DIGITAL SIGNATURES

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Why Digital Signatures?

- To provide Authenticity, Integrity and Non repudiation to electronic documents
- To use the Internet as the safe and secure medium for e-Governance and e-Commerce



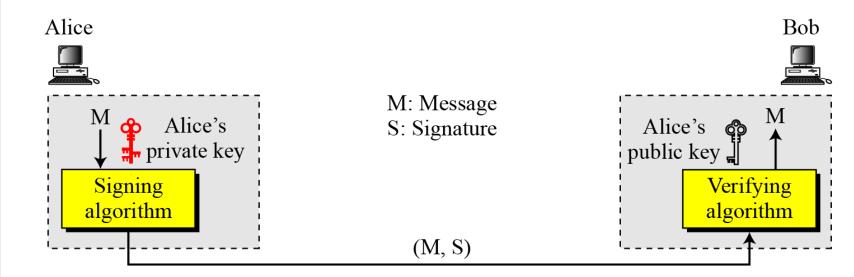
What is Digital Signature?

- Mathematical scheme for demonstrating the authenticity
- Easily transportable
- Signing key
- Verification key
- Asymmetric cryptography

The Scheme typically consists of three Algorithms

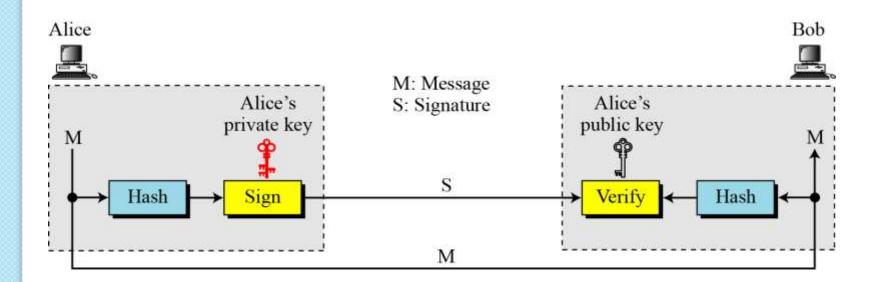
- A key generation algorithm that selects a private key uniformly at random from a set of possible private keys. The algorithm outputs the private key and a corresponding public key.
- A <u>signing algorithm</u> that, given a message and a private key, produces a signature.
- A <u>signature verifying algorithm</u> that, given a message, public key and a signature, either accepts or rejects the message's claim to authenticity

Digital signature process



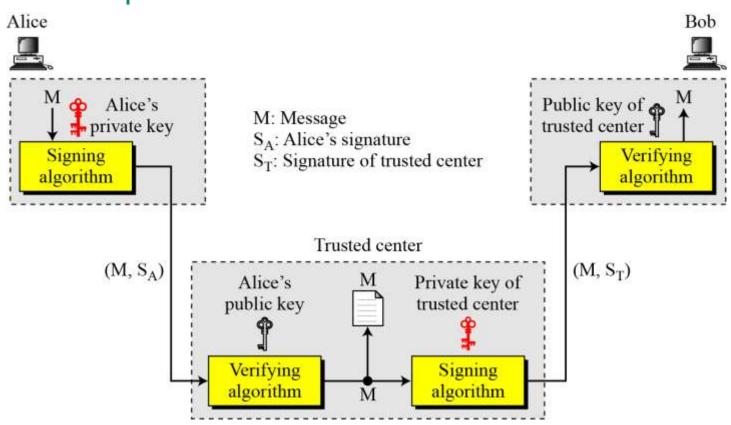
Signing the digest

- For efficiency
- For compatibility
- For integrity



Services

- Authentication
- Integrity
- Non-repudiation



Attacks on digital signature

Key-Only Attack

the attacker is only given the public verification key

Known-Message Attack

the attacker is given valid signatures for a variety of messages known by the attacker but not chosen by the attacker.

Chosen-Message Attack

the attacker first learns signatures on arbitrary messages of the attacker's choice.

Forgery types

Existential forgery

Existential forgery is the creation (by an adversary) of any message/signature pair (m,σ) , where σ was not produced by the legitimate signer.

Selective forgery

Selective forgery is the creation (by an adversary) of a message/signature pair (m, σ) where m has been *chosen* by the adversary prior to the attack.

Hardware Tokens





iKey

Smart Card