

Cryptography—ENEE/CMSC/MATH 456

Class Exercise 2/4/19

1. Prove or refute: An encryption scheme with message space M is perfectly secret if and only if for every probability distribution over M and every $c_0, c_1 \in C$ we have $\Pr[C = c_0] = \Pr[C = c_1]$. False.

Given encryption scheme (Gen, Enc, Dec) , construct scheme (Gen, Enc', Dec') . This is exactly the same except Enc appends a 0 to its output with prob. $1/4$ and a 1 with prob. $3/4$. Dec' ignores the final bit.

Note that if (Gen, Enc, Dec) is perfectly secret, so is (Gen, Enc', Dec') .

But now choose any $c \in C$ (where C is ciphertext space of (Gen, Enc, Dec))

Then we have $\Pr[C = c || 0] < \Pr[C = c || 1]$.

2. Prove or refute: An encryption scheme with message space M is perfectly secret if and only if for every probability distribution over M , every $m, m' \in M$ and every $c \in C$ we have $\Pr[M = m | C = c] = \Pr[M = m' | C = c]$. False.

Given any perfectly secret encryption scheme, we will choose a distribution over M ~~some distribution~~ and m, m', c s.t. $\Pr[M = m | C = c] \neq \Pr[M = m' | C = c]$. This refutes the above.

Let's choose a distribution over M that sets $\Pr[M = m] > \Pr[M = m']$. for some m, m' .

Now by Def 1 of perfect secrecy, $\forall c$

$$\Pr[M = m | C = c] = \Pr[M = m] \text{ and } \Pr[M = m' | C = c] = \Pr[M = m']$$

$$\text{So } \Pr[M = m | C = c] = \Pr[M = m] > \Pr[M = m'] = \Pr[M = m' | C = c].$$

$$\text{So } \Pr[M = m | C = c] \neq \Pr[M = m' | C = c].$$