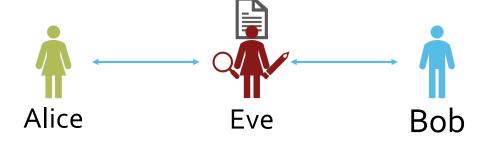
# CSE 127 Computer Security

Stefan Savage, Fall 2024, Lecture 10

Cryptography II: PKI

# Using Cryptography (review)

Alice wants to send (a plaintext) m to Bob, via a channel that is controlled by Eve



# Cryptographic Primitives (review)

#### Confidentiality

- Symmetric Encryption  $c = E_k(m), m = D_k(c)$
- Asymmetric Encryption  $c = E_K(m), m = D_k(c)$
- Combining Asymmetric with Symmetric

$$k' \leftarrow r, E_K(k') || E_{k'}(m)$$

You can rely on plaintext remaining secret.

Ciphertext reveals nothing about plaintext contents

 You <u>cannot</u> rely on plaintext remaining unmodified.

#### Integrity and Authenticity

- Symmetric MAC  $a = MAC_k(m)$
- Asymmetric Signature  $s = S_k(H(m))$

 $V_K(s,H(m))$ : returns true or false

- You can rely that whoever generated the tag (MAC or signature) had the secret key.
- You <u>cannot</u> rely on tag not leaking information about the message.

Assume we encrypt and sign a message from Alice to Bob Assume decryption is successful and the signature verifies

What can Alice and Bob assume?

#### Bob knows that

- Alice knows the plaintext
- Alice signed the plaintext at some point in the past

#### Alice knows that

- Only Bob can extract the plaintext from the encrypted channel
- Bob can prove that Alice signed the plaintext
- True?

Assume we encrypt and sign a message from Alice to Bob Assume decryption is successful and the signature verifies

What can Alice and Bob assume?

#### Bob knows that

- Alice knows the plaintext (and anyone else she shared it with or copied it from)
- Alice (or someone with her private key) signed the plaintext at some point in the past

#### Alice knows that

- Only Bob (or someone with his private key) can extract the plaintext from the encrypted channel
- Bob (or anyone else) can prove that Alice (or someone with her private key) signed the plaintext

Remember, keys represent parties... they are not the parties themselves

## Quick Aside: Digital Signatures

### What Does Signing Mean?

- Signing is a mechanical operation that has *no meaning* in itself.

#### What cryptography promises:

- Only someone who knows the private key can create a signature that verifies using the corresponding public key

#### Meaning of a digital signature is a matter of convention

- Code signing: signer attests software is authorized to be installed
- Email signing: signer attests she wrote message
- Certificate signing: (coming up next!)

Both signer and verifier need to **agree** on meaning and trust that the meaning is enforced locally

### Things Alice does not know:

- Whether Bob received the message
- When Bob received the message
- How many times Bob received the message
- Whether Bob keeps the message secret

### Things Bob does not know:

- Did Alice address this message to Bob
- Who sent this copy of the message
- When the message was sent
- Who else knows the plaintext

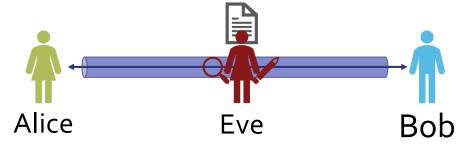
Alice wants to send (a plaintext) *m* to Bob, via a channel that is controlled by Eve.

Alice and Bob know each other's public keys. (assume pk crypto)

Goal: Alice and Bob establish a secure "pipe" (e.g., like https or ssh)

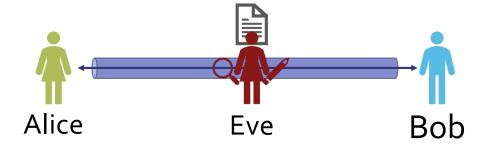
- Sign and encrypt all content (or encrypt and MAC for symmetry encryption)

If successful, Eve cannot see plaintext contents inside the pipe, or modify them <u>without detection</u>.



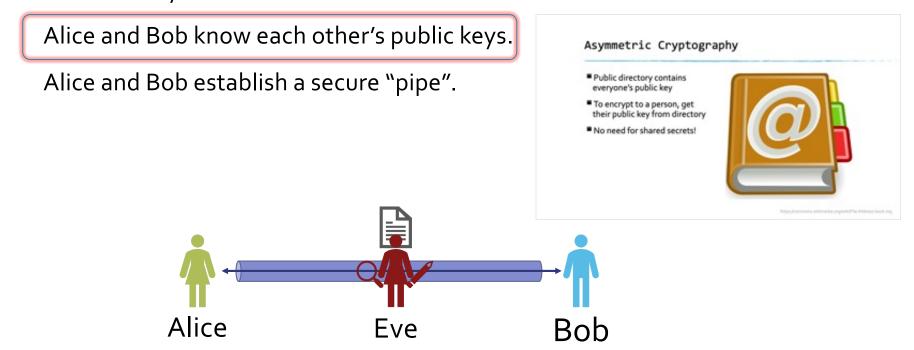
Alice and Bob got secrecy + integrity + authenticity and everyone lived happily ever after, right?

Let's try to understand exactly how we might achieve this, and the problems along the way



Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)

Alice wants to send (a plaintext) *m* to Bob, via a channel that is controlled by Eve.



Alice and Bob need a way to get each other's public key.

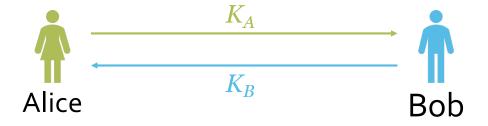
Alice can send an unencrypted message to Bob:

- "Hey, send me your public key. Here's mine."

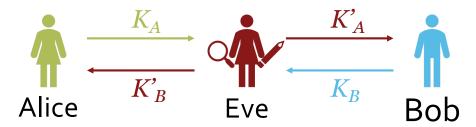
Bob sends Alice his public key.

They communicate securely ever after?

### What they want to happen



### What might happen instead



If Eve has person-in-the-middle capability, she can impersonate Alice to Bob and Bob to Alice.

- Eve becomes invisible gateway between them.
- Alice and Bob have no idea Eve is there.



Alice and Bob need a way to know that each has the **real** public key of the other.

Ideal solution: Alice and Bob meet in person and exchange public keys

Roughly equivalent: Alice and Bob meet in person and exchange public key fingerprints

- Key fingerprint: cryptographic hash of public key
- Public key itself can be sent in the open
- (aside: this is what Signal does)







#### Problem with ideal:

- We are back to pair-wise key establishment
- Alice and Bob need to meet
- Impractical to meet and verify key of everyone you talk to

Many security problems can be solved with a trusted third party

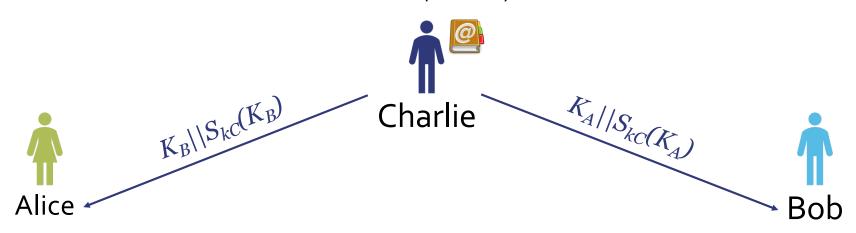






### Using a trusted intermediary

- Alice and Bob have already exchanged keys with Charlie
- Charlie sends signed message with Alice's key to Bob
- Charlie sends signed message with Bob's key to Alice
- Alice and Bob trust Charlie to send the real public keys
- Alice and Bob now have each other's public key



But every transaction is centralized through Charlie! We can do better...

Charlie creates a *certificate* that *attests*:

- "I, Charlie, verified that Alice's key is ... "

Charlie signs the certificate with his private key and gives it to Alice

Alice now has certificate attesting to her public key

Alice sends Bob Charlie's certificate

Bob verifies the signature on certificate

Bob trusts Charlie, accepts public key from Alice

## Who is Charlie?

### Two common models:

- PGP: Charlie is any other person you trust.
- Almost everywhere else: Charlie is a *Certificate Authority*.

### PGP Web of Trust

Pretty Good Privacy (PGP) is an application (and associated protocols) used for signing, encrypting, and decrypting texts, emails, files, directories, etc.

PGP allows one user to attest to the trustworthyness of another user's public key — *key signing* 

- PGP does not use the term "certificate", but that's because its old...
- Public key has set of attestation signatures (certificates)

A user can indicate how much she trusts another user's signature on a key

### PGP Web of Trust

Alice's signature on Bob's PGP key means Alice claims that this is really Bob's key (and *ideally* has verified this)

- Email address and name associated with key are really his

Other people who trust Alice can use her signature on Bob's key to be sure it is Bob's key

How to decide?

### Certificate Authorities

An alternative to PGP-like web of trust is to rely on centralized *Certificate Authorities*: trusted signers of public keys.

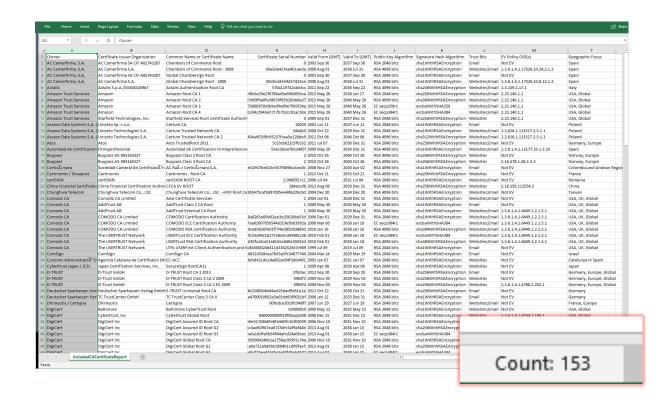
CA model used to sign certificates used on Web.

Your browser has a set of public keys of trusted CAs.

- Who makes this list?
- How many CAs are on the list?
- Who are these CAs?



### Certificate Authorities



# Certificate Authorities (2021)

#### Mozilla

- ~143 root certificates
- https://wiki.mozilla.org/CA/Included Certificates

#### iOS

- ~203 root certificates
- https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT212140

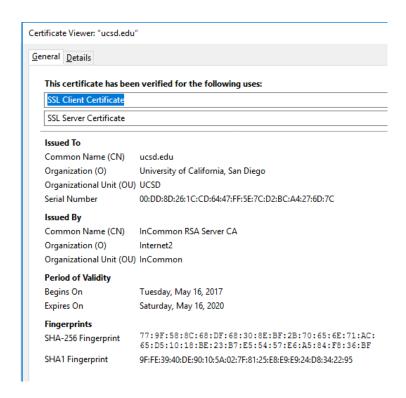
#### Microsoft

- ~417 root certificates
- <a href="http://aka.ms/RootCert">http://aka.ms/RootCert</a>

### Certificate Authorities

#### Certificate semantics:

- Subject (name, domain)
- Issuing CA
- Validity period
- Limitations on use (e.g. can it be used to sign other certificates)



# Using Certificates: Transport Layer Security (TLS)

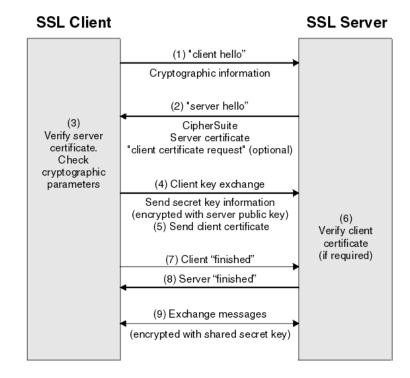
This is what makes https:// work

"When secured by TLS, connections between a client (e.g., a web browser) and a server (e.g., wikipedia.org) have one or more of the following properties:

- The connection is private (or secure) because symmetric cryptography is used to encrypt the data transmitted...
- The identity of the communicating parties can be authenticated using public-key cryptography...
- The connection ensures integrity because each message transmitted includes a message integrity check using a message authentication code to prevent undetected loss or alteration of the data during transmission."

Details of protocol are complex, but the basic idea isn't:

- Browser gets and verifies server's certificate, and extracts PK
- Use PK to encrypt random symmetric session key
- Use session key to encrypt session and to key HMAC for integrity



## A quick step back...

#### Using TLS (i.e., https) what security is being claimed?

Authenticity

That the server is who they say they are (e.g., <a href="www.amazon.com">www.amazon.com</a>)

That the client is who they say they are?

- Confidentiality

That no one but the client and server can read the messages sent between them

Integrity

That no one can alter messages between client and server without being detected

### What are we depending on?

- Crypto works
- The attestations of the CAs are reliable and their services are secure

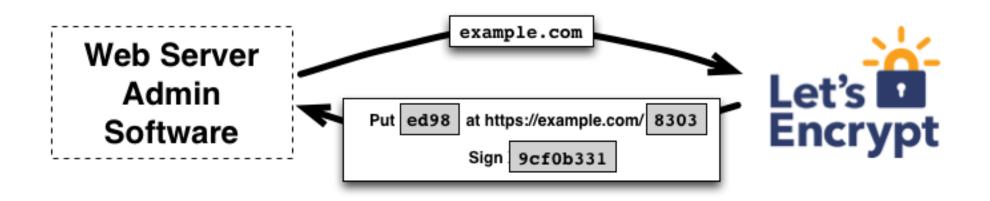
### Certificate Authorities

Which CA can issue a certificate for mycompany.com? For fbi.gov?

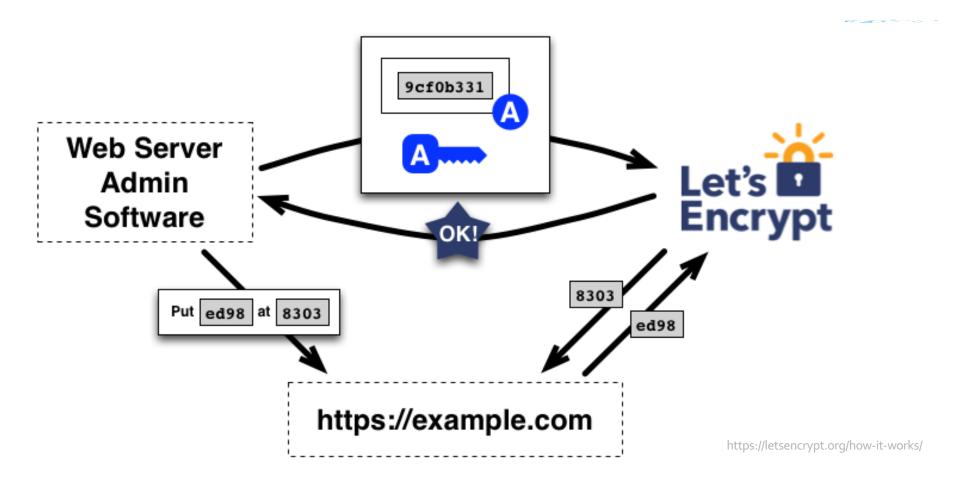
How do site owners prove they are authorized to get a certificate for example.com?

- Traditionally
   Provide tangible evidence of ownership (e.g., corp documents via FAX) and pay a fee
- Today, a new model dominates
   Provide evidence of control over site domain name

# Let's Encrypt



Let's Encrypt

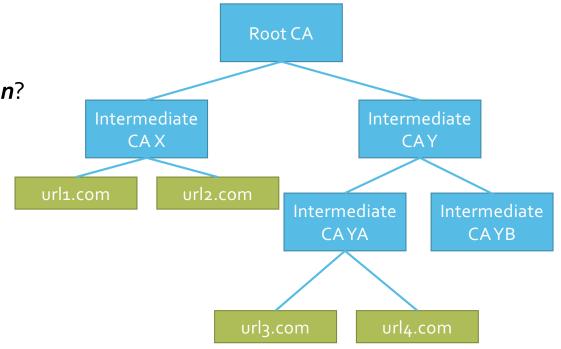


### Certificate Authorities

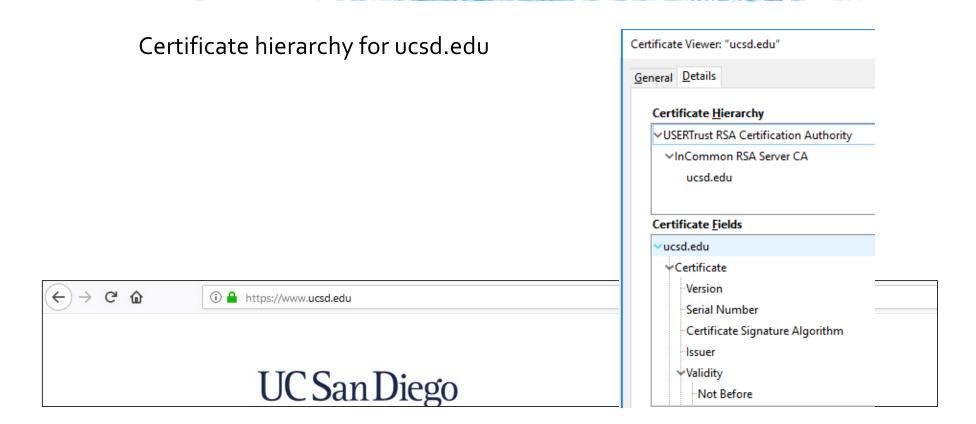
What if we take a Trusted Third Party and combine it with another Layer of Indirection?

### Certificate Hierarchy

**Root CA** signs keys for **Intermediate CAs**, which in turn sign keys for users (or other intermediate CAs)



### Certificate Authorities



### Aside: other uses of certificates

### Certificates also used in code signing

- https://source.android.com/security/apksigning/
- https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-hardware/drivers/install/driver-signing
- https://developer.apple.com/support/code-signing/

#### Who is the CA?

### What is the meaning of the signature?

- Alice released this app?
- Alice authorizes this app to run?
- Alice authorizes this app to access privileged resources?

### Certificate Revocation

What happens if someone steals your private key?

- They can impersonate you and read messages encrypted to you

Certificate expiration helps with this but not enough

- "Window of vulnerability"

CA and PGP PKIs support revocation

- Owner says: "I, Alice, revoke my public key ... do not use it."
- Signs revocation with her private key
- Others can verify Alice's signature, stop using key

### Certificate Revocation

How does Bob know if Alice's key has been revoked?

Bob asks Alice: "Has your key been revoked?"

Alice sends signed message: "No."

Does not work: if Alice's key has been compromised, then Eve could have forged the message "No."

Availability of trusted revocation list critical

### Certificate Revocation

In PGP model, only Alice can revoke her own key

- If Alice loses her private key, she can't revoke
   Do not lose private PGP key
- Option: generate revocation transaction with key, store in secure place

In CA model, Alice asks CA to revoke certificate

 Alice does not need private key to do this, can authenticate herself through other means (e.g. login to CA service)

### Certificate Revocation

Two Mechanisms: CRL and OCSP

# Certificate Revocation List (CRL):

- Certificate says where to get CRL
- Clients periodically download updated CRLs
- What if CRL server is down?



### Certificate Revocation

Two Mechanisms defined in standards: CRL and OCSP

### Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP):

- Query CA about status of cert before trusting it
- "You said I can trust this key, but are you still sure?"

### OCSP Stapling

- Server includes recent OCSP status (signed by CA) along with certificate

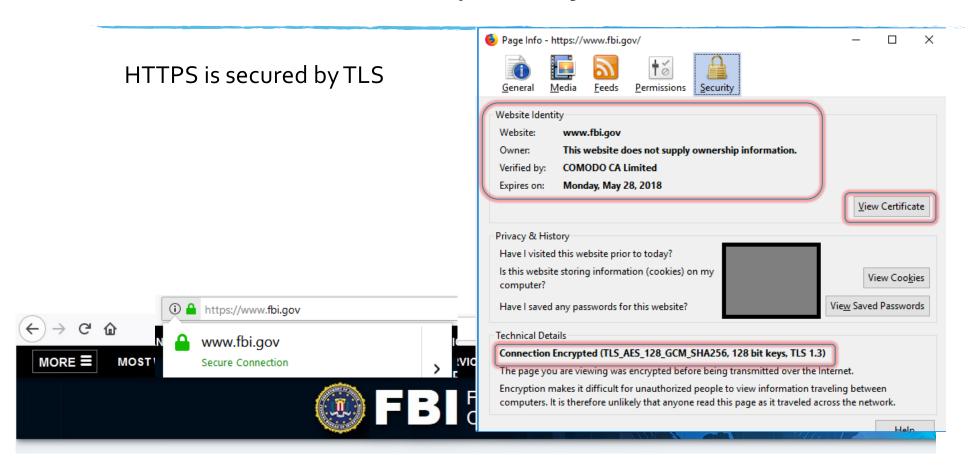
### Aside: Certificate Pinning

- Remember which certificate was used for a particular domain and raise an alert if a different one is used later
- Fragile doesn't let host roll out new cert before old one expires

### In practice: browsers used to check CRLs/OSCP, but most don't now by default

- Why not? Performance and they break in some contexts (e.g., captive portals)
   Visit <a href="https://revoked-isrgrootx1.letsencrypt.org/">https://revoked-isrgrootx1.letsencrypt.org/</a> with your browser to see
- Instead: ad-hoc solutions (e.g., Google harvests important revoked certs and pushes them to clients, CRLSets)

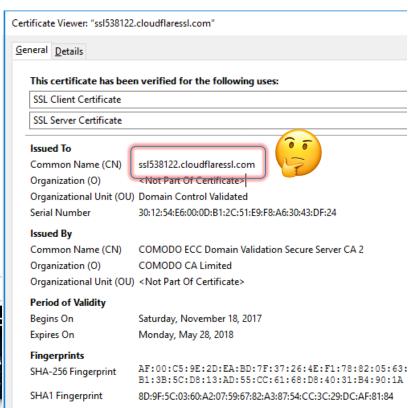
# Some additional complexity: CDNs



# Some additional complexity: CDNs

HTTPS is secured by TLS





# Content Delivery Networks (CDNs)

## CDN: geographically distributed network of proxy servers

- Cache static content closer to the requester
- Improve latency
- Decrease network congestion
- Improve reliability and availability
   DDOS protection
- Cloudflare, Akamai, CloudFront, etc

### Mess up our nice security abstractions

- Now Alice deliberately wants her CDN to impersonate her to Bob!

# Content Delivery Networks (CDNs)

Bob wants to connect to <u>www.fbi.gov</u>

Bob's browser attempts to get the corresponding IP address via DNS

Because FBI used Cloudflare CDN, DNS resolves to a Cloudflare server

But Bob's browser thinks it's talking to fbi.gov

Cloudflare needs to convince Bob's browser that it's really FBI

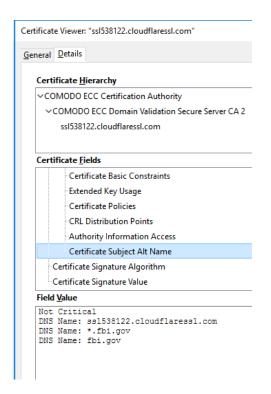
# Content Delivery Networks (CDNs)

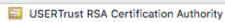
### Deputized via "Subject Alternate Name" field

 "Yeah, I'm cloudflaressl.com, but I'm authorized to communicate on behalf fbi.gov"



Who decides whether a CDN can get a given Subject Alternate Name in its cert?





→ InCommon RSA Server CA

→ 

☐ cse.ucsd.edu



#### cse.ucsd.edu

Issued by: InCommon RSA Server CA

Expires: Monday, January 4, 2021 at 3:59:59 PM Pacific

Standard Time

This certificate is valid

#### ▼ Details

Subject Name

Country US

Postal Code 92093

State/Province CA

Locality La Jolla

Street Address 9500 Gilman Drive

Organization University of California, San Diego

Organizational Unit UCSD

Common Name cse.ucsd.edu

Issuer Name

Country US

State/Province MI

Locality Ann Arbor

Organization Internet2

Organizational Unit InCommon

Common Name InCommon RSA Server CA

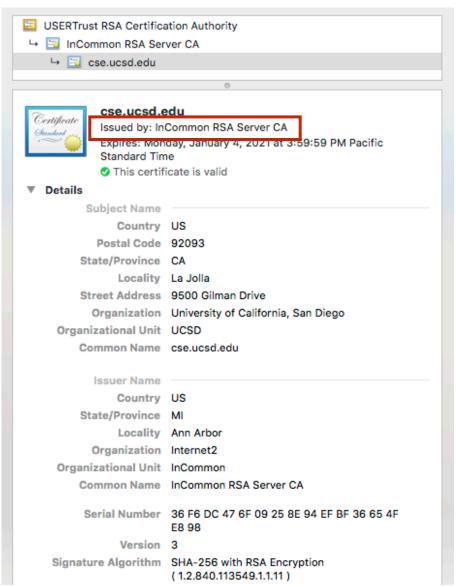
Serial Number 36 F6 DC 47 6F 09 25 8E 94 EF BF 36 65 4F

E8 98

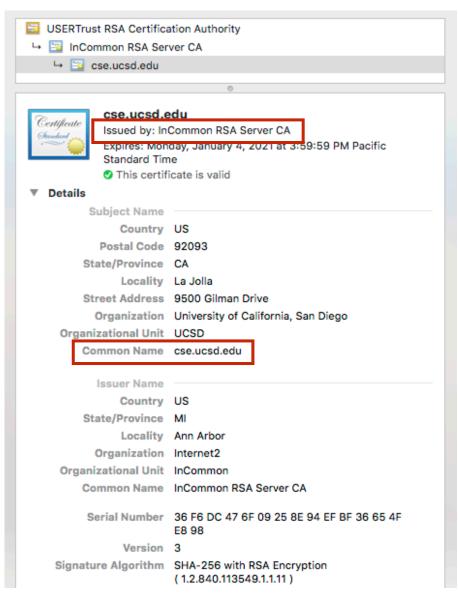
Version 3

Signature Algorithm SHA-256 with RSA Encryption

(1.2.840.113549.1.1.11)



# Who are we trusting?



Who are we trusting?

Who is this cert for?

Key ID 1E 05 A3 77 8F 6C 96 E2 5B 87 4B A6 B4 86 AC

71 00 0C E7 38

Extension Subject Alternative Name ( 2.5.29.17 )

Critical NO

DNS Name cse.ucsd.edu

DNS Name www-cs.ucsd.edu

DNS Name www-cse.ucsd.edu

DNS Name www.cse.ucsd.edu

DNS Name www.cse.ucsd.edu

DNS Name www.cse.ucsd.edu

Extension Certificate Policies (2.5.29.32)

Critical NO

Policy ID #1 (1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.4.3.1.1)

Qualifier ID #1 Certification Practice Statement (1.3.6.1.5.5.7.2.1)

CPS URI https://www.incommon.org/cert/repository/

cps\_ssl.pdf

Policy ID #2 (2.23.140.1.2.2)

Extension CRL Distribution Points (2.5.29.31)

Critical NO

URI <a href="http://crl.incommon-rsa.org/">http://crl.incommon-rsa.org/</a>
InCommonRSAServerCA.crl

Extension Certificate Authority Information Access

(1.3.6.1.5.5.7.1.1)

Critical NO

Method #1 CA Issuers (1.3.6.1.5.5.7.48.2)

URI http://crt.usertrust.com/

InCommonRSAServerCA\_2.crt

Method #2 Online Certificate Status Protocol

(1.3.6.1.5.5.7.48.1)

URI http://ocsp.usertrust.com

### Who is this cert for?

Issuer Name

Country US

State/Province MI

Locality Ann Arbor Organization Internet2

Organizational Unit InCommon

Common Name InCommon RSA Server CA

Serial Number 36 F6 DC 47 6F 09 25 8E 94 EF BF 36 65 4F

E8 98

Version 3

Signature Algorithm SHA-256 with RSA Encryption

(1.2.840.113549.1.1.11)

Parameters None

Not Valid Before Thursday, January 4, 2018 at 4:00:00 PM Pacific

Standard Time

Not Valid After Monday, January 4, 2021 at 3:59:59 PM Pacific

Standard Time

Public Key Info

Algorithm RSA Encryption (1.2.840.113549.1.1.1)

Parameters None

Public Key 256 bytes: FA F9 1A 08 92 86 9C 7B ...

Exponent 65537 Key Size 2,048 bits

Key Usage Encrypt, Verify, Wrap, Derive

Signature 256 bytes: 6F 62 36 46 B7 43 28 04 ...

Extension Key Usage (2.5.29.15)

Critical YES

Usage Digital Signature, Key Encipherment

CSE's pub key info

Key ID 1E 05 A3 77 8F 6C 96 E2 5B 87 4B A6 B4 86 AC 71 00 0C E7 38

Extension Subject Alternative Name ( 2.5.29.17 )

Critical NO

DNS Name cse.ucsd.edu

DNS Name cs.ucsd.edu

DNS Name www-cs.ucsd.edu

DNS Name www.cs.ucsd.edu

DNS Name www.cs.ucsd.edu

DNS Name www.cse.ucsd.edu

Extension Certificate Policies ( 2.5.29.32 )

Critical NO

Policy ID #1 (1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.4.3.1.1)

Qualifier ID #1 Certification Practice Statement (1.3.6.1.5.5.7.2.1)

CPS URI https://www.incommon.org/cert/repository/

cps\_ssl.pdf

Policy ID #2 (2.23.140.1.2.2)

Extension CRL Distribution Points (2.5.29.31)

Critical NO

URI <a href="http://crl.incommon-rsa.org/">http://crl.incommon-rsa.org/</a> InCommonRSAServerCA.crl

Extension Certificate Authority Information Access

(1.3.6.1.5.5.7.1.1)

Critical NO

Method #1 CA Issuers (1.3.6.1.5.5.7.48.2)

URI <a href="http://crt.usertrust.com/">http://crt.usertrust.com/</a>
InCommonRSAServerCA\_2.crt

Method #2 Online Certificate Status Protocol

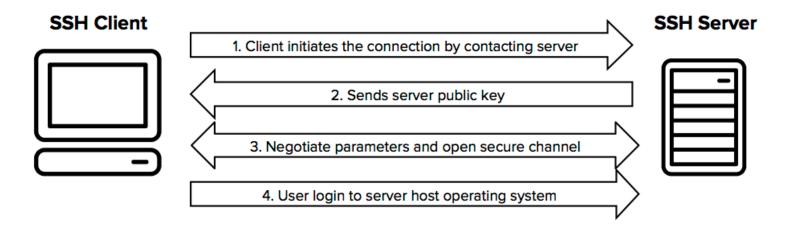
(1.3.6.1.5.5.7.48.1)

URI http://ocsp.usertrust.com

Where we should check for revocation information

# Another approach: Secure Shell (SSH)

"Secure Shell (SSH) provides a secure channel over an unsecured network, connecting an SSH client application with an SSH server. Common applications include remote command-line login and remote command execution, but any network service can be secured with SSH."



# Another approach: Secure Shell (SSH)

### No trusted authorities

Trust on First Use

### Basically certificate pinning





https://linode.com/docs/databases/oracle/securely-administer-oracle-xe-with-an-ssh-tunnel/ https://software.intel.com/en-us/node/734703

# Summary

### Public key crypto is a powerful tool

- Underlies https, ssh, virtually all software updates, etc...
- But doesn't solve the key distribution problem

### Certificate authorities (CA) occupy key (and trusted) role

- Third-party attestation of identity or access
- Have become hacking targets

2011: Comodo & Diginotar issued fraudulent certs for Hotmail, Gmail, Skype, Yahoo Mail, Firefox...

2013: TurkTrust issued cert for gmail

2014: Indian Nic issued certs for Google and Yahoo!

2016: WoSign issueed cert for GitHub

### Ongoing effort to police CAs – Certificate Transparency

 Make a public, searchable log of every new certificate minted... google can go check if anyone else got a cert that covers google.com or gmail.com

# Next time

Starting Web Security