

# Cryptography

This is my note of [Cryptography 1](#) by **Dan Boneh**

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## Overview

### Crypto core

- Secret key establishment
- Secure communication

- confidentially
- integrity
- Digital signature
- Anonymous communication
- Anonymous **digital** cash
  - Can I spend a **digital coin** without anyone knowing who I am?
  - How to prevent double spending?
- Secure multi-party computation
  - **Thm:** anything that can be done with trusted authority can also be done without trusted authority
- Privately outsourcing computation
  - Get search result from Google while Google doesn't know what you search for
- **Zero knowledge**
  - one party (the prover) can prove to another party (the verifier) that they know a value  $x$ , **without conveying any information** apart from the fact that they know the value  $x$

## Three steps in cryptography

1. Precisely specify threat model
  - What an attacker can do
  - What an attacker's goal is
2. Propose a construction
3. Prove that breaking construction under threat model will solve an underlying hard problem

## History

### Substitution Cipher

- Use frequency of English letters and pairs of letters to easily break it

### Vigenere Cipher

- The key is a word
- Just break it as substitution cipher

### Rotor Machines

- Early example: the Hebern machine (single rotor)
- Most famous: the Enigma (3-5 rotors)
  - Designed to defend frequency attack (statistical attack)
  - $\text{keys} = 26^4 = 2^{18}$

- Still can't defend the ciphertext only attack

## Data Encryption Standard

- DES: #keys =  $2^{56}$ , block size = 64 bits
- Today: AES(2001), Salsa20(2008) (and many others)

## Randomized algorithm

- Deterministic algorithm:  $y \leftarrow A(m)$ 
  - output is a deterministic value
- Randomized algorithm:  $y \leftarrow A(m; r)$  where  $r \xleftarrow{R} \{0, 1\}^n$ 
  - output is a random variable  $y \xleftarrow{R} A(m)$

## An important property of XOR

**Thm:** Y a rand. var. on  $\{0, 1\}^n$ , X an indep. **uniform** var. on  $\{0, 1\}^n$ , Then  $Z = Y \oplus X$  is a **uniform** var. on  $\{0, 1\}^n$  s

**Proof:** Just consider  $n = 1$

Y	Pr.
0	$p_0$
1	$p_1$

X	Pr.
0	$\frac{1}{2}$
1	$\frac{1}{2}$

X	Y	Pr.
0	0	$\frac{p_0}{2}$
0	1	$\frac{p_1}{2}$
1	0	$\frac{p_0}{2}$
1	1	$\frac{p_1}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P\{Z = 0\} &= P\{(x, y) = (0, 0) \cup (x, y) = (1, 1)\} \\
 &= p_0/2 + p_1/2 \\
 &= 1/2
 \end{aligned}$$

## The birthday paradox

Let  $r_1, \dots, r_n \in U$  be indep. identically distributed random vars.

**Thm:** when  $n = 1.2 \times |U|^{1/2}$  then

$$P\{\exists i \neq j : r_i = r_j\} \geq 1/2$$

## Stream cipher

### The One Time Pad

- First example of a **secure** cipher
- key = ( random bit string as long the message )

$$E(k, m) = k \oplus m$$

$$D(k, c) = k \oplus c$$

- Very fast enc/dec
- but long keys as long as PT

## Information Theoretic Security

- Shannon 1949
- **Def:** A cipher  $(E, D)$  over  $(K, M, C)$  has **perfect secrecy** if

$$\forall m_0, m_1 \in M (|m_0| = |m_1|), \forall c \in C$$

$$P\{E(k, m_0) = c\} = P\{E(k, m_1) = c\}$$

- **No CT only attack**
- **Lemma:** OTP has **perfect secrecy**
  - **Proof:**  $\forall m \in M, c \in C$ , There is exactly one key  $(m \oplus c)$  maps  $m$  to  $c$
- **Thm:** perfect secrecy  $\Rightarrow |K| \geq |M|$
- Hard to use in practice!

# Pseudorandom Generators

- **Stream Ciphers:** making OTP practical
  - Idea: replace **random** key by "pseudorandom" key
  - Goal: decrease the length of key
- Stream ciphers **cannot** have perfect secrecy
  - Need a different definition of security
  - Security will depend on specific PRG
- **WEAK** PRG: `glibc random()`:

$$r[i] \leftarrow (r[i - 3] + r[i - 31]) \% 2^{32}$$
$$\text{return } r[i] \gg 1$$

- PRG **MUST** be unpredictable
- We say that  $G : K \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  is **predictable** if:

$$\exists \text{ alg. } A, \exists 0 \leq i \leq n - 1$$

$$P\{A(G(k))|_{1,\dots,i} = G(k)|_{i+1}\} > 1/2 + \varepsilon$$

- **Def:** PRG is **unpredictable** if it is not predictable  
 $\forall i$ , no **efficient** alg. can predict  $\text{bit}_{i+1}$  for **non-negligible**  $\varepsilon$
- Negligible
  - In practice:  $\varepsilon$  is a scalar
    - non-neg:  $\varepsilon \geq 1/2^{30}$  (likely to happen over 1 GB of data)
    - negligible:  $\varepsilon \leq 1/2^{80}$  (won't happen over life of key)
  - In theory:  $\varepsilon$  is a function  $\mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ 
    - non-neg:  $\exists d : \varepsilon(\lambda) \geq 1/\lambda^d$  inf. often
    - negligible:  $\forall d, \lambda \geq \lambda_d : \varepsilon(\lambda) < 1/\lambda^d$

## Attacks on OTP and stream ciphers

### Attack 1: two time pad is insecure

Never use stream cipher key more than once

$$c_1 \leftarrow m_1 \oplus PRG(k)$$

$$c_2 \leftarrow m_2 \oplus PRG(k)$$

Then Adv. does:

$$c_1 \oplus c_2 \rightarrow m_1 \oplus m_2$$

Enough redundancy in English and ASCII encoding that:

$$m_1 \oplus m_2 \rightarrow m_1, m_2$$

- 802.11b WEP

$$c = m \oplus PRG(IV || k)$$

1.  $IV$  increases by one every frame, but length of  $IV$  is only 24 bits. After  $2^{24} \approx 16M$  frames it repeats.
2. keys are related (only 24 of 1048 bits are different), And PRG used in WEP(RC4) is not secure when you use related keys.

### A better construction

Also use  $PRG(k)$  to generate new keys so that each frame has a pseudorandom key.

- Disk encryption  
When the file changes, it's easy to tell where the change occurred instantly. That leaks information that attackers shouldn't actually know. Essentially it's another example of two time pad.

**Typically do not use a stream cipher in disk encryption**

## Attack 2: no integrity

OTP is malleable. Modifications to CT are undetected and have **predictable** impact on PT.

$$D(E(m, k) \oplus p, k) = m \oplus p$$

Attackers can choose  $p$  to modify PT.

## Real-world stream ciphers

### RC4

Software cipher

$$k(128 \text{ bits}) \rightarrow k'(2048 \text{ bits}) \rightsquigarrow 1 \text{ byte per round}$$

- used in HTTPS and WEP
- Weaknesses:
  - Bias in initial output:  $P\{2^{nd} \text{ byte} = 0\} = 2/256 > 1/256$

- $P\{(0,0)\} = 1/256^2 + 1/256^3 > 1/256^2$
- Related key attacks

## CSS

Hardware cipher (**badly broken**)

Using [Linear-feedback shift register \(LFSR\)](#)

## eStream

a new kind of  $PRG$ :  $\{0,1\}^s \times \text{Nonce} \rightarrow \{0,1\}^n$

*Nonce*: a non-repeating value for a given key.

$$E(k, m; r) = m \oplus PRG(k; r)$$

The pair  $(k,r)$  is never used more than once.

*Nonce* is designed to reuse the key more than once.

A famous and successful example: [Salsa 20](#)

## PRG Security Defs

Let  $G:K \rightarrow \{0,1\}^n$  be a  $PRG$

**Goal:** define what it means that

$$k \xleftarrow{R} K, \text{ output } G(k)$$

is **indistinguishable** from

$$r \xleftarrow{R} R, \text{ output } r$$

## Advantage

Let  $G:K \rightarrow \{0,1\}^n$  be a  $PRG$ ,  $\{0,1\}^n \rightarrow r$  and  $A$  a **statistical test** on  $\{0,1\}^n$

**Define:**

$$\text{Adv}_{PRG}[A, G] = |Pr[A(G(k)) = 1] - Pr[A(r)] = 1| \in [0, 1]$$

$\text{Adv}$  close to 1  $\Rightarrow A$  can dist.  $G$  from random

$Adv$  close to 0  $\Rightarrow$  A cannot dist.  $G$  from random