

Cryptography Report

On

Proposing a Secure System

for usage of Electronic

Health Records and

Homomorphic Encryption

Submitted To: Dr Ashutosh Bhatia

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Submitted By:

Sanjeev Singla

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Project Proposal (As submitted before for reference):

Cryptography Project Proposal

Objective: To propose a solution to the below problem Statement.

Problem Statement: There are 2 mobile applications - Doctor Application and Patient App. The users use the apps to maintain their electronic health records. Patients organise all their documents through their app. They can choose to share their medical data with the doctor when they go for check-up. Doctors can use the doctor app to view their patients records and if patient allows can share those records with his/her colleagues if required. I have to design the securities behind these exchanges in the most efficient manner possible.

Plan:

(1) Design the basic structure and features offered by the application.

For this I have chosen 2 live application offered by Apollo and roundglass to get the abstract structure of the app.

This will be done inline the current ehr standards given by

https://www.nhp.gov.in/ehr_standards_mtl_mtl

(2) Study of various techniques used for designing the security features.

example: In case the application uses 3rd party servers for storing the records(like AWS etc) , I will explore techniques like access - control mechanisms , online encryption and

homomorphic encryption.

For studying about these techniques, I will use the textbook and resources like <https://www.cybrary.it/> . I will use research papers I have collected for the same if time permits.

(3) Propose a system to ensure security of the EHR. This solution will try to answer questions like:

- (1) How will the access key be shared?
- (2) Does doctor get to make its own copy of the records?
- (3) How to add more information to the records? Who will have the access?
- (4) What if patient later decides to take back the access?
- (5) What happens in case the user forgets the password (secret key)?

Outcome: A system design for the security of Electronic Health Records.

REPORT:

Objective: To propose a secure system for usage of electronic Health Records according to the below **problem Statement:**

There are 2 mobile applications - Doctor Application and Patient App. The users use the apps to maintain their electronic health records. Patients organize all their documents through their app. They can choose to share their medical data with the doctor when they go for check-up. Doctors can use the doctor app to view their patients records and if patient allows can share those records with his/her colleagues if required. I have to design the securities behind these exchanges in the most efficient manner possible.

The project also includes an attempt to explore Homomorphic encryption for machine learning in the healthcare domain.

Motivation: My Practice School – I was at a healthcare firm developing similar mobile applications as above. By working on them, I realized there are practically no laws regarding the handling of the Electronic Health Records. As announced by the Government of India, a new bill is in making to tackle this issue. Therefore, I am attempting to design a secure system which can be used in such use cases. The project also focuses on use of Homomorphic Encryption to perform Machine Learning on the encrypted health records.

Introduction:

The main aim of this project is to explore and design a security system for usage the Electronic Health Records and to perform Machine learning tasks on homomorphically encrypted data. Healthcare Industry is booming lately especially because of the technical revolution in the current decade.

In this world of machine learning, data has surpassed oil in terms of value, but Medical data is still considered out of reach. This is mainly because of the stiff HIPPA regulation and sensitivity of the medical data in general.

This project is an attempt to develop systems for Applications for the medical domain which involve sharing of EHR as frequently as in a clinic / hospital.

The final part of the project tries to perform machine learning tasks using homomorphically encrypted data.

Homomorphic Encryption:

Homomorphic encryption is a form of encryption that allows computation on ciphertexts, generating an encrypted result which, when decrypted, matches the result of the operations as if they had been performed on the plaintext.

Homomorphic encryption can be used for privacy-preserving outsourced storage and computation. This allows data to be encrypted and out-sourced to commercial cloud environments for processing, all while encrypted. In highly regulated industries, such as health care, homomorphic encryption can be used to enable new services by removing privacy barriers inhibiting data sharing. For example, predictive analytics in health care can be hard to apply due to medical

data privacy concerns, but if the predictive analytics service provider can operate on encrypted data instead, these privacy concerns are diminished.

For the entirety of this project, I have used a **Paillier Crypto system** which is a partially homomorphic cryptosystem. Currently it supports basic math operations like addition, subtraction, multiplication and division with real numbers.

Paillier Crypto System:

The Paillier crypto system, invented by and named after Pascal Paillier in 1999, is a probabilistic asymmetric algorithm for public key cryptography. The problem of computing n -th residue classes is believed to be computationally difficult. The decisional composite residuality assumption is the intractability hypothesis upon which this cryptosystem is based.

App Design and the security system:

The system has 2 components mainly:

- (1) Patient application: Installed on patient mobile, this application is an electronic version of the patient's health records. This application also holds the private key of the patient used in encrypting the patient's data.
- (2) Doctors Application: Installed on the Doctors mobile, the application contains the patients list and records. The doctor requires a permission from the patient to see their records (one time permission).

Some questions for the system:

Q1→ How is access key's shared?

Ans → On the first visit, the doctor creates an account for the patient . Patient then accepts the request and Doctor can then access the records of the said patient.

Q2→ How to add more information to the records?

Ans → Every time patient gets prescription / lab test , the data is encrypted and then stored on the patient's cloud. Only the personnel with the private keys can decrypt and see the original data (i.e. patient). Now whenever such a process occurs, patient has the option to broadcast the change or not. If the patient chooses to do , the Authentication codes / private key for that specific patient is also updates on the doctors application.

Q3→ What if patient later decides to take back the access?

Ans → As soon as patient changes the doctor or wants to deny further access, they can either stop broadcasting or deny the permission by removing the doctors from the broadcast list.

Q4 → How often will the data by synced?

And → On every update by the patient, data is synced. If authorized by patient , it is broadcasted on the cloud.

Files Included:

(1) example1.py

Use-Case : The hospital wants to know the average blood pressure of their patients. Now

the data is homomorphically encrypted, but it can still be added and then decrypted later. This can be extended to dosage values (to check if the supply is sufficient or not) or detecting anomalies. (like epidemic outbreak because of higher demand of a particular drug)

- a) This example takes the 10-day period Blood Pressure level of the patient in an encrypted form and then returns the Mean Blood pressure to the doctor.
- b) The 10 values can be changes at the line 21 of the code.
- c) run command: `python example1.py`
- d) Here data is first encrypted by homomorphic encryption and then added without decrypting. The final average is then decrypted to know the actual average Blood pressure.

Sample Encrypted BP:

Blood Pressure of 80 is encrypted as :

1823055479742404119210028530082720743341570113902401132770514863118176724
8186732224107346138776982961842611035327628871623422722376751035500210433
5354095515465792493790973962822890411447876932290882464286113620407354026
3958557050148289437718266910965198631647454216944224473556881653237178744
0090937813728472244461087091321789629093587553265496444890568537251067628
6348702118624692907837137731890070181389352122159954082868196026582648884
1454635030893340625790945702169146473416329479842548511755022351263235095
9636056987118614180367872492596763252813016820696492728254639912726297716
4721155949451417459772483473403476578348764959928584246059840735749428194
8736636129853484110464744572621803080825329236927789345200539290784006961
4899369741161895853907147838536865883198431837527088171561781767246196669
5559189742410464356228984712568673033409222543776613145215046725298091250

7147167204985624224547017382747424931836534548753837881604695410764755987
8010141988822917262913824458716198868036207093750822988950529520402979982
5340337791249320373676707259325638511396310974084298021110260037818270423
1931881612795349538999694439005283800150641959553752124030081333996651860
3163839369371790993124078955366814821292664782281650551019191281

(2) example2.py

Use-case : This is how the patient data will look like. It takes the patient data as input, separates the Numerical data for homomorphic encryption and left data as normal encryption(**I have used AES and SHA256**).

- a) The Encrypted Data is stored in the file formdata.txt.
- b) I have used **cryptodome library for encrypted non-PID based data** i.e. first name, last name etc. etc. directly taken from examples in the cryptodome documentation.
- c) run command - python example2.py
- d) Example:

Input

This example takes the normal patient form and encrypts the data

Please enter the required Details:

Please Enter your firstname:

lorem

Please Enter your lastname:

ipsum

Please Enter your age:

21

Please Enter your height(in cm):

175

Please Enter your Blood Pressure (Distolic):

120

Encrypted Data is available in the file formdata.txt

Output:

```
{'firstname': 'seNlAopjxQmhxTRl1MeIE6ZRheZ3h3W2UnVEwmI5tP0=',  
'lastname': 'uLkwhADkQ3pCuhu9jXlicxuR7PPjAI+uAuLX0prVCc=',  
'age': '174071836980156887023229866424513146099145734772334690481586092982737866  
8997556880825440622684886923493234618444662637902513183994967373302763611966  
2872310075664594328909376156212883245558163300796226435352593261071928547768  
4933283949415553912839424824839640872366822124047133575114475176332131353024  
7933579074809694883013824920674294356806431285787012107178376779191754377548  
4162604523841403722576809653698033250134970356311716608858240041687261361683  
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3466809603852417392712896712795014361220079326453124977853883598747088412886  
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162356516915826939608',
```

'height':4392489235779831099316310318138076140585251320288120069462090945537506
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8587178763611835381366026600099154128160991049199800206196756626129571684857
4274862625746031963179707697732133083402436665617024450550274873104085412856
3278722197482227508625463593434352922472034338217528898684009724574072523342
7918547501765014106341197213498833935503379827705364954420969480238263314030
6078049957688474429012119821497763080130096506777419952679955683543316188243
0061871513490049337261255365629968461331983099046294524097807865709152574317
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7500418994180971295838708196778671109095101947661322178016326263835417146475
8500290383725719235012559257842449565469141893404294608919321262712495795754
1243443869204122457906500519976311576363393657607532391448308517120333711007
1575240180199582681482254961691050852567902681936592340263390136527621218459
8333256277469191452633666174662379850834122847471804840797655039832158563886
8844238776657821410058536602906843773007499153829524480174225215994059017443
27891281330717622301786',

'bloodPressure':262432575172466608444148957700043555913916141672697289933700253
1169838279767010368738808978142251009202168725636229332431311135104751109333
9725744406076837571572229836851208503307235555333127186068295715305572565677
2605915172627445581285348340695308632099333565710652925217340808307576417094
3579310097737894220435174929872152095976247389101736059068498522121626990274
3461920816854030203267757672410138314392025314938810335464586235962446707297
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4245979686580731077896537627419210716227987868250507425193368448741752870226
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8521445330452285665046990592671171954941968993917226727717047409436819148178
6160011699863371575387551721016794049031346861658560600784955508402586643092
6640616478604240375380644602162206092877876543132540181515837587560637093735
0805740181715369009133494166388018225802955685764589059682479468995862945177
020086586110566431187599960211'}

(3) Example3

UseCase: Partial Implementation for predicting Breast Cancer using knn(k-nearest neighbor)
Classifier.

- a) The given jupyter notebook has partial implementation of the knn classfier for the dataset.
- b) The **implementation is partial because of lack of \leq and \geq operations** in the pallier cryptographic system.
- c) The current implementation converts the given data in usable encrypted formats and have been tested for **basic statistical ratios like mean, average , variations etc.**
- d) The encrypted data is stored in the file called encrypted_data.xlsx.
- e) This has been tested in **another library called Microsoft seal** which has the same accuracy as the plaintext data.

Learning Outcome

- (1) Concepts involving Homomorphic Encryption.

- (2) Python Programming and some relevant libraries like pycryptodome
- (3) App Design Concepts and basis penetration testing concepts.
- (4) Machine Learning – knn classifier
- (5) Cryptographic techniques like AES and SHA256.

References:

- (1) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paillier_cryptosystem
- (2) <https://pypi.org/project/pycryptodome/>
- (3) <https://www.pycryptodome.org/en/latest/src/examples.html>
- (4) <https://python-paillier.readthedocs.io/en/stable/phe.html>
- (5) https://www.nhp.gov.in/ehr_standards_mtl_mtl
- (6) <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/tel-01918263/document>
- (7) <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-osiE80TeTt2d9bfVyTiXJA-UTHn6WwU>
- (8) https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=glass.round.cross.doctor&hl=en_IN
- (9) https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=glass.round.reach&hl=en_IN
- (10) <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/project/microsoft-seal/>
- (11) <https://github.com/Lab41/PySEAL>
- (12) <https://github.com/ibarrond/Pyfhel>
- (13) <http://www.cs.tau.ac.il/~fiat/crypt07/papers/Pai99pai.pdf>