

1. Digital Signatures

Digital signatures

Same as MACs are used in symmetric key to prove authentication, in public key cryptography we can **sign** messages to prove authenticity

Idea

- A trusted party can generate a signature on a document D
- Anyone in the world can verify that signature
- We use two keys: a signing key and a verifying key

Algorithm

A signature scheme is a triplet of efficient algorithms (G, S, V) where

- G - key generation algorithm - *probabilistic* - $(k_{pub}, k_{priv}) \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} G()$
 - k_{pub} = **verification key**
 - k_{priv} = **Signing key**
- S - Signing algorithm - *probabilistic* \rightarrow **signature** $\sigma \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} S(k_{priv}, m)$
- V - Verification algorithm - *deterministic* - $y = V(k_{pub}, m, \sigma)$
 - $y = \text{accept/reject}$

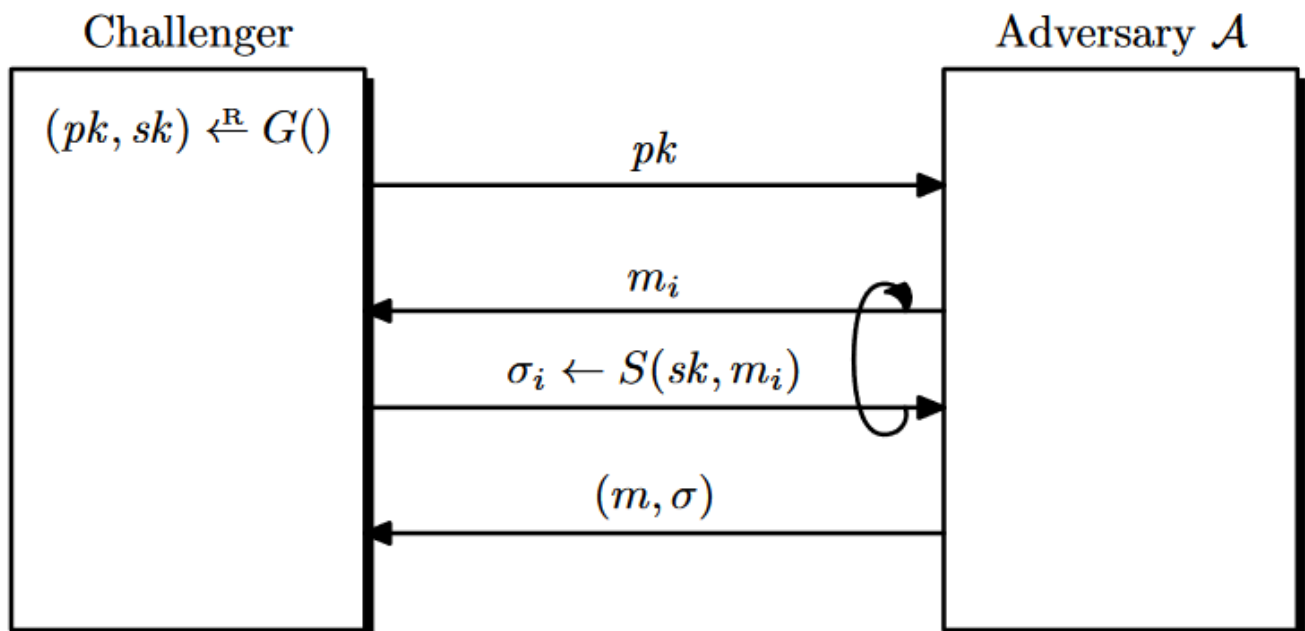
Correctness property

$$\Pr[V(k_{pub}, m, S(k_{priv}, m)) = \text{accept}] = 1$$

Security

For (G, E, D)

- The challenger computes $(k_{pub}, k_{priv}) \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} G()$, and sends k_{pub} to the adversary.
- The adversary queries the challenger with multiple message queries:
 - for $m_i \in \mathcal{M}$ the challenger computes $\sigma_i \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} S(k_{priv}, m_i)$
 - Sends back σ_i
- The adversary wins if he
 - Computes a pair (m, σ) with $m \notin \{m_1, m_2, \dots\}$
 - $V(k_{pub}, m, \sigma) = \text{accept}$



A signature scheme is secure if for all efficient adversaries their advantage is negligible

Note

- The definition does not cover the case where a message can have multiple signatures
 - Therefore an adversary can create a new valid pair (m, σ') (Remember this wasn't allowed in the security definition of a MAC)
 - We can strengthen the definition if we make the pair $(m, \sigma) \notin \{(m_1, \sigma_1), (m_2, \sigma_2), \dots\}$
- The definition does not bind a signature to a person.
 - a message $m' \neq m$ might have the same valid signature σ

Duplicate Signature Key selection (DSKS)

An attacker that sees a pair (m, σ) valid to some k_{pub} can generate a new pair (k'_{priv}, k'_{pub}) that can validate the pair (m, σ)

- https://www.agwa.name/blog/post/duplicate_signature_key_selection_attack_in_lets_encrypt
- It's easy to escape this unfortunate mistake, just attach the public to the message!

Digital signatures and collision resistant hashing

If we have access to only a small message space (for example 256b) we can use a collision resistant function like a hash to map arbitrary length messages to our desired message space

Let H be a hash function. Then we have the **hash and sign** paradigm:

- $S'(k_{priv}, m) = S(k_{priv}, H(m))$
- $V'(k_{pub}, m, \sigma) = V(k_{pub}, H(m), \sigma)$

Resources

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Non-repudiation>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s22eJ1eVLTU>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JR4_RBb8A9Q