

Squeezing a key through a carry bit

Sean Devlin

Filippo Valsorda, Google

crypto/elliptic: carry bug in x86-64 P-256 #20040

 Closed

agl opened this issue on Apr 19 · 11 comments



agl commented on Apr 19

Member



Cloudflare reported a carry bug in the P-256 implementation that they submitted for x86-64 in [7bacfc6](#). I can reproduce this via random testing against BoringSSL and, after applying the patch that they provided, can no longer do so, even after $\sim 2^{31}$ iterations.

This issue is not obviously exploitable, although we cannot rule out the possibility of someone managing to squeeze something through this hole. (It would be a cool paper.) Thus this should be treated as something to fix, but not something on fire, based on what we currently know.

Fix will be coming in just a second.



19

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Fix will be coming in just a second.



19

One month later



agl commented on May 23

Member

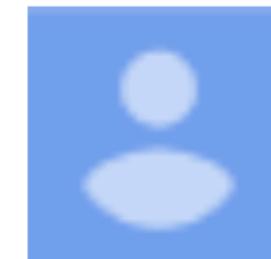


(This issue is CVE-2017-8932.)

[golang-announce](#) ›

[security] Go 1.7.6 and Go 1.8.2 are released

1 post by 1 author



Chris Broadfoot



A security-related issue was recently reported in Go's crypto/elliptic package. To address this issue, we have just released Go 1.7.6 and Go 1.8.2.

The code
 $a = a - b$
mod p

```
TEXT p256SubInternal(SB),NOSPLIT,$0
    XORQ mul0, mul0
    SUBQ b0, a0
    SBBQ b1, a1
    SBBQ b2, a2
    SBBQ b3, a3
    SBBQ $0, mul0

    MOVQ a0, t0
    MOVQ a1, t1
    MOVQ a2, t2
    MOVQ a3, t3

    ADDQ $-1, a0
    ADCQ p256const0◇(SB), a1
    ADCQ $0, a2
    ADCQ p256const1◇(SB), a3

    ADCQ $0, mul0

    CMOVQNE t0, a0
    CMOVQNE t1, a1
    CMOVQNE t2, a2
    CMOVQNE t3, a3

RET
```

TEXT p256SubInternal(SB),NOSPLIT,\$0

XORQ mul0, mul0

SUBQ b0, a0

SBBQ b1, a1

SBBQ b2, a2

SBBQ b3, a3

SBBQ \$0, mul0

a -= b

MOVQ a0, t0

MOVQ a1, t1

MOVQ a2, t2

MOVQ a3, t3

t = a

ADDQ \$-1, a0

ADCQ p256const0◇(SB), a1

ADCQ \$0, a2

ADCQ p256const1◇(SB), a3

a += p

ADCQ \$0, mul0

CMOVQNE t0, a0

CMOVQNE t1, a1

CMOVQNE t2, a2

CMOVQNE t3, a3

a = mul0 ? a : t

RET

The code

$a = a - b$

$\text{mod } p$

TEXT p256SubInternal(SB),NOSPLIT,\$0

XORQ mul0, mul0

SUBQ b0, a0

SBBQ b1, a1

SBBQ b2, a2

SBBQ b3, a3

SBBQ \$0, mul0

a < b

a -= b

MOVQ a0, t0

MOVQ a1, t1

MOVQ a2, t2

MOVQ a3, t3

t = a

ADDQ \$-1, a0

ADCQ p256const0◇(SB), a1

ADCQ \$0, a2

ADCQ p256const1◇(SB), a3

a += p

ADCQ \$0, mul0

a = mul0 ? a : t

CMOVQNE t0, a0

CMOVQNE t1, a1

CMOVQNE t2, a2

CMOVQNE t3, a3

RET

The code

$a = a - b$

$\text{mod } p$

The bug

```
TEXT p256SubInternal(SB),NOSPLIT,$0
    XORQ mul0, mul0
    SUBQ b0, a0
    SBBQ b1, a1
    SBBQ b2, a2
    SBBQ b3, a3
    SBBQ $0, mul0
    MOVQ a0, t0
    MOVQ a1, t1
    MOVQ a2, t2
    MOVQ a3, t3
    ADDQ $-1, a0
    ADCQ p256const0<SB>, a1
    ADCQ $0, a2
    ADCQ p256const1<SB>, a3
    ADCQ $0, mul0
    CMOVQNE t0, a0
    CMOVQNE t1, a1
    CMOVQNE t2, a2
    CMOVQNE t3, a3
    RET
```

a -= b

t = a

a += p

a = mul0 ? a : t

The bug

```
TEXT p256SubInternal(SB),NOSPLIT,$0
    XORQ mul0, mul0
    SUBQ b0, a0
    SBBQ b1, a1
    SBBQ b2, a2
    SBBQ b3, a3
    SBBQ $0, mul0

    MOVQ a0, t0
    MOVQ a1, t1
    MOVQ a2, t2
    MOVQ a3, t3

    ADDQ $-1, a0
    ADCQ p256const0◇(SB), a1
    ADCQ $0, a2
    ADCQ p256const1◇(SB), a3

    - ADCQ $0, mul0
    + ANDQ $1, mul0

    - CMOVQNE t0, a0
    + CMOVQEQ t0, a0
    - CMOVQNE t1, a1
    + CMOVQEQ t1, a1
    - CMOVQNE t2, a2
    + CMOVQEQ t2, a2
    - CMOVQNE t3, a3
    + CMOVQEQ t3, a3

RET
```

The bug

```
TEXT p256SubInternal(SB),NOSPLIT,$0
    XORQ mul0, mul0
    SUBQ b0, a0
    SBBQ b1, a1
    SBBQ b2, a2
    SBBQ b3, a3
    SBBQ $0, mul0

    MOVQ a0, t0
    MOVQ a1, t1
    MOVQ a2, t2
    MOVQ a3, t3

    ADDQ $-1, a0
    ADCQ p256const0◇(SB), a1
    ADCQ $0, a2
    ADCQ p256const1◇(SB), a3
```

- | | | |
|---|----------------|------------------|
| - | ADCQ \$0, mul0 | + ANDQ \$1, mul0 |
| - | CMOVQNE t0, a0 | + CMOVQEQ t0, a0 |
| - | CMOVQNE t1, a1 | + CMOVQEQ t1, a1 |
| - | CMOVQNE t2, a2 | + CMOVQEQ t2, a2 |
| - | CMOVQNE t3, a3 | + CMOVQEQ t3, a3 |

RET

Wrong result with
probability 2⁻³²

A carry propagation bug

ECCCC

Elliptic Curve Cryptography Crash Course

- Field: numbers modulo p
- Points: like (3, 7); fitting an equation
- Group: a generator point and **addition**
- Multiplication: repeated addition

ECCCCC

Elliptic Curve Cryptography Crash Course (cont.)

- Multiplication: $5Q = Q + Q + Q + Q + Q$
- ECDH private key: a big integer d
- ECDH public key: $Q = dG$ (think $y = g^a$)
- ECDH shared secret: $Q_{\text{shared}} = dQ_{\text{peer}}$

Double and add

$$Q_2 = dQ_1$$

d is BIG. Like, 256 bit.

Can't add Q to itself 2^{256} times.

Double and add

$$Q_2 = dQ_1$$

1	0	1	1	0	1	...	1	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---



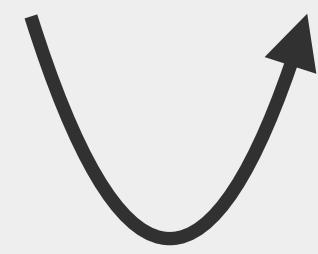
$+Q_1$

$+Q$

Double and add

$$Q_2 = dQ_1$$

1	0	1	1	0	1	...	1	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---



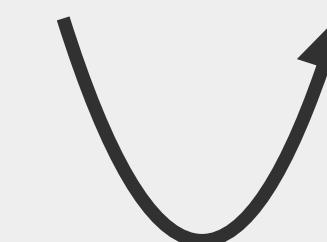
x_2

$+ Q x_2$

Double and add

$$Q_2 = dQ_1$$

1	0	1	1	0	1	...	1	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---

x2


+ Q x2 x2

Double and add

$$Q_2 = dQ_1$$

1	0	1	1	0	1	...	1	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---



$+ Q_1$

$+ Q \times 2 \times 2 + Q$

Double and add

$$Q_2 = dQ_1$$

1	0	1	1	0	1	...	1	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---

x2
↑

+ Q x2 x2 + Q x2

Double and add

$$Q_2 = dQ_1$$

1	0	1	1	0	1	...	1	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---

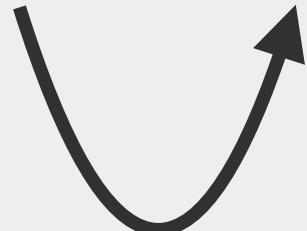
↑
 $+ Q_1$

$+ Q \times 2^x 2^y + Q \times 2^z + Q$

Double and add

$$Q_2 = dQ_1$$

1	0	1	1	0	1	...	1	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---

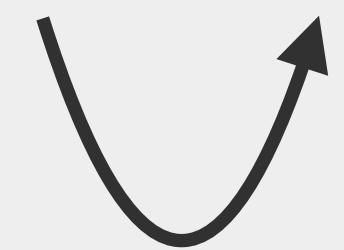

x2

+ Q x2 x2 + Q x2 + Q x2

Double and add

$$Q_2 = dQ_1$$

1	0	1	1	0	1	...	1	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---



x2

+ Q x2 x2 + Q x2 + Q x2 x2

Double and add

$$Q_2 = dQ_1$$

1	0	1	1	0	1	...	1	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---



$$+ Q_1$$

$$+ Q \times 2^0 + Q \times 2^1 + Q \times 2^2 + Q \times 2^3 + Q \dots$$

Back to the carry bug

session key

attacker supplied

secret key

secret = ScalarMult(point, scalar) \leftarrow Q₂ = dQ

└ p256PointAddAffineAsm

└ p256SubInternal 

$$Q_1 \rightarrow \text{ScalarMult}(Q_1, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix})$$

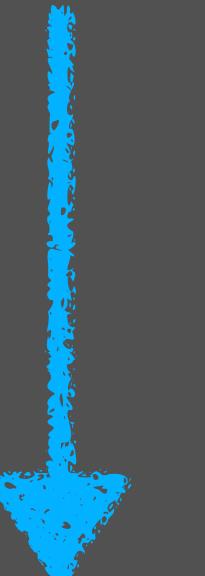
$$+ Q_1 \times 2 \times 2 + Q_1 \times 2 + Q_1 \times 2 + Q_1 \star$$

$$Q_2 \rightarrow \text{ScalarMult}(Q_2, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix})$$

$$+ Q_2 \times 2 \times 2 + Q_2 \times 2 + Q_2 \times 2 \times 2 \star$$

$Q_1 \rightarrow \text{ScalarMult}(Q_1, \boxed{1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ ?}) \rightarrow \text{💥}$

$Q_2 \rightarrow \text{ScalarMult}(Q_2, \boxed{1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ ?}) \rightarrow \text{✓}$



1	0	1	1	1
---	---	---	---	---

$Q_1 \rightarrow$

1	0	1	1	1
---	---	---	---	---



$Q_2 \rightarrow$

1	0	1	1	0
---	---	---	---	---

$Q_3 \rightarrow$

1	0	1	1	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---

$Q_4 \rightarrow$

1	0	1	1	1	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---



$Q_5 \rightarrow$

1	0	1	1	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

$Q_6 \rightarrow$

1	0	1	1	1	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Practical realisation and elimination of an ECC-related software bug attack^{*}

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Go implementation of ScalarMult

Booth's multiplication in 5-bit windows.

Precomputed table of 1Q to 16Q. Add, double 5 times.

```
01 00010 01110 01010 01010 10010 00001 01111 10011 01101 ...
```

Multiplication loop

```
for index > 4 {
    index -= 5
    p256PointDoubleAsm(p.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,])
    p256PointDoubleAsm(p.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,])
    p256PointDoubleAsm(p.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,])
    p256PointDoubleAsm(p.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,])
    p256PointDoubleAsm(p.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,])

    if index < 192 {
        wvalue = ((scalar[index/64] >> (index % 64)) + (scalar[in
    } else {
        wvalue = (scalar[index/64] >> (index % 64)) & 0x3f
    }

    sel, sign = boothW5(uint(wvalue))

    p256Select(t0.xyz[0:], precomp[0:], sel)
    p256NegCond(t0.xyz[4:8], sign)
    p256PointAddAsm(t1.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,], t0.xyz[:,])
    p256MovCond(t1.xyz[0:12], t1.xyz[0:12], p.xyz[0:12], sel)
    p256MovCond(p.xyz[0:12], t1.xyz[0:12], t0.xyz[0:12], zero)
    zero |= sel
}
```

Go implementation of ScalarMult

Booth's multiplication in 5-bit windows.

Precomputed table of 1Q to 16Q. Add, double 5 times.

```
01 00010 01110 01010 01010 10010 00001 01111 10011 01101 ...
```

Limbs representation: less overlap and aliasing problems.

```
{1 0} {15 1} {7 0} {5 0} {5 0} {9 0} {1 0} {8 1} {6 1} {9 1} ...
```

Go implementation of ScalarMult

Booth's multiplication in 5-bit windows.

Precomputed table of 1Q to 16Q. Add, double 5 times.

```
01 00010 01110 01010 01010 10010 00001 01111 10011 01101 ...
```

Attack one limb at a time, instead of one bit.

33 limb values → 16 points / 5 key bits on average.

Multiplication loop

```
for index > 4 {  
    index -= 5  
    p256PointDoubleAsm(p.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,])  
    p256PointDoubleAsm(p.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,])  
    p256PointDoubleAsm(p.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,])  
    p256PointDoubleAsm(p.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,])  
    p256PointDoubleAsm(p.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,])  
  
    if index < 192 {  
        wvalue = ((scalar[index/64] >> (index % 64)) + (scalar[in]  
    } else {  
        wvalue = (scalar[index/64] >> (index % 64)) & 0x3f  
    }  
  
    sel, sign = boothW5(uint(wvalue))  
  
    p256Select(t0.xyz[0:], precomp[0:], sel)  
    p256NegCond(t0.xyz[4:8], sign)  
    p256PointAddAsm(t1.xyz[:,], p.xyz[:,], t0.xyz[:,])  
    p256MovCond(t1.xyz[0:12], t1.xyz[0:12], p.xyz[0:12], sel)  
    p256MovCond(p.xyz[0:12], t1.xyz[0:12], t0.xyz[0:12], zero)  
    zero |= sel  
}
```



Assembly hook

```
TEXT paris256SubInternal(SB), NOSPLIT, $0
    XORQ mul0, mul0
    SUBQ t0, acc4
    SBBQ t1, acc5
    SBBQ t2, acc6
    SBBQ t3, acc7
    SBBQ $0, mul0

    MOVQ acc4, acc0
    MOVQ acc5, acc1
    MOVQ acc6, acc2
    MOVQ acc7, acc3

    ADDQ $-1, acc4
    ADCQ p256const0<SB>, acc5
    ADCQ $0, acc6
    ADCQ p256const1<SB>, acc7

    // Paris256: if the carry bit is clear, the bug would be triggered.
    SBBQ hlp, hlp
    SUBQ hlp, mul0 // was: ADCQ $0, mul0; but we stole the carry bit above
    XORQ $-1, hlp
    ANDQ $1, hlp

    ADDQ $0, mul0

    CMOVQNE acc0, acc4
    CMOVQNE acc1, acc5
    CMOVQNE acc2, acc6
    CMOVQNE acc3, acc7

    RET
```



```
func (t *paris256Trace) Fuzz(precomp [16 * 4 * 3]uint64, prev limb, zero int, pp *p256Point) {
    var t0 p256Point
    for _, b := range boothSpace {
        p := pp
        if b.Sel == 0 && zero == 0 {
            // If this round, the one before, and all the ones before are 0,
            // all the operations are discarded. Spot this by exclusion.
            continue
        } else if zero == 0 { // p = {-sign}precomp[sel]
            p256Select(t0.xyz[0:], precomp[0:], b.Sel)
            p256NegCond(t0.xyz[4:8], b.Sign)
            p = &t0
        } else if b.Sel != 0 { // p = p + {-sign}precomp[sel]
            p256Select(t0.xyz[0:], precomp[0:], b.Sel)
            p256NegCond(t0.xyz[4:8], b.Sign)
 t.X("fuzz-add", paris256PointAddAsm(t0.xyz[:], pp.xyz[:], t0.xyz[:]), b.Sel, true)
            p = &t0
        } // else p = p

        t.X("fuzz-double-1", paris256PointDoubleAsm(t0.xyz[:], p.xyz[:]), b.Sel, true)
        t.X("fuzz-double-2", paris256PointDoubleAsm(t0.xyz[:], t0.xyz[:]), b.Sel, true)
        t.X("fuzz-double-3", paris256PointDoubleAsm(t0.xyz[:], t0.xyz[:]), b.Sel, true)
        t.X("fuzz-double-4", paris256PointDoubleAsm(t0.xyz[:], t0.xyz[:]), b.Sel, true)

        t.X("fuzz-double-5", paris256PointDoubleAsm(t0.xyz[:], t0.xyz[:]), b.Sel, true)
    }
}
```

```
func nextPoint(dlog []byte, bigX, bigY *big.Int) (x, y *big.Int) {
    for i := range dlog {
        dlog[len(dlog)-1-i] += 1
        if dlog[len(dlog)-1-i] != 0 {
            break
        }
    }
}
```

```
p := p256PointFromAffine(bigX, bigY)
p256PointAddAsm(p.xyz[:], p.xyz[:], basePoint)
return p.p256PointToAffine()
```

```
}
```

```
// Import the patched p256PointAddAsm.
```

```
//go:linkname p256PointAddAsm crypto/elliptic.p256PointAddAsm
```

```
func p256PointAddAsm(res, in1, in2 []uint64)
```

06e3634359a8a4077f5770e39ba3502ebef6ec56644c86c1dbe4cedf898bbae9:ooooooooooooooooooooXoooooooooooooooooooo
0804f5c147053a1e53ff9204eb00677d55d1ded582d85c3b4c3a6be161061831:ooooooooooooooooooooXoooooooooooo
09f88cc112f8eaaf9f5ea5b05855fc04615652df1f44f14e562928b0476eda93:oooooXoooooooooooooooooooooooo
0acee85067262b9bcfab64a39a6a1ed5220e445914e6403b1bd4b01e6a379578:ooooooooooooooooooooXoooooooooooo
0d142ba2ca895fe22e147f42a6e52e26ed1a5d0ad91d67466d374e29e28b14d5:ooooooooooooooooooooXoooooooooooo
0fcf4cf46cf88a3d229060c6034f0e8be0b8e79b3540d41a9379de19a437273c:ooooooooooooooooooooXoooo
26d97cf1e6144c729ef6ff72e1c8f31fbb0a22627058ef01e9e3bdbcf849fb92:oXoooooooooooooooooooooooo
4b427c6d8d777dbfa6cf64cdc63e301e97e324df023749ef6384989ab615c52b:Xoooooooooooooooooooooooo
52061d542ad5578004c7b0b334f65dc75489f73483c6aefa9b9459e7b03f4aba:oooooooooooooooooooooooo
53d1800629e891013c98edcc6c04516a23d18f04760bd03d75e2a106076ae396:oooooooooooooooooooooooo
554bd89958286e458e5bf966fe2a369c1b9aa3a29a4c04d81cdbdf385fa382a0:oooooooooooooooooooo
620d527b80bd2f6a513bb88b2b6c492983391d73ce325b15d8307fdb8c3df079:oooooooooooooooooooo
6335a174ca8240114ccc160b86c15d51ab11d74910ca3ca00a6aca9b0ed3ea6a:oooooooooooooooo
6db73c2a1770e130bc008a9644b6c706725e02c1025d2825f87114185634e4d6:oooooooooooo
758e784d8b8f88f40c7e6b0df9a60e24af0bb2628ce7533f81eb78351ccf7a41:ooXoooooooooooo
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902fa900ff59048d96d4d4b959dc11a2118b0a3e1122b33d39a42ad10b766758:oooooooooooo
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93adbefec85ba25cccd307df4c0089523a6e1449ba9b04e9670aeedb8d37c:oooooooooooo
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b1d1b9691e4050f39d22b4fb54faf90e94df7079d8e22d3129c9c488ed04edc2:oooooooooooo
bf55b34af182ea1bbe9f4f4ec3a6d174fca8555e8b0f7908135a247b9eb22419:oooooooooooo
ce421de34c6c8b8ec1f6cf50b1077a6a0f736e40cfe60cb00669034f75cc189a:oooooooooooo
d4f4860079f824e11b9d2f6f51ee3da84a2fe469ff6feb633bb615001209fb:oooooooooooo
d8eaf1851f30737620e0dfa9e339a3029c82c103708e43ad802aebe4e612ae0b:oooooooooooo
f615413ff669c3defb40848c30c749e7317476cc7e57cc406c3b67ef413f20:oooooooooooo

The first limb

Precomp

3

Limb

3

Doubling

$\times 2$ $\times 2$ $\times 2$ $\times 2$ $\times 2$

\rightarrow 3 $\times 2^5$



The first limb

Precomp

3

3×2

$3 \times 2 \times 2$

Limb

3

6

12

Doubling

$\times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$



$\times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$



$\times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$



$\rightarrow 3 \times 2^5$

$\rightarrow 3 \times 2^6$

$\rightarrow 3 \times 2^7$

The first limb

Precomp

3

3 x2

3 x2 x2

Limb

3

6

12

Doubling

x2 x2 x2 x2 x2



x2 x2 x2 x2 x2



x2 x2 x2 x2 x2



→ 3 x 2^5

→ 3 x 2^6

→ 3 x 2^7



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<https://www.flickr.com/photos/cafuego/39512218381>

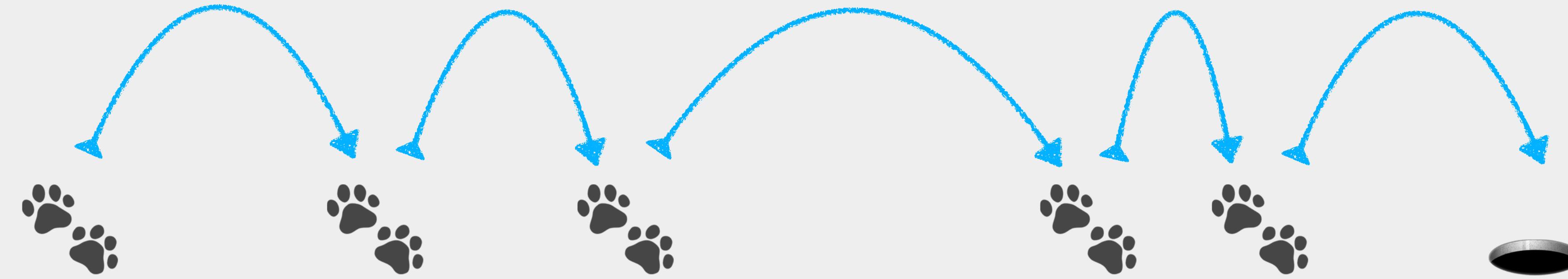


The last bits

CC-BY-SA 2.0

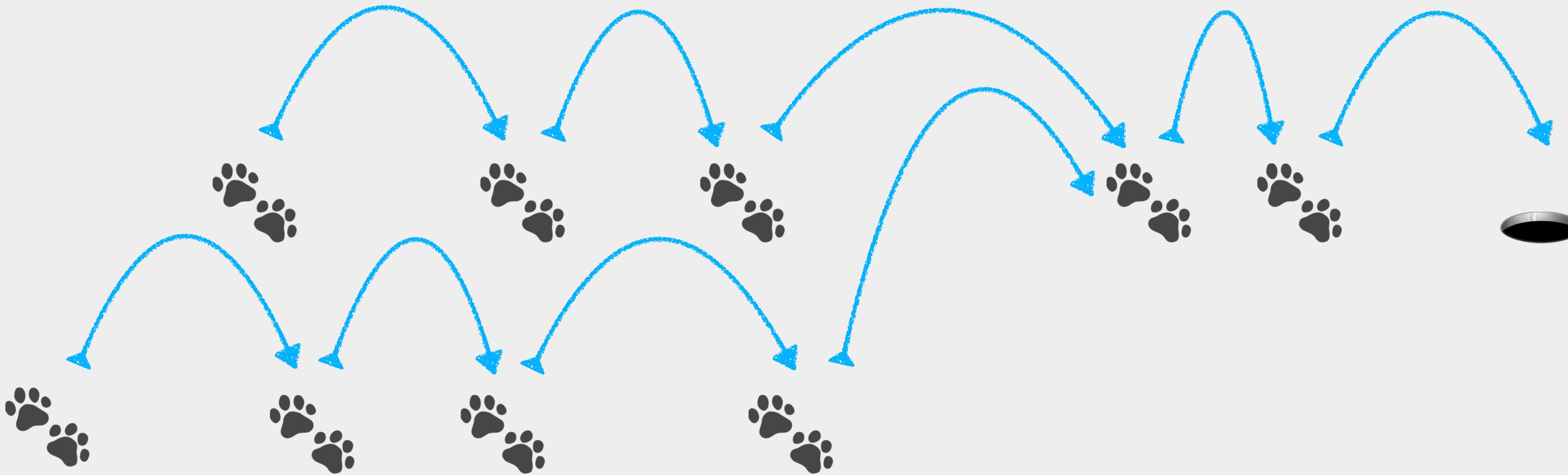
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/cafuego/39512218381>

Kangaroo jumps depend from the terrain at the start point.



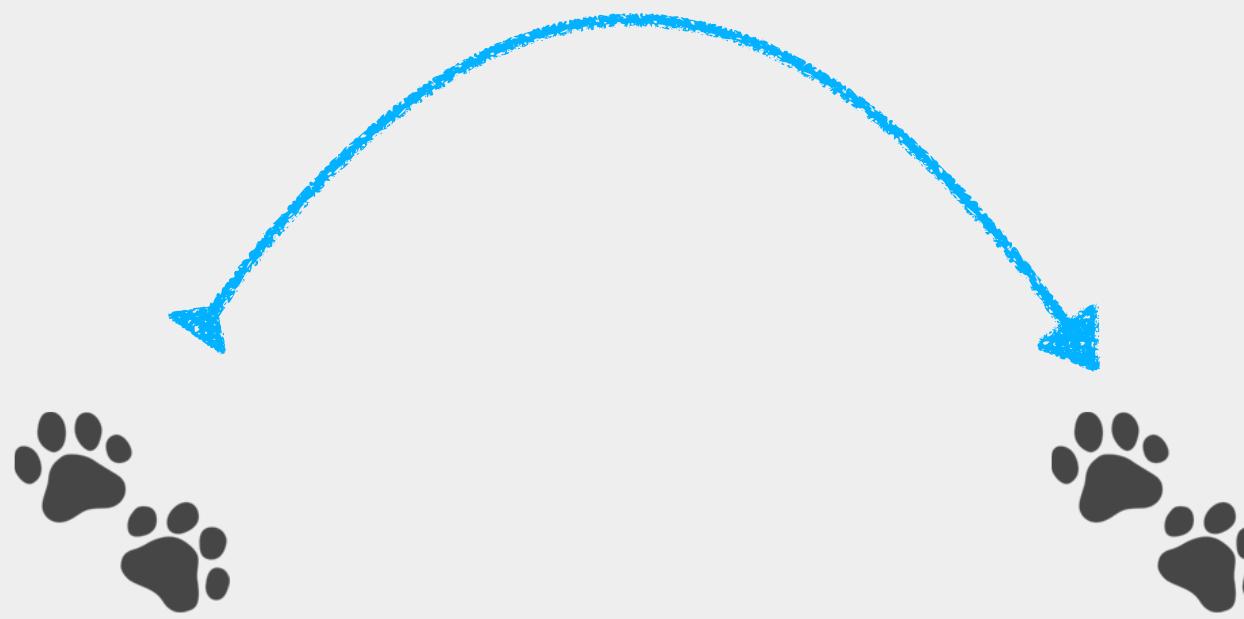
Let a tracked kangaroo loose. Place a trap at the end.

Kangaroo jumps depend from the terrain at the start point.



If the wild kangaroo intersects the path at any point, it ends up in the trap.

Back to elliptic curves.



A jump is $Q_{N+1} = Q_N + H(Q_N)$ where H is a hash.

Same starting point, same jump.

You run from a known starting point, then from dG .

If you collide, you traceback to d !

A target

- JSON Object Signing and Encryption, JOSE (JWT)
- ECDH-ES public key algorithm
- go-jose and Go 1.8.1
- Check if the service successfully decrypts payload

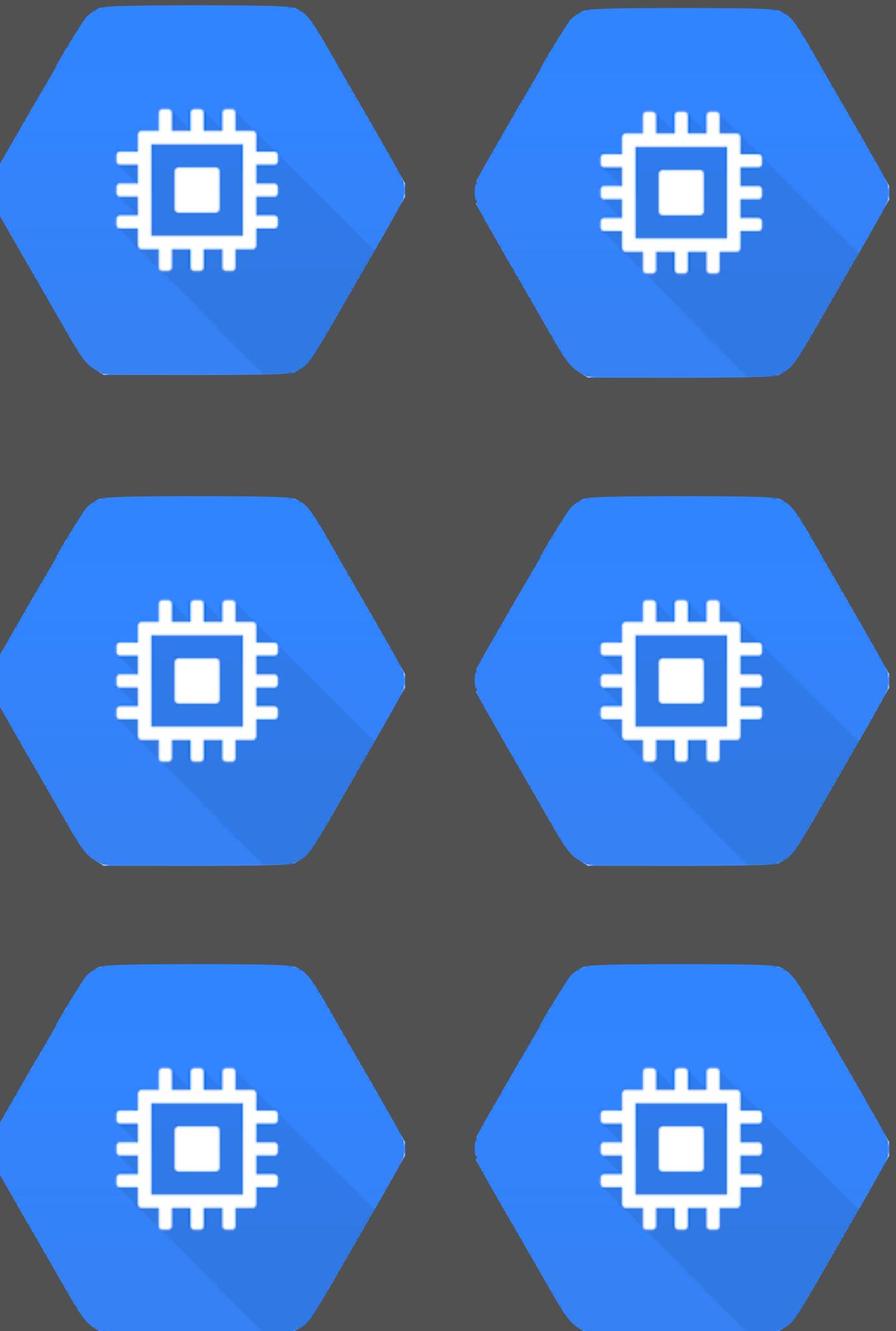
Spot instance infrastructure

Sage
dispatcher

/work



/result



Figures!

- Each key: \sim 52 limbs, modulo the kangaroo
- Each limb: \sim 16 points on average
- Each point: \sim 2^{26} candidate points
- $(2^{26} * 16)$ candidate points: \sim 85 CPU hours
- Total: \sim 4,400 CPU hours / \sim \$35 on the 

Demo



 root@paris: ~ — ssh paris — 113×29

Assembly Policy

▶ Pages 142

This document describes when and how to add assembly code to routines in the Go-maintained packages. This document is a work in progress.

In general, the rules are:

- We prefer portable Go, not assembly. Code in assembly means (N packages * M architectures) to maintain, rather than just N packages.
- Minimize use of assembly. We'd rather have a small amount of assembly for a 50% speedup rather than twice as much assembly for a 55% speedup. Explain the decision to place the assembly/Go boundary where it is in the commit message, and support it with benchmarks.
- Explain the root causes in code comments or commit messages. What changes in the compiler and standard library would allow you to replace this assembly with Go? (New intrinsics, SSA pattern matching, other optimizations.)
- Make your assembly easy to review; ideally, auto-generate it using a simpler Go program. Comment it well.
- Test it well. The bar for new assembly code is high; it needs commensurate test coverage. Existing high-level tests for Go implementations are often inadequate for hundreds of lines of assembly. Test subroutines individually. Fuzz the assembly implementation against the Go implementation.

Future directions

- If possible, port existing reviewed implementations. A tool should make it easy to review diffs from decompiler output. Consider the license implications.



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Cryptopals #66

<https://toadstyle.org/cryptopals/66.txt>



Sean Devlin

@spdevlin

leave the limbs you've lost!

they belong to me and [@FiloSottile](#) now.



8:05 PM - 26 Dec 2017

Thank you!

No bug is small enough.

Sean Devlin

[@spdevlin](#)

Filippo Valsorda

[@FiloSottile](#)

filippo@golang.org