# Introduction to Computers

CRYPTOGRAPHY

#### Cryptography

- •The field of **cryptography** (literally, "secret writing") has a long history
- Modern cryptography contains a large amount of terminology
  - Plaintext refers to unencrypted data that can be intercepted by some means
    - Encryption scrambles data in a way that makes it unintelligible to those unauthorized to view it
  - The encrypted data is called **ciphertext**
- Modern encryption schemes often use public-key cryptography
  - In public-key cryptography, each user has two related keys, one public and one private
  - Each person's public key is distributed freely
- •In practice, both secret key and public key cryptography are used in certain cases
  - Content (i.e. email) is encrypted with a random symmetric key (secret key cryptography)
  - The random key is encrypted with the recipient's public key (public-key cryptography)
- •In this Lecture some simpler, but much less secure techniques for encrypting text are covered at first. Then we will touch on Modern Cryptography

- •One of the simplest **ciphers** (algorithms for encrypting and decrypting text) is the **single substitution cipher** 
  - One variant of the single substitution cipher is known as a shift cipher which works by replacing each letter of a word with the letter of the alphabet that is k letters later in the alphabet
  - One variant of the shift cipher is known as the **Caesar cipher.** This cipher sets k to 3
- •K is the **key** of the encryption scheme and provides the shift amount: a number in the range 1 through 25, inclusive
- •In general, the **key** for a cipher is the secret piece of information that both parties must exchange ahead of time
- •Julius Caesar used k=3 in his military communications, hence the name Caesar cipher given to a shift cipher with a **key** of 3

- •For example, to encode letters with k=3 the following is done:
  - Replace "A" with "D", "B" with "E", and so on
- •For letters at the end of the alphabet, "wrap-around" to the front of the alphabet
  - For k=3, we would replace "X" with "A", "Y" with "B", and "Z" with "C"
- •The phrase "Stony Brook" with a shift amount of 2 would be encrypted as "Uvqpa Dtqqm"
- •To decrypt a message, shift each letter of the encrypted message leftward in the alphabet by the shift amount

- Let's consider functions caesar\_encrypt and caesar\_decrypt
- Both functions will take a string and a shift amount
  - For **caesar\_encrypt**, the string is a plaintext message
  - For **caesar\_decrypt**, the string is an encrypted message
  - Non-letter characters will be left unencrypted

- •The encryption algorithm is pretty straightforward:
  - First map each letter to a number in the range 0 through 25: A  $\rightarrow$  0, B  $\rightarrow$  1, ..., Z  $\rightarrow$  25
  - Next add k to the number and mod by 26
  - Finally, map the shifted value to a letter from the alphabet
- •So, the encryption formula is E(x)=(x+k) mod 26, where x is the number for the plaintext letter, k is the key, and E(x) gives the number for the ciphertext letter
- •To decrypt, subtract the key from the encrypted value, add 26 (to eliminate any negative differences), and mod by 26 to recover the original number

# caesar\_encrypt()

```
def caesar_encrypt(plaintext, shift_amt):
  ciphertext = "
  for ch in plaintext:
    if ch.isupper():
      replacement = (ord(ch) - ord('A') + shift_amt) % 26 + ord('A')
      ciphertext += chr(replacement)
    elif ch.islower():
      replacement = (ord(ch) - ord('a') + shift_amt) % 26 + ord('a')
      ciphertext += chr(replacement)
    else:
      ciphertext += ch
 return ciphertext
                                            See caesar cipher.py
```

# caesar\_decrypt()

```
def caesar_decrypt(ciphertext, shift_amt):
  plaintext = ''
  for ch in ciphertext:
    if ch.isupper():
      replacement = (ord(ch) - ord('A') - shift_amt + 26) \% 26 + ord('A')
      plaintext += chr(replacement)
    elif ch.islower():
      replacement = (ord(ch) - ord('a') - shift_amt + 26) \% 26 + ord('a')
      plaintext += chr(replacement)
    else:
      plaintext += ch
 return plaintext
                                                          See caesar cipher.py
```

- •The Caesar cipher encrypts and decrypts numbers by adding or subtracting the key to a plaintext letter's number (where A  $\rightarrow$  0, B  $\rightarrow$  1, ..., Z  $\rightarrow$  25)
- •Suppose multiplication is used instead → multiply each number by the key?
  - This is a multiplicative cipher
- •Provided that the key is relatively prime to 26, no two letters will be encrypted to the same cipher letter
  - Two numbers are relatively prime if they have no common factors except for 1
- •The encryption formula is  $E(x) = kx \mod 26$

- Suppose the key is 7
  - The letter A (0) is mapped to (0x7) mod 26 = 0, which is also A
  - The letter J (9) is mapped to (9x7) mod 26 = 11, which is L
- •Although this cipher seems to be more complex than a shift cipher, it is less secure than the shift cipher because the number of possible keys is smaller

•Example with k=7. So,  $E(x)=7x \mod 26$ .

Plaintext	x	E(x)	Ciphertext	Plaintext	x	E(x)	Ciphertext
Α	0	0	Α	N	13	13	N
В	1	7	Н	0	14	20	U
С	2	14	0	Р	15	1	В
D	3	21	V	Q	16	8	I
E	4	2	С	R	17	15	Р
F	5	9	J	S	18	22	W
G	6	16	Q	Т	19	3	D
Н	7	23	X	U	20	10	K
I	8	4	E	V	21	17	R
J	9	11	L	W	22	24	Y
K	10	18	S	X	23	5	F
L	11	25	Z	Y	24	12	М
M	12	6	G	Z	25	19	T

# multiplicative\_encrypt()

```
def multiplicative_encrypt(plaintext, k):
  ciphertext = "
  for ch in plaintext:
    if ch.isupper():
      replacement = ((ord(ch) - ord('A')) * k) % 26 + ord('A')
      ciphertext += chr(replacement)
    elif ch.islower():
      replacement = ((ord(ch) - ord('a')) * k) % 26 + ord('a')
      ciphertext += chr(replacement)
    else:
      ciphertext += ch
 return ciphertext
```

- •To decrypt a message encrypted using this scheme some arithmetic is needed to determine the modular multiplicative inverse of k with respect to 26
  - Note: For k=7, the decrypt key is k=15
- •Going into that much math is a bit out of scope of the course
- •So instead, to decrypt simply encrypt the entire alphabet to find the 26 mappings, and then perform the reverse mapping for each encrypted letter
  - Remember that the recipient knows the value of k

- •Two other Python tricks/features to use:
  - a dictionary comprehension, which was explored in an earlier Lecture, and
  - the string called **string.ascii\_letters**, which contains all 26 letters of the Latin alphabet in uppercase and lowercase

# multiplicative\_decrypt()

```
reverse_mapping = {}
decrypt_key = -1
def multiplicative_decrypt(ciphertext, k):
  global reverse_mapping, decrypt_key
 if k != decrypt key:
    decrypt key = k
    encrypted_letters = [multiplicative_encrypt(letter, k)
                      for letter in string.ascii_letters]
    reverse_mapping = {encrypted_letter: letter
                      for letter, encrypted letter in
                       zip(string.ascii letters, encrypted letters)}
  plaintext = "
  for ch in ciphertext:
    if ch in reverse_mapping:
      plaintext += reverse mapping[ch]
    else:
      plaintext += ch
  return plaintext
```

See multiplicative\_cipher.py

#### Affine Cipher

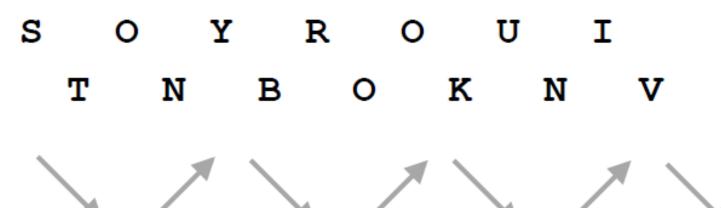
- •An **affine cipher** combines ideas from the shift cipher and multiplicative cipher, performing both a multiplication and an addition
- •The value x of some letter is encrypted using the formula (ax+b) mod 26 where a is the multiplier and b is the shift amount
  - a and b together from the encryption key
- •In some sense, the affine cipher should be stronger than the shift cipher and multiplicative cipher, but it's still inherently weak because it's still a substitution cipher
- The encryption function looks similar to the one for the multiplicative cipher

# affine\_encrypt()

```
def affine_encrypt(plaintext, a, b):
  ciphertext = "
  for ch in plaintext:
    if ch.isupper():
      replacement = ((ord(ch) - ord('A')) * a + b) % 26 + ord('A')
      ciphertext += chr(replacement)
    elif ch.islower():
      replacement = ((ord(ch) - ord('a')) * a + b) % 26 + ord('a')
      ciphertext += chr(replacement)
    else:
      ciphertext += ch
 return ciphertext
                                                     See affine_cipher.py
```

#### Rail Fence Cipher

- •The rail fence cipher is a type of transposition cipher
- •In a **transposition cipher**, the characters in the original message are rearranged somehow (as opposed to being substituted)
- •The rail fence cipher rearranges the characters in a zigzag pattern
- •The key is the number of rows used to create the zigzag
- •For example, the message **STONYBROOKUNIV** written over two rows would look like this:





•To produce the final encrypted message read off the characters row-by-row:

#### SOYROUITNBOKNV

•The same message written over three rows would look like this:



•The encrypted message would be: **SYOITNBOKNVORU** 

- •To implement the rail fence cipher create a list of empty strings, one per row, and append characters one-by-one to each string
- •Use a variable **row** (initialized to 0) that first increases towards **num\_rows**, then decreases back towards 0, then increase again, etc., until the entire plaintext message has been encrypted
- This computation will be encapsulated in a helper function called next\_row

## next\_row() Helper Function

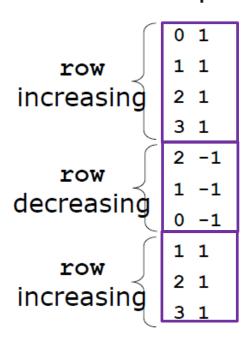
```
def next_row(row, step, num_rows):
   if row == 0:
     step = 1
   elif row == num_rows - 1:
     step = -1
   row += step
   return row, step
```

•To get a sense of how this function works, pretend that there are 4 rows in the grid and the plaintext message has 10 characters

## next\_row() Helper Function

```
def next_row(row, step, num_rows):
  if row == 0:
   step = 1
  elif row == num rows - 1:
    step = -1
  row += step
  return row, step
Test Code
row = 0
step = 1
num_rows = 4
for i in range(10):
  print(row, step)
  row, step = next_row(row, step, num_rows)
```

#### Output:



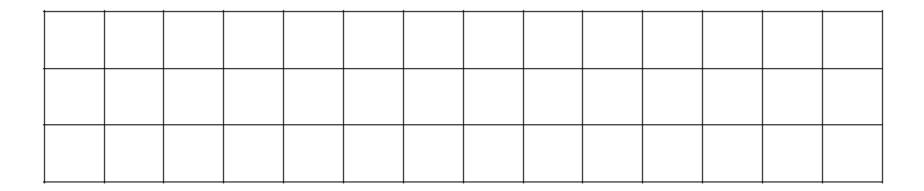
# railfence\_encrypt()

```
def railfence_encrypt(plaintext, num_rows):
   row = 0
   step = 1
   # create num_rows empty strings in a list
   rows = [''] * num_rows
   for ch in plaintext:
     rows[row] += ch
     row, step = next_row(row, step, num_rows)
   return ".join(rows)
•The join function creates a string by concatenating the elements of a list together
•See railfence_cipher.py
```

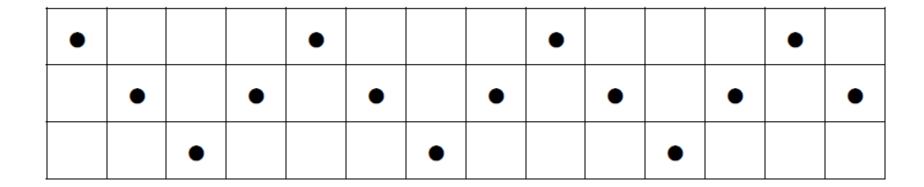
# Example: railfence\_encrypt()

- •The idea for decryption is to first construct a grid using lists of lists of empty strings
- The key tells how many rows are in the grid
- •The length of the message tells the number of columns
- •Using the same zigzag path from the encryption algorithm, place a **None** object (or some other marker) where the characters will go
- •Then, take letters one at a time from the encrypted text and move across the grid row by row, replacing the **None** values with characters from the encrypted message
- •Finally, trace out the zigzag pattern once more to read off the plaintext characters

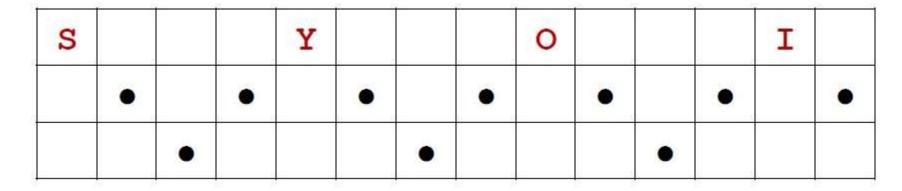
- •Example for ciphertext 'SYOITNBOKNVORU' with num\_rows = 3
- •The input contains 14 letters, so create a grid with 3 rows and 14 columns by creating a list containing 3 lists of 14 empty strings each:



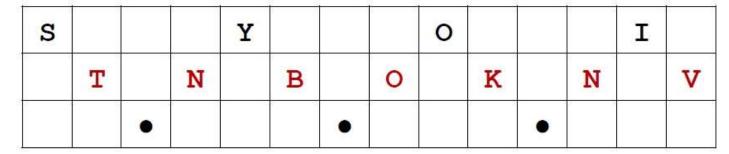
Next, travel in a zigzag pattern, inserting **None** objects, which are visualized below as dots:



- •Then travel across each row, inserting characters from the ciphertext whenever a **None** object is found
- The ciphertext is 'SYOITNBOKNVORU'
- •First row completed:



- The ciphertext is 'SYOITNBOKNVORU'
- •Second row completed:



Third row completed: 'SYOITNBOKNVORU'

S				Y				0				I	
	T		N		В		0		K		N		v
		0				R				U			

•It is now easy to read off the original message by traversing the grid once again in zigzag order

s				Y				0				I	
	T		N		В		0		K		N		٧
		0				R				U			

# railfence\_decrypt()

```
def railfence_decrypt(ciphertext, num_rows):
 qrid = []
 for i in range(num_rows):
    grid += [["] * len(ciphertext)]
 # set up the grid, placing a None value
 # where each letter will go
 row = 0
 step = 1
 for col in range(len(ciphertext)):
    grid[row][col] = None
    row, step = next_row(row, step, num_rows)
```

# railfence\_decrypt()

```
# place characters from the encrypted
# message into the grid
next_char_index = 0
for row in range(num_rows):
   for col in range(len(ciphertext)):
     if grid[row][col] is None:
        grid[row][col] = ciphertext[next_char_index]
        next_char_index += 1
```

# railfence\_decrypt()

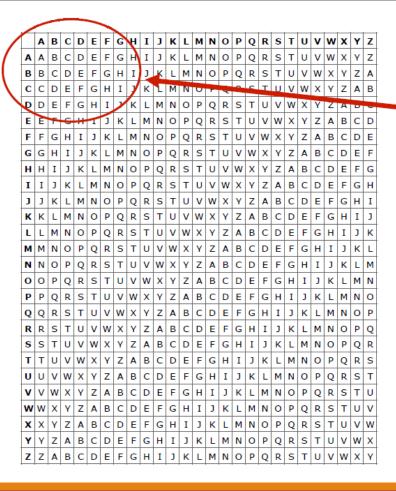
```
# read the characters from the grid in
# zigzag order
plaintext = ''
row = 0
step = 1
for col in range(len(ciphertext)):
    plaintext += grid[row][col]
    row, step = next_row(row, step, num_rows)
return plaintext
```

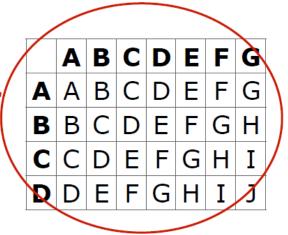
#### The Vigenère Cipher

- •The Vigenère Cipher was invented in the 16<sup>th</sup> century by Frenchman Blaise de Vigenère
  - Uses a series of substitution ciphers to encode a message
  - Took about three centuries before cryptographers figured out a reliable way of cracking this cipher
  - Based on the use of a 26x26 grid of substitution ciphers, each one shifted to the right by one spot
  - A keyword or phrase also needs to be picked that determines which rows of this grid to use

See vigenere\_cipher.py

# The Vigenère Cipher





## The Vigenère Cipher: Example #1

- Suppose the keyword chosen is **PYTHON**
- •Then use this part of the grid:

A	В	C	D	Ε	F	G	Н	I	J	K	L	M	Ν	0	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
P	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Z	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν	O
Y	Ζ	Α	В	C	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν	O	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ
T	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Z	Α	В	C	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν	O	Р	Q	R	S
Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν	O	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	V	W	Χ	Υ	Z	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G
0	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Ζ	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν
N	O	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Ζ	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ

•If the message is longer than the key, repeat the key as many times as needed to encode the message

A	В	C	D	Ε	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	М	N	0	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
P	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	X	Y	Z	Α	В	C	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	M	Ν	O
Y	Z	Α	В	C	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	N	O	P	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ
T	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Z	Α	В	C	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν	O	Р	Q	R	S
Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν	O	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Z	Α	В	C	D	Е	F	G
0	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Z	Α	В	C	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν
N	0	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Z	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ

- •To encrypt each plaintext letter, find its column along the top row of the table
- •Then find the row for the corresponding letter from the key
- •The cell at the intersection of that row and column gives the letter for the encrypted message

```
      ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

      PQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

      YZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWX

      TUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRS

      HIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFG

      OPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN

      NOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN
```

Example: encode COMPUTER

•Key: **PYTHONPY** 

•Plaintext: C O M P U T E R

•Ciphertext : **R** 

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZPQRSTUVWXYZPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSHIJKLMNOPQRSHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN
```

Example: encode COMPUTER

•Key: **PYTHONPY** 

•Plaintext: COMPUTER

•Ciphertext : R M

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZPQRSTUVWXYZPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWX
TUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWX
HIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFG
OPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN
NOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN
```

Example: encode COMPUTER

•Key: **PYTHONPY** 

•Plaintext: COMPUTER

•Ciphertext : R M F

```
      ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

      PQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

      YZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWX

      TUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRS

      HIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFG

      OPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN

      NOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN
```

Example: encode COMPUTER

•Key: **PYTHONPY** 

•Plaintext: COMPUTER

•Ciphertext : R M F W

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZPQRSTUVWXYZPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN
```

Example: encode COMPUTER

•Key: **PYTHONPY** 

•Plaintext: COMPUTER

Ciphertext : R M F W I

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZPQRSTUVWXYZPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSHIJKLMNOPQRSHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN
```

Example: encode COMPUTER

•Key: **PYTHONPY** 

•Plaintext: COMPUTER

•Ciphertext : R M FW I G

```
      ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

      PQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNO

      YZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWX

      TUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRS

      HIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFG

      OPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN

      NOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKLMN
```

Example: encode COMPUTER

•Key: **PYTHONPY** 

Plaintext: C O M P U T E R

•Ciphertext : R M F W I G T

A	В	C	D	Ε	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	М	Ν	0	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
P	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Z	Α	В	C	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν	O
Y	Ζ	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν	0	P	Q	R	S	Т	U	V	W	Χ
T	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Ζ	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ	Ν	O	Р	Q	R	S
Н	Ι	J	Κ	L	Μ	Ν	O	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ	Υ	Z	Α	В	C	D	Е	F	G
0	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	X	Υ	Z	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	Κ	L	Μ	Ν
N	O	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	X	Υ	Z	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	Μ

Example: encode **COMPUTER** 

Key: **PYTHONPY** 

Plaintext: COMPUTER

Ciphertext: **RMFWIGTP** 

### The Vigenère Cipher

- •To implement the Vigenère Cipher, there is no need to represent the table in the computer's memory
- •Instead, use the algorithm below, which computes the table entries "on the fly":
- 1. Map each letter from the plaintext to a number in the range 0 to 25, as was done with the other ciphers. (A  $\rightarrow$  0, B  $\rightarrow$  1, ..., Z  $\rightarrow$  25)
- 2. Add this number to the number corresponding to the keyword's letter (and then mod by 26).
  - Example: for plaintext COMPUTER and keyword PYTHON
  - 2 is the number for C and 15 is the number for P
  - To encode C: C  $\rightarrow$  2 $\rightarrow$  (2 + 15) mod 26 = 17
- 3. Convert the sum (mod 26) to its corresponding letter of the alphabet (with  $0 \rightarrow A$ ,  $1 \rightarrow B$ , ...,  $25 \rightarrow Z$ ).

### The Vigenère Cipher

- •The decryption algorithm performs a similar series of steps, but in reverse order:
- 1. Map each letter from the encrypted message to a number in the range 0 to 25.
- 2. Subtract from this number the number corresponding to the keyword's letter.
- 3. Add 26 in case the subtraction resulted in a negative difference, and then compute the remainder mod 26.
- 4. Convert the resulting number to its corresponding letter of the alphabet  $(0 \rightarrow A, 1 \rightarrow B, ..., 25 \rightarrow Z)$ .

# vigenere\_encrypt()

```
def vigenere_encrypt(plaintext, keyword):
 # duplicate the keyword as many times as needed
 keyword = keyword * (len(plaintext) // len(keyword) + 1)
 # convert plaintext letters to numbers
 plaintext_nums = [ord(ch) - ord('A') for ch in plaintext]
 # convert keyword letters to numbers
 keyword_nums = [ord(ch) - ord('A') for ch in keyword]
 # generate ciphertext
 ciphertext = "
 for i in range(len(plaintext)):
   # add the two numerical codes and map sum (mod 26)
   # back to a letter
   ciphertext += chr((plaintext_nums[i]+keyword_nums[i]) % 26 + ord('A'))
 return ciphertext
```

### vigenere\_decrypt()

```
def vigenere_decrypt(ciphertext, keyword):
 # duplicate the keyword as many times as needed
 keyword = keyword * (len(ciphertext) // len(keyword) + 1)
 # convert ciphertext letters to numbers
 ciphertext_nums = [ord(ch)-ord('A') for ch in ciphertext]
 # convert keyword letters to numbers
 keyword nums = [ord(ch)-ord('A') for ch in keyword]
 # generate plaintext
 plaintext = "
 for i in range(len(ciphertext)):
   # subtract keyword num from ciphertext num, add 26
   # and map difference (mod 26) back to a letter
   plaintext += chr((ciphertext nums[i]-keyword nums[i] + 26) % 26 + ord('A'))
 return plaintext
```

### Modern Cryptography: Basics

#### **Encryption**

- Scrambling data to provide privacy
- A key is used to scramble data to be protected

#### Key

Special value needed to encrypt or decrypt data

#### **Decryption**

Recovering original data using the key

**Plaintext** – Original data before encryption

**Ciphertext** – Encrypted data

Cryptanalysis – Analyzing encrypted data to attempt breaking a cipher

### Security with Cryptography

### Main Data Security Concerns

- Privacy other parties cannot read private data (Encryption)
- Integrity Data has not been maliciously or accidentally altered (One-way Hash functions)
- Authentication Parties can prove they are who they claim to be (Digital Signatures)

### Types of Cryptography Stream vs. Block

Encrypting data provides privacy keeping data secure from being 'snooped'

### **Stream Ciphers**

- Encrypt 1 bit at a time
- Algorithm produces a 'stream' of bits based on the Key
- Uses Exclusive-Or to combine this with data to encrypt
- Example: RC4

### Types of Cryptography Stream vs. Block

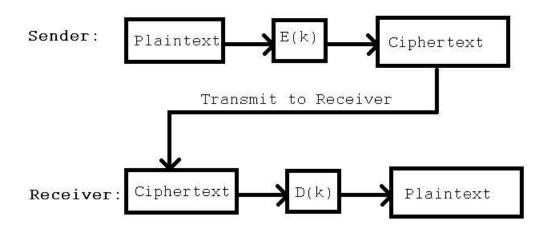
#### **Block Ciphers**

- Encrypt 1 block of data at a time
- Algorithm scrambles a block (32, 64, 128 bits, etc) based on the Key
- Modes of Operation are applied to the encryption process. These perform operations combining ciphertext and plaintext to make cryptanalysis more difficult
- Examples: DES, CAST, IDEA, AES, Blowfish, RC6, many others

Symmetric cryptography requires sender and receiver to share the same key

Problem: How do we communicate the shared secret key without someone intercepting it?

Symmetric Encryption and Decryption



Great Idea #1: Create a cryptosystem where there are 2 keys: 1 Public, 1 Private

Any data encrypted with public key can ONLY be decrypted with private key

**Asymmetric cryptography** involves decrypting data with a different key than the one with which it was encrypted

- Examples: RSA, Elliptic Curve
- Solves problem of how to transmit secret key!

### Asymmetric Cryptography

- •Public-key cryptography does not have the shortcoming of sharing a secret key: each person has a private key that is never shared and a public key that is shared
- •The only known way at the moment to crack the hardest public-key encryption algorithms is to try virtually all the possible keys, which is an *intractable* problem
- Public key cryptography is not a panacea:
  - Operations to encrypt/decrypt are 'expensive' computationally
  - Public key ownership is an issue
    - To assure an attacker cannot create a man-in-the-middle attack, authentication is needed with certificates
    - Generation and use of certificates is beyond the scope of this course.
    - Here's a starting reference if you're interested: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public key certificate">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public key certificate</a>

### Asymmetric Cryptography

- •The public/private key pairs are generated by a computer program in such a way:
  - that decryption of content encrypted with the public key is only possible with the private key
  - Decryption of content encrypted with the private key is only possible with the public key
  - The keys themselves are modular inverses around a large composite number based on the product of two very large primes
  - The large composite is difficult to factor so knowing the public key does not yield the related private key
  - The mathematical details are otherwise beyond the scope of the course
    - → But if you are REALLY interested, look here: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSA\_(cryptosystem">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSA\_(cryptosystem)</a>

# Sender: Plaintext E(pubk) Ciphertext Transmit to receiver Receiver: Ciphertext E(privk) Plaintext

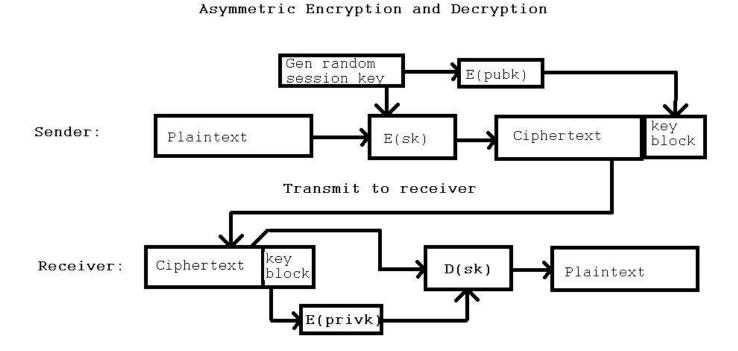
Asymmetric Encryption and Decryption

#### **New Problems:**

- 1. Asymmetric algorithms are computationally expensive (take lots of CPU)
- 2. How do we know the public key sent to us belongs to the person we are trying to communicate with? [We'll fix this later]

Fixes problem of 'sharing' a secret over open communication line:

- Session key is generated
- Sent with the ciphertext after encrypting with public key



Problem 2: How do we know the public key belongs to the named person?

- 1. Digital Signature
- 2. Certificates

Digital Signatures provide both integrity and authentication

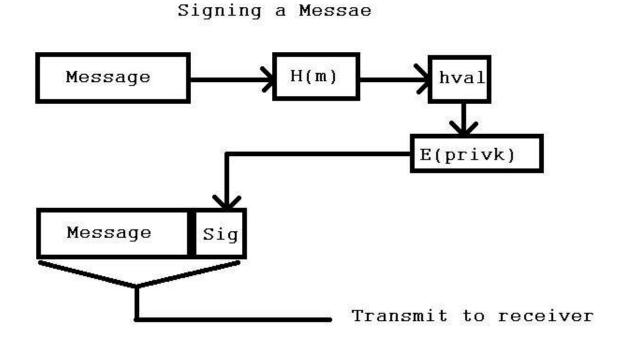
Signatures are based on cryptographic hashes

### **Cryptographic hashes**

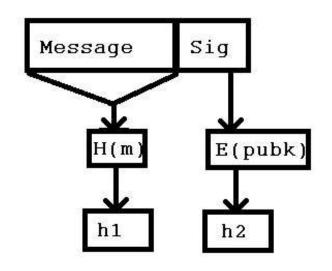
- Support integrity by indicating if the attached data has been altered or corrupted
- They are mathematical 'summaries' of data in a file or message
- It is [very] hard to alter text in a way that will produce the same hash value as the original

#### Procedure:

- Run a hash on the message
- Take the hash value (128-256 bits) and encrypt with Private key of the signer
  - This means only the owner of the private key could have produced the signature
  - This also means ANYONE can decrypt the encrypted hash with the public key of the signer
  - This is how digital signatures provide authentication



Digital Signature Verification



h1=recvr calculated hash h2=hash recovered from signature

signature verifies if h1==h2

# Modern Cryptography Example: Email Encryption

- •A random key is generated and used to encrypt a message with a symmetric algorithm like AES
  - The random key is called a Content-Encryption Key or CEK
- The random key is encrypted with the receiver's public key
  - The public key is called a Key Encryption Key or KEK
- •Only the receiver's private key can decrypt the random key needed to decrypt the content
- •Why do this?
  - Public Key operations are computationally expensive
  - Better to use efficient secret key cryptography on larger blocks of data (the content)
  - Then use public key cryptography on only a small piece of data (the CEK)

### Cryptography Website

- •www.counton.org/explorer/codebreaking/index.php
- •This is an excellent website that covers the basics of encryption.
- •It includes programs that can be used to test knowledge of the ciphers studied in this Lecture

# Questions?