Dictators? Friends? Forgers. Breaking and Fixing Unforgeability Definitions for **Anamorphic Signature Schemes**

Joseph Jaeger and <u>Roy Stracovsky</u>

ASIACRYPT 2024







Motivation



- Proposed by Persiano, Phan, and Yung at Eurocrypt 2022.
- **Goal:** allow users to communicate privately in authoritarian settings by concealing hidden messages inside of innocuous ciphertexts.
- **Technical realization:** augment *deployed* primitives with "anamorphic extensions" that use a double key **dk** to conceal "anamorphic messages".



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 $\mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda}) \Rightarrow (\mathsf{pk}, \mathsf{sk})$

Hashed ElGamal, RSA-OAEP, ...

 $Enc(pk, msg) \Rightarrow ct$

 $Dec(sk, ct) \Rightarrow msg$





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Introduce new security definitions specific to (anamorphic) signatures.















KeyGen (1^{λ}) : $(e, d, N) \leftarrow \mathsf{RSA} \cdot \mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda})$ $vk \leftarrow (e, N)$ $\mathsf{sk} \leftarrow (d, N)$ return (vk, sk)

Sign(sk, msg) : $r \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0,1\}^{\lambda_0}$ $w \leftarrow H(\mathsf{msg}, r)$ $\alpha \leftarrow G_1(w) \oplus r$ $\gamma \leftarrow G_2(w)$ $sig \leftarrow (0 \|w\| \alpha \|\gamma)^d \pmod{N}$ return sig



aKeyGen (1^{λ}) : $(e, d, N) \leftarrow \mathsf{RSA} \cdot \mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda})$ $vk \leftarrow (e, N)$ $\mathsf{sk} \leftarrow (d, N)$ dk \leftarrow prE.KeyGen (1^{λ}) return (vk, sk, dk)

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aDec(vk, dk, msg, asig) : $(b \|w\|\alpha\|\gamma) \leftarrow \operatorname{asig}^e \pmod{N}$ $r \leftarrow G_1(w) \oplus \alpha$ $amsg \leftarrow prE. Dec(dk, r)$ return amsg

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- sig $\leftarrow (0 \|w\| \alpha \|\gamma)^d \pmod{N}$ return sig
- Generalizes to any signature scheme that with "recoverable" signing randomness.



Randomness Replacement [KPPYZ23]

- Randomness Replacement Transform RRep
 - Input: randomness recoverable signature scheme S
 - Input: pseudorandom encryption scheme prE
 - Output: anamorphic signature scheme aS
- S is randomness recoverable if there exists a PPT RRecov that, given sig ← Sign(sk, msg; r), can recover r ← RRecov(vk, msg, sig).
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$$S \rightarrow RRep \rightarrow aS$$

prE \rightarrow

aDec(vk, dk, msg, asig) : $r \leftarrow \mathsf{RRecov}(\mathsf{vk}, \mathsf{msg}, \mathsf{asig})$ $amsg \leftarrow prE.Dec(dk, r)$ return amsg





even when given keypair (vk, sk) [KPPYZ23].

• Stealthiness: dictator cannot distinguish honest and anamorphic signatures



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- even when given keypair (vk, sk) [KPPYZ23].
- **Robustness:** honest signatures don't anamorphically decrypt to valid anamorphic messages [BGHMR24].
- honest signatures cannot forge new signatures [KPPYZ23].

• Stealthiness: dictator cannot distinguish honest and anamorphic signatures

• Private anamorphism: a recipient who knows the double key dk and sees



Our Contributions



Robustness



Robustness



Observe a gap between a stated goal of robustness and its formalization.





2

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Propose Dictator Unforgeability.









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Mount a practical attack a previously proposed <u>robust</u> anamorphic signature scheme.





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Repair other prior anamorphic transforms to achieve <u>dictator unforgeability</u>.





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Private Anamorphism



Observe a gap between the deployment scenario 5 of private anamorphism and its formalization.









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Repair other prior anamorphic transforms to achieve <u>dictator unforgeability</u>.





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Part 1: Strengthening Robustness to Dictator Unforgeability







Observe a gap between the deployment scenario of private anamorphism and its formalization.

Propose Recipient Unforgeability.



Mount a practical attack a natural <u>private</u> anamorphic signature scheme.

Repair (in two ways) a prior anamorphic transform to achieve recipient unforgeability.


Robustness [BGHMR24]

- Proposed by Banfi, Gegier, Hirt, Maurer, and Rito at Eurocrypt 2024.*
- High level goal: honest signatures don't anamorphically decrypt to valid anamorphic messages.
- BGHMR list two primary motivations for robustness.
 - Usability: anamorphic messages will be sent in a network containing honest communication — anamorphic users need to identify what is what.
 - Security: (roughly) to prevent a dictator from initiating anamorphic channels with anamorphic users.
- BGHMR propose two transforms that achieve robustness.

*Proposed originally for anamorphic encryption though we analyze a straightforward adaptation to signature schemes in our work.



Randomness Identification with PRF [BGHMR24]

- Randomness Identification with PRF Transform **RIdP**
 - Input: randomness identifying signature scheme S
 - Input: pseudorandom function prF
 - Output: anamorphic signature scheme aS
- S is randomness identifying if there exists a PPT RIdtfy that, given sig \leftarrow Sign(sk, msg; r), can check whether r' = r via RIdtfy(vk, msg, sig, r').



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 dk \leftarrow prF.KeyGen(1^{\lambda})
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return asig



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aSign(sk, dk, msg, amsg : ctr++):
r \leftarrow \text{prF}(dk, (ctr, amsg))
asig \leftarrow S. Sign(sk, msg; r)
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aDec(vk, dk, msg, asig : ctr++): forall amsg $r \leftarrow \text{prF}(dk, (ctr, amsg))$ if RIdtfy(vk, msg, sig, r) = 1 return amsg



Randomness Identification with PRF/XOR [BGHMR24]

- Randomness Identification with PRF/XOR Transform RIdPX • Input: randomness identifying signature scheme S
- - Input: pseudorandom function prF
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Robustness Game [BGHMR24]

 $b \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0,1\}$ aKeyGen $(1^{\lambda}) \Rightarrow (vk, sk, dk)$





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wins if $b = b^*$

























 $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ aKeyGen $(1^{\lambda}) \Rightarrow (vk, sk, dk)$























 $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ $aKeyGen(1^{\lambda}) \Rightarrow (vk, sk, dk)$ (vk, sk) - $(msg^*, asig^*)$ $amsg^* \leftarrow aDec(vk, dk, msg^*, asig^*)$ wins if $(amsg^* \neq \bot)$ $\wedge ((\mathsf{msg}^*, \mathsf{asig}^*) \notin S)$





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Sender



Dictator





Sender

amsg = "meet at 2PM"



Dictator





Sender

amsg = "meet at 2PM" $r \leftarrow prF(dk, ctr) \oplus amsg$



Dictator





Sender

amsg = "meet at 2PM" $r \leftarrow prF(dk, ctr) \oplus amsg$ $asig \leftarrow Sign(sk, msg; r)$ scheme is randomness recoverable e.g. ElGamal, Schnorr, RSA-PSS, .etc



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 $r^* \leftarrow \stackrel{\bullet}{r} \oplus \operatorname{amsg}'$

asig





Receiver

 $r \leftarrow \mathsf{RRecov}(\mathsf{vk}, \mathsf{sk}, \mathsf{msg}, \mathsf{asig})$

Dictator Attacking RldF



Sender



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Repairing Dictator Unforgeability of RRep and RIdP



Replaces signing randomness with pseudorandom encryptions i.e. $r \leftarrow prE.Enc(dk, amsg)$



Replaces signing randomness with pseudorandom function outputs i.e. $r \leftarrow prF(dk, (ctr, amsg))$



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Part 2: Strengthening Private Anamorphism to Recipient Unforgeability





Private Anamorphism [KPPYZ23]

- Proposed alongside anamorphic signatures.
- **High level goal:** a recipient who knows the double key **dk** and sees honest signatures cannot forge new signatures.
- KPPYZ discusses a primary motivation for private anamorphism.
 - Security: (roughly) to prevent a recipient from forging signatures on behalf of the sender.
- KPPYZ provide a framework that achieves private anamorphism which covers the randomness replacement transform **RRep** as a special case.



Private Anamorphism Game [KPPYZ23]

 $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ aKeyGen $(1^{\lambda}) \Rightarrow (vk, sk, dk)$ (vk, dk)





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Private Anamorphism Game [KPPYZ23]



wins if Verify(vk, msg^{*}, sig^{*}) = 1 $\land ((msg^*, sig^*) \notin S)$

 (msg^*, sig^*)





Revisiting Anamorphic Threat Model









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backdoor: outputs sk when signing randomness r = 0

still SUF-CMA secure!





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Receiver



Sender

 $asig_i \leftarrow aSign(sk, dk, msg_i, amsg_i)$





Receiver

 $\mathsf{asig}_0, \mathsf{asig}_1, \dots, \mathsf{asig}_\ell$



Sender

 $asig_i \leftarrow aSign(sk, dk, msg_i, amsg_i)$





















Sender







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SUF-CMA security is insufficient

Attack takes advantage of chosen randomness.

AND

IND\$-CPA security is insufficient

Attack takes advantage of the "controllability" of ciphertexts by recipient who knows the symmetric key.





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IND\$-CPA security is insufficient

Attack takes advantage of the "controllability" of ciphertexts by recipient who knows the symmetric key.

Attack leverages insufficiencies in *both* signature scheme and pseudorandom encryption.
Can regain security by requiring stronger security properties of *either one* component.







 Can achieve recipient unforgeability by requiring stronger property on signature scheme S.



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- Unforgeability under chosen randomness attack (SUF-CRA security) akin to SUF-CMA security except adversary queries for signatures on messages and randomness of its choosing.



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- Unforgeability under chosen randomness attack (SUF-CRA security) akin to SUF-CMA security except adversary queries for signatures on messages and randomness of its choosing.
- anamorphic RSA-PSS and Rabin from RRep are recipient unforgeable.



We prove that RSA-PSS and Rabin signatures are SUF-CRA secure, hence

- Can achieve recipient unforgeability by requiring stronger property on signature scheme S.
- Unforgeability under chosen randomness attack (SUF-CRA security) akin to SUF-CMA security except adversary queries for signatures on messages and randomness of its choosing.
- anamorphic RSA-PSS and Rabin from RRep are recipient unforgeable.



• We prove that RSA-PSS and Rabin signatures are SUF-CRA secure, hence

• We are unable to prove some signature schemes such as Boneh-Boyen are SUF-CRA secure — can we still achieve recipient-unforgeable schemes?



• Achieve recipient unforgeability by requiring stronger property on pseudorandom encryption scheme prE.


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- Definition is modular construction can build on a variety of ideal primitives (e.g. random oracle, ideal cipher) and composable.



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 - How is this possible? We can leverage ideal models to make decryption of random samples consistent with a fixed key.
- Definition is modular construction can build on a variety of ideal primitives (e.g. random oracle, ideal cipher) — and composable.
- Achieved by randomized block cipher modes.



Conclusion



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Observe a gap between a stated goal of robustness and its formalization.

Propose Dictator Unforgeability.



Mount a practical attack a previously proposed <u>robust</u> anamorphic signature scheme.

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Mount a practical attack a natural <u>private</u> anamorphic signature scheme.

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Vonholdt (<u>https://www.deviantart.com/vonholdt</u>)

Starry Artw (<u>https://www.behance.net/starry_artw</u>) Aleksandar Savić (<u>https://dribbble.com/almigor</u>)







