
TTM 4135 notes

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1 Number theory

This part is mostly just stolen from the slides. Not much of interest here except for modular inverses, groups and fields.

1.1 Basic number theory

\mathbb{Z} denotes the set of integers

a divides b if there exists a k in \mathbb{Z} such that $a * k = b$

$$a * k = 3 * 2 = 6 = b$$

An integer is prime if the only positive divisors are 1 and p

checking primality for a number n can be done by trial division up to $\text{sqrt}(n)$.

1.1.1 Basic properties of factors

1. if a divides b and a divides c then a divides $b+c$
2. if p is a prime and p divides ab , then p divides a or b

Example:

$$6|18 \text{ and } 6|24 \rightarrow 6|42$$

1.1.2 Division algorithm

for a and b in \mathbb{Z} , $a > b$, there exists q and r in \mathbb{Z} such that $a = bq + r$ where $0 \leq r < b$.

1.2 GCD

The value d is the GCD of a and b if all hold: 1. d divides a and b 2. if c divides a and b then c divides d (the greatest) 3. $d > 0$, by definition of integers

a and b are relatively prime if $\gcd(a, b) = 1$

1.2.1 Euclidean algorithm & extended euclidean algorithm(EEA)

Euclidean algorithm is for finding gcd. See slides 2 for pseudo-code if you need it EEA finds integers x and y in $a * x + b * y = d$, we're interested in the case where a and b are co-prime (x and y = 1)

1.3 Modular arithmetic

b is the residue of a modulo n if $a - b = kn$ for some integer k.

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n} \leftrightarrow a - b = kn$$

Given $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{n}$ then

1. $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{n}$

2. $ac \equiv bd \pmod{n}$

3. $ka \equiv kb \pmod{n}$

Note:

This means we can always reduce the inputs modulo n before performing additions or multiplications

1.3.1 Residue class

Definition: The set r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{n-1} is called a complete set of residues modulo n if, for every integer a, $a \equiv r_i \pmod{n}$ for exactly one r_i

We usually denote this set as the complete set of residues and denote it \mathbb{Z}

1.3.2 Notation: a mod n

we write $a \bmod n$ to denote the value a' in the complete set of residues with $a' \equiv a \pmod{n}$
 $a = k * n + a' \ 0 \leq a' < n$

1.4 Groups

a group is a set, G , with a binary operation \cdot satisfying the following properties:

1. Closure: $a \cdot b \in G, \forall a, b \in G$

2. identity: there exists an element 1, so that $a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a = a$, $\forall a \in G$
3. inverse: for all a , there exists an element b so that $a \cdot b = 1$, $\forall a \in G$
4. associative: $(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$, $\forall a, b, c \in G$ (Doesn't matter where you put the parentheses)

In this course we will only consider commutative groups, which are also commutative:

5. $\forall a, b \in G, a \cdot b = b \cdot a$ (order of operands doesn't matter)

1.4.1 Cyclic groups

- The order of a group, G , often written $|G|$, is the number of elements in G
- we write g^k to denote repeated application of g using the group operation.
 - the order of an element g , written $|g|$, is the smallest integer k with $g^k = 1$
- a group element g is a generator for G if $|g| = |G|$
- a group is cyclic if it has a generator

1.5 Computing inverses modulo n

the inverse of a , if it exists, is a value x such that $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ and is written $a^{-1} \pmod{n}$

In cryptosystems, we often need to find inverses so we can decrypt, or undo, certain operations

Theorem: Let $0 < a < n$. Then a has an inverse modulo n iff $\gcd(a, n) = 1$. (a and n are co-prime)

1.6 Modular inverses using Euclidean algorithm

to find the inverse of a we can use the Euclidean algorithm, which is very efficient. Since $\gcd(a, n) = 1$, we can find $ax + ny = 1$ for integers x and y by Euclidean algorithm.

1.6.1 An actual example of modular inverses.

Since there are really bad resources for this:

From exam 2018

$$8^{-1} \pmod{21}$$

Set up the equation:

$$21 = 8(\text{factor}) + \text{remainder}$$

$$21 = 8(2) + 5$$

shift numbers one to the left

$$8 = 5(\text{factor}) + \text{remainder}$$

$$8 = 5(1) + 3$$

keep shifting till the remainder is 1

$$5 = 3(1) + 2$$

$$3 = 2(1) + 1$$

Now, for each line exchange the equation so that the remainder is alone on its side
Labelling each equation in parentheses.

$$21 + 8(-2) = 5 \text{ (eq 4)}$$

$$8 + 5(-1) = 3 \text{ (eq 3)}$$

$$5 + 3(-1) = 2 \text{ (eq 2)}$$

$$3 + 2(-1) = 1 \text{ (eq 1)}$$

Look at equation (1). You see it uses the number 2, which is defined in equation (2). Substitute equation (2) in (1):

$$3 + (5 + 3(-1))(-1) = 1 \pmod{21}$$

$$3 + (5(-1) + 3) = 1 \pmod{21}$$

$$3(2) + 5(-1) = 1 \pmod{21}$$

Now we see the number 3, which can be substituted using equation (3):

$$(8 + 5(-1))(2) + 5(-1) = 1 \pmod{21}$$

$$8(2) + 5(-3) = 1 \pmod{21}$$

Do the same for the number 5, using equation (4):

$$8(2) + (21 + 8(-2))(-3) = 1 \pmod{21}$$

$$8(2) + 21(-3) + 8(6) = 1 \pmod{21}$$

$$8(8) + 21(-3) = 1 \pmod{21}$$

-3 is not representable in mod 21, but its absolute value is smaller than our modulus of 21.
Substitute -3 with $21-3 = 18$.

$$8(8) + 21(18) = 1 \pmod{21}$$

We have $21(18)$, which is 18 times the modulus. Anything multiplied with the modulus is 0:

$$8(8) = 1 \pmod{21}$$

This is our solution. Modular inverses should satisfy $XX^{-1} = 1 \pmod{n}$, and we see that $8*8 = 1 \pmod{21}$.

1.6.2 Another example

This example is implicitly required in an RSA exercise from the 2018 exam. We're required to calculate e , given n and d . The formula for e is $e = d^{-1} \pmod{\phi(n)}$. For completeness, $\phi(n) = \phi(21)$ prime factors of 21 are 3 and 7.

$$\phi(21) = (3-1)(7-1) = 12$$

Following the same steps as the above example:

$$e = 5^{-1} \pmod{12}$$

$$12 = 5(\text{factor}) + \text{remainder}$$

$$12 = 5(2) + 2$$

$$5 = 2(2) + 1$$

$$5 + 2(-2) = 1 \quad (1)$$

$$12 + 5(-2) = 2 \quad (2)$$

Substituting (2) in (1)

$$5 + (12 + 5(-2))(-2) = 1 \pmod{12}$$

$$5 + 12(-2) + 5(4) = 1 \pmod{12}$$

$$5(5) + 12(-2) = 1 \pmod{12}$$

$5(5) + 12(10) = 1 \pmod{12}$ again, -2 doesn't exist in mod 12. $12-2 = 10$ works since 2 is smaller than 10. $5(5) = 1 \pmod{12}$

The answer is 5. We see that $5(5) \pmod{12}$ does indeed equal 1.

1.7 the set of residues \mathbb{Z}_p^*

a complete set of residues modulo any prime p with the 0 removed forms a group under multiplication denoted \mathbb{Z}_p^* . It has some interesting properties:

- The order of \mathbb{Z}_p^* is $p - 1$
- it is also cyclic.
- it has many generators

1.8 Finding a generator for \mathbb{Z}_p^*

A generator of \mathbb{Z}_p^* is an element of order $p - 1$. To find a generator, we can choose a value and test it like so:

- compute all the distinct prime factors of $p - 1$, denoted $f_1, f_2 \dots f_r$
- g is a generator as long as $g^{\frac{(p-1)}{f_i}} \neq 1 \pmod p$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$

Should you be tasked to find the order of a generator for \mathbb{Z}_n^* where n is not prime you need to factorize n into its prime factors pq and then use the rule

$$|g| = (p - 1)(q - 1)$$

to find the order.

For example: (from exam 2018)

a generator for \mathbb{Z}_{15}^* has order:

- (a) 1
- (b) 3
- (c) 8
- (d) 14

15 consists of the prime factors 3 and 5. The order of the generator must be $(3 - 1) * (5 - 1) = 8$.

1.9 Example of determining if a number is a generator for \mathbb{Z}_p^*

- $p = 7$
- \mathbb{Z}_7^* has a generator $g = 4$ if the test holds.
- 4 has just one prime factor, 2.
- $g^{\frac{6}{2}} = 1$
- This means that $g = 4$ is not a generator for \mathbb{Z}_7^*

1.10 Fields

a field is a set, F , with two binary operations $+$ and \cdot , satisfying:

1. F is commutative group under the $+$ operation, with identity element denoted 0

2. $F \setminus \{0\}$ is a commutative group under the dot operation
3. distributive, $\forall(a, b, c) \in F$

1.10.1 Finite fields $\text{GF}(p)$

For secure communications, we only care about fields with a finite number of elements.

a famous theorem says that $>$ Finite fields exist of size p^n for any prime p and any $n \in \mathbb{N}$. See slides from lecture 2

- often written \mathbb{Z}_p , instead of $\text{GF}(p)$
- multiplication and addition are done modulo p
- Multiplicative group is exactly \mathbb{Z}_p^*
- used in digital signature schemes

For finite fields of order 2^n can use polynomial arithmetic:

$$00101101 = x^5 + x^3 + x^2 + 1$$

the field is represented by use of a primitive polynomial $m(x)$. Addition and multiplication is defined by polynomial addition and multiplication modulo $m(x)$. Division is done efficiently by hardware using shifts.

2 classical encryption

2.1 Terminology

We usually divide cryptology into

- Cryptography - designing the systems
- cryptanalysis - breaking them.

We usually study them together, as steganography - the study of concealing information

TODO

3 Block ciphers

Block ciphers are the main bulk encryption algorithms used in commercial applications.

Block ciphers are symmetric key ciphers, where the plain text is divided into blocks. Each block is encrypted/decrypted using the same key. A block is of a fixed size, often between 64 and 256 bits. Block ciphers are used in certain ways, called modes of operations. Each mode has different properties that make them desirable/undesirable in certain applications.

3.1 Notation

- the message is n blocks in length
- P Plaintext
- C Ciphertext
- K Key
- E Encryption function
- D Decryption function
- W_i Block i
- P_i plaintext block i
- C_i ciphertext block i

3.2 Criteria for block cipher design

Claude Shannon discussed two important properties of encryption:

1. Confusion
 - Making the relation between the key and ciphertext as complex as possible
2. Diffusion
 - Dissipate the statistical properties of the plaintext in the ciphertext (letter frequencies etc.)

Shannon proposed to use these techniques repeatedly using the concept of **product cipher**

Good block ciphers exhibit a so-called avalanche effect. Both a **key avalanche** and a **plaintext avalanche** is wanted, according to Shannon's properties mentioned above.

A key avalanche is where a small change in the key results in a big change in ciphertext. This relates to Shannon's notion of confusion.

Try encrypting the same text using a simple substitution cipher and then swap two characters in the key. Observe small changes in ciphertext. Next, try doing the same using a more sophisticated encryption scheme like AES with an online tool. Observe a huge difference after altering key.

A plaintext avalanche is when a small change in plaintext results in a big change in the ciphertext. Ideally we'd like each bit to have a 50% probability to flip. This is related to Shannon's notion of diffusion.

Try encrypting the same text using a simple substitution cipher and then change one letter in the plaintext. Observe small changes in ciphertext. Next, try doing the same using a more sophisticated encryption scheme like AES with an online tool. Observe a huge difference after altering the plaintext.

3.3 Product cipher

A product cipher is a cryptosystem in which the encryption function is formed by composing several sub-encryption functions

Most block ciphers compose simple functions, each with different keys.

$$C = E(P, K) = f_r(\dots(f_2(f_1(P, K_1), K_2)\dots), K_r)$$

3.4 Iterated cipher

A special class of product ciphers are called iterated ciphers. The encryption process in an iterated cipher is divided into r similar **rounds**, and the sub-encryption functions are all the same function, g , called the **round function**. Each key, K_i , is derived from the **master key**, K . Each key K_i are called **round keys** or **subkeys** and are derived using a process called the **key schedule**.

3.4.1 Encryption in iterated ciphers

$$\begin{aligned}W_0 &= P \\W_1 &= g(W_0, K_1) \\W_2 &= g(W_1, K_2) \\&\dots\dots\dots \\W_r &= g(W_{r-1}, K_r) \\C &= W_r\end{aligned}$$

3.4.2 Decryption in iterated ciphers

in order to decrypt the messages, an inverse of the round function, g^{-1} , must be available. The inverse must satisfy $g^{-1}(g(W, K_i), K_i) = W, \forall K_i, W$

3.5 Feistel ciphers

Feistel ciphers are iterated ciphers where the round function swaps two halves of the block and forms a new half on the right side.

Encryption is done in three steps:

1. Split the block into two halves: $W_0 = (L_0, R_0)$
2. For each of the r rounds, do:
$$L_i = R_{i-1}$$

$$R_i = L_{i-1} \oplus f(R_{i-1}, K_i)$$

Where f is any function, note that choice of f affects security

3. Ciphertext is $C = W_r = (L_r, R_r)$.

3.6 Substitution-permutation network

Substitution-permutation networks (SPNs) are iterated ciphers. They require the block length, n to allow each block to be split into m sub-blocks of length l , so that $n = lm$ (The block length must allow you to split it into m equally long sub-blocks). SPNs define two operations:

1. Substitution, π_s , operates on sub-blocks of size l bits:

$$\pi_s : \{0, 1\}^l \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^l$$

The permutation π_s is usually called an S-Box(substitution box)

2. Permutation, π_p , swaps the inputs from $\{1, \dots, n\}$. This is similar to the transposition cipher.

$$\pi_p : \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

During the round function g of an SPN, there are three steps:

1. The round key K_i is XORed with the current block W_i .
2. Each sub-block is substituted by using substitution (π_s)
3. The whole block W_i is permuted using permutation (π_p)

3.7 DES

DES is a Feistel cipher with 16 rounds, a key length of 56 bits and block length of 64 bits. It works on individual bits instead of bytes.

Encryption: (Using W for blocks, instead of P for consistency)

1. The 64 bits of a block, W , are permuted according to an initial fixed permutation, IW .
2. 16 rounds of feistel operations, f , are applied. Each round uses a different 48 bit subkey
3. a fixed inverse permutation, IW^{-1} , is applied.

This results in one output ciphertext block.

The feistel operation, f , consists of the following steps:

1. Expand the 32 bit half-block to 48bits (to match the subkey)
2. XOR the half-block and subkey
3. break the 48 resulting bits into 8 chunks of 6 bits
4. input each chunk in an individual S-box (substitution), output is 4 bits
 - 8 substitutions that output 4 bits = 32 bit output in total

5. apply permutation on output

The 48 bit subkeys are defined as a series of permutations and shifts on the 56-bit master key.

3.7.1 Security of DES

The short keys of DES is a weak point. There are 2^{56} possible keys, and on average that takes 2^{55} brute force trials to find the correct one. This is possible to do in practice.

3.7.2 Double DES

If the algorithm is shit, double it!

Double DES uses two keys and the plaintext block is encrypted twice, one encryption with each key. If both keys have a length of k , then there are 2^{2k} possible keys, which of course is better than standard DES.

There exists a Meet-in-the-middle attack that allows you to spend more memory to reduce the time it takes to break the cipher. By storing one plaintext block, one encryption and one decryption for every key you can break the 2DES cipher with 2^{56} blocks, encryption and decryption operations – which is easier than brute forcing $2^{111}(2^{2k-1})$ keys.

3.7.3 Triple DES

The only approved version of DES uses three keys. The encryption consists of encrypt-decrypt-encrypt (EDE): $C = E(D(E(W, K_1), K_2), K_3)$, which is secure from the meet-in-the-middle attack.

There exists versions where some or all the keys are the same. This reduces safety.

Keep in mind that only triple DES with three independent keys is approved for use. Having only two independent keys is allowed for legacy use only, which means you only use it to decrypt.

3.8 AES

Data blocks are always 128 bits, while the key length (and number of rounds) may vary. Supports 128, 192 and 256bit master key lengths, each requiring 10, 12 or 14 rounds respectively. This makes it a substitution-permutation network with $n = 128$ and $l = 8$. The structure of the AES cipher is a byte-based (not bit based like DES) substitution-permutation network consisting of:

1. initial round key addition (only AddRoundKey stage)
2. (number of rounds - 1) rounds
3. final round. (no MixColumn stage)

AES represents each block as a 4x4 matrix of bytes (128 bits = 16 bytes, which is the reason for the fixed block size), and performs both finite field operations in $GF(2^8)$ and bit string operations:

1. ByteSub (non-linear **substitution**)
 - Using a predefined lookup table (S-box), substitute each matrix cell.
2. ShiftRow (**Permutation, Diffusion**)
 - Leave top row as is.
 - Second row is shifted by 1 byte (AA,BB,CC,DD \rightarrow BB,CC,DD,AA)
 - third row is shifted by 2 bytes
 - fourth row is shifted by 3 bytes
3. MixColumn (**Diffusion**)
 - For every column multiply by, in the field, a predetermined matrix.
4. AddRoundKey
 - For every column, XOR with corresponding column of round key K_i

The keys are also represented as a 4x4 matrix, similar to the blocks. This requires a 128bit subkey to be used in every round. These subkeys are derived from the master key. You'll need (number of rounds + 1) subkeys in total (since you need an initial subkey for the initial round).

3.8.1 Security in AES

No severely dangerous attacks are known yet. If you reduce the number of rounds, security decreases. If an attacker gets hold of cipher text encrypted with a key that has a special relation to the master key, a related key attack is possible. What is a related key attack? This course doesn't know.

4 Block cipher modes of operation

Block ciphers encrypt blocks, but many of them are encrypted sequentially. This is generally insecure. Using different standardised *modes of operation* with different levels of security and efficiency. This can also be used for authentication and integrity.

4.1 Randomized encryption

We can see patterns if the schemes aren't random. Typically this is achieved using an initialization vector IV, which may need to be either random or unique. One can also use a state variable that changes.

4.2 Efficiency

There are several features of the modes that affect its efficiency. These do not affect security, but we would like to encrypt our data before the millennia is over. Features like possibility of parallel processing etc.

4.3 Padding

some modes require the plaintext to consist of only whole blocks. If the plaintext is not a length that is divisible by block length you will need to pad the plaintext to get the desired length.

4.4 Confidentiality modes

4.4.1 Electronic Codebook mode (ECB)

This is dumb because you just take each block, and apply E or D to it using the same key every time.

- Not randomised.
- Padding required.
- We can do parallel encryption/decryption though.
- Errors propagate within blocks.
- No initialization vector IV.

4.4.2 Cipher block chaining mode (CBC)

CBC “chains” the blocks together.

Encryption: $C_t = E(P_t \oplus C_{t-1}, k)$ where $C_0 = IV$

Decryption: $C_t = D(C_t, k) \oplus C_{t-1}$, where $C_0 = IV$

- randomised.
- Padding required.
- Errors propagate within blocks and to specific bits of next blocks
- We can do parallel decryption, no encryption.
- IV must be random

4.4.3 Counter mode (CTR)

A counter and nonce is used. They are initialized by a randomly chosen value N. T_t is the concatenation between the nonce and block number t, $N||t$. $O_t = E(T_t, k)$

This is XORed with the plaintext block.

Encryption: $C_t = O_t \oplus P_t$

Decryption: $P_t = O_t \oplus C_t$

A one bit change in the ciphertext produces a one bit error in the plaintext at the same location

- randomised.
- Padding not required.
- Errors occur in specific bits of the current block
- both parallel encryption and decryption
- Variable, nonce, which must be unique

Good for accessing specific plaintext blocks without decrypting the whole stream.

4.5 Message integrity

How to ensure that the message is not altered in the transmission? We treat message integrity and message authentication as the same thing. This includes preventing an adversary from fucking with your blocks. Message integrity can be provided whether or not encryption is used for confidentiality.

4.5.1 Message Authentication Code (MAC)

A mechanism for ensuring message integrity. On input secret key, K , and an arbitrary length message M , a MAC algorithm outputs a short fixed-length string, T , known as the tag.

$$T = MAC(M, K)$$

Two entities A and B share a common key K , and A wants to send message, M , to B .

- A computes the tag
- A sends the message M and also the tag.
- B recomputes the tag on the received message and checks if the new tag and received tag are equal.

This provides sender authentication to the message, since only A and B knows the key, and are thus the only ones that can produce the tag, T . If A and B makes two different tags, B must conclude that shit happened and the message is fiddled with. If the tags are the same, all is good.

This basic property is called **unforgeability**. It is not feasible to produce a message, M , and a tag, T , such that $T = MAC(M, K)$ without knowing the key, K . This includes the scenario

where the attacker has access to a **forging oracle**, which means that the attacker can insert any message to a function and get the corresponding tag out. (chosen plaintext attacks)

It is not feasible for an attacker to produce a valid forgery.

4.5.2 Basic CBC-MAC (CMAC)

we've only discussed the properties of a MAC, not how the tag is created. CMAC is one way of creating a tag, using a block cipher. This is unforgeable as long as the message length is fixed.

Let M be the message consisting of n blocks. To compute $\text{CBC-MAC}(M, k)$, do:

Algorithm 1: CBC-MAC

Input : Message M , initialization vector IV , Key K

Output: CMAC tag

```
1 for  $t \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
2    $C_t = E(M_t \oplus C_{t-1}, K)$ , where  $C_0 = IV$ 
3 end
4 return  $T = C_t$ 
```

Note that unlike the CBC-mode, the IV has to be fixed and public. A random IV is not secure in this application. E is defined as the encryption for CBC-mode, see sec. 4.4.2.

4.5.3 standardized CBC-MAC

A secure version of CMAC is standardized with some changes from the basic version:

- The original key, K , is used to derive two new keys, K_1 and K_2 .
- One is used in the basic algorithm, the other is XORed into the final message block. Pad if necessary.
- The IV is set to all zeroes.
- The MAC tag is the T_{len} most significant bits of the output.

Choice of T_{len} depends on the degree of security needed. The standard states that 64 bits lets most applications resist guessing attacks. More generally, the standard states that the tag should be at least $\log_2 \frac{I}{R}$ bits long, where I is how many invalid messages that can be detected before you change the key and R is the accepted risk that a false message is accepted.

5 Pseudo random numbers

Random values are important, and are the building blocks of stream ciphers.

5.1 Random numbers

Defining randomness is hard. We would like to get bitstrings that just as random as any other.

Generators of random numbers are divided into categories:

- True random number generators (TRNG)
 - Physical processes which outputs each valid string independently with equal probability
- Pseudo random number generator (PRNG)
 - A deterministic algorithm made to approximate a true random number generator

5.2 True random number generators

NIST has provided a framework for design and validation of TRNGs, called entropy sources. These entropy sources includes a physical source of noise, a sampling process and post processing. The output is any requested number of bits. The standard specified by NIST also includes statistical tests for validating the entropy sources.

5.3 Pseudo random number generators

NIST recommends specific PRNG algorithms named Deterministic random bit generators (DRBG), based on hash functions, HMAC and block ciphers in counter mode (see lec 3). They often use a TRNG to seed the state.

5.3.1 security of a DRBG

The security is defined in terms of the ability of an attacker to distinguish between a PRNG and TRNG. This is measured by two properties:

1. Backtracking resistance
 - An attacker who knows the current state of the DRBG cannot distinguish between earlier outputs.
 - If you see one output, you cannot make sense of, or guess, earlier outputs
2. forward prediction resistance
 - An attacker who knows the current state of the DRBG should not be able to distinguish between later states and the current.

5.4 CTR_DRBG

Uses a block cipher in CTR mode (see lec. 3), such as AES with 128bit keys. The DRBG is initialized with a seed which matches the length of the key and block summed. This seed defines a key, k , which is used in AES. No nonce and CTR value is used, like in normal CTR mode, but rather uses the seed value.

5.4.1 update function in CTR_DRBG

Each request to the DRBG generates of up 2^{19} bits. State must be updated after each request, which is handled by the update function. (K, ctr) must be updated by generating two blocks using the old key to make a new one.

6 Stream ciphers

Stream ciphers are characterise by the generation of a keystream using a short key and an init value as input

Each element of the stream is used successively to encrypt one or more plaintext characters.

Symmetric. Given the same key value, both sender and receiver can encrypt and decrypt the same.

6.1 Synchronous stream ciphers

Simplest kind of stream ciphers, as the keystream is generated independently of the plaintext. Both sender and receiver need the same keystream, and synchronise their position in it. In a way, one can look at the vigenere cipher as a periodic synchronous stream cipher where each shift is defined by a key letter.

6.1.1 Binary synchronous stream cipher

For each time interval, t , each of the following are defined:

- A binary sequence, $s(t)$, called the keystream
- a binary plaintext $p(t)$
- a binary ciphertext $c(t)$

Encryption: $c(t) = p(t) \oplus s(t)$

Decryption: $p(t) = c(t) \oplus s(t)$

6.2 Shannon's definition of perfect secrecy

to define perfect secrecy, consider a cipher with message set M and ciphertext set C . Then $Pr(M_i|C_j)$ is the probability that the message M_i was encrypted given that ciphertext C_j is observed. The cipher achieves perfect secrecy if for all messages and ciphertexts that $Pr(M_i|C_j) == Pr(M_i)$

If we cannot tell whether the message is encrypted with one key or another, and everything is just complete bullshittery guessing - it is a perfect secret.

6.2.1 One time pad using roman alphabet example

Plaintext: HELLO

Keystream: EZABD

Ciphertext: LDLMR

Since the probability of each character in the keystream is equally plausible, the 5-letter ciphertext can equally possibly be every 5-letter string.

6.3 One time pad properties

Any cipher with perfect secrecy must have as many keys as there are messages. In a sense, it is the only unbreakable cipher. But it suffers from key management problems and actually getting completely random keys. Key generations, transportation, sync, destruction and problematic since the keys are possibly very large.

6.4 Visual cryptography

An application of the one time pad is visual cryptography which splits an image into two shares. Decryption works by overlaying the two shared images.

Works by splitting the pixel in a random way, just like splitting a bit in the one time pad. Each split doesn't reveal any info about the image, again like the one time pad.

Encrypting an image:

- generate the one time pad, P , (random string of bits), with length equal to the number of pixels in the image
- Generate an image share, S_1 , by replacing each bit in the random bitstring by using some sub pixel patterns.
- Generate the other image share, S_2 , with pixels as follows:
 - The same as S_1 for all white pixels of the image

- The opposite for all black pixels.

To reveal the hidden images, the two shares are overlaid. Each black pixel is black in the overlay, each white pixel is half-white in the overlay.

6.5 Conclusion

TRNGS can be constructed from physical devices and used as seeds.

PRNGs can be constructed from other primitives like block ciphers.

TRNGs can be use to make unbreakable encryption via one time pad.

PRNGs can be use as practical synchronous stream ciphers

7 More number theory for public key cryptography.

7.1 Chinese remainder theorem

let d_1, \dots, d_r , be pairwise relatively prime and $n = d_1 d_2 \dots d_r$, given any integers c_i there exists a unique integer x with $0 \leq x < n$ such that

$$x \equiv c_1 \pmod{d_1}$$

$$x \equiv c_2 \pmod{d_2}$$

$$x \equiv c_3 \pmod{d_3}$$

...

$$x \equiv c_r \pmod{d_r}$$

7.1.1 Exam question example using chinese remainder theorem:

Given a set of equations on the form $x_i \equiv y_i \pmod{z_i}$

Like stated above, the Chinese remainder theorem can only be used if the set $Z = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$ are pairwise coprime.

Example from exam 2018:

Which of the following pairs of equations can be solved using the chinese remainder theorem?

(a) $x \equiv 3 \pmod{6}$ and $x \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$

(b) $x \equiv 3 \pmod{6}$ and $x \equiv 4 \pmod{10}$

(c) $x \equiv 3 \pmod{7}$ and $x \equiv 4 \pmod{12}$

(d) $x \equiv 3 \pmod{7}$ and $x \equiv 4 \pmod{14}$

Looking at the z values (the moduluses), we see that only 7 and 12 are coprime (answer c). the other options are divisible by 2 (6 and 8, 6 and 10) or a factor of each other (7 and 14).

7.2 Euler function ϕ

For a positive integer n , the euler function $\phi(n)$ denotes the number of positive integers less than n and relatively prime to n .

For example: $\phi(10) = 4$ since 1,3,7,9 are each relatively prime to 10 and less than 10. The set of positive integers less than n and relatively prime to n form the reduced residue class \mathbb{Z}_n^*
 $\mathbb{Z}_n^* = 1, 3, 7, 9$

7.2.1 properties of the euler function $\phi(n)$

1. $\phi(p) = p - 1$ for p prime
2. $\phi(pq) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$ for p and q distinct primes
3. let $n = p_1^{e_1} \dots p_t^{e_t}$ where p_i are distinct primes. Then $\phi(n) = \prod p_i^{e_i-1} (p_i - 1)$ (generalization of point 2)

Example:

$$\phi(15) = \phi(5) * \phi(3) = (5 - 1) * (3 - 1) = 4 * 2 = 8$$

$$\phi(24) = 2^2(2 - 1)3^0(3 - 1) = 8$$

(where $24 = 2^3 * 3$)

7.3 Fermat's theorem

let p be a prime, then $a^{p-1} \mod p = 1$, for all integers a with $1 < a \leq p - 1$.

7.4 Euler's theorem

$a^{\phi(n)} \mod n = 1$, if $\gcd(a, n) = 1$.

When p is prime then $\phi(p) = p - 1$, so Fermat's theorem is a special case of Euler's theorem

7.5 Discrete logarithm problem

let g be a generator for \mathbb{Z}_p^* for a prime p . The discrete log problem is:
given y in \mathbb{Z}_p^* find x with $y = g^x \mod p$.

If p is large enough, this is believed to be a hard problem. Usually RSA-length, 2048 bits.

$$\log_x g^x = x \log_g g = x$$

8 RSA

8.1 Keys

Keys consist of several numbers. You need two random, distinct primes, p and q , the product of these called the modulus, n , a public exponent, e and a private exponent, d .

After choosing two primes of satisfying size, p and q , multiply these to attain n . The size should be at least 1024 bits by today's standards (according to slides.).

Next up is e . It only needs to satisfy $\gcd(e, \phi(n)) = 1$. 3 is the smallest possible value, and is sometimes used. Not recommended as it might introduce security problems. However, 65537 ($2^{16} + 1$, or $2^{2^4} + 1$) is a popular choice. Since it is prime (largest known prime on the form $2^{2^n} + 1$, called a Fermat prime), it satisfies the equation for every n and does not require any additional checking. As an added bonus, this number has just two set bits in binary (10000000000000001). This makes it an easy number to perform arithmetic on.

d is computed as $e^{-1} \bmod(\phi(n))$.

These values make up for the private and public keys for RSA encryption. n and e is the public key, written as $K_E = (n, e)$. p , q and d is the private key, written as $K_D = d$. The values p and q are not used directly in encryption or decryption.

Note that the equation for e , given n and d is similar to the equation for d :

$$d = e^{-1} \bmod(\phi(n)).$$

$$e = d^{-1} \bmod(\phi(n)).$$

Might be useful for an exam.

8.2 Encryption

The input of the encryption is called M , which is a value that is less than n .

$$0 < M < n$$

in order for a message to become M , it needs to be preprocessed by encoding letters to numbers, as well as adding randomness.

The ciphertext, C , is computed as $E(M, K_E) = M^e \bmod n$

8.3 Decryption

The plaintext is retrieved by computing $D(C, K_D) = C^d \bmod n = M$.

RSA decryption can be done more efficiently by utilizing the chinese remainder theorem. Good luck to you, I don't know math.

It achieves up to 4 times speed up sequentially, or 8 times if it is ran in parallel. Because of optimizations like this, you generally want to keep p and q instead of discarding them after generating them – even though they aren't strictly needed for encryption or decryption.

8.4 Example (stolen from slides)

Not using chinese remainder theorem.

let $p = 43$, $q = 59$.

This means $n = pq = 2537$ and $\phi(n) = (p - 1)(q - 1) = 2436$.

let $e = 5$. We assume whoever wrote the slides have checked whether 5 satisfies the equation for e

This means $d = e^{-1} \bmod (\phi(n)) = 5^{-1} \bmod (2436) = 1949$. (by calculating the modular inverse, which totally sucks ass).

Assuming an already preprocessed message, M , with the value 50, the encryption process looks like:

$$C = M^e \bmod (n) = M^5 \bmod (2537) = 2488.$$

Likewise, decryption looks like this:

$$M = C^d \bmod (n) = C^{1949} \bmod (2537) = 50.$$

Note how only publicly known values are used in encryption, while decryption uses the private exponent.

8.5 preprocessing/padding messages

Just encoding each letter to a number offers weak security. This can be observed to create an attack dictionary, or even for a **known plaintext attack**. **Håstad's attack** is also a thing, which is described later. To prevent this, we preprocess the messages by padding to prepare the messages for encryption. These mechanisms must include redundancy and randomness.

8.5.1 PKCS number 1

Table 1: encryption block format

00	02	PS	00	D
----	----	----	----	---

- 00 is a byte
- 02 is a byte
- PS is a string of non-zero, pseudo random bytes. Minimum 8 bytes long.

- D is the data to be encrypted. This is the same length as the modulus, n .

Using this scheme ensure that even short messages result in a big number for encryption.

8.5.2 Optimal Asymmetric Encryption Padding (OAEP)

OAEP is an encoding scheme that is a feistel network. It includes k_0 bits of randomness and k_1 bits of redundancy. It also features the use of two hash functions in the network. This means that small changes in any bit going into the hash functions drastically alters the output. Because of this we say that the scheme features an “all or nothing” security. This means that in order to recover the message, you also need to recover the complete random string included.

Not sure if the algorithm is a big part of the curriculum. So it is left out for now.

Key points:

1. it pads the input to achieve the same as PKCS #1
2. It includes randomness and redundancy
3. because of the hash functions (“all or nothing”), partial messages or other information will not be leaked
4. provides security against chosen ciphertext attacks (and possibly chosen plaintext, not 100% sure)

8.6 Attacks against RSA

A properly set up RSA scheme has pretty good security. Many proposed attacks on RSA are avoided by using standardised padding schemes.

The best known attack against RSA is factorization of n , which is a hard problem. The attack is prevented by choosing a large enough n .

Another candidate is to find the private key from the public key. It is supposedly not feasible, and at least as hard as factorizing n .

Other possibilities are the use of quantum computers, which do not exist yet, and timing attacks, which have countermeasures.

It is an open problem whether it is possible to crack RSA without factorizing n .

In other words, the biggest flaw of RSA isn't the algorithm itself. Key generation flaws due to poor random number generation is often the culprit.

9 Diffie-Hellman key exchange

9.1 Motivation

Discrete log based ciphers are currently the main alternative public key systems, other than RSA.

Designed to allow two users, Alice and Bob, to share a secret using only public communications.

Public knowledge includes:

- Large prime, p
- generator g of \mathbb{Z}_p^*

9.2 Basic protocol

Alice chooses $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ and sends $K_a = g^a \bmod p$ to Bob. Next, Bob chooses $b \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ and sends $K_b = g^b \bmod p$ to Alice.

a and b must satisfy $0 < a, b < p - 1$.

Now both have knowledge of a $Z = (g^b)^a \bmod p$. Z can be used to compute a key for various crypto schemes. It is secure, as the only numbers that are being broadcast are $g^a \bmod p$ and $g^b \bmod p$. To find a and b from this you'd need to solve the discrete logarithm problem, which is hard.

It is rather easy to set up a man in the middle attack for this scheme. Just have the adversary set up keys with both Alice and Bob, and just relay the messages using these keys. Alice and Bob shouldn't be any wiser.

Alice thinks she sends message to Bob, is in reality sending to malicious attacker who constructs K_{ac} . The attacker does the same with Bob and constructs K_{bc} . If Alice wants to send something to Bob, it goes through the attacker using K_{ac} and is passed onto Bob using K_{bc} .

Alice and Bob cannot in reality send messages directly to each other, it has to go through the man in the middle, which can read everything thanks to the keys.

This is fixed by adding digital signatures, see sec. 15 for details on the signatures. The authenticated Diffie-Hellman that fixes this problem is shown in sec. 17.7.

9.3 static and ephemeral Diffie-Hellman

The protocol described above uses *ephemeral keys*: Keys which are used once and then discarded. In a static Diffie-Hellman scheme you'd let each party choose a long-term private key X_a with corresponding key $Y_a = g^{X_a} \bmod p$. If each party has a long term key, they can simply look up each others keys and possibly skip the initial handshake.

10 Elgamal cryptosystem

Turning the Diffie-Hellman protocol into a cryptosystem since 1985

Based on one party having ephemeral keys, while the other has a long-term key. The long-term key works like a public key, while the ephemeral keys are private

Key generation:

- Select a prime p and a generator g of \mathbb{Z}_p^*
- select a long term private key x where $0 < x < p - 1$ and compute $y = g^x \mod p$
- The public key is (p, g, y)

Encryption:

The public key for encryption is $K_E = (p, g, y)$

1. for any value (message) M , where $0 < M < p$
2. choose k at random, and compute $g^k \mod p$
3. $C = E(M, K_E) = (g^k \mod p, M y^k \mod p)$

Decryption:

The private key for encryption is $K_D = x$ with $y = g^x \mod p$

1. let $C = (C_1, C_2)$
2. $D(C_1, K_D) = C_2 \cdot (C_1^x)^{-1} \mod p = M$

10.1 Why does it work?

The sender knows the ephemeral private key k . The receiver knows the static private key x . Both sender and recipient can compute the Diffie-Hellman value for the two public keys $C_1 = g^k \mod p$ and $y = g^x \mod p$. The value $y^k \mod p = C_1^x \mod p$ is used as a mask for the message m that pushes the value to another value in that group.

10.2 Security of Elgamal

The whole system is based on the difficulty of the discrete logarithm problem. If you can solve this problem and find x from $g^x \mod p$, the system is broken. Does not need padding, and does not require unique keys for every user.

11 Elliptic curves

Elliptic curves are algebraic structures formed from cubic equations. But hey, we won't be using elliptic curves in the reals. -Cris Carr

For example:

The set of all (x, y) pairs which satisfy the equation $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b \pmod{p}$. This is a curve over the field \mathbb{Z}_p . Elliptic curves can be defined over any field.

Adding an identity element makes it possible to define binary operations on these curves. Doing so defines elliptic groups.

The discrete log problem can be defined on elliptic curve groups, with the same definition if we define the elliptic curve group with multiplication. The best known algorithm to solve the elliptic curve discrete logarithm problem are exponential with the length of the parameters. Because of this, most elliptic curve implementations use much smaller keys. If we compare this to RSA, the relative advantage of elliptic curve cryptography will increase at higher security levels.

We can use elliptic curves in several cryptosystems, like the Diffie-Hellman key exchange and ElGamal.

12 Identity-based cryptography

TODO

See lecture 9

13 Hash functions

A hash function, H , is a public function such that:

H is simple and fast to compute

H Takes as input a message, m , of arbitrary length and outputs a message digest $H(m)$ of fixed length

Good hash functions show some properties:

1. Collision resistance
 - It should not be feasible to find two different inputs that produces the same output.
 - It's not possible to construct two values that produce the same hash
2. Second-preimage resistance
 - Given a value, it should be infeasible to find a different value that produces the same hash
 - It's not possible to construct a value that produce the same hash as a given value
3. One-way (preimage resistance)

- Given a hash, it should be infeasible to find an input that produce the same hash.
- You cannot find the input, given the output.

13.1 The birthday paradox

If we choose \sqrt{M} values from a set of size M , the probability of getting two identical values (or in this context: hash collision) is about 50%. This is particularly useful in this course to compute how many bits a hash should be in order to be safe.

If a hash function has an output of k bits, and is regarded random to the outside world, then $2^{\frac{k}{2}}$ attempts should yield a collision with a 50% probability. For those, including me, who keeps forgetting math: $\sqrt{2^k} = 2^{\frac{k}{2}}$, so this is all according to the birthday paradox.

Today (the date the slides were made) 2^{128} attempts is considered infeasible, so your hash functions should output at least $2^{\frac{k}{2}} = 2^{128} \rightarrow k = 128 * 2 = 256$ bits in order to be considered collision resistant.

13.2 Iterated hash functions

Just like block ciphers, hash functions also need to be able to handle inputs of all sizes and shapes to produce a fixed size output. Iterated hash functions solve this challenge like the iterated block ciphers did, by splitting the input into fixed sized blocks and repeatedly using the function.

Note that iterated hash functions operate on each block sequentially using the same function.

13.3 Merkle-Damgård construction

Use a fixed-size compression function applied to multiple blocks of the message

A compression function here is defined as a function that takes two n -bit input strings and produces a single n -bit output string.

The Merkle-Damgård construction chains these together. An IV (similar to the ones used in block ciphers) and the first block of a message, m_1 , is input to the compression function. The output is used as the input for the second compression, instead of the IV, in addition to the block, m_2 .

Note that this scheme requires padding, as well as encoding of the length of m . In the last chain of the process, the input is not a message block but the padding and encoded length.

In mathematical notation:

compression function, $h(m_l, h_{l-1}) = h_l$

Merkle-Damgård construction:

$$H(m) = h(PADDING, h_l)$$

$$h_l = h(m_l, h_{l-1}) \text{ where } h_0 = IV$$

13.3.1 Properties of Merkle-Damgård construction

If the compression function, h , is collision-resistant, then the hash function, H , is collision-resistant.

The construction suffers from some weaknesses as well:

1. Once you find a collision, it is easy to find more (length extension attack)
2. second pre-image attacks are not as hard as you'd think (construct a value that produce the same hash as a given value)
3. Collisions for multiple messages can be found without much more difficulty than collisions for 2 messages.

Still, the Merkle-Damgård construction is used in standard and former standard hash functions (MD5, SHA-1, SHA-2)

13.4 Standardized hash functions

Slides lack many implementational details, so I'm guessing its not important for the course. This section only includes some basic key points.

13.4.1 MDx family of hashes

Old and insecure by today's standards. MD2, 4 and 5 have been used in practice, but are all easily broken.

Is based on the Merkle-Damgård construction. They all output 128 bits. Recall the birthday paradox and how many bits were recommended (sec. 13.1).

13.4.2 SHA-0 and SHA-1

Based off of MDx hashes (which makes it a Merkle-Damgård construction), but with added complexity and a bigger output size of 160 bits (weak). Both are broken, but this is quite recent. First attack of SHA-1 was found in 2017.

13.4.3 SHA-2 family

Several versions of SHA-2 exist, hence the term “family of SHA-2 hashes”. They are developed in response to attacks on MD5 and SHA-1. Still a Merkle-Damgård construction.

Table 2: summary of SHA-2 family. Taken from lecture 10 slides of spring 2019.

	Hash size	Block Size	Security Match
SHA-224	224 bits	512 bits	2key 3DES
SHA-512/224	224 bits	1024 bits	2key 3DES
SHA-256	256 bits	512 bits	AES-128
SHA-512/256	256 bits	1024 bits	AES-128
SHA-384	384 bits	1024 bits	AES-192
SHA-512	512 bits	1024 bits	AES-256

The SHA-2 family is still a Merkle-Damgård construction so it needs a padding scheme. First off it needs a field for the message length encoding. This field is 64 bits long if the block length is 512 bits, and 128 bits long if the block length is 1024 bits. After the message length field, there is padding. There is always at least one bit of padding. After the first 1 in the padding, enough 0 are added to get a complete block.

Since the padding requires at least 1 bit of pad and either 64 or 128 bits of encoding, this sometimes results in adding a new block.

13.4.4 SHA-3

The MDx and previous SHA hashes were based on the same design, which has encountered unexpected attacks. The SHA-3 hash is the result of a competition (just like AES), held in 2007-2008. This ended up with a new function that was standardized in 2015 and is NOT based on the Merkle-Damgård construction. It uses a sponge construction, whatever that is.

13.5 HMAC

A MAC constructed from any iterated cryptographic hash function (like SHA256 etc). HMAC is defined as: $HMAC(M, K) = H((K \oplus opad) || H((K \oplus ipad) || M))$

- M: Message to be authenticated

- K : Key padded with zeros to the blocksize of H
- opad: hardcoded string
- ipad: hardcoded string

HMACs are secure if H is collision resistant or if H is a pseudorandom function. It is designed to resist length extension attacks, even if H is a Merkle-Damgård construction (which are vulnerable to such attacks).

HMAC is often used as a pseudorandom function for deriving keys (since they are deterministic but seem random)

14 Authenticated encryption

14.1 Combining encryption and MAC

How do you ensure both confidentiality (no one can read your messages) and integrity (you know the message is from a legitimate sender)? A proposed solution is to split your assumed established shared key, K , into two parts - one for encryption and one to obtain a MAC.

There are three possible ways to combine encryption and MACs:

1. Encrypt-and-MAC

- Encrypt message, apply MAC to message and send the two results
- $C \leftarrow \text{Enc}(M, K_1)$
- $T \leftarrow \text{MAC}(M, K_2)$
- Send $C||T$

2. MAC-then-encrypt

- Apply MAC to message to get tag. Then encrypt message concatenated with tag and send the ciphertext.
- $T \leftarrow \text{MAC}(M, K_1)$
- $C \leftarrow \text{Enc}(M||T, K_2)$
- Send C

3. encrypt-then-MAC

- encrypt message to get ciphertext. Then apply MAC to ciphertext and send the two results
- $C \leftarrow \text{Enc}(M, K_1)$
- $T \leftarrow \text{MAC}(C, K_2)$
- Send $C||T$

Encrypt-then-MAC is the safest of the three. Encrypt-and-MAC is the worst because the MAC cannot guarantee that it won't leak information. MAC-then-encrypt has the same weakness, but

at least it encrypts the MAC.

Some schemes do, however, provide both confidentiality and integrity with one key.

14.2 Modes for Authenticated encryption

There are two types of input data:

- Payload data: both encrypted and authenticated
- Associated data: only authenticated

Both modes of operation use the CTR-mode to add confidentiality, but add integrity in different ways. They also allow some data to be only authenticated, not encrypted, providing **authenticated encryption with associated data** (AEAD). This property is important in newer versions of TLS.

14.2.1 Counter with CBC-MAC mode (CCM)

This mode offers confidentiality for the payload, and authentication for both payload and associated data.

The nonce, N , payload, P and associated data, A needs to be formatted to produce a set of blocks. The format is complex and different implementations exist in different standards. By blindly following the slides, we see that the lengths of N and P are included in the first block. If A is non-zero, it is formatted from the second block up to its length.

After formatting, we compute a T_{len} bits long tag for these blocks. Using normal counter mode, we compute m blocks, where $m = \lceil \frac{P_{len}}{128} \rceil$

Output $C = (P \oplus MSB_{plen}(S)) || (T \oplus MSB_{tlen}(S_0))$,

where $S = S_1, \dots, S_m$,

and $MSB_n(S)$ returns the n most significant bits from S .

14.2.2 Galois Counter mode (GCM)

A problem with CCM is that the formatting of N, A and P requires the length of both A and P . This prevents it from being used in a streaming application. GCM overcomes this limitation. It combines CTR mode on a block cipher, E (AES is a good and common choice), with a hash function called GHASH.

Skipping implementational details.

The receiver receives the ciphertext, C , the nonce, N , the tag, T , and the authenticated data, A . This is all the receiver needs to recompute T and check whether it matches the received T . If it does, the receiver can decrypt C just like in CTR-mode.

This is used in TLS 1.2.

15 Digital signatures

MACs provide data integrity and authentication (is the data tampered with? Is the person you're interacting with who he/she claims?). Generating a MAC tag requires the message, as well as the key. Digital signature provides all the same properties, as well as a few additions. It is a technique that uses **public key** cryptography. Digital signatures provide non-repudiation, which is a legal concept. That means you can say your key was lost to a hacker and whatever malicious actions that key was involved with was not your work.

15.1 Elements of a digital signature scheme

1. Key generation
 - Outputs two keys, **signature generation key**, K_s , and **signature verification key**, K_v .
2. Signature generation
 - outputs a signature, s , given a message and a signing key.
3. Signature verification
 - outputs a boolean, given a message, a verification key and a signature.

15.1.1 signature generation algorithm

Only the owner of the signing key (signature generation key) should be able to generate a valid signature for any message.

Algorithm 2: Signature generation

Input : Message m , signing key K_s

Output: Signature s

15.1.2 signature verification algorithm

Anyone should be able to use the signature verification key to verify a signature.

Algorithm 3: Signature verification

Input : Message m , Verification Key K_v , Signature s

Output: boolean

The verifying function should always return true for matching signing/verification keys (correctness property).

It should be infeasible for anyone without K_s to construct m and s such that the verification returns true.

15.2 Security goals

digital signatures may be broken in different ways

- Key recovery:
 - Recovering the private key from the public key and some known signatures
- selective forgery:
 - The attacker chooses a message and attempts to obtain a signature on that message
- existential forgery:
 - The attacker attempts to forge a signature on any message not previously signed.

Modern digital signatures are only considered secure if they can resist existential forgery under a **chosen plaintext attack**.

15.3 RSA signatures

One way of generating digital signature keys is by using RSA. Just like in the encryption scheme, RSA signatures rely on the difficulty of factorizing primes.

The public verification key becomes (e, n) , where $n = pq$. The signing key is d . RSA signatures also require a hash function, h , which should be a fixed and publicly known parameter of the scheme. The choice hash function is important, as some allow you to prove your security. A full domain hash function (can output all values between 1 to n) or PSS are good choices.

Signature generation takes the message m , the modulus n and the private exponent d as input. The signature s is computed as $h(m)^d \bmod n$.

Signature verification takes the signature and the public key e as input. If $s^e \bmod n = h$ the signature is legit.

RSA signature generation is fast, which is why it sees much use.

15.4 Elgamal signature scheme in \mathbb{Z}_p^*

Signature scheme based on the discrete logarithm problem. It consists of the following keys, given p , a large prime with generator g :

1. Private signing key, x , where $0 < x < p - 1$.

2. Public key, $y = g^x \bmod p$, where y , p and g are public knowledge.

Signature generation:

1. Select random k such that $\gcd(k, p-1) = 1$ and compute
$$r = g^k \bmod p$$
2. Solve equation $s = k^{-1}(m - xr) \bmod (p-1)$
3. return (m, r, s)

Signature verification:

1. verify that $g^m \equiv y^r r^s \pmod{p}$

15.5 Digital signature algorithm (DSA)

Based on the Elgamal signature scheme, but with simpler calculations and shorter signatures. This is due to restricting calculations to a smaller group or to an elliptic curve group.

It is also designed to use with a SHA hash function. Avoids some attacks Elgamal signatures may be vulnerable to.

The prime, p , is chosen such that $p-1$ has a prime divisor, q . The sizes of p and q are denoted L and P , respectively. Note how the size of q is much smaller than p . The generator, g , is replaced with the value $h^{\frac{p-1}{q}} \bmod p$, where h is a generator of \mathbb{Z}_p^* . This implies that g has order q , which in turn means that all exponents in the algorithm can be reduced modulo q before exponentiation – saving precious computation power.

Table 3: valid combinations of L and N in DSA. Some NIST publication does not approve the first choice of parameters.

L	N	to use with
1024 bits	160 bits	SHA-1
2048 bits	224 bits	SHA-224
2048 bits	256 bits	SHA-256
3072 bits	256 bits	SHA-256

Keys:

1. Private signing key, x , where $0 < x < q$.
2. Public key, $y = g^x \bmod p$, where y , p and g are public knowledge.

Signature generation:

1. Select random k such that $0 < k < q$ and compute
$$r = g^k \bmod q$$
2. Solve equation $s = k^{-1}(H(m) - xr) \bmod (q)$, where H is a SHA-family hash function that outputs N bits
3. return (m, r, s)

The returned signature is of size $2N$ bits.

Signature verification:

1. check that $0 < r < q$ and $0 < sq$
2. compute $w = s^{-1} \bmod q$,
$$u_1 = H(m)w \bmod q$$
$$u_2 = rw \bmod q$$
3. verify that $(g^{u_1}y^{-u_2} \bmod p) \bmod q = r$

15.6 Elliptic curve DSA (ECDSA)

Elliptic curve parameters are chosen from a list of NIST approved curves.

Signature generation and verification is the same as in DSA with a few exceptions:

1. q becomes the order of the elliptic curve group.
2. multiplication mod p is replaced by the elliptic curve group operation \cdot .
3. after each operation on a group element, only the x-coordinate is kept.

Signatures generated from ECDSA is generally not shorter than DSA with the same security level. ECDSA signature sizes can vary from 326 to 1142 bits (while DSA signatures are often 448 or 512 bits).

ECDSA have shorter public keys.

16 Certificates and PKI

16.1 Public key infrastructure (PKI)

A public key infrastructure is the key management environment for public key information of a public key cryptographic system

Key management includes generation of cryptographic keys as well as distribution, storage and destruction of these. Many entities spanning several disciplines may be involved, but our focus is technical.

16.2 Digital certificates

Certificates (or certs, for short) are what binds a public key to its owner. Without a cert, you can't **REALLY** be certain that the person on the other side is who he or she claims. This is achieved by having each cert signed by someone trusted by the certificate verifier, the certification authority (CA).

CAs create, issue and revoke certs for subscribers to that CA and other CAs. CAs have a certification practice statement (CPS) covering several issues like legal and privacy issues and checks they perform before a cert is issued.

The X.509 standard is the most widely used standard of digital certificates. Important fields included in this standard includes:

- Version number
- Serial number (set by CA)
- signature algorithm identifier (which algorithm is used for signatures)
- Issuer (name of CA)
- Subject (name of receiver)
- public key information
- validity period
- digital signature of the certificate (signed by CA)

Certificates are verified by checking that the CA signature is valid and that any conditions set in the cert are correct.

17 Key management

Key management includes several aspects:

- Key generation
 - Keys should appear to be random, each key is equally likely to occur
- Key distribution
 - Keys should be distributed to users in a safe manner
- key protection
 - Keys should be accessible when needed, but not to unauthorized users
- key destruction
 - Once a key has done its job, it needs to be destroyed

Keys are usually split into two categories:

1. Long term/static keys
 - Used to protect distribution of session keys

2. Short term/session keys
 - used to protect communications within a session

17.1 Key establishment

Symmetric encryption is usually more efficient than asymmetric. This means that most session keys will be a symmetric key to use with AES etc. Long-term keys can be either symmetric or asymmetric, depending on how distribution is done. It is normal to use RSA to encrypt a symmetric key and send it, so the receiver can retrieve the session key using its own private RSA key - thus removing the need for further RSA communication.

There are three common ways to establish keys between parties:

1. pre distribution
2. asymmetric long-term keys
3. online server with symmetric long-term keys

When evaluating the security of a key distribution protocol we look at the following properties:

- Authentication
 - no masquerading allowed. If you think you share a key with another party, B, it is never the case that it is actually shared with the party C
- Confidentiality
 - An attacker is not able to see the session key of the victim

A protocol is broken if an attacker can tell the difference between a session key and a random string.

We assume all attackers are crypto-experts that can eavesdrop on all messages, alter any message using available information, re-route any message and obtain any session key used in a previous session.

17.2 Authentication

If both parties of the key establishment achieve authentication, we say the protocol provides mutual authentication.

If only one party achieves authentication, it is called unilateral authentication. This is often the case in real life applications, where only the server authenticates itself to the client. Client authentication often happens later, if need be.

17.3 Key pre-distribution

A trusted authority (TA) generates and distributes keys to all users when they join the system. Various schemes exist from generating a key for every user pair, to probabilistic schemes that guarantee a high probability that you'll have the keys you need. The TA only operates in the pre-distribution phase, and can go to sleep afterwards.

Generally this scales very poorly.

17.4 Key distribution using asymmetric cryptography

This method requires no online trusted authority, but uses public keys for authentication. A PKI is usually required to manage the public keys. The users generate their own session keys. We look at two methods, which is both offered within TLS:

17.4.1 Key transport

One user chooses key material and sends it encrypted for the other party. May also be signed by the sender. This does not provide forward secrecy.

17.4.2 Key agreement

Both parties provide input for the keying material generation. It is common to provide authentication by signing messages here. Diffie-Hellman is an example of a commonly used key agreement protocol.

17.5 Session key distribution with online server/Needham-Schroeder

These methods rely on an online TA that holds keys for every user. There is complete faith in the server, and the security of the whole system depends on it. It breaks if the server goes down, or if the server itself is malicious/attacked. Scalability might also become a problem.

An example of such a method: A server has long-term shared keys with each user, allowing each user to securely communicate with it. In order to obtain a session key from parties A to B, the following steps are completed:

0. A and B are already in the system, meaning the server has a long term key for both parties, K_A and K_B .
1. A sends a request to the server for a session key with B. This request includes info to identify A and B, as well as a unique nonce, N_A . The nonce is used for security checking later.

2. The server responds with a message encrypted with K_A . It contains a session key that works between A and B, as well as the original request, including N_A , to enable A to verify the request was not altered. It also contains the session key and the identifier of A, encrypted with K_B , so only B can read it.
3. A needs to send the last part of the message to B, since only B can decrypt it.

After B decrypts the received message, both parties have received the symmetric key in a secure manner. Two more steps are often also desired, as they add authentication.

4. Using the new session key, B sends A a unique nonce.
5. A replies with the result of a transformation on the received nonce (adding one for example)

This protocol is called the **Needham-Schroeder protocol**

17.5.1 Fixing the Needham-Schroeder protocol

Needham-Schroeder has an unfortunate vulnerability to replay attacks, where the attacker is able to replay old messages to make the honest party accept an old session key.

Assuming the attacker gets hold of an old session key sent from the server and nonce in stage 2, it can masquerade as party A to persuade B to use the old key. Unless B keeps track of used nonces, it shouldn't notice a thing.

To defend against this, we need keys to be “fresh” (new) for each session. There are three main ways of accomplishing this:

1. nonces / “random challenges”
2. timestamps
3. counters

Fixing the problem using nonces requires B to send A a nonce, N_B , which A includes in its initial request to the server. The server replies in the normal way, including the nonces, key and a part that is meant for B, encrypted using the public key of B. Finally, A sends the part of the reply meant for B to B. B can then verify the nonce it started the protocol with.

similar fixes can be done using timestamps and counters, as it is easy to check whether these are old or not.

17.6 Forward secrecy

Forward secrecy is a property that describes whether leaking a long-term key fucks you up or not. If a leaked long term key (used for key generation) compromises session keys made before the long-term key was lost, you do not have forward secrecy. If only future session keys, made after the long-term key was leaked, are compromised then you have forward secrecy.

RSA-based handshakes in TLS does not provide forward secrecy.

Signed Diffie-Hellman handshakes and ciphersuites in TLS does provide forward secrecy. This is because the long-term keys are only used for authentication.

17.7 Authenticated Diffie-Hellman

The authenticated Diffie-Hellman is a small addition to the basic protocol described in sec. 9.2. We assume all parties know the verification keys of the other parties.

After Bob has received g^a and is going to reply with g^b , Bob adds a signature of $B||A||g^b||g^a$ to the reply. When Alice receives this, she verifies the signature received. If it is valid, she computes the key in the normal fashion. If not, the protocol is aborted.

After computing the key, Alice signs $B||A||g^a||g^b$ and sends it to Bob. Now Bob verifies the signature and calculates the key if it is valid, and aborts otherwise.

This provides forward secrecy because the long-term keys are only used for authentication.

17.8 Kerberos

Kerberos aims to provide secure network authentication in an insecure network environment. It features a single-sign on solution to selectively provide services using individual tickets. It establishes session keys to deliver confidentiality and integrity.

Kerberos is divided into three levels:

17.8.1 Level 1 - authentication server

A client, C , interacts with the authentication server, AS in order to obtain a ticket-granting ticket. This happens once for a session.

The client sends identifying information about itself and the ticket-granting server (TGS) it wishes to communicate with, as well as a nonce.

Request = ID_C, ID_{TGS}, N_1 , where ID_C and ID_{TGS} is the identity of the client and TGS, respectively.

The authentication server replies with a symmetric key $K_{C,TGS}$, as well as the original message, encrypted with the public key of C , similar to Needham-Schroeder. The nonce is used to check that the key is fresh, like in Needham-Schroeder. A ticket is also received in this stage.

Response = $\{K_{C,TGS}, ID_{TGS}, N_1\}_{K_C}, ticket_{TGS}$

Tickets allow clients to access a server within a validity period, and contain information about the client, the symmetric key to use and the validity period.

$ticket_{tgs} = \{K_{C,TGS}, ID_C, T_1\}_{K_{tgs}}$, where K_{tgs} is a long term key shared between AS and TGS and T_1 is a validity period

The ticket, $ticket_{tgs}$, is used to obtain different service-granting tickets from the ticket-granting server.

17.8.2 Level 2 - ticket-granting server

The client, C , interacts with the ticket-granting server, TGS , in order to obtain a service ticket. This happens once for each server during the session.

Pretty much the same thing, except we identify an application server, V , instead of a TGS . Initial request sends the identity of V , ID_V , a new nonce, N_2 , the ticket from the previous level and a so-called authenticator.

The authenticator includes your identity as well as a timestamp, encrypted with the symmetric key $K_{C,TGS}$. The queried TGS checks that this timestamp is recent, and that your identity is authorized to access the requested service.

$$Authenticator_{TGS} = \{ID_C, TS_1\}_{K_{C,TGS}}$$

$$Request = ID_V, N_2, ticket_{tgs}, authenticator_{tgs}$$

If the checks performed by TGS show a green light, a normal Needham-Schroeder-esque response is received: A key to communicate with V , $K_{C,V}$ and the original request, encrypted using the symmetric key obtained from the previous level, $K_{C,TGS}$, and a new ticket for V .

$$Response = ID_C, ticket_V, \{K_{C,V}, N_2, ID_V\}_{K_{C,TGS}}$$

The ticket, $ticket_v$, is used to access a specific server V .

17.8.3 Level 3 - application server

The client, C , interacts with the application server, V , in order to obtain a service. This happens once for each time the client requires service during a session.

We already have access to V after level 2. We send our ticket, $ticket_V$, and a new authenticator with a new timestamp to the server.

$$Authenticator_V = \{ID_C, TS_2\}_{K_{C,V}}$$

$$Request = ticket_V, authenticator_V$$

In response the server sends back the timestamp encrypted using the symmetric key from the previous level. This reply intends to provide mutual authentication so the client, C , can check it is using the right service, V .

$$Response = \{TS_2\}_{K_{C,V}}$$

17.8.4 Limitations

Kerberos does support different “realms”, this means having multiple authentication servers that run provide different services. Despite this, scalability is an issue. Because of this kerberos is best suited for corporate environments with shared trust.

It is possible to guess passwords when the client key, K_C , is derived from a human memorable password.

The Kerberos standard does not specify how to use the session keys/tickets after their establishment. This allows for unsecure implementations.

18 TLS

Is one of the most widely used security protocol of today.

It is the successor of SSL, which is now advised against, and is still being developed - the newest version, TLS 1.3, was released in 2018. TLS is based on the use of a PKI and is often used to establish secure sessions with web servers, among other things. The design goal is to secure reliable end-to-end services over TCP, using TCP (although UDP-variants exist).

Even though TLS 1.3 is released, the most supported version is 1.2.

TLS consists of three higher level protocols:

1. TLS Handshake protocol to set up secure sessions
2. TLS alert protocol to signal events such as failures
3. TLS change cipher spec protocol to change the cryptographic algorithms in use

As well as the TLS record protocol which provides basic services to the higher level protocols.

18.1 Record protocol

The record protocol aims to provide two services for TLS connections, that we have discussed earlier in the course:

1. Message confidentiality:
 - message contents cannot be read in transit
2. message integrity:
 - detect tampering with messages

These services are provided by a symmetric encryption scheme and a MAC. Later TLS-versions (1.2+) also offer these services by using authenticated encryption modes (CCM and GCM, see sec. 14.2). Necessary keys are set up by the handshake protocol.

The record protocol format contains a header describing the type and length of the content, as well as a specification of which TLS version in use. Legal types include:

- change-cipher-spec
- alert
- handshake
- application-data

After the header comes an encrypted part containing the message, optionally compressed (compression removed in version 1.3, due to CRIME 2012 attack), and a MAC field in case authenticated encryption is not used.

The record protocol splits each application layer message in blocks of 2^{14} bytes or less.

18.1.1 Cryptographic algorithms in TLS

MAC:

The HMAC scheme is used to provide integrity in TLS, with an agreed-upon hash functions - SHA2 is only allowed in TLS 1.2+ - MD5 and SHA-1 not allowed in TLS 1.3

Encryption:

An agreed-upon block cipher in CBC-mode or stream cipher is used. Most commonly AES.

- RC4 and 3DES is supported in TLS 1.2
- Both removed from TLS 1.3 (in order to avoid a handful of attacks)

Authenticated encryption:

Using authenticated encryption is also allowed from TLS 1.2, replacing the MAC and encryption algorithm. In TLS 1.3, the only allowed configuration is AES in CCM or GCM modes. Authenticated additional data is the header and implicit record sequence number.

18.2 Handshake protocol

All above mentioned “agreed-upon” algorithms, as well as which version of TLS to use, is decided in the handshake. The handshake also establishes a shared session key to use in the record protocol, authenticates the server and finally completes session establishment. Some times it also authenticates the client, but it is not always required.

There are several variants:

- RSA
- Diffie-Hellman

- pre-shared key
- mutual authentication or server-only authentication

TLS 1.3 simplifies this process (whew!).

The handshake is split into four phases:

- phase 1: initiate the connection and establish security capabilities (determine algorithms, versions etc)
- phases 2 and 3: Key exchange. How this is done depends on the outcome of phase 1.
- phase 4: finalize the setup of the secure connection.

18.2.1 Phase 1 - “hello”

Client and server negotiate TLS version, cipher suite and nonces to be used in compression and key exchange. This consists of two messages:

First a client “hello” which states the highest version of TLS available as well as which ciphersuites are available. Also sends client nonce, N_c .

Afterwards, the server responds with a “hello” that returns the servers’ selection of version and ciphersuite from the list sent by the client. Also sends server nonce, N_s , to client.

18.2.2 Phase 2 - Server

Server sends its certificate (obtained by a CA) to client, as well as its input to the key exchange algorithm (server key exchange). If the negotiated scheme includes client authorization, request the clients’ certificate.

18.2.3 Phase 3 - Client

Client responds by sending its input to the key exchange algorithm (client key exchange). If requested by the server, also send own certificate. Verify server’s cert with CAs public key. This public key is assumed to be available, as its often shipped with your web browser etc.

18.2.4 Phase 4 - start of communications, summary of handshake

Finalizing the handshake, both the server and client switches to the ciphersuite negotiated earlier. Both also sends a checksum of the previous messages so both can verify it is correct.

18.2.5 TLS Ciphersuites

TLS ciphersuites specify which algorithms to use, both for key establishment as well as the later authenticated encryption and key generation. There are a literal fuck ton of suites to choose from, and many are bad. TLS 1.3 have removed a bunch, and requires all ciphersuites to be AEAD (see sec. 14.2)

An example of a ciphersuite is `TLS_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA`. This unholy abomination means:

- The key exchange will use RSA for encryption
- 3DES in CBC mode will be used for encryption of secure communications
- SHA-1 will be used in HMAC

The first part denotes the handshake algorithm, the second part denotes (authenticated) encryption scheme and the third part denotes the means of achieving integrity (key deriving or hash function) ?

18.3 Ephemeral Diffie-Hellman handshake

This is one of several variants of the TLS handshake protocol.

The server key exchange sends the generator, group parameters and the server ephemeral value to be used in Diffie-Hellman. All of these values are signed by the server.

The client key exchange sends the client ephemeral Diffie-Hellman value, which might be signed depending on whether client certification is used or not.

Pre-master secret, *pms*, is the shared Diffie-Hellman secret.

18.4 RSA handshake

The server key exchange is not a thing in RSA handshake.

The client key exchange sends the pre-master secret, *pms*, by selecting a random value for it and encrypting it with the server's public key. The server then retrieves *pms* by decrypting it using its own private key.

18.5 Other variants

(Static) Diffie-Hellman can be used with certified keys. Should the client not have a cert (which often is the case browsing the internet), then the client uses an ephemeral Diffie-Hellman key.

Another variant is the anonymous Diffie-Hellman. Here the ephemeral keys are not signed, which means they are only protected against passive eavesdropping.

18.6 Generating session keys

To generate session keys, a master secret, ms , is needed. This is defined using the pre-master secret, pms , as:

$$ms = PRF(pms, \text{"master secret"}, N_c || N_s)$$

All “keying material”, k , are generated from ms by using:

$$k = PRF(ms, \text{"key expansion"}, N_s || N_c)$$

Session keys are partitioned from k in each direction (write key || read key). Depending on ciphersuite the keying material, k , can be an encryption key, a MAC key, an IV etc.

The function **PRF** (pseudorandom function) used above is built from HMAC with a specified hash function. Older TLS versions (1.0, 1.1) used MD5 and SHA-1, but newer (1.2+) uses SHA-2.

18.7 Alert protocol

The alert protocol is there to allow signals to be sent between peers. These signals are mostly used to inform the peer about the cause of a protocol failure. Some of these signals are used internally by the protocol and the application protocol does not have to cope with them, and others refer to the application protocol solely. An alert signal includes a level indication which may be either fatal, close_notify or warning (under TLS1.3 all alerts are fatal). Fatal alerts always terminate the current connection, and prevent future re-negotiations using the current session ID.

The alert messages are protected by the record protocol, thus the information that is included does not leak. Improper handling of alert messages can be vulnerable to truncation attacks.

18.8 Attacks on TLS

TLS 1.3 is the newest and safest version of TLS, which aimed to remove unnecessary/unsafe things and boost performance while retaining backwards compatibility. Sadly, TLS 1.3 isn't universally supported yet so unsafe features are still used (like unsafe ciphers).

18.8.1 BEAST

BEAST (Browser Exploit Against SSL/TLS) exploits non-standard use of IV in CBC mode (see sec. 4.4.2). This attack allows the attacker to retrieve the plaintext.

No longer considered a threat, as TLS 1.1 only allows random IVs and browsers implement mitigation strategies against it.

18.8.2 CRIME and BREACH

These attacks target the fact that compression leaks information. CRIME targets optional compression in TLS and BREACH target compression in HTTP. Mitigated by not using compression, in fact TLS1.3 removed the option to have compression.

18.8.3 POODLE

A padding oracle is a way for an attacker to know if a message in a ciphertext was correctly padded. CBC mode encryption may act as a padding oracle due to its error propagation. This can be applied to attacks on TLS, and is mostly mitigated by having a uniform error response so the attacker doesn't know what kind of error occurred.

POODLE (Padding Oracle on Downgraded Legacy Encryption) forces downgrade to SSL3.0 (which is deprecated) during the handshake by stating it as the highest available version and then does a padding oracle attack.

18.8.4 Heartbleed

A bug that could be exploited, which is now fixed. Due to some missing boundary checks in the heartbeat messages that checks if the connection is still active, the server could leak memory that could contain session- and long-term keys.

18.8.5 Man-in-the-middle attacks

These attacks rely on issuing a new certificate and installing a root certificate in the browser. The ad/bloatware/malware company Superfish had a scandal in 2015, called the "Lenovo incident". Some Lenovo computers were pre-installed with Superfish software that included an unsafe, universal certificate authority signed by itself which would allow Superfish to put ads on encrypted websites.

This backfired the hell out of this world and allowed everyone to eavesdrop and tamper with encrypted traffic from these computers.

18.9 TLS 1.3

Some changes from TLS 1.2 to 1.3 have been already mentioned. For your viewing pleasure, a more readable and complete list is presented:

Things removed:

- Static RSA key exchange

- Diffie-Hellman key exchange
- session renegotiation
- SSL negotiation
- DSA
- Compression
- non-AEAD ciphersuites (sec. 14.2)
- MD5 hash
- SHA-224 hash
- change cipher spec protocol
- shittons of ciphersuites and encryption algorithms.
 - TLS 1.2 supported 319 suites
 - TLS 1.3 only allows 5
- PRF
 - TLS 1.3 introduced a new way of deriving keys called HKDF (HMAC-based Key Derivation Function)

Things changed/added:

- Handshake is cleaned up and more efficient
- ONLY AEAD ciphersuites
- added new cipher and mac algorithms
- separate key agreement and authentication algorithms in ciphersuites
- Encrypted messages in handshake
- 0-RTT mode (fast handshake given a pre-shared key, no forward secrecy yet. This is unfortunate)
- backwards compatibility (which adds *a lot* of complexity)

19 Email security

The following sections about email security might be a bit verbose. This is because the lecturer hinted towards the exam requiring deeper knowledge than the slides provide about these subjects.

Even though TLS mostly has our back, Emails still tend to be sent without any security measures. Despite instant messaging, instagram and god knows what kids do these days, emails still make up for a big part of all electronic communications.

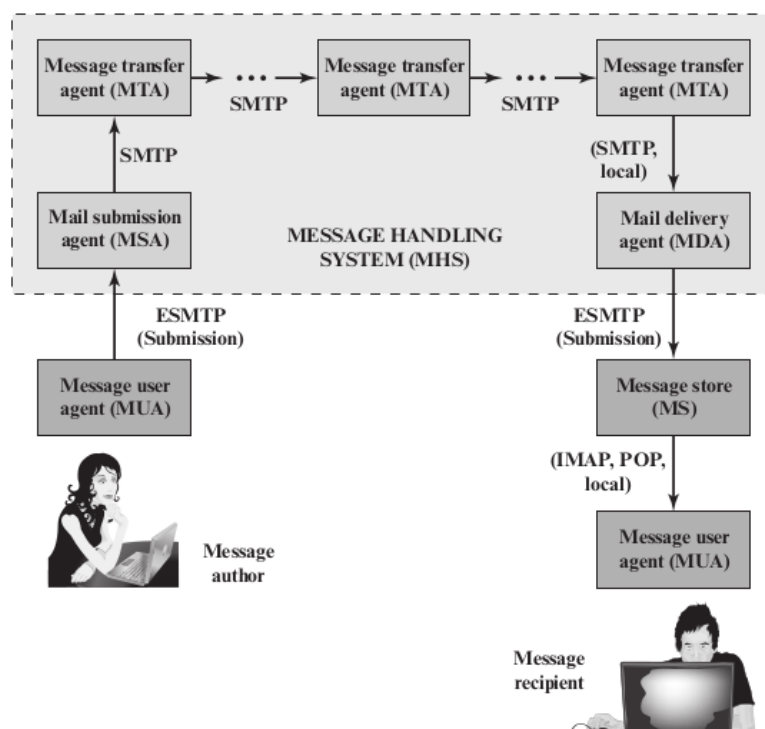


Figure 1: Architecture of email. Stallings, “Cryptography and Network Security”

When evaluating security in email systems, we consider the usual confidentiality, authentication and integrity categories. The availability of the email service itself may also be threatened.

We usually think about security between agents on a link-by-link basis as well as security between clients on an end-to-end basis. Both have pros and cons, and using both provides the best security.

20 Link security

The following two techniques are widely used today by big email services. Gmail stated it was able to use STARTTLS (sec. 20.2) on 92% of both incoming and outgoing emails (feb 2019) and DKIM (sec. 20.1) on 83% of incoming mails (april 2015).

20.1 DKIM

The DomainKeys Identified Mail specification allows each domain (gmail, outlook etc) to sign outgoing mail using RSA. Receiving domains can verify this signature. This helps prevent

spoofing, which in turn reduces spam and phishing scams. The verification key of the sending domain is retrieved using DNS.

DKIM aims to provide an email authentication scheme that is transparent to the user. The sending domain automatically signs outgoing email and the receiving domain verifies it. Should the verification fail, the email is discarded and the user will never see it. The verification will fail if an email states it is from one place, but in reality it is from another. No part of this scheme requires user interaction.

Both headers and messages are signed, Unlike S/MIME (see sec. 21.2) where only the message content is signed. Another difference from S/MIME is that DKIM applies to all mail from domains that use it. S/MIME depends on whether each user uses it or not (and few people do).

Basic message processing is divided between a signing ADministrative Management Domain (ADMD). A message is signed by the originating ADMD, and verified at the delivering ADMD. In reality, there may be more ADMDs in the path between the originating and delivering ADMDs, called relaying ADMDs.

The signing ADMDs signs a message by adding a new header field containing the signature, using private information from a key store.

The verifying ADMD verifies the signature using public information and if the signature passes, the signers' reputation information is passed onto the filtering system. If the verification fails, or the signature is missing, information about how the sender signs is gathered and examined. If a mail from gmail, that should be signed, is found without a signature, then you can consider it fraudulent.

20.2 STARTTLS

The astute reader may have noticed the names on the arrows in fig. 1. These are protocols used to transfer mails between different entities. STARTTLS introduce extensions to these protocols, STMP, POP, IMAP, to run over TLS connections. This provides non-repudiaton, confidentiality and integrity for the messages between each link (link-by-link security).

Note that this does not provide end-to-end protection.

STARTTLS only uses TLS when possible, so it is vulnerable to a so-called STRIPTLS attack. This is where the attacker interrupts the TLS negotiation causing the system to fall back to plaintext transmission.

21 End to end security

21.1 PGP - Pretty good privacy

PGP protect the contents of emails. It offers authentication, integrity, non-repudiation and confidentiality of the message body.

A random session key is generated for each message, and this key is encrypted using the long-term public key of the recipient (asymmetric encryption). The messages themselves are encrypted using symmetric encryption using the session key. OpenPGP requires support for Elgamal and recommends support for RSA encryption as well for the asymmetric algorithm. The symmetric algorithm requires support for 3DES with three keys (168 bits), but recommends AES-128 and CAST5. Definitions for other algorithms also exist.

The messages are optionally signed using RSA or DSA signatures, then compressed using zip to a base64 encoding to ensure compatibility. RSA signed messages are hashed using SHA1, which is has required support by the standard), or SHA2. Compression happens before encryption. Encryption can be applied independently of signing, i.e. there is no requirement of authenticated encryption.

21.1.1 “Web of Trust”

Each user generate their own public/private keys, and distribute the public keys to key servers. Key servers talk to each other, ensuring that your key will be available to everyone eventually. Any PGP user can sign another user’s public key to indicate their level of trust. Any user can revoke their own keys by signing a revocation certificate and sending to key server. Key servers then revoke your key across all servers.

21.1.2 Usability

A problem with PGP is the amount of understanding a user should have. Average Joes may not understand the theory behind PGP and thus use it in an unsafe manner.

Vulnerabilities like EFail use pieces of HTML code to trick users to reveal encrypted messages.

Despite this, the amount of users (or active keys, at least) is rising. PGP is getting easier to use too, with plugins for popular mail clients being available.

21.1.3 Criticism

The OpenPGP standard still use outdated algorithms like SHA1 and CAST, and does not support newer and/or safer algorithms like SHA3 and authenticated encryption like GCM.

The message contents are well protected but a lot of metadata is being leaked, such as recipients, file length and algorithm used.

OpenPGP does not support streaming mode or random access decryption. This means that you have to wait till you have received the entire message before decrypting. You can also not decrypt part of a message, you can only decrypt it in its entirety

21.2 S/MIME

Secure/multipurpose internet mail extensions (S/MIME) offers similar security features to PGP. It does, however, use a different format for messages, for example by including the sender's public key with each message (which is used to verify the message).

Another difference is that S/MIME does not use a web of trust, instead it requires X.509 format certificates (see sec. 16.2) issued by CAs. Because of this, NIST recommends S/MIME over PGP, as they are more confident in the CA system. S/MIME is also supported by most popular mail clients.

21.2.1 Authentication

Authentication is provided through a digital signature, most commonly RSA with SHA-256.

1. The sender creates a message
2. SHA-256 is used to generate a 256-bit hash of the message
3. the hash is encrypted with RSA using senders private key, append result and identifying information to the message. (so the receiver can retrieve the signers' public key)
4. The receiver uses RSA with the senders' public key to obtain the hash.
5. The receiver hashes the received message and checks if it matches the decrypted hash.

Because of the strength of both SHA-256 and RSA, the recipient can be confident that the one with the matching private key generated the signature and that no one else could generate a message that matches the hash of it.

The signature is not always appended to the message, as detached signatures are supported. This is useful in settings where there are several parties that need to sign the same document, as well as in security settings where a user wants to keep a separate signature log or even detect virus infections in executables.

21.2.2 Confidentiality

Messages are encrypted, usually with AES in CBC with a 128 bit key. Every symmetric key in S/MIME is used only once, as a new one is generated for every message. The symmetric key is

sent with the message, encrypted with something safe like RSA.

1. Sender generates message and a random 128 bit number to be used as a symmetric key
2. message is encrypted using symmetric key
3. Symmetric key is encrypted with RSA using recipients public key and attached to message
4. receiver uses RSA with its private key to recover the symmetric key
5. use symmetric key to decrypt message

The choice of using both asymmetric and symmetric encryption is one of performance. Assuming a large block of content, symmetric decryption is much faster. But symmetric encryption requires key distribution, which is solved using the random number key that is passed with the message. Since each message is one-time and independent, we do not require a handshake or session-key exchange, which strengthens the security.

21.2.3 Confidentiality and Authentication

Both methods mentioned above can be used on the same message, in any order. Both orders have pros and cons.

If signing is done first, the identity of the signer is hidden by the encryption. Also, for third party verification, the third party won't have to bother with the symmetric key encryption when verifying the signature.

If encryption is done first, it is possible to verify a signature without exposing the message content. This is useful for automatic verification, as no private keys are needed to verify the signature.

21.2.4 Compression

S/MIME also offers the ability to compress the message, to preserve bandwidth or storage space. Compression can be done in any order with respect to the signing and encryption operations, as long as you compress before signing if you use a lossy compression algorithm. It is advised against compressing binary data, as you'd probably not get much out of it.

21.2.5 Content types

S/MIME define four message content types:

1. Data - message
2. SignedData - apply a digital signature to message
3. EnvelopedData - Encrypted content of any kind, as well as necessary keys
4. CompressedData - apply compression to a message

The first type, data, is encapsulated in the others. The other content types feature specific formats that allow S/MIME compliant systems to handle them, by encapsulating the other types.

It is possible to do something called **clear signing**, which is a procedure that adds safety to emails, even though the recipient does not implement S/MIME. This is done by signing the data message, and then sending the message and signature as a multipart MIME(normal email format) message.

22 IPsec

Internet protocol security (IPsec) is a framework for ensuring secure communications over IP networks

It provides similar features as TLS, but at a lower layer in the protocol stack, meaning it adds protection for any higher level protocol like TCP and UDP.

Compatible with both IPv4 and IPv6.

IPsec offers the following security services:

- Message confidentiality
 - by encryption
- Message integrity
 - by MAC
- Traffic analysis protection
 - hard for someone monitoring the network to determine who is communicating with whom, how often and how much data.
 - By concealing IP datagram details
- Message replay protection
 - Same data is not delivered multiple times, and data is not delivered badly out of order
- Peer authentication
 - Each IPsec endpoint confirms the identity of another endpoint it wants to communicate with
 - ensures that network traffic is sent from the expected source

As an added bonus, IPsec is transparent to both applications and end-users, so you don't need to alter any software on an end-users computer when IPsec is implemented in the firewall or router. The end-user doesn't have to do anything differently.

22.1 Gateway-to-gateway architecture

This architecture provides secure communications between two networks. The traffic is routed through an IPsec connection (firewall, router etc) which protects it. This only protects the data between the two gateways, so it is often used to connect two already secured networks over the internet. This can be less costly than private WAN circuits.

22.2 Host-to-gateway architecture

This architecture is used to provide secure remote access. The organization deploys a VPN gateway on their network, which each remote access user can establish a VPN connection to. This is useful to connect hosts on unsecure networks to the resources of a secured network.

22.3 Host-to-host architecture

This architecture is used for special needs, such as remote management of a single host. Only this architecture provides protection for data throughout its transit (end-to-end). This is a costly architecture to implement and maintain, as it requires sometimes manual management of every host, user and key.

22.4 Protocols

Authentication Header (AH) provides authentication, integrity and replay protection. It is deprecated and should not be used. Our focus will be on **ESP** instead.

Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP) provides the same as AH with the addition of confidentiality. Which services ESP offers depends on how the security association is set up as well as the location in the network topology.

An IPsec connection uses either AH or ESP.

Internet Key Exchange (IKE) negotiates, creates and manages session keys in security associations.

A security association is a one-way connection between a sender and a receiver that supports security services on the traffic carried on it. It contains info needed by an IPsec endpoint to support the IPsec connection. This info can include things like keys, algorithms, expiration dates for keys, security protocol identifier (AH or ESP) and a **security parameter index (SPI)**. The SPI is used to associate a packet with the appropriate security association. As stated above, Security associations are unidirectional, which means you need one for incoming and outgoing traffic for every connection.

22.5 Modes

Both AH and ESP support two modes: **transport mode** and **tunnel mode**. We will only consider the ESP variants for each, because AH is dumb.

Transport mode preserves the original IP header of the packet and protects the payload. It protects the data by padding the data with the ESP trailer. After padding, the SA can encrypt the data and trailer. An ESP header containing the SPI is added in front of the encrypted data. If the SA uses authentication, a MAC will be calculated and added to the back. This block is called the ESP Auth, since it is used to verify the authenticated blocks (ESP header, trailer and data). Finally, the original IP header needs some slight modifications:

- change protocol field from TCP to ESP
- Length field must be recalculated to reflect the added ESP blocks
- checksums must be recalculated

This is mostly used in host-to-host architectures.

Tunnel mode encapsulates the entire original IP packet (header AND data), instead of just the data. Except for this, it is very similar to transport mode, with the padding, encryption and optional authentication. Keep in mind that the padding pads both the ip header and data, so both can be encrypted. The MAC includes the ip header as well. Since the IP header is encrypted and hidden, we need a new one. A new outer IP header is added, which may contain distinct addresses such as security gateways (to enter a network, where the inner IP address is valid). The protocol field is set to ESP. The original IP header is left unmodified.

This is mostly use in gateway-to-gateway architectures

In the words of a smart friend:

tunnel: døtte hele ip pakka inn i en ny ip pakke, ofte brukt med gateway-gateway
transport: døtter payloaden av ip pakka, bruker eksisterende ip header

22.6 Attacks

Attacks against ESP without authentication exist, which caused the new 2005 version of IPsec to not require support for encryption-only mode. Still supported for legacy reasons.

ESP encrypts before MAC, which is safe, but AH MACs before encryption. Attacks against this is known.

22.7 Use cases

In some cases, TLS will be best suited to provide protection, while IPsec will be best in other cases. Consider the following scenario (mildly adapted from worksheet 7, 2019):

You have two applications on your server, which you want to secure with independent keys and different security services. Should you use IPsec in a host-to-gateway architecture or TLS?

IPSec with host-to-gateway architecture only protects traffic between the host and the gateway. This means there will be unsecure traffic between the gateway and the application server. You'd also maybe have difficulties configuring each applications security features with IPsec. TLS allows you to set up different certificates and ciphersuites for each application, which solves the problem.

You want to secure a server which has a number of applications and you may want to add new applications in the future without changing the security settings. Should you use IPsec in a host-to-gateway architecture or TLS?

IPSec with host-to-gateway architectures provides the security services needed for this scenario. It provides security for all the IP traffic between the host and the gateway, so any applications running on the host will be protected - removing the need to change settings when adding apps. Note that end-to-end security will not be provided in this way, using only ipsec with host-to-gateway.

If we chose to use TLS here, we'd have to set up the protocol and certificates for every application