

# The RSA Cryptosystem

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# BASICS

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# RSA in a nutshell

- Rivest-Shamir-Adleman, 1978
  - Rivest, R.; Shamir, A.; Adleman, L. A Method for Obtaining Digital Signatures and Public-Key Cryptosystems, Communications of the ACM 21 (2): 120–126, February 1978.
- The most widely used asymmetric crypto-system
  - Patented until 2000 in US
- Many applications
  - Encryption of small pieces (e.g., key transport)
  - Digital Signatures
- Underlying one-way function
  - integer factorization problem

## RSA one-way function

- One-way function  $y = f(x)$ 
  - $y = f(x)$  is easy
  - $x = f^{-1}(y)$  is hard
- RSA one-way function
  - Multiplication is easy
  - Factoring is hard

→ NO EXISTING REALTIME ALGORITHMS

## Mathematical setting

- RSA encryption and decryption is done in the integer ring  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ 
  - PT and CT are elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$
  - Modular computation plays a central role

# Key Generation

$G, E, D$

1. Choose two <sup>1024 bit</sup> large, distinct primes  $p, q$    
 *DISPARI, UNICO NUMERO PARI, PARO E' 2*
2. Compute **modulus**  $n = p \times q$    
 *NUMERO IN  $Z_n$  CHE SONO COPRIMI*
3. Compute **Euler's Phi function**  $\phi(n) = (p-1) \times (q-1)$    
 *RISPARMO AN  $n$*    
 *DATO CHE  $n = p \times q$*    
 *PARI*   
 *ALORA*
4. Randomly select the **public (encryption) exponent**  $e$ ,   
  $1 < e < \phi(n)$ , s.t.  $\gcd(e, \phi(n)) = 1$    
 *SCU-TUAT*   
 *3, 11, 65, 216, 1*   
 *e DEVE ESSERE PRIMO RELATIVAMENTE*   
 *A  $\phi(n)$*
5. Compute the unique **private (decryption) exponent**  $d$ ,  $1 < d < \phi$ , such that  $e \cdot d \equiv 1 \pmod{\phi}$    
 *→ SOLO d POSSIBILE*
6. **Private key** =  $(d, n)$ , **Public key** =  $(e, n)$    
 *CREAZIONE*   
  $d = e^{-1} \pmod{\phi}$    
  $e \cdot d = 1 + t \cdot \phi \Rightarrow$  R. S. COEFFICIENTE COS 1 SOLA   
 *SCU-TUAT*

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- $\Phi(n)$  is the Euler's Phi Functions which denotes the number of integers in  $Z_m$  relatively prime to  $n$ .
- Condition  $\gcd(e, \phi(n)) = 1$  ensures that the inverse of  $e \pmod{\phi(n)}$  exists.
- Two parts of the algorithm are not trivial, namely step 1 and step 3 and 4.
- Step 4 is fundamental for the proof of RSA consistency.

# RSA Key Generation

- Comments
  - Primes  $p$  and  $q$  are 100÷200 decimal digits
    - Nowadays,  $p$  and  $q$  are 1024 bit
  - Condition  $\gcd(e, \Phi(n)) = 1$  guarantees that  $d$  exists and is unique
  - At the end of key generation,  $p$  and  $q$  must be deleted
  - Two parts of the algorithm are nontrivial:
    - Step 1
    - Steps 4-5
      - Step 5 is crucial for RSA correctness

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- $\Phi(n)$  is the Euler's Phi Functions which denotes the number of integers in  $Z_m$  relatively prime to  $n$ .
- Condition  $\gcd(e, \varphi(n)) = 1$  ensures that the inverse of  $e \bmod \varphi(n)$  exists.
- Two parts of the algorithm are not trivial, namely step 1 and step 3 and 4.
- Step 4 is fundamental for the proof of RSA consistency.

# RSA Encryption and Decryption Algorithm

- Encryption algorithm: to generate the ciphertext  $y$  from the plaintext  $x \in [0, n - 1]$ 
  - Obtain receiver's authentic public key  $(n, e)$
  - Compute  $y = x^e \bmod n$  encryption  $x^e = q \cdot n + R \rightarrow$  ESIMULAZIONE CITTA' DI PIPI
- Decryption algorithm: to obtain the plaintext  $x$  from the ciphertext  $y \in [0, n - 1]$ 
  - Compute  $x = y^d \bmod n$  PRIVATO!





## Example with artificially small numbers

### Key generation

- Let  $p = 47$  e  $q = 71$  *in RSA non si possono usare numeri così piccoli -*  
 $n = p \times q = 3337$   
 $\phi = (p-1) \times (q-1) = 46 \times 70 = 3220$
- Let  $e = 79$   
 $ed = 1 \bmod \phi$   
 $79 \times d = 1 \bmod 3220$   
 $d = 1019$

### Encryption

Let  $m = 9666683$  *messaggio → se diventa di bit intermedia come un intero!*  
Divide  $m$  into blocks  $m_i < n$   
 $m_1 = 966$ ;  $m_2 = 668$ ;  $m_3 = 3$   
Compute *cielo separamento!*  
 $c_1 = 966^{79} \bmod 3337 = 2276$   
 $c_2 = 668^{79} \bmod 3337 = 2423$   
 $c_3 = 3^{79} \bmod 3337 = 158$   
 $c = c_1 c_2 c_3 = 2276\ 2423\ 158$

### Decryption

$m_1 = 2276^{1019} \bmod 3337 = 966$   
 $m_2 = 2423^{1019} \bmod 3337 = 668$   
 $m_3 = 158^{1019} \bmod 3337 = 3$   
 $m = 966\ 668\ 3$

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# PROOF OF RSA

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## RSA consistency: proof

- We need to prove that decryption is the inverse operation of encryption,  $D_{\text{privk}}(E_{\text{pubk}}(x)) = x$ . *RELATIONE TRA CHIAVE PUBBLICA E PRIVATA*
- Step 1
  - $d \cdot e = 1 \bmod \Phi(n)$
  - By definition of mod operator  $d \cdot e = 1 + t \cdot \Phi(n)$  for some integer  $t$ . *CONDIZIONE CHIAVE*
  - Insert this expression in the decryption:  $y^d \equiv x^{ed} \equiv x^{1+t \cdot \Phi(n)} \equiv x \cdot x^{t \cdot \Phi(n)} \equiv x \cdot (x^{\Phi(n)})^t \bmod n$
- Step 2: prove that  $x \equiv x \cdot (x^{\Phi(n)})^t \bmod n$ 
  - Recall
    - Euler's Theorem: if  $\gcd(x, n) = 1$  then  $1 \equiv x^{\Phi(n)} \bmod n$
    - Minor generalization  $1 \equiv 1^t \equiv (x^{\Phi(n)})^t \bmod n$

$x^{\Phi} = 1 + t \cdot n$  *TEOREMA DI EULERO 6.3 libro*

$\Phi(n)$  is the number of integers in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  relatively prime with respect to  $n$ . Of course  $\Phi(p) = p - 1$ . See Section 6.3 of Paar's book.

# RSA consistency: proof

## • Step 2

$$x \in [0, n-1]$$

– case 1:  $\gcd(x, n) = 1$

- Euler's theorem holds
- $x \cdot (x^{\phi(n)})^t \equiv x \cdot 1 \equiv x \pmod{n}$  **Q.E.D.**

$$n = p \cdot q, x < n$$

– case 2:  $\gcd(x, n) \neq 1$

- Since  $p$  and  $q$  are primes (and  $x < n$ ) then either  $x = r \cdot p$  or  $x = s \cdot q$  with  $r < p$  and  $s < q$
- Assume  $x = r \cdot p$  then  $\gcd(x, q) = 1$
- Euler's Theorem holds in this form  $1 \equiv (x^{\phi(q)})^t \pmod{q}$ 
  - Proof:  $(x^{\phi(q)})^t \equiv (x^{(p-1)(q-1)})^t \equiv ((x^{\phi(q)})^t)^{p-1} \equiv 1^{(p-1)} \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$
- $(x^{\phi(n)})^t = 1 + u \cdot q$ , for some integer  $u$
- $x \cdot (x^{\phi(n)})^t = x + x \cdot u \cdot q = x + (r \cdot p) \cdot u \cdot q = x + r \cdot u \cdot (q \cdot p) = x + r \cdot u \cdot n$
- $x \cdot (x^{\phi(n)})^t \equiv x \pmod{n}$  **Q.E.D.**

plus simple  
non remplit

$q-1$ , se  $q$  è primo e  
considero  $\mathbb{Z}_q$

"  
TUTT, NUMERI PRIMI  
RISOLTO A  $q$   
in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$

$$\phi(q) = q-1$$

# RSA encryption and decryption



- Comments
  - RSA proof is based on Euler's theorem
  - The proof becomes simpler by using the Chinese Remainder Theorem

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# PERFORMANCE

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# RSA

- RSA algorithms for key generation, encryption and decryption are “easy”~ *Algoritmo povero!*
- They involve the following operations
  - Discrete exponentiation
  - Generation of large primes
  - Solving diophantine equations

$$e \cdot d = 1 \bmod (\phi) \Leftrightarrow e \cdot d = 1 + t \phi$$



## Computation of e and d (refined)

- Select  $e \in (1, \phi(n))$
- Apply EEA with input parameters n and e and obtain the relationship

—  $\gcd(\Phi(n), e) = s \cdot \phi(n) + t \cdot e$  (Diophantine equation)

→ RSA with more efficient DA EXTENDED EUCLID'S ALGORITHM

COROLLARY

- If  $\gcd(e, \phi(n)) = 1$  then
  - Parameter e is a valid public key
  - Unknown  $t = e^{-1} \bmod \phi(n)$ , i.e.,  $t = d \bmod \phi(n)$
- If  $\gcd(e, \phi(n)) \neq 1$  then
  - Select another value for e and repeat the process

### — Efficiency

- Number of steps is close to the number of digit of the input parameter

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See Extended Euclid Algorithm in Section 6.3 of Paar's book.



## Finding large primes

- Algorithm

repeat

$p \leftarrow \text{RNG}(x);$

// secure random generator

until isPrime(p);

// primality test

- Comment

- RNG must be secure, i.e., unpredictable

- Problems

- How many random numbers we must test before we have a prime?
- How fast can we check whether a random integer is prime?
- It turns out that both steps are reasonably fast

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### PRIMALITY TESTS

- Determining whether a number is prime or composite is a **much simpler problem** than factoring it.
- Typically a true primality test is more computationally expensive than a probabilistic one.
- A probabilistic primality test returns “composite” with certainty and “prime” with “high probability”. Therefore, before applying a true test to a candidate  $n$  the candidate should pass through a probabilistic test.

# How common are primes?

- Let  $P_i(x)$  be the number of primes less than  $x$   $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{P_i(x)}{x} = \frac{1}{\ln x}$
  - Prime Numbers Theorem
    - For a very large  $x$ ,  $P_i(x)$  tends to  $x/\ln(x)$  *TUTTI CEN ACQUA PRIME SONO DISPARI*
    - Furthermore, primes are distributed approximately uniformly over  $[2, x]$  *DI TROVARE UN PRIMO*
  - Probability for a random odd  $p$  to be prime  $\approx 2/\ln(p)$  *PR*
    - As we test only odd numbers  $P = x/\ln(x)/2 = 2/\ln(x)$  *PROBABILITA' DI TROVARE UN PRIMO*
    - Expected number of trials to find a prime  $p < x$  is  $\ln(x)/2$  *STRAIS =  $\frac{\ln(x)}{2}$  LA QUANTITA'*
- 18 VIA BENE, EFFICIENTE*

PRIME NUMBERS THEOREM. Let  $P_i(x)$  be the number of primes less than  $x$ . The Prime Numbers Theorem tells us that for a very large  $x$ ,  $P_i(x)$  tends to  $x/\ln x$ . Furthermore, these primes are distributed approximately uniformly over  $[2, x]$ .

The random generator generates odd numbers less than  $x$ . Odd numbers are  $x/2$ . It follows that the probability of finding a prime less than  $x$  is equal to  $(x/\ln x)/(x/2) = 2/\ln x$ . In other words, it is necessary to generate and test  $(\ln x)/2$  odd numbers before finding a prime.

EXAMPLE. Let us consider 1024-bit modulus RSA. It follows that  $p$  and  $q$  are 512-bits. The probability of generating one of these primes is  $P = 2/(512 \ln 2) \approx 1/177$ . In other words, we expect to test 177 odd numbers before we find one that is prime.

## Primality tests

- Primality tests are computationally much easier than factorization
- Practical primality tests are probabilistic
  - At the question: “is  $p^*$  prime?” they answer
    - $p^*$  is composed which is always a true statement
    - $p^*$  is prime, which is only true with a high probability
- Primality test
  - Fermat test
  - Miller-Rabin test

Concessaria non  
risposta

True Primality proving algorithms are generally more computationally intensive than the probabilistic primality tests. Consequently, before applying one of these tests to a candidate prime  $n$ , the candidate should be subjected to a probabilistic primality test such as Miller-Rabin

# Modular ops - complexity

- Bit complexity of basic operations in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$

- Let  $n$  be on  $k$  bits ( $n < 2^k$ )

- Let  $a$  and  $b$  be two integers in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  (on  $k$ -bits) →

- Addition  $a + b$  can be done in time  $O(k)$  *linear*

- Subtraction  $a - b$  can be done in time  $O(k)$  *linear*

- Multiplication  $a \times b$  can be done in  $O(k^2)$  *quadratic*

- Division  $b \times a^{-1}$  can be done in time  $O(k^2)$

- Inverse  $a^{-1}$  can be done in  $O(k)$  *linear*

- Modular exponentiation  $a^n$  can be done in  $O(k^3)$



# Fast exponentiation

- How many multiplications to compute  $2^{20}$ ?

- Grade-school Algorithm requires

–  $2 \times 2 \times 2 \times \dots \times 2 \Rightarrow 19$  multiplications  $2^n \Rightarrow \# \text{ mul} = O(n)$

- Square-and-Multiply Algorithm

–  $((2 \times (2^2)^2)^2)^2 \Rightarrow 1$  multiplication + 4 squares  $\Rightarrow$  5 multiplications

Al div 2 MODULO OPERATION  
FACILE E LINEARE  $O(n)$

$$2^{20} = (2^{10})^2 = ((2^5)^2)^2 = (((2 \cdot 2^4))^2)^2 = ((2 \times (2^2)^2)^2)^2$$

$$a^x \bmod m$$

can write su k bit  $[0, 2^k - 1] \rightarrow$  ENCRYPTION  $y = x^e \bmod m$   
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DECRYPTION  $x = y^d \bmod m$

ol e' carriere  
↓

ACQUANTO  
POSSO USARE  
BRUTE FORCE  
2  
sizeof(mod m)  
2048b

In order to get convinced that exponentiation is efficient, let us consider the following example. How many multiplications do you need to compute  $2^{20}$ ?

If you use the grade-school algorithm you need 19 multiplications  $2 \times 2 \times \dots \times 2$ . However, you can obtain the same result in a much faster way, namely in just five multiplications! We exploit the property that  $2^{2x} = (2^x)^2$ . So, applying this property to the quiz we get the following  $2^{20} = (2^{10})^2 = ((2^5)^2)^2 = ((2 \cdot 2^4)^2)^2 = ((2 (2^2)^2)^2)^2 = ((2^2)^2)^2$ . This called the square-and-multiply algorithm.

## Fast exponentiation

- RSA computes modular exponentiation
  - $a^x \bmod n$ , where  $n$  is on  $k$  bits (i.e.,  $n \leq 2^k$ )
- Grade-school Algorithm
  - requires  $(x - 1)$  modular multiplications
    - If  $x$  is as large as  $n$ , which is exponentially large in  $k$ , the Grade-school Algorithm is inefficient
- Square-and-multiply Algorithm
  - requires up to  $2k$  multiplications ( $2 \times \log_2 x$ )
  - Overall, can be done in  $O(k^3)$

$$R = \log x$$

$O(n)$  requires  $O(k^3)$  operations  $O(n^2)$

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Private parameter  $d$  has the same order of magnitude as  $\Phi$  and, therefore, as  $n$ , in order to discourage brute force attack against the private key. Therefore  $d$  is in the order of  $2^k$ . This means that the Grade-school requires  $2^k$  multiplications, each costing  $O(k^2)$ . Therefore, the Grade-school algorithm is inefficient. In contrast, Square-and-Multiply requires  $2k$  multiplications and therefore it is  $O(k^3)$ . So, it is efficient.

## Fast exponentiation

- Square and multiply
  - Exponentiation by repeated squaring and multiplication
  - The exponentiation  $a^x \bmod n$  requires at most
    - $\log_2(x)$  multiplications and
    - $\log_2(x)$  squares
  - Proof
    - See next slide

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Modulo reduction is performed at each multiplication-and-squaring round in order to keep the intermediate results small.

**Average (#MUL + #SQ)** Let us consider an exponentiation with a  $k$ -bit exponent. We have computed the maximum number of MUL and SQ. However, we can observe that #SQ is equal to the number of bits whereas #MUL depends on the value of the exponent (more precisely on its Hamming weight, i.e., the number of ones in its binary representation). It follows that on average we have  $\#SQ = k$ ,  $\#MUL = 0.5k$  which, in total, makes  **$\#MUL + \#SQ = 1.5k$** .

**Example.** If we consider a  **$k = 1024$ -bit** exponent we have that **Squaring-and-Multiplying requires, on average,  $\#OPS = 1.5 \times 1024 = 1536$  multiplications**, whereas the **Grade-School Algorithm requires  $2^{1024}$  multiplications**. However, remember that each SQ and MUL operates on 1024-bit numbers. This means that the number of multiplication in a CPU is much higher than 1536, but it is certainly doable on modern computers.

# Fast exponentiation

$$a^x \bmod n = a^{(x_{k-1}2^{k-1} + x_{k-2}2^{k-2} + \dots + x_22^2 + x_12 + x_0)} \bmod n \equiv$$

$$a^{x_{k-1}2^{k-1}} a^{x_{k-2}2^{k-2}} \dots a^{x_22^2} a^{x_12} a^{x_0} \bmod n \equiv$$

$$\left( a^{x_{k-1}2^{k-2}} a^{x_{k-2}2^{k-3}} \dots a^{x_22} a^{x_1} \right)^2 a^{x_0} \bmod n \equiv$$

$$\left( \left( a^{x_{k-1}2^{k-3}} a^{x_{k-2}2^{k-4}} \dots a^{x_2} \right)^2 a^{x_1} \right)^2 a^{x_0} \bmod n \equiv$$

...

$$\left( \left( \left( \left( a^{x_{k-1}} \right)^2 a^{x_{k-2}} \right)^2 \dots a^{x_2} \right)^2 a^{x_1} \right)^2 a^{x_0} \bmod n$$

## ALGORITHM

```

c ← 1
for (i = k-1; i >= 0; i--) {
  c ← c² mod n;
  if (xᵢ == 1)
    c ← c × a mod n;
}

```

## COMMENT

- always  $k$  square operations
- at most  $k$  multiplications
  - equal to the number of 1 in the binary representation of  $x$
- Modulo reduction is performed at each round in order to keep the intermediate results small.



## Fast exponentiation – exercise

- Compute  $r = a^{20}$ 
  - $x = 20 = 10100_2$
  - Step 0
    - $r_0 = a^1$
  - Step 1
    - $r_1 = (a^1)^2 = a^2 = a^{[10]}_2$
  - Step 2
    - $r_2 = (r_1)^2 = a^4 = a^{[100]}_2$
    - $r_2 = r_2 \cdot a = a^5 = a^{[101]}_2$
  - Step 3
    - $r_3 = (r_2)^2 = a^{10} = a^{[1010]}_2$
  - Step 4
    - $r_4 = (r_3)^2 = a^{20} = a^{[10100]}_2$

## Fast exponentiation

- Let  $k = 1024$
- #MUL in the Grade-School Algorithm
  - #MUL =  $2^{1024}$  multiplications
- #Ops in the Square-and-Multiply Algorithm
  - #SQ =  $k$
  - #MUL = #(1's in the binary representation)
    - On average #MUL =  $0.5k$
  - #Ops =  $1.5k = 1536$  multiplications
  - Each multiplication is on 1024 bits

$1536 \ll 2^{1024}$

→ MULTIPLICATION FOR LONG INTEGERS, NOT FOR CPU

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AVERAGE (#MUL + #SQ).

Let us consider an exponentiation with a  $k$ -bit exponent. We have computed the maximum number of MUL and SQ. However, we can observe that #SQ is equal to the number of bits whereas #MUL depends on the value of the exponent (more precisely on its Hamming weight, i.e., the number of ones in its binary representation). It follows that on average we have #SQ =  $k$ , #MUL =  $0.5k$  which, in total, makes #MUL + #SQ =  $1.5k$ .

EXAMPLE.

If we consider a  $k = 1024$ -bit exponent we have that Squaring-and-Multiplying requires, on average, #OPS =  $1.5 \times 1024 = 1536$  multiplications, whereas the Grade-School Algorithm requires  $2^{1024}$  multiplications. However, remember that SQ/MUL operates on 1024-bit numbers. This means that the number of multiplication in a CPU is much higher than 1536, but it is certainly doable on modern computers.

# RSA fast encryption with short public exponent

- RSA ops with public exponent  $e$  can be speeded-up

- Encryption  $y = x^e \bmod n$
- Digital signature verification

POSSIAMO SCEGLIERE  $e$  COE  
 VOGLIAMO BASTA CHE  
 $\text{gcd}(e, \phi) = 1$   
 ↓

- The public key  $e$  can be chosen to be a very small value

- $e = 3$   $11$  #MUL + #SQ = 2
- $e = 17$   $10001$  #MUL + #SQ = 5
- $e = 2^{16} + 1$   $10000000000000001$  #MUL + #SQ = 17

– RSA is still secure

SE SCEGLIO UN NUMERO  
 PRIMO  $E'$  SUFFICIENTE  
 COPRIMO AD OGNI  
 AUTOMATISMO

RAPPRESENTAZIONE  
 BINARIA

NUMERO  
 DI 1 NELLA  
 RAPPRESENTAZIONE

# RSA decryption

$$x = y^d \bmod n$$



- Assume a 2048-bit modulus and a 32-bit CPU
- Decryption computing overhead
  - On average #MUL+#SQ =  $1.5 \times 1024 = 3072$  long multiplications each of which involves 2048-bit operands
  - Single long-number multiplication
    - Each operand requires  $2048/32 = 64$  registers
    - Each long-number multiplication requires  $64^2 = 4096$  integer multiplications  $\rightarrow$  CPU resource drain
    - Modulo reduction requires  $64^2 = 4096$  integer multiplications
    - In total  $4096 + 4096 = 8192$  integer multiplications for a single long multiplication
  - In total,  $3072 \times 8192 = 25.165.824$  integer multiplications

SA PRENO DI NON AVER HARDWARE BASED COMPONENTS

## RSA decryption

- '70s-'80s: only hardware implementation
- Today, an RSA decryption takes  $\approx 100 \mu\text{s}$  on high-speed hw
- End '80s, software implementation becomes possible
- Today, 2048-bit RSA takes  $\approx 10 \text{ ms}$  on a 2 GHz CPU
  - Throughput =  $2048 \times 100 = 204.800 \text{ bit/s}$
  - $\approx 3$  orders of magnitude slower than symmetric encryption

## RSA Fast decryption

- There is no easy way to accelerate RSA when the private exponent  $d$  is involved
  - $\text{sizeof}(d) = \text{sizeof}(n)$  to discourage brute force attack
    - It can be shown that  $\text{sizeof}(d) \geq 0.3 \text{ sizeof}(n)$
- One possible approach is based on the Chinese Remainder Theorem (CRT)
  - We do not prove the theorem
  - We just apply it

# Fast RSA decryption by CRT

- Problem ↗  $k \text{ bits} \rightarrow O(k^3)$ 
  - Compute  $y \equiv x^d \pmod{n}$  efficiently

- The method

1. Transformation of the problem in the CRT domain

1. Compute  $x_p \equiv x \pmod{p}$
2. Compute  $x_q \equiv x \pmod{q}$

2. Exponentiation in the CRT domain

1.  $y_p \equiv x_p^{d_p} \pmod{p}$ , where  $d_p \equiv d \pmod{p-1}$

2.  $y_q \equiv x_q^{d_q} \pmod{q}$ , where  $d_q \equiv d \pmod{q-1}$

VANTAGE,  $n = p \times q$

$$O\left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^3 = \frac{k^3}{8}$$

$$\frac{k^3}{8} + \frac{k^3}{8} = \frac{k^3}{4}$$

SPEEDUP = 4

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① SIDE EFFECT = OPENING WHERE  $p$  e  $q$  sono piccoli

$p$  e  $q$  devono essere calcolati da due cifre prime e  
non possono essere calcolati  
↳ vanno moltiplicati

## Fast RSA decryption by CRT

- The method (cont.ed)

3. Inverse transformation in the problem domain

1.  $y \equiv [q \cdot c_p]y_p + [p \cdot c_q]y_q \pmod n$  where

- $c_p \equiv q^{-1} \pmod p$  and

- $c_q \equiv p^{-1} \pmod q$

Passaggio ES6ERS PRS - CACCONI



## Fast RSA decryption by CRT

- Comments
  - With reference to step 2, as  $\text{sizeof}(p) = \text{sizeof}(q)$ ,  $d_p$ ,  $d_q$ ,  $y_p$ ,  $y_q$  have about half the bit length of  $n$ 
    - This leads to a speedup = 4
  - With reference to step 3, expressions in square brackets can be precomputed
    - Then, the reverse transformation requires two modular multiplications and one modular addition

## Fast RSA decryption by CRT

- Complexity of CRT-based RSA decryption
  - Step 1 and step 3 are negligible
  - Step 2
    - Let  $n$  length is  $t$  bits, then all quantities in step 2 are on  $t/2$  bits
    - By applying the Square-and-multiply algorithm
      - $\#SQ + \#MUL = 2 \times (1.5 t/2) = 1.5 t$ 
        - » The #operations is the same as without CRT, however, each operation involve  $t/2$ -bit operands instead of  $t$ -bit operand so its time is  $(t/2)^2$
      - As multiplication complexity is quadratic, the total speed up is a factor of 4
- The method is subject to fault-injection attack

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↳ Reasons of weakness RSA Cryptosystem

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PERFORMANCE LOW  
L' ENCRYPTION

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# RSA IN PRACTICE

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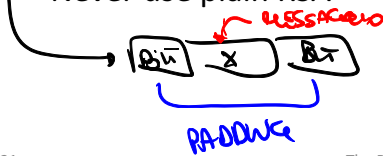
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## RSA in practice

- Schoolbook/plain RSA is insecure
  - RSA is deterministic
    - A given pt is always mapped into a specific ct
  - PT values 0 and 1 produce CT equal to 0 and 1
  - Small exponent and small pt might be subject to attacks
  - RSA is malleable
- Padding is a solution to all these problems

- Never use plain RSA



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# RSA malleability

- Malleability
  - A crypto scheme is said to be malleable if the attacker is capable of transforming the ciphertext into another ciphertext which leads to a known transformation of the plaintext
    - The attacker does not decrypt the ciphertext but (s)he is able to manipulate the plaintext in a predictable manner

## RSA Malleability

- The sender
  - Transmits  $y = x^e \bmod n$
- The adversary
  - Intercepts  $y$
  - Chooses  $s$  s.t.  $\gcd(s, n) = 1$
  - Computes and forwards  $y' = s^e \cdot y \bmod n$
- The receiver
  - Decrypts  $y'$ ,  $x' = y'^d = (s^e \cdot y)^d = s^{ed} \cdot y^d = s \cdot x \bmod n$ 
    - The attacker manages to multiply  $x$  by  $s$

# RSA Padding

- Padding intuition
  - It embeds a random structure into the plaintext before encryption
- Padding in RSA
  - Optimal Asymmetric Encryption Padding (OAEP)
    - Specified and standardized in PKCS#1 (Public Key Cryptography Standard #1)

An intuitive but inefficient example of padding is  $x || x$ .

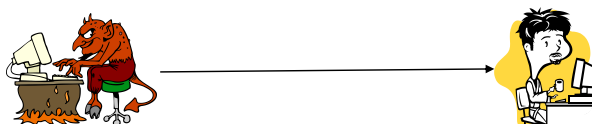
## RSA malleability

- More in general, RSA malleability descends from the homomorphic property
  - Let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  two plaintext messages
  - Let  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  their respective encryptions
  - Then,  $y \equiv (x_1 \cdot x_2)^e \equiv x_1^e x_2^e \equiv y_1 \cdot y_2 \pmod{n}$
  - That is, the CT of the product is the product of the CTs



# Adaptive chosen-ciphertext attack

- The problem
  - Bob decrypts any ciphertext except a given ciphertext  $y$
  - The attacker wants to determine the plaintext corresponding to  $y$

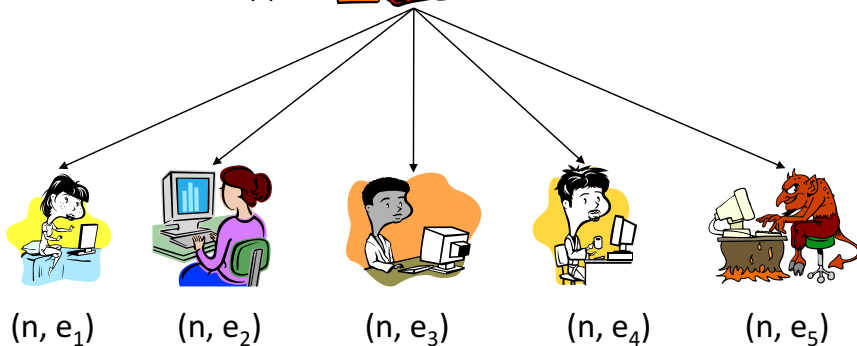


## Adaptive chosen-ciphertext attack

- The attack
  - The adversary selects an integer  $s$ , s.t.  $\gcd(s, n) = 1$ , and sends Bob the quantity  $y' \equiv s^e \cdot y \pmod n$
  - Upon receiving  $y'$ , as  $y' \neq y$ , Bob decrypts  $y'$ , producing  $x' \equiv s \cdot x \pmod n$ , and returns  $x'$  to the adversary
  - The adversary determines  $x$ , by computing  $x \equiv x' \cdot s^{-1} \pmod n$
- Countermeasure
  - The attack can be contrasted by using padding
  - Bob returns  $x'$  iff it has a structure coherent with padding

# Common modulus attack

The server uses a  
common modulus  $n$  for  
all key pairs

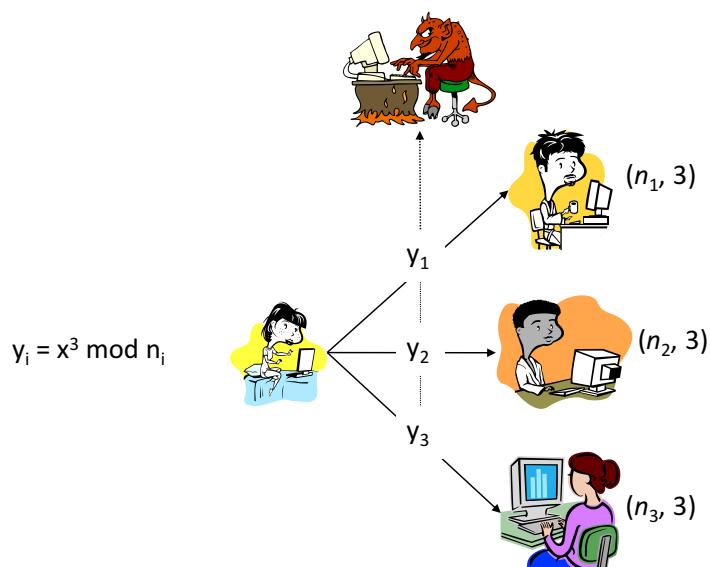


Mr Lou Cipher can efficiently factor  $n$  from  $d_5$   
(FACT 1) and then compute all  $d$ 's

# Cinese Remainder Theorem

- CHINESE REMAINDER THEOREM. If the integers  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k$  are pairwise relatively prime, then the system of simultaneous congruences
  - $x \equiv a_1 \pmod{n_1}$
  - $x \equiv a_2 \pmod{n_2}$
  - ...
  - $x \equiv a_k \pmod{n_k}$has a unique solution modulo  $n = n_1 n_2 \cdots n_k$ .
- GAUSS'S ALGORITHM. The solution  $x$  to the simultaneous congruences in the Chinese remainder theorem (Fact 2.120) may be computed as  $x = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i N_i M_i \pmod{n}$  where  $N_i = n/n_i \pmod{n_i}$  and  $M_i = N_i^{-1} \pmod{n}$
- These computations can be performed in  $O((\lg n)^2)$  bit operations.

# Low Exponent Attack



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Proof for a generic value of  $e$ .

Assume that moduli are relatively prime with respect to each other. This is highly likely because, otherwise an adversary could factorise them by computing MCD.

For the CRT, there exists a single value  $x < n = n_1 n_2 n_3 \dots n_e$  that solves  $x = m^e \bmod n$ . As  $m < n_i$  by definition, then, for all  $i$ ,  $m^e < n$ . Therefore we can calculate  $m$  from  $x$  by computing the  $e$ -th continuous (not modular) square that is «easy».

Therefore a low exponent must be avoided when you want to send the same message to several destinations. A possible solution consists in appending (padding) a different salt for each different destination. So doing  $x$  becomes  $x_i = x \parallel \text{salt}_i$ .

## Low Exponent Attack

- If  $n_i$  are pairwise coprime, use CRT to compute  $z = x^3 \bmod n_1 n_2 n_3$  that solves
$$\begin{cases} z \equiv y_1 \bmod n_1 \\ z \equiv y_2 \bmod n_2 \\ z \equiv y_3 \bmod n_3 \end{cases}$$
- According to RSA encryption definition  $x < n_i$  then  $x^3 < n_1 n_2 n_3$  and  $z = x^3$
- Therefore  $x$  is the integer cube root of  $z$ 
  - Not a modular root then “easy”

## RSA in practice

- Selecting primes  $p$  and  $q$ 
  - $p$  and  $q$  should be selected so that factoring  $n = pq$  is computationally infeasible, therefore
  - $p$  and  $q$  should be sufficiently large and about the same bit length (to avoid the elliptic curve factoring algorithm)
  - $p - q$  should be not too small

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- **Why  $p - q$  should not be small**
- Let us suppose that  $|p - q|$  is small. Then,  $(p + q)/2$  is close to  $\text{SQRT}(n)$ .
- Let  $(p + q)^2/4 - n = (p - q)^2/4$ . Notice that i) the right side of the equality is a perfect square; and, ii)  $(p+q)/2$  is greater than  $\text{SQRT}(n)$ . Therefore, we can search for a number  $z$  larger than  $\text{SQRT}(n)$  s.t.  $z^2 - n$  is equal to a perfect square  $w^2$ , i.e.,  $z^2 - n = w^2$ .
- Then, from  $z$  and  $w$  we compute  $p = z + w$  e  $q = z - w$  and then we verify these values on a ciphertext  $c$ .
- This attack may be very efficient
- An efficient attack but more complex is possible when  $(p - 1)$  e  $(q - 1)$  have large common factors. As both  $(p - 1)$  and  $(q - 1)$  are even, the best choice is that  $(p - 1)/2$  and  $(q - 1)/2$  are relatively prime.

The RSA Cryptosystem

# RSA SECURITY

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# Attacks

- Protocol attacks
- Mathematical attacks
- Side-channel attacks

## Protocol attacks

- Based on malleability of RSA
- Avoidable by padding

# Mathematical attacks

- The RSA Problem (RSAP)
  - Recovering plaintext  $x$  from ciphertext  $y$ , given the public key  $(n, e)$
- RSA VS FACTORING
  - If  $p$  and  $q$  are known, RSAP can be easily solved
  - $\text{RSAP} \leq_p \text{FACTORING}$ 
    - FACTORING is at least as difficult as RSAP or, equivalently, RSAP is not harder than FACTORING
      - It is widely believed that RSAP and Factoring are computationally equivalent, although no proof of this is known.

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## FACTORING.

Given  $n > 0$ , find its prime factorization; that is, write  $n = \prod_i (p_i^{e_i})$  where  $p_i$  are pairwise distinct primes and each  $e_i \geq 1$ .

If one can factorize  $n$ , then he can completely break RSA and thus solve RSAP. For the moment, nobody has proven that breaking RSA necessarily requires the ability of factoring  $n$ , although this conjecture is considered very plausible.

# Mathematical Attacks

- THM (FACT 1) Computing the decryption exponent  $d$  from the public key  $(n, e)$  is computationally equivalent to factoring  $n$ 
  - Proof
    - If factorization of  $n$  is known, then it is possible to compute the private key  $d$  efficiently
    - (It can be proven that) if  $d$  known, then it is possible to factor  $n$  efficiently

# Mathematical Attacks

- RSAP vs e-th root
  - A possible way to decrypt  $y = x^e \bmod n$  is to compute the modular e-th root of  $c$
- THM (FACT 2) Computing the e-th root is a computationally easy problem iff  $n$  is prime
- THM (FACT 3) If  $n$  is composite the problem of computing the e-th root is equivalent to factoring

# Mathematical Attacks

- THM - Knowing  $\phi$  is computationally equivalent to factoring
  - PROOF.
    - Given  $p$  and  $q$ , s.t.  $n = pq$ 
      - Computing  $\phi$  is immediate.
    - Given  $\phi$ 
      - From  $\phi = (p-1)(q-1) = n - (p+q) + 1$ , determine  $x_1 = (p+q)$ .
      - From  $(p-q)^2 = (p+q)^2 - 4n = x_1^2 - 4n$ , determine  $x_2 = (p-q)$ .
      - Finally,  $p = (x_1 + x_2)/2$  and  $q = (x_1 - x_2)/2$ .

# Mathematical Attacks

- Exhaustive Private Key Search
  - This attack must be more difficult than factoring  $n$
  - The bit length of private exponent  $d$  must be the same as the bit length of  $n$ 
    - $\text{sizeof}(p) \approx \text{sizeof}(q)$
    - $\text{sizeof}(d) \gg \text{sizeof}(p)$  AND  $\text{sizeof}(d) \gg \text{sizeof}(q)$

# Factoring

- Primality testing vs. factoring
  - FACT 5 – To decide whether an integer is composite or prime seems to be, in general, much easier than the factoring problem



# Factoring

- Factoring algorithms
  - Special purpose algorithms
    - Tailored to perform better when the integer  $n$  being factored is of special form
      - Running time depends on certain properties of factors of  $n$
    - Examples
      - Trial division, Pollard's rho alg., Pollard's  $p - 1$  alg., elliptic curve alg., and special number sieve
  - General purpose algorithms
    - Running time depends on  $n$
    - Examples
      - Quadratic sieve and general number field sieve

# Factoring

- Factoring algorithms
  - No algorithm can factor all integers in polynomial time
    - Neither the existence nor non-existence of such algorithms has been proven, but it is generally suspected that they do not exist
    - Peter Shor discovered a quantum algorithm that is polynomial (1994)
  - There are sub-exponential algorithms
    - For computers, the best algorithm is General Number Field Sieve (GNFS)

# Factoring

- Length of the modulus
  - RSA sparked much interest in the old problem of integer factorization
    - Factoring methods improved considerably during '80s and '90s
  - Advisable modulus length
    - Until recently, 1024-bit was a default
      - Nowadays factorization within 10-15 years or even earlier
    - Modulus in the range 2048-4096 bit for long term security

