

# DIGITAL SIGNATURES

→ RSA Signatures

→ ElGamal Signatures

→ Subliminal channels

## Digital signatures

Sign a message  $w$

$\text{Sig}(w)$  hard to calculate

$(w, \text{Sig}(w)) \xrightarrow{\text{impossible}} (w_n, \text{Sig}(w_n))$

1.) Everyone is able to verify that the message was signed by the correct user → **doable with public keys**

2.) Only the correct user can sign messages

→ **doable with private keys**

## RSA Signatures

Elements:  $p, q$  - large primes,  $n = p \cdot q$ ,  $e, d$

$$e = d^{-1} \pmod{(p-1)(q-1)}$$

Private:  $d$

Public:  $e, n$

Signature of message  $w$ :  $\text{Sig}(w) = w^d \pmod n$

Verification:  $(w, \text{sig}(w))$  check if  $w = \{\text{sig}(w)\}^e \pmod n$   
 $= (w^d)^e \pmod n$   
 $= w^{d \cdot e} \pmod n$   
 $= w \pmod n$

How to fake a signature?

- 1.) Factorize  $n$
  - 2.) Calculate  $\phi(n)$
  - 3.) Invert  $e$  (RSA problem)
  - 4.) From  $w$ ,  $w^d \pmod n$   
calculate  $d$  is discrete log problem
- } all computationally hard

How to break a signature scheme

**Existential forgery:** There exists a message  $w$  for which calculating  $\text{Sig}(w)$  is easy. In RSA what is  $\text{Sig}(1)$ ?

**Universal forgery:** All messages can be efficiently signed by the adversary.

**RSA existential forgeries**

Given pair  $(w, s)$  of a message and its signature, can you find another  $(w', s')$  pair?  
 $(w^2, s^2)$  is a valid signature of  $w^3$

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$(w_1, s_1)$  and  $(w_2, s_2)$  are valid  $\Rightarrow (w_1 w_2, s_1 s_2)$

## Hash functions

$h: I \rightarrow K$   $|I| \Rightarrow |K| \approx 320$ -bit number

1.) It is computationally hard to invert  $h$ :  $k \in K$  it is hard to find  $i \in I$  s.t.  $h(i) = k$

2.) It is computationally hard to find collisions: it is computationally hard to find  $i_1, i_2 \in I$  s.t.  $h(i_1) = h(i_2)$ .

$w, h(w), sig(h(w))$

1.) Advantage 1: signatures are always calculated for small messages (320-bits)

2.)  $w, h(w), sig(h(w))$

$w', h(w)^2, sig(h(w))^2$   $\rightarrow$  it is computationally difficult to calculate  $w'$  s.t.  $h(w') = h(w)^2$

## ElGamal signatures

Elements:  $p$  - a large prime

$g$  - a primitive element of  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$   $\mathbb{Z}_p^* = (1, \dots, p-1) = (g, g^2, g^3, \dots, g^{p-1})$

$x$  -  $0 < x < p-1$

$y = g^x \pmod p$

Public:  $\{g, p\}$

Private:  $x$

To sign  $w$ :

1.) choose randomly

$$r \in \mathbb{Z}_{p-1}^*$$

All numbers invertible mod  $p-1$

$\Downarrow$   
all numbers smaller than  $p-1$  with

$$\gcd(r, p-1) = 1$$

$$2.) a = g^r \pmod{p}$$

$$3.) b = r^{-1} \cdot (w - a \cdot x) \pmod{p-1}$$

$b$  inverse of  $r$  mod  $(p-1)$

Verification of  $(w, (a, b))$

$$g^w \stackrel{?}{=} g^a \cdot g^b \pmod{p}$$

$$\equiv (g^x)^a \cdot (g^r)^b \pmod{p}$$

$$= g^{xa} \cdot g^{r \cdot (r^{-1} \cdot (w - a \cdot x))} \pmod{p}$$

$$\equiv g^{xa} \cdot g^{w - a \cdot x} \pmod{p}$$

$$\equiv g^w \pmod{p}$$

ElGamal Existential Forgery

1.) There is an existential forgery which doesn't require a message-signature pair.

Two parameter family

$$d, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$$

$$a = g^d \cdot \beta^B$$

$$b = -a \cdot \beta^{-1} \pmod{p-1}$$

$$w = d \cdot b$$

$$g^a \cdot g^b \equiv g^{d \cdot \beta^B} \cdot g^{-a \cdot \beta^{-1}} \pmod{p}$$



how generally solve this?  

$$r(b_1 - b_2) \equiv (w_1 - w_2) \pmod{p-1}$$
 (because  $(b_1 - b_2)$  might not be invertible mod  $(p-1)$ )

Which of possible  $r$ 's are correct? the one for which  $a^r \equiv a \pmod{p}$

$$ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$$
 $\Rightarrow n$  is not necessarily a prime

1.)  $\gcd(a, n) = 1 \Rightarrow a^{-1}$  exists and  $x \equiv b \cdot a^{-1} \pmod{n}$

2.)  $\gcd(a, n) = k$  and  $k$  does not divide  $b \Rightarrow$  No solution

3.)  $\gcd(a, n) = k$  and  $k | b$  ( $k$  divides  $b$ )  $\Rightarrow$  there are multiple solutions

Algorithm: Solve

$$\frac{a}{k} x \equiv \frac{b}{k} \pmod{\frac{n}{k}}$$

Note  $\gcd\left(\frac{a}{k}, \frac{n}{k}\right) = 1$

Solution:  $x = s$

Solutions to the original problem are

$$s + i \cdot \frac{n}{k} \text{ for } i \in \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$$

Example

$$10x \equiv 5 \pmod{15}$$

mod 15

$k = \gcd(10, 15) = 5$

1.)  $2x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$   
 $x \equiv 2$

2. Solutions are:

$2 + i \cdot 3$  for  $i \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$

$$x \in \{2, 5, 8, 11, 14\}$$

## SUBLIMINAL CHANNELS

Note that ElGamal (DSA, PSS) use two random numbers

to calculate signatures: random  $(r)$   
random  $x$

if  $(x)$  is shared with another user,  $r$  can be used to send a secret message.

$$G = g^r \pmod{p}$$

$$b = r^{-1} (w - ax) \pmod{p-1}$$

$$(w, (a, b))$$

$$r \cdot b = (w - ax) \pmod{p-1}$$

if receiver knows  $x$  as well they can calculate  $r$ .