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Cryptography

Project

Topic: V.5 (Rabin digital signature)

Original topic was V.11 (One time Rabin signature). The topic was changed to V.5 upon agreement with the instructor.

A large part of this project's documentation also exists in the `README.md` file of our code files and in comments in our code.

## Introduction

This Python project implements the Rabin Signature algorithm, a method used in cryptography for signing and verifying messages.

## Functions

```
# Wikipedia algorithm for extended Euclidean algorithm
def _extended_gcd(a, b):
    old_r, r = a, b
    old_s, s = 1, 0
    old_t, t = 0, 1

    while r != 0:
        quotient = old_r // r
        old_r, r = r, old_r - quotient * r
        old_s, s = s, old_s - quotient * s
        old_t, t = t, old_t - quotient * t

    return old_r, old_s, old_t
```

```

def _jacobi_symbol(a, n):
    if n < 0 or not n % 2:
        raise ValueError("n should be an odd positive integer")
    if a < 0 or a > n:
        a %= n
    # a is formatted as 0 <= a < n and n is an odd positive integer

    if not a:
        return int(n == 1)
    if n == 1 or a == 1:
        return 1

    # if a and n are not coprime then Jacobi(a, n) = 0
    if sympy.igcd(a, n) != 1:
        return 0

    # Initialize the Jacobi symbol
    j = 1
    # Follow the algorithm steps (wikipedia page for Jacobi symbol)
    while a != 0:
        while a % 2 == 0 and a > 0:
            a >>= 1
            if n % 8 in [3, 5]:
                j = -j
        a, n = n, a
        if a % 4 == n % 4 == 3:
            j = -j
        a %= n
    return j

def _generate_rabin_prime(bits):
    while True:
        p = sympy.randprime(2 ** (bits - 1), 2**bits)
        if p % 4 == 3:
            return p

def _hash_function(message):
    return int(hashlib.sha256(message.encode()).hexdigest(), 16)

```

```
def _random_string(k):
    """
    Generate a random string of printable characters.
    Input: k - the number of bits in the generated string
    Output: a random string of printable characters
    """
    characters = k // 8
    return "".join(random.choices(string.printable, k=characters))
```

Perhaps, we may need to explain why we implemented the prime generator this way.

In this algorithm we use properties of quadratic residues (q.r.) a lot. It is known that a number  $c$  is a q.r. modulo  $p$  if there exists number  $x$ , such that  $x^2 \equiv c \pmod{p}$ .

If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  it has been shown that  $x \equiv c^{(p+1)/4} \pmod{p}$  is one such solution (Formula 1). We use such primes to do these types of calculations faster.

```
def key_generation(bits):
    """
    Generate a Rabin signature key pair.
    Input: bits - the number of bits in the primes p and q
    Output: n - the public key, (p, q) - the private key
    """
    p = _generate_rabin_prime(bits)
    q = _generate_rabin_prime(bits)
    while p == q:
        q = _generate_rabin_prime(bits)
    n = p*q

    return n, (p, q)
```

The key generation function doesn't have any particularly outstanding qualities. We show it above.

```

def sign(message, private_key, k=256):
    """
    Sign a message using the Rabin signature scheme.
    Input: message - the message to sign,
           private_key - the private key,
           k - the number of random bits to use
    Output: (x, u) - the signature
    """
    p, q = private_key
    n = p * q

    while True:
        u = _random_string(k)
        c = _hash_function(message + u) % n

        # check  $x^2 = c \pmod n$ , this will be true iff
        # c is a quadratic residue mod p and mod q.
        if _jacobi_symbol(c, p) != 1 or _jacobi_symbol(c, q) != 1:
            continue

        # find  $x_p^2 = c \pmod p$  and  $x_q^2 = c \pmod q$ 
        # solve for x using the Chinese Remainder Theorem
        #  $x = x_p \pmod p$ ,  $x = x_q \pmod q$ 
        #  $y_p * p + y_q * q = 1$ 
        #  $y_p = p^{-1} \pmod q$ ,  $y_q = q^{-1} \pmod p$ 
        #  $a = q * y_q$ ,  $b = p * y_p$ 
        #  $a = 0 \pmod q$ ,  $a = 1 \pmod p$ 
        #  $b = 0 \pmod p$ ,  $b = 1 \pmod q$ 
        #  $x = x_p * a + x_q * b \pmod n$ , so
        #  $x = x_p * q * y_q + x_q * p * y_p \pmod n$ 
        x_p = pow(c, (p + 1) // 4, p) # known formula
        x_q = pow(c, (q + 1) // 4, q) # known formula

        _, y_p, y_q = _extended_gcd(p, q)
        x = (x_p * q * y_q + x_q * p * y_p) % n
    return x, u

```

The idea of the signature algorithm is that finding  $x$  such that  $x^2 = c \pmod n$ , when  $n$ 's factorization is unknown, is equivalent to factorizing  $n$ , which is a hard problem. Thus, safety is ensured.

How does our algorithm find such a number though?

The signer knows the private key, which means that the signer knows the factors prime  $p, q$  such that  $n = p * q$ .

We use the following facts to solve the congruence  $x^2 = c \pmod n$ :

Solve congruencies:  $x_p^2 = c \bmod p$  and  $x_q^2 = c \bmod q$  separately and then combine the solutions to solve  $x^2 = c \bmod n$ . To solve the congruencies above we use the fact that  $p, q$  were chosen such that  $p \equiv q \equiv 3 \bmod 4$ . We can find  $x_p, x_q$  using (Formula 1) from earlier.

The jacobi symbol test we do is to ensure that  $c$  will be a q.r. modulo both  $p$  and  $q$ . The expected number of tries is 4 and each time we try for a different random suffix 'u' to our message (in order to get a different result).

We, now, look for  $a, b$  such that  $\begin{cases} a = 1 \bmod p \\ a = 0 \bmod q \end{cases}$  and  $\begin{cases} b = 0 \bmod p \\ b = 1 \bmod q \end{cases}$  because  $x = ax_p + bx_q \bmod n$  is such a solution to our original congruency.

Proof of this inference:

We have  $x^2 \equiv c \bmod p, x^2 \equiv c \bmod q$ . Suppose  $c = ep + c' = gq + c''$ , where  $c' = c \bmod p, c'' = c \bmod q$ . We have

$$x^2 = fp + c' = hq + c'' = hq + ep + c' - gp = (h - g)q + ep + c'$$

Thus  $(f - e)p = (h - g)q = jpq$  for some  $j$ . We can now write:

$$x^2 = fp + c' = (f - e)p + ep + c' = jpq + c$$

But,  $n = pq$ , so  $x^2 = jn + c$ , thus  $x^2 \equiv c \bmod n$ .

To find  $a, b$  the Chinese Remainder Theorem (CRT) is used:

The Extended Euclidean Algorithm gives us  $y_p, y_q$  such that  $y_p p + y_q q = 1$

We can easily verify that  $y_p = p^{-1} \bmod q, y_q = q^{-1} \bmod p$ .

The CRT will return  $x = ax_p + bx_q \bmod n$ , where  $a = y_q q, b = y_p p$

We see that  $a, b$  satisfy the conditions we described previously, thus the calculated  $x$  is a solution to  $x^2 = c \bmod n$ .

```
def verify(message, signature, public_key):
    """
    Verify a message using the Rabin signature scheme.
    Input: message - the message to verify,
           signature - the signature,
           public_key - the public key
    Output: True if the signature is valid, False otherwise
    """
    n = public_key
    x, u = signature
    c = _hash_function(message + u) % n
    return pow(x, 2, n) == c
```

Finally, the verification function is shown above. It doesn't have anything noteworthy.

## Environment

```
$ lsb_release -a
No LSB modules are available.
Distributor ID: Ubuntu
Description:    Ubuntu 22.04.4 LTS
Release:        22.04
Codename:       jammy
$ python3 --version
Python 3.10.12
$ pip show sympy
Name: sympy
Version: 1.12
Summary: Computer algebra system (CAS) in Python
Home-page: https://sympy.org
Author: SymPy development team
Author-email: sympy@googlegroups.com
License: BSD
Location: /home/dimjimitris/.local/lib/python3.10/site-packages
Requires: mpmath
Required-by:
```

As required by the project description our program was tested and works in Python 3.10 environments.

## Usage

To use this implementation, follow these steps:

1. Clone the repository
2. Install the required dependencies
3. Run `test.py` to observe results of some testing we did on our algorithms
4. Run `tests\_with\_output.py` to see some simple messages and the outputs of our algorithm.
5. The `rabin\_signature.py` file contains the functions used for key generation, signing and verifying. By running this file you can use a simple program which utilizes all our functions with a fixed seed so that results are reproducible. You input a text message and a signature is produced and verified for it.

We show an example run of all our executable files:

```
$ python3 test.py
..
-----
Ran 2 tests in 1.553s

OK
$ python3 tests_with_output.py
Message: hello world
Public key:
635738288690200332824888827946297222653725274143559511141154066048700213332
337545084999717084267643151025406912671778432274325028621117066604728336040
938414586317574511699343409919026008174450836492542781124525063542152388909
552490554160792386449372015593840924053387953410136738167024022407944409573
81011133
```

```
Private key:
(74273349260495781781519213155035663499504688072430118917653458248793998040
328075918041298387643173264630521703478564037690526488446948697273964248798
61391,
855944016285710068074746775718518233452847965728487092240799585283065181477
519485720247190720521095136600568713811668610160424589620825067007595907112
8563)
Square root:
610629444534664955860968455192045155347571746964835167630310109929548630264
174705508783656621895861900138902339896139486165030766375503411631159001081
835101208439854659369856005224511885810307088212838848997727829584684805095
498584907853447477330587687259607791696001881150638565337614609208727996869
28512464
Random string: E,          XDjpf
Verification: True
-----
Message: this is a test
Public key:
635738288690200332824888827946297222653725274143559511141154066048700213332
337545084999717084267643151025406912671778432274325028621117066604728336040
938414586317574511699343409919026008174450836492542781124525063542152388909
552490554160792386449372015593840924053387953410136738167024022407944409573
81011133
Private key:
(74273349260495781781519213155035663499504688072430118917653458248793998040
328075918041298387643173264630521703478564037690526488446948697273964248798
61391,
855944016285710068074746775718518233452847965728487092240799585283065181477
519485720247190720521095136600568713811668610160424589620825067007595907112
8563)
Square root:
470189924536497621971074931289896305450297460507944615209957446652238414722
195003370689206818824095108083821231547285984682598738873053927021820780652
550941475488460114661597385809160208115635421448785853164356317026392079943
593941835568433843066718802515953164284424972166509303670989262875088976859
58179250
Random string: wV}TZA
.
Verification: True
-----
Message: another test
Public key:
635738288690200332824888827946297222653725274143559511141154066048700213332
337545084999717084267643151025406912671778432274325028621117066604728336040
938414586317574511699343409919026008174450836492542781124525063542152388909
552490554160792386449372015593840924053387953410136738167024022407944409573
81011133
Private key:
(74273349260495781781519213155035663499504688072430118917653458248793998040
328075918041298387643173264630521703478564037690526488446948697273964248798
61391,
855944016285710068074746775718518233452847965728487092240799585283065181477
519485720247190720521095136600568713811668610160424589620825067007595907112
8563)
Square root:
386102187006068058742200544754303347229750697146047035625170373477928955722
282220723446531204908469493025132504188389704244136148959812414209798389465
682068411328480801988203073741431292386226253755691452308207582497468805380
450219769920320997866755247950534985744469006393097352302154130155739462400
55869609
Random string: DMTPi
```



.m

Verification: True

-----

Message: 1

Public key:

635738288690200332824888827946297222653725274143559511141154066048700213332  
337545084999717084267643151025406912671778432274325028621117066604728336040  
938414586317574511699343409919026008174450836492542781124525063542152388909  
552490554160792386449372015593840924053387953410136738167024022407944409573  
81011133

Private key:

(74273349260495781781519213155035663499504688072430118917653458248793998040  
328075918041298387643173264630521703478564037690526488446948697273964248798  
61391,  
855944016285710068074746775718518233452847965728487092240799585283065181477  
519485720247190720521095136600568713811668610160424589620825067007595907112  
8563)

Square root:

297584351301392421086681654547251925341658028612877344798306514631535565954  
106563153663822815347157302628605551167190849235533669506042133459295019512  
999051078072706129185960797435294051737584058067219232084972538219387477216  
750685766119217826375308896419859683700555104099277970454592811736295239866  
28333859

Random string: E, XDjpf

Verification: True

-----

Message: what about this message

Public key:

635738288690200332824888827946297222653725274143559511141154066048700213332  
337545084999717084267643151025406912671778432274325028621117066604728336040  
938414586317574511699343409919026008174450836492542781124525063542152388909  
552490554160792386449372015593840924053387953410136738167024022407944409573  
81011133

Private key:

(74273349260495781781519213155035663499504688072430118917653458248793998040  
328075918041298387643173264630521703478564037690526488446948697273964248798  
61391,  
855944016285710068074746775718518233452847965728487092240799585283065181477  
519485720247190720521095136600568713811668610160424589620825067007595907112  
8563)

Square root:

553686873304876648789952468067919377847260709088177489237161097549325915713  
864666213790427788446915830002042863944596129271399464047185972956811607441  
863466957095306940880321127295263766899917192260657739795935002996077479208  
560853533581685469227474235793712997440665435907522070702903875718316848512  
97646710

Random string: E, XDjpf

Verification: True

-----

Message: lorem ipsum

Public key:

635738288690200332824888827946297222653725274143559511141154066048700213332  
337545084999717084267643151025406912671778432274325028621117066604728336040  
938414586317574511699343409919026008174450836492542781124525063542152388909  
552490554160792386449372015593840924053387953410136738167024022407944409573  
81011133

Private key:

(74273349260495781781519213155035663499504688072430118917653458248793998040  
328075918041298387643173264630521703478564037690526488446948697273964248798  
61391,  
855944016285710068074746775718518233452847965728487092240799585283065181477

5194857202471907205210951366005687138116686101604245896208250670075959071128563)

Square root:

125166585762256860236275627116059684097647535513690343384080241961437449715  
966184446518499078448908938389027039757878150518854185590631543285065669304  
947300983458126201749640297123202465294809270939909514699009901998160360925  
667843845326077978117524164287547276477412962139305897853149166291223818040  
27014515

Random string: bl[R=}>4

Verification: True

-----

Message: answer to universe and everything

Public key:

635738288690200332824888827946297222653725274143559511141154066048700213332  
337545084999717084267643151025406912671778432274325028621117066604728336040  
938414586317574511699343409919026008174450836492542781124525063542152388909  
552490554160792386449372015593840924053387953410136738167024022407944409573  
81011133

Private key:

(74273349260495781781519213155035663499504688072430118917653458248793998040  
328075918041298387643173264630521703478564037690526488446948697273964248798  
61391,  
855944016285710068074746775718518233452847965728487092240799585283065181477  
519485720247190720521095136600568713811668610160424589620825067007595907112  
8563)

Square root:

177970691854314688788122909951074995556640239135304251012702498593201530897  
317666562992689340857632650474720784020401616890900000638073438537384414757  
859133980417495598061968945426316322513365194893515887492954240213222438172  
938128635891168284797569592905864030700135050040258586255847718485167311132  
86505770

Random string: }9:@\$E78

Verification: True

-----

\$ python3 rabin\_signature.py

Enter a message: hello world

Public key:

635738288690200332824888827946297222653725274143559511141154066048700213332  
337545084999717084267643151025406912671778432274325028621117066604728336040  
938414586317574511699343409919026008174450836492542781124525063542152388909  
552490554160792386449372015593840924053387953410136738167024022407944409573  
81011133

Private key:

(74273349260495781781519213155035663499504688072430118917653458248793998040  
328075918041298387643173264630521703478564037690526488446948697273964248798  
61391,  
855944016285710068074746775718518233452847965728487092240799585283065181477  
519485720247190720521095136600568713811668610160424589620825067007595907112  
8563)

Square root:

610629444534664955860968455192045155347571746964835167630310109929548630264  
174705508783656621895861900138902339896139486165030766375503411631159001081  
835101208439854659369856005224511885810307088212838848997727829584684805095  
498584907853447477330587687259607791696001881150638565337614609208727996869  
28512464

Random string: E, XDjpf

Verification: True

\$ python3 rabin\_signature.py

Enter a message: hello world

Public key:

635738288690200332824888827946297222653725274143559511141154066048700213332

```

337545084999717084267643151025406912671778432274325028621117066604728336040
938414586317574511699343409919026008174450836492542781124525063542152388909
552490554160792386449372015593840924053387953410136738167024022407944409573
81011133
Private key:
(74273349260495781781519213155035663499504688072430118917653458248793998040
328075918041298387643173264630521703478564037690526488446948697273964248798
61391,
855944016285710068074746775718518233452847965728487092240799585283065181477
519485720247190720521095136600568713811668610160424589620825067007595907112
8563)
Square root:
610629444534664955860968455192045155347571746964835167630310109929548630264
174705508783656621895861900138902339896139486165030766375503411631159001081
835101208439854659369856005224511885810307088212838848997727829584684805095
498584907853447477330587687259607791696001881150638565337614609208727996869
28512464
Random string: E,          XDjpf
Verification: True

```

## Rabin Signature API

The `rabin_signature.py` module provides the following functions for key generation, signing, and verifying:

- `key_generation(bits)`: Generates a public-private key pair for Rabin digital signature, the primes used are of length `bits`.
- `sign(message, private_key, k)`: Signs a message using the private key and returns the signature. `k` is a parameter used for specifying the length of a random string appended at the end of the message.
- `verify(message, signature, public_key)`: Verifies the signature of a message using the public key.

To use these functions, import the `rabin_signature` module and call the respective functions. Simply running the `rabin_signature.py` file allows you to produce a signature, sign and verify a text message taken as input from the console and observe the results of these steps in the standard output.

## Libraries

We make use of `sympy` and `hashlib`. `hashlib` is simply used to get a hash function for our messages (which is another project topic thus was not implemented specifically for this project) and `sympy` is used to generate random prime numbers in the key generation part of our algorithm. There are many ways to implement such a generator and some of them have varying complexity, which seems outside the scope of this project. We make use of `sympy`'s `igcd()` function which calculates the gcd of two integers, but we have already demonstrated the gcd algorithm in the `_extended_gcd()` function, thus did not reimplement it. We focus only on the Rabin Digital Signature Scheme.

## Testing

The Rabin Digital Signature Scheme depends on the random string 'u' appended to the 'message' and the hash function used. I could not find any test vectors for this thus testing happens in the following way: a key is generated -> message is signed using the key -> message is verified.

Our algorithm can be tested as follows:

- 'test.py' file contains a lot of messages (more than 7). We generate a private and public key and test all messages using these keys. We repeat this process 10 times ('test\_sign\_and\_verify').
- 'tests\_with\_output.py' tests some messages and output the keys, signatures and verification results in the console.
- 'rabin\_signature.py' when executed simply takes a message as input from the console. Then creates a private/public key, signs the message and verifies. All this behaviour is tracked on the console output.

## References

1. [Wikipedia](#)
2. [Rabin Publication](#)