
Kursa Short Message Encryption Technique

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Abstract (10pt)

In the present paper we made an effort to propose a short message encryption technique named KURSA. The present encryption technique can be used successfully for the encryption of very short messages as well as secret keys. We believe the present encryption technique will be very useful for secure secret key distribution because the technique adapted is very strange. Data is protected against known cipher text, plain text and brute force attacks. Data is in safe hands till the secret key taken is unknown.

Keywords:

Plaintext,
Cipher text,
Encryption,
Decryption
Secret Key.

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1. Introduction

Providing security to the information is enforced in now-a-days, so every care should be taken to protect the information. Here we are proposing a **block cipher technique** called KURSA. The word kursa is a Telugu language word, kursa means very short. The present encryption technique can be used for success full encryption of the very short and sensitive information or secret keys. The encryption technique is robust against known plain text, cipher text and brute force attacks because length of the plain text is very short, so there will be less scope for experimenting on it. The secret key which is used in the encryption and decryption process should be exchanged via a secure communication channel or it should be send to the receiver after encrypting it with public key encryption technique. The encryption technique strength is based on the secrecy of the secret key.

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2. Encryption Algorithm

Step 1: Divide the plain text into blocks of 5 letters.

Step 2: Convert the plain text block into cipher text block as follows.

$$C_i = (P_i + K_i) \bmod 26 \quad \text{for all } 0 \leq i \leq 4 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Where

C_i i th cipher text letter

P_i i th plain text letter

K_i i th keyword letter

Step 3: Perform a left circular shift on the key to get the key for the next block.

Step 4: Repeat step 2 and 3 till entire blocks of the plaintext is converted into cipher text.

3. Decryption Algorithm

Step 1: Divide the cipher text into blocks of 5 letters.

Step 2: Convert the cipher text block into plain text block as follows.

$$P_i = (C_i - K_i) \bmod 26 \quad \text{for all } 0 \leq i \leq 4 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

where

C_i i th cipher text letter

P_i i th plain text letter

K_i i th keyword letter

Step 3: Perform a left circular shift on the key to get the key for the next block.

Step 4: Repeat step 2 and 3 till entire blocks of the plaintext is converted into cipher text.

4. Encryption Process

The encryption algorithm is a block cipher technique in which each time it converts 5 successive letters of the plaintext into cipher text using a keyword. The plain text and cipher text's are strings or phrases in English. The letters of the English alphabet *a to z* are used for preparing the keyword. Assume, each letter in the alphabet is assigned a numerical value starting from zero such that $a=0, b=1, c=2 \dots z=25$ and the letters are arranged in a circular fashion. In the first step the original message will be divided into blocks of 5 letters then in the second step the individual blocks will be converted into cipher text in a sequential order. At the recipient end the receiver should use the decryption algorithm which takes same key for re conversion of cipher text into plain text.

For example consider the plaintext, prepareforthewar and key aeiou . The original text now will be divided into four blocks, prepa-refor-thewa-r and this blocks will be converted into cipher text blocks, pvmdu-vmtir-bvywe-f. The process involved in the encryption of the message prepareforthewar is illustrated below.

First Block	prepa
Keyword	aeiou

$$C_0 = (P_0 + K_0) \bmod 26 = (15+0) \bmod 26 = 15 \bmod 26 = 15 = p$$

$$C_1 = (P_1 + K_1) \bmod 26 = (17+4) \bmod 26 = 21 \bmod 26 = 21 = v$$

$$C_2 = (P_2 + K_2) \bmod 26 = (4+8) \bmod 26 = 12 \bmod 26 = 12 = m$$

$$C_3 = (P_3 + K_3) \bmod 26 = (15+14) \bmod 26 = 29 \bmod 26 = 3 = d$$

$$C_4 = (P_4 + K_4) \bmod 26 = (0+20) \bmod 26 = 20 \bmod 26 = 20 = u$$

Second Block	refor
Keyword	eioua

$$\begin{aligned}
C_0 &= (P_0 + K_0) \bmod 26 = (17+4) \bmod 26 = 21 \bmod 26 = 21 = v \\
C_1 &= (P_1 + K_1) \bmod 26 = (4+8) \bmod 26 = 12 \bmod 26 = 12 = m \\
C_2 &= (P_2 + K_2) \bmod 26 = (5+14) \bmod 26 = 19 \bmod 26 = 19 = t \\
C_3 &= (P_3 + K_3) \bmod 26 = (14+20) \bmod 26 = 34 \bmod 26 = 8 = i \\
C_4 &= (P_4 + K_4) \bmod 26 = (17+0) \bmod 26 = 17 \bmod 26 = 17 = r
\end{aligned}$$

Third Block thewa
Keyword iouae

$$\begin{aligned}
C_0 &= (P_0 + K_0) \bmod 26 = (19+8) \bmod 26 = 27 \bmod 26 = 1 = b \\
C_1 &= (P_1 + K_1) \bmod 26 = (7+14) \bmod 26 = 21 \bmod 26 = 21 = v \\
C_2 &= (P_2 + K_2) \bmod 26 = (4+20) \bmod 26 = 24 \bmod 26 = 24 = y \\
C_3 &= (P_3 + K_3) \bmod 26 = (22+0) \bmod 26 = 22 \bmod 26 = 22 = w \\
C_4 &= (P_4 + K_4) \bmod 26 = (0+4) \bmod 26 = 4 \bmod 26 = 4 = e
\end{aligned}$$

Forth Block r
Keyword ouaei

$$C_0 = (P_0 + K_0) \bmod 26 = (17+14) \bmod 26 = 31 \bmod 26 = 5 = f$$

5. Decryption Process

Decryption algorithm takes the cipher text as input and converts it into plaintext using a keyword. Decryption process is opposite to the encryption process where plaintext blocks were converted into cipher text here the cipher text blocks will be converted into plaintext using the same 5 letter keyword. The decryption logic is very simple; the cipher text letter's numeric value needs to be subtracted from the keyword letter's numeric value. And over the result mod 26 should be performed in a sequence one after another using the following linear equation 2.

For example consider the cipher text in the above example pvmduvmtirbvywef which will be divided into four blocks as, pvmdu- vmtir-bvywe-f and these four blocks will be converted into plaintext prepareforthewar using the same key aeiou. The entire process involved in the decryption of the cipher text is illustrated as follows.

First Block pvmdu
Keyword aeiou

$$\begin{aligned}
P_0 &= (C_0 - K_0) \bmod 26 = (15 - 0) \bmod 26 = 15 = p \\
P_1 &= (C_1 - K_1) \bmod 26 = (21 - 4) \bmod 26 = 17 = r \\
P_2 &= (C_2 - K_2) \bmod 26 = (12 - 8) \bmod 26 = 4 = e \\
P_3 &= (C_3 - K_3) \bmod 26 = (3 - 14) \bmod 26 = -11 \bmod 26 = 15 = p \\
P_4 &= (C_4 - K_4) \bmod 26 = (20 - 20) \bmod 26 = 0 = a
\end{aligned}$$

Perform left circular shift for one character on the keyword aeiou then it becomes eioua, use it as keyword for second block processing.

Second Block vmtir
Keyword eioua

$$\begin{aligned}
P_0 &= (C_0 - K_0) \bmod 26 = (21 - 4) \bmod 26 = 17 = r & P_1 &= (C_1 - K_1) \bmod 26 = (12 - 8) \bmod 26 = 4 = e \\
P_2 &= (C_2 - K_2) \bmod 26 = (19 - 14) \bmod 26 = 5 \bmod 26 = 5 = f \\
P_3 &= (C_3 - K_3) \bmod 26 = (8 - 20) \bmod 26 = -12 \bmod 26 = 14 = o
\end{aligned}$$

$$P_4 = (C_4 - K_4) \bmod 26 = (17 - 0) \bmod 26 = 17 = r$$

Perform left circular shift for one character on the keyword eioua then it becomes iouae use it as keyword for third block processing.

Third Block bvywe
Keyword iouae

$$P_0 = (C_0 - K_0) \bmod 26 = (1 - 8) \bmod 26 = -7 \bmod 26 = 19 = t$$

$$P_1 = (C_1 - K_1) \bmod 26 = (21 - 14) \bmod 26 = 7 = h$$

$$P_2 = (C_2 - K_2) \bmod 26 = (24 - 20) \bmod 26 = 4 \bmod 26 = 4 = e$$

$$P_3 = (C_3 - K_3) \bmod 26 = (22 - 0) \bmod 26 = 22 \bmod 26 = 22 = w$$

$$P_4 = (C_4 - K_4) \bmod 26 = (4 - 4) \bmod 26 = 0 = a$$

Perform left circular shift for one character on the keyword iouae then it becomes ouaei use it as key for forth block processing.

Fourth Block f
keyword ouaei

$$P_0 = (C_0 - K_0) \bmod 26 = (5 - 14) \bmod 26 = -9 \bmod 26 = 17 = r$$

Plaintext: prepareforthewar
Ciphertext: pvmdumtirbvywef

6. Implementation

The Kursa block cipher technique is implemented in C language. The method **void encrypt(char p[], char k[], char c[])** is used for encryption of the key and **void decrypt(char c[], char k[], char p[])** is used for the decryption of the cipher text into plain text. The character arrays p, c and k are used for storing plain text, cipher text and secret key. To the encryption function we have to pass 3 character array parameters, p, k and c, in which first two p and k are input parameters used to pass plain text and secret key, and third one is output parameter used to store cipher text.

The method **void getblock(char s[], char block[], int i)** is used to get a fresh block from the plain text or cipher text. The character array s and block are used to store plain text and present block. The integer variable i represents the block number. A **void rotate (char k[])** is used to perform left rotation on the key to get the key for the next block. The functions **void encrypt_b(char p[], char k[], char c[])** and **void decrypt_b(char c[], char k[], char p[])** are used to encrypt and decrypt the individual blocks of the plain text and cipher text.

```
void encrypt(char p[], char k[], char c[])
{
    char key[5], b[5];
    int i;
    int len = strlen(p);

    strcpy(key, k);
    for(i=0; i < len/5 + 1; i++)
    {
        getblock(p, b, i);
    }
}
```

```
    encrypt_b(b,key,c+i*5) ;
    rotate(key) ;
}
c[len] = '\0' ;
}

void decrypt(char c[] , char k[] , char p[])
{
    char key[5] , b[5] ;
    int i ;
    int len = strlen(c) ;
    strcpy(key,k) ;
    for(i=0 ; i< len/5 + 1 ; i++)
    {
        getblock( c , b , i) ;
        decrypt_b(b,key,p+i*5) ;
        rotate(key) ;
    }
    p[len] = '\0' ;
}

void getblock(char s[] , char block[] , int i)
{
    int j = i*5 , k ;

    for(k=j ; k<j+5 && s[k] != '\0' ; k++)
        block[k-j] = s[k] ;
    block[k-j] = '\0' ;
}

void encrypt_b(char p[] , char k[] , char c[])
{
    int i ;

    for(i=0 ; i<5 && p[i] != '\0' ; i++)
        c[i] = ((p[i]+k[i]-194)%26) + 97 ;
}

void decrypt_b(char c[] , char k[] , char p[])
{
    int i ;

    for(i=0 ; i<5 && c[i] != '\0' ; i++)
        p[i] = ((c[i]-k[i]+26)%26) + 97 ;
}

void rotate(char k[])
{
    char first = k[0] ;
    int i ;
```

```
for(i=0 ; i<4 ; i++)  
    k[i] = k[i+1] ;  
k[i] = first ;  
}
```

7. Strength and weakness

The data encrypted with the kursa encryption algorithm is highly confidential because it is safe against known cipher text, plain text and brute force attacks. The procedure we have adapted for the encryption and decryption of the messages is unique and for each letter of the plaintext and cipher text we are using a different key letter. If there are no repeated letters in the plain text the encryption algorithm will be extremely stronger. If the letters in the plain text are repeated there may be a bit of chance to identify the secret key.

8. Conclusion

Data is secure till the secret key is confidential. So, every precaution should be taken to protect the secret key. The secret key should be given to the receiver through secure communication channel and in the cipher text form so that unauthorized persons do not get the secret key. The encryption technique is suitable for exchanging the secret keys and very short messages.

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