

# Asymmetric Cryptography and Key Management

## Asymmetric Cryptography Overview

Sang-Yoon Chang, Ph.D.

# **Module: Asymmetric Cryptography Overview**

Principles and Misconceptions

Framework and Key Use

Cipher Requirements and  
Trapdoor One-Way Function



# **Revisiting Symmetric Cryptography**

Uses one key shared by Alice and Bob

Security relies on the key secrecy

Also called private-key or secret-key  
cryptography

# **Asymmetric Cryptography**

There is a public key and a private key

Also called public-key cryptography

Asymmetric since Alice and Bob are  
not equal

## **Misconceptions of Asymmetric Cryptography**

Asymmetric cryptography is more secure than symmetric cryptography

Asymmetric cryptography replaces symmetric cryptography

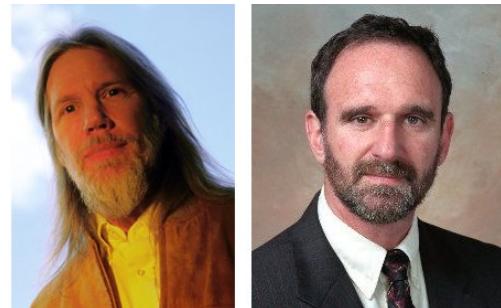
Key distribution is trivial

# Asymmetric Cryptography Invention

Invented to address two issues:

- Key distribution
- Digital signatures

Diffie and Hellman,  
1976



## **Asymmetric Cryptography**

A pair of key, one of which is public  
and the other private/secret

Alice uses one key and Bob the other

Infeasible to derive the private key  
from the public key or the ciphertext



## **Asymmetric Cipher for Different Security Uses**

Symmetric cipher for confidentiality

Asymmetric cipher for confidentiality  
or authentication, depending on the  
key use and the cipher design

# Cryptography Terminology

**Plaintext (p)** - the original message

**Ciphertext (c)** - the coded message

**Private Key ( $k_i$ )** - User i's private key

**Public Key ( $K_i$ )** - associated with user i  
and paired with  $k_i$

# Cryptography Terminology

**Plaintext (p)** - the original message

**Ciphertext (c)** - the coded message

**Private Key ( $k_i$ )** - User i's private key

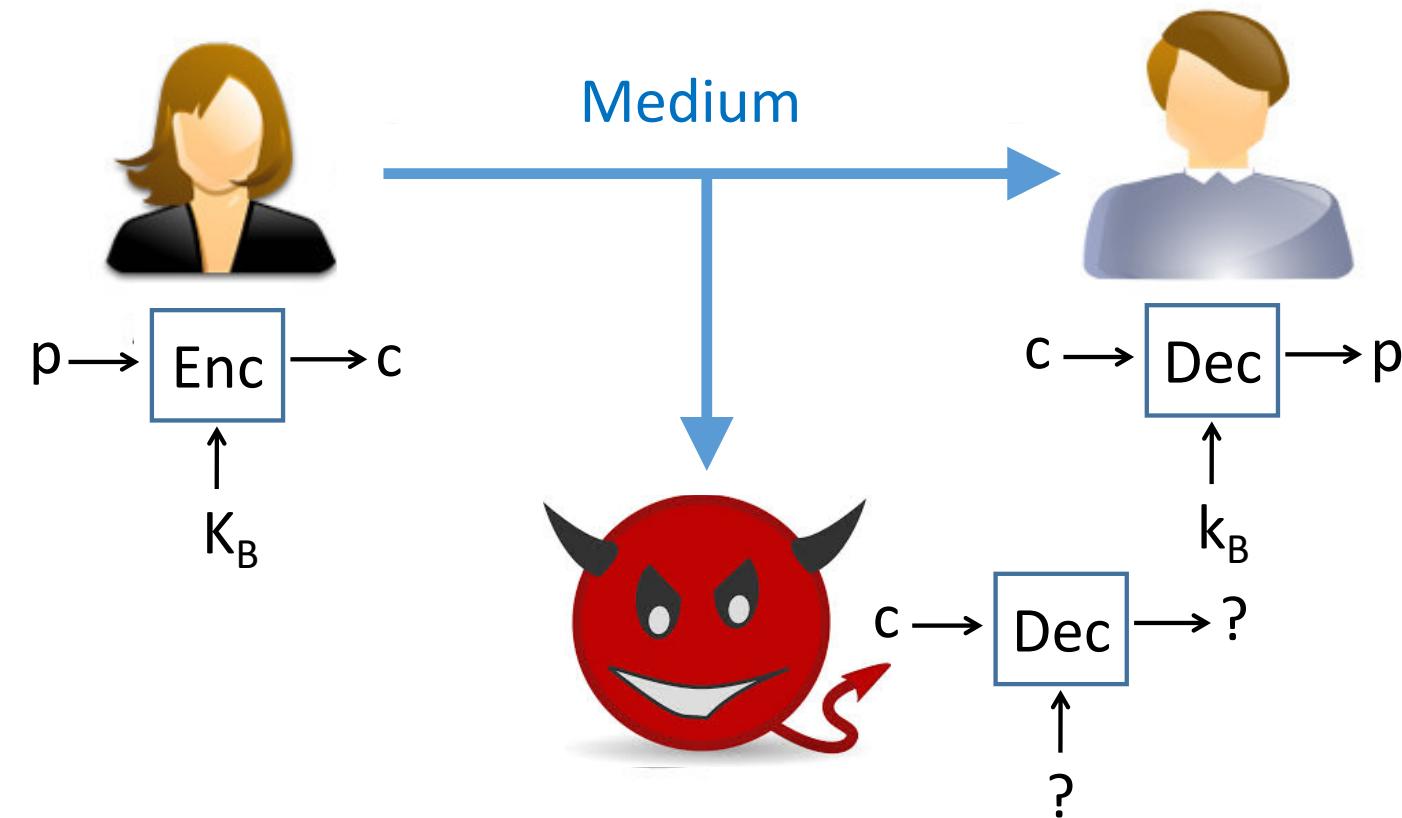
**Public Key ( $K_i$ )** - associated with user i  
and paired with  $k_i$

For any p,

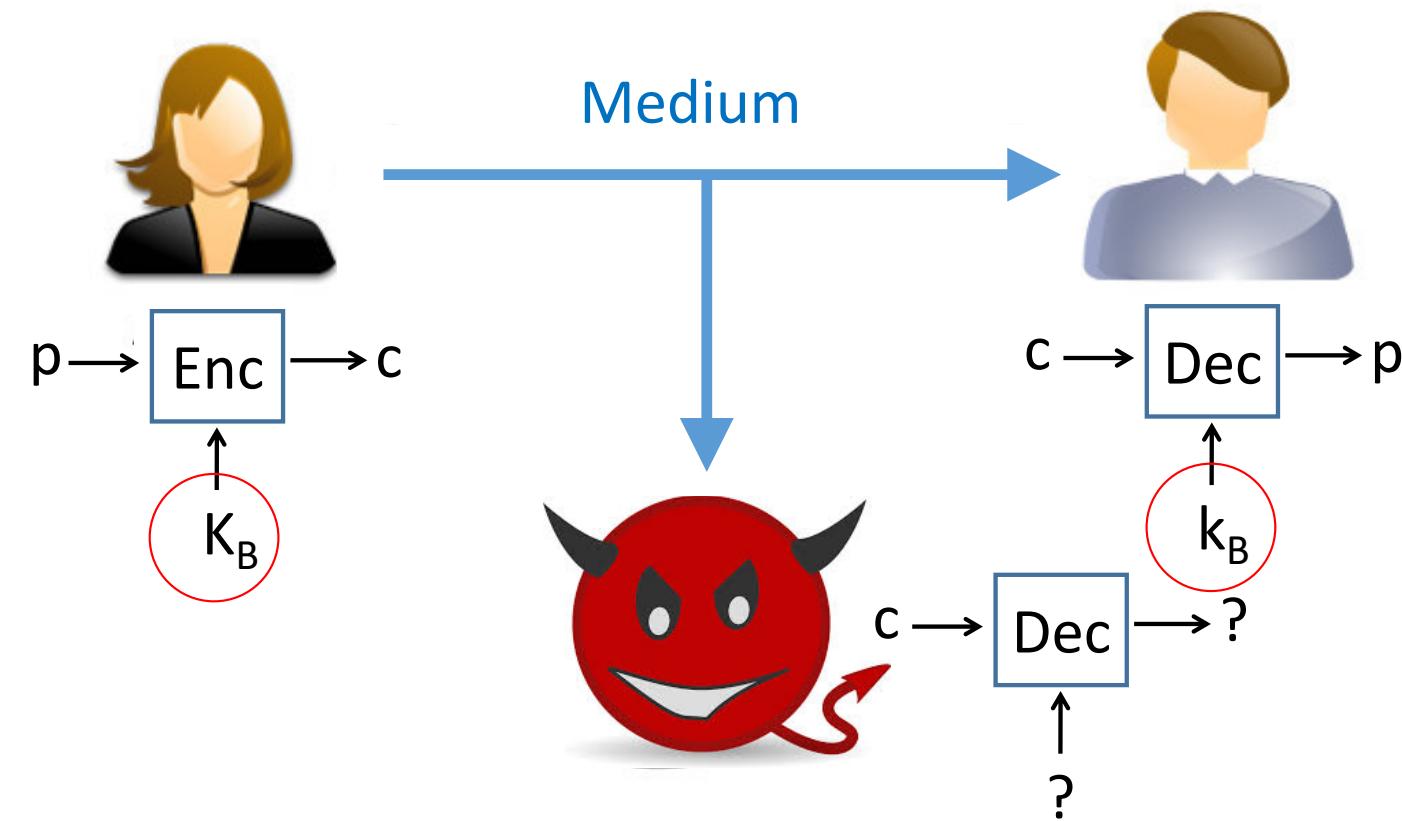
$\text{Dec}_1(k_i, \text{Enc}_1(K_i, p)) = p$  for confidentiality

$\text{Dec}_2(K_i, \text{Enc}_2(k_i, p)) = p$  for authentication

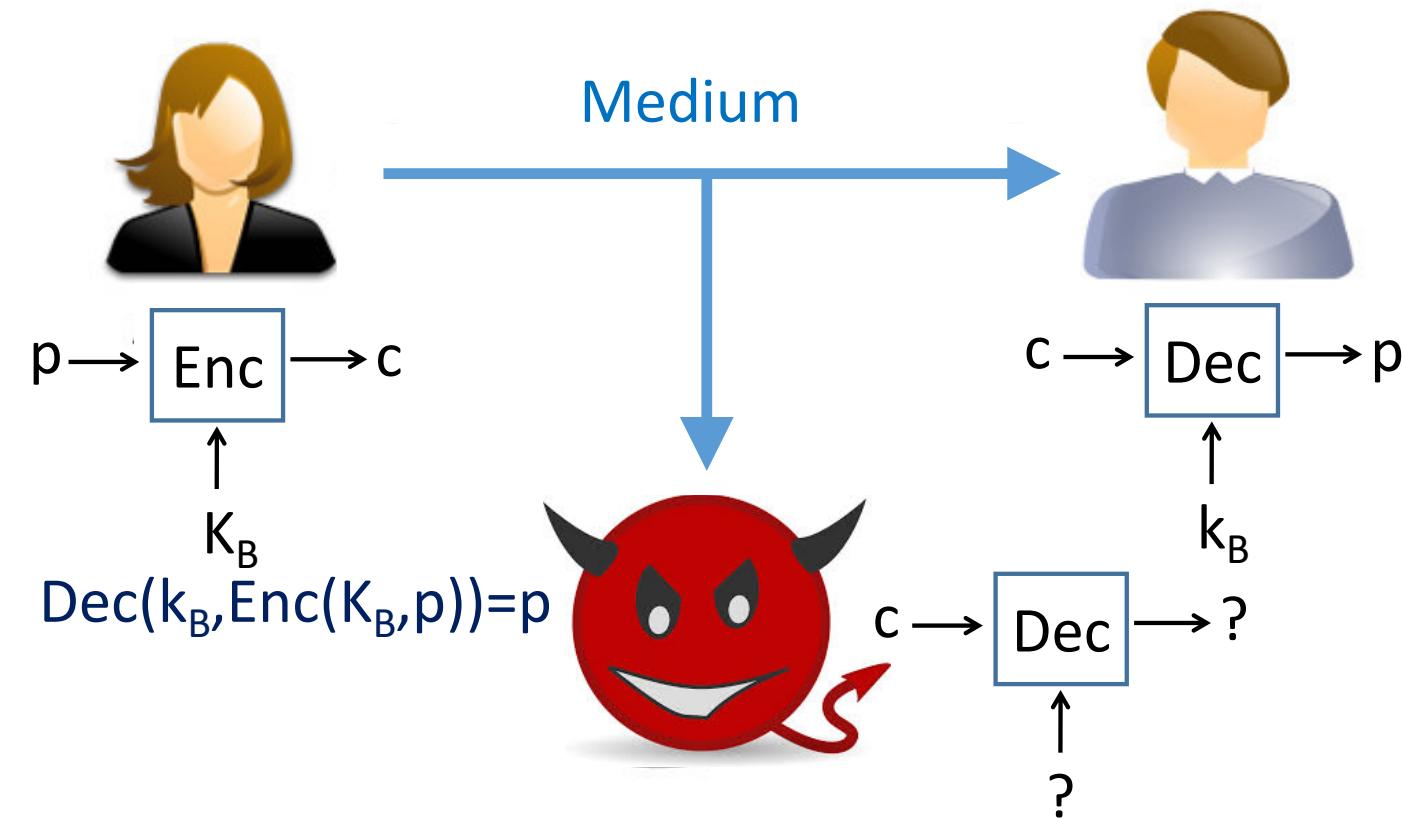
## Asymmetric: Alice uses Bob's public key $K_B$



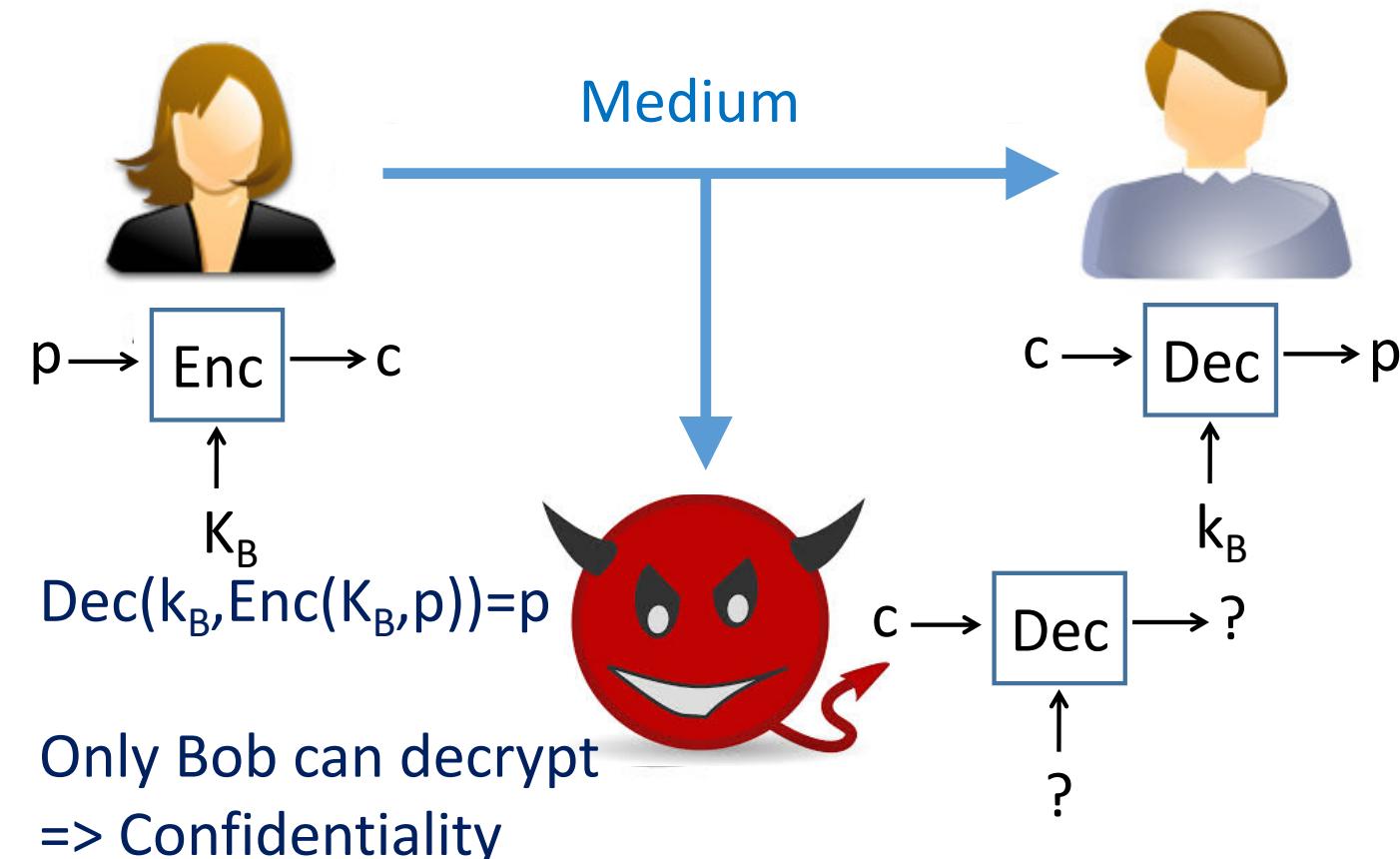
## Asymmetric: Alice uses Bob's public key $K_B$



## Asymmetric: Alice uses Bob's public key $K_B$

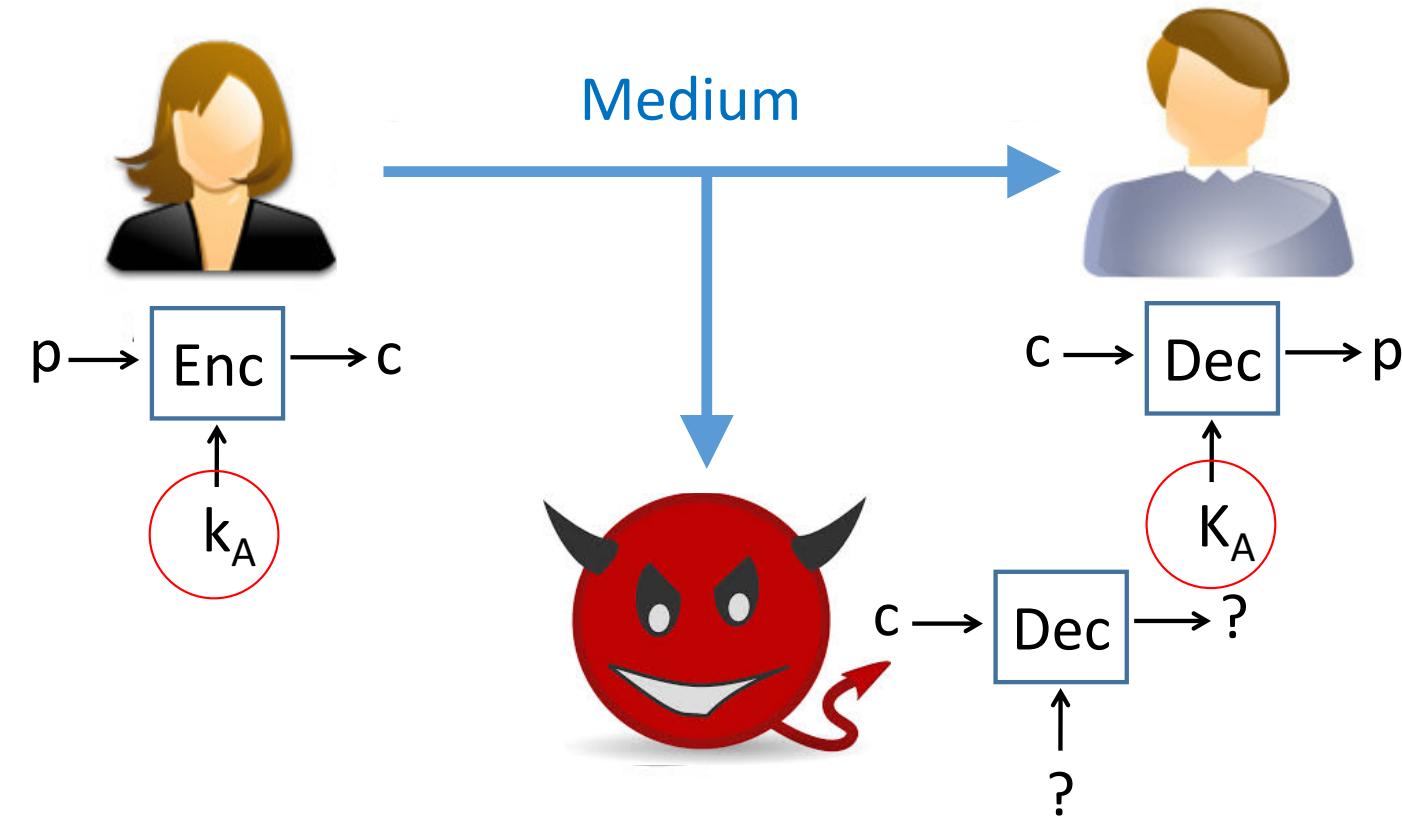


## Asymmetric: Alice uses Bob's public key $K_B$

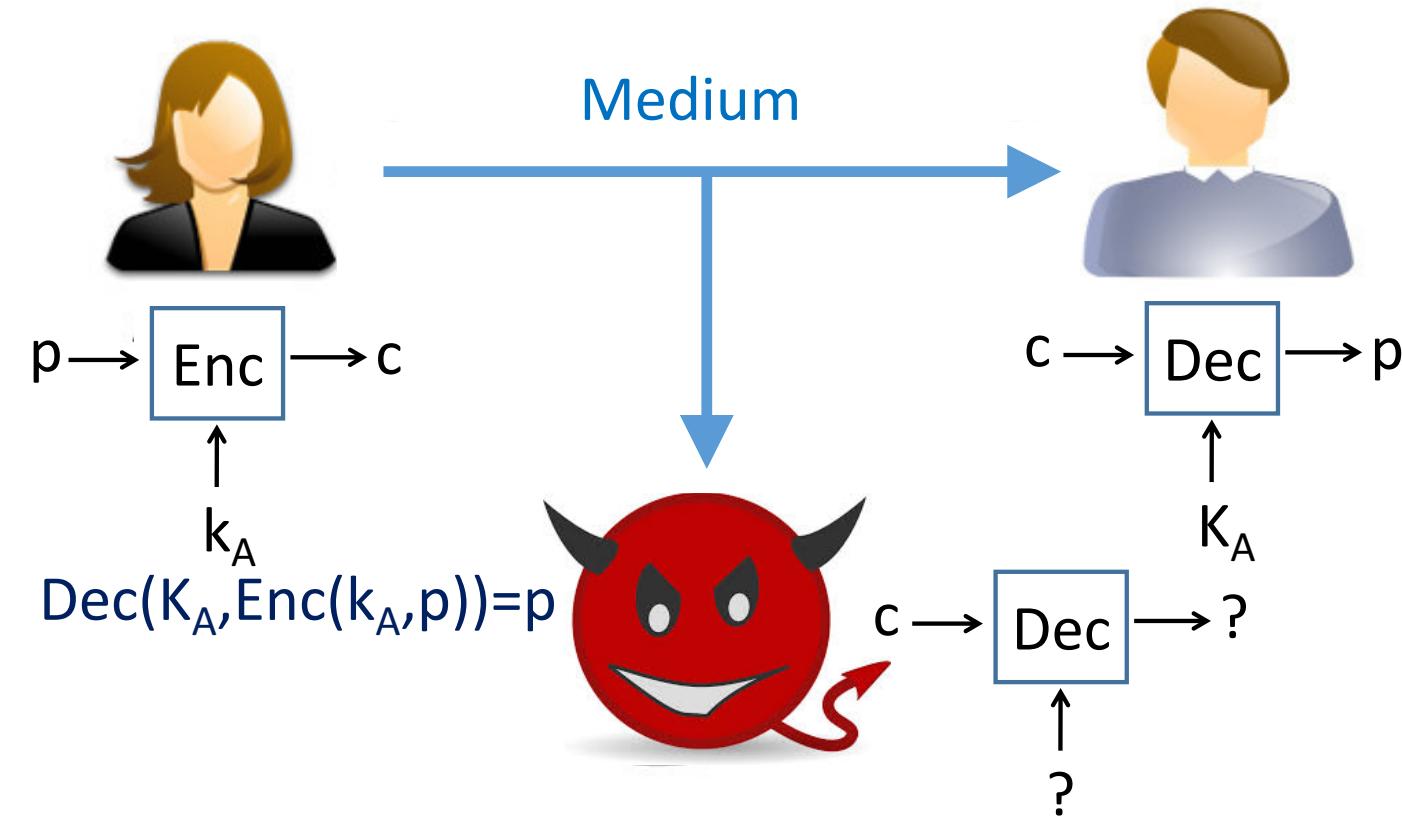




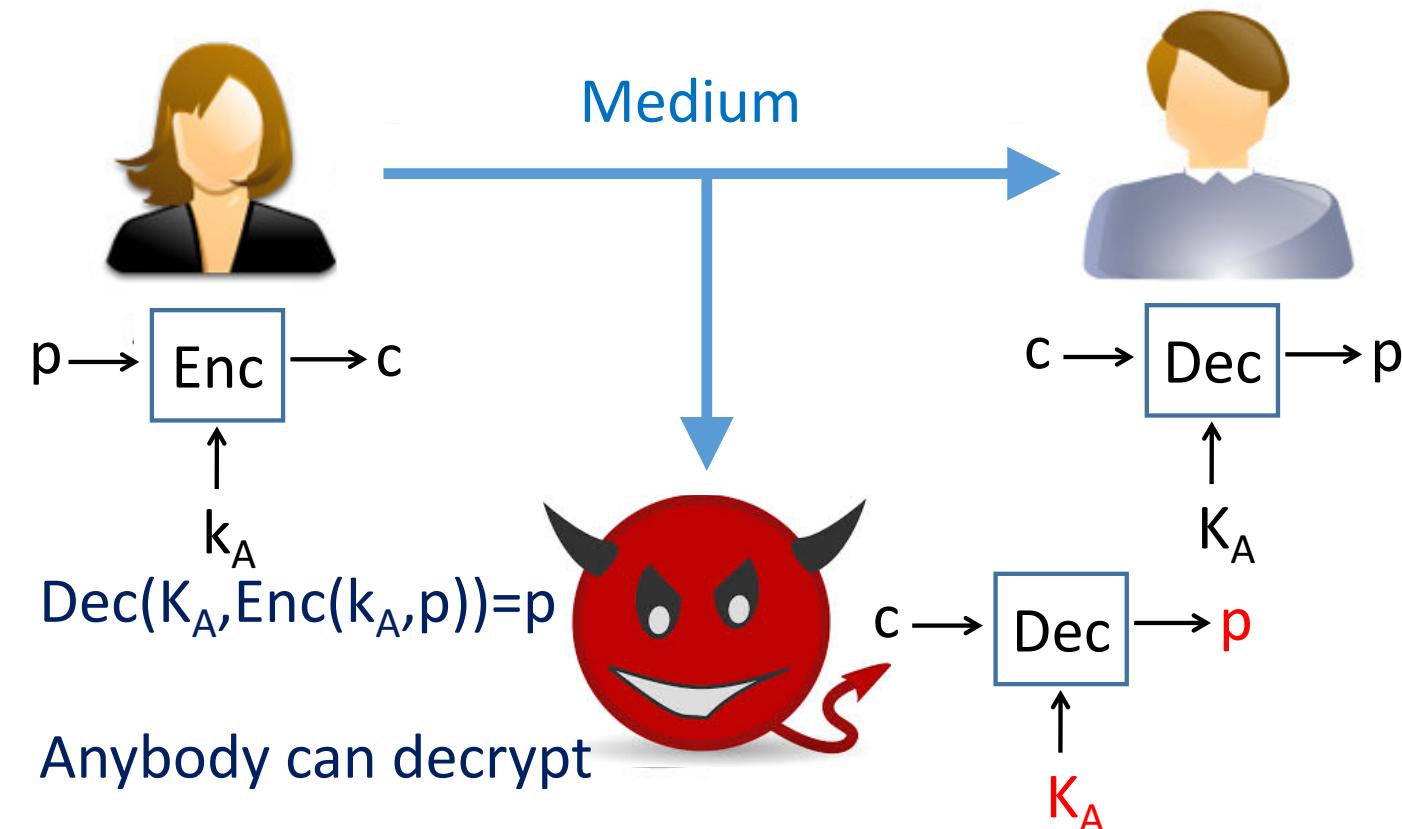
## Asymmetric: Alice uses Alice's private key $k_A$



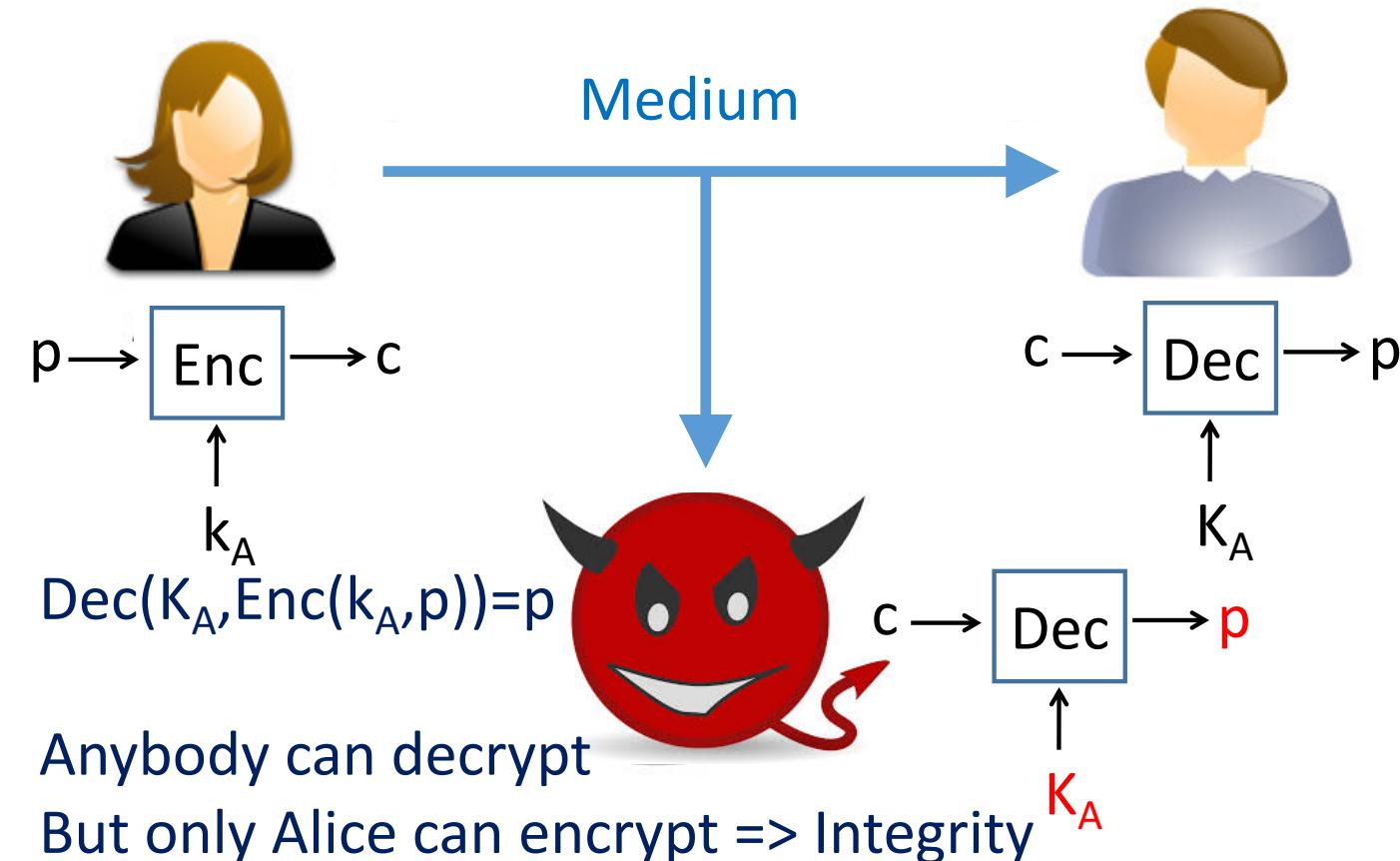
## Asymmetric: Alice uses Alice's private key $k_A$



## Asymmetric: Alice uses Alice's private key $k_A$



## Asymmetric: Alice uses Alice's private key $k_A$



## Asymmetric Cryptography Applications

Alice uses  $K_B$  and Bob uses  $k_B$

=> Confidentiality protection on p

Alice uses  $k_A$  and Bob uses  $K_A$

=> Authentication and source integrity

# Asymmetric Cryptography Applications

Alice uses  $K_B$  and Bob uses  $k_B$

=> Confidentiality protection on p

Encryption (confidentiality)

Alice uses  $k_A$  and Bob uses  $K_A$

=> Authentication and source integrity

Digital signature

Key exchange

# Asymmetric Cryptography Applications

Alice uses  $K_B$  and Bob uses  $k_B$

=> Confidentiality protection on p

Encryption (confidentiality) RSA

Alice uses  $k_A$  and Bob uses  $K_A$

=> Authentication and source integrity

Digital signature RSA

Key exchange RSA

# Asymmetric Cryptography Applications

Alice uses  $K_B$  and Bob uses  $k_B$

=> Confidentiality protection on p

Encryption (confidentiality) RSA

Alice uses  $k_A$  and Bob uses  $K_A$

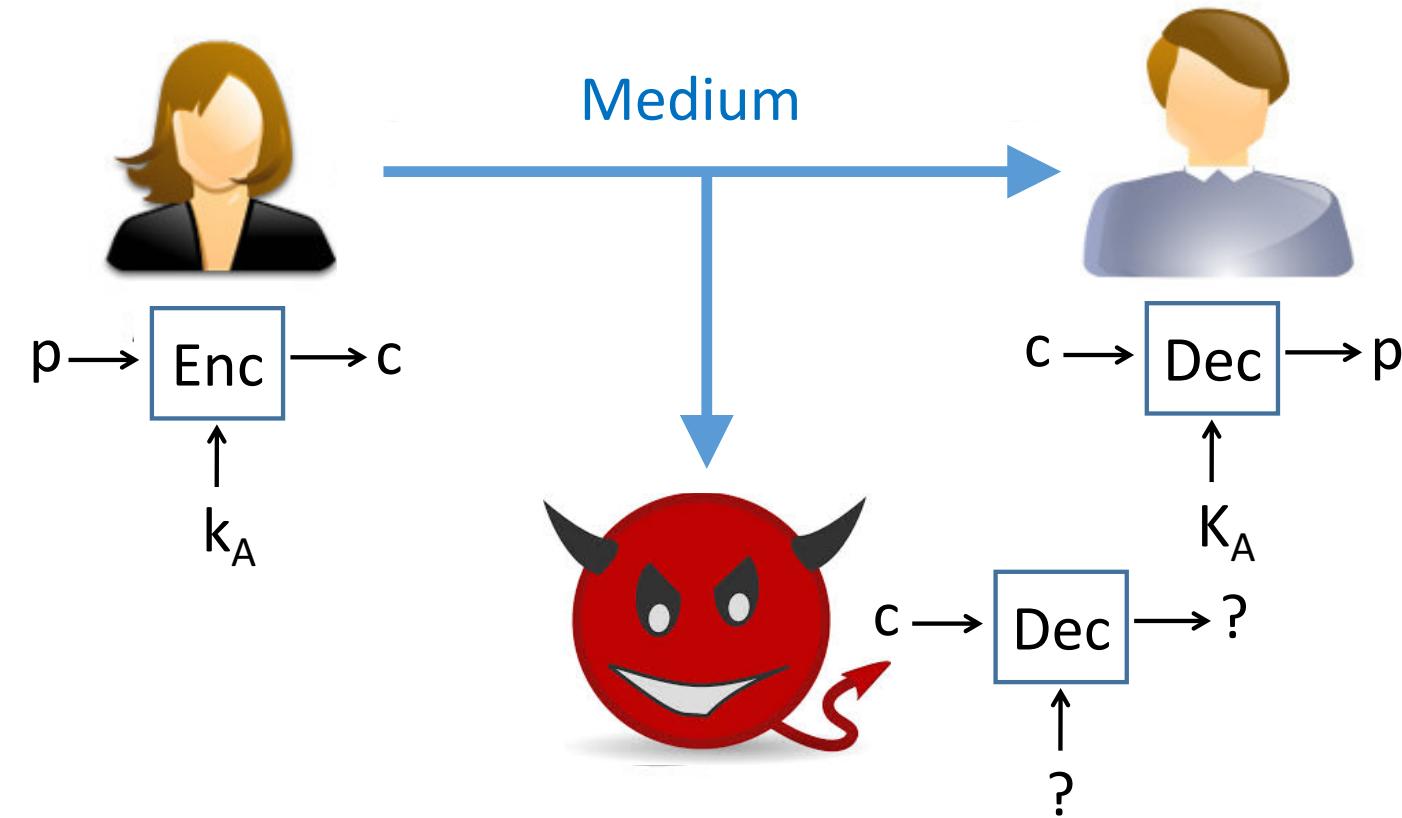
=> Authentication and source integrity

Digital signature RSA DSS

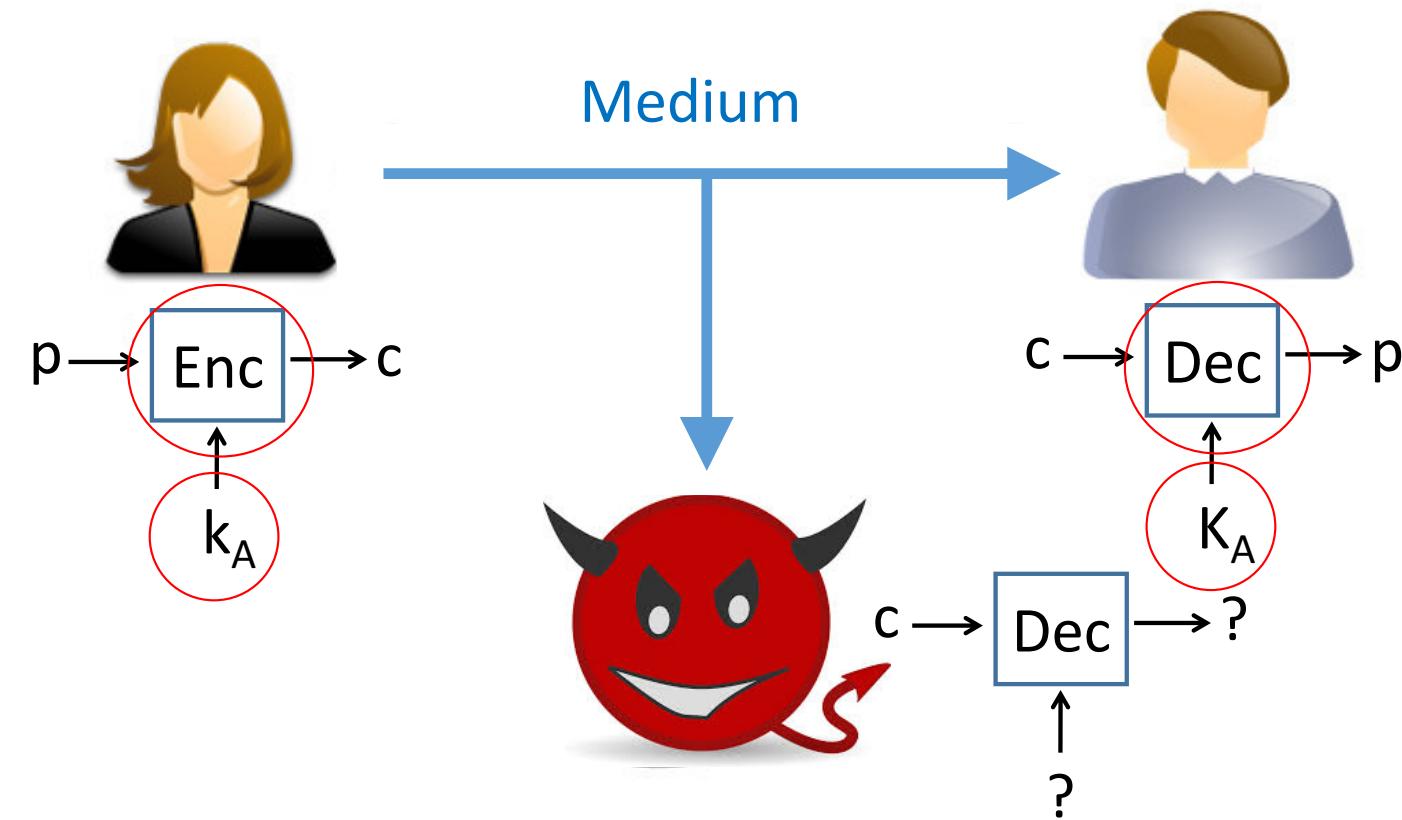
Key exchange RSA D.H.-key-exchange



## Asymmetric: Alice uses Alice's private key $k_A$



## Asymmetric: Alice uses Alice's private key $k_A$



## Asymmetric Cipher Requirements

- It is computationally easy for any user  $i$  to generate the key pair  $(k_i, K_i)$
- Enc., and Dec. computations are easy

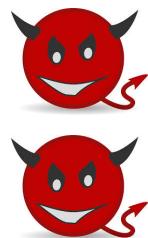
## Asymmetric Cipher Requirements

- It is computationally easy for any user  $i$  to generate the key pair  $(k_i, K_i)$
- Enc., and Dec. computations are easy
- It is computationally infeasible for Eve to derive  $k_i$  from  $K_i$
- It is computationally infeasible for Eve to derive  $p$  from  $K_i$  and  $C$



## Asymmetric Cipher Requirements

- It is computationally easy for any user  $i$  to generate the key pair  $(k_i, K_i)$
- Enc., and Dec. computations are easy
- It is computationally infeasible for Eve to derive  $k_i$  from  $K_i$
- It is computationally infeasible for Eve to derive  $p$  from  $K_i$  and  $C$
- (Optional) Keys can be in both order:  
$$p = \text{Dec}(K_i, \text{Enc}(k_i, p)) = \text{Dec}(k_i, \text{Enc}(K_i, p))$$
  
E.g., RSA



## Trapdoor One-Way Function

One-way function is:

$y=f(x)$  is easy;  $x=f^{-1}(y)$  is infeasible

Trapdoor one-way function is:

- $y = f_k(x)$  easy, if  $k$  and  $x$  are known
- $x = f_k^{-1}(y)$  easy, if  $k$  and  $y$  are known
- $x = f_k^{-1}(y)$  infeasible, if  $y$  known but  $k$  unknown

