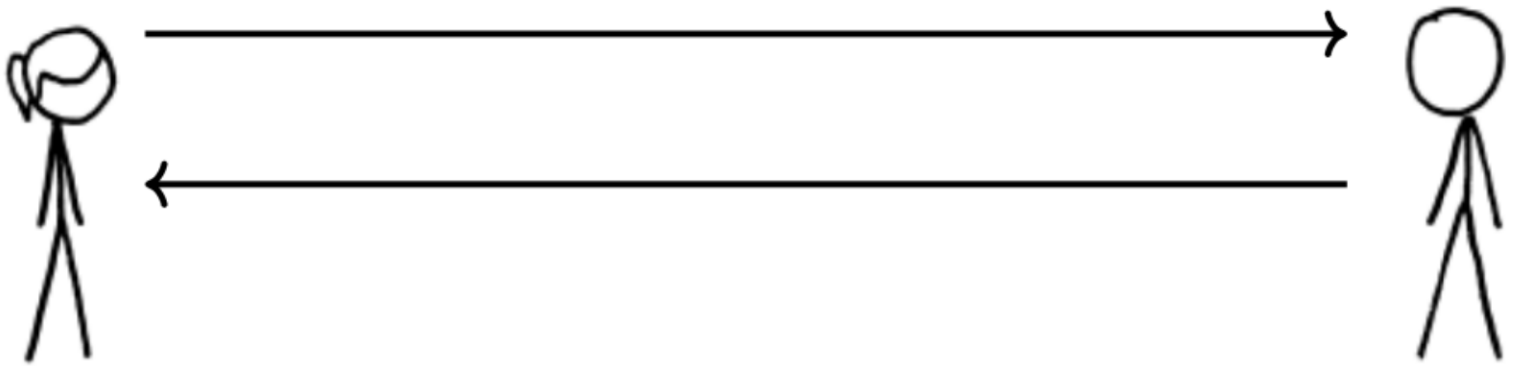
Computer and Network Security

Lecture 02:
Intro to Cryptography

COMP-5370/6370
Fall 2023

A Communications Channel

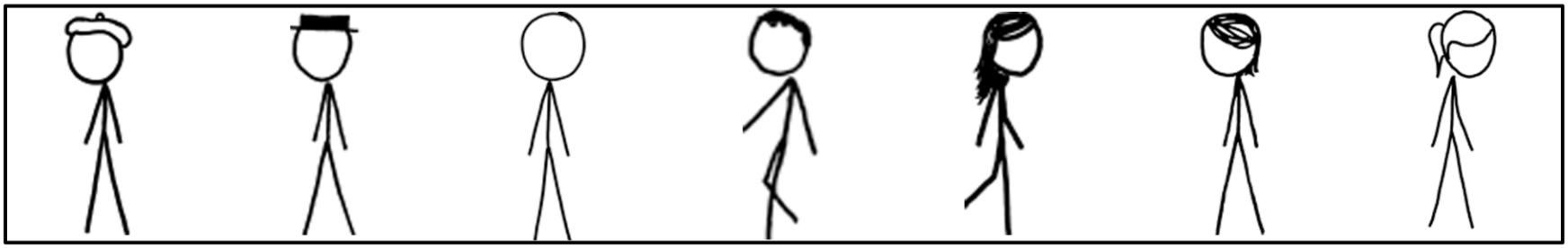


Classification of Actors

- **First Party (1P)**
  - Is knowingly and intentionally present in a conversation
- **Second Party (2P)**
  - Is knowingly and intentionally involved but not participating or present
- **Third Party (3P)**
  - Is unknowingly and *unintentionally* present in a conversation
- **Fourth Party (4P)** is “3P of a 3P”

Security Archetypes

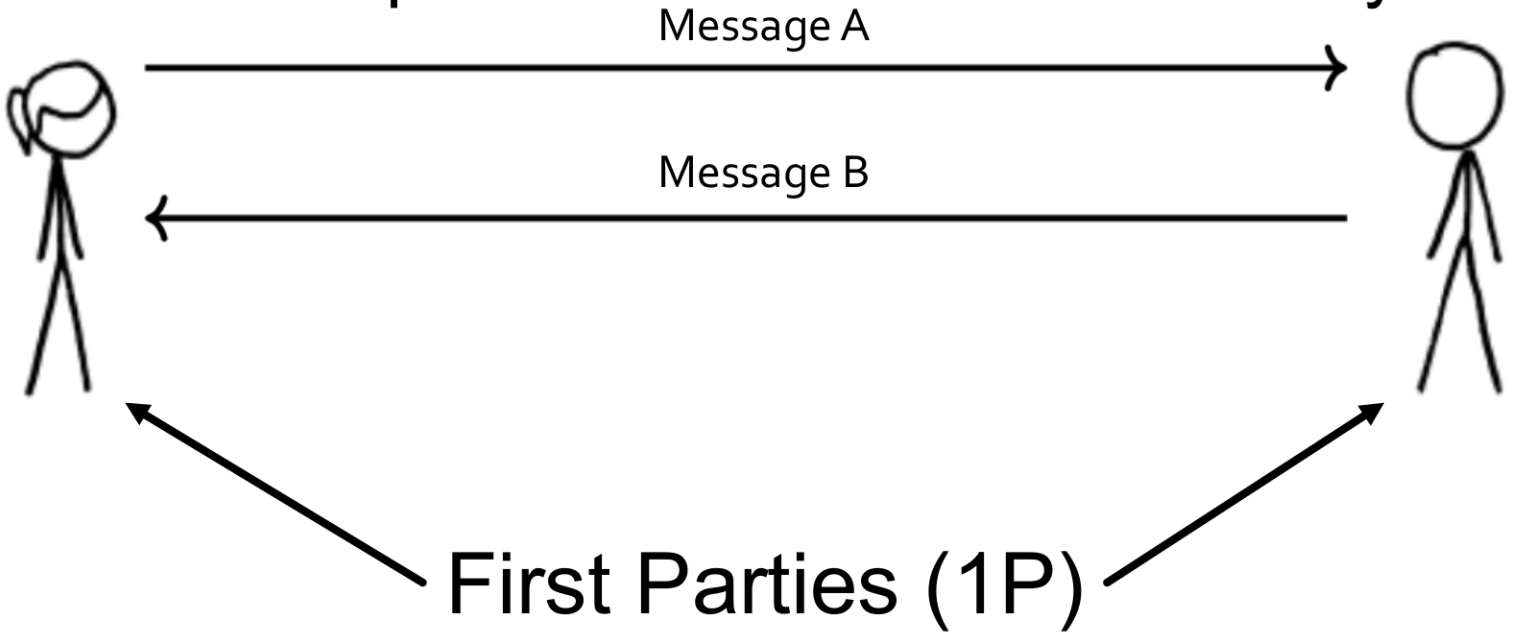
A **security archetype** is a named actor that is used as a representative of a nuanced actors and their capabilities/intentions.



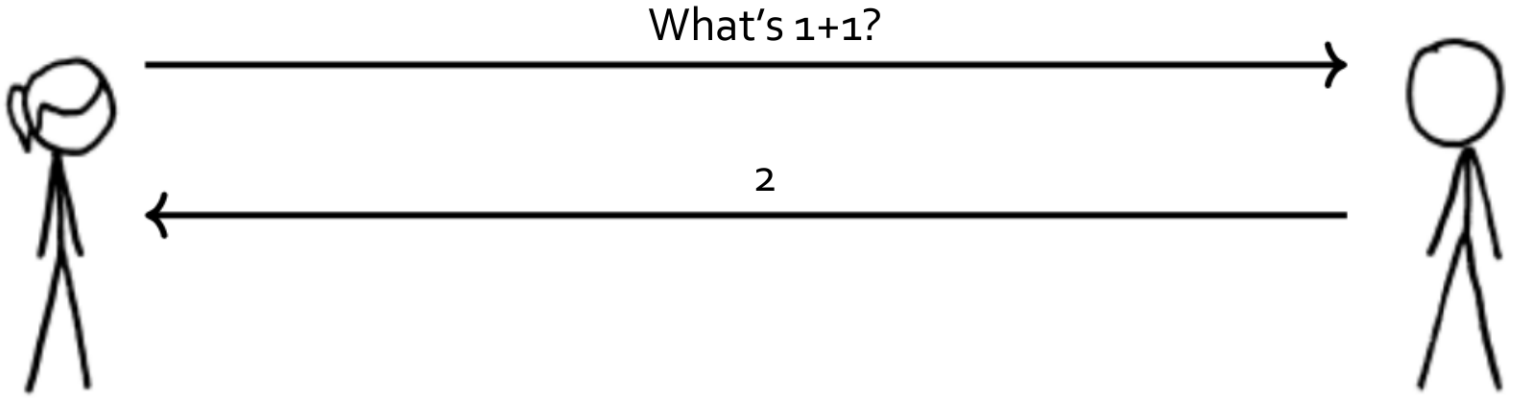
- CS-101 equivalent: “foo”, “bar”, “baz”
- Are not 100% set-in-stone
  - Context, speaker, audience are all factors

Alice and Bob

- Normal, benign users trying to communicate with each other
- Pass **messages** back and forth
  - Context-specific details abstracted away



A Communications Channel

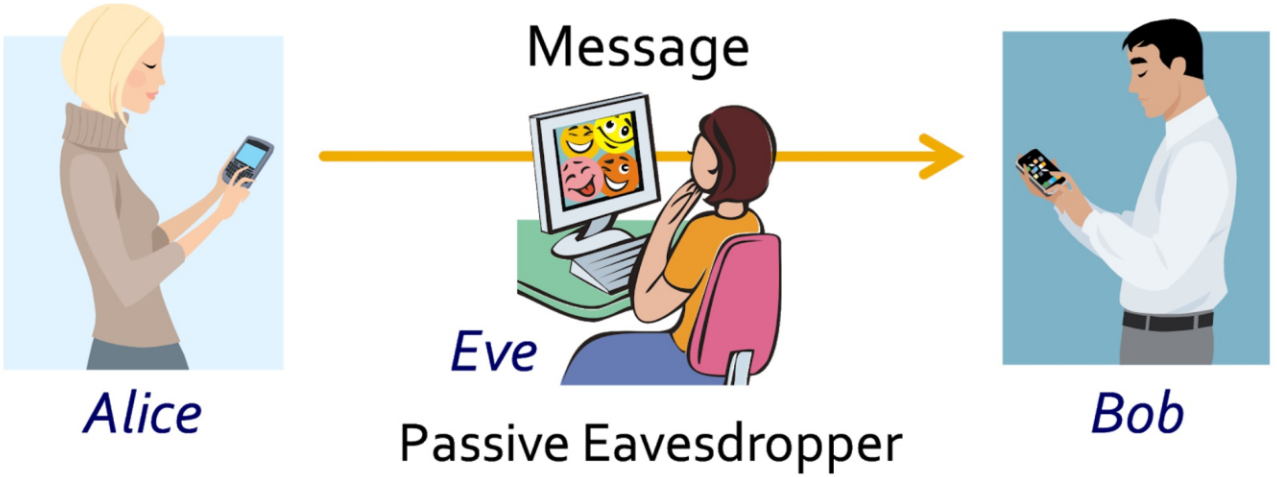


A Communications Channel

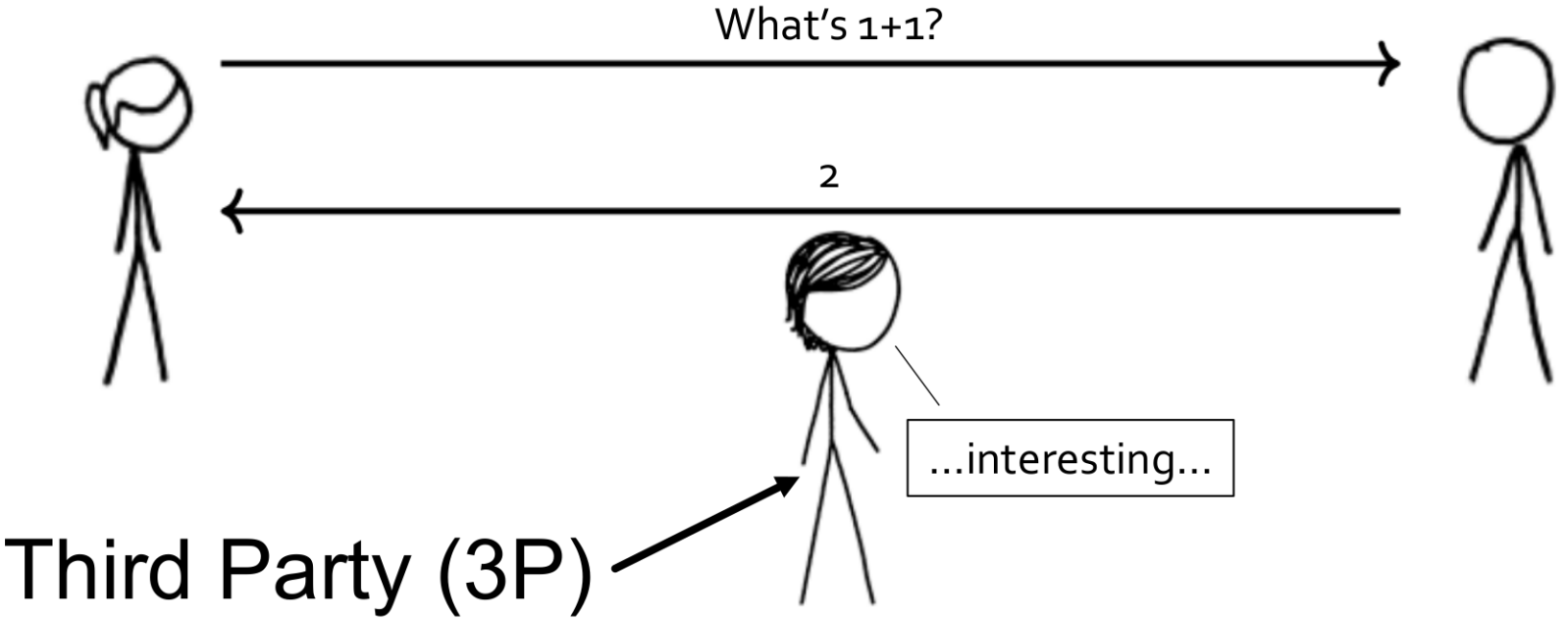
So..uh…that's it?

Eve the Eavesdropper

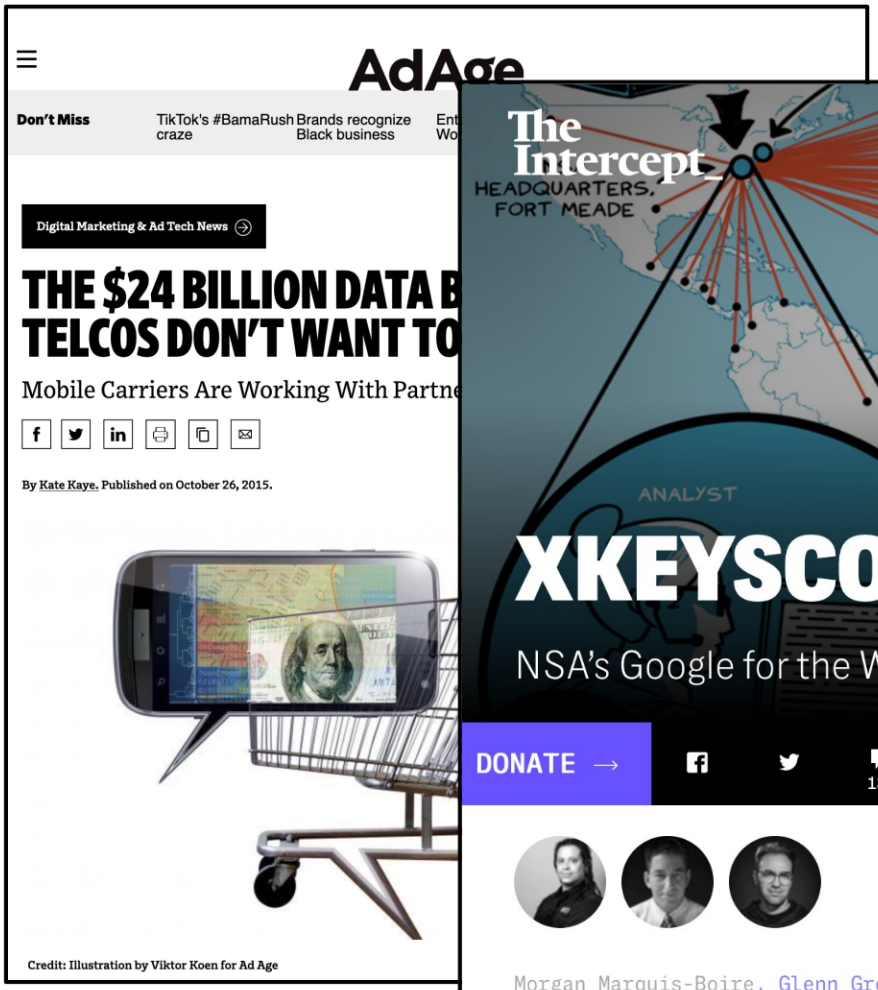
- A **passive** but malicious actor
- Can read messages but **cannot** modify, delay, discard, etc.

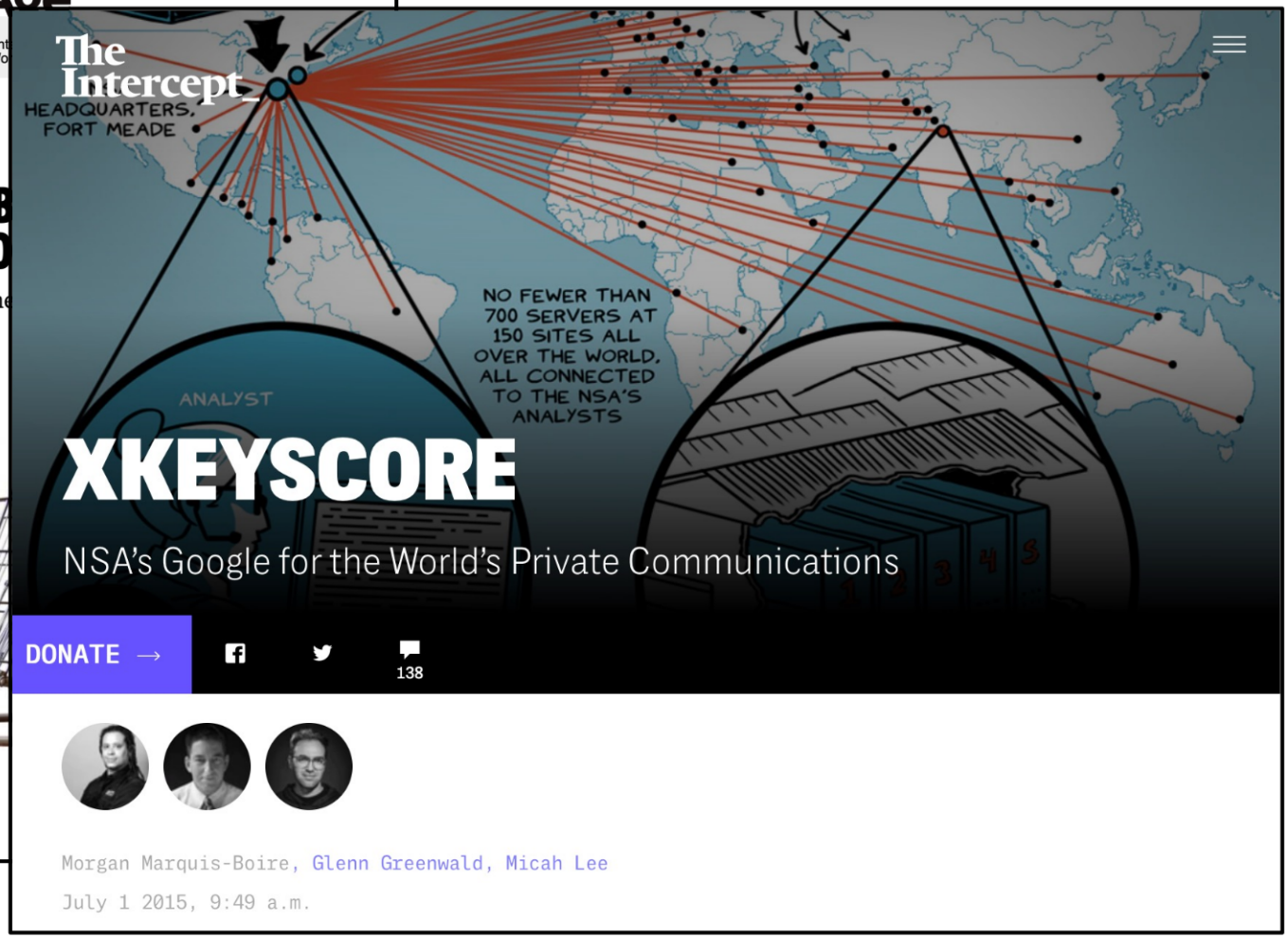


A Communications Channel



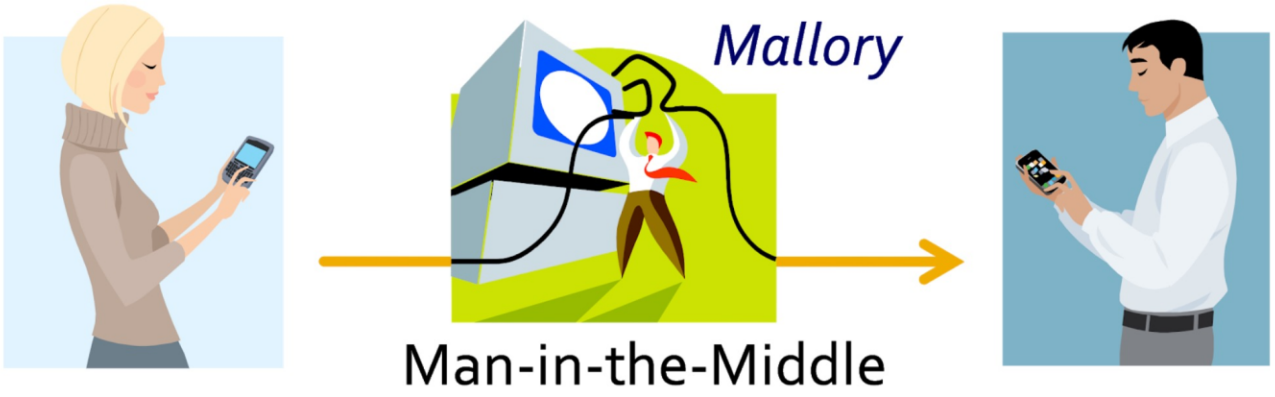
Foreshadowing



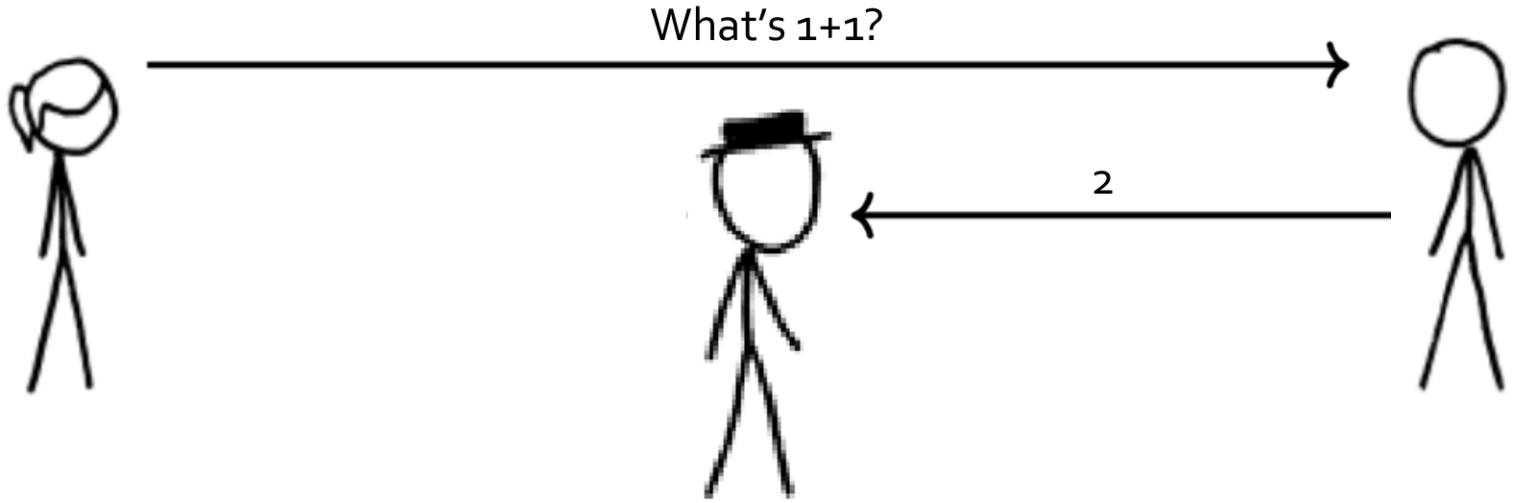


Malicious Mallory

- An **active** and malicious actor
  - Has all passive capabilities (read messages)
  - Can modify/delay/discard messages
  - Can be an unintended end-point (MitM attack)



A Communications Channel



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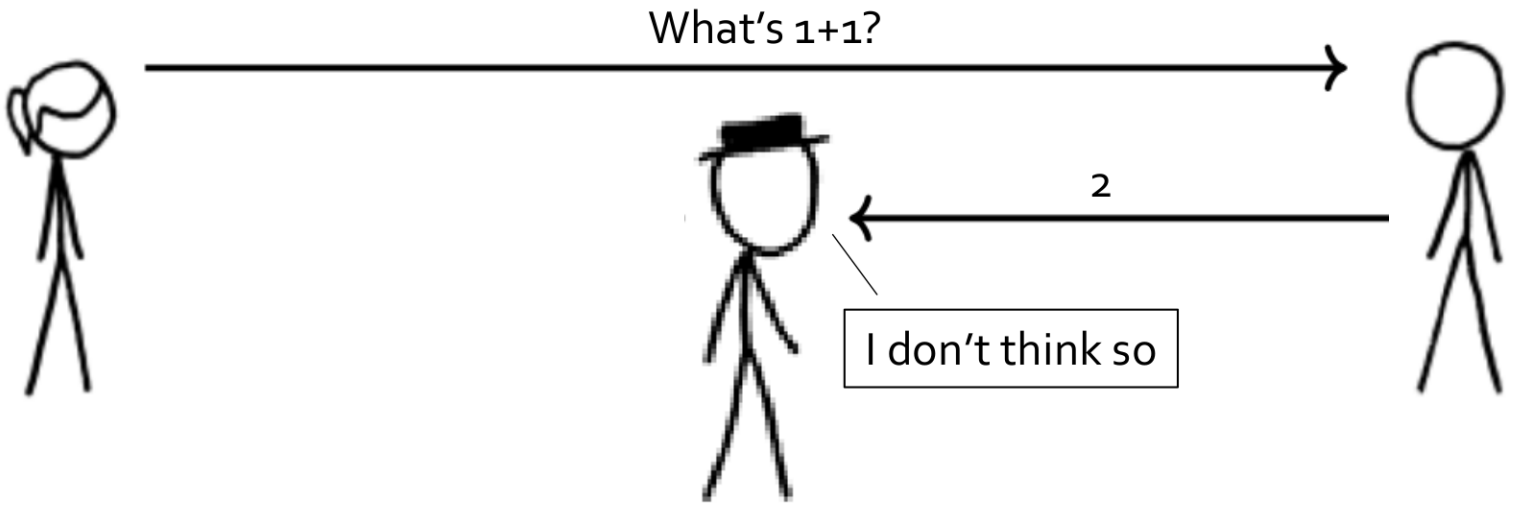

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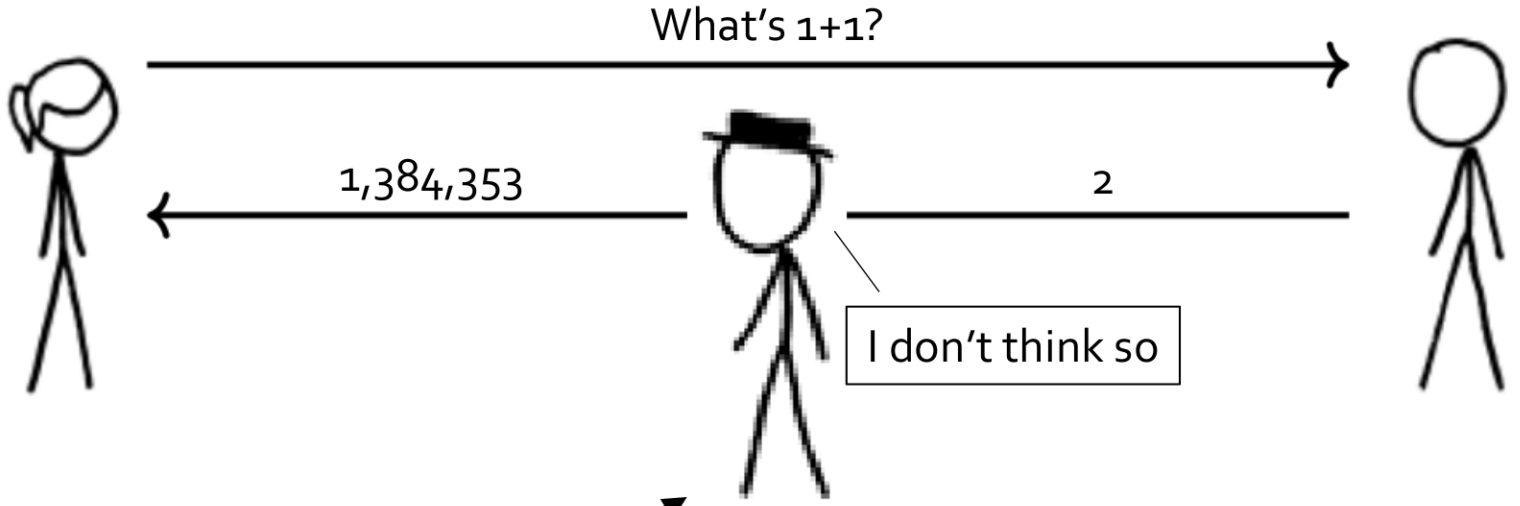
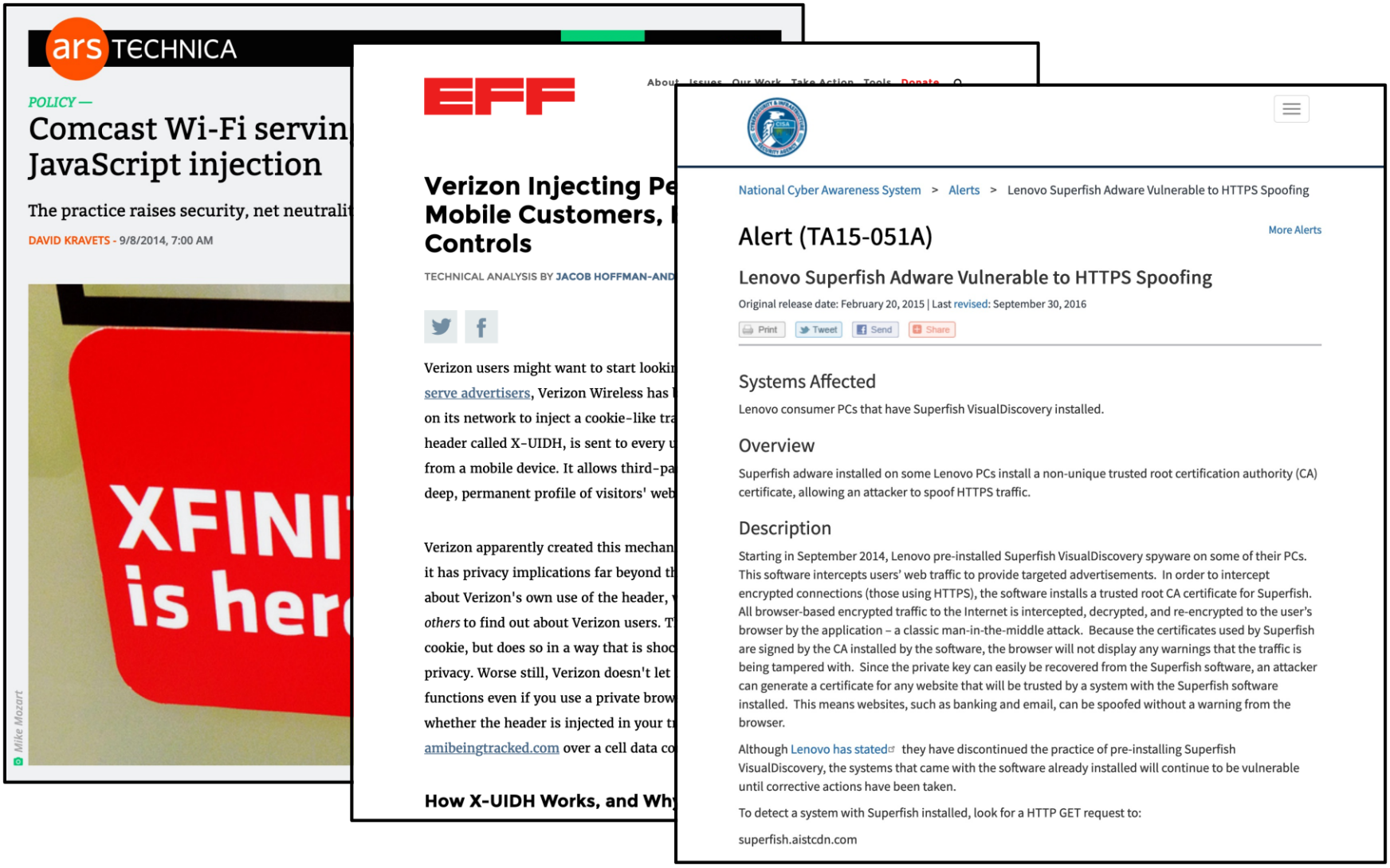


Third Party (3P)

More Foreshadowing



ars TECHNICA

POLICY —

Comcast Wi-Fi servin
JavaScript injection

The practice raises security, net neutrali

DAVID KRAVETS - 9/8/2014, 7:00 AM

XFINI
is her

Mike Mozart

EFF

About Issues Our Work Take Action Tools Donate

Verizon Injecting Pe
Mobile Customers,
Controls

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS BY JACOB HOFFMAN-AND

Verizon users might want to start lookin
serve advertisers, Verizon Wireless has
on its network to inject a cookie-like tra
header called X-UIDH, is sent to every u
from a mobile device. It allows third-pa
deep, permanent profile of visitors' web

Verizon apparently created this mechan
it has privacy implications far beyond th
about Verizon's own use of the header,
others to find out about Verizon users. T
cookie, but does so in a way that is shoc
privacy. Worse still, Verizon doesn't let
functions even if you use a private brow
whether the header is injected in your t
amibeingtracked.com over a cell data co

How X-UIDH Works, and Why

National Cyber Awareness System > Alerts > Lenovo Superfish Adware Vulnerable to HTTPS Spoofing

Alert (TA15-051A)

More Alerts

Lenovo Superfish Adware Vulnerable to HTTPS Spoofing

Original release date: February 20, 2015 | Last revised: September 30, 2016

Print Tweet Send Share

Systems Affected

Lenovo consumer PCs that have Superfish VisualDiscovery installed.

Overview

Superfish adware installed on some Lenovo PCs install a non-unique trusted root certification authority (CA) certificate, allowing an attacker to spoof HTTPS traffic.

Description

Starting in September 2014, Lenovo pre-installed Superfish VisualDiscovery spyware on some of their PCs. This software intercepts users' web traffic to provide targeted advertisements. In order to intercept encrypted connections (those using HTTPS), the software installs a trusted root CA certificate for Superfish. All browser-based encrypted traffic to the Internet is intercepted, decrypted, and re-encrypted to the user's browser by the application – a classic man-in-the-middle attack. Because the certificates used by Superfish are signed by the CA installed by the software, the browser will not display any warnings that the traffic is being tampered with. Since the private key can easily be recovered from the Superfish software, an attacker can generate a certificate for any website that will be trusted by a system with the Superfish software installed. This means websites, such as banking and email, can be spoofed without a warning from the browser.

Although Lenovo has stated they have discontinued the practice of pre-installing Superfish VisualDiscovery, the systems that came with the software already installed will continue to be vulnerable until corrective actions have been taken.

To detect a system with Superfish installed, look for a HTTP GET request to:

superfish.aistcdn.com

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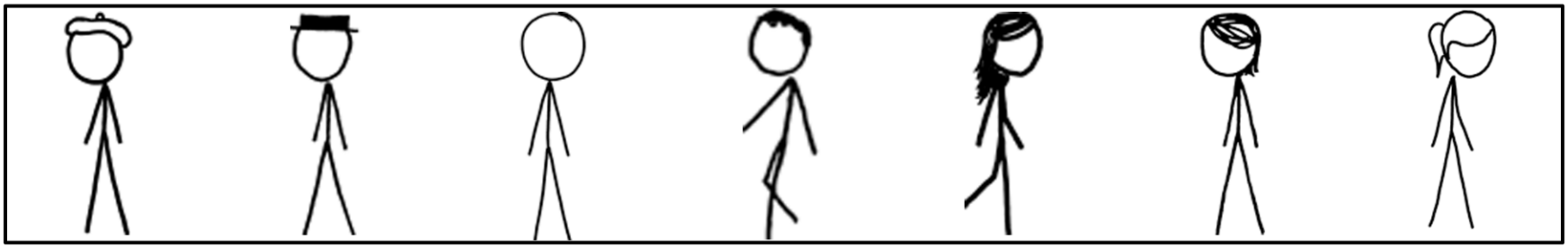

- CS-101 equivalent: “foo”, “bar”, “baz”
- Are not 100% set-in-stone
  - Context, speaker, audience are all factors
- More can be defined based on needs

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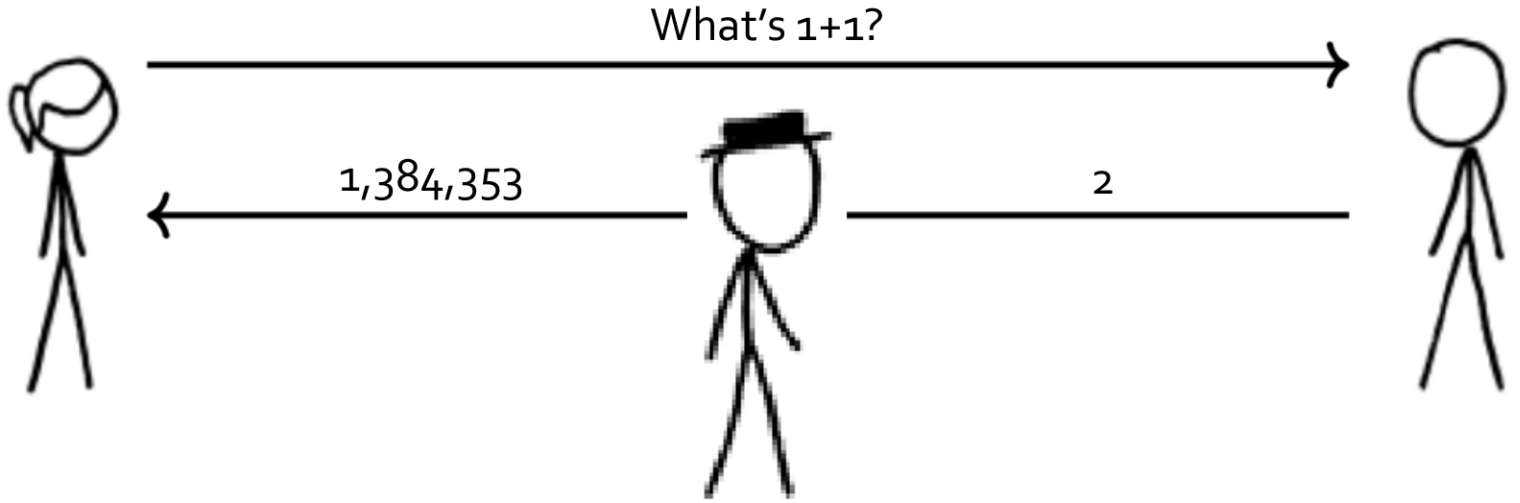
Classification of Abilities

- **Passive Actor**
  - Has the ability to *look* but not *touch*
- **Active Actor**
  - Has the ability to look *and* touch


What's 1+1?
1,384,353
2

Classification of Abilities

- **Passive Actor**
  - Has the ability to *look* but not *touch*
- **Active Actor**
  - Has the ability to look *and* touch
- **Man-in-the-Middle Actor (MitM)**
  - Sub-class of Active Attacker
  - Usually requires “on path” vantage point

A Communications Channel

We should probably
use something better.

...yeah, but what?

What is desired?

What do you want when talking to your friends and family?

What do you want when talking to your doctor or lawyer?

What do you want when talking to Comcast, University, other org/company?

Classical CIA Triad

- Canonical security properties (baseline)
- You will see this **EVERYWHERE**
- It not bad but it's overly vague and can be interpreted many different ways

Security Properties

- Confidentiality
- Availability
- Integrity
- Resiliency
- Authentication
- Nonrepudiation
- Forward-Secrecy
- Authenticity
- Anonymity
- *Many, many more*

- Characterize system at abstract level
- Make it easy to describe protections provided
- Make it easy to describe protections **not** provided

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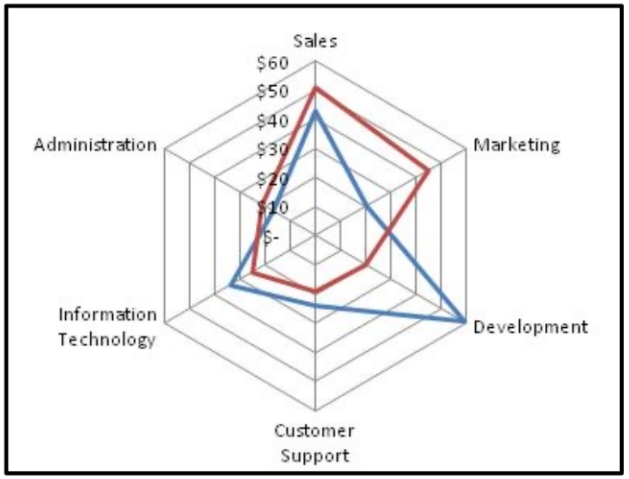
- Some properties make others harder

- Sometimes, have to make trade-offs



Properties of Secure Channel

A **secure channel** is a mechanism that allows Alice and Bob to communicate with the properties of:

- **Confidentiality**
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- **Message Integrity**
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- **Sender Authenticity**
  - Valid messages creatable **only** by a 1P actor

Cryptography

- Used for millennia to protect comms.

Cipher Disk

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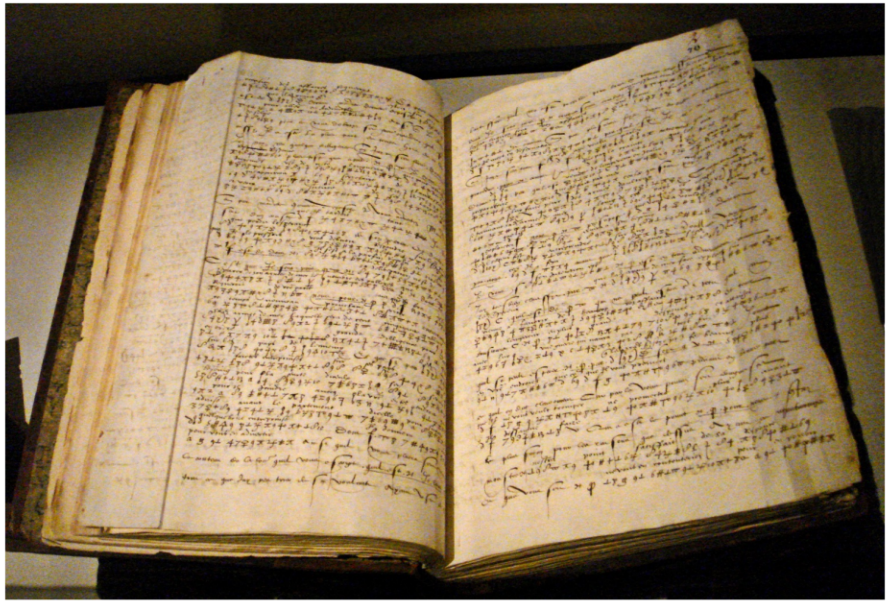
- Comes in many forms/constructions



Cryptography

- Used for millennia to protect comms.
- Comes in many forms/constructions
- Until the Internet, was largely unused by normal people

Enigma Machine

Don't Forget...

"Crypto" means Cryptography!

So sayth Shady Professor

...and everyone else

WARNING

I AM NOT A CRYPTOGRAPHER

WARNING

YOU ARE NOT A CRYPTOGRAPHER

Real Cryptography

Theorem 19.18. *The AND protocol (P, V) is a Sigma protocol for the relation $\mathcal{R}_{\text{AND}}$ defined in (19.22). If (P_0, V_0) and (P_1, V_1) provide knowledge soundness, then so does (P, V). If (P_0, V_0) and (P_1, V_1) are special HVZK, then so is (P, V).*

Proof sketch. Correctness is clear.

For knowledge soundness, if (P_0, V_0) has extractor Ext_0 and (P_1, V_1) has extractor Ext_1, then the extractor for (P, V) is

$$Ext\Big((y_0, y_1), ((t_0, t_1), c, (z_0, z_1)),\ ((t_0, t_1), c', (z_0', z_1') \Big) :=$$
$$\Big(Ext_0(y_0, (t_0, c, z_0), (t_0, c', z_0')),\ Ext_1(y_1, (t_1, c, z_1), (t_1, c', z_1')) \Big).$$

For special HVZK, if (P_0, V_0) has simulator Sim_0 and (P_1, V_1) has simulator Sim_1, then the simulator for (P, V) is

$$Sim((y_0, y_1), c) := ((t_0, t_1), (z_0, z_1)),$$

where

$$(t_0, z_0) \xleftarrow{R} Sim_0(y_0, c) \quad \text{and} \quad (t_1, z_1) \xleftarrow{R} Sim_1(y_1, c).$$

A Graduate Course in Applied Cryptography
Dan Boneh and Victor Shoup
https://toc.cryptobook.us/

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$$Ext\Big((y_0, y_1), ((t_0, t_1), c, (z_0, z_1)), ((t_0, t_1), c', (z'_0, z'_1)) \Big) :=$$
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NOT THIS COURSE

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THE FIRST RULE OF CRYPTO
IS YOU DON'T ROLL YOUR OWN CRYPTO
imgflip.com

What is Cryptography?

Cryptography Is

- Fundamental tool of security & privacy
- Extremely well studied by math-ppl
- A tool in the toolbox to use when useful
- A whole lot of fun to use and break

Cryptography Is Not

- An S&P cure-all
- Reliable unless expertly implemented it
- Reliable unless deeply reviewed and tested
- Something you can learn in a weekend, month, or year

Randomness

Random data is unpredictable bits to the attacker without any pattern or structure.

- Any bit has exactly the same chance of:
  - Being 0 (50%)
  - Being 1 (50%)

- **Computers are really bad at randomness**

True Randomness

True random data can not be created, it can only be measured from an external physical process.

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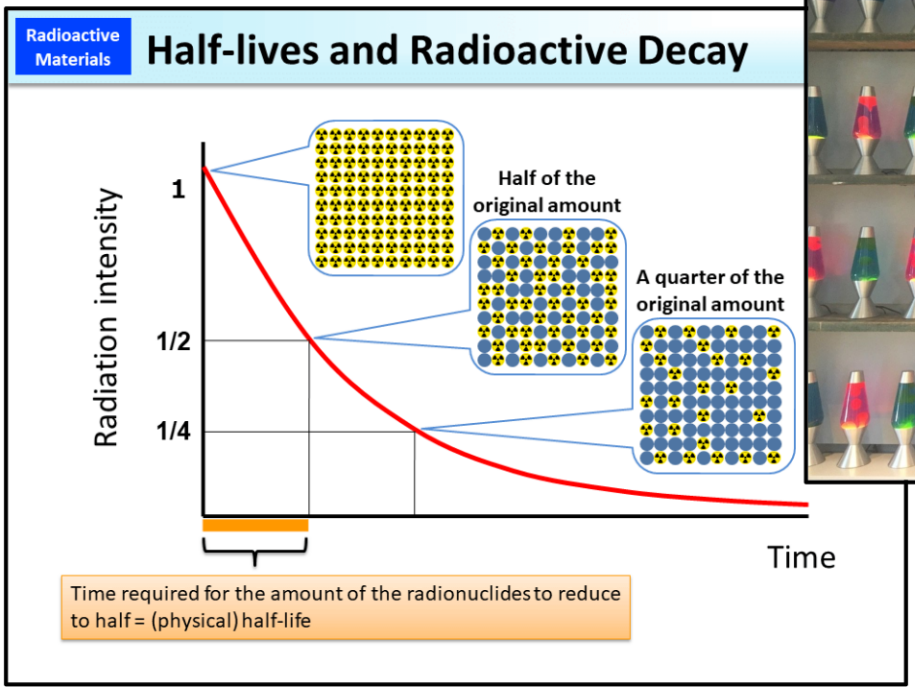

True Randomness

True random data can not be created, it can only be measured from an external physical process.

- **Must be measured in secret**
- Is extremely slow and scarce

- **Makes fast computer slow**

Pseudorandomness

Pseudorandom data mimics the properties of random data but is deterministically generated based on an input.

- Computers are very good at doing very tedious things very quickly
- Less “random” than true randomness
- More achievable than true randomness

Pseudorandom Number Generator (PRNG)

A **Pseudorandom Number Generator (PRNG)** maps a k-bit random input to an n-bit pseudorandom output (n > k).

- Used to “expand” randomness into more random-like data
- Use a secret “seed” (s) for unpredictability

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- Used to "expand" randomness into more random-like data
- Use a secret "seed" (s) for unpredictability
- **Not safe for generating keys**
- **Safe for some uses crypto usage but only *SOME* uses**

CSPRNG

A **Cryptographically Secure Pseudorandom Number Generator (CSPRNG)** maps a k-bit random input to arbitrary-length pseudorandom outputs.

- Only trustworthy way to generate arbitrary amounts of randomness from a seed
- **Safe for generating keys and all other randomness needed for cryptography**

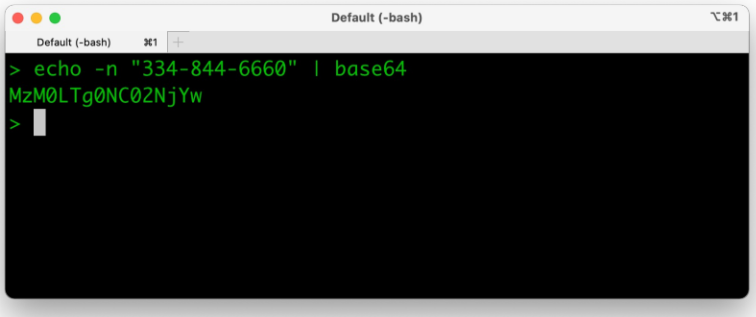
Canonical Randomness Sources

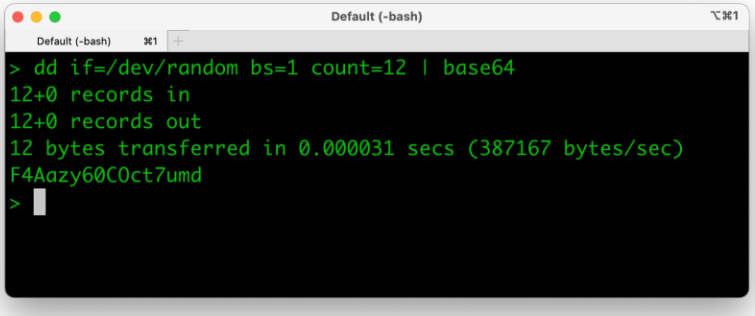
- `/dev/urandom`
  - Kinda-random source of bytes
  - Always generates data even if they're not-really-random (i.e. non-blocking device)
- `/dev/random`
  - Really random source of data
  - Pauses if can not safely generate more data at current time (i.e. blocking device)

Real-World Randomness

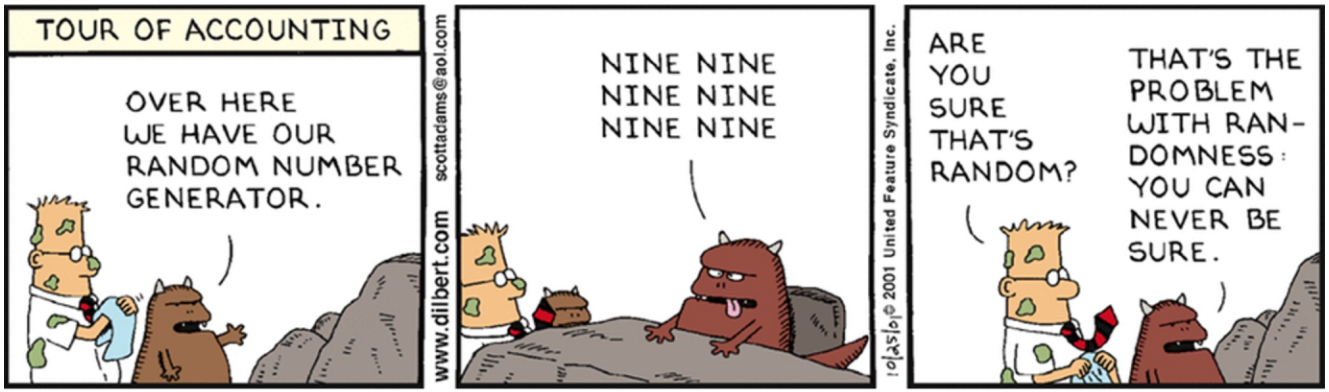
`MzM0LTg0NC02NjYw`

`F4azy60COct7umd`





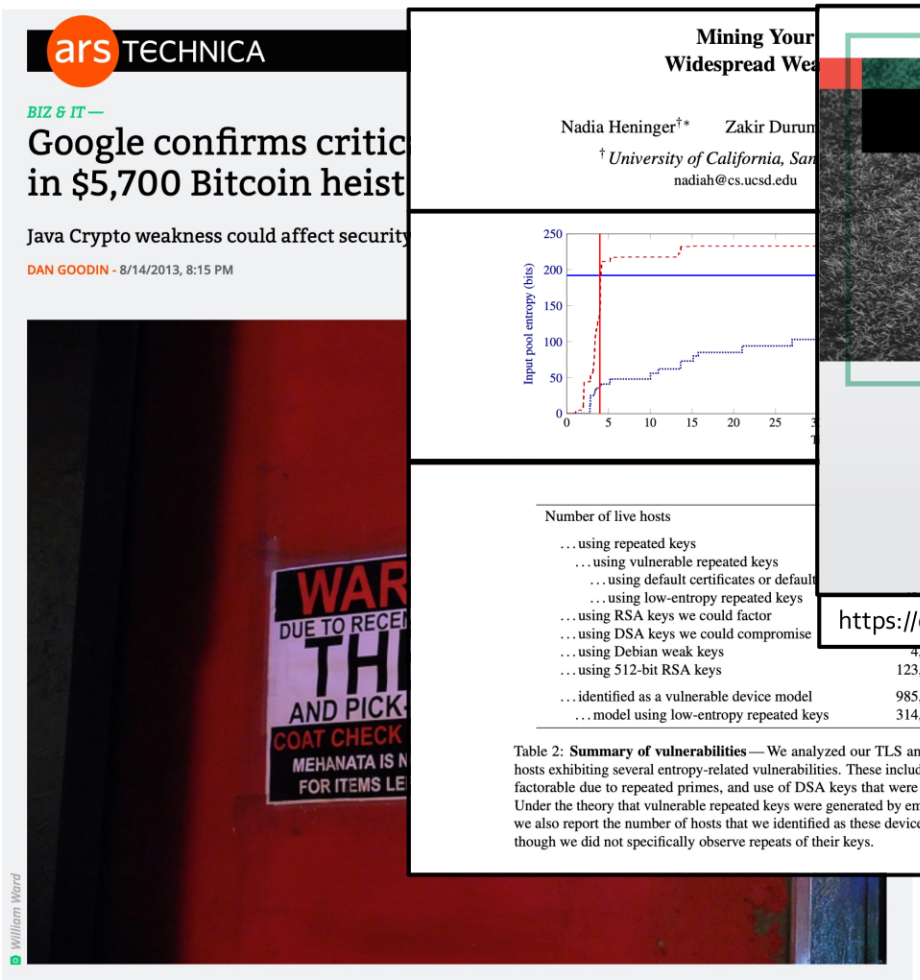
Real-World Randomness



"Random" isn't always *random*

```
int getRandomNumber()
{
    return 4;  // chosen by fair dice roll.
               // guaranteed to be random.
}
```

Poor Randomness Sources cause Major Vulnerabilities



https://duo.com/decipher/fundamental-flaw-in-rngs-affects-many-iot-devices

Seeding with Time is BAD

```
Random gen = new Random();
gen.setSeed(
  new Date().getTime()
);
Int val = gen.nextInt();
```

- Computers tell time since the “epoch”
  - 01Jan1970 @ 00:00
  - Increments of seconds, ms, or ns
- 1 year =~= 34B ms
  - Approx 2^{35} ms

< 1 hour to try all w/ a VERY naïve implementation

Brute Force Attacks

Brute-force attacks consist of trying *all* possibilities until the correct one is found.

- Rarely the most efficient
- Usually trivially scalable via concurrency
- 100% successful given enough time

- Defense: Make “enough time” infeasible
  - Order of “heat death of the universe”

Properties of Secure Channel

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- **Message Integrity**
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Properties of Secure Channel

Is a secure source of randomness sufficient for achieving a secure channel?

- Confidentiality
- Message Integrity
- Sender Authenticity

No. But is necessary for achieving a secure channel.

Computer and Network Security

Lecture 02:
Intro to Cryptography

COMP-5370/6370
Fall 2023

Course Notes

- Project 1A is live and due in two weeks

Schedule (1st half)

(subject to change)

Week	Day	Event	Desc.	Docs
1	Tu (20Aug2024)	**Lecture**	Security Mindset & Overview	slides
	We (21Aug2024)	**Release**	Project 1A	assn spec makefile EX

Project 1A

Input: `(<abc:defs>)`

Project 1A

Input: `(<abc:defs>)`

```
# Data-Type: map
A nosj map is a sequence of zero or more key-value pairs that take the form of
"<key-1:value-1,key-2:value-2,...>" similar to the conceptual hash-map data
structure. A nosj map MUST start with the two character "BEGIN" sequence ("(<")
and end with the two-character "END" sequence (">)"). Map keys MUST be an
ascii-string consisting of one or more lowercase ascii letters ("a" through "z"
/ 0x61 through 0x7a ) only. Map values may be any of the three canonical nosj
data-types (map, string or num) and there is no specification-bound on how many
maps may be nested within each other. Though map values are not required to be
unique, map keys MUST be unique within the current map (though they may be
duplicated in maps at other levels of "nesting").

Examples:
    Marshalled nosj map: (<x:abcds>)
```

Project 1A

Input: (<abc:defs>) Key: "abc"

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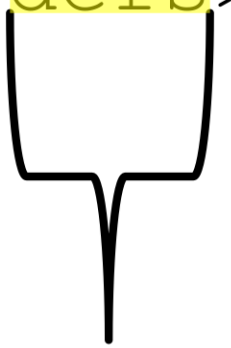
Input: (<abc:defs>)

Key: "abc"



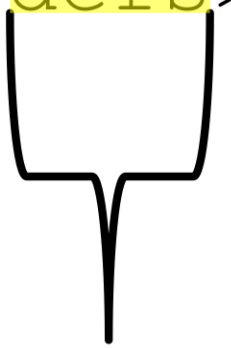
```
# Data-Type: string
A nosj string is a sequence of ascii bytes which can be used to represent
arbitrary internal data such as ascii, unicode, or raw-binary. There are two
distinct representations of a nosj string data-type as described below.

### Representation #1: Simple-Strings
In the simple representation, the string is restricted to a set of
commonly-used ascii characters which (according to our extensive market survey)
are the most-liked by humans (i.e. upper and lowercase ascii letters, ascii
digits, spaces (" " / 0x20), and tabs ("\t" / 0x09)). Simple-strings are
followed by a trailing "s" which is NOT part of the data being encoded.

Examples:
```

Project 1A

Input: (<abc:defs>)



Key: “abc”

Value: “def”

```
# Data-Type: string
A nosj string is a sequence of ascii bytes which can be used to represent
arbitrary internal data such as ascii, unicode, or raw-binary. There are two
distinct representations of a nosj string data-type as described below.

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followed by a trailing "s" which is NOT part of the data being encoded.

Examples:
```

Project 1A

You **are not** required to complete this project in a specific language but Python, Java, and Golang are *highly recommended* by the instructor. If you wish to use any language outside of these three, you **MUST** discuss with the instructor **prior to 28Aug2024** to ensure that the auto-grader tooling can handle/be patched to handle your chosen language. Allowable compiler/interpreter versioning, dependencies, build system, etc. must be discussed and agreed upon but other than being readily available on the current Ubuntu distros without UI requirements, they are negotiable. The instructor will not forbid any specific language in its totality but will beg you not to use a memory unsafe language for reasons that you will come to understand during this course.

Project 1A Pro-Tips

- Don’t focus on what your code *should* be doing, focus on what your code *can be fed*
- Apply Software Engineering principles
  - Unit-testing, isolated responsibilities, etc.
- You ***can not*** patch/re-use a JSON parser
- You **can** use built-in libraries in your code

- **READ THE SPEC AGAIN**

CTF This Weekend

- "Capture the Flag" challenges
- Register via link in your email
  - $30 registration but meals + snacks/drinks provided

Computer and Network Security

Lecture 02:
Intro to Cryptography

COMP-5370/6370
Fall 2023