

# CIS 6930: IoT Security

Lecture 9

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Spring 2025

# Class Notes and Clarifications

- Clarifications about the use of Generative AI in this class
  - Follow the syllabus!
  - If syllabus is (and was) not followed, you automatically get a 0 on submissions.
  - If you are unsure, clear with me first!
- Progress on the project..



# User Authentication

# Three Flavors of Credentials

- ... are evidence used to prove identity
- Credentials can be
  1. **Something I am**
  2. **Something I have**
  3. **Something I know**

# Web Authentication

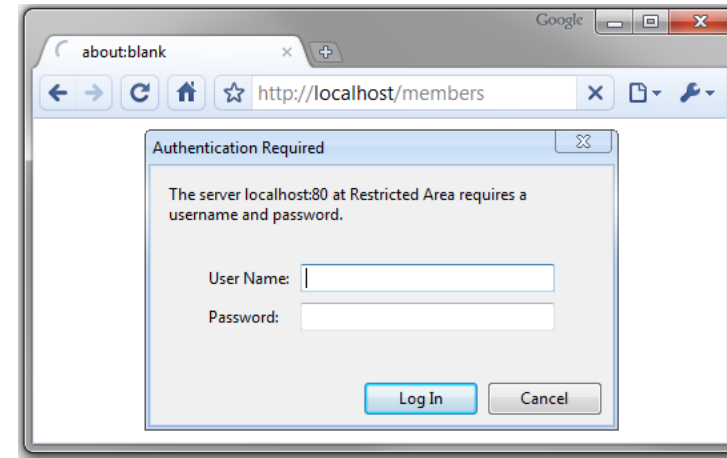
(still based on “something you know”)

Credentials can be

1. Something I am
2. Something I have
3. **Something I know**

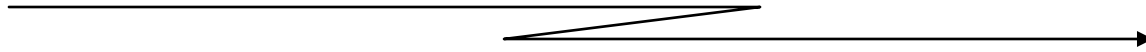
# Web Authentication

- Authentication is a bi-directional process
  - Client
  - Server
  - Mutual authentication
- Several standard authentication tools
  - Basic (client)
  - Digest (client)
  - Secure Socket Layer (server, mutual)



**CLIENT**

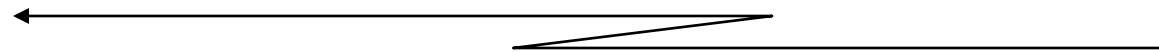
GET /protected/index.html HTTP/1.0



**CLIENT**

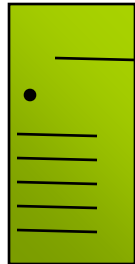
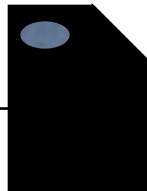
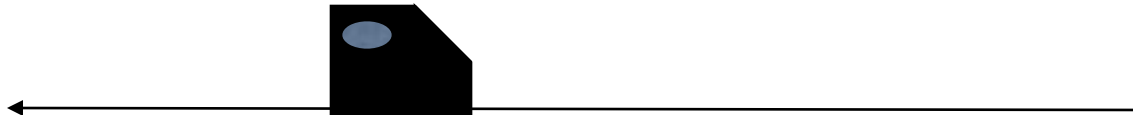
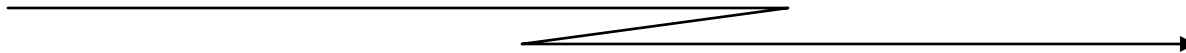
HTTP/1.0 401 Unauthorized

WWW-Authenticate: Basic realm="Private"



**CLIENT**

GET /protected/index.html HTTP/1.0  
Authorization: Basic JA87JKAs3NbBDs



# Basic Authentication

# Basic Authentication -- is this secure?


- **Encoded ! = Encrypted**
  - Passwords easy to intercept (base-64 encoded; not encrypted)
- Passwords:
  - easy to guess
  - easy to share
- No server authentication - easy to fool client into sending password to malicious server



# Digest Authentication

CLIENT

```
GET /protected/index.html HTTP/1.1
```



```
HTTP/1.1 401 Unauthorized
```

```
WWW-Authenticate: Digest
```

```
realm="Private" nonce="98bdc1f9f017.."
```




CLIENT

```
GET /protected/index.html HTTP/1.1
```

```
Authorization: Digest
```

```
username="lstein" realm="Private"
```

```
nonce="98bdc1f9f017.." response="5ccc069c4.."
```



CLIENT



# Challenge/Response

- **Challenge** nonce is a one time random string/value

$nonce = H(\text{IPaddress} : \text{timestamp} : \text{server secret})$

- more generally, a **nonce** is number or string (often randomly or pseudorandomly chosen) that is **only used once**

- **Response**: challenge hashed with username and password

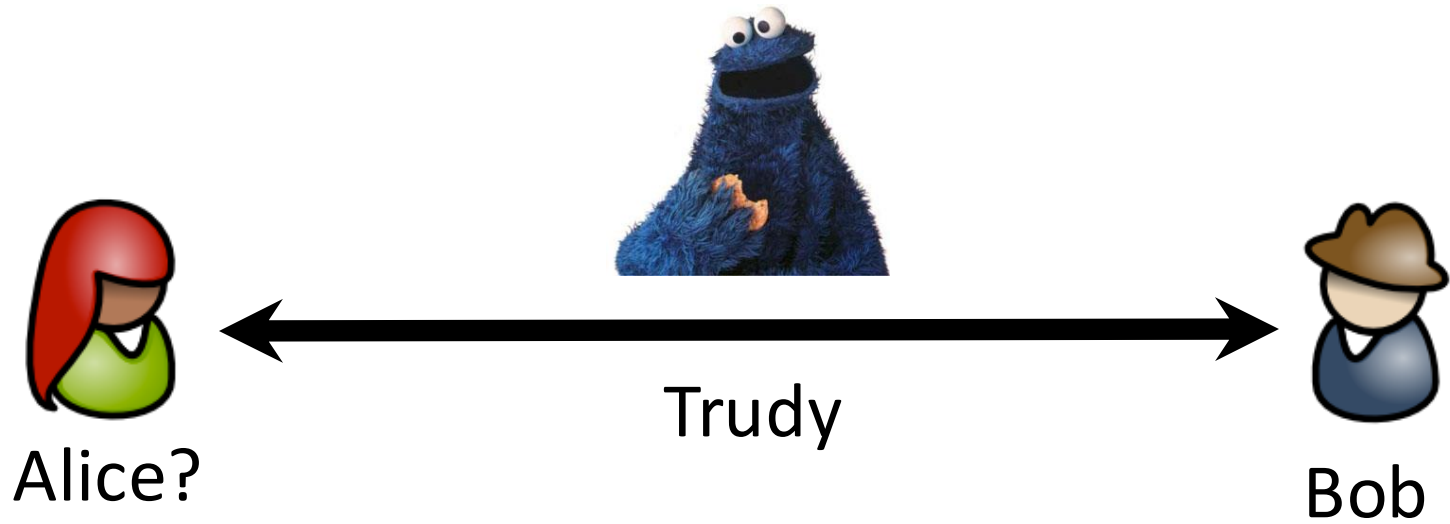
$response = H(H(\text{name} : \text{realm} : \text{password}) : nonce : H(\text{request}))$

# Advantages of Digest over Basic

- Cleartext password never transmitted across network
- Cleartext password never stored on server
- **Replay attacks** difficult
- Intercepted response only valid for a single URL
- **Shared disadvantages**
  - Vulnerable to man-in-the-middle attacks (no server-side auth)
  - Document itself can be sniffed

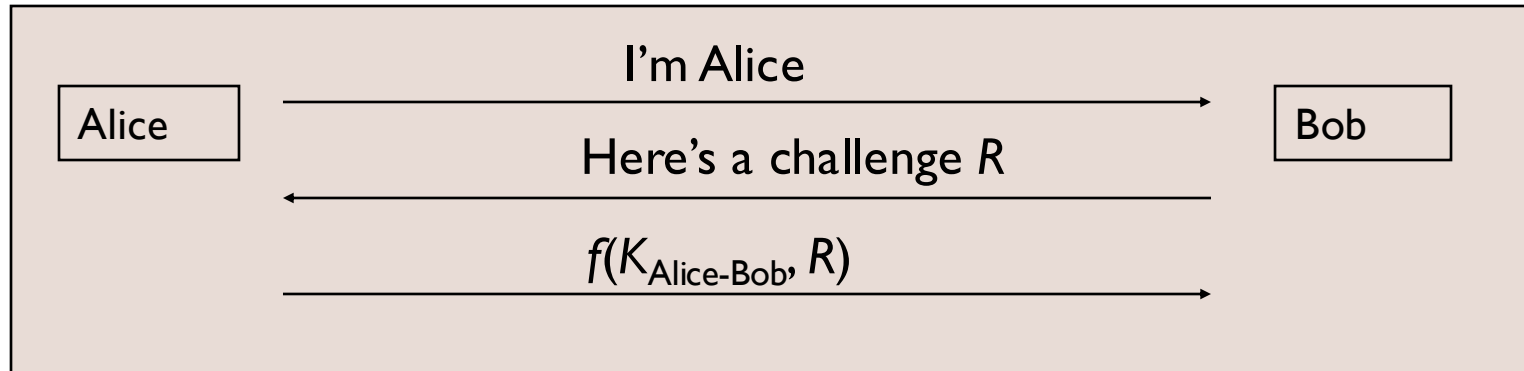
# Authentication Handshakes

- Secure communication almost always includes an initial authentication handshake.
  - Authenticate each other
  - Establish session keys
  - *This process is not trivial; flaws in this process undermine secure communication*



# Authentication

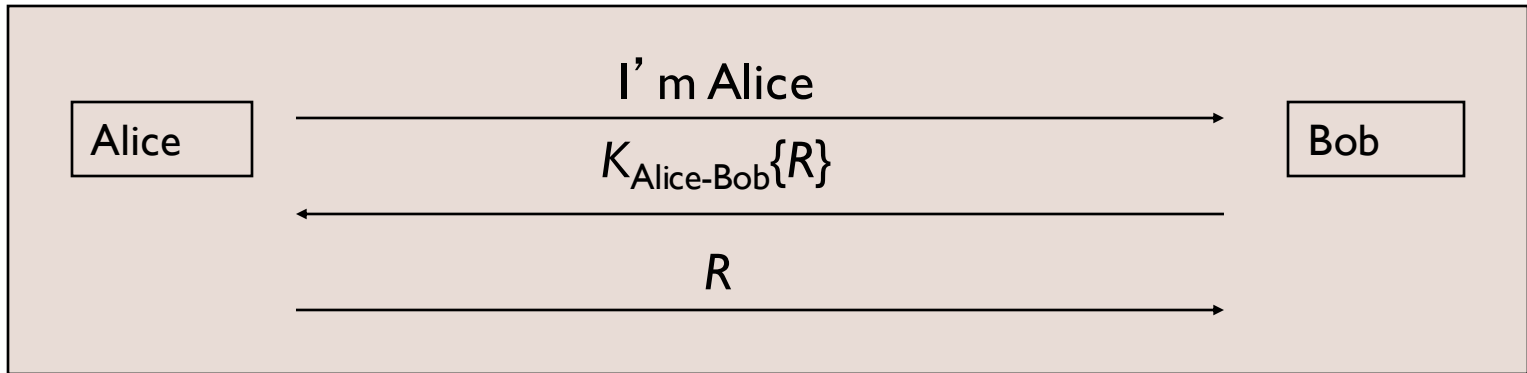
# Authentication with Shared Secret



- Weaknesses

- Authentication is not mutual; Trudy can convince Alice that she is Bob
- Trudy can hijack the conversation after the initial exchange
- **If the shared key is derived from a password, Trudy can mount an off-line password guessing attack ( $R$  is known)**
- Trudy may compromise Bob's database and later impersonate Alice

# Authentication with Shared Secret (Cont'd)



- A variation
  - Requires reversible cryptography
  - Other variations are possible
- Weaknesses
  - All the previous weaknesses remain
  - Trudy doesn't have to see  $R$  to mount off-line password guessing if  $R$  has certain patterns (e.g., concatenated with a timestamp)
    - Trudy sends a message to Bob, pretending to be Alice

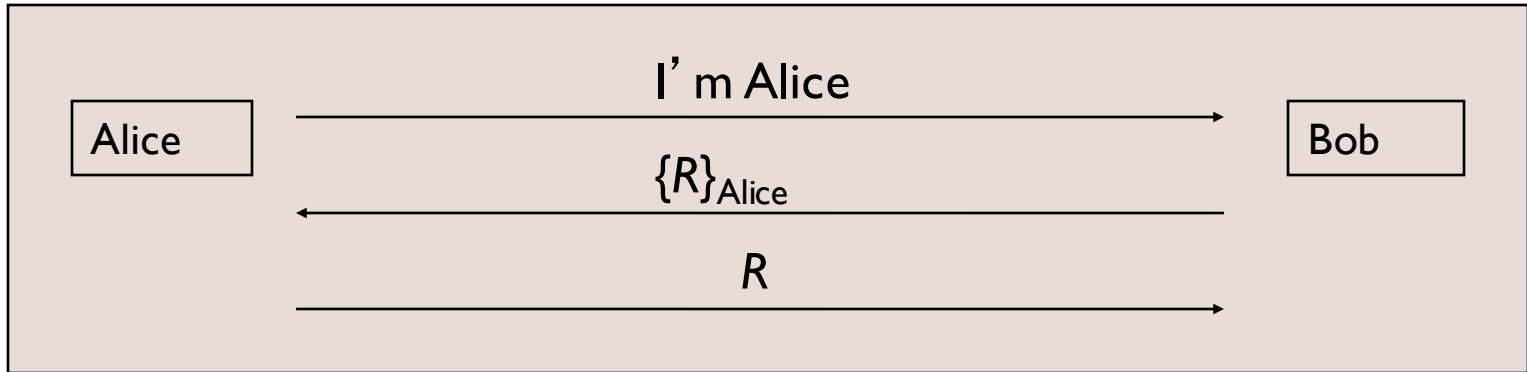
# Authentication with Public Key



- Bob's database is less risky
- Weaknesses
  - Authentication is not mutual; Trudy can convince Alice that she is Bob
  - Trudy can hijack the conversation after the initial exchange
  - Trudy can trick Alice into signing something
    - Mitigation: Use different private key for authentication

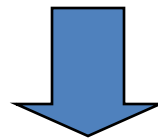
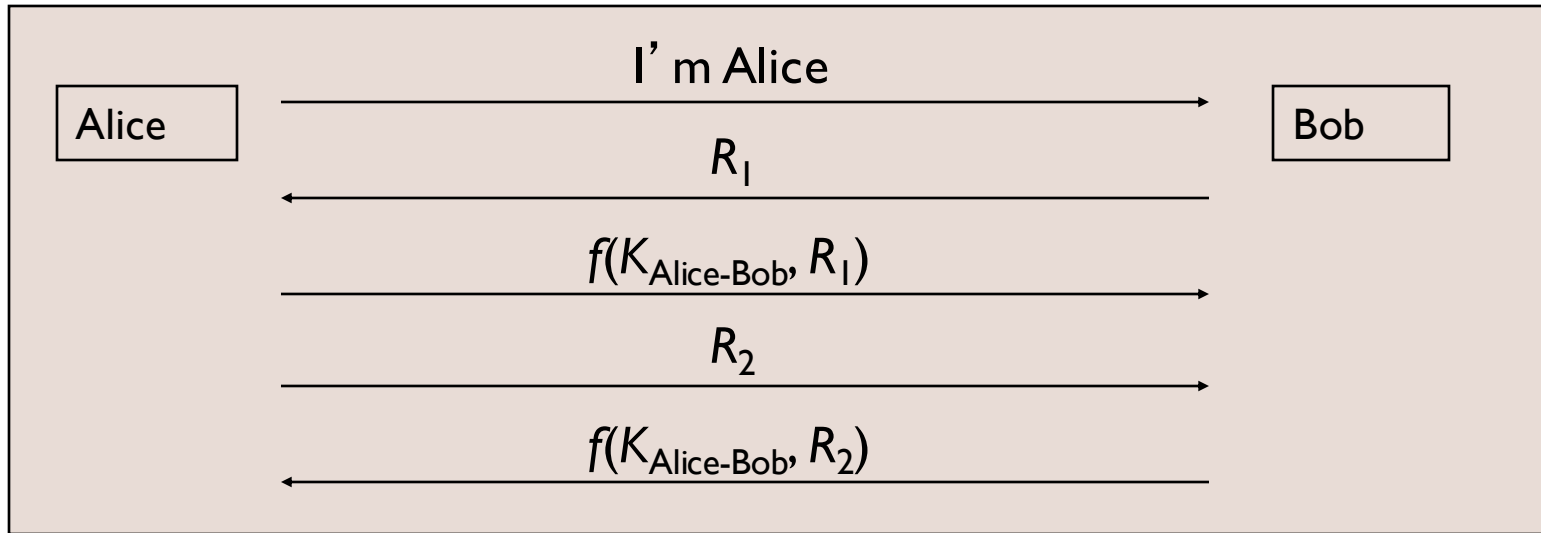


# Authentication with Public Key (Cont'd)

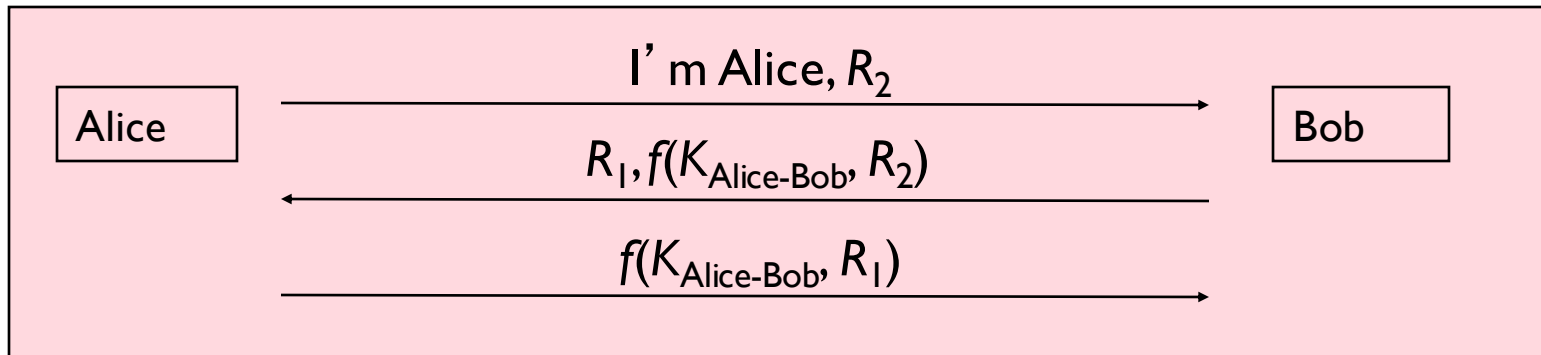


A variation

# Mutual Authentication

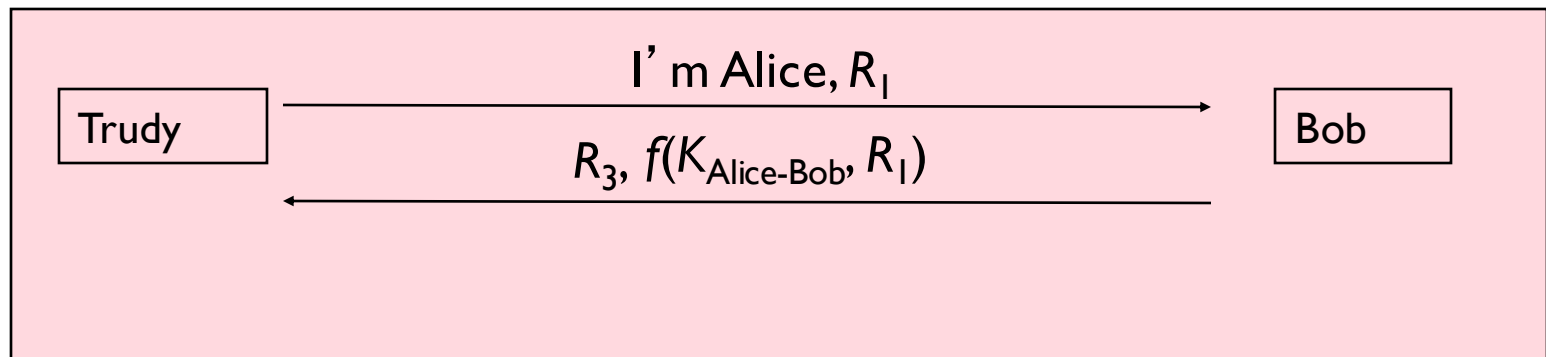
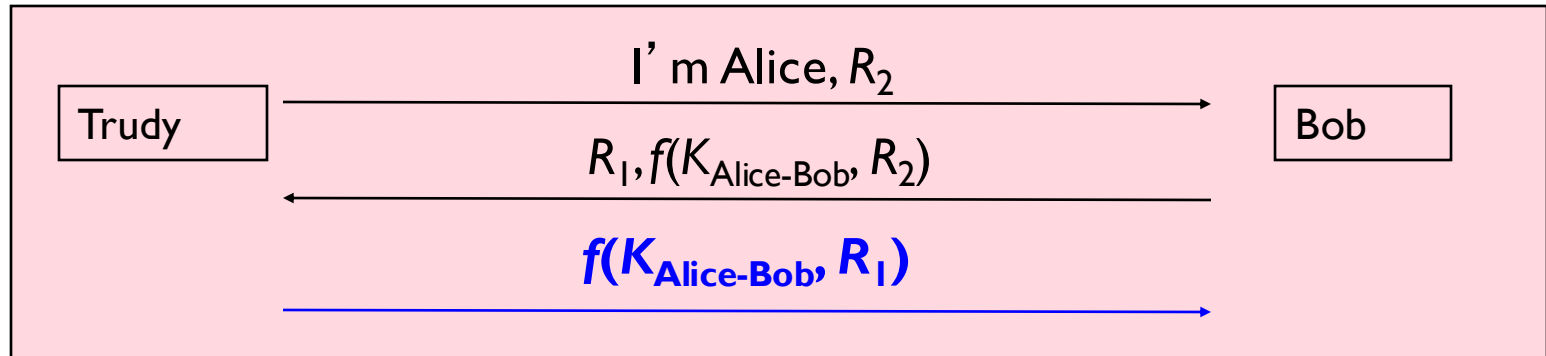


Optimize



# Mutual Authentication (Cont'd)

- Reflection attack

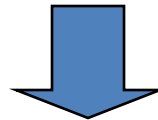
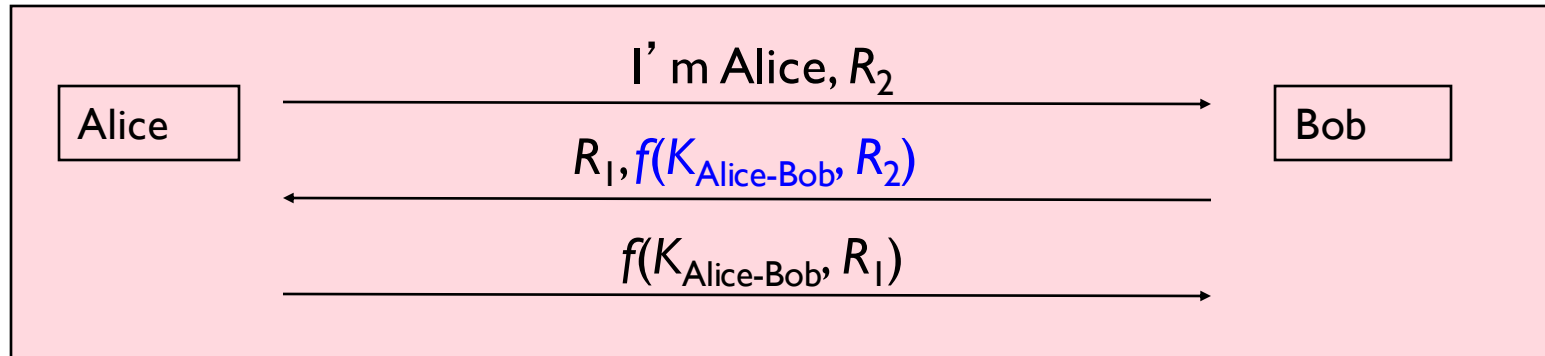


# Reflection Attacks (Cont'd)

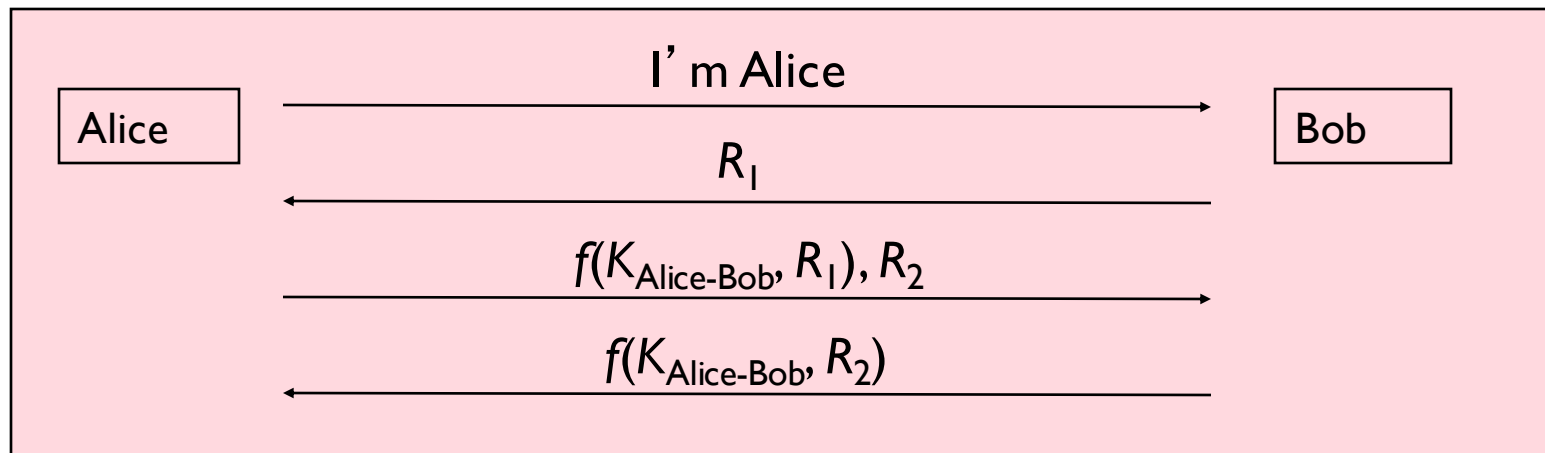
- Lesson: Don't have Alice and Bob do exactly the same thing
  - Different keys
    - Totally different keys
    - $K_{\text{Alice-Bob}} = K_{\text{Bob-Alice}} + 1$
  - Different Challenges
  - The initiator should be the first to prove its identity
    - Assumption: initiator is more likely to be the bad guy

# Mutual Authentication (Cont'd)

- Password guessing

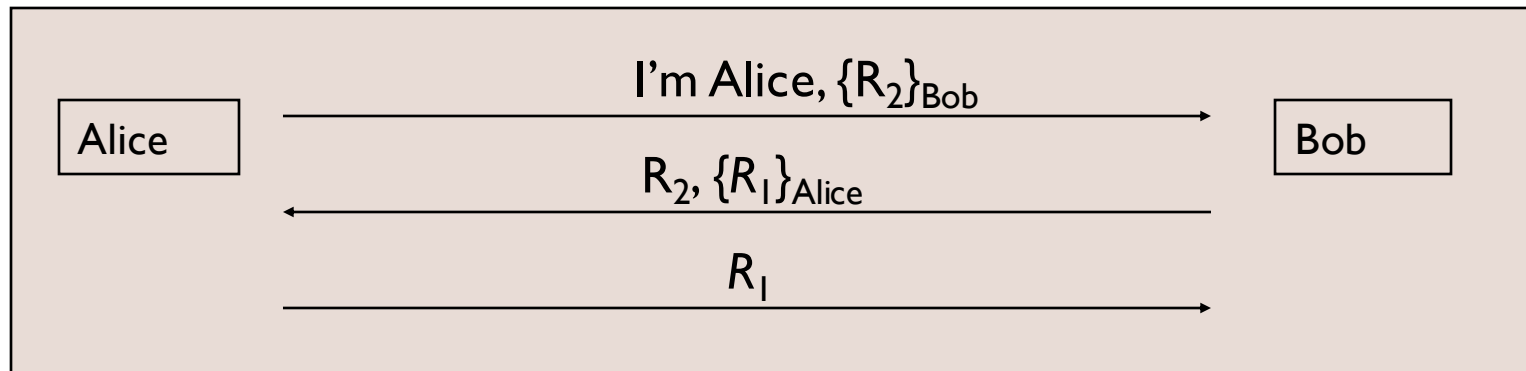


Countermeasure



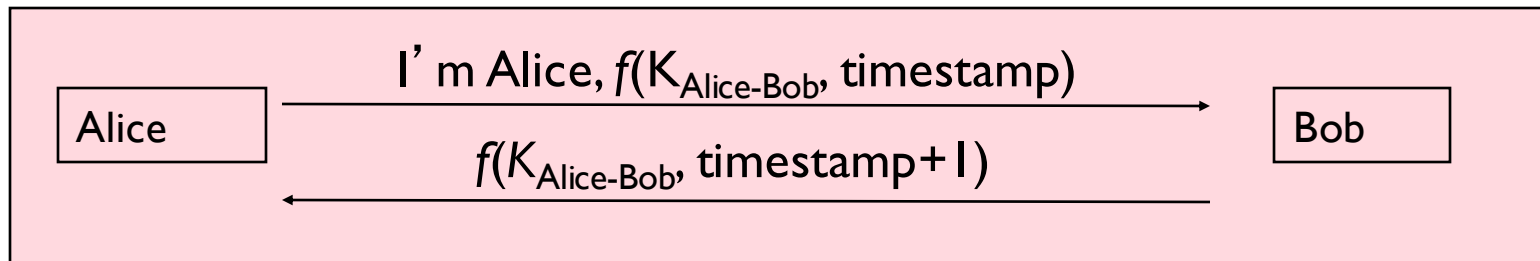
# Mutual Authentication (Cont'd)

- Public keys
  - Authentication of public keys is a critical issue



# Mutual Authentication (Cont'd)

- Mutual authentication with timestamps
  - Require synchronized clocks
  - Alice and Bob have to encrypt different timestamps



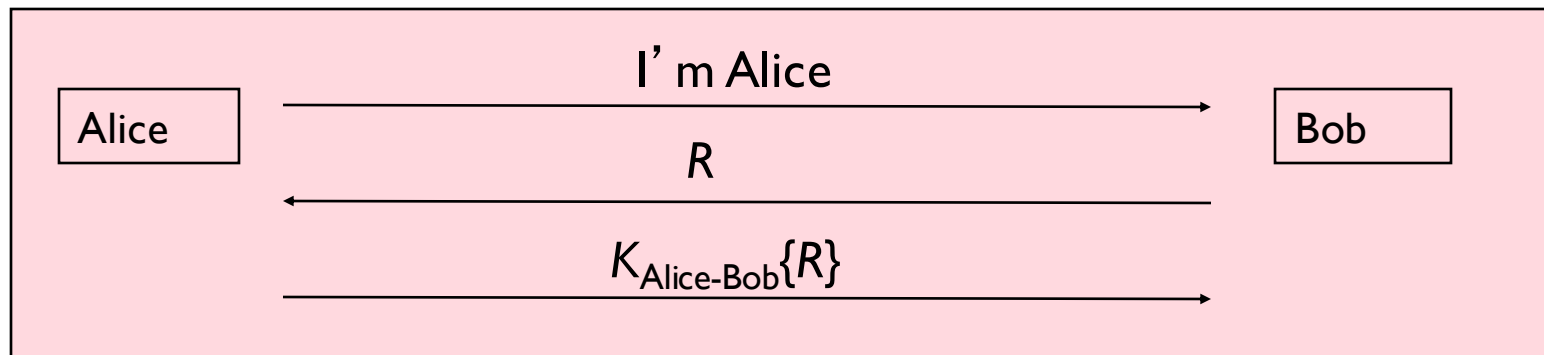
# Integrity/Encryption for Data

- Communication after mutual authentication should be cryptographically protected as well
  - Require a *session key* established during mutual authentication



# Establishment of Session Keys

- Secret key based authentication
  - Assume the following authentication happened.
  - Can we use  $K_{\text{Alice-Bob}}\{R\}$  as the session key?
  - Can we use  $K_{\text{Alice-Bob}}\{R+1\}$  as the session key?
  - In general, modify  $K_{\text{Alice-Bob}}$  and encrypt  $R$ . Use the result as the session key.



# Establishment of Session Keys (Cont' d)

- Two-way *public key* based authentication
  1. Alice chooses a random number  $R$ , encrypts it with Bob's public key, result used as session key.
    - Trudy may hijack the conversation
  2. Alice encrypts and signs  $R$ 
    - Trudy may save all the traffic, and decrypt all the encrypted traffic when she is able to compromise Bob
    - Less severe threat

# Two-Way Public Key Based Authentication (Cont'd)

- A better approach
  - Alice chooses and encrypts  $R_1$  with Bob's public key
  - Bob chooses and encrypts  $R_2$  with Alice's public key
  - Session key is  $R_1 \oplus R_2$
  - Trudy will have to compromise **both** Alice and Bob
- An even better approach
  - Alice and Bob establish the session key with *Diffie-Hellman key exchange*
  - Alice and Bob sign the quantity they send
  - Trudy can't learn anything about the session key even if she compromises both Alice and Bob

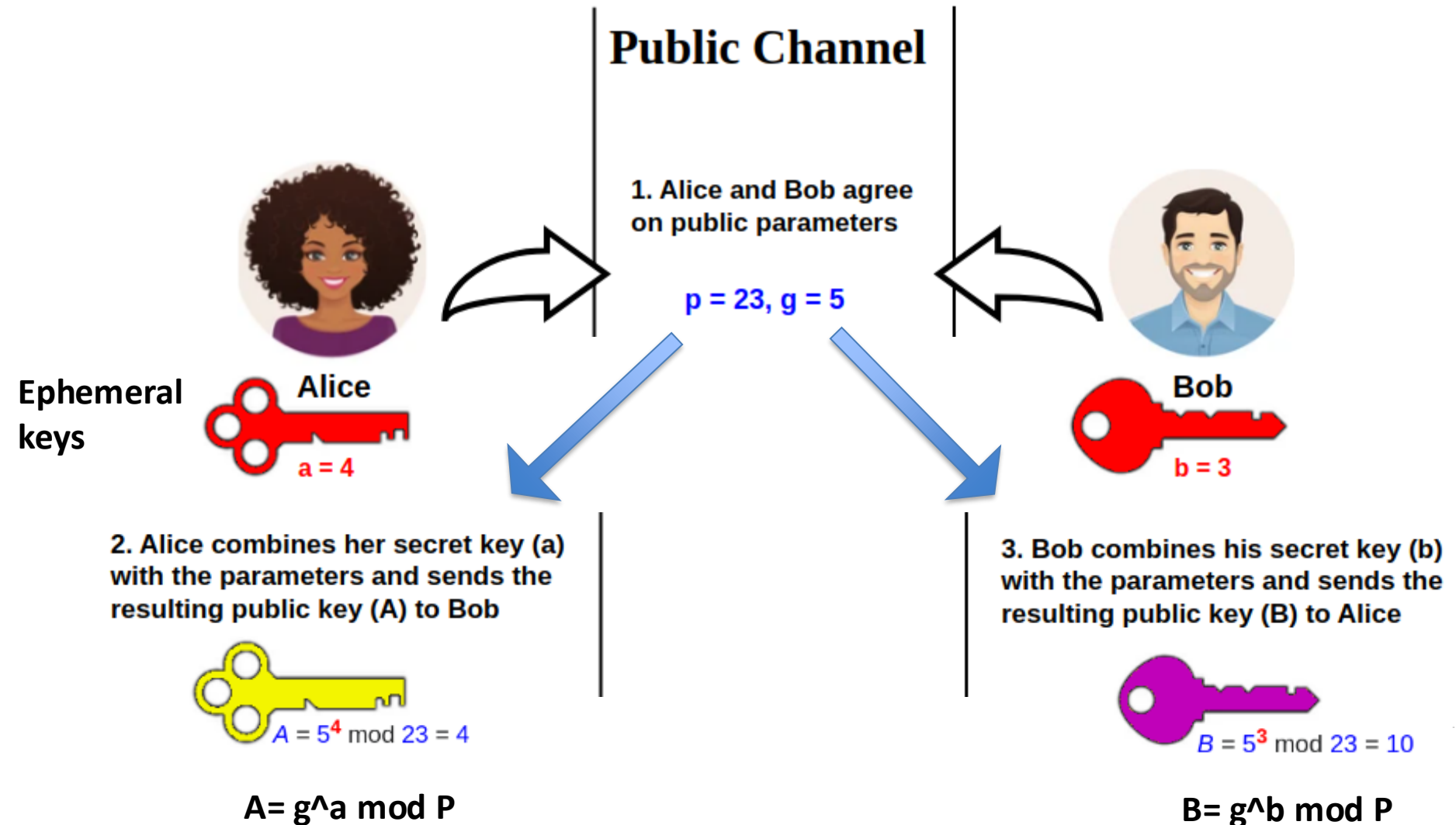
# Diffie-Hellman Approach

## Diffie-Hellman way:

- No pre-exchange of information necessary to arrive at a shared secret!
- Foundation of public key crypto in the modern web

<https://www.infoworld.com/article/2334365/understand-diffie-hellman-key-exchange.html>

# Diffie-Hellman Approach



# Public Channel

1. Alice and Bob agree on public parameters

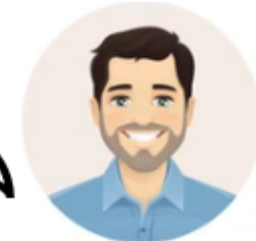
$$p = 23, g = 5$$



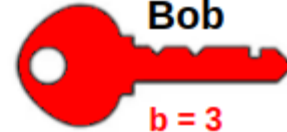
Alice



$$a = 4$$

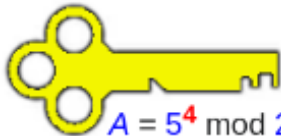


Bob



$$b = 3$$

2. Alice combines her secret key (a) with the parameters and sends the resulting public key (A) to Bob



$$A = 5^4 \bmod 23 = 4$$

$$A = g^a \bmod P$$

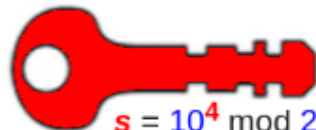
3. Bob combines his secret key (b) with the parameters and sends the resulting public key (B) to Alice



$$B = 5^3 \bmod 23 = 10$$

$$B = g^b \bmod P$$

4. Alice combines (B) with her secret key (a)



$$s = 10^4 \bmod 23 = 18$$

6. Alice and Bob have a shared secret!

5. Bob combines (A) with his secret key (b)



$$s = 4^3 \bmod 23 = 18$$

# Establishment of Session Keys

- Ephemeral keys are discarded after the generation of sessions keys
- Different from RSA
  - RSA can encrypt directly, and provides digital identity/signatures.
  - RSA provides *authentication* – mainly used to authenticate servers (via certificates)
  - DH typically faster than RSA

# Establishment of Session Keys

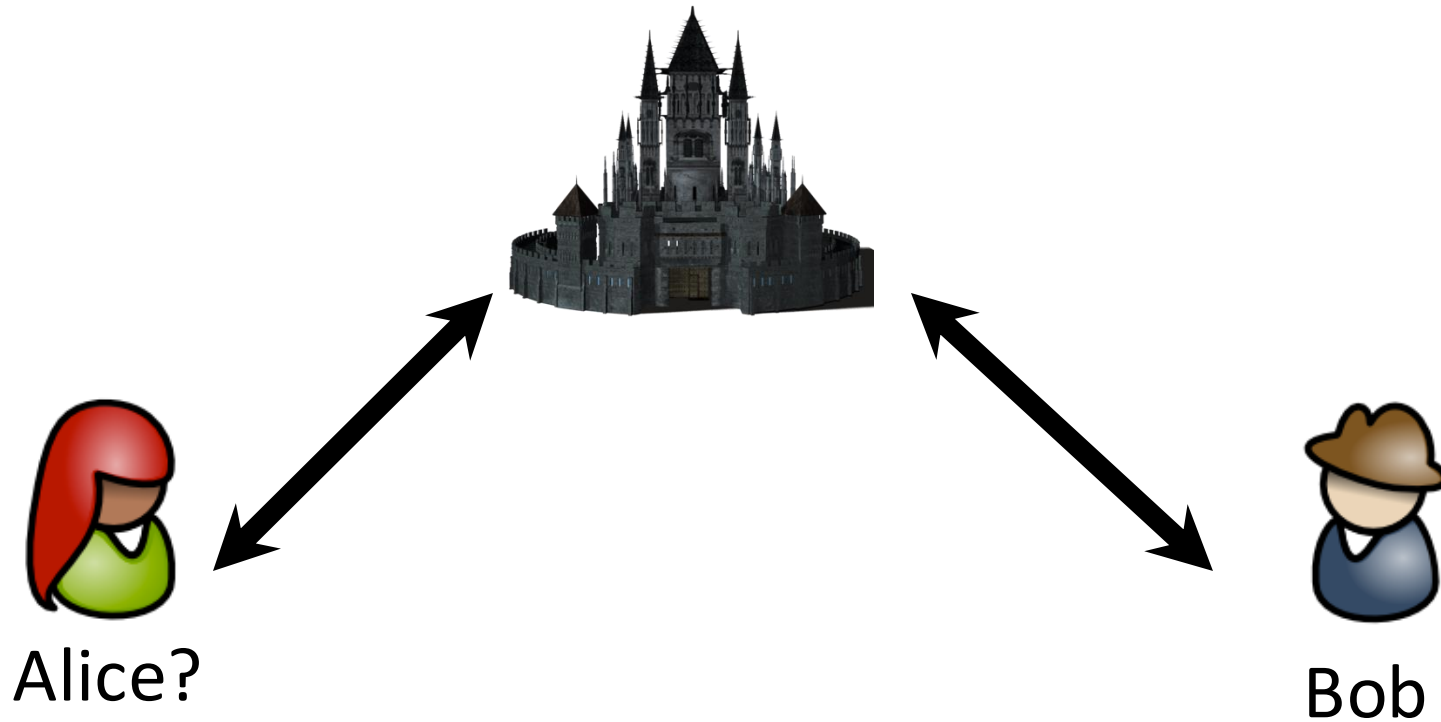
- D-H is the primary key-exchange protocol.
  - *Exclusive to key-exchange* i.e., does not provide encryption by itself
- Modern system use RSA to authenticate server, and DH for establishing keys.
  - E.g. DH public parameters signed by server's private key to authenticate server.
- Provides *forward secrecy* (private key compromise does not lead to session key compromise!)
  - Think what happens if a server's private keys are compromised in DH based and RSA based authentication..



# Establishment of Session Keys



```
~ 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
ECDHE-ECDSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256  TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH      Au=ECDSA    Enc=AESGCM(128)      Mac=AEAD
ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256    TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH      Au=RSA      Enc=AESGCM(128)      Mac=AEAD
DHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256    TLSv1.2 Kx=DH        Au=RSA      Enc=AESGCM(128)      Mac=AEAD
ECDHE-ECDSA-AES256-SHA384      TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH      Au=ECDSA    Enc=AES(256)         Mac=SHA384
ECDHE-RSA-AES256-SHA384        TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH      Au=RSA      Enc=AES(256)         Mac=SHA384
DHE-RSA-AES256-SHA256          TLSv1.2 Kx=DH        Au=RSA      Enc=AES(256)         Mac=SHA256
ECDHE-ECDSA-AES128-SHA256      TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH      Au=ECDSA    Enc=AES(128)         Mac=SHA256
ECDHE-RSA-AES128-SHA256        TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH      Au=RSA      Enc=AES(128)         Mac=SHA256
DHE-RSA-AES128-SHA256          TLSv1.2 Kx=DH        Au=RSA      Enc=AES(128)         Mac=SHA256
```



# Mediated Authentication