

Comparative Analysis of Cryptography Library in IoT

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ABSTRACT

The paper aims to do a survey along with a comparative analysis of the various cryptography libraries that are applicable in the field of Internet of Things (IoT). The first half of the paper briefly introduces the various cryptography libraries available in the field of cryptography along with a list of all the algorithms contained within the libraries. The second half of the paper deals with cryptography libraries specifically aimed for application in the field of Internet of Things. The various libraries and their performance analysis listed down in this paper are consolidated from various sources with the aim of providing a single comprehensive repository for reference to the various cryptography libraries and the comparative analysis of their features in IoT.

Keywords

ECC, wolfSSL, RELIC, AvrCryptoLib, TinyECC, WiseLib

1. INTRODUCTION

The implementation of encryption and decryption in the field of cryptography provides a solid means of relaying messages to and fro between users without the added risk of the message being compromised to unwanted personnel. Such encryption-decryption operations are performed by various ways ([3], [7], [15]) through the use of specific set of algorithms. A cryptography library is a sort of repository of the various algorithms available for cryptographic purposes, which provides the added function of categorising the multitudes of algorithms into specific collections based on their performance capacities and functions.

In the field of IoT, microprocessors and embedded devices with low computational power plays the vital role of exchange of information using the internet infrastructure. Such constraints to computational capabilities and the necessity of secure exchange of information calls upon the need to implement algorithms specifically optimized to run in

resource constrained environments. As such cryptography libraries aimed for use in microprocessors and embedded devices plays a very important role for providing the necessary security layers to IoT devices and securing up the overall IoT infrastructure.

2. OVERVIEW:

In this paper Section 3 will briefly introduce the various cryptography libraries available for encryption in general. It will also list all the encryption algorithms available in the various cryptography libraries. In section 4, we will discuss in details the various cryptography libraries in IoT. In section 5, we will do a comparative analysis amongst the various cryptography libraries discussed in section 4 based on their unique features. We conclude the paper in section 6

3. CRYPTOGRAPHY LIBRARY

There exist numerous cryptography library encompassing multitudes of encryption algorithms which can be implemented for encryption of different messages in various fields. These cryptography libraries enable the implementation of various security measures ([11]) through the use of the containing algorithms. Some of the most prominent cryptography library ([5]) along with their encryption algorithms is listed below:

i. Borzoi: The “borZoi” cryptography library implements an algorithm based on elliptic curves (as such known as Elliptic Curve Cryptography Library) ([4], [9], [10], [14], [36]). It implements the following algorithms which ranges over a finite field bearing a characteristic 2 (GF2m) ([1]):

- a. ECDSA (Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm)
- b. Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement Scheme
- c. ECIES (Elliptic Curve Integrated Encryption Scheme)

borZoi is also implemented with AES Symmetric encryption scheme and one other algorithm to produce SHA-1, its digital signature which are as follows ([1]):

- a. AES (Rijndael) Symmetric Encryption Scheme
- b. SHA-1 hash algorithm

ii. Crypto++ : Written in C++, this cryptography library implements various algorithms ranging from authenticated encryption schemes (like GCM, CCM etc.) to algorithms based on elliptic curves (like ECDSA, ECNR etc) ([13]). The various algorithms implemented by Crypto++ are as follows ([2]):

- a. GCM, CCM, EAX
- b. AES (Rijndael), RC6, MARS, CAST-256, Twofish, Serpent
- c. Panama, Sosemanuk, Salsa20, XSalsa20
- d. IDEA, Triple-DES, Camellia, SEED, XTEA, Skipjack, SHACAL-2, RC5, Blowfish
- e. ECB, CBC, CTS, CFB, OFB, CTR
- f. VMAC, HMAC, CBC-MAC, GMAC, Two-Track-MAC
- g. SHA-1, SHA-2, SHA-3, WHIRLPOOL, Tiger, RIPEMD-128, RIPEMD-256, RIPEMD-160, RIPEMD-320
- h. ECDSA, ECNR, ECIES, ECMQV, ECDH

i. MD2, MD4, MD5, Panama Hash, Square, GOST, SAFER, SEAL 3.0, DES, ARC4, DESX, RC2, 3-WAY, WAKE-OFB, CAST-128, SHARK

j. Diffie-Hellman, XTR-DH, DH2, MQV, LUCDIF

k. PKCS#1 v2.0, OAEP, PSS, IEEE P1363 EMSA2-EMSA5, PSSR

l. ESIGN, LUC, RSA, DSA, ElGamal, RW, NR, DLIES

iii. Libmccrypt: The “libmccrypt” cryptography library provides encryption of data and is thread safe. This specific library contains a set of encryption algorithms and modes which are modular in nature. This nature allows algorithms and the encryption modes to operate in a much efficient manner. The various algorithms contained within the framework of this library are tabulated in Table 1:

xTEA	CAST-128	CAST-256	DES	3DES	GOST	SKIPJACK
3-WAY	BLOWFISH	TWO FISH	WAKE	PANAMA	MARS	LOK197
RC2	RC6	ARCFOUR	RIJNDAEL	CBC	ECB	SAFER
SAFER+	SAFER K-64	SAFER K-128	SAFER SK-64	SAFER SK-128	ENIGMA	IDEA
SERPENT	STREAM	CFB	OFB	nOFB	nCFB	CTR

Table 1: Algorithms in Libmccrypt library

iv. Botan (formerly known as OpenCL): This cryptography library is written in C++ and licensed under BSD-2 ([23], [28]). It was later implemented with a “Card Verifiable Certificate” for ePassports and this modified version of Botan was named “InSiTO”. This library contains a number of encryption formats, algorithms and protocols which are tabulated in Table 2:

TLS	SSL	PKCS	PKCS #3	PKCS #5 (v1.5/v2.0)
RSA	DSA	X.509 CRLs	Parts of 1363	Diffie-Hellman

Table 2: Algorithms in Botan library

v. Libgcrypt: Written in C language, the “libgcrypt” is a multi-platform cryptography library licensed under GNU Lesser General Public License GNU General Public License ([32]). It features a multiple precision arithmetic implementation and entropy gathering utility ([37]). The cryptography algorithms in this library are tabulated in Table 3:

IDEA	3DES	SERPENT (128 bits)	SERPENT (192 bits)	SERPENT (256 bits)	CAST5	BLOWFISH	AE S 128
AES 192	AES 256	TWO FISH (128 bits)	TWO FISH (256 bits)	ARCFOUR	DES	Ron's Cipher 2 (40 bits)	Ron's Cipher 2 (128)

SEE D	Camellia (128 bits)	Camellia (192 bits)	Camellia (256 bits)	Salsa 20	Salsa 20/12	GOST 28147-89	STREAM
GM	CCM	RFC 3394	CFB	CBC	ECB	OFB	CTR
RSA	DSA	ElGamal	ECD SA	EdDSA	CMA C	GMA C	HMAC
SHA-1	TIGER	RIPEMD-160	MD4	MD5	TIGER/192	TIGER/2	SHA-224
Whirlpool	GOST R 34.11-2012 (256 bits)	GOST R 34.11-2012 (512 bits)	SHA-256	SHA-384	SHA-512	ISO 3309	RF C 1510
RFC 2440	GOST R 34.11-94	RFC 4880	PBKDF2	SCRYPT			

Table 3: Algorithms in Libgcrypt library

vi. Bouncy Castle: This particular cryptography library is written in Java and C# ([41]). Designed mainly for use in devices with low computational memory, this library contains the algorithms listed in Table 4:

PKCS#10	DANE	DVS	OCSP	DTLS	OpenPGP	CRMF
CM P	TSP	TLS	PKCS# 12	CM S	S/MIME	DTLS

Table 4: Algorithms in Bouncy Castle library

vii. Cryptlib: The “cryptlib” cryptography library is a library of algorithms which provides security to communication and information exchange. Its simple interface makes it very user-friendly and its layered structure (the lower layers each providing a layer of abstraction, the higher layers covering up the details of implementation of the algorithms) makes up the whole library very secure and impermeable to intrusion to a very high degree. The various algorithms within this library are tabulated in Table 5:

SSL	TLS	SSH	S/MIME	OpenPGP	CMP	SCEP	RTCS
OC SP	X.509 v1	SET	Microsoft AuthenticCode	RPKI	Sig G	Ident rus	PKCS #7
RT CS	OCS P	C A	X.509v 3				

Table 5: Algorithms in Cryptlib library

viii. Catacomb: Written using gcc, this cryptography library contains a set of cryptographic primitives and used in Linux operating systems ([9]). Some of the most prominent categories of algorithms within this library out of its many other are as shown in Table 6:

BLOCK Cipher	HASH functions	Multi-precision Maths Library	Public Key Algorithms
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Table 6: Categories of algorithms in the Catacomb library

ix. Cryptix: The “Cryptix” (say Cx) cryptography library was made to provide a library of cryptographic algorithms to the Java platform as there were a number of issues regarding adoption of cryptography in Java ([22]). With the removal of export controls on cryptography, the use of “Cryptix” (last active development was in 2005) declined with the increasing availability of other more secure cryptography libraries. The list of algorithms under this library are shown in Table 7:

Cx OpenPGP	Cx Perl	Cx Perl PGP	Cx JCE	Cx SASL	Cx ASN.1
Cx v3.1.3	Cx v3.1.3 PGP	Cx v3.2.0	Cx v3.2.0 PGP	Cx AES Kit	Cx Elliptix

Table 7: Algorithms in Cryptix library

x. Flexiprovider: This cryptography library is built for use in encryption of any application built upon the JCA (Java Cryptography Architecture) ([39]). This encryption toolkit is supported by CoreProvider (containing algorithms like PKCS #1, 3DES etc.), ECProvider (which contains algorithms based on elliptic curve such ECDH key agreement scheme, ECDSA etc.), PQCProvider (Contains the McEliece cryptosystem in four variants (CFS signature scheme etc.) and NFProvider (contains IQRDSA, IQDSA, IQGQ etc.).

xi. LibTomCrypt: The “LibTomCrypt” cryptography library is an open source library of cryptographic primitives ([20]).

xii. MatrixSSL: The “MatrixSSL” cryptography library is designed for devices and application with smaller footprint. An implementation of embedded SSL and TLS, it contains various symmetric key and public key algorithms. Some popular algorithms included in this library are given in Table 8:

RSA	Diffie-Hellman	Elliptic Curve Cryptography	AES
AES-GCM	SEED	ARC4	3DES

Table 8: Algorithms in MatrixSSL

xiii. MIRACL: Multiprecision Integer and Rational Arithmetic C Library (MIRACL) is a cryptography library designed for use in constrained environment in terms of size and computational power ([38]).

xiv. Mozilla’s NSS: NSS (Network Security Services) cryptography library facilitates the encryption in server-based applications. It mainly supports the following security algorithms listed in Table 9 for use in server applications:

SSL	S/MIME	TLS	PKCS #11
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Table 9: Security algorithms in NSS

xv. OpenPGP: This cryptography library is an open source variant of PGP (Pretty Good Privacy) which is used for securing the privacy of end-users and levelling up the security of communication systems by implementation of authentication methods through the use of PGP ([16], [18]).

xvi. OpenSSL: Written in C language, the “OpenSSL” is a multi-platform library of cryptographic algorithms and functions ([40]). It is an open source library licensed under Apache License 1.0 and 4-clause BSD License. It implements the various SSL protocols and TLS protocols. The various algorithms implemented by “OpenSSL” are tabulated in Table 10 as follows:

3DES	RC2	RC4	RC5	BLOWFISH
Camellia	AES	SEED	CAST-128	IDEA
DES	MD2	MD4	MD5	SHA-1
SHA-2	RIPEMD-160	MDC-2	DSA	RSA
Diffie-Hellman	Elliptic Curve	GOST R 34.11-94	GOST R 34.10-2001	GOST 28147-89

Table 10: Algorithms implemented by OpenSSL

xvii. Nettle: This is a low-level, multi-platform cryptography library licensed under GNU Lesser General Public License ([17]). The various algorithms within this cryptography library are shown in Table 11:

AES	RC4	RC2	BLOWFISH	Camellia	CAS T-128	DES	3DES
ChaCha STR EAM Cipher	GOST HASH 94	RS A	DSA	ECD SA	TW OFI SH	SH A-3	S H A 22 4
SHA 256	SHA38 4	SH A5 12	SHA-1	SER PEN T	Salsa 20	RI PE M D1 60	U M A C
POL Y130 5	PBKD F2	MD 2	MD4	MD5	Yarr ow pRN G		

Table 11: Algorithms in Nettle

4. CRYPTOGRAPHY LIBRARIES IN IoT

4.1 WolfSSL (formerly known as CyaSSL):

Written in ANSI C, the “wolfSSL” cryptography library, due to its small footprint size and low runtime memory, is aimed to be used in embedded devices, RTOS and environments facing constraints in computational resources ([30], [33]). This library supports the development of cross-platform algorithms and houses a large number of algorithms. Moreover it features the generation of Key and Certificates. “wolfSSL” is licensed under GNU General Public License GPLv2.

“wolfSSL” contains the following categories of algorithms to be used for cryptographic purposes which are shown in Table 12:

CATEGORY	ALGORITHMS						
wolfCrypt	RSA	DSS	SHA-1	SHA-2	ECC	BLAKE2	Poly1305
	Diffie-Hellman	EDH	DES	3DES	GCM	CCM	CTR
	CBC	Camellia	ARC4	HC-128	ChaCha20	Random Number Generation	Rabbit
	MD2	MD4	MD5				
NTRU	AES-256	RC4	HC-128				

Table 12: Algorithm library of wolfSSL

4.2 AvrCryptoLib:

Licensed under GPLv3, the “Avr-Crypto-Lib” cryptography library has the implementation of its encryption algorithms in the AVR 8-bit microcontrollers ([34]). As with all the rest of the cryptography library aimed to be used in the field of IoT, the “Avr-Crypto-Lib” is optimized for resource-constrained environments in regards to available computational memory and size.

“Avr-Crypto-Lib” contains vast number algorithms which are categorised in Table 13:

CATEGORY	ALGORITHMS							
STREAM Cipher	ARC4	Trivium	Mugi	Grain	Mickey			
BLOCK Cipher	AES	XTAE	CAS-T5	Camellia	Threesh-256	Threesh-512	Threesh-1024	SEEDE
	SERPENT	SHAB	Prese	SKI-PJA	Noekeo	RC5	RC6	DE

		EA	nt	CK	n			S
	EDE-DES	3DES						
HASH Functions	BLAKE	Twister	Shabal	Skein	SHA-1	SHA-256	MD5	Groestl
	BlueMiddnightWish							

Table 13: Algorithm library of Avr-Crypto-Lib

Besides the above mentioned algorithms, “Avr-Crypto-Lib” also provides MAC functions and Pseudo Random Number Generators (PRNGs).

4.3 WiseLib:

Written in C++, the “Wiselib” cryptography library is targeted to be used in networked embedded devices ([12], [35]). Using “Wiselib”, an individual can compile algorithms for various platforms like Contiki, iSense, Shawn (a simulator of sensor network) etc. using its various in-house algorithms like routing algorithms, localization algorithms etc. The use of template similar to Boost and CGAL facilitates highly efficient compilations of the various generic and platform independent codes written for various platforms.

4.4 TinyECC:

TinyECC is an Elliptic Curve Cryptography based library which can perform ECC-based PKC operations ([25], [29]). Some of the most prominent features of TinyECC are:

- Provision of ECDSA, a digital signature
- ECIES, a scheme for encryption of public key
- ECDH, a protocol for key exchange

4.5 RelicToolKit:

Licensed under LGPL v2.1 (and above), the “RELIC toolkit” cryptography library is an efficient and flexible meta-toolkit ([21]). The main use of the “RELIC toolkit” is in its ability to be used for construction of custom cryptographic toolkits.

The various algorithms implemented by the “RELIC toolkit” are as follows:

- Multiple-precision integer arithmetic
- Bilinear maps and extensions fields relate to bilinear maps
- Elliptic curves:
 - Over prime fields
 - Over binary fields
- Prime and Binary field arithmetic
- Cryptographic protocols

The various cryptographic protocols implemented by RELIC are tabulated in Table 14:

ECDSA	RSA	ECIES	ECSS	ECMQV
Rabin	Sakai-Ohgishi-Kasahara	Boneh-Lynn-Schacham	Boneh-Boyen short	Paillier and Benaloh homomorphic

	ID-based authenticated key agreement	short signature	signature	encryption systems
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Table 14: Cryptographic protocols of RELIC toolkit

5. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE CRYPTOGRAPHY LIBRARIES IN IoT

5.1 WolfSSL:

WolfSSL includes OpenSSL compatibility layer along with support for OCSP and CRL which are used for validating certificates. Its runtime memory usage is between 1-36 kB. Sporting a very simple API, this library supports zlib compression, IPv4 and IPv6 along with integration of MySQL ([30]).

5.2 AvrCryptoLib:

This cryptography library performs modular exponentiation using C-interfaces in AVR 8-bit assembly language. This leads to reduction in execution time of this cryptography library. Moreover this library allows direct access to keys through storage of these keys in the flash memory which results in efficient consumption of SRAM.

5.3 WiseLib:

Implementing elliptic curve over prime fields only, this library shuns away from incorporation of optimizations of assembly level for making its codes platform independent.

5.4 TinyECC:

Though mainly made for running in devices operating on TinyOS, TinyECC can be implemented in devices other than TinyOS-dependent devices as the library can be ported to C99 through manual alteration of code parts or through the usage of tool-chains. This library also implements curves over prime fields only and includes sliding windows ([43]) and Barrett reduction ([44]) for the purpose of verification.

5.5 RelicToolKit:

The inclusion of multiple integer arithmetic makes its compilation of this library easy for a wide variety of platforms. RelicToolKit provides high level of customization in terms of:

5.5.1 Building and inclusion of desired components only for usage in desired platforms.

5.5.2 Desired selection of various mathematical optimizations for optimum performance of the toolkit in a specific platform.

6. CONCLUSION

From the above comparative analysis of the various features available in the different cryptography library the foremost conclusion is that not one of the cryptography libraries in the IoT environment can be considered as a universal library due to their varying features and optimizations made for different specific platforms. This results in the non-existence of a single universal standard library that can be applicable to all IoT devices around us. Moreover each library contains a specific set of features unique to them and optimized for the platform where these are applicable. And the use of the above cryptography libraries along with the adoption of various security measures that can be adopted in various communication modes ([24], [42]) and implementation of intrusion detection systems and schemes ([19], [27], [31]) will lead to a more secure and reliable IoT infrastructure for wide adoption of its devices by the masses. Yet beyond the

comparative analysis of these cryptography libraries, this list can be considered as a comprehensive repository of all the cryptography libraries available for use in the IoT infrastructure along with the availability of all the specific features of each library for comparative purposes prior to zeroing in on any one of the library for use in a particular scenario to get the best result.

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