

# Introduction to Cryptography

## Lecture 1

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# Course Description

- ▶ This course provides an introduction to cryptography, its **mathematical** foundations, and its relation to security.
- ▶ It covers classical cryptosystems, private-key cryptosystems (including DES and AES), hash functions and public-key cryptosystems (including RSA).
- ▶ The course also provides an introduction to data integrity and authentication.



- ▶ Instructor: Monika Polak
- ▶ **Required Materials**  
Christof Paar and Jan Pelzl, Understanding Cryptography, SpringerLink, 2010
- ▶ Slides from the book (link)  
Remark: **Slides for the course may be different and will be posted on myCourses**
- ▶ Syllabus and Schedule (link)
- ▶ Grading components

Component	Weight
Homeworks	50%
Activity	10%
Midterm exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

# Activity task 1 (1% of the final grade)

- ▶ Answer the question:

**What is your expectation for this course?**

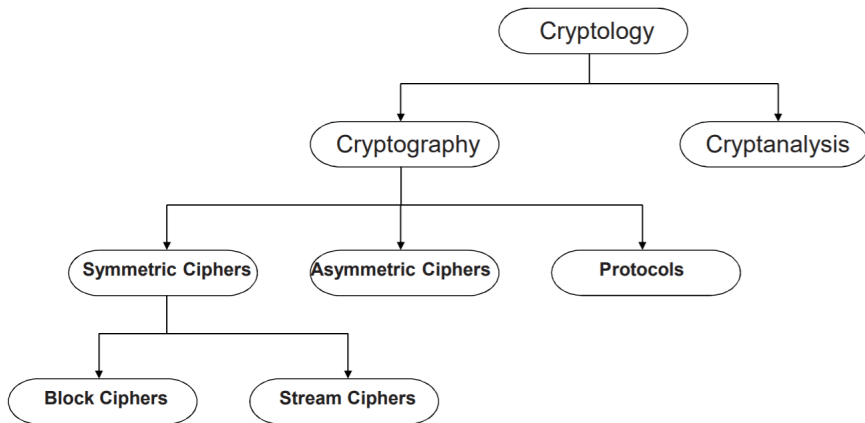
- ▶ and submit it to the proper dropbox on myCourses
- ▶ due Sunday, January 31, 11:59PM



# Content of this lecture

- ▶ Overview on the field of cryptology
- ▶ Basics of symmetric cryptography
- ▶ Shift (or Caesar) Cipher





# The Goals of Practical Cryptography

## ► Confidentiality

### ► Data confidentiality

Assures that private or confidential information is not made available or disclosed to unauthorized individuals

### ► Privacy

Assures that individuals control or influence what information related to them may be collected and stored and by whom and to whom that information may be disclosed

## ► Authentication

We can establish the identity of a remote user (or system).

## ► Integrity

We can provide a means to ensure data is not viewed or altered during storage or transmission.

## ► Non-Repudiation

It must not be possible for the user to refute his or her actions.



# Some Basic Facts

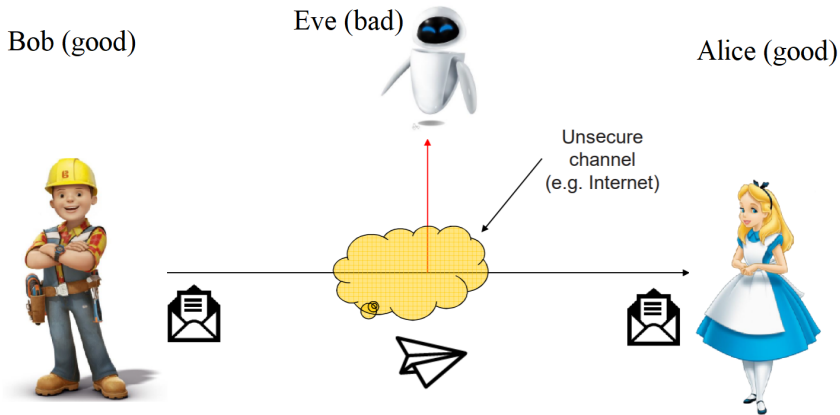
- ▶ **Ancient Crypto:** Early signs of encryption in Egypt in ca. 2000 B.C. Letter-based encryption schemes (e.g., Caesar cipher) popular ever since.
- ▶ **Symmetric ciphers:** All encryption schemes from ancient times until 1976 were symmetric ones.
- ▶ **Asymmetric ciphers:** In 1976 public-key (or asymmetric) cryptography was openly proposed by Diffie, Hellman and Merkle.
- ▶ **Hybrid Schemes:** The majority of today's protocols are hybrid schemes, i.e., the use both
  - ▶ symmetric ciphers (e.g., for encryption and message authentication) and
  - ▶ asymmetric ciphers (e.g., for key exchange and digital signature).





# Symmetric Cryptography

Alternative names: private-key, single-key or secret-key cryptography.

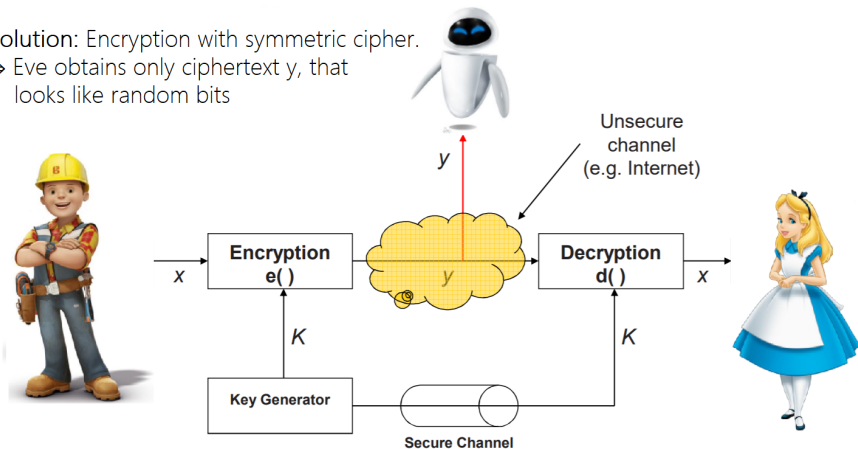


A malicious third party Eve (the bad one) has channel access but should not be able to understand the communication.

# Symmetric Cryptography

Solution: Encryption with symmetric cipher.

⇒ Eve obtains only ciphertext  $y$ , that looks like random bits



$x$  is the plaintext,  $y$  is the ciphertext,  $K$  is the key  
Set of all possible keys is the key space

# Symmetric Cryptography

- ▶ Encryption equation

$$y = e_K(x)$$

Decryption equation

$$x = d_K(y)$$

- ▶ Encryption and decryption are inverse operations if the same key  $K$  is used on both sides:

$$d_K(y) = d_K(e_K(x)) = x$$



# Symmetric Cryptography

- ▶ Important: The key must be transmitted via a **secure channel** between Alice and Bob.
- ▶ The secure channel can be realized, e.g., by manually installing the key for the Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA) protocol or a human courier.
- ▶ However, the system is only secure if an attacker does not learn the key  $K$ !

The problem of secure communication is reduced to secure transmission and storage of the key  $K$ .



# Shift (or Caesar) Cipher

- ▶ Ancient cipher, allegedly used by Julius Caesar
- ▶ Replaces each plaintext letter by another one.
- ▶ Replacement rule is very simple: Take letter that follows after  $K$  positions in the alphabet

Needs mapping from letters  $\rightarrow$  numbers:

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



# Shift (or Caesar) Cipher

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- Example for  $K = 7$

**Plaintext** = ATTACK = 0, 19, 19, 0, 2, 10

**Ciphertext** = haahr = 7, 0, 0, 7, 17

Note that the letters "wrap around" at the end of the alphabet, which can be mathematically expressed as reduction modulo 26, e.g.,  $19 + 7 = 26 \equiv 0 \pmod{26}$



# Shift (or Caesar) Cipher

- ▶ Elegant mathematical description of the cipher. Let  $K, x, y \in \{0, 1, \dots, 25\}$

**Encryption:**

$$y = e_K(x) \equiv (x + K) \pmod{26}$$

**Decryption:**

$$x = d_K(y) \equiv (y - K) \pmod{26}$$

- ▶ Is the shift cipher secure?  
**No!** several attacks are possible, including:
  - ▶ Exhaustive key search (key space is only 26)
  - ▶ Letter frequency analysis (Lecture 2)



Thanks for Your attention.

