

A CENTER FOR INTER-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

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TITLE

“FILE ENCRYPTION AND DECRYPTION”



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(A Center For Inter-Disciplinary Research)

This is to certify that the project titled

“FILE ENCRYPTION AND DECRYPTRION”

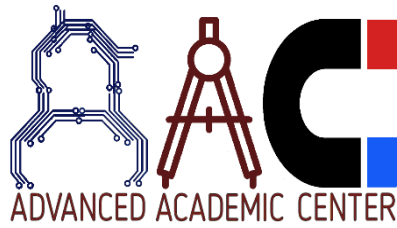
is a bonafide work carried out by the following students in partial fulfilment of the requirements for Advanced Academic Center intern, submitted to the chair, AAC during the academic year 2020-2021.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

S.No.	Content	Page No.
1.	Abstract	5
2.	Introduction	6 - 8
3.	Project Workflow	9 - 13
4.	Code	14 - 19
5.	Future Developments	19
6.	Conclusion	19
7.	References	20

ABSTRACT:

Cryptography assumes a vital job in security of information transmission. We also use Mutual Authentication process to satisfy all services in Cryptography i.e., Access Control, Confidentiality, Integrity, Authentication. In this way we can maintain the data more securely. Technically cryptography is the art of writing and solving codes. But the whole idea evolved when people started to use it in security. In this world where data is enormously generated, there must be an aspect of privacy when two individuals communicate or share data between them. In this situations where the need of security is required on the information passed down among people, these words of information security like cryptography, encryption, decryption and etc., come into picture. The process of converting the plain text in to cipher text is called as encryption.

By this methods of cybersecurity one can fully give a pinch of confidentiality required on the data being shared. So by using many inbuilt libraries and algorithms which people developed keeping the safety of data in mind we can build different encrypting software and programs differing the features required by the one who prepares it. We can distinct our program with our personal key where the key will never leave our hand. The approach introduced in this project makes us build a program using python provided library to encrypt a file and also which can decrypt a previously encrypted file with the key provided. Such that any other person in the network cannot access the data present in the network. Only the sender and receiver can retrieve the message from the data who are actually in the possession of the unique key.

INTRODUCTION:

CRYPTOGRAPHY:

Cryptography is practice of using different techniques for secure communication. It is the process of constructing algorithms and protocols to prevent third parties or public from reading private messages or messages with confidential information.

Modern cryptography concerns with:

Confidentiality - Information cannot be understood by anyone.

Integrity - Information cannot be altered.

Non-repudiation - Sender cannot deny his/her intentions in the transmission of the information at a later stage.

Authentication - Sender and receiver can confirm each.

The terms like encryption, decryption and key are the basic blocks of cryptography. When put in simple terms cryptography is a method to change a plain text(human readable form) into cipher text(coded form). For achieving this we use different encryption algorithms like AES, SHA-256, Base64 etc., which covert the data to be shared into cipher form.

A complete scheme has five ingredients namely :

- **Plain text:** This is the original message or data that is fed into algorithm as input.
- **Encryption algorithm:** The encryption algorithm performs various substitutions and transformations on the plain text.
- **Secret Key:** The secret key is also input to the algorithm. The exact substitutions and transformations performed by the algorithm depend on the key.
- **Cipher text:** This is the scrambled message produced as the output. It depends on the plain text and the secret key. For a given message, two different keys will produce two different ciphertexts.
- **Decryption algorithm:** This is essentially encryption algorithm run in reverse. It takes the ciphertext and the same secret key and produces the original plaintext.

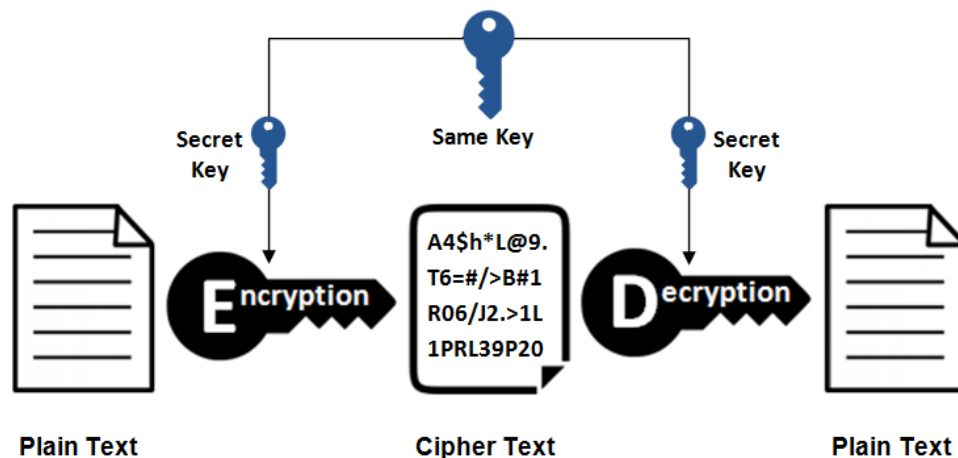
Three types of cryptographic techniques used in general.

1. Symmetric-key cryptography
2. Hash functions.
3. Public-key cryptography

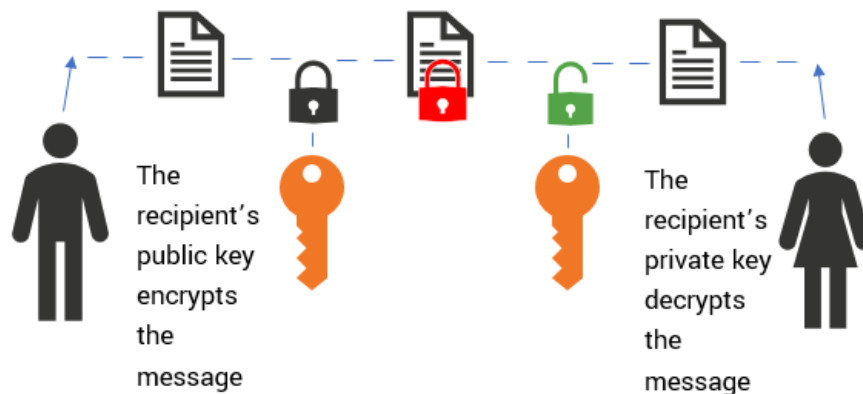
Symmetric-key Cryptography: Both the sender and receiver share a single key. The sender uses this key to encrypt plaintext and send the cipher text to the receiver. On the other side the receiver applies the same key to decrypt the message and recover the plain text.

Examples include AES(Advanced Encryption Standard), DES(Data Encryption Standard), RC4(Rivest Cipher 4)...

Symmetric Encryption

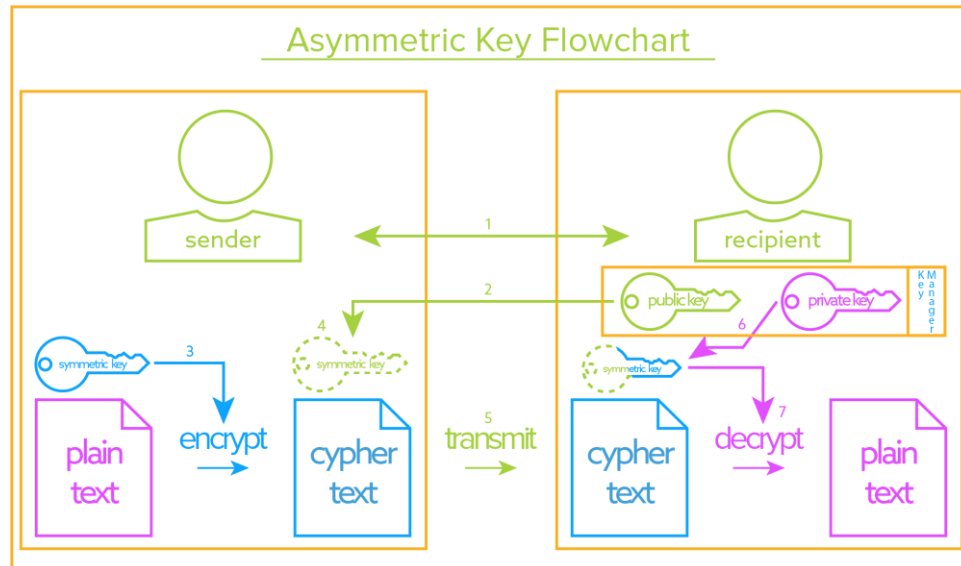


Public-Key Cryptography: This is the most revolutionary concept in the last 300-400 years. In Public-Key Cryptography two related keys (public and private key) are used. Public key may be freely distributed, while its paired private key, remains a secret. The public key is used for encryption and for decryption private key is used.



This method can also be called a asymmetric encryption format as there is no symmetry in the key used by the both sides of transmission for decrypting.

Examples are RSA(Rivest Shamir Adlemen), ECC(Elliptical Curve Cryptography), Diffie-Hellman...



Hash Functions: No key is used in this algorithm. A fixed-length hash value is computed as per the plain text that makes it impossible for the contents of the plain text to be recovered. Hash functions are also used by many operating systems to encrypt passwords.

Examples for different hashing algorithms are MD5, SHA-1, SHA-2, Base64

Hashing



PROJECT WORKFLOW

Software used :

This program can be executed in any software which can run python code. For this program specifically we don't need high end software. We can limit ourselves to a Python IDE like **PYCHARM** (by Jet Brains).

Modules used :

CRYPTOGRAPHY

Cryptography includes both high level recipes and low level interfaces to common cryptographic algorithms such as symmetric ciphers, message digests, and key derivation functions.

The command to install the module is

```
pip install cryptography
```

Keyword used :

FERNET

Fernet guarantees that a message encrypted using it cannot be manipulated or read without the key.

Fernet is an implementation of symmetric (also known as “secret key”) authenticated cryptography.

Fernet also has support for implementing key rotation via Multi Fernet.

A fernet key is used to encrypt and decrypt fernet tokens. Each key is actually composed of two smaller keys: a 128-bit AES encryption key and a 128-bit SHA256 HMAC signing key. The keys are held in a key repository that keystone passes to a library that handles the encryption and decryption of tokens.

Commands used :

Rb command

rb :

Opens the file as read-only in binary format and starts reading from the beginning of the file.

While binary format can be used for different purposes, it is usually used when dealing with things like images, videos, etc. **r+ :** Opens a file for reading and writing, placing the pointer at the beginning of the file.

Wb command

The wb indicates that **the file is opened for writing in binary mode**. When writing in binary mode, Python makes no changes to data as it is written to the file.

STEPS TO FOLLOW :

- Installing modules
- Creating a key

- Loading a key
- Encrypting a file
- Decrypting a file

Installing modules

```
from cryptography.fernet import Fernet
```

Creating a key

```
key = Fernet.generate_key()

with open('mykey.key', 'wb') as mykey:
    mykey.write(key)
```

Now, let's create the key and save it in the same folder as our data file:

```
with open('mykey.key', 'rb') as mykey:
    key = mykey.read()

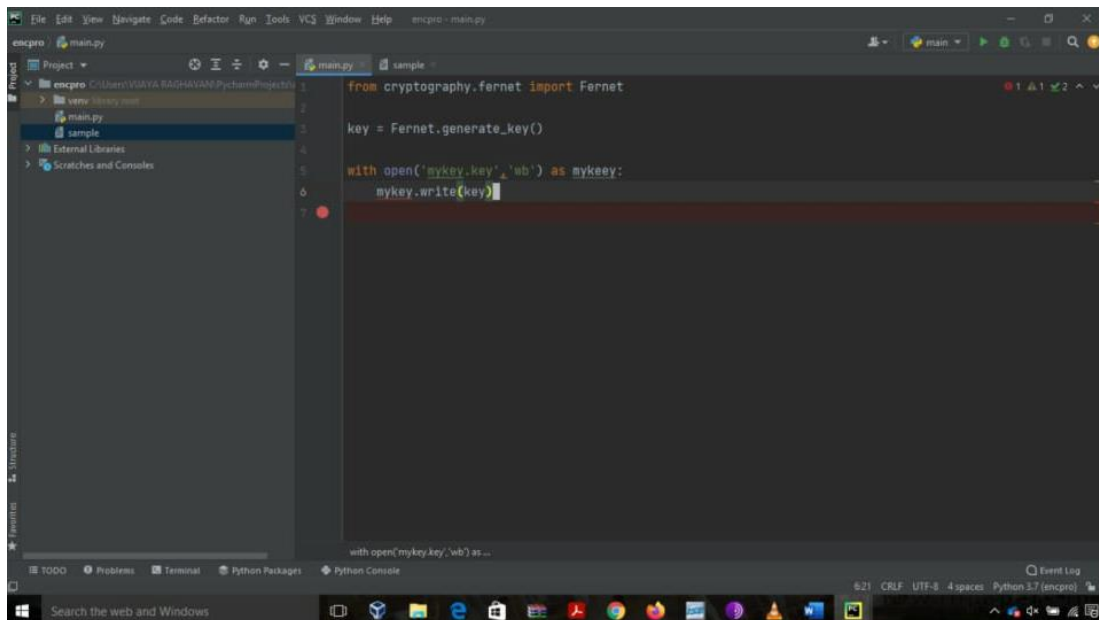
print(key)
```

If you check the directory where your Python code is located, you should see the **mykey.key** file. You can open it with any text editor. The file should contain one line which is a string of some order of characters. In this program it is : **#KEY**

Loading a key

After we generated the encryption key, we would need to load it into our environment in order to encrypt/decrypt the files.

The following step is very simple, and requires to just open the mykey.key file and store it in local memory:

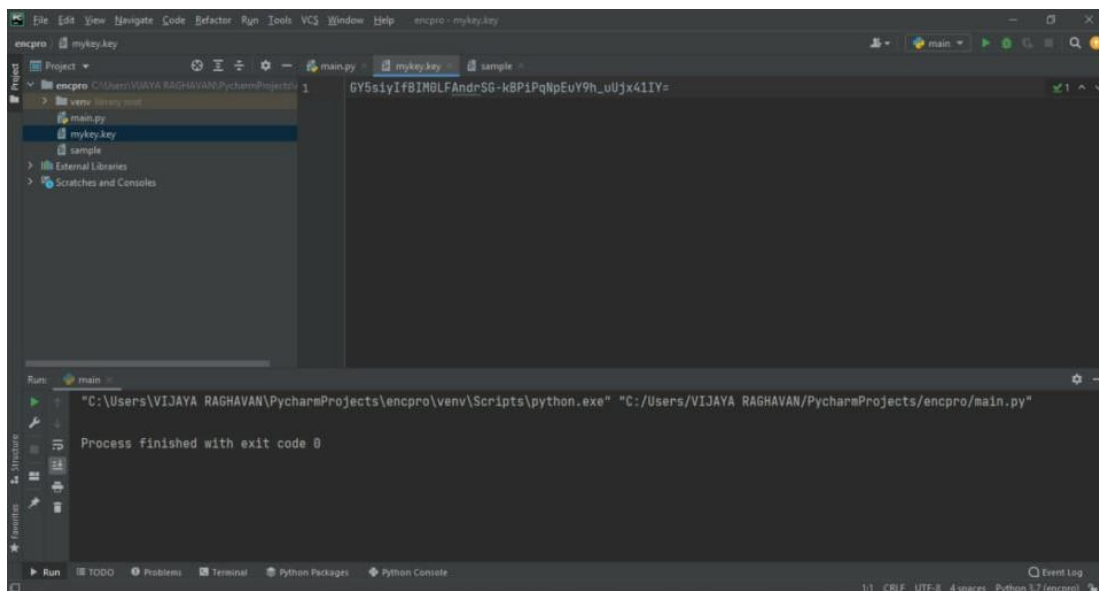


The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE with a project named 'encpro'. The file explorer on the left shows a directory structure with 'main.py' and 'sample'. The main editor window displays the following Python code in 'main.py':

```
1 from cryptography.fernet import Fernet
2
3 key = Fernet.generate_key()
4
5 with open('mykey.key', 'wb') as mykey:
6     mykey.write(key)
7
```

The bottom status bar indicates the file encoding is UTF-8 with 4 spaces and Python 3.7.

And just to verify, we will see the following output:



The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE with the file 'mykey.key' selected in the file explorer. The main editor window displays the generated encryption key:

```
GY5siyIfBINGLFAndrSG-kBP1PqhpEuY9h_uUjx41IY=
```

The bottom status bar indicates the file encoding is UTF-8 with 4 spaces and Python 3.7. Below the editor, the Run console shows the command executed and the exit code:

```
Run: main
"C:\Users\VIJAYA RAGHAVAN\PycharmProjects\encpro\venv\Scripts\python.exe" "C:/Users/VIJAYA RAGHAVAN/PycharmProjects/encpro/main.py"
Process finished with exit code 0
```

The encryption key is now stored locally as the **key** variable.

Encrypting a File

Now that we have the file to encrypt and the encryption key, we will now write a function to utilize these and return the encrypted file:

```

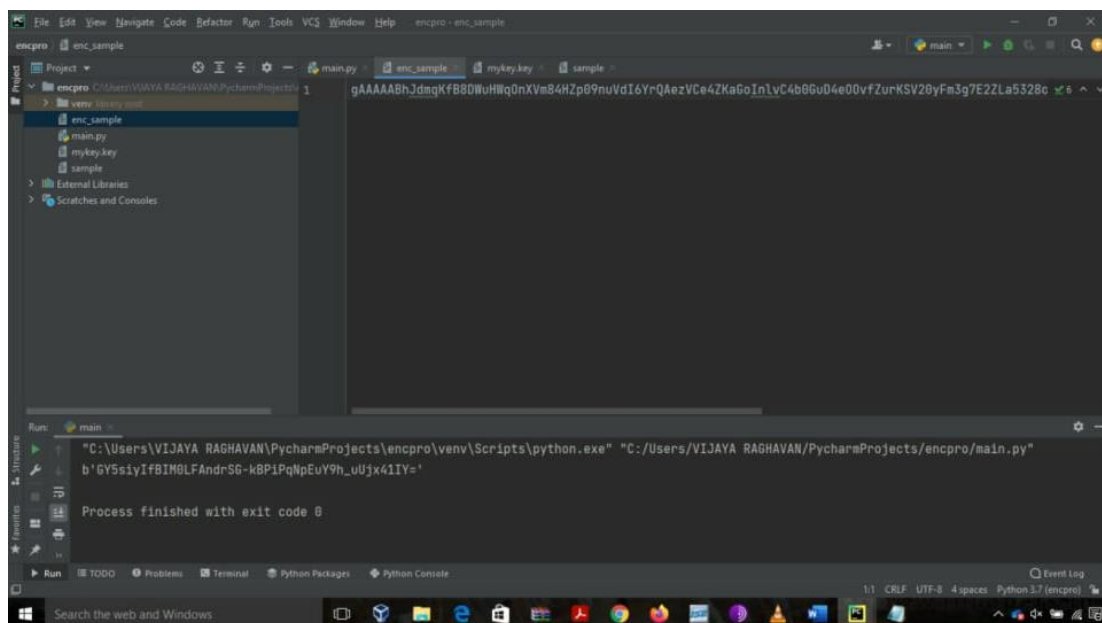
12 f = Fernet(key)
13
14 with open('sample', 'rb') as original_file:
15     original = original_file.read()
16     encrypted = f.encrypt(original)
17
18 with open('enc_sample', 'wb') as encrypted_file:
19     encrypted_file.write(encrypted)
20

```

Let's discuss what we did here:

- We initialize the Fernet object as store is as a local variable **f**
- Next, we read our original data (sample file) into **original**
- Then we encrypt the data using the Fernet object and store it as **encrypted**
- And finally, we write it into a new .csv file called "enc_sample"

You can take a look at the encrypted file here:



Decrypting a File

After you encrypted the file and, for example, successfully transferred the file to another location, you will want to access it. Now, that data is in the encrypted format. The next step is to decrypt it back to the original content.

The process we will follow now is the reverse of the encryption in the previous part. Exactly the same process, but now we will go from encrypted file to decrypted file

```
f = Fernet(key)

with open('enc_sample', 'rb') as encrypted_file_:
    encrypted = encrypted_file_.read()

decrypted = f.decrypt(encrypted)

with open('dec_sample', 'wb') as decrypted_file_:
    decrypted_file_.write(decrypted)
```

Let's discuss what we did here:

- We initialize the Fernet object as store is as a local variable **f**
- Next, we read our encrypted data (enc_sample file) into **encrypted**
- Then we decrypt the data using the Fernet object and store it as **decrypted**
- And finally, we write it into a new .csv file called “dec_sample”

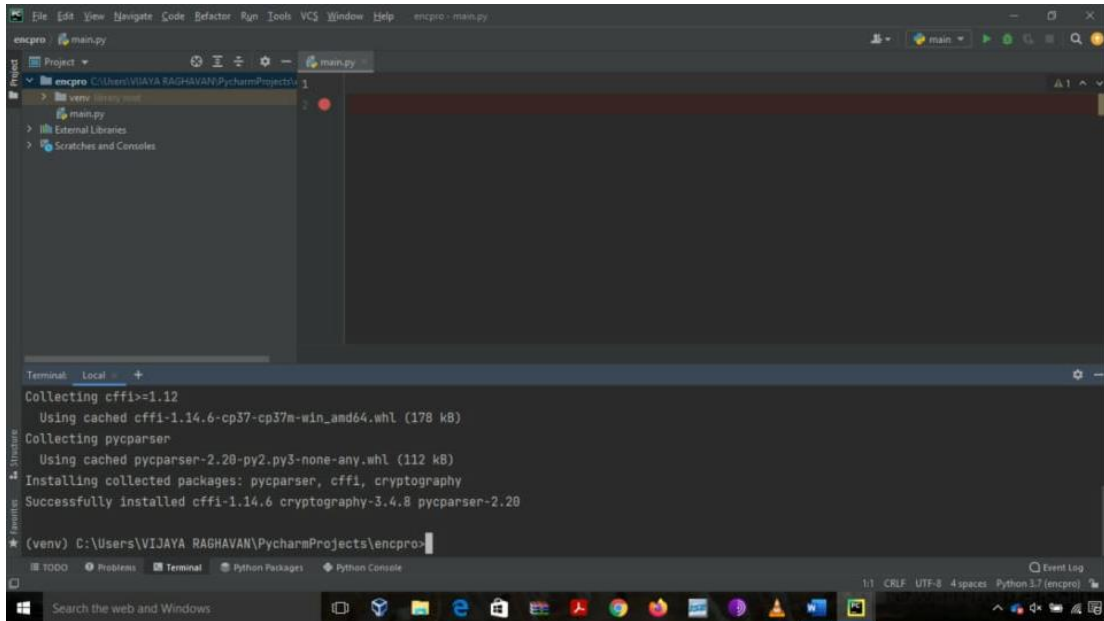
You can take a look at the decrypted file here:

The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE interface. The left sidebar displays the project structure with files: enc_sample, main.py, mykey.key, and sample. The main editor window shows the content of 'dec_sample', which is a CSV file with 5 rows of data: '1, Ravi, 1259', '2, Sonu, 2659', '3, Rani, 5628', '4, Sri, 6592', and '5, Raj, 7538'. The bottom panel shows the Run console with the command 'python.exe "C:/Users/VIJAYA RAGHAVAN/PycharmProjects/encpro/main.py"' and the output 'b'GY5siyIfBIMbLFAndrSG-kBPiPqNpEuY9h_uJx41IY=''. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'Process finished with exit code 0'.

Comparing “dec_sample” with the original “sample”, you will see that in fact these two have identical contents. Our encryption/decryption process was successful.

IMPLEMENTATION

CODE:



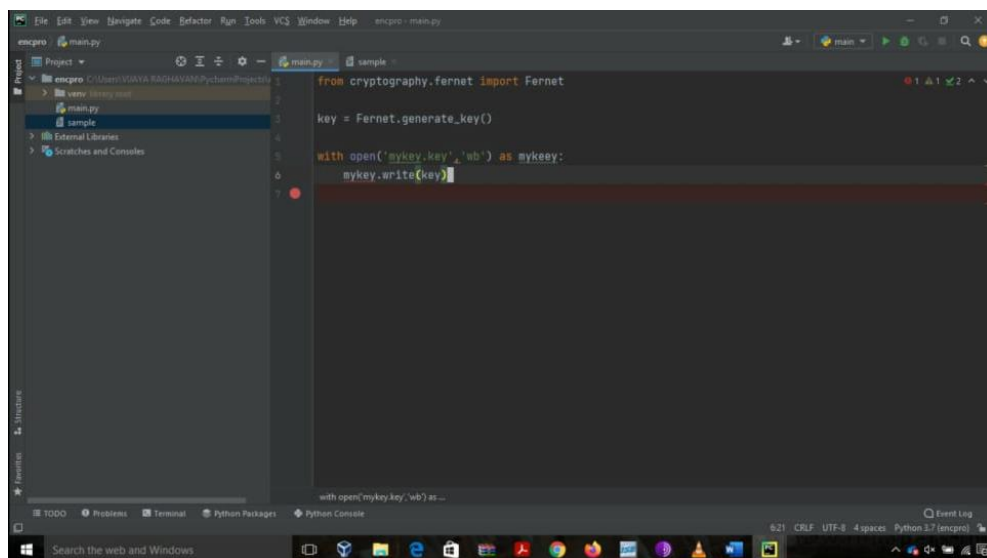
`from cryptography.fernet import Fernet`

Creating the key for the text file

`key = Fernet.generate_key()`

with open('mykey.key', 'wb') as mykey :

`mykey.write(key)`

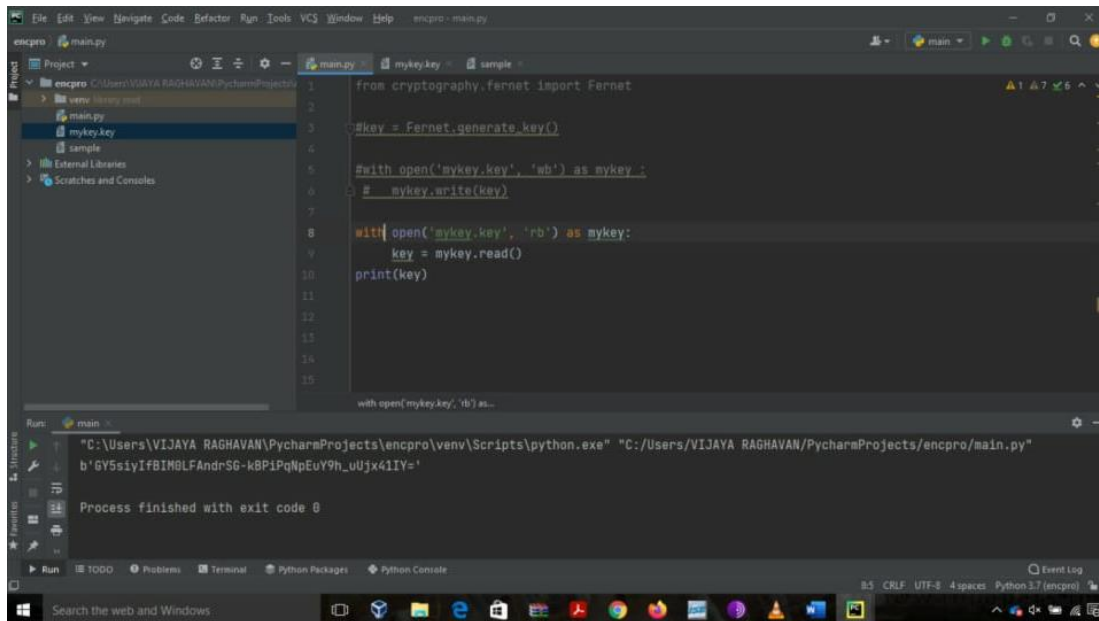


Loading a key for the file

with open('mykey.key', 'rb') as mykey :

key = mykey.read()

print(key)



Encryption

f = Fernet(key)

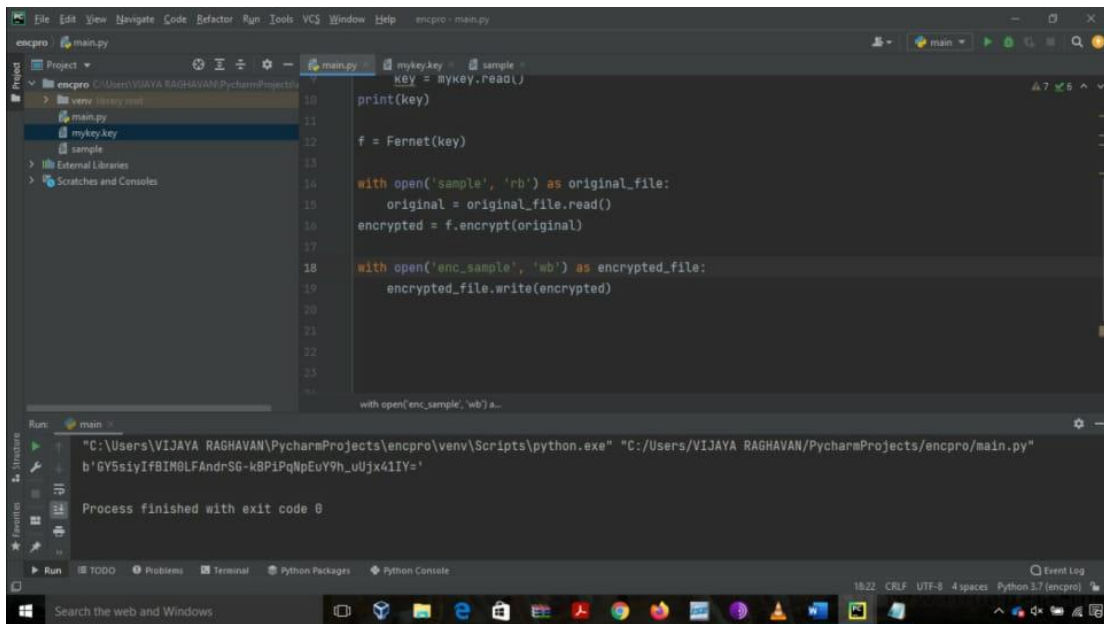
with open('sample', 'rb') as original_file :

original = original_file.read()

encrypted = f.encrypt(original)

with open('enc_sample', 'wb') as encrypted_file :

encrypted_file.write(encrypted)



Decryption

`f = Fernet(key)`

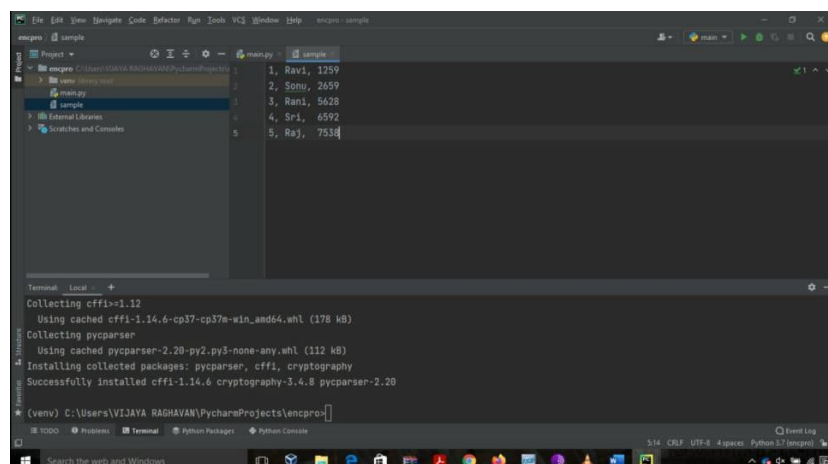
`with open('enc_sample', 'rb') as encrypted_file :`

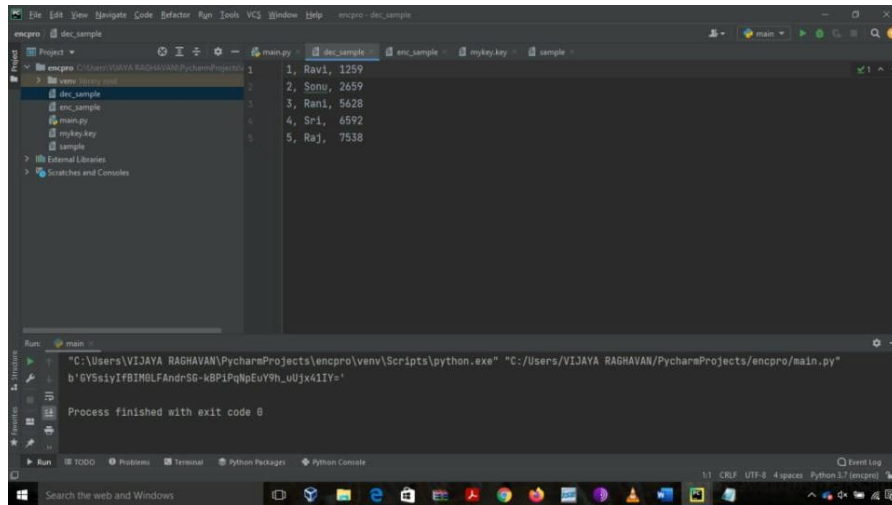
`encrypted = encrypted_file.read()`

`decrypted = f.decrypt(encrypted)`

`with open('dec_sample', 'wb') as decrypted_file :`

`decrypted_file.write(decrypted)`





Object Oriented programming code

```
class Encryptor():
```

```
    def key_create(self):
```

```
        key = Fernet.generate_key()
```

```
        return key
```

```
    def key_write(self, key, key_name):
```

```
        with open(key_name, 'wb') as mykey:
```

```
            mykey.write(key)
```

```
    def key_load(self, key_name):
```

```
        with open(key_name, 'rb') as mykey:
```

```
            key = mykey.read()
```

```
        return key
```

```
    def file_encrypt(self, key, original_file, encrypted_file):
```

```
f = Fernet(key)
```

```
with open(original_file, 'rb') as file:
```

```
    original = file.read()
```

```
encrypted = f.encrypt(original)
```

```
with open (encrypted_file, 'wb') as file:
```

```
    file.write(encrypted)
```

```
def file_decrypt(self, key, encrypted_file, decrypted_file):
```

```
    f = Fernet(key)
```

```
    with open(encrypted_file, 'rb') as file:
```

```
        encrypted = file.read()
```

```
    decrypted = f.decrypt(encrypted)
```

```
    with open(decrypted_file, 'wb') as file:
```

```
        file.write(decrypted)
```

```
encryptor=Encryptor()
```

```
mykey=encryptor.key_create()
```

```
encryptor.key_write(mykey, 'mykey.key')
```

```
loaded_key=encryptor.key_load('mykey.key')
```

```
encryptor.file_encrypt(loaded_key, 'sample', 'enc_sample')
```

```
encryptor.file_decrypt(loaded_key, 'enc_sample', 'dec_sample')
```

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS:

The concept of encryption and decryption is the base for any secure communication. This concept of encrypting a file can be used for higher levels of encryption (Ex: A Network). Cryptography is an important concept and will always be used in Cybersecurity field for security and protection. My team will work on cryptography and try to give good algorithms that cannot be easily decoded, which will help and make internet a better place.

CONCLUSION:

In this project we have worked with the required libraries of python. We have taken a sample .csv file and passed through the program written. This has encrypted our file using a generated key. We have also performed the decryption of the encrypted file using the same key. The file generated was compared with the original file and noted that they are both the same. In this way we were successful in illustrating a program which performs **Symmetric Encryption**. Hence, we conclude that our project can perfectly perform encryption on given file in turn increasing its security.

REFERENCES:

Books:

- Network Security Essentials (William Stallings)
- Encryption and Decryption in digital Communications(Benard Sklar)
- Handbook of Applied Cryptography(Alfred J Menezes)
- Public-Key Cryptography: Theory and Practice(A Das and C E Veni Madhavan)