

# Public Key Cryptography

EECS 388 F17



UNIVERSITY OF  
MICHIGAN

# Review

# Properties of a Secure Channel

Confidentiality

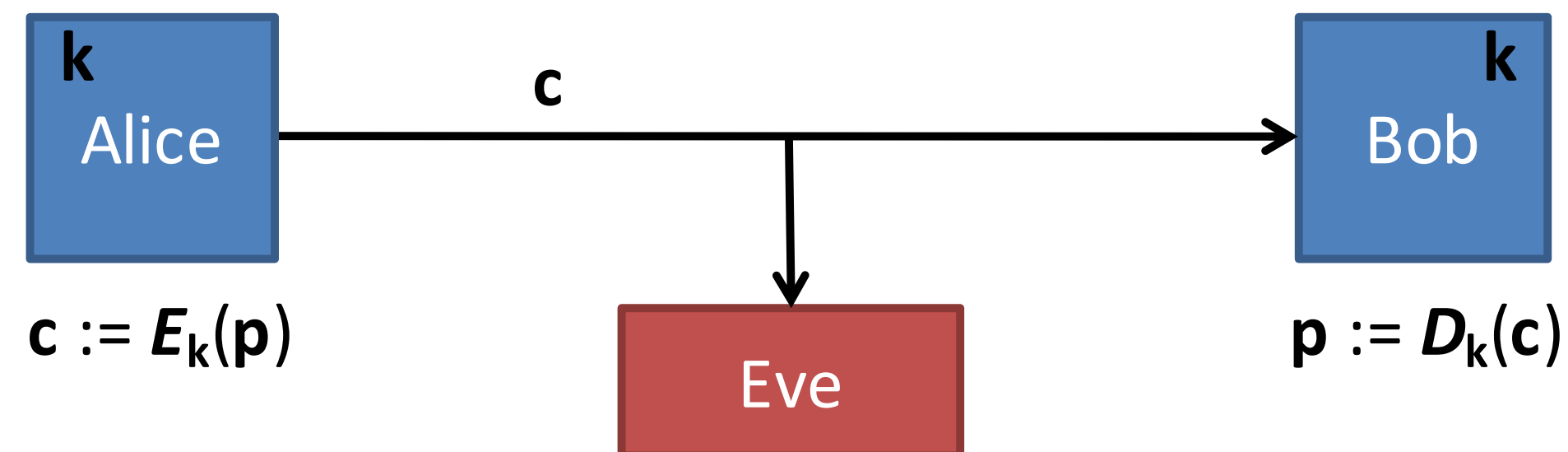
Integrity

Authentication (this is what we are doing today!)

# Confidentiality Review

**Goal:** Keep contents of message  $p$  secret from an eavesdropper

**This protects us from Eve (eavesdropper)**



$p$  plaintext

$c$  ciphertext

$m$  message / plaintext

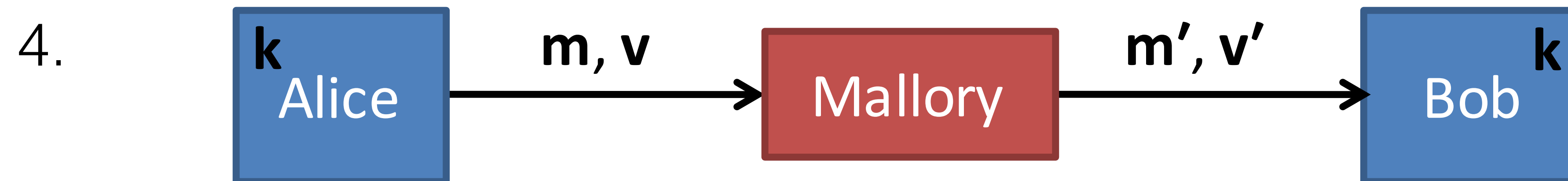
$k$  secret key

$E$  encryption function

$D$  decryption function

# Integrity Review

1. Let  $f$  be a secure PRF.
2. In advance choose a random  $k$  known only to Alice and Bob.
3. Alice computes  $\mathbf{v} := \mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{m})$ .



5. Bob verifies  $\mathbf{v}' = \mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{m}')$ , accepts if and only if this is true.

- This protects us from Mallory (MITM)

# Encryption / Integrity Ordering

Encrypt, then MAC

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**This protects from Cryptographic Doom (like the Padding Oracle)**

# AEAD

Authenticated Encryption and Associated Data

```
ciphertext, auth_tag := Seal(key, plaintext,  
associated_data)
```

```
plaintext := Unseal(key, ciphertext, associated_data,  
tag)
```

Combines integrity and encryption.

**This protects us even better from Cryptographic Doom!**

# Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange

Standard  $g$  (generator), and  $p$  (prime, or modulus)

Alice picks  
secret  $a$



$$A = g^a \bmod p$$

$$B = g^b \bmod p$$

Bob picks  
secret  $b$

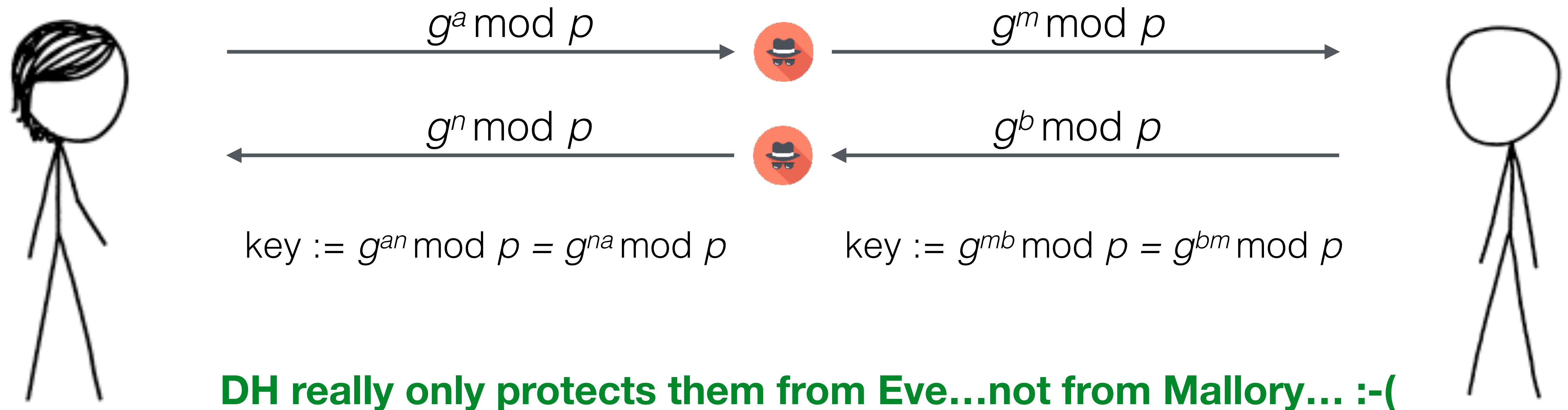


$$\mathbf{k} := A^b \bmod p = g^{ab} \bmod p = g^{ba} \bmod p = B^a \bmod p$$



# Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange (MITM)

Standard  $g$  (generator), and  $p$  (prime, or modulus)



**Public Key Cryptography (digital signatures) to the rescue... :-)**

**New Stuff**

# Problem: Scaling

- Suppose Alice publishes data to lots of people, and they all want to verify integrity...
  - ➔ Can't publish an integrity key [why?]
- Suppose Bob wants to receive data from lots of people, confidentially...
  - ➔ Impractical [why?]

# Solution: Public-Key Cryptography

So far: encryption key == decryption key

New idea: keys are different, and *you can't find one from the other*

Typically: get a key pair and split it

- **Public Key**: make this public
- **Private Key**: keep this private

# History

Invented in 1976 by Diffie and Hellman

(...but also secretly in 1973 by Clifford Cocks at GCHQ)

Most famous: **RSA** in 1978 by 1978 by (R)ivest, (S)hamir, and (A)dleman



# How RSA Works

1. Pick two large (say, 2048 bits) random primes **p** and **q**.
2. **N** := **p** \* **q** (RSA does multiplication mod **N**)
3. Pick **e** to be relatively prime to **(p - 1) \* (q - 1)**.
4. Find **d** so that **(e \* d) mod ((p - 1) \* (q - 1)) = 1**
5. Public key := (**e**, **N**)  $\leftarrow$  the key is actually a pair of values  
Private key := (**d**, **N**)
6. **Encryption:**  $\text{Enc}_e(x) = x^e \bmod N$   
**Decryption:**  $\text{Dec}_d(x) = x^d \bmod N$

# How RSA works

Again with the colors!

[https://youtu.be/wXB-V\\_Keiu8?t=127](https://youtu.be/wXB-V_Keiu8?t=127)

# Why RSA Works

For all  $0 < \mathbf{x} < \mathbf{N}$ , we can show that  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x})) = \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x})) = \mathbf{x}$

Proof of  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x}))$  side:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x})) &= (\mathbf{x}^d \bmod \mathbf{pq})^e \bmod \mathbf{pq} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^{de} \bmod \mathbf{pq} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^{a(\mathbf{p}-1)(\mathbf{q}-1)+1} \bmod \mathbf{pq} \text{ for some } \mathbf{a} \text{ (because } \mathbf{ed} \bmod (\mathbf{p}-1)(\mathbf{q}-1) = 1) \\ &= (\mathbf{x}^{(\mathbf{p}-1)(\mathbf{q}-1)})^a \mathbf{x} \bmod \mathbf{pq} \\ &= (\mathbf{x}^{(\mathbf{p}-1)(\mathbf{q}-1)} \bmod \mathbf{pq})^a \mathbf{x} \bmod \mathbf{pq} \\ &= 1^a \mathbf{x} \bmod \mathbf{pq} \\ &\quad \text{(because of the fact that if } \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q} \text{ are prime, then for all } 0 < \mathbf{x} < \mathbf{N}, \\ &\quad \mathbf{x}^{(\mathbf{p}-1)(\mathbf{q}-1)} \bmod \mathbf{pq} = 1) \\ &= \mathbf{x}\end{aligned}$$



# Is RSA Secure?

Best known way to compute **d** given **e** is by factoring **N** into **p** and **q**...

This is very hard to do...if p and q are 2048 bits, N is 4096 bits...

Best known factoring algorithm (general number field sieve)

This takes more than polynomial time, but less than exponential time to factor an **n**-bit number. Takes “a while” with 4096 bits...

So...Fingers crossed!

# “Fun” RSA Facts

**RSA can be used for confidentiality, integrity/authentication, or both!**

Confidentiality:

1. Alice encrypts with Bob's public key:  $E_{\text{pubkeyBob}}(m) = m^e \bmod N = c$
2. Bob decrypts with his private key:  $D_{\text{privkeyBob}}(c) = c^d \bmod N = m$

Integrity/Authentication: <— called a digital signature

1. Alice signs with her private key:  $\text{Sign}_{\text{privkeyAlice}}(m): s = m^d \bmod N$
2. Bob verifies using Alice's public key:  $\text{Verify}_{\text{pubkeyAlice}}(m,s): m \stackrel{?}{=} s^e \bmod N$

Both (w/two key pairs):

1. Alice encrypts with **pubkeyBob**, then signs with **privkeyAlice**
2. Bob verifies with **pubkeyAlice**, then decrypts with **privkeyBob**

Note that both  $m$  ***and***  $s$  are sent to Bob.

# Drawbacks

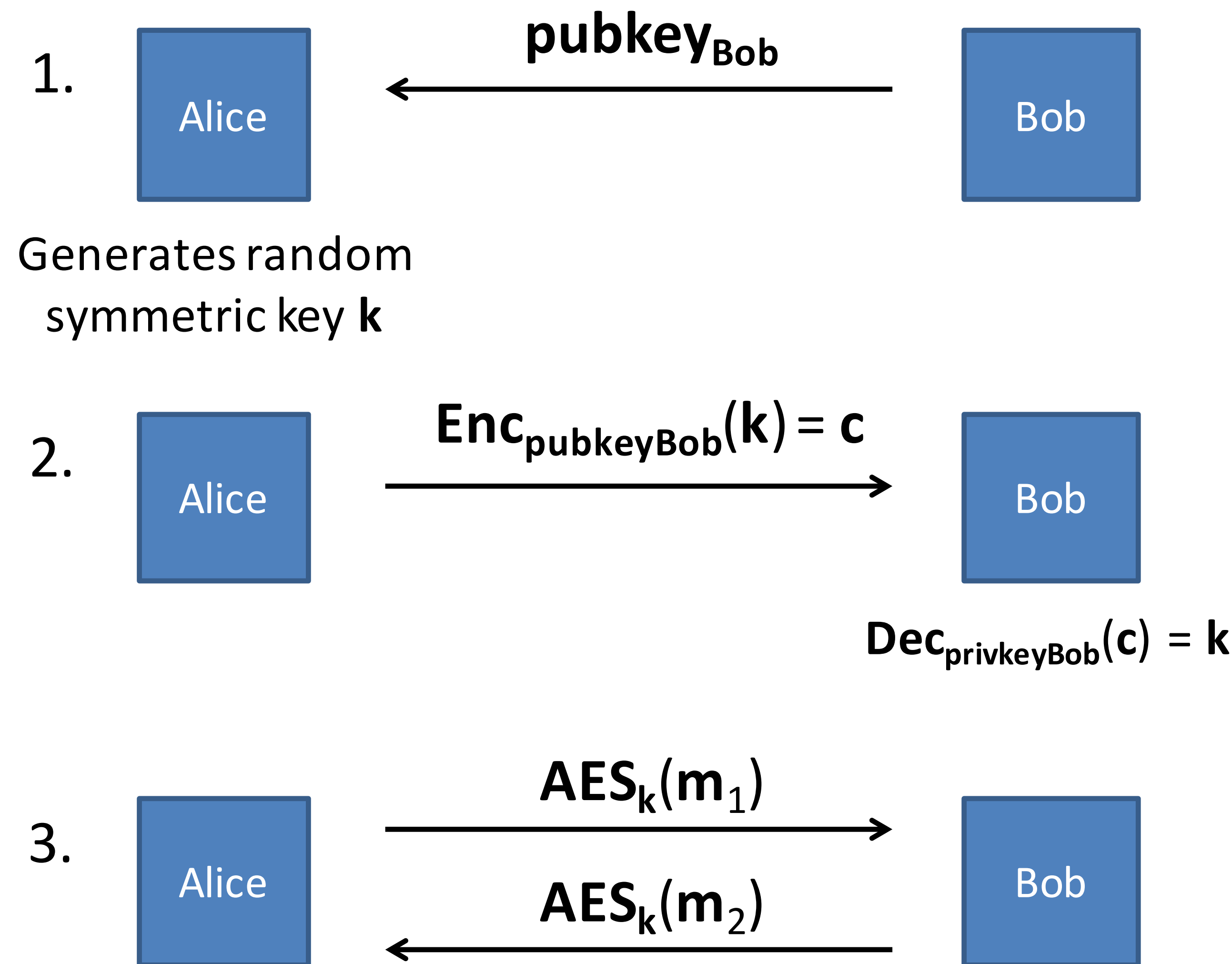
1000x (or more!) slower than AES

Runtime is dominated by exponentiation (goes up as cube of key size)

Message must be shorter than **N**

Keys must be large

# RSA In Practice: Encryption (Confidentiality)



This is called “bootstrapping symmetric crypto with public key crypto”:

- We no longer need to worry about the inefficiency of RSA
- We no longer have to worry about message length

# RSA In Practice: Signing (Integrity/Authentication)

1.  $\mathbf{v} := \text{PRF}(\mathbf{m})$

In other words, digest/“shorten” the message using a PRF or a hash so that we can send messages of arbitrary length.

2. Use RSA to sign a *carefully padded* version of  $\mathbf{v}$

# RSA Gotchas!

## 1. Problems during key generation (PRGs without enough entropy)

Alice

$$\text{pubkey}_{\text{Alice}} = (e_1, \text{N})$$

Bob

$$\text{pubkey}_{\text{Bob}} = (e_2, \text{N})$$

The public keys for both Alice and Bob have the same value for N. How can one of them attack the other?

Alice

$$\text{pubkey}_{\text{Alice}} = (e, \text{N}_1 = p q_1)$$

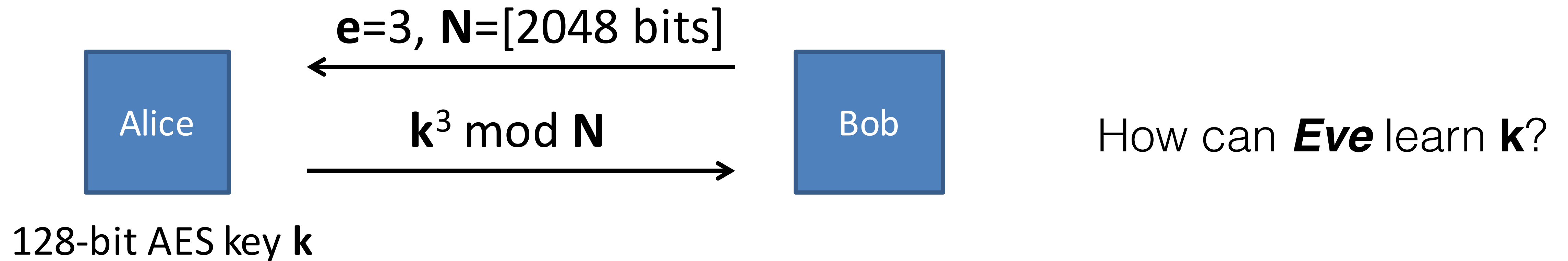
Bob

$$\text{pubkey}_{\text{Bob}} = (e, \text{N}_2 = p q_2)$$

The public keys for both Alice and Bob have the same value for p. How can **Eve** attack Alice and Bob?

# RSA Gotchas!

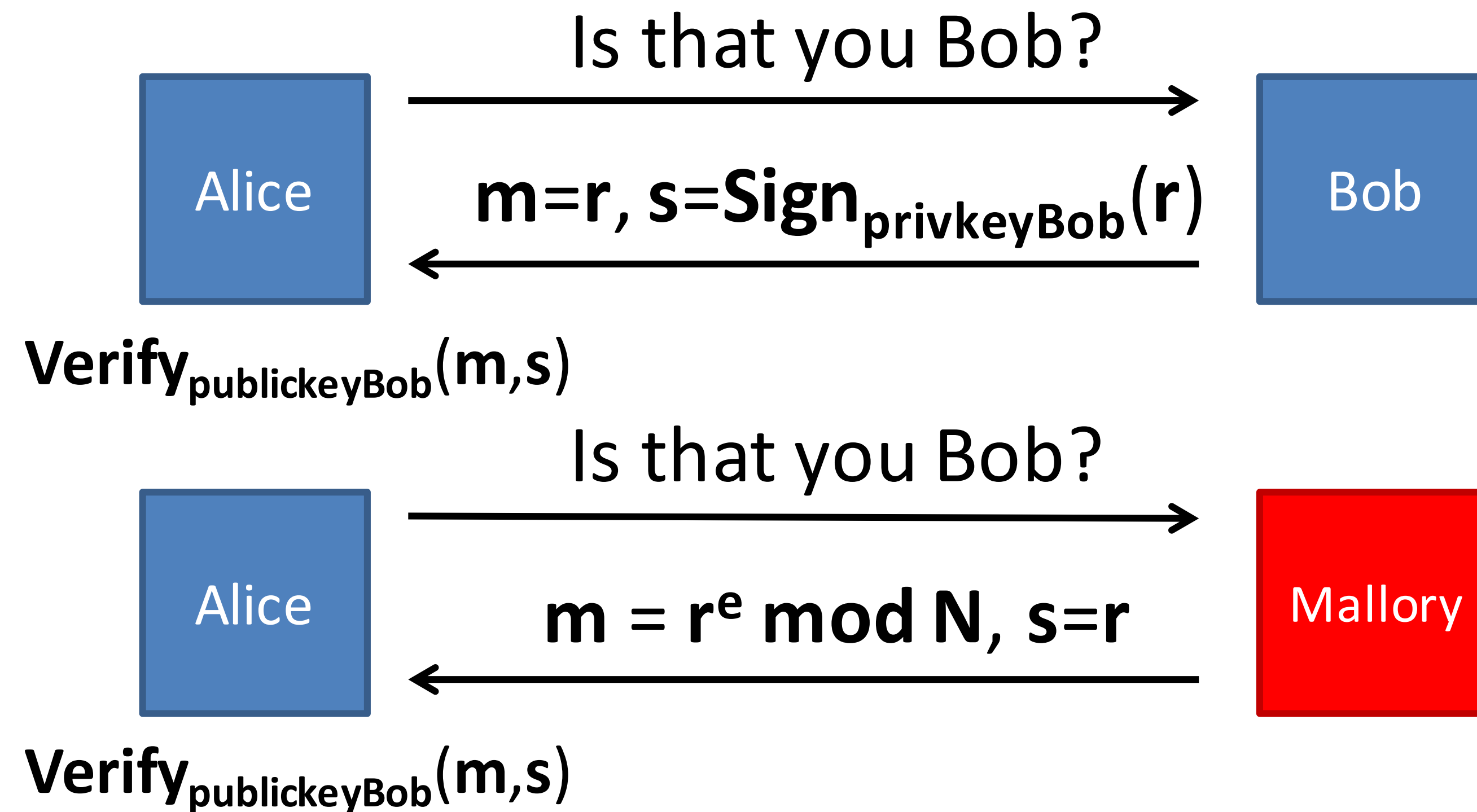
## 2. Problems during encryption



# RSA Gotchas!

## 3. Problems with digital signatures:

Forgery when messages are arbitrary.



Alice wants to know if Bob is on the wire. She expects Bob to sign a random message,  **$r$** , that she can verify with his public key.

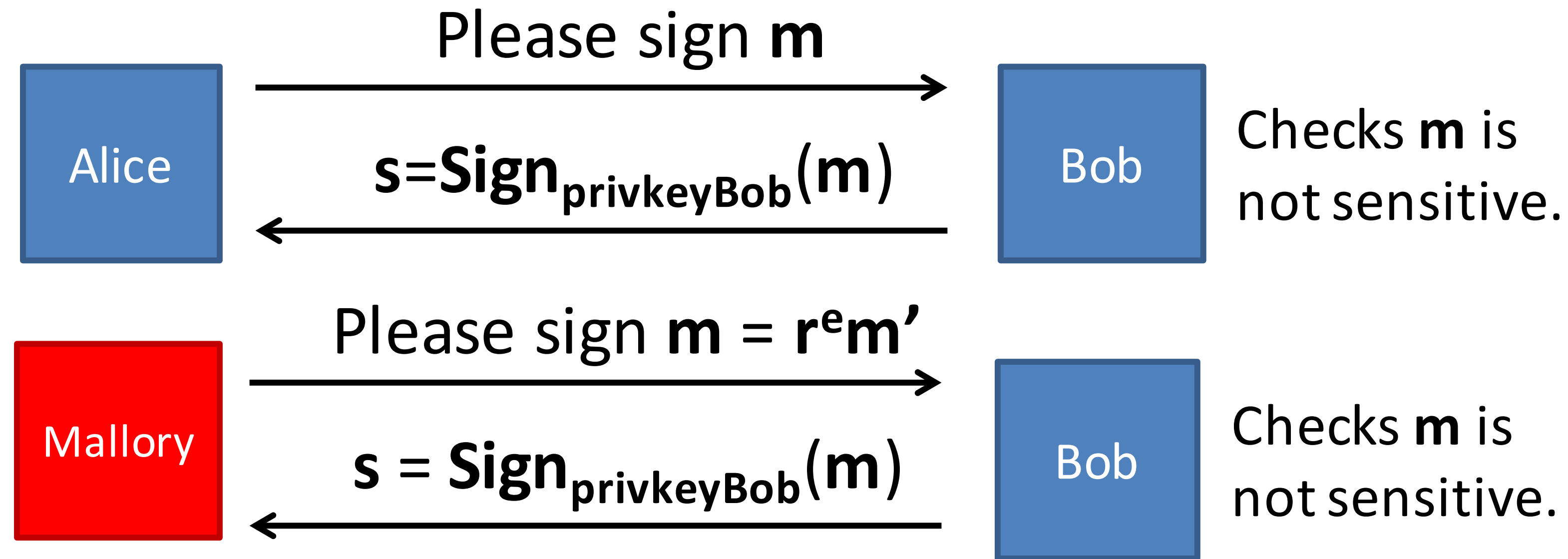
How could Alice be tricked by ***Mallory***?



# RSA Gotchas!

## 3. Problems with digital signatures:

Forgery of specific messages.



$$\begin{aligned} s' &= s/r \bmod N \\ &= (r^e m')^d / r \bmod N \\ &= (m')^d \bmod N \\ &= \text{Sign}(m') \end{aligned}$$

RSA ciphertexts are *malleable*.

# Fixes for some RSA Gotchas

1.  $e$  should be  $\geq 65537$
2. Always use padding.  
(Common standards: PKCS #1, OAEP)
3. Hash-and-sign paradigm:  
 $s = \text{Signprivkey}(H(m))$
4. Use different keys for encryption and digital signatures.
5. In practice, never implement RSA yourself. Use respected crypto libraries!

# Putting Together a Secure Channel

1. Establish a shared secret **k** using Diffie-Hellman (even if Mallory is there!)
2. Make sure they're really talking to each other by exchanging and verifying RSA signatures on **k** (if Mallory was there, this would fail)
3. Use a PRF, essentially a hash, to split **k** into four distinct keys (integrity and confidentiality in both directions)
4. To encrypt: Encrypt with symmetric cipher, then add MACs for integrity (encrypt, then MAC...)

## **So Far**

Putting together a secure channel (all the parts)

## **Upcoming...**

Begin Web/Network Security Unit

SSL/TLS (HTTPS) and Public-Key Infrastructure