

Rethinking Privacy for Extended Sanitizable Signatures

and a Black-Box Construction of Strongly Private Schemes

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Outline

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Revisiting Privacy
- 3. Generic Construction
- 4. Conclusions

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Proof/Judge : original signature of signer or sanitized

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Correctness, Unforgeability

Straight forward

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Immutability

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Formalized in [BFF+09]

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Arbitrary replacements?

- Sanitizer often too powerful
- Limited expressiveness of signed messages
- Limited applicability in several scenarios

Several extensions proposed in [KL06]

 $\Rightarrow \texttt{LimitSet} \text{ feature}$



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Extended Sanitizable Signature Schemes (ESSS)

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- Extended Sanitizable Signature Schemes (ESSS)
- Non-privacy-related features
 - Same changes in linked blocks
 - Modify at most k out of n blocks
 - Restrict number "versions" of a message

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- Non-privacy-related features
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Unfortunately, no formal definitions.

Motivation

LimitSet useful tool in many applications

- Restrict power of sanitizer
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Later formalized in [CJ10]

- Privacy not defined in original sense
- Recovery of admissible sets possible
 - Private scheme can leak all admissible sets

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Proper formalization important!

Is a weak privacy notion a problem?

Doctor signs medical records

- Patient replaces sensitive information
- with less sensitive information

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- Enterprise reveals subset
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Sanitized documents published

⇒ Verifiers may learn sensitive information!

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 - Secure in the established model of SSS [BFF⁺09]
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- Practically efficient generic construction of ESSS
 - From any SSS
 - Secure in the established model of SSS [BFF⁺09]
 - ... and cryptographic accumulators
 - Strongly private if accu is indistinguishable [DHS15]

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Indistinguishability-based notion (left-or-right oracle)

modification Instructions



admissible modifications







 $\texttt{LimitSet} \Rightarrow additionally need to specify set limitations$

for LimitSet blocks

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- for LimitSet blocks
- [CJ10] modified OLORSanit
 - Random set limitations are internally chosen
 - Compatible with initially submitted messages,
 - and with both sanitized messages.

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- \Rightarrow Set limitations independent of challenge bit

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Possible motivation for weak formalization?

Preserves implication of privacy by transparency [BFF⁺09]

Stronger privacy notion

- Modify \mathcal{O}^{LoR} :
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 - No practically efficient instantiations

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No practically efficient instantiations

We look for notion between privacy and unlinkability!

Introducing Strong Privacy

Extension of privacy

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- Final sanitized messages must be equivalent

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We show that

- Privacy strictly weaker than strong privacy
- (Strong) unlinkability strictly stronger than strong privacy

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Indistinguishable Accumulators



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• Efficiently computable $\forall x \in \mathcal{X}$, intractable $\forall x \notin \mathcal{X}$

Indistinguishability

Neither accu nor witnesses leak information about \mathcal{X}

Existing Constructions Supporting LimitSet

Problems of existing constructions

- Tailored to specific instantiations
- Meaningful indistinguishability notion very recent [DHS15]
 - Not considered in existing constructions
 - Plain accumulators not required to hide accumulated set
 - \Rightarrow **No** strong privacy!

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 - Plain accumulators not required to hide accumulated set
 - \Rightarrow **No** strong privacy!
- Existing constructions follow paradigm
 - We show that this paradigm is generally applicable

How does the Extension Work?

For each LimitSet block

- Include actually chosen message as variable element
- Accumulate sets of admissible changes
- Include accumulators as additional fixed elements
- Include witnesses in the signature

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Verification

- Conventional verification
- + Accumulator membership for LimitSet blocks
- Unambiguous encoding required!

Security I

Correctness

Correctness of underlying primitives

Unforgeability

Unforgeability of underlying SSS

Immutability

- Immutability of underlying SSS
- Collision freeness of accumulator

Security II

Privacy, Transparency

Privacy, Transparency of underlying SSS

Accountability

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Privacy, Transparency

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Strong Privacy

Holds if

- LimitSet instantiated with indistinguishable accumulator
- Underlying SSS is private

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Relation of **strong privacy** to other privacy notions

Generic construction of ESSS

- Providing strong privacy
- Obtain practically efficient implementations with low effort
 - ...by building upon existing schemes

Thank you.

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Full version: http://eprint.iacr.org/2015/843



References I

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