

# Distributed Systems

## Authentication Protocols

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# Authentication

Establish and verify identity

- allow access to resources

# Authentication

## Three factors:

- something you have *key, card*
  - can be stolen
- something you know *passwords*
  - can be guessed, shared, stolen
- something you are *biometrics*
  - costly, can be copied (sometimes)

# Authentication

factors may be combined

- ATM machine: 2-factor authentication

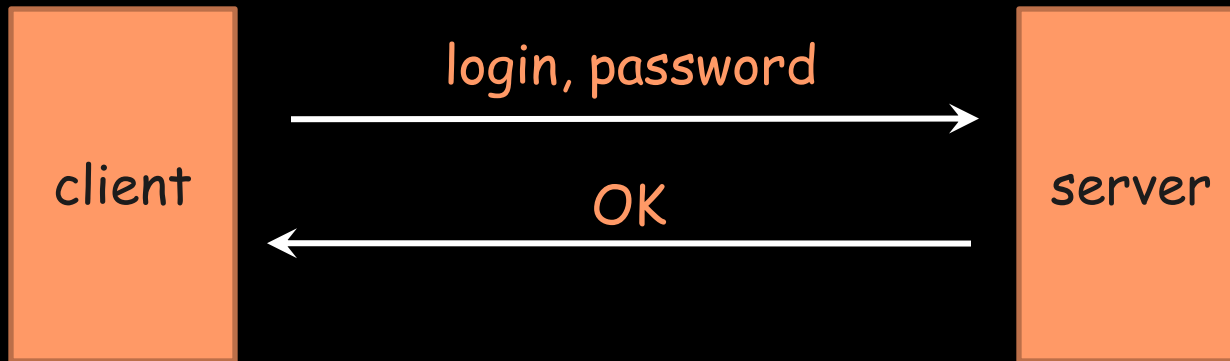
- ATM card      *something you have*
- PIN            *something you know*

# Password Authentication Protocol (PAP)

- Reusable passwords
- Server keeps a database of username:password mappings
- Prompt client/user for a login name & password
- To authenticate, use the login name as a key to look up the corresponding password in a database (file) to authenticate
  - if (supplied\_password == retrieved\_password)  
user is authenticated

# Authentication: PAP

## Password Authentication Protocol



- Unencrypted passwords
- Insecure on an open network

# PAP: Reusable passwords

One problem: what if the password file isn't sufficiently protected and an intruder gets hold of it, he gets all the passwords!

## Enhancement:

Store a hash of the password in a file

- given a file, you don't get the passwords
- have to resort to a dictionary or brute-force attack

# PAP: Reusable passwords

Passwords can be stolen by observing a user's session over the network:

- snoop on telnet, ftp, rlogin, rsh sessions
- Trojan horse
- social engineering
- brute-force or dictionary attacks

# One-time password

Different password used each time

- generate a list of passwords

or:

- use an authentication card

# Skey authentication

- One-time password scheme
- Produces a limited number of authentication sessions
- relies on one-way functions

# Skey authentication

## Authenticate Alice for 100 logins

- pick random number,  $R$
- using a one-way function,  $f(x)$ :

$$x_1 = f(R)$$

$$x_2 = f(x_1) = f(f(R))$$

$$x_3 = f(x_2) = f(f(f(R)))$$

...

$$x_{100} = f(x_{99}) = f(\dots f(f(f(R))) \dots)$$

*give this list  
to Alice*

- then compute:

$$x_{101} = f(x_{100}) = f(\dots f(f(f(R))) \dots)$$

# Skey authentication

Authenticate Alice for 100 logins

store  $x_{101}$  in a password file or database  
record associated with Alice

alice:  $x_{101}$

# Skey authentication

Alice presents the *last* number on her list:

*Alice to host: { "alice",  $x_{100}$  }*

Host computes  $f(x_{100})$  and compares it with the value in the database

```
if ( $x_{100}$  provided by alice) = passwd("alice")
    replace  $x_{101}$  in db with  $x_{100}$  provided by alice
    return success
else
    fail
```

next time: Alice presents  $x_{99}$

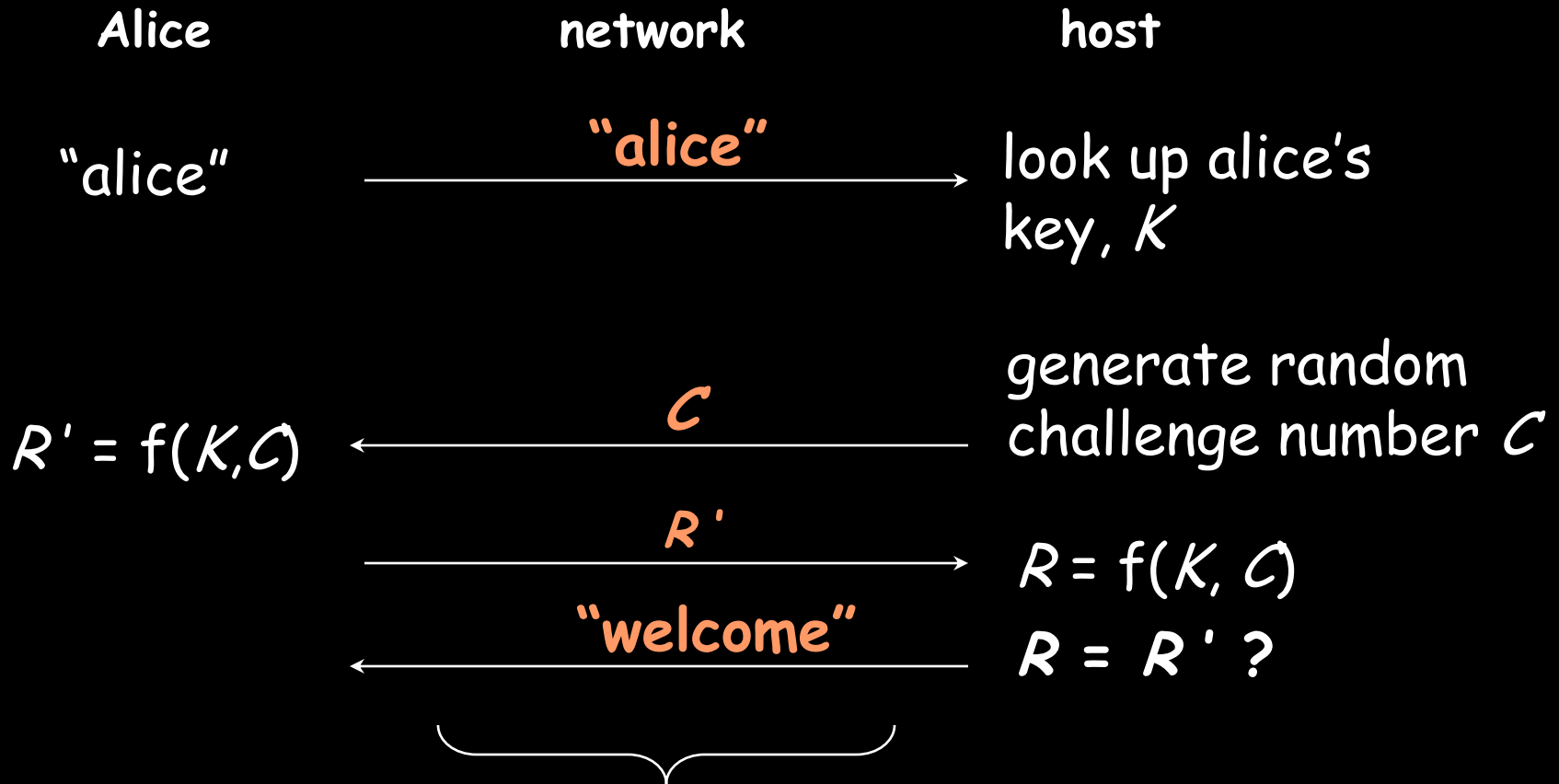
if someone sees  $x_{100}$  there is no way to generate  $x_{99}$ .

# Two-factor authentication with an authenticator card

## Challenge/response authentication

- user provided with a challenge number from host
  - enter challenge number to challenge/response unit
  - enter PIN
  - get response:  $f(\text{PIN}, \text{challenge})$
  - transcribe response back to host
- **host maintains PIN**
    - computes the same function
    - compares data
  - **rely on one-way function**

# Challenge-Response authentication



an eavesdropper does not see  $K$

# SecurID card



Username:

paul

Password:

1234032848

PIN + passcode from card

Something you know

Something you have

Passcode changes every 60 seconds



1. Enter PIN
2. Press  $\diamond$
3. Card computes password
4. Read off password

Password:

354982

# SecurID card

- from RSA, SASL mechanism: RFC 2808
- Compute: AES-hash on:
  - 128-bit token-specific seed
  - 64-bit ISO representation of time of day (Y:M:D:H:M:S)
  - 32-bit serial number of token
  - 32-bits of padding
- Server computes three hashes with different clock values to account for drift.

# SecurID

## Vulnerable to man-in-the-middle attacks

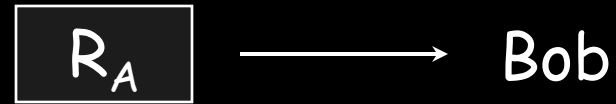
- attacker acts as application server
- user does not have a chance to authenticate server

# SKID2/SKID3 authentication

- uses symmetric cryptography
  - shared secret key
- generate a random token
  - *nonce*
- give it to the other party, which encrypts it
  - returns encrypted result
- verify that the other party knows the secret key

# SKID2/SKID3 authentication

Alice chooses a random number (nonce)  $R_A$  and sends it to Bob



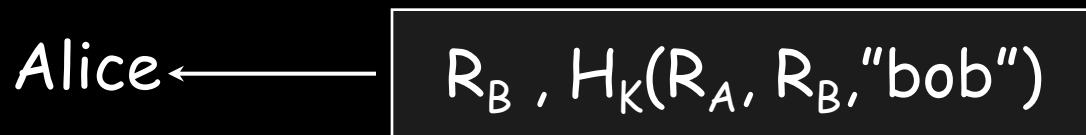
# SKID2/SKID3 authentication



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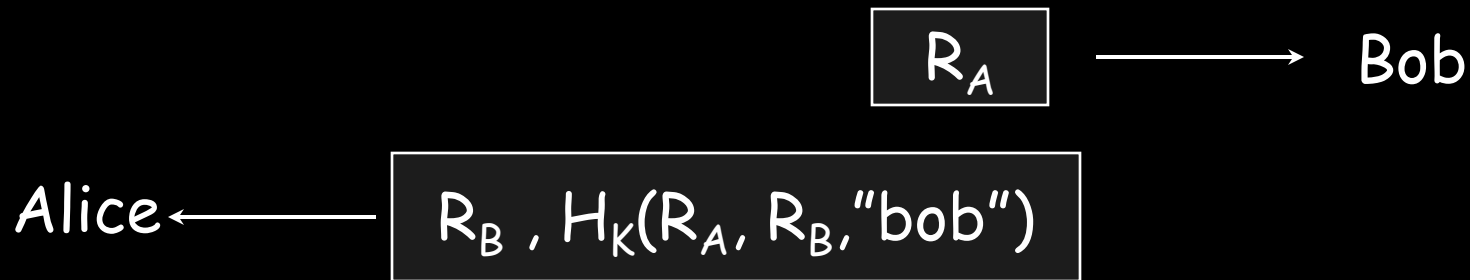
Bob chooses a random number (nonce):  $R_B$ .

He computes  $H_K(R_A, R_B, \text{"bob"})$  and sends it to Alice with  $R_B$



Bob shows that he can encrypt Alice's nonce

# SKID2/SKID3 authentication

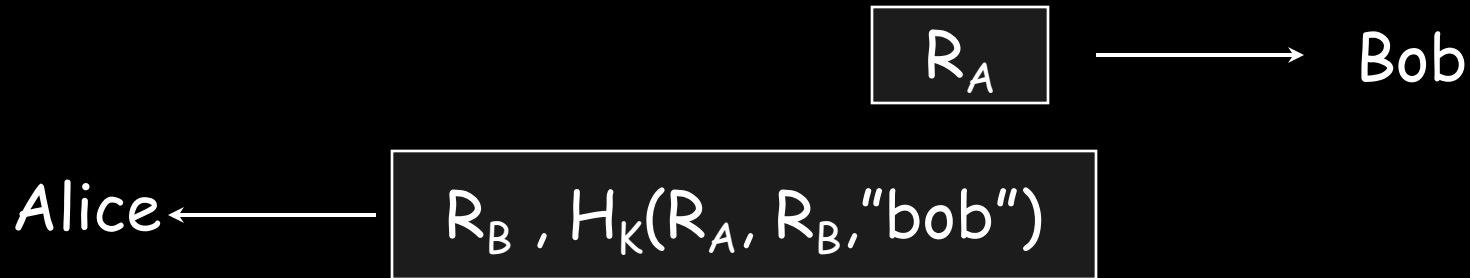


Alice receives  $R_B$  and has  $R_A$ .  
Computes:  $H_K(R_A, R_B, \text{"bob"})$

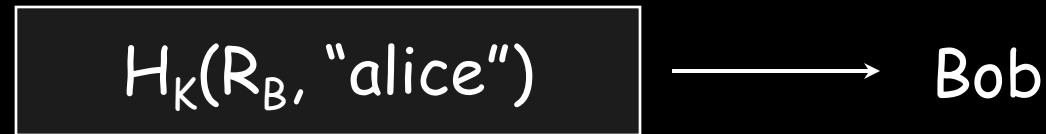
compares result to verify that Bob was able to  
encrypt data with key  $K$ .

Authentication is complete as far as Alice is  
concerned (Bob knows the key).

# SKID2/SKID3 authentication

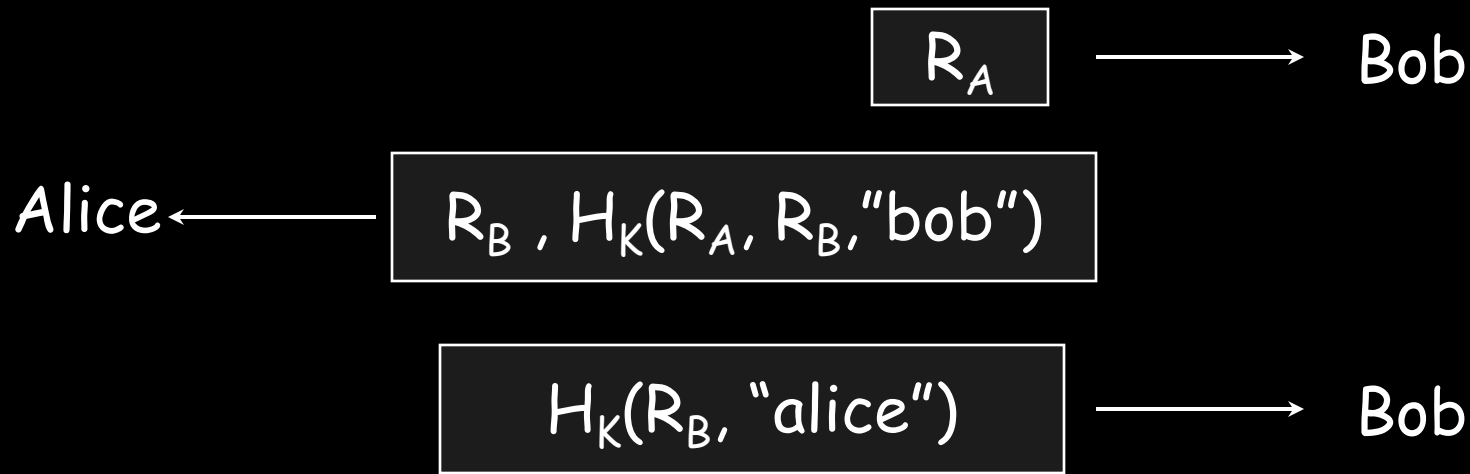


Now Alice has to convince Bob (mutual authentication)



Alice demonstrates that she can encrypt Bob's nonce

# SKID2/SKID3 authentication

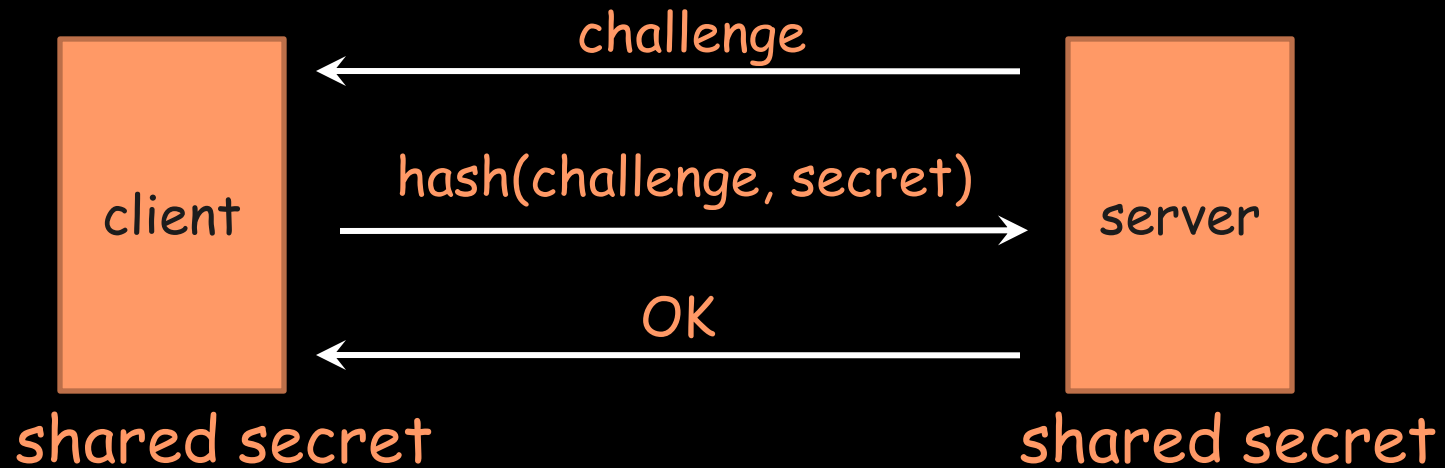


Bob computes  $H_K(R_B, \text{"alice"})$  and compares Alice's message. If they match, he trusts Alice's identity

**Key point:** Each party permutes data generated by the other. Challenge the other party with data that will be different each time.

# Authentication: CHAP

## Challenge-Handshake Authentication Protocol



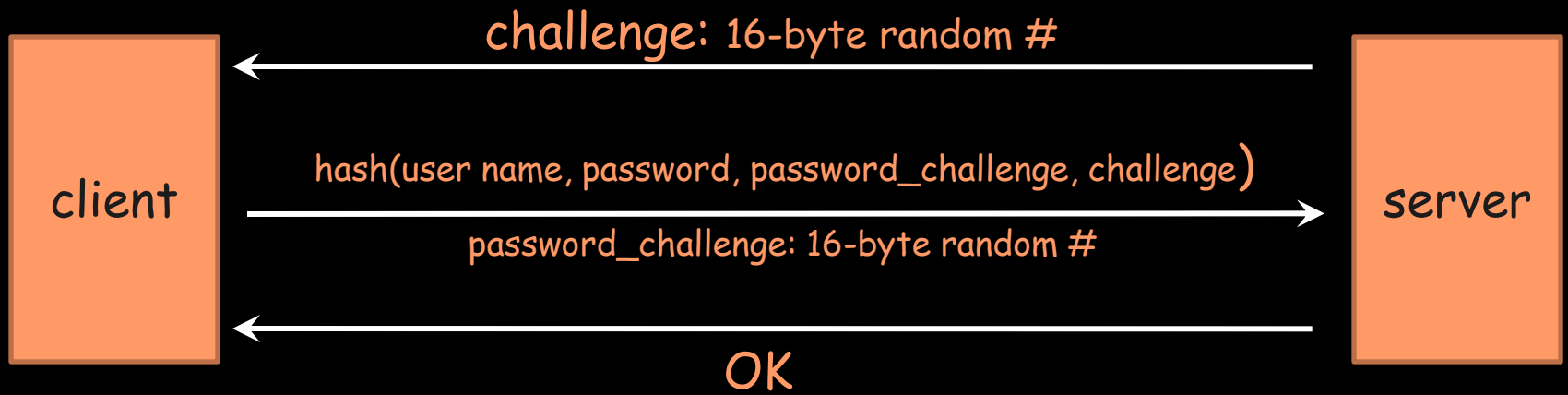
The challenge-response scheme in a slightly different form.

This is functionally the same as SKID2 (single party authentication)

The challenge is a nonce. Instead of encrypting the nonce with a shared secret key, we create a hash of the nonce and the secret.

# Authentication: MS-CHAP

## Microsoft's Challenge-Handshake Authentication Protocol



The same as CHAP - we're just hashing more things in the response

Combined authentication  
and key exchange

# Wide-mouth frog

Alice  $\longrightarrow$  Trent

"alice" ,  $E_A(T_A, \text{"bob"}, K)$



- arbitrated protocol - Trent (3<sup>rd</sup> party) has all the keys
- symmetric encryption for transmitting a **session key**

# Wide-mouth frog

Alice  $\longrightarrow$  Trent

"alice" ,  $E_A(T_A, \text{"bob"}, K)$

session key  
destination

time stamp - prevent replay attacks

sender

Trent:

- looks up key corresponding to sender ("alice")
- decrypts remainder of message using Alice's key
- validates timestamp (this is a new message)
- extracts destination ("bob")
- looks up Bob's key

# Wide-mouth frog

Alice  $\longrightarrow$  Trent  $\longrightarrow$  Bob

"alice" ,  $E_A(T_A, \text{"bob"}, K)$

$E_B(T_T, \text{"alice"}, K)$

session key

source

time stamp - prevent replay attacks

## Trent:

- creates a new message
- new timestamp
- identify source of the session key
- encrypt the message for Bob
- send to Bob

# Wide-mouth frog

Alice  $\longrightarrow$  Trent  $\longrightarrow$  Bob

"alice" ,  $E_A(T_A, \text{"bob"}, K)$

$E_B(T_T, \text{"alice"}, K)$

session key

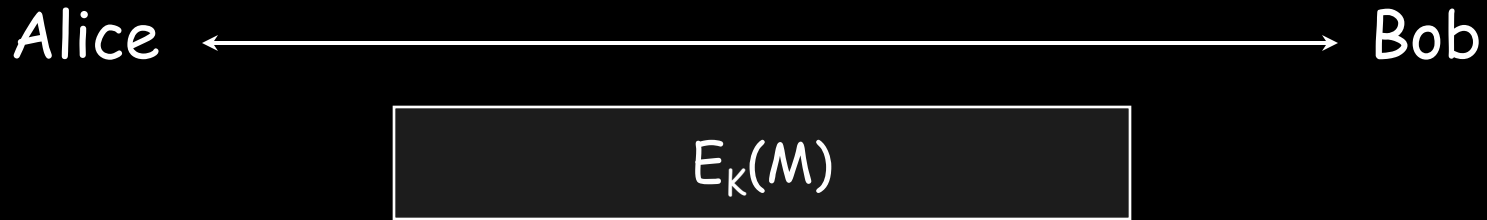
source

time stamp - prevent replay attacks

Bob:

- decrypts message
- validates timestamp
- extracts sender ("alice")
- extracts session key, K

# Wide-mouth frog



Since Bob and Alice have the session key, they can communicate securely using the key

# Kerberos

- authentication service developed by MIT
  - project Athena 1983-1988
- trusted third party
- symmetric cryptography
- passwords not sent in clear text
  - assumes only the network can be compromised

# Kerberos

Users and services authenticate themselves to each other

To access a service:

- user presents a ticket issued by the Kerberos authentication server
- service examines the ticket to verify the identity of the user

# Kerberos

- user *Alice* wants to communicate with a service *Bob*
- both *Alice* and *Bob* have keys
- Step 1:
  - *Alice* authenticates with Kerberos server
    - Gets session key and *sealed envelope*
- Step 2:
  - *Alice* gives *Bob* a session key (securely)
  - Convinces *Bob* that she also got the session key from Kerberos

# Authenticate, get permission

Alice

Authentication Server (AS)

"I want to talk to Bob"

if Alice is allowed to talk to Bob,  
generate session key, S

← {"Bob's server", S}<sub>A</sub>

Alice decrypts this:

- gets ID of "Bob's server"
- gets session key
- *knows message came from AS*

← {"Alice", S}<sub>B</sub>

**TICKET**  
sealed envelope

eh? (Alice can't read this!)

# Send key

Alice

Alice encrypts a timestamp with session key

{“Alice”, S}<sub>B</sub>, T<sub>S</sub>

*sealed envelope*

Bob

Bob decrypts envelope:

- envelope was created by Kerberos on request from Alice
- gets session key

Decrypts time stamp

- validates time window
- Prevent replay attacks

# Authenticate recipient

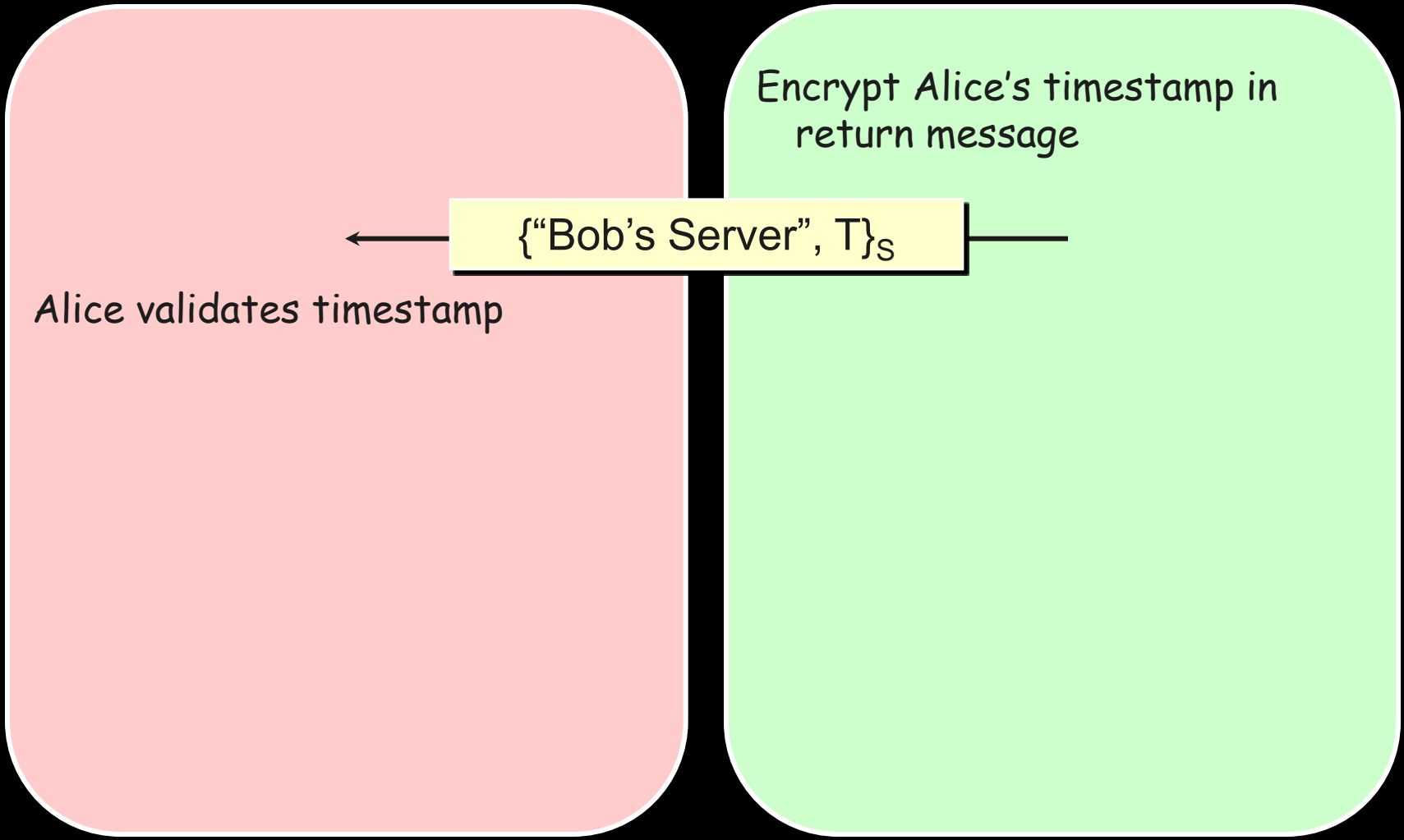
Alice

Bob

Encrypt Alice's timestamp in return message

{“Bob’s Server”, T}<sub>s</sub>

Alice validates timestamp



# Kerberos key usage

- Every time a user wants to access a service
  - User's password (key) must be used each time (in decoding message from Kerberos)
- Possible solution:
  - Cache the password (key)
  - Not a good idea
- Another solution:
  - Split Kerberos server into Authentication Server + Ticket Granting Server

# Ticket Granting Service (TGS)

**TGS + AS = KDC (Kerberos Key Distribution Center)**

- Before accessing any service, user requests a ticket to contact the TGS
- Anytime a user wants a service
  - Request a ticket from TGS
  - Reply is encrypted with session key from AS for use with TGS
- TGS works like a temporary ID

# Using Kerberos

`$ kinit`

**Password:** *enter password*

ask AS for permission (session key) to access TGS

Alice gets:

$\{\text{"TGS"}, S\}_A$

$\{\text{"Alice"}, S\}_{TGS}$

Compute key (A) from password to decrypt session key S and get TGS ID.

*You now have a ticket to access the Ticket Granting Service*

# Using Kerberos

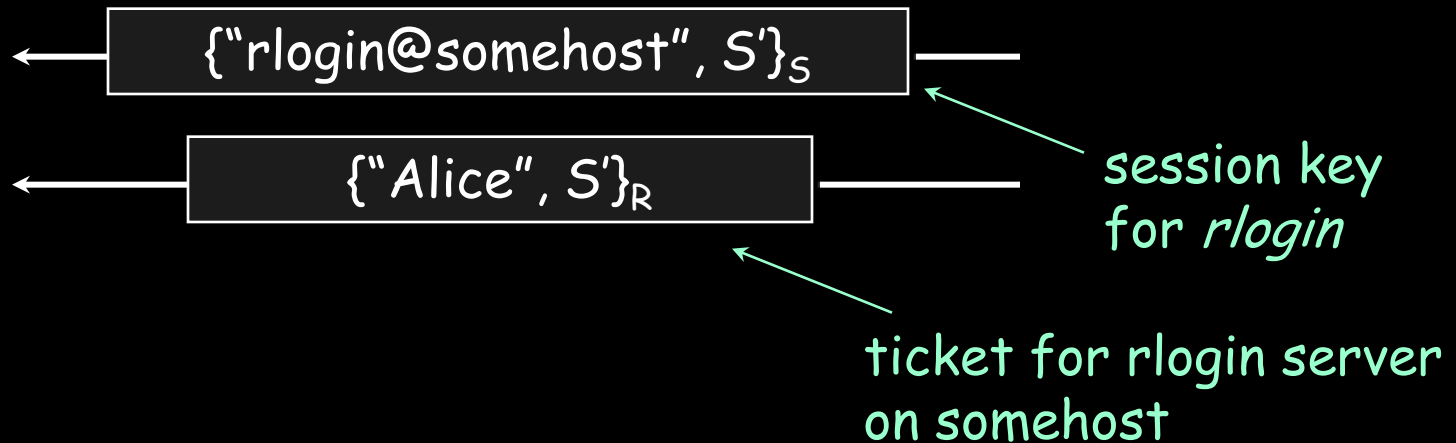
**\$ rlogin somehost**

rlogin uses TGS Ticket to request a ticket for the *rlogin* service on *somehost*

Alice sends session key,  $S$ , to TGS



Alice receives session key for rlogin service & ticket to pass to rlogin service



# Public key authentication

Like SKID, demonstrate we can encrypt or decrypt a nonce:

- Alice wants to authenticate herself to Bob:
- Bob: generates nonce,  $S$ 
  - presents it to Alice
- Alice: encrypts  $S$  with her private key (sign it) and send to Bob

# Public key authentication

Bob:

look up "alice" in a database of public keys

- decrypt the message from Alice using Alice's public key
- If the result is  $S$ , then it was Alice!
- Bob is convinced.

For mutual authentication, Alice has to present Bob with a nonce that Bob will encrypt with his private key and return

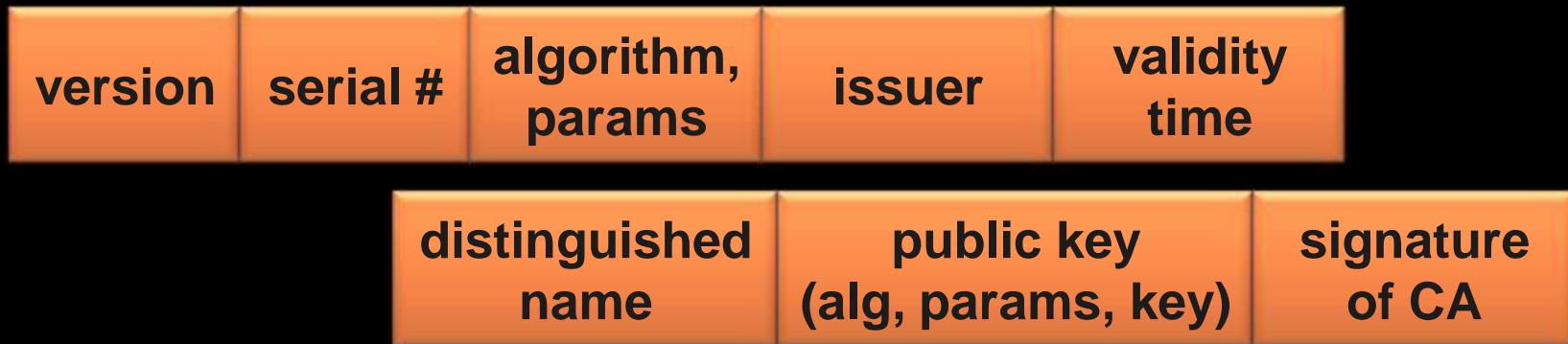
# Public key authentication

- Public key authentication relies on binding identity to a public key
- One option:
  - get keys from a trusted source
- Problem: requires always going to the source
  - cannot pass keys around
- Another option: sign the public key
  - digital certificate

# X.509 Certificates

ISO introduced a set of authentication protocols: X.509

Structure for public key certificates:



Trusted Certification Authority issues a signed certificate

# X.509 certificates

When you get a certificate

- Verify signature
  - hash contents of certificate data
  - Decrypt CA's signature with CA's public key

Obtain CA's public key (certificate) from trusted source

- Certification authorities are organized in a hierarchy
- A CA certificate may be signed by a CA above it
  - certificate chaining

Certificates prevent someone from using a phony public key to masquerade as another person

# Example: Root Certificates in IE

Agencia Catalana de Certificacio

ANCERT

AOL

Arge Daten

AS Sertifitseerimiskeskuse

Asociacion Nacional del Notariado Mexicano

A-Trust

Austria Telekom-Control Commission

Autoridad Certificadora Raiz de la Secretaria de Economia

Autoridad de Certificacion Firmaprofesional

Autoridade Certificadora Raiz Brasileira

Belgacom E-Trust

CAMERFIRMA

As of January 2007

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/931125>

# Example: Root Certificates in IE

CC Signet

Certicámara S.A.

Certipost s.a./n.v.

Certisign

CertPlus

Colegio de Registradores

Comodo Group

ComSign

Correo

Cybertrust

Deutsche Telekom

DigiCert

DigiNotar B.V.

Dirección General de la Policía - Ministerio del Interior - España.

DST

As of January 2007

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/931125>

# Example: Root Certificates in IE

Echoworx

Entrust

eSign

EUnet International

First Data Digital Certificates

FNMT

Gatekeeper Root CA

GeoTrust

GlobalSign

GoDaddy

Government of France

Government of Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Government of Tunisia National Digital Certification Agency

Hongkong Post

IPS SERVIDORES

As of January 2007

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/931125>

# Example: Root Certificates in IE

IZENPE

KMD

Korea Information Security Agency

Microsec Ltd.

NetLock

Network Solutions

Post.Trust

PTT Post

Quovadis

RSA

Saunalahden Serveri

SECOM Trust.net

SecureNet

SecureSign

SecureTrust Corporation

As of January 2007

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/931125>

# Example: Root Certificates in IE

Serasa

SIA

Sonera

Spanish Property & Commerce Registry

Swisscom Solutions AG

SwissSign AG

S-TRUST

TC TrustCenter

TDC

Thawte

Trustis Limited

TurkTrust

TW Government Root Certification Authority

U.S. Government Federal PKI

As of January 2007

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/931125>

# Example: Root Certificates in IE

As of January 2007  
<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/931125>

Unizeto Certum

UserTRUST

ValiCert

VeriSign

Visa

Wells Fargo

WISeKey

XRamp

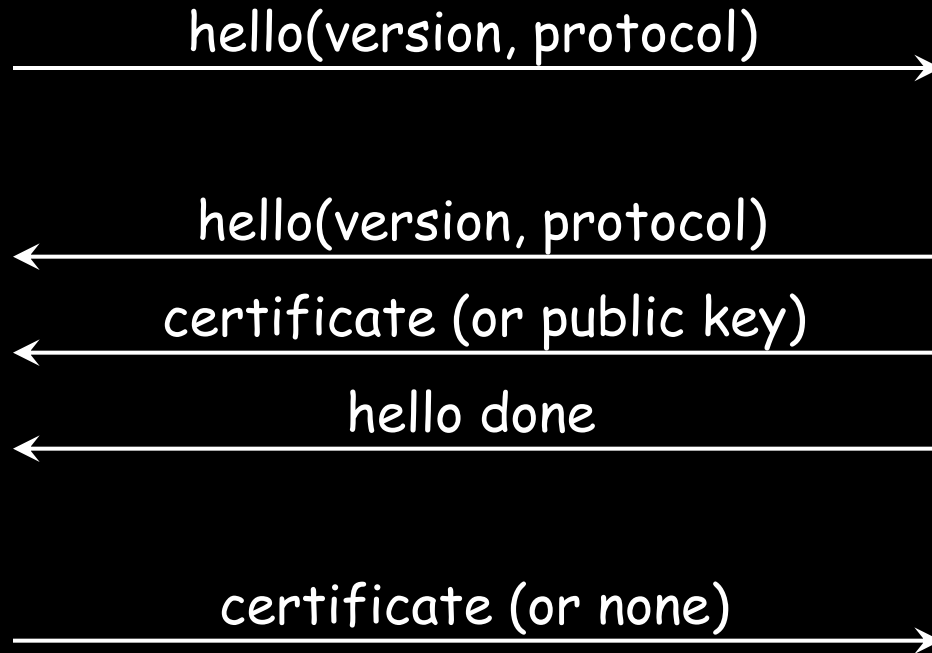
# Transport Layer Security (TLS) aka Secure Socket Layer (SSL)

- Sits on top of TCP/IP
- Goal: provide an encrypted and possibly authenticated communication channel
  - Provides authentication via RSA and X.509 certificates
  - Encryption of communication session via a symmetric cipher
- Enables TCP services to engage in secure, authenticated transfers
  - http, telnet, ntp, ftp, smtp, ...

# Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)

client

server



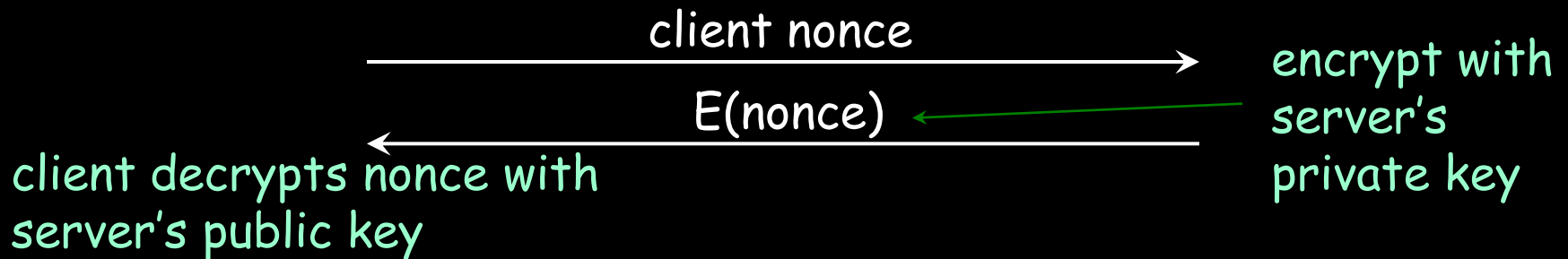
1. Establish protocol, version, cipher suite, compression mechanism, exchange certificates (or send public key)

# Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)

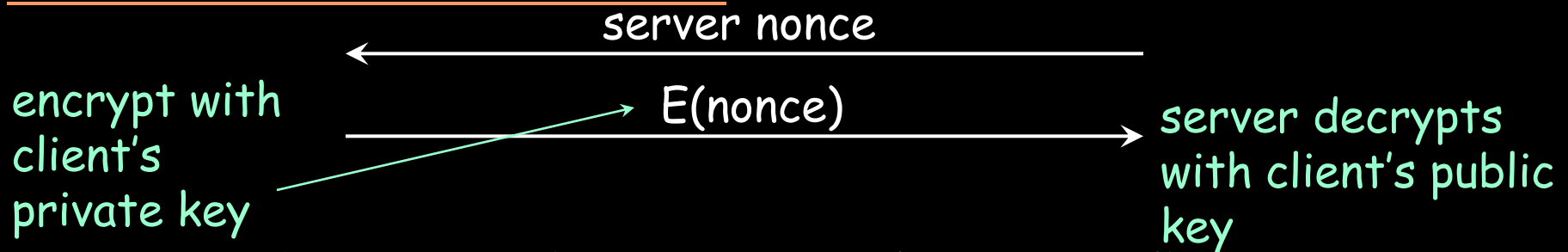
client

server

## client authenticates server

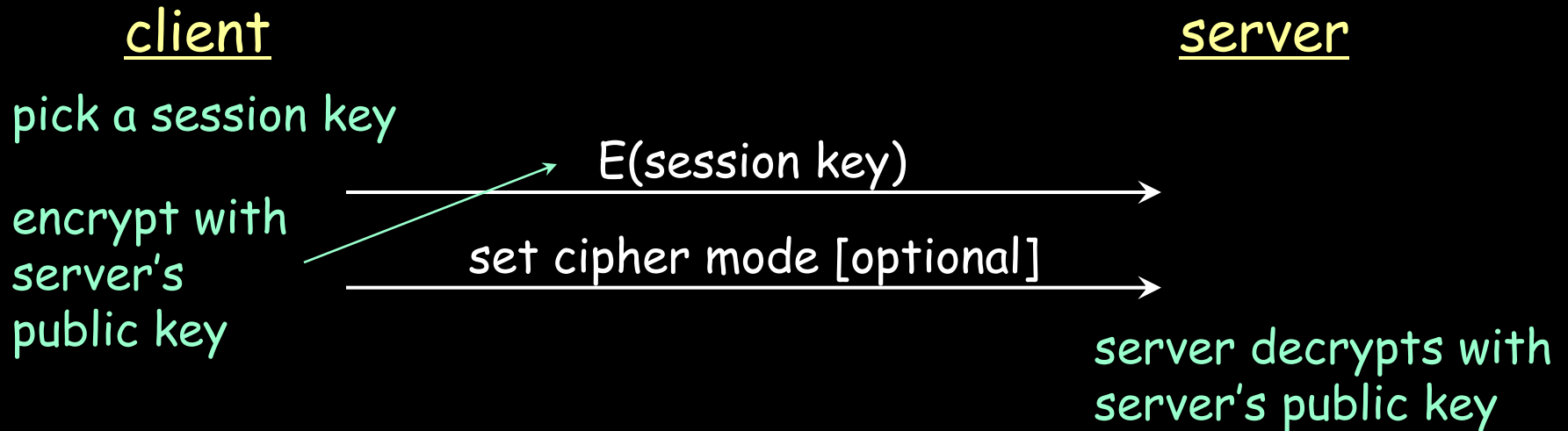


## server authenticates client



2. Authenticate (unidirectional or mutual)  
[optional]

# Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)

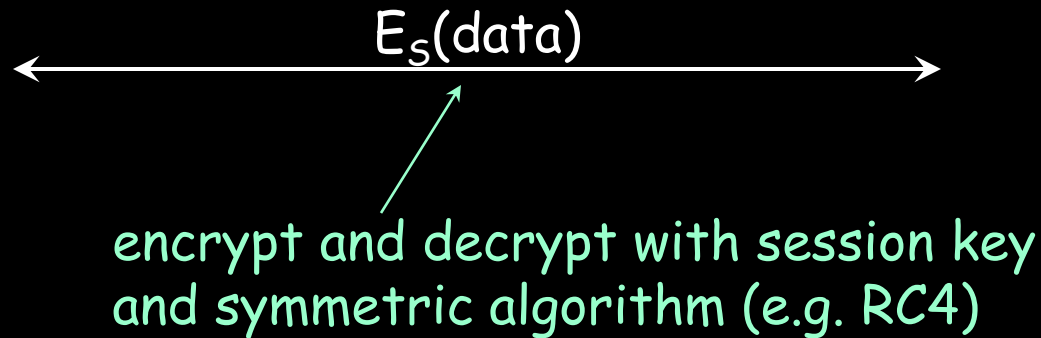


3. Establish session key  
(for symmetric cryptography)

# Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)

client

server



4. Exchange data (symmetric encryption)

The end.