# Classical Cryptography

Basics: monoalphabetic substitution

#### Karst Koymans

Informatics Institute University of Amsterdam (version 22.4, 2023/02/06 11:06:14 UTC)

Friday, February 10, 2023

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## Caesar wants to hide his plans





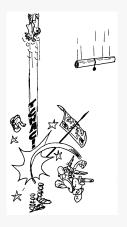
Source: Slides Hans van der Meer

## Caesar's cryptosystem



Source: Slides Hans van der Meer

## Interception and cryptanalysis





Who notices the peculiarities here?

Source: Slides Hans van der Meer

## Caesar encryption

► Caesar encryption is a forward<sup>1</sup> rotation of the alphabet by 3 places

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz DEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABC

Figure 1: Rotation by 3 positions

► An example encryption

an example encryption DQ HADPSOH HQFUBSWLRQ

Figure 2: Encryption of "an example encryption"

# Caesar decryption

► Caesar decryption works by turning around the encryption process

DEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABC abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

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

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ xyzabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvw

Figure 4: The same decryption reordered

# Encoding (numbering) the alphabet

	a	b	с	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	I	m	n	0	р	q	r	S	t	u	V	w	х	У	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
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
- $\,\blacktriangleright\,$  This is because, when rotating the alphabet, we consider 26=0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>although, historically, Suetonius calls it backward

#### Clock arithmetic

24 = 0 (or maybe 12 = 0)

- $ightharpoonup \mathbb{Z}_{24} = \mathbb{Z}/24\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 23\}$
- $23 + 1 \equiv 24 \equiv 0 \pmod{24}$

### Definition $(n \in \mathbb{N}, n > 1, a, b \in \mathbb{Z})$

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n} \iff n \mid (a-b) \iff \exists k \in \mathbb{Z}(k \cdot n = (a-b))$$

#### Theorem

".  $\equiv$  . (mod n)" is an equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{Z}$ , in fact a congruence.  $\mathbb{Z}_n = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$  is the set of integers modulo n, using the standard representatives for the equivalence classes.

#### Corollary

Addition and multiplication can be performed  $\pmod{n}$  as usual.

#### Clock arithmetic

Convention

#### $\pmod{n}$ as a function

The function application  $a \pmod{n}$  means the unique b such that  $0 \le b < n$  and  $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ , as a relation.

► The use of (mod n) both as a binary relation as well as a function can be confusing:

$$(a \pmod{n} \equiv a) \pmod{n}$$

$$a \pmod{n} = (a \pmod{n})$$

#### Clock arithmetic

#### Examples

$$22 + 5 \equiv 3 \pmod{24}$$

$$22 \cdot 5 \equiv 110 \equiv 14 \pmod{24}$$

$$-2 \cdot 5 \equiv -10 \equiv 14 \pmod{24}$$

$$2 \cdot 12 \equiv 24 \equiv 0 \pmod{24}$$

$$2 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{24}$$

$$12 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{24}$$

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

#### 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
  - ▶  $12 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ , but  $12 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{24}$ , hence using 12 hours here is confusing

## Caesar mathematically

### Caesar encryption and decryption

$$\mathcal{E}(p) = (p+3) \pmod{26} \tag{1}$$

$$\mathcal{D}(c) = (c-3) \pmod{26}$$

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

## Caesar variants with a key

Let *k* be a key, where  $0 \le k < 26$ . (What happens if k = 0?)

Caesar encryption and decryption with key k

$$\mathcal{E}_k(p) = (p+k) \pmod{26} \tag{3}$$

$$\mathcal{D}_k(c) = (c - k) \pmod{26} \tag{4}$$

- ▶ 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**

## Caesar brute force decrypting "VLONY ZILWY"

vlony zilwy mcfep gzcnp uknmx yhkvx lbedo pybmo tjmlw xgjuw kaden oxaln silkv wfitv jzcbm nwzkm rhkju vehsu iybal mvyjl qgjit udgrt hxazk luxik pfihs tcfqs gwzyj ktwhj oehgr sbepr fvyxi jsvgi ndgfq radoq euxwh irufh

dtwvg hqteg
csvuf gpsdf
brute force brute force
aqtsd enqbd
zpsrc dmpac
yorqb clozb
xnqpa bknya
wmpoz ajmxz

# 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

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz DJEHKVNIOLARUQXPYWGTCSMFZB ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ kzuacxsdhbejwgipnlvtmfroqy

This example was generated using a Nomcom procedure with pool size 26 on input "1 2 ... 16"<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>see RFC 3797

## Intermezzo: a real example (Spanish)

ADHRF SID QINVJX IH XDNAJIXJHAD VFH YINEVJ YDZEVJHJ PFO J TTDPJX J YE PDVEHJ JTTE DNAJ HFVWD DTTJ DN YIO QFHEAJ O NEYLJAEVJ DNLDXF WIVDXIHI FYLXDWFFH OIDHI

- 1. 1-letter word a, y or sometimes o
- 2. 2-letter word u. usually un
- 3. 3-letter word ..e usually que
- 4. 4-letter pattern ABBC usually alli or ella
- 5. Doubled starting letter mostly I as in Ilegar, Ilevar, Ileno, Iluvia

## Generating a monoalphabetic substitution from a keyword

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz KEYWORDABCFGHIJLMNPQSTUVXZ

Figure 5: Using "KEYWORD" as the keyword

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz REPATDLSBCFGHIJKMNOQUVWXYZ

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

# Generating a monoalphabetic substitution using decimation

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz EJOTYDINSXCHMRWBGLQVAFKPUZ

Figure 7: Encryption using a multiplicative cipher (legacy)

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz AFKPUZEJOTYDINSXCHMRWBGLQV

Figure 8: Encryption using a multiplicative cipher (modern)

► A multiplicative cipher is also called a **decimation** 

# Decryption of these multiplicative ciphers

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ upkfavqlgbwrmhcxsnidytojez

Figure 9: Decryption of the **multiplicative cipher** (legacy)

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ avqlgbwrmhcxsnidytojezupkf

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

$$\mathcal{E}_{e}(p) = ep \pmod{26} \tag{5}$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{\mathbf{d}}(c) = \frac{\mathbf{d}c}{\mathbf{d}c} \pmod{26} \tag{6}$$

- ▶ There is now a difference between modern and legacy encoding
- ► Modern encoding works best for programming
- ightharpoonup d is the **multiplicative inverse**<sup>3</sup> of e

#### 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

$$49 = 1 \cdot 35 + 14 \implies \gcd(49, 35) = \gcd(35, 14)$$

$$35 = 2 \cdot 14 + 7 \implies \gcd(35, 14) = \gcd(14, 7)$$

$$14 = 2 \cdot 7 + 0 \implies \gcd(14,7) = \gcd(7,0) = 7$$

Euclid's reversal

$$7 = 35 - 2 \cdot 14 \quad \land \quad 14 = 49 - 1 \cdot 35$$

$$7 = 35 - 2 \cdot (49 - 1 \cdot 35)$$
$$= -2 \cdot 49 + 3 \cdot 35$$

#### Euclid

EVCLIDE MARGAREAN. Chap. 24.



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

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

Finding p and q can be done using Euclid's algorithm and reversal.

#### Definition

*a* and *b* are called **relatively prime** iff gcd(a, b) = 1.

#### Theoren

If a and b are relatively prime (the extended) Euclid's algorithm calculates p and q such that

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Does this always exist?

## 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

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

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  $\mathcal{E}_{e,k}(p) = ep + k \pmod{26}$
- ► Let *d* be the multiplicative inverse of *e* (mod 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

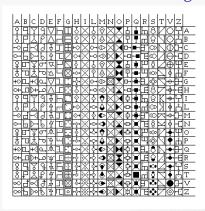
## Combining multiple ciphers

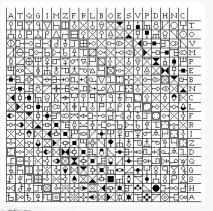
- $\triangleright$  Combining two shift ciphers with key  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ 
  - Result is shift cipher with key  $k_1 + k_2 = k_2 + k_1$
- $\triangleright$  Combining two decimations with key  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ 
  - Result is decimation with key  $e_2e_1 = e_1e_2$
- Combining a decimation with key e and a shift with key k
  - First decimate, then shift gives the affine cipher defined by  $\mathcal{E}_{e,k}(p) = ep + k \pmod{26}$
  - ▶ First shift, then decimate gives the cipher defined by  $\mathcal{E}'_{e,k}(p) = e(p+k) \pmod{26}$  or  $\mathcal{E}'_{e,k}(p) = ep + ek = \mathcal{E}_{e,ek} \pmod{26}$ , 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)

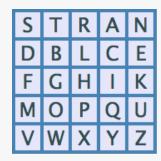


Figure 11: Playfair square (keyword STRANDBAL)

Source: Slides Hans van der Meer

## An example digraph substitution

Source: Slides Hans van der Meer

(Can you spot anomalies?)

# Playfair and Wheatstone



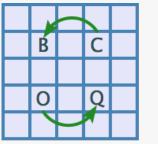
Lord Lyon Playfair

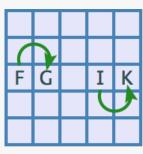


Charles Wheatstone

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lyon\_Playfair,\_1st\_Baron\_Playfair

## Playfair (row based) substitutions





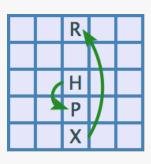


Figure 12: Playfair encryption (OC $\rightarrow$ QB; FI $\rightarrow$ GK; HX $\rightarrow$ PR)

Source: Slides Hans van der Meer

### Lester S. Hill



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lester\_S.\_Hill

## Playfair repeated letters and final single letter

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

# The (affine) Hill cipher

- ► 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

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 6 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{26}$$

# Decrypting the Hill cipher uses inverse matrix

► Encryption

$$\mathcal{E}(p_1, p_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 6 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{26}$$

Decryption

$$\mathcal{D}(c_1, c_2) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 5 \\ 6 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \pmod{26}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 5 \\ 6 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{26}$$