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To: lwc-forum
Cc: bishu.math.ynwa@gmail.com; Mridul Nandi; Raghvendra Rohit; #MUSTAFA MAHMOUD MOHAMMED KAIRALLAH#
Subject: [lwc-forum] ROUND 2 OFFICIAL COMMENT: ORANGE

Dear Orange Team,

We have analyzed Algorithm 3 of the modified Orange (we call it Orange-2). We can trivially show the existence of forgery as follows.

Suppose $|AD| = 2n$ and $|M| = 0$.

Then in `proc_hash`:

```
D_0 = AD
X_0 = K || N
S = [P(X_0)]_n
Y_0 = c_0 * P(X_0)
X_1 = Y_0 + pad(D_0) = Y_0 + AD ..... (1)
return (X_1, S)
```

So output of "enc" function is $(\lambda, \text{proc_tg}(X_1))$

As per the description of `proc_tg`, it is invertible, hence we can obtain X_1 from `proc_tg(X_1)`.

Then from (1), $Y_0 = X_1 + AD$ and subsequently

$P(X_0) = c_0^{-1} * Y_0$ (2)

Now consider AD_1 such that $|AD_1| < n$.

Then reconstruct $Y_0 = c_1 * P(X_0)$

next $X_1 = Y_0 + \text{pad}(AD_1)$

$S = [P(X_0)]_n$

`return (X_1, S)`

Then $(\lambda, \text{proc_tg}(X_1))$ becomes a valid output of "enc" function.

The crux of the attack is that the Tag generated by the permutation P is of the same size as that of the input state, and hence leaking the full state. Further if we look carefully, once we get $P(X_0)$ from (2), then we can invert it to get $X_0 = K || N$, that is it leads to key recovery.

We checked the proof of Orange-2, but there is no mention on the bound of the tag size τ . In our opinion $b - \tau \geq 112$ is crucial for security. Precisely speaking, there is a key recovery attack that works with $O(1/2^{b-\tau})$, and this factor is missing in the security proof as well.

We would like to note that in Section 2.1 of the official Orange-1 specification/C implementation, it is mentioned that the tag is limited to 128 bits. Applying this will prevent the attack, however, this is not the case for Orange-2 as can be seen in Algorithm 3 and in the NIST workshop paper "Security Proof of Orange-Zest". Hence, we conclude that the specification of Orange-2 leads to easy key recovery and forgery attacks and both the specification and security proof have flaws that require fixing.

We would also like to point out to Theorem 1 of the workshop paper, which specifies $b = r + c$, where $c = 128$. Orange-2 claims to have full rate, so $r = 256$; implying $b = 384$. However, if the security bound $4\sigma_{vq_p/2^b}$ is the dominant bound at $T =$

2^{112} and $D = 2^{45}$, then this implies $b \lll 384$, which is a contradiction. We believe the dominant term is $4\sigma_e\sigma_v/2^c$.

Thanks and best regards

Sumanta, Mustafa and Raghav

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