MACM 442/MATH 742/MATH 800
Assignment 6, Fall 2008

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This assignment is to be handed in on Monday December 1st at 10:30am.
Late penalty: 20% off for up to 24 hours late, zero after that.

Chapter 4: Cryptographic Hash Functions

Exercises 4.6, 4.7, 4.9(a), 4.12.

Chapter 7: Digital Signatures

Exercises 7.1, 7.2, 7.3.

Additional question 1

Let $p = 14747$, $q = 101$, and $\alpha = 4789$. Note $q|p-1$ and α is an element of order q in $\mathbb{Z}_p$. Let $\beta = 3430$. Solve $\beta \equiv \alpha^a \bmod p$ for a using any means.

Using the Schnorr Signature algorithm (page 294) with the above values for p, q, α, β, and the secret value a you computed, together with $k = 11$ and hash function $h(z) = 2^z \bmod p$, compute the signature for $x = 1234$ and verify it using the verification formula.

Additional question 2

Let p and q be two large primes of the form $p = 2r + 1$, $q = 2s + 1$ where r and s are also prime. Let $n = pq$. Suppose α is a primitive element modulo p and modulo q. What is the order of α modulo n?

Now find the first $p > 100$, the first $q > p$, and the first $\alpha > 1$ satisfying these requirements and verify your answer for the order of α.

Consider the public hash function $h(x) = \alpha^x \bmod n$ where (n, α) are public but (p, q) are secret and (n, α) satisfy the requirements from the first part of this question. Prove that $h(x)$ is collision resistant by showing that if you could find collisions in $h(x)$ then you could determine $\phi(n)$ and hence factor n. Notice that $h(x)$ exploits square-and-multiply.

Illustrate your method by determining $\phi(n)$ for the n you found in the first part of this question. You will need to generate collisions for $h(x)$ on a suitable range for x. Do this as follows. Compute $h(x_1)$, $h(x_2)$, ... until you find $x_i \neq x_j$ with $h(x_i) = h(x_j)$ where $x_1, x_2, ...$ are generated at random from $[0, 10^6)$.