

# Cryptanalysis and Improvement of a Directed Digital Signature Scheme Using Non-interactive Public-key

Jia-Rong Sun<sup>1</sup>, Shu-Chen Lin<sup>1</sup>, and Min-Shiang Hwang<sup>1,2</sup>

(Corresponding author: Min-Shiang Hwang)

*Department of Computer Science and Information Engineering, Asia University, Taiwan, ROC.<sup>1</sup>*

*Department of Medical Research, China Medical University Hospital, China Medical University<sup>2</sup>*

**ABSTRACT:** Tseng et al. modified a non-interactive public-key distribution system and also proposed several applications based on the Maurer and Yacobi scheme. One of their applications, a directed digital signature scheme, only uses signer's identity to verify the signature. Any pair of users neither interacts to each other nor access to the public files of the system. However, their scheme cannot prevent the forgery attack. Each user can forge the signature for any message successfully and declare that is generated by the other user. In this paper, we also propose a secure directed digital signature scheme using non-interactive public-key.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In 1984, Shamir (Shamir, 1984) proposed the idea that let each user's identification information (e.g., name, address, and E-mail address) be his/her public key in a public key cryptosystem. Any pair of users has the ability to verify the signature without exchanging secret and public keys, without keeping key directories, and without using the services of a third party (Hwang et al. 2014, Hwang et al. 2006). Base on Shamir's identity-based concept, many systems have been proposed that named identity-based public-key systems (Hwang & Chen, 1994, Koyama & Ohta, 1987, Tsujii & Itoh, 1989).

Most of the proposed schemes, the receiver must identify himself/herself to the trusted authority center and obtain his/her secret key from the trusted authority center. In other words, the user's ID is not really his/her identification information. Furthermore, the trusted authority center determines the secrets of all users.

In 1991, Maurer and Yacobi proposed an identity-based non-interactive public key distribution system based on a novel trapdoor one-way function of exponentiation modulo a composite number. Their latest version is released in 1996 (Maurer & Yacobi, 1996). The signature of any user is verified by his/her identity information without executing an interactive public key authentication. They adopted the squaring and the Jacobi symbol methods to guarantee that each identity number corresponds to his/her identity information. In their scheme, there are no public keys, certificates and other information except the identity of each user. Many ID-based schemes had been proposed (Awasthi & Lal, 2007, Choo, 2005, Farash & Attari, 2014, He et al. 2013, Kar,

2013, Li et al. 2006, Li et al. 2007, Mohaisen et al. 2009, Quan et al. 2013, Xu et al. 2009, Zhao & Zhang, 2011, Zhao, 2008).

There are many types of digital signature schemes (DSS): Directed DSS (Lu & Cao 2006, Tseng & Jan, 1998), Ring DSS (Awasthi & Lal 2007, Liu & Wong 2008, Qin, et al. 2014, Xiong, et al. 2011, Zheng, et al. 2007), Threshold DSS (Chang, et al. 2004, Chang, et al. 2005, Hwang & Chang 2005, Mashhadi 2013, Tzeng, et al. 2004, Xiong, et al. 2010, Yang, et al. 2004), Blind DSS (Chakraborty & Mehta 2012, Hwang, et al. 2002, Hwang, et al. 2003, Lee, et al. 2003, Moldovyan 2011, Moldovyan & Moldovyan 2010), Proxy DSS (Ma, et al. 2013, Mashhadi 2012, Tian & Huang 2012), Identity-based DSS (Kar 2014, Wang, et al. 2012), Certificateless DSS (He 2009, Wang, et al. 2009, Zhou, et al. 2014).

Tseng et al. (Tseng & Jan, 1998) improved the squaring method based on the Maurer and Yacobi scheme and also proposed a directed signature scheme, a user identification scheme and a conference key distribution system. Nevertheless, in this article, we discuss the security of their directed signature scheme and propose an improved scheme.

The remainder of our paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we briefly review Tseng et al.'s directed digital signature scheme. An attack on Tseng et al.'s directed digital signature scheme is proposed in Section 3. In Section 4, we propose a secure directed digital signature scheme. Finally, we give a brief conclusion in Section 5.

## 2 REVIEW OF TSENG ET AL.'S SCHEME

Tseng et al. proposed a directed digital signature scheme that only the specified receiver can verify the signature. The scheme consists of three phases: system initialization, user registration, and the directed digital signature phases. The three phases are described in the following.

**System Initialization Phase:** The trusted authority generates system parameters as follows:  $N$  denotes the product of four primes  $p_j$  which are between 60 and 70 decimal digits, where the numbers  $(p_j-1)$  are odd and pair-wise relatively prime;  $e$  denotes an integer in  $Z_{\varphi(N)}^*$  and the secret value  $d$  is satisfied the equation  $e \cdot d \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(N)}$ .

**User Registration Phase:** When a user  $U_A$  who wants to join the system, he/she presents his/her unique identity  $ID_A$ . The trusted authority randomly chooses a secret number  $t$  from  $Z_{\varphi(N)}^*$ , where  $\varphi$  is the Euler's totient function. Then, the trusted authority computes  $s_A$  to  $U_A$  in secret, where  $g$  is a primitive element in  $GF(p_j)$ ,  $v \equiv t^{-1} \pmod{\varphi(N)}$ . A one-way function,  $h(\cdot)$ , is published by the trusted authority.

$$s_A \equiv e \cdot t \cdot \log_g (ID_A^2) \pmod{\varphi(N)} \quad (1)$$

After generating the above parameters, the trusted authority publishes  $\{N, g, e, h(\cdot)\}$  and keeps  $\{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, t, v, d\}$  secret. The legal user,  $U_A$  publishes  $\{ID_A\}$  and keeps  $\{s_A\}$  secret.

**The Directed Digital Signature Phase:** Assume the legal user  $U_A$  wants to sign a message  $M$  and send it to the specific receiver  $U_B$ . The signature generating procedure is as follows. First of all,  $U_A$  chooses a random integer  $k$  in  $Z_N^*$  and computes the signature  $(r, s)$  for message  $M$ , where

$$r = g^{e \cdot k} \pmod{N} \quad (2)$$

$$s = (ID_B^2)^{s_A \cdot h(M, r)} \cdot g^k \pmod{N} \quad (3)$$

Secondly,  $U_A$  sends  $(M, r, s)$  to  $U_B$ . Upon receiving  $(M, r, s)$ ,  $U_B$  can verify the signature of message  $M$  by the following equation:

$$s^e = (ID_A^2)^{e \cdot s_B \cdot h(M, r)} \cdot r \pmod{N} \quad (4)$$

If the above verified equation holds, the signature for message  $M$  by  $U_A$  is verified. The specific verifier only verify the validity of signature for message  $M$  by the unique identity of the signer.

## 3 ATTACK ON TSENG ET AL.'S SCHEME

In this section, we will show that Tseng et al.'s directed digital signature scheme cannot withstand the forgery attack. Assume  $U_A$  generates the signature  $(r, s)$  for the message  $M$  and sends it to a specified receiver  $U_B$ . In general, the values  $\{M, r, s\}$  is only generated by  $U_A$ . However, in their scheme, the user

$U_B$  can forge the signature  $(r', s')$  for the sage  $M'$  and declare that the signature  $(r', s')$  is generated by the  $U_A$ . The  $U_B$  forges signature  $(r', s')$  as follows:

Step1. Choose a random integer  $k'$  in  $Z_N^*$

Step2. Compute the signature  $(r', s')$  for message  $M'$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} r' &= g^{e \cdot k'} \pmod{N} \\ s' &= (ID_A^{s_B})^{2 \cdot h(M', r')} \cdot g^{k'} \pmod{N} \end{aligned}$$

The signature  $(r', s')$  for message  $M'$  is verified correctly as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (s')^e &= (ID_A^2)^{e \cdot s_B \cdot h(M', r')} \cdot g^{k'} \pmod{N} \\ &= ((ID_A^{s_B})^{2 \cdot h(M', r')}) \cdot g^{k'} \pmod{N} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $U_B$  can forge the signature for any message and declare the signature is generated by  $U_A$ . In other words, the user can forge the signature and declare that is generated by the other user. The problem is that any user  $U_A$  or  $U_B$ , can obtain  $(ID_B^2)^{s_A}$  and  $(ID_A^2)^{s_B}$  respectively by the following equation:

$$(ID_A^2)^{s_B} = g^{d \cdot v \cdot s_A \cdot s_B} = (ID_B^2)^{s_A} \quad (5)$$

## 4 THE PROPOSED SCHEME

There are also three phases in the proposed scheme: system initialization, user registration, and the directed digital signature phases. The System Initialization Phase and User Registration Phase of the proposed scheme are the same as in Tseng et al.'s Scheme (Tseng & Jan, 1998).

**The Directed Digital Signature Phase:** Assume the legal user  $U_A$  wants to sign a message  $M$  and send it to the specific receiver  $U_B$ . The signature generating procedure is as follows. First of all,  $U_A$  chooses a random integer  $k$  in  $Z_N^*$  and computes the signature  $(r, s)$  for message  $M$ , where

$$r = g^k \pmod{N} \quad (6)$$

$$s = (ID_B^2)^{s_A \cdot h(M, r)} \cdot g^{d \cdot k} \pmod{N} \quad (7)$$

Secondly,  $U_A$  sends  $(M, r, s)$  to  $U_B$ . Upon receiving  $(M, r, s)$ ,  $U_B$  can verify the signature of message  $M$  by the following equation:

$$s^e = (ID_A^2)^{e \cdot s_B \cdot h(M, r)} \cdot r \pmod{N} \quad (8)$$

If the above verified equation holds, the signature for message  $M$  by  $U_A$  is verified. The specific verifier only verify the validity of signature for message  $M$  by the unique identity of the signer.

The proposed scheme is secure to against forging attack.  $U_B$  cannot forge the signature for any message and declare the signature is generated by  $U_A$ . The key point is that any user,  $U_B$ , cannot obtain the signature

$s$  in Equation (7) because of  $U_B$  does not know the  $U_A$ 's secret value  $d$ .

## 5 CONCLUSION

We have shown that there is a leak in Tseng et al.'s directed digital signature scheme. Their scheme cannot withstand the forgery attack. Hence, anyone can forge the signature for any message and declare that is sent from a specific user. We also proposed a secure directed digital signature scheme using non-interactive public-key.

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