

# ElGamal Bob chooses

- large  $p$ , primitive root  $g \pmod{p}$
- random  $x$ ,  $h := g^x \pmod{p}$

public key: $p, g, h$	private key: $x$
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A encrypts:  $C = (c_1, c_2)$

$$c_1 = g^y \pmod{p}$$
$$c_2 = h^y m \pmod{p}$$

$y$  selected randomly

B decrypts:  $m = c_2 c_1^{-x} \pmod{p}$

## COMMENTS:

- Given  $p$ , how many choices for  $g$ ?  
# primitive roots mod  $p = \phi(\phi(p)) = \phi(p-1)$   
EG  $p = 23$   $\phi(22) = \phi(2)\phi(11) = 10$  choices for  $g$

- Does A need to select new  $y$  each time?

yes!

$$(c_1, c_2) = (g^y, h^y m) \Rightarrow c_2 / c_1^x = m / m$$
$$(c_1^x, c_2) = (g^y, h^y m)$$

- Obtaining  $m$  from  $C$  as hard as:

CDH: given  $g, g^x, g^y \pmod{p}$ , find  $g^{xy} \pmod{p}$

decisional DDH: given  $g, g^x, g^y, r \pmod{p}$ , decide whether  $g^{xy} = r \pmod{p}$   
still hard!

- $p$  often chosen to be "safe prime"

$$x^2 \equiv 1$$

$$\phi(p) = p-1 = 2 \cdot \frac{p-1}{2}$$

$\Rightarrow$  possible orders:  $1, 2, \frac{p-1}{2}, p-1$

DEF:

$p_1, \frac{p-1}{2}$  both prime

primitive roots