

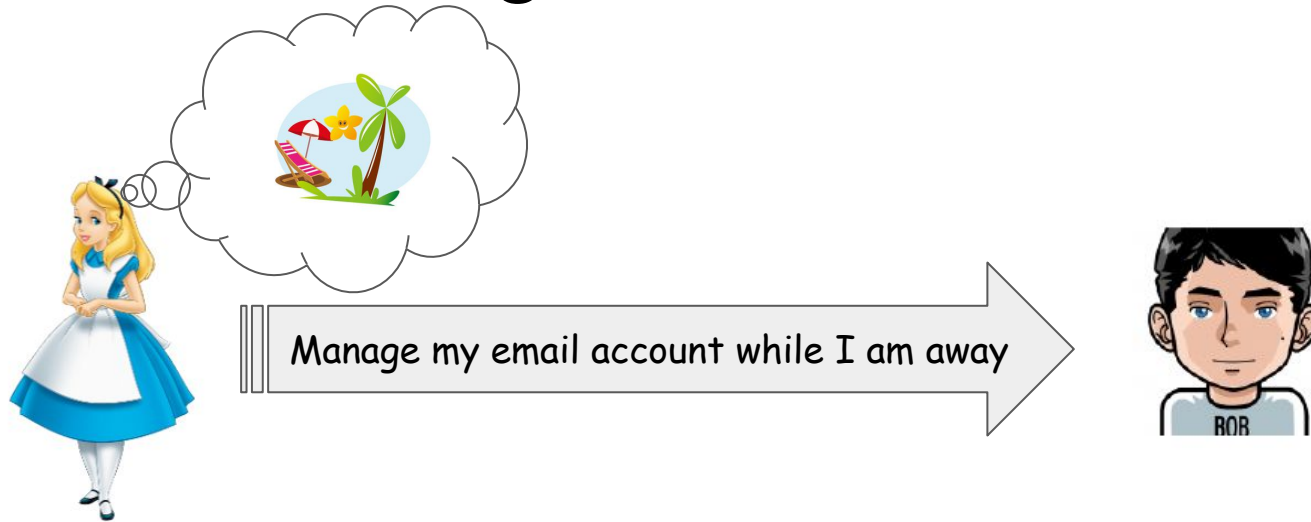
# RelaySchnorr: Anonymous, Timed and Revocable Proxy Signatures

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<sup>1</sup>University of Connecticut, <sup>2</sup>Input Output (IOG)

**ISC 2024**

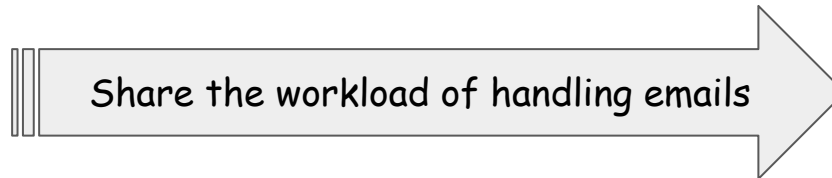
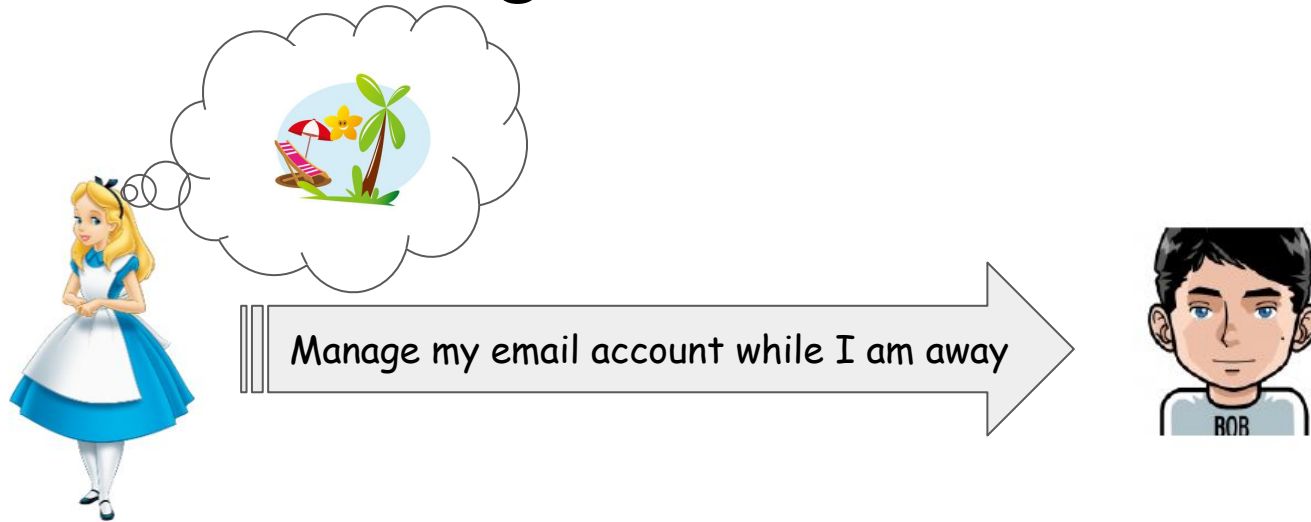
# Signature Delegation (Proxy Signatures)



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**Produce signed messages on Alice's behalf**

# Motivating Applications

Can DeFi (decentralized finance) replace traditional banking services?



Issue a credit card for my sister  
under my account

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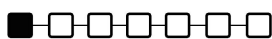


Issue a credit card for my sister  
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## Mitigating Targeted Attacks



Blockchain



I am on this consensus  
committee. If I do not  
sign within a timeout,  
sign on my behalf.



# Desired Delegation Properties

- Anonymity of delegation.
- Timed delegation.
- Revocability.
- Policy enforcement.
- Decentralization.
- Non-interactivity.

# Limitations of Prior Work

- No existing scheme achieved all these properties:
  - Many violate anonymity,
  - supported anonymity and policy enforcement without any revocation capability or timed notion,
  - or achieved revocability/timed notion at the expense of being interactive and/or involving a trusted third party.
- No formal security notion of proxy signatures encompassing all these properties.



# Can we do Better? ... RelaySchnorr

- We define a security notion for anonymous, timed and revocable proxy signatures.
- We show a construction called **RelaySchnorr**
  - Combines Schnorr signatures, timelock encryption, and a public bulletin board.
  - Achieves all the desired properties listed before.
- We formally prove security of our scheme based on our notion.



# Building Blocks - Schnorr Signatures

For a security parameter  $\lambda$ , let  $\mathbb{G}$  be a cyclic group of a prime order  $q$  and a generator  $G$ , and  $H : \{0, 1\}^* \times \mathbb{G}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$  be a hash function. The Schnorr signature scheme is a tuple of three algorithms

$\Sigma_{\text{Schnorr}} = (\text{KeyGen}, \text{Sign}, \text{Verify})$  defined as follows:

- $\text{Schnorr.KeyGen}(1^\lambda)$ : On input the security parameter  $\lambda$ , choose uniform  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  and compute  $X = G^x$ . Set the secret signing key  $\text{sk} = x$  and the public verification key  $\text{vk} = X$ .
- $\text{Schnorr.Sign}(\text{sk}, m)$ : On input the secret key  $\text{sk} = x$  and the message  $m$ , choose uniform  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ . Compute  $K = G^k$ ,  $X = G^x$ ,  $c = H(m, X, K)$ , and  $s = k + cx \pmod{q}$ . Output the signature  $\sigma = (c, s)$ .
- $\text{Schnorr.Verify}(\text{vk}, m, \sigma)$ : On input the public key  $\text{vk} = X$ , the message  $m$ , and signature  $\sigma = (c, s)$  over  $m$ , compute  $K = G^s \cdot X^{-c}$  and  $c' = H(m, X, K)$ , then output 1 if  $c = c'$ .

# Building Blocks - TLE

A Timelock encryption scheme  $\mathcal{E}$  is a tuple of five PPT algorithms defined as follows:

$\text{TLE.Setup}(1^\lambda) \rightarrow (\text{pp}, s)$ : Takes as input the security parameter  $\lambda$ , and outputs public parameters  $\text{pp}$  and a private key  $s$ .

$\text{TLE.RoundBroadcast}(s, \rho) \rightarrow \pi_\rho$ : Takes as input the round number  $\rho$  and a private key  $s$ , and outputs the round-related decryption information  $\pi_\rho$ .

$\text{TLE.Enc}(\rho, m) \rightarrow (\text{ct}_\rho, \tau)$ : Takes as input the round number  $\rho$  and a message  $m$ , and outputs a round-encrypted ciphertext  $\text{ct}_\rho$ , and trapdoor  $\tau$  for pre-opening.

$\text{TLE.Dec}(\pi_\rho, \text{ct}_\rho) \rightarrow m'$ : Takes as input the round-related decryption information  $\pi_\rho$  and a ciphertext  $\text{ct}_\rho$ , and outputs a message  $m'$ .

$\text{TLE.PreOpen}(\text{ct}_\rho, \tau) \rightarrow m'$ : Takes as input a ciphertext  $\text{ct}_\rho$  and a trapdoor  $\tau$ , and outputs a message  $m'$ .

# RelaySchnorr Construction



Delegation period  $[T_a, T_b]$



$ca$

$cb$

Bulletin board

- (1) Generate  $u$  random elements  $k_1, \dots, k_u$
- (2) Generate  $u$  tokens:  $t_1, \dots, t_u$   
(each token is a Schnorr signature over  $k_i$ )
- (3) Encrypt the tokens to time  $T_a$ , and the  $k$  values to time  $T_b$

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At time  $T_a$ :

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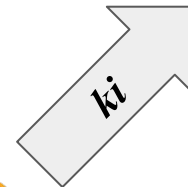
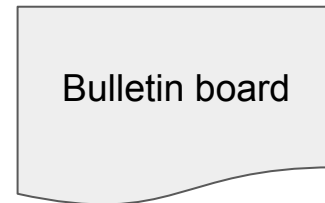
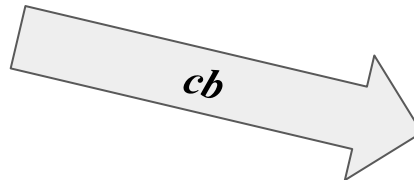
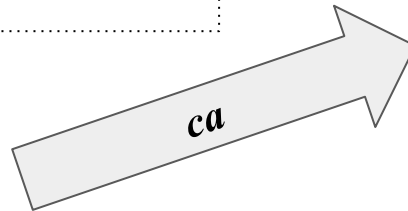
# RelaySchnorr Construction



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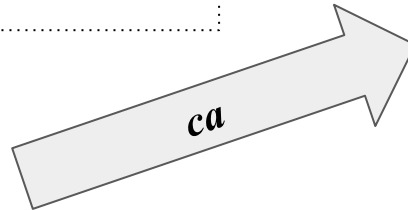
Verify a signature

# RelaySchnorr Construction

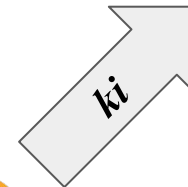
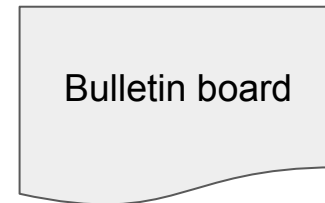
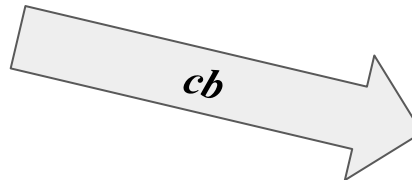
One-time  
tokenizable  
Schnorr



Delegation period  $[T_a, T_b]$



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Verify a signature

# RelaySchnorr Construction

Delegation period  $[T_a, T_b]$

Board validators



At time  $T_b$ : Decrypt  $cb$

Publish all unused  $ki$

Bulletin board



# RelaySchnorr Construction

Delegation period  $[T_a, T_b]$

Board validators



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Bulletin board

Publish all unused  $ki$

Before time  $T_b$



# RelaySchnorr Construction

Delegation period  $[T_a, T_b]$

Board validators



At time  $T_b$ : Decrypt  $cb$

Publish all unused  $ki$

Bulletin board

Publish all unused  $ki$

Before time  $T_b$



*Timed  
delegation*

*Automatic and  
on-demand  
revocation*

# Anonymity and Policy Enforcement

- **Anonymity is achieved by:**

- Proxy signer identity is not included.
- Delegation info is sent privately to the proxy signer.
- The signature structure is the same for both the original or proxy signer, and verified using the same Verify algorithm.
- Original signer mimics the behavior of having a delegation for her signatures.

- **Policy enforcement over messages:**

- Conventional methods from the literature: public warrants and private ones (using NIZKs).

# Issues in Practice

- Denial of service attacks against the signer.
- Bulletin board synchronization.
- Off-chain processing issues.
- Information lookup cost.
- Mass production of  $k$  values and delegation anonymity.

# Security

**Theorem 1.** *Assuming EUF-CMA security of Schnorr signatures, the schnorr-koe assumption, a secure bulletin board, a CCA-secure TLE scheme, an EUF-CMA secure signature scheme, and a secure NIZK proof system, RelaySchnorr is an anonymous, timed and revocable proxy signature scheme (cf. Definition 2).*

- Unforgeability relies on the unforgeability of Schnorr signatures in the random oracle model, and the Schnorr knowledge of exponent assumption.
- Anonymity is achieved by having identical signature structure and behavior.
- Revocability relies on the security of timelock encryption and the bulletin board.
- Policy enforcement relies on the security of digital signatures (for public warrants) or NIZKs (for private policies), as well as security of timelock encryption and the bulletin board.

# Conclusion and Future Work

- This work.
  - Delegation of signatures that achieve desired properties for Web 3.0 applications.
- Future work.
  - Explore controlled delegation for other cryptographic primitives.
    - Such as zero-knowledge proofs (i.e., private wallets).

Thank you!

*Questions?*

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<https://ghadaalmashaqbeh.github.io/>

# Concrete Construction

## Setup phase

Let  $\lambda$  be a security parameter,  $S$  be the original signer,  $P$  be the proxy signer, and TLE be a timelock encryption scheme. Construct an anonymous, timed and revocable proxy signature scheme

$\Sigma = (\text{Setup}, \text{KeyGen}, \text{Sign}, \text{Delegate}, \text{DegSign}, \text{Revoke}, \text{Verify})$  as follows:

$\text{Setup}(1^\lambda)$ : On input the security parameter  $\lambda$ , set  $\mathbb{G}$  to be a cyclic group of a prime order  $q$  with a generator  $G \in \mathbb{G}$  and  $H : \{0, 1\}^* \times \mathbb{G}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$  to be a hash function, initialize  $\text{state} = \{\}$ , and invoke  $\text{TLE.Setup}(1^\lambda)$ .

Output  $\text{pp} = (\text{TLE.pp}, H, \mathbb{G}, G, q, \text{state})$ .

$\text{KeyGen}(1^\lambda)$ : On input the security parameter  $\lambda$ , choose uniform  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ , then compute  $X = G^x$ . Output the signing key  $\text{sk} = x$  and the verification key  $\text{vk} = X$ .



# Concrete Construction

## Sign—used by original signer $S$

$\text{Sign}(\text{sk}, m)$ : On input the signing key  $\text{sk} = x$  and some message  $m$ , do:

- Choose uniform  $k, r, e \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ , compute  $R = G^r$ ,  $E = G^e$
- Compute  $w = H(k, X, R)$ ,  $z = (r + wx) \bmod q$ , and  $Z = G^z$
- Compute  $c = H(m, Z, E)$  and  $s = (e + cz) \bmod q$  (if  $z = 0$  or  $s = 0$  start again with fresh  $r$  and  $e$ )
- Output the signature  $\sigma = (w, c, s, k, Z)$

Every now and then,  $S$  either (1) populates a set klist from the stored  $k$  values and fresh ones, encrypts it as  $(\text{ct}_b, \tau_b) = \text{TLE.Enc}(\text{klist}, \rho_b)$ , where  $\rho_b$  is some future round number, and posts  $(\rho_b, \text{ct}_b)$  on the board (resulting in  $\text{state}'[\text{vk}] = \text{state}[\text{vk}] \parallel (\rho_b, \text{ct}_b)$ ), or (2) posts a fresh klist on the board (resulting in  $\text{state}'[\text{vk}] = \text{state}[\text{vk}] \parallel \text{klist}$ ).

# Concrete Construction

## Delegate—invoked by original signer $S$

Delegate(sk, vk, degspec): On input the keypair ( $sk = x, vk = X$ ) and delegation specifications  $degspec = (u, [\rho_a, \rho_b])$ , where  $u \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $[\rho_a, \rho_b]$  is the delegation period, do the following:

- Set  $klist = \{\}$
- Do the following for  $i \in \{1, \dots, u\}$ :
  - Choose uniform  $k_i, r_i \in \mathbb{Z}_q$
  - Compute  $R_i = G^{r_i}$  and  $w_i = H(k_i, X, R_i)$
  - Compute  $z_i = (r_i + w_i x) \bmod q$  (if  $z_i = 0$  start again with fresh  $r_i$ )
  - Set  $t_i = (z_i, w_i, k_i)$  and  $klist = klist \cup \{k_i\}$
- Compute two ciphertexts:  $(ct_a, \tau_a) = \text{TLE.Enc}(t_1 \parallel \dots \parallel t_u, \rho_a)$  and  $(ct_b, \tau_b) = \text{TLE.Enc}(klist, \rho_b)$  (where  $\tau_b$  is the revocation key rk).
- Set  $degInfo = (\rho_a, \rho_b, ct_a)$
- Output  $(degInfo, ct_b \parallel \tau_b)$

$S$  stores ciphertext  $ct_b$  and trapdoor  $\tau_b$  to be used for revocation if needed ( $\tau_a$  is dropped as it is not needed), posts  $(\rho_b, ct_b)$  on the board (resulting in  $state'[vk] = state[vk] \parallel (\rho_b, ct_b)$ ), and sends  $degInfo$  to  $P$ .

# Concrete Construction

## Delegate Sign—used by proxy signer $P$

$\text{DegSign}(m, \text{degInfo})$ : On input a message  $m$  and delegation information  $\text{degInfo}$ ,  $P$  does the following (let  $\rho_{\text{now}} = \text{state.round}$  be the current round number):

- If  $\rho_{\text{now}} < \rho_a$  or  $\rho_{\text{now}} > \rho_b$ , then do nothing
- If  $\rho_a \leq \rho_{\text{now}} \leq \rho_b$ , then:
  - If  $\text{degInfo} = (\rho_a, \rho_b, \text{ct}_a)$ , then retrieve  $\pi_{\rho_a}$  from the board ( $\pi_{\rho_a} = \text{state.roundInfo}(\rho_a)$ ) and set  $\text{degInfo} = (\rho_a, \rho_b, \text{TLE.Dec}(\pi_{\rho_a}, \text{ct}_a))$
  - Pick an unused signing token  $t = (z, w, k)$  from  $\text{degInfo}$
  - Compute  $Z = G^z$
  - Choose uniform  $e \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  and compute  $E = G^e$
  - Compute  $c = H(m, Z, E)$ , and  $s = e + cz \pmod q$  (if  $s = 0$  start again with a fresh  $e$ )
  - Output the signature  $\sigma = (w, c, s, k, Z)$

# Concrete Construction

Automatic/On demand revoke—invoked by validators or original signer  $S$

Verify—Invoked by a verifier for any signature

Revoke(degInfo, rk, state[vk]): On input degInfo =  $(\rho_b, ct_b)$ , revocation key rk, and revocation state state[vk], do (let  $\rho_{now}$  = state.round be the current round number):

- If  $\rho_{now} \geq \rho_b$ , then retrieve  $\pi_{\rho_b}$  from the board ( $\pi_{\rho_b} = \text{state.roundInfo}(\rho_b)$ ) and compute  $klist = \text{TLE.Dec}(\pi_{\rho_b}, ct_b)$
- If  $\rho_{now} < \rho_b$ , then use  $rk = \tau_b$  to compute  $klist = \text{TLE.PreOpen}(ct_b, \tau_b)$
- Add all  $k$  values such that  $k \in klist \wedge k \notin \text{state[vk]}$  to the board state state[vk] associated with vk resulting in an updated state state[vk]'.

Verify(vk,  $m$ ,  $\sigma = (w, c, s, k, Z)$ , revState = state[vk]): On input the verification key  $vk = X$ , the message  $m$ , signature  $\sigma = (w, c, s, k, Z)$  over  $m$ , and the revocation state state[vk], if  $k \in \text{state[vk]}$ , then output 0. Else, add  $k$  to state[vk] (resulting in  $\text{state}'[vk] = \text{state[vk]} \parallel k$ ) and do the following:

- Compute  $R = Z \cdot X^{-w}$  and  $E = G^s \cdot Z^{-c}$
- Output 1 if and only if  $w = H(k, X, R) \wedge c = H(m, Z, E)$ .