

An Approach to Cryptosystem through a Proposed and Secured Protocol

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ABSTRACT

The Diffie-Hellman key algorithm was the first proposed public key algorithm by which two parties can communicate with each other without having any prior knowledge of each other over an insecure communication channel proposed by Harn.et.al. Diffie-Hellman key exchange algorithm is the most famous algorithm to exchange keys over a network but it has some false and drawbacks. So in our work we have proposed a new agreement protocol based on key confirmation as well as Diffie-Hellman algorithm. This protocol also works on the elliptic curve cryptography in asymmetric encryption.

General Terms

Key Agreement Protocol, Asymmetric Encryption or Public Key Cryptography, Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange Algorithm.

Keywords

Key agreement, Diffie-Hellman protocol, Public key cryptography.

1. INTRODUCTION

For the establishment of the communication the parties require the session key which can be generated by the key establishment protocol and it can also be referred as the key agreement protocol. Diffie and Hellman developed the first most popular key agreement protocol based on asymmetric encryption or public key cryptography [1].

They proposed the two versions of protocols. In the first protocol all the entities in the communication network exchange the static public keys. In this case there is a drawback that the entities A and B compute the same session key for each run of protocol. But in the second case they exchange the ephemeral public keys which are vulnerable to the man-in-middle attacks. To overcome these situations an authenticated key agreement is being proposed. The proposed authenticated key agreement protocol is the combination of both static and ephemeral versions of two entities A and B which meet all security attributes.

2. BACKGROUND

The Diffie-Hellman [2] proposed a cryptosystem which is based upon the difficulty of finding discrete logarithm in field.

For this protocol we need to know that two publicly known numbers i.e. p and g which will be the primitive root of p . Suppose there are two users A and B which want to exchange a key and unknown to each other. First time user A select a random Integer $X_A < p$ and compute $Y_A = g^{X_A} \text{ mod } p$. Similarly, user B selects a random number $X_B < p$ and computes $Y_B = g^{X_B} \text{ mod } p$. Each side keeps the value of X privately and make the Y value available publicly to the other side so this is called public key for both of users A and B and the process is known as the public key generation for A and B. Now user A computes the key as $K = (Y_B)^{X_A} \text{ mod } p$ and user B computes the key $K = (Y_A)^{X_B} \text{ mod } p$. These two values should produce the same results.

Table 1. Computation Values

$$\begin{aligned} K &= (Y_B)^{X_A} \text{ mod } p \\ &= (g^{X_B} \text{ mod } p)^{X_A} \text{ mod } p \\ &= (g^{X_B})^{X_A} \text{ mod } p \\ &= g^{X_B X_A} \text{ mod } p \\ &= (g^{X_A})^{X_B} \text{ mod } p \\ &= (g^{X_A} \text{ mod } p)^{X_B} \text{ mod } p \\ &= (Y_A)^{X_B} \text{ mod } p \end{aligned}$$

by the rule of modular arithmetic

The result shows that the two sides can change the secret value and both values are identical with each other.

3. PROPOSED SYSTEM

To overcome the ephemeral public keys which are vulnerable to the man-in-middle attacks, a protocol is being proposed. The following notations have been used in the proposed system.

Table 2. Description of Notation

A,B	Entities
ID _A , ID _B	Identity parameter of A,B
G	Generator Point
E _k ^(x)	Encryption of x using the key k
D _k ^(x)	Decryption of x using the key k
KR _A	Static private key of A
KU _A	Static public key of A which is elliptic curve point i.e. KR _A .G
r _A	A's ephemeral key (Random no.)
K	Session key between entities
A→B: M	Sending of message M From A to B
Sgn _A	Signature using private key of A
SK	Session key between A and B

For B we have similar notations for KR_B, KU_B and r_B.

The proposed protocol performs satisfactory on the domain parameters of elliptic curve that are common to both entities and cover an elliptic curve E defined over a field Fq which is generating a point G of elliptic curve cryptography so that G belongs to E (Fq), n is order of G in E (Fq), and h is cofactor of n.

3.1 The protocol for the system

For the establishment of any session, the entities require a session key and for sharing of a session key they should know the public key of each other. This process can be performed by the certificate authority [3] which provides CA_A i.e. A's certificate congaing the public key and the signature of A. The proposed protocol will work as follows:

3.2 Certificate Authority

The communicating entities will take the public keys of each other with the help of certificate authority. Now A will have KU_B and B will have KU_A.

3.3 Session Key

The session key K will be generated by using the KR_A and KU_B as $K = KR_A \cdot KU_B = KR_A \cdot KR_B \cdot G$.

3.4 Selection of random number

In the next step a select a random number r_A as its ephemeral key and computes a point on elliptic curve $M_A = r_A \cdot KU_B$. After encryption of signed message with K the result is like.

$$A \rightarrow B: ID_B, E_K(M_A, Sgn_A(ID_B, KU_A, KU_B))$$

3.5 Decryption of message

With the same process like A, B will also find the value of K, and decrypts the message received from A, recovers M_A and verify the signature sent by A. B will select again a random number r_B as its ephemeral key and calculates the session key $SK = h(r_B \cdot KU_A + M_A)$. If SK = 0 then B can terminate the protocol. Otherwise B will send a message to A as A did in previous step i.e.

$$B \rightarrow A: E_K(M_B), E_{SK}(Sgn_B(ID_A, M_A, M_B))$$

3.6 Termination of protocol

After receiving the message from B, A decrypts with K to recover M_B. The session key will be computed again with the help of KU_B and M_B if SK = 0 then A will terminate the protocol otherwise a message will be sent to B.

$$A \rightarrow B: E_{SK}(Sgn_A(ID_A, M_A, M_B))$$

3.7 Verification of signature

In the last step B will decrypt the received message using SK and verify the signature created by A. If the signature is verified then B will store the session key SK. The multiplication by h in SK will ensure that the session key SK is a point in the subgroup of order n in E (Fq) to protect against small subgroup attack [4].

4. RESULTS

The protocol works excellent according to the proposed system.

4.1 Proof of Correctness

The protocol works correctly for the session. The proof of correctness has been shown in Table 3 & 4

Table 3. Correctness for A

For A
SK = h (r _A .KU _B + M _B)
= h (r _A .KU _B + r _B .KU _A)
= h (r _A .KR _B .G + r _B .KU _A .G)
= h (r _A .KR _B + r _B .KR _A).G
= h (r _B .KR _A + r _A .KR _B).G
= Which is the SK of B.

Table 4. Correctness for B

For B
SK = h (r _B .KU _A + M _A)
= h (r _B .KU _A + r _A .KU _B)
= h (r _B .KR _A .G + r _A .KU _B .G)
= h (r _B .KR _A + r _A .KR _B).G
= h (r _A .KR _B + r _B .KR _A).G
= Which is the SK of A.

Security issue of proposed protocol works on the Diffie-Hellman problem in ECC. The proposed protocol provides known-key security because each run of the protocol between A and B should produce a unique session key which depends on r_A and r_B. The proposed protocol also provides the

prevention against the man-in-the-middle attack [5][7] in which an attacker makes fool, both the communication parties in a legitimate conversation by creating two private, public key pairs. In the proposed protocol an attacker cannot forge the private keys of entities to create the signature. If it is possible then the signature will not be verified because of certificates provided by certificate authority[6].

5. CONCLUSION

In this paper we have presented a new key agreement protocol based on the key confirmation [8]. The protocol is designed to provide the desirable security attributes which were not covered by other key agreement protocol like Diffie-Hellman protocol and Unified Model etc. The security analysis of protocol has been proposed against the different types of attack and the proof of correctness is also provided for the proposed protocol.

5.1 Future Scope

This paper can be extended further to cryptography and analysis on the Phan's integration of DSA and Diffie-Hellman Key exchange protocol. The protocol can be improved with the help of two randomly selected integers which makes the protocol more secure.

6. REFERENCES

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