General knowledge

1.1 Converting data

Binary to hexadecimal

Use python built-in functions.

```
bin_data = b"data"
hex_data = bin_data.hex()
bin_data = bytes.fromhex(hex_data)
```

Binary to base 64

Use python module **base64**.

import base64

```
bin_data = b"data"

b64_data = base64.b64encode(bin_data)

bin_data = base64.b64decode(b64_data)
```

1.2 PKCS7 Padding

Some block cyphers might require padding. The order of operation must always be:

- 1. Pad data
- 2. Encrypt padded data

- 3. Exchange data
- 4. Decrypt encrypted data
- 5. Unpad plaintext

```
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import padding

padder = padding.PKCS7(block_size).padder()

padded_data = padder.update(data) + padder.finalize()

unpadder = padding.PKCS7(block_size).unpadder()
data = unpadder.update(padded_data) + unpadder.finalize()
```

1.3 Randomization

Random keystream

You can generate a random string of bytes by using an OS function.

```
import os
rand = os.urandom(num_bytes)
```

LFSR keystream

This is included in the **pylfsr** module.

from pylfsr import LFSR

seq = L.runKCycle(num_bits)

```
\begin{array}{l} {\rm seed} \ = \ [0 \ , \ 0 \ , \ 1 \ , \ 0] \\ {\rm fpoly} \ = \ [3 \ , \ 2 \ , \ 1] \ \# \ c3 = 1, \ c2 = 1, \ c1 = 1 \\ {\rm L} \ = \ {\rm LFSR}(\ {\rm fpoly} \ = \ {\rm fpoly} \ , \ \ {\rm initstate} \ = \ {\rm seed} \ , \ \ {\rm verbose} \ = \ {\rm True}) \end{array}
```

Symmetric encryption

2.1 AES256

AES256 is a **block cypher algorithm** with a 32B key, and it can use different modes of operation. The general syntax is:

```
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.ciphers \
    import Cipher, algorithms, modes

block_size = 16  # e.g.
key = os.urandom(32)
iv = os.urandom(block_size)  # if needed, depends on mode
nonce = os.urandom(block_size)  # if needed, depends on mode

message = b"A_secret_message"  # must be binary

cypher = Cypher(algorithms.AES(key), mode = <mode>)

encryptor = cypher.encryptor()
ct = encryptor.update(message) + encryptor.finalize

decryptor = cypher.decryptor()
pt = decryptor.update(ct) + decryptor.finalize
```

CBC mode

Needs an Initialization Vector.

```
cypher = Cypher (algorithms.AES(key), modes.CBC(iv))
```

ECB mode

Padding is required.

```
cypher = Cypher(algorithms.AES(key), modes.ECB())
```

CTR mode

Requires a nonce (unique and never reused). This mode is not recommended for block cyphers with a block size of less than 128b.

```
cypher = Cypher (algorithms.AES(key), modes.CTR(nonce))
```

Effects of modifying ciphertexts in different modes

- CBC and ECB modes: The entire block of the altered byte is corrupted.
- CTR mode: Only the affected byte is corrupted.

2.2 ChaCha20

ChaCha20 is a **stream cypher algorithm**. It requires a 32B key and a 16B nonce.

```
nonce = os.urandom(16)
cipher = Cipher(algorithms.ChaCha20(key, nonce), mode=None)
encryptor = cipher.encryptor()
ct = encryptor.update(message)
decryptor = cipher.decryptor()
pt = decryptor.update(ct)
```

Assymetric encrytption

3.1 RSA

RSA key generation

PEM serialization

To output the key pair in PEM format:

```
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.serialization \
 import load_pem_private_key , load_pem_public_key
 from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import serialization
 encoding = serialization. Encoding.PEM
 # public key
 format = serialization.PublicFormat.SubjectPublicKeyInfo
 pem_pub_key = pub_key.public_bytes(encoding, format)
 # private key
 format = serialization.PrivateFormat.TraditionalOpenSSL
 pwd = b"password" \# e.g.
 encryption_algorithm = serialization.BestAvailableEncryption(pwd)
 pem_priv_key = priv_key.private_bytes(
     encoding, format, encryption_algorithm
You can deserialize a serialized PEM key with:
 pub_key = load_pem_public_key(pem_pub_key)
 priv_key = load_pem_private_key(pem_priv_key, pwd)
```

RSA encryption/decryption (with padding)

```
padder = padding.PKSC1v15()

ct = public_key.encrypt(message, padder)

pt = public_key.decrypt(message, padder)

For OAEP padding, we need to set the padder as:

padder = padding.OAEP(
    mgf = padding.MGF1(
        algorithms.hashes.SHA256()
    ),
    algorithm = hashes.SHA256(),
    label = None
)
```

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Note that encrypting the same message won't give the same cyphertext when using PKCS1v15 and OAEP padding, as there is a random bytes string appended.

Hybrid encryption (RSA OAEP + AES256 CTR)

- 1. Encrypt the symmetric AES key with the public RSA key and add padding.

 encrypted_sym_key = pub_key.encrypt(key, padder)
- 2. Generate a nonce.

```
nonce = os.urandom(block_size)
```

3. Encrypt with AES in CTR mode (see AES256 CTR).

To decrypt:

1. Decrypt and unpad the AES key with the private RSA key.

```
key = priv_key.decrypt(encrypted_key, padder)
```

2. Decrypt the cyphertext with AES in CTR mode (see AES256 CTR).

Key exchange

AES key wrapping

Key wrapping is encrypting a symmetric key using another symmetric key in order to transmit it through an untrusted channel.

```
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives.keywrap \
    import aes_key_wrap, aes_key_unwrap

wrapped_key = aes_key_wrap(wrapping_key, key)
    key = aes_key_unwrap(wrapping_key, wrapped_key)
```