



openHPI – Confidential Communication in the Internet

# Crypto Patents and Standards

**Prof. Dr. Christoph Meinel**

Hasso Plattner Institute  
University of Potsdam, Germany

# Introduction

---

In daily practice, cryptography is constantly evolving:

- New cryptographic knowledge and procedures are published in **scientific publications** or applied for a **patent**
- Cryptographic processes must be interoperable in the context of their various applications
  - to achieve this, various specifications and fixations, so-called **standards**, must be agreed upon
  - **standards** then also be adhered to the various software providers
- Use of cryptographic methods and implementation in crypto products (special hardware and/or software) should be carried out in compliance with the relevant standards whenever possible

# Crypto Patents (1/2)

---

Many cryptosystems and crypto algorithms are patented

## Five particularly important crypto patents:

- **DES** block ciphers  
(1976, Ehrsam, Meyer, Powers, Smith, Tuchman, IBM)
- First public key patent: **Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange** (1980, Hellman, Diffie, Merkle, Stanford)
- **Merkle-Hellman Knapsack** and **PKI**  
(1980, Hellman, Merkle, Stanford Junior University)
- **Tree authentication method**  
(1982, Merkle, Stanford University)
- **RSA** encryption and signature  
(1983, Rivest, Shamir, Adleman, MIT)

# Crypto Patents (2/2)

---

## Other significant crypto patents:

- Generation of **RSA prime numbers**  
(1986, Hellman, Bach)
- **One-Time Signatures**  
(1989, Merkle)
- **IDEA** cipher  
(1993, Massey, Lai, ASCOM Tech AG Bern)
- **DSA** signatures  
(1993, Kravitz, Chamber of Commerce, Washington)
- Modulo Arithmetic Processing Chip  
(auch **Elliptic Curves**, 1993, Cylink)
- **IBE - Identity Based Encryption**  
(2007, Voltage)

# Crypto Standards (1/2)

---

## Important security standards of NIST:

- **AES** (October 2000)
  - Advanced Encryption Standard
  - Symmetric encryption method as successor of DES and 3DES
- **SHA** - Family
  - Group of Hash Algorithms
- **SHS** (2015)
  - Secure Hash Standard - Defines the use of hash functions
- **DSA** (1991)
  - Algorithm for digital signatures

# Crypto Standards (2/2)

---

## Important security standards for banks

- **DES:**

- ANSI X3.92, ANSI X9.9, ANSI X9.52

- **PIN** management:

- ISO 9564, ANSI X9.8

- **Signatures:**

- ANSI X9.30, ANSI X9.31

- **Certificates:**

- ANSI X9.45, ANSI X9.57, ISO 10202