

Note: this exam was an open-book and open-notes take-home exam.

1. [12 points] Alice and Bob are using RSA encryption. Alice publishes the following public key.

$$\begin{aligned} N &= 64777 \\ e &= 11 \end{aligned}$$

Bob sends the following ciphertext to Alice.

$$c = 42675$$

Use a brute-force approach to extract Alice's private key and determine Bob's plaintext  $m$ . You should use a computer for the computations, but clearly explain what you have done and how you have used the computer to do it.

2. [12 points] Note (2024): our Midterm 2 will not cover Elliptic curves, so you can skip this question. You may want to return to it to review for the final exam. Let  $E$  be the elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{R}$  defined by the equation

$$y^2 = x^3 - x + 1.$$

Let  $P$  be the point  $(1, 1)$ . Determine the point  $(-3) \cdot P$ . Do the arithmetic by hand, and show your computations (but you may use a computer to check your arithmetic).

3. [12 points] Suppose that Samantha and Victor use the following variation on DSA. The system uses the same public parameters  $p, q, g$  as DSA (notation as in Table 4.3 of the textbook). Rather than publishing a single verification key  $A$ , Samantha chooses *two* secret signing keys  $a_1, a_2$ , and publishes two verification keys  $A_1, A_2$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &\equiv g^{a_1} \pmod{p}, \text{ and} \\ A_2 &\equiv g^{a_2} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

A signature on a document  $D$  consists of a pair of integers  $(S_1, S_2)$ . When he receives a document  $D$  with signature  $(S_1, S_2)$ , Victor will use the following verification procedure.

- Compute  $V_1 \equiv DS_2^{-1} \pmod{q}$  and  $V_2 \equiv S_1S_2^{-1} \pmod{q}$  (as in DSA).
- Verify that

$$\left( (A_1^{V_1} A_2^{V_2}) \% p \right) \% q = S_1.$$

(If this equation is false, the signature is considered invalid.)

Devise an (efficient) *signing procedure* that Samantha could follow to produce valid signatures. Write out your procedure as a Python function (receiving a document  $D$  and the parameters and private keys as input), and prove that your program returns a valid signature according to Victor's procedure above.

I will not deduct points for syntax errors, as long as it is clear what you mean. You may use the built-in Python function `pow` for fast modular powers, and you may assume that you have implemented an efficient function `modinv` to compute modular inverses. *EDIT: you may also make use of any functions from the `random` library to generate random numbers.* Any other needed helper functions should be implemented in your written solution.

4. This problem concerns an adaptation of the Pohlig-Hellman algorithm to the Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm Problem (ECDLP).

Suppose that  $E$  is an elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ , and  $P \in E$  is a point of order 143. Note that 143 factors as  $11 \cdot 13$ . Suppose that  $Q$  is another point on the curve, and that Eve wishes to find an integer  $n$  such that  $n \cdot P = Q$ .

Define four more points on  $E$  as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}P_1 &= 13 \cdot P \\Q_1 &= 13 \cdot Q \\P_2 &= 11 \cdot P \\Q_2 &= 11 \cdot Q\end{aligned}$$

- (a) [4 points] Prove that  $\text{ord}_E(P_1) = 11$  and  $\text{ord}_E(P_2) = 13$ .
- (b) [6 points] Suppose  $Q \in E$  is another point on the curve, and that  $n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$  are integers such that  $n_1 \cdot P_1 = Q_1$  and  $n_2 \cdot P_2 = Q_2$ . Prove that if an integer  $n$  satisfies  $n \cdot P = Q$  then  $n$  must satisfy the following two congruences.

$$\begin{aligned}n &\equiv n_1 \pmod{11} \\n &\equiv n_2 \pmod{13}\end{aligned}$$

(The converse is also true, but you do not need to prove it).

- (c) [2 points] Briefly explain why part (b) may be useful to Eve in her attempt to solve  $n \cdot P = Q$ .