Bo Luo

Authentication

Bo Luo bluo@ku.edu



Bo Luo

Authentication

- Authentication
 - Alice talks with Bob
 - How does Bob know it's Alice?
 - Alice logs in to use the system
 - How does the system know it's Alice?
- We consider two authentication scenarios
 - Server authentication
 - Certificate
 - User authentication
 - With OS
 - In a distributed system



Bo Luo

- Bob gets a message claiming to be from Alice
 - Message is signed with key claiming to be Alice's
 - Still remember MAC?
 - Signature matches the message
 - Is Bob sure that it came from Alice?
 - How could Bob confirm that the public key belongs to Alice?



Bo Luo

- Related question. can I:
 - Take a small picture of myself
 - Attach it to a card saying that I'm Trump
 - get a free ride on Air Force One?



Bo Luo

- I tell you my real name
 - How can you verify?
 - I can show you my Driver's License
 - I can show you my KU Card
- I also have a card saying that I'm Trump
 - why do you trust a driver's license but not the ID card that I created saying I'm Trump?



Bo Luo

- I tell you my real name
 - How can you verify?
 - I can show you my Driver's License
 - I can show you my KU Card
- I also have a card saying that I'm Trump
 - why do you trust a driver's license but not the ID card that I created saying I'm Trump?
 - State of KS vouches the picture matches: the name, address, etc. of the info on the card
 - If you trust KS, you believe info on license

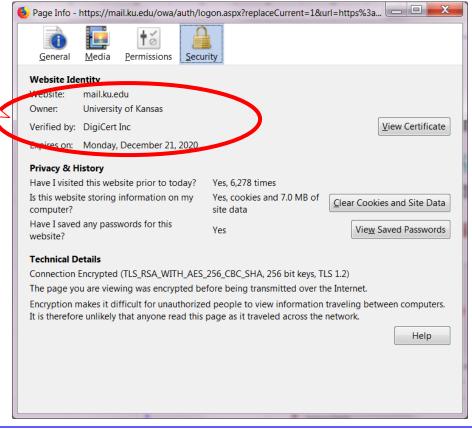


Bo Luo

Certificate

- Can we do the same for public keys?
- When we use https://mail.ku.edu/, how do we know if it's really KU mail system?

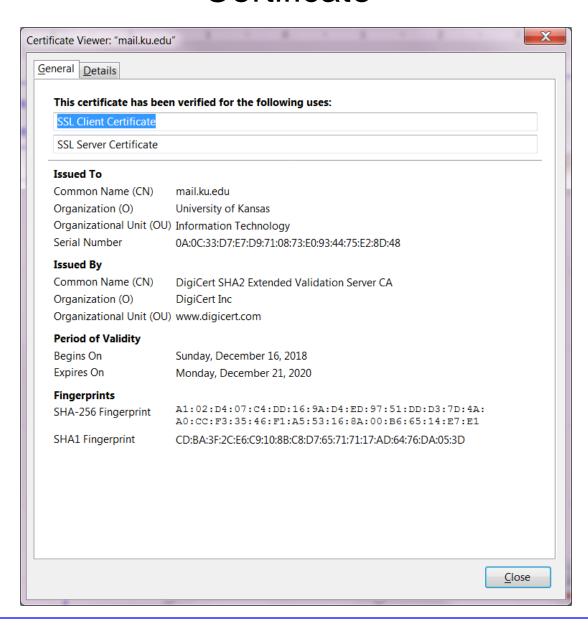
You trust this is KU, if you trust DigiCert Inc





Bo Luo

KU



Bo Luo

- Goal of authentication: bind identity to key
- Public key: bind identity to public key
 - Crucial as people will use key to communicate with principal whose identity is bound to key
 - Erroneous binding means no secrecy between principals
 - Assume principal identified by an acceptable name



Bo Luo

- Certificate: token (message) containing
 - Identity of principal (here, Alice)
 - Corresponding public key
 - Timestamp (when issued)
 - Other information (perhaps identity of signer)
 - Compute hash (message digest) of token
- Hash encrypted by trusted authority (here, Cathy) using private key: called a "signature"

$$C_A = e_A \parallel \text{Alice} \parallel T \parallel \{ h(e_A \parallel \text{Alice} \parallel T) \}_{d_C}$$

Bo Luo

Public-Key Infrastructure (PKI)

• Alice's certificate:

$$C_A = e_A \parallel \text{Alice} \parallel T \parallel \{ h(e_A \parallel \text{Alice} \parallel T) \}_{d_C}$$

- Bob gets Alice's certificate
 - If he knows Cathy's public key, he can validate the certificate
 - Decrypt the encrypted hash using Cathy's public key
 - Re-compute hash from certificate and compare
 - Check validity
 - Is the principal Alice?
 - Now Bob has Alice's public key
 - Alice is endorsed by Cathy!



Bo Luo

Public-Key Infrastructure (PKI)

• Alice's certificate:

$$C_A = e_A \parallel \text{Alice} \parallel T \parallel \{ h(e_A \parallel \text{Alice} \parallel T) \}_{d_C}$$

- Problem: Bob needs Cathy's public key to validate certificate
 - That is, secure distribution of public keys
 - Solution: Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) using trust anchors called *Certificate* Authorities (CAs) that issue certificates



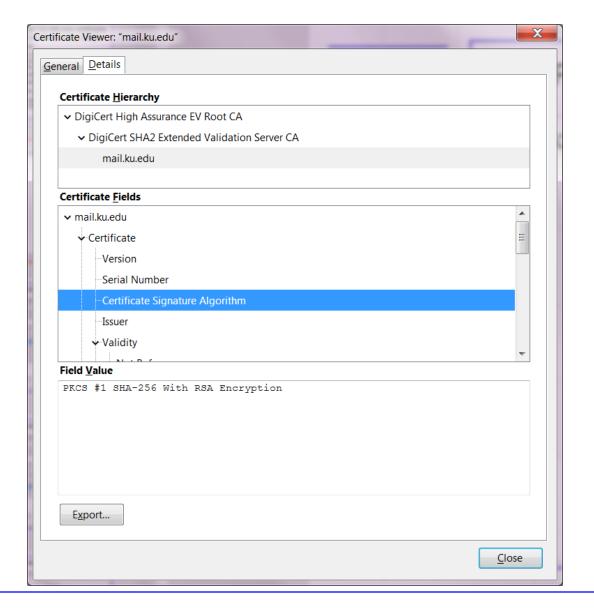
Bo Luo

- Hierarchical CAs with cross-certification
 - Multiple root CAs that are cross-certified
- Web Model
 - Browsers or Operating Systems come preconfigured with multiple trust anchor certificates
 - New certificates can be added (be careful!)
 - Bad certificate can be revoked.
- Distributed model (e.g., PGP)
 - No CA; instead, users certify each other to build a "web of trust"



Bo Luo

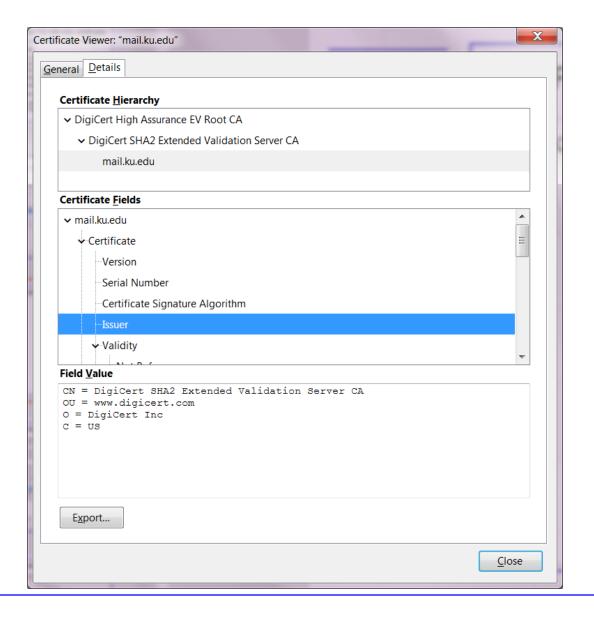






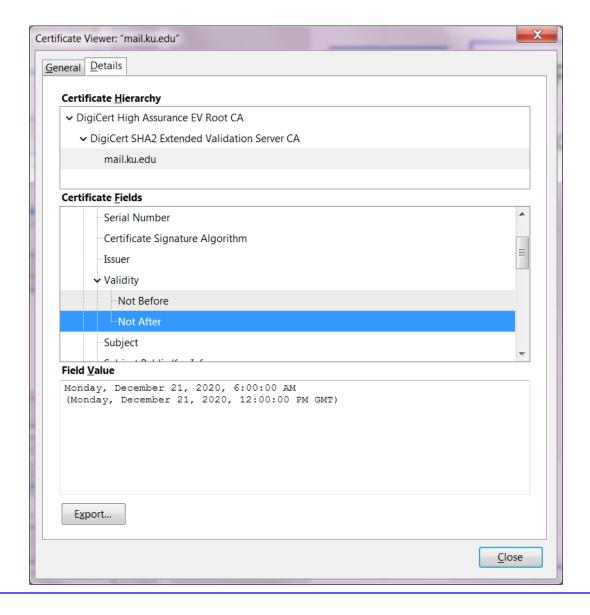
Bo Luo





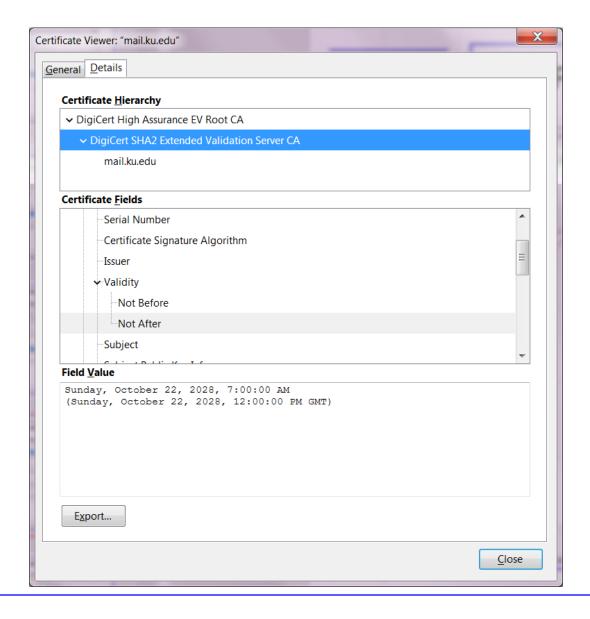
Bo Luo





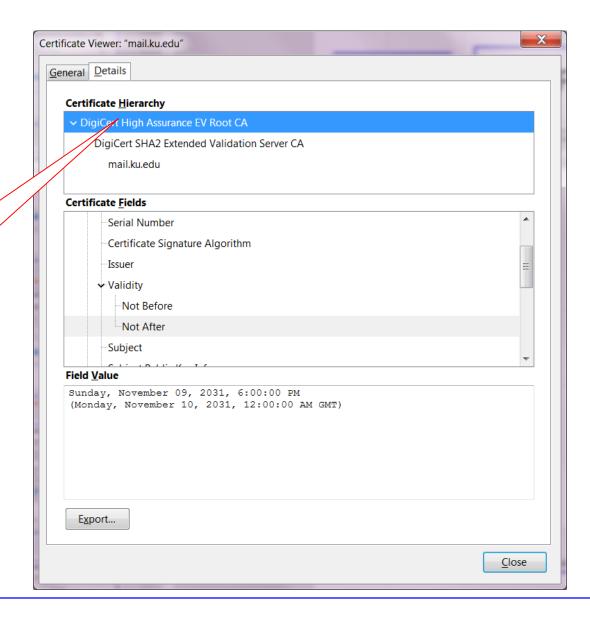
Bo Luo





Bo Luo

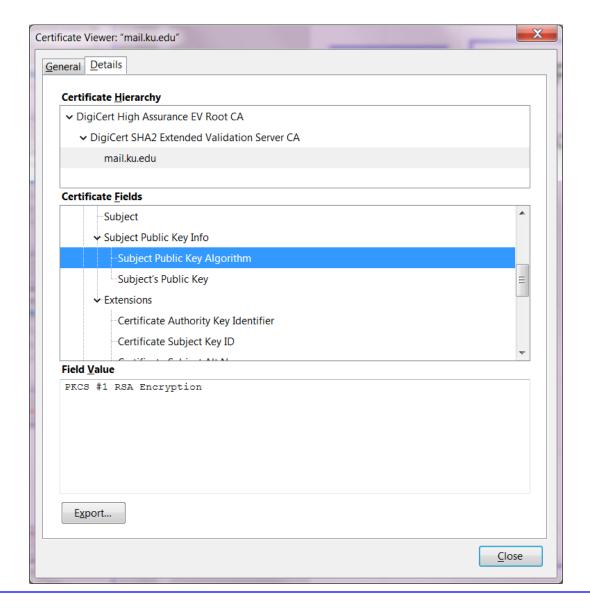
The root CA is good for 25 years.





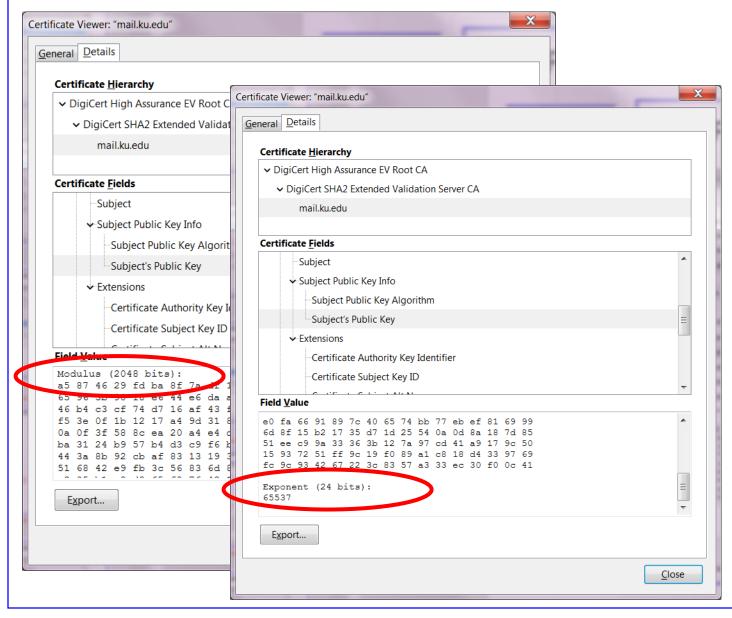
Bo Luo





Bo Luo





Bo Luo

Authentication

- Authentication
 - Alice talks with Bob
 - How does Bob know it's Alice?
 - Alice logs in to use the system
 - How does the system know it's Alice?
- We consider two authentication scenarios
 - Server authentication
 - Certificate
 - User authentication
 - With OS
 - In a distributed system



Bo Luo

Authentication

- Credentials can be
 - Something I am
 - Something I have
 - Something I know
- Passwords
 - Used to authenticate users in OS, web, email, etc.



Bo Luo

- Passwords are pretty weak.....
- SplashData's Worst Passwords List: most commonly used passwords in 2015 (from 2M+ leaked passwords)

RANK	PASSWORD	CHANGE FROM 2014	
1	123456	Unchanged	
2	password	Unchanged	
3	12345678	1 🗷	
4	qwerty	1 🗷	
5	12345	2 🔰	
6	123456789	Unchanged	
7	football	3 🗷	
8	1234	1 71	
9	1234567	2 🗷	
10	baseball	2 🔰	
11	welcome	NEW	
12	1234567890	NEM	

13	abc123	1 7
14	111111	1 🗷
15	1qaz2wsx	NEW
16	dragon	7 🛂
17	master	2 🞵
18	monkey	6 7 1
19	letmein	6 7 1
20	login	HEM
21	princess	NEW
22	qwertyuiop	MEM
23	solo	HEM
24	password	HEM
25	starwars	HEM



Bo Luo

- Passwords are pretty weak.....
- SplashData's Worst Passwords List: most commonly used passwords in 2018

1 123456	Unchanged	14 666666	New
2 password	Unchanged	15 abc123	Unchanged
3 123456789	Up 3	16 football	Down 7
4 12345678	Down 1	17 123123	Unchanged
5 12345	Unchanged	18 monkey	Down 5
6 111111	New	19 654321	New
7 1234567	Up 1	20!@#\$%^&am	p;* New
8 sunshine	New	21 charlie	New
9 qwerty	Down 5	22 aa123456	New
10 iloveyou	Unchanged	23 donald	New
11 princess	New	24 password1	New
12 admin	Down 1	25 qwerty123	New
13 welcome	Down 1		



Bo Luo

- What if the bad guy gets your password file?
 - Aside: this has happened a lot. Many of them through SQL injection attack.
- Instead of storing cleartext passwords
 - Store passwords transformed through some one-way function, e.g. the hash of the password.
- When user sends password
 - take hash of the password, H(pass)
 - check H(pass) == what's in password file



Bo Luo

- Password crackers
 - Brute force
 - Dictionary based
- What if the bad guy manages to get the a hashed password h(p)
 - Hash the terms in the dictionary, and compare them with h(p)
 - Counter measure: we can make the h()
 function very slow, or hash it many times.
 - If it takes 0.1 second compute hash doesn't matter in real world applications.
 - However, the adversary could only test 600 passwords in a minute.



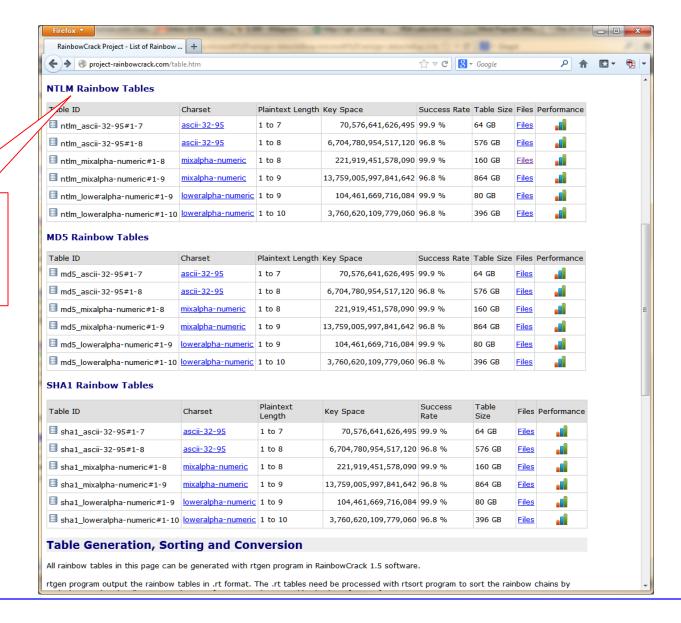
Bo Luo

- What if the bad guy pre-computes h(p) for all entries in the dictionary?
 - Rainbow table
 - Yes, you can purchase from the Internet.



Bo Luo

NTLM: MS's NT Lan Manager





Bo Luo

- What if the bad guy pre-computes h(p) for all entries in the dictionary?
 - Rainbow table
 - Yes, you can purchase from the Internet.
- Counter measure: salt
 - Add randomness to password hash
 - Random data called salt

userid	salt	hash
	56129	hash(56129 jfiore's password)
skippy	21592	hash(21592 skippy's password)
lenny	55573	hash(55573 lenny's password)
etc.		



Bo Luo

- Future of password authentication
 - Graphical passwords?
 - Android: patterns
 - Biometrics?
 - Face recognition
 - Fingerprint
 - Two factor authentication?
 - password + token
 - password + something like SecureID
 - password + biometrics



Bo Luo

Distributed Authentication

- In a distributed environment?
 - Key management
 - Secret key: if there are N principals, N² shared keys would be needed
 - PKI: if there are N principals, N (public, private) key pairs would be needed
 - A better solution?



Bo Luo

Kerberos

Kerberos

Cerberus: in Greek and Roman mythology, is a multi-headed (usually three-headed) dog, or "hellhound" which guards the gates of the Underworld, to prevent those who have crossed the river Styx from ever escaping.



-- Wiki

A centralized authentication service

- Authenticate users to services
- Authenticate services to users
- Servers are relieved of the burden of maintaining authentication information



Bo Luo

Kerberos

History

- Developed as a part of *Project Athena* at MIT
- Solves: password eavesdropping
- Online authentication: variant of Needham-Schroeder
- Easy application integration API
- First single sign-on system
- Sign-on once, access all services
- Most widely used (non-web) centralized password system in existence
 - Adopted by Windows 2000 and all later versions
 - Also available for Unix/Linux family of OS
 - Again, there are some interesting stories about military adoption and export control...



Bo Luo

Kerberos

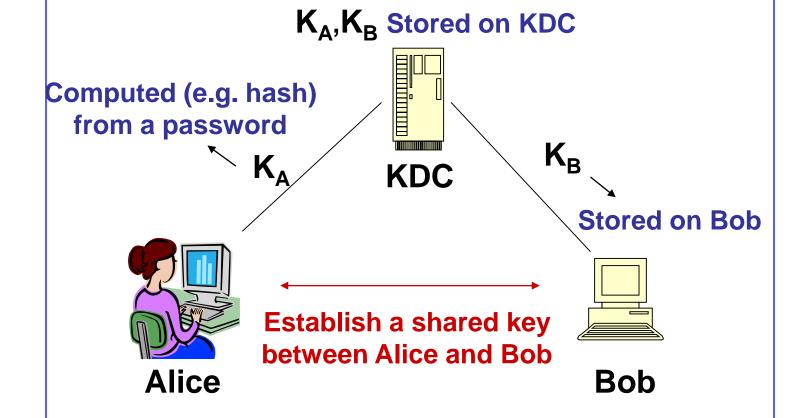
- The design of Kerberos
 - Goal: reduce the amount of information each individual system needs to maintain.
 - Trusted third-party issues certificate
 - Prove that I am the person on the certificate
 - Certificates contain other properties useful for authorization decisions
 - Assumption: the communication channel is insecure.



Bo Luo

Kerberos

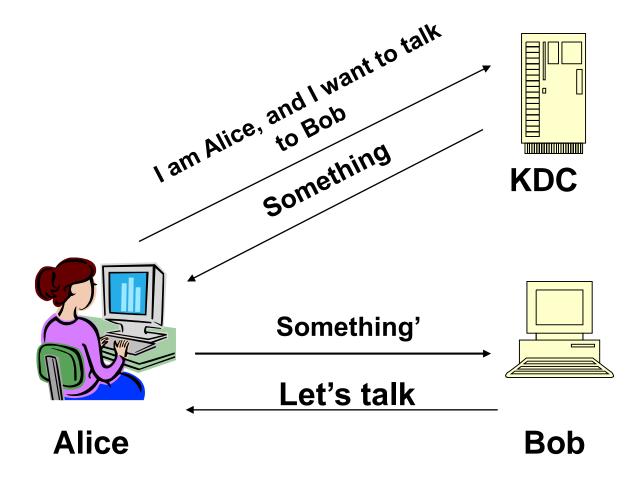
- The Kerberos architecture
 - KDC: Key Distribution Center
 - K_A: Shared between Alice and KDC





Bo Luo

Kerberos



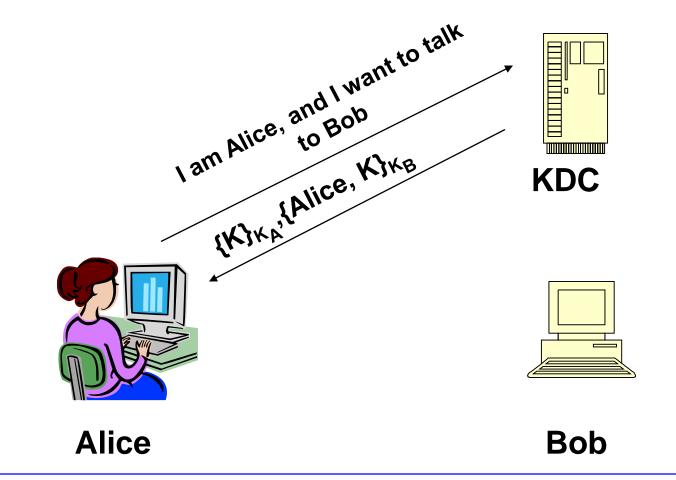
• Q: how to verify Alice? What is the certificate?



Bo Luo

Kerberos

• KDC: only Alice could see K; only Bob could see {Alice, K}.

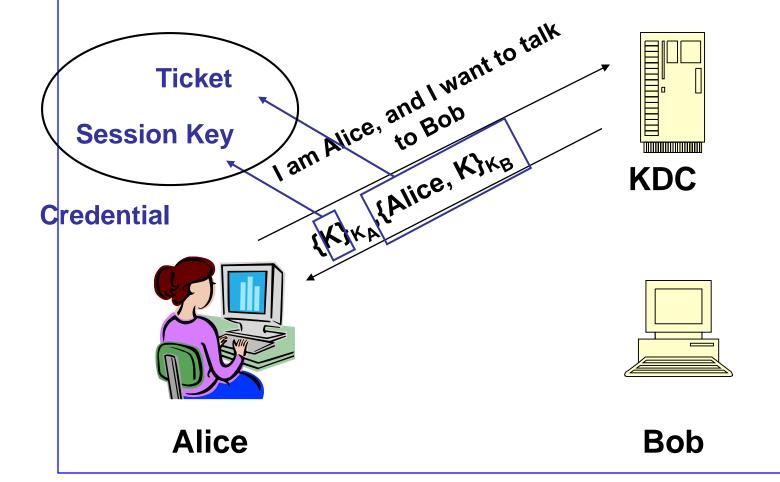




Bo Luo

Kerberos

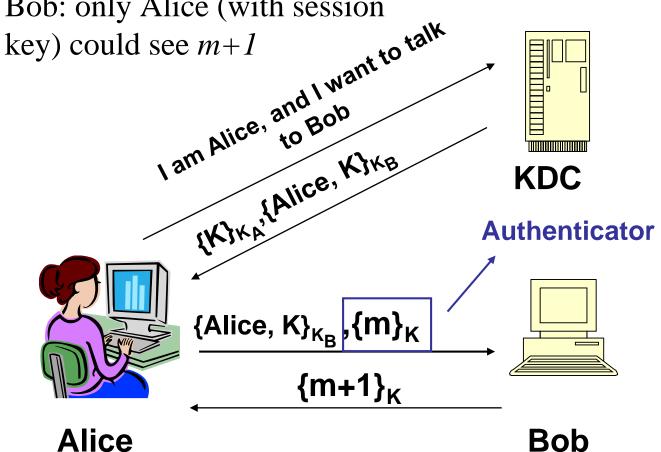
• KDC: only Alice could see the session key; only Bob could see the ticket.





Bo Luo

- Alice: only Bob could "understand" the ticket; only Bob could see *m*
- Bob: only Alice (with session





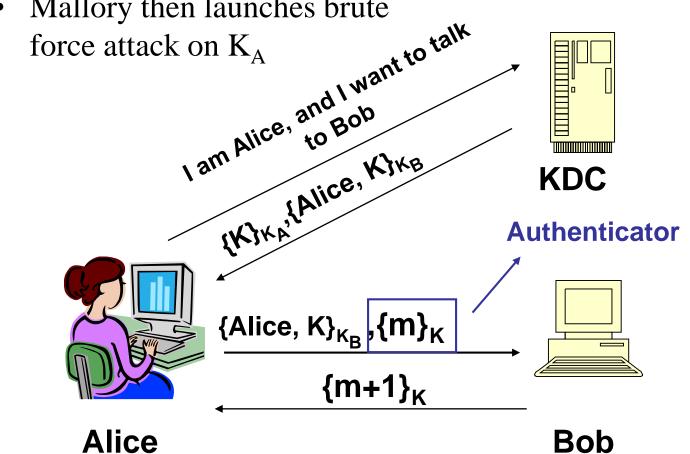
Bo Luo

- Design rationales behind Kerberos
 - Less work on servers (KDC and Bob), more work on clients
 - A client requests credentials (ticket + session key) and manage them; KDC and Bob do not maintain states about user credentials (except that it must remember authenticators seen in a time window to avoid replay attacks)
 - More scalable in a large distributed system
 - Less communication overhead
 - Alice sends both the ticket and the authenticator to Bob. Neither Alice nor Bob needs to wait.



Bo Luo

- Mallory could claim to be Alice, to get $\{K\}_{K_{\Delta}}, \{Alice, K\}_{K_{R}}$
- Mallory then launches brute





Bo Luo

Kerberos

Discussions

- User Alice in EECS uses a weak password.
 She logged in from her office to a EECS server using Kerberos.
- Eve gets Alice's password through social engineering attacks.
- Later it was discovered that the network communication link was exposed to possible eavesdropping attack.
- Eve obtains $\{K\}_{K_A}$, $\{Alice, K\}_{K_B}$
- Alice changes her password to a strong password.
- What could Eve do?



Bo Luo

- Discussions
- A session key can be reused by Alice
 - It really should be called a "multi-session" key
 - Would be disastrous if Alice's password gets compromised: an attacker can impersonate Alice indefinitely, even after Alice changes her password
 - Kerberos imposes a life-time on a ticket to address this problem



Bo Luo

- Discussions
- Short-term credentials
 - Kerberos tickets and session keys are shortterm credentials. Unlike the long-term credentials (keys shared with KDC), they can be stored in memory or disk.



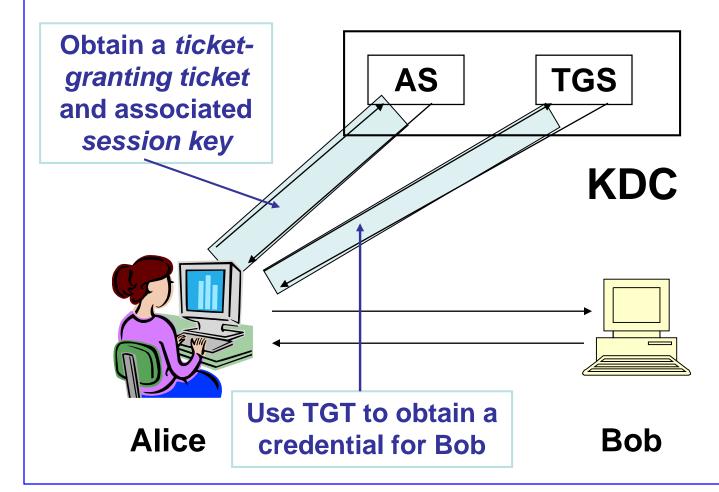
Bo Luo

- One ticket for one server
 - The ticket is only good between Alice and Bob
 - Alice would have to type in password to obtain a new ticket for a different server
- Single Sign-On (SSO)
 - Ticket-granting Server (TGS)
 - A dedicated server that issues tickets for all other servers
 - User only needs to type in password once to obtain a credential (ticket+session key) for TGS (Ticket-Granting Ticket)
 - Subsequent ticket-granting requests will be conducted through TGS



Bo Luo

- Kerberos Single Sign-On (SSO)
 - AS: Authentication server





Bo Luo

- Kerberos Single Sign-On (SSO)
 - AS: Authentication server
 - TGS Session Key: K_{S-TGS}
 - Sending K_{S-TGS} to Alice: $\{K_{S-TGS}\}_{K_A}$
 - Ticket Granting Ticket (TGT):{Alice, K_{S-TGS}} _{K_{TGS}}



Bo Luo

Kerberos

Discussions

- EECS uses a single sign-on Kerberos system.
- User Alice in EECS uses a weak password. She logged in to AS to obtain a ticket-granting ticket.
- Eve gets Alice's password.
- Alice uses the TGT to contact the Ticket Granting Server, to obtain a ticket to server X.
- Later it was discovered that the network communication link between Alice and TGS was exposed to possible eavesdropping attack.
- Was Alice's password endangered because of this?
- Eve obtained the TGT. Could Eve use the ticket to impersonate Alice to EECS servers?



Bo Luo

Wrap-up

- What we have covered?
 - Cryptography

Pure topic == Basic

- Basic concepts
- Classic Cryptography
- Modern symmetric cryptography
- Asymmetric cryptography
- Cryptographic hash
- Authentication
 - Password-based authentication
 - Authentication in a distributed system
 - The Public Key Infrastructure

