

**GRIFFITH COLLEGE DUBLIN**  
**QUALITY AND QUALIFICATIONS IRELAND**  
**EXAMINATION**

**POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN SCIENCE IN COMPUTING**  
**INFORMATION SECURITY**  
**Module Code: PGDC-IS**

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTING**  
**INFORMATION SECURITY**  
**Module code: MSCC-IS**

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**Date: 9<sup>th</sup> August 2024**

**Time: 2.15-5.15**

**THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF FIVE QUESTIONS**  
**FOUR QUESTIONS TO BE ATTEMPTED**  
**ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS**

**THE USE OF NON PROGRAMMABLE CALCULATORS IS PERMITTED**  
**AN APPENDIX CAN BE FOUND AT THE END OF THE EXAM PAPER**

## QUESTION 1

- (a) Analyse different reasons why DES was no longer suitable for evolving security requirements. Outline changes needed to be introduced in encryption systems.

(6 marks)

- (b) Use Playfair cipher with the password “Going Strong” to decrypt the following ciphered message. Please show all the steps taken:

**“HOXGE ROQHO ALERR DTRNI IY”**

(11 marks)

- (c) When a message is going to be sent four times, each time it will have one of the following services provided: confidentiality, integrity, authenticity or digitally signed. Each time the message is sent with each service, which would you recommend using: Public key encryption or Hashing? Give a reason for each recommendation.

(8 marks)

**Total (25 marks)**

## QUESTION 2

- (a) This number  $n = 131753$  is known to be the product of two prime numbers. Use Fermat’s factoring algorithm to find those two prime numbers.

(7 marks)

- (b) Two parties A & B have a pair of private/public keys and they have already shared their public keys. Create a protocol for A and B in order for a fast exchange long messages between and the messages are both confidential and authentic.

(8 marks)

- (c) This ciphered message: “**WOXZ**” was produced after ciphering a plain text message with the Hill cipher and the given key matrix A. We know the plain text message relates to the motor industry.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (i) Find the 26 modular inverse matrix  $A^{-1}$  and

(8 marks)

- (ii) Use inverse matrix  $A^{-1}$  to decipher the message “**WOXZ**”. Show your work.

(2 marks)

**Total (25 marks)**

### QUESTION 3

(a) Outline the following security attacks:

(i) Denial of service attack

(2 marks)

(ii) Cryptanalysis attack

(2 marks)

(iii) Timing and power consumption attacks on RSA

(2 marks)

(b) Use the Euclidean Algorithm to find the greatest common divisor of: 4611 and 6786. Show your work.

(8 marks)

(c) Use Vigenere cipher with the keyword: “**FLORA**” to decrypt this ciphered message: “**DZISILRSJTGLFIJCHFSZQVSXTGL**”. Show all your work.

(11 marks)

**Total (25 marks)**

### QUESTION 4

(a) Consider the Diffie-Hellman key exchange protocol; Alice and Bob choose a prime  $n=21$  and a  $g=4$ . Alice chooses a secret integer  $a=3$  and Bob chooses  $b=2$ . What is the new secret key  $S$  that they both can use for their conventional encryption. Show your steps.

(5 marks)

(b) Differentiate between the two PGP services: authentication and segmentation.

(10 marks)

(c) Use the keyword “**SELLING**” with the regular Column Transposition Cipher and show how to decipher the ciphered message:

“**LOEIB LKUPL EWOBR WENLW NOEEY ACNRD UOYIV OANTT LA**”

Show your work. Giving a result only, without steps will earn 0 marks.

(10 marks)

**Total (25 marks)**

## QUESTION 5

- (a) Use brute force and Caesar's cipher to decrypt this ciphered message. Show your work.

**“Jvuzpkly mhzaly zlsm-kypepun jhyz”**

**(7 marks)**

- (b) Use the public key (d, n): 5, 34 to decrypt the following encrypted numerical values c1, c2, c3: 12, 8, 17. Use the RSA public key encryption system. Show your work.

**(6 marks)**

- (c) What conditions are required when selecting the value for “e” when creating an RSA key pair?

**(6 marks)**

- (d) Calculate the determinant of the following matrix (must show your work):

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 5 & 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

**(6 marks)**

**Total (25 marks)**

## APPENDIX

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25