

Discrete logarithm problem VIII

Summary of DL systems

Tanja Lange

Eindhoven University of Technology

2MMC10 – Cryptology

Generic attacks against DLP

All attacks in this unit are **generic** attacks, i.e., they work in any group. Pohlig-Hellman reduces security of DLP to security of largest prime order subgroup. Many groups are much weaker than their size n predicts!

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Breaking DLP costs $O(\sqrt{\ell})(\log n)^{O(1)}$ bit operations.

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Remember? Warning #1: Many p are unsafe!
(from ecc-2.pdf, talking about the clock group)

The clock over \mathbf{F}_p has

- ▶ $p + 1$ points for $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$,
- ▶ $p - 1$ points for $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

Thus clock over \mathbf{F}_{17} has $16 = 2^4$ points, very weak DLP.

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Similar story for elliptic curves, but no general statements on group order. Important to count points to avoid hitting weak group orders n .

DDHP, CDHP, and DLP

So far: DLP attacks; typically also best approach for CDHP.

DDHP in group of $n = \prod p_i^{e_i}$ elements:

Given P , aP , bP , and cP decide whether $cP = abP$.

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Thus, compute a_i, b_i, c_i for smallest prime p_i .

- ▶ If $c_i \not\equiv a_i b_i \pmod{p_i}$ we know this is not a valid DH triple.
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For DDHP to be hard make sure n is prime.