

Cryptography Motivated By Immune System

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Abstract

A cryptography algorithm is proposed. It depends on extremal optimization which is motivated by immune system.

Extremal optimization

Extremal optimization (EO) [1] is a metaheuristic method [2] which is quite similar to the way the immune system (IS) renews its cells. This dynamic is called extremal dynamics [3]. It can explain the long-range memory of the immune system even without the persistence of antigens. The reason is that if a system evolves according to such dynamics then the annihilation probability for a clone (a type of cells) that has already survived for time t is proportional to $1/(1+tc)^c$, where c is a positive constant. Therefore, the longer it lives the higher the probability that it will continue to survive. This is the memory effect observed in the immune system. Consider a system of N elements, each element assigned a single scalar variable $x(i)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ drawn from the fixed probability distribution function $p(x)$. For every time step, the element with the smallest value in the system is selected and renewed by assigning a new value which is drawn from $p(x)$. It is assumed that no two $x(i)$ can take the same value.

Definition 1

For the above system the typical values of $x(i)$ increase monotonically in time. This means that any renewed element is likely to have a smaller $x(i)$ than the bulk, and hence a shorter than average lifespan until it is again renewed. Corresponding, elements that have not been renewed for some time will have a longer than average life expectancy. This separation between the shortest and the longest-lived elements will become more pronounced as the system evolves and the average $x(i)$ in the bulk increases.

This phenomenon is called long-time memory.

Proposition 2

Extremally driven systems can generally be expected to exhibit long-term memory [1].

Proposed algorithm:

- i. Apply public key cryptography [4,5] using binary notation to build the initial state $x(i)$ $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ common to both sender A and receiver B.
- ii. A chooses the matrix $J(i,k)$ and runs the spin glass model [1] using the extremal optimization algorithm and the Hamiltonian $H = \sum J(i,k) \times (i) \times (k)$ Such that the final state $x_f(i)$ represents the message.
- iii. A sends $J(i,k)$ to B to derive the message.

An advantage of this algorithm is that it is applicable even for small computers.

Conclusion

I like to comment on the present situation of post-quantum cryptography. Quantum computers have already been made by Google and IBM. They are capable of breaking the standard cryptography e.g. RSA and elliptic curve cryptography [4]. Therefore, studying post-quantum cryptography is essential. An excellent candidate is quantum cryptography, but it is local [6]. Presently one of the strongest candidates in the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) competition is lattice based cryptography [7]. Google chrome already uses lattice-based cryptography. But

lattice-based cryptography is known to have a gap between theory and practice. More mathematical studies are needed for it [7].

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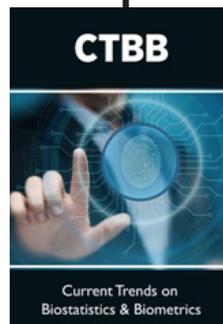
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