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## public\_key

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# 1 public\_key User's Guide

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This application provides an API to public key infrastructure from **RFC 5280** (X.509 certificates) and public key formats defined by the **PKCS-standard**

## 1.1 Introduction

### 1.1.1 Purpose

public\_key deals with public key related file formats, digital signatures and **X-509 certificates**. It is a library application that provides encode/decode, sign/verify, encrypt/decrypt and similar functionality, it does not read or write files it expects or returns file contents or partial file contents as binaries.

### 1.1.2 Prerequisites

It is assumed that the reader has a basic understanding of the concepts of using public keys and digital certificates.

### 1.1.3 Performance tips

The public\_key decode and encode functions will try to use the NIFs which are in the ASN1 compilers runtime modules if they can be found. So for the best performance you want to have the ASN1 application in the path of your system.

## 1.2 Public key records

This chapter briefly describes Erlang records derived from ASN1 specifications used to handle public and private keys. The intent is to describe the data types and not to specify the meaning of each component for this we refer you to the relevant standards and RFCs.

Use the following include directive to get access to the records and constant macros used in the following sections.

```
-include_lib("public_key/include/public_key.hrl").
```

### 1.2.1 RSA as defined by the PKCS-1 standard and RFC 3447.

```
#'RSAPublicKey'{
    modulus,      % integer()
    publicExponent % integer()
}.

#'RSAPrivateKey'{
    version,      % two-prime | multi
    modulus,      % integer()
    publicExponent, % integer()
    privateExponent, % integer()
    prime1,       % integer()
    prime2,       % integer()
    exponent1,    % integer()
    exponent2,    % integer()
    coefficient,   % integer()
```

```

    otherPrimeInfos % [#OtherPrimeInfo{}] | asn1_NOVALUE
}.

#'OtherPrimeInfo'{
    prime,          % integer()
    exponent,       % integer()
    coefficient      % integer()
}.

```

## 1.2.2 DSA as defined by Digital Signature Standard (NIST FIPS PUB 186-2)

```

#'DSAPrivateKey',{
    version,        % integer()
    p,              % integer()
    q,              % integer()
    g,              % integer()
    y,              % integer()
    x               % integer()
}.

#'Dss-Parms',{
    p,              % integer()
    q,              % integer()
    g               % integer()
}.

```

## 1.3 Certificate records

This chapter briefly describes erlang records derived from ASN1 specifications used to handle X509 certificates and CertificationRequest. The intent is to describe the data types and not to specify the meaning of each component for this we refer you to **RFC 5280** and **PKCS-10**.

Use the following include directive to get access to the records and constant macros (OIDs) described in the following sections.

```
-include_lib("public_key/include/public_key.hrl").
```

The used ASN1 specifications are available as `asn1` subdirectory of the application `public_key`.

### 1.3.1 Common Data Types

Common non standard erlang data types used to describe the record fields in the below sections are defined in *public key reference manual* or follows here.

```

time() = uct_time() | general_time()
uct_time() = {utcTime, "YYMMDDHHMMSSZ"}
general_time() = {generalTime, "YYYYMMDDHHMMSSZ"}
general_name() = {rfc822Name, string()} | {dNSName, string()} | {x400Address,
string()} | {directoryName, {rdnSequence, [#AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]} }
| | {eidPartyName, special_string()} | {eidPartyName, special_string(),

```

## 1.3 Certificate records

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```
special_string() | {uniformResourceIdentifier, string()} | {ipAddress,
string()} | {registeredId, oid()} | {otherName, term()}

special_string() = {teletexString, string()} | {printableString, string()} |
{universalString, string()} | {utf8String, string()} | {bmpString, string()}

dist_reason() = unused | keyCompromise | cACompromise | affiliationChanged
| superseded | cessationOfOperation | certificateHold | privilegeWithdrawn |
aACompromise
```

### 1.3.2 PKIX Certificates

```
#'Certificate'{
  tbsCertificate,      % #'TBSCertificate'{}
  signatureAlgorithm,  % #'AlgorithmIdentifier'{}
  signature             % {0, binary()} - ASN1 compact bitstring
}.

#'TBSCertificate'{
  version,             % v1 | v2 | v3
  serialNumber,        % integer()
  signature,           % #'AlgorithmIdentifier'{}
  issuer,              % {rdnSequence, [#AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]}
  validity,            % #'Validity'{}
  subject,             % {rdnSequence, [#AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]}
  subjectPublicKeyInfo, % #'SubjectPublicKeyInfo'{}
  issuerUniqueID,      % binary() | asn1_novalue
  subjectUniqueID,     % binary() | asn1_novalue
  extensions           % [#'Extension'{}]
}.

#'AlgorithmIdentifier'{
  algorithm, % oid()
  parameters % der_encoded()
}.
```

```
#'OTPCertificate'{
  tbsCertificate,      % #'OTPTBSCertificate'{}
  signatureAlgorithm,  % #'SignatureAlgorithm'
  signature             % {0, binary()} - ASN1 compact bitstring
}.

#'OTPTBSCertificate'{
  version,             % v1 | v2 | v3
  serialNumber,        % integer()
  signature,           % #'SignatureAlgorithm'
  issuer,              % {rdnSequence, [#AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]}
  validity,            % #'Validity'{}
  subject,             % {rdnSequence, [#AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]}
  subjectPublicKeyInfo, % #'OTPSubjectPublicKeyInfo'{}
  issuerUniqueID,      % binary() | asn1_novalue
  subjectUniqueID,     % binary() | asn1_novalue
  extensions           % [#'Extension'{}]
}.

#'SignatureAlgorithm'{
  algorithm, % id_signature_algorithm()
  parameters % asn1_novalue | #'Dss-Parms'{}
}.
```

```
}.

```

`id_signature_algorithm()` = `?oid_name_as_erlang_atom` for available oid names see table below.  
Ex: `?id-dsa-with-sha1`

| OID name   |
|--|
| <code>id-dsa-with-sha1</code>                              |
| <code>id-dsaWithSHA1</code> (ISO alt oid to above)         |
| <code>md2WithRSAEncryption</code>                          |
| <code>md5WithRSAEncryption</code>                          |
| <code>sha1WithRSAEncryption</code>                         |
| <code>sha-1WithRSAEncryption</code> (ISO alt oid to above) |
| <code>sha224WithRSAEncryption</code>                       |
| <code>sha256WithRSAEncryption</code>                       |
| <code>sha512WithRSAEncryption</code>                       |
| <code>ecdsa-with-SHA1</code>                               |

Table 3.1: Signature algorithm oids

```
#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
  type,    % id_attributes()
  value    % term()
}.

```

`id_attributes()`

| OID name                               | Value type                    |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <code>id-at-name</code>                | <code>special_string()</code> |
| <code>id-at-surname</code>             | <code>special_string()</code> |
| <code>id-at-givenName</code>           | <code>special_string()</code> |
| <code>id-at-initials</code>            | <code>special_string()</code> |
| <code>id-at-generationQualifier</code> | <code>special_string()</code> |
| <code>id-at-commonName</code>          | <code>special_string()</code> |
| <code>id-at-localityName</code>        | <code>special_string()</code> |

### 1.3 Certificate records

|                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| id-at-stateOrProvinceName | special_string()            |
| id-at-organizationName    | special_string()            |
| id-at-title               | special_string()            |
| id-at-dnQualifier         | {printableString, string()} |
| id-at-countryName         | {printableString, string()} |
| id-at-serialNumber        | {printableString, string()} |
| id-at-pseudonym           | special_string()            |

Table 3.2: Attribute oids

```
#'Validity'{
  notBefore, % time()
  notAfter   % time()
}.

#'SubjectPublicKeyInfo'{
  algorithm,      % #AlgorithmIdentifier{}
  subjectPublicKey % binary()
}.

#'SubjectPublicKeyInfoAlgorithm'{
  algorithm, % id_public_key_algorithm()
  parameters % public_key_params()
}.
```

id\_public\_key\_algorithm()

|                         |
|-------------------------|
| OID name                |
| rsaEncryption           |
| id-dsa                  |
| dhpseudoprime           |
| id-keyExchangeAlgorithm |
| id-ecPublicKey          |

Table 3.3: Public key algorithm oids

```
#'Extension'{
  extnID,      % id_extensions() | oid()
  critical,    % boolean()
  extnValue    % der_encoded()
}.
```



`id_extensions()` *Standard Certificate Extensions, Private Internet Extensions, CRL Extensions and CRL Entry Extensions.*

### 1.3.3 Standard certificate extensions

| OID name                                      | Value type                               |
|---|--|
| <code>id-ce-authorityKeyIdentifier</code>     | <code>#'AuthorityKeyIdentifier'{}</code> |
| <code>id-ce-subjectKeyIdentifier</code>       | <code>oid()</code>                       |
| <code>id-ce-keyUsage</code>                   | <code>[key_usage()]</code>               |
| <code>id-ce-privateKeyUsagePeriod</code>      | <code>#'PrivateKeyUsagePeriod'{}</code>  |
| <code>id-ce-certificatePolicies</code>        | <code>#'PolicyInformation'{}</code>      |
| <code>id-ce-policyMappings</code>             | <code>#'PolicyMappings_SEQOF'{}</code>   |
| <code>id-ce-subjectAltName</code>             | <code>general_name()</code>              |
| <code>id-ce-issuerAltName</code>              | <code>general_name()</code>              |
| <code>id-ce-subjectDirectoryAttributes</code> | <code>[#'Attribute'{}]</code>            |
| <code>id-ce-basicConstraints</code>           | <code>#'BasicConstraints'{}</code>       |
| <code>id-ce-nameConstraints</code>            | <code>#'NameConstraints'{}</code>        |
| <code>id-ce-policyConstraints</code>          | <code>#'PolicyConstraints'{}</code>      |
| <code>id-ce-extKeyUsage</code>                | <code>[id_key_purpose()]</code>          |
| <code>id-ce-cRLDistributionPoints</code>      | <code>[#'DistributionPoint'{}]</code>    |
| <code>id-ce-inhibitAnyPolicy</code>           | <code>integer()</code>                   |
| <code>id-ce-freshestCRL</code>                | <code>[#'DistributionPoint'{}]</code>    |

Table 3.4: Standard Certificate Extensions

```
key_usage() = digitalSignature | nonRepudiation | keyEncipherment |
dataEncipherment | keyAgreement | keyCertSign | cRLSign | encipherOnly |
decipherOnly
id_key_purpose()
```

| OID name                      |
|-------------------------------|
| <code>id-kp-serverAuth</code> |
| <code>id-kp-clientAuth</code> |

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|                       |
|-----------------------|
| id-kp-codeSigning     |
| id-kp-emailProtection |
| id-kp-timeStamping    |
| id-kp-OCSPSigning     |

Table 3.5: Key purpose oids

```
#'AuthorityKeyIdentifier'{
  keyIdentifier,      % oid()
  authorityCertIssuer, % general_name()
  authorityCertSerialNumber % integer()
}.

#'PrivateKeyUsagePeriod'{
  notBefore, % general_time()
  notAfter   % general_time()
}.

#'PolicyInformation'{
  policyIdentifier, % oid()
  policyQualifiers  % [#PolicyQualifierInfo{}]
}.

#'PolicyQualifierInfo'{
  policyQualifierId, % oid()
  qualifier          % string() | #'UserNotice'{}
}.

#'UserNotice'{
  noticeRef, % #'NoticeReference'{}
  explicitText % string()
}.

#'NoticeReference'{
  organization, % string()
  noticeNumbers % [integer()]
}.

#'PolicyMappings_SEQOF'{
  issuerDomainPolicy, % oid()
  subjectDomainPolicy % oid()
}.

#'Attribute'{
  type, % oid()
  values % [der_encoded()]
}).

#'BasicConstraints'{
  cA, % boolean()
  pathLenConstraint % integer()
}).

#'NameConstraints'{
  permittedSubtrees, % [#'GeneralSubtree'{}]
  excludedSubtrees  % [#'GeneralSubtree'{}]
}).
```

```

#'GeneralSubtree'{
  base,      % general_name()
  minimum, % integer()
  maximum % integer()
}).

#'PolicyConstraints'{
  requireExplicitPolicy, % integer()
  inhibitPolicyMapping % integer()
}).

#'DistributionPoint'{
  distributionPoint, % {fullName, [general_name()]} | {nameRelativeToCRLIssuer,
  [#AttributeTypeAndValue{}}]
  reasons,          % [dist_reason()]
  cRLIssuer          % [general_name()]
}).

```

### 1.3.4 Private Internet Extensions

| OID name                  | Value type              |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| id-pe-authorityInfoAccess | [#AccessDescription'{}] |
| id-pe-subjectInfoAccess   | [#AccessDescription'{}] |

Table 3.6: Private Internet Extensions

```

#'AccessDescription'{
  accessMethod, % oid()
  accessLocation % general_name()
}).

```

### 1.3.5 CRL and CRL Extensions Profile

```

#'CertificateList'{
  tbsCertList,      % #'TBSCertList{}
  signatureAlgorithm, % #'AlgorithmIdentifier{}
  signature          % {0, binary()} - ASN1 compact bitstring
}).

#'TBSCertList'{
  version,          % v2 (if defined)
  signature,        % #AlgorithmIdentifier{}
  issuer,           % {rdnSequence, [#AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]}
  thisUpdate,       % time()
  nextUpdate,       % time()
  revokedCertificates, % [#'TBSCertList_revokedCertificates_SEQOF'{}]
  crlExtensions     % [#'Extension'{}]
}).

#'TBSCertList_revokedCertificates_SEQOF'{
  userCertificate, % integer()
  revocationDate, % timer()
  crlEntryExtensions % [#'Extension'{}]
}

```

## 1.3 Certificate records

```
}).
```

### CRL Extensions

| OID name                       | Value type                                 |
|--------------------------------|--|
| id-ce-authorityKeyIdentifier   | #'AuthorityKeyIdentifier{ }                |
| id-ce-issuerAltName            | {rdnSequence, [#AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]} |
| id-ce-cRLNumber                | integer()                                  |
| id-ce-deltaCRLIndicator        | integer()                                  |
| id-ce-issuingDistributionPoint | #'IssuingDistributionPoint'{ }             |
| id-ce-freshestCRL              | [#'Distributionpoint'{}]                   |

Table 3.7: CRL Extensions

```
#'IssuingDistributionPoint'{
    distributionPoint,          % {fullName, [general_name()]} | {nameRelativeToCRLIssuer,
    [#AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]}
    onlyContainsUserCerts,      % boolean()
    onlyContainsCACerts,        % boolean()
    onlySomeReasons,            % [dist_reason()]
    indirectCRL,                % boolean()
    onlyContainsAttributeCerts % boolean()
}).
```

### CRL Entry Extensions

| OID name                  | Value type     |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| id-ce-cRLReason           | crl_reason()   |
| id-ce-holdInstructionCode | oid()          |
| id-ce-invalidityDate      | general_time() |
| id-ce-certificateIssuer   | general_name() |

Table 3.8: CRL Entry Extensions

```
crl_reason() = unspecified | keyCompromise | cACompromise | affiliationChanged
| superseded | cessationOfOperation | certificateHold | removeFromCRL |
privilegeWithdrawn | aACompromise
```

## PKCS#10 Certification Request

```
#'CertificationRequest'{
  certificationRequestInfo #'CertificationRequestInfo'{},
  signatureAlgorithm #'CertificationRequest_signatureAlgorithm'{}.
  signature          {0, binary()} - ASN1 compact bitstring
}

#'CertificationRequestInfo'{
  version      atom(),
  subject      {rdnSequence, [#AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]} ,
  subjectPKInfo #'CertificationRequestInfo_subjectPKInfo'{},
  attributes   [#'AttributePKCS-10' {}]
}

#'CertificationRequestInfo_subjectPKInfo'{
  algorithm #'CertificationRequestInfo_subjectPKInfo_algorithm'{}
  subjectPublicKey {0, binary()} - ASN1 compact bitstring
}

#'CertificationRequestInfo_subjectPKInfo_algorithm'{
  algorithm = oid(),
  parameters = der_encoded()
}

#'CertificationRequest_signatureAlgorithm'{
  algorithm = oid(),
  parameters = der_encoded()
}

#'AttributePKCS-10'{
  type = oid(),
  values = [der_encoded()]
}
```

## 1.4 Getting Started

### 1.4.1 General information

This chapter is dedicated to showing some examples of how to use the `public_key` API. Keys and certificates used in the following sections are generated only for the purpose of testing the public key application.

Note that some shell printouts, in the following examples, have been abbreviated for increased readability.

### 1.4.2 PEM files

Public key data (keys, certificates etc) may be stored in PEM format. PEM files comes from the Private Enhanced Mail Internet standard and has a structure that looks like this:

```
<text>
-----BEGIN <SOMETHING>-----
<Attribute> : <Value>
<Base64 encoded DER data>
-----END <SOMETHING>-----
<text>
```

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A file can contain several BEGIN/END blocks. Text lines between blocks are ignored. Attributes, if present, are currently ignored except for Proc-Type and DEK-Info that are used when the DER data is encrypted.

### DSA private key

Note file handling is not done by the public\_key application.

```
1> {ok, PemBin} = file:read_file("dsa.pem").
{ok,<<"-----BEGIN DSA PRIVATE KEY-----\nMIIBuw"...>>}
```

This PEM file only has one entry, a private DSA key.

```
2> [DSAEntry] = public_key:pem_decode(PemBin).
[{'DSAPrivateKey',<<48,130,1,187,2,1,0,2,129,129,0,183,
    179,230,217,37,99,144,157,21,228,204,
    162,207,61,246,...>>,
    not_encrypted}]
```

```
3> Key = public_key:pem_entry_decode(DSAEntry).
#'DSAPrivateKey'{version = 0,
    p = 12900045185019966618...6593,
    q = 1216700114794736143432235288305776850295620488937,
    g = 10442040227452349332...47213,
    y = 87256807980030509074...403143,
    x = 510968529856012146351317363807366575075645839654}
```

### RSA private key encrypted with a password.

```
1> {ok, PemBin} = file:read_file("rsa.pem").
{ok,<<"Bag Attribut"...>>}
```

This PEM file only has one entry a private RSA key.

```
2> [RSAEntry] = public_key:pem_decode(PemBin).
[{'RSAPrivateKey',<<224,108,117,203,152,40,15,77,128,126,
    221,195,154,249,85,208,202,251,109,
    119,120,57,29,89,19,9,...>>,
    {"DES-EDE3-CBC",<<"kÙeø¼pμL">>}}]
```

In this example the password is "abcd1234".

```
3> Key = public_key:pem_entry_decode(RSAEntry, "abcd1234").
#'RSAPrivateKey'{version = 'two-prime',
    modulus = 1112355156729921663373...2737107,
    publicExponent = 65537,
    privateExponent = 58064406231183...2239766033,
    prime1 = 11034766614656598484098...7326883017,
    prime2 = 10080459293561036618240...77738643771,
    exponent1 = 77928819327425934607...22152984217,
    exponent2 = 36287623121853605733...20588523793,
    coefficient = 924840412626098444...41820968343,
    otherPrimeInfos = asn1_NOVALUE}
```

## X509 Certificates

```
1> {ok, PemBin} = file:read_file("cacerts.pem").
{ok,<<"-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----\nMIIC7jCCAL"...>>}
```

This file includes two certificates

```
2> [CertEntry1, CertEntry2] = public_key:pem_decode(PemBin).
[{'Certificate',<<48,130,2,238,48,130,2,87,160,3,2,1,2,2,
    9,0,230,145,97,214,191,2,120,150,48,13,
    ...>>,
    not_encrypted},
 {'Certificate',<<48,130,3,200,48,130,3,49,160,3,2,1,2,2,1,
    1,48,13,6,9,42,134,72,134,247,...>>,
    not_encrypted}]
```

Certificates may of course be decoded as usual ...

```
2> Cert = public_key:pem_entry_decode(CertEntry1).
#'Certificate'{
  tbsCertificate =
    #'TBSCertificate'{
      version = v3,serialNumber = 16614168075301976214,
      signature =
        #'AlgorithmIdentifier'{
          algorithm = {1,2,840,113549,1,1,5},
          parameters = <<5,0>>},
      issuer =
        {rdnSequence,
         [[#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
            type = {2,5,4,3},
            value = <<19,8,101,114,108,97,110,103,67,65>>]],
          [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
            type = {2,5,4,11},
            value = <<19,10,69,114,108,97,110,103,32,79,84,80>>]],
          [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
            type = {2,5,4,10},
            value = <<19,11,69,114,105,99,115,115,111,110,32,65,66>>]],
          [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
            type = {2,5,4,7},
            value = <<19,9,83,116,111,99,107,104,111,108,109>>]],
          [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
            type = {2,5,4,6},
            value = <<19,2,83,69>>]],
          [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
            type = {1,2,840,113549,1,9,1},
            value = <<22,22,112,101,116,101,114,64,101,114,...>>]]}],
      validity =
        #'Validity'{
          notBefore = {utcTime,"080109082929Z"},
          notAfter = {utcTime,"080208082929Z"}},
      subject =
        {rdnSequence,
         [[#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
            type = {2,5,4,3},
            value = <<19,8,101,114,108,97,110,103,67,65>>]],
          [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
            type = {2,5,4,11},
            value = <<19,10,69,114,108,97,110,103,32,79,84,80>>]],
          [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
            type = {2,5,4,10},
```

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```
        value = <<19,11,69,114,105,99,115,115,111,110,32,...>>]],
    ['#AttributeTypeAndValue'{
        type = {2,5,4,7},
        value = <<19,9,83,116,111,99,107,104,111,108,...>>]],
    ['#AttributeTypeAndValue'{
        type = {2,5,4,6},
        value = <<19,2,83,69>>]],
    ['#AttributeTypeAndValue'{
        type = {1,2,840,113549,1,9,1},
        value = <<22,22,112,101,116,101,114,64,...>>]]]],
subjectPublicKeyInfo =
    #'SubjectPublicKeyInfo'{
        algorithm =
            #'AlgorithmIdentifier'{
                algorithm = {1,2,840,113549,1,1,1},
                parameters = <<5,0>>,
            subjectPublicKey =
                {0,<<48,129,137,2,129,129,0,203,209,187,77,73,231,90,...>>}},
        issuerUniqueID = asn1_NOVALUE,
        subjectUniqueID = asn1_NOVALUE,
        extensions =
            ['#Extension'{
                extnID = {2,5,29,19},
                critical = true,
                extnValue = [48,3,1,1,255]},
            #'Extension'{
                extnID = {2,5,29,15},
                critical = false,
                extnValue = [3,2,1,6]},
            #'Extension'{
                extnID = {2,5,29,14},
                critical = false,
                extnValue = [4,20,27,217,65,152,6,30,142|...]},
            #'Extension'{
                extnID = {2,5,29,17},
                critical = false,
                extnValue = [48,24,129,22,112,101,116,101|...]}]],
        signatureAlgorithm =
            #'AlgorithmIdentifier'{
                algorithm = {1,2,840,113549,1,1,5},
                parameters = <<5,0>>,
            signature =
                {0,
                 <<163,186,7,163,216,152,63,47,154,234,139,73,154,96,120,
                  165,2,52,196,195,109,167,192,...>>}}
```

Parts of certificates can be decoded with `public_key:der_decode/2` using that parts ASN.1 type. Although application specific certificate extension requires application specific ASN.1 decode/encode-functions. Example, the first value of the `rdnSequence` above is of ASN.1 type `'X520CommonName'`. (`{2,5,4,3}` = `'id-at-commonName'`)

```
public_key:der_decode('X520CommonName', <<19,8,101,114,108,97,110,103,67,65>>).
{printableString,"erlangCA"}
```

... but certificates can also be decode using the `pkix_decode_cert/2` that can customize and recursively decode standard parts of a certificate.

```
3>{_, DerCert, _} = CertEntry1.
```

```
4> public_key:pkix_decode_cert(DerCert, otp).
#'OTPCertificate'{
```



```

tbsCertificate =
  #'OTPTBSCertificate'{
    version = v3, serialNumber = 16614168075301976214,
    signature =
      #'SignatureAlgorithm'{
        algorithm = {1,2,840,113549,1,1,5},
        parameters = 'NULL'},
    issuer =
      {rdnSequence,
        [[#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
          type = {2,5,4,3},
          value = {printableString,"erlangCA"}]],
        [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
          type = {2,5,4,11},
          value = {printableString,"Erlang OTP"}]],
        [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
          type = {2,5,4,10},
          value = {printableString,"Ericsson AB"}]],
        [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
          type = {2,5,4,7},
          value = {printableString,"Stockholm"}]],
        [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{type = {2,5,4,6},value = "SE"}],
        [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
          type = {1,2,840,113549,1,9,1},
          value = "peter@erix.ericsson.se"}]]],
    validity =
      #'Validity'{
        notBefore = {utcTime,"080109082929Z"},
        notAfter = {utcTime,"080208082929Z"}},
    subject =
      {rdnSequence,
        [[#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
          type = {2,5,4,3},
          value = {printableString,"erlangCA"}]],
        [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
          type = {2,5,4,11},
          value = {printableString,"Erlang OTP"}]],
        [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
          type = {2,5,4,10},
          value = {printableString,"Ericsson AB"}]],
        [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
          type = {2,5,4,7},
          value = {printableString,"Stockholm"}]],
        [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{type = {2,5,4,6},value = "SE"}],
        [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{
          type = {1,2,840,113549,1,9,1},
          value = "peter@erix.ericsson.se"}]]],
    subjectPublicKeyInfo =
      #'OTPSubjectPublicKeyInfo'{
        algorithm =
          #'PublicKeyAlgorithm'{
            algorithm = {1,2,840,113549,1,1,1},
            parameters = 'NULL'},
        subjectPublicKey =
          #'RSAPublicKey'{
            modulus =
              1431267547247997...37419,
            publicExponent = 65537}},
    issuerUniqueID = asn1_NOVALUE,
    subjectUniqueID = asn1_NOVALUE,
    extensions =
      [#'Extension'{
        extnID = {2,5,29,19},
        critical = true,
        extnValue =

```

```
        #'BasicConstraints'{
            cA = true,pathLenConstraint = asn1_NOVALUE}},
    #'Extension'{
        extnID = {2,5,29,15},
        critical = false,
        extnValue = [keyCertSign,cRLSign]},
    #'Extension'{
        extnID = {2,5,29,14},
        critical = false,
        extnValue = [27,217,65,152,6,30,142,132,245|...]},
    #'Extension'{
        extnID = {2,5,29,17},
        critical = false,
        extnValue = [{rfc822Name,"peter@erix.ericsson.se"}]}]},
signatureAlgorithm =
    #'SignatureAlgorithm'{
        algorithm = {1,2,840,113549,1,1,5},
        parameters = 'NULL'},
signature =
    {0,
    <<163,186,7,163,216,152,63,47,154,234,139,73,154,96,120,
    165,2,52,196,195,109,167,192,...>>}}
```

This call is equivalent to `public_key:pem_entry_decode(CertEntry1)`

```
5> public_key:pkix_decode_cert(DerCert, plain).
#'Certificate'{ ...}
```

### Encoding public key data to PEM format

If you have public key data and want to create a PEM file you can do that by calling the functions `public_key:pem_entry_encode/2` and `pem_encode/1` and then saving the result to a file. For example assume you have `PubKey = 'RSAPublicKey'{}` then you can create a PEM-"RSA PUBLIC KEY" file (ASN.1 type 'RSAPublicKey') or a PEM-"PUBLIC KEY" file ('SubjectPublicKeyInfo' ASN.1 type).

The second element of the PEM-entry will be the ASN.1 DER encoded key data.

```
1> PemEntry = public_key:pem_entry_encode('RSAPublicKey', RSAPubKey).
{'RSAPublicKey', <<48,72,...>>, not_encrypted}

2> PemBin = public_key:pem_encode([PemEntry]).
<<"-----BEGIN RSA PUBLIC KEY-----\nMEgC...>>

3> file:write_file("rsa_pub_key.pem", PemBin).
ok
```

or

```
1> PemBin = public_key:pem_entry_encode('SubjectPublicKeyInfo', RSAPubKey).
{'SubjectPublicKeyInfo', <<48,92,...>>, not_encrypted}

2> PemBin = public_key:pem_encode([PemEntry]).
<<"-----BEGIN PUBLIC KEY-----\nMFw...>>

3> file:write_file("pub_key.pem", PemBin).
ok
```

### 1.4.3 RSA public key cryptography

Suppose you have `PrivateKey = #RSAPrivateKey{}` and the plaintext `Msg = binary()` and the corresponding public key `PublicKey = #RSAPublicKey{}` then you can do the following. Note that you normally will only do one of the encrypt or decrypt operations and the peer will do the other.

Encrypt with the private key

```
RsaEncrypted = public_key:encrypt_private(Msg, PrivateKey),
Msg = public_key:decrypt_public(RsaEncrypted, PublicKey),
```

Encrypt with the public key

```
RsaEncrypted = public_key:encrypt_public(Msg, PublicKey),
Msg = public_key:decrypt_private(RsaEncrypted, PrivateKey),
```

### 1.4.4 Digital signatures

Suppose you have `PrivateKey = #RSAPrivateKey{}` or `#DSAPrivateKey{}` and the plaintext `Msg = binary()` and the corresponding public key `PublicKey = #RSAPublicKey{}` or `{integer(), #DssParams{}}` then you can do the following. Note that you normally will only do one of the sign or verify operations and the peer will do the other.

```
Signature = public_key:sign(Msg, sha, PrivateKey),
true = public_key:verify(Msg, sha, Signature, PublicKey),
```

It might be appropriate to calculate the message digest before calling sign or verify and then you can use the none as second argument.

```
Digest = crypto:sha(Msg),
Signature = public_key:sign(Digest, none, PrivateKey),
true = public_key:verify(Digest, none, Signature, PublicKey),
```

### 1.4.5 SSH files

SSH typically uses PEM files for private keys but has its own file format for storing public keys. The erlang `public_key` application can be used to parse the content of SSH public key files.

#### RFC 4716 SSH public key files

RFC 4716 SSH files looks confusingly like PEM files, but there are some differences.

```
1> {ok, SshBin} = file:read_file("ssh2_rsa_pub").
{ok, <<"---- BEGIN SSH2 PUBLIC KEY ----\nAAAA"...>>}
```

This is equivalent to calling `public_key:ssh_decode(SshBin, rfc4716_public_key)`.

```
2> public_key:ssh_decode(SshBin, public_key).
[{'#RSAPublicKey',{modulus = 794430685...91663,
publicExponent = 35}, []}]
```

### Openssh public key format

```
1> {ok, SshBin} = file:read_file("openssh_dsa_pub").
{ok,<<"ssh-dss AAAAB3Nza"...>>}
```

This is equivalent to calling `public_key:ssh_decode(SshBin, openssh_public_key)`.

```
2> public_key:ssh_decode(SshBin, public_key).
[{{15642692...694280725,
  #'Dss-Parms'{p = 17291273936...696123221,
               q = 1255626590179665817295475654204371833735706001853,
               g = 10454211196...480338645}},
 [{comment,"dhopsn@VMUbuntu-DSH"}]]
```

### Known hosts - openssh format

```
1> {ok, SshBin} = file:read_file("known_hosts").
{ok,<<"hostname.domain.com,192.168.0.1 ssh-rsa AAAAB...>>}
```

Returns a list of public keys and their related attributes each pair of key and attributes corresponds to one entry in the known hosts file.

```
2> public_key:ssh_decode(SshBin, known_hosts).
[{'#RSAPublicKey'{modulus = 1498979460408...72721699,
                  publicExponent = 35},
 [{hostnames,["hostname.domain.com","192.168.0.1"]}],
 {'#RSAPublicKey'{modulus = 1498979460408...72721699,
                  publicExponent = 35},
 [{comment,"foo@bar.com"},
  {hostnames,["|1|BW05qDxk/cFH0wa05JLdHn+j6xQ=|rXQvIxxh5cDD3C43k5DPDamawVNA="]}]]]
```

### Authorized keys - openssh format

```
1> {ok, SshBin} = file:read_file("auth_keys").
{ok,<<"command=\"dump /home\",no-pty,no-port-forwarding ssh-rsa AAA...>>}
```

Returns a list of public keys and their related attributes each pair of key and attributes corresponds to one entry in the authorized key file.

```
2> public_key:ssh_decode(SshBin, auth_keys).
[{'#RSAPublicKey'{modulus = 794430685...691663,
                  publicExponent = 35},
 [{comment,"dhopsn@VMUbuntu-DSH"},
  {options,["command=\"dump /home\",no-pty",
            "no-port-forwarding"]}],
 {{1564269258491...607694280725,
  #'Dss-Parms'{p = 17291273936185...763696123221,
               q = 1255626590179665817295475654204371833735706001853,
               g = 10454211195705...60511039590076780999046480338645}},
 [{comment,"dhopsn@VMUbuntu-DSH"}]]]
```

## Creating an SSH file from public key data

If you got a public key `PubKey` and a related list of attributes `Attributes` as returned by `ssh_decode/2` you can create a new ssh file for example

```
N> SshBin = public_key:ssh_encode([PubKey, Attributes], openssh_public_key),  
<<"ssh-rsa "...>>  
N+1> file:write_file("id_rsa.pub", SshBin).  
ok
```

# 2 Reference Manual

---

Provides functions to handle public key infrastructure from RFC 3280 (X.509 certificates) and some parts of the PKCS-standard.

## public\_key

Erlang module

This module provides functions to handle public key infrastructure. It can encode/decode different file formats (PEM, openssh), sign and verify digital signatures and validate certificate paths and certificate revocation lists.

### public\_key

- public\_key requires the crypto and asn1 applications, the latter since R16 (hopefully the runtime dependency on asn1 will be removed again in the future).
- Supports **RFC 5280** - Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Certificate and Certificate Revocation List (CRL) Profile
- Supports **PKCS-1** - RSA Cryptography Standard
- Supports **DSS**- Digital Signature Standard (DSA - Digital Signature Algorithm)
- Supports **PKCS-3** - Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement Standard
- Supports **PKCS-5** - Password-Based Cryptography Standard
- Supports **PKCS-8** - Private-Key Information Syntax Standard
- Supports **PKCS-10** - Certification Request Syntax Standard

### COMMON DATA TYPES

#### Note:

All records used in this manual are generated from ASN.1 specifications and are documented in the User's Guide. See *Public key records* and *X.509 Certificate records*.

Use the following include directive to get access to the records and constant macros described here and in the User's Guide.

```
-include_lib("public_key/include/public_key.hrl").
```

#### Data Types

`oid()` - a tuple of integers as generated by the ASN1 compiler.

`boolean()` = true | false

`string()` = [bytes()]

`der_encoded()` = binary()

`pki_asn1_type()` = 'Certificate' | 'RSAPrivateKey' | 'RSAPublicKey' |  
'DSAPrivateKey' | 'DSAPublicKey' | 'DHParameter' | 'SubjectPublicKeyInfo' |  
'PrivateKeyInfo' | 'CertificationRequest' | 'ECPrivateKey'

## public\_key

---

```
'EcpkParameters'
```

```
pem_entry () = {pki_asn1_type(), binary(), %% DER or encrypted DER  
not_encrypted | cipher_info()}
```

```
cipher_info() = {"RC2-CBC" | "DES-CBC" | "DES-EDE3-CBC", crypto:rand_bytes(8)} |  
'PBES2-params'}
```

```
rsa_public_key() = #'RSAPublicKey'{}
```

```
rsa_private_key() = #'RSAPrivateKey'{}
```

```
dsa_public_key() = {integer(), #'Dss-Parms'{}}
```

```
dsa_private_key() = #'DSAPrivateKey'{}
```

```
ec_public_key() = {#'ECPoint'{}, #'EcpkParameters'{} | {namedCurve, oid()}}
```

```
ec_private_key() = #'ECPrivateKey'{}
```

```
public_crypt_options() = [{rsa_pad, rsa_padding()}].
```

```
rsa_padding() = 'rsa_pkcs1_padding' | 'rsa_pkcs1_oaep_padding'  
| 'rsa_no_padding'
```

```
rsa_digest_type() = 'md5' | 'sha' | 'sha224' | 'sha256' | 'sha384' | 'sha512'
```

```
dss_digest_type() = 'sha'
```

```
ecdsa_digest_type() = 'sha' | 'sha224' | 'sha256' | 'sha384' | 'sha512'
```

```
cr_l_reason() = unspecified | keyCompromise | cACompromise | affiliationChanged | superseded | cessationOfOperation
```

```
ssh_file() = openssh_public_key | rfc4716_public_key |  
known_hosts | auth_keys
```



## Exports

`compute_key(OthersKey, MyKey) ->`  
`compute_key(OthersKey, MyKey, Params) ->`

Types:

```
OthersKey = #'ECPoint'{} | binary(), MyKey = #'ECPrivateKey'{} | binary()
Params = #'DHParameter'{}

```

Compute shared secret

`decrypt_private(CipherText, Key) -> binary()`  
`decrypt_private(CipherText, Key, Options) -> binary()`

Types:

```
CipherText = binary()
Key = rsa_private_key()
Options = public_crypt_options()

```

Public key decryption using the private key. See also *crypto:private\_decrypt/4*

`decrypt_public(CipherText, Key) -> binary()`  
`decrypt_public(CipherText, Key, Options) -> binary()`

Types:

```
CipherText = binary()
Key = rsa_public_key()
Options = public_crypt_options()

```

Public key decryption using the public key. See also *crypto:public\_decrypt/4*

`der_decode(Asn1type, Der) -> term()`

Types:

```
Asn1Type = atom()
ASN.1 type present in the public_key applications asn1 specifications.
Der = der_encoded()

```

Decodes a public key ASN.1 DER encoded entity.

`der_encode(Asn1Type, Entity) -> der_encoded()`

Types:

```
Asn1Type = atom()
Asn1 type present in the public_key applications ASN.1 specifications.
Entity = term()
The erlang representation of Asn1Type

```

Encodes a public key entity with ASN.1 DER encoding.

`generate_key(Params) -> {Public::binary(), Private::binary()} |`  
`#'ECPrivateKey'{}`

Types:

```
Params = #'DHParameter'{} | {namedCurve, oid()} | #'ECParameters'{} }
```

Generates a new keypair

```
pem_decode(PemBin) -> [pem_entry()]
```

Types:

```
PemBin = binary()
```

```
Example {ok, PemBin} = file:read_file("cert.pem").
```

Decode PEM binary data and return entries as ASN.1 DER encoded entities.

```
pem_encode(PemEntries) -> binary()
```

Types:

```
PemEntries = [pem_entry()]
```

Creates a PEM binary

```
pem_entry_decode(PemEntry) -> term()
```

```
pem_entry_decode(PemEntry, Password) -> term()
```

Types:

```
PemEntry = pem_entry()
```

```
Password = string()
```

Decodes a PEM entry. `pem_decode/1` returns a list of PEM entries. Note that if the PEM entry is of type 'SubjectPublicKeyInfo' it will be further decoded to an `rsa_public_key()` or `dsa_public_key()`.

```
pem_entry_encode(Asn1Type, Entity) -> pem_entry()
```

```
pem_entry_encode(Asn1Type, Entity, {CipherInfo, Password}) -> pem_entry()
```

Types:

```
Asn1Type = pki_asn1_type()
```

```
Entity = term()
```

The Erlang representation of `Asn1Type`. If `Asn1Type` is 'SubjectPublicKeyInfo' then `Entity` must be either an `rsa_public_key()` or a `dsa_public_key()` and this function will create the appropriate 'SubjectPublicKeyInfo' entry.

```
CipherInfo = cipher_info()
```

```
Password = string()
```

Creates a PEM entry that can be feed to `pem_encode/1`.

```
encrypt_private(PlainText, Key) -> binary()
```

Types:

```
PlainText = binary()
```

```
Key = rsa_private_key()
```

Public key encryption using the private key. See also *crypto:private\_encrypt/4*

```
encrypt_public(PlainText, Key) -> binary()
```

Types:

```
PlainText = binary()
```

```
Key = rsa_public_key()
```

Public key encryption using the public key. See also *crypto:public\_encrypt/4*

```
pkix_decode_cert(Cert, otp|plain) -> #'Certificate'{} | #'OTPCertificate'{} 
```

Types:

```
Cert = der_encoded()
```

Decodes an ASN.1 DER encoded PKIX certificate. The otp option will use the customized ASN.1 specification OTP-PKIX.asn1 for decoding and also recursively decode most of the standard parts.

```
pkix_encode(Asn1Type, Entity, otp | plain) -> der_encoded()
```

Types:

```
Asn1Type = atom()
```

The ASN.1 type can be 'Certificate', 'OTPCertificate' or a subtype of either .

```
Entity = #'Certificate'{} | #'OTPCertificate'{} | a valid subtype
```

DER encodes a PKIX x509 certificate or part of such a certificate. This function must be used for encoding certificates or parts of certificates that are decoded/created in the otp format, whereas for the plain format this function will directly call *der\_encode/2*.

```
pkix_is_issuer(Cert, IssuerCert) -> boolean()
```

Types:

```
Cert = der_encode() | #'OTPCertificate'{} 
```

```
IssuerCert = der_encode() | #'OTPCertificate'{} 
```

Checks if IssuerCert issued Cert

```
pkix_is_fixed_dh_cert(Cert) -> boolean()
```

Types:

```
Cert = der_encode() | #'OTPCertificate'{} 
```

Checks if a Certificate is a fixed Diffie-Hellman Cert.

```
pkix_is_self_signed(Cert) -> boolean()
```

Types:

```
Cert = der_encode() | #'OTPCertificate'{} 
```

Checks if a Certificate is self signed.

```
pkix_issuer_id(Cert, IssuedBy) -> {ok, IssuerID} | {error, Reason}
```

Types:

```
Cert = der_encode() | #'OTPCertificate'{} 
```

```
IssuedBy = self | other
```

```
IssuerID = {integer(), {rdnSequence, [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]}}
```

The issuer id consists of the serial number and the issuers name.

```
Reason = term()
```

Returns the issuer id.

pkix\_normalize\_name(Issuer) -> Normalized

Types:

```
Issuer = {rdnSequence, [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]}
Normalized = {rdnSequence, [#'AttributeTypeAndValue'{}]}
```

Normalizes a issuer name so that it can be easily compared to another issuer name.

pkix\_path\_validation(TrustedCert, CertChain, Options) -> {ok, {PublicKeyInfo, PolicyTree}} | {error, {bad\_cert, Reason}}

Types:

```
TrustedCert = #'OTPCertificate'{} | der_encode() | unknown_ca |
selfsigned_peer
```

Normally a trusted certificate but it can also be one of the path validation errors `unknown_ca` or `selfsigned_peer` that can be discovered while constructing the input to this function and that should be run through the `verify_fun`.

```
CertChain = [der_encode()]
```

A list of DER encoded certificates in trust order ending with the peer certificate.

```
Options = proplists:proplists()
```

```
PublicKeyInfo = {'rsaEncryption' | ?'id-dsa', rsa_public_key() |
integer(), 'NULL' | 'Dss-Parms'{} }
```

```
PolicyTree = term()
```

At the moment this will always be an empty list as Policies are not currently supported

```
Reason = cert_expired | invalid_issuer | invalid_signature | unknown_ca
| selfsigned_peer | name_not_permitted | missing_basic_constraint |
invalid_key_usage | crl_reason()
```

Performs a basic path validation according to **RFC 5280**. However CRL validation is done separately by `pkix_crls_validate/3` and should be called from the supplied `verify_fun`

Available options are:

{verify\_fun, fun()}

The fun should be defined as:

```
fun(OtpCert :: #'OTPCertificate'{}, Event :: {bad_cert, Reason :: atom()} |
{extension, #'Extension'{}},
    InitialUserState :: term()) ->
{valid, UserState :: term()} | {valid_peer, UserState :: term()} |
{fail, Reason :: term()} | {unknown, UserState :: term()}.
```

If the verify callback fun returns {fail, Reason}, the verification process is immediately stopped. If the verify callback fun returns {valid, UserState}, the verification process is continued, this can be used to accept specific path validation errors such as `selfsigned_peer` as well as verifying application specific extensions. If called with an extension unknown to the user application the return value {unknown, UserState} should be used.

{max\_path\_length, integer()}

The `max_path_length` is the maximum number of non-self-issued intermediate certificates that may follow the peer certificate in a valid certification path. So if `max_path_length` is 0 the PEER must be signed by the trusted ROOT-CA directly, if 1 the path can be PEER, CA, ROOT-CA, if it is 2 PEER, CA, CA, ROOT-CA and so on.

`pkix_crls_validate(OTPCertificate, DPAndCRLs, Options) -> CRLStatus()`

Types:

```
OTPCertificate = #'OTPCertificate'{}
DPAndCRLs = [{DP::#'DistributionPoint'{} ,CRL::#'CertificateList'{}]}
Options = proplists:proplists()
CRLStatus() = valid | {bad_cert, revocation_status_undetermined} |
{bad_cert, {revoked, crl_reason()}}
```

Performs CRL validation. It is intended to be called from the verify fun of *pkix\_path\_validation/3*

Available options are:

{update\_crl, fun()}

The fun has the following type spec:

```
fun('#'DistributionPoint'{}, #'CertificateList'{}) -> #'CertificateList'{}

```

The fun should use the information in the distribution point to access the latest possible version of the CRL. If this fun is not specified `public_key` will use the default implementation:

```
fun(_DP, CRL) -> CRL end

```

`pkix_sign('#'OTPTBSCertificate'{}, Key) -> der_encode()`

Types:

```
Key = rsa_public_key() | dsa_public_key()
```

Signs a 'OTPTBSCertificate'. Returns the corresponding der encoded certificate.

`pkix_sign_types(AlgorithmId) -> {DigestType, SignatureType}`

Types:

```
AlgorithmId = oid()
Signature oid from a certificate or a certificate revocation list
DigestType = rsa_digest_type() | dss_digest_type()
SignatureType = rsa | dsa
```

Translates signature algorithm oid to erlang digest and signature types.

`pkix_verify(Cert, Key) -> boolean()`

Types:

```
Cert = der_encode()
Key = rsa_public_key() | dsa_public_key()
```

Verify PKIX x.509 certificate signature.

`sign(Msg, DigestType, Key) -> binary()`

Types:

```
Msg = binary() | {digest, binary()}
The msg is either the binary "plain text" data to be signed or it is the hashed value of "plain text" i.e. the digest.
DigestType = rsa_digest_type() | dss_digest_type() | ecdsa_digest_type()
```

```
Key = rsa_private_key() | dsa_private_key() | ec_private_key()
```

Creates a digital signature.

```
ssh_decode(SshBin, Type) -> [{public_key(), Attributes::list()}]
```

Types:

```
SshBin = binary()
```

Example {ok, SshBin} = file:read\_file("known\_hosts").

```
Type = public_key | ssh_file()
```

If Type is public\_key the binary may be either a rfc4716 public key or a openssh public key.

Decodes a ssh file-binary. In the case of know\_hosts or auth\_keys the binary may include one or more lines of the file. Returns a list of public keys and their attributes, possible attribute values depends on the file type represented by the binary.

rfc4716 attributes - see RFC 4716

```
{headers, [{string(), utf8_string()}]}
```

auth\_key attributes - see man sshd

```
{comment, string() }
```

```
{options, [string()] }
```

```
{bits, integer()} - In ssh version 1 files
```

known\_host attributes - see man sshd

```
{hostnames, [string()] }
```

```
{comment, string() }
```

```
{bits, integer()} - In ssh version 1 files
```

```
ssh_encode([Key, Attributes], Type) -> binary()
```

Types:

```
Key = public_key()
```

```
Attributes = list()
```

```
Type = ssh_file()
```

Encodes a list of ssh file entries (public keys and attributes) to a binary. Possible attributes depends on the file type, see *ssh\_decode/2*

```
verify(Msg, DigestType, Signature, Key) -> boolean()
```

Types:

```
Msg = binary() | {digest, binary()} 
```

The msg is either the binary "plain text" data or it is the hashed value of "plain text" i.e. the digest.

```
DigestType = rsa_digest_type() | dss_digest_type() | ecdsa_digest_type()
```

```
Signature = binary()
```

```
Key = rsa_public_key() | dsa_public_key() | ec_public_key()
```

Verifies a digital signature