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Paper Script
Information Systems Security
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Preface

This lecture manual is intended to serve as an introduction to cryptography for graduate Information Systems students. It is self-contained, especially fundamental mathematical concepts are introduced in a way they will be needed to understand formally how and why particular cryptographic methods work. Therefore, students are not required to have a deep mathematical background. Unfortunately, proofs for theorems have been omitted in general, although the author tried to convey as much mathematical flavour as possible.

The script covers a lot more than can be taught within a five day block course, where it is important that lectures and exercises alternate.

Basically, greater extracts have been taken and adopted from Stinson's "Cryptography: Theory and Practice" and from the "Handbook of Applied Cryptography".

I am grateful for any kind of helpful suggestions and corrections.

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Chapter 1

The Significance of Cryptography

1.1 Introduction

Cryptography has a long and fascinating history. The most complete non-technical account of the subject is Kahn's *The Codebreakers*. This book traces cryptography from its initial use by the Egyptians some 4000 years ago, to the twenties century where it played a crucial role in the outcome of both world wars. Completed in 1963, Kahn's book covers those aspects of the history which are most significant (up to that time) to the development of that subject. The predominant practitioners of the art were associated with the military, the diplomatic service and government in general. Cryptography was used as a tool to protect national secrets and strategies.

The proliferation of computers and communications systems in the 1960s brought with it a demand from the private sector for means to protect information in digital form and to provide security services. Beginning with the work of Feistel at IBM in the early 1970s and culminating in 1977 with the adoption as a U.S. Federal Information Processing Standard for encrypting unclassified information, DES, the Data Encryption Standard, is the most well-known cryptographic mechanism in history. It remains the standard means for securing electronic commerce for many financial institutions around the world.

The most striking development in the history of cryptography came 1976 when Diffie and Hellman published *New Directions in Cryptography*. This paper introduced the revolutionary concept of public-key cryptography and also provided a new and ingenious method for key exchange, the security of which is based on the intractibility of the discrete logarithm problem. Although the authors had no practical realization scheme at the time, the idea was clear and it generated extensive interest and activity in the cryptographic community. In 1978 Rivest, Shamir and Adleman discovered the first practical public-key encryption and signature scheme, now referred to as RSA. The RSA scheme is based on another hard mathematical problem, the intractibility of factoring large integers. This application of a hard mathematical problem to cryptography revitalized efforts to find more efficient methods to factor. The 1980s saw major advances in this area but none which rendered the RSA system insecure. Another class of powerful and practical public-key schemes was found by ElGamal in 1985. These are also based on the discrete logarithm problem.

One of the most significant contributions provided by public-key cryptography is the digital signature. In 1991 the first international standard for digital signatures (ISO/IEC 9797) was adopted. It is based on the RSA public-key scheme. In 1994 the U.S. Government adopted

the Digital Signature Standard, a mechanism based on the ElGamal public-key scheme.

The search for new-public schemes, improvements to existing cryptographic mechanisms, and proof of security continues at a rapid pace. Various standards and infrastructures involving cryptography are being put in place. Security products are being developed to address the security needs of an information intensive society.

The purpose of this paper is to give an up-to-date treatise of the principles, techniques, and algorithms of interest in cryptographic practice. Emphasis has been placed on those aspects which are most practical and applied. The reader will be aware of the basic issues and encouraged to further studies in the fields of interest. Due to time restrictions and in view of the practical intention of this paper, most results will be stated without proofs.

1.2 Information Security and Cryptography

The concept of *information* will be taken to be an understood quantity. To introduce cryptography, an understanding of issues related to information security in general is necessary. Information security manifests itself in many ways according to the situation and requirement. Regardless of who is involved, to one degree or another, all parties to a transaction must have confidence that certain objectives associated with information security have been met. Some of these objectives are listed in Table 1.1.

privacy or confidentiality	keeping information secret from all but those who are authorized to see it
data integrity	ensuring information has not been altered by unauthorized or unknown means
entity authentication or identification	corroboration of the identity of an entity (e.g., a person, a computer terminal, a credit card, etc.)
message authentication	corroborating the source of information; also known as data origin authentication
signature	a means to bind information to an entity
authorization	conveyance, to another entity, of official sanction to do or be something
validation	a means to provide timeliness of authorization to use or manipulate information or resources
access control	restricting access to resources to privileged entities
certification	endorsement of information by a trusted entity
timestamping	recording the time of creation or existence of information
witnessing	verifying the creation or existence of information by an entity other than the creator
receipt	acknowledgement that information has been received
confirmation	acknowledgement that services have been provided
ownership	a means to provide an entity with the legal right to use or transfer a resource to others
anonymity	concealing the identity of an entity involved in some process
non-repudiation	preventing the denial of previous commitments or actions
revocation	retraction of certification or authorization

Table1.1. Some information security objectives

Over the centuries, an elaborate set of protocols and mechanisms has been created to deal with information security issues when the information is conveyed by physical documents. Often the objectives of information security cannot solely be achieved through mathematical algorithms and protocols alone, but require procedural techniques and abidance of laws to achieve the desired result. For example, privacy of letters is provided by sealed envelopes delivered by an accepted mail service. The physical security of the envelope is, for practical necessity, limited and so laws are enacted which make it a criminal offense to open mail for which one is not authorized. It is sometimes the case that security is achieved not through the information itself but through the physical document recording it. For example, paper currency requires special inks and material to prevent counterfeiting.

Conceptually, the way information is recorded has not changed dramatically over time. Whereas information was typically stored and transmitted via telecommunications systems, some wireless. What has changed dramatically is the ability to copy and alter information. One can make thousands of identical copies of a piece of information stored electronically and each is indistinguishable from the original. With information on paper, this is more difficult. What is needed then for a society where information is mostly stored and transmitted in electronic form is a means to ensure information security which is independent of the physical medium recording or conveying it and such that the objectives of information security rely solely on digital information itself.

One of the fundamental tools used in information security is the signature. It is a building block for many other services such as non-repudiation, data origin authentication, identification, and witnessing, to mention a few. Having learned the basics in writing, an individual is taught how to produce a handwritten signature for the purpose of identification. At contract age the signature evolves to take on a very integral part of the person's identity. This signature is intended to be unique to the individual and serve as a means to identify, authorize, and validate. With electronic information the concept of a signature needs to be redressed; it cannot simply be something unique to the signer and independent of the information signed. Electronic replication of it is so simple that appending a signature to a document not signed by the originator of the signature is almost a triviality.

Analogues of the "paper protocols" currently in use are required. Hopefully these new electronic based protocols are at least as good as those they replace. There is a unique opportunity to society to introduce new and more efficient ways of ensuring information security. Much can be learned from the evolution of the paper based system, mimicking those aspects which have served us well and removing the inefficiencies.

Achieving information security in an electronic society requires a vast array of techniques and legal skills. There is, however, no guarantee that all of the information security objectives deemed necessary can be adequately met. The technical means is provided through cryptography.

Definition 1.1. *Cryptography* is the study of mathematical techniques related to aspects of information security such as confidentiality, data integrity, entity authentication, and data origin authentication. \square

Cryptography is not the only means of providing information security but rather one set of techniques.

Cryptographic goals

Of all the information security objectives listed in Table 1.1, the following four form a framework upon which the others will be derived. (1) privacy or confidentiality; (2) data integrity; (3) authentication; and (4) non-repudiation.

1. *Confidentiality* is a service used to keep the content of information from all but those authorized to have it. *Secrecy* is a term synonymous with confidentiality and privacy. There are numerous approaches to providing confidentiality, ranging from physical protection to mathematical algorithms which render data unintelligible.
2. *Data integrity* is a service which addresses the unauthorized alteration of data. To assure data integrity, one must have the ability to detect data manipulation by unauthorized parties. Data manipulation includes such things as insertion, deletion and substitution.
3. *Authentication* is a service related to identification. This function applies to both entities and information itself. Two parties entering into a communication should identify each other. Information delivered over a channel should be authenticated as to origin, date of origin, data content, time sent, etc. For these reasons this aspect of cryptography is usually subdivided into two major classes: *entity authentication* and *data origin authentication*. Data origin authentication implicitly provides data integrity (for if a message is modified, the source has changed).
4. *Non-repudiation* is a service which prevents an entity from denying previous commitments or actions. When disputes arise due to an entity denying that certain actions were taken, a means to resolve the situation is necessary. For example, one entity may authorize the purchase of property by another entity and later deny such authorization was granted. A procedure involving a trusted third party is needed to resolve the dispute.

A fundamental goal of cryptography is to adequately address these four areas in both theory and practice. Cryptography is about the prevention and detection of cheating and other malicious activities.

This paper is intended to describe a number of basic *cryptographic tools (primitives)* used to provide information security. Unfortunately, we cannot cover all different branches that employ primitives. Nevertheless, we provide a schematic listing of the primitives and how they relate in Figure 1.1.

These primitives should be evaluated with respect to various criteria such as:

1. *Level of Security*. This is usually difficult to quantify. Often it is given in terms of the number of operations required (using the best methods currently known) to defeat the intended objective. Typically the level of security is defined by an upper bound on the amount of work necessary to defeat the objective. This is sometimes called the work factor.
2. *Functionality*. Primitives will need to be combined to meet various information security objectives. Which primitives are most effective for a given objective will be determined by the basic properties of the primitives.
3. *Methods of operation*. Primitives, when applied in various ways and with various inputs, will typically exhibit different characteristics; thus one primitive could provide very different functionality depending on its mode of operation or usage.
4. *Performance*. This refers to the efficiency of a primitive in a particular mode of operation. (For example, an encryption algorithm may be rated by the number of bits per second which it can encrypt.)

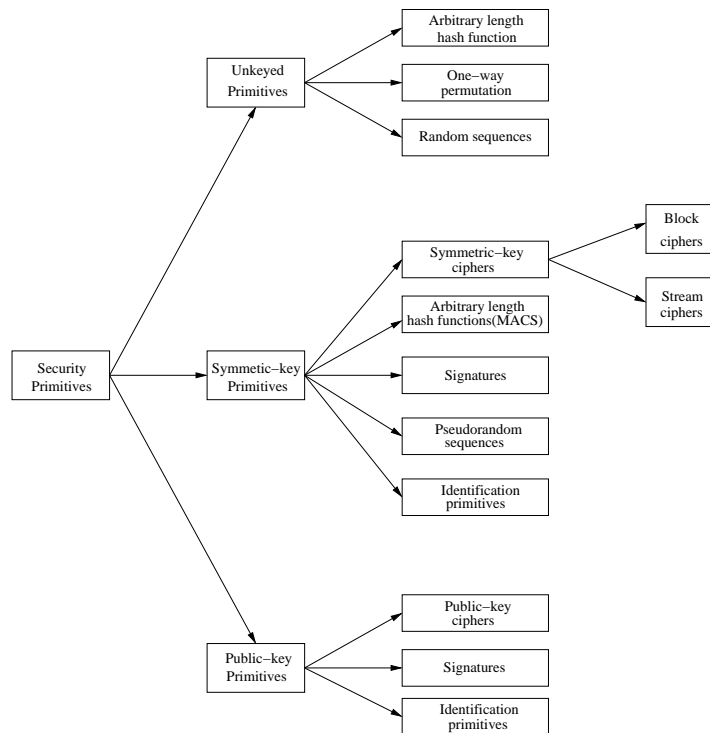


Fig. 1.1. A taxonomy of cryptographic primitives

5. *Ease of Implementation.* This refers to the difficulty of realizing the primitive in a practical instantiation. This might include the complexity of implementing the primitive in either a software or hardware environment.

The relative importance of various criteria is very much dependent on the application and resources available. For example, in an environment where computing power is limited one may have to trade off a very high level of security for better performance of the system as a whole.

Cryptography, over the ages, has been an art practised by many who have devised ad hoc techniques to meet some of the information security requirements. The last twenty years have been a period transition as the discipline moved from an art to a science. There are now several international scientific conferences devoted exclusively to cryptography and also an international scientific organization, the International Association for Cryptologic Research (IACR), aimed at fostering research in the area.

Chapter 2

Simple Cryptosystems

2.1 Basics on Functions

One concept which is absolutely fundamental to cryptography is that of a function in the mathematical sense. A function is alternatively referred to as a mapping or a transformation.

A *set* consists of distinct objects which are called *elements* of the set. For example, a set X might consist of the elements a, b, c , and is denoted $X = \{a, b, c\}$.

Definition 2.1. A *function* is defined by two sets X and Y and a rule f which assigns to each element in X precisely one element in Y . The set X is called the *domain* of the function and Y the *codomain*. If x is an element of X (usually written $x \in X$) the *image of x* is the element in Y which the rule f associates with x ; the image y of x is denoted by $y = f(x)$. Standard notation for a function f from set X to set Y is $f : X \rightarrow Y$. If $y \in Y$, then a *preimage of y* is an element $x \in X$ for which $f(x) = y$. The set of all elements in Y which have at least one preimage is called the *image of f* , denoted $Im(f)$. \square

EXAMPLE 2.1. Consider the sets $X = \{a, b, c\}$, $Y = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, and the rule f from X to Y defined as $f(a) = 2$, $f(b) = 4$, $f(c) = 1$. Figure 2.1 shows a schematic of the sets X, Y and the function f . The preimage of the element 2 is a . The image of f is $\{1, 2, 4\}$. \square

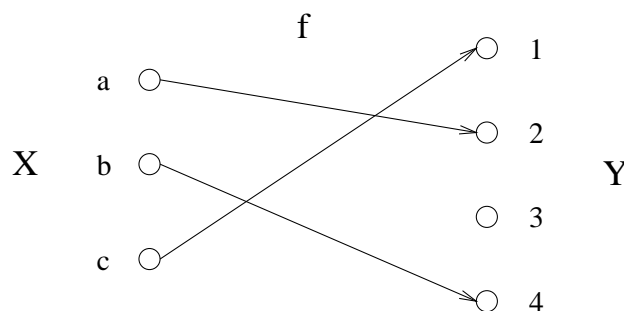


Fig. 2.1. A function f from a set X of three elements to set Y of four elements

Thinking of a function in term of the schematic (sometimes called a functional diagram) given in Figure 2.1, each element in the domain X has precisely one arrowed line originating from

it. Each element in the codomain Y can have any number of arrowed lines incident to it (including zero lines).

Often only the domain X and the rule f are given and the codomain is assumed to be the image of f . This point is illustrated with two examples.

EXAMPLE 2.2. Take $X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 10\}$ and let f be the rule that for each $x \in X$, $f(x) = r_x$, where r_x is the remainder when x^2 is divided by 11. Explicitly then

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} f(1) = 1 & f(2) = 4 & f(3) = 9 & f(4) = 5 & f(5) = 3 & \\ f(6) = 3 & f(7) = 5 & f(8) = 9 & f(9) = 4 & f(10) = 1. & \end{array}$$

The image of f is the set $Y = \{1, 3, 4, 5, 9\}$. □

EXAMPLE 2.3. Take $X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 10^{50}\}$ and let f be the rule $f(x) = r_x$, where r_x is the remainder when x^2 is divided by $10^{50} + 1$ for all $x \in X$. Here it is not feasible to write down f explicitly as in Example 2.2, but nonetheless the function is completely specified by the domain and the mathematical description of the rule f . □

Definition 2.2. A function or transformation is *1 – 1 (one to one)* iff each element in the codomain Y is the image of at most one element in the domain X . We call such a function sometimes *injective*. □

Definition 2.3. A function or transformation is *onto* iff each element in the codomain Y is the image of at least one element in the domain. Equivalently, a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is onto iff $Im(f) = Y$. We sometimes call such a function *surjective*. □

Definition 2.4. A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is called *bijection* if and only if it is 1 – 1 and $Im(f) = Y$. □

Proposition 2.5. *If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is 1 – 1 then $f : X \rightarrow Im(f)$ is a bijection. In particular, if $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is 1 – 1 (onto), and X and Y are finite sets of the same size, then f is a bijection.* □

In terms of the schematic representation, if f is a bijection, then each element in Y has exactly one arrowed line incident with it. The functions described in Examples 2.1 and 2.2 are not bijections. In Example 2.1 the element 3 is not the image of any element in the domain. In Example 2.2 each element in the codomain has two preimages.

Definition 2.6. If f is a bijection from X to Y then it is a simple matter to define a bijection g from Y to X as follows: for each $y \in Y$ define $g(y) = x$ where $x \in X$ and $f(x) = y$. This function g obtained from f is called the inverse function of f and is denoted by $g = f^{-1}$. □

EXAMPLE 2.4. Let $X = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$, and $Y = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$, and consider the rule f given by the arrowed edges in Figure 2.2. f is a bijection and its inverse g is formed simply by reversing the arrows on the edges. The domain of g is Y and the codomain is X . □

Note that if f is a bijection, then so is f^{-1} . In cryptography bijections are used as the tool for encrypting messages and the inverse transformations are used to decrypt. Notice that if the transformations were not bijections then it would not be possible to always decrypt to a unique message.

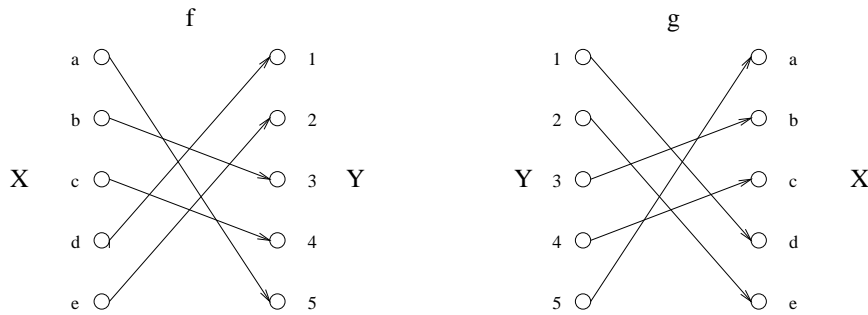


Fig. 2.2. A bijection f and its inverse $g = f^{-1}$

- EXERCISE 2.7. 1. Consider the function $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ with $\mathbb{N} \ni x \mapsto 2x \in \mathbb{N}$. What kind of function is f in terms of onto, 1-to-1 and bijection? What happens, if we change the codomain of this f to $2\mathbb{N} = \{0, 2, 4, 6, 8, \dots\}$?
2. Why is the function $g : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ with $\mathbb{Z} \ni x \mapsto \begin{cases} 2^x, & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 3^{|x|}, & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$ 1-to-1, but not onto? How can the codomain be changed to make g a bijection?
3. What can be said about the functions $h_1, h_2 : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ with $h_1(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & , \text{ if } x \geq 0 \\ 2|x| + 1, & \text{ if } x < 0 \end{cases}$ and $h_2(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & , \text{ if } x \geq 0 \\ 2|x| - 1, & \text{ if } x < 0 \end{cases}$? □

2.2 General Definitions

The scientific study of any discipline must be built upon rigorous definitions arising from fundamental concepts. What follows is a list of terms and basic concepts used throughout this paper.

We begin with the very fundamental concept of a cryptosystem which describes in a formal way the main goal of cryptography.

Definition 2.8. A *cryptosystem* is a five-tuple $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$, where the following conditions are satisfied

1. \mathcal{P} is a finite set of possible *plaintexts*
2. \mathcal{C} is a finite set of possible *ciphertexts*
3. \mathcal{K} , the keyspace, is a finite set of possible *keys*
4. For each $K \in \mathcal{K}$, there is an *encryption rule* $e_K \in \mathcal{E}$ and a corresponding *decryption rule* $d_K \in \mathcal{D}$. Each $e_K : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ and $d_K : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$ are functions such that $d_K(e_K(x)) = x$ for every plaintext $x \in \mathcal{P}$. □

Since this definition uses very mathematical notation we explain what the certain components of a cryptosystem should mean. Therefore we consider the following figure which gives a schema of a two-party communication using encryption.

Note 2.9. Referring to Figure 2.3, we can now informally say what the objective of cryptography should be. Two people, usually referred to as Alice and Bob, want to communicate over an insecure channel in such a way that an opponent, Oscar, cannot understand what

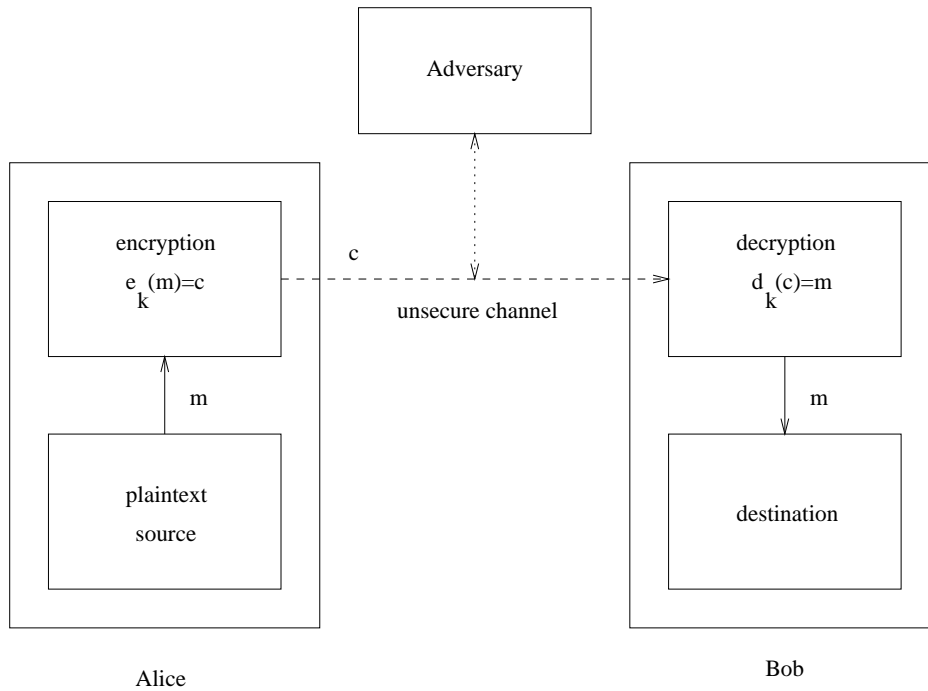


Fig. 2.3. Two-party communication

is being said. This channel could be a telephone line or a computer network, for example. The information that Alice wants to send to Bob, which we call plaintext message m , can be English text, numerical data, computer code or anything at all – its structure is completely arbitrary. Alice encrypts the plaintext, using a predetermined key $K \in \mathcal{K}$, and sends the resulting ciphertext $e_K(m)$ over the channel. Oscar, upon seeing the ciphertext in the channel by eavesdropping, cannot determine what the plaintext m was; but Bob, who knows the encryption key K , can decrypt the ciphertext using the corresponding decryption rule d_K and reconstruct the plaintext by $d_K(e_K(m)) = m$. \square

The main property of Definition 2.8 is property 4. It says that if a plaintext m is encrypted using e_K , and the resulting ciphertext is subsequently decrypted using d_K , then the original plaintext m results.

Note 2.10. Clearly, it must be the case that each encryption function e_K is an injective function, i.e. for all messages $m_1, m_2 \in \mathcal{P}$ which satisfy $e_K(m_1) = e_K(m_2)$ we have $m_1 = m_2$ or equivalently, from $m_1 \neq m_2$ we derive $e_K(m_1) \neq e_K(m_2)$. Otherwise, decryption could not be accomplished in an unambiguous manner. For example, if

$$y = e_K(m_1) = e_K(m_2)$$

where $m_1 \neq m_2$, then Bob has no way of knowing whether y should decrypt to m_1 or m_2 . \square

Cryptographic techniques are typically divided into two generic types: symmetric-key and public-key. First we now turn to the symmetric-key methods and treat the other ones in chapter 4 and 5.

2.3 Monoalphabetic Cryptosystems

We begin with spelling out what should be understood under a symmetric-key encryption.

Definition 2.11. A cryptosystem $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$ is said to be symmetric-key if for each associated encryption/decryption rule pair (e_K, d_K) , it is computationally easy¹ to determine d_K knowing only e_K , and to determine e_K from d_K . \square

According to this definition, the term symmetric-key becomes appropriate. A two-party communication using symmetric-key encryption can be described by the block diagram of Figure 2.4, which is Figure 2.3 with the addition of the secure channel, meaning no adversary has access to it. One of the major issues with symmetric-key systems is to find an efficient method to agree upon and exchange keys securely. The problem is referred to as the key distribution problem.

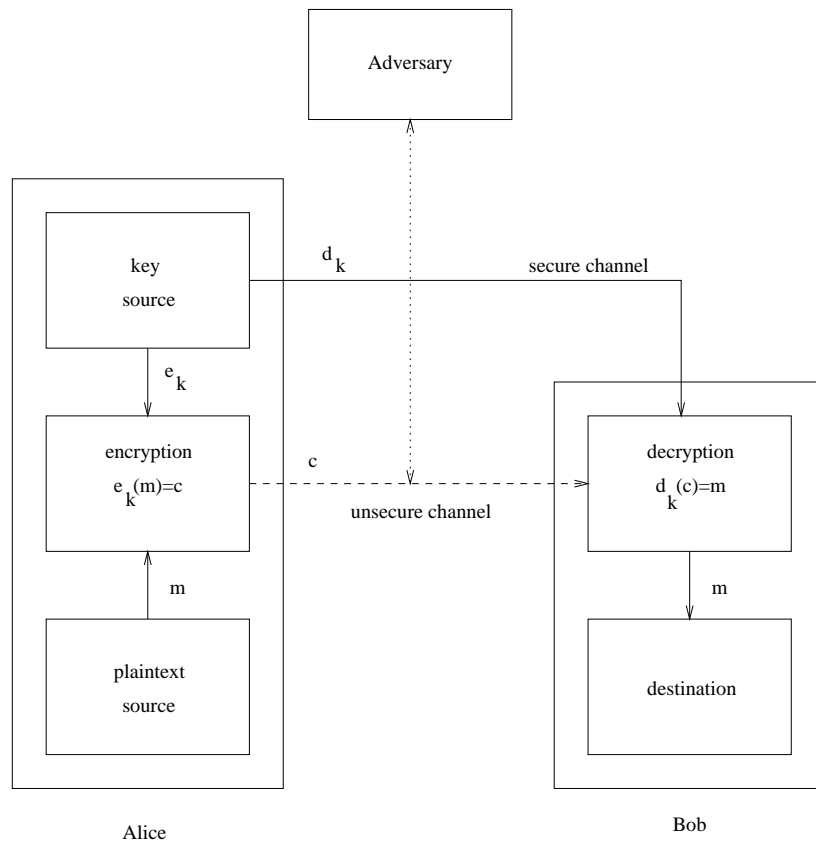


Fig. 2.4. Two-party communication using encryption, with a secure channel for key exchange. The decryption rule d_K can be efficiently computed from the encryption rule e_K .

It is assumed that all parties know the set of encryption/decryption rules, the only information which should be kept secret is the decryption rule d_K . However, in symmetric-key encryption, this means that the encryption rule e_K must also be kept secret, as d_K can be deduced from

¹ this means usually, there is a polynomial algorithm with input e_K (d_K) and output d_K (e_k)

e_K . In Figure 2.4 the encryption rule e_K is transported from one entity to the other with the understanding that both can construct the decryption rule d_K .

In addition, we can divide the class of symmetric-key cryptosystems into monoalphabetic ones and polyalphabetic ones.

Definition 2.12. A cryptosystem is called *monoalphabetic* iff, once a key is chosen, each alphabetic character is mapped to a unique alphabetic character. Accordingly, a cryptosystem is called *polyalphabetic* iff there are more than only one possible characters that an alphabetic character can be mapped to. \square

We would like to investigate certain examples for such cryptosystems. Therefore we will start with the monoalphabetic ones and will see that these cryptosystems are not secure in some manner. We will come later on to the other class and will realize that these ones are a bit securer, but there will still be quite simple tools to break them.

Before we can finally start with examples we have to lay some foundations concerning the mathematical background for these.

2.3.1 Modular Arithmetic - Part I

The first problem that arises in accordance to Definition 2.8 is the finite nature of objects within a cryptosystem. In fact, that is no real problem, but we have to find mathematical models that help us to deal with them. We used to be acquainted with the infinite set of nonnegative integers, the natural numbers $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, and the operations of addition and multiplication on it. Now we are concerned with certain subsets of \mathbb{N} and have to define a new addition and a new multiplication on it.

Definition 2.13. Suppose we are given two integers $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and a positive integer $m \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$. Then we write $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ iff m divides $b - a$. The phrase $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ is read as “ a is congruent to b modulo m ”. The integer is called the *modulus*. \square

We can give a characterization of the fact, that two integers a and b are congruent modulo an integer m .

Note 2.14. Suppose we divide a and b by m , obtaining integer quotients and remainders in the following way:

$$a = q_1m + r_1 \quad \text{with} \quad 0 \leq r_1 \leq m - 1$$

and

$$b = q_2m + r_2 \quad \text{with} \quad 0 \leq r_2 \leq m - 1 \quad .$$

Then it is not difficult to see that $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ holds if and only if $r_1 = r_2$ holds. This means that two integers are congruent modulo a certain modulus iff the division of these integers by that certain modulus gives the same remainder. \square

In addition to the last fact, we can list a few more.

Proposition 2.15. For all $a, a_1, b, b_1, c \in \mathbb{Z}$, the following are true.

1. (*reflexivity*) $a \equiv a \pmod{n}$
2. (*symmetry*) If $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ then $b \equiv a \pmod{n}$.

3. (transitivity) If $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ and $b \equiv c \pmod{n}$, then $a \equiv c \pmod{n}$.
4. If $a \equiv a_1 \pmod{n}$ and $b \equiv b_1 \pmod{n}$, then $a + b \equiv a_1 + b_1 \pmod{n}$ and $ab \equiv a_1b_1 \pmod{n}$. \square

With this background we are now able to define our object of interest, namely the ring of integers modulo a certain modulus.

Definition 2.16. Let m be a positive integer. The *ring of integers modulo m* is defined as the set $\mathbb{Z}_m := \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$ together with a mapping $+_m : \mathbb{Z}_m \times \mathbb{Z}_m \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_m$ which sends $\mathbb{Z}_m \times \mathbb{Z}_m \ni (a, b) \mapsto a + b \pmod{m}$, where $+$ denotes the usual addition on \mathbb{Z} , and a mapping $*_m : \mathbb{Z}_m \times \mathbb{Z}_m \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_m$ which sends $\mathbb{Z}_m \times \mathbb{Z}_m \ni (a, b) \mapsto a \cdot b \pmod{m}$, where \cdot is the ordinary multiplication on \mathbb{Z} . \square

Addition and multiplication in \mathbb{Z}_m work exactly like real addition and multiplication, except that the results are reduced modulo m . Therefore we write instead of $+_m$ and $*_m$ rather $+$ and $*$, respectively, we even omit as usual the product symbol $*$.

EXAMPLE 2.5. Let $m = 7$, i.e. we have $\mathbb{Z}_7 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$. Suppose, we would like to compute $3 + 5$ in \mathbb{Z}_7 . As integers, we have $3 + 5 = 8$. To reduce 8 modulo 7 we receive $8 = 1 \cdot 7 + 1$, so $8 \pmod{7} = 1$, and hence $3+5=1$ in \mathbb{Z}_7 .

Computing $11 * 13$ within \mathbb{Z}_{14} means to compute $11 * 13 = 143$ as integers, to reduce 143 mod 14, i.e. we perform ordinary long division: $143 = 10 \cdot 14 + 3$, so $143 \pmod{14} = 3$, and hence $11 * 13 = 3$ within \mathbb{Z}_{14} . \square

We called the triple $(\mathbb{Z}_m, +, \cdot)$ a ring, which is in fact, a certain algebraic structure that satisfies a couple of nice properties. Strictly speaking, we would have to proof these properties, but we are content to list them.

Proposition 2.17. *The ring $(\mathbb{Z}_m, +, \cdot)$ is well-defined and commutative, i.e.*

1. addition is closed, i.e., for any $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ we have $a + b \in \mathbb{Z}_m$
2. addition is commutative, i.e., for any $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ we have $a + b = b + a$
3. addition is associative, i.e., for any $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ we have $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$
4. 0 is an additive identity, i.e., for any $a \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ we have $a + 0 = a = 0 + a$
5. the additive inverse of any $a \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ is $m - a$, i.e., $a + (m - a) = 0 = (m - a) + a$ for any $a \in \mathbb{Z}_m$
6. multiplication is closed, i.e., for any $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ we have $ab \in \mathbb{Z}_m$
7. multiplication is commutative, i.e., for any $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ we have $ab = ba$
8. multiplication is associative, i.e., for any $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ we have $a(bc) = (ab)c$
9. 1 is a multiplicative identity, i.e., for any $a \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ we have $a \cdot 1 = a = 1 \cdot a$
10. multiplication distributes over addition, i.e., for any $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ we have $(a + b)c = (ac) + (bc)$ and $a(b + c) = ab + ac$ \square

We conclude this short introduction to elementary arithmetic with a remark on certain algebraic objects.

Note 2.18. $(\mathbb{Z}_m, +)$ forms an algebraic structure called a *group* according to the properties 1,3,4,5. This group is even *abelian* due to property 2.

$(\mathbb{Z}_m, *)$ forms an algebraic structure called *monoid* according to the properties 6,8 and 9, that is even *commutative* due to property 7.

Property 10 guarantees that both mappings are amicable, such that $(\mathbb{Z}_m, +, *)$ indeed becomes a ring.

Notice, that there are in general no multiplicative inverses for elements in \mathbb{Z}_m , i.e., a' is called a *multiplicative inverse* of a iff $aa' = 1 = a'a$ holds. A commutative ring, in which every element except the zero element 0 has a multiplicative inverse, is called a *field*. \square

EXERCISE 2.19. 1. Set up tables for $(\mathbb{Z}_6, +_6, 0)$ and $(\mathbb{Z}_6, *_6, 1)$ to make statements about its algebraic structures. What about $(\mathbb{Z}_6, +_6, *_6, 0, 1)$?

2. Do the same for $(\mathbb{Z}_7, +_7, *_7, 0, 1)$. \square

2.3.2 The Shift Cipher

We can now turn to the first example of a cryptosystem which is, in fact, the simplest to consider. We would use the *Shift Cipher* with a modulus of 26 to encrypt ordinary English text by setting up a correspondence between alphabetic characters and numbers between 0 and 25 as follows: $A \leftrightarrow 0, B \leftrightarrow 1, \dots, Z \leftrightarrow 25$. Since we will use this bijection in several examples, let's record it for future use.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

We will now describe the Shift Cipher by definition of its cryptosystem.

Definition 2.20. Let $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{C} = \mathcal{K} = \mathbb{Z}_{26}$. For $0 \leq K \leq 25$, define

$$e_K(x) = x + K \text{ mod } 26$$

and

$$d_K(y) = y - K \text{ mod } 26$$

for $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}$. \square

In order to get an impression how the encryption works, we give a simple example. By the way, we are going to use upper case letters for ciphertext and lower case letters for plaintext, in order to improve readability.

EXAMPLE 2.6. Let the key for a Shift Cipher be $K = 13$. and the plaintext is

keyliesbelowcarpet.

We first convert the plaintext to a sequence of integers using the specified correspondence, obtaining the following.

10 4 24 11 8 4 18 1 4 11 14 22 2 0 17 15 4 19

Next, we add 13 to each value, reducing each sum modulo 26.

23 17 11 24 21 17 5 14 17 24 1 9 15 13 4 2 21 6

Finally, we convert the sequence of integers to alphabetic characters, obtaining the ciphertext

XRLYVRFORYBJPNECVG.

To decrypt the ciphertext, Bob will first convert the ciphertext to a sequence of integers, then subtract 13 from each value reducing modulo 26, and finally convert the sequence of integers to alphabetic characters. \square

If a cryptosystem is to be of practical use, it should satisfy certain properties. We informally enumerate two of these properties now.

1. Each encryption function e_K and each decryption function d_K should be efficiently computable.
2. An opponent, upon seeing a ciphertext string \mathbf{y} , should be unable to determine the key K that was used, or the plaintext string \mathbf{x} .

The second property is defining, in a very vague way, the idea of “security”. The process of attempting to compute the key K , given a string of ciphertext \mathbf{y} , is called cryptanalysis. Note that, if Oscar can determine K , then he can decrypt \mathbf{y} just as Bob would, using d_K . Hence, determining K is at least as difficult as determining the plaintext string \mathbf{x} .

We observe that the Shift Cipher (modulo 26) is not secure, since it can be cryptanalyzed by the obvious method of exhaustive key search. Since there are only 26 possible keys, it is easy to try every possible decryption rule d_K until a “meaningful” plaintext string is obtained. This is illustrated in the following example.

EXAMPLE 2.7. Given the ciphertext string

YMNXNXYMJTSJDTZFWJQTTPNSLKTW,

we successively try the decryption rules d_0, d_1 , etc. The following is obtained.

```
ymnxnxymjtsjdtzfwjqttnslktw
xlmwmxlisricsyevipssomrkjvs
wklvlvwkhrqhrxduhorrnlqjiru
vjkukuvjgqpgaqwctgnqqmkpihqt
uijtjuifpofzpvbsfmppljohgps
thisistheoneyouarelookingfor
```

At this point, we have determined the plaintext and we can stop. The key is $K = 5$. \square

On average, a plaintext will be computed after trying $26/2=13$ decryption rules.

As the above example indicates, a necessary condition for a cryptosystem to be secure is that an exhaustive key search should be infeasible, i.e., the keyspace should be very large. As might be expected, a large keyspace is not sufficient to guarantee security.

EXERCISE 2.21. 1. Proof that the Shift Cipher is correct in the sense that $d_K(e_K(x)) = x$ for $x \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}$.

2. Encrypt the following text with a shift cipher using $K = 17$:

“New Zealand never lost to Scotland and no one expected that record to end at Murrayfield.”

3. Decrypt the following text that has been encrypted with a Shift Cipher using $K = 23$:

“QEBXIIYIXZHPTBOBYVZLJLKLKZLKPBKQPELOQMOFZBACXSLRO
FQBPQLTFKKLQGRPQQEFPJXQZEYRQQEBZRMCFKXIXPTBII.”

4. Decrypt the following text having been encrypted using a Shift Cipher:

“XLSYKLXLIEPPFPEGOWASRLERHWSQIPCIRSYKLVIEP
MXMIWHSRSXEPAEWCQMVVSVXLIIBTIGXEXMSRW.”

□

2.3.3 Permutations

Permutations are functions which are often used in various cryptographic constructs, for example in the next paragraph.

Definition 2.22. Let \mathcal{S} be a finite set of elements. A *permutation* p on \mathcal{S} is a bijection (Definition 2.4) from \mathcal{S} to itself, i.e., $p: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$. □

EXAMPLE 2.8. Let $\mathcal{S} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$. A permutation $p: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$ is defined as follows:

$$p(1) = 3, p(2) = 5, p(3) = 4, p(4) = 2, p(5) = 1 \quad .$$

A permutation can be described in various ways. It can be displayed as above or as an array:

$$p = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.1)$$

where the top row in the array is the domain and the bottom row is the image under the mapping p . Of course, other representations are possible. □

Since permutations are bijections, they have inverses. If a permutation is written as an array see (2.1), its inverse is easily found by interchanging the rows in the array and reordering the elements in the new top row if desired (the bottom row would have to be reordered correspondingly). The inverse of p in Example 2.8 is

$$p^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 5 & 4 & 1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad .$$

EXAMPLE 2.9. Let X be the set of integers $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, pq-1\}$ where p and q are distinct large primes (for example, p and q are each about 100 decimal digits long), and suppose neither $p-1$ and $q-1$ is divisible by 3. Then the function $p(x) = r_x$, where r_x is the remainder when x^3 is divided by pq , can be shown to be a permutation. Determining the inverse permutation is computationally infeasible by today’s standard unless p and q are known. □

EXERCISE 2.23. 1. Find the inverses for the following permutations p and q :

$$\begin{aligned} p(1)=2, p(2)=3, p(3)=5, p(4)=1, p(5)=6, p(6)=4 \\ q(1)=3, q(2)=4, q(3)=5, q(4)=6, q(5)=7, q(6)=1, q(7)=2. \end{aligned}$$

2. Let \mathcal{S}_n be the set of all permutations of $\{1, \dots, n\}$. Define on \mathcal{S}_n an operation \cdot as follows: for $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & n \\ x_1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_n \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & n \\ y_1 & y_2 & \cdots & y_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{S}_n$ define

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & n \\ x_1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_n \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & n \\ y_1 & y_2 & \cdots & y_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & n \\ y_{x_1} & y_{x_2} & \cdots & y_{x_n} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Set up a table for (\mathcal{S}_3, \cdot) . What kind of structure is it? □

2.3.4 The Substitution Cipher

Another well-known cryptosystem is the *Substitution Cipher*. This cryptosystem has been used for hundreds of years. Puzzle “cryptograms” in newspapers are examples of Substitution Ciphers, which is defined as follows.

Definition 2.24. Let $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{C} = \mathbb{Z}_{26}$. \mathcal{K} consists of all possible permutations of the 26 symbols $0, 1, \dots, 25$. For each permutation $\mathcal{K} \ni \pi : \mathbb{Z}_{26} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{26}$, define

$$e_\pi(x) = \pi(x) \quad ,$$

and

$$d_\pi(y) = \pi^{-1}(y) \quad ,$$

where π^{-1} is the inverse permutation to π . □

Actually, in the case of the Substitution Cipher, we might as well take \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{C} both to be the 26-letter English alphabet. We used \mathbb{Z}_{26} in the Shift Cipher because encryption and decryption were algebraic operations. But in the Substitution Cipher, it is more convenient to think of encryption and decryption as permutations of algebraic characters.

Here is an example of a “random” permutation, π , which could comprise an encryption function.

EXAMPLE 2.10. We use our representation with an array and define π to be

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d & e & f & g & h & i & j & k & l & m & n & o & p & q & r & s & t & u & v & w & x & y & z \\ X & N & Y & A & H & P & O & G & Z & Q & W & B & T & S & F & L & R & C & V & M & U & E & K & J & D & I \end{pmatrix} .$$

Thus, $e_\pi(a) = X, e_\pi(b) = N$, etc. The decryption function is the inverse permutation. This is formed by writing the second line first, and then sorting in alphabetic order. The following is obtained for π^{-1}

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B & C & D & E & F & G & H & I & J & K & L & M & N & O & P & Q & R & S & T & U & V & W & X & Y & Z \\ d & l & r & y & v & o & h & e & z & x & w & p & t & b & g & f & j & q & n & m & u & s & k & a & c & i \end{pmatrix} .$$

Hence, $d_\pi(A) = d, d_\pi(B) = l$, etc.

Given the ciphertext

MGZVYZLGHCMHJMYXSSFMNHAHYCDLMHA

we immediately obtain the plaintext

thisciphertextcannotbedecrypted .

□

We make one final note concerning the possibilities of breaking the Substitution Cipher.

Note 2.25. A key for the Substitution Cipher just consists of a permutation of the 26 alphabetic characters. The number of these permutations is $26!$, which is more than 4.0×10^{26} , a very large number. Thus, an exhaustive key search is infeasible, even for a computer. Nevertheless, there are other methods for cryptanalyzing the Substitution Cipher. □

EXERCISE 2.26. 1. Suppose you are given the key

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d & e & f & g & h & i & j & k & l & m & n & o & p & q & r & s & t & u & v & w & x & y & z \\ Q & D & J & H & N & Y & B & V & L & T & X & F & P & R & G & A & S & M & W & E & Y & I & C & O & K & U \end{pmatrix}.$$

Encrypt the following message using a Substitution Cipher:

“He walks on, does not look back, he pretends he cannot hear her, starts to whistle as he crosses the street, seems embarrassed to be there.”

2. Now, suppose you are given the key

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d & e & f & g & h & i & j & k & l & m & n & o & p & q & r & s & t & u & v & w & x & y & z \\ B & A & D & C & F & E & H & G & J & I & L & K & N & M & P & O & R & Q & T & S & V & U & X & W & Z & Y \end{pmatrix}.$$

Decrypt the following message having been encrypted with a Substitution Cipher and the key above:

“ZPVDBMSFKKEQPNSGFKJMFTPEGFQEBDFZPVDBMT
FFSGBSTGFGBTAFFMSGFQFOQPABAKZAFFMNPUC
PMEQPNFUFQZOKBDFDPTTGFCJCMPSEJSJMSGFQF.”

□

2.3.5 Modular Arithmetic - Part II

We have to lay some more foundations in order to be able to continue our examples for cryptosystems. Therefore, we first want to introduce the idea of greatest common divisors before we go further with modular arithmetic.

We have already made use of the idea of divisibility, but we now would like to define precisely this concept.

Definition 2.27. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ be integers. Then a divides b (equivalently: a is a divisor of b , or a is a factor of b) iff there is an integer c such that $b = ac$. If a divides b , then this is denoted by $a|b$. □

The following are some elementary properties of divisibility.

Proposition 2.28. For all $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$, the following are true:

1. $a|a$.
2. If $a|b$ and $b|c$, then $a|c$.
3. If $a|b$ and $a|c$, then $a|(bx + cy)$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$.

4. If $a|b$ and $b|a$, then $a = \pm b$. \square

Definition 2.29. If a and b are integers with $b \geq 1$, then ordinary long division of a by b yields integers q (the *quotient*) and r (the *remainder*) such that

$$a = qb + r, \quad \text{where } 0 \leq r < b \quad .$$

Moreover, q and r are unique. The remainder of the division is denoted $a \bmod b$, and the quotient is denoted $\lfloor \frac{a}{b} \rfloor$. \square

Definition 2.30. A integer $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ is the *greatest common divisor* of integers a and b , denoted $d = \gcd(a, b)$, iff

1. $d > 0$,
2. $d|a$ and $d|b$, i.e., d is a common divisor; and
3. whenever $c|a$ and $c|b$ for an integer $c \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $c|d$. \square

Dually, we can formulate the idea of the least common multiple of integers.

Definition 2.31. A integer $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ is the *least common multiple* of integers a and b , denoted $m = \text{lcm}(a, b)$, iff

1. $m > 0$,
2. $a|m$ and $b|m$, i.e., m is a common multiple; and
3. whenever $a|m'$ and $b|m'$ for an integer $m' \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $m|m'$. \square

Proposition 2.32. If a and b are positive integers, then we have

$$\text{lcm}(a, b) = \frac{a \cdot b}{\gcd(a, b)} \quad .$$

\square

We introduce now the idea of prime numbers which is not only fundamental, but also necessary.

Definition 2.33. Two integers $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ are said to be *relatively prime* iff $\gcd(a, b) = 1$. \square

Definition 2.34. An integer $p \geq 2$ is said to be *prime* iff its only positive divisors are 1 and p . Otherwise, p is called *composite*. \square

There are some well known facts about prime numbers.

Proposition 2.35. If p is prime and $p|ab$, then $p|a$ or $p|b$ (or both). \square

Proposition 2.36. There is an infinite number of prime numbers. \square

Proposition 2.37. Every integer $n \geq 2$ has a factorization as a product of prime powers:

$$n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_k^{e_k} \quad ,$$

where p_i are distinct primes, and the e_i are positive integers for $i = 1, \dots, k$ and $k \in \mathbb{Z}, k \geq 1$. Furthermore, the factorization is unique up to rearrangement of factors. \square

Proposition 2.38. If $a = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_k^{e_k}$ and $b = p_1^{f_1} p_2^{f_2} \cdots p_k^{f_k}$, where each $e_i \geq 0$ and $f_i \geq 0$, then

$$\gcd(a, b) = p_1^{\min(e_1, f_1)} p_2^{\min(e_2, f_2)} \cdots p_k^{\min(e_k, f_k)}$$

and

$$\text{lcm}(a, b) = p_1^{\max(e_1, f_1)} p_2^{\max(e_2, f_2)} \cdots p_k^{\max(e_k, f_k)} .$$

□

EXAMPLE 2.11. Let $a = 4864 = 2^8 \cdot 19$, $b = 3458 = 2 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 19$. Then $\gcd(a, b) = 2 \cdot 19 = 38$ and $\text{lcm}(a, b) = 2^8 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 = 442624$. □

We define now a certain number theoretic function which is very helpful for many fields in cryptography.

Definition 2.39. For $n \geq 1$, let $\varphi(n)$ denote the number of integers in the set $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ which are relatively prime to n . The function φ is called the *Euler φ function*. □

This function has some nice properties we want to list now.

Proposition 2.40. The Euler ϕ function has the following properties.

1. If p is a prime, then $\varphi(p) = p - 1$.
2. If p is a prime and $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $n \geq 1$, then $\varphi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1}$.
3. The Euler phi function is multiplicative. That is, if $\gcd(m, n) = 1$, then $\varphi(m \cdot n) = \varphi(m) \cdot \varphi(n)$.
4. If $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_k^{e_k}$ is the prime factorization of n , then $\varphi(n) = n \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_k}\right)$. □

We had seen in Section 2.3.1 that a ring, especially $(\mathbb{Z}_m, +, *)$, does not have multiplicative inverses in general. This is exactly the one and only property that separates a ring from a field. However, this has some consequences according to the next cryptosystem we would like to consider.

Definition 2.41. Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}_m$. The *multiplicative inverse* of a modulo m is an integer $x \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ such that $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$. If such an x exists, then it is unique, and a is said to be invertible, or a unit; the inverse of a is denoted by a^{-1} . □

Definition 2.42. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_m$. Division of a by b modulo m is defined to be the product of a and b^{-1} modulo m , and is only defined if b is invertible modulo m . □

Proposition 2.43. Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}_m$. Then a is invertible if and only if $\gcd(a, m) = 1$. □

EXAMPLE 2.12. The invertible elements in \mathbb{Z}_9 are 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 and 8. For example, $4^{-1} = 7$ because $4 \cdot 7 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$. We are in particular interested in the invertible elements of \mathbb{Z}_{26} . Later on, we will define an efficient algorithm for computing multiplicative inverses in \mathbb{Z}_m for any m . However, in \mathbb{Z}_{26} , trial and error suffices to find $1^{-1} = 1, 3^{-1} = 9, 5^{-1} = 21, 7^{-1} = 15, 11^{-1} = 19, 17^{-1} = 23$, and $25^{-1} = 25$. □

Corollary 2.44. The ring $(\mathbb{Z}_m, +, *)$ is a field iff m is a prime number. □

Proposition 2.45. *Let $d = \gcd(a, m)$. The congruence equation $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$ has a solution x if and only if d divides b , in which case there are exactly d solutions between 0 and $m - 1$; these solutions are all congruent modulo m/d .*

□

- EXERCISE 2.46. 1. Determine the prime factorization of 197960, 111078 and 1147.
 2. Determine \gcd and lcm of (1072512, 28880) and (70499, 67874587).
 3. Determine $\varphi(449)$, $\varphi(1024)$, $\varphi(111078)$ using the most appropriate way according to the argument.
 4. How many solutions do the following congruence equations have?

$$27 \cdot x \equiv b \pmod{63}, \quad 62 \cdot x \equiv 340 \pmod{1147}, \quad 593 \cdot x \equiv 1111 \pmod{2807}$$

□

2.3.6 The Affine Cipher

We can now harvest the crop from the former section. The Shift Cipher is a special case of the Substitution Cipher which includes only 26 of the $26!$ possible permutations of 26 elements. Another special case of the Substitution Cipher is the Affine Cipher, which we describe now. In the Affine Cipher, we restrict the encryption functions to functions of the form

$$e(x) = a \cdot x + b \pmod{26} \quad ,$$

where $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}$. These functions are called affine functions, hence the name Affine Cipher. (Observe that when $a = 1$, we have a Shift Cipher, which means that the Shift Cipher is a special case of the Affine Cipher.)

In order that decryption is possible, it is necessary to ask when an affine function is injective. In other words, for any $y \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}$, we want the congruence

$$ax + b \equiv y \pmod{26} \tag{2.2}$$

to have a unique solution for x . We have seen that every ring $(\mathbb{Z}_m, +, *)$ has additive inverses for each arbitrary element of it (see 2.17 *iv*). Therefore, we can add the additive inverse $-b$ of b of both sides of equation 2.2 without to loose its validity. This means, the congruence 2.2 is equivalent to

$$ax \equiv y - b \pmod{26} \quad .$$

Now, as y varies over \mathbb{Z}_{26} , so, too, does $y - b$ vary over \mathbb{Z}_{26} . Hence, it suffices to study the congruence

$$ax \equiv y \pmod{26} \quad , y \in \mathbb{Z}_{26} \quad .$$

The next proposition is the special case $d = 1$ for Proposition 2.45. We would like to proof this result.

Proposition 2.47. *The congruence $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$ has a unique solution $x \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ for every $b \in \mathbb{Z}_m$ if and only if $\gcd(a, m) = 1$.*

Proof: First, suppose that $d := \gcd(a, m) > 1$. Then the congruence

$$ax \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$$

has at least two distinct solutions in \mathbb{Z}_m , namely $x = 0$ and $x = m/d$ ($d|m$ since d is a divisor of m by definition of \gcd). Therefore,

$$a\left(x + \frac{m}{d}\right) - b = ax + \frac{a}{d} \cdot m - b \equiv ax - b \pmod{m} \quad ,$$

i.e., if x_1 is a solution of $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$, then $x_1 + \frac{m}{d}$, too. This means, the congruence has no unique solution for the case $d > 1$.

Let's now suppose that $\gcd(a, m) = 1$. Suppose for some x_1 and x_2 that

$$ax_1 \equiv ax_2 \pmod{m} \quad .$$

Then

$$a(x_1 - x_2) \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \quad ,$$

and thus

$$m|a(x_1 - x_2) \quad .$$

We now make use of a property of division: if $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ and $a|bc$, then $a|c$. Since $m|a(x_1 - x_2)$ and $\gcd(a, m) = 1$, we must therefore have that

$$m|(x_1 - x_2) \quad ,$$

i.e., $x_1 \equiv x_2 \pmod{m}$.

At this point we have shown that, if $\gcd(a, m) = 1$, then a congruence of the form $ax \equiv y \pmod{m}$ has, at most, one solution in \mathbb{Z}_m .

Hence, if we let x vary over \mathbb{Z}_m , then $ax \pmod{m}$ takes on m distinct values modulo m . That is, it takes on every value exactly once.

It follows that, for any $y \in \mathbb{Z}_m$, the congruence $ax \equiv y \pmod{m}$ has a unique solution for y . \square

Note 2.48. According to the last proposition, we can say something about the number of possible keys for the Affine Cipher. Since $26 = 2 \times 13$, the values of $a \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}$ such that $\gcd(a, 26) = 1$ are $a = 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23$ and 25 . The parameter b can be any element in \mathbb{Z}_{26} . Hence, the Affine Cipher has $12 \times 26 = 312$ possible keys. \square

Note 2.49. We can generalize the last remark on an arbitrary modulus m with the help of Definition 2.39. There we defined the Euler phi function, i.e., $\varphi(n) = |\{m \in \mathbb{N} | 1 \leq m \leq n, \gcd(m, n) = 1\}|$, but this is exactly the number of possibilities for the argument a within the congruence $ax = y \pmod{m}$, if it should have a unique solution. Therefore, the number of possible keys is exactly $m \cdot \varphi(m)$. \square

Let's now consider the decryption operation in the Affine Cipher with modulus $m = 26$. Suppose that $\gcd(a, 26) = 1$. To decrypt, we need to solve the congruence $y \equiv ax + b \pmod{26}$ for x . The discussion above establishes that the congruence will have a unique solution in \mathbb{Z}_{26} ,

but it does not give us an efficient algorithm to do this. Fortunately, the result of Proposition 2.43 will provide us with the efficient decryption algorithm we seek.

In later sections, we will describe an efficient algorithm for computing multiplicative inverses in \mathbb{Z}_m for any m . Consider our congruence $y \equiv ax + b \pmod{26}$. This is equivalent to

$$ax \equiv y - b \pmod{26} .$$

Since $\gcd(a, 26) = 1$, a has a multiplicative inverse modulo 26. Multiplying both sides of the congruence by a^{-1} , we obtain

$$a^{-1}(ax) \equiv a^{-1}(y - b) \pmod{26} .$$

By associativity of multiplication modulo 26,

$$a^{-1}(ax) \equiv (a^{-1}a)x \equiv 1x \equiv x .$$

Consequently, $x \equiv a^{-1}(y - b) \pmod{26}$. This is an explicit formula for x , that is, the decryption function is

$$d(y) = a^{-1}(y - b) \pmod{26} .$$

So, finally, we can give a complete definition of the Affine Cipher.

Definition 2.50. Let $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{C} = \mathbb{Z}_{26}$ and let

$$\mathcal{K} = \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}_{26} \times \mathbb{Z}_{26} \mid \gcd(a, 26) = 1\} .$$

For $K = (a, b) \in \mathcal{K}$, define

$$e_K(x) = a \cdot x + b \pmod{26}$$

and

$$d_K(y) = a^{-1} \cdot (y - b) \pmod{26}$$

for $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}$. □

Let's do a small example.

EXAMPLE 2.13. Suppose that $K = (17, 9)$. Then we have $17^{-1} \pmod{26} = 23$ since $17 \cdot 23 = 391 = 1 \pmod{26}$. The encryption function is

$$e_K(x) = 17 \cdot x + 9 \pmod{26} ,$$

and the corresponding decryption function is

$$d_K(y) = 23(y - 9) = 23 \cdot y - 25 \pmod{26} .$$

It is a good check to verify that $d_K(e_K(x)) = x$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}$. Computing in \mathbb{Z}_{26} , we get

$$\begin{aligned} d_K(e_K(x)) &= d_K(17 \cdot x + 9) \\ &= 23 \cdot (17 \cdot x + 9) - 1 \\ &= x + 207 - 25 \\ &= x + 182 \\ &= x . \end{aligned}$$

To illustrate, let's decrypt the ciphertext *UYZJOOAOJRXDINWNDTZJMTYPUZ*. We first convert the letters to residues modulo 26. These are respectively

20 24 25 9 14 14 0 14 9 17 23 3 8 13 22 13 3 19 25 9 12 19 24 15 20 25 .

Now, we decrypt

$$\begin{aligned}
 23 \cdot 20 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 435 \pmod{26} = 19 \\
 23 \cdot 24 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 527 \pmod{26} = 7 \\
 23 \cdot 25 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 550 \pmod{26} = 4 \\
 23 \cdot 9 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 182 \pmod{26} = 0 \\
 23 \cdot 14 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 297 \pmod{26} = 11 \\
 23 \cdot 14 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 297 \pmod{26} = 11 \\
 23 \cdot 0 - 25 \pmod{26} &= -25 \pmod{26} = 1 \\
 23 \cdot 14 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 297 \pmod{26} = 11 \\
 23 \cdot 9 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 182 \pmod{26} = 0 \\
 23 \cdot 17 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 366 \pmod{26} = 2 \\
 23 \cdot 23 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 504 \pmod{26} = 10 \\
 23 \cdot 3 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 44 \pmod{26} = 18 \\
 23 \cdot 8 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 159 \pmod{26} = 3 \\
 23 \cdot 13 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 274 \pmod{26} = 14 \\
 23 \cdot 22 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 481 \pmod{26} = 13 \\
 23 \cdot 13 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 274 \pmod{26} = 14 \\
 23 \cdot 3 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 44 \pmod{26} = 18 \\
 23 \cdot 19 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 412 \pmod{26} = 22 \\
 23 \cdot 25 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 550 \pmod{26} = 4 \\
 23 \cdot 9 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 182 \pmod{26} = 0 \\
 23 \cdot 12 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 251 \pmod{26} = 17 \\
 23 \cdot 19 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 412 \pmod{26} = 22 \\
 23 \cdot 24 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 527 \pmod{26} = 7 \\
 23 \cdot 15 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 320 \pmod{26} = 8 \\
 23 \cdot 20 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 435 \pmod{26} = 19 \\
 23 \cdot 25 - 25 \pmod{26} &= 550 \pmod{26} = 4
 \end{aligned}$$

and these correspond to the plaintext

theallblacksdonotwearwhite .

□

EXERCISE 2.51. 1. Encrypt the following message using an Affine Cipher with key $K = (23, 9)$:

“The Beatles work was always impeccable. Those four young men, John, Paul, George and Ringo, broke so many barriers and they will be remembered for being the most significant music creators of the twentieth century.”

2. Decrypt the following message being encrypted by an Affine Cipher with encryption key $K = (15, 21)$:

“UWLFZXEEDZULXIXSIJTKDQXIDFLFUVDPDISQXTUWDT
XFUNLODERZLQZJEVUDOZWWVQUFLIUWJJPVIOUWDJFV.”

□

2.4 Polyalphabetic Cryptosystems

In all the Shift Cipher, the Substitution Cipher as well as the Affine Cipher, once a key is chosen, each alphabetic character is mapped to a unique alphabetic character. For this reason, we called these cryptosystems monoalphabetic (see Definition 2.12).

We are now going to present some examples for the other classical strategy of cryptography which, as we will see later on, has some advantages with respect to cryptanalysis in comparison with the monoalphabetic systems.

2.4.1 The Vigenere Cipher

Our first example is the well-known *Vigenere Cipher* which is named after Blaise de Vigenere, who lived in the sixteenth century.

Definition 2.52. Let m be some fixed positive integer. Define $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{C} = \mathcal{K} = (\mathbb{Z}_{26})^m$. For a key $K = (k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m)$, we define

$$e_K(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) = (x_1 + k_1, x_2 + k_2, \dots, x_m + k_m)$$

and

$$d_K(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m) = (y_1 - k_1, y_2 - k_2, \dots, y_m - k_m) \quad ,$$

where all operations are performed in \mathbb{Z}_{26} . □

Using again the bijection $A \leftrightarrow 0, B \leftrightarrow 1, \dots, Z \leftrightarrow 25$, we can associate each key K with an alphabetic string of length m , called a *keyword*.

The Vigenere Cipher encrypts m alphabetic characters at a time: each plaintext element is equivalent to m alphabetic characters.

Let's do a small example.

EXAMPLE 2.14. Suppose $m = 6$ and the keyword is TENNIS. This corresponds to the numerical equivalent $K = (19, 4, 13, 13, 8, 18)$. Suppose the ciphertext is the string

UIPXMJPMYYVWOIEJQFPMZOTWWSANOSBR.

In order to decrypt this text, we convert the characters to residues modulo 26, write them in groups of six, and then “subtract” the keyword modulo 26, as follows:

$$\begin{array}{cccccccccccc} 20 & 8 & 15 & 23 & 12 & 9 & 15 & 12 & 24 & 24 & 21 & 22 & 14 & 8 & 4 & 9 \\ 19 & 4 & 13 & 13 & 8 & 18 & 19 & 4 & 13 & 13 & 8 & 18 & 19 & 4 & 13 & 13 \\ \hline 1 & 4 & 2 & 10 & 4 & 17 & 22 & 8 & 11 & 11 & 13 & 4 & 21 & 4 & 17 & 22 \\ \\ 16 & 5 & 15 & 12 & 25 & 14 & 19 & 22 & 22 & 18 & 0 & 13 & 14 & 18 & 1 & 17 \\ 8 & 18 & 19 & 4 & 13 & 13 & 8 & 18 & 19 & 4 & 13 & 13 & 8 & 18 & 19 & 4 \\ \hline 8 & 13 & 22 & 8 & 12 & 1 & 11 & 4 & 3 & 14 & 13 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 8 & 13 \end{array} \quad .$$

The alphabetic equivalent of the plaintext string would thus be:

beckerwillneverwinwimbletonagain .

To encrypt, we can use the same keyword, but we would add it modulo 26 instead of subtracting. □

By the way, the Shift Cipher is also a special case of the Vigenere Cipher, namely for the case that the keyword has length one.

We would like to consider some slight modifications of the Vigenere Cipher which are interesting in some manner.

EXAMPLE 2.15. Compared to the simple Vigenere mapping $c_i = p_i + k_i \pmod{26}$, the Beaufort cipher has $c_i = k_i - p_i \pmod{26}$, and is its own inverse. To see this, we compute with $K = (k_1, \dots, k_m)$ and $P = (p_1, \dots, p_m)$

$$\begin{aligned} d_K(e_K(P)) &= d_K((k_1 - p_1) \pmod{26}, \dots, (k_m - p_m) \pmod{26}) \\ &= (k_1 - (k_1 - p_1 \pmod{26}) \pmod{26}, \dots, k_m - (k_m - p_m \pmod{26}) \pmod{26}) \\ &= (k_1 - (k_1 - p_1) \pmod{26}, \dots, k_m - (k_m - p_m) \pmod{26}) \\ &= (k_1 - k_1 + p_1 \pmod{26}, \dots, k_m - k_m + p_m \pmod{26}) \\ &= (p_1 \pmod{26}, \dots, p_m \pmod{26}) \\ &= (p_1, \dots, p_m) \quad , \end{aligned}$$

where p_1, \dots, p_m are the respective residues modulo 26 for the plaintext and k_1, \dots, k_m the ones for the keyword. □

EXAMPLE 2.16. If the keystream K of a simple Vigenere is as long as the plaintext, the cipher is called a running-key cipher. For example, the key may be meaningful text from a book. □

Definition 2.53. An *auto-key cipher* is a cipher wherein either plaintext itself or ciphertext serves as the key (typically subsequent to the use of an initial priming key). □

EXAMPLE 2.17. In an auto-key Vigenere, define a priming key $K = k_1 k_2 \dots k_m$. Plaintext characters x_i are encrypted as $c_i = x_i + k_i \pmod{26}$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$ and for $i > m$, $c_i = (x_i + x_{i-m}) \pmod{26}$.

An alternative is to auto-key a cipher using the resulting ciphertext as the key: for example, for $i > m$, $c_i = (x_i + c_{i-m}) \pmod{26}$.

Suppose the plaintext is soccerisaboringgame and we want to use the priming key is ball. According to the first strategy we receive

$$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccc} s & o & c & c & e & r & i & s & a & b & o & r & i & n & g & g & a & m & e \\ b & a & l & l & s & o & c & c & e & r & i & s & a & b & o & r & i & n & g \\ \hline T & O & N & N & W & F & K & U & E & S & W & J & I & O & U & X & I & Z & K \end{array}$$

and using the second one yields

$$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccc} s & o & c & c & e & r & i & s & a & b & o & r & i & n & g & g & a & m & e \\ b & a & l & l & t & o & n & n & x & f & v & v & x & g & j & m & f & t & p \\ \hline T & O & N & N & X & F & V & V & X & G & J & M & F & T & P & S & F & F & T \end{array}$$

□

EXAMPLE 2.18. Consider a simple Vigenere defined by $c_i = x_i + k_i \pmod{26}$. If the keystream is truly random and independent - as long as the plaintext and never repeated - this yields the so called Vernam Cipher. □

We conclude our investigations of the Vigenere Cipher with a final remark on the keyspace.

Note 2.54. Observe that the number of possible keywords of length m in a Vigenere Cipher is 26^m , so even for relatively small values of m , an exhaustive key search would require a long time. For example, if we take $m = 5$, then the keyspace has size exceeding 1.1×10^7 . This is already large enough to preclude exhaustive key search by hand (but not by computer). \square

EXERCISE 2.55. 1. Encrypt the following message with a Vigenere Cipher and key $K = \text{rafter}$:

“If this admiabile queenslander were to become the first Australian to win the mens single title in a quarter of a century, the cheer at match point would be huge.”

2. Decrypt the following message using a Vigenere Cipher and the encryption key $K = \text{ausopen}$:

“RUXHTVVSHGKIARNNQSXKUTSWOGWBLXSBSLBP
YXIAPLTCESXWAPNKICRVNAGIJJBRBAAISNCB
ASKITRYSHCIFSBWFTMAHCKVDQRGLSBSWYAG.”

\square

EXERCISE 2.56. 1. Suppose, you received the following message and you know it has been encrypted by an auto-key cipher with primary key $K = \text{drevil}$ and where plaintext serves as key after the initial sequence. Decrypt

“EIMOQDIJMVZWASKGEXTUYXVGPIOXZF
XGPLVAVLXYRIGBSENLFIIBBFXKSGSWK.”

2. The next textstream is the result of an auto-key cipher with primary key $K = \text{minime}$ and where the ciphertext itself serves as a key. Decrypt:

“IQGPFLNYLBVATEQNEDCYPGMELSOZUFUMNS
CJOBUXWOXUHMGDZVKX.”

\square

2.4.2 Matrices and determinants

Before proceeding with the next example we have to lay some more foundations. This time we deal with fundamental objects from elementary linear algebra, namely matrices and determinants.

Definition 2.57. Let $\mathcal{R} = (R, +, *)$ be an arbitrary ring and $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ some positive integers. An $m \times n$ -matrix over \mathcal{R} is then a finite sequence of \mathcal{R} -elements $(a_{ij})_{1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n}$ with $a_{ij} \in R$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m$ and $1 \leq j \leq n$. A matrix is represented in the following way:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix},$$

which means we take the element a_{ij} as an entry in the i -th row and j -th column of the matrix. We write $\text{Mat}(m \times n, \mathcal{R})$ for the set of all $m \times n$ -matrices with entries of \mathcal{R} . \square

Surely, the ring of our interest will be $(\mathbb{Z}_{26}, +, *)$.

Moreover, we will now define a multiplicative operation for matrices. It is some kind of natural, that not arbitrary matrices can be multiplied, but the number of rows of the second matrix has to be equal to the number of columns of the first one. Then we obtain the following.

Definition 2.58. Let $A = (a_{ij})_{1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq l}$ and $B = (b_{ij})_{1 \leq i \leq l, 1 \leq j \leq n}$ be some matrices with $A \in \text{Mat}(m \times l, \mathcal{R})$ and $B \in \text{Mat}(l \times n, \mathcal{R})$ for some ring \mathcal{R} . Then we define the *matrix product* $A \cdot B$ to be the matrix $C \in \text{Mat}(m \times n, \mathcal{R})$ with entries c_{ij} obtained in the following way:

$$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^l a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj} \quad \text{for all } 1 \leq i \leq m \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq n \quad .$$

□

We give some simple examples to make sure that the definitions become obvious.

EXAMPLE 2.19. Let $\mathcal{R} = (\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$ be the ring of integers and

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 & 5 \\ 8 & 4 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad .$$

Of course, the matrix product is defined in this case since $A \in \text{Mat}(2 \times 3, \mathcal{R})$ and $B \in \text{Mat}(3 \times 3, \mathcal{R})$. We determine the entries of the resulting matrix $C \in \text{Mat}(2 \times 3, \mathcal{R})$:

$$\begin{aligned} c_{11} &= a_{11}b_{11} + a_{12}b_{21} + a_{13}b_{31} = 7 \cdot 1 + 6 \cdot 2 + 5 \cdot 3 = 34 \\ c_{21} &= a_{21}b_{11} + a_{22}b_{21} + a_{23}b_{31} = 8 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot 2 + 9 \cdot 3 = 43 \\ c_{12} &= a_{11}b_{12} + a_{12}b_{22} + a_{13}b_{32} = 7 \cdot 3 + 6 \cdot 2 + 5 \cdot 1 = 38 \\ c_{22} &= a_{21}b_{12} + a_{22}b_{22} + a_{23}b_{32} = 8 \cdot 3 + 4 \cdot 2 + 9 \cdot 1 = 41 \\ c_{13} &= a_{11}b_{13} + a_{12}b_{23} + a_{13}b_{33} = 7 \cdot 0 + 6 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot 4 = 26 \\ c_{23} &= a_{21}b_{13} + a_{22}b_{23} + a_{23}b_{33} = 8 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 1 + 9 \cdot 4 = 40 \end{aligned} \quad .$$

Therefore, the resulting matrix is

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 34 & 38 & 26 \\ 43 & 41 & 40 \end{pmatrix} \quad .$$

□

We have seen in this example that the matrix product cannot be expected to be commutative since it can be defined for $A \cdot B$, but not for $B \cdot A$. In fact, it is only defined for $A, B \in \text{Mat}(n \times n, \mathcal{R})$. But even there, the commutativity does not hold. We proceed with a further example.

EXAMPLE 2.20. Let now be $\mathcal{R} = (\mathbb{Z}_{26}, +, *)$ and

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 8 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad .$$

Then we obtain

$$A \cdot B = \begin{pmatrix} 14 & 7 \\ 16 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B \cdot A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 18 \\ 4 & 18 \end{pmatrix} \quad .$$

□

We want to investigate how much structure the set $Mat(n \times n, \mathcal{R})$ together with the matrix multiplication has. It is easy to verify that $A \cdot (B \cdot C) = (A \cdot B) \cdot C$ holds, i.e., we have associativity. As seen above, commutativity does not hold. We can ask, whether there is a matrix $\mathbb{I}_n \in Mat(n \times n, \mathcal{R})$ such that $A \cdot \mathbb{I}_n = \mathbb{I}_n \cdot A = A$ for all matrices $A \in Mat(n \times n, \mathcal{R})$ holds. Indeed, this property can be easily verified for the matrix $\mathbb{I}_n = (a_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$ with $a_{ii} = 1$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $a_{ij} = 0$ for $i \neq j, 1 \leq i, j \leq n$, namely

$$\mathbb{I}_n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix} .$$

This matrix is called *identity matrix*. We might ask further whether there is for an arbitrary matrix $A \in Mat(n \times n, \mathcal{R})$ an *inverse matrix* $B \in Mat(n \times n, \mathcal{R})$ which means that $A \cdot B = \mathbb{I}_n = B \cdot A$. Well, the answer is that not all matrices have inverses, but if such a one exists, then it is unique.

In fact, there is a nice possibility of characterizing the set of invertible matrices which uses the idea of a determinant. Since time does not permit us to give a general introduction to determinants, we have to restrict ourselves to the cases of 2×2 and 3×3 matrices which will be sufficient for the investigations in the next chapter.

Definition 2.59. Let $\mathcal{R} = (\mathbb{Z}_{26}, +, *)$. The *determinant* of matrix $Mat(2 \times 2, \mathcal{R}) \ni A = (a_{ij})$ is the value

$$\det A = a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21} ,$$

where all operations are performed modulo 26. However, the determinant of a matrix $Mat(3 \times 3, \mathcal{R}) \ni A = (a_{ij})$ is the value

$$\det A = a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} + a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} - a_{13}a_{22}a_{31} ,$$

where all operations are performed modulo 26. □

Note 2.60. The determinant of an $n \times n$ -matrix can be computed by elementary row operations: see any text on linear algebra.

Two important properties of determinants are that $\det \mathbb{I}_n = 1$ and the multiplication rule $\det(A \cdot B) = \det(A) * \det(B)$. □

Proposition 2.61. A matrix $A \in Mat(n \times n, \mathcal{R})$ has an inverse modulo 26 if and only if $\gcd(\det A, 26) = 1$. □

The last Proposition together with Proposition 2.43 says that a matrix is invertible over $(\mathbb{Z}_{26}, +, *)$ iff its determinant is an invertible element.

We would now like to find explicit formulae to determine the unique inverse of an invertible matrix, at least for our cases of 2×2 and 3×3 -matrices.

Proposition 2.62. Suppose $A = (a_{ij})$ is a 2×2 matrix over $(\mathbb{Z}_{26}, +, *)$ such that $\det A$ is invertible. Then

$$A^{-1} = (\det A)^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{12} \\ -a_{21} & a_{11} \end{pmatrix} .$$

Let's now suppose that $A = (a_{ij})$ is a 3×3 matrix over $(\mathbb{Z}_{26}, +, *)$ such that $\det A$ is invertible. Then

$$A^{-1} = (\det A)^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32} & a_{32}a_{13} - a_{12}a_{33} & a_{12}a_{23} - a_{13}a_{22} \\ a_{23}a_{31} - a_{21}a_{33} & a_{11}a_{33} - a_{31}a_{13} & a_{13}a_{21} - a_{11}a_{23} \\ a_{21}a_{32} - a_{22}a_{31} & a_{12}a_{31} - a_{11}a_{32} & a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21} \end{pmatrix} .$$

□

Note 2.63. So far, we have not defined what the product of a ring-element $r \in R$ and a matrix (a_{ij}) over this ring should be. We define this operation to be the matrix $(r \cdot a_{ij})$. □

We do a final calculation.

EXAMPLE 2.21. Suppose the given matrix over $(\mathbb{Z}_{26}, +, *)$ is

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 3 & 14 \\ 9 & 23 & 5 \\ 7 & 11 & 18 \end{pmatrix} .$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \det A &= 12 \cdot 23 \cdot 18 + 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 + 14 \cdot 9 \cdot 11 - 7 \cdot 23 \cdot 14 - 3 \cdot 9 \cdot 18 - 12 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 \\ &= 2 + 1 + 8 - 18 - 18 - 10 \\ &= -35 \\ &= 17 \quad . \end{aligned}$$

Now, $17^{-1} \bmod 26 = 23$, so the inverse matrix is

$$A^{-1} = 23 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 23 \cdot 18 - 5 \cdot 11 & 11 \cdot 14 - 3 \cdot 18 & 3 \cdot 5 - 14 \cdot 23 \\ 5 \cdot 7 - 9 \cdot 18 & 12 \cdot 18 - 7 \cdot 14 & 14 \cdot 9 - 12 \cdot 5 \\ 9 \cdot 11 - 7 \cdot 23 & 3 \cdot 7 - 11 \cdot 12 & 12 \cdot 23 - 9 \cdot 3 \end{pmatrix} = 23 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 21 & 22 & 5 \\ 3 & 14 & 14 \\ 16 & 19 & 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

and finally

$$A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 15 & 12 & 11 \\ 17 & 10 & 10 \\ 4 & 21 & 7 \end{pmatrix} .$$

One can easily verify that this is really the inverse, namely by computing $A \cdot A^{-1}$ which is \mathbb{I}_3 for this case. □

EXERCISE 2.64. 1. Determine the matrix product over $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 10 & 13 & 5 \\ 6 & 17 & 21 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 3 & 14 & 18 \\ 4 & 11 & 7 & 1 \\ 15 & 8 & 9 & 16 \end{pmatrix} .$$

2. Compute the matrix product over $\mathbb{Z}_{26}, \mathbb{Z}_8$ and \mathbb{Z}_2 :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 21 & 7 & 15 \\ 9 & 24 & 10 \\ 11 & 12 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 24 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix} .$$

3. Compute inverses over \mathbb{Z}_{26} for:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 16 & 11 \\ 7 & 5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 23 \\ 9 & 21 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 22 & 3 \\ 24 & 19 & 6 \\ 17 & 5 & 11 \end{pmatrix}.$$

□

2.4.3 The Hill Cipher

With the background of the last section, we describe another polyalphabetic cryptosystem called the *Hill Cipher*. This cipher was invented in 1929 by Lester S. Hill.

Let m be a positive integer, and define $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{C} = (\mathbb{Z}_{26})^{26}$. The idea is to take m linear combinations of the m alphabetic characters in one plaintext element, thus producing the m alphabetic characters in one ciphertext element.

For example, if $m = 3$, we would write a plaintext element as $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$ and a ciphertext element as $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, y_3)$. Here, y_i would be a linear combination of x_1, x_2 and x_3 . We might take

$$\begin{aligned} y_1 &= 12x_1 + 9x_2 + 7x_3 \\ y_2 &= 3x_1 + 23x_2 + 11x_3 \\ y_3 &= 14x_1 + 5x_2 + 18x_3 \end{aligned}$$

Of course, this can be written more succinctly in matrix notation as follows:

$$(y_1, y_2, y_3) = (x_1, x_2, x_3) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 9 & 7 \\ 3 & 23 & 11 \\ 14 & 5 & 18 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In general, we will take an $m \times m$ -matrix K as our key. For $K = (k_{ij})$, $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_m) \in \mathcal{P}$ and $K \in \mathcal{K}$, we compute $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_m)$ as follows:

$$(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m) = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} k_{11} & k_{12} & \cdots & k_{1m} \\ k_{21} & k_{22} & \cdots & k_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ k_{m1} & k_{m2} & \cdots & k_{mm} \end{pmatrix}.$$

In other words, $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x} \cdot K$.

We say that a ciphertext is obtained from the plaintext by means of a linear transformation. We have to consider how decryption will work, that is, how \mathbf{x} can be computed from \mathbf{y} .

Together with the last section, it is now obvious that we make use of the inverse matrix K^{-1} in order to decrypt. The ciphertext is decrypted using the formula $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} \cdot K^{-1}$.

With the facts at hand, it is easy to derive this decryption formula given above: since $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x} \cdot K$, we can multiply both sides of the formula by K^{-1} , obtaining

$$\mathbf{y}K^{-1} = (\mathbf{x}K)K^{-1} = \mathbf{x}(KK^{-1}) = \mathbf{x}\mathbb{I}_m = \mathbf{x}.$$

We obtain the following description of the Hill Cipher.

Definition 2.65. Let m be some fixed positive integer. Let $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{C} = (\mathbb{Z}_{26})^m$ and let

$$\mathcal{K} = \{m \times m \text{ invertible matrices over } \mathbb{Z}_{26}\} .$$

For a key K , we define

$$e_K(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} \cdot K$$

and

$$d_K(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{y} \cdot K^{-1} ,$$

where all operations are performed in \mathbb{Z}_{26} . □

Remark. How many invertible $k \times k$ matrices over \mathbb{Z}_m are there, i.e., how large is the keyspace \mathcal{K} for the Hill Cipher? The general formula is

$$|\mathcal{K}| = m^{k^2} \cdot \prod_{p|m} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^2}\right) \cdot \dots \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^k}\right).$$

If $m = 26$, this means that there are

$$26^4 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{4}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{13}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{169}\right) = 157248$$

different 2×2 matrices that are invertible over \mathbb{Z}_{26} and

$$26^9 \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{4}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{8}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{13}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{169}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{2197}\right) = .1634038189 \times 10^{13}.$$

different 3×3 matrices invertible over \mathbb{Z}_{26} . □

EXAMPLE 2.22. Suppose the key is

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 3 & 14 \\ 9 & 23 & 5 \\ 7 & 11 & 18 \end{pmatrix} .$$

From the computation in Example 2.21, we have that

$$K^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 15 & 12 & 11 \\ 17 & 10 & 10 \\ 4 & 21 & 7 \end{pmatrix} .$$

Suppose we want to encrypt the plaintext thematrix. We have three elements of plaintext to encrypt: $(19, 7, 4)$ (corresponding to the), $(12, 0, 19)$ (corresponding to mat) and $(17, 8, 23)$ (corresponding to rix). We compute as follows:

$$(19, 7, 4) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 3 & 14 \\ 9 & 23 & 5 \\ 7 & 11 & 18 \end{pmatrix} = (319, 262, 373) = (7, 2, 9) ,$$

$$(12, 0, 19) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 3 & 14 \\ 9 & 23 & 5 \\ 7 & 11 & 18 \end{pmatrix} = (277, 245, 510) = (17, 11, 16)$$

and

$$(17, 8, 23) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 3 & 14 \\ 9 & 23 & 5 \\ 7 & 11 & 18 \end{pmatrix} = (437, 488, 692) = (21, 20, 16) \quad .$$

Hence, the encryption of thematrix is HCJRLQVUQ. To decrypt, Bob would compute:

$$(7, 2, 9) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 15 & 12 & 11 \\ 17 & 10 & 10 \\ 4 & 21 & 7 \end{pmatrix} = (175, 293, 160) = (19, 7, 4) \quad ,$$

$$(17, 11, 16) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 15 & 12 & 11 \\ 17 & 10 & 10 \\ 4 & 21 & 7 \end{pmatrix} = (506, 650, 409) = (12, 0, 19)$$

and

$$(21, 20, 16) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 15 & 12 & 11 \\ 17 & 10 & 10 \\ 4 & 21 & 7 \end{pmatrix} = (719, 788, 543) = (17, 8, 23)$$

and obtains thematrix as plaintext. □

EXERCISE 2.66. 1. Suppose, the string “BNZHLHNRJ” has been encrypted with a Hill Ci-

pher and the encryption matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 11 & 14 & 8 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 \\ 16 & 17 & 21 \end{pmatrix}$. Decrypt this message!

2. Assume, the string “NAANAYBCELTIKJ” has been encrypted with a Hill Cipher and the encryption matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 24 & 19 \\ 7 & 16 \end{pmatrix}$. Decrypt the text. □

2.4.4 The Permutation Cipher

All of the cryptosystems we have discussed so far involve substitution: plaintext characters are replaced by different ciphertext characters. The idea of a *permutation cipher* is to keep the plaintext characters unchanged, but to alter their positions by rearranging them. The Permutation Cipher (also known as the Transposition Cipher) has been in use for hundreds of years. In fact, the distinction between the Permutation Cipher and the Substitution Cipher was pointed out as early as 1563 by Giovanni Porta. Let’s give the formal definition.

Definition 2.67. Let m be some fixed positive integer. Let $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{C} = (\mathbb{Z}_{26})^m$ and let \mathcal{K} consist of all permutations of $\{1, \dots, m\}$. For a key (i.e., permutation) π , we define

$$e_\pi(x_1, \dots, x_m) = (x_{\pi(1)}, \dots, x_{\pi(m)})$$

and

$$d_\pi(y_1, \dots, y_m) = (y_{\pi^{-1}(1)}, \dots, y_{\pi^{-1}(m)}) \quad ,$$

where π^{-1} is the inverse permutation to π . □

As with the Substitution Cipher, it is more convenient to use alphabetic characters as opposed to residues modulo 26, since there are no algebraic operations being performed in encryption or decryption.

Here is an example to illustrate.

EXAMPLE 2.23. Suppose $m = 8$ and the key is the following permutation

$$\pi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 4 & 7 & 1 & 8 & 3 & 5 & 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix} .$$

We would like to decrypt the ciphertext which was encrypted using m and π

UEAYVTOHOWLOOTFLWEIHTREHBETANOBI .

Therefore, we determine the inverse permutation of π which is

$$\pi^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 3 & 7 & 5 & 1 & 6 & 8 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

and group the ciphertext into groups of eight letters:

UEAYVTOH — OWLOOTFL — WEIHTREH — BETANOBI .

Now each group of eight letters is rearranged according to the permutation π^{-1} , yielding the following

youhavet — ofollowt — hewhiter — abbitneo ,

so, the plaintext is

youhavetofollowthewhiterabbitneo.

The plaintext can be encrypted in a similar fashion, using the inverse permutation π^{-1} . \square

In fact, the Permutation Cipher is a special case of the Hill Cipher. Given a permutation π of the set $\{1, \dots, m\}$, we can define an associated $m \times m$ permutation matrix $K_\pi = (k_{ij})$ according to the formula

$$k_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = \pi(j) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} .$$

A permutation matrix is a matrix in which every row and column contains exactly one “1”, and all other values are “0”. A permutation matrix can be obtained from an identity matrix by permuting rows or columns.

It is not difficult to see that Hill encryption using the matrix K_π is, in fact, equivalent to permutation encryption using the permutation π . Moreover, $K_\pi^{-1} = K_{\pi^{-1}}$, i.e., the inverse matrix to K_π is the permutation matrix defined by the permutation π^{-1} . Thus, Hill encryption is equivalent to permutation decryption.

EXAMPLE 2.24. For the permutation π used in Example 2.23, the associated permutation matrices are

$$K_\pi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$K_{\pi^{-1}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} .$$

It is easily verified that the product of these two matrices is the identity. \square

EXERCISE 2.68. Suppose, you received “LYBIFFUALKYSSEDAIVBGNERASIPM” as result of an encryption using a permutation cipher with key

$$\pi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 3 & 7 & 6 & 5 & 2 & 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} .$$

Decrypt it. \square

2.5 Cryptanalysis

In this section, we discuss some techniques of cryptanalysis. The general assumption that is usually made is that the opponent, Oscar, knows the cryptosystem being used. This is usually referred to as *Kerckhoff's principle*. Of course, if Oscar does not know the cryptosystem being used, that will make his task more difficult. But we do not want to base the security of a cryptosystem on the (possibly shaky) premise that Oscar does not know what system is being employed. Hence, our goal in designing a cryptosystem will be to obtain security under Kerckhoff's principle.

2.5.1 Different Levels of Attack

First we want to differentiate between different levels of attacks on cryptosystems. The most common types are enumerated as follows.

1. **Ciphertext-only.** The opponent possesses a string of ciphertext, \mathbf{y} .
2. **Known plaintext.** The opponent possesses a string of plaintext, \mathbf{x} , and the corresponding ciphertext, \mathbf{y} .
3. **Chosen plaintext.** The opponent has obtained temporary access to the encryption machinery. Hence he can choose a plaintext string, \mathbf{x} , and construct the corresponding ciphertext string, \mathbf{y} .
4. **Chosen ciphertext.** The opponent has obtained temporary access to the decryption machinery. Hence he can choose a ciphertext string, \mathbf{y} , and construct the corresponding plaintext string, \mathbf{x} .

In each case, the object is to determine the key that was used. We note that a chosen ciphertext attack is relevant to public-key cryptosystems, which we discuss in chapter 4 and 5.

We first consider the weakest type of attack, namely ciphertext-only attack. We also assume that the plaintext string is ordinary English text, without punctuation of “spaces”. (This makes cryptanalysis more difficult than if punctuation and spaces were encrypted.)

Many techniques of cryptanalysis use statistical properties of the English language. Various people have estimated the relative frequencies of the 26 letters by compiling statistics from numerous novels, magazines and newspapers. The estimates in Table 2.1 were obtained by Beker and Piper.

letter probability	letter probability
A .082	N .067
B .015	O .075
C .028	P .019
D .043	Q .001
E .127	R .060
F .022	S .063
G .020	T .091
H .061	U .028
I .070	V .010
J .002	W .023
K .008	X .001
L .040	Y .020
M .024	Z .001

Table 2.1. Probabilities of Occurrence of the 26 letters

On the basis of the above probabilities, Beker and Piper partition the 26 letters into five groups as follows:

1. E, having probability about 0.120
2. T, A, O, I, N, S, H, R, each having probabilities between 0.06 and 0.09
3. D, L, each having probabilities around 0.04
4. C, U, M, W, F, G, Y, P, B, each having probabilities between 0.015 and 0.028
5. V, K, J, X, Q, Z, each having probabilities less than 0.01.

It may also be useful to consider sequences of two or three consecutive letters called *digrams* and *trigrams*, respectively. The 30 most common digrams are (in decreasing order) TH, HE, IN, ER, AN, RE, ED, ON, ES, ST, EN, AT, TO, NT, HA, ND, OU, EA, NG, AS, OR, TI, IS, ET, IT, AR, TE, SE, HI and OF. The twelve most common trigrams are (in decreasing order) THE, ING, AND, HER, ERE, ENT, THA, NTH, WAS, ETH, FOR and DTH.

2.5.2 Cryptanalysis of the Affine Cipher

As a simple illustration of how cryptanalysis can be performed using statistical data, let's look first at the Affine Cipher. Suppose Oscar has intercepted the following ciphertext.

EXAMPLE 2.25. Ciphertext obtained from an Affine Cipher.

PVHDIXWFTGOUIKTHFTIVXZUNIWTGWCVTWDI
 VPNCXGCNIZTWXNGPFPWVZPXGUTIWXHDSTIX
 GWQVHTPVNCCIVVTHHVPPTPXGRVAATPVOPVI
 KXHVPNIVHNZZVIHVPFPWVZP

The frequency analysis of this ciphertext is given in the following table.

letter frequency		letter frequency	
A	2	N	7
B	0	O	2
C	5	P	15
D	3	Q	1
E	0	R	1
F	4	S	1
G	7	T	12
H	9	U	3
I	12	V	18
J	0	W	9
K	2	X	9
L	0	Y	0
M	0	Z	6

There are only 128 characters of ciphertext, but this is sufficient to cryptanalyze an Affine Cipher. The most frequent ciphertext characters are V (18 occurrences), P (15 occurrences) and T, I (12 occurrences). As a first guess, we might hypothesize that P is the encryption of e and P is the encryption of t, since e and t are respectively the two most common letters. Expressed numerically, we have $e_K(4) = 21$ and $e_K(19) = 15$. Recall that $e_K(x) = ax + b$, where a and b are unknowns. So we get two linear equations in two unknowns:

$$\begin{aligned} 4a + b &= 21 \\ 19a + b &= 15. \end{aligned}$$

This system has a unique solution $a = 10, b = 5$ in \mathbb{Z}_{26} . But this is an illegal key, since $\gcd(10, 26) = 2 > 1$. So our hypothesis must be incorrect.

Our next guess might be that V is the encryption of e and P is the encryption of a. Solving the related system leads to an equation $4a \equiv 6 \pmod{26}$ and using Proposition 2.45 says that there are $\gcd(4, 26) = 2$ solutions which are congruent modulo $26/2 = 13$. One solution is $a = 8$ and the other one must therefore be $a = 21$. The former is again illegal, whereas the latter one is at least legal. We receive $a = 21, b = 15$ and as decryption function $d_K(y) = 5y - 23$. Using this function to decrypt the ciphertext gives no meaningful string of English. Again, we conclude that our assumption was not correct.

Our next guesses should be $e_K(e) = V, e_K(o) = P, e_K(e) = V, e_K(i) = P$ and $e_K(e) = V, e_K(n) = P$. Unfortunately, all these guesses lead to contradictions or nonsense plaintext.

The next possibility is then $e_K(e) = V$ and $e_K(s) = P$, or equivalent

$$\begin{aligned} 4a + b &= 21 \\ 18a + b &= 15. \end{aligned}$$

First, we obtain the equation $14a \equiv 20 \pmod{26}$ which has solutions $a = 7$ and $a = 20$. Since only the first one suggests a legal key we determine $a = 7, b = 19$ as unique solution of the system. The resulting decryption function is then $d_K(y) = 15y - 25$ and decryption yields

securityandprivacyareimportantfeaturesofinformationsystems
inparticularinthecaseoffreeaccessasinwebbasedservicesorecommerce
systems.

We conclude that we have determined the correct key. □

letter frequency		letter frequency	
A	6	N	9
B	0	O	6
C	3	P	5
D	0	Q	2
E	2	R	0
F	6	S	1
G	0	T	17
H	12	U	9
I	16	V	6
J	23	W	18
K	2	X	15
L	6	Y	19
M	0	Z	6

Table 2.2. Frequency of occurrences of the 26 ciphertext letters

2.5.3 Cryptanalysis of the Substitution Cipher

Here, we look at the more complicated situation, the Substitution Cipher. Consider the following ciphertext.

EXAMPLE 2.26. Ciphertext obtained from a Substitution Cipher

YAJFTWWJOZIXKJHWXYOWOFEUNKXWZTNNOHJCHJWJIYWYAJJW
 WJIYXTNTYYHXEZYJWUPYAJUHVTIXWTYXUIYAHJJQOITFXLWA
 TCJWPUHF^TTLXHLZNT^HSAUNJWZVVJWYXIVTITYYHTLYXUIUPQX
 PPJHJIYJN^JFJIYWLHJTYXIVTITNNJILUFCTWWXIVZIXYO

The frequency analysis of this ciphertext is given in Table 2.2.

Since J occurs significantly more often than any other ciphertext character, we might conjecture that $d_K(J) = e$. The remaining ciphertext characters that occur at least ten times (each) are Y, W, T, I, X and H. We might expect that these letters are encryptions of a subset of t, a, o, i, n, s, h, r , but the frequencies do not vary enough to tell us what the correspondence might be.

At this stage we might look at digrams, especially those of the form -J or J-, since we conjecture that J decrypts to e . We find that the most common diagrams of this type are JW (six times), JI (five times), HJ (four times) and AJ, WJ, NJ (three times each). Since not only er and re, but also es and se are common diagrams and r and s are both common letters, we can only suppose that $d_K(W) = r$ or $d_K(W) = s$.

Let's have once again a closer look at the ciphertext. We possibly notice that the trigram YAJ occurs three times. Since we assume J to be the encryption of e, the decryption of YAJ might be the. Moreover, Y occurs frequently which supports this assumption because t does so. This gives $d_K(Y) = t$ and $d_K(A) = h$. At this point we have the following.

T h e - - - - e - - - - e - - - t - - - - - - - - - - - - - - e
 Y A J F T W W J O Z I X K J H W X Y O W O F E U N K X W Z T N N O H J
 - - e - e - t - t h e e - - e - t - - - - t t - - - - t e - - - t h e
 C H J W J I Y W Y A J J W W J I Y X T N T Y Y H X E Z Y J W U P Y A J
 - - - - - - - - t - - - t h - e e - - - - - - - - h - - e - - - - -
 U H V T I X W T Y X U I Y A H J J Q O I T F X L W A T C J W P U H F T
 - - - - - - - - h - - e - - - - e - t - - - - - - t t - - - t - - -
 L X H L Z N T H S A U N J W Z V V J W Y X I V T I T Y Y H T L Y X U I
 - - - - - - e - e - t e - e - e - t - - - e - t - - - - - - - e - -
 U P Q X P P J H J I Y J N J F J I Y W L H J T Y X I V T I T N N J I L
 - - - - - - - - - - - - t -
 U F C T W W X I V Z I X Y O

Next, consider the sequence thHee. H occurs quite frequently and therefore, it is highly probable that $d_K(H) = r$ holds. This together with our first investigation of digrams suggests $d_K(W) = s$. We obtain

T h e - - s s e - - - - - e r s - t - s - - - - - - - - - - - - r e
 Y A J F T W W J O Z I X K J H W X Y O W O F E U N K X W Z T N N O H J
 - r e s e - t s t h e e s s e - t - - - - t t r - - - t e s - - t h e
 C H J W J I Y W Y A J J W W J I Y X T N T Y Y H X E Z Y J W U P Y A J
 - r - - - - s - t - - - t h r e e - - - - - - - - s h - - e s - - r - -
 U H V T I X W T Y X U I Y A H J J Q O I T F X L W A T C J W P U H F T
 - - r - - - - r - h - - e s - - - e s t - - - - - - t t r - - t - - -
 L X H L Z N T H S A U N J W Z V V J W Y X I V T I T Y Y H T L Y X U I
 - - - - - - e r e - t e - e - e - t s - r e - t - - - - - - - e - -
 U P Q X P P J H J I Y J N J F J I Y W L H J T Y X I V T I T N N J I L
 - - - - s s - - - - - - t -
 U F C T W W X I V Z I X Y O

The fact that the letter I occurs 16 times as well as the decryption process so far suggest to decrypt I to n. There is another trigram that occurs three times, namely XIV and together with our last assumption we derive that this should be ing, i.e., $d_K(X) = i$ and $d_K(V) = g$.

T h e - - s s e - - n i - e r s i t - s - - - - - - i - - - - - - r e
 Y A J F T W W J O Z I X K J H W X Y O W O F E U N K X W Z T N N O H J
 - r e s e n t s t h e e s s e n t i - - - t t r i - - t e s - - t h e
 C H J W J I Y W Y A J J W W J I Y X T N T Y Y H X E Z Y J W U P Y A J
 - r g - n i s - t i - n t h - e e - - n - - i - s h - - e s - - r - -
 U H V T I X W T Y X U I Y A H J J Q O I T F X L W A T C J W P U H F T
 - i r - - - - r - h - - e s - g g e s t i n g - n - t t r - - t i - n
 L X H L Z N T H S A U N J W Z V V J W Y X I V T I T Y Y H T L Y X U I
 - - - i - - e r e n t e - e - e n t s - r e - t i n g - n - - - e n -
 U P Q X P P J H J I Y J N J F J I Y W L H J T Y X I V T I T N N J I L
 - - - - s s i n g - n i t -
 U F C T W W X I V Z I X Y O

The occurrences of T within the ciphertext, especially within the sequence theessentiTNTttri, are grounds for the assumption that it decrypts to a and the letter N to l.

T h e - a s s e - - n i - e r s i t - s - - - - l - i - - a l l - r e
 Y A J F T W W J O Z I X K J H W X Y O W O F E U N K X W Z T N N O H J
 - r e s e n t s t h e e s s e n t i a l a t t r i - - t e s - - t h e
 C H J W J I Y W Y A J J W W J I Y X T N T Y Y H X E Z Y J W U P Y A J
 - r g a n i s a t i - n t h r e e - - n a - i - s h a - e s - - r - a
 U H V T I X W T Y X U I Y A H J J Q O I T F X L W A T C J W P U H F T
 - i r - - l a r - h - l e s - g g e s t i n g a n a t t r - - t i - n
 L X H L Z N T H S A U N J W Z V V J W Y X I V T I T Y Y H T L Y X U I
 - - - i - - e r e n t e l e - e n t s - r e a t i n g a n a l l e n -
 U P Q X P P J H J I Y J N J F J I Y W L H J T Y X I V T I T N N J I L
 - - - a s s i n g - n i t -
 U F C T W W X I V Z I X Y O

The last correspondences are straightforward to obtain and thus, we yield the following decryption function.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
| h | x | p | j | b | m | z | r | n | e | v | c | q |

and

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| l | y | f | d | k | w | a | o | g | s | i | t | u |

The complete decryption is the following.

The Massey University symbol visually represents the essential attributes of the organisation. Three dynamic shapes form a circular whole, suggesting an attraction of different elements creating an all-encompassing unity. □

2.5.4 Cryptanalysis of the Vigenere Cipher

In this section we describe some methods for cryptanalyzing the Vigenere Cipher. The first step is to determine the keyword length, which we denote by m . There are a couple of techniques that can be employed. The first of these is the so-called *Kasiski test* and the second uses the *index of coincidence*.

The Kasiski test was first described by Friedrich Kasiski in 1863. It is based on the observation that two identical segments of plaintext will be encrypted to the same ciphertext whenever their occurrence in the plaintext is x positions apart, where $x \equiv 0 \pmod m$. Conversely, if we observe two identical segments of ciphertext, each of length at least three, say, then there is a good chance that they do correspond to identical segments of plaintext.

The Kasiski test works as follows. We search the ciphertext for pairs of identical segments of length at least three, and record the distance between the starting positions of the two segments. If we obtain several such distances d_1, d_2, \dots , then we would conjecture that m divides the greatest common divisor of the d_i 's.

Further evidence for the value of m can be obtained by the index of coincidence. This concept was defined by Wolf Friedman in 1920, as follows.

Definition 2.69. Suppose $\mathbf{x} = x_1x_2 \cdots x_n$ is a string of n alphabetic characters. The index of coincidence of x , denoted $I_c(\mathbf{x})$, is defined to be the probability that two random elements

of \mathbf{x} are identical. Suppose we denote the frequencies of A, B, C, \dots, Z in \mathbf{x} by f_0, f_1, \dots, f_{25} , respectively. We can choose two elements of \mathbf{x} in $\binom{n}{2}$ ways². For each $i, 0 \leq i \leq 25$, there are $\binom{f_i}{2}$ ways of choosing both elements to be i . Hence, we have the formula

$$I_c(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{25} f_i(f_i - 1)}{n(n - 1)} .$$

□

Now, suppose \mathbf{x} is a string of English language text. Denote the expected probabilities of occurrences of the letters A, B, \dots, Z in Table 2.1 by p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{25} . Then, we would expect that

$$I_c(\mathbf{x}) \approx \sum_{i=0}^{25} p_i^2 = 0.065 \quad ,$$

since the probability that two random elements both are A is p_0^2 , the probability that both are B is p_1^2 , etc. The same reasoning applies if \mathbf{x} is a ciphertext obtained by means of any monoalphabetic cipher. In this case, the individual probabilities will be permuted, but the quantity

$$\sum_{i=0}^{25} p_i^2$$

will be unchanged.

Now, suppose we start with a ciphertext $\mathbf{y} = y_1 y_2 \dots y_n$ that has been constructed using a Vigenere Cipher. Define m substrings $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_m$ of \mathbf{y} by writing out the ciphertext, by columns, in a rectangular array of dimensions $m \times (n/m)$. The rows of this matrix are the substrings $\mathbf{y}_i, 1 \leq i \leq m$. If this is done, and m is indeed the keyword length, then each $I_c(\mathbf{y}_i)$ should be roughly equal to 0.065. On the other hand, if m is not the keyword length, then the substrings \mathbf{y}_i will look much more random, since they will have been obtained by shift encryption with different keys. Observe that a completely random string will have

$$I_c \approx 26(1/26)^2 = 1/26 = 0.038 .$$

The two values 0.065 and 0.038 are sufficiently far apart that we will often be able to determine the correct keyword length (or confirm a guess that has already been made using the Kasiski test).

Let's illustrate these two techniques with an example.

EXAMPLE 2.27. Ciphertext obtained from a Vigenere Cipher

```

CHREEVOAHMAERATBIAXXWTNXXBEEOPHBSBQMQEQRBW
RVXUOAKXAOSXXWEAHBWGJMMQMKNKGRFVGXWTRZXWIAK
LXFPSKAUTEMNDCMGTSXMXBTUIADNGMGPSRELXNJELX
VRVPRTULHDNQWTWDTYGBPHXTFALJHASVBFXNGLLCHR
ZBWELEKMSJIKNBHWRJGNMGJSGLXFEYPHAGNRBIEQJT
AMRVLCRREMNDGLXRRIMGNSNRWCHRQHAEYEVTAQEYEBBI
PEEWEVKAKOEWADREMXTBHHCHRTKDNVRZCHRCLQOHP
WQAIHWNRMGWOIIFKEE

```

² The *binomial coefficient* $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$ denotes the number of ways of choosing a subset of k objects from a set of n objects

First, let's try the Kasiski test. The ciphertext string CHR occurs in five places in the ciphertext, beginning at positions 1,166,236,276 and 286. The distances from the first occurrences to the other three occurrences are respectively 165, 235, 275 and 285. The *gcd* of these four integers is 5, so that is very likely the keyword length.

Let's see if computation of indices of coincidence gives the same conclusion. With $m = 1$, the index of coincidence is 0.045. With $m = 2$, the two indices are 0.045 and 0.041. With $m = 3$, we get 0.043, 0.050, 0.047. With $m = 4$, we have indices 0.042, 0.039, 0.046, 0.040. Then trying $m = 5$, we obtain the values 0.063, 0.068, 0.069, 0.061 and 0.072. This also provides strong evidence that the keyword length is five. \square

Proceeding under this assumption, how do we determine the keyword? It is useful to consider the mutual index of coincidence of two strings.

Definition 2.70. Suppose $\mathbf{x} = x_1x_2 \dots x_n$ and $\mathbf{y} = y_1y_2 \dots y_{n'}$ are strings of n and n' alphabetic characters, respectively. The *mutual index of coincidence* of \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} , denoted $MI_c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$, is defined to be the probability that a random element of \mathbf{x} is identical to a random element of \mathbf{y} . If we denote the frequencies of A, B, \dots, Z in \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} by f_0, f_1, \dots, f_{25} and $f'_0, f'_1, \dots, f'_{25}$, respectively, then $MI_c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ is seen to be

$$MI_c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{25} f_i f'_i}{nn'} .$$

\square

Now, given that we have determined the value of m , the substrings \mathbf{y}_i are obtained by shift encryption of the plaintext. Suppose $K = (k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m)$ is the keyword. Let us see if we can estimate $MI_c(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j)$. Consider a random character in \mathbf{y}_i and a random character in \mathbf{y}_j . The probability that both characters are A is $p_{-k_i}p_{-k_j}$, the probability that both are B is $p_{1-k_i}p_{1-k_j}$, etc. Note that all subscripts are reduced modulo 26. Hence, we estimate that

$$MI_c(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j) \approx \sum_{h=0}^{25} p_{h-k_i}p_{h-k_j} = \sum_{h=0}^{25} p_h p_{h+k_i-k_j} .$$

Observe that the value of this estimate depends only on the difference $k_i - k_j \pmod{26}$, which we call the *relative shift* of \mathbf{y}_i and \mathbf{y}_j . Also, notice that

$$\sum_{h=0}^{25} p_h p_{h+l} = \sum_{h=0}^{25} p_h p_{h-l} ,$$

noindent so a relative shift of l yields the same estimate of MI_c as does a relative shift of $26 - l$.

We tabulate these estimates, for relative shifts ranging between 0 to 13, in Table 2.3. The important observation is that, if the relative shift is not zero, these estimates vary between 0.031 and 0.045; whereas, a relative shift of zero yields an estimate of 0.065. We can use this observation to formulate a likely guess for $l = k_i - k_j$, the relative shift of $\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j$, as follows. Suppose we fix \mathbf{y}_i , and consider the effect of encrypting \mathbf{y}_j by e_0, e_1, e_2, \dots . Denote

| relative shift | expected value of MI_c |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 0 | 0.065 |
| 1 | 0.039 |
| 2 | 0.032 |
| 3 | 0.034 |
| 4 | 0.044 |
| 5 | 0.033 |
| 6 | 0.036 |
| 7 | 0.039 |
| 8 | 0.034 |
| 9 | 0.034 |
| 10 | 0.038 |
| 11 | 0.045 |
| 12 | 0.039 |
| 13 | 0.043 |

Table 2.3. Expected Mutual Indices of Coincidence

the resulting strings by $\mathbf{y}_j^0, \mathbf{y}_j^1$, etc. It is easy to compute the indices $MI_c(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j^g), 0 \leq g \leq 25$. This can be done using the formula

$$MI_c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}^g) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{25} f_i f'_{i-g}}{nn'}$$

When $g = l$, the MI_c should be close to 0.065, since the relative shift of \mathbf{y}_i and \mathbf{y}_j^l is zero. However, for values of $g \neq l$, the MI_c should vary between 0.031 and 0.045.

By using this techniques, we can obtain the relative shifts of any two of the substrings \mathbf{y}_i . This leaves only 26 possible keywords, which can be easily be obtained by exhaustive key search, for example.

Let's illustrate by returning to Example 2.27.

EXAMPLE 2.28. We have hypothesized that the keyword length is 5. We now try to compute the relative shifts. By computer, it is not difficult to compute the 260 values $MI_c(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j^g)$, where $1 \leq i < j \leq 5, 0 \leq g \leq 25$. These values are tabulated in Table 2.4. For each (i, j) pair, we look for values of $MI_c(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j^g)$ that are close to 0.065. If there is a unique such value (for a given (i, j) pair), we conjecture that it is the value of the relative shift.

Six such values in Table 2.4 are boxed. They provide strong evidence that the relative shift of \mathbf{y}_1 and \mathbf{y}_2 is 9; the relative shift of \mathbf{y}_1 and \mathbf{y}_5 is 16; the relative shift of \mathbf{y}_2 and \mathbf{y}_3 is 13; the relative shift of \mathbf{y}_2 and \mathbf{y}_5 is 7; the relative shift of \mathbf{y}_3 and \mathbf{y}_5 is 20; and the relative shift of \mathbf{y}_4 and \mathbf{y}_5 is 11. This gives us the following equations in the five unknowns k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4, k_5 :

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 - k_2 &= 9 \\ k_1 - k_5 &= 16 \\ k_2 - k_3 &= 13 \\ k_2 - k_5 &= 7 \\ k_3 - k_5 &= 20 \\ k_4 - k_5 &= 11. \end{aligned}$$

| i | j | value of $MI_c(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j^g)$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|------|-------------|------|------|------|-------------|------|-------------|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 | 2 | .028 | .027 | .028 | .034 | .039 | .037 | .026 | .025 | .052 | .068 | .044 | .026 | .037 | .043 | .037 | .043 | .037 | .028 | .041 | .041 | .034 | .037 | .051 | .045 | .042 | .036 | | | |
| | | 1 | 3 | .039 | .033 | .040 | .034 | .028 | .053 | .048 | .033 | .029 | .056 | .050 | .045 | .039 | .040 | .036 | .037 | .032 | .027 | .037 | .036 | .031 | .037 | .055 | .029 | .024 | .037 | |
| | | | | 1 | 4 | .034 | .043 | .025 | .027 | .038 | .049 | .040 | .032 | .029 | .034 | .039 | .044 | .044 | .034 | .039 | .045 | .044 | .037 | .055 | .047 | .032 | .027 | .039 | .037 | .039 |
| 1 | 5 | .043 | .033 | | | .028 | .046 | .043 | .044 | .039 | .031 | .026 | .030 | .036 | .040 | .041 | .024 | .019 | .048 | .070 | .044 | .028 | .038 | .044 | .043 | .047 | .033 | .026 | .046 | |
| | | 2 | 3 | | | .046 | .048 | .041 | .032 | .036 | .035 | .036 | .030 | .024 | .039 | .034 | .029 | .040 | .067 | .041 | .033 | .037 | .045 | .033 | .033 | .027 | .033 | .045 | .045 | .052 |
| | | | | 2 | 4 | .046 | .034 | .043 | .044 | .034 | .031 | .040 | .045 | .040 | .048 | .044 | .033 | .024 | .028 | .042 | .039 | .026 | .034 | .050 | .035 | .032 | .040 | .056 | .043 | .028 |
| 2 | 5 | | | | | .033 | .033 | .036 | .046 | .026 | .018 | .043 | .080 | .050 | .029 | .031 | .045 | .039 | .037 | .027 | .026 | .031 | .039 | .040 | .037 | .041 | .046 | .045 | .043 | .035 |
| | | 3 | 4 | | | .038 | .036 | .040 | .033 | .036 | .060 | .035 | .041 | .029 | .058 | .035 | .035 | .034 | .053 | .030 | .032 | .035 | .036 | .036 | .028 | .046 | .032 | .051 | .032 | .034 |
| | | | | 3 | 5 | .035 | .034 | .034 | .036 | .030 | .043 | .043 | .050 | .025 | .041 | .051 | .050 | .035 | .032 | .033 | .033 | .052 | .031 | .027 | .030 | .072 | .035 | .034 | .032 | .043 |
| 4 | 5 | | | | | .052 | .038 | .033 | .038 | .041 | .043 | .037 | .048 | .028 | .028 | .036 | .061 | .033 | .033 | .032 | .052 | .034 | .027 | .039 | .043 | .033 | .027 | .030 | .039 | .048 |

Table 2.4. Observed Mutual Indices of Coincidence

This allows us to express the five k_i 's in terms of k_1 :

$$k_2 = k_1 + 17$$

$$k_3 = k_1 + 4$$

$$k_4 = k_1 + 21$$

$$k_5 = k_1 + 10.$$

So the key is likely to be $(k_1, k_1 + 17, k_1 + 4, k_1 + 21, k_1 + 10)$ for some $k_1 \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}$. Hence, we suspect that the keyword is some cyclic shift of *AREVK*. It now does not take long to determine that the keyword is *JANET*. The complete decryption is the following.

The almond tree was in tentative blossom. The days were longer, often ending with magnificent evenings of corrugated pink skies. The hunting season was over, with hounds and guns put away for six months. The vineyards were busy again as the well-organized

farmers treated their vines and the more lackadaisical neighbours hurried to do the pruning they should have done in November³.

□

2.5.5 A known Plaintext Attack on the Hill Cipher

The Hill Cipher is more difficult to break with a ciphertext-only attack, but it succumbs easily to a known plaintext attack. Let us first assume that the opponent has determined the value of m being used. Suppose he has at least m distinct pairs of m -tuples, $x_j = (x_{1,j}, x_{2,j}, \dots, x_{m,j})$ and $y_j = (y_{1,j}, y_{2,j}, \dots, y_{m,j})$, $1 \leq j \leq m$, such that $y_j = e_K(x_j)$, $1 \leq j \leq m$. If we define two $m \times m$ matrices $X = (x_{i,j})$ and $Y = (y_{i,j})$, then we have the matrix equation $Y = X \cdot K$, where the $m \times m$ matrix K is the unknown key. Provided that the matrix X is invertible, Oscar can compute $K = X^{-1}Y$ and thereby break the system. (If Y is not invertible, then it will be necessary to try other sets of m plaintext-ciphertext pairs.)

Let's look at a simple example.

EXAMPLE 2.29. Suppose the plaintext *friday* is encrypted using a Hill Cipher with $m = 2$, to give the ciphertext *PQCFKU*.

We have that $e_K(5, 17) = (15, 16)$, $e_K(8, 3) = (2, 5)$ and $e_K(0, 24) = (10, 20)$. From the first two plaintext-ciphertext pairs, we get the matrix equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} 15 & 16 \\ 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 17 \\ 8 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot K.$$

Using Proposition 2.62, it is easy to compute

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 17 \\ 8 & 3 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 1 \\ 2 & 15 \end{pmatrix},$$

so

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 1 \\ 2 & 15 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 15 & 16 \\ 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 19 \\ 8 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This can be verified by using the third plaintext-ciphertext pair. □

What would the opponent do if he does not know m ? Assuming that m is not too big, he could simply try $m = 2, 3, \dots$, until the key is found. If a guessed value of m is incorrect, then an $m \times m$ matrix found by using the algorithm described above will not agree with further plaintext-ciphertext pairs. In this way, the value of m can be determined if it is not already known.

EXERCISE 2.71. Suppose you are told that the plaintext

“blame the boss”

yields the ciphertext

“SHDBC BAC NGMC”

where the Hill Cipher is used but the size m of the encryption matrix is not specified. Determine the encryption matrix. □

³ P.Maylem, A year in provence, A.knopf,Inc,1989

Chapter 3

Modern Block Ciphers

What we have just considered in the last chapter were examples for so called *classical cipher*. This term refers to encryption techniques which have become well-known over time, and generally created prior to the second half of the twentieth century (in some cases, many hundreds of years earlier). Many classical techniques are variations of simple substitutions and simple transposition.

Classical ciphers and techniques have been presented to illustrate important basic principles and common pitfalls. However, since these techniques are neither sophisticated nor secure against current cryptanalytic capabilities, they are not generally suitable for practical use.

3.1 Introduction to block ciphers

All cryptosystems mentioned so far are examples for block ciphers. These are functions which map n -bit plaintext blocks to n -bit ciphertext blocks and n is called the *blocklength*. It may be viewed as a simple substitution cipher with large character size. The function is parameterized by a k -bit key K , taking values from a subset \mathcal{K} (the key space) of the set of all k -bit vectors V_k . It is generally assumed that the key is chosen at random. Use of plaintext and ciphertext blocks of equal size avoids data expansion.

To allow unique decryption, the encryption function must be one-to-one. For n -bit plaintext and ciphertext blocks and a fixed key, the encryption function is a bijection, defining a permutation on n -bit vectors. Each key potentially defines a different bijection.

Definition 3.1. An n -bit block cipher is a function $e : V_n \times \mathcal{K} \rightarrow V_n$, such that for each key $K \in \mathcal{K}$, $e(p, K)$ is an invertible mapping (the encryption function for K) from V_n to V_n , written $e_K(p)$. The inverse mapping is the decryption function, denoted $d_K(c)$. $c = e_K(p)$ denotes the ciphertext c resulting from encrypting the plaintext p under K . \square

Block ciphers can be either symmetric-key or public-key. The main focus on this chapter is symmetric-key block ciphers; public-key encryption is addressed in Chapter 4 and Chapter 5.

Symmetric-key block ciphers are the most prominent and important elements in many cryptographic systems. Individually, they provide confidentiality. As a fundamental building block, their versatility allows construction of pseudo number generators, stream ciphers, MACs, and hash functions. They may furthermore serve as a central component in message authentication techniques, data integrity mechanisms, entity authentication protocols and (symmetric-key) digital signature schemes.

No block cipher is ideally suited for all applications, even one offering a high level of security. This is a result of inevitable tradeoffs required in practical applications, including those arising from, for example, speed requirements and memory limitations (e.g., code size, data size, cache memory), constraints imposed by implementation platforms (e.g., hardware, software, chipcards), and differing tolerances of applications to properties of various modes of operation. In addition, efficiency must typically be traded off against security. Thus it is beneficial to have a number of candidate ciphers from which to draw.

Of the many block ciphers currently available, focus in this chapter is given to a subset of high profile and/or well-studied algorithms. While not guaranteed to be more secure than other published candidate ciphers (indeed, this status changes as new attacks become known), emphasis is given to those of greatest practical interest. Among these, DES is paramount; FEAL has received both serious commercial backing and a large amount of independent cryptographic analysis; and IDEA (originally proposed as a DES replacement) is widely known and highly regarded. Other recently proposed ciphers of both high promise and high profile (in part due to the reputation of their designers) are SAFER and RC5.

3.2 DES

3.2.1 Introduction

On May 15, 1973, the National Bureau of Standards published a solicitation for cryptosystems in the Federal Register. This led ultimately to the development of the Data Encryption Standard, or DES, which has become the most widely used cryptosystem in the world. DES was developed at IBM, as a modification of an earlier system known as LUCIFER. DES was first published in the Federal Register of March 17, 1975. After a considerable amount of public discussion, DES was adopted as a standard for “unclassified” applications on January 5, 1977. DES has been reviewed by the National Bureau of Standards approximately every five years since its adoption. Its most recent renewal was in January 1994, when it was renewed until 1998. It is anticipated that it will not remain a standard past 1998.

3.2.2 Product ciphers and Feistel ciphers

The design of DES is related to two general concepts: product ciphers and Feistel ciphers. Each involves iterating a common sequence or round of operations.

The basic idea of a product cipher is to build a complex encryption function by composing several simple operations which offer complementary, but individually insufficient, protection. Basic operations include transpositions, translations (e.g. XOR) and linear transformations, arithmetic operations, modular multiplication, and simple substitution.

Definition 3.2. A *product cipher* combines two or more transformations in a manner intending that the resulting cipher is more secure than the individual components. \square

Definition 3.3. A *substitution-permutation (SP) network* is a product cipher composed of a number of stages each involving substitutions and permutations. \square

Definition 3.4. An *iterated block cipher* is a block cipher involving the sequential repetition of an internal function called a round function. Parameters include the number of rounds r ,

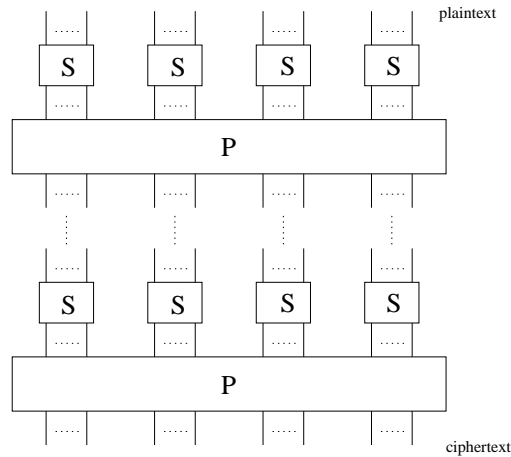


Fig. 3.1. Substitution-permutation (SP) network

the block bitsize n , and the bitsize k of the input key K from which r subkeys K_i (round keys) are derived. For invertibility (allowing unique decryption), for each value K_i the round function is a bijection on the round input. \square

Definition 3.5. A *Feistel cipher* is an iterated cipher mapping $2t$ -bit plaintext (L_0, R_0) , for t -bit blocks L_0 and R_0 , to a ciphertext (R_r, L_r) , through an r -round process where $r \geq 1$. For $1 \leq i \leq r$, round i maps $(L_{i-1}, R_{i-1}) \xrightarrow{K_i} (L_i, R_i)$ as follows: $L_i = R_{i-1}, R_i = L_{i-1} \oplus f(R_{i-1}, K_i)$, where each subkey K_i is derived from the cipher key K . \square

Typically in a Feistel cipher, $r \geq 3$ and often it is even. The Feistel structure specifically orders the ciphertext output as (R_r, L_r) rather than (L_r, R_r) ; the blocks are exchanged from their usual order after the last round. Decryption is thereby achieved using the same r -round process but with subkeys used in reverse order, K_r through K_1 : for example, the last round is undone by simply repeating it. The f function of the Feistel cipher may be a product cipher, though f itself need not be invertible to allow inversion of the Feistel cipher.

Figure 3.3 illustrates that successive rounds of a Feistel cipher operate on alternative halves of the ciphertext, while the other remains constant. Note the round function of Definition 3.5 may also be re-written to eliminate L_i : $R_i = R_{i-2} \oplus f(R_{i-1}, K_i)$. In this case, the final ciphertext output is (R_r, R_{r-1}) , with input labeled (R_{-1}, R_0) .

3.2.3 The DES Algorithm

DES is a Feistel cipher which processes plaintext blocks of $n = 64$ bits, producing 64-bit ciphertext blocks (Figure 3.2). The effective size of the secret key K is $k = 56$ bits; more precisely, the input key K is specified as a 64-bit key, 8 bits of which (bits 8, 16, ..., 64) may be used as parity bits. The 2^{56} keys implement (at most) 2^{56} of $2^{64}!$ possible bijections on 64-bit blocks. A widely held belief is that the parity bits were introduced to reduce the effective key size from 64 to 56 bit, to intentionally reduce the cost of exhaustive key search by a factor of 256.

Full details of *DES* are given in Algorithm 3.6 and Figures 3.3 and 3.4. An overview follows. Encryption proceeds in 16 stages or rounds. From the input key K , sixteen 48-bit

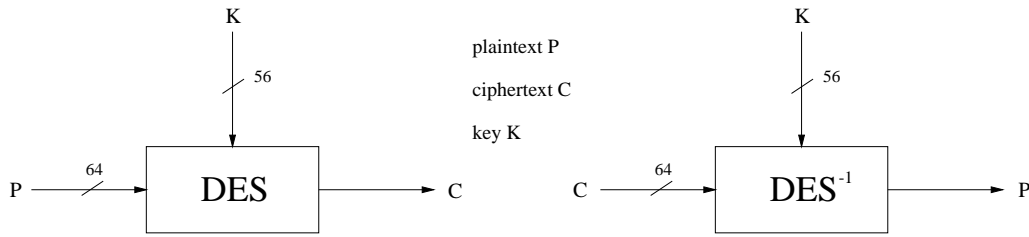


Fig. 3.2. DES-input-output

subkeys K_i are generated, one for each round. Within each round, 8 fixed, carefully selected 6-to-4 bit substitution mapping (S-boxes) S_i , collectively denoted S , are used. The 64-bit plaintext is divided into 32-bit halves L_0 and R_0 . Each round is functionally equivalent, taking 32-bit inputs L_{i-1} and R_{i-1} from the previous round and producing 32-bit outputs L_i and R_i for $1 \leq i \leq 16$, as follows:

$$L_i = R_{i-1}; \quad (3.3)$$

$$R_i = L_{i-1} \oplus f(R_{i-1}, K_i), \text{ where } f(R_{i-1}, K_i) = P(S(E(R_{i-1}) \oplus K_i)) \quad (3.4)$$

Here E is a fixed expansion permutation mapping R_{i-1} from 32 to 48 bits (all bits are used once; some are used twice). P is another fixed permutation on 32 bits. An initial bit permutation (IP) precedes the first round; following the last round, the left and right halves are exchanged and, finally, the resulting string is bit-permuted by the inverse of IP. Decryption involves the same key and algorithm, but with subkeys applied to the internal rounds in the reverse order.

A simplified view is that the right half of each round (after expanding the 32-bit input to 8 characters of 6 bits each) carries out a key-dependent substitution on each of 8 characters, then uses a fixed bit transposition to redistribute the bits of the resulting characters to produce 32 output bits.

Algorithm specifies how to compute the DES round keys K_i , each of which contains 48 bits of K . These operations make use of tables PC1 and PC2 of Table 3.3, which are called permuted choice 1 and permuted choice 2. To begin, 8 bits ($k_8, k_{16}, \dots, k_{64}$) of K are discarded (by PC1). The remaining 56 bits are permuted and assigned to two 28-bit variables C and D ; and then for 16 iterations, both C and D are rotated either 1 or 2 bits, and 48 bits (K_i) are selected from the concatenated result.

Algorithm 3.6. The Data Encryption Standard (DES)

INPUT: plaintext $m_1 \cdots m_{64}$; 64-bit key $K = k_1 \cdots k_{64}$ (includes 8 parity bits).

OUTPUT: 64-bit ciphertext block $C = c_1 \cdots c_{64}$.

1. (key schedule) Compute sixteen 48-bit round keys K_i from K using Algorithm 3.7.
2. $(L_0, R_0) \leftarrow IP(m_1 m_2 \cdots m_{64})$. (Use IP from Table 3.1 to permute bits; split the result into left and right 32-bit halves $L_0 = m_{58} m_{50} \cdots m_8$, $R_0 = m_{57} m_{49} \cdots m_7$.)
3. (16 rounds) for i from 1 to 16, compute L_i and R_i using equations (3.3) and (3.4) above, computing $f(R_{i-1}, K_i) = P(S(E(R_{i-1}) \oplus K_i))$ as follows:
 - (a) Expand $R_{i-1} = r_1 r_2 \cdots r_{32}$ from 32 to 48 bits using E per Table 3.2: $T \leftarrow E(R_{i-1})$. (Thus $T = r_{32} r_1 r_2 \cdots r_{32} r_1$.)

- (b) $T' \leftarrow T \oplus K_i$. Represent T' as eight 6-bit character strings: $(B_1, \dots, B_8) = T'$.
- (c) $T'' \leftarrow (S_1(B_1), S_2(B_2), \dots, S_8(B_8))$. (Here $S_i(B_i)$ maps $B_i = b_1b_2 \dots b_6$ to the 4-bit entry in row r and column c of S_i in the Table below, where $r = 2 \cdot b_1 + b_6$, and $b_2b_3b_4b_5$ is the radix-2 representation of $0 \leq c \leq 15$. Thus $S_1(011011)$ yields $r = 1, c = 13$, and output 5, i.e., binary 0101.)
- (d) $T''' \leftarrow P(T'')$. (Use P per Table 3.2 to permute the 32 bits of $T''' = t_1t_2 \dots t_{32}$, yielding $t_{16}t_7 \dots t_{25}$.)
- 4. $b_1b_2 \dots b_{64} \leftarrow (R_{16}, L_{16})$. (Exchange final blocks L_{16}, R_{16} .)
- 5. $C \leftarrow IP^{-1}(b_1b_2 \dots b_{64})$. (Transpose using IP^{-1} from Table 3.1; $C = b_{40}b_8 \dots b_{25}$.)

□

The following tabulars comprise the complete initial permutation IP and its inverse IP^{-1} .

| IP | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| 58 | 50 | 42 | 34 | 26 | 18 | 10 | 2 |
| 60 | 52 | 44 | 36 | 28 | 20 | 12 | 4 |
| 62 | 54 | 46 | 38 | 30 | 22 | 14 | 6 |
| 64 | 56 | 48 | 40 | 32 | 24 | 16 | 8 |
| 57 | 49 | 41 | 33 | 25 | 17 | 9 | 1 |
| 59 | 51 | 43 | 35 | 27 | 19 | 11 | 3 |
| 61 | 53 | 45 | 37 | 29 | 21 | 13 | 5 |
| 63 | 55 | 47 | 39 | 31 | 23 | 15 | 7 |

| IP ⁻¹ | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 40 | 8 | 48 | 16 | 56 | 24 | 64 | 32 |
| 39 | 7 | 47 | 15 | 55 | 23 | 63 | 31 |
| 38 | 6 | 46 | 14 | 54 | 22 | 62 | 30 |
| 37 | 5 | 45 | 13 | 53 | 21 | 61 | 29 |
| 36 | 4 | 44 | 12 | 52 | 20 | 60 | 28 |
| 35 | 3 | 43 | 11 | 51 | 19 | 59 | 27 |
| 34 | 2 | 42 | 10 | 50 | 18 | 58 | 26 |
| 33 | 1 | 41 | 9 | 49 | 17 | 57 | 25 |

Table3.1. DES initial permutation IP and its inverse

Next, we give a description of the DES per-round functions: expansion E and permutation P .

| E | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 32 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 1 |

| P | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| 16 | 7 | 20 | 21 |
| 29 | 12 | 28 | 17 |
| 1 | 15 | 23 | 26 |
| 5 | 18 | 31 | 10 |
| 2 | 8 | 24 | 14 |
| 32 | 27 | 3 | 9 |
| 19 | 13 | 30 | 6 |
| 22 | 11 | 4 | 25 |

Table3.2. DES per-round functions

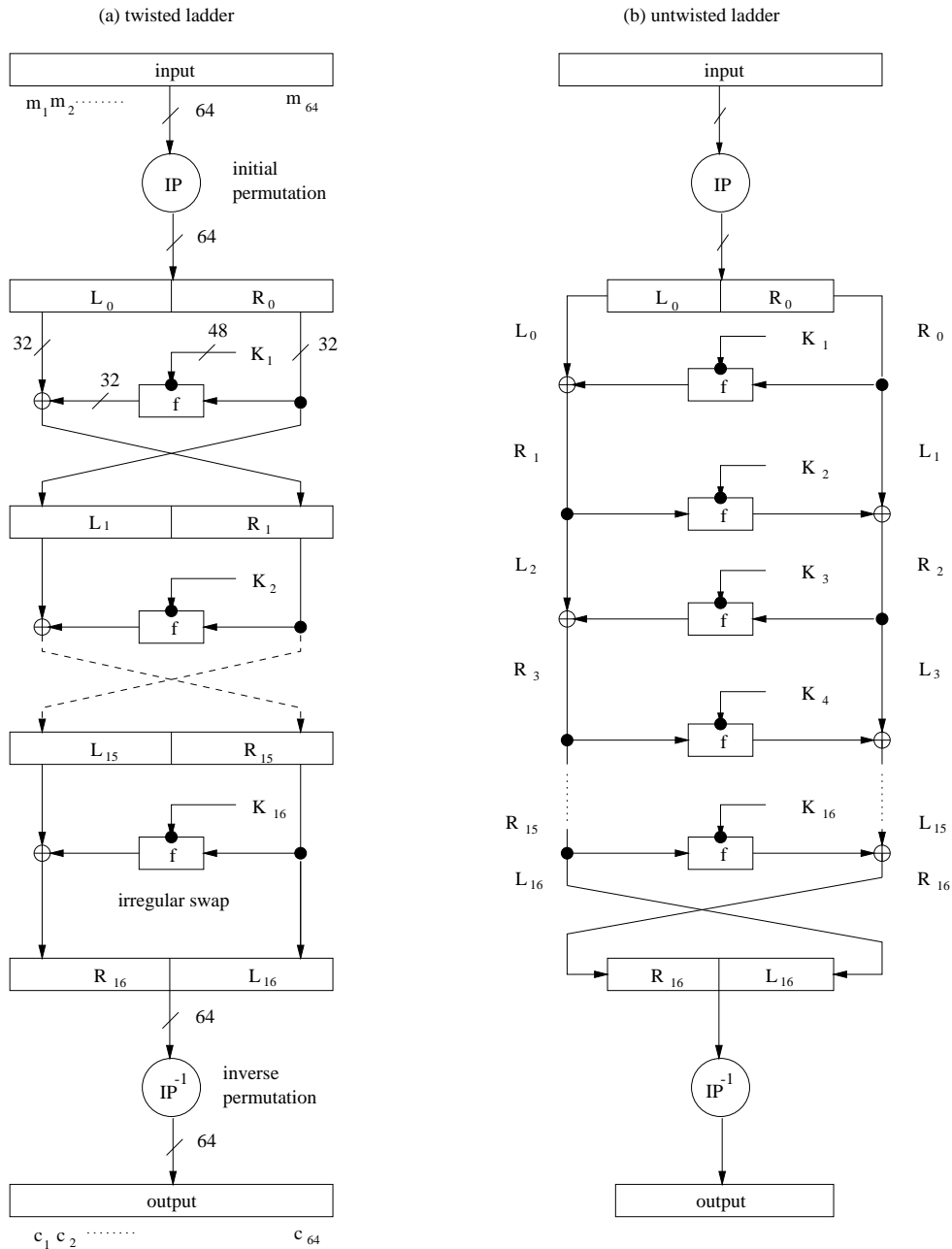


Fig. 3.3. DES computation path

Algorithm 3.7. DES key schedule

INPUT: 64-bit key $K = k_1 \dots k_{64}$ (including 8 odd-parity bits).

OUTPUT: sixteen 48-bit keys $K_i, 1 \leq i \leq 16$.

1. Define $v_i, 1 \leq i \leq 16$ as follows: $v_i = 1$ for $i \in \{1, 2, 9, 16\}$; $v_i = 2$ otherwise. (These are left-shift values for 28-bit circular rotations below.)
2. $T \leftarrow PC1(K)$; represents T as 28-bit halves (C_0, D_0) . (Use PC1 in the Table 3.3 to select bits from K : $C_0 = k_{57}k_{49} \dots k_{36}, D_0 = k_{63}k_{55} \dots k_4$.)

- For i from 1 to 16, compute K_i as follows: $C_i \leftarrow (C_{i-1} \leftrightarrow v_i), D_i \leftarrow (D_{i-1} \leftrightarrow v_i), K_i \leftarrow PC2(C_i, D_i)$. (Use PC2 in the Table 3.3 to select 48 bits from the concatenation $b_1b_2 \dots b_{56}$ of C_i and D_i ; $K_i = b_{14}b_{17} \dots b_{32}$. “ \leftrightarrow ” denotes left circular shift.)

□

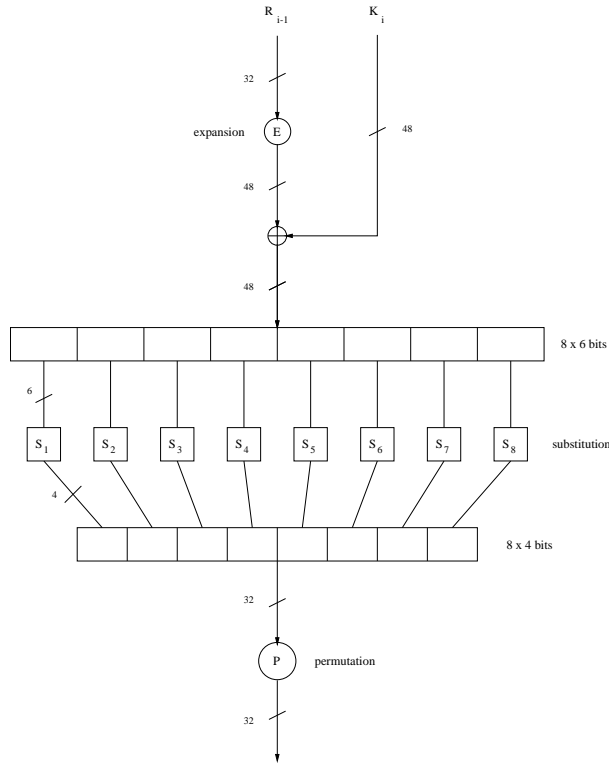


Fig. 3.4. DES inner function $f(R_{i-1}, K_i) = P(S(E(R_{i-1}) \oplus K_i))$

The next two tables present the DES key schedule bit selections (PC1 and PC2).

| PC1 | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| 57 | 49 | 41 | 33 | 25 | 17 | 9 | |
| 1 | 58 | 50 | 42 | 34 | 26 | 18 | |
| 10 | 2 | 59 | 51 | 43 | 35 | 27 | |
| 19 | 11 | 3 | 60 | 52 | 44 | 36 | |
| C_i above; D_i below | | | | | | | |
| 63 | 55 | 47 | 39 | 31 | 23 | 15 | |
| 7 | 62 | 54 | 46 | 38 | 30 | 22 | |
| 14 | 6 | 61 | 53 | 45 | 37 | 29 | |
| 21 | 13 | 5 | 28 | 20 | 12 | 4 | |

| PC2 | | | | | |
|-----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 14 | 17 | 11 | 24 | 1 | 5 |
| 3 | 28 | 15 | 6 | 21 | 10 |
| 23 | 19 | 12 | 4 | 26 | 8 |
| 16 | 7 | 27 | 20 | 13 | 2 |
| 41 | 52 | 31 | 37 | 47 | 55 |
| 30 | 40 | 51 | 45 | 33 | 48 |
| 44 | 49 | 39 | 56 | 34 | 53 |
| 46 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 29 | 32 |

Table 3.3. DES key schedule bit selections

Note 3.8. DES decryption consists of the encryption algorithm with the same key but reversed key schedule, using in order $K_{16}, K_{15}, \dots, K_1$. This works as follows. The effect of IP^{-1} is cancelled by IP in decryption, leaving (R_{16}, L_{16}) ; consider applying round 1 to this input. The operation on the left half yields, rather than $L_0 \oplus f(R_0, K_1)$, now $R_{16} \oplus f(L_{16}, K_{16})$ which, since $L_{16} = R_{15}$ and $R_{16} = L_{15} \oplus f(R_{15}, K_{16})$, is equal to $L_{15} \oplus f(R_{15}, K_{16}) \oplus f(R_{15}, K_{16}) = L_{15}$. Thus round 1 decryption yields (R_{15}, L_{15}) , i.e., inverting round 16. Note that the cancellation of each round is independent of the definition of f and the specific value of K_i ; the swapping of halves combined with the XOR process is inverted by the second application. The remaining 15 rounds are likewise cancelled one by one in reverse order of application, due to the reversed key schedule. \square

Note 3.9. Subkeys K_1, \dots, K_{16} may be generated by Algorithm 3.7 and used in reverse order, or generated in reverse order directly as follows. Note that after K_{16} is generated, the original values of the 28-bit registers C and D are restored (each has rotated 28 bits). Consequently, and due to the choice of the shift-values, modifying Algorithm 3.7 as follows generates subkeys in order K_{16}, \dots, K_1 : replace the left-shifts by right-shift rotates; change the shift value v_1 to 0. \square

EXAMPLE 3.1. The plaintext “Now is the time for all”, represented as a string of 8-bit hex characters (7-bit ASCII characters plus leading 0-bit), and encrypted using the DES key specified by the hex string $K = 0123456789ABCDEF$ results in the following plaintext/ciphertext:

P=4E6F772069732074 68652074696d6520 666F7220616C6C20
 C=3FA40E8A984D4815 6A271787AB8883F9 893D51EC4B563B53.

We list finally the entire permutations of the S -boxes involved in the DES computation. \square

| row | column number | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| S_1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 14 | 4 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 15 | 11 | 8 | 3 | 10 | 6 | 12 | 5 | 9 | 0 | 7 |
| 1 | 0 | 15 | 7 | 4 | 14 | 2 | 13 | 1 | 10 | 6 | 12 | 11 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| 2 | 4 | 1 | 14 | 8 | 13 | 6 | 2 | 11 | 15 | 12 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 10 | 5 | 0 |
| 3 | 15 | 12 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 11 | 3 | 14 | 10 | 0 | 6 | 13 |
| S_2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 15 | 1 | 8 | 14 | 6 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 13 | 12 | 0 | 5 | 10 |
| 1 | 3 | 13 | 4 | 7 | 15 | 2 | 8 | 14 | 12 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 6 | 9 | 11 | 5 |
| 2 | 0 | 14 | 7 | 11 | 10 | 4 | 13 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 12 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 15 |
| 3 | 13 | 8 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 15 | 4 | 2 | 11 | 6 | 7 | 12 | 0 | 5 | 14 | 9 |
| S_3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 10 | 0 | 9 | 14 | 6 | 3 | 15 | 5 | 1 | 13 | 12 | 7 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| 1 | 13 | 7 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 10 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 14 | 12 | 11 | 15 | 1 |
| 2 | 13 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 15 | 3 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 5 | 10 | 14 | 7 |
| 3 | 1 | 10 | 13 | 0 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 15 | 14 | 3 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 12 |
| S_4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 7 | 13 | 14 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 11 | 12 | 4 | 15 |
| 1 | 13 | 8 | 11 | 5 | 6 | 15 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 12 | 1 | 10 | 14 | 9 |
| 2 | 10 | 6 | 9 | 0 | 12 | 11 | 7 | 13 | 15 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 4 |
| 3 | 3 | 15 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 1 | 13 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 11 | 12 | 7 | 2 | 14 |

| row | column number | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| S_5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 2 | 12 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 10 | 11 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 15 | 13 | 0 | 14 | 9 |
| 1 | 14 | 11 | 2 | 12 | 4 | 7 | 13 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 15 | 10 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 6 |
| 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 10 | 13 | 7 | 8 | 15 | 9 | 12 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 14 |
| 3 | 11 | 8 | 12 | 7 | 1 | 14 | 2 | 13 | 6 | 15 | 0 | 9 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| S_6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 12 | 1 | 10 | 15 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 0 | 13 | 3 | 4 | 14 | 7 | 5 | 11 |
| 1 | 10 | 15 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 12 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 13 | 14 | 0 | 11 | 3 | 8 |
| 2 | 9 | 14 | 15 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 12 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 13 | 11 | 6 |
| 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 12 | 9 | 5 | 15 | 10 | 11 | 14 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 13 |
| S_7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 4 | 11 | 2 | 14 | 15 | 0 | 8 | 13 | 3 | 12 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 6 | 1 |
| 1 | 13 | 0 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 10 | 14 | 3 | 5 | 12 | 2 | 15 | 8 | 6 |
| 2 | 1 | 4 | 11 | 13 | 12 | 3 | 7 | 14 | 10 | 15 | 6 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 9 | 2 |
| 3 | 6 | 11 | 13 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 0 | 15 | 14 | 2 | 3 | 12 |
| S_8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 13 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 15 | 11 | 1 | 10 | 9 | 3 | 14 | 5 | 0 | 12 | 7 |
| 1 | 1 | 15 | 13 | 8 | 10 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 12 | 5 | 6 | 11 | 0 | 14 | 9 | 2 |
| 2 | 7 | 11 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 12 | 14 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 13 | 15 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 7 | 4 | 10 | 8 | 13 | 15 | 12 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 11 |

3.2.4 Triple DES

As soon as the DES algorithm was published, it was clear that the proposed cipher was intentionally weakened by the use of a relatively short 56-bit cryptographic key. The exhaustive search of the key space is possible.

To thwart the exhaustive search attack on the key space, the key length must be increased. Consider double DES encryption with two independent keys or $c = E_{k_1}(E_{k_2}(m))$ where k_1, k_2 are two 56-bit independent keys. Clearly, the exhaustive search becomes infeasible as the key space contains now 2^{112} candidates. However, assume that the attacker knows a valid pair (m, c) obtained under the double DES. The attacker can produce two sets

$$\mathcal{E} = \{e = E_{k_1}(m) \mid k_1 \in \mathcal{K}\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{D} = \{d = E_{k_2}^{-1}(c) \mid k_2 \in \mathcal{K}\},$$

where \mathcal{K} is the set of DES keys with 2^{56} elements, and $E_{k_2}^{-1}$ is the DES decryption for the key k_2 . Observe that for the correct pair of keys partial encryption/decryption must be the same or $e = d$. This also means that the pair (m, c) allows the attacker to create 2^{56} possible pairs of keys among which there must be the correct one. This obviously reduces the exhaustive search to 2^{56} candidates which is far smaller than the expected 2^{112} . Needless to say, a second pair of (message, cryptogram) points out with a high probability the correct pair of keys.

This observation leads us to the conclusion that to expand the key space at least triple encryption (triple DES) must be applied. The following list shows possible implementations of the triple DES:

- $E_{k_1}(E_{k_2}(E_{k_3}(m)))$ — implementation with three independent keys, i.e., encryption is used three times (EEE triple DES).
- $E_{k_1}(E_{k_2}^{-1}(E_{k_3}(m)))$ — implementation with three independent keys, the encryption transformation uses the sequences encrypt, decrypt, and encrypt of DES (EDE triple DES).
- $E_{k_1}(E_{k_2}^{-1}(E_{k_1}(m)))$ — the triple encryption-decryption-encryption DES with two independent keys.

The triple DES with two independent keys is recommended in the ANSI X.9.17 and ISO 8732 standards for banking key management. The two-key triple DES is subject to a known-plaintext attack.

Advantages of triple DES are

- it is easy to implement in both hardware and software compared to other algorithms,
- it is based on DES which is a very trusted cipher (DES has been studied thoroughly for over 25 years now and is proven to have sound basics though the keylength is too small now),
- it is much faster than public-key cryptography methods like the RSA method (main advantage of symmetric key ciphers).

The disadvantages comprise

- newer algorithms like RC6 and Blowfish are much faster than triple DES since they were built much later and with performance as an objective,
- the transmission of the secret key between users is unsafe (this is where public-key cryptography excels),
- the new AES standard has been specified so most systems would likely shift to that soon.

3.2.5 Security and Attacks on DES and Triple DES

No easy attack has been found to break DES. The simplest method is to use brute-force to search the keyspace. This involves trying out 2^{56} keys. Some more sophisticated methods are described below. They require fewer attempts but are not very practical to implement. Hence brute-force remains the best option.

- **Differential Cryptanalysis:** These attacks try to look for correlations between the input and output of the f -function in the DES block. This approach requires 2^{47} attempts which is less than brute-force.
- **Linear Cryptanalysis:** These attacks try to look for correlations between the key and the cipher input/output. This method requires 2^{43} attempts which is less than the earlier two methods.

Simple DES can be cracked in a reasonable time and hence cannot be considered secure anymore:

- In 1998, the *RSA Challenge II* contest was won by Electronic Frontier Foundation. They cracked DES in **56** hours using a supercomputer.
- In 1999, Distributed.net won *Challenge III* and cracked DES in **22** hours.
- Dedicated hardware can be built to crack DES much faster. For an investment of US\$ 1 million, DES can be cracked in **less than an hour**.

However, no attacks have been found against triple DES yet. Also, since the key length is much larger, it is impossible to use a brute-force approach with current computing power. Hence triple DES is quite safe for now but NIST has replaced it as the encryption standard.

3.2.6 DES Modes of Operation

Encryption and decryption are usually done for larger than 64-bit blocks of data. The method of processing a large number 64-bit data blocks is called the *mode of operation*. There are several modes of operation, including the four most common ones:

- *Electronic codebook mode (ECB)* - a data block m of arbitrary length is divided into 64-bit blocks m_1, m_2, \dots, m_l . The last block, if it is shorter than 64 bits, needs to be padded to the full length of 64 bits. The DES algorithm is applied independently to each block using the same cryptographic key k , producing ciphertext

$$c = (c_1, \dots, c_l) = (E_k(m_1), \dots, E_k(m_l)).$$

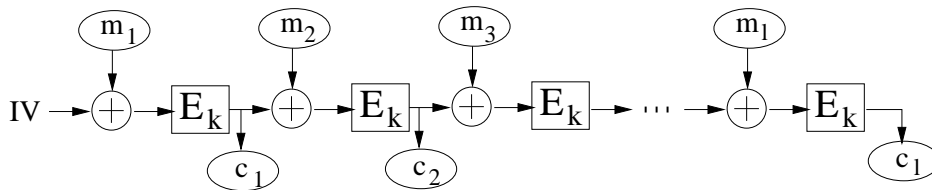
The decryption in the ECB mode is

$$m = (m_1, \dots, m_l) = (D_k(c_1), \dots, D_k(c_l)).$$

As the blocks are independent, the receiver of ciphertext blocks is not able to determine the correct order of the blocks, or to detect duplicates or missing blocks.

- *Cipher block chaining mode (CBC)* - the initial vector IV needs to be known at both sides but does not need to be secret (Figure 3.5).

Encryption:



Decryption:

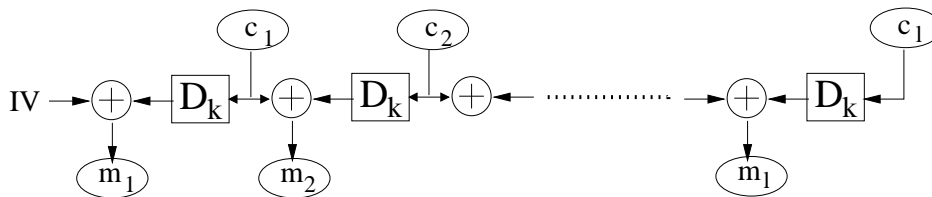


Fig. 3.5. CBC-Mode

For encryption, cryptograms are created for the current message block and the previous cryptogram according to the following equation:

$$c_i = E_k(m_i \oplus c_{i-1}),$$

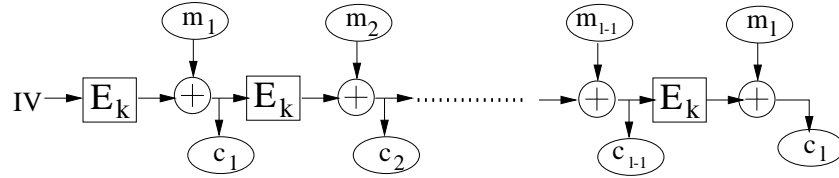
where $c_1 = E_k(m_1 \oplus IV)$ and $i = 2, \dots, l$. The decryption process unravels the ciphertext

$$m_i = D_k(c_i) \oplus c_{i-1}$$

for $i = 2, \dots, l$ and $m_1 = D_k(c_1) \oplus IV$.

- Cipher feedback mode (CFB) - in this mode cryptograms are equal to (Figure 3.6)

Encryption:



Decryption:

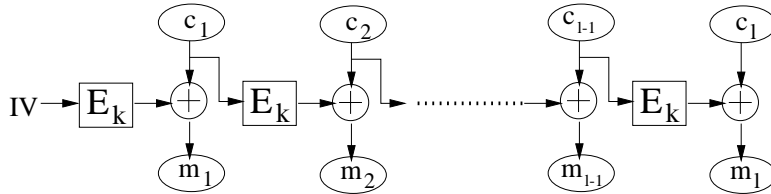


Fig. 3.6. CFB-Mode

$$c_i = m_i \oplus E_k(c_{i-1}),$$

where $c_1 = m_1 \oplus E_k(IV)$ and $i = 2, \dots, l$. The decryption uses the E_k function as well, therefore

$$m_i = c_i \oplus E_k(c_{i-1}),$$

and the decryption D_k is never used. Note that the sequence $E_k(c_i)$ mimics a random key in the one-time pad system.

- Output feedback mode (OFB) - if the pseudorandom string $E_k(c_i)$ ($i = 1, \dots, l$) in CFB is simplified to the string $E_k^i(IV)$, then this mode of operation becomes OFB, where $E_k^i = \underbrace{E_k \circ E_k \circ \dots \circ E_k}_i$.

CBC and CFB modes are useful for message-integrity checking as any interference with the original contents of the transmission will generate, after the decryption, a number of meaningless messages. Assume that we have received a ciphertext sequence $(c_1, \dots, c_{j-1}, c'_j, c_{j+1}, \dots)$ where the cryptogram c_j was modified (accidentally or otherwise) during the transmission. For the both modes, the messages m_j and m_{j+1} cannot be recovered.

3.3 FEAL

The Fast Data Encipherment Algorithm (FEAL) is a family of algorithms which has played a critical role in the development and refinement of various advanced cryptanalytic techniques, including linear and differential cryptanalysis. FEAL- N maps 64-bit plaintext to 64-bit ciphertext blocks under a 64-bit secret key. It is an N -round Feistel cipher similar to DES, but

with a simpler f -function, and augmented by initial and final stages which XOR the two data halves as well as XOR subkeys directly onto the data halves.

FEAL was designed for speed and simplicity, especially for software on 8-bit microprocessors (e.g., chipcards). It uses byte-oriented operations (8-bit addition mod 256, 2-bit left rotation, and XOR), avoids bit-permutations and table look-ups, and offers small code size. The initial commercially proposed version with 4 rounds (FEAL-4), positioned as a fast alternative to DES, was found to be considerably less secure than planned. FEAL-8 was similarly found to offer less security than planned. FEAL-16 or FEAL-32 may yet offer security comparable to DES, but throughput decreases as the number of rounds rises. Moreover, whereas the speed of DES implementations can be improved through very large lookup tables, this appears more difficult for FEAL.

Algorithm 3.10. Fast Data Encipherment Algorithm (FEAL-8)

INPUT: 64-bit plaintext $M = m_1 \cdots m_{64}$; 64-bit key $K = k_1 \cdots k_{64}$.

OUTPUT: 64-bit ciphertext block $C = c_1 \cdots c_{64}$.

1. (key schedule) Compute sixteen 16-bit subkeys K_i from K using Algorithm 3.11.
2. Define $M_L = m_1 \cdots m_{32}$, $M_R = m_{33} \cdots m_{64}$.
3. $(L_0, R_0) \leftarrow (M_L, M_R) \oplus ((K_8, K_9), (K_{10}, K_{11}))$. (XOR initial subkeys.)
4. $R_0 \leftarrow R_0 \oplus L_0$.
5. For i from 1 to 8 do: $L_i \leftarrow R_{i-1}$, $R_i \leftarrow L_{i-1} \oplus f(R_{i-1}, K_{i-1})$. (Use Table 3.4 for $f(A, Y)$ with $A = R_{i-1} = (A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3)$ and $Y = K_{i-1} = (Y_0, Y_1)$.)
6. $L_8 \leftarrow L_8 \oplus R_8$.
7. $(R_8, L_8) \leftarrow (R_8, L_8) \oplus ((K_{12}, K_{13}), (K_{14}, K_{15}))$. (XOR final subkeys.)
8. $C \leftarrow (R_8, L_8)$. (Note the order of the final blocks is exchanged.)

□

Algorithm 3.10 specifies FEAL-8. The f -function $f(A, Y)$ maps an input pair of 32×16 bits to a 32-bit output. Within the f -function, two byte-oriented data substitutions (S -boxes) S_0 and S_1 are each used twice; each maps a pair of 8-bit inputs to an 8-bit output. S_0 and S_1 add a single bit $d \in \{0, 1\}$ to 8-bit arguments x and y , ignore the carry out of the top bit, and left rotate the result 2 bits (ROT2):

$$S_d(x, y) = ROT2(x + y + d \bmod 256) \quad . \quad (3.5)$$

The key schedule uses a function $f_K(A, B)$ similar to the f -function (A_i, B_i, Y_i, t_i , and U_i are 8-bit variables), mapping two 32-bit inputs to a 32-bit output.

Algorithm 3.11. FEAL-8 key schedule

INPUT: 64-bit key $K = k_1 \cdots k_{64}$.

OUTPUT: 256-bit extended key (16-bit subkeys $K_i, 0 \leq i \leq 15$).

1. (initialize) $U^{(-2)} \leftarrow 0$, $U^{-1} \leftarrow k_1 \cdots k_{32}$, $U^{(0)} \leftarrow k_{33} \cdots k_{64}$.
2. $U \stackrel{def}{=} (U_0, U_1, U_2, U_3)$ for 8-bit U_i . Compute K_0, \dots, K_{15} as i runs from 1 to 8:
 - (a) $U \leftarrow f_K(U^{(i-2)}, U^{(i-1)} \oplus U^{(i-3)})$. (f_K is defined in a Table 3.4, where A and B denote 4-byte vectors $(A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3), (B_0, B_1, B_2, B_3)$.)
 - (b) $K_{2i-2} = (U_0, U_1), K_{2i-1} = (U_2, U_3), U^{(i)} \leftarrow U$.

□

| | $U \leftarrow f(A, Y)$ | $U \leftarrow f_K(A, B)$ |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| $t_1 =$ | $(A_0 \oplus A_1) \oplus Y_0$ | $A_0 \oplus A_1$ |
| $t_2 =$ | $(A_2 \oplus A_3) \oplus Y_1$ | $A_2 \oplus A_3$ |
| $U_1 =$ | $S_1(t_1, t_2)$ | $S_1(t_1, t_2 \oplus B_0)$ |
| $U_2 =$ | $S_0(t_2, U_1)$ | $S_0(t_1, U_1 \oplus B_1)$ |
| $U_0 =$ | $S_0(A_0, U_1)$ | $S_0(A_0, U_1 \oplus B_2)$ |
| $U_3 =$ | $S_1(A_3, U_2)$ | $S_1(A_3, U_2 \oplus B_3)$ |

Table 3.4. the output for FEAL-functions f and f_K

The Output $U = (U_0, U_1, U_2, U_3)$ for FEAL-functions f, f_K is represented in the following table.

As the operation of 2-bit rotation and XOR are both linear, the only nonlinear elementary operation in FEAL is addition mod 256.

Note 3.12. Decryption may be achieved using Algorithm 3.10 with the same key K and ciphertext $C = (R_8, L_8)$ as the plaintext input M , but with the key schedule reversed. More specifically, subkeys $((K_{12}, K_{13}), (K_{14}, K_{15}))$ are used for the initial XOR (step 3), $((K_8, K_9), (K_{10}, K_{11}))$ for the final XOR (step 7), and the round keys are used from K_7 back to K_0 (step 5). This is directly analogous to decryption for DES (Note 3.8). \square

Note 3.13. FEAL with 64-bit key can be generalized to N -rounds, N even. $N = 2^x$ is recommended; $x = 3$ yields FEAL-8. FEAL- N uses $N + 8$ sixteen-bit subkeys: K_0, \dots, K_{N-1} , respectively, in round i ; K_N, \dots, K_{N+3} for the initial XOR; and K_{N+4}, \dots, K_{N+7} for the final XOR. The key schedule of Algorithm 3.11 is directly generalized to compute keys K_0 through K_{N+7} as i runs from 1 to $(N/2) + 4$. \square

EXAMPLE 3.2. For hex plaintext

$$M = 0000000000000000 \quad \text{and hex key } K = 0123456789ABCDEF \quad ,$$

Algorithm 3.11 generates subkeys

$$\begin{aligned} (K_0, \dots, K_7) &= DF3BCA36F17C1AEC45A5B9C726EBAD25, \\ (K_8, \dots, K_{15}) &= 8B2AECB7AC509D4C22CD479BA8D50CB5 \quad . \end{aligned}$$

Algorithm 3.10 generates FEAL-8 ciphertext $C = CEEF2C86F2490752$. \square

3.4 IDEA

The cipher named IDEA (International Data Encipherment Algorithm) encrypts 64-bit plaintext to 64-bit ciphertext blocks, using a 128-bit input key K . Based in part on a novel generalization of the Feistel structure, it consists of 8 computationally identical rounds followed by an output transformation. Round r uses six 16-bit subkeys $K_i^{(r)}$, $1 \leq i \leq 6$, to transform a 64-bit input X into an output of four 16-bit blocks, which are input to the next round. The round 8 output enters the output transformation, employing for additional subkeys $K_i^{(9)}$, $1 \leq i \leq 4$ to produce the final ciphertext $Y = (Y_1, Y_2, Y_3, Y_4)$. All subkeys are derived from K .

A dominant design concept in IDEA is mixing operations from three different algebraic groups of 2^n elements. The corresponding group operations on sub-blocks a and b of bitlength $n = 16$ are bitwise XOR: $a \oplus b$; addition mod 2^n : $(a + b) \text{ AND } 0xFFFF$, denoted $a \boxplus b$; and modified multiplication mod $2^n + 1$, with $0 \in \mathbb{Z}_{2^n}$ associated with $2^n \in \mathbb{Z}_{2^n+1}$: $a \odot b$.

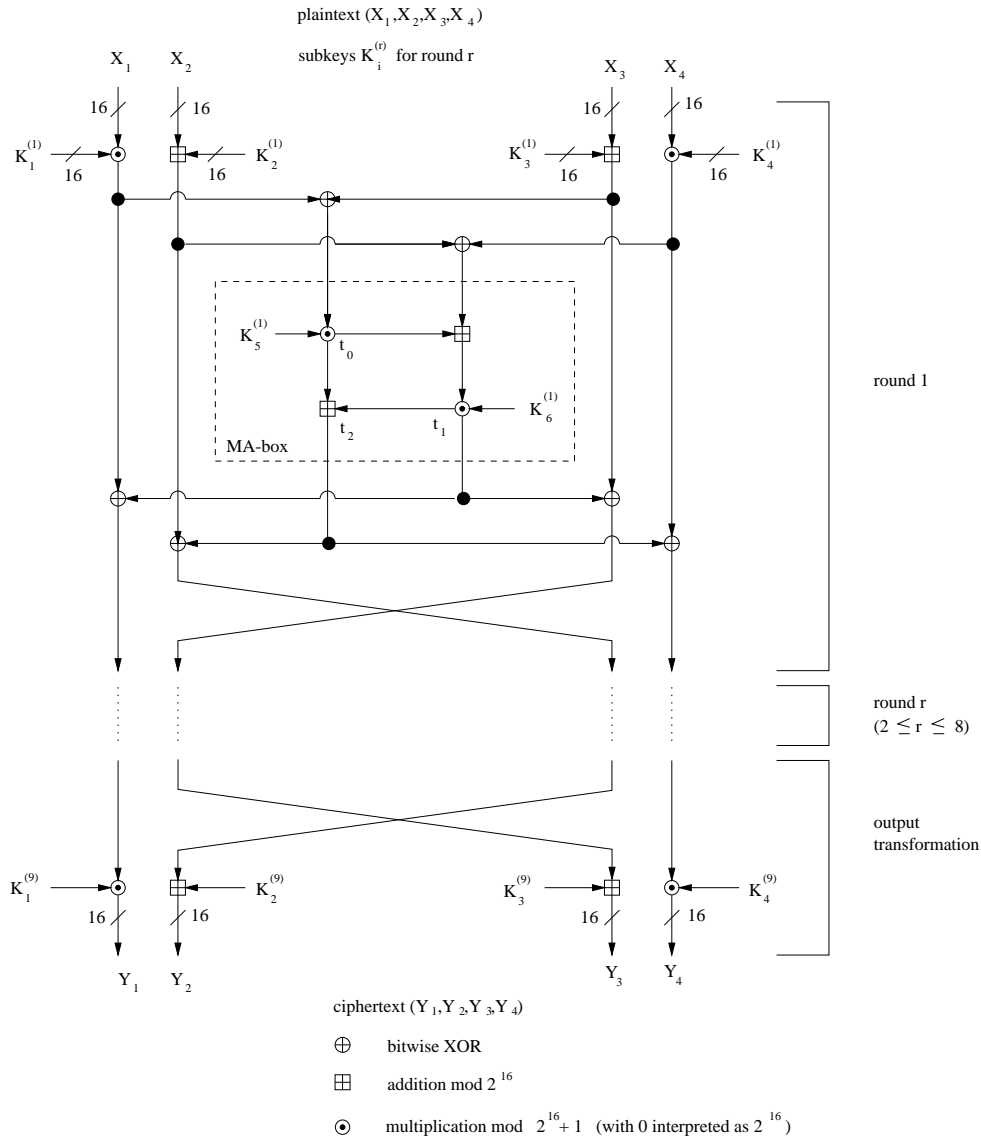


Fig. 3.7. IDEA computation path

Algorithm 3.14. IDEA encryption

INPUT: 64-bit plaintext $M = m_1 \cdots m_{64}$; 128-bit key $K = k_1 \cdots k_{128}$.

OUTPUT: 64-bit ciphertext block $Y = (Y_1, Y_2, Y_3, Y_4)$.

1. (key schedule) Compute 16-bit subkeys $K_1^{(r)}, \dots, K_6^{(r)}$ for rounds $1 \leq r \leq 8$, and $K_1^{(9)}, \dots, K_4^{(9)}$ for the output transformation, using Algorithm 3.15.

2. $(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4) \leftarrow (m_1 \cdots m_{16}, m_{17} \cdots m_{32}, m_{33} \cdots m_{48}, m_{49} \cdots m_{64})$, where X_i is a 16-bit data store.
3. For round r from 1 to 8 do:
 - (a) $X_1 \leftarrow X_1 \odot K_1^{(r)}, X_4 \leftarrow X_4 \odot K_4^{(r)}, X_2 \leftarrow X_2 \boxplus K_2^{(r)}, X_3 \leftarrow X_3 \boxplus K_3^{(r)}$.
 - (b) $t_0 \leftarrow K_5^{(r)} \cdot (X_1 \oplus X_3), t_1 \leftarrow K_6^{(r)} \odot (t_0 \boxplus (X_2 \oplus X_4)), t_2 \leftarrow t_0 \boxplus t_1$.
 - (c) $X_1 \leftarrow X_1 \oplus t_1, X_4 \leftarrow X_4 \oplus t_2, a \leftarrow X_2 \oplus t_2, X_2 \leftarrow X_3 \oplus t_1, X_3 \leftarrow a$.
4. (output transformation) $Y_1 \leftarrow X_1 \odot K_1^{(9)}, Y_4 \leftarrow X_4 \cdot K_4^{(9)}, Y_2 \leftarrow X_3 \boxplus K_2^{(9)}, Y_3 \leftarrow X_2 \boxplus K_3^{(9)}$. □

Algorithm 3.15. IDEA key schedule (encryption)

INPUT: 128-bit key $K = k_1 \cdots k_{128}$

OUTPUT: 52 16-bit key sub-blocks $K_i^{(r)}$ for 8 rounds r and the output transformation

1. Order the subkeys $K_1^{(1)} \cdots K_6^{(1)}, K_1^{(2)} \cdots K_6^{(2)}, \dots, K_1^{(8)} \cdots K_6^{(8)}, K_1^{(9)} \cdots K_4^{(9)}$.
2. Partition K into eight 16-bit blocks; assigning these directly to the first 8 subkeys.
3. Do the following until all 52 subkeys are assigned: cyclic shift K left 25 bits; partition the result into 8 blocks; assign these blocks to the next 8 subkeys. □

Note 3.16. Decryption is achieved using Algorithm 3.14 with the ciphertext Y provided as input M , and the same encryption key K , but the following change to the key schedule. First use K to derive all encryption subkeys $K_i^{(r)}$; from these compute the decryption subkeys $K_i'^{(r)}$ per Table 3.5; then use $K_i'^{(r)}$ in place of $K_i^{(r)}$ in Algorithm 3.14. We write $-K_i$ to denote the additive inverse (mod 2^{16}) of K_i : the integer $u = (2^{16} - K_i)$ AND $0x\text{FFFF}$, $0 \leq u \leq 2^{16} - 1$. K_i^{-1} denotes the multiplicative inverse (mod $2^{16} + 1$) of K_i , also in $\{0, 1, \dots, 2^{16} - 1\}$, derivable by the extended Euclidean Algorithm (not presented so far), which on inputs $a \geq b \geq 0$ returns integers x and y such that $ax + by = \text{gcd}(a, b)$. Using $a = 2^{16} + 1$ and $b = K_i$, the gcd is always 1 (except for $K_i = 0$, adressed separately) and thus $K_i^{-1} = y$, or $2^{16} + 1 + y$ if $y < 0$. When $K_i = 0$, this input is mapped to 2^{16} (since the inverse is defined by $K_i \odot K_i^{-1} = 1$) and $(2^{16})^{-1} = 2^{16}$ is then defined to give $K_i^{-1} = 0$. □

The following table comprises the IDEA decryption subkeys $K_i'^{(r)}$ that are derived from the encryption subkeys $K_i^{(r)}$.

| round r | $K_1'^{(r)}$ | $K_2'^{(r)}$ | $K_3'^{(r)}$ | $K_4'^{(r)}$ | $K_5'^{(r)}$ | $K_6'^{(r)}$ |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| $r = 1$ | $(K_1^{(10-r)})^{-1}$ | $-K_2^{(10-r)}$ | $-K_3^{(10-r)}$ | $(K_4^{(10-r)})^{-1}$ | $K_5^{(9-r)}$ | $K_6^{(9-r)}$ |
| $1 \leq r \leq 8$ | $(K_1^{(10-r)})^{-1}$ | $-K_3^{(10-r)}$ | $-K_2^{(10-r)}$ | $(K_4^{(10-r)})^{-1}$ | $K_5^{(9-r)}$ | $K_6^{(9-r)}$ |
| $r = 9$ | $(K_1^{(10-r)})^{-1}$ | $-K_2^{(10-r)}$ | $-K_3^{(10-r)}$ | $(K_4^{(10-r)})^{-1}$ | - | - |

Table 3.5. IDEA decryption subkeys

Note 3.17. In IDEA, $a \odot b$ corresponds to a modified multiplication, modulo $2^{16} + 1$, of unsigned 16-bit integers a and b , where $0 \in \mathbb{Z}_{2^{16}}$ is associated with $2^{16} \in \mathbb{Z}_{2^{16}+1}^*$ (the set of all invertible elements of $\mathbb{Z}_{2^{16}+1}$ as follows: if $a = 0$ or $b = 0$, replace it by 2^{16} (which is $\equiv -1 \pmod{2^{16} + 1}$) prior to modular multiplication; and if the result is 2^{16} , replace this by 0. Thus, \odot maps two 16-bit inputs to a 16-bit output. Pseudo-code for \odot is as follows, for c a 32-bit unsigned integer: if $(a=0)$ $r \leftarrow (0x10001 - b)$ (since $2^{16}b \equiv -b$), elseif $(b=0)$ $r \leftarrow (0x10001 - a)$, else $\{c \leftarrow ab; r \leftarrow ((c \text{ AND } 0xFFFF) - (c \gg 16))$; if $(r < 0)$ $r \leftarrow (0x10001 + r)\}$, with return value $(r \text{ AND } 0xFFFF)$ in all three cases. \square

EXAMPLE 3.3. Sample data for IDEA encryption of 64-bit plaintext M using 128-bit key K is given in the following table:

| 128-bit $K = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)$ | | | | | | | 64-bit $M = (0, 1, 2, 3)$ | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| r | $K_1^{(r)}$ | $K_2^{(r)}$ | $K_3^{(r)}$ | $K_4^{(r)}$ | $K_5^{(r)}$ | $K_6^{(r)}$ | X_1 | X_2 | X_3 | X_4 |
| 1 | 0001 | 0002 | 0003 | 0004 | 0005 | 0006 | 00f0 | 00f5 | 010a | 0105 |
| 2 | 0007 | 0008 | 0400 | 0600 | 0800 | 0a00 | 222f | 21b5 | f45e | e959 |
| 3 | 0c00 | 0e00 | 1000 | 0200 | 0010 | 0014 | 0f86 | 39be | 8ee8 | 1173 |
| 4 | 0018 | 001c | 0020 | 0004 | 0008 | 000c | 57df | ac58 | c65b | ba4d |
| 5 | 2800 | 3000 | 3800 | 4000 | 0800 | 1000 | 8e81 | ba9c | f77f | 3a4a |
| 6 | 1800 | 2000 | 0070 | 0080 | 0010 | 0020 | 6942 | 9409 | e21b | 1c64 |
| 7 | 0030 | 0040 | 0050 | 0060 | 0000 | 2000 | 99d0 | c7f6 | 5331 | 620e |
| 8 | 4000 | 6000 | 8000 | a000 | c000 | e001 | 0a24 | 0098 | ec6b | 4925 |
| 9 | 0080 | 00c0 | 0100 | 0140 | - | - | 11fb | ed2b | 0198 | 6de5 |

All entries are 16-bit values displayed in hexadecimal. The next table details the corresponding decryption of the resulting 64-bit ciphertext C under the same key K .

| $K = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)$ | | | | | | | $C=(11fb,ed2b,0198,6de5)$ | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| r | $K_1^{(r)}$ | $K_2^{(r)}$ | $K_3^{(r)}$ | $K_4^{(r)}$ | $K_5^{(r)}$ | $K_6^{(r)}$ | X_1 | X_2 | X_3 | X_4 |
| 1 | fe01 | ff40 | ff00 | 659a | c000 | e001 | d98d | d331 | 27f6 | 82b8 |
| 2 | fffd | 8000 | a000 | cccc | 0000 | 2000 | bc4d | e26b | 9449 | a576 |
| 3 | a556 | ffb0 | ffc0 | 52ab | 0010 | 0020 | 0aa4 | f7ef | da9c | 24e3 |
| 4 | 554b | ff90 | e000 | fe01 | 0800 | 1000 | ca46 | fe5b | dc58 | 116d |
| 5 | 332d | c800 | d000 | fffd | 0008 | 000c | 748f | 8f08 | 39da | 45cc |
| 6 | 4aab | ffe0 | ffe4 | c001 | 0010 | 0014 | 3266 | 045e | 2fb5 | b02e |
| 7 | aa96 | f000 | f200 | ff81 | 0800 | 0a00 | 0690 | 050a | 00fd | 1dfa |
| 8 | 4925 | fc00 | fff8 | 552b | 0005 | 0006 | 0000 | 0005 | 0003 | 000c |
| 9 | 0001 | ffe | fffd | c001 | - | - | 0000 | 0001 | 0002 | 0003 |

\square

3.5 SAFER

SAFER K-64 (Secure and Fast Encryption Routine, with 64-bit key) is an iterated block cipher with 64-bit plaintext and ciphertext blocks. It consists of r identical rounds followed by an output transformation. The original recommendation of 6 rounds was followed by a recommendation to adopt a slightly modified key schedule (yielding SAFER SK-64, which should be used rather than SAFER K-64) and to use 8 rounds (maximum $r = 10$). Both

key schedules expand the 64-bit external key into $2r + 1$ subkeys each of 64-bits (two for each round plus one for the output transformation). SAFER consists entirely of simple byte operations, aside from byte-rotations in the key schedule; it is thus suitable for processors with small word size such as chipcards (cf. FEAL).

Details of SAFER K-64 are given in Algorithm 3.18 and Figure 3.8. The XOR-addition stage beginning each round (identical to the output transformation) XORs bytes 1, 4, 5, and 8 of the (first) round subkey with the respective round input bytes, and respectively adds (mod 256) the remaining 4 subkey bytes to the others. The XOR and addition mod 256 operations are interchanged in the subsequent addition-XOR stage. The S -boxes are an invertible byte-to-byte substitution using one fixed 8-bit bijection. A linear transformation f (the Pseudo-Hadamard Transform) used in the 3-level linear layer was specially constructed for rapid diffusion. The introduction of additive key biases in the key schedule eliminates weak keys¹. In contrast to Feistel-like and many other ciphers, in SAFER the operations used for encryption differ from those for decryption. SAFER may be viewed as an SP -network (Definition 3.3).

Algorithm 3.18 uses the following definitions (L, R denote left, right 8-bit inputs):

1. $f(L, R) = (2L + R, L + R)$. Addition here is mod 256 (also denoted by \boxplus);
2. tables S and S_{inv} , and the constant table for key biases $B_i[j]$ as per Note 3.20.

Algorithm 3.18. SAFER K-64 encryption (r rounds)

INPUT: $r, 6 \leq r \leq 10$; 64-bit plaintext $M = m_1 \cdots m_{64}$ and key $K = k_1 \cdots k_{64}$.

OUTPUT: 64-bit ciphertext block $Y = (Y_1, \dots, Y_8)$.

1. Compute 64-bit subkeys K_1, \dots, K_{2r+1} by algorithm 3.19 with inputs K and r .
2. $(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_8) \leftarrow (m_1 \cdots m_8, m_9 \cdot m_{16}, \dots, m_{57} \cdots m_{64})$.
3. For i from 1 to r do: (XOR-addition, S -box, addition - XOR, and 3 linear layers)
 - (a) For $j = 1, 4, 5, 8$: $X_j \leftarrow X_j \oplus K_{2i-1}[j]$.
For $j = 2, 3, 6, 7$: $X_j \leftarrow X_j \boxplus K_{2i-1}[j]$.
 - (b) For $j = 1, 4, 5, 8$: $X_j \leftarrow S[X_j]$.
For $j = 2, 3, 6, 7$: $X_j \leftarrow S_{inv}[X_j]$.
 - (c) For $j = 1, 4, 5, 8$: $X_j \leftarrow X_j \boxplus K_{2i}[j]$.
For $j = 2, 3, 6, 7$: $X_j \leftarrow X_j \oplus K_{2i}[j]$.
 - (d) For $j = 1, 4, 5, 8$: $(X_j, X_{j+1}) \leftarrow f(X_j, X_{j+1})$.
 - (e) $(Y_1, Y_2) \leftarrow f(X_1, X_3)$, $(Y_3, Y_4) \leftarrow f(X_5, X_7)$,
 $(Y_5, Y_6) \leftarrow f(X_2, X_4)$, $(Y_7, Y_8) \leftarrow f(X_6, X_8)$.
For j from 1 to 8 do: $X_j \leftarrow Y_j$.
 - (f) $(Y_1, Y_2) \leftarrow f(X_1, X_3)$, $(Y_3, Y_4) \leftarrow f(X_5, X_7)$,
 $(Y_5, Y_6) \leftarrow f(X_2, X_4)$, $(Y_7, Y_8) \leftarrow f(X_6, X_8)$.
For j from 1 to 8 do: $X_j \leftarrow Y_j$. (This mimics the previous step.)
4. (output transformation):
For $j = 1, 4, 5, 8$: $Y_j \leftarrow X_j \oplus K_{2r+1}[j]$. For $j = 2, 3, 6, 7$: $Y_j \leftarrow X_j \boxplus K_{2r+1}[j]$. □

Algorithm 3.19. SAFER K-64 key schedule

INPUT: 64-bit key $K = k_1 \dots k_{64}$; number of rounds r .

OUTPUT: 64-bit subkeys K_1, \dots, K_{2r+1} . $K_i[j]$ is byte j of K_i (numbered left to right).

¹ A weak key is a key K such that $e_K(e_K(x)) = x$ for all x , i.e., defining an involution.

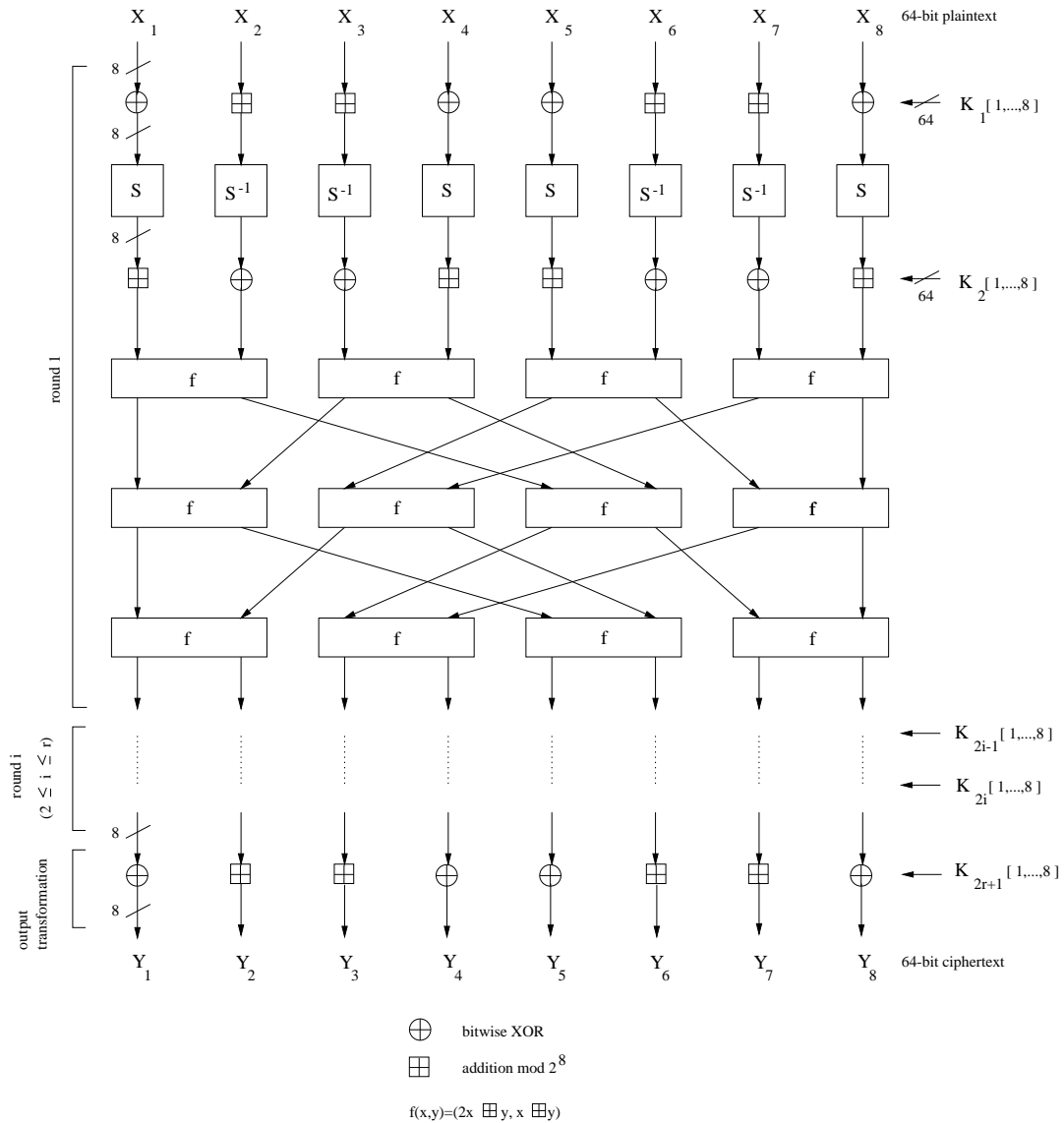


Fig. 3.8. SAFER K-64 computation path (r rounds)

1. Let $R[i]$ denote an 8-bit data store and let $B_i[j]$ denote byte j of B_i .
2. $(R[1], R[2], \dots, R[8]) \leftarrow (k_1 \cdots k_8, k_9 \dots k_{16}, \dots, k_{57} \cdots k_{64})$.
3. $(K_1[1], K_1[2], \dots, K_1[8]) \leftarrow (R[1], R[2], \dots, R[8])$.
4. For i from 2 to $2r + 1$ do: (rotate key bytes left 3 bits, then add in the bias)
 - (a) For j from 1 to 8 do: $R[j] \leftarrow (R[j] \ll 3)$.
 - (b) For j from 1 to 8 do: $K_i[j] \leftarrow R[j] \boxplus B_i[j]$.

□

Note 3.20. The S -box, inverse S -box, and key-biases for Algorithm 3.18 are constant tables as follows. $g \leftarrow 45$. $S[0] \leftarrow 1, S_{inv}[1] \leftarrow 0$. For i from 1 to 255 do: $t \leftarrow g \cdot S[i - 1] \pmod{257}, S[i] \leftarrow t, S_{inv}[t] \leftarrow i$. Finally, $S[128] \leftarrow 0, S_{inv}[0] \leftarrow 128$. (Since g generates \mathbb{Z}_{257}^* , $S[i]$ is a bijection on $\{0, 1, \dots, 255\}$. Note that $g^{128} \equiv 256 \pmod{257}$, and associating 256 with 0 makes S a mapping with 8-bit input and output.) The additive key bi-

ases are 8-bit constants used in the key schedule, intended to behave as random numbers, and defined $B_i[j] = S[S[9i + j]]$ for i from 2 to $2r + 1$ and j from 1 to 8. For example: $B_2 = (22, 115, 59, 30, 142, 112, 189, 134)$ and $B_{13} = (143, 41, 221, 4, 128, 222, 231, 49)$. \square

Remark. The S -box of Note 3.20 is based on the function $S(x) = g^x \pmod{257}$ using a primitive element $g = 45 \in \mathbb{Z}_{257}$. This mapping is nonlinear with respect to both \mathbb{Z}_{257} arithmetic and the vector space of 8-tuples over \mathbb{F}_2 under XOR operation. The inverse S -box is based on the base- g logarithm function. \square

Note 3.21. For decryption of Algorithm 3.18, the same key K and subkeys K_i are used as for encryption. Each encryption step is undone in reverse order, from last to first. Begin with an input transformation (XOR-subtraction stage) with key K_{2r+1} to undo the output transformation, replacing modular addition with subtraction. Follow with r decryption rounds using keys K_{2r} through K_1 (two per round), inverting each round in turn. Each starts with a 3-stage inverse linear layer using $f_{inv}(L, R) = (L - R, 2R - L)$, with subtraction here mod 256, in a 3-step sequence defined as follows (to invert the byte-permutations between encryption stages):

Level 1 (for $j = 1, 3, 5, 7$): $(X_j, X_{j+1}) \leftarrow f_{inv}(X_j, X_{j+1})$.

Level 2, 3 (each): $(Y_1, Y_2) \leftarrow f_{inv}(X_1, X_5)$, $(Y_3, Y_4) \leftarrow f_{inv}(X_2, X_6)$, $(Y_5, Y_6) \leftarrow f_{inv}(X_3, X_7)$, $(Y_7, Y_8) \leftarrow f_{inv}(X_4, X_8)$; for j from 1 to 8 do: $X_j \leftarrow Y_j$.

A subtraction-XOR stage follows (replace modular addition with subtraction), then an inverse substitution stage (exchange S and S^{-1}), and an XOR-subtraction stage. \square

EXAMPLE 3.4. Using 6-round SAFER K-64 on the 64-bit plaintext $M = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)$ with the key $K = (8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1)$ results in the ciphertext $C = (200, 242, 156, 221, 135, 120, 62, 217)$, written as 8 bytes in decimal. \square

3.6 RC5

The RC5 block cipher has a word-oriented architecture for variable word sizes $w = 16, 32$, or 64 bits. It has an extremely compact description, and is suitable for hardware and software. The number of rounds r and the key-byte length b are also variable. It is successively more completely defined as RC5- w , RC5- w/r , and RC5- $w/r/b$. RC5-32/12/16 is considered a common choice of parameters; $r = 12$ rounds are recommended for RC5-32, and $r = 16$ for RC5-64.

Algorithm 3.22 specifies RC5. Plaintext and ciphertext are blocks of bitlength $2w$. Each of r rounds updates both w -bit data halves, using 2 subkeys in an input transformation and 2 more for each round. The only operations used, all on w -bit words, are addition mod 2^w (\boxplus), XOR (\odot), and rotations (left \leftrightarrow and right \leftrightsquigarrow). The XOR operation is linear, while the addition may be considered nonlinear depending on the metric for linearity. The data-dependent rotations featured in RC5 are the main nonlinear operation used: $x \leftrightarrow y$ denotes cyclically shifting a w -bit word left y bits; the rotation count y may be reduced mod w (the low-order $\lg(w)$ bits of y suffice). The key schedule expands a key of b bytes into $2r + 2$ subkeys K_i of w bits each. Regarding packing/unpacking bytes into words, the byte-order is little-endian: for $w = 32$, the first plaintext byte goes in the low-order end of A , the fourth in A 's high-order end, the fifth in B 's low order end, and so on.

Algorithm 3.22. RC5 encryption (w -bit wordsize, r rounds, b -byte key)

INPUT: $2w$ -bit plaintext $M = (A, B)$; r ; key $K = K[0] \cdots K[b - 1]$.

OUTPUT: $2w$ -bit ciphertext C .

1. Compute $2r + 2$ subkeys K_0, \dots, K_{2r+1} by Algorithm 3.23 from inputs K and r .
2. $A \leftarrow A \boxplus K_0, B \leftarrow B \boxplus K_1$. (Use addition mod 2^w .)
3. For i from 1 to r do: $A \leftarrow ((A \odot B) \leftrightarrow B) \boxplus K_{2i}, B \leftarrow ((B \oplus A) \leftrightarrow A) \boxplus K_{2i+1}$.
4. The output is $C \leftarrow (A, B)$. □

Algorithm 3.23. RC5 key schedule

INPUT: word bitsize w ; number of rounds r ; b -byte key $K[0] \cdots K[b - 1]$.

OUTPUT: subkeys K_0, \dots, K_{2r+1} (where K_i is w bits).

1. Let $u = w/8$ (number of bytes per word) and $c = \lceil b/u \rceil$ (number of words K fills). Pad K on the right with zero-bytes if necessary to achieve a byte-count divisible by u (i.e., $K[j] \leftarrow 0$ for $b \leq j \leq c \cdot u - 1$). For i from 0 to $c - 1$ do $L_i \leftarrow \sum_{j=0}^{u-1} 2^{8j} K[i \cdot u + j]$ (i.e., fill L_i low-order to high-order byte using each byte of $K[\cdot]$ once).
2. $K_0 \leftarrow P_w$; for i from 1 to $2r + 1$ do $K_i \leftarrow K_{i-1} \boxplus Q_w$. (see table below.)
3. $i \leftarrow 0, j \leftarrow 0, A \leftarrow 0, B \leftarrow 0, t \leftarrow \max(c, 2r + 2)$. For s from 1 to $3t$ do:
 - (a) $K_i \leftarrow (K_i \boxplus A \boxplus B) \leftrightarrow 3, A \leftarrow K_i, i \leftarrow i + 1 \bmod (2r + 2)$.
 - (b) $L_j \leftarrow (L_j \boxplus A \boxplus B) \leftrightarrow (A \boxplus B), B \leftarrow L_j, j \leftarrow j + 1 \bmod c$.
4. The output is $K_0, K_1, \dots, K_{2r+1}$. (The L_i are not used.) □

Note 3.24. Decryption uses Algorithm 3.23 subkeys, operating on ciphertext $C = (A, B)$ as follows (subtraction is mod 2^w , denoted \boxminus). For i from r down to 1 do: $B \leftarrow ((B \boxminus K_{2i+1}) \leftrightarrow A) \oplus A, A \leftarrow ((A \boxminus K_{2i}) \leftrightarrow B) \oplus B$. Finally $M \leftarrow (A \boxminus K_0, B \boxminus K_1)$.

| $w :$ | 16 | 32 | 64 |
|---------|------|----------|-------------------|
| $P_w :$ | B7E1 | B7E15163 | B7E15162 8AED2A6B |
| $Q_w :$ | 9E37 | 9E3779B9 | 9E3779B9 7F4A7C15 |

Table 3.6. RC5 magic constants (given as hex strings).

□

EXAMPLE 3.5. For the hexadecimal plaintext

$M = 65C178B2\ 84D197CC$ and key $K = 5269F149\ D41BA015\ 2497574D\ 7F153125$,

RC5 with $w = 32, r = 12$, and $b = 16$ generates ciphertext $C = EB44E415\ DA319824$. □

3.7 The Advanced Encryption Standard: Rijndael

In 1997, the National Institute of Standards and Technology put out a call for candidates to replace DES. Among the requirements were that the new algorithm should allow key sizes of

128, 192, and 256 bits, it should operate on blocks of 128 input bits, and it should work on a variety of different hardware, for example 8-bit processors that could be used in smart cards and the 32-bit architecture commonly used in personal computers. Speed and cryptographic strength were also important considerations. In 1998, the cryptographic community was asked to comment on 15 candidate algorithms. Five finalists were chosen: MARS (from IBM), RC6 (from RSA Laboratories), Rijndael (from Joan Daemen and Vincent Rijmen), Serpent (from Ross Anderson, Eli Biham, and Lars Knudson), and Twofish (from Bruce Schneier, John Kelsey, Doug Whiting, David Wagner, Chris Hall, and Niels Ferguson). Eventually, Rijndael was chosen as the Advanced Encryption Standard. The other four algorithms are also very strong, and it is likely that they will be used in many future cryptosystems.

As with other block ciphers, Rijndael can be used in several modes, for example, ECB, CBC, and CFB.

Before proceeding with the algorithm, we answer a very basic question: How do you pronounce Rijndael? We quote their web page: “If you’re Dutch, Flemish, Indonesian, Surinamer or South-African, it’s pronounced like you think it should be. Otherwise, you could pronounce it like “Reign Dahl”, “Rain Doll”, “Rhine Dahl”. We’re not picky. As long as you make it sound different from “Region Deal”.”

3.7.1 The Basic Algorithm

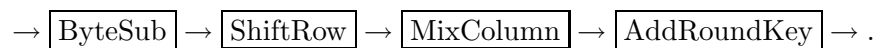
Rijndael is designed for use with keys of lengths 128, 192, and 256 bits. For simplicity, we will restrict to 128 bits. First, we give a brief outline of the algorithm, then describe the various components in more detail.

The algorithm consists of 10 rounds. Each round has a round key, derived from the original key. There is also a 0th round key, which is the original key. A round starts with an input of 128 bits and produces an output of 128 bits.

There are four basic steps, called **layers**, that are used to form the rounds:

1. **The ByteSub Transformation:** This non-linear layer is for resistance to differential and linear cryptanalysis attacks.
2. **The ShiftRow Transformation:** This linear mixing step causes diffusion of the bits over multiple rounds.
3. **The MixColumn Transformation:** This layer has a purpose similar to ShiftRow.
4. **AddRoundKey:** The round key is *XOR*ed with the result of the above layer.

A round is then



Putting everything together, we obtain the following:

| Rijndael Encryption |
|---|
| 1. ARK, using the 0th round key. |
| 2. Nine rounds of BS, SR, MC, ARK, using round keys 1 to 9. |
| 3. A final round: BS, SR, ARK, using the 10th round key. |

The final round uses the ByteSub, ShiftRow, and AddRoundKey steps but omits MixColumn (the omission will be explained in the decryption section).

The 128-bit output is the ciphertext block.

3.7.2 The Layers

We now describe the steps in more detail. The 128 input bits are grouped into 16 bytes of 8 bits each, call them

$$a_{0,0}, a_{1,0}, a_{2,0}, a_{3,0}, a_{0,1}, a_{1,1}, \dots, a_{3,3}.$$

These are arranged into a 4×4 matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{0,0} & a_{0,1} & a_{0,2} & a_{0,3} \\ a_{1,0} & a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} \\ a_{2,0} & a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & a_{2,3} \\ a_{3,0} & a_{3,1} & a_{3,2} & a_{3,3} \end{pmatrix}.$$

In the following, we will occasionally need to work with the finite field $GF(2^8)$. However, for the present purposes, we only need the following facts. The elements of $GF(2^8)$ are bytes, which consist of 8 bits. They can be added by *XOR*. They can also be multiplied in a certain way (, i.e., they product of two bytes is again a byte), but this process is more complicated. Each byte b except the zero byte has a multiplicative inverse; that is, there is a byte b' such that $b \times b' = 00000001$. Since we can do arithmetic operations on bytes, we can work with matrices whose entries are bytes.

As a technical point, we note that the model of $GF(2^8)$ depends on a choice of irreducible polynomial of degree 8. The choice for Rijndael is $X^8 + X^4 + X^3 + X + 1$. Other choices for this polynomial would presumably give equally good algorithms.

The ByteSub Transformation. In this step, each of the bytes in the matrix is changed to another byte by Table 3.7.2, called the S-Box.

| S-Box | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 99 | 124 | 119 | 123 | 242 | 107 | 111 | 197 | 48 | 1 | 103 | 43 | 254 | 215 | 171 | 118 |
| 202 | 130 | 201 | 125 | 250 | 89 | 71 | 240 | 173 | 212 | 162 | 175 | 156 | 164 | 114 | 192 |
| 183 | 253 | 147 | 38 | 54 | 63 | 247 | 204 | 52 | 165 | 229 | 241 | 113 | 216 | 49 | 21 |
| 4 | 199 | 35 | 195 | 24 | 150 | 5 | 154 | 7 | 18 | 128 | 226 | 235 | 39 | 178 | 117 |
| 9 | 131 | 44 | 26 | 27 | 110 | 90 | 160 | 82 | 59 | 214 | 179 | 41 | 227 | 47 | 132 |
| 83 | 209 | 0 | 237 | 32 | 252 | 177 | 91 | 106 | 203 | 190 | 57 | 74 | 76 | 88 | 207 |
| 208 | 239 | 170 | 251 | 67 | 77 | 51 | 133 | 69 | 249 | 2 | 127 | 80 | 60 | 159 | 168 |
| 81 | 163 | 64 | 143 | 146 | 157 | 56 | 245 | 188 | 182 | 218 | 33 | 16 | 255 | 243 | 210 |
| 205 | 12 | 19 | 236 | 95 | 151 | 68 | 23 | 196 | 167 | 126 | 61 | 100 | 93 | 25 | 115 |
| 96 | 129 | 79 | 220 | 34 | 42 | 144 | 136 | 70 | 238 | 184 | 20 | 222 | 94 | 11 | 219 |
| 224 | 50 | 58 | 10 | 73 | 6 | 36 | 92 | 194 | 211 | 172 | 98 | 145 | 149 | 228 | 121 |
| 231 | 200 | 55 | 109 | 141 | 213 | 78 | 169 | 108 | 86 | 244 | 234 | 101 | 122 | 174 | 8 |
| 186 | 120 | 37 | 46 | 28 | 166 | 180 | 198 | 232 | 221 | 116 | 31 | 75 | 189 | 139 | 138 |
| 112 | 62 | 181 | 102 | 72 | 3 | 246 | 14 | 97 | 53 | 87 | 185 | 134 | 193 | 29 | 158 |
| 225 | 248 | 152 | 17 | 105 | 217 | 142 | 148 | 155 | 30 | 135 | 233 | 206 | 85 | 40 | 223 |
| 140 | 161 | 137 | 13 | 191 | 230 | 66 | 104 | 65 | 153 | 45 | 15 | 176 | 84 | 187 | 22 |

Write a byte as 8 bits: $abcdefgh$. Look for the entry in the $abcd$ row and $efgh$ column. The rows and columns are numbered from 0 to 15. This entry, when converted to binary, is the output. For example, if the input byte is 10001011, we look in row 8 (the ninth row) and

column 11 (the twelfth column). The entry is 61, which is 111101 in binary. This is the output of the S-box.

The output of ByteSub is again a 4×4 matrix of bytes, let's call it

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_{0,0} & b_{0,1} & b_{0,2} & b_{0,3} \\ b_{1,0} & b_{1,1} & b_{1,2} & b_{1,3} \\ b_{2,0} & b_{2,1} & b_{2,2} & b_{2,3} \\ b_{3,0} & b_{3,1} & b_{3,2} & b_{3,3} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The ShiftRow Transformation. The four rows of the matrix are shifted cyclically to the left by offsets of 0, 1, 2, and 3, to obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{0,0} & c_{0,1} & c_{0,2} & c_{0,3} \\ c_{1,0} & c_{1,1} & c_{1,2} & c_{1,3} \\ c_{2,0} & c_{2,1} & c_{2,2} & c_{2,3} \\ c_{3,0} & c_{3,1} & c_{3,2} & c_{3,3} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_{0,0} & b_{0,1} & b_{0,2} & b_{0,3} \\ b_{1,1} & b_{1,2} & b_{1,3} & b_{1,0} \\ b_{2,2} & b_{2,3} & b_{2,0} & b_{2,1} \\ b_{3,3} & b_{3,0} & b_{3,1} & b_{3,2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The MixColumn Transformation. Regard a byte as an element of $GF(2^8)$. Then the output of the ShiftRow step is a 4×4 matrix $(c_{i,j})$ with entries in $GF(2^8)$. Multiply this by a matrix, again with entries in $GF(2^8)$, to produce the output $(d_{i,j})$, as follows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 00000010 & 00000011 & 00000001 & 00000001 \\ 00000001 & 00000010 & 00000011 & 00000001 \\ 00000001 & 00000001 & 00000010 & 00000011 \\ 00000011 & 00000001 & 00000001 & 00000010 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_{0,0} & c_{0,1} & c_{0,2} & c_{0,3} \\ c_{1,0} & c_{1,1} & c_{1,2} & c_{1,3} \\ c_{2,0} & c_{2,1} & c_{2,2} & c_{2,3} \\ c_{3,0} & c_{3,1} & c_{3,2} & c_{3,3} \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} d_{0,0} & d_{0,1} & d_{0,2} & d_{0,3} \\ d_{1,0} & d_{1,1} & d_{1,2} & d_{1,3} \\ d_{2,0} & d_{2,1} & d_{2,2} & d_{2,3} \\ d_{3,0} & d_{3,1} & d_{3,2} & d_{3,3} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The RoundKey Addition. The round key, derived from the key in a way we will describe later, consists of 128 bits, which are arranged in a 4×4 matrix $k_{i,j}$ consisting of bytes. This is XORed with the output of the MixColumn step:

$$\begin{pmatrix} d_{0,0} & d_{0,1} & d_{0,2} & d_{0,3} \\ d_{1,0} & d_{1,1} & d_{1,2} & d_{1,3} \\ d_{2,0} & d_{2,1} & d_{2,2} & d_{2,3} \\ d_{3,0} & d_{3,1} & d_{3,2} & d_{3,3} \end{pmatrix} \oplus \begin{pmatrix} k_{0,0} & k_{0,1} & k_{0,2} & k_{0,3} \\ k_{1,0} & k_{1,1} & k_{1,2} & k_{1,3} \\ k_{2,0} & k_{2,1} & k_{2,2} & k_{2,3} \\ k_{3,0} & k_{3,1} & k_{3,2} & k_{3,3} \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} e_{0,0} & e_{0,1} & e_{0,2} & e_{0,3} \\ e_{1,0} & e_{1,1} & e_{1,2} & e_{1,3} \\ e_{2,0} & e_{2,1} & e_{2,2} & e_{2,3} \\ e_{3,0} & e_{3,1} & e_{3,2} & e_{3,3} \end{pmatrix}.$$

This is the final output of the round.

The Key Schedule. The original key consists of 128 bits, which are arranged into a 4×4 matrix of bytes. This matrix is expanded by adjoining 40 more columns, as follows. Label the first four columns $W(0), W(1), W(2), W(3)$. The new columns are generated recursively. Suppose columns up through $W(i-1)$ have been defined. If i is not a multiple of 4, then

$$W(i) = W(i-4) \oplus W(i-1).$$

If i is a multiple of 4, then

$$W(i) = W(i - 4) \oplus T(W(i - 1)),$$

where $T(W(i - 1))$ is the transformation of $W(i - 1)$ obtained as follows. Let the elements of the column $W(i - 1)$ be a, b, c, d . Shift these cyclically to obtain b, c, d, a . Now replace each of these bytes with the corresponding element in the S -Box from the ByteSub step, to get 4 bytes e, f, g, h . Finally, compute the round constant

$$r(i) = 00000010^{(i-4)/4}$$

in $GF(2^8)$ (recall that we are in the case where i is a multiple of 4). Then $T(W(i - 1))$ is the column vector

$$(e \oplus r(i), f, g, h).$$

In this way, columns $W(4), \dots, W(43)$ are generated from the initial four columns. The **round key** for the i th round consists of the columns

$$W(4i), W(4i + 1), W(4i + 2), W(4i + 3).$$

The Construction of the S-Box. Although the S -Box is implemented as a lookup table, it has a simple mathematical description. Start with the byte $x_7x_6x_5x_4x_3x_2x_1x_0$, which each x_i is a binary bit. Compute its inverse in $GF(2^8)$. If the byte is 00000000, there is no inverse, so we use 00000000 in place of its inverse. The resulting byte $y_7y_6y_5y_4y_3y_2y_1y_0$ represents an 8-dimensional column vector, with the rightmost bit y_0 is the top position. Multiply by a matrix and add the column vector $(1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0)$ to obtain a vector $(z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4, z_5, z_6, z_7)$ as follows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \\ y_5 \\ y_6 \\ y_7 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} z_0 \\ z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \\ z_4 \\ z_5 \\ z_6 \\ z_7 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The byte $z_7z_6z_5z_4z_3z_2z_1z_0$ is the entry for the S -Box.

For example, start with the byte 11001011. Its inverse in $GF(2^8)$ is 00000100. We now calculate

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This yields the byte 00011111. The first 4 bits 1100 represent 12 in binary and the last 4 bits 1011 represent 11 in binary. Subtract 1 from each of these numbers (since the first row

and column are numbered 0) and look in the 11th column and 10th row of the S -Box. The entry is 31, which in binary is 00011111.

Some of the considerations in the design of the S -Box were the following. The map $x \mapsto x^{-1}$ was used to achieve nonlinearity. However, the simplicity of this map could possibly allow certain attacks, so it was combined with multiplication by the matrix and adding the vector, as desired previously. The matrix was chosen mostly because of its simple form (note how the rows are shifts of each other). The vector was chosen so that no input ever equals its S -Box output or the complement of its S -box output (complementation means changing each 1 to 0 and each 0 to 1).

3.7.3 Decryption

Each of the steps ByteSub, ShiftRow, MixColumn, and AddRoundKey is invertible:

- The inverse of ByteSub is another lookup table, called **InvByteSub**.
- The inverse of ShiftRow is obtained by shifting the rows to the right instead of to the left, yielding **InvShiftRow**.
- The inverse of MixColumn exists because the 4×4 matrix used in MixColumn is invertible. The transformation **InvMixColumn** is given by multiplication by the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 00001110 & 00001011 & 00001101 & 00001001 \\ 00001001 & 00001110 & 00001011 & 00001101 \\ 00001101 & 00001001 & 00001110 & 00001011 \\ 00001011 & 00001101 & 00001001 & 00001110 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- AddRoundKey is its own inverse.

The Rijndael encryption consists of the steps (with the obvious abbreviations)

ARK
BS,SR,MC,ARK
...
BS,SR,MC,ARK
BS,SR,ARK.

Recall that MC is missing in the last round.

To decrypt, we need to run through the inverses of these steps in the reverse order. This yields the following preliminary version of decryption

ARK, ISR, IBS
ARK, IMC, ISR, IBS
...
ARK, IMC, ISR, IBS
ARK.

However, we want to rewrite this decryption in order to make it look more like encryption.

Observe, that applying BS then SR is the same as first applying SR then BS. This happens because BS acts one byte at a time and SR permutes the bytes. Correspondingly, the order of ISR and IBS can be reversed.

We also want to reverse the order of ARK and IMC, but this is not possible. Instead, we proceed as follows. Applying MC and then ARK to a matrix $(c_{i,j})$ is given as

$$(c_{i,j}) \rightarrow (m_{i,j})(c_{i,j}) \rightarrow (e_{i,j}) = (m_{i,j})(c_{i,j}) \oplus (k_{i,j}),$$

where $(m_{i,j})$ is a 4×4 matrix in MixColumn and $(k_{i,j})$ is the round key matrix. The inverse is obtained by solving $(e_{i,j}) = (m_{i,j})(c_{i,j}) \oplus (k_{i,j})$ for $(c_{i,j})$ in terms of $(e_{i,j})$, namely, $(c_{i,j}) = (m_{i,j})^{-1}(e_{i,j}) \oplus (m_{i,j})^{-1}(k_{i,j})$. Therefore, the process is

$$(e_{i,j}) \rightarrow (m_{i,j})^{-1}(e_{i,j}) \rightarrow (m_{i,j})^{-1}(e_{i,j}) \oplus (k'_{i,j}),$$

where $(k'_{i,j}) = (m_{i,j})^{-1}(k_{i,j})$. The first arrow is simply InvMixColumn applied to $(e_{i,j})$. If we let **InvAddRoundKey** be XORing with $(k'_{i,j})$, then we have that the inverse of “MC then ARK” is “IMC then IARK”. Therefore, we can replace the steps “ARK then IMC” with the steps “IMC then IARK” in the preceding decryption sequence.

We now see that decryption is given by

ARK, IBS, ISR
 IMC, IARK, IBS, ISR
 ...
 IMC, IARK, IBS, ISR
 ARK.

Regroup the lines to obtain the final version:

| Rijndael Decryption |
|---|
| 1. ARK, using the 10th round key. |
| 2. Nine rounds of IBS, ISR, IMC, IARK, using round keys 9 to 1. |
| 3. A final round: IBS, ISR, ARK, using the 0th round key. |

Therefore, the decryption is given by essentially the same structure as encryption, but ByteSub, ShiftRow, and MixColumn are replaced by their inverses, and AddKeyRound is replaced by InvAddKeyRound, except in the initial and final steps. Of course, the round keys are used in the reverse order, so the first ARK uses the 10th round key, and the last ARK uses the 0th round key.

The preceding shows why the MixColumn is omitted in the last round. Suppose it had been left in. Then the encryption would start ARK, BS, SR, MC, ARK, ..., and it would end with ARK, BS, SR, MC, ARK. Therefore, the beginning of the decryption would be after the reorderings IMC, IARK, IBS, ISR, This means the decryption would have an unnecessary IMC at the beginning. This would have the effect of slowing down the algorithm.

Another way to look at encryption is that there is an initial ARK, then a sequence of alternating half rounds

$$(BS,SR),(MC,ARK),(BS,SR),\dots,(MC,ARK),(BS,SR),$$

followed by a final ARK. The decryption is ARK, followed by a sequence of alternating half rounds

$$(IBS,ISR),(IMC,IARK),(IBS,ISR),\dots,(IMC,IARK),(IBS,ISR),$$

followed by a final ARK. From this point of view, we see that a final MC would not fit naturally into any of the half rounds, and it is natural to leave it out.

On 8-bit processors, decryption is not quite as fast as encryption. This is because the entries in the 4×4 matrix for InvMixColumn are more complex than those for MixColumn, and this is enough to make decryption take around 30% longer than encryption for these processors. However, in many applications, decryption is not needed, for example, when CFB mode is used. Therefore, this is not considered to be a significant drawback.

The fact that encryption and decryption are not identical process leads to the expectation that there are no weak keys, in contrast to DES and several other algorithms.

3.7.4 Design Considerations

The Rijndael algorithm is not a Feistel system. In a Feistel system, half the bits are moved but not changed during each round. In Rijndael, all bits are treated uniformly. This has the effect of diffusing the input bits faster. It can be shown that two rounds are sufficient to obtain full diffusion, namely, each of the 128 output bits depends on each of the 128 input bits.

The *S*-Box was constructed in an explicit and simple algebraic way so as to avoid any suspicions of trapdoors built into the algorithm. The desire was to avoid the mysteries about *S*-boxes that haunted DES. The Rijndael *S*-box is highly nonlinear, since it is based on the mapping $x \mapsto x^{-1}$ in $GF(2^8)$. It is excellent at resisting differential and linear cryptanalysis, as well as more recently studied methods called interpolation attacks.

The ShiftRow step was added to resist two recently developed attacks, namely truncated differentials and the Square attack (Square was a predecessor of Rijndael).

The MixColumn causes diffusion among the bytes. A change in one input byte in this step always results in all four output bytes changing. If two input bytes are changed, at least three output bytes are changed.

The Key Schedule involves nonlinear mixing of the key bits, since it uses the *S*-box. The mixing is designed to resist attacks where the cryptanalyst knows part of the key and tries to deduce the remaining bits. Also, it aims to ensure that two distinct keys do not have a large number of round keys in common. The round constants are used to eliminate symmetries in the encryption process by making each round different.

The number of rounds was chosen to be 10 because there are attacks that are better than brute force up to six rounds. No known attack beats brute force for seven or more rounds. It was felt that four extra rounds provide large enough margin of safety. Of course, the number of rounds could easily be increased if needed.

Chapter 4

The RSA System

4.1 Introduction to public-key cryptography

In the classical model of cryptography that we have been studying up to now, Alice and Bob secretly choose the key K . K then gives rise to an encryption rule e_K and a decryption rule d_K . In the cryptosystems we have seen so far, d_K is either the same as e_K , or easily derived from it (for example, DES decryption is identical to encryption, but the key schedule is reversed). Cryptosystems of this type are known as *private key* systems, since exposure of e_K renders the system insecure.

One drawback of a private-key system is that it requires the prior communication of the key K between Alice and Bob, using a secure channel, before any ciphertext is transmitted. In practice, this may be very difficult to achieve. For example, suppose Alice and Bob live far away from each other and they decide that they want to communicate electronically, using e-mail. In a situation such as this, Alice and Bob may not have access to a reasonable secure channel.

The idea behind *public-key* system is that it might be possible to find a cryptosystem where it is computationally infeasible to determine d_K given e_K . If so, then the encryption rule e_K could be made public by publishing it in a directory (hence the term public-key system). The advantage of a public-key system is that Alice (or anyone else) can send an encrypted message to Bob (without the prior communication of a secret key) by using the public encryption rule e_K . Bob will be the only person that can decrypt the ciphertext, using his secret decryption rule d_K .

The idea of a public-key system was due to Diffie and Hellman in 1976. They suggested the following: Each of $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}$ partner is having a public and a private key, K_μ^p and K_μ^s for $1 \leq \mu \leq n$. K_μ^p determines the encryption e_{K_μ} and K_μ^s the decryption d_{K_μ} . All keys K_μ^p are published in a directory. The following properties must be satisfied for each $\mu, 1 \leq \mu \leq n$:

1. $d_{K_\mu} \circ e_{K_\mu} = id$,
2. d_{K_μ} and e_{K_μ} can be computed in an efficient way,
3. K_μ^s and d_{K_μ} are secret and cannot be efficiently determined from K_μ^p and e_{K_μ} , respectively.

Suppose, participant A (Alice) sends message m encrypted to B (Bob) using the public key e_{K_B} of B , i.e.,

$$c = e_{K_B}(m) \tag{4.1}$$

B receives c and decrypts it to m using the private key K_B^s as follows:

$$d_{K_B}(c) \stackrel{(4.1)}{=} d_{K_B}(e_{K_B}(m)) = (d_{K_B} \circ e_{K_B})(m) \stackrel{1.}{=} m .$$

We can present this method graphically.

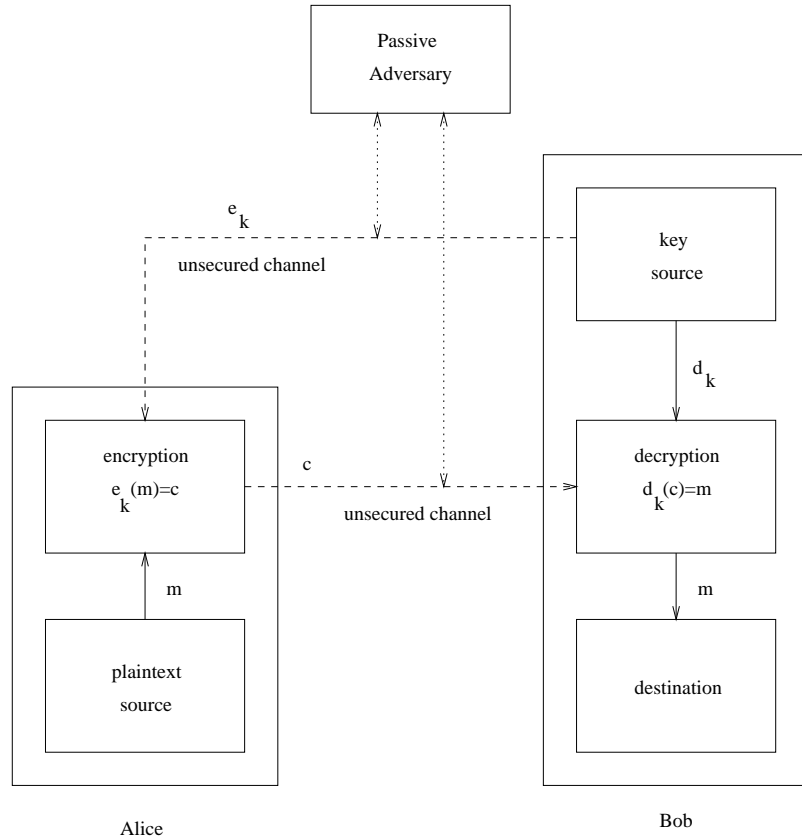


Fig. 4.1. Encryption using public-key techniques

Notice how Figure 4.1 differs from Figure 2.4 for a symmetric-key cipher. Here the encryption key is transmitted to Alice over an unsecured channel. This unsecured channel may be the same channel on which the ciphertext is being transmitted.

Since the encryption rule e_K need not be kept secret, it may be made public. Any entity can subsequently send encrypted messages to Bob which only Bob can decrypt. Figure 4.2 illustrates this idea, where A_1, A_2 and A_3 are distinct entities. Note that if A_1 destroys message m_1 after encrypting it to c_1 , then even A_1 cannot recover m_1 from c_1 .

As a physical analogue, consider a metal box with the lid secured by a combination lock. The combination is known only to Bob. If the lock is left open and made publicly available then anyone can place a message inside and lock the lid. Only Bob can retrieve the message. Even the entity which placed the message into the box is unable to retrieve it.

Public-key encryption, as described here, assumes that knowledge of the public key e_K does not allow computation of the private key d_K . In other words, this assumes the existence

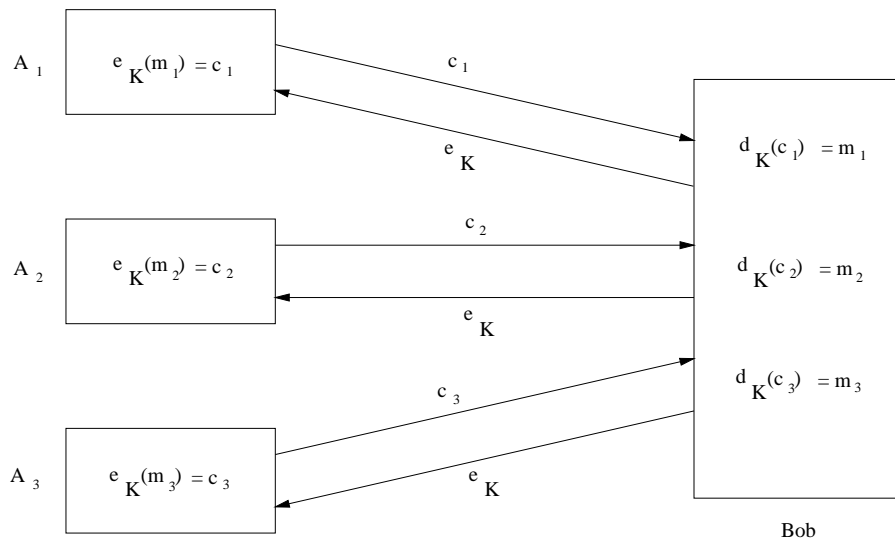


Fig. 4.2. Encryption using public-key techniques

of trapdoor one-way functions which we will define now. Therefore, we give the definition of a one-way function at first.

Definition 4.1. A function f from a set X to a set Y is called a *one-way function* iff $f(x)$ is “easy” to compute for all $x \in X$ but for “essentially all” elements $y \in Im(f)$ it is “computationally infeasible” to find any $x \in X$ such that $f(x) = y$. \square

Note 4.2. We have to make clear some of the terms used in Definition 4.1.

- A rigorous definition of the terms “easy” and “computationally infeasible” is necessary but would detract from the simple idea that is being conveyed. For the purpose of this chapter, the intuitive meaning will suffice.
- The phrase “for essentially all elements in Y ” refers to the fact that there are a few values $y \in Y$ for which it is easy to find an $x \in X$ such that $y = f(x)$. For example, one may compute $y = f(x)$ for a small number of x values and then for these, the inverse is known by table look-up. An alternate way to describe this property of a one-way function is the following: for a random $y \in Im(f)$ it is computationally infeasible to find any $x \in X$ such that $f(x) = y$. \square

The concept of a one-way function is illustrated through the following examples.

EXAMPLE 4.1. Take $X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 16\}$ and define $f(x) = r_x$ for all $x \in X$ where r_x is the remainder when 3^x is divided by 17. Explicitly,

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| x | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| $f(x)$ | 3 | 9 | 10 | 13 | 5 | 15 | 11 | 16 | 14 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 6 | 1 |

Given a number between 1 and 16, it is relatively easy to find the image of it under f . However, given a number such as 7, without having the table in front of you, it is harder to find x given that $f(x) = 7$. Of course, if the number you are given is 3 then it is clear that $x = 1$ is what you need; but for most of the elements in the codomain it is not that easy. \square

One must keep in mind that this is an example, which uses very small numbers; the important point here is that there is a difference in the amount of work to compute $f(x)$ and the amount of work to find x given $f(x)$. Even for very large numbers, $f(x)$ can be computed efficiently using the repeated square-and-multiply algorithm (which will be described later on), whereas the process of finding x from $f(x)$ is much harder.

EXAMPLE 4.2. We select prime numbers $p = 48611$ and $q = 53993$, form $n = p \cdot q = 2624653723$, and let $X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n - 1\}$. Define a function f on X by $f(x) = r_x$ for each $x \in X$, where r_x is the remainder when x^3 is divided by n . For instance, $f(2489991) = 1981394214$ since $2489991^3 = 5881949859 \cdot n + 1981394214$. Computing $f(x)$ is a relatively simple thing to do, but to reverse the procedure is much more difficult; that is, given a remainder to find the value x which was originally cubed. This procedure is referred to as the computation of a modular cube root with modulus n . If the factors of n are unknown and large, this is a difficult problem; however, if the factors p and q of n are known then there is an efficient algorithm for computing modular cube roots. \square

Example 4.2 leads one to consider another type of function which will prove to be fundamental in forthcoming developments.

Definition 4.3. A *trapdoor one-way function* is a one-way function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ with the additional property that given some extra information (called the *trapdoor information*) it becomes feasible to find for any given $y \in \text{Im}(f)$, an $x \in X$ such that $f(x) = y$. \square

Example 4.2 illustrates the concept of a trapdoor one-way function. With the additional information of the factors of $n = 2624653723$ (namely, $p = 48611$ and $q = 53993$, each of which is five decimal digits long) it becomes much easier to invert the function. The factors of 2624653723 are large enough that finding them by hand computation would be difficult. Of course, any reasonable computer program could find the factors relatively quickly. If, on the other hand, one selects p and q to be very large distinct prime numbers (each having about 100 decimal digits) then, by today's standards, it is a difficult problem, even with the most powerful computers, to deduce p and q simply from n . This is the well-known *integer factorization problem* and a source of many trapdoor one-way functions.

It remains to be rigorously established whether there actually are any (true) one-way functions. That is to say, no one has yet definitely proved the existence of such functions under reasonable (and rigorous) definitions of "easy" and "computationally infeasible". Since the existence of one-way functions is still unknown, the existence of trapdoor one-way functions is also unknown. However, there are a number of good candidates for one-way and trapdoor one-way functions. We are going to discuss some of the most practical ones.

Finally, we would like to conclude this introduction to public-key systems with a remark on a possible extension of this method in general.

Remark. If we demand that the condition

$$4. \quad \forall \mu \in \{1, \dots, n\}. \quad e_{K_\mu} \circ d_{K_\mu} = id \quad ,$$

should hold in addition to properties 1., 2. and 3., then we obtain a so-called *signature schema* which works in the following way. Participant A encrypts the message m using K_A^s by

$$d = d_{K_A}(m) \quad , \tag{4.2}$$

and adds the identity \bar{A} . The encryption due to K_B^s yields

$$e = e_{K_B}(\bar{A}d) \stackrel{(4.2)}{=} e_{K_B}(\bar{A}d_{K_A}(m)) \quad (4.3)$$

and is sent to B . This one decrypts e with the help of K_B^s :

$$d_{K_B}(e) \stackrel{(4.3)}{=} d_{K_B} \circ e_{K_B}(\bar{A}d) \stackrel{3.}{=} \bar{A}d \quad .$$

Having a look at the identity \bar{A} , B does now know that A is the message's sender and can continue to decrypt using

$$e_{K_A}(d) \stackrel{(4.2)}{=} e_{K_A} \circ d_{K_A}(m) \stackrel{4.}{=} m \quad .$$

□

4.2 More mathematical background

Before discussing how RSA works, we need to discuss some more facts concerning modular arithmetic and number theory. Two fundamental results that we require are the Euclidean Algorithm and the Chinese remainder theorem.

It is often difficult to derive the exact running time of an algorithm. In such situations one is forced to settle for approximations of the running time, and usually may only derive the *asymptotic* running time.

4.2.1 Asymptotic notation

In what follows, the only functions considered are those which are defined on the positive integers and take on real values that are positive from some point onwards. Let f and g be two such functions.

Definition 4.4. *order notation*

1. (*asymptotic upper bound*) $f(n) = \mathcal{O}(g(n))$ if there exists a positive constant c and a positive integer n_0 such that $0 \leq f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.
2. (*asymptotic lower bound*) $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ if there exists a positive constant c and a positive integer n_0 such that $0 \leq c \cdot g(n) \leq f(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.
3. (*asymptotic tight bound*) $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ if there exists positive constants c_1 and c_2 , and a positive integer n_0 such that $c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.
4. (*o-notation*) $f(n) = o(g(n))$ if for any positive constant $c > 0$ there exists a constant $n_0 > 0$ such that $0 \leq f(n) < cg(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$. □

Intuitively, $f(n) = \mathcal{O}(g(n))$ means that f grows no faster asymptotically than $g(n)$ to within a constant multiple, while $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ means that $f(n)$ grows at least as fast asymptotically as $g(n)$ to within a constant multiple. $f(n) = o(g(n))$ means that $g(n)$ is an upper bound for $f(n)$ that is not asymptotically tight, or in other words, the function $f(n)$ becomes insignificant relative to $g(n)$ as n gets larger. The expression $o(1)$ is often used to signify a function $f(n)$ whose limit as n approaches ∞ is 0.

Proposition 4.5. *For any functions $f(n), g(n), h(n)$ and $l(n)$, the following are true.*

1. $f(n) = \mathcal{O}(g(n))$ if and only if $g(n) = \Omega(f(n))$.
2. $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ if and only if $f(n) = \mathcal{O}(g(n))$ and $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$.
3. If $f(n) = \mathcal{O}(h(n))$ and $g(n) = \mathcal{O}(h(n))$, then $(f + g)(n) = \mathcal{O}(h(n))$.
4. If $f(n) = \mathcal{O}(h(n))$ and $g(n) = \mathcal{O}(l(n))$, then $(f \cdot g)(n) = \mathcal{O}(h(n)l(n))$.
5. $f(n) = \mathcal{O}(f(n))$.
6. If $f(n) = \mathcal{O}(g(n))$ and $g(n) = \mathcal{O}(h(n))$, then $f(n) = \mathcal{O}(h(n))$. □

4.2.2 The Euclidean Algorithm and its extension

We would first like to deal with the Euclidean Algorithm which is normally the startpoint in courses of elementary number theory. Given two integers a and b , we want to determine $\gcd(a, b)$. The greatest common divisor can be computed via Proposition 2.38. However, computing a gcd by first obtaining prime-power factorizations does not result in an efficient algorithm, as the problem of factoring integers appears to be relatively difficult. The Euclidean Algorithm (Algorithm 4.7) is an efficient algorithm for computing the greatest common divisor of two integers that does not require the factorization of the integers. It is based on the following simple fact.

Proposition 4.6. *If a and b are positive integers with $a > b$, then $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a \bmod b)$.* □

Algorithm 4.7. Euclidean Algorithm for computing the gcd of two integers

INPUT: two non-negative integers a and b with $a \geq b$.

OUTPUT: the greatest common divisor of a and b .

1. While $b \neq 0$ do the following:
Set $r \leftarrow a \bmod b$, $a \leftarrow b$, $b \leftarrow r$.
2. return(a). □

Proposition 4.8. *Algorithm 4.7 has a running time of $\mathcal{O}((\lg n)^2)$ bit operations.* □

EXAMPLE 4.3. We present the steps of Algorithm 4.7 for computing $\gcd(4864, 3458) = 38$ using long division:

$$4864 = 1 \cdot 3458 + 1406$$

$$3458 = 2 \cdot 1406 + 646$$

$$1406 = 2 \cdot 646 + 114$$

$$646 = 5 \cdot 114 + 76$$

$$114 = 1 \cdot 76 + 38$$

$$76 = 2 \cdot 38 + 0.$$

□

The Euclidean Algorithm can be extended so that it not only yields the greatest common divisor d of two integers a and b , but also integers x and y satisfying $ax + by = d$. We write $\lfloor x/y \rfloor$ to denote the greatest integer which is smaller or equal to x/y .

Algorithm 4.9. Extended Euclidean Algorithm

INPUT: two non-negative integers a and b with $a \geq b$.

OUTPUT: $d = \gcd(a, b)$ and integers x, y satisfying $ax + by = d$.

1. If $b = 0$ then set $d \leftarrow a, x \leftarrow 1, y \leftarrow 0$, and return(d, x, y).
2. Set $x_2 \leftarrow 1, x_1 \leftarrow 0, y_2 \leftarrow 0, y_1 \leftarrow 1$.
3. While $b > 0$ do the following:
 - (a) $q \leftarrow \lfloor a/b \rfloor, r \leftarrow a - qb, x \leftarrow x_2 - qx_1, y \leftarrow y_2 - qy_1$.
 - (b) $a \leftarrow b, b \leftarrow r, x_2 \leftarrow x_1, x_1 \leftarrow x, y_2 \leftarrow y_1$, and $y_1 \leftarrow y$.
4. Set $d \leftarrow a, x \leftarrow x_2, y \leftarrow y_2$, and return(d, x, y). □

Proposition 4.10. Algorithm 4.9 has a running time of $\mathcal{O}((\lg n)^2)$ bit operations. □

EXAMPLE 4.4. Table 4.2 shows the steps of algorithm 4.9 with inputs $a = 4864$ and $b = 3458$. Hence $\gcd(4864, 3458) = 38$ and $4864 \cdot 32 + 3458 \cdot (-45) = 38$. □

| q | r | x | y | a | b | x_2 | x_1 | y_2 | y_1 |
|-----|------|-----|-----|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| — | — | — | — | 4864 | 3458 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1406 | 1 | -1 | 3458 | 1406 | 0 | 1 | 1 | -1 |
| 2 | 646 | -2 | 3 | 1406 | 646 | 1 | -2 | -1 | 3 |
| 2 | 114 | 5 | -7 | 646 | 114 | -2 | 5 | 3 | -7 |
| 5 | 76 | -27 | 38 | 114 | 76 | 5 | -27 | -7 | 38 |
| 1 | 38 | 32 | -45 | 76 | 38 | -27 | 32 | 38 | -45 |
| 2 | 0 | -91 | 128 | 38 | 0 | 32 | -91 | -45 | 128 |

Table 4.2. Extended Euclidean Algorithm with inputs $a = 4864$ and $b = 3458$.

- EXERCISE 4.11. 1. Determine $\gcd(2574, 936)$ and $\gcd(6765, 4181)$.
2. Determine $d = \gcd(2574, 936)$ and $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ with $x \cdot 2574 + y \cdot 936 = d$.
3. Determine $d = \gcd(89, 55)$ and $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ with $x \cdot 89 + y \cdot 55 = d$. □

4.2.3 Algorithms in \mathbb{Z}_n

Let n be a positive integer. As before, the elements of \mathbb{Z}_n will be represented by integers $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$. Observe, that if $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_n$, then

$$(a + b) \bmod n = \begin{cases} a + b, & \text{if } a + b < n, \\ a + b - n, & \text{if } a + b \geq n. \end{cases}$$

Hence modular addition (and subtraction) can be performed without the need of a long division. Modular multiplication of a and b may be accomplished by simply multiplying a and b as integers, and then taking the remainder of the result after division by n . Inverses in \mathbb{Z}_n can be computed using the extended Euclidean Algorithm 4.9. We rather give a detailed description.

Algorithm 4.12. Computing multiplicative inverses in \mathbb{Z}_n

INPUT: $b \in \mathbb{Z}_n$.

OUTPUT: $b^{-1} \bmod n$, provided it exists.

1. $n_0 \leftarrow n, b_0 \leftarrow b, t_0 \leftarrow 0, t \leftarrow 1, q \leftarrow \lfloor n_0/b_0 \rfloor, r \leftarrow n_0 - q \cdot b_0$
2. while $r > 0$ do
 - (a) $temp \leftarrow t_0 - q \cdot t$
 - (b) If $temp \geq 0$ then $temp \leftarrow temp \bmod n$. Otherwise, $temp \leftarrow n - ((-temp) \bmod n)$.
 - (c) $t_0 \leftarrow t, t \leftarrow temp, n_0 \leftarrow b_0, b_0 \leftarrow r, q \leftarrow \lfloor n_0/b_0 \rfloor, r \leftarrow n_0 - q \cdot b_0$.
3. If $b_0 \neq 1$ then b has no inverse modulo n . Otherwise, $b^{-1} \leftarrow t \bmod n$, return(b^{-1}). □

EXAMPLE 4.5. Suppose, we would to determine $b^{-1} \bmod n$ with $b = 17$ and $n = 26$. Using Algorithm 4.12 yields $17^{-1} = 23 \bmod 26$. See Table 4.4 for a detailed computation. Of course, the correctness of of one's computation can be easily verified: you just have to determine $17 \cdot 23 = 391 = 1 \bmod 26$. □

| n_0 | b_0 | t_0 | t | q | r |
|-------|-------|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| 26 | 17 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| 17 | 9 | 1 | 25 | 1 | 8 |
| 9 | 8 | 25 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 8 | 1 | 2 | 23 | 8 | 0 |

Table 4.4. Computation of $17^{-1} \bmod 26$

Modular exponentiation can be performed efficiently with the repeated square-and-multiple algorithm (algorithm 4.13), which is crucial for many cryptographic protocols. One version of this algorithm is based on the following observation. Let the binary representation of k be

$\sum_{i=0}^t k_i 2^i$, where each $k_i \in \{0, 1\}$. Then

$$a^k = \prod_{i=0}^t a^{k_i 2^i} = \left(a^{2^0}\right)^{k_0} \left(a^{2^1}\right)^{k_1} \cdots \left(a^{2^t}\right)^{k_t}.$$

Algorithm 4.13. Repeated square-and-multiply algorithm for exponentiation in \mathbb{Z}_n

INPUT: $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n$, and integer $0 \leq k < n$ whose binary representation is $k = \sum_{i=0}^t k_i 2^i$.

OUTPUT: $a^k \bmod n$.

1. Set $b \leftarrow 1$. If $k = 0$ then return(b).
2. Set $A \leftarrow a$.
3. If $k_0 = 1$ then set $b \leftarrow a$.
4. For i from 1 to t do the following:
 - (a) Set $A \leftarrow A^2 \bmod n$.
 - (b) If $k_i = 1$ then set $b \leftarrow A \cdot b \bmod n$.
5. Return(b). □

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|------|
| i | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| k_i | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| A | 5 | 25 | 625 | 681 | 1011 | 369 | 421 | 779 | 947 | 925 |
| b | 1 | 1 | 625 | 625 | 67 | 67 | 1059 | 1059 | 1059 | 1013 |

Table4.5. Computation of $5^{596} \bmod 1234$

| Operation | Bit Complexity |
|--|--------------------------|
| Modular Addition $(a + b) \bmod n$ | $\mathcal{O}(\lg n)$ |
| Modular Subtraction $(a - b) \bmod n$ | $\mathcal{O}(\lg n)$ |
| Modular multiplication $(a \cdot b) \bmod n$ | $\mathcal{O}((\lg n)^2)$ |
| Modular inversion $a^{-1} \bmod n$ | $\mathcal{O}((\lg n)^2)$ |
| Modular exponentiation $a^k \bmod n, k < n$ | $\mathcal{O}((\lg n)^3)$ |

Table4.6. Bit complexity of basic operations in \mathbb{Z}_n

EXAMPLE 4.6. Table 4.5 shows the steps involved in the computation of $5^{596} \bmod 1234 = 1013$. □

- EXERCISE 4.14. 1. Compute $144^{-1} \bmod 233$, i.e., $b = 144$ and $n = 233$.
 2. Compute $1729^{-1} \bmod 4301$, i.e., $b = 1729$ and $n = 4301$.
 3. Compute $543^{19} \bmod 768$, i.e., $a = 543, k = 19$ and $n = 768$.
 4. Compute $9726^{3533} \bmod 11413$, i.e., $a = 9726, k = 3533$ and $n = 11413$. □

4.2.4 The Chinese Remainder Theorem and the Gauss-Algorithm

The Chinese Remainder Theorem is really a method of solving certain systems of congruences. Suppose m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r are pairwise relatively prime positive integers (that is, $\gcd(m_i, m_j) \neq 1$ if $i \neq j$). Suppose a_1, \dots, a_r are integers, and consider the following system of congruences:

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv a_1 \pmod{m_1} \\ x &\equiv a_2 \pmod{m_2} \\ &\vdots \\ x &\equiv a_r \pmod{m_r} \end{aligned}$$

The Chinese Remainder Theorem asserts that this system has a unique solution modulo $M = m_1 \cdot m_2 \cdot \dots \cdot m_r$.

Theorem 4.15. *If the integers m_1, m_2, \dots, m_r are pairwise relatively prime, then the system of simultaneous congruences*

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv a_1 \pmod{m_1} \\ x &\equiv a_2 \pmod{m_2} \\ &\vdots \\ x &\equiv a_r \pmod{m_r} \end{aligned}$$

has a unique solution modulo $M = m_1 \cdot m_2 \cdot \dots \cdot m_r$.

Proof. Proving the Chinese Remainder Theorem amounts to proving that the function

$$\begin{aligned} \pi : \mathbb{Z}_M &\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{m_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}_{m_r} \\ x &\mapsto (x \bmod m_1, \dots, x \bmod m_r) \end{aligned}$$

is a bijection. In fact, we will be able to give an explicit formula for the inverse function π^{-1} . For $1 \leq i \leq r$, define

$$M_i = \frac{M}{m_i} .$$

Each pair m_i, m_j with $i \neq j$ is relatively prime by assumption, i.e., the positive integers m_i and m_j have no common prime factor. Therefore, the positive integers $M_i = m_1 \cdot m_2 \cdot \dots \cdot m_{i-1} \cdot m_{i+1} \cdot \dots \cdot m_r$ and m_i have no common prime factor. According to this observation we conclude that

$$\gcd(M_i, m_i) = 1 \quad \text{for all } i \in \{1, \dots, r\}.$$

This fact together with Proposition 2.43 allow us to define

$$y_i = M_i^{-1} \bmod m_i \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq r .$$

We observe that

$$M_i \cdot y_i \equiv 1 \pmod{m_i} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq r \tag{4.4}$$

holds by definition of y_i . Now we define a function

$$\begin{aligned} \rho : \mathbb{Z}_{m_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}_{m_r} &\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_M \\ (a_1, \dots, a_r) &\mapsto \sum_{i=1}^r a_i M_i y_i \bmod M \end{aligned}$$

and show that the function $\rho = \pi^{-1}$, i.e., it provides an explicit formula for solving the original system of congruences.

Denote $X = \rho(a_1, \dots, a_r)$, and let $j \in \{1, \dots, r\}$. Consider a term $a_i M_i y_i$ in the above summation, reduced modulo m_j . Then we distinguish two cases.

Case 1. If $i = j$, then we can apply the congruence (4.4) and obtain

$$a_i M_i y_i \equiv a_i \pmod{m_i} .$$

Case 2. If $i \neq j$, then $m_j | M_i$ and we conclude

$$a_i M_i y_i \equiv 0 \pmod{m_j} .$$

Thus, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} X &\equiv \sum_{i=1}^r a_i M_i y_i \pmod{m_j} \\ &\equiv a_j \pmod{m_j} . \end{aligned}$$

Since we have chosen an arbitrary j , this congruence is true for all $j, 1 \leq j \leq r$ and X is a solution to the system of congruences.

At this point, we need to show that the solution X is unique modulo M . But this can be done by simply counting. The function π is a function from a domain of cardinality M to a range of cardinality M . We have just proved that π is a surjective (i.e., onto) function. Hence, π must also be injective (i.e., one-to-one), since the domain and the range have the same cardinality. It follows, that π is a bijection and $\pi^{-1} = \rho$. Note also, that π^{-1} is a linear function of its arguments a_1, \dots, a_r . \square

Corollary 4.16. (*Gauss' algorithm*) *The solution x to the simultaneous congruences in the Chinese Remainder Theorem 4.15 may be computed as $x = \sum_{i=1}^r a_i M_i y_i \pmod{M}$, where $M_i = \frac{M}{m_i}$ and $y_i = M_i^{-1} \pmod{m_i}$. These computations can be performed in $\mathcal{O}((\lg n)^2)$ bit operations.* \square

EXAMPLE 4.7. Suppose, $r = 3$ and $m_1 = 5, m_2 = 11$ and $m_3 = 17$. Then $M = 935$. We compute $M_1 = 187, M_2 = 85$ and $M_3 = 55$, and then $y_1 = 3, y_2 = 7$ and $y_3 = 13$. Then the function $\pi^{-1} : \mathbb{Z}_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_{11} \times \mathbb{Z}_{17} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{935}$ is the following:

$$\pi^{-1}(a_1, a_2, a_3) = 561 \cdot a_1 + 595 \cdot a_2 + 715 \cdot a_3 \pmod{935} \quad .$$

For example, if $x \equiv 2 \pmod{5}, x \equiv 6 \pmod{11}$ and $x \equiv 13 \pmod{17}$, then this formula tells us that

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 561 \cdot 2 + 595 \cdot 6 + 715 \cdot 13 \pmod{935} \\ &= 13987 \pmod{935} \\ &= 897 \pmod{935} \quad . \end{aligned}$$

This can be verified by reducing 897 modulo 5, 11 and 17. \square

EXERCISE 4.17. Solve the following system of congruences

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv 3 \pmod{5} \\ x &\equiv 1 \pmod{7} \\ x &\equiv 9 \pmod{11} \\ x &\equiv 5 \pmod{17}. \end{aligned}$$

\square

4.2.5 Some facts about groups

We next mention some further results from elementary group theory that will be relevant in our treatment of the RSA Cryptosystem.

Definition 4.18. For a multiplicative group G we define the *order* of G to be the number of its elements. For an element $g \in G$ we define the order of g to be the smallest positive integer m such that $g^m = 1$. \square

Proposition 4.19. (Lagrange) Suppose G is a multiplicative group of order n , and $g \in G$. Then the order of g divides n . This means that the order of a group element always divides the group order. \square

We throw a glance on the algebraic structure (\mathbb{Z}_n, \cdot) .

Definition 4.20. The multiplicative group of \mathbb{Z}_n is $\mathbb{Z}_n^* = \{a \in \mathbb{Z}_n \mid \gcd(a, n) = 1\}$. In particular, if n is prime, then $\mathbb{Z}_n^* = \{a \mid 1 \leq a \leq n - 1\}$. \square

It follows from the Definition of the Euler phi function (Definition 2.39) that $|\mathbb{Z}_n^*| = \varphi(n)$. Note also that if $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ and $b \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$, then $a \cdot b \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$, and so \mathbb{Z}_n^* is closed under multiplication.

Proposition 4.21. Let $n \geq 2$ be an integer.

1. (Euler's theorem) If $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$, then $a^{\varphi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$.
2. If n is a product of distinct primes, and if $r \equiv s \pmod{\varphi(n)}$, then $a^r \equiv a^s \pmod{n}$ for all integers a . In other words, when working modulo such an n , exponents can be reduced modulo $\varphi(n)$. \square

A special case of Euler's theorem is Fermat's little theorem.

Proposition 4.22. Let p be a prime.

1. (Fermat's theorem) If $\gcd(a, p) = 1$, then $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.
2. If $r \equiv s \pmod{p-1}$, then $a^r \equiv a^s \pmod{p}$ for all integers a , st. p does not divide a . In other words, when working modulo a prime p , exponents can be reduced modulo $p-1$.
3. In particular, $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$ for all integers a . \square

Proposition 4.23. If the order of $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ is t , and $a^s \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$, then t divides s . In particular, $t \mid \varphi(n)$. \square

EXAMPLE 4.8. Let $n = 26$. Then $\mathbb{Z}_{26}^* = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25\}$. We compute that $\varphi(26) = \varphi(2) \cdot \varphi(13) = 12 = |\mathbb{Z}_{26}^*|$. The orders of elements in \mathbb{Z}_{26}^* are listed in Table 4.8. \square

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| $a \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}^*$ | 1 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 11 | 15 | 17 | 19 | 21 | 23 | 25 |
| order of a | 1 | 3 | 4 | 12 | 3 | 12 | 12 | 6 | 12 | 4 | 6 | 2 |

Table 4.8. Orders of elements in \mathbb{Z}_{26}^* .

Definition 4.24. Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$. If the order of α is $\varphi(n)$, then α is said to be a generator or a primitive element of \mathbb{Z}_n^* . If \mathbb{Z}_n^* has a generator, then \mathbb{Z}_n^* is said to be cyclic. \square

Proposition 4.25. We list some properties of generators.

1. \mathbb{Z}_n^* has a generator iff $n = 2, 4, p^k$ or $2p^k$, where p is an odd prime and $k \geq 1$. In particular, if p is a prime, then \mathbb{Z}_p^* has a generator.

2. If α is a generator of \mathbb{Z}_n^* , then $\mathbb{Z}_n^* = \{\alpha^i \bmod n \mid 0 \leq i \leq \varphi(n) - 1\}$.
3. Suppose that α is a generator of \mathbb{Z}_n^* . Then $b = \alpha^i \bmod n$ is also a generator of \mathbb{Z}_n^* iff $\gcd(i, \varphi(n)) = 1$. It follows that if \mathbb{Z}_n^* is cyclic, then the number of generators is $\varphi(\varphi(n))$.
4. $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ is a generator of \mathbb{Z}_n^* if and only if $\alpha^{\varphi(n)/p} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ for each prime divisor p of $\varphi(n)$. \square

EXAMPLE 4.9. \mathbb{Z}_{26}^* is cyclic since $26 = 2 \cdot 13$ and 13 is an odd prime. The number of generators is $\varphi(\varphi(26)) = \varphi(12) = 4$ and each element a from table 4.8 with order 12 is such a generator. \square

- EXERCISE 4.26. 1. Determine \mathbb{Z}_{18}^* and the order of all its elements. List its generators and double-check their number by computing it directly.
2. Find the last base-7 digit in $2^{1,000,000}$. \square

4.3 The RSA Cryptosystem

We are now well prepared to introduce the RSA system and to understand why it works. So, here we go.

Definition 4.27. Let $n = p \cdot q$, where p and q are distinct primes. Let $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{C} = \mathbb{Z}_n$, and define

$$\mathcal{K} = \{(n, p, q, a, b) \mid n = pq, p, q \text{ prime}, ab \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}\}.$$

For $K = (n, p, q, a, b)$, define

$$e_K(x) = x^b \bmod n \quad \text{and} \quad d_K(y) = y^a \bmod n$$

$(x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_n)$. The values n and b are public, and the values p, q, a are secret. \square

This cryptosystem uses computations in \mathbb{Z}_n , where n is the product of two distinct odd primes p and q . For such n , note that $\varphi(n) = (p-1)(q-1)$. We will now verify that decryption works.

Since $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$, there is an integer k such that $ab = 1 + k \cdot \varphi(n)$. Now, if $\gcd(x, p) = 1$ then by Fermat's theorem (Proposition 4.22),

$$x^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}.$$

We compute

$$x^{ab} = x^{1+k \cdot \varphi(n)} = x^{1+k \cdot (p-1) \cdot (q-1)} = x \cdot (x^{p-1})^{k \cdot (q-1)} \equiv x \pmod{p}$$

and therefore, $x^{ab} \equiv x \pmod{p}$. On the other hand, if $\gcd(x, p) = p$, then this last congruence is again valid since each side is congruent 0 modulo p . Hence, in all cases

$$x^{ab} \equiv x \pmod{p}.$$

By the same argument,

$$x^{ab} \equiv x \pmod{q}.$$

By definition, there must be two integers r and s such that $x^{ab} - x = p \cdot r = q \cdot s$. Since p and q are distinct and prime, p must be a factor of s due to the unique prime factorization (or q

must be a factor of r). Again, there has to be an integer s' such that $x^{ab} - x = qs = qps'$, i.e. $n = p \cdot q$ divides $x^{ab} - x$ or in other words

$$x^{ab} \equiv x \pmod{n} .$$

Therefore,

$$d_K(e_K(x)) = d_K(x^b \bmod n) = (x^b \bmod n)^a \bmod n = x^{ab} \bmod n = x \bmod n$$

which means that the RSA system works. Note, that also $e_K(d_K(x)) = x$ in \mathbb{Z}_n , i.e., the RSA system can also be used to set up a signature scheme.

The security of RSA is based on the hope that the encryption function $e_K(x) = x^b \bmod n$ is one-way, so it will be computationally infeasible for an opponent to decrypt a ciphertext. The trapdoor that allows Bob to decrypt is the knowledge of the factorization $n = p \cdot q$. Since Bob knows this factorization, he can compute $\varphi(n) = (p-1) \cdot (q-1)$ and then the decryption exponent a using Algorithm 4.12.

Algorithm 4.28. Key generation for RSA public-key encryption

SUMMARY: each entity creates an RSA public key and a corresponding private key. Each entity A should do the following:

1. Generate two large random (and distinct) primes p and q , each roughly the same size.
2. Compute $n = p \cdot q$ and $\varphi(n) = (p-1) \cdot (q-1)$.
3. Select a random integer b , $1 < b < \varphi(n)$ such that $\gcd(b, \varphi(n)) = 1$.
4. Use Algorithm 4.12 to compute the unique integer a , $1 < a < \varphi(n)$, such that $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$.
5. A's public key is (n, b) ; A's private key is a . □

The integers a and b are called the *encryption exponent* and the *decryption exponent*, respectively, while n is called the *modulus*.

Algorithm 4.29. RSA public-key encryption

SUMMARY: B encrypts a message m for A, which A decrypts.

1. *Encryption.* B should do the following:
 - (a) Obtain A's authentic public key (n, b) .
 - (b) Represent the message as an integer m in the set $\{0, \dots, n-1\}$.
 - (c) Compute $c = m^b \bmod n$ using Algorithm 4.13.
 - (d) Send the ciphertext c to A.
2. *Decryption.* To recover plaintext m from c , A should do the following:
 - (a) Use the private key a to recover $m = c^a \bmod n$. □

EXAMPLE 4.10. We do an RSA encryption with artificially small parameters.

Key generation. Entity A chooses the primes $p = 2357, q = 2551$, and computes $n = pq = 6012707$ and $\varphi(n) = (p-1)(q-1) = 6007800$. A chooses $b = 3674911$ and, using algorithm 4.12, finds $a = 422191$ such that $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$. A's public key pair is $(n = 6012707, b = 3674911)$, while A's private key is $a = 422191$.

Encryption. To encrypt a message $m = 5234673$, B uses an algorithm for modular exponentiation (e.g., algorithm 4.13) to compute

$$c = m^b \bmod n = 5234673^{3674911} \bmod 6012707 = 3650502,$$

and sends this to A.

Decryption. To decrypt c , A computes

$$c^a \bmod n = 3650502^{422191} \bmod 6012707 = 5234673.$$

□

EXERCISE 4.30. 1. The decryption exponent a must satisfy $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$. Show, that each prime number r with $r \notin \{1, 2, 3, \dots, \max\{p, q\}\}$ satisfies this condition.

2. Suppose, the public key is given by $K = (46927, 39423)$ and you received an encrypted message “BFIC” (numerical equivalents are computed to base 26, each single letter serving as coefficient). Try to decode this message by factoring the modulus first. □

4.4 Probabilistic Primality Tests

Let’s look again at Algorithm 4.28. The very first thing to do is to generate two large primes. There we face the first problem: if we choose a really large integer, how can we prove its primality? More precisely, to what extent is it certain that this integer is a prime? How much time will it take us to be sufficiently convinced to have a prime? These questions call for an algorithm which assures to a certain extent that a specific integer is prime and which is as quick as possible.

The algorithms in this section are methods by which arbitrary positive integers are tested to provide partial information regarding their primality. More specifically, probabilistic primality tests have the following framework. For each odd positive integer n , a set $W(n) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_n$ is defined such that the following properties hold:

1. given $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n$, it can be checked in deterministic polynomial time whether $a \in W(n)$;
2. if n is prime, then $W(n) = \emptyset$; and
3. if n is composite, then $|W(n)| \geq \frac{n}{2}$.

Definition 4.31. If n is composite, the elements of $W(n)$ are called *witnesses* to the compositeness of n , and the elements of the complementary set $L(n) = \mathbb{Z}_n - W(n)$ are called *liars*. □

A probabilistic primality test utilizes these properties of the sets $W(n)$ in the following manner. Suppose that n is an integer whose primality is to be determined. An integer $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ is chosen at random, and it is checked if $a \in W(n)$. The test outputs “composite” if $a \in W(n)$, and outputs “liar” if $a \notin W(n)$. If indeed $a \in W(n)$, then a is said to *fail the primality test for the base a* ; in this case, n is surely composite. If $a \notin W(n)$, then n is said to *pass the primality test for the base a* ; in this case, no conclusion with absolute certainty can be drawn about the primality of n , and the declaration “prime” may be incorrect.

Any single execution of this test which declares “composites” establishes this with certainty. On the other hand, successive independent runs of the test all of which return the

answer “prime” allow the confidence that the input is indeed prime to be increased to whatever level is desired—the cumulative probability of error is multiplicative over independent trials. If the test is run t times independently on the composite number n , the probability that n is declared “prime” all t times (i.e., the probability of error) is at most $(\frac{1}{2})^t$.

Definition 4.32. An integer n which is believed to be prime on the basis of a probabilistic primality is called a *probable prime*. \square

Two probabilistic primality tests are covered in this section: the Solovay-Strassen test and the Miller-Rabin test. For historical reasons, the Fermat test is first discussed; this test is not truly a probabilistic primality test since it usually fails to distinguish between prime numbers and special composite integers called Carmichael numbers.

4.4.1 Fermat’s test

Fermat’s little theorem asserts that if n is a prime and a is any integer, $1 \leq a \leq n - 1$, then $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$. Therefore, given an integer n whose primality is under question, finding any integer a in this interval such that this equivalence is not true suffices to prove that n is composite.

Definition 4.33. Let n be an odd composite integer. An integer a , $1 \leq a \leq n - 1$, such that $a^{n-1} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ is called a *Fermat witness* (to compositeness) for n . \square

Conversely, finding an integer a between 1 and $n - 1$ such that $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ makes n appear to be prime in the sense that it satisfies Fermat’s theorem for the base a . This motivates the following definition and Algorithm 4.35.

Definition 4.34. Let n be an odd composite integer and let a be an integer, $1 \leq a \leq n - 1$. Then n is said to be a *pseudoprime to a base a* if $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$. The integer a is called a *Fermat liar* (to primality) for n . \square

EXAMPLE 4.11. The composite integer $n = 341 (= 11 \cdot 31)$ is a pseudoprime to the base 2 since $2^{340} \equiv 1 \pmod{341}$. \square

Algorithm 4.35. Fermat primality test

FERMAT(n, t)

INPUT: an odd integer $n \geq 3$ and security parameter $t \geq 1$.

OUTPUT: an answer “prime” or “composite” to the question: “Is n prime?”

1. For i from 1 to t do the following:
 - (a) Choose a random integer a , $2 \leq a \leq n - 2$.
 - (b) Compute $r = a^{n-1} \bmod n$ using Algorithm 4.13.
 - (c) If $r \neq 1$ then Return(“composite”).
2. Return(“prime”). \square

If Algorithm 4.35 declares “composite”, then n is certainly composite. On the other hand, if the algorithm declares “prime” then no proof is provided that n is indeed prime. Nonetheless, since pseudoprimes for a given base a are known to be rare, Fermat’s test provides a correct answer on *most* inputs; this, however, is quite distinct from providing a correct answer most of the time (e.g., if run with different bases) on every input. In fact, it does not do the latter because there are (even rarer) composite numbers which are pseudoprimes to every base a for which $\gcd(a, n) = 1$.

Definition 4.36. A Carmichael number n is a composite integer such that $a^{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ for all integers a which satisfy $\gcd(a, n) = 1$. \square

If n is a Carmichael number, then the only Fermat witnesses for n are those integers a , $1 \leq a \leq n-1$, for which $\gcd(a, n) > 1$. Thus, if the prime factors of n are all large, then with high probability the Fermat test declares that n is “prime”, even if the number of iterations t is large. This deficiency in the Fermat test is removed in the Solovay-Strassen and Miller-Rabin probabilistic primality test by relying on criteria which are stronger than Fermat’s theorem.

This subsection is concluded with some facts about Carmichael numbers. If the prime factorization of n is known, then the Proposition 4.37 can be used to easily determine whether n is a Carmichael number.

Proposition 4.37. A composite integer n is a Carmichael number if and only if the following two conditions are satisfied:

1. n is square-free, i.e., n is not divisible by the square of any prime; and
2. $p-1$ divides $n-1$ for every prime divisor p of n . \square

Proposition 4.38. Every Carmichael number is the product of at least three distinct primes. \square

EXAMPLE 4.12. The Carmichael numbers under 100,000 are 561, 1105, 1729, 2465, 2821, 6601, 8911, 10585, 15841, 29341, 41041, 46657, 52633, 62745, 63973, and 75361.

Small Carmichael numbers are rare: there are only 2,163 are less than 25,000,000,000. Recently, Richard Pinch has found that there are still only 246,683 Carmichael numbers below 10,000,000,000,000,000. Nevertheless, in 1994 it was proved that there are infinitely many of them! \square

EXERCISE 4.39. Proof, that 561 and 1105 are indeed Carmichael numbers. \square

4.4.2 The Legendre and Jacobi symbols

The Solovay-Strassen algorithm employs mathematical background we have not introduced so far. That is, what we want to do in this section.

The Legendre symbol is a useful tool for keeping track of whether or not an integer a is a quadratic residue modulo a prime p .

Definition 4.40. Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$. a is said to be a *quadratic residue* modulo n , or a *square* modulo n , if there exists an $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ such that $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{n}$. If no such x exists, then a is called a *quadratic non-residue* modulo n . The set of all quadratic residues modulo n is denoted by Q_n and the set of all quadratic non-residues is denoted by \bar{Q}_n . \square

Note that by definition $0 \notin \mathbb{Z}_n^*$, whence $0 \notin Q_n$ and $0 \notin \bar{Q}_n$.

Proposition 4.41. Let p be an odd prime and let α be a generator of \mathbb{Z}_p^* . Then $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ is a quadratic residue modulo p if and only if $a = \alpha^i \pmod{p}$, where i is an even integer. It follows that $|Q_p| = (p-1)/2$ and $|\bar{Q}_p| = (p-1)/2$; that is, half of the elements in \mathbb{Z}_p^* are quadratic residues and the other half are quadratic non-residues. \square

EXAMPLE 4.13. $\alpha = 6$ is a generator of \mathbb{Z}_{13}^* . The powers of α are listed in the following table.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|
| i | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| $\alpha^i \bmod 13$ | 1 | 6 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 12 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 11 |

Hence $Q_{13} = \{1, 3, 4, 9, 10, 12\}$ and $\bar{Q}_{13} = \{2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11\}$. □

Proposition 4.42. *Let n be a product of two distinct odd primes p and q , $n = pq$. Then $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ is a quadratic residue modulo n if and only if $a \in Q_p^*$ and $a \in Q_q^*$. It follows that $|Q_n| = |Q_p| \cdot |Q_q| = (p-1)(q-1)/4$ and $|\bar{Q}_n| = 3(p-1)(q-1)/4$.* □

EXAMPLE 4.14. Let $n = 21$. Then $Q_{21} = \{1, 4, 16\}$ and $\bar{Q}_{21} = \{2, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 17, 19, 20\}$. □

Definition 4.43. Let p be an odd prime and a an integer. The *Legendre symbol* $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$ is defined to be

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } p \mid a, \\ 1, & \text{if } a \in Q_p, \\ -1, & \text{if } a \in \bar{Q}_p. \end{cases}$$

□

Proposition 4.44. *Let p be an odd prime and $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then the Legendre symbol has the following properties:*

1. $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \equiv a^{(p-1)/2} \pmod{p}$. In particular, $\left(\frac{1}{p}\right) = 1$ and $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = (-1)^{(p-1)/2}$. Hence $-1 \in Q_p$ if $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, and $-1 \in \bar{Q}_p$ if $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$.
2. $\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$. Hence if $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$, then $\left(\frac{a^2}{p}\right) = 1$.
3. If $a \equiv b \pmod{p}$, then $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$.
4. $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = (-1)^{(p^2-1)/8}$. Hence $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1$ if $p \equiv 1$ or $7 \pmod{8}$, and $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = -1$ if $p \equiv 3$ or $5 \pmod{8}$.
5. (law of quadratic reciprocity) If q is an odd prime distinct from p , then

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) (-1)^{(p-1)(q-1)/4} .$$

In other words, $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$ unless both p and q are congruent to 3 modulo 4, in which case $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = -\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$. □

The Jacobi symbol is a generalization of the Legendre symbol to integers n which are odd but not necessarily prime.

Definition 4.45. Let $n \geq 3$ be odd with prime factorization $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_k^{e_k}$. Then the *Jacobi symbol* $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right)$ is defined to be

$$\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p_1}\right)^{e_1} \left(\frac{a}{p_2}\right)^{e_2} \cdots \left(\frac{a}{p_k}\right)^{e_k} .$$

□

Observe that if n is prime, then the Jacobi symbol is just the Legendre symbol.

Proposition 4.46. *Let $m \geq 3, n \geq 3$ be odd integers, and $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then the Jacobi symbol has the following properties:*

1. $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = 0, 1$ or -1 . Moreover, $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = 0$ if and only if $\gcd(a, n) \neq 1$.
2. $\left(\frac{ab}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{n}\right) \left(\frac{b}{n}\right)$. Hence if $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$, then $\left(\frac{a^2}{n}\right) = 1$.
3. $\left(\frac{a}{mn}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{m}\right) \left(\frac{a}{n}\right)$.
4. If $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$, then $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{b}{n}\right)$.
5. $\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = 1$.
6. $\left(\frac{-1}{n}\right) = (-1)^{(n-1)/2}$. Hence $\left(\frac{-1}{n}\right) = 1$ if $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, and $\left(\frac{-1}{n}\right) = -1$ if $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$.
7. $\left(\frac{2}{n}\right) = (-1)^{(n^2-1)/8}$. Hence $\left(\frac{2}{n}\right) = 1$ if $n \equiv 1$ or $7 \pmod{8}$, and $\left(\frac{2}{n}\right) = -1$ if $n \equiv 3$ or $5 \pmod{8}$.
8. $\left(\frac{m}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{n}{m}\right) (-1)^{(m-1)(n-1)/4}$. In other words, $\left(\frac{m}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{n}{m}\right)$ unless both m and n are congruent 3 modulo 4, in which case $\left(\frac{m}{n}\right) = -\left(\frac{n}{m}\right)$. \square

By properties of the Jacobi symbol it follows that if n is odd and $a = 2^e a_1$ where a_1 is odd, then

$$\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{2^e}{n}\right) \left(\frac{a_1}{n}\right) = \left(\frac{2}{n}\right)^e \left(\frac{n \bmod a_1}{a_1}\right) (-1)^{(a_1-1)(n-1)/4}.$$

This observation yields the following recursive algorithm for computing $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right)$, which does not require the prime factorization of n .

Algorithm 4.47. Jacobi symbol (and Legendre symbol) computation

JACOBI(a, n)

INPUT: an odd integer $n \geq 3$, and an integer $a, 0 \leq a < n$.

OUTPUT: the Jacobi symbol $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right)$ (and hence the Legendre symbol when n is prime).

1. If $a = 0$ then return(0).
2. If $a = 1$ then return(1).
3. Write $a = 2^e a_1$, where a_1 is odd.
4. If e is even, then set $s \leftarrow 1$. Otherwise set $s \leftarrow 1$ if $n \equiv 1$ or $7 \pmod{8}$, or set $s \leftarrow -1$ if $n \equiv 3$ or $5 \pmod{8}$.
5. If $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ and $a_1 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ then set $s \leftarrow -s$.
6. Set $n_1 \leftarrow n \bmod a_1$.
7. If $a_1 = 1$ then return(s); otherwise return($s \cdot \text{JACOBI}(n_1, a_1)$). \square

Proposition 4.48. *Algorithm 4.47 has a running time of $\mathcal{O}((\lg n)^2)$ bit operations.* \square

Remark. Let p denote an odd prime. Even though it is known that half of the elements in \mathbb{Z}_p^* are quadratic non-residues modulo p , there is no *deterministic* polynomial-time algorithm known for finding one. A *randomized* algorithm for finding a quadratic non-residue is to simply select random integers $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ until one is found satisfying $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = -1$. The expected number iterations before a non-residue is found is 2, and hence the procedure takes expected polynomial-time.

EXAMPLE 4.15. For $a = 158$ and $n = 235$, Algorithm 4.47 computes the Jacobi symbol $\left(\frac{158}{235}\right)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{158}{235}\right) &= \left(\frac{2}{235}\right) \left(\frac{79}{235}\right) \\ &= (-1) \left(\frac{235}{79}\right) (-1)^{78 \cdot 234/4} \\ &= \left(\frac{77}{79}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{79}{77}\right) (-1)^{76 \cdot 78/4} \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{77}\right) \\ &= -1. \end{aligned}$$

□

Unlike the Legendre symbol, the Jacobi symbol $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right)$ does not reveal whether or not a is a quadratic residue modulo n . It is indeed true that if $a \in Q_n$, then $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = 1$. However, $\left(\frac{a}{n}\right) = 1$ does not imply that $a \in Q_n$.

EXAMPLE 4.16. We list the elements of \mathbb{Z}_{21}^* and their Jacobi symbols. Recall from example 4.14 that $Q_{21} = \{1, 4, 16\}$. Observe that $\left(\frac{5}{21}\right) = 1$ but $5 \notin Q_{21}$.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| $a \in \mathbb{Z}_{21}^*$ | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 13 | 16 | 17 | 19 | 21 |
| $a^2 \pmod n$ | 1 | 4 | 16 | 4 | 1 | 16 | 16 | 1 | 4 | 16 | 4 | 1 |
| $\left(\frac{a}{3}\right)$ | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | 1 | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 |
| $\left(\frac{a}{7}\right)$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | -1 | -1 |
| $\left(\frac{a}{21}\right)$ | 1 | -1 | 1 | 1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | 1 | 1 | -1 | 1 |

□

EXERCISE 4.49. Determine $\left(\frac{78}{133}\right)$ and $\left(\frac{7411}{9283}\right)$.

□

4.4.3 Solovay-Strassen Test

The Solovay-Strassen probabilistic primality test was the first such test popularized by the advent of public-key cryptography, in particular the RSA cryptosystem. There is no longer any reason to use this test, because an alternative is available (Miller-Rabin test) which is both more efficient and always at least as correct. Discussion is nonetheless included for historical completeness and to clarify this exact point, since many people continue to reference this test. The Solovay-Strassen test is based on the following fact, which is known as **Euler's criterion**.

Proposition 4.50. *Let n be an odd prime. Then $a^{(n-1)/2} \equiv \left(\frac{a}{n}\right) \pmod n$ for all integers a which satisfy $\gcd(a, n) = 1$.*

□

Definition 4.51. Let n be an odd composite integer and let a be an integer $1 \leq a \leq n - 1$.

1. If either $\gcd(a, n) > 1$ or $a^{(n-1)/2} \not\equiv \left(\frac{a}{n}\right) \pmod n$, then a is called an *Euler witness* (to compositeness) for n .
2. Otherwise, i.e., if $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ and $a^{(n-1)/2} \equiv \left(\frac{a}{n}\right) \pmod n$, then n is said to be an *Euler pseudoprime to the base a* . (That is, n acts like a prime in that it satisfies Euler's criterion for the particular base a). The integer a is called *Euler liar* (to primality) for n .

□

EXAMPLE 4.17. The composite integer 91 ($= 7 \cdot 13$) is an Euler pseudoprime to the base 9 since $9^{45} \equiv 1 \pmod{91}$ and $\left(\frac{9}{91}\right) = 1$. \square

Euler's criterion can be used as a basis for a probabilistic primality test because of the following result.

Proposition 4.52. *Let n be an odd composite integer. Then at most $\varphi(n)/2$ of all the numbers $a, 1 \leq a \leq n-1$ are Euler liars for n . Here, φ is the Euler φ function.* \square

Algorithm 4.53. Solovay-Strassen probabilistic primality test

SOLOVAY-STRASSEN(n, t)

INPUT: an odd integer $n \geq 3$ and security parameter $t \geq 1$.

OUTPUT: an answer "prime" or "composite" to the question: "Is n prime?"

1. For i from 1 to t do the following:

- (a) Choose a random integer $a, 2 \leq a \leq n-2$.
- (b) Compute $r = a^{(n-1)/2} \pmod n$ using Algorithm 4.13.
- (c) If $r \neq 1$ and $r \neq n-1$ then return("composite").
- (d) Compute the Jacobi symbol $s = \left(\frac{a}{n}\right)$ using Algorithm 4.47.
- (e) If $r \not\equiv s \pmod n$ then return("composite").

2. Return("prime"). \square

If $\gcd(a, n) = d$, then d is a divisor of $r = a^{(n-1)/2} \pmod n$. Hence, testing whether $r \neq 1$ is step 1.(c), eliminates the necessity of testing whether $\gcd(a, n) \neq 1$. If Algorithm 4.53 declares "composite", then n is certainly composite because prime numbers do not violate Euler's criterion. Equivalently, if n is actually prime, then the algorithm always declares "prime". On the other hand, if n is actually composite, then since the bases a in step 1.(a) are chosen independently during each iteration of step 1, Proposition 4.52 can be used to deduce the following probability of the algorithm erroneously declaring "prime".

Proposition 4.54. *(Solovay-Strassen error-probability bound) Let n be an odd composite integer. The probability that SOLOVAY-STRASSEN(n, t) declares n to be "prime" is less than $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^t$.* \square

EXERCISE 4.55. Determine all Euler Liars for 21. \square

4.4.4 Miller-Rabin Test

The probabilistic primality test used most in practice is the Miller-Rabin test, also known as the *strong pseudoprime test*. The test is based on the following fact.

Proposition 4.56. *Let n be an odd prime, and let $n-1 = 2^s r$ where r is odd. Let a be any integer such that $\gcd(a, n) = 1$. Then either $a^r \equiv 1 \pmod n$ or $a^{2^j r} \equiv -1 \pmod n$ for some $j, 0 \leq j \leq s-1$.* \square

Definition 4.57. Let n be an odd composite integer and let $n-1 = 2^s r$ where r is odd. Let a be an integer in the set $\{1, \dots, n-1\}$.

1. If $a^r \not\equiv 1 \pmod n$ and if $a^{2^j r} \not\equiv -1 \pmod n$ for all $j, 0 \leq j \leq s-1$, then a is called a *strong witness* (to compositeness) for n .

2. Otherwise, i.e., if either $a^r \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ or $a^{2^j r} \equiv -1 \pmod{n}$ for some $j, 0 \leq j \leq s-1$, then n is said to be a *strong pseudoprime to the base a* . (That is, n acts like a prime in that it satisfies Proposition 4.56) for the particular base a .) The integer a is called a *strong liar* (to primality) for n . \square

EXAMPLE 4.18. Consider the composite integer $n = 91 (= 7 \cdot 13)$. Since $91 - 1 = 90 = 2 \cdot 45, s = 1$ and $r = 45$. Since $9^r = 9^{45} \equiv 1 \pmod{91}$, 91 is a strong pseudoprime to the base 9. The set of all strong liars for 91 is:

$$\{1, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 22, 29, 38, 53, 62, 74, 75, 79, 81, 82, 90\} \quad .$$

Notice that the number of strong liars for 91 is $18 = \varphi(91)/4$, where φ is the Euler φ function. \square

Proposition 4.56 can be used as a basis for a probabilistic primality test due to the following result.

Proposition 4.58. *If n is an odd composite integer, then at most $\frac{1}{4}$ of all the numbers $a, 1 \leq a \leq n-1$, are strong liars for n . In fact, if $n \neq 9$, the number of strong liars for n is at most $\varphi(n)/4$, where φ is the Euler φ function.* \square

Algorithm 4.59. Miller-Rabin probabilistic primality test

MILLER-RABIN(n, t)

INPUT: an odd integer $n \geq 3$ and security parameter $t \geq 1$.

OUTPUT: an answer "prime" or "composite" to the question: "Is n prime?"

1. Write $n - 1 = 2^s r$ such that r is odd.
2. For i from 1 to t do the following:
 - (a) Choose a random integer $a, 2 \leq a \leq n - 2$.
 - (b) Compute $y = a^r \pmod{n}$ using Algorithm 4.13.
 - (c) If $y \neq 1$ and $y \neq n - 1$ then do the following:
 - $j \leftarrow 1$.
 - While $j \leq s - 1$ and $y \neq n - 1$ do the following:
 - Compute $y \leftarrow y^2 \pmod{n}$.
 - If $y = 1$ then return("composite").
 - $j \leftarrow j + 1$
 - If $y \neq n - 1$ then return("composite").
3. Return("prime"). \square

Algorithm 4.59 tests whether each base a satisfies the conditions of Definition 4.57, 1. In the fifth line of step 2.(c), if $y = 1$, then $a^{2^j r} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$. Since it is also the case that $a^{2^{j-1} r} \not\equiv \pm 1 \pmod{n}$, it follows that n is composite (in fact, $\gcd(a^{2^{j-1} r} - 1, n)$ is a non-trivial factor of n ¹). In the seventh line of step 2.(c), if $y \neq n - 1$, then a is a strong witness for n . If Algorithm 4.59 declares "composite", then n is certainly composite because prime numbers do not violate Proposition 4.56. Equivalently, if n is actually prime, then the algorithm always declares "prime". On the other hand, if n is actually composite, then Proposition 4.58 can be used to deduce the following probability of the algorithm erroneously declaring "prime".

¹ we omitted the following result: Let x, y and n be integers. If $x^2 \equiv y^2 \pmod{n}$ but $x \not\equiv \pm y \pmod{n}$, then $\gcd(x - y, n)$ is a non-trivial factor of n .

Proposition 4.60. (*Miller-Rabin error-probability bound*) For any odd composite integer n , the probability that $\text{MILLER-RABIN}(n,t)$ declares n to be "prime" is less than $(\frac{1}{4})^t$. \square

4.4.5 A Comparison

The following result describes the relationship between Fermat liars, Euler liars and strong liars.

Proposition 4.61. *Let n be an odd composite integer.*

- *If a is an Euler liar for n , then it is also a Fermat liar for n .*
- *If a is a strong liar for n , then it is also an Euler liar for n .* \square

EXAMPLE 4.19. Consider the composite integer $n = 65 (= 5 \cdot 13)$. The Fermat liars for 65 are $\{1, 8, 12, 14, 18, 21, 27, 31, 34, 38, 44, 47, 51, 53, 57, 64\}$. The Euler liars for 65 are $\{1, 8, 14, 18, 47, 51, 57, 64\}$, while the strong liars for 65 are $\{1, 8, 18, 47, 57, 64\}$. \square

For a fixed composite candidate n , the situation is depicted in Figure 4.3.

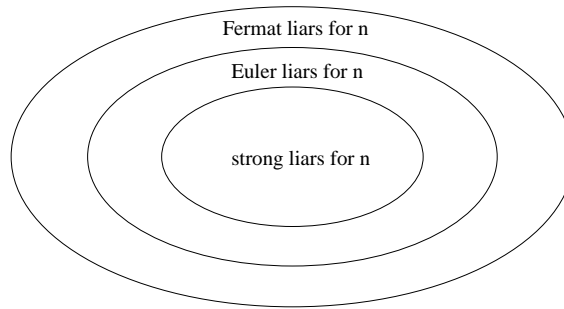


Fig. 4.3. Relationship between Fermat, Euler and strong liars for a composite integer n .

This settles the question of the relative accuracy of the Fermat, Solovay-Strassen and Miller-Rabin tests, not only in the sense of the relative correctness of each test on a fixed candidate n , but also in the sense that given n , the specified containments hold for each randomly chosen base a . Thus, from a correctness point of view, the Miller-Rabin test is never worse than the Solovay-Strassen test, which in turn is never worse than the Fermat test. As the following result shows, there are, however, some composite integers n for which the Solovay-Strassen and Miller-Rabin test are equally good.

Proposition 4.62. *If $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, then a is an Euler liar for n if and only if it is a strong liar for n .* \square

What remains is a comparison of the computational costs. While the Miller-Rabin test may appear more complex, it actually requires, at worst, the same amount of computation as Fermat's test in terms of modular multiplications; thus the Miller-Rabin test is better than Fermat's test in all regards. At worst, the sequence of computation defined in $\text{MILLER-RABIN}(n,1)$ requires the equivalent of computing $a^{(n-1)/2} \pmod{n}$. It is also the case that

MILLER-RABIN($n,1$) requires less computation than SOLOVAY-STRASSEN($n,1$), the latter requiring the computation of $a^{(n-1)/2} \bmod n$ and possibly a further Jacobi symbol computation. For this reason, the Solovay-Strassen test is both computationally and conceptually more complex.

Proposition 4.63. *In summary, both the Miller-Rabin and Solovay-Strassen tests are correct in the event that either their input is actually prime, or that they declare their input composite. There is, however, no reason to use the Solovay-Strassen test (nor the Fermat test) over the Miller-Rabin test. The reasons for this are summarized below.*

- The Solovay-Strassen test is computationally more expensive.
- The Solovay-Strassen test is harder to implement since it also involves Jacobi symbol computation.
- The error probability for Solovay-Strassen is bounded above $(\frac{1}{2})^t$, while the error probability for Miller-Rabin is bounded above by $(\frac{1}{4})^t$.
- Any strong liar for n , is also an Euler liar for n . Hence, from a correctness point of view, the Miller-Rabin test is never worse than the Solovay-Strassen test. \square

4.5 The Integer Factorization Problem

The security of many cryptographic techniques depends upon the intractibility of the integer factorization problem. A partial list of such protocols includes RSA public-key encryption scheme, the RSA signature scheme, and the Rabin public-key encryption scheme. This section summarizes the current knowledge on algorithms for the integer factorization problem.

Definition 4.64. The *integer factorization problem* (FACTORING) is the following: given a positive integer n , find its prime factorization; that is, write $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_k^{e_k}$ where the p_i are pairwise distinct primes and each $e_i \geq 1$. \square

Remark. The problem of *deciding* whether an integer is composite or prime seems to be, in general, much easier than the factoring problem. Hence, before attempting to factor an integer, the integer should be tested to make sure that it is indeed composite. \square

Remark. A *non-trivial factorization* of n is a factorization of the form $n = ab$ where $1 < a, b < n$; a and b are said to be *non-trivial factors* of n . Here a and b are not necessarily prime. To solve the integer factorization problem, it suffices to study algorithms that *split* n , that is, find a non-trivial factorization $n = ab$. Once found, the integers a and b can be tested for primality. The algorithm for splitting integers can be recursively applied to a and/or b , if either is found to be composite. In this manner, the prime factorization of n can be obtained. \square

Note 4.65. If $n \geq 2$, it can be efficiently checked as follows whether n is a *perfect power*, i.e., $n = x^k$ for some integers $x \geq 2, k \geq 2$. For each prime $p \leq \lg n$, an integer approximation x of $n^{1/p}$ is computed. This can be done by performing a binary search for x satisfying $n = x^p$ in the set $\{2, \dots, 2^{\lceil \lg n/p \rceil + 1}\}$. The entire procedure takes $\mathcal{O}((\lg n)^3 \lg \lg \lg n)$ bit operations. For the remainder of this section, it will always be assumed that n is not a perfect power. It follows that if n is composite, then n has at least two distinct prime factors. \square

Some factoring algorithms are tailored to perform better when the integer n being factored is of a special form; these are called *special-purpose* factoring algorithms. The running times of such algorithms typically depend on certain properties of the factor n . Examples of special-purpose factoring algorithms include trial division, Pollard's ρ algorithm, Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm or the elliptic curve algorithm. In contrast, the running times of the so-called *general-purpose* factoring algorithms depend solely of the size n . Examples of general-purpose factoring algorithms include quadratic sieve and the general number field sieve.

Whenever applicable, special-purpose algorithms should be employed as they will generally be more efficient. A reasonable overall strategy is to attempt to find small factors first, capitalize on any particular special forms an integer may have, and then, if all else fails, bring out the general-purpose algorithms. As an example of a general strategy, one might consider the following.

1. Apply trial division by small primes less some bound b_1 .
2. Next, apply Pollard's ρ algorithm, hoping to find any small prime factors smaller than some bound b_2 , where $b_2 > b_1$.
3. Apply the elliptic curve factoring algorithm, hoping to find any small factors smaller than some bound b_3 , where $b_3 > b_2$.
4. Finally, apply one of the more powerful general-purpose algorithms (quadratic sieve or general field sieve).

4.5.1 Trial Division

Once it is established that an integer is composite, before expending vast amounts of time with more powerful techniques, the first thing that should be attempted is trial division by all "small" primes. Here, "small" is determined by a function of the size n . As an extreme case, trial division can be attempted by all primes up to \sqrt{n} . If this is done, trial division will completely factor n but the procedure will take roughly \sqrt{n} divisions in the worst case when n is a product of two primes of the same size. In general, if the factors found at each stage are tested for primality, the trial division to factor n completely takes $\mathcal{O}(p + \lg n)$ divisions, where p is the second-largest prime factor of n .

Proposition 4.66 indicates that if trial division is used to factor a randomly chosen large integer n , then the algorithm can be expected to find some small factors of n relatively quickly and expend a large amount of time to find the second largest prime factor of n .

Proposition 4.66. *Let n be chosen uniformly at random from the set $\{1, \dots, x\}$.*

1. *If $\frac{1}{2} \leq \alpha \leq 1$, then the probability that the largest prime factor of n is $\leq x^\alpha$ is approximately $1 + \ln \alpha$. Thus, for example, the probability that n has a prime factor $> \sqrt{x}$ is $\ln 2 \approx 0.69$.*
2. *The probability that the second-largest prime factor of n is $\leq x^{0.2117}$ is about $\frac{1}{2}$.*
3. *The expected total number of prime factors of n is $\ln \ln x + \mathcal{O}(1)$. (If $n = \prod p_i^{e_i}$, the total number of prime factors of n is $\sum e_i$.)* □

4.5.2 Pollard's ρ -method

Pollard's ρ algorithm is a special-purpose factoring algorithm for finding small factors of a composite integer.

Let $f : S \rightarrow S$ be a random function, where S is a finite set of cardinality n . Let x_0 be a random element of S , and consider the sequence x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots defined by $x_{i+1} = f(x_i)$ for $i \geq 0$. Since S is finite, the sequence must eventually cycle, and consists of a tail of expected length $\sqrt{\pi n/8}$ followed by an endless repeating cycle of expected length $\sqrt{\pi n/8}$. A problem arises in some cryptanalytic tasks, including integer factorization and the discrete logarithm problem, is of finding distinct indices i and j such that $x_i = x_j$ (a *collision* is then said to have occurred).

An obvious method for finding a collision is to compute and store x_i for $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ and look for duplicates. The expected number of inputs that must be tried before a duplicate is detected is $\sqrt{\pi n/2}$. This method requires $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ memory and time, assuming the x_i are stored in a hash table so that new entries can be added in constant time.

Note 4.67. (*Floyd's cycle-finding algorithm*) The large storage requirements in the above technique for finding a collision can be eliminated by using Floyd's cycle-finding algorithm. In this method, one starts with the pair (x_1, x_2) , and iteratively computes (x_i, x_{2i}) from the previous pair (x_{i-1}, x_{2i-2}) , until $x_m = x_{2m}$ for some m . If the tail of sequence has length λ and the cycle has length μ , then the first time that $x_m = x_{2m}$ is when $m = \mu(1 + \lfloor \lambda/\mu \rfloor)$. Note that $\lambda < m \leq \lambda + \mu$, and consequently the expected running time of this method is $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$. \square

Now, let p be a prime factor of a composite integer n . Pollard's ρ algorithm for factoring n attempts to find duplicates in the sequence of integers x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots defined by $x_0 = 2, x_{i+1} = f(x_i) = x_i^2 + 1 \pmod n$ for $i \geq 0$. Floyd's cycle-finding algorithm is utilized to find x_m and x_{2m} such that $x_m = x_{2m} \pmod p$. Since p divides n but is unknown, this is done by computing the terms x_i modulo n and testing if $\gcd(x_m - x_{2m}, n) > 1$. If also $\gcd(x_m - x_{2m}, n) < n$, then a non-trivial factor of n is obtained. (The situation $\gcd(x_m - x_{2m}, n) = n$) occurs with negligible probability.)

Algorithm 4.68. Pollard's ρ algorithm for factoring integers

INOPUT: a composite integer n that is not a prime power.

OUTPUT: a non-trivial factor d of n .

1. Set $a \leftarrow 2, b \leftarrow 2$.
2. For $i = 1, 2, \dots$ do the following:
 - (a) Compute $a \leftarrow a^2 + 1 \pmod n, b \leftarrow b^2 + 1 \pmod n, b \leftarrow b^2 + 1 \pmod n$.
 - (b) Compute $d = \gcd(a - b, n)$.
 - (c) If $1 < d < n$ then return d with success.
 - (d) If $d = n$ then terminate the algorithm with failure. \square

EXAMPLE 4.20. *Pollard's ρ algorithm for finding a non-trivial factor of $n = 455459$* The following table lists the values of variables a, b and d at the end of each iteration step 2 of Algorithm 4.68.

| a | b | d |
|--------|--------|-----|
| 5 | 26 | 1 |
| 26 | 2871 | 1 |
| 677 | 179685 | 1 |
| 2871 | 155260 | 1 |
| 44380 | 416250 | 1 |
| 179685 | 43670 | 1 |
| 121634 | 164403 | 1 |
| 155260 | 247944 | 1 |
| 44567 | 68343 | 743 |

Hence, two non-trivial factors of 455459 are 743 and $455459/743 = 613$. \square

Proposition 4.69. *Assuming that the function $f(x) = x^2 + 1 \pmod n$ behaves like a random function, the expected time for Pollard's ρ algorithm to find a factor p of n is $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{p})$ modular multiplications. This implies that the expected time to find a non-trivial factor of n is $\mathcal{O}(n^{1/4})$ modular multiplications. \square*

Remark. If Pollard's ρ algorithm terminates with failure, one option is to try again with a different polynomial f having integer coefficients instead of $f(x) = x^2 + 1$. For example, the polynomial $f(x) = x^2 + c$ may be used as long as $c \neq 0, -2$. \square

EXERCISE 4.70. Factor 144293 and 1029901 using Pollard's ρ algorithm. \square

4.5.3 Pollard's $p - 1$ -method

Pollard's $p - 1$ factoring algorithm is a special-purpose factoring algorithm that can be used to efficiently find any prime factors p of a composite integer n for which $p - 1$ is smooth with respect to some relatively small bound B .

Definition 4.71. Let B be a positive integer. An integer n is said to be B -smooth, or smooth with respect to a bound B , if all its prime factors are $\leq B$. \square

The idea behind Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm is the following. Let B be a smoothness bound. Let Q be the least common multiple of all powers of primes $\leq B$ that are $\leq n$. If $q^l \leq n$, then $l \cdot \ln q \leq \ln n$, and so $l \leq \lfloor \frac{\ln n}{\ln q} \rfloor$. Thus

$$Q = \prod_{q \leq B} q^{\lfloor \frac{\ln n}{\ln q} \rfloor},$$

where the product is over all distinct primes $q \leq B$. If p is a prime factor of n such that $p - 1$ is B -smooth, then $p - 1 | Q$, and consequently for any a satisfying $\gcd(a, p) = 1$, Fermat's little theorem implies that $a^Q \equiv 1 \pmod p$. Hence, if $d = \gcd(a^Q - 1, n)$, then $p | d$. It is possible that $d = n$, in which case the algorithm fails; however, this is unlikely to occur if n has at least two large distinct prime factors.

Algorithm 4.72. Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm for factoring integers

INPUT: a composite integer n that is not a prime power.

OUTPUT: a non-trivial factor d of n .

1. Select a smoothness bound B .
2. Select a random integer $a, 2 \leq a \leq n - 1$, and compute $d = \gcd(a, n)$. If $d \geq 2$ then return(d).
3. For each prime $q \leq B$ do the following:
 - (a) Compute $l = \lfloor \frac{\ln n}{\ln q} \rfloor$.
 - (b) Compute $a \leftarrow a^{q^l} \pmod n$ using Algorithm 4.13
4. Compute $d = \gcd(a - 1, n)$.
5. If $d = 1$ or $d = n$, then terminate the algorithm with failure. Otherwise, return(d).

EXAMPLE 4.21. (Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm for finding a non-trivial factor of $n = 19048567$)

1. Select the smoothness bound $B = 19$.
2. Select the integer $a = 3$ and compute $\gcd(3, n) = 1$.
3. The following table lists the intermediate values of the variables q, l and a after each iteration of step 3 in Algorithm 4.72:

| q | l | a |
|-----|-----|----------|
| 2 | 24 | 2293244 |
| 3 | 15 | 13555889 |
| 5 | 10 | 16937223 |
| 7 | 8 | 15214586 |
| 11 | 6 | 9685355 |
| 13 | 6 | 13271154 |
| 17 | 5 | 11406961 |
| 19 | 5 | 554506 |

4. Compute $d = \gcd(554506 - 1, n) = 5281$.
5. Two non-trivial factors of n are $p = 5281$ and $q = n/p = 3607$ (these factors are in fact prime).

Notice that $p - 1 = 5280 = 2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$, and $q - 1 = 3606 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 601$. That is, $p - 1$ is 19-smooth, while $q - 1$ is not 19-smooth. \square

Proposition 4.73. *Let n be an integer having a prime factor p such that $p - 1$ is B -smooth. The running time of Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm for finding the factor p is $\mathcal{O}(B \cdot \ln n / \ln B)$ modular multiplications.* \square

Note 4.74. The smoothness bound B in Algorithm 4.72 is selected based on the amount of time one is willing to spend on Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm before moving on to more general techniques. In practice, B may be between 10^5 and 10^6 . If the algorithm terminates with $d = 1$, then one might try searching over prime numbers q_1, q_2, \dots, q_l larger than B by first computing $a \leftarrow a^{q^l} \pmod n$ for $1 \leq i \leq l$, and then computing $d = \gcd(a - 1, n)$. Another variant is to start with a large bound B , and repeatedly execute step 3 for a few primes q followed by the gcd computation in step 4. There are numerous other practical improvements of the algorithm. \square

EXERCISE 4.75. Factor 243307 and 13216271 using Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm. \square

4.5.4 Elliptic curve factoring

The details of *elliptic curve factoring algorithm* are beyond the scope of this paper; nevertheless, a rough outline follows. The success of Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm hinges on $p - 1$ being smooth for some prime divisor p of n ; if no such p exists then the algorithm fails. Observe that $p - 1$ is the order of the group \mathbb{Z}_p^* . The elliptic curve factoring algorithm is a generalization of Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm in the sense that the group \mathbb{Z}_p^* is replaced by a random elliptic curve group over \mathbb{Z}_p . The order of such a group is roughly uniformly distributed in the interval $[p + 1 - 2\sqrt{p}, p + 1 + 2\sqrt{p}]$. If the order of the group chosen is smooth with respect to some pre-selected bound, the elliptic curve algorithm will, with high probability, find a non-trivial factor factor of n . If the group order is not smooth, then the algorithm will likely fail, but can be repeated with a different choice of elliptic curve group.

The elliptic curve algorithm has an expected running time of $L_p[\frac{1}{2}, \sqrt{2}]$ (the definition is $L_q[\alpha, c] = \mathcal{O}(\exp((c + o(1))(\ln q)^\alpha (\ln \ln q)^{1-\alpha}))$) to find a factor p of n . Since this running time depends on the size of the prime factors of n , the algorithm tends to find small such factors first. The elliptic curve algorithm is, therefore, classified as a special-purpose factoring algorithm. It is currently the algorithm of choice for finding t -decimal digit prime factors, for $t \leq 40$, of very large composite integers.

In the hardest case, when n is a product of two primes of roughly the same size, the expected running time of the elliptic curve algorithm is $L_n[\frac{1}{2}, 1]$, which is the same as that of quadratic sieve. However, the elliptic curve algorithm is not as efficient as the quadratic sieve in practice for such integers.

4.5.5 Quadratic sieve factoring

Suppose an integer n is to be factored. Let $m = \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor$, and consider the polynomial $q(x) = (x + m)^2 - n$. Note that

$$q(x) = x^2 + 2mx + m^2 - n \approx x^2 + 2mx \quad (4.5)$$

which is small (relative to n) if x is small in absolute value. The quadratic sieve algorithm selects $a_i = (x + m)$ and tests whether $b_i = (x + m)^2 - n$ is p_t -smooth. Note that $a_i^2 = (x + m)^2 \equiv b_i \pmod{n}$. Note also that if a prime p divides b_i then $(x + m)^2 \equiv n \pmod{p}$, and hence n is quadratic residue modulo p . Thus the factor base need only contain those primes p for which the Legendre symbol $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right)$ is 1. Furthermore, since b_i may be negative, -1 is included in the factor base. The steps of the quadratic sieve algorithm are summarized in Algorithm 4.76.

Algorithm 4.76. Quadratic sieve algorithm for factoring integers

INPUT: a composite integer n that is not a prime power.

OUTPUT: a non-trivial factor d of n .

1. Select the factor base $S = \{p_1, \dots, p_t\}$, where $p_1 = -1$ and p_j ($j \geq 2$) is the $(j - 1)^{th}$ prime p for which n is quadratic residue modulo p .
2. Compute $m = \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor$.
3. (Collect $t + 1$ pairs (a_i, b_i) . The x values are chosen in the order $0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$)
Set $i \leftarrow 1$. While $i \leq t + 1$ do the following:

- (a) Compute $b = q(x) = (x + m)^2 - n$, and test using trial division by elements in S whether b is p_t -smooth. If not, pick a new x and repeat step 3.1.
 - (b) If b is p_t -smooth, say $b = \prod_{j=1}^t p_j^{e_{ij}}$, then set $a_i \leftarrow (x + m)$, $b_i \leftarrow b$ and $v_i = (v_{i1}, \dots, v_{it})$, where $v_{ij} = e_{ij} \pmod 2$ for $1 \leq j \leq t$.
 - (c) $i \leftarrow i + 1$.
4. Use linear algebra over \mathbb{Z}_2 to find a non-empty subset $T \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, t + 1\}$ such that $\sum_{i \in T} v_i = 0$.
 5. Compute $x = \prod_{i \in T} a_i \pmod n$.
 6. For each $j, 1 \leq j \leq t$, compute $l_j = (\sum_{i \in T} e_{ij}) / 2$.
 7. Compute $y = \prod_{j=1}^t p_j^{l_j} \pmod n$.
 8. If $x \equiv \pm y \pmod n$, then find another non-empty subset $T \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, t + 1\}$ such that $\sum_{i \in T} v_i = 0$, and go to step 5. (In the unlikely case such that a subset T does not exist, replace a few of the (a_i, b_i) pairs with new pairs (step 3) and go to step 4.)
 9. Compute $d = \gcd(x - y, n)$ and return(d). □

EXAMPLE 4.22. (quadratic sieve algorithm for finding a non-trivial factor of $n = 24961$)

1. Select the factor base $S = \{-1, 2, 3, 5, 13, 23\}$ of size $t = 6$. (7, 11, 17 and 19 are omitted from S since $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right) = -1$ for these primes.)
2. Compute $m = \lfloor \sqrt{24961} \rfloor = 157$.
3. Following is the data collected for the first $t + 1$ values of x for which $q(x)$ is 23-smooth.

| i | x | $q(x)$ | factorization of $q(x)$ | a_i | v_i |
|-----|-----|--------|---------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| 1 | 0 | -312 | $-2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 13$ | 157 | (1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0) |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 158 | (0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0) |
| 3 | -1 | -625 | -5^4 | 156 | (1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0) |
| 4 | 2 | 320 | $2^6 \cdot 5$ | 159 | (0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0) |
| 5 | -2 | -936 | $-2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 13$ | 155 | (1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0) |
| 6 | 4 | 960 | $2^6 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$ | 161 | (0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0) |
| 7 | -6 | -2160 | $-2^4 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5$ | 151 | (1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0) |

4. By inspection, $v_1 + v_2 + v_5 = 0$. (In the notation of Algorithm 4.76, $T = \{1, 2, 5\}$)
5. Compute $x = a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot a_5 \pmod n = 936$.
6. Compute $l_1 = 1, l_2 = 3, l_3 = 2, l_4 = 0, l_5 = 1, l_6 = 0$.
7. Compute $y = -2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 13 \pmod n = 24025$.
8. Since $936 \equiv -24025 \pmod n$, another linear dependency must be found.
9. By inspection, $v_3 + v_6 + v_7 = 0$; thus $T = \{3, 6, 7\}$.
10. Compute $x = a_3 \cdot a_6 \cdot a_7 \pmod n = 23405$.
11. Compute $l_1 = 1, l_2 = 5, l_3 = 2, l_4 = 3, l_5 = 0, l_6 = 0$.
12. Compute $y = -2^5 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^3 \pmod n = 13922$.
13. Now, $23405 \not\equiv \pm 13922 \pmod n$, so compute $\gcd(x - y, n) = \gcd(9483, 24961) = 109$. Hence, two non-trivial factors of 24961 are 109 and 229. □

Note 4.77. Instead of testing smoothness by trial division in step 3.1. of Algorithm 4.76, a more efficient technique known as *sieving* is employed in practice. Observe first that if p is an odd prime in the factor base and p divides $q(x)$, then p also divides $q(x + lp)$ for every

integer l . Thus by solving the equation $q(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ for x , one knows either one or two (depending on the number of solutions to the quadratic equation) entire sequences of other values y for which p divides $q(y)$.

The *sieving process* is the following. An array $Q[]$ indexed x , $-M \leq x \leq M$, is created and the x^{th} entry is initialized to $\lfloor lg \mid q(x) \rfloor$. Let x_1, x_2 be the solutions to $q(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, where p is an odd prime in the factor base. Then the value $\lfloor lgp \rfloor$ is subtracted from those entries $Q[x]$ in the array for which $x \equiv x_1$ or $x_2 \pmod{p}$ and $-M \leq x \leq M$. This is repeated for each odd prime p in the factor base. (The case of $p = 2$ and prime powers can be handled in a similar manner.) After the sieving, the array entries $Q[x]$ with values near 0 are most likely to be p_t -smooth (roundoff errors must be taken into account), and this can be verified by factoring $q(x)$ by trial division. \square

Note 4.78. To optimize the running time of the quadratic sieve, the size of the factor base should be judiciously chosen. The optimal selection of $t \approx L_n[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$ is derived from knowledge concerning the distribution of smooth integers close to \sqrt{n} . With this choice, Algorithm 4.76 with sieving has an expected running time of $L_n[\frac{1}{2}, 1]$, independent of the size of the factors of n . \square

EXERCISE 4.79. Use the Quadratic Sieve Algorithm 4.76 to factor $n = 25591$. \square

4.6 Attacks on RSA

This section discusses various security issues related to RSA encryption. Various attacks which have been studied in the literature are presented, as well as appropriate measures to counteract these threats.

4.6.1 Relation to factoring

The task faced by a passive adversary is that of recovering plaintext m from the corresponding ciphertext c , given the public information (n, b) of the intended receiver A . This is called the RSA problem.

Definition 4.80. The *RSA problem* (RSAP) is the following: given a positive integer n that is a product of two distinct odd primes p and q , a positive integer b such that $\gcd(b, (p-1)(q-1)) = 1$ and an integer c , find an integer m such that $m^b \equiv c \pmod{n}$. \square

The RSAP is a computational problem whose true computational complexity is not known. That is to say, they are widely believed to be intractable², although no proof of this is known. Generally, the only lower bounds known on the resources required to solve these problems are the trivial linear bounds, which do not provide any evidence of their intractability. It is, therefore, of interest to study their relative difficulties. For this reason, various techniques of reducing one computational problem to another have been devised and studied in the literature. These reductions provide a means for converting any algorithm that solves the second problem into an algorithm for solving the first problem. The following intuitive notion of reducibility is used in this paper.

² A computational problem is said to be *easy* or *tractable* if it can be solved in polynomial time, at least for a non-negligible fraction of all possible inputs. In other words, if there is an algorithm which can solve a non-negligible fraction of all instances of a problem in polynomial time, then any cryptosystem whose security is based on that problem must be considered insecure.

Definition 4.81. Let A and B be two computational problems. A is said to be *polytime reduced* to B , written $A \leq_P B$, if there is an algorithm that solves A which uses, as a subroutine, a hypothetical algorithm for solving B , and which runs in polynomial time if the algorithm for B does. \square

Informally speaking, if A polytime reduces to B , then B is at least as difficult as A ; equivalently, A is no harder than B . Consequently, if A is a well-studied computational problem that is widely believed to be intractible, then proving that $A \leq_P B$ provides strong evidence of the intractibility of problem B .

Definition 4.82. Let A and B be two computational problems. If $A \leq_P B$ and $B \leq_P A$, then A and B are said to be *computationally equivalent*, written $A \equiv_P B$. \square

Informally speaking, if $A \equiv_P B$ then A and B are either both tractable or both intractable, as the case may be.

One possible approach which an adversary could employ to solving the RSA problem is to first factor n , and then compute $\varphi(n)$ and a just as the receiver A did in Algorithm 4.28. Once a is obtained, the adversary can decrypt any ciphertext intended for A .

On the other hand, if an adversary could somehow compute a , then it could subsequently factor n efficiently as follows. First note that since $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$, there is an integer k such that $ab - 1 = k \cdot \varphi(n)$. Hence, by Euler's theorem, $x^{ab-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$. Let $ab - 1 = 2^s t$, where t is an odd integer. Then it can be shown that there exists an $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ such that $x^{2^{i-1}t} \not\equiv \pm 1 \pmod{n}$ and $x^{2^i t} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ for at least half of all $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$; if x and i are such integers then $\gcd(x^{2^{i-1}t} - 1, n)$ is a non-trivial factor of n . Thus the adversary simply needs to repeatedly select random $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ and check if an $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ satisfying the above property exists; the expected number of trials before a non-trivial factor of n is obtained is 2. This discussion establishes following.

Proposition 4.83. *The problem of computing RSA decryption exponent a from the public key (n, b) and the problem of factoring nm are computationally equivalent.* \square

When generating RSA keys, it is imperative that the primes p and q be selected in such a way that factoring $n = pq$ is computationally infeasible.

4.6.2 Small Encryption Exponent b

In order to improve the efficiency of encryption, it is desirable to select a small encryption exponent b such as $b = 3$. A group of entities may all have the same encryption exponent b , however, each entity in the group must have its own distinct modulus. If an entity A wishes to send the same message m to three entities whose public moduli are n_1, n_2, n_3 and whose encryption exponents are $b = 3$, then A would send $c_i = m^3 \pmod{n_i}$, for $i = 1, 2, 3$. Since these moduli are most likely pairwise relatively prime, an eavesdropper observing c_1, c_2, c_3 can use Gauss' algorithm 4.16 to find a solution $x, 0 \leq x < n_1 n_2 n_3$, to the three congruences

$$\begin{cases} x \equiv c_1 & (\text{mod } n_1) \\ x \equiv c_2 & (\text{mod } n_2) \\ x \equiv c_3 & (\text{mod } n_3). \end{cases}$$

Since $m^3 < n_1 n_2 n_3$, by the Chinese remainder theorem 4.15, it must be the case that $x = m^3$. Hence, by computing the integer cube root of x , the eavesdropper can recover the plaintext m .

Thus a small encryption exponent such as $b = 3$ should not be used if the same message, or even the same message with known variations, is sent to many entities. Alternatively, to prevent against such an attack, a pseudorandomly generated bitstring of appropriate length should be appended to the plaintext message prior to encryption. This process is sometimes referred to as *salting* the message.

Small encryption exponents are also a problem for small messages m , because if $m < n^{1/b}$, then m can be recovered from the ciphertext $c = m^b \bmod n$ simply by computing the integer b^{th} root of c ; salting the plaintext messages also circumvents this problem.

EXERCISE 4.84. Suppose, a message m has been encrypted three times using keys $K_i = (n_i, 3)$ for $i = 1, 2, 3$, where $n_1 = 10807, n_2 = 10573$ and $n_3 = 11639$. The resulting ciphertexts are $c_1 = 6453, c_2 = 5090$ and $c_3 = 5549$. What is the original message m for this case? \square

4.6.3 Forward Search Attack

If the message space is small or predictable, an adversary can decrypt a ciphertext c by simply encrypting all possible plaintext messages until c is obtained. Salting the message as described above is one simple method of preventing such an attack.

EXERCISE 4.85. Suppose Bob has an RSA Cryptosystem with a large modulus n for which the factorization cannot be found in a reasonable amount of time. Suppose Alice sends a message to Bob by representing each alphabetic character as an integer between 0 and 25 (ie., $A \leftrightarrow 0, B \leftrightarrow 1$, etc.), and then encrypting each residue modulo 26 as a separate plaintext character.

- Describe how Oscar can easily decrypt a message which is encrypted in this way.
- Illustrate this attack by decrypting the following ciphertext (which was encrypted using an RSA Cryptosystem with $n = 18721$ and $b = 25$) without factoring the modulus:

365, 0, 4845, 14930, 2608, 2608, 0.

\square

4.6.4 Small Decryption Exponent a

As was the case with the encryption exponent b , it may seem desirable to select a small decryption exponent a in order to improve the efficiency of decryption³. However, if $\gcd(p - 1, q - 1)$ is small, as it is typically the case, and if a has up to approximately one-quarter as many bits as the modulus n , then there is an efficient algorithm for computing a from the public information (n, b) . This algorithm cannot be extended to the case where a is approximately the same size as n . Hence, to avoid this attack, the decryption exponent a should be roughly the same size as n .

³ In this case, one would select a as first and then compute b in algorithm 4.28, rather than vice versa.

4.6.5 Multiplicative Properties

Let m_1 and m_2 be two plaintexts messages, and let c_1 and c_2 be their respective RSA encryptions. Observe that

$$(m_1 m_2)^b \equiv m_1^{b_1} m_2^{b_2} \equiv c_1 c_2 \pmod{n}.$$

In other words, the ciphertext corresponding to the plaintext $m = m_1 m_2 \pmod{n}$ is $c = c_1 c_2 \pmod{n}$; this is sometimes referred to as the *homomorphic property* of RSA. This observation leads to the following *adaptive chosen-ciphertext attack* on RSA encryption.

Suppose that an active adversary wishes to decrypt a particular ciphertext $c = m^b \pmod{n}$ intended for A . Suppose also that A will decrypt arbitrary ciphertext for the adversary, other than c itself. The adversary can conceal c by selecting a random integer $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ and computing $\bar{c} = cx^b \pmod{n}$. Upon presentation of \bar{c} , A will compute for the adversary $\bar{m} = (\bar{c})^a \pmod{n}$. Since

$$\bar{m} \equiv (\bar{c})^a \equiv c^a (x^b)^a \equiv mx \pmod{n},$$

the adversary can then compute $m = \bar{m}x^{-1} \pmod{n}$.

This adaptive chosen-ciphertext attack should be circumvented in practice by imposing some structural constraints on plaintext messages. If a ciphertext c is decrypted to a message not possessing this structure, then c is rejected by the decryptor as being fraudulent. Now, if a plaintext message m has this (carefully chosen) structure, then with high probability $mx \pmod{n}$ will not for $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$. Thus, the adaptive chosen-ciphertext attack described in the previous paragraph will fail because A will not decrypt \bar{c} for the adversary.

EXERCISE 4.86. Illustrate an adaptive chosen-ciphertext attack on RSA encryption where the public key is $(41989 = 199 \cdot 211, 773)$, the ciphertext of interest is $c = 30894$ and $x = 33333$. Double-check the result by direct computation. \square

4.6.6 Common modulus attack

The following discussion demonstrates why it is imperative for each entity to choose its own RSA modulus n .

It is sometimes suggested that a central trusted authority should select a single RSA modulus n , and then distribute a distinct encryption/decryption exponent pair (b_i, a_i) to each entity in a network. However, as shown in subsection “Relation to factoring” above, knowledge of any (b_i, a_i) pair allows for the factorization of the modulus n , and hence any entity could subsequently determine the decryption exponents of all other entities in the network. Also, if a single message were encrypted and sent to two or more entities in the network, then there is a technique by which an eavesdropper (any entity not in the network) could recover the message with high probability using only publicly available information.

EXERCISE 4.87. Suppose Bob has an RSA Cryptosystem with modulus n and encryption exponent b_1 , and Charlie has an RSA Cryptosystem with (the same) modulus n and encryption exponent b_2 . Suppose also that $\gcd(b_1, b_2) = 1$. Now, consider the situation that arises if Alice encrypts the same plaintext x to send to both Bob and Charlie. Thus, she computes $y_1 = x^{b_1} \pmod{n}$ and $y_2 = x^{b_2} \pmod{n}$, and then she sends y_1 to Bob and y_2 to Charlie. Suppose Oscar intercepts y_1 and y_2 , and performs the following computations.

- compute $c_1 = b_1^{-1} \pmod{b_2}$

- compute $c_2 = \frac{c_1 \cdot b_1 - 1}{b_2}$
- compute $x_1 = y_1^{c_1} \cdot (y_2^{c_2})^{-1} \pmod n$

1. Prove, that the value x_1 is in fact Alice's plaintext, x . Thus, Oscar can decrypt the message Alice sent, even though the cryptosystem may be "secure".
2. Illustrate the attack by computing x by this method if $n = 18721$, $b_1 = 43$, $b_2 = 7717$, $y_1 = 12677$ and $y_2 = 14702$. □

4.6.7 Cycling attacks

Let $c = m^b \pmod n$ be a ciphertext. Let k be a positive integer such that $c^{b^k} \equiv c \pmod n$; since encryption is a permutation on the message space $\{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ such an integer k must exist. For the same reason it must be the case that $c^{b^{k-1}} \equiv m \pmod n$. This observation leads to the following *cycling attack* on RSA encryption. An adversary computes $c^b \pmod n$, $c^{b^2} \pmod n$, $c^{b^3} \pmod n$, ... until c is obtained for the first time. If $c^{b^k} \pmod n = c$, then the previous number in the cycle, namely $c^{b^{k-1}} \pmod n$, is equal to the plaintext m .

A *generalized cycling attack* is to find the smallest positive integer u such that $f = \gcd(c^{b^u} - c, n) > 1$. If

$$c^{b^u} \equiv c \pmod p \quad \text{and} \quad c^{b^u} \not\equiv c \pmod q \tag{4.6}$$

then $f = p$. Similarly, if

$$c^{b^u} \not\equiv c \pmod p \quad \text{and} \quad c^{b^u} \equiv c \pmod q \tag{4.7}$$

then $f = q$. In either case, n has been factored, and the adversary can recover a and then m . On the other hand, if both

$$c^{b^u} \equiv c \pmod p \quad \text{and} \quad c^{b^u} \equiv c \pmod q, \tag{4.8}$$

then $f = n$ and $c^{b^u} \equiv c \pmod n$. In fact, u must be the smallest positive integer k for which $c^{b^k} \equiv c \pmod n$. In this case, the basic cycling attack has succeeded and so $m = c^{b^{u-1}} \pmod n$ can be computed efficiently. Since (4.8) is expected to occur much less frequently than (4.6) and (4.7), the generalized cycling attack usually terminates before the cycling attack does. For this reason, the generalized cycling attack can be viewed as being essentially an algorithm for factoring n .

Since factoring n is assumed to be intractible, these cycling attacks do not pose a threat to the security of RSA encryption.

EXERCISE 4.88. Assume the ciphertext $c = 216$ has been encrypted using RSA with the key $K = (221, 5)$. Determine the plaintext p belonging to c with a cycling attack and without factoring 221 or determining a . How long does it take when using the general approach? □

4.6.8 Message Concealing

A plaintext message m , $0 \leq m \leq n-1$ in the RSA public-key encryption scheme is said to be *unconcealed* if it encrypts to itself; that is, $m^b \equiv m \pmod n$. There are always some messages

which are unconcealed (for example $m = 0, m = 1$ and $m = n - 1$). In fact, the number of unconcealed messages is exactly

$$(1 + \gcd(b - 1, p - 1)) \cdot (1 + \gcd(b - 1, q - 1)) .$$

Since $b - 1, p - 1$ and $q - 1$ are all even, the number of unconcealed messages is always at least 9. If p and q are random primes, and if b is chosen at random (or if b is chosen to be a small number such as $b = 3$ or $b = 2^{16} + 1 = 65537$), then the proportion of messages which are unconcealed by RSA encryption will, in general, be negligibly small, and hence unconcealed messages do not pose a threat to the security of RSA encryption in practice.

4.7 RSA Encryption in Practice

There are numerous ways of speeding up RSA encryption and decryption in software and hardware implementations. Some of these techniques include fast modular multiplication, fast modular exponentiation and the use of the Chinese remainder theorem for faster decryption. Even with these improvements, RSA encryption/decryption is substantially slower than the commonly used symmetric-key encryption algorithm such as DES. In practice, RSA encryption is most commonly used for the transport of symmetric-key encryption algorithm keys and for the encryption of small items.

The RSA cryptosystem has been patented in the U.S. and Canada. Several standards organizations have written, or are in the process of writing, standards that address the use of the RSA cryptosystem for encryption, digital signatures, and key establishment.

Note 4.89. (*recommended size of the modulus*) Given the latest progress in algorithms for factoring integers, a 512-bit modulus n provides only marginal security from concerted attack. As of 1996, in order to foil the powerful quadratic sieve and number field sieve factoring algorithms, a modulus n of at least 768 bits is recommended. For long-term security, 1024-bit or larger moduli should be used. \square

Note 4.90. (*selecting primes*)

1. The primes p and q should be selected so that factoring $n = pq$ is computationally infeasible. The major restriction to p and q in order to avoid the elliptic curve factoring algorithm is that p and q should be about the same bitlength, and sufficiently large. For example, if a 1024-bit modulus n is to be used, then each of p and q should be about 512 bits in length.
2. Another restriction on the primes p and q is that the difference $p - q$ should not be too small. If $p - q$ is small, then $p \approx q$ and hence $p \approx \sqrt{n}$. Thus, n could be factored efficiently simply by trial division by all odd integers close to \sqrt{n} . If p and q are chosen at random, then $p - q$ will be appropriately large with overwhelming probability.
3. In addition to these restrictions, many authors have recommended that p and q be strong primes. A prime p is said to be *strong prime* iff the following three conditions are satisfied:
 - (a) $p - 1$ has a large prime factor, denoted r ;
 - (b) $p + 1$ has a large prime factor; and
 - (c) $r - 1$ has a large prime factor.

There are algorithms for generating strong primes. The reason for condition (a) is to foil Pollard's $p - 1$ factoring algorithm which is efficient only if n has a prime factor p such that $p - 1$ is smooth. Condition (b) foils the $p + 1$ factoring algorithm, which is efficient only if n has a prime factor p such that $p + 1$ is smooth. Finally, condition (c) ensures that the cycling attacks will fail.

If the prime p is randomly chosen and is sufficiently large, then both $p - 1$ and $p + 1$ can be expected to have large prime factors. In any case, while strong primes protect against the $p - 1$ and $p + 1$ factoring algorithms, they do not protect against their generalization, the elliptic curve factoring algorithm. The latter is successful in factoring n if a randomly chosen number of the same size as p (more precisely, this number is the order of a randomly selected elliptic curve defined over \mathbb{Z}_p) has only small prime factors. Additionally, it has been shown that the chances of a cycling attack succeeding are negligible if p and q are randomly chosen. Thus, strong primes offer little protection beyond that offered by random primes. Given the current state of knowledge of factoring algorithms, there is no compelling reason for requiring the use of strong primes in RSA key generation. On the other hand, they are no less secure than random primes, and require only minimal additional running time to compute; thus there is little real additional cost in using them. \square

Note 4.91. (*small encryption exponents*)

1. If the encryption exponent b is chosen at random, then RSA encryption using the repeated square-and-multiply algorithm 4.13 takes k modular squarings and an expected $k/2$ (less with optimizations) modular multiplications, where k is the bitlength of the modulus n . Encryption can be sped up by selecting b to be small and/or by selecting b with a small number of 1's in its binary representation.
2. The encryption exponent $b = 3$ is commonly used in practice; in this case, it is necessary that neither $p - 1$ nor $q - 1$ be divisible by 3. This results in a very fast encryption operation since encryption only requires 1 modular multiplication and 1 modular squaring. Another encryption exponent used in practice is $b = 2^{16} + 1 = 65537$. This number has only two 1's in its binary representation, and so encryption using the repeated square-and-multiply algorithm requires only 16 modular squarings and 1 modular multiplication. The encryption exponent $b = 2^{16} + 1$ has the advantage over $b = 3$ in that it resists the kind of attack discussed in subsection 4.6.2, since it is unlikely the same message will be sent to $2^{16} + 1$ recipients. \square

Chapter 5

The ElGamal Cryptosystem

In this chapter, we look at a different public-key cryptosystem. The ElGamal Cryptosystem is based on the Discrete Logarithm problem, which plays an important role in numerous cryptographic protocols in practice. Thus we devote a considerable amount of time to discussion of this important problem.

5.1 The ElGamal Cryptosystem and Discrete Logarithms

The ElGamal Cryptosystem is based on the Discrete Logarithm problem. We begin by describing this problem in the setting of a finite field \mathbb{Z}_p , where p is prime. Recall that the multiplicative group \mathbb{Z}_p^* is cyclic, and a generator of \mathbb{Z}_p^* is called a primitive element.

Definition 5.1. The *discrete logarithm problem* is the following: given a prime p , a generator α of \mathbb{Z}_p^* , and an element $\beta \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$, find the integer a , $0 \leq a \leq p - 2$, such that $\alpha^a \equiv \beta \pmod{p}$. The integer a is denoted by $\log_\alpha \beta$ and called the discrete logarithm of β to the base α . \square

EXAMPLE 5.1. Let $p = 97$. Then \mathbb{Z}_{97}^* is a cyclic group of order $n = 96$. A generator of \mathbb{Z}_{97}^* is $\alpha = 5$. Since $5^{32} \equiv 35 \pmod{97}$, $\log_5 35 = 32$ in \mathbb{Z}_{97}^* . \square

There is no reason to restrict ourselves to the cyclic group \mathbb{Z}_p . Instead of this we can generalize the problem to an arbitrary finite cyclic group.

Definition 5.2. The *generalized discrete logarithm problem* is the following: given a finite cyclic group G of order n , a generator α of G , and an element $\beta \in G$, find the integer a , $0 \leq a \leq n - 1$, such that $\alpha^a \equiv \beta \pmod{n}$. Again, a is called the *discrete logarithm* of β to the base α . \square

Here are some simple facts about discrete logarithms.

Proposition 5.3. Let α be a generator of a cyclic group G of order n , and let $\beta, \gamma \in G$. Let s be an integer. Then $\log_\alpha(\beta\gamma) = (\log_\alpha \beta + \log_\alpha \gamma) \pmod{n}$ and $\log_\alpha(\beta^s) = s \log_\alpha \beta \pmod{n}$. \square

Note 5.4. (*difficulty of the generalized discrete logarithm problem is independent of generator*) Let α and γ be two generators of a cyclic group G of order n , and let $\beta \in G$. Let $x = \log_\alpha \beta$, $y = \log_\gamma \beta$ and $z = \log_\alpha \gamma$. Then $\alpha^x = \beta = \gamma^y = (\alpha^z)^y$. Consequently $x = zy \pmod{n}$ and

$$\log_\gamma \beta = (\log_\alpha \beta) (\log_\alpha \gamma)^{-1} \pmod{n} .$$

This means that any algorithm which computes logarithms to the base α can be used to compute logarithms to any other base γ that is also a generator of G . \square

The Discrete Logarithm problem in \mathbb{Z}_p has been the object of much study. The problem is generally regarded as being difficult if p is carefully chosen. In particular, there is no known polynomial-time algorithm for the Discrete Logarithm problem. To thwart known attacks, p should have at least 150 digits, and $p - 1$ should have at least one “large” prime factor. The utility of the Discrete Logarithm problem in a cryptographic setting is that finding discrete logs is (probably) difficult, but the inverse operation of exponentiation can be computed efficiently by using the square-and-multiply algorithm 4.13. Stated another way, exponentiation modulo p is a one-way function for suitable primes p .

ElGamal has developed a public-key cryptosystem based on the Discrete Logarithm problem. This system is presented now.

Definition 5.5. Let p be a prime such that the discrete log problem in \mathbb{Z}_p is intractable, and let $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ be a primitive element. Let $\mathcal{P} = \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ and $\mathcal{C} = \mathbb{Z}_p^* \times \mathbb{Z}_p^*$, and define

$$\mathcal{K} = \{(p, \alpha, a, \beta) \mid \beta \equiv \alpha^a \pmod{p}\} .$$

The values p, α and β are public, and a is secret. For $K = (p, \alpha, a, \beta)$ and for a (secret) random number $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{p-1}$, define

$$e_K(x, k) = (y_1, y_2) ,$$

where

$$y_1 = \alpha^k \pmod{p}$$

and

$$y_2 = x\beta^k \pmod{p} .$$

For $y_1, y_2 \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$, define

$$d_K(y_1, y_2) = y_2 (y_1^a)^{-1} \pmod{p} .$$

\square

The ElGamal Cryptosystem is non-deterministic, since the ciphertext depends on both the plaintext x and on the random value k chosen by Alice. So there will be many ciphertexts that are encryptions of the same plaintext.

Informally, this is how the ElGamal Cryptosystem works. The plaintext x is “masked” by multiplying it by β^k , yielding y_2 . The value α^k is also transmitted as part of the ciphertext. Bob, who knows the secret exponent a , can compute β^k from α^k . Then he can “remove the mask” by dividing y_2 by β^k to obtain x .

Algorithm 5.6. Key generation for ElGamal public-key encryption

SUMMARY: each entity creates a public key and a corresponding private key.

Each entity A should do the following.

1. Generate a large random prime p and a generator α of the multiplicative group \mathbb{Z}_p^* of the integers modulo p .
2. Select a random integer $a, 1 \leq a \leq p - 2$ and compute $\alpha^a \pmod{p}$ (using Algorithm 4.13).
3. A 's public key is (p, α, α^a) ; A 's private key is a . \square

Algorithm 5.7. ElGamal public-key encryptionSUMMARY: B encrypts a message x for A , which A decrypts1. *Encryption.* B should do the following:

- (a) Obtain A 's authentic public key (p, α, α^k) .
- (b) Represent the message as an integer x in the range $\{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$.
- (c) Select a random integer $k, 1 \leq k \leq p-2$.
- (d) Compute $y_1 = \alpha^k \bmod p$ and $y_2 = x \cdot (\alpha^a)^k \bmod p$.
- (e) Send the ciphertext $c = (y_1, y_2)$ to A .

2. *Decryption.* To recover plaintext x from c , A should do the following.

- (a) Use the private key a to compute $y_1^a \bmod p$.
- (b) Recover x by computing $y_2 \cdot (y_1^a)^{-1} \bmod p$. □

The decryption of Algorithm 5.7 allows recovery of the original plaintext because

$$y_2 (y_1^a)^{-1} \equiv x \beta^k (\alpha^{ka})^{-1} \equiv x \beta^k ((\alpha^a)^k)^{-1} \equiv x \beta^k (\beta^k)^{-1} \equiv x \pmod{p}.$$

EXAMPLE 5.2. *ElGamal encryption with artificially small parameters.**Key generation.* Entity A selects the prime $p = 2357$ and a generator $\alpha = 2$ of \mathbb{Z}_{2357}^* . A chooses the private key $a = 1751$ and computes

$$\alpha^a \bmod p = 2^{1751} \bmod 2357 = 1185.$$

 A 's public key is $(p = 2357, \alpha = 2, \alpha^a = 1185)$.*Encryption.* To encrypt a message $x = 2035$, B selects a random integer $k = 1520$ and computes

$$y_1 = 2^{1520} \bmod 2357 = 1430$$

and

$$y_2 = 2035 \cdot 1185^{1520} \bmod 2357 = 697.$$

 B sends $(y_1 = 1430, y_2 = 697)$ to A .*Decryption.* To decrypt, A computes

$$y_1^a = 1430^{1751} \bmod 2357 = 1760,$$

and recovers x by computing

$$x = 697 \cdot 1760^{-1} \bmod 2357 = 697 \cdot 872 \bmod 2357 = 2035.$$

□

Note 5.8. (*common system-wide parameters*) All entities may elect to use the same prime p and generator α , in which case p and α need not be published as part of the public key. This results in public keys of smaller sizes. An additional advantage of having a fixed base α is that exponentiation can then be expedited via precomputations. A potential disadvantage of common system-wide parameters is that larger moduli p may be warranted. □

Note 5.9. (*efficiency of ElGamal encryption*)

- The encryption process requires two modular exponentiations, namely $\alpha^k \bmod p$ and $(\alpha^a)^k \bmod p$. These exponentiations can be sped up by selecting random exponents k having some additional structure, for example, having low Hamming weights (i.e., the number of 1 in their binary representations is low). Care must be taken that the possible number of exponents is large enough to preclude a search via a baby-step giant-step algorithm.
- A disadvantage of ElGamal encryption is that there is *message expansion* by a factor of 2. That is, the ciphertext is twice as long as the corresponding plaintext. \square

Note 5.10. (*recommended parameter size*) Given the last progress on the discrete logarithm problem in \mathbb{Z}_p^* , a 512-bit modulus p provides only marginal security from concerted attack. As of 1996, a modulus p of at least 768 bits is recommended. For long-term security, 1024-bit or larger moduli should be used. For common system-wide parameters even larger key sizes may be warranted. This is because the dominant stage in the index-calculus algorithm for discrete logarithms in \mathbb{Z}_p^* is the precomputation of a database of factor base logarithms, following which individual logarithms can be computed relatively quickly. Thus computing the database of logarithms for one particular modulus p will compromise the secrecy of all private keys derived using p . \square

5.2 Algorithms for the Discrete Log Problem

In this section we will present various algorithms for the generalized discrete logarithm problem. The most obvious method is to successively compute $\alpha^0, \alpha^1, \alpha^2, \dots$ until β is obtained. This method, called *exhaustive search*, takes $\mathcal{O}(n)$ multiplications, where n is the order of α and is therefore inefficient if n is large (i.e., in cases of cryptographic interest).

5.2.1 The Baby-Step-Giant-Step Algorithm

Let $m = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil$, where n is the order of α . The baby-step giant-step algorithm is a time-memory trade-off of the method of exhaustive search and is based on the following observation. If $\beta = \alpha^x$, then one can write $x = im + j$, where $0 \leq i, j < m$. Hence, $\alpha^x = \alpha^{im} \alpha^j$, which implies $\beta(\alpha^{-m})^i = \alpha^j$. This suggests the following algorithm for computing x .

Algorithm 5.11. Baby-step giant-step algorithm for computing discrete logarithms
 INPUT: a generator α of a cyclic group G of order n , and an element $\beta \in G$.
 OUTPUT: the discrete logarithm $x = \log_\alpha \beta$.

1. Set $m \leftarrow \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil$.
2. Construct a table with entries (j, α^j) for $0 \leq j < m$. Sort this table by second component.
3. Compute α^{-m} and set $\gamma \leftarrow \beta$.
4. For i from 0 to $m - 1$ do the following:
 - (a) Check if γ is the second component of some entry in the table.
 - (b) If $\gamma = \alpha^j$ then return($x = im + j$).
 - (c) Set $\gamma \leftarrow \gamma \cdot \alpha^{-m}$.

Algorithm 5.11 requires storage for $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ group elements. The table takes $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ multiplications to construct, and $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n} \lg n)$ comparisons to sort. Having constructed this table, step 4 takes $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ multiplications and $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ table look-ups. Under the assumption that a

group multiplication takes more time than $\lg n$ comparisons, the running time of Algorithm 5.11 can be stated more concisely as follows.

Proposition 5.12. *The running time of the baby-step giant-step Algorithm 5.11 is $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ group multiplications.* \square

EXAMPLE 5.3. (*baby-step giant-step algorithm for logarithms in \mathbb{Z}_{113}^**). Let $p = 113$. The element $\alpha = 3$ is a generator of \mathbb{Z}_{113}^* of order $n = 112$. Consider $\beta = 57$. Then $\log_3 57$ is computed as follows.

1. Set $m \leftarrow \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil = 11$.
2. Construct a table whose entries are $(j, \alpha^j \bmod p)$ for $0 \leq j < 11$:

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|
| j | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| $3^j \pmod{113}$ | 1 | 3 | 9 | 27 | 81 | 17 | 51 | 40 | 7 | 21 | 63 |

and sort the table by second component:

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| j | 0 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 10 | 4 |
| $3^j \pmod{113}$ | 1 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 17 | 21 | 27 | 40 | 51 | 63 | 81 |

3. Using Algorithm 4.12, compute $\alpha^{-1} = 3^{-1} \bmod 113 = 38$ and then compute $\alpha^{-m} = 38^{11} \bmod 113 = 58$.
4. Next, $\gamma = \beta \alpha^{-mi} \bmod 113$ for $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ is computed until a value in the second row of the table is obtained. This yields:

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|----|----|---|---|
| j | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| $\gamma = 57 \cdot 58^i \pmod{113}$ | 57 | 29 | 100 | 37 | 112 | 55 | 26 | 39 | 2 | 3 |

Finally, since $\beta \alpha^{-9m} = 3 = \alpha^1, \beta = \alpha^{100}$ and therefore, $\log_3 57 = 100$. \square

EXERCISE 5.13. Let $p = 643$. A generator of \mathbb{Z}_{643}^* is $\alpha = 11$. Considering $\beta = 315$, compute $\log_{11} 315$. \square

5.2.2 Pollard's ρ -algorithm for Discrete Logs

Pollard's ρ algorithm for computing discrete logarithms is a randomized algorithm with the same expected running time as the baby-step giant-step algorithm, but which requires a negligible amount of storage. For this reason, it is far preferable to Algorithm 5.11 for problems of practical interest. For simplicity, it is assumed in this subsection that G is a cyclic group whose order n is prime.

The group G is partitioned into three sets S_1, S_2 and S_3 of roughly equal size based on some easily testable property. Some care must be exercised in selecting the partition; for example $1 \notin S_2$. Define a sequence of group elements x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots by $x_0 = 1$ and

$$x_{i+1} = f(x_i) = \begin{cases} \beta \cdot x_i, & \text{if } x_i \in S_1, \\ x_i^2, & \text{if } x_i \in S_2, \\ \alpha \cdot x_i, & \text{if } x_i \in S_3, \end{cases} \quad (5.9)$$

for $i \geq 0$. This sequence of group elements in turn defines sequences of integers a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots and b_0, b_1, b_2, \dots satisfying $x_i = \alpha^{a_i} \beta^{b_i}$ for $i \geq 0$: $a_0 = 0, b_0 = 0$ and for $i \geq 0$:

$$a_{i+1} = \begin{cases} a_i, & \text{if } x_i \in S_1, \\ 2a_i \bmod n, & \text{if } x_i \in S_2, \\ a_i + 1 \bmod n, & \text{if } x_i \in S_3, \end{cases} \quad (5.10)$$

and

$$b_{i+1} = \begin{cases} b_i + 1 \bmod n, & \text{if } x_i \in S_1, \\ 2b_i \bmod n, & \text{if } x_i \in S_2, \\ b_i, & \text{if } x_i \in S_3. \end{cases} \quad (5.11)$$

Floyd's cycle-finding Algorithm 4.67 can then be utilized to find two group elements x_i and x_{2i} such that $x_i = x_{2i}$. Hence $\alpha^{a_i} \beta^{b_i} = \alpha^{a_{2i}} \beta^{b_{2i}}$ and so $\beta^{b_i - b_{2i}} = \alpha^{a_{2i} - a_i}$. Taking logarithms to the base α of both sides of this last equation yields

$$(b_i - b_{2i}) \cdot \log_{\alpha} \beta \equiv (a_{2i} - a_i) \pmod{n}.$$

Provided $b_i \not\equiv b_{2i} \pmod{n}$ (note: $b_i \equiv b_{2i}$ occurs with negligible property), this equation can then be efficiently solved to determine $\log_{\alpha} \beta$.

Algorithm 5.14. Pollard's ρ algorithm for computing discrete logarithms

INPUT: a generator α of a cyclic group G of prime order n , and an element $\beta \in G$.

OUTPUT: the discrete logarithm $\log_{\alpha} \beta$.

1. Set $x_0 \leftarrow 1, a_0 \leftarrow 0, b_0 \leftarrow 0$.
2. For $i = 1, 2, \dots$ do the following:
 - (a) Using the quantities $x_{i-1}, a_{i-1}, b_{i-1}$ and $x_{2i-2}, a_{2i-2}, b_{2i-2}$ computed previously, compute x_i, a_i, b_i and x_{2i}, a_{2i}, b_{2i} using equations (5.9), (5.10) and (5.11).
 - (b) If $x_i = x_{2i}$, then do the following:
 - Set $r \leftarrow b_i - b_{2i} \pmod{n}$.
 - If $r = 0$ then terminate the algorithm with failure; otherwise, compute $x = r^{-1}(a_{2i} - a_i) \bmod n$ and *return*(x). □

In the rare case that Algorithm 5.14 terminates with failure, the procedure can be repeated by selecting random integers $a_0, b_0 \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ and starting with $x_0 = \alpha^{a_0} \beta^{b_0}$.

EXAMPLE 5.4. (*Pollard's ρ algorithm for logarithms in a subgroup of \mathbb{Z}_{383}^**) The element $\alpha = 2$ is a generator of the subgroup G of \mathbb{Z}_{383}^* of order $n = 191$. Suppose $\beta = 228$. Partition the elements of G into three subsets according to the rule $x \in S_1$ if $x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, $x \in S_2$ if $x \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ and $x \in S_3$ if $x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$. Table 5.1 shows the values of $x_i, a_i, b_i, x_{2i}, a_{2i}$ and b_{2i} at the end of each iteration step of algorithm 5.14. Note that $x_{14} = x_{28} = 144$. Finally, compute $r = b_{14} - b_{28} \bmod 191 = 125, r^{-1} = 125^{-1} \bmod 191 = 136$ and $r^{-1}(a_{28} - a_{14}) \bmod 191 = 110$. Hence, $\log_2 228 = 110$. □

Proposition 5.15. *Let G be a group of order n , a prime. Assume that the function $f : G \rightarrow G$ defined by equation (5.10) behaves like a random function. Then the expected running time of Pollard's ρ algorithm for discrete logarithms in G is $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ group operations. Moreover, the algorithm requires negligible storage. □*

| i | x_i | a_i | b_i | x_{2i} | a_{2i} | b_{2i} |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | 228 | 0 | 1 | 279 | 0 | 2 |
| 2 | 279 | 0 | 2 | 184 | 1 | 4 |
| 3 | 92 | 0 | 4 | 14 | 1 | 6 |
| 4 | 184 | 1 | 4 | 256 | 2 | 7 |
| 5 | 205 | 1 | 5 | 304 | 3 | 8 |
| 6 | 14 | 1 | 6 | 121 | 6 | 18 |
| 7 | 28 | 2 | 6 | 144 | 12 | 38 |
| 8 | 256 | 2 | 7 | 235 | 48 | 152 |
| 9 | 152 | 2 | 8 | 72 | 48 | 154 |
| 10 | 304 | 3 | 8 | 14 | 96 | 118 |
| 11 | 372 | 3 | 9 | 256 | 97 | 119 |
| 12 | 121 | 6 | 18 | 304 | 98 | 120 |
| 13 | 12 | 6 | 19 | 121 | 5 | 51 |
| 14 | 144 | 12 | 38 | 144 | 10 | 104 |

Table 5.1. Intermediate steps of Pollard’s ρ algorithm in example 5.4

- EXERCISE 5.16. 1. Consider the cyclic group \mathbb{Z}_{311}^* . Then $\alpha = 17$ is a generator for this group. Take $\beta = 67$ and apply Pollard’s ρ Algorithm 5.14 to compute $\log_\alpha \beta$. Check your result by verifying the equation $\alpha^{\log_\alpha \beta} = \beta$. What went wrong?
2. Consider the subgroup G of \mathbb{Z}_{79}^* that is generated by $\alpha = 67$ and has order $n = 13$. Use Pollard’s ρ Algorithm 5.14 to compute $\log_\alpha \beta$, verify your result, determine all elements of G and double-check again. □

5.2.3 The Pohlig-Hellman Algorithm

Algorithm 5.17 for computing logarithms takes advantage of the factorization of the order n of the group G . Let $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_r^{e_r}$ be the prime factorization of n . If $x = \log_\alpha \beta$, then the approach is to determine $x_i = x \bmod p_i^{e_i}$ for $1 \leq i \leq r$, and then use Gauss’s algorithm 4.16 to recover $x \bmod n$. Each integer x_i is determined by computing the digits $l_0, l_1, \dots, l_{e_i-1}$ in turn of its p_i -ary representation: $x_i = l_0 + l_1 p_i + \dots + l_{e_i-1} p_i^{e_i-1}$, where $0 \leq l_j \leq p_i - 1$.

To see that the algorithm 5.17 is correct, observe first that in step 2.c) the order of $\bar{\alpha}$ is q . Next, at iteration j of step 2.d), $\gamma = \alpha^{l_0 + l_1 q + \dots + l_{j-1} q^{j-1}}$. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bar{\beta} &= (\beta/\gamma)^{n/q^{j+1}} \\
 &= \left(\alpha^{x - l_0 - l_1 q - \dots - l_{j-1} q^{j-1}} \right)^{n/q^{j+1}} \\
 &= \left(\alpha^{n/q^{j+1}} \right)^{x_i - l_0 - l_1 q - \dots - l_{j-1} q^{j-1}} \\
 &= \left(\alpha^{n/q^{j+1}} \right)^{l_j q^j + \dots + l_{e-1} q^{e-1}} \\
 &= \left(\alpha^{n/q} \right)^{l_j + \dots + l_{e-1} q^{e-1-j}} \\
 &= (\bar{\alpha})^{l_j},
 \end{aligned}$$

the last equality being true because $\bar{\alpha}$ has order q . Hence, $\log_{\bar{\alpha}} \bar{\beta}$ is indeed equal to l_j .

Algorithm 5.17. Pohlig-Hellman algorithm for computing discrete logarithms

INPUT: a generator α of a cyclic group G of order n , and an element $\beta \in G$

OUTPUT: the discrete logarithm $x = \log_{\alpha} \beta$.

1. Find the prime factorization of n : $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_r^{e_r}$, where $e_i \geq 1$.
2. For i from 1 to r do the following:

(Compute $x_i = l_0 + l_1 p_i + \cdots + l_{e_i-1} p_i^{e_i-1}$, where $x_i = x \pmod{p_i^{e_i}}$)

 - (a) (Simplify the notation) Set $q \leftarrow p_i$ and $e \leftarrow e_i$.
 - (b) Set $\gamma \leftarrow 1$ and $l_{-1} \leftarrow 0$.
 - (c) Compute $\bar{\alpha} \leftarrow \alpha^{n/q}$.
 - (d) (Compute the l_j) For j from 0 to $e - 1$ do the following:

Compute $\gamma \leftarrow \gamma \alpha^{l_{j-1} q^{j-1}}$ and $\bar{\beta} \leftarrow (\beta \gamma^{-1})^{n/q^{j+1}}$.

Compute $l_j \leftarrow \log_{\bar{\alpha}} \bar{\beta}$ (e.g., using Algorithm 5.11)
 - (e) Set $x_i \leftarrow l_0 + l_1 q + \cdots + l_{e-1} q^{e-1}$.
3. Use Gauss's Algorithm 4.16 to compute the integer x , $0 \leq x \leq n - 1$, such that $x \equiv x_i \pmod{p_i^{e_i}}$ for $1 \leq i \leq r$.
4. Return(x). □

The next example illustrates Algorithm 5.17 with artificially small parameters.

EXAMPLE 5.5. (Pohlig-Hellman algorithm for logarithms in \mathbb{Z}_{251}^*) Let $p = 251$. The element $\alpha = 71$ is a generator of \mathbb{Z}_{251}^* of order $n = 250$. Consider $\beta = 210$. Then $x = \log_{71} 210$ is computed as follows.

1. The prime factorization of n is $250 = 2 \cdot 5^3$.
2. (a) (Compute $x_1 = x \pmod{2}$)

Compute $\bar{\alpha} = \alpha^{n/2} \pmod{p} = 250$ and $\bar{\beta} = \beta^{n/2} \pmod{p} = 250$. Then $x_1 = \log_{250} 250 = 1$.
- (b) (Compute $x_2 = x \pmod{5^3} = l_0 + l_1 5 + l_2 5^2$)
 - i. Compute $\bar{\alpha} = \alpha^{n/5} \pmod{p} = 20$.
 - ii. Compute $\gamma = 1$ and $\bar{\beta} = (\beta \gamma^{-1})^{n/5} \pmod{p} = 149$. Using exhaustive search¹, compute $l_0 = \log_{20} 149 = 2$.
 - iii. Compute $\gamma = \gamma \alpha^2 \pmod{p} = 21$ and $\bar{\beta} = (\beta \gamma^{-1})^{(p-1)/125} \pmod{p} = 113$. Using exhaustive search, compute $l_1 = \log_{20} 113 = 4$.
 - iv. Compute $\gamma = \gamma \alpha^{4 \cdot 5} \pmod{p} = 115$ and $\bar{\beta} = (\beta \gamma^{-1})^{(p-1)/125} \pmod{p} = 149$. Using exhaustive search, compute $l_2 = \log_{20} 149 = 2$.

Hence, $x_2 = 2 + 4 \cdot 5 + 2 \cdot 5^2 = 72$.
3. Finally, solve the pair of congruences $x \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, x \equiv 72 \pmod{125}$ to get $x = \log_{71} 210 = 197$. □

Proposition 5.18. Given the factorization of n , the running time of the Pohlig-Hellman Algorithm 5.17 is $\mathcal{O}(\sum_{i=1}^r e_i (\lg n + \sqrt{p_i}))$ group multiplications. □

Note 5.19. (effectiveness) Proposition 5.18 implies that the Pohlig-Hellman algorithm is efficient only if each prime divisor p_i of n is relatively small; that is, if n is a smooth integer.

¹ Exhaustive search is preferable to Algorithm 5.11 when the group is very small (here the order of $\bar{\alpha}$ is 5)

An example of a group in which the Pohlig-Hellman algorithm is effective follows. Consider the multiplicative group \mathbb{Z}_p^* where p is the 107-digit-prime:

$$p = 227088231986781039743145181950291021585250524967592855 \\ 96453269189798311427475159776411276642277139650833937.$$

The order of \mathbb{Z}_p^* is $n = p - 1 = 2^4 \cdot 104729^8 \cdot 224737^8 \cdot 350377^4$. Since the largest prime divisor of $p - 1$ is only 350377, it is relatively easy to compute logarithms in this group using the Pohlig-Hellman algorithm. \square

Note 5.20. (*miscellaneous*)

- If n is a prime, then algorithm 5.17 is the same as baby-step giant-step Algorithm 5.11.
- In step 1 of Algorithm 5.17, a factoring algorithm which finds small factors first (e.g., Algorithm 4.72) should be employed; if the order n is not a smooth integer, then Algorithm 5.17 is inefficient anyway.
- The storage required for Algorithm 5.11 in step 2.(d) can be eliminated by using instead Pollard's ρ Algorithm 5.14. \square

EXERCISE 5.21. $\alpha = 17$ is a generator of \mathbb{Z}_{311}^* that has group order $n = 310$. Assume $\beta = 67$. Compute $\log_{17} 67$ using the Pohlig-Hellman Algorithm 5.17. \square

5.2.4 The Index Calculus Method

The index-calculus algorithm is the most powerful method known for computing discrete logarithms. The technique employed does not apply to all groups, but when it does, it often gives a subexponential-time algorithm. The algorithm is first described in the general setting of a cyclic group G (Algorithm 5.22). One example is then presented to illustrate how the index-calculus algorithm works in kind of groups that are used in practical applications, namely \mathbb{Z}_p^* .

The index-calculus algorithm requires the selection of a relatively small subset S of elements of G , called the *factor base*, in such a way that a significant fraction of elements of G can be efficiently expressed as products of elements in S , and then reuses this database each time the logarithm of a particular group element is required.

The description of algorithm 5.22 is incomplete for two reasons. Firstly, a technique for selecting the factor base S is not specified. Secondly, a method for efficiently generating relations of the form (5.12) and (5.14) is not specified. The factor base S must be a subset of G that is small (so that the system of equations to be solved in step 3 is not too large), but not too small (so that the expected number of trials to generate a relation (5.12) or (5.14) is not too large). Suitable factor bases and techniques for generating relations are known for some cyclic subgroups including \mathbb{Z}_p^* .

Algorithm 5.22. Index-calculus algorithm for discrete logarithms in cyclic groups
 INPUT: a generator α of a cyclic group G of order n and an element $\beta \in G$
 OUTPUT: the discrete logarithm $y = \log_\alpha \beta$.

1. (*Select a factor base S*) Choose a subset $S = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_t\}$ of G such that a “significant proportion” of all elements in G can be efficiently expressed as a product of elements from S .

2. (Collect linear relations involving logarithms of elements in S)
 - (a) Select a random integer $k, 0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ and compute α^k .
 - (b) Try to write α^k as a product of elements in S :

$$\alpha^k = \prod_{i=1}^t p_i^{e_i}, \quad c_i \geq 0. \quad (5.12)$$

If successful, take logarithms both sides of equation (5.12) to obtain a linear relation

$$k \equiv \sum_{i=1}^t e_i \log_{\alpha} p_i \pmod{n}. \quad (5.13)$$

- (c) Repeat steps 2.(a) and 2.(b) until $t + c$ relations of the form (5.13) are obtained (c is a small positive integer, e.g. $c = 10$, such that the system of equations given by the $t + c$ relations has a unique solution with high probability).
3. (Find the logarithms of elements in S) Working modulo n , solve the linear system of $t + c$ equations (in t unknowns) of the form (5.13) collected in step 2 to obtain the values of $\log_{\alpha} p_i, 1 \leq i \leq t$.
4. (Compute y)
 - (a) Select a random integer $k, 0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ and compute $\beta \cdot \alpha^k$.
 - (b) try to write $\beta \cdot \alpha^k$ as a product of elements in S :

$$\beta \cdot \alpha^k = \prod_{i=1}^t p_i^{d_i}, \quad d_i \geq 0. \quad (5.14)$$

If the attempt is unsuccessful then repeat step 4.(a). Otherwise, taking logarithms of both sides of equation (5.14) yields $\log_{\alpha} \beta = (\sum_{i=1}^t d_i \log_{\alpha} p_i - k) \pmod{n}$; thus, compute $y = (\sum_{i=1}^t d_i \log_{\alpha} p_i - k) \pmod{n}$ and return y . \square

For the field \mathbb{Z}_p , p a prime, the factor base S can be chosen as the first t prime numbers. A relation (5.12) is generated by computing $\alpha^k \pmod{n}$ and then using trial division to check whether this integer is a product of primes in S . The following example illustrates algorithm 5.22 in \mathbb{Z}_p^* on a problem with artificially small parameters.

EXAMPLE 5.6. (Algorithm 5.22 for logarithms in \mathbb{Z}_{229}^*) Let $p = 229$. The element $\alpha = 6$ is a generator of \mathbb{Z}_{229}^* of order $n = 228$. Consider $\beta = 13$. Then $\log_6 13$ is computed as follows, using the index-calculus technique.

1. The factor base is chosen to be the first 5 primes: $S = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11\}$.
2. The following six relations involving elements of the factor base are obtained (unsuccessful attempts are not shown):

$$\begin{aligned} 6^{100} \pmod{229} &= 180 = 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \\ 6^{18} \pmod{229} &= 176 = 2^4 \cdot 11 \\ 6^{12} \pmod{229} &= 165 = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 \\ 6^{62} \pmod{229} &= 154 = 2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \\ 6^{143} \pmod{229} &= 198 = 2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 11 \\ 6^{206} \pmod{229} &= 210 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7. \end{aligned}$$

These relations yield the following six equations involving the logarithms of elements in the factor base:

$$100 \equiv 2 \log_6 2 + 2 \log_6 3 + \log_6 5 \pmod{228}$$

$$18 \equiv 4 \log_6 2 + \log_6 11 \pmod{228}$$

$$12 \equiv \log_6 3 + \log_6 5 + \log_6 11 \pmod{228}$$

$$62 \equiv \log_6 2 + \log_6 7 + \log_6 11 \pmod{228}$$

$$143 \equiv \log_6 2 + 2 \log_6 3 + \log_6 11 \pmod{228}$$

$$206 \equiv \log_6 2 + \log_6 3 + \log_6 5 + \log_6 7 \pmod{228}.$$

3. Solving the linear system of six equations in five unknowns (the logarithms $x_i = \log_6 p_i$) yields the solutions $\log_6 2 = 21, \log_6 3 = 208, \log_6 5 = 98, \log_6 7 = 107$ and $\log_6 11 = 162$.
4. Suppose that the integer $k = 77$ is selected. Since $\beta \cdot \alpha^k = 13 \cdot 6^{77} \pmod{229} = 147 = 3 \cdot 7^2$, it follows that

$$\log_6 13 = (\log_6 3 + 2 \log_6 7 - 77) \pmod{228} = 117.$$

□

Chapter A

Cryptography Timeline

This chapter has been added to give an impression in what kind of areas cryptography has played an important role. We start with a quotation of David Kahn’s “The Codebreakers”:

“It must be that as soon as a culture has reached a certain level, probably measured largely by its literacy, cryptography appears spontaneously—as its parents, language and writing, probably also did. The multiple human needs and desires that demand privacy among two or more people in the midst of social life must inevitably lead to cryptology wherever men thrive and wherever they write. Cultural diffusion seems a less likely explanation for its occurrence in so many areas, many of them distant and isolated.”

The invention of cryptography is not limited to either civilians or the government. Whenever the need for secrecy is felt, the invention occurs. However, over time the quality of the best available system continues to improve and those best systems were often invented by civilians. Again, from David Kahn:

“It was the amateurs of cryptology who created the species. The professionals, who almost certainly surpassed them in cryptanalytic expertise, concentrated on down-to-earth problems of the system that were then in use but are now outdated. The amateurs, unfettered to those realities, soared into the empyrean of theory.”

In the table to follow, each description starts with (date; civ or govt; source). Sources are identified in full at the end.

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
|---------------|--------|------------|--|
| about 1900 BC | civ | Kahn, p.71 | An Egyptian scribe used non-standard hieroglyphs in an inscription. Kahn lists this as the first document example of written cryptography. |
| 1500 BC | civ | Kahn, p.75 | A Mesopotamian tablet contains an enciphered formula for the making of glazes for pottery. |
| 600-500 BC | civ | Kahn, p.77 | Hebrew scribes writing down the book of Jeremiah used a reversed-alphabet simple substitution cipher known as ATBASH. Jeremiah started dictating to Baruch in 605 BC but the chapters containing these bits of cipher are attributed to a source labeled “C” (believed not to be Baruch) which could |

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
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| | | | be an editor writing after Babylonian exile in 587 BC, someone contemporaneous with Baruch or even Jeremiah himself. ATBASH was one of a few Hebrew ciphers of the time. |
| 487 BC | govt | Kahn, p.82 | The greeks used a device called the “skytale”—a staff around which a long, thin strip of leather was wrapped and written on. The leather was taken off and worn as a belt. Presumably, the recipient would have a matching staff and the encryption staff would be left at home. |
| 60-50 BC | govt | Kahn, p.83 | Julius Caesar (100-44 BC) used a simple substitution with the normal alphabet (just shifting the letters a fixed amount) in government communications. This cipher was less strong than ATBASH, by a small amount, but in a day when people read in the first place, it was good enough. He also used transliteration of Latin into Greek letters and a number of other simple ciphers. |
| 0-400? | civ | Burton | <p>The Kama Sutra of Vatsayana lists cryptography as the 44th and 45th of 64 arts (yogas) men and women should know and practice. The date of this work is unclear but is believed to be between the first and fourth centuries, AD. Vatsayana says that his Kama Sutra is a compilation of much earlier works, making the dating of the cryptography references even more uncertain. Part I, Chapter III lists the 64 arts and opens with: “Man should study the Kama Sutra and the arts and sciences subordinate thereto[...] Even young maids should study this Kama Sutra, along with its arts and sciences, before marriage, and after it they should continue to do so with the consent of their husbands.”</p> <p>These arts are clearly not the province of a government or even of academics, but rather are practices of laymen.</p> <p>In this list of arts, the 44th and 45th read:
 The art of understanding writing in cipher, and the writing of words in a peculiar way. The art of speaking by changing the forms of words. It is of various kinds. Some speak by changing the beginning and end of words, others by adding unnecessary letters between every syllable of a word, and so on.</p> |

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
|------------|------------|-------------|--|
| 200's | civ | Kahn, p.91 | "The so-called Leiden papyrus [...] employes cipher to conceal the crucial protions of important magic recipes." |
| 725-790? | govt/(civ) | Kahn, p.97 | Abu 'Abd al-Rahman al-Khalil ibn Ahmad ibn 'Amr ibn Tammam al Farahidi al-Zadi al Yahmadi wrote a (now lost) book on cryptography, inspired by his solution of a cryptogram in Greek for the Byzantine emporer. His solution was based on known (correctly guessed) plaintext at the message start—a standard cryptanalytic method, used even in World War II agains Enigma messages. |
| 855 | civ | Kahn, p.93 | Abu Bakr Ahmad ben 'Ali ben Wahshiyya an-Nabati published several cipher alphabets which were traditionally used for magic. |
| — | govt | Kahn, p.94 | "A few documents with ciphertext survive from the Ghaznavid government of conquered Persia, and one chronicler reports that high officials were supplied with a personal cipher before setting out for new posts. But the general lack of continuity of Islamic states and the consequent failure to develop a permanent civil service and to set up permanent embassies in other countries militated against cryptography's more widespread use." |
| 1226 | govt | Kahn, p.106 | "As early as 1226, a faint political cryptography appeared in the archives of Venice, where dots or crosses replaced the vowels in a few scattered words." |
| about 1250 | civ | Kahn, p.90 | Roger Bacon not only descibed several ciphers but wrote: "A man is crazy who writes a secret in any other way than one which will conceal it from the vulgar." |
| 1379 | govt/civ | Kahn, p.107 | Gabrieli di Lavinde at the request of Clement VII, compiled a combination substitution alphabet and small code—the first example of the nomenclator Kahn has found. This class of code/cipher was to remain in general use among diplomats and some civilians for the next 450 years, in spite of the fact that there were stronger ciphers being invented in the meantime, possibly because of its relative convenience. |

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
|-----------|--------|----------------|---|
| 1300's | govt | Kahn, p.94 | 'Abd al-Rahman Ibn Khaldun wrote "The Muqaddimah", a substantial survey of history which cites the use of "names of perfums, fruits, birds, or flowers to indicate the letters, or [...] of forms different from the accepted forms of the letters" as a cipher among tax and army bureaus. He also includes a reference to cryptanalysis, noting "Well-known writings on the subject are in the possession of the people." |
| 1392 | civ | Price, p.182-7 | "The Equatorie of the Planetis", possibly written by Geoffrey Chaucer, contains passages in cipher. The cipher is a simple substitution with a cipher alphabet consisting of letters, digits and symbols. |
| 1412 | civ | Kahn, p.95-6 | Shihab al-Din abu 'l-'Abbas Ahmad ben 'Ali ben Ahmand' Abd Allah al-Qalqashandi wrote "Subh al-a'sha", a 14-volume Arabic encyclopedia which included a section on cryptology. This information was attributed to Taj ad-Din 'Ali ibn ad-Daraihim be Muhammad ath-Tha'alibi al-Mausili who lived from 1312 to 1361 but whose writings on cryptology have been lost. The list of ciphers in this work included both substitution and transposition and, for the first time a cipher with multiple substitutions for each plaintext letter. Also traced to Ibn al-Durauhim is an exposition on and worked example of cryptanalysis including the use of tables of letter frequencies and sets of letters which cannot occur together in one word. |
| 1466-7 | civ | Kahn, p.127 | Leon Battista Alberti invented and published the first polyalphabetic cipher, designing a cipher disk (known as the Captain Midnight Decoder Badge) to simplify the process. This class of cipher was apparently not broken until the 1800's. Alberti also wrote extensively on the state of the art in ciphers, besides his own invention. Alberti also used his disk for enciphered code. These systems were much stronger than the nomenclator in use by the diplomats of the day and for centuries to come. |
| 1473-1490 | civ | Kahn, p.91 | "A manuscript [...] by Arnaldus de Bruxella uses five lines of cipher to conceal the crucial part of the operation of making a philosopher's stone." |
| 1518 | civ | Kahn, p.130-6 | Johannes Trithemius wrote the first printed book on cryptology. He invented a steganographic cipher in which each letter was represented as a word taken from a succession of columns. The resulting series |

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
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| | | | of words would be a legitimate prayer. He also described polyalphabetic ciphers in the now-standard form of rectangular substitution tables. He introduced the notion of changing alphabets with each letter. |
| 1553 | civ | Kahn, p.137 | Giovan Batista Belaso introduced the notion of using a passphrase as the key for a repeated polyalphabetic cipher. This is the standard polyalphabetic cipher operation mis-named “Vigenere” by most writers of this day. |
| 1563 | civ | Kahn, p.138 | Giovanni Battista Porta wrote a text on ciphers, introducing the digraphic cipher. He classified ciphers as transposition, substitution and symbol substitution. He suggested use of synonyms and misspellings to confuse the cryptanalyst. He apparently introduced the notion of a mixed alphabet in a polyalphabetic tableau. |
| 1564 | civ | Kahn, p.144 | Belasso published an autokey cipher improving on the work of Cardano who appears to have invented the idea. |
| 1623 | civ | Bacon | Sir Francis Bacon described a cipher which now bears his name—a biliteral cipher, known today as a 5-bit binary encoding. He advanced it as a steganographic device—by using variation in type face to carry each bit of the encoding. |
| 1585 | civ | Kahn, p.146 | Blaise de Vigenere wrote a book on ciphers, including the first authentic plaintext and ciphertext autokey systems. The autokey idea survives today in the DES CBC and CFB modes. |
| 1790's | civ/govt | Kahn, p.192 | Thomas Jefferson, possibly aided by Dr. Robert Patterson, invented his wheel cipher. This was reinvented in several forms later and used in World War II by the US Navy as the Strip Cipher, M-138-A. |
| 1817 | govt | Kahn, p.195 | Colonel Decius Wadsworth produced a geared cipher disk with a different number of letters in the plain and cipher alphabets—resulting in a progressive cipher in which alphabets are used irregularly, depending on the plaintext used. |
| 1854 | civ | Kahn, p.198 | Charles Wheatstone invented what has become known as the Playfair cipher, having been publicized by his friend Lyon Playfair. This cipher uses a keyed array of letters to make a digraphic cipher which is easy to use in the field. He also reinvented the Wadsworth device is known for that one. |

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
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| 1857 | civ | Kahn, p.202 | Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort's cipher was published by his brother, after the admiral's death in the form of a 4x5 inch card. |
| 1859 | civ | Kahn, p.203 | Pliny Earle Chase published the first description of a fractionating cipher. |
| 1854 | civ | Cryptologia | Charles Babbage seems to have reinvented the wheel cipher. |
| 1861-1980 | civ | Deavourse | "A study of United States patents from the issuance of the first cryptographic patent in 1861 through 1980 identified 1,769 patents which are primarily related to cryptography." |
| 1861 | civ/(govt) | Kahn, p.207 | Friedrich W. Kasiski published a book giving the first general solution of a polyalphabetic cipher with repeating passphrase, thus marking the end of several hundred years of strength for the polyalphabetic cipher. |
| 1861-5 | govt | Kahn, p.215 | During the Civil War, possibly among other ciphers the Union used substitution of select words followed by word columnar-transposition while the Confederacy used Vigenere (the solution of which had just been published by Kasiski). |
| 1891 | govt/(civ) | Cryptologia | Major Etienne Bazeries did his version of the wheel cipher and published the design in 1901 after the French Army rejected it. |
| 1913 | govt | Cryptologia | Captain Parket Hitt reinvented the wheel cipher, in strip form, leading to the M-138-A of World War II. |
| 1916 | govt | Cryptologia | Major Joseph O. Mauborgne put Hitt's strip cipher back in wheel form, strengthened the alphabet construction and produced what led to the M-94 cipher device. |
| 1917 | civ | Kahn, p.371 | William Frederick Friedman, later to be honored as the father of US cryptanalysis, was employed as civilian cryptanalyst at Riverbank Laboratories and performed cryptanalysis for the US government which had no cryptanalytic expertise of its own WWF went on to start a school for military cryptanalysis for Riverbank—later taking that work to Washington and leaving Riverbank. |
| 1917 | civ | Kahn, p.401 | Gilbert S. Vernam, working for AT&T, invented a practical polyalphabetic cipher machine capable of using a key which is totally random and never repeats—a one-time-tape. This is the only provably secure cipher, as far as we know. This machine was offered to the government for use in World |

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
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| | | | War I but it was rejected. It was put on the commercial market in 1920. |
| 1918 | govt | Kahn, p.304-5 | The ADFGVX system was put into service by the Germans near the end of World War I. This was a cipher which performed a substitution through a keyed array, fractionation and then transposition of a letter fractions. It was broken by the French cryptanalyst, Lieutenant Georges Painvin. |
| 1919 | civ | Kahn, p.420 | Hugo Alexander Koch filed a patent in the Netherlands on a rotor based cipher machine. He assigned these patent rights in 1927 to Arthur Scherbius who invented and had been marketing the Enigma machine since about 1923. |
| 1919 | civ | Kahn, p.422 | Arvid Gerhard Damm applied for a patent in Sweden for a mechanical rotor cipher machine. This machine grew into a family of cipher machines under the direction of Boris Caesar Wilhelm Hagelin who took over the business and was the only one of the commercial cryptographers of this period to make a thriving business. After the war, a Swedish law which enabled the government to appropriate inventions it felt important to defense caused Hagelin to move the company to Zug Switzerland where it was incorporated as Crypto AG. The company is still in operation although facing controversy for having allegedly weakened a cipher product for sale to Iran. |
| 1921 | civ | Kahn, p.415 | Edward Hugh Hebern incorporated “Hebern Electric Code”, a company making electro-mechanical cipher machines based on rotors which turn, odometer style, with each character enciphered. |
| 1923 | civ | Kahn, p.421 | Arthur Scherbius incorporated “Chiffriermaschinen Aktiengesellschaft” to make and sell his Enigma machine. |
| 1924 | civ | Deavours, p.151 | Alexander von Kryha produced his “coding machine” which was used, even by the German Diplomatic Corps into the 1950s. However, it was cryptographically weak—having a small period. A test cryptogram of 1135 characters was solved by the US cryptanalysts Friedman, Kullback, Rowlett and Sinkov in 2 hours and 41 minutes. Nevertheless, the machine continued to be sold and used—a triumph of salesmanship and a lesson to consumers of cryptographic devices. |

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
|---------|--------|---------------|--|
| 1927-33 | civ | Kahn, p.802ff | Users of cryptography weren't limited to legitimate bankers, lovers, experimenters, etc. There were also a handful of criminals. "The greatest era of international smuggling—Prohibition—created the greatest era of criminal cryptology." To this day, the FBI runs a cryptanalytic office to deal with criminal cryptography.
"A retired lieutenant commander of the Royal Navy devised the systems for Consolidated Exporters' Pacific operation, though its Gulf and Atlantic groups made up their own as needed."
"His name was unknown but his cryptanalytic expertise was apparent. The smugglers' systems grew increasingly more complicated. "Some of these are of a complexity never even attempted by any government for its most secret communications," wrote Mrs. Friedman in a report in mid-1930. "At no time during the World War, when secret methods of communication reached their highest development, were there used such involved ramifications as are to be found in some of the correspondence of West Coast rum running vessels."" |
| 1929 | civ | Kahn, p.404 | Lester S. Hill published "Cryptography in an Algebraic Alphabet" in which a block of plaintext is enciphered by a matrix operation. |
| 1933-45 | govt | Kahn, p.422 | The Enigma machine was not a commercial success but it was taken over and improved upon to become the cryptographic workhouse of Nazi Germany. It was broken by the Polish mathematician, Marian Rejewski, based only on captured ciphertext and one list of three month worth of daily keys obtained through a spy. Continued breaks were based on developments during the war by Alan Turing, Gordon Welchman and others at Bletchley Park in England. |
| 1937 | govt | Kahn, p.18ff | The Japanese Purple machine was invented in response to revelations by Herbert O. Yardley and broken by a team headed by William Frederick Friedman. The Purple machine used telephone stepping relays instead of rotors and thus had a totally different permutation at each step rather than the related permutations of one rotor in different positions. |
| 1930's | govt | Kahn, p.510ff | Kahn attributes the American SIGABA (M-134-C) to William F. Friedman while Deavours attributes it to an idea of Frank Rowlett, one of Friedman's first hires. |

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
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| | | | It improved on the rotor inventions of Hebern and Scherbius by using pseudo-random stepping of multiple rotors on each enciphering step rather than have uniform, odometer-like stepping of rotors as in Enigma. It also used 15 rotors (10 for each character transformation, 5 probably for controlling stepping) rather than the Enigma's 3 or 4. |
| 1930's | govt | Deavours | The British TYPEX machine was an offshot of the commercial Enigma purchased by the British for study in the 1920's. It was a 5-rotor machine with the two initial rotors being stators, serving the purpose of the German Enigma's plugboard. |
| 1970 | civ | Feistel | Dr. Horst Feistel led a research project at the IBM Watson Research Lab in the 1960's which developed the Lucifer cipher. This later inspired the US DES below and other product ciphers, creating a family labeled "Feistel ciphers". |
| 1976 | civ/govt | FIPS PUB-46 | A design by IBM, based on the Lucifer cipher and with changes (including both S-box improvements and reduction of key size) by the US NSA, was chosen to be the U.S. Data Encryption Standard. It has since found worldwide acceptance, largely because it has shown itself strong against 20 years of attacks. Even some who believed it is past its useful life use it as a component—e.g., of 3-key triple-DES. |
| 1976 | civ | Diffie | Whitfield Diffie and Martin Hellman published "New Directions in Cryptography", introducing the idea of public-key cryptography. They also put forth the idea of authentication by powers of a one way function, now used in the S/Key challenge/response utility. They closed their paper with an observation for which this timeline chapter gives detailed evidence: "Skill in production cryptanalysis has always been heavily on the side of the professionals, particularly in the design of new types of cryptographic systems, has come from amateurs." |
| April 1977 | civ | Shamir | Inspired by the Diffie-Hellman paper and acting as complete novices in cryptography, Ronald L. Rivest, Adi Shamir and Leonard L. Adleman had been discussing how to make a practical public-key system. One night in April Ron Rivest was laid up with a massive headache and the RSA algorithm came to him. He wrote it up for Shamir |

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
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| | | | and Adleman and sent it to them the next morning. It was a practical public-key cipher for both confidentiality and digital signatures, based on the difficulty of factoring large numbers. They submitted this to Martin Gardner on April 4 for publication in Scientific American. It appeared in September, 1977 issue. The Scientific American article is included an offer to send the full technical report to anyone submitting a self-addressed, stamped envelope. There were thousands of such requests, from all over the world. Someone at NSA objected to the distribution of this report to foreign nationals and for a while, RS&A suspended mailings—but when NSA failed to respond to inquiries asking for the legal basis of their request, RS&A resumed mailings. Adi Shamir believes this is the origin of the current policy that technical reports or papers can be freely distributed.
Contrary to rumour, RS&A apparently had no knowledge of ITAR or patent secrecy orders. They did not publish before applying for international patents because they wanted to avoid such restraints on free expression but rather because they were not thinking about patents for the algorithm. They just wanted to get the idea out. |
| 1978 | civ | RSA | The RSA algorithm was published in the Communications of the ACM. |
| 1984-5? | civ | ROT13 | The rot13 cipher was introduced into USENET News software to permit the encryption of postings in order to prevent innocent eyes from being assaulted by objectionable text. This is the first example in which a cipher with a key everyone knows actually was effective. |
| 1990 | civ | IACR90 | Xuejia Lai and James Massey in Switzerland published “A proposal for a New Block Encryption Standard”, a proposed International Data Encryption Algorithm (IDEA) to replace DES. IDEA uses a 128-bit key and employs operations which are convenient for general purpose computers, therefore making software implementations more efficient. |
| 1990 | civ | IACR90 | Charles H. Bennett, Gilles Brassard et al. published their experimental results on Quantum Cryptography, which uses single photons to communicate a stream of key bits for some later Vernam encipherment of a message. Assuming the laws of quantum mechanics hold, Quantum Cryptography provides not only secrecy but a positive indication of eavesdropping and a measurement |

| Date | C or G | Source | Info |
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| | | | of the maximum number of bits an eavesdropper might have captured. On the downside, QC currently requires a fibre-optic cable between two parties. |
| 1991 | civ | Garfinkel | Phil Zimmerman released his first version of PGP (Pretty Good Privacy) in response to the threat by the FBI to demand access to the cleartext of the communications of citizens. PGP offered high security to the general citizen and as such could have been seen as a competitor to commercial products like Mailsafe from RSADSI. However, PGP is especially notable because it was released as freeware and has become a worldwide standard as a result while its competitors of the time remain effectively unknown. |
| 1994 | civ | Rivest | Professor Ron Rivest, author of the earlier RC2 and RC4 algorithms included in RSADSI's BSAFE cryptographic library, published a proposed algorithm, RC5, on the Internet. This algorithm uses data-dependent rotation as its non-linear operation and is parameterized so that the user can vary the block size, number of rounds and key length. |

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Bibliography

[Stinson (1995)] D. R. Stinson. *Cryptography and Practice*. CRC Press. 1995.

The book is currently one of the most used introductory textbooks in the field of cryptography. It contains various topics of this area which cannot all be treated within the paper. Our paper will be based on the first chapters of this book that constitute a standard introduction into that field. In fact, these topics are Classical Cryptosystems, The Data Encryption Standard, The RSA System and The ElGamal Cryptosystem. Time permitting we may also cover Frequencies (Chapter two). The book is highly recommended not only as an accompanying book but also for further reading.

[Menezes, van Oorschot, Vanstone (1996)] A. Menezes, P. van Oorschot, S. Vanstone. *Handbook of Applied Cryptography*. CRC Press. 1996.

This book can be regarded as the standard reference book. It is full of important information for almost all topics on cryptography. We will use the book as a source for algorithms which are fundamental in view of applications. It is recommended you have a look at chapters 1,2,3, 7 and 8 to become acquainted with definitions and facts for relevant topics of the paper and especially at all of chapter 1 to get an overview into what directions cryptography might lead. Whenever you need a specific fact concerning cryptography, this is the book you will find it in or at least a respective reference.

[Koblitz (1994)] N. Koblitz. *A Course in Number Theory and Cryptography*. Springer-Verlag. 1994.

This book attaches particular importance to the mathematical background of cryptography. It handles certain topics that are based on results of number theory and gives, therefore, an introduction to this branch, especially to modular arithmetic, prime numbers and finite fields. The paper is intended to dispense with proofs of the book but not to dispense with the facts given. It is recommended you have a read through chapters 1 to 4. The more you understand, the easier you will find the paper.

[Koblitz (1999)] N. Koblitz: *Algebraic Aspects of Cryptography*. Springer-Verlag. 1999.

As the name already reveals, this book emphasizes on algebraic methods used in cryptography. It starts off with a self-contained introduction to basic concepts and techniques. This includes ideas from complexity theory and in particular algebra. The next chapters and the appendix contain material that for the most part has not previously appeared in

textbook form. A novel feature is the inclusion of three types of cryptography - "hidden monomial" systems, combinatorial-algebraic systems, and hyperelliptic systems - that are at an early stage of development.

[Ivan Damgard (Ed.)] I. Damgard: *Lectures on Data Security - Modern Cryptology in Theory and Practice*. Springer-Verlag. Lecture Notes in Computer Science 1561. 1999.

In July 1998, a summer school in cryptology and data security was organized at the computer science department of Aarhus University, Denmark. A total of 13 speakers gave a talk on main areas, covering both theoretical and practical topics. The book contains all these papers, that serve an educational purpose: elementary introductions are given to a number of subjects, some examples are given of the problems encountered, as well as solutions, open problems, and references for further reading. The papers are: "Practice-Oriented Provable Security", "Introduction to Secure Computation", "Commitment Schemes and Zero-Knowledge Protocols", "Emerging Standards for Public-Key Cryptography", "Contemporary Block-Ciphers", "Primality Tests and Use of Primes in Public-Key Systems", "Signing Contracts and Paying Electronically", "The State of Cryptographic Hash Functions", "The Search for the Holy Grail in Quantum Cryptography" and "Unconditional Security in Cryptography".

[Paul Garrett] Paul Garrett: *Making, Breaking Codes - An Introduction to Cryptology*. Prentice Hall. 2001.

This is another very good introduction into the field. Apart from the description of some block ciphers, this book covers every topic of our course and more. As an introductory work, the reader can find heaps of examples and exercises in it.

[C. H. Papadimitriou] Christos H. Papadimitriou: *Computational Complexity*. Addison-Wesley. 1995

This book is included in the list because of the close relationship of cryptography and complexity theory. It is an excellent introduction into fundamental ideas of complexity that are indispensable for a deeper understanding of modern cryptography. The book goes far beyond the purposes of our course, but is highly recommended for further reading on one of the most interesting and challenging topic in our time.

[W. Stallings] William Stallings: *Cryptography and Network Security: Principles and Practices*. Prentice Hall. 2003

Stalling has provided a state-of-the-art text covering the basic issues and principles and surveying cryptographic and network security techniques. The latter part of the book deals with the real-world practice of network security: practical applications that have been implemented and are in use to provide network security. This book is intended for both an academic and a professional audience. Make sure you buy the third edition, if you buy.

[Pieprzyk, Hardjono, Seberry] Josef Pieprzyk, Thomas Hardjono, Jennifer Seberry: *Fundamentals of Computer Security*. Springer. 2003

This book presents modern concepts of computer security. It introduces the basic mathematical background necessary to follow computer security concepts. Modern developments in cryptography are examined, starting from private-key and public-key encryption, going through hashing, digital signatures, authentication, secret sharing, group-oriented cryptography, pseudorandomness, key establishment protocols, zero-knowledge protocols, and identification, and finishing with an introduction to modern e-business systems based on digital cash. Intrusion detection and access control provide examples of security systems implemented as a part of operating system. Database and network security are also discussed. This book has just been released.