Day 1: Cryptography & Cryptocurrencies

Welcome!

Today:

1. Course overview
2. Logistics
3. Lecture
   - character representation
   - rotation ciphers
   - using Replit
4. Problem work
5. Solution Presentations

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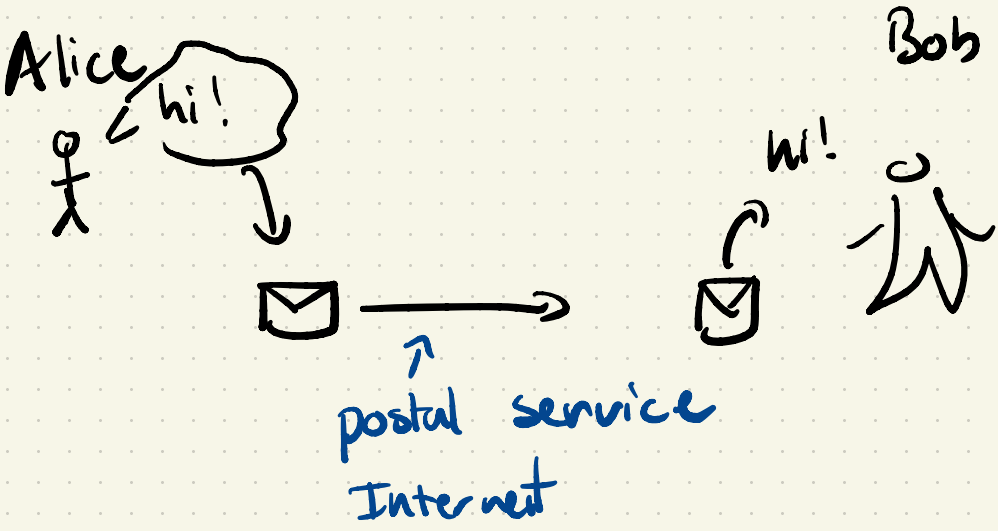
1. cryptography
   - crypto: hidden
   - graphy: writing



might

- not deliver msg → oh well
- read msg → crypto!
- tamper with msg → crypto!

"confidentiality"
"privacy"

"integrity"
"authenticity"

classic crypto:

- communicating w/o trusting messenger

modern crypto: } this course

- finance w/o trusting a bank
- voting w/o trusting the polls
- outsourcing w/o trusting the cloud

common idea:

"co-operation without trust"

Schedule:

Part I: Cryptography

- symmetric encryption
- hash functions
- groups & modular arithmetic
- key exchange
- digital signatures

Part II: crypto currency

- UTXO model
- Proof-of-work
- a block-chain
- bonus lecture:
  - elliptic curves OR
  - private crypto currencies OR
  - multi-party computation.

[2] Logistics

Ethos: balance of lecture and problem-based learning.

Every class:

- short lecture
- problem work / some problems required - some are bonus
  - Replit
  - groups! < shared code / separate code

- solution presentations
  - "harkness style"

After class: finish required problems (and bonus problems)

Before class: office hours.
- → have to attend with a friend.
- → schedule on Canvas

3a Data representation

characters —(ASCII (or UTF-8))→ numbers → bits

- characters: meaningful to humans
- a "string" is a sequence of characters
- numbers: good for doing math (and crypto)
- bits: can be stored in a computer

characters:

can be very complex!

- accents: Özdemir
- emoji: 😀
- layout control: "change to R→L layout"

in this class we'll limit ourselves to ASCII characters

→ those on a US keyboard (more or less)

→ ASCII also defines a 'code' (number) for each character between 0 and 255

1 byte - 8 bits.

→ see asciitable.com

contiguous

a ↦ 97 A ↦ 65
b ↦ 98
⋮
z ↦ 122 Z ↦ 90
{ ↦ 123

Writing numbers as bits (binary)

Normally we write #s in "base 10"

5 6 1 5×10^2 6×10^1 1×10^0 ✓

5 hundreds, 6 tens, 1 one

We can also write #s in "base 2"

binary #: 0 0 1 0 1 1

leading zeros

$1\times2^3 + 0\times2^2 + 1\times2^1 + 1\times2^0 = 11$

"eights" "fours" "twos" "ones"

#→binary

15 = 7 ✗ 7 ✗ 1

1111 or 00001111 or 01111

in Python `int('001111', 2) == 15` ✓

`f"{15:06b}" == '001111'` ✓

3b Rotation cipher

idea: encrypt letters by "rotating" them: rot 3

msg:	a	b	c	d	e	...	x	y	z
ct:	d	e	f	g	h	...	a	b	c

↑ "ciphertext"

msg: b a d

↓

ct: e d g

key: amount to rotate by: from 0 to 25.

Welcome to Replit.