

Homework #2

Due April 9, 2012, 15:40, beginning of the class

1. Find the solution of the system

$$\begin{aligned}x &\equiv 3 \pmod{4} \\x &\equiv 2 \pmod{5} \\x &\equiv 1 \pmod{7}\end{aligned}$$

in \mathbb{Z}_{140} , using the Chinese Remainder Theorem and the extended Euclid's algorithm. Show all your work.

2. On number theory basics.

(a) Show that the RSA decryption operation is correct (i.e., $(x^e)^d \bmod n = x$) for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ even if $x \notin \mathbb{Z}_n^*$. (Hint: Show the correctness both in \mathbb{Z}_p and in \mathbb{Z}_q , and argue by the CRT that it must be correct in \mathbb{Z}_n .)

(b) Show that, for a prime p ,

$$\varphi(p^i) = (p-1)p^{i-1}.$$

(c) Show that, for co-prime m_1 and m_2 ,

$$\varphi(m_1 m_2) = \varphi(m_1) \varphi(m_2).$$

(d) Use the results in the previous two parts to obtain $\varphi(n)$ for an arbitrary n . (Hint: Consider the prime factorization of n , and then combine the previous results by the CRT to obtain $\varphi(n)$.)

3. In an RSA-based secure communications system, it may be desirable to simplify the key generation and management process by using a system-wide common modulus n , generated by a trusted key generation authority, and user-specific key pairs (e, d) . Show that such a common-modulus system is totally insecure against insider attacks by proving the following steps:

(a) Eve, possessing a key pair (e_E, d_E) , can easily compute a multiple of $\varphi(n)$, say $k \cdot \varphi(n)$.

- (b) If Alice's public key e_A is relatively prime to k , Eve can find a decryption exponent for Alice and read all her messages.
 - (c) Eve can compute a decryption exponent for any user in the system, whether or not $\gcd(e, k) = 1$.
4. Consider a variant of the ElGamal signature scheme where $p, q, g, \alpha, \beta, k, r$ are as in the original scheme as described in class and

$$s = (r\alpha + k)m^{-1} \bmod q.$$

- (a) What is the signature verification formula for this modified scheme?
 - (b) Show that this ElGamal variant is insecure. (Hint: Show that attacker Eve who has observed the signature of a message m can obtain the signature of any message she likes.)
5. A DH-based key exchange protocol for wireless mobile networks to establish a fresh session key using long-term, certified Diffie-Hellman public keys is as follows:

- The system has a common prime modulus p and a generator g . Each party i has a long-term private key $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{p-1}$ and a public key $P_i = g^{\alpha_i} \bmod p$.
- To establish a session key between a mobile subscriber M and a base station B , the following protocol is executed:

$$\begin{aligned} B \rightarrow M & : g^{\alpha_B + R_B} \bmod p \\ M \rightarrow B & : \alpha_M + R_M \bmod (p-1) \end{aligned}$$

where R_B and R_M are one-time random secrets.

- B calculates the session key as

$$K_{MB} = (g^{\alpha_M + R_M} P_M^{-1})^{R_B} \bmod p$$

and M calculates it as

$$K_{MB} = (g^{\alpha_B + R_B} P_B^{-1})^{R_M} \bmod p.$$

Then they complete the authentication with a challenge-response protocol with K_{MB} .

- (a) Show that the protocol is correct in the sense that B and M calculate the same K_{MB} value.
- (b) Show that an attacker who has compromised a session key from a previous run, for which she has recorded the messages, can impersonate B . (Hint: Let the attacker replay B 's message from the previous session.)
- (c) In fact this protocol can be broken without having any previous session keys compromised: Show how the attacker can impersonate B by just knowing his public key.