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.

- Select the encryption exponent *e*=17. (In practice, 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 | 0b10000000, and set all three bits similarly, by putting ones in the positions of the bits you wish to set in the 0bNNNNNNN 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., gcd(p-1,e)=1. If not, add 2 to p and try again. (This step is necessary to ensure that we can find a d such that ed = 1 (mod z) Note: since e=17 is prime, you can simply check that (p-1) mod e≠0.

Initial random number (decimal)	Initial random number (binary)	p (decimal)	p (binary)	ls p prime?	ls (p-1)%e≠0 ?
				_	
	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)	ls q prime?	ls (q-1)%e≠0 ?
	Final	:			

4. Calculate the modulus n = pq

n =

5. Calculate the totient $z = (p-1)^*(q-1)$

z =

6. Select the decryption exponent d such that (de) mod 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!</p>

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 $m = c^d \mod n$. For smaller numbers you can simply compute this as $(c^{**}d)$ %n.

c = _____ 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:

n =

e =

2. Select any number 0 <= m < 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.)

m =

Compute the ciphertext c as c = m^e mod n. For smaller numbers you can simply compute this as (m**e)%n.

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 [e;n] (This is simply the numbers e and n) from Bob.

e = 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.)

p =

q =

3. Compute z = (p-1)*(q-1)

z =

- 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.

с =

6. Decrypt the *c*, ciphertext message: Compute the original message *m* as $m = c^d \mod n$. For smaller numbers you can simply compute this as (c^{**e}) %n.

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 <u>https://engineering.purdue.edu/kak/compsec/NewLectures/Lecture12.pdf</u>

and from the text, Kurose & Ross, Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach, 6th Edition, Section 8.2.2, pp. 684-688