

THE



C



GAVE

A place of basic low-level programming

Tutorial 4 - Bitwise operators and system commands.

Did you manage to solve last month's challenge problem? Here is the solution to compare with,

Challenge solution

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int newMask() {
    int mask = (double)rand()/RAND_MAX*254+1;
    return mask;
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int seed = 0xA3, mask = 0;
    char c;
    FILE *inputFile = 0, *outputFile = 0;

    srand(seed); /* Set the seed value. */

    /* Check the number of arguments */
    if(argc!=3) {
        printf(" Usage: %s <input file> <output file>\n",argv[0]);
        return 1; /* Report an error */
    }

    inputFile = fopen(argv[1],"r"); /* Open the input file. */
    if(!inputFile) return 2;

    outputFile = fopen(argv[2],"w"); /* Open the output file. */
    if(!outputFile) return 3;

    c = fgetc(inputFile); /* Get the first character. */

    /* Loop until end-of-file is reached. */
    while(c != EOF) {
        mask = newMask(); /* Get a new mask value. */
        printf("mask = %d\n",mask);
        c ^= mask; /* Exclusive-OR with the mask. */
        fputc(c,outputFile); /* Write to the output file. */
        c = fgetc(inputFile); /* Get another character. */
    }

    /* Close the files. */
    fclose(inputFile);
    fclose(outputFile);

    return 0;
}
```

The solution uses a new mask to encrypt each character. The numbers returned from newMask follow a series, which is repeatable for a given value of the input seed. Therefore, the encryption key is the random number seed.