

POLYLAB

EECE 455 Project

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OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Purpose
- Features
- Users' Journey
- Technologies Used
- Architecture Overview
- Calculator Testing
- Conclusion
- Demo

INTRODUCTION

This project implements a $\text{GF}(2^m)$ polynomial arithmetic calculator for $2 \leq m \leq 8$, supporting:

- Addition & subtraction (XOR)
- Multiplication with modular reduction
- Division using multiplicative inverse
- Inversion via the Extended Euclidean Algorithm
- Exponentiation
- Hexadecimal input
- Full support for Binary, Hexadecimal, and Decimal output

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

■ The Platform Aims To:

- Provide a secure, role-based system for students, instructors, & admins
- Manage classrooms, assignments, submissions, and learning content
- Enforce strong security:
 - MFA
 - CSRF protection
 - Safe sessions
 - Hardened headers
- Offer a high-assurance $GF(2^m)$ calculator for cryptography coursework

WHY THIS PROJECT MATTERS

- GF(2^m) arithmetic is core to cryptography (AES, ECC, error correction)
- Students struggle to visualize finite-field operations
- Existing tools are either too technical or lack step-by-step clarity
- Our platform solves this with:
 - Intuitive interface
 - Validated operations
 - Clear polynomial-level visualization in one place

Features

01

Authentication

Secure signup, login, and email verification processes.

02

User Roles

Defined roles for students, instructors, and admins.

03

Classroom Management

Create and manage classrooms, assignments, and grading.

04

Admin Panel

Review instructor requests and manage user roles effectively.

05

GF(2^m) Calculator

Perform arithmetic operations on polynomials in GF(2^m).

06

Security Features

Multi-factor authentication and strong security headers ensure safety.

STUDENTS CAN

- join classrooms,
- view materials,
- submit assignments, use the calculator.

INSTRUCTORS CAN

- create classrooms,
- post assignments/material,
- grade and review submissions.

ADMIN CAN

- approve instructors,
- manage roles,
- oversee platform.

▪ TECHNOLOGIES USED



FRONTEND

- React 18, TypeScript
- Vite
- TailwindCSS



BACKEND

- FastAPI, SQLAlchemy, Pydantic v2
- Argon2 password hashing
- pyotp (TOTP MFA)
- SQLite (default), Uvicorn



SECURITY

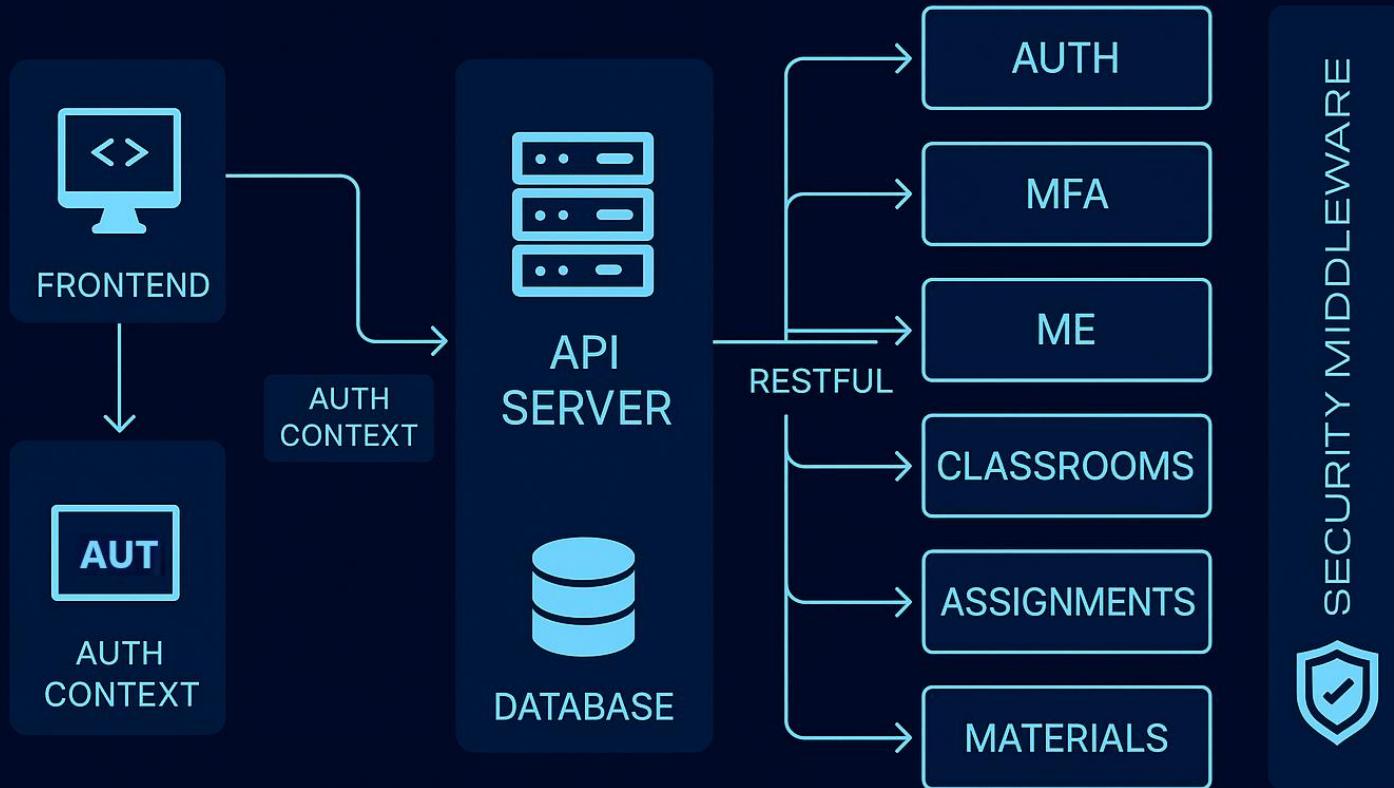
- HttpOnly cookies
- SameSite=Lax
- CSRF double-submit protection
- Rate limiting
- Security headers (CSP, XFO, XCTO, Referrer-Policy)
- Optional HSTS
- MFA (TOTP)



TOOLS & LIBRARIES

- JWT tokens for email verification
- OpenAPI/Swagger, File uploads

ARCHITECTURE OVERVIEW



GF(2^m) calculator testing & verification

01

Exhaustive Brute-Force Testing ($m = 2 \dots 8$)

- Tested every element a and b in $\text{GF}(2^m)$
- Verified:

- ✓ Addition (XOR)
- ✓ Multiplication
- ✓ Modular reduction
- ✓ Inversion
- ✓ Exponentiation

- Total: **tens of thousands of test cases per field**

02

Independent “Oracle” Implementation

- A second slow but mathematically simple model used to verify correctness:

- ✓ Bitwise polynomial multiplication
- ✓ Polynomial long-division
- ✓ Brute-force inverse search
- ✓ Naïve exponentiation

All outputs matched perfectly with our optimized implementation.

$\text{GF}(2^m)$ calculator testing & verification

03

Algebraic Identity Validation

- Checked fundamental field identities:
 - $a+a=0$
 - $a \cdot a^{-1}=1$
 - $a^{2^m-1}=1$ (nonzero a)
- Neutral elements:
 - $a+0=a$
 - $a \cdot 1=a$

04

AES Gold Standards ($\text{GF}(256)$)

- Verified well-known AES operations:
 - $57 \times 13 = FE$
 - $57^2 = A5$
 - $\text{inv}(57) = CA$ and $57 \cdot CA = 1$

We built a tool where
mathematics, security, and
learning meet.

Because “When cryptography
becomes visual, understanding
becomes possible.”

conclusion

- The system is a complete, secure, role-based educational platform
- Built with modern frontend and backend technologies
- Implements security best practices
- Includes a mathematically guaranteed accurate $GF(2^m)$ calculator
- Demonstrates strong architectural design, correctness, and reliability



demo TIME!

THANK YOU
FOR LISTENING !