### A Patch

- Despite the simplicity of a circuit, the previous discussions imply the following:
  - Circuits are *not* a realistic model of computation.
  - Polynomial circuits are *not* a plausible notion of efficient computation.
- What gives?
- The effective and efficient constructibility of

$$C_0, C_1, \ldots$$

# Uniformity

- A family  $(C_0, C_1, ...)$  of circuits is **uniform** if there is a  $\log n$ -space bounded TM which on input  $1^n$  outputs  $C_n$ .
  - Circuits now cannot accept undecidable languages (why?).
  - The circuit family on p. 484 is not constructible by a single Turing machine (algorithm).
- A language has **uniformly polynomial circuits** if there is a *uniform* family of polynomial circuits that decide it.

# Uniformly Polynomial Circuits and P

**Theorem 70**  $L \in P$  if and only if L has uniformly polynomial circuits.

- One direction was proved in Proposition 69 (p. 483).
- Now suppose L has uniformly polynomial circuits.
- Decide  $x \in L$  in polynomial time as follows:
  - Let n = |x|.
  - Build  $C_n$  in  $\log n$  space, hence polynomial time.
  - Evaluate the circuit with input x in polynomial time.
- Therefore  $L \in P$ .

### Relation to P vs. NP

- Theorem 70 implies that  $P \neq NP$  if and only if NP-complete problems have no *uniformly* polynomial circuits.
- A stronger conjecture: NP-complete problems have no polynomial circuits, uniformly or not.
- The above is currently the preferred approach to proving the  $P \neq NP$  conjecture—without success so far.
  - Theorem 14 (p. 153) states that there are boolean functions requiring  $2^n/(2n)$  gates to compute.
  - In fact, almost all boolean functions do.

# BPP's Circuit Complexity

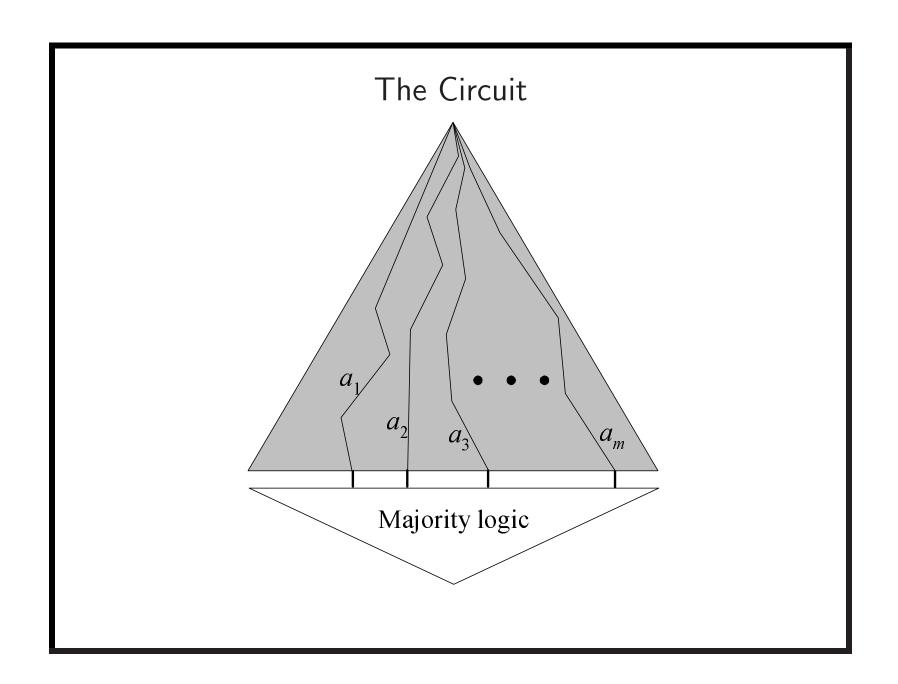
Theorem 71 (Adleman (1978)) All languages in BPP have polynomial circuits.

- Our proof will be *nonconstructive* in that only the existence of the desired circuits is shown.
  - Something exists if its probability of existence is nonzero.
- How to efficiently generate circuit  $C_n$  given  $1^n$  is not known.
- If the construction of  $C_n$  is efficient, then P = BPP, an unlikely result.

### The Proof

- Let  $L \in BPP$  be decided by a precise NTM N by clear majority.
- We shall prove that L has polynomial circuits  $C_0, C_1, \ldots$
- Suppose N runs in time p(n), where p(n) is a polynomial.
- Let  $A_n = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m\}$ , where  $a_i \in \{0, 1\}^{p(n)}$ .
- Let m = 12(n+1).
- Each  $a_i \in A_n$  represents a sequence of nondeterministic choices—i.e., a computation path—for N.

- Let x be an input with |x| = n.
- Circuit  $C_n$  simulates N on x with each sequence of choices in  $A_n$  and then takes the majority of the m outcomes.
- Because N with  $a_i$  is a polynomial-time TM, it can be simulated by polynomial circuits of size  $O(p(n)^2)$ .
  - See the proof of Proposition 69 (p. 483).
- The size of  $C_n$  is therefore  $O(mp(n)^2) = O(np(n)^2)$ , a polynomial.
- We next prove the existence of  $A_n$  making  $C_n$  correct.

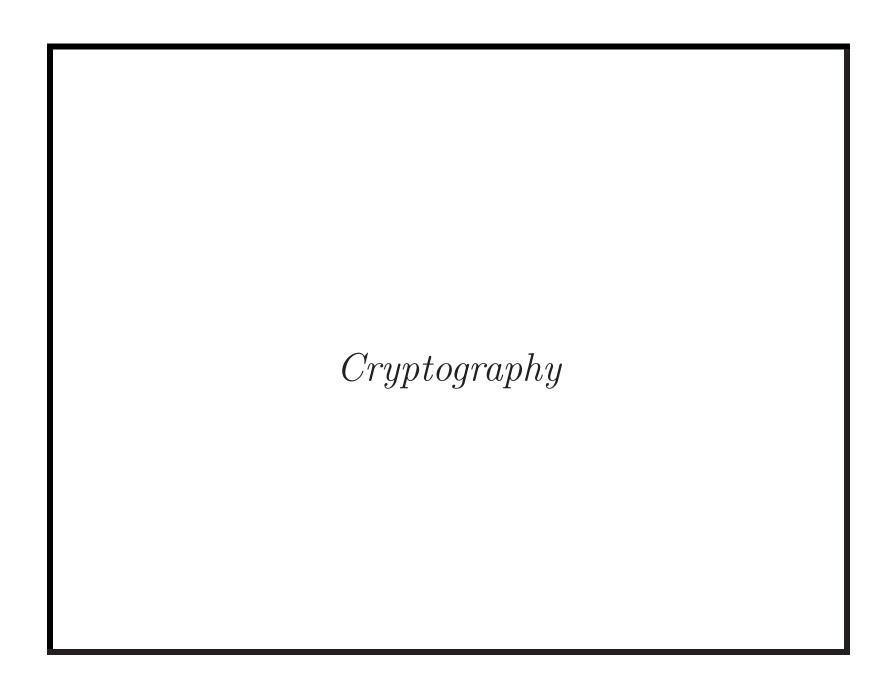


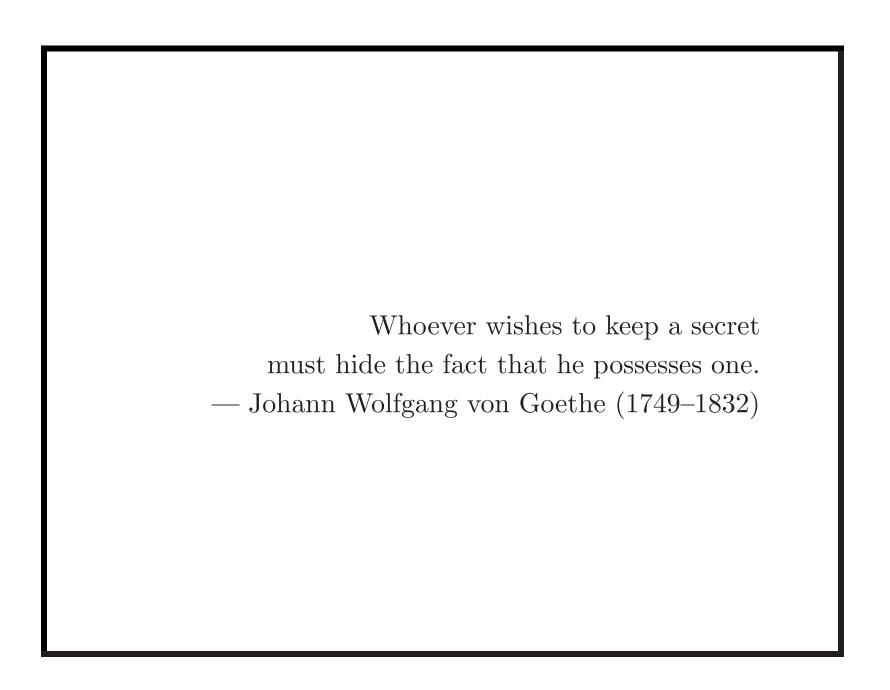
- Call  $a_i$  bad if it leads N to a false positive or a false negative answer.
- Select  $A_n$  uniformly randomly.
- For each  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$ , 1/4 of the computations of N are erroneous.
- Because the sequences in  $A_n$  are chosen randomly and independently, the expected number of bad  $a_i$ 's is m/4.
- By the Chernoff bound (p. 464), the probability that the number of bad  $a_i$ 's is m/2 or more is at most

$$e^{-m/12} < 2^{-(n+1)}$$
.

# The Proof (concluded)

- The error probability is  $< 2^{-(n+1)}$  for each  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$ .
- The probability that there is an x such that  $A_n$  results in an incorrect answer is  $< 2^n 2^{-(n+1)} = 2^{-1}$ .
  - $-\operatorname{prob}[A \cup B \cup \cdots] \leq \operatorname{prob}[A] + \operatorname{prob}[B] + \cdots$
- So with probability one half, a random  $A_n$  produces a correct  $C_n$  for all inputs of length n.
- Because this probability exceeds 0, an  $A_n$  that makes majority vote work for all inputs of length n exists.
- Hence a correct  $C_n$  exists.





# Cryptography

- Alice (A) wants to send a message to **Bob** (B) over a channel monitored by **Eve** (eavesdropper).
- The protocol should be such that the message is known only to Alice and Bob.
- The art and science of keeping messages secure is **cryptography**.

### **Encryption and Decryption**

- Alice and Bob agree on two algorithms E and D—the encryption and the decryption algorithms.
- Both E and D are known to the public in the analysis.
- Alice runs E and wants to send a message x to Bob.
- Bob operates D.
- Privacy is assured in terms of two numbers e, d, the encryption and decryption keys.
- Alice sends y = E(e, x) to Bob, who then performs D(d, y) = x to recover x.
- x is called **plaintext**, and y is called **ciphertext**.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Both "zero" and "cipher" come from the same Arab word.

### Some Requirements

- D should be an inverse of E given e and d.
- D and E must both run in (probabilistic) polynomial time.
- Eve should not be able to recover x from y without knowing d.
  - As D is public, d must be kept secret.
  - -e may or may not be a secret.

# Degrees of Security

- **Perfect secrecy**: After a ciphertext is intercepted by the enemy, the a posteriori probabilities of the plaintext that this ciphertext represents are identical to the a priori probabilities of the same plaintext before the interception.
- Such systems are said to be **informationally secure**.
- A system is **computationally secure** if breaking it is theoretically possible but computationally infeasible.

# Conditions for Perfect Secrecy<sup>a</sup>

- Consider a cryptosystem where:
  - The space of ciphertext is as large as that of keys.
  - Every plaintext has a nonzero probability of being used.
- It is perfectly secure if and only if the following hold.
  - A key is chosen with uniform distribution.
  - For each plaintext x and ciphertext y, there exists a unique key e such that E(e, x) = y.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Shannon (1949).

### The One-Time Pada

- 1: Alice generates a random string r as long as x;
- 2: Alice sends r to Bob over a secret channel;
- 3: Alice sends  $r \oplus x$  to Bob over a public channel;
- 4: Bob receives y;
- 5: Bob recovers  $x := y \oplus r$ ;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Mauborgne and Vernam (1917), Shannon (1949); allegedly used for the hotline between Russia and U.S.

# **Analysis**

- The one-time pad uses e = d = r.
- This is said to be a **private-key cryptosystem**.
- Knowing x and knowing r are equivalent.
- Because r is random and private, the one-time pad achieves perfect secrecy (see also p. 501).
- The random bit string must be new for each round of communication.
  - Cryptographically strong pseudorandom
     generators require exchanging only the seed once.
- The assumption of a private channel is problematic.

# Public-Key Cryptography<sup>a</sup>

- Suppose only d is private to Bob, whereas e is public knowledge.
- Bob generates the (e, d) pair and publishes e.
- Anybody like Alice can send E(e, x) to Bob.
- Knowing d, Bob can recover x by D(d, E(e, x)) = x.
- The assumptions are complexity-theoretic.
  - It is computationally difficult to compute d from e.
  - It is computationally difficult to compute x from y without knowing d.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Diffie and Hellman (1976).

### Complexity Issues

- Given y and x, it is easy to verify whether E(e, x) = y.
- Hence one can always guess an x and verify.
- Cracking a public-key cryptosystem is thus in NP.
- A necessary condition for the existence of secure public-key cryptosystems is  $P \neq NP$ .
- But more is needed than  $P \neq NP$ .
- It is not sufficient that *D* is hard to compute in the worst case.
- It should be hard in "most" or "average" cases.

## One-Way Functions

A function f is a **one-way function** if the following hold.<sup>a</sup>

- 1. f is one-to-one.
- 2. For all  $x \in \Sigma^*$ ,  $|x|^{1/k} \le |f(x)| \le |x|^k$  for some k > 0.
  - f is said to be **honest**.
- 3. f can be computed in polynomial time.
- 4.  $f^{-1}$  cannot be computed in polynomial time.
  - Exhaustive search works, but it is too slow.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Diffie and Hellman (1976); Boppana and Lagarias (1986); Grollmann and Selman (1988); Ko (1985); Ko, Long, and Du (1986); Watanabe (1985); Young (1983).

# Existence of One-Way Functions

- Even if  $P \neq NP$ , there is no guarantee that one-way functions exist.
- No functions have been proved to be one-way.
- Is breaking a glass a one-way function?

**UP**<sup>a</sup>

- An NTM that has at most one accepting computation for any input is called an **unambiguous Turing** machine (UTM).
- UP denotes the set of languages accepted by UTMs in polynomial time.
- Obviously,  $P \subseteq UP \subseteq NP$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Valiant (1976).

#### SAT and UP

- SAT is not expected to be in UP (so  $UP \neq NP$ ).
  - Suppose SAT  $\in$  UP.
  - Then there is an NTM M that has a single accepting computation path for all satisfiable boolean expressions.
  - But M runs in polynomial time.
  - Hence M does not try all truth assignments for satisfiable boolean expressions.
  - At present, this seems implausible.

# UP and One-Way Functions<sup>a</sup>

**Theorem 72** One-way functions exist if and only if  $P \neq UP$ .

- Suppose there exists a one-way function f.
- Define language

$$L_f \equiv \{ (x, y) : \exists z \text{ such that } f(z) = y \text{ and } z \leq x \}.$$

- Relation " $\leq$ " orders strings of  $\{0,1\}^*$  first by length and then lexicographically.
- So  $\epsilon < 0 < 1 < 00 < 01 < 10 < 11 < \cdots$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Ko (1985); Grollmann and Selman (1988).

- $L_f \in \mathrm{UP}$ .
  - There is an UTM M that accepts  $L_f$ .
    - \* M on input (x, y) nondeterministically guesses a string z of length at most  $|y|^k$ .
    - \* M tests if y = f(z).
    - \* If the answer is "yes" (this happens at most once because f is one-to-one) and  $z \leq x$ , M accepts.

- $L_f \notin P$ .
  - Suppose there is a polynomial-time algorithm for  $L_f$ .
  - Then f(x) = y can be inverted.
    - \* Given y, ask  $(1^{|y|^k}, y) \in L_f$ .
    - \* If the answer is "no," we know x does not exist as any such x must satisfy  $|x| \leq |y|^k$ .
    - \* Otherwise, ask  $(1^{|y|^k-1}, y) \in L_f, (1^{|y|^k-2}, y) \in L_f, \dots$  until we got a "no" for  $(1^{\ell-1}, y) \in L_f$ .
    - \* This means  $|x| = \ell$ .
  - The procedure makes  $O(|y|^k)$  calls to  $L_f$ .

- (continued)
  - \* Now conduct a binary search to find each bit of x as follows.
    - \* If  $(01^{\ell-1}, y) \in L_f$ , then  $x = 0 \cdots$  and we recur by asking " $(001^{\ell-2}, y) \in L_f$ ?"
    - \* If  $(01^{\ell-1}, y) \notin L_f$ , then  $x = 1 \cdots$  and we recur by asking  $(101^{\ell-2}, y) \in L_f$ ?"
  - The procedure makes  $O(|y|^k)$  calls to  $L_f$ .
- $P \neq UP$  because  $L_f \in UP P$ .

- Now suppose  $P \neq UP$  with  $L \in UP P$ .
- Let L be accepted by an UTM M.
- comp<sub>M</sub>(y) denotes an accepting computation of M(y).
- Define

$$f_M(x) = \begin{cases} 1y & \text{if } x = \text{comp}_M(y), \\ 0x & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- $f_M$  is well-defined as y is part of  $comp_M(y)$  (recall p. 238) and there is at most one accepting computation for y.
- So  $f_M$  is a total function.

# The Proof (concluded)

- $f_M$  is one-way.
  - The lengths of argument and results are polynomially related as M has polynomially long computations.
  - $f_M$  is one-to-one because f(x) = f(x') means that x = x' by the use of the flag and unambiguity of M.
  - $f_M$  can be inverted on 1y if and only if M accepts y (i.e., if  $y \in L$ ).
  - Were we able to invert  $f_M$  in polynomial time, then we would be able to decide L in polynomial time.

# Complexity Issues

- For a language in UP, there is either 0 or 1 accepting path.
- So similar to RP, there are not likely to be UP-complete problems.
- Relating a cryptosystem with an NP-complete problem has been argued before to be not useful (p. 505).
- Theorem 72 (p. 510) shows that the relevant question is the P = UP question.
- There are stronger notions of one-way functions.

# Candidates of One-Way Functions

- Modular exponentiation  $f(x) = g^x \mod p$ , where g is a primitive root of p.
  - Discrete logarithm is hard.<sup>a</sup>
- The RSA<sup>b</sup> function  $f(x) = x^e \mod pq$  for an odd e relatively prime to  $\phi(pq)$ .
  - Breaking the RSA function is hard.
- Modular squaring  $f(x) = x^2 \mod pq$ .
  - Determining if a number with a Jacobi symbol 1 is a quadratic residue is hard—the **quadratic residuacity** assumption (QRA).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>But it is in NP in some sense; Grollmann and Selman (1988). <sup>b</sup>Rivest, Shamir, and Adleman (1978).

### The RSA Function

- Let p, q be two distinct primes.
- The RSA function is  $x^e \mod pq$  for an odd e relatively prime to  $\phi(pq)$ .
  - By Lemma 49 (p. 359),

$$\phi(pq) = pq\left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)\left(1 - \frac{1}{q}\right) = pq - p - q + 1.$$

• As  $gcd(e, \phi(pq)) = 1$ , there is a d such that

$$ed \equiv 1 \mod \phi(pq),$$

which can be found by the Euclidean algorithm.

# A Public-Key Cryptosystem Based on RSA

- Bob generates p and q.
- Bob publishes pq and the encryption key e, a number relatively prime to  $\phi(pq)$ .
  - The encryption function is  $y = x^e \mod pq$ .
- Knowing  $\phi(pq)$ , Bob calculates d such that  $ed = 1 + k\phi(pq)$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
  - The decryption function is  $y^d \mod pq$ .
  - It works because  $y^d = x^{ed} = x^{1+k\phi(pq)} = x \mod pq$  by the Fermat-Euler theorem when  $\gcd(x, pq) = 1$  (p. 367).

# The "Security" of the RSA Function

- Factoring pq or calculating d from (e, pq) seems hard.
  - See also p. 363.
- Breaking the last bit of RSA is as hard as breaking the RSA.<sup>a</sup>
- Recommended RSA key sizes:
  - 1024 bits up to 2010.
  - -2048 bits up to 2030.
  - -3072 bits up to 2031 and beyond.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Alexi, Chor, Goldreich, and Schnorr (1988).

# The "Security" of the RSA Function (concluded)

- Recall that problem A is "harder than" problem B if solving A results in solving B.
  - Factorization is "harder than" breaking the RSA.
  - Calculating Euler's phi function is "harder than" breaking the RSA.
  - Factorization is "harder than" calculating Euler's phi function (see Lemma 49 on p. 359).
- Factorization cannot be NP-hard unless NP = coNP.<sup>a</sup>
- So breaking the RSA is unlikely to imply P = NP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Brassard (1979).

### The Secret-Key Agreement Problem

- Exchanging messages securely using a private-key cryptosystem requires Alice and Bob possessing the same key (p. 503).
- How can they agree on the same secret key when the channel is insecure?
- This is called the **secret-key agreement problem**.
- It was solved by Diffie and Hellman (1976) using one-way functions.

# The Diffie-Hellman Secret-Key Agreement Protocol

- 1: Alice and Bob agree on a large prime p and a primitive root g of p;  $\{p \text{ and } g \text{ are public.}\}$
- 2: Alice chooses a large number a at random;
- 3: Alice computes  $\alpha = g^a \mod p$ ;
- 4: Bob chooses a large number b at random;
- 5: Bob computes  $\beta = g^b \mod p$ ;
- 6: Alice sends  $\alpha$  to Bob, and Bob sends  $\beta$  to Alice;
- 7: Alice computes her key  $\beta^a \mod p$ ;
- 8: Bob computes his key  $\alpha^b \mod p$ ;

### **Analysis**

• The keys computed by Alice and Bob are identical:

$$\beta^a = g^{ba} = g^{ab} = \alpha^b \bmod p.$$

- To compute the common key from  $p, g, \alpha, \beta$  is known as the **Diffie-Hellman problem**.
- It is conjectured to be hard.
- If discrete logarithm is easy, then one can solve the Diffie-Hellman problem.
  - Because a and b can then be obtained by Eve.
- But the other direction is still open.

### A Parallel History

- Diffie and Hellman's solution to the secret-key agreement problem led to public-key cryptography.
- At around the same time (or earlier) in Britain, the RSA public-key cryptosystem was invented first before the Diffie-Hellman secret-key agreement scheme was.
  - Ellis, Cocks, and Williamson of the Communications
     Electronics Security Group of the British Government
     Communications Head Quarters (GCHQ).

## Digital Signatures<sup>a</sup>

- Alice wants to send Bob a signed document x.
- The signature must unmistakably identifies the sender.
- Both Alice and Bob have public and private keys

$$e_{\text{Alice}}, e_{\text{Bob}}, d_{\text{Alice}}, d_{\text{Bob}}.$$

• Assume the cryptosystem satisfies the commutative property

$$E(e, D(d, x)) = D(d, E(e, x)). \tag{7}$$

- As  $(x^d)^e = (x^e)^d$ , the RSA system satisfies it.
- Every cryptosystem guarantees D(d, E(e, x)) = x.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Diffie and Hellman (1976).

# Digital Signatures Based on Public-Key Systems

• Alice signs x as

$$(x, D(d_{Alice}, x)).$$

 $\bullet$  Bob receives (x,y) and verifies the signature by checking

$$E(e_{\text{Alice}}, y) = E(e_{\text{Alice}}, D(d_{\text{Alice}}, x)) = x$$

based on Eq. (7).

- The claim of authenticity is founded on the difficulty of inverting  $E_{\text{Alice}}$  without knowing the key  $d_{\text{Alice}}$ .
- Warning: If Alice signs anything presented to her, she might inadvertently decrypt a ciphertext of hers.

#### Mental Poker<sup>a</sup>

- Suppose Alice and Bob have agreed on 3 n-bit numbers a < b < c, the cards.
- They want to randomly choose one card each, so that:
  - Their cards are different.
  - All 6 pairs of distinct cards are equiprobable.
  - Alice's (Bob's) card is known to Alice (Bob) but not to
     Bob (Alice), until Alice (Bob) announces it.
  - The person with the highest card wins the game.
  - The outcome is indisputable.
- Assume Alice and Bob will not deviate from the protocol.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Shamir, Rivest, and Adleman (1981).

### The Setup

- Alice and Bob agree on a large prime p;
- Each has two secret keys  $e_{Alice}$ ,  $e_{Bob}$ ,  $d_{Alice}$ ,  $d_{Bob}$  such that  $e_{Alice}d_{Alice} = e_{Bob}d_{Bob} = 1 \mod (p-1)$ ;
  - This ensures that  $(x^{e_{\text{Alice}}})^{d_{\text{Alice}}} = x \mod p$  and  $(x^{e_{\text{Bob}}})^{d_{\text{Bob}}} = x \mod p$ .
- The protocol lets Bob pick Alice's card and Alice pick Bob's card.
- Cryptographic techniques make it plausible that Alice's and Bob's choices are practically random, for lack of time to break the system.

#### The Protocol

1: Alice encrypts the cards

 $a^{e_{\text{Alice}}} \mod p, b^{e_{\text{Alice}}} \mod p, c^{e_{\text{Alice}}} \mod p$ 

and sends them in random order to Bob;

- 1: Bob picks one of the messages  $x^{e_{Alice}}$  to send to Alice;
- 2: Alice decodes it  $(x^{e_{Alice}})^{d_{Alice}} = x \mod p$  for her card;
- 3: Bob encrypts the two remaining cards  $(x^{e_{\text{Alice}}})^{e_{\text{Bob}}} \mod p, (y^{e_{\text{Alice}}})^{e_{\text{Bob}}} \mod p$  and sends them in random order to Alice;
- 4: Alice picks one of the messages,  $(z^{e_{\text{Alice}}})^{e_{\text{Bob}}}$ , encrypts it  $((z^{e_{\text{Alice}}})^{e_{\text{Bob}}})^{d_{\text{Alice}}} \mod p$ , and sends it to Bob;
- 5: Bob decrypts the message  $(((z^{e_{\text{Alice}}})^{e_{\text{Bob}}})^{d_{\text{Alice}}})^{d_{\text{Bob}}} = z \mod p \text{ for his card};$

## Probabilistic Encryption<sup>a</sup>

- The ability to forge signatures on even a vanishingly small fraction of strings of some length is a security weakness if those strings were the probable ones!
- What is required is a scheme that does not "leak" partial information.
- The first solution to the problems of skewed distribution and partial information was based on the QRA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Goldwasser and Micali (1982).

### The Setup

- Bob publishes n = pq, a product of two distinct primes, and a quadratic nonresidue y with Jacobi symbol 1.
- Bob keeps secret the factorization of n.
- To send bit string  $b_1b_2\cdots b_k$  to Bob, Alice encrypts the bits by choosing a random quadratic residue modulo n if  $b_i$  is 1 and a random quadratic nonresidue with Jacobi symbol 1 otherwise.
- A sequence of residues and nonresidues are sent.
- Knowing the factorization of n, Bob can efficiently test quadratic residuacity and thus read the message.

#### A Useful Lemma

**Lemma 73** Let n = pq be a product of two distinct primes. Then a number  $y \in Z_n^*$  is a quadratic residue modulo n if and only if  $(y \mid p) = (y \mid q) = 1$ .

- The "only if" part:
  - Let x be a solution to  $x^2 = y \mod pq$ .
  - Then  $x^2 = y \mod p$  and  $x^2 = y \mod q$  also hold.
  - Hence y is a quadratic modulo p and a quadratic residue modulo q.

# The Proof (concluded)

- The "if" part:
  - Let  $a_1^2 = y \mod p$  and  $a_2^2 = y \mod q$ .
  - Solve

$$x = a_1 \bmod p,$$

$$x = a_2 \bmod q,$$

for x with the Chinese remainder theorem.

- As  $x^2 = y \mod p$ ,  $x^2 = y \mod q$ , and gcd(p, q) = 1, we must have  $x^2 = y \mod pq$ .

#### The Protocol for Alice

```
1: for i = 1, 2, ..., k do
2: Pick r \in \mathbb{Z}_n^* randomly;
3: if b_i = 1 then
4: Send r^2 \mod n; {Jacobi symbol is 1.}
5: else
6: Send r^2y \mod n; {Jacobi symbol is still 1.}
7: end if
8: end for
```

### The Protocol for Bob

```
1: for i = 1, 2, \dots, k do
```

2: Receive r;

3: **if** 
$$(r | p) = 1$$
 and  $(r | q) = 1$  **then**

4:  $b_i := 1;$ 

5: **else** 

6:  $b_i := 0;$ 

7: end if

8: end for

## Semantic Security

- This encryption scheme is probabilistic.
- There are a large number of different encryptions of a given message.
- One is chosen at random by the sender to represent the message.
- This scheme is both polynomially secure and semantically secure.

#### What Is a Proof?

- A proof convinces a party of a certain claim.
  - "Is  $x^n + y^n \neq z^n$  for all  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and n > 2?"
  - "Is graph G Hamiltonian?"
  - "Is  $x^p = x \mod p$  for prime p and p x?"
- In mathematics, a proof is a fixed sequence of theorems.
  - Think of a written examination.
- We will extend a proof to cover a proof *process* by which the validity of the assertion is established.
  - Think of a job interview or an oral examination.

### Prover and Verifier

- There are two parties to a proof.
  - The **prover** (**Peggy**).
  - The verifier (Victor).
- Given an assertion, the prover's goal is to convince the verifier of its validity (**completeness**).
- The verifier's objective is to accept only correct assertions (soundness).
- The verifier usually has an easier job than the prover.
- The setup is very much like the Turing test.<sup>a</sup>

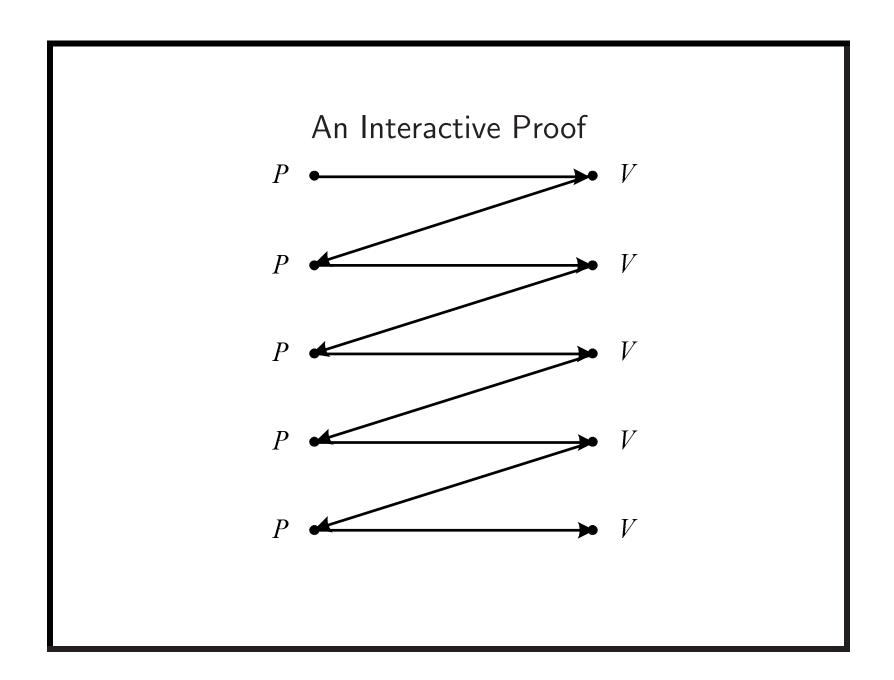
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Turing (1950).

### Interactive Proof Systems

- An interactive proof for a language L is a sequence of questions and answers between the two parties.
- At the end of the interaction, the verifier decides based on the knowledge he acquired in the proof process whether the claim is true or false.
- The verifier must be a probabilistic polynomial-time algorithm.
- The prover runs an exponential-time algorithm.
  - If the prover is not more powerful than the verifier,
     no interaction is needed.

# Interactive Proof Systems (concluded)

- The system decides L if the following two conditions hold for any common input x.
  - If  $x \in L$ , then the probability that x is accepted by the verifier is at least  $1 2^{-|x|}$ .
  - If  $x \notin L$ , then the probability that x is accepted by the verifier with any prover replacing the original prover is at most  $2^{-|x|}$ .
- Neither the number of rounds nor the lengths of the messages can be more than a polynomial of |x|.



#### IP<sup>a</sup>

- IP is the class of all languages decided by an interactive proof system.
- When  $x \in L$ , the completeness condition can be modified to require that the verifier accepts with certainty without affecting IP.<sup>b</sup>
- Similar things cannot be said of the soundness condition when  $x \notin L$ .
- Verifier's coin flips can be public.<sup>c</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Goldwasser, Micali, and Rackoff (1985).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Goldreich, Mansour, and Sipser (1987).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup>Goldwasser and Sipser (1989).

#### The Relations of IP with Other Classes

- $NP \subseteq IP$ .
  - IP becomes NP when the verifier is deterministic.
- BPP  $\subseteq$  IP.
  - IP becomes BPP when the verifier ignores the prover's messages.
- IP actually coincides with PSPACE (see the textbook for a proof).<sup>a</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Shamir (1990).