

# Hash-based signatures II

Lamport and Winternitz one-time signatures

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# Lamport's 1-time signature system

Sign arbitrary-length message by signing its 256-bit hash:

```
def keypair():
    keys = [signbit.keypair() for n in range(256)]
    public,secret = zip(*keys)
    return public,secret

def sign(message,secret):
    msg = message.to_bytes(200, byteorder="little")
    h = sha3_256(msg)
    hbits = [1 & (h[i//8])>>(i%8) for i in range(256)]
    sigs = [signbit.sign(hbits[i],secret[i]) for i in range(256)]
    return sigs, message

def open(sm,public):
    message = sm[1]
    msg = message.to_bytes(200, byteorder="little")
    h = sha3_256(msg)
    hbits = [1 & (h[i//8])>>(i%8) for i in range(256)]
    for i in range(256):
        if hbits[i] != signbit.open(sm[0][i],public[i]):
            raise Exception('bit %d of hash does not match' % i)
    return message
```

## Want to sign 4 bits with just 32 bytes

- ▶ Lamport's signatures have  $2 \times 256$  hash outputs (each 32 bytes) as public key and the signature has 256 times 32 bytes.
- ▶ Define

$$H^i(x) = H(H^{i-1}(x)) = \underbrace{H(H(\dots(H(x))))}_{i \text{ times}}.$$

- ▶ Pick random  $sk$ , compute  $pk = H^{16}(sk)$ .
- ▶ For message  $m$  reveal  $s = H^m(sk)$  as signature.
- ▶ To verify check that  $pk = H^{16-m}(s)$ .

## Weak Winternitz

```
def keypair():
    secret = sha3_256(os.urandom(32))
    public = sha3_256(secret)
    for i in range(16): public = sha3_256(public)
    return public,secret

def sign(m,secret):
    if type(m) != int: raise Exception('message must be int')
    if m < 0 or m > 15: raise Exception('message must be between 0
    sign = secret
    for i in range(m): sign = sha3_256(sign)
    return sign, m

def open(sm,public):
    if type(sm[1]) != int: raise Exception('message must be int')
    if sm[1] < 0 or sm[1] > 15: raise Exception('message must be b
    check = sm[0]
    for i in range(16-sm[1]): check = sha3_256(check)
    if sha3_256(check) != public: raise Exception('bad signature')
    return sm[1]
```

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- ▶ This works – but is insecure!  
Eve can take  $H(s)$  as signature on  $m + 1$  (for  $m < 15$ ).
- ▶ Fix by doubling the key-sizes again, running one chain forward, one in reverse.

## Slow Winternitz 1-time signature system for 4 bits

Could stop at 15 iterations, but convenient to reuse code here:

```
import weak_winternitz
def keypair():
    keys = [weak_winternitz.keypair() for n in range(2)]
    public,secret = zip(*keys)
    return public,secret

def sign(m,secret):
    sign0 = weak_winternitz.sign(m,secret[0])
    sign1 = weak_winternitz.sign(16-m,secret[1])
    return sign0, sign1, m

def open(sm,public):
    m0 = weak_winternitz.open(sm[0],public[0])
    m1 = weak_winternitz.open(sm[1],public[1])
    if m0 != sm[2] or m1 != (16-sm[2]): raise Exception('Invalid')
    return sm[2]
```



# Winternitz 1-time signature system

- ▶ Define parameter  $w$ . Each chain will run for  $2^w$  steps.
- ▶ For signing a 256-bit hash this needs  $t_1 = \lceil 256/w \rceil$  chains. Write  $m$  in base  $2^w$  (integers of  $w$  bits):

$$m = (m_{t_1-1}, \dots, m_1, m_0)$$

(zero-padding if necessary).

- ▶ Put

$$c = \sum_{i=0}^{t_1-1} (2^w - m_i)$$

Note that  $c \leq t_1 2^w$ .

- ▶ The checksum  $c$  gets larger if  $m_i$  is smaller.
- ▶ Write  $c$  in base  $2^w$ . This takes  $t_2 = 1 + \lceil [(\log_2 t_1) + 1]/w \rceil$   $w$ -bit integers

$$c = (c_{t_2-1}, \dots, c_1, c_0).$$

- ▶ Publish  $t_1 + t_2$  public keys, sign with chains of lengths

$$m_{t_1-1}, \dots, m_1, m_0, c_{t_2-1}, \dots, c_1, c_0.$$

## Winternitz 1-time signature system for $w = 8$

- ▶ Define parameter  $w = 8$ . Each chain will run for  $2^8 = 256$  steps.
- ▶ For signing a 256-bit hash this needs  $t_1 = \lceil 256/8 \rceil = 32$  chains. Write  $m$  in base  $2^8$  (integers of 8 bits):

$$m = (m_{31}, \dots, m_1, m_0)$$

(zero-padding if necessary).

- ▶ Put

$$c = \sum_{i=0}^{31} (2^8 - m_i)$$

Note that  $c \leq 32 \cdot 2^8 = 2^{13}$ .

- ▶ The checksum  $c$  gets larger if  $m_i$  is smaller.
- ▶ Write  $c$  in base  $2^8$ . This takes  $t_2 = 1 + \lceil (5 + 1)/8 \rceil = 2$  8-bit integers

$$c = (c_1, c_0).$$

- ▶ Publish  $t_1 + t_2 = 34$  public keys, sign with chains of lengths

$$m_{31}, \dots, m_1, m_0, c_1, c_0.$$