
**IT Security techniques — Digital
signatures with appendix —**

**Part 3:
Discrete logarithm based mechanisms**

*Techniques de sécurité IT — Signatures numériques avec
appendice —*

Partie 3: Mécanismes basés sur un logarithme discret

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ISO/IEC 14888-3:2018

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Reference number
ISO/IEC 14888-3:2018(E)

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Published in Switzerland

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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).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents) or the IEC list of patent declarations received (see <http://patents.iec.ch>).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 27, *IT Security techniques*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 14888-3:2016), of which it constitutes a minor revision. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- SM2 algorithm has been added to [6.12](#) and [F.14](#);
- Chinese IBS algorithm has been added to [7.4](#) and [F.15](#);
- numerical examples of KCDSA, ECDSA and EC-KCDSA have been added to [F.3.4](#), [F.6.6](#), [F.6.7](#), [F.6.8](#), [F.7.7](#), [F.7.8](#) and [F.7.9](#);
- several formulae and symbols have been corrected.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 14888 series can be found on the ISO website.

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.

Introduction

Digital signature mechanisms can be used to provide services such as entity authentication, data origin authentication, non-repudiation and data integrity. A digital signature mechanism satisfies the following requirements.

- Given either or both of the following two things:
 - the verification key, but not the signature key;
 - a set of signatures on a sequence of messages that an attacker has adaptively chosen,
- it should be computationally infeasible for the attacker to:
 - produce a valid signature on a new message;
 - in some circumstances, produce a new signature on a previously signed message; or
 - recover the signature key;
- it should be computationally infeasible, even for the signer, to find two different messages with the same signature.

NOTE 1 Computational feasibility depends on the specific security requirements and environment.

NOTE 2 In some applications, producing a new signature on a previously signed message without knowing the signature key is allowed. One example of such applications is a membership credential in an anonymous digital signature mechanism as specified in ISO/IEC 20008.

Digital signature mechanisms are based on asymmetric cryptographic techniques and involve the following three basic operations:

- a process for generating pairs of keys, where each pair consists of a private signature key and the corresponding public verification key;
- a process that uses the signature key, called the signature process;
- a process that uses the verification key, called the verification process.

The following are the two types of digital signature mechanisms:

- when, for a given signature key, any two signatures produced for the same message are always identical, the mechanism is said to be deterministic (or non-randomized) (see ISO/IEC 14888-1 for further details);
- when, for a given message and signature key, any two applications of the signature process produce (with high probability) two distinct signatures, the mechanism is said to be randomized (or non-deterministic).

The mechanisms specified in this document are all randomized.

Digital signature mechanisms can also be divided into the following two categories:

- when the whole message has to be stored and/or transmitted along with the signature, the mechanism is termed a "signature mechanism with appendix" (such mechanisms are the subject of the ISO/IEC 14888 series);
- when the whole message, or part of it, can be recovered from the signature, the mechanism is termed a "signature mechanism giving message recovery" (the ISO/IEC 9796 series specifies mechanisms in this category).

The verification of a digital signature requires access to the signing entity's verification key. It is, thus, essential for a verifier to be able to associate the correct verification key with the signing entity, or more