Final Project Proposal:

Classic Encrypting Machine

by **Carlos Rubio** and **Stephanie Gregory**

*CS2810-002: Introduction to Computer Architecture*

**Dr. L. Roy Thackeray**

# Introduction

This document contains a formal proposal for the final project of the CS2810-002 class by Dr. L. Roy Thackeray. During the course of the semester, we’ve been learning the principles of computer architecture and how are the instructions given by the users processed and stored. The purpose of the final project is to apply the gained knowledge into a program written for LC3 ISA and demonstrate mastery over the concepts of project design, ISA, Assembly Language, and so forth.

# Project Description

**This proposal is for a program that can generate an encrypted message according to certain parameters**, such as the type of classical encrypting and, of course, the message. Some of the types of encrypting system that will be supported include Caesar’s Cipher, ROT13, Atbash and Vigenere. **The program will consist of a main loop in which the user can input some basic parameters, and then one of the many subroutines will start, returning and exporting an encrypted message.**

# Background and Problem Statement

I’ve always been akin to cryptography: I find it’s systems fascinating, and a very engaging puzzle to work with. In these days, with the raise of Cybersecurity, understanding and deploying methods of encrypting data is ever more important. This project will suppose a first step for me in understanding this systems better.

# Applications

This project is done mainly for academic interests, and its source code will be written in the hypothetical with LC3’s ISA in mind. Therefore, *there are not real expected applications*. However, if given the possibility, **this system could be used to protect messages over the internet as well as within the equipment.** As stated before, this is very crucial in a time where data privacy and security is important and cyberattacks happen often and might endanger others.

# Project Goals

* Understand the principles of computer architecture.
* Study and comprehend the LC3 ISA.
* Write a complete program in Assembly Language.
* Master project planification and design, using tools such as flowcharts and pseudocode.
* Understand classic encryption codes.
* **Create a versatile encrypting program.**

# Time Line

* Proposal: **March 8th, 2024**
* Design Document: **March 25th, 2024**
* Program Submission: **April 23rd, 2024**