

**CLASSICAL CRYPTOGRAPHY COURSE  
BY LANAKI**

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**LECTURE 11**

**POLYALPHABETIC SUBSTITUTION SYSTEMS II  
CRYPTANALYSIS OF VIGGY'S FAMILY**

**SUMMARY**

In Lectures 11-12, we continue our course schedule with a study of fascinating cipher systems known as the "Viggy" based on multiple alphabets - Polyalphabetic Substitution systems.

We will continue developing our subject via an overview based on the Op-20-GYT course notes (Office of Chief Of Naval Operations, Washington) [OP20]. We will revisit polyalphabetic cipher systems using Friedman's detailed analysis. We will cover the Viggy, Variant, PORTA systems and other family members. [FRE4], [FRE5], [FRE6], [FRE7], [FRE8]. We will take material from ACA's Practical Cryptanalysis Volume V by William G. Bryan on "Periodic Ciphers - Miscellaneous: Volume II" [BRYA] and Sinkov's [SINK] text to discover Viggy's secrets. We will look at [ELCY's] treatment of these systems.

In Lecture 12, we will describe the difficult aperiodic polyalphabetic case and give a diagram of topics considered in Lectures 10 - 12. [FR3] We will complete the Viggy family. I will also cover decimation processes in detail.

I have again updated our Resources Section with many references on these systems - focusing on the cryptanalytic attack and areas of historical interest. Kahn has some wonderful stories about the Viggy family. [KAHN]

**ZEN CRYPTO**

In Lectures 1- 10, I have purposely stayed away from the heavier mathematics of cryptography (subject to change). Everything I am presenting can and has been reduced to mathematical models and computerized for ease of work. For my readers who can not live without the math diet, there are plenty of guru' s like [SCHN] and [SCH2] to have breakfast with. There are plenty of computer aids at the Crypto Drop Box to help you do the setup work.

BUT those who embark on a course of 'only the computer' do this without knowing the real effort -the brain power - the shortcuts - the tradecraft - the historical implications, in my opinion, have lost the real heart of Cryptography. The 'ah ha's of inspiration are what make the difference. First, there is a fundamental problem in that computer models do not apply to all variant cases. Simple changes to the system can fool even the most adept computer program. For example, placing clever nulls will defeat many a statistical based model.

Second, we lose the sense of urgency that was required for wartime cryptography. If President Kennedy's Playfair message [ that's right it was not English as in the movie PT-109] on the back of a coconut had been intercepted and deciphered by the Japanese [which they very capable of doing], we might not have had the graceful light of his Presidency or who knows the moon landings. As another case in point, the solution of ENIGMA during the mid - final Atlantic Campaigns of World War II, reduced the operational effectiveness of the U-Boat to one day and hence saved allied tonnage and warships suppling Europe. The American and British Crypee's 'thought' more like their German counterparts than their counterparts. Computer solutions were bulky, machine dependent [ the solution "stops"] and not reliable until 1945. People made the difference.

## SOLVING A PERIODIC POLYALPHABETIC CIPHER

There are three fundamental steps to solve a Periodic cipher.

- 1) Determine the period. This sets up the correct geometrical positioning of ciphertext alphabets.
- 2) Identify the Cipher System and reduce or consolidate the multiple alphabet distribution into a series of monoalphabetic frequency distributions.
- 3) Solve the monoalphabetic distributions by known principles. We have covered this in Lectures 1-3 and Lecture 10.

Friedman presents a more detailed and eloquent version of this procedure in [FR7].

### THE LONG AND SHORT OF KASISKI

Step one is finding the period. Bryan reminds us that there are at least two ways to find the period. The short approach makes use of the distances between patent cipher text repetitions and factors the differentials. The long approach is used when there are no patent repetitions to factor. In this case we set up a possibilities matrix and factor every combination looking for the highest probable common factor. [BRYA]

As an example of the first case take:

	10		20		30		40
BGZEY	DKFWK	BZVRM	LUNYB	QNUKA	YCRYB	GWMKC	DDTSP
	50		60		70		80
OFLAK	OWWHM	RFBLJ	JQFRM	PNIQA	VQCUP	IFLAZ	HKATJ
	90		100		110		120
UVVQE	EKESZ	DUDWE	KKESL	IZQAT	SBYUZ	UUVAZ	IXYEZ
	130		140				
JFTAJ	EMRAS	QKZSQ	FOPHM	W.			

We tabulate the repetitions and the cipher text letter differences between repetitions.

Delta	Factors	
BG 29	-	
RM 45	3,5,9	
KA 53	-	
MR 77	7,11	
QA 39	3,13	
VQ 17	-	
AZ 40	4,5,8,10	
AT 26	13	
UV 31	-	
EK 9	3,9	
KES 10	5,10	.... this trigraph more important than QA or AT digraphs. Suggest that the period is
SQ 4	4	either 5 or 10. Practice dictates that the larger number is the proper.

But suppose there are no repeats or those that do exist do not establish a period. What then?

Given:

	10		20		30		40
RNQJH	AUKGV	WGIVO	BBSEJ	CRYUS	FMQLP	OFTLC	MRHKB
	50		60		70		80
BUTNA	WXZQS	NFWLM	OHYOF	VMKTV	HKVPK	KSWEI	TGSRB
	90		100		110		120
LNAGJ	BFLAM	EAEJW	WVGZG	SVLBK	IXHGT	JKYUC	HLKTU

MWWK.

We set up the following vertical tally. We note the actual position of every letter.

A 6 45 83 89 92 115  
B 16 17 40 41 80 86 104  
C 21 35  
D ---  
E 19 74 91 93  
F 26 32 52 60 87  
G 9 12 77 84 98 100 109  
H 5 38 57 66 108 116  
I 13 75 106  
J 4 20 85 94 111  
K 8 39 63 67 70 71 105 112 118 124  
L 29 34 54 81 88 103 117  
M 27 36 55 62 90 121  
N 2 44 51 82  
O 15 31 56 59  
P 30 69  
Q 3 28 49  
R 1 22 37 79  
S 18 25 50 72 78 101  
T 33 43 64 76 110 119  
U 7 24 42 114 120  
V 10 14 61 65 68 97 102  
W 11 46 53 73 95 96 122 123  
X 107  
Y 23 47 58 113  
Z 48 99

Now we take each difference and every difference in each case. For example, A45-6, 83-6,89-6,92-6,115-6; and 83-45,89-45,92-45,115-45; and 89-83,92-83,115-83; and 92-89,115-89, and 115-92. Then we factor these differences, setting up a matrix (Table 11-1) of potential periods from 3 -12 inclusive and total the tabulations for each factor in each of the letters of the alphabet. The highest column total represents the period. The number is correct more than 98 per cent of the time.

Table 11-1

	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
A	3	1		1	1		1	1	2	1	
B	9	7	4	5	3	7	4	2	1	2	
C		1	1		1	1		1			
D											
E	1	1	1	1			1		1	1	
F	2	3	3	1	2	1	1	1	1		
G	5	5	4	1	4	3	2	1	3	1	
H	6	3	2	2	3	1	1	2	1		
I	1										
J	3	1	2	1	1	1	3	1			
K	13	10	4	9	8	5	3	1	2	3	
L	4	3	4	1	4	1	3	1	2		
M	4	2	3	2	6		3	1	1		
N	1	1	1	1	3	1		1			
O	1	3	1		1	1			1		
P	1										
Q	1		1		1						
R	5	1	1	3	2		1			1	
S	4	4	2	3	2	1	1	1	1		
T	4	3	1	1	2		1	1	2	2	
U	5	1	2	5	1	2	3	1	2	2	
V	5	6	2	2	1	2	3		1	1	
W	9	4	5	3	8	1	4	4	3	1	
X											
Y	2	2	3	2	1	2		1	3	1	
Z	1										
-----											
	87	61	47	43	57	30	35	21	25	16	Columns total
X	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	112	times period
-----											
	261	244	235	258	399	240	315	210	275	192	Total
====											

The period is 7.

**WHAT CIPHERS MAKE UP THE VIGGY FAMILY?**

The Viggys (or more correctly the Vigenere) Family is a group of ciphers. Included in this group are: Vigenere, Variant, Beaufort, Gronsfeld, Porta, Portax, and Quagmires I-IV. Other ciphers may be included in the group. They are Nihilist Substitution, Auto - Key, Running Key and Interrupted ciphers. Bryan includes the Tri-square, the periodic Fractionated Morse, the Seriated Playfair and the Homophonic in the same class of ciphers.

These ciphers were invented at different times by different authors, sometimes with confusion of authorship, and in different countries. They are similar in that they represent permutations of the same cryptographic concept and can be cracked with the same general methodology, albeit with slight variations in procedure. What is also interesting is that these ciphers can be viewed in tableaux form, in slide form or matrix form.

The theory of polyalphabetic substitution is simple. The encipherer has at his disposal several simple substitution alphabets, usually 26. He uses one such alphabet to encipher only one letter, another alphabet for the second letter, and so forth, until some preconcerted plan has been followed. The earliest known ciphers of this kind, the Porta (1563), the Vigenere (1586) used tableau's for encipherment, in which all the alphabets were written out in full below each other. The Gronsfeld (1655) had a mental key, and the Beaufort (1857) which came two hundred years later, again used the tableaux. The process was reduced to strips or slides in 1880 at the French military academy of Saint-Cyr. The polyalphabetic deciphering slides now bear that name. [ELCY]

To know thoroughly any of these ciphers is to understand the fundamental principles of all. Lets look at the papa bear.

**THE VIGENERE CIPHER**

The father of the Viggys family is the Vigenere Cipher. Like most of the periodic ciphers, the 'Viggy' is actually a series of monoalphabetic substitutions such as Aristocrats, and since a keyword is used, under each letter of the keyword, there is a separate simple substitution cipher - each one different- , using all the letters, in such a manner, that the resulting cipher is a combination of several such substitutions.

Attributed to Blaise de Vigenere, the cipher named for him was invented by him in 1586. In his "Traicte des Chiffres" he did invent an autokey system which used both a priming key and did not recommence his plaintext key with each word, nut kept it running continuously. He described a second autokey system which was more open but still secure. Both systems were forgotten and were re-invented in the 19th century. Historians have credited Vigenere with the simpler polyalphabetic substitution system. Legend grew around this cipher that it was "impossible of translation" as late as 1917. [KAHN]

The original Viggys was composed of an enciphering and deciphering tableaux. Letters were enciphered and deciphered one letter at a time. The modern Vigenere tableaux is shown in Figure 11-1.

Figure 11-1

	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

The normal alphabet at the top of the tableaux is for plaintext and the keyletters are shown at the extreme left under the 'A' of the top row. Where the two lines intersect in the body of Figure 11-1, the ciphertext is found.

For example using the keyword TENT, we encipher "COME AT ONCE"

we have:	TENT	TENT	
	----	----	
	COME	VSZX	(ciphertext)
	ATON	TXBG	
	CE	VI--	

The enciphering and deciphering problem are done as a group of letters to improve speed and accuracy of the process.

Another way to look at this is that the Viggys are really a two dimensional slide problem. We can construct (or purchase for about \$2.00 from ACA) a set of two Saint-Cyr slides that operate the same way as the tableaux shown in Figure 11-1. What is useful is that each slide bears the standard normal alphabet from A-Z with high frequency letters colored or shaded. Each slide is a double-alphabet to allow flexibility.

Figure 11-2

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN	OPQRSTUVWXYZ	ABCDEFGHIJKLMN	OPQRSTUVWXYZ
GHIJKLMN	OPQRSTUVWXYZ	ABCDEFGHIJKLMN	OPQRSTUVWXYZ
*		*	

Figure 2 shows the Saint-Cyr slide at a key of G. Check with Figure 11-1 to see that the results are the same for  $N_{plain} = T_{cipher}$  or  $I_{plain} = O_{cipher}$ .

The practical use of the Saint-Cyr slide is that the whole column of plaintext is enciphered as a unit. So C A C would be enciphered as V A V, plaintext O T E becomes S X I, etc. This eliminates mistakes. The cipher is taken off in 5 letter groups by rows, so we would have VSZXT XBGVI for our previous example.

Friedman points out that the sliding components produce the same type of cipher with the circular disks like the old U.S. Army version. [FRE7]

Koblitz [KOBL] describes the Viggys as follows:

For some fixed  $k$ , regard blocks of  $k$  letters as vectors in  $(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^{**k}$ . Where  $N$  is the  $N$ -letter alphabet and a digraph integer correspondence exists between modulo  $N^{**2}$  array and it is a vector mapping. Choose some fixed vector  $b$  which exists in the plane  $(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^{**k}$  which can be remembered by a key word and encipher by means of the vector translation  $C = P + b$  where  $C$  is the ciphertext message unit and  $P$  is the plaintext message unit which is a  $k$ -tuple of the integers modulo  $N$ .

The object is to guess  $N$  and  $k$ , break up the ciphertext in blocks of  $k$  letters and performs a frequency analysis on the first letter of each block to determine the first component of  $b$  and then proceeds onto the second letter in the block, etc.

Konheim's description is worse than Koblitz's. [KONH]

Seberry and Pieprzyk describe the Viggys as made up of key sequence  $k = k_1 \dots k_d$  where  $k_i, (i=1,d)$  gives the amount of shift in the  $i$ th alphabet,  $f_i(a) = a + k_i \pmod n$  and the ciphertext is described as  $f_i^{**(-1)} = (k_i - c) \pmod n$  so that

$$f_i(a) = [(n-1)-a + (k_i + 1)] \pmod n \quad \text{[SEAB]}$$

The latter four descriptions are boring - even to my engineering background. They also do not hold water for randomized alphabets or tableaux with disruption areas in place. These represent discontinuities in the mathematical function. They are discontinuous and tractable. Or differentiable if the model is such. SCYER's program may have solved the discontinuity integer problem by area limits or module limits. When he publishes the procedure, maybe he will tell us.

**WHICH WAY ?**

Does it matter with the Viggys, that we encipher S by B (B alphabet or Key B) to find cipher T or encipher B by S (S alphabet or Key S) to find T? No. This is an interesting characteristic not shared by all in the Viggys family. It may be its downfall.

For instance, the message:

Send Supplies To Morley's Station

enciphered with the repeating key, BED under the original method of encipherment as might be described by Blaise de Vigenere would be:

```
Key   : BEDB EDBEDBED BE DBEDBED BEDBEDB
Plain : SEND SUPPLIES TO MORLEYS STATION
Cipher: TIQE WXQTOJIV US PPVOFCV TXDUMRO
```

The modern Saint-Cyr slide encipherment of the above would be:

```
Key       B E D   B E D   B E D
Plain     S E N   D S U   P P L
Cipher    T I Q   E W X   Q T O

          I E S   T O M   O R L
          J I V   U S P   P V O

          E Y S   S T A   T I O
          F C V   T X D   U M R

          N
          O
```

which gives:

```
          5          10          15          20          25
T I Q E W   X Q T O J   I V U S P   P V O F C   V T X D U

          30
M R O X X   (two ending nulls and a bad choice at that)
```

With the Saint Cyr slide, we would encipher S, I, E, N; then D, T, S, and finally P, O, T by setting the B key on the bottom slide under the A key of the top slide and reading off the equivalents. [SINK], [ELCY]

**DECIPHERMENT BY PROBABLE WORD**

Refer to Figure 11-3:

Figure 11-3

Deciphering with the Key:

```
Key   : B E D B E D B E D B E D .....
Cipher: T I Q E W X Q T O J I V .....
Plain : S E N D S U P P L I E S .....
```

Deciphering with the Message:

Plain : S E N D S U P P L I E S ..... (trial key)  
Cipher: T I Q E W X Q T O J I V .....  
Key : B E D B E D B E D B E D ..... (true key)

Figure 11-3 indicates a possible solution method. The message fragment works well as a trial key, and if applied in the same manner as the true key, the true original key will be revealed. The Vigenere Cipher works equally well in reverse. It is this peculiarity that portends the use of a probable word attack.

Suppose we have the cryptogram:

U S Z H L W D B P B G G F S ...

which we suspect that the presence of the word SUPPLIES. We decipher the first 8 letters using this probable word as a trial key, and obtain the jumbled series: C Y K S A O Z J,

which is unsatisfactory. We next drop the first U, and obtain group : A F S W L V X X. We fail again on the third and fourth trials. The fifth decipherment obtains the series TCOMETCO. We see the TCO repeats and the key word COMET. [ELCY]

F. R. Carter of the ACA shows us a more organized approach in Figure 11-4:

Figure 11-4

Cryptogram Fragment: U S Z H L W D B P B G G F S .....

Probable Word:

```

                *
S           C A H P T E L J X J O O N A
U           Y F N R C J H V H M M L Y
P           K S W H O M A M R R Q D
P           S W H O M A M R R Q D
L           A L S Q E Q V V U H
I           O V T H T Y Y X K
E           Z X L X C C B O
S
                0
                *
```

Look down at an angle between the stars to find the key word COMET. The first letter S was used to decipher every possible key letter which can produce S. The entire row of equivalents were produced at the same time. The resulting rows of decipherment indicate all the possible keyletters that could produce S, then U, then P, and so on. Carter actually shortened the procedure to three full rows and then partials thereafter. He assumes that the keyword is readable and discards non readable text.

### DECIPHERMENT BY PROBABLE TRIGRAM SEQUENCE

For the case where we have no probable word or the sequence is very short, we may use Ohaver's Trigram Method. We start with a list of usual trigrams THE, AND, THA, ENT, ION, TIO. The key fragments deciphered by these will be short and numerous, some correct and some incorrect to bring out the repeating key sequence. A secondary worksheet is used to test the various fragments as keys. If any one of them is a fragment of the original key, it must bring out fragments of plaintext at regular intervals.

A scheme like Carters can be used with the trigrams THE, AND.. replacing the word SUPPLIES. Refer to Figure 11-5.



Given:

	10	20	26
L N F V E	O L N V M	R N G Q F	H H R N H
I R V F E	B		

The cipher text is only 26 letters long. Every letter except the final two might begin a cipher trigram. So we have 24 cipher trigrams. Write them out in full on two worksheets.

Figure 11-5

ION

Trial 1

LNF NFV FVE VEO EOL OLN LNV NVM VMR MRN RNG NGQ  
 AZS FRI XHR NQB WAY GXA DZI FHZ NYE EDA JZT FSD  
 ---  
 GQF QFH FHH HHR HRN RNH NHI HIR IRV RVF VFE FEB  
 YCS IRU XTU ZTE ZDA ZJU FTV ZUE ADI JHS NRR XQO

EDA

Trial 2

LNF NFV FVE VEO EOL OLN LNV NVM VMR MRN RNG NGQ  
 HKF JCV BSE RBO ALL KIN HKV JSM RJR ION NKC JDQ  
 ---  
 GQF QFH FHH HHR HRN RNH NHI HIR IRV RVF VFE FEB  
 CNF MCH BEH DER DON NKH JEI DFR EOY NSF RCE BBB

Trial 1 tests for THA, THE, AND fail but ION gives us FRI and WAY. But anyone of these 24 decipherments on the second row might be a fragment of the original key. Trial 2 fails to confirm FRI or WAY but test of key-fragment EDA yields ION. If this sequence is actually a portion of the original key, then the plaintext will be brought out at some constant distance apart. The point we found the trigram is the tenth cryptogram letter; that is every trigram presents only one new letter so to find a completely different trigram in either direction, we must count backwards or forwards a distance of three trigrams.

Beginning at the tenth trigram we examine every third trigram in both directions. The following is found: HKF, RBO, HKV, ION, CNF, DER, JEI, NSF. These are incoherent. This would be equivalent to a period of three - not likely. Try every fourth decipherment: JCV, KIN, ION, MCH, NKH, NSF. Not usable for a consecutive sequence, continuously written cryptogram. Trying the decipherments at a proposed period of 5, we get ALL, ION, BEH, DFR. This possibility is good. We try to decipher the T before ION and get the letter C. We now have four letters in our key C E D A. With a little anagramming we have the word D A \* C E. A probable word FRIDAY comes to mind.

**BRYAN'S SAINT-CYR 'HITS' METHOD**

William G. Bryan shows us how to use the high frequency letters on the Saint-Cyr slide to good use.

Given the Viggys with a known period of 7 based on a similar effort used in Table 11-1:

PXIZH GVGEU UOXIX MYEEJ ZCOCM OWZCL FMTOR ISIGH LKWPS  
 MSIDX WCFBR KPYXO PRJIL HFMC R IHUDU LVRLJ FVVVS HTYFR  
 RGPHQ WIIBL XQXMM TDVGU EITFM QEEJH WUHFV.

We reset the problem in groups of 7:

1234567  
PXIZHGV  
GEUOXI  
XMYEEJZ  
COCMOWZ  
CLFMTOR  
ISIGHLK  
WPSMSID  
XWCFBRK  
PYXOPRJ  
ILHFMC R  
IHU DULV  
RLJFVVV  
SHTYFRR  
GPHQWII  
BLXQXMM  
TDVGUEI  
TFMQEEJ  
HWUHFV

Now each column represents a separate simple substitution cipher. They will not produce consecutive plaintext, but merely show isolated letters in that particular substitution, to be coupled with those letters that fall on either side in other substitutions, to make a true plain text sequence. Here's where the underlined high-frequency letters on the slide come in:

We go down column 1 and tabulate all the letters which appear more than once. P-2, G-2, X-2, C-2, I-3, T-2. We rearrange them in their normal sequence = C G I P T X. The lower slide is moved successively so that the first letter C is under the high frequency letters, in turn, A E H I N O R S T, and a reading is made of the number of 'hits', the number of other cipher text letters G I P T X that fall below the high frequency letters. If they do then the letter under A of the top slide is the key letter for that column. If they don't further trials are necessary.

High frequency letters don't always show up. Some times medium frequency letters may be required. So with C under A: G-E, I-G, P-N, T-R, X-V; With C under E: G-I, I-K, P-R, T-V, X-Z; With C under the H: G-L, I-N, P-U, T-Y, X-C; with C under the I: G-M, I-O, P-V, T-Z, X-D; and with C under the N: G-R, I-t, P -A, T-E, X-I (six hits); and we have found the setting. So we set P under the A in the top slide, and decipher the entire column A R I N N T H I A T T C D R, and write it into a blank column as column 1.

Proceeding with Column 2, we have no results. Column shows 2 passable results at P and U, Column 4 seems to go with Y, column 5, setting B has 4 hits, Column 6 has 5 hits indicating an E, and Column 7, R gives six hits.

The keyword thus recovered is P P Y B E R. We choose to decipher the ending B E R as the ending of a keyword to produce:

```

B E R
-----
G C E
N T R
O F I
N S I
S K A
G H T
R E M
A N T
O N S
L Y A
T H E
U R E
E N A
V E R
W I V
T A R
D A S
E S -

```

These are almost all good fragments. The GHT must have an I or U before it. Since cipher letter G is involved, we place the G under the I which results in the Y we already had and putting G under the U gives us M under the A, we choose the latter.

Now we have MBER has a key fragment. Deciphering column 4 with M adds N I I S A A U A T C T R T M E E U E V to the evidence.

There are several possibilities NGCE preceded by an O, UGHT preceded by an O, TANT preceded by an OR; TLYA preceded by an N; UTAR preceded by an O or A; and EWIV preceded by R/H.

With the Vigny cipher, remember to read the setting for the keyword letter below the A of the Stationary slide; and the plain text appears on the same slide as this A, while the cipher text is in the lower slide.

### **VIGENERE COMPUTER SOLUTION IS QUICKER**

At this juncture, I wondered how our Vigny solver at the CDB would do on this problem. I brought up my faithful computer program and entered the cipher text into Vigenere.exe without telling it the period and found the following:

The period was found within 1 second. The trial keyword was PLQMBER, which I assumed was PLUMBER. Using PLUMBER as my keyword, it typed out the answer: "AMONG CERTAIN TRIBES OF INDIANS IN ALASKA.. ends BUT ARE USED AS SLAVES." The process took less than 3 seconds of compute time on my 486/50.

I then rearranged the ciphertext with five nulls strategically added. The next pass gave me a period of nine and a gibberish trial keyword. So for well defined problems the computer is less fun but a clear winner. For the clever cryptographer, the computer can be defeated.

### **PRIMARY COMPONENTS**

We have seen that equivalents obtainable from use of square tables may be duplicated by slides or revolving disks [FR2], [FR7] or computer models. Cryptographically, the results may be quite diverse from different methods of using such paraphernalia, since the specific equivalents obtained from one method may be altogether different from those obtained from another method. But from the cryptanalytic point of view the diversity referred to is of little significance.

There are, not two, but four letters involved in every case of finding equivalents by means of sliding components; furthermore, the determination of an equivalent for a given plaintext letter is represented by two equations involving four equally important elements, usually letters.

Consider this juxtaposition:

1. 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
2. F B P Y R C Q Z I G S E H T D J U M K V A L W N O X

Question - what is the equivalent of Pplain when the Key letter is K? Answer - without further specification, the cipher equivalent can not be stated. Which letter do we set K against and in which alphabet? We have previously assumed that the K cipher would be put against A in the plain. But this is only a convention.

Figure 11-6

	Index	Plain
	*	*
1. Plain:	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	
2. Cipher:	F B P Y R C Q Z I G S E H T D J U M K V A L W N O X	
	*	*
	Key	Cipher

With this setting Pplain = Zcipher.

The four elements are:

1. The Key letter, Ok
2. The index letter, OI
3. The plaintext letter, Op
4. The cipher letter. Oc

The index letter is commonly the initial letter of the component, but by convention only. We will assume from now on that OI is the initial letter of the component in which it is located. Refer to Figure 11-6 to confirm this assumption. The enciphering equations above are:

$$(I) \quad Kk = A1 ; Pp = Zc \quad \begin{array}{l} k=\text{key, } p=\text{plain,} \\ c=\text{cipher, } 1= \text{initial} \end{array}$$

There is nothing sacred about the sliding components. Consider Figure 11-6b.

Figure 11-6b

	Index	Cipher
	*	*
1. Plain:	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	
2. Cipher:	F B P Y R C Q Z I G S E H T D J U M K V A L W N O X	
	*	*
	Key	Plain

thus  $(II) \quad Kk = A1; Pp = Kc$

Since equations (I) and (II) yield different results even with the same index, key and plain text letters, it is obvious that a more precise formula is required. Adding locations to these equations does the trick.

(I) Kk in component (2) = A1 in component (1); Pp in component (1) = Zc in component (2).

(II) Kk in component (2) = A1 in component (1); Pp in component (2) = Zc in component (1).

In shorthand notation:

- (1)  $Kk/2 = A1/1; Pp/1 + Zc/2$
- (2)  $Kk/2 = A1/1; Pp/2 + Zc/1$

Employing two sliding components and four letters implies twelve different resulting systems for the same set of components and twelve enciphering conditions. These constitute the Vigny Family:

Table 11-2

- |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (1) $0k/2=01/1; 0p/1=0c/2$ | (7) $0k/2=0p/1; 01/2=0c/1$  |
| (2) $0k/2=01/1; 0p/2=0c/1$ | (8) $0k/2=0c/1; 01/2=0p/1$  |
| (3) $0k/1=01/2; 0p/1=0c/2$ | (9) $0k/1=0p/2; 01/1=0c/2$  |
| (4) $0k/1=01/2; 0p/2=0c/1$ | (10) $0k/1=0c/2; 01/1=0p/2$ |
| (5) $0k/2=0p/1; 01/1=0c/2$ | (11) $0k/1=0p/2; 01/2=0c/1$ |
| (6) $0k/2=0c/1; 0p/1=0p/2$ | (12) $0k/1=0c/2; 01/2=0p/1$ |

The first two equations (1) and (2) define the Vigenere type of encipherment and are widely used. Equations (5) and (6) define the Beauford type and Equations (9) and (10) define the Delastelle type of encipherment. [FR7]

#### FURTHER REMARKS ON REPETITIONS

I have said that the three steps in the cryptanalysis of repeating key systems are : 1) Find the length of the period, 2) Allocate or distribute the letters of the ciphertext into their respective alphabets, thereby reducing the polyalphabetic text to monoalphabetic terms, and 3) analysis of the individual monoalphabetic distributions to determine the plain text values of their cipher equivalents in each distribution or alphabet.

As a direct result of using a repeating key (no matter how long) certain phenomena are manifested externally to the cryptogram. Regardless of what system is used, identical plain text letters enciphered by the same cipher alphabet with single equivalents must yield identical cipher letters. This happens each time the same key letter is used to encipher identical plaintext letters.

Since the number of columns or positions with respect to the key are limited, and there is a normal redundancy in the language, it follows that there will be in a message of fair length many cases where identical plain text letters must fall into the same column. This will be enciphered by the same cipher alphabet, resulting in many repetitions. There are two types of repetitions: causal and accidental (random) repetitions. The former we can trace back to the key. The latter occurs when different plaintext letters fall in different columns and by chance produce identical cipher text letters.

Accidental repetitions will occur frequently with individual letters, less frequently with digraphs (because the accident must occur twice in succession, much less in the case of trigraphs and very much less in the case of a tetragraph. The probability of chance repetition decreases significantly as the repetition increases in length. Friedman has developed statistical tables based on the binomial and Poisson distributions to determine the individual and cumulative probabilities for expected number of repetitions in n letter text to occur x or more times in samples of random text.

The use of these tables is important. They tell us when we are dealing with cryptographically maneuvered text versus random noise designed to fool the listener. They indicate what may be a hoax (Beale or Bacon - Shakespeare controversies) versus valid enciphered text.

Tables 11-3 to 11-6 show the above theory.

Table 11-3

Number of Letters	Expected Number of Digraphs Occurring Exactly x Times									
	E(2)	E(3)	E(4)	E(5)	E(6)	E(7)	E(8)	E(9)	E(10)	
100	6.21	.298	.011							
200	21.8	2.12	.154	.009						
300	42.5	6.23	.683	.060	.004					
400	65.3	12.8	1.87	.220	.022	.002				
500	88.1	21.6	3.97	.582	.071	.008				
600	110.	32.3	7.11	1.25	.184	.023	.003			
700	129.	44.3	11.4	2.35	.403	.059	.008	.001		
800	145.	57.1	16.8	3.96	.777	.130	.019	.003		
900	158.	70.1	23.2	6.16	1.36	.257	.043	.006	.001	
1000	169.	83.0	30.6	9.03	2.21	.466	.085	.014	.002	

Table 11-4

Number of Letters	Expected Number of Trigraphs Occurring Exactly x Times		
	E(2)	E(3)	E(4)
100	.269	.001	
200	1.10	.004	
300	2.48	.014	
400	4.40	.033	
500	6.85	.064	
600	9.81	.111	.001
700	13.3	.175	.002
800	17.3	.261	.003
900	21.8	.371	.005
1000	26.8	.505	.008

Table 11-5

Number of Letters	Expected Number of Tetragraphs Occurring Exactly x Times	
	E(2)	E(3)
100	.010	
200	.043	
300	.096	
400	.171	
500	.270	
600	.389	
700	.530	
800	.693	
900	.877	
1000	1.08	0.001

Table 11-6

Number of Letters	Expected Number of Pentagraphs Occurring Exactly x Times
100	
200	.002
300	.004
400	.007
500	.011
600	.015
700	.021
800	.027
900	.034
1000	.042

By way of illustration, of the use of these tables, from Table 11-3, we observe that in a sample of 300 letters of random text, we may expect 43 digraphs to occur twice, 6 digraphs to occur three times and 1 digraph to occur four times. If we sum the values under E(2) through E(6) we have the cumulative probability in the 300 letter sample. The sum is 49.477, which indicates that in a sample of 300 letters or so, 49 digraphs will occur two or more times.

**STATISTICAL PROOF OF THE MONOALPHABETICITY OF THE DISTRIBUTIONS**

The second step in the solution of periodic ciphers is to distribute the cipher text into the component monoalphabets. The period once established tells us the number of cipher alphabets. By rewriting the message in groups corresponding to the length of the key (period) in columnar fashion, we automatically have divided up the text so that letters belonging to the same cipher alphabet occupy similar positions in the groups or in the same columns.

If we make separate uniliteral frequency distributions for the isolated alphabets, each of these resulting distributions is therefore, a monoalphabetic frequency distribution. Were this not so, if they did not have the characteristic crest and trough appearance including the expected number of blanks, if the observed values of Phi are not sufficiently close to the expected value of Phi plain, or do not yield I.C.'s in the close vicinity of the expected value, then the entire analysis is fallacious.

The I.C. values of these individual distributions may be considered an index of correctness of the factoring process. Both theoretically and practically, the correct hypothesis with respect to these distributions will tend to conform more closely to the expected I.C. of a monoalphabetic frequency distribution.

Friedman demonstrates the above with an example: [FR7]

Plaintext Message:

The artillery battalion marching in the rear of the advance guard keeps its combat train with it insofar as practical.

Keyword BLUE using direct standard alphabets.

Cipher Alphabets

Plain: 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

- 
1. 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
  2. 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
  3. 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
  4. 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

B L U E B L U E B L U E B L U E B L U E B L U E B L U E ...  
 T H E A R T I L L E R Y B A T T I L I O N M A R ...

Cipher Text

USYES ECPMP LCCLN XBWCS OXUVD SCRHT  
 HXIPL IBCIJ USYEE GURDP AYBCX OFPJW  
 JEMGP XVEUE LEJYQ MUSCX JYMSG LLETA  
 LEDEC GBMFI

Friedman gives a useful formula for monographic I.C. of a 26 character text:

$$I.C. = 26 \sum f(f-1)/N(N-1) = \Phi(o) / \Phi(r)$$

and since  $\Phi(p)$  for English is  $0.0667N(N-1)$

and  $\Phi(r) = 0.0385 N(N-1)$  where N is the total number of elements in the distribution. I.C. for English plain = 1.73 and 1.0 for random text. We may apply the I.C. test to the distributions of periodic polyalphabetic ciphers to confirm the monoalphabeticity of their character. This also confirms the period length and correctness. if the correct period is assumed, then the Phi test applied to each of the alphabets should approximate closely and consistently the value of  $\Phi(p)$  and conversely, if the incorrect period is assumed, then the  $\Phi(o)$  should approximate the value of  $\Phi(r)$ . Deviation from this hypothesis must be statistically significant. [FR7]

So we break down the four alphabets:

4 1 4 1 1 1 1 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 4 Phi =42  
 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 I.C.=1.68

1 2 4 1 2 1 4 4 1 1 2 2 Phi=44  
 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 I.C.=1.91

1 5 1 1 1 1 5 2 1 1 2 1 1 2 Phi=46  
 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 I.C.=1.99

1 6 2 2 1 1 1 1 2 2 1 1 3 1 Phi=44  
 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 I.C.=1.91

It is seen that all these distributions are monoalphabetic since their observed Phi's are closer to the  $\Phi(p) = 40$ . rather than  $\Phi(r) = 23$ . Any other period assumed at four or a multiple of four, will not yield monoalphabetic distributions.



In light of the foregoing principles, we now look at two additional cryptanalytic techniques for the Vigg family. The first compares the distributions to the normal and the second is very important - completing the plain-component.

**SOLUTION BY FITTING THE DISTRIBUTIONS TO THE NORMAL**

Given message text A:

		5	10	15	20	25
A.	A U K H Y	J A M K I	Z Y M W M	J M I G X	N F M L X	
B.	E T I M I	Z H B H R	A Y M Z M	I L V M E	J K U T G	
C.	D P V X K	Q U K H Q	L H V R M	J A Z N G	G Z V X E	
D.	N L U F M	P Z J N V	C H U A S	H K Q G K	I P L W P	
E.	A J Z X I	G U M T V	D P T E J	E C M Y S	Q Y B A V	
F.	A L A H Y	P O I X W	P V N Y E	E Y X E E	U D P X R	
G.	B V Z V I	Z I I V O	S P T E G	K U B B R	Q L L X P	
H.	W F Q G K	N L L L E	P T I K W	D J Z X I	G O I O I	
J.	Z L A M V	K F M W F	N P L Z I	O V V F M	Z K T X G	
K.	N L M D F	A A E X I	J L U F M	P Z J N V	C A I G I	
L.	U A W P R	N V I W E	J K Z A S	Z L A F M	H S	

The period is 5 and the I.C. confirms this hypothesis.

We make uniliteral frequency distributions for the 5 alphabets to determine if we have standard alphabets.

Alphabet 1 I.C. = 1.44  
 5 1 2 3 3 3 2 2 6 2 1 6 1 5 3 1 2 1 6  
 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

Alphabet 2 I.C. = 1.47  
 5 1 1 3 3 1 2 4 9 1 2 5 1 2 4 4 4 3  
 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

Alphabet 3 I.C. = 1.71  
 2 3 1 8 2 2 4 8 1 1 2 3 4 5 1 1 5  
 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

Alphabet 4 I.C. = 1.36  
 3 1 1 3 4 4 4 2 2 3 3 1 1 1 2 2 4 9 2 2  
 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

Alphabet 5 I.C. = 1.91  
 6 2 4 8 1 3 7 1 2 1 4 3 5 2 2 2  
 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

Except for possibly Alphabet 1, all are standard distributions. It is clear that the Aplain for alphabets 2,3,4,5 are H,I,T,E cipher. A little experimentation gets us Aplain in alphabet 1=Wcipher. The key word under Aplain is WHITE. The five complete cipher alphabets are shown in matrix form in Figure 11-7.

Figure 11-7

```

0 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
1 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
2 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
3 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
4 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
5 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

```

Applying these values to the first groups of our message:

```

A U K H Y J A M K I Z Y M W M J M I G X N F M L X
E N C O U N T E R E D R E D I N F A N T R Y E S T

```

Look at the I.C.'s for these alphabets. The expected is 1.73. The third alphabet is almost exact. Three alphabets seem low and one is high or are they? Actually these deviations are within one sigma of the samples of these sizes 55 tallies, so the deviations are not abnormal. The standard deviations may be calculated with:

For plain text:

$$\text{Sigma (O)} = \text{Sqrt}[(0.0048)N^{**3} + (.1101)N^{**2} - (.1149) N]$$

$$\text{Sigma(I.C.)} = 26/(N-1)\text{sqrt}(N) * \text{sqrt}[(0.0048)N^{**2} + (.1101)N - (.1149) ]$$

The more important deviation is from random rather than observed:

$$\text{Sigma(Phi)} = 0.2720 \text{sqrt}[ N (N-1)]$$

$$\text{Sigma(I.C.)} = 7.0711/\text{sqrt}[N(N-1)]$$

where: sqrt is the square root function  
 The latter two equations apply to a 26 letter alphabet only.

Since simage is defined as a difference between the observed and the expected number, divided by the standard deviation, it may be shown that the I.C. of Alphabet 1 is  $1.44 - 1.00 / .13 = 3.38$  sigma over random; for this type of distribution which follows the Chi squared distribution, this amounts to 1 chance in 300 of being random.

In the foregoing example, standard alphabets were used. We could easily of used reversed standard alphabets. The U.S. Army Cipher Disk produces just this type of cipher. It is known as the Beaufort Cipher. The direction of the crests and troughs is reversed when fitting the distributions to the normal.

### SOLUTION BY COMPLETING THE PLAIN-COMPONENT SEQUENCE

When direct standard alphabets are used we can mechanically solve the cipher by completing the plain component. The plain text reappears on only one generatrix and this generatrix is the same for the whole message. It is the only generatrix that yields intelligible text. This same process can be modified to work with the alphabets of a Viggys. In this case the correct generatrix should be distinguishable from the others because it shows a more favorable assortment of high frequency letters, and thus can be selected by eye from the whole set of generatrices.

Using the previous example, we let the first ten cipher letters in each alphabet be set down in a horizontal line and the assumption is made that the alphabets are direct standard with normal sequences. See Figure 11-8.

We use the following selection rules:

1. Circle all low frequency letters J, K, Q, X, Z and discard any row that has two or more of these letters in it.
2. We weight the eight highest frequency letters (ETANORISH) as 1 and the remaining letters as 0. The sum of the weights is recorded at the side of each row.
3. Select the highest score. This works 8 out of 10 times. The correct answer is 10 out of 10 if we examine the top three scores. Friedman presents the statistical proof for this method in [FRE7].

This method works regardless of the key (which might be a number) as in the Gronsfeld Cipher.

Figure 11-8

Gen./	Alphabet 1	Alphabet 2	Alphabet 3	Alphabet 4
1	AJZZNEZAIJ	2 UAYMFTHYLK	2 KMMIMIBMVU	HKWGLMHZMT
2	BKAKOFABJK	VBZNGUIZML	LNNJNJCNWV	5 ILXHMNIANU
3	0 CLBLPGBCKL	4 WCAOHVJANM	MOOKOKDOXW	JMYINOJBOV
4	0 DMCMQHCCLM	XDBPIWKBN	2 NPPLPLEPYX	KNZJOPKCPW
5	* 7 ENDNRIDEMN	YECQJXLCPO	OQQMQMFQZY	LOAKPQLDQX
6	7 FOEOSJEFNO	ZFDRKYMDQP	7 PRRNRNGRAZ	3 MPBLQRMERY
7	2 GPFPTKFGOP	AGESLZNERQ	7 QSSOSOHSBA	NQCMRSNFSZ
8	HQGQULGHPQ	5 BHFTMAOFSR	6 RTTPTPITCB	*8 ORDNSTOGTA
9	5 IRHRVMHIQR	4 CIGUNBPGTS	SUUQUQJUDC	4 PSEOTUPHUB
10	JSISWNIJRS	DJHVOCQHUT	4 TVVRVRKVED	QTFPUVQIVC
11	KTJTXOJKST	4 EKIWPDRIVU	3 UWWSWSLWFE	RUGQVWRJWD
12	LUKUYPKLTU	FLJXQESJWV	VXXXTXMXGF	SVHRWXSXKE
13	MVLVZQLMUV	GMKYRFTKXW	1 WYYUYUNYHG	3 TWISXYTLFY
14	4 NWMWARMNVW	HNLZSGULYX	XZZVZVOZIH	UXJTYZUMZG
15	OXNXBSNOWX	4 IOMATHVMZY	5 YAAWAWPAJI	VYKUZAVNAH
16	3 PYOYCTOPXY	JPNBUIWNAZ	ZBBXBQKBJ	3 WZLVABWOBI
17	QZPZDUPQYZ	KQOCVJXOBA	2 ACCYCYRCLK	XAMWBCXPCJ
18	RAQAEVQRZA	1 LRPDWKYPCB	BDDZDZSDML	YBNXCDYQDK
19	5 SBRBFWRSAB	MSQEXLZQDC	*8 CEEAEATENM	ZCOYZEZRLE
20	4 TCSCGXSTBC	*6 NTRFYMARED	2 DFFBFBUFON	4 ADPZEFASFM
21	2 UDTDHYTUCD	5 OUSGZNBSFE	2 EGGCGCVGPO	4 BEQAFGBTGN
22	4 VEUEIZUVDE	4 PVTHAOCTGF	0 FHHDHDWHQP	2 CFRBGHCUHO
23	2 WVFVJAVWEF	1 QWUIBPDUHG	GIIEIEXIRQ	3 DGSCHIDVIP
24	XGWGKBWCFG	RXVJCQEVIIH	HJJFJFYJSR	EHTDIJEVJQ
25	YHXHLCXYGH	SYWKDRFWJI	IKKGKZKTS	FIUEJKFXKR
26	ZIYIMDYZHI	TZXLESGXKJ	2 JLLHLHALUT	GJVFKLGYLS

	Alphabet 5
1	YIMXXIRMEG
2	ZJNYYSNFH
3	AKOZZKTOGI
4	2 BLPAALUPHJ
5	CMQBBMVQIK
6	4 DNRCCNWRJL
7	EOSDDOXSKM
8	5 FPTEEPYTLN
9	GQUFFQZUMO
10	4 HRVGGRAVNP
11	4 ISWHHSBWOQ
12	JTXIITCXPR
13	KUYJJUDYQS
14	LVZKKVEZRT
15	3 MWALLWFASU
16	NXBMMXGBTV
17	3 OYCNNYHCUW
18	PZDOOZIDVX
19	QAEPPAJEWY
20	RBFQQBKFXZ
21	4 SCGRRCLGYA
22	3 TDHSSDMHQB
23	*8 UEITTENIAC
24	VFJUUFQJBD
25	WGKVVGPKE
26	XHLWWHQLDF

The high frequency generatrixes are selected and their letters are juxtaposed in columns, the consecutive letters of intelligible plain text present themselves. If reversed standard alphabets are used, we must convert the cipher letters of each isolated alphabet into their normal, plain component equivalents, and then proceed as in the case of direct standard alphabets.

For Alphabet 1, generatrix 5.. E N D N R I D E M N  
 For Alphabet 2, generatrix 20.. N T R F Y M A R E D  
 For Alphabet 3, generatrix 19.. C E E A E A T E N M  
 For Alphabet 4, generatrix 8.. O R D N S T O G T A  
 For Alphabet 5, generatrix 23.. U E I T T E N I A C

(Read down the columns for plain text.)

Friedman describes a graphical method for generatrix development in [FR7] and [FR8].

Time to move on to other family members. We shall identify the systems and peculiarities of each, but remember that the solution techniques presented for the papa bear apply equally well to the children and cousins.

## VARIANT CIPHER

The Variant Cipher is just that, a variant of the Vigenere, except that if the Viggys procedure is followed through, a peculiar keyword appears, like JYUWFT. Going back to the slides, In the Variant, the plaintext appears in the opposite slide from the one containing the key letter: Vigenere below the 'A' and Variant above the 'A'. The application of the high frequency letters is the same. The keyword is obtained in a different fashion. For the simple encipherment of COME AT ONCE with the keyword TENT:

```

T E N T      T E N T
-----      -----
C O M E      J K Z L
A T O N      H P B U
C E - -      J A - -

```

The setting of the slides for say , the initial T of the keyword is:

```

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
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

```

The decipherment of a Variant is the same as a Vigenere.

## VARIANT SOLUTION BY COMPUTER

>From our trusty CDB, I found Variant.exe and applied it to the following cryptogram:

```

UALOT SILKH RWEBN NRHNL THURD VPVCH DLSUC OABSM YMXFO QAUBR
NFHFR IBAOH YTMWT ENJVQ UPZHF AQWZ MVHTB OENJD IGIMF SULUA
BPMLZ RNFNX SMJTG DJHAF EKKSZ QWDZQ CLVRN FZXBZ WISTJ LMRNH
RZ.

```

The solution was found in two steps with a period of 7, keyword "RABBVTS" which is RABBITS, and reads: Lamp black is extensively in the manufacture of printing inks, as a pigment for oil painting and also for waxing and lacquering of leather as well as in darkening a furniture polish. Total time 2 or 3 minutes.

## BEAUFORT CIPHER

A third member of the Viggys family, the Beaufort, and while the same procedure is applied, the slides (or tables) are different. One is a normal alphabet, extending double length A-Z; the other is reversed, double length Z-A. So if I = T at one setting, then T=I at the same setting. It does not matter what the index for the key is, the results are the same.

So:

```

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGHIJKL
TSRQPONMLKJIHGFEDCBZYWXVUTSRQPONMLKJI
*                                     *

```

Again the simple example.

```

T E N T      T E N T
-----      -----
C O M E      R Q B P
A T O N      T L Z G
C E - -      R A --

```

## BEAUFORT SOLUTION BY COMPUTER NEEDS WORK

I found BEAUFORT.exe at the CDB and applied it to the following message:

LDYUP AKUPT LVDTO BXUFW SERZP QMQPD NITHA NXUHE UGZTG HMGSM  
SRCUF LBQPZ XRYOB FDMNZ TGCUP QQUFB PANAQ HBOON XOOQP DJCJK  
TPFDV TBRKL TTSZG ODUFB TETEL POIEB HRTSM DBGGA YUT.

Not so successful this time. It croaked at period = 6. The best I could get was "light-" I then reran the program with a wider key range and found that the true period was 10. After some trial and error, the keyword is LIGHTHOUSE and the message starts:

A fine head land of granite pierced by a natural arch on.. Solution time 15 minutes with at least two wrong trails.

## RELATIONSHIPS

LEDGE points out some interesting relationships between the Vigenere, Variant and Beaufort. Let A=0, B=1, C=2 .. Z=25, then:

- Vigenere: Cipher Letter = Plaintext letter + keyletter (modulo 26)
- Variant: Cipher letter = Plaintext letter - keyletter (modulo 26)
- Beaufort: Cipher letter = Keyletter - Plaintext letter (modulo 26)

Suppose plain text = B and Key = C. Since B=1 and C=2, Vigenere ciphertext = 1 + 2 = 3 or D; For Variant ciphertext 1-2=-1 +26 = 25 = Z.

For Vigenere and Variant if key letter = A, since A=0, the cipher text = plain text. If we reconstruct a cipher assuming it is a Vigenere, but it is actually a Variant, we will get the true plain text but strange keyword. By subtracting the Variant equation from the Vigenere equation and setting cipher text (Viggy) = ciphertext (Variant) and similarly plaintext (Viggy) = plaintext (Variant), we get the keyletter (Variant) = - keyletter(Vigenere) the same relationship as that between ciphertext and plaintext when the keyletter is A in the Beaufort (since A=0). Hence, we encipher our strange keyword with the A Beaufort alphabet to get the Variant key. The same holds true if we have a Variant and assume it a Viggy.

If we have a Vigenere and a fragment of the same message enciphered with the same key in Variant (or visa versa) then,

a.  $\text{Plaintext} = (\text{Ciphertext}(\text{Variant})) + \text{Ciphertext}(\text{Vigenere})/2 \pmod{13}$

b.  $\text{Key} = (\text{Ciphertext}(\text{Vigenere}) - \text{Ciphertext}(\text{Variant}))/2 \pmod{13}$

If we have a Vigenere and a fragment of a Beaufort for the same key and plaintext or visa versa then,

c.  $\text{Plaintext} = (\text{Ciphertext}(\text{Vigenere})) - \text{Ciphertext}(\text{Beaufort})/2 \pmod{13}$

d.  $\text{Key} = (\text{Ciphertext}(\text{Vigenere}) + \text{Ciphertext}(\text{Beaufort}))/2 \pmod{13}$

In equations a-d, two answers are produced because modulo 13 will give one number from 0-12 and another 13-25. Solution is by inspection.

**PORTA (aka NAPOLEON'S TABLE)**

Table 11-7 defines the PORTA Cipher. In this table the alphabets are all reciprocal, for example  $G_{plain}(W_{key}) = R_{cipher}$ ,  $R_{plain}(W_{key}) = G_{cipher}$ . They are called complementary alphabets. Either of two letters may serve as a key letter indifferently:  $G_{plain}(W_{key})$  or  $G_{plain}(X_{key}) = R_{cipher}$ .

Table 11-7

AB	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
CD	A B C D E F G H I J K L M O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z M
EF	A B C D E F G H I J K L M P Q R S T U V W X Y Z N O
GH	A B C D E F G H I J K L M Q R S T U V W X Y Z N O P
IJ	A B C D E F G H I J K L M R S T U V W X Y Z N O P Q
KL	A B C D E F G H I J K L M S T U V W X Y Z N O P Q R
MN	A B C D E F G H I J K L M T U V W X Y Z N O P Q R S
OP	A B C D E F G H I J K L M U V W X Y Z N O P Q R S T
QR	A B C D E F G H I J K L M V W X Y Z N O P Q R S T U
ST	A B C D E F G H I J K L M W X Y Z N O P Q R S T U V
UV	A B C D E F G H I J K L M X Y Z N O P Q R S T U V W
WX	A B C D E F G H I J K L M Y Z N O P Q R S T U V W X
YZ	A B C D E F G H I J K L M Z N O P Q R S T U V W X Y

The Porta Cipher permits 13 different ways to disguise a plain letter.

Again our simple encipherment:

```
T E N T   T E N T
C O M E   Y M S N
A T O N   W E I E
C E - -   Y T - -
```

A peculiarity of this system is that since half the alphabet is represented by the half of the alphabet, there never will be found the letters A-M of the plaintext appearing as A-M in the ciphertext; no N-Z plaintext appearing as the N-Z ciphertext. This helpful in placing a tip. THE shows up as a (A-M) (N-Z) (N-Z) combination. [BRYA]

Table 11-8 shows a different view of the PORTA Cipher

Table 11-8

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

Using the message text A from page 20 as an example with key word WHITE , the distribution of 5 alphabets is:

1.	2	6	2	1	6	1	5	3	1	6	5	1	2	3	3	3	2	2	1							
	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
2.	4	2	5	1	3	4	4	1	2	3	1	2	4	9	1	2	5									
	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
3.	5	3	3	2	5	1	1	3	4	7	2	2	4	8	1	1	2									
	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
4.	1	1	4	4	2	2	3	3	1	9	2	2	3	1	1	3	3	2	2	4						
	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
5.	5	2	2	2	4	3	2	1	6	2	4	9	1	3	7	1										
	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



Now we can divide the M and N distributions, and each half may be used to fit a normal distribution. In alphabet 1, the sequence CDEFGHIJ cipher may easily be recognized as NOPQRSTU plain; this would fix the keyletters as WX, and therefor the A...Mplain sequence should begin with Ycipher. In alphabets 2,3, and 5 the RSTplain sequence may be spotted at BCDcipher, ABCcipher, and CDEcipher, respectively, whereas in alphabet 4, if Ncipher = Eplain, then Ecipher = Nplain; therefore the original assumptions for the first halves will be confirmed by the goodness of fit of the distributions for the second halves. The keys fore these 5 alphabets are derived as (W,X), (G,H) (I,J), (S,T), and (E,F); from these letters we get WHITE.

In completing the plain component sequence for the Porta encipherment, the cipher letters are first converted to their Porta plain-component equivalents and then these letters are used for the decipherment. EXCEPT, cipher letters A-M are completed in a downward direction and cipher letters N-Z are completed in an upward direction.

Reference [FR7] gives the example:

```
P K T F F C D V I T O B V Z X C V R E E G I V J E
T P R K T O Q C F L P B V P X ....
```

The conversion process and plain component completion of the first three alphabets are shown below using the generatrix elimination and weighting scheme developed earlier:

	Alphabet 1	Alphabet 2	Alphabet 3
	P C O C G T O P	K D B V I P Q B	T V V R V R C V
	-----	-----	-----
1	C P B P T G B C	X Q O I V C D O	6 G I I E I E P I
3	D O C O S H C D	3 W P N J U D E N	H J J F J F O J
6	E N D N R I D E	V O Z K T E F Z	I K K G K G N K
	F Z E Z Q J E F	2 U N Y L S F G Y	J L L H L H Z L
0	G Y F Y P K F G	T Z X M R G H X	2 K M M I M I Y M
	H X G X O L G H	3 S Y W A Q H I W	L A A J A J X A
3	I W H W N M H I	R X V B P I J V	M B B K B K W B
	J V I V Z A I J	Q W U C O J K U	1 A C C L C L V C
	K U J U Y B J K	3 P V T D N K L T	0 B D D M D M U D
	L T K T X C K L	3 O U S E Z L M S	7 C E E A E A T E
2	M S L S W D L M	5 N T R F Y M A R	1 D F F B F B S F
5	A R M R V E M A	Z S Q G X A B Q	2 E G G C G C R G
	B Q A Q U F A B	1 Y R P H W B C P	0 F H H D H D Q H

The generatrixes with the highest scores are the correct ones.

## MODIFIED PORTA

Just as the Vigenere table consisting of direct standard alphabets has its complementary table of reversed standard alphabets, a variant of the Porta table can be constructed where the lower halves of the sequences run in opposite direction to the upper half. For example,

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

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

## PROBABLE WORD METHOD OF SOLUTION FOR PORTA

The probable word method is very easy way to attack a Porta cipher. Let 1 = any letter in the A-M sequence, and 2 equal any letter in the N-Z sequence.

P K T F F	C D V I T	O B V Z X	C V R E E	G I V J E
2 1 2 1 1	1 1 2 1 2	2 1 2 2 2	1 2 2 1 1	1 1 2 1 1

T P R K T	O Q C F L	P B V P X	....
2 2 2 1 2	2 2 1 1 1	2 1 2 2 2	

Use the probable word INFANTRY, which has the class notation of 12112222, but in encipherment is reversed to 21221111 pattern. At position 15, X C V R E E G I, we find:

plain	I N F A N T R Y
cipher	X C V R E E G I
key	E W G I S E W G
derived	F X H J T F X H

Read diagonally, we see WHITE repeated.

## COMPUTER SOLUTION OF PORTA

At the trusty CDB is a program called PORTA.exe. Using it on the following cipher message found a period of 9 with a possible key of KL/IJ/CD/MN/AB/OP/OP/EF/QR. I came up with the keyword LIDNAOOER

EYWRR	MOTJJ	QOHFA	LTYQV	SQFPG	EPWGT	RVGUC	DVVB	EMLMN
BYSOE	OHFKW	YARQL	PEBSB	ETVXM	WVBCV	XRTIT	JJAMX	EHADX
VCAXN	MMWZR	WALFY	BTJSP	RTLLP	LZDVD	FZHGE	PBKQR	RUKWQ
AEAOP	Y							

and behold the message cracked to:

While the Romans used leeks in the culinary depart..

The process took less than two minutes but did not yield the actual keyword or require it.

## GRONSFELD

The GRONSFELD Cipher uses a numerical key and restricts the Vigny table to just ten alphabets. We can construct a slide with one normal alphabet and numbered one like this:

... 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 ...

One half the digits are used for encipherment and the other half for decipherment. For example the key is derived as follows:

```

C O N S T I T U T I O N
1 6 4 8 9 2 10 12 11 3 7 5

```

The first duplicate letter carries the lower number.

So back to:

```

6 2 3 4      6 2 3 4
C O M E      I Q P I
A T O N      G V R R
C E - -      I G - -

```

Slide method: put the 0 over the C, take the letter to the right in juxtaposition of the 6 = I, same for A which is G and so on. We decipher by looking to the left.

A typical decipherment might look like this for the test word "YOUR":

```

      0 2 4 7      0 2 4 7      0 2 4 7      0 2
T S V H Y Q B V Y I G L M G U X A S R M F K C I A A O V I Z
-----
S R U G Y O U R X F H K M E N T Z R Q L F I V E Z Z N U I X
-----
R Q T F      W G E J      Y Q P K      Y Y M T
Q P S E      V F D I      X P O J      W W K R

T S V H Y Q B V Y I G L M G U X A S R M F K C I A A O V I Z
-----
Y      9 0 3 0 8      8 2      7 4 2 2
O      2 7      6 4      0
U      7 4      3      1
R      4      9

```

## LECTURE 11 PROBLEMS

### 11.1 Viggys.

SYCVT HFXEQ DPTLN KTGMP FHMPA SRVIT LSEXH DPITX  
KELIQ WDXEC VNLIP HPWXD XXIXH UTRIH.

### 11.2 Beaufort.

SXSXZ IYLEQ AWEQF EZEPP QZQRD VANKH HLZJX OQSEU  
YSOVS SZKLE DRMRU THTUW SCLOX NEHLA OPEEU GAZIA  
UUOQG OJX.

### 11.3 Variant.

JQRSB YBKNF WWTGK UXDTK ZAOAA MCVJU KBCEX GUYLB  
UASWY TIENQ XLPYX CWASU VAKOM XIGIK XHWZT SWGOP  
WRTSJ NAWG.

### 11.4 Gronsfeld.

ZRWQU IKLMS IXAWI UQMWP KFQEL RBWJG XHIXT NLVKS ZHVHS  
ZRUEK KWPI M GSXIA XVUEL RHZPI SLBWT NHU.

### 11.5 Viggys or Beaufort; same message and key starts ONOIHT.

ORQGX HPNKW QQCHI ABIFZ NQCHR VLVLU HYUDT MCYJN WAUHP  
HLVIN BZCCB GCGKZ JNLMM WTVLY DYCCV JPUVG KLKQX YTTKI  
XOQYB JJMHJ BYHQY LFQWF NRYUC XCECN GPCBW TPAXE ABKGC  
PVHKL OIKQW TPKOW KNCMM HFFAV A.

**ANSWERS TO LECTURE 10 PROBLEMS**

Thanks to JOE O for a fine analysis of all three problems.

QQ-1 QUAGMIRE I Travelogue. (Ends:SINGOUTOFTHESEA) RHIZOME

```
1234567 1234567 1234567 1234567 1234567 1234567 1234567
THEFIRS TIMEaVI SITOREX CLAIMSA HROMANT ICVENIC ESINKIN
KKQHPQR KTYOITA TLGAWBM XORKTAT BS00IYI CGICEJV UCYZRJP

ALNSFRZ UCQDXIS TDRBFYS YTFDZBD USQWKMT CPPDOAI CAAKEHK

UAYFHQA TLNIFSI SIGJHAS V.
```

QQ-1 Quagmire I Solution.

VERDICT/nose. Period =7.  
 The first time visitor exclaims "Ah, romantic Venice sinking into the sea." The seasoned traveler exclaims,"Ah, stinking Venice rising out of the sea."

```
0 A B C D F G H I J K L M P Q R T U V W X Y Z N O S E
1 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
2 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
3 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
4 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
5 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
6 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
7 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
```

QQ-2 QUAGMIRE III Tedious. (CRYPTANALYTIC METHODS) DOPPELSCHACH  
 Period= 6

```
12345 61234 56123 45612 34561 23456 12345 61234 56123
THETI MEREQ UIRED BYS.....
PNATV SJBAQ WGMTR BZYL U ACACR GBNTQ FGGCN APNID ULMVD

SCEPB AMCQF BBPVR EOBSL AFSAN HFYVV MCYTF LEMAO MFHVU

KBAAU ATTEA NGOHU GTQEX ISUGU SAKCC TLIRT TLSZM PBMGV

APYRV YIIGL WGNUF JFROG SNQGN HBOTU TACUO JUVQH HUGWW

WBIMT WNHVO GTLSZ MPYQZ BNCEN UWLC.
```

HARDER/decorative. Period = 6. The time required by some cryptanalytic methods grows extremely rapidly as key length or message length increases. All possible keys for a columnar transposition instead of making an entry by building up a from a pair of columns is an example.

```
0 D E C O R A T I V B F G H J K L M N P Q S V W X Y Z
1 H J K L M N P Q S V W X Y Z D E C O R A T I V B F G
2 A T I V B F G H J K L M N P Q S V W X Y Z D E C O R
3 R A T I V B F G H J K L M N P Q S V W X Y Z D E C O
4 D E C O R A T I V B F G H J K L M N P Q S V W X Y Z
5 E C O R A T I V B F G H J K L M N P Q S V W X Y Z D
```

(BUSINESSACTIVITYDURINGAPERIOD)

THEEC ONOMY OFTHE NATIO .....  
 TDNSE PMBSV FURMQ UFYSJ PAGGY FVIKT GYVLV FBTPH IIIAD

HVIUY QSAFA VQVFU HPIHE BIXNN HBSTN IRMQH IIIAD OVIXT

CTNOW EOJOZ BOWBU ONLFN GOBJS HBOQS VZMOU JSFQH SAHPS

JBBJT AAMIE XILRA TOTVL TUAML FLNEJ PPMNT XHVQV FCYSB

JODNF XJSFT UIUTM ONKDO UMMSB NWUL.

EXCHANGE/stock/MARKET. The economy of the Nation is built on supply and demand, the result of inflation. Recession is a temporary falling off of business activity during a period when such activity has been generally increasing..

0 S T O C K A B D E F G H I J L M N P Q R U V W X Y Z  
 1 E T B C D F G H I J L N O P Q S U V W X Y Z M A R K  
 2 X Y Z M A R K E T B C D F G H I J L N O P Q S U V W  
 3 C D F G H I J L N O P Q S U V W X Y Z M A R K E T B  
 4 H I J L N O P Q S U V W X Y Z M A R K E T B D E F G  
 5 A R K E T B C D F G H I J L N O P Q S U V W X Y Z M  
 6 N O P Q S U V W X Y Z M A R K E T B D E F G H I J L  
 7 G H I J L N O P Q S U V W X Y Z M A R K E T B D E F  
 8 E T B C D F G H I J L N O P Q S U V W X Y Z M A R K

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