

# CS 413

# Information Security

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# CS413 Information Security

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**Week 06**

## Agenda

- Hill Cipher

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# Hill Cipher

# Hill Cipher

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- Hill cipher is a polygraphic substitution cipher based on linear algebra.
- Invented by L. S. Hill in 1929.
- Each letter is represented by a number modulo 26.
- Often the simple scheme  $A = 0, B = 1, \dots, Z = 25$  is used, but this is not an essential feature of the cipher.
- Inputs:
  - String of English letters, A,B,...,Z.
  - An  $n \times n$  matrix  $K$ , with entries drawn from  $0,1,\dots,25$ .  
(The matrix  $K$  serves as the secret key. )

# Hill Cipher Encryption

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- The matrix used for encryption is the cipher key, and it should be chosen randomly from the set of invertible  $n \times n$  matrices (modulo 26).
- Divide the input string into blocks of size 'n', considered as an n-component vector
- To encrypt a message, each block of 'n' letters is multiplied by the matrix 'K'

# Hill Cipher

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Complications exist in picking the encrypting matrix (or cipher key):

- Not all matrices have an inverse (i.e. invertible matrix). The matrix will have an inverse if and only if its determinant is not zero.
- The **determinant** of the encrypting matrix must not have any common factors with the modular base.
- Thus, if we work modulo 26 as above, the determinant must be nonzero, and must not be divisible by 2 or 13.
- If the determinant is 0, or has common factors with the modular base, then the matrix cannot be used in the Hill cipher, and another matrix must be chosen (otherwise it will not be possible to decrypt).
- Fortunately, matrices which satisfy the conditions to be used in the Hill cipher are fairly common.

# Hill Cipher – Encryption Example

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- We have to encrypt the message 'ACT' (n=3).
- The key is 'GYBNQKURP' which can be written as the n x n matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 24 & 1 \\ 13 & 16 & 10 \\ 20 & 17 & 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 19 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The message 'ACT' is written as vector:

# Hill Cipher – Encryption Example

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- The enciphered vector is given as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 24 & 1 \\ 13 & 16 & 10 \\ 20 & 17 & 15 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 19 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 67 \\ 222 \\ 319 \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 14 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \pmod{26}$$

which corresponds to ciphertext of 'POH'



# Hill Cipher Decryption

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- The decryption must be the inverse function of the encryption function.
- To decrypt the message, each block is multiplied by the **inverse of the matrix** used for encryption.
- It is required that  $\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K} = \mathbf{I}_n \text{ mod } 26$ .
- Provided that  $\det(\mathbf{K})$  has a multiplicative inverse mod 26, i.e., if  $\det(\mathbf{K})$  and  $n$  has no common factor, the inverse of  $\mathbf{K}$  can be computed by the adjoint formula for matrix inverse.

# Hill Cipher – Decryption Example

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- To decrypt the message, we turn the ciphertext back into a vector, then simply multiply by the inverse matrix of the key matrix (IFKVIVVMI in letters).
- The inverse of the matrix used in the previous example is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 24 & 1 \\ 13 & 16 & 10 \\ 20 & 17 & 15 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 5 & 10 \\ 21 & 8 & 21 \\ 21 & 12 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \pmod{26}$$

# Hill Cipher – Decryption Example

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- For the previous Ciphertext ‘POH’:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 8 & 5 & 10 \\ 21 & 8 & 21 \\ 21 & 12 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 14 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 260 \\ 574 \\ 539 \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 19 \end{bmatrix} \pmod{26}$$

which gives us back ‘ACT’

# Hill Cipher – Encryption Example

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$$K = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

be the key and suppose the plaintext message is HELP. Then this plaintext is represented by two pairs

$$HELP \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} H \\ E \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} L \\ P \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 11 \\ 15 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then we compute

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{26}, \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 11 \\ 15 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 19 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{26}$$

and continue encryption as follows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 19 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} H \\ I \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} A \\ T \end{pmatrix}$$

# Hill Cipher – Decryption Example

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The matrix  $K$  is invertible, hence  $K^{-1}$  exists such that  $KK^{-1} = K^{-1}K = I_2$ . The inverse of  $K$  can be computed by using the formula  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = (ad - bc)^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix}$

This formula still holds after a modular reduction if a modular multiplicative inverse is used to compute  $(ad - bc)^{-1}$ . Hence in this case, we compute

$$K^{-1} \equiv 9^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 23 \\ 24 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \equiv 3 \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 23 \\ 24 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 15 & 17 \\ 20 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{26}$$

$$HIAT \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} H \\ I \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} A \\ T \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 19 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Hill Cipher – Decryption Example

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Then we compute

$$\begin{pmatrix} 15 & 17 \\ 20 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{26}, \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 15 & 17 \\ 20 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 19 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 11 \\ 15 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{26}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 11 \\ 15 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} H \\ E \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} L \\ P \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow HELP.$$

# Hill Cipher – Encryption Example

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## Finding the Modular Inverse

$$\text{Let } A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det A = (2 \times 4) - (1 \times 3) = 8 - 3 = 5$$

modular inverse of 5 for Mod 26 = 21

$$B = 21 \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 84 & -21 \\ -63 & 42 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 84 & -21 \\ -63 & 42 \end{bmatrix} \text{Mod } 26 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 5 \\ 15 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore  $\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 5 \\ 15 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$  is the modular inverse of  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$  for Mod 26.

# Hill Cipher – Encryption Example

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Message to encrypt = **HELLO WORLD**

$$\begin{bmatrix} H \\ E \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} L \\ L \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} O \\ W \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 22 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} O \\ R \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 17 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} L \\ D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Hill Cipher – Encryption Example

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## Multiply Matrix by Vectors

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 + 4 \\ 21 + 16 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 18 \\ 37 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 22 + 11 \\ 33 + 44 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 33 \\ 77 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 22 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 28 + 22 \\ 42 + 88 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 50 \\ 130 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 17 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 28 + 17 \\ 42 + 68 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 45 \\ 110 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 22 + 3 \\ 33 + 12 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 45 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Hill Cipher – Encryption Example

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Convert to Mod 26

$$\begin{bmatrix} 18 \\ 37 \end{bmatrix} \text{Mod } 26 = \begin{bmatrix} 18 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 18 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S \\ L \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 33 \\ 77 \end{bmatrix} \text{Mod } 26 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 25 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 25 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} H \\ Z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 50 \\ 130 \end{bmatrix} \text{Mod } 26 = \begin{bmatrix} 24 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{orange arrow}} \begin{bmatrix} 24 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ A \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 45 \\ 110 \end{bmatrix} \text{Mod } 26 = \begin{bmatrix} 19 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 19 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T \\ G \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 45 \end{bmatrix} \text{Mod } 26 = \begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 19 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 19 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Z \\ T \end{bmatrix}$$

# Hill Cipher – Encryption Example

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## Convert Numbers to Letters

**HELLO WORLD** has been  
encrypted to  
**SLHZY ATGZT**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 18 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S \\ L \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 25 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} H \\ Z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 24 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ A \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 19 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T \\ G \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 19 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Z \\ T \end{bmatrix}$$

# Hill Cipher – Decryption Example

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**Convert Ciphertext**

**SLHZY ATGZT**

**To Plaintext**

**HELLO WORLD**

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End of Week 06