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Symmetric Encryption: Key Exchange

The key exchange process is a central part of symmetric encryption as it decides the security of the communication system as a whole. A compromise in the key exchange can result in the CIA triad of the encrypted information being impacted. Some threats to symmetric encryption include man-in-the-middle attacks, stolen keys, or eavesdropping. All three of these vulnerabilities stem from an attacker intercepting a key during the key exchange process. It is crucial that the key exchange process is secure so that the encrypted data also stays secure.