

Assignment #1: Classical Ciphers

Total: 100 points

All written assignments should be created using a word processor (e.g., Word or Latex). Hand-written work will not be accepted.

All students should submit a pdf file of their answers through Canvas. Be sure to name the file as follows: HW1_LastName_FirstName.pdf. For example, if a student's name is John Doe, then he would name the file as HW1_John_Doe.pdf. Also, submit the source code (including any header files that you may have used) to Canvas. Name the file as: HW1code_LastName_FirstName.fileExtension (e.g., HW1code_John_Doe.cpp).

Zip up all files **into one zip** file and submit it to Canvas.

1. The objective of this problem is to learn about monoalphabetic substitution ciphers and to use letter frequencies to cryptanalyze a given ciphertext.

Write a program (in any programming language) to analyze the letter frequencies in a block of text. Ignore case (upper and lower count the same). It should count the number of times each letter appears in the text, the number of times each pair of letters appears, and the number of times each sequence of 3 letters appears. Your program should sort the counts of single letters, pairs of letters (bigrams), and triples of letters (trigrams), then print the non-zero values in decreasing order. For single letters, print all non-zero values; for bigrams and trigrams, print the first 30 non-zero values.

Turn in the following items by the deadline.

- (a) (50 pts) As instructed above, submit a soft copy of your program via Canvas. Please write your own program! Do not copy other people's programs.
- (b) (25 pts) Output of your program run against at least 2 different texts of sufficient length. Make sure that the texts are sufficiently long enough for frequency analysis.
- (c) (5 pts) Compare the 2 sets of frequencies you produced for part (b). Are they similar or different? Explain why they are similar or different.
- (d) (20 pts) Using your frequency analysis results, decrypt the ciphertext given below.

For part (b), you can run your program on texts found on the Internet. For example, you can find the full text for Hamlet online (<http://www.bibliomania.com/0/6/3/1057/frameset.html>).

Ciphertext for (d):

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bt jpx rmlx pcuv amlx icvjp ibtwxvr ci m lmt'r pmtn, mtm yvcjx cdvx mwmbtrj jpx amtngrjbh uqct
jpx qgmrjxv ci jpx ymgg ci jpx hbtw'r qmgmax; mtm jpx hbtw rmy jpx qmvj ci jpx pmtn jpmj yvcjx.
jpxt jpx hbtw'r acutjxtmtax ymr apmtwxn, mtm pbr jpcuwppr jvcufgxnxn pbl, rc jpmj jpx scbtjr ci pbr
gbctr yxvx gcerxn, mtm pbr httxr rlcjx ctx mwmbtrj mtejpxv. jpx hbtw avbxn mgcun jc fvbtw bt jpx
mrjvcgwvxr, jpx apmgnxmtr, mtm jpx rccjprmexvr. mtm jpx hbtw rqmhx, mtm rmbn jc jpx ybrx lxt
ci fmfegct, ypcrcxdv rpmgg vxmn jpbr yvbjbtw, mtm rpcy lx jpx btjxvqvjmbct jpxvxi, rpmgg fx
agejpxn ybjp ramvgxj, mtm pmdx m apmbt ci wgn mfcuj pbr txah, mtm rpmgg fx jpx jpbvn vugvx
bt jpx hbtwncl. jpxt amlx bt mgg jpx hbtw'r ybrx lxt; fuj jpxe acugn tcj vxmn jpx yvbjbtw, tcv lmhx
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htcyt jc jpx hbtw jpx btjxvqxjmjbct jpxvxi. jpxt ymr hbtw fxgrpmoomv wvxmjge jvcufgxn, mtn pbr acutjxtmtax ymr apmtwxn bt pbl, mtn pbr gcvnr yxvx mrjctbrpxn. tcy jpx kuxxt, fe vxmrct ci jpx ycvnr ci jpx hbtw mtn pbr gcvnr, amlx btjc jpx fmtkuxj pcurx; mtn jpx kuxxt rqmhx mtn rmbn, c hbtw, gwdx icvxdxv; gxj tcj jpe jpcuwpjr jvcufgx jpxx, tcv gxj jpe acutjxtmtax fx apmtwxn; jpxvx br m lmt bt jpe hbtwncl, bt ypcl br jpx rqbvbj ci jpx pcge wcnr; mtn bt jpx nmer ci jpe ybrncl ci jpx wcnr, ymr icutn bt pbl; ypcl jpx hbtw txfuapmtnoomv jpe imjpxv, jpx hbtw, b rme, jpe imjpxv, lmnx lmrjxv ci jpx lmwbabmtr, mrjvegwxr, apmgnxmtr, mtn recjprmexvr; icvmrluap mr mt xzaxggxtj rqbvbj, mtn htcygnwx, mtn utnxvrijtnbtw, btjxvqxjbtw ci nvxmlr, mtn rpcybtw ci pmvn rxtjtaxr, mtn nbrrcgdbtw ci ncufjr, yxvx icutn bt jpx rmlx nmtnbxg, ypcl jpx hbtw tmlxn fxgjxrpmmomv; tcy gxj nmtnbxg fx amggxn, mtn px ybgg rpcy jpx btjxvqxjmjbct.