

# CIS 6930: IoT Security

Lecture 5

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Spring 2025

# Class Notes and Clarifications

- General comments on paper reviews
  - Pay attention to the feedback!
  - The grading metric also looks at your improvements, so not repeating mistakes is key!
  - Small problems in implementation vs larger limitations/drawbacks of the methodology/framework
  - *Your comments should match the accept/reject verdict!*
- General comment on discussions
  - I expect you to have *at least some thoughts* on the research topics we discuss!
  - The point is to express opinions and engage.



# Class Notes and Clarifications

- General comments on presentations
  - Deeply understand and relay the ideas of the paper that you are presenting
    - If you don't understand something yourself, you won't be able to explain it to us.
  - Understand **why** the authors are choosing to do things a certain way.
    - Since you are presenting, we'll assume you are the author!
  - *Remember that the presentation is a visual medium!*



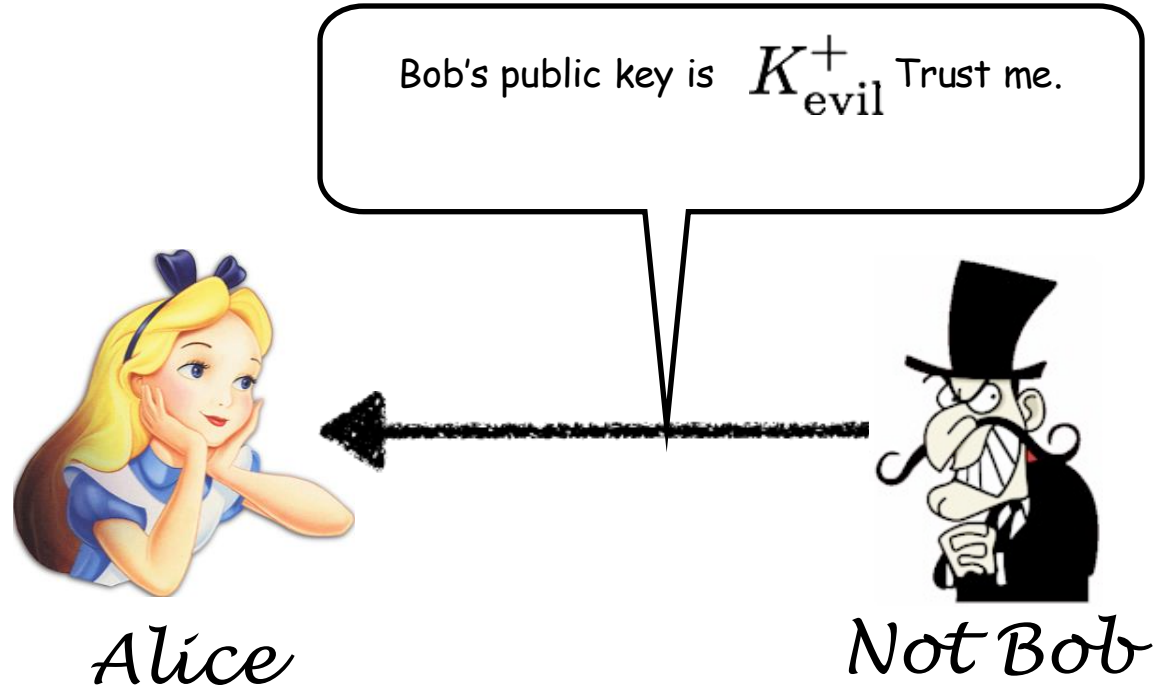
# Public Key Crypto

## (10,000 ft view)

- Separate keys for encryption and decryption
  - Public key: anyone can know this
  - Private key: kept confidential
- Anyone can encrypt a message to you using your public key
- The private key (kept confidential) is required to decrypt the communication
- Alice and Bob no longer have to have *a priori* shared a secret key

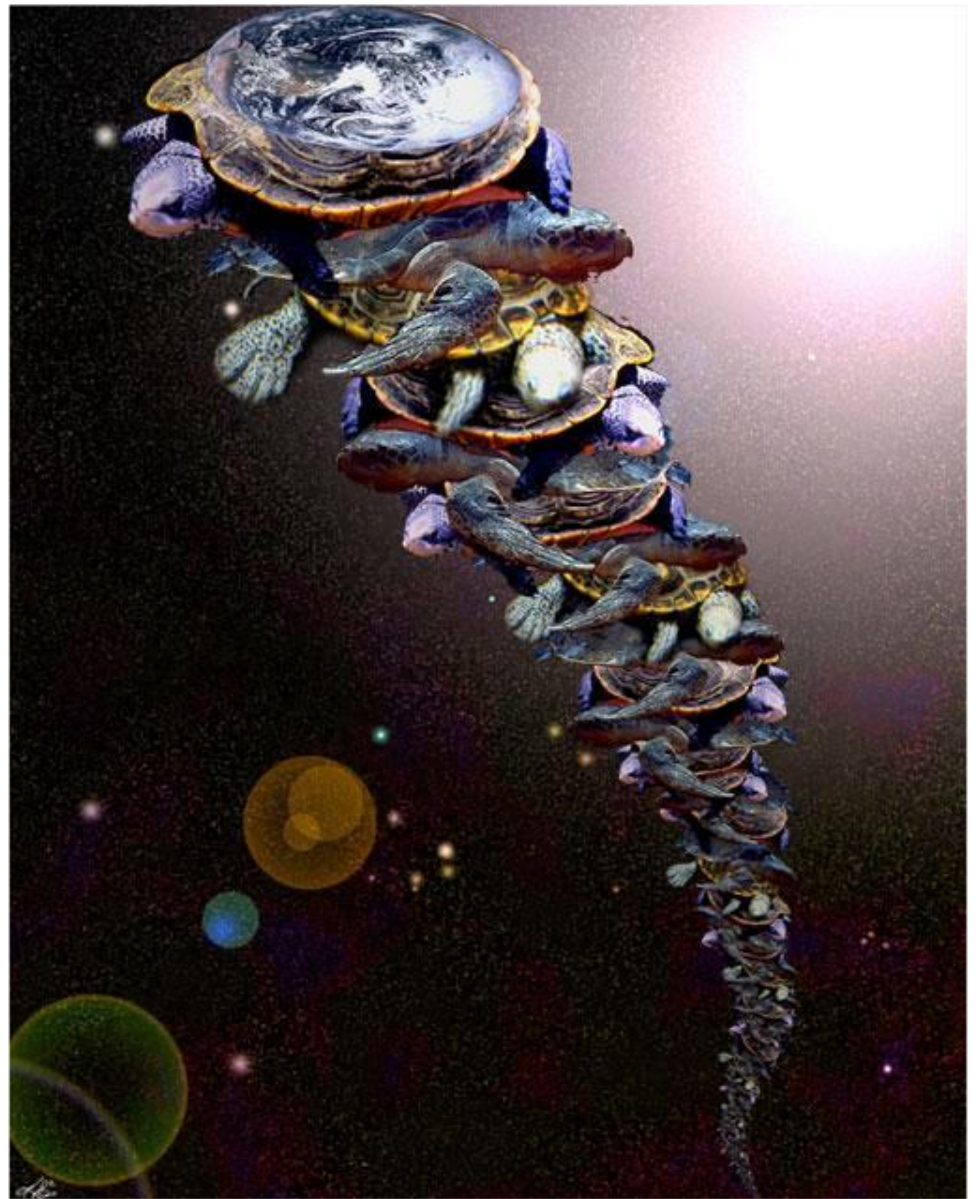
Problem? YES. *How do we know if Alice's key is really Alice's?*

But how do we *verify* we're using the correct public key?



Short  
answer: We  
can't.

It's turtles all  
the way down.

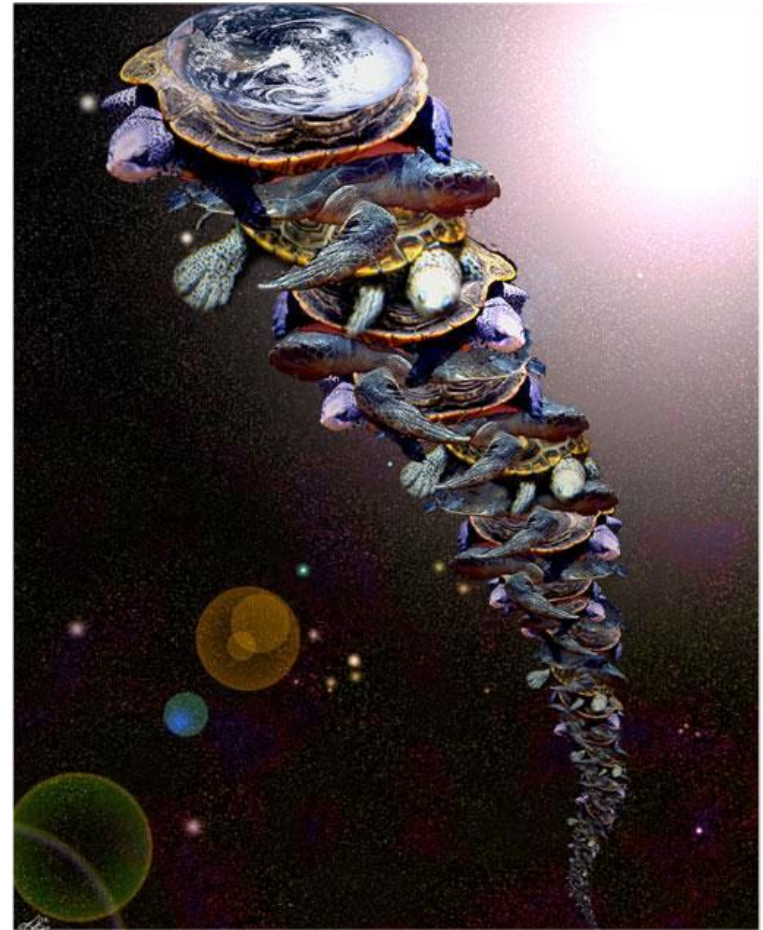


# Why not just use a database?

- Every user has his/her own public key and private key.
- Public keys are all published in a database.
- Alice gets Bob's public key from the database
- Alice encrypts the message and sends it to Bob using Bob's public key.
- Bob decrypts it using his private key.
- **What's the problem with this approach?**

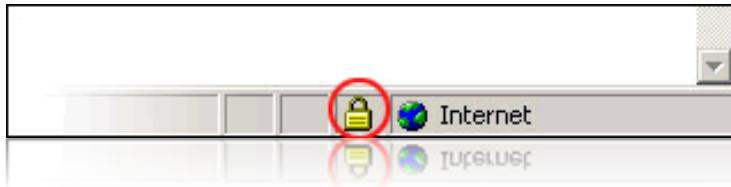
# Solving the Turtles Problem

- We need a **trust anchor**
- there must be someone with authority
- requires *a priori* trust
- Solution: form a trust hierarchy
  - “I believe **X** because...”
  - “**Y** vouches for **X** and...”
  - “**Z** vouches for **Y** and...”
  - “I implicitly trust **Z**.”






# Browser Certificate



Class 3 Public Primary Certification Authority  
↳ VeriSign Class 3 Public Primary Certification Authority - G5  
↳ VeriSign Class 3 International Server CA - G3  
↳ www.chase.com

 **www.chase.com**  
Issued by: VeriSign Class 3 International Server CA - G3  
Expires: Thursday, August 16, 2012 7:59:59 PM ET  
✔ This certificate is valid

▼ **Details**

Subject Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Country US  
State/Province New Jersey  
Locality Jersey City  
Organization JPMorgan Chase  
Organizational Unit CIG  
Common Name www.chase.com

Issuer Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Country US  
Organization VeriSign, Inc.  
Organizational Unit VeriSign Trust Network  
Organizational Unit Terms of use at <https://www.verisign.com/rpa> (c)10  
Common Name VeriSign Class 3 International Server CA - G3

Serial Number 61 5C 33 29 65 09 08 60 A4 E6 82 50 00 F6 22 F0  
Version 3

Signature Algorithm SHA-1 with RSA Encryption ( 1 2 840 113549 1 1 5 )  
Parameters none

Not Valid Before Tuesday, August 16, 2011 8:00:00 PM ET  
Not Valid After Thursday, August 16, 2012 7:59:59 PM ET

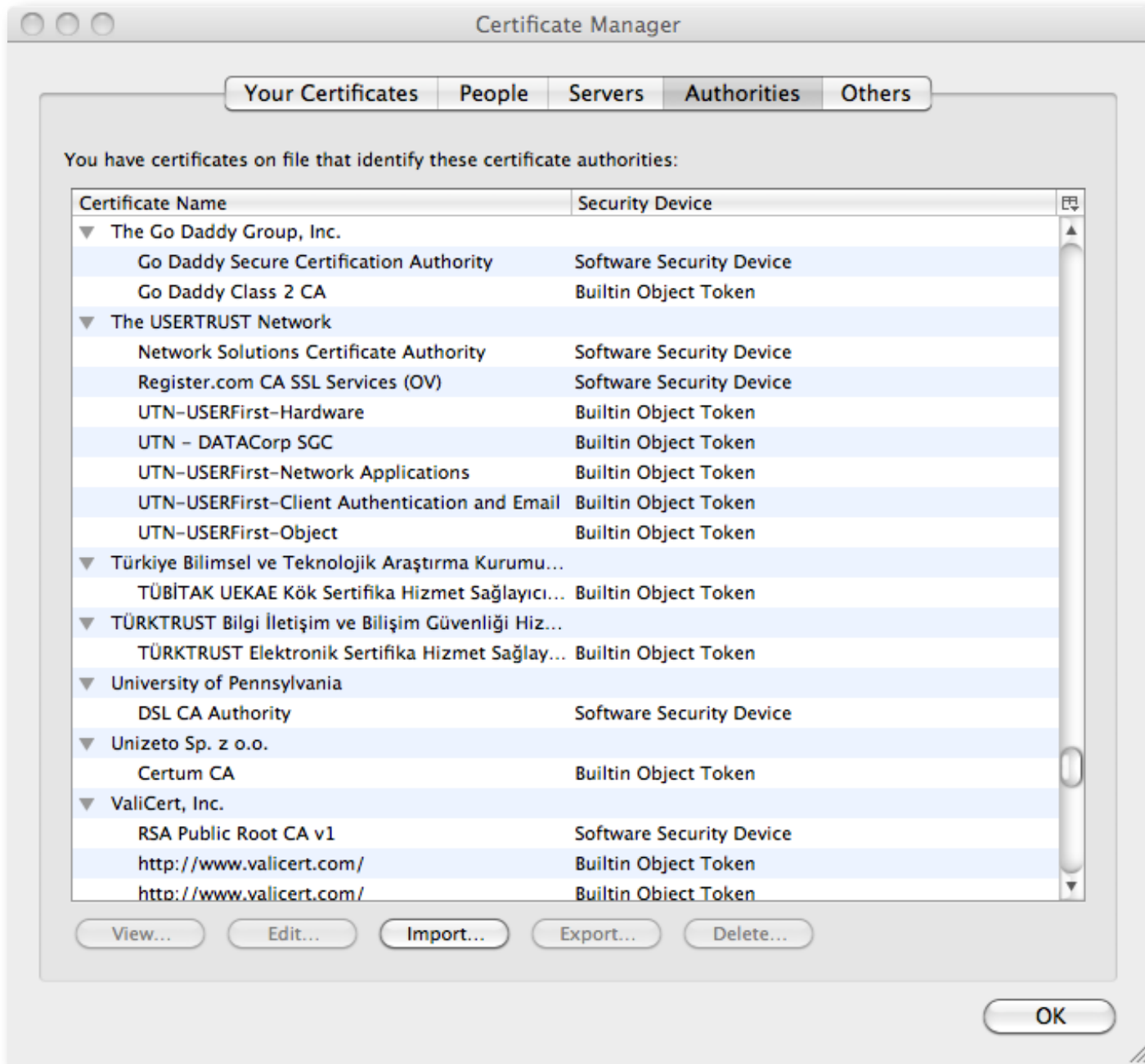
OK

# What's a certificate?

- A certificate ...
  - ... **makes an association between an identity and a private key**
  - ... contains public key information  $\{e,n\}$
  - ... has a validity period
  - ... is signed by some *certificate authority* (CA)
  - ... identity may have been vetted by a *registration authority* (RA)
- People trust CA (e.g., Verisign) to vet identity

# Why do I trust the certificate?

- A collections of *“root” CA certificates (self-signed)*
  - ... baked into your browser
  - ... vetted by the browser manufacturer
  - ... supposedly closely guarded
  - *trust anchor*
- Root certificates used to validate certificate
  - Vouches for certificate’s authenticity





## Your connection is not private

Attackers might be trying to steal your information from **www.csc.ncsu.edu** (for example, passwords, messages, or credit cards). NET::ERR\_CERT\_COMMON\_NAME\_INVALID

Automatically report details of possible security incidents to Google. [Privacy policy](#)

[Advanced](#)

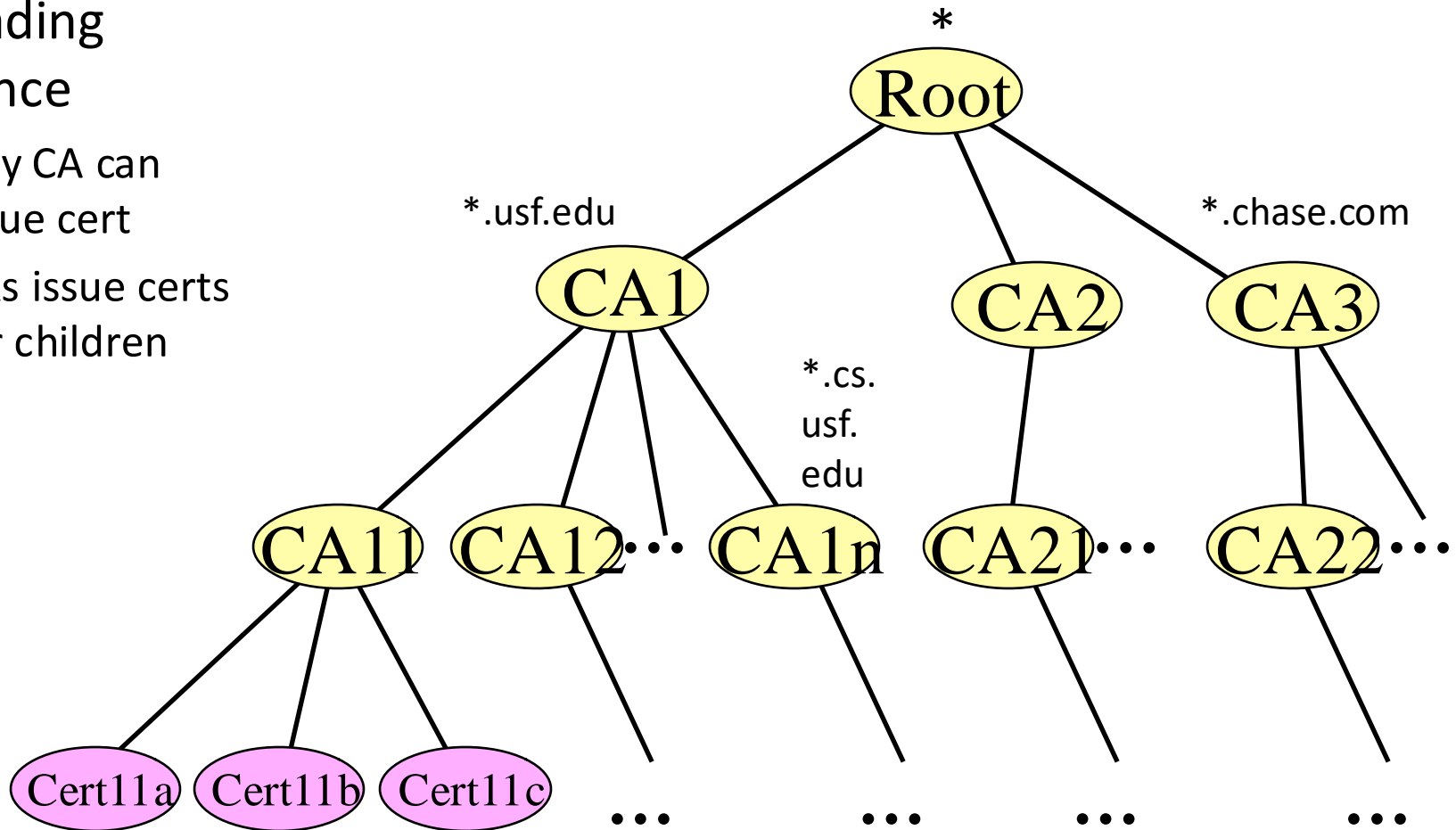
[Back to safety](#)

# Public Key Infrastructure

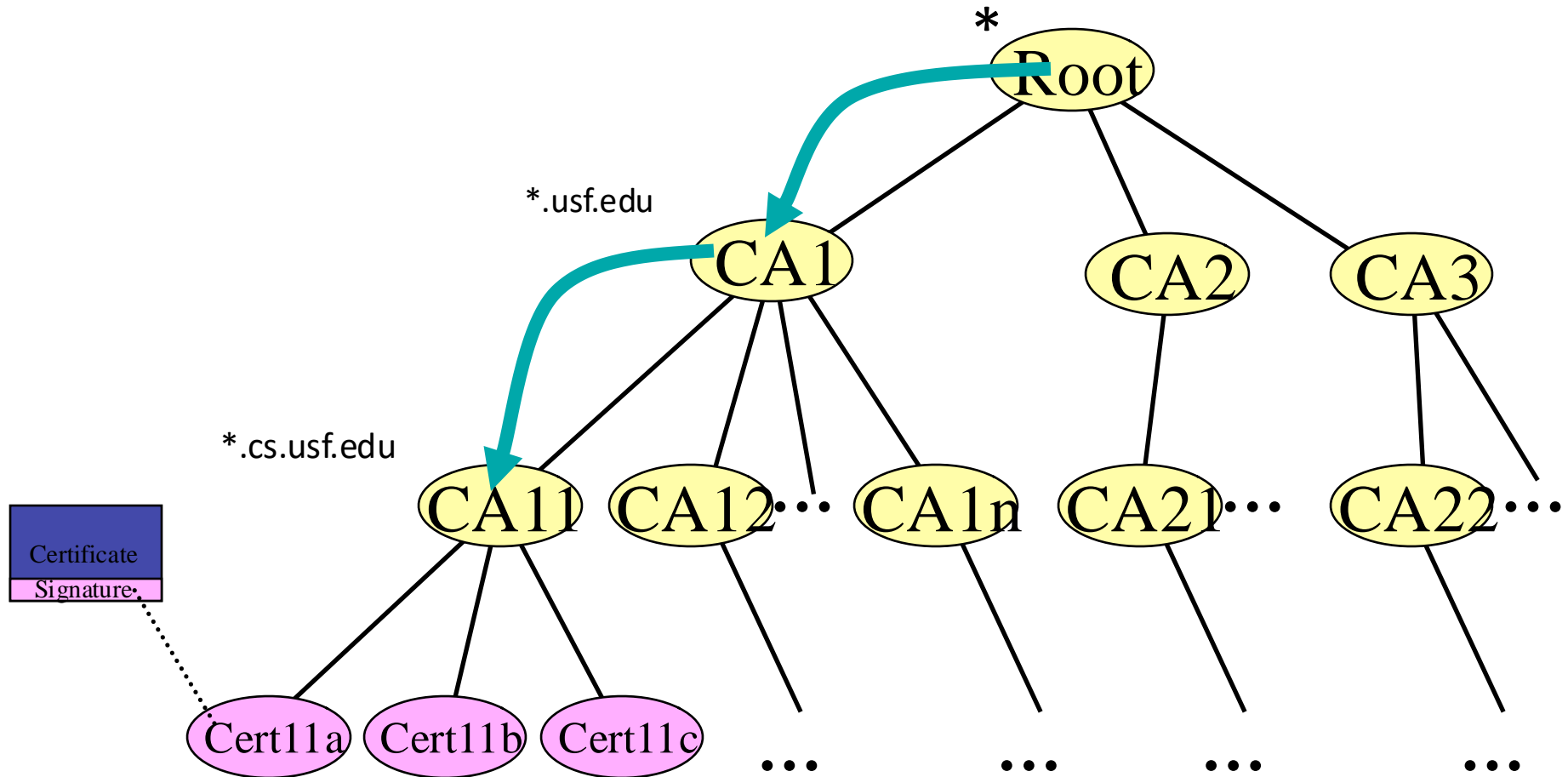
- Hierarchy of keys used to authenticate certificates
- Requires a **root of trust** (i.e., a **trust anchor**)

# What is a PKI?

- Rooted tree of CAs
- Cascading issuance
  - Any CA can issue cert
  - CAs issue certs for children

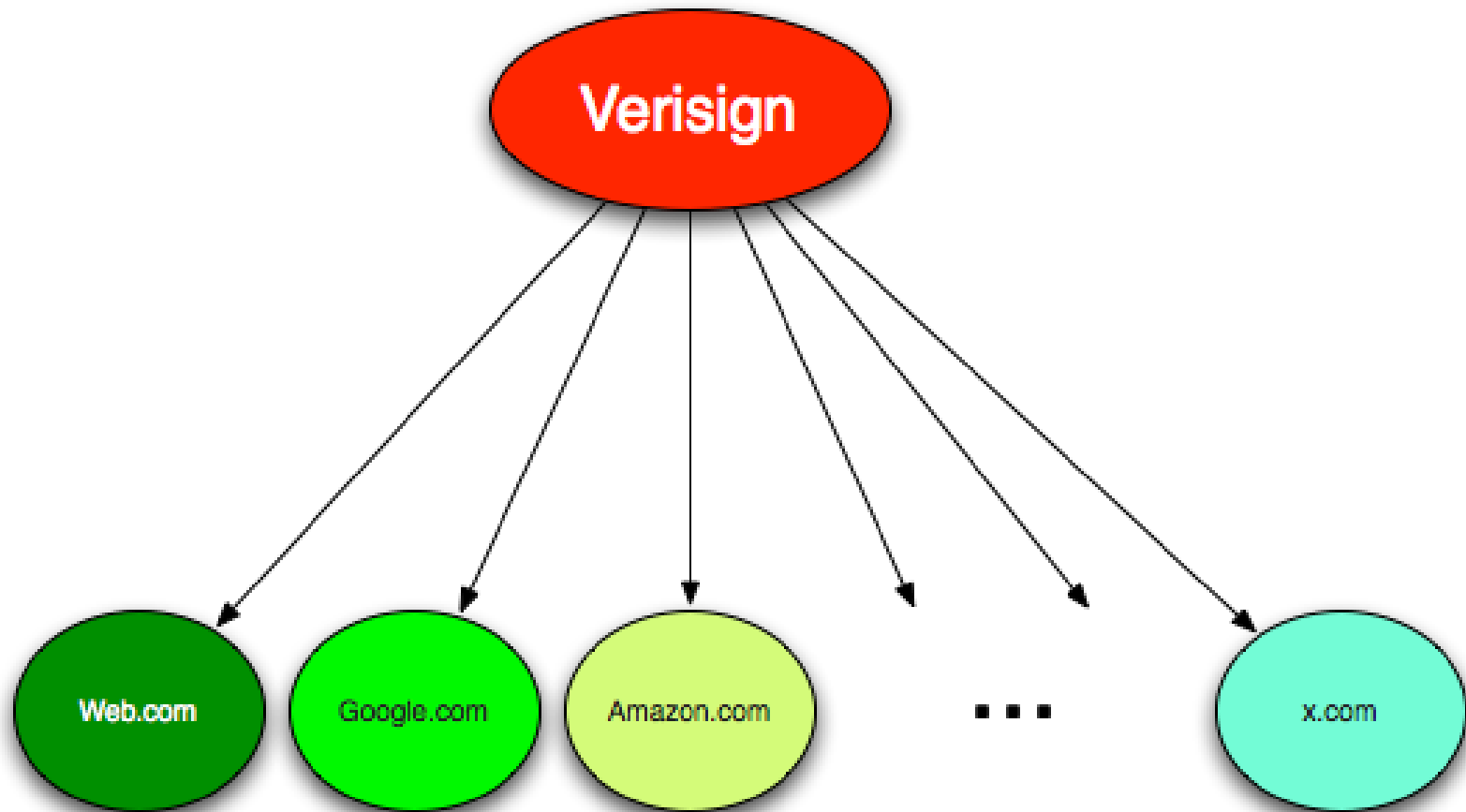


# Certificate Validation





# PKIs in Reality



# Obtaining a Certificate

1. Alice has some identity document  $A^{\text{ID}}$  and generates a keypair  $(A^-, A^+)$

2.  $A \rightarrow \text{CA} : \{A^+, A^{\text{ID}}\}, \text{Sig}(A^-, \{A^+, A^{\text{ID}}\})$

- CA verifies signature -- proves Alice has  $A^-$
- CA may (and should!) also verify  $A^{\text{ID}}$  offline

3. CA signs  $\{A^+, A^{\text{ID}}\}$  with its private key  $(\text{CA}^-)$

- CA attests to binding between  $A^+$  and  $A^{\text{ID}}$

4.  $\text{CA} \rightarrow A : \{A^+, A^{\text{ID}}\}, \text{Sig}(\text{CA}^-, \{A^+, A^{\text{ID}}\})$

- this is the certificate; Alice can freely publish it
- anyone who knows  $\text{CA}^+$  (and can therefore validate the CA's signature) knows that CA "attested to"  $\{A^+, A^{\text{ID}}\}$
- note that CA never learns  $A^-$

- Any CA may sign any certificate
- Browser weighs all root CAs equally
- *Q: Is this problematic?*

# The DigiNotar Incident

The screenshot shows the DigiNotar website homepage in a browser window. The browser's address bar displays "www.diginotar.com". The website header includes the DigiNotar logo (a stylized crown) and the text "DigiNotar A VASCO COMPANY". Navigation links for "HOME", "ANNOUNCEMENTS", "PRODUCTS", "BRANCH SOLUTIONS", "ABOUT DIGINOTAR", "PARTNERS", and "PROJECTS" are visible. A search bar is located on the right side of the header. The main banner features a woman looking at a laptop screen with the text: "Know for sure with whom you have an agreement. How do you check the identity of someone who's doing business online?". Below the banner, there are links for "EV SSL", "Contact", and "FAQ". A sidebar on the left lists services: "Managed PKI", "SSL Certificates", "SIM-ID", "Signing Service", and "DocProof". The main content area includes the text: "DigiNotar®, Internet Trust Provider. As independent Internet Trust Service Provider DigiNotar focuses on ensuring the integrity of information flow, and legal guarantees for all online information exchange. More information >>". To the right, under "Announcements", there are three items: "Publication report Fox-IT", "Cooperation Dutch government", and "DigiNotar reports security incident", each with a "Read the press release >>" link. At the bottom, there is a "GO EV SSL BUY NOW" graphic and the VASCO logo.

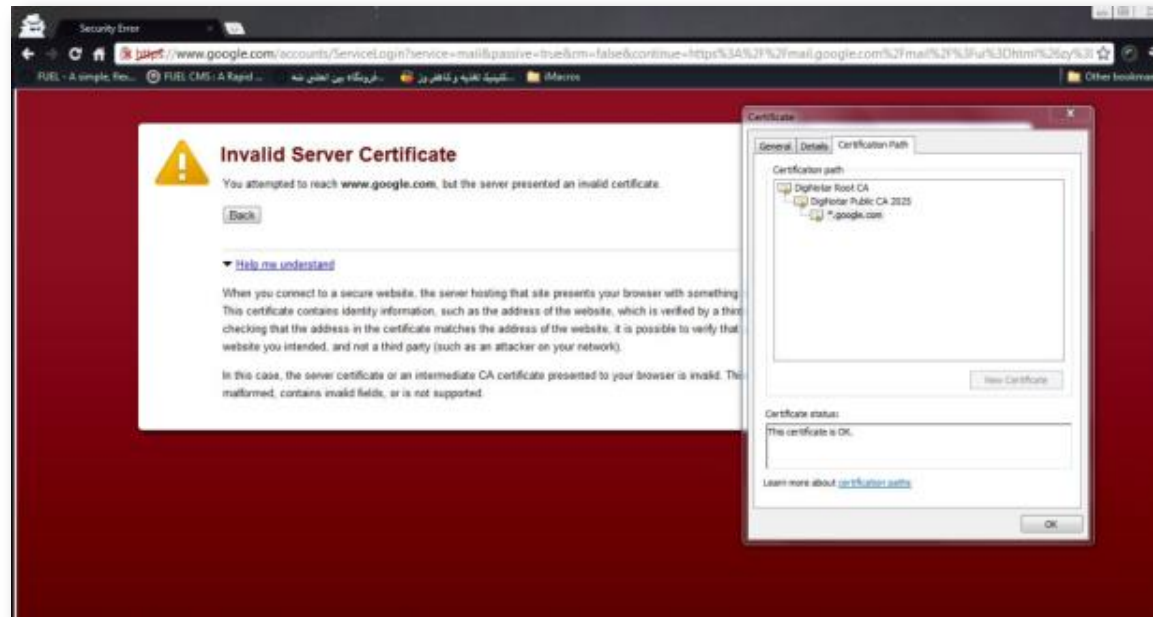
# DigiNotar Incident

- DigiNotar is a CA based in the Netherlands that is (well, was) trusted by most OSes and browsers
- July 2011: Issued fake certificate for gmail.com to site in Iran that ran MitM attack...
- ... this fooled most browsers, but...



# DigiNotar Incident

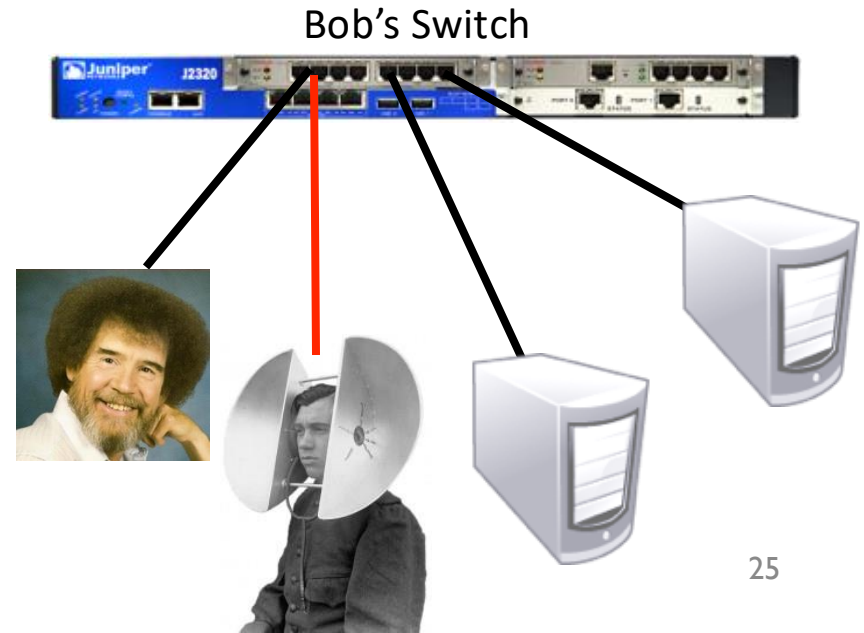
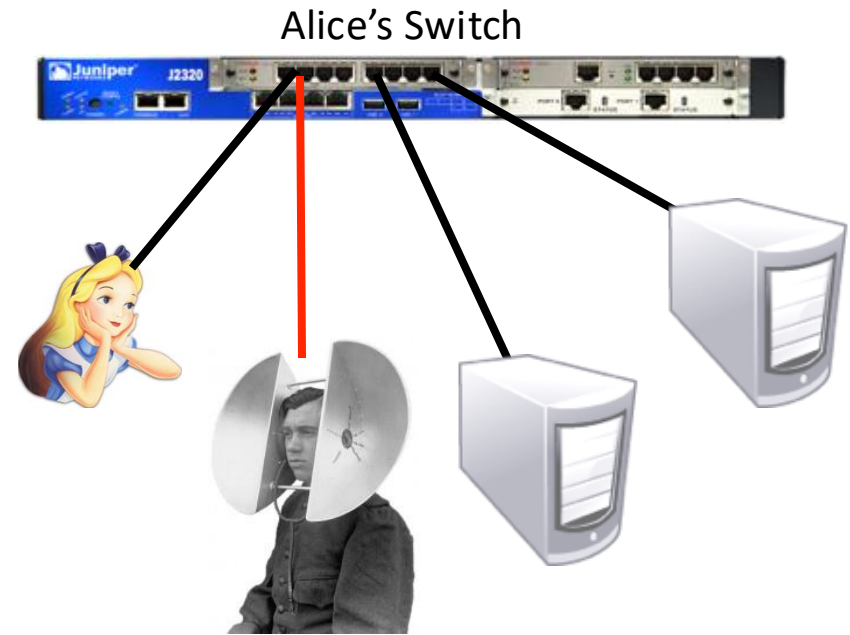
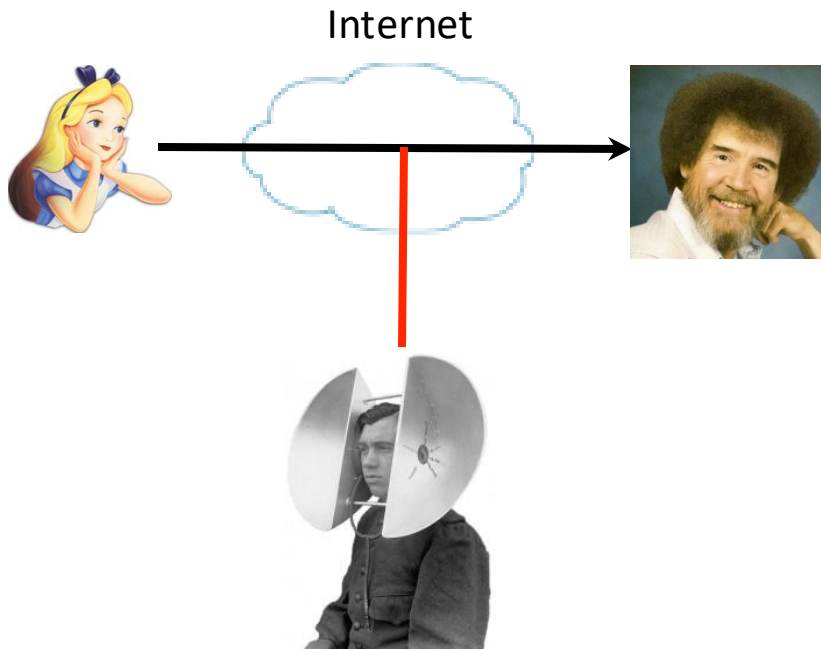
- As added security measure, Google Chrome hardcodes fingerprint of Google's certificate
- Since DigiNotar didn't issue Google's true certificate, this caused an error message in Chrome



# How secure is the verifier?

- What happens if attacker is able to insert his public root CA key to the verifier's list of trusted CAs?
- More generally, what are the consequences if the verifier is compromised?
- Q: What's the consequences for IoT devices/apps?

# Eavesdropping





# Why is crypto useful?

The image shows a Wireshark capture of a netcat connection. A terminal window in the background 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`.

- Its just an instant message, right?

*Alice* uses the Internet for:

- Email
- Banking
- Online shopping
- Social networking
- ...

# Why is this bad?

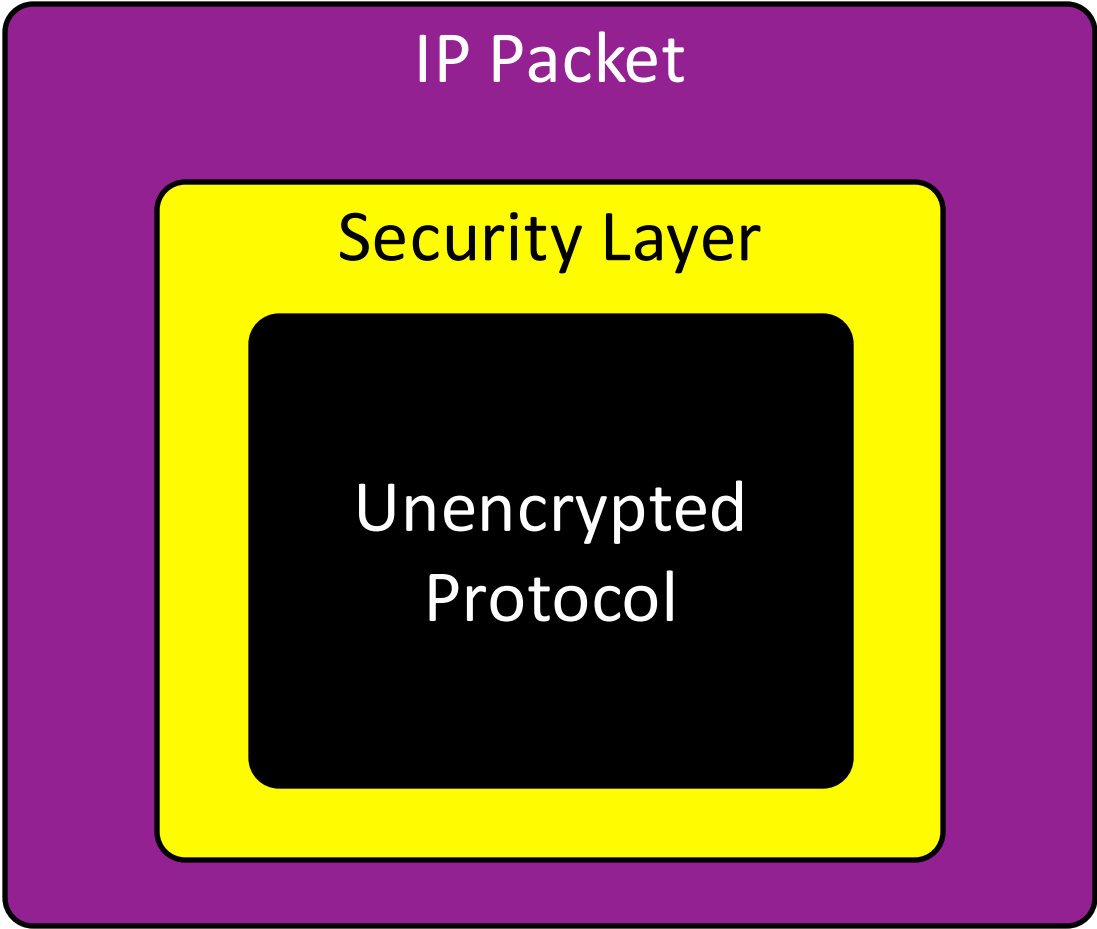
# Let's use that crypto stuff

- Let's build some new protocols
  - HTTP → SecureHTTP
  - POP → POPSecure
  - IMAP → CryptIMAP
  - SMTP → SMTPS
  - FTP → FTPS
  - Jabber → SecJabber
  - Telnet → TelCryptNet



Let's build a crypto-wrapper standard instead





# What properties should this crypto-wrapper have?

- Confidentiality
- Integrity
- Authenticity
  - Server
  - Client
  - Mutual authentication

SSL / TLS

# History

- **Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)** developed by Netscape (remember them?) in 1995
  - Version 1 never released
  - Version 2 incorporated into Netscape Navigator 1.1
  - Microsoft fixes vulnerabilities in SSLv2 and introduces Private Communications Technology (PCT) protocol
  - Netscape overhauls SSLv2, fixing some more security issues, and releases SSLv3
  - IETF takes over and releases **Transport Layer Security (TLS)**, a non-interoperable upgrade to SSLv3
    - current version is TLS version 1.3, [RFC 8446](#) (August 2018)

# K.I.S.S.

- Application-layer protocol
- Operates over TCP -- **WHY?**



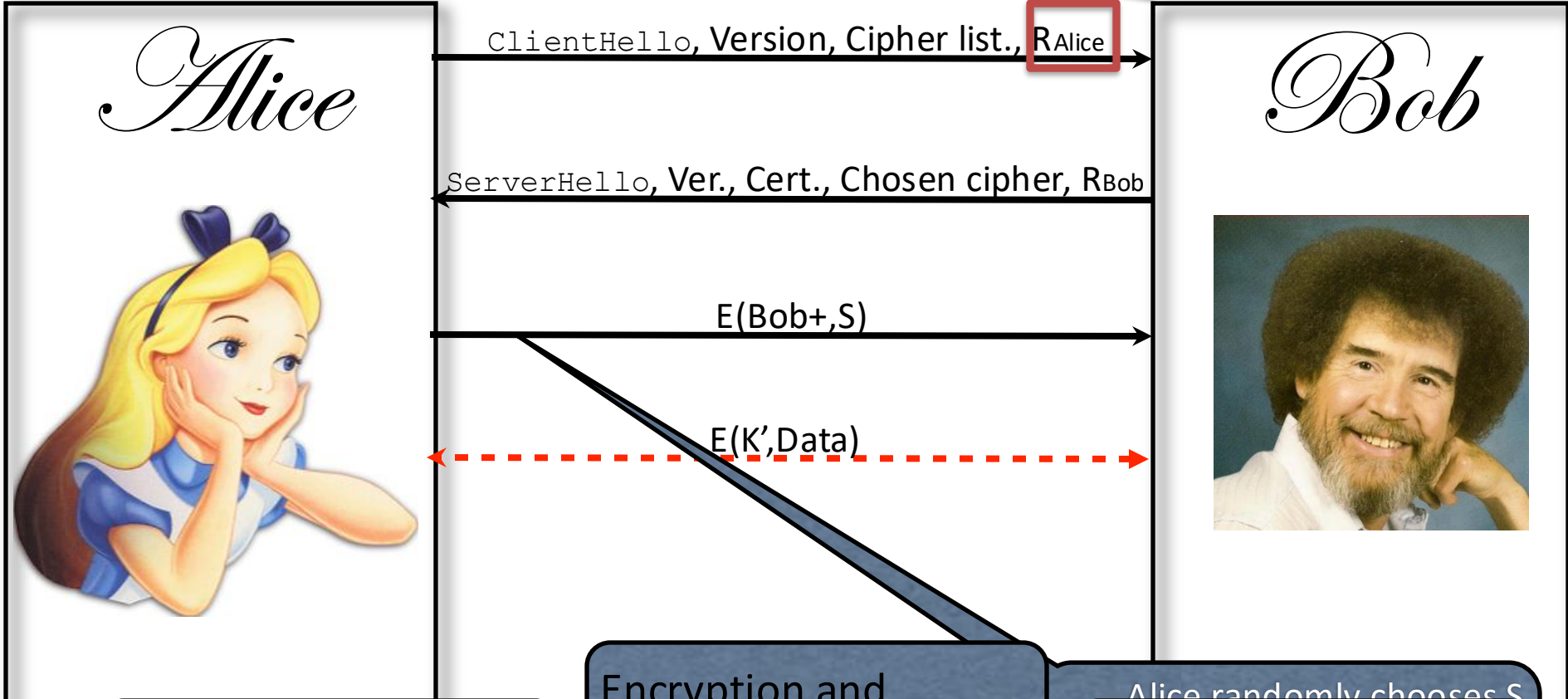


# Overview

- Alice (client) initiates conversation with Bob (server)
- Bob sends Alice his certificate
- Alice verifies certificate
- Alice picks a random number  $S$  and sends it to Bob, encrypted with Bob's public key
- Both parties derive key material from  $S$
- Client and server exchange encrypted and integrity-protected data

# SSLv2 Handshake

Nonce



Alice computes **master secret k** as  
 $K=f(S, R_{Alice}, R_{Bob})$

Encryption and integrity keys derived from Master Secret

Alice randomly chooses S  
Bob computes **master secret k** as  
 $K=f(S, R_{Alice}, R_{Bob})$

# Cryptographic Parameters

- Generated from
  - the master secret  $K$
  - $R_c$
  - $R_s$
- *Six values* to be generated
  - client authentication and encryption keys
  - server authentication and encryption keys
  - client encryption IV
  - server encryption IV
- Generator functions:  $k_i = g_i(K, R_c, R_s)$

# Authentication

*Alice*



ClientHello, Version, Cipher list,  $R_{Alice}$

ServerHello, Ver., Cert., Chosen cipher,  $R_{Bob}$

$E(Bob+, S)$

$E(K', Data)$

Q: Which parties are authenticated?

*Bob*



Bob Barker

# Cipher Suites

- Alice gives Bob a list of supported cipher suites; Bob makes final choice

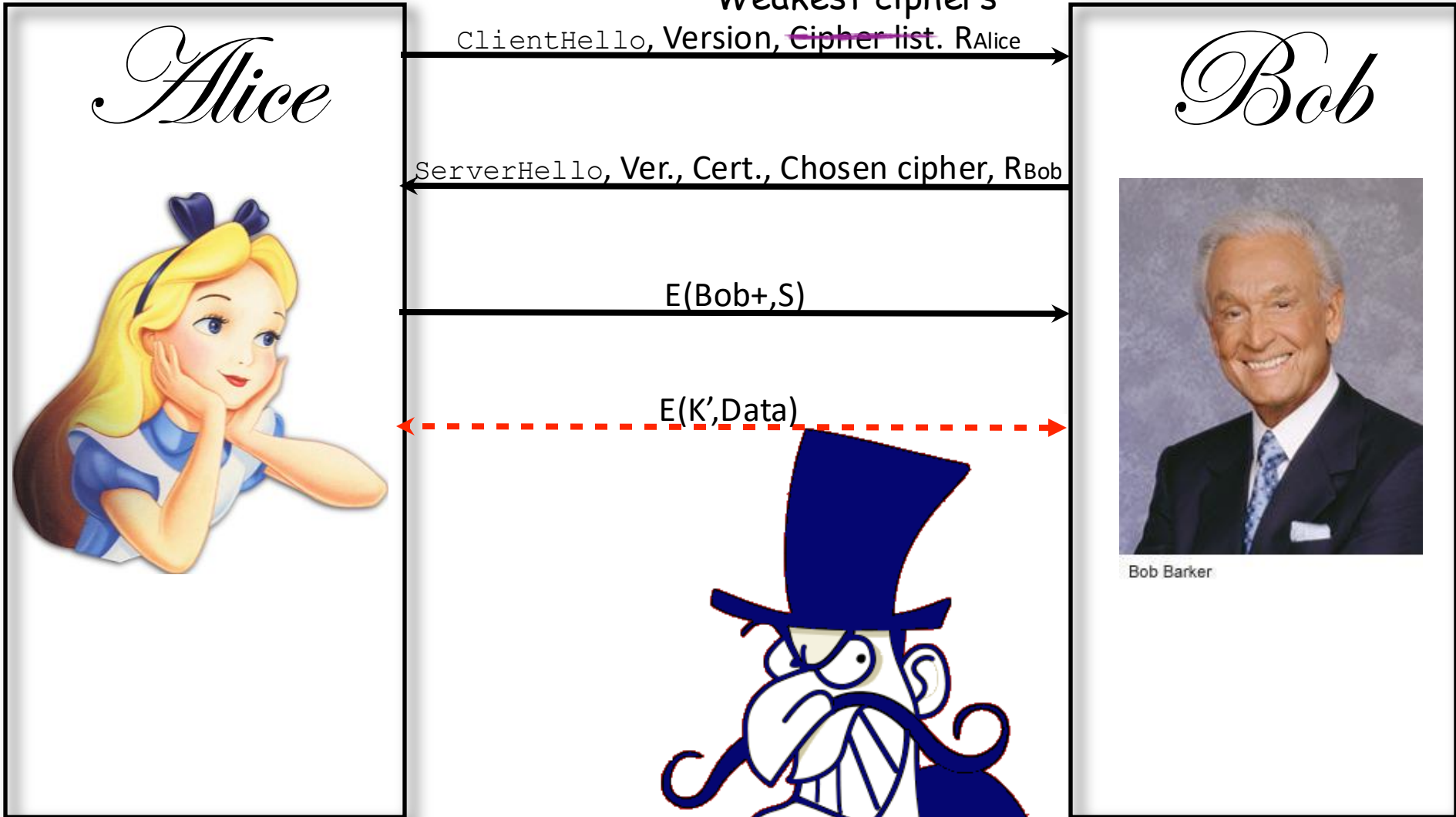
```
% openssl ciphers -v
TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384 TLSv1.3 Kx=any Au=any Enc=AESGCM(256) Mac=AEAD
TLS_CHACHA20_POLY1305_SHA256 TLSv1.3 Kx=any Au=any Enc=CHACHA20/POLY1305(256) Mac=AEAD
TLS_AES_128_GCM_SHA256 TLSv1.3 Kx=any Au=any Enc=AESGCM(128) Mac=AEAD
ECDHE-ECDSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384 TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH Au=ECDSA Enc=AESGCM(256) Mac=AEAD
ECDHE-RSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384 TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH Au=RSA Enc=AESGCM(256) Mac=AEAD
DHE-RSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384 TLSv1.2 Kx=DH Au=RSA Enc=AESGCM(256) Mac=AEAD
ECDHE-ECDSA-CHACHA20-POLY1305 TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH Au=ECDSA Enc=CHACHA20/POLY1305(256) Mac=AEAD
ECDHE-RSA-CHACHA20-POLY1305 TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH Au=RSA Enc=CHACHA20/POLY1305(256) Mac=AEAD
DHE-RSA-CHACHA20-POLY1305 TLSv1.2 Kx=DH Au=RSA Enc=CHACHA20/POLY1305(256) Mac=AEAD
..
..
..
```

- Includes encryption algorithms, key length, block mode, and integrity checksum algorithm
- Only 5 supported in TLS1.3, >30 in TLS1.2

- Key Exchange algos e.g. RSA, DH, ECDH
- Authentication algos e.g., RSA
- Bulk encryption algos e.g., AES
- MAC algos e.g., SHA-256

# SSLv2 Problems

Weakest ciphers



Bob Barker

# SSLv3 Fixes

*Alice*



ClientHello, Version, Cipher list,  $R_{Alice}$

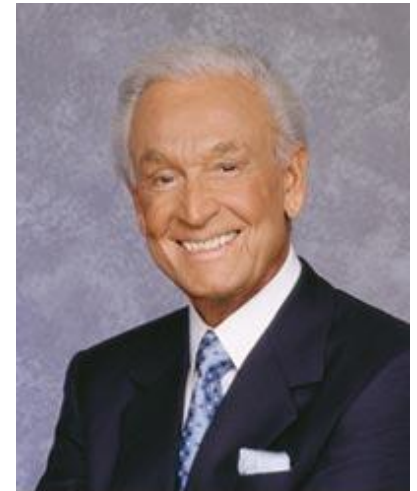
ServerHello, Ver., Cert., Chosen cipher,  $R_{Bob}$

$E(Bob+S), h_K(\text{all prior handshake msgs})$

$h_{K'}(\text{keyed hash of handshake msgs})$

$E(K', \text{Data})$

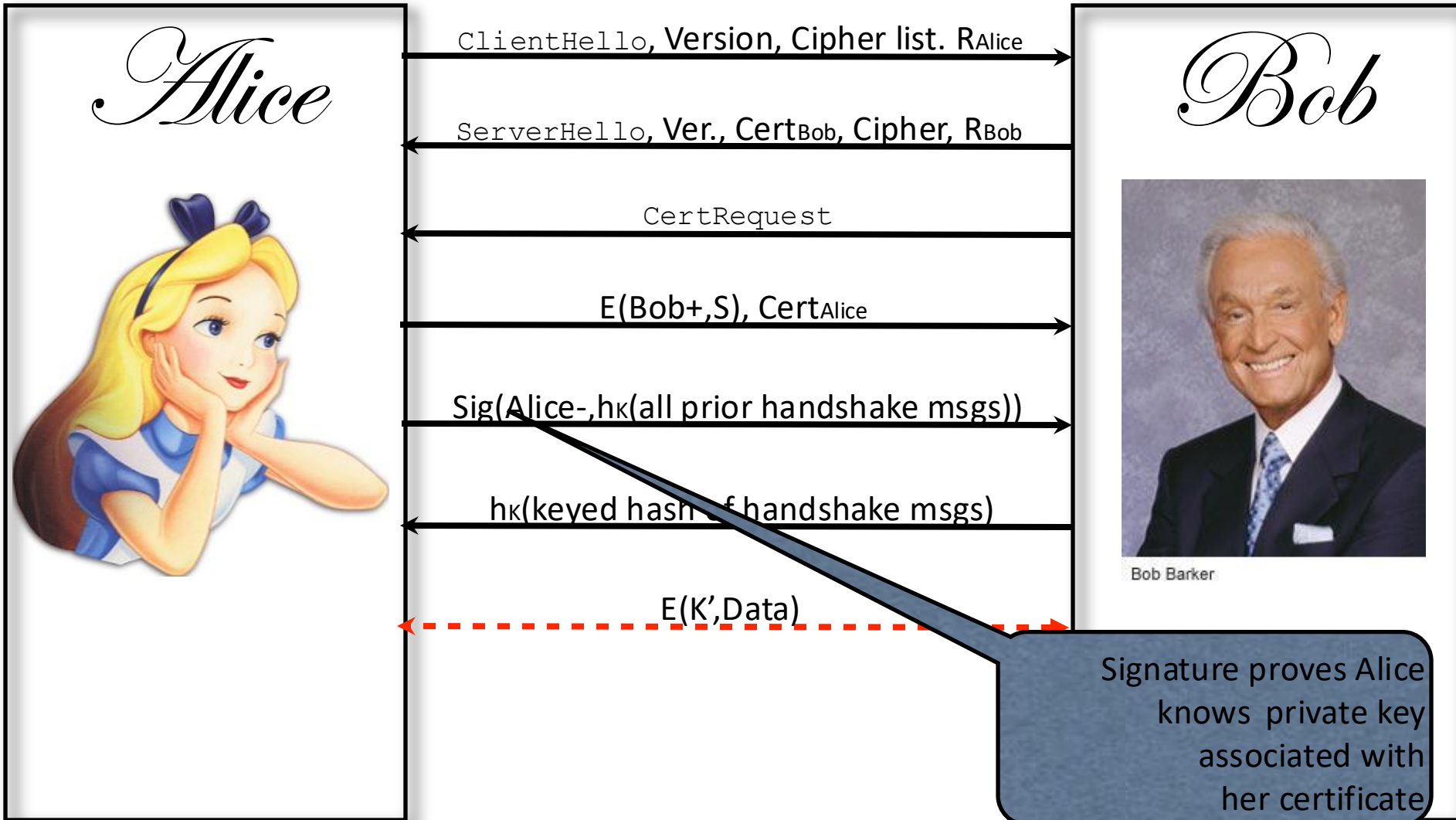
*Bob*



Bob Barker

Keyed hash over previous messages ensures integrity protection

# SSL/TLS with Server and Client Authentication





# Problems with TLS/SSL

If Bob's cert isn't verified, how do you know you're actually talking to Bob?

*Alice*



ClientHello, Version, Cipher list,  $R_{Alice}$

ServerHello, Ver., Cert., Chosen cipher,  $R_{Bob}$

$E(Bob, S)$

$E(K', Data)$

*Bob*



Bob Barker

# Solution: Use a PKI

Home DigiNotar, Internet Tr...  
www.diginotar.com

SecDocs G-Scholar 18 G-Cal G-Maps G-Voice G+ NYT MSNBC Wiki TWC Weather MyAccess Other Bookmarks

**DigiNotar®**  
A VASCO COMPANY

HOME ANNOUNCEMENTS PRODUCTS BRANCH SOLUTIONS ABOUT DIGINOTAR PARTNERS PROJECTS

search... Search

**Know for sure with whom you have an agreement**  
How do you check the identity of someone who's doing business online?

EV SSL | Contact | FAQ

**Go to ...**

- Managed PKI
- SSL Certificates
- SIM-ID
- Signing Service
- DocProof

**DigiNotar®, Internet Trust Provider**

As independent Internet Trust Service Provider DigiNotar focuses on ensuring the integrity of information flow, and legal guarantees for all online information exchange. More information >>

**Announcements**

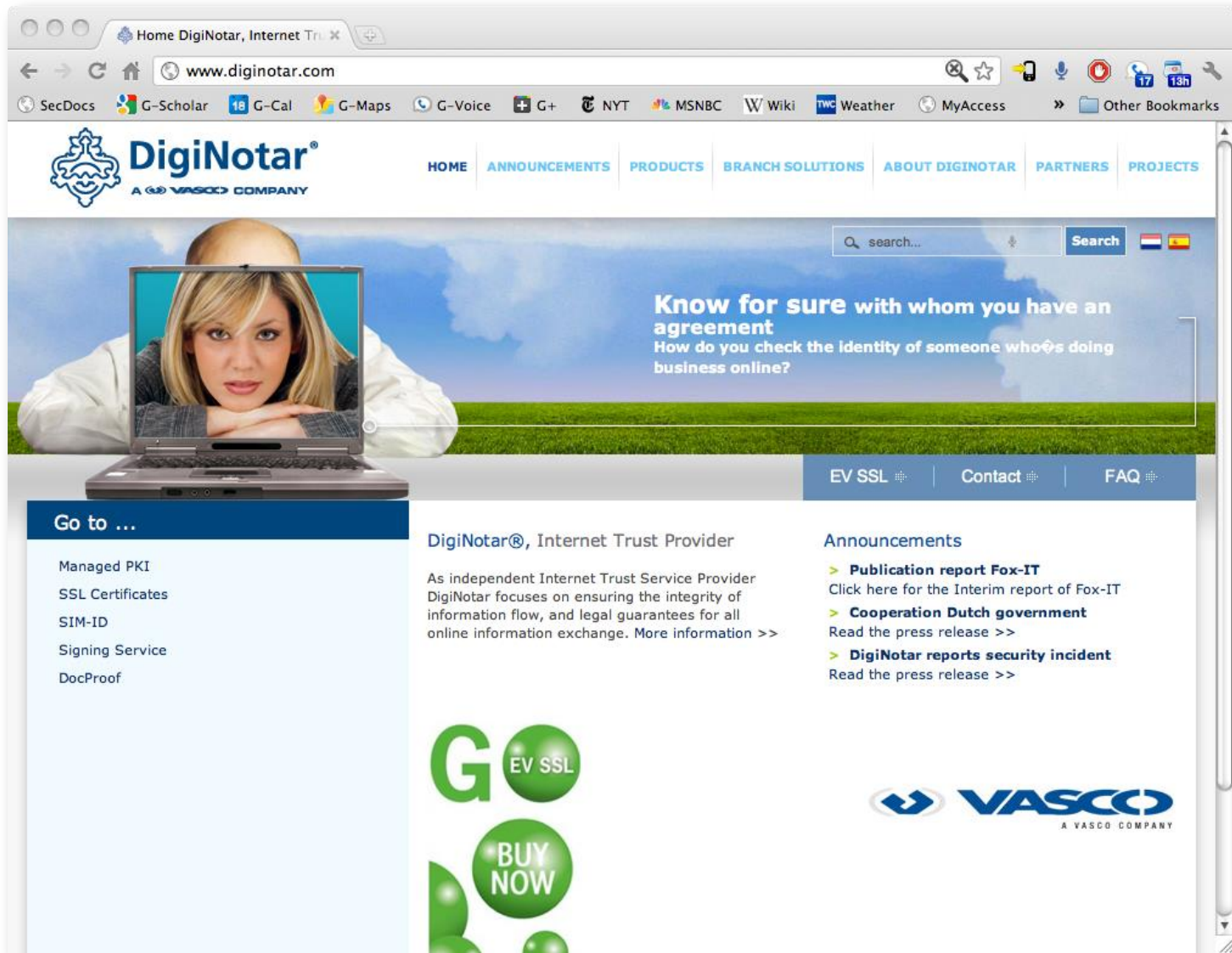
- > **Publication report Fox-IT**  
Click here for the Interim report of Fox-IT
- > **Cooperation Dutch government**  
Read the press release >>
- > **DigiNotar reports security incident**  
Read the press release >>

**GO** EV SSL  
**BUY NOW**

**VASCO**  
A VASCO COMPANY

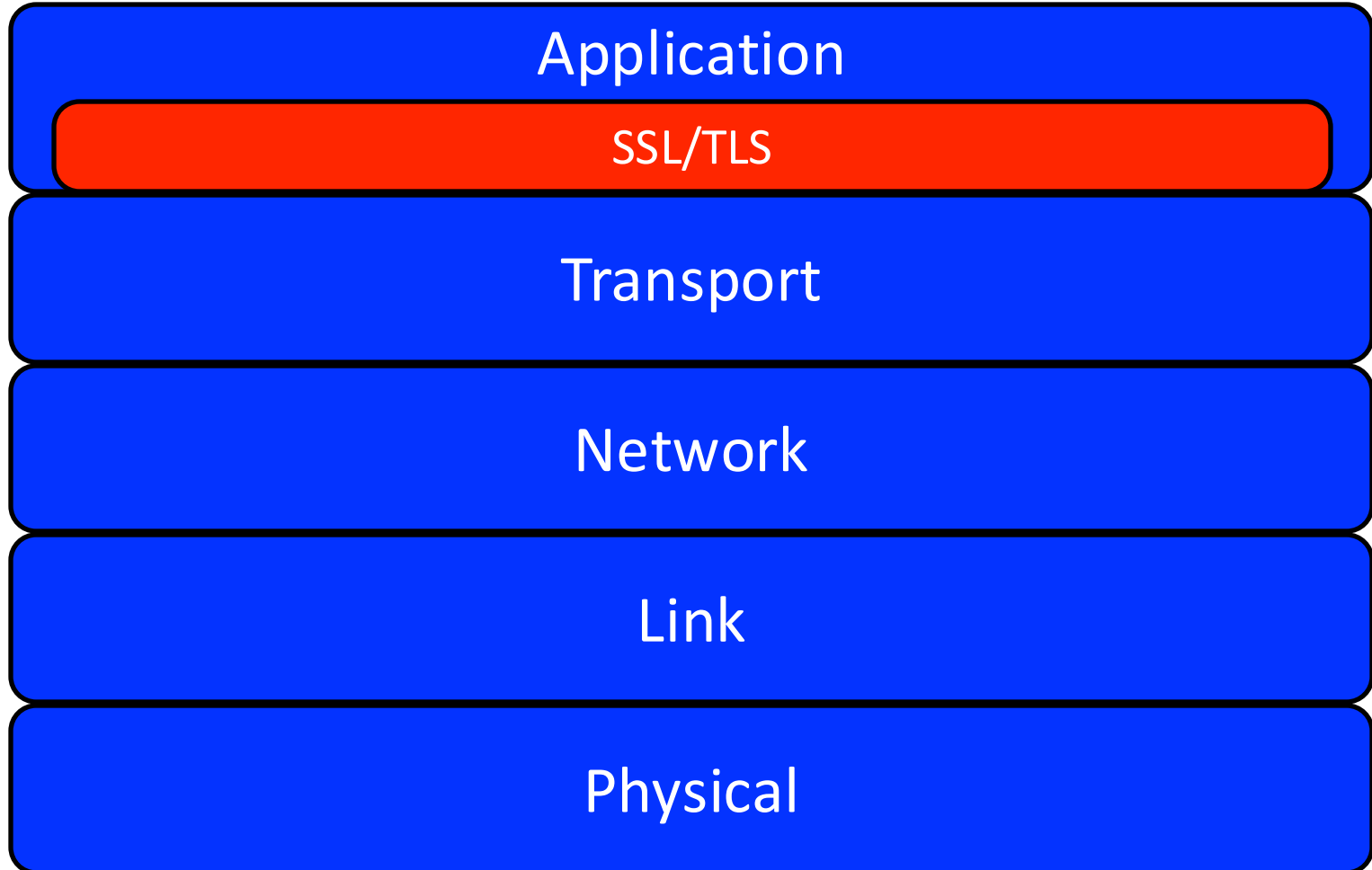
- Any CA may sign any certificate
- Browser weighs all root CAs equally
- *Q: Do you recall why this is problematic?*

# Recall: The DigiNotar Incident



# SSL/TLS in the Real World

# Network Stack, revisited



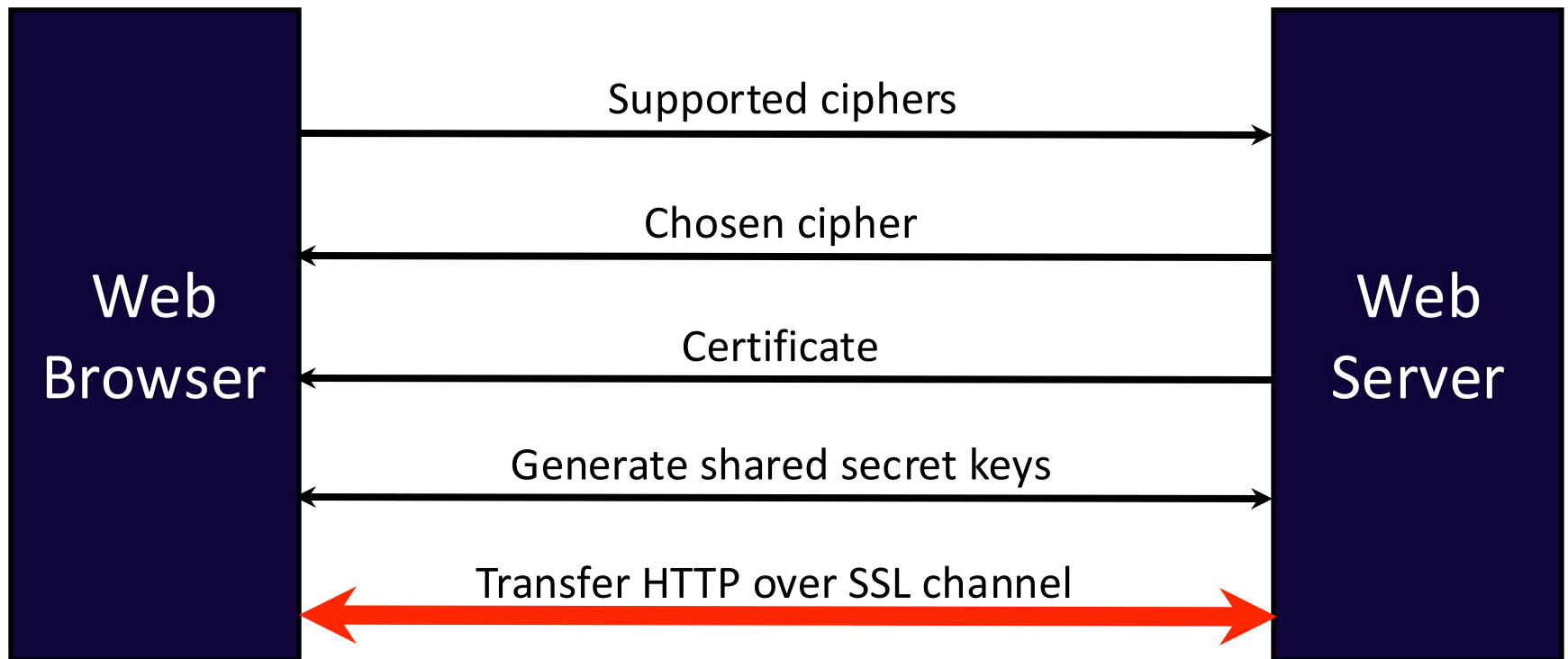
# SSL/TLS in the Real World

- All (modern) browsers support TLS 1.2, TLS1.3
  - SSLv3 deprecated in most major browsers
- Client authentication very rare -- **WHY?**
- Implementations:
  - HTTP (80) → HTTPS (443)
  - POP (110) → POP3S (995)
  - IMAP (143) → IMAPS (993)
  - SMTP (25) → SMTP with SSL (465)
  - FTP (20,21) → FTPS (989,990)
  - Telnet (23) → Telnets (992)



# SSL/TLS and the Web

- HTTPS: Tunnel HTTP over SSL/TLS
- Add golden lock symbol



# The verifier matters

- SSL is an *application layer protocol*
  - Software developers must use it correctly

- Pre-Smartphone World
  - Small set of applications that use SSL (E.g., Web Browser)
  - Lots of attention to those apps



- Smartphone World
  - Possibly *millions of applications that use SSL*
  - Many apps do not verify certificates correctly – **Implications?**
  - Developers change default configuration – **WHY?**

# SSL Verification in Apps

- Even popular apps are vulnerable to incorrect SSL use
  - Banking
  - Document storage
  - Social Networks (Facebook, before *Firesheep*)
  - .....and **IoT apps**
  - ...
- Common mistakes: Generally, in HTTPS use.
  1. Not using SSL
  2. Mixed SSL use
  3. Accepting all certificates
  4. Accepting all hostnames (i.e., regardless of the CN)
  5. Trusting all CAs

# Not using SSL

- What happens when you don't use SSL? E.g., <http://www.mybank.com/loggedin?sessionid=11>
  - If I can *guess*, *infer*, or *steal* the session ID, game over
- Are there any use cases where not using SSL would be okay?
  - It depends. However, unless confidentiality and authenticity are *never* going to be important to the app, use SSL!

**Lesson 1: Always use SSL (i.e., mostly HTTPS)**

# Mixed SSL use



- Mixed use of HTTP and HTTPS on the same site.
- **Use case 1:** Login page is not HTTPS, but the login form is submitted to a HTTPS page.
  - MiTM can *replace HTTPS links with HTTP* (i.e., SSL Stripping)
- **Use case 2:** Login page is HTTPS, but the rest of the website may be HTTP
  - *Unencrypted cookies/session IDs!* (e.g., Firesheep)

**Lesson 2: Use HTTPS throughout**

# Certificate Validation

- Apps can override the *TrustManager* interface

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/2703161/how-to-ignore-ssl-certificate-errors-in-apache-httpclient-4-0>

69

```
SSLContext sslContext = SSLContext.getInstance("SSL");

// set up a TrustManager that trusts everything
sslContext.init(null, new TrustManager[] { new X509TrustManager() {
    public X509Certificate[] getAcceptedIssuers() {
        System.out.println("getAcceptedIssuers =====");
        return null;
    }

    public void checkServerTrusted(X509Certificate[] certs,
        String authType) {
        System.out.println("checkServerTrusted =====");
    }
} }, new SecureRandom());
```

- What is wrong with this example? It accepts all server certificates!

**Lesson 3: Always validate the server's certificate**

# Using self-signed certificates

- *The right way:* Certificate Pinning
  - i.e., hardcode your self-signed certificate.

```
CertificateFactory cf = CertificateFactory.getInstance("X.509");
// From https://www.washington.edu/itconnect/security/ca/load-der.crt
InputStream caInput = new BufferedInputStream(new FileInputStream("load-der.crt"));
Certificate ca;
try {
    ca = cf.generateCertificate(caInput);
    System.out.println("ca=" + ((X509Certificate) ca).getSubjectDN());
} finally {
    caInput.close();
}
```

**Step 1:** Read in your certificate

```
// Create a KeyStore containing our trusted CAs
String keyStoreType = KeyStore.getDefaultType();
KeyStore keyStore = KeyStore.getInstance(keyStoreType);
keyStore.load(null, null);
keyStore.setCertificateEntry("ca", ca);

// Create a TrustManager that trusts the CAs in our KeyStore
String tmfAlgorithm = TrustManagerFactory.getDefaultAlgorithm();
TrustManagerFactory tmf = TrustManagerFactory.getInstance(tmfAlgorithm);
tmf.init(keyStore);

// Create an SSLContext that uses our TrustManager
SSLContext context = SSLContext.getInstance("TLS");
context.init(null, tmf.getTrustManagers(), null);
```

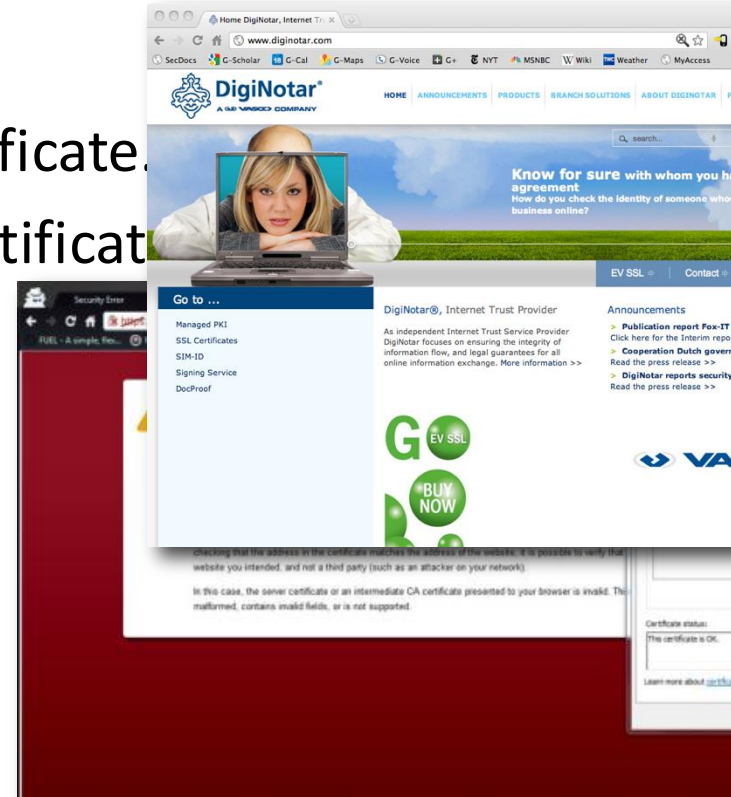
**Step 2:** Create custom TrustManager

**Step 3:** Compare server certificate with the hard-coded one



# Using self-signed certificates

- *The right way:* Certificate Pinning
  - i.e., hardcode your self-signed certificate.
  - Allows *secure* use of self-signed certificates.
- Variation:
  - Pinning own CA certificate
  - Gives you more flexibility.
- How to change the certificate?
  - App updates!
- Don't have to trust 100s of Root CAs!



**Lesson 4:** Certificate pinning, if done correctly, is more secure than *default SSL use*.



# Hostname Verification

- Back to basics: What does a certificate provide?
  - Binding between a *public key* and *identity*


```
HostnameVerifier hostnameVerifier = org.apache.http.conn.ssl.SSLSocketFactory.ALLOW_ALL_HOSTNAME_VERIFIER;

DefaultHttpClient client = new DefaultHttpClient();

SchemeRegistry registry = new SchemeRegistry();
SSLSocketFactory socketFactory = SSLSocketFactory.getSocketFactory();
socketFactory.setHostnameVerifier((X509HostnameVerifier) hostnameVerifier);
registry.register(new Scheme("https", socketFactory, 443));
SingleClientConnManager mgr = new SingleClientConnManager(client.getParams(), registry);
DefaultHttpClient httpClient = new DefaultHttpClient(mgr, client.getParams());

// Set verifier
HttpsURLConnection.setDefaultHostnameVerifier(hostnameVerifier);
```

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/2012497/accepting-a-certificate-for-https-on-android?lq=1>

- Any certificate issued by any trusted CA will be accepted!
  - i.e., HostName= google.com, but cert has CN=foogle.com? 

**Lesson 5: Never override the HostNameVerifier**