

# Finishing Up Problems with Plain RSA

October 19, 2019

# Recall PKCS-1.5 RSA Secure

Plain RSA had NY,NY problem.

We fixed that last lecture.

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Why bad? [Discuss](#)

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Why bad? **Discuss**

(1) Alice will think message is  $2rm$ . (2) If the context is money, Alice will think it costs twice as much!

# Malleability

An encryption system is **malleable** if when Eve sees a message she can figure out a way to send a similar one, where she knows the similarity (she still does not know the message).

1. The definition above is informal.
2. Can modify RSA so that it's probably not malleable.
3. That way is called PKCS-2.0-RSA.
4. Name BLAH-1.5 is hint that it's not final version.

# Final Points About Real RSA

1. PKCS-2.0-RSA is REALLY used!
2. There are many variants of RSA but all use the ideas above.
3. Factoring easy implies RSA crackable. TRUE.
4. RSA crackable implies Factoring easy: UNKNOWN.
5. RSA crackable implies Factoring easy: Often stated in expositions of crypto. They are wrong!
6. Timing attacks on RSA bypass the math.

# Low $e$ Attacks on RSA

## Scenario

1. Zelda is sending messages to Alice using  $N_a = 377$ ,  $e = 3$ .
2. Zelda is sending messages to Bob using  $N_b = 391$ ,  $e = 3$ .
3. Zelda is sending messages to Carol using  $N_c = 589$ ,  $e = 3$ .

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2. Zelda sends Bob 34. So  $m^3 \equiv 34 \pmod{391}$ .
3. Zelda sends Carol 419. So  $m^3 \equiv 419 \pmod{589}$ .

Eve sees all of this so knows something about  $m$ .



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We will develop the math and the attack. Called **a low- $e$  attack**.

# Needed Math: Chinese Remainder Theorem

## Example

Find  $x$  such that:

$$x \equiv 17 \pmod{31}$$

$$x \equiv 20 \pmod{37}$$

- a) The inverse of 31 mod 37 is 6
- b) The inverse of 37 mod 31 is 26.
- c)

$$x = 20 \times 6 \times 31 + 17 \times 26 \times 37 = 20,074$$

$x \pmod{31}$ : First term is 0. Second term is 17. So 17.

$x \pmod{37}$ : First term is 20. Second term is 0. So 20.

So  $x = 20,074$  is answer.

# Needed Math: Chinese Remainder Theorem

## Example

Find  $x$  such that:

$$x \equiv 17 \pmod{31} \quad \& \quad x \equiv 20 \pmod{37}$$

So  $x = 20,074$  is answer. Can we find a smaller  $x$ ?

We only care about  $x \pmod{31}$  and  $x \pmod{37}$ .

**Note:**

$$\begin{aligned} x \equiv 17 \pmod{31} &\implies x - 31 \times 37 \equiv 17 \pmod{31} \\ x \equiv 20 \pmod{37} &\implies x - 31 \times 37 \equiv 20 \pmod{37} \end{aligned}$$

If  $x$  works then  $x - 31 \times 37$  works. So just need

$$20,074 \pmod{31 \times 37} = 575.$$

**Upshot:** Can take  $x = 20,074 \pmod{31 \times 37} = 575$

## What if $x = m^2$ is a Square?

Find  $m$  such that:

$$m^2 \equiv 8 \pmod{17} \quad \& \quad m^2 \equiv 25 \pmod{37}$$

- a) The inverse of 17 mod 37 is 24
- b) The inverse of 37 mod 17 is 6

$$m^2 = 8 \times 37 \times 6 + 25 \times 17 \times 24 = 11976$$

$$11976 \equiv 25 \pmod{17 \times 37}.$$

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$$m^2 = 8 \times 37 \times 6 + 25 \times 17 \times 24 = 11976$$

$11976 \equiv 25 \pmod{17 \times 37}$ .

OH,  $m^2 \equiv 25$ . This is a square in  $\mathbb{N}$ . So  $m = 5$ .

## What if $x = m^3$ ?

Find  $m$  such that:

$$m^3 \equiv 12 \pmod{17} \quad \& \quad m^3 \equiv 16 \pmod{37}$$

- a) The inverse of 17 mod 37 is 24
- b) The inverse of 37 mod 17 is 6

$$m^3 = 12 \times 37 \times 6 + 16 \times 17 \times 24 = 9192$$

$$9192 \equiv 386 \pmod{17 \times 37}.$$

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$9192 \equiv 386 \pmod{17 \times 37}$ .

OH,  $m^3 \equiv 386$ . This is NOT a cube:-( What was different?

# Squares and Cubes

Find  $m$  such that:

$$m^2 \equiv 8 \pmod{17} \quad \& \quad m^2 \equiv 25 \pmod{37}$$

The message  $m$  is  $< 17$  and  $< 37$ . So  
 $m^2 < 17 \times 17$ . So  $m^2 \equiv m^2 \pmod{17 \times 17}$  (no reduce).



# Squares and Cubes

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Find  $m$  such that:

$$m^3 \equiv 12 \pmod{17} \quad \& \quad m^3 \equiv 16 \pmod{37}$$

The message  $m$  is  $< 17$  and  $< 37$ , so  $m^3 < 17^3 = 4913$ .  
So  $m^3 \pmod{17 \times 37}$  CAN reduce. So DO NOT get that

$$m^3 \pmod{17 \times 37} = m^3$$

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We return to this point in a few slides.

# Needed Math: Chinese Remainder Theorem $N_1, N_2$ Case

1. Input  $a, b, N_1, N_2$ , with  $N_1, N_2$ , rel primes. Want  $0 \leq x < N_1 N_2$ :

$$x \equiv a \pmod{N_1}$$

$$x \equiv b \pmod{N_2}$$

2. Find the inverse of  $N_1 \pmod{N_2}$  and denote this  $N_1^{-1}$ .
3. Find the inverse of  $N_2 \pmod{N_1}$  and denote this  $N_2^{-1}$ .
4.  $y = bN_1^{-1}N_1 + aN_2^{-1}N_2$   
Mod  $N_1$ : 1st term is 0, 2nd term is  $a$ . So  $y \equiv a \pmod{N_1}$ .  
Mod  $N_2$ : 2nd term is 0, 1st term is  $b$ . So  $y \equiv b \pmod{N_2}$ .
5.  $x \equiv y \pmod{N_1 N_2}$ . (Convention that  $0 \leq x < N_1 N_2$ )

# Needed Math: The Chinese Remainder Theorem

**Theorem:** If  $N_1, \dots, N_L$  are rel prime,  $x_1, \dots, x_L$  are anything, then there exists  $x$  with  $0 \leq x < N_1 \cdots N_L$  such that

$$x \equiv x_1 \pmod{N_1}$$

$$x \equiv x_2 \pmod{N_2}$$

$\vdots$

$$x \equiv x_L \pmod{N_L}$$

**Proof:** Omitted.

**Notation:** CRT is Chinese Remainder Theorem.

## Needed Math: The $e$ Theorem, $N_1, N_2$ case

**Theorem:** Assume  $N_1, N_2$  are rel prime,  $e, m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let

$0 \leq x < N_1 N_2$  be the number from CRT such that

$$x \equiv m^e \pmod{N_1}$$

$$x \equiv m^e \pmod{N_2}$$

Then  $x \equiv m^e \pmod{N_1 N_2}$ . **IF  $m^e < N_1 N_2$  then  $x = m^e$ .**

**Proof:** There exists  $k_1, k_2$  such that

$$x = m^e + k_1 N_1 \quad k_1 \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ (Could be negative)}$$

$$x = m^e + k_2 N_2 \quad k_2 \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ (Could be negative)}$$

$k_1 N_1 = k_2 N_2$ . Since  $N_1, N_2$  rel prime,  $N_1$  divides  $k_2$ , so  $k_2 = k N_1$ .

$x = m^e + k N_1 N_2$ . Hence  $x \equiv m^e \pmod{N_1 N_2}$ .

If  $m^e < N_1 N_2$  then since  $0 \leq x < N_1 N_2$  &  $x \equiv m^e$ ,  $x = m^e$ .

## Needed Math: The $e$ Theorem, $N_1, \dots, N_L$ Case

**Theorem:** Assume  $N_1, \dots, N_L$  are rel prime,  $e, m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x \equiv m^e & (\text{mod } N_1) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x \equiv m^e & (\text{mod } N_L) \end{array}$$

Then  $x \equiv m^e \pmod{N_1 \cdots N_L}$ . If  $m^e < N_1 \cdots N_L$  then  $x = m^e$ .

**Proof:** Omitted.

## Using CRT to find $m$

**Theorem:** Assume  $N_1, \dots, N_L$  are rel prime,  $e, m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $e \leq L$ , and for all  $i$ ,  $m < N_i$ . Assume you are given, for all  $i$ ,  $x_i$  such that  $m^e \equiv x_i \pmod{N_i}$  (you are NOT given  $m$ ). Then you can find  $m$ .

**Proof:** Use CRT to find  $x$  such that

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x \equiv x_1 & \pmod{N_1} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x \equiv x_L & \pmod{N_L} \end{array}$$

and  $0 \leq x < N_1 \cdots N_L$ .

Since  $m < N_i$  and  $e \leq L$ ,  $m^e < N_1 \cdots N_L$ .

Hence  $x$  is an  $e$ th power in  $\mathbb{N}$ . Take the  $e$ th root to find  $m$ .

**End of Proof**

## Low Exponent Attack: Example

- 1)  $N_a = 377$ ,  $N_b = 391$ ,  $N_c = 589$ . For Alice, Bob, Carol.
- 2)  $e = 3$ .
- 3) Zelda sends  $m$  to all three. Eve will find  $m$ . **Note**  $m < 377$ .
  1. Zelda sends Alice 330. So  $m^3 \equiv 330 \pmod{377}$ .
  2. Zelda sends Bob 34. So  $m^3 \equiv 34 \pmod{391}$ .
  3. Zelda sends Carol 419. So  $m^3 \equiv 419 \pmod{589}$ .

Eve sees all of this. Eve uses CRT to find  $0 \leq x < 377 \times 391 \times 589$ .

$$x \equiv 330 \equiv m^3 \pmod{377}$$

$$x \equiv 34 \equiv m^3 \pmod{391}$$

$$x \equiv 419 \equiv m^3 \pmod{589}$$

Eve finds such a number:  $x = 1,061,208$ . (SEE NEXT SLIDE FOR HOW I GOT THAT)

By e-Theorem

$$1,061,208 \equiv m^3 \pmod{377 \times 391 \times 589}.$$



## HOW I GOT 1,061,208: Part One

We want an  $x$  such that

$$x \equiv 330 \equiv m^3 \pmod{377}$$

$$x \equiv 34 \equiv m^3 \pmod{391}$$

$$x \equiv 419 \equiv m^3 \pmod{589}$$

We want a term that:

Mod 377 gives 330, Mod 391 gives 0, Mod 589 gives 0.

$$330 \times 391 \times 589$$

is indeed 0 mod 391 and 0 mod 589. But its NOT 330 mod 377.

So we need  $x$  such that  $391 \times 589 \times x \equiv 1 \pmod{377}$ .

$$391 \times 589 \equiv 329 \pmod{377}$$

So we need the inverse of 329 mod 377. Thats 322. So the term we need is

$$330 \times 391 \times 589 \times 322 = 24471571740$$

For the next two terms, the next two slides.

## HOW I GOT 1,061,208: Part Two

We want an  $x$  such that

$$x \equiv 330 \equiv m^3 \pmod{377}$$

$$x \equiv 34 \equiv m^3 \pmod{391}$$

$$x \equiv 419 \equiv m^3 \pmod{589}$$

We want a term that:

Mod 391 gives 34, Mod 377 gives 0, Mod 589 gives 0.

$$34 \times 377 \times 589$$

is indeed 0 mod 377 and 0 mod 589. But its NOT 34 mod 391.

So we need  $x$  such that  $377 \times 589 \times x \equiv 1 \pmod{391}$ .

$$377 \times 589 \equiv 356 \pmod{391}$$

So we need the inverse of 356 mod 391. Thats 67. So the term we need is

$$34 \times 377 \times 589 \times 67 = 505836734$$

For the third term, the next slides.

## HOW I GOT 1,061,208: Part Three

We want an  $x$  such that

$$x \equiv 330 \equiv m^3 \pmod{377}$$

$$x \equiv 34 \equiv m^3 \pmod{391}$$

$$x \equiv 419 \equiv m^3 \pmod{589}$$

We want a term that:

Mod 589 gives 419, Mod 377 gives 0, Mod 391 gives 0.

$$419 \times 377 \times 391$$

is indeed 0 mod 377 and 0 mod 391. But its NOT 419 mod 589.

So we need  $x$  such that  $377 \times 391 \times x \equiv 1 \pmod{589}$ .

$$377 \times 391 \equiv 157 \pmod{589}$$

So we need the inverse of 157 mod 589. Thats 574

So the term we need is

$$419 \times 377 \times 391 \times 574 = 35452267942$$

On the next slide we add up the terms!

# HOW I GOT 1,061,208: The Finale!

We want an  $x$  such that

$$x \equiv 330 \equiv m^3 \pmod{377}$$

$$x \equiv 34 \equiv m^3 \pmod{391}$$

$$x \equiv 419 \equiv m^3 \pmod{589}$$

We have deduced that it is the following sum

$$24471571740 + 505836734 + 35452267942 = 60429676416$$

This number works. Now we take it mod  $377 * 391 * 589$  to get

1,061,208

## Low Exponent Attack: Example Continued

By e-Theorem

$$1,061,208 \equiv m^3 \pmod{377 \times 391 \times 589}.$$

**Most Important Fact:** Recall that  $m < 377$ . Hence note that:

$$\begin{aligned} m^3 &< 377 \times 377 \times 377 < 377 \times 391 \times 589 \\ m^3 &\equiv 1,061,208 \pmod{377 \times 391 \times 589} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the  $m^3$  calculation cannot have wrap-around. Hence  $m$  can be gotten from the ordinary cube root operation. We find

$$(1,061,208)^{1/3} = 102$$

So  $m = 102$ ,

**Note:** Cracked RSA without factoring.

## Where Did $e = 3$ Come Into This?

Since  $m < 377$  we had:

$$m^3 < 377 \times 377 \times 377 < 377 \times 391 \times 589$$

What if  $e = 4$ ? Then everything goes through until we get to:

$$m^4 < 377 \times 377 \times 377 \times 377$$

We need this to be  $< 377 \times 391 \times 589$ .

But it's not. So we needed

$$e \leq \text{The number of people}$$

## Low Exponent Attack: Generalized

- 1)  $L$  people. Use  $N_1 < \dots < N_L$ . All Rel Prime.
- 2)  $e \leq L$
- 3) Zelda sends  $m$  to  $L$  people. Note  $m < N_1$ .

# Low Exponent Attack: Generalized

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- 4) You will finish this on HW. You will write pseudocode.

Can you run the algorithm even if  $e$  is not small? **Discuss**



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Can you run the algorithm even if  $e$  is not small? **Discuss**

**Yes** Run it and if  $m^e < N_1 \dots N_L$  then will still work. You will know it doesn't work if when you need to find an eth root (in  $\mathbb{N}$ ) there is none (in  $\mathbb{N}$ ).