

# Mathematical background: Galois Field (GF)

CRYPTOGRAPHY AND COMPUTER SECURITY

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# OUTLINE

- 1. Mathematical background
  - Basic concepts
  - Inverse computation
  - Congruence equations
  - Galois Field
    - Definition
    - Operations

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# ÉVARISTE GALOIS (1811 – 1832)



# BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO GALOIS FIELDS

$(A, +, \cdot)$  with  $A = \mathbb{Z}_p$

$+ : A \times A \rightarrow A$

$a, b \rightarrow (a+b) \pmod{p}$

$\cdot : A \times A \rightarrow A$

$a, b \rightarrow (a \cdot b) \pmod{p}$

- $\text{GF}(p)$ ,  $p$  prime
- All nonzero elements of  $\text{GF}(p)$  have an inverse!
- Arithmetic in  $\text{GF}(p)$  is done modulo  $p$

# BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO GALOIS FIELDS

- We wish to define an encryption algorithm that operates on data of 8 bits at a time

$$(A, +, \cdot) \quad \text{with } A = \mathbb{Z}_{256}$$

- $(\mathbb{Z}_{256}, +, \cdot)$  is not a field
- Let  $A = \mathbb{Z}_{251}$ 
  - It is a field but inefficient use of storage
  - $2^7 < 253 < 2^8$  for instance is not represented

# BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO GALOIS FIELDS

- A: set of polynomials  $a(x)$  of degree  $n-1$  or less with coefficients in  $Z_q$  ( $q$  prime)
  - $a(x) = a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_{n-2}x^{n-2} + \dots + a_1x + a_0 \quad a_i \in Z_q$
  - $q^n$  polynomials in total
    - In AES:  $q = 2$
  - $a(x)$  are the remainders of dividing polynomials by  $p(x)$
  - $p(x)$  irreducible polynomial
  - $GF(q^n)$

# ADVANTAGES OF $GF(2^N)$ RESPECT TO $GF(P)$

- Simpler operations
  - There is no need to reduce modulo  $p(x)$  for + and –
  - $\cdot$  xtime operation
- The order of  $GF(2^n)$  is greater than  $GF(p)$



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# ARITHMETIC IN $GF(2^N)$

- $a(x)$  represented by its coefficients
  - $a(x) = a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_{n-2}x^{n-2} + \dots + a_1x + a_0$
  - $(a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots, a_1, a_0)$  –  $n$  bits

# ARITHMETIC IN $GF(Q^N)$

- Addition  $a(x) \in GF(q^n)$ 
  - $c(x) = a(x) + b(x) \pmod{p(x)}$  ;  $c_i = (a_i + b_i) \pmod{q}$
  - $GF(2^n)$ ,  $c(x) = a_i \text{ XOR } b_i$
- Multiplication
  - $c(x) = a(x) \cdot b(x) \pmod{p(x)}$ 
    - In AES:  $(A, +, \cdot) = GF(2^8)$  with  $p(x) = x^8 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1$

# ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION IN $GF(2^N)$

- $c_i = (a_i \pm b_i) \bmod 2 = a_i \oplus b_i$
- Ex. Let  $a=(10110)$  and  $b=(10101)$  in  $GF(2^5)$ . Compute  $c=a+b$ :

$$c=(10110)\oplus(10101)= 00011$$

# MULTIPLICATION IN $GF(2^N)$

- Ex. Let  $a=(101)$  in  $GF(2^3)$  and  $p(x)= (1011)$ . Compute  $c=a \cdot a$ :

# MULTIPLICATION IN $GF(2^N)$

- Ex. Let  $a=(101)$  in  $GF(2^3)$  and  $p(x)= (1011)$ . Compute  $c=a \cdot a$ :

- $(x^2+1)(x^2+1) = x^4+x^2 + x^2+1 = x^4+1$

- $$\begin{array}{r} x^4 + \phantom{+ x^2 + x} \\ \hline x^4 + \phantom{+ x^2 + x} \\ \hline \phantom{x^4 +} + x^2 + x \\ \phantom{x^4 +} \phantom{+ x^2 + x} + 1 \end{array}$$

# MULTIPLICATION IN $GF(2^N)$

$$a(x) = x^2 + 1 \quad (101)$$

|           |  |                 |  |      |
|-----------|--|-----------------|--|------|
| 1 0 1     |  | 10001           |  | 1011 |
| 1 0 1     |  | 1011            |  | 10   |
| 1 0 1     |  | 00111           |  |      |
| 1 0 1     |  | 111             |  |      |
| 1 0 0 0 1 |  | $= x^2 + x + 1$ |  |      |

# MULTIPLICATION IN $GF(2^N)$

- $p(x) = x^3 + x + 1 = (1011)$
- $x^3 \bmod p(x) = [p(x) - x^3] = x + 1 = (011)$
- $a(x) = x^2 + 1$

$$x^* a(x) = \begin{cases} (a_1 a_0 0) & \text{if } a_2 = 0 \\ (a_1 a_0 0) \oplus (011) & \text{if } a_2 \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

- $a(x) \cdot a(x) = (x^2 + 1)(x^2 + 1) = x^2(x^2 + 1) + (x^2 + 1) =$   
 $= x(x^2 + 1)x + (x^2 + 1); ((010) \oplus (011))(010) \oplus (101)$   
 $= (001)(010) \oplus (101) = (010) \oplus (101) = (111); \quad x^2 + x + 1$



# COMPUTING INVERSES IN $GF(2^N)$

- $a(x) a^{-1}(x) = 1 \pmod{p(x)}$
- $p(x)$  is irreducible for all  $a(x) \in GF(2^n)$ , excluding  $a(x)=0$
- $\Phi(p(x)) = 2^n - 1$ 
  - # elements of  $GF(2^n)$  that are coprime with  $p(x)$
- Euler's Theorem  
 $a^{\Phi(p(x))} \pmod{p(x)} = 1$

$$a^{-1} = a^{\Phi(p(x)) - 1} \pmod{p(x)}$$

# COMPUTING INVERSES IN $GF(2^N)$

- Compute the inverse of  $a(x)=(100)=x^2$  in  $GF(2^3)$  with  $p(x)=x^3+x+1=(1011)$
- $\Phi(p(x)) = 2^n - 1 = 7$ ;
- $a^{-1} = (100)^{\Phi(p(x)) - 1} \bmod (p(x)) = (100)^6 \bmod (1011) =$   
 $= (x^2)^6 \bmod (p(x)) = x^{12} \bmod (p(x)) = x^2+x+1$ 
  - Dividing polynomials

# COMPUTING INVERSES IN $GF(2^N)$

## – Using xtime:

- $a^{-1} = (100)^6 \bmod (1011) = (x^2)^6 \bmod (x^3+x+1) =$
- $= x x x x x x x x x^2 \bmod (x^3+x+1)$
- $(010)(100) = (000) \oplus (011) = 011$       $x^3 \bmod (x^3+x+1) = x+1$
- $(010)(011) = (110)$       $x^4 \bmod (x^3+x+1) = x^2 + x$
- $(010)(110) = (100) \oplus (011) = 111$       $x^5 \bmod (x^3+x+1) = x^2 + x + 1$
- $(010)(111) = (110) \oplus (011) = 101$       $x^6 \bmod (x^3+x+1) = x^2 + 1$
- $(010)(101) = (010) \oplus (011) = 001$       $x^7 \bmod (x^3+x+1) = 1$
- $(010)(001) = (010)$       $x^8 \bmod (x^3+x+1) = x$
- $(010)(010) = (100)$       $x^9 \bmod (x^3+x+1) = x^2$
- $(010)(100) = (000) \oplus (011) = 011$       $x^{10} \bmod (x^3+x+1) = x + 1$
- $(010)(011) = (110)$       $x^{11} \bmod (x^3+x+1) = x^2 + x$
- $(010)(110) = (100) \oplus (011) = 111$       $x^{12} \bmod (x^3+x+1) = x^2 + x + 1$

# COMPUTING INVERSES IN $GF(2^N)$

- Extended Euclidean algorithm
- Given  $a(x)$  and  $p(x)$ , compute  $b(x)$

$$a(x) b(x) = 1 \pmod{p(x)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= c_1(x) a(x) + r_1(x) \\ a(x) &= c_2(x) r_1(x) + r_2(x) \\ r_1(x) &= c_3(x) r_2(x) + r_3(x) \\ &\dots \end{aligned}$$

...

...

$$\begin{aligned} r_{n-2} &= c_n r_{n-1} + 1 \\ r_{n-1} &= c_{n+1} + 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$1 = k_1(x) a(x) + k_2 p(x)$$

$$1 = k_1(x) a(x) \pmod{p(x)}$$

$$k_1 = a^{-1} \pmod{p(x)} = b(x)$$

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