## Exercise: Encrypting and Decrypting with RSA

In this exercise, you will encrypt and decrypt numbers using a simple version of the RSA algorithm. Each team should have two members. Each team-member should complete the exercise as Bob, then pass along some information (but not the whole sheet!) to the other team-member, who will complete the exercise as Alice. In this way, both team-members will play both roles in the exercise. You should conceal your actual numbers from your team-members. You can consider your code for this exercise "prototype" code - you can throw it away and start design when you start the lab.

## Instructions for Bob:

We will be doing $B=16$-bit RSA.

1. Select the encryption exponent $e=17$. (In practice, $\mathrm{e}=65537$ would often be used for larger $p$ and q.)
2. Calculate $p$ like this: (Write results in the table below)
a. Select a $(B / 2=) 8$-bit random number. You can use random. randint ( $i, j)$ to select an integer $x$ satisfying $i<=x<=j$. (You need to import random to use random.)
b. Set the two highest bits and the lowest bit (to 1). This forms our tentative $p$.

You can look at the binary form of, e.g. $p$, using " $\{0: b\}$ ". format ( $p$ ). You can set the highest bit in $p$ using $p=p \mid 0 b 10000000$, and set all three bits similarly, by putting ones in the positions of the bits you wish to set in the ObNNNNNNNN number used above.
c. Check if $p$ is prime. If $p$ is not prime, add 2 to $p$ and try again. (You can use an inefficient program to check if the number is prime; e.g., check if all numbers smaller than $p$ do not divide $p$ ).
d. Check if the number $(p-1)$ is co-prime with $e=17$, i.e., $\operatorname{gcd}(p-1, e)=1$. If not, add 2 to $p$ and try again. (This step is necessary to ensure that we can find ad such that ed $=1(\bmod z)$ Note: since $e=17$ is prime, you can simply check that $(p-1) \bmod e \neq 0$.

| Initial random number (decimal) | Initial random number (binary) | $p$ (decimal) | $p$ (binary) | Is $p$ prime? | Is $\begin{aligned} & (p-1) \% e \neq 0 \\ & ? \end{aligned}$ |
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|  | Final: |  |  |  |  |

(Instructions for Bob, continued.)
3. Repeat step 2 to select $q$. (Note: $q$ must be different from $p$. Start over if $q$ will equal $p$.)

| Initial random number (decimal) | Initial random number (binary) | $q$ (decimal) | $q$ (binary) | Is $q$ prime? | Is $(q-1) \% e \neq 0$ ? |
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|  | Final: |  |  |  |  |

4. Calculate the modulus $n=p q$
$n=$
5. Calculate the totient $z=(p-1)^{*}(q-1)$

Z $=$
6. Select the decryption exponent $d$ such that ( $d e) \bmod z=1$. You can simply "guess and check" all values of $1<d<z$. Only one value of $d$ will work if $e$ is selected as in step 5 . (This would usually be done using the Extended Euclid's Algorithm.) This is your private key. Do not reveal d, p, q, n, or $z$ to Alice or Trudy!

$$
d=
$$

7. Provide your public key [e;n] (that is, simply the numbers e and n) to Alice and Trudy. (This simulates posting your public key on your personal website...)
8. Wait for Alice to send you a secret message.
9. Once you receive the secret message from Alice, you can decrypt it using your private key. Suppose $c$ is the ciphertext. Compute the original message $m$ as $m=c^{d} \bmod n$. For smaller numbers you can simply compute this as (c**d)\%n.

$$
\mathrm{c}=
$$

$$
\mathrm{m}=
$$

Don't reveal the secret message to Trudy!

## Instructions for Alice:

1. You will receive the public key [e;n] (That is, simply the numbers e and $n$ ) from Bob. Write it here:
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e =
    \(\mathrm{n}=\)
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2. Select any number $0<=\mathrm{m}<\mathrm{n}$ for your plaintext secret message. If you like, you can encrypt a sequence of ASCII characters as separate messages $m$ (that is, using block encryption.)
$\mathrm{m}=$
3. Compute the ciphertext c as $\mathrm{c}=\mathrm{m}^{\mathrm{e}}$ mod n . For smaller numbers you can simply compute this as (m**e)\%n.
$\mathrm{C}=$
4. Give the ciphertext message $c$ to Bob and Trudy. This simulates Trudy eavesdropping on the wire.

## Instructions for Trudy: (optional)

(If you have extra time, you may want to play this role - simply get [e;n] and c from another team!)

1. Wait to receive the public key $[\mathrm{e} ; \mathrm{n}]$ (This is simply the numbers e and n ) from Bob.
e =
$\mathrm{n}=$
2. Factor n to find p and q (Use brute-force Python loop. This is the hard step that makes RSA secure for large numbers.)
$\mathrm{p}=$
$\mathrm{q}=$
3. Compute $z=(p-1)^{*}(q-1)$
z =
4. Now compute $d$ the same way as Bob did: Select the decryption exponent $d$ such that (de) mod $z=1$. You can simply "guess and check" all values of $d<z$. Only one value of $d$ will work if $e$ is selected as in step 5. (This would usually be done using the Extended Euclid's Algorithm.)
5. Wait to receive (eavesdrop) on the ciphertext message $c$ from Alice to Bob.
$\mathrm{c}=$
6. Decrypt the $c$, ciphertext message: Compute the original message $m$ as $m=c^{d} \bmod n$. For smaller numbers you can simply compute this as ( $c^{* *} e$ ) $\%$.
$m=$
Acknowledgement: The simple form of the RSA encryption/decryption used in this exercise is based on Avi Kak's lecture notes on cryptography, available at https://engineering.purdue.edu/kak/compsec/NewLectures/Lecture12.pdf
and from the text, Kurose \& Ross, Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach, $6^{\text {th }}$ Edition, Section 8.2.2, pp. 684-688
