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## Application of Method *Threshold Secret Sharing* in Securing Data

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# Application of Method *Threshold Secret Sharing* in Securing Data

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**Abstract.** *Threshold secret sharing* is one of the cryptographic techniques to secure a confidential data by dividing or distributing the data into several parts called *shares*, each part of the data does not provide any information about the secret in question if it is not combined with other parts. In general, the scheme is *secret sharing* divided into three namely *Threshold*, *Prevention* and *Disenrollment schemes*. The scheme applied to this application is the *threshold secret sharing*. *Threshold secret sharing*, has a concept that allows  $n$  people participated to hold fractional (*share*) different generated from  $s$ . Meanwhile, to reconstruct the data, it is necessary to have different pieces of *share*, each of which is held by a different participant. The security system that will be created using one of the *platforms* commonly used today is *Visual Basic .NET*

**Keywords:** *Secret Sharing Threshold, Data, Visual Basic .NET*

## 1. Introduction

Today's technological development is very rapid. With the development of technology, many people use it, especially computer technology that is needed by humans both personally and in groups (organizations) that are in dire need of computerization in storing data and every activity.

Due to the large amount of personal and confidential data from others, security is needed, especially important data in order to maintain the confidentiality of the data. In order for the data to be safe, it must be solved and stored in several places (locations). However, the problem encountered in the process of solving and storing data is a storage area that is often forgotten or even some pieces of data fall in the hands of others. And how to reunite the data or *recovery* in full. To secure the data can use Information Technology.

*Threshold Secret Sharing*, is a method to secure a secret message by dividing or distributing the secret message into several parts called *Share*, each part of the secret message does not provide any information about the secret in question if it is not combined with other parts. *Threshold secret sharing*, have the concept that only allows those participating to hold  $n$  fractions (*share*) different generated from  $s$ . Meanwhile, to reconstruct the data, it is necessary to have different pieces of *share*, each of which is held by a different participant. A *threshold secret sharing* is said to be ideal if *share* the resulting has the same bit size as the size of the secret data bit. The *secret sharing threshold* has a disadvantage that is a lot of computing processes, especially for the *recovery* process. While the advantage is that if one or several of the keys are missing, then the key can still be reconstructed in



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full. The security system that will be created using one of the *platforms* commonly used today is *Visual Basic .NET*

## 2. Research Methods

### 2.1 Definition of Threshold Secret Sharing

Threshold is used to divide or break a secret message to 2 (two) or more recipients. (Satria Prayudi, 2015). Threshold secret sharing, can also be interpreted as to secure a secret message by dividing or distributing the message into parts called *share*.

### 2.2 Notation and Definition

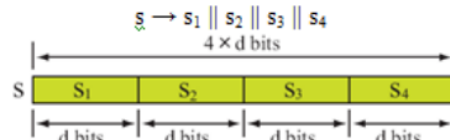
The notations used in the scheme *secret sharing* proposed by Jun Kurihara, et al. (2008), namely:

- $\oplus$  : operation *bitwise XOR*
- $\parallel$  : merging of rows of bits.
- $n_p$  : a prime number, where  $n_p \geq n$ .
- $w_i$  : *share* given to participant  $P_i$ , where  $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$ .
- $s$  : secret message, in binary bit form, with length  $d * (n_p - 1)$  and  $d > 0$ .

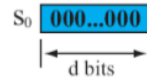
### 2.3 Algorithm Distribution

Message distribution algorithms using the parameters  $(k, n) = (3, 5)$  and  $n = n_p$  (Jun Kurihara, et al., 2008), can be detailed as follows:

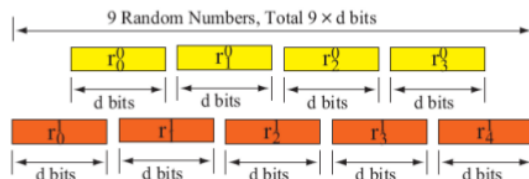
1. Solve  $s$  to be  $(n_p - 1)$  the segment with length of each  $d$  bit. In this case,  $n_p = 5$ , then  $n_p - 1 = 5 - 1 = 4$  pieces.



2. Prepare  $s_0$  which is a row of zero bits with  $d$ -bit length.



3. Generate  $[(k - 1) * n_p - 1]$  pieces of random numbers with  $d$  bits. In this case,  $k = 3$  and  $n_p = 5$ , then  $[(k - 1) * n_p - 1] = [(3 - 1) * 5 - 1] = 2 * 5 - 1 = 9$ .

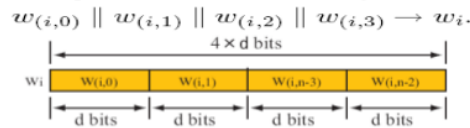


4. Execution of XOR operations with the following equation:

$$w_{(i,j)} = \left( \bigoplus_{h=0}^{k-2} r_{h \cdot i + j}^h \right) \oplus s_{j-i} = s_{j-i} \oplus r_j^0 \oplus r_{i+j}^1$$

The diagram shows the execution of XOR operations. The result  $w_{(i,j)}$  is the XOR of  $s_{j-i}$ ,  $r_j^0$ , and  $r_{i+j}^1$ .

5. Combine  $n_p - 1$  segment to produce the *share*  $w_i$  will be given to the participant  $P_i$ .



#### 2.4 Algorithm Recovery

Algorithm *recovery* message using the parameters for the  $(k, n) = (3, 5)$  and  $n = n_p$  (JUN Kurihara, et al., 2008), can be seen in detail below:

1. Calculate the binary matrix  $G_{t0}, G_{t1}, G_{t2}$  so that  $w_i = G_i * r$ .

$$w_i = (w_{(i,0)}, w_{(i,1)}, w_{(i,2)}, w_{(i,3)})^T, \quad r = (r_0^0, \dots, r_3^0, r_0^1, \dots, r_4^1, s_1, \dots, s_4)^T$$

$$G_i = (I_4, E_i, L_{-i}).$$

2. Gauss elimination execution to obtain the M matrix.

$$G = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} G_{t0} & I_{12} \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} I_4 & E_{t0} & L_{-t0} & 1 & & \\ I_4 & E_{t1} & L_{-t1} & & \ddots & \\ I_4 & E_{t2} & L_{-t2} & & & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

↓ Gaussian Elimination on GF(2)

$$G' = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} * & * \\ \hline \emptyset & \emptyset \quad I_4 \quad M \end{array} \right).$$

3. Execute the following operation to retrieve the secret:

$$(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4) = M \cdot w_i$$

#### 2.5 Message Distribution

Known secret message that you want to *share* is 'ABC' and will be formed  $n = 5$  pieces of *shadow* and it takes  $k = 3$  pieces of *shadow* to get the original message. The calculation process of this distribution algorithm is as follows:

1. Selected  $n_p = 5$ , then  $s$  is broken into  $n_p - 1 = 5 - 1 = 4$  pieces.

Message  $s = \text{'ABC'}$  is converted to ASCII form into a Binary Code:

0001 0100                      01000010                      0100 0011

With bits = 24 bits long, broken into 4 pieces of sub-blocks, then the length of each sub-block is  $d = 24/4 = 6$  bits. The contents of each sub-block are:

$s_1 = 010000, s_2 = 010100, s_3 = 001001, s_4 = 000011$

2. Prepare  $s_0 = 000000$

3. Generate  $(k - 1) * n_p - 1 = (3 - 1) * 5 - 1 = 9$  pieces of random numbers  $r$  with the length of  $d$  bits.

$r(0, 0) = 010001, r(0, 1) = 001101, r(0, 2) = 100101$

$r(0, 3) = 010101, r(1, 0) = 111011, r(1, 1) = 100100$

$r(1, 2) = 110000, r(1, 3) = 000011, r(1, 4) = 100111$

4. Perform XOR operations to calculate  $w(i, j)$ :

$w(0, 0) = 101010, w(0, 1) = 111001, w(0, 2) = 000001$

$w(0, 3) = 011111, w(1, 0) = 110110, w(1, 1) = 111101,$

$w(1, 2) = 110110, w(1, 3) = 100110, w(2, 0) = 101000,$

$w(2, 1) = 001101, w(2, 2) = 000010, w(2, 3) = 111110,$

$w(3, 0) = 000110, w(3, 1) = 100011, w(3, 2) = 011101,$

$w(3, 3) = 110001, w(4, 0) = 100110, w(4, 1) = 100010,$

$w(4, 2) = 001000, w(4, 3) = 100110$

5. Combine  $n_p - 1 = 5 - 1 = 4$  pieces of segment  $w_i$  to obtain the *share*  $w_i$  for participants  $w_i$

$w(0) = 101010 \ 111001 \ 000001 \ 011111$   
 $w(1) = 110110 \ 111101 \ 110110 \ 100110$   
 $w(2) = 101000 \ 001101 \ 000010 \ 111110$   
 $w(3) = 000110 \ 100011 \ 011101 \ 110001$   
 $w(4) = 100110 \ 100010 \ 001000 \ 100110$

### 2.6 Recovery Message

Taken from the result of the calculation of the distribution algorithm example above, assume that the first three participants are  $P_0$ ,  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  want to combine their *shadow* to get the original message, then the process *recovery* message is as follows:

Suppose the first three selected *shadows* are:

$w(0) = 101010 \ 111001 \ 000001 \ 011111$   
 $w(1) = 110110 \ 111101 \ 110110 \ 100110$   
 $w(2) = 101000 \ 001101 \ 000010 \ 111110$

So, the value of  $t_i$  selected is  $(0, 1, 2)$ .

Then the process *recovery* message is as follows:

1. Matrix form  $w$ :

$$w = \begin{bmatrix} 101010 & 111001 & 000001 & 011111 \\ 110110 & 111101 & 110110 & 100110 \\ 101000 & 001101 & 000010 & 111110 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. Calculate the matrix vector  $v(t_i, j)$  where  $i = 0$  to  $(k - 1) = (3 - 1) = 2$  and  $j = 0$  to  $(n_p - 2) = (5 - 2) = 3$ .

The formula for determining vector values  $v$ :

$$v(t_i, j) = [i(n_p - 1, j) \ i(n_p, t_i + j) \ i(n_p, 2t_i + j) \ \dots \ i(n_p, (k - 2)t_i + j) \ i(n_p - 1, j - t_i - 1)]$$

3. Form a  $G$  matrix:

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 1000 & 10000 & 0000 \\ 0100 & 01000 & 1000 \\ 0010 & 00100 & 0100 \\ 0001 & 00010 & 0010 \\ 1000 & 01000 & 0001 \\ 0100 & 00100 & 0000 \\ 0010 & 00010 & 1000 \\ 0001 & 00001 & 0100 \\ 1000 & 00100 & 0010 \\ 0100 & 00010 & 0001 \\ 0010 & 00001 & 0000 \\ 0001 & 10000 & 1000 \end{pmatrix}$$

4. Execute *Forward Gaussian* algorithm to the matrix  $[GI_{k(n-1)}] = [GI_{12}]$ , where  $I_{12}$  is the identity matrix with an order of  $12 \times 12$ .

$$G = \left( \begin{array}{cc} 1000 & 10000 & 0000 \\ 0100 & 01000 & 1000 \\ 001001 & 0000010 \\ 0001 & 00010 & 0010 \\ 1000 & 01000 & 0001 \\ 0100 & 00100 & 0000 \\ 0010 & 00010 & 1000 \\ 0001 & 00001 & 0100 \\ 1000 & 00100 & 0010 \\ 0100 & 00010 & 0001 \\ 0010 & 00001 & 0000 \\ 0001 & 10000 & 1000 \end{array} \right)$$

Results obtained:

$$G = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{c} 1000 & 10000 \\ 0100 & 01000 \\ 0010 & 00100 \\ 0001 & 00010 \\ 0000 & 11000 \\ 0000 & 01100 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 0000 \\ 1000 \\ 0100 \\ 0010 \\ 0001 \\ 1000 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 1000 & 0000 & 0000 \\ 0100 & 0000 & 0000 \\ 0010 & 0000 & 0000 \\ 0001 & 0000 & 0000 \\ 1000 & 1000 & 0000 \\ 0100 & 0100 & 0000 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} 0000 & 00110 \\ 0000 & 00011 \\ 0000 & 00000 \\ 0000 & 00000 \\ 0000 & 00000 \\ 0000 & 00000 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 1100 \\ 0110 \\ 1011 \\ 0110 \\ 0011 \\ 0001 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 0010 & 0010 & 0000 \\ 0001 & 0001 & 0000 \\ 0100 & 1100 & 1000 \\ 0110 & 1010 & 1100 \\ 0011 & 0101 & 0110 \\ 1110 & 1101 & 0011 \end{array} \end{array} \right)$$

$G_1$   $G_0$   $J_1$   $J_0$

5. Execution algorithms *Backward Gaussian* to the matrix  $G_0$  and  $J$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc} 1011 & 0100 & 1100 & 1000 \\ 0110 & 0110 & 1010 & 1100 \\ 0011 & 0011 & 0101 & 0110 \\ 0001 & 1110 & 1101 & 0011 \end{array} \right)$$

Results obtained:

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc} 1000 & 0111 & 1001 & 1110 \\ 0100 & 1011 & 1001 & 0010 \\ 0010 & 1101 & 1000 & 0101 \\ 0001 & 1110 & 1101 & 0011 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \text{Results Obtained}$$

6. Based on the results of *backward substitution* above, the value *secret* can be calculated as follows:

$$s_1 = 010000, s_2 = 010\ 100, s_3 = 001\ 001, s_4 = 000\ 011$$

Thus, the results obtained = 010 000 010 100 001 001 000 011

Grouped into subblok with a size of 8 bits:

01,000,001	01,000,010	01,000,011
65	66	67
A	B	C → original message

### 3. Results and Test

Here are the results and piloting of the threshold secretsharing:

#### 3.1 Messages Distribution Test



Figure 1: Threshold Secret Sharing Application

Distribution is the process of splitting or sharing of the message, so the message is safe from theft of others. The following are the results of the message distribution:

#### Original File Student Biodata

Name : Simeoni Daeli  
 NIM : 1410000104  
 Gender : Male  
 Department : Informatics Engineering  
 Faculty : Engineering and Computer Science  
 Address : Jl. Ampera II No. 14  
 The value of  $k = 8$  and  $n = 10$

#### 3.2 Results Distribution

The following are the results distribution :

<Share 1st>

```
76C904C4C3E96B978B4220A854F270D4C7F39F77A3766C094B6DEDF1448E25CE5A6E540004
DA24C621A8274169F0502CB720137B884DAC93338DBD686A4F0F185CBCCF7FA6FA7C2B87
D5452DDE7D2DE5DCF0E473E403CB518B9BB6F68E29162D02CC67CA94B715D0AB457E607F
B17F3D6D32D089ED9140A38913B33ECB26FB39E4E16738200DB811336E915914F05047C7FF1
390DB73815A57620BD935C22B0E263BEADFB433569DE2C565A1B3B8B4F7C5DBD1D0F9286
8CA2A0DD112869C7E2AE28E3413C77AC091B147C9AC40EB6BB6BEAF80C18553DE555B6F1
44AC191D1627C
```

<End Share 1st>



### Recovery Book Test

The following figure shows the recovery book test of the shadow calculation results:



Figure 2. Shadow Calculation Results

### 4. Conclusions

Based on the results of the implementation and testing, the authors can conclude the following:

1. *Threshold secret sharing* is a method to secure data by dividing or distributing it into several parts
2. To do the distribution process requires the value of  $n$  and  $k$  where the value of  $n$  is the number of *shares* that you want to produce, provided that the value of  $n$  must be greater than or equal to the value of  $k$ . While the  $k$  value, which is the number of *shares* needed to get the original secret message
3. To do the *recovery* process only requires a few of the data fragments, which must correspond to the value of  $k$  or more.

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