

More Versatile Secret Sharing

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B.tech Project, Even 2022

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Secret sharing

Secret sharing is a method to divide the secret into many shares/parts such that secret can be constructed by authorized set of shares and unauthorized set of shares reveals least possible amount of information.

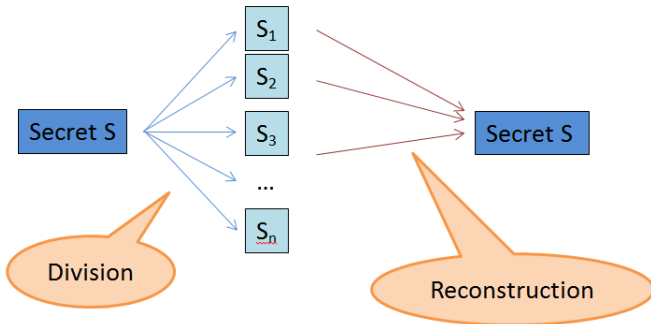


Figure: Illustration of Secret sharing

Secret sharing schemes are very helpful for storage of secure information such as cryptographic keys.



Figure: We may think of keeping keys in Secure Location



Figure: If the location got compromised?

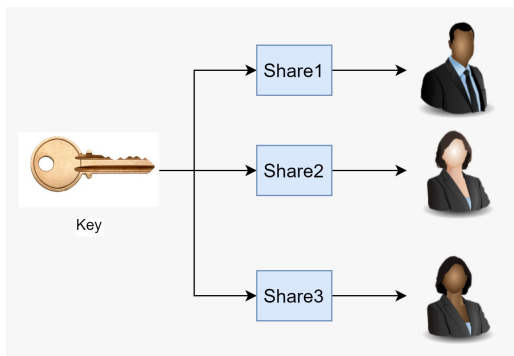


Figure: Secret Sharing

Solution: Divide the key into Shares and define only authorized set of people can reconstruct the key.

Threshold Schemes

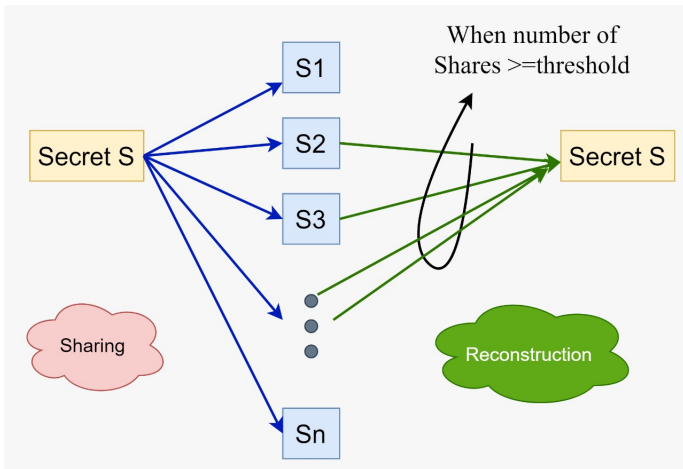


Figure: Secret can be reconstructed only if number of shares \geq threshold shown up for reconstruction

Threshold Schemes

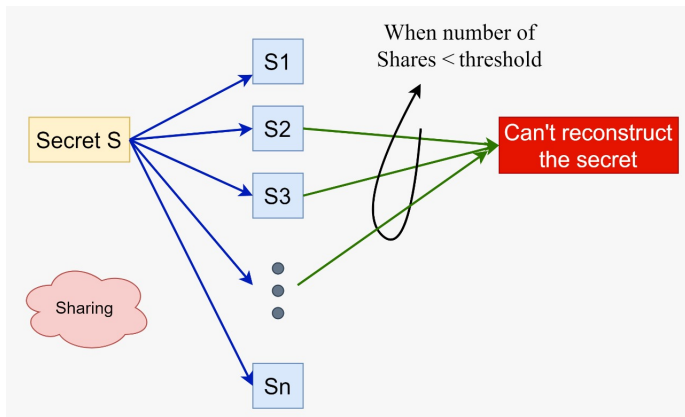


Figure: Secret can't be reconstructed if number of shares $<$ threshold

Shamir's secret sharing [1]

f is random $(t - 1)^{th}$ degree polynomial with coefficients chosen at random, and constant term a_0 is secret.

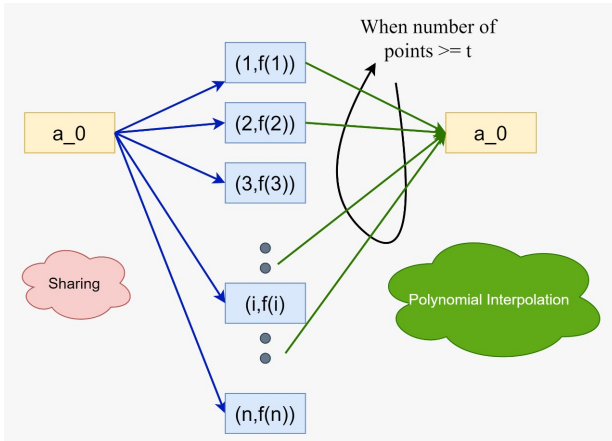


Figure: $(t - 1)^{th}$ degree polynomial can be reconstructed uniquely with $\geq t$ points

Shamir's secret sharing [1]

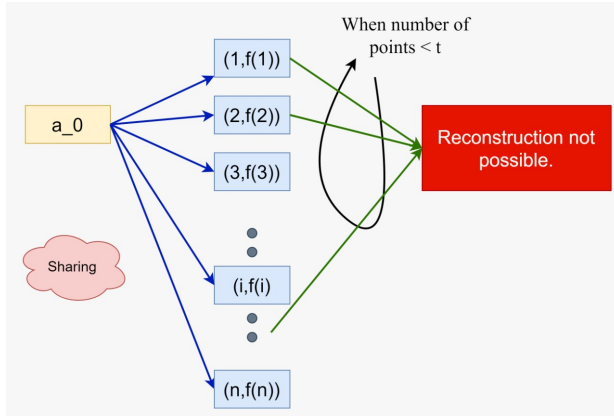


Figure: $(t - 1)^{th}$ degree polynomial can't be reconstructed uniquely with $< t$ points

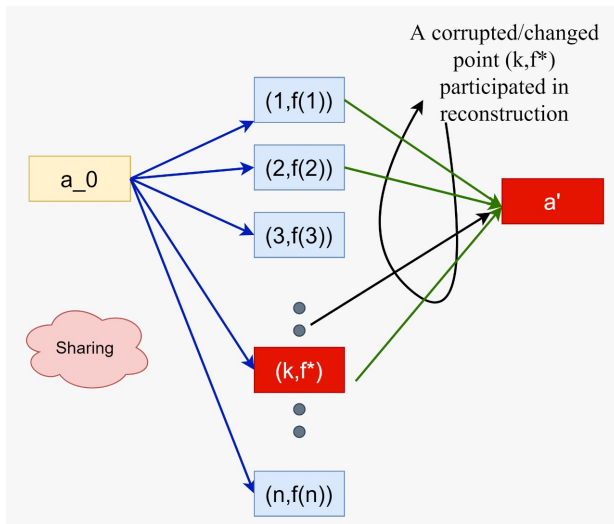


Figure: Some corrupted share participating in reconstruction resulting in $a' \neq a_0$

Adept Secret Sharing Scheme (ADSS)

Bellare, Dai and Rogaway (2020) [2] augmented the classical notion with

- ① Privacy when there is imperfect randomness.
- ② Authenticity
- ③ Error Correction

error recovery definition [BDR]

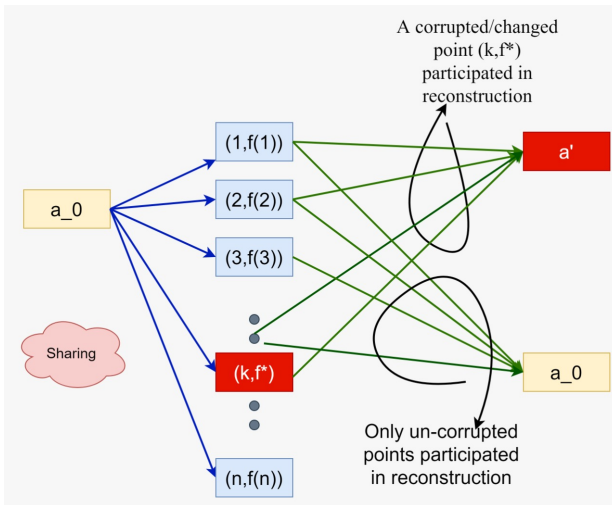


Figure: Recovery algorithm should output the secret only if an unique secret can be reconstructed from all possible subsets of input shares.

Error recovery algorithm [BDR]

- 1 Consider all elements of the power set of Input Shares S , let $(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_r) \in P(S)$.
- 2 Sort these subsets in such a way that $A_i \subseteq A_j \implies i \geq j$
- 3 Now check in this order whether we can reconstruct a secret message or not using these subsets.

Error recovery algorithm [BDR]

- 1 If A_i is first subset with which we can reconstruct secret then exclude all subsets of A_i and continue searching in same order to find if we can reconstruct another different secret.
- 2 If we find another secret then return \perp , else return the Unique Secret Message

This error recovery algorithm takes exponential time in worst case.

My efficient error recovery Algorithm

Let \mathcal{SS} be an ADSS scheme then

Sharing Algorithm :

- 1 Generate shares using $\mathcal{SS}.Share$
- 2 For each share concatenate the hash values of all other shares.

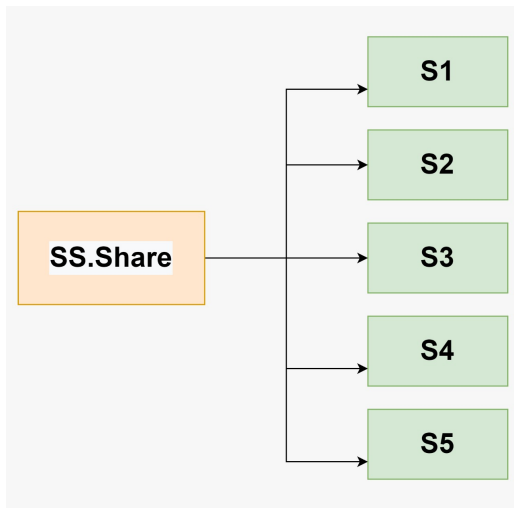


Figure: Shares generated from SS

Sharing Algorithm

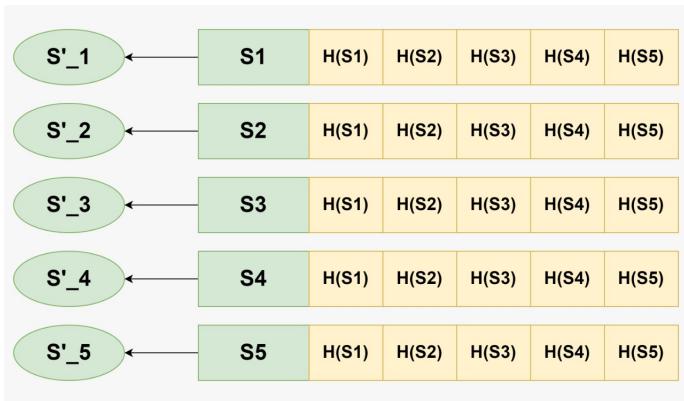


Figure: Concatenation of hash values to each share

Output the Shares $(S'_1, S'_2, S'_3, S'_4, S'_5)$

We say B's share is corrupt according to A

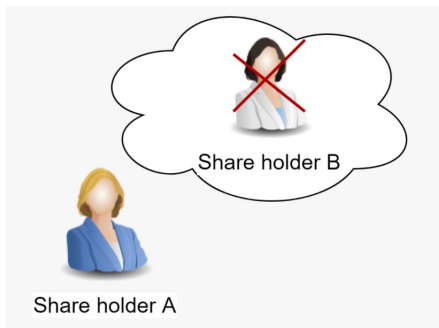


Figure: If $H(B)$ doesn't match with hash value of B maintained by A

Recover Algorithm



Figure: Shares shown up for reconstruction.



Figure: Shares S_1, S_4 got corrupted by Adversary

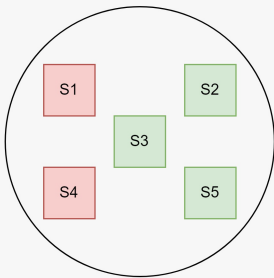
- ① Recoverer doesn't know which shares are corrupted.
- ② Let threshold be 3 and known to Recoverer.

- 1 Initialize variable $Good_Shares \leftarrow \{\}$
- 2 Now iterate through all shares $(S_1, S_2, S_3, S_4, S_5)$.

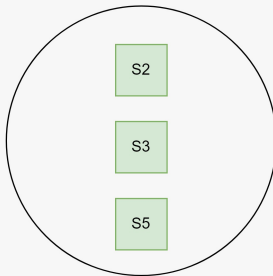
Recover Algorithm

During iteration add set of all good shares according to current share to a set V .

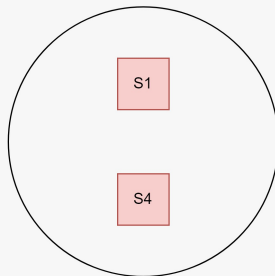
Good shares according to S1



Good shares according to S2,S3,S5



Good shares according to S4

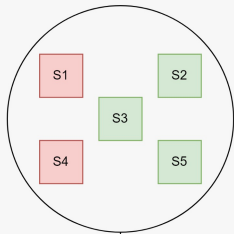


- ① Set V according to S_1, S_4 can be arbitrary as they're corrupt.
- ② Set V according to S_2, S_3, S_5 are all good shares, as they're good shares

Recover Algorithm

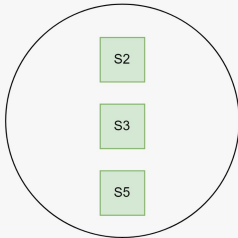
A variable $V' \leftarrow V$ if all shares in V agree each other that they're correct

Set V acc to $S1$



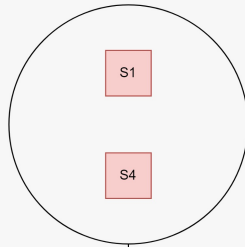
$V' = \{\}$

Set V acc to
 $S2, S3, S5$



$V' = \{S2, S3, S5\}$

Set V acc to $S4$



$V' = \{S1, S4\}$

We set $Good_Shares \leftarrow V'$, if $|V'| \geq threshold$.

So in this example we'll be having $Good_Shares = \{S_2, S_3, S_5\}$.

At the end we send $Good_Shares$ to $SS.Recover$ to get the original message back

Important Observations:

- ① In the context of a good share the set V populated in the algorithm will be full of all good shares of S .
- ② V' can't have a mix of good+corrupt shares.
- ③ If V' is all corrupt shares then $|V'| < \text{threshold}$, as we know there can be at max $t - 1$ corrupt shares
- ④ *Good_Shares* will be assigned only with set of all good shares.

Summary of Recover algorithm on input S

- ① $Good_Shares \leftarrow \{\}$
- ② Iterate through each share of set S
 - ① Add good shares according to current share into set V .
 - ② $V' \leftarrow V$ if all shares in V agree each other that they're correct.
 - ③ $Good_Shares \leftarrow V'$, if $|V'| \geq threshold$
- ③ Pass $Good_Shares$ to $SS.Recover$ to get the secret.

If H is collision resistant then

- We can show Probability that this error recovery algorithm doesn't produce Unique secret message is negligible.

Time Complexity:

- The time complexity is $O(|shares|^4 + TC(SS))$.
- There exists an ADSS scheme SS that runs in Polynomial time.
- Overall time complexity can be Polynomial time.

I aim to write efficient constructions for general set of access structures in near future , not just for threshold schemes.

I thank Aishwarya Madam who is my primary source of guidance throughout my project and I also want to thank Yadu Vasudev sir for coordinating the B.tech project course.

I would like to thank Raghavendra, Simran (PhD scholars) for involving in good discussions relating to project.

- [1] Adi Shamir. “How to Share a Secret”. In: (1979). URL: <https://web.mit.edu/6.857/OldStuff/Fall03/ref/Shamir-HowToShareASecret.pdf>.
- [2] Bellare, Dai, and Rogaway. “Reimagining Secret Sharing: Creating a Safer and More Versatile Primitive by Adding Authenticity, Correcting Errors, and Reducing Randomness Requirements”. In: (2020). URL: <https://eprint.iacr.org/2020/800.pdf>.