

A construction of a key exchange protocol

Luigia Berardi *

Dipartimento di Ingegneria Elettrica e dell'Informazione

Università degli Studi de L'Aquila

Monteluco di Roio

67040 L'Aquila

Italy

Rosaria Rota †

Dipartimento di Matematica

Università degli Studi di Roma Tre

Largo San Leonardo Murialdo 1

00146 Roma

Italy

Abstract

In this paper we construct a key exchange protocol for four users using a function with a particular property. The construction can be generalized to many users. In [1] and [3] there is a key exchange protocol for two or three users based on 2-cocycles.

Keywords : *Cryptography, cocycle.*

1. Introduction

Cryptography is the science that studies methods for sending messages in secret (i.e. in enciphered or disguised form) over an insecure channel, so that only the intended recipient can remove the disguise and read the message. Until the beginning the aim was to obtain confidentiality, integrity and authenticity of message. We can get this through a cryptographic system, or cryptosystem, which uses encryption and decryption algorithms (cf. [4]).

Cryptography is fundamental in order to protect information against wiretapping, unauthorised changes and other measure of information, in

*E-mail: berardi@ing.univaq.it

†E-mail: rota@mat.uniroma3.it