

# Trojan-tolerant Hardware

## + Supply Chain Security in Practice

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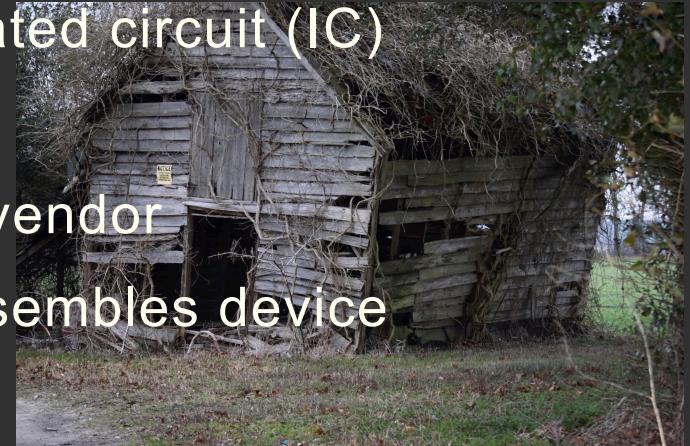
# Highlights

- The private life of keys
- Weak links of the supply chain
- Lessons learned from airplanes
- Demo of our crypto hardware
- Protocols, Maths & Magic
- Politics, Distrust & Hardware Security

<https://enigmabridge.com/mpc>

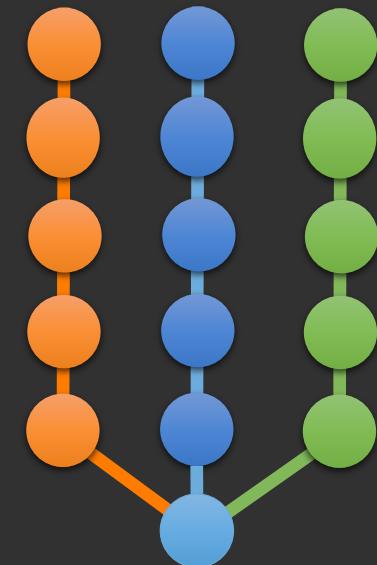
# The Private Life of Keys

1. Someone designs an integrated circuit (IC)
2. IC is fabricated
3. IC is delivered to hardware vendor
4. Vendor loads firmware & assembles device
5. Device is sent to customer
6. Customer generates and stores key on the device



# The Private Life of Keys

1. Someone designs the processor chip
2. Foundry fabricates the chip
3. Haulage transports chips
4. System vendor programs firmware
5. Distributors deliver a device to you
6. You create and use your key on the device



*We can't protect all the steps*

*... but we can duplicate them*

# Hardware Security Modules

*Physical computing device that safeguards and manages digital keys for strong authentication and provides cryptoprocessing.*

## Features:

- Cryptographic key generation, storage, management
- Tamper-evidence, Tamper-resistance, Tamper-response
- Security Validation & Certification

**Crypto Operations are carried out in the device  
No need to output the private keys!**

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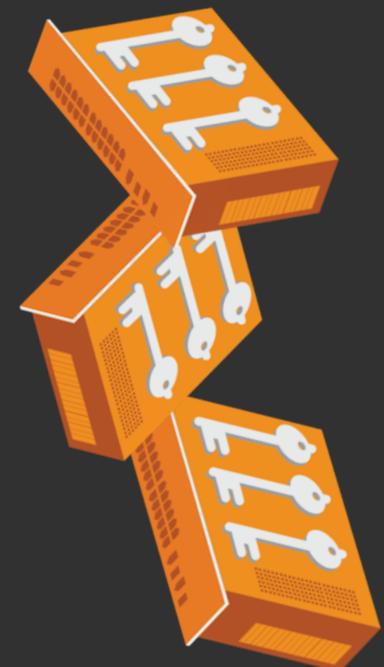
# Hardware Security Modules

## Common Applications

- Public Key Infrastructures
- Payment Processing Systems
- SSL Connections
- DNSSEC
- Transparent Data Encryption

## Cost

- Hardware (>\$10k)
- Integration Cost
- Operational/Support



# HSM Guarantees

1. Someone designs an integrated circuit (IC)
2. IC is fabricated
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# What could go wrong?

- Bugs

*CVE-2015-5464*

The HSM allows remote authenticated users to bypass intended key-export restrictions ...

- Backdoors/HT?

**THIS ‘DEMONICALLY CLEVER’ BACKDOOR HIDES IN A TINY SLICE OF A COMPUTER CHIP**



**NSA’s Own Hardware Backdoors May Still Be a “Problem from Hell”**

**Expert Says NSA Have Backdoors Built Into Intel And AMD Processors**

**Snowden: The NSA planted backdoors in Cisco products**

# Proposed Solutions

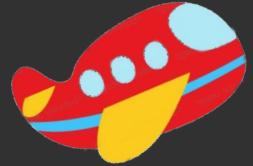
- Trusted Foundries
  - Very expensive
  - Prone to errors/bugs
- Split-Manufacturing
  - Still Expensive
  - Prone to errors/bugs
- Post-fabrication Inspection
  - Expensive (+ re-tooling)
  - A huge pain, doesn't scale

## Arms Race

- Adversaries always one step forward
- Can never be 100% certain

**It's safe to assume we will never win**

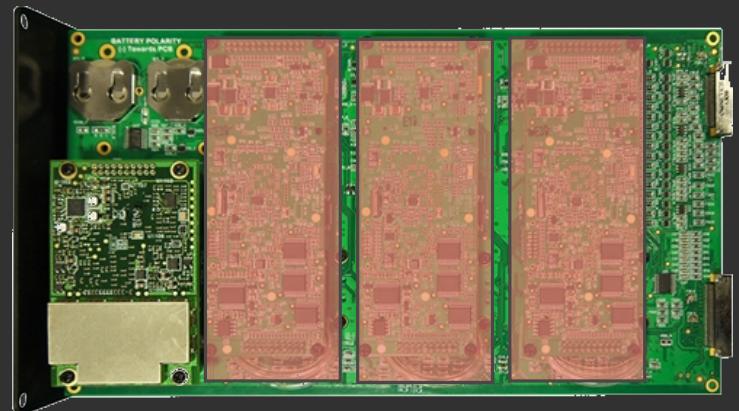
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# Solution from the sky and space

***Lockstep systems*** are fault-tolerant computer systems that run the same set of operations at the same time in parallel.

- Dual redundancy  
allows error detection and error correction
- Triple redundancy  
automatic error correction, via majority vote  
→ Triple Redundant 777 Primary Flight Computer



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# Safety != Security

Fault-tolerant systems are built for safety  
and the computations are simply replicated



**Not enough for security!**

Keys would have to be copied across all processors

Security of our keys would depend on the weakest link

# Our Solution

1. Someone designs an integrated circuit (IC)
2. IC is fabricated
3. IC is delivered to hardware vendor
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6. Customer generates and stores key on the device

# Who we are

**Vasilios  
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*Doctoral Researcher,  
UCL*

**Dan Cvrcek**

*CEO, Enigma Bridge*

**George Danezis**

*Professor, UCL*

**Petr Svenda**

*Assistant Professor, MUni*

*CTO, Enigma Bridge*

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# Ingredients of the Solution

## 1. Hardware Components (IC)    2. Cryptographic Protocols

- Independent Fabrication
  - Non-overlapping Supply Chains
  - Programmable
  - Affordable
  - Bonus if COTS
- No single trusted party
  - Full Distribution of Secrets
  - Distributed Processing
  - Provably Secure (i.e., Math)



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# Smart Cards

## Many Independent Manufacturers

- Private Fabrication Facilities
- Disjoint Supply Chains (location, factories, design)

## Programmable Secure Execution Environment

- NIST FIPS140-2 standard, Level 4
- Common Criteria EAL4+/5+

**Off-the-shelf Cost \$5-\$40**

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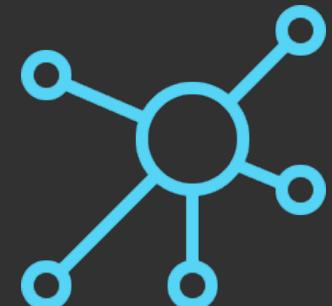
# Multiparty Computation Protocols

## Distributed Operations

- ❑ Random number Generation
- ❑ Key Pair Generation
- ❑ Decryption
- ❑ Signing

## Provably Protect against

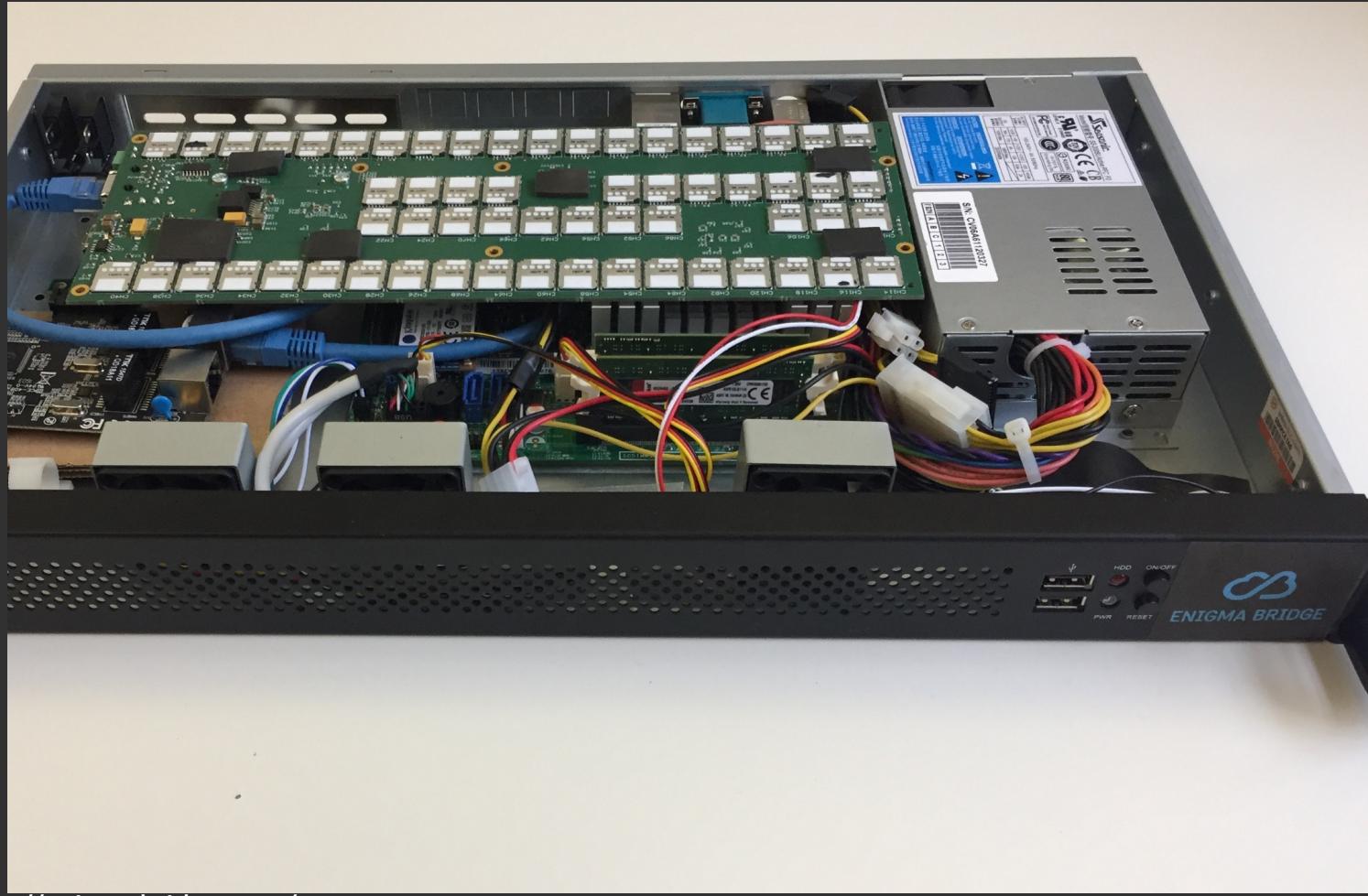
- ❑  $N-1$  Malicious & Colluding parties
- ❑  $N$  Malicious & non-colluding parties



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# THE prototype

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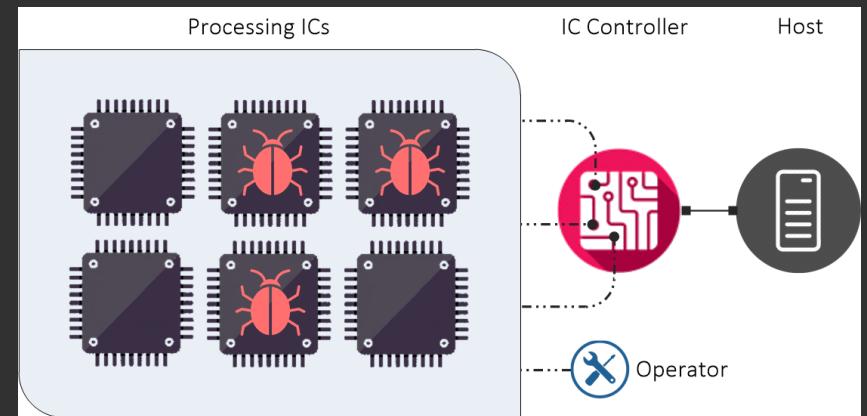


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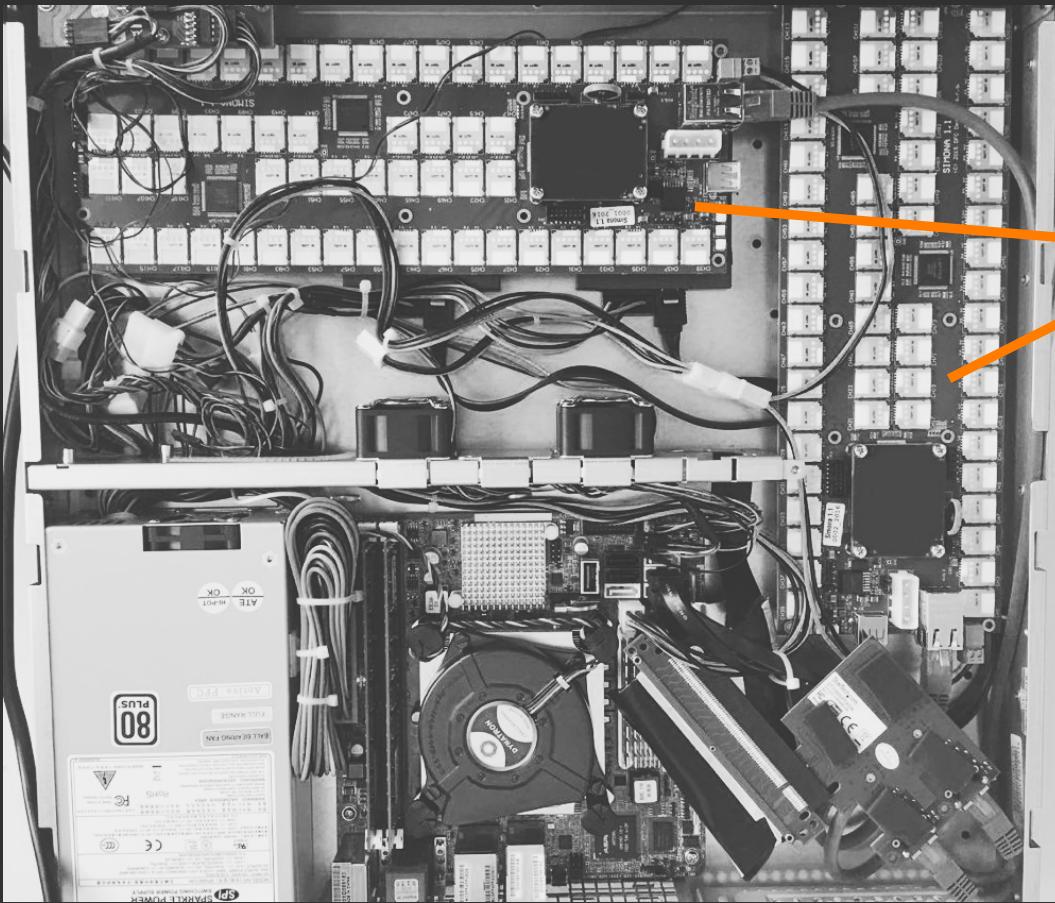
# Many Smart Cards

## Components

- Multiples of 120 smartcards
- TCP/UDP access to smartcards
- FPGA manages the communication bus
  - 1Gbit/s bandwidth for requests

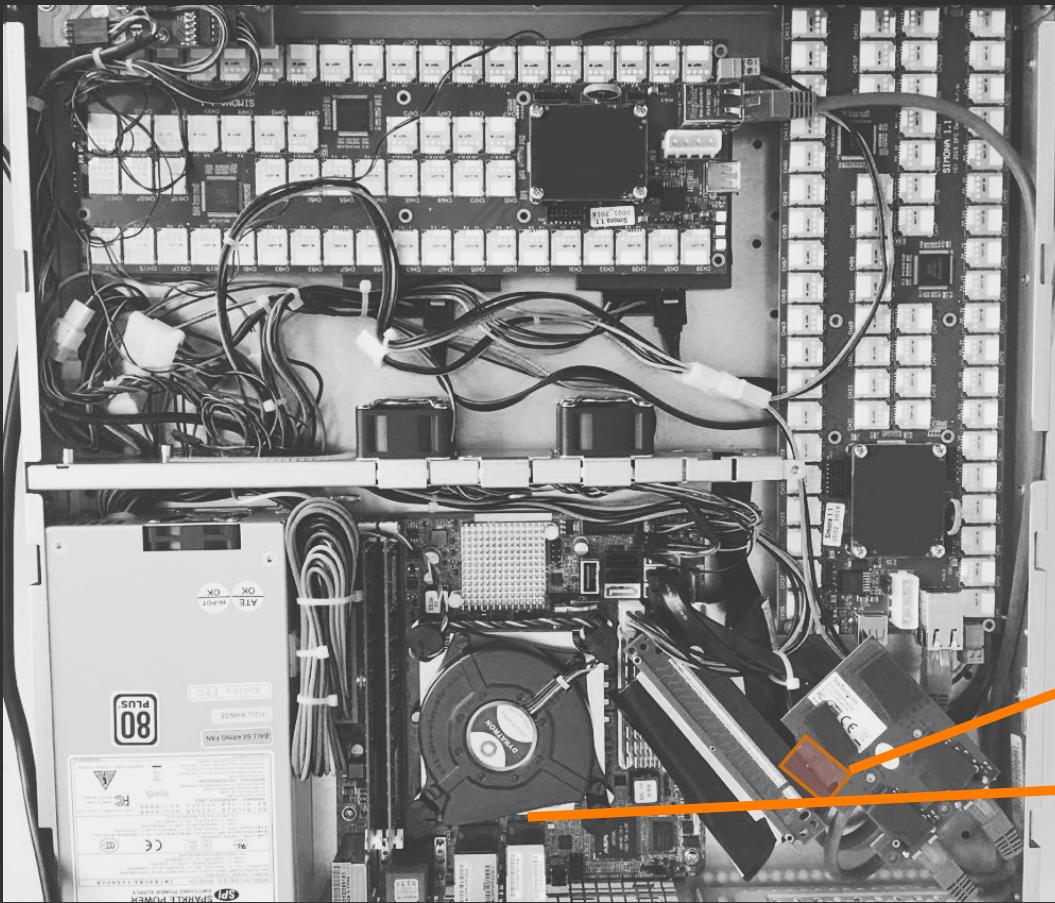


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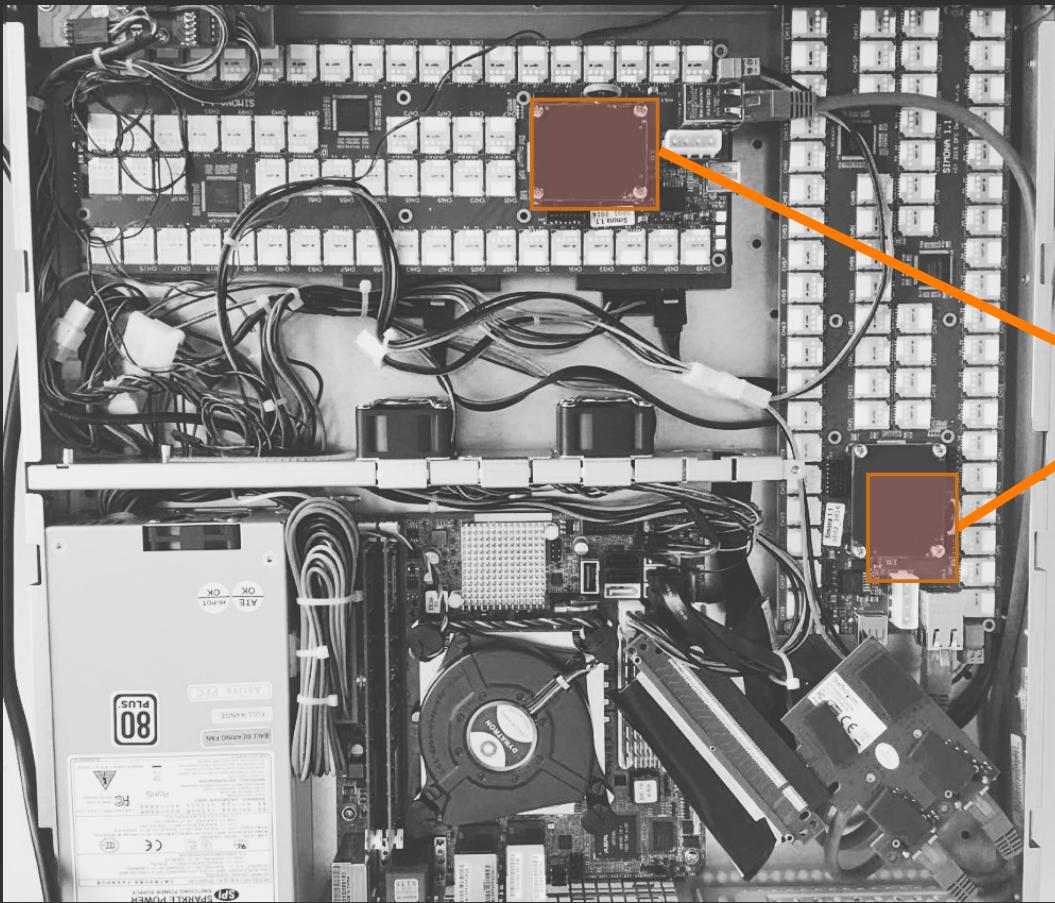
SIMONA boards  
with 120 JCs

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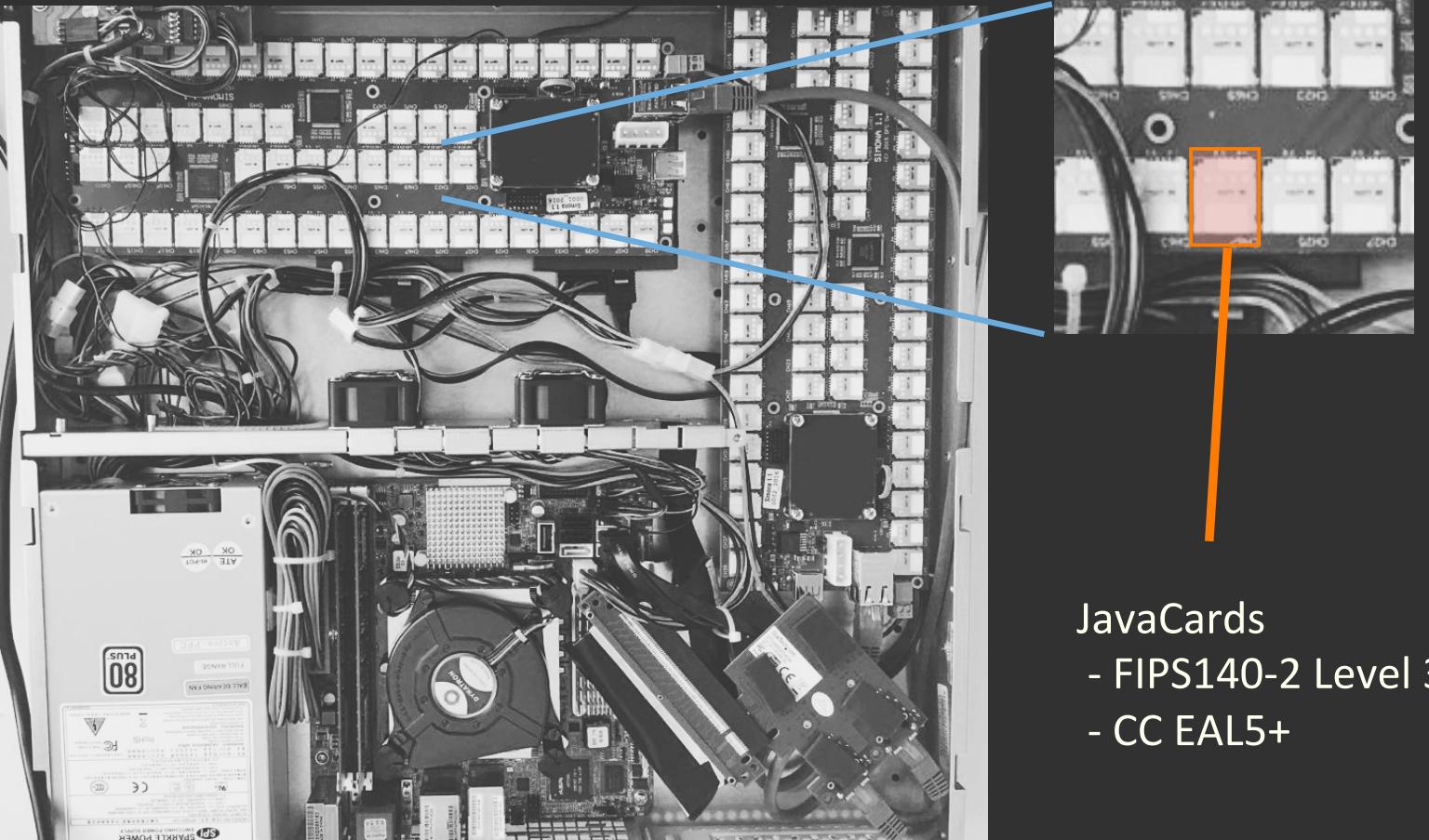


Gigabit link to  
untrusted Linux  
server

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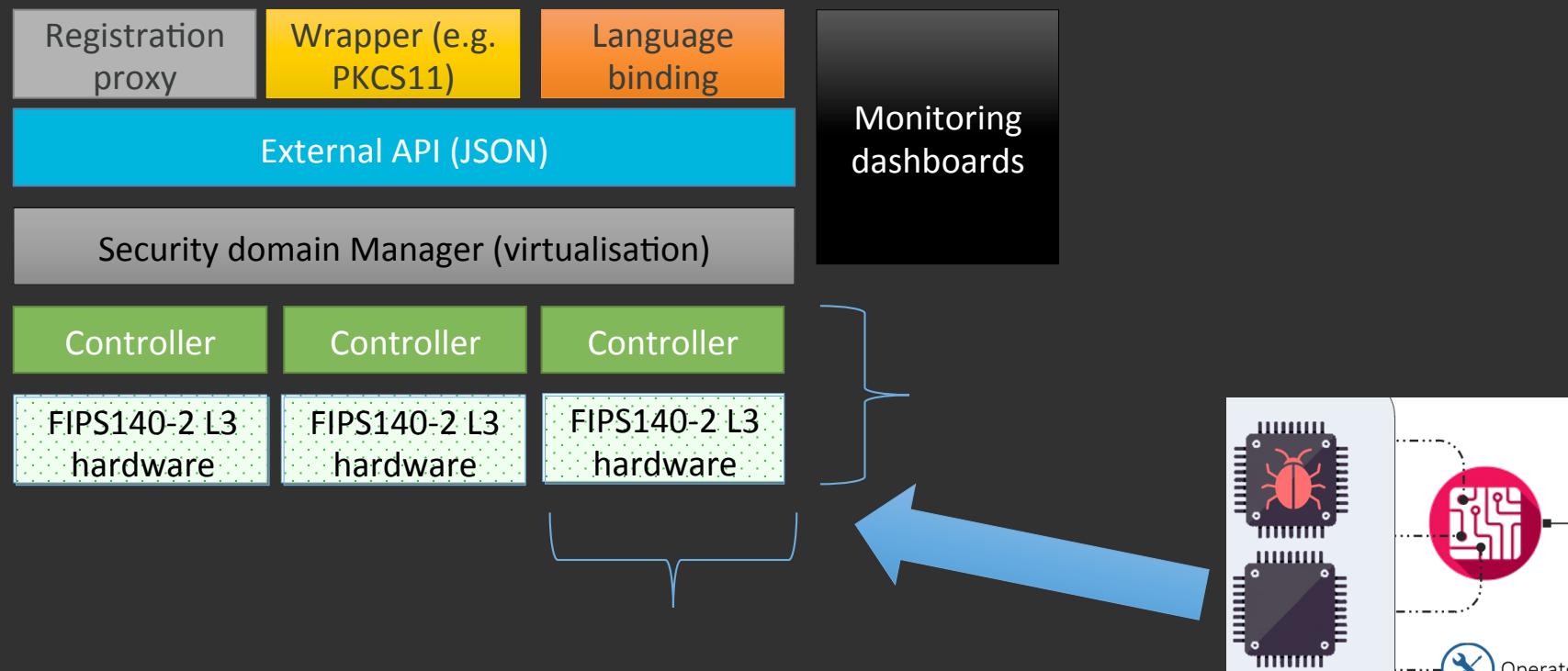
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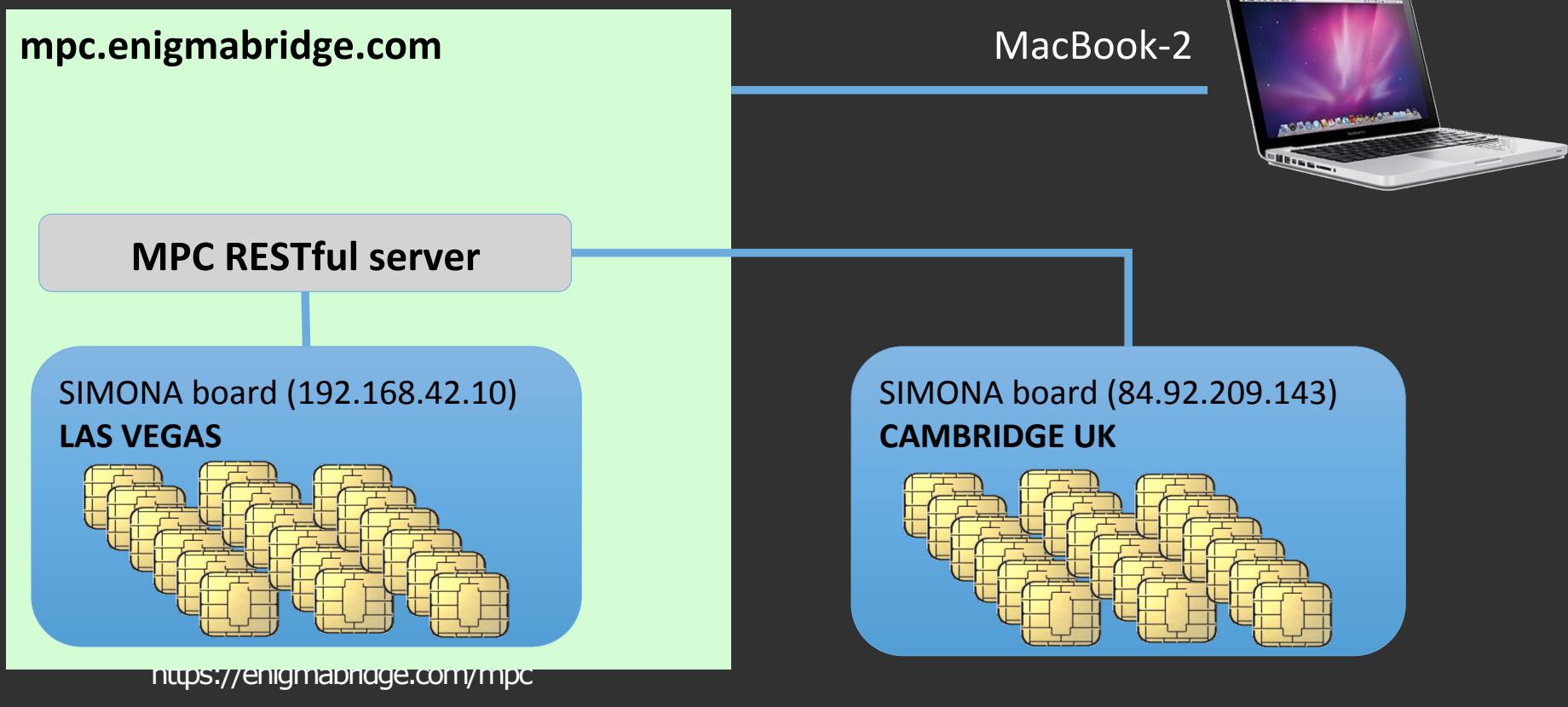
JavaCards  
- FIPS140-2 Level 3  
- CC EAL5+

# Plugging it into a cloud service



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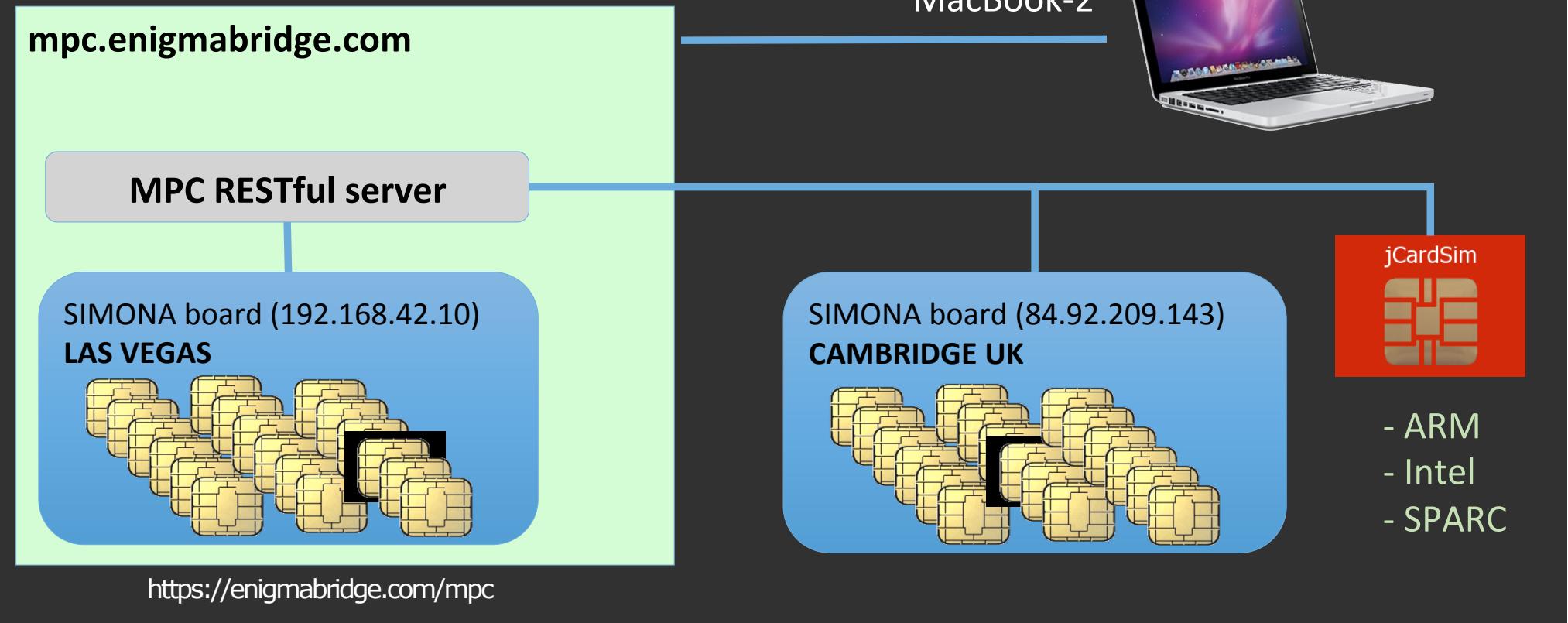
# Giving smart-cards an infrastructure



# Demo 1

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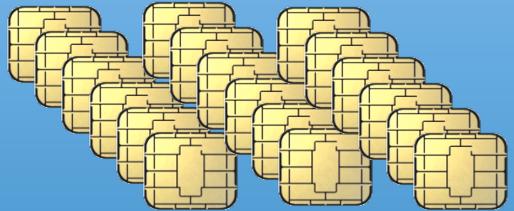


# Giving smart-cards an infrastructure

mpc.enigmabridge.com

MPC RESTful server

SIMONA board (192.168.42.10)  
LAS VEGAS



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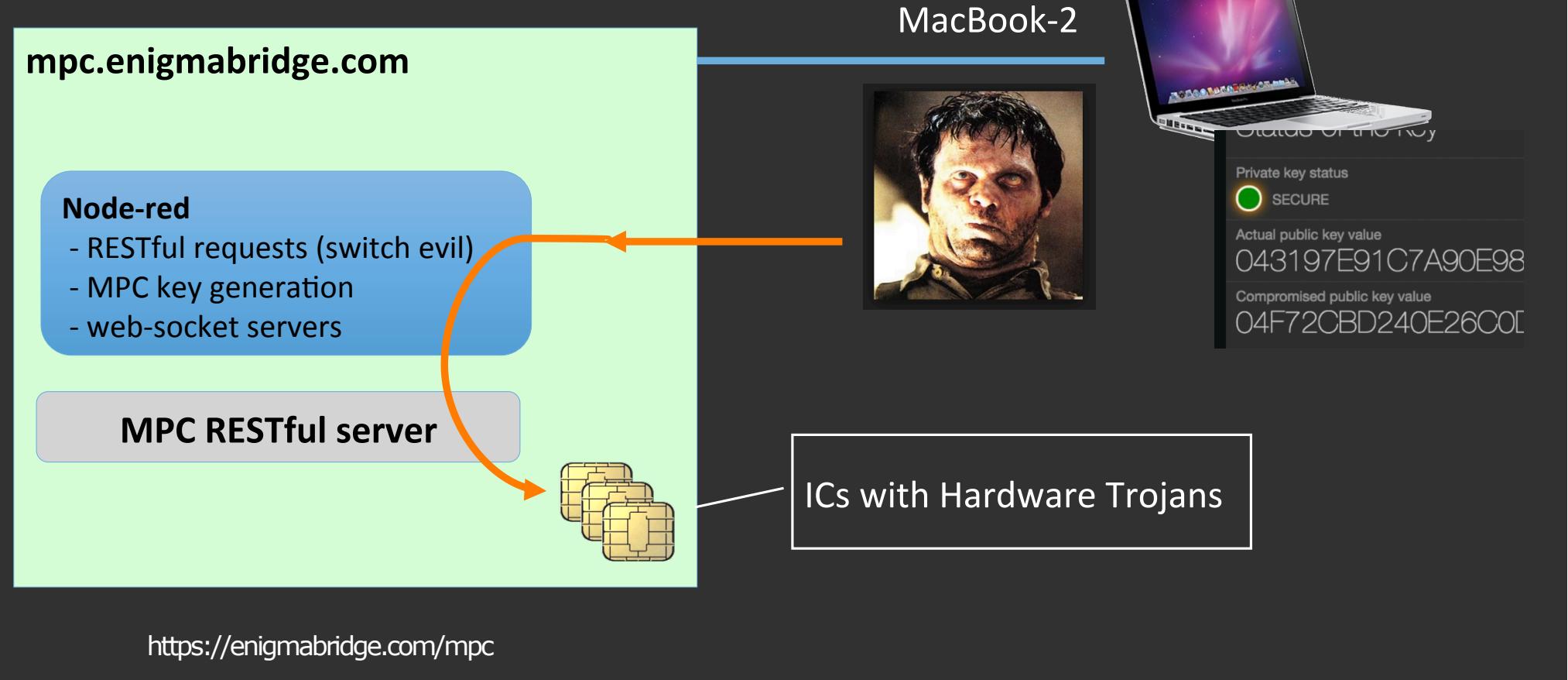
MacBook-2



# Demo 2

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# Visualizing Cryptography



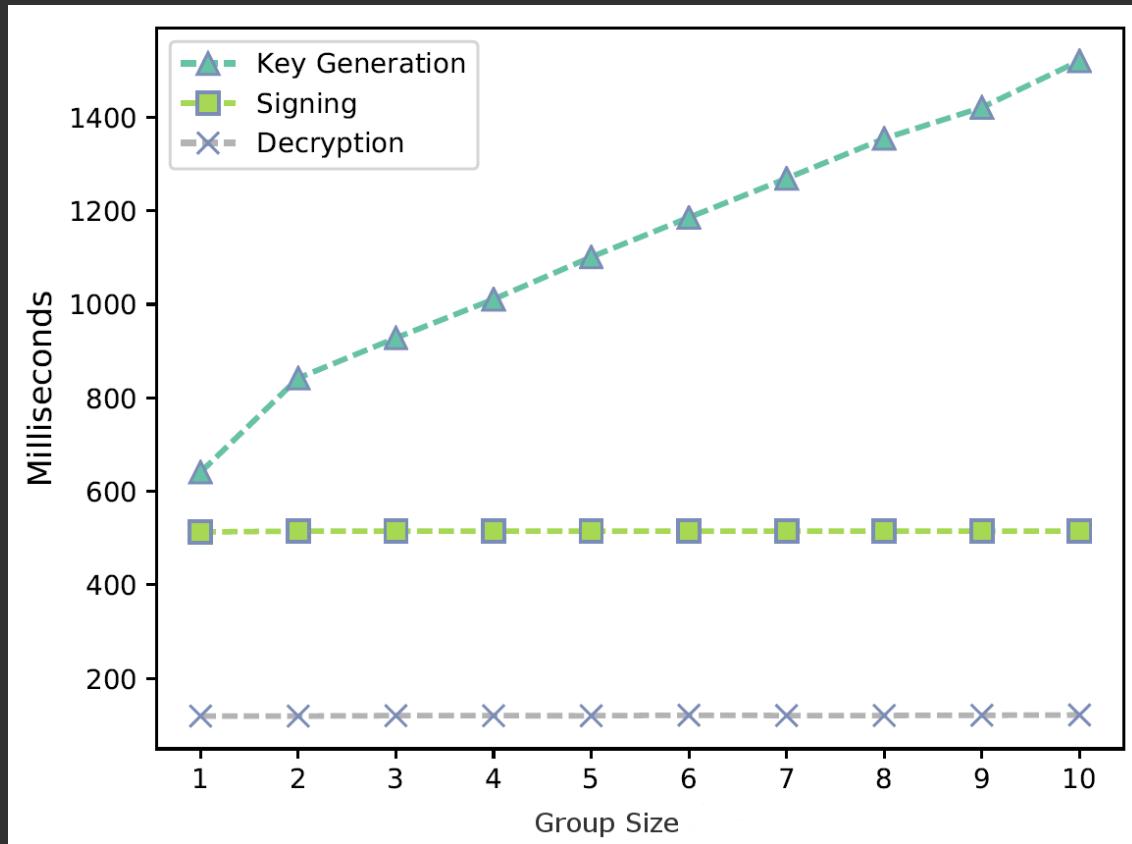
# Demo 3

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# PERFORMANCE

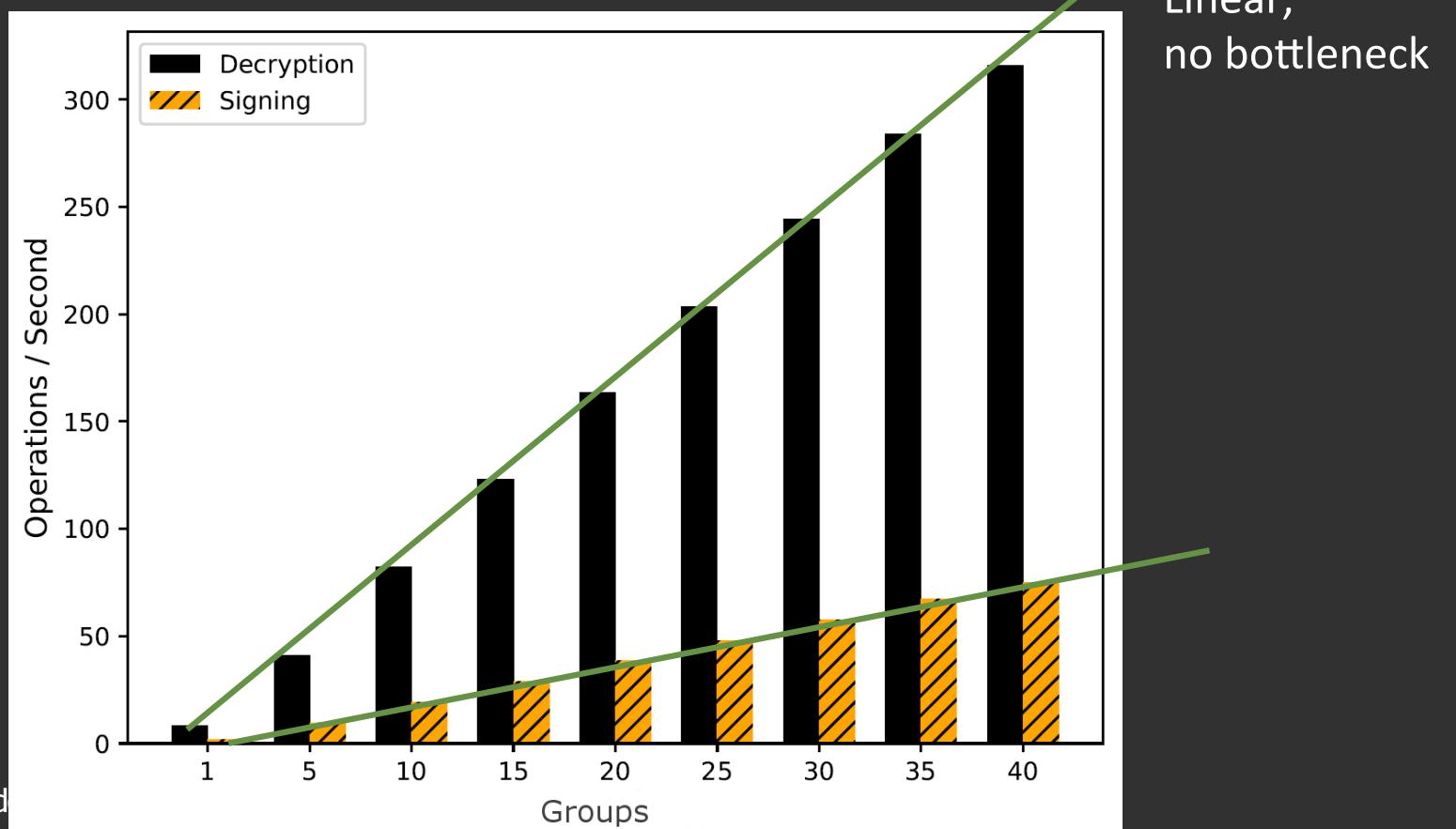
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# Tolerance vs Runtime



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# Scalability



# Protocols

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# Key Points

- No single IC is trusted with a secret (e.g., private key)
- Misbehaving ICs can be detected by honest ones
- If one IC is excluded from any protocol, user can tell

Bonus: Minimize interaction between ICs for performance

# Sharing a Secret

- Split a secret in *shares*
- The secret can be *reconstructed* later
- Without *sufficient* shares not a single bit is leaked
- Splitting Parameters:
  - How many shares the secret is split into ( $n$ )
  - How many shares you need to reconstruct the secret ( $t$ )



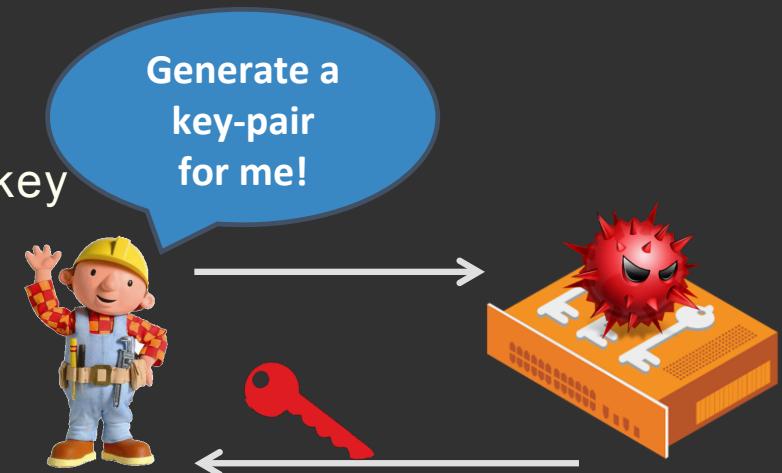
*In our case: Each 3 ICs hold shares for a secret*

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# Classic Key Generation

## Single IC System

1. Bob asks for **new key pair**
2. Backdoored IC generates compromised key
3. Private Key is “securely” stored
4. **Weak** Public key is returned

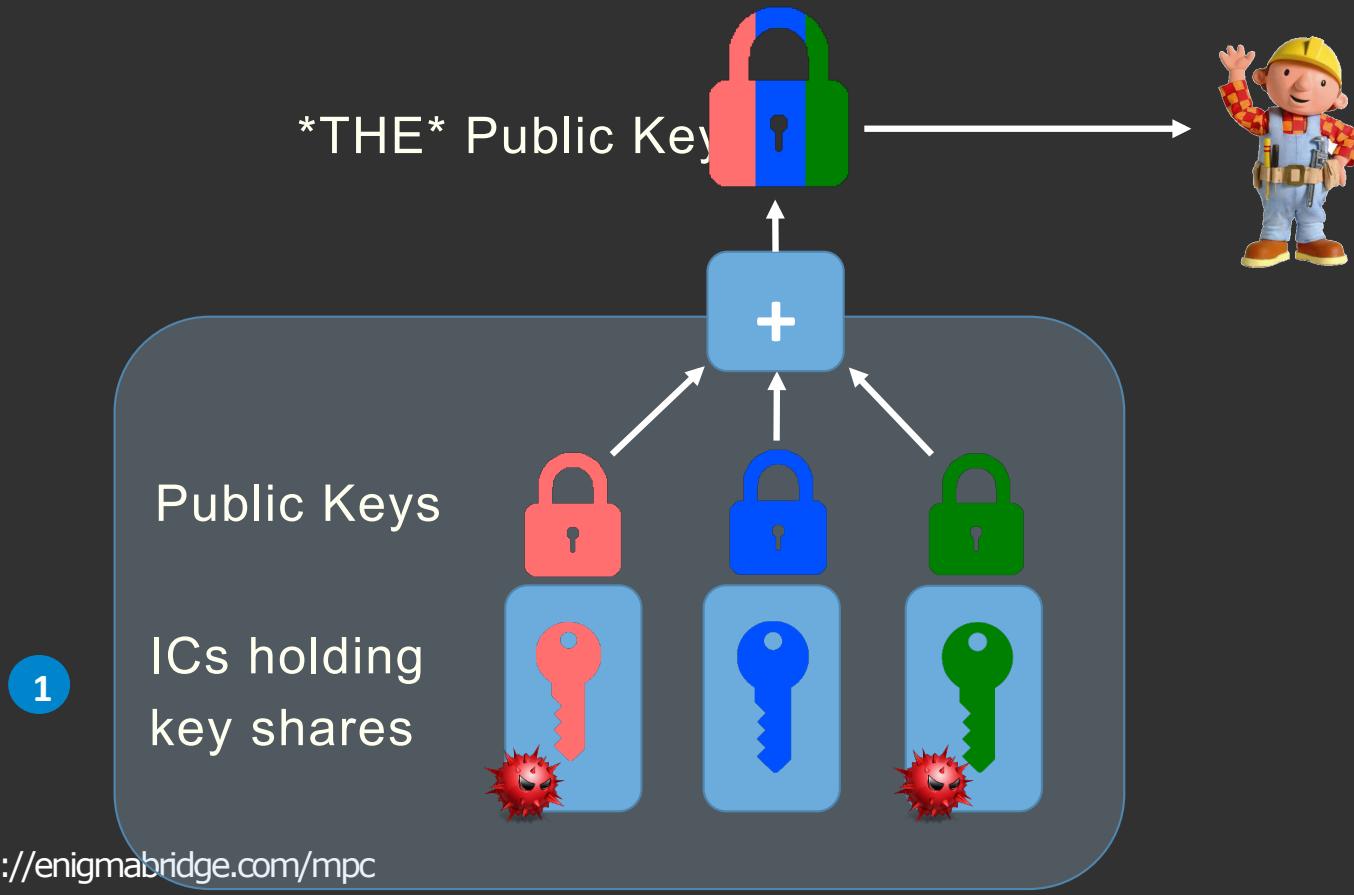


## Problems

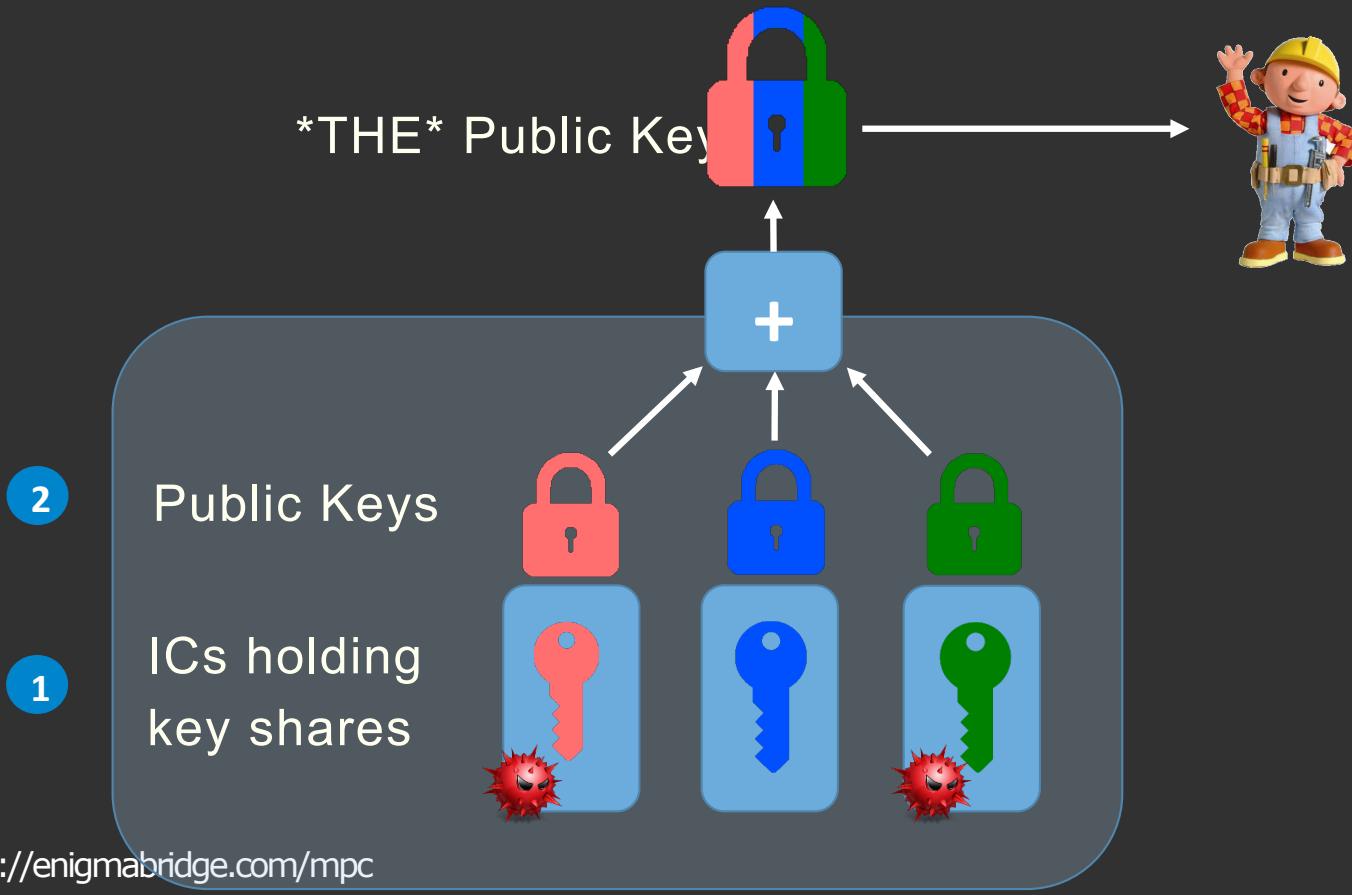
- Malicious IC has full access to the private key
- Bob can't tell if he got a “bad” key

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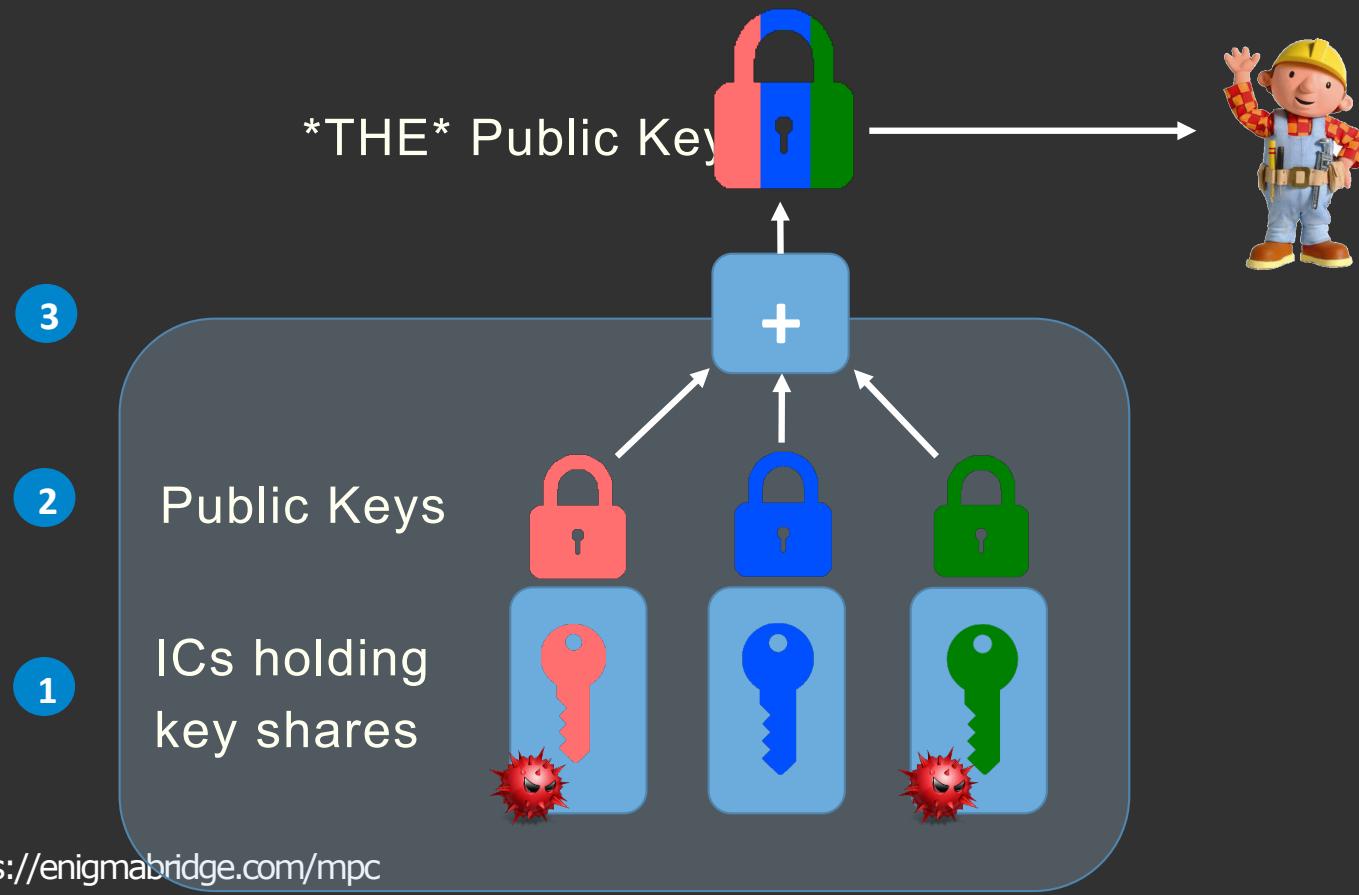
# Distributed Key Generation



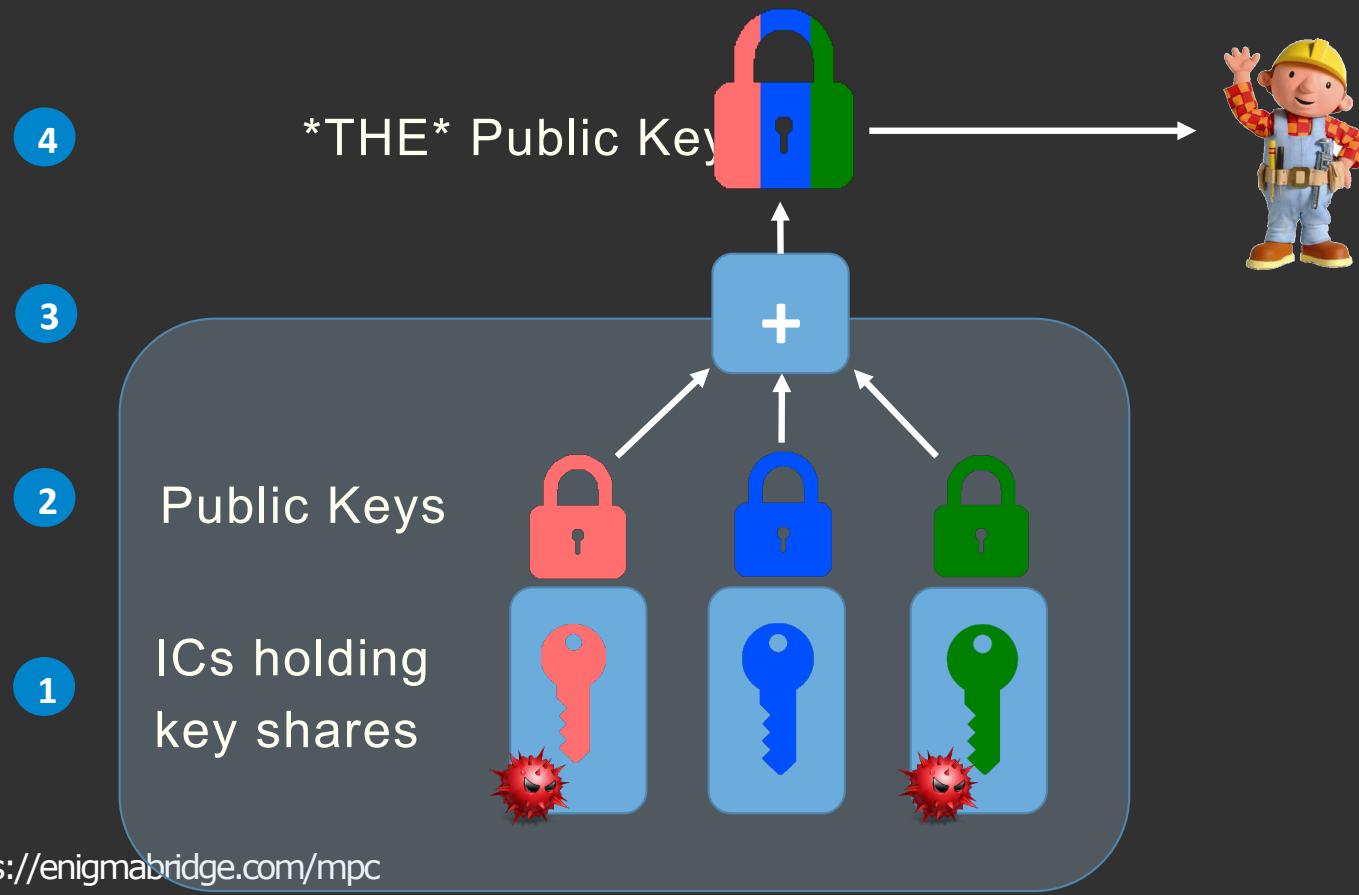
# Distributed Key Generation



# Distributed Key Generation



# Distributed Key Generation



# Distributed Key Generation

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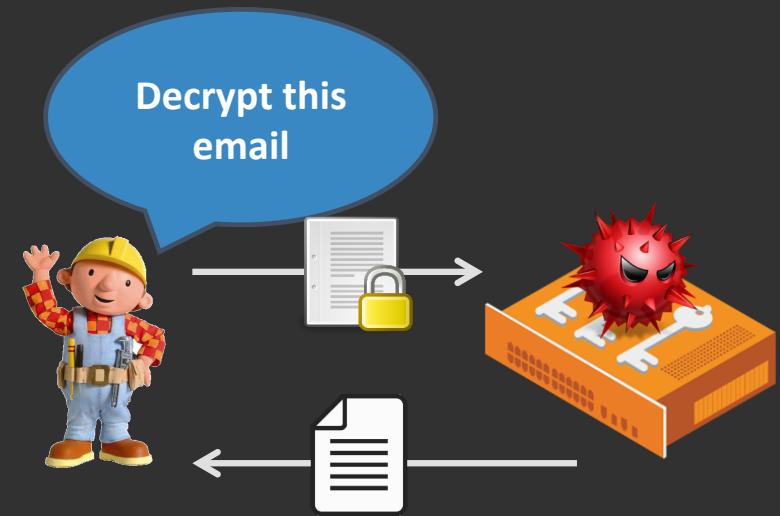
Bonus: Minimize interaction between ICs for performance ✗

# Classic Decryption

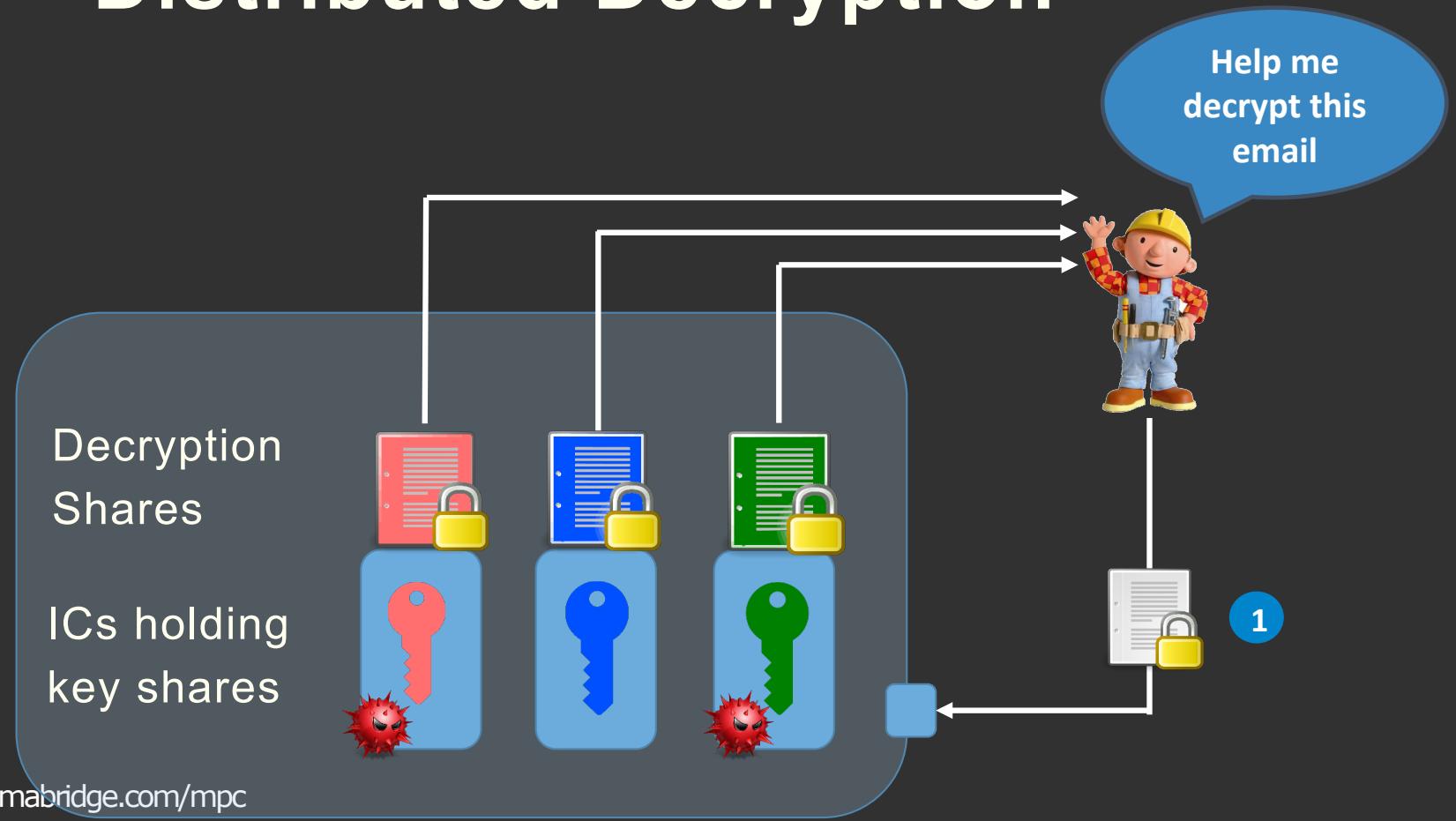
## Single IC System

1. Bob asks for ciphertext decryption
2. Backdoored IC decrypts ciphertext
3. Bob retrieves plaintext

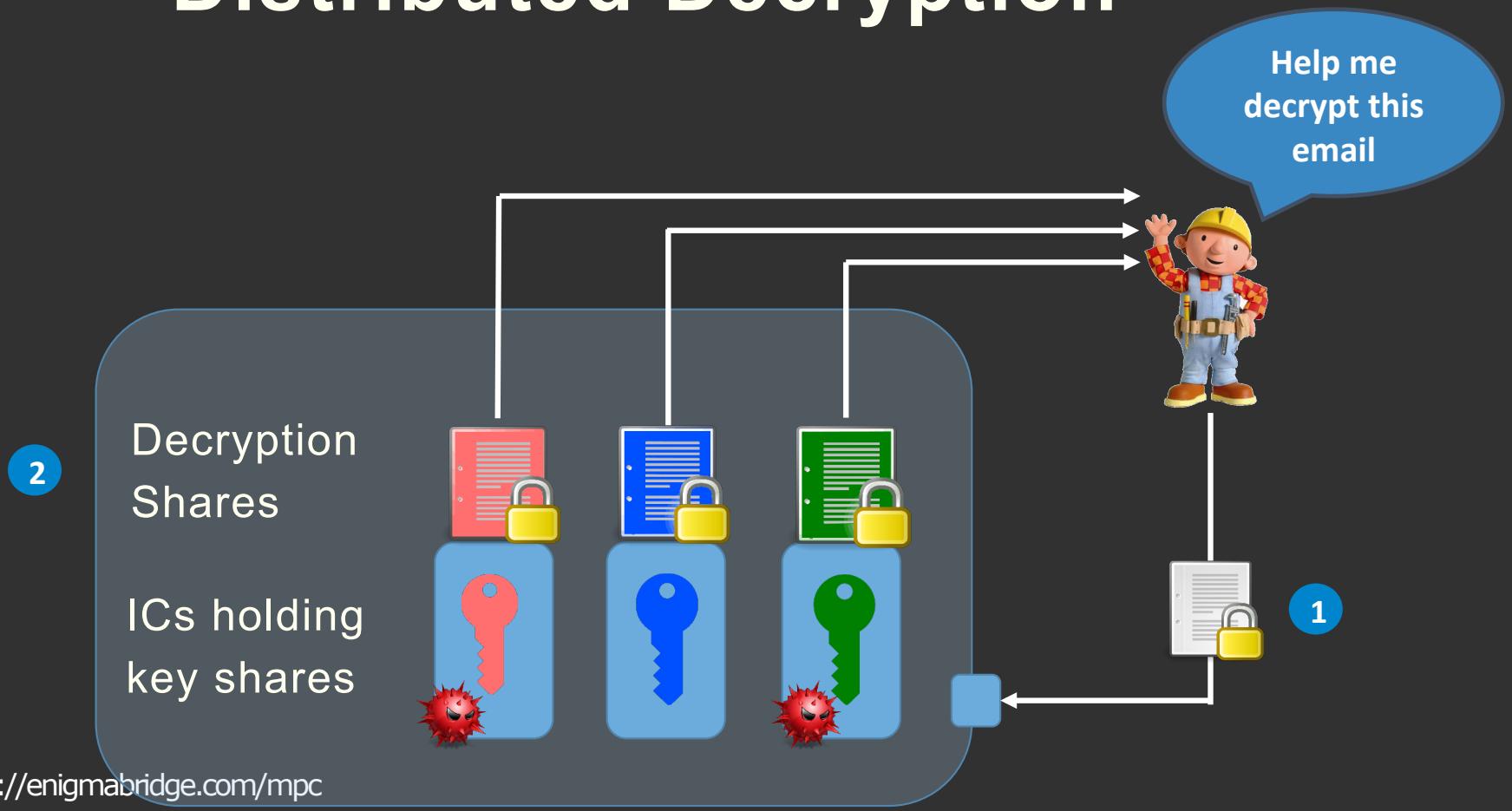
*The IC needs full access to the private key to be able to decrypt ciphertexts.*



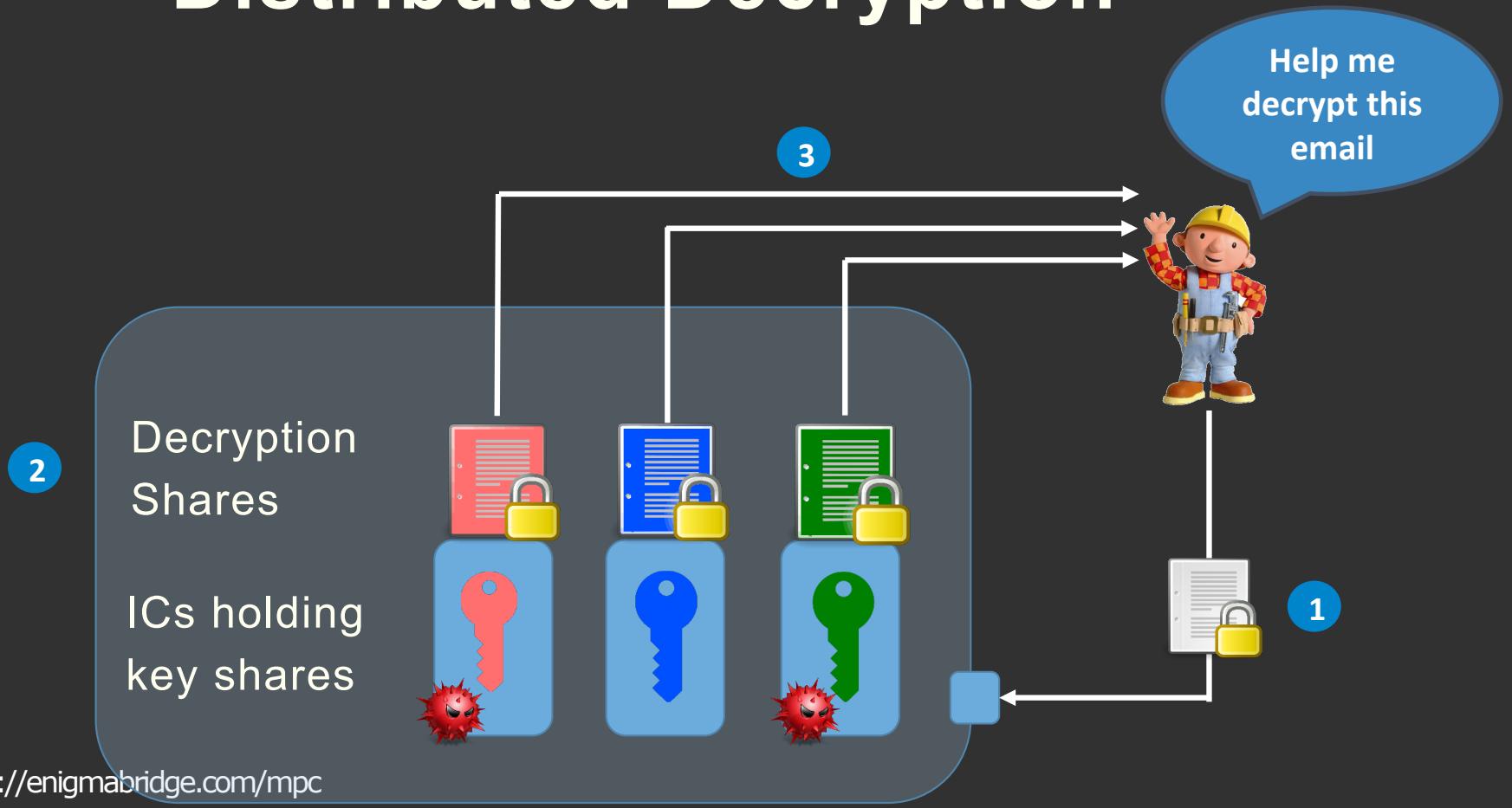
# Distributed Decryption



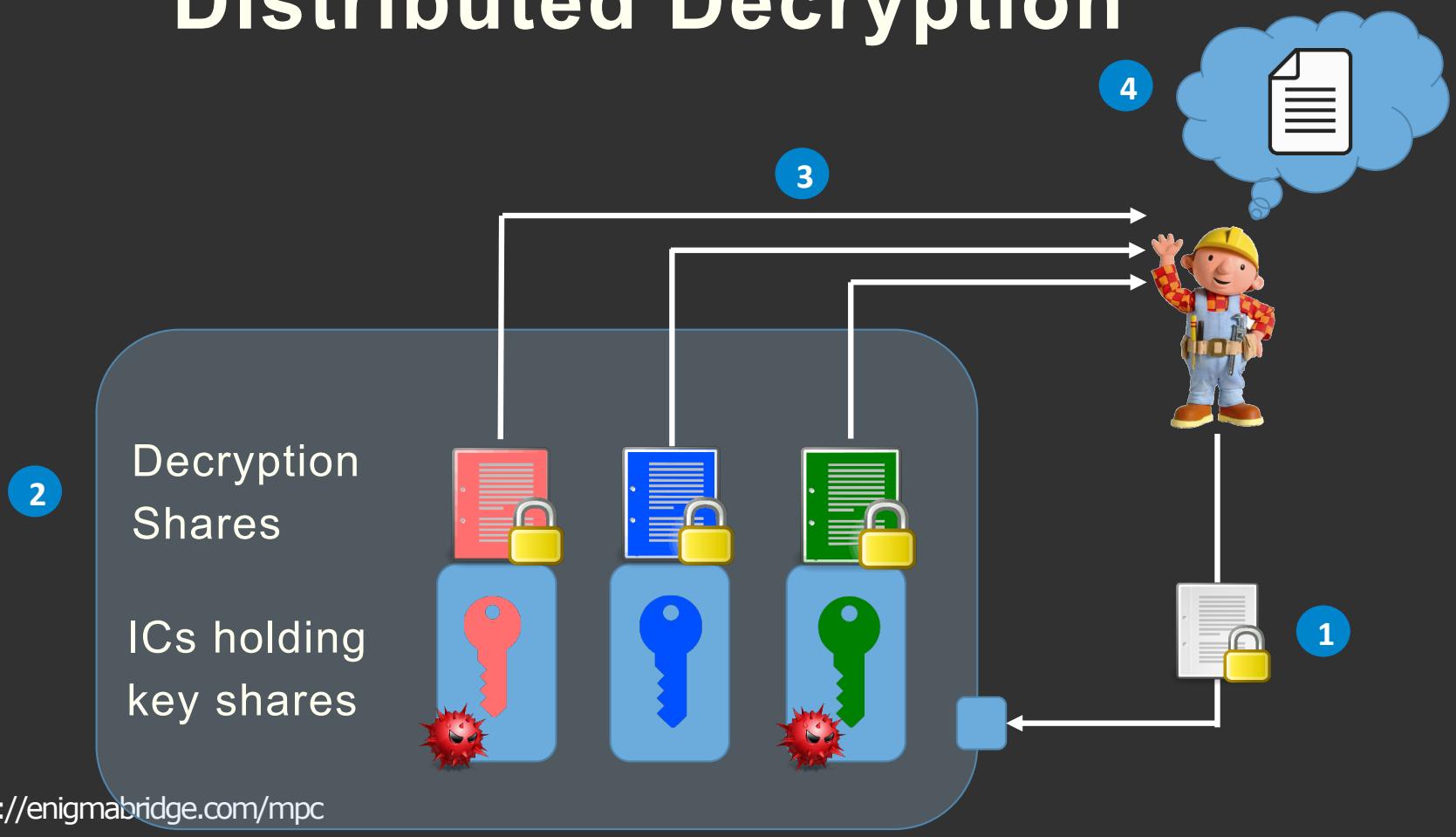
# Distributed Decryption



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# Distributed Decryption



# Distributed Decryption

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Bonus: Minimize interaction between ICs for performance ✓

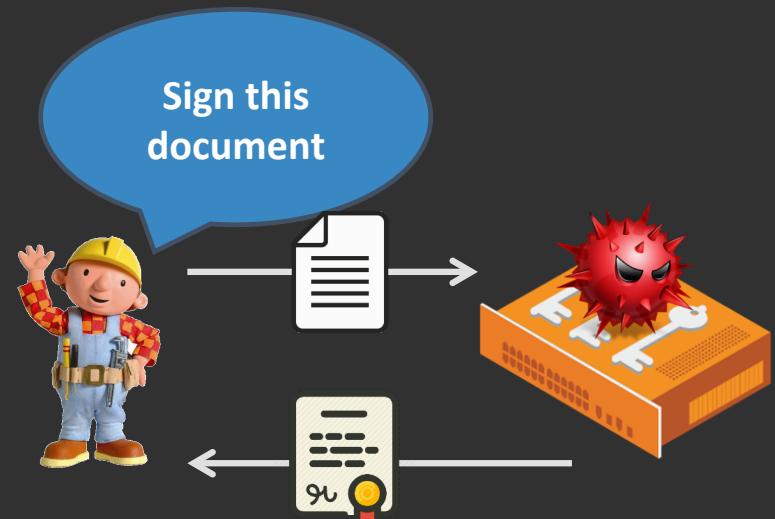
# Classic Signing

## Single IC System

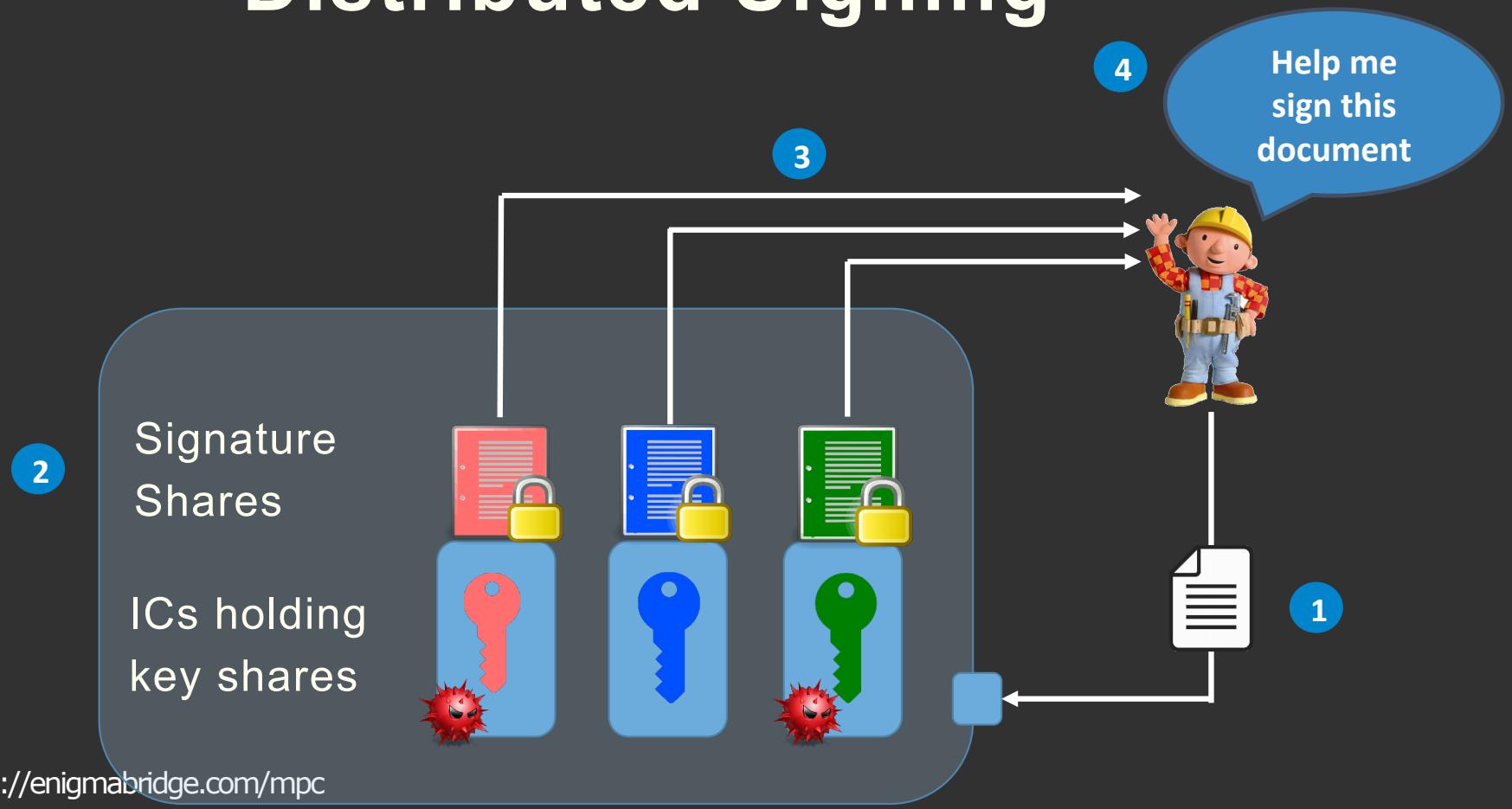
1. Bob asks for document signing
2. Backdoored IC signs the plaintext
3. Bob retrieves signature

*The IC needs full access to the private key to be able to sign plaintexts.*

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# Distributed Signing



<https://enigmabridge.com/mpc>

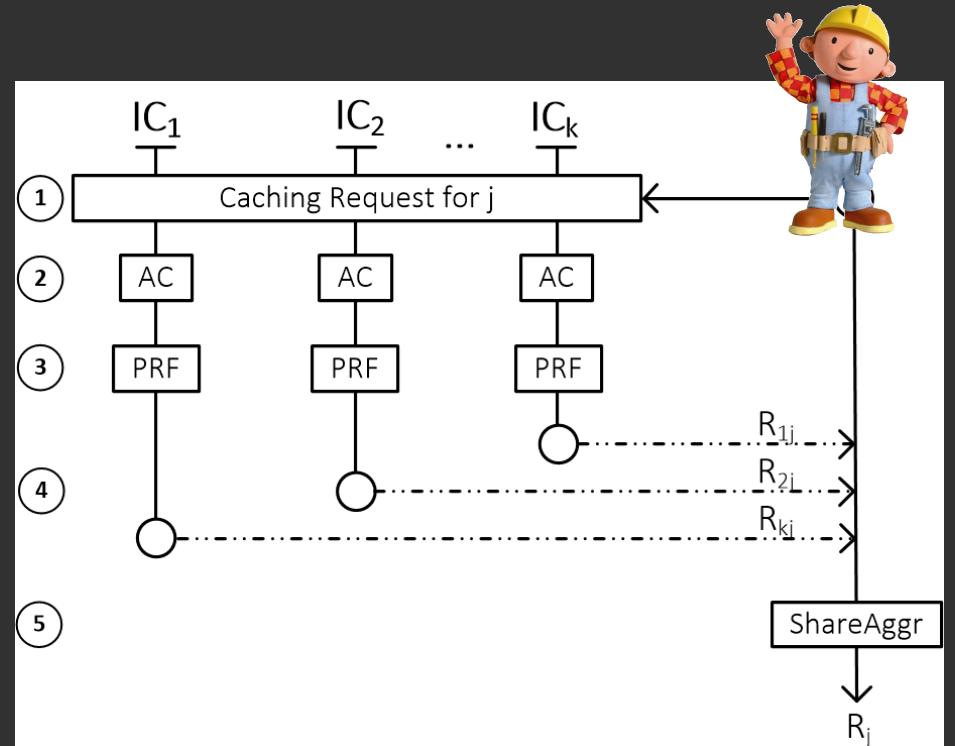
# Distributed Signing I

## Caching

1. Bob sends a **caching request**
2. The ICs verify Bob's authorization
3. Generate a **random** group element based on  $j$
4. Bob sums the random elements

## Properties

- Caching for thousands of rounds ( $j$ )
- Bob stores  $R_j$   
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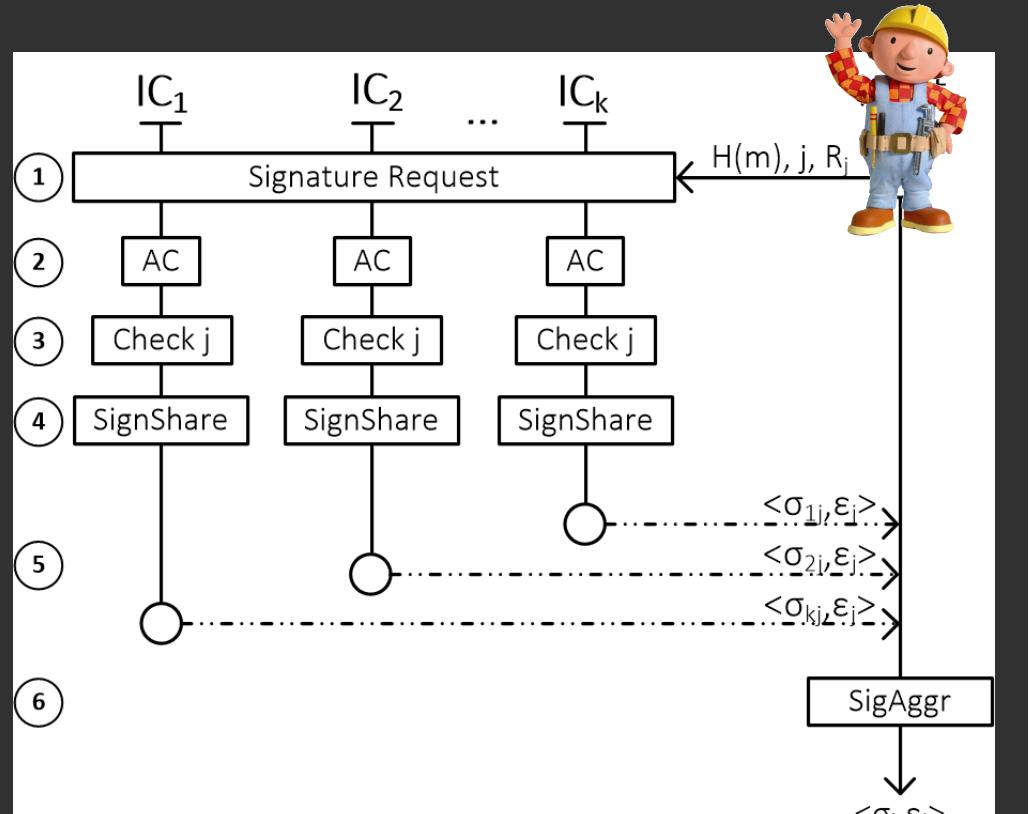
# Distributed Signing II

## Signing

1. Bob asks for **document signing** & sends  $R_j$ ,  $j$ , and the hash of  $m$
2. ICs verify his authorization
3. ICs **check** if  $j$  has been used again
4. ICs compute their **signature share**
5. Bob **sums** all signature shares

## Properties

- All ICs must participate
- Significant speed up with caching



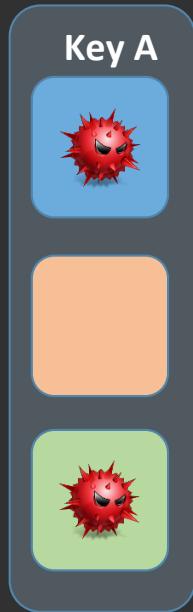
# Distributed Signing

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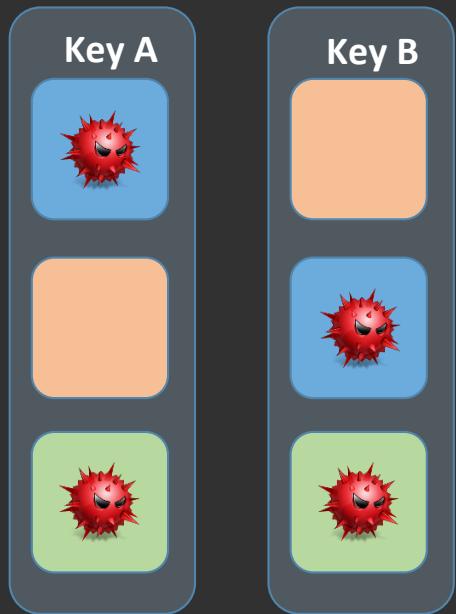
Bonus: Minimize interaction between ICs for performance ✓

# How we made it scale



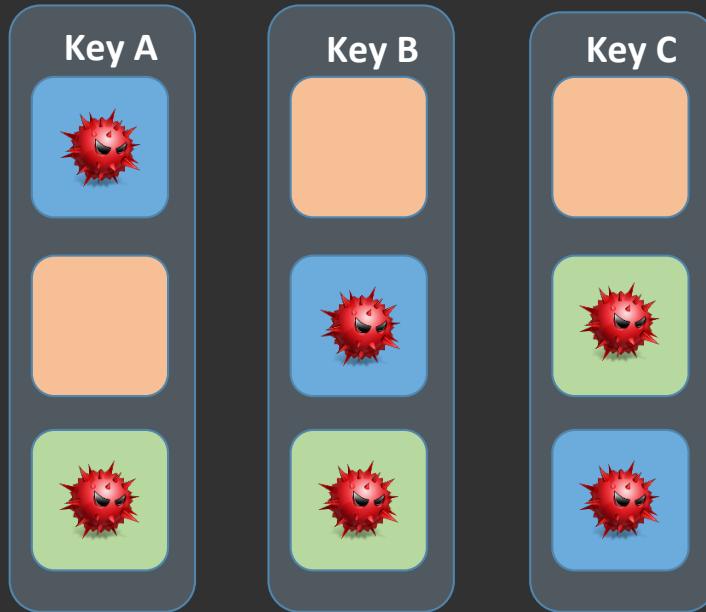
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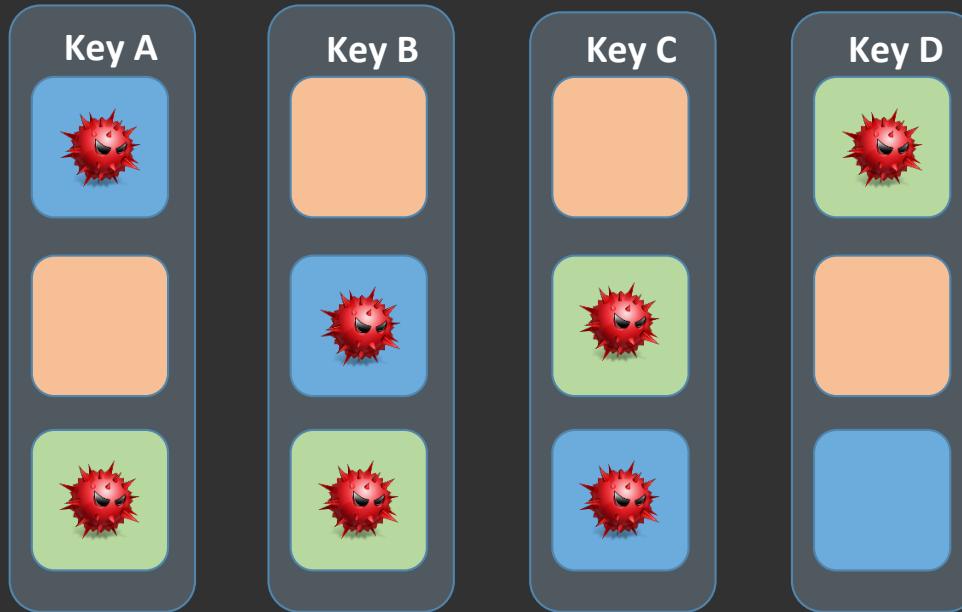
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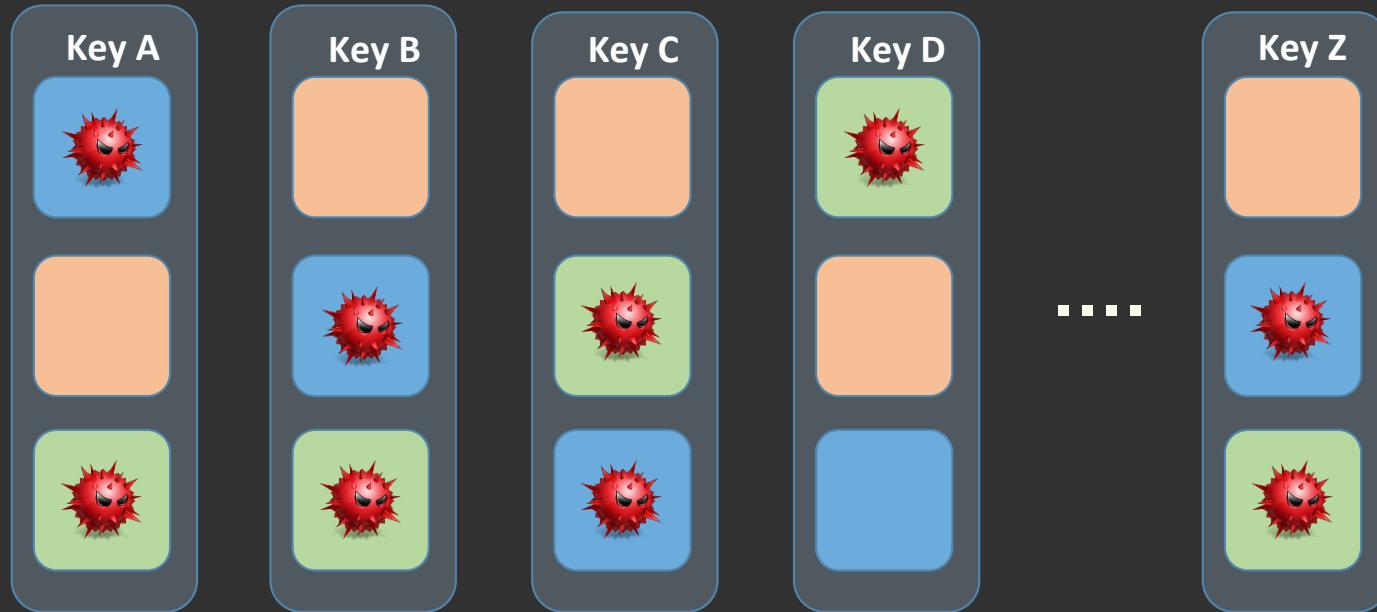
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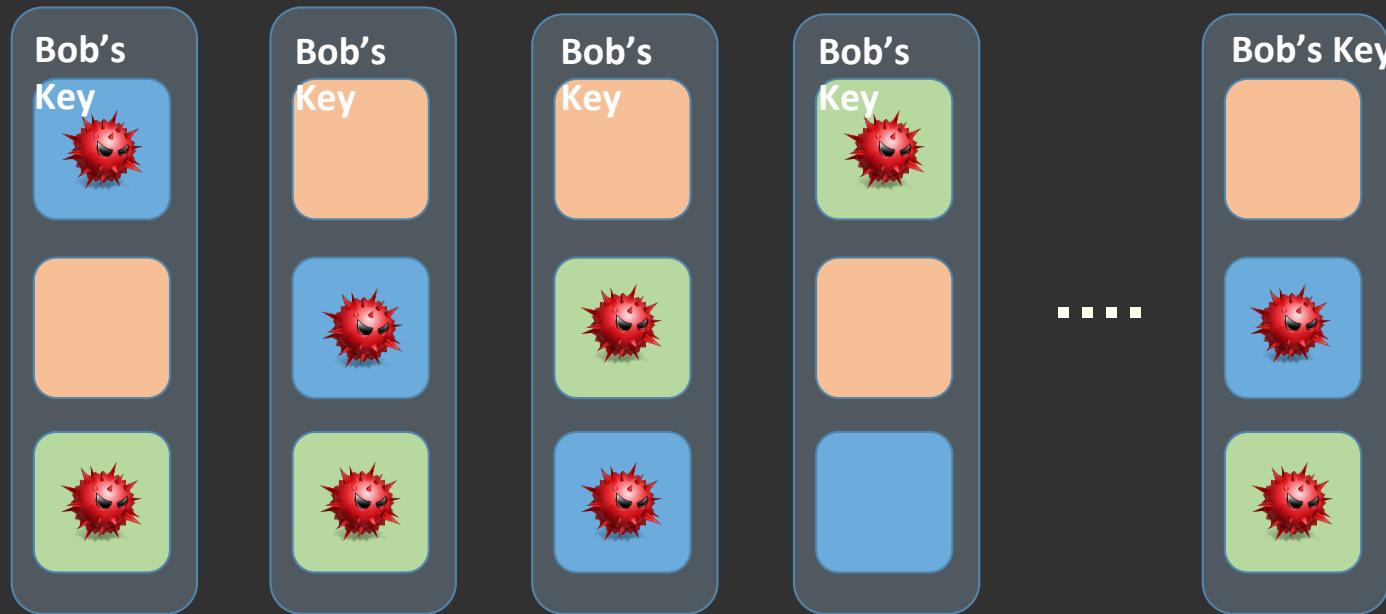
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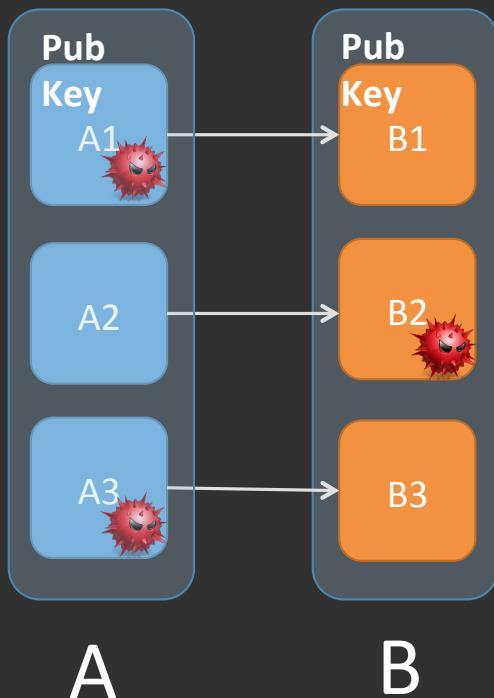
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# How we made it scale

But how can all these groups have shares for the same key?

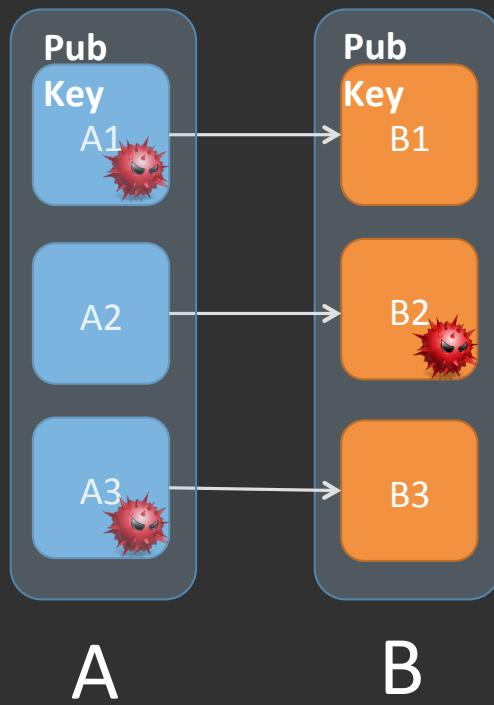


# Key Replication



1. Group A generates a public key
2. A1, A2, A3 send their shares to B1, B2, B3
3. Each IC in B receives shares from A1, A2, A3
4. Each IC in B **combines the 3 shares** and retrieves its private key

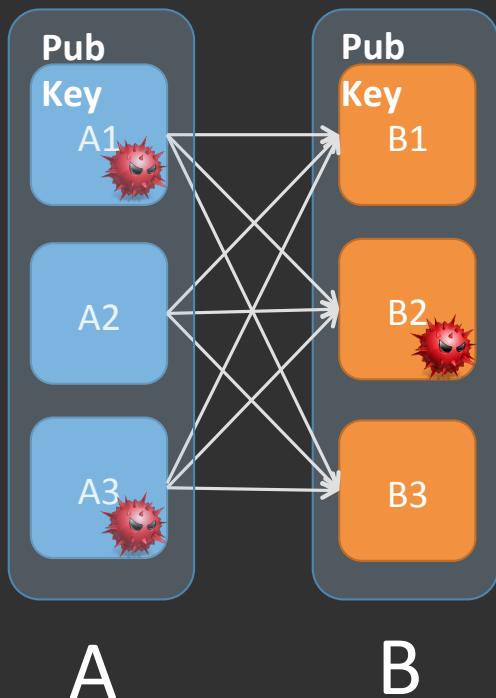
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5. **A1, A3 and B2 collude**

**The adversary retrieves the secret!**

# Key Replication



1. Group A generates a public key
2. Then each IC in A **splits its private key in three shares** and sends them to B1, B2, B3
3. Each IC in B receives shares from A1, A2, A3
4. Each IC in B **combines the 3 shares** and retrieves its private key share

**The full public keys of A and B are the same!**

# geopolitics

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*“We can guarantee security if there is at least one honest IC that is not backdoored or faulty.”*

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What if all ICs are malicious?

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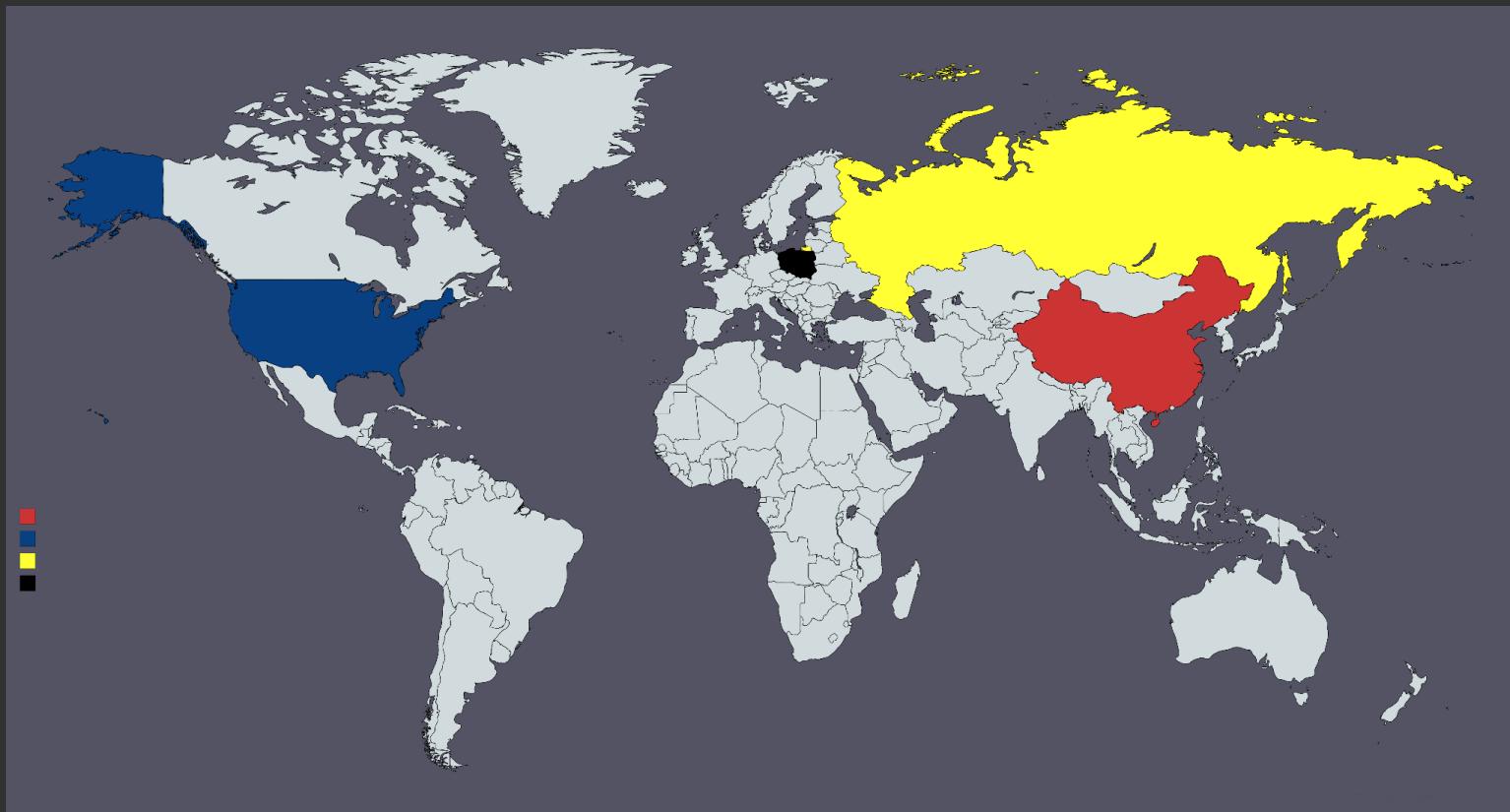
## **Government-level adversaries**

- Deep access to fabrication facilities
- Very sophisticated techniques
- Very hard to detect their Backdoors/  
Trojans
- Very secretive; highly classified
- Won't share their backdoor details

## Government-level adversaries

- Deep access to fabrication facilities
- Very sophisticated techniques
- Very hard to detect their Backdoors/Trojans
- Very secretive; highly classified
- Won't share their backdoor details
- **Unlikely to collude with anyone**

“We can guarantee security even when all ICs  
*are malicious, if at least one does not collude.*”



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# Conclusions & Future

## New crypto hardware architecture

- For the first time, tolerates faulty & malicious hw
- Decent Performance
- Scales nicely; just keep adding ICs
- Suitable for commercial-off-the-shelf components
- Existing malicious insertion countermeasures are very welcome!

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