

Cryptography and Network Security

Sixth Edition by William Stallings



Chapter 13

Digital Signatures

"To guard against the baneful influence exerted by strangers is therefore an elementary dictate of savage prudence. Hence before strangers are allowed to enter a district, or at least before they are permitted to mingle freely with the inhabitants, certain ceremonies are often performed by the natives of the country for the purpose of disarming the strangers of their magical powers, or of disinfecting, so to speak, the tainted atmosphere by which they are supposed to be surrounded."

> —Talking to Strange Men, Ruth Rendell



Figure 13.1 Generic Model of Digital Signature Process



Figure 13.2 Simplified Depiction of Essential Elements of Digital Signature Process

Digital Signature Properties

It must verify the author and the date and time of the signature It must authenticate the contents at the time of the signature

It must be verifiable by third parties, to resolve disputes

Attacks



Forgeries



Total break

 C determines A's private key

Digital Signature Requirements

- The signature must be a bit pattern that depends on the message being signed
- The signature must use some information unique to the sender to prevent both forgery and denial
- It must be relatively easy to produce the digital signature
- It must be relatively easy to recognize and verify the digital signature
- It must be computationally infeasible to forge a digital signature, either by constructing a new message for an existing digital signature or by constructing a fraudulent digital signature for a given message
- It must be practical to retain a copy of the digital signature in storage

Direct Digital Signature

- Refers to a digital signature scheme that involves only the communicating parties
 - It is assumed that the destination knows the public key of the source
- Confidentiality can be provided by encrypting the entire message plus signature with a shared secret key
 - It is important to perform the signature function first and then an outer confidentiality function
 - In case of dispute some third party must view the message and its signature
- The validity of the scheme depends on the security of the sender's private key
 - If a sender later wishes to deny sending a particular message, the sender can claim that the private key was lost or stolen and that someone else forged his or her signature
 - One way to thwart or at least weaken this ploy is to require every signed message to include a timestamp and to require prompt reporting of compromised keys to a central authority

ElGamal Digital Signature

- Scheme involves the use of the private key for encryption and the public key for decryption
- Global elements are a prime number q and a, which is a primitive root of q
- Use private key for encryption (signing)
- Uses public key for decryption (verification)
- Each user generates their key
 - Chooses a secret key (number): 1 < x_A < q-1
 - Compute their public key: $y_A = a^{xA} \mod q$

Schnorr Digital Signature

- Scheme is based on discrete logarithms
- Minimizes the message-dependent amount of computation required to generate a signature
 - Multiplying a 2n-bit integer with an n-bit integer
- Main work can be done during the idle time of the processor
- Based on using a prime modulus p, with p 1 having a prime factor q of appropriate size
 - Typically *p* is a 1024-bit number, and *q* is a 160-bit number

NIST Digital Signature Algorithm

- Published by NIST as Federal Information Processing Standard FIPS 186
- Makes use of the Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA)
- The latest version, FIPS 186-3, also incorporates digital signature algorithms based on RSA and on elliptic curve cryptography





(a) RSA Approach



(b) DSA Approach

Figure 13.3 Two Approaches to Digital Signatures

Global Public Key Components

 $\begin{array}{ll} p & \text{ prime number where } 2^{L-1}$

q prime divisor of (p - 1), where 2¹⁵⁹ < q < 2¹⁶⁰ i.e., bit length of 160 bits

 $g = h(p-1)/q \mod p$ where h is any integer with 1 < h < (p-1)such that $h^{(p-1)/q} \mod p > 1$

User's Private Key

x random or pseudorandom integer with 0 < x < q

User's Public Key

 $y = g^x \mod p$

User's Per-Message Secret Number

k = random or pseudorandom integer with 0 < k < q</p>

Signing

$$r = (g^k \mod p) \mod q$$

 $s = \left[k^{-1}(\operatorname{H}(M) + xr)\right] \mod q$
Signature = (r, s)

Verifying $w = (s^{-r})^{-1} \mod q$ $u_1 = \left[H(M')w \right] \mod q$ $u_2 = (r')w \mod q$ $v = \left[\left(g^{u1}y^{u2} \right) \mod p \right] \mod q$ TEST: v = r'

M	=	message to be signed
H(M)	=	hash of M using SHA-1
M', r', s'	=	received versions of M, r, s

Figure 13.4 The Digital Signature Algorithm (DSS)

DSA Signing and Verifying



Figure 13.5 DSA Signing and Verifying

Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ECDSA)

All those participating in the digital signature scheme use the same global domain parameters, which define an elliptic curve and a point of origin on the curve

A signer must first generate a public, private key pair

Four elements are involved:

A hash value is generated for the message to be signed; using the private key, the domain parameters, and the hash value, a signature is generated To verify the signature, the verifier uses as input the signer's public key, the domain parameters, and the integer s; the output is a value v that is compared to r; the signature is verified if the v = r



Figure 13.6 ECDSA Signing and Verifying

RSA-PSS

- RSA Probabilistic Signature Scheme
- Included in the 2009 version of FIPS 186
- Latest of the RSA schemes and the one that RSA Laboratories recommends as the most secure of the RSA schemes
- For all schemes developed prior to PSS is has not been possible to develop a mathematical proof that the signature scheme is as secure as the underlying RSA encryption/decryption primitive
- The PSS approach was first proposed by Bellare and Rogaway
- This approach, unlike the other RSA-based schemes, introduces a randomization process that enables the security of the method to be shown to be closely related to the security of the RSA algorithm itself

Mask Generation Function (MGF)

- Typically based on a secure cryptographic hash function such as SHA-1
 - Is intended to be a cryptographically secure way of generating a message digest, or hash, of variable length based on an underlying cryptographic hash function that produces a fixed-length output



Figure 13.7 RSA-PSS Encoding



Figure 13.8 RSA-PSS EM Verification

Summary

- Digital signatures
 - Properties
 - Attacks and forgeries
 - Digital signature requirements
 - Direct digital signature
- Elgamal digital signature scheme
- RSA-PSS
 - Mask generation function
 - The signing operation
 - Signature verification



- NIST digital signature algorithm
 - The DSA approach
 - Elliptic curve digital signature algorithm
 - Global domain parameters
 - Key generation
 - Digital signature generation and authentication
 - Schnorr digital signature scheme