

Problem 2): For a message of length $l \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, a one-time pad will be associated with three separate set spaces and three different algorithms.

The set spaces of a one-time pad are the key space \mathcal{K} , the message space \mathcal{M} , and the cipher-text space \mathcal{C} . Additionally these spaces are such that

$$\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{C} = \{0, 1\}^l, \quad (2.1)$$

where $\{0, 1\}^l$ is the set of all binary strings having length l . Formally, the set $\{0, 1\}^l$ is defined $\{0, 1\}^l \equiv \{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_l\}$ where $\forall i \in [1, l], n_i \in \{0, 1\} \subset \mathbb{Z}$ (i.e. either $n_i = 0$, or $n_i = 1$ for every element in the set)¹.

A one-time pad is also associated with the algorithms

- The key-generation algorithm, denoted Gen
- The encryption algorithm, denoted Enc
- The decryption algorithm, denoted Dec

The purpose of Gen is to generate a key for encrypting and decrypting our message, where we denote this key k and say that $k \in \mathcal{K}$. We say that Gen works by choosing a string from \mathcal{K} according to the uniform distribution. From this choice of distribution, it follows that each possible key will be chosen with probability 2^{-l} .

Before we describe Enc and Dec algorithms we must define a bit-wise **XOR** on two binary strings of equal length. Let a and b be any two binary strings such that $a, b \in \{0, 1\}^l$. Additionally, let us express these strings by

$$a \equiv \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_l\}$$

¹This also holds for \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{C}

and

$$b \equiv \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_l\},$$

respectively. The bit-wise **XOR** of a and b is denoted by $a \oplus b$ and expressed as the binary string

$$a \oplus b \equiv \{a_1 \oplus b_1, a_2 \oplus b_2, \dots, a_l \oplus b_l\}$$

The elements of this binary string, the $a_i \oplus b_i$, are binary bits and are defined $\forall i \in [1, l]$ to be the traditional bit-level **XOR** of a_i and b_i , denoted $a_i \oplus b_i$. We use the truth table

a_i	0	0	1	1
b_i	0	1	0	1
$a_i \oplus b_i$	0	1	1	0

to express the definition of the transitional bit-level **XOR** and continue to the definitions of the Enc and Dec algorithms.

The Enc algorithm is used to encrypt the message into cipher-text based on the chosen key. We will denote the message to be encrypted by m , the cipher-text resulting from the encryption by c , and the key by k . These will each be such that $m \in \mathcal{M}$, $c \in \mathcal{C}$, and $k \in \mathcal{K}$. Using this notation and our definition for bitwise **XOR** from above, we define

$$c := m \oplus k$$

to be the expression used by Enc as it encrypts the message.

Inversely from the Enc algorithm, the Dec algorithm is used to decrypt the cipher-text back into the message based on the supplied key. Similarly to Enc, we define

$$m := c \oplus k$$

to be the expression used by Dec as it decrypts the message.

To prove the security of this one-time pad, consider any arbitrary message m and any arbitrary cipher-text c , where $m \in \mathcal{M}$ and $c \in \mathbb{C}$. Now, we express the probability of finding a particular c , given a particular m by

$$\Pr[C = c \mid M = m] \tag{2.2}$$

Using the fact that $c = m \oplus k$, this expression may be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[C = c \mid M = m] &= \Pr[M \oplus K = c \mid M = m] \\ &= \Pr[M \oplus K = c \mid M = m] = \Pr[m \oplus K = c] \end{aligned}$$

Next, we **XOR** the random variable term in this expression by m to obtain

$$\Pr[m \oplus (m \oplus K) = m \oplus c] = \Pr[K = m \oplus c],$$

because $a \oplus a = 0$ for any binary string a . Above, we defined the probability of choosing any k to be $\Pr[K = k] = 2^{-l}$. This allows us to finally obtain the relations

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr[C = c \mid M = m] &= \Pr[M \oplus K = c \mid M = m] \\ &= \Pr[m \oplus K = c] \\ &= \Pr[m \oplus (m \oplus K) = m \oplus c] \\ &= \Pr[K = m \oplus c] = \frac{1}{2^l}\end{aligned}\tag{2.3}$$

Since our choice of m in expression 2.2 was arbitrary, the result in expression 2.3 must hold for any $m \in \mathcal{M}$. This implies that, for any $m_0, m_1 \in \mathcal{M}$, we have relation

$$\Pr[K = m_0 \oplus c] = \frac{1}{2^l} = \Pr[K = m_1 \oplus c]$$

holds. This satisfies *Lemma 2.3* from the text, thus the one-time pad is perfectly secure.