

Class Notes 4/13

Logan Smith

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RSA: Public Key Cryptography (Alice has public key. She tells everyone, people send her message that only she can decrypt)

she picks 2 large random prime p q

$n=pq$

she picks an e

$\gcd(e, (p-1)(q-1))=1$

her public key is (n, e)

alice computes $\varphi(n) = (p-1)(q-1)$ and uses this to find

$d \equiv e^{-1} \pmod{\varphi(n)}$

Using Euclid's Algorithm

Bob can send Alice a message $m < n$

He computes $c \equiv m^e \pmod{\varphi(n)}$

TO decrypt Alice computes $c^d \pmod{n}$

since $ed = 1 + k\varphi(n)$

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$c^d \equiv (m^e)^d = m^{ed}$

$\equiv m^{1+k\varphi(n)} \equiv m \cdot (m^{\varphi(n)})^k \pmod{n} \equiv m \pmod{n}$

so Alice can decrypt

If eve knows n why can't she use this to decrypt bob's message?

The decryption function is:

$D(y) = y^d \pmod{n}$

Eve has to find d

$d \equiv e^{-1} \pmod{\varphi(n)}$

Eve cannot compute this without knowing $\varphi(n)$. So eve need to know $\varphi(n)$.

If she can factor $n=pq$, then eve could break RSA (find d) but factoring is hard (no one knows a fast way to do it for big n).

Maybe she could find $\varphi(n)$ some other way?

Claim: Computing $\varphi(n)$ is equally as hard

If you found a way to compute $\varphi(n)$ you could use it to find p and q (factor n). How do you do it?

Suppose you manage to learn $\varphi(n)$

know $\varphi(n) = (p-1)(q-1) = pq - p - q + 1$
 $n - \varphi(n) + 1 = p + q$

Use quadratic formula to find p q:

$$x^2 - (n - \varphi(n) + 1) + n = 0$$

$$x^2 - (p + q) + (pq) = 0$$

This factors as

$$p, q = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$= \frac{n - \varphi(n) + 1 \pm \sqrt{(n - \varphi(n) + 1)^2 - 4(1)(n)}}{2(1)}$$

Since factoring is hard it is hard find $\varphi(n)$ or d

Test if n is prime. Trial division test if n is divisible by any number \sqrt{n}
(really slow)

Fermat primality test: Fermat's little theorem: If n is prime and $1 \leq a < n$
then $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ steps: (repeat 10 times) pick a random $a < n$ if $a^{n-1} \equiv$
 $1 \pmod{n}$

return composite

else return "probably prime"

drawbacks:

lots of pseudoprimes (false primes)

Carmichael numbers (Fermat's test always lies)

too many mistakes for RSA

Solovay Strassen Test:

Use Jacobi symbols $(a, n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \text{ is prime and } a \equiv x^2 \pmod{n} \\ -1 & \text{if } n \text{ is prime and } a \not\equiv x^2 \pmod{n} \end{cases}$

-1 if n is prime and $a \not\equiv x^2 \pmod{n}$

If n isn't prime the symbol doesn't tell us if a is a quadratic residue

Theorem (Euler)

If n is prime and $a \leq a < n$ then $(a, n) \equiv a^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \pmod{n}$

steps: repeat 10 times pick a random $a < n$

if $(a, n) \not\equiv a^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \pmod{n}$ return composite else return probably prime

why is Solovay Strassen better?

if n is composite, there is always some a which shows this using Solovay Strassen
no Carmichael's in fact if n is composite then at least 1/2 of the choices for a
tell it is composite

if we do this test N times the probability of getting probably prime everytime
when the number is composite is at most $\frac{1}{2}^N$