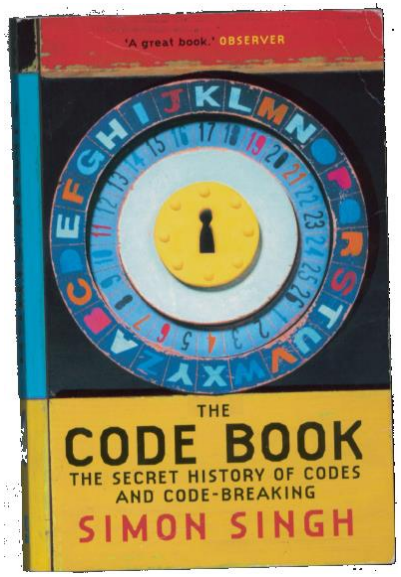
The University Of Sheffield.

# COM1008: Web and Internet Technology

## Lecture 19. Information Security Part 3

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(with thanks to Dr Mike Stannett
who shared his lecture slides)

# 1. Introduction

- *Last two lectures*: Information; security; risk – vulnerabilities, threats, attacks; Three classical goals of information security: Confidentiality, Integrity, Availability; legal frameworks; computer and network security: some practicalities
- *Today*: cryptography

- *Example*: What does the following encrypted message say?

```
ALPCS'Z RZ YSLH EZ ZPKSE O UMRSH SMRSH
VR L WWNLE YWNLE WWRI EZBPKSE,
TVV L YWNLE WWNLE'D PBX L DZPKSE ZPKSE
CU E WTUOX YTUOX WTYL XZYWNLE.
```

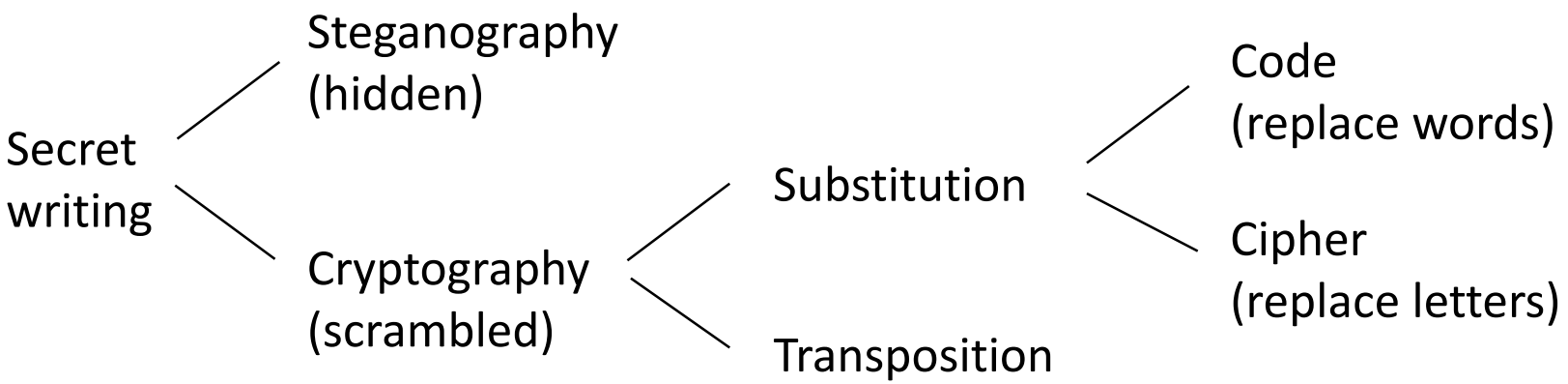
## 2. Relevance

- Who sent that email?
- Who downloaded that torrent?
- Who vandalised that Wikipedia entry?
- Is the virus checker I just downloaded safe to install?
- Is it safe to pay for this book online using my credit card?
- Is this iPlayer programme being watched in the UK?
- How do I prove I submitted my online tax return?
- How do I prove it wasn't me that uploaded the file?
- Is this the same customer we saw yesterday?
- Can I show him the account details he's asked for?
- How do I know this person has access rights to this folder?
- Is this guy allowed to erase my database?

# 3. Secret writing

Steganography in use in 5th century BC, Greeks against Persians

STEGANOGRAPHY: hide existence of message




Abū Yūsuf Yaʻqūb ibn Isḥāq al-Kindī (801-873 CE) wrote the earliest known book on cryptanalysis

CRYPTOGRAPHY: hide meaning of message, not existence, using a process called encryption

Simon Singh. The Code Book – The Secret History of Codes and Codebreaking, Fourth Estate, 2000, p.30

# 3.1 Terminology

- ENCRYPTION: Converting an intelligible message (plaintext) into something that can't be directly interpreted correctly (ciphertext)
- DECRYPTION: Converting the ciphertext back into the plaintext
- CRYPTOSYSTEM: The underlying algorithms used to encrypt and decrypt messages
- KEY: Information required by the cryptosystem at run-time, in addition to the plaintext or ciphertext

# 4. Transposition

- Rail fence transposition
- Example
  - Plaintext: `attack at dawn`
  - Ciphertext: `ATCADWTAKTAN`

```
A T C A D W
 T A K T A N
```

- Scytale, use by Spartans in 5th century BC

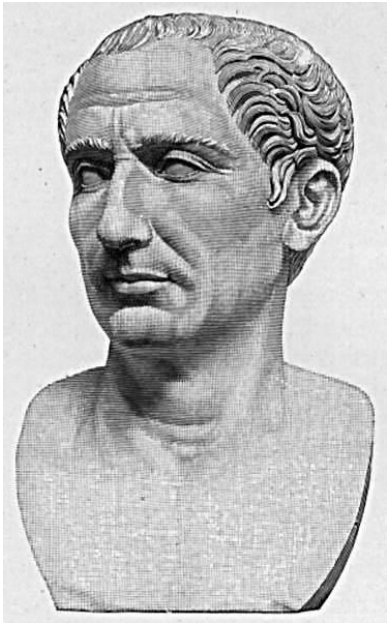
```
 _____________________________________
|     |     |     |     |     |     |
|     | H   | E   | L   | P   | M   |
|  ___| E   | I   | A   | M   | U   |___|
| |   | N   | D   | E   | R   | A   |
| |   | T   | T   | A   | C   | K   |
| |   |     |     |     |     |     |
 -------------------------------------
```

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scytale

"Skytale". Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Commons - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Skytale.png#/media/File:Skytale.png

# 5. Substitution

- Caesar cipher
- Vigenère cipher



"Gaius Julius Caesar (100-44 BC)" by H. F. Helmolt (ed.): History of the World. New York, 1902 (University of Texas Library Portrait Gallery). Licensed under Public Domain via Commons - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gaius_Julius_Caesar_(100-44_BC).JPG#/media/File:Gaius_Julius_Caesar_(100-44_BC).JPG

"Vigenere" by Thomas de Leu - Woodcut Photograph. No date found.. Licensed under Public Domain via Commons - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Vigenere.jpg#/media/File:Vigenere.jpg

# 5.1 Caesar cipher (shift cipher)

- Replace each letter with the letter a fixed number of characters further on in the alphabet
  - Plaintext : `once upon a time`
  - Ciphertext : `RQFH XSRQ D WLPH`
- The key is the number of places in the alphabet that we need to move sideways
  - Given A = 0, B =1, … Z=25, then
  - $E_n(x) = (x+n) \bmod 26$
  - $D_n(x) = (x-n) \bmod 26$
- We always substitute the same ciphertext character for the same plaintext character
- This makes the system crackable using frequency analysis

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caesar_cipher

## 5.2 Frequency analysis

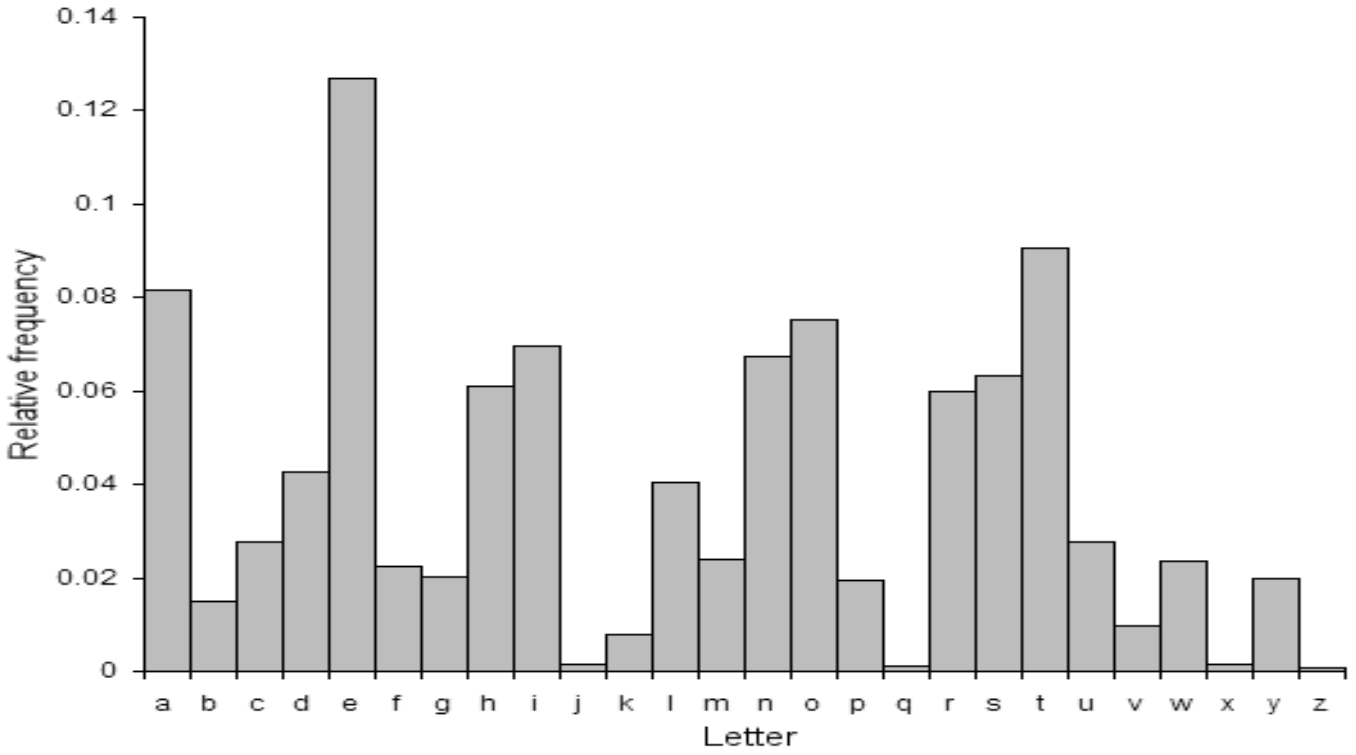
- Plain : `when does the plane leave?`
- Cipher: `ZKHQ GRHV WKH SODQH OHDYH?`

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **P** | 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 |
| | 2 | - | - | 1 | 6 | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 2 | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| **C** | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 1 | 6 | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 2 | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 |
| | 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 |

- How often does each letter occur in the plaintext and ciphertext?
- The pattern of frequencies is the same in both rows, except that those for the ciphertext have been displaced 3 characters to the right.
- So the key is 3

# 5.2 Frequency analysis (more generally)

- How often does each letter occur in standard English? The distribution is different for different languages.



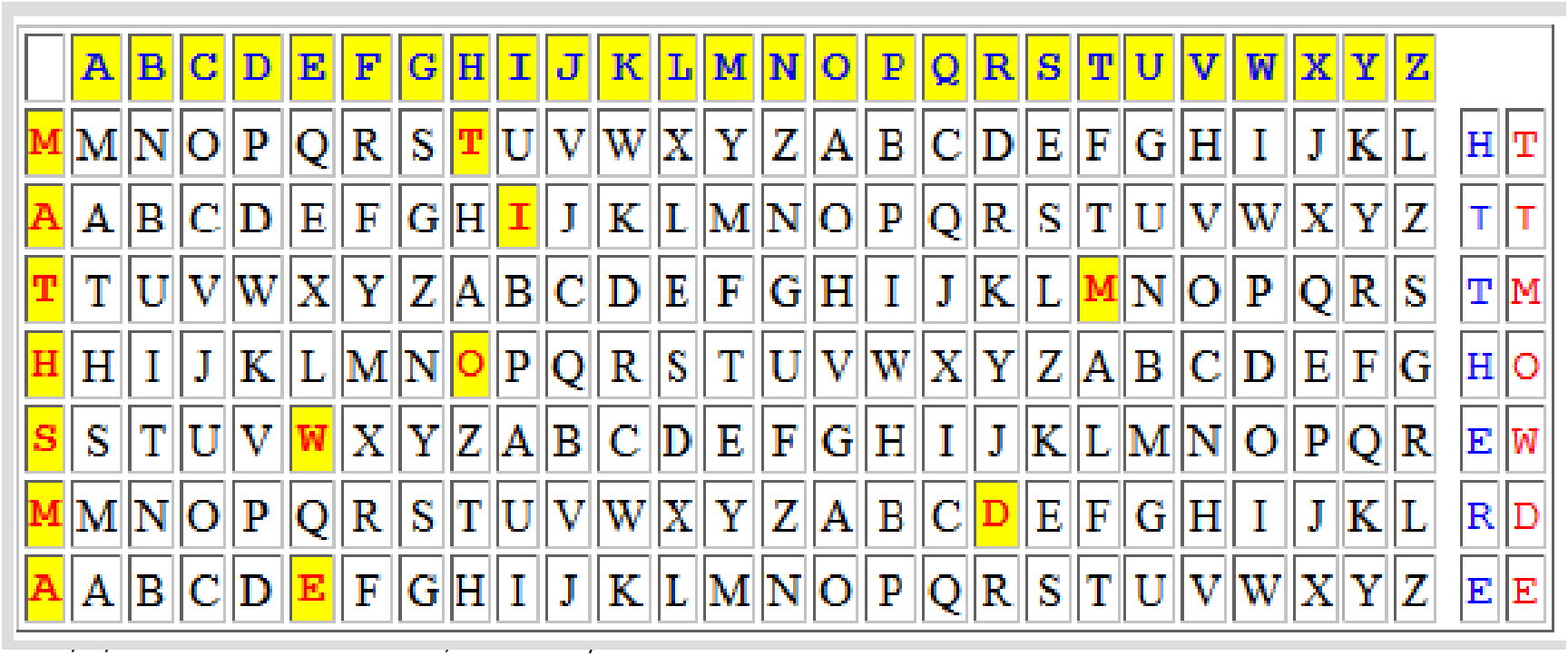

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frequency_analysis. "English letter frequency (alphabetic)" by Nandhp - Own work; en:Letter frequency.. Licensed under Public Domain via Commons - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:English_letter_frequency_(alphabetic).svg#/media/File:English_letter_frequency_(alphabetic).svg

# 5.3 Vigenère cipher

- Named after Blaise de Vigenère, who described a version in 1586
  - Actually due to Giovan Battista Bellaso (1553)
- Uses a series of different Caesar ciphers based on the letters of a keyword
- Use a Vigenere square
- Choose a keyword, e.g. MATHS

# 5.3 Vigenère cipher. Example: Hi there

- Keyword: `MATHSMA`
- Plain : `hithere`
- Cipher : `TTMOWDE`
- The first e becomes W, but the second becomes E. This stops the system being cracked by simple frequency analysis.



| | 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 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | 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 | H | T |
| A | 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 | T | T |
| T | 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 | T | M |
| H | 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 | H | O |
| S | 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 | E | W |
| M | 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 | R | D |
| A | 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 | E | E |

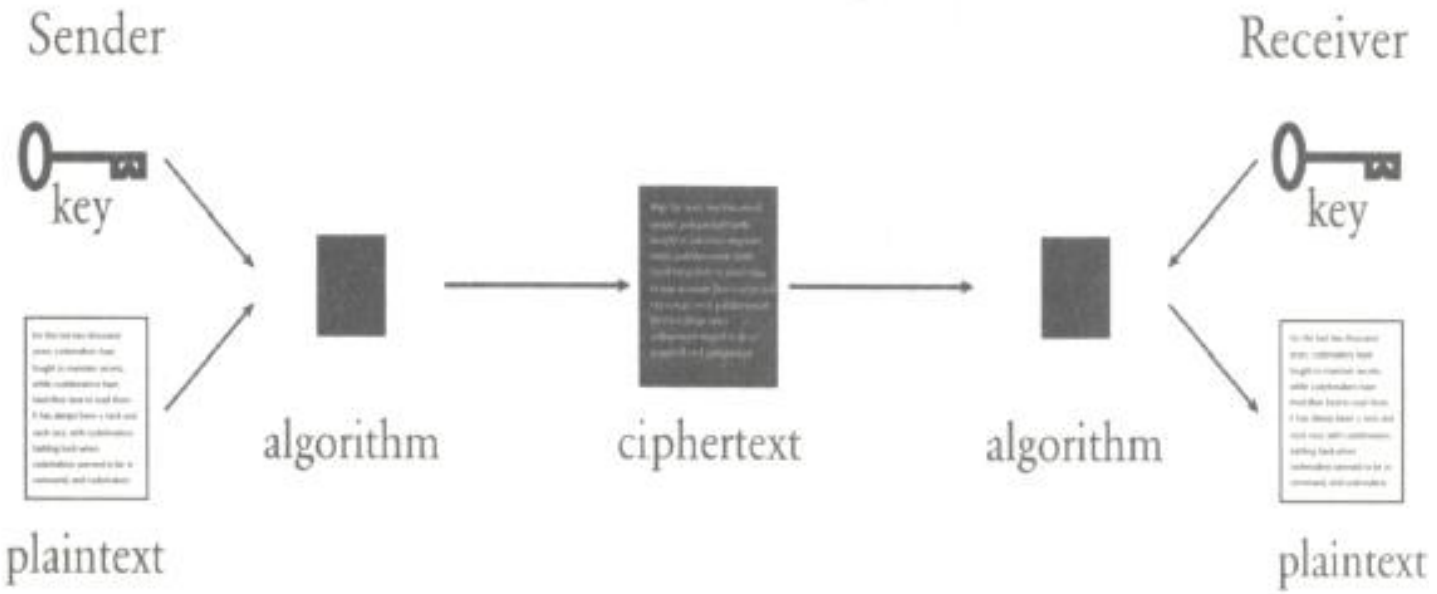
# 6. The CIA Kryptos sculpture

- Three of the messages have been decrypted. The fourth has not.

"Kryptos sculptor" by Jim Sanborn - Jim Sanborn. Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Commons - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kryptos_sculptor.jpg#/media/File:Kryptos_sculptor.jpg

# Summarising

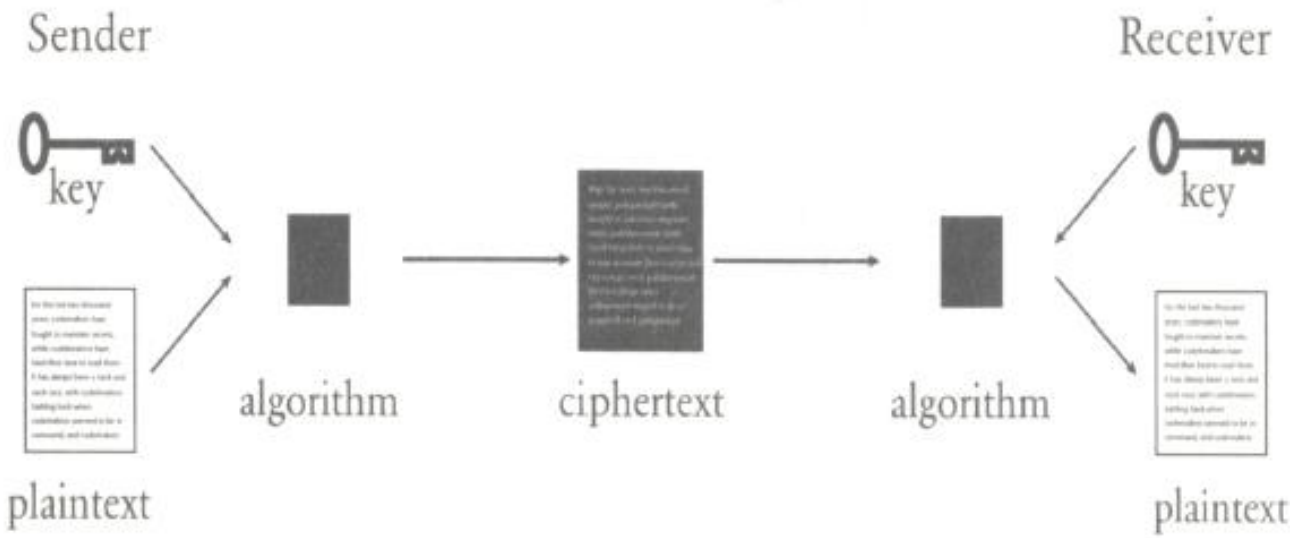
- In the process depicted below, the key must be kept secret
- The Caesar cipher is weak because there are only 25 keys




Picture from: Simon Singh. The Code Book – The Secret History of Codes and Codebreaking, Fourth Estate, 2000, p.11

# 7. Enter the computer

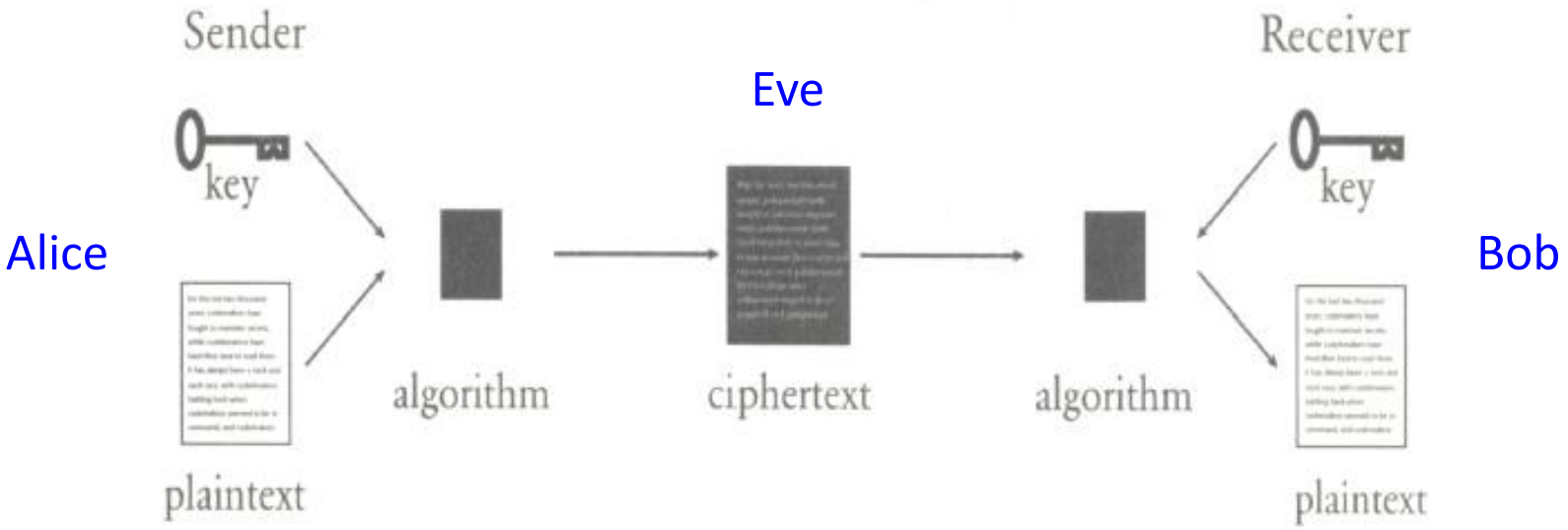
- When using a computer the message string is converted into binary before being communicated
- Companies communicating required standard
- 1976: DES – Data Encryption Standard. Complex algorithm.




Picture from: Simon Singh. The Code Book – The Secret History of Codes and Codebreaking, Fourth Estate, 2000, p.11

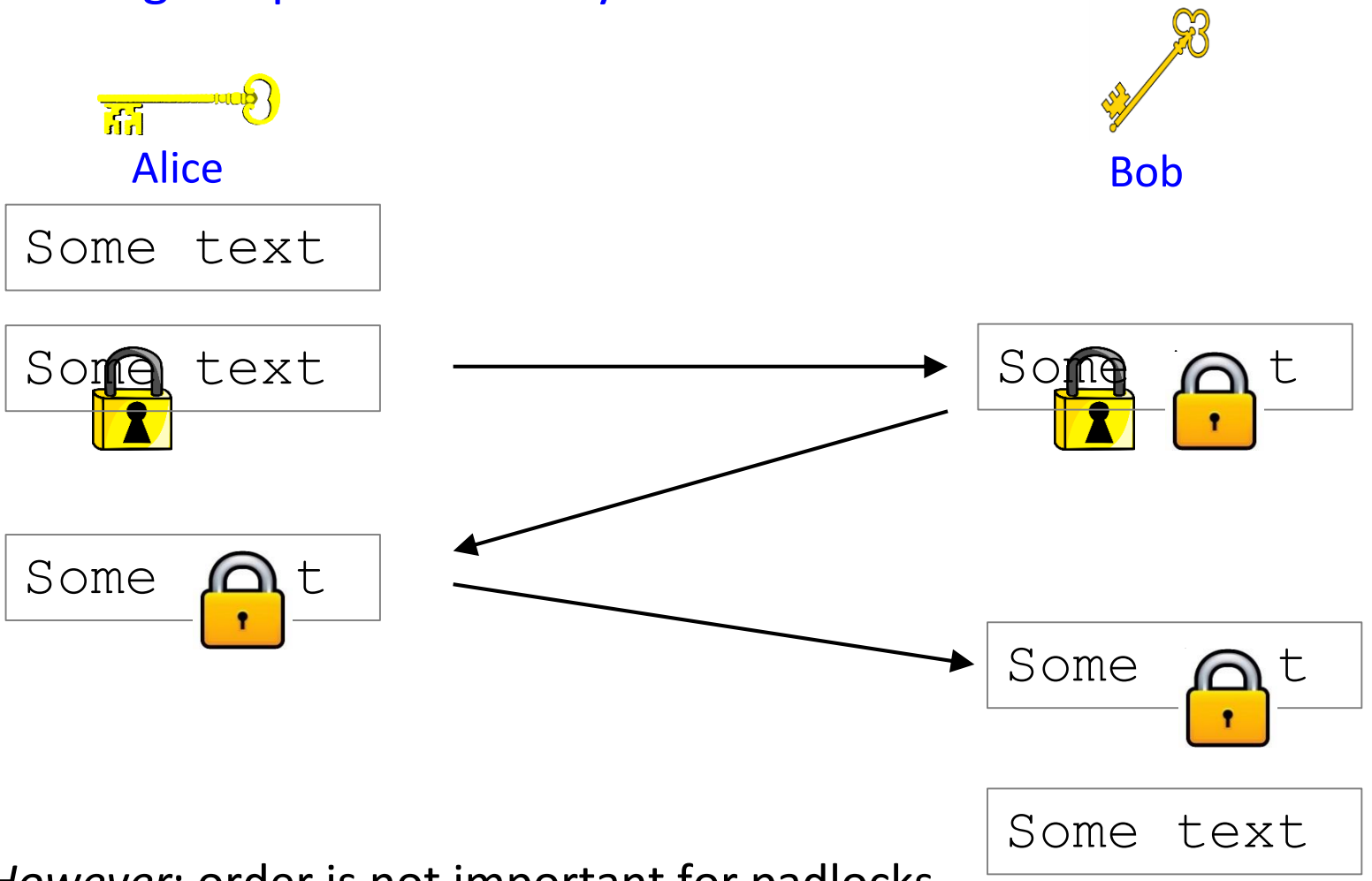
# 8. Private-key (symmetric) systems

- The key-distribution problem: The sender and receiver both know and use the same key. But how do they share the key in the first place? (If they have a secure channel for sending the key, why not use it for the message as well?)



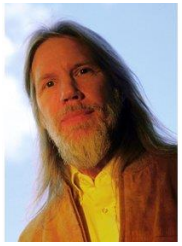

Picture from: Simon Singh. The Code Book – The Secret History of Codes and Codebreaking, Fourth Estate, 2000, p.11

# 8.1 Solving the problem of key distribution?




- *However*: order is not important for padlocks, but it is for computer algorithms

# 8.2 Whitfield Diffie and Martin Helman




- Instead of two-way function, e.g. doubling and halving
- Focus: one-way function
- Modular arithmetic (clock arithmetic)
- $2 + 3 = 5 \pmod 7$
- $2 + 6 = 1 \pmod 7$
- $6 * 5 = 2 \pmod 7$
- $3^x = 81$. What is x?
- $3^x \pmod 7 = 1$. What is x?

# 8.2 Diffie and Helman (1976)

- $Y^x$ (mod P)
- Alice and Bob agree on Y=7 and P=11 and contact each other with these details

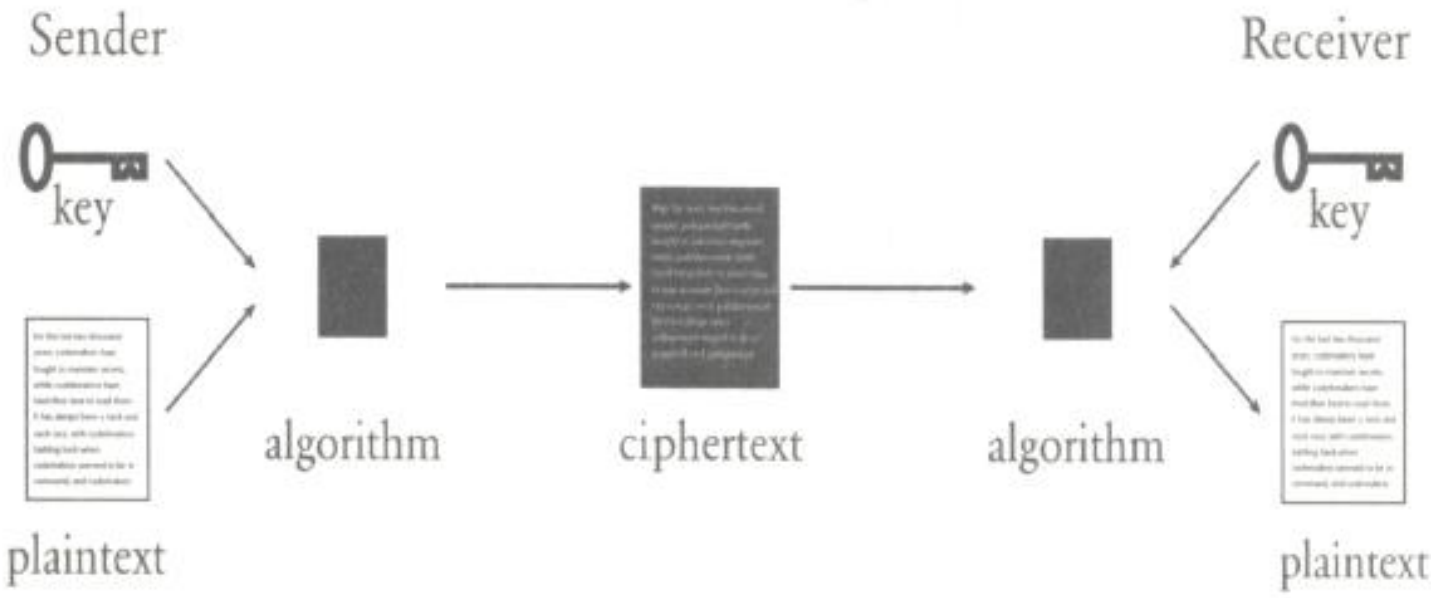
| Alice chooses A=3 (secret) | Bob choose B=6 (secret) |
|---|---|
| $\alpha = 7^A \pmod{11} = 2$ | $\beta = 7^B \pmod{11} = 4$ |
| Send α to Bob | Send β to Alice |
| Doesn't matter if Eve intercepts the numbers | |
| Alice calculates key<br>$\beta^A \pmod{11} = 9$ | Bob calculates key<br>$\alpha^B \pmod{11} = 9$ |

- The process (which would use much larger numbers) produces a key that can be used in, say, a DES process.

Picture from: Simon Singh. The Code Book – The Secret History of Codes and Codebreaking, Fourth Estate, 2000, p.265

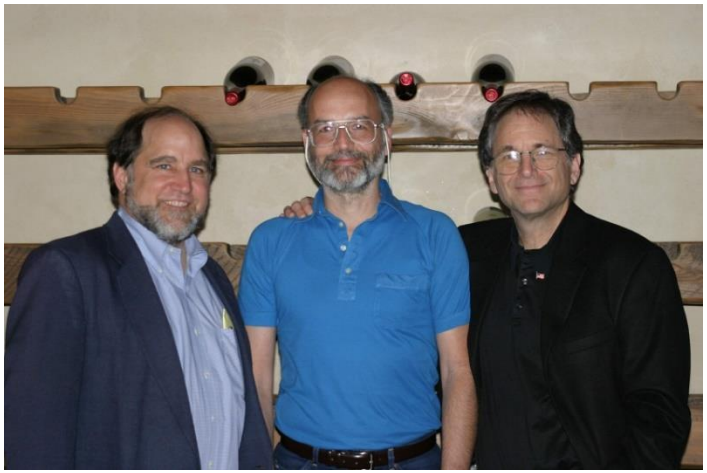
# 9. Public-key (asymmetric systems)

- The sender and receiver use different keys.
- Having one key doesn't provide enough information to deduce the other.




Picture from: Simon Singh. The Code Book – The Secret History of Codes and Codebreaking, Fourth Estate, 2000

# 9.1 The RSA cryptosystem (1977)



- Ron Rivest, Adi Shamir, Len Adleman
- The encryption key is public
- The decryption key is secret

- Alice uses Bob's public key to encrypt the message
- Alice sends encrypted message to Bob
- Bob uses his private key to decrypt the message

- Involves choosing two large prime numbers p and q and computing n=p*q. The larger the primes, the better.
- A 'one-way' function that is reversible if p and q are known.

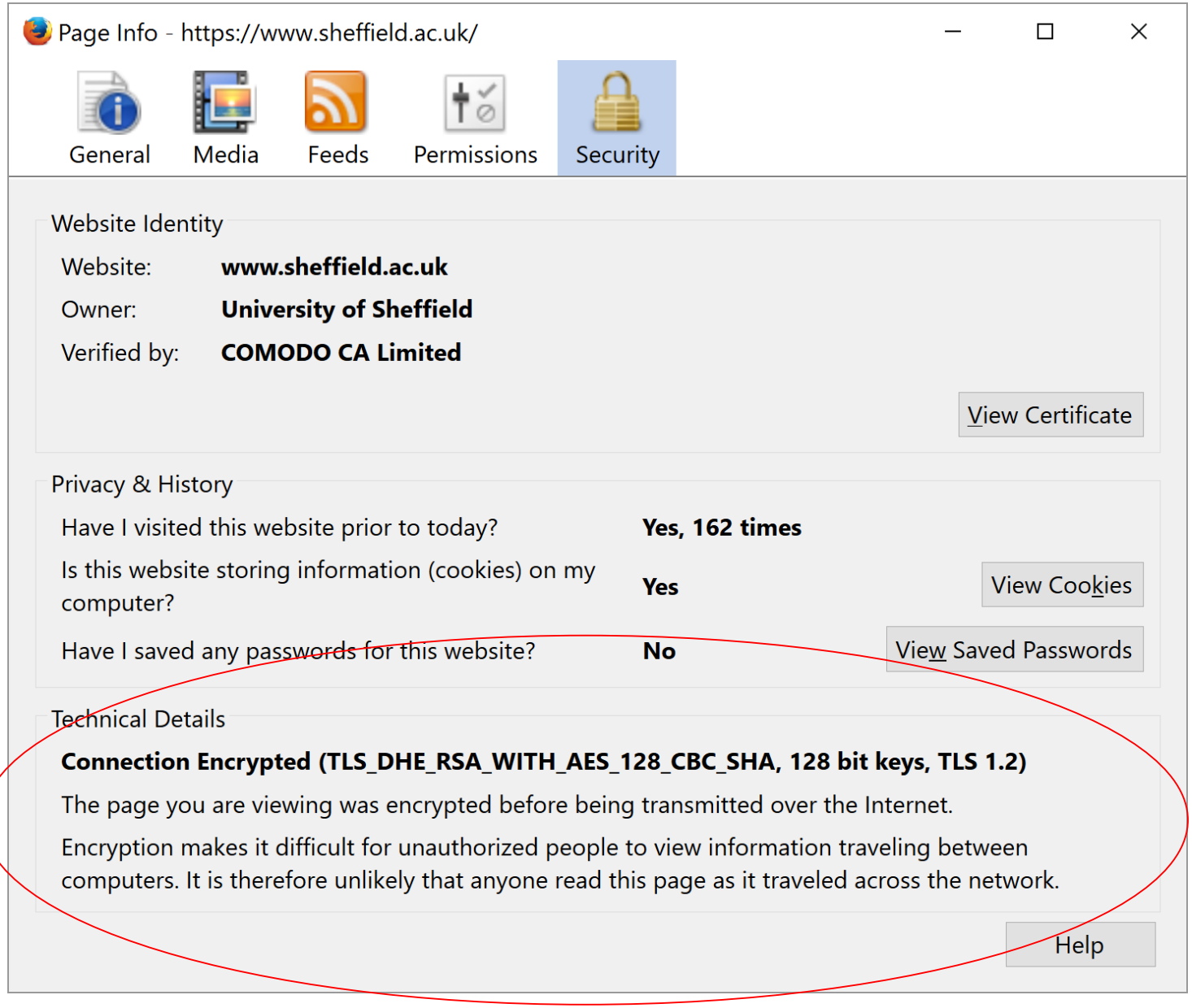
http://www.usc.edu/dept/molecular-science/RSA-2003.htm

# 10. The alternative history

- GCHQ, 1969, James Ellis has similar ideas to Diffie and Hellman
- (Government Communications Headquarters)

- GCHQ, 1973, Clifford Cocks developed encryption algorithm, later independently rediscovered as RSA
- Cocks's work remained secret until 1997

Clifford Cocks in 2015



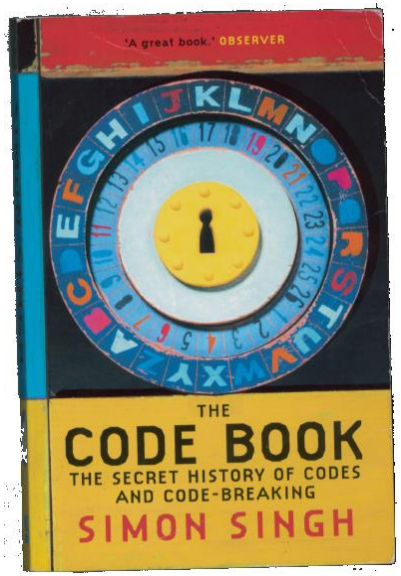
# Ongoing security discussions…


The worldwide heat map from the NSA's data visualisation tool BOUNDLESSINFORMANT, showing that during a 30-day period, 97 billion internet data records (DNI) and 124 billion telephony data records (DNR) were collected.

"Boundless-heatmap-large-0001" by Iamthechitt - Own work. Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Commons - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Boundless-heatmap-large-0001.png#/media/File:Boundless-heatmap-large-0001.png

# 11. Summary

- Cryptology has a long history
- There are many systems still waiting to be cracked
- Significant changes have occurred since the 1970s
- Systems can be cracked even if they have a reputation for being secure



# Exercise: Cracking the Vigenère cipher

- How might we decrypt the following message? The original is in English, a Vigenère cipher has been used, and the punctuation has conveniently been left visible.

```
ALPCS'Z RZ YSLH EZ ZPKSE O UMRSH SMRSH
VR L WWNLE YWNLE WWRI EZBPKSE,
TVV L YWNLE WWNLE'D PBX L DZPKSE ZPKSE
CU E WTUOX YTUOX WTYL XZYWNLE.
```

# Module summary

- The ‘InterWeb’ – the Internet, the WWW
- Networks and protocols
- Web site development
  - Responsive web design, accessibility
- Front-end: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, jQuery
- Graphics on the Canvas, SVG
- Information security
  - Information, goals: CIA, practicalities, e.g. XSS, e-commerce, legal aspects, cryptography

- Hope you have enjoyed the module!!