

Assignment: Project 4 Decrypt Function

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The affine cipher is a generalization of the Caesar cipher:

$$E_{\alpha,\beta}(x) = (\alpha x + \beta) \% 26$$

Derive the analogous decrypt function. There is a distinction between the algebraic function, above, and the computational definition below. I'm referring to the algebraic function here.

Let x be plaintext, $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$, $\beta \in [1..25]$, $y = E_{\alpha,\beta}(x)$ (or Ciphertext)

$$y \equiv (\alpha x + \beta) \pmod{26}$$

$$y - \beta \equiv \alpha x \pmod{26}$$

$$\alpha^{-1}(y - \beta) \equiv \alpha^{-1}(\alpha x) \pmod{26}$$

$$\alpha^{-1}(y - \beta) \equiv x \pmod{26}$$

$$x \equiv \alpha^{-1}(y - \beta) \pmod{26}$$

Decryption function: $x \equiv \alpha^{-1}(y - \beta) \pmod{26}$