Time Stamping Preprint and Electronic Journal Server Environment

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Towards a Digital Mathematics Library 2011

Backgrounds

- While many universities operate local preprint and journal servers, the security of these digital documents may be at risk.
- Cracking, disasters and careless operations cause the serious problem.
- Full text file may be diffused hands by hands with annotations or comments.
- Currently, most articles still have the printed issue in addition to digital file distribution.
- In this dual publication scheme, the printed issue is regarded as the trusted original version.

Backgrounds

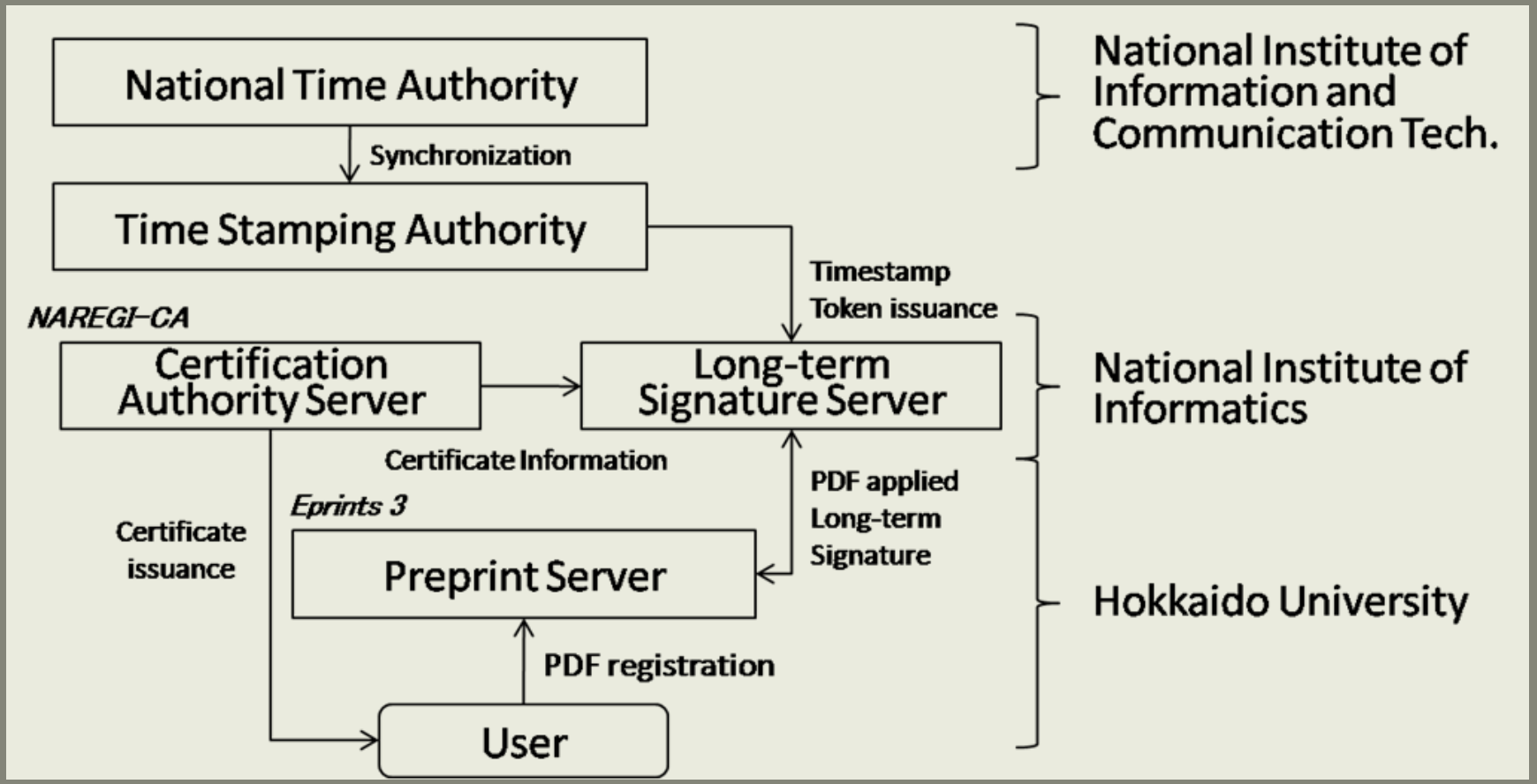
- However, in paperless publication, it is difficult to distinguish a copy from the original. That is, the security level of the preprint files has to be raised in order to protect the research results.
- In the field of business, the security of digital documents containing patentable ideas and intellectual property are guaranteed by means of an electronic signature and timestamp technique.
- These technologies can be applied to academic publishing to ensure reliable digital content.
- This study proposes a secured preprint server environment and describes its application to the mathematical e-journal and preprint service at Hokkaido University.

Possible Solutions

- Mirroring and backup
- Hash/Checksum
- Read only full text file
- Password protection
- There is no guarantee that nobody have changed the created time information of full text file.
- Cracking, disasters and careless operations will cause unrecoverable problem.

Overview of our Solution

- System architecture



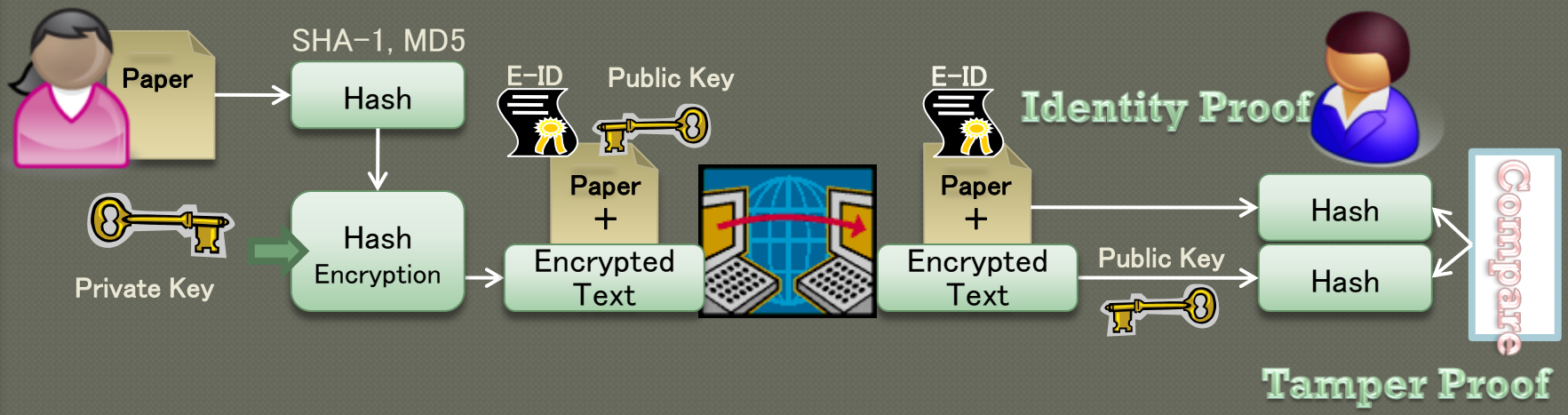
Electronic Signature

- One solution is Long-term Signature.
- The electronic signature (ES) ensures integrity and signer of a document.
- The digital signature is created from an encrypted hash value of a digital document.
- The recipient (client application) can detect a falsification of the document by comparing hash values calculated from the original document and decrypted from the digital signature

Electronic Signature

Electronic signature ensures integrity and signer of a document

ES by PKI (Public Key Infrastructure)



- Application of the ES to Article
  - Author (Editor)
  - Contents

} can be certified

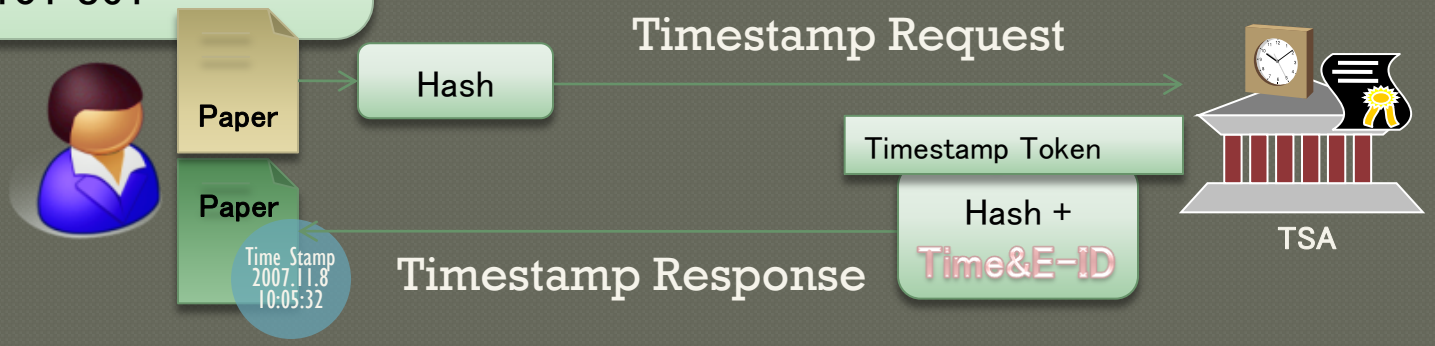
Timestamp

- The timestamp (TS) technology guarantees existential evidence of digital documents.
- The combination of ES and TS, as indicated by ES-T in Figure, ensures the authenticity of the digital documents.

Timestamp

Timestamp technology guarantees existential evidence of the digital documens

International Standard
- RFC 3161
- ETSI TS 101 861



- Application of the TS to Research Paper
  - Publication Date
  - Contents

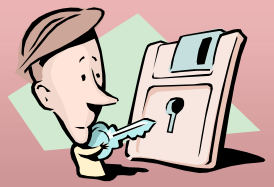
} can be certified

Disadvantage of ES & TS

Electronic signature and timestamp are useful technology however…

Digital Signature Technology

Compromisation of hash algorithm



Leakage of private key

against

- validity period
- revocation functions

Disadvantage for Long-term preservation

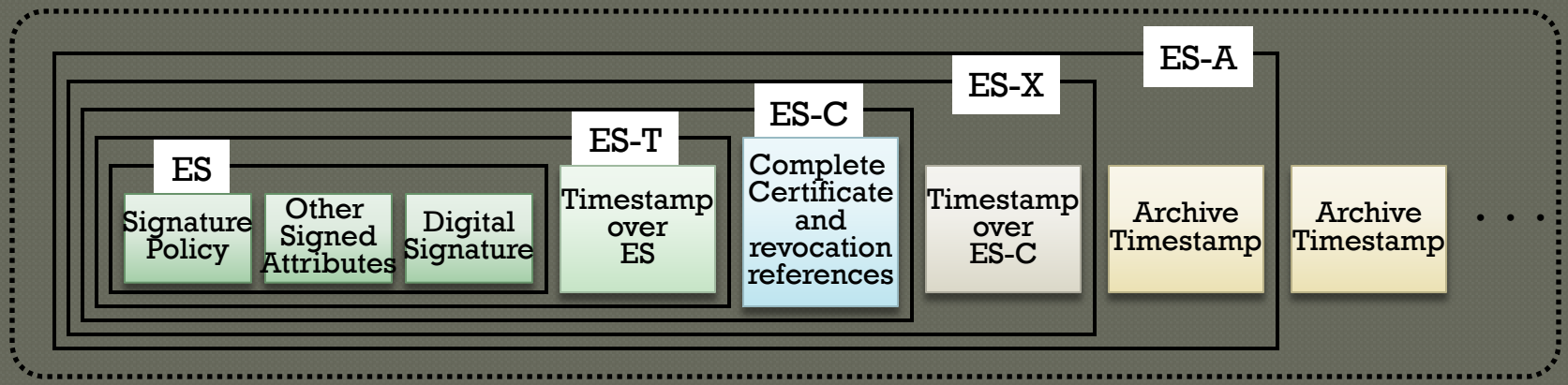
- Long-term signature
  - solves disadvantage of ES and TS above
  - embeds a complete certificate and revocation reference
  - International standard RFC 3126

Long-Term Signature

- The ES and TS have a validity period and revocation functions. However, the temporary nature of these functions causes a problem for long-term preservation.
- To solve this problem, a long-term signature has been proposed.
- This signature format embeds a complete certificate and revocation references shown as ES-C.
- Therefore, ES and TS can be verified even after the signature expires.
- This study employed international standard RFC3126 as a long-term signature format and applied it to the article PDF documents.

Long-Term Signature

Long-term Signature Format(RFC3126)

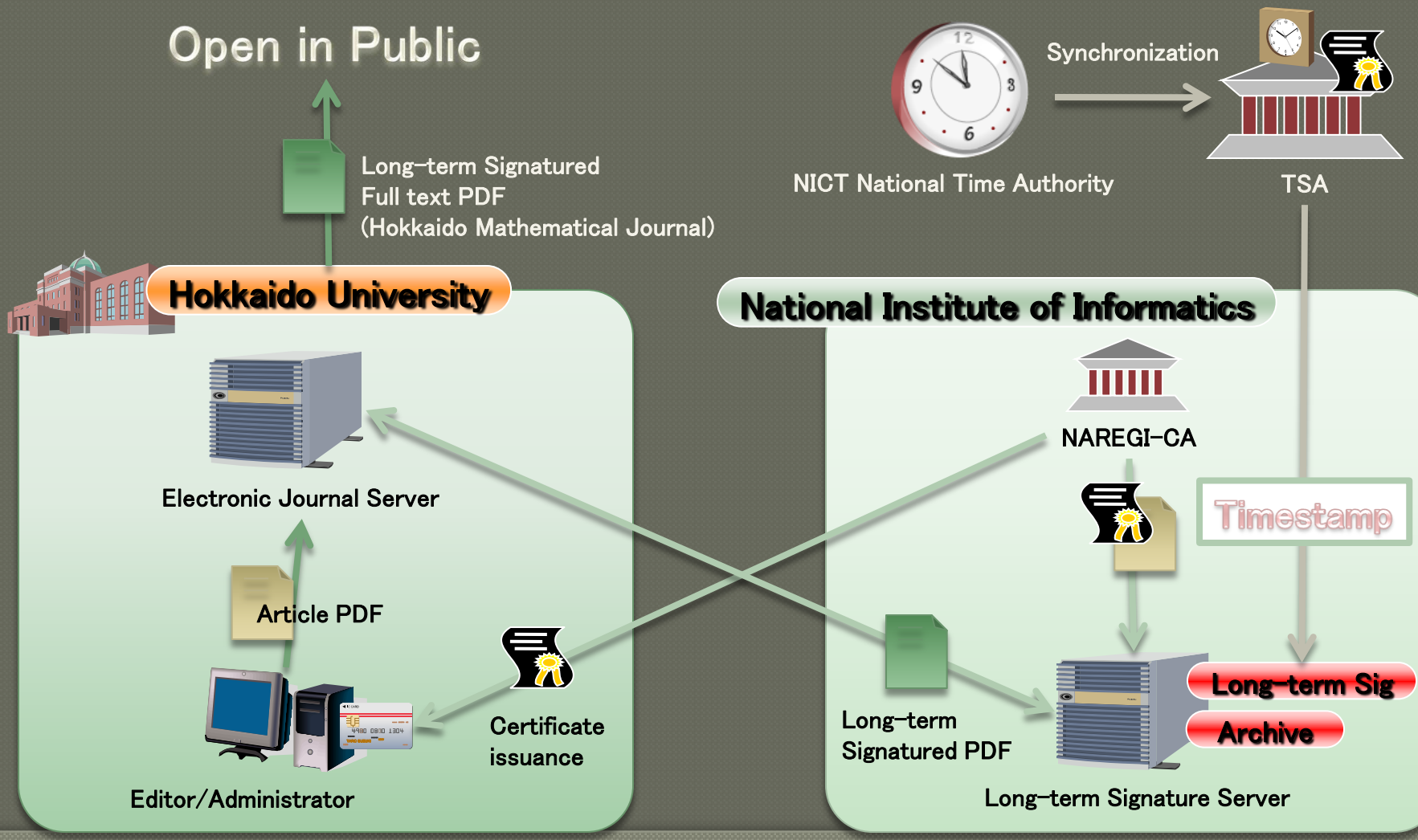


Application of LTS to Full text PDF

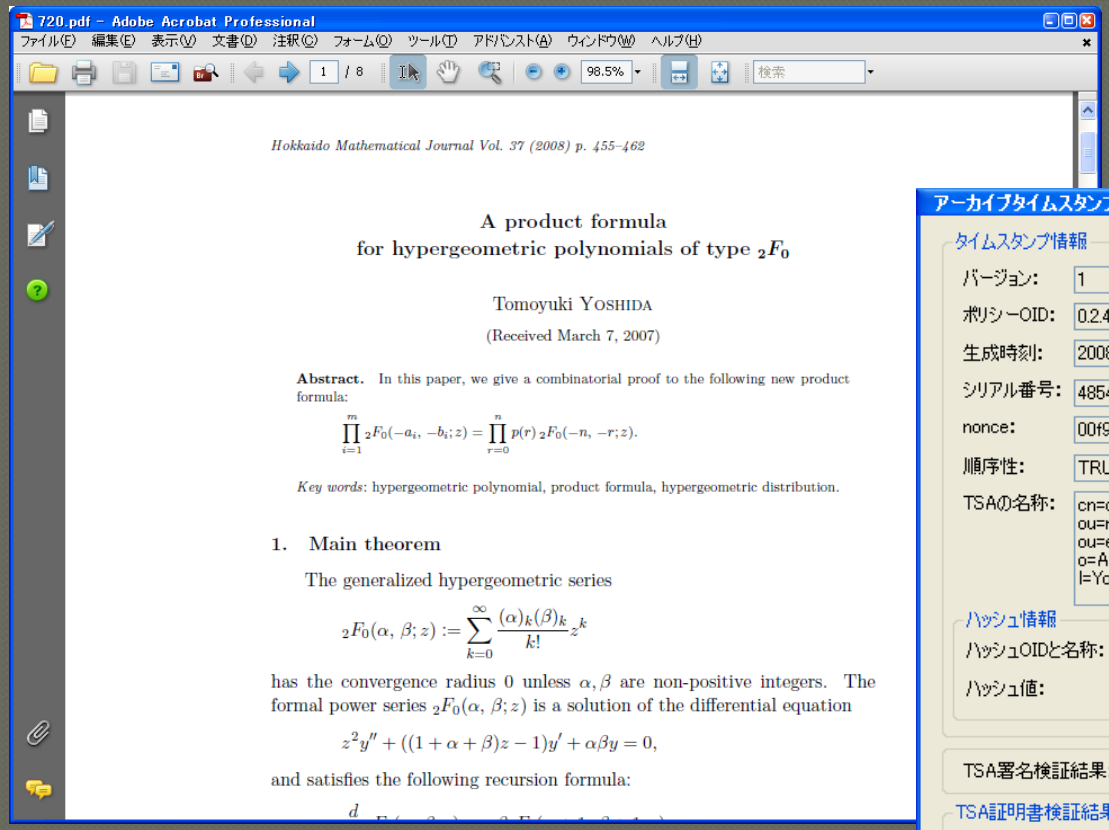
System Environment

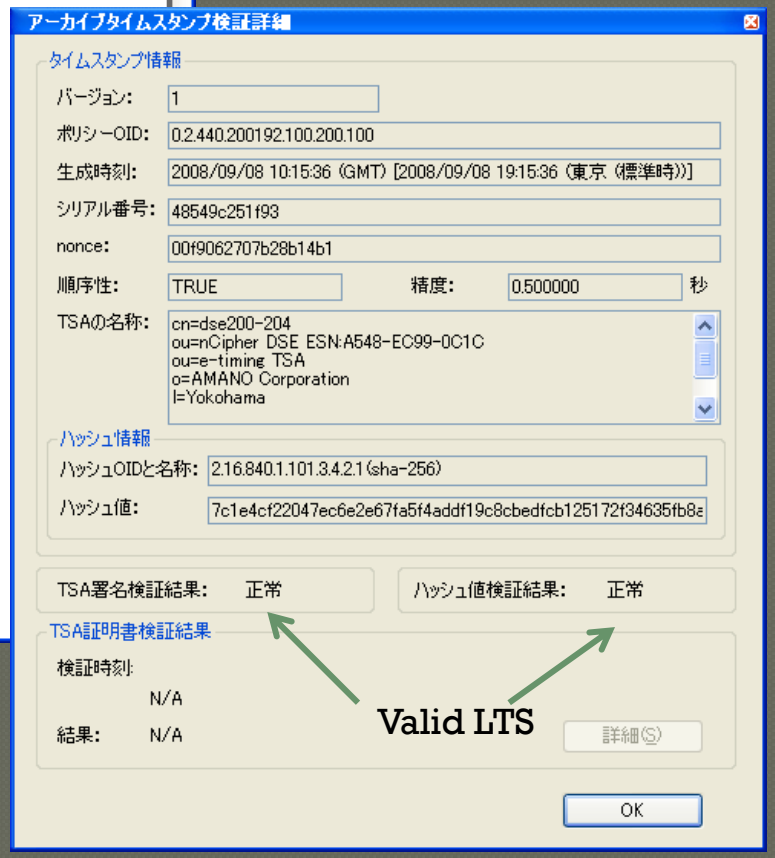
- Application of the long-term signature requires a certification authority (CA) server and long-term signature server. The CA issues a digital certificate to a user who would like to register a document on the server.
- CA was established by NAREGI-CA which is an open source software originally developed for grid computing .
- The long-term signature server obtains a timestamp token from the time stamping authority managed by a trusted third party.

System Archtecture

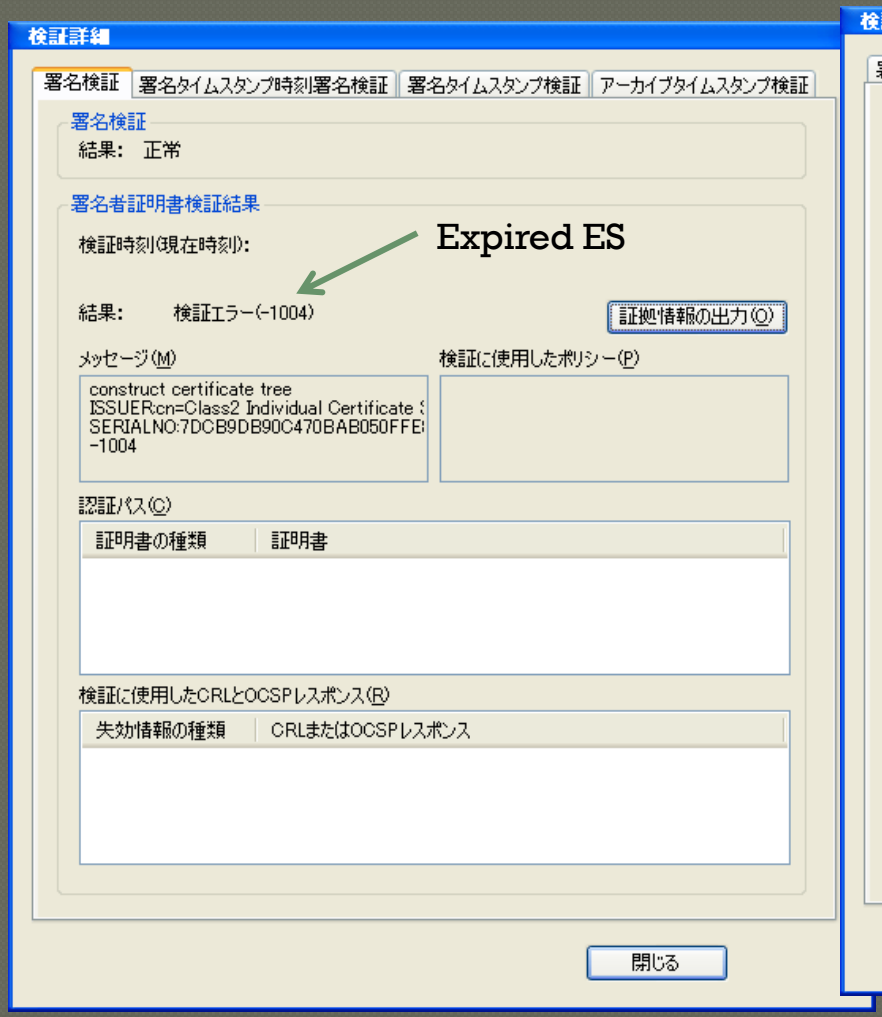


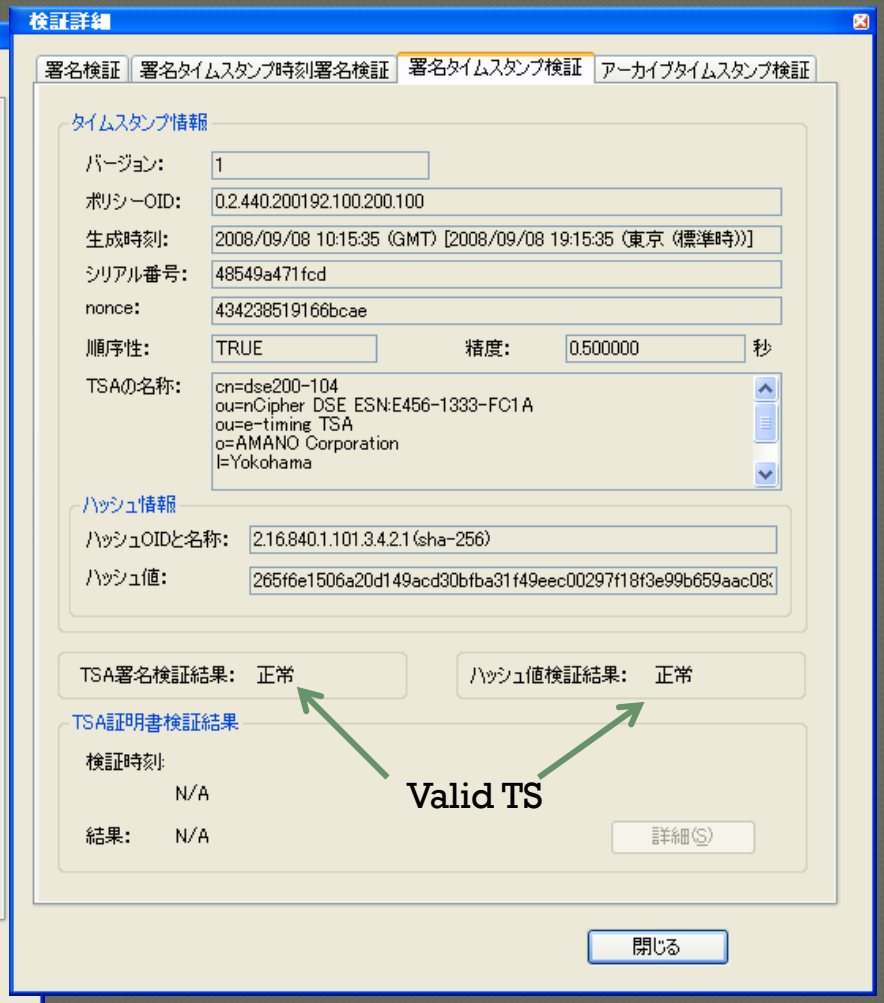
LTSed Fulltext PDF Sample





Validation Example





Discussion

- Using Long-Term Signature technology published date and contents of full text PDF for electronic journal articles are certified.
- It works well even after embedded ES was expired.