

El Gamal & Hybrid Enc

DHKA:

params: g : generator of cyclic group
(e.g., $\langle g \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ for prime p)

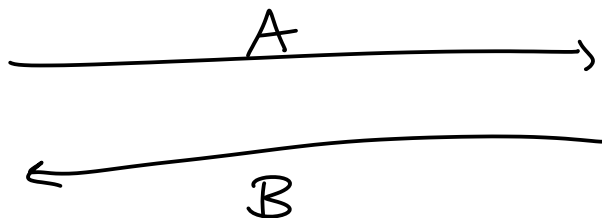
Alice

$$a \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$$

$$A = g^a$$

output

$$B^a = g^{ab}$$



Bob

$$b \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$$

$$B = g^b$$

output

$$A^b = g^{ab}$$

looks random to
eavesdropper given A, B

What if: Bob wants to send secret msg to Alice?

Idea: ① Run DHKA $\leadsto K$ that only they know
use K as OTP to send msg

\hookrightarrow OTP in cyclic group using
multiplication mod p ,
not \oplus

DHKA + OTP: ELGAMAL

Alice

$$a \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$$

$$A = g^a$$

output

$$B^a$$

①

$$A$$

$$B$$

$$K \cdot M$$

②

group operation,
e.g. mult
mod p

Enc(M)

Bob

$$b \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$$

$$B = g^b$$

output

$$A^b = K$$

M

ElGamal:

Key Gen:

$$a \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$$

$$A = g^a$$

private

public

Enc(pk, M):

$$b \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$$

$$B = g^b$$

$$C = M \cdot A^b$$

mult mod p

} ciphertext

Dec(sk, (B, C)):

compute $K = B^a$

return $C \cdot \underbrace{K^{-1}}$

inverse mod p

$\underbrace{\quad}_{1/\text{Mod}(K, p)}$

Cost of Encryption: (CPA)

Symmetric key:

AES-CTR

costs 1 cycle per bit

public-key:

ElGamal

costs gazillions

Hybrid Enc:

Alice pk

c_1, c_2

Bob: (huge M)

$tk \leftarrow \{0,1\}^\lambda$ AES key

$c_1 = \text{ElGamalEnc}(pk, tk)$

$c_2 = \text{AES-CTR-Enc}(tk, M)$

c'_1, c'_2

Charlie: (huge M')

$tk' \leftarrow \{0,1\}^\lambda$ AES key

$c'_1 = \text{ElGamalEnc}(pk, tk')$

$c'_2 = \text{AES-CTR-Enc}(tk', M')$

different
temp key

fresh
random-
ness

Q: Why is this secure? (CPA)

A: main "payload" (M) is encrypted under AES-CTR, which is CPA-secure (c_2 hides M)

Q: CPA security applies only when key is used nowhere else, but here AES-CTR uses tk as key and tk is used elsewhere

A: tk used only as ptxt for CPA-secure ElGamal, so c_1 hides tk —
It's like tk is not being used at all

① important that k public
 \Rightarrow attacker can compute $F^{-1}(k, \cdot)$

② N vs $\phi(N)$: pari has sqrtn

③

end game:

do $\gcd(x, N)$

where

x

is

mult of p

x

is

NOT mult of

g

then $\gcd(x, N) = p$

\Rightarrow find x w/ this property

(similar to what we did)
w/ sqrts of unity