

# Homework 3

- As announced: not due today 😊
- Due Friday at the beginning of class.

# Cryptography

## CS 555

Topic 27: Factoring Algorithm, Discrete Log Attacks + NIST  
Recommendations for Concrete Security Parameters

# Recap

- OWFs + CRHFs from Discrete Log + Factoring
- Pollards (p-1) algorithm
  - (works when  $N=pq$  and  $(p-1)$  has only “small” prime factors)

# Pollard's Rho Algorithm

- General Purpose Factoring Algorithm
  - Doesn't assume  $(p-1)$  has no large prime factor
  - **Goal:** factor  $N=pq$  (product of two  $n$ -bit primes)
- Running time:  $O(\sqrt[4]{N} \text{ polylog}(N))$ 
  - Naïve Algorithm takes time  $O(\sqrt{N} \text{ polylog}(N))$  to factor
- **Core idea:** find distinct  $x, x' \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$  such that  $x = x' \pmod{p}$ 
  - Implies that  $x-x'$  is a multiple of  $p$  and, thus,  $\text{GCD}(x-x', N)=p$  (whp)

# Pollard's Rho Algorithm

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- **Core idea:** find distinct  $x, x' \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$  such that  $x = x' \pmod p$ 
  - Implies that  $x-x'$  is a multiple of  $p$  and, thus,  $\text{GCD}(x-x', N) = p$  (whp)
- **Question:** If we pick  $k = O(\sqrt{p})$  random  $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(k)} \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  then what is the probability that we can find distinct  $i$  and  $j$  such that
$$x^{(i)} = x^{(j)} \pmod p?$$

# Pollard's Rho Algorithm

- **Question:** If we pick  $k = O(\sqrt{p})$  random  $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(k)} \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  then what is the probability that we can find distinct  $i$  and  $j$  such that  $x^{(i)} = x^{(j)} \pmod{p}$ ?
- **Answer:**  $\geq 1/2$
- **Proof (sketch):** Use the Chinese Remainder Theorem + Birthday Bound

$$x^{(i)} = (x^{(i)} \pmod{p}, x^{(i)} \pmod{q})$$

**Note:** We will also have  $x^{(i)} \neq x^{(j)} \pmod{q}$  (whp)

# Pollard's Rho Algorithm

- **Question:** If we pick  $k = O(\sqrt{p})$  random  $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(k)} \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  then what is the probability that we can find distinct  $i$  and  $j$  such that  $x^{(i)} = x^{(j)} \pmod{p}$ ?
- **Answer:**  $\geq 1/2$
- **Challenge:** We do not know  $p$  or  $q$  so we cannot sort the  $x^{(i)}$ 's using the Chinese Remainder Theorem Representation

$$x^{(i)} = (x^{(i)} \pmod{p}, x^{(i)} \pmod{q})$$

How can we identify the pair  $i$  and  $j$  such that  $x^{(i)} = x^{(j)} \pmod{p}$ ?

# Pollard's Rho Algorithm

- Pollard's Rho Algorithm is similar the low-space version of the birthday attack

**Input:**  $N$  (product of two  $n$  bit primes)

$$x^{(0)} \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^*, x = x' = x^{(0)}$$

**For**  $i=1$  to  $2^{n/2}$

$$x \leftarrow F(x)$$

$$x' \leftarrow F(F(x))$$

$$p = \mathbf{GCD}(x-x', N)$$

**if**  $1 < p < N$  **return**  $p$

**Remark 1:**  $F$  should have the property that if  $x=x' \pmod p$  then  $F(x) = F(x') \pmod p$ .

**Remark 2:**  $F(x) = [x^2 + 1 \pmod N]$  will work since

$$F(x) = [x^2 + 1 \pmod N]$$

$$\leftrightarrow (x^2 + 1 \pmod p, x^2 + 1 \pmod q)$$

$$\leftrightarrow (F([x \pmod p]) \pmod p, F([x \pmod q]) \pmod q)$$



# Pollard's Rho Algorithm

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**For**  $i=1$  to  $2^{n/2}$

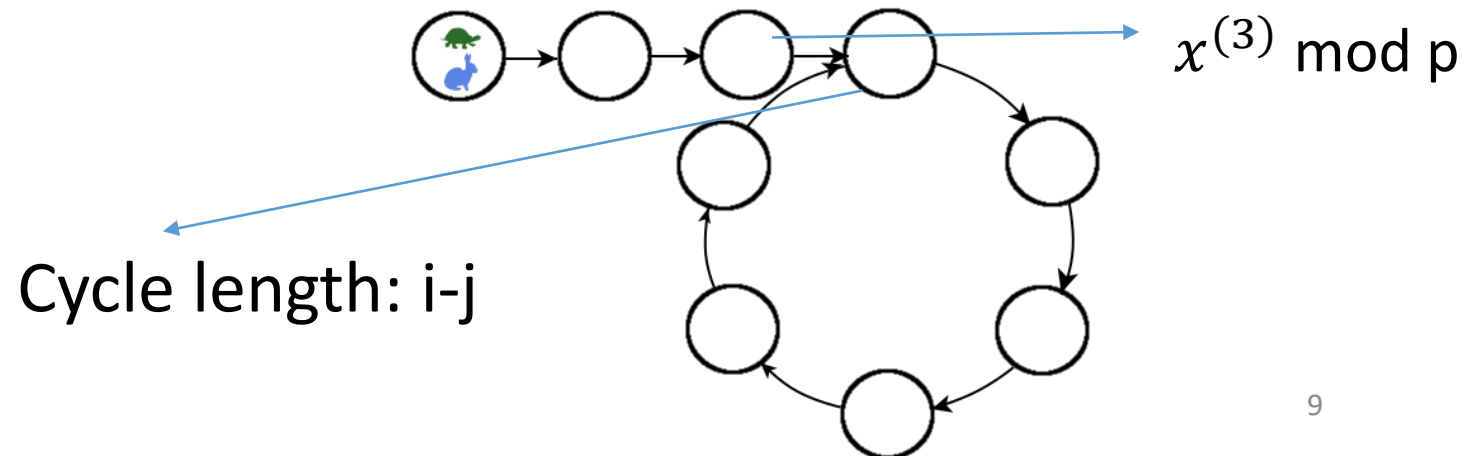
$$x \leftarrow F(x)$$

$$x' \leftarrow F(F(x))$$

$$p = \mathbf{GCD}(x-x', N)$$

**if**  $1 < p < N$  **return**  $p$

**Claim:** Let  $x^{(i+1)} = F(x^{(i)})$  and suppose that for some distinct  $i, j < 2^{n/2}$  we have  $x^{(i)} = x^{(j)} \pmod p$  but  $x^{(i)} \neq x^{(j)}$ . Then the algorithm will find  $p$ .



# Pollard's Rho Algorithm (Summary)

- General Purpose Factoring Algorithm
  - Doesn't assume  $(p-1)$  has no large prime factor
- Running time:  $O(\sqrt[4]{N} \text{ polylog}(N))$ 
  - (still exponential in number of bits  $\sim 2^{n/4}$ )
- Required Space:  $O(\log(N))$
- Succeeds with constant probability

# Quadratic Sieve Algorithm

- Runs in subexponential time  $2^{O(\sqrt{\log N \log \log N})} = 2^{O(\sqrt{n \log n})}$ 
  - Still not polynomial time but  $2^{\sqrt{n \log n}}$  grows much slower than  $2^{n/4}$ .

- **Core Idea:** Find  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$  such that
$$x^2 = y^2 \pmod{N}$$

and

$$x \not\equiv \pm y \pmod{N}$$

# Quadratic Sieve Algorithm

- **Core Idea:** Find  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$  such that
$$x^2 = y^2 \pmod{N} \quad (1)$$

and

$$x \not\equiv \pm y \pmod{N} \quad (2)$$

**Claim:**  $\gcd(x-y, N) \in \{p, q\}$

→  $N=pq$  divides  $x^2 - y^2 = (x - y)(x + y)$ . (by (1)).

→  $(x - y)(x + y) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{N}$  (by (2)).

→  $N$  does not divide  $(x - y)$  (by (2)).

→  $N$  does not divide  $(x + y)$ . (by (2)).

→  $p$  is a factor of exactly one of the terms  $(x - y)$  and  $(x + y)$ .

→ ( $q$  is a factor of the other term)

# Quadratic Sieve Algorithm

- **Core Idea:** Find  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$  such that

$$x^2 = y^2 \pmod{N}$$

and

$$x \neq \pm y \pmod{N}$$

- **Key Question:** How to find such an  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$ ?

- **Step 1:**

$j=0$ ;

For  $x = \sqrt{N} + 1, \sqrt{N} + 2, \dots, \sqrt{N} + i, \dots$

$$q \leftarrow [(\sqrt{N} + i)^2 \pmod{N}] = [2i\sqrt{N} + i^2 \pmod{N}]$$

Check if  $q$  is  $B$ -smooth (all prime factors of  $q$  are in  $\{p_1, \dots, p_k\}$  where  $p_k < B$ ).

If  $q$  is  $B$  smooth then factor  $q$ , increment  $j$  and define

$$q_j \leftarrow q = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_{j,i}},$$

# Quadratic Sieve Algorithm

- **Core Idea:** Find  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$  such that

$$x^2 = y^2 \pmod{N}$$

and

$$x \neq \pm y \pmod{N}$$

- **Key Question:** How to find such an  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$ ?
- **Step 2:** Once we have  $\ell > k$  equations of the form

$$q_j \leftarrow q = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_{j,i}},$$

We can use linear algebra to find  $S$  such that for each  $i \leq k$  we have

$$\sum_{j \in S} e_{j,i} = 0 \pmod{2}.$$

# Quadratic Sieve Algorithm

- **Key Question:** How to find  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$  such that  $x^2 = y^2 \pmod N$  and  $x \not\equiv \pm y \pmod N$ ?
- **Step 2:** Once we have  $\ell > k$  equations of the form

$$q_j \leftarrow q = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_{j,i}},$$

We can use linear algebra to find a subset  $S$  such that for each  $i \leq k$  we have

$$\sum_{j \in S} e_{j,i} = 0 \pmod 2.$$

Thus,

$$\prod_{j \in S} q_j = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\sum_{j \in S} e_{j,i}} = \left( \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \in S} e_{j,i}} \right)^2 = y^2$$

# Quadratic Sieve Algorithm

- **Key Question:** How to find  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$  such that  $x^2 = y^2 \pmod N$  and  $x \neq \pm y \pmod N$ ?

Thus,

$$\prod_{j \in S} q_j = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\sum_{j \in S} e_{j,i}} = \left( \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \in S} e_{j,i}} \right)^2 = y^2$$

But we also have

$$\prod_{j \in S} q_j = \prod_{j \in S} (x_j^2) = \left( \prod_{j \in S} x_j \right)^2 = x^2 \pmod N$$



# Quadratic Sieve Algorithm (Summary)

- Appropriate parameter tuning yields sub-exponential time algorithm  $2^{O(\sqrt{\log N \log \log N})} = 2^{O(\sqrt{n \log n})}$ 
  - Still not polynomial time but  $2^{\sqrt{n \log n}}$  grows much slower than  $2^{n/4}$ .

# Discrete Log Attacks

- Pohlig-Hellman Algorithm
  - Given a cyclic group  $\mathbb{G}$  of non-prime order  $q = |\mathbb{G}| = rp$
  - Reduce discrete log problem to discrete problem(s) for subgroup(s) of order  $p$  (or smaller).
  - Preference for prime order subgroups in cryptography
- Baby-step/Giant-Step Algorithm
  - Solve discrete logarithm in time  $O(\sqrt{q} \text{ polylog}(q))$
- Pollard's Rho Algorithm
  - Solve discrete logarithm in time  $O(\sqrt{q} \text{ polylog}(q))$
  - Bonus: Constant memory!
- Index Calculus Algorithm
  - Similar to quadratic sieve
  - Runs in sub-exponential time  $2^{O(\sqrt{\log q \log \log q})}$
  - Specific to the group  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  (e.g., attack doesn't work elliptic-curves)

# Discrete Log Attacks

- **Pohlig-Hellman Algorithm**

- Given a cyclic group  $\mathbb{G}$  of non-prime order  $q = |\mathbb{G}| = rp$
- Reduce discrete log problem to discrete problem(s) for subgroup(s) of order  $p$  (or smaller).
- Preference for prime order subgroups in cryptography
- Let  $\mathbb{G} = \langle g \rangle$  and  $h = g^x \in \mathbb{G}$  be given. For simplicity assume that  $r$  is prime and  $r < p$ .
- Observe that  $\langle g^r \rangle$  generates a subgroup of size  $p$  and that  $h^r \in \langle g^r \rangle$ .
  - Solve discrete log problem in subgroup  $\langle g^r \rangle$  with input  $h^r$ .
  - Find  $z$  such that  $h^{rz} = g^{rz}$ .
- Observe that  $\langle g^p \rangle$  generates a subgroup of size  $p$  and that  $h^p \in \langle g^p \rangle$ .
  - Solve discrete log problem in subgroup  $\langle g^p \rangle$  with input  $h^p$ .
  - Find  $y$  such that  $h^{yp} = g^{yp}$ .
- Chinese Remainder Theorem  $h = g^x$  where  $x \leftrightarrow ([z \bmod p], [y \bmod r])$

# Baby-step/Giant-Step Algorithm

- Input:  $\mathbb{G} = \langle g \rangle$  of order  $q$ , generator  $g$  and  $h = g^x \in \mathbb{G}$

- Set  $t = \lfloor \sqrt{q} \rfloor$

**For**  $i=0$  to  $\lfloor \frac{q}{t} \rfloor$

$$g_i \leftarrow g^{it}$$

**Sort** the pairs  $(i, g_i)$  by their second component

**For**  $i=0$  to  $t$

$$h_i \leftarrow h g^i$$

if  $h_i = g^k \in \{g_0, \dots, g_t\}$  then

return  $[kt-i \bmod q]$

$$h_i = h g^i = g^{kt}$$

$$\rightarrow h = g^{kt-i}$$

# Discrete Log Attacks

- Baby-step/Giant-Step Algorithm
  - Solve discrete logarithm in time  $O(\sqrt{q} \text{polylog}(q))$
  - Requires memory  $O(\sqrt{q} \text{polylog}(q))$
- Pollard's Rho Algorithm
  - Solve discrete logarithm in time  $O(\sqrt{q} \text{polylog}(q))$
  - Bonus: Constant memory!
- **Key Idea:** Low-Space Birthday Attack (\*) using our collision resistant hash function

$$\begin{aligned} H_{g,h}(x_1, x_2) &= g^{x_1} h^{x_2} \\ H_{g,h}(y_1, y_2) &= H_{g,h}(x_1, x_2) \rightarrow h^{y_2 - x_2} = g^{x_1 - y_1} \\ &\rightarrow h = g^{(x_1 - y_1)(y_2 - x_2)^{-1}} \end{aligned}$$

(\*) A few small technical details to address

# Discrete Log Attacks

- Baby-step/Giant-Step Algorithm
  - Solve discrete logarithm in time  $O(\sqrt{q} \text{polylog}(q))$
  - Requires memory  $O(\sqrt{q} \text{polylog}(q))$
- Pollard's Rho Algorithm
  - Solve discrete logarithm in time  $O(\sqrt{q} \text{polylog}(q))$
  - Bonus: Constant memory!
- **Key Idea:** Low-Space Birthday Attack (\*)

$$H_{g,h}(x_1, x_2) = g^{x_1} h^{x_2}$$
$$H_{g,h}(y_1, y_2) = H_{g,h}(x_1, x_2)$$

$$\rightarrow h^{y_2 - x_2} = g^{x_1 - y_1}$$
$$\rightarrow h = g^{(x_1 - y_1)(y_2 - x_2)^{-1}}$$

(\*) A few small technical details to address

**Remark:** We used discrete-log problem to construct collision resistant hash functions.

Security Reduction showed that attack on collision resistant hash function yields attack on discrete log.

→ Generic attack on collision resistant hash functions (e.g., low space birthday attack) yields generic attack on discrete log.

# Discrete Log Attacks

- Index Calculus Algorithm
  - Similar to quadratic sieve
  - Runs in sub-exponential time  $2^{O(\sqrt{\log q \log \log q})}$
  - Specific to the group  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  (e.g., attack doesn't work elliptic-curves)
- As before let  $\{p_1, \dots, p_k\}$  be set of prime numbers  $< B$ .
- **Step 1.A:** Find  $\ell > k$  distinct values  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  such that  $g_j = [g^{x_j} \text{ mod } p]$  is B-smooth for each j. That is

$$g_j = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_{i,j}} .$$

# Discrete Log Attacks

- As before let  $\{p_1, \dots, p_k\}$  be set of prime numbers  $< B$ .
- **Step 1.A:** Find  $\ell > k$  distinct values  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  such that  $g_j = [g^{x_j} \bmod p]$  is B-smooth for each  $j$ . That is

$$g_j = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_{i,j}}.$$

- **Step 1.B:** Use linear algebra to solve the equations

$$x_j = \sum_{i=1}^k (\mathbf{log}_g \mathbf{p}_i) \times e_{i,j} \bmod (p - 1).$$

(Note: the  $\mathbf{log}_g \mathbf{p}_i$ 's are the unknowns)



# Discrete Log

- As before let  $\{p_1, \dots, p_k\}$  be set of prime numbers  $< B$ .
- **Step 1 (precomputation):** Obtain  $y_1, \dots, y_k$  such that  $p_i = g^{y_i} \text{ mod } p$ .
- **Step 2:** Given discrete log challenge  $h = g^x \text{ mod } p$ .
  - Find  $y$  such that  $[g^y h \text{ mod } p]$  is  $B$ -smooth

$$\begin{aligned} [g^y h \text{ mod } p] &= \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_i} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^k (g^{y_i})^{e_i} = g^{\sum_i e_i y_i} \end{aligned}$$

# Discrete Log

- As before let  $\{p_1, \dots, p_k\}$  be set of prime numbers  $< B$ .
- **Step 1 (precomputation):** Obtain  $y_1, \dots, y_k$  such that  $p_i = g^{y_i} \text{ mod } p$ .
- **Step 2:** Given discrete log challenge  $h = g^x \text{ mod } p$ .
  - Find  $z$  such that  $[g^z h \text{ mod } p]$  is  $B$ -smooth
$$[g^z h \text{ mod } p] = g^{\sum_i e_i y_i} \rightarrow h = g^{\sum_i e_i y_i - z}$$
- **Remark:** Precomputation costs can be amortized over many discrete log instances
  - In practice, the same group  $\mathbb{G} = \langle g \rangle$  and generator  $g$  are used repeatedly.

# NIST Guidelines (Concrete Security)

Best known attack against 1024 bit RSA takes time (approximately)  $2^{80}$

<b>Symmetric Key Size (bits)</b>	<b>RSA and Diffie-Hellman Key Size (bits)</b>	<b>Elliptic Curve Key Size (bits)</b>
80	1024	160
112	2048	224
128	3072	256
192	7680	384
256	15360	521

Table 1: NIST Recommended Key Sizes

# NIST Guidelines (Concrete Security)

Diffie-Hellman uses subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  size  $q$

Symmetric Key Size (bits)	RSA and Diffie-Hellman Key Size (bits)	Elliptic Curve Key Size (bits)
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256	15360	521

Table 1: NIST Recommended Key Sizes

Security Strength		2011 through 2013	2014 through 2030	2031 and Beyond
80	Applying	Deprecated	Disallowed	
	Processing	Legacy use		
112	Applying	Acceptable	Acceptable	Disallowed
	Processing			Legacy use
128	Applying/Processing	Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable
192		Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable
256		Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable

NIST's security strength guidelines, from Specialist Publication SP 800-57  
*Recommendation for Key Management – Part 1: General (Revision 3)*

# Next Class: Key Management

- Key Management
- Read Katz and Lindell: Chapter 10