



# ***CS/ECE/Math 435***

## ***Introduction to Cryptography***

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# Practice Final Exam Problems - Set 2

(solutions will be worked as part  
of lecture/review session)

## Long Format 1

Consider the following polynomial on  $\mathbb{Z}_2$   
(i.e. coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , argument  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ ):

$$f = x^4 + x^3 + 1$$

You make take as given the fact that  
 $f$  is irreducible

- a) written as polynomials, identify all  
the elements of the Galois Field associated  
with  $f$ ;  $GF(2^4)$ .

$GF(2^4)$  elements

Associated binary string ②

1)	0	0 0 0 0
2)	1	0 0 0 1
3)	X	0 0 1 0
4)	$X + 1$	0 0 1 1
5)	$X^2$	0 1 0 0
6)	$X^2 + 1$	0 1 0 1
7)	$X^2 + X$	0 1 1 0
8)	$X^2 + X + 1$	0 1 1 1
9)	$X^3$	1 0 0 0
10)	$X^3 + 1$	1 0 0 1
11)	$X^3 + X$	1 0 1 0
12)	$X^3 + X + 1$	1 0 1 1
13)	$X^3 + X^2$	1 1 0 0
14)	$X^3 + X^2 + 1$	1 1 0 1
15)	$X^3 + X^2 + X$	1 1 1 0
16)	$X^3 + X^2 + X + 1$	

In summary : all the possible binary coefficient polynomials, up to degree 3.

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6) Compute multiplicative inverse of  
 $x^3 + x^2$  in  $GF(2^4)$  with  $f = x^4 + x^3 + 1$

Solution (see DeMarco lecture notes # 30)

row #	column q	column d	col x	col y
1	empty	$x^4 + x^3 + 1$	1	0
2	empty	$x^3 + x^2$	0	1
3	X	1	1	X

[computation for row 3:

$$\begin{array}{r} x \\ \hline x^3 + x^2 \sqrt{x^4 + x^3 + 1} \\ \hline x^4 + x^3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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$\Rightarrow q_3 = X$

remainder

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Algorithm terminates when  $d$  entry reaches 1 ; here that occurs at row 3. By construction, entries in a given row  $K$  satisfy :  $d_K = f \circ x_K + a \circ y_K$  ; here in row 3 :

$$(\#) \quad 1 = (x^4 + x^3 + 1) \circ 1 + (x^3 + x^2) \circ x$$

In slight abuse of notation, recalling  $f$  for  $GF(2^4)$  play role analogous to integer  $N$  for  $\mathbb{Z}_N$ , write eqn (#)

as  $\text{mod}[(x^3 + x^2) \circ x, (x^4 + x^3 + 1)] = 1$

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We conclude that the polynomial  
X is the multiplicative inverse  
of  $(x^3 + x^2)$  in  $GF(2^4)$  with  
 $f = x^4 + x^3 + 1$ .

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Problem 2 : Cryptanalysis of  
block size 2 Hill cipher on  $\mathbb{Z}_{26}$ .

Given ciphertext of 14 characters/ $\mathbb{Z}_{26}$   
elements :

CIPHER = [block 1    block 2    block 3    block 4    block 5    block 6    block 7]  

$$[2 \ 7 \ | \ 24 \ 19 \ | \ 3 \ 24 \ | \ 13 \ 12 \ | \ 5 \ 24 \ | \ 3 \ 24 \ | \ 17 \ 14]$$

a) Partially known corresponding plaintext

for first six characters/ $\mathbb{Z}_{26}$

0    15    0    11    4    12

↓    ↓    ↓    ↓    ↑    ↑

A    P    A    L    E    M

(Sample problems as posted to Canvas  
4/27 only gave 5 characters - updated here)

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a) Objective : Compute  $M \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}^{2 \times 2}$   
 of this Hill cipher encryption function

Solution : Each 2-character block  
 of corresponding plaintext/cipher-text  
 yields two linear equations on  
 the four unknowns  $m_{11}, m_{12}, m_{21}, m_{22}$ .

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We'll need four linearly independent  
 equations. And important to note  
 that getting linear independence is  
 in a sense probabilistic, dependent  
 on the particular "sample" of

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plaintext/ciphertext. Here that dictates that the first two 2-character blocks of plaintext/ciphertext are not sufficient: we need a third:

So here:

First block  
ciphertext  
block

plaintext  
block

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} \\ m_{21} & m_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

mod 26

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Second block  
cipher text

$$\begin{bmatrix} 24 \\ 19 \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} \\ m_{21} & m_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑  
mod  
26

(Note: the repeated appearance of 0 as first entry of plaintext in block 1 and block 2 make these insufficient to solve  $m_{11}, m_{21}$ )

Third block :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 24 \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} \\ m_{21} & m_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑  
mod  
26

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From first block

$$\text{row 1} \Rightarrow \mod(15 \cdot m_{12}, 26) = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow m_{12} = \mod(15^{-1} \cdot 2, 26)$$

$$= \mod(7 \cdot 2, 26) = 14$$


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$$\text{row 2} \Rightarrow \mod(15 \cdot m_{22}, 26) = 7$$

$$\Rightarrow m_{22} = \mod(15^{-1} \cdot 7, 26)$$

$$= \mod(49, 26) = 23$$

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Block 2 gives only redundant, linearly independent information  
 (you can check that it is consistent, yielding same  $m_{12}, m_{22}$ ).

Block 3:

$$\text{row 1 : } \mod(4 \cdot m_{11} + 12 \cdot \overset{14}{m}_{12}, 26) = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \mod(4 \cdot m_{11}, 26) + \underbrace{\mod(12 \cdot 14, 26)}_{= 12} = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \mod(4 \cdot m_{11}, 26) = \mod(2 - 12, 26) = 16$$

So a choice for  $m_{11}$  is  $m_{11} = 4$   
 (but note that  $4 \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}^*$ , so not unique)

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But observe we could also choose  $m_{11} = 17$ , because  $\text{mod}(4 \cdot 17, 26) \text{ also } = 16$ .

For (a), either solution is acceptable. For (b), we'll see which choice produces intelligible plaintext for the rest of the message.

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row 2 of block 3 =

$$\begin{matrix} 3 \\ 23 \\ 11 \end{matrix}$$

$$\text{mod}(4 \cdot m_{21} + 12 \cdot m_{22}, 26) = 24$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{mod}(4 \cdot m_{21}, 26) + \underbrace{\text{mod}(12 \cdot 23, 26)}_{16} = 24$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{mod}(4 \cdot m_{21}, 26) = 8, \text{ so } [m_{21} = 2] \text{ is a solution}$$

Observe  $[m_{21} = 15]$  ( $\text{mod}(\overbrace{4 \cdot 15}^{60}, 26) = 2$ ) is also a solution.

So a solution for part (a)

$$M_1 \text{ Hill matrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 14 \\ 2 & 23 \end{bmatrix}$$

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But this is not unique.

Alternate solutions consistent with the given plaintext/ciphertext are

$$M_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 17 & 14 \\ 2 & 23 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 14 \\ 15 & 23 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 17 & 14 \\ 15 & 23 \end{bmatrix}$$

However, preparing for part (b), we do have a well defined test to distinguish an acceptable Hill matrix: it must have a determinant whose value ( $\text{mod } 26$ ) lies in  $\mathbb{Z}_{26}^*$ .

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b) To decrypt the ciphertext, we'll want to compute the decryption function for the Hill cipher; i.e. we'll want  $M^{-1}$ . Let's see which of our candidate  $M_i$ 's is invertible in  $\mathbb{Z}_{26}$ :

$$\text{mod}(\det(M_1), 26) = \text{mod}(4 \cdot 23 - 2 \cdot 14, 26)$$

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$$= 12 \notin \mathbb{Z}_{26}^* \Rightarrow M_1 \text{ not invertible.}$$

$$\text{mod}(\det(M_2), 26) = \text{mod}(17 \cdot 23 - 2 \cdot 14, 26)$$

$$= 25 \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}^* \Rightarrow M_2 \stackrel{\text{is}}{=} \text{invertible!}$$

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Similarly,  $\det(M_3) = 12$  fails,  
 $\det(M_4) = 25$  passes.

So  $M_2$  and  $M_4$  are our two acceptable candidate Hill ciphers.

Compute  $M_2^{-1}$ : inverse  $\not\in \mathbb{Z}_{26}^*$  ( $\det(M_2) = 25$ , so

$$M_2^{-1} = 25 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 23 & -14 \\ -2 & 17 \end{bmatrix} \mod 26 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 14 \\ 2 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\text{Block 4: } M_2^{-1} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 18 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$\text{mod} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 14 \\ 2 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 18 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}, 26 \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{matrix}$$

Block 5:

$$\text{mod} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 14 \\ 2 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 24 \end{bmatrix}, 26 \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 13 \\ 18 \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \begin{matrix} n \\ s \end{matrix}$$

Block 6:

$$\text{mod} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 14 \\ 2 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 24 \end{bmatrix}, 26 \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \begin{matrix} H \\ 0 \end{matrix}$$

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Block 7:

$$\text{mod} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 14 \\ 2 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 17 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}, 2^6 \right) = \begin{matrix} 13 & \leftrightarrow n \\ 4 & \leftrightarrow E \end{matrix}$$

So candidate Hill matrix  $M_2$   
produces plain text:

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We'll accept  $M_2$  and this plaintext  
as correct.

Problem 3 : Diffie-Hellman key exchange with  $p = 11$ , "candidate" generators (to check as part of problem)

$$g_1 = 5, g_2 = 7.$$

Background : Recall that the goal of D-H is to allow two users, A and B, to exchange information in public that allows them to both construct the same key, without that key ever being communicated in public. The exchange is facilitated by network manager who provides  $p, g$ .

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Solution (a) : You are to demonstrate that  $g_1 = 5$  is not a generator for  $\mathbb{Z}_{11}^*$  (so not suitable for use in D-H with  $p = 11$ ) -

Easiest approach: A generator must have the property that for  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{11}^*$ ,  $x \neq y$ ,  $\text{mod}(g^x, 11) \neq \text{mod}(g^y, 11)$ .

So to prove  $g$  is not a generator, sufficient to show  $x \neq y$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{11}^*$  such that  $\text{mod}(g^x, 11) = \text{mod}(g^y, 11)$ .

Compute :

$$1) \mod(5^1, 11) = 5$$

$$2) \mod(5^2, 11) = 3$$

$$3) \mod(5^3, 11) = \underbrace{\mod(\mod(5^2, 11) \cdot 5, 11)}_{\text{key idea in computing}} = 4$$

exponentiation in modular case.

$$4) \mod(5^4, 11) = \mod(4 \cdot 5, 11) = 9$$

$$5) \mod(5^5, 11) = \mod(9 \cdot 5, 11) = 1$$

$$6) \mod(5^6, 11) = \mod(1 \cdot 5, 11) = 5$$

$$7) \quad \text{mod}(5^7, 11) = \text{mod}(5 \cdot 5, 11) = 3$$
(22)

$\Rightarrow$  conclude  $x = 2, y = 7$  yield

same  $g_1^x \equiv g_1^y \pmod{26}$ ,  $g_1 = 5$  fails as generator

b) For choice  $g_2 = 7$ , one may proceed as per (a), and enumerate each  $7^x \pmod{26}$  for each  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_{11}^*$ , showing uniqueness of each.

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OR, somewhat more efficiently,  
 one may use the theorem provided  
 on your formula sheet (Back notes  
 p. 38-1):

Find each prime divisor of  
 $(p-1) = 10$  : these are  $q_1 = 2, q_2 = 5$ .  
 Then test:

$$\text{mod}(g^{(p-1)/q}, p) \neq 1$$

$$\text{Here } \text{mod}(7^5, 11) = 10 \neq 1$$

$$\text{mod}(7^2, 11) = 5 \neq 1$$