CSC 404 - ACTIVITY/PROJECT 15 - NAME: Charles

Problem 1. Alice wants to use the McEliece Public Key Cryptosystem with a [n, k] Hamming Error Correcting Code, C. To keep things 'small', let's use [n, k] = [7, 4]. i.e., r = 3. purp pur purp a. KEY GEN! i. Construct a $k \times k$ permutation matrix S and an $n \times n$ permutation matrix P. confused ... is this supposed to be by hund? ii. Compute and publish $G_1 = SGP$. b. ENCRYPTION! i. Let m = 1001 be Bob's k-bit message. ii. Compute $c = mG_1$ and change one of the bits! DECRYPTION!

i. Compute $c_1 = cP^T$ but what is produced in Apply Error Correcting Code Decoder to c_1 to find codeword x_1 that is closest to c_1 . Then, let x_0 be the first h bits of x_1 . c. DECRYPTION! first k bits of x_1 . iii. Compute x_0S^T . Did this return m? S = C, H' **Problem 2.** Alice wants to use the McEliece Public Key Cryptosystem with a [n, k] Hamming Error Correcting Code, C. Let's up the ante and use [n,k] [0,0,0,1,0,0,1,0,0,1,0,0,0,0]in record all of the values in Replit/Python - really, I just want you to play around w [0, 0, a. KEY GEN! i. Construct a $k \times k$ permutation ma [0, 0] b. ENCRYPTION! i. Let m = 10100111001 (i.e., $m = 1\overline{337}$) be Bob's k-bit message. i. Compute $c_1 = cP^T$ c1 = [1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0] ii. Apply Error Correcting Code Decoder to c_1 to find codeword x_1 that is closest to c_1 . Then, let x_0 be the first k bits of x_1 . iii. Compute x_0S^T . Did this return m?

= [1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1]

Problem 3 (Hamming Distance). Given two k-bit strings, x and y, the Hamming Distance, denoted h(x, y) gives the number of bits that differ. For example,

$$h(1101, 1001) = 1$$
 $h(1101, 1000) = 2$ $h(1101, 1110) = 2$ $h(1101, 0011) = 3$ $h(1101, 0010) = 4$.

We can easily compute the Hamming Distance of two k-bit strings by simply adding up the result of 'xoring' each bit pairs. For example,

$$h(1101, 1001) = (1 \oplus 1) + (1 \oplus 0) + (0 \oplus 0) + (1 \oplus 1) = 0 + 1 + 0 + 0 = 1$$

$$h(1101, 1000) = (1 \oplus 1) + (1 \oplus 0) + (0 \oplus 0) + (1 \oplus 0) = 0 + 1 + 0 + 1 = 2$$

$$h(1101, 1110) = (1 \oplus 1) + (1 \oplus 1) + (0 \oplus 1) + (1 \oplus 0) = 0 + 0 + 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$h(1101, 0011) = (1 \oplus 0) + (1 \oplus 0) + (0 \oplus 1) + (1 \oplus 1) = 1 + 1 + 1 + 0 = 3$$

$$h(1101, 0010) = (1 \oplus 0) + (1 \oplus 0) + (0 \oplus 1) + (1 \oplus 0) = 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 4$$

a. Determine h(1011101, 1001111) and h(1011101, 1110100).



b. Let's play the evil doer, Eve! Suppose you (Eve) intercept the ciphertext c = 1011101 that was encrypted with the Public Key

$$G_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(G_1 is the result of scrambling the generating matrix G for the [7,4] Hamming Code.) Compute xG_1 for all possible 4-bit messages and record those that have a Hamming Distance of 1 to c = 1011101 – any x that does this is a possible contender for Bob's (secret) plaintext message, m. What are the possibilities for Bob's plaintext message?

c. Let's play the evil doer, Eve, but Bigger! Suppose you (Eve) intercept the ciphertext c = 110100101001111 that was encrypted with the Public Key, G_1 , from the [15, 11] Hamming Generating Matrix G (see Replit Link for $G_1 - I$ was too lazy to copy and paste it :-))

Compute xG_1 for all possible 11-bit messages and record those that have a Hamming Distance of 1 to c = 110100101001111 – any x that does this is a possible contender for Bob's (secret) plaintext message, m. What are the possibilities for Bob's plaintext message?

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1001...2 3 4 2...0110...

1001.... 2 3 4 2...0110...

11001.... 3 ... 0111...

11001.... 3 ... 0111...

11001.... 3 ... 0111...
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d. (Remark) Based off of parts b and c, the single bit change of the Hamming Error Correcting Codes are clearly not strong enough, but they give us a fun view into how ECCs can be incorporated into cryptosystems. In general, the structure remains the same – we just swap out the Hamming ECCs for something cooler. For (possible) post quantum security, the Classic McEliece round 3 submission makes use of so-called 'Goppa' Error Correcting Codes. For more information on the Post Quantum Standardization process and the 4 finalists see https://csrc.nist.gov/Projects/post-quantum-cryptography/round-3-submissions (Also, obligatory plug for my Number Theory and Cryptography course and Cryptography and Codes course – much much more about these worlds)