

# Lecture 6: Public Key Encryption

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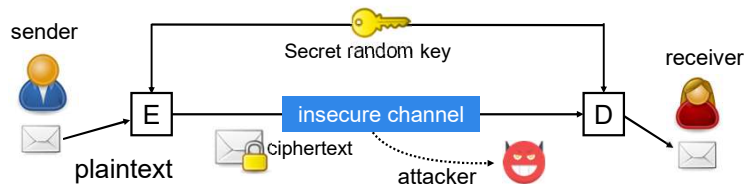
## Content

1. Public-Key Cryptography
2. RSA Encryption
3. ElGamal Encryption
4. Elliptic Curve Cryptography
5. Conclusion of Encryption

A **passive** attack attempts to learn or make use of information from the system but does not affect system resources.

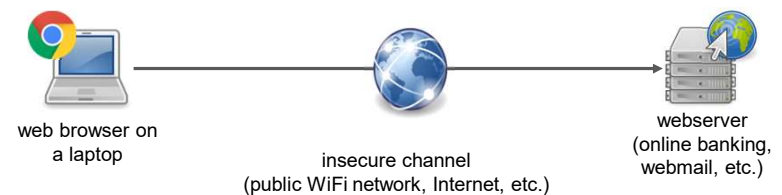
An **active** attack attempts to alter system resources or affect their operation.

## Secret-Key Encryption



- Sender and receiver know the secret key → can encrypt/decrypt
- Attacker does not know the secret key → cannot encrypt/decrypt
- Exchanging or agreeing on a key
  - either using a secure side channel
  - or before communicating over the insecure channel

## Practical Problem: Key Exchange



- Key Exchange: How or when can the two endpoints exchange a secret key?

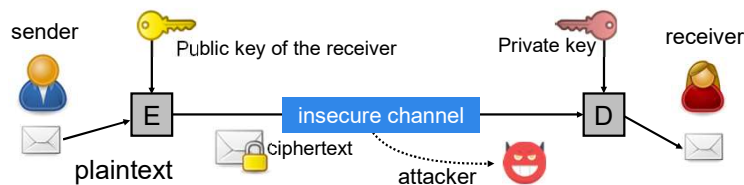
## From Classical to Modern Era

- Both the RSA algorithm and the Diffie-Hellman key exchange algorithm were introduced in 1977.
- These new algorithms were revolutionary because
  - they represented the first viable cryptographic schemes where security was based on the **theory** of numbers;
  - it was the first to enable secure communication between two parties **without** a shared secret.

## 1. Public-Key Cryptography

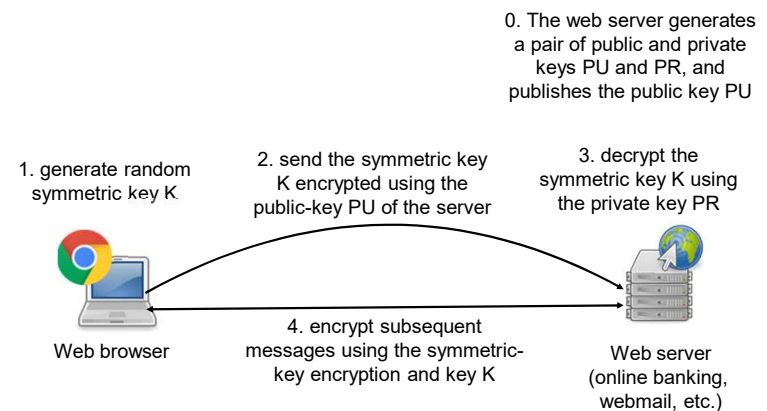
- In 1976, Whitfield Diffie and Martin Hellman proposed a fundamentally different approach to cryptography
  - The first documented discovery was made by the British intelligence agency in 1970
- Public-key cryptography: instead of using a single secret key, use a pair of private and public keys
  - also called asymmetric-key cryptography
- Only the private key needs to be secret; the public key does not
- Public-key cryptography solves multiple problems
  - public-key encryption → key exchange
  - digital signatures → non-repudiation (cannot deny)

## Public-Key Encryption



- Everyone knows the public key → sender can encrypt
- Receiver knows the private key → receiver can decrypt
- Attacker does not know the private key → attacker cannot decrypt
- Public key can be published
  - attacker may know the public key

## Application Example



- Secure against passive attacks

## Public-Key Encryption Scheme

- A public-key encryption system is a triplet of algorithms (G, E, D)
  - Key generation **G**(**:**): randomized algorithm, outputs (PU, PR)
  - Encryption **E**(PU, **M**): takes public key PU and plaintext M, outputs ciphertext **C**
  - Decryption **D**(PR, **C**): takes private key PR and ciphertext **C**, outputs plaintext **M**
- Requirements
  - for every (PU, PR) that was output by **G**,  $D(PR, E(PU, M)) = M$
  - G** is efficiently computable, **E** is efficiently computable given PU and M, and **D** is efficiently computable given PR and **C**
  - given only PU and **C**, an attacker cannot efficiently compute **M**

## Symmetric vs. Asymmetric-Key

	Symmetric-key encryption	Asymmetric-key encryption
Typical design	series of substitutions and permutations	hard mathematical problems
Key	completely random	special structure, expensive to generate
Recommended key size	128 - 256 bits	2048 - 15360 bits
Performance	fast	slow

## 2. RSA Encryption

- Developed in 1977 by Ron Rivest, Adi Shamir, and Len Adleman
  - in 1973, Clifford Cocks, an English mathematician working for a British intelligence agency, described an equivalent system (however, this was classified until 1997)
- For their work on public-key cryptography, Rivest, Shamir, and Adleman received a Turing Award in 2002.
- One of the most widely accepted and implemented general-purpose approach to public-key encryption.
- Idea
  - represent fixed-length plaintext **P** and ciphertext **C** as numbers
  - encryption:  $C = P^e \bmod n$
  - decryption:  $P = C^d \bmod n$ , where private key **d** is such that  $(P^e)^d = P$

## RSA Mathematical Background

- Prime: an integer  $p > 1$  is a prime number if its only positive divisors are 1 and  $p$ .
- Greatest common divisor:  $\gcd(a, b)$  of integers  $a$  and  $b$  is the largest positive integer  $c$  that is a divisor of both  $a$  and  $b$ .
  - $a$  and  $b$  are relatively prime if  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$
  - if  $a$  and  $m$  are relatively prime, then  $a$  has a multiplicative inverse  $a^{-1}$  in modulo  $m$ .
- Integer factorization problem: decompose a non-prime number into a product of smaller integers.
  - widely believed to be a computationally hard problem (cannot be solved efficiently, i.e., in polynomial time).
  - however, this hardness has not been proven.

## What is a Totient

1. total + quotient -> totient
2. For an integer  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\phi(n)$  is the number of relative prime numbers less than  $n$ .

3. We consider 1 to be relative prime to all integer numbers.
4.  $\phi(n) = n-1$  if  $n$  is a prime.

5. The totient function is multiplicative:

$$\phi(ab) = \phi(a) \phi(b) \text{ if } \gcd(a,b)=1.$$

$\phi(n)$  for  $1 \leq n \leq 100$

+	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	1	1	2	2	4	2	6	4	6	4
10	10	4	12	6	8	8	16	6	18	8
20	12	10	22	8	20	12	18	12	28	8
30	30	16	20	16	24	12	36	18	24	16
40	40	12	42	20	24	22	46	16	42	20
50	32	24	52	18	40	24	36	28	58	16
60	60	30	36	32	48	20	66	32	44	24
70	70	24	72	36	40	36	60	24	78	32
80	54	40	82	24	64	42	56	40	88	24
90	72	44	60	46	72	32	96	42	60	40

## RSA Key Generation

1. Pick 2 large and random prime numbers,  $p$  and  $q$ ,  $p \neq q$ .
2. Calculate  $n = p \times q$ .
3. Calculate Euler's totient function  $\phi(n) = (p-1) \times (q-1)$ .
4. Pick  $e$  such that  $\gcd(e, \phi(n)) = 1$  and  $1 < e < \phi(n)$ .
5. Calculate  $d$ , so that  $d \times e = 1 \pmod{\phi(n)}$   
( $d$  is the multiplicative inverse  $e^{-1}$  of  $e$  in  $\pmod{\phi(n)}$ )
6. Let the public key pair be  $PU = (e, n)$
7. Let the private key pair be  $PR = (d, n)$

## RSA Key Generation

1. Select two prime numbers  $(P, Q)$
2. Calculate Produce  $N = P \times Q$
3. Calculate Totient,  $\phi(n)$   $T = (P-1) \times (Q-1)$
4. Select a Public Key  $E$ ,
  - It must be prime
  - It must be less than the totient
  - It must NOT be a factor of the totient
5. Select a private key  $D$ 
  - The product of  $D$  and  $E$ , divided by  $T$ , must result in a remainder of 1,  $(D \times E) \pmod{T} = 1$ .

## Example

1. Pick  $p = 7$ ,  $q = 13$ ,  $n = pq = 7 \times 13 = 91$ .
2. Compute  $(p-1)(q-1) = 72$ .
3. Select  $e = 5$ , for 5 and 72 are relative prime.
4. Select  $d = 29$ ,  $d \times e = 145 \pmod{72} = 1$ .
5. Public key  $(n, e) = (91, 5)$
6. Private key  $(n, d) = (91, 29)$

## RSA Encryption and Decryption

- The sender represents the plaintext as a series of numbers  $< n$ . Encrypt/decrypt each number separately.
- Encryption: Given a plaintext  $M$  ( $M < n$ ),  

$$C = M^e \bmod n$$
- Decryption: Given a ciphertext  $C$  ( $C < n$ )  

$$M = C^d \bmod n$$
- Euler's Theorem: if  $a$  and  $n$  are relative prime, then  

$$a^{\phi(n)} = 1 \bmod n.$$
- Prove that the decryption is correct.

## Example

- Continue from the last one.
- Public key  $(n, e) = (91, 5)$
- Private key  $(n, d) = (91, 29)$
- Encryption:  
 $M = 10, C = p^e \bmod n = 10^5 \bmod 91 = 82$
- Decryption:  
 $M = C^d \bmod n = 82^{29} \bmod 91 = 10$

The difficulty of determining a private key from an RSA public key is equivalent to factoring the modulus  $n$ .

## Consistency Proof

$$C^d \bmod n = (M^e)^d \bmod n = M^{e \times d} \bmod n$$

Since  $e \times d = 1 \bmod \phi(n)$ , we have that

$$e \times d = 1 + \phi(n) \times i \text{ where } i \text{ is some integer}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } C^d \bmod n &= M^{1 + \phi(n) \times i} \bmod n \\ &= M \times M^{\phi(n) \times i} \bmod n \\ &= M \times 1^i \bmod n \\ &= M \bmod n \end{aligned}$$

## Example 1

- Encryption

$$\begin{aligned} C &= M^e \bmod N \\ &= 60^{29} \bmod 133 \\ &= 86 \end{aligned}$$

- Decryption

$$\begin{aligned} M &= C^d \bmod N \\ &= 86^{41} \bmod 133 \\ &= 60 \end{aligned}$$

Name	Symbol	Value
Prime	p	7
Prime	q	19
Product	n	133
Totient	$\phi(n)$	108
Public Key	e	29
Private Key	d	41
Message	M	60
Cipher	C	86

## Example 2

- Encryption

$$C = M^d \bmod N$$

$$= 60^{41} \bmod 133$$

$$= 72$$

- Decryption

$$M = C^e \bmod N$$

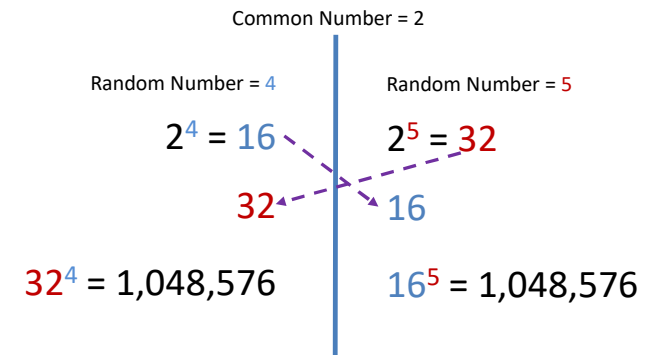
$$= 72^{29} \bmod 133$$

$$= 60$$

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## Diffie-Hellman Example

- This is a simplified example to illustrate the concept.



## How Secure is RSA?

- Security lies in the difficulty of factoring semi-prime numbers ( $133 = 7 \times 19$ ).
  - Try 1909 ...
- 1991, RSA Lab released 54 semi-primes of various sizes and asked for factors,
  - As of February 2020, the largest number factored is 829 bits.
  - The 1024-bit number has never been factored.

## RSA Factoring Challenge

- RSA Laboratories published a list of RSA moduli in 1991

Number of Bits	Number of Decimal Digits	Year Achieved
330	100	1991
576	174	2003
640	193	2005
768	232	2009

- According to NIST, 15360-bit RSA keys are equivalent to 256-bit symmetric keys in strength

## How Secure is RSA?

### 1024 bit Semi-Prime number:

```
1350664108659952233496032162788059699388814756056670
2752448514385152651060485953383394028715057190944179
8207282164471551373680419703964191743046496589274256
2393410208643832021103729587257623585096431105640735
0150818751067659462920556368552947521350085287941637
7328533906109750544334999811150056977236890927563
```

- 1024 bit RSA keys was recommended standard since 2002
- 2048 bit RSA Keys is recommended standard since 2015

## RSA Conclusion

### • Security

- Best-known attack (if implemented properly): integer factorization of the modulus  $n$
- 829-bit keys have been broken. 1024-bit keys might become breakable soon
- comparable symmetric-key security (e.g., AES)

Symmetric (e.g., AES)	RSA
80 bits	1024 bits
128 bits	3072 bits
256 bits	15360 bits

- Efficiency: very slow → use it to encrypt a secret key and then switch to symmetric-key encryption

## 3. ElGamal Encryption

- Proposed by Taher Elgamal in 1984.
- Developed from the public-key cryptographic key exchange proposed by Diffie and Hellman in 1976.
- Security is based on the difficulty of computing discrete logarithms
  - discrete logarithm problem: given  $g$ ,  $y$ , and  $p$ , find an  $x$  that satisfies

$$y = g^x \bmod p$$

- widely believed to be a **computationally hard** problem
- Example: Find an integer  $x$  for  $1 = 2^x \bmod 5$ .

## Primitive Root modulo $n$

- A number  $g$  is a primitive root modulo  $n$  if every number coprime to  $n$  is congruent to a power of  $g$  modulo  $n$ .
- The number 3 is a primitive root modulo 7.

$3^1$	$= 3^0 \times 3 \equiv 1 \times 3 = 3$	$\equiv 3 \pmod{7}$
$3^2$	$= 3^1 \times 3 \equiv 3 \times 3 = 9$	$\equiv 2 \pmod{7}$
$3^3$	$= 3^2 \times 3 \equiv 2 \times 3 = 6$	$\equiv 6 \pmod{7}$
$3^4$	$= 3^3 \times 3 \equiv 6 \times 3 = 18$	$\equiv 4 \pmod{7}$
$3^5$	$= 3^4 \times 3 \equiv 4 \times 3 = 12$	$\equiv 5 \pmod{7}$
$3^6$	$= 3^5 \times 3 \equiv 5 \times 3 = 15$	$\equiv 1 \pmod{7}$

## ElGamal Key Generation

1. Pick a large prime  $q$ .
2. Pick an integer  $\alpha$  such that  $\alpha$  is a primitive root of  $q$ .
3. Pick a random integer  $X$  such that  $1 < X < q-1$ .
4. Compute  $Y = \alpha^X \bmod q$ .
5. Let the public key be  $PU = (q, \alpha, Y)$
6. Let the private key be  $PR = (q, \alpha, X)$  or simply  $X$ .

<https://www.quora.com/p/33937/el-gamal-cryptography-algorithm/>

## Primitive Root

- A number  $\alpha$  is a primitive root if  $\alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3, \dots, \alpha^{(q-1)}$  are different mod  $q$ .

$n = 7$

$$\begin{aligned} 3^1 &= 1 \times 3 = 3 \equiv 3 \pmod{7} \\ 3^2 &= 3 \times 3 = 9 \equiv 2 \pmod{7} \\ 3^3 &= 2 \times 3 = 6 \equiv 6 \pmod{7} \\ 3^4 &= 6 \times 3 = 18 \equiv 4 \pmod{7} \\ 3^5 &= 4 \times 3 = 12 \equiv 5 \pmod{7} \\ 3^6 &= 5 \times 3 = 15 \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \end{aligned}$$

$\alpha = 1, 2, \dots, 6$

$n = 14$ , congruence class =  $\{1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 13\}$

1: 1  
3: 3, 9, 13, 11, 5, 1  
5: 5, 11, 13, 9, 3, 1  
9: 9, 11, 1  
11: 11, 9, 1  
13: 13, 1

$\alpha = 3 \text{ or } 5$

## Encryption and Decryption

- Encryption: given plaintext  $M$  ( $M < q$ ),
  1. Pick a random integer  $k$  such that  $0 < k < q-1$
  2. Compute  $K = Y^k \bmod q$ , using public key  $Y$
  3. Let the ciphertext be  $(C_1, C_2)$ , where
 
$$C_1 = \alpha^k \bmod q$$

$$C_2 = K \cdot M \bmod q$$
- Decryption: given ciphertext  $(C_1, C_2)$ ,
  1. compute  $K = (C_1)^X \bmod q$ , using private key  $X$
  2. compute  $M = C_2 \cdot K^{-1} \bmod q$
- Consistency:  $K = (C_1)^X = (\alpha^k)^X = (\alpha^X)^k = Y^k = K \bmod q$

From key generation:

$$Y = \alpha^X \bmod q$$

$$PU = (q, \alpha, Y)$$

$$PR = (q, \alpha, X)$$

## ElGamal Example

- Key generation
  - Pick prime  $q = 19$ , primitive root  $\alpha = 10$ , and integer  $X = 5$ .
  - Compute  $Y = \alpha^X = 10^5 = 100000 = 3 \bmod 19$ .
- Encryption: given plaintext  $M = 17$ 
  - Pick  $k = 6$  and compute  $K = Y^k = 3^6 = 729 = 7 \bmod 19$ .
  - Compute  $C_1 = \alpha^k = 10^6 = 1000000 = 11 \bmod 19$
  - Compute  $C_2 = K \cdot M = 7 \cdot 17 = 119 = 5 \bmod 19$
- Decryption
  - compute  $K = (C_1)^X = 11^5 = 161051 = 7 \bmod 19$
  - compute  $K^{-1} = 7^{-1} = 11 \bmod 19$
  - compute  $M = C_2 \cdot K^{-1} = 5 \cdot 11 = 55 = 17 \bmod 19$





## ElGamal Security and Efficiency

- Computing discrete logarithms is widely believed to be a computationally hard problem.
  - recovering private key  $X$ : requires computing the logarithm of  $Y$  to base  $\alpha$  in modulo  $q$
  - recovering factor  $k$ : requires computing the logarithm of  $C_1$  to base  $\alpha$  in modulo  $q$
- Efficiency
  - ciphertext is twice as long as the plaintext
  - encryption requires two exponentiations, while decryption requires only one  
→ decryption is faster

## 4. Elliptic Curve Cryptography

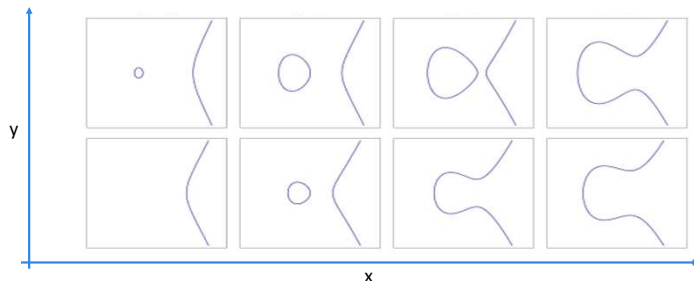
- Problem with public-key cryptography based on modular arithmetic.

Symmetric (e.g., AES)	RSA
80 bits	1024 bits
128 bits	3072 bits
256 bits	15360 bits

- very long keys, heavy processing load
- Idea: replace modular arithmetic with operations over elliptic curves.
- Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC)
  - First suggested in 1985 but had not been widely used before the mid-2000s.
  - A 160-bit ECC key is comparable in security to a 1024-bit RSA public key.
  - NIST and NSA endorsed ECC as a recommended approach, even for most classified information.

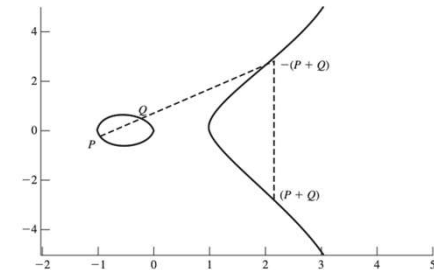
## Elliptic Curves

- Elements: points  $(x, y)$  that satisfy
 
$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$$
 where  $x$  and  $y$  are coordinates,  $a$  and  $b$  are parameters



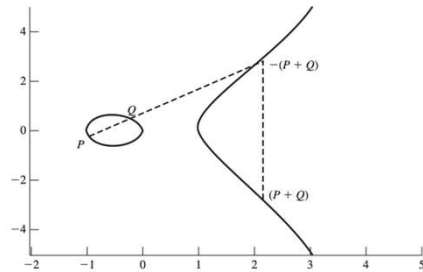
## Elliptic Curve Operation

- Operation  $+$ 
  - operation  $P + Q$ : draw a line through  $P$  and  $Q$ , find the third point of intersection  $-(P + Q)$ , and mirror that point vertically to get  $P + Q$
  - inverse element  $-P$ : mirror point  $P$  vertically
  - operation  $P + P$ : draw the tangent line and find the another point of intersection, ...



## Elliptic Curve Operation

- Points of the elliptic curve (and a "point at infinity") with operation  $+$  form a commutative group
  - in other words, arithmetic with this operation "works as expected."



## Comparison of Key Sizes

Symmetric-key algorithm	RSA	ECC
80	1024	160 - 223
112	2048	224 - 255
192	7680	384 - 511
256	15360	512+

- However, ECC might be more vulnerable to quantum computing attacks

## DLP for Elliptic Curves

- Reminder:* with modular multiplication, it is difficult to find  $X$  such that  $Y = \alpha^X \bmod q$ , given  $Y$ ,  $\alpha$ , and  $q$ 
  - in other words, it is difficult to determine the "number of operations"

- Discrete Logarithm Problem for elliptic curves: find  $k$  such that

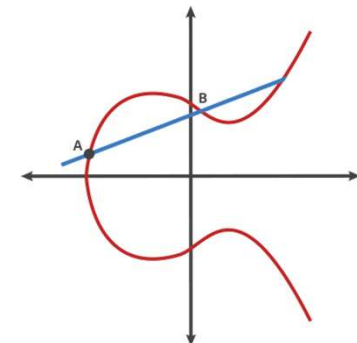
$$Q = k \cdot P,$$

given  $Q$  and  $P$ , where  $k \cdot P = P + P \dots + P$

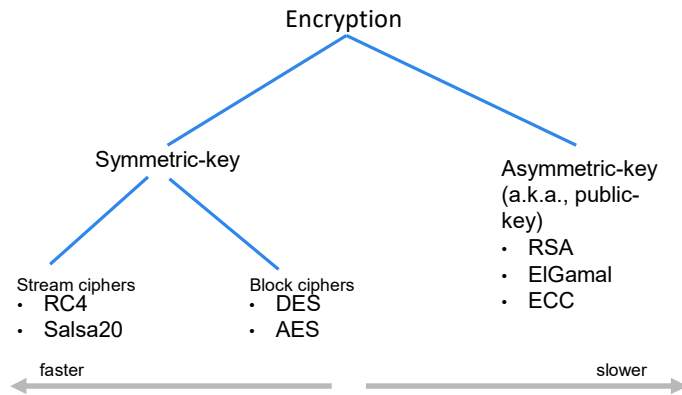
- We can "generalize" ElGamal encryption to elliptic curves in a straightforward manner.

## Elliptic Curve

- Horizontal symmetry
- Any non-vertical line will intersect the curve in at most three places.



## 5. Conclusion of Encryption



## Next Topics

- Public-Key Encryption
- Hash Functions
- Integrity