

The RSA cryptosystem

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MATH 411 Capstone Project 2

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Abstract

In this project, we examine two important integer factorization algorithms in the context of breaking RSA encryption: Pollard's $p-1$ method and Wiener's attack. Pollard's $p-1$ algorithm is a number theoretic integer factorization algorithm. , while Wiener's attack targets RSA implementations with a small special exponent. The Wiener's attack, named after cryptologist Michael J. Wiener, the attack uses continued fraction representation to expose the private key d when d is small.

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1 Introduction

Modern cryptosystems rely on the difficulty of factoring large numbers. RSA, one of the most widely used public-key cryptosystems, derives its security from the difficulty of factoring a large composite number. However, certain factorization methods can exploit weaknesses in key generation or parameter selection to break the security. This project focuses on two such methods: Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm and Wiener's attack. Our goal is to survey these attacks and describe the underlying mathematical tools they use. Throughout the survey we follow standard naming conventions. Pollard's $p - 1$ method is effective when B -smooth for a small bound B . Wiener's attack uses instances of RSA where the secret key d is very small. Using continued fraction approximations, it can efficiently compute d under certain conditions.

2 All codes covering capstone 1 topics

2.1 Key-Gen

We know about key-gen, encryption and decryption in RSA. The following code is for key-gen:

```
1  import random
2  from sage.all import gcd, inverse_mod, power_mod, random_prime
3
4  # Function that selects prime numbers
5  def generate_large_primes(n):
6
7      lower_bound = 2**((n-1)//2)
8      upper_bound = 2**(n//2)
9
10     # choose prime between  $2^{\{(n-1)/2\}}$  and  $2^{\{n/2\}}$ 
11     p = random_prime(upper_bound - 1, False, lower_bound) #The value false
12     indicates that an integer prime number will be selected.
13     q = random_prime(upper_bound - 1, False, lower_bound)
14
15     while p == q: # If p and q are the same, the loop continues until a new q
16         is chosen.
17         q = random_prime(upper_bound - 1, False, lower_bound)
18
19     return p, q
20
21 def choose_e(L):
22     while True:
23         e = random.randint(2, L - 2) # Choose a random value between 2 and L
24         -2
25         if gcd(e, L) == 1: # Choose e as long as it is gcd(e, L) = 1
26             return e
27
28 # Function to generate RSA keys
29 def generate_RSA_keys(n):
30
31     p, q = generate_large_primes(n)
32
33     N = p * q
34     L = (p - 1) * (q - 1)
35
36     e = choose_e(L)
37
38     d = inverse_mod(e, L)
39
40     return (N, e), (N, d) # public key ve private key
41
42 # Example for n = 1024 generate RSA keys
43 n = 1024
44 public_key, private_key = generate_RSA_keys(n)
45 print(f"Public Key: {public_key}")
46 print(f"Private Key: {private_key}")
```

Here is the output produced for $n = 16$ in the code:

PublicKey : (52891, 21543)

PrivateKey : (52891, 49655)

2.2 Encryption & Decryption

The following code is for Encryption & Decryption:

```
1
2 def encryption(x, pk):
3     N, e = pk
4
5     y = power_mod(x, e, N)
6
7     return y
8
9 message = 14 # a sample message to be encrypted
10
11 encrypted_message = encryption(message, public_key)
12 print(f"Encrypted Message: {encrypted_message}")
13
14 def decryption(y, sk):
15     N, d = sk
16
17     z = power_mod(y, d, N)
18
19 decrypted_message = decryption(encrypted_message, private_key)
20 print(f"Decrypted Message: {decrypted_message}")
```

Here is the output produced for $n = 16$ & $message = 14$ in the code:

PublicKey : (187, 79)

PrivateKey : (187, 79)

EncryptedMessage : 147

DecryptedMessage : 14

2.3 Pollard Rho Algorithm

The following code is for Pollard Rho Algorithm:

```
1     from random import randint
2 from sage.all import gcd
3
4 def pollards_rho(N):
5     if N % 2 == 0:
6         return 2
7
8     def f(x, N):
9         return (x**2 + 1) % N
10
11     x = randint(1, N - 1) # Z_N'den random x sectim.
12     y = x
13     i = 0
14
15     while True:
16         i += 1
17         x = f(x, N)
18         y = f(f(y, N), N)
19
20         print(f"Iteration {i}: x = {x}, y = {y}")
21
22         g = gcd(abs(x - y), N)
23
24         if g > 1 and g < N:
25             return g
```

```

26         elif g == 1:
27             continue
28         else:
29             return "failure"
30
31 # Example
32 N = 1517
33 factor = pollards_rho(N)
34 print(f"divisor: {factor}")

```

Here is the output produced for $N = 1517$:

Iteration1 : $x = 1249, y = 526$

Iteration2 : $x = 526, y = 82$

divisor : 37

An another example for $N = 155598974698845874896569$:

Iteration1 : $x = 79696997934997733790753, y = 135056534629720426162920$

Iteration2 : $x = 135056534629720426162920, y = 142839707611084207059139$

Iteration3 : $x = 33758016344707328769490, y = 75613779346502558822318$

Iteration4 : $x = 142839707611084207059139, y = 95405249200542099478743$

divisor : 19

2.4 Dixon's Algorithm

The following code is for Dixon's Algorithm:

```

1  from sage.all import *
2  import random
3
4  def optimal_B_without_u(N):
5
6      lnN = log(N).n()
7
8      B_estimate = exp(sqrt((Integer(1)/Integer(2)) * (lnN * log(lnN).n()))).n()
9
10     B = next_prime(round(B_estimate))
11     print(f"B estimate: {B_estimate}")
12     print(f"B estimate round: {B}")
13     return B
14
15 def dixon_factorization_without_u(N):
16     B = optimal_B_without_u(N) # B'yi otomatik belirle
17     factor_base = list(primes(B))
18
19     for p in factor_base:
20         if N % p == 0:
21             return p
22
23     A = [] # (b, factorization) set storing pairs
24
25     while len(A) < len(factor_base) + 1:
26         b = random.randint(1, N-1)
27         g = gcd(b, N)
28
29         if g > 1:
30             return g
31

```



```

32     a = power_mod(b, 2, N)
33
34     factorization = []
35     for p in factor_base:
36         exponent = 0
37         while a % p == 0:
38             a //= p
39             exponent += 1
40         factorization.append(exponent % 2)
41
42     if a == 1:
43         A.append((b, factorization))
44
45 matrix_A = Matrix(GF(2), [alpha for _, alpha in A])
46 null_space = matrix_A.right_kernel().basis()
47
48 for solution in null_space:
49     x = 1
50     y = 1
51
52     for i, coeff in enumerate(solution):
53         if coeff == 1:
54             x *= A[i][0]
55             for j, prime in enumerate(factor_base):
56                 if A[i][1][j] == 1:
57                     y *= prime
58
59     x = mod(x, N)
60     y = mod(sqrt(y), N)
61
62     g = gcd(x + y, N)
63     if 1 < g < N:
64         return g
65
66     g = gcd(x - y, N)
67     if 1 < g < N:
68         return g
69
70     return "failure"
71
72 # Test
73 N = 1545879895645
74 factor = dixon_factorization_without_u(N)
75 print("Found factor:", factor)

```

Here is the output produced for $N = 1545879895645$:

Bestimate : 935.144858889478
Bestimateround : 937
Foundfactor : 5

3 Pollard $p - 1$ Algorithm

The factors found by the algorithm are the factors for which $p - 1$ is powersmooth (where $N = pq$) ; the key observation is while composite N operates on a multiplicative group modulo N , it also operates on all factors of N modulo multiplicative groups. This makes it easier to find factors with certain properties (such as powersmoothness). The algorithm works when $p - 1$ is B -smooth for any prime factor p of N . By Fermat's Little theorem, we know that for all integers a coprime to p and for all positive integers k :

$$a^{(p-1)k} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

If a number x is congruent to 1 modulo a factor of n , then the $\gcd(x-1, n)$ will be divisible by that factor. Thus $\gcd(a^{(p-1)k} - 1, N) = p$. In summary, what we are basically saying is this:

$$a^{(p-1)k} \equiv 1 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow \gcd(a^{(p-1)k} - 1, N) = p$$

The idea here is to make the number $p - 1$ a product of small prime numbers (i.e. B -smooth).

Pollard's $p - 1$ Factoring Algorithm

Input: A composite number N

Output: A nontrivial factor of N , or failure

1. Select a smoothness bound B .
2. define

$$M = \prod_{\text{primes } q \leq B} q^{\lfloor \log_q B \rfloor}$$

3. Set $a = 2$ (a small integer coprime to N).
4. Compute: $g = \gcd(a^M - 1, N)$
5. If $1 < g < N$, return g as a nontrivial factor.
6. If $g = 1$, increase B and repeat from step 2.
7. If $g = N$, decrease B , then repeat from step 2.

If $g = 1$ in step-6, implies the number $p - 1$ is not B -smooth or the prime factors of $p - 1$ do not overlap the factors covered by the powers of the prime factors of M .

If $g = n$ in step-7, this usually indicates that all factors were B -powersmooth, but in rare cases it could indicate that a had a small order modulo N .

A rare case where the algorithm may fail: If for each of the prime factors of N , the largest prime factor of $p - 1$ is the same, then the algorithm may fail.

3.1 Methods of choosing B

We know the smallest prime factor $p \leq \sqrt{N}$ from the number theory. So, we have:

$$p - 1 < p \leq \sqrt{N} \Rightarrow p - 1 < \sqrt{N}$$

By the *Dickman function* [7], if the largest factor of $p - 1$ ($= B$) $\leq (p - 1)^{1/\epsilon}$, this probability is $P \approx \epsilon^{-\epsilon}$.

$$B \leq (p - 1)^{1/\epsilon} \text{ implies } \Rightarrow 1/\epsilon = \log_{p-1} B$$

$$\Rightarrow 1/\epsilon = \log B / \log(p - 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon = \log(p - 1) / \log B \text{ And we have, } p - 1 \leq \sqrt{N} \text{ if we combine all,}$$

$$(p - 1)^{1/\epsilon} \leq N^{1/(2\epsilon)} \Rightarrow B \leq N^{1/(2\epsilon)}$$

$$\Rightarrow B = N^{1/(2\epsilon)}$$

If we choose $\epsilon = 3$, then $B = N^{1/6}$ with 3.7% success rate. Also we choose $\epsilon = 2$ with 25% success rate, but it would be so costly. Why is this election so important? Because the success of the $p - 1$ algorithm depends on the probability that $p - 1$ is B -smooth.

3.2 Why Do We Calculate M ?

We define $M = \prod_{(\text{primes } q \leq B)} q^{\lfloor \log_q B \rfloor}$ but why?

Our goal is to compute $a^M \pmod{N}$ and we know $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$. We want to use this to find p . If $p - 1$ is a B -smooth number, $a^{p-1} \pmod{p}$ is easy to calculate. So we need to compute an exponent M that includes the divisors of $p - 1$. M is desired to be a multiple of $p - 1$ i.e. $M \equiv 0 \pmod{p - 1}$. If this is achieved then $a^M \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ and

from here, we find the proper factor ($= p$) with $\gcd(a^M - 1, N)$.

To determine M , we use powers of prime numbers less than B . We need to calculate the largest power q of $p - 1$. $M = \prod_{(\text{primes } q \leq B)} q^{\lfloor \log_q B \rfloor}$ means for all prime numbers less than B , this means takes them to the largest possible power. For example, Let's calculate M when $B = 10$. The primes $q \leq 10$ are: 2, 3, 5, 7.

- For $q = 2$, $\lfloor \log_2 10 \rfloor = 3$, so $2^3 = 8$.
- For $q = 3$, $\lfloor \log_3 10 \rfloor = 2$, so $3^2 = 9$.
- For $q = 5$, $\lfloor \log_5 10 \rfloor = 1$, so $5^1 = 5$.
- For $q = 7$, $\lfloor \log_7 10 \rfloor = 1$, so $7^1 = 7$.

Thus, the product M is:

$$M = 2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^1 \cdot 7^1 = 8 \cdot 9 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 2520$$

Therefore, for $B = 10$, $M = 2520$.

3.2.1 Why does M contain all the factors of $p - 1$?

For the algorithm to be successful, we assume that $p - 1$ is the B -smooth number. And we know that $q^{\lfloor \log_q B \rfloor} \leq q^{\log_q B} = B$ that is, M is the product of prime numbers less than B . Thus, M is also a B -smooth number. Then if both $p - 1$ and M are B -smooth numbers, then M contains all the factors of $p - 1$.

So we are now sure that $a^M \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ and thus $\gcd(a^M - 1, N) = p$

! Note that: If any factor of $p - 1$ is $> B$, then M does not contain those prime factors. Therefore $a^M \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ and $\gcd(a^M - 1, N) = 1$

So the goal of M is actually to capture the factors of $p - 1$, and this is only possible if $p - 1$ is B -smooth.

3.3 Time Complexity

The time complexity of this algorithm is $O(B \cdot \log B \cdot \log^2 N)$; larger values of B make it run slower, but are more likely to produce a factor.

The algorithm computes $a^M \pmod{N}$, that is, performs modular exponentiation, which takes approximately $O(\log^2 N)$ time. The algorithm finding the largest powers of all prime numbers up to B , which means $\prod q^{\lfloor \log_q B \rfloor}$ it takes approximately $O(B \cdot \log B)$ time.

3.4 The Code for Pollard $p - 1$ algorithm

Here is a sagemath code of Pollard's $p - 1$ algorithm.

```
1 import random
2 from math import log, floor
3
4 def pollard_pminus1(N):
5
6     if N % 2 == 0:
7         print("Please select an odd composite number")
8         return None
9
10    B = next_prime(int(N ** (1 / 6))) # smoothness bound
11    print(f"B: {B}")
12
13    M = 1 # Initial value
14    for q in primes(B): # For primes q up to B
15        M *= q**floor(log(B, q))
16    print(f"M: {M}")
17
18    # Select a number a
19    a = random.randint(1, N - 1)
20    while gcd(a, N) != 1:
21        a = random.randint(1, N - 1)
22
23    print(f"a: {a}")
24    g = gcd(power_mod(a, M, N) - 1, N)
25
26    # Check steps 5, 6, and 7
27    if 1 < g < N:
28        return g # A non-trivial factor found
29    elif g == 1: # g = 1, increase B and repeat
30        print("g == 1, select a larger B.")
31        return None
32    elif g == N: # g = N, decrease B and repeat
33        print("g == n, select a smaller B.")
34        return None
35
36 # Test
37 N = 1517 # Enter a value of N that you want to try
38
39 # Try to find a factor
40 factor = pollard_pminus1(N)
41 if factor:
42     print(f"Found prime factor: {factor}")
43 else:
44     print("Failed.")
```

Listing 1: Pollard's $p-1$ Factorization Algorithm

If we run the code and try it a few times for $N = 1517$, we might see the following in the output:

Run 1:

B: 5
M: 12
a: 29
Found prime factor : 37

or

Run 2:

B: 5
M: 12
a: 547
Found prime factor : 37

or

Run 3:

B: 5
M: 12
a: 79
g == 1, select a larger B.
Failed.

4 The Wiener Attack

It is an attack that makes it possible to find d by using its relation to e when a very small d is chosen in the algorithm. As we know according to the RSA rules, the encryption exponent e is chosen at random in $\{2, \dots, \phi(N) - 2\}$ and the decryption exponent d so that $de = 1$ in $Z_{\phi(N)}$. Since modular exponentiation takes time linear in $\log_2 d$, a small d can improve performance by at least a factor of 10 (for a 1024 bit modulus). Unfortunately, a clever attack due to M. Wiener shows that a small d results in a total break of the cryptosystem [9]. RSA computations are cheaper with small exponents, but one must be careful of the possible dangers.

We have $de - k \cdot \phi(N) = 1$ (where k is unknown positive integer).

If we divide by $d \cdot \phi(N) \Rightarrow \frac{e}{\phi(N)} - \frac{k}{d} = \frac{1}{d \cdot \phi(N)}$
 $\phi(N)$ has approximately the same size of N , so we can write:

$$\frac{e}{N} - \frac{k}{d} \approx \frac{1}{d \cdot N}$$

If d is small, the ratio k/d gives e/N with an error rate of approximately $1/dN$. Since this error ratio is clearly smaller than $1/d$ ($1/dN < 1/d$), the ratio e/N can be approximated with a small error. so if d is small enough, we have an approximation of unknown k/d to the known quantity N/e , with an error of $1/dN$. In this case, continued fractions are used to obtain a correct convergence of the value of k/d . This can be processed with the Euclidean algorithm to find the value of d .

4.1 Extended Euclidean Algorithm

Theorem 1 (Extended Euclidean Algorithm). (a, b) is a linear combination of a and b : for some integers s and t ,

$$(a, b) = sa + tb$$

Proof. The Euclidean algorithm for integers a and b with $a > b > 0$ proceeds via the sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} a &= q_0 b + r_0 \\ b &= q_1 r_0 + r_1 \\ r_0 &= q_2 r_1 + r_2 \\ &\vdots \\ r_{N-2} &= q_N r_{N-1} + 0 \end{aligned}$$

This can be written as a product of 2×2 quotient matrices multiplying a two-dimensional remainder vector
 $:$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -q_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b \\ r_0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -q_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -q_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} r_0 \\ r_1 \end{pmatrix} = \dots = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \left(\prod_{i=0}^N \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -q_i \end{pmatrix} \right) \begin{pmatrix} r_{N-1} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let M represent the total matrix product be:

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} \\ m_{21} & m_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \prod_{i=0}^N \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -q_i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -q_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -q_1 \end{pmatrix} \dots \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -q_N \end{pmatrix}$$

Then:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = M \begin{pmatrix} r_{N-1} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{M} \begin{pmatrix} g \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} g \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{M}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

Using the inverse of \mathbf{M} :

$$\mathbf{M}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = (-1)^{N+1} \begin{pmatrix} m_{22} & -m_{12} \\ -m_{21} & m_{11} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus:

$$\begin{pmatrix} g \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (-1)^{N+1} \begin{pmatrix} m_{22} & -m_{12} \\ -m_{21} & m_{11} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

This gives Bézout's identity:

$$g = (-1)^{N+1}(m_{22}a - m_{12}b)$$

So the coefficients s and t such that $g = sa + tb$ are:

$$s = (-1)^{N+1}m_{22}, \quad t = (-1)^N m_{12}$$

□

[10]

4.2 Continued Fractions

A continued fraction is a mathematical expression that can be written as a fraction with a denominator that is a sum that contains another simple or continued fraction. Depending on whether this iteration terminates with a simple fraction or not, the continued fraction is finite or infinite [11]. If the sequence of convergents approaches a limit, the continued fraction is considered convergent and has a definite value.

For example, the number $\frac{415}{93}$ is represented as continued fraction as follows,

$$\frac{415}{93} = 4 + \frac{1}{2 + \frac{1}{6 + \frac{1}{7}}}$$

Theorem 2. *Any finite simple continued fraction represents a rational number. Conversely, any rational number can be expressed as a finite simple continued fraction. [2]*

Proof. \Leftarrow :

Let r be a rational number like $r = \frac{p}{q}$ where $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$. Firstly,

$$p = a_0q + r_1 \quad \text{for} \quad 0 \leq r_1 \leq q, a_0 = \lfloor \frac{p}{q} \rfloor$$

(by the euclid algorithm)

$$\frac{p}{q} = a_0 + \frac{r_1}{q}$$

now we have 2 case:

case1: If $r_1 = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{p}{q} = a_0$ thus $r = \frac{p}{q}$ is an integer and continued fractions ended with a_0 .

case2: If $r_1 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{r_1}{q} = \frac{1}{q/r_1} \Rightarrow \frac{p}{q} = a_0 + \frac{1}{q/r_1}$

Now we will do the same for $\frac{q}{r_1}$: (since $r_1 \neq 0$, q/r_1 is rational)

$$q = a_1r_1 + r_2 \quad \text{for} \quad 0 \leq r_2 \leq r_1, a_1 = \lfloor \frac{q}{r_1} \rfloor$$

So,

$$\frac{q}{r_1} = a_1 + \frac{r_2}{r_1}$$

Similarly, we have 2 cases as $r_2 = 0$ and $\neq 0$. If $r_2 = 0$, continued fraction ends in the same way. If not,

$$\frac{p}{q} = a_0 + \frac{1}{a_1 + \frac{r_2}{r_1}}$$

We repeat the same steps over and over again. This process ends in finite steps, because at each step the remainder decreases between positive integers such that $r_1 > r_2 > r_3 > \dots \geq 0$. That is, at some point the remainder reaches 0. Thus, if r is rational then continued fraction is finite.

$$\frac{p}{q} = a_0 + \frac{1}{a_1 + \frac{1}{a_2 + \frac{1}{a_3 + \frac{1}{\ddots + \frac{1}{a_n}}}}}$$

\Rightarrow :

Every finite simple continued fraction produces a rational number: We will show that any finite simple continued fraction corresponds to a rational number.

Let the continued fraction be

$$x = a_0 + \frac{1}{a_1 + \frac{1}{a_2 + \frac{1}{\ddots + \frac{1}{a_n}}}}$$

where $a_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ for $i \geq 1$.

We evaluate the expression from the innermost term, recursively.

Define:

$$\begin{aligned} F_n &= a_n \\ F_{n-1} &= a_{n-1} + \frac{1}{F_n} \\ F_{n-2} &= a_{n-2} + \frac{1}{F_{n-1}} \\ &\vdots \\ F_0 &= a_0 + \frac{1}{F_1} \end{aligned}$$

Each F_k is formed by a finite number of additions and divisions involving integers, and since the set of rational numbers \mathbb{Q} is closed under addition and division (except by zero, which doesn't occur here because $a_i > 0$), each F_k is a rational number.

Therefore, $F_0 = x$ is a rational number

□

Lemma 3. *In the Extended Euclidean Algorithm applied to (a, b) , the remainder at step i can be expressed as*

$$r_i = s_i a + t_i b.$$

Moreover, the coefficients satisfy the identity:

$$s_i t_{i+1} - t_i s_{i+1} = (-1)^i.$$

Proof. We have (i), (ii)

$$R_i = \begin{pmatrix} s_i & t_i \\ s_{i+1} & t_{i+1} \end{pmatrix}, R_i \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_i \\ r_{i+1} \end{pmatrix}$$

This follows directly from the definition of the matrix R_i , so the first clause of this lemma is verified using clauses (i) and (ii).

We know also the update matrix in the Extended Euclidean Algorithm: $Q_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -q_i \end{pmatrix}$ and the determinant of this matrix is: $\det(Q_i) = (0)(-q_i) - (1)(1) = -1$. Therefore, we conclude that:

$$\begin{aligned} s_i t_{i+1} - t_i s_{i+1} &= \det \begin{pmatrix} s_i & t_i \\ s_{i+1} & t_{i+1} \end{pmatrix} = \det R_i = \det Q_i \cdots \det Q_1 \cdot \det R_0 \\ &= \det Q_i \cdots \det Q_1 \cdot \det \begin{pmatrix} s_0 & t_0 \\ s_1 & t_1 \end{pmatrix} = \det Q_i \cdots \det Q_1 \cdot \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (-1)^i \end{aligned}$$

This statement shows that the (s_i, t_i) and (s_{i+1}, t_{i+1}) vectors form a linearly independent and "unimodular" matrix. A unimodular matrix is a square matrix (same number of rows and columns) with integer entries and determinant equal to ± 1 . Unimodular matrices are invertible, and their inverse is also an integer matrix. Thus $\gcd(s_i, t_i)$ and $\gcd(s_{i+1}, t_{i+1})$ is ± 1 , i.e. they are independent ($\det \neq 0$). \square

Lemma 4. Let a and b be integers with $a > b \geq 0$, and suppose that $r, s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ satisfy

$$r = sa + tb \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad 4r|t| \leq a.$$

Furthermore, define $i \leq l+1$ by $r_i \leq 2r < r_{i-1}$. Then there exists an integer u with $1 \leq |u| < r_{i-1}/2r_i$, $r = u \cdot r_i$, $s = u \cdot s_i$, and $t = u \cdot t_i$. If $\gcd(s, t) = 1$, then $u \in \pm 1$.

Proof. It is known from Lemma 3 that

$$r_i = s_i a + t_i b,$$

and also

$$r = sa + tb.$$

Then

$$r_i t - r t_i = (s_i t - s t_i) a + b(t_i t - t t_i) = (s_i t - s t_i) a.$$

This expression shows that a divides $r_i t - r t_i$.

Now let's look at the inequalities:

$$|r t_i| < r \cdot \frac{a}{2r} = \frac{a}{2}$$

cause $r_i \leq 2r < r_{i-1}$ and $|r_i t| \leq 2r|t| \leq a/2$ was given as. ($4r|t| \leq a$ due to the situation).

Thus

$$|r_i t - r t_i| \leq |r_i t| + |r t_i| < \frac{a}{2} + \frac{a}{2} = a.$$

a divides this difference $a \mid (r_i t - r t_i)$, and the difference is less than a in absolute value $|r_i t - r t_i| < a$, which is only possible if the difference is 0,

$$r_i t - r t_i = 0.$$

Then,

$$s_i t = s t_i.$$

Since it is known from Lemma 3 that $\gcd(s_i, t_i) = 1$, the number t_i divides t and the number s_i divides s .

Thus there exists an integer u such that:

$$t = u t_i, \quad s = u s_i.$$

And also,

$$r = sa + tb = u(s_i a + t_i b) = u r_i.$$

And then,

$$|u| = \frac{|r|}{r_i} < \frac{r_{i-1}}{2r_i}.$$

If $\gcd(s, t) = 1$ then u is a common divisor

$$u = \pm 1.$$

as desired. \square

Theorem 5. Let $a > b$ and $s, t \in \mathbf{Z}_{>0}$ be positive integers such that $\gcd(s, t) = 1$ and

$$\left| \frac{b}{a} - \frac{s}{t} \right| \leq \frac{1}{4t^2}$$

Then either $(s, -t)$ or $(-s, t)$ appears as some (s_i, t_i) in the Extended Euclidean Algorithm applied to (a, b) .

Proof. Let $t^* = -t$ and so $r = |sa + t^*b| = |sa - tb|$. If $r = 0$, in this case, $sa = tb$, that is, $s/t = b/a$, which is perfect equality. $c = \gcd(a, b)$, and by Lemma 15.21 (iv), (s, t) is one of the coefficients occurring in the EEA. The theorem is provided.

And let ϵ is the sign of s_{l+1} and $\gcd(a, b) = c$, then $\gcd(\frac{a}{c}, \frac{b}{c}) = 1$, and from Lemma 3, we know $s_i a + t_i b = r_i$ (this also holds for $i - 1 = l$), so we find $s = \frac{b}{c} = \epsilon s_{l+1}$ and $t = \frac{a}{c} = -\epsilon t_{l+1}$ which shows (s, t) is a signed version of (s_{l+1}, t_{l+1}) , proving the claim.

We may now assume $r > 0$, so $r = |sa - tb| > 0$. Then

$$4r|t^*| = 4|sa - tb| \cdot |t| = 4 \frac{|sa - tb|}{at} \cdot at \cdot t = 4at^2 \left| \frac{b}{a} - \frac{s}{t} \right| \leq 4at^2 \cdot \frac{1}{4t^2} = a.$$

This is one of the conditions of Lemma 4. This Lemma says that if $r = sa + t^*b \geq 0$ and $4r|t^*| \leq a$, then $(s, t^*) \in \pm(s_i, t_i)$ for some i , from which the claim follows. □

Theorem 6 (Wiener's attack). Suppose $p < q < 2p$, $1 \leq e < \phi(N)$ and $1 \leq d \leq N^{1/4}/\sqrt{12}$. Then d can be computed from the public data in time $O(n^2)$.

Proof. Using $\frac{e}{N} - \frac{k}{d} \approx \frac{1}{d \cdot N}$, we define r as:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= KN - de = KN - (1 + k \cdot \phi(N)) = KN - 1 - k \cdot \phi(N) \\ k \cdot \phi(N) - de - k \cdot (\phi(N) - N) &= k \cdot \phi(N) - 1 - k \cdot \phi(N) - k \cdot \phi(N) + kN = -1 - k\phi(N) + kN \\ &= -1 - k \cdot (N - (p + q) + 1) + kN \end{aligned}$$

(because we know $\phi(N) = (p - 1)(q - 1) = N - (p + q) + 1$)

$$= -1 + k \cdot (p + q - 1)$$

As a result I now have:

$$r = KN - de = -1 + k \cdot (p + q - 1)$$

where $k \leq d$ and $k > 0$

Note: If $k > d$, then $1 = de - \phi(N)k < 0$, so it is not logically valid.

$$r > 0 \text{ from } k \leq d \text{ and } k > 0 \text{ and } r = -1 + k(p + q - 1) > 0 \Rightarrow k(p + q) > k(p + q - 1) > 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 < r < k(p + q)$$

We know $p < q < 2p \Rightarrow p + q < p + 2p = 3p$:

$0 < r < k(p + q) < 3kp$ and we know $k \leq d$ so, $0 < r < k(p + q) < 3kp < 3dp$ and we also know $p \leq N^{1/2} : 0 < r < k(p + q) < 3dp < 3dN^{1/2}$

This inequality says that for small values of d , k and therefore r will be small. We want to use theorem 1 to obtain a larger upper bound using the magnitudes of r and d .

$$r < 3dN^{1/2} \text{ and also } 4dr < 12rdN^{1/2} \Rightarrow 4dr < 12rdN^{1/2} \leq N$$

$$\text{can write less than } N \text{ because } d \leq N^{1/4}/\sqrt{12} \Rightarrow d^2 \leq N^{1/2}/12 \Rightarrow 12d^2 \leq N^{1/2}$$

And we know $N > e$, now we have everything we need to use theorem1:

$$\left| \frac{e}{N} - \frac{k}{d} \right| = \left| \frac{ed - kN}{Nd} \right| = \frac{1}{Nd} |ed - kN| = \frac{1}{Nd} \cdot r$$

$$\text{now we can write } \frac{r}{Nd} \leq \frac{N}{4d \cdot Nd} \text{ from } 4dr \leq N$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| \frac{e}{N} - \frac{k}{d} \right| = \frac{r}{Nd} \leq \frac{1}{4d^2}$$

If this inequality holds, the difference between k/d and e/N will be very small, allowing us to find the correct value of d with the extended euclidean algorithm. When these inequalities are satisfied, using the Bezout's identity it is guaranteed that $\gcd(k, d) = 1$ between k and d . So now we can say $\gcd(s, t) = \gcd(k, d) = 1$ using theorem 5. Thus, extended euclidean algorithm helps us find correct k, d (i.e. s, t) pairs when working on e and N . Now, $s \cdot e + t \cdot \phi(N) = 1$ in here s, t are Bezout's identity. \square

4.3 Low Private Exponent

Using a small value of d in RSA speeds up signing and decryption because modular exponentiation works on $\log_2 d$. However, this leads to a security vulnerability. $\left| \frac{e}{N} - \frac{k}{d} \right| \leq \frac{1}{4d^2}$ in Theorem 5 is a classic approximation relation. The number of fractions $\frac{k}{d}$ with $d < N$ approximating $\frac{e}{N}$ so closely is bounded by $\log_2 N$. In fact, all such fractions are obtained as convergents of the continued fraction expansion of $\frac{e}{N}$. All one has to do is compute the $\log N$ convergents of the continued fraction for $\frac{e}{N}$. One of these will equal $\frac{k}{d}$. Since $ed - k\phi(N) = 1$, we have $\gcd(k, d) = 1$, and hence $\frac{k}{d}$ is a reduced fraction. This is a linear-time algorithm for recovering the secret key d .

The attacker can efficiently calculate d by knowing only N and e . Basic Idea of Wiener's Theorem: Since $ed \equiv 1 \pmod{\phi(N)}$, there exists a k such that:

$ed - k\phi(N) = 1 \Rightarrow \left| \frac{e}{\phi(N)} - \frac{k}{d} \right| \approx \frac{1}{d \cdot \phi(N)}$. In this case, $\frac{k}{d}$ is a fraction very close to $\frac{e}{\phi(N)}$. However, $\phi(N)$ is unknown, so an approximation of N can be used instead. This convergence relation allows finding k using continued fractions. The continued fraction expansion of $\frac{e}{N}$ is calculated. Approximately $\log N$ convergents are examined. One will give k/d and in this case d is captured.

4.3.1 What Should Be Done For Security?

Since typically N is 1024 bits, it follows that d must be least 256 bits long in order to avoid this attack (if N is 1024 bits, then $N \approx 2^{1024}$ and we know $d \leq N^{1/4}/\sqrt{12} \Rightarrow d \leq 2^{1024/4}/\sqrt{12} = 2^{256}/\sqrt{12}$, since $\sqrt{12}$ is so small, it can be ignored). This is a problem for small devices (smart cards, IoT devices) because they require small d to work fast. But for security reasons, a minimum of 256 bits should be set. All is not lost however. Wiener offers a number of alternatives that provide fast decryption and are invulnerable to attacks:

Large e : In RSA, Wiener's attack can recover the private key d efficiently when $d < \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} N^{1/4}$, using continued fractions and the approximation $\frac{k}{d} \approx \frac{e}{\phi(N)}$.

To prevent this, one can choose a large public exponent:

$$e' = e + t \cdot \phi(N), \quad \text{where } t \text{ is a large integer.}$$

Normally, the e part of the public key is chosen to be smaller than $\phi(N)$. But here we choose a very large e' specifically. Then the public key becomes (N, e') , and encryption still works correctly.

The wiener attack uses the approximation $k/d \approx \frac{e}{\phi(N)}$. However, if e is very large, then: the ratio $k/d \approx \frac{e'}{\phi(N)}$ is also very large. so k is also very large.

Why it works: If $e' > N^{1.5}$, then the approximant $\frac{k}{d}$ is no longer close enough to $\frac{e'}{\phi(N)}$, so Wiener's attack fails—even if d is small. However, large values of e make the encryption time longer.

Trade-off: Larger e' increases encryption time, since modular exponentiation takes time proportional to $\log_2 e'$.

The Wiener attack is no longer possible because mathematical closeness is broken. That is, normally small d : risky (because Wiener works); but very large e' : no longer risky (because Wiener doesn't work).

We do not know if any of these methods are secure. All we know is that Wiener's attack is ineffective against them. The theorem 4 was developed recently by Boneh and Durfee.

4.4 Calculation of d

Therefore $d = u \cdot t_i$, where $u = \pm 1$ and t_i is one of the entries in the Extended Euclidean algorithm with inputs N and e . We take some $x \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$ (means $\gcd(x, N) = 1$) and $x \neq \pm 1$. In practice we can choose $x = 2$ because N is a composite odd number and \gcd is strictly 1 without requiring checking. Now check this:

if $x^{et_i} = x = x^{-(et_i)}$ is provided then $x^{2et_i} = x^{\pm 2} = 1$ is also provided. Since $x \neq \pm 1$, this actually gives us the factorization of N , hence d . Otherwise, exactly one of $x^{et_i} = x$ or $x = x^{-(et_i)}$ holds, and this gives us the value of d .

4.5 The Code for Wiener's Attack

Here is a sagemath code of Wiener's Attack algorithm:

```

1
2 e = 53387
3 N = 82123
4
5 test_values = [2]
6
7 ratio = e / N
8
9 cf = continued_fraction(ratio)
10
11 convergents = cf.convergents()
12
13 print("convergents:", convergents)
14
15 for conv in convergents:
16     k = conv.numerator()
17     d = conv.denominator()
18     print(f"Convergent: k = {k}, d = {d}")
19
20
21 ed = e * d
22 valid = True
23
24 for x in test_values:
25     x_pow = power_mod(2, ed, N)
26     x_neg_pow = power_mod(2, -ed, N)
27     x_mod = x % N
28
29     if x_pow == x_mod or x_neg_pow == x_mod:
30         x_double_exp = power_mod(2, 2 * ed, N)

```

```

31         if x_double_exp == (x_pow * x_pow) % N or x_double_exp == (
32             x_neg_pow * x_neg_pow) % N:
33             print(f"x = {x}: x^(ed) = x veya x^(-ed) = x The squared
34                 conditions x mod N and x^(2ed) mod N are satisfied.")
35         else:
36             print(f"x = {x}: Square condition not met -> x^(2ed) mod N = {
37                 x_double_exp}")
38             valid = False
39             break
40         else:
41             print(f"x = {x}: Conditions not met -> x^(ed) = {x_pow}, x^(-ed) =
42                 {x_neg_pow}, x mod N = {x_mod}")
43             valid = False
44             break
45     if valid:
46         print(f"\n Found d valid : d = {d}")
47         break
48     else:
49         print("\n No valid d found.")

```

when we run this code the output is :

Valid d found: d = 3

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