

• **Assignment 1: Task 3**

- Deadline: 12th Feb. (Submit at the beginning of the class. You lose 4 point per day for late submissions.)

There are 4 questions for a total of 24 points.

- (6) 1. We define the following new notion of security for PRGs:

Definition 1 (odd-even security). Consider a PRG $G : \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{l(k)}$. Let $e_1, o_1, e_2, o_2, \dots$ denote the output bits of the PRG. G is considered odd-even secure if for every PPT algorithm A , we have:

$$\forall i, \Pr[A(o_1, o_2, \dots) = e_i] \leq 1/2 + \text{negl}(k), \text{ and}$$

$$\forall i, \Pr[A(e_1, e_2, \dots) = o_i] \leq 1/2 + \text{negl}(k).$$

Show that if G is a secure PRG (w.r.t. indistinguishability¹), then G is also odd-even secure.

- (6) 2. Suppose we have a secure PRF $F : \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ (key, input, output are of equal length). The following PRG using F was suggested in the class:

$G(s)$

- Parse s as (K, x) such that $|K| = |x| = n$.
- Output $F_K(x) || F_K(F_K(x)) || F_K(F_K(F_K(x))) || \dots || \underbrace{F_K(\dots F_K(x))}_{q \text{ terms}}$ of length qn bits.

Is G a secure PRG? Discuss. The more rigorous your answer is, the more points you will get.

- (6) 3. We said in class that for one-time encryption schemes, message-indistinguishability is a strong notion of security that implies most other security notions. We saw some examples of this fact but still the message indistinguishability is slightly non-intuitive. Here is the formal definition of message-indistinguishability:

Definition 2 (Message Indistinguishability). A one-time encryption scheme (E, D) is said to be secure with respect to message-indistinguishability if for every PPT adversary A and every pair of messages m_0 and m_1 of equal size, there exists a negligible function negl such that:

$$|\Pr[A(E_K(m_0)) = 1] - \Pr[A(E_K(m_1)) = 1]| \leq \text{negl}(k)$$

where the probabilities are over choice of the key K and internal randomness of A (and the internal randomness of the encryption algorithm in case the algorithm is randomized.)

It came out during the discussion that a more intuitive strong security notion would be that given any auxiliary information about the message distribution², the ability of a bounded adversary in computing a function of the message should not increase when it has access to the cipher text corresponding to the message. This is known as *Semantic Security*. We formally define this security notion for one-time encryption schemes below:

Definition 3 (Semantic security). A one-time encryption scheme (E, D) is said to be semantically secure if for every PPT adversary A , there is a PPT adversary A' such that for all efficiently sampleable

¹recall that this is our standard notion of security for PRGs

²Note that we were able to break the substitution cipher because we had this auxiliary information that messages were typical english write-ups.

distributions (X_1, X_2, \dots) ³ and all polynomial time computable functions I and f , there exists a negligible function negl such that

$$|\Pr[A(I(m), E_K(m)) = f(m)] - \Pr[A'(I(m)) = f(m)]| \leq \text{negl}(k)$$

where m is chosen according to distribution X_k , and the probabilities are taken over the choices of m , key K , and internal randomness of A and A' (and the internal randomness of the encryption algorithm in case the algorithm is randomized.).

Show that the one-time encryption scheme is secure (w.r.t. message-indistinguishability) if and only if it satisfies semantic security.

- (6) 4. Later in the course, we will show that PRGs exist if One Way Functions (OWFs) exist. Someone asked if we can base existence of OWFs on the assumption that $\mathbf{P} \neq \mathbf{NP}$. This is unlikely, though unresolved. However, we can easily show that if $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{NP}$, then secure OWFs cannot exist. This is precisely what you are asked to do in this question. For this, first we have to define what OWFs are.

Definition 4 (One Way Function). A function $f : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^*$ is called a one way function if the following two conditions hold:

1. (Easy to compute:) There exists a polynomial-time algorithm M_f computing f ; that is, $M_f(x) = f(x)$ for all x .
2. (Hard to invert:) For every PPT algorithm A , there exists a negligible function negl such that

$$\Pr[\text{Invert}_{A,f}(n) = 1] \leq \text{negl}(n)$$

Where $\text{Invert}_{A,f}(n)$ denotes the following experiment:

$\text{Invert}_{A,f}(n)$

- Choose input $x \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$. Compute $y = f(x)$.
- Execute A with inputs 1^n and y . Let x' be the output of A .
- The output of the experiment is defined to be 1 if $f(x') = y$, and 0 otherwise.

Show that if $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{NP}$, then one way functions do not exist.

³This gives us the freedom of having different distributions for different values of the security parameter (here the key length k). Efficiently sampleable distribution means that there is a randomized algorithm that runs in time polynomial in k (you may assume that this algorithm takes 1^k as input) and outputs elements of the message space such that the output distribution is X_k .