

## REAKING RSA

EXP.NO: 4

AIM:

### Breaking RSA in TryHackMe Using Fermat's Factorization Algorithm

The goal is to break an RSA encryption challenge in TryHackMe by factoring the modulus  $N$  using Fermat's Factorization Algorithm. This method works best when the two prime factors  $p$  and  $q$  are close to each other, meaning their difference is small. Once  $p$  and  $q$  are found, the private key and decrypt messages can be found.

### A brief overview of RSA

The security of RSA relies on the practical difficulty of factoring the product of two large prime numbers, the "factoring problem". RSA key pair is generated using 3 large positive integers –



$(e, n)$  are public variables and make up the public key.  $d$  is the private key and is calculated using  $p$  and  $q$ . If we could somehow factorize  $n$  into  $p$  and  $q$ , we could then be able to calculate  $d$  and break RSA. However, factorizing a large number is very difficult and would take some unrealistic amount of time to do so, provided the two prime numbers are **randomly** chosen.

### Fermat's Factorization Algorithm Mathematical Basis:

RSA uses a modulus  $N$  calculated as:

$$N = p \times q$$

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where  $p$  and  $q$  are prime numbers.

If  $p$  and  $q$  are close, they can be rewritten as:

$$p = (a-b), q = (a+b)$$

where  $a$  is the midpoint between  $p$  and  $q$ , and  $b$  is the offset.

Rearranging, we get:

$$N=(a-b)(a+b)=a^2-b^2$$

which can be rewritten as:

$$a^2-N=b^2$$

Thus, the problem reduces to finding an integer  $a$  such that  $a^2-N$  is a perfect square.

### ALGORITHM:

#### 1. Find an initial estimate of $a$ :

$$a = \lceil \sqrt{N} \rceil$$

(Round up the square root of  $N$ ).

#### 2. Iterate until $a^2-N$ is a perfect square:

- Compute  $b^2=a^2-N$
- Check if  $b^2$  is a perfect square.
- If it is, set  $a = \sqrt{b^2+N}$
- Compute  $p=a-b$  and  $q=a+b$ .

#### 3. Verify $p$ and $q$ by checking if $p \times q=N$

#### 4. Use $p$ and $q$ to compute $\phi(N)$ and the private key $d$ :

$$\phi(N)=(p-1)(q-1)$$

$$d=e^{-1} \bmod \phi(N)$$

using the Extended Euclidean Algorithm.

#### 5. Decrypt the ciphertext using:

$$M=C^d \bmod N$$

### When Fermat's Factorization Works Well:

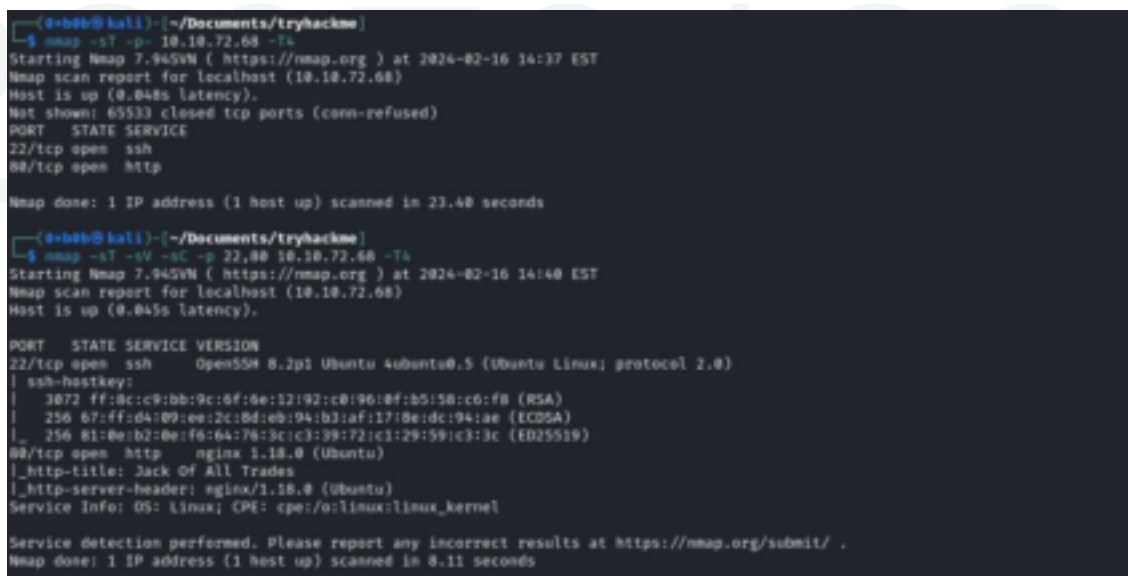
- When  $p$  and  $q$  are close.
- For small or medium-sized RSA moduli.
- When the difference  $q - p$  is small, making  $b$  small.

## OUTPUT:

1. How many services are running on the box?

```
$ sudo nmap -sV -Pn -vvv -T3 10.10.182.180
```

Ans: 2



CS19642 Cryptography and Network Security

Q. 2 What is the name of the hidden directory on the web server? (without leading '/')

Ans: development





Answer the questions below

How many services are running on the box?

2

✓ Correct Answer

What is the name of the hidden directory on the web server? (without leading '/')

development

✓ Correct Answer

What is the length of the discovered RSA key? (in bits)

4096

✓ Correct Answer

What are the last 10 digits of  $n$ ? (where ' $n$ ' is the modulus for the public-private key pair)

1225222383

✓ Correct Answer

Factorize  $n$  into prime numbers  $p$  and  $q$

No answer needed

✓ Correct Answer

What is the numerical difference between  $p$  and  $q$ ?

1502

✓ Correct Answer

Generate the private key using  $p$  and  $q$  (take  $e = 65537$ )

No answer needed

✓ Correct Answer

What is the flag?

breakingRSAissuperfun20220809134031

✓ Correct Answer

220701229

## RESULT:

Thus, Breaking RSA in TryHackMe is Completed Successfully