

## Key Exchange

1

## Challenge – Exchanging Keys



*Exchanges* = 
$$\frac{n(n-1)}{2} = \frac{6(6-1)}{2} = 15$$

The more parties in communication, the more keys that need to be *securely* exchanged

Do we have to use out-of-band methods? (e.g., phone?)

# Key Exchange

- Insecure communications channel
  - **7** Eve can see everything!

- Alice and Bob agree on a shared secret ("key") that Eve doesn't know
  - Despite Eve seeing everything!





(bob)



3

#### New Directions in Cryptography

Invited Paper

Whitfield Diffie and Martin E. Hellman

Abstract Two kinds of contemporary developments in cryptography are examined. Widening applications of teleprocessing have given rise to a need for new types of cryptographic systems, which minimize the need for secure key distribution channels and supply the equivalent of a written signature. This paper suggests ways to solve these currently open problems. It also discusses how the theories of communication and computation are beginning to provide the tools to solve cryptographic problems of long standing.

#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

We stand today on the brink of a revolution in cryptography. The development of cheap digital hardware has freed it from the design limitations of mechanical computing and brought the cost of high grade cryptographic devices down to where they can be used in such commercial applications as remote cash dispensers and computer terminals. In turn, such applications create a need for new types of cryptographic systems which minimize the necessity of secure key distribution channels and supply the equivalent of a written signature. At the same time, theoretical developments in information theory and computer science show promise of providing provably secure cryptosystems, changing this ancient art into a science.

The development of computer controlled communication networks promises effortless and inexpensive contact between people or computers on opposite sides of the world, replacing most mail and many excursions with telecommunications. For many applications these contacts must be made secure against both eavesdropping and the injection of illegitimate messages. At present, however, the solution of security problems lags well behind other areas of communications technology. Contemporary cryptography is unable to meet the requirements, in that its use would impose such severe inconveniences on the system users, as to eliminate many of the benefits of teleprocessing.

The best known cryptographic problem is that of privacy: preventing the unauthorized extraction of information from

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communications over an insecure channel order to use cryptography to insure privacy, however, it currently necessary for the communicating parties to share a key which is known to no one else. This is done by sending the key in advance over some secure channel such a private courier or registered mail. A private conversation between two people with no prior acquaintance is a common occurrence in business, however, and it is unrealistic to expect initial business contacts to be postponed long enough for keys to be transmitted by some physical means. The cost and delay imposed by this key distribution problem is a major barrier to the transfer of business communications to large teleprocessing networks.

Section III proposes two approaches to transmitting keying information over public (i.e., insecure) channel without compromising the security of the system. In public key cryptosystem enciphering and deciphering are governed by distinct keys, E and D, such that computing D from E is computationally infeasible (e.g., requiring 10<sup>100</sup> instructions). The enciphering key E can thus be publicly disclosed without compromising the deciphering key D. Each user of the network can, therefore, place his enciphering key in a public directory. This enables any user of the system to send a message to any other user enciphered in such a way that only the intended receiver is able to decipher it. As such, a public key cryptosystem is multiple access cipher. A private conversation can therefore be held between any two individuals regardless of whether they have ever communicated before. Each one sends messages to the other enciphered in the receiver public enciphering key and deciphers the messages he receives using his own secret deciphering key.

We propose some techniques for developing public key cryptosystems, but the problem is still largely open.

Public key distribution systems offer a different approach to eliminating the need for a secure key distribution channel. In such a system, two users who wish to exchange a key communicate back and forth until they arrive a key in common. A third party eavesdropping on this exchange must find it computationally infeasible to compute the key from the information overheard. A possible solution to the public key distribution problem is given in Section III, and Merkle [1] has a partial solution of a different form.

A second problem, amenable to cryptographic solution which stands in the way of replacing contemporary business communications by teleprocessing systems is authentication. In current business, the validity of contracts guaranteed by signatures. A signed contract serves as gal evidence of an agreement which Whitfield **Diffie** and Martin **Hellman**, "New directions in cryptography," in *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory*, vol. 22, no. 6, Nov 1976.

#### Proposed public key cryptography. Diffie-Hellman key exchange.



Manuscript received June 3. 1976. This work was partially supported by the National Science Foundation under NSF Grant ENG 10173. Portions of this work were presented at the IEEE Information Theory Workshop. Lenox. MA. June 23–25. 1975 and the IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory in Ronneby. Sweden. June 21–24. 1976.

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(3) Mixing colors is *one-way* (Impossible to determine which colors went in to produce final result)

https://www.crypto101.io/

Fall 2018







#### $y \equiv (g^x) \mod (p)$

y is defined as equal to  $g^x$  modulo p

- p = prime number (modulus)
- g = base integer
- x = random integer

#### Assumption: Computing y is easy! But computing x given y, g, and p is very hard! Discrete Logarithm Problem







(bob)

+

=

Mix

#### (alice)

$$m_A \equiv (g^{r_A}) \mod (p)$$
  
 $m_B \equiv (g^{r_B}) \mod (p)$ 

(1) Public color  $\square$  is a large prime number p and base g(2) Alice secret color  $\square$  is random integer  $r_A$ (3) Bob secret color  $\blacksquare$  is random integer  $r_B$ (4) Alice mixed color  $\blacksquare$  is  $m_A$ 

- (5) Bob mixed color  $\blacksquare$  is  $m_B$
- (6) Exchange  $m_A$  and  $m_B$



#### Doesn't have to be modular division

- Could be *elliptic curves*
- Could be supersingular isogeny key exchange

## Public Key Cryptography

13

# Public Key Cryptography

#### Asymmetric cryptography

- Sending data to Alice?
  - Use her public Key
- Alice receives your data?
  - **↗** She decrypts it with her *private key*

#### A Method for Obtaining Digital Signatures and Public-Key Cryptosystems

R.L. Rivest, A. Shamir, and L. Adleman<sup>\*</sup>

#### Abstract

An encryption method is presented with the novel property that publicly revealing an encryption key does not thereby reveal the corresponding decryption key. This has two important consequences:

- 1. Couriers or other secure means are not needed to transmit keys, since a message can be enciphered using an encryption key publicly revealed by the intended recipient. Only he can decipher the message, since only he knows the corresponding decryption key.
- 2. A message can be "signed" using a privately held decryption key. Anyone can verify this signature using the corresponding publicly revealed encryption key. Signatures cannot be forged, and a signer cannot later deny the validity of his signature. This has obvious applications in "electronic mail" and "electronic funds transfer" systems.

A message is encrypted by representing it as a number M, raising M to a publicly specified power e, and then taking the remainder when the result is divided by the publicly specified product, n, of two large secret prime numbers p and q. Decryption is similar; only a different, secret, power d is used, where  $e \cdot d \equiv 1 \pmod{(p-1)} \cdot (q-1)$ . The security of the system rests in part on the difficulty of factoring the published divisor, n.

Key Words and Phrases: digital signatures, public-key cryptosystems, privacy, authentication, security, factorization, prime number, electronic mail, message-passing, electronic funds transfer, cryptography. CR Categories: 2.12, 3.15, 3.50, 3.81, 5.25

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This research was supported by National Science Foundation grant MCS76-14294, and the Office of Naval Research grant number N00014-67-A-0204-0063.

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Ron L. **Rivest**, Adi **Shamir**, and Leonard **Adleman**. A method for obtaining digital signatures and public-key cryptosystems. *Communications of the ACM* (February 1978)

#### RSA encryption method First public key method



# Public-Key Algorithms

#### Key exchange algorithms

- Allows two parties to agree on a shared secret across an insecure medium
- **7** Example: Diffie-Hellman
- Encryption algorithms
  - Allows sender to encrypt without having to agree first on a shared secret
- Signature algorithms
  - Allows sender to sign information using sender's private key and receiver to validate using sender's public key

## Public-Key Encryption

#### Public key encryption is *awesome!*

#### Should we use it everywhere?

#### Caveat – Performance

- Rarely use public key encryption by itself
- Reasons:
  - Size (RSA can't encrypt anything larger than its modulus, i.e. 4096 bits)
  - **7** Performance
    - RSA 2048 encryption: 0.08 megacycles/operation (256B)
    - RSA 2048 decryption: 3.25 megacycles/operation
    - AES-GCM: 2-4 cycles per byte
      - https://www.cryptopp.com/benchmarks.html

Hybrid cryptosystem – Use public-key algorithms to coordinate keys, and then use symmetric ciphers (shared key) for bulk operations