



HENDRIX

COLLEGE

Mathematical Cryptography

MATH 490

Start

AUGUST 26, 2024

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DECEMBER 2, 2024

6.1 Elliptic Curves

Definition Elliptic Curve:

An *elliptic curve* E is the set of solutions to an equation of the form $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$, together with a point at infinity \mathcal{O} , and the condition that $4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$. The last condition is to prevent singular points that cross. In other words, $4a^3 + 27b^2 = 0 \equiv x^3 + ax + b$ having 3 distinct roots.

Adding Two Elliptic Curve Points

We define “ \oplus ” as mapping: $E \times E \rightarrow E$. From this, we get $P \oplus Q = R$.

Define a line through $P \oplus Q$. This line will intersect the curve at a third point, R . Then R' is the reflection of R over the y -axis. $P \oplus Q = R'$.

Example 6.1: Adding Two Elliptic Curve Points

Given the elliptic curve $E: y^2 = x^3 - 36x$ with $P = (-3, 9)$, $Q = (-2, 8)$. Find $P \oplus Q$.

Solution.

1. Find slope: $m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{8 - 9}{-2 - (-3)} = -1$.
2. Solve the equation of line: $y = -x + b$. Plug in P : $9 = 3 + b \implies b = 6$. Thus, $y = -x + 6$.
3. Plug y back into given formula:

$$\begin{aligned} (-x + 6)^2 &= x^3 - 36x \\ x^2 - 12x + 36 &= x^3 - 36x \\ (-x^3) + x^2 + 24x + 36 &= 0 \\ x^3 - x^2 - 24x - 36 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

4. Find the roots of the equation: $x = -3, -2, 6$. Thus, $R = (6, 0)$ and $R' = (6, 0)$. Note two important things we did here:

- We know that two of the roots are 3 and 2 because they are given. We got the third root, -6 , by solving for the cubic equation.
- R and R' are the same value because to find R' , we reflect R over the y -axis.



5. Conclude: $P \oplus Q = R' = (6, 0)$.

Theorem: Addition Law Properties

Let E be an elliptic curve. Then, the addition law on E has the following properties:

- (a) $P \oplus \mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O} \oplus P = P$ for all $P \in E$. (Identity)
- (b) $P \oplus (-P) = (-P) \oplus P = \mathcal{O}$ for all $P \in E$. (Inverse)
- (c) $(P \oplus Q) \oplus R = P \oplus (Q \oplus R)$ for all $P, Q, R \in E$. (Associative)
- (d) $P \oplus Q = Q \oplus P$ for all $P, Q \in E$. (Commutative)

In other words, the addition law makes the points of E into an Abelian group.

Proof. 1. **Identity:** True because \mathcal{O} lies on all vertical lines.

2. **Inverse:** Same reason as Identity. (Also, we defined \mathcal{O} as such.)

3. **Associative:** Ignoring because hard.

4. **Commutative:** Line through $P \oplus Q$ is the same as the line through $Q \oplus P$. Hence,
 $P \oplus Q = Q \oplus P$.

□



6.1.1 Special Cases for Adding Elliptic Curve Points

Theorem: Elliptic Curve Addition Algorithm

Let

$$E: y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$$

be an elliptic curve, and let P_1 and P_2 be points on E .

- (a) If $P_1 = \mathcal{O}$, then $P_1 + P_2 = P_2$.
- (b) Otherwise, if $P_2 = \mathcal{O}$, then $P_1 + P_2 = P_1$.
- (c) Otherwise, write $P_1 = (x_1, y_1)$ and $P_2 = (x_2, y_2)$.
- (d) If $x_1 = x_2$ and $y_1 = -y_2$, then $P_1 + P_2 = \mathcal{O}$.
- (e) Otherwise, define λ by

$$\lambda = \begin{cases} \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} & \text{if } P_1 \neq P_2, \\ \frac{3x_1^2 + A}{2y_1} & \text{if } P_1 = P_2, \end{cases}$$

and let

$$x_3 = \lambda^2 - x_1 - x_2 \quad \text{and} \quad y_3 = \lambda(x_1 - x_3) - y_1.$$

Then, $P_1 + P_2 = (x_3, y_3)$.

Verbatim From Notes Today In Class

For $P = (x_1, y_1)$, $Q = (x_2, y_2)$.

1. $P = Q$: This means $x_1 = x_2$, and there is no slope because $x_2 - x_1 = 0$. Thus, this “line,” is actually a point tangent to the curve. Thus, to find the slope of the line, we need to differentiate.
2. $P = \mathcal{O}$ or $Q = \mathcal{O}$: This means that the line is vertical, and the sum is the other point. In other words, $P \oplus \mathcal{O} = P$.

For the first case, consider the following example:

Example 6.2: Case 1

Solve for R' with the elliptic curve $E: y^2 = x^3 - 36x$.



Solution. To solve this we first need to differentiate to get the slope for our equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 y^2 &= x^3 - 36x \\
 2y \frac{dy}{dx} &= 3x^2 - 36 \\
 \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{3x^2 - 36}{2y} \\
 \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{3(-3)^2 - 36}{2(9)} \\
 \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{-1}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

From here, we solve $y - y_0 = m(x - x_0)$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 y - 9 &= \frac{-1}{2}(x + 3) \\
 y &= \frac{-1}{2}x + \frac{15}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, we can substitute our x and y values back into the original $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left(\frac{-1}{2}x + \frac{15}{2}\right)^2 &= x^3 - 36x \\
 \frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{15}{2}x + \frac{225}{4} &= x^3 - 36x \\
 x^3 - \frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{57}{2}x - \frac{225}{4} &= 0 \\
 (x + 3)(x + 3)\left(x - \frac{25}{4}\right) &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $x = \frac{25}{4}$ and $y = \frac{-1}{2}\left(\frac{25}{4}\right) + \frac{15}{2} = \frac{35}{8}$.

Therefore, $R' = P \oplus P = \left(\frac{25}{4}, -\frac{35}{8}\right)$. Note that $\frac{35}{8}$ is negative because we flipped it along the y -axis.

6.2 Elliptic Curves over Finite Fields

Example 6.3: Elliptic Addition with Modulo

Given the elliptic curve $E: y^2 = x^3 + 2x + 2 \pmod{17}$ with points $P = (5, 1)$ and $Q = (16, 13)$.

- (a) Find $P \oplus Q$.
- (b) Find $P \oplus P$.



Solution.

- (a) First, we need to find lambda. Using the formula for lambda in the [Elliptic Curve Addition Algorithm](#) part (e), first condition, we have: $\lambda = \frac{12}{11}$, but remember, we are in modulo, so we need to find the modular inverse of 11. This is 14. Thus, $\lambda = 12 \cdot 14 = 15$. (Note there is a quick trick of subtracting the number by 17 to get a smaller number to work with. For example, 12 and 14 are -5 and -3 , respectively. When we multiply these, we get the same answer: 15. Hence, we can use this trick to make our calculations easier.)

Use the formula for x_3 and y_3 to find the point R . For x_3 :

$$\begin{aligned} x_3 &\equiv (15)^2 - 5 - 16 \\ &\equiv (-2)^2 - 5 - 16 \\ &\equiv -17 \\ &\equiv 0 \pmod{17} \end{aligned}$$

Then, for y_3 :

$$\begin{aligned} y_3 &\equiv 15(5 - 0) - 1 \\ &\equiv (-2)(5) - 1 \\ &\equiv -11 \\ &\equiv 6 \pmod{17} \end{aligned}$$

This gives us the point $R = (0, 6)$.

- (b) For $P \oplus P$, we have $P = (5, 1)$. Now, we use the [Elliptic Curve Addition Algorithm](#) part (e), second condition, to find lambda. We have

$$\lambda = \frac{3(5)^2 + 2}{2(1)} = 9 \cdot 2^{-1} \equiv 9 \cdot 9 \equiv 13 \pmod{17}.$$

Now, we can find x_3 and y_3 :

$$\begin{aligned} x_3 &\equiv 13^2 - 5 - 5 \\ &\equiv 169 - 10 \\ &\equiv 159 \\ &\equiv 6 \pmod{17} \end{aligned}$$



For y_3 :

$$\begin{aligned}
 y_3 &\equiv 13(5 - 6) - 1 \\
 &\equiv 13(-1) - 1 \\
 &\equiv -14 \\
 &\equiv 3 \pmod{17}
 \end{aligned}$$

This gives us the point $R = (6, 3)$.

Example 6.4: Set of Points $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$

Using the same elliptic curve from the last example, $E: y^2 = x^3 + 2x + 2 \pmod{17}$ find the set of points $E(\mathbb{F}_{17})$.

Solution. For this problem, we need to find all the squares modulo 17. We can do this by squaring all the numbers from 0 to 16.

1. First, find all the squared values:

- $0^2 = 0$
- $1^2 = 1 = 16^2$
- $2^2 = 4 = 15^2$
- $3^2 = 9 = 14^2$
- $4^2 = 16 = 13^2$
- $5^2 = 8 = 12^2$
- $6^2 = 2 = 11^2$
- $7^2 = 15 = 10^2$
- $8^2 = 13 = 9^2$

Notice that the squares are symmetric about 8. This is because the curve is symmetric about the y -axis.

2. We need to find the y -values. We need to test each of the x -values in the equation $y^2 = x^3 + 2x + 2$:

- $0^3 + 2(0) + 2 = 2$
- $1^3 + 2(1) + 2 = 5$
- $2^3 + 2(4) + 2 = 12$
- $3^3 + 2(9) + 2 = 1$
- $4 \rightarrow 6$
- $5 \rightarrow 1$
- $6 \rightarrow 9$
- $7 \rightarrow 2$
- $8 \rightarrow 3$
- $9 \rightarrow 1, 10 \rightarrow 2, 11 \rightarrow 2,$
 $12 \rightarrow 3, 13 \rightarrow 15, 14 \rightarrow 3,$
 $15 \rightarrow 7, 16 \rightarrow 16.$

3. Now, given a y -value, we can search for the corresponding x -value. For example, $y = 2$ corresponds to $x = 6$ and $x = 11$. We find the pairs to be:



\mathcal{O} ,
 $(0, 6), (0, 11),$
 $(3, 1), (3, 16),$
 $(5, 1), (5, 16),$
 $(6, 3), (6, 14),$
 $(7, 6), (7, 11),$
 $(9, 1), (9, 16),$
 $(10, 6), (10, 11),$
 $(13, 7), (13, 10),$
 $(16, 4), (16, 13).$

This yields the set of points $E(\mathbb{F}_{17})$ to be 19 points in total.

Theorem: Hasse

The following formula gives an estimate for the number of points on an elliptic curve over a finite field:

$$p + 1 - 2\sqrt{p} \leq \#E(\mathbb{F}_p) \leq p + 1 + 2\sqrt{p}.$$

6.3 The Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm Problem (ECDLP)

The Double-and-Add Algorithm

1. Write n in binary.
2. Repeatedly double the point P up to the highest multiple of 2 in binary representation of n .
3. Take points corresponding to binary expansion of n and add them together.

Example 6.5: Double-and-Add Algorithm

Use the double-and-add algorithm to compute $E: y^2 = x^3 + 2x + 2 \pmod{17}$ with $p = (5, 1)$ and $n = 11$.

Solution.

1. Write $n = 11$ in binary: $11 = 1011$.
2. Double the point P up to the highest multiple of 2 in the binary representation of



n :

$$1P = (5, 1)$$

$$2P = (6, 3)$$

$$4P = (3, 1)$$

$$8P = (13, 7)$$

3. Solve for $11P$:

$$\begin{aligned} 11P &= 8P + 2P + P \\ &= (13, 7) + (6, 3) + (5, 1) \\ &= (7, 11) + (5, 1) \\ &= (13, 10). \end{aligned}$$

This algorithm takes $\leq 2n$ “steps” to compute nP .

Ternary Expansion of n

1. Write n in binary.
2. Working from smaller powers of 2 to larger powers when you have 2 or more consecutive powers of 2, we can replace:

$$\begin{aligned} &(2^{s+5}) + 1(2^{s+t-1}) + 1(2^{s+t-2}) + \cdots + 1(2^s) \\ &= 2^{s+t} - 2^s. \end{aligned}$$

This allows us to “cancel out” middle terms of consecutive powers of 2. We take the next largest power of 2, for a string of 2s, and subtract the next smallest power of 2.

Example 6.6: Ternary Expansion

Find the ternary expansion of 11.

Solution.

1. Write 11 in binary: $11 = 1011$.
2. Replace the binary expansion with the ternary expansion:

$$\begin{aligned} 11 &= 8 + 2 + 1 \\ &= 1(8) + 1(4) + 1(2) + 1(1) \\ &= 8 + 4 + 1(2) - 1 \\ &= 11. \end{aligned}$$



6.4 Elliptic Curve Cryptography

6.4.1 Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange

Public parameter creation	
A trusted party chooses and publishes a large prime p , an elliptic curve E over \mathbb{F}_p and a point P in $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$.	
Private Computations	
Alice	Bob
Chooses a secret integer n_A .	Chooses a secret integer n_B .
Computes the point $Q_A = n_AP$	Computes the point $Q_B = n_BP$
Public Exchange of Values	
Alice sends Q_A to Bob	
Bob sends Q_B to Alice	
Further Private Computations	
Computes the point n_AQ_B .	Computes the point n_BQ_A .
Their shared secret value is $n_AQ_B = n_A(n_BP) = n_B(n_AP) = n_BQ_A$.	

Table 6.1: Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange Using Elliptic Curves

Example 6.7: Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange

Given the elliptic curve $E: y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 6 \pmod{11}$ with point $p = (5, 9)$, Alice's private key $n_A = 4$, and Bob's private key $n_B = 7$, find the shared secret key. Use this website: [Elliptic Curve Calculator](#).

Solution. First, we need to find Q_A and Q_B . For Q_A , we have $n_A = 4$, so we need to find $4P$. Using the double-and-add algorithm, we have $n = 4 = 100$. Now, we need to solve for $2P$ and $4P$:

$$\lambda = \frac{3(5)^2 + 1}{2(9)} = \frac{76}{18} = 10 \cdot 18^{-1} \equiv -1 \cdot 7 \equiv -7 \equiv 4 \pmod{11}$$

Now we can find x_3 and y_3 . First, x_3 :

$$\begin{aligned} x_3 &\equiv 4^2 - 5 - 5 \\ &\equiv 16 - 10 \\ &\equiv 6 \pmod{11}. \end{aligned}$$



For y_3 :

$$\begin{aligned}
 y_3 &\equiv 4(5 - 6) - 9 \\
 &\equiv 4(-1) - 9 \\
 &\equiv -4 - 9 \\
 &\equiv 9 \pmod{11}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $2P = (6, 9)$. Using the same process, we find that $Q_A = 2(2P) = 2(6, 9) = (3, 6)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 1P &= (5, 9) \\
 2P &= (6, 9) \\
 4P &= (3, 6).
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for $7Q_B \Rightarrow 7P = (2, 4)$.

From the image below, we can see that when we take the point $n_A Q_B \Rightarrow 4 \cdot (2, 4)$, we get the point $(10, 9)$. Then, when we take the point $n_B Q_A \Rightarrow 7 \cdot (3, 6)$, we get the point $(10, 9)$. Thus, the shared secret key is $(10, 9)$.

Curve: a 1 b 6

Field: p 11

n: n 4

P: x 2 y 4

$Q = n \cdot P$: x 10 y 9

Scalar multiplication over the elliptic curve $y^2 = x^3 + 1x + 6$ in \mathbb{F}_{11} .
 The curve has 13 points (including the point at infinity).
 The subgroup generated by P has 13 points.

Curve: a 1 b 6

Field: p 11

n: n 7

P: x 3 y 6

$Q = n \cdot P$: x 10 y 9

Scalar multiplication over the elliptic curve $y^2 = x^3 + 1x + 6$ in \mathbb{F}_{11} .
 The curve has 13 points (including the point at infinity).
 The subgroup generated by P has 13 points.



6.4.2 Elgamal Encryption Using Elliptic Curves

Public parameter creation	
A trusted party chooses and publishes a large prime p , an elliptic curve E over \mathbb{F}_p , and a point P in $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$.	
Key creation	
Alice	Bob
Choose private key n_A . Compute $Q_A = n_AP$ in $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$. Publish the public key Q_A .	
Encryption	
Choose plaintext $M \in E(\mathbb{F}_p)$. Choose random element k . Use Alice's public key Q_A to compute $C_1 = kP \in E(\mathbb{F}_p)$ and $C_2 = M + kQ_A \in E(\mathbb{F}_p)$. Send ciphertext (C_1, C_2) to Alice.	
Decryption	
Compute $C_2 - n_AC_1 \in E(\mathbb{F}_p)$. This quantity is equal to M .	

Table 6.2: Elgamal Key Creation, Encryption, and Decryption with Elliptic Curves

Example 6.8: Elgamal Encryption Using Elliptic Curves

Given the elliptic curve $E: y_2 \equiv x_3 + 7x + 4 \pmod{17}$ with $P = (3, 1)$, $n_A = 15$, $M = (16, 8)$, and $(K = 5)$, find Q_A , and encrypt and decrypt the message.

Solution. We find Q_A to be $(11, 16)$

$$C_1 = 5(3, 1) = (0, 15).$$

Then,

$$c_2 = (16, 8) + 5(11, 16) = (3, 1).$$

Alice can decrypt the message by computing:

$$(3, 1) \ominus 15(0, 15) = (3, 1) \ominus (2, 14) = (3, 1) \oplus (2, 3) = (16, 8).$$

(Note the subtraction is just taking $-y$.)

Exercise 5.10

Encrypt each of the following Vigenère plaintexts using the given keyword and the Vigenère tableau (Table 5.1 in book).

1. Keyword: hamlet

Plaintext: To be, or not to be, that is the question.

Solution.

1. Hamlet is made up of 6 letters, so we repeat the keyword to match the length of the plaintext:

t o b e o r | n o t t o b e | t h a t i s | t h e q u e | s t i o n

Then, find the row that starts with the key-letter. For instance, since **hamlet** starts with **h**, we go down to the 8th row in Table 5.1. Then, we go right until we reach the column of our plaintext. So, for **t**, that would be the 20th column.

See the table below for the full encryption. Note that \mathcal{P} , \mathcal{K} , and \mathcal{C} indicate the plaintext, keyword, and ciphertext, respectively:

\mathcal{P}	t o b e o r	n o t t o b e	t h a t i s	t h e q u e	s t i o n
\mathcal{K}	h a m l e t	h a m l e t	h a m l e t	h a m l e t	h a m l e t
\mathcal{C}	a o n p s k	u o f e s u	l t t l x b	z t t p u n	l s f t s g

Exercise 5.11

Decrypt each of the following Vigenère ciphertexts using the given keyword and the Vigenère tableau (Table 5.1 in book).

1. Keyword: condiment

Ciphertext: r s g h z b m c x t d v f s q h n i g q x r n b m
 p d n s q s m b t r k u

Solution.

1. Reversing the method from [Exercise 5.10](#), we have:



\mathcal{C}	rsghzmcx	tdvfsqhni	gpxrnbmpd	nsqsbmtrk	u
\mathcal{K}	condiment	condiment	condiment	condiment	c
\mathcal{P}	peterpipe	rpickedap	eckofpick	ledpepper	s

we find the decrypted ciphertext to be:

peter piper picked a peck of pickled peppers

Exercise 5.13

Let

$s = \text{"I am the very model of a modern major general."}$

$t = \text{"I have information vegetable, animal, and mineral."}$

1. Make frequency tables for s and t .
2. Compute $\text{IndCo}(s)$ and $\text{IndCo}(t)$.

	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
Freq s	4	0	0	2	6	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	4	2	4	0	0	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Freq t	8	1	0	1	4	1	1	1	5	0	0	3	3	5	2	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0

Table 5.3: Frequency Distribution for s and t

Solution.

1. The frequency table for s and t is shown in Table 5.1.
2. We find the index of coincidence for s to be:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{IndCo}(s) &= \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{25} F_i(F_i - 1) \\
 &= \frac{1}{36(35)} (4 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 1 + 6 \cdot 5 + \cdots + 0 \cdot 0) \\
 &= \frac{84}{1260} \\
 &\approx 0.0667.
 \end{aligned}$$



Then, for t , we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{IndCo}(t) &= \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{25} F_i(F_i - 1) \\
 &= \frac{1}{41(40)} (8 \cdot 7 + 4 \cdot 3 + \cdots + 0 \cdot 0) \\
 &= \frac{128}{1640} \\
 &\approx 0.0780.
 \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 5.15

- One of the following two strings was encrypted using a simple substitution cipher, while the other is a random string of letters. the index of coincidence of each string and use the results to guess which is which.

$$s_1 = \text{RCZBWB FHS L P S C P I L H B G Z J T G B I B J G L Y I J I B F H C Q Q F Z B Y F P},$$

$$s_2 = \text{K H Q W G I Z M G K P O Y R K H U I T D U X L X C W Z O T W P A H F O H M G F E V U E J J}.$$

	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
Freq s_1	0	7	3	0	0	4	3	3	4	3	0	3	0	0	0	3	2	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	2	3
Freq s_2	1	0	1	1	2	2	3	4	2	2	3	1	2	0	3	2	1	1	0	2	3	1	3	2	1	2

Table 5.4: Frequency Distribution for s_1 and s_2

Solution.

- See the table below for the frequency distribution of s_1 and s_2 in [Table 5.2](#). We find the index of coincidence for s_1 to be:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{IndCo}(s_1) &= \frac{114}{45(44)} \\
 &\approx 0.0576.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then, for s_2 , we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{IndCo}(s_2) &= \frac{60}{45(44)} \\
 &\approx 0.0303.
 \end{aligned}$$



Since the index of coincidence for s_1 is higher than that of s_2 , we can guess that s_1 was encrypted using a simple substitution cipher.

Exercise 5.17

We applied a Kasiski test to the Vigenère ciphertext listed below and found that the key length is probably 5. Use Excel to find the plaintext and the key.

togmg	gbymk	kcqiv	dmlxk	kbyif	vcuek	cuuis	vvxqs	pwwej	koqgg
phumt	whlsf	yovww	knhhm	rcqfq	vvhkw	psued	ugrsf	ctwij	khvfa
thkef	fwptj	ggviv	cgdra	pgwvm	osqyg	hkdv	whuev	kcwyj	psgsn
gfswl	jstse	ooqhw	tofsh	aciin	gfbif	gabgj	adwsy	topml	ecqzw
asgvs	fwrqs	fsfvq	rhdrs	nmvmk	cbhrv	kblxk	gzi		

Solution. From the problem, I knew the key size was 5. Thus, I used the IndCo keysize 5 sheet. This is my order of operations:

1. Change the Ciphertext: Capitalize letters and remove spaces.
2. Paste this into A1.
3. Confirm the IndCo value is appropriate (IndCo = 0.064, so it is).
4. Copy the concatenated string from C122 into first the first Excel sheet we did.
5. Find the lowest χ^2 value, so I know what value to subtract 26 by.
6. Go to [rot13](#) and paste the string in, then rotate it by 26 minus the value we found in the previous step.
7. Record this string in the Excel sheet.
8. Repeat step 4-7 for the rest of the concatenated strings.

We end up with 5 decrypted strings. Now, we need to read them from top to bottom. To concatenate the strings, I used the following python code in [Listing 5.1](#). Once I ran the code, I got the following plaintext:

Radio, envisioned by its inventor as a great humanitarian contribution, was seized upon by the generals soon after its birth and impressed as an instrument of war. But radio turned over to the commander a copy of every enemy cryptogram it conveyed. Radio made cryptanalysis an end in itself.¹

To find the key, I used the following python code in [Listing 5.2](#). The key was found to be CODES.

¹A Google search with the decrypted words led me to the plaintext in proper grammatical form without capitalization and proper spacing.



Listing 5.1: Python Code to Concatenate Strings

```

1 cipher_text = [
2     "REIBITATNINUWIPTNSAIRDEANMFUINEHMRYYEYRCYDDPLAIE"
3     "ANOYNOGHIATTAZOHESFTTISSEWTOEREA AORMPAOEIETYNL"
4     "DVNIVRRUTNRISENEROTSHMSATNARTDTCNCFYYTMNDOCASEIF"
5     "IETEAE MACIOSDBGAOEBAPENRTRAUO OODOEECOIVMRNINT"
6     "OSDSNSAAROBNEUYELNRINRDIUOBD RVTMEPVNRGTEAAYASDS"
7 ]
8
9 # Number of rows and columns
10 num_rows = len(cipher_text)
11 num_cols = min(len(row) for row in cipher_text)
12
13 # Read the text column by column
14 decoded_text = ""
15 for col in range(num_cols):
16     for row in range(num_rows):
17         decoded_text += cipher_text[row][col]
18
19 # Print the result
20 print "Decoded text (column-by-column):"
21 print decoded_text

```

Listing 5.2: Python Code to Find Key

```

1 # Plaintext and Ciphertext have been omitted because they would
  not fit in the page.
2 plaintext = "..."
3 ciphertext = "..."
4
5 # Known key length
6 key_length = 6
7
8 # Helper function to convert letters to alphabetical index (A=0, B
  =1, ..., Z=25)
9 def letter_to_index(letter):
10     return ord(letter) - ord('A')
11
12 # Helper function to convert index back to a letter
13 def index_to_letter(index):
14     return chr(index + ord('A'))
15
16 # Calculate the key by determining the shift for each character in
  the key
17 key = ""
18 for i in range(key_length):
19     # Compute the shift for each position in the key
20     shift = letter_to_index(ciphertext[i]) - letter_to_index(
  plaintext[i]) % 26
21     key.append(index_to_letter(shift))
22
23 # Join the key characters into a string
24 key_word = ''.join(keys)
25 print "Derived key:", key_word

```

Exercise 6.1

Let E be the elliptic curve $E : Y^2 = X^3 - 2X + 4$ and let $P = (0, 2)$ and $Q = (3, -5)$. (You should check that P and Q are on the curve E .)

1. Compute $P \oplus Q$.
2. Compute $P \oplus P$ and $Q \oplus Q$.

Solution. We have $E : Y^2 = X^3 - 2X + 4$ with $P = (0, 2)$ and $Q = (3, -5)$.

1. For $P \oplus Q$, we need to find lambda:

$$\lambda = \frac{-5 - 2}{3 - 0} = -\frac{7}{3}.$$

Using λ , we can find the X -coordinate of $P \oplus Q$:

$$X_3 = \left(-\frac{7}{3}\right)^2 - 0 - 3 = \frac{22}{9},$$

and for the y -coordinate:

$$\left(-\frac{7}{3}\right) \left(0 - \frac{22}{9}\right) - 2 = \frac{100}{27}.$$

Hence, $P \oplus Q = \left(\frac{22}{9}, \frac{100}{27}\right)$.

2. For $P \oplus P$, we need to find lambda:

$$\lambda = \frac{3(0)^2 - 2}{2 \cdot 2} = -\frac{1}{2}.$$

For X_3 :

$$X_3 = \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - 0 - 0 = \frac{1}{4},$$

and for Y_3 :

$$Y_3 = \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(0 - \frac{1}{4}\right) - 2 = -\frac{15}{8}.$$

Hence, $P \oplus P = \left(\frac{1}{4}, -\frac{15}{8}\right)$.



Exercise 6.2

Check that the points $P = (-1, 4)$ and $Q = (2, 5)$ are points on the elliptic curve $E: Y^2 = X^3 + 17$.

1. Compute the points $P \oplus Q$ and $P \ominus Q$.
2. Compute the points $P \oplus P$ and $Q \oplus Q$.

Solution. We have $E: Y^2 = X^3 + 17$ with $P = (-1, 4)$ and $Q = (2, 5)$.

1. For $P \oplus Q$, we need to find λ , X_3 , and Y_3 :

$$\lambda = \frac{5 - 4}{2 - (-1)} = \frac{1}{3}, \quad X_3 = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 - (-1) - 2 = -\frac{8}{9},$$

$$Y_3 = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \left(-1 - \left(-\frac{8}{9}\right)\right) - 4 = -\frac{109}{27}.$$

$$\text{Hence, } P \oplus Q = \left(-\frac{8}{9}, -\frac{109}{27}\right).$$

For $P \ominus Q$, note $-Q = (2, -5)$. Now, we need to find λ , X_3 , and Y_3 :

$$\lambda = \frac{-5 - 4}{2 - (-1)} = -3, \quad X_3 = (-3)^2 - (-1) - 2 = 8,$$

$$Y_3 = (-3)(-1 - 8) - 4 = 23.$$

$$\text{Hence, } P \ominus Q = (8, 23).$$

2. For $P \oplus P$, we need to find λ , X_3 , and Y_3 :

$$\lambda = \frac{3(-1)^2 + 0}{2(4)} = \frac{3}{8}, \quad X_3 = \left(\frac{3}{8}\right)^2 - (-1) - (-1) = \frac{137}{64},$$

$$Y_3 = \frac{3}{8} \left(-1 - \frac{137}{64}\right) - 4 = -\frac{2651}{512}.$$

$$\text{Hence, } P \oplus P = \left(\frac{137}{64}, -\frac{2651}{512}\right).$$

For $Q \oplus Q$, we need to find λ , X_3 , and Y_3 :

$$\lambda = \frac{3(2^2) + 0}{2(5)} = \frac{6}{5}, \quad X_3 = \left(\frac{6}{5}\right)^2 - 2 - 2 = -\frac{64}{25},$$

$$Y_3 = \frac{6}{5} \left(2 - \left(-\frac{64}{25}\right)\right) - 5 = \frac{59}{125}.$$



$$\text{Hence, } Q \oplus Q = \left(-\frac{64}{25}, \frac{59}{125} \right).$$

Exercise 6.3

Suppose that the cubic polynomial $X^3 + AX + B$ factors as

$$X^3 + AX + B = (X - e_1)(X - e_2)(X - e_3).$$

Prove that $4A^3 + 27B^2 = 0$ if and only if two (or more) of e_1 , e_2 , and e_3 are the same. (Hint. Multiply out the right-hand side and compare coefficients to relate A and B to e_1 , e_2 , and e_3 .)

Solution. Let $X^3 + AX + B = (X - e_1)(X - e_2)(X - e_3)$. Expanding the right-hand side, we get

$$X^3 - (e_1 + e_2 + e_3)X^2 + (e_1e_2 + e_1e_3 + e_2e_3)X - e_1e_2e_3.$$

This implies $e_1 + e_2 + e_3 = 0$, $e_1e_2 + e_1e_3 + e_2e_3 = A$, and $-e_1e_2e_3 = B$.

Suppose that $e_2 = e_3$. Then we have,

$$e_1 + 2e_2 = 0, \quad 2e_1e_2 + e_2^2 = A, \quad e_1e_2^2 = B.$$

So, $e_1 = -2e_2$, and substituting this into the second equation gives

$$-3e_2^2 = A, \quad -2e_2^3 = B.$$

Hence, $4A^3 + 27B^2 = 4(-3e_2^2)^3 + 27(-2e_2^3)^2 = 0$.

Conversely, suppose that $4A^3 + 27B^2 = 0$. Substituting the expressions for A and B from above and multiplying it out gives:

$$\begin{aligned} 4A^3 + 27B^2 &= (4e_2^3 + 12e_3e_2^2 + 4e_3^3)e_1^3 + (12e_3e_2^3 + 51e_3^2e_2^3 + 12e_3^3e_2^2)e_1 \\ &\quad + (12e_3^2e_2^3 + 12e_3^3e_2^2)e_1 \\ &\quad + 4e_3^3e_2^3 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting $e_1 = -e_2 - e_3$, we get

$$4A^3 + 27B^2 = -4e_2^6 - 12e_3e_2^5 + 3e_3^2e_2^4 + 26e_3^3e_2^3 + 3e_3^4e_2^2 - 12e_3^5e_2 - 4e_3^6.$$

Because this expression is divisible by $e_2 + 2e_3$, $(e_2 + 2e_3)^2$, and $(e_3 + 2e_2)^2$. So, we find that

$$4A^3 + 27B^2 = -(e_2 - e_3)^2(e_2 + 2e_3)^2(e_3 + 2e_2)^2.$$

Hence, using the fact that $e_1 + e_2 + e_3 = 0$, we find that

$$4A^3 + 27B^2 = 0 \quad \text{if and only if} \quad (e_2 - e_3)^2(e_1 - e_3)^2(e_1 - e_2)^2 = 0.$$



Exercise 6.5

For each of the following elliptic curves E and finite fields \mathbb{F}_p , make a list of the set of points $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$.

1. $E : Y^2 = X^3 + 3X + 2$ over \mathbb{F}_7 .
2. $E : Y^2 = X^3 + 2X + 7$ over \mathbb{F}_{11} .

Solution.

1. We have $E : Y^2 = X^3 + 3X + 2$ on \mathbb{F}_7 .

First, list of squares modulo 7: $0^2 = 0, 1^2 = (-1)^2 = (6)^2 = 1, 2^2 = 5^2 = 4, 3^2 = 4^2 = 2$. Now, we can list the points on the curve:

$$0^3 + 3(0) + 2 = 2$$

$$1^3 + 3(1) + 2 = 6$$

$$2^3 + 3(2) + 2 = 2$$

$$3^3 + 3(3) + 2 = 3$$

$$4^3 + 3(4) + 2 = 1$$

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

$$6^3 + 3(6) + 2 = 5.$$

Hence, the points on the curve are $\{(0, 3), (0, 4); (2, 3), (2, 4); (4, 1), (4, 6); (5, 3), (5, 4); \mathcal{O}\}$. Therefore, there are 9 total points on the curve.

2. We have $E : Y^2 = X^3 + 2X + 7$ on \mathbb{F}_{11} .

We list the squares modulo 11: $0^2 = 0, 1^2 = (-1)^2 = (10)^2 = 1, 2^2 = 9^2 = 4, 3^2 = 8^2 = 9, 4^2 = 7^2 = 5, 5^2 = 6^2 = 3$. Now, we can list the points on the curve:

$$0^3 + 2(0) + 7 = 7$$

$$1^3 + 2(1) + 7 = 10$$

$$2^3 + 2(2) + 7 = 8$$

$$3^3 + 2(3) + 7 = 7$$

$$4^3 + 2(4) + 7 = 2$$

$$5^3 + 2(5) + 7 = 10$$

$$6^3 + 2(6) + 7 = 4$$

$$7^3 + 2(7) + 7 = 1$$

$$8^3 + 2(8) + 7 = 7$$

$$9^3 + 2(9) + 7 = 6$$

$$10^3 + 2(10) + 7 = 4.$$



Hence, the points on the curve are $\{(6, 2), (6, 9); (7, 1), (7, 10); (10, 2), (10, 9); \mathcal{O}\}$. Therefore, there are 7 total points on the curve.

Exercise 6.8

Let E be the elliptic curve

$$E : Y^2 = X^3 + X + 1$$

and let $P = (4, 2)$ and $Q = (0, 1)$ be points on E modulo 5. Solve the elliptic curve discrete logarithm problem for P and Q , that is, find a positive integer n such that $Q = nP$.

Solution. We have $E : Y^2 = X^3 + X + 1$ with $P = (4, 2)$ and $Q = (0, 1)$ on \mathbb{F}_5 . Solve $Q = nP$:

$$1P = (4, 2)$$

$$2P = (3, 4)$$

$$3P = (2, 4)$$

$$4P = (0, 4)$$

$$5P = (0, 1).$$

$$n = 5.$$

Exercise 6.11

Use the double-and-add algorithm (Table 6.3) to compute nP in $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$ for each of the following curves and points, as we did in Fig. 6.4.

1. $E : Y^2 = X^3 + 23X + 13$, $p = 83$, $P = (24, 14)$, $n = 19$;
2. $E : Y^2 = X^3 + 143X + 367$, $p = 613$, $P = (195, 9)$, $n = 23$;

Solution.

1. We have $E : Y^2 = X^3 + 23X + 13$ with $p = 83$, $P = (24, 14)$, and $n = 19$. We can compute nP using the double-and-add algorithm:

$$1. \ n = 19 = 16 + 2 + 1.$$



2.

$$1P = (24, 14)$$

$$2P = (30, 8)$$

$$4P = (24, 69)$$

$$8P = (30, 75)$$

$$16P = (24, 14)$$

$$3. \quad 19P = (24, 14) + (30, 8) + (24, 14) = (24, 69).$$

2. We have $E: Y^2 = X^3 + 143X + 367$ with $p = 613$, $P = (195, 9)$, and $n = 23$. We can compute nP using the double-and-add algorithm:

$$1. \quad n = 23 = 16 + 4 + 2 + 1.$$

2.

$$1P = (195, 9)$$

$$2P = (407, 428)$$

$$4P = (121, 332)$$

$$8P = (408, 110)$$

$$16P = (481, 300)$$

$$3. \quad 23P = (481, 300) + (121, 332) + (407, 428) + (195, 9) = (485, 573).$$

Exercise 6.14

Alice and Bob agree to use elliptic Diffie-Hellman key exchange with the prime, elliptic curve, and point

$$p = 2671, \quad E: Y^2 = X^3 + 171X + 853, \quad P = (1980, 431) \in E(\mathbb{F}_{2671}).$$

1. Alice sends Bob the point $Q_A = (2110, 543)$. Bob decides to use the secret multiplier $n_B = 1943$. What point should Bob send to Alice?
2. What is their secret shared value?
4. Alice and Bob decide to exchange a new piece of secret information using the same prime, curve, and point. This time Alice sends Bob only the X -coordinate $X_A = 2$ of her point Q_A . Bob decides to use the secret multiplier $n_B = 875$. What single number modulo p should Bob send to Alice, and what is their secret shared value?



Solution.

1. We have $p = 2671$, $E: Y^2 = X^3 + 171X + 853$, and $P = (1980, 431)$ on \mathbb{F}_{2671} . Alice sends $Q_A = (2110, 543)$ to Bob. Bob uses $n_B = 1943$. We calculate $n_BP = Q_B = 1943(1980, 431) = (1432, 667)$ to be sent to Alice.
2. $n_BQ_A = 1943(2110, 543) = (2424, 911)$ is the shared secret value.
4. $n_BP = Q_B = 875(1980, 431) = (161, 2040) \Rightarrow X_B = 161$ to be sent to Alice. Now calculate $n_BX_A = 875(2, 96) = (1707, 1252)$ which gives $X = 1708$ as the shared secret value.