

# REVIEW FOR MIDTERM PART TWO

October 12, 2020

# The Vigenère Cipher

**Key:**  $k = (k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n)$ .

**Encrypt** (all arithmetic is mod 26)

$$\text{Enc}(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_N) =$$

$$m_1 + k_1, m_2 + k_2, \dots, m_n + k_n,$$

$$m_{n+1} + k_1, m_{n+2} + k_2, \dots, m_{n+n} + k_n,$$

...

**Decrypt** Decryption just reverses the process

# Three Kinds of Vigenère Ciphers

1. Standard Vig: Use a longish-sentence. Key is Sentence.
2. Book Cipher: Use a book. Key is name of book and edition.
3. one-time pad: Key is random gen sequence.

# Cracking Vig cipher: Step One-find Keylength

One have keylength can crack, so okay to try many of them.

Two ways to guess keylengths:

1. Spot (say) a 4-letter sequence that appears 5 times and use differences of appeared to narrow down key length.
2. Try all keylengths of length 1,2,3,... until you hit it.

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2. For each steam try every shift and use **Is English** to determine which shift is correct.
3. You now know all shifts for all positions. Decrypt!

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**Corn** is 4 letters long. **Flake** is 5 letters long.

We form a key of length  $LCM(4, 5) = 20$ . (Won't fit on line! Oh Well.)

C	O	R	N	C	O	R	N	C	O	R	N	C	O	R	N	C
F	L	A	K	E	F	L	A	K	E	F	L	A	K	E	F	L
7	25	17	23	6	19	2	13	12	18	22	24	2	24	21	18	1

ADD it up to get new 20-long key.

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1. Before modern computer era: YES.
2. Now. NO.

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Eve knows that (First Letter in Key) + (First Letter in Text) = 3.  
Hence the following are the only possibilities for  
(Letter in Key, Letter in Text) are:

$(a, d), (z, e), (y, f), (w, g), \dots, (b, c)$

Only 26 possibilities. What of it? **Discuss**

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Some of the pairs are more likely than others.

1. **Both** the key **and** the text are in English.
2.  $(z, e)$ : Hmm,  $z$  is unlikely but  $e$  is likely.
3.  $(a, d)$ : Hmm, seems more likely than  $(z, e)$ .
4. Can rank which are more likely (e.g., add or mult the freqs).
5. Can then use adjacent letters and freq of adjacent pairs, and rank them.
6. Triples. Etc.

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- ▶  $Dec_k(c) = k \oplus c$ .
- ▶ Correctness:

$$\begin{aligned}Dec_k(Enc_k(m)) &= k \oplus (k \oplus m) \\ &= (k \oplus k) \oplus m \\ &= m\end{aligned}$$



# One-Time Pad

1. **PRO**  $\oplus$  is FAST!
2. **CON** If Key is  $N$  bits long can only send  $N$  bits.
3. **PRO** Uncrackable if use truly random bits.
4. **CON** Hard to get truly random bits.

# Ways to Get Random-Looking Bits

1. **Linear Cong Gen** Pick  $x_0, A, B, M$  at random and then use:

$x_0$

$$x_{i+1} = Ax_i + B \pmod{M}$$

We summarize how to crack VERY BRIEFLY after this slide.

2. **Merseen Twister** Also a recurrence, also crackable.
3. **VN method** if can generate bits with  $\text{prob}(0)=p$ ,  $\text{prob}(1)=1-p$  can use to get truly random bits without knowing  $p$ .

Takes a long time to get the bits.

Generating bits with  $\text{prob } p, 1-p$ , still hard.

4. **Elias method** Did not do in class, but Better than VN for time to get bits. Generating bits with  $\text{prob } p, 1-p$ , still hard.
5. **We will see better methods later in the course.**

# Cracking Linear Cong Gen

1. Have some word or phrase that you think is there. E.g., **PAKISTAN**. Say its 8 letters.
2. For EVERY 8-letter block (until you succeed) do the thought experiment: What if its **PAKISTAN**?
  - 2.1 Based on that guess find equations that relate  $A, B, M$ .
  - 2.2 Try to solve those equations. If no solution goto next block-of-8.
  - 2.3 There is  $\geq 1$  solution  $(A, B, M)$ . Use it to find  $x_0$  and the entire plaintext  $T$ .
  - 2.4 Test if  $T$  IS-English. If so then DONE. If not then goto next block-of-8.

# The Matrix Cipher

**Def** Matrix Cipher. Pick  $M$  an  $n \times n$  invertible over mod 26 matrix.

1. Encrypt via  $xy \rightarrow M(xy)$ .
2. Decrypt via  $xy \rightarrow M^{-1}(xy)$ .

**Encode:** Break text  $T$  into blocks of 2, apply  $M$  to each pair.

**Decode:** Do the same only with  $M^{-1}$ .

# The Matrix Cipher: Good and Bad

## Good News:

1. Can test if  $M^{-1}$  exists, and if so find it, easily.
2.  $M$  small, so Key small.
3. Applying  $M$  or  $M^{-1}$  to a vector is easy computationally.
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## Bad News:

1. Eve CAN crack using Known Plaintext Attack Using Linear Algebra.

# Lets Try Brute Force Even if Slow

1. Input  $T$ , a coded text.
2. For EVERY  $8 \times 8$  invertible matrix  $M$  over mod 26,
  - 2.1 Decode  $T$  into  $T'$  using  $M$ .
  - 2.2 IF LOOKS-LIKE-ENGLISH( $T'$ )=YES then STOP and output  $T'$ , else goto next matrix  $M$ .

Takes roughly  $26^{64}$  steps.

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Let  $Mt_i = m_i$ . Then  $(1, 1, 7) \cdot t_i = m_i^1$  is first letter of  $m_i$ .

$$(m_1^1, m_2^1, m_3^1, \dots, m_N^1)$$

is every third letter. Can do IS-ENGLISH on it.

## Can Crack in $8 \times 26^8$

Eve knows that Alice and Bob decode with  $8 \times 8$  Matrix  $M$ .

Ciphertext is

$$T = t_1 t_2 \cdots t_N \quad t_i = t_i^1 \cdots t_i^8$$

For  $i = 1$  to 8

For all  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{26}^8$  (guess that  $r$  is  $i$ th row of  $B$ ).

$T' = (r \cdot t_1, \dots, r \cdot t_N)$  (Is every 8th letter.)

IF IS-ENGLISH( $T'$ )=YES then  $r_i = r$  and goto next  $i$ . Else  
goto the next  $r$ .

$M$  is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ r_1 & \cdots & r_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \end{pmatrix}$$

Takes  $8 \times 26^8$  steps.

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The row-by-row method takes  $O(n26^n)$ .



# Important Lesson

**Assume:**  $26^{64}$  time is big enough to thwart Eve.

1. If we think that best Eve can do is  $O(26^{n^2})$  then we take  $n = 8$ , so Eve needs  $O(26^{64})$ .
2. If we think that best Eve can do is  $O(n26^n)$  then we take  $n = 80$ , so Eve needs  $O(80 \times 26^{80})$ .

The  $O(n \times 26^n)$  cracking **does not** show that Matrix Cipher is insecure, but it still is very important: Alice and Bob must increase their parameters. That is already a win since it makes life harder for Alice and Bob.

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Above attack on Matrix Cipher is a microcosm of this history.

Proofs rely on limiting what Eve can do, and hence do not work if Eve does something else.



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4. We will do this in the next set of slides.

# Ciphertext and Plaintext

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**Ciphertext** What Alice sends Bob. The hope is that if Eve sees it she will **not** learn the plaintext. E.g.

**PHHWP HDIWH UFODV V**

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We will describe several different types of attacks Eve can use.  
They depend on:

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Eve cracked shift, affine, general sub, Vig with a COA.

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3. Guess a word that you think appears in the document. For Linear-Cong-Gen our example was **Pakistan**.
4. **More WWII History** Turing and his gang cracked the German Enigma Code, guessing that **ein** (German for **one**) would be in messages.

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2. **WWII History** England put mines in places that the Germans had no abbreviations for. The Germans cleared those mines and send **NAME OF PLACE, all clear**, transmitted in code.

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123456	<i>Password</i>	12345678	<i>qwerty</i>	12345
12345678	<i>letmein</i>	1234567	<i>football</i>	<i>iloveyou</i>
<i>admin</i>	<i>welcome</i>	<i>monkey</i>	<i>login</i>	<i>abc123</i>
<i>starwars</i>	123123	<i>dragon</i>	<i>passwOrd</i>	<i>master</i>
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# Dictionary Attack

**Dictionary Attack** Many variants, we give two:

1. Have database of **X** decodes to **Y** and pattern match.
2. Use Dictionary to guess passwords. Or guess on of the most common passwords:

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trusno1: I like that one, I think I'll use it :-)

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**Easy to thwart** Use a bigger key space!

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3. Look up the Maginot Line.

# The Playfair Cipher: The Key

We use  $\Sigma = \{a, \dots, z\} - \{j\}$ . Need a square. If need to use  $j$  use an  $i$ .

**Key** is a word or phrase. Delete all repeats from it. We will use **Bill Gasarch** which becomes BILGASRCH. Use the key to start a  $5 \times 5$  array of all of the letters

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

# The Playfair Cipher: The First Case

B	I	L	G	A
S	R	C	H	D
E	F	K	M	N
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Given a pair, what do you map it to? Start by finding the pair in the grid.

1) If the pair are NOT in the same row or column then look at rectangle formed and take other corners. EXAMPLE: Map *RA*:

I	L	G	A
R	C	H	D

*RA* maps to *ID*.

# The Playfair Cipher: The Other Cases

We skip them for the review.

# The Rail Fence Cipher

October 12, 2020

# Rail Fence Cipher as Understood In Past

Key is 3. Message is **Marina is a TA.**

Write it in three rows as such:

M			N			A		
	A		I		A	S		T
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Write each row: **MNAIASTRIA**

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Third list out letters in positions  $\equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .

Leave as an exercise what happens if  $k$  rows,  $n$  letter message.

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October 12, 2020

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2. Encode

*(j, o, e, b, i, d, e, n, i, s, r, u, n, n, i, n, g)*

by the shift induced by

*(j, o, e, b, i, d, e, n, i, s, r, u, n)*

To Decode will need to do this four letters at a time.

# AutoKey Pros and Cons

**PROS:** The techniques for cracking Vig do not work.

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**CON:** Complicated to use (more on that next slide).

**Question:** How would you crack it?

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Similar to Book Cipher in that the key and the message are **both** in English so can use freq somewhat.

If guess the key word then rest is EASY!

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  - ▶ A page number. E.g., Page 19.
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4. Bob has same book so can decode.

**Security** Known to be crackable, but won't go into that here.

# A Problem with MOST of our Ciphers/Terminology

1. Most of our ciphers are deterministic so always code  $m$  the same way. This leaks information.
2. One-Time Pad and Book Ciphers avoid this, but have very long keys.
3. The problem of the same message leading to the same ciphertext is called

**The NY,NY Problem.**

# How to Fix This Without a Long Key

**Randomized Shift** Key is a **function**  $f : S \rightarrow S$ .

1. To send message  $(m_1, \dots, m_L)$  (each  $m_i$  is a character):
  - 1.1 Pick random  $r_1, \dots, r_L \in S$ .
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2. To decode message  $((r_1; c_1), \dots, (r_L; c_L))$ :
  - 2.1 Find  $(c_1 - f(r_1), \dots, c_L - f(r_L))$ .

# Cracking Randomized Shift

With a long text Rand Shift **is** crackable.

If  $N$  is long and Eve sees:

$$(r_1; \sigma_1)(r_2; \sigma_2) \cdots (r_N; \sigma_N).$$

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3. It turns out that taking a **random** set of letters also has the same distribution as a normal text.

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4. Can use the  $s_r$ 's to decode entire message.

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4. Cracking it takes a much longer text.

**BILL, STOP RECORDING LECTURE!!!!**

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