

رمزنگاری، امنیت اطلاعات و حریم خصوصى ارائه: دكتر سيدعلى لاجوردى بخش دوم

### So far...

- Heuristic constructions; build, break, repeat, ...
  - This isn't very satisfying
- Can we prove that some encryption scheme is secure?
- First need to define what we mean by "secure" in the first place...



# Modern cryptography

- Historically, cryptography was an art
  - Heuristic design and analysis
- Starting in the early '80s, cryptography began to develop into more of a science
- Based on three principles that underpin most real-world cryptography today



## Core principles of modern crypto

- Formal definitions
  - Precise, mathematical model and definition of what security means
- Assumptions
  - Clearly stated and unambiguous
- Proofs of security
  - Move away from design-break-patch cycle



# Importance of definitions

- Definitions are essential for the design, analysis, and sound usage of crypto
- Developing a precise definition forces the designer to think about what they really want
  - What is essential and (sometimes more important) what is not
- If you don't understand what you want to achieve, how can you possibly know when (or if) you have achieved it?
- Definitions enable meaningful analysis, evaluation, and comparison of schemes
  - Does a scheme satisfy the definition?
  - What definition does it satisfy?
- Definitions allow others to understand the security guarantees provided by a scheme
- Enables schemes to be used as components of a larger system (modularity)
- Enables one scheme to be substituted for another if they satisfy the same definition



#### Assumptions

- With few exceptions, cryptography currently requires computational assumptions
  - At least until we prove  $P \neq NP$  (and even that would not be enough)
- Principle: any such assumptions must be made explicit



#### Importance of clear assumptions

- Allow researchers to (attempt to) validate assumptions by studying them
- Allow meaningful comparison between schemes based on different assumptions
  - Useful to understand minimal assumptions needed
- Practical implications if assumptions are wrong
- Enable proofs of security



## Proofs of security

- Provide a rigorous proof that a construction satisfies a given definition under certain specified assumptions
  - Provides an iron-clad guarantee (relative to your definition and assumptions!)
- Proofs are crucial in cryptography, where there is a malicious attacker trying to "break" the scheme



## Limitations?

- Cryptography still remains partly an art as well
- Proofs given an iron-clad guarantee of security
  - ...relative to the definition and assumptions!
- Provably secure schemes can be broken!
  - If the definition does not correspond to the real-world threat model
  - If the assumption is invalid
  - If the implementation is flawed
- This does not detract from the importance of having formal definitions in place and giving proofs of security





# Defining secure encryption

# Crypto definitions (generally)

- Security guarantee/goal
  - What we want to achieve (or what we want to prevent the attacker from achieving)
- Threat model
  - What (real-world) capabilities the attacker is assumed to have

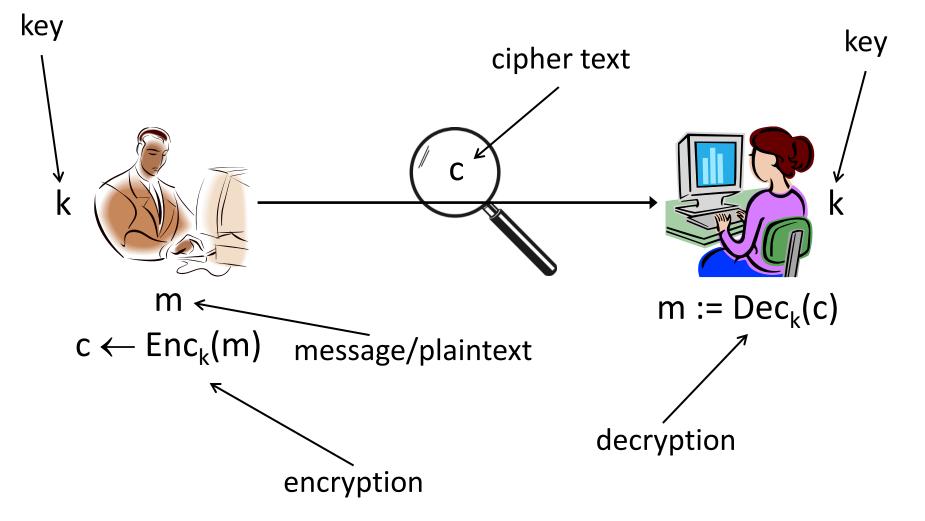


## Recall

- A private-key encryption scheme is defined by a message space M and algorithms (Gen, Enc, Dec):
  - Gen (key-generation algorithm): generates k
  - Enc (encryption algorithm): takes key k and message m ∈ M as input; outputs ciphertext c c ← Enck(m)
  - Dec (decryption algorithm): takes key k and ciphertext c as input; outputs m. m := Deck(c)



#### Private-key encryption





### Threat models for encryption

- Ciphertext-only attack
  - One ciphertext or many?
- Known-plaintext attack
- Chosen-plaintext attack
- Chosen-ciphertext attack



# Goal of secure encryption?

- How would you define what it means for encryption scheme (Gen, Enc, Dec) over message space M to be secure?
  - Against a (single) ciphertext-only attack



# Secure encryption?

- "Impossible for the attacker to learn the key"
  - The key is a means to an end, not the end itself
  - Necessary (to some extent) but not sufficient
  - Easy to design an encryption scheme that hides the key completely, but is insecure
  - Can design schemes where most of the key is leaked, but the scheme is still secure
- "Impossible for the attacker to learn the plaintext from the ciphertext"
  - What if the attacker learns 90% of the plaintext?
- "Impossible for the attacker to learn any character of the plaintext from the ciphertext"
  - What if the attacker is able to learn (other) partial information about the plaintext?
  - What if the attacker guesses a character correctly, or happens to know it?



## The right definition

- "Regardless of any prior information the attacker has about the plaintext, the ciphertext should leak no additional information about the plaintext"
  - How to formalize?





# Perfect secrecy

# Perfect secrecy

- "Regardless of any prior information the attacker has about the plaintext, the ciphertext should leak no additional information about the plaintext"
- Attacker's information about the plaintext = attacker knows the distribution of M
- Perfect secrecy: observing the ciphertext should not change the attacker's knowledge about the distribution of M
- Encryption scheme (Gen, Enc, Dec) with message space M and ciphertext space C is perfectly secret if for every distribution over M, every m ∈ M, and every c ∈ C with Pr[C=c] > 0, it holds that

$$Pr[M = m | C = c] = Pr[M = m]$$



### One-time pad

- Patented in 1917 by Vernam
  - Recent historical research indicates it was invented (at least) 35 years earlier
- Proven perfectly secret by Shannon (1949)

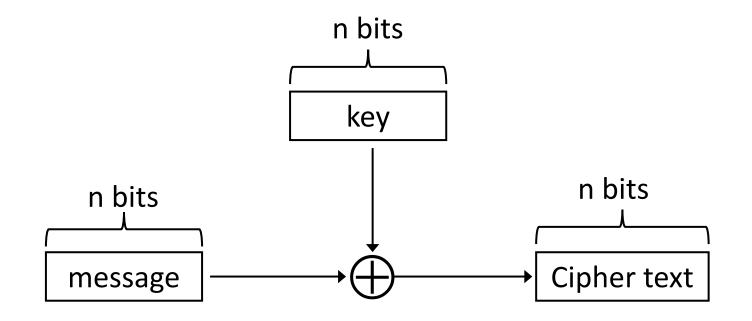


## One-time pad (OTP)

- Let  $\mathcal{M} = \{0, 1\}^n$
- Gen: choose a uniform key  $k \in \{0,1\}^n$
- $Enc_k(m) = k \oplus m$
- $Dec_k(c) = k \oplus c$
- Correctness: Deck( Enck(m) ) =  $k \oplus (k \oplus m)$ =  $(k \oplus k) \oplus m = m$



#### One-time pad





#### Perfect secrecy of one-time pad

- Note that any observed ciphertext can correspond to any message
- So, having observed a ciphertext, the attacker cannot conclude for certain which message was sent
- Theorem: The one-time pad is perfectly secret



### One-time pad

- Several limitations
  - The key is as long as the message
  - Only secure if each key is used to encrypt a single message

 $\Rightarrow$  Parties must share keys of (total) length equal to the (total) length of all the messages they might ever send



## Using the same key twice?

- Completely insecure against a known-plaintext attack!
- Say  $c_1 (= k \oplus m_1)$  $c_2 (= k \oplus m_2)$ and the attacker knows  $m_1$
- Attacker can compute  $k := c_1 \oplus m_1$
- Attacker can compute  $m_2 := c_2 \oplus k$



### Using the same key twice?

- Say  $c_1 = k \oplus m_1$  $c_2 = k \oplus m_2$
- Attacker can compute  $c_1 \oplus c_2 = (k \oplus m_1) \oplus (k \oplus m_2) = m_1 \oplus m_2$
- This leaks information about m<sub>1</sub>, m<sub>2</sub>!



# Using the same key twice?

- $m_1 \oplus m_2$  is information about  $m_1$ ,  $m_2$
- Is this significant?
  - No longer perfectly secret!
  - $m_1 \oplus m_2$  reveals where  $m_1$ ,  $m_2$  differ
  - Frequency analysis
  - Exploiting characteristics of ASCII...



## One-time pad

- Drawbacks
  - Key as long the message
  - Only secure if each key is used to encrypt once
  - Trivially broken by a known-plaintext attack
- All these limitations are *inherent* for schemes achieving perfect secrecy
  - I.e., it's not just a problem with the OTP



## Optimality of the one-time pad

- Theorem: if (Gen, Enc, Dec) with message space  $\mathcal{M}$  is perfectly secret, then  $|\mathcal{K}| \ge |\mathcal{M}|$
- Intuition:
  - Given any ciphertext, try decrypting under every possible key in  ${\cal K}$
  - This gives a list of up to  $|\mathcal{K}|$  possible messages
  - If  $|\mathcal{K}| < |\mathcal{M}|$ , some message is not on the list
- Proof:
  - Assume  $|\mathcal{K}| < |\mathcal{M}|$
  - Need to show that there is a distribution on *M*, a message m, and a ciphertext c such that Pr[M=m | C=c] ≠ Pr[M=m]



#### Where do we stand?

- We defined the notion of perfect secrecy
- We proved that the one-time pad achieves it!
- We proved that the one-time pad is optimal!
  - E.g., we cannot improve the key length
- Are we done?
- Do better by relaxing the definition
  - But in a meaningful way...



#### Perfect secrecy

- Requires that *absolutely no information* about the plaintext is leaked, even to eavesdroppers *with unlimited computational power* 
  - The definition has some inherent drawbacks
  - The definition seems unnecessarily strong...



#### **Computational secrecy**

- Would be ok if a scheme leaked information with tiny probability to eavesdroppers with bounded computing resources/running time
- I.e., we can relax perfect secrecy by
  - Allowing security to "fail" with tiny probability
  - Restricting attention to "efficient" attackers



# Tiny probability of failure?

- Say security fails with probability 2<sup>-60</sup>
  - Should we be concerned about this?
  - With probability > 2<sup>-60</sup>, the sender and receiver will both be struck by lightning in the next year...
  - Something that occurs with probability 2<sup>-60</sup>/sec is expected to occur once every 100 billion years



#### Bounded attackers?

- Consider brute-force search of key space; assume one key can be tested per clock cycle
- Desktop computer  $\approx 2^{57}$  keys/year
- Supercomputer  $\approx 10^{17}$  flops  $\approx 2^{80}$  keys/year
- Supercomputer since Big Bang  $\approx 2^{112}$  keys
  - Restricting attention to attackers limited to trying 2<sup>112</sup> keys is fine!
- Modern key spaces: 2<sup>128</sup> keys or more...



#### Roadmap

- We will give an alternate (but equivalent) definition of perfect secrecy
  - Using a randomized experiment
- That definition has a natural relaxation



## Perfect indistinguishability

- $\Pi$  = (Gen, Enc, Dec), message space  $\mathcal{M}$
- Informally:
  - Two messages  $m_0$ ,  $m_1$ ; one is chosen and encrypted (using unknown k) to give  $c \leftarrow Enc_k(m_b)$
  - Adversary A is given c and tries to determine which message was encrypted
  - $\Pi$  is perfectly indistinguishable if *no* A can guess correctly with probability *any better than*  $\frac{1}{2}$



# Perfect indistinguishability

- Claim:  $\Pi$  is perfectly indistinguishable if and only if  $\Pi$  is perfectly secret
  - I.e., perfect indistinguishability is just an alternate definition of perfect secrecy



## Encryption and plaintext length

- In practice, we want encryption schemes that can encrypt arbitrarylength messages
- Encryption does not hide the plaintext length (in general)
  - The definition takes this into account by requiring  $\rm m_0,\,\rm m_1$  to have the same length
- But beware that leaking plaintext length can often lead to problems in the real world!
  - Obvious examples...
  - Database searches
  - Encrypting compressed data

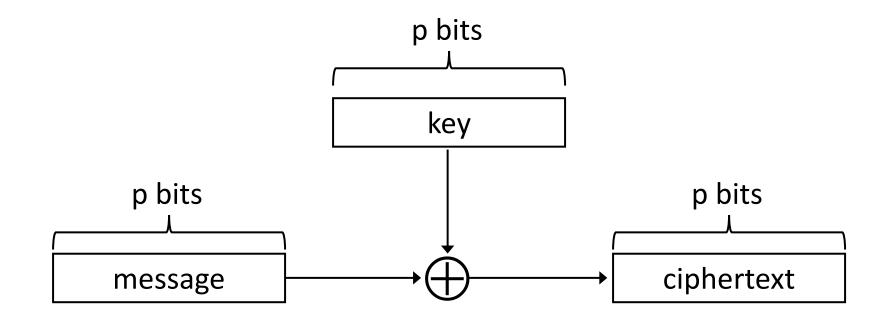


#### Where things stand

- We saw that there are some inherent limitations if we want perfect secrecy
  - In particular, key must be as long as the message
- We defined computational secrecy, a relaxed notion of security
- Does that definition allow us to overcome prior limitations?

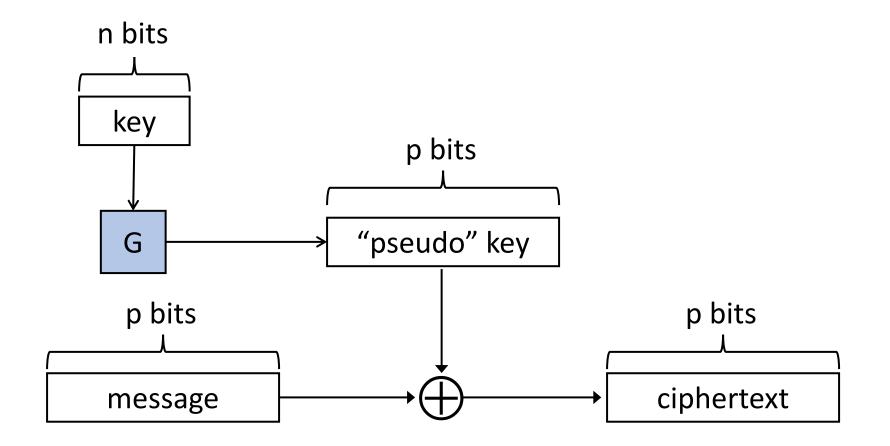


#### Recall: one-time pad





#### "Pseudo" one-time pad





#### Pseudo one-time pad

- Let G be a deterministic algorithm, with |G(k)| = p(|k|)
- Gen(1<sup>n</sup>): output uniform n-bit key k
  - Security parameter  $n \Rightarrow message space \{0,1\}^{p(n)}$
- $Enc_k(m)$ : output  $G(k) \oplus m$
- $\text{Dec}_k(c)$ : output  $G(k) \oplus c$
- Correctness follows as in the OTP...



# Have we gained anything?

- YES: the pseudo-OTP has a key shorter than the message
  n bits vs. p(n) bits
- The fact that the parties *internally* generate a p(n)-bit temporary string to encrypt/decrypt is **irrelevant**
  - The *key* is what the parties share *in advance*
  - Parties do not store the p(n)-bit temporary value
- Security of pseudo-OTP?



# Definitions, proofs, and assumptions

- We've *defined* computational secrecy
- Our goal is to *prove* that the pseudo-OTP meets that definition
- We cannot prove this unconditionally
  - Beyond our current technique
  - Anyway, security clearly depends on G
- *Can* prove security based on *the assumption* that G is a pseudorandom generator



## Proof by reduction

- 1. Assume G is a pseudorandom generator
- 2. Assume toward a contradiction that there is an efficient attacker A who "breaks" the pseudo-OTP scheme (as per the definition)
- 3. Use A as a subroutine to build an efficient D that "breaks" pseudorandomness of G
  - By assumption, no such D exists!
  - $\Rightarrow$ No such A can exist

If G is a pseudorandom generator, then the pseudo one-time pad П is EAV-secure (i.e., computationally indistinguishable)



### **Keyed** functions

- Let F:  $\{0,1\}^n \times \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^n$  be an efficient, deterministic algorithm
  - Define  $F_k(x) = F(k, x)$
  - The first input is called the *key*
  - Security parameter = key length = n
- F is *pseudorandom* if F<sub>k</sub> (for uniform k) is indistinguishable from a random function on the same domain/range



# **Block ciphers**

- Block ciphers are practical constructions of pseudorandom permutations
- No asymptotics: F:  $\{0,1\}^n \ge \{0,1\}^m \rightarrow \{0,1\}^m$  for fixed n, m
  - n = "key length"
  - m = "block length"
- Hard to distinguish  $F_k$  from uniform  $f \in Perm_m$  even for attackers running in time  $\approx 2^n$



#### AES

- Advanced encryption standard (AES)
  - Key length = 128, 192, or 256 bits
  - Block length = 128 bits
- Will discuss details later in the course
- Available in standard crypto libraries
- No real reason to use anything else





#### Message integrity

## Secrecy vs. integrity

- So far we have been concerned with ensuring *secrecy* of communication
- What about *integrity*?
  - I.e., ensuring that a received message originated from the intended party, and was not modified
- Standard error-correction not enough!
  - The right tool is a message authentication code



#### Passive attacks vs. active attacks

- So far we have been considered only *passive* (i.e., eavesdropping) attacks
  - Attacker simply observes the channel (even if it might also carry out a chosenplaintext attack)
- In the setting of integrity, we explicitly consider *active* attacks
  - Attacker has full control over the channel



