

# Secrets and Spies

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# Introduction

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# About Us

- Dr. Daniel Goldsmith
  - Senior Lecturer: Ethical Hacking and Cyber Security
- Dr. James Shuttleworth
  - Principle Lecturer, Lead of Coventry IoC

# Ethical Hacking

- Study of Cyber Security
- Lots of interesting technical challenges to solve
- Look for flaws in systems and propose fixes
- Adversarial Mindset

# The IoC

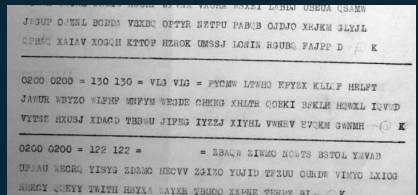
- UK Wide initiative to increase Technology skills
- 33 UK universities involved
- Coventry University Leads focus on Industry
- <https://instituteofcoding.org/>

# Cryptography

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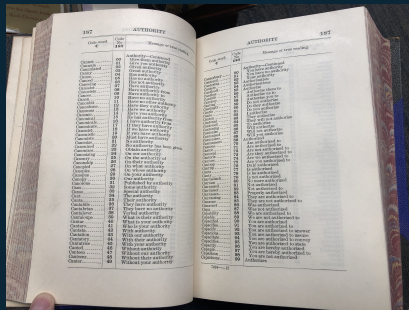
# Cryptography

- Protecting Information and Data through the use of Codes and Ciphers
- If a message is intercepted, getting the meaning is difficult



# Codes and Ciphers

- **Codes:** Provide a mapping between words or phrases and other symbols
- **Cipher** Used to transform one symbol into another





# Cryptographers VS Cryptanalyst



Cryptographers: RSA



Cryptanalyst: Dilly Knox

# Early Crypto

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# The Ancient World

- Shaving the Head of Slaves
- Scytale
- Atbash

How many bowls of cereal did Caesar have for breakfast?



Cipherdisc

# Caesar Cipher

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 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 |
| D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C |

Alphabet shifted by 3 spaces.

Caesar Shift

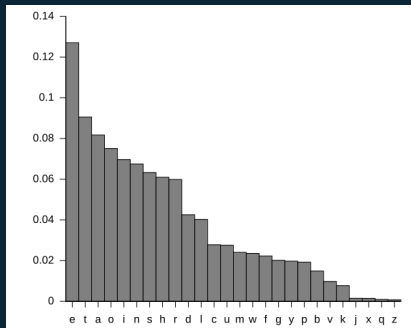
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|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| Plaintext  | Veni Vidi Vici |
| Ciphertext | YHQL YLGL YLFL |

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# Al-Kindi and the first Cryptanalysts

- First description of Frequency analysis published around 800AD
- Look at frequency of Letters in ciphertext
- Use these for Clues to the plaintext



# Simple Cryptanalysis Demo

GUR FXL NOBIR GUR CBEG JNF GUR PBYBE BS GRYRIVFVBA  
GHARQ GB N QRNQ PUNAARY

- What patterns can we see:
  - R and G Most common Letters (E and T)
  - 3 \* GUR
  - 1 \* N
  - BS and BG

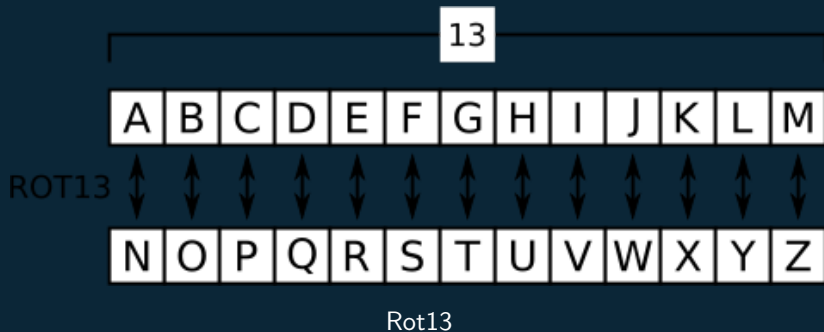
# Simple Cryptanalysis

- Most common 3 letter words
  - the, and, for, are, but

THE fxl nobiE THE cbeT jnf THE pbybe bs TEyEivfvba  
ThaEq Tb n qEnq pHnaaEy



## Simple Cryptanalysis



the sky above the port was the color of television  
tuned to a dead channel

# 'the indecipherable cipher'

- “Viginere” Cipher
- Multiple alphabets used for substitution
- Frequency Analysis much harder, as the basis shifts

|   | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 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 |
| B | 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 | A |
| C | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B |
| D | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C |
| E | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D |
| F | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E |
| G | G | 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 |
| 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 |
| I | 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 |
| J | 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 | I |
| K | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J |
| L | L | 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 |
| 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 |
| N | 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 | M |
| O | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N |
| P | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O |
| Q | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P |
| R | R | 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 |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| U | 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 |
| V | 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 | U |
| W | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V |
| X | X | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W |
| Y | Y | Z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X |
| Z | Z | 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 |

## Viginere Example

- We first select a key used to encipher the message. For example “TURING”
- Use the Letter in the Key, to select the alphabet to use

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|         |                      |
|---------|----------------------|
| Message | SUPER SECRET MESSAGE |
| Key     | TURIN GTURIN GTURING |

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# Viginere Example

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | T | U | R | I | N | G |
| A | T | U | R | I | N | G |
| B | U | V | S | J | O | H |
| C | V | W | T | K | P | I |
| D | W | X | U | L | Q | J |
| E | X | Y | V | M | R | K |
| F | Y | Z | W | N | S | L |
| G | Z | A | X | O | T | M |
| H | A | B | Y | P | U | N |
| I | B | C | Z | Q | V | O |
| J | C | D | A | R | W | P |
| K | D | E | B | S | X | Q |
| L | E | F | C | T | Y | R |
| M | F | G | D | U | Z | S |
| N | G | H | E | V | A | T |
| O | H | I | F | W | B | U |
| P | I | J | G | X | C | V |
| Q | J | K | H | Y | D | W |
| R | K | L | I | Z | E | X |
| S | L | M | J | A | F | Y |
| T | M | N | K | B | G | Z |
| U | N | O | L | C | H | A |
| V | O | P | M | D | I | B |
| W | P | Q | N | E | J | C |
| X | Q | R | O | F | K | D |
| Y | R | S | P | G | L | E |

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|            |                      |
|------------|----------------------|
| Message    | SUPER SECRET MESSAGE |
| Key        | TURIN GTURIN GTURING |
| Ciphertext | LOGME YXWIMG SXMJITK |

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## Analysis of Viginere

- Relies on the cyclic nature of the Key
- Look for repeated groupings of letters in the ciphertext to guess key length
- Frequency analysis on the groups of letters to guess likely keys

# The 20th Century and World Wars

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# Communications become more important (and easier to intercept)



- Invention of modern electronic communication, increased the need for security:
  - Telegraph
  - Radio
- Cryptography also became Mechanised

# Enigma



Enigma Machine





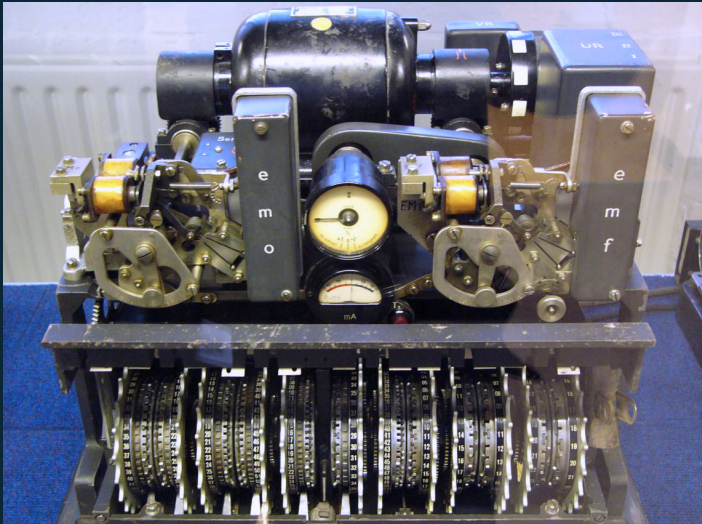
# Breaking Enigma

- How to break 158,962,555,217,826,360,000 possible settings?
- Luck, Poor operating practice, Espionage, and a tonne of hard work.
  - Rejewski and the Polish Cipher Bureau
  - Alan Turing and Bletchly park
- Cribs to guess part of the plain text and get a handle on the encoding.

# The Bombe

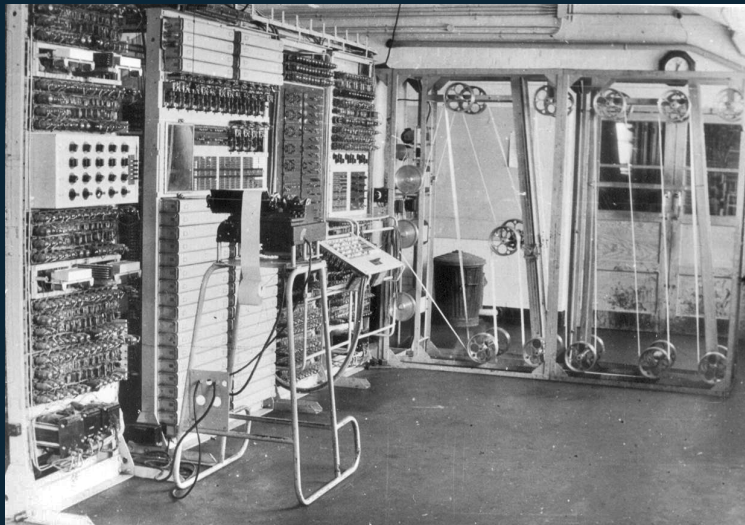


Bombe



Lorenz Teleprinter

# Colossus



Colossus

# Modern Cryptography and How it Effects your Life

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## Crypto becomes Maths

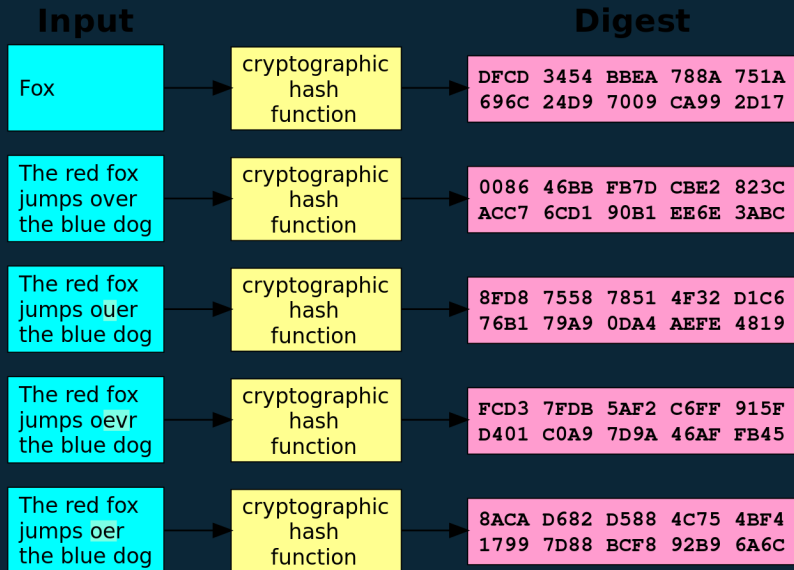
- Following 1945 Crypanalysts were winning.
- Ciphers based on symmetric keys were **difficult** but not **hard** to break
- Things changed in the 70's

# Hashing

- We use a one way function to turn input into a **hash**
- Small changes to the input can mean large changes to the hashed value
  - MD5, SHA, CRC-32



# Hashing

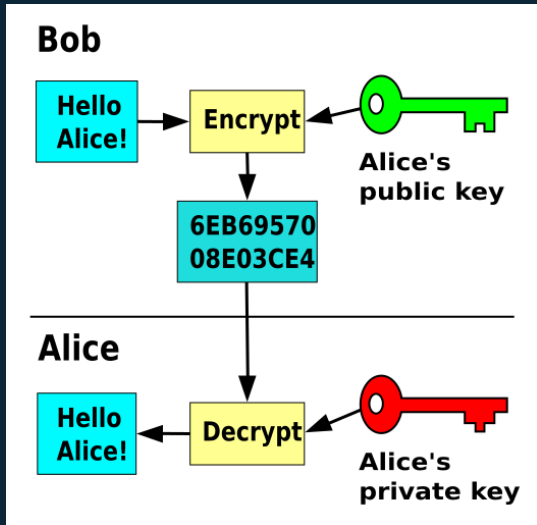


# Using Hashes

- Storing Passwords.
  - To avoid pre-calculating the hash, we can add a *salt*
- Confirming Integrity of files
  - The MD5 Sum of this presentation is

# Public Key Encryption

- We base our encryption method on:
  - **Public Key** which can be used to encrypt a message to a recipient
  - **Private Key** which is the **ONLY** way to decrypt a message encoded by the Public key



- First “Public” implementation of PKI was RSA encryption
  - Uses Large Prime numbers as components of the Key
  - “One way” mathematical function for deriving public and private keys
- Even if we know the public part, we need to know the two numbers used to generate it.
  - $33 == 11 \times 3$
  - $259854853 == X? \times Y?$

# Breaking RSA

- Depends on the Key length.
  - Exponential curve based on key length.
  - For every Bit added we double the length of time
- Its not Impossible to break, but computationally infeasible

# Public Key Infrastructure

- How do we use the public key we use to encrypt?
  - I want to send James a secret message, how do I know it's HIS key?
- Certificate Authorities (CA) give us some way of trusting this information
  - We can then check the public key against the CA to confirm identity.

# Encrypted Web Pages (HTTPS/ SSL)



- Encrypting the communication between our web browser and the server
  - Online shopping / banking needs to make use of this
  - Any data sent to and from the server is encrypted



# Encrypted Web Pages

- An encrypted website has a public key and certificate.
- Public key is used to encrypt data
- Additionally, the certificate is checked. If it is suspicious we get a warning.
- Should we get a warning or should it be automatically blocked?
  - Why may a certificate be incorrect.
  - Time Expired etc. Self signed

# Encrypted Web Pages: Downsides



- HTTPS is a Really Good Thing (TM). It should be there by default
- But If I can setup a certificate easily, so can the bad guys.
  - about 2/3 of Phishing sites are SSL.
- The Data is secure, and the server it is going to is the one registered
- However, is the site itself legitimate. Can the public CA's check this?

# End-to-End Encryption

- Web based communication is still **Client - Server**
  - The Middle man could still read our messages
- Messages are encrypted with each person in the conversations  
Public Key.
  - Application is responsible for forwarding content, and managing key exchange

## Evil Encryption:

- Unfortunately Encryption isn't all for good.
  - Recent(ish) attacks encrypt a victims files
  - Pay a ransom to get the files decrypted
  - Almost impossible to restore the data without the private key
- All based on the Public Key encryption
- Bad guys encrypt the data on your system using their public key.
- Only the private key can get it back
- Some AV companies are publishing details of Private keys as they become known.

# Thank You

Please get in touch if you would like to comment, learn more about our courses, or get involved with the Institute Of Coding Coventry University.

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