



International
Standard

ISO/IEC 23264-2

**Information security — Redaction
of authentic data —**

Part 2:
**Redactable signature schemes
based on asymmetric mechanisms**

*Sécurité de l'information — Rédaction de données
authentifiées —*

*Partie 2: Schémas de signature éditable basés sur des mécanismes
asymétriques*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives or www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs).

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This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 27, *Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 23264 series can be found on the ISO and IEC websites.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html and www.iec.ch/national-committees.

Introduction

This document specifies cryptographic mechanisms to redact authentic data where the redactable attestation scheme is based on asymmetric mechanisms.

Attestation schemes, in particular digital signature schemes or message authentication codes, can be used to provide data integrity and data origin authentication. Redactable attestation can be used to blank out parts, herein called fields, of an attested message without invalidating the attestation on the remaining contents of the message. This redaction process requires a redaction key. The redaction key computationally does not reveal the attestation key, by which schemes can allow for public redactions. Any other modification of the document (e.g. redaction of other message parts, or insertion/modification of any parts) will invalidate the attestation. Schemes can have specific additional security properties, which are described in ISO/IEC 23264-1. The achievable properties for each scheme are stated in this document.

Redactable attestation schemes are a basic building block in many privacy-preserving applications, such as privacy-preserving data sharing or authentication, where a party may decide to forward only necessary information to a receiver, while the latter is still assured that the received information was previously attested, for example, by a public authority.

The objective of the ISO/IEC 23264 series is to remedy existing incompatibilities or inconsistently defined properties found in academic literature, and to ease the real-world adoption of this technology. Specifically, the goal of this document is to focus on algorithms that enable the authenticity-preserving redaction of general data structures like sets or ordered lists based on asymmetric cryptography. It adheres to the common terminology and description of cryptographic properties for redactable attestation schemes given in ISO/IEC 23264-1.

The ISO/IEC 23264 series complements ISO/IEC 27038, which specifies the redaction of digital documents without considering the authenticity of the data.

This document contains the following algorithms based on asymmetric cryptography:

- generic construction from signature schemes and hash-functions
- scheme SBZ02-MERSAProd
- scheme BBDFFKMOPPS10
- scheme DPSS15
- scheme MHI06
- scheme MIMSYTI05

Information security — Redaction of authentic data —

Part 2:

Redactable signature schemes based on asymmetric mechanisms

1 Scope

This document specifies cryptographic mechanisms to redact authentic data. The mechanisms described in this document offer different combinations of the security properties defined and described in ISO/IEC 23264-1. For all mechanisms, this document describes the processes for key generation, generating the redactable attestation, carrying out redactions and verifying redactable attestations.

This document contains mechanisms that are based on asymmetric cryptography using three related transformations:

- a public transformation defined by a verification key (verification process for verifying a redactable attestation),
- a private transformation defined by a private attestation key (redactable attestation process for generating a redactable attestation), and
- a third transformation defined by the redaction key (redaction process) allowing to redact authentic information within the constraints set forth during generation of the attestation such that redacted information cannot be reconstructed.

This document contains mechanisms which, after a successful redaction, allow the attestation to remain verifiable using the verification transformation and attest that non-redacted fields of the attested message are unmodified. This document further details that the three transformations have the property whereby it is computationally infeasible to derive the private attestation transformation, given the redaction and or the verification transformation and key(s).

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 23264-1, *Information security — Redaction of authentic data — Part 1: General*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC 23264-1 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

balanced tree

height-balanced tree

tree (3.13) in which the heights of the immediate subtrees of each node differ at most by one

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382:2015, 2121638, modified — notes to entry have been removed.]

3.2

binary tree

ordered *tree* (3.13) in which each node has at most two other nodes that are directly subordinate

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382:2015, 2121636, modified — notes to entry have been removed.]

3.3

balanced binary tree

binary tree (3.2) which is a *balanced tree* (3.1)

3.4

collision-resistant hash-function

hash-function (3.6) satisfying the following property: it is computationally infeasible to find any two distinct inputs which map to the same output

Note 1 to entry: Computational feasibility depends on the specific security requirements and environment (see ISO/IEC 10118-1:2016, Annex C).

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 10118-1:2016, 3.1, modified — reference to ISO/IEC 10118-1:2016, Annex C has been added in the note.]

3.5

hash-code

string of bits which is the output of a *hash-function* (3.6)

Note 1 to entry: The literature on this subject contains a variety of terms that have the same or similar meaning as hash-code. Modification Detection Code, Manipulation Detection Code, digest, hash-result, hash-value and imprint are some examples.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 10118-1:2016, 3.3]

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3.6

hash-function

function which maps strings of bits of variable (but usually upper bounded) length to fixed-length strings of bits, satisfying the following two properties:

- for a given output, it is computationally infeasible to find an input which maps to this output;
- for a given input, it is computationally infeasible to find a second input which maps to the same output

Note 1 to entry: Computational feasibility depends on the specific security requirements and environment. See ISO/IEC 10118-1:2016, Annex C.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 10118-1:2016, 3.4, modified — reference to ISO/IEC 10118-1:2016, Annex C has been added in the note.]

3.7

height

maximum number of nodes in any path leading from the *root node* (3.10) to a *leaf node* (3.8)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382:2015, 2121637, modified — “leaf node” has replaced “terminal node” in the definition; notes to entry have been removed.]

3.8

leaf node

node that has no *subordinate node* (3.11)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382:2015, 2121489, modified — term "leaf node" has replaced the original terms "leaf" and "terminal node".]

3.9

parent node

node to which at least one other node is directly subordinate

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382:2015, 2121488, modified — notes to entry have been removed.]

3.10

root of a tree

root node

node of a *tree* (3.13) that has only *subordinate nodes* (3.11)

3.11

subordinate node

node at the other end of an outgoing arc; a node may have zero, one, or more subordinates

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 9804:1998, 3.6.64]

3.12

subtree

part of a *tree* (3.13) including a node and all its *subordinate nodes* (3.11)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382:2015, 2121634, modified — notes to entry have been removed.]

3.13

tree

data structure containing nodes that are linked together hierarchically by oriented arcs with at most one parent node for each node, and with only one *root node* (3.10)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 2382:2015, 2121633, modified – “by oriented arcs” has been added to the definition; notes to entry have been removed.]

4 Symbols and conventions

4.1 Symbols

Throughout this document, the following symbols are used.

<i>adm</i>	description of redacted or original admissible changes
<i>adm'</i>	description of redacted admissible changes
<i>ak</i>	attestation key
<i>att</i>	redactable or redacted attestation
<i>att'</i>	redacted attestation
<i>m</i>	redacted or original message
<i>m'</i>	redacted message
<i>m₁, ..., m_n</i>	individual field

<i>mod</i>	description of modification instructions
<i>n</i>	number of fields
<i>pk</i>	public verification key used internally by asymmetric signature algorithm or accumulator scheme
<i>rk</i>	redaction key
<i>root</i>	value assigned as content to the node forming the root of a tree
<i>sk</i>	secret signing key used internally by asymmetric signature algorithm or accumulator scheme
<i>tag</i>	string used to mark messages or message fields
<i>vk</i>	verification key
<i>Z</i>	set of one or more domain parameters
Σ	output of a digital signature scheme as defined in ISO/IEC 14888-1
<i>reject, accept</i>	output of a digital signature verification

4.2 Conventions

A triple of message, attestation, and admissible changes is denoted as (m, att, adm) . In the same way a triple of redacted message, a redacted attestation and redacted admissible changes is denoted by (m', att', adm') .

A specific value of a symbol *sym* is denoted as *sym**, or *sym*** in order to differentiate their specific values. An equality is stated using the equals sign =.

EXAMPLE 1 The statement that $m^*=m^{**}$ means that the contents of *m** are equal to the contents of *m***.

The symbol || denotes a concatenation of strings.

When the symbol || is applied to values which are not represented as strings, the values are required to be converted into a string before they are concatenated. See for example Reference [25] for a conversion of an integer into a string.

The symbol $\lfloor a \rfloor$ indicates the largest integer not exceeding *a*, following the definition of the floor function specified in ISO/IEC 15444-1.

EXAMPLE 2 $\lfloor -2,46 \rfloor = -3, \lfloor \frac{1}{3} \rfloor = 0$

The symbol *a* / *b* denotes the result of the division of *a* by *b*.

This document uses set notation and symbols to denote set-like operations:

\setminus	operation <i>set minus</i> , i.e. $A \setminus B$ denotes the contents of set <i>A</i> without contents of set <i>B</i>
\cup	operation <i>set union</i> , i.e. $A \cup B$ denotes all contents from set <i>A</i> together with those of set <i>B</i>
\subseteq	statement <i>sub set or equal</i> , i.e. $A \subseteq B$ denotes that all contents from set <i>A</i> are contained as contents in set <i>B</i>
$ A $	denotes the size of the set <i>A</i> , i.e. the number of elements contained in <i>A</i>
\emptyset	empty set

Where applicable, the output of a hash-function is interpreted as an integer.

5 General

This document adheres to the common terminology and description of cryptographic properties for redactable attestation schemes given in ISO/IEC 23264-1.

Redactable attestation schemes provide data integrity and data origin authentication. While redactable attestation can be used to allow a redactor to blank out parts, herein called fields, of an attested message without invalidating the attestation on the remaining contents of the message, any other modification of the document (e.g. redaction of other message parts, or insertion/modification of any parts) will invalidate the attestation. This redaction process requires a redaction key. The redaction key computationally does not reveal the attestation key, by which schemes can allow for redactions that are either public or by a party other than the attestor. The verification key is cryptographically linked to the attestation key and allows verification of the origin of the attested data.

The schemes can have specific additional security properties, which are described in ISO/IEC 23264-1. The achievable properties for each scheme are stated in this document.

This document describes algorithms that enable the authenticity-preserving redaction of general data structures like sets or ordered lists based on asymmetric cryptography.

This document contains the following algorithms based on asymmetric cryptography:

- Generic construction from signature schemes and hash-functions
- Scheme SBZ02-MERSAProd
- Scheme BBDFFKMOPPS10
- Scheme DPSS15
- Scheme MHI06
- Scheme MIMSYTI05

Finally, this document contains the following annexes:

- [Annex A](#), which provides object identifiers which shall be used to identify the mechanisms defined in this document.
- [Annex B](#), which contains an overview of the different properties as defined and described in ISO/IEC 23264-1 that are achieved by the different algorithms contained in this document.
- [Annex C](#), which lists criteria for inclusion in this document.
- [Annex D](#), which gives numerical examples to understand and check implementations of the algorithms contained in this document.

6 Generic construction from signature schemes and hash-functions

6.1 Parameters

The generic construction makes use of the following parameters:

- digital signature scheme as defined in ISO/IEC 14888-1;
- collision-resistant hash-function Hash as defined in ISO/IEC 10118-1;
- security parameter λ .

The security parameter λ shall be met by all involved algorithms, especially for the hash-function and digital signature scheme.

6.2 Construction

6.2.1 Key generation process

The key generation algorithm of the redactable attestation scheme consists of the following two procedures:

- a) generate the set of domain parameters Z ;
- b) generate the attestation key ak , verification key vk and redaction key rk as follows:
 - 1) use the key generation process of the digital signature scheme, such that the digital signature scheme's signature key serves as the attestation key ak ,
 - 2) use the digital signature scheme's verification key as the verification key vk ,
 - 3) use the digital signature scheme's verification key also as the redaction key rk , such that $rk = vk$.

The security parameter λ is taken into account such that the digital signature scheme offers at least the indicated security strength.

6.2.2 Redactable attestation process

This process takes the following inputs:

- set of domain parameters Z
- attestation key ak
- message m consisting of n fields m_1, \dots, m_n
- admissible changes $adm = \{1, \dots, n\}$

The process Split() to split the message m into fields is generally out of scope of this document. However, the process Split() shall be defined in such a way that fields can be transformed into the message and vice versa, in a reproducible way every time this conversion is necessary, i.e. if $\text{Split}(m) = m_1, \dots, m_s$, then $\text{Split}^{-1}(m_1, \dots, m_s) = m$. The scheme protects the content of each field and their order.

The process requires the generation of random data. Refer to ISO/IEC 18031 to generate this securely.

The process does not allow the specification of admissible changes, so by default all fields of the message (m_1, \dots, m_n) are admissible and can be redacted by anyone. In order to make this clear for the user, the input for adm shall contain all field indices, i.e. $adm = \{1, \dots, n\}$.

The process is as follows:

- a) Generate a Merkle tree^[17] as follows: Generate a binary tree which is also a balanced tree, henceforth referred to as balanced binary tree, of sufficient height such that it has k leaf nodes with $2n > k \geq n$.
- b) Choose a uniformly random λ -bit tag_{msg} for the message; and choose n random λ -bit tags tag_i , one for each field of m . No tag_i shall contain only zeros, denoted as $tag_i \neq 0^\lambda$.
- c) For each $i = 1, \dots, n$, compute the hash-code $h_i = \text{Hash}(tag_{msg} \parallel m_i \parallel tag_i)$ using a collision-resistant hash-function.
- d) Initialize the Merkle tree using h_1, \dots, h_n as values for the n left-most leaf nodes of the balanced binary tree, use the empty string for all remaining $k - n$ leaf nodes.

- e) Calculate the Merkle tree's root, denoted as $root$, using the collision-resistant hash-function Hash by computing the value for each parent node in the tree as Hash ($left-subordinate-node-value || right-subordinate-node-value$), where $left-subordinate-node-value$ contains the value assigned to the left subordinate node and $right-subordinate-node-value$ contains the value of the right subordinate node.
- f) Use the digital signature scheme's signature process on inputs:
- 1) message: $(root, tag_{msg}, n)$;
 - 2) set of domain parameters: Z ;
 - 3) signature key mapped from the attestation key: ak .
- Receive as output the signature Σ .

The process outputs:

- redactable attestation $att = (\Sigma, n, tag_{msg}, (tag_1, \dots, tag_n))$

6.2.3 Redaction process

This process takes the following inputs:

- set of domain parameters Z ;
- message m composed of n fields denoted as m_1, \dots, m_n ;
- redaction key rk ;
- admissible changes adm ;
- modification instructions mod that are in accordance with the admissible changes adm , i.e. $mod \subseteq adm$.

The process is as follows:

- a) Verify that $att = (\Sigma, n, tag_{msg}, (tag_1, \dots, tag_n))$ is a valid attestation on m under the verification key $vk = rk$ and abort if this is not the case.
- b) Set $m' = m$ and $att' = att$.
- c) Adjust the admissible changes to no longer contain fields to be redacted, i.e. $adm' = adm \setminus mod$.
- d) For all $i \in mod$:
 - 1) Compute the hash-code $h_i = \text{Hash}(tag_{msg} || m_i || tag_i)$ using the collision-resistant hash-function.
 - 2) Replace the content of m_i with h_i , i.e. set $m' = (m_1, \dots, m_{i-1}, h_i, m_{i+1}, \dots, m_n)$.
 - 3) Set $tag_i = 0^\lambda$ to indicate that this field has been redacted, i.e. modify the attestation to $att' = (\Sigma, n, tag_{msg}, (tag_1, \dots, tag_{i-1}, 0^\lambda, tag_{i+1}, \dots, tag_n))$.

The process outputs:

- redacted message m' ;
- redacted attestation att' ;
- redacted admissible changes $adm' = adm \setminus mod$.

6.2.4 Verification process

The process takes the following inputs:

- set of domain parameters Z ;
- verification key vk ;
- redacted or original message $m=(m_1, \dots, m_n)$;
- redacted or redactable attestation $att=(\Sigma, n, tag_{msg}, (tag_1, \dots, tag_n))$;
- original or redacted admissible changes adm .

The process is as follows:

- a) Generate a Merkle tree^[17] as follows: generate a balanced binary tree of sufficient height such that it has k leaf nodes with $2n > k \geq n$.
- b) For each $i=1, \dots, n$, compute the hash-code $h_i = \text{Hash}(tag_{msg} \parallel m_i \parallel tag_i)$ if $tag_i \neq 0^\lambda$ using a collision-resistant hash-function; and if $tag_i = 0^\lambda$ then set h_i to the value supplied as m_i as it has been redacted previously, which corresponds to the value of $\text{Hash}(tag_{msg} \parallel m_i \parallel tag_i)$.
- c) Initialize the Merkle tree using h_1, \dots, h_n as values for the n left-most leaf nodes of the balanced binary tree, use the empty string for all remaining $k - n$ leaf nodes.
- d) Calculate the value for the root (denoted as $root$) of the Merkle tree.
- e) Use the digital signature's verification process on inputs:
 - set of domain parameters Z ;
 - verification key mapped from the verification vk
 - message: $(root, tag_{msg}, n)$;
 - signature: Σ .

Receive from the digital signature's verification process an output $o \in \{accept, reject\}$.

The process outputs:

- The final verification outcome o .

NOTE 1 The redactable attestation scheme specified in [6.2.1](#) to [6.2.4](#) satisfies the following properties: unforgeability, privacy, detectability of redactions and mergeable. See [Annex B](#) for further details.

NOTE 2 Security proofs for unforgeability and privacy are found in the Reference [\[12\]](#). Detectability of redactions and mergeability are shown in Reference [\[15\]](#). See [Annex B](#) for further details.

NOTE 3 This scheme was originally introduced by R. Steinfeld, L. Bull, and Y. Zheng in 2001.^[12]

7 Scheme SBZ02-MERSAProd

7.1 Parameters

The SBZ02-MERSAProd scheme makes use of the following parameters:

- collision-resistant hash-function Hash as defined in ISO/IEC 10118-1;
- security parameter λ .