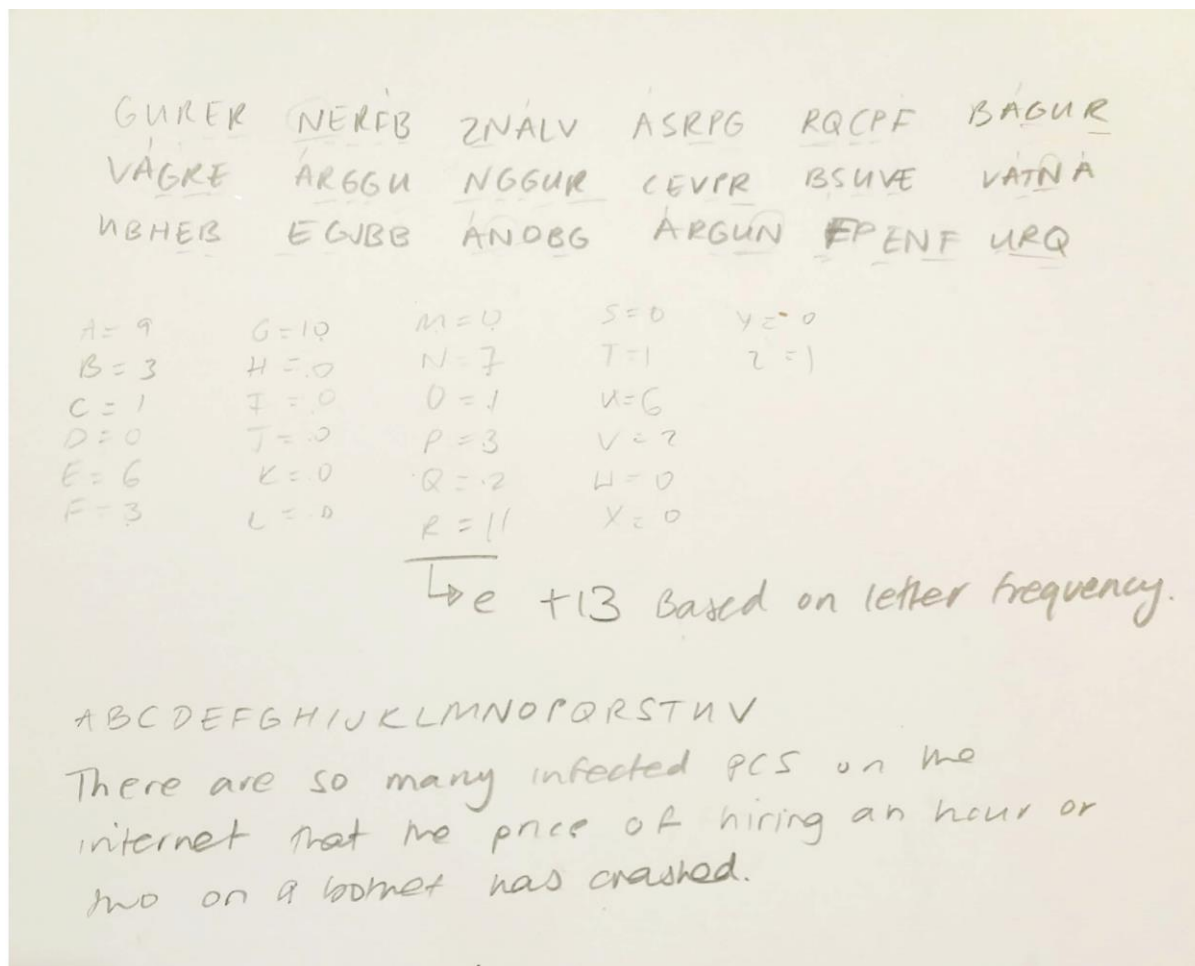


CORE

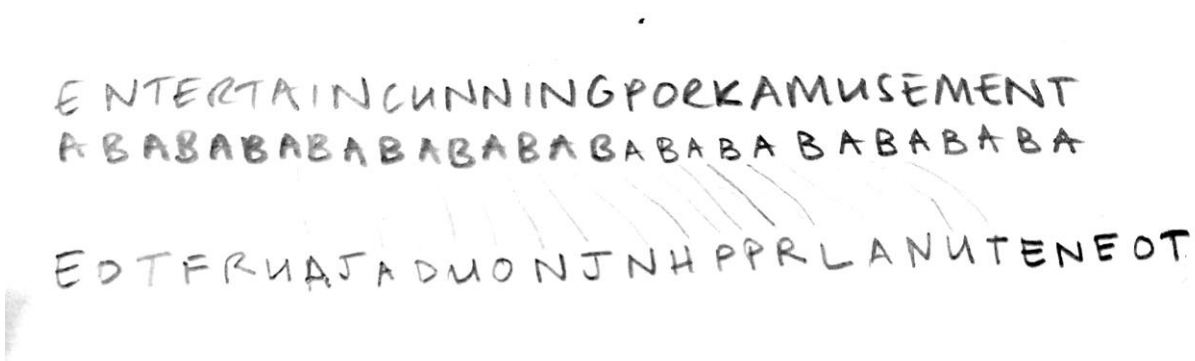
Cipher Algorithms – Encryption and Decryption

QUESTION ONE



THERE ARE SO MANY INFECTED PCS ON THE INTERNET THAT THE PRICE OF HIRING AN HOUR OR TWO ON A BOTNET HAS CRASHED

QUESTION TWO



QUESTION THREE

xxs mystery-mode.txt

```
greta-pt.ecs.vuw.ac.nz - PuTTY
login as: sajwanlava
sajwanlava@greta-pt.ecs.vuw.ac.nz's password:
Access denied
sajwanlava@greta-pt.ecs.vuw.ac.nz's password:
greta-pt: [~] % cd Desktop
greta-pt: [~/Desktop] % ls
'123 assign'      compl12      'ENGR123 LAB 6.ods'  t1
arm              cybr171-assignment1 'ENGR123 LAB 6.odt'  t1.c
assignment_one_cybr.odt 'cybr171 labs'      hello.png
compl02          data            __MACOSX
greta-pt: [~/Desktop] % cd cybr171-assignment1
greta-pt: [cybr171-assignment1] % ls
challenge completion core
greta-pt: [cybr171-assignment1] % cd core
greta-pt: [core] % ls
alice.asc      email-1.txt.gpg  secret-blowfish.dec.txt  top250.txt
alice.asc.gpg  email-2.txt.gpg  secret-blowfish.txt
bobby.asc      mystery-mode.txt  top250.enc.txt
greta-pt: [core] % xxd mystery-mode.txt
00000000: d720 bd70 f7bc 4d53 abd4 70a1 61c6 5031  . .p..MS..p.a.Pl
00000010: d720 bd70 f7bc 4d53 abd4 70a1 61c6 5031  . .p..MS..p.a.Pl
00000020: d720 bd70 f7bc 4d53 abd4 70a1 61c6 5031  . .p..MS..p.a.Pl
00000030: 38ed 4734 9a56 030b 39d3 90d8 9af2 88cd  8.G4.V..9.....
greta-pt: [core] %
```

As the encrypted blocks form a repeated pattern, this indicates that it is Electronic Code Book (ECB).

QUESTION FOUR

```
clarks: [~] % cd desktop
desktop: No such file or directory.
clarks: [~] % cd Desktop
clarks: [~/Desktop] % cd
clarks: [~] % ls
connect_out_fixed  e5.png          engr121          p2c1.png         pubkey.asc
connect_out_orig   e8a.png          GNS3             p2e1.png         secret_message.txt
Desktop            e8.png           'hello it me'    private          secret_message.txt.gpg
Downloads          eclipse-workspace network_connectivity public_html       sketchbook
clarks: [~] % cd Desktop
clarks: [~/Desktop] % ls
'123 assign'  compl02  cybr171-assignment1  data      'ENGR123 LAB 6.odt'  __MACOSX  t1.c
arm          compl12  'cybr171 labs'      'ENGR123 LAB 6.ods'  hello.png  t1
clarks: [~/Desktop] % cd cybr171-assignment1
clarks: [cybr171-assignment1] % cd core
clarks: [core] % l
l: Command not found.
clarks: [core] % ls
alice.asc bobby.asc email-1.txt.gpg email-2.txt.gpg mystery-mode.txt secret-blowfish.txt top250.txt
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -e -des-ecb -in top250.txt -out top250.enc.txt
enter des-ecb encryption password:
Verifying - enter des-ecb encryption password:
clarks: [core] % xxd -l
Usage:
    xxd [options] [infile [outfile]]
    or
    xxd -r [-s [-]offset] [-c cols] [-ps] [infile [outfile]]
Options:
  -a          toggle autoskip: A single '*' replaces nul-lines. Default off.
  -b          binary digit dump (incompatible with -ps,-i,-r). Default hex.
  -c cols     format <cols> octets per line. Default 16 (-i: 12, -ps: 30).
  -E          show characters in EBCDIC. Default ASCII.
  -e          little-endian dump (incompatible with -ps,-i,-r).
  -g          number of octets per group in normal output. Default 2 (-e: 4).
  -h          print this summary.
  -i          output in C include file style.
  -l len      stop after <len> octets.
  -o off      add <off> to the displayed file position.
  -ps         output in postscript plain hexdump style.
  -r          reverse operation: convert (or patch) hexdump into binary.
```

```

clarks: [core] % openssl enc -e -des-ecb -in top250.txt -out top250.enc.txt
enter des-ecb encryption password:
Verifying - enter des-ecb encryption password:
clarks: [core] % xxd -l
Usage:
    xxd [options] [infile [outfile]]
    or
    xxd -r [-s [-]offset] [-c cols] [-ps] [infile [outfile]]
Options:
  -a      toggle autoskip: A single '*' replaces nul-lines. Default off.
  -b      binary digit dump (incompatible with -ps,-i,-r). Default hex.
  -c cols  format <cols> octets per line. Default 16 (-i: 12, -ps: 30).
  -E      show characters in EBCDIC. Default ASCII.
  -e      little-endian dump (incompatible with -ps,-i,-r).
  -g      number of octets per group in normal output. Default 2 (-e: 4).
  -h      print this summary.
  -i      output in C include file style.
  -l len   stop after <len> octets.
  -o off   add <off> to the displayed file position.
  -ps     output in postscript plain hexdump style.
  -r      reverse operation: convert (or patch) hexdump into binary.
  -r -s off revert with <off> added to file positions found in hexdump.
  -s [+] [-]seek start at <seek> bytes abs. (or +: rel.) infile offset.
  -u      use upper case hex letters.
  -v      show version: "xxd V1.10 27oct98 by Juergen Weigert".
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10

```

```

^C
clarks: [core] %
clarks: [core] % ls
alice.asc  email-1.txt.gpg  mystery-mode.txt  top250.enc.txt
bobby.asc  email-2.txt.gpg  secret-blowfish.txt  top250.txt
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10 top250.enc.txt
00000000: 5361 6c74 6564 5f5f a876                Salted__v
clarks: [core] % █

```

```

    xxd [options] [infile [outfile]]
    or
    xxd -r [-s [-]offset] [-c cols] [-ps] [infile [outfile]]
Options:
  -a      toggle autoskip: A single '*' replaces nul-lines. Default off.
  -b      binary digit dump (incompatible with -ps,-i,-r). Default hex.
  -c cols  format <cols> octets per line. Default 16 (-i: 12, -ps: 30).
  -E      show characters in EBCDIC. Default ASCII.
  -e      little-endian dump (incompatible with -ps,-i,-r).
  -g      number of octets per group in normal output. Default 2 (-e: 4).
  -h      print this summary.
  -i      output in C include file style.
  -l len   stop after <len> octets.
  -o off   add <off> to the displayed file position.
  -ps     output in postscript plain hexdump style.
  -r      reverse operation: convert (or patch) hexdump into binary.
  -r -s off revert with <off> added to file positions found in hexdump.
  -s [+] [-]seek start at <seek> bytes abs. (or +: rel.) infile offset.
  -u      use upper case hex letters.
  -v      show version: "xxd V1.10 27oct98 by Juergen Weigert".
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10

```

```

^C
clarks: [core] %
clarks: [core] % ls
alice.asc  email-1.txt.gpg  mystery-mode.txt  top250.enc.txt
bobby.asc  email-2.txt.gpg  secret-blowfish.txt  top250.txt
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10 top250.enc.txt
00000000: 5361 6c74 6564 5f5f a876                Salted__v
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -des-ecb -nosalt -in top250.txt -out top250.enc.txt
enter des-ecb encryption password:
Verifying - enter des-ecb encryption password:
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10 top250.enc.txt
00000000: 222c 38a6 b28b 8f75 e2f0                ",8....u..
clarks: [core] % █

```

QUESTION FIVE

```
-b      binary digit dump (incompatible with -ps,-i,-r). Default hex.
-c cols format <cols> octets per line. Default 16 (-i: 12, -ps: 30).
-E      show characters in EBCDIC. Default ASCII.
-e      little-endian dump (incompatible with -ps,-i,-r).
-g      number of octets per group in normal output. Default 2 (-e: 4).
-h      print this summary.
-i      output in C include file style.
-l len  stop after <len> octets.
-o off  add <off> to the displayed file position.
-ps     output in postscript plain hexdump style.
-r      reverse operation: convert (or patch) hexdump into binary.
-r -s off revert with <off> added to file positions found in hexdump.
-s [+] [-]seek start at <seek> bytes abs. (or +: rel.) in file offset.
-u      use upper case hex letters.
-v      show version: "xxd V1.10 27oct98 by Juergen Weigert".
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10
```

```
^C
clarks: [core] %
clarks: [core] % ls
alice.asc  email-1.txt.gpg  mystery-mode.txt    top250.enc.txt
bobby.asc  email-2.txt.gpg      secret-blowfish.txt top250.txt
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10 top250.enc.txt
00000000: 5361 6c74 6564 5f5f a876                Salted__v
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -des-ecb -nosalt -in top250.txt -out top250.enc.txt
enter des-ecb encryption password:
Verifying - enter des-ecb encryption password:
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10 top250.enc.txt
00000000: 222c 38a6 b28b 8f75 e2f0                ",8....u..
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -aes-128-ecb -nosalt -in top250.txt -out top250.enc.txt
enter aes-128-ecb encryption password:
Verifying - enter aes-128-ecb encryption password:
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10 top250.enc.txt
00000000: aa62 410e ed2a 8023 a097                .bA..*.#..
clarks: [core] %
```

QUESTION SIX

```
^C
clarks: [core] %
clarks: [core] % ls
alice.asc  email-1.txt.gpg  mystery-mode.txt    top250.enc.txt
bobby.asc  email-2.txt.gpg  secret-blowfish.txt top250.txt
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10 top250.enc.txt
00000000: 5361 6c74 6564 5f5f a876                Salted__v
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -des-ecb -nosalt -in top250.txt -out top250.enc.txt
enter des-ecb encryption password:
Verifying - enter des-ecb encryption password:
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10 top250.enc.txt
00000000: 222c 38a6 b28b 8f75 e2f0                ",8....u..
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -aes-128-ecb -nosalt -in top250.txt -out top250.enc.txt
enter aes-128-ecb encryption password:
Verifying - enter aes-128-ecb encryption password:
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10 top250.enc.txt
00000000: aa62 410e ed2a 8023 a097                .bA..*.#..
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -d-bf -cbc -in top250.txt -out top250.dec.txt
enc: Unknown cipher d-bf
enc: Use -help for summary.
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -d -bf -cbc -in top250.txt -out top250.dec.txt
enc: Unknown cipher cbc
enc: Use -help for summary.
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -d -bf -cbc -in secret-blowfish.txt -out secret-blowfish.dec.txt
enc: Unknown cipher cbc
enc: Use -help for summary.
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -d -bf -cbc -in secret-blowfish.txt -out secret-blowfish.dec.txt
enter bf-cbc decryption password:
clarks: [core] % YELLOW
YELLOW: Command not found.
clarks: [core] % cat secret-blowfish.dec.txt
You have the right answer.
clarks: [core] %
```

QUESTION SEVEN

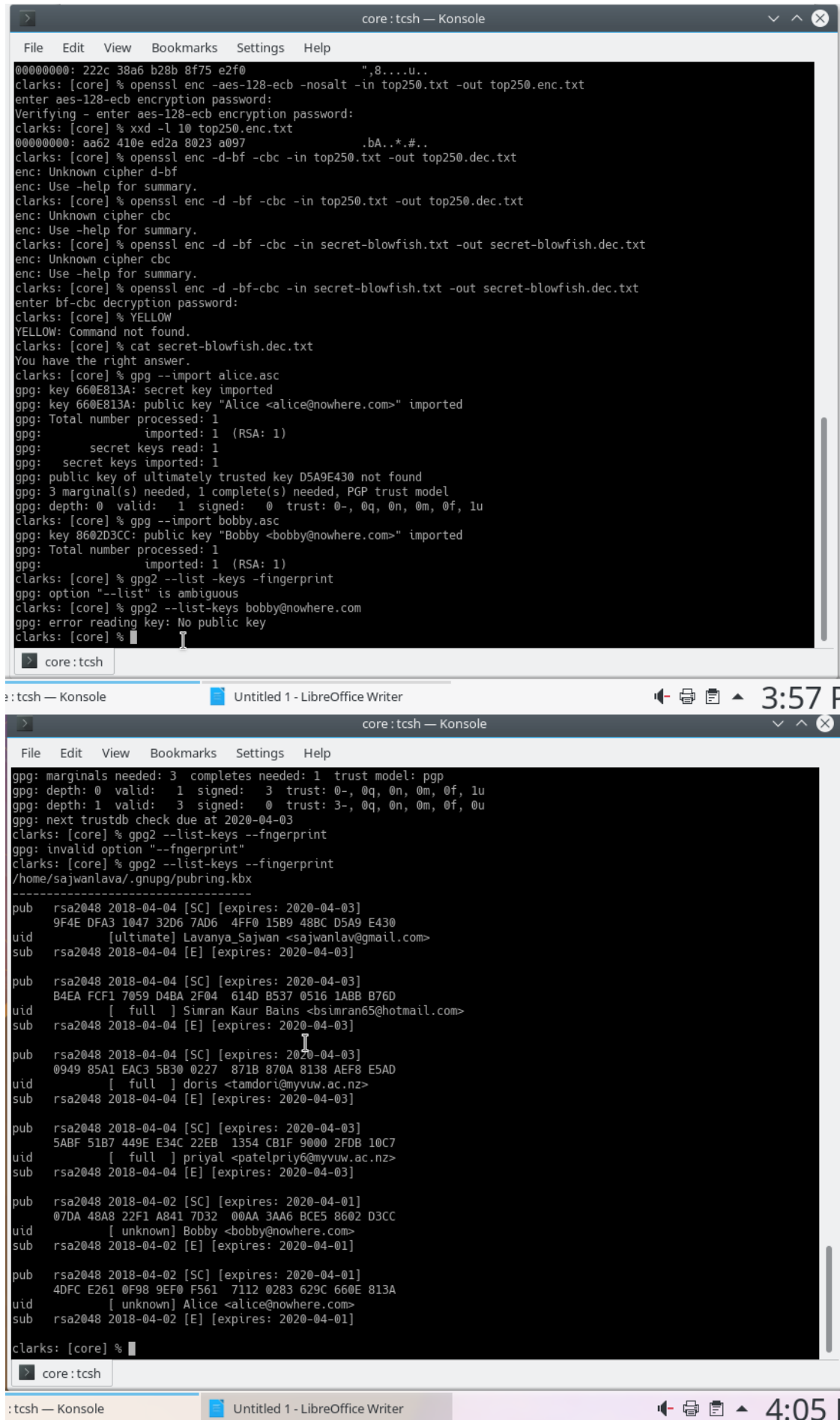
Carol would swap her encrypted pay roll for Bob's. By doing so she breaches the integrity of the system as data has been modified without permission and is therefore now inaccurate.

QUESTION EIGHT

A way to prevent the "cut-and-paste" attack would be to make it so that every team member has a different cipher specific to them. That way when Carol tampers with the ciphers, it would be apparent. Another way to prevent this would be to change from ECB to Cipher Block Chaining (CBC), as it is harder for an attacker to modify and it can be more apparent that the integrity has been lost. This is because CBC doesn't process each block separately. This would thus change the information on the file.

Another way would be to disable the clipboard on that file so she wouldn't be able to copy and paste. This wouldn't be done directly on the file itself, so no extra information would be stored.

QUESTION NINE



```
core: tcsh — Konsole
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
00000000: 222c 38a6 b28b 8f75 e2f0 ",8....u..
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -aes-128-ecb -nosalt -in top250.txt -out top250.enc.txt
enter aes-128-ecb encryption password:
Verifying - enter aes-128-ecb encryption password:
clarks: [core] % xxd -l 10 top250.enc.txt
00000000: aa62 410e ed2a 8023 a097 .bA..*.#..
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -d-bf -cbc -in top250.txt -out top250.dec.txt
enc: Unknown cipher d-bf
enc: Use -help for summary.
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -d -bf -cbc -in top250.txt -out top250.dec.txt
enc: Unknown cipher cbc
enc: Use -help for summary.
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -d -bf -cbc -in secret-blowfish.txt -out secret-blowfish.dec.txt
enc: Unknown cipher cbc
enc: Use -help for summary.
clarks: [core] % openssl enc -d -bf -cbc -in secret-blowfish.txt -out secret-blowfish.dec.txt
enter bf-cbc decryption password:
clarks: [core] % YELLOW
YELLOW: Command not found.
clarks: [core] % cat secret-blowfish.dec.txt
You have the right answer.
clarks: [core] % gpg --import alice.asc
gpg: key 660E813A: secret key imported
gpg: key 660E813A: public key "Alice <alice@nowhere.com>" imported
gpg: Total number processed: 1
gpg:      imported: 1 (RSA: 1)
gpg:      secret keys read: 1
gpg:      secret keys imported: 1
gpg: public key of ultimately trusted key D5A9E430 not found
gpg: 3 marginal(s) needed, 1 complete(s) needed, PGP trust model
gpg: depth: 0 valid: 1 signed: 0 trust: 0-, 0q, 0n, 0m, 0f, 1u
clarks: [core] % gpg --import bobby.asc
gpg: key 8602D3CC: public key "Bobby <bobby@nowhere.com>" imported
gpg: Total number processed: 1
gpg:      imported: 1 (RSA: 1)
clarks: [core] % gpg2 --list -keys -fingerprint
gpg: option "--list" is ambiguous
clarks: [core] % gpg2 --list-keys bobby@nowhere.com
gpg: error reading key: No public key
clarks: [core] %

core: tcsh
```

core: tcsh — Konsole

gpg: marginals needed: 3 completes needed: 1 trust model: pgp
gpg: depth: 0 valid: 1 signed: 3 trust: 0-, 0q, 0n, 0m, 0f, 1u
gpg: depth: 1 valid: 3 signed: 0 trust: 3-, 0q, 0n, 0m, 0f, 0u
gpg: next trustdb check due at 2020-04-03
clarks: [core] % gpg2 --list-keys --fingerprint
gpg: invalid option "--fingerprint"
clarks: [core] % gpg2 --list-keys --fingerprint
/home/sajwanlava/.gnupg/pubring.kbx

pub rsa2048 2018-04-04 [SC] [expires: 2020-04-03]
9F4E DFA3 1047 32D6 7AD6 4FF0 15B9 48BC D5A9 E430
uid [ultimate] Lavanya_Sajwan <sajwanlav@gmail.com>
sub rsa2048 2018-04-04 [E] [expires: 2020-04-03]

pub rsa2048 2018-04-04 [SC] [expires: 2020-04-03]
B4EA FCF1 7059 D4BA 2F04 614D B537 0516 1ABB B76D
uid [full] Simran Kaur Bains <bsimran65@hotmail.com>
sub rsa2048 2018-04-04 [E] [expires: 2020-04-03]

pub rsa2048 2018-04-04 [SC] [expires: 2020-04-03]
0949 85A1 EAC3 5B30 0227 871B 870A 8138 AEF8 E5AD
uid [full] doris <tamdori@myvu.ac.nz>
sub rsa2048 2018-04-04 [E] [expires: 2020-04-03]

pub rsa2048 2018-04-04 [SC] [expires: 2020-04-03]
5ABF 51B7 449E E34C 22EB 1354 CB1F 9000 2FDB 10C7
uid [full] priyal <patelpriy6@myvu.ac.nz>
sub rsa2048 2018-04-04 [E] [expires: 2020-04-03]

pub rsa2048 2018-04-02 [SC] [expires: 2020-04-01]
07DA 48A8 22F1 A841 7D32 00AA 3AA6 BCE5 8602 D3CC
uid [unknown] Bobby <bobby@nowhere.com>
sub rsa2048 2018-04-02 [E] [expires: 2020-04-01]

pub rsa2048 2018-04-02 [SC] [expires: 2020-04-01]
4DFC E261 0F98 9EF0 F561 7112 0283 629C 660E 813A
uid [unknown] Alice <alice@nowhere.com>
sub rsa2048 2018-04-02 [E] [expires: 2020-04-01]

clarks: [core] %

core: tcsh

core: tcsh — Konsole

gpg2 --import alice.asc

gpg2 --import bobby.asc (initially accidentally used gpg for both)

QUESTION TEN

Bobby had signed Alice's key and this was found using the command gpg2 --check-sig (last 8 digits).

```
clarks: [core] % gpg2 --check-sig 660E 813A
gpg: error reading key: No public key
clarks: [core] % gpg2 --check-sig 660E 813A
gpg: error reading key: No public key
clarks: [core] % gpg2 --check-sig 660E813A
pub  rsa2048 2018-04-02 [SC] [expires: 2020-04-01]
     4DFCE2610F989EF0F56171120283629C660E813A
uid          [ unknown] Alice <alice@nowhere.com>
sig!3       0283629C660E813A 2018-04-02  Alice <alice@nowhere.com>
sig!        3AA6BCE58602D3CC 2018-04-02  Bobby <bobby@nowhere.com>
sub  rsa2048 2018-04-02 [E] [expires: 2020-04-01]
sig!        0283629C660E813A 2018-04-02  Alice <alice@nowhere.com>

gpg: 3 good signatures
clarks: [core] % █
```


QUESTION ELEVEN

```
greta-pt: [core] % gpg2 --edit-key Lavanya_Sajwan
gpg (GnuPG) 2.2.4; Copyright (C) 2017 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
This is free software: you are free to change and redistribute it.
There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law.
```

```
Secret key is available.
```

```
sec  rsa2048/15B948BCD5A9E430
    created: 2018-04-04  expires: 2020-04-03  usage: SC
    trust: ultimate      validity: ultimate
ssb  rsa2048/0C05696C48014620
    created: 2018-04-04  expires: 2020-04-03  usage: E
[ultimate] (1). Lavanya_Sajwan <sajwanlav@gmail.com>
```

```
greta-pt: [core] % gpg2 --sign-key 8602D3CC
```

```
gpg: checking the trustdb
gpg: marginals needed: 3  completes needed: 1  trust model: pgp
gpg: depth: 0  valid: 1  signed: 3  trust: 0-, 0q, 0n, 0m, 0f, 1u
gpg: depth: 1  valid: 3  signed: 0  trust: 3-, 0q, 0n, 0m, 0f, 0u
gpg: next trustdb check due at 2020-04-03
pub  rsa2048/3AA6BCE58602D3CC
    created: 2018-04-02  expires: 2020-04-01  usage: SC
    trust: unknown      validity: unknown
sub  rsa2048/6478C44270160CEF
    created: 2018-04-02  expires: 2020-04-01  usage: E
[ unknown] (1). Bobby <bobby@nowhere.com>
```

```
pub  rsa2048/3AA6BCE58602D3CC
    created: 2018-04-02  expires: 2020-04-01  usage: SC
    trust: unknown      validity: unknown
Primary key fingerprint: 07DA 48A8 22F1 A841 7D32  00AA 3AA6 BCE5 8602 D3CC

Bobby <bobby@nowhere.com>
```

```
This key is due to expire on 2020-04-01.
Are you sure that you want to sign this key with your
key "Alice <alice@nowhere.com>" (0283629C660E813A)
```

```
Really sign? (y/N) y
```

```
greta-pt: [core] % gpg2 --check-sig 8602D3CC
pub  rsa2048 2018-04-02 [SC] [expires: 2020-04-01]
    07DA48A822F1A8417D3200AA3AA6BCE58602D3CC
uid          [ unknown] Bobby <bobby@nowhere.com>
sig!3        3AA6BCE58602D3CC 2018-04-02 Bobby <bobby@nowhere.com>
sig!         0283629C660E813A 2018-04-24 Alice <alice@nowhere.com>
sub  rsa2048 2018-04-02 [E] [expires: 2020-04-01]
sig!         3AA6BCE58602D3CC 2018-04-02 Bobby <bobby@nowhere.com>
```

```
gpg: 3 good signatures
```

```
greta-pt: [core] %
```


QUESTION TWELVE

```
greta-pt: [core] % gpg2 --decrypt email-1.txt.gpg
gpg: encrypted with 2048-bit RSA key, ID 21D059181C12C8CC, created 2018-04-02
"Alice <alice@nowhere.com>"
Dear Alice,

Now I ask you one. What has a trunk, but no key, weighs 2,000 pounds and lives in
a cir\cus?

Regards, Bob
greta-pt: [core] %
```

QUESTION THIRTEEN

```
greta-pt: [core] % gpg2 --decrypt email-2.txt.gpg
gpg: encrypted with 2048-bit RSA key, ID 21D059181C12C8CC, created 2018-04-02
"Alice <alice@nowhere.com>"
Dear Alice,

I am on holiday in Freedonia but have had all my cash stolen.

Please send me your credit card details immediately otherwise I cannot pay for my
accommodation.

Send it to needmoneyinfreedonia@gmail.com.

Regards, Bob
gpg: Signature made Mon 02 Apr 2018 21:37:32 NZST
gpg: using RSA key 29820923C5883AC384D8E1245EDAECFE3356332A
gpg: issuer "carol@nowhere.com"
gpg: Can't check signature: No public key
greta-pt: [core] %
```

This output does indicate an attempted attack because the emails listed haven't previously been used by Bob, so they should not be a trusted email. Also there has been no indication in previous emails that Bob may be travelling to "Freedonia", and Alice should know never to send her credit card details online no matter whom it is. The nature of the attack of this phishing email is that of an active attack as the sender whom has stolen the encryption key is directly trying to obtain Alice's personal details so that they can harm her financially (*Nigerian Scams (n.d)*). Bob and Alice will now have to change their key as they may not know whether it is actually them trying to talk to each other.

COMPLETION

Password Strength Meters and Cryptanalysis

QUESTION ONE

- abc123
bennish.net = 0.001 seconds
howsecureismypassword.net = instantly
passwordmeter.com = weak
- trustno1
bennish.net = 0.001 seconds
howsecureismypassword.net = instantly
passwordmeter.com = weak
- ncc1701
bennish.net = 0.006

howsecureismypassword.net = instantly
passwordmeter.com = good

- iloveyou!
bennish.net = 0.016
howsecureismypassword.net = instantly
passwordmeter.com = weak
- primetime21
bennish.net = 4 hours
howsecureismypassword.net = 1 day
passwordmeter.com = weak

Most passwords were cracked instantly; only the last one took a little longer, but was still considered a “weak” password. There were inconsistencies between the websites for some of the passwords. This was shown with ncc1701, which was cracked instantly with bennish.net and howsecureismypassword.net, however, passwordmeter.com still stated that it was good with a 46% score. This was probably due to the websites having slightly different specifications of what made a strong password. Also in terms of the actual passwords, there were slight differences in speed between some of them due to the latter passwords using a combination of non-consecutive numbers or symbols.

QUESTION TWO

As we were given that the key length was four, I split the contents of the vigenere.txt into blocks of four (Seidel, 2014).

```
WIEV HSMYRSMC VBPR OJEF WPCQ PQUV HSSE DNEH UPML RIND UVNP HSSU FJEP FFFK FUIQ
ODLC VTIE WIEU KPCM ZBVG UJDG UUHG QPVG OEEU FSID HEHQ ZBRG EFLE RNPW WFRR UPGT
DNMG UDRG DUEF DQRQ JSAO FBLN HETC SFWQ UNWJ LDHY DTRG OFAU HEIP WPAP RNNK SPTG
QUCQ PQUV HSNQ WXOT NVSG GCYC QBUV RDRC WJCI RWET QNEP WUOE ROTT RMIV VQEQ SMEV
KFGQ YFRP PFNV KBDV RUUT QPFH WIEE RNPW WFRP HUWQ ULTJ XTDG VURQ BJNI LUSE ROTT
RMIP RSDG UUGO UBDK FBTG WIEY RSMQ UVNP HSSD RPKK VBBQ XUAU FMOU HBSO RTTX PTCQ
PQUV HSNQ WXOT NNAP DHET VXOW OEEX HSHC YFCQ PFTQ DSEC OSOI XFWQ UNUP WJLV KFLC
WFSY RSMU ZFRG RCSE XSEV KJNI VNOT HBSU RDIC WFDY LUHT HTEC UDHK QBCQ PQUV HSLC EPRC
WPRA IPRG ABMR OFAH HXBG QFVQ OFNV ZPRO VXET HEEX HMOR HEBA AFRQ ASEU HBRE KFRU
ZIOY DOTG GUOO DLEO RSEG IGIE LFNV XTEQ IDOO SVTG UGAE LMIV LFSV KFYF HWEN RQEF DUOY
QDRK HSWQ UNWJ LDHO RWEF WIRQ XHHC QFTY RSKU HODK QHOW WJMR RSTC QUAP QPUP
FFMG QUSV KFIT GJAI QPSV LDWQ UNAN VPCQ QTTC QULA ZFAX HETJ UPUJ KUHG QFTY RSKD XUTJ
LT
```

Then for the 1st letters of the blocks, I found the most frequent occurring number. I then repeated this for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th letters. I then calculated how much their shift was from E (the most frequent occurring letter in the English language), and added one to it. Then I went up from A to get to what that letter originally was as shown in my working out. This then gave me the four letter key DBAC which I then used to decrypt the message which was;

“The term worms as applied to computers came from John Brunners science fiction classic the shock wave rider the novel described how warebel computer programmer created a program called tape worm which was released into an Omni potent computer network used by an autocratic government to control its people the government had to turn off the computer network thus destroying its control in order to eradicate the worm Brunners book is about as close as most VMS computer network managers would ever have to come to a real rogue worm until the lates worms were obscure things more associated with research in a computer laboratory for example few benevolent worms were developed by XEROX researchers wo wanted to make more efficient use of computer facilities they developed a town crier worm which moved through networks sending out important announcements their diagnostic worm also constantly weaved through the network but this”

1st symbol: Most common = H \Rightarrow ~~H~~ D

2nd symbol: Most common = F \Rightarrow B

3rd symbol: Most common = E \Rightarrow A

4th symbol: Most common = G \Rightarrow C

Key = DBAC

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

WIEV HSMYRSMCLVBPR OJEF WPCQ PQUV HSSE
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
THETERM NORMAS APP LIED TO CO M P VT ERSC
DNEH WPM L RIND VVNP TISSU FJEP FFFK FLUD
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
AMEF ROMJ OHNB RVNN ERSS C IENCE FICTIO

QDLC VTIE WIEU KPCM ZBVG UJ DG UUNG
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
NCLAS SIC T FESHOCK WAVE RIDE RTHE
QPVG DEEU PSID HEHQ ZBR GE FLERNPW
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
WERRMAGT
NOVE LDES CRIBEDHO WARBE COMPUTE

WFR RUPGTD NMG VDRG DUEF PQRQJ SAO FBLN
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
R PROGRAMMER EC RE _ATED A PROGRAM CALL

HETCSFW QUNWJLDHYDTRG OFAU HEIP WPAP
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
EDTAPE WORMWHIC H WAS RELEAS ED INTO AN

RNNKSPTG QUGQ PQUV HSN GWX OTNVSG GCYC
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
DMNIPOTENT CO MPVT ERNE TWORKVSE DBYA
QBHV RDR C WJCI RNET QNEP WUOE ROTT RMIVV RBQ
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
NAVTOCRATICG OVERNMENT TO CONTR OLIT SPED

SMEV YFGO VFEP PFNVK BDV RUUT QPFH NIEE
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
PI ET HEGO VERMMENT HADTOTURN OFT HECO

RNPW WEPHUNQ VLTJ XTDG VURQ BJNI
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
MPUTERNETWORK KSTH USDF STRO YING
LUSE ROTT RMIPRSDG VUOG VBDK FBIG WIEY
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
ITSC ONTR OLINORDER TO ERADICATE THE W

PSMDU VNP HSSD RPKK VBBQXVAU FMOU HBSO
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
ORM BRUNNERS BOOK IS ABOUT AS CLOSE AS
RTXPCQ PQUV HSNG WXOT NNAP DHETVXOWDEY
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
MOST VMS COMPUTERNETWORKMANAGERS WOULD E
HSHC YFCQ PFTQ DSEC OSOT XFWQ UNUPWJLV
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
VERHAVE COMETOREAL PROBLEM UNTIL
KFLC WFSY RSMU ZFRG RCBE XSEV KJNIVNOT
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
THE LATE WORKS WERE OBSCURE THINGS MD

HBSURDIE WFDYUHT HTECLUDHKQBCQ PQUVHSUC
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
REASSOCIATED WITH RESEARCHING AC COMPUTER
EPRC WPRAIPRGABMR OFAH HXBGQ FVQ OFNV
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
LABORATORY FOR EXAMPLE A FEW BENEFICIAL

ZPRO VXET HEEXIMORHEBAAFRQ HSEH HBREKFRU
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
ENTWORKS WERE DEVELOPED BY XEROX RESEARCH

ZIDY DOTG GUOODLEO RSEG IGIELFNV XTEQ IPOO
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
ES WHO WANTED TO MAKE MORE EFFICIENT USE OF THE
SVTGUGAELMIVLFSVKFYFH WENRQEEEDUOYQDRK
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
COMPUTER FACILITIES THEY DEVELOPED A OWN

HSWQVNWJLDHORWEFWIRQX HHCQFTYRSKHODKQHOW
DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC DBAC
RITER NORM WHICH MOVED THROUGH NETWORKS SENDING

WUMRSTCQUAPQPUPFFMG QUSV KFITGJ AIQPSV
DBACDBACDBACDBACDBAC DBAC DBACDBACDBAC
OUT IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT STEIRDIAGNO

LDWQVNAVPCQQTTC QULAZFAXHETJUPHIKUH6
DBACDBACDBACDBACDBAC DBAC DBACDBACDBAC
STICWORMS ~~SOO~~ ~~ONST~~ ANTLYWEAVETHROUGHTH

RFTYRSKDXUTJ
DBACDBACDBAC
ENETWORK BUTHIS

CHALLENGE

Capture the Flag and Secure Messaging

QUESTION ONE

I had to decrypt the message four times to which the end message was;

"This is a flag to prove that you did decrypt it."

It isn't very secure because it is very simple to decrypt with any online tool and so it is accessible to most unlike a message encrypted with a key which is only able to be decrypted with that specific key. I used the tool: <https://www.base64decode.org/>

QUESTION TWO

QUESTION THREE

- Telegram
 - Telegram is encrypted using MTProto which was developed based off three pre-existing encryption types; 256-bit symmetric AES encryption, 2048-bit RSA encryption and Diffie-Hellman key exchange. On this messaging product you are able to know whom you're talking to as accounts are linked to phone numbers and have to be verified by either text, or phone call. Telegram is open source so can be viewed by the public and therefore reviewed. There have been hacks, to which one of the founders tweeted;
"Users from troubled countries: make sure you have 2-step verification enabled – in Telegram and other services".
This tweet is a direct show of action towards the hacks to the messaging app from the supposed governments in countries like Russia and Iran (Lokot, 2016).
- Signal
 - Signal is a communication app used by Android and IOS users. It uses Signal Protocol encryption which has been found to be secure by university auditors. Users know whom they are connected with as they communicate with them directly. Signal is open source so can be reviewed. Signal thus far hasn't been cracked.
- Snapchat
 - Snapchat is a multimedia messaging app. It uses the 256-bit algorithm to encrypt its messages and uses Cypher Block Chaining (CBC). Unlike the other two. Snapchat does not offer end-to-end encryption because while opened snaps are automatically deleted from servers, the unopened

messages can be stored on their servers for 30 days (Wagner, 2015). Users know whom they are connected to as it people can choose to accept whom they are “friends” with and send messages to. Snapchat is not opened sourced so people cannot view it and pick up on potential bugs. In December 2013 snapchat was hacked and over 4 million accounts were leaked. This was done by a hacking group to show “awareness” to users as Snapchat hadn’t proactively solved the problem (Leyden, 2014).

In a security stand point, Signal seems to be the better app out of the three to use. It hasn’t been exploited as of yet, and also has end-to-end encryption so contents can never be accessed by any other than yourself. However, the better app has to also have to have a good user interface, needs to be adaptable to user needs and has to be on trend for the demographic, so therefore, picking the best app out of the three has a broad spectrum.

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