

# CIS 6930: IoT Security

Lecture 2

Prof. Kaushal Kafle

Spring 2025

# Class Notes and Clarifications

- High-level Topics (and goals):
  - Basics of crypto (*this isn't a crypto course*)
  - Information Flow Control
  - Web and Network Security
  - IoT Security
  - Engineering/research trade-offs
  - **How to read/write/present security research papers**
- Check the syllabus!
- **Note:** I reserve the right to adapt the syllabus throughout the semester... *but I will provide sufficient notice for any changes*

# Non Goals



- Familiarization with the latest tools
- Professional Security Certification



Let us begin..

# What is security?

- Garfinkel and Spafford (1991)
  - “A computer is secure if you can depend on it and its software to behave as expected.”
- Harrison, Ruzzo, Ullman (1978)
  - “Prevent access by unauthorized users”
- Not really satisfactory – does not truly capture that security speaks to the behavior of others
  - Expected by whom?
  - Under what circumstances?



# Security Goals

- *Confidentiality*: Prevention of unauthorized disclosure of information
- *Integrity*: Prevention of unauthorized modification of information
- *Availability*: Prevention of unauthorized withholding of information or resources



# Security Goals (continued)

- *Authenticity*: Related to integrity, but also speaks to the *sender*, as well as *freshness*
- *Secrecy*: Similar to confidentiality, but often used when discussing specific mechanisms, e.g., access control
- *Non-repudiation*: Prevent a party from denying that some action took place e.g., signed through private key, HMACs
- *Privacy*: The ability/right to control access to one's information. There are many definitions. Often conflated with confidentiality/secrecy.

# Risk

- *Assets* are valued resources that can be misused
  - Monetary, data (loss or integrity), time, confidence, trust
- *Risk* is the potential for an asset to be misused
  - Many different formulas, e.g., (Risk = likelihood \* impact)
  - What does being misused mean?
    - Privacy (personal)
    - Confidentiality (communication)
    - Integrity (personal or communication)
    - Availability (existential or fidelity)



Q: What about a real-world system, say banking?



# Threats

- A *threat* is a specific means by which an attacker can put a system at risk
  - An ability/goal of an attacker (e.g., eavesdrop , fraud, access denial)
  - Independent of what can be compromised
- A *threat model* is a collection of threats that deemed important for a particular environment
  - A collection of attacker(s) abilities
  - E.g., A powerful attacker can read and modify all communications and generate messages on a communication channel

# Vulnerabilities (attack vectors)

- A *vulnerability* is a systematic artifact that exposes the user, data, or system to a threat
- E.g., buffer-overflow, WEP key leakage
- What is the source of a vulnerability?
  - Bad software (or hardware)
  - Bad design, requirements
  - Bad policy/configuration
  - System Misuse
  - Unintended purpose or environment
    - E.g., student IDs for liquor store

# Adversary

- An *adversary* is any entity trying to circumvent the security infrastructure (sometimes called *attacker*)
  - The curious and otherwise generally clueless (e.g., script-kiddies)
  - Casual attackers seeking to understand systems
  - Venal people with an ax to grind
  - Malicious groups of largely sophisticated users (e.g., chaos clubs)
  - Competitors (industrial espionage)
  - Governments (seeking to monitor activities)

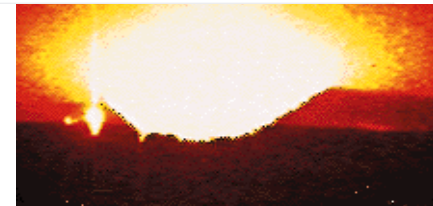
# Are users adversaries?

*This is known as the insider adversary!*

- Have you ever tried to circumvent the security of a system you were authorized to access?
- Have you ever violated a security policy (knowingly or through carelessness)?

# Attacks

- An **attack** occurs when someone attempts to **exploit** a vulnerability
- Kinds of attacks
  - **Passive** (e.g., eavesdropping)
  - **Active** (e.g., password guessing)
  - **Denial of Service (DOS)**
    - Distributed DOS – using many endpoints
- A **compromise** occurs when an attack is successful
  - Typically associated with taking over/altering resources



# Participants

- *Participants* are expected system entities
  - Computers, agents, people, enterprises, ...
  - Depending on context referred to as: servers, clients, users, entities, hosts, routers, ...
  - Security is defined with respect to these entities
    - Implication: every party may have unique view
- A *trusted third party*
  - Trusted by all parties for some set of actions
  - Often used as introducer or arbiter

Q: Example of a trusted third party?

# Trust

- *Trust* refers to the degree to which an entity is expected to behave
- What the entity not expected to do?
  - E.g., not expose password
- What the entity is expected to do (obligations)?
  - E.g., obtain permission, refresh
- A *trust model* describes, for a particular environment, who is trusted to do what?
- Note: you make trust decisions every day
  - Q: What are they?
  - Q: Whom do you trust?



# Trusted vs. Trustworthy

- *Trusted*: a trusted system or component is one whose failure can break the security policy
- *Trustworthy*: a trusted system or component is one that won't fail

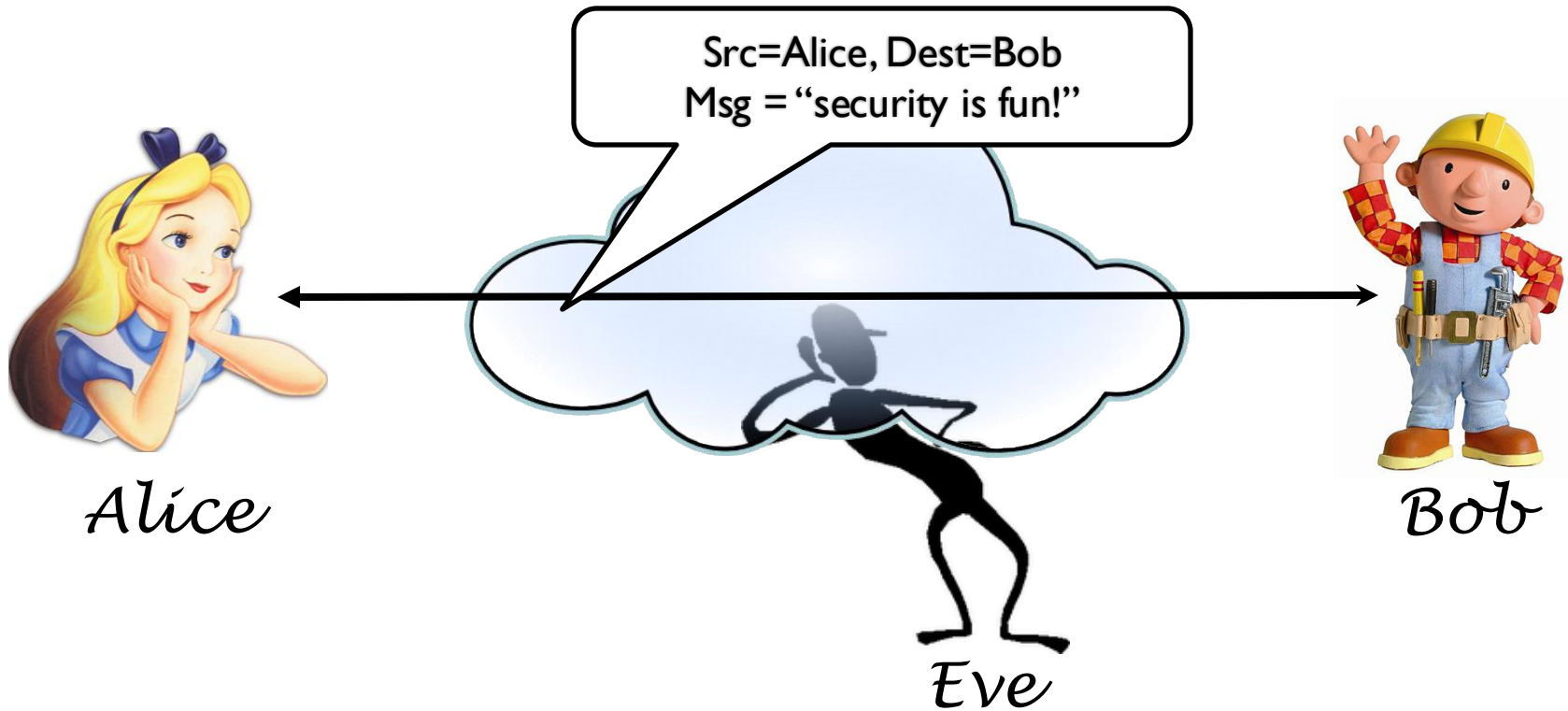


# Security Model

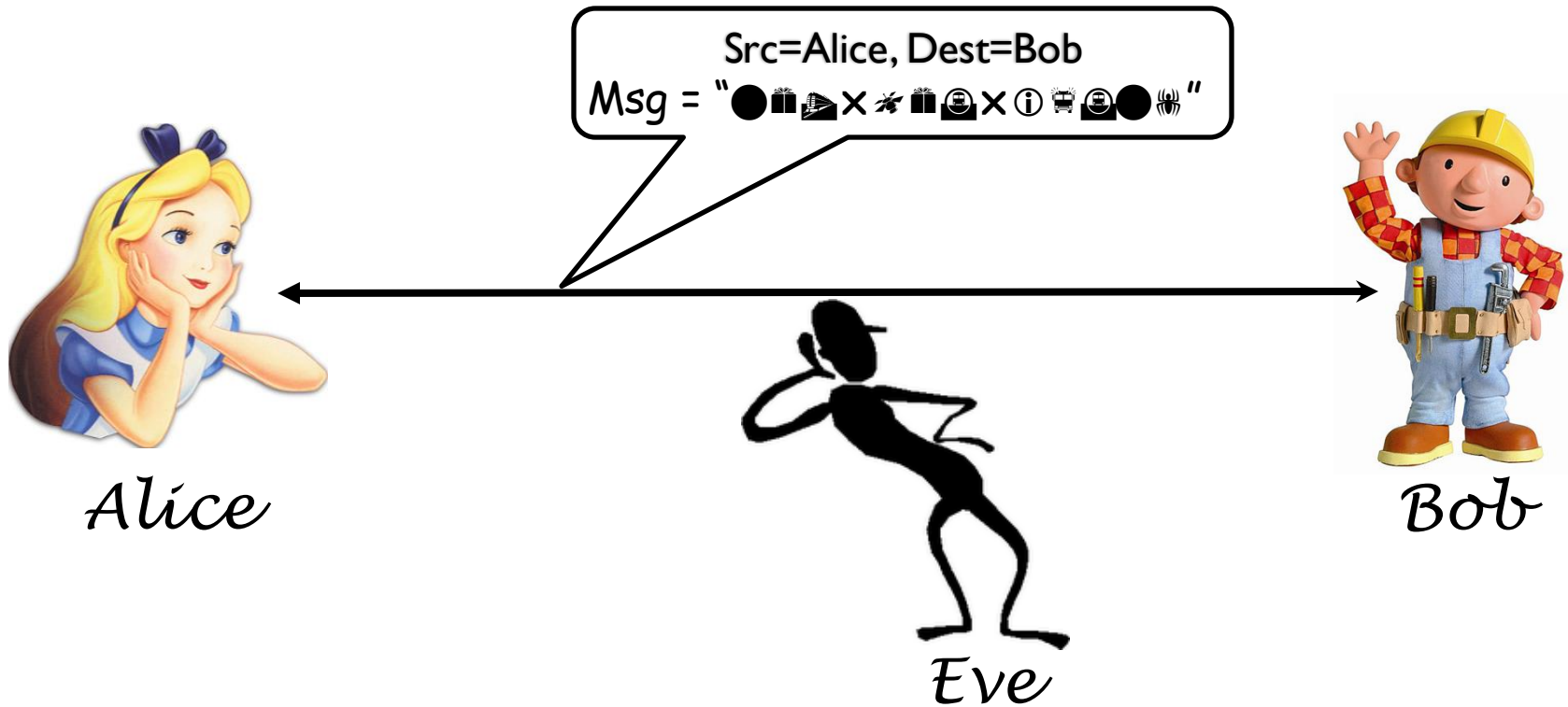
- A *security model* is the combination of a trust and threat models that address the set of perceived risks
  - The “security requirements” used to develop some cogent and comprehensive design
  - Every design must have security model
    - LAN network or global information system
    - Java applet or operating system
- The single biggest mistake seen in use of security is the lack of a coherent security model
  - It is very hard to retrofit security (design time)
- This class is going to talk a lot about security models
  - What are the security concerns (risks)?
  - What are the threats?
  - Who are our adversaries?
  - Who do we trust and to do what?
- Systems must be explicit about these things to be secure.

Let's look at some potentially desirable properties of a secure network system...

# Meet the players.



# Confidentiality



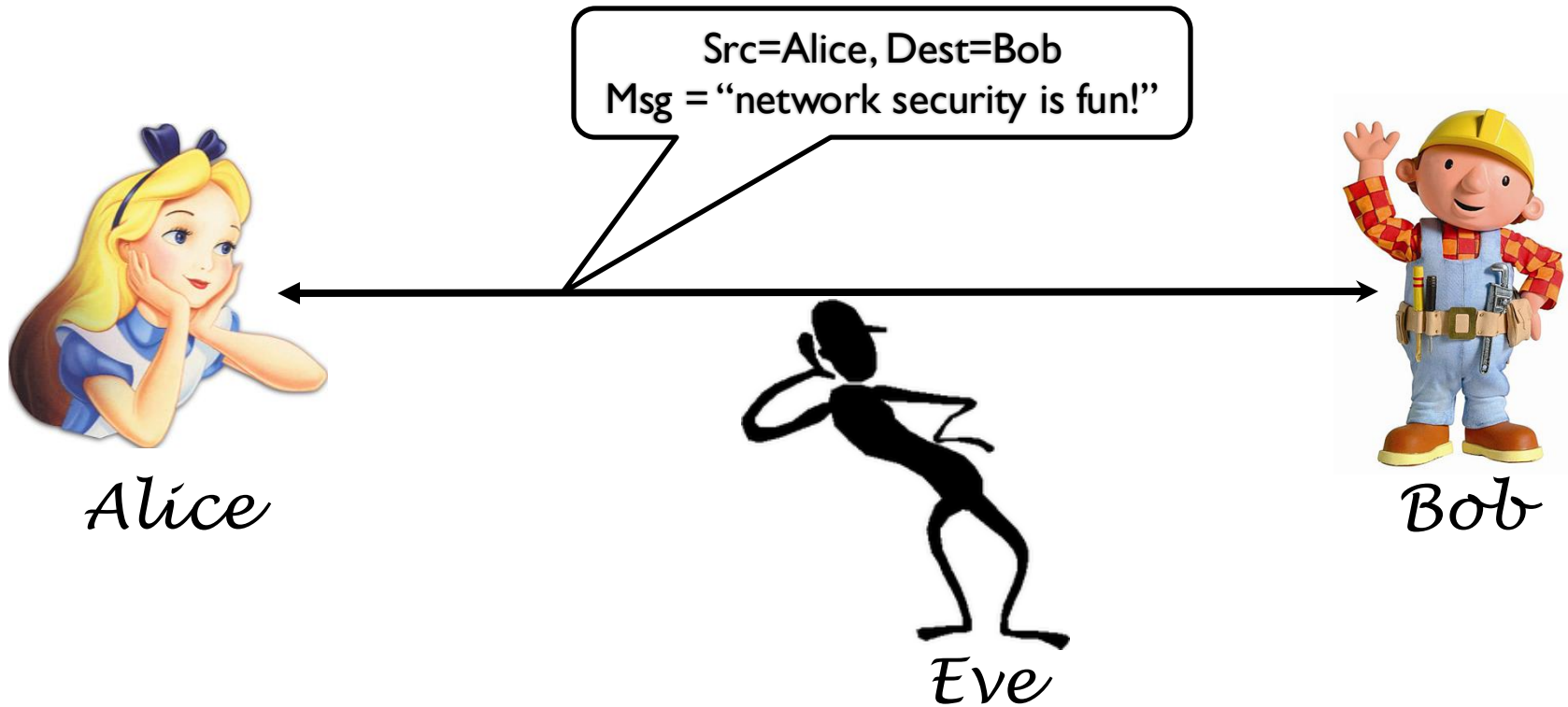
Alice and Bob want to communicate privately, preventing Eve from learning the contents of their communication

# Integrity



Bob wants to verify that the message hasn't been altered in transit.

# Authentication



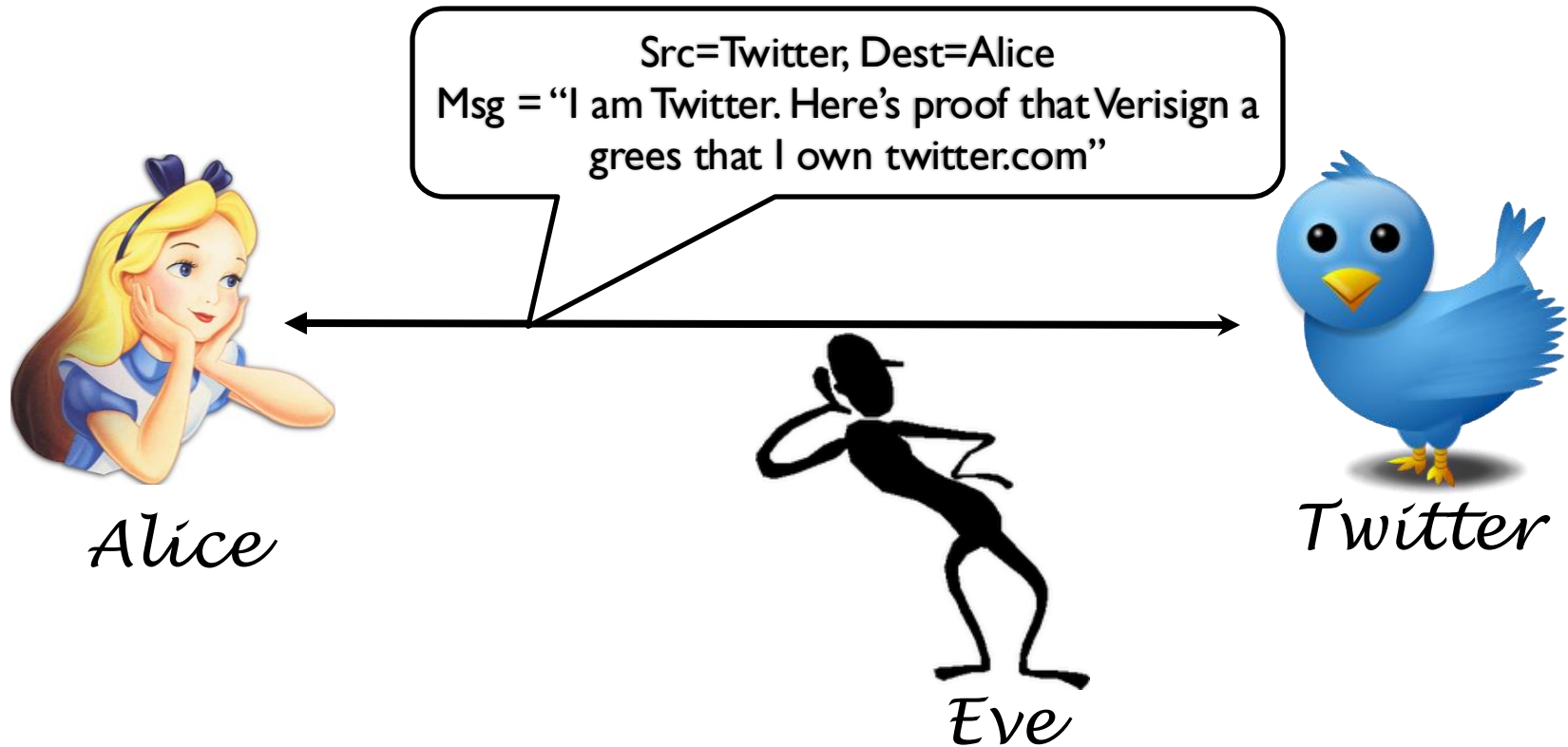
Bob wants to verify that the message is actually from Alice.

# Client authentication



Alice wants to prove her identity to the service.

# Server authentication



The service wants to prove its identity to Alice.



# Cryptography



# Crypto in IoT Apps

- Networks designed for data transport, *not for data confidentiality or privacy*
  - Internet eavesdropping is (relatively) easy
- Sensitive data is often stored locally on the device.
  - Other apps/root can get to it.
- Where have you seen crypto in practice?
- Crypto enables:
  - e-commerce and e-banking
  - confidential messaging
  - data transfer between IoT devices and cloud
  - protection of personal data
  - ...

# Why is crypto useful?

The image shows a Wireshark capture of a netcat connection. A terminal window at the top shows the command: `MacBook-Pro-4 [redacted] $ echo "Security is Fun" | netcat -v localhost 8080`. The terminal output shows: `localhost [127.0.0.1] 8080 (http-alt) open`.

The Wireshark interface displays a list of packets. Packet 162 is highlighted in blue, showing a TCP segment from 127.0.0.1:59584 to 127.0.0.1:8080 with flags [PSH, ACK]. Packet 165 is highlighted in red, showing a TCP segment from 127.0.0.1:19536 to 127.0.0.1:59585 with flags [RST, ACK].

The packet details pane for packet 162 shows: `Frame 162: 72 bytes on wire (576 bits), 72 bytes captured (576 bits) on interface 0`, `Null/Loopback`, `Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 127.0.0.1, Dst: 127.0.0.1`, and `Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 59584 (59584), Dst Port: 8080 (8080), Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 16`.

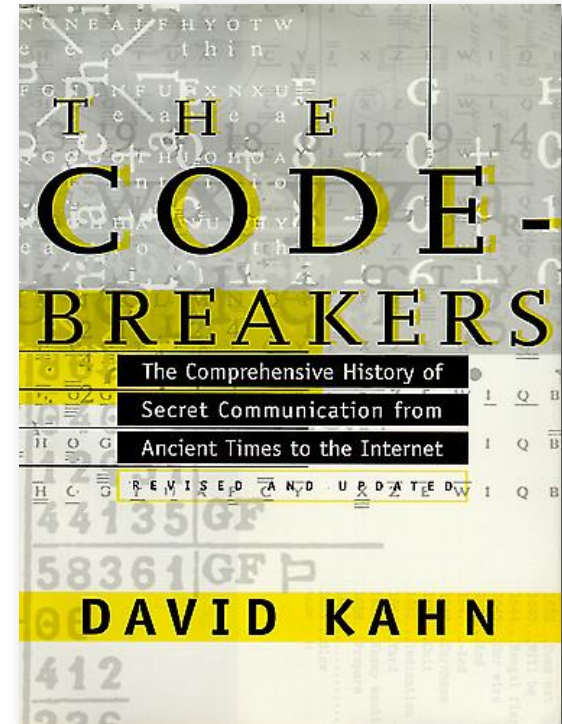
The packet bytes pane shows the raw data: `0000 02 00 00 00 45 00 00 44 2a cb 40 00 40 06 00 00 ....E..D *.@.@...`  
`0010 7f 00 00 01 7f 00 00 01 e8 c0 1f 90 44 fd 6b e1 ..... ..D.k.`  
`0020 d9 cd 38 c7 80 18 31 d7 fe 38 00 00 01 01 08 0a ..8...1. .8.....`  
`0030 6a 50 15 48 6a 50 15 47 53 65 63 75 72 69 74 79 jP.HjP.G Security`  
`0040 20 69 73 20 46 75 6e 0a is Fun.`

A blue arrow points from the Wireshark logo to the text "is Fun." in the packet bytes pane.

At the bottom of the Wireshark window, the status bar shows: `Packets: 199 · Displayed: 199 (100.0%) · Load time: 0:0.3 Profile: Default`.

# Cryptographic History

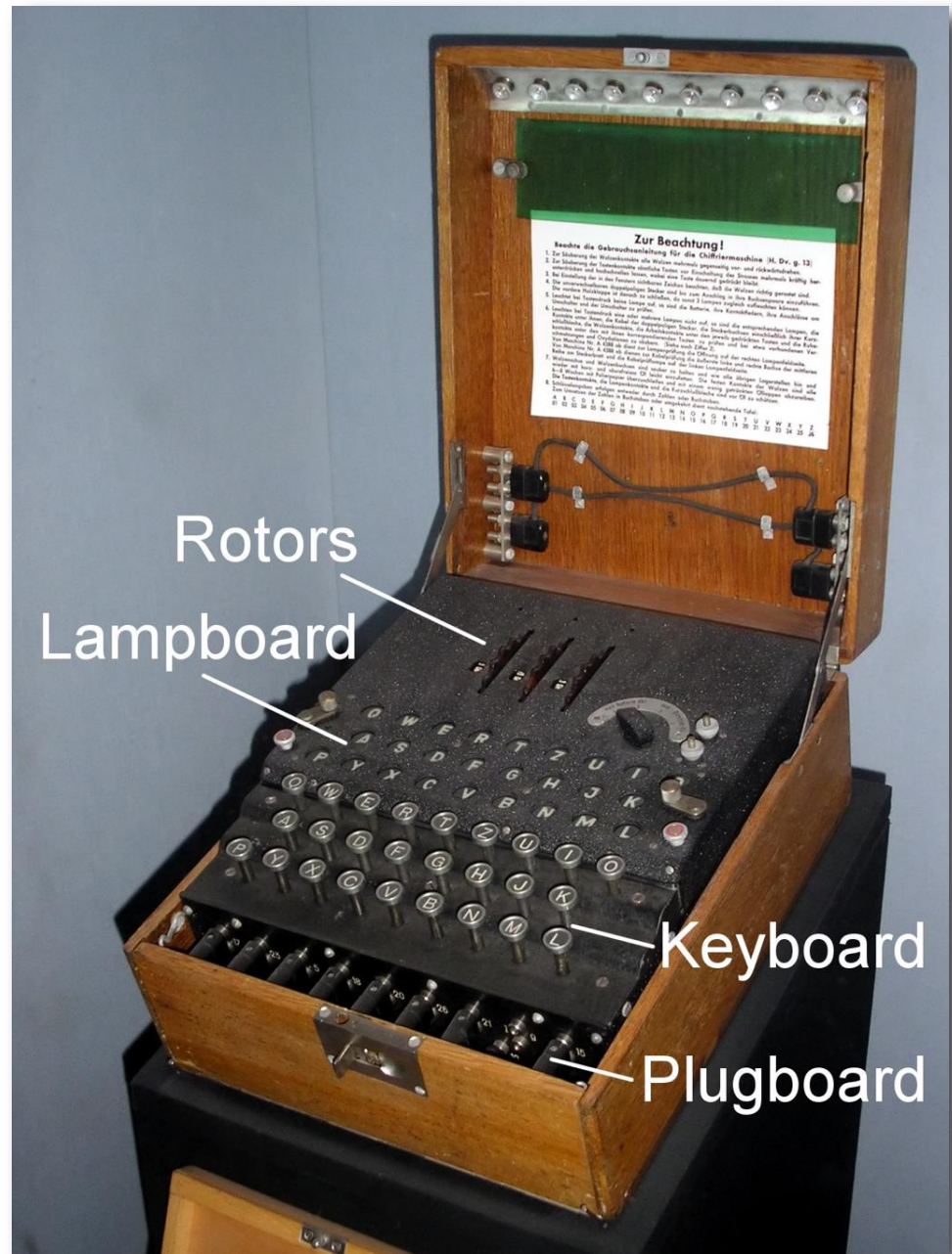
- hide secrets from your enemy
- ~4000 year old discipline
- Egyptians' use of non-standard hieroglyphics
- Spartans used *scytale* to perform transposition cipher
- Italian Leon Battista Alberti ("founder of western cryptography") invents polyalphabetic ciphers in 1466





# Enigma

- German WWII encryption device
- Used polyalphabetic substitution cipher
- Broken by Allied forces
- Intelligence called Ultra
- Codebreaking at Bletchley Park
- See original at the International Spy Museum at DC



# Some terminology

- **cryptosystem**: method of disguising (encrypting) plaintext messages so that only select parties can decipher (decrypt) the ciphertext
- **cryptography**: the art/science of developing and using cryptosystems
- **cryptanalysis**: the art/science of breaking cryptosystems
- **cryptology**: the combined study of cryptography and cryptanalysis

# What can crypto do?

- **Confidentiality**
  - Keep data and communication secret
  - Encryption / decryption
- **Integrity**
  - Protect reliability of data against tampering
  - “Was this the original message that was sent?”
- **Authenticity**
  - Provide evidence that data/messages are from their purported originators
  - “Did Alice really send this message?”

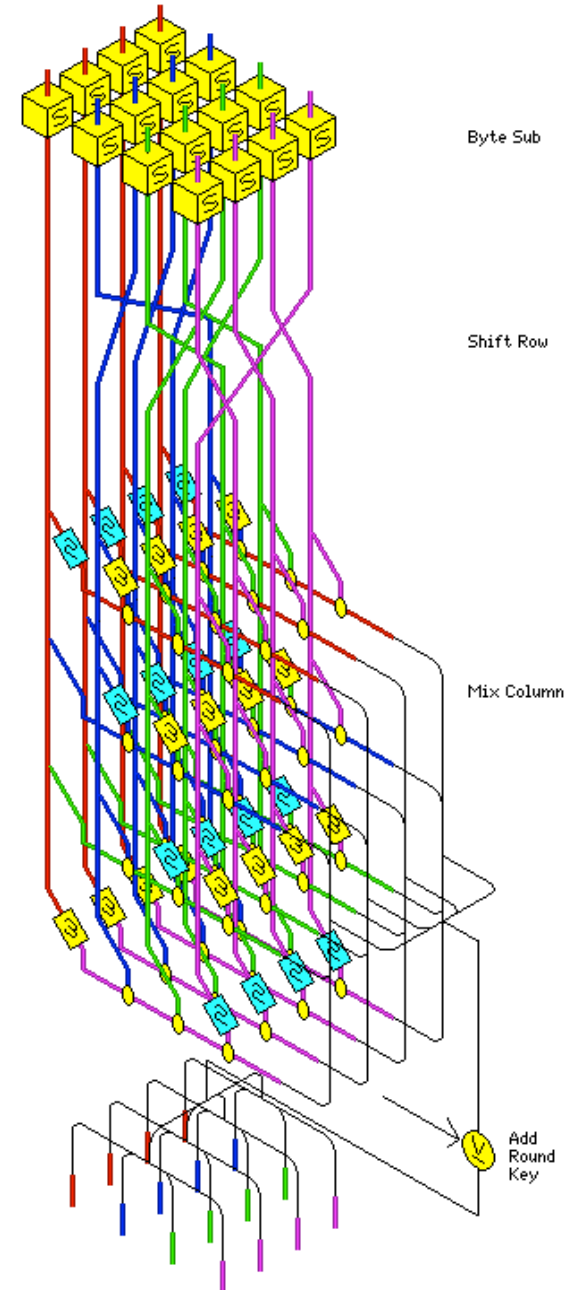
# cryptology < security

- Cryptology isn't the solution to security
  - Buffer overflows, worms, viruses, trojan horses, SQL injection attacks, cross-site scripting, bad programming practices, etc.
- It's a tool, not a solution
- **It is difficult to get right: choices.. choices....**
  - Choice of encryption algorithms (many tradeoffs)
  - Choice of parameters (key size, IV, ...)
  - Implementation (std. libraries work in most cases)
  - Hard to detect errors
    - Even when crypto fails, the program may still work
    - May not learn about crypto problems until after they've been exploited

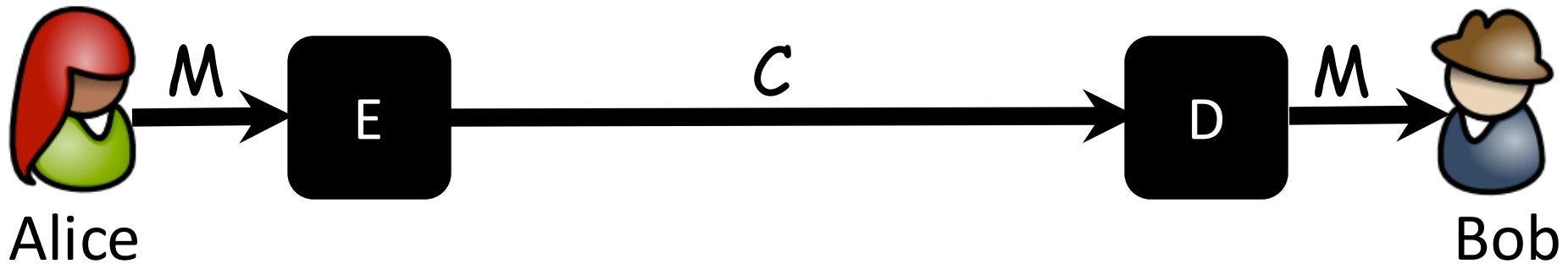


# Crypto is really, really, really, really, hard

- Task: develop a cryptosystem that is secure against all conceivable (and inconceivable) attacks, and will be for the foreseeable future
- If you are inventing your own crypto, you're doing it wrong
- Common security idiom: "no one ever got fired for using AES"



# Encryption and Decryption



$$C = E(M)$$

$$M = D(C)$$

i.e.,

$$M = D(E(M))$$

where

$M$  = plaintext

$C$  = ciphertext

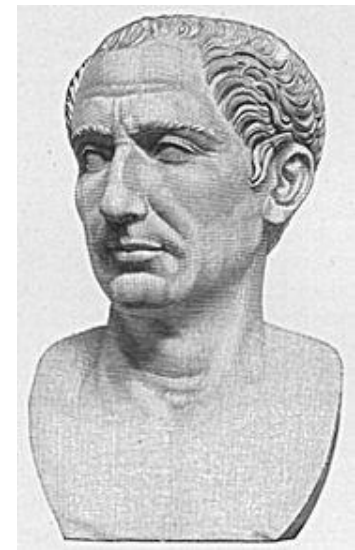
$E(x)$  = encryption function

$D(y)$  = decryption function

*What's missing?*

Let's look at some old  
crypto algorithms  
(don't use these)

# Caesar Cipher



- A.K.A. Shift Cipher or ROT-x cipher (e.g., ROT-13)
- Used by Julius to communicate with his generals
- x is the key:
- Encryption: Right-shift every character by x:  $c = E(x, p) = (p + x) \bmod 26$
- Decryption: Left-shift every character by x:  $p = D(x, c) = (c - x) \bmod 26$

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | A | B | C |

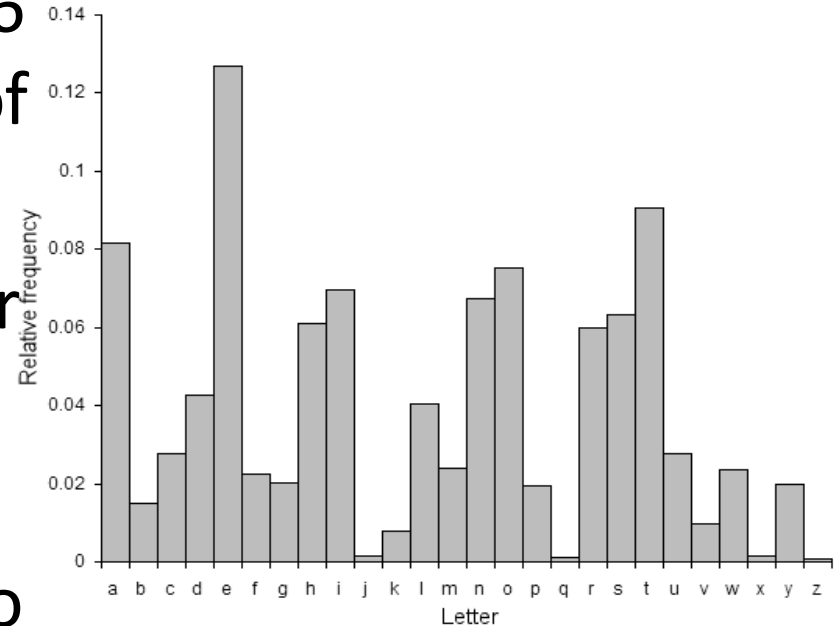
S E C U R I T Y A N D P R I V A C Y  
V H F X U L W B D Q G S U L Y D F B

# Cryptanalyze this ...

**“GUVF VF N TERNG PYNFF”**

# Cryptanalyzing the Caesar Cipher

- Cryptanalysis:
  - **Brute-force attack:** try all 26 possible shifts (i.e., values of  $x$ )
  - **Frequency analysis:** look for frequencies of characters
- Also, same plaintext (repetitions) *always* leads to same ciphertext, since *monoalphabetic*



# Polyalphabetic Cipher

- Improves on the simple monoalphabetic ciphers by using multiple monoalphabetic substitutions
- Example: Vigenère Cipher
  - A set of Caesar Ciphers where each cipher is denoted by a key letter that designates the shift
  - The key repeats for the length of the message

key:           deceptivedeceptivedeceptive

plaintext:   wearediscoveredsaveyourself

ciphertext:  ZICVTWQNGRZGVTWAVZHCQYGLMGJ


# One-time Pads

- To produce ciphertext, XOR the plaintext with the **one-time pad** (secret key)
  - $E(M) = M \oplus \text{Pad}$
  - $D(E(M)) = E(M) \oplus \text{Pad}$
- Requires  $\text{sizeof}(\text{pad}) == \text{sizeof}(\text{plaintext})$
- Offers **perfect secrecy**:
  - *a posteriori* probability of guessing plaintext given ciphertext equals the *a priori* probability
  - given a ciphertext without the pad, any plaintext of same length is possible input (there exists a corresponding pad)
  - $\Pr[M=m | C=c] = \Pr[M=m]$  (you learn nothing from the ciphertext)
- **Never reuse the pad (hence “one-time”)! Why not?**



# XOR properties

- $A \oplus A = ?$

 0

- $A \oplus 0 = ?$

 A

- $C1 = M1 \oplus \text{Pad}, C2 = M2 \oplus \text{Pad}$

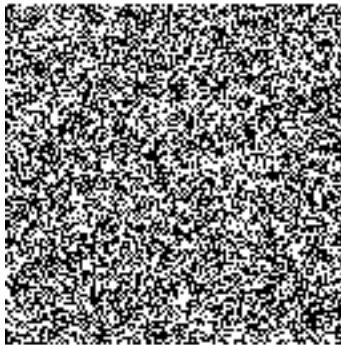
- $C1 \oplus C2 = ?$

$$M1 \oplus M2!$$

M1

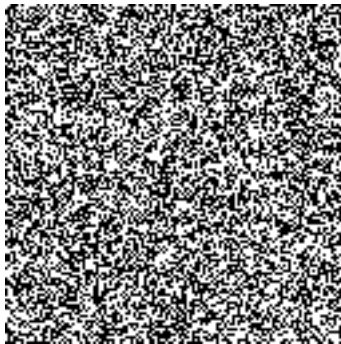
SEND  
CASH

⊕



=

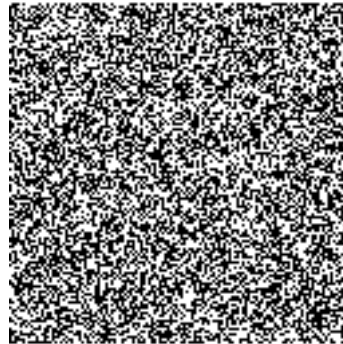
C1



M2

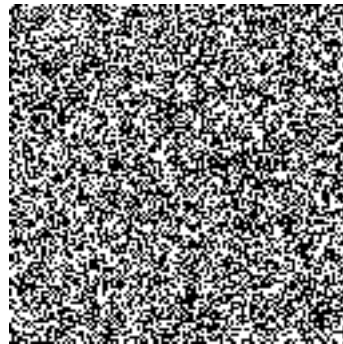


⊕



=

C2



SAME  
PAD

⊕

=

