

Introduction to Cryptology

Tutorial-07 DH Key-Exchange/Sharing System

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Design Summary for A Basic Diffie-Hellman (DH) Public Key Exchange System

In case that you have a prime:

1. If you have a prime number p and you know how to factor $\phi(p) = p-1$, then use the prime p to generate $GF(p)$.
2. Find a primitive element α by checking that $\alpha^2 \neq 1$ and $\alpha^{p/2} \neq 1$, $\alpha^{p/3} \neq 1$, ... and $\alpha^{p/q} \neq 1$. α is selected randomly.
3. Publish $GF(p)$ and α in a public directory. The system is ready for use. The strength of your system is equal to the smallest prime factor of $\phi(p)$.

In case that you do not have a prime:

1. Select a strong prime number p such that $p-1 = 2q$ where q is a prime.
A possible procedure is to use Pocklington's Theorem to find such a prime:
 - Select $N = 2q + 1$ where q is a large prime. Check if the resulting N is prime using Pocklington's Theorem
 - If N is prime, take $p=N$ and generate $GF(p)$
2. Find a primitive element α in $GF(p)$ by selecting any non-zero random value and checking if its order is $p-1$. The order of any element in $GF(p)$ is a divisor of $p-1=2q$. That is the order can be either $1, 2, q$ or $2q$. If $\alpha^2 \neq 1$ and $\alpha^q \neq 1$ then the order of α is $2q$ and α is a primitive element. Repeat 2 until you get a primitive element.
3. Publish $GF(p)$ and α in a public directory. The system is ready for use.

The procedure is similar over the extension field $GF(2^m)$!

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Problem 7-1:

1. Find a primitive element α to set up a DH public-key exchange system using the prime number 43.
2. Generate DH common key Z_{ab} for two users A and B having $X_a = 3$ and $X_b = 7$ as secret keys respectively.

Solution 7-1:

1. To find a primitive element α in $GF(43)$ we select randomly $\alpha = 3$ and check if it is a primitive element. 3 is primitive if its order is a divisor of $\phi(p) = 43 - 1 = 42 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 7$. The order of any element is one of these divisors: 1, 2, 3, 7, 6, 14, 21 or 42.

Computing the order of 3: $3^2 = 9 \neq 1$, $3^3 = 27 \neq 1$, $3^6 = 41 = -2 \neq 1$, $3^7 = -6 \neq 1$, $3^{14} = 36 \neq 1$, $3^{21} = -1 \neq 1 \Rightarrow 3$ is a primitive element.

- 2.

DH Public directory:

GF (43)
 $\alpha = 3$
 $Y_a = 3^{X_a} = 3^3 = 27$
 $Y_b = 3^{X_b} = 3^7 = -6 = 37$

Common key is $Z_{ab} = (Y_a)^{X_b} = (Y_b)^{X_a}$
 $= (37)^3 = 3^{21} = -1 = 42$

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Problem 7-2:

1. Generating one strong prime with the prime 23 ($N = 2 \cdot 23 + 1$)
2. Find a primitive element α to set up a DH public-key exchange system using the generated strong prime number from exercise 1.
3. Generate DH common key Z_{ab} for two users A and B having $X_a = 24$ and $X_b = 2$ as secret keys respectively.
4. What is the probability that a randomly selected element is a primitive element?

Solution 7-2:

1. Let us try to check if $N = 2 \cdot 23 + 1 = 47$ is prime. Using Pocklington's Theorem: If the following conditions hold then 47 is a prime:

1. $\gcd(2^{23-1}/23 - 1, 47) = \gcd(2^2 - 1, 47) = \gcd(3, 47) = 1 \Rightarrow$ is true
2. $2^{23} \equiv 1 \pmod{47}$ or in $Z_{47} \Rightarrow$ is true
3. $F = 23 > \sqrt{47} \Rightarrow 23 > \sqrt{6} \Rightarrow$ is true

As all conditions hold, 47 is for sure a prime

2. To find a primitive element α in $GF(47)$ we select randomly $\alpha = 2$ and check if it is a primitive element. 2 is primitive if its order is a divisor of $\phi(p) = 47 - 1 = 46 = 2 \cdot 23$. The order of any element is one of the divisors: 1, 2, 23 or 46.

Computing the order of 2: $2^2 = 4 \neq 1$, $2^{23} = 48 = 1 \Rightarrow 2$ is not a primitive element! Check another element!

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Solution 7-2 Cont.:

Computing the order of 5: Possible orders are 1, 2, 23 or 46

$5^1 = 5 \neq 1$, $5^2 = 25 \neq 1$, $5^{23} = 46 = -1 \neq 1$. (all modulo 47)

Therefore, the order of 5 must be 46 and 5 is a primitive element, which may be used in the DH public directory

DH Public Directory:

GF (47)
 $\alpha = 5$
 $Y_a = 5^{X_a} = 5^{-5} = 42$
 $Y_b = 5^{X_b} = 5^2 = 25$

In General

The modulus in the exponent is Euler function $\phi(m)$

$\phi(p) = 47 - 1 = 46$

3. Common key is $Z_{ab} = (Y_a)^{X_b} = (Y_b)^{X_a}$
 $= (5^{24})^2 = 5^{48 \pmod{46}} = 5^{48-46} = 5^2 = 25$

4. The number of primitive elements is $\phi(\phi(p)) = \phi(2 \cdot 23) = (2-1)(23-1) = 22$. Prob. of having a Primitive element = $22/46 = 47.8\%$

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Problem 7-3:

1. Select an irreducible polynomial and a primitive element α to set up a DH public-key exchange system over $GF(2^{10})$.
2. Generate DH common key Z_{ab} for two users A and B having $X_a = 12$ and $X_b = 4$ as secret keys respectively.
3. What is the probability that a randomly selected element is a primitive element?

Solution 7-3:

1. Let us select the irreducible polynomial for $GF(2^{10})$ as $p(x) = x^{10} + x^3 + 1$. This polynomial is also primitive as its period is $1023 = 2^{10} - 1$ (see table of irreducible polynomials). The order of x is $2^{10} - 1$.

A possible primitive element is $\alpha = x = 0000000010$ as its order is $2^{10} - 1 = 1023 = 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 31$.

Possible elements orders in $GF(2^{10})$ are the divisors of $1023 = 1, 3, 11, 31, 33, 93, 341, 1023$.

A randomly selected element α is primitive if: $\alpha^3 \neq 1$ and $\alpha^{11} \neq 1$ and $\alpha^{31} \neq 1$ and $\alpha^{93} \neq 1$ and $\alpha^{341} \neq 1$.

Many other primitive elements can be selected as α^i for which $\gcd(1023, i) = 1$, for example:

$x^{10} = x^3 + 1 = 0000001001$ is a primitive element

$x^{20} = (x^3 + 1)^2 = x^6 + 1 = 0001000001$ is also a primitive element

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