

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
11 October 2007 (11.10.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/113796 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification:
H04L 9/00 (2006.01) H04K 1/06 (2006.01)
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/IL2007/000364
- (22) International Filing Date: 20 March 2007 (20.03.2007)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
174784 4 April 2006 (04.04.2006) IL
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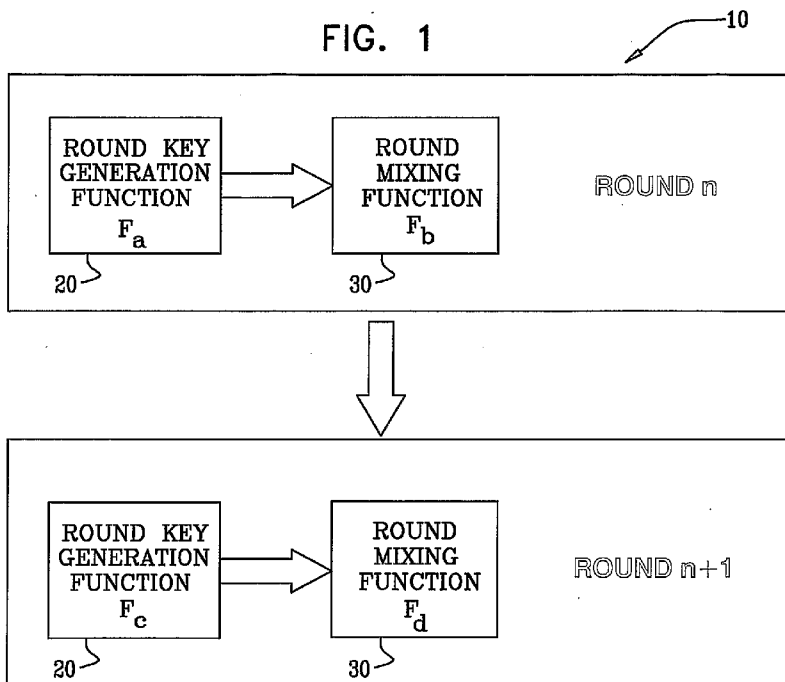
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
9 April 2009

(54) Title: ROBUST CIPHER DESIGN

FIG. 1



(57) Abstract: In an iterated block cipher, a method for round key encryption and key generation, the method including providing a first function F_i and a second function F_j , providing a round key generation function, the round key generation function being operative to utilize, in any given round, exactly one of the first function F_i , and the second function F_j , providing a round mixing function, the round mixing function being operative to utilize, in any given round, exactly one of the first function F_i , and the second function F_j , utilizing the round key generation function in at least a first round to generate a second round key for use in a second round, and utilizing the round mixing function in at least the first round to mix a first round key with a cipher state, wherein one of the following is performed in the first round the round key generation function utilizes the first function F_i to generate the second round key for

use in the second round, substantially simultaneously with the round key mixing function utilizing the second function F_j to mix the first round key with the cipher state, and the round key generation function utilizes the second function F_j to generate the second round key for use in the second round, substantially simultaneously with the round key mixing function utilizing the first function F_i to mix the first round key with the cipher state. Related apparatus and methods are also described.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL07/00364

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC: **H04L 9/00(2006.01);H04K 1/06(2006.01)**

 USPC: **380/37**
 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 U.S. : 380/37

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
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| A | US 2004/0047466 A1 (FELDMAN et al.) 11/November 2004 (11.11.2004), Entire Document. | 1-47 |
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| A | Schneier, B., Applied Cryptograph, Protocols, Algorithms, and Source Code in C., Second Edition, 1996, pages 351-353. | 1-47 |

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| Date of the actual completion of the international search 14 March 2008 (14.03.2008) | Date of mailing of the international search report 28 MAR 2008 |
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