

THE BRIGHT SIDE OF HARDNESS

Oded GOLDREICH

WEIZMANN INST., ISRAEL

www.wisdom.weizmann.ac.il/~oded

[/cc.html](#)

for COMPLEXITY
THEORY

(see CHAP. 1-2)

[/foc.html](#)

for FOUNDATIONS
OF CRYPTOGRAPHY

(see primer)

→ [/cc-book.html](#)

→ [/foc-sum04.html](#)

P vs NP : Search version

- Generic search problem for $R \subseteq \{a, b\}^* \times \{a, b\}^*$
 given x find y s.t. $(x, y) \in R$ [or declare that none exists]

$P \sim$ class of search problems that can be solved in poly-time
 (E.g. algs you saw.) i.e. efficiently/easily
 (e.g. EULERIAN)

$NP \sim$ class of search problems for which CORRECT INSTANCE-SOLUTION PAIRS are easy to recognize.
 (e.g. FACTORING integers)
 (+ HAMILTONIAN)

$P \neq NP \sim$ ABILITY TO EFFICIENTLY RECOGNIZE VALID SOLUTIONS DOES NOT IMPLY ABILITY TO EFF. FIND SOLUTIONS.

\sim there exist "reasonable" search problems that are hard to solve.

NOTE: NP-COMPLETENESS.

ONE-WAY FUNCTIONS (ONF)

NOT EVERY EFFICIENT PROCESS
CAN BE EFFICIENTLY REVERSED.



ON THE
AVERAGE

THE SEARCH PROB. ASSOC. W. $\left. \begin{array}{l} (f(x), x) \\ x \in \{0,1\}^n \end{array} \right\}$
IS HARD TO SOLVE ON AVER.

[EX: $P \neq NP \Rightarrow$ WORST-CASE HARD.]

EXAMPLE:

$(p, q) \mapsto p \cdot q$ (integer multiplication)
 $\rightarrow O(n^2), \tilde{O}(n)$ ALGS.

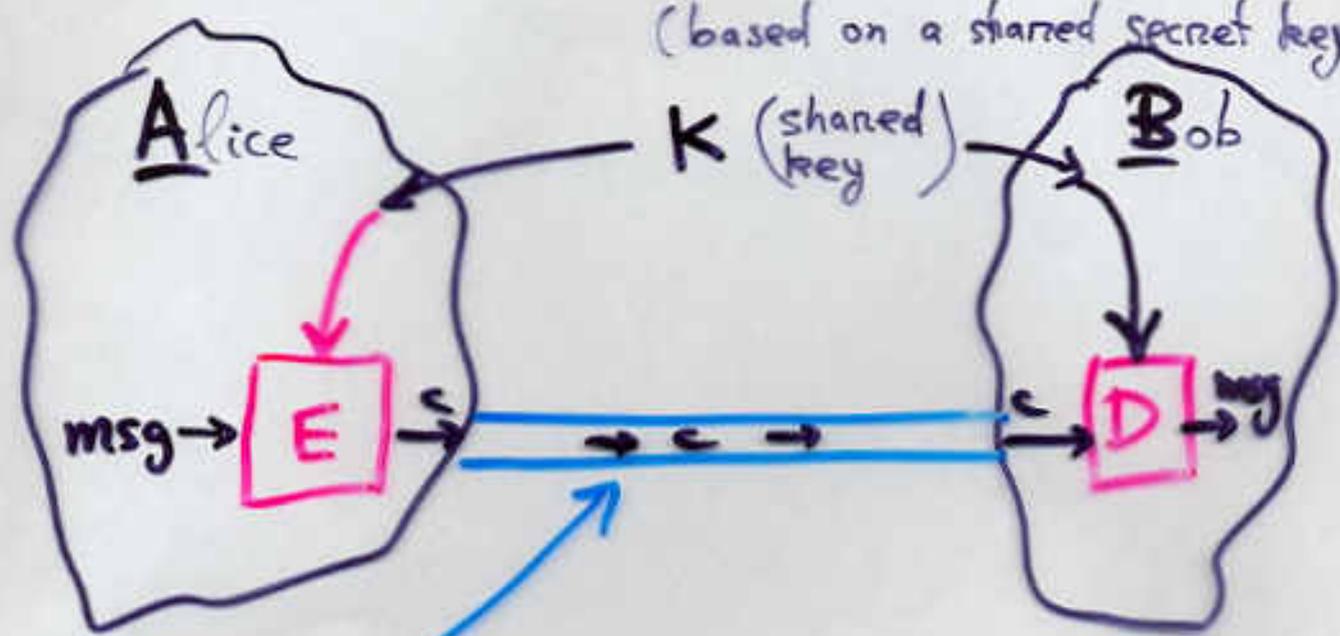
(integer FACTORISATION)

$O(\sqrt{2^n})$ ALG., $\exp(\tilde{O}(n^{1/3}))$ ALG.,

super-poly lower bound $\Rightarrow P \neq NP$

USING OVF for SECURE COMMUNICATION ³

"private" & "authenticated"
(based on a shared secret key)



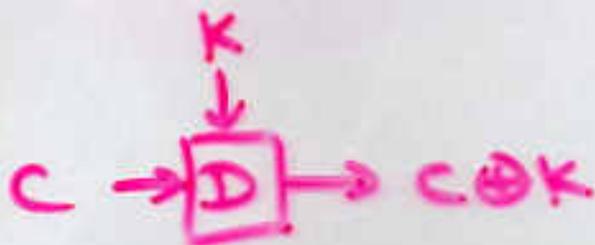
channel controlled by C
(ADVERSARY)

PRIVACY = C LEARNS NOTHING ABOUT msg
AUTHEN. = B ACCEPTS ONLY MESSAGES SENT BY A
} even if $|msg| > |K|$

THM: OVF \Rightarrow SECURE COMMUNICAT.

PRIVACY for SHORT MESSAGES

(single use!)



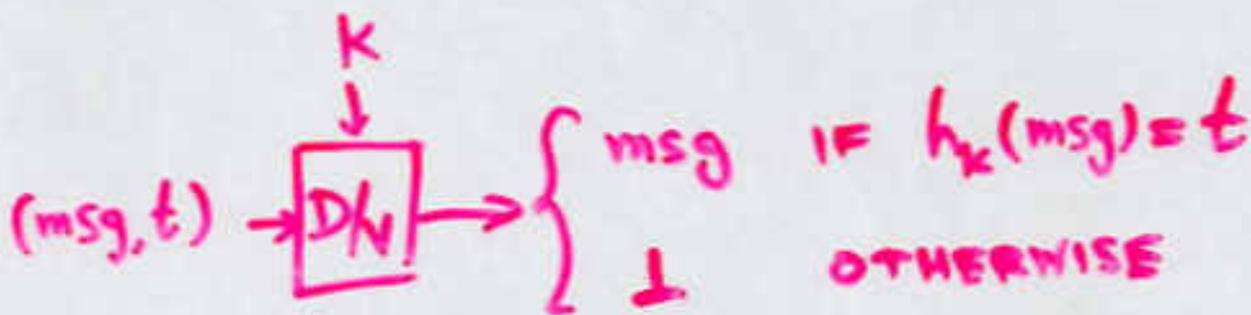
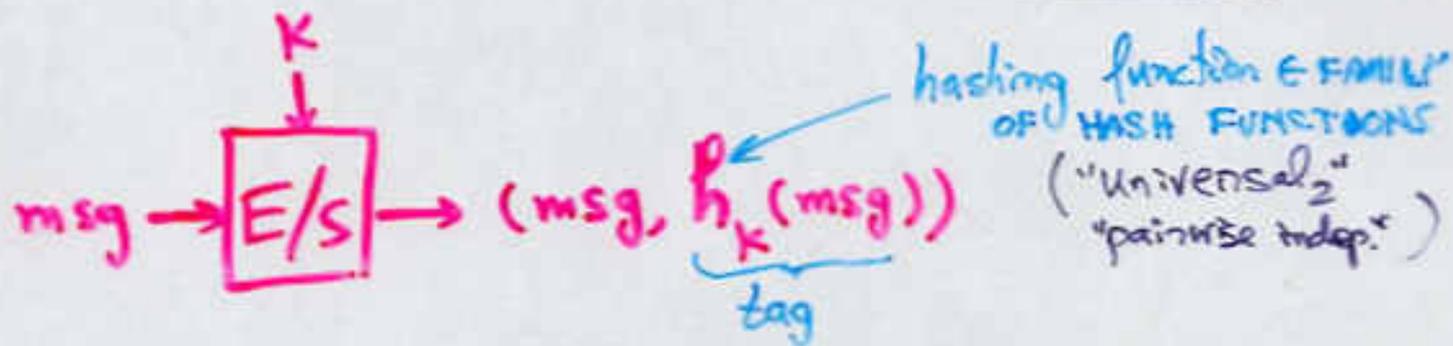
$$(msg \oplus K) \oplus K = msg.$$

(CORRECT.)

PRIVACY: not knowing K ,
 $msg \oplus K$ is uniformly dist.

AUTHENTICATION for SHORT MESSAGES (SINGLE USE!!!)

31

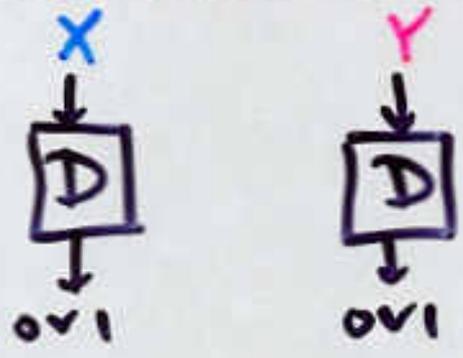


CORRECTNESS ✓

SECURITY - IF C SEES ONLY ONE (msg, tag) THEN UNLIKELY TO GUESS A DIFF. VALID MR.

PSEUDORANDOM GENERATORS (PRG)

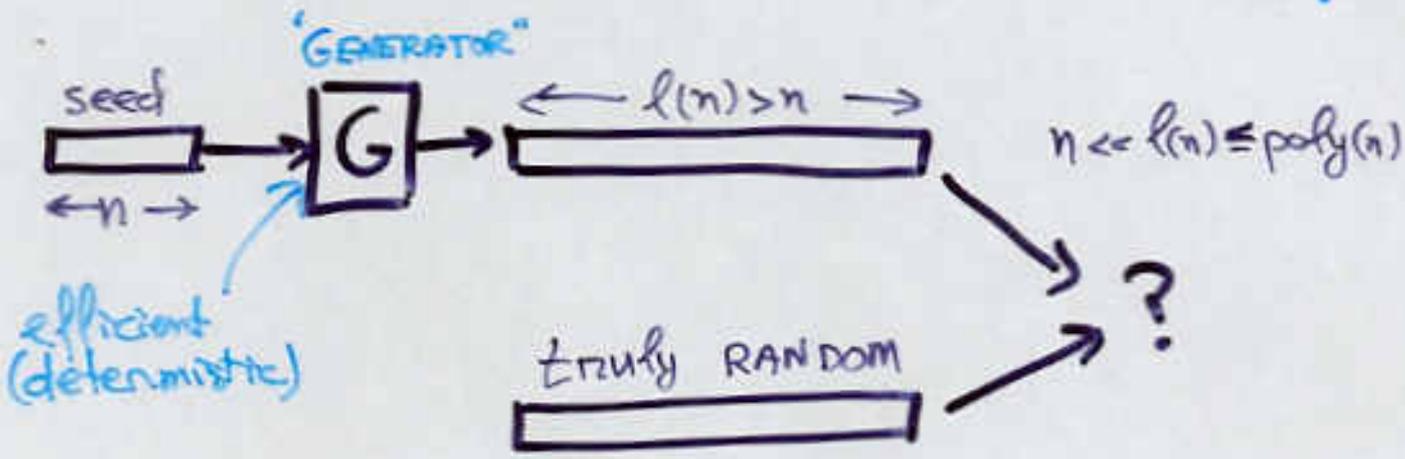
COMPUTATIONAL INDISTINGUISHABILITY (phil.)



$$\text{Pr}[D(X)=1] \approx \text{Pr}[D(Y)=1]$$

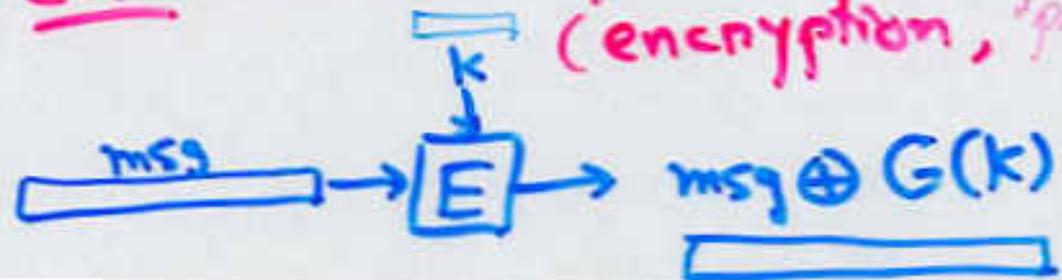
(strict) COARSING of STAT. INDIST.
 [existence, constructibility \Leftrightarrow OWF]

PSEUDORANDOM \equiv COMP. IND. from UNIFORM DIST.



THM: OWF \Rightarrow PRG

COR.: OWF \Rightarrow private communication (encryption, "private-key")



OWF \Rightarrow PRG (special case)

41

f is OWP = OWF that induces a permutation on $\{0,1\}^n$ ($\forall n$).

$$G(s, r) = \underbrace{f(s)}_{2n \text{ BITS}}, \underbrace{r}_{2n \text{ BITS}}, \underbrace{b(s, r)}_{\substack{\uparrow \text{ INNER PRODUCT} \\ \text{MOD 2 OF } s \text{ and } r.}}$$

more bits — iterate or directly as \rightarrow

$$G(s, r) = b(s, r), b(f(s), r), \dots, b(f^{l-1}(s), r)$$

PRG \rightarrow AUTHENTIC.

\uparrow VIA PRF (pseudorandom functions)

Replacing the HASHing functions



counter examples to theorem

Even if f is a ONP
it may be easy to predict
the i th of x given $f(x)$.

E.g. $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (x_1, g(x_2 \dots x_n))$.

Also, each bit may be easy to
predict (but not perfectly).

E.g. $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (x_1, \dots, x_i, g(x_1 \dots x_n))$
 $(i = \log n, i = \text{int}(x_1 \dots x_n))$

But,

THM: If f is a ONF then
given $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}$
it is infeasible to guess $b(x, n)$
SIGN. BETTER THAN W.P. $1/2$.

You may consider

$f'(x, n) \triangleq (f(x), \mathbb{R})$ as a new ONF
having a "bit" HARD to predict.