

# A New Secure Forward Digital Signatures based on Forecasting and Statistical Entropy of Key Exposures

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**Abstract:** A new method of forward digital signatures is proposed in this paper. All of the previous forward digital signatures depend on changing the private key periodically but they keep the public key. The proposed system will change both private keys and public keys that can be generated only by authorized users to enhance the authenticity of users. Another important proposal is that the expiration of that public key depends on the length of the document so the sender must compute the expired time of his/her document depending on its length. This method also can be used to change the private key depending on the expired date of the document but the public key is still fixed. In order to make this digital signature more efficient, the system must change the private keys in terms of their critical times that indicate the period of exposure of the keys by different attacks types. So the ability to change these keys do not depend on fixed periods as in most forward digital signatures but also depend on these critical times and the entropy of the information of the keys.

**Keywords:** Forward Digital Signature, Entropy, K-nearest Algorithm, Agreement.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The concept of the forward security for all digital signatures is introduced to deal with an important problem which is the key exposure. To enhance digital signature the forward concept divides the whole time into discrete time periods. In the forward digital signatures, different secret keys are used to sign the messages in different time periods, while the public key is unchanged during the whole lifetime. The first forward signature was proposed by Anderson [1]. Then it formalized by Bellare and Miner [2]. Bellare and Miner also gave the definition of forward-secure signature scheme and its security. After these efforts, some of forward secure signatures schemes [3, 4, 5,6] were proposed. These last schemes had different trade-offs among key size, signing time and update time. These schemes in [5] had the ability to provide optimal signing and verifying algorithms at the expense of slower key update. Another scheme [6] could achieve fast key update but had slower signing and verifying algorithms. Malkin et al. [7] proposed generic forward-secure signatures with an unbounded number of time periods. Another construction which is Hierarchical ID-based cryptography could be used to build forward-secure signature schemes. Based on the hierarchical ID-based cryptography [8], some forward-secure signature scheme using bilinear maps were proposed in [9, 10, and 11]. Some proposals such as of Boyen et al. presented a forward-secure signature with untrusted update [12] in which the secret key is additionally protected by an extra secret that is possibly derived from a password and key update procedure can be completed by the encrypted version of signing key. Libert et al. [13] gave generic

constructions of forward-secure signatures in untrusted update environments.

Forward-secure symmetric-key encryption was studied in [14] and forward-secure public key encryption was also studied in [15]. Forward-secure threshold signatures were researched in [16, 17, 18, 19]. Key-insulation [20, 12, 22, 23] and intrusion-resilient cryptography [24, 25, 26 27] can achieve a higher level of security than forward-secure cryptography. However, these methods were not able to apply to many scenarios.

Key-insulated signature schemes [24, 25] and intrusion-resilient signature schemes [26, 27] can achieve a higher level of security. However, one weakness of these schemes is that they require an additional device to communicate with signer, which makes them unable to be applied to many scenarios. Boyen et al. introduced the concept of forward-secure signature with untrusted update and proposed the first concrete scheme in [28]. In their scheme, the signing key is additionally protected by a second factor. The second factor in practice is a password provided by the user, which is used to encrypt the signing key. Key update procedure can be completed by the encrypted version of signing key; therefore, the password only comes into play for signing messages. They also left open the problem of adding untrusted update to other existing forward-secure signature schemes. Subsequently, Libert et al. [29] gave generic constructions of forward-secure signatures in untrusted update environments by expanding MMM construction [30]. However, their method is not for designing a concrete scheme and has

great limitations because it needs two signatures and has a lot of additional expenses during setup and key generation. Therefore, how to construct more efficient concrete forward-secure signature schemes with untrusted update is worth researching.

Shannon entropy  $(p) := -\sum p_i \lg p_i$ , is often considered as a measure of the number of bits of uncertainty associated with a source which produces symbol  $i$  with probability  $p_i$ , where  $\lg = \log_2$ . This use, which began with Shannon's work on Information Theory, has become widespread in cryptology where it is often used outside its original context. For example, suppose the symbol  $i$  is a key for some cipher and is chosen with distribution  $p_i$ . Key guessing attacks are discussed in [31].

We can measure how bad a key distribution is by calculating its entropy. This number  $E$  is the number of real bits of information of the key: a cryptanalyst will typically happen across the key with in  $2^E$  guesses.  $E$  is defined as the sum of  $-\sum p_k \log_2 p_k$ , where  $p_k$  is the probability of key  $K$ .

## II. RELATED WORKS

In [32], a new scheme was proposed which studied the continuously changing of private keys and showed that the attacker could not fake the older signature even if the private key is leaked out in some period of time. In this way this scheme makes sure of the security of signature of former phases. The validity of the new scheme is proved and the security is analysed in this paper.

A paper in [33] the authors proposed a technique to enhance the security of forward digital signature. In this enhancement scheme the private key and the public key changes at random intervals of time, if there is a communication between two users and if there is no communication then the keys will not be changed. By using this enhancement scheme the attacker cannot get the older or future signatures even if the private key is compromised. This scheme is more secure and it is proved practically.

Due to forward-secure-digital-signature's capability of effectively reducing loss caused by exposure of secret keys and significant in-application benefits of blind signature aiming at protecting senders' privacy, they have been hot spots for decades in the field of cryptography. In [34] the authors proposed an integration of forward secure digital signature and blind signature to resist forging attack.

Another paper showed some insecurity in Xu's forward secure multi-proxy signature scheme. There are two kinds of attacks on this scheme:

- (1) anyone can forge some certain messages which to be sign and cannot detect by the signature verifier.
- (2) This scheme can't resist the dishonest signer forgery attack by forging its own public key. After that, the paper proposed two new forward-secure multi-proxy signature schemes based on discrete logarithm problem and quadratic residues. [35].

In most forward-secure signature constructions, a program that updates a user's private signing key must have full access to the private key. Unfortunately, these schemes are incompatible with several security architectures including where the private key is encrypted under a user password as a "second factor" of security, in case the private key storage is corrupted, but the password is not. The authors in [36] introduced the concept of forward-secure signatures with untrusted update, where the key update can be performed on an encrypted version of the key.

## III. PROPOSED SYSTEM

In this system, we design a strong forward digital signature (FDS) that changes both the private keys ( $D_s$ ) and public keys ( $E_s$ ). The private key will be changed according to a critical time (CT) which indicates the amount of period before espousing the key. The public key will be changed depending on two parameters: the length of the message sent ( $L$ ) and the amount of information included within that message, i.e. entropy ( $H(x)$ ) of this message. For this reason, the messages are sent with variable lengths.

To demonstrate the digital signature, the sender must send the message ( $M_1$ ) to the receiver by encrypting the  $M_1$  with length ( $L_1$ ) by his/her private key ( $D_1$ ) for the first time ( $T_1$ ). So the structure of the first forward digital signature will be as follows:

$FDS_1 = M_1^{D_1} \bmod n \parallel L_1 \parallel T_1$ , where  $n$  is the product of two large prime numbers  $p$  and  $q$  ( $n=p*q$ ). Suppose that the forecasting or critical time for this message will be  $CT_1$ , so the next forward digital signature will be in time of  $T_2 = T_1 + CT_1$  and the sender must extract another private key by choosing the next two neighbours of previous  $p$  and  $q$  to be  $p_1$  and  $q_1$  and compute the next private key as following :

$$\Theta(n) = (p_1 - 1)(q_1 - 1)$$

$$D_2 = E^{-1} \bmod \Theta(n)$$

The sender now encrypts the next variable length message ( $M_2$ ) as follows:

$$FDS_2 = M_2^{D_2} \bmod n \parallel L_2 \parallel T_2$$

To change the public key ( $E$ ) we must know the length ( $L$ ) of the sent message or the ciphertext which represents the  $M_i^{D_i} \bmod n$  in each  $FDS_i$  and the amount of information of that piece of  $FDS_i$  which represents the entropy ( $H(x_i)$ ). So the new public key will take the decision gained from these two parameters and the receiver can choose the nearest one in the pool of available public keys.

In order to choose a new public key from a pool of public keys, we use the proper distance ( $d$ ) from the old public key by using the  $K$ -nearest neighbour one. The pool of public keys is represented by the figure 1 with 3 alternative public key.

So  $K$ -nearest = Agreement ( $d_i$ ), where the distance  $d_i$  will be chosen according to an agreement among all authorized users rather than it is calculated according to the traditional  $k$ -nearest neighbour algorithm because agreement will provide more security.

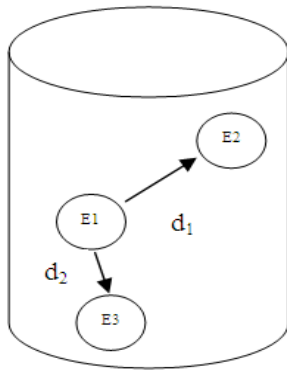


Fig.1. A Pool of Nearest Subsequent Public Keys.

Algorithm

Let D be the set of subsequent private keys;  
 $D = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n\}$ .  
 Let E be the pool of public keys associated with private keys.  
 Let  $FDS_i$  be the significant forward digital signature.  
 Let  $L_i$  be the length of message  $M_i$   
 Let  $T_i$  be the time of each stage of changing the private key  $D_i$   
 Let  $CT_i$  is the critical time needed to change the subsequent private keys  
 Let  $H(x_i)$  be the entropy of message  $M_i$

Sender Operation	Receiver Operation
Choose two large prime numbers p and q. Compute $n = p * q$ Compute $\phi(n) = (p-1)(q-1)$ for i=1 to m $FDS_i = M_i^{D_i} \text{ mod } n \parallel L_i \parallel CT_i$ $CT_{i+1} = T_i + CT_i$	for j=1 to k $E_j = K - \text{nearest}(E_i \parallel L_i \parallel H(x_i))$

IV. RESULTS

Table 1 illustrates some of the results of this proposed system.

TABLE 1: Initial Information of Private and Public Keys

M (With Binary Representation and the Length of the message)	p	q	n	$\phi(n)$	Public key	Private Key
120=1111000 L=3	3	11	$3 * 11 = 33$	$2 * 10 = 20$	7	3
14530=11100011000010 L=5	7	13	$7 * 13 = 91$	$6 * 12 = 72$	5	29
1317226=101000001100101101010 L=9	5	11	$5 * 11 = 55$	$4 * 10 = 40$	27	37
6965774489=110011111001100010100100010011001 L=16	5	11	$5 * 11 = 55$	$4 * 10 = 40$	3	7
5978238=10110110011100100111110 L=6	2	31	$29 * 31 = 899$	$28 * 30 = 840$	11	611

The next step is to calculate the nearest public keys for each item in table 1. In order to perform this task we must provide information about each message. In the binary representation of each message we take the number of one's and the number of zero's to include them as a part of calculation of the entropy contained in each message.

The new public key (Enew) is calculated as follows:  
 For simplicity suppose the numbers of one's is O, the numbers of zero's is Z and the total binary numbers is T.

$$E_{new} = E_{old} + L + h(x)$$

Where  $E_{old}$  is the previous public key, L is the length of the message and  $h(x)$  is the entropy which is calculated as follows;

$h(x) = -(O * \text{Round}(\log_2 \text{ probability of O}) + Z * (\text{Round}(\log_2 \text{ probability of Z})))$ . According to these equations and the elements of table 1, the following calculations are illustrated as follows:

For  $m=120$ ,  $L=3$ , the binary representation is 1111000, and number of one's is 4 so the first new public key ( $E1_{new}$ ) is:

$$\begin{aligned} E1_{new} &= E1_{old} + L + h(x) \\ &= 7 + 3 - (4 \log_2 4 / 7 + 3 \log_2 3 / 7) \\ &= 10 - (-7) = 17 \end{aligned}$$

Then we check this new public key if it satisfies the public keys conditions which it must be between 1 and  $\phi(n)$  and the greatest common divisor (GCD) of the new public key and  $\phi(n)$  is 1. In this case 17 satisfies the first condition in that  $(1 < 17 < 20)$ , and the GCD (17, 20) is 1 so we take it as a new public key. If the GCD of the public key is not 1 so we choose the nearest public key in either the left side or the right side of that new public key.

After choosing the new public key, the new private key from this public key must be calculated according to the function which states that the private key is the inverse of public key and  $\phi(n)$ ;  $d = \text{inv}(E, \phi(n))$ . In this case  $d = \text{inv}(17, 20) = 13$ . So we get both a new public key (17) and a new private key  $d=13$ . We can apply the above steps to get the other public and private keys for each elements of table 1 as shown in table 2.

TABLE 2: Generation of New Public and Private Keys

Old public keys	No. of one's in the message	$\phi(n)$	Length (L)	$\text{Round}(H(x)) = -(O \log_2 O / T + Z \log_2 Z / T)$	The new public key	Nearest Public key = $\text{GCD}(e, \phi(n)=1)$	The new Private keys
7	4	20	3	$-(4 \log_2 4 / 7 + 3 \log_2 3 / 7) \approx -7 = 7$	$7 + 3 + 7 = 17$	17	13
5	6	72	5	$-(6 \log_2 6 / 14 + 8 \log_2 2 / 14) \approx -13 = 13$	$5 + 5 + 13 = 23$	23	5
27	9	40	7	$-(9 \log_2 9 / 21 + 12 \log_2 12 / 21) \approx -20 = 20$	$27 + 7 + 20 = 34$	37	13
3	16	40	10	$-(16 \log_2 16 / 33 + 17 \log_2 17 / 33) \approx -32 = 32$	$3 + 10 + 32 = 45$	47	23
11	13	40	7	$-(13 \log_2 13 / 22 + 9 \log_2 9 / 22) \approx -40 = 40$	$11 + 7 + 40 = 58$	59	19

The new date of using the next private keys is calculated as the length of the message plus the number of zero's in the binary representation of each message. Note: we can use other parameters to calculate the next private keys depending on the agreement of participants in the communication. So if we suppose the first date of using the initial private key is 22 March 2015 so the next dates of each of the above private keys listed in table 2 is illustrated in table 3: Note: for initial date the period is zero.

The length and number of zero's in each element can be used to calculate the date of using the next date of that element.

Table 3 illustrates the complete results of how to get the periods of using the subsequent private keys.

TABLE 3: Periods of Subsequent Private keys

L	No.of zeros	Period	Next date
3	3	3+3=6	28 March 2015
5	8	5+8=13	6 April 2015
7	12	7+12=19	25 April 2015
10	17	10+17=27	22 May 2015

V. CONCLUSION

This proposed system enhances the security of forward digital signatures. First enhancement is that in addition to change the private keys to prevent against different attacks, this system also changes the public keys at the receiver side. Secondly, the procedure of changing the private keys do not depend on fixed periods but the changing depends on different secure parameters. The generation of public keys depends on two secure factors. First factor is the k-nearest of each public key relative to the next one stored in a secure pool of public keys. The second secure factor is that the agreement among participants about the distance that separates different public keys. So this procedure shows the first modification to the traditional forward digital signatures. The second modification is that the calculation of new public keys depends on different factors such as the length of the message and the amount of information included in each message. If the new public keys satisfies the conditions of correct public keys then it is accepted , otherwise the public key is generated using the k-nearest neighbour either left or right sides of the new calculated public keys. Finally, the periods of changing the private keys are not fixed and they depend on different secure parameters related to the properties of each message.

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