CSCI 1510

This Lecture:

- Computational Security
- Concrete vs. Asymptotic
- Definition of Semantic Security

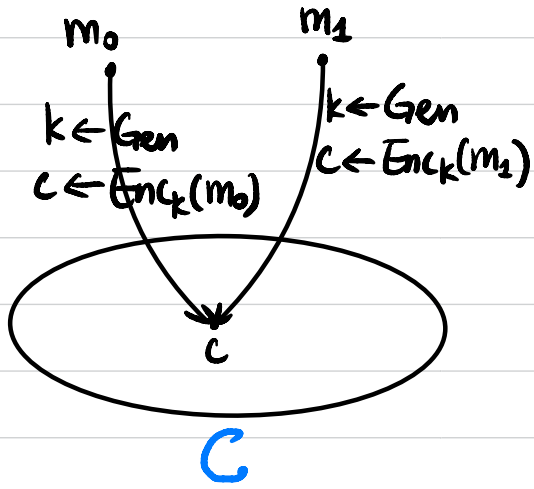
Last Lecture

Perfectly secure symmetric-key encryption

- Definitions 1, 2, 3

  $\forall m_0, m_1 \in \mathcal{M}, \forall c \in \mathcal{C}$:

  $\Pr[\text{Enc}_K(m_0) = c] = \Pr[\text{Enc}_K(m_1) = c]$



- Construction: OTP

- Limitations: $|\mathcal{M}| \leq |k|$.

How to relax the security definition?

Computational Security

Perfect Security:

① Absolutely no information is leaked

② $\mathcal{A}$ has unlimited computational power

Relaxation (Practical Purpose):

① "Tiny" information can be leaked

② $\mathcal{A}$ has limited computational power

How to formalize?

Computational Security

- Concrete Approach:

  A scheme is (t, ε)-secure if $\forall A$ running in time $\leq t$ succeeds in breaking the scheme with probability $\leq \varepsilon$.

  (A: classical computers; t: CPU cycles)

Example: $(2^{128}, 2^{-80})$-secure encryption scheme.

What's the problem?

Computational Security

- Asymptotic Approach:

  measuring how "hard" it is for $\mathcal{A}$ to break the scheme.

  Introduce a security parameter n (public)

  All honest parties run in time $\text{poly}(n)$.

  Security can be tuned by changing n.

poly(n) "negligible" in n

A scheme is (t, ε)-secure if $\forall \mathcal{A}$ running in time $\text{poly}(n)$ succeeds in breaking the scheme with probability $\text{negl}(n)$.

Polynomial & Negligible

"Efficient": probabilistic polynomial time (PPT)

Def A function $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{R}^+$ is **polynomial** if

$$\exists c \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } f(n) \in O(n^c)$$

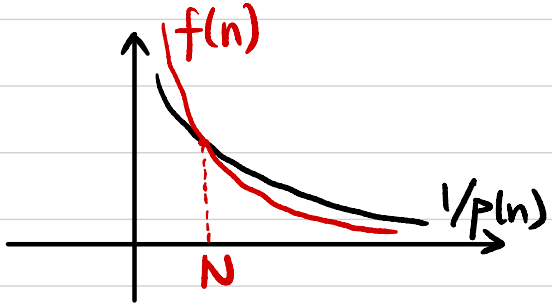
Example: $f(n) = 3n^6 + 5n^2 - 7 \in O(n^6)$

Def A function $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{R}^+$ is **negligible** if

$$\forall \text{polynomial } p, \ \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } \forall n > N, \ f(n) < \frac{1}{p(n)}.$$

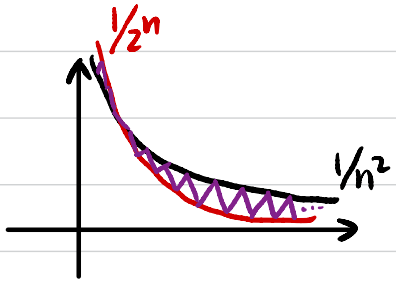
$$\Leftrightarrow \forall c \in \mathbb{N}, \ f(n) \in o(n^{-c})$$

Examples: 2^{-n}, $2^{-\sqrt{n}}$, $n^{-\log n}$



Exercise: Is this a negligible function?

$$f(n) := \begin{cases} 2^{-n} & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ 1/n^2 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$



Negligible Function

Def A function $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{R}^+$ is negligible if

$\forall$ polynomial p, $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $\forall n > N$, $f(n) < \frac{1}{p(n)}$.

Claim 1 If f, g are negligible functions, then $f+g$ is also negligible.

Claim 2 If f is negligible, p is polynomial, then $f \cdot p$ is also negligible.

Corollary If g is non-negligible, p is polynomial, then $\frac{g}{p}$ is also non-negligible.

Concrete → Asymptotic

A scheme is (t, ε)-secure if $\forall A$ running in time $\leq t$ succeeds in breaking the scheme with probability $\leq \varepsilon$.

$\Downarrow$

A scheme is secure if $\forall$ PPT A succeeds in breaking the scheme with probability $\leq$ negligible.

- security parameter n
- poly (n)
- negl (n)

Computationally Secure Encryption

- **Syntax:**

  A symmetric-key encryption scheme is defined by PPT algorithms (Gen, Enc, Dec):

  $k \leftarrow Gen(1^n)$ (1^n = $\underbrace{11\cdots1}_{n}$)

  $c \leftarrow Enc_k(m)$ $\quad m \in \{0,1\}^*$

  $m/\perp := Dec_k(c)$

- **Correctness:** $\forall n$, $\forall k$ output by $Gen(1^n)$, $\forall m \in \{0,1\}^*$

  $$Dec_k(Enc_k(m)) = m$$

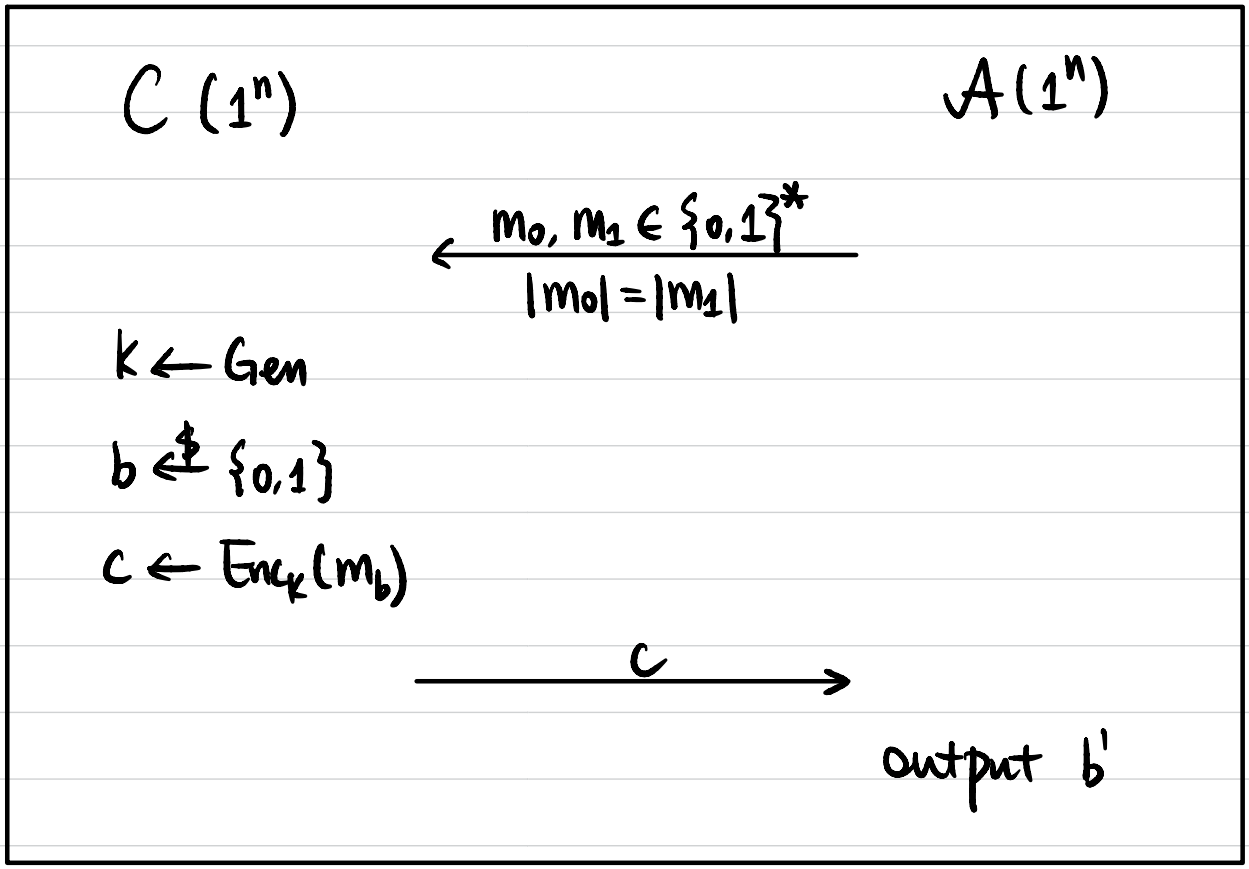
Computationally Secure Encryption

Def 1 A symmetric-key encryption scheme (Gen, Enc, Dec)

is **semantically secure** if $\forall$ PPT A, $\exists$ negligible function $\varepsilon(\cdot)$ s.t.

computationally indistinguishable

$$\Pr[b = b'] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon(n)$$

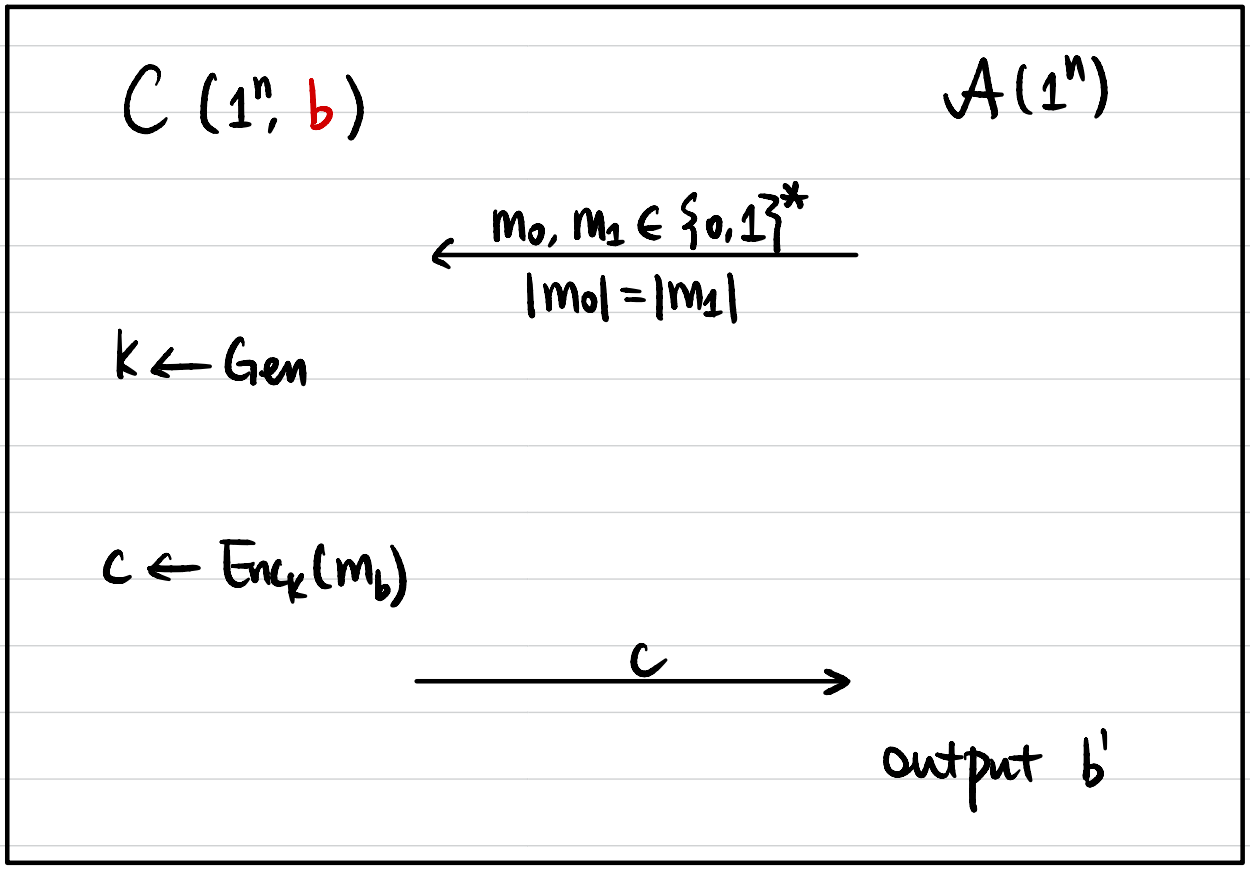


Computationally Secure Encryption

Def 2 A symmetric-key encryption scheme (Gen, Enc, Dec) is **semantically secure** if $\forall$ PPT $\mathcal{A}$, $\exists$ negligible function $\varepsilon(\cdot)$ s.t.

computationally indistinguishable

$$\left| \Pr[b' = 1 \mid b = 0] - \Pr[b' = 1 \mid b = 1] \right| \leq \varepsilon(n)$$



Computationally Secure Encryption

Def 1 A symmetric-key encryption scheme (Gen, Enc, Dec)

is semantically secure if $\forall$ PPT $\mathcal{A}$:

$$\Pr[b = b'] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$$ in Game 1.

Def 2 $$\left| \Pr[b' = 1 \mid b = 0] - \Pr[b' = 1 \mid b = 1] \right| \leq \text{negl}(n)$$ in Game 2.

Def 1 $\Rightarrow$ Def 2: If Π = (Gen, Enc, Dec) is secure under Def 1, then Π is also secure under Def 2.