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## Caesar's cryptosystem



Interception and cryptanalysis



Who notices the peculiarities here?
Source: Slides Hans van der Meer

## Caesar decryption

- Caesar decryption works by turning around the encryption process

$$
\begin{array}{|l}
\hline \text { DEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABC } \\
\text { abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz }
\end{array}
$$

Figure 3: Encryption turned around (backward rotation by 3 places)

## ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ xyzabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvw

Figure 4: The same decryption reordered

## Caesar encryption

- Caesar encryption is a forward ${ }^{1}$ rotation of the alphabet by 3 places

$$
\begin{array}{|l|}
\hline \text { abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz } \\
\text { DEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABC }
\end{array}
$$

Figure 1: Rotation by 3 positions

- An example encryption

> | an example encryption |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| DQ | HADPSOH |

Figure 2: Encryption of "an example encryption"

[^0]Encoding (numbering) the alphabet

\section*{|  | 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 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| modern | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | | modern | 0 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 24 | 25 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| legacy | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |}

- Modern mathematics starts counting at 0
- The legacy variant, starting at 1 , is equivalent to ordering the alphabet as zabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy
- This is because, when rotating the alphabet, we consider $26=0$


## Clock arithmetic

$24=0$ (or maybe $12=0$ )

- $\mathbb{Z}_{24}=\mathbb{Z} / 24 \mathbb{Z}=\{0,1,2, \ldots, 23\}$
- $23+1 \equiv 24 \equiv 0(\bmod 24)$

Definition $(n \in \mathbb{N}, n>1, a, b \in \mathbb{Z})$
$a \equiv b(\bmod n) \Longleftrightarrow n \mid(a-b) \Longleftrightarrow \exists k \in \mathbb{Z}(k \cdot n=(a-b))$
Theorem
". $\equiv$. $(\bmod n)$ " is an equivalence relation on $\mathbb{Z}$, in fact a congruence.
$\mathbb{Z}_{n}=\mathbb{Z} / n \mathbb{Z}=\{0,1, \ldots, n-1\}$ is the set of integers modulo $n$, using the standard representatives for the equivalence classes.

Corollary
Addition and multiplication can be performed $(\bmod n)$ as usual.

## Clock arithmetic

Examples

$$
\begin{gathered}
22+5 \equiv 3 \quad(\bmod 24) \\
22 \cdot 5 \equiv 110 \equiv 14 \quad(\bmod 24) \\
-2 \cdot 5 \equiv-10 \equiv 14 \quad(\bmod 24) \\
2 \cdot 12 \equiv 24 \equiv 0 \quad(\bmod 24) \\
2 \not \equiv 0 \quad(\bmod 24) \\
12 \not \equiv 0 \quad(\bmod 24)
\end{gathered}
$$

$\mathbb{Z}_{24}$ has divisors of zero or zero divisors,
which is considered an unwanted property in general.

## Clock arithmetic

Convention

## $(\bmod n)$ as a function

The function application $a(\bmod n)$ means the unique $b$ such that $0 \leq b<n$ and $a \equiv b(\bmod n)$, as a relation.

- The use of $(\bmod n)$ both as a binary relation as well as a function can be confusing

$$
\begin{gathered}
(a(\bmod n) \equiv a)(\bmod n) \\
a(\bmod n)=(a(\bmod n))
\end{gathered}
$$

## Who's afraid of zero?

or the AM/PM mess

- Splitting up 24 hours as $2 \cdot 12$ hours the sensible way
- 0:00 AM (midnight), 1:00 AM, ..., 11:59 AM
- 0:00 PM (midday, noon), 1:00 PM, ..., 11:59 PM
- In Japan 00:00 AM (==12:00 PM?) is midnight and 12:00 AM (==00:00 PM) is noon
- Splitting up 24 hours as $2 \cdot 12$ hours the confusing way
- 12:00 AM (midnight), 12:59 AM, 1:00 AM, ..., 11:59 AM
- 12:00 PM (midday, noon), 12:59 PM, 1:00 PM, ..., 11:59 PM
- $12 \equiv 0(\bmod 12)$, but $12 \not \equiv 0(\bmod 24)$, hence using 12 hours here is confusing


## Caesar mathematically

Caesar encryption and decryption

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\mathcal{E}(p)=(p+3) & (\bmod 26)  \tag{1}\\
\mathcal{D}(c)=(c-3) & (\bmod 26)
\end{array}
$$

- This works exactly the same with modern and legacy encoding
- Encryption and decryption are keyless
- Algorithm must be kept secret


## Caesar brute force decrypting "VLONY ZILWY"

| vlony zilwy <br> uknmx yhkvx | mcfep qzanp <br> lbedo pybmo | dtwvg hqteg <br> csvuf gpsdf |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| tjmlw xgjuw | kadcn oxaln | brute force brute force |
| silkv wfitv | jzcbm nwzkm | aqtsd enqbd |
| rhkju vehsu | iybal mvyjl | zpsrc dmpac |
| qgjit udgrt | hxazk luxik | yorqb clozb |
| pfihs tcfqs | gwzyj ktwhj | xnqpa bknya |
| oehgr sbepr | fvyxi jsvgi | wmpoz ajmxz |
| ndgfq radoq | euxwh irufh |  |

## Caesar variants with a key

Let $k$ be a key, where $0 \leq k<26$. (What happens if $k=0$ ?)
Caesar encryption and decryption with key $k$

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\mathcal{E}_{k}(p)=(p+k) & (\bmod 26) \\
\mathcal{D}_{k}(c)=(c-k) & (\bmod 26) \tag{4}
\end{array}
$$

- Even if the algorithm is known the key protects the encryption
- Since the key space is very small a brute force search is doable
- We call this a shift cipher or an additive cipher


## Monoalphabetic substitution

Definition
A monoalphabetic substitution is the systematic replacement
of letters by other letters in a one-to-one way.
Example monoalphabetic encryption and decryption

| $\begin{array}{l}\text { abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz } \\ \text { DJEHKVNIOLARUQXPYWGTCSMFZB }\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{l}\text { ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ } \\ \text { kzuacxsdhbejwgipnlvtmfroqy }\end{array}$ |
| :--- | :--- |

This example was generated using a Nomcom procedure with pool size 26 on input " $12 \ldots 16$ " ${ }^{2}$
adhrf sid qinvjx ih xdnajixjhad vFH Yinevj ydzevjhi pro J tidpux J YE PDVEHJ JTTE DNAJ HFVWD DTTJ
DN YIO QFHEAJ O NEYLJAEVJ DNLDXF WJVDXIHJ EYLXDNEFH QIDHJ

1. 1-letter word $\mathbf{a}, \mathrm{y}$ or sometimes o
2. 2-letter word u. usually un
3. 3-letter word ..e usually que
4. 4-letter pattern $A B B C$ usually alli or ella
5. Doubled starting letter mostly I as in Ilegar, Ilevar, Ileno, Iluvia

Generating a monoalphabetic substitution using decimation abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
EJOTYDINSXCHMRWBGLQVAFKPUZ

Figure 7: Encryption using a multiplicative cipher (legacy)

## abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz <br> AFKPUZEJOTYDINSXCHMRWBGLOV

Figure 8: Encryption using a multiplicative cipher (modern)

- A multiplicative cipher is also called a decimation


## Generating a monoalphabetic substitution from a keyword

## abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz <br> KEYWORDABCFGHI J LMNPQSTUVXZ

Figure 5: Using "KEYWORD" as the keyword

## abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz REPATDLSBCFGHI J KMNOQUVWXYZ

Figure 6: Using "REPEATED LETTERS" as the keyword/keyphrase

Figure 9: Decryption of the multiplicative cipher (legacy)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { ABCDEFGHI JKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ } \\
& \text { avqlgbwrmhcxsnidytojezupkf }
\end{aligned}
$$

Figure 10: Decryption of the multiplicative cipher (modern)

- The encryption factor was 5 . What is the decryption factor?


## Mathematical description of decimation

Multiplicative encryption and decryption

$$
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{E}_{e}(p) & =e p \quad(\bmod 26)  \tag{5}\\
\mathcal{D}_{d}(c) & =d c \quad(\bmod 26)
\end{align*}
$$

(6)

- There is now a difference between modern and legacy encoding
- Modern encoding works best for programming
- $d$ is the multiplicative inverse ${ }^{3}$ of $e$


## ${ }^{3}$ Does this always exist?

## Greatest common divisor

An example of Euclid's algorithm
We want to find the gcd (greatest common divisor) of 49 and 35:
Euclid's reduction

$$
\begin{gathered}
49=1 \cdot 35+14 \Longrightarrow \operatorname{gcd}(49,35)=\operatorname{gcd}(35,14) \\
35=2 \cdot 14+7 \Longrightarrow \operatorname{gcd}(35,14)=\operatorname{gcd}(14,7) \\
14=2 \cdot 7+0 \Longrightarrow \operatorname{gcd}(14,7)=\operatorname{gcd}(7,0)=7
\end{gathered}
$$

Euclid's reversal

$$
\begin{aligned}
7=35 & -2 \cdot 14 \\
\wedge & \wedge 14=49-1 \cdot 35 \\
7 & =35-2 \cdot(49-1 \cdot 35) \\
& =-2 \cdot 49+3 \cdot 35
\end{aligned}
$$

## Euclid

$$
\varepsilon V C L I D E \text { ©rargareaxc }
$$



Source: https://cdpn.io/dloader/fullpage/BwvLBB

## Greatest common divisor

Euclid's algorithm
Theorem
For all $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ we can (effectively) find $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$
\operatorname{gcd}(a, b)=p \cdot a+q \cdot b
$$

Finding $p$ and $q$ can be done using Euclid's algorithm and reversal.
Definition
$a$ and $b$ are called relatively prime iff $\operatorname{gcd}(a, b)=1$.
Theorem
If $a$ and $b$ are relatively prime (the extended) Euclid's algorithm calculates $p$ and $q$ such that

$$
p \cdot a+q \cdot b=1
$$

## Application to decimation

In our example we had $e=5$ and we want to find its inverse $d$ modulo 26 .
Calculation of inverse of 5 modulo 26

$$
26=5 \cdot 5+1 \Longrightarrow 1 \cdot 26+(-5) \cdot 5=1
$$

So the inverse of 5 modulo 26 is -5 (or 21).

- This explains why the decryption described earlier is indeed just a decimation with factor 21
- A decimation's inverse is another decimation, just with a different multiplication factor.

What happens if $e$ and 26 are not relatively prime?

## Legacy and modern encoding for affine ciphers

- Suppose we have affine cipher $\mathcal{E}_{e, k}(p)=e p+k(\bmod 26)$
- Let $d$ be the multiplicative inverse of $e(\bmod 26)$
- For a given character $C$ and shift amount $n$
- Let $C+n$ be the result of a shift cipher encryption of character $C$ with shift $n$
- Let $L(C)$ be the result of the affine encryption using $\mathcal{E}_{e, k}$ of $C$ in legacy encoding
- Let $M(C)$ be the result of the affine encryption using $\mathcal{E}_{e, k}$ of $C$ in modern encoding
- Then we can deduce the following relationships
- $L(C)=M(C+1)-1$ for all $C$
- $L(C)=M(C)+(e-1)$ for all $C$
- $L(C)=M(C+(1-d))$ for all $C$


## Combining multiple ciphers

- Combining two shift ciphers with key $k_{1}$ and $k_{2}$
- Result is shift cipher with key $k_{1}+k_{2}=k_{2}+k_{1}$
- Combining two decimations with key $e_{1}$ and $e_{2}$
- Result is decimation with key $e_{2} e_{1}=e_{1} e_{2}$
- Combining a decimation with key $e$ and a shift with key $k$
- First decimate, then shift gives the affine cipher
defined by $\mathcal{E}_{e, k}(p)=e p+k(\bmod 26)$
- First shift, then decimate gives the cipher defined by $\mathcal{E}^{\prime}{ }_{e, k}(p)=e(p+k)(\bmod 26)$ or $\mathcal{E}^{\prime}{ }_{e, k}(p)=e p+e k=\mathcal{E}_{e, e k}(\bmod 26)$, just another affine cipher


## Extending the "alphabet"

- Until now substitutions are monographic
- One letter of the alphabet is replaced with just one other letter
- What happens if we "extend the alphabet" (make it polygraphic)?
- For instance replace a combination of two letters of the alphabet by another combination of two letters (hence using digraphs)
- Effectively this extends our alphabet from 26 to $26 \cdot 26=676$ "letters" (or symbols, atoms, literals, ...)
- The number of possible (monoalphabetic) substitutions increases from $26!=403291461126605635584000000$
to $676!\approx 1.8837 \cdot 10^{1621}$

Giovanni Battista della Porta's digraph encryption (better variant)


Playfair square with keyword (Charles Wheatstone, 1854)

Figure 11: Playfair square (keyword STRANDBAL)


## An example digraph substitution



Playfair and Wheatstone


Lord Lyon Playfair


Charles Wheatstone

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lyon_Playfair, 1st Baron_Playfair


Figure 12: Playfair encryption $(\mathrm{OC} \rightarrow \mathrm{QB} ; \mathrm{FI} \rightarrow \mathrm{GK} ; \mathrm{HX} \rightarrow \mathrm{PR})$

- Treatment of pairs consisting of the same letter pattern "ss" - Replace ss by $s X s$ and recreate pairs, if $s$ is not $X$
- Replace XX by XQX and recreate pairs
- Treatment of single final letter " f "
- Replace $f$ by $f X$, if $f$ is not $X$
- Replace X by XQ
- An alternative would have been to use diagonals
- How?

sowre ittps://en.wipeai.ong/wiki/Lester_s._Hill
- Based on linear algebra
- Considers polygraphs as vectors
- An affine cipher built from
- An (invertible) matrix
- A translation vector
- All modulo the size of the base alphabet

$$
\left(\begin{array}{ll}
3 & 5 \\
6 & 1
\end{array}\right)\binom{10}{1}+\binom{-1}{1}=\binom{8}{10} \quad(\bmod 26)
$$

## Decrypting the Hill cipher uses inverse matrix

- Encryption

$$
\mathcal{E}\left(p_{1}, p_{2}\right)=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
3 & 5 \\
6 & 1
\end{array}\right)\binom{p_{1}}{p_{2}}+\binom{-1}{1} \quad(\bmod 26)
$$

- Decryption

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{D}\left(c_{1}, c_{2}\right) & =\left(\begin{array}{cc}
-1 & 5 \\
6 & -3
\end{array}\right)\left[\binom{c_{1}}{c_{2}}+\binom{1}{-1}\right] \quad(\bmod 26) \\
& =\left(\begin{array}{cc}
-1 & 5 \\
6 & -3
\end{array}\right)\binom{c_{1}}{c_{2}}+\binom{-6}{9}(\bmod 26)
\end{aligned}
$$


[^0]:    'although, historically, Suetonius calls it backward

