

Digital Signature Server Using Elliptic Curve Cryptographic Algorithm

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Abstract - Application servers are heavily loaded by performing signature computation. Instead of using Application server which act as the tenant to more dedicated proxy called Signature servers called GUESSThus to improve the performance of the GUESS comprehensive implementation of the EDSA is tested against network traffic. Digital signatures are encrypted and decrypted using Elliptical curve cryptographic algorithm.

Index Terms- Data communication, Application, Cryptography

I. INTRODUCTION

To implement Signature as a service (SIGaaS) in the enterprise private cloud Application servers are offloaded from signature computation (Signature generation and Signature verification) Security practitioners who out source signature computation from application server can use signature server for secure computation.

A. Signature as a Service

In this paper, following the business model of security as a service (SECaaS) [2], we focus on signature as a service (SIGaaS) as a case study, and present a tangible signature server called Guess. This is motivated by the observation that it has become a more and more common practice for security practitioners to outsource signature computations from application servers that are typically websites to dedicated proxies that are typically signature servers in the enterprise private cloud (EPC), so that the application servers as tenants can offload the computation costs of signature generation and/or verification to these specialized facilities.

Again take Alipay as an example, which was started by Alibaba Group as a simple e-payment system and is now a website in its own right; it is possible that Alibaba adopts SIGaaS in its EPC to facilitate Alipay and Alibaba's other subsidiaries (e.g., Taobao and Tmall). Besides the common (and widely-recognized) benefits offered by SECaaS (and cloud computing in general), SIGaaS provides additional advantages in terms of security. First of all, application servers like Alipay have to be openly accessible from the Internet and thus are potentially exposed to various attacks, some of which, like the Heartbleed exploit disclosed in 2014, may reveal websites' private keys, i.e., signing keys. With SIGaaS, the private keys are confined to standalone signature servers instead of being held by the public application servers. The input/output interfaces of a signature server are fairly simple: it accepts a message digest from and returns a

generated signature to a tenant employing its private key, and accepts a digest-signature pair from and returns a boolean verification result to a tenant employing a specified public key. Therefore, the private key for signing (even the entire signature server) is beyond the "reach" of Internet attackers. This significantly mitigates the risk of key compromise. Second, by shifting signing operations to signature servers, tenants are far less vulnerable to "stealthy" threats like side channel attacks. For example, it would be very difficult for an Internet attacker to launch timing attacks to infer a tenant's private key, as the actual signing is shifted to a back-end signature server, typically located in the EPC serving multiple tenants.

In this paper, as our concrete implementation of SIGaaS, we present a GPU-accelerated universal elliptic-curve signature server, Guess for short. It is universal in that Guess supports various ECC (signature) schemes where scalar multiplication, also known as point multiplication (PM), is the chief cryptographic primitive. These include ECDSA [6], EC-KCDSA [19, §4.4.2], the SM2 signature [20], and so on. EC-KCDSA is Korea's signature scheme, while SM2 is an ECC algorithm suite for digital signature, key agreement, and encryption, issued in late 2010 as the public key cryptographic standard in China.

In fact, Guess readily supports the entire SM2 suite. Among these, we choose ECDSA, the most widely standardized ECC signature scheme [19, §4.4.1], as the "target scheme" for Guess so that we can compare our work with a wide range of existing Guess is designed to be a standalone signature server whose capability is delivered via high-speed network to tenants typically located in a well-protected EPC (thus, in this paper we do not address issues like authentication between tenants and Guess, or transfer of private keys from tenants to Guess).

Due to budget constraints, our platform is merely a combination of off-the-shelf commodity hardware and freely available software: it contains one 2.7GHz 12-core

Intel Xeon E5-2697v2 CPU [21], one NVIDIA GeForce GTX 780 Ti desktop GPU on a video card by EVGA [18], one 10Gb Ethernet controller, and 16GB DRAM; the OS is the 64-bit server edition of Ubuntu 12.04 and the compiler is from CUDA

II. ECDSA IMPLEMENTATION

This section details our comprehensive implementation of ECDSA. From a developer's perspective, our technique can be decomposed into two levels (cf. Section I-D): the high-level algorithms translate mathematics into general software descriptions, which are then supported by the low-level algorithms consisting of assembly-like instructions for the GPU. The high-level algorithms mainly address PMs, where we pursue solutions that are even more efficient than standard (or termed as textbook) accelerations. The low-level algorithms focus on memory optimizations [10, 9].

1. Pre-Computing Table Aided Fixed Point Multiplication

PM dominates the execution time of ECC schemes including ECDSA. Clearly, a tenant cares most about the service latency, but is blind to the ways Guess implements ECDSA operations. Our implementation choices are not necessarily limited to the many textbook approaches, but have to suit and well harness the given platform. Particularly, our device, the EVGA video card [18], has affluent (3GB) global memory, only a small part of which should be reserved for data exchange between the host and the device (cf. Section II-C). As a result, for fixed point multiplication, we choose to trade storage for computation, employing a precomputing table (PCT) built offline w.r.t. the fixed point G. Should Guess support different ECC signature schemes for different tenants, a PCT would have to be built for each curve. For ECDSA with Curve P-256, only one PCT is needed, which can be generated using any approach and saved in a datasheet only once. Upon booting, Guess loads the entire PCT into the device's global memory for read-only access later. The larger the PCT, the faster the fixed point multiplication, and our experiments show that a 64MB PCT is beneficial enough for acceptable latency. In theory, using an even larger PCT we may boost Guess' performance forthrightly, but we find that the bottleneck of Guess then lies in service delivery rather than PM or other cryptographic processing (thus employing an even larger PCT does not help much in itself).

Now let us be more specific. Take kG for example. Let $k = k_{l-1} \dots k_1 k_0$ be its radix-2 form, i.e., $k = \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} k_i 2^i$, where $|k_i| = f, f \leq |k| = |n|$. Since $kG = \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} k_i 2^i G$, the PCT needs to contain $2^i k_i G$ for all $0 \leq i \leq l-1$, altogether $2^l l$ items, with each item of size $|x, y| = 2|n|$ bits.

Since $|n| = 256$, we can select $f = 16$, resulting in a PCT of size $2^{16} \times 2 \times 256$ bits, which is 64MB.

Now that each $2^i k_i G$ is immediately available via table lookup, the fixed point multiplication $kG = \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} k_i 2^i G$ is simply reduced to l point additions.

Such reduction also prevents the non- k (and thus the private key d) from being leaked to a side-channel attacker [24], [25] thanks to the table lookups. As mentioned earlier, we address the implementation of ECDSA on Guess from two levels. Next, we switch from the fixed point multiplication on the high level to point addition on the low level. We begin with the general case in Section III-B, and then consider a special case in Section III-C that is actually invoked when computing $kG = \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} k_i 2^i G$.

2. Optimized Jacobian Addition

To calculate point addition efficiently, we consider converting the chord-and-tangent rule [19, §3.1.2] into a low-level algorithm in the Jacobian system (cf. Section II-A). This involves certain formula deduction. For page limits, we omit the mathematics and describe in Table I our intermediate result, a "not-too-low-level" point addition working flow, the correctness of which can be easily checked against the chord-and-tangent rule. Note that point addition and point doubling (to be addressed later) are distinct; they follow different laws.

Table I Lists The Variables That Need To Be Stored After Each Step And Shows That Our Working Flow Is Very Variable Efficient:

TABLE I
POINT ADDITION IN THE JACOBIAN SYSTEM,
WHERE $P_i = (X_i : Y_i : Z_i)$

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2 F3
P. INPUT: P1, P2 (6 = ±P1). OUTPUT: P3 = P1 + P2.
Step (Calculation Over Fp) Variables That Need Saving
Load P1, P2 X1, Y1, Z1, X2, Y2, Z2
R1 = X1Z2
2 R1, Y1, Z1, X2, Y2, Z2
R2 = X2Z2
1 R1, R2, Y1, Z1, Y2, Z2
R3 = R2 - R1 R1, R3, Y1, Z1, Y2, Z2
R4 = Y1Z3
2 R1, R3, R4, Z1, Y2, Z2
R5 = Y2Z3
1 R1, R3, R4, R5, Z1, Z2
Z3 = Z1Z2R3 R1, R3, R4, R5, Z3
R6 = R5 - R4 R1, R3, R4, R6, Z3
R7 = R2
3 R1, R3, R4, R6, R7, Z3
R8 = R3
3 R4, R6, R7, R8, Z3
X3 = R2
6 - 2R7 - R8 R4, R6, R7, R8, X3, Z3

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$Y3 = (R7 - X3)R6 - R4R8 X3, Y3, Z3$
throughout the flow we never use more than 6 variables.

This reaches the lower bound: with less than 6 variables, one cannot even load the two addends P1 and P2 at the very beginning. Note that at this stage we do not count the auxiliary variables used within a certain step; we will consider them shortly. For GPU programming, memory optimizations are the most important area for performance.

The general guideline is using as much fast memory and as little slow memory as possible [10, §9], which explains why we rely so much on registers. Registers are accessed with Photographs and grayscale figures should be prepared with 220 dpi resolution and saved with no compression, 8 bits per pixel (grayscale). To obtain a 3.45-in figure (one column width) at 220 dpi, the figure should have a horizontal size of 759 pixels. Color figures should be prepared with 400 dpi resolution and saved with no compression, 8 bits per pixel (palette or 256 color). To obtain a 3.45-in figure (one column width) at 400 dpi, the figure should have a horizontal size of 1380 pixels. For more information on TIFF files, please go to <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/pubs/transactions/information.html> and click on the link "Guidelines for Author Supplied Electronic Text and Graphics." 3) Somewhat Harder Way: If you do not have a scanner, you may create non-color PostScript figures by "printing" them to files.

First, download a PostScript printer driver from <http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads/pdrvwin.htm> (for Windows) or from <http://www.a.com/support/downloads/pdrvmac.htm> (for Macintosh) and install the "Generic PostScript Printer" definition. In Word, paste your figure into a new document. Print to a file using the PostScript printer driver. File names should be of the form "fig5.ps." Use Adobe Type 1 fonts when creating your figures, if possible. 4) Other Ways: Experienced computer users can convert figures and tables from their original format to TIFF.

Some useful image converters are Adobe Photoshop, Corel Draw, and Microsoft Photo Editor, an application that is part of Microsoft Office 97 and Office 2000 (look for C:\Program Files\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\PhotoEd\PHOTOED.EXE. (You may have to custom-install Photo Editor from your original Office disk.) Here is a way to make TIFF image files of tables. First, create your table in Word. Use horizontal lines but no vertical lines. Hide gridlines (Table | Hide Gridlines). Spell check the table to remove any red underlines that indicate spelling errors. Adjust magnification (View | Zoom) such that you can view the entire table at maximum area when you select View | Full Screen. Move the cursor so that it is out of the way. Press "Print Screen" on your keyboard; this copies the screen image to the Windows clipboard. Open Microsoft Photo Editor and click Edit | Paste as New Image. Crop the table image (click Select button; select

the part you want, then Image | Crop). Adjust the properties of the image (File | Properties) to monochrome (1 bit) and 600 pixels per inch. Resize the image (Image | Resize) to a width of 3.45 inches. Save the file (File | Save As) in TIFF with no compression (click "More" button). Most graphing programs allow you to save graphs in TIFF; however, you often have no control over compression or number of bits per pixel. You should open these image files in a program such as Microsoft Photo Editor and resave them using no compression, either 1 or 8 bits, and either 600 or 220 dpi resolution (File | Properties; Image | Resize). See Section II-D2 for an explanation of number of bits and resolution. If your graphing program cannot export to TIFF, you can use the same technique described for tables in the previous paragraph. A way to convert a figure from Windows Metafile (WMF) to TIFF is to paste it into Microsoft PowerPoint, save it in JPG format, open it with Microsoft Photo Editor or similar converter, and re-save it as TIFF. Microsoft Excel allows you to save spreadsheet charts in Graphics Interchange Format (GIF). To get good resolution, make the Excel charts very large. Then use the "Save as HTML" feature (see <http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q158/0/79.asp>). You can then convert from GIF

TABLE I
UNITS FOR MAGNETIC PROPERTIES

Symbol	Quantity	Conversion from Gaussian and CGS EMU to SI*
Φ	magnetic flux	$1 \text{ Mx} \rightarrow 10^{-8} \text{ Wb} = 10^{-8} \text{ V}\cdot\text{s}$
B	magnetic flux density, magnetic induction	$1 \text{ G} \rightarrow 10^{-4} \text{ T} = 10^{-4} \text{ Wb/m}^2$
H	magnetic field strength	$1 \text{ Oe} \rightarrow 10^3/(4\pi) \text{ A/m}$
m	magnetic moment	$1 \text{ erg/G} = 1 \text{ emu}$ $\rightarrow 10^{-3} \text{ A}\cdot\text{m}^2 = 10^{-3} \text{ J/T}$
M	magnetization	$1 \text{ erg}/(\text{G}\cdot\text{cm}^3) = 1 \text{ emu/cm}^3$ $\rightarrow 10^3 \text{ A/m}$
$4\pi M$	magnetization	$1 \text{ G} \rightarrow 10^3/(4\pi) \text{ A/m}$
σ	specific magnetization	$1 \text{ erg}/(\text{G}\cdot\text{g}) = 1 \text{ emu/g} \rightarrow 1 \text{ A}\cdot\text{m}^2/\text{kg}$
j	magnetic dipole moment	$1 \text{ erg/G} = 1 \text{ emu}$ $\rightarrow 4\pi \times 10^{-10} \text{ Wb}\cdot\text{m}$
J	magnetic polarization	$1 \text{ erg}/(\text{G}\cdot\text{cm}^3) = 1 \text{ emu/cm}^3$ $\rightarrow 4\pi \times 10^{-4} \text{ T}$
χ, κ	susceptibility	$1 \rightarrow 4\pi$
χ_p	mass susceptibility	$1 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g} \rightarrow 4\pi \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3/\text{kg}$
μ	permeability	$1 \rightarrow 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ H/m}$ $= 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ Wb}/(\text{A}\cdot\text{m})$
μ_r	relative permeability	$\mu \rightarrow \mu_r$
w, W	energy density	$1 \text{ erg/cm}^3 \rightarrow 10^{-1} \text{ J/m}^3$
N, D	demagnetizing factor	$1 \rightarrow 1/(4\pi)$

No vertical lines in table. Statements that serve as captions for the entire table do not need footnote letters.

*Gaussian units are the same as cgs emu for magnetostatics; Mx = maxwell, G = gauss, Oe = oersted; Wb = weber, V = volt, s = second, T = tesla, m = meter, A = ampere, J = joule, kg = kilogram, H = henry.

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type “Word 97-2000 & 6.0/95 - RTF (*.doc)” so that it can be opened by any version of Word.

III. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have demonstrated our exhaustive experience with a concrete case study on SIGaaS. Specifically, we have developed a tangible GPU-accelerated universal elliptic curve signature server called Guess for short. Our primary contribution is a novel, systematic, and inclusive implementation of ECDSA, turning cryptographic theory into productivity on off-the-shelf processors. For example, we have proposed high-level algorithms for the PM primitives, which are the bottleneck of ECDSA and other ECC schemes. For another example, space-efficient low-level algorithms have been devised to bolster our one-thread-per-task approach, so that we can launch more GPU threads for higher throughput. Besides customizing and optimizing various algorithms for our platform to maximize its computing power, we have also leveraged efficient resource management to provide Guess’ computing power to network tenants with minimum loss. Field experiments have shown that Guess achieves significantly higher performance than existent prototypes and products. Guess is implemented with software on a general platform that is fairly affordable and easily upgradable, implying that further performance improvement and functionality extension are feasible. This facilitates scalable and flexible cloud service

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