

2014-02-07.sagews

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1 February 7, 2014: Elliptic Curves

- on feb 7 mainly use 2014-02-03; but also, something about Diffie-Hellman below.

1.1 Recall Diffie-Hellman

1.1.1 The protocol

- Choose a prime p .
- Choose a base g in \mathbf{F}_p .
- Person 1 sends $g^n \pmod{p}$ and person 2 sends $g^m \pmod{p}$, where n, m are chosen at random.
- The shared secret is $s = g^{nm} \pmod{p}$, which both parties can compute.

```
p = next_prime(2^127)
```

```
g = Mod(2,p); g
```

```
2
```

```
g.multiplicative_order()
```

```
170141183460469231731687303715884105756
```

```
p-1
```

```
170141183460469231731687303715884105756
```

1.1.2 Attack

- To attack Diffie-Hellman, you solve the discrete log problem in the group generated by g .
- The complexity is the same as attacking this problem in the largest prime divisor of the order of g
- A trivial-to-implement algorithm called baby-step giant-step solves discrete log in any group of order r in time (and space) \sqrt{r} .

```
show(factor(g.multiplicative_order()))  
22 · 3 · 13 · 23 · 79151 · 54721235939 · 10948250129457457283
```

So in our example, the number of operations needed to solve DL is basically $\sqrt{10948250129457457283}$:

```
# with a really fast computer and good implementation, that's about this \  
many seconds:  
N(sqrt(10948250129457457283)) / 1e9  
3.30881400647686
```

1.2 So

Moral: When creating a Diffie-Hellman key exchange, make sure that the group generated by g is of order: (big prime) times (little stuff).

For example, choose $g = 2$ so that it has order $p - 1$ and such that $(p - 1)/2$ is prime. Primality testing is fast, so this is do-able.

1.3 Diffie-Hellman on an elliptic curve

Introduced to the world by our very own Neal Koblitz (and also by Victor Miller at the same time)

- Choose a specific elliptic curve E over a finite field \mathbf{F}_p (same thing as $\mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z}$).
- Choose a specific point $G \in E(\mathbf{F}_p)$.
- Person 1 sends nG and person 2 sends mG , for random n and m .
- The shared secret is the point nmG .

1.3.1 Big problem

- How on earth are you going to know that G has order that is not just a product of small primes?
- This is nothing like testing $(p - 1)/2$ for primality.
- Seems really hard.

```
# Rene Schoof didn't think so...  
salvus.file('9aa5a04f7649.jpg')
```




1.3.2 Schoofs idea

- No obvious way to compute $\#E(\mathbf{F}_p)$ directly.
- So sneak up on it, by cleverly computing $\#E(\mathbf{F}_p) \pmod{\ell}$ for many primes ℓ .
- Then, use the Chinese Remainder theorem to obtain the integer $\#E(\mathbf{F}_p)$.

Schoof figured out how to compute $\#E(\mathbf{F}_p) \pmod{\ell}$ efficiently by explicitly computing information about the Frobenius map:

$$(x, y) \mapsto (x^p, y^p)$$

on the subgroup of elements of $\#E(\mathbf{F}_{p^r})$ of order dividing ℓ (Here \mathbf{F}_{p^r} is a sufficiently large finite field.) Full details are well beyond the scope of this course. But you can try it out!

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

```
factor(n)
2^2 * 11 * 41 * 281 * 317 * 62229725412332293691094486079303
```

Homework: Get a sense of the complexity. Does it get twice as hard to compute cardinality as we had a digit, or polynomial harder? (The claim that the algorithm is fast is the claim that it gets only a bit harder as we add digits.) Also figure out the polynomial in Sage.

1.3.3 Lets try it out Diffie-Hellman on this elliptic curve

[illegible]

```
P.order().factor()
11 * 281 * 317 * 62229725412332293691094486079303
```

```
n = randrange(1,10^40)
```

```

n*P
(9742018745458282596957305481344155761073 : 3305191629911698505564085013673311187248 : 1)

# somebody else do this:
#     m = randrange(1,10^40)
#     m*P

mP = E([ ??? ])
secret = n*mP

```

Coming up how elliptic curves are used in Bitcoin, Playstation, Microsoft DRM, etc