

# Algorithms & Methodologies Used in Your Code

Your code implements **multi-factor authentication (MFA)** using **password hashing with PBKDF2**, **TOTP-based 2FA**, and **cryptographic random values** for security. Below is a **detailed breakdown of the algorithms and methodologies used**.

## 1. Password Hashing & Storage (PBKDF2 Algorithm)

### ◆ Algorithm: PBKDF2 (Password-Based Key Derivation Function 2)

PBKDF2 is a key derivation function that **iteratively hashes a password with a cryptographic salt** to produce a secure hash.

#### ◆ How It Works in Your Code

✂ **Function:** `deriveKey(password, salt)`

✂ **Algorithm:** PBKDF2 with SHA-1 or SHA-256

✂ **Key Features:**

- Uses **100,000 iterations** (iterations = 100000)
- **Key size = 256 bits (32 bytes)**
- Uses **CryptoJS.PBKDF2** for implementation

✂ **Code Implementation:**

```
export const deriveKey = (password: string, salt: string): string => {  
  
  const iterations = 100000;  
  
  const keySize = 256; // Key length in bits  
  
  return CryptoJS.PBKDF2(password, salt, {  
  
    keySize: keySize / 32, // Convert bits to words  
  
    iterations,  
  
  }).toString();  
  
};
```

#### ◆ Why PBKDF2?

- ✓ **Defends against brute-force attacks** by making hashing computationally expensive.
- ✓ **Uses a unique salt** per user to prevent **rainbow table attacks**.

## 2. Salt Generation (Cryptographic Random Values)

### ◆ Algorithm: `crypto.getRandomValues()`

A **cryptographically secure random number generator (CSPRNG)** is used to generate a **unique salt** for each password.

### ◆ How It Works in Your Code

✂ **Function:** `generateSalt()`

✂ **Algorithm:** Uses **`crypto.getRandomValues()`** (built-in Web Crypto API)

✂ **Salt Length:** 16 bytes (128 bits)

✂ **Hex Encoding:** Converts bytes into a hex string.

✂ **Code Implementation:**

```
export const generateSalt = (): string => {  
  
  const array = new Uint8Array(16); // 16 bytes = 128 bits  
  
  crypto.getRandomValues(array);  
  
  return Array.from(array, byte => byte.toString(16).padStart(2, '0')).join("");  
  
};
```

### ◆ Why Use a Salt?

✅ **Prevents precomputed attacks (Rainbow Table attacks)**

✅ **Ensures each password has a unique hash**, even if users choose the same password.

## 🔧 3. TOTP (Time-Based One-Time Password) for Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)

### ◆ Algorithm: TOTP (Time-Based One-Time Password)

TOTP is a **one-time password** algorithm that generates a 6-digit code every **30 seconds**, using:

- A **shared secret key** (base32-encoded)
- The **current timestamp**
- A **cryptographic hash function (HMAC-SHA1 or HMAC-SHA256)**

✂ **Function:** `generateTOTPSecret()`

✂ **Algorithm:** Uses **HMAC-based OTP (RFC 6238)**

✂ **Key Length:** 20 bytes (160 bits)

✂ **Encoding: Base32 (RFC 4648)** for compatibility with Google Authenticator

✂ **Code Implementation:**

```
export const generateTOTPSecret = (): string => {
```

```
const array = new Uint8Array(20); // 20 bytes = 160 bits

crypto.getRandomValues(array);

return base32Encode(array, 'RFC4648', { padding: false });

};
```

### ◆ How TOTP is Verified

✚ **Function:** verifyTOTP(token, secret)

✚ **Algorithm:** Uses **totp-generator** package to **generate the expected TOTP** and compare it with the user's input.

✚ **Code Implementation:**

```
export const verifyTOTP = (token: string, secret: string): boolean => {

  try {

    const currentToken = totp(secret);

    return token === currentToken;

  } catch (error) {

    console.error('TOTP verification error:', error);

    return false;

  }

};
```

### ◆ Why TOTP for 2FA?

✓ **Time-based OTPs are more secure than static passwords**

✓ **Defends against password leaks**—an attacker needs both **password + TOTP** to log in.

## 🔧 4. Cryptographic Challenge Generation (Anti-Replay Protection)

### ◆ Algorithm: Secure Random Challenge Generation

A cryptographic **challenge** is generated using **crypto.getRandomValues()** to prevent **replay attacks**.

✚ **Function:** generateChallenge()

✚ **Algorithm:** Generates a **32-byte (256-bit) random challenge**

🔴 **Encoding:** Hexadecimal

🔴 **Code Implementation:**

```
export const generateChallenge = (): string => {  
  
  const array = new Uint8Array(32); // 32 bytes = 256 bits  
  
  crypto.getRandomValues(array);  
  
  return Array.from(array, byte => byte.toString(16).padStart(2, '0')).join("");  
  
};
```

💠 **Why Use Challenges?**

✅ **Prevents replay attacks** in authentication workflows

✅ Can be used in **OAuth**, **FIDO2**, and **WebAuthn** for secure authentication

## 🔧 5. Authentication State Management (Auth Flow)

💠 **Methodology: Auth State Handling**

An authentication system must **track user logins and failed attempts**.

🔴 **Interface:** AuthState

```
export interface AuthState {  
  
  isAuthenticated: boolean;  
  
  currentUser: User | null;  
  
  attempts: AuthenticationAttempt[];  
  
}
```

🔴 **Interface:** AuthenticationAttempt

```
export interface AuthenticationAttempt {  
  
  timestamp: number;  
  
  success: boolean;  
  
  method: 'password' | 'totp';  
  
  userId: string;  
  
}
```

◆ Why Track Auth Attempts?

- ✔ Helps detect **brute-force attacks**
- ✔ Allows implementation of **account lockout policies**

◆ Summary of Key Algorithms & Methodologies

Feature	Algorithm Used	Purpose
Password Hashing	PBKDF2 with 100,000 iterations	Secure password storage
Salt Generation	crypto.getRandomValues() (16 bytes)	Prevents rainbow table attacks
TOTP (2FA)	HMAC-based OTP (HOTP/TOTP - RFC 6238)	Generates time-sensitive authentication codes
TOTP Secret Encoding	Base32 (RFC 4648)	Stores TOTP secret in a format compatible with Authenticator apps
TOTP Verification	totp-generator (HMAC-SHA1 or SHA256)	Compares entered OTP with expected OTP
Challenge Generation	crypto.getRandomValues() (32 bytes)	Protects against replay attacks
Auth Tracking	State management with AuthState & AuthenticationAttempt	Tracks login attempts for security