

# Cryptography Notes

Raffaele Castagna

Academic Year 2025-2026

## Contents

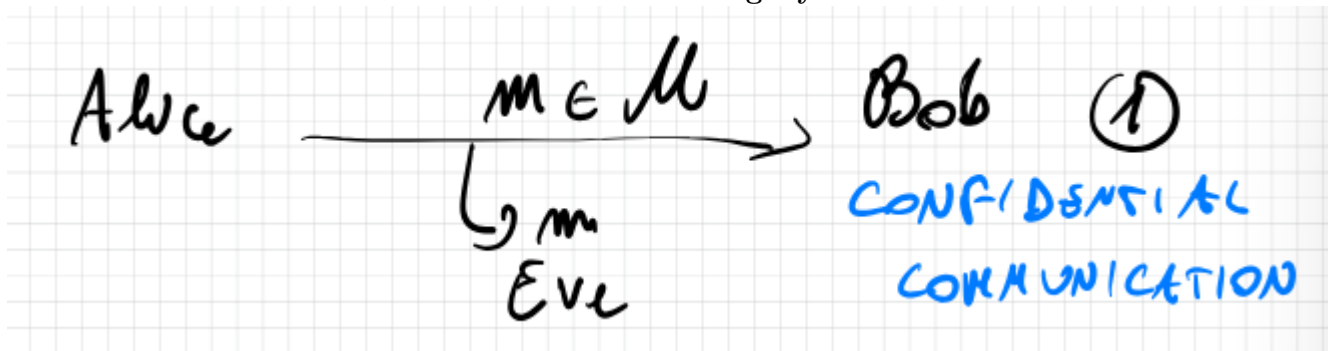
<b>1</b>	<b>Intro to Cryptography</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Secure Communication . . . . .	2
1.2	Unconditional Security . . . . .	2
1.3	Perfect Secrecy . . . . .	3
1.4	OTP . . . . .	3
1.5	Proof that the lemmas imply eachother . . . . .	4
1.6	Message Authentication Codes . . . . .	5

# 1 Intro to Cryptography

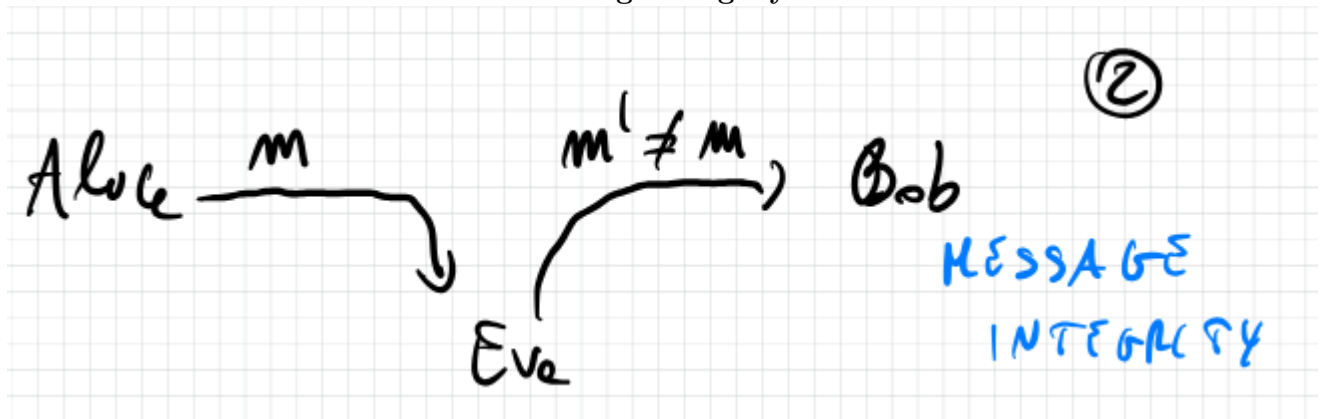
## 1.1 Secure Communication

We have multiple goals in cryptography, the most important ones being:

### Confidential Integrity



### Message Integrity



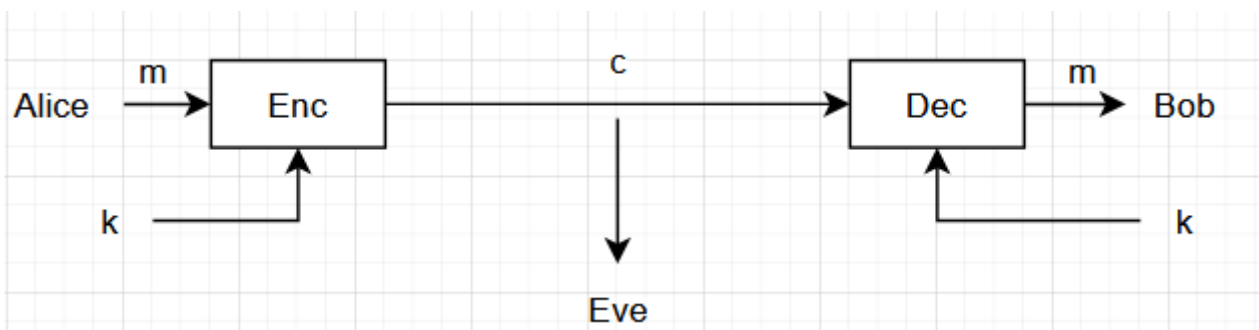
Basically we want our message to be both **confidential**, so no-one except the intended target sees it and we it to be unmodified, so that its **integrity** has not been compromised.

There are many different ways to do this, but in our case we only see two major ways:

- **Symmetric Cryptography:** Where Alice and Bob share a key  $k \in \mathcal{K}$ , the key is random and unknown to
- **Asymmetric Cryptography:** Where Alice and Bob do not share a key, but they have each their own key pair  $(p_k, s_k)$  where  $p_k$  is the public key and  $s_k$  is the secret/private key

## 1.2 Unconditional Security

To achieve confidential communication, we use symmetric cryptography.



With  $m \in \mathcal{M}, c \in \mathcal{C}, k \in \mathcal{K}$

In this case we have Alice sending a message  $m$  which is then encrypted utilizing a randomly generate key  $k$  to generate the cyphertext  $c$ , after that to get back to the initial message  $m$ , Bob will then need to decrypt it utilizing his own key  $k$  on cyphertext  $c$ .

In a more formal way we can define Symmetric encryption (SKE) as  $\Pi = (Enc, Dec)$  such that:

- $Enc : \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$
- $Dec : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$
- $k$  is uniform over  $\mathcal{K}$  ( $k$  is chosen according to some distribution)

An encryption scheme must satisfy the correctness requirement:

**Definition 1.**  $\forall k \in \mathcal{K}, \forall m \in \mathcal{M}$  it holds that  $Dec(k, Enc(k, m)) = m$

**Kerchoff's Principle:**

**Definition 2.** Security should not depend on the secrecy of the algorithm but on the secrecy of the key.

### 1.3 Perfect Secrecy

**Definition 3.** Let  $M$  be any distribution over  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $K$  be uniform over  $\mathcal{K}$  (Then observe  $C = Enc(K, M)$  in a distribution over  $\mathcal{C}$ ), we say that  $(Enc, Dec) = \Pi$  is **perfectly secret** if  $\forall M, \forall m \in \mathcal{M}, \forall c \in \mathcal{C} : Pr[M = m] = Pr[M = m | C = c]$  (The probability that  $M$  is  $m$  is equal to the probability that  $M$  is  $m$  knowing that  $C$  is  $c$ , so by knowing the cyphertext, we don't gain additional information).

**Lemma 1.** The following are equivalent:

- Perfect Secrecy
- $M$  and  $C$  are independent
- $\forall m, m' \in \mathcal{M}, \forall c \in \mathcal{C} : Pr[Enc(k, m) = c] = Pr[Enc(k, m') = c]$  with  $k$  being uniform over  $\mathcal{K}$

### 1.4 OTP

Let us see if OTP (One Time Pad) is perfectly secret

We know that the OTP uses  $\oplus$  to generate and later decypher the cyphertext, we have that  $K = M = C = \{0, 1\}^N$  with  $N$  being the length of the string, we know that:

- $Enc(k, m) = k \oplus m$
- $Dec(k, c) = c \oplus k = (k \oplus m) \oplus k = m$

To prove that it is perfectly secret let us utilize the third lemma:

$$Pr[C = c | M = m'] = Pr[Enc_k(m') = c] = Pr[m' \oplus K = c] = Pr[K = m' \oplus c] = 2^{-N}$$

and therefore:

$$Pr[Enc(k, m') = c] = 2^{-N}$$

There seem to be some limitations, the key can only be used once and it must as long as the message, let's assume we encrypt  $m$  and  $m'$ :  $c_1 = k \oplus m_1$   $c_2 = k \oplus m_2$  therefore  $c_1 \oplus c_2 = m_1 \oplus m_2$ , so if I know a pair  $(m_1, c_1)$  then I could compute  $m_2$ , therefore we cannot encrypt two messages with the same key.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $\Pi$  be a SKE then we have  $|\mathcal{K}| \geq |\mathcal{M}|$ .

*Proof.* Take  $\prod$  to be uniform over  $\mathcal{M}$ . Take any  $c$  s.t.  $\Pr[C=c] > 0$ .

Consider  $\mathcal{M}' = \{Dec(k, c) : k \in \mathcal{K}\}$  and assume  $|\mathcal{K}| < |\mathcal{M}|$  by contraddiction, then:

$$|\mathcal{M}'| \leq |\mathcal{K}| < |\mathcal{M}| \rightarrow |\mathcal{M}'| < |\mathcal{M}| \rightarrow \exists m \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \mathcal{M}'$$

Now:

$$\Pr[M = m] = |\mathcal{M}|^{-1} \text{ but } \Pr[M = m|C = c] = 0$$

□

## 1.5 Proof that the lemmas imply eachother

Let us prove that  $1 \implies 2 \implies 3 \implies 1$

Let us start by proving that  $1 \implies 2$ :

*Proof.* We know that  $\Pr[M = m] = \Pr[M = m|C = c] \rightarrow \frac{\Pr[M=m \wedge C=c]}{\Pr[C=c]} = \Pr[M = m \wedge C = c] = \Pr[M = m] * \Pr[C = c]$  and therefore we have proved their independence, so  $I(M; C) = 0$

□

Let us prove that  $2 \implies 3$

*Proof.* Let us fix an  $m$  from  $M$  and  $c$  from  $C$ :

$$\Pr[Enc(K, m) = c] = \Pr[Enc(K, M) = c|M = m] \implies \Pr[C = c|M = m] = \Pr[C = c]$$

Remember that  $Enc(\dots)$  is  $c$ !

We do the same thing for  $m'$  and we get:  $\Pr[C = c|M = m] = \Pr[C = c]$  for both of them. Therefore:  $\Pr[Enc(K, m') = c] = \Pr[C = c]$

□

And now  $3 \implies 1$ : Take any  $c$  from  $C$ :

$$\Pr[C = c] = \Pr[C = c|M = m] \text{ by 2 (we are claiming this)}$$

If the claim is true then:

$$\Pr[M = m|C = c] * \Pr[C = c] = \Pr[M = m \wedge C = c] = \Pr[C = c|M = m] * \Pr[M = m] \implies$$

$$\implies \Pr[M = m] = \frac{\Pr[M=m|C=c]*\Pr[C=c]}{\Pr[C=c|M=m]}$$

However we still need to prove the claim:

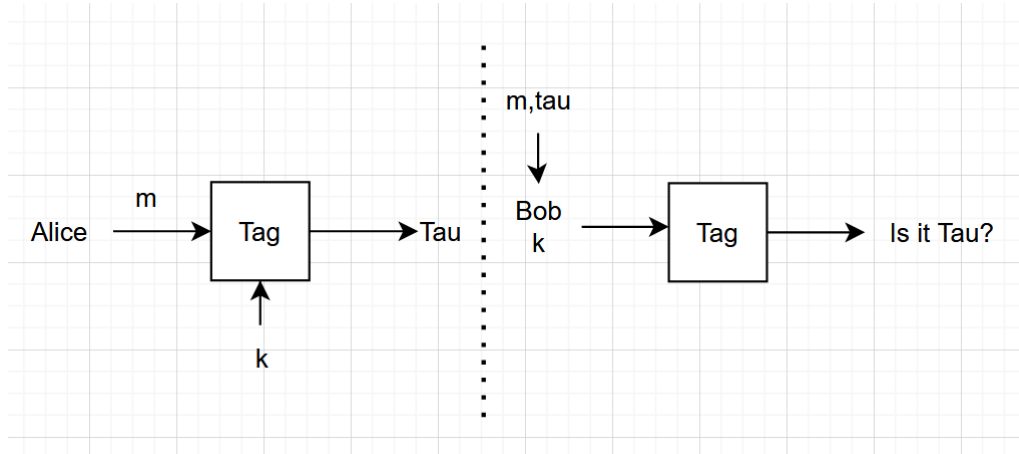
$$\Pr[C = c] = \sum_{m'} \Pr[C = c \wedge M = m'] = \sum_{m'} \Pr[C = c|M = m'] * \Pr[M = m'] =$$

$$\sum_{m'} \Pr[Enc(K, m') = c|M = m'] * \Pr[M = m'] = \sum_{m'} \Pr[Enc(K, m') = c] * \Pr[M = m']$$

$$\sum_{m'} \Pr[Enc(k, m) = c] * \Pr[M = m'] = \Pr[Enc(k, m) = c] * \sum_{m'} \Pr[M = m'] \Leftarrow 1$$

$$\Pr[Enc(k, m) = c] = \Pr[Enc(K, M) = c|M = m] \rightarrow \Pr[C = c|M = m]$$

## 1.6 Message Authentication Codes



In case it is  $\tau$  then we accept it, else no.

There is no need to prove correctness as  $\tau$  is deterministic, so if we had the same  $k$  and  $m$ , we should get the same  $\tau$

### Unforgeability

It should be hard to forge  $\tau'$  such on msg  $m'$  and it should be hard to produce  $(m, \tau)$  as long as  $m' \neq m$

**Definition 4. Statistical secure MAC** We say that  $\Pi = \text{Tag}$  has  $\epsilon$ -statistical security (unforgeability) if  $\forall m, m' \in \mathcal{M}$  with  $m \neq m' \forall \tau, \tau' \in \mathcal{T}$ :

$$\Pr[\text{Tag}(K, m') = \tau' \mid \text{Tag}(K, m) = \tau] \leq \epsilon$$

**TLDR:** Fix any  $m, m'$  with  $m' \neq m$  take  $\tau, \tau'$  on the condition that  $\tau$  is tag of  $m$  and given  $\tau'$ , it is always less than or equal to  $\epsilon$

Here  $\epsilon$  is a parameter e.g.  $2^{-80}$

**Exercise** Let us prove that it is impossible to get  $\epsilon = 0$

Because a random  $\tau' \in \mathcal{T}$  has probability  $\geq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|}$  to be correct it is impossible.

Note that the definition is valid for One-Time!

We will show:

- The notion is Achievable
- It's inefficient, in fact:

**Theorem 2.** Any  $t$ -time  $2^{-\lambda}$  statistically secure Tag has a key of some  $(t+1)*\lambda$

We will now show that any form of hash function with a particular property satisfies the definition.

**Definition 5. Pairwise independence** A family  $\mathcal{H} = \{h_k : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}\}_{k \in \mathcal{K}}$  is pairwise independent if:  $\forall m, m' \in \mathcal{M}$  s.t.  $m \neq m'$  then:  $(h(K, m), h(K, m'))$  is uniform over  $\mathcal{T}^2 = \mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{T}$  for  $K$  uniform over  $\mathcal{K}$