

A Blueprint for Civil GPS Navigation Message Authentication

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NMA is Gaining Traction

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Scott, 2003



Wesson et al., 2012



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2014



Tradeoff: Overhead vs. Authentication Frequency

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- Would you like authentication every 36 seconds?

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uses 100% of available CNAV message slots

Tradeoff: Overhead vs. Authentication Frequency

- Would you like authentication every 36 seconds?

uses 100% of available CNAV message slots

- What if NMA was restricted to 2% of the CNAV data rate?

is it still useful?

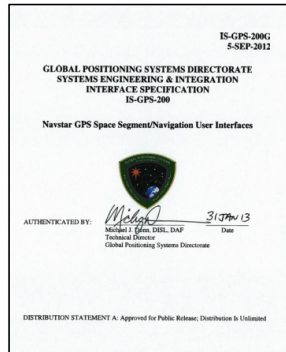
case study: 1 message every 9 minutes

Outline

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- Introduction to NMA
- Two schools of thought:
ECDSA or TESLA?
- Fitting NMA data into CNAV

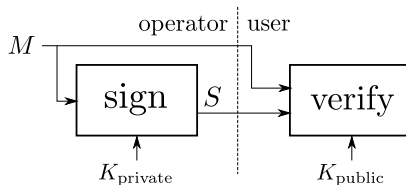
IS-GPS-200



What is GNSS NMA?

Technique to add cryptographic authentication to GNSS navigation data stream [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

- 1 GNSS operator signs a section of navigation data M
- 2 digital signature S is broadcast in navigation data stream
- 3 users verify (M, S)



Anti-Spoofing with NMA

NMA is an attractive anti-spoofing measure:

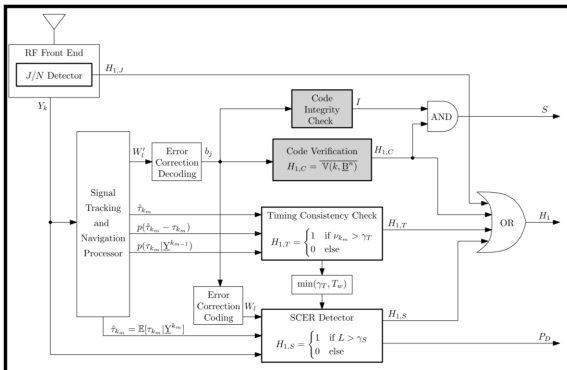
- minimal burden on a low-cost receiver
- backward compatible
- provides **data authentication**
- enables **signal authentication**

Signal Authentication with NMA

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Signal authentication technique developed in [4] and [5]

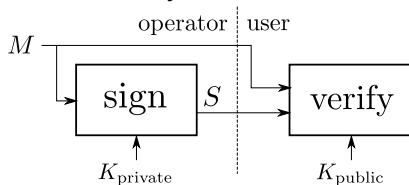
- ensures underlying GNSS signal is authentic, not just navigation data
- requires μs -level time offset $\delta t_{\text{RX}} < \gamma$



NMA Requires Asymmetric Cryptography

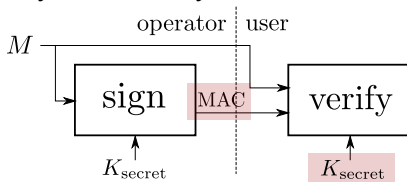
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Public-key authentication



- S is a *digital signature*
- users only have public key
→ cannot sign messages

Symmetric-key authentication



- MAC is a *message authentication code*
- users have secret key → can sign messages
- $\text{length}(\text{MAC}) < \text{length}(S)$

What is the required bit strength?

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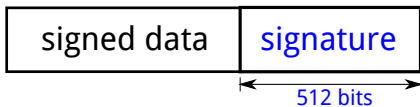
NIST-recommended security level for authentication [6]

b_s	secure until
112	2030
128	> 2030

assume equivalent symmetric-key bit strength $b_s = 128$ bits

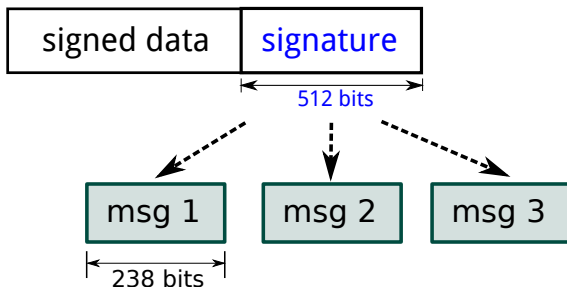
Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ECDSA) 10

- Standardized public-key authentication scheme
- Assuming P-256 ($b_s = 128$), digital signature is 512 bits



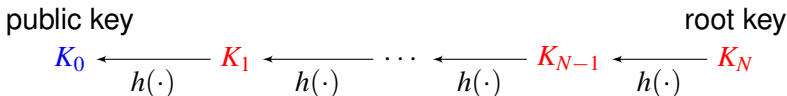
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$T_{ba} \approx 27$ minutes

Timed Efficient Stream Loss-Tolerant Authentication 11



TESLA protocol [7]

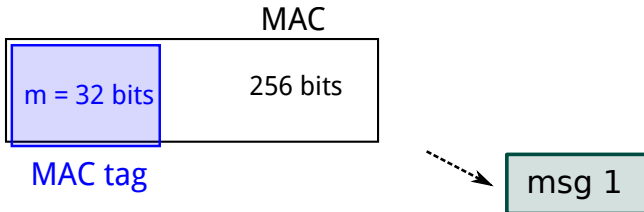
- Generate one-way chain of keys
- Broadcast message authentication code MAC (M_i, K_i)
- After delay, broadcast K_i as plaintext
- Receiver checks both MAC and $h^k(K_i) = K_{i-k}$

Note: variant of TESLA where each key is only used for one MAC

TESLA Truncation

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- Generate MAC by applying hash function to (M, K_i)
- Truncate MAC to m left-most bits, yielding **MAC tag** [8]



$128+m = 160$ bits per authentication

$T_{ba} \approx 9$ minutes

TESLA Truncation

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What is the effect of decreasing m ?

Key recovery

- discover a future element of the key chain, or an alternate key that, once the one-way function is applied, matches a previously-disclosed key
- 2^{128} complexity
- decreasing m does not aid attack

MAC tag forgery

TESLA Truncation

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What is the effect of decreasing m ?

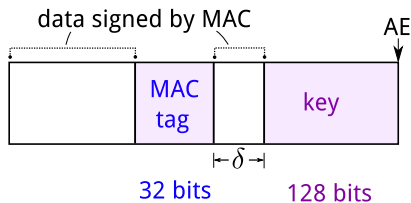
Key recovery

MAC tag forgery

- forge message or MAC tag without knowing if the MAC tag will pass the victim receiver's verification test
- MAC tags appear random to attacker → probability of successfully forging a specific MAC tag is 2^{-m}
- **Ex:** $m = 32$, forgery attempt every 144 seconds for 10 years → 1 in 2,000 success rate
- NIST recommends $m \geq 32$ [9]

TESLA Format

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- delay δ is critical: key is secret before the delay, but public afterward
- security condition $|\delta t_{RX}| < \delta$ must hold
- **Ex:** $\delta = 880$ ms

TESLA or ECDSA?

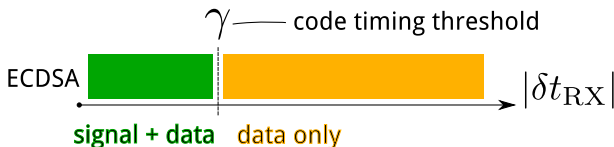
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TESLA advantages

- **Lower overhead:** for fixed $b_s = 128$ bits, reduce overhead for one authentication from **512 bits** to **160 bits**

TESLA disadvantages

- Not standardized
- **Requires approximate time,** $|\delta t_{RX}| < \delta$



TESLA or ECDSA?

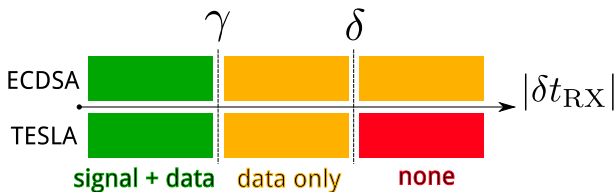
16

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Goal: low overhead without ignoring users in the red box

Hybrid NMA

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- auth. spaced equally in time (T_{ba}), but vary in *type*
- k consecutive TESLA type
- followed by one ECDSA type

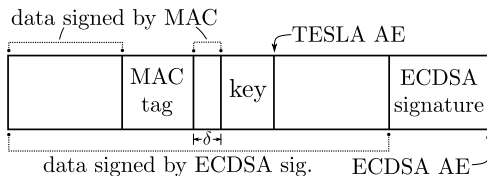


Figure: $k = 1$ hybrid NMA data stream

- only 1 of $(k + 1)$ authentications is ECDSA type → **low overhead**
- all data signed by ECDSA → **cryptographic data authentication** $\forall \delta t_{RX}$

Three Ways To Transmit NMA Data in CNAV

Data for $(k + 1)$ authentications split into

- $238N_{\text{arb}}$ bits in new NMA messages
- $149N_{\text{clk}}$ bits in new clock+NMA messages
- N_e bits exploited from other messages

Select $(N_{\text{arb}}, N_{\text{clk}}, N_e)$ to minimize *open data fraction*

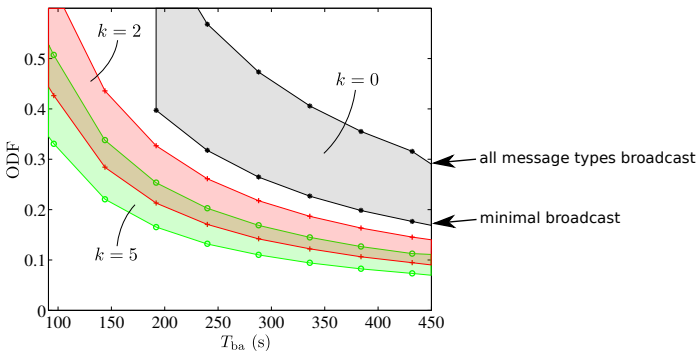
$$\text{ODF} = \frac{149N_{\text{clk}} + 238N_{\text{arb}}}{149O_{\text{clk}} + 238O_{\text{arb}}}$$

where $O_{\text{arb}}, O_{\text{clk}}$ are the number of open slots.

Cost Versus Performance

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Example result when $N_e = 0$



Example Message Definition

- Choose $k = 5 \rightarrow$ 1 in 6 authentications is ECDSA type
- Choose $N_{\text{clk}} = N_e = 0$

MT	bits	contents
NMA-1	1-32	MAC tag
	38-88	$S_i, i \in 1, \dots, 5$
	89-110	salt
	111-238	TESLA key
NMA-2	1-232	S_6
	233-238	salt

Example Message Definition

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- Choose $k = 5 \rightarrow$ 1 in 6 authentications is ECDSA type
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$T_{\text{ba}} \approx 9$ minutes

Conclusions

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More efficient NMA without significant security compromises

- TESLA MAC truncation to $m = 32$
- hybrid NMA with all data signed by ECDSA
- optimal $(N_{\text{arb}}, N_{\text{clk}}, N_e)$ w.r.t. ODF cost metric

Conclusions

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More efficient NMA without significant security compromises

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Case study

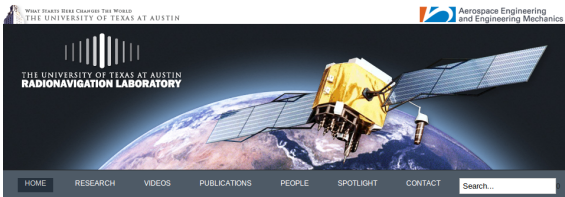
- 2% of CNAV data rate
- ODF = 6% - 9%

$T_{ba} \approx 9$ minutes

Questions?

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Radionavigation Security



GNSS Software Receivers



Collaborative Navigation





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GPS L2 CNAV Specification

CNAV message broadcast intervals [10]

<i>MT</i>	<i>Contents</i>	<i>Minimal</i>	<i>Maximal</i>	<i>Unallocated</i>
10	Ephemeris 1	48 sec.	48 sec.	3 bits
11	Ephemeris 2	48 sec.	48 sec.	7 bits
3*	Clock	48 sec.	48 sec.	up to 149 bits
30	Clock, ISC/IONO	288 sec.	288 sec.	12 bits
33	Clock, UTC	288 sec.	288 sec.	51 bits
35	Clock, GGTO	N/A	288 sec.	81 bits
32	Clock, EOP	N/A	30 min.	N/A
37	Clock, Midi Alm.	N/A	32 per 120 min.	N/A
31	Clock, Red. Alm.	N/A	20 min.	N/A
12	Reduced Alm.	N/A	4 per 20 min.	N/A
13	Diff. Corrections	N/A	30 min.	N/A
14	Diff. Corrections	N/A	30 min.	N/A

MT-10	MT-11	clock	arbitrary
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ECDSA Curve Selection

ECDSA curves with $b_s = 128$

		<i>curve</i>	
		<i>random</i>	<i>Koblitz</i>
<i>field</i>	<i>binary</i>	B-283	K-283
	<i>prime</i>	P-256 ^a	secp256k1

^aAlso brainpoolP256r1 and brainpoolP256t1 from ECC Brainpool [11][12]

Assume prime field → 512-bit signature

Key Distribution

- PKC contains ECDSA and TESLA public keys, period of validity, etc.
- Maximum key period is 1-3 years [13]
- Easily distributed to users with a secure side channel
- Standalone receivers use over-the-air re-keying
 - Initial key inserted by manufacturer
 - Broadcast PKCs are verified via NMA using current key

