

# Automated Testing of Crypto Software Using Differential Fuzzing

JP Aumasson, Yolan Romainier



# About us

Researchers at Kudelski Security, based in Switzerland

Applied crypto research, source code review, consulting, etc.

JP / @veorq

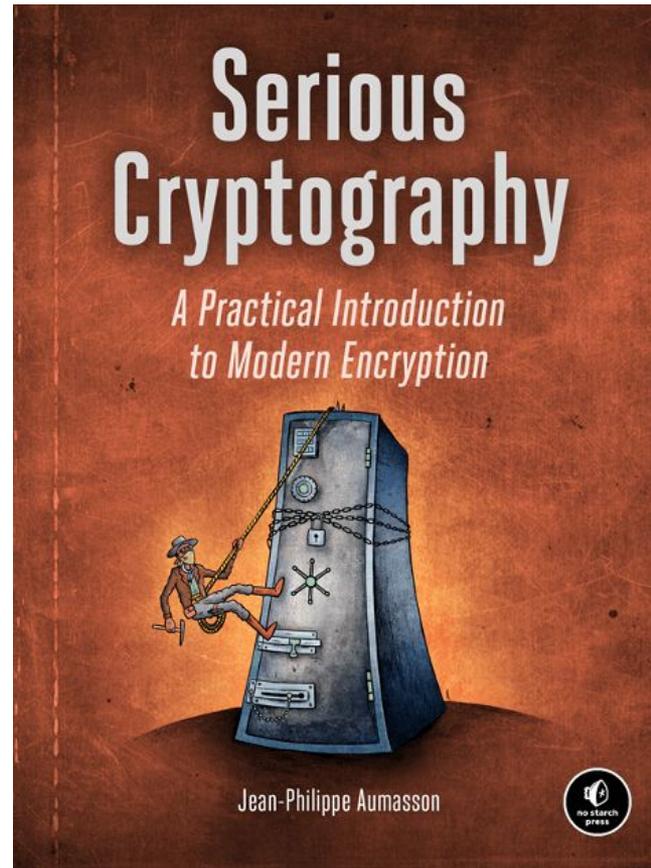
Presented at BH, Defcon,  
Infiltrate, Troopers, etc.

*<https://aumasson.jp>*

Yolan / @anomalroil

Master's thesis about  
automated testing of crypto

*<https://romailler.ch>*



Out in Oct. 2017, now in early access at <http://nostarch.com>

# Roadmap

1. Testing crypto
2. The approach: differential fuzzing
3. A new tool: CDF
  - a. How it works
  - b. Examples of tests
  - c. Demo
4. Issues found
5. Conclusions

# 1 Testing crypto



*Credit: <https://unsplash.com/@sveninho>*

# What do we want?

## Testing functionality

- Valid inputs give correct output
- Invalid input trigger appropriate error

## Testing security

- Program can't be abused
- Cryptographic secrets won't leak

# Testing what?

## Code against code

- When porting to a new language or platform
- Assume reference code is correct (not always true)
- As many test values as you need + internal debug values

## Code against specs

- When implementing a standard
- Specs can be incomplete or ambiguous
- Only a handful of test values

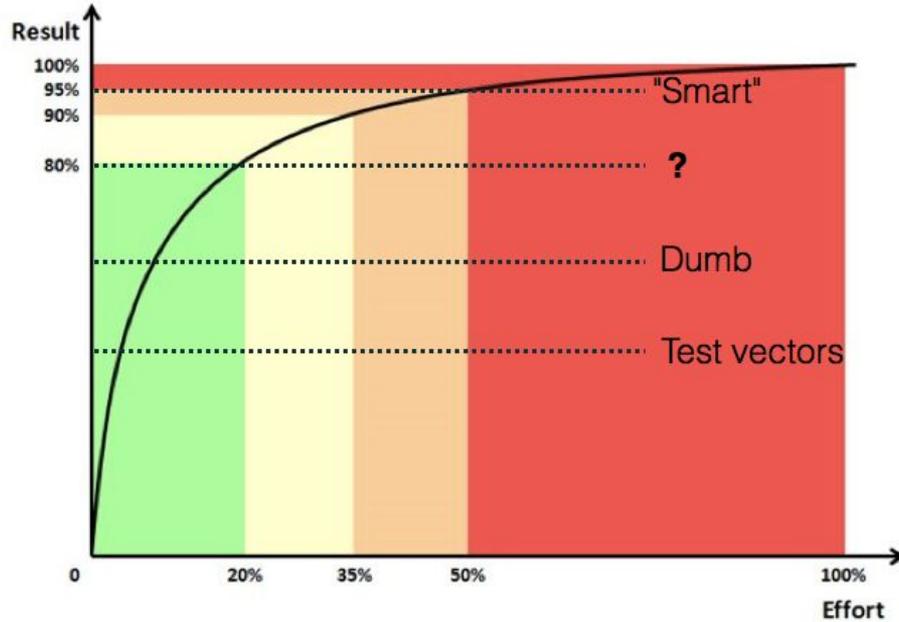
# Automated testing

In order of complexity and coverage

- Static analyzers      About code security, not correctness
- Test vectors      The more values, the more coverage
- Dumb fuzzing      Typically looks for crashes, e.g. afl
- Smart fuzzing      Protocol- or state machine-specific
- Formal verification      Proves correctness / security properties

How to maximize the efficiency? (ease of use × coverage)

# Towards cost-effective testing



# Limitations of current methods

- Randomness quality
- Timing leaks
- Test vectors focus on valid inputs, not invalid ones
- Parameters space rarely covered (key sizes, etc)
- Software security  $\nRightarrow$  crypto security (logic bugs)

How to better address those in a single tool?

## 2 Approach: differential fuzzing



*Credit: <https://unsplash.com/@ja5on>*

# New tool from old ideas

Testing crypto by comparing two implementations not new



**Solar Designer** @solar diz · 3 Sep 2015



Replying to @veorq

@veorq I fuzz-tested my MD4 and MD5 vs. OpenSSL's; I also retroactively fuzz-tested my crypt\_blowfish vs. OpenBSD's: [openwall.com/lists/announce...](http://openwall.com/lists/announce...)



**Frank Denis** @jedisc t1 · 3 Sep 2015

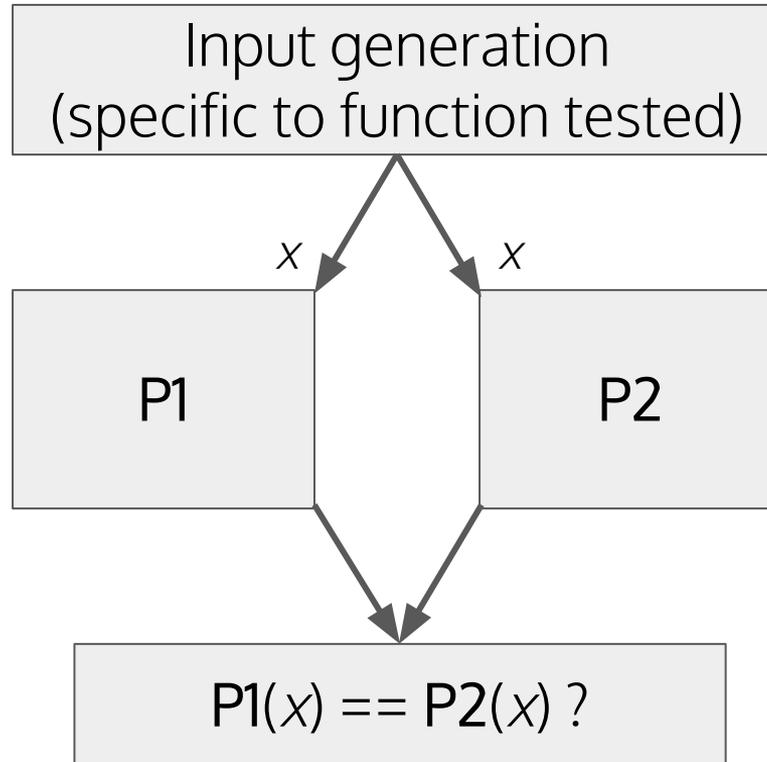


Replying to @veorq

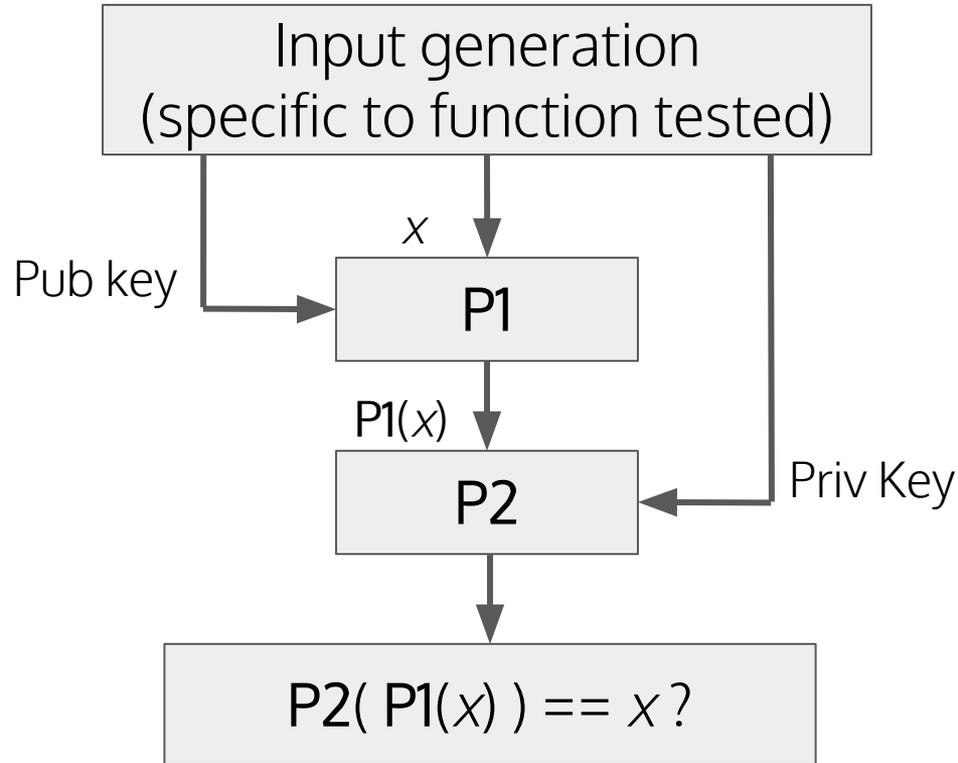
@veorq Started this a while back to generate test vectors using different implementations, for cross impl-checking

New: tool to automate it for many different interfaces

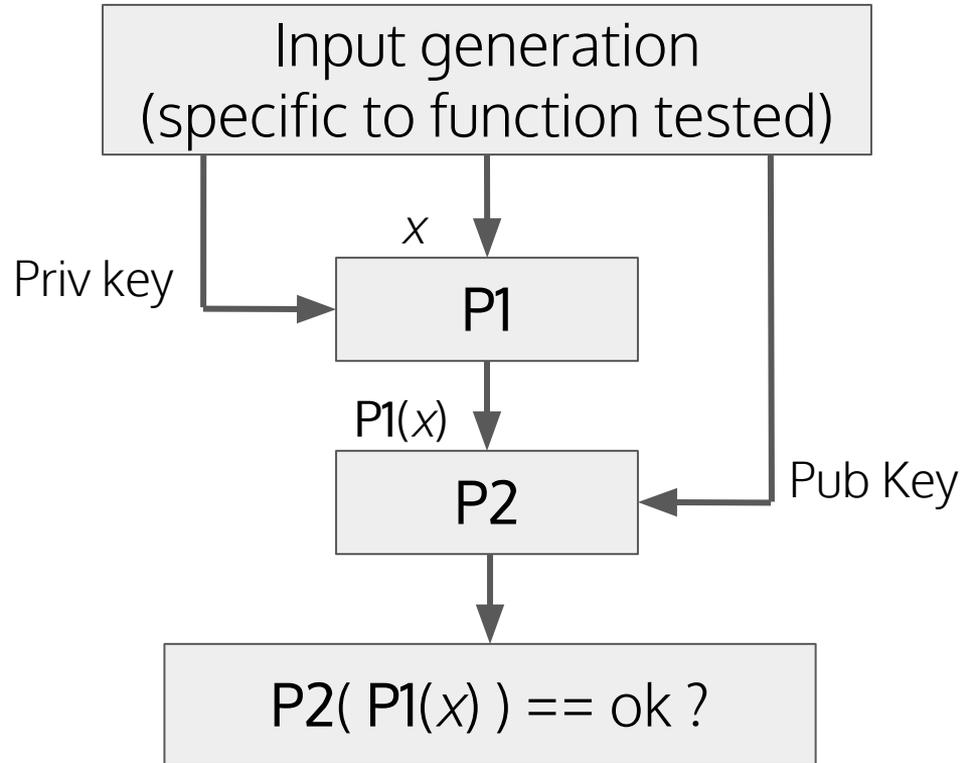
# Principle for hash functions, PRNG



# Principle for encryption



# Principle for signatures



# 3 A new tool: CDF



*Credit: <https://unsplash.com/@timstief>*

# CDF – Crypto Differential Fuzzing

Command-line tool in Go

- Native code, portable to Linux/macOS/Windows
- Concurrency support, fast enough (not speed bottleneck)

Language-agnostic

- Takes an executable file (binary or script)
- Can test crypto from any language or framework

Started in May 2016, most code written in Sept '16 - March '17

# Why using CDF?

- Correctness and security of implementations
- Interoperability between implementations
- Checks include
  - Insecure parameters supported
  - Non-compliance with standards (e.g. FIPS)
  - Edge cases of specific algorithms (e.g. DSA)

CDF can replace test vectors, but not formal verification

# Wycheproof – similar but different

From **Google** (Bleichenbacher, Duong, Kasper, Nguyen)

Announced in Dec. 2016, presented at RWC in Jan. 2017

- Extensive set of **unit tests**
- Specific to Java's common crypto interface (so far)
- Many **bugs found** in OpenJDK, BouncyCastle, etc.
- Tests a single program, doesn't compare implementations

*<https://github.com/google/wycheproof>*

## 3.a How it works



*Credit: <https://unsplash.com/@pyeshtiaghi>*

# So you want to test ECDSA?

Crypto++

```
void Sign(const DL_GroupParameters<T> &params, const Integer &x, const Integer &k, const Integer &e, Integer &r, Integer &s) const
{
    const Integer &q = params.GetSubgroupOrder();
    r %= q;
    Integer kInv = k.InverseMod(q);
    s = (kInv * (x*r + e)) % q;
    ECDSA_SIG *ECDSA_do_sign(const unsigned char *dgst, int dlen, EC_KEY *eckey)
    {
        CRYPTOPP_ASSERT(!r && !s);
        return ECDSA_do_sign_ex(dgst, dlen, NULL, NULL, eckey);
    }
}
```

OpenSSL

```
// Sign signs a hash (which should be the result of hashing a larger message)
// using the private key, priv. If the hash is longer than the bit-length of the
// private key's curve order, the hash will be truncated to that length. It
// returns the signature as a pair of integers. The security of the private key
// depends on the entropy of rand.
func Sign(rand io.Reader, priv *PrivateKey, hash []byte) (r, s *big.Int, err error) {
```

Go/crypto

How to deal with the different APIs?

# Generic ECDSA interface in CDF

- Public key = curve point  $P = (x, y)$
- Private key = number  $d$ , such that  $P = dG$
- Signature = pair of numbers  $(r, s)$

ECDSA interface in CDF for CLI input, hex-encoded:

	Input	Output
Signature	$x, y, d, m$	$r, s$
Verification	$x, y, r, s, m$	True / False

# CDF interfaces

- General API of CDF translatable to any tested software
- Needed in order to support black-box testing

Interfaces define the inputs and expected outputs for a given crypto functionality (hashing, RSA encryption, etc.)

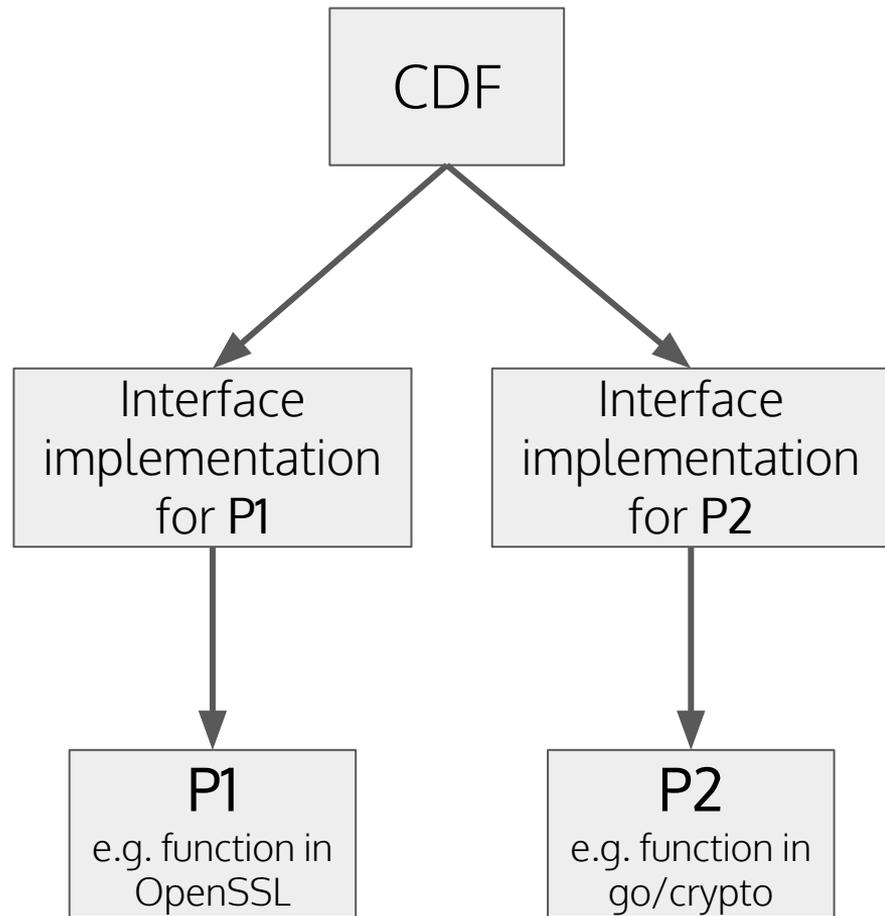
Not all inputs of an interface may be used by the tested software

# How CDF works

CDF binary, compiled from Go

Executable files calling the software to be tested (e.g. libs)

Software tested, may be different libs, languages, etc.



# ECDSA interface for cryptography.io

sign + verify, **35** sLoC (.py)

```
3 from cryptography.hazmat.backends import default_backend
4 from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import hashes
5 from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.asymmetric import ec
6 from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.asymmetric import utils
7 import sys
8 import binascii
9
10 curve = ec.SECP256R1()
11 algo = ec.ECDSA(hashes.SHA256())
12
13 if len(sys.argv) == 6:
14     signing = False
15 elif len(sys.argv) == 5:
16     signing = True
17 else:
18     print("Please provide X, Y, R, S, Msg or X, Y, D, Msg as arguments")
19     sys.exit(1)
20
21 pubnum = ec.EllipticCurvePublicNumbers(
22     int(sys.argv[1], 16), int(sys.argv[2], 16), curve)
23
24 # Msg is in last args:
25 data = binascii.unhexlify(sys.argv.pop())
26 if signing:
27     privateKey = ec.EllipticCurvePrivateNumbers(int(
28         sys.argv[3], 16), pubnum).private_key(default_backend())
29     signer = privateKey.signer(algo)
30     signer.update(data)
31     signature = signer.finalize()
32     (r, s) = utils.decode_dss_signature(signature)
33     print(format(r, 'x'))
34     print(format(s, 'x'))
35 else:
36     public_key = pubnum.public_key(default_backend())
37     signature = utils.encode_dss_signature(
38         int(sys.argv[3], 16), int(sys.argv[4], 16))
39     verifier = public_key.verifier(signature, algo)
40     verifier.update(data)
41     print(verifier.verify())
```

# ECDSA interface for **Go's** **crypto** package

sign + verify, **72** sLoC (.go)

```
45 // Key instantiation
46 privatekey := new(ecdsa.PrivateKey)
47 pubkey := new(ecdsa.PublicKey)
48
49 pubkey.Curve = pubkeyCurve
50 pubkey.X = fromBase16(flag.Arg(0))
51 pubkey.Y = fromBase16(flag.Arg(1))
52
53 // msg is always in latest position
54 // we are decoding from hex to have truly random messages
55 msg, err := hex.DecodeString(flag.Arg(len(flag.Args()) - 1))
56 if err != nil {
57     | panic(err)
58 }
59
60 r := big.NewInt(0)
61 s := big.NewInt(0)
62
63 h.Write(msg)
64 var signhash []byte
65 if *custom_hash == "" { // if the flag -h is not set, its default is "" and we hash the message
66     | signhash = h.Sum(nil)
67 } else { // even if specifying the hash is discutably useful in the non-deterministic ECDSA case
68     | var err error
69     | signhash, err = hex.DecodeString(*custom_hash)
70     | if err != nil {
71     |     | panic(err)
72     | }
73 }
74
75 if signing {
76     // private key instantiation:
77     privatekey.PublicKey = *pubkey
78     privatekey.D = fromBase16(flag.Arg(2))
79
80     // If signhash is longer than the bit-length of the private key's curve
81     // order, signhash will be truncated to that length. It returns the
82     // signature as a pair of big integers.
83     r, s, serr := ecdsa.Sign(rand.Reader, privatekey, signhash)
84     if serr != nil {
85         | log.Fatalln(serr)
86     }

```

# ECDSA interface for OpenSSL

sign + verify, **124** sLoC (.c)

```
89     int ret;
90     ECDSA_SIG* sig;
91     EC_KEY* eckey;
92
93     BIGNUM* x = BN_new();
94     BIGNUM* y = BN_new();
95
96     BIGNUM* d = BN_new();
97
98     BN_hex2bn(&x, argv[optind]);
99     BN_hex2bn(&y, argv[optind + 1]);
100
101     eckey = EC_KEY_new_by_curve_name(ECPARAMS);
102     if (eckey == NULL) {
103         printf("Failed to create new EC Key for this curve.\n");
104         return -1;
105     }
106
107     if (!EC_KEY_set_public_key_affine_coordinates(eckey, x, y)) {
108         printf("Failed to create set EC Key with the provided args.\n");
109         return -1;
110     }
111
112     if (signing) {
113         BN_hex2bn(&d, argv[optind + 2]);
114         EC_KEY_set_private_key(eckey, d);
115
116         sig = ECDSA_do_sign(hash, blen, eckey); // this return a newly initialized ECDSA_SIG
117         if (sig == NULL) {
118             printf("Failed to sign with those args.\n");
119             return -1;
120         }
121         printBN(sig->r);
122         printBN(sig->s);
123
124     } else {
125         sig = ECDSA_SIG_new();
126         BN_hex2bn(&sig->r, argv[optind + 2]);
127         BN_hex2bn(&sig->s, argv[optind + 3]);
128         ret = ECDSA_do_verify(hash, blen, sig, eckey);
129         if (ret == -1) {
```

## 3.b Examples of tests



*Credit: <https://unsplash.com/@rubavi78>*

# Simplest case: keyed hash (PRF, MAC)

- P1 and P2 do the same thing (hash a message using a key)
- Compare P1 and P2 behavior on different input pairs:
  - For different message lengths
  - For different key lengths
- Checks distinct outputs with 00-padded keys (HMAC ...)

# ECDSA

- P1 signs, P2 verifies, for different hash lengths
- Check support of hashes larger than group size (truncation?)
- Check degenerate cases (risks of forgery, DoS, key recovery)
  - $(0, 0)$  public key
  - 0 private key
  - Hash = 0 and signature =  $(x, x)$

# Example of ECDSA test

```
// testInfiniteLoop is a simple trial to verify using a wrong 00 hash and
// using 00 as secret value that the implementation does not fall into an
// infinite loop. Note that 00 is not amongst the range of the acceptable
// secret values.
func testInfiniteLoop(prog string) error {
    LogInfo.Printf("testing %s against the invalid inf loop.\n", prog)
    // The point 0,0 shouldn't be accepted as a valid point, so let us try with it:
    id := "ecdsa#inloop_" + prog

    argsP := []string{"-h", "00", Config.EcdsaX, Config.EcdsaY, "00", "DEADCODE"}
    out, err := runProg(prog, id, argsP)
    if err != nil && strings.Contains(err.Error(), "STOP") {
        LogError.Println(prog, "failed and run into an infinite loop.")
        return fmt.Errorf("%s runned into a degenerate infinite loop: %v", prog, err)
    } else if err != nil {
        LogToFile.Println("As expected,", id, "failed:", out, "\nGot error:", err)
        LogSuccess.Println(prog, "did not run into an infinite loop.")
    }
    LogToFile.Println("Unexpected,", id, "did not fail and output:", out, "\non input:", prog, argsP)
    LogWarning.Println(prog, "didn't run into an infinite loop, but did not fail when running:\n", prog,
argsP)
    return nil
}
```

# RSA encryption

- P1 encrypts, P2 decrypts, for different message lengths
- Possible checks
  - Exponents lengths supported, detecting max length
  - Support of small private exponents  $d$
  - Support for messages larger than the modulus
- Detects timing leaks

```
// testRSAencPubMaxExponentLen will test the maximal size of the exponent
// the tested program support. Typically it would detect when a library is
// using an integer instead of a big integer to store the exponent value.
func testRSAencPubMaxExponentLen(msg string) (mainErr error) {
    TermPrepareFor(1)
    LogInfo.Println("testing max exponent lengths")
    mainErr = nil
    failed := false
```

# Timing leaks detection

Based on dudect – <https://github.com/oreparaz/dudect>

## Dude, is my code constant time?

Oscar Reparaz, Josep Balasch and Ingrid Verbauwhede  
KU Leuven/COSIC and imec  
Leuven, Belgium

- Searches statistical evidence of timing discrepancies between two classes of input values (e.g. valid and invalid ciphertexts)
- Leverages Welch's  $t$ -test
- dudect entirely rewritten in Go

## 3.c Demo



*Credit: <https://unsplash.com/@rubavi78>*

# 4 Issues found



*Credit: <https://unsplash.com/@toddcravens>*

# Findings summary

Focus on widely used libraries, only tested few components

Number of issues discovered:

	go/crypto	OpenSSL	mbedTLS	PyCrypto	Crypto++
OAEP	2	0	0	0	0
ECDSA	2	2	2	n.a.	0
DSA	3	2	n.a.	3	0

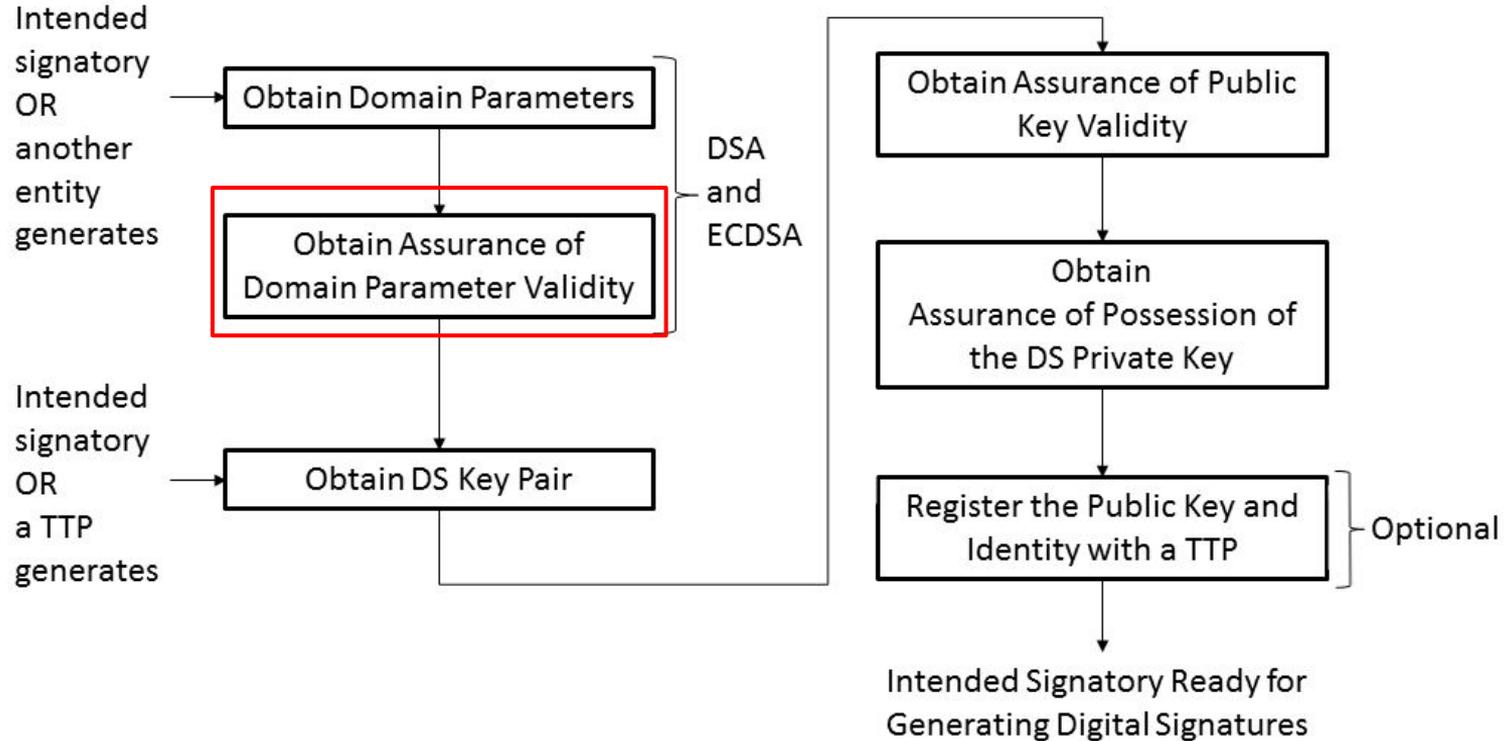
Impressive defense in depth in Crypto++...

# DSA (Go, OpenSSL, PyCrypto)

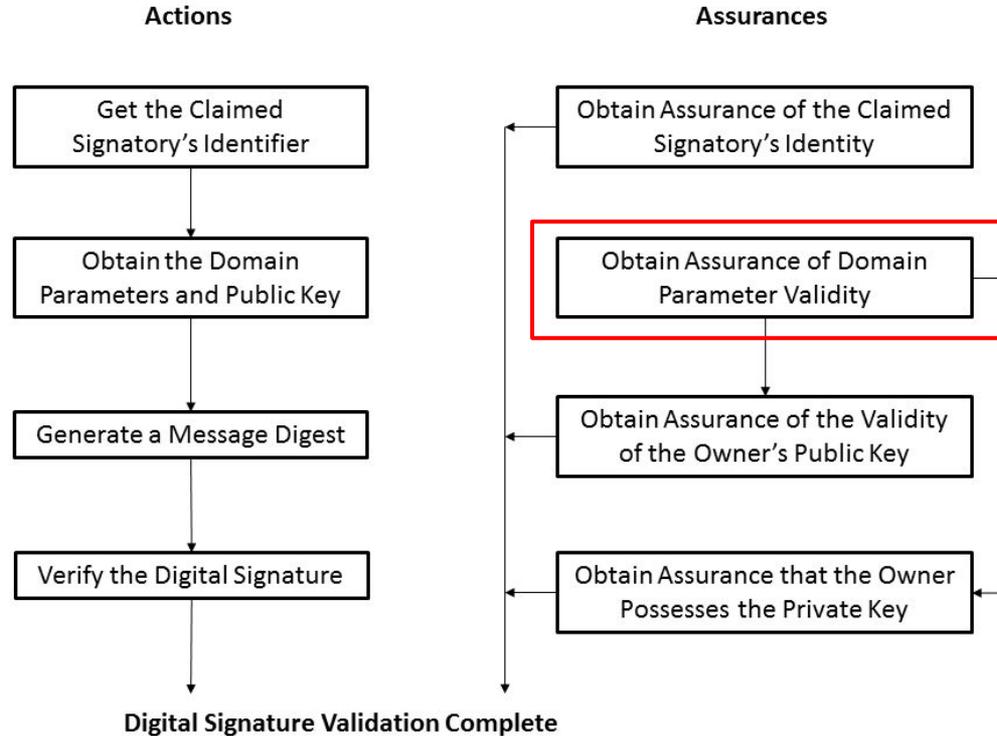
CDF detected the following:

- DoS on attacker-provided parameters upon signature
- Invalid signature issuance on invalid domain parameters
- Always-valid signatures issuance and verification on invalid domain parameters

# (EC)DSA FIPS compliance: signature



# (EC)DSA FIPS compliance: verification



# Infinite loop in DSA signing (Go, OpenSSL)

Domain params  $(p, q, g)$ , secret key  $x$ , pubkey  $y = g^x \bmod p$

1. Generate a random  $k, 1 < k < q$
  2. Calculate  $r = (g^k \bmod p) \bmod q$
  3. If  $r = 0$ , goto 1.
  4. Calculate  $s = k^{-1} (H(m) + xr) \bmod q$
  5. If  $s = 0$ , goto 1.
  6. Return the signature  $(r, s)$
- 

What if  $g = 0$  ?

# Infinite loop in DSA (Go)

```
202     for {
203         k := new(big.Int)
204         buf := make([]byte, n)
205         for {
206             _, err = io.ReadFull(rand, buf)
207             if err != nil {
208                 return
209             }
210             k.SetBytes(buf)
211             if k.Sign() > 0 && k.Cmp(priv.Q) < 0 {
212                 break
213             }
214         }
215
216         kInv := fermatInverse(k, priv.Q)
217
218         r = new(big.Int).Exp(priv.G, k, priv.P)
219         r.Mod(r, priv.Q)
220
221         if r.Sign() == 0 {
222             continue
223         }

```

# Infinite loop in DSA (Go)

```
207     var attempts int
208     for attempts = 10; attempts > 0; attempts-- {
209         k := new(big.Int)
210         buf := make([]byte, n)
211         for {
212             _, err = io.ReadFull(rand, buf)
213             if err != nil {
214                 return
215             }
216             k.SetBytes(buf)
217             // priv.Q must be >= 128 because the test above
218             // requires it to be > 0 and that
219             // ceil(log_2(Q)) mod 8 = 0
220             // Thus this loop will quickly terminate.
221             if k.Sign() > 0 && k.Cmp(priv.Q) < 0 {
222                 break
223             }
224         }
225
226         kInv := fermatInverse(k, priv.Q)
227
228         r = new(big.Int).Exp(priv.G, k, priv.P)
229         r.Mod(r, priv.Q)
230
231         if r.Sign() == 0 {
232             continue
233         }

```

Fix implemented by the Go team:  
Bound the number of iterations

# Timing leak in RSA-OAEP (Go)

Potential timing leak in RSA-OAEP decryption, noted in Go's source code comments, which we experimentally confirmed

Go's OAEP *potentially* vulnerable to Manger's attack...

- Seems **unexploitable** (we measured leaks of nanoseconds..)
- Too many measurements needed to exploit it, even locally
- Timing leak  $\neq$  timing attack

# General observations

Most crypto libraries...

- Lack sanity checks and parameters validation
- Don't strictly conform to standards
- Support weak parameters

# 5 Conclusions



*Credit: <https://unsplash.com/@martinjphoto>*

# CDF is a new tool that...

- Tests the correctness and security of crypto software
- Is in Go, portable, and supporting software any language
- Uses differential fuzzing, to compare different implementations of the same functionality
- Found issues in widely used crypto libraries

## TODO: CDF needs more...

- Interfaces, in order to test more crypto functionalities
- Tests, like unit tests from Wycheproof missing in CDF
- Applications, to find bugs in crypto software/libs
- Testing, to find bugs in CDF

# Thank you!

Get CDF at <https://github.com/kudelskisecurity/cdf>

*"Besides black art, there is only automation and mechanization."*

—Federico García Lorca

