

# Laboratory Session 5

## 1. Introduction

In this lab you will use MATLAB to break a weakened form of the RSA public key encryption algorithm using a very short key and determine the plaintext from a ciphertext message.

MATLAB can be found by:

**Start > MATLAB**

A summary of how the RSA algorithm works is described in Section 3. You will need to understand this section in order to determine the private key from the given public key.

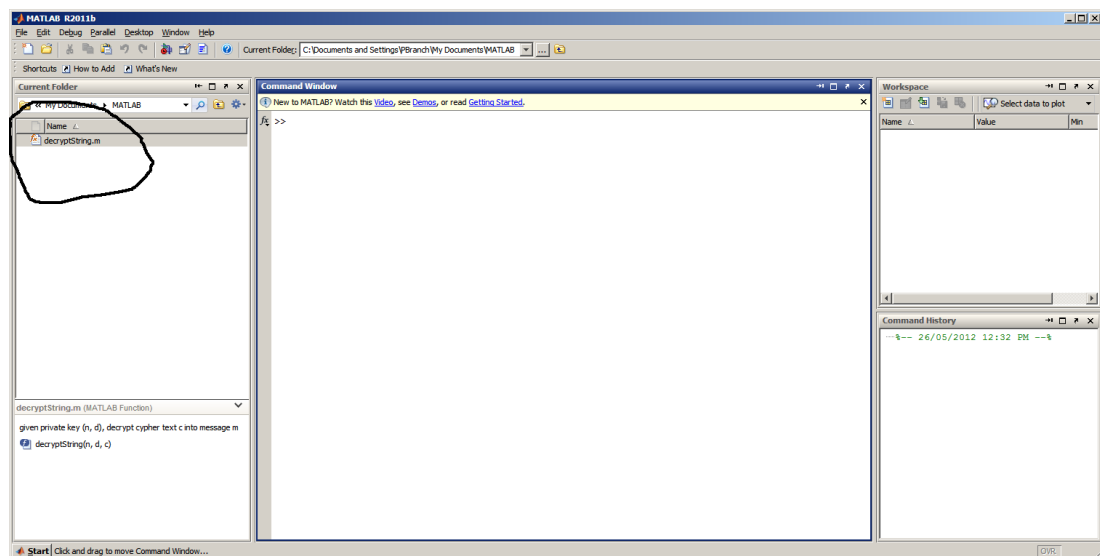
Should you need it, an introduction / revision of MATLAB is in Section 4. All the commands you need to do the lab are included in this section. If you are unfamiliar with MATLAB do this section first.

## 2. Method

You are to decrypt the following message  $c$  which you know was encrypted with the given public key of  $[n,e] = [2407,57]$ .

```
c = [2050  2296  640   479   640  2377  1274  479   640  2377
      2395  194   476  2377  2395  602   2014  640  1205  2377
      476  1888  2377  640   1142  1421  479   602  2014  2395
      586  476   1142  749  2377  476   1142  640  2377  2395
      2296  1274  2395  2377  194   586  1285  1285  2377  2014
      479   640  1904  640   1142  2395  2377  602  476   540
      479  2377  1205  586  1205  2395  640  479  2377  1888
      479  476  2011  2377  479   640  1274  1741  586  1142
      1019 2377  602   476   540  479  2377  1741  586  1274
      479   602  2377]
```

1. Install the routine `decryptString.m` in the work directory. This can be done by dragging the file from the desktop directly into the left-hand panel as shown below:



This routine decrypts a string of cipher text using the appropriate key. You have to determine the private key from the public key.

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2. Determine the private key  $[n, d]$  associated with the public key  $[n, e] = [2407, 57]$ . You may assume that  $d$  is less than  $n$  and is unique. You will need to construct a **for** loop to test different values of  $d$ .
3. Use the private key to decrypt the message. This can be done using the `decryptString.m` routine. Its use is

`decryptString(n, d, c)`

where  $n$  and  $d$  is the private key and  $c$  is a vector containing the cipher text.

4. To obtain the full message, repeat with the public key  $[n, e] = [7663, 89]$  and for the cipher text  $c$  below.

$c =$  [2980 3647 1145 7023 4485 3647 7130 7023 6069 5363  
2980 6069 7023 3911 2971 5943 5943 7023 1889 5561  
7130 454 7130 3647 6069 7023 3243 4485 2957 5561  
7023 5465 4485 454 7130 5561 3647 1883 7130 3647  
6069 656 7023 6689 2206 5561 2957 4580 7130 7023  
6238 4580 5363 3647 7130 2971 5561 1603]

### 3. RSA Algorithm

To create the public key select two large positive prime numbers  $p$  and  $q$

Compute  $n = p * q$

Compute  $x = (p-1) * (q-1)$

Choose an integer  $e$  which is relatively prime to  $x$ .

Public key is then  $[e, n]$

To create the private key

compute  $d$  such that  $(d * e) \bmod x = 1$

Private key is then  $[d, n]$

Data to encrypt is  $m$

To encrypt  $m$ , compute  $c = (m^e) \bmod n$

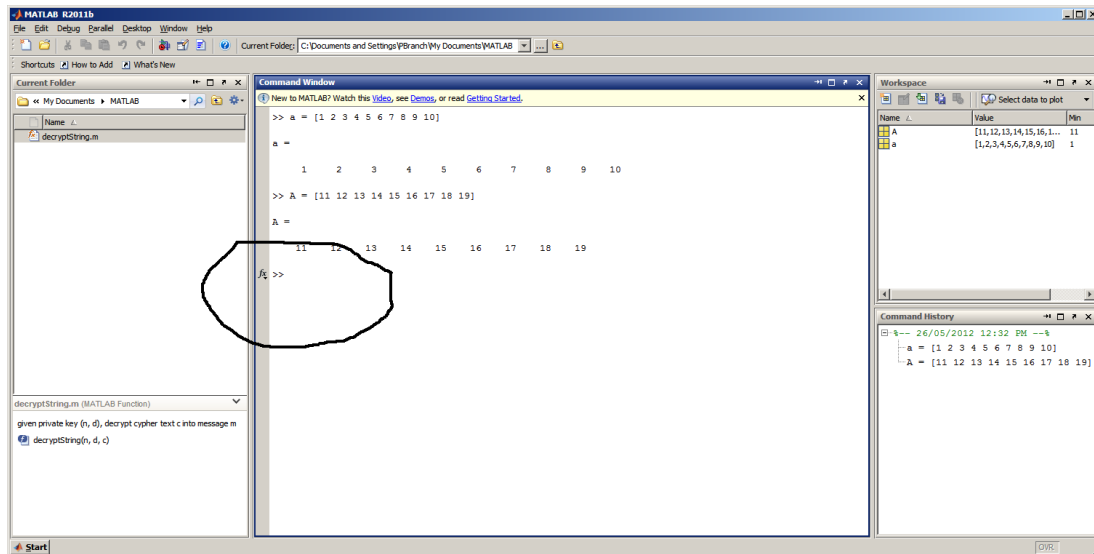
To decrypt  $c$ , compute  $m = (c^d) \bmod n$

### 4. MATLAB Revision / Introduction

MATLAB is designed primarily to operate on matrices and vectors. We only need to deal with operations on vectors. The command window is used to run the MATLAB instructions. The Command History window keeps a record of all the instructions.

Note that all the Matlab instructions should be typed in the command window.

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## Vector definition

The simplest way to define a matrix is to list its elements in order

Try `a = [ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]`

Note : You can suppress the listing of the array by adding a semi-colon at the end. Also note that MATLAB is case sensitive.

Try `A = [ 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19];`

## Accessing vector elements

Individual elements of an array `A` or string `S` are accessed by `A(i)`

Try `A (7)`

Putting a semicolon after a command suppresses output.

Try `a;`

Now try `a`

## Displaying values

`disp (x)` displays the value of `x`

Try `disp(A)` and `disp(A(2))`

Putting a semicolon after a command suppresses output.

Try `disp(a);`

## 'for' loop

for loops in MATLAB can be implemented with

```
for count = start value : end value
    statement
```

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end

Try

```
for i = 1:20
```

```
    x(i) = i;
```

```
    disp(x(i))
```

```
end;
```

disp(x) displays the value of x

### Strings in MATLAB

Strings of characters can be defined in MATLAB with the ' delimiter.

Try `textstring = 'a string of text'`

Individual elements of the string can be accessed with the number of the element (starting from 1) in parentheses.

Try `textstring(5)`

### Useful MATLAB commands

**factor(n)** returns the prime factors of n

**for loop** for i = 1:20 x(i) = i; end

**if statement** if (x==1) disp(x)

**mod(x, y)** returns x mod y

**length(x)** returns the length of a vector x

**break** ends execution of current for loop

**disp(x)** displays the value of x

## 5. Assessment

A report is required for this lab. The report is to consist of the following sections

1. An outline of the RSA algorithm (2 marks)
2. Your MATLAB code for breaking the algorithm with explanation as to what the code does. (2 marks).
3. The results from running your code and the first decrypted message (2 marks)
4. The results from running your code and second decrypted message (2 marks)

The assignment is to be submitted via TURNITIN. Please note that **duplicated code will be treated as plagiarism.**