

Asymmetric Cryptography and Key Management

Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange

Sang-Yoon Chang, Ph.D.

Module: Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange

Discrete logarithm problem

Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange

Man-in-the-Middle Attack

Ordinary Logarithm

$$y = a^b$$

$$\Leftrightarrow b = \log_a y$$

Discrete Logarithm

$$y = a^b \bmod p$$

$$\Leftrightarrow b = \text{dlog}_{a,p} y$$

b is called the discrete logarithm of y
base a mod p

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When does discrete logarithm b exist
and is unique?

Discrete Logarithm

$$y = a^b \bmod p$$

$$\Leftrightarrow b = \text{dlog}_{a,p} y$$

Given that p is prime,
 b exists and is unique when
 a is a primitive root of p , i.e.,
 $a^1, \dots, a^{p-1} \pmod{p}$ produce distinct
integers between $1, \dots, p-1$

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Primitive Root of a Prime Number

For modulus $p=5$

a	a^2	a^3	a^4	$(\text{mod } p)$
-----	-------	-------	-------	-------------------

1				
---	--	--	--	--

2				
---	--	--	--	--

3				
---	--	--	--	--

4				
---	--	--	--	--

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2 is primitive root 5

and so is 3

Primitive Root of a Prime Number

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1	1	1	1
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2	4	3	1
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2 is primitive root 5

and so is 3

$\Rightarrow \text{dlog}_{a,p} y$ unique

Primitive Root of a Prime Number

For modulus $p=5$

a	a^2	a^3	a^4	(mod p)
1	1	1	1	
2	4	3	1	2 is primitive root 5
3	4	2	1	and so is 3
4	1	4	1	$\Rightarrow \text{dlog}_{a,p} y$ unique

$2 = \text{dlog}_{3,5} 4$

Discrete Logarithm Problem

$$y = a^b \bmod p$$

$$\Leftrightarrow b = \text{dlog}_{a,p} y$$

If a is a primitive root of p ,
then $\text{dlog}_{a,p} y$ exist and unique

Discrete Logarithm Problem

$y = a^b \bmod p$ Easy

$\Leftrightarrow b = \text{dlog}_{a,p} y$ Difficult

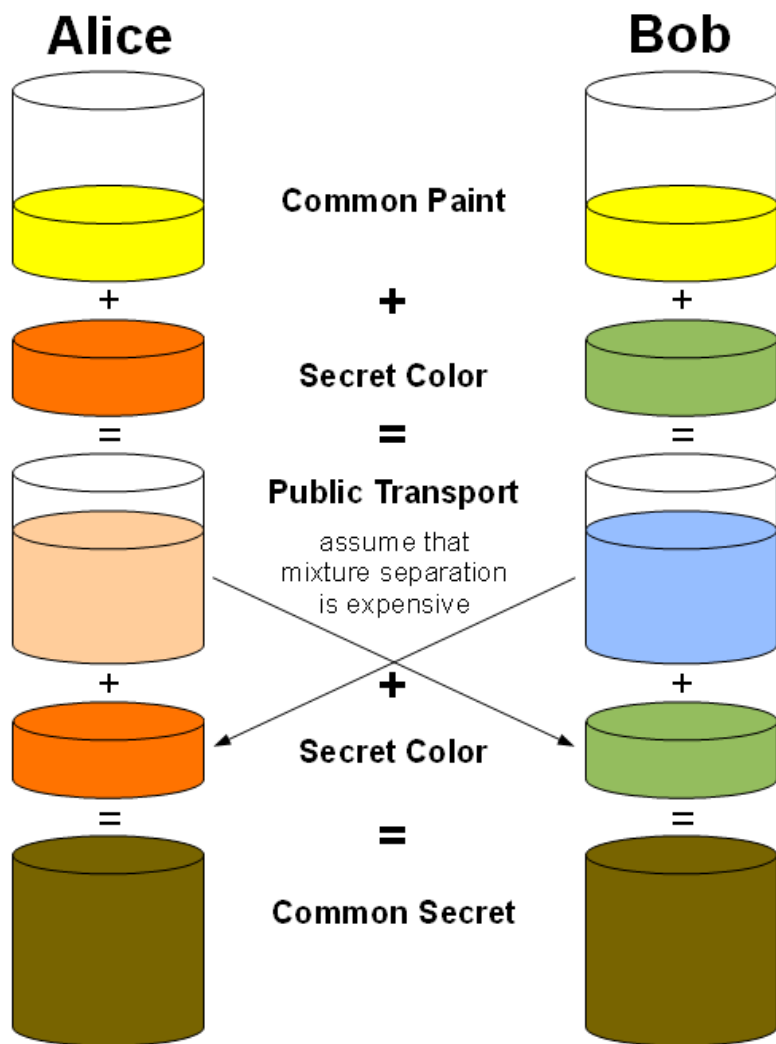
If a is a primitive root of p ,
then $\text{dlog}_{a,p} y$ exist and unique

Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange

The first published asymmetric algorithm

Practical method to exchange secret
key over public channel

Security relies on Discrete Log Problem



Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange Setup

Alice and Bob want to exchange secret key

They agree on the global parameters: p , a

Each user randomly selects $X < p$, and computes $Y = a^X \bmod p$

X is private and Y is public, i.e.,
 $\{X_A, Y_A\}$ for Alice and $\{X_B, Y_B\}$ for Bob

Alice

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$

Bob

Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$

Alice

Bob

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$

Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$

Send Y_A to Bob ----->

<----- Send Y_B to Alice

Alice

Bob

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$

Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$

Send Y_A to Bob ----->

<----- Send Y_B to Alice

Compute $K = Y_B^{X_A} \bmod p$

Compute $K = Y_A^{X_B} \bmod p$

Alice

Bob

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$



a, p

Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$



Y_A, Y_B

Send Y_A to Bob

----->

<-----

Send Y_B to Alice

Compute $K = Y_B^{X_A} \bmod p$

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Alice

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Randomly select $x_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{x_A} \bmod p$



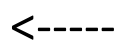
a, p

Randomly select $x_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{x_B} \bmod p$



Y_A, Y_B

Send Y_A to Bob



Send Y_B to Alice

Compute $K = Y_B^{x_A} \bmod p$

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Alice

Bob

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$ ← D. log problem

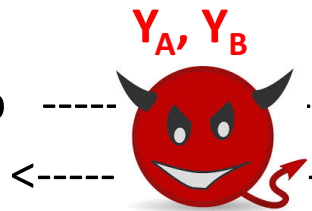


a, p

D. log prob. →

Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$

Send Y_A to Bob



Y_A, Y_B

----->

<----- Send Y_B to Alice

Compute $K = Y_B^{X_A} \bmod p$

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Alice

Bob

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$ ← D. log problem



a, p

D. log prob. →

Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$

Send Y_A to Bob



<-----

----->

Send Y_B to Alice

Compute $K = Y_B^{X_A} \bmod p$

Compute $K = Y_A^{X_B} \bmod p$

Since X_A, X_B are secret, K is also secret

Alice

Bob

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$

Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$

Send Y_A to Bob ----->

<----- Send Y_B to Alice

Compute $K = Y_B^{X_A} \bmod p$

Compute $K = Y_A^{X_B} \bmod p$

K is the secret key for Alice and Bob:

$$\begin{aligned} K &= Y_B^{x_A} \bmod q && // \text{ A can compute} \\ &= (a^{x_B} \bmod q)^{x_A} \bmod q \\ &= (a^{x_B})^{x_A} \bmod q \\ &= a^{x_B x_A} \bmod q \\ &= (a^{x_A})^{x_B} \bmod q \\ &= (a^{x_A} \bmod q)^{x_B} \bmod q \\ &= Y_A^{x_B} \bmod q && // \text{ B can compute} \end{aligned}$$

Man-in-the-Middle Attack

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$



Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$



Compute $K = Y_B^{X_A} \bmod p$

Compute $K = Y_A^{X_B} \bmod p$

Man-in-the-Middle Attack

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$



Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$

Send Y_A to Bob -----> Receive Y_A ; Send Y_{M1} ----->
<--- Send Y_{M2} ; Receive Y_A ; <--- Send Y_B to Alice

Compute $K = Y_B^{X_A} \bmod p$

Compute $K = Y_A^{X_B} \bmod p$

Man-in-the-Middle Attack

Randomly select $X_A < p$
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Send Y_A to Bob -----> Receive Y_A ; Send Y_{M1} ----->
<--- Send Y_{M2} ; Receive Y_A ; <--- Send Y_B to Alice

Compute $K_2 = Y_{M2}^{X_A} \bmod p$ Compute $K_1 = Y_{M1}^{X_B} \bmod p$

Man-in-the-Middle Attack

Randomly select $X_A < p$
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Send Y_A to Bob -----> Receive Y_A ; Send Y_{M1} ----->
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Compute $K_2 = Y_{M2}^{X_A} \bmod p$ Compute $K_1 = Y_{M1}^{X_B} \bmod p$
Knows Y_A and can compute K_2

Man-in-the-Middle Attack

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$



Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$

Send Y_A to Bob -----> Receive Y_A ; Send Y_{M1} ----->
<--- Send Y_{M2} ; Receive Y_B ; <--- Send Y_B to Alice

Compute $K_2 = Y_{M2}^{X_A} \bmod p$ Compute $K_1 = Y_{M1}^{X_B} \bmod p$
Knows Y_A and can compute K_2 Knows Y_B and can compute K_1

Man-in-the-Middle Attack

Randomly select $X_A < p$
Compute $Y_A = a^{X_A} \bmod p$



Randomly select $X_B < p$
Compute $Y_B = a^{X_B} \bmod p$

Send Y_A to Bob -----> Receive Y_A ; Send Y_{M1} ----->
<--- Send Y_{M2} ; Receive Y_B ; <--- Send Y_B to Alice

Compute $K_2 = Y_{M2}^{X_A} \bmod p$	Compute $K_1 = Y_{M1}^{X_B} \bmod p$
Knows Y_A and can compute K_2	Knows Y_B and can compute K_1
Alice uses K_2	Bob uses K_1

Man-in-the-Middle Attack Countermeasure

Vulnerable because no authentication

Authenticate Alice and Bob, e.g.,
certificates and digital signatures

El Gamal Encryption

El Gamal encryption related to D.-H.:

- Relies on Discrete Log problem
- Use exponentiation

Sends one-time key with the message

Used in Digital Signature Standards

