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CHAPTER 13 - Cryptography

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Publisher Summary

This chapter discusses the theory of cryptography. Cryptography is about communication in the presence of adversaries. Cryptology provides methods that enable a communicating party to develop trust that his communications have the desired properties, despite of the best efforts of an untrusted party. The desired properties might include: (1) privacy: an adversary learns nothing useful about the message sent; (2) authentication: the recipient of a message can convince himself that the message as received originated with the alleged sender; (3) signatures: the recipient of a message can convince a third party that the message as received originated with the alleged signer; (4) minimality: nothing is communicated to other parties except that which is specifically desired to be communicated; (5) simultaneous exchange: something of value is not released until something else of value is received; and (6) coordination: in a multi-party communication, the parties are able to coordinate their activities toward a common goal even in the presence of adversaries.

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