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Post-Quantum Provably-Secure Authentication and MAC from Mersenne Primes



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This is a joint work with **Houda Ferradi** (Hong Kong Polytechnic, Hong Kong)

Summary

- We revisit the MERS assumption [AJPS18]
- Authentication from the MERS assumption
- MAC from the MERS assumption



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Lightweight Authentication and Post-Quantum Security

Authentications in Resource restricted devices

Context

- ePassport
- Credit card
- NFC mobile payment
- IoT sensors
- and so on

RFID tags in \$0.05--\$0.10 [AHM14]

Area	< 4000 GE
Non-Volatile Memory	< 4096 bits
Power	< 10 µW
Clock	< 100 kHz

[AHM14] F. Armknecth, M. Hamann, V. Mikhalev (RFIDSec 2014)



HB Family

Auth. from Learning Parity with Noise (LPN) [HB01]

Pros: Secure if the underlying LPN problem is hard

Pros: Efficient implementation

② Cons: Not so compact implementation (> that of AES) [AHM14]

[HB01] N.J. Hopper, M. Blum (Asiacrypt 2001) [AHM14] F. Armknecth, M. Hamann, V. Mikhalev (RFIDSec 2014)



Our Proposal – Alternative to HB family

- Auth. from MERS instead of LPN
- The MERS assumption [AJPS18]:
- $(a, as + e \mod p) \approx (a, u)$ $-a \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p, e \leftarrow \mathfrak{H}_{n,h} \coloneqq \{HW(e) = h\}, u \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$
- In the sym-key setting, n = 521, h = 128.



Discussion

- Auth from MERS > Auth from LPN
- But, there are Auth. From BC and MAC
- Auth. From Blockcipher (e.g., AES, Camellia, PRESENT, and so on)
 - Secure if the underlying BC is post-quantumly secure
 - Not so compact implementation (but, atomic-AES: 2.5k GE)
- We think those are competitive



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The MERS Assumption

The Mersenne Primes

- The Mersenne prime: $p = 2^n 1$
- keep the Hamming weight!
- -> Use the properties to construct public-key encryption.
- Let $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_p$:
- 1. $||x + y|| \le ||x|| + ||y||$
- 2. $||x \cdot y|| \le ||x|| \cdot ||y||$
- 3. $||-x|| \le n ||x||$



The MERS Assmption

- MERS assumption:
- $(a, as + e \mod p) \approx (a, u)$ $-a \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p, e \leftarrow \mathfrak{H}_{n,h} \coloneqq \{HW(e) = h\}, u \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$
- Introduced by [AJPS18]
- Their parameter setting: n = 756839, h = 256
- Our candidate: n = 521, h = 128

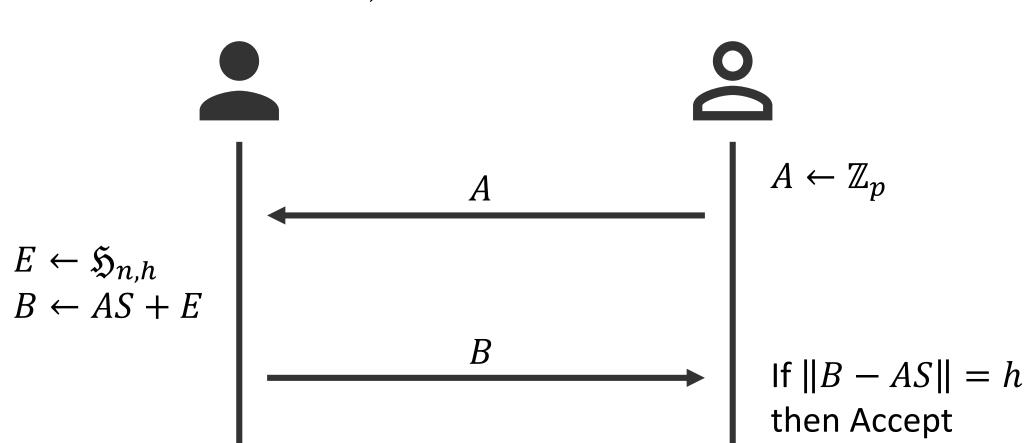


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Warm Up: Passively-secure Auth.

Passively-secure Authentication Authpa

SK:
$$S \leftarrow \mathfrak{H}_{n,h}$$
: e.g., $n = 521$, $h = 128$



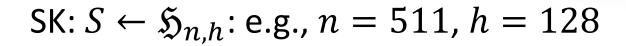


Security against passive attack

- Real game: the adversary gets real transcripts and tries to impersonate P
- Random game: the adversary gets random transcripts and tries to impersonate P
- Intuition 1: Real ≈ Random, because the MERS assumption
- Intuition 2: In Random, the adversary's chance is negligible
- (See the full version or [KSS10])



Auth_{pa} is not AC-secure

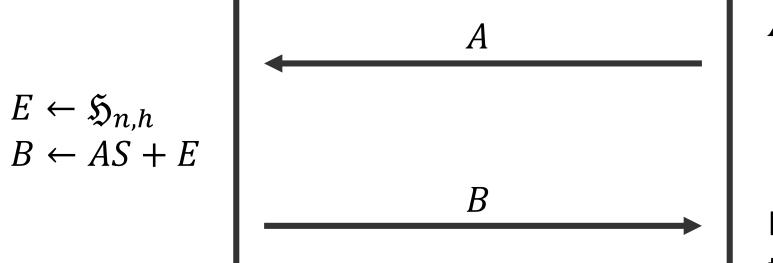




Fix A and repeat

→ Learn LSB(AS) and so on





$$A \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$$

If
$$||B - AS|| = h$$

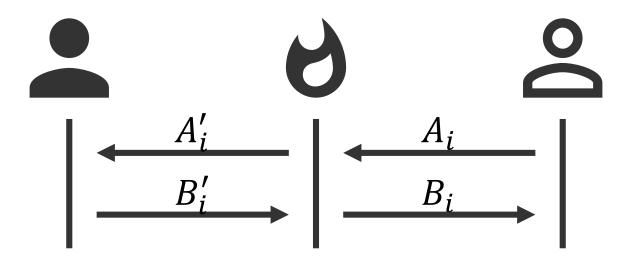
then Accept

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S-MIM-secure Auth.

S-MIM-secure Authentication

- Auth. secure against sequential Man-in-the-Middle attacks
- The adversary can intercept sessions sequentially
- The adversary wins if $(A_i, B_i) \neq (A'_i, B'_i)$ and V accepts





ROR-> S-MIM conversion in [CKT16]

ROR is sufficient!

Auth_{ROR}

- $V: c \leftarrow C$
- P: $\tau = (\tau_1, \tau_2) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}(sk, c)$
- V: $d \leftarrow \mathcal{V}(s, c, \tau)$

Auth_{smim}

- $K \leftarrow \mathbb{F}$, H: universal hash.
- $V: c \leftarrow C$
- P: $\tau = (\tau_1, \tau_2) \leftarrow \mathcal{P}(sk, c)$
- $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2) \leftarrow (\tau_1, \tau_2 * K + H(\tau_1))$
- V: $\tau = (\tau_1, \tau_2) \leftarrow (\sigma_1, (\sigma_2 H(\tau_1)) * K^{-1})$
- $d \leftarrow \mathcal{V}(s, c, \tau)$

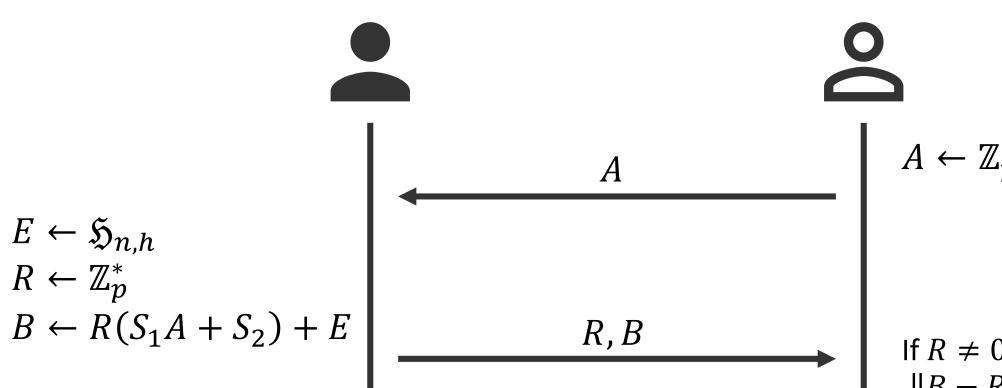
[CKT16] D. Cash, E. Kiltz, S. Tessaro (TCC 2016-A1)

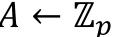


ROR-secure Authentication Authentication

MERS holds → B is pseudorandom

$$SK: S = (S_1, S_2) \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p$$

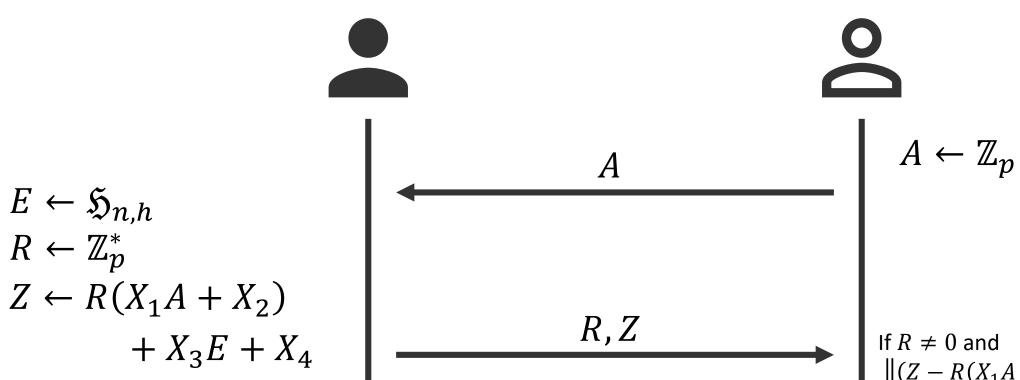




If $R \neq 0$ and $||B - R(S_1A + S_2)|| = h$ then Accept

Compiled S-MIM-secure Authentication Auth_{smim}

$$SK:S = (X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4) \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^* \times \mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p^* \times \mathbb{Z}_p$$



If $R \neq 0$ and $\left\| (Z - R(X_1A + X_2) - X_4)X_3^{-1} \right\| = h$ then Accept



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MAC

MAC

SK: $(s'_0, s_0, s_1, ..., s_{\mu}, h, \pi)$

Following MAC2 [KPCJV11,KPVCJ17]

MAC

1. $R \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^*, E \leftarrow \mathfrak{H}_{n,h}, \beta \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\nu}$

- 2. Compute $A = h(m, \beta) \in \{0, 1\}^{\mu}$
- 3. Compute $S_A = S_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{\mu} A[i] \cdot S_i$
- 4. Compute $B = R S_A + E + S'_0$
- 5. Output $\sigma = \pi(R, B, \beta)$

Vrfy

- 1. Parse $(R, B, \beta) = \pi^{-1}(\sigma)$
- 2. Compute $A = h(m, \beta)$
- Compute $S_A = S_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{\mu} A[i] \cdot S_i$
- 4. If $R \neq 0$ and $||B (RS_A + S_0')|| = h$, then Accept

[KPCJV11] E. Kiltz, K. Pietrzak, D. Cash, A. Jain, D. Venturi (EUROCRYPT 2011) [KPVCJ17] E. Kiltz, K. Pietrzak, D. Venturi, D. Cash, A. Jain (J. Cryptology 30(4), 2017)



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Summary

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- We revisit the MERS assumption [AJPS18]
- Authentication from the MERS assumption
- MAC from the MERS assumption
- Selling points
 - Auth is easy to implement!
 - All except Authpa don't need the Mersenne prime!

