

COS433/Math 473: Cryptography

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Announcements

Homework 1 up

- You should be able to complete it after today's lecture

Office Hours

Mark: Mondays 3pm-4pm in COS 314

Fermi: Fridays 2-3pm in Theory Lounge
(3rd floor of COS)

Last Time

Many examples of classical cryptosystems

- Substitution ciphers
- Disk-based ciphers
- Transposition ciphers
- Anagrams
- Enigma

Essentially all completely insecure

Today

Some basic principles

Defining encryption: perfect security

The one-time pad

Kerckhoffs's Principle

Security should only depend on the secrecy of the **key**

- Should still be secure if attacker knows encryption procedure

Why?

- Bad things happen
- Hard to update entire system, easy to update key
- System can be analyzed by crypto community
- Easier to formalize security notions

Designing Crypto Is Hard

Cannot discern security through program analysis

- Just because it compiles doesn't mean it's secure
- Just because you can't see how to break it doesn't mean someone else can't

Even experts get it wrong

Unexpected attack vectors

- Known/chosen plaintext attack
- Chosen *ciphertext* attack
- Timing attack
- Power analysis
- Acoustic cryptanalysis

Solution

When designing new crypto, should have a formal argument why it should resist ALL attacks

- Not always possible; if not, use crypto standards vetted by crypto community

Better yet: only use well-known crypto libraries

- Don't implement crypto yourself
- You'll probably get it wrong and introduce side-channels

Defining Crypto

Formal security notion a necessary step before proving anything

Syntax: The algorithms in the cryptosystem and their inputs

- E.g. **Enc**, **Dec**, keys, messages, etc

Correctness/Completeness: Functional relationships between algorithms

- E.g. **Dec(k, Enc(k, m)) = m**

Security: What an attacker should not be able to do

Defining Encryption

Encryption Basics (for now)

Syntax:

- Key space \mathbf{K} (usually $\{0,1\}^\lambda$)
- Message space \mathbf{M} (usually $\{0,1\}^n$)
- Ciphertext space \mathbf{C} (usually $\{0,1\}^m$)
- **Enc:** $\mathbf{K} \times \mathbf{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$
- **Dec:** $\mathbf{K} \times \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}$

Correctness:

- For all $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}$, $\mathbf{m} \in \mathbf{M}$, **Dec(k, Enc(k,m)) = m**

Encryption Security?

Questions to think about:

What kind of messages?

What does the adversary already know?

What information are we trying to protect?

Examples:

- Messages are always either “attack at dawn” or “attack at dusk”, trying to hide which is the case
- Messages are status updates (“<person> reports <event> at <location>”). Which data is sensitive?

Encryption Security?

Questions to think about:

What kind of messages?

What does the adversary already know?

What information are we trying to protect?

Goal:

Rather than design a separate system for each use case, design a system that works in all possible settings

Semantic Security

Idea:

- Plaintext comes from an arbitrary distribution
- Adversary initially has some information about the plaintext
- Seeing the ciphertext should not reveal any more information

(Perfect) Semantic Security

Definition: A scheme **(Enc, Dec)** is **(perfectly) semantically secure** if, for all:

- Distributions **D** on **M** ← Plaintext distribution
- Functions **I: M → {0,1}^{*}** ← Info adv gets
- Functions **f: M → {0,1}^{*}** ← Info adv tries to learn
- Functions **A: C × {0,1}^{*} → {0,1}^{*}** ← Adversary

There exists a function **S: {0,1}^{*} → {0,1}^{*}** ← “Simulator” such that

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[A(\text{Enc}(k,m) , I(m)) = f(m)] \\ = \Pr[S(I(m)) = f(m)] \end{aligned}$$

where probabilities are taken over $k \leftarrow K, m \leftarrow D$

Semantic Security

Captures what we want out of an encryption scheme

But, complicated, with many moving parts

Want: something simpler...

Perfect Secrecy [Shannon'49]

Definition: A scheme **(Enc,Dec)** has **perfect secrecy** if, for all:

- Two messages $m_0, m_1 \in M$
- Ciphertext $c \in C$

$$\Pr[\text{Enc}(k, m_0) = c] = \Pr[\text{Enc}(k, m_1) = c]$$

where probabilities are taken over $k \leftarrow K$

Notation

Two random variables X, Y over a finite set S have identical distributions if, for all $s \in S$,

$$\Pr[X = s] = \Pr[Y = s]$$

In this case, we write

$$X \stackrel{d}{=} Y$$

Perfect Secrecy [Shannon'49]

Definition: A scheme **(Enc, Dec)** has **perfect secrecy** if, for any two messages $\mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{m}_1 \in \mathcal{M}$

$$\mathbf{Enc}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{m}_0) \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbf{Enc}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{m}_1)$$

Random variable corresponding to uniform distribution over \mathbf{K}

Random variable corresponding to encrypting \mathbf{m}_1 using a uniformly random key

Obtaining Perfect Secrecy: The One-Time Pad

Key space $\mathbf{K} = \{0,1\}^n$

Message space $\mathbf{M} = \{0,1\}^n$

Ciphertext space $\mathbf{C} = \{0,1\}^n$

$$\mathbf{Enc}(k, m) = k \oplus m$$

$$\mathbf{Dec}(k, c) = k \oplus c$$

Correctness:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{Dec}(k, \mathbf{Enc}(k, m)) &= k \oplus (k \oplus m) \\ &= (k \oplus k) \oplus m \\ &= 0 \oplus m \\ &= m\end{aligned}$$

Example:

$k = 0011010110$

$m = 1001010101$

$c = 1010000011$

Obtaining Perfect Secrecy: The One-Time Pad

Security?

Theorem: For any message $\mathbf{m} \in \{0,1\}^n$ and ciphertext $\mathbf{c} \in \{0,1\}^n$,

$$\Pr[\text{Enc}(k, m) = c] = 2^{-n}$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[\text{Enc}(k, m) = c] &= \Pr[k \oplus m = c] \\ &= \Pr[k = c \oplus m] \\ &= 2^{-n} \end{aligned}$$

Obtaining Perfect Secrecy: The One-Time Pad

Security?

Theorem: For any message $\mathbf{m} \in \{0,1\}^n$ and ciphertext $\mathbf{c} \in \{0,1\}^n$,

$$\Pr[\text{Enc}(k, \mathbf{m}) = \mathbf{c}] = 2^{-n}$$

In other words, for any \mathbf{m} , $\text{Enc}(K, \mathbf{m}) = \mathbf{C}$

Perfect secrecy easily follows:

$$\text{Enc}(K, \mathbf{m}_0) \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbf{C} \stackrel{d}{=} \text{Enc}(K, \mathbf{m}_1)$$

Meaning of Perfect Secrecy

Perfect secrecy is a great definition

- Simple
- Easy to prove

However, it doesn't obviously capture what we need

- What does adversary learn about plaintext?

Semantic Security = Perfect Secrecy

Theorem: A scheme **(Enc,Dec)** is semantically secure if and only if it has perfect secrecy

Perfect Secrecy \Rightarrow Semantic Security

Given arbitrary:

- Distribution \mathbf{D} on \mathbf{M}
- Function $\mathbf{I}:\mathbf{M}\rightarrow\{0,1\}^*$
- Function $\mathbf{f}:\mathbf{M}\rightarrow\{0,1\}^*$
- Function $\mathbf{A}:\mathbf{C}\times\{0,1\}^*\rightarrow\{0,1\}^*$

Know: $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{K}, m_0) \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{K}, m_1)$

Goal: Construct $\mathbf{S}:\{0,1\}^*\rightarrow\{0,1\}^*$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{Enc}(k,m) , \mathbf{I}(m)) = \mathbf{f}(m)] \\ & = \Pr[\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{I}(m)) = \mathbf{f}(m)] \end{aligned}$$

Perfect Secrecy \Rightarrow Semantic Security

S(i):

- Choose random $\mathbf{k} \leftarrow \mathbf{K}$
- Set $\mathbf{c} \leftarrow \mathbf{Enc}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{0})$
- Run and output $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{i})$

$\Pr[\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{I}(m)) = \mathbf{f}(m)]$

$$= \Pr[\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{Enc}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{0}) , \mathbf{I}(m)) = \mathbf{f}(m) : m \leftarrow \mathbf{D}]$$

$$= \sum_{m,c} \Pr[\mathbf{D}=m] \Pr[\mathbf{Enc}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{0})=\mathbf{c}] \Pr[\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{I}(m)) = \mathbf{f}(m)]$$

$$= \sum_{m,c} \Pr[\mathbf{D}=m] \Pr[\mathbf{Enc}(\mathbf{K}, m)=\mathbf{c}] \Pr[\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{I}(m)) = \mathbf{f}(m)]$$

$$= \Pr[\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{Enc}(\mathbf{k}, m) , \mathbf{I}(m)) = \mathbf{f}(m)]$$

Semantic Security \Rightarrow Perfect Secrecy

Proof by contrapositive:

- Assume $\exists m_0, m_1$ s.t. $\text{Enc}(K, m_0) \stackrel{d}{\neq} \text{Enc}(K, m_1)$
- Devise $\mathbf{D, I, f, A}$ such that no \mathbf{S} exists

\mathbf{D} : pick $\mathbf{b} \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ at random, output \mathbf{m}_b

\mathbf{I} : empty

$\mathbf{f}(m_b) = b$

$\mathbf{A}(c) = 1$ iff $\Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_1) = c] > \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_0) = c]$

Semantic Security \Rightarrow Perfect Secrecy

Let $T = \{c: \Pr[\text{Enc}(K,m_1) = c] > \Pr[\text{Enc}(K,m_0) = c]\}$

$\Pr[A(\text{Enc}(K,m)) = f(m) : m \leftarrow D]$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Pr[A(\text{Enc}(K,m_0)) = 0] \\ + \frac{1}{2} \Pr[A(\text{Enc}(K,m_1)) = 1]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Pr[\text{Enc}(K,m_0) \notin T] \\ + \frac{1}{2} \Pr[\text{Enc}(K,m_1) \in T]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} (\Pr[\text{Enc}(K,m_1) \in T] \\ - \Pr[\text{Enc}(K,m_0) \in T])$$

Semantic Security \Rightarrow Perfect Secrecy

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_b) \in T] \\ &= \sum_{c \in T} \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_b) = c] \\ &= 1 - \sum_{c \notin T} \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_b) = c] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_1) \in T] - \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_0) \in T] \\ &= \sum_{c \in T} \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_1) = c] - \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_0) = c] \\ &= \sum_{c \notin T} \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_0) = c] - \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_1) = c] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_c | \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_1) = c] - \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_0) = c] | \end{aligned}$$

Notation: Statistical Distance

Given two distributions $\mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2$ over a set \mathbf{X} , define

$$\Delta(\mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_x | \Pr[\mathbf{D}_1=x] - \Pr[\mathbf{D}_2=x] |$$

Observations:

$$0 \leq \Delta(\mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2) \leq 1$$

$$\Delta(\mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2) = 0 \iff \mathbf{D}_1 = \mathbf{D}_2$$

Semantic Security \Rightarrow Perfect Secrecy

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_1) \in T] - \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_0) \in T] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_c | \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_1) = c] - \Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_0) = c] | \\ &= \Delta(\text{Enc}(K, m_0) , \text{Enc}(K, m_1)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[A(\text{Enc}(K, m)) = f(m)] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \Delta(\text{Enc}(K, m_0) , \text{Enc}(K, m_1)) \end{aligned}$$

Since $E(K, m_0) \stackrel{d}{\neq} E(K, m_1)$,

$$\Rightarrow \Delta(\text{Enc}(K, m_0) , \text{Enc}(K, m_1)) > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \Pr[A(\text{Enc}(K, m)) = f(m)] > \frac{1}{2}$$

Semantic Security \Rightarrow Perfect Secrecy

$$\Pr[A(\text{Enc}(K,m)) = f(m)] > \frac{1}{2}$$

However, for any S ,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[S() = f(m)] &= \Pr[S() = b: b \leftarrow \{0,1\}] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, contradicts semantic security

Another View of One-Time Pad

Can be thought of as instance of Vigenère cipher

- Alphabet = $\{0,1\}$
- Shift by **0** means identity
- Shift by **1** means negation
- **|Message| = |Key|**

What Happens if $|Message| > |Key|$?

Use Vigenère's convention: repeat key bits as necessary

Example:

k = 00110001100011000110

m = 10010101011001010010

c = 10100100111010010100

Does this satisfy perfect secrecy/semantic security?

What Happens if $|Message| > |Key|$?

No perfect secrecy/semantic security

Example:

- $m_0 = 0^{|k|}0$
- $m_1 = 0^{|k|}1$
- $Enc(k, m_0)$ will always have first and last bit identical
- $Enc(k, m_1)$ will always have first and last bit different
- Therefore, distributions are not the same

Variations

$$K = M = C = \mathbb{Z}_N := \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}$$

$$\text{Enc}(k, m) = (m + k) \bmod N$$

$$\text{Dec}(k, c) = (c - k) \bmod N$$

Correctness:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Dec}(k, \text{Enc}(k, m)) &= (m + k) - k \bmod N \\ &= m \bmod N \end{aligned}$$

Security:

$$\text{Enc}(K, m_0) \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbb{Z}_N \stackrel{d}{=} \text{Enc}(K, m_1)$$

Variations

$$K = M = C = \mathbb{Z}_N^* := \{x \in \mathbb{Z}_N : \text{GCD}(x, N) = 1\}$$

$$\text{Enc}(k, m) = (m \times k) \bmod N$$

$$\text{Dec}(k, c) = (c/k) \bmod N$$

Correctness:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Dec}(k, \text{Enc}(k, m)) &= (m \times k)/k \bmod N \\ &= m \bmod N \end{aligned}$$

Security:

$$\text{Enc}(K, m_0) \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbb{Z}_N^* \stackrel{d}{=} \text{Enc}(K, m_1)$$

Other Examples

$$K = M = \{0,1\}^n, C = \{0,1\}^{3n}$$

Enc(k,m) =

For $i=1, \dots, n$:

$$\text{Let } t_i = m_i \oplus k_i$$

Choose random bits c_{i1}, c_{i2}, c_{i3}
such that $c_{i1} \oplus c_{i2} \oplus c_{i3} = t_i$

Output $c_{11}c_{12}c_{13}c_{21}c_{22}c_{23}\dots$

Dec(k,c) =

For $i=1, \dots, n$:

$$\text{Let } m_i = c_{i1} \oplus c_{i2} \oplus c_{i3} \oplus k_i$$

Other Examples

$$K = M = \{0,1\}^n, C = \{0,1\}^{3n}$$

Enc(k,m) :

For i

Example:

$$k = 0011010110$$

$$m = 1001010101$$

$$c = 1100011100$$

$$1010101101$$

$$1100110010$$

$$c_{i2}, c_{i3} \\ c_{i3} = t_i$$

Output

Dec(k,c) =

For $i=1, \dots, n$:

$$\text{Let } m_i = c_{i1} \oplus c_{i2} \oplus c_{i3} \oplus k_i$$

Probabilistic Functions

Intuition: a function that flips random coins

Definition: A probabilistic function \mathbf{f} with domain \mathbf{X} and co-domain \mathbf{Y} is a function $\mathbf{F}:\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{Dist}(\mathbf{Y})$.

We will write $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ to denote running $\mathbf{D} \leftarrow \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})$, and then choosing a random sample \mathbf{y} according to \mathbf{D}

Example:

- $\mathbf{f}:\{0,1\} \rightarrow \{0,1\}^3$, on input \mathbf{b} , choose random $\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2, \mathbf{c}_3$ such that $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}_{i1} \oplus \mathbf{c}_{i2} \oplus \mathbf{c}_{i3}$

Probabilistic Functions

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We will write $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ to denote running $\mathbf{D} \leftarrow \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})$, and then choosing a random sample \mathbf{y} according to \mathbf{D}

In cryptography, we generally allow all functions/algorithms to be probabilistic, including cryptosystem procedures and adversaries

Randomized Encryption

Syntax:

- Key space \mathbf{K} (usually $\{0,1\}^\lambda$)
- Message space \mathbf{M} (usually $\{0,1\}^n$)
- Ciphertext space \mathbf{C} (usually $\{0,1\}^m$)
- **Enc:** $\mathbf{K} \times \mathbf{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ (potentially probabilistic)
- **Dec:** $\mathbf{K} \times \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}$ (usually deterministic)

Correctness:

- ~~• For all $k \in \mathbf{K}$, $m \in \mathbf{M}$, $\text{Dec}(k, \text{Enc}(k,m)) = m$~~

Randomized Encryption

Syntax:

- Key space \mathbf{K} (usually $\{0,1\}^\lambda$)
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- **Enc:** $\mathbf{K} \times \mathbf{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ (potentially probabilistic)
- **Dec:** $\mathbf{K} \times \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}$ (usually deterministic)

Correctness:

- For all $k \in \mathbf{K}$, $m \in \mathbf{M}$,
$$\Pr[\text{Dec}(k, \text{Enc}(k,m)) = m] = 1$$

Back To Our Example

$$K = M = \{0,1\}^n, C = \{0,1\}^{3n}$$

Enc(k,m) =

For $i=1, \dots, n$:

$$\text{Let } t_i = m_i \oplus k_i$$

Choose random bits c_{i1}, c_{i2}, c_{i3}
such that $c_{i1} \oplus c_{i2} \oplus c_{i3} = t_i$

Output $c_{11}c_{12}c_{13}c_{21}c_{22}c_{23}\dots$

Dec(k,c) =

For $i=1, \dots, n$:

$$\text{Let } m_i = c_{i1} \oplus c_{i2} \oplus c_{i3} \oplus k_i$$

Security Proof

Distribution of **Enc(K,m)**?

- Given any ciphertext **c**, exactly one **k** that gives **Enc(k,m)=c** ($k_i = m_i \oplus c_{i1} \oplus c_{i2} \oplus c_{i3}$)
- If encrypting with this **k**, prob of seeing **c** is 4^{-n}
(For position **i**, **4** possibilities for **c_{i1}**, **c_{i2}**, **c_{i3}**)
- $\Pr[\text{Enc}(K,m) = c] = 2^{-n} \times 4^{-n} = 8^{-n}$
- Meaning **Enc(K,m) $\stackrel{d}{=} C$**

Alternate Security Proof

Let $f:\{0,1\} \rightarrow \{0,1\}^3$, on input \mathbf{b} , choose random $\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2, \mathbf{c}_3$ such that $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}_{i1} \oplus \mathbf{c}_{i2} \oplus \mathbf{c}_{i3}$

$$\text{Enc}(k,m) = f(\text{OTP}(k,m))$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Enc}(K,m_0) &= f(\text{OTP}(K,m_0)) && \text{(Definition)} \\ &= f(\text{OTP}(K,m_1)) && \text{(OTP Security)} \\ &= \text{Enc}(K,m_1) && \text{(Definition)} \end{aligned}$$

Example: Homophonic Substitution

$$M = \{0,1\}^n$$

$$C = \Gamma^n \text{ where } \Gamma = \{A,B,C,\dots,Z\}$$

$$K = \text{Partition of } \Gamma \text{ into two sets } S_0, S_1 \text{ of size } 13$$

$$\text{Enc}(k,m) =$$

For $i=1,\dots, n$, let c_i be random element of S_{m_i}

$$\text{Dec}(k,c) =$$

For $i=1,\dots, n$: find c_i in S_b , let $m_i = b$

Example: Homophonic Substitution

$$M = \{0,1\}^n$$

Example:

$$k = \{S_0 = \{B, D, H, I, J, L, O, P, R, T, V, W, Z\}, \\ S_1 = \{A, C, E, F, G, K, M, N, Q, S, U, X, Y\}\}$$

$$m = 1001010101$$

$$c = \text{MJWEZKPXOA}$$

For $i=1, \dots, n$: find c_i in S_b , let $m_i = b$

Example: Homophonic Substitution

Q: Does hom. substitution have perfect secrecy?

A: NO

Proof:

$$m_0 = 00, m_1 = 01$$

$$\Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_0) \text{ repeats}] = 1/13$$

$$\Pr[\text{Enc}(K, m_1) \text{ repeats}] = 0$$

Variable-Length Messages

So far, assumed all messages are same length

Not reasonable in practice

Likely want to allow variable-length messages

$$M = \{0,1\}^* \text{ or } \{0,1\}^{\leq n}$$

Variable-Length OTP

Key space $\mathbf{K} = \{0,1\}^n$

Message space $\mathbf{M} = \{0,1\}^{\leq n}$

Ciphertext space $\mathbf{C} = \{0,1\}^{\leq n}$

$$\mathbf{Enc}(k, m) = k_{[1, |m|]} \oplus m$$

$$\mathbf{Dec}(k, c) = k_{[1, |m|]} \oplus c$$

Example:

$k = 0011010110$

$m = 10010$

$c = 10100$

Variable-Length OTP

Q: Is it secure?

A: NO, but for an unavoidable reason

Theorem: If $\mathbf{M} = \{0,1\}^*$, perfect secrecy is impossible for any encryption scheme*

Proof

Let $\mathbf{m}_0 = \mathbf{0}$, let $t_0 = \mathbb{E}[|\text{Enc}(K, \mathbf{m}_0)|]$, $u = t_0 + 3$

Claim: $\mathbb{E}[|\text{Enc}(K, \mathbf{M})|] \geq u - 2$, where $\mathbf{M} = \{0, 1\}^u$

Fix \mathbf{k} . Each possible \mathbf{m} must map to different ciphertexts (by correctness).

At most 2^i ciphertexts of length i

$$\mathbb{E}[|\mathbf{c}|] \geq \sum_{0 \leq i < u} 2^{i-u} \times i \geq u - 2$$

Therefore, $\exists \mathbf{m}_1 \in \mathbf{M}$ where

$$t_1 := \mathbb{E}[|\text{Enc}(K, \mathbf{m}_1)|] \geq u - 2 = t_0 + 1$$

Thus, $\text{Enc}(K, \mathbf{m}_0) \stackrel{d}{\neq} \text{Enc}(K, \mathbf{m}_1)$

Variable-Length OTP

Q: Is it secure?

A: NO, but for an unavoidable reason

Theorem: If $\mathbf{M} = \{0,1\}^*$, perfect secrecy is impossible for any encryption scheme*

Message length always leaked to some extent

Therefore, we will explicitly leak message length in security definition

* Assuming finite expected message length

(Perfect) Semantic Security for Variable Length Messages

Definition: A scheme **(Enc, Dec)** is **(perfectly) semantically secure** if, for all:

- Distributions **D** on **M**
- (Probabilistic) Functions **I: M → {0,1}***
- (Probabilistic) Functions **f: M → {0,1}***
- (Probabilistic) Functions **A: C × {0,1}* → {0,1}***

There exists (probabilistic) func **S: {0,1}* → {0,1}*** s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[A(\text{Enc}(k,m) , I(m)) = f(m)] \\ & = \Pr[S(I(m), |m|) = f(m)] \end{aligned}$$

where probabilities are taken over $k \leftarrow K, m \leftarrow D$

Perfect Secrecy For Variable Length Messages

Definition: A scheme **(Enc,Dec)** has **perfect secrecy** if, for any two messages m_0, m_1 where $|m_0| = |m_1|$,

$$\text{Enc}(K, m_0) \stackrel{d}{=} \text{Enc}(K, m_1)$$

Easy to adapt earlier proof to show:

Theorem: A scheme **(Enc,Dec)** is semantically secure if and only if it has perfect secrecy

Encrypting Variable Length Messages

Leakage of message length unavoidable

However, this can lead to exploits:

- CRIME/BREACH attacks:
 - Leverage compression in HTTP protocol
 - Compression before encrypting
 - Higher compression means shorter ciphertext
 - Able to gain some info about plaintext by amount of compression seen

Other Limitations of OTP

It is only one-time

- Try to encrypt two messages, security will fail

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{Enc(k,m_0)} \oplus \mathbf{Enc(k,m_1)} \\ &= (\mathbf{k} \oplus \mathbf{m_0}) \oplus (\mathbf{k} \oplus \mathbf{m_1}) \\ &= \mathbf{m_0} \oplus \mathbf{m_1} \end{aligned}$$

Key length \geq message length

- Limited use in practice: if I can securely transmit **n**-bit key, why don't I just use that to transmit **n**-bit message?

Next Week

Multiple message security

Limitations of perfect secrecy/semantic security

- $|k| \geq |m|$ is inherent

How do we fix this?

For next time: brush up on your number theory