



Vellore Institute of Technology

Vellore Institute of Technology

## Continuous Assessment Test-II March 2025

Programme	: B.Tech CSE	Semester	: Winter 2024 – 2025
Course	: Cryptography and Network Security	Code	: BCSE309L
		Class Nbr	: CH2024250502097 CH2024250501819 CH2024250501825 CH2024250501834
Faculty	: Dr. SUBBULAKSHMI P Dr. VATCHALA S Dr. KARTHIKA V Dr. BALASARASWATHI V R	Slot	: B1+TB1
Time	: 1 ½ Hours	Max. Marks	: 50

## Answer all Questions

1. Ankit is the IT security head of a financial institution. His team is implementing a Rivest-Shamir-Adleman cryptographic scheme to ensure secure communication between the bank's servers and customers. A customer, Riya, wants to send a sensitive request to the bank's server, asking for a loan approval. She needs to ensure that only the bank can read her message and that it remains confidential during transmission.
- If an attacker intercepts the encrypted message, why is it computationally infeasible for them to retrieve the original message? (2 Marks)
  - How does the difficulty of prime factorization in large numbers contribute to Rivest-Shamir-Adleman's security? (2 Marks)
  - If the encryption exponent  $e$  is small, under what conditions could an attacker potentially decrypt the ciphertext without knowing the private key? (2 Marks)
  - In modern cybersecurity, what is the minimum key size recommended for Rivest-Shamir-Adleman encryption. (2 Marks)
  - To improve efficiency, should the bank implement a hybrid cryptographic system for data transmission? Identify the suitable hybrid cryptographic system for secure data transmission. (2 Marks)

10

2. Ms. Priya and Mr. Raj are working on a classified AI-powered threat detection system for a government cybersecurity agency. To ensure secure communication, they decide to use the Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC) key exchange mechanism to derive a common secret key for AES encryption. They agree to use the elliptic curve  $E_p(a, b) = (2, 3)$  over a finite field  $GF(29)$ . The chosen base point is  $(3, 6)$ .

10

- Ms. Priya's private key: 3
- Mr. Raj's private key: 2

Help them compute the shared secret key using the ECC Diffie-Hellman key exchange process.



3. i) Ms. Saina is a cybersecurity expert working for a financial institution. To ensure message authenticity, she uses the ElGamal digital signature scheme to sign transactions securely. Her private key  $K_{pr}$  is 16 and her public key  $K_{pub}=(p, \alpha, Y_s)$  is (71, 7, 19). She signs two transaction messages:

- Transaction1:  $M_1=15$ , with signature  $(S_1, S_2)=(11, 49)$
- Transaction2:  $M_2=31$ , with signature  $(S_1, S_2)=(56, 65)$

A security analyst, Mr. Arun, receives these signed transactions and wants to verify their authenticity. Illustrate the verification steps and conclude whether both messages are authentic or not. (8 marks)

- ii) How many valid signatures are there for each message  $x$  in ElGamal digital signature scheme? Give reason for your answer. (2 marks)

4. A cybersecurity analyst, Mr. Rohan, is investigating how MD5 processes message blocks. He wants to analyze one step of Round 3.

- Message Block (M) = 9F1A2B3C
- Key (K) = CDEFAB12
- Number of shifts (S) = 3 bits
- Buffer Values:

A = 11223344

B = 55667788

C = 99AABBCC

D = DDEEFF00

Calculate the updated value of B after one operation in Round 3 of the MD5 compression function.

5. Identify the message authentication algorithm used here and walk through the steps to derive the final hexadecimal value using the below-mentioned parameters. The key is the binary equivalent of the last two digits of your student ID, which we'll say is 42. The message is a 16-bit string: "IT" (in ASCII). The block size is the same as the message length. The hash function (16-bit) is defined as the Exclusive OR of the message blocks. The input padding is a constant value: 0x55. The output padding is a different constant value: 0x7C.