

Report



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Explanation:

1. Key Sizes:

- a. RSA: 2048-bit keys are used for both sender and receiver. This key size is considered secure for the foreseeable future. This is the recommended min key size for resistance against brute-force attacks.
- b. AES: 256-bit key for symmetric encryption. This provides a high level of security and is recommended by the NSA for protecting classified information.

2. Algorithms:

- a. RSA for asymmetric encryption and digital signatures.
- b. AES for symmetric encryption of the file content.
- c. This combines the convenience of a public-key cryptosystem with the efficiency of a symmetric-key cryptosystem.

3. Modes:

- a. AES-GCM (Galois/Counter Mode) for symmetric encryption. This mode provides both confidentiality and integrity protection. Also, this is more efficient than other modes like CBC as they can incur pipeline stalls.
- b. OAEP (Optimal Asymmetric Encryption Padding) with SHA-256 for RSA encryption of the symmetric key. This prevents partial decryption of cipher texts and adds randomness to the encryption.
- c. PSS (Probabilistic Signature Scheme) with SHA-256 for RSA signatures. This adds randomness to signature generation.

4. Efficiency considerations:

- a. We use a hybrid cryptosystem, encrypting the file content with a fast symmetric algorithm (AES) and only using the slower asymmetric algorithm (RSA) to encrypt the symmetric key.
- b. AES-GCM is chosen for its speed and built-in authentication, eliminating the need for a separate MAC.