


Thomas Jefferson


1743-1826, America




Wheel cipher (1790s)

- Polyalphabetic
- Mixed alphabets
- Key determines sequence of 36 wheels


Jefferson himself used nomenclators, and, on at least one occasion, a Vigenère cipher






Wheel Cipher I


Reinvented by Etienne Bazeries (1846-1931, France) in 1890s (with 20 disks á 25 letters)





Wheel Cipher II

•Parker Hitt introduced the cipher wheel (as a strip cipher) to the American military in 1914.



Wheel Cipher III



•In different versions (M94 after WW I, M138 in WW II) used in the first half of the 20th century






Wheel Cipher Examples

Examples use
<http://members.aon.at/cipherclerk/VirtualM94.html>

Encrypt: This is the winter of my discontent,
 keyword: Wellington


Decrypt:RYFAWUVZQJSGSMCJFH TXQWQUO,
 keyword: codebreakers



ADFGX

ADXDA XGFXG DAXXGX GDADFF GXDAG


?



ADFGX and ADFGVX


ADXDA XGFXXG DAXXGX GDADFF GXDAG

- Invented by Fritz Nebel (1891-1967)
- Combination of digraphic substitution (like Polybius) and transposition (based on keyword)
- Introduced by German intelligence as ADFGX in 1918 as a field cipher.
- Later, a sixth letter, V, was added: ADFGVX
- Fractional system



Field Cipher?

A	.-
D	...
F	...-
G	--.
V	...-
X	...-



ADFGX Encryption

1. Step: digraphic substitution

f i e l d c i p h e r


AG FD XD FA FF AA FD GF GA XD XA

A	D	F	G	X		
A	c	o	x	f	m	
D	k	a	z	n	w	
F	l	i	j	d	s	y
G	h	u	p	v	b	
X	r	e	q	t	g	

2. Step: columnar transposition

g e r m a n
A G F D X D
F A F F A A
F D G F G A
X D X A

Ciphertext:
XAGGA DDAFF XDFFA DAAFF GX



ADFGX Examples

Encrypt: Im Westen nichts neues
using keyword: nebel

	A	D	F	G	X
A	c	o	x	f	m
D	k	a	z	n	w
F	l	ij	d	s	y
G	h	u	p	v	b
X	r	e	q	t	g

Decrypt (same key as before):

FFXDX XXAXG DXDAG DGXGD AGDDA XGDAX
FDXFX DXGAG DAFGZ DFDAD
