

# Computer and Network Security

## Lecture 07: Sender Authenticity

COMP-5370/6370  
Fall 2024



WARNING



I AM NOT A  
CRYPTOGRAPHER

WARNING



**YOU** ARE NOT A  
CRYPTOGRAPHER



THE FIRST RULE OF CRYPTO

THE SECOND RULE OF CRYPTO

THE THIRD RULE OF CRYPTO

IS YOU DO

imgflip.com

IS DON'T ROLL

imgflip.com

IS YOU DON'T ROLL YOUR OWN  
CRYPTO

memegenerator.net



- 4<sup>th</sup> Rule: Don't roll your own crypto
- 5<sup>th</sup> Rule: Don't roll your own crypto
- 6<sup>th</sup> Rule: Don't roll your own crypto
- 7<sup>th</sup> Rule: Don't roll your own crypto

# Public Key Cryptography



**Public key cryptography** is a family of cryptosystems that leverage **key pairs** to perform **asymmetric** cryptographic operations.

Not a single  
shared secret  
between  
all parties

Public key  
&  
Private key

- Public key == pub-key == pk
- Private key == priv-key == sk (“secret key”)

# Using PubKey Crypto



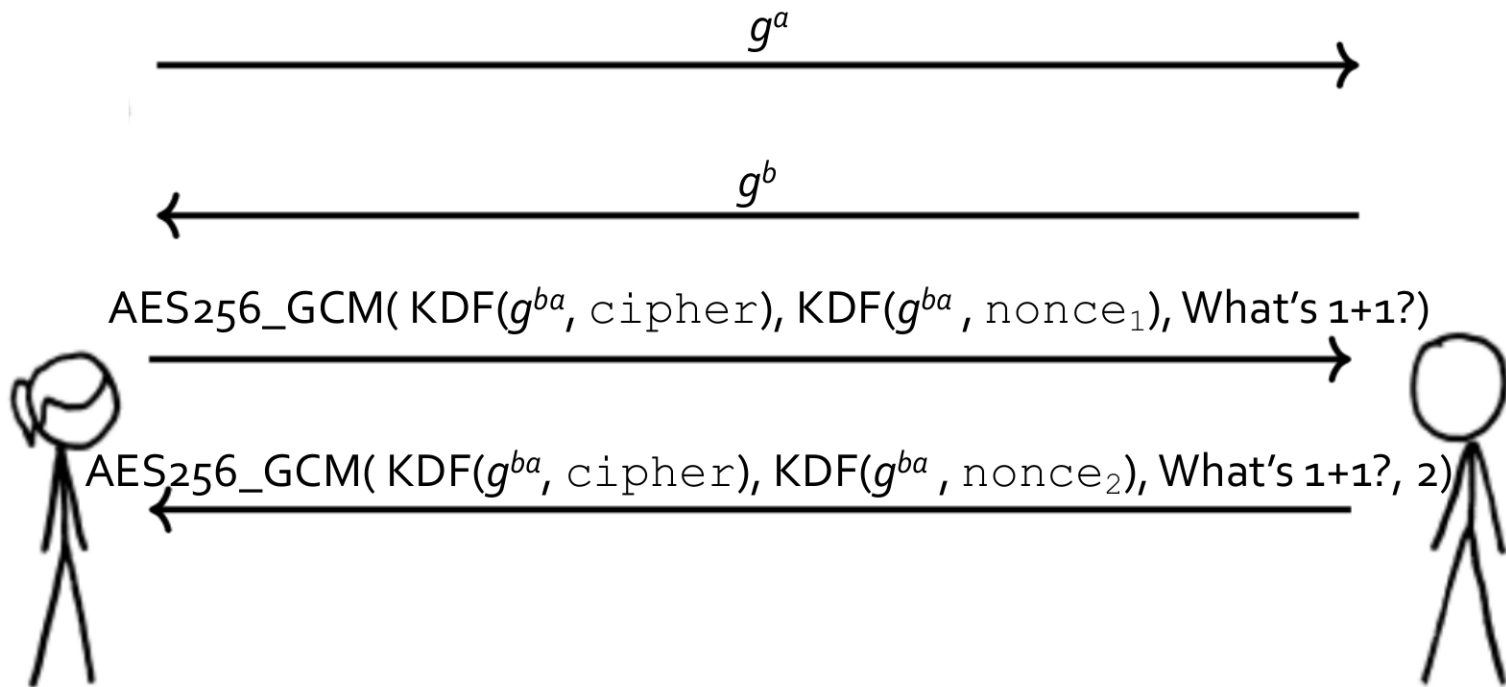
- Key Exchange
  - Create a shared secret in the presence of a passive attacker (Eve)

# Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange



- 1976 – Whit Diffie & Martin Hellman
  - *New Directions in Cryptography*
- Modular Exponentiation w/ **Prime Modulus**
  - *If you multiply a value by itself enough times over a prime-order finite field ... you can't figure out how many times you multiplied*

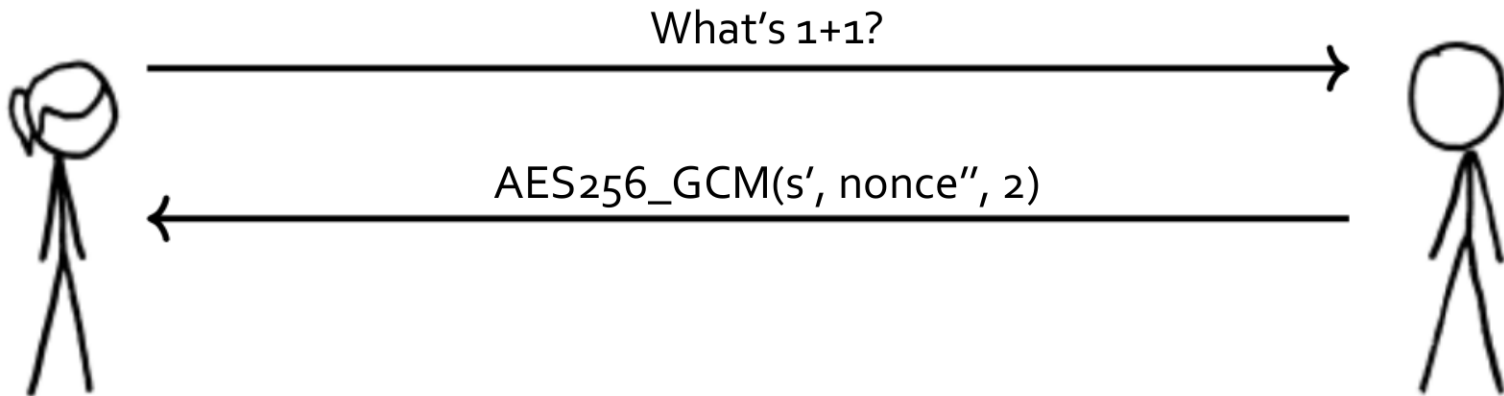
# Building a Secure Channel



# Building a Secure Channel



-  Confidentiality
-  Message Integrity
-  Sender Authenticity





# Using PubKey Crypto

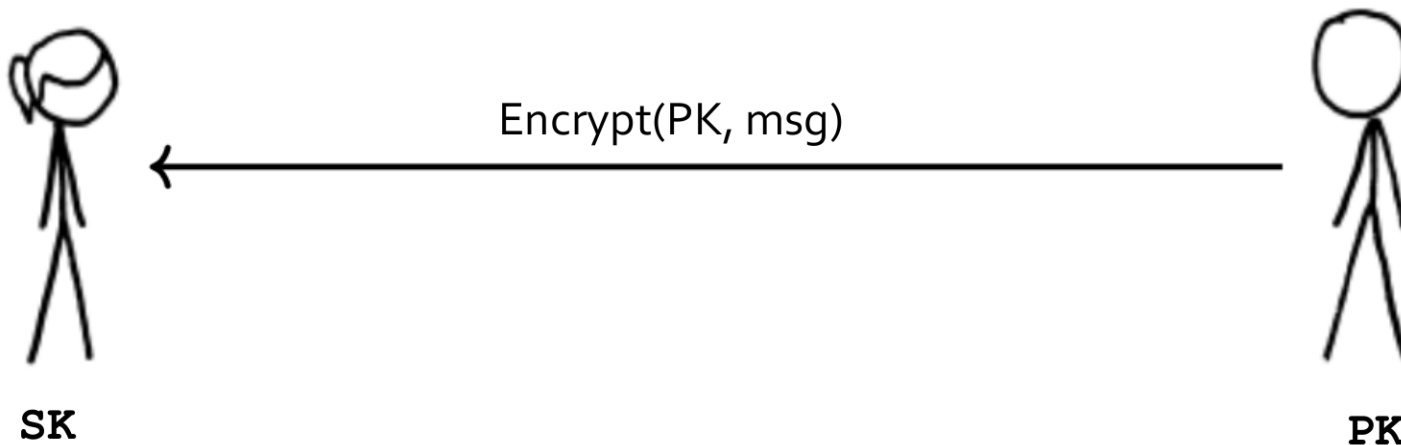


- Key Exchange
  - Create a shared secret in the presence of a passive attacker (Eve)
- Encryption/Decryption
  - Encrypt w/ **public key**, decrypt w/ **private key**
  - Allows anyone to **send** information securely as long as have public key

# PubKey Encrypt/Decrypt



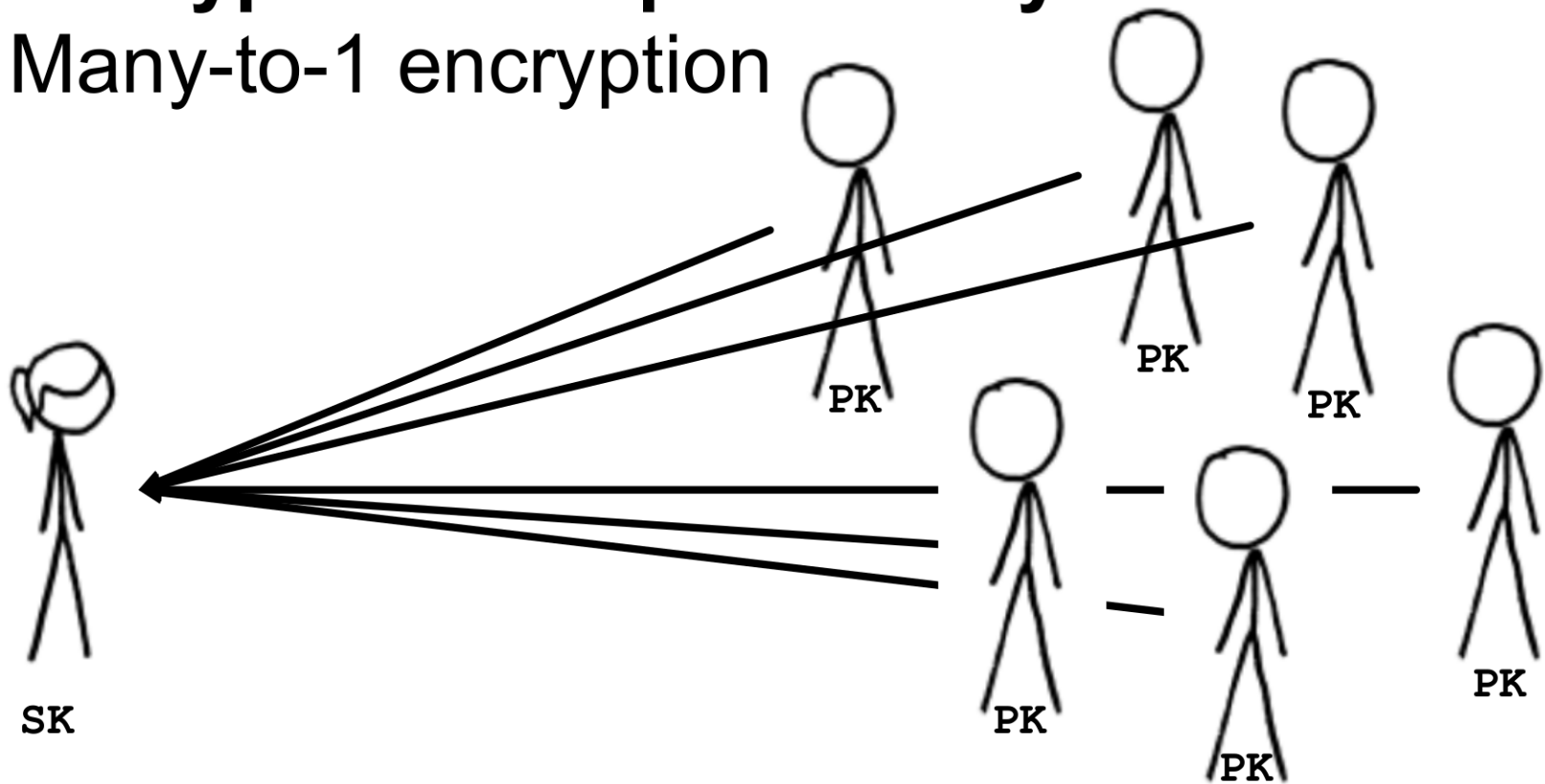
- **Encrypt** with the **public key**
- **Decrypt** with the **private key**



# PubKey Encrypt/Decrypt



- **Encrypt** with the **public key**
- **Decrypt** with the **private key**
- Many-to-1 encryption



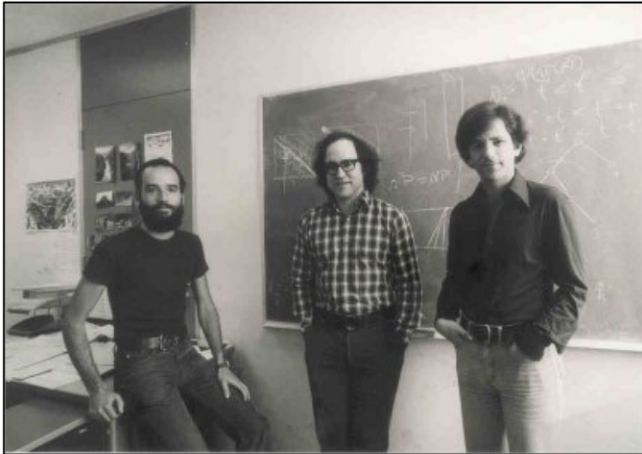
# Digital Signature



A **digital signature** is a cryptographic value that allows anyone to *verify* data's source.

- Create a signature (*sig*) with **private key**
- Validate *sig* with **public key**
- Signature schemes ***hash*** a the message as part of the operation

# RSA Cryptosystem



- 1978 – Ron **R**ivest, Adi **S**hamir, & Leonard **A**dleman
- Modular Exponentiation w/ non-prime modulus
  - *If you multiply a value by itself enough times over a finite field ... it eventually returns to its original value.*

# RSA Cryptosystem



- 1973 – Clifford Cocks
  - GCHQ cryptographer
  - Classified until 1997
- Modular Exponentiation w/ non-prime modulus
  - *If you multiply a value by itself enough times over a finite field ... it eventually becomes a cycle and returns to its original value*

# RSA Key Generation



- Generate two large primes  $p$  and  $q$ 
  - $p$  and  $q$
- Calculate modulus  $n$  from  $p$  and  $q$ 
  - $n = p * q$  ( $|n|$  is the RSA “length”)
- Select relatively prime public exponent  $e$ 
  - Usually 3 or 65,537
- Find a private exponent  $d$ 
  - $(e * d) \bmod \text{lcm}((p-1) * (q-1)) = 1$
- Priv-Key =  $(d, n)$
- Pub-Key =  $(e, n)$

# Textbook RSA Enc. & Dec.



*If you multiply a value by itself enough times over a finite field ... it eventually becomes a cycle and returns to its original value.*

- Encrypt with the public key  $(e, n)$ 
  - $CT = PT^e \pmod n$
- Decrypt with the private key  $(d, n)$ 
  - $PT = CT^d \pmod n$



# Textbook RSA Sign/Verify



*If you multiply a value by itself enough times over a finite field ... it eventually becomes a cycle and returns to its original value.*

- Sign with the private key  $(d, n)$ 
  - $\text{sig} = (\text{hash}(\text{data}))^d \bmod n$
- Verify with the public key  $(e, n)$ 
  - $\text{sig}^e \bmod n =?= \text{hash}(\text{data})$

# Security of RSA



RSA's security is based on the **assumed** hardness of two mathematical problems:

## Integer Factorization Problem

Given  $n$  it is hard to recover  $p$  and  $q$

## RSA Problem

Given only the pub-key, it is hard to perform a priv-key operation

# Safe RSA Parameters



- **Correctly generated 2048-bit modulus**
  - Thought to be safe
  - Widely used in the real-world
- **Correctly generated 3072-bit modulus**
  - Thought to be safe
  - Relatively rare in the real-world
  - CNSA approved

# Canonical RSA Vulnerabilities



- Brute-force computation overmatch
  - Can factor 512-bit  $n$  on EC2 for ~\$75
  - Assumed \$100M of ASICs for 1024b modulus
- Poor randomness when selecting  $p$  and  $q$
- Insecure strategy for generating  $p$  and  $q$ 
  - **Vulnerable example**:  $p = \text{prime}_n$  ,  $q = \text{prime}_{n+1}$
- Algorithmic advances
  - Pre-Quantum: Number Field Sieve (NFS)
  - Post-Quantum: Shor's algorithm

# Using PubKey Crypto



- Key Exchange
  - Create a shared secret in the presence of a passive attacker (Eve)
- Encryption/Decryption
  - Encrypt w/ **public key**, decrypt w/ **private key**
  - Allows anyone to **send** information securely as long as have public key
- Digital Signatures
  - Sign w/ **private key**, verify w/ **public key**
  - Allows anyone to **receive** data w/ known-origin

# Debating Rolling Own Crypto?



## RSA CIPHERTEXT IS MALLEABLE

$$CT_{\text{new}} = CT_1 * CT_2 \text{ mod } n$$

$$PT_{\text{new}} = (CT_{\text{new}})^d \text{ mod } n$$

$$CT_{\text{new}} = \text{Encrypt}(PT_1 * PT_2)$$

```
p = 5
q = 11
n = p*q
e = 3
d = 27

def encrypt(pt): return pow(pt, e, n)
def decrypt(ct): return pow(ct, d, n)

ct_1 = encrypt(6)
ct_2 = encrypt(7)
print('ct_1 ==', ct_1)
print('ct_2 ==', ct_2)

ct_new = (ct_1 * ct_2) % n
print(encrypt(42), '==', ct_new)

print('6 * 7 ==', decrypt(ct_new))
assert(decrypt(encrypt(42)) == decrypt(ct_new))
```

```
$ python3 rsa_example.py
ct_1 == 51
ct_2 == 13
3 == 3
6 * 7 == 42
$
```

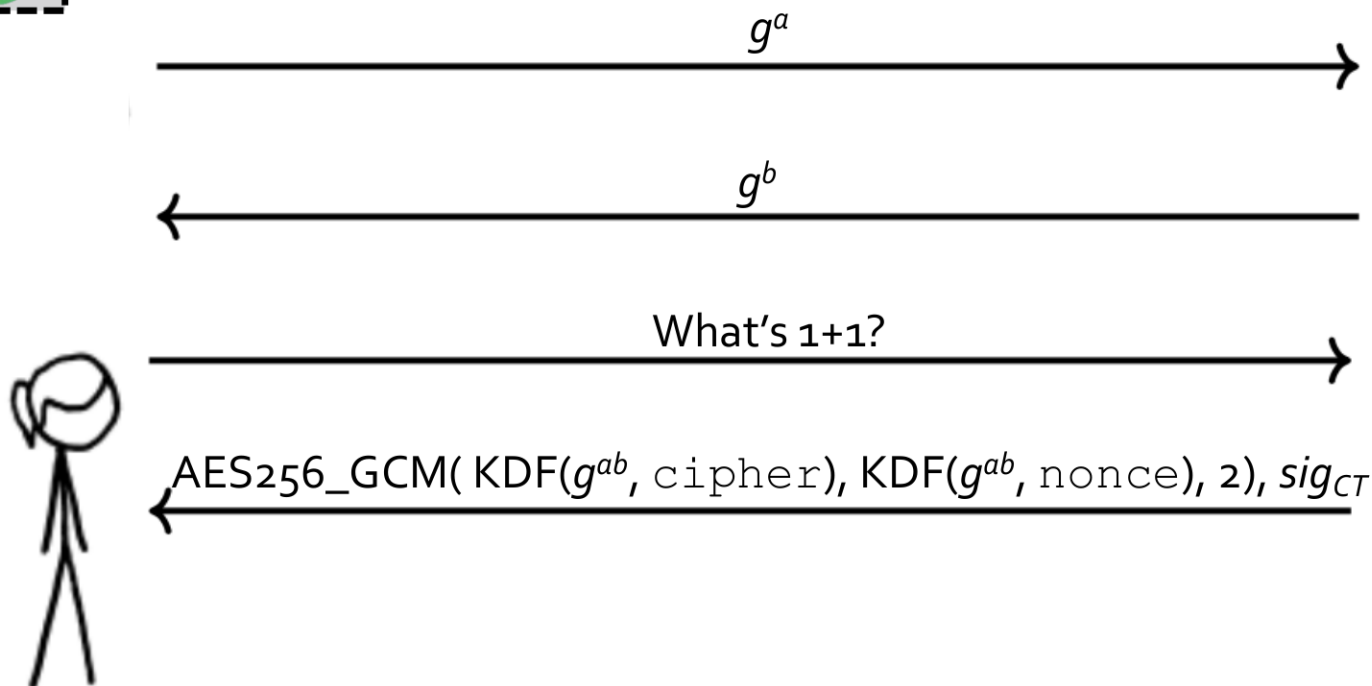
There are many, many more



# Building a Secure Channel



-  Confidentiality
-  Message Integrity
-  Sender Authenticity





# Building a Secure Channel



Confidentiality

Message

Sender

Happy Dance!!





# Security Analysis



In order to use cryptography ***safely***, you have to account for *that the use-case is*.

**As an Attacker:**



- What is the easiest way to gain access?
- What is assumed about the system?
- What did defender not think about?



## **What assumptions have we (the designers) made in order to build our Secure Channel?**

- An insecure channel exists/can be leveraged
- There are *two* actors involved (Alice/Bob)
- Alice and Bob's interaction is "online"
- Alice and Bob have each others' pub-keys
- All our crypto primitives are safe to use

# Security Analysis



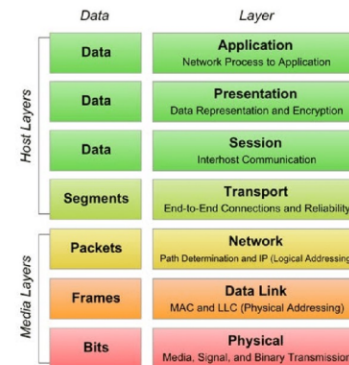
In order to build technology *in a helpful way*, you have to plan for *deployment/usage*.

## Kerckhoffs's Principles (Adapted)



**Interoperate with existing infrastructures, topologies, and protocols at higher and lower levels**

- Ideally, system should be 100% transparent to existing infrastructure
- **Systems that are hard to deploy usually don't get deployed**

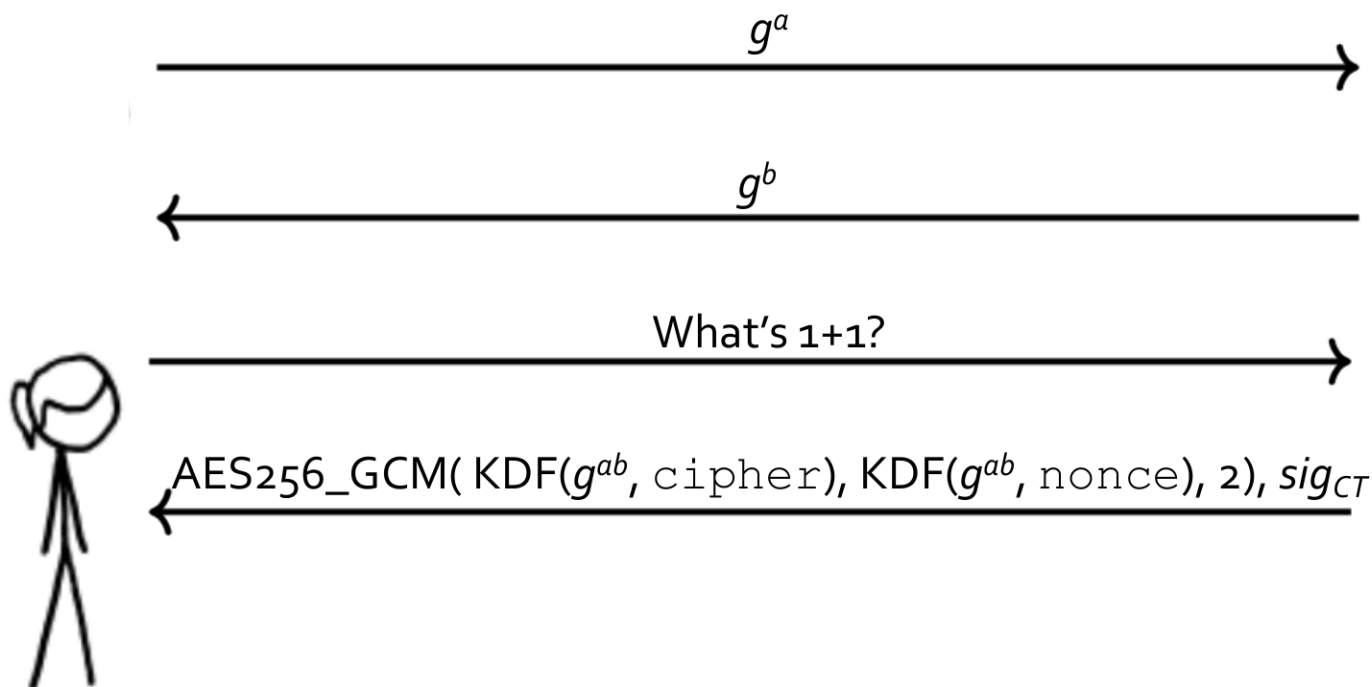


# Security Analysis



Alice & Bob have a secure channel to talk.

**Is this channel useable in the real-world?**



# Security Analysis

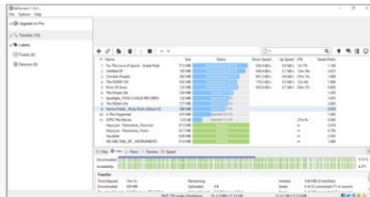


- Relatively poor performance
  - High per-message computation and bandwidth
- No backwards compatibility
  - Very difficult to update or interoperate
- No protocol flexibility
  - Everything (cipher, hash, etc primitive) is ***fixed***
- Frequent use of long-term keys

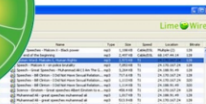
# But What About ...



- What if Alice only wants to talk to herself?
  - EX: Encrypting backup
- What if Alice only cares about Sender Authenticity + Integrity?
  - EX: “Bob said XXXX and everyone should know”
- What if Alice only cares about provenance of static data?
  - EX: Peer-to-Peer file sharing



LimeWire



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## We have to be able to build your code.

3. You must have a `Makefile` in the root directory with two targets:

`build` — Must compile your code from scratch and exit successfully. If a non-compiled language (e.g., Python), this target is not required to do anything (i.e. “`exit 0`”).

# Project 1-A



## We have to be able to build your code.

3. You must have a Makefile in the root directory with two targets:

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## We have to be able to build your code.

`run` — Must pass the `FILE` argument to make to the above compiled program and transparently pass `stdout` and `stderr`.

# Regrade Requests



- Regrade requests come in 2 forms:
  - Fix things that break the auto-grader
  - Fix *minor* things that cause major deduction

# Project 1-A



```
# Target run when the shell command `make build` is run.  
# There is nothing to build for Python so simply exit successfully.  
build:  
    @exit 0  
  
# Target run when the shell command `make run FILE=XXXX` is run.  
# The input file path is passed as the `XXXX` portion of the argument to make  
# and is relayed to the Python script as it's first and only command line  
# argument.  
run:  
    @python3 example.py $(FILE)
```



This is important!

# Auto-Grader Errors



- Removed the “@” in Makefile and have extra line of output to stdout?
  - You can add an “@” sign.
- Submission structure wrong?
  - You can move your files around
- Makefile isn't a makefile?
  - You can fix your Makefile
- Etc.

**YOU DON'T GET AN EXTRA WEEK  
TO FINISH IMPLEMENTING**

# Fundamental Misunderstandings



- Print to the wrong handle (stdout vs. stderr)?
  - You can change to the correct handle
- Print `“--- simple-string ---”` and not `“--- string ---”`?
  - You can change your print statement's literal
- Etc.

**YOU DON'T GET AN EXTRA WEEK  
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# Let's do some Math



## Grading

- **3x Course Projects (each)** — 10%
- **Final Exam** — 25%
- **2x In-Class Exams (each)** — 12.5%
- **Midterm Exam** — 20%

**Calculating Your Course Grade** With your returned scores as a percentile value (i.e. 0% – 100%), fill-in the below formula:

$$0.10 \times project_1 + 0.10 \times project_2 + 0.10 \times project_3 + 0.125 \times exam_1 + 0.125 \times exam_2 + 0.20 \times midterm + 0.25 \times final$$

- A zero (0) on Project 1A means that you have a max final grade of 95% (A)

# Regrade Requests



- Regrade requests come in 2 forms:
  - Fix things that break the auto-grader
  - Fix *minor* things that cause major deduction
- **Each rejection costs you points**
- The “clock” does not restart every time you send us a new version.



# Project 1-B



- Released Friday
- Due next Friday, 20Sept2024

## Project 1B

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Released: 06Sept2024  
Due: 20Sept2024 at 6pm CT

Part B of this project is due **Friday, 20Sept2024 at 6pm CT** and must be submitted through the Canvas assignment (if early/on-time) or by emailing the TA (if late). Late assignments will be penalized as described in the syllabus.

# Project 1-B --- Part 1



- Trade implementations with a partner and find/demonstrate incorrect behavior
  - Must have **different root-causes**

## 1 Break-It

**This portion of the project must be completed with a single partner.**

For this portion, you should select a partner within the course, exchange implementations, and use your in-depth knowledge of `nosj` from Project 1A to find corner-cases which demonstrate incorrect behavior in your partner's implementation. This may be by error-ing when given valid input, not error-ing when given invalid input, or by incorrectly handling valid input (i.e. the output is wrong). Your goal is to find three (3) different incorrect behaviors with *different root-causes*. It is important to note that three different examples with the same root-cause (i.e. triggering it with just different input) will be counted as only one (1). You **may not** submit any of the testcases from the specification as your testcases for incorrect behavior.

In your submission, you should provide input/output files for each erroneous behavior as well as a short, *less than 100 words*, ascii-only description/explanation identifying A) the root-cause and B) a sufficient explanation of how your partner's implementation could be patched to mitigate the issue. You **do not**

# Project 1-B --- Part 1



- You may only have 1 Partner
  - Your 1A implementation must be used by only one person for 1B
- If you can't find a partner by ***this*** Friday, let us know and we'll work it out

**YOU SHOULD NOT BE WAITING ON  
YOUR PARTNER'S IMPLEMENTATION**

# Project 1-B --- Part 2



- Generate a partial SHA256 hash collision via brute-force attack

## 2 Brute-Force Attacks

**This portion of the project must be completed individually.**

Though brute-force attacks are rarely the best or most-efficient attack, they are always *an attack* that is possible and guaranteed to be successful given sufficient resources. In this portion of the project, you will demonstrate this by implementing a reduced-strength, partial collision attack against a cryptographic hash function (SHA256). You **are not** required to generate a complete collision.

You should be cognizant of the fact that there is often a “point of diminishing returns” where it is more efficient to intentionally perform a non-optimized/inefficient attack rather than continue to optimize the attack/implementation/etc. If it takes 3 hours to optimize code that will reduce the run-time by 3 seconds, you have passed that point (hint... **HINT**).

# Project 1-B --- Part 2



- Generate a *partial* SHA256 hash collision via brute-force attack

## 2 Brute-Force Attacks

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# Project 1-B --- Part 2



- Generate a partial SHA256 hash collision via brute-force attack
- Input requirements: prefix w/ AU email
  - `abc1234@auburn.edu||{anything you want}`
- **2 DIFFERENT** inputs must collide
- Partial collision requirements:
  - Leading 4-bytes of the digest are identical
  - Both digests leading 4 bytes are identical

# Project 1-B --- Part 2



- Generate a partial SHA256 hash collision via brute-force attack
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**HEX ENCODING IS 2 CHARACTERS PER BYTE**

# Project 1-B --- Part 2



- **GOOD EXAMPLE:**

- Digest 1: 0XAAAAAAAAAA04FDEAB...
- Digest 2: 0XAAAAAAAAAA9FDABC3...

- **BAD EXAMPLE 1:**

- Digest 1: 0XAABBCCDD04FDEAB...
- Digest 2: 0XAABBCCDD9FDABC3...

- **BAD EXAMPLE 2:**

- Digest 1: 0XAAAAAAAAAA04FDEAB...
- Digest 2: 0XBBBBBBBBBBFDABC3...



# Project 1-B --- Part 2



## PLEASE READ THE ASSIGNMENT CAREFULLY TO AVOID ISSUES

\*\*\*\*\*

### WARNING

\*\*\*\*\*

Depending on your implementation, **it may take many hours** for your attack to be successful. A non-optimized, single-thread, well-implemented implementation can probabilistically finish using standard, commodity hardware in a short amount of time (order hours) even if using Python. It is *highly recommended* that you validate your implementation's logic with a further-reduced set of restrictions\* prior to attempting to generate the partial collision you will submit. This will ensure that your implementation operates as you expect and you do not encounter errors such as:

- Your implementation runs but crashes before finding a solution.
- Your implementation does not find a solution even though guaranteed to be possible.
- Your implementation continues searching after finding a solution.
- Your implementation does not output the found solution.

# Project 1-B --- Part 2



## PLEASE READ THE ASSIGNMENT CAREFULLY TO AVOID ISSUES

7. By default, code will be ran on an up-to-date version of **Ubuntu 24.04** (amd64) without GUI functionality. If you believe your code must be compiled/ran on a different OS or ISA for any reason, you must contact the instructor prior to submission and obtain such approval in-writing.

# Project 1-B --- Part 2



**PLEASE READ THE ASSIGNMENT  
CAREFULLY TO AVOID ISSUES**

`run` — Must execute your partial-collision implementation and output the newly generated partial collision inputs as two BASE64 encoded lines to `stdout` as described above. Your implementation **must not overwrite the `1-input.txt` or `2-input.txt` files submitted.**

# Exam 1 on Tuesday



- During class time, on paper, bring a pen
- Multiple choice, True/False, Matching, etc.
- **Short-answers must be short**
  - Will have an anticipated length to give you idea of *how short* your answers should be
- Bonus available but low point value

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