

Lecture 12

Prof. Benjamin Fuller

Scribe: Tham Hoang

1 Last Class

Last class we continued trying to build a pseudorandom generator. We showed that an algorithm that can predict if an exponent is greater than $x > p/2$ can be used to compute discrete logarithms. That is, consider the following function:

$$B(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \geq \frac{p}{2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Lemma 1. If you can predict $B(x)$ from g^x , you can compute discrete log efficiently.

Algorithm:

1. Compute lower order bit g^{2x} or g^{2x+1}
 Fermat's little theorem $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod p \forall a$
 $(g^{2x})^{\frac{p-1}{2}} = g^{x(p-1)} \equiv 1 \pmod p$
 $(g^{2x+1})^{\frac{p-1}{2}} = g^{x(p-1)} \cdot g^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv g^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \not\equiv 1 \pmod p$
2. If x is odd, then divide by $g \rightarrow$ set $y = \frac{g^x}{g}$
3. Compute square root of y for notational purposes we will assume that $y = g^x$. Then either $g^{x/2}$ or $g^{\frac{x}{2} + \frac{p-1}{2}}$
 2 issues:
 - can not distinguish which one it is
 - can not go back to Step 1 directly \rightarrow use Predictor for $B(x)$ here
4. Check which root using predictor for B
5. If necessary, compute $g^{x/2 + (p-1)/2} g^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv g^{x/2} \pmod p$. Now we can go to Step 1 to predict the next bit until we got the entire sequence of x .

Run time: We can obtain x if there exists a predictor of $B(x)$ and the algorithm runs in polynomial time.

2 Pseudorandom Generator (PRG)

Now lets recall our pseudorandom generator:

$$G(p, g, x) =$$

1. Input g, p, x .
2. Set $x_1 = x$.
3. For $i = 1$ to m :
 - (a) Set $y_{n-i+1} = B(x_i)$.
 - (b) Set $x_{i+1} = g^{x_i} \pmod p$.

Theorem 1. G is a good PRG if B is hard to predict.

Proof. Show if we have predictor P for B , we can build next bit predictor for G .

Here, we rewrite the theorem:

Theorem If B is hard to predict then G is a good PRG

Proof As with the previous result we're going to show this by contradiction. We're going to assume there is some algorithm that breaks the next bit unpredictability of G . We need to show how to convert that to an algorithm that predicts B (for a single B). Assume exists A that is a next bit predictor of G , want to build predictor for $B(x)$. So our goal is to build some \mathcal{A}' . Our \mathcal{A}' will take $p, g, y = g^x$ as input and is trying to predict $B(x)$. We are allowed to call \mathcal{A} to help us with this task (a polynomial number of times).

\mathcal{A}' Input: $g, p, g^x \pmod p$

Note that the only thing is know about \mathcal{A} is there is some i where it is good at predicting. But we don't know where this i is. So we're just going to guess an i at random between 1 and n .

So what we're going to do is try and compute a sequence for the attacker. As a reminder we can compute all previous elements of the sequence.

$$B(g^{g^{\dots g^{g^x}}}) \dots B(g^{g^x})B(g^x) \\ \dots B(g^{g^x})B(g^x) \leftarrow g^x$$

If A makes guess at position i , output that guess. Otherwise output random bit.

$$\Pr[P \text{ outputs } B(x)] = \Pr[P \text{ outputs } B(X) \mid A \text{ outputs guess at position } i] \Pr[A \text{ outputs guess at location } i]$$

$$+ \Pr[P \text{ outputs } B(X) \mid A \text{ outputs guess at other location}]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \Pr[A \text{ outputs guess at other location}]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \Pr[\text{P outputs } B(X) \mid \text{A outputs guess at location } i] \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{m-1}{m} \right) \\
&= \sum_i \Pr[\text{A guess next bit at the location } i] \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{m-1}{m} \right) \\
&= \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p(n)} \right) \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{m-1}{m} \right) \\
&\geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{m(p(n))} \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{q(n)} \text{ for polynomial } q \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

Corollary 2. *If discrete log is hard then G is good PRG.*

Now that we've shown a single definition of a pseudorandom generator (which seems very artificial), lets consider some other definitions.

Other definitions:

- 1) Can't guess y_m from $y_1 \dots y_{m-1}$
- 2) \forall PPT D $|\Pr[D(y_1 \dots y_m) = 1] - \Pr[D(r_1 \dots r_m) = 1]| < \epsilon$
 $r_1 \dots r_m$ is true random sequence.

We'll work with the second of these definitions and make it a bit more formal. That is consider two experiments: $\text{exp} - \text{pr}$ and $\text{exp} - \text{r}$. Let T be some PPT test that outputs either 1 or 0.

<p>Experiment $\text{exp} - \text{pr}^{G,T}$: Select random s of length n. Compute $y = G(s)$ Run $T(y)$ and output whatever it does.</p>	<p>Experiment $\text{exp} - \text{r}^T$: Select random y of length m Run $T(y)$ and output whatever it does.</p>
--	---

Definition 1. [Yao82] G passes all statistical tests if for all PPT T , there exists negligible function $\epsilon(n)$ such that for all n ,

$$|\Pr[\text{exp} - \text{pr}^{G,T} = 1] - \Pr[\text{exp} - \text{r}^T = 1]| \leq \epsilon(n).$$

Theorem 3. *If G passes all efficient statistical tests then $\text{Enc}(s, m) = G(s) \oplus m$ has indistinguishable encryptions.*

Theorem 4. *G is next bit unpredictable if and only if G passes all statistical tests.*

Some examples of efficient tests:

- 1) Number of 1's
- 2) Max number of 1's
- 3) Average run length
- 4) Value of $g^{y_1 \dots y_m}$

From now, G is just an arbitrary G .

Lemma If G passes all statistical tests then G is next bit unpredictable.

Proof Let A be a next bit predictor for G

$$\Pr[\text{A is correct on } r_1 \dots r_m] = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Pr[\text{A is correct on } y_1 \dots y_m] > \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p(n)}$$

We will now build an efficient \mathcal{A}' . \mathcal{A}' will call A as subroutine to build an efficient distinguisher to point out which one of $r_1 \dots r_m$ and $y_1 \dots y_m$ is a sequence by G or random.

\mathcal{A}' get $x_1 \dots x_m$

- 1) Run A until it outputs b
- 2) Check if $b = x_{i+1}$ output 1 if correct, 0 otherwise
- 3) If \mathcal{A} does not guess a bit, output a random bit.

If \mathcal{A} predicts b with probability $1/2 + \epsilon(n)$, then $\Pr[\text{exp} - \text{pr}^{G, \mathcal{A}'} = 1] = 1/2 + \epsilon(n)$. For a truly random string the predictor cannot succeed so $\Pr[\text{exp} - \text{r}^T = 1] = 1/2$. Thus the difference between these is $\epsilon(n)$ which is non-negligible by assumption, thus \mathcal{A}' is a statistical test that G does not pass. This completes the proof of the lemma.

References

- [Yao82] Andrew Chi-Chih Yao. Theory and applications of trapdoor functions (extended abstract). In *FOCS*, pages 80–91, 1982.