



Is public key crypto unbreakable?

We don't really know. ...but we do it every day!!!

RSA (Rivest, Shamir, and Adleman) Pick two large primes p and q. Let N = pq. Choose e relatively prime to (p-1)(q-1).¹ Compute $d = e^{-1} \mod (p-1)(q-1)$. d is the private key! Announce $N(=p \cdot q)$ and e: K = (N, e) is my public key!

Encoding: $mod(x^e, N)$.

Decoding: mod (y^d, N) . Does $D(E(m)) = m^{ed} = m \mod N$? Yes!

¹Typically small, say e = 3.

RSA on an Example.

Public Key: (77,7) Message Choices: {0,...,76}.

Message: 2 $E(2) = 2^{e} = 2^{7} \equiv 128 \pmod{77} = 51 \pmod{77}$ $D(51) = 51^{43} \pmod{77}$ uh oh!

Obvious way: 43 multiplcations. Ouch.

In general, O(N) multiplications in the *value* of the exponent N! That's not great.

Example: p = 7, q = 11. N = 77. (p-1)(q-1) = 60Choose e = 7, since gcd(7, 60) = 1. How to compute d? egcd(7, 60). 7(-17) + 60(2) = 1Confirm: -119 + 120 = 1 $d = e^{-1} = -17 = 43 = \pmod{60}$

Repeated Squaring to the rescue.

 $\begin{array}{l} 51^{43}=51^{32+8+2+1}=51^{32}\cdot 51^8\cdot 51^2\cdot 51^1 \pmod{77},\\ 4 \text{ multiplications sort of...}\\ \text{Need to compute } 51^{32}\ldots 51^1.?\\ 51^1=51 \pmod{77}\\ 51^2=(51)*(51)=2601\equiv60 \pmod{77}\\ 51^4=(51^2)*(51^2)=60*60=3600\equiv58 \pmod{77}\\ 51^8=(51^4)*(51^4)=58*58=3364\equiv53 \pmod{77}\\ 51^{16}=(51^8)*(51^8)=53*53=2809\equiv37 \pmod{77}\\ 51^{32}=(51^{16})*(51^{16})=37*37=1369\equiv60 \pmod{77} \end{array}$

5 more multiplications.

 $51^{32} \cdot 51^8 \cdot 51^2 \cdot 51^1 = (60) * (53) * (60) * (51) \equiv 2 \pmod{77}.$

Decoding got the message back!

Repeated Squaring took 9 multiplications versus 43.

Repeated Squaring: x^y

Repeated squaring O(log y) multiplications versus y!!!

1. x^{y} : Compute $x^{1}, x^{2}, x^{4}, \dots, x^{2^{\lfloor \log y \rfloor}}$.

2. Multiply together x^i where the (log(i))th bit of y is 1.

Always decode correctly?

Fermat's Little Theorem: For prime p, and $a \neq 0 \pmod{p}$, $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

Proof: Consider $S = \{a \cdot 1, \dots, a \cdot (p-1)\}.$

All different modulo p since a has an inverse modulo p. That is: S contains representative of each of $1, \ldots, p-1$ modulo p.

 $(a \cdot 1) \cdot (a \cdot 2) \cdots (a \cdot (p-1)) \equiv 1 \cdot 2 \cdots (p-1) \mod p$,

Since multiplication is commutative.

 $a^{(p-1)}(1\cdots(p-1)) \equiv (1\cdots(p-1)) \mod p.$

Each of $2, \dots (p-1)$ has an inverse modulo p, solve to get...

 $a^{(p-1)} \equiv 1 \mod p.$