

Prologue: A Simple Machine

<http://introc.cs.princeton.edu>

Prologue: A Simple Machine

- Brief introduction
- Secure communication with a one-time pad
- Linear feedback shift registers
- Implications

CS.0.A.Prologue.Introduction

What is this course about?

A broad introduction to **computer science**.

Goals

- Demystify computer systems.
- Empower you to exploit available technology.
- Build awareness of substantial intellectual underpinnings.



Topics

- **Programming** in Java.
- **Design** and architecture of computers.
- **Theory** of computation.
- **Applications** in science and engineering.

and art, music, finance,
and many other fields.

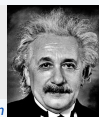
*"Science is everything we understand
well enough to explain to a computer."*

— Don Knuth



*"Computers are incredibly fast, accurate, and stupid;
humans are incredibly slow, inaccurate, and brilliant;
together they are powerful beyond imagination."*

— Albert Einstein



3

Image sources

<http://pixabay.com/en/network-media-binary-computer-65923/>
<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:KnuthAtOpenContentAlliance.jpg>
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Einstein-formal_portrait-35.jpg

CS.0.A.Prologue.Introduction

Prologue: A Simple Machine

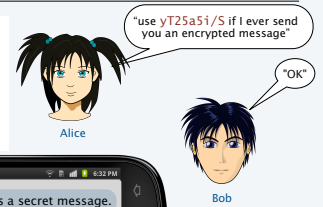
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CS.0.B.Prologue.OneTimePad

Sending a secret message with a cryptographic key

Alice wants to send a secret message to Bob.

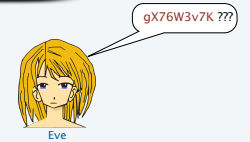
- Sometime in the past, they exchange a **cryptographic key**.
- Alice uses the key to encrypt the message.
- Bob uses the *same* key to decrypt the message.



encrypted message gx76W3v7K is "in the clear" (anyone can read it)

Critical point: Without the key, Eve cannot understand the message.

Q. How does the system work?



6

Encrypt/decrypt methods

Goal. Design a method to encrypt and decrypt data.

S	E	N	D	M	O	N	E	Y
g	X	7	6	W	3	v	7	K
S	E	N	D	M	O	N	E	Y

↓ encrypt
↓ decrypt



Example 1. **Enigma encryption machine** [German code, WWII]

- Broken by Turing bombe (one of the first uses of a computer).
- Broken code helped win Battle of Atlantic by providing U-boat locations.

Example 2. **One-time pad** [details to follow]

Example 3. **Linear feedback shift register** [later this lecture]

7

A digital world

A *bit* is a basic unit of information.

- Two possible values (0 or 1).
- Easy to represent in the physical world (*on* or *off*).

In modern computing and communications systems, we represent *everything* as a sequence of bits.

- Text [details to follow in this lecture]
- **Numbers**
- Sound [details to follow in this course]
- Pictures [details to follow in this course]
- ...
- Programs [profound implications, stay tuned].



$$0100101_2 = 69_{10}$$

Bottom line. If we can send and receive bits, we can send and receive *anything*.

well, not cars or cats (yet)

8

Encoding text as a sequence of bits

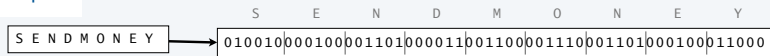
Base64 encoding of character strings

- A simple method for representing text.
- 64 different symbols allowed: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, +, /.
- 6 bits to represent each symbol.
- ASCII and Unicode methods used on your computer are similar.

	bits	symbols
Base64	6	64
ASCII	8	256
Unicode	16	65,536+

000000	A	001000	I	010000	Q	011000	Y	100000	g	101000	o	110000	w	111000	4
000001	B	001001	J	010001	R	011001	Z	100001	h	101001	p	110001	x	111001	5
000010	C	001010	K	010010	S	011010	a	100010	i	101010	q	110010	y	111010	6
000011	D	001011	L	010011	T	011011	b	100011	j	101011	r	110011	z	111011	7
000100	E	001100	M	010100	U	011100	c	100100	k	101100	s	110100	0	111100	8
000101	F	001101	N	010101	V	011101	d	100101	l	101101	t	110101	1	111101	9
000110	G	001110	O	010110	W	011110	e	100110	m	101110	u	110110	2	111110	+
000111	H	001111	P	010111	X	011111	f	100111	n	101111	v	110111	3	111111	/

Example:

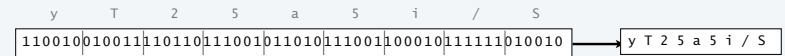


9

One-Time Pads

What is a one-time pad?

- A *cryptographic key* known only to the sender and receiver.
- Good choice: A *random* sequence of bits (stay tuned).
- Security depends on each sequence being used only once.



000000	A	001000	I	010000	Q	011000	Y	100000	g	101000	o	110000	w	111000	4
000001	B	001001	J	010001	R	011001	Z	100001	h	101001	p	110001	x	111001	5
000010	C	001010	K	010010	S	011010	a	100010	i	101010	q	110010	y	111010	6
000011	D	001011	L	010011	T	011011	b	100011	j	101011	r	110011	z	111011	7
000100	E	001100	M	010100	U	011100	c	100100	k	101100	s	110100	0	111100	8
000101	F	001101	N	010101	V	011101	d	100101	l	101101	t	110101	1	111101	9
000110	G	001110	O	010110	W	011110	e	100110	m	101110	u	110110	2	111110	+
000111	H	001111	P	010111	X	011111	f	100111	n	101111	v	110111	3	111111	/

more convenient than bits for initial exchange

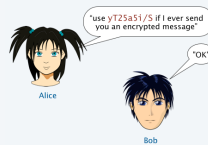
Note: Any sequence of bits can be decoded into a sequence of characters.

10

Encryption with a one-time pad

Preparation

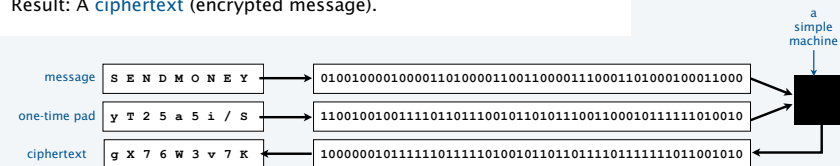
- Create a "random" sequence of bits (a one-time pad).
- Send one-time pad to intended recipient through a secure channel.



Encryption

- Encode text as a sequence of N bits.
- Use the first N bits of the pad. important point: need to have as many bits in the pad as there are in the message.
- Compute a new sequence of N bits from the message and the pad.
- Decode result to get a sequence of characters.

Result: A **ciphertext** (encrypted message).



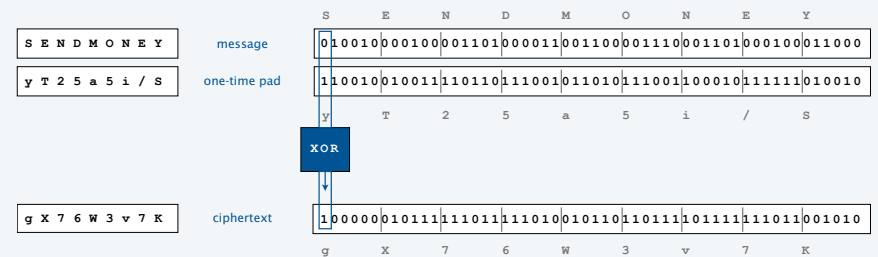
11

A (very) simple machine for encryption

To compute a ciphertext from a message and a one-time pad

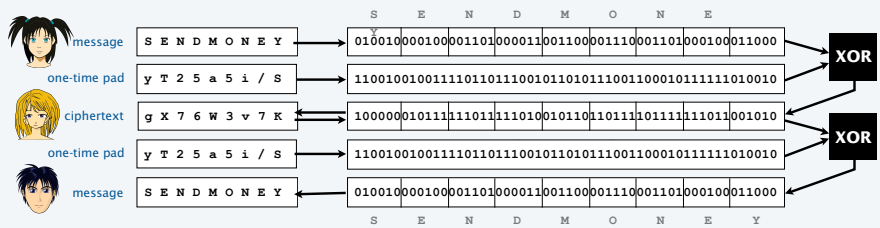
- Encode message and pad in binary.
- Each ciphertext bit is the *bitwise exclusive or* of corresponding bits in message and pad.

Def. The *bitwise exclusive or* of two bits is 1 if they differ, 0 if they are the same.



12

Why does it work?



Crucial property: Decrypted message is the same as the original message.
 Let m be a bit of the message and k be the corresponding bit of the one-time pad.
To prove: $(m \wedge k) \wedge k = m$ ← Notation: $m \wedge k$ is equivalent to XOR(m, k)

Approach 1: Truth tables

m	k	$m \wedge k$	$(m \wedge k) \wedge k$
0	0	0	0
0	1	0	0
1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1

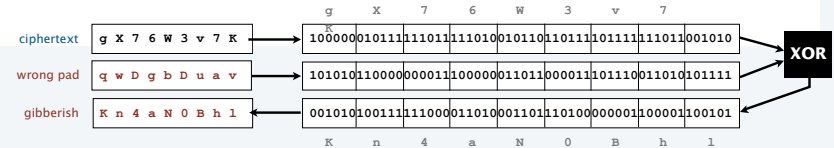
Approach 2: Boolean algebra

$$\begin{aligned}
 (k \wedge k) &= 0 \\
 m \wedge 0 &= m \\
 (m \wedge k) \wedge k &= m \wedge (k \wedge k) \\
 &= m \wedge 0 \\
 &= m
 \end{aligned}$$

17

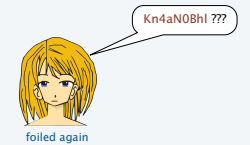
Decryption with the wrong pad

Eve *cannot* read a message without knowing the pad.



One-time pad is **provably secure** [Shannon, 1940s]

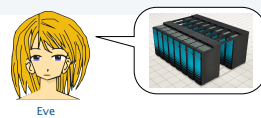
- IF each pad is used only once,
- AND the pad bits are random,
- THEN Eve cannot distinguish ciphertext from random bits.



18

Eve's problem with one-time pads

Eve has a computer. Why not try all possibilities?



Problem

- 54 bits, so there are 2^{54} possible pad values.
- Suppose Eve could check a million values per second.
- It would still take 570+ years to check all possibilities.

Much worse problem

- There are also 2^{54} possible messages.
- If Eve were to check all the pads, she'd see all the *messages*.
- No way to distinguish the real one from any other.

One-time pad is **provably secure**.

pad value	message?
AAAAAAAAA	gX76W3v7K
AAAAAAAAAB	gX76W3v7L
AAAAAAAAAC	gX76W3v7I
...	
qwDgbDuav	Kn4aN0Bh1
...	
tTtpwk+1E	NEWTATTOO
...	
yT25a5i/S	SENDMONEY
...	
/////////+	fo7FpIQE0
/////////	fo7FpIQE1

19

Goods and bads of one-time pads

Goods.

- Very simple encryption method.
- Decrypt with the same method.
- Provably unbreakable if bits are truly random.
- Widely used in practice.

ZJHAWW EUNAWO PCEIPE WHIEP PAFPEZY URMKE JETLBC YSDFP
 HFDVTV HVEVES ENHICA DQWVF PACEIE ENLSUR BZIQBU DQZAR
 WYDSES TULCST WRESEI SEZDVS WRFJFE AJEDOC KQVTHA WYKQW
 QMREK VYVYCS WQWAGC DQWVW GCNEM LBNLVR SEBDCD PCFLJF
 QWQEP FCEJLJ ZQWVW QWVWV WQVJH WMBER SBRUJL HGAHPE
 QWVWV FRTWV JQWMT AGARD QVCTE VYUWH LQWVF UTTLE
 ERFEPZ AGARD ENQVY ZQVWV VYVYCS WQVJH WMBER HGAHPE

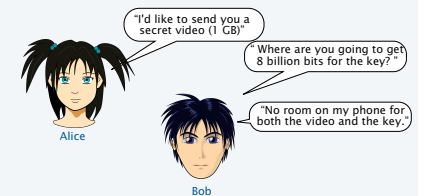
 a one-time pad



cold war hotline

Bads.

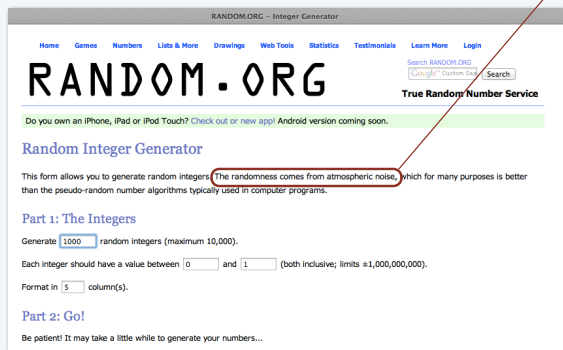
- Easily breakable if seed is re-used.
- Truly random bits are very hard to come by.
- Need separate secure channel to distribute key.
- Pad must be as long as the message.



20

Random bits are not so easy to find

You might look on the internet.



The randomness comes from atmospheric noise



"I think I'll call it random.org"

... if you trust the internet.

Next: Creating a (long) sequence of "pseudo-random" bits from a (short) key.

21

Image sources

<https://opencart.org/detail/25617/astrid-graerber-adult-by-anonymous-25617>
<https://opencart.org/detail/169320/girl-head-by-jza>
<https://opencart.org/detail/191873/manga-girl---true-svg--by-j4p4n-191873>
<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Enigma-Machine.jpg>
<http://pixabay.com/en/binary-one-null-ball-administrator-63530/>
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Jimmy_Carter_Library_and_Museum_99.JPG

CS.0.B.Prologue.OneTimePad

Prologue: A Simple Machine

- Brief introduction
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- **Linear feedback shift registers**
- Implications

CS.0.C.Prologue.LFSR

A pseudo-random number generator

is a *deterministic* machine that produces a long sequence of *pseudo random* bits.

Examples

Enigma.

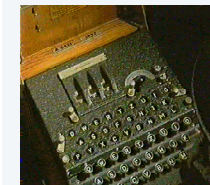
Linear feedback shift register (next).

Blum-Blum-Shub generator.

...

[an early application of computing]

[research still ongoing]



"Anyone who considers arithmetical methods of producing random digits is, of course, in a state of sin."

— John von Neumann



24

A random bit sequence?

Q. Is this a random sequence?



Looks random to me.

No long repeats.
997 0s, 1003 1s.
256 00s, 254 01s, 256 10s, 257 11s.
...

one-time pad in our example

```

11001001001111011011100101101011100110001011111010010000100110100101111001100100111111011100000101
0110001000011101010011010000111001001100111011111010100000100001000101001010100011000001011110001
00100110101011110001101001101100111101011100100010011101010111010000010100100010001101010111000
000010110000010011100010111011010010101001100001111110011000001111100011000010111100111010011110
10011001001110111011010101010000000001000000010000001000100001010101001000000011010000011100
1000110111010111010100001010000101000100100010101010000110000100111100101110011100101110111001001
0101101100001010111001000010111010010010010101000111101101100101010111000001001100000101111001
00100011101101011010100011000011011101101010010110000110011100111110111000010100110010001111101
01000010001110010101110000110101100111000111101101100010101110100110101011100001110001100100101
111111101000000010010000010101000100100101011110000100001100101001111000110001101010110101010
1101010101100000101110001110101010100010100010110111001010100111000001110100011010110110000
10101011010000011001000011110100110001001111010111000100010101010100110000001111000011000110011
1101111100101000011000100110110101110110001001011010100100011100010110011010011111001110000
1110110011001011111100100000011010000110100101100101101111010101000100000010101000010000010
01010001010000101001110100011101001011010011001111111000000001100000011100000110011000111
11110110000001011000010010100101001110011110011100011100110110011110111100010100010100010
11001010010111000110010101111001101000111001011001110110101010010001100110101111111
00010000011010001110000101101001001011101110100101001001100011011110110100010101001010000011
00010001111010101100100000111101000110010010111101100100010111010100100100001101101001110110011101
01111010001000100101010101100000001110000011011000110101011110000010001100010101111010
    
```

A. No. It is the output of an [11, 9] LFSR with seed 01101000010!

It is pseudo-random
(at least to some observers).

Pop quiz on LFSRs

Q. Give first 10 steps of [5, 4] LFSR with initial fill 00001.

Pop quiz on LFSRs

Q. Give first 10 steps of [5, 4] LFSR with initial fill 00001.

```

0 0 0 0 1 0
0 0 0 1 0 0
0 0 1 0 0 0
0 1 0 0 0 1
1 0 0 1 1
0 0 0 1 1 0
0 0 1 1 0 0
0 1 1 0 0 1
1 1 0 0 1 0
1 0 0 1 0 1
0 0 1 0 1 0
    
```

Encryption/decryption with an LFSR

Preparation

- Alice creates a book of "random" (short) seeds.
- Alice sends the book to Bob through a secure channel.

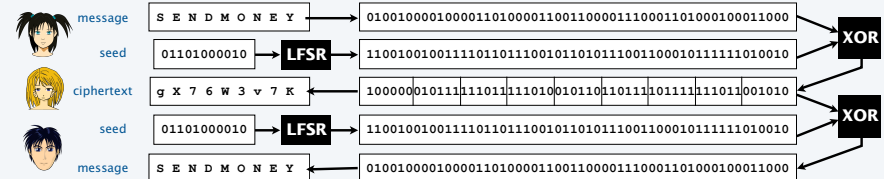


"Use the next seed in the book to decode this secret video (1 GB)"

"OK (consults book) 01101000010"

Encryption/decryption

- Alice sends Bob a description of which seed to use.
- They use the specified seed to initialize an LFSR and produce N bits. [and proceed in the same way as for one-time pads]

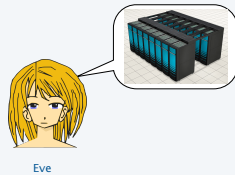


Eve's opportunity with LFSR encryption

Without the seed, Eve cannot read the message.

Eve has computers. Why not try all possible seeds?

- Seeds are short, messages are long.
- All seeds give a tiny fraction of all messages.
- Extremely likely that all but real seed will produce gibberish.



Good news (for Eve): This approach can work.

- Ex: 11-bit register implies 2047 possibilities.
- Extremely likely that only *one* of those is not gibberish.
- After this course, *you* could write a program to check whether any of the 2047 messages have words in the dictionary.

Bad news (for Eve): It is easy for Alice and Bob to use a much longer LFSR.

33

Key properties of LFSRs

Property 1.

- Don't use all 0s as a seed!
- Fill of all 0s will not otherwise occur.



34

Key properties of LFSRs

Property 1.

- Don't use all 0s as a seed!
- Fill of all 0s will not otherwise occur.

Ex. [4,3] LFSR

0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	1
0	0	1	1	0
0	1	1	0	1
1	1	0	1	0
1	0	1	0	1
0	1	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	0	0
1	1	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	1

Property 2. Bitstream must eventually cycle.

- $2^N - 1$ nonzero fills in an N -bit register.
- Future output completely determined by current fill.

35

Key properties of LFSRs

Property 1.

- Don't use all 0s as a seed!
- Fill of all 0s will not otherwise occur.

Ex. [4,2] LFSR

0	0	1	0	1
0	1	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	1

Property 2. Bitstream must eventually cycle.

- $2^N - 1$ nonzero fills in an N -bit register.
- Future output completely determined by current fill.

Property 3. Cycle length in an N -bit register is *at most* $2^N - 1$.

- Could be smaller; cycle length depends on tap positions.
- Need theory of finite groups to know good tap positions.

36

Prologue: A Simple Machine

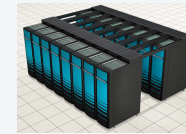
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CS.0.D.Prologue.Implications

LFSRs and general-purpose computers



LFSR



computer

component	LFSR	computer
control	start, stop, load	same
clock		same
memory	12 bits	billions of bits
input	12 bits	bit sequence
computation	shift, XOR	+ - * / ...
output	pseudo-random bit sequence	any computable bit sequence

Important similarities.

- Both are built from simple components.
- Both scale to handle huge problems.
- Both require careful study to use effectively.

Critical differences: Operations, input. ← but the simplest computers differ only slightly from LFSRs!

- General purpose computer can simulate *any* abstract machine.
- All general purpose computers have equivalent power (!) [stay tuned].

42

A Profound Idea

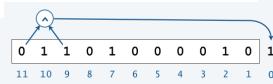
Programming. We can write a Java program to simulate the operation of **any** abstract machine.

- Basis for theoretical understanding of computation.
- Basis for bootstrapping real machines into existence.

Stay tuned (we cover these sorts of issues in this course).

YOU will be writing code like this within a few weeks.

```
public class LFSR
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        int[] a = { 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0 };
        for (int t = 0; t < 2000; t++)
        {
            a[0] = (a[11] ^ a[9]);
            System.out.print(a[0]);
            for (int i = 11; i > 0; i--)
                a[i] = a[i-1];
            System.out.println();
        }
    }
}
```



```
% java LFSR
11001001000111011011100101101011100110001
0111110100100001001101001011110011001001
11111101110000010101100010000111010100110
10000111001001100111011111010100000100
00100010100101010001100000101111000100100
1101011011110001101001101100111101...
```

43

Profound questions

Q. What is a random number?

LFSRs *do not* produce random numbers.

- They are *deterministic*. ← von Neumann's "state of sin"; we know that "deterministic" is incompatible with "random"
- It is not obvious how to distinguish the bits LFSRs produce from random,
- BUT experts have figured out how to do so.

Q. Are random processes found in nature?

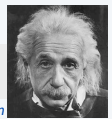
- Motion of cosmic rays or subatomic particles?
- Mutations in DNA?



Q. Is the natural world a (not-so-simple) deterministic machine??

"God does not play dice."

— Albert Einstein



44

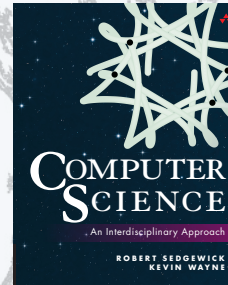
COMPUTER SCIENCE
SEDGEWICK / WAYNE
PART I: PROGRAMMING IN JAVA

Image sources

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CS.0.D.Prologue.Implications

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A Simple Machine