

# **Experiment No. 5**

Title: Knapsack Cipher

Batch: B2 Roll No.: 16010420117 Experiment No.: 5

**Title:** To implement Knapsack Cipher.

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**Resources needed:** Windows/Linux OS

### Theory:

The Merkle-Hellman knapsack cryptosystem was proposed by Merkle and Hellman. Merkle was also one of the founders of public key cryptography. The Merkle-Hellman knapsack cryptosystem is based on a problem that is known to be NP-complete. This seems to make it an ideal candidate for a secure public key cryptosystem. The knapsack problem can be stated as follows.

Given a set of n weights W0,W1,..., Wn-1 and sum S, find a0, a1,..., an-1, where each ai  $\epsilon$  {0, 1}, so that S = a0W0 + a1W1 +...+an-1Wn-1 will form the general knapsack. A super increasing knapsack, is similar to the general knapsack except that when the weights are arranged from least to greatest, each weight is greater than sum of all previous weights

# **Algorithm:**

### A. Key pair generation:

- 1. Generate a super increasing knapsack S=(S1,S2,...,Sr).
- 2. Convert the super increasing knapsack into a general knapsack G=(G1,G2,...,Gr).
- 3. Choose a multiplier m and a modulus n so that m and n are relatively prime and n is greater than the sum of all elements in the super increasing knapsack.
- 4. Then the general knapsack is computed from the super increasing knapsack by modular multiplication: Gi=Si\*m mod n
- 5. The public key is the general knapsack.
- 6. The private key is the super increasing knapsack together with the conversion factors

### **B.** Encryption:

- 1. First convert plain text message M into binary equivalent (M1,M2,...,Mn)<sub>2</sub>.
- 2. Calculate C=M1G1+M2G2+.....GnMn
- 3. Display C

### C. Decryption:

- 1. Calculate m<sup>-1</sup> (multiplicative inverse of m under modulus n)
- 2. Calculate P'=C m<sup>-1</sup> mod n
- 3. Select weights from super increasing knapsack starting from largest weight so that it will sum up to P'.
- 4. This will give the binary equivalent of the plaintext, convert it to decimal equivalent and display.

# Example:

- 1. We'll choose the superincreasing knapsack (2, 3, 7, 14, 30, 57, 120, 251).
- 2. To convert the superincreasing knapsack into a general knapsack, we choose a multiplier m and a modulus n so that m and n are relatively prime and n is greater than the sum of all elements in the superincreasing knapsack. For this example, we choose m = 41 and n = 491. Then the general knapsack is computed from the superincreasing knapsack by modular multiplication:

$$2m = 2 * 41 = 82 \mod 491$$
  
 $3m = 3 * 41 = 123 \mod 491$   
 $7m = 7 * 41 = 287 \mod 491$   
 $14m = 14 * 41 = 83 \mod 491$   
 $30m = 30 * 41 = 248 \mod 491$   
 $57m = 57 * 41 = 373 \mod 491$   
 $120m = 120 * 41 = 10 \mod 491$   
 $251m = 251 * 41 = 471 \mod 491$ 

The resulting general knapsack is (82, 123, 287, 83, 248, 373, 10, 471), which appears to be a general (non-super increasing) knapsack.

- 3. The public key is the general knapsack
  Public key: (82, 123, 287, 83, 248, 373, 10, 471).
- 4. The private key is the super increasing knapsack together with the modular inverse of the conversion factor m, that is,

Private key: (2, 3, 7, 14, 30, 57, 120, 251) and 
$$m^{-1} \mod n = 41^{-1} \mod 491 = 12$$
.

Suppose Bob's public and private key pair are given in *step* 3 and *step* 4, above. Then if Alice wants to encrypt the message M = 150 for Bob,

1. To encrypt, Alice first converts 150 to binary, that is, 10010110. Then she uses the 1 bits to select the elements of the general knapsack that are summed to give the ciphertext. In this case, Alice finds

$$C = 82 + 83 + 373 + 10 = 548$$
.

2. To decrypt this ciphertext, Bob uses his private key to find

$$Cm^{-1} \mod n = 548 * 12 \mod 491 = 193$$
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3. Bob then solves the super increasing knapsack for 193. This is an easy (linear time) problem from which Bob recovers the message in binary 10010110 or, in decimal, M = 150.

**Results:** (Program printout with output / Document printout as per the format)

#### Code:

```
superSeq = [3, 5, 9, 20, 44]
publicKey = []
m = 67
n = 89
for i in superSeq:
    x = (i*n) % m
    publicKey.append(x)
print(f"\nPublic Key:\t{publicKey}")
print(f"\nPrivate Key:\t{superSeq}")
def knapsackEncrypt(plainText, superSeq, n, m):
    cipherText = []
    index = 0
    sum = 0
    for bit in plainText:
        if bit == '1':
            sum += publicKey[index]
        index += 1
        if index == 5:
            cipherText.append(sum)
            index = 0
```

```
sum = 0
    return cipherText
def inverse(a, m):
    for x in range(1, m):
        if (((a \% m) * (x \% m)) \% m == 1):
            return x
    return -1
def knapsackDecrypt(ciphertext, superSeq, n, m):
    inversed = inverse(n, m)
    decodedValues = [(x * inversed) % m for x in cipherText]
    sum = 0
    plainText = ''
    for value in decodedValues:
        ans = []
        for item in superSeq[::-1]:
            if sum + item <= value:</pre>
                sum += item
                ans.append('1')
            else:
                ans.append('0')
        plainText += ''.join(ans[::-1])
        sum = 0
    return plainText
```

```
plainText = input('Enter plaintext bits: ')
binChunks = [plainText[6*i:6*(i+1)] for i in range(len(plainText)//6)]
print(f"\nSplitted plain text:\t{binChunks}")

cipherText = knapsackEncrypt(plainText, superSeq, n, m)
decodedPlainText = knapsackDecrypt(cipherText, superSeq, n, m)
print(f'CipherText:\t{cipherText}')
print(f'\nPlainText:\t{decodedPlainText}')
```

### **Output:**

```
Public Key: [66, 43, 64, 38, 30]

Private Key: [3, 5, 9, 20, 44]

Enter plaintext bits: 000011010011000011010110

Splitted plain text: ['000011', '010011', '0000011', '010111', '010110']

CipherText: [30, 130, 109, 137, 145, 168]

PlainText: 000011010011000011011101011
```

### **Questions:**

1. Explain Digital signature using Knapsack with suitable example.

Ans: If Alice wants to sign a message M, she should perform the signature procedure as follows.

Step 1. Choose a random number  $k \in [1, n-1]$ . Step 2. Compute the signature (r, s) of the message M with  $r = M + (kG)x \mod n$ , and s = k - H(r)xAlice mod n. Step 3. Apply the knapsack value for the signed message: 1) R = Knapsack(r) and S = Knapsack(s). 2) Send a signed message  $\{R, S, IDAlice\}$  to user Bob.

Message Recovery Phase: After receiving {R, S, IDAlice}, Bob can apply the reverse knapsack. Recover and

verify the message M with  $M = r - (sG + H(r)(yAlice)x \mod n$ .

2. Explain any one attack on Knapsack.

Ans: In 1984 Adi Shamir published an attack on the Merkle-Hellman cryptosystem which can decrypt encrypted messages in polynomial time without using the private key. The attack analyzes the public key B=(b1, b2, ...bn) and searches for a pair of numbers u and c such that ubi mod m is a superincreasing sequence. The (u,m) pair found by the attack may not be equal to (r',q) in the private key, but like that pair it can be used to transform a hard knapsack problem using B into an easy problem using a superincreasing sequence. The attack operates solely on the public key; no access to encrypted messages is necessary.

Outcomes: CO 2: Illustrate different cryptographic algorithms for security.

**Conclusion :** Merkle–Hellman knapsack cipher (knapsack cipher) was studied, observed, understood and implemented successfully.

Grade: AA / AB / BB / BC / CC / CD /DD

Signature of faculty in-charge with date

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## **References:**

### **Books/ Journals/ Websites:**

• Mark Stamp, "Information security Principles and Practice" Wiley