Network Security Project 1 Report

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* What is the "Chosen Ciphertext Attack?"

The chosen cipher attack is an attack where the cryptanalyst can gather information by obtaining the decryptions of chosen ciphertexts. From these pieces of information the adversary can attempt to recover the hidden secret key used for decryption.

*Algorithm implementation of CCA in this project

Algorithm procedure as shown in pdf from TA.

Attack steps:

- choose X where X is relatively prime to n
- create Y = C*X^e mod n
- o get Z = decrypted Y
- O $Z = Y^d = (C^*X^e)^d = C^{d*}X^{ed} = C^{d*}X = P^{ed*}X = P^*X \mod n$
- find out X⁻¹, the modular inverse of X
- \circ P = Z*X⁻¹ mod n

Step 1. As shown on above, the rsa-n is a huge integer, and X should be relatively prime to N, since N is odd number

('Public key n part ', 140816102882370072753963128960517081965880280303822400235001309160195926187868730723645674960568062473761002103307583098926 32767681804897180867563713969931876726429179799351062450845791474513190273045870715458769422929144082257065704749588059854076890921166826329444539

and we have to choose an X for co-prime, the smallest select I will try 2(the forged number in source code).

Step 2. We get Y with the mathematical operation below.

```
chosen_ciphertext = ( long(ciphertext) * (forged_number ** (long(rsa_e))) ) % (rsa_n) #create Y = C*X^e mod n
```

Since the encrypted data are written in the base64 form, hence the following step is needed:

- a. decode with base64.b64decode (base64-->ASCII).
- b. re-encode with hex, every byte(ASCII is encoded byte-wisely) can be convert to 2 hex number.
- c. do chosen_ciphertext operation , that is chosen_ciphertext = ciphertext * (forged_number ^ rsa_e) % rsa_n
- d. re-dncode with ASCII, every 2 hex can be converted to a byte, namely ASCII-encoded data.
- e. encode with base64.b54encode (ASCII-->base64).

in that, the a b and d e are reverse operations to each other.

Z is jJiCjvam....+g== (this is also encoded in base64)

Step 4.

P, the plaintext equals to $Z*X^-1$ mod n, where X is the modular inverse of X under N. Since X = 2, then X^-1 under N will be (N+1)/2. So the final plaintext can be acquired. We just need to be cautious about the encoding as well, the decoding is similar to that of above, but we decode with hex to ASCII for final FLAG information.

```
def crack_the_plaintext(rsa_n):
online_decrypted_text_Z = raw_input("Enter the decrypted text from TA's server ")
online_decrypted_text_Z = base64.b64decode(online_decrypted_text_Z) #decode the base
print("ciphertext after b64decode is ",online_decrypted_text_Z)
online_decrypted_text_Z = binascii.hexlify(online_decrypted_text_Z) #convert the base
online_decrypted_text_Z = long(online_decrypted_text_Z, 16) #convert hex to long (long)
print("online_decrypted_text_Z in L is ",online_decrypted_text_Z)
X_modular_inv = (rsa_n + 1) / 2
plain_text = long(online_decrypted_text_Z) * long(X_modular_inv) % rsa_n
print("Plain_text is now ",plain_text)
plain_text = hex(plain_text)
plain_text = plain_text[2:-1] #get 0x[SUBSTR]L get substr we want
final_plain_text = plain_text.decode("hex")
print("The_final_plain_text_is ",final_plain_text)
```

Note: the plain_text[2:-1] is used since 0x[HEX NUMBER]L will be parsed, we just want the HEX NUMBER in it.

*More thoughts about this project

1. Why do we use the base-64 encoding in this project? To prevent data loss, which is quite important in Network Security since once a data is lost, a system vulnerability may be found.

Reference to:

https://stackoverflow.com/questions/201479/what-is-base-64-encoding-used-for

and

 $\underline{https://stackoverflow.com/questions/4070693/what-is-the-purpose-of-base-64-encoding-and-why-it-used-in-http-basic-authentica}$