VE475

Introduction to Cryptography

Assignment 7 (14/07/2017)

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Non-programming exercises:

- Write in a neat and legible handwriting, or use LATEX
- Clearly explain the reasoning process
- Write in a complete style (subject, verb and object)

Progamming exercises:

- Write a README file for each program
- Upload an archive with all the programs onto Sakai

Ex. 1 — Cramer-Shoup cryptosystem

- 1. Detail the construction of the Cramer-Shoup cryptosystem.
- 2. Explain why this cryptosystem is secure even against adapative chosen ciphertext attacks (no formal proof is required, only some basic explanations).
- 3. Compare this construction to the Elgamal cryptosystem (highlight the similarities and differences).

Ex. 2 — Simple questions

- 1. Let p be a prime and α be an integer such that $p \nmid \alpha$. Explain why $h(x) \equiv \alpha^x \mod p$ is not a good cryptographic hash function.
- 2. Express $\lfloor 2^{30}\sqrt{i} \rfloor$ for i=2,3,5 and 10, in hexadecimal. Compare your results to the constants K_i , $0 \le i \le 79$, in SHA-1.

Ex. 3 — Birthday paradox

In this exercise we derive the approximation of the probability of having at least one match in a list of length r over n possible birthdays.

1. Let $f(x) = \ln(1-x)$ and $g(x) = \ln(1-x) + x + x^2$. Study the functions f and g over [0, 1/2] and conclude that over this interval

$$-x-x^2 \le \ln(1-x) \le -x.$$

2. Prove that if $r \leq n/2$ then

$$-\frac{(r-1)r}{2n} - \frac{r^3}{3n^2} \le \sum_{j=1}^{r-1} \ln\left(1 - \frac{j}{n}\right) \le -\frac{(r-1)r}{2n}.$$

3. Let $\lambda = r^2/(2n)$, and suppose $\lambda \le n/8$. Prove that

$$e^{-\lambda}e^{c_1/sqrtn} \leq \prod_{j=1}^{r-1} \left(1 - \frac{j}{n}\right) \leq e^{-\lambda}e^{c_2/sqrtn}$$
, where $c_1 = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{2}} - \frac{(2\lambda)^{3/2}}{3}$ and $c_2 = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{2}}$.

4. Prove that when n is large and λ is a constant less than n/8, then

$$\prod_{j=1}^{r-1} \left(1 - \frac{j}{n} \right) \approx e^{-\lambda}.$$

Ex. 4 — Birthday attack

Suppose we observe 40 licence plates, each ending with a 3-digit number.

- 1. What is the probability of seeing two plates ending with the same three digits?
- 2. Assuming we have one ending with 123. What is the probability that one of the 40 license plates observed has the same 3 last digits?
- 3. Explain how these results relate to how Alice overcomes the birthday attack in chapter 5.

Ex. 5 — Faster multiple modular exponentiation

Let α, β , a, b and n be five integers. The most obvious strategy for compute $\alpha^a \beta^b \mod n$ consists in using the modular exponentiation (Square and Multiply) algorithm (3.38) to compute $\alpha^a \mod n$, and $\beta^b \mod n$ and then multiply the results mod n.

- 1. What is the time complexity of this method?
- 2. Assuming the product $\alpha\beta$ is known, rewrite the square and multiply algorithm, such that at most one multiplication is calculated at each iteration.
- 3. Suppose a and b are l bits long; how many squaring and multiplications are necessary to compute $\alpha^a \beta^b \mod n$?
- 4. Implement the two strategies and compare their speed on large numbers.