

# Advanced Cryptography — Final Exam

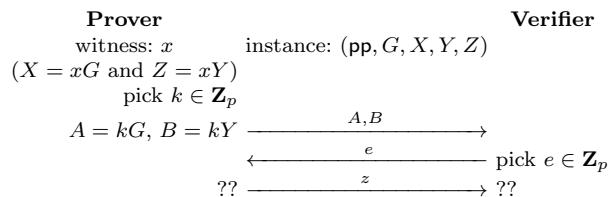
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- duration: 3h
- any document allowed
- a pocket calculator is allowed
- communication devices are **not** allowed
- the exam invigilators will **not** answer any technical question during the exam
- readability and style of writing will be part of the grade

## 1 $\Sigma$ Protocol for Discrete Log Equality

We assume that public parameters  $\mathbf{pp}$  describe a group, how to do operations and comparison in the group, and also give its prime order  $p$ . We use additive notation and  $0$  denotes the neutral element in the group. We define the relation  $R((\mathbf{pp}, G, X, Y, Z), x)$  for group elements  $G, X, Y, Z$  and an integer  $x$  which is true if and only if  $G \neq 0$ ,  $X = xG$ , and  $Z = xY$ . We construct a  $\Sigma$ -protocol for  $R$  with challenge set  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ . The prover starts by picking  $k \in \mathbf{Z}_p$  with uniform distribution, computing and sending  $A = kG$  and  $B = kY$ . Then, the prover gets a challenge  $e \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ . The answer is an integer  $z$  to be computed in a way which is a subject of the following question. The final verification is also a subject of the following question. The protocol looks like this:



- Q.1** Inspired by the Schnorr proof, finish the specification of the prover and the verifier.
- Q.2** Specify the extractor and the simulator.
- Q.3** Fully specify another  $\Sigma$ -protocol for the relation  $R((\mathbf{pp}, G, X, Y, Z, U, V), (a, b))$  which is true if and only if  $U = aG + bY$  and  $V = aX + bZ$ .

## 2 Distinguisher for Lai-Massey Schemes

The Lai-Massey scheme is an alternate construction to the Feistel scheme to build a block cipher from round functions. Let  $n$  be the block size and  $r$  be the number of rounds. We denote by  $\oplus$  the bitwise XOR operation over bistrings. Let the  $F_i$  be secret functions from

$\{0, 1\}^{\frac{n}{2}}$  to itself and  $\pi$  be a fixed public permutation over  $\{0, 1\}^{\frac{n}{2}}$ . Let  $x, y \in \{0, 1\}^{\frac{n}{2}}$  and  $x\|y$  denote the concatenation of the two bitstrings. We define

$$\varphi(F_1, \dots, F_r)(x\|y) = \varphi(F_2, \dots, F_r)(\pi(x \oplus F_1(x \oplus y))\|(y \oplus F_1(x \oplus y)))$$

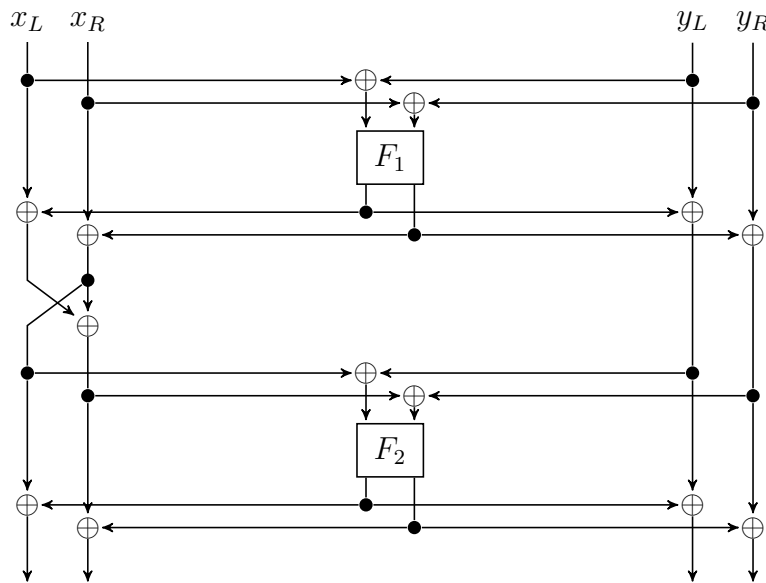
for  $r > 1$  and

$$\varphi(F_r)(x\|y) = (x \oplus F_r(x \oplus y))\|(y \oplus F_r(x \oplus y))$$

when there is a single round. In what follows, we assume that the permutation  $\pi$  is defined by

$$\pi(x_L\|x_R) = (x_R\|(x_L \oplus x_R))$$

where  $x_L, x_R \in \{0, 1\}^{\frac{n}{4}}$ . For example, a 2-round Lai-Massey scheme is represented as follows:



- Q.1** If  $\varphi(F_1, \dots, F_r)$  is the encryption function, what is the decryption function?
- Q.2** Give a distinguisher between  $\varphi(F_1)$  and a random permutation with a single known plaintext and advantage close to 1. (Compute the advantage.)
- Q.3** Give a distinguisher between  $\varphi(F_1, F_2)$  and a random permutation with two chosen plaintexts and advantage close to 1. (Compute the advantage.)

### 3 Bias in the Modulo $p$ Seed

We assume a setup phase  $\text{Setup}(1^\lambda) \rightarrow p$  to determine a public prime number  $p$  with security parameter  $\lambda$ . We consider the following generators:

Generator  $\text{Gen}_0(1^\lambda, p)$ :

- 1: pick  $y \in_U \mathbf{Z}_p$
- 2: **return**  $y$

Generator  $\text{Gen}_1(1^\lambda, p)$ :

- 1:  $\ell \leftarrow \lceil \log_2 p \rceil$
- 2: pick  $x \in_U \{0, 1, \dots, 2^\ell - 1\}$
- 3:  $y \leftarrow x \bmod p$
- 4: **return**  $y$

Generator  $\text{Gen}_2(1^\lambda, p)$ :

- 1:  $\ell \leftarrow \lceil \log_2 p \rceil$
- 2: pick  $x \in_U \{0, 1, \dots, 2^{\ell+\lambda} - 1\}$
- 3:  $y \leftarrow x \bmod p$
- 4: **return**  $y$

Here, “pick  $x \in_U E$ ” means that we sample  $x$  from a set  $E$  with uniform distribution. The value  $\ell$  is the bitlength of  $p$ . In what follows, we consider distinguishers with unbounded complexity but limited to a single query to a generator.

- Q.1** Estimate how  $\ell$  is usually fixed to have  $\lambda$ -bit security for typical cryptography in a (generic) group of order  $p$ . (For instance, in an elliptic curve.)
- Q.2** Compute the advantage of the best distinguisher between  $\text{Gen}_0$  and  $\text{Gen}_1$ . Could it be large?
- Q.3** Compute the advantage of the best distinguisher between  $\text{Gen}_0$  and  $\text{Gen}_2$ .  
Hint: use the Euclidean division  $2^{\ell+\lambda} = qp + r$ .
- Q.4** Based on the computations, what do you conclude about the generator algorithms?