

MysteryTwister C3

THE CRYPTO CHALLENGE CONTEST

ELLIPTIC BOOGALOO

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Introduction

In this challenge, we take a closer look at elliptical curves. In the file `app.py` a small program is given, which creates 9 signatures on the curve NIST P-256 [1].

An explanation of how ECDSA works can be found on Wikipedia [2]. For this challenge, a cryptanalytic lattice attack [3] must be performed on ECDSA.

Challenge (1/2)

The attached file `signatures.txt` contains the 9 signatures that were created using `app.py`.

The program library `ecdsa` [4] required to run `app.py` can be installed using `pip install ecdsa`.

Challenge (2/2)

The challenge is to extract the private key secret and sign the following string:

MysteryTwister Heureka!

The signature must be submitted in the form " r,s ", where r and s (separated only by commas) are each to be understood as decimal numbers.

Resources

1. Mathematical analysis of the P-256 curve:
neuromancer.sk/std/nist/P-256
2. Wikipedia article about ECDSA:
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elliptic_Curve_Digital_Signature_Algorithm
3. Lattice Attacks on Digital Signature Schemes,
Howgrave-Graham et al. (2001):
doi.org/10.1023/A:1011214926272
4. ECDSA program library: github.com/tlsfuzzer/python-ecdsa

Additional Files

- `app.py`: The source code used to create the signatures.
- `signatures.txt`: The 9 signatures that were created with the program.