
TD 7 – Public-key encryption

Exercise 1.*Generalities*

1. A public-key encryption scheme requires two keys: an encryption key and a decryption key.
 - i. Alice creates a pair (ek_A, dk_A) . Which key should be published, and which one remains private to Alice?
 - ii. Bob also creates a pair (ek_B, dk_B) . Which key should Bob use to send a message to Alice?
2. Let (Gen, Enc, Dec) be a public-key encryption scheme for fixed-length messages. Prove that an unbounded adversary that is given the encryption key ek and a ciphertext $c \leftarrow Enc_{ek}(m)$ can compute m with success probability 1.
3. Let (Gen, Enc, Dec) be an IND-CPA secure public-key encryption scheme. Assume that the length of a ciphertext c is uniquely determined by the length of the plaintext m .
 - i. Why must $|c|$ be larger than $|m|$?
 - ii. Let $\ell = |c| - |m|$. Give a time bound t such that the advantage $Adv_{Enc}^{IND-CPA}(1, t)$ is 1.
 - iii. More generally, give a lower bound on $Adv_{Enc}^{IND-CPA}(1, t)$ in terms of t and ℓ .
4. We have seen that ElGamal encryption scheme is malleable: Given $c \leftarrow Enc_{ek}(m)$ and any $\alpha \in G$, it is possible to compute c' such that $Dec_{dk}(c') = \alpha \cdot m$ without knowing m nor dk .
 - i. Recall how to build c' from c .
 - ii. In the previous construction, the first component of c' is the same as the first component of c . An observer may find this suspicious. Show how to build c'' such that $Dec_{dk}(c'') = \alpha \cdot m$, such that c and c'' share no component.

Exercise 2.*ElGamal re-encryption*

Let $G = \langle g \rangle$ be a cyclic group of *prime* order q .

1.
 - i. Recall how ElGamal encryption scheme works: Describe the three algorithms Gen, Enc and Dec.
 - ii. Prove its correctness.
 - iii. Recall under which hypothesis is the scheme IND-CPA secure. Is it IND-CCA secure?

We define a variant of ElGamal encryption where the ciphertext for a message m is the pair $c = (m \cdot g^y, h^y)$ where $h = g^x$ is the encryption key and $y \leftarrow \{0, \dots, q-1\}$ uniformly.

2.
 - i. Describe the decryption algorithm for this variant, and analyze its complexity. *Hint. The decryption key can be inverted modulo q (using which algorithm?).*
 - ii. Justify that this variant has the same security as the original scheme.

We are interested in *re-encryption*. As an example, imagine a user Alice that has two distinct email addresses on a same server (say a professional one and a personal one). Each mailbox is encrypted with the variant of ElGamal encryption scheme, using the same group G and same generator g . Alice has two pairs of keys (dk_1, ek_1) and (dk_2, ek_2) . In the first mailbox, each email is encrypted with ek_1 and in the second one with ek_2 . Alice would like the server to be able to move an encrypted email c_1 from the first mailbox to the second one: For, the server must *re-encrypt* c_1 with the second encryption key. Formally, given c_1 , the server must compute c_2 such that $\text{Dec}_{dk_1}(c_1) = \text{Dec}_{dk_2}(c_2)$.

3. Propose an obvious solution if the server knows the private keys of Alice. What is the drawback?
4. Alice provides a *re-encryption key* $rk = dk_2 \cdot dk_1^{-1} \pmod q$ to the server.
 - i. Why does this key give no information on dk_1 and dk_2 to the server?
 - ii. Prove that the server can re-encrypt a ciphertext c_1 into a ciphertext c_2 such that $\text{Dec}_{dk_1}(c_1) = \text{Dec}_{dk_2}(c_2)$, using only the re-encryption key.