

crypto

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1 Crypto User's Guide

The **Crypto** application provides functions for computation of message digests, and functions for encryption and decryption.

This product includes software developed by the OpenSSL Project for use in the OpenSSL Toolkit (http://www.openssl.org/).

This product includes cryptographic software written by Eric Young (eay@cryptsoft.com).

This product includes software written by Tim Hudson (tjh@cryptsoft.com).

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*/
```

1.2 FIPS mode

This chapter describes FIPS mode support in the crypto application.

1.2.1 Background

OpenSSL can be built to provide FIPS 140-2 validated cryptographic services. It is not the OpenSSL application that is validated, but a special software component called the OpenSSL FIPS Object Module. However applications do not use this Object Module directly, but through the regular API of the OpenSSL library.

The crypto application supports using OpenSSL in FIPS mode. In this scenario only the validated algorithms provided by the Object Module are accessible, other algorithms usually available in OpenSSL (like md5) or implemented in the Erlang code (like SRP) are disabled.

1.2.2 Enabling FIPS mode

Build or install the FIPS Object Module and a FIPS enabled OpenSSL library.

You should read and precisely follow the instructions of the Security Policy and User Guide.

Warning:

It is very easy to build a working OpenSSL FIPS Object Module and library from the source. However it **does not** qualify as FIPS 140-2 validated if the numerous restrictions in the Security Policy are not properly followed.

• Configure and build Erlang/OTP with FIPS support:

```
$ cd $ERL_TOP
$ ./otp_build configure --enable-fips
...
checking for FIPS_mode_set... yes
...
$ make
```

If FIPS_mode_set returns no the OpenSSL library is not FIPS enabled and crypto won't support FIPS mode either.

• Set the fips_mode configuration setting of the crypto application to true before loading the crypto module.

The best place is in the sys.config system configuration file of the release.

• Start and use the crypto application as usual. However take care to avoid the non-FIPS validated algorithms, they will all throw exception not_supported.

Entering and leaving FIPS mode on a node already running crypto is not supported. The reason is that OpenSSL is designed to prevent an application requesting FIPS mode to end up accidentally running in non-FIPS mode. If entering FIPS mode fails (e.g. the Object Module is not found or is compromised) any subsequent use of the OpenSSL API would terminate the emulator.

An on-the-fly FIPS mode change would thus have to be performed in a critical section protected from any concurrently running crypto operations. Furthermore in case of failure all crypto calls would have to be disabled from the Erlang or nif code. This would be too much effort put into this not too important feature.

1.2.3 Incompatibilities with regular builds

The Erlang API of the crypto application is identical regardless of building with or without FIPS support. However the nif code internally uses a different OpenSSL API.

This means that the context (an opaque type) returned from streaming crypto functions (hash_(init|update|final), hmac_(init|update|final) and stream_(init|encrypt|decrypt)) is different and incompatible with regular builds when compiling crypto with FIPS support.

1.2.4 Common caveats

In FIPS mode non-validated algorithms are disabled. This may cause some unexpected problems in application relying on crypto.

Warning:

Do not try to work around these problems by using alternative implementations of the missing algorithms! An application can only claim to be using a FIPS 140-2 validated cryptographic module if it uses it exclusively for every cryptographic operation.

Restrictions on key sizes

Although public key algorithms are supported in FIPS mode they can only be used with secure key sizes. The Security Policy requires the following minimum values:

RSA

1024 bit

DSS

1024 bit

EC algorithms

160 bit

Restrictions on elliptic curves

The Erlang API allows using arbitrary curve parameters, but in FIPS mode only those allowed by the Security Policy shall be used.

Avoid md5 for hashing

Md5 is a popular choice as a hash function, but it is not secure enough to be validated. Try to use sha instead wherever possible.

For exceptional, non-cryptographic use cases one may consider switching to erlang:md5/1 as well.

Certificates and encrypted keys

As md5 is not available in FIPS mode it is only possible to use certificates that were signed using sha hashing. When validating an entire certificate chain all certificates (including the root CA's) must comply with this rule.

For similar dependency on the md5 and des algorithms most encrypted private keys in PEM format do not work either. However, the PBES2 encryption scheme allows the use of stronger FIPS verified algorithms which is a viable alternative.

SNMP v3 limitations

It is only possible to use usmHMACSHAAuthProtocol and usmAesCfb128Protocol for authentication and privacy respectively in FIPS mode. The snmp application however won't restrict selecting disabled protocols in any way, and using them would result in run time crashes.

TLS 1.2 is required

All SSL and TLS versions prior to TLS 1.2 use a combination of md5 and sha1 hashes in the handshake for various purposes:

- Authenticating the integrity of the handshake messages.
- In the exchange of DH parameters in cipher suites providing non-anonymous PFS (perfect forward secrecy).
- In the PRF (pseud-random function) to generate keying materials in cipher suites not using PFS.

OpenSSL handles these corner cases in FIPS mode, however the Erlang crypto and ssl applications are not prepared for them and therefore you are limited to TLS 1.2 in FIPS mode.

On the other hand it worth mentioning that at least all cipher suites that would rely on non-validated algorithms are automatically disabled in FIPS mode.

Note:

Certificates using weak (md5) digests may also cause problems in TLS. Although TLS 1.2 has an extension for specifying which type of signatures are accepted, and in FIPS mode the ssl application will use it properly, most TLS implementations ignore this extension and simply send whatever certificates they were configured with.

2 Reference Manual

The Crypto Application provides functions for computation of message digests, and encryption and decryption functions.

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Application

The purpose of the Crypto application is to provide an Erlang API to cryptographic functions, see crypto(3). Note that the API is on a fairly low level and there are some corresponding API functions available in $public_key(3)$, on a higher abstraction level, that uses the crypto application in its implementation.

DEPENDENCIES

The current crypto implementation uses nifs to interface OpenSSLs crypto library and requires **OpenSSL** package version 0.9.8 or higher. FIPS mode support requires at least version 1.0.1 and a FIPS capable OpenSSL installation.

Source releases of OpenSSL can be downloaded from the **OpenSSL** project home page, or mirror sites listed there.

CONFIGURATION

The following configuration parameters are defined for the crypto application. See app(3) for more information about configuration parameters.

```
fips_mode = boolean()
```

Specifies whether to run crypto in FIPS mode. This setting will take effect when the nif module is loaded. If FIPS mode is requested but not available at run time the nif module and thus the crypto module will fail to load. This mechanism prevents the accidental use of non-validated algorithms.

SEE ALSO

application(3)

crypto

Erlang module

This module provides a set of cryptographic functions.

- Hash functions Secure Hash Standard, The MD5 Message Digest Algorithm (RFC 1321) and The MD4
 Message Digest Algorithm (RFC 1320)
- Hmac functions **Keyed-Hashing for Message Authentication (RFC 2104)**
- Cmac functions The AES-CMAC Algorithm (RFC 4493)
- Block ciphers DES and AES in Block Cipher Modes ECB, CBC, CFB, OFB, CTR and GCM
- RSA encryption RFC 1321
- Digital signatures Digital Signature Standard (DSS) and Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ECDSA)
- Secure Remote Password Protocol (SRP RFC 2945)
- gcm: Dworkin, M., "Recommendation for Block Cipher Modes of Operation: Galois/Counter Mode (GCM) and GMAC", National Institute of Standards and Technology SP 800- 38D, November 2007.

DATA TYPES

```
key_value() = integer() | binary()
```

Always binary() when used as return value

```
rsa_public() = [key_value()] = [E, N]
```

Where E is the public exponent and N is public modulus.

```
rsa_private() = [key_value()] = [E, N, D] | [E, N, D, P1, P2, E1, E2, C]
```

Where E is the public exponent, N is public modulus and D is the private exponent. The longer key format contains redundant information that will make the calculation faster. P1,P2 are first and second prime factors. E1,E2 are first and second exponents. C is the CRT coefficient. Terminology is taken from **RFC 3447**.

```
dss_public() = [key_value()] = [P, Q, G, Y]
```

Where P, Q and G are the dss parameters and Y is the public key.

```
dss_private() = [key_value()] = [P, Q, G, X]
```

Where P, Q and G are the dss parameters and X is the private key.

```
srp_public() = key_value()
```

Where is A or B from **SRP design**

```
srp_private() = key_value()
```

Where is a or b from SRP design

Where Verifier is v, Generator is g and Prime is N, DerivedKey is X, and Scrambler is u (optional will be generated if not provided) from **SRP design** Version = '3' | '6' | '6a'

```
dh_public() = key_value()
dh_private() = key_value()
dh_params() = [key_value()] = [P, G]
ecdh_public() = key_value()
ecdh_private() = key_value()
ecdh params() = ec named curve() | ec explicit curve()
ec explicit curve() =
    {ec_field(), Prime :: key_value(), Point :: key_value(), Order :: integer(), CoFactor :: none | integer(
ec_field() = {prime_field, Prime :: integer()} |
    {characteristic_two_field, M :: integer(), Basis :: ec_basis()}
ec_basis() = {tpbasis, K :: non_neg_integer()} |
    {ppbasis, K1 :: non_neg_integer(), K2 :: non_neg_integer(), K3 :: non_neg_integer()} |
    onbasis
ec_named_curve() ->
      sect571r1| sect571k1| sect409r1| sect409k1| secp521r1| secp384r1| secp224r1| secp224k1|
      secp192k1| secp160r2| secp128r2| secp128r1| sect233r1| sect233k1| sect193r2| sect193r1|
      sect131r2| sect131r1| sect283r1| sect283k1| sect163r2| secp256k1| secp160k1| secp160r1|
      secp112r2| secp112r1| sect113r2| sect113r1| sect239k1| sect163r1| sect163k1| secp256r1|
      secp192r1
      brainpoolP160r1| brainpoolP160t1| brainpoolP192r1| brainpoolP192t1| brainpoolP224r1|
      brainpoolP224t1| brainpoolP256r1| brainpoolP256t1| brainpoolP320r1| brainpoolP320t1|
      brainpoolP384r1| brainpoolP384t1| brainpoolP512r1| brainpoolP512t1
```

Note that the **sect** curves are GF2m (characteristic two) curves and are only supported if the underlying OpenSSL has support for them. See also *crypto:supports/0*

```
stream_cipher() = rc4 | aes_ctr
block_cipher() = aes_cbc | aes_cfb8 | aes_cfb128 | aes_ige256 | blowfish_cbc |
```

```
blowfish cfb64 | des cbc | des cfb | des3 cbc | des3 cfb | des ede3 | rc2 cbc
 aead_cipher() = aes_gcm | chacha20_poly1305
 stream_key() = aes_key() | rc4_key()
block_key() = aes_key() | blowfish_key() | des_key() | des3_key()
aes_key() = iodata()
Key length is 128, 192 or 256 bits
rc4_{key}() = iodata()
Variable key length from 8 bits up to 2048 bits (usually between 40 and 256)
blowfish_key() = iodata()
Variable key length from 32 bits up to 448 bits
des_key() = iodata()
Key length is 64 bits (in CBC mode only 8 bits are used)
des3_key() = [binary(), binary(), binary()]
Each key part is 64 bits (in CBC mode only 8 bits are used)
digest_type() = md5 | sha | sha224 | sha256 | sha384 | sha512
 hash_algorithms() = md5 | ripemd160 | sha | sha224 | sha256 | sha384 | sha512
```

md4 is also supported for hash_init/1 and hash/2. Note that both md4 and md5 are recommended only for compatibility with existing applications.

```
cipher_algorithms() = aes_cbc | aes_cfb8 | aes_cfb128 | aes_ctr | aes_gcm |
   aes_ige256 | blowfish_cbc | blowfish_cfb64 | chacha20_poly1305 | des_cbc | des_cfb |
   des3_cbc | des3_cfb | des_ede3 | rc2_cbc | rc4
public_key_algorithms() = rsa |dss | ecdsa | dh | ecdh | ec_gf2m
```

Note that ec_gf2m is not strictly a public key algorithm, but a restriction on what curves are supported with ecdsa and ecdh.

Exports

```
block_encrypt(Type, Key, PlainText) -> CipherText
Types:
    Type = des_ecb | blowfish_ecb | aes_ecb
    Key = block_key()
    PlainText = iodata()
Encrypt PlainText according to Type block cipher.
```

May throw exception not sup in case the chosen Type is not supported by the underlying OpenSSL implementation.

```
block_decrypt(Type, Key, CipherText) -> PlainText
Types:
   Type = des_ecb | blowfish_ecb | aes_ecb
   Key = block_key()
   PlainText = iodata()
```

Decrypt CipherText according to Type block cipher.

May throw exception not sup in case the chosen Type is not supported by the underlying OpenSSL implementation.

```
block_encrypt(Type, Key, Ivec, PlainText) -> CipherText
block_encrypt(AeadType, Key, Ivec, {AAD, PlainText}) -> {CipherText, CipherTag}
block_encrypt(aes_gcm, Key, Ivec, {AAD, PlainText, TagLength}) -> {CipherText, CipherTag}
Types:
    Type = block_cipher()
    AeadType = aead_cipher()
    Key = block_key()
    PlainText = iodata()
    AAD = IVec = CipherText = CipherTag = binary()
    TagLength = 1..16
```

Encrypt PlainText according to Type block cipher. IVec is an arbitrary initializing vector.

In AEAD (Authenticated Encryption with Associated Data) mode, encrypt PlainTextaccording to Type block cipher and calculate CipherTag that also authenticates the AAD (Associated Authenticated Data).

May throw exception not sup in case the chosen Type is not supported by the underlying OpenSSL implementation.

```
block_decrypt(Type, Key, Ivec, CipherText) -> PlainText
block_decrypt(AeadType, Key, Ivec, {AAD, CipherText, CipherTag}) -> PlainText
| error
Types:
    Type = block_cipher()
    AeadType = aead_cipher()
    Key = block_key()
    PlainText = iodata()
```

```
AAD = IVec = CipherText = CipherTag = binary()
```

Decrypt CipherText according to Type block cipher. IVec is an arbitrary initializing vector.

In AEAD (Authenticated Encryption with Associated Data) mode, decrypt CipherTextaccording to Type block cipher and check the authenticity the PlainText and AAD (Associated Authenticated Data) using the CipherTag. May return error if the decryption or validation fail's

May throw exception not sup in case the chosen Type is not supported by the underlying OpenSSL implementation.

```
bytes to integer(Bin) -> Integer
Types:
   Bin = binary() - as returned by crypto functions
   Integer = integer()
Convert binary representation, of an integer, to an Erlang integer.
compute key(Type, OthersPublicKey, MyKey, Params) -> SharedSecret
Types:
   Type = dh | ecdh | srp
   OthersPublicKey = dh_public() | ecdh_public() | srp_public()
   MyKey = dh_private() | ecdh_private() | {srp_public(),srp_private()}
   Params = dh_params() | ecdh_params() | SrpUserParams | SrpHostParams
   SrpUserParams = {user, [DerivedKey::binary(), Prime::binary(),
   Generator::binary(), Version::atom() | [Scrambler:binary()]]}
   SrpHostParams = {host, [Verifier::binary(), Prime::binary(),
   Version::atom() | [Scrambler::binary]]}
   SharedSecret = binary()
Computes the shared secret from the private key and the other party's public key. See also public_key:compute_key/2
exor(Data1, Data2) -> Result
Types:
   Data1, Data2 = iodata()
   Result = binary()
Performs bit-wise XOR (exclusive or) on the data supplied.
generate key(Type, Params) -> {PublicKey, PrivKeyOut}
generate key(Type, Params, PrivKeyIn) -> {PublicKey, PrivKeyOut}
Types:
   Type = dh | ecdh | srp
   Params = dh_params() | ecdh_params() | SrpUserParams | SrpHostParams
   SrpUserParams = {user, [Generator::binary(), Prime::binary(),
   Version::atom()]}
   SrpHostParams = {host, [Verifier::binary(), Generator::binary(),
   Prime::binary(), Version::atom()]}
   PublicKey = dh_public() | ecdh_public() | srp_public()
   PrivKeyIn = undefined | dh_private() | ecdh_private() | srp_private()
   PrivKeyOut = dh_private() | ecdh_private() | srp_private()
```

Generates public keys of type Type. See also *public_key:generate_key/1* May throw exception low_entropy in case the random generator failed due to lack of secure "randomness".

```
hash(Type, Data) -> Digest
Types:
   Type = md4 | hash_algorithms()
   Data = iodata()
   Digest = binary()
```

Computes a message digest of type Type from Data.

May throw exception not sup in case the chosen Type is not supported by the underlying OpenSSL implementation.

```
hash_init(Type) -> Context
Types:
    Type = md4 | hash_algorithms()
```

Initializes the context for streaming hash operations. Type determines which digest to use. The returned context should be used as argument to *hash_update*.

May throw exception not sup in case the chosen Type is not supported by the underlying OpenSSL implementation.

```
hash_update(Context, Data) -> NewContext
Types:
    Data = iodata()
```

Updates the digest represented by Context using the given Data. Context must have been generated using <code>hash_init</code> or a previous call to this function. Data can be any length. NewContext must be passed into the next call to hash_update or <code>hash_final</code>.

```
hash_final(Context) -> Digest
Types:
    Digest = binary()
```

Finalizes the hash operation referenced by Context returned from a previous call to *hash_update*. The size of Digest is determined by the type of hash function used to generate it.

```
hmac(Type, Key, Data) -> Mac
hmac(Type, Key, Data, MacLength) -> Mac
Types:
    Type = hash_algorithms() - except ripemd160
    Key = iodata()
    Data = iodata()
    MacLength = integer()
    Mac = binary()
```

Computes a HMAC of type Type from Data using Key as the authentication key.

MacLength will limit the size of the resultant Mac.

```
hmac_init(Type, Key) -> Context
Types:
    Type = hash_algorithms() - except ripemd160
    Key = iodata()
    Context = binary()
```

Initializes the context for streaming HMAC operations. Type determines which hash function to use in the HMAC operation. Key is the authentication key. The key can be any length.

```
hmac_update(Context, Data) -> NewContext
Types:
    Context = NewContext = binary()
    Data = iodata()
```

Updates the HMAC represented by Context using the given Data. Context must have been generated using an HMAC init function (such as $hmac_init$). Data can be any length. NewContext must be passed into the next call to hmac_update or to one of the functions $hmac_final$ and $hmac_final_n$

Warning:

Do not use a Context as argument in more than one call to hmac_update or hmac_final. The semantics of reusing old contexts in any way is undefined and could even crash the VM in earlier releases. The reason for this limitation is a lack of support in the underlying OpenSSL API.

```
hmac_final(Context) -> Mac
Types:
    Context = Mac = binary()
```

Finalizes the HMAC operation referenced by Context. The size of the resultant MAC is determined by the type of hash function used to generate it.

```
hmac_final_n(Context, HashLen) -> Mac
Types:
    Context = Mac = binary()
    HashLen = non_neg_integer()
```

Finalizes the HMAC operation referenced by Context. HashLen must be greater than zero. Mac will be a binary with at most HashLen bytes. Note that if HashLen is greater than the actual number of bytes returned from the underlying hash, the returned hash will have fewer than HashLen bytes.

```
cmac(Type, Key, Data) -> Mac
cmac(Type, Key, Data, MacLength) -> Mac
Types:
   Type = block_cipher()
   Key = iodata()
   Data = iodata()
   MacLength = integer()
```

```
Mac = binary()
```

Computes a CMAC of type Type from Data using Key as the authentication key.

MacLength will limit the size of the resultant Mac.

```
info_fips() -> Status
Types:
    Status = enabled | not_enabled | not_supported
```

Provides information about the FIPS operating status of crypto and the underlying OpenSSL library. If crypto was built with FIPS support this can be either enabled (when running in FIPS mode) or not_enabled. For other builds this value is always not_supported.

Warning:

In FIPS mode all non-FIPS compliant algorithms are disabled and throw exception not_supported. Check *supports* that in FIPS mode returns the restricted list of available algorithms.

```
info_lib() -> [{Name, VerNum, VerStr}]
Types:
    Name = binary()
    VerNum = integer()
    VerStr = binary()
```

Provides the name and version of the libraries used by crypto.

Name is the name of the library. VerNum is the numeric version according to the library's own versioning scheme. VerStr contains a text variant of the version.

```
> info_lib().
[{<<"OpenSSL">>,9469983,<<"OpenSSL 0.9.8a 11 Oct 2005">>}]
```

Note:

From OTP R16 the **numeric version** represents the version of the OpenSSL **header files** (openssl/opensslv.h) used when crypto was compiled. The text variant represents the OpenSSL library used at runtime. In earlier OTP versions both numeric and text was taken from the library.

```
mod_pow(N, P, M) -> Result
Types:
    N, P, M = binary() | integer()
    Result = binary() | error
Computes the function N^P mod M.
```

```
next_iv(Type, Data) -> NextIVec
next_iv(Type, Data, IVec) -> NextIVec
Types:
   Type = des_cbc | des3_cbc | aes_cbc | des_cfb
   Data = iodata()
   IVec = NextIVec = binary()
```

Returns the initialization vector to be used in the next iteration of encrypt/decrypt of type Type. Data is the encrypted data from the previous iteration step. The IVec argument is only needed for des_cfb as the vector used in the previous iteration step.

```
private_decrypt(Type, CipherText, PrivateKey, Padding) -> PlainText
Types:
```

```
Type = rsa
CipherText = binary()
PrivateKey = rsa_private()
Padding = rsa_pkcsl_padding | rsa_pkcsl_oaep_padding | rsa_no_padding
PlainText = binary()
```

Decrypts the CipherText, encrypted with *public_encrypt/4* (or equivalent function) using the PrivateKey, and returns the plaintext (message digest). This is a low level signature verification operation used for instance by older versions of the SSL protocol. See also *public_key:decrypt_private/[2,3]*

```
private_encrypt(Type, PlainText, PrivateKey, Padding) -> CipherText
Types:
```

```
Type = rsa
PlainText = binary()
```

The size of the PlainText must be less than byte_size(N)-11 if rsa_pkcs1_padding is used, and byte_size(N) if rsa_no_padding is used, where N is public modulus of the RSA key.

```
PrivateKey = rsa_private()
Padding = rsa_pkcs1_padding | rsa_no_padding
CipherText = binary()
```

Encrypts the PlainText using the PrivateKey and returns the ciphertext. This is a low level signature operation used for instance by older versions of the SSL protocol. See also <code>public_key:encrypt_private/[2,3]</code>

```
\label{eq:public_decrypt} \mbox{Type, CipherText, PublicKey, Padding)} \mbox{ -> PlainText} \\ \mbox{Types:}
```

```
Type = rsa
CipherText = binary()
PublicKey = rsa_public()
Padding = rsa_pkcs1_padding | rsa_no_padding
PlainText = binary()
```

Decrypts the CipherText, encrypted with <code>private_encrypt/4</code>(or equivalent function) using the PrivateKey, and returns the plaintext (message digest). This is a low level signature verification operation used for instance by older versions of the SSL protocol. See also <code>public_key:decrypt_public/[2,3]</code>

```
public_encrypt(Type, PlainText, PublicKey, Padding) -> CipherText
Types:
```

```
Type = rsa
PlainText = binary()
```

The size of the PlainText must be less than byte_size(N)-11 if $rsa_pkcsl_padding$ is used, and byte_size(N) if $rsa_no_padding$ is used, where N is public modulus of the RSA key.

```
PublicKey = rsa_public()
Padding = rsa_pkcsl_padding | rsa_pkcsl_oaep_padding | rsa_no_padding
CipherText = binary()
```

Encrypts the PlainText (message digest) using the PublicKey and returns the CipherText. This is a low level signature operation used for instance by older versions of the SSL protocol. See also *public_key:encrypt_public/[2,3]*

```
rand_seed(Seed) -> ok
Types:
    Seed = binary()
```

Set the seed for PRNG to the given binary. This calls the RAND_seed function from openssl. Only use this if the system you are running on does not have enough "randomness" built in. Normally this is when <code>strong_rand_bytes/1</code> returns <code>low_entropy</code>

```
rand_uniform(Lo, Hi) -> N
Types:
    Lo, Hi, N = integer()
```

Generate a random number N , Lo =< N < Hi . Uses the crypto library pseudo-random number generator. Hi must be larger than Lo.

```
sign(Algorithm, DigestType, Msg, Key) -> binary()
Types:
```

```
Algorithm = rsa | dss | ecdsa
Msg = binary() | {digest,binary()}
```

The msg is either the binary "cleartext" data to be signed or it is the hashed value of "cleartext" i.e. the digest (plaintext).

```
DigestType = digest_type()
Key = rsa_private() | dss_private() | [ecdh_private(),ecdh_params()]
```

Creates a digital signature.

Algorithm dss can only be used together with digest type sha.

See also *public_key:sign/3*.

```
start() -> ok
```

Equivalent to application:start(crypto).

```
stop() -> ok
```

Equivalent to application:stop(crypto).

```
strong_rand_bytes(N) -> binary()
Types:
   N = integer()
```

Generates N bytes randomly uniform 0..255, and returns the result in a binary. Uses a cryptographically secure prng seeded and periodically mixed with operating system provided entropy. By default this is the RAND_bytes method from OpenSSL.

May throw exception low_entropy in case the random generator failed due to lack of secure "randomness".

```
stream_init(Type, Key) -> State
Types:
    Type = rc4
    State = opaque()
    Key = iodata()
Initializes the state for use in RC4 stream encryption stream_encrypt and stream_decrypt
stream_init(Type, Key, IVec) -> State
Types:
    Type = aes_ctr
    State = opaque()
    Key = iodata()
    IVec = binary()
```

Initializes the state for use in streaming AES encryption using Counter mode (CTR). Key is the AES key and must be either 128, 192, or 256 bits long. IVec is an arbitrary initializing vector of 128 bits (16 bytes). This state is for use with *stream_encrypt* and *stream_decrypt*.

```
stream_encrypt(State, PlainText) -> { NewState, CipherText}
Types:
    Text = iodata()
    CipherText = binary()
```

Encrypts PlainText according to the stream cipher Type specified in stream_init/3. Text can be any number of bytes. The initial State is created using *stream_init*. NewState must be passed into the next call to stream_encrypt.

```
stream_decrypt(State, CipherText) -> { NewState, PlainText }
Types:
    CipherText = iodata()
    PlainText = binary()
```

Decrypts CipherText according to the stream cipher Type specified in stream_init/3. PlainText can be any number of bytes. The initial State is created using *stream_init*. NewState must be passed into the next call to stream_decrypt.

```
supports() -> AlgorithmList
Types:
```

```
AlgorithmList = [{hashs, [hash_algorithms()]}, {ciphers,
   [cipher_algorithms()]}, {public_keys, [public_key_algorithms()]}
Can be used to determine which crypto algorithms that are supported by the underlying OpenSSL library
ec_curves() -> EllipticCurveList
Types:
   EllipticCurveList = [ec_named_curve()]
Can be used to determine which named elliptic curves are supported.
ec curve(NamedCurve) -> EllipticCurve
Types:
   NamedCurve = ec_named_curve()
   EllipticCurve = ec_explicit_curve()
Return the defining parameters of a elliptic curve.
verify(Algorithm, DigestType, Msg, Signature, Key) -> boolean()
Types:
   Algorithm = rsa | dss | ecdsa
   Msg = binary() | {digest,binary()}
   The msg is either the binary "cleartext" data or it is the hashed value of "cleartext" i.e. the digest (plaintext).
   DigestType = digest_type()
   Signature = binary()
   Key = rsa_public() | dss_public() | [ecdh_public(),ecdh_params()]
Verifies a digital signature
Algorithm dss can only be used together with digest type sha.
See also public_key:verify/4.
```