

## 1 | Persons of Interest

### 1.1 | Protagonists

- "Alice": person who sends the messages
- "Bob": recipient of the messages

### 1.2 | Antagonists

- "Eve": the eavesdropper between Alice => Bob

## 2 | Classical Cryptography

### 2.1 | Caesar Cipher

Julius Ceaser's favourite means of cryptography was the "Caesar Cipher".

#### 2.1.1 | Algorithm

1. Pick a number  $s$
2. Shift every letter forward by  $s$ , we might have to wrap around ("y" shifted by 3 is "b")

#### 2.1.2 | Collisions

Sometimes, words could collide. The words "SLEEP" and "BUNNY" are related to each other by exactly a ceaser cipher.

#### 2.1.3 | Example

Plaintext: "Cryptography is Fun". Set  $s = 5$ . Ciphertext: "HWDUYTLWFUMD NX KZS"

To recover the original message, just shift letters down by  $s$ .

### 2.2 | Substitution Cipher

#### 2.2.1 | Algorithm

1. Write down all the plaintext letters: a b c d e f g h i ... you get the point
2. Think about a keyword or phrase that pairwise matches them, without repeats and uses all 24 letters

```
: a = "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz"  
: b = "thequickbrownfxjmpsvlazydg"
```

3. Then, pairwise match them

```
...  
...  
In [9]: d  
Out[9]:  
{  
  'a': 't',  
  'b': 'h',  
  'c': 'e',  
  'd': 'q',  
  'e': 'u',  
  'f': 'i',  
  'g': 'c',  
  'h': 'k',  
  'i': 'b',  
  'j': 'r',  
  'k': 'o',  
  'l': 'w',  
  'm': 'n',  
  'n': 'f',  
  'o': 'x',  
  'p': 'j',  
  'q': 'm',  
  'r': 'p',  
  's': 's',  
  't': 'v',  
  'u': 'l',  
  'v': 'a',  
  'w': 'z',  
  'x': 'y',  
  'y': 'd',  
  'z': 'g'}  
In [10]: |
```

If we allow letters to be encrypted by themselves, there is one set of possibilities allowed.

"Any additional structure that you have in an algorithm will help the eavesdropper."

## 2.2.2 | Helping Eve

Let's see a bad encryption by the substitution cipher, and see what we could do.

"T PXVW X QNIOD CXNVWDEIK RWCEAKQNXQTEA EF QPTK UNEUEKTQTEA"

1. We have two things: "T" must be "i", "X" must be a "a"

And then, after much consternation

```

    'F': ' ',
    'U': ' '}
})

In [68]: d["Q"] = "t"
In [69]: d["E"] = "o"
In [70]: d["A"] = "n"
In [71]: "".join([d[i] for i in cipher])
Out[71]: 'i _a_ a t_ _ _a_ _o_ _ _on_t_ation o_ t_i_ _o_o_ition'
In [72]: d["f"] = "f"
In [73]: d["F"] = "f"
In [74]: "".join([d[i] for i in cipher])
Out[74]: 'i _a_ a t_ _ _a_ _o_ _ _on_t_ation of t_i_ _o_o_ition'
In [75]: d["R"] = "d"
In [76]: d["W"] = "e"
In [77]: d["C"] = "m"
In [78]: "".join([d[i] for i in cipher])
Out[78]: 'i _a_e a t_ _ _ma_ _e_o_ _demon_t_ation of t_i_ _o_o_ition'
In [79]: "".join([d[i] for i in cipher])
% 5.8k U: *vterm* VTerm #tapro Projectile WK ivv FlvC vas company unimpa

```

1. Spaces We realized that this message is "shockingly" (not really) easy to crack. The spaces is a dead giveaway.  
Hence, to make messages harder to decrypt, we rid of all the spaces and space the letters out in groups of five.  
Therefore, we will encode it in the following way instead:
2. Frequency Analysis "T PXVW X QNIOD CXNVWDEIK RWCEAKQNXQTEA EF QPTK UNEUEKTQTEA" => "TPXVW XQNIODCXNVWDEIKRWCEAKQNXQTEAEFQPTKUUNEUEKTQTEA"  
Now, this is much harder to get rid of. If the substitution cipher is larger, we could do a frequency analysis to get ahead in breaking the cipher.  
The most frequent letters for frequency analysis (through, deprecated. For the modern convention, look it up.), in decreasing order: ETAOINSHRDLU.  
Therefore, if we have a large body of text, we could work it out.
3. n-Gram Analysis Most common bigrams: "TH", "HE" Most common trigrams: "THE", "AND"

## 2.3 | Vigeniere Cipher

### 2.3.1 | Algorithm

Plaintext: "crypt ograph hyisf un" Key: "LIMEL IMELI MELIM EL"

1. We first do a ceaser shift
2. Then perform substitution, shifting the key
3. Then we shift again

### 2.3.2 | Alternative

Use the key once, then use the plaintext.

### 2.3.3 | Helping Eve

1. Kasiski Examination
  - Look through cipher text and look for any long strings of repeated letters
  - The difference between the positions is probably the key length

When you look at repeated strings, could figure small subsections of repeated values. In our example, its about 6.

Guess all possible positions when a common string takes place, and count various small key lengths.

## 3 | Modern Cryptography

- Modern Cryptography requires a *secure* method of exchanging the key to set up a connection
- "It doesn't matter if it is impossible to figure out the key, it just has to be highly impractical"

### 3.1 | A Number Theory Detour

#### 3.1.1 | Modular Arithmetic

Let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $a, b$  are integers, we say that  $a, b$  are congruent mod  $m$  if they have the same remainder if you divide by  $m$ . Equivalently,  $a, b$  are congruent mod  $m$  if  $a - b$  is a multiple of  $m$ . We write  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ .

1. Doing Basic Math The cool thing is, we could do arithmetic with mods. We could add, subtract, multiply in modular arithmetic. For instance, if we know that  $a \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$  and  $b \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ , we could grantee that  $a + b \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ ,  $a - b \equiv -3 \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ ,  $ab \equiv 10 \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ .
2. Fermat's Little Theorem Let  $p$  be a prime.
  - (a) If  $a \in \mathbb{I}, a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , then  $a^p - 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$
  - (b) If  $a \in \mathbb{I}$ , then  $a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$

A Proof.

Consider the numbers  $a, 2a, 3a, \dots, (p-1)a$ . None of them are divisible by  $p$ . Furthermore, claim that no two are congruent modulo  $p$ . Suppose on the contrary that  $ra \equiv sa \pmod{p}$ . Then  $(r-s)a \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . But neither factor can be a multiple of  $p$ , so this is not possible.

Thus,  $a, 2a, 3a, \dots, (p-1)a \equiv 1, 2, 3, \dots, p-1 \pmod{p}$ .

Therefore,  $a, 2a, 3a, \dots, (p-1)a \equiv 1, 2, 3, \dots, p-1 \pmod{p}$  in some order. Thus,  $a \cdot 2a \cdot \dots \cdot (p-1)a \equiv 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot (p-1) \pmod{p}$ .

- $a^{p-1}(p-1)! \equiv (p-1)! \pmod{p}$
- $(a^{p-1} - 1)(p-1)! \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$
- $(a^{p-1}) \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

3. Totient Functions Let  $n$  be a positive integer. The totient of  $n$ , denoted as  $\phi(n)$  is the number of positive integers  $a \leq n$  such that  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ .

E.g  $n = 10$ , numbers  $\leq 10$  that are relatively prime to 10 are 1, 3, 7, 9 so  $\phi(10) = 4$ .

Then, suppose the prime factorization of  $n$  is  $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_r^{e_r}$  where  $p_i$ 's are distinct primes and each  $e_i \leq 1$ .

Then:

$$\phi(n) = n(1 - \frac{1}{p_1})(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}) \dots (1 - \frac{1}{p_r}) \quad (1)$$

If  $p, q$  are distinct primes, then  $\phi(pq) = (p-1)(q-1)$ .

4. Euler's Totient Theorem If  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ , then  $a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

5. One more Theorem If  $p$  is prime, then there is some integer  $g$ , depending on a  $p$  such that  $g, g^2, g^3, \dots, g^{p-1}$  are all distinct modulo  $p$ . Such a number  $g$  is called a primitive root modulo  $p$ .

6. The Euclidean Algorithm There is, actually, an easy way of calculating the GCD of two values without factoring them.  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a, b-a)$ .

If  $d$  is any factor of  $a, b$ , say  $a = kd, b = ld$ . Then  $b-a = (l-k)d$ .  $\gcd(301, 161) = \gcd(161, 140) = \gcd(140, 21) = \gcd(21, 14) = \gcd(7, 0) = 7$ . You will realize this is just subtracting gcd together.

7. Bezout's lemma If  $a, b$  are integers, then  $\gcd(a, b)$  is the smallest positive integer  $d$  such that there exist integers  $x, y$  with  $ax + by = d$ .

## 3.2 | Diffie-Helman

Alice computes  $k_1 = B^a \pmod{p}$ , and Bob computes  $k_2 = A^b \pmod{p}$ .  $k_1 = k_2$ , so this is a shared piece of information, which can be used as a key.

- $k_1 = B^a \equiv (g^b)^a \equiv g^{ab} \pmod{p}$
- $k_2 = A^b \equiv (g^a)^b \equiv g^{ab} \pmod{p}$

### 3.2.1 | Discrete Logarithm Problem

Given a prime  $p$ , a primitive root  $g$ , and a nonzero residue class  $x \pmod{p}$ , find a number  $a$  s.t.  $g^a \equiv x \pmod{p}$ .

### 3.2.2 | El Gamal Crypto

Plaintext message  $m$ : number mod  $p$ . Bob computes  $b$  secretly and computes  $B = g^b \mod p$  and distributes it. Alice has a plaintext message  $m$  to send to Bob. She picks a random  $a$ , and computes  $A = g^a \mod p$  and  $C = B^a m \mod p$ . She sends both  $A$  and  $c$  to Bob.

Bob has to recover  $m$  from  $A, c$  and other info he knows. He computes  $m = A^{-b} c \mod p$ . Which is the plaintext.

### 3.3 | RSA

Alice wishes to send a message to Bob.

Bob picks two primes,  $p, q$ , secret. He then computes  $n = pq$ . He also chooses an encryption exponent,  $e$  such that  $\gcd(e, \phi(n)) = 1$ . His public key is  $(n, e)$ . He can find a number  $d$  such that  $de \equiv 1 \mod \phi(n)$ . Since  $\gcd(e, \phi(n)) = 1$ ,  $\exists d, k$  s.t.  $de + k\phi(n) = 1$ .

If  $p$  is prime, and  $p \nmid a$ , then  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \mod p$ . So, if I want to check if  $n$  is composite, pick a random  $a$ , not a multiple of  $n$ , then compute  $a^{n-1}$  and see if its 1.

Alice wishes to send a plaintext  $m$  to Bob.

#### 3.3.1 | Stupid Uses of RSA

Alice wants to send either a yes or no to Bob. Suppose she encodes yes as 73, and no as 149. She encrypts it, and sends it along to Bob. What's wrong?

The number of messages is pretty small, Eve could just try all possible combinations to figure out what the secret is. i.e. try 73, then try 149.

Alice has a long message, some alphabetical message, she converts each digit to a number separately, then encrypts each number. Then encrypts each number, then sends all these numbers to Bob.

#### 3.3.2 | Fixing Stupid RSA: Padding

Take your message, then add on 100 random digits in the end. Once you did that, then you encrypt it. Then, Eve can't check every combination.