

Section 3.5, Miller 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Substitution Cipher

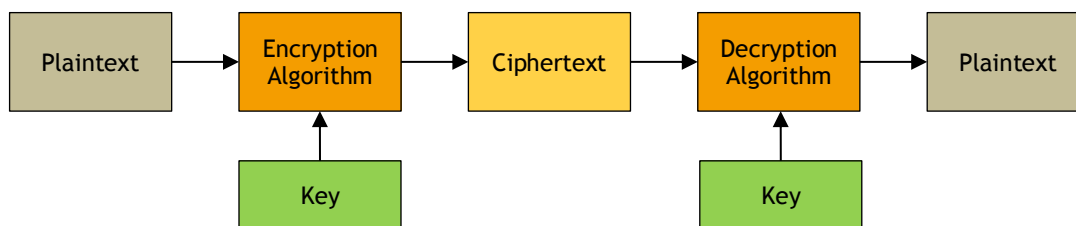
**Encryption:** Substitute each character with a different character

**Decryption:** Reverse the substitution

Use a **key** to tell which letter is substituted for which.

Alphabet: All possible chars the plaintext can have

Key: Must be a *permutation* of the alphabet



## Small Toy Example

Alphabet: 'abcdef'

Key: 'dabfce'

Plaintext: 'bed'

Alphabet	a	b	c	d	e	f
key	d	a	b	f	c	e
	0	1	2	3	4	5

Encryption:

Plaintext	Index i in alphabet	Ciphertext: key[i]
b	1	a
e	4	c
d	3	f

Ciphertext: 'acf'

Decryption:

Ciphertext	Index i in key	Decrypted: Alphabet[i]
a	1	b
c	4	e
f	3	d

Decrypted: 'bed'

See [03-04-substitution-cipher-small-demo.py](#)

Turn these ideas into functions

See [03-05-substitution-cipher-small-with-functions.py](#)

### Creating a Random Key

Generate random permutation of alphabet with length n:

```
key = ''
for i in range(n):
    select char ch at random from the alphabet
    add ch to the key
    remove ch from the alphabet
```

See [03-06-substitution-cipher-small-with-random-key.py](#)

### Creating a Key from a Password

Password can only have characters from the alphabet

1. Remove all duplicate chars from password
2. before = all alphabet chars **before** last char of password
3. after = all alphabet chars **after** last char of password
4. remove password chars from before & after
5. Concatenate the following:
  - key = password + after + before

Example

```
alphabet = 'abcdef'
pw = 'bedebceed'
```

1. Remove dups from PW  
pw = 'bedc'
2. Make before (alphabet letters before 'c')  
before = 'ab'
3. Make after (alphabet letters after 'c')  
after = 'def'
4. Remove PW chars from before and after  
before = 'a'  
after = 'f'
5. Concatenate pw + after + before  
key = pw + after + before  
= 'bedc' + 'f' + 'a'  
= 'bedcfa'