

Math 401 Fall 2019
Cryptology HW 2
Due Thursday, September 12

1. Encrypt the plaintext message “NEVER ODD OR EVEN”, using a Vigenère cipher with key word “potato”.
2. Decrypt the ciphertext “ODESL UKWGK SXMSK GEPP”, which was encrypted with Vigenère cipher using the key word “octopus”.
3. Encrypt the plaintext message “RATS LIVE ON NO EVIL STAR”, using an Autokey cipher with the key word “vital”
4. Decrypt the ciphertext “UBTW SEFH TTHF”, which was encrypted with an Autokey cipher using the key word “cipher”.
5. Compute **by hand** the indices of coincidence of each one of the following strings. Show your work.
 - (a) It is a truth universally acknowledged (33)
 - (b) that a single man in possession of a good (33)
 - (c) fortune must be in want of a wife (26)
6. Compute the mutual index of coincidence for each pair of strings in the previous problem. Show me your work.
7. Compute **by hand** the index of coincidence of the following string. What is unusual about this string?

A quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

For the remaining problems, you may use an index of coincidence calculator like the one at <http://www.practicalcryptography.com/cryptanalysis/text-characterisation/index-coincidence/>

You should be able to copy and paste the ciphertexts from the PDF.

8. Which of the following is likely to be a message encrypted with a simple substitution cipher?

(a) GSZES GNUBE SZGUG SNKGX CSUUE QNZOQ EOVJN VXKNG XGAHS AWSZZ BOVUE SIXCQ
NQESX NGEUG AHZQA QHNSP CIPQA OIDLV JXGAK CGJCG SASUB FVQAV CIAWN VWOVP
SNSXV JGPCV NODIX GJQAE VOOXC SXXCG OGOVA XGNVU BAVKX QZVQD LVJXQ EXCQO
VKCQG AMVAX VWXCG OOBOX VZCSO SPPSN VAXUB DVVAX QJQAJ VSUXC SXXCV OVJCS
NSJXV NOJQA MVBSZ VOOSH VSAWX QHGMV GWVSX CSXXC VBSNV ZNVVN SAWQZ ORVXJ
CVOQE JCGUW NVA

(b) DWVQP IIKOP UUYGC ZJDRU ZDSHI CXEAO AKRZC QAMSM DNQLF LUJYI IMJPJ VJZQL
GCJSN XTXFL MWOLW IFUQK DBBEY HVMVF ZOJXV FYMJA RDTGT TZQKL YNHPD UPUYU
XKNOI DXZXG IHIWK VXZET XFMOG KGIWU EIFDW RLLHH PZXPI VFWKL THEAS IROWC
GJAYJ KKODL WXFPI ZVUIK LEXEL IOWVC YMFMR UIZUD CETFE TBPIX SWSPZ MRPKP
LIYKL FGSTJ ZTPUH AEBQC QAEPQ GIAKH TDUVM KFGEU MWHAY ZGVSJ LNLJJ MLPEO
YEMZU PYMEW XLG

9. Consider the following ciphertext:

TOGMG GBYMK KCQIV DMLXK KBYIF VCUEK CUUIS VVXQS PWWEJ KOQGG PHUMT WHLSF
YOVWW KNHHM RCQFQ VVHKW PSUED UGRSF CTWIJ KHVFA THKEF FWPTJ GGVIV CGDRA PGWVM
OSQXG HKDVT WHUEV KCWYJ PSGSN GFWSL JSFSE OOQHW TOFSH ACIIN GFBIF GABGJ ADWSY
TOPML ECQZW ASGVS FWRQS FSFVQ RHDRS NMVMK CBHRV KBLXK GZI

(a) Use the Kasiski test (either by shifting the text over one-by-one, or by comparing repeated trigrams) to guess the keyword length. (Hint: the repeated trigrams are LXX at 17 and 232; TWH at 54 and 134; NGF at 149 and 174; and SFS at 156 and 209).

(b) Use the tool at <http://jaydaigle.net//substring.html> to split the text up into substrings. Test the index of coincidence of each substring, and use this to determine the key length. Does this match your answer in part (a)?

(c) Find the keyword and decrypt the message. You can use frequency analysis on substrings, or you can use mutual indices of coincidence, but be sure to show intermediate steps so I can see what you did.

10. Would the method we used on the Vigenère cipher work to decrypt an autokey cipher? Why or why not?

11. The ciphertext `bxo tam det xzx pjl baj lqf asa mde ohy wpc wlb ajl` was encrypted with an autokey cipher. Decrypt it, using the knowledge that the word “the” appears.