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**Digital signatures, UF-CMA,  
RSA, Schnorr, PKI**

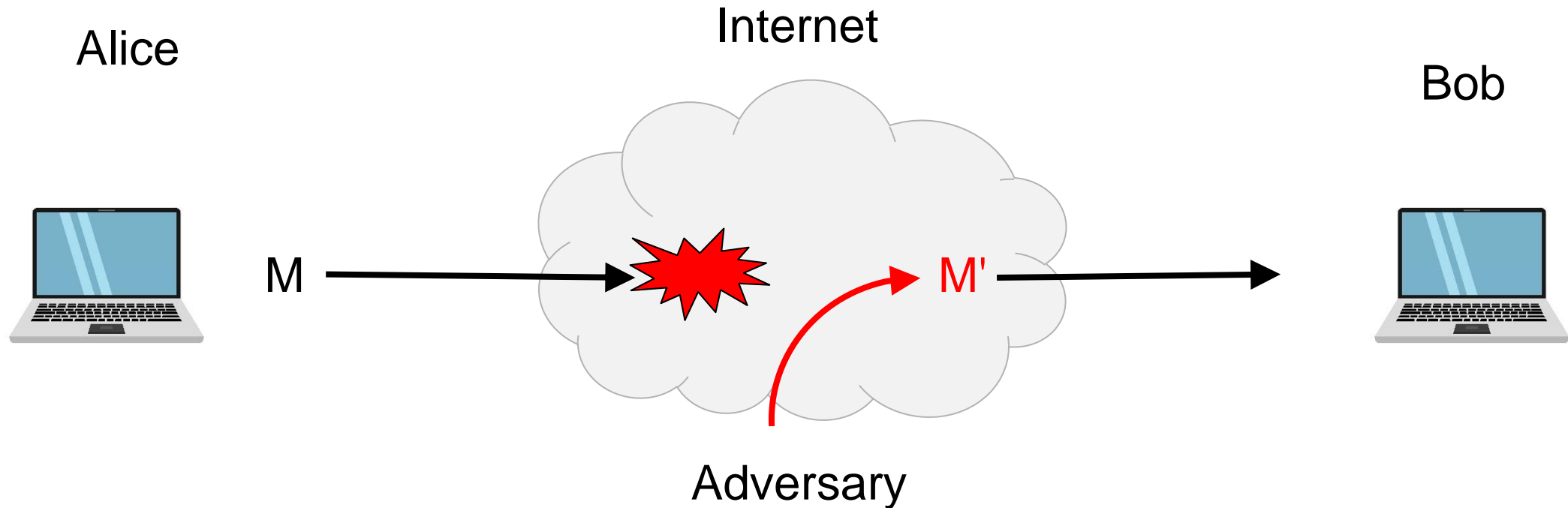
# Basic goals of cryptography

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	<b>Message privacy</b>	<b>Message integrity / authentication</b>
<b>Symmetric keys</b>	Symmetric encryption	Message authentication codes (MAC)
<b>Asymmetric keys</b>	Asymmetric encryption (a.k.a. public-key encryption)	Digital signatures (Key exchange)

# What is cryptography?

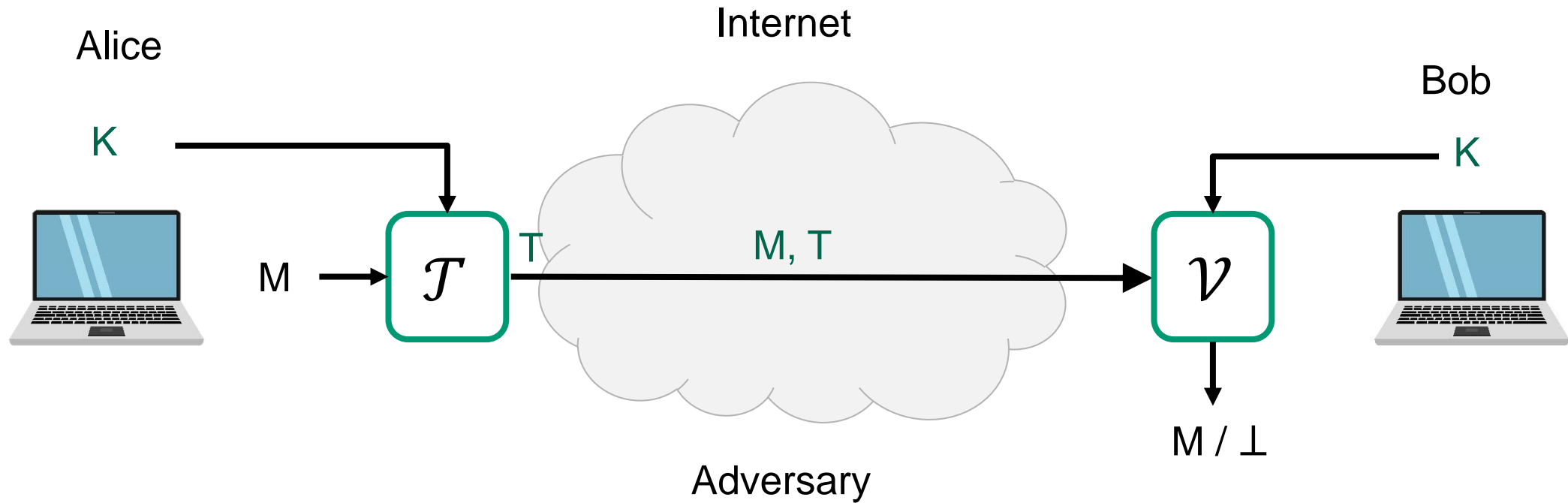
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## Security goals:

- **Data privacy:** adversary should not be able to read message M
- **Data integrity:** adversary should not be able to modify message M
- **Data authenticity:** message M really originated from Alice

# Achieving integrity: MACs

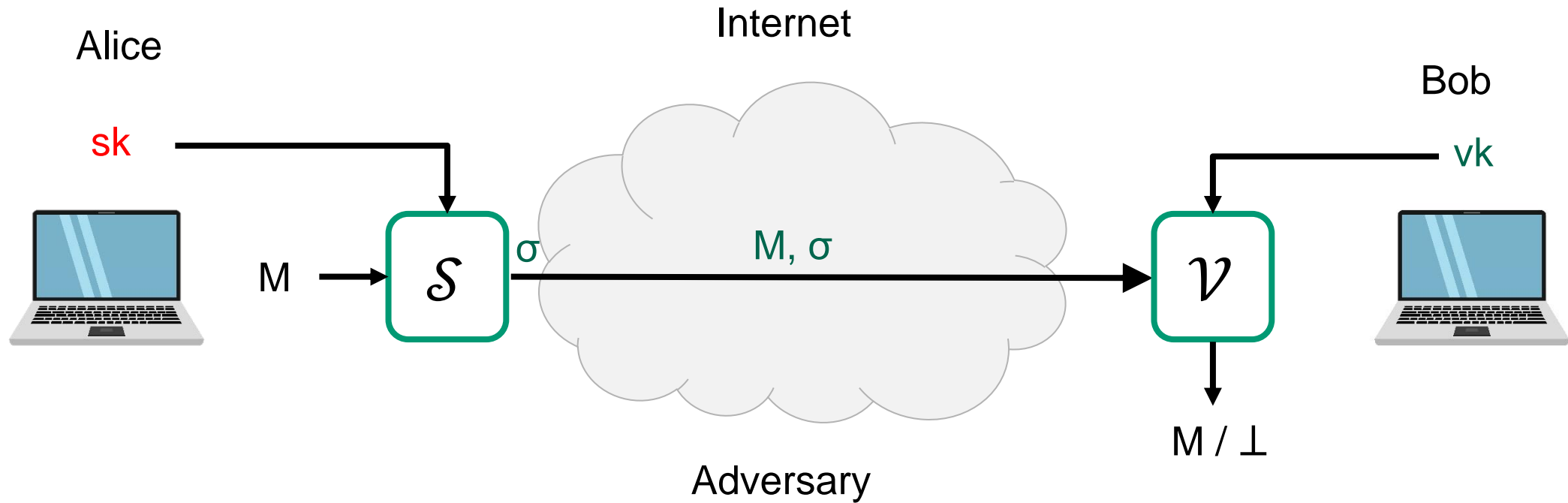


$\mathcal{T}$  : tagging algorithm (public)

$K$  : tagging / verification key (secret)

$\mathcal{V}$  : verification algorithm (public)

# Achieving integrity: digital signatures



$\mathcal{S}$  : tagging algorithm (public)

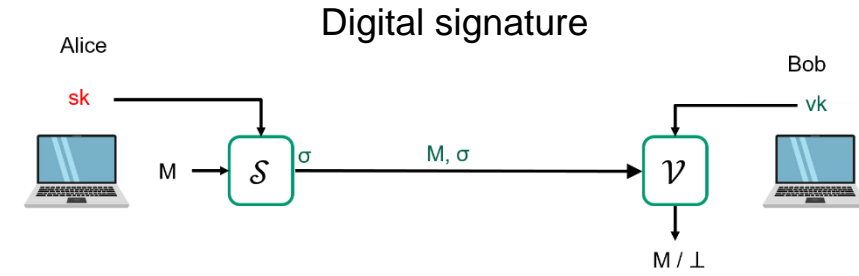
$sk$  : signing key (secret)

$\mathcal{V}$  : verification algorithm (public)

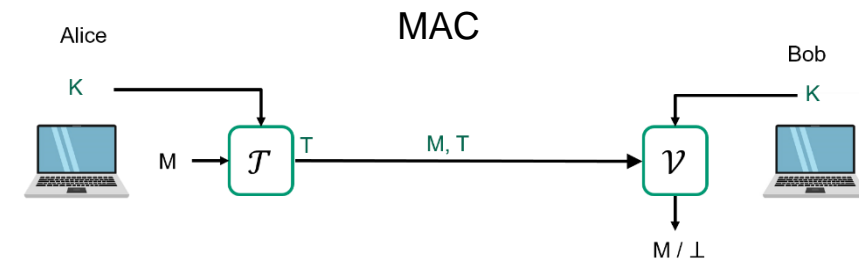
$vk$  : verification key (public)

# Digital signatures vs. MACs

- Digital signatures can be verified by *anyone*



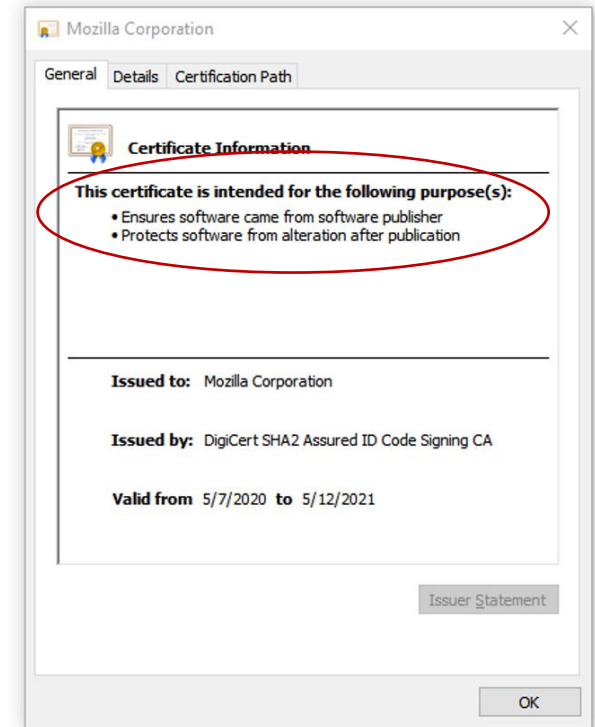
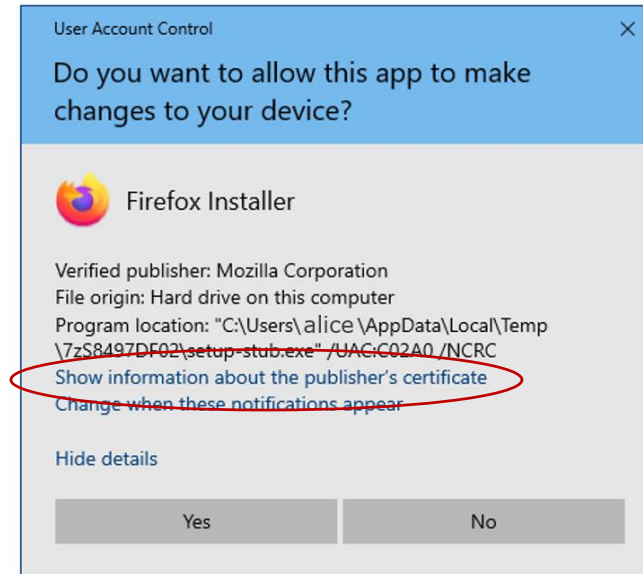
- MACs can only be verified by party sharing the same key



- **Non-repudiation:** Alice cannot deny having created  $\sigma$ 
  - But she can deny having created  $T$  (since Bob could have done it)

# Applications of digital signatures

- Electronic document signing
- HTTPS / TLS certificates
- Software installation
- Email sender authentication
- Bitcoin



# Signing electronically

Alice Wonderland  
742 Evergreen Terrace  
Springfield, CO, 80023  
Account number 123-444-569


November 2, 2020

Union Bank  
Seattle-Ballard Branch  
1500 NW Market St 107  
Seattle, WA 9810

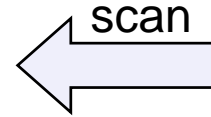
Dear Bob Banker,

This letter is a formal request for you to transfer \$1,000 from my savings account to **Chester Turley's account 123-666-569**. I understand there is no fee for this transfer.

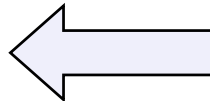
I appreciate your timely attention to this transfer. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 555-123-4567 or at [alice@email.com](mailto:alice@email.com).

Sincerely,  
  
Alice Wonderland

110100101010000  
111111001010110  
101011101010010  
101010111010101  
110010101001001  
110001010111111  
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100**011111011**101  
110010101001001  
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Sincerely,  
  
Alice Wonderland



# Digital signatures – syntax

A **digital signature** scheme is a tuple of algorithms  $\Sigma = (\text{KeyGen}, \text{Sign}, \text{Vrfy})$

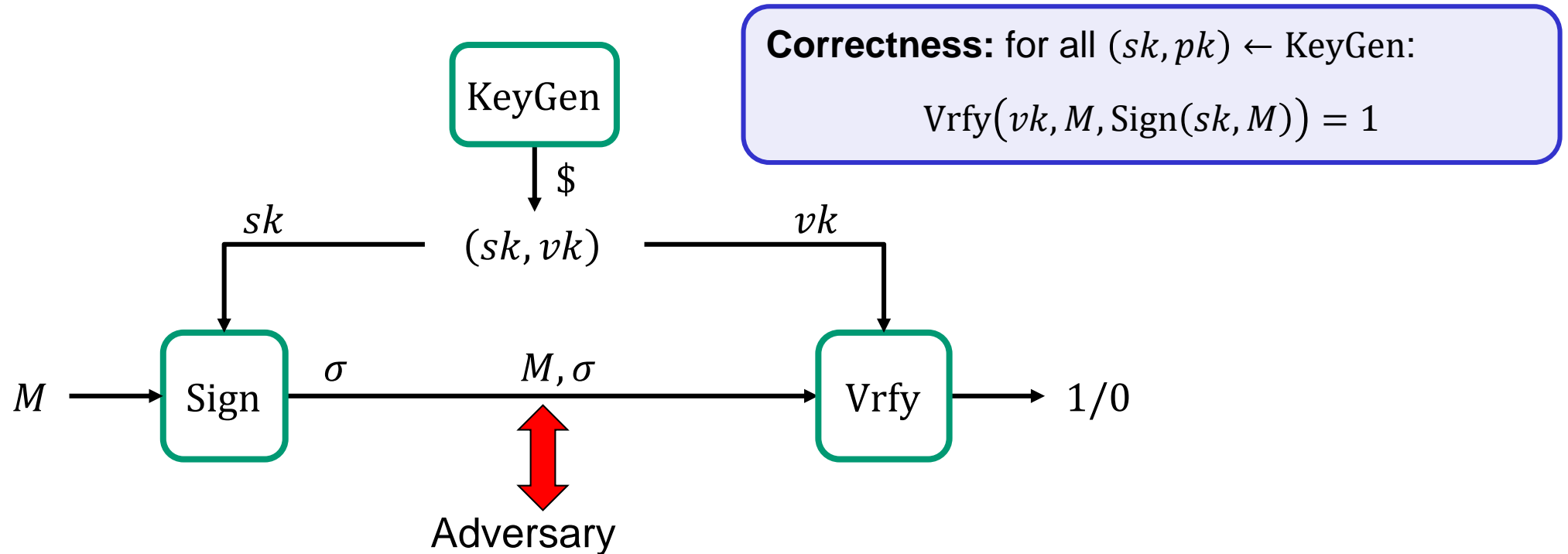
$\text{KeyGen} : () \rightarrow \mathcal{SK} \times \mathcal{VK}$

$\text{Sign} : \mathcal{SK} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$

$\text{Vrfy} : \mathcal{VK} \times \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

$\text{Sign}(sk, M) = \text{Sign}_{sk}(M) = \sigma$

$\text{Vrfy}(vk, M, \sigma) = \text{Vrfy}_{vk}(M, \sigma) = 1/0$



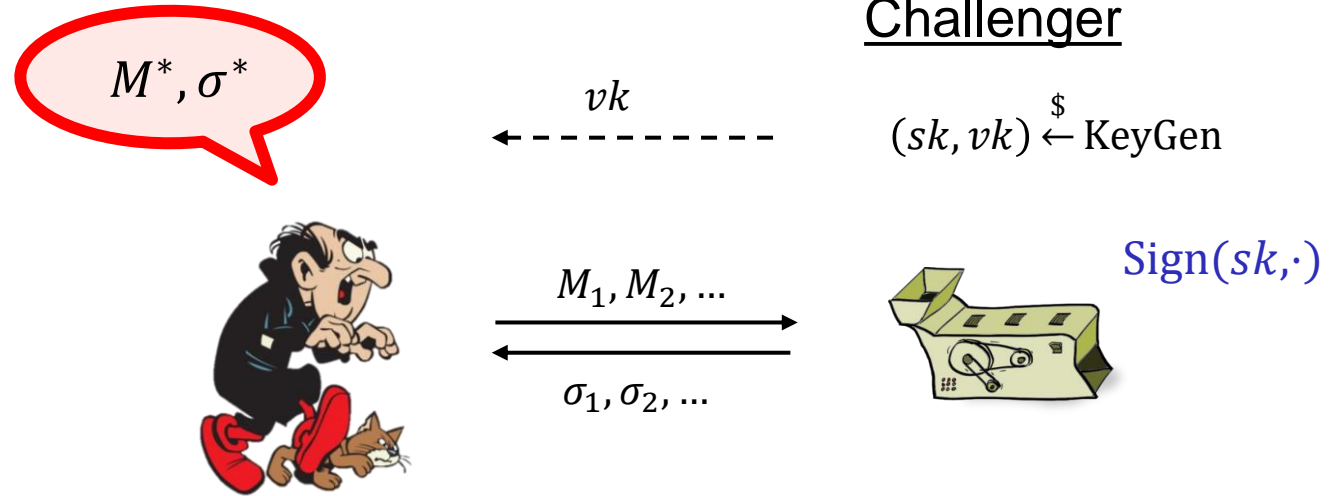
# Digital signatures – security: UF-CMA

$\text{Exp}_{\Sigma}^{\text{uf-cma}}(A)$

1.  $(sk, vk) \xleftarrow{\$} \Sigma.\text{KeyGen}$
2.  $S \leftarrow []$
3.  $(M^*, \sigma^*) \leftarrow A^{\text{SIGN}_{sk}(\cdot)}(vk)$
4. **if**  $\Sigma.\text{Vrfy}(vk, M^*, \sigma^*) = 1$  and  $M^* \notin S$  **then**
5.     **return** 1
6.     **else**
7.     **return** 0

$\text{SIGN}_{sk}(M)$

- 
1.  $\sigma \leftarrow \Sigma.\text{Sign}(sk, M)$
  2.  $S.\text{add}(M)$
  3. **return**  $\sigma$



If  $\sigma^*$  is a valid signature for  $M^*$  then the adversary has **forged** a signature

**Definition:** The **UF-CMA-advantage** of an adversary  $A$  is

$$\text{Adv}_{\Sigma}^{\text{uf-cma}}(A) = \Pr[\text{Exp}_{\Sigma}^{\text{uf-cma}}(A) \Rightarrow 1]$$

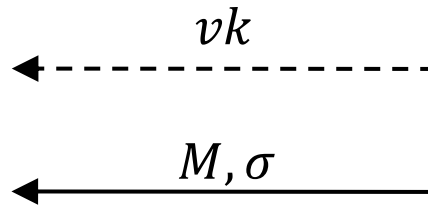
# Textbook RSA signatures

$$\text{RSA. Sign: } \overbrace{\mathbf{Z}^+ \times \mathbf{Z}_{\phi(n)}^*}^{\mathcal{SK}} \times \overbrace{\mathbf{Z}_n^*}^{\mathcal{M}} \rightarrow \overbrace{\mathbf{Z}_n^*}^{\mathcal{S}}$$

$$\text{RSA. Vrfy: } \overbrace{\mathbf{Z}^+ \times \mathbf{Z}_{\phi(n)}^*}^{\mathcal{PK}} \times \overbrace{\mathbf{Z}_n^*}^{\mathcal{M}} \times \overbrace{\mathbf{Z}_n^*}^{\mathcal{S}} \rightarrow \{1,0\}$$

**Vrfy**( $vk = (n, e), M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*, \sigma$ )

1. **if**  $\sigma^e = M \bmod n$  **then**
2.     **return** 1
3. **else**
4.     **return** 0



**KeyGen**

1.  $p, q \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow}$  two random prime numbers
2.  $n \leftarrow p \cdot q$
3.  $\phi(n) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$
4. **choose**  $e$  such that  $\text{gcd}(e, \phi(n)) = 1$
5.  $d \leftarrow e^{-1} \bmod \phi(n)$
6.  $sk \leftarrow (n, d)$       $vk \leftarrow (n, e)$
7. **return**  $(sk, vk)$

**Sign**( $sk = (n, d), M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*$ )

1.  $\sigma \leftarrow M^d \bmod n$
2. **return**  $\sigma$

# Textbook RSA signatures: attacks

## $A_1(n, e)$

1. Output (1,1)

$1^e \stackrel{?}{=} 1 \pmod n$  Yes!  $\Rightarrow \text{Adv}_{\text{RSA}}^{\text{uf-cma}}(A_1) = 1$

## $A_2(n, e)$

1. Want to forge on message  $M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*$
2. Pick arbitrary  $M_1 \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*$
3.  $M_2 \leftarrow M \cdot M_1^{-1} \pmod n$
4. Query  $\sigma_1 \leftarrow \text{SIGN}_{sk}(M_1)$  and  $\sigma_2 \leftarrow \text{SIGN}_{sk}(M_2)$
5. Output  $(M, \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2 \pmod n)$

$(\sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2)^e \stackrel{?}{=} M \pmod n$  Yes!  $\Rightarrow \text{Adv}_{\text{RSA}}^{\text{uf-cma}}(A_2) = 1$

$(M_1^d \cdot M_2^d)^e = M_1^{ed} \cdot M_2^{ed} = M_1 \cdot M_2 = M_1 \cdot M \cdot M_1^{-1} = M \pmod n$

↑  
RSA correctness

## KeyGen

1.  $p, q \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow}$  two random prime numbers
2.  $n \leftarrow p \cdot q$
3.  $\phi(n) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$
4. **choose**  $e$  such that  $\text{gcd}(e, \phi(n)) = 1$
5.  $d \leftarrow e^{-1} \pmod{\phi(n)}$
6.  $sk \leftarrow (n, d)$      $vk \leftarrow (n, e)$
7. **return**  $(sk, vk)$

## Sign( $sk = (n, d), M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*$ )

1.  $\sigma \leftarrow M^d \pmod n$
2. **return**  $\sigma$

## Vrfy( $vk = (n, e), M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*, \sigma$ )

1. **if**  $\sigma^e = M \pmod n$  **then**
2.     **return** 1
3. **else**
4.     **return** 0

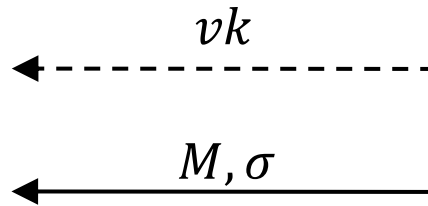
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**Vrfy**( $vk = (n, e), M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*, \sigma$ )

1. **if**  $\sigma^e = M \bmod n$  **then**
2.     **return** 1
3. **else**
4.     **return** 0



$$H : \{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_n^*$$

**KeyGen**

1.  $p, q \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow}$  two random prime numbers
2.  $n \leftarrow p \cdot q$
3.  $\phi(n) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$
4. **choose**  $e$  such that  $\text{gcd}(e, \phi(n)) = 1$
5.  $d \leftarrow e^{-1} \bmod \phi(n)$
6.  $sk \leftarrow (n, d)$       $vk \leftarrow (n, e)$
7. **return**  $(sk, vk)$

**Sign**( $sk = (n, d), M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*$ )

1.  $\sigma \leftarrow M^d \bmod n$
2. **return**  $\sigma$

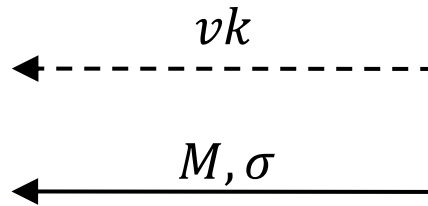
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**Vrfy**( $vk = (n, e), M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*, \sigma$ )

1. if  $\sigma^e = H(M) \pmod n$  then
2.     return 1
3. else
4.     return 0



$$H : \{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_n^*$$

**KeyGen**

1.  $p, q \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow}$  two random prime numbers
2.  $n \leftarrow p \cdot q$
3.  $\phi(n) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$
4. choose  $e$  such that  $\text{gcd}(e, \phi(n)) = 1$
5.  $d \leftarrow e^{-1} \pmod{\phi(n)}$
6.  $sk \leftarrow (n, d) \quad vk \leftarrow (n, e)$
7. return  $(sk, vk)$

**Sign**( $sk = (n, d), M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*$ )

1.  $\sigma \leftarrow H(M)^d \pmod n$
2. return  $\sigma$

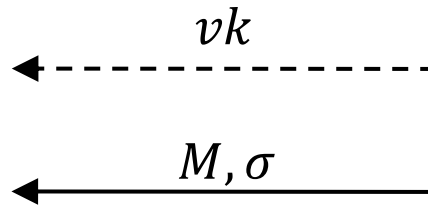
# Hash-then sign paradigm

$$\text{RSA. Sign: } \overbrace{\mathbf{Z}^+ \times \mathbf{Z}_{\phi(n)}^*}^{SK} \times \overbrace{\{0,1\}^*}^{\mathcal{M}} \rightarrow \overbrace{\mathbf{Z}_n^*}^{\mathcal{S}}$$

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```

Vrfy( $vk = (n, e), M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*, \sigma$ )
1.   if  $\sigma^e = H(M) \bmod n$  then
2.     return 1
3.   else
4.     return 0
    
```



$$H : \{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_n^*$$

## KeyGen

1.  $p, q \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow}$  two random prime numbers
2.  $n \leftarrow p \cdot q$
3.  $\phi(n) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$
4. **choose**  $e$  such that  $\text{gcd}(e, \phi(n)) = 1$
5.  $d \leftarrow e^{-1} \bmod \phi(n)$
6.  $sk \leftarrow (n, d) \quad vk \leftarrow (n, e)$
7. **return**  $(sk, vk)$

## Sign( $sk = (n, d), M \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*$ )

1.  $\sigma \leftarrow H(M)^d \bmod n$
2. **return**  $\sigma$

# Hashed RSA signatures

## $A_1(n, e)$

1. Output (1,1)

$1^e \stackrel{?}{=} H(1) \bmod n$  No!  $\Rightarrow \text{Adv}_{\text{RSA}}^{\text{uf-cma}}(A_1) \approx 0$

## $A_2(n, e)$

1. Want to forge on message  $M \in \{0,1\}^*$
2. Find  $M_1, M_2 \in \{0,1\}^*$  such that  $H(M) = H(M_1) \cdot H(M_2) \bmod n$
3. Query  $\sigma_1 \leftarrow \text{SIGN}_{sk}(M_1)$  and  $\sigma_2 \leftarrow \text{SIGN}_{sk}(M_2)$
4. Output  $(M, \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2 \bmod n)$

Hard to find!

$(\sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2)^e \stackrel{?}{=} H(M) \bmod n$  No!  $\Rightarrow \text{Adv}_{\text{RSA}}^{\text{uf-cma}}(A_2) \approx 0$

$$(H(M_1)^d \cdot H(M_2)^d)^e = H(M_1) \cdot H(M_2) = H(M) \bmod n$$

## KeyGen

1.  $p, q \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow}$  two random prime numbers
2.  $n \leftarrow p \cdot q$
3.  $\phi(n) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$
4. **choose**  $e$  such that  $\text{gcd}(e, \phi(n)) = 1$
5.  $d \leftarrow e^{-1} \bmod \phi(n)$
6.  $sk \leftarrow (n, d)$      $vk \leftarrow (n, e)$
7. **return**  $(sk, vk)$

## Sign( $sk = (n, d), M \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ )

1.  $\sigma \leftarrow H(M)^d \bmod n$
2. **return**  $\sigma$

## Vrfy( $vk = (n, e), M \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*, \sigma$ )

1. **if**  $\sigma^e = H(M) \bmod n$  **then**
2.     **return** 1
3. **else**
4.     **return** 0



# Hashed RSA – security

- Factoring + RSA-problem must be hard
- What are the requirements of  $H$ ?
  - Must be collision-resistant:

$$H(X) = H(Y) \Rightarrow H(X)^d = H(Y)^d = \sigma$$

- Is this enough?
  - Unknown
  - However, if we assume that  $H$  is *perfect*\* then

**Theorem:** For *any* UF-CMA adversary  $A$  against hashed RSA making  $q$   $\text{SIGN}_{sk}(\cdot)$  queries, there is an algorithm  $B$  solving the RSA-problem:

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{RSA}, H}^{\text{uf-cma}}(A) \leq q \cdot \text{Adv}_{n, e}^{\text{RSA}}(B)$$

where  $H$  is assumed perfect

\*Perfect = [random oracle](#)

## KeyGen

1.  $p, q \xleftarrow{\$}$  two random prime numbers
2.  $n \leftarrow p \cdot q$
3.  $\phi(n) = (p - 1)(q - 1)$
4. **choose**  $e$  such that  $\text{gcd}(e, \phi(n)) = 1$
5.  $d \leftarrow e^{-1} \pmod{\phi(n)}$
6.  $sk \leftarrow (n, d)$      $vk \leftarrow (n, e)$
7. **return**  $(sk, vk)$

## Sign( $sk = (n, d), M \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ )

1.  $\sigma \leftarrow H(M)^d \pmod n$
2. **return**  $\sigma$

## Vrfy( $vk = (n, e), M \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*, \sigma$ )

1. **if**  $\sigma^e = H(M) \pmod n$  **then**
2.     **return** 1
3. **else**
4.     **return** 0

---

# **Discrete logarithm based signatures**

# Discrete-log-based signatures: Schnorr

$$G = \langle g \rangle$$

$$H : G \times \{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_p^*$$

```

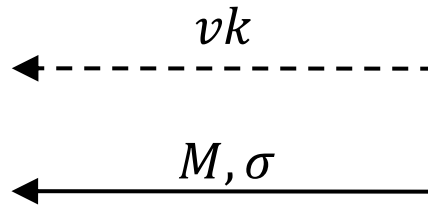
KeyGen
1.   $b \xleftarrow{\$} \{1 \dots |G|\}$ 
2.   $B \leftarrow g^b$ 
3.  return  $(sk = b, vk = B)$ 
    
```

```

Sign $(sk = b, M)$ 
1.   $r \xleftarrow{\$} \{1 \dots |G|\}$ 
2.   $R \leftarrow g^r$ 
3.   $h \leftarrow H(R, M)$ 
4.   $s \leftarrow r - bh \pmod p$ 
5.  return  $\sigma = (h, s)$ 
    
```

```

Vrfy $(vk = B, M, \sigma = (h, s))$ 
1.   $R' \leftarrow g^s B^h$ 
2.   $h' \leftarrow H(R', M)$ 
3.  if  $h' = h$  then
4.    return 1
5.  else
6.    return 0
    
```



**Correctness:**  $\text{Vrfy}(vk, M, \text{Sign}(sk, M)) = 1$

$$h' = H(R', M) = H(g^s B^h, M) = H(g^{r-bh} g^{bh}, M) = H(g^{r-bh+bh}, M) = H(g^r, M) = H(R, M) = h$$

# Discrete-log-based signatures: Schnorr – security

$$G = \langle g \rangle$$

$$H : G \times \{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_p^*$$

```

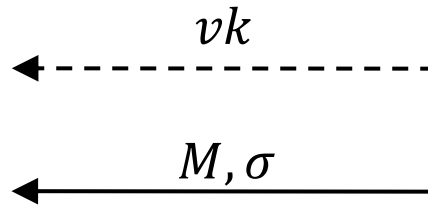
KeyGen
1.  $b \xleftarrow{\$} \{1 \dots |G|\}$ 
2.  $B \leftarrow g^b$ 
3. return  $(sk = b, vk = B)$ 
    
```

```

Sign( $sk = b, M$ )
1.  $r \xleftarrow{\$} \{1 \dots |G|\}$ 
2.  $R \leftarrow g^r$ 
3.  $h \leftarrow H(R, M)$ 
4.  $s \leftarrow r - bh \pmod p$ 
5. return  $\sigma = (h, s)$ 
    
```

```

Vrfy( $vk = B, M, \sigma = (h, s)$ )
1.  $R' \leftarrow g^s B^h$ 
2.  $h' \leftarrow H(R', M)$ 
3. if  $h' = h$  then
4.   return 1
5. else
6.   return 0
    
```



## Security:

- DLOG must be hard in  $G$
- $H$  must be collision-resistant, one-way, etc.
- $r$  must be picked new *every time!*
- Attacker must essentially solve

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma &= (h, s) \\ \sigma' &= (h', s') \end{aligned} \Rightarrow s - s' = (r - bh) - (r - bh') = (h' - h) \cdot b$$

$$\Rightarrow b = (s - s') \cdot (h' - h)^{-1} \pmod p$$

$$g^r = g^s B^h \Leftrightarrow r = s + bh \Leftrightarrow s = r - bh$$

# Discrete-log-based signatures: (EC)DSA

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- Schnorr
  - Elegant design
  - Has formal security proof (based on DLOG problem and  $H$  assumed perfect)
  - Patented
- (EC)DSA
  - Non-patented alternative
  - Derived from ElGamal-based signature scheme
  - More complicated design than Schnorr
  - No security proof
  - Standardized by NIST
  - Very widely used
  - Same  $r$ -reuse problem as Schnorr: leaks long-term signing key
    - Broke all Playstations 3's produced by Sony



## Public-key infrastructure (PKI)

# What are identities?

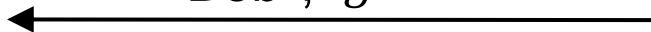
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"Alice",  $g^a$



"Bob",  $g^b$



$$K \leftarrow g^{ab}$$

$$K \leftarrow g^{ab}$$

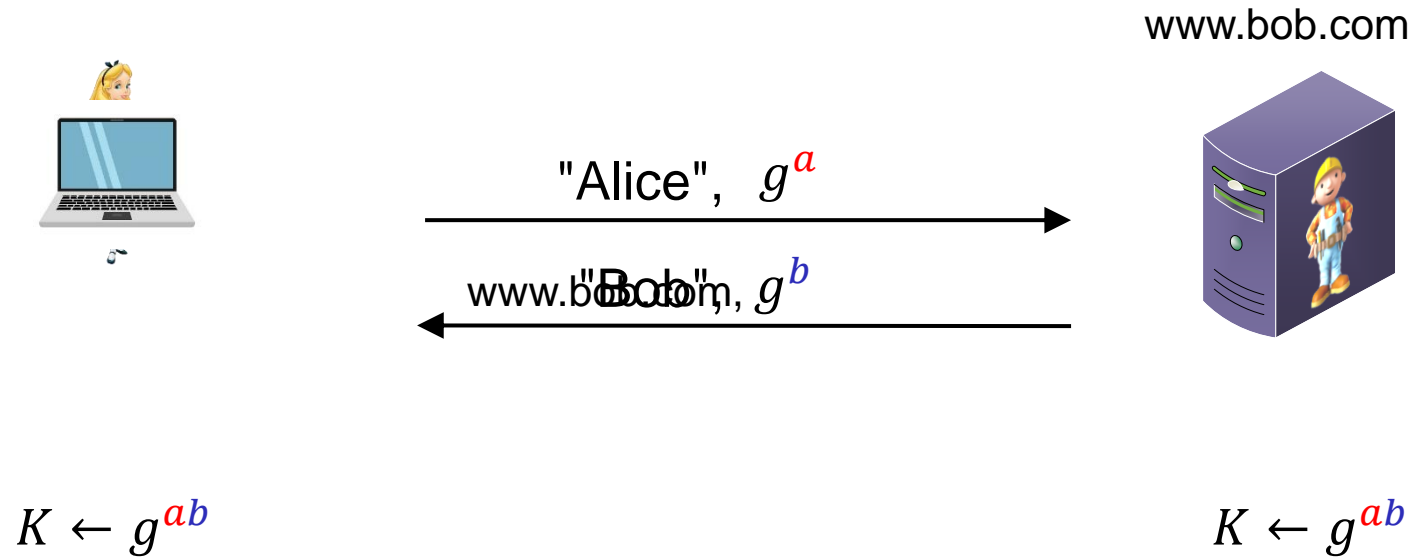
There are many Alice's and many Bob's

How do we know that  $g^a$  belongs to *this* particular Alice, and  $g^b$  to this particular Bob?

Need to **bind** public keys to entities

# Identities on the internet

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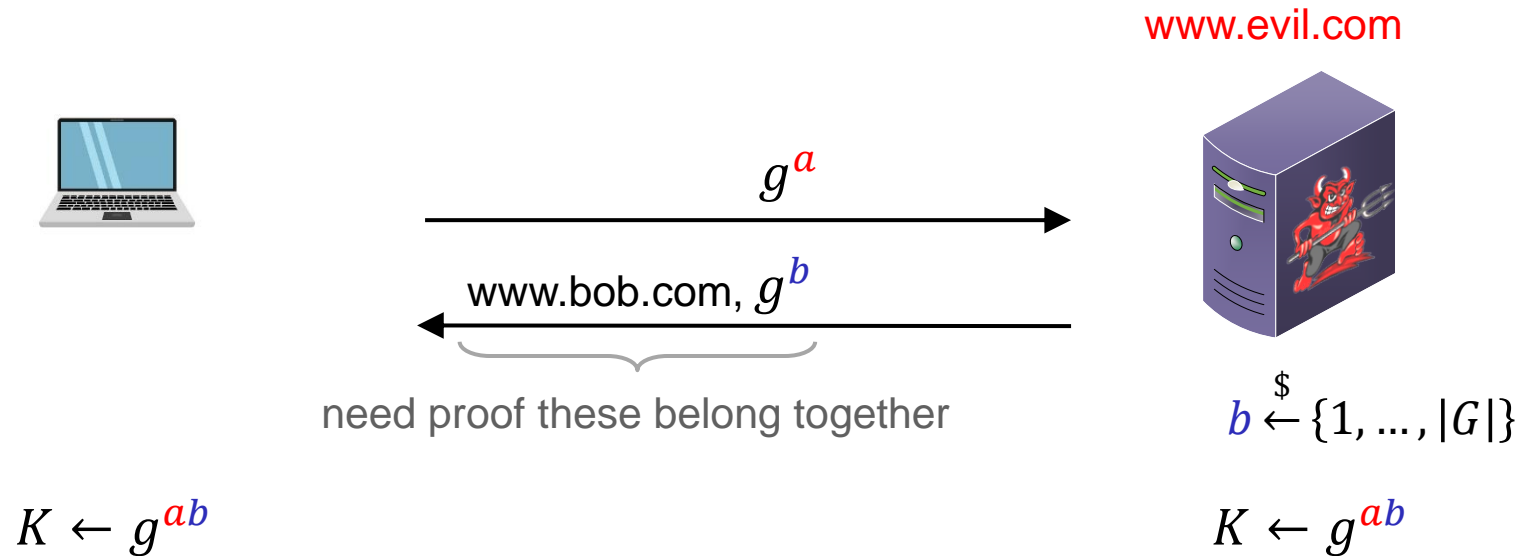
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How do we know that  $g^a$  belongs to *this* particular Alice, and  $g^b$  to this particular Bob?

Need to **bind** public keys to entities – on the internet: bind public keys to **domain names**



# Identities on the internet

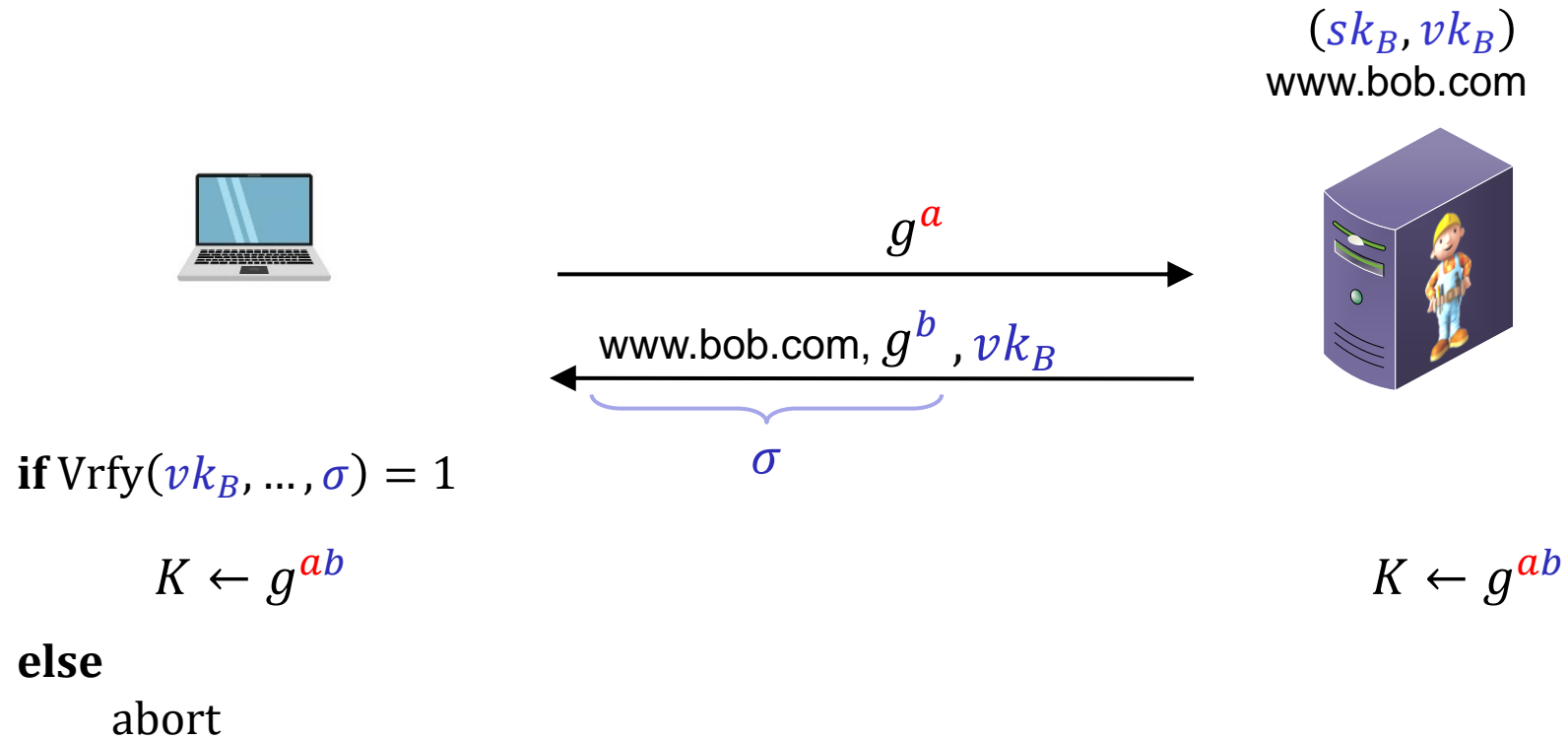


There are many Alice's and many Bob's

How do we know that  $g^a$  belongs to *this* particular Alice, and  $g^b$  to this particular Bob?

Need to **bind** public keys to entities – on the internet: bind public keys to **domain names**

# Authenticated key exchange



But why should we trust this  $vk_B$ ? Could have been created by the adversary itself

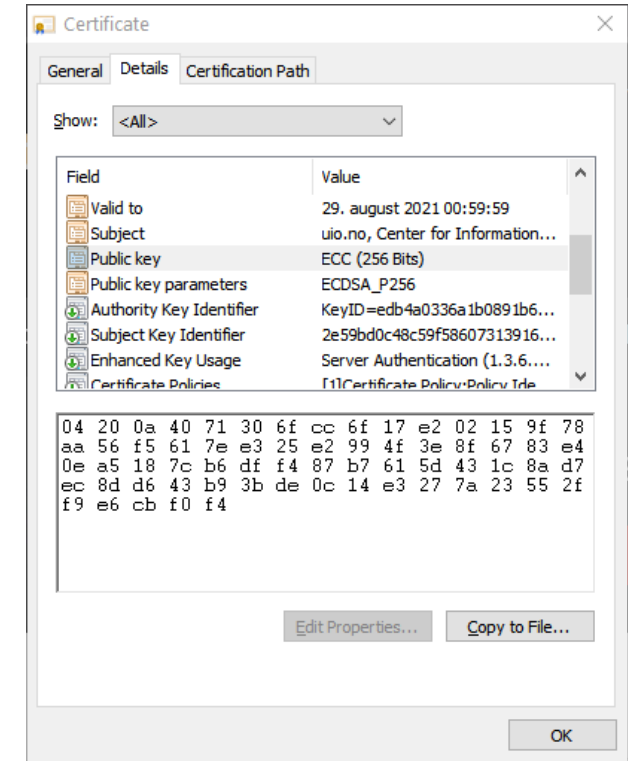
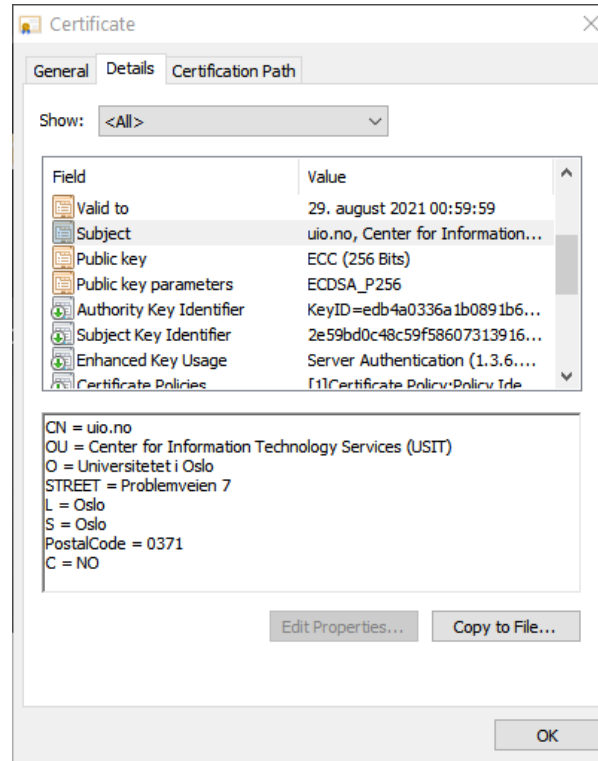
# Digital certificates

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- **Digital certificate:** a way of binding a public key to an entity
- A certificate consists of:
  - The public key of the entity
  - A bunch of information identifying the entity
    - Name
    - Address
    - Occupation
    - URL
    - Email-address
    - Phone number
    - ...
  - A *digital signature* on all the above by a **certificate authority (CA)**



# Digital certificates




# Certificate authorities (CA)

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- **CA:** an issuer of digital certificates
- Acts as a trusted third-party, certifying (i.e., signing) the public keys of other entities
  - Verifies the identity of a claimed public-key owner
- The basis of a **public-key infrastructure (PKI)**



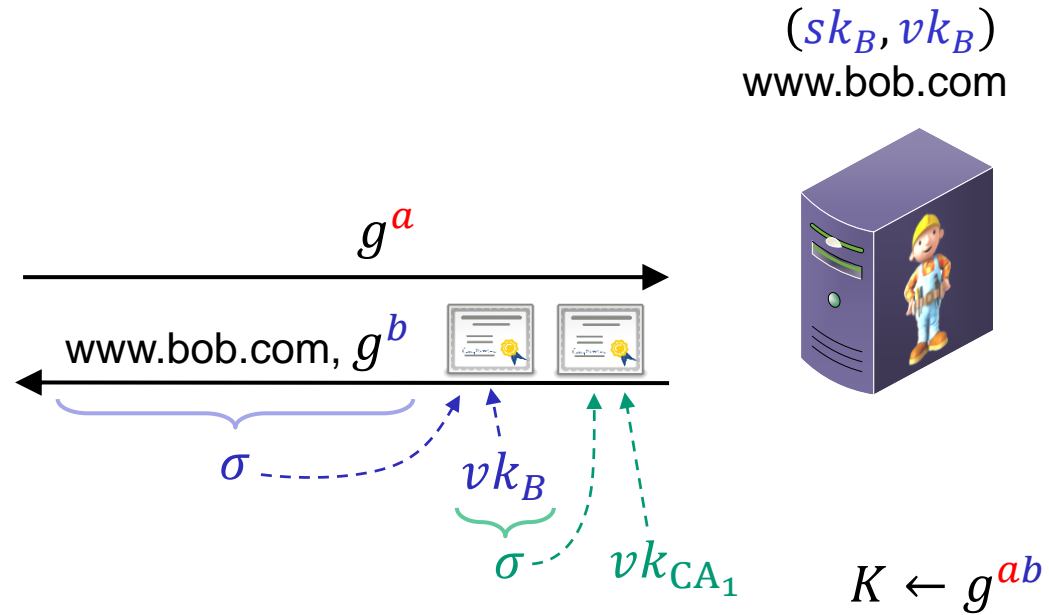
# HTTPS / TLS + PKI

$vk_{CA_1}$  

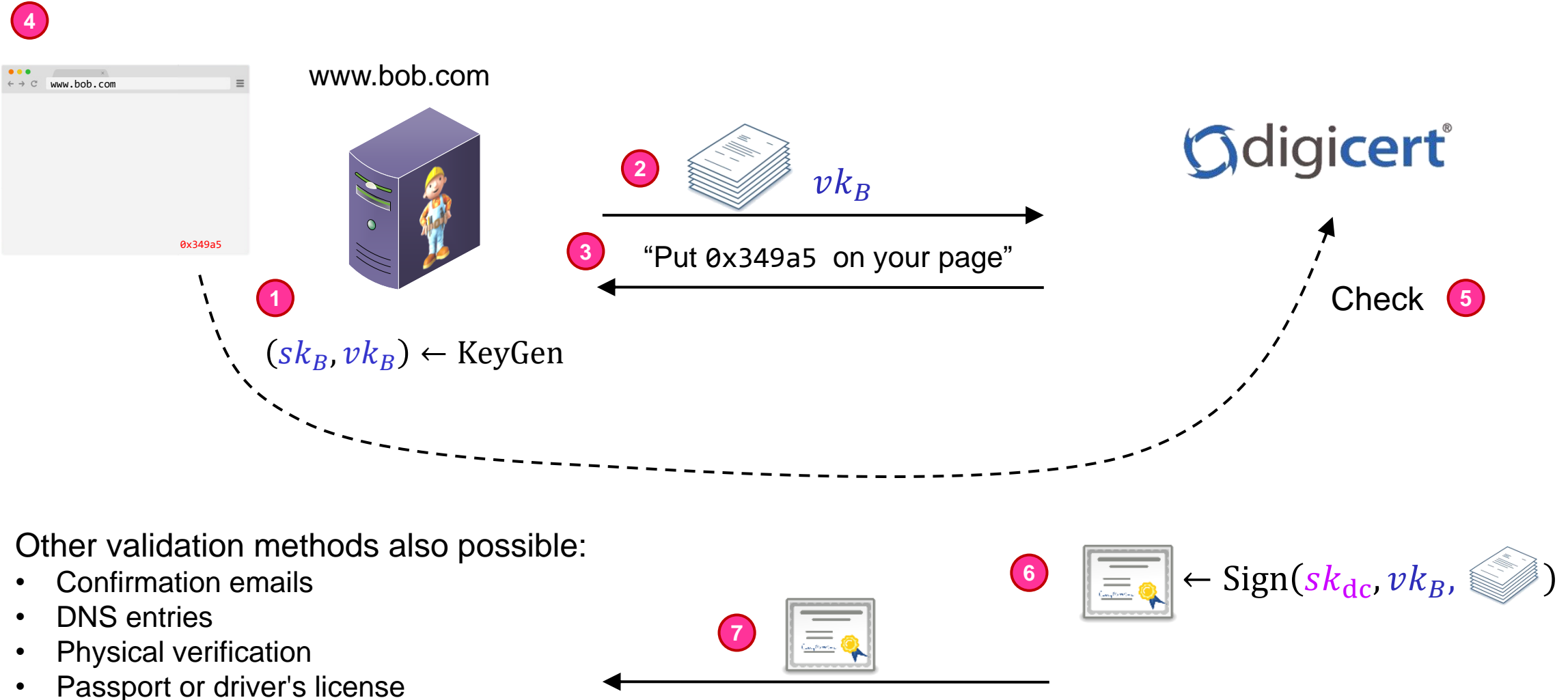
if  $Vrfy(vk_B, \dots, \sigma) = 1$   
and  $Vrfy(vk_{CA_1}, \dots, \sigma) = 1$

$K \leftarrow g^{ab}$


else  
abort



# How to get a signed certificate?



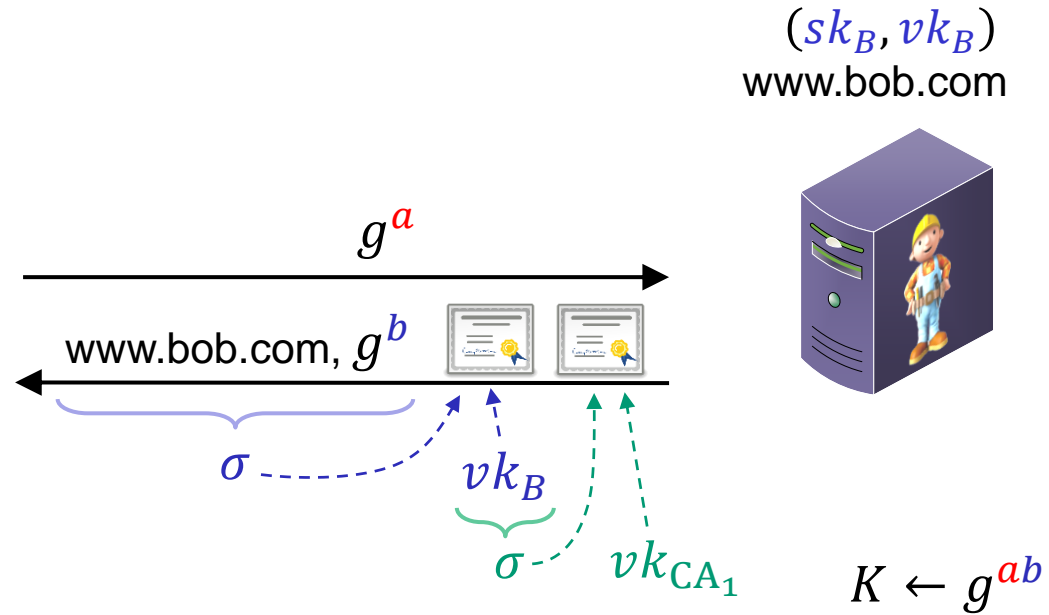
# HTTPS / TLS + PKI

$vk_{CA_1}$  

if  $Vrfy(vk_B, \dots, \sigma) = 1$   
and  $Vrfy(vk_{CA_1}, \dots, \sigma) = 1$

$K \leftarrow g^{ab}$

else  
abort

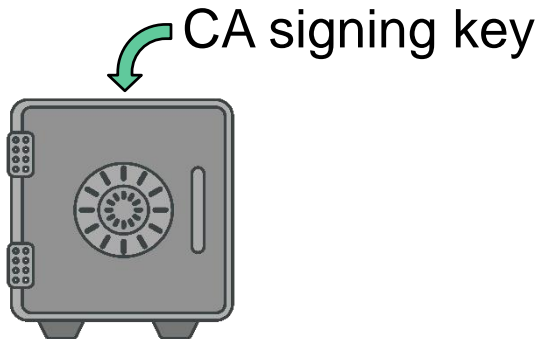




# Root CAs

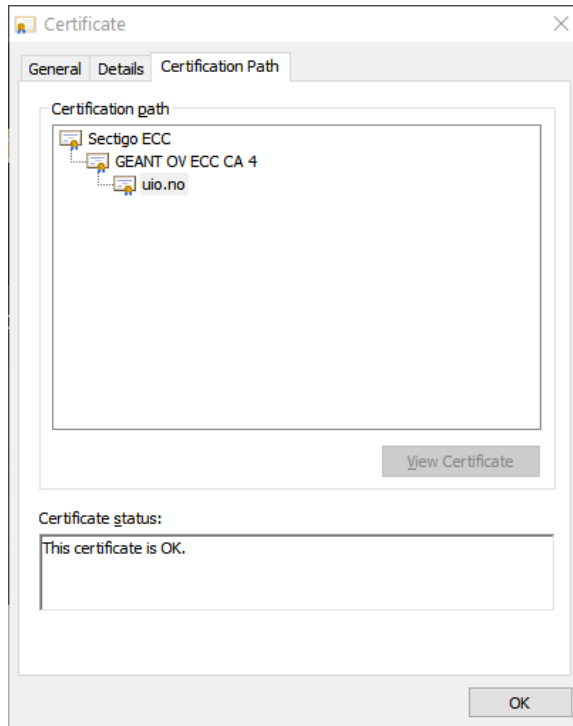
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- **Root CAs:** CAs that sign other CAs' public keys
  - + only a few root CAs need to be trusted by end-users
  - + root CAs can distribute the signing + verification load to smaller CAs
  - single point of failure; private key must be *very heavily* guarded
- Root CAs for the internet: a few large multinational corporations

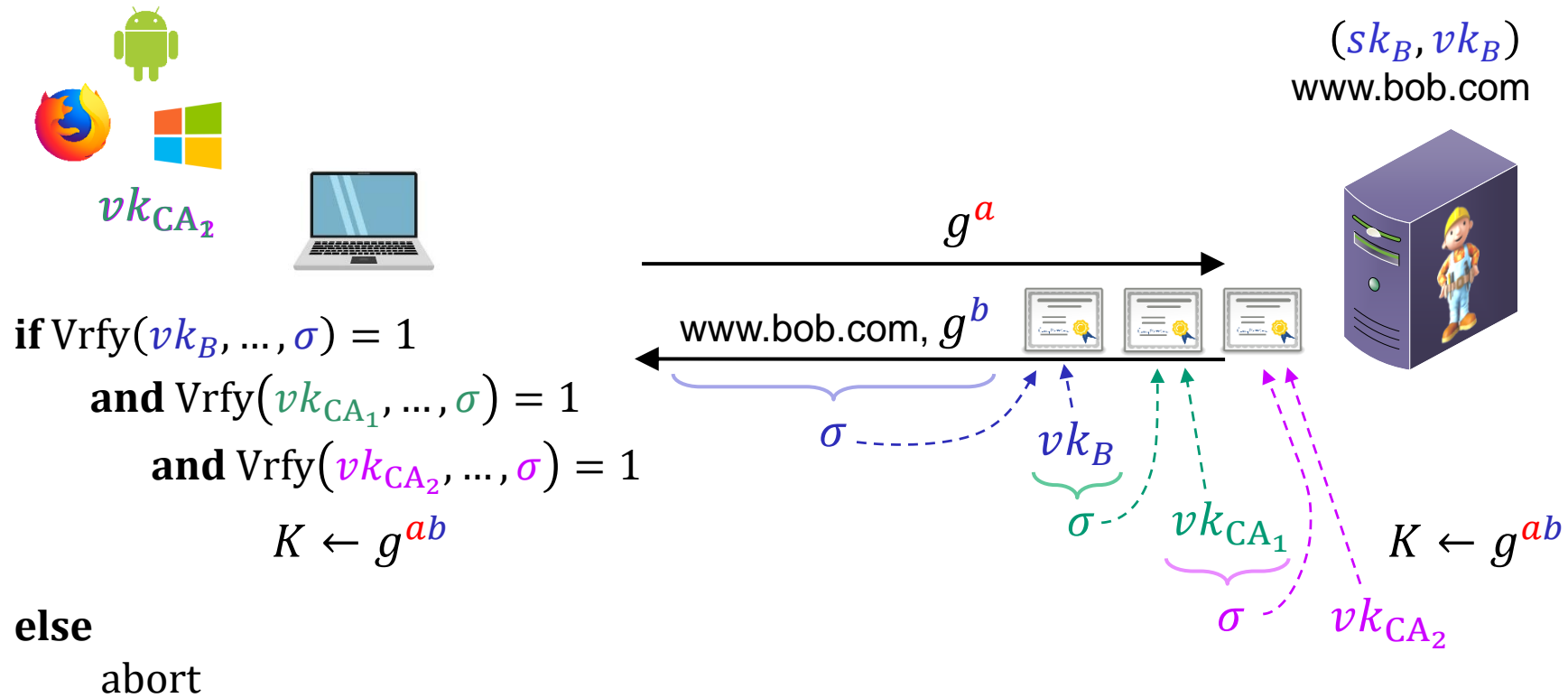


# Certificate chains

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# HTTPS / TLS + PKI



# How to become an internet root CA?

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- Need to prove yourself (trust)worthy to browser and OS vendors
  - [Microsoft Root Certificate Program](#)
  - [Mozilla CA Certificate Program](#)
  - [Apple Root Certificate Program](#)
- Lot's of auditing and paperwork
- Many formal technical and non-technical security requirements
  - CA/Browser forum
  - [Baseline Requirements v1.7.3](#)

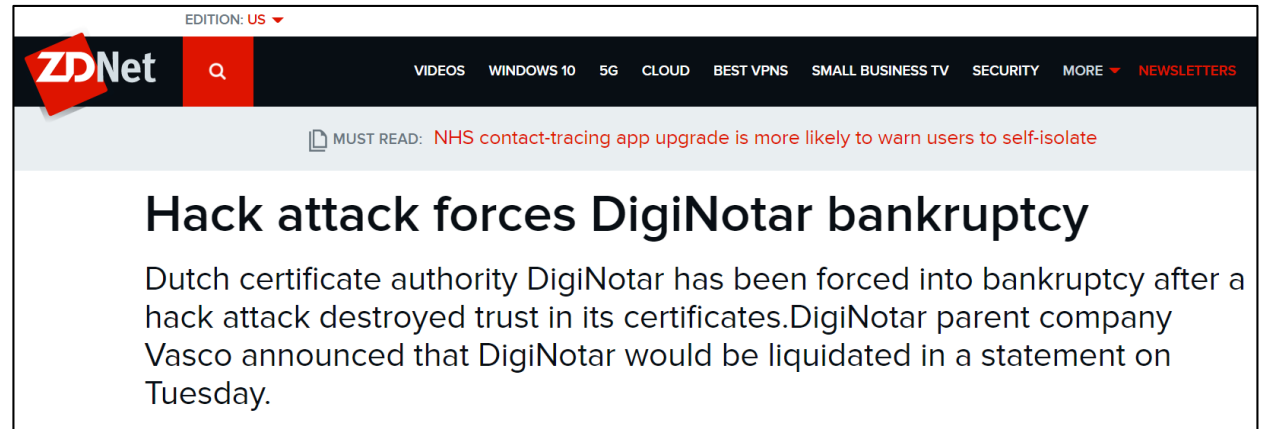


# DigiNotar

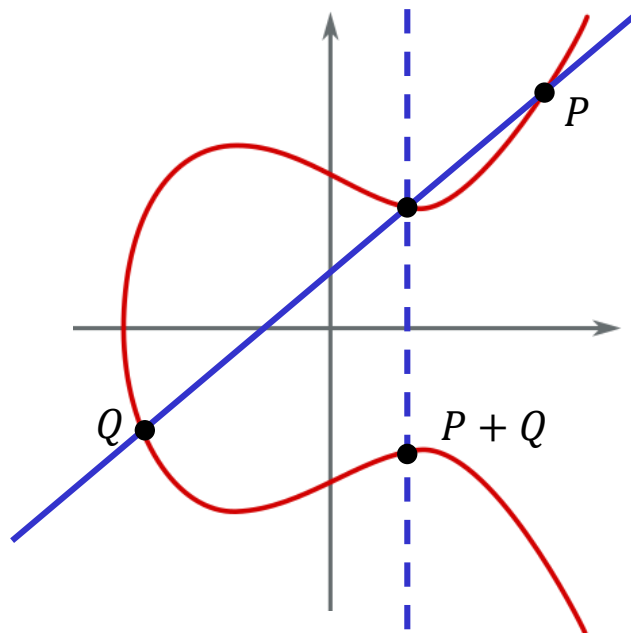
- Dutch root CA
- Lost control of their private signing key in 2011
- Fraudulent certificates issued for Gmail, Yahoo!, Mozilla, WordPress, ...
- 30 000 Iranian Gmail users targeted



The screenshot shows the ITPro website header with navigation links for Business, Cloud, Hardware, Infrastructure, Security, Software, and Technology. The article title is "DigiNotar goes bankrupt after hack" and the sub-headline is "The Dutch CA goes into bankruptcy following the significant hacks claimed by ComodoHacker." The author is Tom Brewster, dated 20 Sep 2011. The image below the text shows a close-up of a computer keyboard.



The screenshot shows the ZDNet website header with navigation links for VIDEOS, WINDOWS 10, 5G, CLOUD, BEST VPNS, SMALL BUSINESS TV, SECURITY, MORE, and NEWSLETTERS. The article title is "Hack attack forces DigiNotar bankruptcy" and the sub-headline is "Dutch certificate authority DigiNotar has been forced into bankruptcy after a hack attack destroyed trust in its certificates. DigiNotar parent company Vasco announced that DigiNotar would be liquidated in a statement on Tuesday." A "MUST READ" banner above the article title reads "NHS contact-tracing app upgrade is more likely to warn users to self-isolate".



$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$$

$$a, b, x, y \in \mathbf{R}$$

**End of Part II**  
**(Asymmetric crypto)**

# Summary of asymmetric cryptography

Primitive	Functionality + syntax	Hardness assumption / security goal	Acronym	Examples
Diffie-Hellman	Derive shared value (key) in a cyclic group $A^b = g^{ab} = B^a$	Discrete logarithm (DLOG) Diffie-Hellman (DH) Decisional Diffie-Hellman (DDH)	PRF	$(\mathbf{Z}_p^*, \cdot)$ –DH $(E(\mathbf{F}_p), +)$ –DH
RSA function	One-way trapdoor function/permutation	Factoring problem RSA-problem		Textbook RSA
Public-key encryption	Encrypt variable-length input $\text{Enc} : \mathcal{PK} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$	Confidentiality: attacker should learn nothing about plaintext (except length) from ciphertexts	IND-CPA IND-CCA	ElGamal Padded RSA Fujisaki-Okamoto-transform
Digital signatures	Produce signature on variable length input $\text{Sign} : \mathcal{SK} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$ $\text{Vrfy} : \mathcal{VK} \times \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \{1,0\}$	Integrity: attacker shouldn't be able to forge messages, i.e., create new messages with valid signatures	UF-CMA	Schnorr Hashed-RSA ECDSA

Cryptographic groups	Comment	Computational problem	Best-known attack	Common sizes
$(\mathbf{Z}_p^*, \cdot)$	$p$ prime $ \mathbf{Z}_p^*  = p - 1$	Discrete logarithm	General number field sieve (GNFS)	$ p  \approx 2000\text{--}3000$ bits
Subgroups $H < (\mathbf{Z}_p^*, \cdot)$	$ H  = q$ (typically prime)	Discrete logarithm	GNFS	$ q  \approx 256$ bits
$(E(\mathbf{F}_p), +)$	$p$ prime $ E(\mathbf{F}_p)  = q$ (typically) prime $p \neq q$	Discrete logarithm	Generic attacks: Baby-step giant-step, Pollard-rho, Pohlig-Hellman	$ E(\mathbf{F}_p)  \approx 256$ bits $ p  \approx 256$ bits
$(\mathbf{Z}_n^*, \cdot)$	$n$ not prime $ \mathbf{Z}_n^*  = \phi(n)$	Factoring	GNFS	$ n  \approx 2000\text{--}4000$ bits