

# ROW TRANSPOSITION CIPHER IMPLEMENTATION

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## Abstract

*The cipher appeared thousands of years ago but was heavily exploited from the 2nd World War. In our group project, we have learn one of the cryptography method in the transposition ciphers filed called Row Transposition cipher. Our group implements the Row Transposition cipher's encryption and decryption algorithm by using Java programming language.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

**T**he transposition cipher means that we change the order of the plan-text and re-arrange to get ciphertext. Row transportation cipher is the plan-text that is written in rows of fixed length, and we write by column in key order. To enhance the complexity we can follow the procedure to get a more complex cipher-text.

## II. ENCRYPTION IMPLEMENTATION

To implement the row transposition encryption, we utilizes the key as a sequence to switch the columns in a two-dimension matrix to form a row transposition matrix(Figure 3).

Take the key 'NYITV' as a example (Figure 1), the algorithm uses the 26 English letters to find the number sequence '14023'. Then, the algorithm arranges the columns by the order of this number sequence. The encryption algorithm writes letters of message out in rows over a specified number of columns which equals to the key length '5' (Figure 2). Then, reorder columns in the matrix (Figure 3).

									0					1						2		3			4
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
								I					N						T		V			Y	
N	Y	I	T	V																					
1	4	0	2	3																					

Figure 1: Task1-Encryption Sequence Order

The reorder sequence is 20341 to decryption by using the same row exchange method.

0	1	2	3	4	
N	Y	I	T	V	
1	4	0	2	3	
R	E	O	R	D	E
2	0	3	4	1	

Figure 2: Task2-Decryption Sequence Order

Regards for the current assignment, the empty space would be replaced by the capital letter 'X'. Append the rows to form the ciphertext.

N	Y	I	T	V
2	0	3	4	1
c	r	y	p	t
o	l	o	g	y
i	s	t	h	e
p	r	a	c	t
i	c	e	a	n
d	s	t	u	d
y	o	f	t	e
c	h	n	i	q
u	e	s	f	o
r	s	e	c	u
r	e	c	o	m
m	u	n	i	c
a	t	i	o	n
i	n	t	h	e
p	r	e	s	e
n	c	e	o	f
t	h	i	r	d
p	a	r	t	i
e	s	c	a	l
l	e	d	a	d
v	e	r	s	a
r	i	e	s	X

Figure 3: Task1-Message Matrix

The following figure 4 displays the encrypted message.

yotaetfnsecniteeircdrecoipidycurrm  
 aipntpelvrpghcautifcoihsortaasstye  
 tndeqoumcneefdildaXrlsrcsoheseut  
 nrchaseei

Figure 4: Task1-Encrypted Message

```

charles@charlesdeMacBook-Pro:~/Desktop/NYIT/INCS741/INCS741...
charles@charlesdeMacBook-Pro:~/Desktop/NYIT/INCS741/INCS741_Group_Project82/jav
$ docker-app > V main > java RowTranspositionCipher
Test 1
M : [ cryptologyisthepracticeandstudyoftechniquesforsecurecommunicationinthespresen
ceofthirdpartiescalledadversaries ]
w : [ NYITV ]
C : [ yotaetfnsecniteeircdrecoipidycurmaipntpelvrpghcautifcoihsortaasstyetndeqou
mcneefdildaXrlsrcsoheseutnrchaseei ]
D : [ cryptologyisthepracticeandstudyoftechniquesforsecurecommunicationinthespresen
ceofthirdpartiescalledadversaries ]
Comparing M and D : true

```

Figure 5: Task1-Output

Figure 5 shows the result of the encrypted plaintext. Further, we use the decryption

algorithm to double check the answer. The result match to the original text.

### III. DECRYPTION IMPLEMENTATION

The decryption algorithm is the reverse order of the encryption algorithm. The algorithm first writes the encrypted message out in rows. Then, it reads off the message by recording columns.

N	Y	I	T	V
2	0	3	4	1
t	h	e	r	o
w	t	r	a	n
s	p	o	s	i
t	i	o	n	c
i	p	h	e	r
l	s	a	f	a
i	r	l	y	s
i	m	p	l	e
e	a	s	y	t
o	i	m	p	l
e	m	e	n	t
c	i	p	h	e
r	i	t	i	s
a	t	r	a	n
s	p	o	s	i
t	i	o	n	c
i	p	h	e	r
t	h	a	t	f
o	l	l	o	w
s	a	s	i	m
p	l	e	r	u
l	e	f	o	r
m	i	x	i	n
g	u	p	t	h
e	c	h	a	r
a	c	t	e	r
s	i	n	t	h
e	p	l	a	i
n	t	e	x	t
t	o	f	o	r
m	t	h	e	c
i	p	h	e	r
t	e	x	t	x

Figure 6: Task2-Decrypted Row Transposition Matrix

The first part finds the decoding sequence from the key 'NYITV'. Then, write the encrypted message into a 2D matrix 'plainTextArray'. Next, use the RowTranspositionMatrix to record the rearrangement of the 'plainTextArray'. The last step, utilize the stringbuilder to build the encrypted message line by line through the RowTranspositionMatrix. The following is the pseudocode for the row transposition cipher algorithm :

therowtranspositioncipherisafairlysi  
mpleasytoimplementcipheritisatran  
spositioncipherthatfollowsasimpleru  
leformixingupthecharactersintheplai  
ntexttoformtheciphertextx

Figure 7: Task2-Decrypted Message

#### Row Transposition Decryption Algorithm 1

**input:** 'w' : Key and 'C' Encrypted plain-text  
**output:** Decrypted plain-text

```

1: function RTCDECRYPTION(w, C)
2:   keylen ← w.length()
3:   keyArray ← key.toCharArray()
4:   messageArray ← C.toCharArray()
5:   keyPosition ← int[keylen]
6:
7:   Sort the keyArray
8:   Strings ← String.valueOf(keyArray)
9:
10:  x ← 0
11:  for each char c in dArray do
12:    keyPosition[x] ← s.indexOf(c)
13:    Increment x by 1
14:  cols ← keylen
15:  rows ← 0
16:  if C's length mod cols equals 0 then ▷ calculate rows
17:    rows ← C.length()/cols
18:  else ▷ calculate columns
19:    rows ← C.length()/cols + 1
20:
21:  RowMatrix ← char[rows][cols]
22:  k ← 0
23:  for i to rows do
24:    for j to cols do
25:      if count k equals message C's length then
26:        while k equals message's length and j
27:          less than cols keep add 'X' to
28:          RowMatrix[i][j]
29:          break
30:          assign RowMatrix[i][j] from
31:          messageArray[k]
32:          Increment k by 1
33:
34:  StringBuilder str ← StringBuilder()
35:  for i to rows do
36:    for j to cols do
37:      if RowMatrix[i][j] != to 'X' then
38:        str.append(RowMatrix[i][j])
39:  return str ▷ Decrypted message is str

```

Figure 8: Task2-Output

Figure 10 shows the result of the decrypted plaintext. Further, we use the encryption algorithm to double check the answer. The result match to the original encrypted text.

## IV. CONCLUSION

With the growing use of computers and the Internet, and an increasing need to transmit information quickly and securely, the use of encryption through existing protocols (AES, RSA, 3DES, etc.) information security that uses the two types of transposition mentioned (transposition and substitution).

In this example, we can see that using only one round of encryption and a minor key (5 letters), the information is already quite challenging to decipher, and with the use of the protocols mentioned above that repeatedly use the types of transposition, it becomes almost impossible to decipher the messages.

We also demonstrate in the project that the information is decrypted, just doing the inverse of the encryption procedure that needs to be done by the person who will receive the message.

## REFERENCES

[1]N. Hamza, "Row transposition ciphers - ppt download," SlidePlayer. [Online]. Available: <https://slideplayer.com/slide/13205094/>. [Accessed: 28-Feb-2022].

[2]"Transposition cipher," Wikipedia, 23-Feb-2022. [Online]. Available: [https // en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transposition\\_cipher](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transposition_cipher). [Accessed 28-Feb-2022].