

A METHOD FOR INCREASING THE SPEED OF CERTAIN CSPRNG FOR ONE-TIME-PAD CIPHERS

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Abstract. One-time-pad ciphers are very important because they are cryptographically secure, and are easy to implement, but the drawback is that the key should be as long as the plaintext.

Such keys are hard acquired and pseudorandom bit generators are used, but they slow down the encryption algorithm, in this article a method for increasing the encryption speed is showed.

Keywords: cipher, pseudorandom bit generator, encryption algorithm

MSC 2000: 94A60, 11K45, 65C10

1. Introduction

The Vernam cipher or the one-time-pad is probably the most famous stream cipher. It is defined over a binary alphabet as:

$$c_i = m_i \oplus k_i \text{ for } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

- where m_1, m_2, m_3, \dots are the plaintext digits;
- k_1, k_2, k_3, \dots are the key digits (Keystream);
- \oplus is the XOR functions (bitwise addition modulo 2);
- c_1, c_2, c_3, \dots are the cipher text digits obtained by XOR'ing the plaintext digits and the key digits.

The decryption is defined by

$$m_i = c_i \oplus k_i \text{ for } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

This cipher is very famous because a one-time-pad cipher is an unconditionally secure encryption algorithm when the key is random and it is used only once. The main issue is the key length, the key must have as many bits as the plaintext.

This is very difficult in practice so methods have been devised to construct pseudorandom sequences in a deterministic manner from a shorter sequence called seed.

A true random bit generator requires a naturally occurring source of randomness (eg. elapsed time between emission of particles during radioactive decay or thermal noise from

a semiconductor diode or resistor) so it is hard to implement and the source of randomness are subject to influence by external factors and also to malfunctions.

In practice we use pseudorandom bit generators (PRBG).

2. Pseudorandom bit generators

Definition. A PRBG is a deterministic algorithm which given a truly random binary sequence of length k , outputs a binary sequence of length $l \gg k$ which appears to be random.

The input to the PRBG is called the seed, while the output of the PRBG is called a pseudorandom bit sequence.

The pseudorandom sequences appear to be generated by a truly random source to anyone not knowing the method of generation. Often the generation algorithm is known to all but the seed is secret.

Many algorithms have been developed to generate pseudorandom bit sequences of various types but not all suitable for cryptographic purposes and not all output sequences are random. It is hard to find good, fast pseudorandom functions that are cryptographically strong.

A minimum security requirement for a PRBG is that the key should be sufficiently large so the search over 2^k elements (the number of all possible seeds) is completely infeasible.

Definition. A PRBG is said to pass the next-bit test if there is no polynomial-time algorithm which, on input of the first l bits of an output sequence s , can predict the $(l+1)^{st}$ bit of s with probability significantly greater than $1/2$.

Definition: A PRBG that passes the next-bit test (possibly under some plausible but unproved mathematical assumption such as the intractability of factoring integers) is called a cryptographically secure pseudorandom bit generator (CSPRNG).

There are several generators that have been proved to be cryptographically secure, their security is based on the intractability of an underlying theoretic number problem but the drawback is that they are relatively slow compared to generators like linear congruential generator which is very fast but is completely insecure for cryptographic use.

An example of CSPRNG is the RSA PRBG under the assumption that the RSA problem is intractable.

Algorithm

SUMMARY : a pseudorandom bit sequence $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_l$ of length l is generated.

1. Setup. Generate two secret RSA-like primes p and q , and compute $n \equiv pq$ and $\phi = (p-1)(q-1)$. Select a random integer e , $1 < e < \phi$ such that $\gcd(e, \phi) = 1$.
2. Select a random integer x_0 (the seed) in the interval $[1, n-1]$.
3. for i from 1 to l do the following:
3.1 $x_i \leftarrow x_{i-1}^e \pmod n$

3.2 $z_i \leftarrow$ the least significant bit of x_i ,

4. The output sequence is z_1, z_2, \dots, z_l .

The efficiency of the RSA PRBG is quite low because if $e = 3$ then generating each pseudorandom bit z_i requires one modular multiplication and one modular squaring.

The Micali-Schorr PRBG improves the efficiency of the RSA PRBG.

Algorithm

SUMMARY : a pseudorandom random bit sequence is generated.

1. Setup .Generate two secret RSA- like primes p and q , and compute $n = pq$ and $\phi = (p - 1)(q - 1)$. Let $N = \lceil \lg n \rceil + 1$ (the bitlength of n). Select a random integer e , $1 < e < \phi$ such that $\gcd(e, \phi) = 1$ and $80 \cdot e \leq N$. Let $k = \lfloor N(1 - 2/e) \rfloor$ and $r = N - k$.
2. Select a random integer x_0 (the seed) of bitlength r .
3. Generate a pseudorandom sequence of length $k \cdot l$.
 - 3.1 $y_i \leftarrow x_i^e \pmod n$;
 - 3.2 $x_i \leftarrow$ the r most significant bits of y_i ;
 - 3.3 $z_i \leftarrow$ the k least significant bits of y_i .
4. The output sequence is $z_1 || z_2 || z_3 || \dots || z_l$, where $||$ detotes concatenation.

This algorithm is more efficient then the RSA PRBG since $k = \lfloor N(1 - 2/e) \rfloor$ bits are generated per exponentiation. For example if $e = 3$ and $N = 1024$ then $k = 341$ are generated per exponentiation.

Moreover, each exponentiation requires only one modular squaring of an $r = 683$ -bit number, and one modular multiplication.

In this article we will propose a way to make the Micali-Schorr PRBG more efficient by increasing the number of output bits in each iteration from k to N , so the speed of the entire algorithm grows.

For this a clock controlled like generator could be the answer.

The modified algorithm we'll look like this:

Algorithm

SUMMARY : a pseudorandom random bit sequence is generated.

1. Setup .Generate two secret RSA- like primes p and q , and compute $n = pq$ and $\phi = (p - 1)(q - 1)$. Let $N = \lceil \lg n \rceil + 1$ (the bitlength of n). Select a random integer e , $1 < e < \phi$ such that $\gcd(e, \phi) = 1$ and $80 \cdot e \leq N$. Let $k = \lfloor N(1 - 2/e) \rfloor$ and $r = N - k$.
2. Select a random integer x_0 (the seed) of bitlength r .
3. Generate a pseudorandom sequence of length $N \cdot l$.
 - 3.1 $y_i \leftarrow x_i^e \pmod n$;
 - 3.2 $x_i \leftarrow$ the r most significant bits of y_i ,

3.3 $a_i \leftarrow \text{expand}(x_i \text{ from } r \text{ to Nbits})$

3.4 $b_i \leftarrow a_i \& y_i$, where $\&$ is bitwise and

3.5 $z_i \leftarrow a_i \oplus y_i \oplus (b_i \ll 1)$

3.6 $c_i \leftarrow$ the least significant bit of $a_i \oplus b_i$

4. The output sequence is $z_1 || z_2 || z_3 || \dots || z_i$, where $||$ denotes concatenation.

The function in the summation generator is based on the fact that the integer addition, when viewed over \mathbb{Z}_2 is a nonlinear function with memory whose correlation immunity is maximum

This summation generator has high period, linear complexity and correlation immunity.

Implemented alone like PRBG it is vulnerable to certain correlation attacks and known plaintext attack, but combined with a CSPRNG it gives increased efficiency since in every iteration the output has N bit length.

This idea came from the LSFR (Linear Feedback Shift Register) theory, the LSFRs are widely used in keystream generators because they are well-suited for hardware implementation, produce sequences having large periods and good statistical properties, but they are not suitable for software implementation, so the combination between the strength of a CSPRNG and the speed of a modified LFSR summation generator could be a way for increasing the speed of CSPRNG.

3. Conclusion

Finding a good, cryptographically secure, fast generator is hard in practice but also it is a very tempting idea and it is still the area of much research.

The method described above for increasing the speed of CSPRNG it is not restricted for the Micali-Schorr algorithm but it can be applied to the Blum Blum Shub generator, the Jenkins generator and to other similar generators.

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Received: 12.09.2002

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