

# Information Security

Symmetric Ciphers  
Classical Encryption Techniques

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UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN  
COMPUTER ENGINEERING

# Summary

- ▶ Symmetric Cipher - Classical encryption techniques
  - ▶ Symmetric cipher model
    - ▶ Cryptography
    - ▶ Cryptanalysis and Bruce-force attack
  - ▶ Substitution techniques
  - ▶ Transposition techniques
  - ▶ Rotor machines
  - ▶ Conclusions

# Some key points and definitions...

- ▶ **Plain text**

- ▶ The original message or data in readable form

- ▶ **Cypher text**

- ▶ The unreadable message (results from encryption algorithm)

- ▶ **Secret key**

- ▶ The other input of the encryption algorithm (+ plain text)

# Some key points and definitions...

- ▶ **Encryption algorithm**
  - ▶ Generates the cipher text from plain text (and key)
- ▶ **Decryption algorithm**
  - ▶ Recovers the plain text from the cipher text (and key)

# Some key points and definitions...

## Cryptography

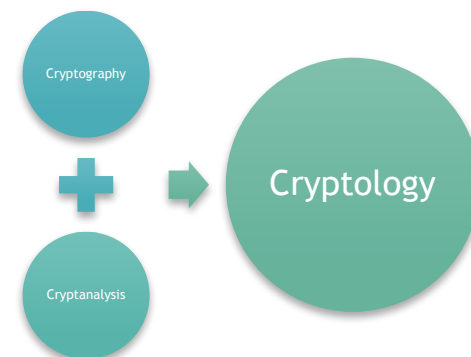
- **Schemes used for encryption** constitute the area of study known as cryptography

## Cryptanalysis

- **Techniques used for deciphering a message** without any knowledge of the enciphering details (“breaking the code”)

## Cryptology

- The areas of cryptography and cryptanalysis together are called cryptology



# Symmetric encryption

Also known as Conventional encryption or Single key encryption

# Some key points and definitions...

## ► Symmetric encryption

- Cryptosystem which uses the **same key** for both encryption and decryption
- Transforms plain text into cipher text and needs:
  - A secret key
  - An encryption algorithm
- Using the same key and decryption algorithm, the plain text is recovered from the cipher text

# Some key points and definitions...

## ► Symmetric encryption

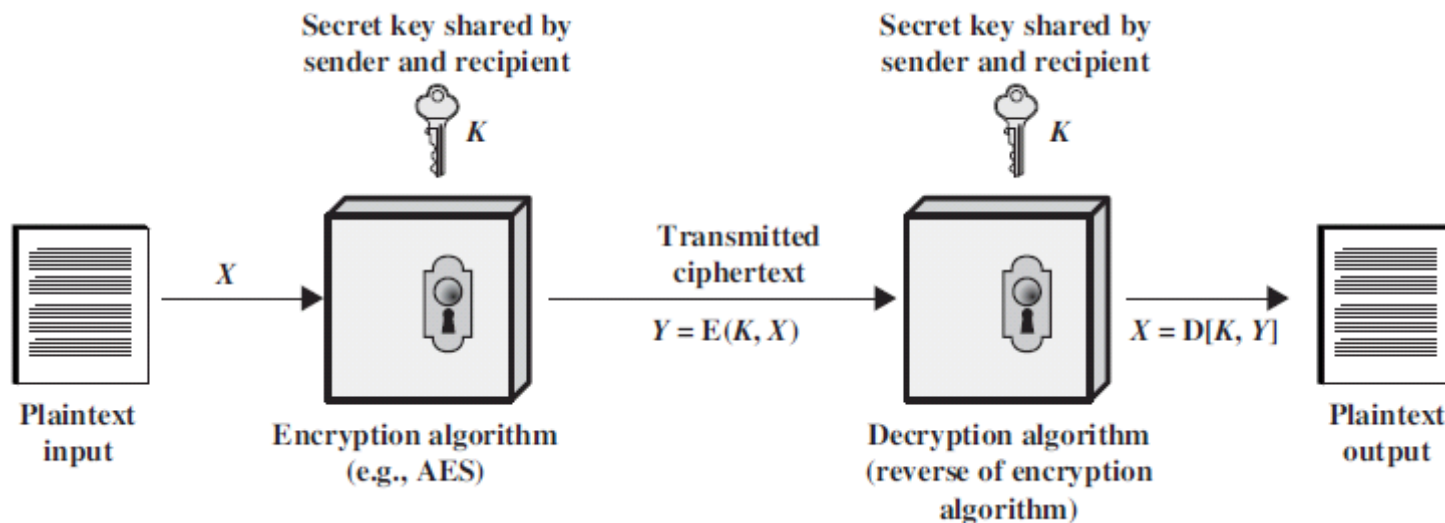


Fig. – Simplified symmetric encryption and decryption



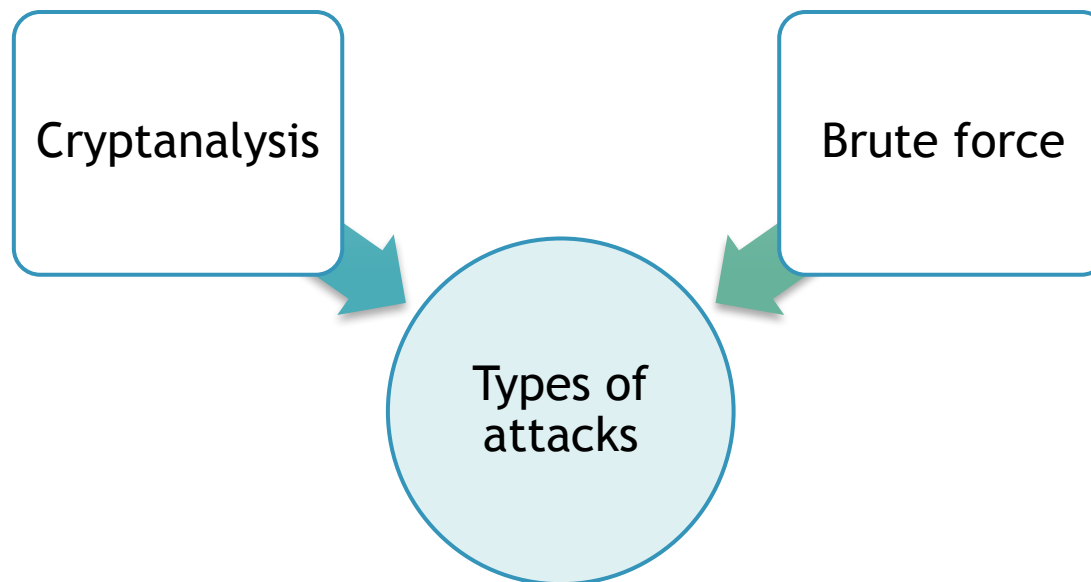
# Some key points and definitions...

## ► Symmetric encryption

- An opponent should be unable to decrypt cipher text or discover the key even if he has examples of cipher texts/plain text
- Sender/receiver must obtain the secret key in a secure fashion
- If someone discovers the key and knows the algorithm, all communication using this key is readable
- It is not need to keep the algorithm secret, only the **key needs to be secret**

# Some key points and definitions...

## ► Types of attacks on an encryption algorithm



# Some key points and definitions...

- ▶ Types of attacks on an encryption algorithm:
  - ▶ **Cryptanalysis** - explores the “known” information
  - ▶ Can have two possible goals:
    - ▶ Cryptanalyst might have cipher text and want to **discover the plain text**
    - ▶ Cryptanalyst might have the cipher text and want to **discover the encryption key** used to encrypt the message

Cryptanalysis

# Some key points and definitions...

- ▶ **Types of attacks on an encryption algorithm:**
  - ▶ **Cryptanalysis** - explores the “known” information
    - ▶ French document (statistics)
    - ▶ English document (statistics)
    - ▶ Executable file (format/headers/etc.)
    - ▶ Class file (signature 0xCAFEBAFE)

Cryptanalysis

# Some key points and definitions...

- ▶ Types of attacks on an encryption algorithm:

- ▶ **Brute force** - tries every possible key

Brute force

- ▶ The most straight-forward attack on a encrypted message is simply to attempt to **decrypt the message with every possible key**
  - ▶ Most of these attacks fail! But one might work!



At which point you can **decrypt the message** and  
any **others in that the key is used on**

# Some key points and definitions...

- ▶ Types of attacks on an encryption algorithm:
  - ▶ **Brute force** - tries every possible key
    - ▶ On average, half of possible keys are enough

Brute force

Key Size (bits)	Number of Alternative Keys	Time Required at 1 Decryption/ $\mu$ s	Time Required at $10^6$ Decryptions/ $\mu$ s
32	$2^{32} = 4.3 \times 10^9$	$2^{31}\mu\text{s} = 35.8$ minutes	2.15 milliseconds
56	$2^{56} = 7.2 \times 10^{16}$	$2^{55}\mu\text{s} = 1142$ years	10.01 hours
128	$2^{128} = 3.4 \times 10^{38}$	$2^{127}\mu\text{s} = 5.4 \times 10^{24}$ years	$5.4 \times 10^{18}$ years
168	$2^{168} = 3.7 \times 10^{50}$	$2^{167}\mu\text{s} = 5.9 \times 10^{36}$ years	$5.9 \times 10^{30}$ years
26 characters (permutation)	$26! = 4 \times 10^{26}$	$2 \times 10^{26}\mu\text{s} = 6.4 \times 10^{12}$ years	$6.4 \times 10^6$ years

Fig. – Time required to exhaustive key search

# Some key points and definitions...

- ▶ Techniques used in symmetric ciphers:
  - ▶ **Substitution** - map plain text into cipher text elements
  - ▶ **Transposition** - plain text elements are transposed

Most systems involve multiple stages of substitutions and transpositions

# Symmetric cipher main requirements

- ▶ **A strong algorithm**
  - ▶ If we know the **algorithm** and some resulting **cipher texts**
    - ▶ We are unable to figure out the key
    - ▶ We are unable to decipher the cipher text
- ▶ **Secret key must remain secret**
  - ▶ Key must be shared in a secure way



# Symmetric cipher main requirements

- ▶ **Remember:**
  - ▶ Only the key must remain secret
  - ▶ Algorithm is usually public domain

✓ **Main challenge:**

Keep the secret key

# Symmetric ciphers

## ► Model of symmetric cryptosystem

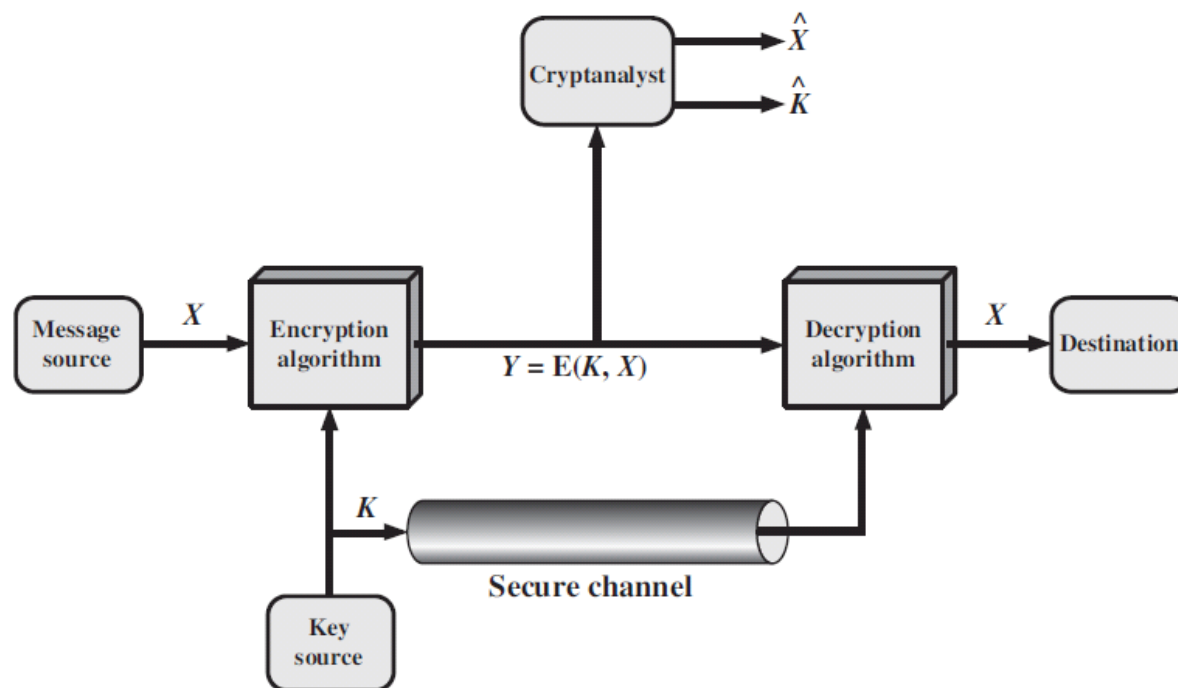


Fig. – Complete model of a symmetric cryptosystem

# Substitution techniques

A letter is replaced by other letter, number or symbol

# Substitution techniques

- ▶ A letter is replaced by other letter, number or symbol
  
- ▶ Classic encryption:
  1. Caesar cipher
  2. Monoalphabetic ciphers
  3. Playfair cipher
  4. Polyalphabetic cipher (e.g. Vigenère cipher)
  5. Vernam cipher (“One-time pad”)

# Substitution techniques

## ► Caesar Cipher

- The earliest known substitution cipher (Julius Caesar)
- Three places further down the alphabet

### ► Example:

plain: meet me after the toga party  
cipher: PHHW PH DIWHU WKH WRJD SDUWB

### ► Transformation:

plain: a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z  
cipher: D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B C



# Substitution techniques

## ► Caesar Cipher

► If *Darth* knows that it is Caesar cipher text...

► Brute force attack...

KEY	PHHW	PH	DIWHU	WKH	WRJD	SDUWB
1	oggv	og	chvgt	vjg	vqic	rctva
2	nffu	nf	bgufs	uif	uphb	qbsuz
3	meet	me	after	the	toga	party
4	ldds	ld	zesdq	sgd	snfz	ozqsx
5	kccr	kc	ydrop	rfc	rmey	nyprw

23	skkz	sk	glzlx	znk	zumg	vgxze
24	rjyy	rj	fkyjw	ymj	ytlf	ufwyd
25	qiix	qi	ejxiv	xli	xske	tevxz



✓ Which properties allow this?

# Substitution techniques

## ► Caesar Cipher

► If *Darth* knows that it is Caesar cipher text...

► Brute force attack...

KEY	PHHW	PH	DIWHU	WKH	WRJD	SDUWB
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4	ldds	ld	zesdq	sgd	snfz	ozqsx
5	kccr	kc	ydrop	rfc	rmey	nyprw

23	skkz	sk	glzqx	znk	zumg	vgxze
24	rjyy	rj	fkyjw	ymj	ytlf	ufwyd
25	qiix	qi	ejxiv	xli	xske	tevx



✓ Which properties allow this?

- Algorithm
- Number of keys
- Plain text language



# Substitution techniques

## ► Caesar Cipher

► If *Darth* knows that it is Caesar cipher text...

► Brute force attack...

	PHHW PH DIWHU WKH WRJD SDUWB
KEY	
1	oggv og chvgt vjg vqic rctva
2	nffu nf bgufs uif uphb qbsuz
3	meet me after the toga party
4	ldds ld zesdq sgd snfz ozqsx
5	kccr kc ydrop rfc rmey nyprw

23	skkz sk glzkx znk zumg vgxze
24	rjjy rj fkyjw ymj ytlf ufwyd
25	qiix qi ejxiv xli xske tevxc

- Algorithm
- Number of keys
- Plain text language



✓ Can we (user) increase the difficult in getting the plain text?

# Substitution techniques

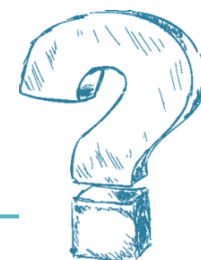
## ► Caesar Cipher

► If *Darth* knows that it is Caesar cipher text...

► Brute force attack...

	PHHW PH DIWHU WKH WRJD SDUWB
KEY	
1	oggv og chvgt vjg vqic rctva
2	nffu nf bgufs uif uphb qbsuz
3	meet me after the toga party
4	ldds ld zesdq sgd snfz ozgsx
5	kccr kc ydrop rfc rmey nyprw

23	skkz sk glzkx znk zumg vgxze
24	rjyy rj fkyjw ymj ytlf ufwyd
25	qiix qi ejxiv xli xske tevxc



✓ Can we (user) increase the difficult in getting the plain text?

- Choose other language
- Abbreviate
- Compress
- Expand 26 chars

# Substitution techniques

## ► Evolution from Caesar Cipher


### ► What about **permutations** instead of right shifts?

#### ► **Example:** consider characters 'a', 'b', 'c'

► a,b,c; a,c,b; b,a,c; b,c,a; c,a,b; c,b,a ( $6=3!$ )

#### ► **Example:** consider alphabet

► Number of keys :  $26! = 4 * 10^{26}$  (Huge!)



✓ Bruce force attack  
extremely  
complicated

✓ Also called a  
**monoalphabetic**  
substitution cipher

# Substitution techniques

## ► Monoalphabetic ciphers

### ► What about cryptanalysis attack?

- If the cryptanalyst knows the nature of the plaintext (e.g., noncompressed English text)

### ► Cipher text:

UZQSOVUOHXMOPVGPOZPEVSGZWSZOPFPESXUDBMETSXAI Z  
VUEPHZHMDZSHZOWSFPAPDTSVPQUZWYMXUZUHSX  
EPYEPOPDZSZUFPOMBZWPFUPZHMDJUDTMOHMQ

### ► Frequencies:

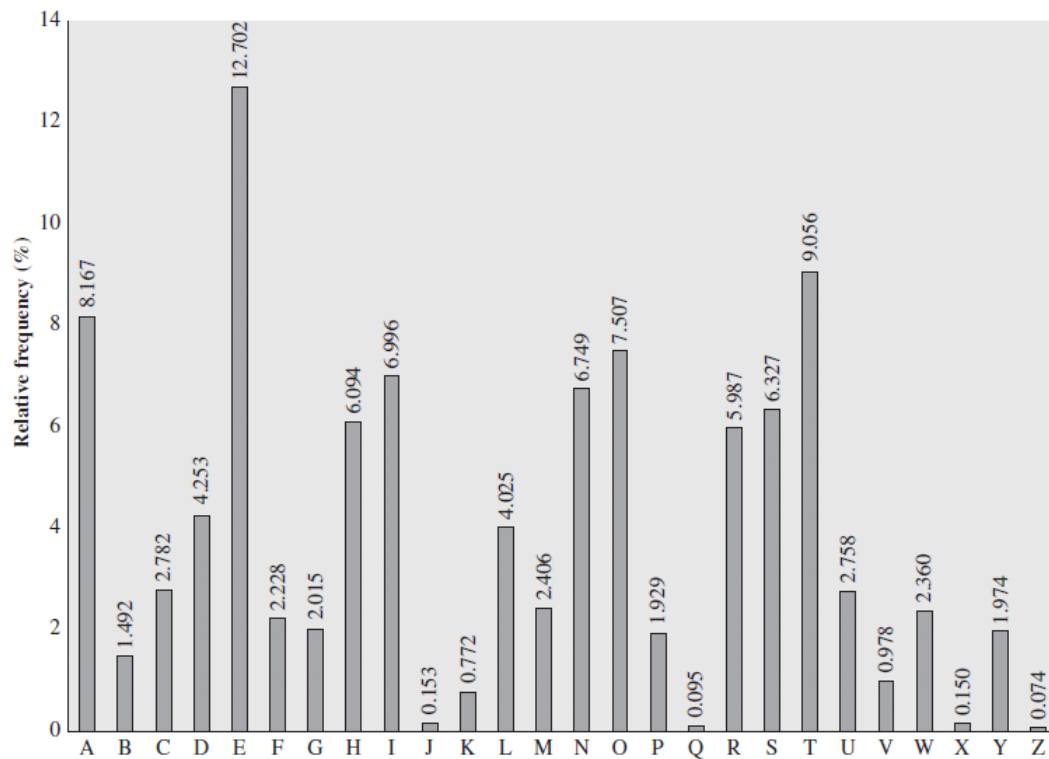
P 13.33	H 5.83	F 3.33	B 1.67	C 0.00
Z 11.67	D 5.00	W 3.33	G 1.67	K 0.00
S 8.33	E 5.00	Q 2.50	Y 1.67	L 0.00
U 8.33	V 4.17	T 2.50	I 0.83	N 0.00
O 7.50	X 4.17	A 1.67	J 0.83	R 0.00
M 6.67				

Frequency of the letters in cipher text (in %)

# Substitution techniques

- ▶ Monoalphabetic ciphers
  - ▶ What about cryptanalysis attack?
    - ▶ Cipher text:

Relative Frequency of Letters in English Text



# Substitution techniques

## ► Monoalphabetic ciphers

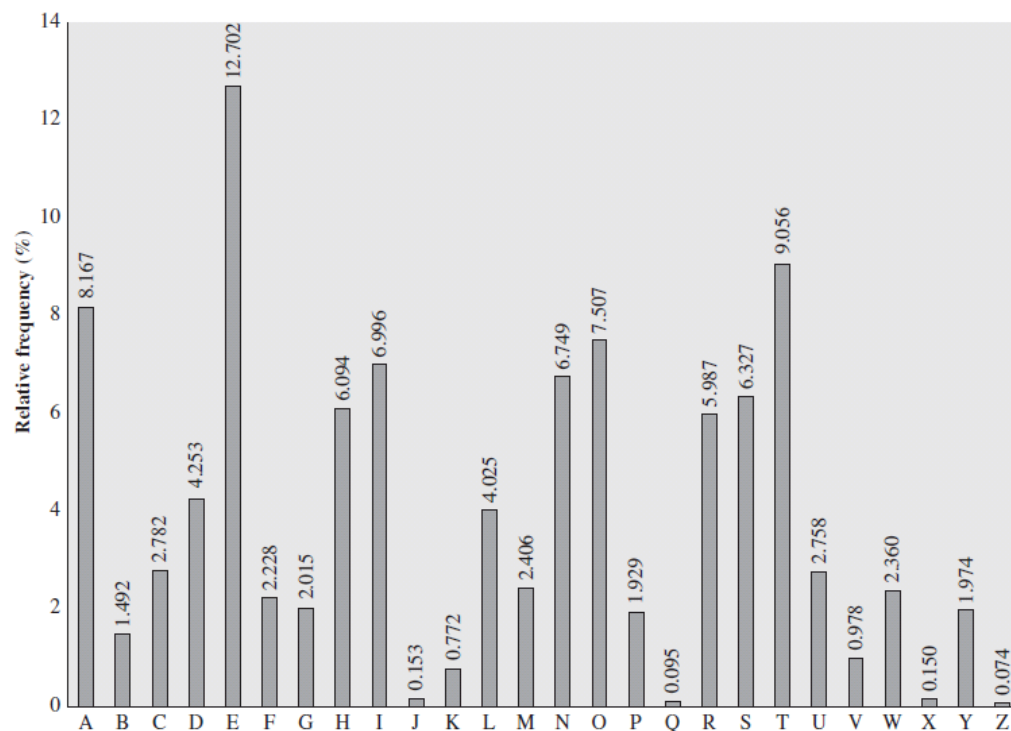
### ► What about cryptanalysis attack?

P 13.33	H 5.83	F 3.33	B 1.67	C 0.00
Z 11.67	D 5.00	W 3.33	G 1.67	K 0.00
S 8.33	E 5.00	Q 2.50	Y 1.67	L 0.00
U 8.33	V 4.17	T 2.50	I 0.83	N 0.00
O 7.50	X 4.17	A 1.67	J 0.83	R 0.00
M 6.67				

The letters **P** and **Z** are the equivalents of plain letters **e** and **t**

The letters **S**, **U**, **O**, **M**, and **H** are all of relatively high frequency, probably correspond to plain letters from the set **{a, h, i, n, o, r, s}**

The letters with the lowest frequencies (namely, **A**, **B**, **G**, **Y**, **I**, **J**) are likely included in the set **{b, j, k, q, v, x, z}**



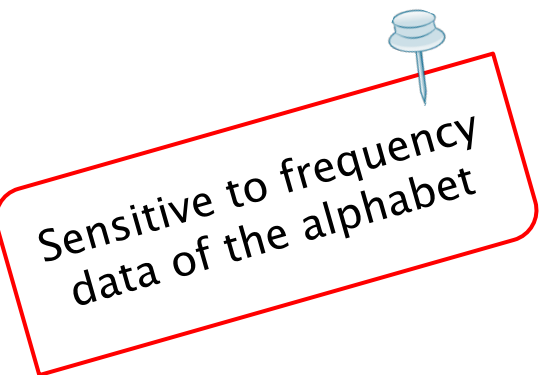
# Substitution techniques

## ► Monoalphabetic ciphers

### ► What about cryptanalysis attack?

- If the plain text is too long this could be enough...
- Otherwise, find regular sets of two letters ( **th** or **the** )
- Etc...

- Monoalphabetic ciphers are easy to break...
- Countermeasure, e.g. is to provide multiple substitutes



Sensitive to frequency  
data of the alphabet

# Substitution techniques

## ► Playfair Cipher (used in world war I by UK and USA)

- Key: 5x5 matrix with all alphabetic chars. I and J together
  - Fill it using alphabetic (random)
  - Or a well-known word at the beginning (no duplicates). Normally constructed using a keyword
  - Etc...

e.g.

H	A	R	P	S
I/J	C	O	D	B
E	F	G	K	L
M	N	Q	T	U
V	W	X	Y	Z

Keyword: Harpsichord

e.g.

M	O	N	A	R
C	H	Y	B	D
E	F	G	I/J	K
L	P	Q	S	T
U	V	W	X	Z

Keyword: Monarchy



# Substitution techniques

- ▶ **Playfair Cipher (used in world war I by UK and USA)**
  - ▶ **Repeating plain text**
    - ▶ **Rule 1:** split plain text into groups of two letters
      - ▶ If duplicated, replace second char by a filler letter (such as X) and shift right the second char to the next group
      - ▶ If number of characters is odd pad it with an additional X at the end
  - ▶ **Example:**

“SOSSEGO” → SO-SS-EG-O → SO-S~~X~~-SE-GO

“BALLOON” → BA-LL-OO-N → BA-L~~X~~-LO-ON

# Substitution techniques

## ► Playfair Cipher (used in world war I by UK and USA)

### ► Rules to encrypt/decrypt

- **Rule 2:** If  $m1$  and  $m2$  are on the **same line**, then encrypted characters are the **right** characters of  $m1$  and  $m2$ 
  - With the first letter of the row circularly following the last

### ► Example:

- PA encrypts as SR

H	A → R	P → S
I/J	C	O
E	F	G
M	N	Q
V	W	X

# Substitution techniques

## ► Playfair Cipher (used in world war I by UK and USA)


### ► Rules to encrypt/decrypt

- **Rule 3:** If  $m1$  and  $m2$  are on the **same column**, then encrypted characters are **beneath**  $m1$  and  $m2$ 
  - With the first letter of the row circularly following the last

### ► Example:

- BZ encrypts as LS

H	A	R	P	S
I/J	C	O	D	B
E	F	G	K	L
M	N	Q	T	U
V	W	X	Y	Z



# Substitution techniques

## ► Playfair Cipher (used in world war I by UK and USA)

### ► Rules to encrypt/decrypt

- **Rule 4:** If  $m1$  and  $m2$  are in **different lines and columns**, return the rectangle vertex (its own row, column occupied by the other letter)

### ► Example:

“SOSSEGO” → SO-SS-EG-O → SO-SX-SE-GO

H	A	R	P	S
I/J	C	O	D	B
E	F	G	K	L
M	N	Q	T	U
V	W	X	Y	Z

- SO encrypts as RB
- SX as RZ
- SE as HL
- GO as QG
- Etc.

### Other examples:

- OH as IR (or JR)
- TC as ND

# Substitution techniques

- ▶ **Playfair Cipher (used in world war I by UK and USA)**
  - ▶ Number of keys
    - ▶  $25! = 2^{84}$
  - ▶ Character frequency are more flat now
  - ▶ It was considered a strong encryption method
  - ▶ Today it is cracked using brute force and a computer

# Substitution techniques

- ▶ **Polyalphabetic Ciphers**
  - ▶ Uses different mono alphabetic substitutions

# Substitution techniques

## ▶ Polyalphabetic Ciphers

### ▶ Vigenère cipher

- ▶ One character has multiple correspondences
- ▶ There is a password
- ▶ Lots of alphabets applied
- ▶ It uses 25 Caesar Keys

# Substitution techniques

## ► Polyalphabetic Ciphers

### ► Vigenère cipher

Vigenère table

The plain text char  
indexes column

The password character  
indexes lines

The interception is the  
encrypted char

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
0	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A
2	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B
3	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C
4	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D
5	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E
6	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F
7	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
8	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
9	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
10	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
11	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
12	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
13	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
14	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
15	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
16	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
17	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
18	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
19	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
20	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
21	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
22	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
23	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
24	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
25	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y



# Substitution techniques

## ► Polyalphabetic Ciphers

### ► Vigenère cipher: example

Plain text: temos um novo presidente  
Key: NUMABOA



Plain text: temosumnovopresidente  
Key: NUMABOANUMABOANUMABOA  
Displacem.: 13 20 12 01 14 01 3 20 12 01 14 01 3 20 12 01 14 0  
Cipher text: GYYOTIMAIHOQFEFCPEOHE

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
0	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A
2	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B
3	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C
4	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D
5	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E
6	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F
7	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
8	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
9	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
10	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
11	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
12	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
13	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
14	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
15	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
16	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
17	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
18	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
19	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
20	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
21	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
22	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
23	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
24	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
25	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y

# Substitution techniques

## ▶ Polyalphabetic Ciphers

### ▶ Vigenère cipher: properties

- ▶ Multiple cipher text letters for each plain text letter
- ▶ Letter frequency information is obscured

# Substitution techniques

## ► Polyalphabetic Ciphers

### ► Vigenère cipher vs monoalphabetic

- Suppose *Darth* believes that cipher text was encrypted either with vigenère or monoalphabetic substitution...



✓ How to make a determination (which one) ?

If monoalphabetic then plain text frequency close to cipher text frequency

# Substitution techniques

## ► Polyalphabetic Ciphers

### ► Vigenère cipher vs monoalphabetic

- Suppose *Darth* believes that cipher text was encrypted either with vigenère or monoalphabetic substitution...

CHREEVOAHMAERATBIAXXWTNXBEEOPHBSBQMQUEQERBWRVXU  
OAKXAOSXXWEAHBWGJMMQMNKGRFVGXWTRZXWIAKLXFPSKAU  
TEMNDCMGTSXMXBTUIADNGMGPSRELXNJELXVRVPRTULHDNQ  
WTWDTYGBPHXTFALJHASVBFXNGLLCHRZBWELEKMSJIKNBHW  
RJGNMGJSGLXFEYPHAGNRBIEQJTAMRVLCRREMNDGLXRRIMG  
NSNRWCHRQHAEYEVTAQEBBIPPEWEVKAKOEWADREMXMTBHHC  
HRTKDNVRZCHRCLQOHPWQAI IWXNRMGWOI I FKEE

# Substitution techniques

## ► Polyalphabetic Ciphers

### ► Vigenère cipher vs monoalphabetic

- Suppose *Darth* believes that cipher text was encrypted either with vigenère or monoalphabetic substitution...

Positions of 'CHR': 1, 166, 236, 276, 286

Absolute positions:

$166 - 1 = 165$	$236 - 1 = 235$
$276 - 1 = 275$	$286 - 1 = 285$

It seems that key length is 5...

Continue on: <http://math.ucsd.edu/~crypto/java/EARLYCIPHERS/Vigenere.html>

# Substitution techniques

- ▶ Vernam cipher (and the “one-time pad”)
  - ▶ Key must be as long as the plain text
  - ▶ Works on bits and not on letters
  - ▶ The algorithm can be expressed as:

$$c_i = p_i \oplus k_i$$

$p_i$  =  $i^{\text{th}}$  binary digit of plain text  
 $k_i$  =  $i^{\text{th}}$  binary digit of key  
 $c_i$  =  $i^{\text{th}}$  binary digit of cipher text  
 $\oplus$  = exclusive-or (XOR) operation

# Substitution techniques

## ► Vernam cipher

$$c_i = p_i \oplus k_i$$

$$p_i = c_i \oplus k_i$$

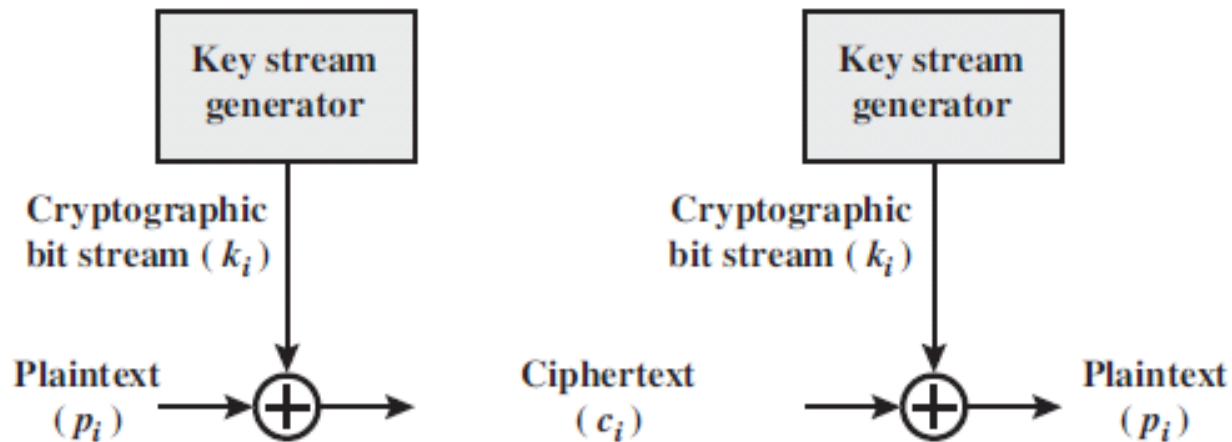
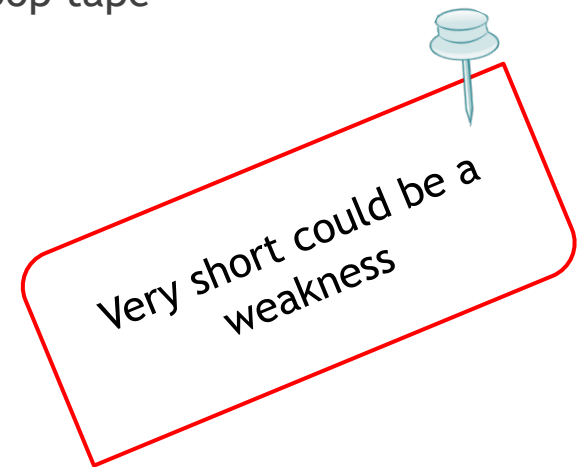


Fig. – Vernam cipher building blocks

# Substitution techniques

## ► Vernam cipher

- Vernam wrote that key could come from a loop tape
  - Key has the same length of plain text
  - For long plain text key must be **repeated**



- The ultimate defense against a cryptanalysis is to choose a keyword that is as long as the plaintext and has no statistical relationship to it



# Substitution techniques

- ▶ Vernam cipher

- ▶ One-time pad

- ▶ improvement to the Vernam cipher that yields the ultimate in security
    - ▶ **random key** that is as **long as the message**, so that the key need not be repeated
    - ▶ the key is to be used to encrypt and decrypt a **single message**, and then is discarded

Such a scheme, known as a **one-time pad**, is unbreakable

It produces random output that bears no statistical relationship to the plaintext

# Transposition techniques

Permutation on the plain text letters...

# Transposition techniques

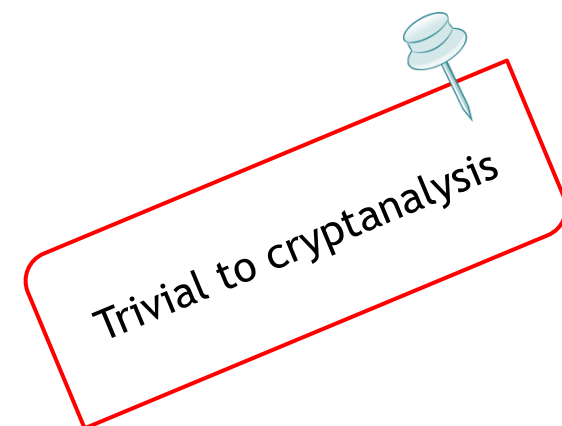
- ▶ Permutation on the plain text letters...
  - ▶ **Rail fence technique**
    - ▶ Very simple: write diagonal, read in rows

Plain text: meet me after the toga party

Rail fence of depth 2

```
m e m a t r h t g p r y
e t e f e t e o a a t
```

Cipher text: MEMATRHTGPRYETEFETEOAAT



# Transposition techniques

- ▶ Permutation on the plain text letters...
  - ▶ **Route cipher**
    - ▶ Uses a grid  $N \times M$
    - ▶ It is filled top/down , top/down, ...
    - ▶ Key: grid dimension + pattern used to extract cipher text

# Transposition techniques

- ▶ Permutation on the plain text letters...
  - ▶ **Route cipher:** example

Plain text:      This is a secret message

Key:              3x7 grid + clockwise spiral

T S A C T S G

H I S R M S E

I S E E E A **J** → Just to fill the space...

Cipher text:      TSACTSGEJAESESIHISRMS

# Transposition techniques

- ▶ Permutation on the plain text letters...
  - ▶ **Route cipher:**
    - ▶ If a good and creative key is established it is hard to break it
    - ▶ If key is weak the plain text is exposed



Transposition techniques  
keep alphabet frequencies!



Usually transposition  
techniques are mixed with  
substitution techniques

# Rotor machines

Before the introduction of DES, the most important application of the principle of multiple stages of encryption was a class of systems known as rotor machines

# Rotor machines

## ▶ Multiple stages of encryption

- ▶ Multiple stages of encryption can produce an algorithm that is significantly more difficult to cryptanalyze
- ▶ This is as true of substitution ciphers as it is of transposition ciphers
- ▶ The **best** approach before modern techniques
- ▶ Based on **substitution** techniques
- ▶ They are the ancestors of the **DES** ([Data Encryption Standard](#)) symmetric algorithm, very used today (modern technique)



# Rotor machines

- Multiple stages of encryption



Key: start of rotor (example: RSC)



# Rotor machines

## ► Multiple stages of encryption

- Each independent cylinder represents an alphabet for substitution
- Internal wiring connects each (26) input pin to a unique (26) output pin
- More than one cylinder means "cipher the ciphered"
- Using  $N$  cylinders we have  $26^n$  alphabets for substitution before repetitions

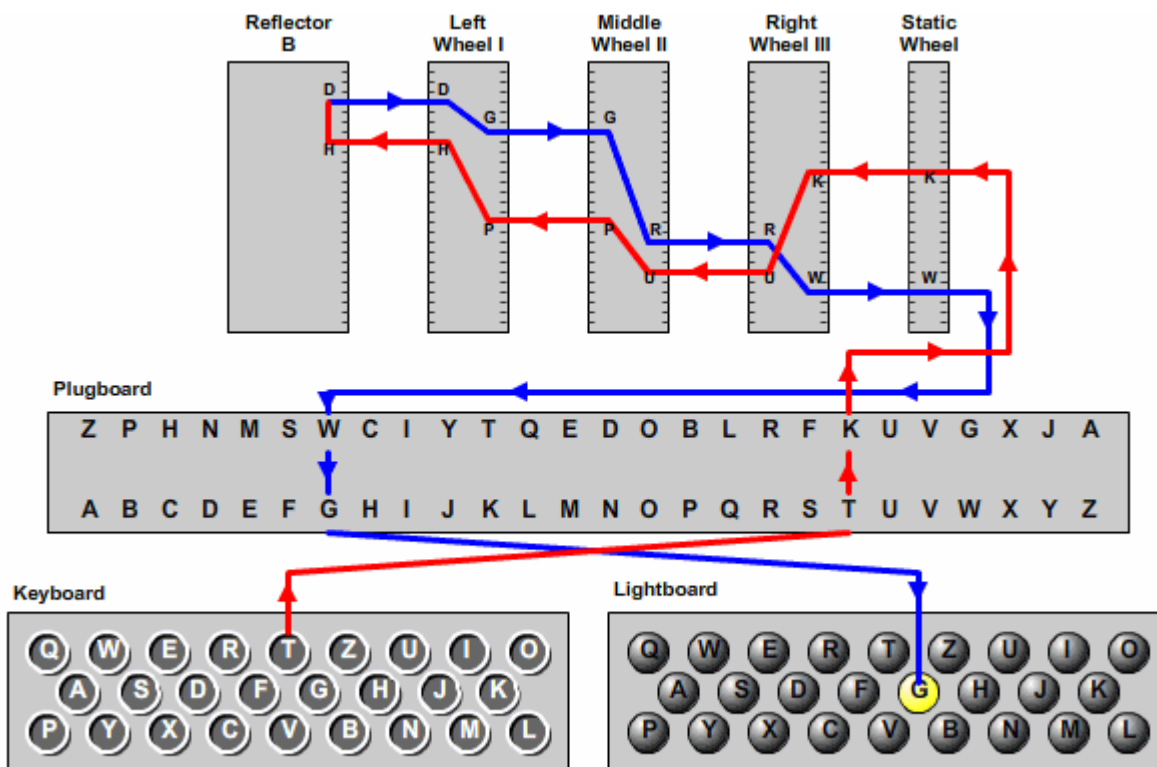
For  $n=3$  we get 17.576

For  $n=4$  we get 456.976

For  $n=5$  we get 11.881.376

# Rotor machines (world war II by Germany)

## ► Multiple stages of encryption



© 2006, by Louise Dade

# Conclusion

- ▶ Big achievements
  - ▶ XOR operation (Vernam cipher - lightweight and “one way”)
  - ▶ “Cipher the ciphered” - rotor machines

# Bibliography

- [1] W. Stallings, Cryptography and Network Security: Principles and Practice, 5th Edition, Prentice Hall, 2010 (Chapter 2).

Note: This presentation is (almost entirely) based on the book [1].

It also uses some adaptations from Prof. Nuno Costa and Vitor Fernandes from previous academic years.