



NTNU

Norwegian University of
Science and Technology

RANDOMNESS 2

TTM4205 – Lecture 3

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29.08.2023

Contents

Who am I?

Elliptic Curves

ECDSA

Breaking ECDSA

Breaking (Bad) ECDSA in practice

Interesting Literature

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Caroline Sandsbråten

- ▶ 2nd year PhD student at IIK
- ▶ Tjerand is my PhD supervisor
- ▶ Researching lattice-based PQC
- ▶ I finished KomTek in 2022, thesis on ECC
- ▶ I volunteer at Samfundet. Previously in Fotogjengen, currently in ITK.

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Elliptic Curves

Definitions

- ▶ (Elliptic Curves) Let K be a field. An elliptic curve over K is a non-singular cubic curve whose points satisfy the equation

$$Ax^3 + Bx^2y + Cxy^2 + Dy^3 + Ex^2 + Fxy + Gy^2 + Hx + Iy + J = 0.$$

Elliptic Curves

Definitions

- ▶ (Elliptic Curves) Let K be a field. An elliptic curve over K is a non-singular cubic curve whose points satisfy the equation
$$Ax^3 + Bx^2y + Cxy^2 + Dy^3 + Ex^2 + Fxy + Gy^2 + Hx + Iy + J = 0.$$
- ▶ (Elliptic Curves over \mathbb{F}_p) Let \mathbb{F}_p , where $p \neq 2, p \neq 3$ be a finite field. An elliptic curve over \mathbb{F}_p is a non-singular cubic curve whose points satisfy the equation $y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$, and the non-singular condition $4A^3 + 27B^2 \neq 0$.

Why Elliptic Curves?

Hard problems

- ▶ (DLP) Let p be a prime, and let a, b be integers such that $a \bmod p \neq 0$ and $b \bmod p \neq 0$. Assume there exists an integer x such that $a^x \equiv b \pmod{p}$. The DLP is then to find x such that $a^x \equiv b \pmod{p}$. More generally, we have the following. Let G be any multiplicative group, and let $a, b \in G$. Assume that $a^x = b$ for some integer x . The DLP is then to find x such that the above equation is satisfied.

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- ▶ Using Elliptic Curves, the same problems becomes the ECDLP:
- ▶ (ECDLP) Let $P_1, P_2 \in E(\mathbb{F}_p)$, where $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$ is an elliptic curve over a finite field \mathbb{F}_p and p is a prime, and P_1 , and P_2 is points on the elliptic curve $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$. The ECDLP is then to find an integer x satisfying the equation $xP_1 = P_2$.

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ECDSA Signature Algorithm

(Input): Message m , private key α , the elliptic curve $E(\mathbb{F})$, and the domain parameters, G , and p .

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(Algorithm):

$$h \leftarrow \text{hash}(m)$$

$$k \leftarrow \text{random}(0, n)$$

$$(x, y) \leftarrow kG$$

$$r \leftarrow x \bmod n$$

$$s \leftarrow k^{-1} \cdot (h + r \cdot \alpha) \bmod p$$

return r, s

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return r, s

- ▶ What would happen if k is not random?

ECDSA Signature Verification

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(Output): Boolean value. True if the signature is verified as being correct, False if not.

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(Input): Message m , public key Q , the elliptic curve E , and domain parameters of the elliptic curve G , and p .

(Output): Boolean value. True if the signature is verified as being correct, False if not.

(Algorithm):

if $Q = O$ or Q is not on E **then**
 return False

end if

$h \leftarrow \text{hash}(m)$

$u_1 \leftarrow h \cdot s^{-1} \pmod p$

$u_2 \leftarrow r \cdot s^{-1} \pmod p$

$(x, y) \leftarrow u_1 \cdot G + u_2 \cdot Q$

if $(x, y) = O$ **then**
 return False

end if

if $r \equiv x \pmod p$ **then**
 return True

end if

return False

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What mistakes do we see in practice?

- ▶ Using a hash as a nonce

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What mistakes do we see in practice?

- ▶ Using a hash as a nonce
- ▶ "Smart" software made to trick people
- ▶ People trying and failing to do everything "by hand"
- ▶ And more maybe?

Two methods

- ▶ One utilizing Fourier Analysis (Read about it here: <https://eprint.iacr.org/2020/615>)

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- ▶ One utilizing the Hidden Number Problem and lattice basis reduction

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- ▶ One utilizing the Hidden Number Problem and lattice basis reduction
- ▶ Today: The Hidden Number Problem (HNP)

Definition

Let $B = [b_1, \dots, b_k] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \cdot k}$ be a linearly independent set in \mathbb{R}^n . The lattice $L(B)$ generated by matrix B is the set of all linear combinations of the columns of B with integer coefficients. B is thus a basis for lattice $L(B)$.

$$L(B) = \left\{ Bx : x \in \mathbb{Z}^k \right\} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k x_i \cdot b_i : x_i \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

Lattice Problems

Definition (Shortest Vector Problem.)

Given a lattice L , find a vector $v \in L \setminus \{0\}$ such that $\|v\| \leq \|u_i\| \forall u_i \in L \setminus \{0\}$

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Definition (Closest Vector Problem.)

Given a lattice L , and a vector u , find the lattice vector v such that $\|u - v\| \leq \|u - v_i\|, \forall v_i \in L$.

Solving Lattice Problems

1. The Lenstra-Lenstra-Lovász Algorithm (LLL)

Solving Lattice Problems

1. The Lenstra-Lenstra-Lovász Algorithm (LLL)
2. The Block Korkine-Zolotarev Algorithm (BKZ)

The Hidden Number Problem (HNP)

Adversary is given d pairs of integers $\{(t_i, u_i)\}_{i=1}^d$

Such that $t_i x - u_i \pmod p = b_i$ (1)

Where $|b_i| < B$, for some $B < p$

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Lets try our attack

Lets write some code! (or just look at it)

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Biased Nonce Sense: Lattice Attacks against Weak ECDSA Signatures in Cryptocurrencies

Links

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2019/023>

Authors

- ▶ Joachim Breitner
- ▶ Nadia Heninger

The curious case of the half-half Bitcoin ECDSA nonces

Links

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2023/841>

Authors

- ▶ Dylan Rowe
- ▶ Joachim Breitner
- ▶ Nadia Heninger

Fast Practical Lattice Reduction through Iterated Compression

Links

Paper: <https://eprint.iacr.org/2023/237>

Implementation: <https://github.com/keeganryan/flatter>

Authors

- ▶ Keegan Ryan
- ▶ Nadia Heninger

Books

- ▶ Elliptic Curves: Number Theory and Cryptography

<https://people.cs.nctu.edu.tw/~rjchen/ECC2012S/Elliptic%20Curves%20Number%20Theory%20And%20Cryptography%20n.pdf>

- ▶ Bitcoin and Cryptocurrency Technologies

<https://bitcoinbook.cs.princeton.edu/>