

DAT510 - Assignment 1

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Abstract

A one-paragraph summary of the entire assignment -your procedure, results, and analysis.

Part 1

The plaintext message you managed to decipher

The plaintext message I got when I decrypted the cipher was:

AN ORIGINAL MESSAGE IS KNOWN AS THE PLAINTEXT WHILE THE CODED MESSAGE IS CALLED THE CIPHERTEXT THE PROCESS OF CONVERTING FROM PLAINTEXT TO CIPHERTEXT IS KNOWN AS ENCIPHERING OR ENCRYPTION RESTORING THE PLAINTEXT FROM THE CIPHERTEXT IS DECIPHERING OR DECRYPTION THE MANY SCHEMES USED FOR ENCRYPTION CONSTITUTE THE AREA OF STUDY KNOWN AS CRYPTOGRAPHY SUCH A SCHEME IS KNOWN AS A CRYPTOGRAPHIC SYSTEM OR A CIPHER TECHNIQUE USED FOR DECIPHERING A MESSAGE WITHOUT ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE ENCIPHERING DETAILS FALL INTO THE AREA OF CRYPTANALYSIS CRYPTANALYSIS IS WHAT THE LAY PERSON CALLS BREAKING THE CODE THE AREAS OF CRYPTOGRAPHY AND CRYPTANALYSIS TOGETHER ARE CALLED CRYPTOLOGY

Describe the strategy you employed, show the details for each of the steps of that strategy, describe any programs you wrote, show sample output of these programs, and show how you transformed that output into your solution.

To solve the Poly-alphabetic Ciphers I started off by determine what kind of cipher algorithm that is used. The best-known polyalphabetic cipher is called The Vigenre cipher. It is mainly two steps to decrypt this cipher. We have to identify the length of the key, and then find the actual key.

To find the length of the key I used a test based on the taking the factors of the periods. I needed to find strings that repeated trough the ciphertext and chose to add strings of length 3 and longer. Therefor my outer for-loop starts at 3, as shown in Figure 1. The algorithm searches through the whole ciphertext and if a string with length longer than 3 occurs more than once, we add it to the list *wordsFrequently*. This part of the algorithm did I found

here [REF to <https://cs.stackexchange.com/questions/79182/im-looking-for-an-algorithm-to-find-unknown-patterns-in-a-string>].

```
def findKeyLength(input):
    wordsFrequently = {}
    wordsIndex = []
    for i in range(3, int(len(input)/2)):
        for j in range(0, len(input)-i):
            sub = input[j:j+i]
            count = input.count(sub)
            if count >= 2 and sub not in wordsFrequently:
                wordsFrequently[sub] = count
                wordsIndex.append(findFactorialsOnWordIndex(input, sub))
    possibleKeyLengths = Counter(np.concatenate(wordsIndex))
    occurrences = 0
    key = 0
    dict_keys = list(possibleKeyLengths.keys())
    dict_values = list(possibleKeyLengths.values())
    for i in range(0, len(dict_values)):
        if dict_values[i] >= occurrences and dict_keys[i] > key:
            occurrences = dict_values[i]
            key = dict_keys[i]
    return int(key)
```

Figure 1: the function to find key length

To get the index I used the function *findIndexOfDuplicates* that is highly inspired of one of the answers in this stackoverflow question. [REF <https://stackoverflow.com/question-of-duplicates-items-in-a-python-list>]. Figure 2 shows the function *findIndex-OfDuplicates* where the indexes of the substrings is added to a list and returned.

```

def findIndexofDuplicates(input, sub):
    start = -1
    indexes = []
    while True:
        try:
            index = input.index(sub, start + 1)
        except ValueError:
            break
        else:
            indexes.append(index)
            start = index
    return indexes

```

Figure 2: the function to find the indexes of duplicated strings

This method is used in the function *findFactorialsOnWordIndex* as shown in Figure 3. I then used the distance between the indexes of the repeated words and factorize it. I get the factors when the modulo of the index distance and *i* is zero. We got information that the key would be no larger than 10, therefore I only collected the factors in the range of 2 to 10.

```
def findFactorialsOnWordIndex(input, index):
    factorials = []
    wordsIndex = findIndexOFDuplicates(input, index)
    for i in range(0, len(wordsIndex)):
        if i > 0:
            indexDiff = wordsIndex[i] - wordsIndex[i-1]
            for i in range(1, indexDiff + 1, 1):
                if indexDiff % i == 0:
                    if i <= 10 and i > 1:
                        factorials.append(i)
    return factorials
```

Figure 3: the function to find factorials

The next step in Figure 1 to find the key length is to count the occurrence of the factors. The method I used to find the key length is based on using the highest factor that most often occurs. In this case both 2, 4 and 8 occurred 105 times. The if-sentence at the end of Figure 1 sets the key to be the highest factor that most often occurs, which in this case is 8.

Now that we know the length of the key we have to find the actual key. We know the period of the Vigenere cipher now is 8, which means that we have 8 caesar ciphers to break. I chose to use Chi-squared statistic. Chi-squared statistic measures how similar two categorical probability distributions are. In this case I wanted to compare the frequency distribution of the ciphertext characters and the frequency distribution of english.

As can be seen in the first for-loop in Figure 4, I split my cipher in 8 strings, so I get a string which consists of index [0,8,16,24 ...], [1,9,17, 25 ..], [2,10, 18, 26, ...] and so on. Then I count the occurrence of every letter in each of these 8 strings. To do that I use the function *countLetters* as shown in Figure 5. When I have the letter occurrences I send the letter occurrences to perform the chi-square statistic and compare it to the english letter frequency.

```

def findKey(input):
    keyLength = findKeyLength(input)
    keyLengthSortedText = []
    letterOccurance = []
    for i in range(0, len(input)):
        if len(keyLengthSortedText) < keyLength:
            keyLengthSortedText.append(input[i])
        else:
            keyLengthSortedText[i % keyLength] += input[i]
    for i in range(0, keyLength):
        letterOccurance.append(countLetters(keyLengthSortedText[i]))
    indexes = chiSquare(letterOccurance, keyLength, len(input))
    key = []
    alphabet = list(englishFreq.keys())
    for i in range(len(indexes)):
        key.append(alphabet[indexes[i]])
    return key

```

Figure 4: the function to find the key

```

def countLetters(input):
    charFrequency = {'A': 0, 'B': 0, 'C': 0, 'D': 0, 'E': 0, 'F': 0,
                    'G': 0, 'H': 0, 'I': 0, 'J': 0, 'K': 0, 'L': 0, 'M': 0,
                    'N': 0, 'O': 0, 'P': 0, 'Q': 0, 'R': 0, 'S': 0, 'T': 0,
                    'U': 0, 'V': 0, 'W': 0, 'X': 0, 'Y': 0, 'Z': 0}
    for i in input:
        if i in charFrequency:
            charFrequency[i] += 1
        else:
            charFrequency[i] = 1
    return charFrequency

```

Figure 5: the function count the occurrence of letters

The chi-square statistic is based on the formula:

$$\sum_{i=Z}^{i=A} (Ci - Ei)^2 / Ei$$

Where i is going through all of the letters in the english alphabeth so that Ca is the count of letter the A, and Ea is the expected count of the letter A. As shown in Figure 6 we loop through every letter inside a loop of every letter and we do once for each of the 8 strings we have gotten previously. The chi-square statistic says that the letter with the lowest sum in each of the strings is a part of our key. In this example the *chiSquare* function returns an array of **[1,3,11,0,4,10,2,24]**. This array tells us at wich index the letters lays on. Since index starts at zero, The first letter will be B. The key is therefore, as we find in the last for-loop in Figure 4, when we convert the indexes back to letters **BDLAEKCY**.

```
def chiSquare(letterOccurance, keyLength, inputLength):
    freqVal = list(englishFreq.values())
    sum = []
    for i in range(0, keyLength):
        temp = []
        values = list(letterOccurance[i].values())
        for j in range(26):
            result = 0
            for k in range(26):
                result += ((values[((j+k)%26)] -
                    (freqVal[k]*inputLength))**2)/(freqVal[k]*inputLength)
            temp.append(int(result))
        sum += [temp]
    indexSmallest = []
    for i in range(0, len(sum)):
        smallest = min(sum[i])
        indexSmallest.append(sum[i].index(smallest))
    return indexSmallest
```

Figure 6: the function to find the smallest index

With the knowledge of what the key is, the only thing that is left is to decrypt the cipher by using the key. A Vingere Cipher is decrypted by only using substitution, therefore it is an easy process of decrypting it when you know the key. As shown in Figure 7 I convert the key and the input into a lists of unicodes. Unicode is a superset of ASCII. I go through the cipherUnicode value by value and subtract it by the keyUnicode that belongs

to the ciphers unicode index. Then We take the modulo of the length of the english alphabeth. This gives us values in the specter of 0 to 25. To convert it back to normal letters I add 65 to the unicodeValue and cast it back to letters. After going through all of the letters we have the decrypted message in plaintext.

```
def vigenereDecrypt(input):
    start_time = timeit.default_timer()
    key = findKey(input)
    keyLength = len(key)
    keyUnicode = [ord(i) for i in key]
    print(keyUnicode)
    inputUnicode = [ord(i) for i in input]
    print(inputUnicode)
    decryptedText = ''
    for i in range(len(inputUnicode)):
        unicodeValue = (inputUnicode[i] - keyUnicode[i % keyLength]) % 26
        decryptedText += chr(unicodeValue + 65)
    elapsed = timeit.default_timer() - start_time
    print(elapsed)
    return decryptedText
```

Figure 7: the main function to decrypt vigenere cipher

Describe the Execution time and impact of the key length on it.

Part 2

The result of test cases in Tasks 1 and 2

Task 1 results

Raw key	Plaintext	Ciphertext
0000000000	00000000	11110000
0000011111	11111111	11100001
0010011111	11111100	10011101
0010011111	10100101	10010000
1111111111	11111111	00001111
0000011111	00000000	01000011
1000101110	00111000	00011100
1000101110	00001100	11000010

Task 2 results

Raw key 1	Raw key 2	Plaintext	Ciphertext
1000101110	0110101110	11010111	10111001
1000101110	0110101110	10101010	11100100
1111111111	1111111111	00000000	11101011
0000000000	0000000000	01010010	10000000
1000101110	0110101110	11111101	11100110
1011101111	0110101110	01001111	01010000
1111111111	1111111111	10101010	00000100
0000000000	0000000000	00000000	11110000

The bits making up the keys of the SDES and TripleDES in Task 3

Describe the filtering strategy you used to know that the keys are correct.

Conclusion

A short paragraph that restates the objective from your introduction and relates it to your results and discussion and describes any future improvements on your techniques that you would recommend.