A Case for Adopting Property-based Testing in Cryptographic Software Libraries

GelreCrypt 2025 Nijmegen, The Netherlands

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What to test in crypto. software?

- Functioning as expected? Edge cases?
- Conforming to standard / spec.?
- Constant-time?
- Zeroize internal buffers with secrets?

Are there any gaps?

- How to ensure that we are actually covering all the edge cases?
- Many non-standard crypto. proposal comes with almost no test vectors. How to ensure conformance?

```
fn kats() {
    let poseidon2 = Poseidon2::new(&POSEIDON2_GOLDILOCKS_12_PARAMS);
    let mut input: Vec<Scalar> = vec![];
   for i in 0..poseidon2.params.t {
       input.push(Scalar::from(i as u64));
    let perm = poseidon2.permutation(&input);
   assert_eq!(perm[0], from_hex("0x01eaef96bdf1c0c1"));
   assert eq!(perm[1], from hex("0x1f0d2cc525b2540c"));
   assert_eq!(perm[2], from_hex("0x6282c1dfe1e0358d"));
   assert_eq!(perm[3], from_hex("0xe780d721f698e1e6"));
   assert_eq!(perm[4], from_hex("0x280c0b6f753d833b"));
   assert_eq!(perm[5], from_hex("0x1b942dd5023156ab"));
   assert_eq!(perm[6], from_hex("0x43f0df3fcccb8398"));
   assert eq!(perm[7], from hex("0xe8e8190585489025"));
   assert_eq!(perm[8], from_hex("0x56bdbf72f77ada22"));
   assert_eq!(perm[9], from_hex("0x7911c32bf9dcd705"));
   assert eq!(perm[10], from hex("0xec467926508fbe67"));
   assert_eq!(perm[11], from_hex("0x6a50450ddf85a6ed"));
```

Most commonly seen number of KATs = 1

Test vectors

Test vectors are based on the repetition of the pattern '00 01 .. FA' with a specific length. ptn(n) defines a string by repeating the pattern '00 01 .. FA' as many times as necessary and truncated to n bytes e.g.

```
Pattern for a length of 17 bytes:
ptn(17) =
"80 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0A 0B 0C 0D 0E 0F 10"
```

```
TurboSHAKE128(M=`00`^0, D=`07`, 32):
   `5A 22 3A D3 0B 3B 8C 66 A2 43 04 8C FC ED 43 0F
54 E7 52 92 87 D1 51 50 B9 73 13 3A DF AC 6A 2F
TurboSHAKE128(M='00'^0, D='07', 64):
'54 22 34 03 08 38 8C 66 42 43 04 8C FC FD 43 0F
   54 F7 52 92 87 D1 51 50 B9 73 13 34 DE AC 6A 2F
   FE 27 08 E7 30 61 E0 9A 40 00 16 8B A9 C8 CA 18
   13 19 8F 7B BE D4 98 4B 41 85 F2 C2 58 0E E6 23
TurboSHAKE128(M=`00`^0, D=`07`, 10032), last 32 bytes:
`75 93 A2 80 20 A3 C4 AE 0D 60 5F D6 1F 5E B5 6E
   CC D2 7C C3 D1 2F F0 9F 78 36 97 72 A4 60 C5 5D
TurboSHAKE128(M=ptn(1 bytes), D='07', 32):
   1A C2 D4 50 FC 3B 42 05 D1 9D A7 BF CA 1B 37 51
   3C 08 03 57 7A C7 16 7F 06 FE 2C E1 F0 EF 39 E5
TurboSHAKE128(M=ptn(17 bytes), D=`07`, 32):
   `AC BD 4A A5 75 07 04 3B CE E5 5A D3 F4 85 04 D8
   15 E7 07 FE 82 EE 3D AD 6D 58 52 C8 92 0B 90 5E
55 9B D7 45 42 CF AD 74 0E E3 D9 B0 36 46 9E 0A
TurboSHAKE128(M=ptn(17**3 bytes), D=`07`, 32):
'74 52 ED 0E D8 60 AA 8F E8 E7 96 99 EC E3 24 F8
   D9 32 71 46 36 10 DA 76 80 1E BC EE 4F CA FE 42
TurboSHAKE128(M=ptn(17**4 bytes), D='07', 32):
   'CA 5F 1F 3È EA C9 92 CD C2 AB EB CA 0E 21 67 65
   DB F7 79 C3 C1 09 46 05 5A 94 AB 32 72 57 35 22
```

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Authors' Addresses

Rare to find well crafted KATs

What can we do?

- Adopt property-based testing (PBT).
- Random samples inputs, flips random bits and asserts if high-level invariants still hold.
- Better probabilistic guarantees than unit-testing+small set of KATs.
- Not as extensive or costly as fuzzing. Test run finishes faster.

PBT = Pseudo-Randomness + Repeated Property Checks

Testing AEAD

The most common pattern seen.

A fixed key, nonce, plaintext and associated data.

Replicate couple of times. And cover edges. Block length boundary.

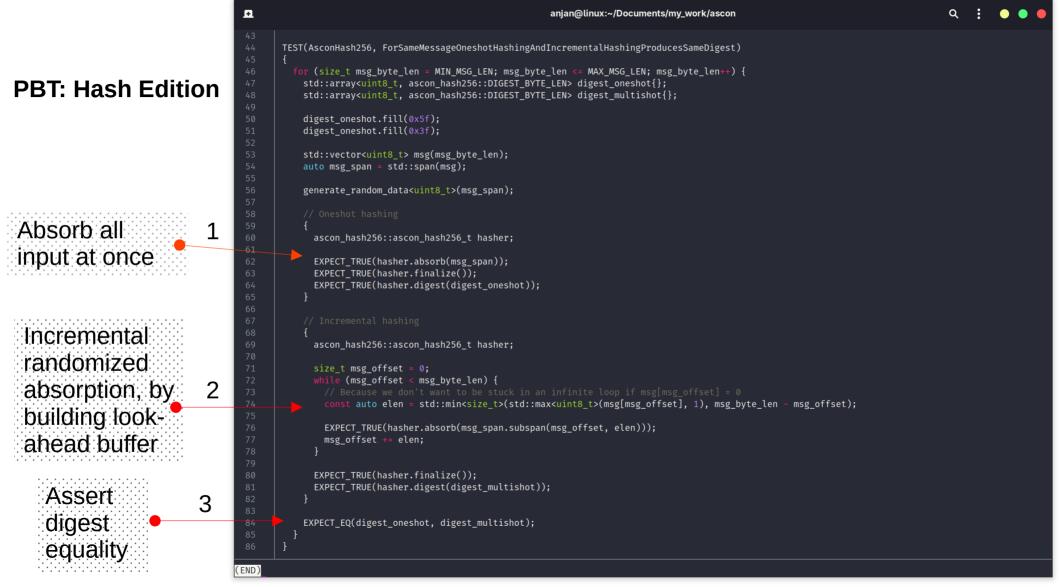
```
const KEY: &[u8: 32] = &[
           0x80, 0x81, 0x82, 0x83, 0x84, 0x85, 0x86, 0x87, 0x88, 0x89, 0x8a, 0x8b, 0x8c, 0x8d, 0x8e, 0x8f,
           0x90, 0x91, 0x92, 0x93, 0x94, 0x95, 0x96, 0x97, 0x98, 0x99, 0x9a, 0x9b, 0x9c, 0x9d, 0x9e, 0x9f,
       const AAD: &[u8; 12] = &[
           0x50, 0x51, 0x52, 0x53, 0xc0, 0xc1, 0xc2, 0xc3, 0xc4, 0xc5, 0xc6, 0xc7,
       const PLAINTEXT: &[u8] = b"Ladies and Gentlemen of the class of '99: \
           If I could offer you only one tip for the future, sunscreen would be it.";
       /// ChaCha20Poly1305 test vectors.
       /// From RFC 8439 Section 2.8.2:
107 v mod chacha20 {
           use super::{AAD, KEY, PLAINTEXT};
           use chacha20poly1305::ChaCha20Poly1305;
           use chacha20poly1305::aead::array::Array;
           use chacha20poly1305::aead::{Aead, KeyInit, Payload};
           const NONCE: &[u8; 12] = &[
               0x07, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x40, 0x41, 0x42, 0x43, 0x44, 0x45, 0x46, 0x47,
           const CIPHERTEXT: &[u8] = &[
               0xd3, 0x1a, 0x8d, 0x34, 0x64, 0x8e, 0x60, 0xdb, 0x7b, 0x86, 0xaf, 0xbc, 0x53, 0xef, 0x7e,
               0xc2, 0xa4, 0xad, 0xed, 0x51, 0x29, 0x6e, 0x08, 0xfe, 0xa9, 0xe2, 0xb5, 0xa7, 0x36, 0xee,
               0x62, 0xd6, 0x3d, 0xbe, 0xa4, 0x5e, 0x8c, 0xa9, 0x67, 0x12, 0x82, 0xfa, 0xfb, 0x69, 0xda,
               0x92, 0x72, 0x8b, 0x1a, 0x71, 0xde, 0x0a, 0x9e, 0x06, 0x0b, 0x29, 0x05, 0xd6, 0xa5, 0xb6,
               0x7e, 0xcd, 0x3b, 0x36, 0x92, 0xdd, 0xbd, 0x7f, 0x2d, 0x77, 0x8b, 0x8c, 0x98, 0x03, 0xae,
               0xe3, 0x28, 0x09, 0x1b, 0x58, 0xfa, 0xb3, 0x24, 0xe4, 0xfa, 0xd6, 0x75, 0x94, 0x55, 0x85,
               0x80, 0x8b, 0x48, 0x31, 0xd7, 0xbc, 0x3f, 0xf4, 0xde, 0xf0, 0x8e, 0x4b, 0x7a, 0x9d, 0xe5,
               0x76, 0xd2, 0x65, 0x86, 0xce, 0xc6, 0x4b, 0x61, 0x16,
           const TAG: &[u8] = &[
               0x1a, 0xe1, 0x0b, 0x59, 0x4f, 0x09, 0xe2, 0x6a, 0x7e, 0x90, 0x2e, 0xcb, 0xd0, 0x60, 0x06,
               0x91,
           impl tests!(
               ChaCha20Poly1305,
               NONCE,
               PLAINTEXT,
               CIPHERTEXT,
           fn clone_impl() {
               let _ = ChaCha20Poly1305::new(KEY.into()).clone();
```

Testing Hash Fn.

test "SHAKE-128 single" {

630

```
631
           var out: [10]u8 = undefined;
           Shake128.hash("hello123", &out, .{});
632
           try htest.assertEqual("1b85861510bc4d8e467d", &out);
633
634
635
636
       test "SHAKE-128 multisqueeze" {
637
           var out: [10]u8 = undefined;
           var h = Shake128.init(.{});
638
639
           h.update("hello123");
           h.squeeze(out[0..4]);
640
           h.squeeze(out[4..]);
641
           try htest.assertEqual("1b85861510bc4d8e467d", &out);
642
643
644
       test "SHAKE-128 multisqueeze with multiple blocks" {
645
646
           var out: [100]u8 = undefined;
647
           var out2: [100]u8 = undefined;
648
           var h = Shake128.init(.{});
649
           h.update("hello123");
650
           h.squeeze(out[0..50]);
           h.squeeze(out[50..]);
654
           var h2 = Shake128.init(.{});
           h2.update("hello123");
656
           h2.squeeze(&out2);
           try std.testing.expectEqualSlices(u8, &out, &out2);
657
658
```



PBT: XOF Edition

Absorb all input at once, then squeeze it all out in a single go.

Absorb input in pseudo-random order. Depends on message bytes itself.

Squeeze output in pseudo-random order. Depends on output bytes itself.

```
anian@linux:~/Documents/mv work/ascon
TEST(AsconXof128, ForSameMessageOneshotHashingAndIncrementalHashingProducesSameOutput)
  for (size t msg byte len = MIN MSG LEN; msg byte len <= MAX MSG LEN; msg byte len++) {
     or (size t output byte len = MIN OUT LEN; output byte len <= MAX OUT LEN; output byte len++) {
     std::vector<uint8 t> msg(msg byte len);
     std::vector<uint8 t> digest oneshot(output byte len. 0x5f);
     std::vector<uint8 t> digest multishot(output byte len, 0x3f);
     auto msg span = std::span(msg);
     auto digest oneshot span = std::span(digest oneshot);
     auto digest multishot span = std::span(digest multishot);
     generate random data(msg span);
        ascon xof128::ascon xof128 t hasher;
        EXPECT EQ(hasher.absorb(msg span), ascon xof128::ascon xof128 status t::absorbed data);
       EXPECT EO(hasher.finalize(), ascon xof128::ascon xof128 status t::finalized data absorption phase);
        EXPECT EQ(hasher.squeeze(digest oneshot span), ascon xof128::ascon xof128 status t::squeezed output);
        ascon xof128::ascon xof128 t hasher;
        size t msg offset = 0;
        while (msg offset < msg byte len) {</pre>
          const auto elen = std::min<size t>(std::max<uint8 t>(msg span[msg offset], 1), msg byte len - msg offset);
          EXPECT_EQ(hasher.absorb(msg_span.subspan(msg_offset, elen)), ascon_xof128::ascon_xof128_status_t::absorbed_data);
          msg offset += elen;
        EXPECT_EQ(hasher.finalize(), ascon_xof128::ascon_xof128_status_t::finalized_data_absorption_phase);
        size t output offset = 0;
        while (output offset < output byte len) {</pre>
          EXPECT_EQ(hasher.squeeze(digest_multishot_span.subspan(output_offset, 1)), ascon_xof128::ascon_xof128_status_t::squeezed_output);
          auto elen = std::min<size_t>(digest_multishot_span[output_offset], output_byte_len - (output_offset + 1));
          output offset += 1:
          EXPECT EO(hasher.squeeze(digest multishot span.subspan(output offset, elen)), ascon xof128::ascon xof128 status t::squeezed output);
          output offset += elen;
      EXPECT EQ(digest oneshot, digest multishot);
```

Testing ML-KEM

- 1) Generate keypair from seed.
- 2) Encapsulate, get ciphertext and sharedSecret.
- 3) Decapsulate, get back sharedSecret'.
- 4) Assert sharedSecret = sharedSecret'.

```
1699
        test "Test happy flow" {
1700
            var seed: [64]u8 = undefined;
1701
            for (&seed, 0..) |*s, i| {
1702
                s.* = @as(u8, @intCast(i));
1703
1704
            inline for (modes) |mode| {
1705
                 for (0..10) |i| {
1706
                    seed[0] = @as(u8, @intCast(i));
1707
1708
                    const kp = try mode.KeyPair.generateDeterministic(seed);
1709
                    const sk = try mode.SecretKey.fromBytes(&kp.secret key.toBytes());
                    try testing.expectEqual(sk, kp.secret_key);
1710
                    const pk = try mode.PublicKey.fromBytes(&kp.public_key.toBytes());
1711
                    try testing.expectEqual(pk, kp.public_key);
1712
                    for (0..10) |j| {
1713
                        seed[1] = @as(u8, @intCast(j));
1714
                        const e = pk.encaps(seed[0..32].*);
1715
                         try testing.expectEqual(e.shared_secret, try sk.decaps(&e.ciphertext));
1716
1717
1718
1719
1720
```

PBT: ML-KEM Edition (1)

```
B
                                                        anian@linux:~/Documents/my_work/ml-kem
       TEST(ML KEM, ML KEM 768 EncapsFailureDueToNonReducedPubKey)
         std::arrav<uint8 t, ml kem 768::SEED D BYTE LEN> seed d{};
         std::arrav<uint8 t. ml kem 768::SEED Z BYTE LEN> seed z{};
         std::arrav<uint8 t. ml kem 768::SEED M BYTE LEN> seed m{};
                                                                                 Malform public key, assert encaps failing
         std::array<uint8 t. ml kem 768::PKEY BYTE LEN> pubkey{};
         std::array<uint8 t, ml kem 768::SKEY BYTE LEN> seckey{};
         std::array<uint8 t, ml kem 768::CIPHER TEXT BYTE LEN> cipher{};
         std::array<uint8_t, ml_kem_768::SHARED_SECRET_BYTE LEN> shared secret{};
         randomshake::randomshake t<192> csprng{};
         csprng.generate(seed d);
         csprng.generate(seed z);
         csprng.generate(seed_m);
         ml kem 768::keygen(seed d, seed z, pubkey, seckey);
         make malformed pubkey<pubkey.size()>(pubkey);
         const auto is encapsulated = ml_kem_768::encapsulate(seed_m, pubkey, cipher, shared_secret);
         EXPECT FALSE(is encapsulated);
```

bit-flip

shared-

Testing Galois Field Arithmetic Part (1)

- 1) Test with additive or multiplicative identity.
- 2) Test with result overflowing.

```
54
      #[test]
55 \rightarrow fn mul() {
56
          // identity
57
          let r: BaseElement = rand_value();
          assert_eq!(BaseElement::ZERO, r * BaseElement::ZERO);
58
          assert eq!(r, r * BaseElement::ONE);
59
60
          // test multiplication within bounds
61
          assert_eq!(BaseElement::from(15u8), BaseElement::from(5u8) * BaseElement::from(3u8));
62
63
          // test overflow
64
          let m = BaseElement::MODULUS;
          let t = BaseElement::new(m - 1);
66
          assert eq!(BaseElement::ONE, t * t);
67
          assert_eq!(BaseElement::new(m - 2), t * BaseElement::from(2u8));
68
          assert_eq!(BaseElement::new(m - 4), t * BaseElement::from(4u8));
69
70
71
          #[allow(clippy::manual div ceil)]
          let t = (m + 1) / 2;
72
          assert_eq!(BaseElement::ONE, BaseElement::new(t) * BaseElement::from(2u8));
73
74
```

Testing Galois Field Arithmetic Part (2)

- 1) Test with additive or multiplicative identity.
- 2) Direct exponentiate vs. Exponentiate by repeated mult.

```
87
       #[test]
 88
       fn exp() {
           let a = BaseElement::ZERO;
 89
           assert_eq!(a.exp(0), BaseElement::ONE);
 90
           assert eq!(a.exp(1), BaseElement::ZERO);
 91
 92
           assert_eq!(a.exp7(), BaseElement::ZERO);
 94
           let a = BaseElement::ONE;
           assert_eq!(a.exp(0), BaseElement::ONE);
           assert_eq!(a.exp(1), BaseElement::ONE);
 96
           assert_eq!(a.exp(3), BaseElement::ONE);
 98
           assert_eq!(a.exp7(), BaseElement::ONE);
 99
100
           let a: BaseElement = rand_value();
101
           assert_eq!(a.exp(3), a * a * a);
           assert_eq!(a.exp(7), a.exp7());
102
103
```

Random sample a

pair of GF elems

Assert: round-trip

testing for +, -

Assert: round-trip

testing for x, /

Metamorphism

ml-kem on / ml-kem-b [?]

Any libraries to take up PBT boilerplate?

- proptest and quickcheck for Rust.
- hypothesis for Python.
- rapidcheck for C++. It's quickcheck clone.
- Roll your own minimal PBT infra, in your favourite language.

Easy PBT in Python, using hypothesis

```
anjan@linux:~/Documents/my_work/verifiable-rlnc
       from hypothesis import given, strategies as st. settings, assume, HealthCheck
38 +
      agiven(
          msg a=st.binary(min size=MIN MSG BYTE LEN, max size=MAX MSG BYTE LEN),
          msg b=st.binary(min size=MIN MSG BYTE LEN, max size=MAX MSG BYTE LEN),
          eval at=st.integers(min value=1, max value=gfp.GFP.order - 1),
      @settings(max examples=10 000, derandomize=False, deadline=None, suppress health check=[HealthCheck.filter too much])
      def test additive homomorphism of poly eval hash(msg a: bytes, msg b: bytes, eval at: int):
          assume(len(msg a) == len(msg b))
          hash a = ph.poly eval hash(msg a, eval at)
          hash_b = ph.poly_eval_hash(msg_b, eval_at)
          msg ab = add two messages(msg a, msg b)
          expected hash ab = add two messages(hash a, hash b)
          computed hash ab = ph.poly eval hash(msg ab, eval at)
          assert expected hash ab == computed hash ab
```

Thank you for your time and attention.