

A Powerful and Easy to Use Lockbox

Easy to use correctly, hard to use incorrectly

Lab7

Easy to Use Correctly: NaCl “box” concept

Remember

There is no 100% security

Security, like all engineering, involves tradeoffs

Know what you are trying to secure

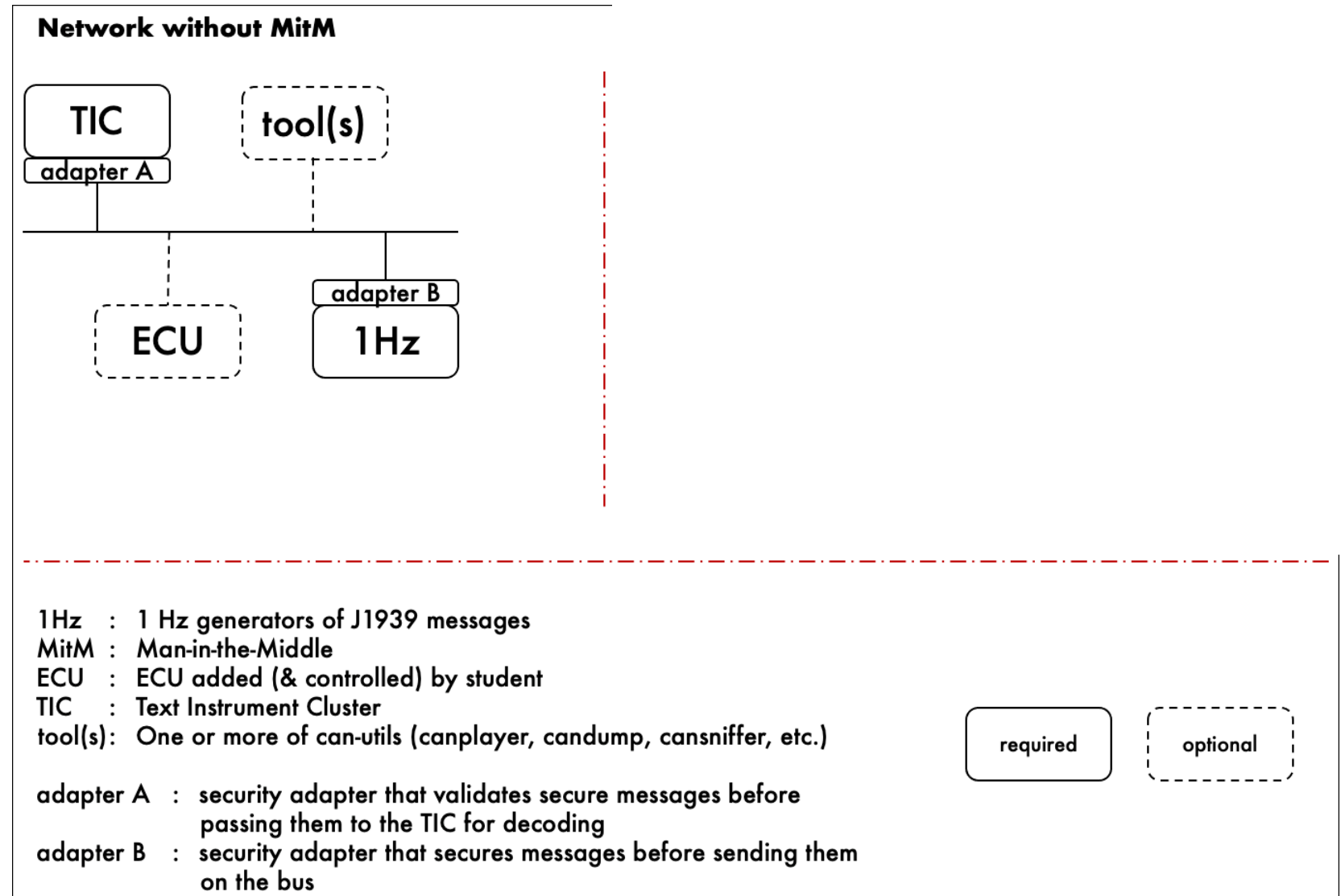
The adversary...



**State
Sponsored**

Network Configuration

Simple Network for this
Lab



Notes

Complexity is the enemy of security.

- Bruce Schneier

TweetNaCl demonstrates a full library in 100 tweets.

- All elliptic curve code
- All encryption and hashing code

NaCl – easy to use correctly, hard to use incorrectly

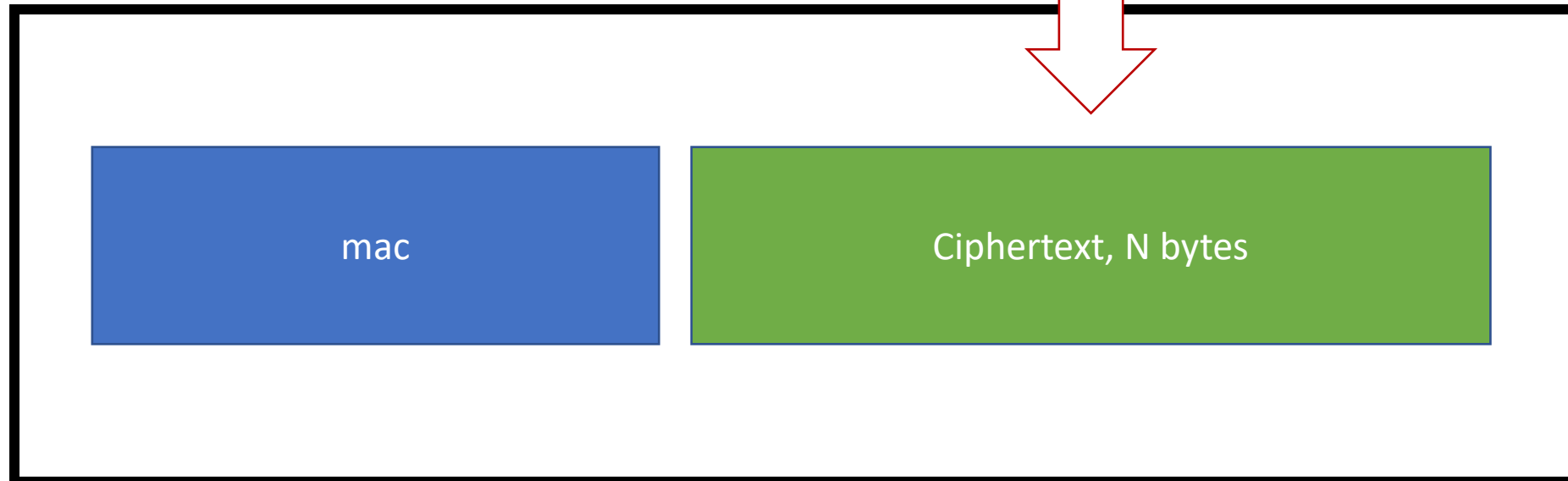
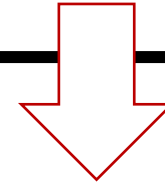
“Box”

To secure data being sent from Entity A to Entity B.

- Data
- Nonce (which **must** be shared with Entity B)
- Entity A private key
- Entity B public key



$\text{Box}(\text{data}, \text{nonce}, P_B, K_A)$



“Box”

To secure data being sent from Entity A to Entity B.

- Every time data is sent, a new nonce is required.

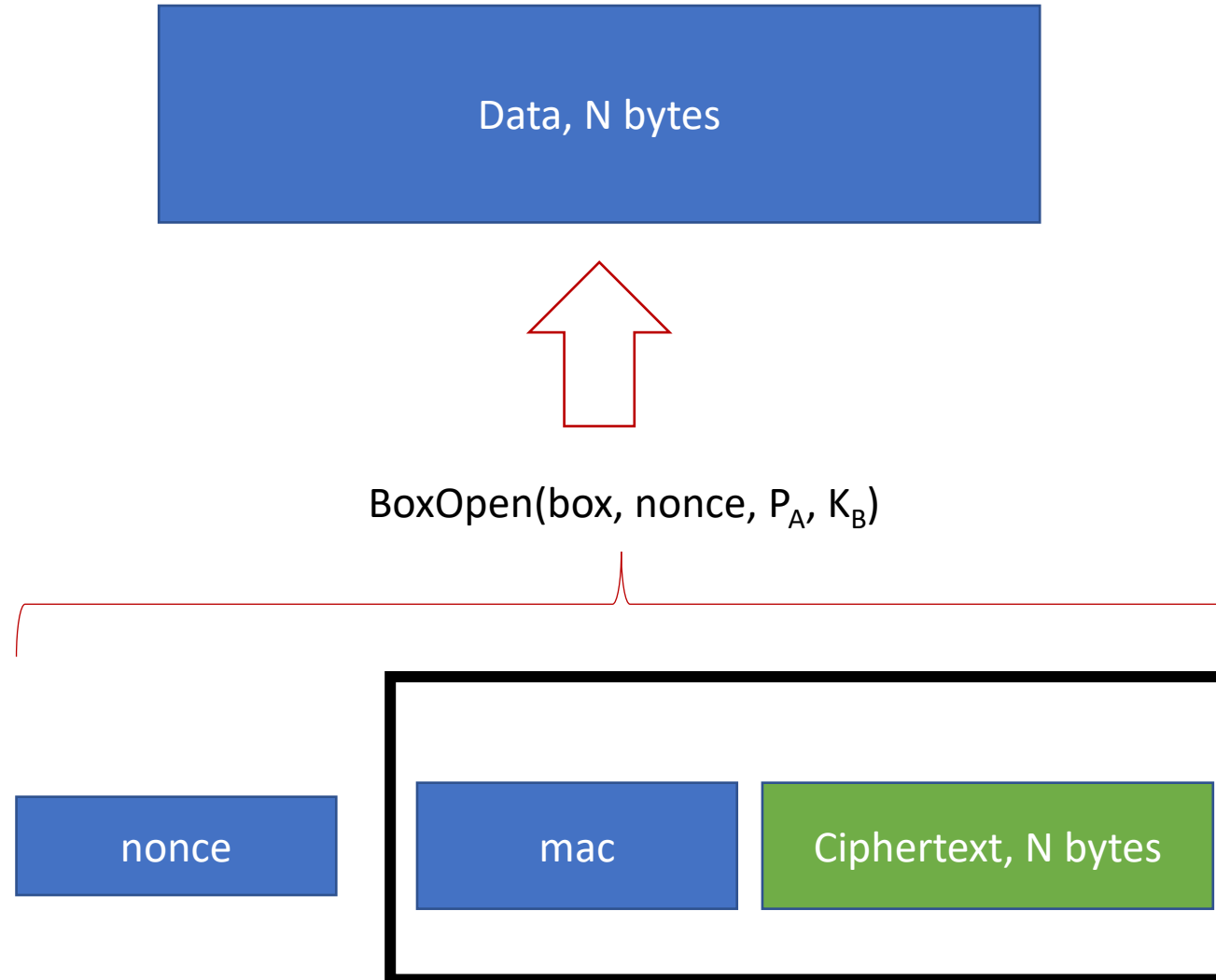
Box(data, nonce, P_B , K_A)



“BoxOpen”

To validate and decrypt data being sent from Entity A to Entity B.

- “box” (mac || ct)
- Nonce (which was provided by Entity A)
- Entity A public key
- Entity B private key



Notes

- Every library seems to label the functions a little differently
- In “TweetNaCl” the functions are very straightforward:
 - `nacl.box()`
 - `nacl.boxopen()`
- In python library it takes a couple of steps.

Notes

Used to put data
into box and get
it out.

```
> cat -n using_nacl.py
1  #
2  # reference:
3  # https://pynacl.readthedocs.io/en/latest/public/#nacl-public-box
4
5  import nacl.utils
6  from nacl.public import PrivateKey, Box
7
8  # notes on key naming
9  # P/Kx  -- Public/Private keypair for entity x
10 # Sx    -- Symmetric key for entity x
11
12 # Generate Bob's private key (!! keep this secret !!)
13 Kb = PrivateKey.generate()
14
15 # Use the private key to create the public key -- this must be shared
16 Pb = Kb.public_key
17
18 # Alice does the same thing
19 Ka = PrivateKey.generate()
20 Pa = Ka.public_key
21
22 # <here Alice and Bob exchange public keys>
23
24 # Bob wants to box some data for Alice;
25 # He needs his private key and Alice's public key
26 → boxerBA = Box(Kb, Pa)
27
```

Notes

'encrypt' puts
data into box

```
28 data = bytes.fromhex("00000000 11111111 22222222 33333333")
29 print("data to secure")
30 print(data.hex(" ", 4))
31
32 # the library automatically created a nonce for us.
33 # using boxerBA results in a box that is:
34 # mac || nonce || data    == 16 bytes || 24 bytes || len(data)
35 # so total length is 40 bytes longer than data
36 box = boxerBA.encrypt(data)
37
```

'decrypt'
unboxes the data

```
38
39 ### Alice is given the box, 'box', and needs to open it.
40
41 # create a box opener, she uses Bob's public key and her private key
42 boxopenerBA = Box(Ka, Pb)
43
44 # use the opener
45 pt = boxopenerBA.decrypt(box)
46
47 print("data received by Alice")
48 print(pt.hex(" ", 4))
```

```
> python3 using_nacl.py
data to secure
00000000 11111111 22222222 33333333
data received by Alice
00000000 11111111 22222222 33333333
```

Notes

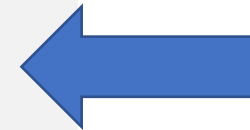
See “classroom/using_nacl_nonce.py” for example setting your own nonce.

```
data to secure
00000000 11111111 22222222 33333333
using nonce
00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000001
size of box is 40 + len(data): 56
data received by Alice
00000000 11111111 22222222 33333333
```

Notes

Save yourself some headaches and time... it wasn't obvious to me that in **adapterA** we need to convert a 'bytearray' into 'bytes' using **bytes()** call

```
def adapter(msg):  
    global boxopenerBA  
    data = bytes(msg.data)
```



Lab

- The only code required is for:
 - adapterA.py
 - adapterB.py

Lab

nonce

However, if we need to use an **explicit nonce**, it can be passed along with the message:

```
# This is a nonce, it *MUST* only be used once, but it is not considered  
# secret and can be transmitted or stored alongside the ciphertext. A  
# good source of nonces are just sequences of 24 random bytes.  
nonce = nacl.utils.random(Box.NONCE_SIZE)  
  
encrypted = bob_box.encrypt(message, nonce)
```