

Preface

ASIACRYPT 2003 was held in Taipei, Taiwan, from Nov. 30 to Dec. 4, 2003. The 9th Annual ASIACRYPT conference was sponsored by the International Association for Cryptologic Research (IACR), this year in cooperation with the Chinese Cryptology and Information Security Association (CCISA) and National Cheng Kung University (NCKU) in Taiwan.

One hundred and eighty-eight papers from 26 countries were submitted to ASIACRYPT 2003 and 33 (of which one paper was withdrawn by the authors after notification) of these were selected for presentation. These proceedings contain revised versions of the accepted papers. We had an IACR 2003 Distinguished Lecture, by Dr. Don Coppersmith, entitled “Solving Low Degree Polynomials.” In addition, two invited talks were given at the conference. One was given by Dr. Adi Shamir. The other one was given by Dr. Hong-Sen Yan, entitled “The Secret and Beauty of Ancient Chinese Locks.” The conference program also included a rump session, chaired by Tzong Chen Wu, which featured short informal talks on recent results.

It was a pleasure for me to work with the program committee, which was composed of 27 members from 17 countries; I thank them for working very hard over several months. As a matter of fact, the review process was a challenging and time-consuming task, and it lasted about 8 weeks, followed by more than half a month for discussions among the program committee members. All submissions were anonymously reviewed by at least 3 members in the relevant areas of the program committee; in some cases, particularly for those papers submitted by a member of the program committee, they were reviewed by at least six members. We are grateful to all the program committee members who put in a lot of effort and precious time giving their expert analysis and comments on the submissions. In addition, we really appreciate the external referees who contributed with their expertise to the reviewing process; without their help, the selection process would not have gone so smoothly.

All paper submissions to ASIACRYPT 2003 were received electronically using the Web-based submission software, which was provided by Chanathip Namprempre. The review software was kindly provided by Bart Preneel, Wim Moreau, and Joris Claessens. I would like to thank Chien-Pang Kuo for his help with the installation and with solving problems we had with the software. I am also very grateful to Yi-Zhen Lin for her great help in handling ASIACRYPT 2003 affairs.

Special thanks to Yuliang Zheng, who acted as an advisory member of the committee and provided advice based on his previous experience. I would also like to thank the chair of IACR, Andy Clark, who gave me valuable advice on all kinds of problems.

For financial support of the conference, we are very grateful to this year’s sponsors, including the National Science Council, the Ministry of Education, the Directorate-General of Telecommunications, R.O.C., Chunghwa Telecom Co.,

Ltd., the Institute for Information Industry, Computer & Communications Research Labs, ITRI, etc.

Finally, we would like to thank all other people who provided any assistance, and all the authors who submitted their papers to ASIACRYPT 2003, as well as all the participants from all over the world.

September 2003

Chi Sung Laih

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in cooperation with the
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