

# CCN and NDN TLV encodings in 802.15.4 packets

Marc Mosko  
Palo Alto Research Center  
marc.mosko@parc.com

Christian Tschudin  
University of Basel  
christian.tschudin@unibas.ch

# Contributions

- A new TLV encoding called 1+0:
  - 1 byte for T *and* L
  - assumes «contextual type values»
- Embeddable in fixed-length CCNx1.0 as well as variable size NDN codes
- Concrete IoT example, emphasizing security *important for IoT, think door locks etc*
- Take home message: size matters
  - permit for enough security bits
  - reduce air time (battery life)
  - avoid fragmentation

# Overview

- 802.15.4 intro, packet examples
- The case for 1-byte IoT TLV encoding
- Example using 1+0 encoding

# 802.15.4 PHY MTU of 127 bytes

- Same problems as IPv6 (RFC 4944)

	2-byte addr	8-byte addr
Maximum Payload	127	127
802.15.4 MAC header	-11	-23
802.15.4 Security header	-5	-5
AES-CCM-16 Encrypted MAC*	-16	-16
802.15.4 FCS	-2	-2
<b>Available Payload Size</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>81</b>

\* Encrypted Message Authentication Code

See also Sastry & Wagner, "Security considerations for IEEE 802.15.4", <http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~daw/papers/15.4-wise04.pdf>

# 802.15.4 Packet Assumptions

- Use worst case 8-byte addresses with PAN ID
- AES-CCM-16 encryption with authentication
- Content Object/Data uses 16-byte HMAC sig
- Name /abcd/efgh/ijkl (4/4/4)
- Only mandatory fields
- 32-bytes of user payload
- No fragmentation! Fit in one packet.

# Disclaimer

- You can always twiddle fields or use less overhead, different names, etc.. If you hand craft CCN/NDN packets for 802.15.4, you can obviously do better – we wanted to stick with TLV.
- The 32-byte payload was picked before creating the packets to see if we could make that fit.
- One could use the 802.15.4 AES-CCM-16 signature and encryption instead of a CCN/NDN Signature on the Data -- has drawbacks.
- Comparing 1+0 with: 2+2 CCN, 1+1 CCN, 1+1 NDN

## CCN Encoding OCTETS

	PHY	Fixed	Data	2+2	1+1	1+0
--	-----	-------	------	-----	-----	-----

802.15.4 GFSK PHY header  
 802.15.4 64-bit address  
 802.15.4 Security header

6

23

5

Fixed Header  
 ContentObjectMessage TL

8

4 2 1

Name TL  
 Name Component TL

4 2 1

4 2 1

Name /abcd  
 Name Component TL

4

4 2 1

Name /efgh  
 Name Component TL

4

4 2 1

Name /ijkl  
 Payload TL

4

4 2 1

Payload  
 Validator Alg TL

32

4 2 1

Validator HMAC  
 KeyId TL

4 2 1

4 2 1

KeyId  
 Validator Payload TL

2

4 2 1

Validator Payload (128-bit HMAC)

16

802.15.4 AES-CCM-128 Auth  
 802.15.4 FCS

16

2

**SUBTOTAL**

**6 54 62 40 20 10**

**TOTAL 802.15.4 PHY Payload**

**156 136 126**

**OVERHEAD**

**65% 32% 16%**

We kept 8 byte fixed header, this is obvious place to save

A 2+2 or 1+1 CCN Encoding with Fixed Header is too large

Overhead = encoding / data (e.g. 40 / 62 = 0.65)

NDN Encoding OCTETS					
	PHY	Fixed	Data	NDN	1+0

802.15.4 GFSK PHY header	6				
802.15.4 64-bit address		23			
802.15.4 Security header		5			
Data Packet TL				2	1
Name TL				2	1
Name Component TL				2	1
Name /abcd			4		
Name Component TL				2	1
Name /efgh			4		
Name Component TL				2	1
Name /ijkl			4		
Content TL				2	1
Contents			32		
Signature Info TL				2	1
Signature Type TL				2	1
Signature Type			1		
KeyLocator TL				2	1
KeyId TL				2	1
KeyId			2		
Signature Value TL				2	1
Signature (128-bit HMAC)			16		
802.15.4 AES-CCM-16 Auth		16			
802.15.4 FCS		2			

Note: No fixed header, no nonce (it's a Data packet)

<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>TOTAL 802.15.4 PHY Payload</b>				<b>131</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>OVERHEAD</b>				<b>35%</b>	<b>17%</b>

A 1+1 NDN encoding is too large

Overhead = encoding / data (e.g. 22/63 = 0.35)



# Maximum payload, Gain *when changing the encoding while keeping name and crypto bits fixed*

	absolute (octets)	relative increase
CCN 2+2	3	
CCN 1+1	23	667%
CCN 1+0	33	43%
NDN 1+1	28	
NDN 1+0	39	39%

Increase = (current – previous)/previous

# The case for 1+0 Encoding

- There are very few fields needed. You cannot really fit more anyway.
- Can mix 1+0 with other encodings when need more types or longer lengths (see next slides)
- It saves a lot of bytes.
- Requires a separate specification on packet format, as there are only 4 available “T”s per container in the 1+0 format.

# Embedding 1+0 in NDN: Encoding

Approach:

- Reserve some type code space for IoT encoding (**four type values**)
- Reserve some codes for overflow (announcing length of T)

*(y = type bit, x = length bit)*

```
001yyyyy <5-bit type> VAR-NUMBER(length)
00111101 2-byte(type) VAR-NUMBER(length)
00111110 4-byte(type) VAR-NUMBER(length)
00111111 8-byte(type) VAR-NUMBER(length)
000xxxxx type 0 length 0xxxxx (5-bit length)
01xxxxxx type 1 length xxxxxx (6-bit length)
10xxxxxx type 2 length xxxxxx (6-bit length)
11xxxxxx type 3 length xxxxxx (6-bit length)
```

# Embedding 1+0 in NDN: Pseudocode

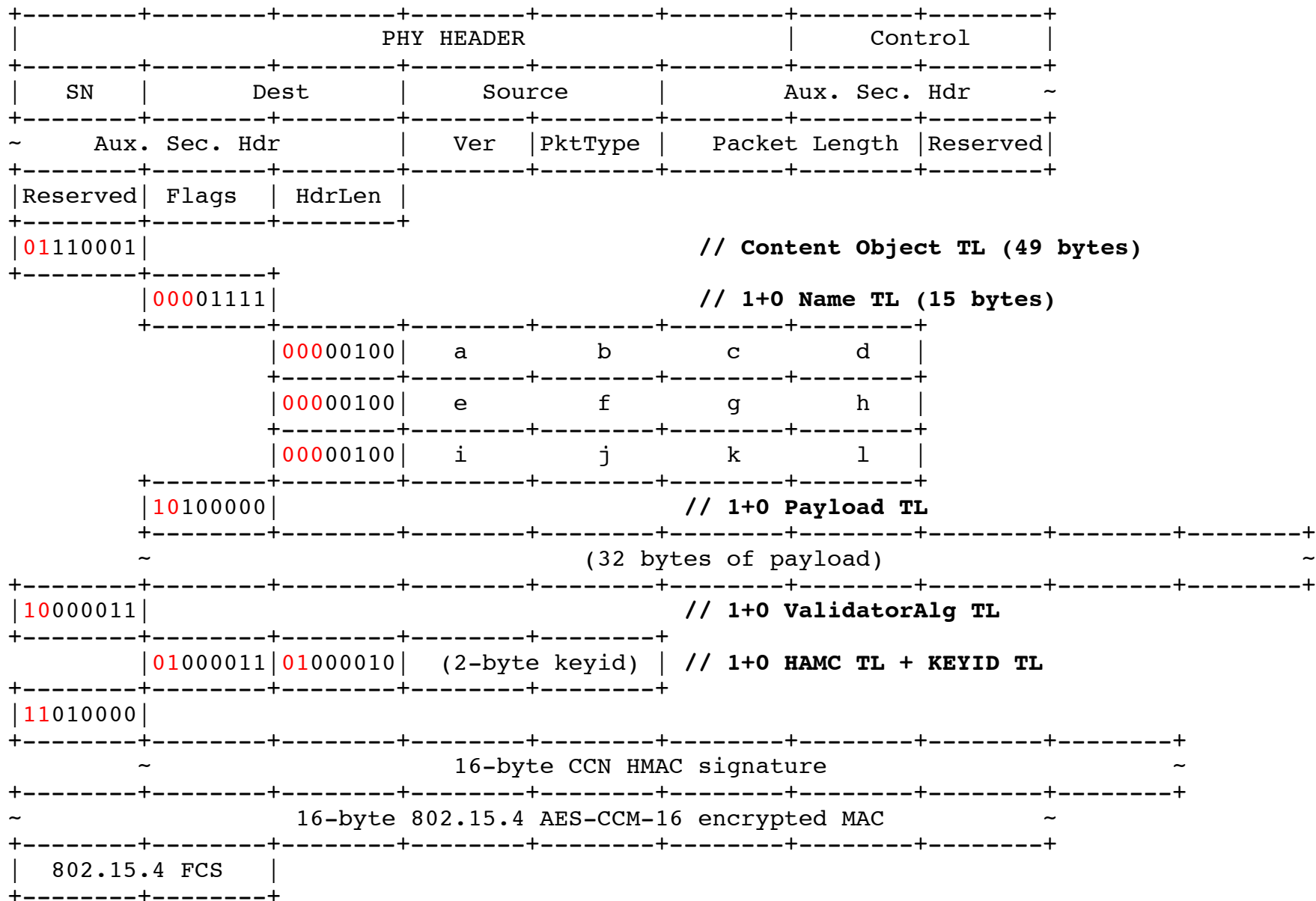
```
if (type_val & 0b11100000 == 0b00100000) {
    // VAR-NUMBER type processing
    if (type_val < 0x3D ) {
        type = type_val & 0x1F;
    } else if ( type_val == 0x3D ) {
        // 2-byte VAR-NUMBER type follows
    } else if ( type_val == 0x3E ) {
        // 4-byte VAR-NUMBER type follows
    } else {
        // 8-byte VAR-NUMBER type follows
    }
    // VAR-NUMBER length follows
} else {
    // IOT processing
    type = type_val >> 6;
    length = type_val & 0b0011111;
}
```

# Embedding 1+0 in CCN 2+2: Encoding & Pseudocode

*(y = type bit, x = length bit)*

```
001yyyyy yyyyyyyy xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx (8K types, 64K length)
000xxxxx type 0 length 0xxxxx (5-bit length)
01xxxxxx type 1 length xxxxxx (6-bit length)
10xxxxxx type 2 length xxxxxx (6-bit length)
11xxxxxx type 3 length xxxxxx (6-bit length)
```

```
if (type_val & 0b11100000 == 0b00100000) {
    type = (uint16_t) type_val << 8 | next_byte;
    // 2-byte length follows
} else {
    // IOT processing
    type = type_val >> 6;
    length = type_val & 0b00111111;
}
```



# Conclusions

- The examples stimulate discussion – not absolute judgments on encodings
- 2+2 and 1+1 have a lot of overhead for IoT
- 802.15.4 case:
  - 1+1 formats (CCN and NDN) slightly too large for 32-byte payload with AES-CCM-16
  - 1+0 format works for 32-byte payload
- Graceful overflow: 1+0 format can be combined with existing NDN- and CCN-style encodings