



Digital Signing Foundations

Introduction to Hashing and Public Key Cryptography

<https://github.com/Cyphrme/Coze>

[HTTPS://CYPHR.ME/COZE](https://cypHR.me/coze)

Zamicol

We all know Bitcoin is cryptographic.

What does cryptographic mean?



Does Bitcoin encrypt?



Does Bitcoin encrypt?

No!

If Bitcoin doesn't encrypt, what does Bitcoin do?

Hashing and digital signatures.



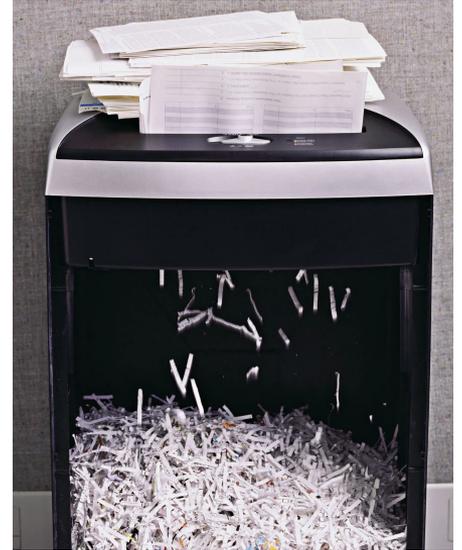
What is a **hash**?

What is a **cryptographic hash**?

What is a hash function?

A hash function is a "data grinder".

- Takes input of any size and produces an output
 - Typically a **fixed-size output**, but **any-size input**
- Shred a single page or an entire book



A hash function is like a paper shredder blender



1 cup



Trash the rest



Fix sized output

- Take one cup of shreds. Throw everything else in the trash.
- Too few shreds algorithm
 - When shredding a small document and there's not enough shreds to fill a whole cup, shred old newspaper until a whole cup can be filled.



What is a hash function used for?

Organizing and finding data quickly

- Example: Dictionary in Python or HashMap in Java

Key properties:

- Distributes values evenly
- Same input always produces same output (Deterministic)
- Different inputs produce different outputs
- Should be fast to compute (Ideally, not always.)

Hash functions are foundational for computer science.

Without hash functions, or hash-like function, many algorithms would be much less efficient and slower, if not impossible.



What is a hash function used for?

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Key properties:

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- Different inputs produce different outputs
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What is a hash function used for?

- For small documents and big shreds, with a lot of effort, you reconstruct the original document from the shreds. But with more shredding, or larger documents, it becomes impossible.

Cryptographic Hash Functions

- Like regular hashes but with special computational properties
 - Examples: SHA-256, SHA-3, Blake2
- Extremely hard to find two inputs that produce same output
- Small input changes cause massive output changes (avalanche, diffusion)
- Cannot **feasibly, or even possibly**, work backwards from output to input
- Sometimes much slower than regular hashes (Sometimes intentionally!)

Digital Signatures

What is a Digital Signature?

A computational scheme that proves

- **Authentication**
 - Who created/approved a document
- **Integrity**
 - The document hasn't been altered
- **Non-repudiation**
 - The signer can't deny signing it

How it Works (The Simple Version)

- Alice has two keys:
 - A private key (kept secret, like a unique personal stamp)
 - A public key (shared with everyone, like a public photo of her stamp)
- To sign a document:
 - Alice uses her private key to create a unique signature
 - The signature is based on both the document content and her private key
 - She attaches this signature to the document
- To verify the signature:
 - Anyone can use Alice's public key to check if the signature is valid
 - If even one letter in the document changes, the verification fails
 - Only Alice's private key could have created a signature that her public key verifies

Digital Signature Key Points

- The private key must stay private
 - If stolen, attackers can forge the signature
- The public key must be authentic
 - Need a way to prove it really belongs to Alice
- Signatures are tamper-evident
 - Any change to the document breaks the signature
 - Even adding a single space will cause verification to fail

The Foundations of Information Theory

"Cryptography is the foundation of
all security"

- David Wong, author and cryptographer



There is something deep, profound, universal, quintessential, and foundational about cryptography.

The foundations of cryptography are much more than just secrete codes.



Cryptography is a branch of **information theory** that studies the properties and relationships of information transformations.

While often associated with privacy and security applications, its core essence lies in the manipulation of information according to precise principles that create **provable properties** and **guarantees**.



Notice that "security" does not appear in this definition of cryptography, even though cryptography is foundational to security.

Why?

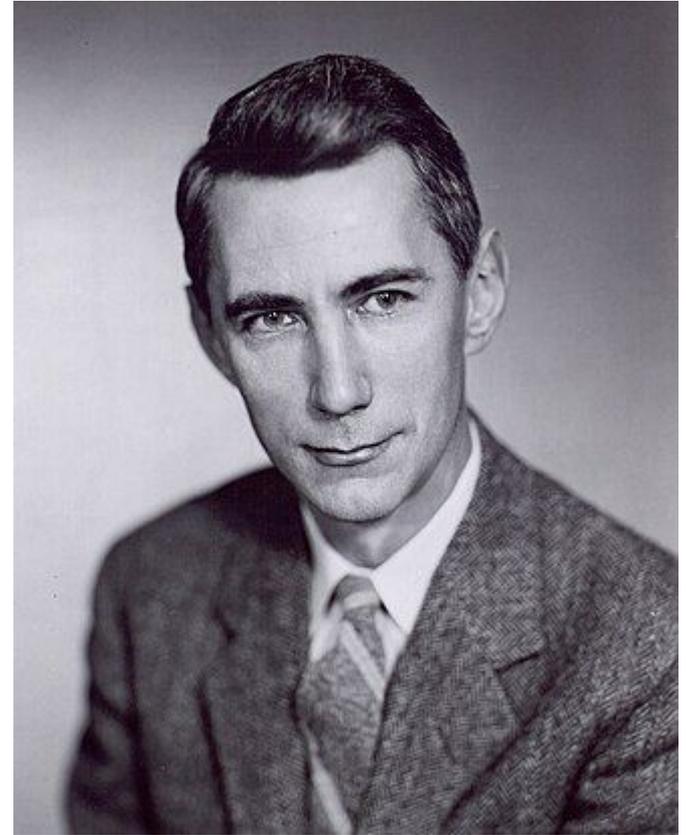
Shannon showed that the fundamental of security is **information theory**. Shannon proved this using cryptography as an example.



Claude Shannon

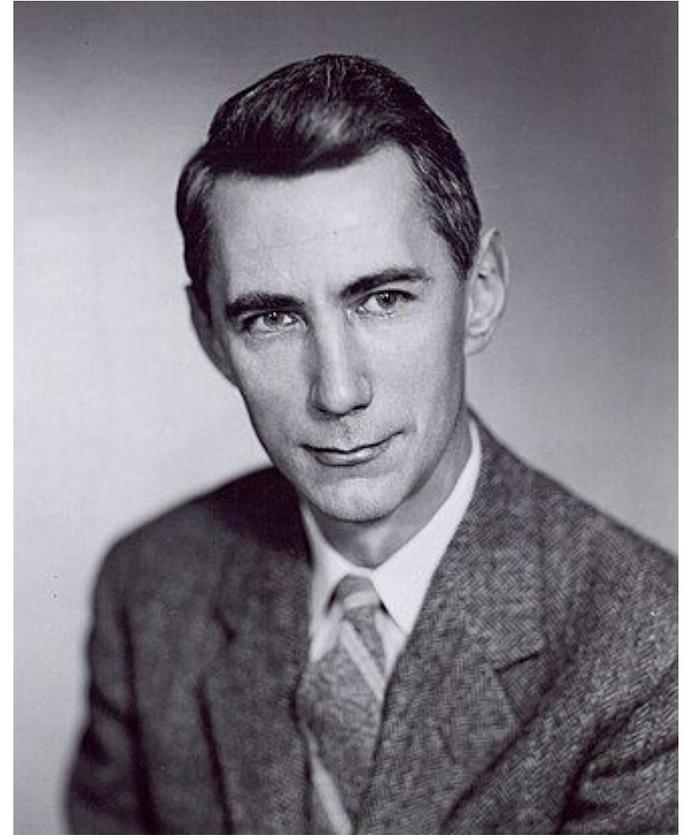
1936: Master's thesis concerned switching circuit theory, demonstrating that electrical applications of **Boolean algebra** could construct any logical numerical relationship.

Shannon was 21.



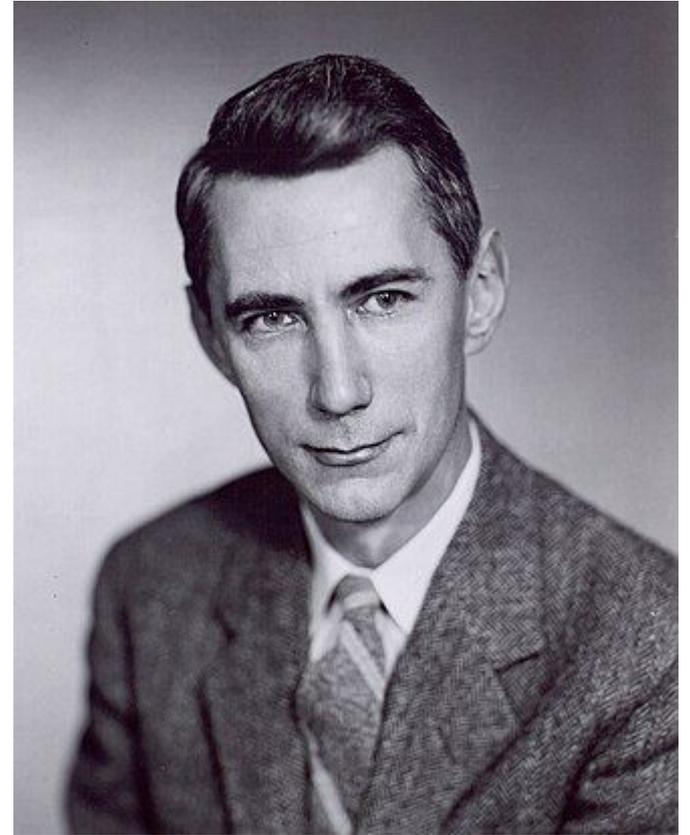
1948 A Mathematical Theory of Communication

- The bit as a unit of information
 - (The bit is in binary)
- Channel capacity
- Source coding theorem
 - Maximum information in noisy channel
- **Information entropy**



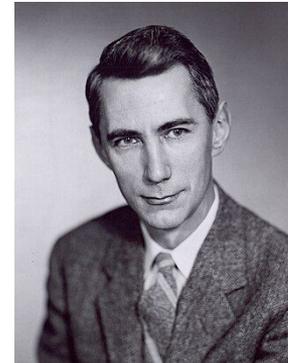
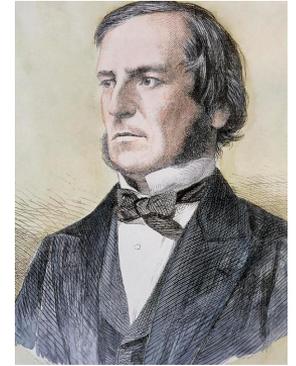
Claude Shannon defined **Entropy**.

$$\log_2 \left(\frac{1}{p(E)} \right)$$



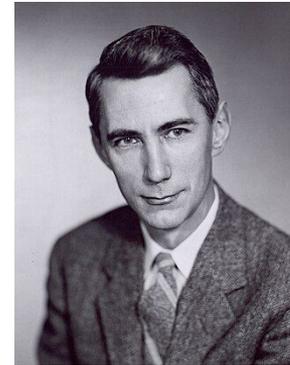
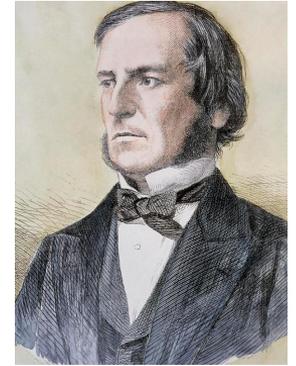
Key Figures on the Road to Information Theory

- Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz
 - 1703: developed modern binary
- George Boole
 - 1847: developed Boolean algebra
- Harry Nyquist
 - 1924: Max information, communication
- Alan Turing
 - 1936: Developed universal computing, the Turing machine
- Claude Shannon
 - 1949: Established Information Theory



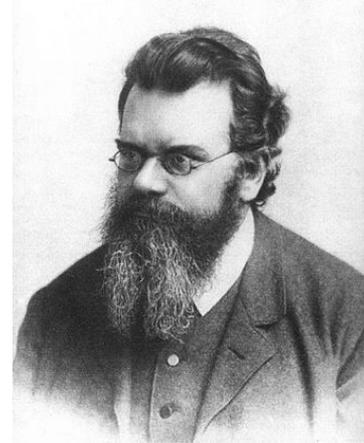
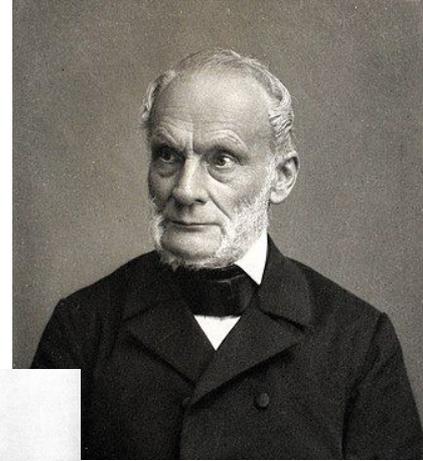
Fathers

- Leibniz father of **binary**
- Boole father **Boolean algebra**
 - True, false, or, and logic operators.
- Nyquist father of **communication theory**, (modern signal theory)
- Turing father of **computing**
- Shannon father of **Information Theory**



Before Shannon, **physics**

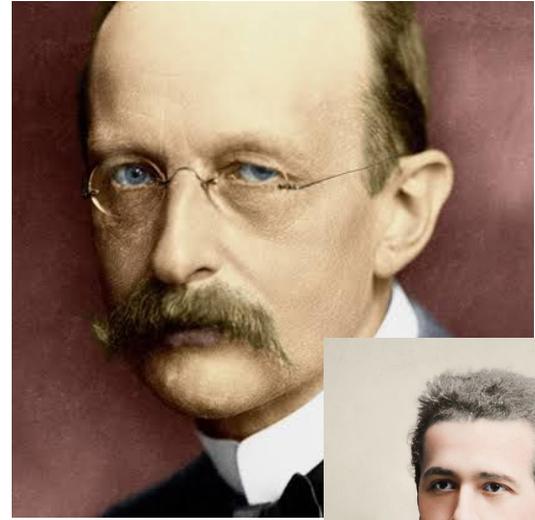
- Nicolas Léonard Sadi Carnot
 - 1824: First successful theory of the maximum efficiency of **heat engines**
- Rudolf Clausius
 - 1865: Established entropy and heat, second law.
- Ludwig Boltzmann
 - 1877 Confirmed entropy



$$S = k_B \ln \Omega,$$

Before Shannon, physics cont.

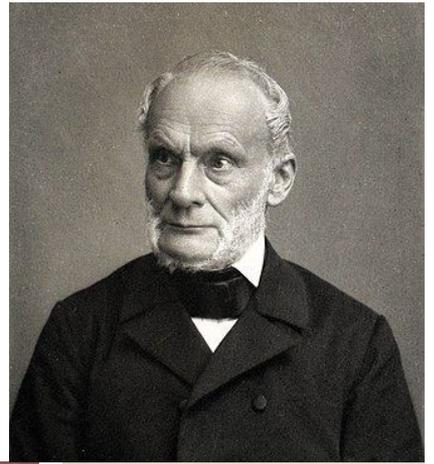
- Max Planck
 - 1900 - Proved light was discrete, **which is necessary for information.**
- Albert Einstein
 - 1905 - Proved matter was also discrete, confirmed Planck's math was physically real.



Before Shannon, physics cont.

Planck, Einstein and Clausius are the **fathers of Quantum physics.**

("Quantum" meaning discrete.)



After Shannon

- Rolf Landauer
 - 1961: Landauer limit
- Jacob Bekenstein
 - 1972: Applied entropy to black holes
 - Essential for Hawking's work.
- John von Neumann
 - 1970 proved that Shannon's entropy applied to quantum physics, the wave equation.



$$E \geq k_B T \ln 2$$



Why not even possible?



Let's count

$$2^{256}$$

115,792,089,237,316,195,423,570,985,008,687,907,853,269,98
4,665,640,564,039,457,584,007,913,129,639,935



Let's count

$$2^{256}$$

$$2^{256} =$$

(More on this later)



What is cryptography?

Cryptography is physics.

If you understand counting, you
can understand crypto.



Power of Crypto
A little math

~~Division~~
~~Multiplication~~
~~Subtraction~~
Adding

★ ★ Counting ★ ★

Power of Crypto

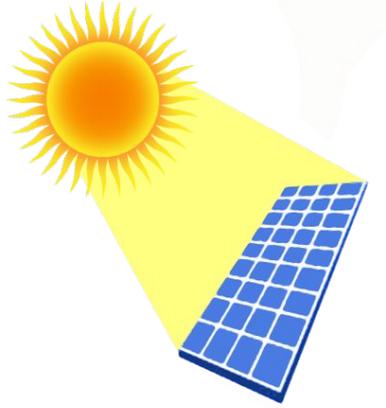
$$2^{256} = 78 \text{ digits}$$



Using the most efficient computer allowed by physics. (Landauer)

How much energy could that take?





400 watt solar panel

In one year can count to

335,228,139,800,000,000,000
,000,000,000,000

33/78 digits



All US nuclear power plant
production per year.



807 TWh yearly

7,720,579,590,000,0
000,000,000,000,00
0,000000,000,000

41/78 digits

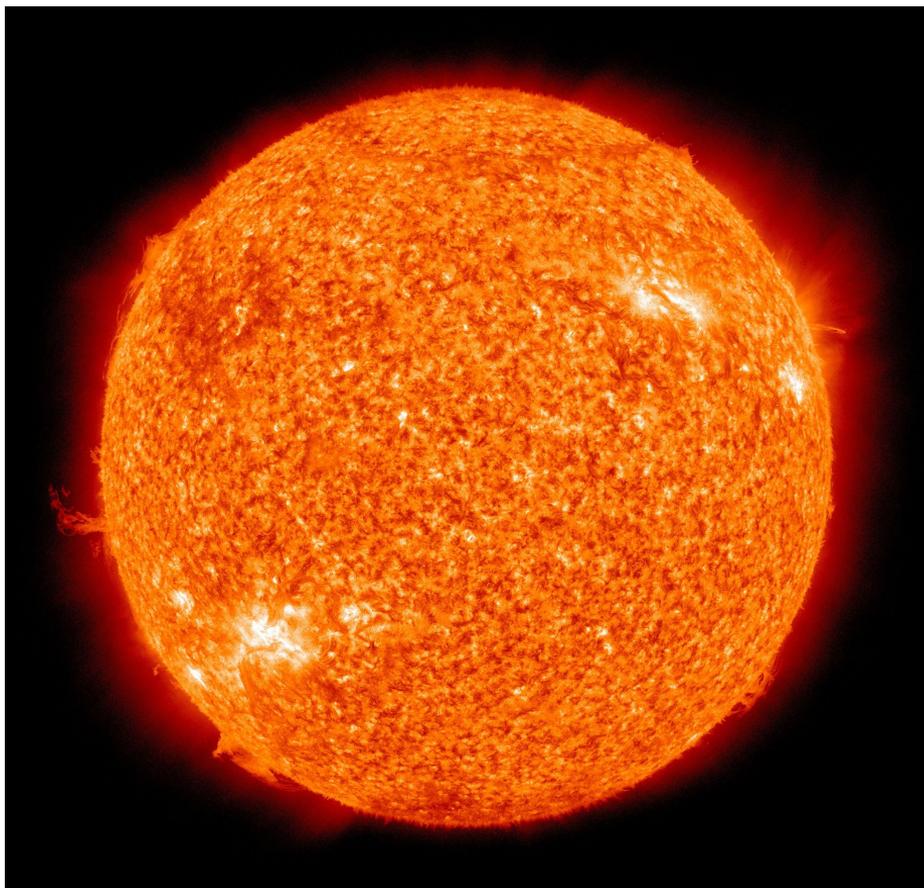


Superman is solar powered

A dyson sphere?

No, let's $E=mc^2$





x 100,000,000

78/78 digits

You could count...
until the sun died,
no star was left in the sky,
and the whole universe was cold and dead
and you still would have not finished.

Attacks against 2^{256} are infeasible until computers are
built from something other than matter
and occupy something other than space.

With 2^{266} (a little more than 2^{256})

You can count **every atom in the universe.**

2^{187} for the atoms in the solar system



**That's the power of
Cryptography**



In 2 Minutes

<https://github.com/Cyphrme/Coze>

[HTTPS://CYPHR.ME/COZE](https://cyphr.me/coze)

Zamicol

Example Coze

```
{
  "pay": {
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",
    "alg": "ES256",
    "iat": 1623132000,
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"
  },
  "sig": "Jl8Kt4nznAf0LGg05yn_9HkGdY3u1vjg-NyRGz1mJzhncbTkFFn9jrwIwGoRAQYhjc88wmwFNH5u_r056USo_w"
}
```

Coze is a **cryptographic** JSON messaging specification.



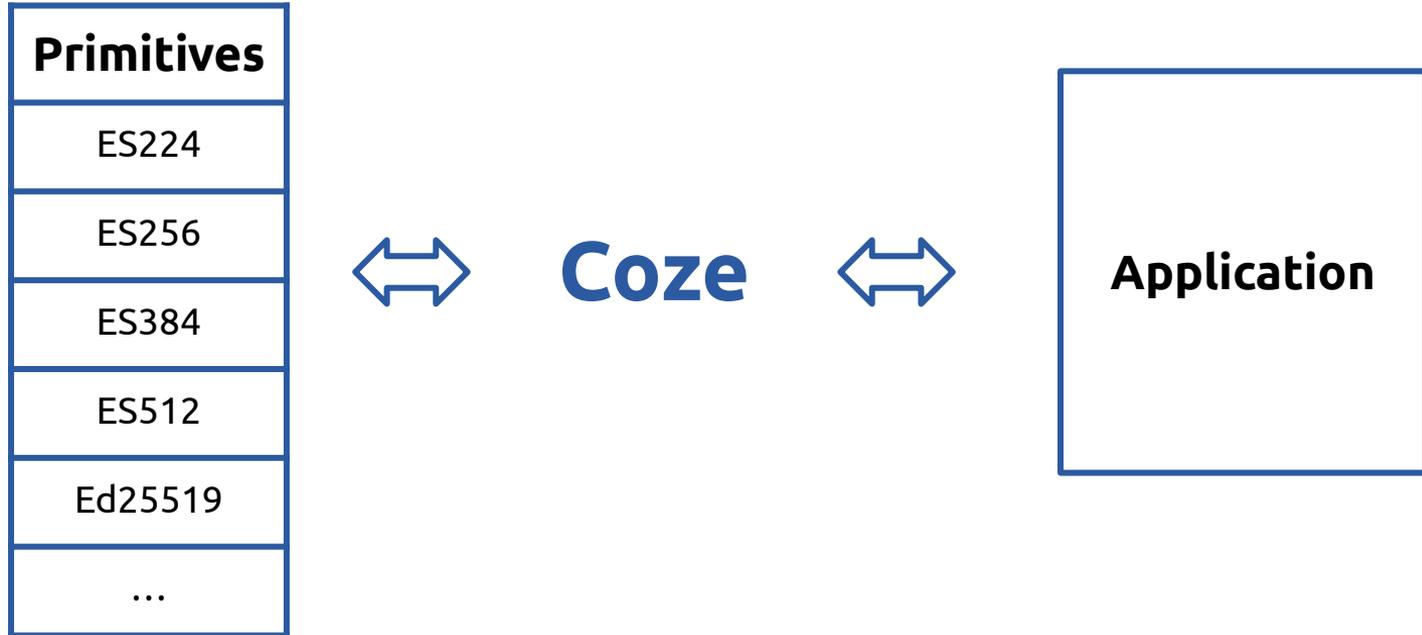
Coze is open source (3-clause BSD)



The English word **Coze** means "a friendly chat" or "to converse in a friendly way."



Coze provides a common framework between cryptographic primitives and applications.



Coze Design Goals

1. Idiomatic JSON.
2. Human readable.
3. Small in scope.
4. Provide defined cipher suites.

Example Coze

```
{
  "pay": {
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",
    "alg": "ES256",
    "iat": 1623132000,
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"
  },
  "sig":
  "Jl8Kt4nznAf0LGg05yn_9HkGdY3u1vjg-NyRGz1mJzhncbTkFFn9jrwIwGoRAQYhjc88wmwFNH5u_r056USo_w"
}
```

Coze is **human readable**, while remaining (relatively)
small in size.



How to sign a **Coze**

0. Put data into JSON.
1. Add Coze JSON fields. (alg, iat, typ, tmb)
2. Remove unneeded spaces.
3. Hash.
4. Sign.



Coze Example

Let's send a verifiable message to a friend.

"Coze Rocks"

JSONify the message

```
{  
  "msg": "Coze Rocks"  
}
```

Add Coze fields

```
{  
  "pay": {  
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",  
    "alg": "ES256",  
    "iat": 1623132000,  
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",  
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
  },  
  "sig": "Jl8Kt4nznAf0LGg05yn_9HkGdY3u1vjg-NyRGz1mJzhncbTkFFn9jrwIwGoRAQYhjc88wmwFNH5u_r056USo_w"  
}
```

Let do that again, slower.

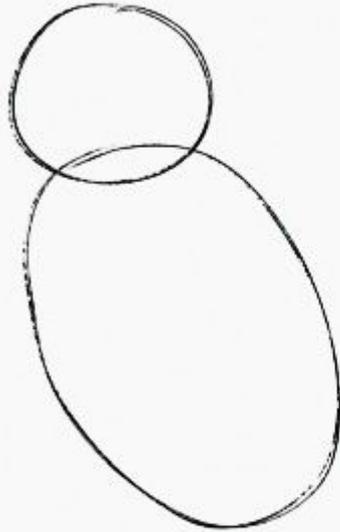


Fig 1. Draw two circles



Fig 2. Draw the rest of the 🙊 Owl

Step 0: Put your data into JSON

```
{  
  "msg": "Coze Rocks"  
}
```

Step 1: Add **Coze** fields

```
{  
  "msg": "Coze Rocks",  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "iat": 1623132000,  
  "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",  
  "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
}
```

Step 3: Remove Spaces

```
{"msg":"Coze Rocks","alg":"ES256","iat":1623132000,"tmb":"cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuh0k","typ":"cyphr.me/msg"}
```



Step 4: Hash

SHA256(

```
{"msg": "Coze Rocks", "alg": "ES256", "iat": 1623132000, "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuh0k", "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"}
```

) = **Ie3xL77AsiCcb4r0pbnZJqMcfSBqg5Lk0npNJyJ9BC4**



Step 5: Sign

```
"sig": "J18Kt4nznAf0LGg05yn_9HkGdY3u1vjg-NyRGz1mJzhncbTkFFn9jrwIwGoRAQYhjc88wmwFNH5u_r056USo_w"
```

Add it together. All done!

```
{
  "pay": {
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",
    "alg": "ES256",
    "iat": 1623132000,
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"
  },
  "sig":
  "Jl8Kt4nznAf0LGg05yn_9HkGdY3u1vjg-NyRGz1mJzhncbTkFFn9jrwIwGoRAQYhjc88wmwFNH5u_r056USo_w"
}
```



Coze messages are signed from brace to brace

```
{  
  "pay": {  
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",  
    "alg": "ES256",  
    "iat": 1623132000,  
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",  
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
  },  
  "sig": "Jl8Kt4nznAf0LGg05yn_9HkGdY3u1vjg-NyRGzlmJzhncbTkFFn9jrwIwGoRAQYhjc88wmwFNH5u_r056USo_w"  
}
```

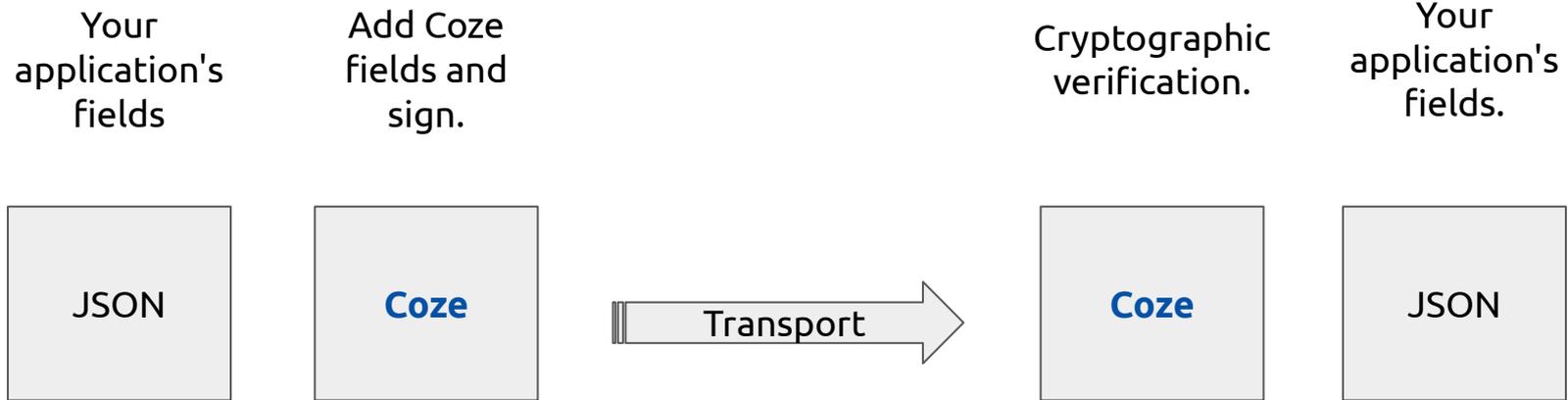


Anything not in `pay` is not signed.

```
{  
  "pay": {  
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",  
    "alg": "ES256",  
    "iat": 1623132000,  
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",  
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
  },  
  "sig": "J18Kt4nznAf0LGg05yn_9HkGdY3u1vjg-NyRGz1mJzhncbTkFFn9jrwIwGoRAQYhjc88wmwFNH5u_r056USo_w",  
  "foo": "bar"  
}
```



Typical **Coze** workflow



Create and verify Coze messages online tool.

Try it out!



[HTTPS://CYPHR.ME/COZE](https://cypHR.me/coze)





 Sign Or Verify

```
{  
  "pay": {  
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",  
    "alg": "ES256",  
    "iat": 1623132000,  
    "tmb": "clj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCljCKAwXNuhOk",  
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
  },  
  "sig": "Jl8Kt4nznAf0LGqO5vn_9HkGdY3ulvig-  
NyRGzlmJzhncbTkFFn9jrwlwGoRAQYhjc88wmwFNH5u_rO56USo_w"
```

 Sign Msg

{ } Sign JSON

Verify



Message verified



[HTTPS://CYPHR.ME/COZE](https://cypHR.me/coze)





🔒 Sign Or Verify

Message to sign or verify

I

Sign Msg Sign JSON Verify

Using [Zami's Majuscule Key. cLj8vs...](#)



👛 Key Wallet

[HTTPS://CYPHR.ME/COZE](https://cypHR.me/coze)



Coze Key



Coze Key

```
{  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "iat": 1623132000,  
  "kid": "Zami's Majuscule Key.",  
  "d": "bNstg4_H3m3SIR0ufwRSEgibLrBuRq91140vdapcpVA",  
  "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuh0k",  
  "x": "2nTOaFVm2QLxmU0_SjgyscVHBtvHEfo2rq65MvgNRj0Rojq39Haq9rXNxvXxwba_Xj0F5vZibJR3isBd0Wbo5g"  
}
```

Coze Key Fields

- alg** Specific algorithm. "**ES256**"
- d** Private component.
- x** Public component.
- kid** Human readable, **non-programmatic** identifier for the key. "My Coze Key"
- tmb** Thumbprint of the key. (Programmatic identifier)
- typ** Additional application information.



Coze Key - Public

```
{  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "iat": 1623132000,  
  "kid": "Zami's Majuscule Key.",  
  "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",  
  "x": "2nT0aFVm2QLxmU0_SjgyscVHBtvHEfo2rq65MvgNRj0Rojq39Haq9rXNxxwba_Xj0F5vZibJR3isBd0Wbo5g"  
}
```

Any key **without** `d` and **with** `x` is a public Coze key.



Coze Key - Private

```
{  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "iat": 1623132000,  
  "kid": "Zami's Majuscule Key.",  
  "d": "bNstg4_H3m3S1R0ufwRSEgibLrBuRq91140vdapcpVA",  
  "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",  
  "x": "2nT0aFVm2QLxmU0_SjgyscVHBtvHEfo2rq65MvgNRjORojq39Haq9rXNxxwba_Xj0F5vZibJR3isBd0Wbo5g"  
}
```

Any key **with** field "d" is a private Coze key.



Coze needs your help!



Coze needs your help!

- We've implemented Coze in two languages
 - [Coze Go](#)
 - [Coze JS](#)
- We'd love to see **Coze** support in more languages. (Rust, Python, and more)

We're looking for **new authors** of **Coze** implementations.



WE WANT YOU!





End of presentation

TODO: What is JSON? What is a Cryptographic Hash?
What is Cryptographic Signing?

Coze Advanced



Coze Canon

Canon

- A **canon** is a list of fields used for normalization.
 - ["alg","iat","tmb","typ"]
- Coze objects are canonicalized and hashed for creating digests, signing, and verification.
- The **canonical form** is generated by applying a given canon and removing unnecessary whitespace.
- `pay`'s default canon are the existing fields in order of appearance.
- A new canon applied to `pay` modifies its canon.

Default Canon is the fields by appearance.

```
{  
  "msg": "Coze Rocks",  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "iat": 1627518000,  
  "tmb": "cLj8vs...",  
  "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
}
```

has the canon
["msg","alg","iat","tmb","typ"]



Apply given canon ["msg","alg","iat","tmb","typ"]

Fields are reordered and "foo" is dropped.

```
{  
  "foo": "bar",  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "msg": "Coze Rocks",  
  "iat": 1627518000,  
  "tmb": "cLj8vs...",  
  "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
}
```



Apply Canon
["msg","alg","iat","tmb","typ"]

```
{  
  "msg": "Coze Rocks",  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "iat": 1627518000,  
  "tmb": "cLj8vs...",  
  "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
}
```

Canonical Form generation steps

1. Apply a given canon.
2. Elide unnecessary whitespace.

Canonical Form

1. Apply a given canon. (Already done.)
2. Remove unnecessary whitespace.

```
{  
  "msg": "Coze Rocks",  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "iat": 1627518000,  
  "tmb": "cLj8vs...",  
  "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
}
```



```
{"msg": "Coze Rocks", "alg":  
"ES256", "iat": 1627518000, "tmb":  
"cLj8vs...", "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"}
```

Coze Key Canonical form

Pre-canonical form:

```
{  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "iat": 1623132000,  
  "kid": "Zami's Majuscule Key.",  
  "d": "bNstg4_H3m3S1R0ufwRSEgibLrBuRq91140vdapcpVA",  
  "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuh0k",  
  "x": "2nT0aFVm2QLxmU0_SjgyscVHBtvHEfo2rq65MvgNRj0Rojq39Haq9rXNxivXwba_Xj0F5vZibJR3isBd0Wbo5g"  
}
```

Applying ["alg","x"] results in the canonical form:

```
{"alg": "ES256", "x": "2nT0aFVm2QLxmU0_SjgyscVHBtvHEfo2rq65MvgNRj0Rojq39Haq9rXNxivXwba_Xj0F5vZibJR3isBd0Wbo5g" }
```



Canonical digest

The canonical form:

```
{"alg": "ES256", "x": "2nT0aFVm2QLxmU0_SjgyscVHBtvHEfo2rq65MvgNRj0Ro jq39Haq9rXN xvXxwba_Xj0F5vZibJR3isBd0Wbo5g" }
```

Has a canonical digest of:

```
"cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk"
```

The canonical digest of a Coze key is `tmb`



`pay` Canonical digest

```
{  
  "pay": {  
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",  
    "alg": "ES256",  
    "iat": 1627518000,  
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuh0k",  
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
  }  
}
```

Has a canonical digest of:

```
"LSgWE4vEfyxJZUTFaRaB2JdEc10RdZcm4UVH9D8vVto"
```

The canonical digest of a `pay` is `cad`



`ezd` Coze Canonical digest

```
{  
  "cad": "LSgWE4vEfyxJZUTFaRaB2JdEc10RdZcm4UVH9D8vVto",  
  "sig": "ywctP61EQ_HcYLhgpoecqhFrqNpBSyNPuAP0V94SThuztJek7x7H9mXFD0xTr1mQPg_WC7jwg70nzNoGn70JyA"  
}
```

Has a canonical digest of:

```
"d0ygwQCGzuxqgUq1KsuAtJ8IBu0mkgAcKpUJzuX075M"
```

The canonical digest of ["cad", "sig"] is **`ezd`**

`ezd` stands for **coze digest**, the digest of a coze.



Canonical Digest

Canonical digest of

- **key** is **tmb**
- **pay** is **cad**
- **["cad","sig"]** is **czd**

`coze` field names

Coze Fields

coze JSON name for Coze objects.

can Canon of `pay`.

cad Canonical digest of `pay`.

czd Coze digest over `["cad","sig"]`

pay Label for the signed payload.

sig Signature over `cad`.



A "full" **coze** is too much.
Simplify!



How to Simplify?

- ``key`` may be looked up using ``tmb``.
- ``can``, ``cad``, and ``czd`` are recalculatable.
- The label ``coze`` may be inferred.

"Full" Verbose Coze

```
{
  "coze": {
    "pay": {
      "msg": "Coze Rocks",
      "alg": "ES256",
      "iat": 1627518000,
      "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
      "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"
    },
    "key": {
      "alg": "ES256",
      "iat": 1623132000,
      "kid": "Zami's Majuscule Key.",
      "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
      "x": "2nTOaFVm2QLxmUO_SjgyScVHBtvHEfo2rq65MvgNRjORojq39Haq9rXNxxvXxwba_Xj0F5vZibJR3isBdOWbo5g"
    },
    "can": ["alg", "iat", "msg", "tmb", "typ"],
    "cad": "LSgWE4vEfyxJZUTFaRaB2JdEc1ORdZcm4UVH9D8vVto",
    "czd": "d0yggwQCGzuxqgUq1KsuAtJ8IBu0mkgAcKpUJzuX075M",
    "sig": "ywctP61EQ_HcYLhgpoecqhFrqNpBSyNPuAPOV94SThuztJek7x7H9mXFD0xTrlmQPg_WC7jwg70nzNoGn70JyA"
  }
}
```

Elidable Parts

```
{
  "coze": {
    "pay": {
      "msg": "Coze Rocks",
      "alg": "ES256",
      "iat": 1627518000,
      "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
      "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"
    },
    "key": {
      "alg": "ES256",
      "iat": 1623132000,
      "kid": "Zami's Majuscule Key.",
      "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
      "x": "2nTOaFVm2QLxmUO_SjgyScVHBtvHEfo2rq65MvgNRjORojq39Haq9rXNxxvXxwba_Xj0F5vZibJR3isBdOWbo5g"
    },
    "can": ["alg", "iat", "msg", "tmb", "typ"],
    "cad": "LSgWE4vEfyxJZUTFaRaB2JdEc1ORdZcm4UVH9D8vVto",
    "czd": "d0yggwQCGzuxqgUq1KsuAtJ8IBu0mkgAcKpUJzuX075M",
    "sig": "ywctP61EQ_HcYLhgpoecqhFrqNpBSyNPuAPOV94StuztJek7x7H9mXFD0xTrlmQPg_WC7jwg70nzNoGn70JyA"
  }
}
```

Simplified

```
{
  "pay": {
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",
    "alg": "ES256",
    "iat": 1627518000,
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"
  },
  "sig": "ywctP6lEQ_HcYLhgpoecqhFrqNpBSyNPuAPOV94SThuztJek7x7H9mXFD0xTrlmQPg_WC7jwg70nzNoGn70JyA"
}
```

Coze Optional Fields

Optional **Coze** `pay` fields highlighted in Yellow

```
{  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "iat": 1627518000,  
  "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuh0k",  
  "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"  
}
```

The Empty Coze (valid)

```
{  
  "pay": {},  
  "sig": "9iesKUSV7L1-xz5yd3A94vCkKLmdOAnrcPXTU3_qeKSuk4RMG7Qz0KyubpATy0XA_fXrcdaxJTvXg6saaQQcVQ"  
}
```

Sign Or Verify

```
{  
  "pay": {},  
  "sig": "9iesKUSV7L1-xz5yd3A94vCkKLmdOAnrcPXTU3_qeKSuk4RMG7Qz0KyubATy0XA_fXrcdaxJTvXg6saaQQcVQ"  
}
```

 Sign Msg

 Sign JSON

Verify

 **Message verified.**

All **Coze** `pay` fields are optional

`iat`, `typ` are not required.

`alg`, `tmb` may be implicit.



All **Coze** `pay` fields are optional

- It's not always a good practice to omit fields.
- Use best practices which typically includes all `pay` fields.

Coze key revoke

Coze Key Revoke

- A Coze key may be revoked by signing a **self-revoke coze**.
- A self-revoke coze has the field ``rvk`` with an integer value greater than ``0``.
- Any non-zero integer value may be used for ``rvk`` to denote key revocation.
 - ``1`` is suitable to denote revocation.
 - ``0`` *does not* denote revocation.
- The **Unix timestamp** of expiry is the suggested value for ``rvk``.



Coze Key Revoke

```
{
  "pay": {
    "alg": "ES256",
    "iat": 1655924566,
    "msg": "Posted my private key on github",
    "rvk": 1655924566,
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
    "typ": "cyphr.me/key/revoke"
  },
  "sig": "y3wpVXpBeaJNnUn8Q_3j9WOZH4gey78naDrP14TEToio0tloGP-6mNrXGQdWsvMvVYgg09EoxJYC9mE4PEuMXg"
}
```

- `rvk` - Unix timestamp of when the key was expired.



Coze Key Revoke

- Key expiration policies, such as key rotation, are **outside the scope** of Coze.
- Third parties may revoke leaked keys.
 - Systems storing Coze keys should provide an interface permitting a given Coze key to be mark as revoked by receiving a self-revoke message.
 - Self-revokes with future times must immediately be considered as revoked.



Coze b64ut

URI, Canonical, Padding Truncated



Coze b64ut: URI, Canonical, Padding Truncated

- Binary values (digests, signatures) are encoded as **b64ut**.
- **There are many base 64's!**
 - There are 8 combinations of RFC base64 (and natural base 64's as well).
 - "base 64" is too broad.
 - **Coze** uses the specific term **b64ut**.



b64ut: RFC 4648 base 64 URI, Canonical, Padding Truncated

- **RFC base 64**
- **URI** - URI alphabet
 - Not the "URI unsafe" alphabet.
 - URI unsafe is popular, but not web friendly.
- **Canonical** - only one encoding
 - "hOk" and "hOl" decode to the same bytes.
 - Non-canonical base 64 is prohibited.
- **Padding Truncated** - No padding.
 - "hOk=" Coze omits padding, "hOk".
 - Typically the algorithm always includes padding and then padding is removed as an additional step, thus "truncated".

Why **Coze**?



Concept: **Atomic Authenticated Action (AAA)**

"Each Coze is authenticated"

Sessions are not needed since each action is verifiable



Coze Replaces Traditional JSON Authentication

- Bearer Token Authentication + TLS
 - "Session Tokens"
 - Both TLS and bearer tokens are needed.
- Transport Independent
 - TLS (SSL/HTTPS)
 - HTTP
 - ...

Each Coze is authenticated



If you're working on a JSON api and the transport is unknown, you'll need TLS + bearer tokens.

Or just use **Coze**.



This is so important, it's worth saying again:

If you're working on a JSON api and the transport is unknown, you'll need TLS + bearer tokens.

Or just use **Coze**.



Most systems give primitives first class priority. They don't think generally about crypto.

Coze gives abstractions first class priority so primitives are easy to use or replace.



Coze assumes current algorithms will need to be deprecated in the future.

Coze makes deprecating algorithms in the future easy for your systems.



Primitive Ed25519

- What's a private key?
 - Seed? `Secrete scalar s || prefix`? `Seed || Public`?
- Is the encoding Hex?
 - Base 64? Url or unsafe? Padded?
- Are "high s" signatures okay?

Coze answers

- What's a private key for Ed25519?
 - **The seed.**
- Encoding?
 - **b64ut.**
- Are "high s" signatures okay?
 - **No.**

Coze provides **generalization** for all applications.



STANDARDIZE



ALL THE THINGS

Sometimes there are **many ways** to implement a primitive.

Algorithm

Message

Msg Encoding

Key Encoding

Seed (Private Key)

Public Key

Signature

Verify

Valid: **Valid Signature**

What encoding? Hashed before?
What encoding?

Implementation?
Size?

Standardization for all algorithms

Coze provides rigid and standardized abstractions.

Message
(JSON or text)

Hello World!

Key

```
{
  "alg": "ES256",
  "x": "OeKJKaDG45cPvXbWLCImABK7w68CnD8oCwAASLVzsS1zT2gHbjS1YJ1P6k_T4VV15RFspMH4arVzp4x3ukLKGQ",
  "d": "vYqQ3vFqcmJWPtgi5Az8FPGVQctHPTPeEY8RUZhA7c",
  "tmb": "gDc5_WD027WUs3LPfg7rcxqD8ZQDyYSy5A4VLMFR9YU",
  "iat": 1678062154,
  "kid": "My Cyphr.me Key."
}
```

Verify

 Sign

 Generate Random key

ES256 ▾

Clear all





End of presentation

What can **Coze** be used for?



Coze: Key Wallet

 Login	My Cyphr.me Key.	 zQr1D5...	∨
 Login	Zami's Majuscule Key.	 cLj8vs...	∨

Coze example application: Comments

Comments & Reviews	
<input type="checkbox"/> z February 15, 2022 at 3:02 PM Top Level Comment 10	Delete Edit Link Reply
<input type="checkbox"/> z February 15, 2022 at 3:02 PM Top Level Comment 9	Delete Edit Link Reply
<input type="checkbox"/> z February 15, 2022 at 3:01 PM Top Level Comment 8	Delete Edit Link Reply
<input type="checkbox"/> z February 15, 2022 at 3:01 PM Top Level Comment 7	Delete Edit Link Reply
<input type="checkbox"/> z February 15, 2022 at 3:01 PM Top Level Comment 6	Delete Edit Link Reply
<input type="checkbox"/> z February 15, 2022 at 3:01 PM Top Level Comment 5	Delete Edit Link Reply



Each comment is cryptographically signed

Coze

```
{
  "pay": {
    "root": "2Nw_gaosyBHwvSmIOyKzd3UOLdC-Koog8BAakYv3tI",
    "text": "Top Level Comment 9",
    "alg": "ES256",
    "iat": 1644962544,
    "tmb": "2tphTbL0F2vilXj-ZakHom1im_DtMGxmlafmuG8R21Q",
    "typ": "cyphr.me/comment/create"
  },
  "sig": "uGvEjShoFoIWSXFLZdmNi6uAHL04xtKARYoqIGGYQYMqyeG_jdPk05Du_1YdQ6d-X0ML0MtV0Fmqcnlw0hwyBw"
}
```

[Verify](#)

Each comment is cryptographically verifiable

```
{
  "pay": {
    "root": "2Nw_gaosyBHwWvSmIOyKzd3UOLdC-Koog8BAakYv3ti",
    "text": "Top Level Comment 9",
    "alg": "ES256",
    "iat": 1644962544,
    "tmb": "2tphTb10F2vilXj-ZakHom1im_DtMGxmlafmuG8R21Q",
    "typ": "cyp hr.me/comment/create"
  },
  "sig": "uGvEjShoFoIWSXFLZdmNi6uAHLO4xtKARyoqIGGYQYMqyeG_jdPk05Du_1YdQ6d-X0ML0MtV0Fmqcnlw0hwyBw"
}
```

 Sign Msg

 Sign JSON

Verify



Message verified.



Coze can be used to cryptographically associate data to users for ingest by AI systems.

This can help users quantify their contributions.





End of presentation



For Go

<https://github.com/Cyphrme/Coze>



For JSON APIs

<https://github.com/Cyphrme/Coze>

Coze Replaces Traditional JSON Authentication

- Bearer Token Authentication
- Transport Independent
 - TLS (SSL/HTTPS)
 - HTTP
 - ...

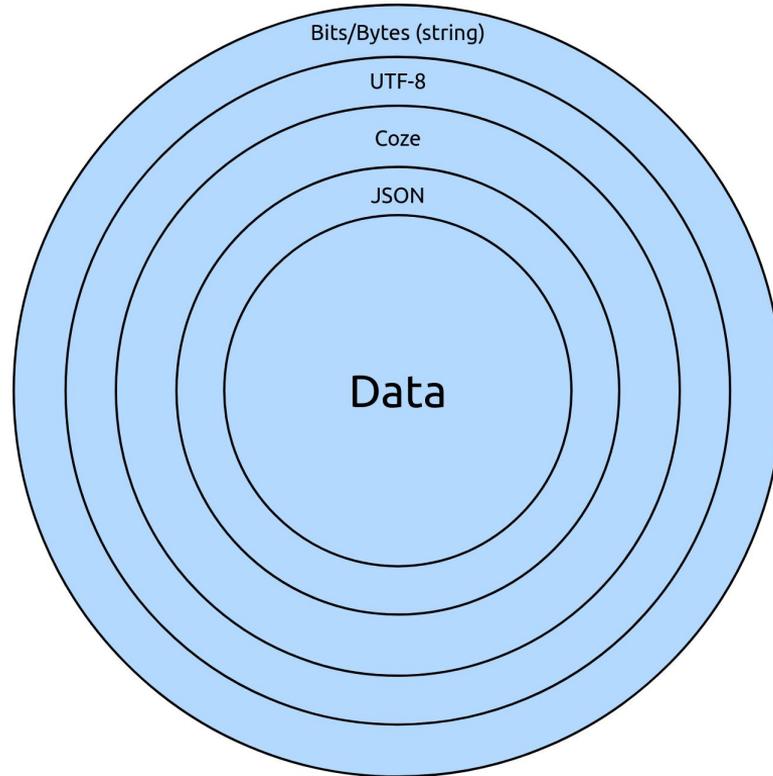
Each Coze is authenticated





End of presentation

The Coze Onion





Coze

VS

Others

<https://github.com/Cyphrme/Coze>

Disclaimer!

- We **respect** the various projects in the space.
- Other projects have **noble goals** and we're thankful they exist.
- It's not cool to trash someone else's work.
 - Authors have worked hard to bring value, frequently for free, to everyone.

- It's important to give specific reason why Coze's design is different.
- We attempt to give specific reasons why Coze was needed.



Coze Design Goals

1. Valid and idiomatic JSON.
2. Human readable and writable.
3. Small in scope.
4. Provide defined cipher suites.

Coze is simple

Simple	Complex
JSON	XML
UTF-8	UTF-16
Markdown	HTML
Coze	PGP/PEM/JWT/JOSE/Ect...

If you prefer XML over JSON, you may not like **Coze's** simple design.



Why **Coze**? Others were:

- **Not human readable.**
- **Not JSON.**
- **Not designed for future algorithms.**
- **Not small in scope.**
- Hard to use.
- Required specific libraries in specific languages.
- No online tools.
- No reference implementation.
- No longer maintained.



Coze

VS

PGP



Coze @CozeJSON · 10h

I was born on 2021/06/08 (1623132000) which is 30 years and one day after the initial release of PGP 1.0.



Matthew Green ✓

PGP Key

Please don't use PGP.

<https://blog.cryptographyengineering.com/2014/08/13/whats-matter-with-pgp/>



Elliptic curve produces surprisingly large PGP keys

(1)

my miniLock ID 26r9AUyFvGAvJooF52mhFjRRRFiLWC4HTt1cQ9cjs63k

(2)

```
-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
Version: GnuPG v2.1.0-ecc (GNU/Linux)

mFIETJpQRMIKoz1zj0DAQcAwQLx6e669XwjHTHe3HuRoe7C1oYMKuZbaU5Pj0s
sKxyxtL2D00e/ jWguFuNN4fts+6XygtEb7j1g1vncTVF1TlmtCRIY19kc2FZGhf
MjU2IDkvcGVucGdwQ6jYyWlUaHv1Lm9yZz61egQTWwgA1gUCTJpQrQIbAwYLC0gH
Aw1GFQgCCQoLBBYCAwEChgECF4AACqCq6U8Lq1nZzmXQEAiKglSzsPpU0JcX9d
JtLJ5As98Alit2oFwzhxG7m5VmQA/RP67yOeoUtdsK6bwmRA95cwf91BIusNjehX
XDfphj+uFYETJpQRRIIKoz1zj0DAQcAwR/cMCoGEzcrXbIlqP7Rfke977dE1X
XsRjEwrzftreZYrn7jXSDo1XkRyFVkvjPZqUvB5oKnsaoH/3UNLRHC1xAWeIB4hh
BBgTCAAJbQJmK9CtAhsMAAoJEAu1Lfc6pZ2c1yYBAOSUmaQ8rkgihnepbnpK74nZ
3QEocslEtstCUDBGNYGyAQDcl1fyqsUchX1WKwAm3md+yHjPwZxHt37c4q/MhIm
oQ==
-hMzxp
-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
```

(3b)

B268 0152 E274 EDE5 53C3 7C80 F8FB A811 DE73 D33B -->

(3a)

```
-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
Version: GnuPG/MacGPG2 v2.0.20 (Darwin)
Comment: GPGTools - http://gpgtools.org

fQGNBFPo5fABDACgBljG3AoJAMY8JxZBcqhe6EL7afojr2xkL47YH767GDFW/tLK
pStJrSHuDQBYDR6ZAs79hS12yccBobbHedXOWs700YqrYv0YgdiRYFY/hk18rmv
Nktb/20je6trLsrTfKvXyohEgYnJxt4wGU3KkRdql4bTvw/0MoUbQVH+oGmRUXQ
73YeJ3As85We1Cu0HcOkOteB7zaFukOL910Paws2twqBr4drPU6FJd9V0SrtIwG
zdZloP5nNkKJGM4KORVCzq/vzfyES1k1t7yestuEreJXnacXcERIVWbFtxnaJ0S
Q8neOr9tjbdrs2SeCtkWxRigaR8+SzA6SpgdZovZJS/f65D9W1po02cdwXHY8V
JJGpD8TD69802BSHz6e90Iq6Uv4aJBMJ/5YbQ0d3EB4BgAEShoWc1qXDPfJhNak
PxBqVa0Pga7kg1DhGxqlakvRtjx4UTxt/AjMn3BP6EGgIqR87E51HVAhMAcUp+9s
hBBDcnqK1jvaakAEQAAQoVvVsdBLXZkgPHR1e3Rz2kLAdvQd1eS5uZxQ+
1QG9BBHBCgAnBQJ70KwAhsDBQkHhh+ABQsJCAcDBRURKQgLBRYCAwEAhB4hA
hAoJEPpQgBhc9M7mMqM1Bgn1ZCWt7PbgJdd/drcsHpf2rz2MhcQ/eis2Vuc7
spQERR78mVbA8Or13CJ1V6H8Skueh50mKMD6TactRPkAh7Dr7BhKCG2Ivt61EAF
bhYpeWx+91MfPLawNKEW04FQMIWZfa/NERxmvHvyQ5zYAQe+MB6jTlR3j95vXh
Jozik/Dnhmt5GTt3lu4GsnK2wiQe1bt63tIj3Ex1kerAP8b7Ks/pP1tWogXWNS
WZGA4X/bAbiF12LVuNm1VyKYLKpQWIDPXgzgITChPExBKEP50zslL6uQz8zu
jogsip6dbd637geB0g0nlytI797U7+Dhxx30dR5Dtq5CjswEUJ1xMGjcsFyf6J
LyyTjPvJlRrOYeJ3hxa8Uvnh/d+OEt+QU17BzsbmXBwCO7XC1FuP6K2SYTK1
PoBqcdk8CosisoKQ7obSmvTDamrsvVPds9rW6wiGa20Ich/VFehf6zeEvb247q
TgJo7y41JJX1S1Lm1XfdsrkbJQRT60XwAQwA0bTTyszTjvcz/0j/unPH9VuuV12
cgv+cvhTbZTangRvfnfb+povYv+VmJ1khvGdK3oyYO5CwByRL2MGMLXWzW1rC
JDPnpvzqxd21UFC1A1+6IV1+Lc12Mg1gKJDNL6BkVRGEPx8FV19mFGS7XL0Gxv
dRrXhY3yXkDhWmFHCNDYrZegovvZaddjPghCeKCyQQEDykrMdcHmHWaA22ct1h
lRrE1dKvHua114m3k3kdp21jJQa0aMnd3oFAG08TEBm
h3BlY69LgQH0CJDye2z1FA1gymo5evx925PHmG8R5jjaT4VQe53yrlJXW6g7
BwdTh1kylUd8rQIN+cyWmGIB0v02m2fP3exk48XR69RhgGmT881YFamKE12z+
ygs2A4kVp42u1aQo/ACS22f6F9A12Z/JqgEu0E3ecFapZ4lxmT/Y9sauw3k38
lpF0kopiugHyvUJlH2dPsfthbCJvckLHczfBEBEBAAGJAaUEGAERKA8FAlPo5fAC
DwFCQeG4AACqKq+A+oEd5z0szJ+Qv+OXHJ3eav7WRbNSRHjyzJGCJG85x6cW27
/ORj41eqxN+GHF61l9DPhSjMbdofR81QYcSjq+zeGhFuwynaKf0gz7Bf9JynImc
F90anF6pF2kyr1zn3zuvj7NEUblb01zm9aw77G+HOAALCFnKsLbEdnDg8htUe9C
cYOTKt7J1D0/zNqDA1am6SzoL0E/HueHqFz3bSydu74R/JeycGzquxp/LJUuFt
xmwERtYOLXkZQnn0Qud1Y11P9R9YDwct+8gCKM/ra2xJnVqjVklch+NuG0G2H
gISzGk4LONXZUS20KorePXW8KJWASvgjCBnecM1Uw11faZmBtm70HURB9LSKGD
kVORA1Q0fUDp6J7y9nnpfys13PaIV0qALESS+K118Ykzlhga8Cgp5GDBR9g8PL
Q0GwG17evReAgE/Pam1r1V1Bj+Todk+4IYQAtPzjmsB5IUpWmXtSuaTuNacFcr
DK09R1Q1jELh/1gzV7qpx1W0wbSw8C4v
F3ND2
-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
```

From section "PGP Keys Suck"

<https://blog.cryptographyengineering.com/2014/08/13/whats-matter-with-pgp>



"[There is] a **fundamental issue** with the PGP design. PGP assumes keys are too big and complicated to be **managed by mortals**, but then in practice it practically **begs users** to handle them anyway."

From section "PGP Keys Suck"

<https://blog.cryptographyengineering.com/2014/08/13/whats-matter-with-pgp/>





Joseph Bonneau

@josephbonneau

Email from Phil Zimmerman: "Sorry, but I cannot decrypt this message. I don't have a version of PGP that runs on any of my devices"

11:55 AM · Sep 1, 2015 · Twitter Web Client



Ask me anything, 7 years later in 2022

↑ [-] okeefe [+1] 309 points 23 hours ago
↓ Is it weird that I expected proof to be a PGP-signed message?
permalink source embed save save-RES report give award reply hide child comments

↩ [-] prz1954 [+4] Verified [F] 448 points 22 hours ago
↓ LOL! Not weird at all. Let me tell you something even more weird. I have not used PGP for many years, because it does not run on my iPhone, where I process nearly all my email. Yup. Weird indeed.
permalink source embed save save-RES parent report give award reply hide child comments



Reply by Phil Zimmermann, author of PGP



PGP: Too hard for mere mortals and mere gods?

Using tools shouldn't be so hard that the authors themselves don't use it.



Coze

VS

JOSE

What's good about JOSE?

- Updates old standards that are hard to use or require dependencies.
- Defines cryptographic key representation in JSON.
- Key has a thumbprint (applies to JWK).
 - Like a PGP/SSH fingerprints or an Ethereum address.
 - Thumbprints universally address specific keys.
- Defines algorithm suites.
- Uses some JSON.
- Somewhat human readable.



Coze vs. JWT

The Spec



Coze spec

- A markdown document on Github.
- A reference implementation written in Go.



JOSE spec

Lots: JWS/JWE/JWA/JWK/JWT

- JSON Web Signature (JWS) (RFC 7515)
- JSON Web Encryption (JWE) (RFC 7516)
- JSON Web Key (JWK) (RFC 7517)
- JSON Web Algorithms (JWA) (RFC 7518)
- JSON Web Token (JWT) (RFC 7519)
- Examples of Protecting Content Using JSON Object Signing and Encryption (JOSE) (RFC 7520)
- JSON Web Key (JWK) Thumbprint (RFC 7638)
- JSON Web Signature (JWS) Unencoded Payload Option (RFC 7797)
- Proof-of-Possession Key Semantics for JSON Web Tokens (JWTs) (RFC 7800)
- FRG Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman (ECDH) and Signatures in JSON Object Signing and Encryption (JOSE) (RFC 8037)
- JSON Web Token Best Current Practices (RFC 8725)
- ...

Coze vs. JOSE

The Spec

JOSE has no reference implementations.

A reference implementation would have

1. Informed specification design decisions.
2. Demonstrated best practices and resolved any ambiguities.
3. There have been some critical errors (like the no alg bug) in industry standard implementations.



Coze vs. JWT Signature Malleability

Coze vs. JOSE: Replay attack prevention

Coze prohibits signature malleability.

Replay prevention using `czd`.



JOSE allows signature malleability.

JOSE requires application defined identifiers.

<https://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc7515#section-10.10>

Various systems are not out-of-the-box compatible.

Coze vs. JOSE JSON

A JSON Web Token (JWT)

is not JSON

Yes, JWT has "JSON" in the name, but it's not JSON.



A dog with painted tiger stripes looks like a tiger.



But it's not a tiger.

Even after JWT's are decoded they are still not
JSON

JOSE JWT

JWT base64 Encoded:

```
eyJhbGciOiJIJFZ1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJpYXQiOiJlMjc1MTgwMDAsIm1zZyI6IkNvemUgUm9ja3MiLCJ0bWliOiJyYkxYM1NzV0xXQkpvSXFNUENOVUZ1VURScFZX28tMFNERms4WWxURXU4IiwidHlwIjoiy3lwaHlubWUvbXNnL2NyZWZ0ZSJ9.xjBKxqf9JQDgK_HMunPMQDwmREBCKNMqypffpRrKbqqRd2djh-jDg1Rwzpfv9YaMO1-QNS_Q-iLE5eg5iZnZzw
```

Not JSON

Decoded:

```
{
  "alg": "ES256",
  "typ": "JWT"
}.{"iat": 1627518000,
  "msg": "Coze Rocks",
  "tmb": "rbLX3SsWLWBJoIqMPCNUFuUDRpVU_o-0SDFk8YITEu8",
  "typ": "cyphr.me/msg/create"
}
.quQsSXbY3RAQeNgN4GARL1pQCqKgn9MFqao124KXgQFRFPEhs5WMP-NbaAiSnHyQPC0NMcveafE12TRYe8j_-Q
```

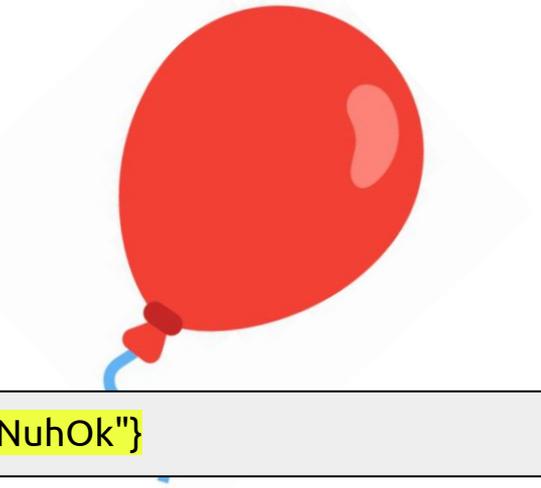
Still not JSON



Coze vs. JWT Encoding

JOSE Re-encode ballooning

54 to 72



```
{"tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8wSdCljCKAwXNuhOk"}
```

```
eyJ0bWliOiAiY0xqOHZzWXRnQndZa3pvRlZaSEJabzZTTkw4d1NkQ0lqQ0tBd1hOdWhPayJ9
```

Re-encoding results in needlessly large messages.
If JWT remained in JSON, this would not be an issue.



Smaller is better: Coze vs. JWT

227 bytes

```
{
  "pay": {
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",
    "alg": "ES256",
    "iat": 1627518000,
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8w
SdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"
  },
  "sig": "ywctP6lEQ_HcYLhgpoecqhFrqNpB
SyNPuAPOV94SThuztJek7x7H9mXFD0xTrlm
QPg_WC7jwg70nzNoGn70JyA"
}
```



280 bytes

```
eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJtc2ciOiJDb3plIFJvY2t
zIiwiaWF0IjoxNjI3MTE4MDAwLCJ0bWUiOiJyYkxYM1NzV0xXQkpvcXNFUEN
OVUZ1VURScFZVX28tMFNERms4WWxURXU4IiwidHlwIjoiY3lwaHIubWUvbXN
nL2NyZWZ0ZS9i7uLr31zS5_I-UeJWj40lrufu9C7sr2-2DB4dDyKY4yf3g6
Jr30JSLS3wfyMEWUbw10VAzsB1wYhaWbUz0VWtGA
```

Coze is 19% smaller

See other slide. Using key:
["kty":"EC","d":"MAGuJg2k85YsouHLLbawPqCCQj1SHG3B5f6S6G9w","crv":"P-256","x":"FD71byjIBcvsBXT147G4JRBmVHgep91D2dfIM_g","y":"5fec2DH4QJ1F
BmlgTgH8y0H9LUJvQ7Moc8T1dg"]



Coze vs. JWT Human Readability

Coze vs. JWT encoding

Coze

- **JSON**
- 227 bytes.
- Human readable.
- UTF-8



JWT

- **Not JSON.**
- 280 bytes.
- Not human readable.
- UTF-8 -> base64

Coze is 19% smaller

What if JOSE looked more like **Coze**?

Let's tweak JOSE to be like **Coze**.



Coze vs. Hypothetical "Really Unencoded" JWS

227 characters

```
{
  "pay": {
    "msg": "Coze Rocks",
    "alg": "ES256",
    "iat": 1627518000,
    "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SN
L8wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",
    "typ": "cyphr.me/msg"
  },
  "sig": "ywctP6lEQ_HcYLhgpoecqhFrq
NpBSyNPuAPOV94SThuztJek7x7H9mXFD
0xTr1mQPg_WC7jwg70nzNoGn70JyA"
}
```



251 characters

```
{
  "Protected":
  {"alg": "ES256"},
  "Payload": {
    "iat": 1627518000, "msg": "Coze
Rocks", "tmb": "rbLX3SsWLWBJoIqM
PCNUFuUDRpVU_o-0SDFk8Y1TEu8", "
typ": "cyphr.me/msg"},
    "signature": "quQsSXbY3RAQeNgN4
GARL1pQCqKgn9MFqao124KXgQfRFPE
hs5WMP-NbaAiSnHyQPC0NMcveafE12
TRYe8j_-Q"
  }
} (Not valid JWS)
```

Coze is still smaller.



JWS (not a JWT) - JOSE JSON serialization

```
{
  "payload":
    "eyJpc3MiOiJqb2UiLA0KICJleHAiOiJlZjEzMDA4MTkzODAsDQogImh0dHA6Ly9leGFtcGxlLmNvbS9pc19yb290Ijpb0cnVlFQ",
  "signatures": [
    { "protected": "eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiJ9",
      "header":
        { "kid": "2010-12-29" },
      "signature":
        "cC4hiUPoj9Eetdgtv3hF80EGruB__dzERat0XF9g2VtQgr9PJbu3X0iZj5RZ
        mh7AAuHI4Bh-0Qc_lF5YKt_08W2Fp5jujGbdS9uJdbF9CUAr7t1dnZcAcQjb
        KBYNX4BAynRFdiuB--f_nZLgrnbyTyWz075vRK5h6xBARLIARNPvkSjtQBMH1
        b1L07Qe7K0GarZRmB_eSN9383Lc0Ln6_d0--xi12jzDwusC-e0kHWEsqfZES
        c6BfI7no0PqvhJ1phCnvWh6IeYI2w9Q0YEUipUTI8np6LbgGY9Fs98rqVt5AX
        LIhWkWyw1VmtVrBp0igcN_IoypG1UPQGe77Rw" },
    { "protected": "eyJhbGciOiJFUzI1NiJ9",
      "header":
        { "kid": "e9bc097a-ce51-4036-9562-d2ade882db0d" },
      "signature":
        "DtEhU31jbEg8L38VWAfUAQ0yKAM6-Xx-F4GawxaepmXFCgfTjDxw5djxLa8IS
        1SApmWQxfKTUJqPP3-Kg6NU1Q" } ]
}
```

Technically JSON? Yes.

Is it **good** JSON?

Does good JSON have encoded JSON blobs inside more JSON?



Example from **RFC 7515** A.6.4

base64'ing JSON into JSON

"Unencoded JWTs" (RFC 7797)

are still encoded

JOSE JSON serialization unencoded (RFC 7797)

This is the header from an "unencoded" JWS (not a mistake)

```
eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsImI6ZmFsc2UsImNyaXQiOlsiYjY0Il19
```

Needs another unencoding step:

```
{"alg":"HS256","b64":false,"crit":["b64"]}
```

42 vs 58 characters

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/rfc7797#section-4.2>



An **unencoded** JWT (RFC 7797)
is still **not unencoded**.

JOSE JSON serialization "unencoded" (RFC 7797)

```
{  
  "protected":  
    "eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsImI2NCI6ZmFsc2UsImNyaXQiOlsiYjY0I119",  
  "payload":  
    "$.02",  
  "signature":  
    "A5dxf2s96_n5FLueVuW1Z_vh161FwXZC4YLPff6dmDY"  
}
```

"Unencoded"

```
{"alg":"HS256","b64":false,"crit":["b64"]}
```

Finally decoded

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/rfc7797#section-4.2>



Encoded form is **larger** than the unencoded form

58 characters Vs. 42 Characters.

```
eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsImI6ZmFsc2UsImNyaXQiOlsiYjY0Il19
```

```
{"alg":"HS256","b64":false,"crit":["b64"]}
```

JOSE RFC

Valid unencoded JWS

```
{"protected": "eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsImI2NCI6ZmFsc2UsImNyaXQiOlsiYjY0Ii19", "payload": "$.02", "signature": "A5dxf2s96_n5FLueVuW1Z_vh161FwXZC4YLPff6dmDY" }
```

147 characters

JOSE Hypothetical

JWS with true unencoding (invalid)

```
{"protected": {"alg": "HS256", "b64": false, "crit": ["b64"]}, "payload": "$.02", "signature": "A5dxf2s96_n5FLueVuW1Z_vh161FwXZC4YLPff6dmDY" }
```

131 characters

**This form is
incompatible/invalid JOSE**



Observation: JWT is not JOSE.



Observation: JWT is not JOSE.

- Many libraries don't care about JOSE.
- Further, they don't care about JWS.
- Further, they only care about the signing portion of JWT.
 - Most libraries don't support JSON encoded JWS.
 - We can't find a "JWT" library that does JWE (2022).
 - JWE is half of JWT.

This hints that JOSE is oversized for the niche.

(As a side complaint, most people online say "JWT" meaning a compatified **JWS**. JWT can be a **JWS** or a **JWE**, but most libraries don't implement JWE, meaning most libraries provide only partial JWT support despite their name. JWT itself is overused relative to JWS and in many cases is worse than the "unencoded" JWS option.)



Coze vs. JWT Duplicate Fields

Coze vs. JOSE duplicates

Coze

Errors on duplicate

VS

JOSE



Allows duplicates with
last-value-wins



See other slide. Using key:
["My":{"EC":1,"S":"MaeqJg2k85YousHLbelowPgCCQJ15hC385f6SIG9w","crv":"P-256","X":"FD7r1byJlBcvsBXTI47R6G4JRBmVHgep91D2zfIM_g","Y":"5fec2Dh4QJ1f
BmlgTghB6y0d9LUVQ7Moeq8T1dg"}]



JOSE permits duplicate claims.

This is a significant **security** issue.

"JWT parsers MUST either reject JWTs with duplicate Claim Names or use a JSON parser that returns only the lexically last duplicate member name" - RFC 7519

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/rfc7519#section-4>



Duplicate claims are a security problem

```
{  
  "give_money_to": "Mom",  
  ...  
  ...  
  ...  
  ...  
  "give_money_to": "Evil hacker"  
}
```

JOSE allows **last-value-wins**, so "Evil hacker" may win, depending on the JWT parser.

Error on duplicate is the only correct behavior.



Coze vs. JOSE Canonicalization



JOSE does not canonicalize (other than thumbprints)

Message agreement is not specified by JSON. Applications make their own.

JOSE has no equivalent to `cad` and `czd`



JOSE doesn't canonicalize

From the RFC:

> The JWT MUST conform to either the [JWS] or [JWE] specification. Note that whitespace is explicitly allowed in the representation and no canonicalization need be performed before encoding.

... Applications may need to define a convention for the canonical case [...] if more than one party might need to produce the same value so that they can be compared.



In JOSE, you're on your own to canonicalize.



Canonicalization is built into **Coze**.

Canonicalization allows Coze to be simple.



Coze vs. JWK Keys

Coze tmb, kid vs. JWK kid



JOSE's kid is like **Coze**'s tmb.

JOSE does not have equivalent to **Coze**'s kid.



Coze tmb and kid vs. JOSE kid

tmb

- Always there.
- Used programmatically.
- Defined.
- All systems agree, recalculatable by everyone.



JOSE kid

- Key may not have a kid.
- Defined for programmatic use.
- Defined as anything, no default value.
 - May be application defined.
- Systems may not agree. May have multiple/different `kid`s
- (Why even have this in the spec?)

kid

- Human readable label.
- Not programmatic.

No equivalent



Coze key vs. JWK (5 vs. 9)

```
{  
  "alg": "ES256",  
  "d": "bNstg4_H3m3S1R0ufwRSEgibLrBuR  
q91140vdapcpVA",  
  "iat": 1624472390,  
  "kid": "Zami's Majuscule Key.",  
  "tmb": "cLj8vsYtMBwYkzoFVZHBZo6SNL8  
wSdCIjCKAwXNuhOk",  
  "x": "2nT0aFVm2QLxmU0_SjgyscVHBtvHE  
fo2rq65MvgNRj0Rojq39Haq9rXN xvXxwba  
_Xj0F5vZibJR3isBd0Wbo5g"  
}
```



```
{  
  "kty": "EC",  
  "crv": "P-256",  
  "iat": 1624472390,  
  "kid": "A JWK",  
  "tmb":  
  "AUj0zZCTycvj6L940+bJuCTxHdLynisaY  
w3Rzh4XbN0",  
  "d":  
  "MAqyJgK2kB5YsouHtLbaiowPqGCQj15hG  
3B5f65IG9w",  
  "x":  
  "FD7r1byJlBcvSBXTi471tG4JRbMVHgxP9  
1Ds2efiM_g",  
  "y":  
  "5fec2TDH4QJ1fBmIogTgHB6y00H91JiVQ  
7MoqB6Tidg",  
  "use": "sig"  
}
```

Both are private keys

Coze: `alg` is all you need.

"alg": "ES256"

Jose: Verbose

```
"kty": "EC",  
"crv": "P-256",  
"use": "sig"
```

Pseudocode:

```
If kty == EC &&  
crv == p-256, alg  
= ES256; if use  
!= sig, throw  
error
```

Coze: `alg` is all you need.

"alg": "ES256"

Family	ec
Use	sig
Curve	P-256
Hash	SHA-256
HashSize	32
SigSize	64
XSize	64
Etc...	

Coze Thumbprint vs JWK Thumbprint

JWT:

Key (UTF-8) -> base64 -> ASCII -> digest (bytes) -> thumbprint

Coze:

Key (UTF-8) -> digest (bytes) -> thumbprint

- Fewer steps
- **There's no need to convert UTF-8 to base64 to ASCII before hashing.**
- **JWK currently always uses SHA-256 regardless of alg.**
 - Not cryptographically consistent.
 - Algorithms that don't use SHA-256 still need SHA-256 because of this arbitrary requirement.



JOSE: tmb's hash isn't known

- JWK has no explicit denotation for thumbprint's hashing algorithm.
 - Everything is currently required to use SHA-256.
- JWK: although Ed25519 uses SHA-512, its thumbprint is made using SHA-256.

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/rfc8037#appendix-A.3>

Including a thumbprint in a message

JWT:

Key (UTF-8)-> **base64** -> digest (bytes) -> thumbprint -> UTF-8 (message with thumbprint)-> **base64** -> digest -> signature

Coze:

Key (UTF-8) -> digest (bytes) -> UTF-8 (message with thumbprint) -> digest -> signature

Yellow is Extra steps.

Coze vs. JWS Decoding

Adventure: Decode RFC's example JWS

Adventure: Decode the specification example JWS

```
{
  "payload":
    "eyJpc3MiOiJqb2UiLA0KICJleHAiOiEzMDA4MTkzODAsDQogImh0dHA6Ly9leGFtcGxlLmNvbS9pc19yb290ljp0cnVlfiQ",
  "signatures": [
    {"protected": "eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiJ9",
      "header":
        {"kid": "2010-12-29"},
      "signature":
        "cC4hiUPoj9Eetdgtv3hF80EGrhuB__dzERat0XF9g2VtQgr9PJbu3XOiZj5RZ
        mh7AAuHlm4Bh-0Qc_IF5YKt_O8W2Fp5jujGbds9uJdbF9CUAr7t1dnZcAcQjb
        KBYNX4BAynRFdiuB--f_nZLgrnbyTyWzO75vRK5h6xBArLIARNPvkSjtQBMHI
        b1L07Qe7K0GarZRmB_eSN9383LcOLn6_dO--xi12jzDwusC-eOkHWEsqfZES
        c6Bfl7noOPqvhJ1phCnvWh6leYI2w9QOYEUiPUTI8np6LbgGY9Fs98rqVt5AX
        LlhWkWywIVmtVrBp0igcN_loypGIUPQGe77Rw"},
    {"protected": "eyJhbGciOiJFUzI1NiJ9",
      "header":
        {"kid": "e9bc097a-ce51-4036-9562-d2ade882db0d"},
      "signature":
        "DtEhU3ljbEg8L38VWAfUAqOyKAM6-Xx-F4GawxaepmXFCgfTjDxw5djxLa8IS
        ISAPmWQxfKTUJqPP3-Kg6NU1Q"}]
}
```

I can't read base64 so I want to know what's in this.

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/rfc7515#appendix-A.6.4>





JSON Web Tokens are an open, industry standard [RFC 7519](#) claims securely between two parties.

JWT.IO allows you to decode, verify and generate tokens.

LEARN MORE ABOUT JWT

SEE JWT LIBRARIES

To be fair, this is a JWT decoder instead of a JWS decoder.



⊗ Invalid Signature

Debugger

Warning: JWTs are credentials, which can grant access to resources. Be careful where you paste them! We do not record tokens, all validation and debugging is done on the client side.

Algorithm ES256

Encoded

```
{
  "payload":
  "eyJpc3MiOiJqb2UiLA0KICJleHAiOiJlZzMDA4MTkzODAsDQogImh0dHA6Ly9leGFtcGxlLmNvbS9pc19yb290Ij09eyJ0eXBvbnV1fQ",
  "signatures": [
    {
      "protected": "eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9",
      "header": {
        "kid": "2010-01-01"
      },
      "signature": "CCm10P0j9Eetdgtv3hF80"
    }
  ]
}
```

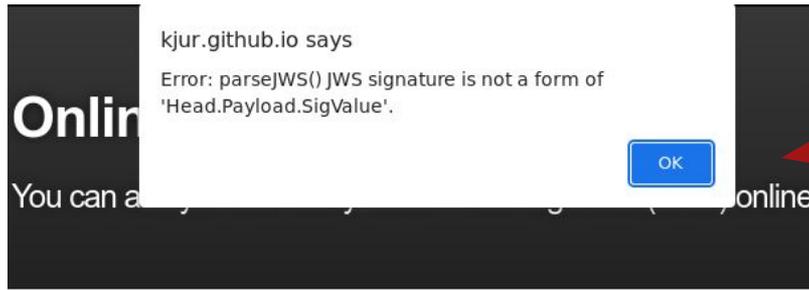
Error: Looks like your JWT header is not encoded correctly using base64url (<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc4648#section-5>). Note that padding ("=") must be omitted as per <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7515#section-2>.

Decoded

HEADER:	{}
PAYLOAD:	{}
VERIFY SIGNATURE	<p>ECDSSHA256(base64UrlEncode(header) + "." + base64UrlEncode(payload), Public Key in SPKI, PKCS #1, X.509 Certificate, or JWK string format.</p> <p>Private Key in PKCS #8, PKCS # 1, or JWK string format. The key never leaves your browser.</p>

SHARE JWT





This is a "JWS" decoder.

(Step1) Fill JWS signature here.

```
{
  "payload":
  "eyJpc3MiOiJqb2UiLA0KICJleHAiOiEzMDA4MTkzODAsDQogImh0dHA6Ly9leGFtcGxlLnVybS9pc19yb290Ijp0cnVlfQ",
  "signatures": [
    { "protected": "eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiJ9",
      "header": { "kid": "2010-12-29" },
```

(Step2) Fill X.509 PEM certificate here to verify the JWS with if needed.

(Step3) Press "Analyze" or "Verify"

Or



Parse JWS

This tool will help you to Parse JWS Object and determine the JWS Header, Payload and Signature

JWS Serialized Object

```
{
  "payload":
  "eyJjc3MiOiJqb2UiLA0KICJleHAiOiEzMDA4MTkzODAsDQogImh0dHA6Ly9leG
  E
  tcGxLMNvbS9pc19yb290Iip0cnVlIiQ",
  "signatures":[
  {"protected":"eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9",
  "header":
  {"kid":"2010-12-29"},
  "signature":
  "cC4hiUPoj9Eetdqt3hF80EGrhuB_dzERat0XF9g2VIQar9PJbu3XOIZi5RZ
  mh7AAuHlm4Bh-
  0Qc_IF5YKt_O8W2Fp5iuiGbd9uJdbF9CUAr7t1dnZcAcQlb
  KBYNX4BAynRFdiuB--
  f_nZLgrnbyTWzO75vRK5h6xBArLIARNPvkSjtQBMHI
  b1L07Qe7K0GarZRmB_eSN9383LcOLn6_dO-xi12izDwusC-
  eOkHWEsqfFZES
  c6Bfl7noQPavhJ1phCnyWh6leY12w9QOYEUpUTI8np6LbqGY9Fs98rqV15AX
  LlhWkVwwVmtVrBp0IacN_loypGIUUPQGe77Rw"),
  {"protected":"eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9",
  "header":
  {"kid":"e9bc097a-ce51-4036-9562-g2ade882db0d"},
  "signature":
  "DIEhU3IjbEg8L38VWafUAqOyKAM6-Xx-
  F4GawxaepmXFCqTTIDxw5djxLa8IS
  ISApmWQxftKUJqPP3-Kg6NU1Q"}]
}
```

Parse JWS

JWS Serialized Object is Not Valid....

Another "JWS" decoder.

JWS Serialized Object is Not Valid....



Conclusion: There is **no** online tool that can decode the RFC Example JWS.



Why did JOSE use base64?

Streaming, JOSE supports binaries, and URI safety.

Coze's design stance is that Binaries should stay binaries, JSON should be JSON.

JSON should remain human readable where possible. If needed, use URI escaping (industry standard) or base64 once done. It's not that much more overhead, but allows flexibility for any digest and reference.





End of presentation

"JSON objects are unordered. Therefore Coze/JWT/Others bad."

We think this is an obviously silly argument, but let's state why:

- UTF-8 wraps JSON. Coze is a layer between UTF-8 and JSON.
- Order is transmitted by UTF-8, which is obviously ordered.
 - If UTF-8 didn't have order, the letters in this sentence would be out of order.
- Coze `can` is an array and arrays are ordered in JSON.
 - It's not true that all parts of JSON are unordered. JSON arrays are ordered, and we can take advantage of that for any seeming weakness of object ordering.
- Coze is JSON, but JSON is not necessarily valid Coze. Coze wraps JSON.
- Coze operations are over firstly digests, and secondly over UTF-8 not the "abstract JSON". JSON must first be serialized before being processed by Coze. JSON defines UTF-8 as it's serialization method. UTF-8 is the specified, thus valid, JSON serialization method.



The Coze Onion

