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."

– Suetonius, Life of Julius Caesar

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

Caesar cipher: example

$m =$ A T T A C K A T D A W N

$\downarrow$ Enc(m)

Caesar cipher: example

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

$$\downarrow \ \mathsf{Enc}(m)$$

$$c = \texttt{D W W D F N D W G D Z Q}$$

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$$c = \texttt{U H W U H D W Q R Z}$$

$$\downarrow \quad \mathsf{Dec}(c)$$

$$m =$$

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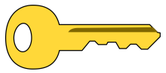
$$\downarrow \quad \mathsf{Dec}(c)$$

$$m = \texttt{R E T R E A T N O W}$$

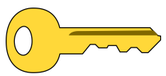
Shift ciphers

The Caesar cipher is a special type of *shift cipher*

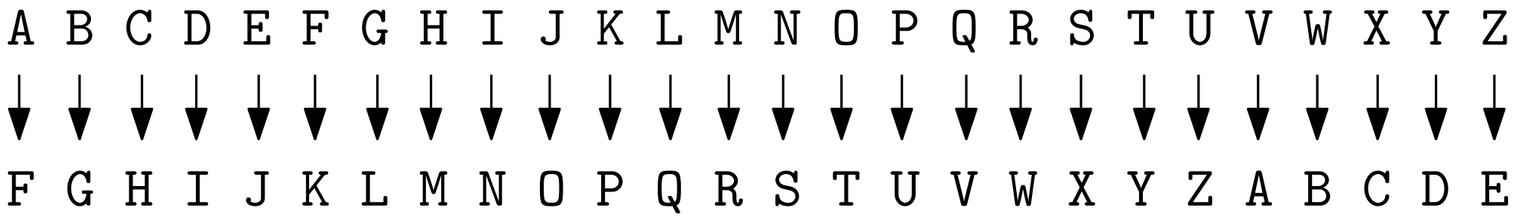
In a shift cipher, each character is replaced with the character k positions down the alphabet (in a modular fashion)

The *key* of the cipher is the integer k 

(the key is also called the *shift* of the cipher)



$k = 5$



Shift ciphers

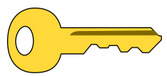
$m =$ F L A N K T H E E N E M Y

$\downarrow \quad \mathsf{Enc}_5(m)$

$c =$ K Q F S P Y M J J S J R D

$c =$ X J S I M J Q U

$\downarrow \quad \mathsf{Dec}_5(c)$



$k = 5$

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

Shift ciphers

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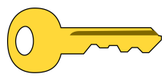
$c =$ X J S I M J Q U

$\downarrow \quad \mathsf{Dec}_5(c)$

$m =$ S E N D H E L P



$k = 5$

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

↓ ↓

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

Shift ciphers

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

Shift ciphers

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

Shift ciphers

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Ciphertext space:

Shift ciphers

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

Ciphertext space: $\mathcal{C} = \{0, \ldots, 25\}^*$

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Key space:

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Ciphertext space: $\mathcal{C} = \{0, \ldots, 25\}^*$

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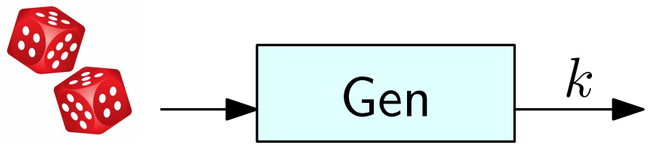
Key generation:



Shift ciphers

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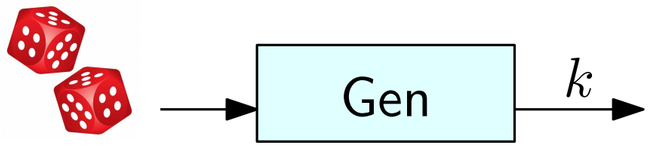

Shift ciphers

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

$m = m_1 m_2 \ldots m_\ell$

Ciphertext space: $\mathcal{C} = \{0, \ldots, 25\}^*$

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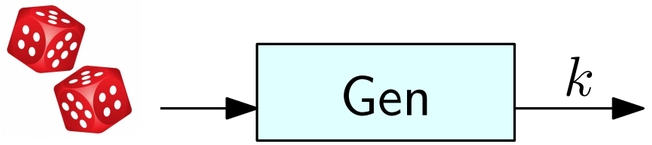
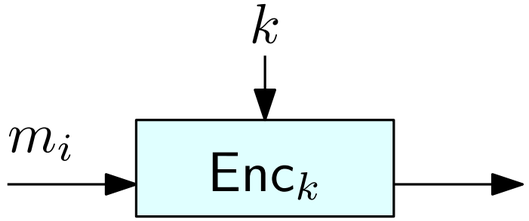


Encryption function:

$$\mathsf{Enc}_k(m) = \mathsf{Enc}_k(m_1) \| \mathsf{Enc}_k(m_2) \| \ldots \| \mathsf{Enc}_k(m_\ell)$$



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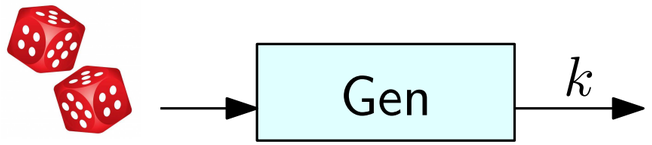

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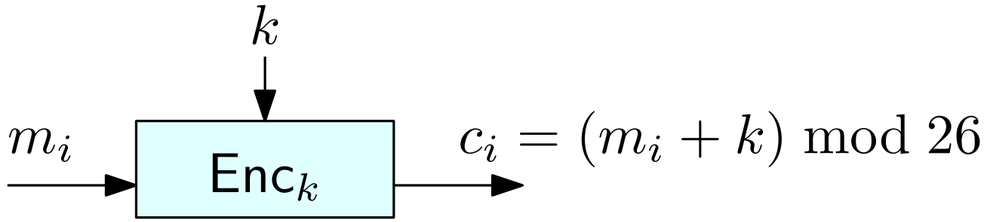
$$\mathsf{Enc}_k(m_i) = (m_i + k) \bmod 26$$



Shift ciphers

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

$m = m_1 m_2 \ldots m_\ell$

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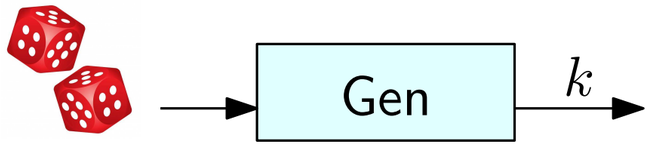

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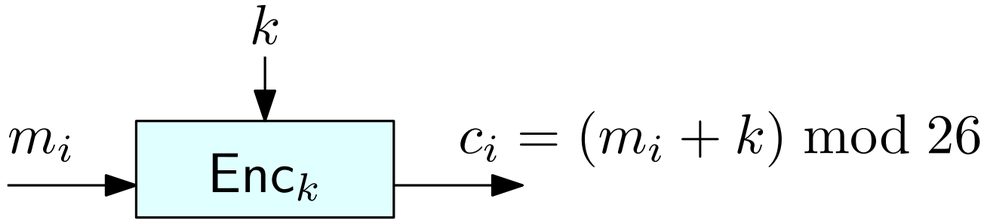
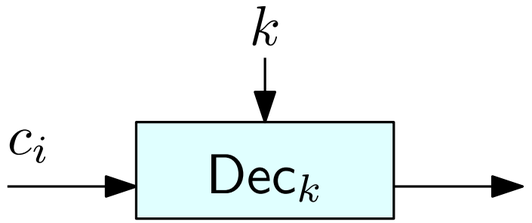


Decryption function:

$$\mathsf{Dec}_k(c) = \mathsf{Dec}_k(c_1) \| \mathsf{Dec}_k(c_2) \| \ldots \| \mathsf{Dec}_k(c_\ell)$$



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

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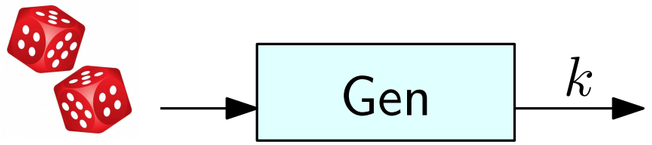

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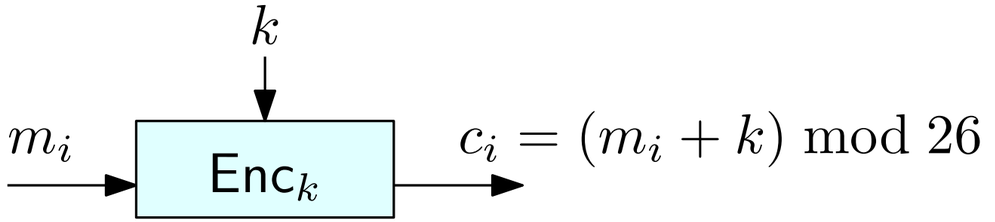

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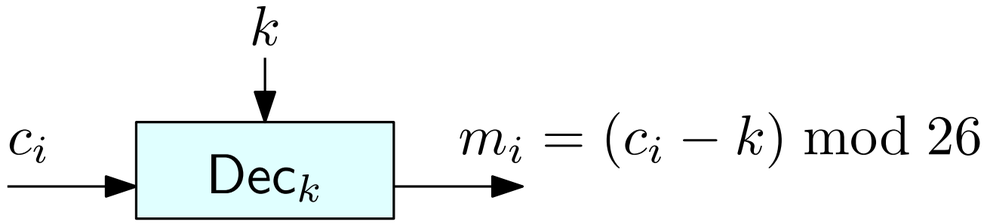

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Correctness:

We need to prove that $\mathsf{Dec}_k(\mathsf{Enc}_k(m)) = m$

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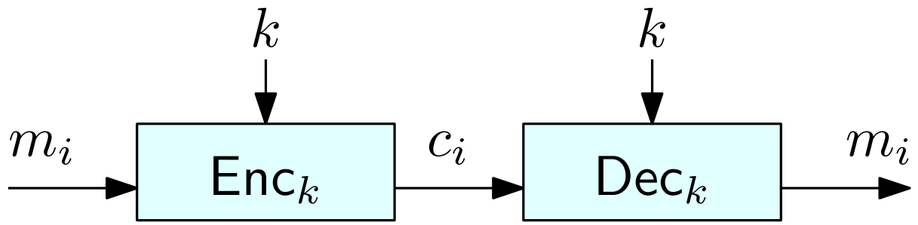

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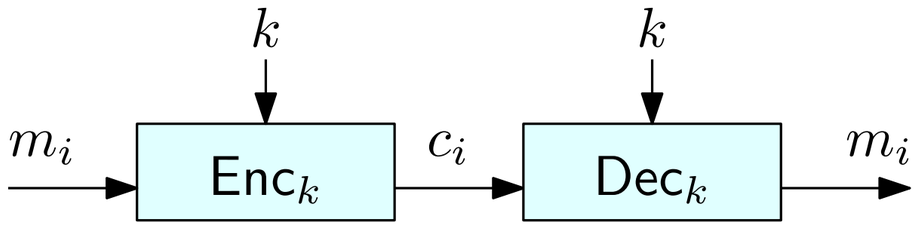

$$\mathsf{Dec}_k(\mathsf{Enc}_k(m_i)) = \mathsf{Dec}_k((m_i + k) \bmod 26) \qquad \text{(definition of } \mathsf{Enc}_k\text{)}$$

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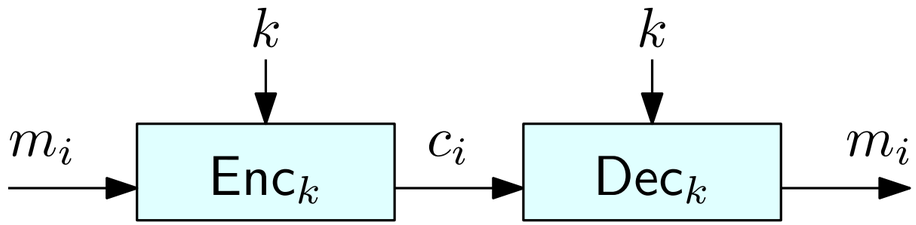

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathsf{Dec}_k(\mathsf{Enc}_k(m_i)) &= \mathsf{Dec}_k((m_i + k) \bmod 26) && \text{(definition of } \mathsf{Enc}_k\text{)} \\
&= (((m_i + k) \bmod 26) - k) \bmod 26 && \text{(definition of } \mathsf{Dec}_k\text{)}
\end{aligned}$$

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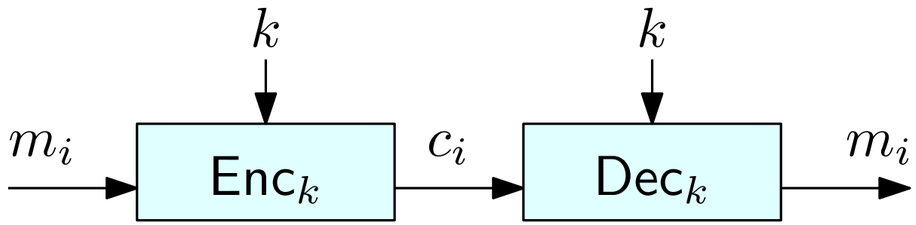

$$
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&= (m_i + k - k) \bmod 26 && \text{(properties of } \bmod\text{)}
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$$

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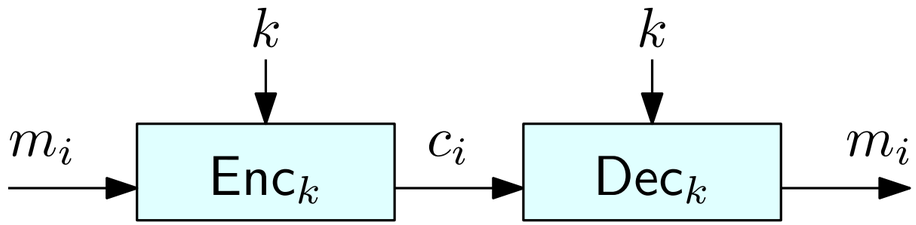

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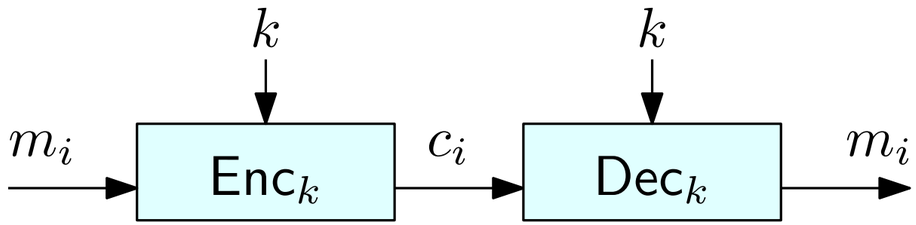

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&= (((m_i + k) \bmod 26) - k) \bmod 26 && \text{(definition of } \mathsf{Dec}_k\text{)} \\
&= (m_i + k - k) \bmod 26 && \text{(properties of mod)} \\
&= m_i \bmod 26 \\
&= m_i && (m_i < 26)
\end{aligned}
$$

Shift ciphers

Are shift ciphers secure?

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

Shift ciphers

Brute-force attack:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathsf{Dec}_0(c) &= \texttt{X J S I M J Q U} \\
\mathsf{Dec}_1(c) &= \texttt{W I R H L I P T} \\
\mathsf{Dec}_2(c) &= \texttt{V H Q G K H O S} \\
\mathsf{Dec}_3(c) &= \texttt{U G P F J G N R} \\
\mathsf{Dec}_4(c) &= \texttt{T F O E I F M Q} \\
\mathsf{Dec}_5(c) &= \texttt{S E N D H E L P} \\
\mathsf{Dec}_6(c) &= \texttt{R D M C G D K O} \\
&\vdots \\
\mathsf{Dec}_{24}(c) &= \texttt{Z L U K O L S W} \\
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\end{aligned}
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$$

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 π of the alphabet $\Sigma = \{\mathtt{A}, \mathtt{B}, \ldots, \mathtt{Z}\}$

$\mathcal{K} = \{\pi : \Sigma \to \Sigma \mid \pi \text{ is a pemutation}\}$

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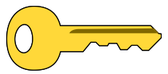
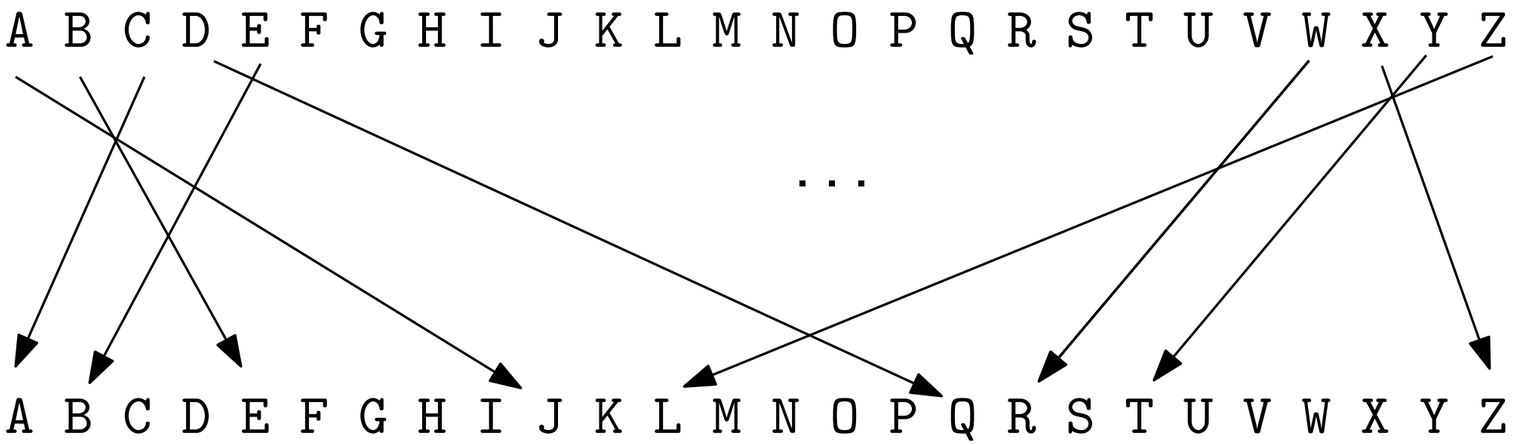


$k = \pi$



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The key is now a permutation π of the alphabet $\Sigma = \{\mathtt{A}, \mathtt{B}, \ldots, \mathtt{Z}\}$

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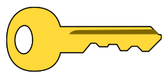

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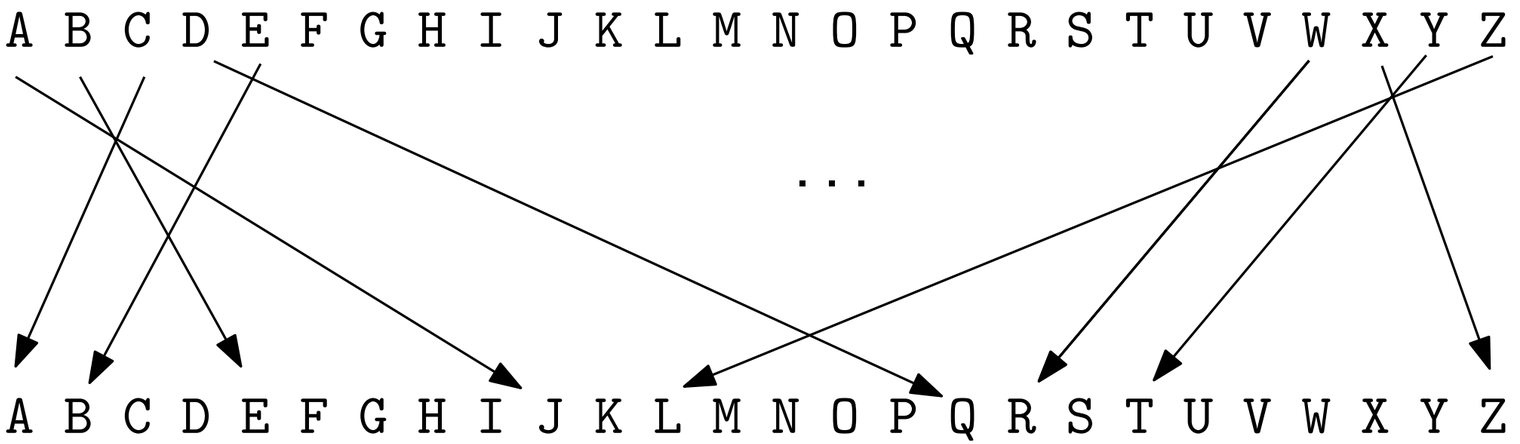

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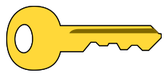

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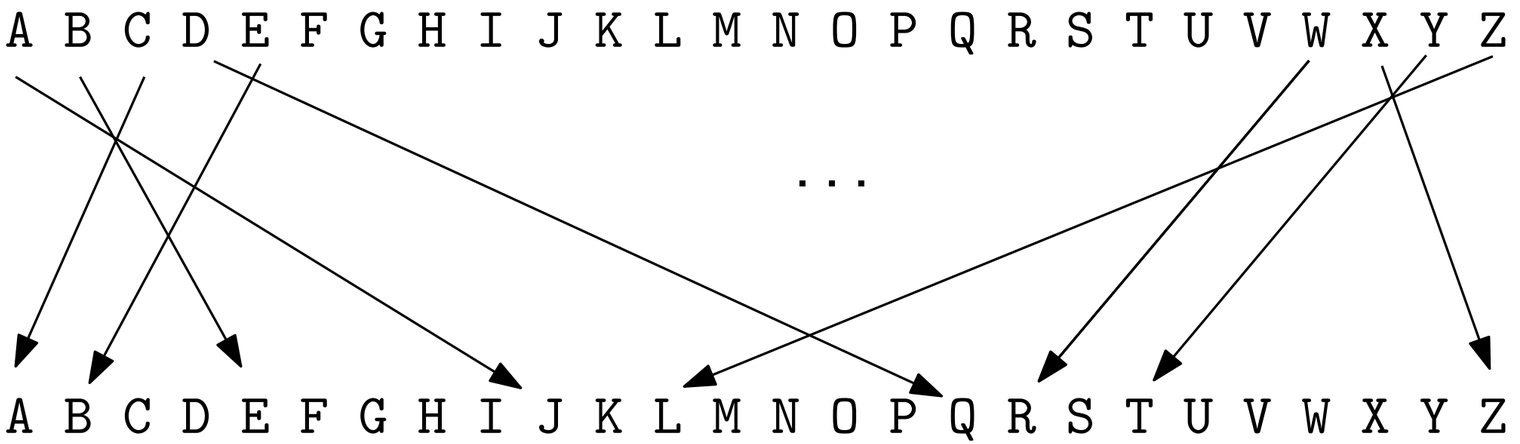

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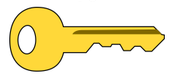

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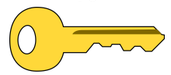

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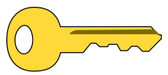

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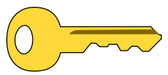

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Observation (informal): A large keyspace is not a sufficient condition for a cipher to be secure

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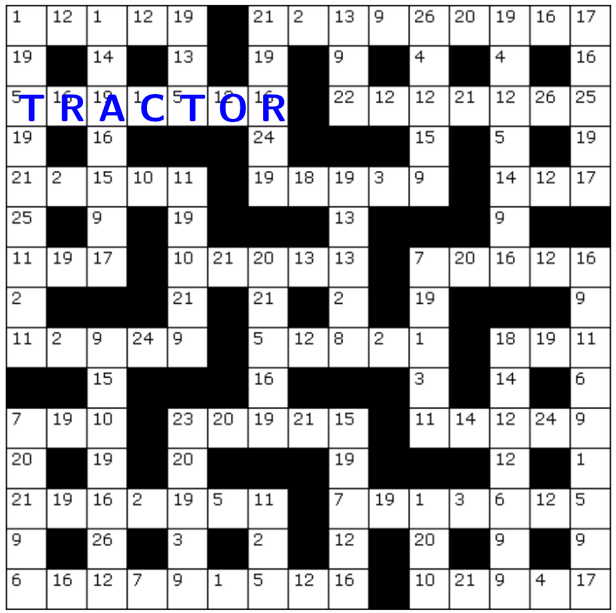
A similar example: codebreaker word puzzle



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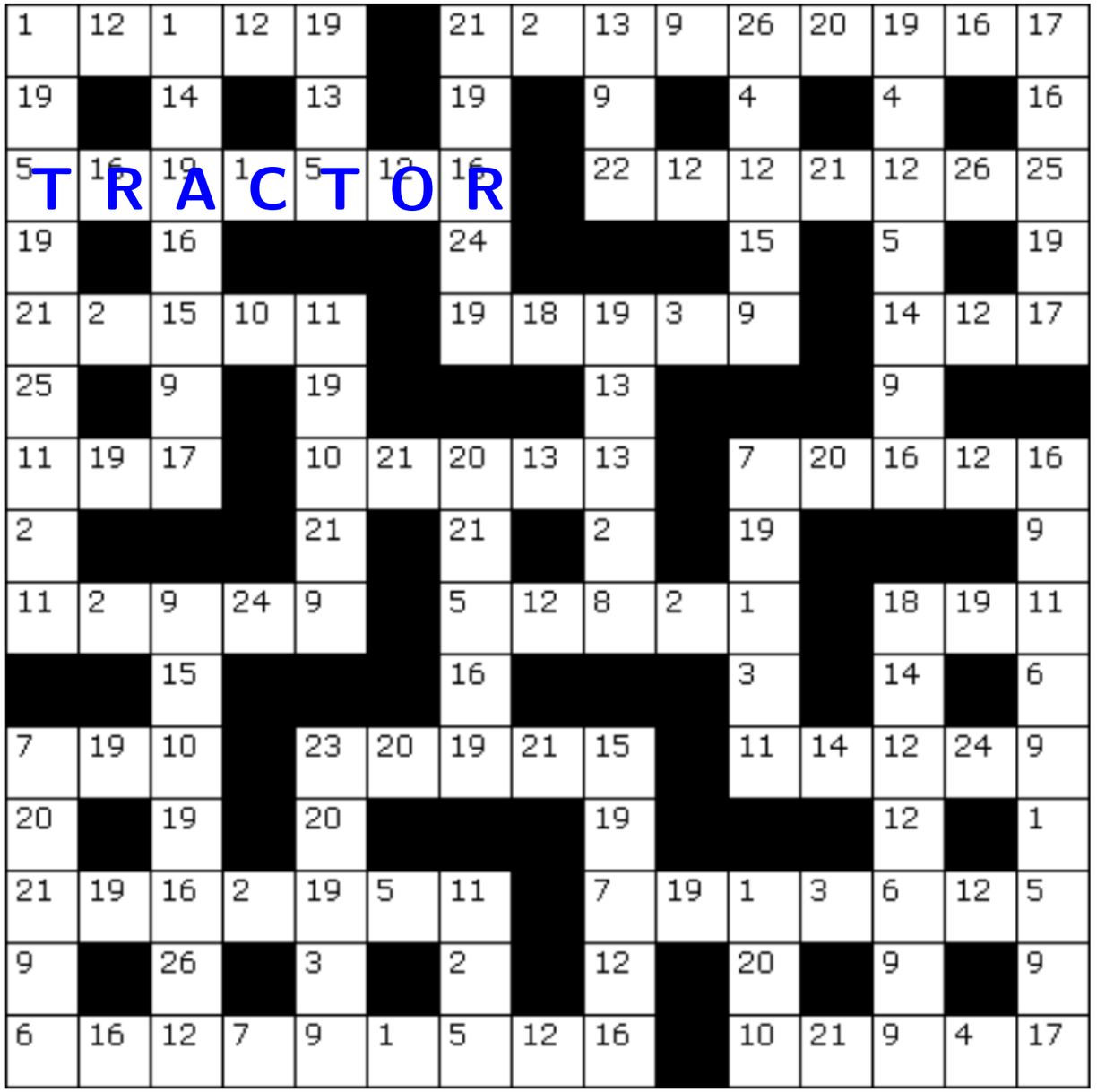

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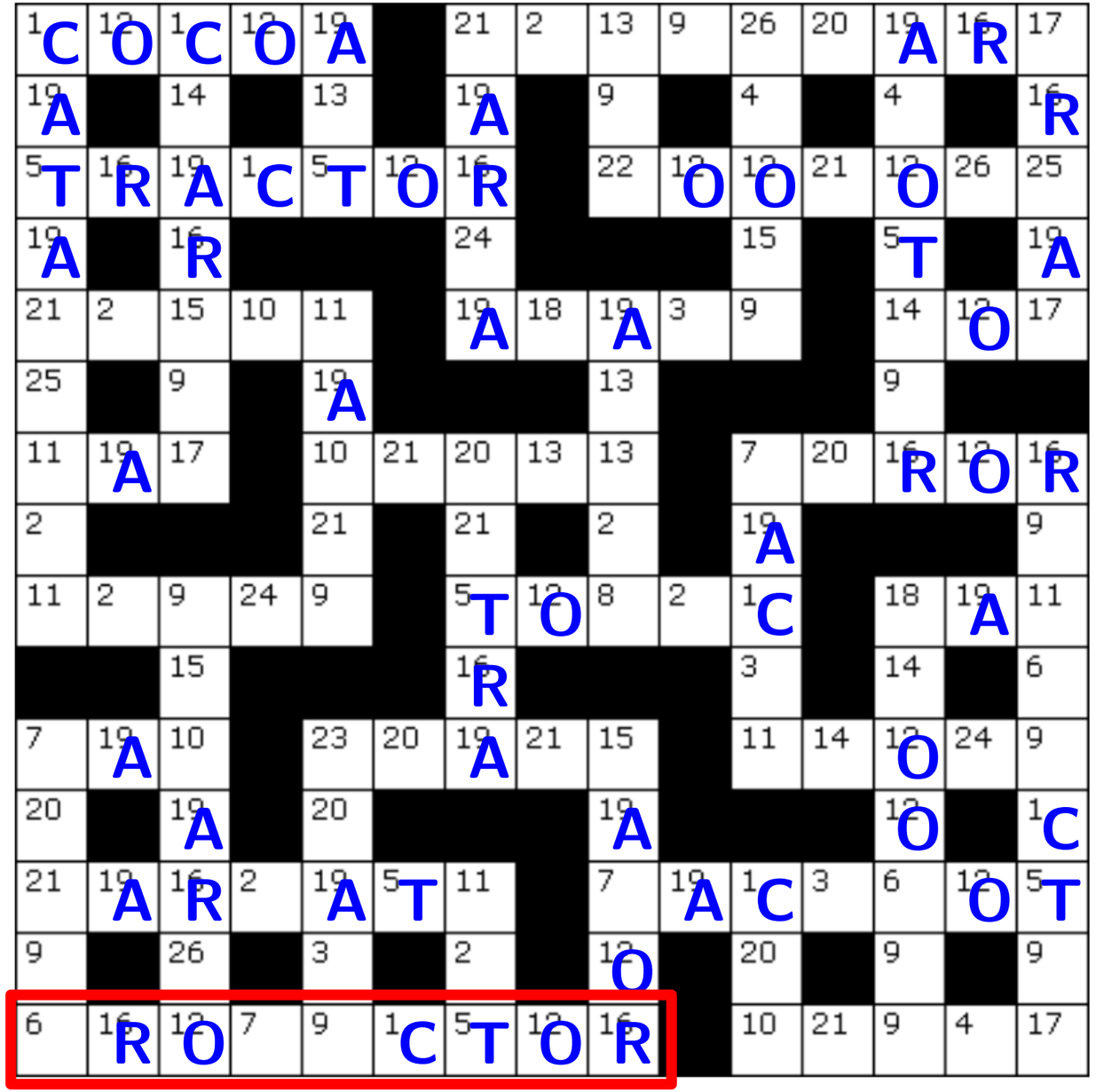

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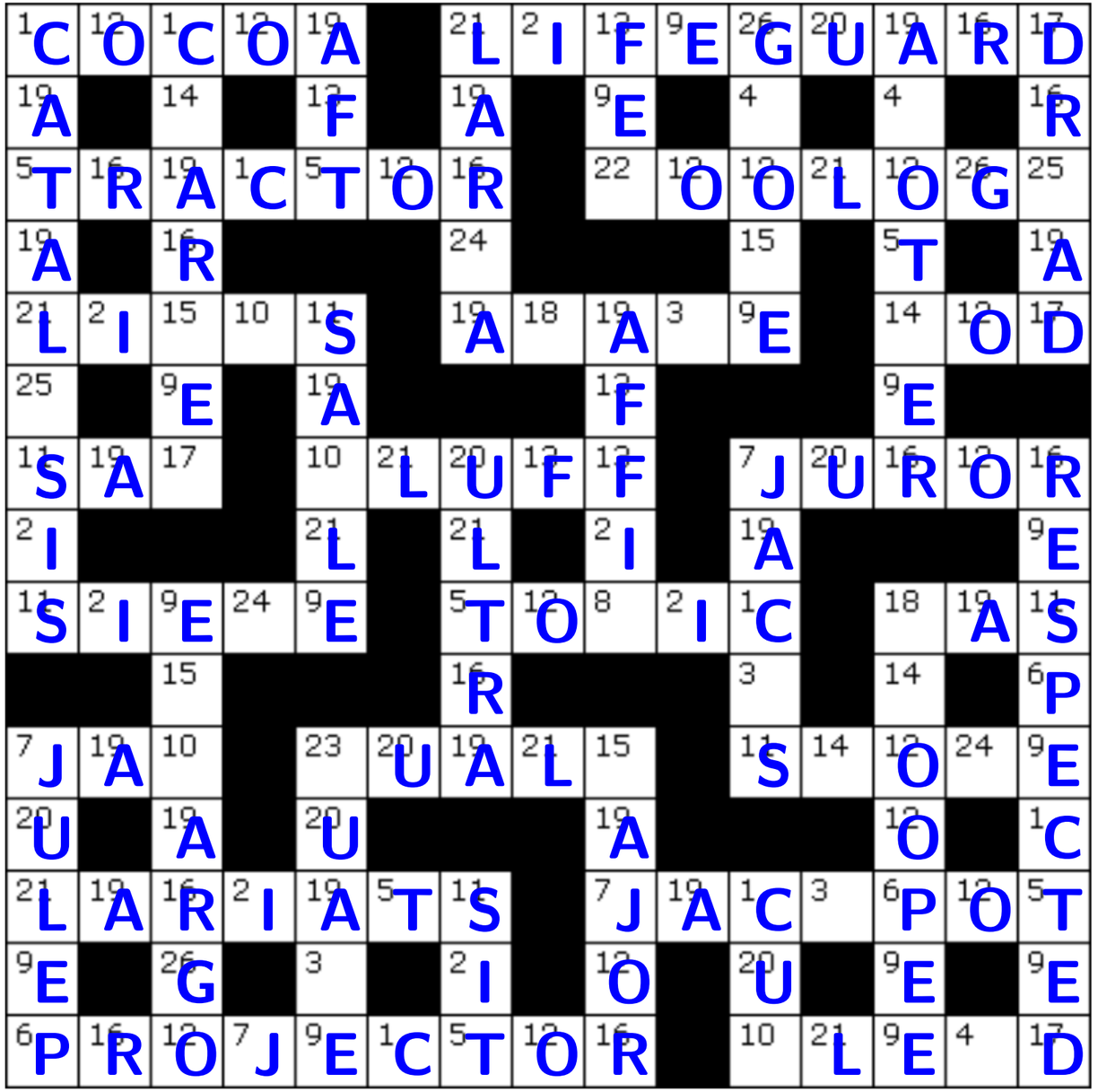

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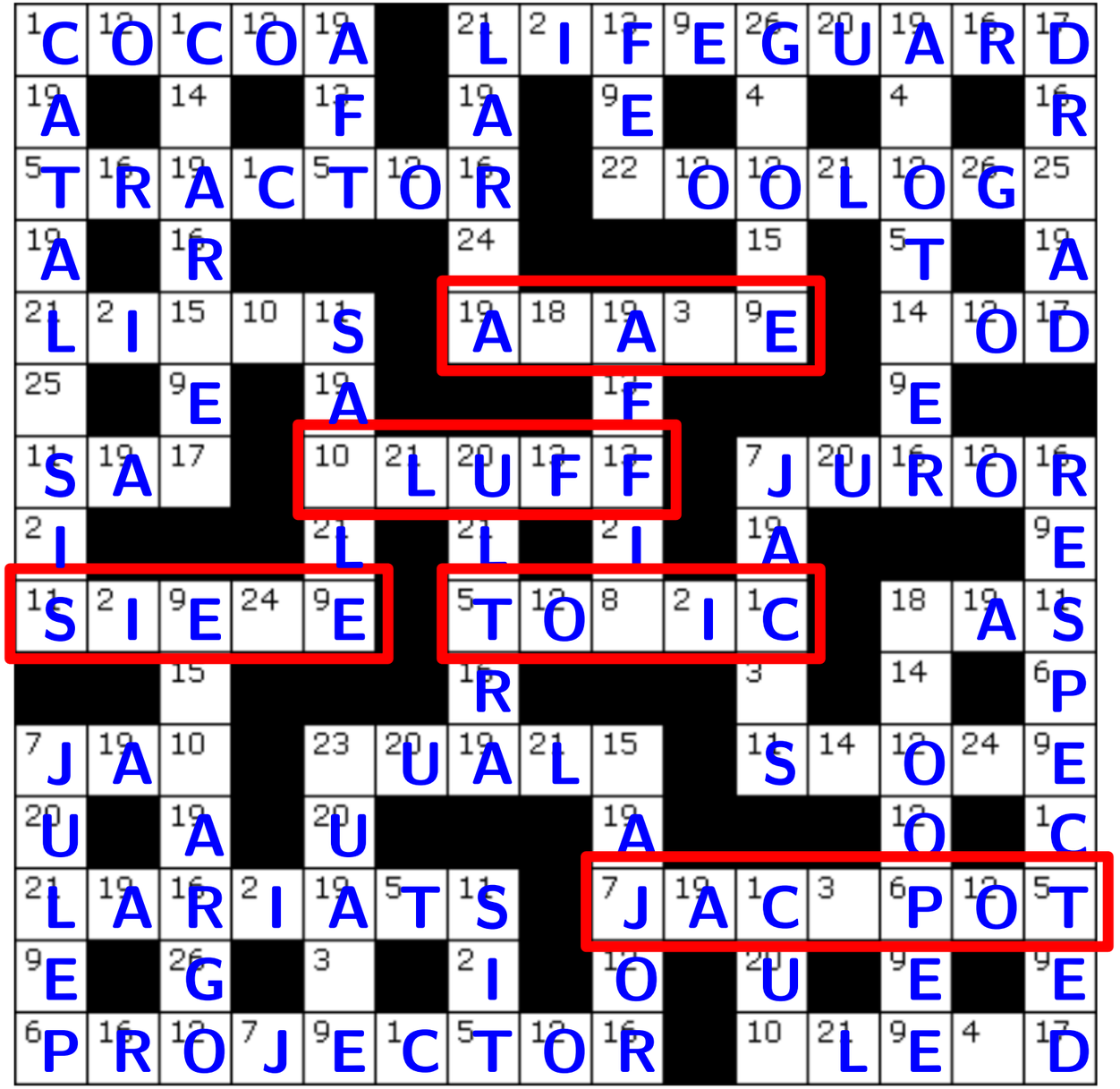

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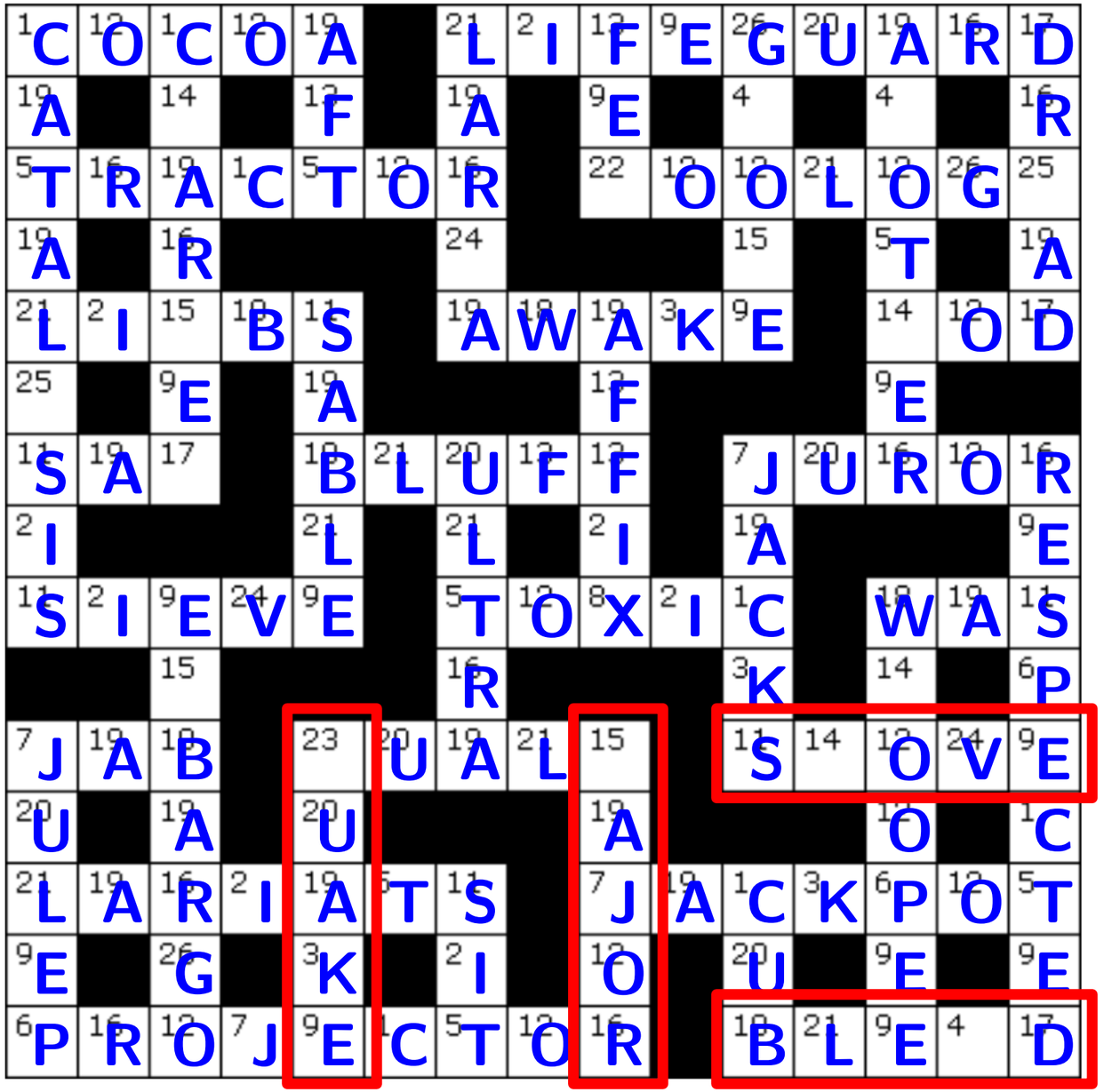

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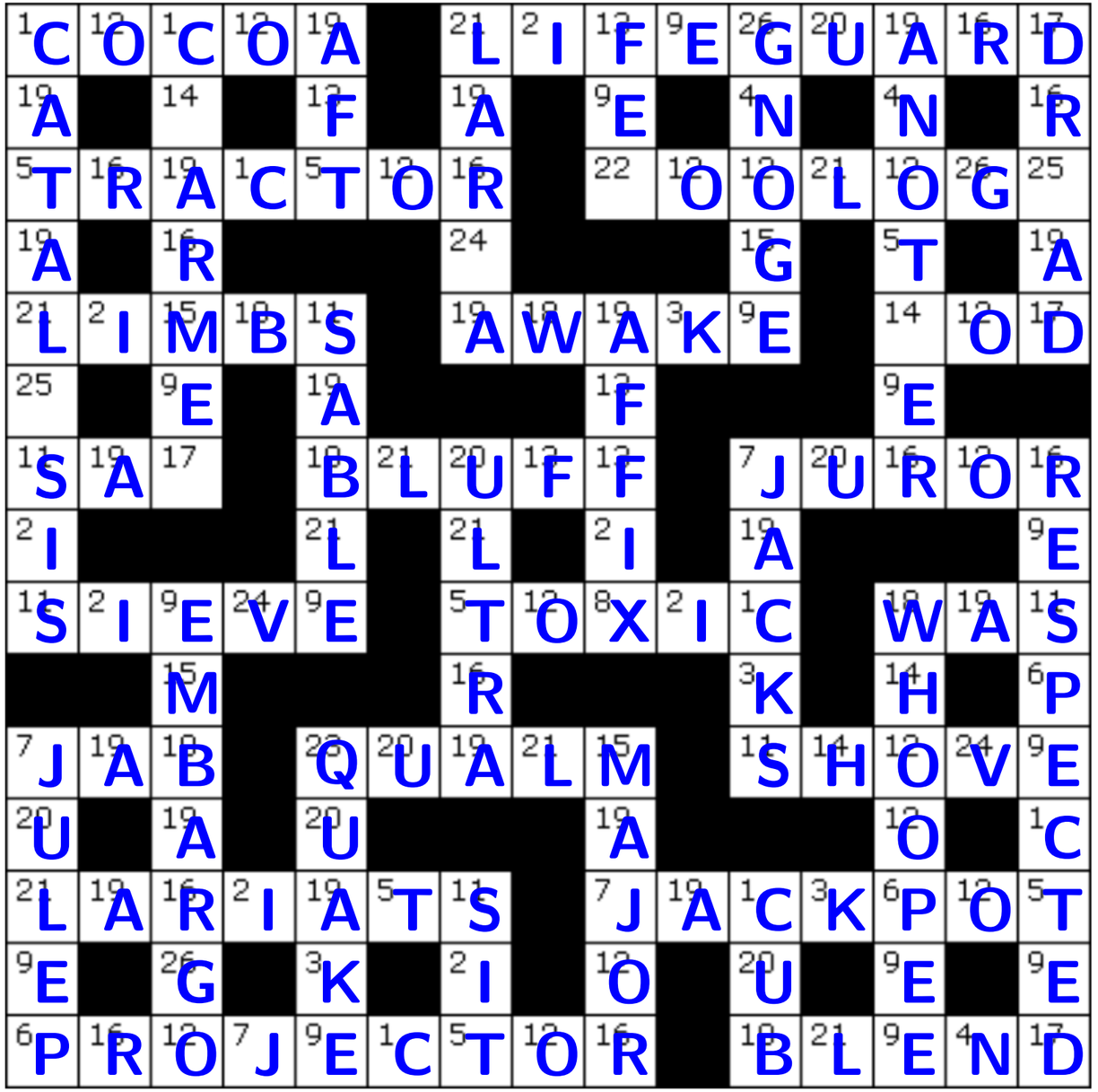

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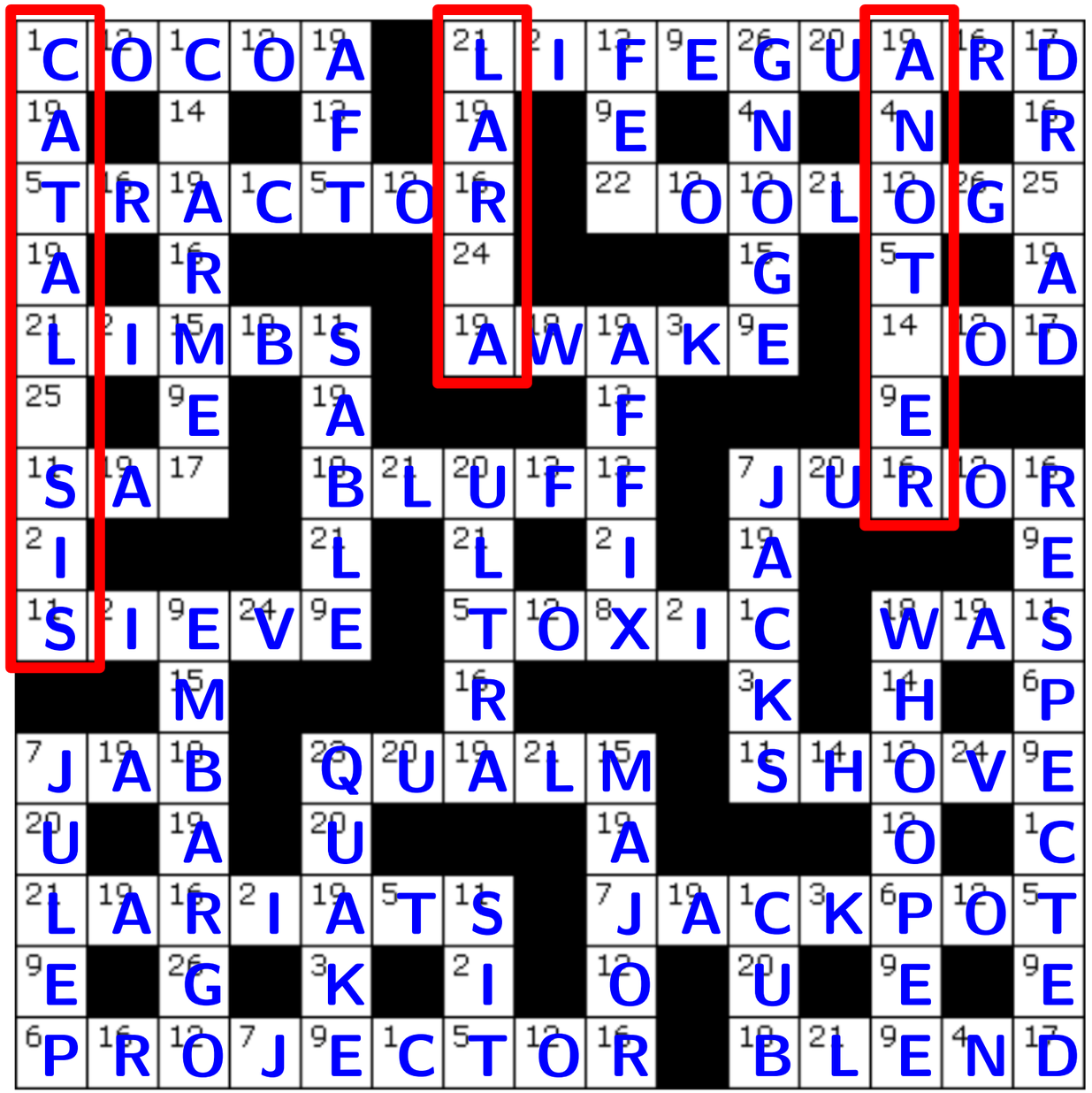

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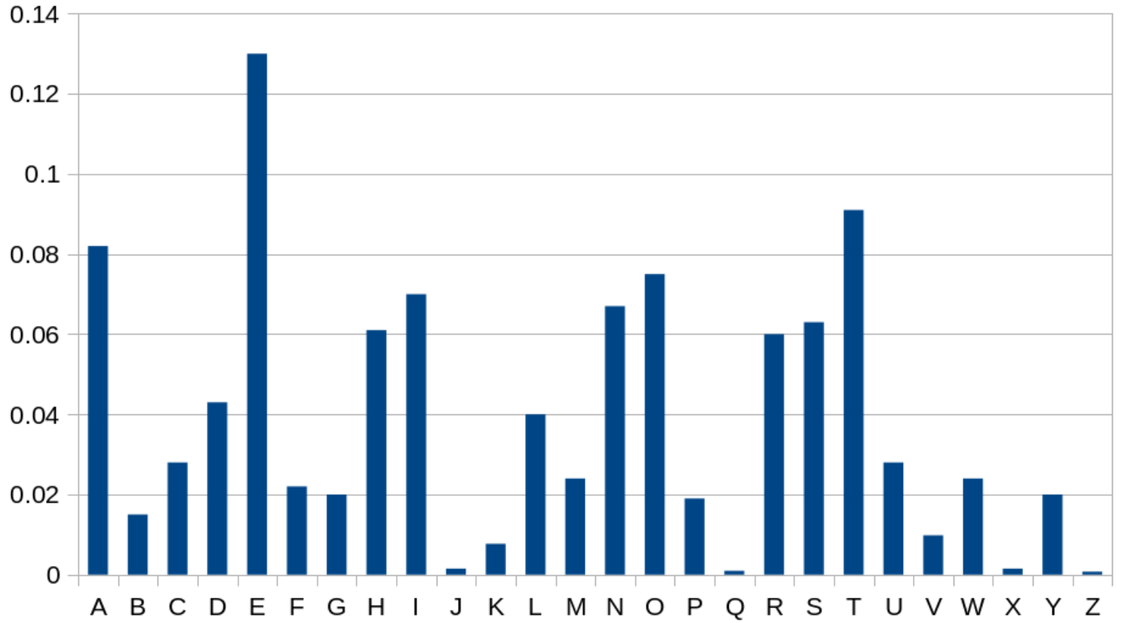

Substitution ciphers

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

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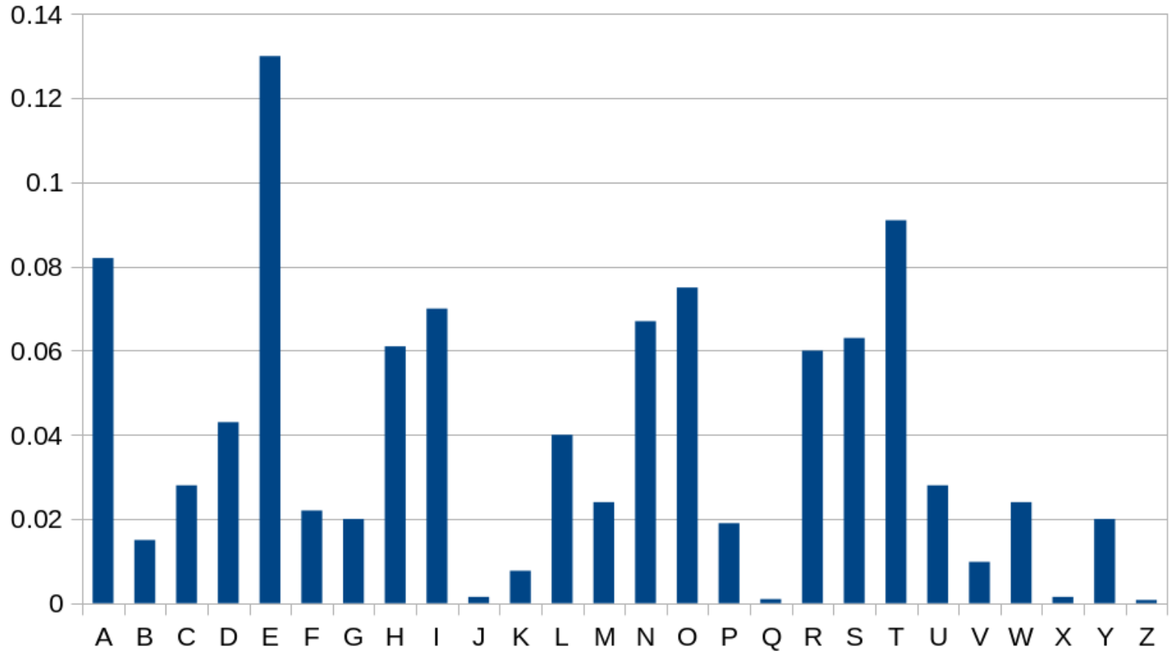

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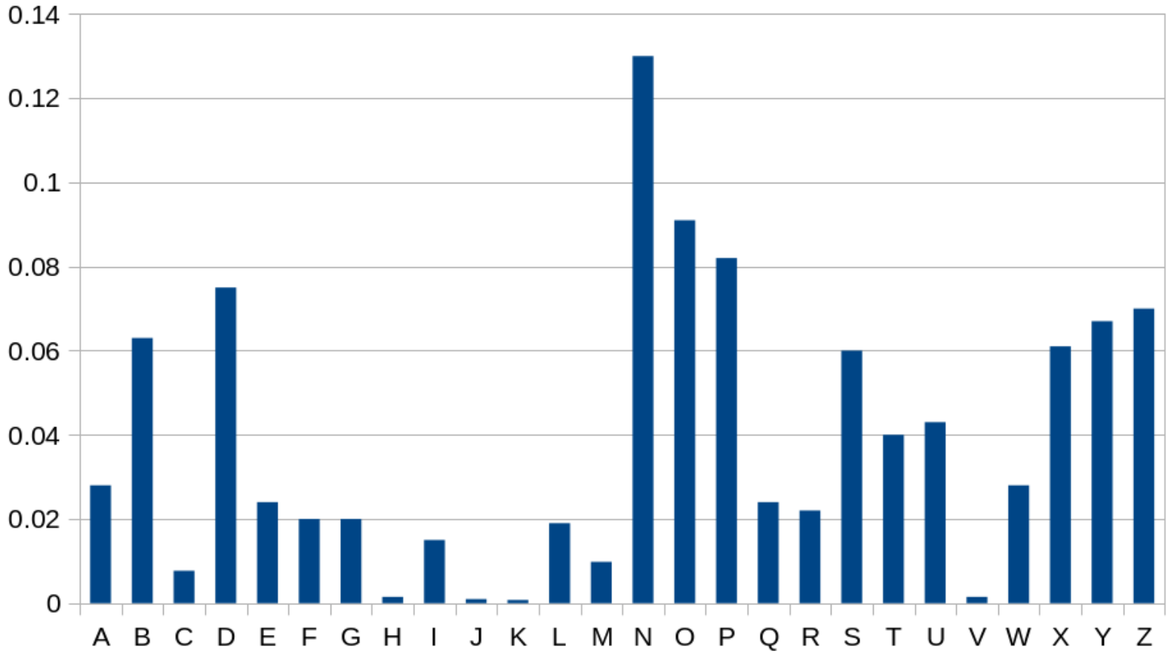

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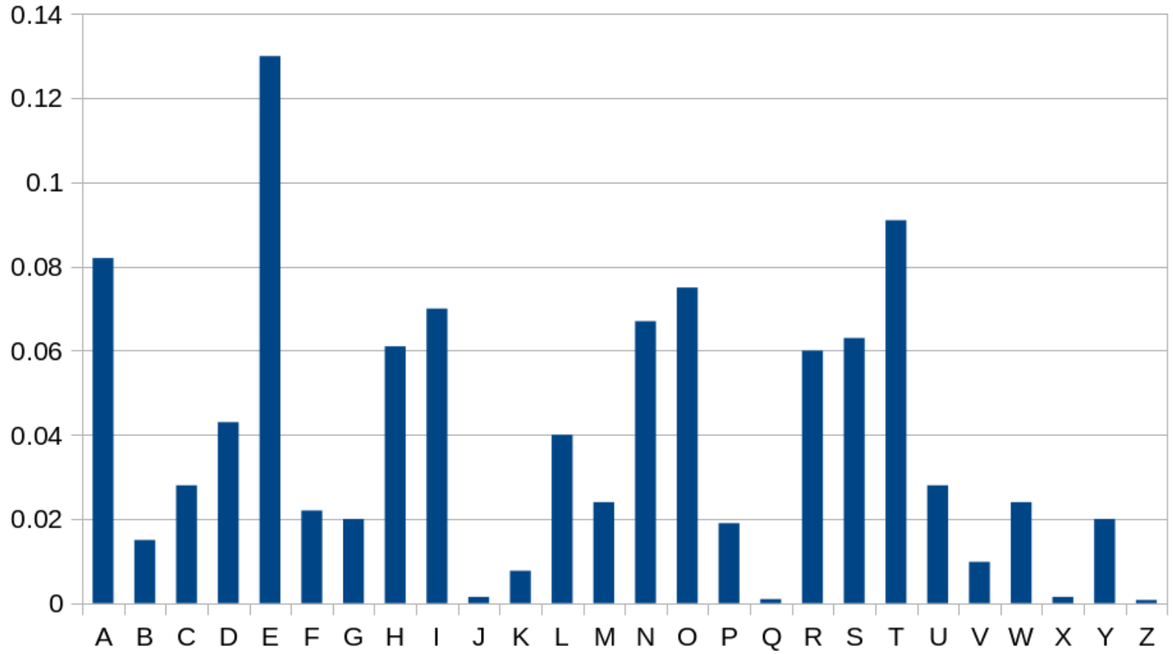

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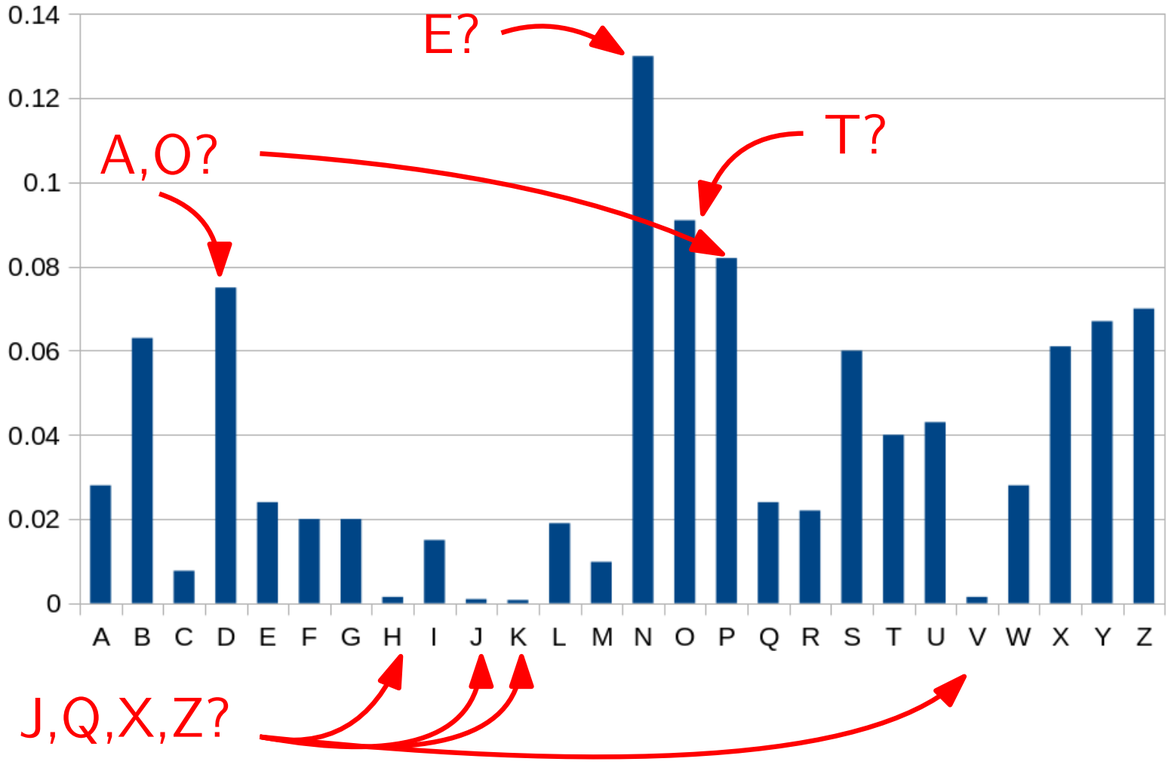
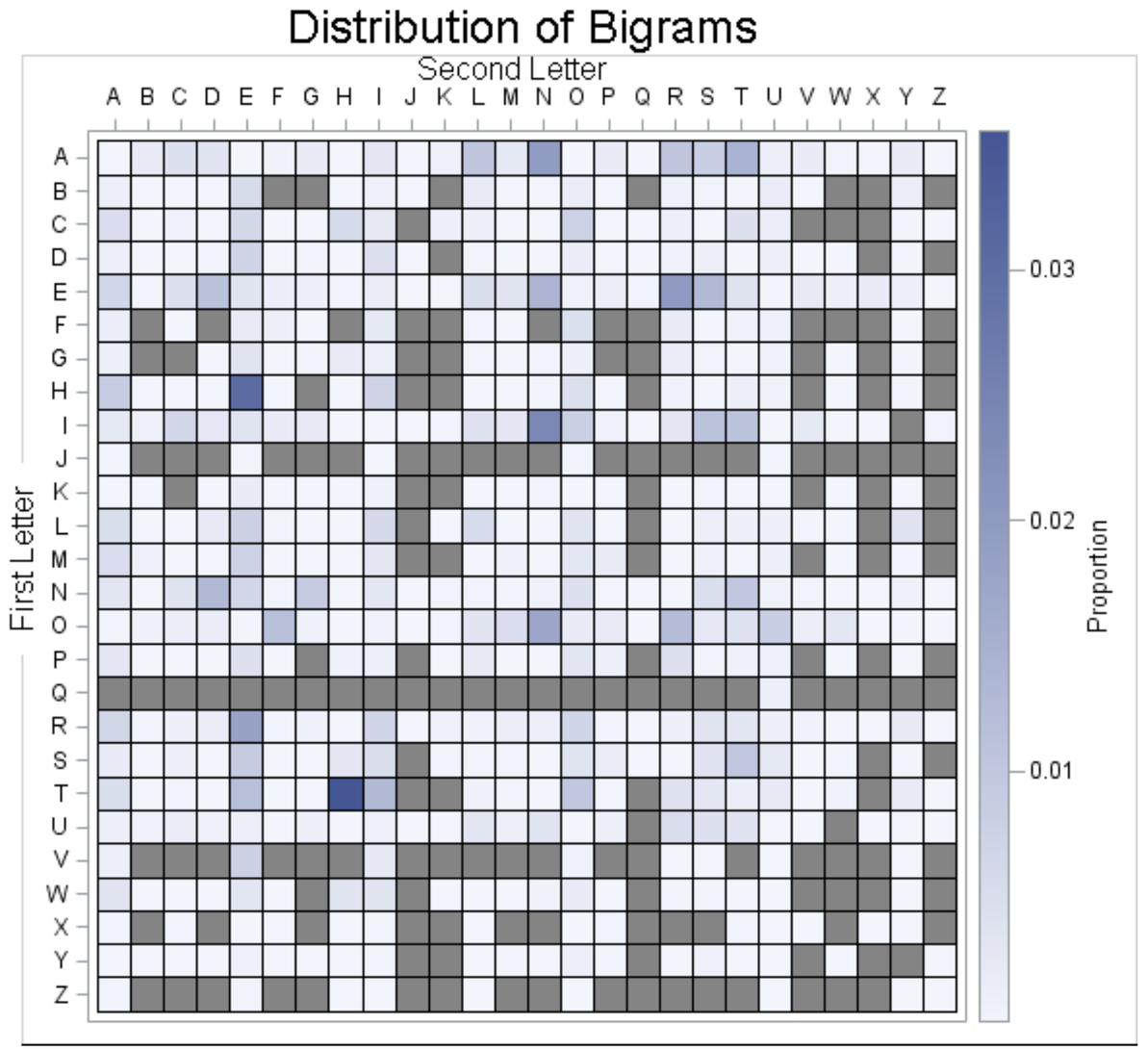


Guess part of the key and use the guesses to break the cipher (as shown before)

Substitution ciphers

The same analysis can be repeated for bigrams, trigrams, etc



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Monoalphabetic substitution ciphers are vulnerable to frequency analysis

Blaise de Vigenère
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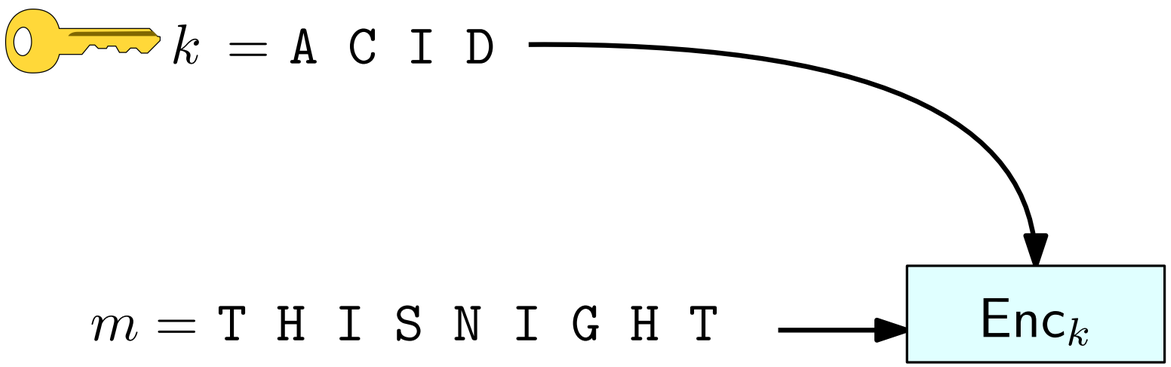

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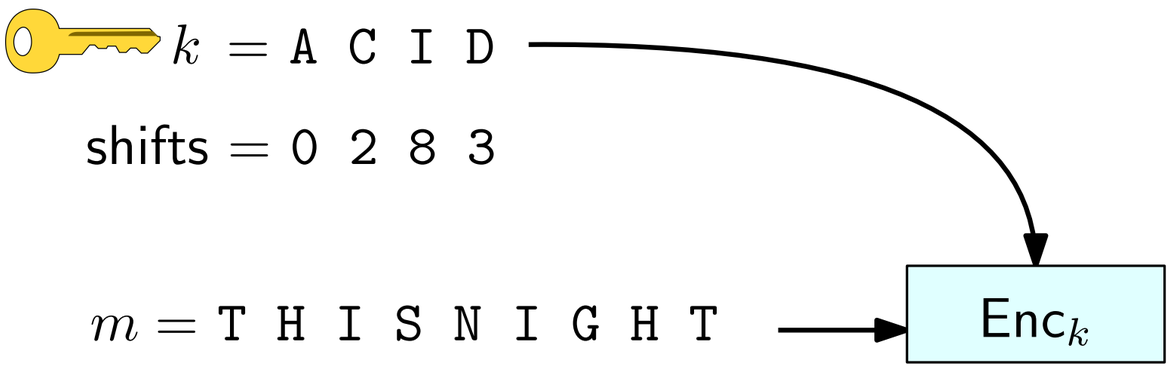

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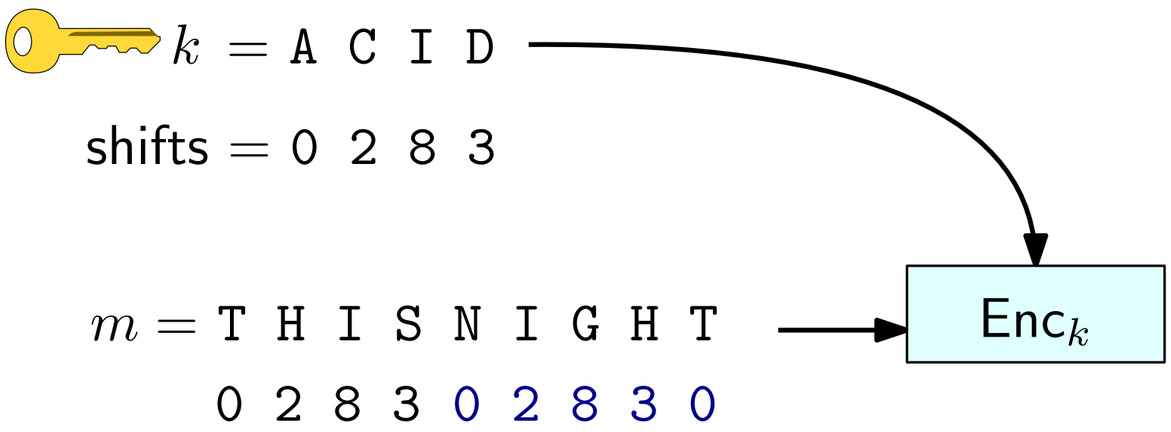

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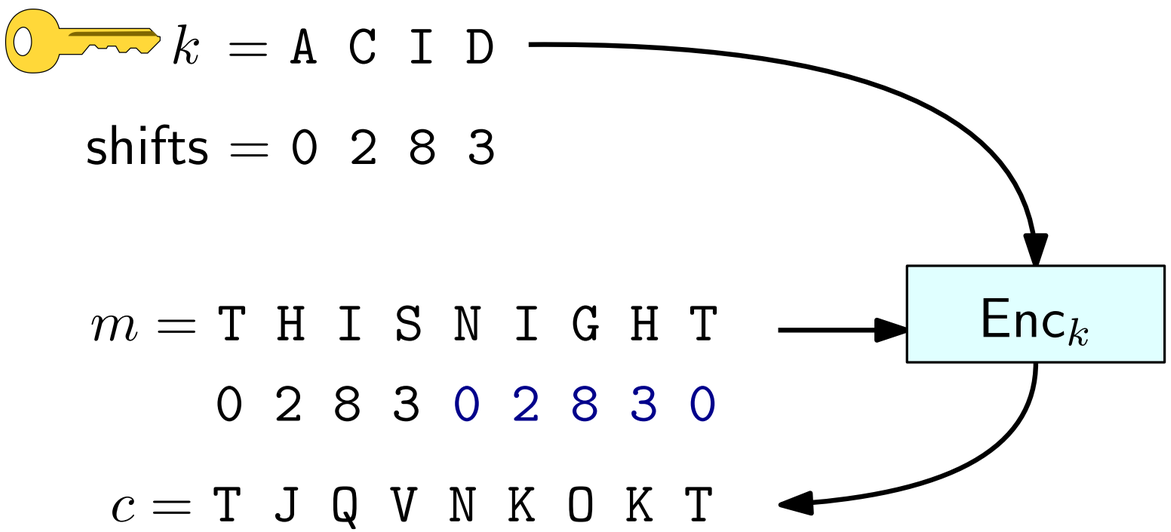

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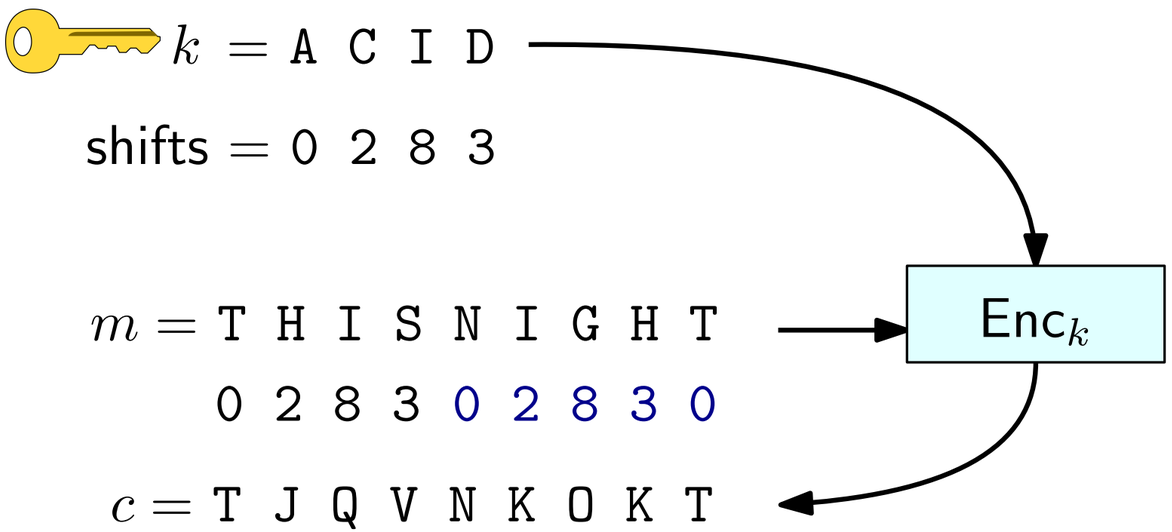

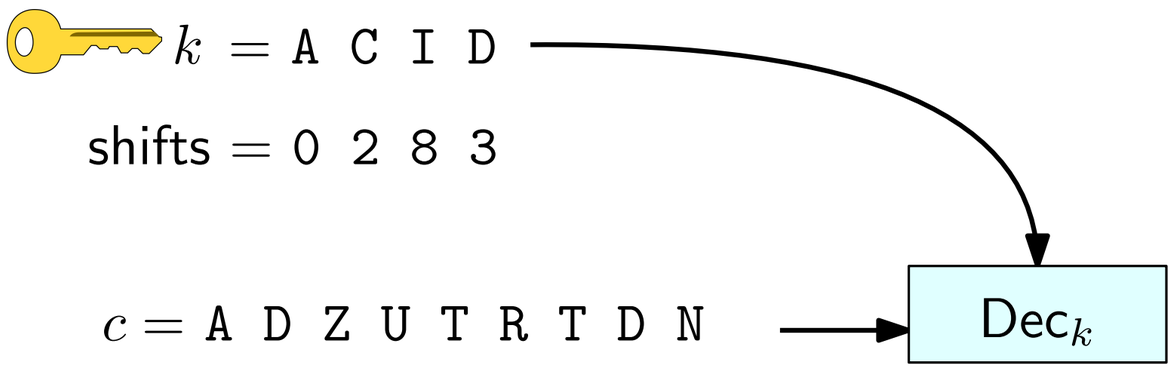

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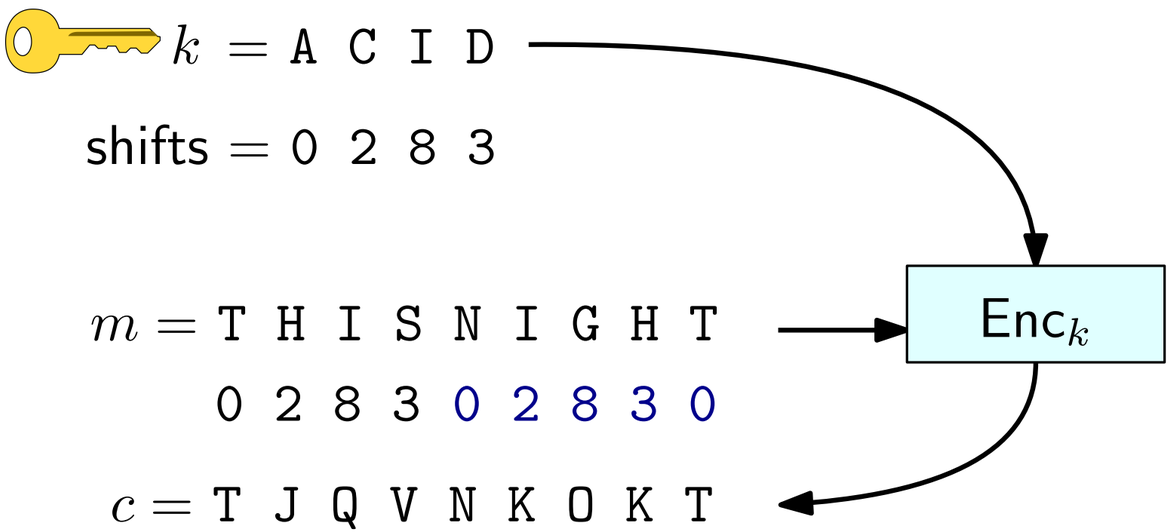

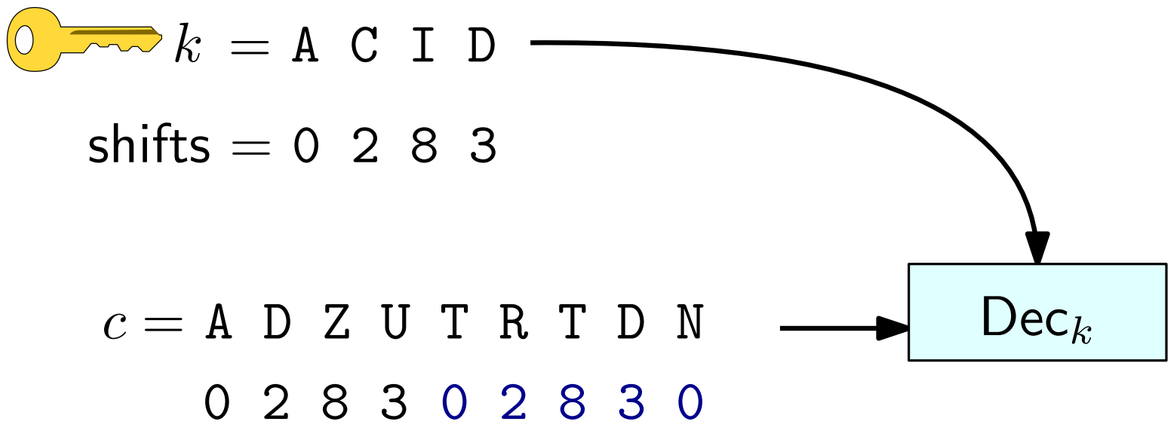

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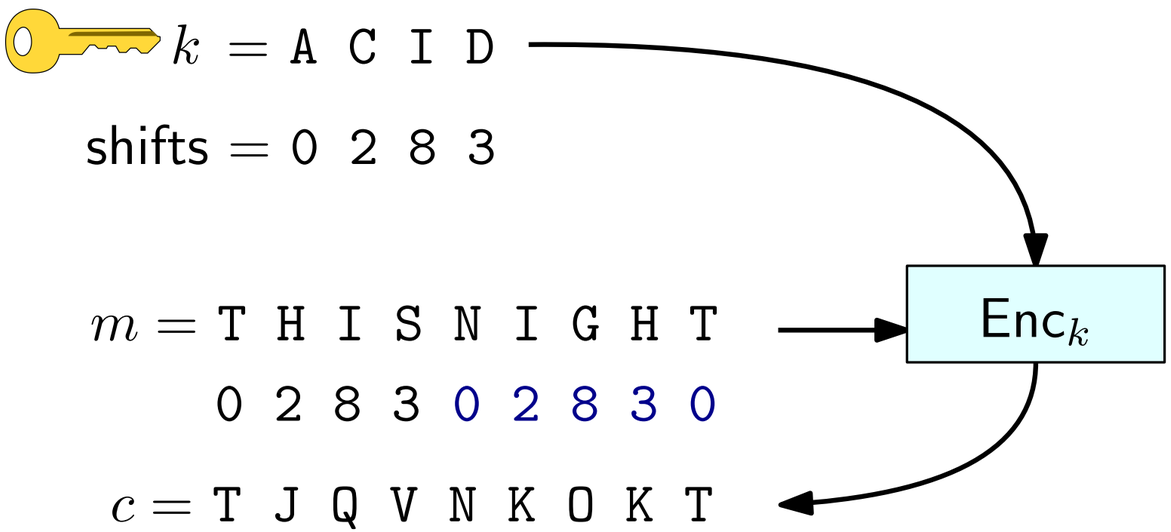

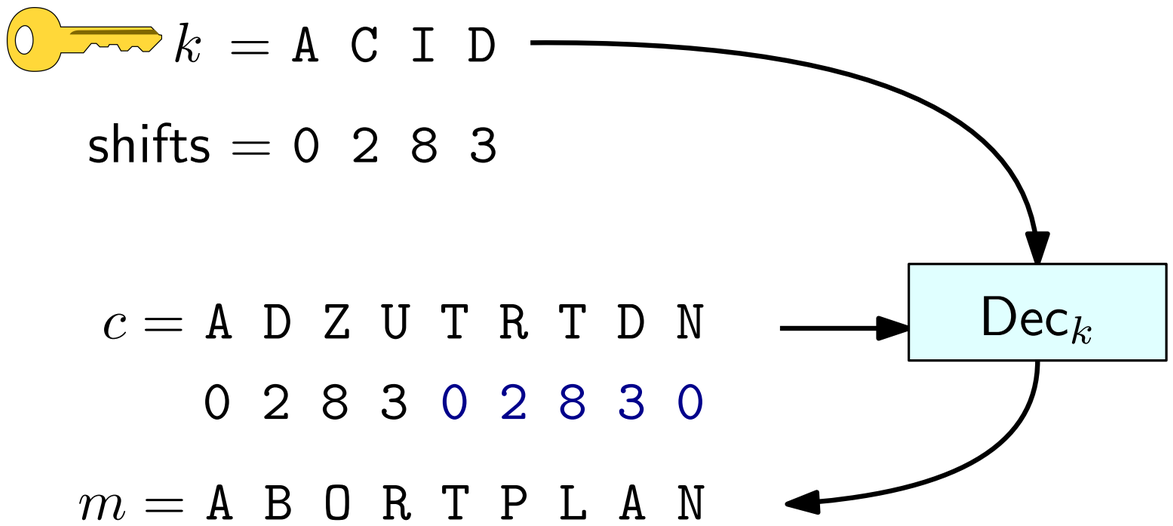

Vigenère cipher

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

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

Vigenère cipher

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

Vigenère cipher

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

Vigenère cipher

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

Vigenère cipher

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)

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

Vigenère cipher

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

Vigenère cipher

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)

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

Vigenère cipher

Is Vigenère cipher secure?

Vigenère cipher

Is Vigenère cipher secure? It has been considered secure for centuries...

Vigenère cipher

Is Vigenère cipher secure? It has been considered secure for centuries...

Suppose that the adversary is somehow able to figure out what the length t of the key is

E.g.: $t = 4$

$c =$ 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 T
U O I F A G O G T I M O U C F P B T W T B N P
W C P C Q B S J D G F A U O W B O E E K D A E
R K R E M L K B F P R O O T J C C S U O O F S
I Q I W U R B N F W M B T G A A U I E W D F L
Z L S F C Q Z O

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Q	I	N	N	A	V	S	M	B	T	K	Q	O	M	O	I	W	C	P	C	T	W	T
U	O	I	F	A	G	O	G	T	I	M	O	U	C	F	P	B	T	W	T	B	N	P
W	C	P	C	Q	B	S	J	D	G	F	A	U	O	W	B	O	E	E	K	D	A	E
R	K	R	E	M	L	K	B	F	P	R	O	O	T	J	C	C	S	U	O	O	F	S
I	Q	I	W	U	R	B	N	F	W	M	B	T	G	A	A	U	I	E	W	D	F	L
Z	L	S	F	C	Q	Z	O															

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W C P C Q B S J D G F A U O W B O E E K D A E
R K R E M L K B F P R O O T J C C S U O O F S
I Q I W U R B N F W M B T G A A U I E W D F L
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W C P C Q B S J D G F A U O W B O E E K D A E
R K R E M L K B F P R O O T J C C S U O O F S
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W C P C Q B S J D G F A U O W B O E E K D A E
R K R E M L K B F P R O O T J C C S U O O F S
I Q I W U R B N F W M B T G A A U I E W D F L
Z L S F C Q Z O

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

How do we determine the key length?

Breaking the Vigenère cipher

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- **Option 1:** brute-force (guess t and try decrypting the t shift ciphers)

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Kasiski's method

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

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

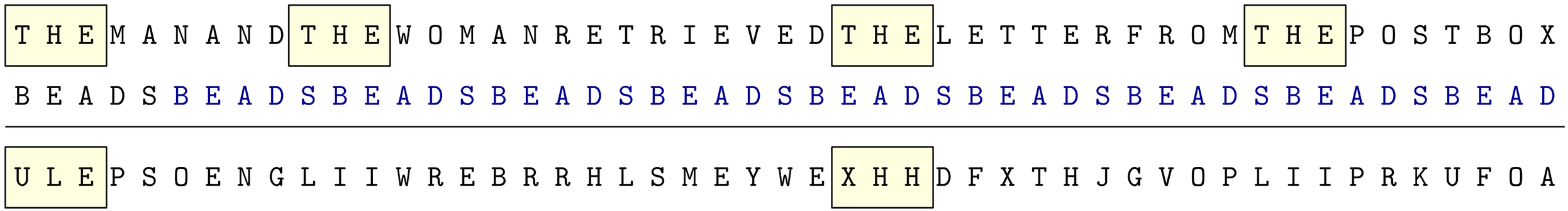
Kasiski's method

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

```
THEMANANDTHEWOMANRETRIEVEDTHELETTERFROMTHEPOSTBOX
BEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEADSBEAD
------------------------------------------------
ULEPSOENGLIIWREBRRHLSMEYWEXHHDFXTHJGVOPLIIPRKUFOA
```

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



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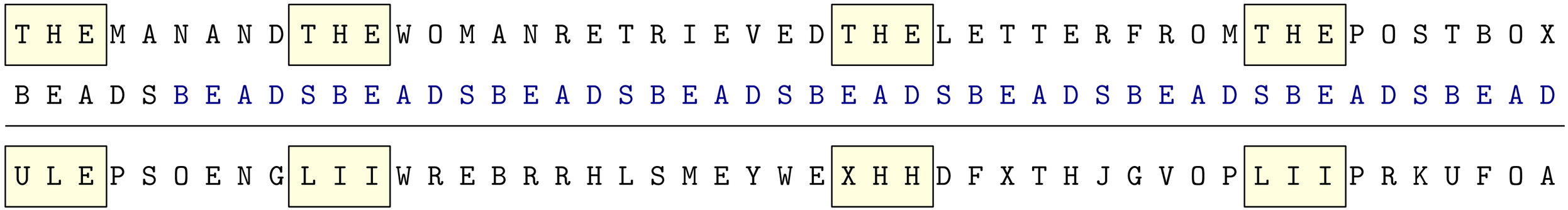

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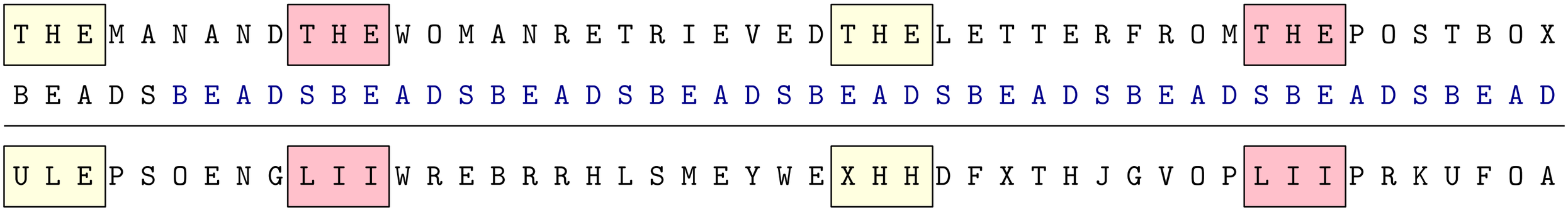
- When this happens, the corresponding portions of ciphertext will be equal



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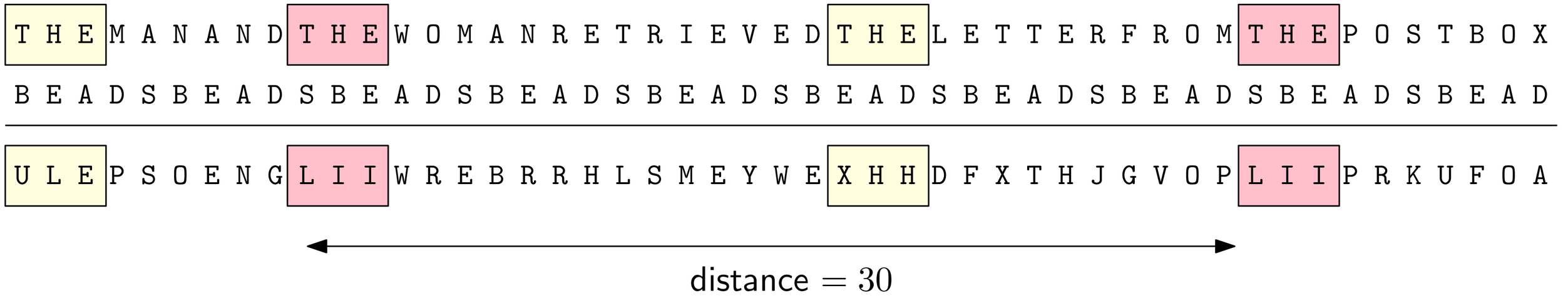

Obs: The distance between repeated patterns in the ciphertext is likely to be a multiple of the key length

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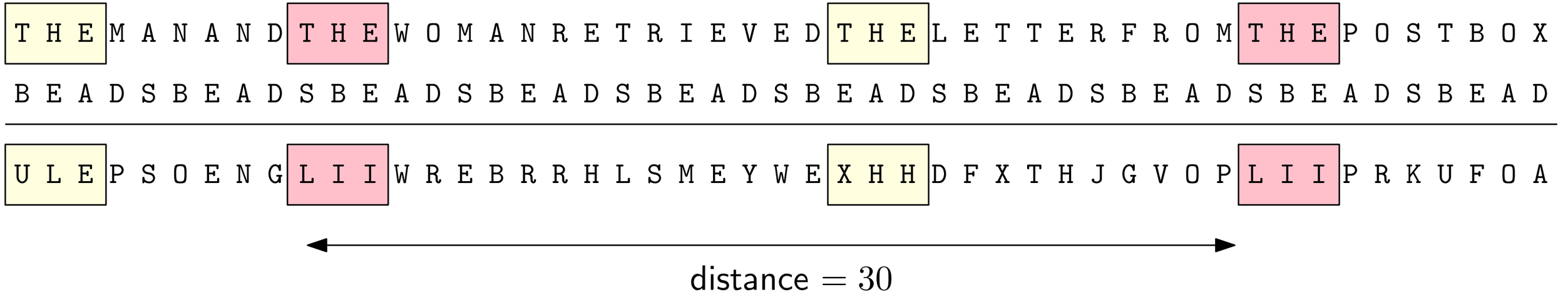

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- Find some repeated patterns of small length (e.g., 2 or 3) in the ciphertext

Kasiski's method

```
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-------------------------------------------------
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```

distance $= 30$

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

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- Look at the distances between pairs of repetitions

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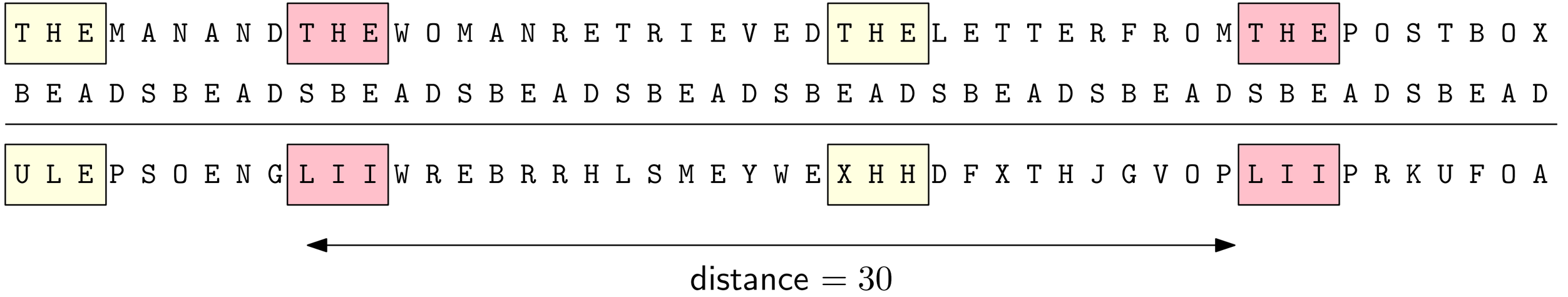

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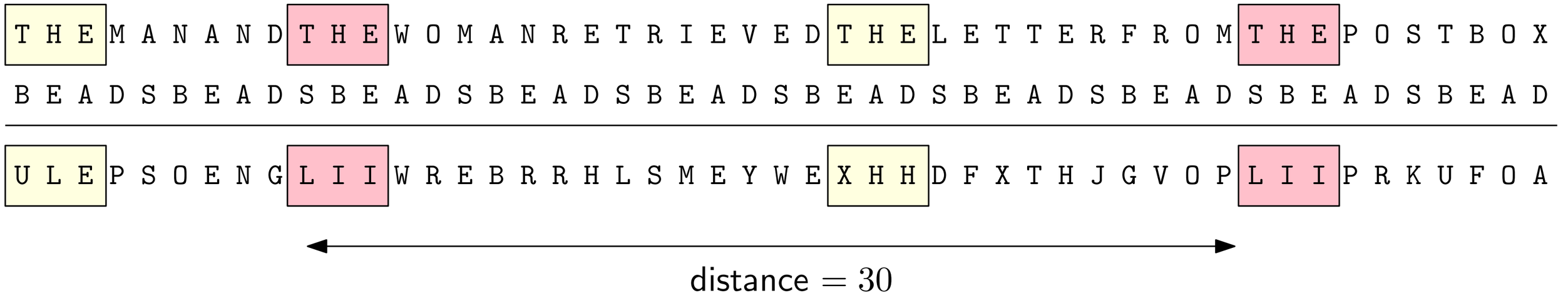

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In the example the key length t is 5 and the distance between patterns is 30

Breaking the Vigenère cipher

How do we determine the key length?

- **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 $(j = 0. . . . , 25)$ in the language of the plaintext

Using the frequencies in the English language: $\sum_{j=0}^{25} p_j^2 \approx 0.065$

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Guess that the key length is τ 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 τ is a multiple of the actual key length t, all the symbols of $c^{(i)}$ are encrypted with a fixed shift

$\implies$ their frequencies q_j resemble p_j, up to some shift $\implies S_\tau = \sum_{j=0}^{25} q_j^2 \approx \sum_{j=0}^{25} p_j^2 \approx 0.065$

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$\implies S_\tau \approx \sum_{j=0}^{25} \left(\frac{1}{26}\right)^2 \approx 0.038$

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

The smallest value of τ 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

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How do we break the shift ciphers?

- We will show an attack that requires the letters to follow the frequencies of a natural language...

Breaking the Vigenère cipher

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- ... but we do not need the message to make sense!

  (In particular, it can be applied to the shift ciphers obtained by decomposing the ciphertext of the Vigenère cipher)

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How do we break the shift ciphers?

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> 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.

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Marian Adam Rejewski

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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

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

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

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

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E.g., if the permutation is $4, 2, 1, 6, 5, 3$, then the ciphertext is:

$c =$ M G O T C H I O W D T T T O E E S R H X E I R T K E N M A O

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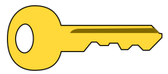
What is the key? 

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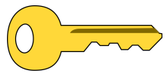
What is the key? 

The pair (n, π)

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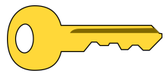
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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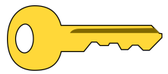
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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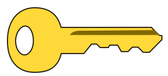
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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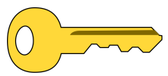
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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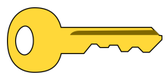
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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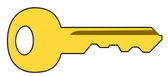
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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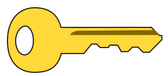
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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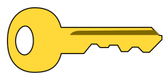
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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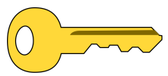
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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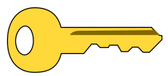
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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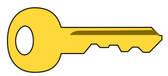
What is the key?  The pair (n, π)

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$c =$

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

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
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 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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- 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:

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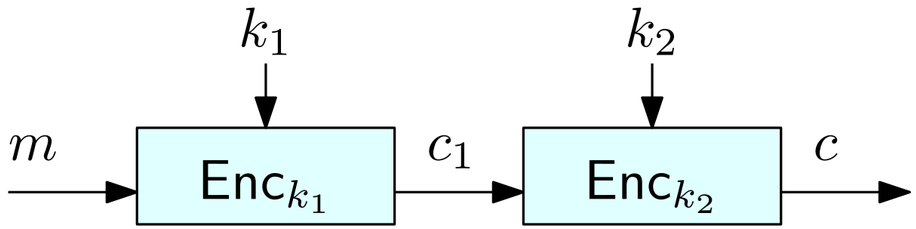

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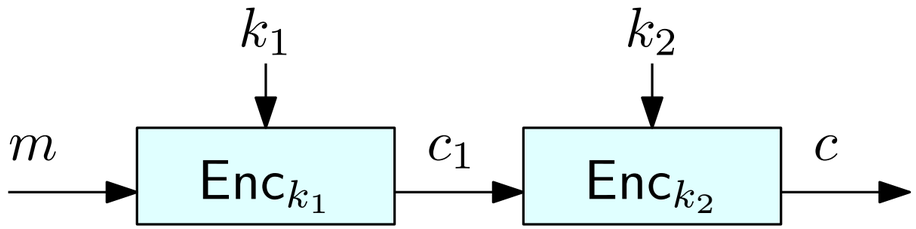

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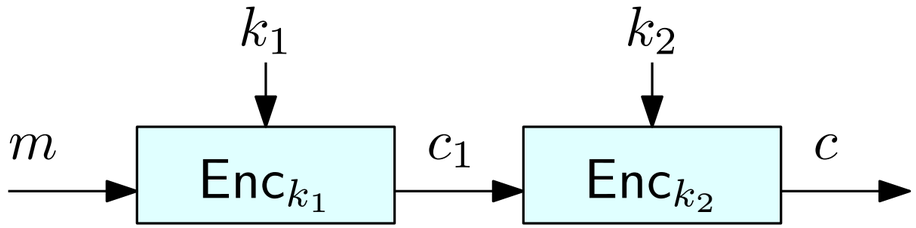

- Among the "manual" ciphers, the double transposition cipher is easy to carry out but hard to break
- Many other (more complex) transposition ciphers have been used

Other transposition ciphers

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

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What does secure mean?