The first 10 years of Curve25519

Daniel J. Bernstein

University of Illinois at Chicago & Technische Universiteit Eindhoven

2005.05.19: Seminar talk; design+software close to done.

2005.09.15: Software online.

2005.09.20: Invited talk at ECC.

2005.11.15: Paper online; submitted to PKC 2006.

Abstract: "This paper explains the design and implementation of a high-security elliptic-curve-Diffie-Hellman function achieving record-setting speeds: e.g., 832457 Pentium III cycles (with several side benefits: free key compression, free key validation, and state-of-the-art timing-attack protection), more than twice as fast as other authors' results at the same conjectured security level (with or without the side benefits)."

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Annals of Mathematics, 126 (1987), 649-673

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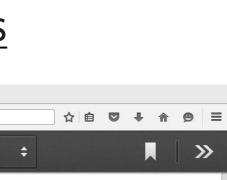
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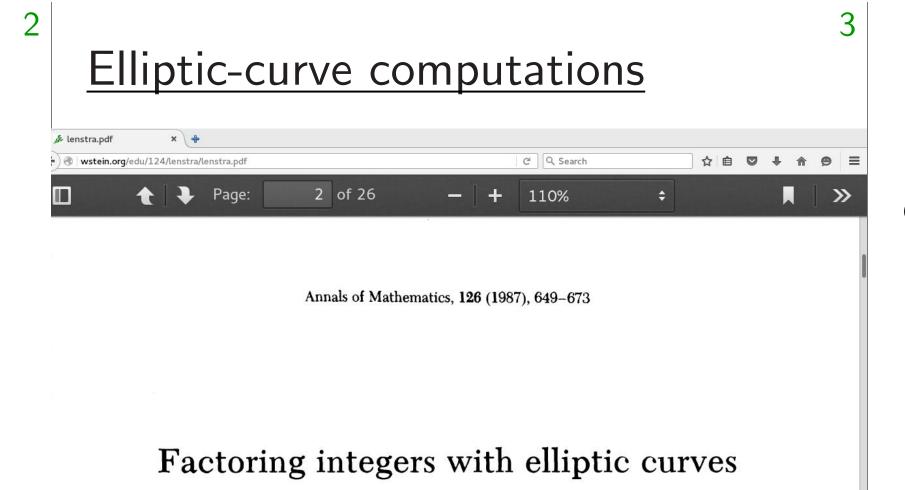
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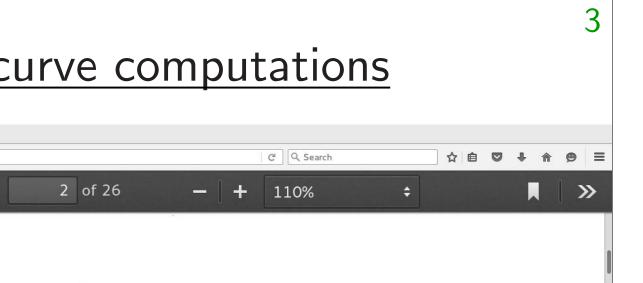
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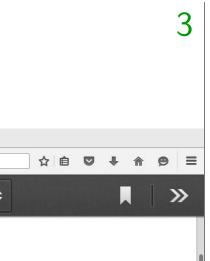
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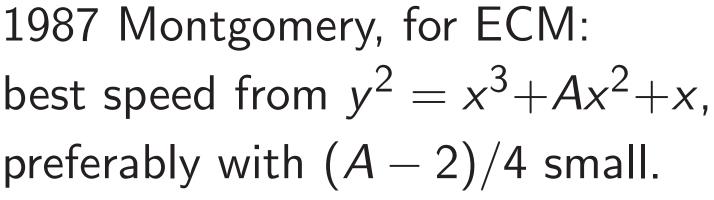
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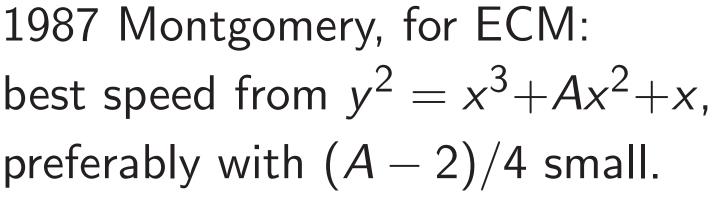
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W. BOSMA\*

Department of Pure Mathematics, University of Sydney, Sydney, New South Wales 2006, Australia

AND

H. W. LENSTRA,  $Jr.^{\dagger}$ 

Department of Mathematics, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720-3840

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Department of Pure Mathematics, University of Sydney, Sydney, New South Wales 2006, Australia

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### Complete Systems of Two Addition Laws for Elliptic Curves

W. BOSMA\*

Department of Pure Mathematics, University of Sydney, Sydney, New South Wales 2006, Australia

AND

H. W. LENSTRA, JR.<sup>+</sup>

Department of Mathematics, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720-3840

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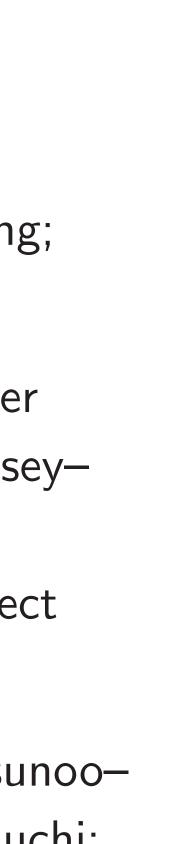
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Yuval Yarom The University of Adelaide and NICTA

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### **CacheBleed: A Timing Atta OpenSSL Constant Time**

Daniel Genkin

**Technion** and **Tel Aviv University** 

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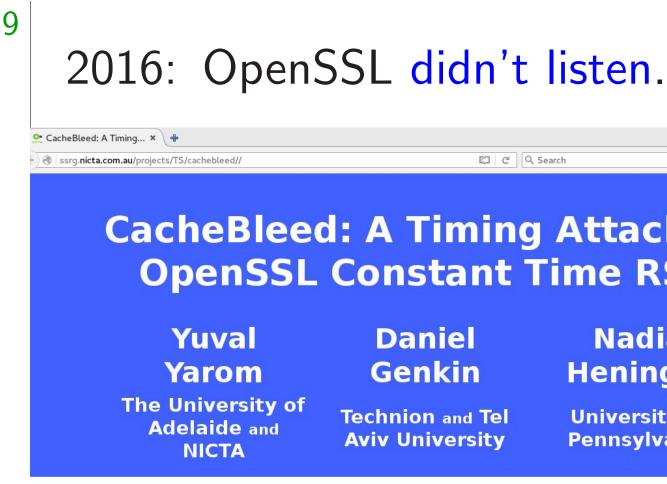
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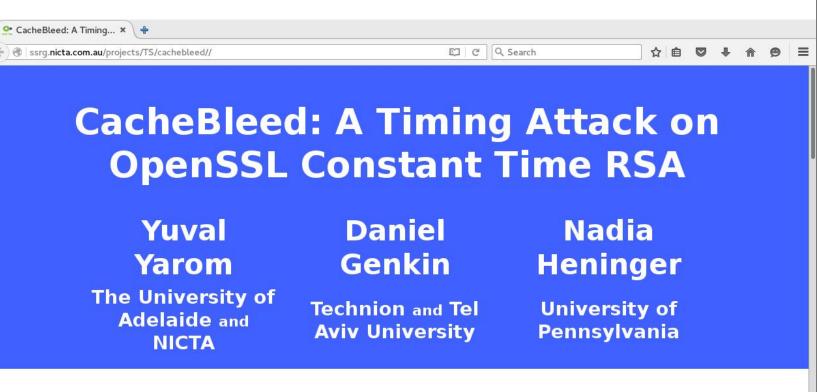
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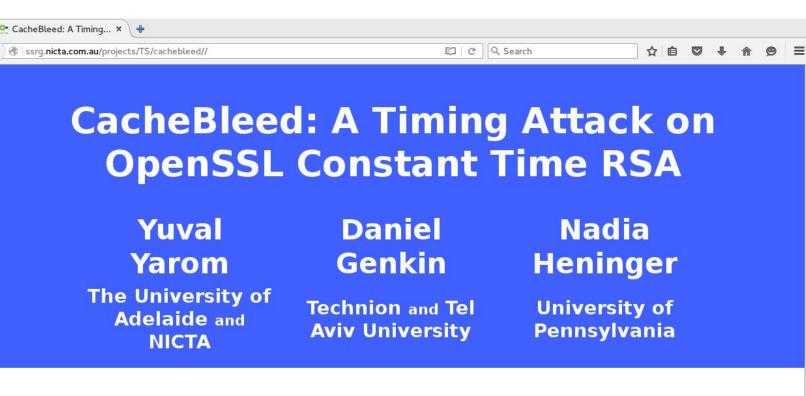
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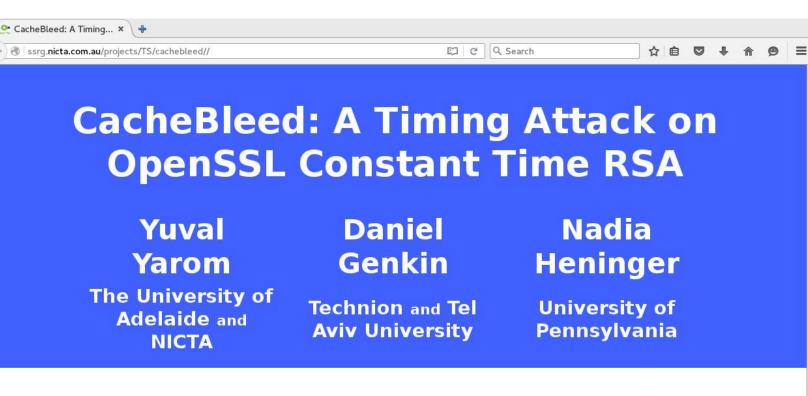
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# The Curve25519 paper

Avoid "all input-dependent indices, and other instructions with input-dependent timings".

Choose a curve  $y^2 = x^3 + Ax^2 + x$ where  $A^2 - 4$  is not a square.  $\approx 25\%$  of all elliptic curves.

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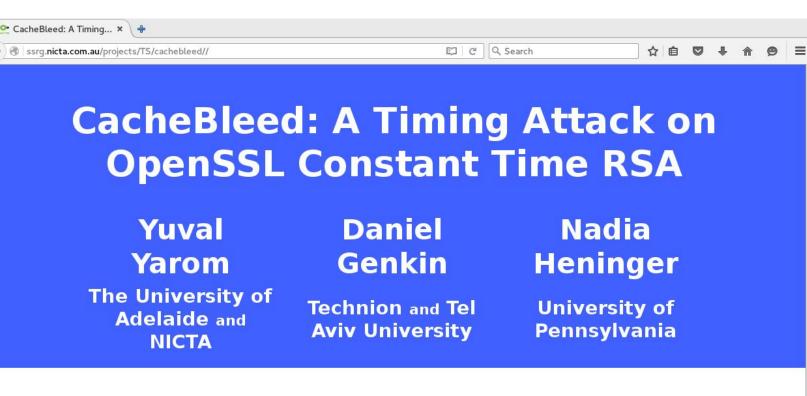
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Define  $X_0(x, y) = x$ ;  $X_0(\infty) = 0$ . Transmit each point P as  $X_0(P)$ .

# branches, all input-dependent array Choose a curve $y^2 = x^3 + Ax^2 + x$



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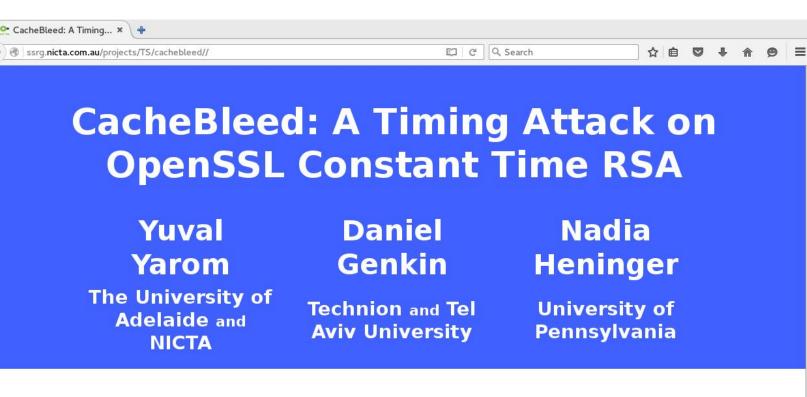
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Use the Montgomery ladder without any extra tests.

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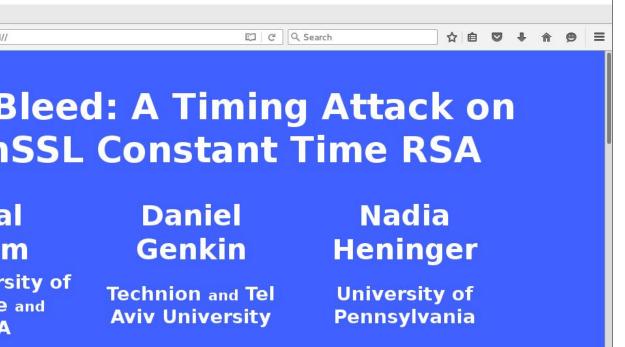
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Define  $X_0(x, y) = x$ ;  $X_0(\infty) = 0$ . Transmit each point P as  $X_0(P)$ .

Use the Montgomery ladder without any extra tests.

Theorem: Output is  $X_0(nP)$ .

# branches, all input-dependent array Choose a curve $y^2 = x^3 + Ax^2 + x$



e-channel attack that exploits information leaks through in Intel processors. By detecting cache-bank conflicts via ions, we are able to recover information about victim n the same machine. Our attack is able to recover both t RSA secret keys from OpenSSL 1.0.2f running on Intel Sandy ter observing only 16,000 secret-key operations (decryption, espite the fact that OpenSSL's RSA implementation was be constant time in order to protect against cache-based nnel attacks.

of an attack based on cache-bank conflicts has long been e first practical demonstration of such an attack. Intel's tion describes cache-bank conflicts as early as 2004. e not widely thought to be exploitable, and as a consequence nic software developers have not implemented this attack.

e downloaded <mark>here</mark>.

# The Curve25519 paper

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Avoid "all input-dependent branches, all input-dependent array indices, and other instructions with input-dependent timings".

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x2,z2,x3 for i i: bit =  $x^2, x^3$ z2,z3 x3,z3  $x^2, z^2$  $4 \times x$  $x^2, x^3$ z2,z3 return :

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 $x^{2}, z^{2}, x^{3}, z^{3} = 1,$ 

- for i in reverse
  - bit = 1 & (n >
  - x2,x3 = cswap(
  - $z^2, z^3 = cswap($
  - x3, z3 = ((x2\*x))
    - x1\*(x2\*z
  - $x^2, z^2 = ((x^2)^2)$ 
    - $4*x2*z2*(x2^{2})$
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 $x^{2}, z^{2}, x^{3}, z^{3} = 1, 0, x^{1}, 1$ for i in reversed(range(2 bit = 1 & (n >> i) x2,x3 = cswap(x2,x3,bit) $z^2, z^3 = cswap(z^2, z^3, bit)$ 

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- $x3, z3 = ((x2*x3-z2*z3)^{2})$ 
  - $x1*(x2*z3-z2*x3)^{2}$
- $x^{2}, z^{2} = ((x^{2}-z^{2})^{2})^{2},$ 
  - 4\*x2\*z2\*(x2^2+A\*x2\*z2
- x2,x3 = cswap(x2,x3,bit
- $z_{2,z_{3}} = c_{swap}(z_{2,z_{3}})$

return  $x^2 z^2 (p-2)$ 

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 $x^{2}, z^{2}, x^{3}, z^{3} = 1, 0, x^{1}, 1$ for i in reversed(range(255)): bit = 1 & (n >> i) x2,x3 = cswap(x2,x3,bit) $z^2, z^3 = cswap(z^2, z^3, bit)$  $x3, z3 = ((x2*x3-z2*z3)^2),$  $x^{2}, z^{2} = ((x^{2} - z^{2})^{2})^{2},$ x2,x3 = cswap(x2,x3,bit) $z^2, z^3 = cswap(z^2, z^3, bit)$ return  $x^2*z^2(p-2)$ 

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- $x1*(x2*z3-z2*x3)^2)$
- $4 \times 2 \times 2 \times (x^{2} + A \times 2 \times 2 + z^{2}))$

# ve25519 paper

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a curve  $y^{2} = x^{3} + Ax^{2} + x$  $^2 - 4$  is not a square. f all elliptic curves.

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# Montgomery has variable #depending on top bit of *n*.

 $x^{2}, z^{2}, x^{3}, z^{3} = 1, 0, x^{1}, 1$ for i in reversed(range(255)): bit = 1 & (n >> i) x2,x3 = cswap(x2,x3,bit) $z_{2,z_{3}} = c_{swap}(z_{2,z_{3}},b_{it})$  $x3, z3 = ((x2*x3-z2*z3)^2),$  $x1*(x2*z3-z2*x3)^2)$  $x^{2}, z^{2} = ((x^{2} - z^{2})^{2})^{2},$  $4 \times 2 \times 2 \times (x^{2} + A \times x^{2} \times z^{2} + z^{2}))$ x2,x3 = cswap(x2,x3,bit) $z_{2,z_{3}} = c_{swap}(z_{2,z_{3}},b_{it})$ return  $x^2 z^2 (p-2)$ 

Montgomery has variable #loops, depending on top bit of *n*.

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Montgomery has variable #loops, depending on top bit of *n*.

Curve25519: Change initialization to allow leading 0 bits. Use constant #loops.

Montgomery has variable #loops, depending on top bit of *n*. Curve25519: Change initialization to allow leading 0 bits. Use constant #loops. Also define scalars *n* to never have leading 0 bits, so original Montgomery ladder still takes constant time.

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Montgomery has variable #loops, depending on top bit of *n*. to allow leading 0 bits. Use constant #loops. Also define scalars *n* to never have leading 0 bits, so original Montgomery ladder still takes constant time.

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Use arithmetic to compute cswap in constant time.

- Curve25519: Change initialization

3, z3 = 1, 0, x1, 1

n reversed(range(255)):

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= cswap(x2,x3,bit)

= cswap(z2,z3,bit)

 $= ((x2*x3-z2*z3)^2),$ 

 $x1*(x2*z3-z2*x3)^2)$ 

 $= ((x2^2-z2^2)^2)$ 

 $2*z2*(x2^2+A*x2*z2+z2^2))$ 

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Conventional wisdom: Important to check; otherwise broken by

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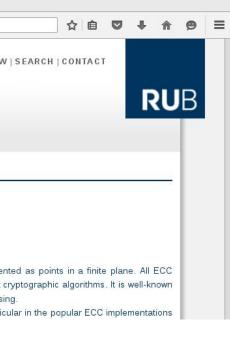
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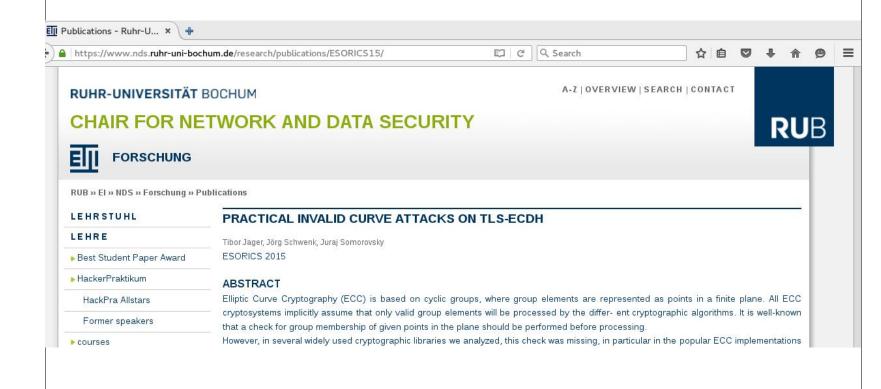
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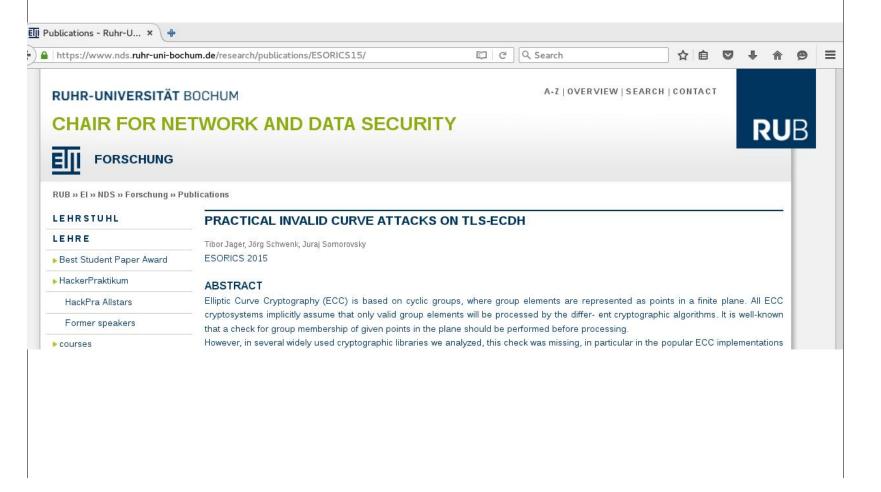
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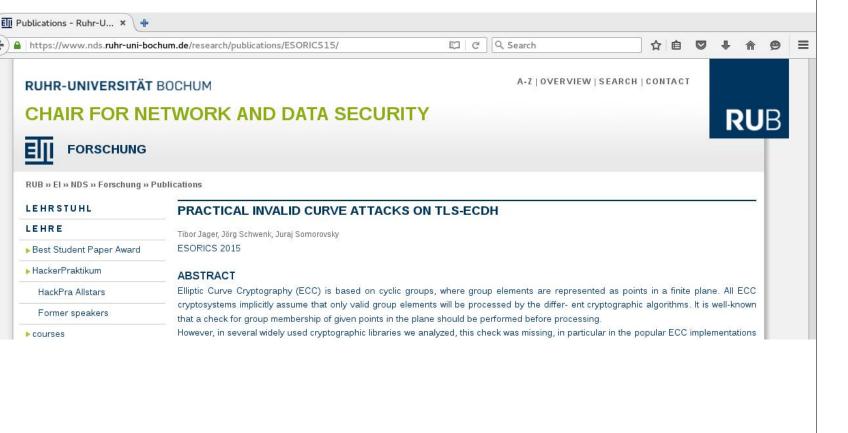


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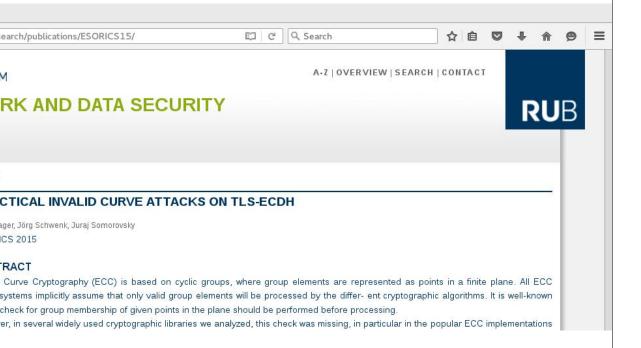
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"Prime fields also have the virtue of minimizing the number of security concerns for elliptic-curve cryptography."

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"Prime fields also have the virtue of minimizing the number of security concerns for elliptic-curve cryptography." Curve25519 paper specified a **multi-user** DH system. See 1976 Diffie–Hellman; also, e.g., 1999 Rescorla "static-static mode"; 2006 NIST "C(0,2)". 17

Longest section in Curve25519 paper: fast finite-field arithmetic, improving on algorithm designs from 1999-2004 Bernstein.

Barely mentioned in paper: new programming language.

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Included security survey: • Reductions: intolerably loose. • Known attack ideas: rho etc. Multi-user batch attacks. • Special-purpose hardware: 160-bit ECC is breakable. • Small-subgroup attacks,

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Diffie-Hellman key exchange is a popular cryptographic algorithm that allows Internet protocols to agree on a shared key and negotiate a secure connection. It is fundamental to many protocols including HTTPS, SSH, IPsec, SMTPS, and protocols that rely on TLS.

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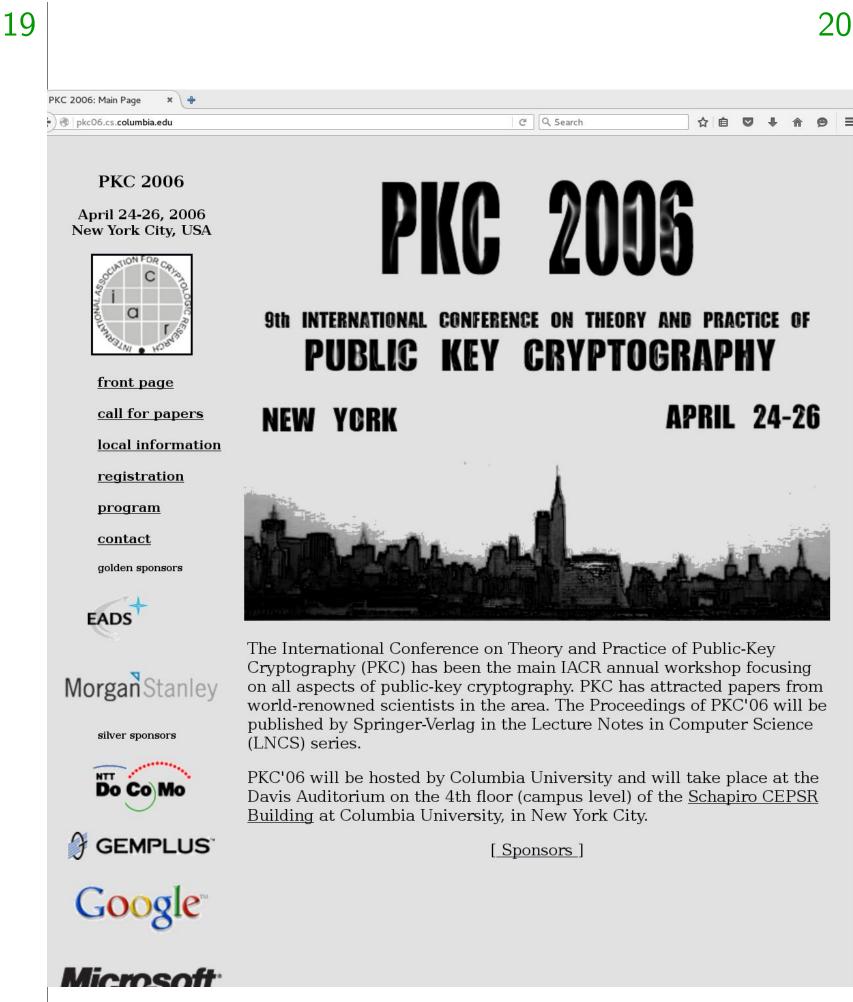


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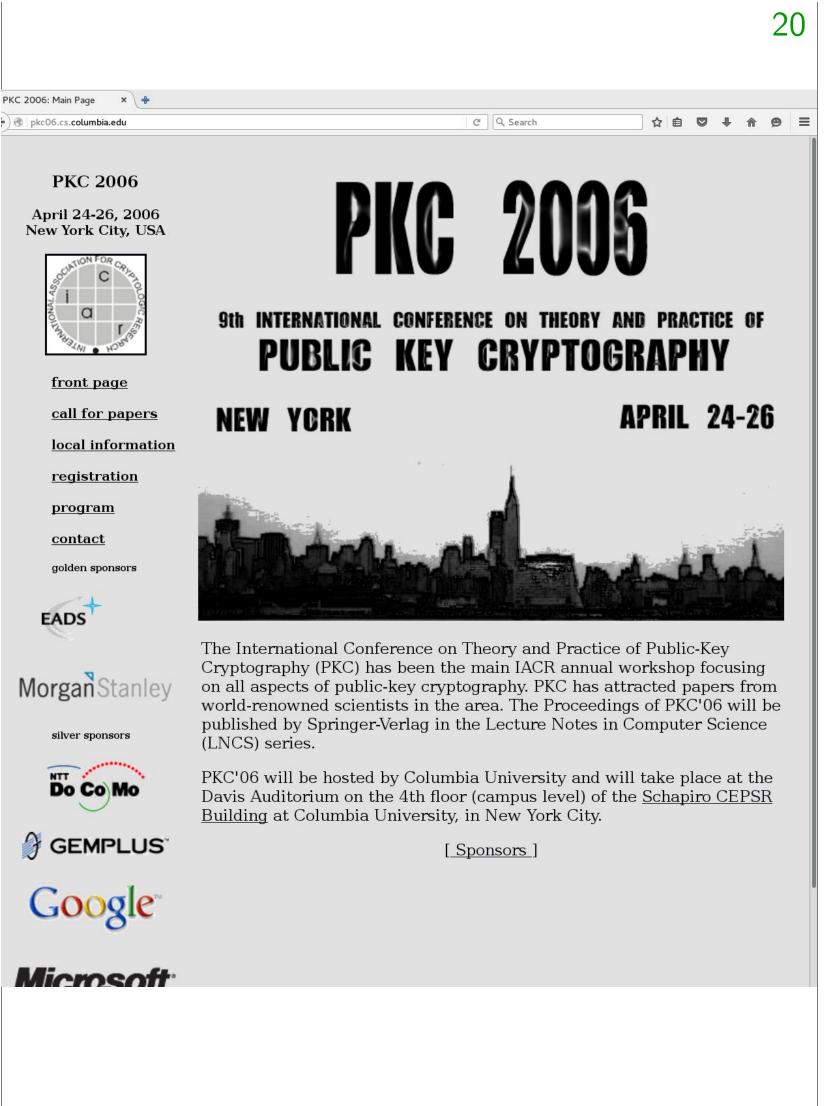
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So engineering isn't research?

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by **Dan Goodin** - Feb 2, 2016



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## 2016: Counterfeit

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by Dan Goodin - Feb 2, 2016 1:16pm CST



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#### 2016: Counterfeit "primes".

#### MY STORIES: 25 FORUMS SUBSCRIBE **RISK ASSESSMENT / SECURITY 8**

by Dan Goodin - Feb 2, 2016 1:16pm CST

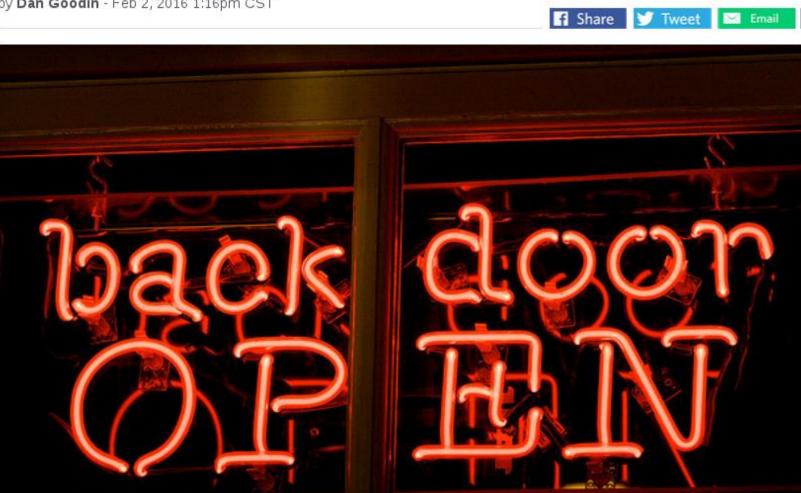


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by Dan Goodin - Feb 2, 2016 1:16pm CST





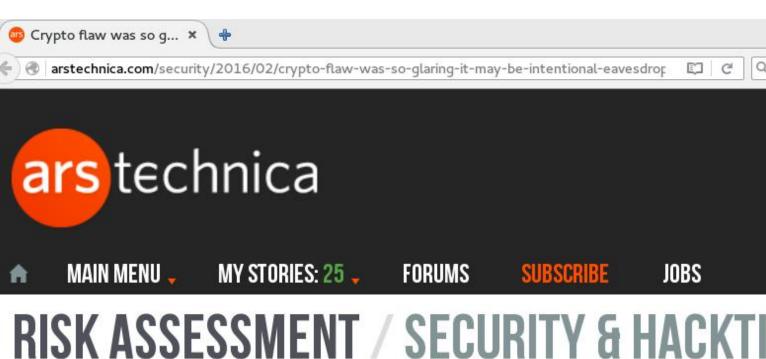
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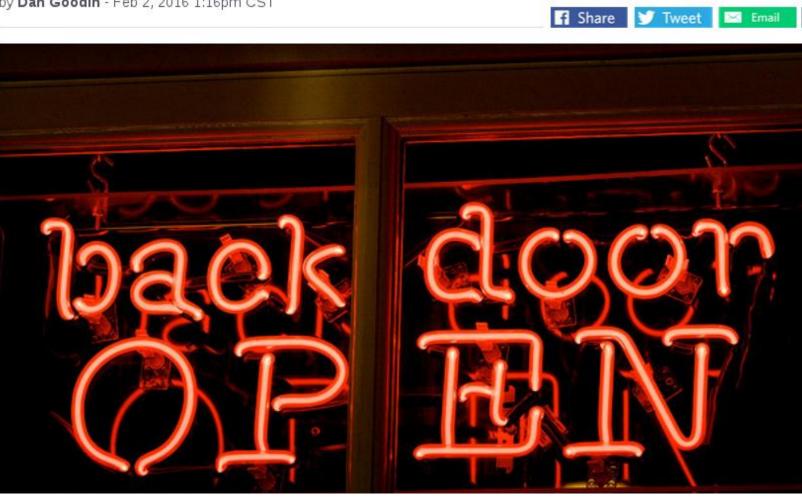


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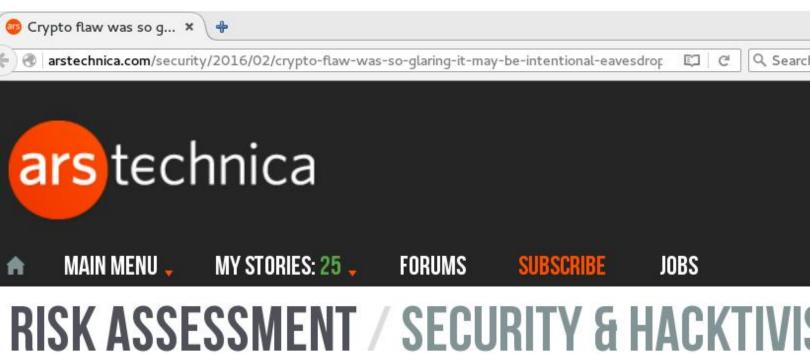
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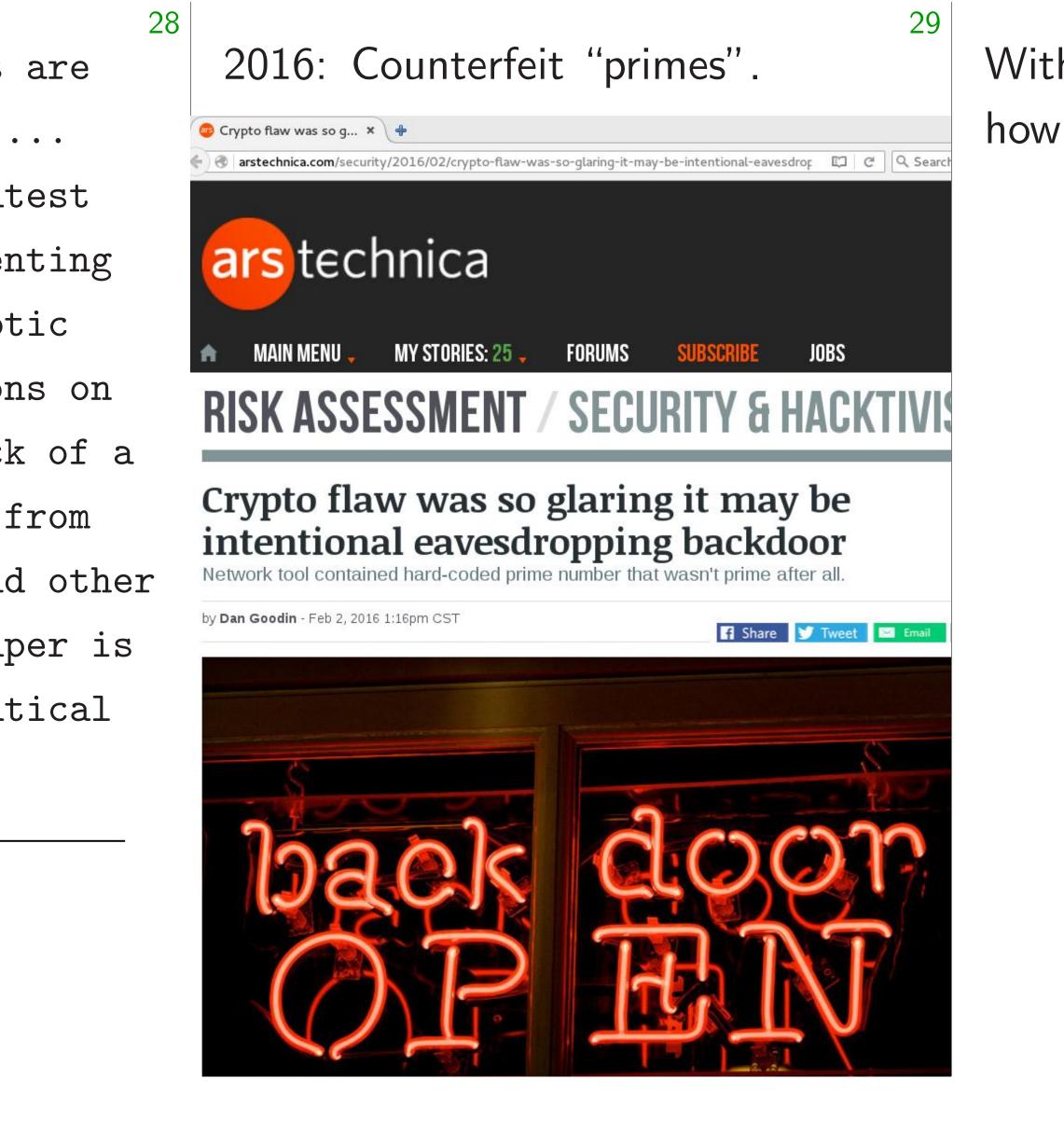
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# With reviews like these, how did PKC accept Curve2



With reviews like these, how did PKC accept Curve25519?



With reviews like these, Reviewer #4 was positive.

Maybe reviewer #4 convinced other people as part of discussion. Or program chairs liked paper.

# how did PKC accept Curve25519?



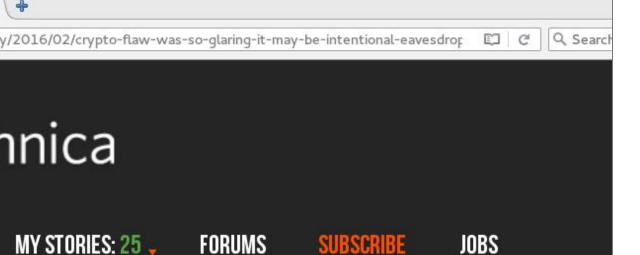
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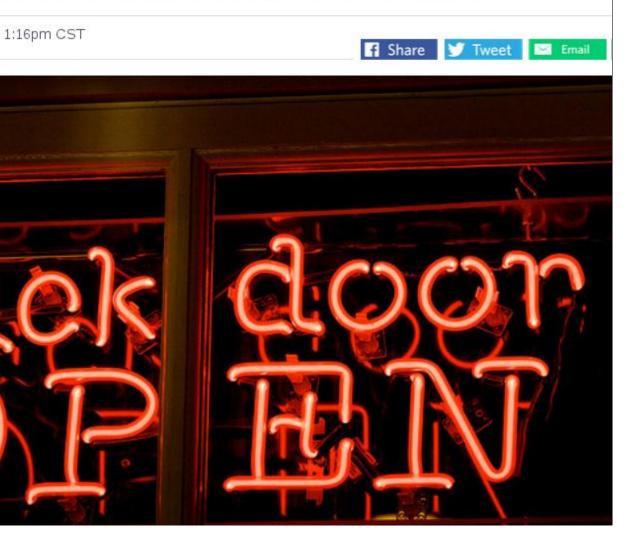


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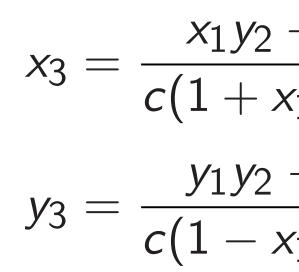
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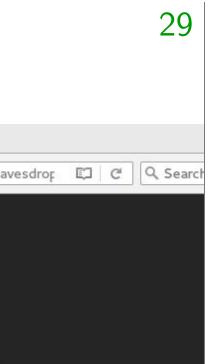
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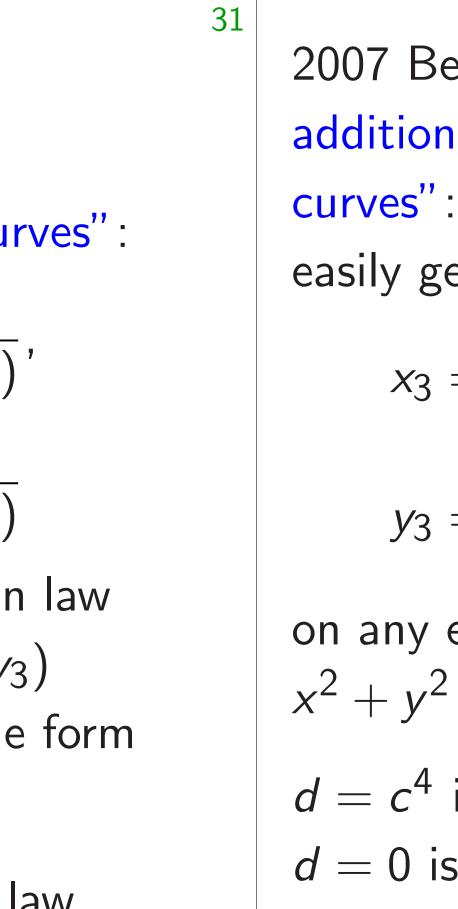
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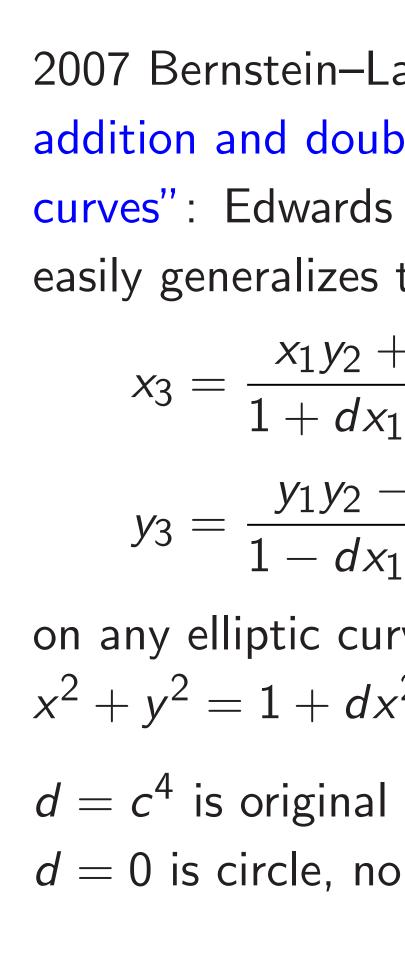
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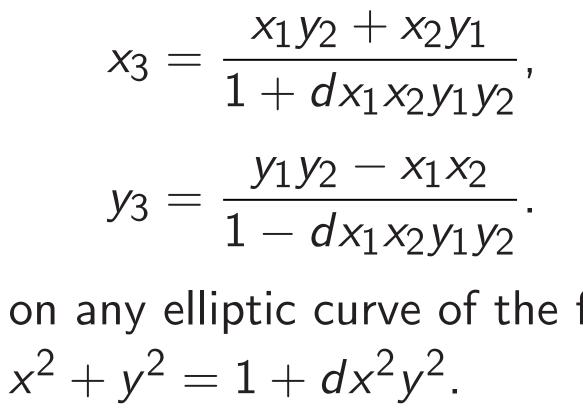
$$y_3 = \frac{y_1 y_2 - x_1 x_2}{c(1 - x_1 x_2 y_1 y_2)}$$

generically defines addition law  $(x_1, y_1) + (x_2, y_2) = (x_3, y_3)$ on any elliptic curve of the form  $x^{2} + y^{2} = c^{2}(1 + x^{2}y^{2}).$ 

Euler+Gauss defined this law for one curve:  $c^4 = -1$ .

2007 Bernstein-Lange "Fast addition and doubling on ell curves": Edwards addition I easily generalizes to

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$$x_3 = \frac{x_1 y_2}{1 + dx}$$

$$y_3 = \frac{y_1 y_2}{1 - dx}$$

on any elliptic curve of the form  $x^2 + y^2 = 1 + dx^2y^2$ .

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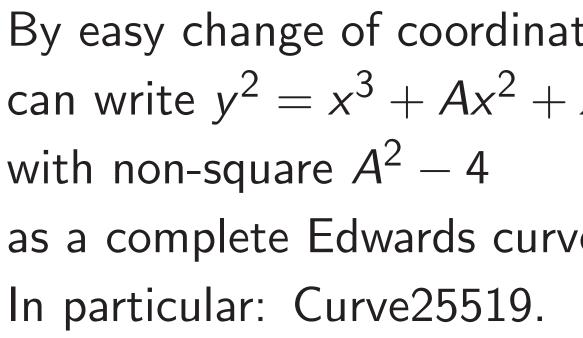
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Newer work ongoing: e.g., 2015 Russinoff "A computationally surveyable proof of the Curve25519 group axioms"; 2015 Bernstein–Schwabe gfverif.

Single-curve code helps speed and is the most promising avenue towards bug-free ECC software.

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### **Protected Unless Open**

(NSFileProtectionCompleteUnlessOpen): So the device is locked. A good example of this background. This behavior is achieved by usin (ECDH over Curve25519). Along with the usua a file public/private key pair. A shared secret and the Protected Unless Open class public k protected with the user's passcode and the o with the hash of this shared secret and store file's public key; the corresponding private key as the file is closed, the per-file key is also wi the shared secret is re-created using the Prote the file's ephemeral public key; its hash is use then used to decrypt the file.

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### Protected Unless Open

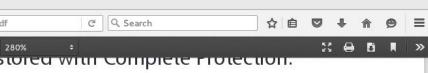
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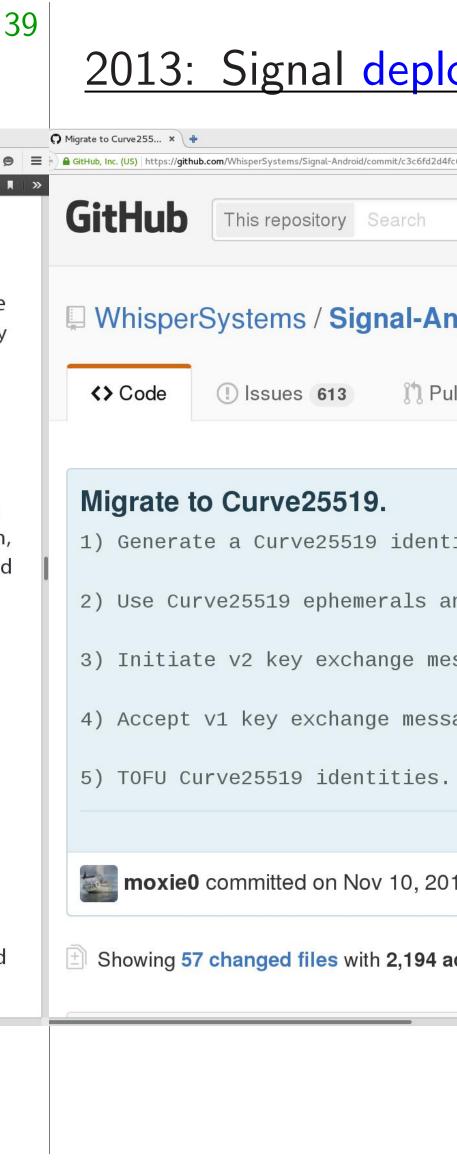
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# 2012: Apple deploys Curve25519

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### Protected Unless Open

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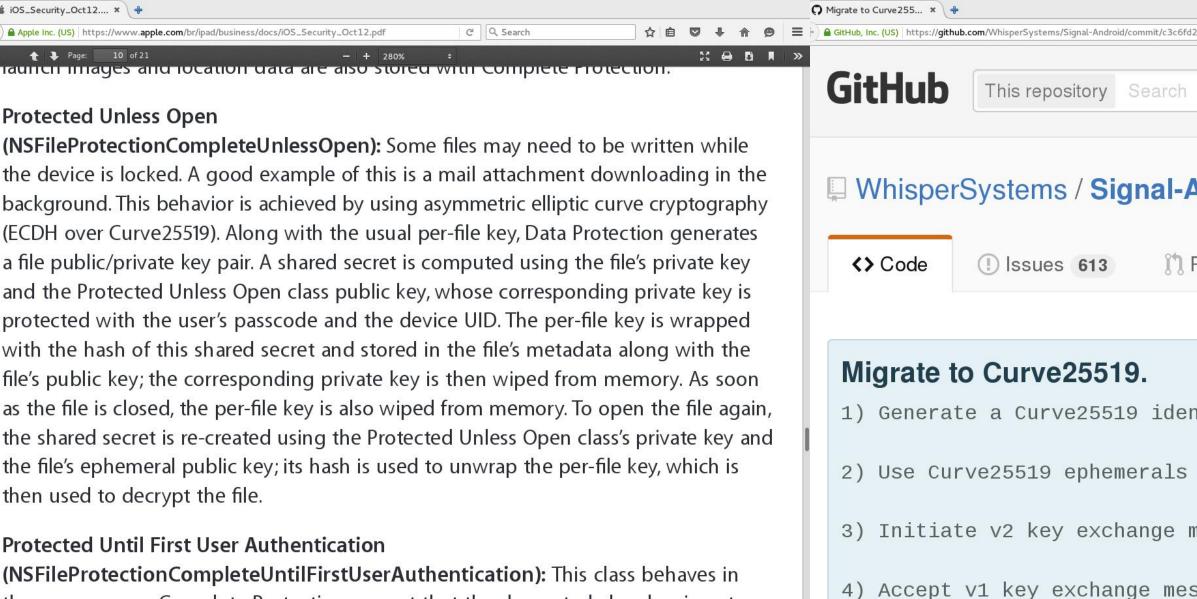
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	2) Use Curve25519 ephemerals and identities for				
	3) Initiate v2 key exchange messages.				
	4) Accept v1 key exchange messages.				
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- 1) Generate a Curve25519 identity key.
- 2) Use Curve25519 ephemerals and identities 1
- 3) Initiate v2 key exchange messages.
- 4) Accept v1 key exchange messages.
- 5) TOFU Curve25519 identities.

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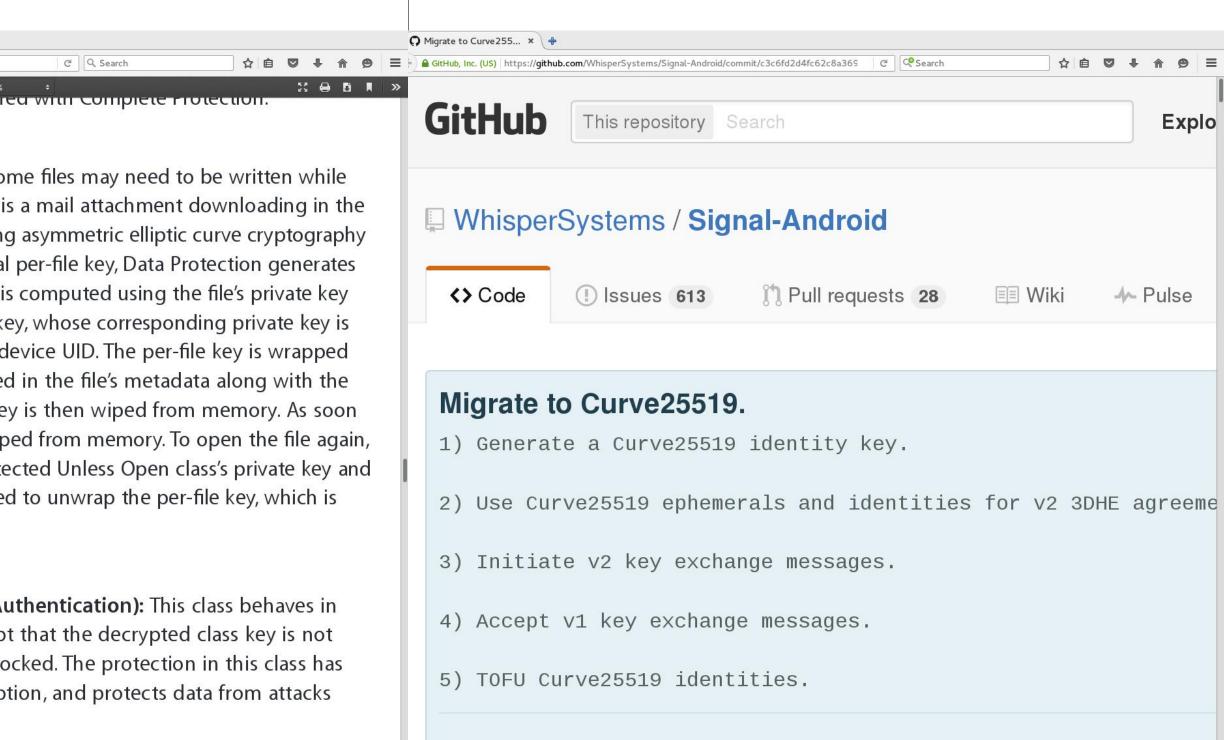
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	still be possibl DSA keys will be entirely in a fu
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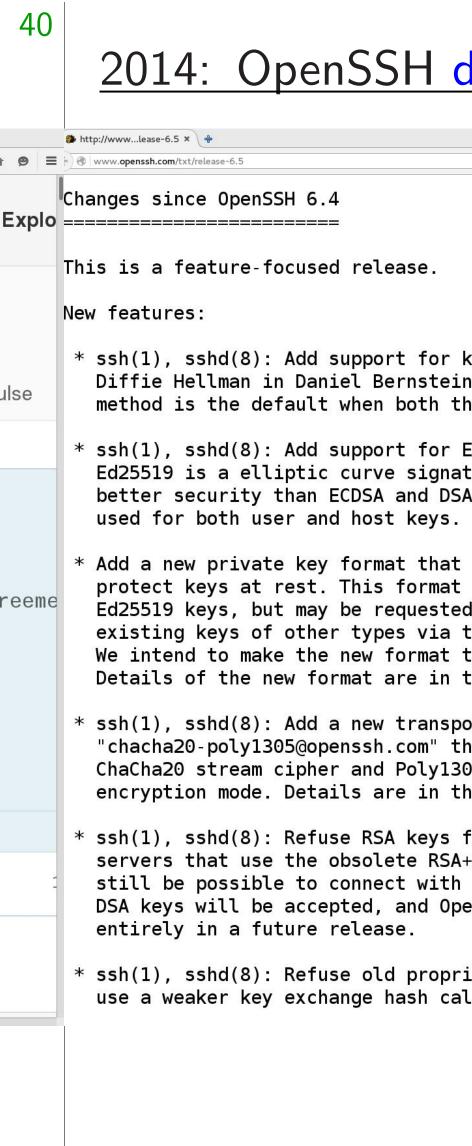
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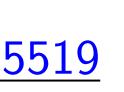
# 2013: Signal deploys Curve25519



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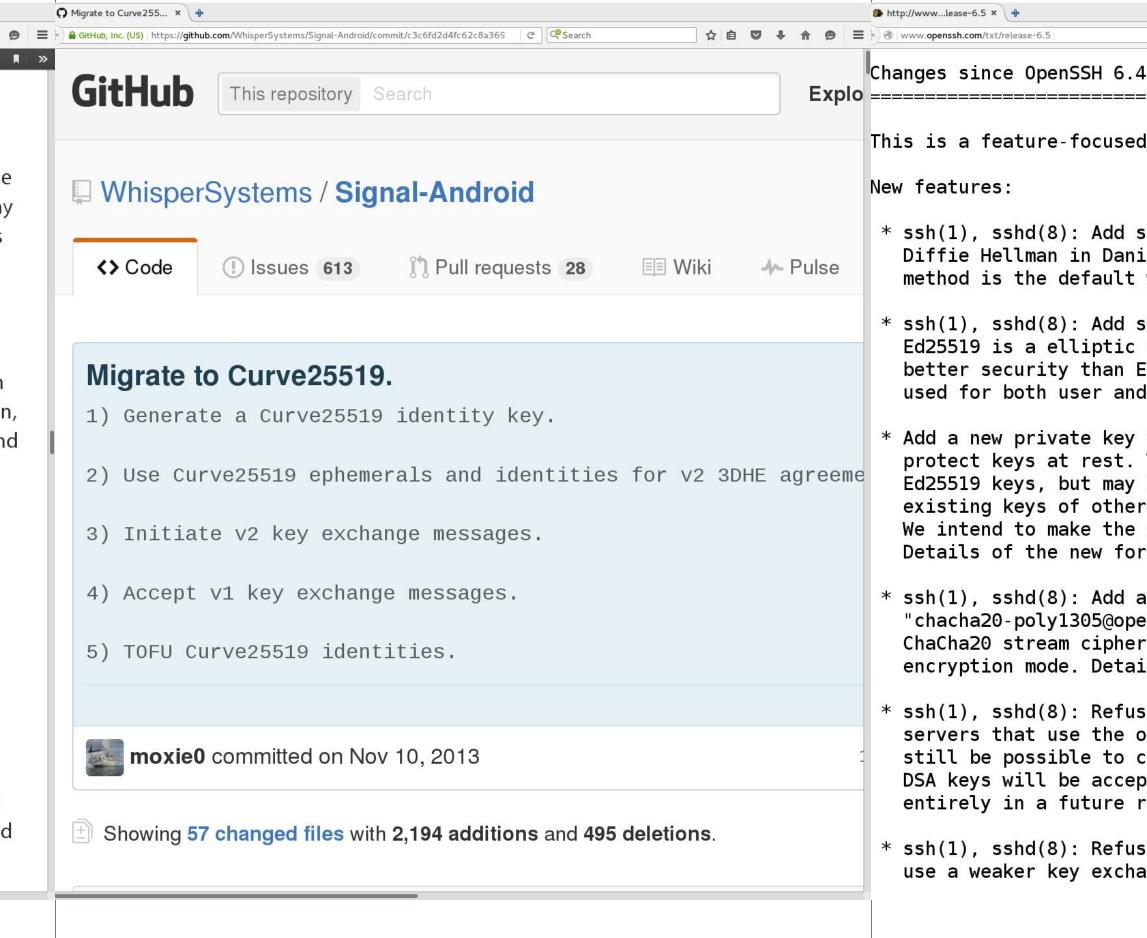


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### 2014: OpenSSH deploys Cu

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This is a feature-focused release.

\* ssh(1), sshd(8): Add support for key exchange using Diffie Hellman in Daniel Bernstein's Curve25519. Thi method is the default when both the client and serve

\* ssh(1), sshd(8): Add support for Ed25519 as a public Ed25519 is a elliptic curve signature scheme that of better security than ECDSA and DSA and good performa used for both user and host keys.

\* Add a new private key format that uses a bcrypt KDF protect keys at rest. This format is used uncondition Ed25519 keys, but may be requested when generating o existing keys of other types via the -o ssh-keygen(1 We intend to make the new format the default in the Details of the new format are in the PROTOCOL.key fi

\* ssh(1), sshd(8): Add a new transport cipher "chacha20-poly1305@openssh.com" that combines Daniel ChaCha20 stream cipher and Poly1305 MAC to build an encryption mode. Details are in the PROTOCOL.chacha2

\* ssh(1), sshd(8): Refuse RSA keys from old proprietary servers that use the obsolete RSA+MD5 signature scheme still be possible to connect with these clients/serve DSA keys will be accepted, and OpenSSH will refuse c entirely in a future release.

\* ssh(1), sshd(8): Refuse old proprietary clients and use a weaker key exchange hash calculation.

## 2013: Signal deploys Curve25519

### 41 2014: OpenSSH deploys Curve25519

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					This is a feature-focused release.
Ukisper 🖫	rSystems / <b>Sig</b>	nal-Android			New features:
<> Code	Issues 613	א Pull requests 28	🗐 Wiki 🌙	⊷ Pulse	* ssh(1), sshd(8): Add support for Diffie Hellman in Daniel Bernste method is the default when both
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-	te a Curve25519				Ed25519 is a elliptic curve sign better security than ECDSA and D used for both user and host keys
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				<pre>* ssh(1), sshd(8): Refuse old prop use a weaker key exchange hash c</pre>	

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key exchange using elliptic-curve in's Curve25519. This key exchange the client and server support it.

Ed25519 as a public key type. ature scheme that offers SA and good performance. It may be

at uses a bcrypt KDF to better at is used unconditionally for ed when generating or saving a the -o ssh-keygen(1) option. the default in the near future. a the PROTOCOL.key file.

port cipher that combines Daniel Bernstein's .305 MAC to build an authenticated the PR0T0C0L.chacha20poly1305 file.

6 from old proprietary clients and 5A+MD5 signature scheme. It will 2h these clients/servers but only 2penSSH will refuse connection

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### 2014: OpenSSH deploys Curve25519

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ems / <b>Signal-Android</b> ssues 613 ? Pull requests 28 💷 Wiki 🔸 Pulse	New features: * ssh(1), sshd(8): Add support for key exchange using Diffie Hellman in Daniel Bernstein's Curve25519. T
Trve25519. Curve25519 identity key. 519 ephemerals and identities for v2 3DHE agreeme key exchange messages. ey exchange messages. 5519 identities.	<ul> <li>* ssh(1), sshd(8): Add a new transport cipher "chacha20-poly1305@openssh.com" that combines Danig ChaCha20 stream cipher and Poly1305 MAC to build a</li> </ul>
nitted on Nov 10, 2013 ged files with 2,194 additions and 495 deletions.	<pre>encryption mode. Details are in the PROTOCOL.chach * ssh(1), sshd(8): Refuse RSA keys from old propriet servers that use the obsolete RSA+MD5 signature sc still be possible to connect with these clients/se DSA keys will be accepted, and OpenSSH will refuse entirely in a future release. * ssh(1), sshd(8): Refuse old proprietary clients and use a weaker key exchange hash calculation.</pre>

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## bys Curve25519

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### 41 2014: OpenSSH deploys Curve25519

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requests 28 💷 Wiki 🔸 Pulse	Diffie Hellman in Daniel Bernstein's method is the default when both the	Curve25519. This key exc	change	
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2015.10: IRTF CF EdDSA—Ed25519 for signatures. Alr X25519 and X448

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2015.11: BoringSS X25519 and Ed25

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	<pre>* ssh(1), sshd(8): Add support for Ed25519 as a public key type. Ed25519 is a elliptic curve signature scheme that offers</pre>	ECC st
	better security than ECDSA and DSA and good performance. It may be used for both user and host keys.	paving
∨2 3DHE agreeme	* Add a new private key format that uses a bcrypt KDF to better protect keys at rest. This format is used unconditionally for Ed25519 keys, but may be requested when generating or saving existing keys of other types via the -o ssh-keygen(1) option.	2015.1
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# 10: IRTF CFRG settles A—Ed25519 and Ed44

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- 9 and X448 for DH.
- 10: NIST reopens its
- standards for comment
- g way for new curves.
- 11: BoringSSL adds
- 9 and Ed25519.
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- more: ianix.com/pu
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### 41 2014: OpenSSH deploys Curve25519

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Changes since OpenSSH 6.4

This is a feature-focused release.

New features:

- \* ssh(1), sshd(8): Add support for key exchange using elliptic-curve Diffie Hellman in Daniel Bernstein's Curve25519. This key exchange method is the default when both the client and server support it.
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- \* ssh(1), sshd(8): Refuse old proprietary clients and servers that use a weaker key exchange hash calculation.

EdDSA—Ed25519 and Ed448 for signatures. Already selected X25519 and X448 for DH.

2015.10: NIST reopens its ECC standards for comment, paving way for new curves.

2015.11: BoringSSL adds X25519 and Ed25519.

These are just some highlights. Many more: ianix.com/pub

# 2015.10: IRTF CFRG settles on

- /curve25519-deployment.html
- and /ed25519-deployment.html.