

# CIS 5560

## Cryptography Lecture 16

**Course website:**

[pratyushmishra.com/classes/cis-5560-s25/](https://pratyushmishra.com/classes/cis-5560-s25/)

# Recap of Last Lecture(s)

- Public Key Encryption
  - Definition of IND-CPA
- ElGamal Encryption
  - Version with message space =  $\mathbb{G}$
  - Version with arbitrary message space

# Today's Lecture

- Public Key Encryption from **Trapdoor OWFs**
  - RSA Encryption
    - Arithmetic modulo composites
    - Factoring

# Public key encryption

**Def:** a public-key encryption system is a triple of algs.  $(G, E, D)$

- $\text{Gen}()$ : randomized alg. outputs a key pair  $(pk, sk)$
- $\text{Enc}(pk, m)$ : randomized alg. that takes  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  and outputs  $c \in \mathcal{C}$
- $\text{Dec}(sk, c)$ : deterministic alg. that takes  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  and outputs  $m \in \mathcal{M} \cup \{ \perp \}$

Correctness:  $\forall (pk, sk)$  output by  $\text{Gen}()$ ,  $\forall m \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\text{Dec}(sk, \text{Enc}(pk, m)) = m$

# Security: IND-CPA for PKE

For all PPT adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$ , the following holds:

$$\Pr \left[ b = \mathcal{A}(\text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m_b)) \mid \begin{array}{l} (\text{pk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow \text{Gen}(1^n) \\ \text{Sample } b \leftarrow \{0,1\} \\ (m_0, m_1) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(\text{pk}) \end{array} \right] \leq \text{negl}(n)$$

# Construction of PKE: Trapdoor Functions

# Trapdoor functions (TDF)

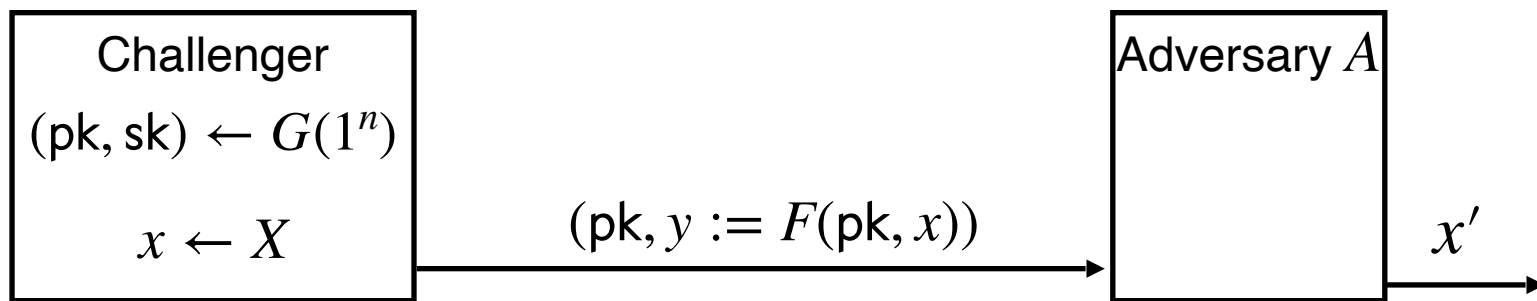
**Def:** A **trapdoor function** for input space  $X$  and output space  $Y$  is a triple of efficient algorithms  $(G, F, F^{-1})$

- $G(1^n)$ : randomized algorithm that outputs a key pair  $(pk, sk)$
- $F(pk, \cdot)$ : deterministic algorithm that computes  $f : X \rightarrow Y$
- $F^{-1}(sk, \cdot)$ : defines a function  $Y \rightarrow X$  that inverts  $F(pk, \cdot)$

More precisely:  $\forall (pk, sk) \leftarrow G(1^n), \forall x \in X, F^{-1}(sk, F(pk, x)) = x$

# Secure Trapdoor Functions (TDFs)

A TDF  $(G, F, F^{-1})$  is secure if  $F_{pk}$  is a one-way function:



**Def:**  $(G, F, F^{-1})$  is a **secure TDF** if for all efficient  $A$ :

$$\Pr \left[ F(pk, x) = F(pk, x') \mid \begin{array}{l} (pk, sk) \leftarrow G(1^n) \\ x \leftarrow X \\ x' \leftarrow A(pk, F(pk, x)) \end{array} \right] = \text{negl}(n)$$



# Construction: PKE from TDFs

# PKE from Secure TDFs

- $(G, F, F^{-1})$ : secure TDF  $X \rightarrow Y$
- $(\text{Gen}, \text{Enc}_s, \text{Dec}_s)$ : symmetric AE defined over  $(\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{C})$
- $H : X \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ : a hash function (like the one in Hashed ElGamal)

$\text{Gen}(1^n)$ :

1. Output  $(\text{pk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow G(1^n)$ .

$\text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m)$ :

1. Sample  $x \leftarrow X$ .
2. Compute key  $k \leftarrow H(x)$
3. Output  $(y \leftarrow F(\text{pk}, x), c \leftarrow \text{Enc}_s(k, m))$

$\text{Dec}(\text{sk}, (y, c))$ :

1. Compute  $x := F^{-1}(\text{sk}, y)$ .
2. Compute key  $k \leftarrow H(x)$
3. Output  $\text{Dec}_s(k, c)$

# Review: Arithmetic modulo composites

# Review: arithmetic mod composites

Let  $N = pq$  where  $p, q$  are prime

$$\mathbb{Z}_N = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1\}; \quad \mathbb{Z}_N^* = \{\text{invertible elements in } \mathbb{Z}_N\}$$

Facts:

- $x \in \mathbb{Z}_N$  is invertible  $\Leftrightarrow \gcd(x, N) = 1$
- Number of elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_N^*$  is  $\varphi(N) = (p-1)(q-1) = N - p - q + 1$

Euler's thm:  $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}_N^* : x^{\varphi(N)} = 1$

# Modular $e$ -th roots

We know how to solve modular **linear** equations:

$$ax + b = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_N$$

$$\text{Solution: } x = -b \cdot a^{-1} \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_N$$

(inverses are fast even for  $N$  composite)

What about higher degree polynomials?

Example: Let  $N = pq$  for two primes  $p, q$ .

Given an arbitrary  $y \in \mathbb{Z}_N$ , can we find  $x$  such that

$$y = x^e \pmod{N}?$$

Answering these questions requires the factorization of  $N$   
(as far as we know)

# The factoring problem

Gauss (1805): *“The problem of distinguishing prime numbers from composite numbers and of resolving the latter into their prime factors is known to be one of the most important and useful in arithmetic.”*

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Best known alg. (NFS): run time  $2^{O(\sqrt[3]{n})}$  for  $n$ -bit integer

Current world record: **RSA-250** (250 digits)

- Work: two years on hundreds of machines
- Factoring a 1024-bit integer: ~1000 times harder  
⇒ likely possible this decade

# Key lengths

Security of public key system should be comparable to security of symmetric cipher:

Cipher key-size

80 bits

128 bits

256 bits (AES)

RSA

Modulus size

1024 bits

3072 bits

**15360** bits

# Construction of Trapdoor Functions



Big question:  
can we use hardness of computing  
 $e$ -th roots to construct a secure TDF?

# Secure TDFs from $e$ -th roots

Gen( $1^n$ ):

1. Sample primes  $p, q \sim 1024$  bits
2. Set  $N = pq$
3. Sample  $e, d$  s.t.  $e = d^{-1} \pmod{\varphi(N)}$
4. Set  $\text{sk} = (p, q, d)$  and  $\text{pk} := (N, e)$
5. Output  $(\text{pk}, \text{sk})$ .

$F(\text{pk} = (N, e), x)$ :

1. Output  $x^e \pmod N$ .

Dec( $\text{sk} = (p, q, d), y$ ):

1. Output  $x := y^d \pmod N$ .

Correctness:  $\forall (\text{pk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow G(1^n), \forall x \in X, F^{-1}(\text{sk}, F(\text{pk}, x)) = x$  ?

$$F_{\text{sk}}^{-1}(F_{\text{pk}}(x)) = (x^e)^d \equiv x^{ed} \pmod{\varphi(N)} \equiv x^{1+k\varphi(N)} \equiv x \pmod N$$

# This is called the RSA Trapdoor permutation

First published:      Scientific American, Aug. 1977.

Very widely used:

- SSL/TLS: certificates and key-exchange
- Secure e-mail and file systems
- ... many others

# Secure TDFs from $e$ -th roots

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$F(\text{pk} = (N, e), x)$ :

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1. Output  $x := y^d \pmod N$ .

Security?

# By “assumption”

RSA assumption: Roughly, computing  $e$ -th roots is hard

$$\Pr \left[ A(\text{pk}, x^e \bmod N) = x \mid (\text{pk} = (N, d), \text{sk} = (p, q, e)) \leftarrow G(1^n), x \leftarrow X \right] = \text{negl}(n)$$

The RSA TDF is actually a  
trapdoor *permutation*

# Is the RSA assumption plausible?

To invert the RSA one-way func. (without  $d$ ) attacker must compute

$$x \text{ from } c = x^e \bmod N.$$

How hard is computing  $e$ -th roots modulo  $N$  ??

Best known algorithm:

- Step 1: factor  $N$  (hard)
- Step 2: compute  $e$ -th roots modulo  $p$  and  $q$  (easy)

# Shortcuts?

Must one factor  $N$  in order to compute  $e$ -th roots?

To prove no shortcut exists we need a reduction:

- Efficient algorithm for  $e$ -th roots mod  $N$   
 $\Rightarrow$  efficient algorithm for factoring  $N$ .
- Oldest problem in public key cryptography.

Some evidence no reduction exists: (BV'98)

- “Algebraic” reduction  $\Rightarrow$  factoring is easy.

# Textbook RSA is insecure

Textbook RSA encryption:

- public key:  $(N, e)$       Encrypt:  $c := m^e \bmod N$
- secret key:  $(p, q, d)$       Decrypt:  $m := c^d \bmod N$

Q: Is this IND-CPA secure?

A: No! It is deterministic. In fact lots of other attacks (can leak partial info about plaintext).



# RSA in practice

# How **not** to improve RSA's performance

To speed up RSA decryption use small private key  $d \approx 2^{128}$

$$c^d = m \pmod{N}$$

Wiener'87: if  $d < N^{0.25}$  then RSA is insecure.

BD'98: if  $d < N^{0.292}$  then RSA is insecure

(open:  $d < N^{0.5}$  )

Insecure: private key  $d$  can be found from  $(N, e)$

# RSA With Low public exponent

To speed up RSA *encryption* use a small  $c := m^e \bmod N$

- Minimum value:  $e = 3$  ( $\gcd(e, \phi(N)) = 1$ )
- Recommended value:  $e = 65537 = 2^{16} + 1$

Encryption: 17 multiplications

Asymmetry of RSA: fast enc. / slow dec.

- ElGamal: approx. same time for both.

# Further reading

- A Computational Introduction to Number Theory and Algebra,  
V. Shoup, 2008 (V2), Chapter 1-4, 11, 12

Available at <https://shoup.net/ntb/ntb-v2.pdf>