Abstract

Any communication in the language that you and I speak—that is the human language, takes the form of plain text or clear text. That is, a message in plain text can be understood by anybody knowing the language as long as the message is not codified in any manner. So, now we have to use coding scheme to ensure that information is hidden from anyone for whom it is not intended, even those who can see the coded data.

Cryptography is the art of achieving security by encoding messages to make them non-readable. Cryptography is the practice and study of hiding information. In modern times cryptography is considered a branch of both mathematics and computer science and is affiliated closely with information theory, computer security and engineering. Cryptography is used in applications present in technologically advanced societies; examples include the security of ATM cards, computer passwords and electronic commerce, which all depend on cryptography.
A Symmetric Key Cryptographic Algorithm

- Computer and Network security by ATUL KAHATE
- S. Hebert, "A Brief History of Cryptography", an article available at http://cybercrimes.net/aindex.html
- "Introduction to Public-Key Cryptography", an article available at developer.netscape.com/docs/manuals/security/pkin/contents.htm

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Key words

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