**
- **Standardize to grow international acceptance**
- **Promote and encourage adoption**



# Next Steps

- **Where would the best place to get additional participation ?**
- **Best way to move this forward ?**
- **How do we accomplish this within the IETF framework ?**

