## Caesar cipher

An example of a simple symmetric encryption scheme is the Caesar cipher
"If he had anything confidential to say, he wrote it in cipher, that is, by so changing the order of the letters of the alphabet, that not a word could be made out. If anyone wishes to decipher these, and get at their meaning, he must substitute the fourth letter of the alphabet, namely $D$, for $A$, and so with the others."


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## Caesar cipher: example

$$
m=\mathrm{A} \text { T T A C K A T D A W N }
$$

$$
\operatorname{Enc}(m)
$$

## Caesar cipher: example

$$
\begin{gathered}
m=\mathrm{A} T \mathrm{TACKATDAWN} \\
\downarrow \operatorname{Enc}(m) \\
c=\mathrm{D} W \mathrm{~W} \text { DFNDWGDZQ }
\end{gathered}
$$

## Caesar cipher: example

$$
\begin{gathered}
m=\mathrm{A} T \mathrm{TACKATDAWN} \\
c=\mathrm{D} \text { W W D F N D W G D Z Q } \\
c=\mathrm{Enc}(m) \\
m=
\end{gathered}
$$

## Caesar cipher: example

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\begin{aligned}
& m=\mathrm{A} T \mathrm{~T} \text { A CKATDAWN} \\
& \operatorname{Enc}(m) \\
& c=\mathrm{D} \text { W W D F N D W G D Z Q }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& c=\mathrm{U} \text { H W U H D W Q R Z } \\
& \downarrow \operatorname{Dec}(c) \\
& m=\mathrm{RETREATNOW}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Shift ciphers

The Caesar cipher is a special type of shift cipher
In a shift cipher, each character is replaced with the character $k$ positions down the alphabet (in a modular fashion)

The key of the cipher is the integer $k$
(the key is also called the shift of the cipher)


## Shift ciphers

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { en } \\
& k=5
\end{aligned}
$$

A B C DEFGHI JKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

$$
\begin{aligned}
& m=\mathrm{F} \mathrm{~L} \mathrm{~A} \mathrm{~N} \text { K THEENEMY } \\
& \downarrow \operatorname{Enc}_{5}(m) \\
& c=\mathrm{K} \text { Q F S P Y M J J S J R D } \\
& c=\mathrm{X} \text { J S I M J Q U } \\
& \downarrow \mathrm{Dec}_{5}(c)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Shift ciphers

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 0=5 \\
& k=5
\end{aligned}
$$

A B C DEFGHI JKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

$$
\begin{aligned}
& m=\mathrm{F} \mathrm{~L} \mathrm{~A} \mathrm{~N} \text { K THEENEMY } \\
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& c=\mathrm{K} \text { Q F S P Y M J J S J R D } \\
& c=\mathrm{X} \mathrm{~J} \mathrm{~S} \text { I M J Q U } \\
& \downarrow \operatorname{Dec}_{5}(c) \\
& m=\mathrm{S} \mathrm{E} N \mathrm{D} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{E} \mathrm{~L} \mathrm{P}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Shift ciphers

$$
\text { Message space: } \quad \mathcal{M}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*}
$$

## Shift ciphers

Message space: $\quad \mathcal{M}=\{0,1, \ldots, 25\}^{*}$

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Key space:

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Key space: $\quad \mathcal{K}=\{0, \ldots, 25\}$
Key generation:


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Message space: $\quad \mathcal{M}=\{0,1, \ldots, 25\}^{*}$
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Key space: $\quad \mathcal{K}=\{0, \ldots, 25\}$
Key generation: return $k$ chosen u.a.r. from $\mathcal{K}$


## Shift ciphers

Message space: $\quad \mathcal{M}=\{0,1, \ldots, 25\}^{*}$

$$
m=m_{1} m_{2} \ldots m_{\ell}
$$

Ciphertext space: $\mathcal{C}=\{0, \ldots, 25\}^{*}$
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Key generation: return $k$ chosen u.a.r. from $\mathcal{K}$


## Encryption function:

$$
\operatorname{Enc}_{k}(m)=\operatorname{Enc}_{k}\left(m_{1}\right)\left\|\operatorname{Enc}_{k}\left(m_{2}\right)\right\| \ldots \| \operatorname{Enc}_{k}\left(m_{\ell}\right)
$$



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\operatorname{Enc}_{k}\left(m_{i}\right)=\left(m_{i}+k\right) \bmod 26
\end{gathered}
$$



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$$
\begin{aligned}
& m=m_{1} m_{2} \ldots m_{\ell} \\
& c=c_{1} c_{2} \ldots c_{\ell}
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\begin{aligned}
& m=m_{1} m_{2} \ldots m_{\ell} \\
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## Correctness:

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& =\left(\left(\left(m_{i}+k\right) \bmod 26\right)-k\right) \bmod 26
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$$

(definition of $E n c_{k}$ )
(definition of $\mathrm{Dec}_{k}$ )

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(definition of $\mathrm{Dec}_{k}$ )
(properties of mod)

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(definition of $\mathrm{Enc}_{k}$ )
(definition of $\mathrm{Dec}_{k}$ )
(properties of mod)
( $m_{i}<26$ )

## Shift ciphers

Are shift ciphers secure?

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$$
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We can use a brute-force (or exhaustive search) attack

In a brute-force attack, the adversary systematically tries all possible keys until the correct one is found.


## Shift ciphers

## Brute-force attack:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{Dec}_{0}(c)=\mathrm{X} \text { J S I M J Q U } \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{1}(c)=\mathrm{W} \text { I R H L I P T } \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{2}(c)=\mathrm{V} \text { H Q G K H O S } \\
& \mathrm{Dec}_{3}(c)=\mathrm{U} \text { G P F J G N R } \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{4}(c)=\mathrm{T} \text { F E I F M Q } \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{5}(c)=S E N D H E L P \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{6}(c)=\mathrm{R} \mathrm{D} \text { MCGDKO} \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{24}(c)=\mathrm{Z} \text { L U K O L S W } \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{25}(c)=\mathrm{Y} \text { K T J N K R V }
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& \operatorname{Dec}_{4}(c)=\mathrm{T} \text { F } \mathrm{E} \text { I F M Q } \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{5}(c)=S E N D H E L P \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{6}(c)=\mathrm{R} \text { D M C G D K O } \\
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& \operatorname{Dec}_{2}(c)=\mathrm{V} \text { H Q GKHOS } \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{3}(c)=\mathrm{U} \text { GPFJGNR} \\
& \operatorname{Dec}_{4}(c)=\mathrm{T} \text { F O E F M Q } \\
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\end{aligned}
$$

Sufficient key-space principle: Any cipher should use a "large enough" key space to prevent brute-force attacks

## (Monoalphabetic) Substitution ciphers

The key is now a permutation $\pi$ of the alphabet $\Sigma=\{\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{B}, \ldots, \mathrm{Z}\}$
$\mathcal{K}=\{\pi: \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma \mid \pi$ is a pemutation $\}$

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To encrypt a message, replace each character $m_{i}$ in the plaintext with $k\left(m_{i}\right)=\pi\left(m_{i}\right)$ $\operatorname{Enc}_{k}(m)=k\left(m_{1}\right)\left\|k\left(m_{2}\right)\right\| \ldots \| k\left(m_{\ell}\right)$

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To decrypt a message, replace each character $c_{i}$ of the ciphertext with $k^{-1}\left(c_{i}\right)=\pi^{-1}\left(c_{i}\right)$ $\operatorname{Dec}_{k}(m)=k^{-1}\left(c_{1}\right)\left\|k^{-1}\left(c_{2}\right)\right\| \ldots \| k^{-1}\left(c_{\ell}\right)$

## (Monoalphabetic) Substitution ciphers



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$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ } \\
& \text { J E A Q B Y D P V F K I N H M X U S W C O G R Z T L } \\
& m=\mathrm{A} \text { W A I T O R D ER S } \\
& \text { - } \mathrm{Enc}_{k}(m) \\
& c=\mathrm{J} R \mathrm{~J} \mathrm{~V} \text { C M S Q B S W } \\
& c=\mathrm{B} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{~B} \mathrm{~N} \text { T Q MRH} \\
& \downarrow \operatorname{Dec}_{k}(c)
\end{aligned}
$$

## (Monoalphabetic) Substitution ciphers

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& m=\mathrm{E} N \mathrm{E} \text { M Y D O W N }
\end{aligned}
$$

## (Monoalphabetic) Substitution ciphers

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How many keys are there?

$$
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If we tried 100 billion keys per second, we would need about 100 million years to find the right permutation $k$


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Are permutation ciphers secure?

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- ... but they might be susceptible to more sophisticated attack techniques

Observation (informal): A large keyspace is not a sufficient condition for a cipher to be secure

## Substitution ciphers

Suppose that we somehow have deciphered a small portion of the ciphertext
We can replace each known ciphertext symbol $x$ with its plaintext $k^{-1}(x)$ and then use the partially decrypted message to make further guesses about $k$

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A similar example: codebreaker word puzzle


## Substitution ciphers

| 1 | 12 | 1 | 12 | 19 |  | 21 | 2 | 13 | 9 | 26 | 20 | 19 | 16 | 17 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 19 |  | 14 |  | 13 |  | 19 |  | 9 |  | 4 |  | 4 |  | 16 |
| ${ }^{5}$ T | ${ }^{1}$ R | ${ }^{18}$ | ${ }^{1} \mathrm{C}$ | 5T | ${ }^{1} 0$ | ${ }^{1} \mathrm{R}$ |  | 22 | 12 | 12 | 21 | 12 | 26 | 25 |
| 19 |  | 16 |  |  |  | 24 |  |  |  | 15 |  | 5 |  | 19 |
| 21 | 2 | 15 | 10 | 11 |  | 19 | 18 | 19 | 3 | 9 |  | 14 | 12 | 17 |
| 25 |  | 9 |  | 19 |  |  |  | 13 |  |  |  | 9 |  |  |
| 11 | 19 | 17 |  | 10 | 21 | 20 | 13 | 13 |  | 7 | 20 | 16 | 12 | 16 |
| 2 |  |  |  | 21 |  | 21 |  | 2 |  | 19 |  |  |  | 9 |
| 11 | 2 | 9 | 24 | 9 |  | 5 | 12 | 8 | 2 | 1 |  | 18 | 19 | 11 |
|  |  | 15 |  |  |  | 16 |  |  |  | 3 |  | 14 |  | 6 |
| 7 | 19 | 10 |  | 23 | 20 | 19 | 21 | 15 |  | 11 | 14 | 12 | 24 | 9 |
| 20 |  | 19 |  | 20 |  |  |  | 19 |  |  |  | 12 |  | 1 |
| 21 | 19 | 16 | 2 | 19 | 5 | 11 |  | 7 | 19 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 12 | 5 |
| 9 |  | 26 |  | 3 |  | 2 |  | 12 |  | 20 |  | 9 |  | 9 |
| 6 | 16 | 12 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 12 | 16 |  | 10 | 21 | 9 | 4 | 17 |

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## Substitution ciphers



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## Substitution ciphers



## Substitution ciphers

|  |  |  | ${ }^{9} \mathrm{E}^{2} \mathrm{G}^{2} \mathrm{U}^{1}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| , |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | A |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{1}$ A | R |  |  |  |  |
|  | ${ }^{1}{ }^{1}{ }^{1}{ }^{\text {S }}$ | W |  |  |  |
|  | A |  |  |  |  |
| S | A | ${ }^{2} \mathrm{~L}{ }^{2} \mathrm{U}^{12} \mathrm{~F}^{1 / \mathrm{F}}$ | $]^{2} \underbrace{1}$ |  |  |
|  |  | ${ }^{2} \mathrm{~L}$ | A |  |  |
|  | $\mathrm{E}^{2} \mathrm{~V}^{9}{ }^{9} \mathrm{E}$ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | A | $\mathrm{U}^{1} \mathrm{~A}{ }^{\text {a }}$ | ${ }^{1}{ }^{1}{ }^{14}$ |  |  |
|  | ${ }^{18} A^{20}$ |  |  |  |  |
|  | $1^{1 / 2}{ }^{2} 1^{18}$ | $\mathrm{T}^{1}{ }^{1} \mathbf{S}$ | ${ }^{\text {A }}{ }^{1} \mathrm{C}^{3} \mathrm{~K}{ }^{6} \mathrm{P}$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $1^{12} \mathrm{~B}^{10}{ }^{7} \mathrm{~J}^{9} \mathrm{E}$ | $\mathrm{C} \mathrm{C}^{5} \mathrm{~T}^{1} \mathrm{O}^{1}{ }^{1} \mathrm{R}$ | ${ }^{1} \mathbf{B}^{2} \mathbf{L}{ }^{\text {a }}$ 9 ${ }^{9}$ |  |  |

## Substitution ciphers



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## Substitution ciphers

Compare the expected frequencies in the message language with the observed frequencies in the ciphertext

Expected


Observed (in the ciphertext)


## Substitution ciphers

Compare the expected frequencies in the message language with the observed frequencies in the ciphertext


Guess part of the key and use the guesses to break the cipher (as shown before)

## Substitution ciphers

The same analysis can be repeated for bigrams, trigrams, etc
Distribution of Bigrams


## Vigenère cipher

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$s_{i}= \begin{cases}0 & \text { if } k_{i}=\mathrm{A} \\ 1 & \text { if } k_{i}=\mathrm{B} \\ 2 & \text { if } k_{i}=\mathrm{C} \\ \ldots & \\ 25 & \text { if } k_{i}=\mathrm{Z}\end{cases}$

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Blaise de Vigenère
(1523-1596)
$s_{i}= \begin{cases}0 & \text { if } k_{i}=\mathrm{A} \\ 1 & \text { if } k_{i}=\mathrm{B} \\ 2 & \text { if } k_{i}=\mathrm{C} \\ \cdots & \\ 25 & \text { if } k_{i}=\mathrm{Z}\end{cases}$
The generic $i$-th character $m_{i}$ of the message $m=m_{0} m_{1} \ldots m_{\ell-1}$ is encrypted using a shift cipher with shift $s_{i \bmod t}$

## Vigenère cipher

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{M}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*} \\
& \mathcal{K}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{t} \\
& \mathcal{C}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*}
\end{aligned}
$$

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$\bigcirc \cdots=\mathrm{A} C$ I D


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$\because=\mathrm{A}$ C I D
shifts $=0283$
$m=$ THISNIGHT$\longrightarrow \mathrm{Enc}_{k}$

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$$
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& \mathcal{M}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*} \\
& \mathcal{K}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{t} \\
& \mathcal{C}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*}
\end{aligned}
$$

$0<=\mathrm{A}$ C I D
shifts $=0283$
$m=$ THISNI GHT $\longrightarrow \mathrm{Enc}_{k}$
028302830

## Vigenère cipher

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{M}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*} \\
& \mathcal{K}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{t} \\
& \mathcal{C}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*}
\end{aligned}
$$

$0 \sim=\mathrm{A}$ C I D shifts $=0283$


## Vigenère cipher

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$$

$0<=\mathrm{A}$ C I D shifts $=0283$

$0=k=\mathrm{ACID}$
shifts $=0283$


## Vigenère cipher

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{M}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*} \\
& \mathcal{K}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{t} \\
& \mathcal{C}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*}
\end{aligned}
$$

$0 \cdots=\mathrm{A} C$ I D shifts $=0283$

$0=k=\mathrm{ACID}$

$$
\text { shifts }=0283
$$

$$
c=\mathrm{AD} \mathrm{Z} \mathrm{UTRTDN} \longrightarrow \frac{\downarrow}{\mathrm{Dec}_{k}}
$$

$$
028302830
$$

## Vigenère cipher

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{M}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*} \\
& \mathcal{K}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{t} \\
& \mathcal{C}=\{A, \ldots, Z\}^{*}
\end{aligned}
$$

$0 \sim k=\mathrm{A} C$ I D
shifts $=0283$

$0 \sim \mathrm{~A}=\mathrm{C}$ I D

$$
\text { shifts }=0283
$$



## Vigenère cipher

A table called "tabula recta" can be used to aid encryption and decryption

|  |  |  |  | B | C |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | M |  | O | P | Q |  | T | U | V |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | A | B | C | D | E | F |  | H |  |  | K |  | M | N | O | P | Q |  | T | U |  |  |  |  |  |
| B |  |  | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |  | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A |
|  |  |  | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |  |  |  | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | U | V | W | $X$ | Y | Z | A | B |
| D |  |  | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C |
|  |  |  | E | F | G | H | 1 |  | K | L |  | N | O |  | Q | R | S | T |  | W |  | Y | Z | A | B | C | D |
|  |  |  | F | G | H | 1 |  | K |  | M |  |  | P |  | R | S | T | U | $\checkmark$ W |  | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E |
|  |  |  | G | H | 1 | J | K | L |  | N |  |  |  |  | S | T | U | V |  | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F |
|  |  |  | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P |  | R | S | T | U | V | W |  | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G |
|  |  |  | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|  |  |  | J | K | L | M | N | O |  | Q |  |  |  |  | V | W | X | Y |  |  | C | D | E | F | G | H |  |
|  |  |  | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |  |
|  |  |  | L | M | N | O | P |  |  | S |  |  |  |  | X | Y | Z | A |  |  | E | F |  | H |  | J | K |
|  |  |  | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U |  | W | W | Y | Z | A | B | C D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L |
|  |  |  | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U |  | W | X | X Y | Z | A | B | C | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M |
|  |  |  | O | P | Q | R | S |  |  | V |  |  |  |  | A | B | C | D | E | G | H | 1 |  | K | L | M |  |
|  |  |  | P | Q | R | S | T |  |  | W |  |  | Z |  | B | C | D | E |  |  | 1 | J | K | L | M | N |  |
|  |  |  | Q | R | S | T | U |  |  | X |  |  |  |  | C | D | E | F |  |  | J | K | L | M | N | O |  |
|  |  |  | R | S | T |  |  |  |  | Y |  |  | B |  | D | E | F | G | H |  | K | L | M | N | O | P |  |
|  |  |  | S | T | U |  | W | X | X Y | Z |  |  | C |  | E | F | G | H | 1 J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R |
|  |  |  | T |  |  |  | X |  |  | A |  |  |  |  | F |  |  | 1 |  | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R |  |
|  |  |  | U |  | W | X |  | Z | A | B |  |  | E |  | G | H | 1 | J | K | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | K |  |  | O | P | Q | R | S |  |  |
|  |  |  | W |  | Y | Z | A | B | C | D |  |  | G |  | 1 | J | K | L |  | O | P | Q | R |  | T |  |  |
|  |  |  | X |  | Z | A |  | C |  | E | F |  | H |  | J | K | L | M | N | P | Q | R | S | T | U |  |  |
|  |  |  | Y | Z | A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | N |  |  |  | S |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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A table called "tabula recta" can be used to aid encryption and decryption
E.g., to encrypt the plaintext character K with the shift corresponding to the key character F, look up the letter at the intersection of the row labeled K and the column labeled F (or vice-versa)

|  | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | Z

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|  | A | B | C | C | D E | F | G |  | H I | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | 0 | O P | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | W X | Y | Z |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | A | B | C | C D | D E | F | G | H | H I | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | NO | O P | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | W X | Y | Z |
| B | B | C | D | E | E $F$ | G | H | H I | 1 J | J | K | L | M | N | 0 | P P | P Q | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A |
| C | C | D | E | F | F | H | 1 | J | J K | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | Q $R$ | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B |
| D | D | E | F | G | G H | 1 |  |  | K L | L M | M | N | O | P | Q | Q R | R S | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C |
| E | E | F | G | G | H I | J | K | L | L M | M | N | O | P | Q | R | R S | S T | T | U | V | W | $X$ | Y | Z | A | B | C | D |
| F | F | G | H | H I | 1 | K | L |  | $\mathrm{M} N$ | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | TU | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E |
| G | G | H | 1 l | J | J K | L | M | N | N O | 0 | P | Q | R | S | T | U | U V | V | W | $X$ | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F |
| H | H | 1 | J | J K | K L | M | N | NO | O P | P | Q | R | S | T | U | U V | V W | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G |
| 1 | 1 |  | K | L | - M | N | O | P | P Q | Q R | R | S | T | U | V | $\checkmark$ W | W X | $X$ | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
| J | J | K | L | M | M N | O | P |  | Q R | R | S | T | U | V | W | W X | X Y | Y Z | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |
| K | K | L | M | 1 N | N 0 | P | Q | R | R S | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Y | A | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |  |
| L | L | M | N | NO | O P | Q | R | R S | S T | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | Z A | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | H | J | K |
| M | M | N | NO | P | P Q | R | S |  | T U | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | Z A | A B | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L |
| N | N | 0 | P | Q | Q R | R | T | U | U V | $V$ V | W | $X$ | Y | Z | A | A B | B | D | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M |
| 0 | 0 | P | Q | Q R | R S | T | U | U V | V W | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | B C | C D | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N |
| P | P | Q | Q | R S | S T | U | V |  | W X | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | C D | D |  | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O |
| Q | Q | R | S | T | T U | UV | W | V X | X Y | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | - | P |
| R | R | S | T | T U | U V |  | X |  | Y Z | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | F G | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q |
| S | S | T | U | U V | $\checkmark$ W | V | Y | Y | Z A | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | G H | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R |
| T | T | U | V | $V$ W | W X | X Y | Z |  | A B | B | C | D | E | F | G | G H | H |  | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S |
| U | U | V | W | W X | X Y | Z | A | B | B C | C | D | E | F | G | H | H I | 1 J | $J$ K | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | 1 |
| V | V | W | W X | X Y | $Y$ Z | A | B |  | C D | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | J K | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U |
| W | W | X | Y | $Y$ Z | Z A | B | C | C D | D E | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | K |  | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V |
| X | X | Y | Z | Z A | A B | C | D |  | E F | F | G | H | , | J | K | L | L M | M | N | 0 | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W |
| Y | Y | Z | A | A B | B | D | E | F | F G | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | M N | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | $X$ |
| Z | Z | A | B | C | C D | E |  |  | G H | H |  |  | K | L |  |  | N |  | P | Q | R | S | T | U |  |  | V X | Y |

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A table called "tabula recta" can be used to aid encryption and decryption
E.g., to encrypt the plaintext character $K$ with the shift corresponding to the key character F, look up the letter at the intersection of the row labeled K and the column labeled F (or vice-versa)

|  | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | Z

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To decrypt the ciphertext character P with the shift corresponding to the key character $F$, find $P$ in the column corresponding to $F$ and return the row label

|  | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |  | K | L | M | M | N | 0 | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | $X$ | Y | Z |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | $X$ | Y | Z |
| B | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | H | J | K | L | M | M | N | 0 | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A |
| C | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | NO | 0 | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B |
| D | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |  | K | L | M | N | 1 O | O P | P | Q | R | S | T U | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C |
| E | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | NO | O P | Q | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D |
| F | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | O P | Q | Q R | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E |
| G | G | H | H | J | K | L | M | N | 0 | P | Q | Q R | S | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F |
| H | H | H | J | K | L | M | N | 0 | P | Q | R | S | T | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G |
| 1 | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | S T | U | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|  | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T T | T U | UV | V | W | $X$ | $Y$ | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |  |
| K | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | T | U V | W | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J |
| L | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | $V$ | $\checkmark$ W | W X | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K |
| M | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | $T$ | U |  | W | W X | X Y | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L |
| N | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | W X | X Y | Y Z | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |  | K | L | M |
| $\bigcirc$ | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | Z A | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N |
| P | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | Z A | A B | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O |
| Q | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P |
| R | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q |
| S | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | C D | E | , | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R |
| T | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | C D | E | E |  | G | H | 1 | $J$ | K | L | M | N | 0 | P | Q | R | S |
| U | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T |
| V | V | W | V | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | G H |  | 1 | $J$ | K | L M | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U |
| W | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | G H | H |  | $J$ | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V |
| $X$ | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | G H | 1 | J |  | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W |
| Y | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | H | J | J K | K | L | M | N | O P | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X |
|  | Z | A | B | C |  |  |  | G |  |  |  |  | L |  | M | N | 0 |  | Q | R | S | T | U |  |  | X | Y |

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|  | A | B | B C | C D | D E | F | F G | G H | H |  | J | K | L | M | N | 0 |  |  | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | A | B | B | C D | D E | F | F G | G | H |  | J | K | L | M | N | O | P |  | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | $X$ | Y | Z |
| B | B | C | C D | D E | E F | G | G H | H I | I |  | K | L | M | N | 0 | P | Q | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | $X$ | Y | Z | A |
| C | C | D | E | E F | F G | H | H | 1 J | J K | K | L | M | N | 0 | P | Q | R |  | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B |
| D | D | E | F | F G | G H |  | 1 | K | K | L | M | N | 0 | $P$ | Q | R | S |  | T U | U | $\checkmark$ | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C |
| E | E | F | G | G H | H |  | K | L | L M | M | N | 0 | P | Q | R | S | T |  | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D |
| F | F | G | G H | H | 1 J | K | K L | M | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U |  | $V$ | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E |
| G | G | H | H | 1 J | J K | L | L M | M N | N | 0 | P | Q | R | S | 1 | U | $V$ |  | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F |
| H | H | 1 | 1 | J K | K L | , | N | N | 0 | P | Q | R | S | T | U | $\checkmark$ | W | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G |
| 1 | 1 | J | J K | K L | L M | N | N | O P | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | X | Y Z | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
| J | J | K | L | L M | M N | 0 | O P | Q | Q R | R | S | T | U | V | W | , | Y |  | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |
| K | K | L | M | M N | NO |  | P Q | Q R | R | S | T | U | $V$ | W | X | X Y | Z |  | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J |
| L | L | M | M | N | 0 | Q | Q R | R | S |  | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A |  | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K |
| M | M | N | NO | O P | P Q | Q R | R S | T | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B |  | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L |
| N | N | O | O | Q | Q R | S | S T | U | U |  | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C |  | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M |
| 0 | O | P | Q | Q R | R S |  | $T$ U | V | V W | W | X | $Y$ | Z | A | B | C | D |  | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N |
| P | P | Q | Q R | R S | S | U | UV | W | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E |  | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O |
| Q | Q | R | R S | S T | $T$ U | U V | $\checkmark$ W | W X | $X$ |  | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F |  | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P |
| R | R | S | S | U | U | W | W X | Y | Y Z | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G |  | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q |
| S | S | T | U | J V | V W | X | $X \mathrm{Y}$ | $Y$ Z | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |  | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R |
| T | T | U | U V | $\checkmark$ W | W X | Y | $Y$ Z | Z A | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | G |  |  | $J$ K | K | L | M | N | 0 | P | Q | R | S |
| U | U | V | $\checkmark$ W | W X | $X \mathrm{Y}$ | Z | Z A | A B | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 l |  |  | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T |
| V | V | W | W X | $X \mathrm{Y}$ | $Y$ Z | Z A | A B | B $C$ | C D | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K |  | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U |
| W | W | X | X Y | Y Z | Z A | B | B C | C D | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |  | K |  |  | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V |
| X | X | Y | $Y$ Z | Z A | A B | C | C D | E | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M |  | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W |
| Y | Y | Z | Z A | A B | $B$ C | D | D E | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M |  |  | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U |  | W | $X$ |
|  | Z | A | A B | B C | $C D$ | E | E F | G | G |  | 1 |  | K | L | M | N |  |  |  | Q | R | S | T | U |  | W | X | Y |

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To decrypt the ciphertext character P with the shift corresponding to the key character $F$, find $P$ in the column corresponding to $F$ and return the row label

|  | A | B | B C | C D | D E | F | G | G H | H | I |  | K | L |  | M | N | 0 | P |  |  | R | S | T | U | $V$ | W | X | Y |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | A | B | B C | C D | D E | F | G | G H | H | 1 | J | K | L |  | M | N | O | P | Q | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| B | B | C | C D | D E | E F | G | G H | H | 1 | J | K | L | M |  | N | O | P | Q | R | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A |
| C | C | D | D | E F | F G | G | H I | 1 | J K | K | L | M | N |  | O | P | Q | R | S | T | T | U | $V$ | W | X | Y | Z | A | B |
| D | D | E | E $F$ | F G | G H |  | J | K | K | L | M | N | O |  | P | Q | R | S | T | U | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C |
| E | E | F | G | G H | H |  |  | K L | L M | M | N | 0 | P |  | Q | R | S | T | U | U | V | W | $X$ | Y | Z | A | B | C | D |
| F | F | G | G H | H | 1 | K | L | L M | M | N | O | P | Q |  | R | S | T | U |  | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E |
| G | G | H | H I | 1 | J K | L | M | M | N | 0 | P | Q | R |  | S | T | U | V | W | N | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F |
| H | H | 1 | J | J K | K | M | N | N 0 | 0 | P | Q | R | S |  | T | U | V | W | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G |
| 1 | 1 | J | J K | K L | L M | N | 0 | $\bigcirc \mathrm{P}$ | P | Q | R | S | T |  | U | V | W | X | X Y | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|  | J | K | K | M | M | 0 | O P | P | Q | R | S | T | U |  | $V$ | W | X | Y | Z | - | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | R | R | S | T | U | V |  | W | $X$ | Y | Z | A |  | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J |
| L | L | M | M | N | 0 | Q | Q R | R S | S | T | U | V | W |  | X | Y | Z | A | B |  | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K |
| M | M | N | N | O P | P Q | Q R | R S | S | T | U | V | W | X |  | Y | Z | A | B | C | C | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L |
| N | N | O | O | Q | Q R | S | T | T U | U | $V$ | W | $X$ | Y |  | Z | A | B | C | D | D | E | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M |
| 0 | 0 | P | Q | Q R | R S | S T | U | U V | $V$ | W | X | Y | Z |  | A | B | C | D | E | F | F | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N |
| P | P | Q | Q R | R S | S | U | U V | V W | W | $X$ | Y | Z | A | A | B | C | D | E | F |  | G | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O |
| Q | Q | R | R S | S T | $T$ U | $V$ | W | W X | X | Y | Z | A | B | B | C | D | E | F | G |  | H | 1 | J | K | L | M | N | O | P |
| R | R | S | S | U | U | W |  | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | C | D | E | F | G | H |  | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q |
| S | S | T | U | J V | V W | $X$ | X Y | Y Z | Z | A | B | C | D | D | E | F | G | H | H |  | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R |
| T | T | U | U V | $\checkmark$ W | W X | Y | Z | Z $A$ | A | B | C | D | E | F | F | G | H | 1 |  |  | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S |
| U | U | V | $\checkmark$ W | W X | $X \mathrm{Y}$ | Z | Z A | A B | B | C | D | E | F |  | G | H | 1 | J | K |  | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T |
| V | V | W | W X | $X \mathrm{Y}$ | $Y$ Z | A | B | B $C$ | C | D | E | F | G | G | H | 1 | J | K |  |  | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U |
| W | W | X | X Y | Y Z | Z A | B | C | C D | D | E | F | G | H |  | 1 | J | K | L | M |  | N | 0 | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V |
| X | X | Y | $Y$ Z | Z A | A B | C | C D | D | E | F | G | H | 1 |  | J | K | L | M | N |  | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W |
| Y | Y | Z | Z A | A B | $B$ C | D | D | E F | F | G | H | 1 | J |  | K | L | M | N |  |  | P | Q | R | S | T | U |  | W | $X$ |
| Z | Z | A | A B | B C | $C D$ | E | E | F | G | H | 1 |  | K |  |  | M | N | 0 |  |  | Q | R | S | T | U |  | W | X | Y |

## Vigenère cipher

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Suppose that the adversary is somehow able to figure out what the length $t$ of the key is
E.g.: $t=4$

$$
\left.\begin{array}{lllllllllllllllllllllll}
c= & A & M & A & P & A & A & U & H & K & G & O & O & T & W & F & I & O & G & G & G & T & B \\
& T \\
& Q & I & N & N & A & V & S & M & B & T & K & Q & O & M & O & I & W & C & P & C & T & W
\end{array}\right]
$$

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$$
\begin{aligned}
& c=A M A P A A U H K G O O T W F I D G G G T B T \\
& \text { Q I N N A V S M B T K Q O M O I W CP C T WT } \\
& \text { U O I F A G O G T I MOUCWP B T W T B N P } \\
& \text { WCPCQBSJDGFAUOWBOEEKDAE } \\
& \text { RK R E M L K B FPR O O J C C S U O OF S } \\
& \text { I Q I W U R B N F WMBTGAA U I E W D F L } \\
& \text { Z L S F C Q Z O }
\end{aligned}
$$

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$$
\begin{aligned}
& c=A M A P A B U H K G O D T W F I D G G G T B T \\
& \text { Q I N N A V S M B T K Q O M O I W C P C T W T }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { WC P CDB S J DG F A U O W B D E E K D A E } \\
& \text { RKR E M L K B F PR O OT J C C S U O O F } \\
& \text { I Q I W U R B N F W M B T G A A U I E W D F L } \\
& Z \mathrm{~L} \text { S } \mathrm{F} \text { Q Z } \mathrm{O}
\end{aligned}
$$

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$$
\begin{aligned}
& c=A M A P A A U H K G O T W F I O G G G T B T \\
& \text { Q I N N A V S M B T K Q O M OTW C P C T WT }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { WC C CQB S J DGFAUOW BDEEKDAE } \\
& \text { R K R E M L K B F PRo OT J C C S U O O S }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{Z} \text { L } \mathrm{S} \mid \mathrm{F} \text { C Q Z } \mathrm{O}
\end{aligned}
$$

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$$
\begin{aligned}
& c=A M A P A A U H K G O T W F I O G G G T B T \\
& \text { Q I N N A V S M B T K Q O M O I W C|P|C T W T }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { W C P C Q B S J D F AUOW B DEE K DAE }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { I Q U W R B N W M B T G A UTE DFL } \\
& \text { Z L S F C Q Z }
\end{aligned}
$$

The ciphertext can be decomposed into $n$ ciphertext $c^{(1)}, c^{(2)}, \ldots, c^{(t)}$.
Each $c^{(i)}$ is encrypted using the same shift
Each ciphertext can be attacked separately (but we cannot simply bruteforce them)

## Breaking the Vigenère cipher

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## Kasiski's method

- Consider some (unknown) sequence of characters that appears frequently in the plaintext (for example the word "the")

```
THEMANNANDTHEWOMANRETRIEVEDTHELETTTERFROMTMEPOSTBOX
BEADS B EA DS B EA D S B EA D S B EAD S B EA D S B EAD S B EA D S B EA D S B EA D
```



## Kasiski's method

- Consider some (unknown) sequence of characters that appears frequently in the plaintext (for example the word "the")

THEMANANDTHEWOMANRETRIEVEDTHELETTERFROMTHEPOSTBOX BEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEAD


## Kasiski's method

- Consider some (unknown) sequence of characters that appears frequently in the plaintext (for example the word "the")
- In general, distinct occurrences of the word will be encrypted using different portions of the key and the ciphertext characters will differ

THEMANANDTHEWOMANRETRIEVEDTHELETTERFROMTHEPOSTBOX BEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEAD

```
ULEEPSOENGLI I WRE B R RHLSMEYWEXHHDFXTHJGVOPLII PRKUFOA
```


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- Consider some (unknown) sequence of characters that appears frequently in the plaintext (for example the word "the")
- In general, distinct occurrences of the word will be encrypted using different portions of the key and the ciphertext characters will differ
- However, some occurrences will happen to line up (i.e., be encrypted with the same portion of the key)

THEMANANDTHEWOMANRETRIEVEDTHELETTERFROMTHEPOSTBOX BEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEAD ULEPSOENGLI I WREBRRHLSMEYWEXHHDFXTHJGVOPLIIPRKUFOA

## Kasiski's method

- Consider some (unknown) sequence of characters that appears frequently in the plaintext (for example the word "the")
- In general, distinct occurrences of the word will be encrypted using different portions of the key and the ciphertext characters will differ
- However, some occurrences will happen to line up (i.e., be encrypted with the same portion of the key)
- When this happens, the corresponding portions of ciphertext will be equal

```
THEMANANDTHELOMANRETRIEVEDTHELET TERFROMTHEPOSTBOX
BEA D S B EAD S B EAD S B EADS B EAD S B EADS BEADS B EA D S B EA D S B EA D
```



## Kasiski's method



Obs: The distance between repeated patterns in the ciphertext is likely to be a multiple of the key length

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In the example the key length $t$ is 5 and the distance between patterns is 30

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- Option 1: brute-force (guess $n$ and try decrypting the $n$ shift ciphers)
- Option 2: Kasiski's method
- Option 3: Index of coincidence method


## Index of coincidence method

Let $p_{j}$ be the expected frequency of the $j$-th letter $(j=0 \ldots, 25)$ in the language of the plaintext
Using the frequencies in the English language: $\quad \sum_{j=0}^{25} p_{j}^{2} \approx 0.065$

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Guess that the key length is $\tau$ and split the ciphertext into $c^{(1)}, \ldots, c^{(\tau)}$ sub-ciphertexts (as before). For a given $i$, let $q_{j}$ be the observed frequency of the $j$-th letter of the alphabet in $c^{(i)}$.

Compute $S_{\tau}=\sum_{i=0}^{25} q_{j}^{2}$

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If $\tau$ is a multiple of the actual key length $t$, all the symbols of $c^{(i)}$ are encrypted with a fixed shift
$\Longrightarrow$ their frequencies $q_{j}$ resemble $p_{j}$, up to some shift $\quad \Longrightarrow S_{\tau}=\sum_{j=0}^{25} q_{j}^{2} \approx \sum_{j=0}^{25} p_{j}^{2} \approx 0.065$

## Index of coincidence method

Let $p_{j}$ be the expected frequency of the $j$-th letter $(j=0 \ldots, 25)$ in the language of the plaintext
Using the frequencies in the English language: $\quad \sum_{j=0}^{25} p_{j}^{2} \approx 0.065$
Guess that the key length is $\tau$ and split the ciphertext into $c^{(1)}, \ldots, c^{(\tau)}$ sub-ciphertexts (as before). For a given $i$, let $q_{j}$ be the observed frequency of the $j$-th letter of the alphabet in $c^{(i)}$.
Compute $S_{\tau}=\sum_{i=0}^{25} q_{j}^{2}$
If $\tau$ is a multiple of the actual key length $t$, all the symbols of $c^{(i)}$ are encrypted with a fixed shift
$\Longrightarrow$ their frequencies $q_{j}$ resemble $p_{j}$, up to some shift $\quad \Longrightarrow S_{\tau}=\sum_{j=0}^{25} q_{j}^{2} \approx \sum_{j=0}^{25} p_{j}^{2} \approx 0.065$

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If $\tau$ is not a multiple of $t$, then we expect that all characters in $c^{(i)}$ will occur with equal probability
$\Longrightarrow S_{\tau} \approx \sum_{j=0}^{25}\left(\frac{1}{26}\right)^{2} \approx 0.038$

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Guess that the key length is $\tau$ and split the ciphertext into $c^{(1)}, \ldots, c^{(\tau)}$ sub-ciphertexts (as before). For a given $i$, let $q_{j}$ be the observed frequency of the $j$-th letter of the alphabet in $c^{(i)}$.
Compute $S_{\tau}=\sum_{i=0}^{25} q_{j}^{2}$

The smallest value of $\tau$ such that $S_{\tau} \approx 0.065$ is probably the length of the key
This can be validated by repeating the check for other values of $i$

## Breaking the Vigenère cipher

How do we break the shift ciphers?

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- If the guess is wrong, we expect $\sum_{i=0}^{25} p_{i} q_{(i+j) \bmod 26}$ to be "far enough" from 0.065

> Compute $I_{j}=\sum_{i=0}^{25} p_{i} q_{(i+j)} \bmod 26$ for all possible shifts $j$ and choose the one for which $I_{j}$ is closest to 0.065.

## A famous polyalphabetic substitution cipher

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Another famous polyalphabetic substitution cipher:


Marian Adam Rejewski



Alan Mathison Turing

## Scytale cipher

A way used to encrypt a message using a rod (the scytale, or skytale) and a strip of parchment

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The ciphertext consists of the unwound stip of parchment (without the rod)


This cipher is said to have been used by the ancient greeks to communicate during the military campaigns

What is the key of this cipher? The diameter of the rod!

To decrypt the ciphertext, simply wind it around a rod of the same diameter

## Breaking the scytale cipher

## Breaking the scytale cipher

Wind the parchment around a cone

Look for the portion of the cone where letters start to line up and produce sensible words

The corresponding diameter is the key!


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What is the effect of winding the parchment around the scytale on the order of the characters in the plaintext?

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```
m= K I L L K I NG T O M O R R O WM I D N I G H T
    c= K T M I O I L M D L O N K R I I R G N O H G W T
```


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m= K I L L K I N G T O M O R R O W M I D N I G H T
    c= K T M I O I L M D L O N K R I I R G N O H G W T
```



$$
m=\begin{array}{llllllll}
\mathrm{K} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~L} & \mathrm{~L} & \mathrm{~K} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~N} & \mathrm{G} \\
\mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{~W} \\
\mathrm{M} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{D} & \mathrm{~N} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{G} & \mathrm{H} & \mathrm{~T}
\end{array}
$$

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```

    \(m=\left[\begin{array}{llllllll}\mathrm{K} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{L} & \mathrm{L} & \mathrm{K} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{N} & \mathrm{G} \\ \mathrm{T} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{W} \\ \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{D} & \mathrm{N} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{G} & \mathrm{H} & \mathrm{T}\end{array}\right]\)
    
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```



$$
\left[\begin{array}{llllllll}
K & I & L & L & K & I & N & G \\
T & O & M & O & R & R & O & W \\
M & I & D & N & I & G & H & T
\end{array}\right]^{\top}
$$

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```
m= K I L L K I N G T O M ORROWM I D N I G H T
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```

$$
\left[\begin{array}{cccccccc}
\mathrm{K} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~L} & \mathrm{~L} & \mathrm{~K} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~N} & \mathrm{G} \\
\mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{~W} \\
\mathrm{M} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{D} & \mathrm{~N} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{G} & \mathrm{H} & \mathrm{~T}
\end{array}\right]^{\mathrm{T}}=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathrm{K} & \mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{M} \\
\mathrm{I} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{I} \\
\mathrm{~L} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{D} \\
\mathrm{~L} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{~N} \\
\mathrm{~K} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{I} \\
\mathrm{I} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{G} \\
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\mathrm{K} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~L} & \mathrm{~L} & \mathrm{~K} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~N} & \mathrm{G} \\
\mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{~W} \\
\mathrm{M} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{D} & \mathrm{~N} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{G} & \mathrm{H} & \mathrm{~T}
\end{array}\right]^{\mathrm{T}}=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
\mathrm{K} & \mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{M} \\
\mathrm{I} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{I} \\
\mathrm{~L} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{D} \\
\mathrm{~L} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{~N} \\
\mathrm{~K} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{I} \\
\mathrm{I} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{G} \\
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\mathrm{G} & \mathrm{~W} & \mathrm{~T}
\end{array}\right]=c
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\mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{~W} \\
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\mathrm{~K} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{I} \\
\mathrm{I} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{G} \\
\mathrm{~N} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{H} \\
\mathrm{G} & \mathrm{~W} & \mathrm{~T}
\end{array}\right]=c
$$

The scytale cipher is a (specific type of) transposition cipher!

## (Columnar) Transposition ciphers

The plaintext is arranged in a matrix with $n$ columns (and the appropriate number of rows)

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$$
\begin{array}{llllll}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\
\mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{H} & \mathrm{E} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{E} & \mathrm{E} \\
\mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~N} & \mathrm{G} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~S} \\
\mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{R} \\
\mathrm{O} & \mathrm{~W} & \mathrm{~A} & \mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{H} \\
\mathrm{E} & \mathrm{D} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{C} & \mathrm{~K} &
\end{array}
$$

## (Columnar) Transposition ciphers

The plaintext is arranged in a matrix with $n$ columns (and the appropriate number of rows)

```
123456
T H E M E E
T I N G I S
T O M O R R
O W A T T H
E D O C K X
```

The message might or might not be padded with random characters ( X in this case) to fill the last row.

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```
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T H E M E E
T I N G I S
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Regular vs. Irregular transposition ciphers
```


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Pick a permutation $\pi$ of $1,2, \ldots, n$

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```
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T H E M E E The message might or might not
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Pick a permutation $\pi$ of $1,2, \ldots, n$
The ciphertext is obtained by reading the columns from top to bottom, in the order given by $\pi$

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Pick a permutation $\pi$ of $1,2, \ldots, n$
The ciphertext is obtained by reading the columns from top to bottom, in the order given by $\pi$
E.g., if the permutation is $4,2,1,6,5,3$, then the ciphertext is:


## (Columnar) Transposition ciphers

What is the key?

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The pair $(n, \pi)$

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Consider regular transposition ciphers, for convenience

- If the ciphertext has $\ell$ characters, then the original matrix had $\ell / n$ rows


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$c=M \mathrm{GOTCHIOWDTT} \mathrm{T}$ OEESRHXEIRTKENMAO
$n=6, \pi=(4,2,1,6,5,3), \ell=30$


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$c=$| M G O T C | H I O |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

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| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

$n=6, \pi=(4,2,1,6,5,3), \ell=30$

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $H$ | $M$ |  |  |  |
|  | I | G |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | W | T |  |  |  |
|  | D | C |  |  |  |

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| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| T | H | M |  |  |  |
| T | I | G |  |  |  |
| T | O | O |  |  |  |
| O | W | T |  |  |  |
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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| T | H | M | E |  |
| T | I | G | S |  |
| T | 0 | 0 | R |  |
| O | W | T | H |  |
| E | D | C | X |  |

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $T$ | $H$ |  | M | $E$ | $E$ |
| $T$ | I |  | $G$ | $I$ | $S$ |
| $T$ | $O$ |  | $O$ | $R$ | $R$ |
| $O$ | $W$ |  | $T$ | $T$ | $H$ |
| E | D |  | $C$ | $K$ | $X$ |

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$$
\begin{array}{llllll}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\
\mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{H} & \mathrm{E} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{E} & \mathrm{E} \\
\mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~N} & \mathrm{G} & \mathrm{I} & \mathrm{~S} \\
\mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{M} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{R} & \mathrm{R} \\
\mathrm{O} & \mathrm{~W} & \mathrm{~A} & \mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{~T} & \mathrm{H} \\
\mathrm{E} & \mathrm{D} & \mathrm{O} & \mathrm{C} & \mathrm{~K} & \mathrm{X}
\end{array}
$$

The plaintext can be found by reading the rows in order (left to right, top to bottom)

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(if the transposition cipher is regular, look at the divisors of the ciphertext's length)


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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| $M$ | $R$ | $R$ | 0 | $T$ | 0 |
| $A$ | $T$ | $H$ | W | 0 | $T$ |
| $O$ | K | $X$ | $D$ | $E$ | $C$ |

- Look for anagrams (that simultaneously yield intelligible text on multiple rows)


## Other transposition ciphers

To make cryptanalysis harder, a double (irregular) transposition cipher is often used:

- Pick two sub-keys $k_{1}=\left(n_{1}, \pi_{1}\right)$ and $k_{2}=\left(n_{2}, \pi_{2}\right)$

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- Among the "manual" ciphers, the double transposition cipher is easy to carry out but hard to break
- Many other (more complex) transposition ciphers have been used


## Other transposition ciphers

The Zodiac Z-340 cipher remained unsolved for 51 years!


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Are there even secure ciphers?
What does secure mean?

