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Verifiable Random Functions (VRFs)

Abstract

A Verifiable Random Function (VRF) is the public-key version of a keyed cryptographic hash. Only the holder of the private key can compute the hash, but anyone with public key can verify the correctness of the hash. VRFs are useful for preventing enumeration of hash-based data structures. This document specifies several VRF constructions that are secure in the cryptographic random oracle model. One VRF uses RSA and the other VRF uses Elliptic Curves (EC).

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1. Introduction

1.1. Rationale

A Verifiable Random Function (VRF) [[MRV99](#)] is the public-key version of a keyed cryptographic hash. Only the holder of the private VRF key can compute the hash, but anyone with corresponding public key can verify the correctness of the hash.

A key application of the VRF is to provide privacy against offline enumeration (e.g. dictionary attacks) on data stored in a hash-based data structure. In this application, a Prover holds the VRF private key and uses the VRF hashing to construct a hash-based data structure on the input data. Due to the nature of the VRF, only the Prover can answer queries about whether or not some data is stored in the data structure. Anyone who knows the public VRF key can verify that the Prover has answered the queries correctly. However, no offline inferences (i.e. inferences without querying the Prover) can be made about the data stored in the data structure.

1.2. Requirements

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [[RFC2119](#)].

1.3. Terminology

The following terminology is used through this document:

SK: The private key for the VRF.

PK: The public key for the VRF.

alpha or alpha_string: The input to be hashed by the VRF.

beta or beta_string: The VRF hash output.

pi or pi_string: The VRF proof.

Prover: The Prover holds the private VRF key SK and public VRF key PK.

Verifier:

The Verifier holds the public VRF key PK.

2. VRF Algorithms

A VRF comes with a key generation algorithm that generates a public VRF key PK and private VRF key SK.

The prover hashes an input alpha using the private VRF key SK to obtain a VRF hash output beta

$$\text{beta} = \text{VRF_hash}(\text{SK}, \text{alpha})$$

The VRF_hash algorithm is deterministic, in the sense that it always produces the same output beta given the same pair of inputs (SK, alpha). The prover also uses the private key SK to construct a proof pi that beta is the correct hash output

$$\text{pi} = \text{VRF_prove}(\text{SK}, \text{alpha})$$

The VRFs defined in this document allow anyone to deterministically obtain the VRF hash output beta directly from the proof value pi by using the function VRF_proof_to_hash:

$$\text{beta} = \text{VRF_proof_to_hash}(\text{pi})$$

Thus, for VRFs defined in this document, VRF_hash is defined as

$$\text{VRF_hash}(\text{SK}, \text{alpha}) = \text{VRF_proof_to_hash}(\text{VRF_prove}(\text{SK}, \text{alpha})),$$

and therefore this document will specify VRF_prove and VRF_proof_to_hash rather than VRF_hash.

The proof pi allows a Verifier holding the public key PK to verify that beta is the correct VRF hash of input alpha under key PK. Thus, the VRF also comes with an algorithm

$$\text{VRF_verify}(\text{PK}, \text{alpha}, \text{pi})$$

that outputs (VALID, beta = VRF_proof_to_hash(pi)) if pi is valid, and INVALID otherwise.

3. VRF Security Properties

VRFs are designed to ensure the following security properties.

3.1. Full Uniqueness or Trusted Uniqueness

Uniqueness means that, for any fixed public VRF key and for any input alpha, there is a unique VRF output beta that can be proved to be

valid. Uniqueness must hold even for an adversarial Prover that knows the VRF private key SK.

More precisely, "full uniqueness" states that a computationally-bounded adversary cannot choose a VRF public key PK, a VRF input alpha, and two proofs pi1 and pi2 such that VRF_verify(PK, alpha, pi1) outputs (VALID, beta1), VRF_verify(PK, alpha, pi2) outputs (VALID, beta2), and beta1 is not equal to beta2.

For many applications, a slightly weaker security property called "trusted uniqueness" suffices. Trusted uniqueness is the same as full uniqueness, but it is guaranteed to hold only if the VRF keys PK and SK were generated in a trustworthy manner.

As further discussed in [Section 7.1.1](#), some VRFs specified in this document satisfy only trusted uniqueness, while others satisfy full uniqueness. VRFs in this document that satisfy only trusted uniqueness but not full uniqueness MUST NOT be used if the key generation process cannot be trusted.

3.2. Full Collision Resistance or Trusted Collision Resistance

Like any cryptographic hash function, VRFs need to be collision resistant. Collision resistance must hold even for an adversarial Prover that knows the VRF private key SK.

More precisely, "full collision resistance" states that it should be computationally infeasible for an adversary to find two distinct VRF inputs alpha1 and alpha2 that have the same VRF hash beta, even if that adversary knows the private VRF key SK.

For many applications, a slightly weaker security property called "trusted collision resistance" suffices. Trusted collision resistance is the same as collision resistance, but it is guaranteed to hold only if the VRF keys PK and SK were generated in a trustworthy manner.

As further discussed in [Section 7.1.1](#), some VRFs specified in this document satisfy only trusted collision resistance, while others satisfy full collision resistance. VRFs in this document that satisfy only trusted collision resistance but not full collision resistance MUST NOT be used if the key generation process cannot be trusted.

3.3. Full Pseudorandomness or Selective Pseudorandomness

Pseudorandomness ensures that when an adversarial Verifier sees a VRF hash output beta without its corresponding VRF proof pi, then beta is indistinguishable from a random value.

More precisely, suppose the public and private VRF keys (PK, SK) were generated in a trustworthy manner. Pseudorandomness ensures that the VRF hash output beta (without its corresponding VRF proof pi) on any adversarially-chosen "target" VRF input alpha looks indistinguishable from random for any computationally bounded adversary who does not know the private VRF key SK. This holds even if the adversary also gets to choose other VRF inputs alpha' and observe their corresponding VRF hash outputs beta' and proofs pi'.

With "full pseudorandomness", the adversary is allowed to choose the "target" VRF input alpha at any time, even after it observes VRF outputs beta' and proofs pi' on a variety of chosen inputs alpha'.

"Selective pseudorandomness" is a weaker security property which suffices in many applications. Here, the adversary must choose the target VRF input alpha independently of the public VRF key PK, and before it observes VRF outputs beta' and proofs pi' on inputs alpha' of its choice.

As further discussed in [Section 7.2](#), VRFs specified in this document satisfy both full pseudorandomness and selective pseudorandomness, but their quantitative security against the selective pseudorandomness attack is stronger.

It is important to remember that the VRF output beta does not look random to the Prover, or to any other party that knows the private VRF key SK! Such a party can easily distinguish beta from a random value by comparing beta to the result of `VRF_hash(SK, alpha)`.

Also, the VRF output beta does not look random to any party that knows the valid VRF proof pi corresponding to the VRF input alpha, even if this party does not know the private VRF key SK. Such a party can easily distinguish beta from a random value by checking whether `VRF_verify(PK, alpha, pi)` returns (VALID, beta).

Also, the VRF output beta may not look random if VRF key generation was not done in a trustworthy fashion. (For example, if VRF keys were generated with bad randomness.)

3.4. A random-oracle-like unpredictability property

As explained in [Section 3.3](#), pseudorandomness is guaranteed only if the VRF keys were generated in a trustworthy fashion. For instance, if an adversary outputs VRF keys that are deterministically generated (or hard-coded and publicly known), then the outputs are easily derived by anyone and are therefore not pseudorandom.

There is, however, a different type of unpredictability that is desirable in certain VRF applications (such as [\[GHMVZ17\]](#) and [\[DGKR18\]](#)). This property is similar to the unpredictability achieved

by an (ordinary, unkeyed) cryptographic hash function: if the input has enough entropy (i.e., cannot be predicted), then the correct output is indistinguishable from uniform.

A formal definition of this property appears in Section 3.2 of [\[DGKR18\]](#). The VRF schemes presented in this specification are believed to satisfy this property if the public key was generated in a trustworthy manner. Additionally, the ECVRF is believed to also satisfy this property even if the public key was not generated in a trustworthy manner, as long as the public key satisfies the key validation procedure in [Section 5.6](#).

4. RSA Full Domain Hash VRF (RSA-FDH-VRF)

The RSA Full Domain Hash VRF (RSA-FDH-VRF) is a VRF that satisfies the "trusted uniqueness", "trusted collision resistance", and "full pseudorandomness" properties defined in [Section 3](#). Its security follows from the standard RSA assumption in the random oracle model. Formal security proofs are in [\[PWHVNRG17\]](#).

The VRF computes the proof π as a deterministic RSA signature on input α using the RSA Full Domain Hash Algorithm [\[RFC8017\]](#) parametrized with the selected hash algorithm. RSA signature verification is used to verify the correctness of the proof. The VRF hash output β is simply obtained by hashing the proof π with the selected hash algorithm.

The key pair for RSA-FDH-VRF MUST be generated in a way that it satisfies the conditions specified in Section 3 of [\[RFC8017\]](#).

In this section, the notation from [\[RFC8017\]](#) is used.

Parameters used:

(n, e) - RSA public key

K - RSA private key

k - length in octets of the RSA modulus n (k must be less than 2^{32})

Fixed options:

Hash - cryptographic hash function

$hLen$ - output length in octets of hash function Hash

Primitives used:

I2OSP - Conversion of a nonnegative integer to an octet string as defined in Section 4.1 of [[RFC8017](#)] (given an integer and a length in octets, produces a big-endian representation of the integer, zero-padded to the desired length)

OS2IP - Conversion of an octet string to a nonnegative integer as defined in Section 4.2 of [[RFC8017](#)] (given a big-endian encoding of an integer, produces the integer)

RSASP1 - RSA signature primitive as defined in Section 5.2.1 of [[RFC8017](#)] (given a secret key and an input, raises the input to the secret RSA exponent modulo n)

RSASP1 - RSA verification primitive as defined in Section 5.2.2 of [[RFC8017](#)] (given a public key and an input, raises the input to the public RSA exponent modulo n)

MGF1 - Mask Generation Function based on the hash function Hash as defined in Section B.2.1 of [[RFC8017](#)]

|| - octet string concatenation

4.1. RSA-FDH-VRF Proving

RSAPFDHVRP_prove(K , α_string)

Input:

K - RSA private key

α_string - VRF hash input, an octet string

Output:

π_string - proof, an octet string of length k

Steps:

1. $one_string = 0x01$
2. $EM = MGF1(one_string || I2OSP(k, 4) || I2OSP(n, k) || \alpha_string, k - 1)$
3. $m = OS2IP(EM)$
4. $s = RSASP1(K, m)$
5. $\pi_string = I2OSP(s, k)$

6. Output `pi_string`

4.2. RSA-FDH-VRF Proof to Hash

`RSAFDHVRF_proof_to_hash(pi_string)`

Input:

`pi_string` - proof, an octet string of length `k`

Output:

`beta_string` - VRF hash output, an octet string of length `hLen`

Important note:

`RSAFDHVRF_proof_to_hash` should be run only on `pi_string` that is known to have been produced by `RSAFDHVRF_prove`, or from within `RSAFDHVRF_verify` as specified in [Section 4.3](#).

Steps:

1. `two_string = 0x02`
2. `beta_string = Hash(two_string || pi_string)`
3. Output `beta_string`

4.3. RSA-FDH-VRF Verifying

`RSAFDHVRF_verify((n, e), alpha_string, pi_string)`

Input:

`(n, e)` - RSA public key

`alpha_string` - VRF hash input, an octet string

`pi_string` - proof to be verified, an octet string of length `n`

Output:

`("VALID", beta_string)`, where `beta_string` is the VRF hash output, an octet string of length `hLen`; or

`"INVALID"`

Steps:

1. `s = OS2IP(pi_string)`

2. $m = \text{RSAVP1}((n, e), s)$
3. $EM = \text{I2OSP}(m, k - 1)$
4. $\text{one_string} = 0x01$
5. $EM' = \text{MGF1}(\text{one_string} || \text{I2OSP}(k, 4) || \text{I2OSP}(n, k) || \alpha_string, k - 1)$
6. If EM and EM' are equal, output ("VALID", $\text{RSAFDHVRP_proof_to_hash}(\text{pi_string})$); else output "INVALID".

5. Elliptic Curve VRF (ECVRF)

The Elliptic Curve Verifiable Random Function (ECVRF) is a VRF that satisfies the trusted uniqueness, trusted collision resistance, and full pseudorandomness properties defined in [Section 3](#). The security of this VRF follows from the decisional Diffie-Hellman (DDH) assumption in the random oracle model. Formal security proofs are in [[PWHVNRG17](#)].

To additionally satisfy "full uniqueness" and "full collision resistance", the Verifier MUST additionally perform the validation procedure specified in [Section 5.6](#) upon receipt of the public VRF key.

Notation used:

Elliptic curve operations are written in additive notation, with $P+Q$ denoting point addition and $x \cdot P$ denoting scalar multiplication of a point P by a scalar x

x^y - x raised to the power y

$x \cdot y$ - x multiplied by y

$s || t$ - concatenation of octet strings s and t

$0xMN$ (where M and N are hexadecimal digits) - a single octet with value $M \cdot 16 + N$; equivalently, $\text{int_to_string}(M \cdot 16 + N, 1)$, where int_to_string is as defined below.

Fixed options (specified in [Section 5.5](#)):

F - finite field

$2n$ - length, in octets, of a field element in F , rounded up to the nearest even integer

E - elliptic curve (EC) defined over F

ptLen - length, in octets, of an EC point encoded as an octet string

G - subgroup of E of large prime order

q - prime order of group G

qLen - length of q in octets, i.e., smallest integer such that $2^{(8qLen)} > q$ (note that in the typical case, qLen equals $2n$ or is close to $2n$)

cofactor - number of points on E divided by q

B - generator of group G

Hash - cryptographic hash function

hLen - output length in octets of Hash; must be at least $2n$

ECVRF_hash_to_curve - a function that hashes strings to an EC point.

ECVRF_nonce_generation - a function that derives a pseudorandom nonce from SK and the input as part of ECVRF proving.

suite_string - a single nonzero octet specifying the ECVRF ciphersuite, which determines the above options as well as type conversions and parameter generation

Type conversions (specified in [Section 5.5](#)):

int_to_string(a, len) - conversion of nonnegative integer a to octet string of length len

string_to_int(a_string) - conversion of an octet string a_string to a nonnegative integer

point_to_string - conversion of EC point to an ptLen-octet string

string_to_point - conversion of an ptLen-octet string to EC point. string_to_point returns INVALID if the octet string does not convert to a valid EC point.

Note that with certain software libraries (for big integer and elliptic curve arithmetic), the int_to_string and point_to_string conversions are not needed, when the libraries encode integers and EC points in the same way as required by the ciphersuites. For example, in some implementations, EC point operations will take octet strings as inputs and produce octet strings as outputs, without introducing a separate elliptic curve point type.

Parameters used (the generation of these parameters is specified in [Section 5.5](#)):

SK - VRF private key

x - VRF secret scalar, an integer

-Note: depending on the ciphersuite used, the VRF secret scalar may be equal to SK; else, it is derived from SK

$Y = x*B$ - VRF public key, an EC point

5.1. ECVRF Proving

ECVRF_prove(SK, alpha_string)

Input:

SK - VRF private key

alpha_string = input alpha, an octet string

Output:

pi_string - VRF proof, octet string of length ptLen+n+qLen

Steps:

1. Use SK to derive the VRF secret scalar x and the VRF public key $Y = x*B$

(this derivation depends on the ciphersuite, as per [Section 5.5](#);

these values can be cached, for example, after key generation, and need not be rederived each time)
2. $H = \text{ECVRF_hash_to_curve}(Y, \text{alpha_string})$
3. $h_string = \text{point_to_string}(H)$
4. $\text{Gamma} = x*H$
5. $k = \text{ECVRF_nonce_generation}(SK, h_string)$
6. $c = \text{ECVRF_hash_points}(H, \text{Gamma}, k*B, k*H)$ (see [Section 5.4.3](#))
7. $s = (k + c*x) \bmod q$
8. $\text{pi_string} = \text{point_to_string}(\text{Gamma}) \parallel \text{int_to_string}(c, n) \parallel \text{int_to_string}(s, qLen)$

9. Output `pi_string`

5.2. ECVRF Proof to Hash

`ECVRF_proof_to_hash(pi_string)`

Input:

`pi_string` - VRF proof, octet string of length `ptLen+n+qLen`

Output:

"INVALID", or

`beta_string` - VRF hash output, octet string of length `hLen`

Important note:

`ECVRF_proof_to_hash` should be run only on `pi_string` that is known to have been produced by `ECVRF_prove`, or from within `ECVRF_verify` as specified in [Section 5.3](#).

Steps:

1. `D = ECVRF_decode_proof(pi_string)` (see [Section 5.4.4](#))
2. If `D` is "INVALID", output "INVALID" and stop
3. $(\text{Gamma}, c, s) = D$
4. `three_string = 0x03`
5. `zero_string = 0x00`
6. `beta_string = Hash(suite_string || three_string || point_to_string(cofactor * Gamma) || zero_string)`
7. Output `beta_string`

5.3. ECVRF Verifying

`ECVRF_verify(Y, pi_string, alpha_string)`

Input:

`Y` - public key, an EC point

`pi_string` - VRF proof, octet string of length `ptLen+n+qLen`

`alpha_string` - VRF input, octet string

Output:

("VALID", beta_string), where beta_string is the VRF hash output, octet string of length hLen; or

"INVALID"

Steps:

1. $D = \text{ECVRF_decode_proof}(\text{pi_string})$ (see [Section 5.4.4](#))
2. If D is "INVALID", output "INVALID" and stop
3. $(\text{Gamma}, c, s) = D$
4. $H = \text{ECVRF_hash_to_curve}(Y, \text{alpha_string})$
5. $U = s*B - c*Y$
6. $V = s*H - c*\text{Gamma}$
7. $c' = \text{ECVRF_hash_points}(H, \text{Gamma}, U, V)$ (see [Section 5.4.3](#))
8. If c and c' are equal, output ("VALID", $\text{ECVRF_proof_to_hash}(\text{pi_string})$); else output "INVALID"

5.4. ECVRF Auxiliary Functions

5.4.1. ECVRF Hash to Curve

The `ECVRF_hash_to_curve` algorithm takes in the VRF input `alpha` and converts it to H , an EC point in G . This algorithm is the only place the VRF input `alpha` is used for proving and verifying. See [Section 7.6](#) for further discussion.

This section specifies a number of such algorithms, which are not compatible with each other. The choice of a particular algorithm from the options specified in this section is made in [Section 5.5](#).

5.4.1.1. ECVRF_hash_to_curve_try_and_increment

The following `ECVRF_hash_to_curve_try_and_increment`(Y , `alpha_string`) algorithm implements `ECVRF_hash_to_curve` in a simple and generic way that works for any elliptic curve.

The running time of this algorithm depends on `alpha_string`. For the ciphersuites specified in [Section 5.5](#), this algorithm is expected to find a valid curve point after approximately two attempts (i.e., when `ctr=1`) on average.

However, because the running time of algorithm depends on `alpha_string`, this algorithm SHOULD be avoided in applications where it is important that the VRF input `alpha` remain secret.

`ECVRF_hash_to_try_and_increment(Y, alpha_string)`

Input:

`Y` - public key, an EC point

`alpha_string` - value to be hashed, an octet string

Output:

`H` - hashed value, a finite EC point in `G`

Fixed option (specified in [Section 5.5](#)):

`arbitrary_string_to_point` - conversion of an arbitrary octet string to an EC point.

Steps:

1. `ctr = 0`
2. `PK_string = point_to_string(Y)`
3. `one_string = 0x01`
4. `zero_string = 0x00`
5. `H = "INVALID"`
6. While `H` is "INVALID" or `H` is the identity element of the elliptic curve group:
 - a. `ctr_string = int_to_string(ctr, 1)`
 - b. `hash_string = Hash(suite_string || one_string || PK_string || alpha_string || ctr_string || zero_string)`
 - c. `H = arbitrary_string_to_point(hash_string)`
 - d. If `H` is not "INVALID" and `cofactor > 1`, set `H = cofactor * H`
 - e. `ctr = ctr + 1`
7. Output `H`

5.4.1.2. ECVRF_hash_to_curve_h2c_suite

The `ECVRF_hash_to_curve_h2c_suite(Y, alpha_string)` algorithm implements `ECVRF_hash_to_curve` using one of the several hash-to-curve options defined in [[I-D.irtf-cfrg-hash-to-curve](#)]. The specific choice of the hash-to-curve option (called Suite ID in [[I-D.irtf-cfrg-hash-to-curve](#)]) is given by the `h2c_suite_ID_string` parameter.

`ECVRF_hash_to_curve_h2c_suite(Y, alpha_string)`

Input:

`alpha_string` - value to be hashed, an octet string

`Y` - public key, an EC point

Output:

`H` - hashed value, a finite EC point in G

Fixed option (specified in [Section 5.5](#)):

`h2c_suite_ID_string` - a hash-to-curve suite ID, encoded in ASCII (see discussion below)

Steps

1. `PK_string = point_to_string(Y)`
2. `string_to_hash = PK_string || alpha_string`
3. `H = encode(string_to_hash)`
(the encode function is discussed below)
4. Output `H`

The encode function is provided by the hash-to-curve suite whose ID is `h2c_suite_ID_string`, as specified in [[I-D.irtf-cfrg-hash-to-curve](#)], Section 8. The domain separation tag `DST`, a parameter to the hash-to-curve suite, SHALL be set to

`"ECVRF_" || h2c_suite_ID_string || suite_string`

where `"ECVRF_"` is represented as a 6-byte ASCII encoding (in hexadecimal, octets 45 43 56 52 46 5F).

5.4.2. ECVRF Nonce Generation

The following algorithms generate the nonce value `k` in a deterministic pseudorandom fashion. This section specifies a number

of such algorithms, which are not compatible with each other. The choice of a particular algorithm from the options specified in this section is made in Section 5.5.

5.4.2.1. ECVRF Nonce Generation from RFC 6979

ECVRF_nonce_generation_RFC6979(SK, h_string)

Input:

SK - an ECVRF secret key

h_string - an octet string

Output:

k - an integer between 1 and q-1

The ECVRF_nonce_generation function is as specified in [[RFC6979](#)] Section 3.2 where

Input m is set equal to h_string

The "suitable for DSA or ECDSA" check in step h.3 is omitted

The hash function H is Hash and its output length hlen is set as hLen*8

The secret key x is set equal to the VRF secret scalar x

The prime q is the same as in this specification

qlen is the binary length of q, i.e., the smallest integer such that $2^{qlen} > q$

All the other values and primitives as defined in [[RFC6979](#)]

5.4.2.2. ECVRF Nonce Generation from RFC 8032

The following is from Steps 2-3 of Section 5.1.6 in [[RFC8032](#)].

ECVRF_nonce_generation_RFC8032(SK, h_string)

Input:

SK - an ECVRF secret key

h_string - an octet string

Output:

k - an integer between 0 and $q-1$

Steps:

1. `hashed_sk_string = Hash(SK)`
2. `truncated_hashed_sk_string = hashed_sk_string[32]...hashed_sk_string[63]`
3. `k_string = Hash(truncated_hashed_sk_string || h_string)`
4. `k = string_to_int(k_string) mod q`

5.4.3. ECVRF Hash Points

`ECVRF_hash_points(P1, P2, ..., PM)`

Input:

$P1...PM$ - EC points in G

Output:

c - hash value, integer between 0 and $2^{(8n)}-1$

Steps:

1. `two_string = 0x02`
2. Initialize `str = suite_string || two_string`
3. for PJ in $[P1, P2, \dots, PM]$:
`str = str || point_to_string(PJ)`
4. `zero_string = 0x00`
5. `str = str || zero_string`
6. `c_string = Hash(str)`
7. `truncated_c_string = c_string[0]...c_string[n-1]`
8. `c = string_to_int(truncated_c_string)`
9. Output c

5.4.4. ECVRF Decode Proof

ECVRF_decode_proof(pi_string)

Input:

pi_string - VRF proof, octet string (ptLen+n+qLen octets)

Output:

"INVALID", or

Gamma - EC point

c - integer between 0 and $2^{(8n)}-1$

s - integer between 0 and q-1

Steps:

1. gamma_string = pi_string[0]...pi_string[ptLen-1]
2. c_string = pi_string[ptLen]...pi_string[ptLen+n-1]
3. s_string = pi_string[ptLen+n]...pi_string[ptLen+n+qLen-1]
4. Gamma = string_to_point(gamma_string)
5. if Gamma = "INVALID" output "INVALID" and stop
6. c = string_to_int(c_string)
7. s = string_to_int(s_string)
8. if $s \geq q$ output "INVALID" and stop
9. Output Gamma, c, and s

5.5. ECVRF Ciphersuites

This document defines ECVRF-P256-SHA256-TAI as follows:

*suite_string = 0x01

*The EC group G is the NIST P-256 elliptic curve, with curve parameters as specified in [[FIPS-186-4](#)] (Section D.1.2.3) and [[RFC5114](#)] (Section 2.6). For this group, $2n = qLen = 32$ and cofactor = 1.

*The key pair generation primitive is specified in Section 3.2.1 of [[SECG1](#)] (q, B, SK, and Y in this document correspond to n, G, d,

and Q in Section 3.2.1 of [[SECG1](#)]). In this ciphersuite, the secret scalar x is equal to the private key SK.

*The ECVRF_nonce_generation function is as specified in [Section 5.4.2.1](#).

*The int_to_string function is the I2OSP function specified in Section 4.1 of [[RFC8017](#)]. (This is big-endian representation.)

*The string_to_int function is the OS2IP function specified in Section 4.2 of [[RFC8017](#)]. (This is big-endian representation.)

*The point_to_string function converts an EC point to an octet string according to the encoding specified in Section 2.3.3 of [[SECG1](#)] with point compression on. This implies $ptLen = 2n + 1 = 33$. (Note that certain software implementations do not introduce a separate elliptic curve point type and instead directly treat the EC point as an octet string per above encoding. When using such an implementation, the point_to_string function can be treated as the identity function.)

*The string_to_point function converts an octet string to an EC point according to the encoding specified in Section 2.3.4 of [[SECG1](#)]. This function MUST output INVALID if the octet string does not decode to an EC point.

*The hash function Hash is SHA-256 as specified in [[RFC6234](#)], with $hLen = 32$.

*The ECVRF_hash_to_curve function is as specified in [Section 5.4.1.1](#), with `arbitrary_string_to_point(s) = string_to_point(0x02 || s)`. The input s to `arbitrary_string_to_point` is a 32-octet string and the output is either an EC point or "INVALID".

This document defines ECVRF-P256-SHA256-SSWU as identical to ECVRF-P256-SHA256-TAI, except that:

*suite_string = 0x02

*the ECVRF_hash_to_curve function is as specified in [Section 5.4.1.2](#) with `h2c_suite_ID_string = P256_XMD:SHA-256_SSWU_NU_` (the suite is defined in [[I-D.irtf-cfrg-hash-to-curve](#)] Section 8.2)

This document defines ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-TAI as follows:

*suite_string = 0x03.

*The EC group G is the edwards25519 elliptic curve with parameters defined in Table 1 of [[RFC8032](#)]. For this group, $2n = qLen = 32$ and cofactor = 8.

*The private key and generation of the secret scalar and the public key are specified in Section 5.1.5 of [[RFC8032](#)].

*The ECVRF_nonce_generation function is as specified in [Section 5.4.2.2](#).

*The int_to_string function as specified in the first paragraph of Section 5.1.2 of [[RFC8032](#)]. (This is little-endian representation.)

*The string_to_int function interprets the string as an integer in little-endian representation.

*The point_to_string function converts an EC point to an octet string according to the encoding specified in Section 5.1.2 of [[RFC8032](#)]. This implies ptLen = 2n = 32. (Note that certain software implementations do not introduce a separate elliptic curve point type and instead directly treat the EC point as an octet string per above encoding. When using such an implementation, the point_to_string function can be treated as the identity function.)

*The string_to_point function converts an octet string to an EC point according to the encoding specified in Section 5.1.3 of [[RFC8032](#)]. This function MUST output INVALID if the octet string does not decode to an EC point.

*The hash function Hash is SHA-512 as specified in [[RFC6234](#)], with hLen = 64.

*The ECVRF_hash_to_curve function is as specified in [Section 5.4.1.1](#), with arbitrary_string_to_point(s) = string_to_point(s[0]...s[31]).

This document defines ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-ELL2 as identical to ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-TAI, except:

*suite_string = 0x04;

*the ECVRF_hash_to_curve function is as specified in [Section 5.4.1.2](#) with h2c_suite_ID_string = edwards25519_XMD:SHA-512_ELL2_NU_ (the suite is defined in [[I-D.irtf-cfrg-hash-to-curve](#)] Section 8.5).

5.6. When the ECVRF Keys are Untrusted

The ECVRF as specified above is a VRF that satisfies the "trusted uniqueness", "trusted collision resistance", and "full pseudorandomness" properties defined in [Section 3](#). In order to obtain "full uniqueness" and "full collision resistance" (which provide

protection against a malicious VRF public key), the Verifier MUST perform the following additional validation procedure upon receipt of the public VRF key. The public VRF key MUST NOT be used if this procedure returns "INVALID".

Note that this procedure is not sufficient if the elliptic curve E or the point B, the generator of group G, is untrusted. If the prover is untrusted, the Verifier MUST obtain E and B from a trusted source, such as a ciphersuite specification, rather than from the prover. Ciphersuites in this document specify E and B.

This procedure supposes that the public key provided to the Verifier is an octet string. The procedure returns "INVALID" if the public key is invalid. Otherwise, it returns Y, the public key as an EC point.

5.6.1. ECVRF Validate Key

ECVRF_validate_key(PK_string)

Input:

PK_string - public key, an octet string

Output:

"INVALID", or

Y - public key, an EC point

Steps:

1. $Y = \text{string_to_point}(\text{PK_string})$
2. If Y is "INVALID", output "INVALID" and stop
3. If $\text{cofactor} * Y$ is the identity element of the elliptic curve group, output "INVALID" and stop
4. Output Y

Note that if the cofactor = 1, then Step 3 need not multiply Y by the cofactor; instead, it suffices to output "INVALID" if Y is the identity element of the elliptic curve group. Moreover, when $\text{cofactor} > 1$, it is not necessary to verify that Y is in the subgroup G; Step 3 suffices. Therefore, if the cofactor is small, the total number of points that could cause Step 3 to output "INVALID" may be small, and it may be more efficient to simply check Y against a fixed

list of such points. For example, the following algorithm can be used for the edwards25519 curve:

1. `Y = string_to_point(PK_string)`
2. If `Y` is "INVALID", output "INVALID" and stop
3. `y_string = PK_string`
4. `oneTwentySeven_string = 0x7F`
5. `y_string[31] = y_string[31] & oneTwentySeven_string`
(this step clears the high-order bit of octet 31)
6. `bad_pk[0] = int_to_string(0, 32)`
7. `bad_pk[1] = int_to_string(1, 32)`
8. `bad_y2 =`
`2707385501144840649318225287225658788936804267575313519463743609750303402022`
9. `bad_pk[2] = int_to_string(bad_y2, 32)`
10. `bad_pk[3] = int_to_string(p-bad_y2, 32)`
11. `bad_pk[4] = int_to_string(p-1, 32)`
12. `bad_pk[5] = int_to_string(p, 32)`
13. `bad_pk[6] = int_to_string(p+1, 32)`
14. If `y_string` is in `bad_pk[0]...bad_pk[6]`, output "INVALID" and stop
15. Output `Y`

(`bad_pk[0]`, `bad_pk[2]`, `bad_pk[3]` each match two bad public keys, depending on the sign of the x-coordinate, which was cleared in step 5, in order to make sure that it does not affect the comparison. `bad_pk[1]` and `bad_pk[4]` each match one bad public key, because x-coordinate is 0 for these two public keys. `bad_pk[5]` and `bad_pk[6]` are simply `bad_pk[0]` and `bad_pk[1]` shifted by `p`, in case the y-coordinate had not been modular reduced by `p`. There is no need to shift the other `bad_pk` values by `p`, because they will exceed 2^{255} . These bad keys, which represent all points of order 1, 2, 4, and 8, have been obtained by converting the points specified in [\[X25519\]](#) to Edwards coordinates.)

6. Implementation Status

Note to RFC editor: Remove before publication

A reference C++ implementation of ECVRF-P256-SHA256-TAI, ECVRF-P256-SHA256-SSWU, ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-TAI, and ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-ELL2 is available at <https://github.com/reyzin/ecvrf>. This implementation is neither secure nor especially efficient, but can be used to generate test vectors.

A Python implementation of an older version of ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-ELL2 from the -05 version of this draft is available at <https://github.com/integritychain/draft-irtf-cfrg-vrf-05>.

A C implementation of an older version of ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-ELL2 from the -03 version of this draft is available at https://github.com/algorand/libsodium/tree/draft-irtf-cfrg-vrf-03/src/libsodium/crypto_vrf/ietfraft03.

A Rust implementation of an older version of ECVRF-P256-SHA256-TAI from the -05 version of this draft, as well as variants for the sect163k1 and secp256k1 curves, is available at <https://crates.io/crates/vrf>.

A C implementation of a variant of ECVRF-P256-SHA256-TAI from the -05 version of this draft adapted for the secp256k1 curve is available at <https://github.com/aergoio/secp256k1-vrf>.

An implementation of an earlier version of RSA-FDH-VRF (SHA-256) and ECVRF-P256-SHA256-TAI was first developed as a part of the NSEC5 project [I-D.vcelak-nsec5] and is available at <http://github.com/fcelda/nsec5-crypto>.

The Key Transparency project at Google uses a VRF implementation that is similar to the ECVRF-P256-SHA256-TAI, with a few changes including the use of SHA-512 instead of SHA-256. Its implementation is available at <https://github.com/google/keytransparency/blob/master/core/crypto/vrf/>

An implementation by Ryuji Ishiguro following an older version of ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-TAI from the -00 version of this draft is available at <https://github.com/r2ishiguro/vrf>.

An implementation similar to ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-ELL2 (with some changes, including the use of SHA-3) is available as part of the CONIKS implementation in Golang at <https://github.com/coniks-sys/coniks-go/tree/master/crypto/vrf>.

Open Whisper Systems also uses a VRF similar to ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-ELL2, called VXEdDSA, and specified here <https://>

whispersystems.org/docs/specifications/xeddsa/ and here <https://moderncrypto.org/mail-archive/curves/2017/000925.html>.

Implementations in C and Java are available at <https://github.com/signalapp/curve25519-java> and <https://github.com/wavesplatform/curve25519-java>.

7. Security Considerations

7.1. Key Generation

Applications that use the VRFs defined in this document MUST ensure that the VRF key is generated correctly, using good randomness.

7.1.1. Uniqueness and collision resistance with untrusted keys

The ECVRF as specified in [Section 5.1-Section 5.5](#) satisfies the "trusted uniqueness" (see [Section 3.1](#)) and "trusted collision resistance" (see [Section 3.2](#)) properties as long as the VRF keys are generated correctly, with good randomness. If the Verifier trusts the VRF keys are generated correctly, it MAY use the public key Y as is.

However, if the ECVRF uses keys that could be generated adversarially, then the Verifier MUST first perform the validation procedure `ECVRF_validate_key(PK_string)` (specified in [Section 5.6](#)) upon receipt of the public key as an octet string. If the validation procedure outputs "INVALID", then the public key MUST not be used. Otherwise, the procedure will output a valid public key Y , and the ECVRF with public key Y satisfies the "full uniqueness" and "full collision resistance" properties.

The RSA-FDH-VRF satisfies the "trusted uniqueness" and "trusted collision resistance" properties as long as the VRF keys are generated correctly, with good randomness. These properties may not hold if the keys are generated adversarially (e.g., if the RSA function specified in the public key is not bijective). Meanwhile, the "full uniqueness" and "full collision resistance" are properties that hold even if VRF keys are generated by an adversary. The RSA-FDH-VRF defined in this document does not have these properties. However, if adversarial key generation is a concern, the RSA-FDH-VRF may be modified to have these properties by adding additional cryptographic checks that its public key has the right form. These modifications are left for future specification.

7.1.2. Pseudorandomness with untrusted keys

Without good randomness, the "pseudorandomness" properties of the VRF may not hold. Note that it is not possible to guarantee pseudorandomness in the face of adversarially generated VRF keys. This is because an adversary can always use bad randomness to

generate the VRF keys, and thus, the VRF output may not be pseudorandom.

7.2. Selective vs. Full Pseudorandomness

[[PWHVNRG17](#)] presents cryptographic reductions to an underlying hard problem (e.g. Decisional Diffie-Hellman for the ECVRF, or the standard RSA assumption for RSA-FDH-VRF) that prove the VRFs specified in this document possess full pseudorandomness as well as selective pseudorandomness (see [Section 3.3](#) for an explanation of these notions). However, the cryptographic reductions are tighter for selective pseudorandomness than for full pseudorandomness. This means that the VRFs have quantitatively stronger security guarantees for selective pseudorandomness.

Applications that are concerned about tightness of cryptographic reductions therefore have two options.

- *They may choose to ensure that selective pseudorandomness is sufficient for the application. That is, that pseudorandomness of outputs matters only for inputs that are chosen independently of the VRF key.

- *If full pseudorandomness is required for the application, the application may increase security parameters to make up for the loose security reduction. For RSA-FDH-VRF, this means increasing the RSA key length. For ECVRF, this means increasing the cryptographic strength of the EC group G . For both RSA-FDH-VRF and ECVRF, the cryptographic strength of the hash function H may also potentially need to be increased.

7.3. Proper pseudorandom nonce for ECVRF

The security of the ECVRF defined in this document relies on the fact that the nonce k used in the ECVRF_prove algorithm is chosen uniformly and pseudorandomly modulo q , and is unknown to the adversary. Otherwise, an adversary may be able to recover the private VRF key x (and thus break pseudorandomness of the VRF) after observing several valid VRF proofs π_i . The nonce generation methods specified in the ECVRF ciphersuites of [Section 5.5](#) are designed with this requirement in mind.

7.4. Side-channel attacks

Side channel attacks on cryptographic primitives are an important issue. Implementers should take care to avoid side-channel attacks that leak information about the VRF private key SK (and the nonce k used in the ECVRF), which is used in VRF_prove. In most applications, VRF_proof_to_hash and VRF_verify algorithms take only inputs that are

public, and thus side channel attacks are typically not a concern for these algorithms.

The VRF input alpha may be also a sensitive input to VRF_prove and may need to be protected against side channel attacks. Below we discuss one particular class of such attacks: timing attacks that can be used to leak information about the VRF input alpha.

The ECVRF_hash_to_curve_try_and_increment algorithm defined in [Section 5.4.1.1](#) SHOULD NOT be used in applications where the VRF input alpha is secret and is hashed by the VRF on-the-fly. This is because the algorithm's running time depends on the VRF input alpha, and thus creates a timing channel that can be used to learn information about alpha. That said, for most inputs the amount of information obtained from such a timing attack is likely to be small (1 bit, on average), since the algorithm is expected to find a valid curve point after only two attempts. However, there might be inputs which cause the algorithm to make many attempts before it finds a valid curve point; for such inputs, the information leaked in a timing attack will be more than 1 bit.

ECVRF-P256-SHA256-SSWU and ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-ELL2 can be made to run in time independent of alpha, following recommendations in [[I-D.irtf-cfrg-hash-to-curve](#)].

7.5. Proofs provide no secrecy for the VRF input

The VRF proof pi is not designed to provide secrecy and, in general, may reveal the VRF input alpha. Anyone who knows PK and pi is able to perform an offline dictionary attack to search for alpha, by verifying guesses for alpha using VRF_verify. This is in contrast to the VRF hash output beta which, without the proof, is pseudorandom and thus is designed to reveal no information about alpha.

7.6. Prehashing

The VRFs specified in this document allow for read-once access to the input alpha for both signing and verifying. Thus, additional prehashing of alpha (as specified, for example, in [[RFC8032](#)] for EdDSA signatures) is not needed, even for applications that need to handle long alpha or to support the Initialized-Update-Finalize (IUF) interface (in such an interface, alpha is not supplied all at once, but rather in pieces by a sequence of calls to Update). The ECVRF, in particular, uses alpha only in ECVRF_hash_to_curve. The curve point H becomes the representative of alpha thereafter. Note that the suite_string octet and the public key are hashed together with alpha in ECVRF_hash_to_curve, which ensures that the curve (including the generator B) and the public key are included indirectly into subsequent hashes.

7.7. Hash function domain separation and futureproofing

Hashing is used for different purposes in the two VRFs (namely, in the RSA-FDH-VRF, in MGF1 and in `proof_to_hash`; in the ECVRF, in `hash_to_curve`, `nonce_generation`, `hash_points`, and `proof_to_hash`). The theoretical analysis assumes each of these functions is a separate random oracle. This analysis still holds even if the same hash function is used, as long as the four queries made to the hash function for a given SK and alpha are overwhelmingly unlikely to equal each other or to any queries made to the hash function for the same SK and different alpha. This is indeed the case for the RSA-FDH-VRF defined in this document, because the first octets of the input to the hash function used in MGF1 and in `proof_to_hash` are different.

This is also the case for the ECVRF ciphersuites defined in this document, because:

- *inputs to the hash function used during `nonce_generation` are unlikely to equal inputs used in `hash_to_curve`, `proof_to_hash`, and `hash_points`. This follows since `nonce_generation` inputs a secret to the hash function that is not used by honest parties as input to any other hash function, and is not available to the adversary.

- *the second octets of the inputs to the hash function used in `proof_to_hash`, `hash_points`, and `ECVRF_hash_to_curve_try_and_increment` are all different.

- *the last octet of the input to the hash function used in `proof_to_hash`, `hash_points`, and `ECVRF_hash_to_curve_try_and_increment` is always zero, and therefore different from the last octet of the input to the hash function used in `ECVRF_hash_to_curve_h2c_suite`, which is set equal to the nonzero length of the domain separation tag by [[I-D.irtf-cfrg-hash-to-curve](#)].

For the RSA VRF, if future designs need to specify variants of the design in this document, such variants should use different first octets in inputs to MGF1 and to the hash function used in `proof_to_hash`, in order to avoid the possibility that an adversary can obtain a VRF output under one variant, and then claim it was obtained under another variant

For the elliptic curve VRF, if future designs need to specify variants (e.g., additional ciphersuites) of the design in this document, then, to avoid the possibility that an adversary can obtain a VRF output under one variant, and then claim it was obtained under another variant, they should specify a different `suite_string` constant. This way, the inputs to the `hash_to_curve` hash function used in producing H are guaranteed to be different; since all the

other hashing done by the prover depends on H, inputs all the hash functions used by the prover will also be different as long as hash_to_curve is collision resistant.

8. Change Log

Note to RFC Editor: if this document does not obsolete an existing RFC, please remove this appendix before publication as an RFC.

00 - Forked this document from draft-goldbe-vrf-01.

01 - Minor updates, mostly highlighting TODO items.

02 - Added specification of Elligator2 for Curve25519, along with ciphersuites for ECVRF-ED25519-SHA512-Elligator. Changed ECVRF-ED25519-SHA256 suite_string to ECVRF-ED25519-SHA512. (This change made because Ed25519 in [\[RFC8032\]](#) signatures use SHA512 and not SHA256.) Made ECVRF nonce generation a separate component, so that nonces are deterministic. In ECVRF proving, changed + to - (and made corresponding verification changes) in order to be consistent with EdDSA and ECDSA. Highlighted that ECVRF_hash_to_curve acts like a prehash. Added "suites" variable to ECVRF for futureproofing. Ensured domain separation for hash functions by modifying hash_points and added discussion about domain separation. Updated todos in the "additional pseudorandomness property" section. Added a discussion of secrecy into security considerations. Removed B and PK=Y from ECVRF_hash_points because they are already present via H, which is computed via hash_to_curve using the suite_string (which identifies B) and Y.

03 - Changed Ed25519 conversions to little-endian, to match RFC 8032; added simple key validation for Ed25519; added Simple SWU cipher suite; clarified Elligator and removed the extra x0 bit, to make Montgomery and Edwards Elligator the same; added domain separation for RSA VRF; improved notation throughout; added nonce generation as a section; changed counter in try-and-increment from four bytes to one, to avoid endian issues; renamed try-and-increment ciphersuites to -TAI; added qlen as a separate parameter; changed output length to hLen for ECVRF, to match RSAVRF; made Verify return beta so unverified proofs don't end up in proof_to_hash; added test vectors.

04 - Clarified handling of optional arguments x and PK in ECVRF_prove. Edited implementation status to bring it up to date.

05 - Renamed ed25519 into the more commonly used edwards25519. Corrected ECVRF_nonce_generation RFC6979 (thanks to Gorka Irazoqui Apecechea and Mario Cao Cueto for finding the problem) and corresponding test vectors for the P256 suites. Added a reference to the Rust implementation.

06 - Made some variable names more descriptive. Added a few implementation references.

07 - Incorporated hash-to-curve draft by reference to replace our own Elligator2 and Simple SWU. Clarified discussion of EC parameters and functions. Added a 0 octet to all hashing to enforce domain separation from hashing done inside hash-to-curve.

08 - Incorporated suggestions from crypto panel review by Chloe Martindale. Changed Reyzin's affiliation. Updated references.

09 - Added a note to remove the implementation page before publication.

10 - Added a check in ECVRF_decode_proof to ensure that s is reduced mod q . Connected security properties (Section 3) and security considerations (Section 7) with more cross-references.

9. Contributors

This document also would not be possible without the work of Moni Naor (Weizmann Institute), Sachin Vasant (Cisco Systems), and Asaf Ziv (Facebook). Shumon Huque, David C. Lawrence, Trevor Perrin, Annie Yousar, Stanislav Smyshlyaev, Liliya Akhmetzyanova, Tony Arcieri, Sergey Gorbunov, Sam Scott, Nick Sullivan, Christopher Wood, Marek Jankowski, Derek Ting-Haye Leung, Adam Suhl, Gary Belvinm, Piotr Nojszewski, Gorka Irazoqui Apecechea, and Mario Cao Cueto provided valuable input to this draft. Riad Wahby was very helpful with the integration of the hash-to-curve draft.

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10.2. Informative References

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Appendix A. Test Vectors for the ECVRFs

The test vectors in this section were generated using the reference implementation at <https://github.com/reyzin/ecvrf>.

A.1. ECVRF-P256-SHA256-TAI

The example secret keys and messages in Examples 1 and 2 are taken from Appendix A.2.5 of [[RFC6979](https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6979)].

Example 1:

```
SK = x =
c9afa9d845ba75166b5c215767b1d6934e50c3db36e89b127b8a622b120f6721
PK =
0360fed4ba255a9d31c961eb74c6356d68c049b8923b61fa6ce669622e60f29fb6
alpha = 73616d706c65 (ASCII "sample")
try_and_increment succeeded on ctr = 1
```



```
H =
0272a877532e9ac193aff4401234266f59900a4a9e3fc3cfc6a4b7e467a15d06d4
k =
0d90591273453d2dc67312d39914e3a93e194ab47a58cd598886897076986f77
U = k*B =
02bb6a034f67643c6183c10f8b41dc4babf88bff154b674e377d90bde009c21672
V = k*H =
02893ebee7af9a0faa6da810da8a91f9d50e1dc071240c9706726820ff919e8394
pi =
035b5c726e8c0e2c488a107c600578ee75cb702343c153cb1eb8dec77f4b5071b498e7c291a16dafb9ccff8

beta =
a3ad7b0ef73d8fc6655053ea22f9bede8c743f08bbbed3d38821f0e16474b505e
```

Example 2:

```
SK = x =
c9afa9d845ba75166b5c215767b1d6934e50c3db36e89b127b8a622b120f6721
PK =
0360fed4ba255a9d31c961eb74c6356d68c049b8923b61fa6ce669622e60f29fb6
alpha = 74657374 (ASCII "test")
try_and_increment succeeded on ctr = 3
H =
02173119b4fff5e6f8afed4868a29fe8920f1b54c2cf89cc7b301d0d473de6b974
k =
5852353a868bdce26938cde1826723e58bf8cb06dd2fed475213ea6f3b12e961
U = k*B =
022779a2cafcb65414c4a04a4b4d2adf4c50395f57995e89e6de823250d91bc48e
V = k*H =
033b4a14731672e82339f03b45ff6b5b13dee7ada38c9bf1d6f8f61e2ce5921119
pi =
034dac60aba508ba0c01aa9be80377ebd7562c4a52d74722e0abae7dc3080ddb56c874cc95b7d29a6a65cb5

beta =
a284f94ceec2ff4b3794629da7cbafa49121972671b466cab4ce170aa365f26d
```

The example secret key in Example 3 is taken from Appendix L.4.2 of [\[ANSI.X9-62-2005\]](#).

Example 3:

```
SK = x =
2ca1411a41b17b24cc8c3b089cfd033f1920202a6c0de8abb97df1498d50d2c8
PK =
03596375e6ce57e0f20294fc46bdfcfd19a39f8161b58695b3ec5b3d16427c274d
alpha =
4578616d706c65207573696e67204543445341206b65792066726f6d20417070656e646978204c2e342e32
(ASCII "Example using ECDSA key from Appendix L.4.2 of
ANSI.X9-62-2005")
```

```
try_and_increment succeeded on ctr = 1
H =
0258055c26c4b01d01c00fb57567955f7d39cd6f6e85fd37c58f696cc6b7aa761d
k =
5689e2e08e1110b4dda293ac21667eac6db5de4a46a519c73d533f69be2f4da3
U = k*B =
020f465cd0ec74d2e23af0abde4c07e866ae4e5138bded5dd1196b8843f380db84
V = k*H =
036cb6f811428fc4904370b86c488f60c280fa5b496d2f34ff8772f60ed24b2d1d
pi =
03d03398bf53aa23831d7d1b2937e005fb0062cbefa06796579f2a1fc7e7b8c6679d92353c8a4fdfddb2a8

beta =
90871e06da5caa39a3c61578ebb844de8635e27ac0b13e829997d0d95dd98c19
```

A.2. ECVRF-P256-SHA256-SSWU

The example secret keys and messages in Examples 4 and 5 are taken from Appendix A.2.5 of [[RFC6979](#)].

Example 4:

```
SK = x =
c9afa9d845ba75166b5c215767b1d6934e50c3db36e89b127b8a622b120f6721
PK =
0360fed4ba255a9d31c961eb74c6356d68c049b8923b61fa6ce669622e60f29fb6
alpha = 73616d706c65 (ASCII "sample")
In SSWU: uniform_bytes =
5024e98d6067dec313af09ff0cbe78218324a645c2a4b0aae2453f6fe91aa3bd9471f7b4a5fbf128e4b53f

In SSWU: u =
df565615a2372e8b31b8771f7503bafc144e48b05688b97958cc27ce29a8d810
In SSWU: x1 =
e7e39eb8a4c982426fcff629e55a3e13516cf62c02c369b1e750316f5e94eb
In SSWU: gx1 is a nonsquare
H =
02b31973e872d4a097e2cfae9f37af9f9d73428fde74ac537dda93b5f18dbc5842
k =
e92820035a0a8afe132826c6312662b6ea733fc1a0d33737945016de54d02dd8
U = k*B =
031490f49d0355ffcdf66e40df788bee93861917ee713acff79be40d20cc91a30a
V = k*H =
03701df0228138fa3d16612c0d720389326b3265151bc7ac696ea4d0591cd053e3
pi =
0331d984ca8fece9cbb9a144c0d53df3c4c7a33080c1e02ddb1a96a365394c7888a39dfe7432f119228473

beta =
21e66dc9747430f17ed9efeda054cf4a264b097b9e8956a1787526ed00dc664b
```

Example 5:

```
SK = x =
c9afa9d845ba75166b5c215767b1d6934e50c3db36e89b127b8a622b120f6721
PK =
0360fed4ba255a9d31c961eb74c6356d68c049b8923b61fa6ce669622e60f29fb6
alpha = 74657374 (ASCII "test")
In SSWU: uniform_bytes =
910cc66d84a57985a1d15843dad83fd9138a109afb243b7fa5d64d766ec9ca3894fdcf46ebeb21a3972eb48

In SSWU: u =
d8b0107f7e7aa36390240d834852f8703a6dc407019d6196bda5861b8fc00181
In SSWU: x1 =
ccc747fa7318b9486ce4044adbbecaa084c27be6eda88eb7b7f3d688fd0968c7
In SSWU: gx1 is a square
H =
03ccc747fa7318b9486ce4044adbbecaa084c27be6eda88eb7b7f3d688fd0968c7
k =
febc3451ea7639fde2cf41ffd03f463124ecb3b5a79913db1ed069147c8a7dea
U = k*B =
031200f9900e96f811d1247d353573f47e0d9da601fc992566234fc1a5b37749ae
V = k*H =
02d3715dcfee136c7ae50e95ffca76f4ca6c29ddf9b2a39c31a0d48e75c6605cd1
pi =
03f814c0455d32dbc75ad3aea08c7e2db31748e12802db23640203aebf1fa8db2721e0499b7cecd68027a82

beta =
8e7185d2b420e4f4681f44ce313a26d05613323837da09a69f00491a83ad25dd
```

The example secret key in Example 6 is taken from Appendix L.4.2 of [\[ANSI.X9-62-2005\]](#).

Example 6:

```
SK = x =
2ca1411a41b17b24cc8c3b089cfd033f1920202a6c0de8abb97df1498d50d2c8
PK =
03596375e6ce57e0f20294fc46bdfcfd19a39f8161b58695b3ec5b3d16427c274d
alpha =
4578616d706c65207573696e67204543445341206b65792066726f6d20417070656e646978204c2e342e3220
(ASCII "Example using ECDSA key from Appendix L.4.2 of
ANSI.X9-62-2005")
In SSWU: uniform_bytes =
9b81d55a242d3e8438d3bcfb1bee985a87fd144802c9268cf9adeee160e6e9ff765569797a0f701cb431602

In SSWU: u =
e43c98c2ae06d13839fedb0303e5ee815896beda39be83fb11325b97976efdce
In SSWU: x1 =
be9e195a50f175d3563aed8dc2d9f513a5536c1e9aee1757d86c08d32d582a86
```

In SSWU: gx1 is a nonsquare

H =

022dd5150e5a2a24c66feab2f68532be1486e28e07f1b9a055cf38ccc16f6595ff

k =

8e29221f33564f3f66f858ba2b0c14766e1057adbd422c3e7d0d99d5e142b613

U = k*B =

03a8823ff9fd16bf879261c740b9c7792b77fee0830f21314117e441784667958d

V = k*H =

02d48fbb45921c755b73b25be2f23379e3ce69294f6cee9279815f57f4b422659d

pi =

039f8d9cdc162c89be2871cbcb1435144739431db7fab437ab7bc4e2651a9e99d5288aac70a5e4bd07df30

beta =

4fbadf33b42a5f42f23a6f89952d2e634a6e3810f15878b46ef1bb85a04fe95a

A.3. ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-TAI

The example secret keys and messages in Examples 7, 8, and 9 are taken from Section 7.1 of [[RFC8032](#)].

Example 7:

SK =

9d61b19deffd5a60ba844af492ec2cc44449c5697b326919703bac031cae7f60

PK =

d75a980182b10ab7d54bfed3c964073a0ee172f3daa62325af021a68f707511a

alpha = (the empty string)

x =

307c83864f2833cb427a2ef1c00a013cfdff2768d980c0a3a520f006904de94f

try_and_increment succeeded on ctr = 0

H =

91bbbed02a99461df1ad4c6564a5f5d829d0b90cfc7903e7a5797bd658abf3318

k =

7100f3d9eadb6dc4743b029736ff283f5be494128df128df2817106f345b8594b6d6da2d6fb0b4c0257eb30

U = k*B =

aef27c725be964c6a9bf4c45ca8e35df258c1878b838f37d9975523f09034071

V = k*H =

5016572f71466c646c119443455d6cb9b952f07d060ec8286d678615d55f954f

pi =

8657106690b5526245a92b003bb079ccd1a92130477671f6fc01ad16f26f723f5e8bd1839b414219e8626d

beta =

90cf1df3b703cce59e2a35b925d411164068269d7b2d29f3301c03dd757876ff66b71dda49d2de59d03450

Example 8:

```
SK =
4ccd089b28ff96da9db6c346ec114e0f5b8a319f35aba624da8cf6ed4fb8a6fb
PK =
3d4017c3e843895a92b70aa74d1b7ebc9c982ccf2ec4968cc0cd55f12af4660c
alpha = 72 (1 byte)
x =
68bd9ed75882d52815a97585caf4790a7f6c6b3b7f821c5e259a24b02e502e51
try_and_increment succeeded on ctr = 1
H =
5b659fc3d4e9263fd9a4ed1d022d75eaacc20df5e09f9ea937502396598dc551
k =
42589bbf0c485c3c91c1621bb4bfe04aed7be76ee48f9b00793b2342acb9c167cab856f9f9d4febc311330

U = k*B =
1dcb0a4821a2c48bf53548228b7f170962988f6d12f5439f31987ef41f034ab3
V = k*H =
fd03c0bf498c752161bae4719105a074630a2aa5f200ff7b3995f7bfb1513423
pi =
f3141cd382dc42909d19ec5110469e4feae18300e94f304590abdced48aed593f7eaf3eb2f1a968cba3f6e

beta =
eb4440665d3891d668e7e0fcacf587f1b4bd7fbfe99d0eb2211ccec90496310eb5e33821bc613efb94db5e5
```

Example 9:

```
SK =
c5aa8df43f9f837bedb7442f31dcb7b166d38535076f094b85ce3a2e0b4458f7
PK =
fc51cd8e6218a1a38da47ed00230f0580816ed13ba3303ac5deb911548908025
alpha = af82 (2 bytes)
x =
909a8b755ed902849023a55b15c23d11ba4d7f4ec5c2f51b1325a181991ea95c
try_and_increment succeeded on ctr = 0
H =
bf4339376f5542811de615e3313d2b36f6f53c0acfebb482159711201192576a
k =
38b868c335ccda94a088428cbf3ec8bc7955bfaaffe1f3bd2aa2c59fc31a0febc59d0e1af3715773ce11b3bl

U = k*B =
2bae73e15a64042fceb062abe7e432b2eca6744f3e8265bc38e009cd577ecd5
V = k*H =
88cba1cb0d4f9b649d9a86026b69de076724a93a65c349c988954f0961c5d506
pi =
9bc0f79119cc5604bf02d23b4caede71393cedfbb191434dd016d30177ccbf80e29dc513c01c3a980e0e54
```

beta =
645427e5d00c62a23fb703732fa5d892940935942101e456ecca7bb217c61c452118fec1219202a0edcf03

A.4. ECVRF-EDWARDS25519-SHA512-ELL2

The example secret keys and messages in Examples 10, 11, and 12 are taken from Section 7.1 of [[RFC8032](#)].

Example 10:

SK =
9d61b19deffd5a60ba844af492ec2cc44449c5697b326919703bac031cae7f60
PK =
d75a980182b10ab7d54bfed3c964073a0ee172f3daa62325af021a68f707511a
alpha = (the empty string)
x =
307c83864f2833cb427a2ef1c00a013cfdff2768d980c0a3a520f006904de94f
In Elligator2: uniform_bytes =
d620782a206d9de584b74e23ae5ee1db5ca5298b3fc527c4867f049dee6dd419b3674967bd614890f621c12

In Elligator2: u =
30f037b9745a57a9a2b8a68da81f397c39d46dee9d047f86c427c53f8b29a55c
In Elligator2: gx1 =
8cb66318fb2cea01672d6c27a5ab662ae33220961607f69276080a56477b4a08
In Elligator2: gx1 is a square
H =
b8066ebbb706c72b64390324e4a3276f129569eab100c26b9f05011200c1bad9
k =
b5682049fee54fe2d519c9afff73bbfad724e69a82d5051496a42458f817bed7a386f96b1a78e5736756192

U = k*B =
762f5c178b68f0cddcc1157918edf45ec334ac8e8286601a3256c3bbf858edd9
V = k*H =
4652eba1c4612e6fce762977a59420b451e12964adbe4fbecd58a7aef5860af
pi =
7d9c633ffeee27349264cf5c667579fc583b4bda63ab71d001f89c10003ab46f25898f6bd7d4ed4c75f0282

beta =
9d574bf9b8302ec0fc1e21c3ec5368269527b87b462ce36dab2d14ccf80c53cccf6758f058c5b1c856b1163

Example 11:

SK =
4ccd089b28ff96da9db6c346ec114e0f5b8a319f35aba624da8cf6ed4fb8a6fb
PK =
3d4017c3e843895a92b70aa74d1b7ebc9c982ccf2ec4968cc0cd55f12af4660c
alpha = 72 (1 byte)

```
x =
68bd9ed75882d52815a97585caf4790a7f6c6b3b7f821c5e259a24b02e502e51
In Elligator2: uniform_bytes =
04ae20a9ad2a2330fb33318e376a2448bd77bb99e81d126f47952b156590444a9225b84128b66a2f15b412

In Elligator2: u =
3092f033b16d4d5f74a3f7dc7091fe434b449065152b95476f121de899bb773d
In Elligator2: gx1 =
25d7fe7f82456e7078e99fdb24ef2582b4608357cdba9c39a8d535a3fd98464d
In Elligator2: gx1 is a nonsquare
H =
76ac3ccb86158a9104dff819b1ca293426d305fd76b39b13c9356d9b58c08e57
k =
88bf479281fd29a6cbdfdd67e2c5ec0024d92f14eaed58f43f22f37c4c37f1d41e65c036fbf01f9fba11d5

U = k*B =
8ec26e77b8cb3114dd2265fe1564a4efb40d109aa3312536d93dfe3d8d80a061
V = k*H =
fe799eb5770b4e3a5a27d22518bb631db183c8316bb552155f442c62a47d1c8b
pi =
47b327393ff2dd81336f8a2ef10339112401253b3c714eeda879f12c509072ef9bf1a234f833f72d8fff36

beta =
38561d6b77b71d30eb97a062168ae12b667ce5c28cacddf76bc88e093e4635987cd96814ce55b4689b3dd2
```

Example 12:

```
SK =
c5aa8df43f9f837bedb7442f31dcb7b166d38535076f094b85ce3a2e0b4458f7
PK =
fc51cd8e6218a1a38da47ed00230f0580816ed13ba3303ac5deb911548908025
alpha = af82 (2 bytes)
x =
909a8b755ed902849023a55b15c23d11ba4d7f4ec5c2f51b1325a181991ea95c
In Elligator2: uniform_bytes =
be0aed556e36cdfddf8f1eeddbb7356a24fad64cf95a922a098038f215588b216beabbfe6acf20256188e8

In Elligator2: u =
f6675dc6d17fc790d4b3f1c6acf689a13d8b5815f23880092a925af94cd6fa24
In Elligator2: gx1 =
a63d48e3247c903e22fdfb88fd9295e396712a5fe576af335dbe16f99f0af26c
In Elligator2: gx1 is a square
H =
13d2a8b5ca32db7e98094a61f656a08c6c964344e058879a386a947a4e189ed1
k =
a7ddd74a3a7d165d511b02fa268710ddbb3b939282d276fa2efcfa5aaf79cf576087299ca9234aacd7cd674
```

U = k*B =

a012f35433df219a88ab0f9481f4e0065d00422c3285f3d34a8b0202f20bac60

V = k*H =

fb613986d171b3e98319c7ca4dc44c5dd8314a6e5616c1a4f16ce72bd7a0c25a

pi =

926e895d308f5e328e7aa159c06eddb56d06846abf5d98c2512235eaa57fdce6187befa109606682503b3

beta =

121b7f9b9aaaa29099fc04a94ba52784d44eac976dd1a3cca458733be5cd090a7b5fbd148444f17f8daf1f

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