Homework 2

Due: 7:00PM, Saturday, 11/7/2015

Name: ID:

1. Keyed hash cannot be used for encryption because it takes an arbitrary-length string and maps it to a fixed-length string. If we restrict the input to be *n* bits and output also *n* bits so that the input space and the output space are equal, can it be used for encryption? (5 Points)

Keyed hash can not be used for encryption even if the size of output is the same as the size of input because it does not guarantee one-to-one mapping. Hash is one-way function and it is computationally infeasible to find a message that has a given message digest. In order words, keyed hash algorithm is noninvertible and decryption cannot practically find out what message corresponds to a given message digest.

2. Existing message digests are reasonably fast, but here is a much faster function: take your message, divide it into 128-bit chunks, and XOR all the chunks together to get a 128-bit result. Then, perform the standard message digest on the result. Is this a good message digest function? (5 Points)

No. It is fairly easy to generate another message with the same 128-bit result.

3. How to use a hash algorithm for encryption and how to use a secret key cipher for hashing? (10 Points)

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4. Most viruses infect your system by implanting themselves into the existing executable files on the disk. Explain how to use a hash algorithm to design a virus detector, which identifies the files that may be infected by viruses (10 Points)

A virus detector may generate the file digests by applying a hash algorithm on the files and then stores the file digests securely. Then the virus detector periodically computes the file digests and compares them with the stored version. If a virus changes the content of a file, the new digest will be different from the original digest. In this way, a virus detector can detect the modification of a file by a virus.

5. Assume a good 128-bit message digest function. Assume there is a particular value, *d*, for the message digest and you want to find a message that has a message digest of *d*. Given that there are many more 2000-bit messages that map to a particular 128-bit message digest than 1000-bit messages, would you theoretically have to test fewer 2000-bit messages to find one that has a message digest of *d* than if you were to test 1000-bit messages? (5 Points)

No. The expected number of messages you need to try is 2^{128} in either case.

6. For RSA key generation, given p = 23, q = 17, and e = 5, calculate d. Give the process of calculation. (10 points)

$$n = pq = 391$$

$$\varphi(n) = (p-1)(q-1) = 22 \times 16 = 352$$

$$\frac{352}{5} = 70 \dots 2$$

$$\frac{5}{2} = 2 \dots 1$$

$$2 = 352 - 5 \times 70$$

$$1 = 5 - 2 \times 2 = 5 - (352 - 5 \times 70) \times 2 = 5 \times 141 - 352 \times 2$$

$$d = 141$$

7. In RSA, given that the primes p and q are approximately the same size, approximately how big is $\varphi(n)$ compared to n? (10 points)

$$\varphi(n) = (p-1)(q-1) = pq - p - q + 1 \approx n - 2\sqrt{n} = \left(1 - \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}\right)n$$

8. Suppose Fred sees your RSA signature on m_1 and on m_2 (i.e. he sees $m_1^d \mod n$ and $m_2^d \mod n$). How does he compute the signature on each of $m_1^j \mod n$ (for positive integer j), $m_1^{-1} \mod n$, $m_1.m_2 \mod n$, and in general $m_1^j \cdot m_2^k \mod n$ (for arbitrary integers j and k)? (20 Points)

 $(m_1^{\ j})^d \mod n = (m_1^{\ d})^j \mod n$, so to compute your signature on $m_1^{\ j} \mod n$, Fred just raises your signature on m_1 to the jth power, $\mod n$.

 $(m_1^{-1})^d \mod n = (m_1^d)^{-1} \mod n$, so to compute your signature on $m_1^{-1} \mod n$, Fred just computes the inverse $\mod n$ of your signature on m_1 .

 $(m_1 \cdot m_2)^d \mod n = m_1^d \cdot m_2^d \mod n$, so to compute your signature on $m_1 \cdot m_2 \mod n$, Fred just multiplies your signature on m_1 by your signature on m_2 , $\mod n$.

So for the general case of $m_1^{j} m_2^{k} \mod n$, Fred gets your signature on $m_1^{\operatorname{sgn} j} \mod n$ and raises it to the |j|th power, mod n, then gets your signature on $m_2^{\operatorname{sgn} k} \mod n$ and raises it to the |k|th power, mod n, and finally multiplies the results together, mod n. [$\operatorname{sgn} x = x/|x|$]

9. One solution to Man-in-the-Middle Attack over Diffie-Halleman key exchange is encrypting the Diffie-Hellman value with the other side's public key. Why is this the case? (5 Points)

The attacker will not be able to decrypt the Diffie-Hallman values sent to him and so will not be able to compute the shared secrets.

10. Can you modify the encryption with hash specified in Mixing In the Plaintext so that instead of $b_i = \text{MD}(K_{AB}|c_{i-1})$ we use $b_i = \text{MD}(K_{AB}|m_{i-1})$? How do you decrypt it? Why wouldn't the modified scheme be as secure? (Hint: what would happen if the plaintext consisted of all zeroes?) (20 points)

 $m_i = c_i \oplus b_i$. So each m_i can be determined before it is needed to compute b_{i+1} .

This scheme is not secure, because patterns in the plaintext will produce corresponding patterns in the ciphertext. For example, when the plaintext consists of all zeros, b_i and c_i are the same for all m_i when $i \ge 2$.