ENHANCING THE DATA SECURITY OF SIMPLE COLUMNAR TRANSPOSITION CIPHER BY CAESAR CIPHER AND RAIL FENCE CIPHER TECHNIQUE.

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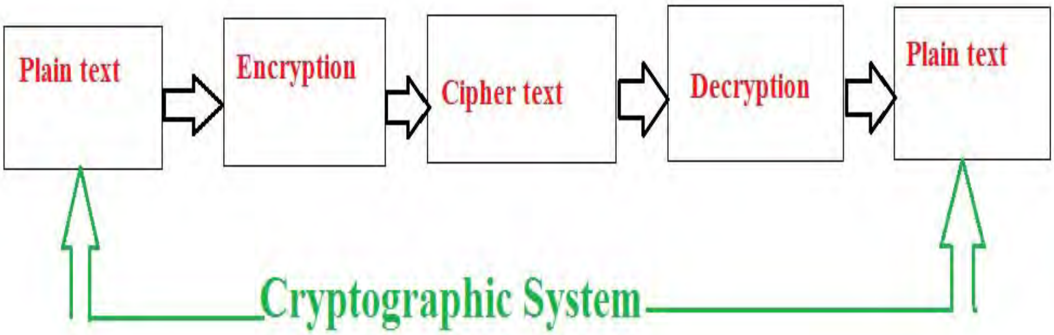
Abstract

Cryptography is an art and science of converting original message into no readable form. There are two techniques for converting data into no readable form. Transposition technique ,Substitution technique. In recent years there is drastic progress in Internet world. Sensitive information can be shared through internet but this information sharing is susceptible to certain attacks. Cryptography was introduced to solve this problem. Cryptography is art for achieving security by encoding the plain text message to cipher text. Substitution and transposition are techniques for encoding. When Caesar cipher substitution, Rail fence cipher and Columnar Transposition Cipher techniques are used individually, cipher text obtained is easy to crack. This talk will present a perspective on combination of techniques substitution and transposition. Combining Caesar cipher and rail fence with Columnar Transposition Cipher can eliminate their fundamental weakness and produce a cipher text that is hard to crack. In this paper I am going to design a new algorithm that enhance the security of Simple Columnar Transposition Cipher using existing technique of rail fence and Caesar cipher.

Keywords— Cryptography, Cipher text, Substitution, Transposition, Caesar Cipher, Columnar Transposition Cipher, cryptanalysis.

I. INTRODUCTION

This modern era is dominated by paperless offices-mail messages-cash transactions and virtual departmental stores. Due to this there is a great need of interchanging of data through internet. The dramatic rise of internet has opened the possibilities that no one had imagined. We can connect to any person, any organization or any computer, no matters how far we are from them. Internet cannot be used only for browsing purpose. Sensitive information like banking transactions, credit card information and confidential data can be shared through internet. But still we are left with a difficult job of protecting network from variety of attacks. With the lots of efforts, network support staff came up with solution to our problem named “Cryptography”. Cryptography is the art of achieving security by encoding the data into unreadable form. Data that can be read and understood without any difficulty is called plain text or clear text. The method of encoding Plain text in such a way as to hide its content is called encryption. Encrypting plain text results in unreadable gibberish called cipher text. You use Encryption to ensure that information is hidden from anyone for whom it is not intended, even those who can see the encrypted data. The process of reverting cipher text to its original plain text is called decryption



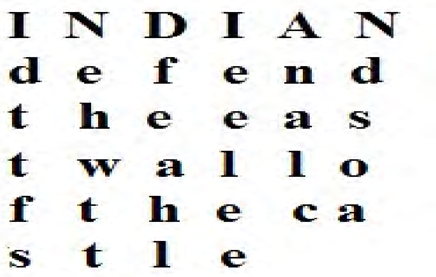
There are two primary ways in which plaintext can b codified to corresponding Cipher text: Substitution and Transposition. A Substitution technique is one in which the letters of Plain text are replaced by other letters or by numbers(Caesar Cipher , Hill Cipher, Monoalphabetic cipher etc).A Transposition technique is one in which the letters of the message are rearranged or permuted. (Rail Fence method, Columnar method etc.). The columnar transposition cipher is a fairly simple, easy to implement cipher. It is a transposition cipher that follows a simple rule for mixing up the characters in the plaintext to form the cipher text. Although weak on its own, it can be combined with other ciphers, such as a substitution cipher, the combination of which can be more difficult to break than either cipher on it's own.

2. Columnar Transposition Cipher

The columnar transposition cipher is a fairly simple, easy to implement cipher. It is a transposition cipher that follows a simple rule for mixing up the characters in the plaintext to form the ciphertext.Although weak on its own, it can be combined with other ciphers, such as a substitution cipher, the combination of which can be more difficult to break than either cipher on it's own.

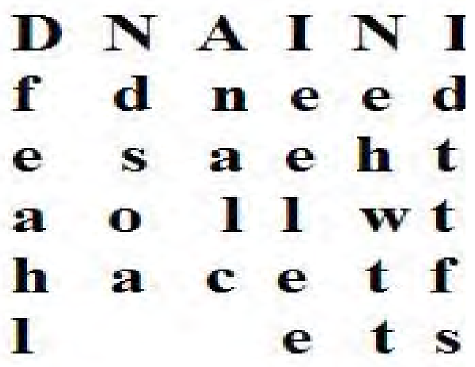
A. ***Example***

The key for the columnar transposition cipher is a keyword e.g. INDIAN. The row length that is used is the same as the length of the keyword. To encrypt a piece of text, e.g.defend the east wall of the castle,we write it out in a special way in a number of rows (the keyword here is INDIAN):



I	N	D	I	A	N
d	e	f	e	n	d
t	h	e	e	a	s
t	w	a	l	l	o
f	t	h	e	c	a
s	t	l	e		

In the above example, the plaintext has been padded so that it neatly fits in a rectangle. This is known as a regular columnar transposition. An irregular columnar transposition leaves these characters blank, though this makes decryption slightly more difficult. The columns are now reordered such that the letters in the key word are ordered alphabetically.



D	N	A	I	N	I
f	d	n	e	e	d
e	s	a	e	h	t
a	o	l	l	w	t
h	a	c	e	t	f
l			e	t	s

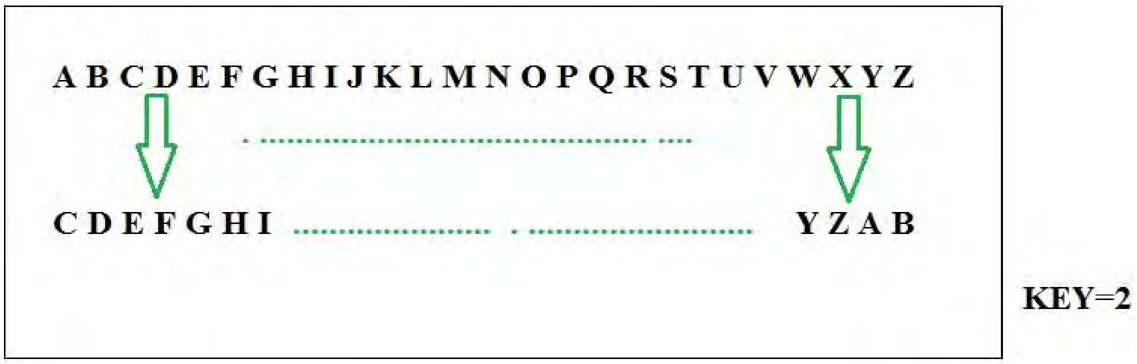
The ciphertext is read off along the columns:

dttfsehwttfeahleeleenalcdsoa

3. CAESAR CIPHER

When Julius Caesar sent messages to his generals, he didn't trust his messengers. So he replaced every A in his messages with a D, every B with an E, and so on through the alphabet. Only someone who knew the “shift by 3” rule could decipher his messages

C = E (k, p) = (p + k) mod26



Example ” **KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY KURUKSHETRA**” is encoded as (Key=2)

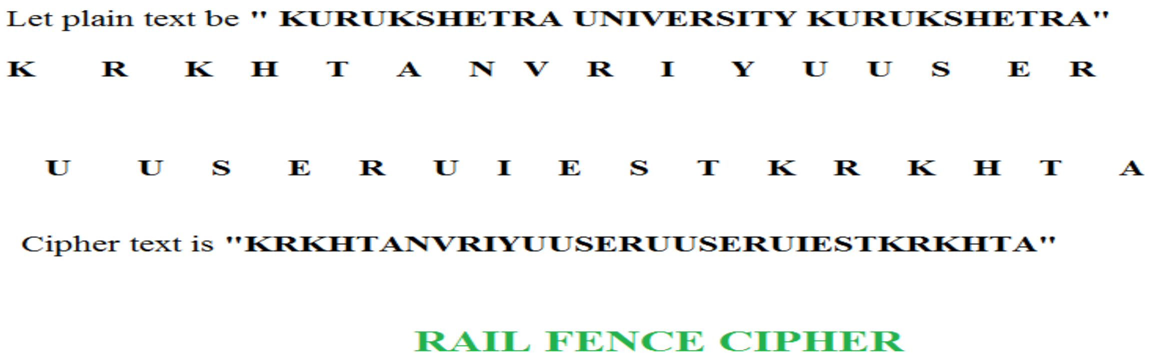
“ **MWTWMUJGVTC WPKXGTUKVA MWTWMUJGVTC**”

4. ANALYSING CAESAR CIPHER

Cryptanalysis means breaking codes and ciphers. The decryption algorithm of Caesar cipher is simple. P= D(C) = (C - k) mod 26 If it is known that given cipher text is a Caesar cipher, then a brute-force cryptanalysis can be easily performed. Simply by trying all possible 25 keys a cryptanalyst just has to find the shift that causes the cipher text frequencies to match up closely with the natural English frequencies and then decrypt the text using that shift. This method can be used to easily break Caesar ciphers by hand

5..RAIL FENCE CIPHER

Similarly Rail Fence cipher is also a very weak cipher to Cryptanalyze. A code breaker simply has to try several depths until the correct one is found. It is very easy to find depth if you know some of the plain text. Letters break into rows according to certain fixed patterns based on the number of rows in the key . For example, if there are two rows, then letters 1, 3, 5, … of the message are in row one and letters 2, 4, 6, ... are in row two .



Let plain text be " KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY KURUKSHETRA"

K R K H T A N V R I Y U U S E R

U U S E R U I E S T K R K H T A

Cipher text is "KRKHTANVRIYUUSERUUSERUIESTKRKHTA"

RAIL FENCE CIPHER

6. PROPOSED WORK

A. Encryption Algorithm

1.First take the plain text to be encrypted from sender.

2.write the plain text in rectangular format across rows, order is determined by key k1.(Columnar transposition technique).

3 .Read off the message column by column in order using Key K1,we get cipher text CT1.

4 Perform substitution on CT1,using key k2,we get CT2

5.Perform Rail fence technique on CT2 we get,CT3

6.Now divide the cipher text(CT3),into two halves, as Word 1,andWord 2.

7.To add more complexity put these different words, on different stacks using PUSH operations, now POP the Values from stack, we get two words. Let it be CT4.

8.Finally CT4 is our required Cipher Text.

B. Decryption Algorithm

1.Write the cipher text to be converted into plain text,(CT4)

2. write cipher text as two separate words Word 1,and Word 2.

3. PUSH two words on to stacks, using different stacks

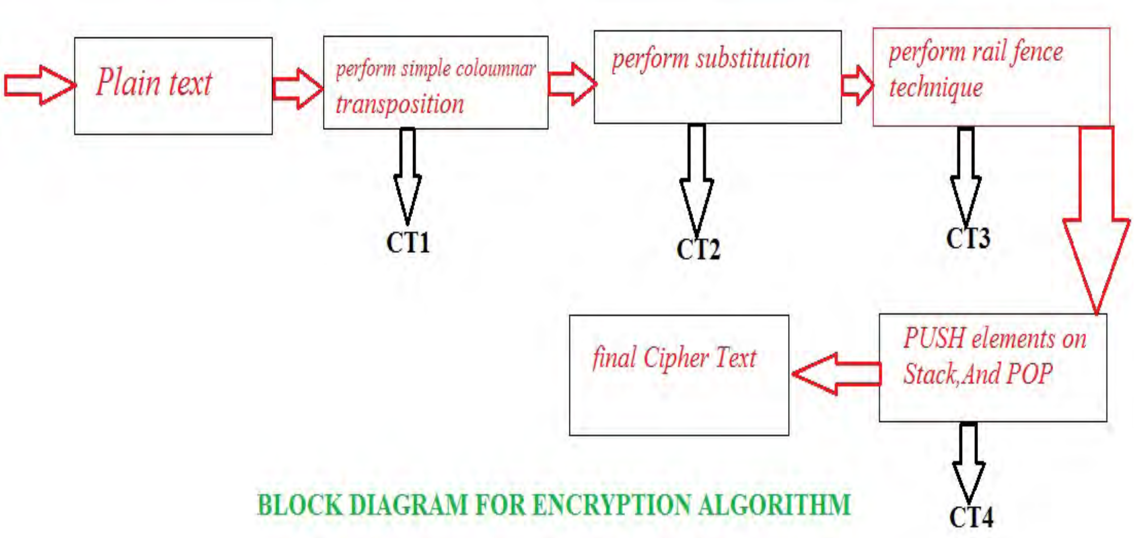
4.POP one element from stack one and second element from stack second(CT3).

5Using Key K2 to decrypt CT3,we get CT2.

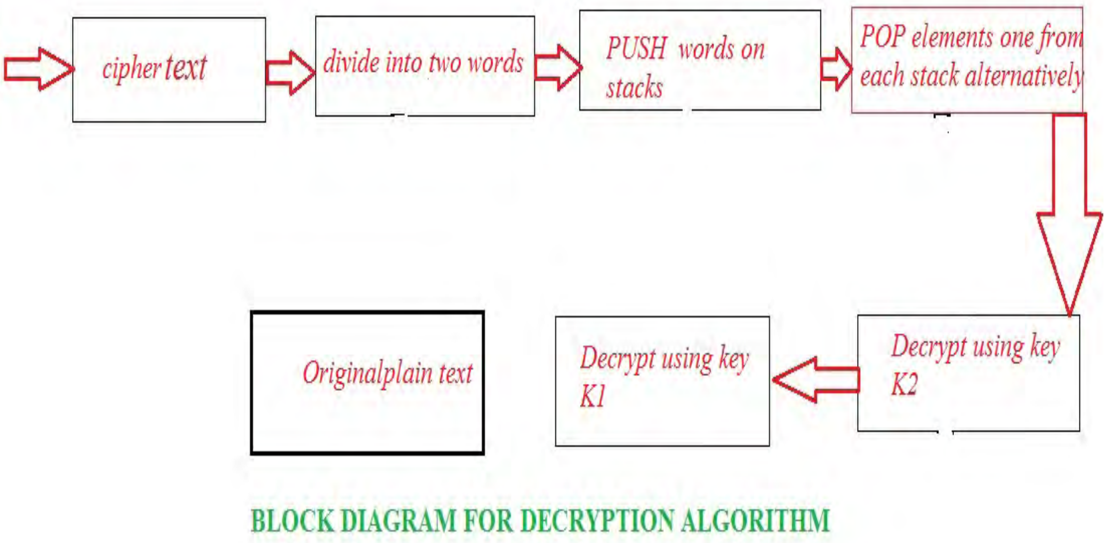
6.Arrange cipher text obtained in step 5(CT2),into rectangular format, as column by column using Key K1 and read of as rows.

7.output of step 6 is our required plain text.

7.Block diagram for Encryption algorithm


Plain text
perform simple colournar transposition
perform substitution
perform rail fence technique
CT1
CT2
CT3
final Cipher Text
PUSH elements on Stack,And POP
CT4
BLOCK DIAGRAM FOR ENCRYPTION ALGORITHM

8.Block diagram for decryption algorithm

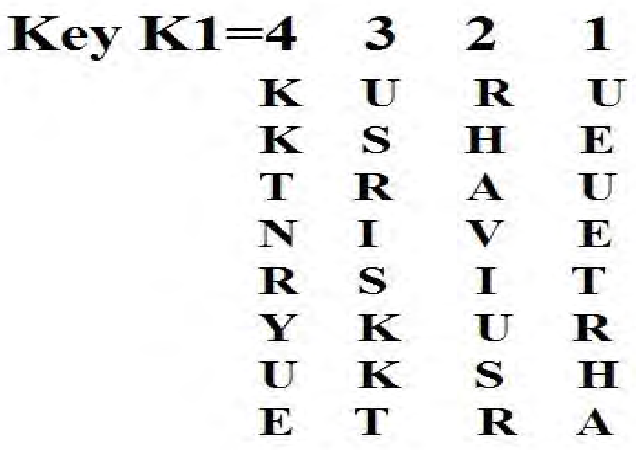


9.EXAMPLE

A.Encryption

1.let the plain text to be Encrypted is**” KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY KURUKSHETRA”.**

2.Arrange the plaintext across rows in a rectangular format ,using **key K1= 4 3 2 1(**Columnar Transposition),as shown in figure

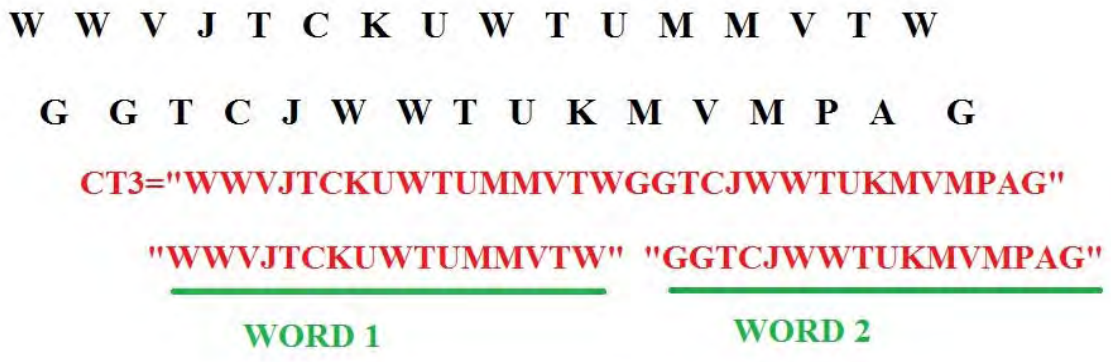


Key K1=	4	3	2	1
	K	U	R	U
	K	S	H	E
	T	R	A	U
	N	I	V	E
	R	S	I	T
	Y	K	U	R
	U	K	S	H
	E	T	R	A

3.Now read columns in order, we get cipher text(CT1).”**UEUETRHARHAVIUSRUSRISKKTKKTNRYUE**”

4.Using Caesar cipher(Substitution Technique),shift the characters of CT1 by **K2=2** positions, we get New cipher text, let it be labeled as **CT2**=”**WGWGVTJCTJCWKWUTWUTKUMMVMMVPTAWG**”.

5.Now perform rail fence technique on **CT2,**as shown in figure, we get again New cipher text, labeled as **CT3**



W W V J T C K U W T U M M V T W

G G T C J W W T U K M V M P A G

CT3="WWVJTCKUWTUMMVTWGGTCJWWTUKMVMPAG"

"WWVJTCKUWTUMMVTW" "GGTCJWWTUKMVMPAG"

WORD 1 WORD 2

6.Now divide cipher text CT3,into two equal Halves,as Word1 and Word 2,as shown above
7.To add more complexity,put these different words in different stacks,by using PUSH Operations.

[1] **W**
[2] **T**
[3] **V**
[4] **M**
[5] **M**
[6] **U**
[7] **T**
[8] **W**
[9] **U**
[10] **K**
[11] **C**
[12] **T**
[13] **J**
[14] **V**
[15] **W**
[16] **W**

STACK 1

[17] **G**
[18] **A**
[19] **P**
[20] **M**
[21] **V**
[22] **M**
[23] **K**
[24] **U**
[25] **T**
[26] **W**
[27] **W**
[28] **J**
[29] **C**
[30] **T**
[31] **G**
[32] **G**

STACK 2

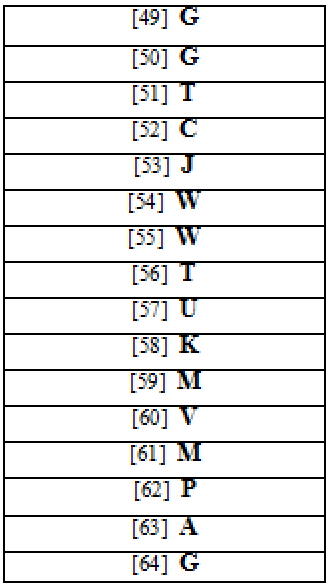
8.Now **POP** elements from both stacks
Stack1:**WTVMMUTWUKCTJVWW** Stack2: **GAPMVMKUTWWJCTGG,**let this be CT4.
9.Final cipher text is Stack1+Stack2,that is
CT= **"WTVMMUTWUKCTJVWWGAPMVMKUTWWJCTGG"**

B.Decryption

1.Write cipher text **CT= "WTVMMUTWUKCTJVWWGAPMVMKUTWWJCTGG"**
2.Separate it into two halves as=" **WTVMMUTWUKCTJVWW"** and **"GAPMVMKUTWWJCTGG,"**
3Push these two words on different stacks, as shown in figure

[33] **W**
[34] **W**
[35] **V**
[36] **J**
[37] **T**
[38] **C**
[39] **K**
[40] **U**
[41] **W**
[42] **T**
[43] **U**
[44] **M**
[45] **M**
[46] **V**
[47] **T**
[48] **W**

STACK 1



[49] **G**
[50] **G**
[51] **T**
[52] **C**
[53] **J**
[54] **W**
[55] **W**
[56] **T**
[57] **U**
[58] **K**
[59] **M**
[60] **V**
[61] **M**
[62] **P**
[63] **A**
[64] **G**

STACK 2

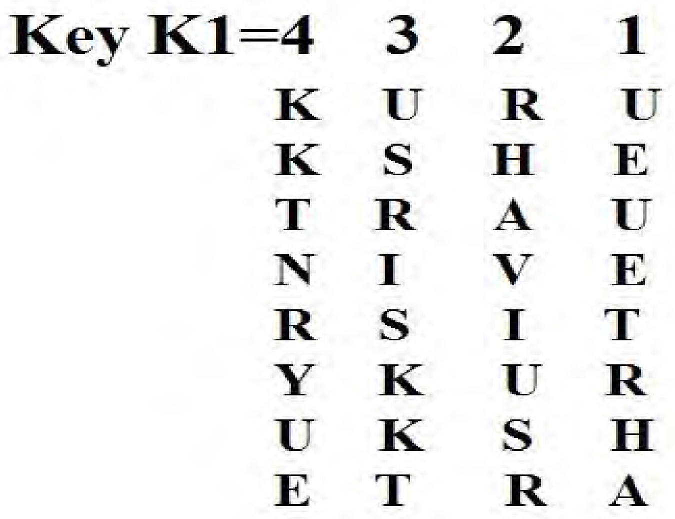
4.POP one element from Stack 1 and Second element from Stack 2,we get pair of two words,example first pair **WG,WG,VT,JC,TJ,CW,KW,UT,WU,TK,UM,MV,MM,VP,TA,WG**

CT3="WGWGVTJCTJCWKWUTWUTKUMMVMMVPTAWG"

5.Using **Key K2= -2** decrypt CT3,We get CT2

6.CT2="UEUETRHARHAVIUSRUSRISKKTKKTNRYUE"

7.Now using Key **K1=4 3 2 1** ,arrange CT2 in rectangular format columns.



Key K1=4	3	2	1
K	U	R	U
K	S	H	E
T	R	A	U
N	I	V	E
R	S	I	T
Y	K	U	R
U	K	S	H
E	T	R	A

8. Now Read as row by row we get original plain text.

PT=KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY KURUKSHETRA

10. ADVANTAGES OF PROPOSED ALGORITHM

1. If we scrutinize at the Algorithm we can notice at every Stage we are getting diverse cipher text, thus more trouble to cryptanalyst.

2. It is more difficult to crypt-analyze.

3. Brute force attack is not possible.

4. It is simple to perform substitution.

10. DISADVANTAGES OF PROPOSED ALGORITHM

1. It makes use of two keys .

2.Also difficult to implement.

CONCLUSION

In this paper I have presented how to improve security of Simple columnar Cipher to make it more secure and strong. Moreover the proposed algorithm has lot of advantages in achieving secure communication than Simple One.

Simple columnar transposition cipher is the simplest Transposition method. It is also the weak cipher. It's only advantage lies in the fact that it is not complex and can be understood easily. This advantage leads to the problem of easy detection. For overcoming this problem Caesar cipher and rail fence cipher is combined with transposition techniques. Transposition technique used here is simple columnar cipher. For adding further complexity stacks are used which makes the detection of both the techniques (Caesar cipher and rail fencing) difficult.

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Jawad Ahmad Dar is currently in final year M TECH Computer science and Engineering from (NNSS,SGI) Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. He did B.TECH in Computer Science and Engineering from Islamic University of Science and Technology Kashmir in 2013(2009 BATCH). He has already published 3 papers in international and national journals. He has won most popular paper Award in International Journal of Science And Research ISSN 2319-7064,volume 3,issue9 September 2014 His interested areas of research are Neural Networks, Mobile computing, Network security, and Algorithms.