



QCon NYC — 25 JUNE 2019

MAINTAINING THE GO CRYPTO LIBRARIES



Filippo Valsorda

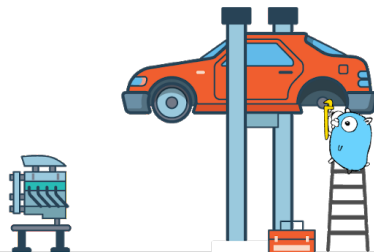
Google

@FiloSottile



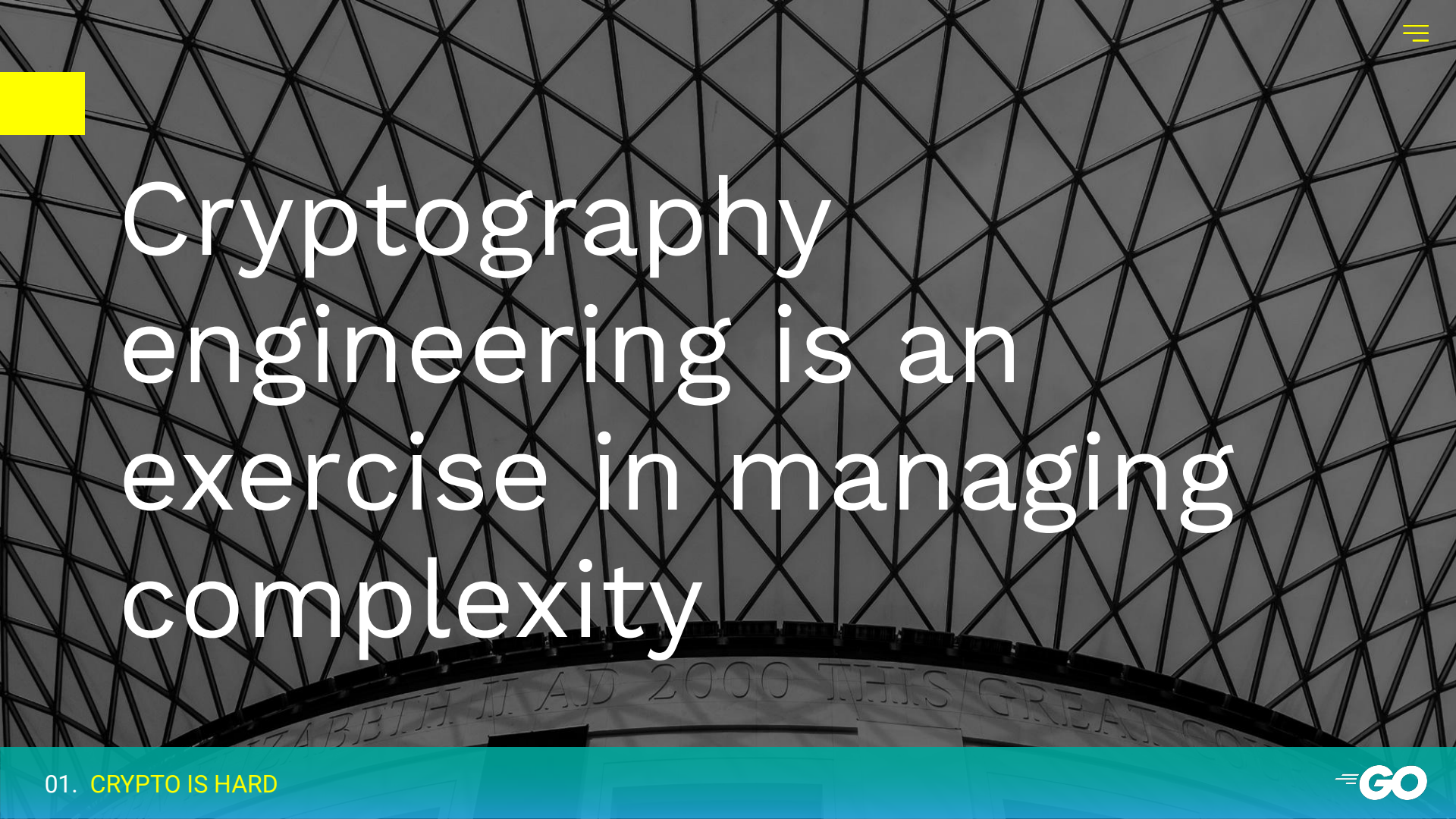
Go security coordinator

Go crypto/... packages
owner and maintainer

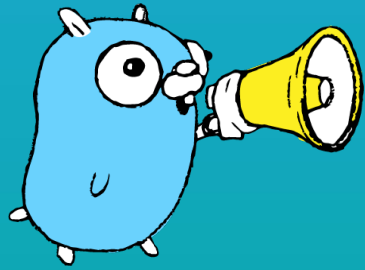


SECTION 1

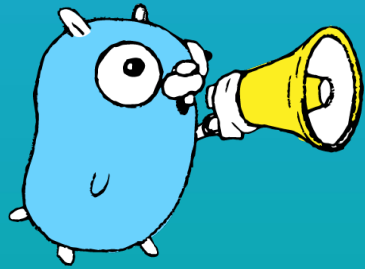
Cryptography is **H**ard

The background of the slide is a grayscale image of a complex, geometric dome structure, likely the interior of a large stadium or arena. The dome is composed of a network of intersecting lines forming a triangular pattern. At the bottom of the image, a curved section of the dome's interior is visible, featuring a large inscription in capital letters that reads "ELIZABETH II AD 2000 THIS GREAT CO".

Cryptography engineering is an exercise in managing complexity



In cryptography engineering
a single mistake makes your
entire system useless.



In cryptography engineering
a single mistake makes your
entire system useless.

... and tests won't save you.

Complexity that affects users

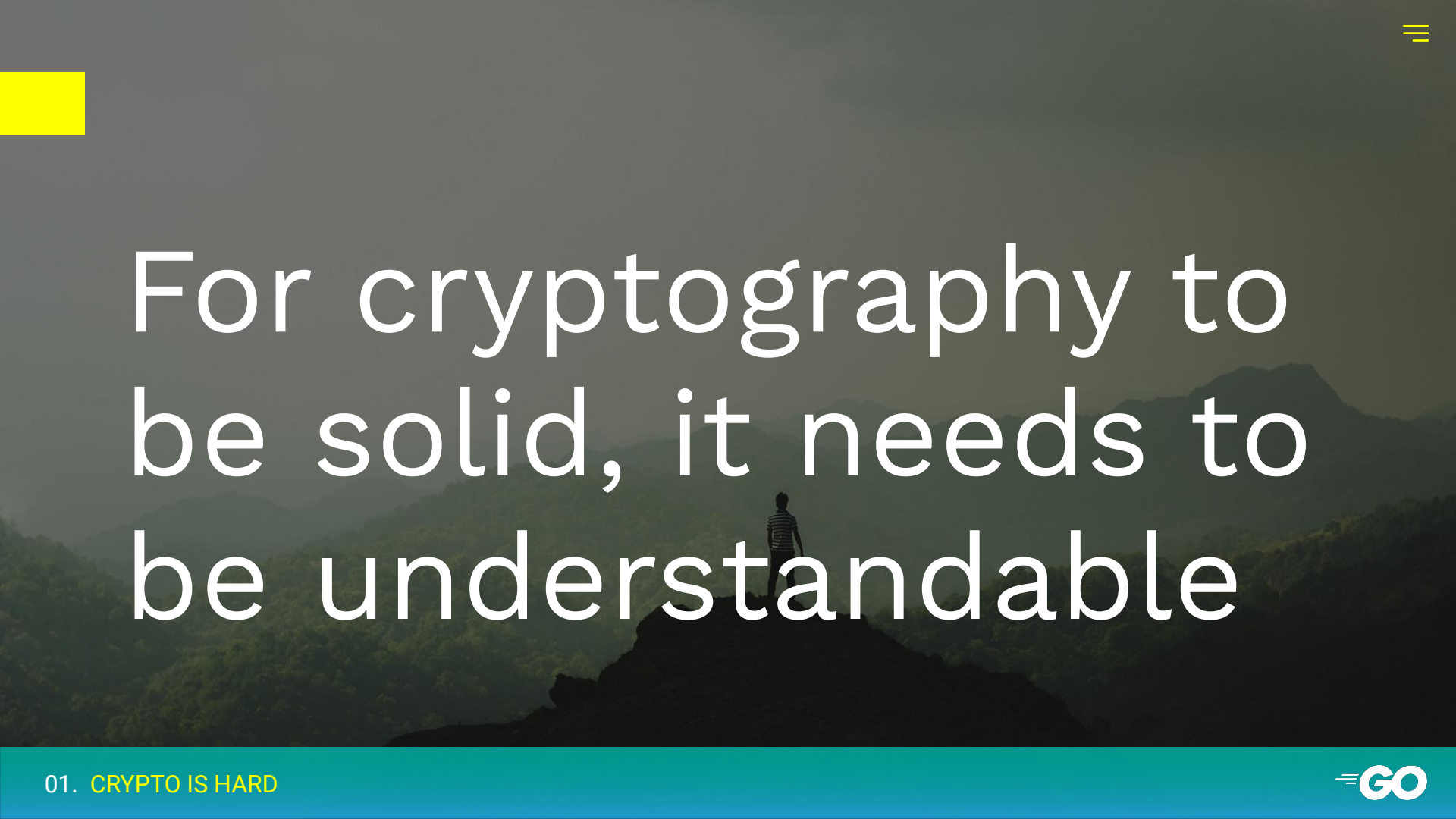
API surface



Complexity that affects contributors

A background image showing a silver laptop and a white mouse on a dark wooden desk. A white chair is partially visible in the foreground. A yellow square is in the top left corner, and a yellow hamburger menu icon is in the top right corner.

If users roll their own,
what is available is
not easy enough



For cryptography to be solid, it needs to be understandable

SECTION 2

The Go cryptography libraries

```
crypto/tls      crypto/x509
crypto/ed25519  crypto/ecdsa
crypto/sha256   crypto/sha512
crypto/cipher   crypto/aes
crypto/rsa      crypto/elliptic
crypto/rand     crypto/subtle
crypto/hmac

crypto/des      crypto/md5      crypto/dsa
crypto/rc4      crypto/sha1
```

Packages in
the Go
standard
library

```
x/crypto/acme      x/crypto/argon2
x/crypto/bcrypt
x/crypto/blake2[bs]
x/crypto/chacha20poly1305
x/crypto/cryptobyte
x/crypto/curve25519
x/crypto/hkdf      x/crypto/nacl
x/crypto/pbkdf2    x/crypto/scrypt
x/crypto/sha3      x/crypto/ssh
```

Packages in
[golang.org/x/](https://golang.org/x/crypto)
[crypto](https://golang.org/x/crypto)

... and more

Go is good for cryptography

- Memory safety
- Performance
- Reproducible builds
- Static analysis

Go is good for cryptography

- Memory safety
 - Performance
 - Reproducible builds
 - Static analysis
-
- Clarity and explicit control flow
 - Easy documentation
 - `go fmt`

Success



Go has a solid, modern,
production-ready
crypto library.

Goal



Enabling a secure
ecosystem



The Go Crypto Principles



Secure, safe, practical, modern



<https://golang.org/design/cryptography-principles>



Secure

The obvious one





Safe

The overlooked one





Practical

The dangerous one





Modern

The aspirational one



SECTION 3

How the Go cryptography libraries are different

Not a priority

Maximum performance

Universal support

Uncommon use cases

A priority

Readability

Safe defaults

Good guidance, docs and examples

CIPHERSUITES SUPPORTED BY OPENSSL



```
TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_CHACHA20_POLY1305_SHA256
TLS_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_CHACHA20_POLY1305_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_CHACHA20_POLY1305_SHA256
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_CHACHA20_POLY1305_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_CCM_8
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_CCM
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CCM_8
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CCM
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_ARIA_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_ARIA_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_ARIA_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_ARIA_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CCM_8
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CCM
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CCM_8
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CCM
```

```
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_ARIA_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_ARIA_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_ARIA_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_ARIA_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA384
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA384
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA256
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA384
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA384
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA256
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_CAMELLIA_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA
```

```
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_SEED_CBC_SHA
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_SEED_CBC_SHA
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_128_CBC_SHA
TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_CAMELLIA_128_CBC_SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CCM_8
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CCM
TLS_RSA_WITH_ARIA_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CCM_8
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CCM
TLS_RSA_WITH_ARIA_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA256
TLS_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA256
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_SEED_CBC_SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_128_CBC_SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_IDEA_CBC_SHA
```

```
openssl ciphers -stdname -s ALL
```

CIPHERSUITES SUPPORTED BY CRYPTO/TLS



TLS_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA

TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_CHACHA20_POLY1305
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_CHACHA20_POLY1305

TLS_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_CHACHA20_POLY1305_SHA256

CIPHERSUITES SUPPORTED BY CRYPTO/TLS



~~TLS_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA~~
~~TLS_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA~~
~~TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA~~
~~TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA~~
~~TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256~~
~~TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256~~
~~TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA~~

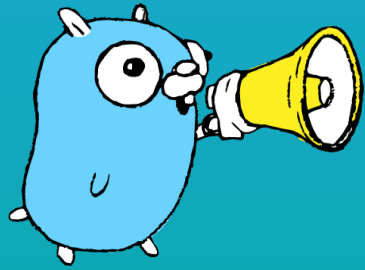
~~TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_CHACHA20_POLY1305~~
~~TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_CHACHA20_POLY1305~~

TLS_AES_128_GCM_SHA256
TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384
TLS_CHACHA20_POLY1305_SHA256



Most of the value of the Go cryptography libraries is in what they **don't** ship.

No knobs. Curated selection of features.



Maintaining a
cryptography library
is an exercise in
resisting complexity.

SECTION 4

How the Go
cryptography libraries
stay different



The maintainer asymmetry:

reviewing cryptographic code can take
10 times the time it takes to write it.



elliptic benchmarks:

name	old time/op	new time/op	delta	
BaseMult	1.40ms ± 0%	1.44ms ± 0%	+2.66%	(p=0.029 n=4+4)
BaseMultP256	317µs ± 0%	50µs ± 0%	-84.14%	(p=0.029 n=4+4)
ScalarMultP256	854µs ± 2%	214µs ± 0%	-74.91%	(p=0.029 n=4+4)

ecdsa benchmarks:

name	old time/op	new time/op	delta	
SignP256	377µs ± 0%	111µs ± 0%	-70.57%	(p=0.029 n=4+4)
SignP384	6.55ms ± 0%	6.48ms ± 0%	-1.03%	(p=0.029 n=4+4)
VerifyP256	1.19ms ± 0%	0.26ms ± 0%	-78.54%	(p=0.029 n=4+4)
KeyGeneration	319µs ± 0%	52µs ± 0%	-83.56%	(p=0.029 n=4+4)

[Commit message](#)



A [src/crypto/elliptic/p256_asm_ppc64le.s](#)

 +2517 -0



M [src/crypto/elliptic/p256_generic.go](#)

| +1 -1

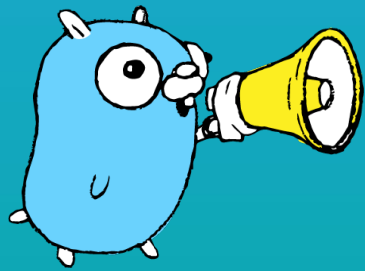


A [src/crypto/elliptic/p256_ppc64le.go](#)

 +505 -0



+3023 -1



“Secure” is relative to
maintainer resources.

AssemblyPolicy

Edit

New Page

Bryan C. Mills edited this page on Jun 27, 2018 · 9 revisions

- Minimize assembly
- Explain why it's needed
- Comment it well
- Test units individually

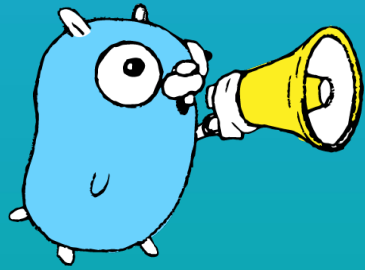
AssemblyPolicy

Edit

New Page

Bryan C. Mills edited this page on Jun 27, 2018 · 9 revisions

- Minimize assembly
- Explain why it's needed
- Comment it well
- Test units individually
- Use code generation
- Write small testable units
- Write a reference Go implementation
- Document why the Go is slow
- Use test tooling and fuzzing



Policies need to be
relative to maintainer
resources, too!

func Mul64

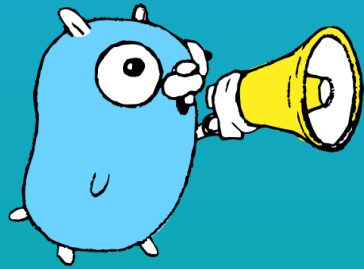
1.12

```
func Mul64(x, y uint64) (hi, lo uint64)
```

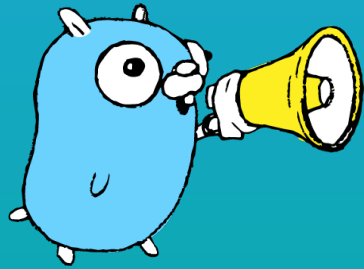
Mul64 returns the 128-bit product of x and y: $(hi, lo) = x * y$ with the product bits' upper half returned in hi and the lower half returned in lo.

Tools to even the ground

- Fuzzing (oss-fuzz)
- Mutation testing (soon!)
- Reusable tests (golang.org/x/crypto/cryptotest)



Everyone wants their
proposal accepted...



Everyone wants their
proposal accepted...

... and everyone else's
rejected.

proposal: x/crypto: deprecate unused, legacy and problematic packages #30141



FiloSottile opened this issue on Feb 8 · 82 comments

- blowfish
- bn256
- cast5
- md4
- ripemd160
- tea
- twofish

proposal: x/crypto/curve25519: new X25519 API #32670



FiloSottile opened this issue 7 days ago · 4 comments



FiloSottile commented 7 days ago

Member



Proposed API

```
package curve25519

// Basepoint is the canonical Curve25519 generator.
var Basepoint []byte

// X25519 returns the result of the scalar multiplication (scalar * point),
// according to RFC 7748, Section 5. scalar, point and the return value
// are slices of 32 bytes.
//
// If point is Basepoint (but not if it's a different slice with the same contents)
// a precomputed implementation might be used to speed up the computation.
func X25519(scalar, point []byte) ([]byte, error)
```

proposal: crypto/tls: remove SSLv3 support #32716

 Open FiloSottile opened this issue 5 days ago · 1 comment



FiloSottile commented 5 days ago • edited ▼

Member



SSLv3 has been irreparably broken since the POODLE attack 5 years ago.



Go 1.12 Release Notes

Core library

TLS 1.3

Go 1.12 adds opt-in support for TLS 1.3 in the `crypto/tls` package as specified by [RFC 8446](#). It can be enabled by adding the value `tls13=1` to the `GODEBUG` environment variable. It will be enabled by default in Go 1.13.

SECTION 5

Conclusion



Every project has a **complexity budget**.

Whether you acknowledge it or not.

You should actively manage it.



Thank you!



Filippo Valsorda

Google

@FiloSottile

