

# Applied Cryptography

Lecture 0

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# What is Cryptography?

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- It's all about controlling access to information



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- It's all about **controlling** **access to information**
- Access to learning and/or influencing information



# What is Cryptography?

- It's all about **controlling access to information**
- Access to learning and/or influencing information
- Do we know what we are talking about?





# What is information?

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- Or rather the lack of it?

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- Or rather the lack of it?
  - Uncertainty



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Rudolf Clausius

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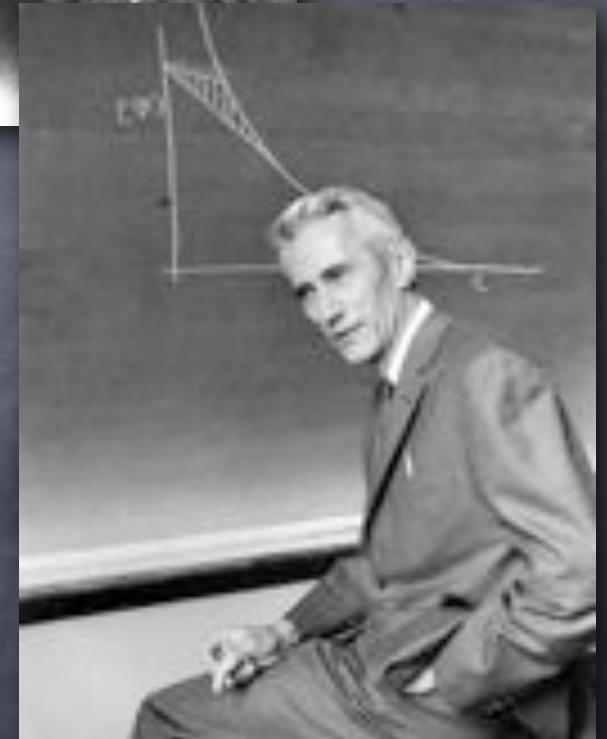
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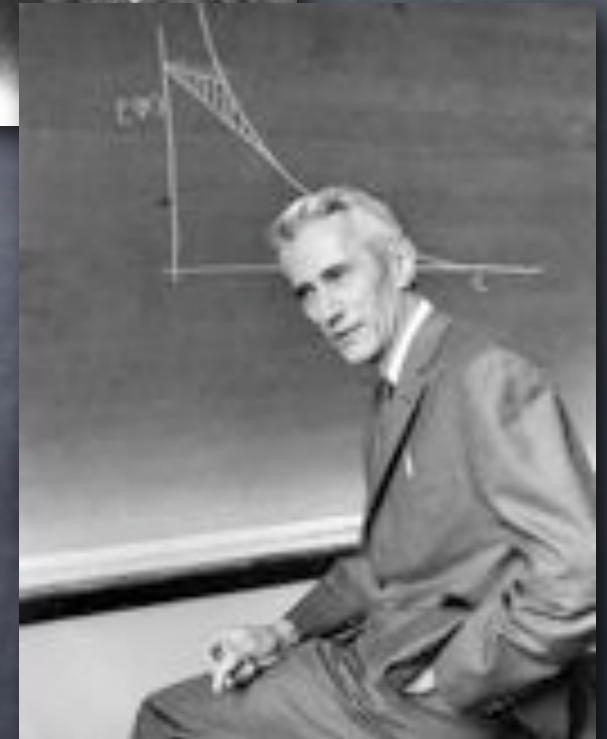
- Or rather the lack of it?
- Uncertainty
- The word is **Entropy**
  - Borrowed from thermodynamics
  - An inherently “probabilistic” notion



Rudolf Clausius



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Claude Shannon

# What is information?

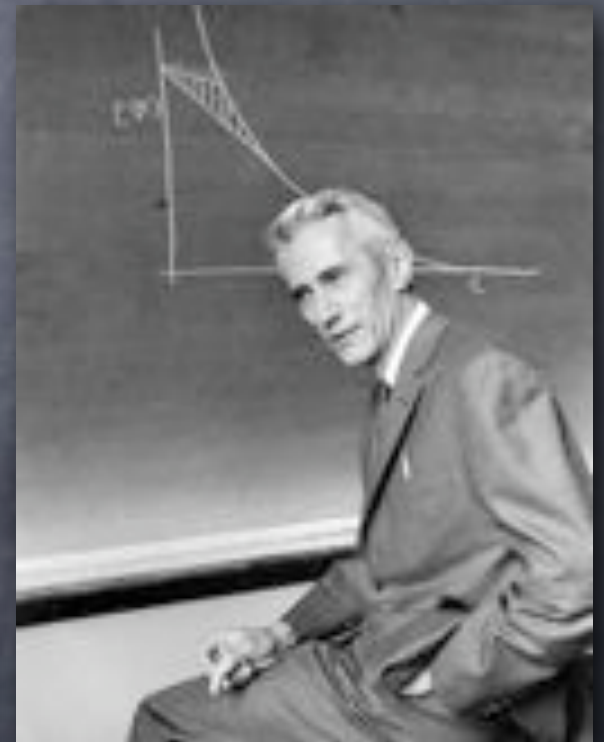
Claude Shannon



# What is information?

- Information Theory: ways to quantify information

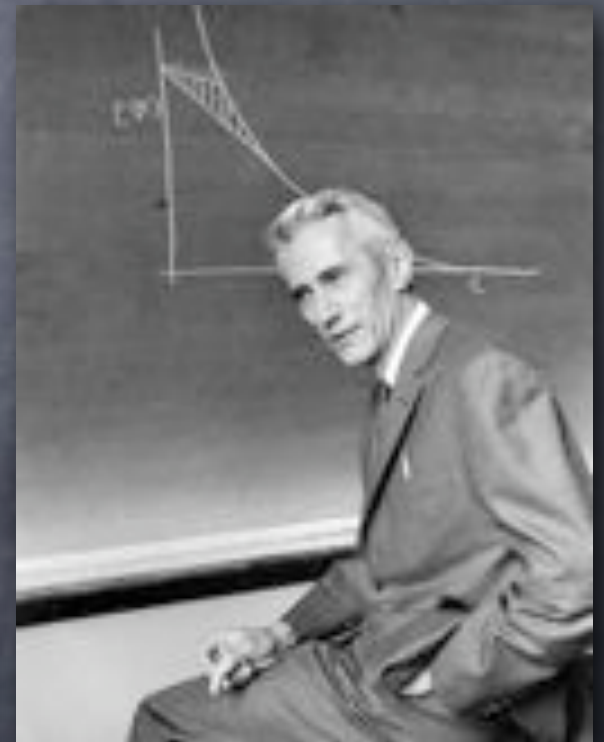
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- Information Theory: ways to quantify information
  - Application 1: to study efficiency of communication (compression, error-correction)

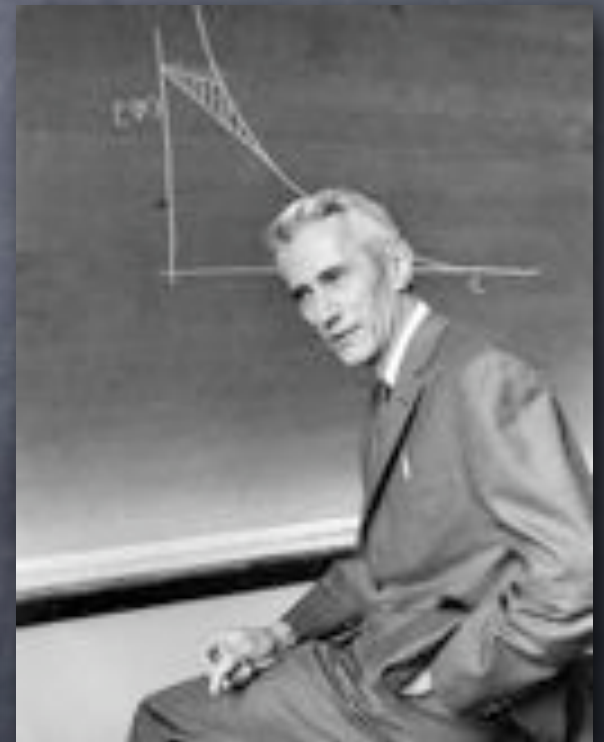
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- Information Theory: ways to quantify information
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  - Application 2: to study the possibility of secret communication

Claude Shannon





# What is information?

- Information Theory: ways to quantify information
  - Application 1: to study efficiency of communication (compression, error-correction)
  - Application 2: to study the possibility of secret communication
    - The latter turned out to be a relatively easy question! Secret communication possible only if (an equally long) secret key is shared ahead of time

Claude Shannon



# Access to Information

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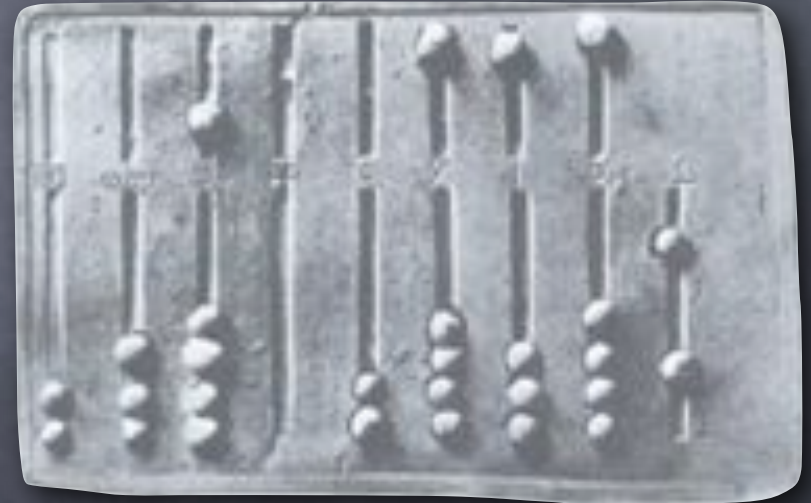
- A second look

# Access to Information

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- Information at hand may still not be “accessible” if it is hard to work with it

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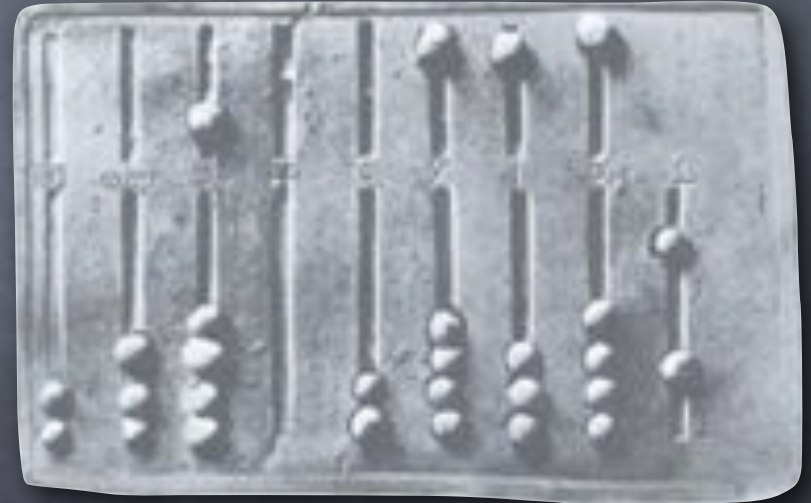
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  - Computation!





# Access to Information

- A second look
- Information at hand may still not be “accessible” if it is hard to work with it
  - Computation!
- Shannon’s information may reduce uncertainty only for computationally all-powerful parties



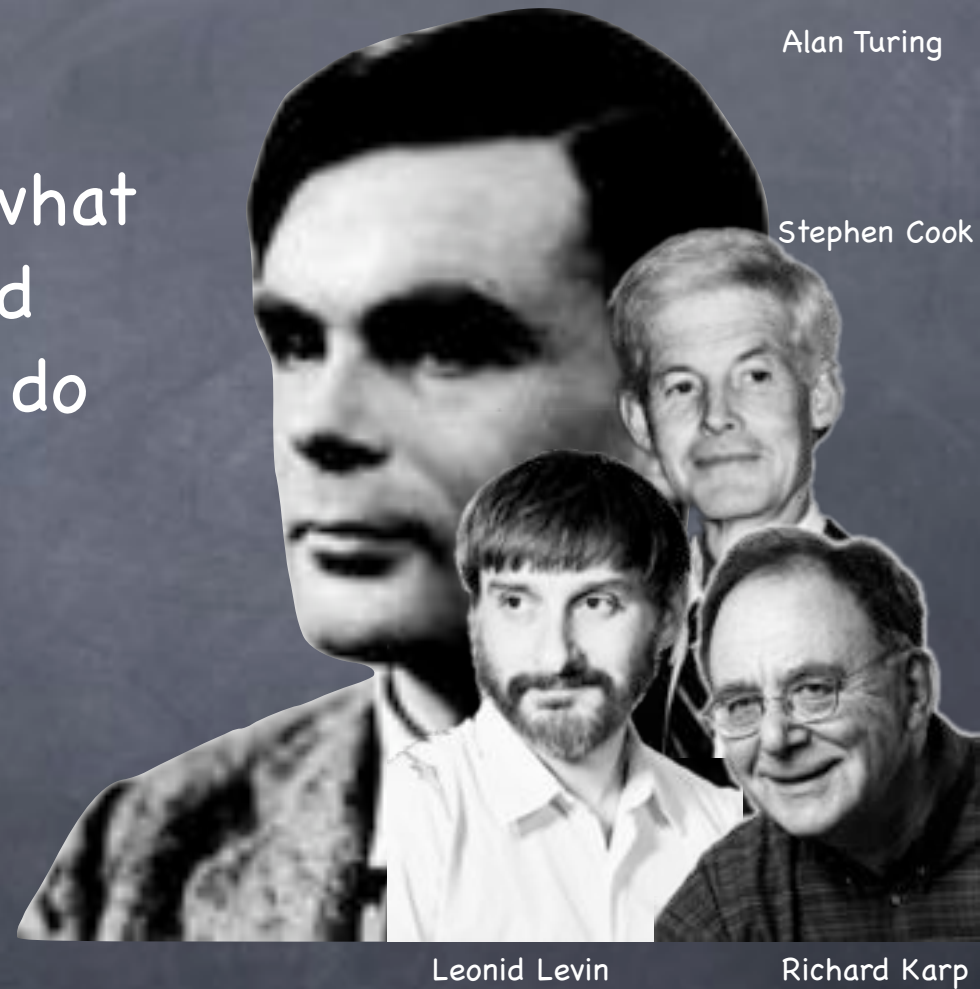
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Alan Turing

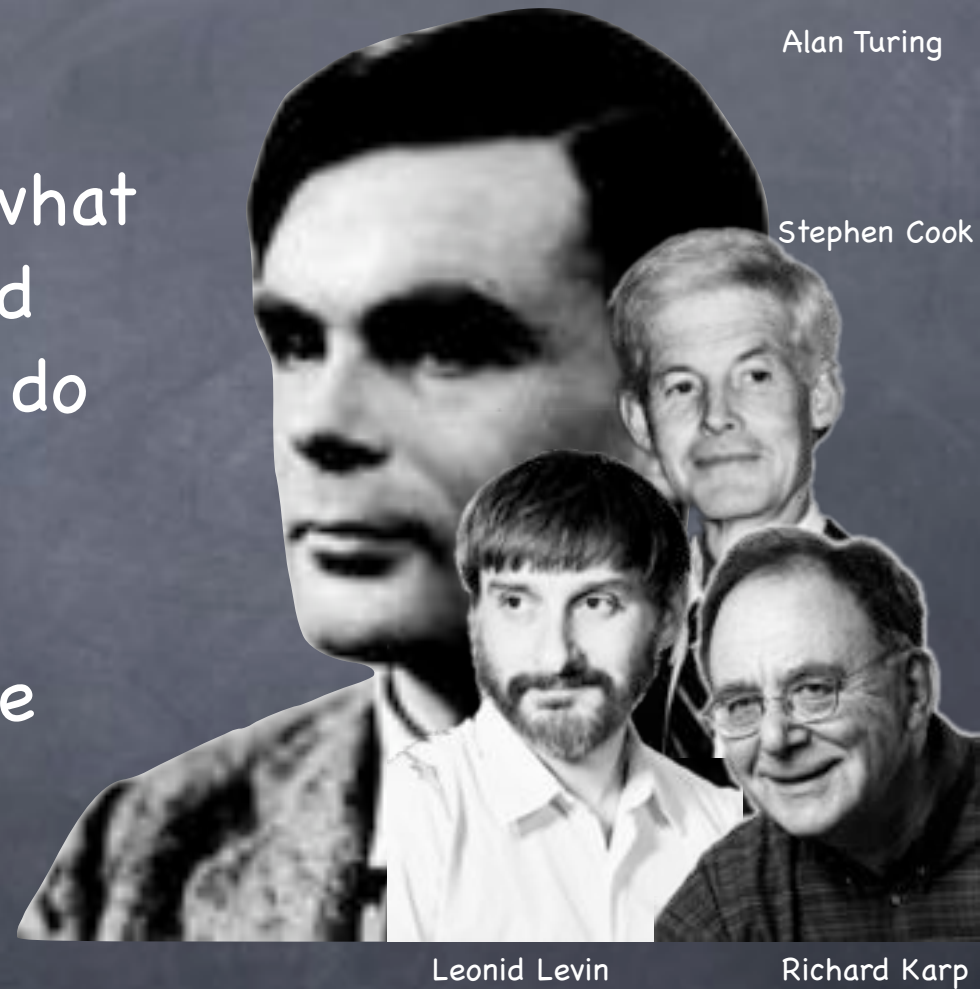
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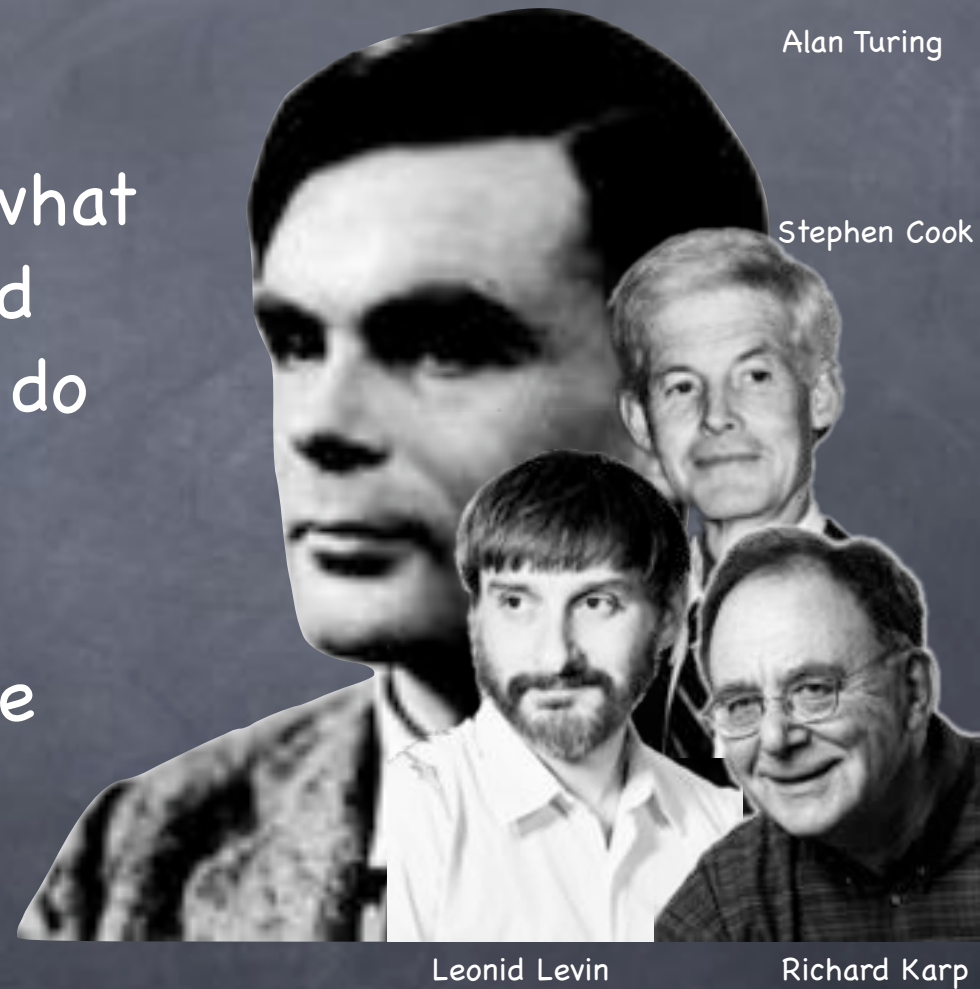
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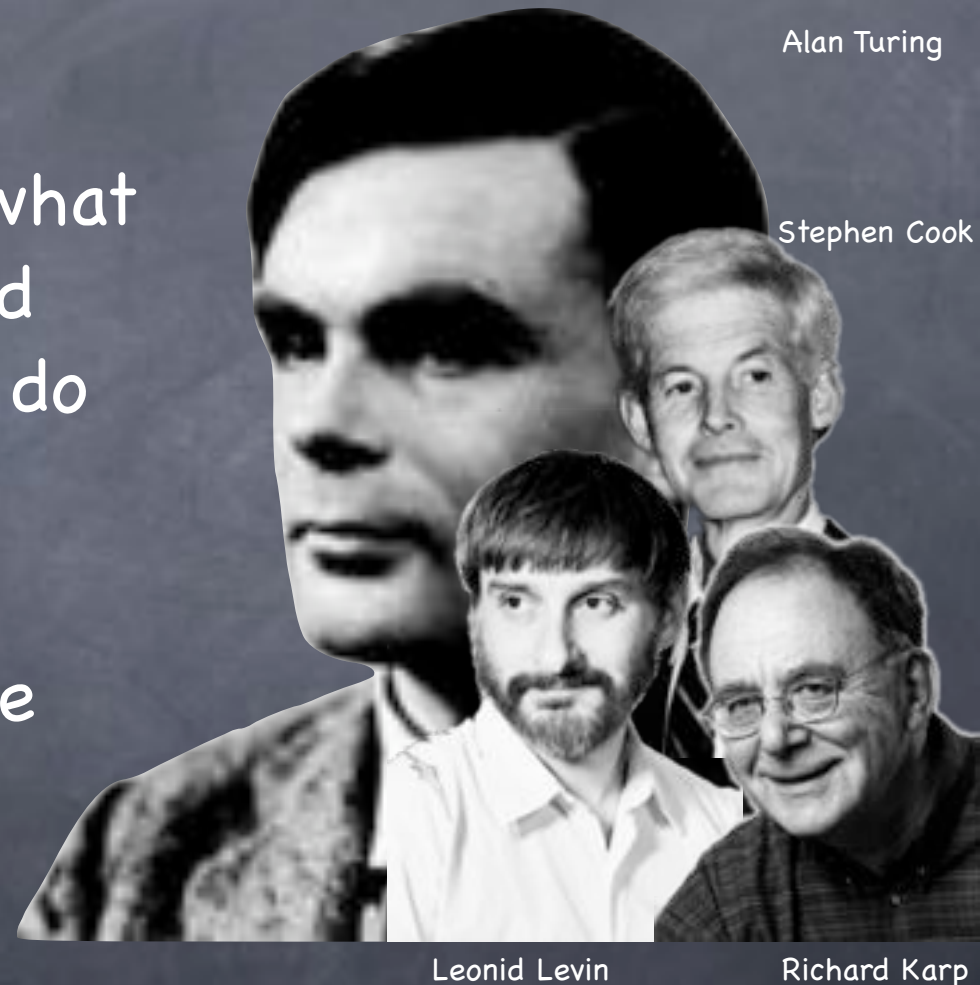
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# Computational Complexity

- A systematic study of what computationally bounded parties can and cannot do
- A young and rich field
- Much known, much more unknown
  - Much “believed”
- Basis of the Modern Theory of Cryptography



Alan Turing

Stephen Cook

Leonid Levin

Richard Karp

# Compressed Secret-Keys

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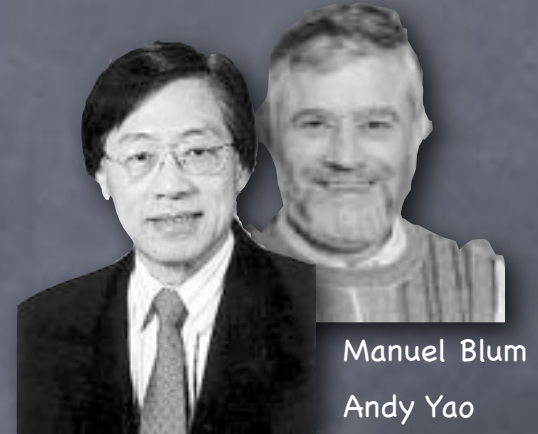
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  - Generate a long string of random-looking bits from a short random seed
- Impossible in the information-theoretic sense
  - But possible against computationally bounded players!



# The Public-Key Revolution

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- “Non-Secret Encryption”



# The Public-Key Revolution

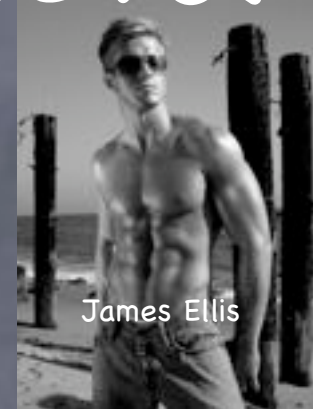
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Merkle, Hellman, Diffie

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Merkle, Hellman, Diffie



Shamir, Rivest, Adleman



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  - No a priori shared secrets
  - Instead, a public key. Anyone can create encryptions, only the creator of the key can decrypt!
- Publicly verifiable digital signatures
- Forms the backbone of today’s secure communication



Malcolm Williamson



Merkle, Hellman, Diffie



Shamir, Rivest, Adleman



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- Public-Key cryptography and beyond!
- Secret computation: collaboration among mutually distrusting parties
  - Compute on distributed data, without revealing their private information to each other
  - Compute on encrypted data
- And other fancy things... with sophisticated control over more complex "access" to information
- Do it all faster, better, more conveniently and more securely (or find out if one cannot). And also make sure we know what we are trying to do.

# Crypto-Mania

- Public-Key

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- 

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Independence, Indistinguishability,  
Infeasibility, Zero-Knowledge, ...



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DES, AES,  
SHA, HMAC

Encryption,  
Authentication

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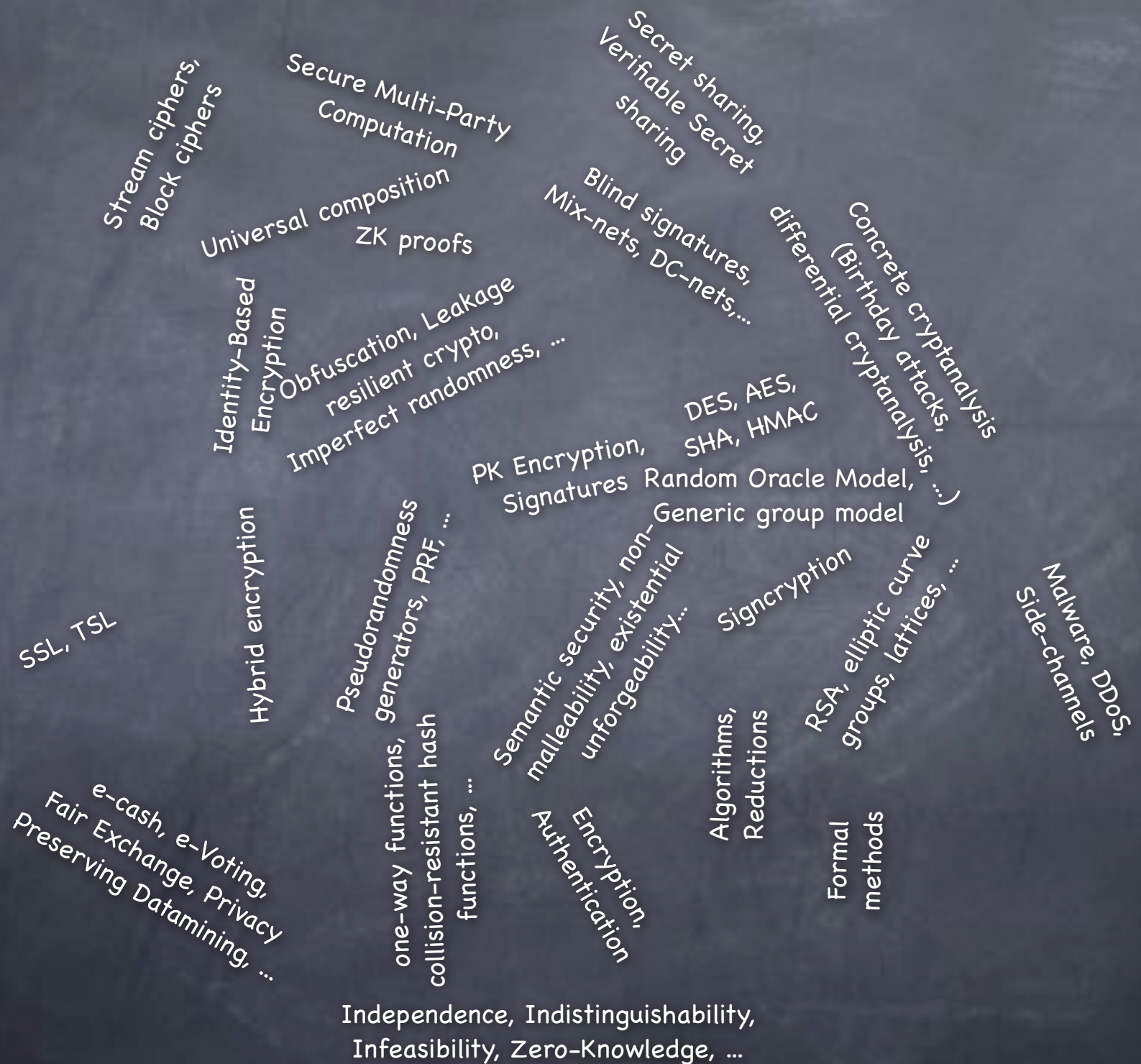


DES, AES,  
SHA, HMAC

RSA, elliptic curve  
groups, lattices, ...

Encryption,  
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Independence, Indistinguishability,  
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# In This Course

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(how to tame the elephant...)



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- A few assignments

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