Announcements

1. HW 1 is due today! Turn it in now if you haven’t yet!

2. HW 2 is out, due before class in 1 week, April 14.

3. My office hour will be Zoom and possibly at a different time next week.
Last time: Block ciphers

This time: Pseudorandom functions and chosen plaintext attacks
Pseudo-random functions (PRFs)

Deterministic algorithm $F$:
- $k \in K$, $x \in X$, $y \in Y$
- $F_k(x) = y$
- Should be computationally indistinguishable from a truly random function

In contrast to the (pseudo)random permutations from last lecture, this function is not required to be one-to-one.
Distinguishing experiment for PRFs

Definition

$F_k$ is a secure PRF if $\forall$ efficient $D$

$$\left| \Pr[D(F_k) = 1] - \Pr[D(\text{random fn}) = 1] \right| \text{ negligible}$$
Is a PRP indistinguishable from a PRF?

Consider a distinguishing experiment between functions and permutations.

**Observation:** The only way to distinguish between a permutation and a non-permutation function is to find a collision, inputs so that \( f(x_1) = f(x_2) \).

Let \(|X| = N\). By the birthday bound, the adversary will observe a collision in outputs in a PRF with constant probability after \( \sqrt{N} \) inputs.

**Theorem**

An adversary that makes \( Q \) queries can distinguish a random permutation from a random function with probability at most \( Q^2 / 2N \).
Theorem
Let $x_1, \ldots, x_\ell$ be fixed, distinct elements, and $F$ be a PRF. $G(k) = (F_k(x_1), F_k(x_2), \ldots, F_k(x_\ell))$ is a secure PRG.

Proof.
Assume for contradiction that adversary $A_G$ can distinguish this PRG from random. Can construct a distinguisher $A_F$ for the PRF.
Counter Mode

In the previous construction $x_1, \ldots, x_\ell$ just need to be distinct elements. So just choose $r$ and let $x_1 = r, x_2 = r + 1, \ldots$.

Then we can use this as a stream cipher to encrypt:

\[
\text{Enc}_k(m) = (r, F_k(r) \oplus m[0], F_k(r + 1) \oplus m[1], \ldots, F_k(r + \ell) \oplus m[\ell])
\]

\[
\text{Dec}_k(c) = (F_k(r) \oplus c[0], F_k(r + 1) \oplus c[1], \ldots, F_k(r + \ell) \oplus c[\ell])
\]

This is semantically secure.
Attack models we’ve seen so far:

Ciphertext-only attack
  • Most restrictive attack model

Known plaintext attack
  • Historical example: WWII Enigma-encoded messages from Germans ending in “Heil Hitler”
  • Modern example: Observing ciphertext from someone visiting the main page of Wikipedia over HTTPS.

Both of these are covered by semantic security.

New attack model:
Chosen plaintext attack
  • Historical example: British military would place mines in particular locations hoping Germans would send encrypted messages about that location.
  • Modern example: Attacker-controlled Javascript on a web page causes victim web client to make a HTTPS connection.
Chosen plaintext attack

**Definition**

Enc is CPA-secure if \( \forall \) efficient \( A \), \( \Pr[A \text{ succeeds}] \leq 1/2 + \epsilon \) for \( \epsilon \) negligible
Another definition of chosen plaintext attack

Definition
Enc is CPA-secure if
$$| \Pr[A \text{ outputs 1 } | b = 1] - \Pr[A \text{ outputs 1 } | b = 0] | \text{ negligible}$$
Theorem

No deterministic cipher can be CPA-secure.
Theorem

No deterministic cipher can be CPA-secure.

Proof.
Adversary queries \((m_0, m_1)\) then \((m_0, m_0)\).
Using a PRF for CPA-secure encryption

- Generate $k$ at random.
- Encryption:
  1. Generate $r$ uniformly at random.
  2. $\text{Enc}_k(m) = (r, F_k(r) \oplus m)$
- Decryption:
  1. Parse $c = (r, s)$
  2. $\text{Dec}_k(c) = F_k(r) \oplus s$. 
Theorem
The $\text{Enc}_k(m) = (r, F_k(r) \oplus m)$ construction on the previous slide is CPA-secure.

Proof.
By contradiction. Assume adversary $A$ can win CPA-security game #1 with non-negligible advantage, construct a PRF distinguisher.
Proof.

Assume $A$ wins CPA game against $F$ with advantage $d > \text{negl.}$

1. If $F$ pseudorandom, $\Pr[A \text{ succeeds}] = 1/2 + d$
2. If $F$ is a truly random function $f$: $A$ makes $Q$ oracle queries.
   - If nonce $r_c$ used in challenge is repeated, $A$ learns value of $f(r_c)$ and succeeds with probability 1.

   $$\Pr[r_c \text{ repeated across oracle queries}] \leq Q/2^n$$

   - If $r_c$ not used in challenge, no information: $\Pr[\text{success}] = 1/2$

   $$\Pr[A \text{ succeeds}] \leq 1/2 + Q/2^n$$

$$|\Pr[D \mid F_k] - \Pr[D \mid f]| = |1/2 + d - (1/2 + Q/2^n)| = d - Q/2^n > \text{negl.}$$
Using stream ciphers in a CPA-secure way

Augment stream cipher with an *initialization vector* or IV.

- $\text{Enc}_k(m) = (IV, G(k, IV) \oplus m)$

For this to be secure, $G(k, IV)$ needs to be pseudorandom when IV is known.

Insecure if IV is ever reused.

**WEP insecurity.** WEP is broken in multiple ways: it uses a 24-bit IV, which repeats with 50% probability after 5,000 packets.
Extension: Randomized Counter Mode

If we use a block cipher in counter mode with a randomized starting value $r$, this is CPA-secure.

$$\text{Enc}_k(m) = (r, F_k(r) \oplus m[0], F_k(r + 1) \oplus m[1], \ldots, F_k(r + \ell) \oplus m[\ell])$$

$$\text{Dec}_k(c) = (F_k(r) \oplus c[0], F_k(r + 1) \oplus c[1], \ldots, F_k(r + \ell) \oplus c[\ell])$$

The value $r$ is the IV.

This is an ok choice of mode of operation for AES.
Cipher block chaining (CBC) mode

1. IV has same length as block length.
2. $c_i = \text{Enc}_k(c_{i-1} \oplus m_i)$
3. Output ($IV, c_0, c_1, c_2, \ldots$).

IV should be random.

CBC mode is CPA-secure, but suffers from implementation vulnerabilities that you get to break in HW 3.

This is why people have been moving away from CBC mode.
Chosen Plaintext Attack against CBC mode

Assume: $\text{Enc}_k$ is a secure block cipher.

Rogaway 1995: CBC mode not secure against chosen plaintext attacks if attacker can see IV or previous block before choosing $m$.

1. Attacker observes $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_{i-1}, c_i, \ldots, c_j$.
2. Attacker wants to distinguish $c_i$, stream is currently at $c_j$.
3. Attacker guesses $c_i$, plaintext is $p$.
4. Attacker causes victim to encrypt $c_j \oplus c_{i-1} \oplus p$.
5. Victim sends $\text{Enc}_k(c_j \oplus (c_j \oplus c_{i-1} \oplus p)) = \text{Enc}_k(c_{i-1} \oplus p)$
6. Attacker compares $\text{Enc}_k(c_{i-1} \oplus p)$ to $c_i$, match if $p$ correct.
Chosen Plaintext Attacks against CBC mode in practice

- Dai 2002: SSH2 chains ciphertext between client, server
- SSLv3, TLS 1.0 also

128 bits is a lot to brute force in one block
- In many cases, know a lot of plaintext

How to request encryptions?
- Javascript, Java can make cookie-bearing requests across domains

Duong, Rizzo 2011: BEAST (Browser Exploit Against SSL/TLS)
- Pad plaintexts to 1 unknown text byte per block
Message padding for encryption

Q: How do you encrypt odd-length messages with a fixed-length block cipher?
A: Pad message somehow.

Example: PKCS 7 padding.
- If message is $b$ bytes short of 128-bit block, append $b$ bytes $b$$\ldots$$b$ to make block multiple of 128.
- Decryptor checks and strips off padding.

Q: What do you do if padding is incorrect?
A: Throw an error?
Q: How do you encrypt odd-length messages with a fixed-length block cipher?
A: Pad message somehow.

Example: PKCS 7 padding.

- If message is \( b \) bytes short of 128-bit block, append \( b \) bytes \( bbb \ldots b \) to make block multiple of 128.
- Decryptor checks and strips off padding.
Q: How do you encrypt odd-length messages with a fixed-length block cipher?
A: Pad message somehow.

Example: PKCS 7 padding.
- If message is $b$ bytes short of 128-bit block, append $b$ bytes $bbb \ldots b$ to make block multiple of 128.
- Decryptor checks and strips off padding.

Q: What do you do if padding is incorrect?
A: Throw an error?
Padding oracle attacks

Vaudenay 2002: CBC mode encryption is insecure if attacker can distinguish bad from good message padding

**Padding Oracle Attack**
Want to decrypt \((IV, c_1, \ldots, c_n) = \text{Enc}_k(m_1, \ldots, m_n)\).

Have oracle that given \((IV', c'_1, \ldots, c'_\ell)\) will:

1. Compute \((m'_1, \ldots, m'_\ell) = \text{Dec}_k(IV, c'_1, \ldots, c'_\ell)\)
2. Return

\[
\begin{cases}
\text{valid} & \text{if } m'_\ell \text{ ends in valid padding} \\
\text{invalid} & \text{if } m'_\ell \text{ doesn’t end in valid padding}
\end{cases}
\]
Vaudenay CBC padding oracle attack

**Input**: Ciphertext \((IV, c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_n)\)

1. Attacker sends \((IV \oplus 00 \ldots 00t, c_1) = F_k(IV \oplus m_1 \oplus 00 \ldots 00t)\)
   to decryption padding oracle.

   \[
   \begin{align*}
   IV \rightarrow & \quad \oplus \rightarrow \quad F_k \\
   & \quad \downarrow \quad \rightarrow c_1 \\
\end{align*}
   \]

   oracle returns

   \[
   \begin{cases}
   \text{valid if } m_1 \oplus 000 \ldots 0t = \ldots 1 \text{(most likely)}
   \\
   \ldots 22
   \\
   \ldots 333
   \\
   \vdots
   \\
   \text{invalid otherwise}
   \end{cases}
   \]

2. Try all 256 values of \(t\).
3. Good probability of learning value
4. Iterate for successive bytes of ciphertext.
5. \(256^n\) query complexity to learn \(n\) bytes of plaintext.
Vaudenay CBC padding oracle attack

Input: Ciphertext $(IV, c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_n)$

1. Attacker sends $(IV \oplus 00 \ldots 00 t, c_1) = F_k(IV \oplus m_1 \oplus 00 \ldots 00 t)$ to decryption padding oracle.

   $\begin{aligned}
   IV &\rightarrow \oplus \rightarrow F_k \rightarrow c_1 \\
   \text{valid if } m_1 \oplus 000 \ldots 0t = \ldots 1 (\text{most likely}) \\
   \ldots 22 \\
   \ldots 333 \\
   \vdots
   \end{aligned}$

   oracle returns

2. Try all 256 values of $t$.
3. Good probability of learning value
4. Iterate for successive bytes of ciphertext.
5. $256n$ query complexity to learn $n$ bytes of plaintext.
• HW 2 is due before class in 1 week, April 14.