

Custos

A Flexibly Secure Key-Value Storage Platform

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Masters of Science
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Trust

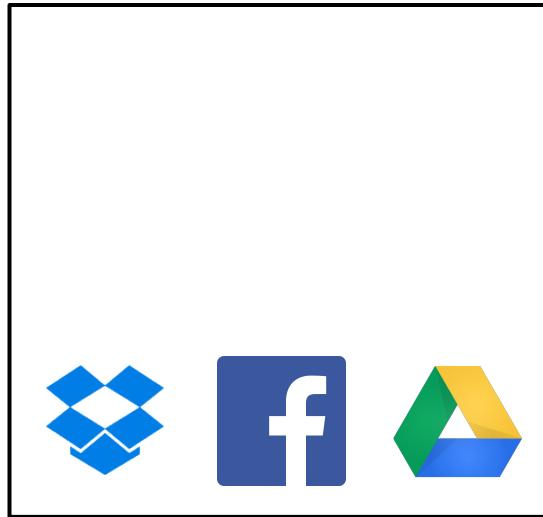
Who do we trust
with our data?

Today...





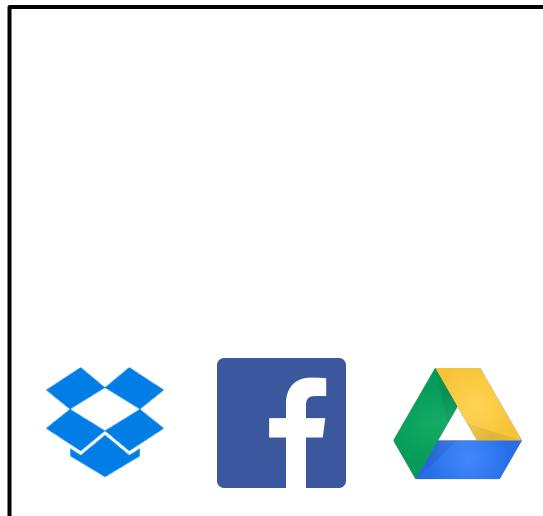
Feature Provider



Features

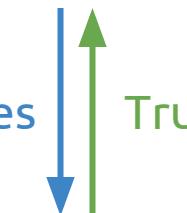


Feature Provider

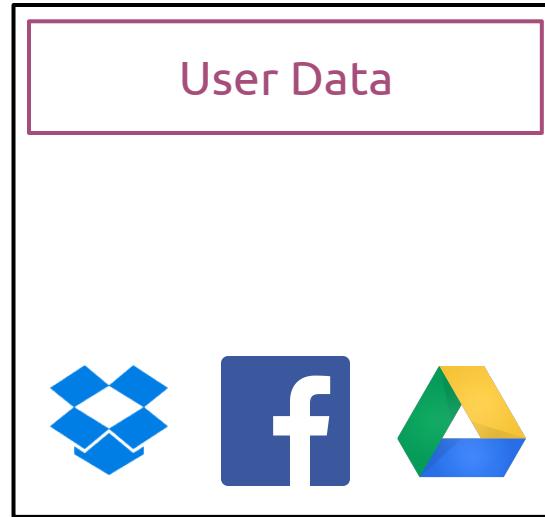


Features

Trust



Feature Provider

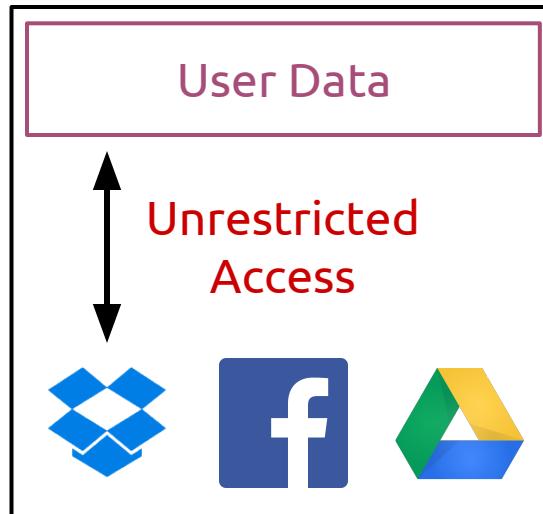


Features

Trust



Feature Provider



Features Trust



Conflicts of Interest

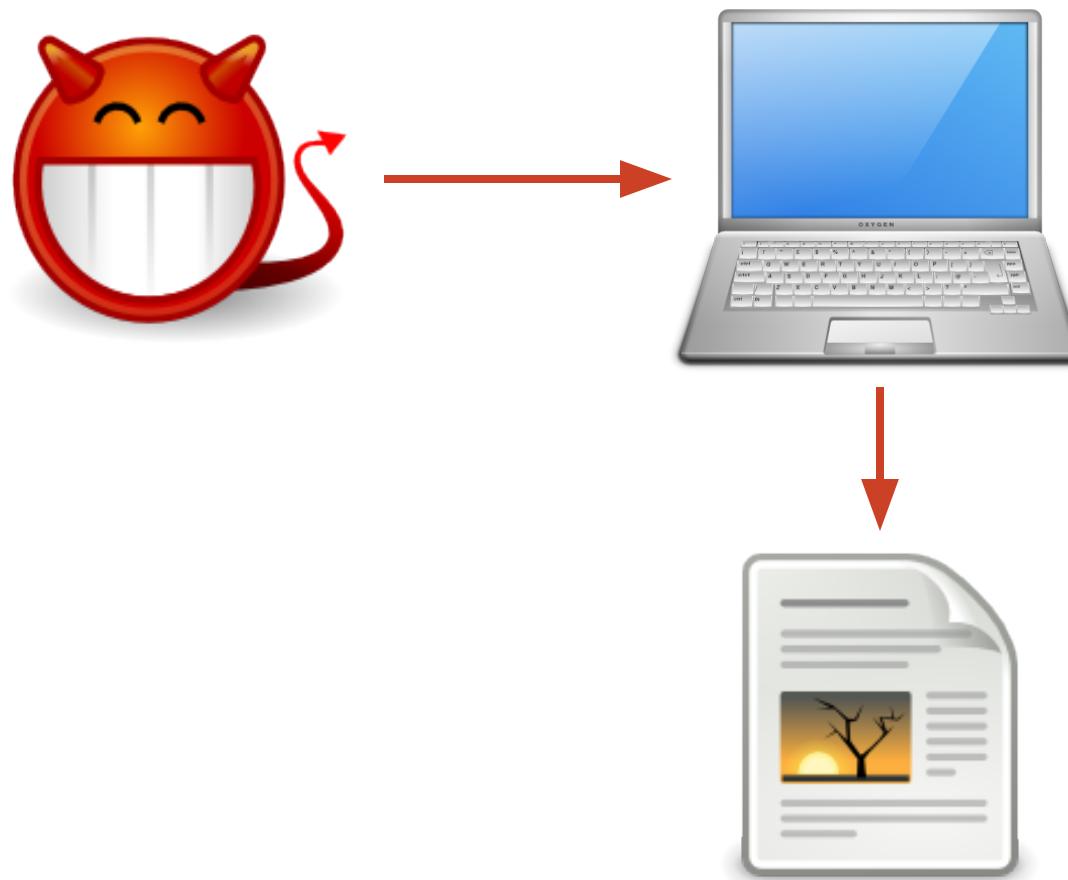
Lack of Control

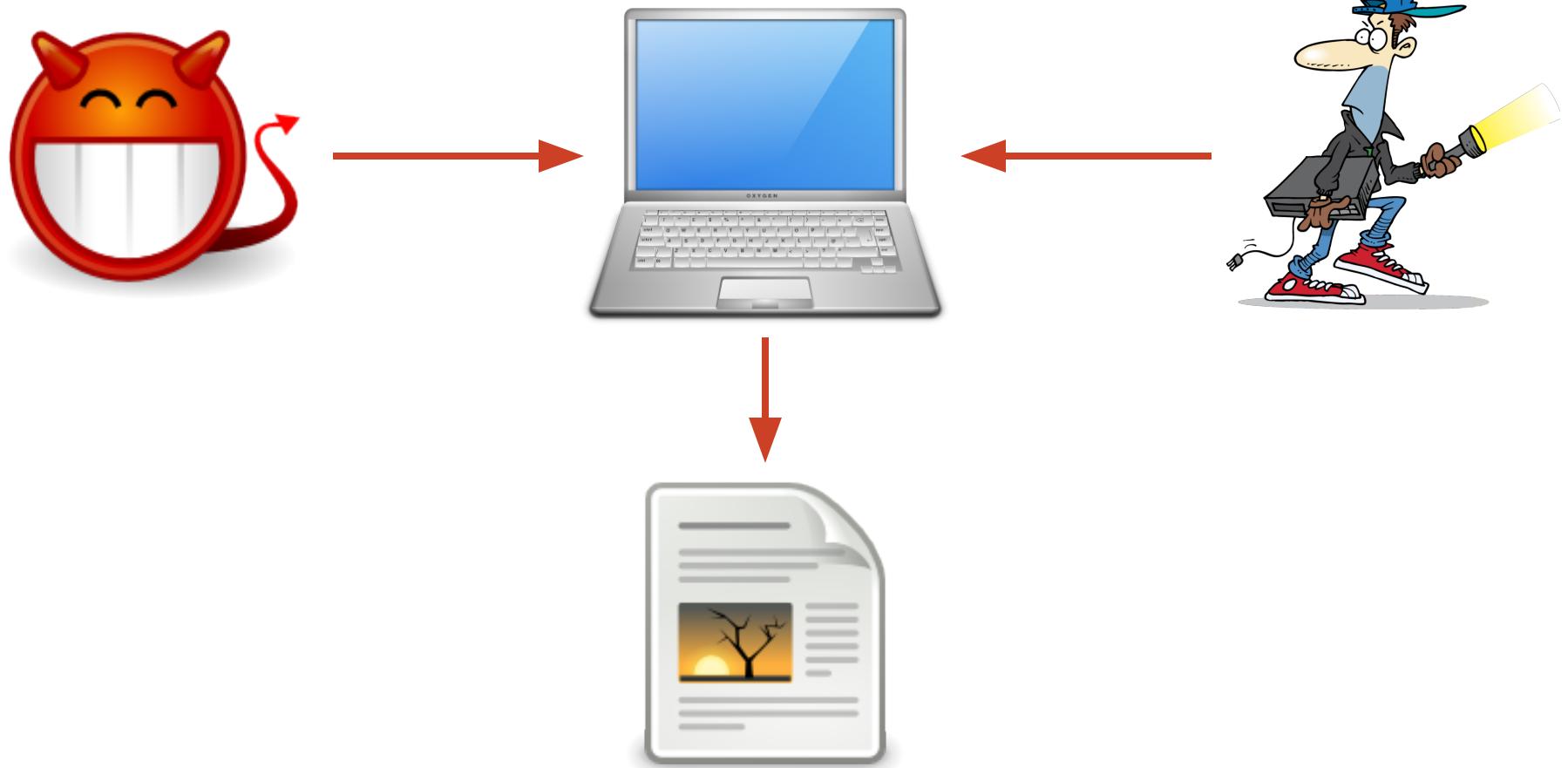
Absence of Oversight

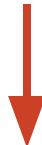
So you don't
use cloud services...





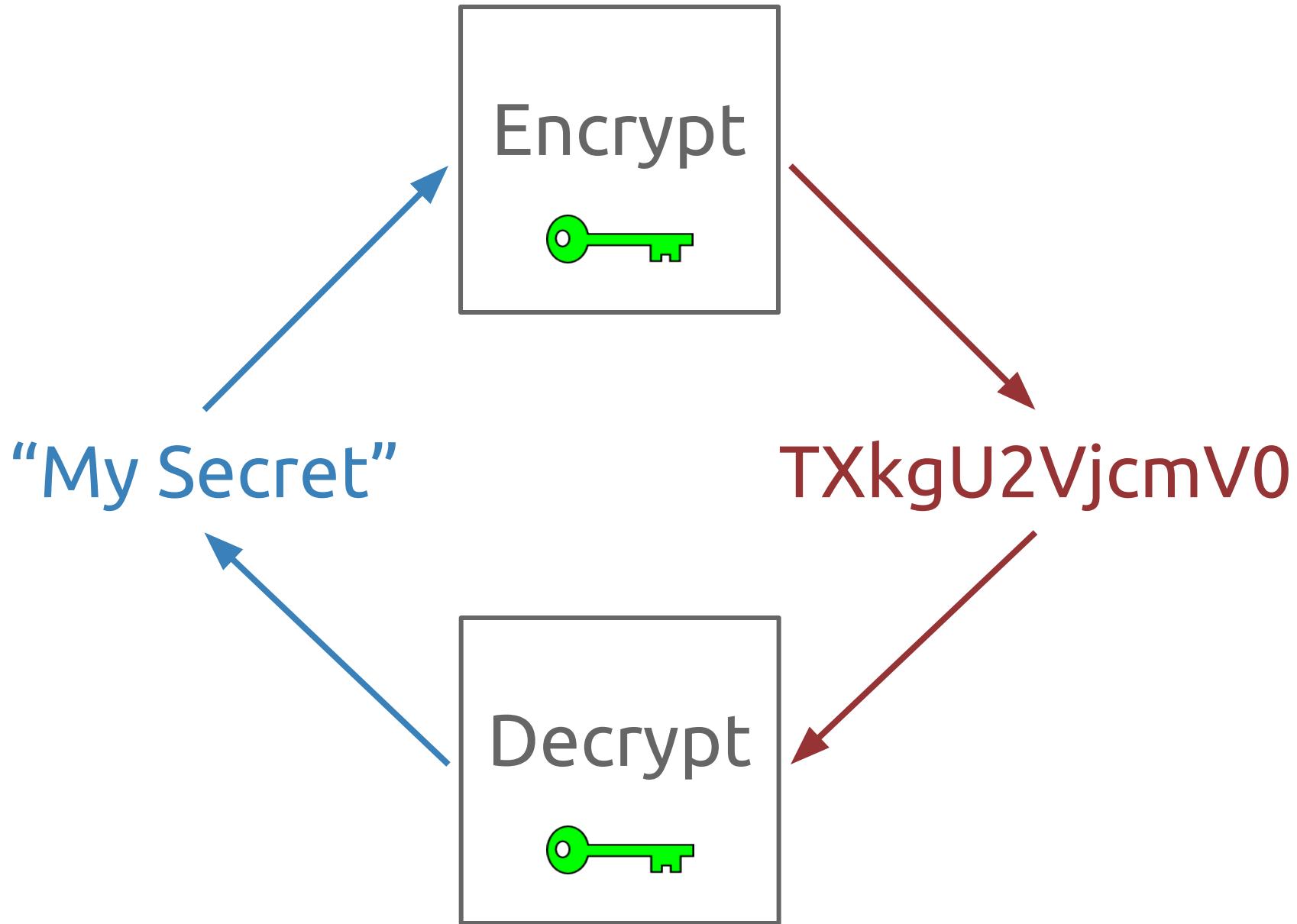






How can we control
and protect our data?

Encryption

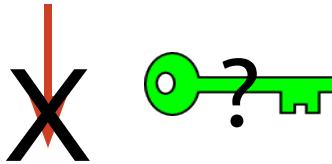


How does it help us?





But what about the keys?

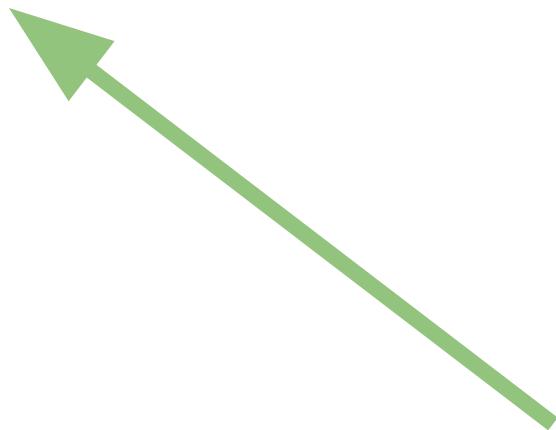


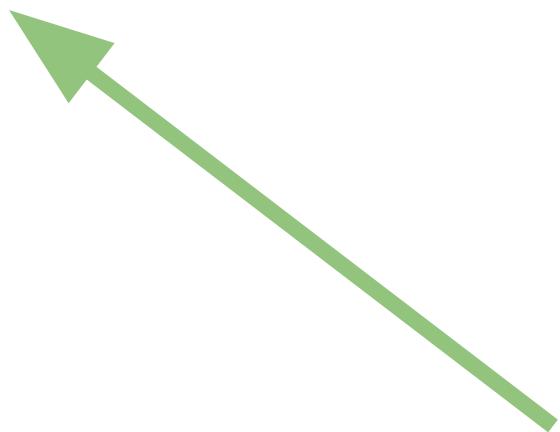
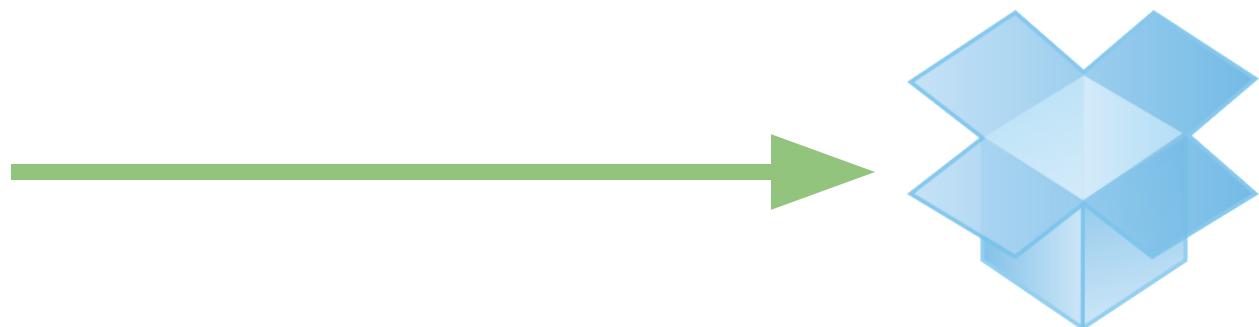


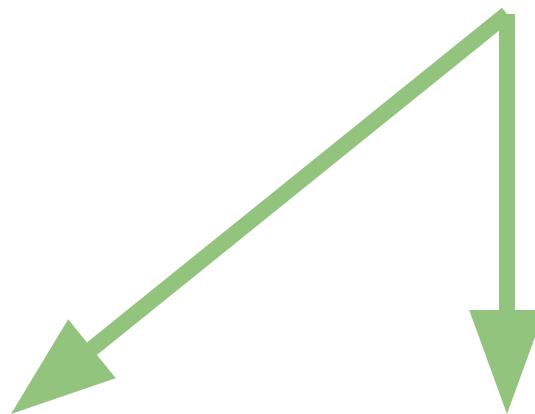
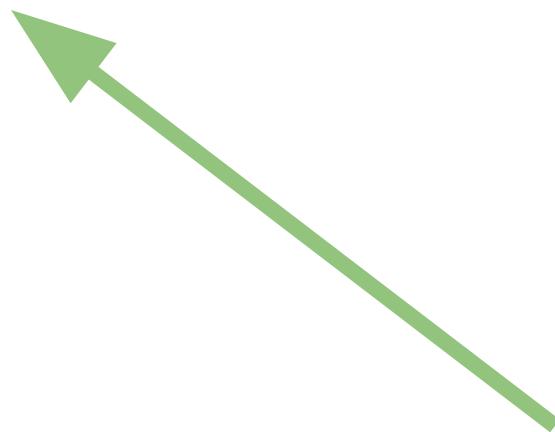
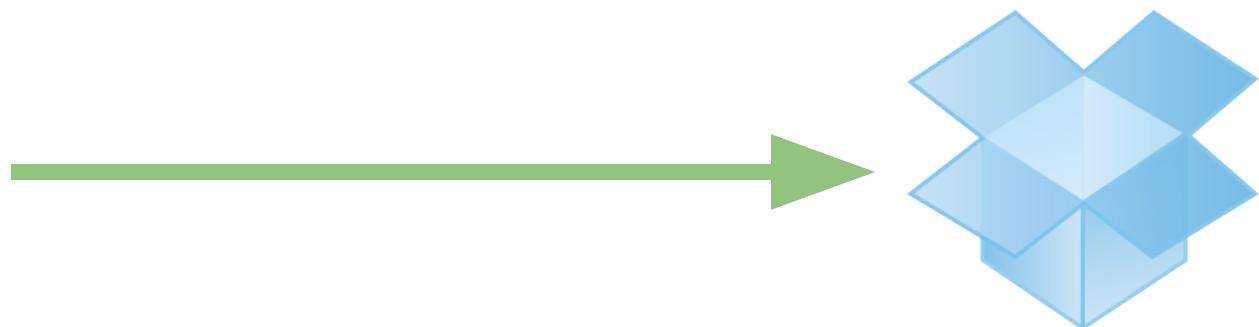


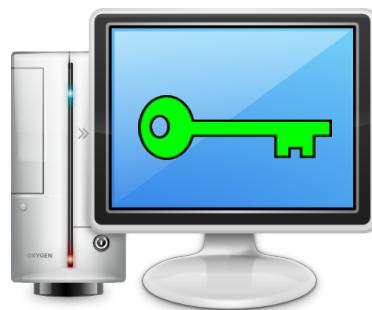
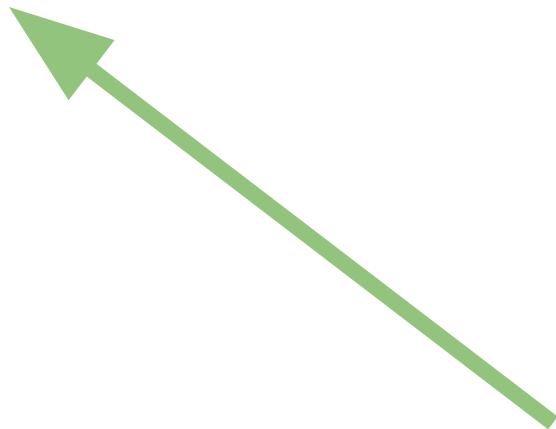
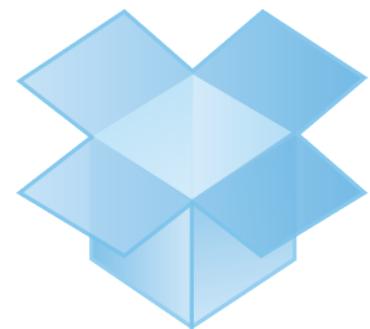
Key Management Challenges

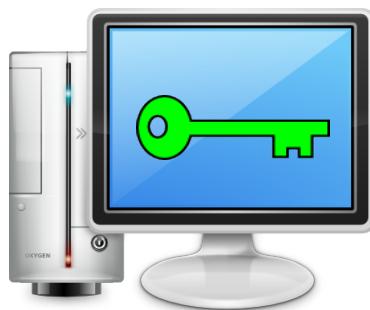
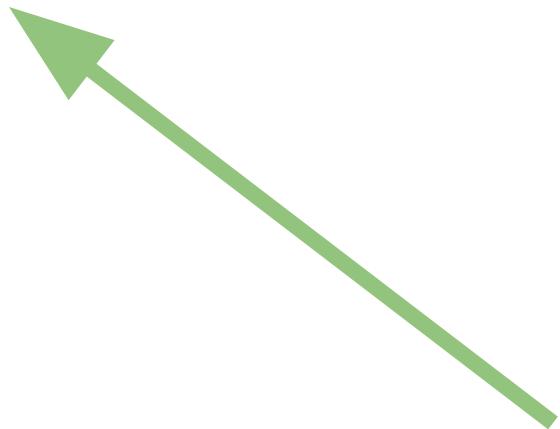
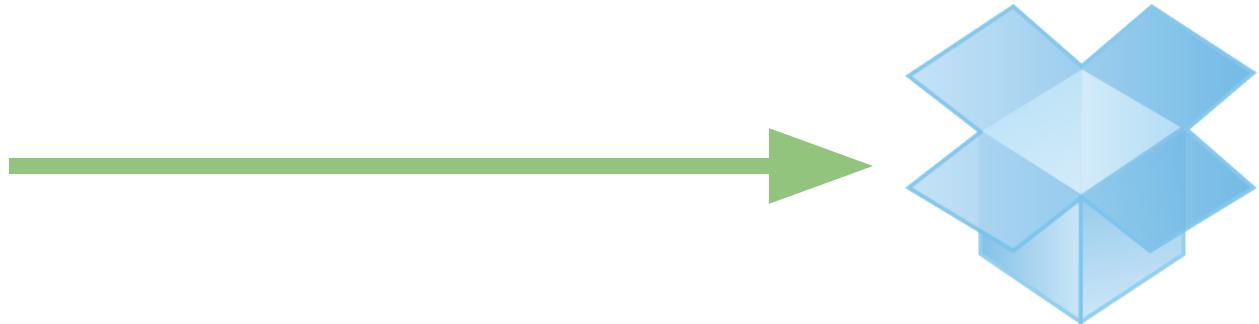
Multi-Device Sync

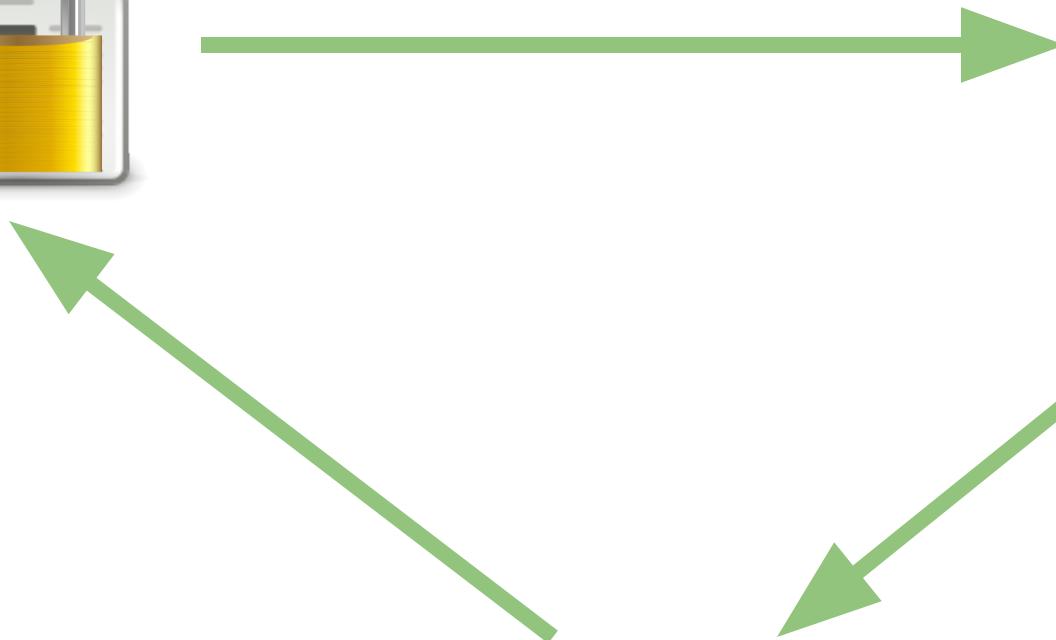
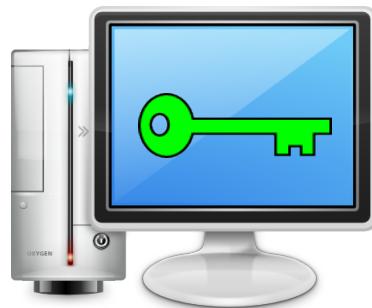
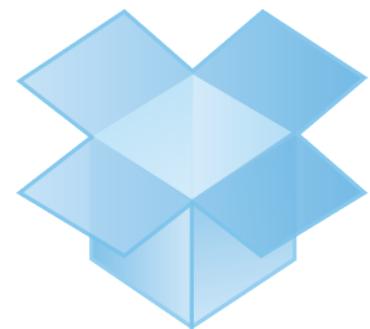


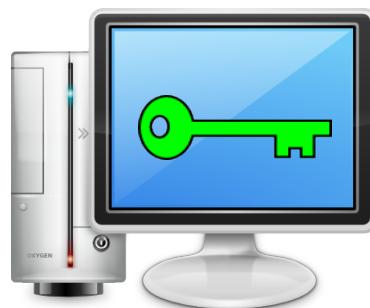
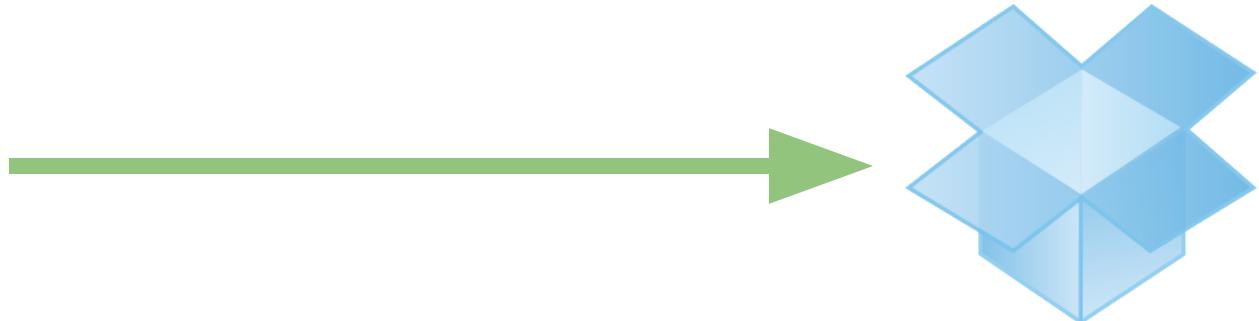




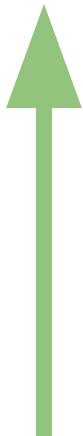


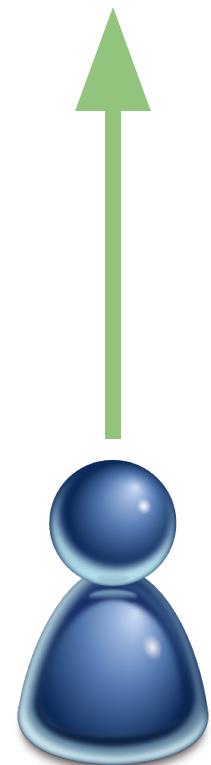


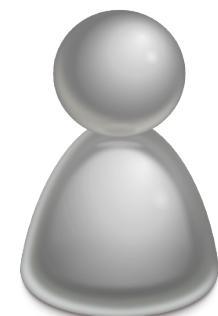
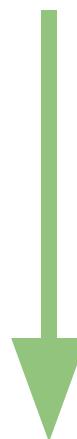
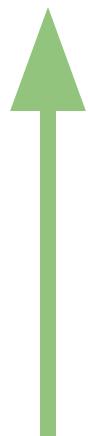


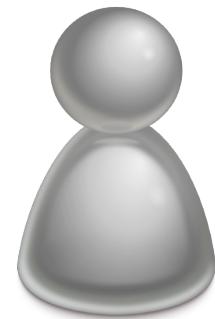


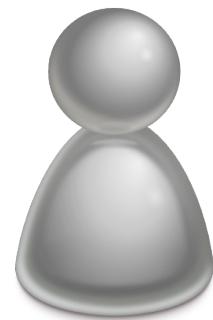
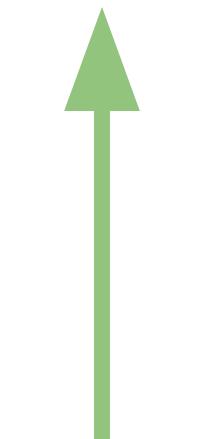
Out-of-Band Sharing

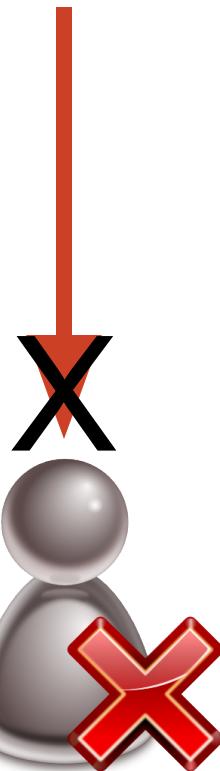
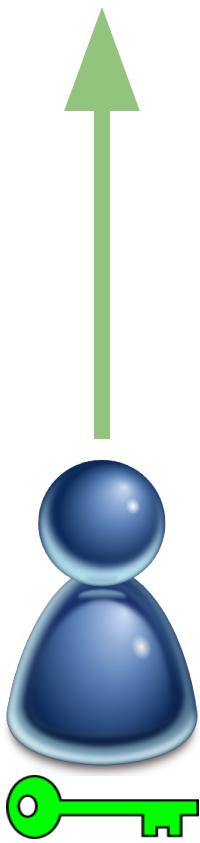




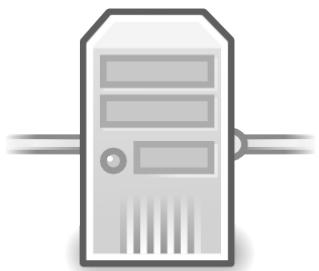
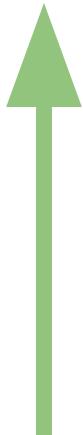


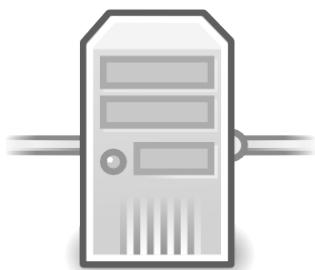
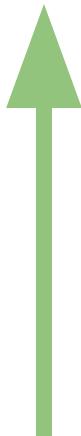
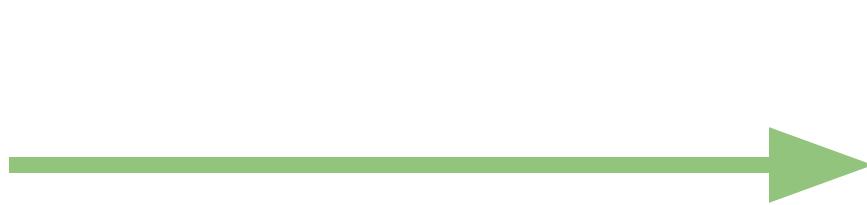


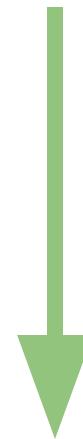
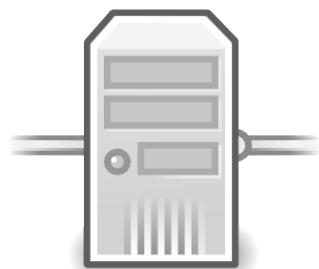
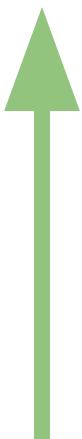


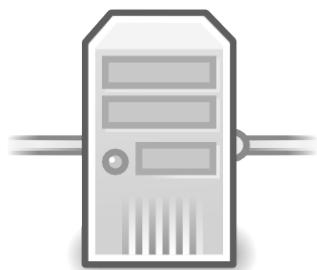
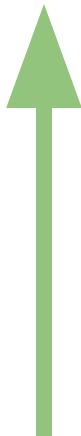


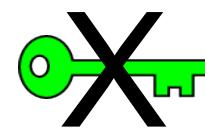
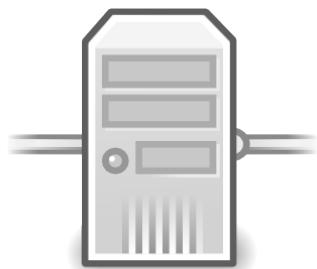
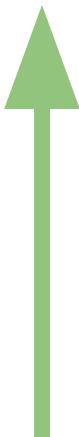
Autonomous Access





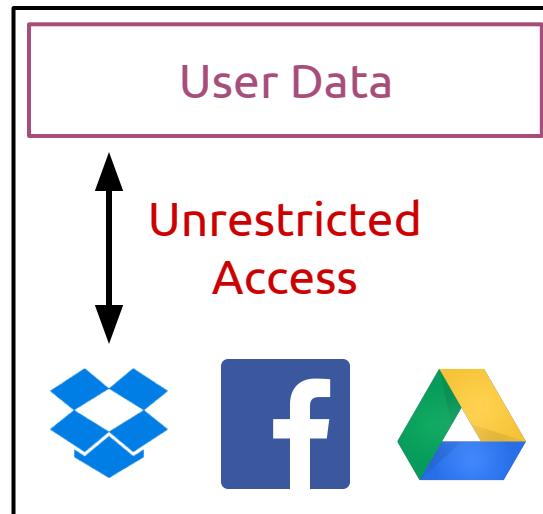






The Cloud

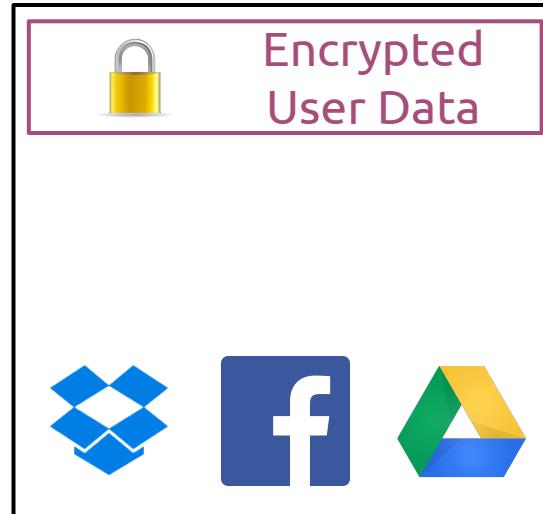
Feature Provider



Features ↑ Trust



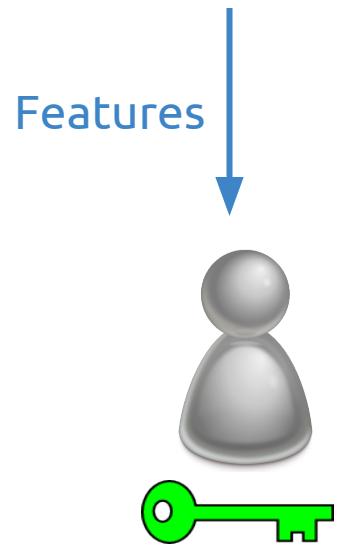
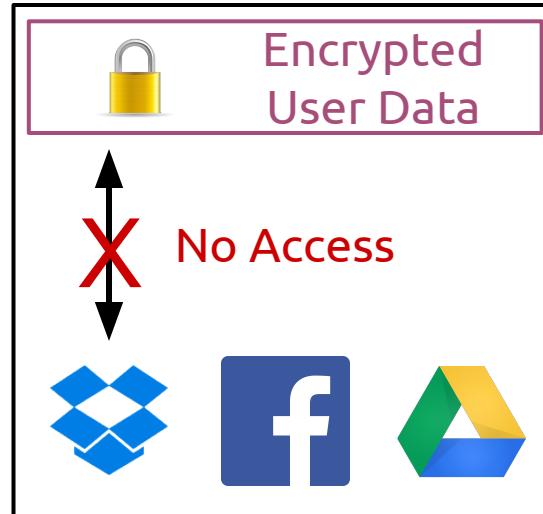
Feature Provider



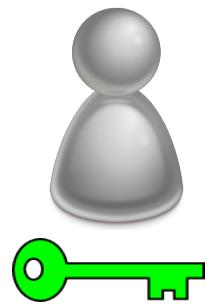
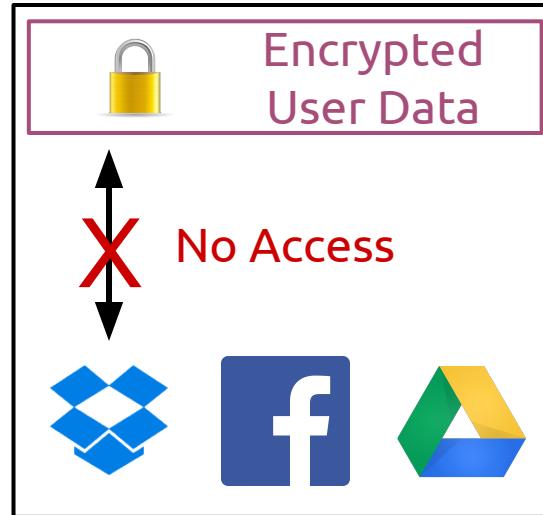
Features



Feature Provider

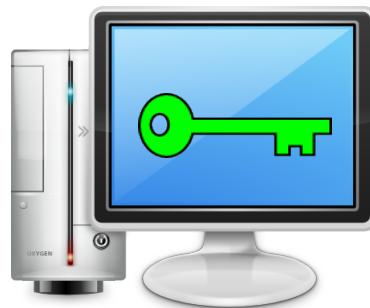
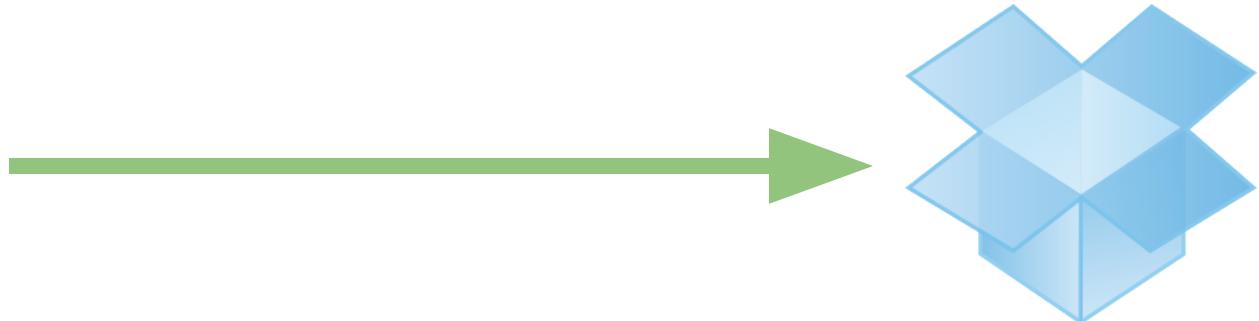


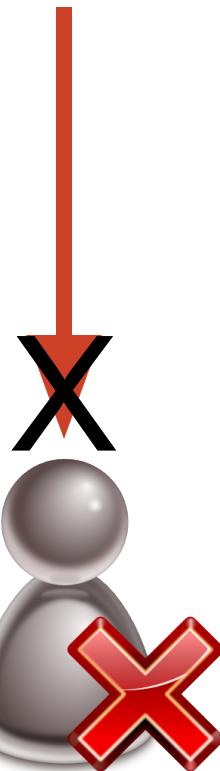
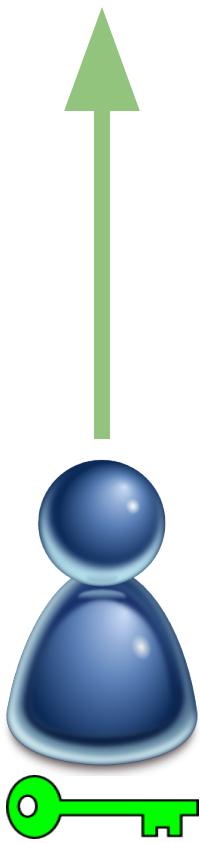
Feature Provider



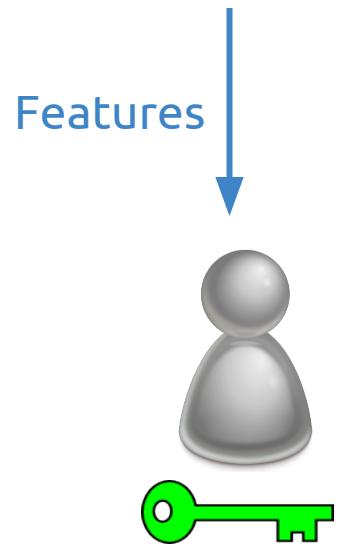
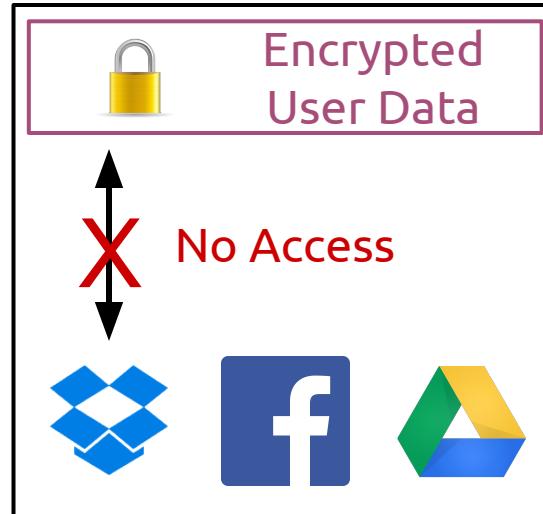
Encryption
is broken

Lack of key access

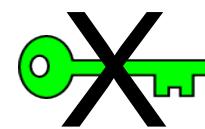
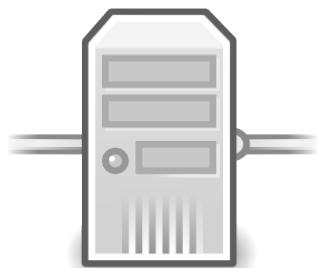
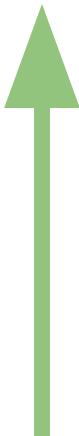




Feature Provider



Lack of flexibility



Security

Accessibility



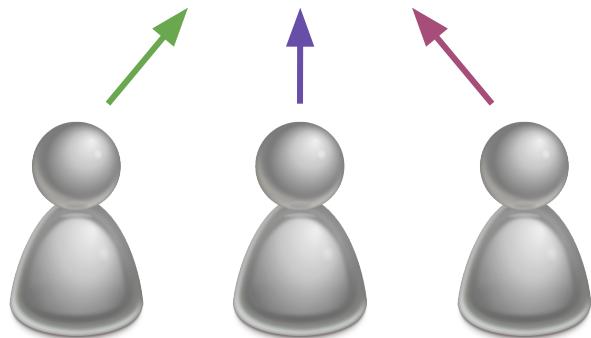
Security

Accessibility

Fixed Point



Traditional
Encryption
Systems



Ill-suited for
Modern Application

Difficult to Use

Doesn't Solve
the Real Problem

Encryption
is broken

Encryption
is fine

Encryption
is fine

Key storage
is broken

To fix key storage...

Flexibility

Centralization

Flexibility

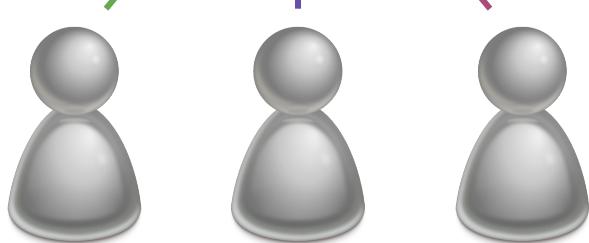
Security

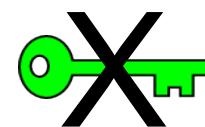
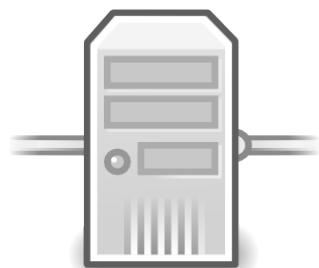
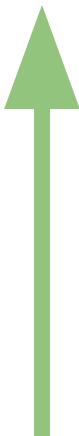
Accessibility

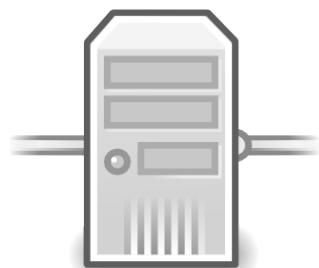
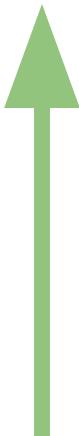
Flexible Points



Flexible
Encryption
Systems

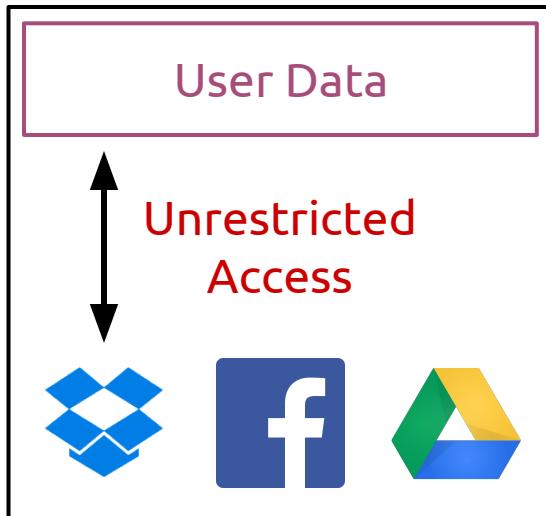






Centralization

Feature Provider



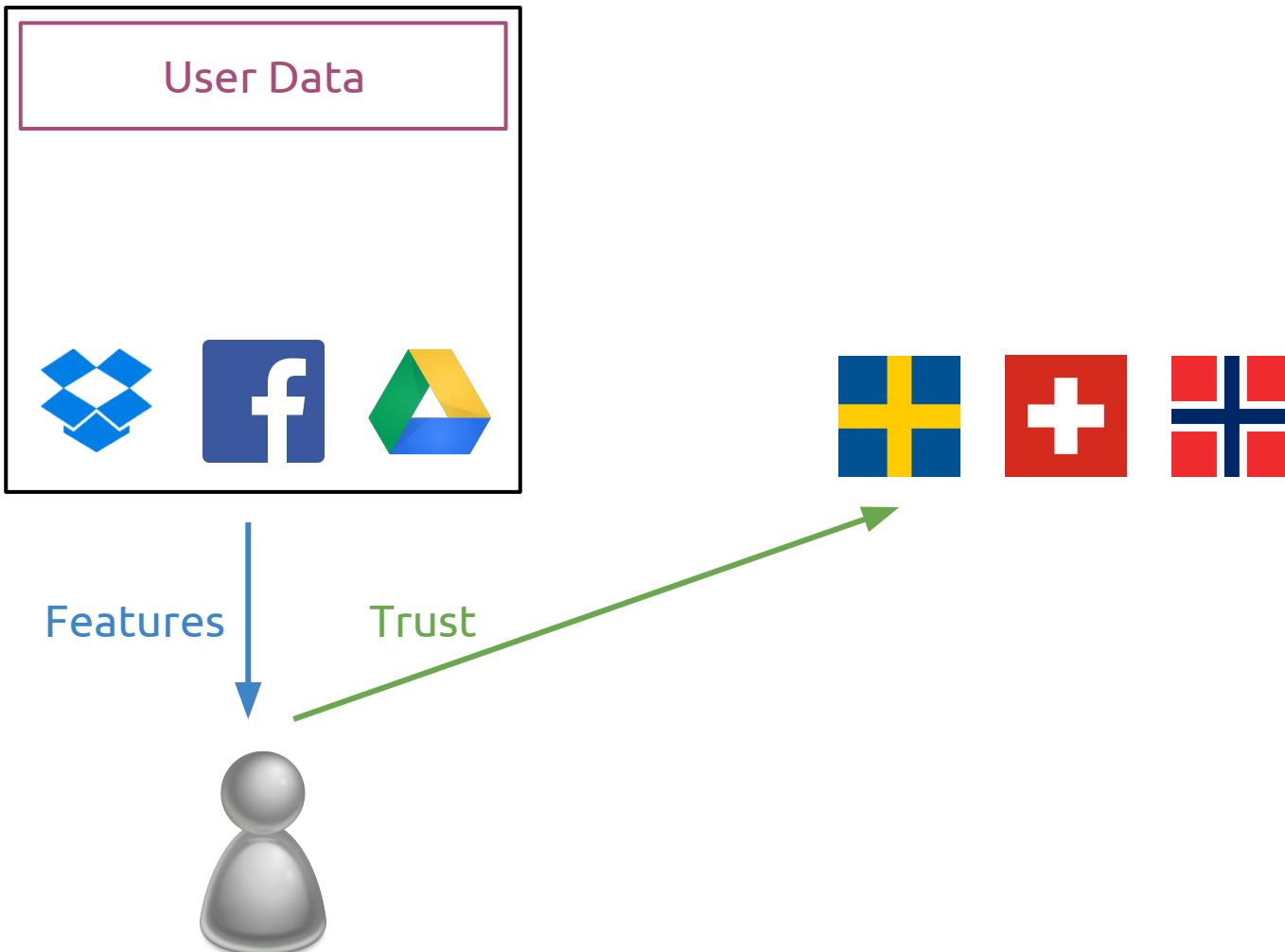
Features

Trust

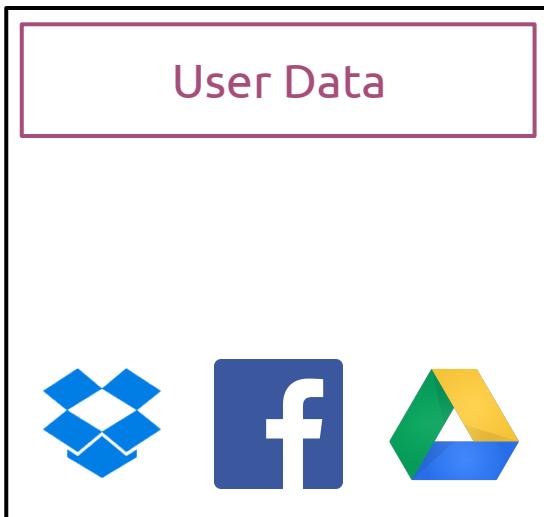
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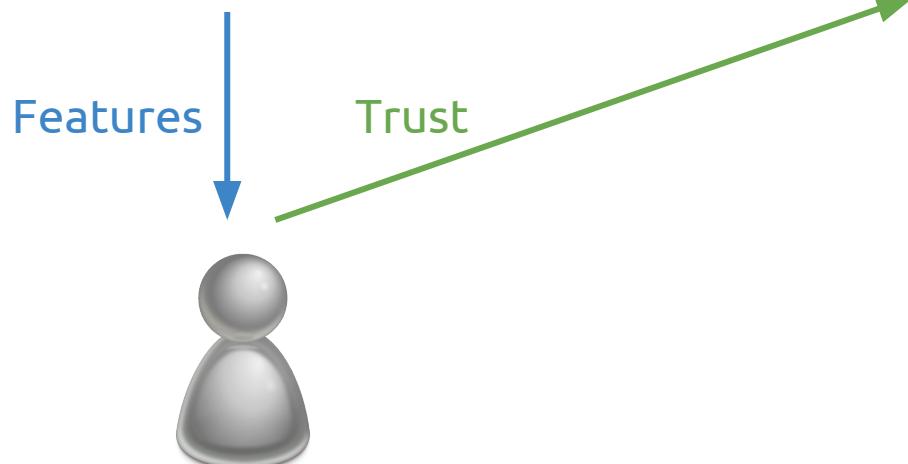
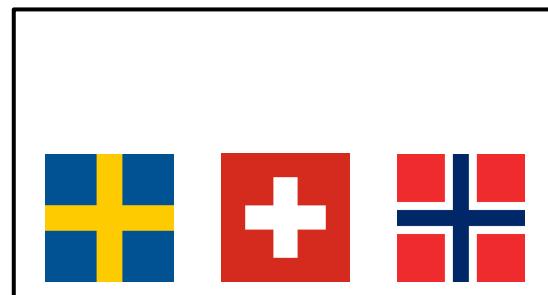
Feature Provider



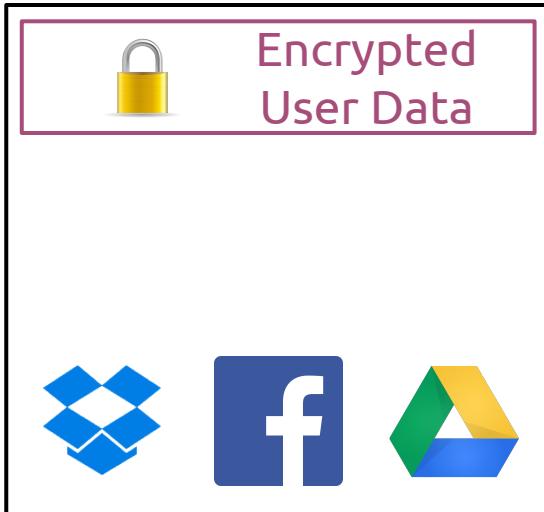
Feature Provider



Trust Provider



Feature Provider

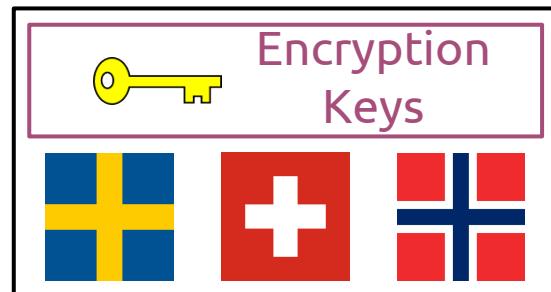


Features

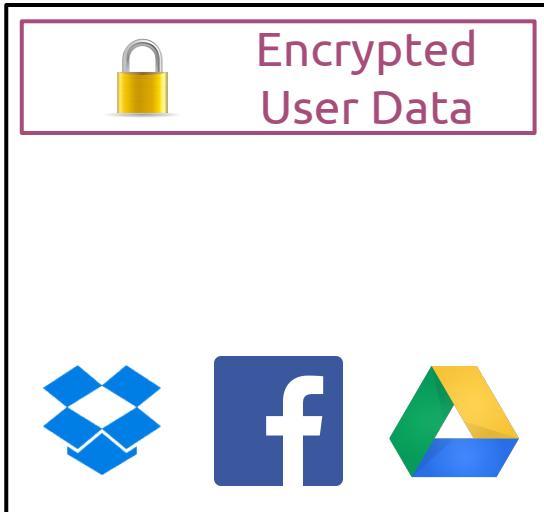


Trust

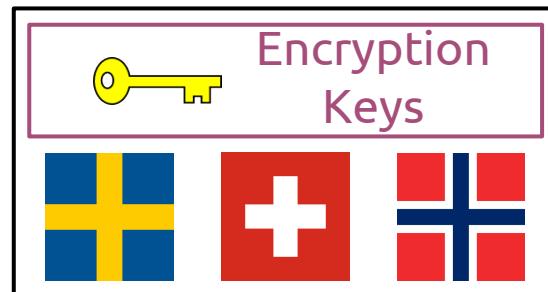
Trust Provider



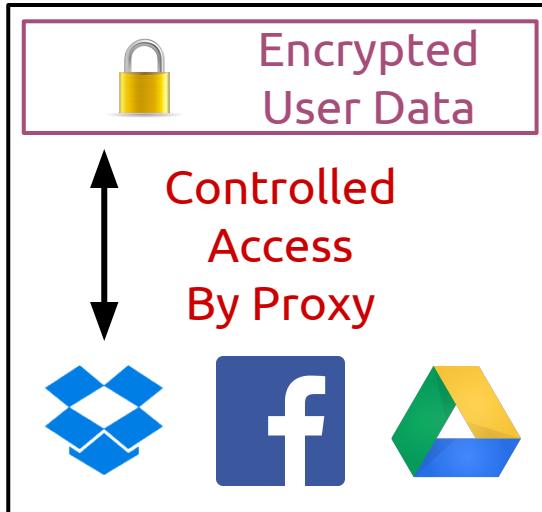
Feature Provider



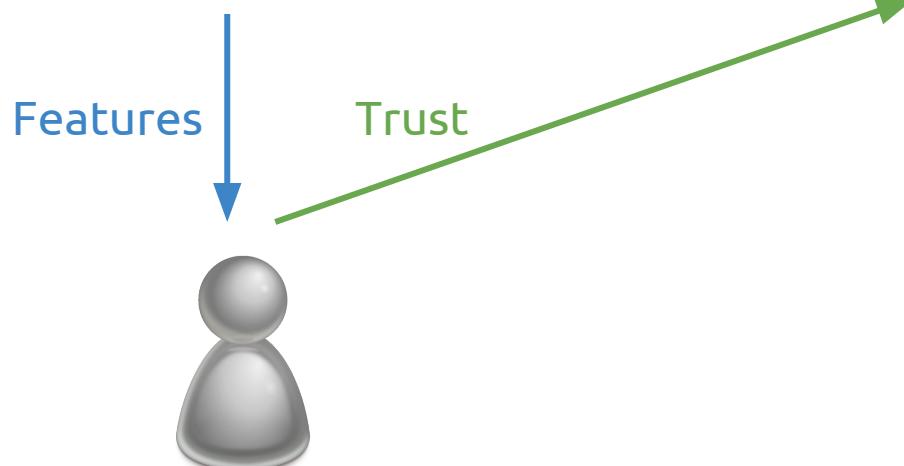
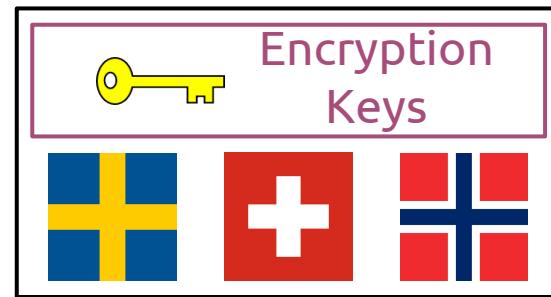
Trust Provider



Feature Provider



Trust Provider



Data Host

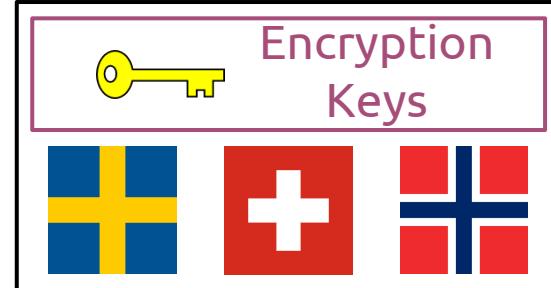


Feature Provider



Controlled Access

Trust Provider



Features

Trust



Custos

“Secret Storage as a Service”

“Key Storage as a Service”

Central Key:Value Storage

Flexible Access Control

Access Auditing

Custos Server

Custos Server

Key:Value Store

Custos Server

Key:Value Store

Management
Subsystem

Auditing
Subsystem

Data
Subsystem

Custos Server

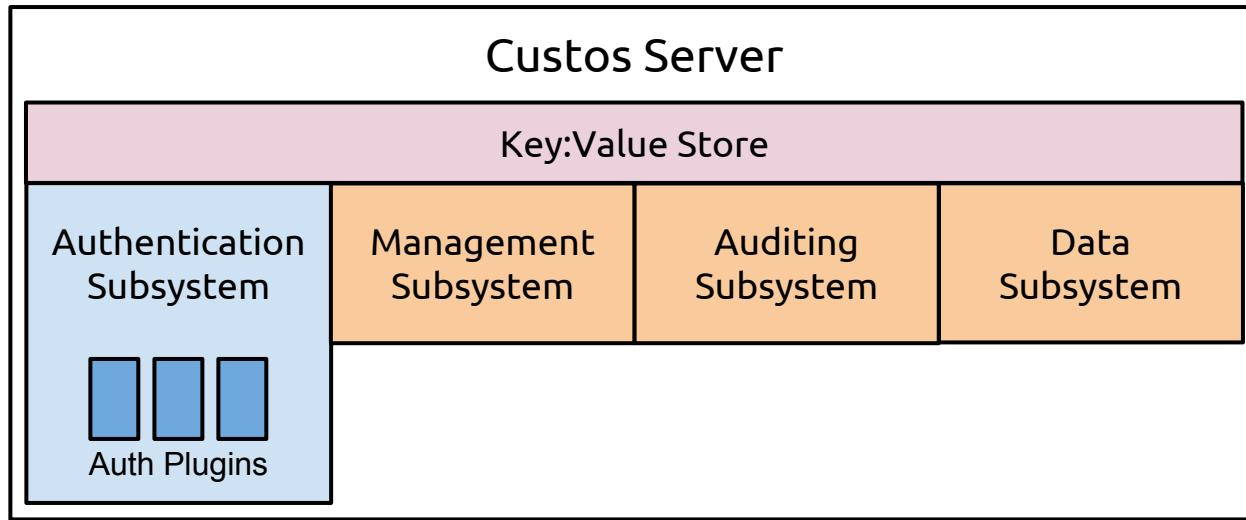
Key:Value Store

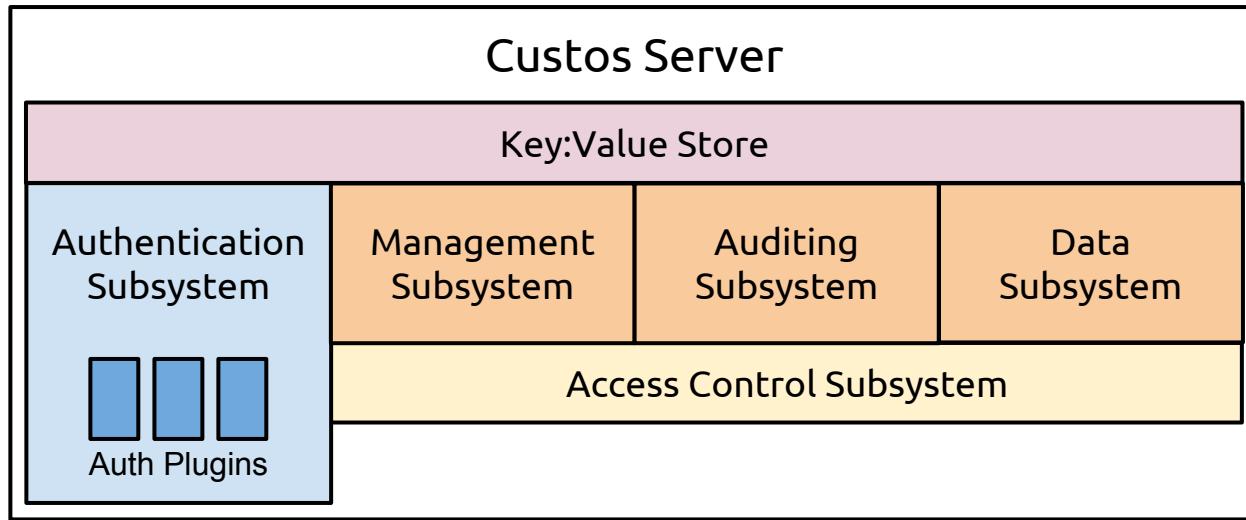
Authentication
Subsystem

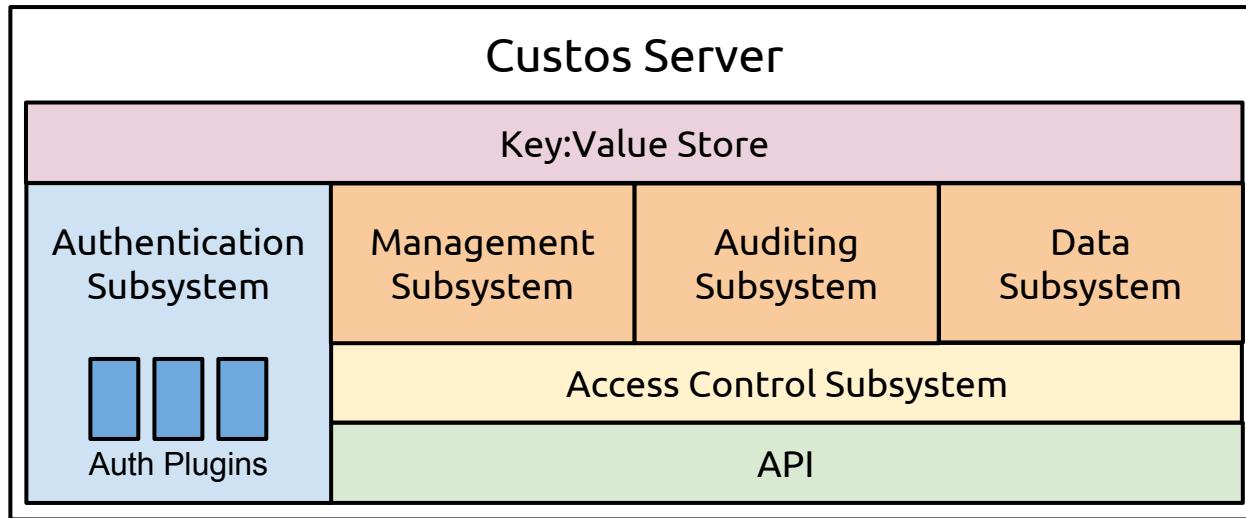
Management
Subsystem

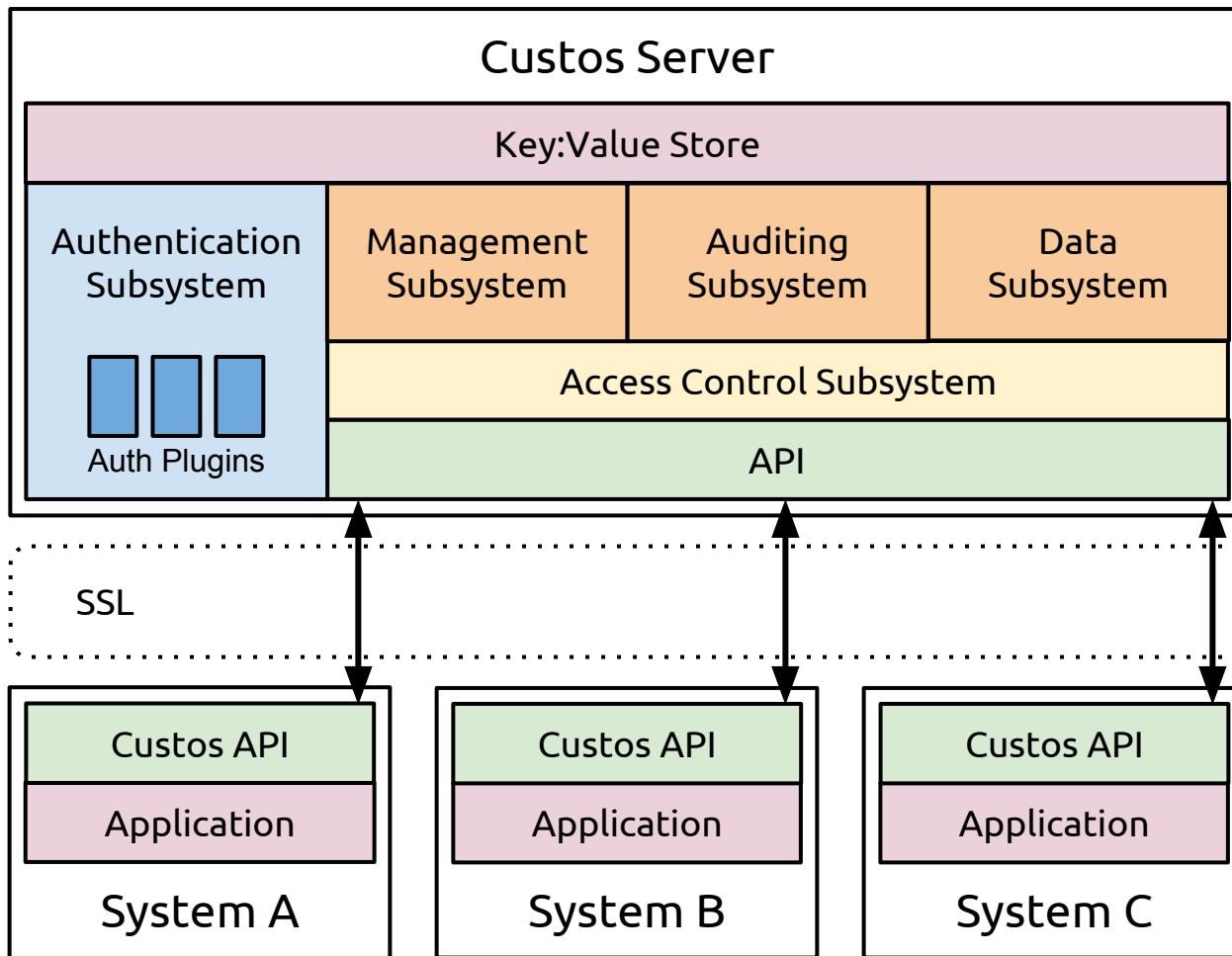
Auditing
Subsystem

Data
Subsystem



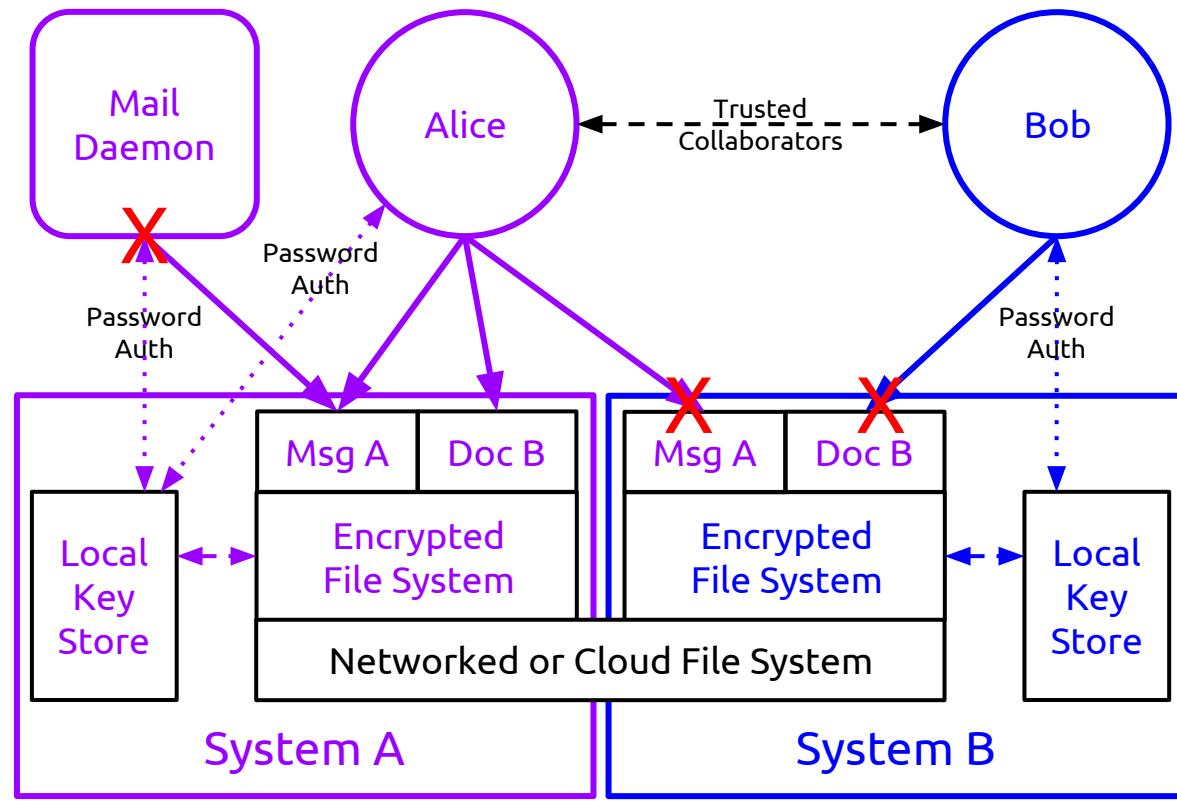


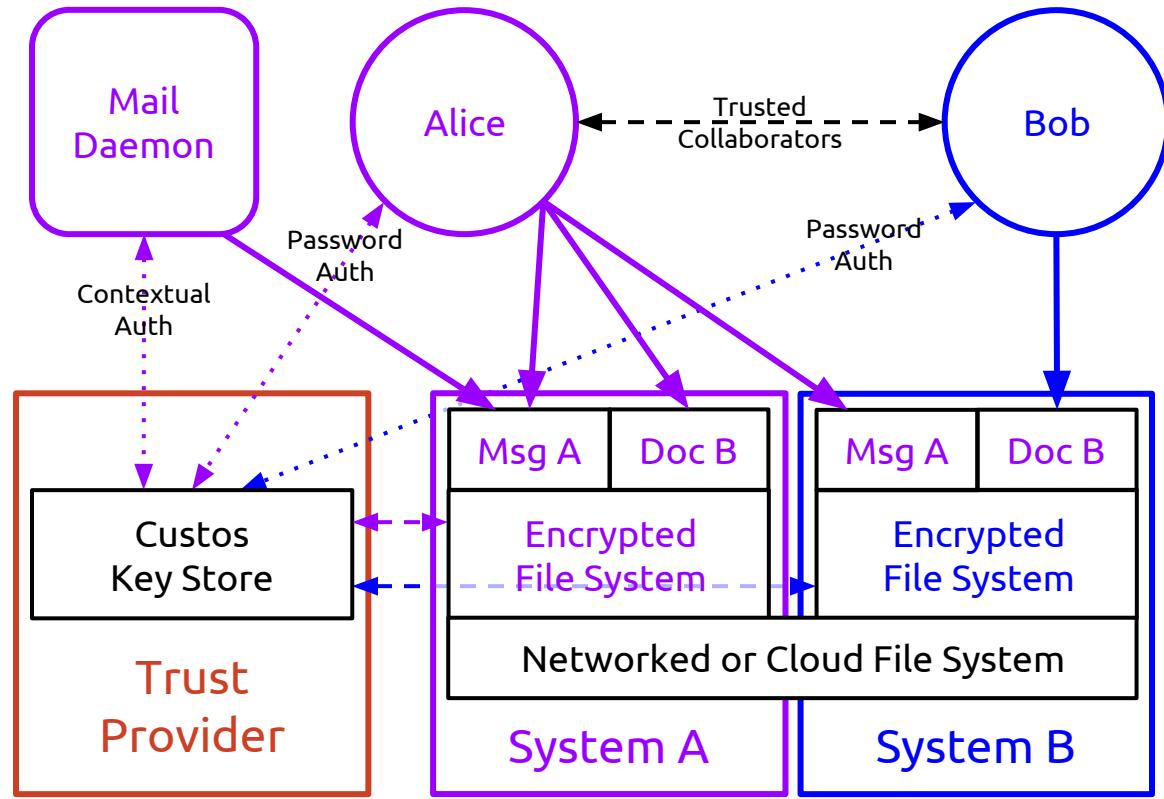




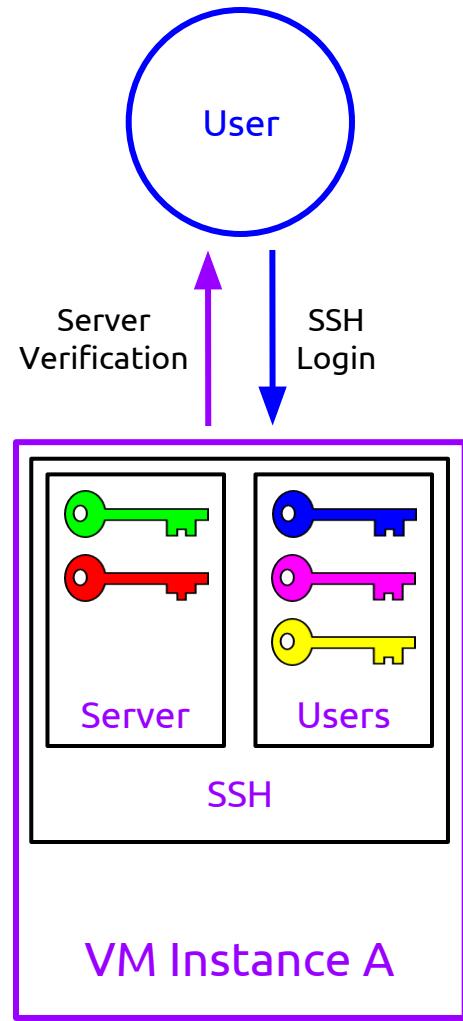
Application Domains

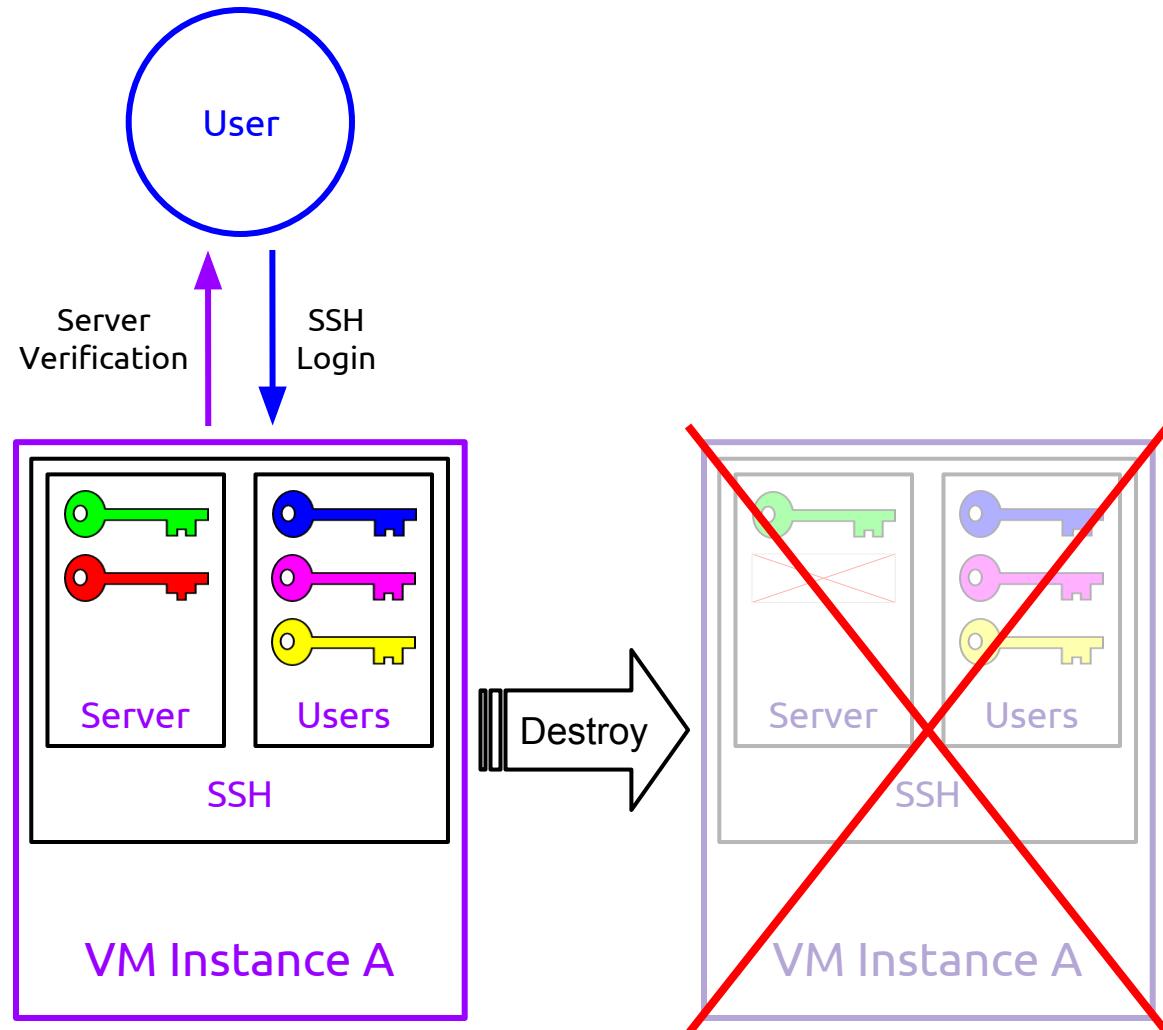
File Systems

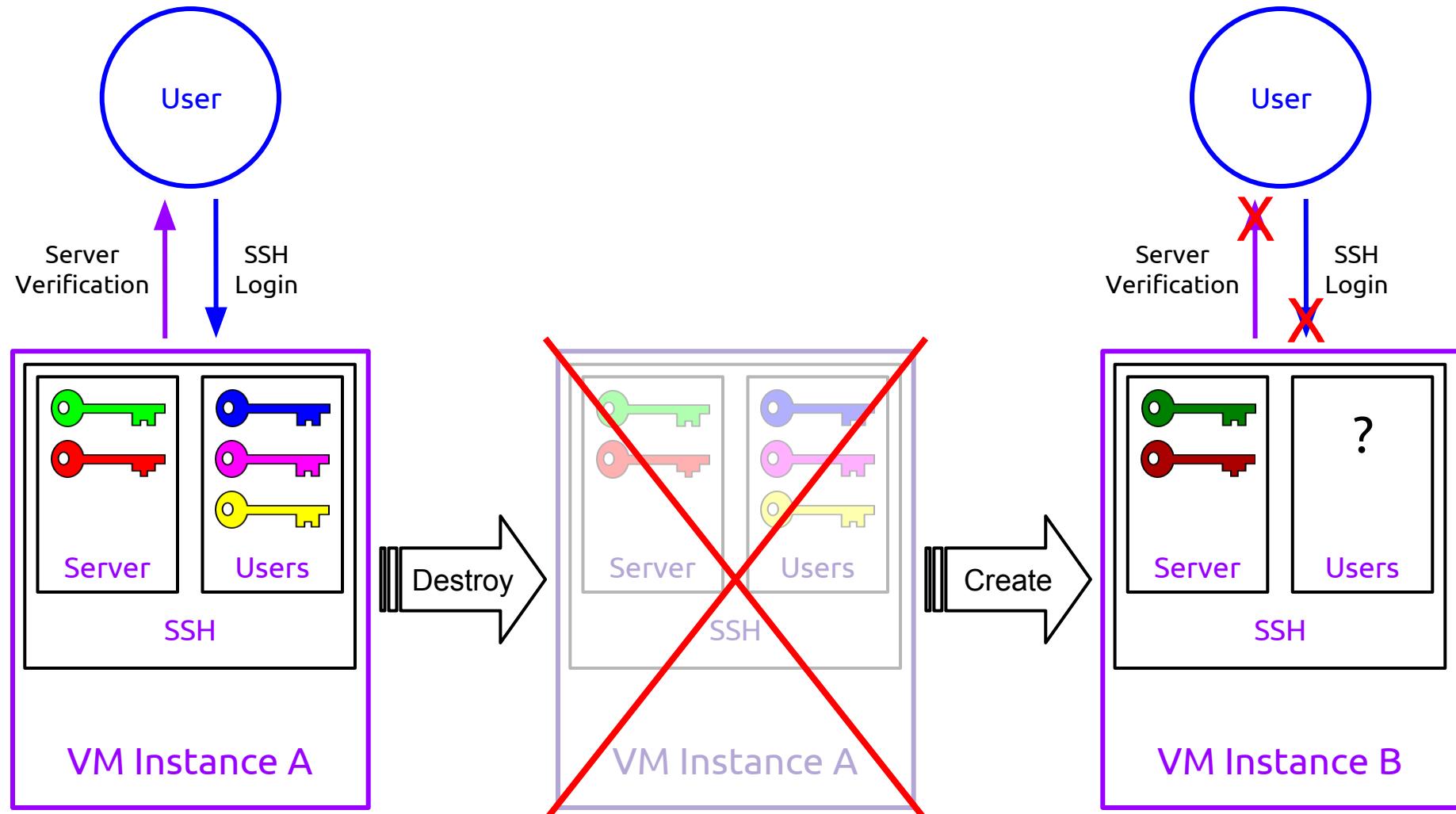


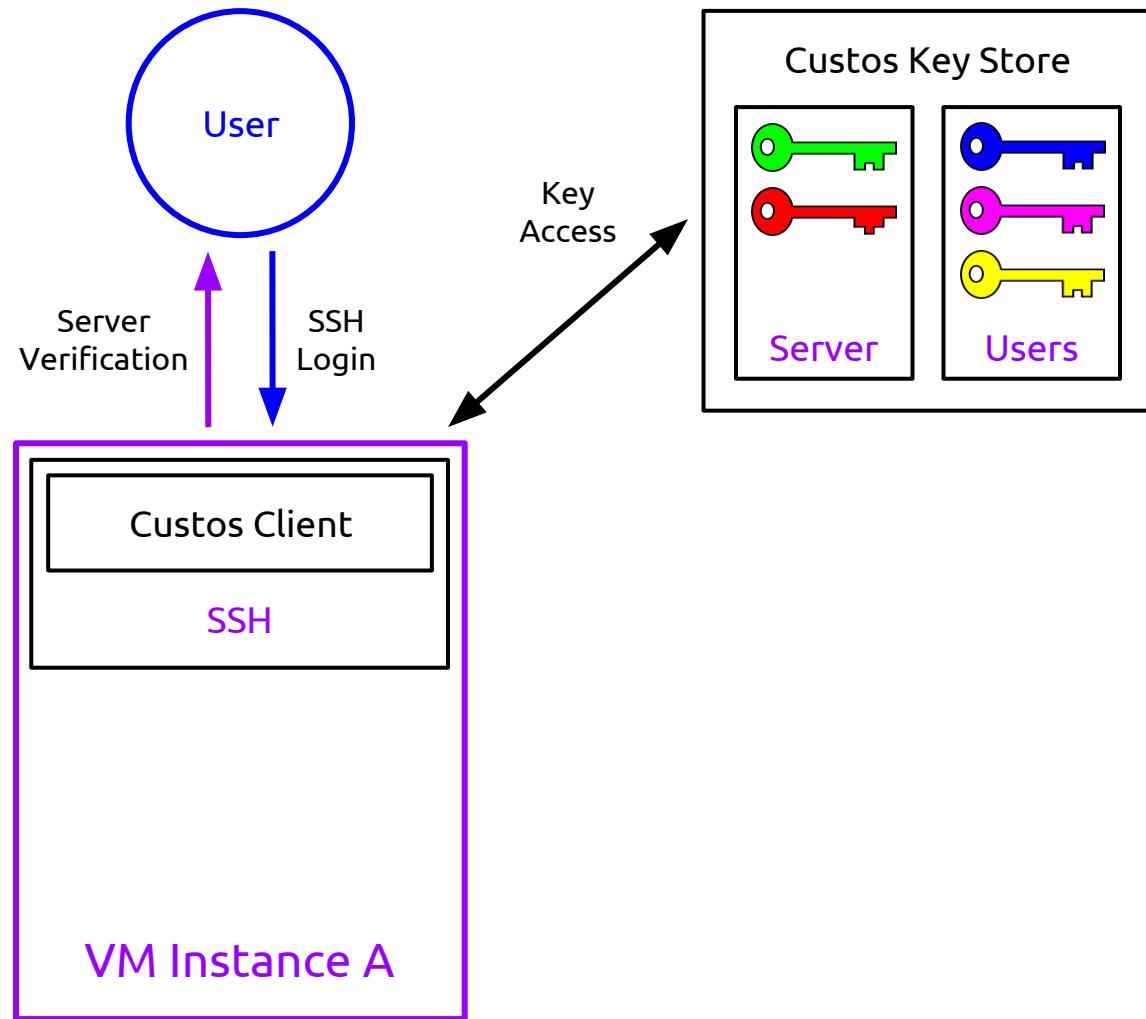


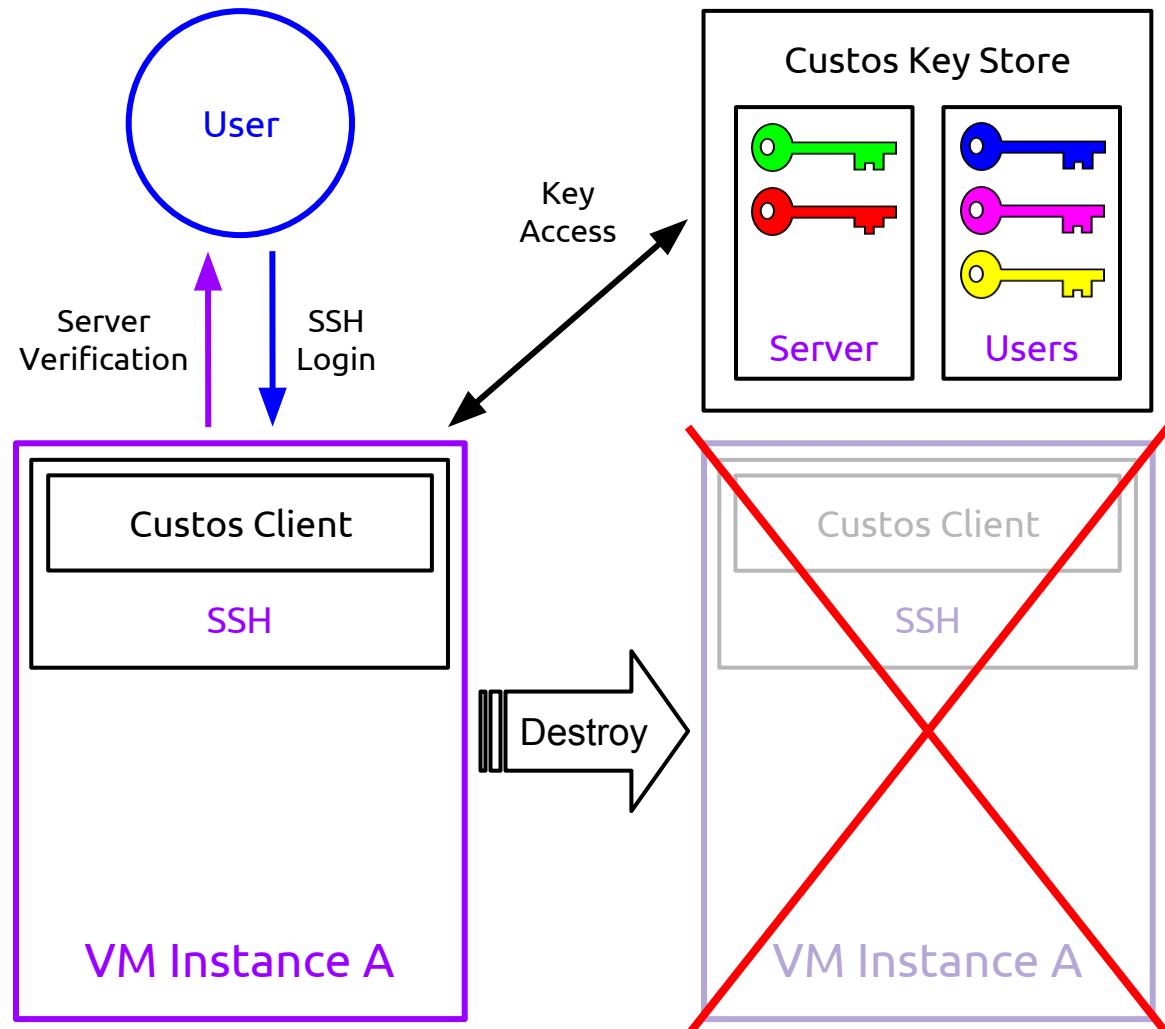
Data Centers

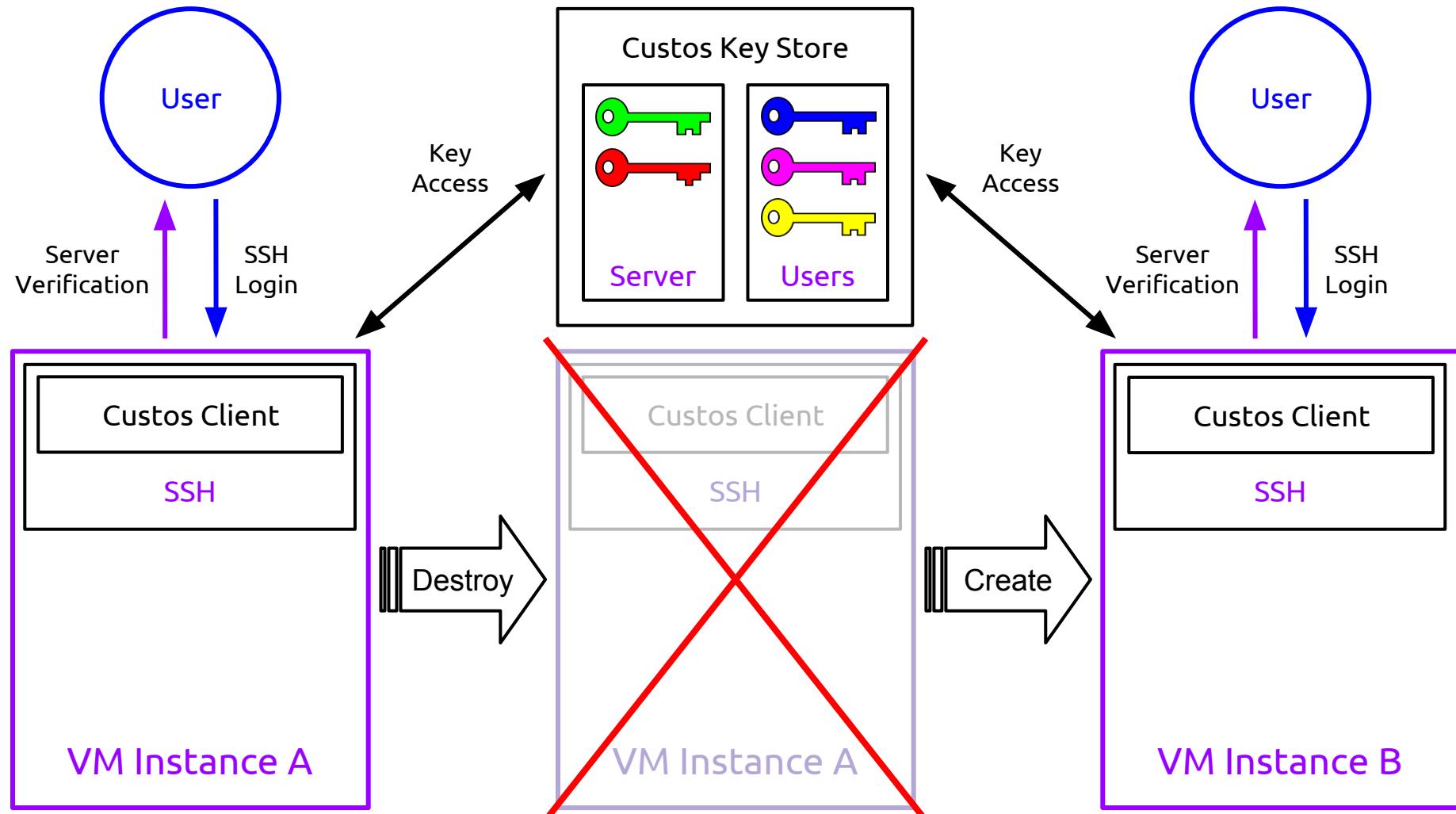












Password Management

Personal Data Storage

...

Custos Design

Organizational Units

Server

Server

Group A

Group B



Server

Group A

Object 1

Object 2

Object 3

⋮

Group B

Object 4

Object 5

Object 6

⋮

⋮ ⋮ ⋮

Server

Group A

Object 1

Key	Value
-----	-------

Object 2

Key	Value
-----	-------

Object 3

Key	Value
-----	-------

⋮

Group B

Object 4

Key	Value
-----	-------

Object 5

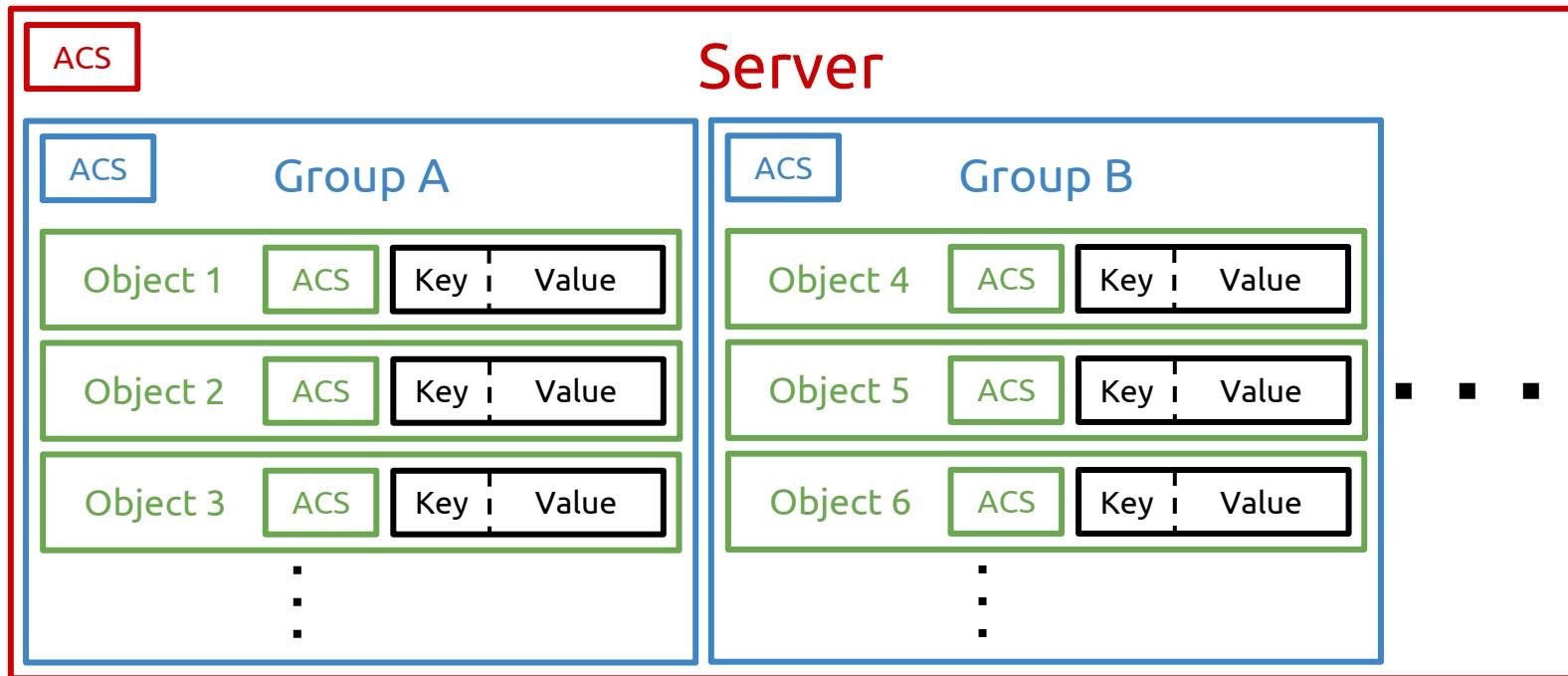
Key	Value
-----	-------

Object 6

Key	Value
-----	-------

⋮

⋮ ⋮ ⋮



Access Control Specification (ACS)

Organizational Unit (OU)

Organizational Unit (OU)

Access Control Specification (ACS)

Organizational Unit (OU)

Access Control Specification (ACS)

Permission A

Organizational Unit (OU)

Access Control Specification (ACS)

Permission A

Access Control
Chain

Organizational Unit (OU)

Access Control Specification (ACS)

Permission A

Access Control
Chain

Auth
Attribute

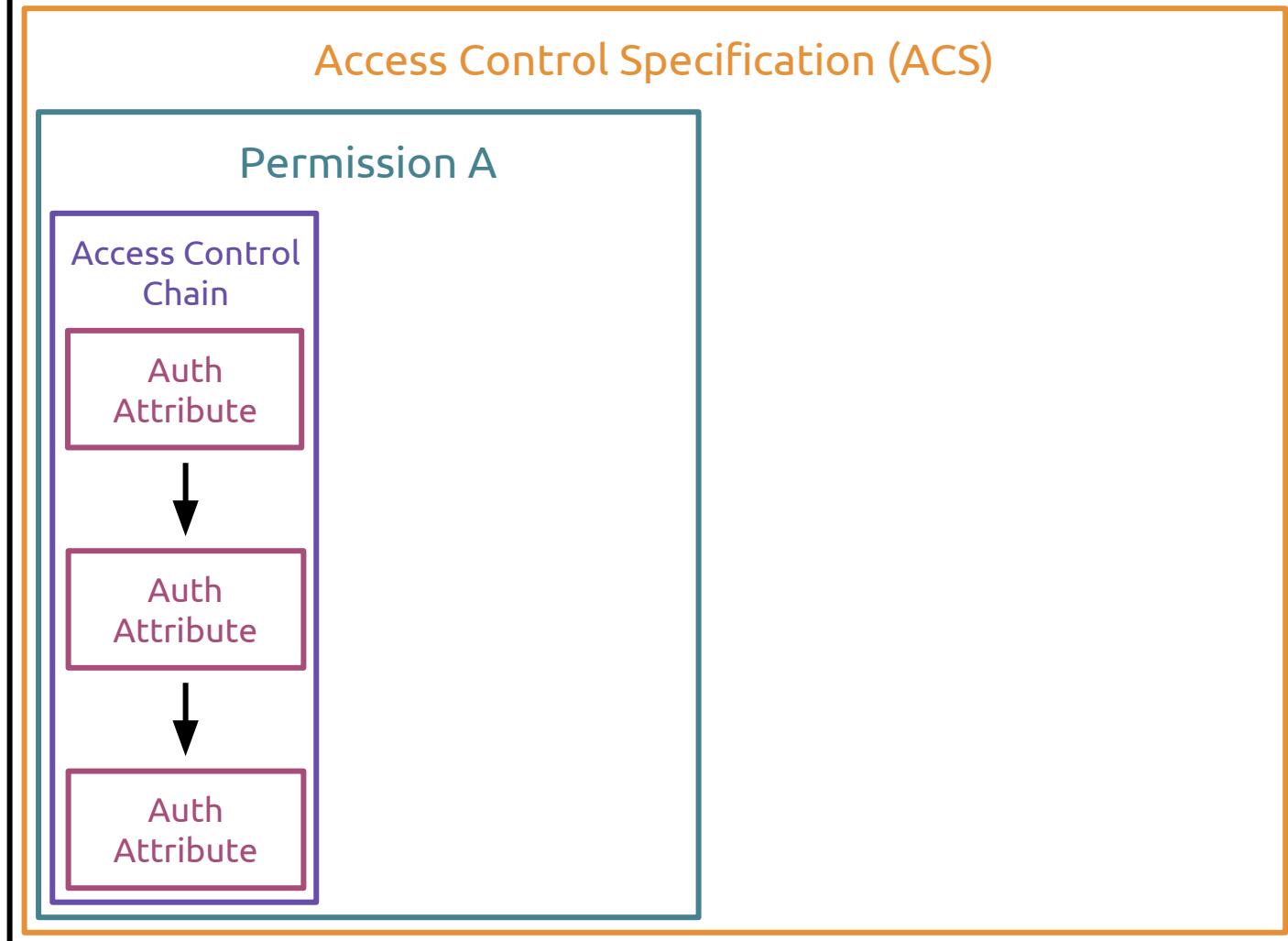


Auth
Attribute



Auth
Attribute

Key:Value Object



Key:Value Object

Access Control Specification (ACS)

Read Permission

Access Control
Chain

Auth
Attribute



Auth
Attribute



Auth
Attribute

Key:Value Object

Access Control Specification (ACS)

Read Permission

Access Control
Chain

Username

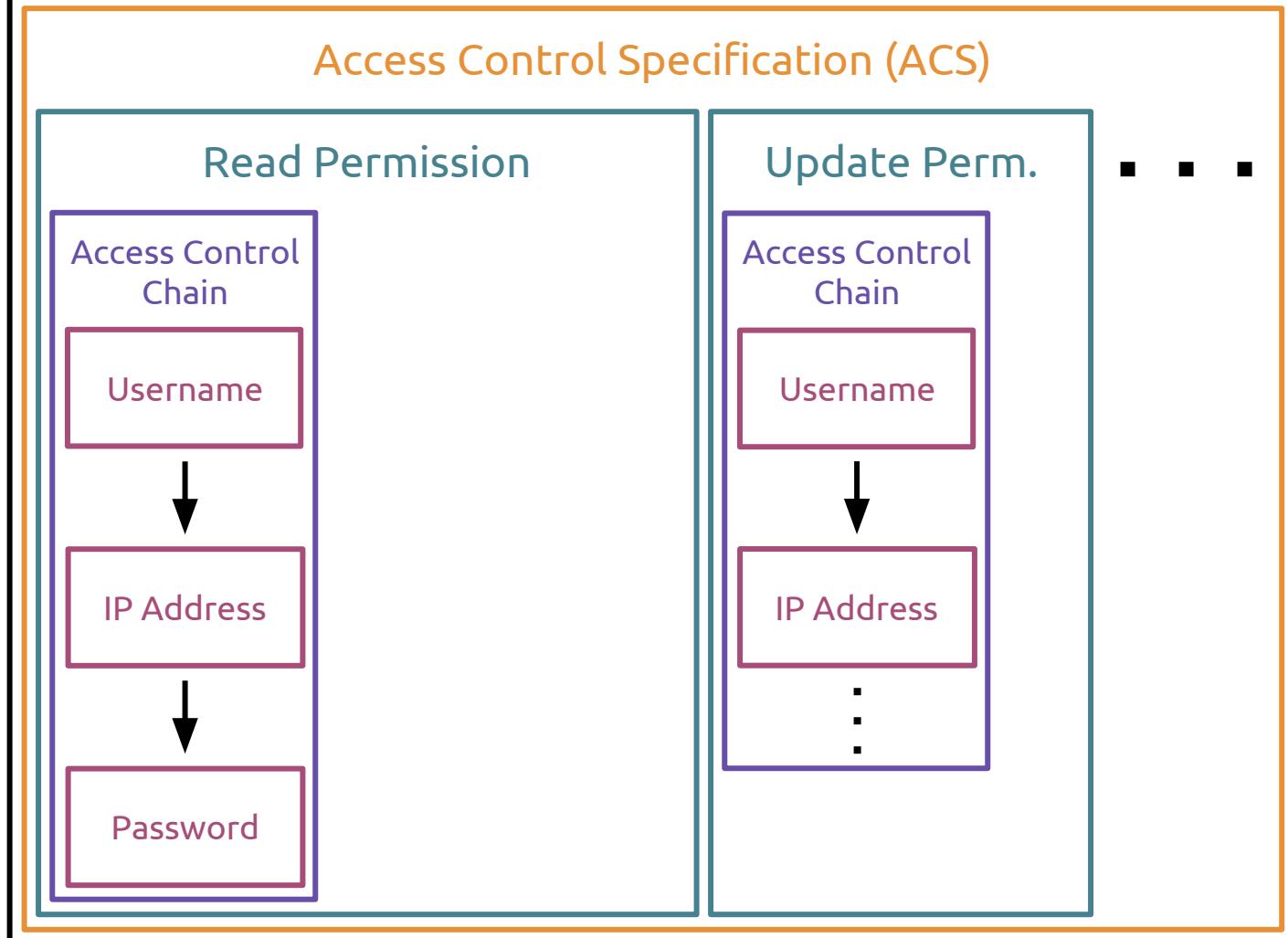


IP Address

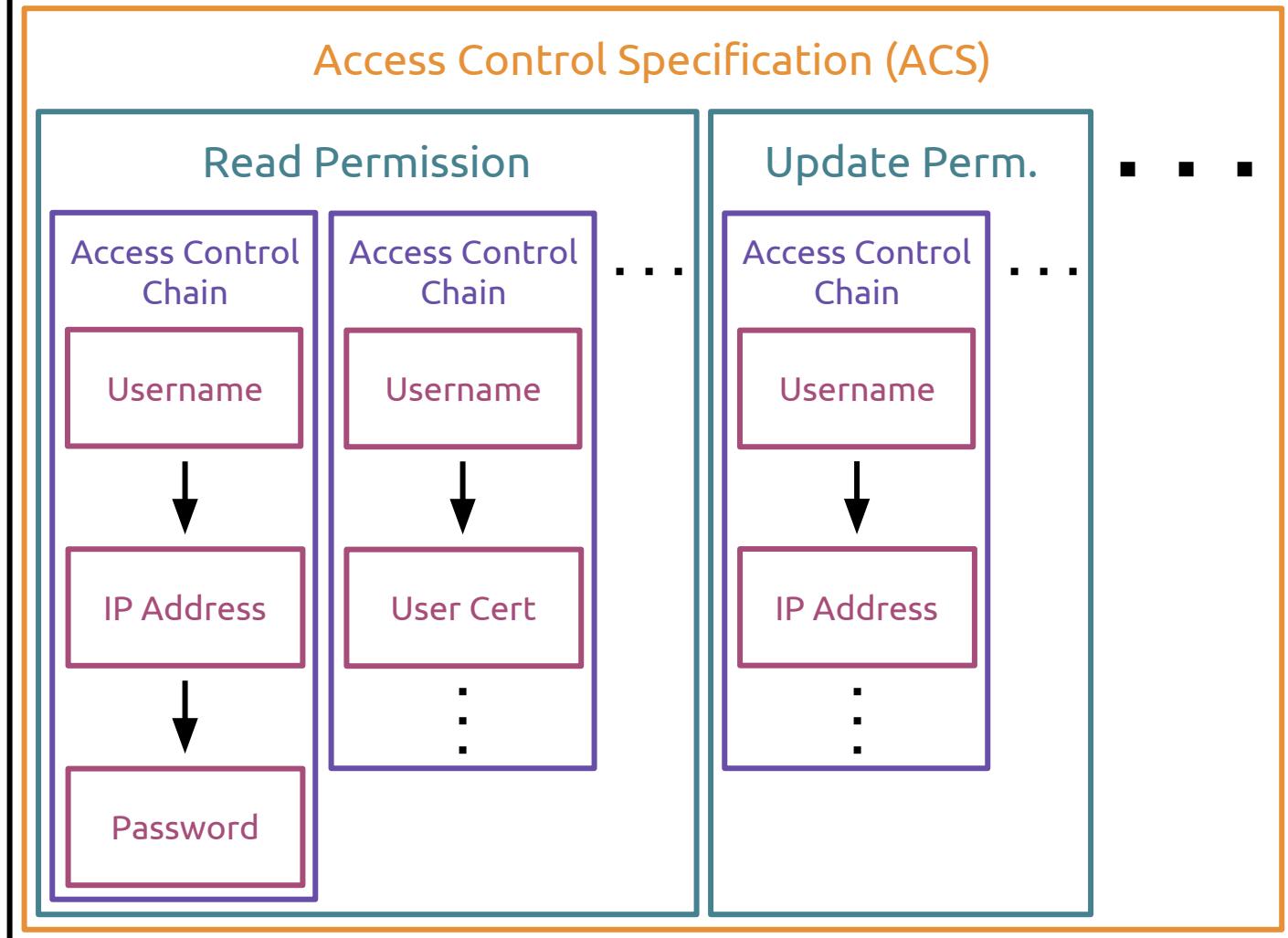


Password

Key:Value Object



Key:Value Object



Permissions

Server

Permission	Rights
<code>srv_grp_create</code>	create groups on a Custos server
<code>srv_grp_list</code>	list groups on a Custos server
<code>srv_grp_override</code>	escalate to any group-level permission, overriding the per-group ACS
<code>srv_audit</code>	read all server-level audit information (i.e. group creation logging, group override logging, etc)
<code>srv_clean</code>	delete all server-level audit information (i.e. group creation logging, group override logging, etc)
<code>srv_acs_get</code>	view the server-level ACS controlling the permissions in this list
<code>srv_acs_set</code>	update the server-level ACS controlling the permissions in this list

Group

Permission	Rights
grp_obj_create	create a key:value objects within the given group
grp_obj_list	list key:value objects within the given group
grp_obj_override	escalate to any object-level permission, overriding the per-object ACS
grp_delete	delete the given group on a Custos server
grp_audit	read all group-level audit information (i.e. object creation logging, object override logging, etc)
grp_clean	delete all group-level audit information (i.e. object creation logging, object override logging, etc)
grp_acs_get	view the group-level ACS controlling the permissions in this list
grp_acs_set	update the group-level ACS controlling the permissions in this list

Object

Permission	Rights
obj_delete	delete the given key:value object within the given group
obj_read	read the given key:value object within the given group
obj_update	create a new version of the given key:value object within the given group (the equivalent of a “write” permission for the Custos write-once system)
obj_audit	read all object-level audit information (i.e. object read logging, object update logging, etc)
obj_clean	delete all object-level audit information (i.e. object read logging, object update logging, etc)
obj_acs_get	view the object-level ACS controlling the permissions in this list
obj_acs_set	update the object-level ACS controlling the permissions in this list

Access Control Chain

Ordered List of Authentication Attributes

```
[  
  [ (username = 'Andy'),  
    (password = '12345'),  
    (src_ip = 192.168.1.0/24) ]  
]
```

Multiple Lists
per Permission

```
[  
  [ (username = 'Andy'),  
    (password = '12345'),  
    (src_ip = 192.168.1.0/24) ],  
  [ (username = 'Andy'),  
    (password = '12345'),  
    (src_ip = 75.148.118.216/29) ],  
  [ (username = 'John'),  
    (password = 'Swordfish') ]  
]
```

(username = 'Andy')



(password = '12345')

(username = 'John')



(src_ip = 192.168.1.0/24) (src_ip = 75.148.118.216/29) (password = 'Swordfish')

Authentication Attributes

Plugins

Explicit

ip_src

user_agent

auth_type

auth_value

time_utc

...

Implicit

user_id

psk

psk_sha256

...

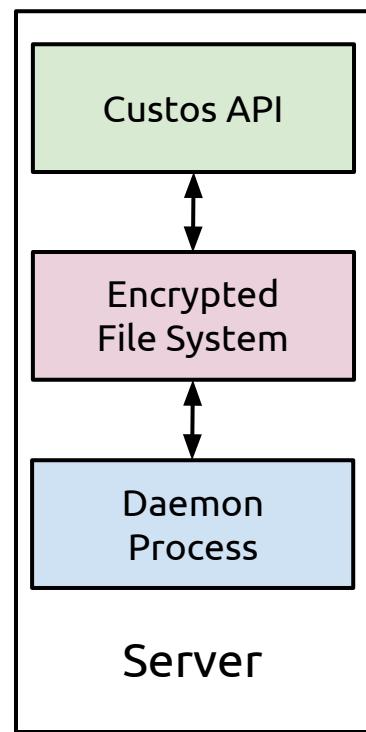
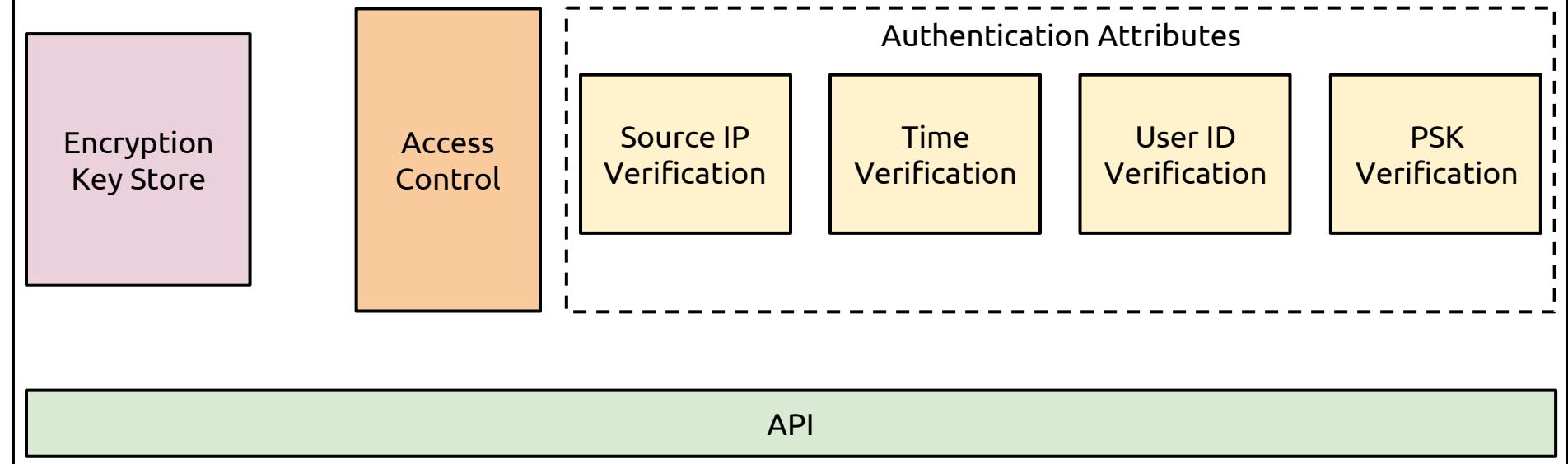
Access Example

619a06f0-50af-11e3-8f96-0800200c9a66 ACS

```
{  
    obj_read:  
        [  
            [ (ip\src = '1.2.3.4'),  
             (time\utc = '1300 +/- 5') ],  
            [ (user\id = 'Dirk'),  
              (psk = 'ImaHakzor') ]  
            ...  
        ]  
        ...  
}
```

Daemon Access

Custos Server



Request:

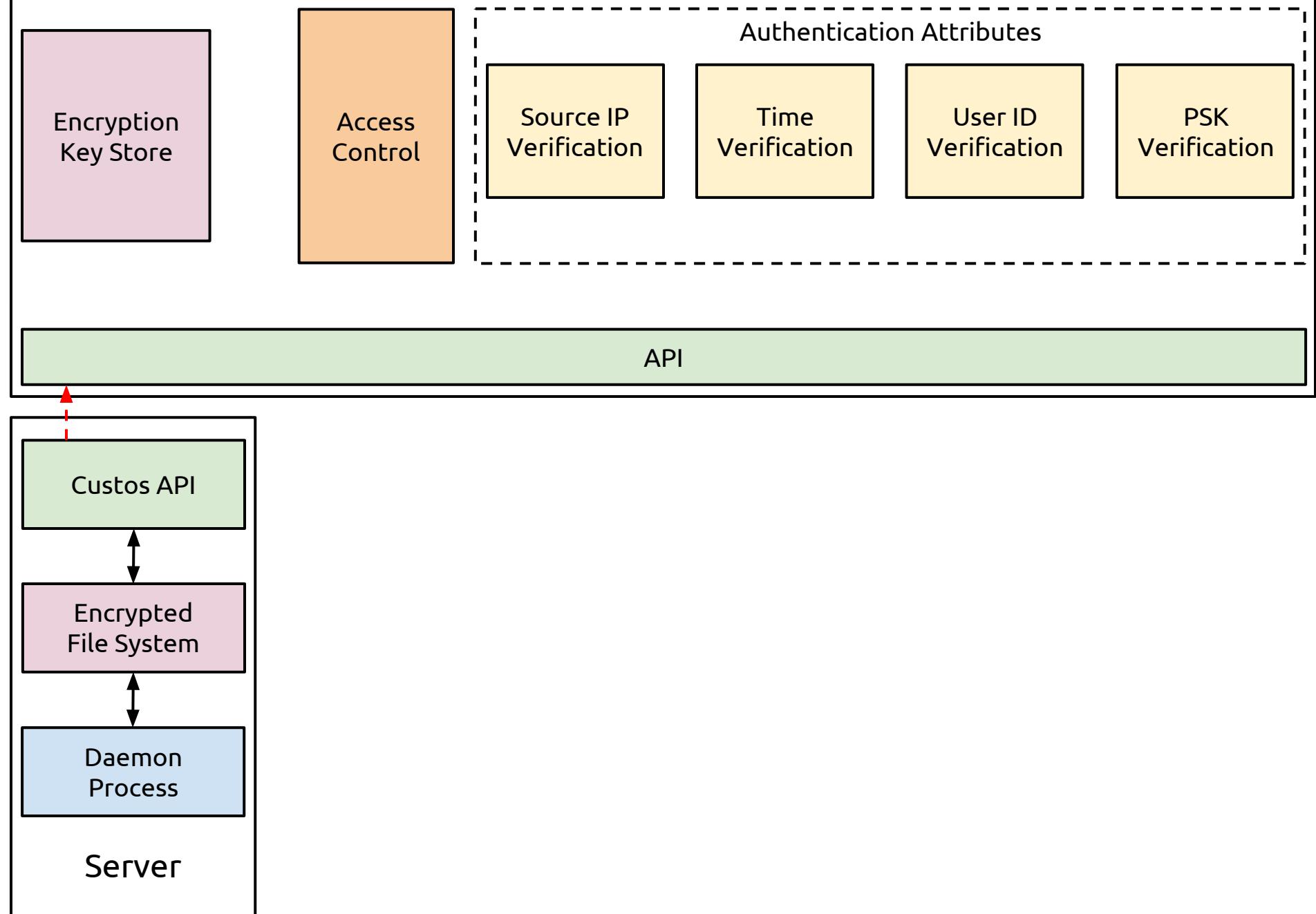
619a06f0-50af-11e3-8f96-0800200c9a66

Authentication Attributes:

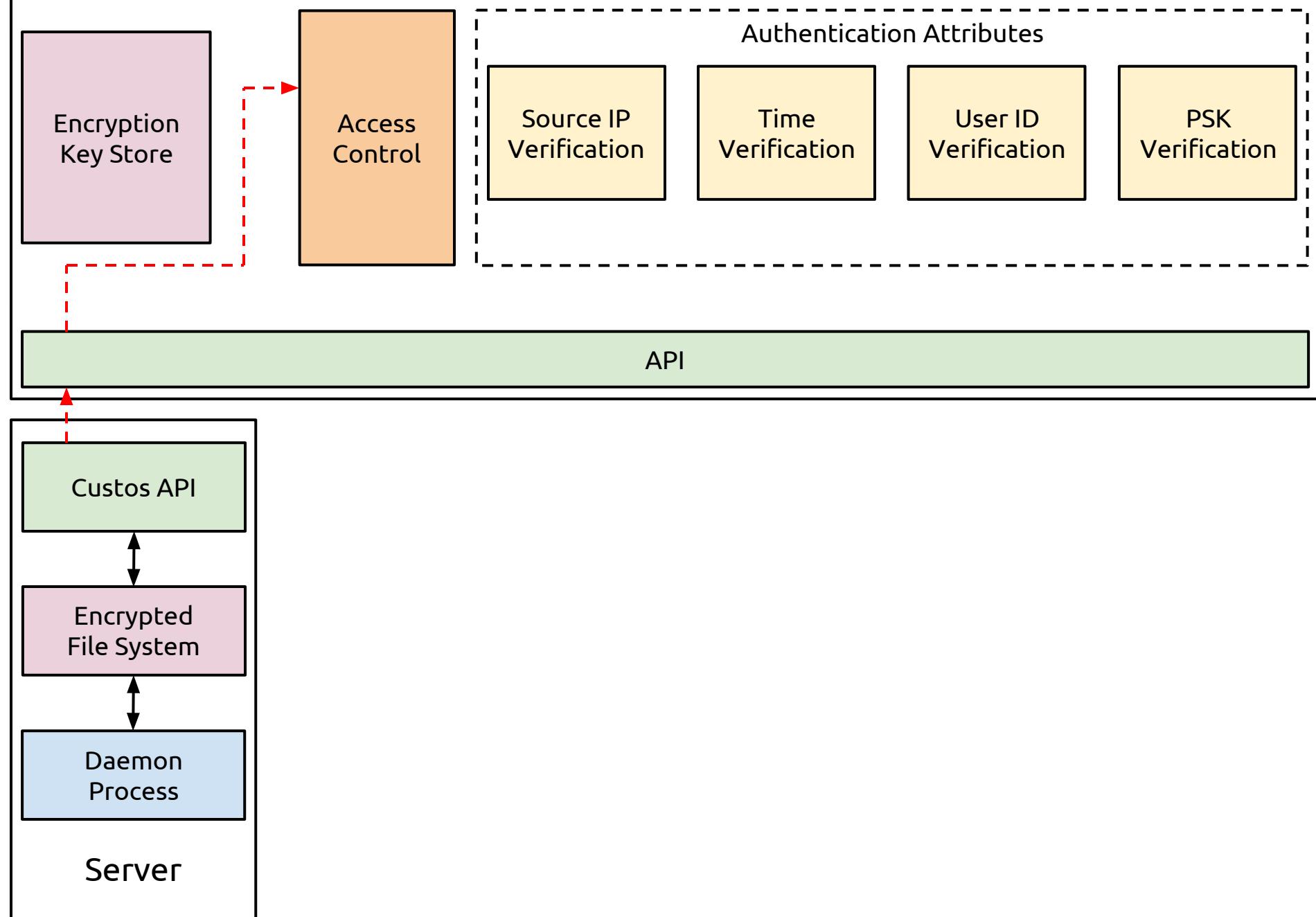
(ip_src = ‘1.2.3.4’)

(time_utc = ‘1303’)

Custos Server



Custos Server



{

obj_read:

[

[(ip\src = '1.2.3.4'),
(time\utc = '1300 +/- 5')],
[(user\id = 'Dirk'),
(psk = 'ImaHakzor')]

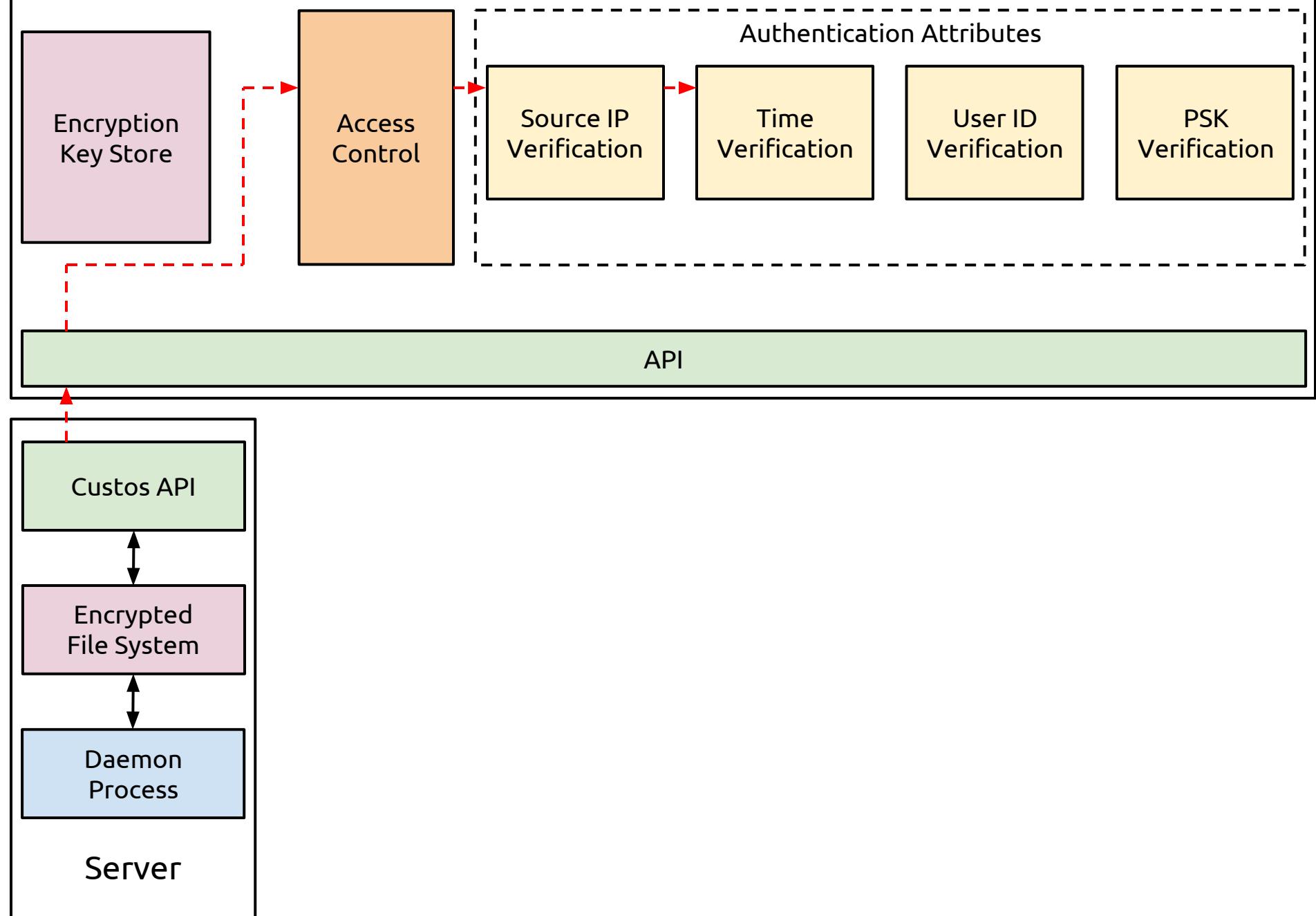
...

]

...

}

Custos Server



Request:

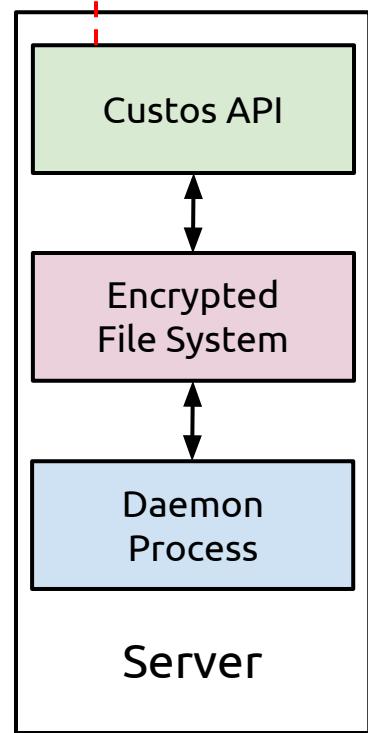
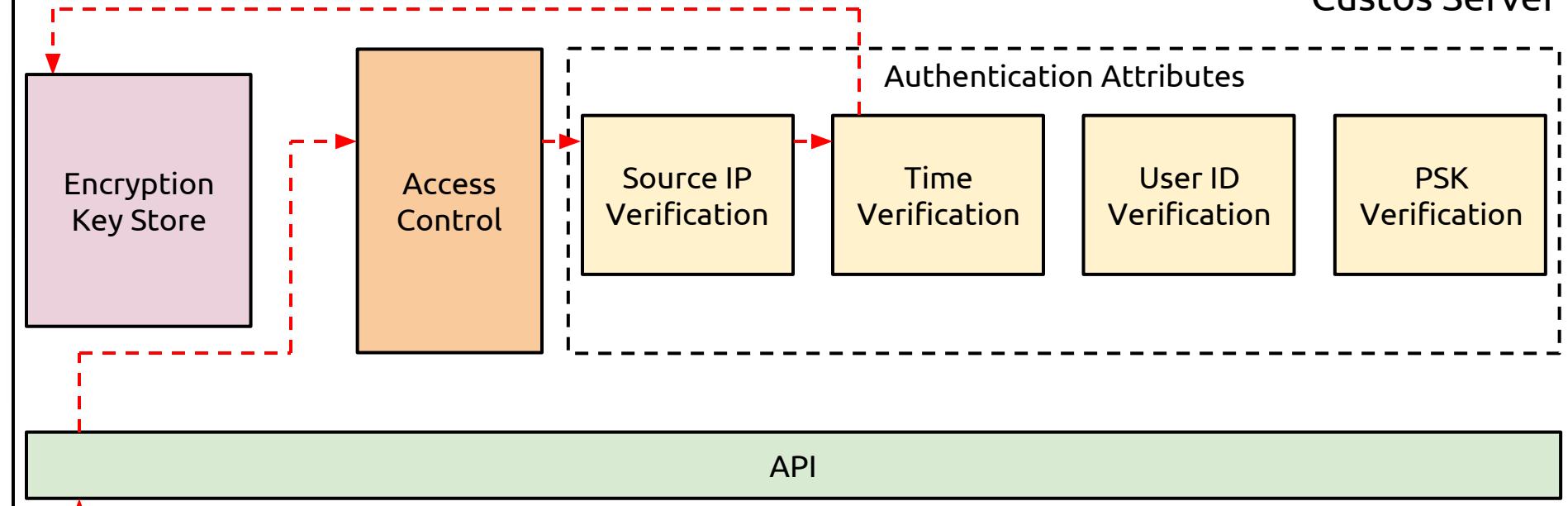
619a06f0-50af-11e3-8f96-0800200c9a66

Authentication Attributes:

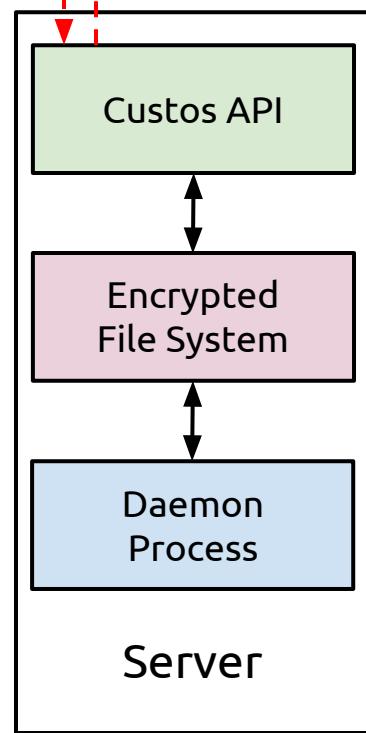
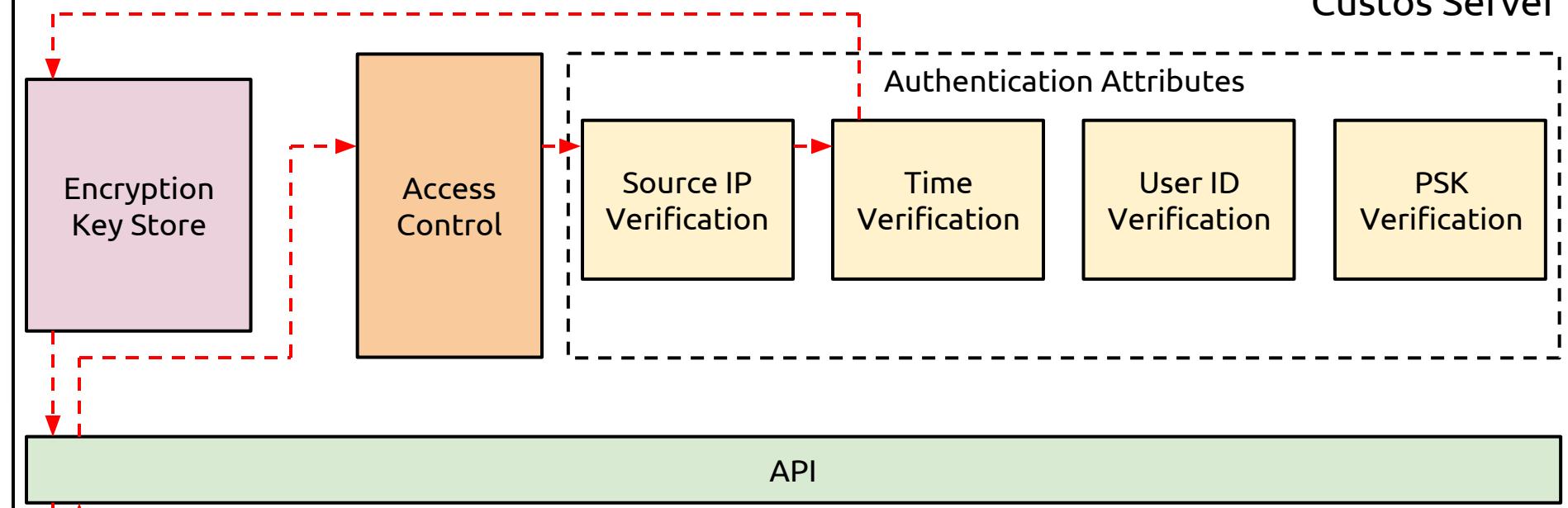
(ip_src = ‘1.2.3.4’)

(time_utc = ‘1303’)

Custos Server

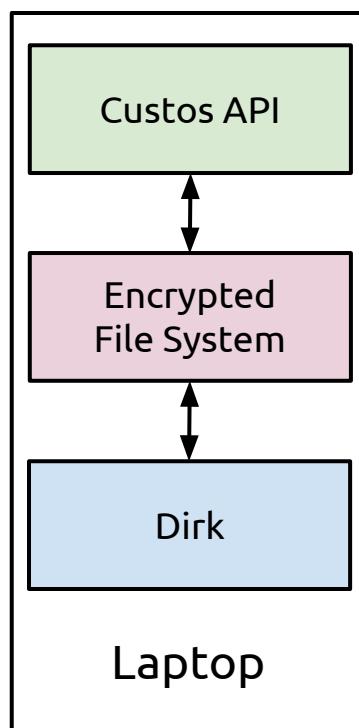
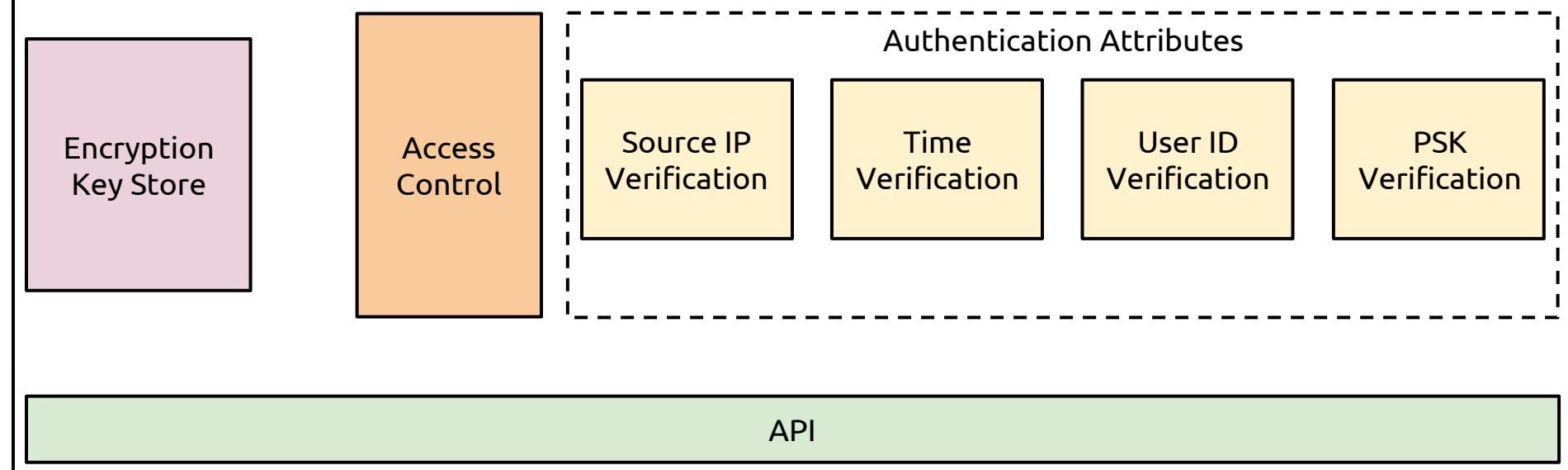


Custos Server



User Access

Custos Server



Request:

619a06f0-50af-11e3-8f96-0800200c9a66

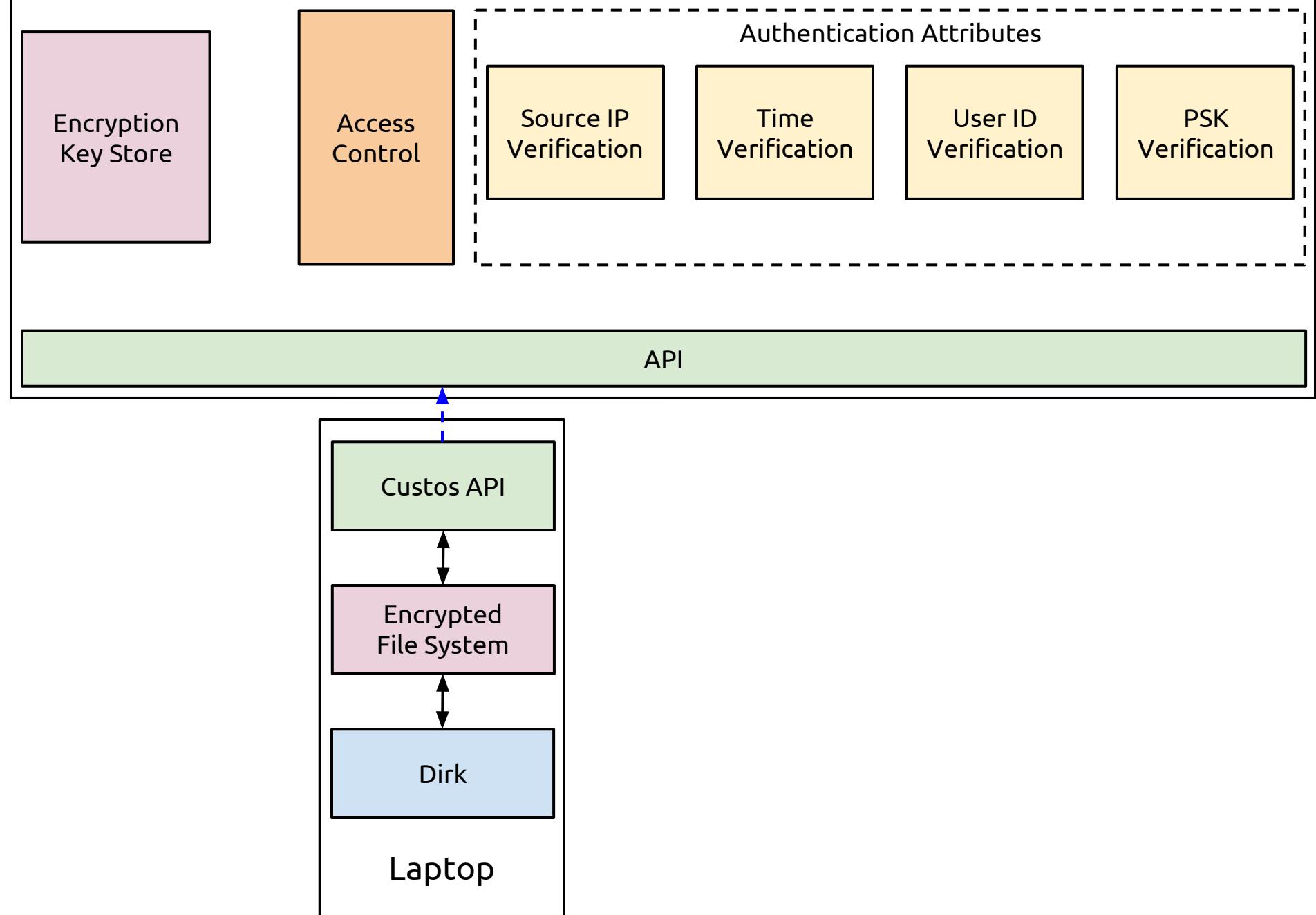
Authentication Attributes:

user_id = Dirk

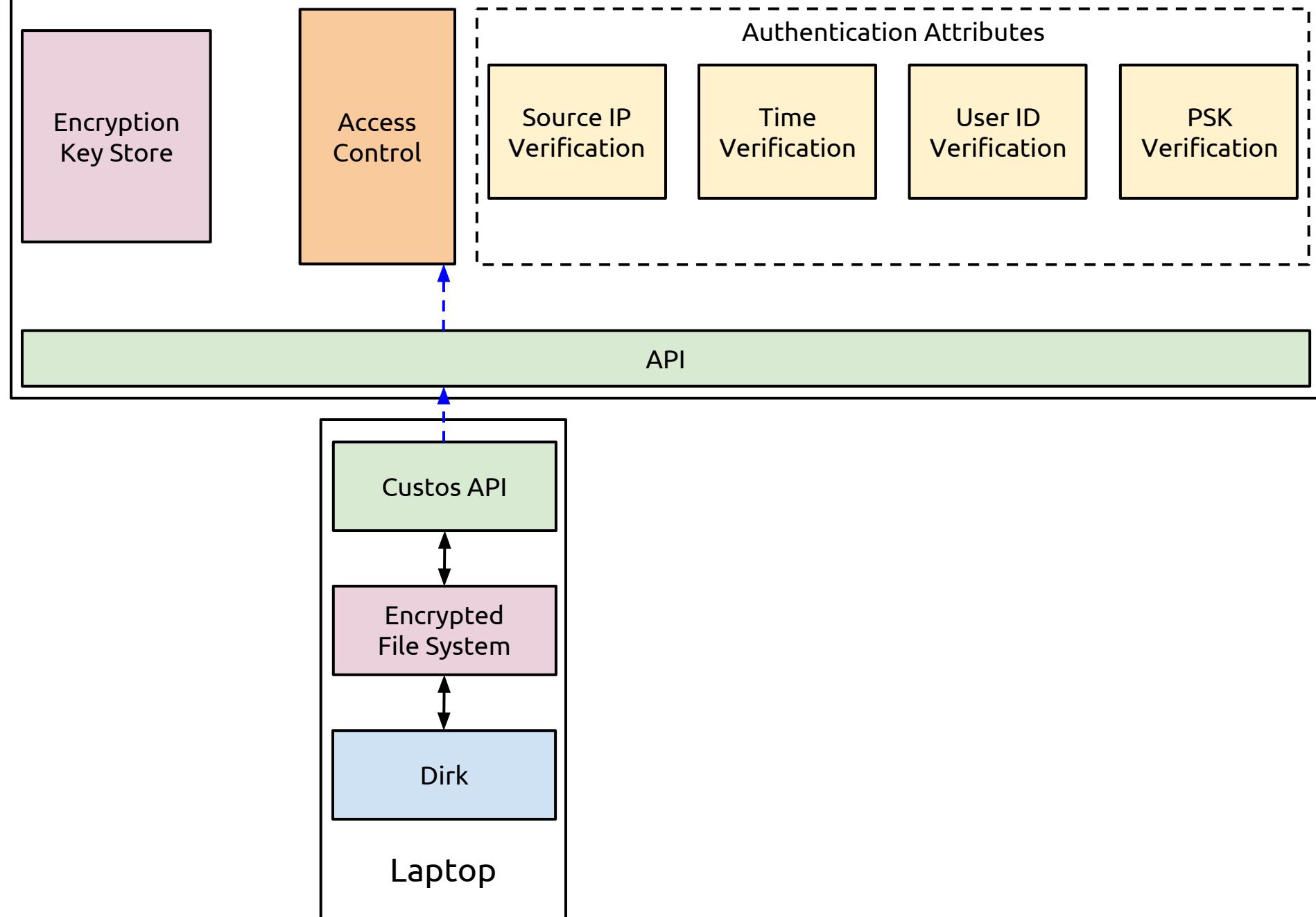
(ip_src = '1.2.3.4')

(time_utc = '1133')

Custos Server

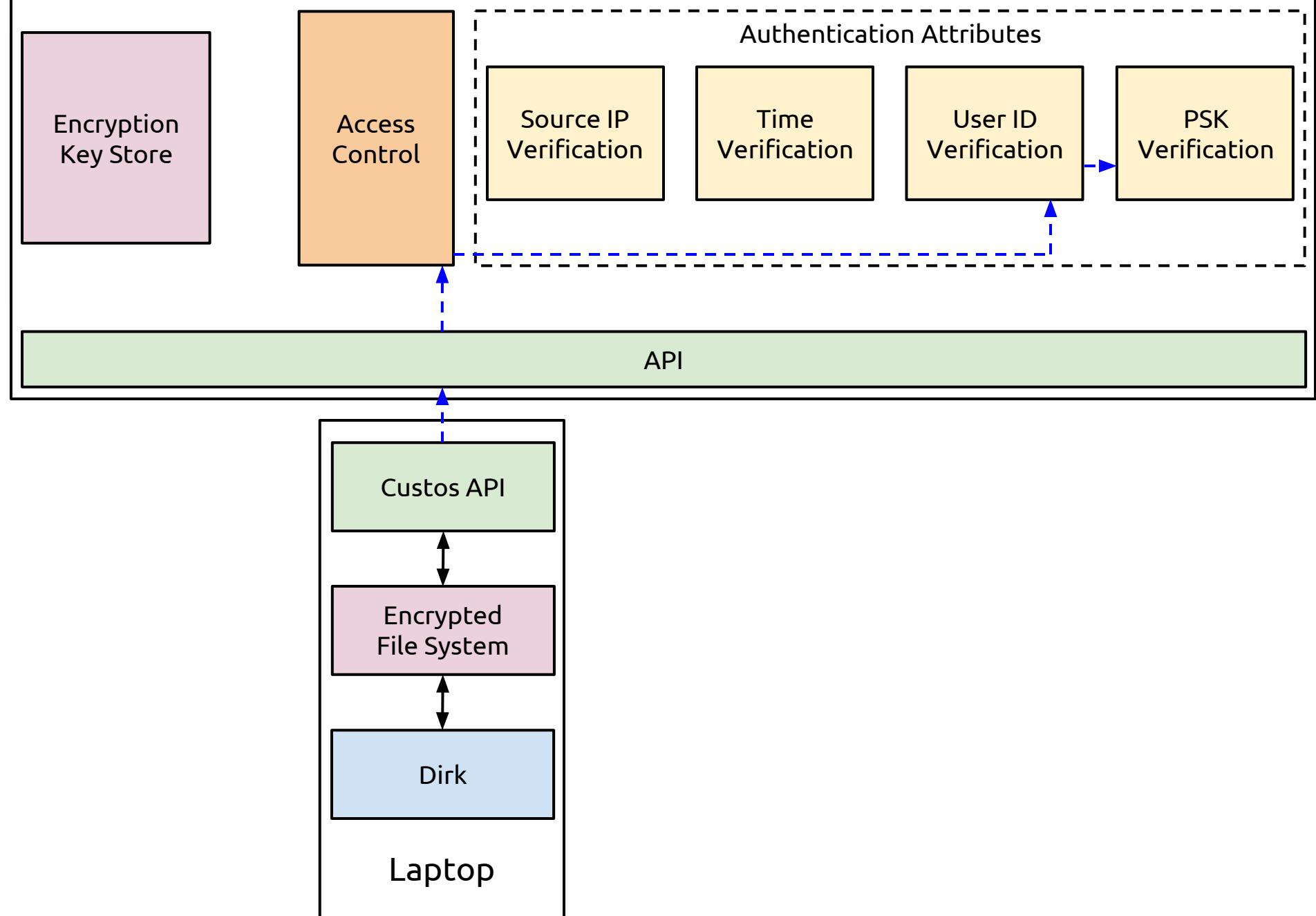


Custos Server



```
{  
    obj_read:  
        [  
            [ (ip\src = '1.2.3.4'),  
              (time\utc = '1300 +/- 5') ],  
            [ (user\id = 'Dirk'),  
              (psk = 'ImaHakzor') ]  
            ...  
        ]  
        ...  
}
```

Custos Server



Request:

619a06f0-50af-11e3-8f96-0800200c9a66

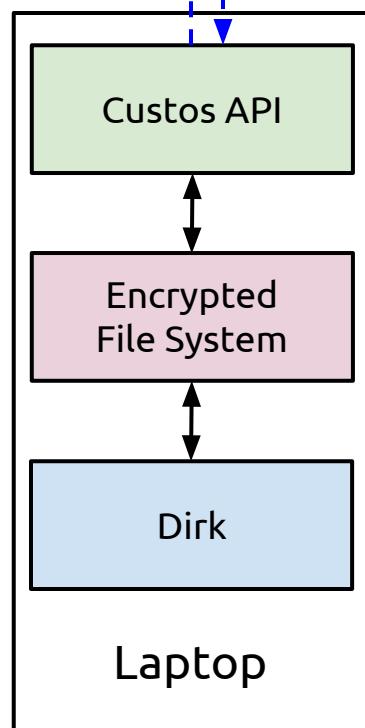
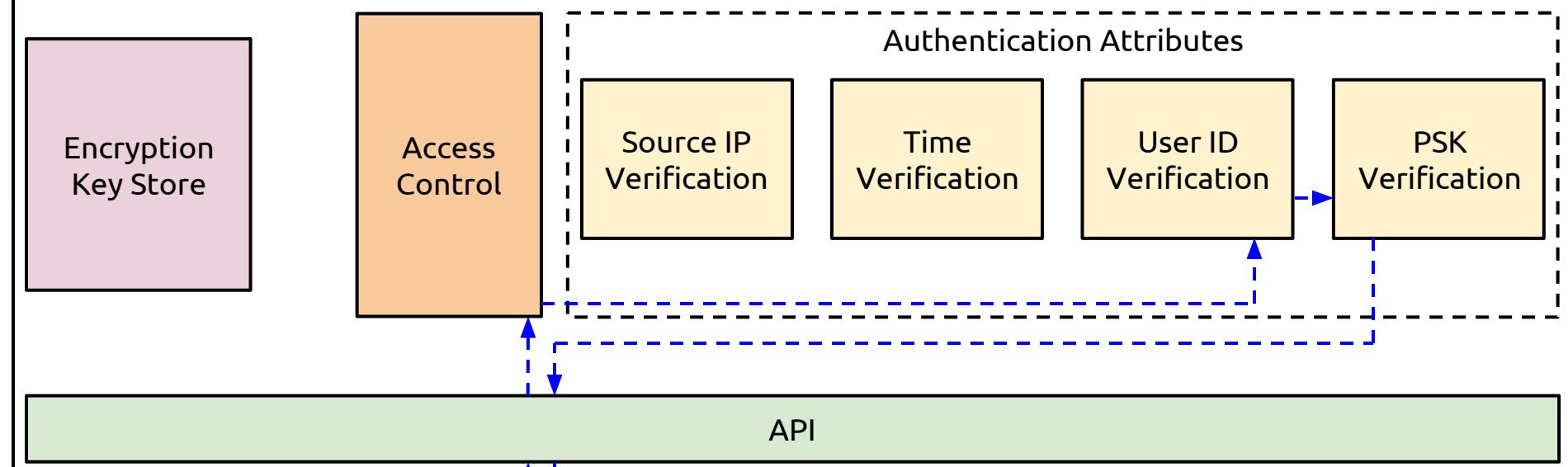
Authentication Attributes:

user_id = Dirk

(ip_src = '1.2.3.4')

(time_utc = '1133')

Custos Server



```
{  
    obj_read:  
        [  
            [ (ip\src = '1.2.3.4'),  
              (time\utc = '1300 +/- 5') ],  
            [ (user\id = 'Dirk'),  
              (psk = 'ImaHakzor') ]  
            . . .  
        ]  
        . . .  
}
```

Request:

619a06f0-50af-11e3-8f96-0800200c9a66

Authentication Attributes:

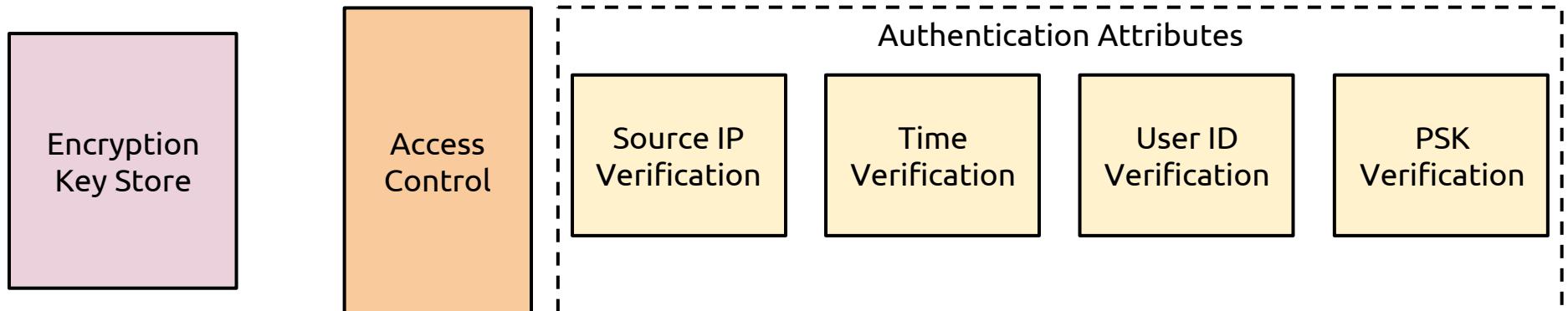
user_id = ‘Dirk’

psk = ‘ImaHackzor’

(**ip_src** = ‘1.2.3.4’)

(**time_utc** = ‘1133’)

Custos Server



API

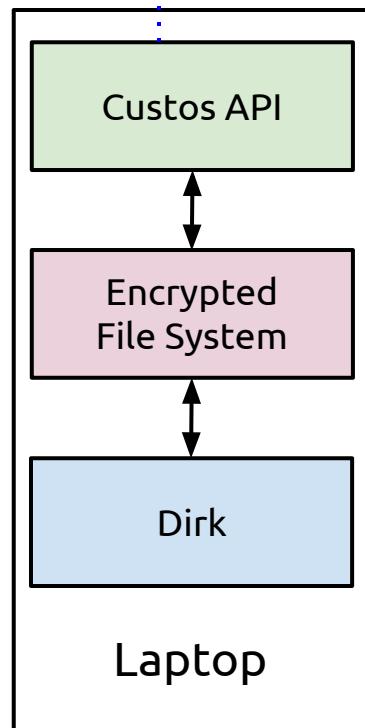
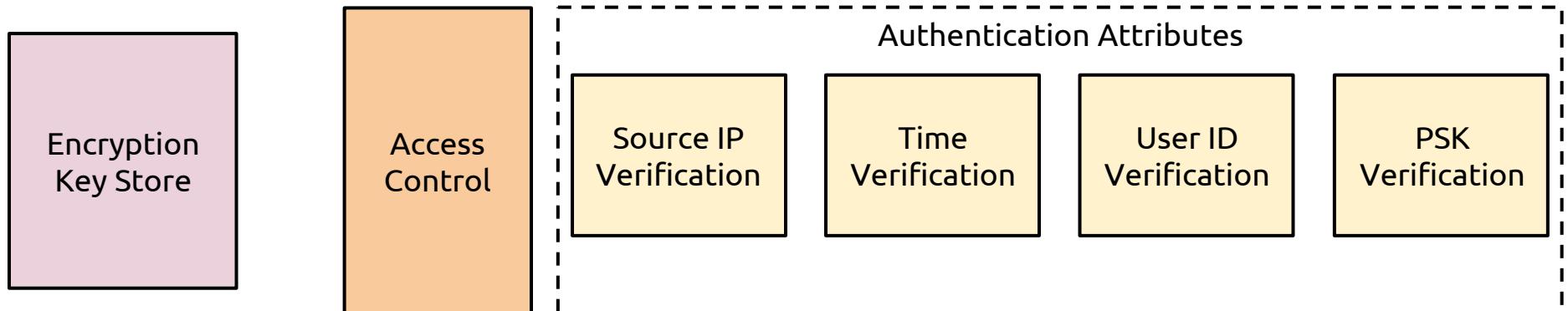
Custos API

Encrypted
File System

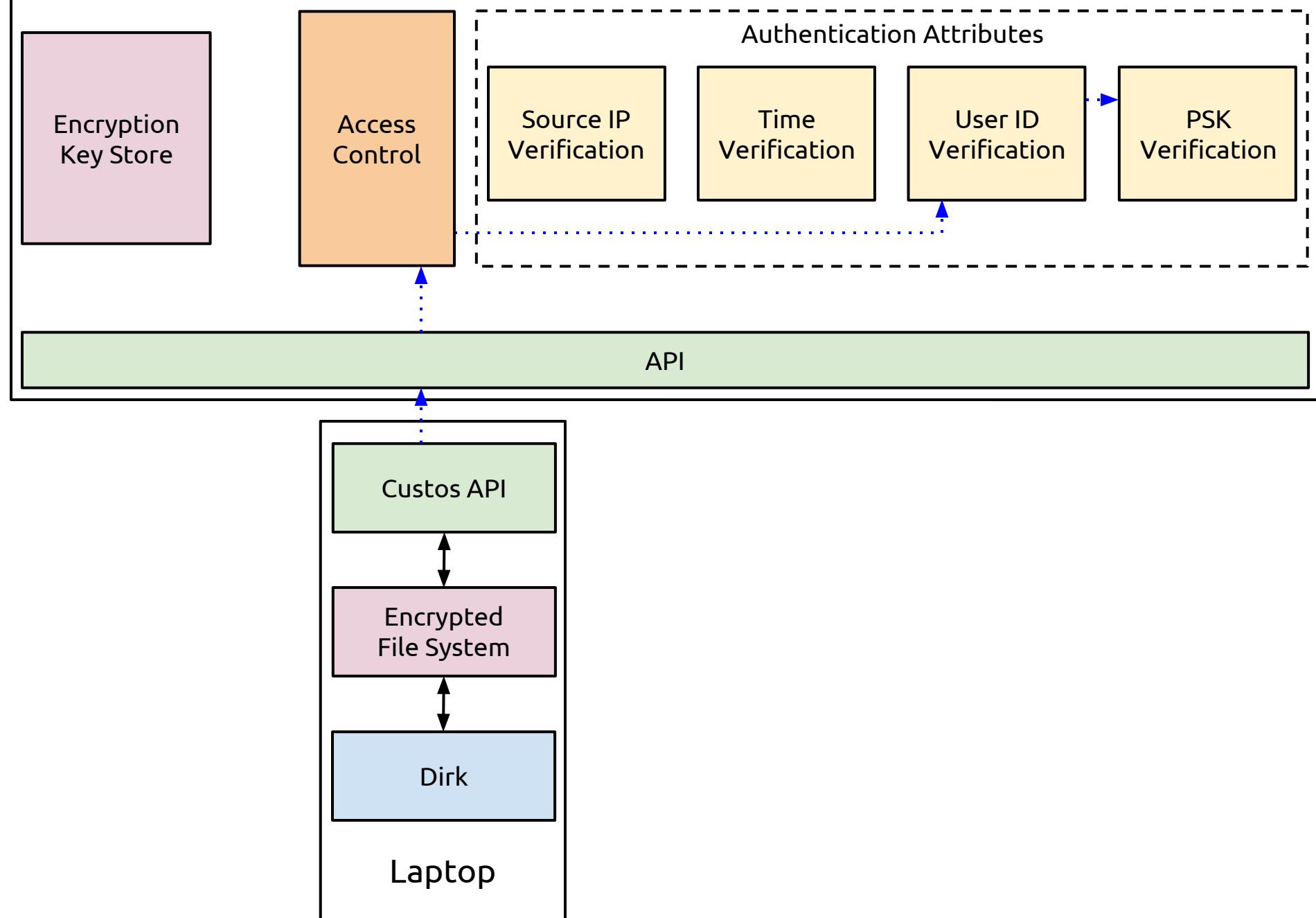
Dirk

Laptop

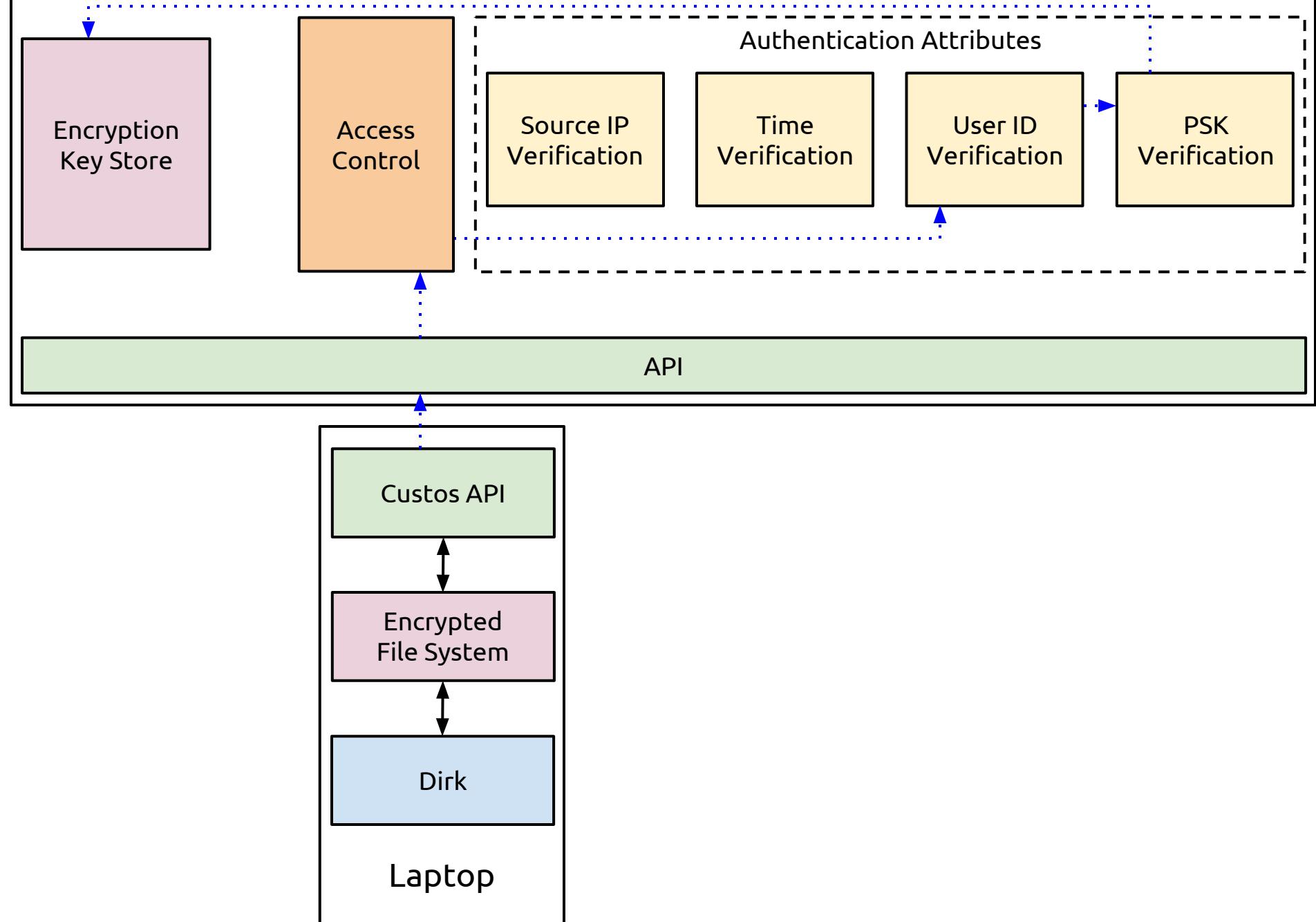
Custos Server



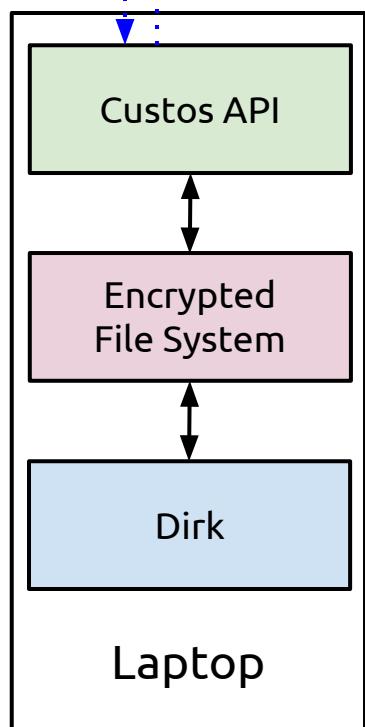
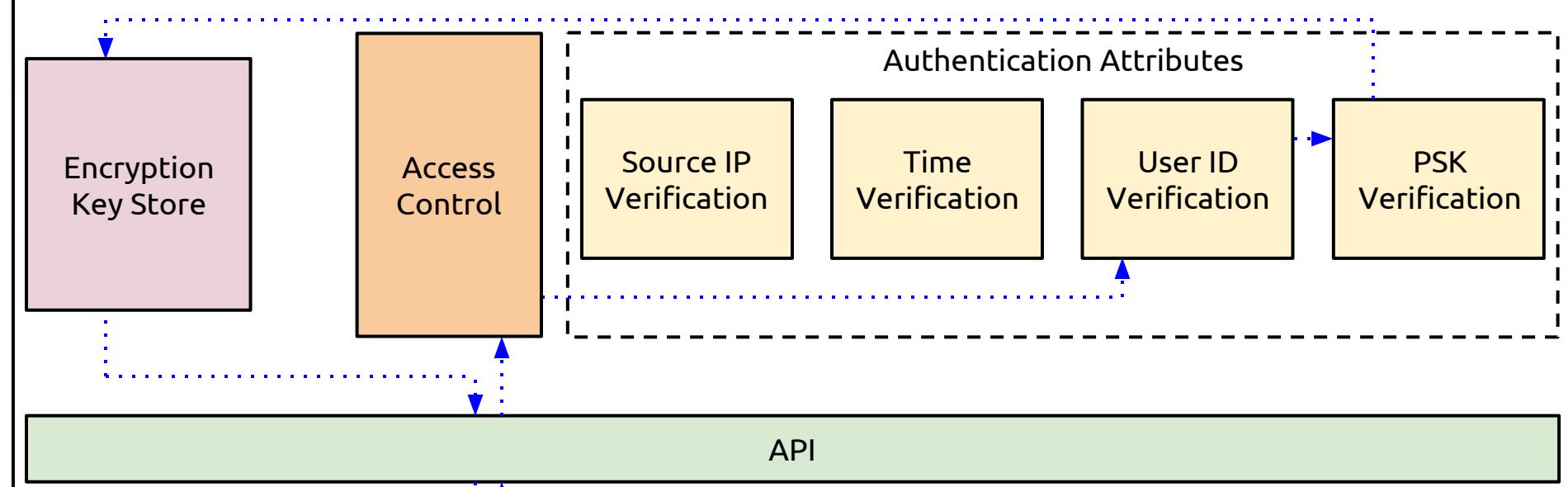
Custos Server



Custos Server



Custos Server

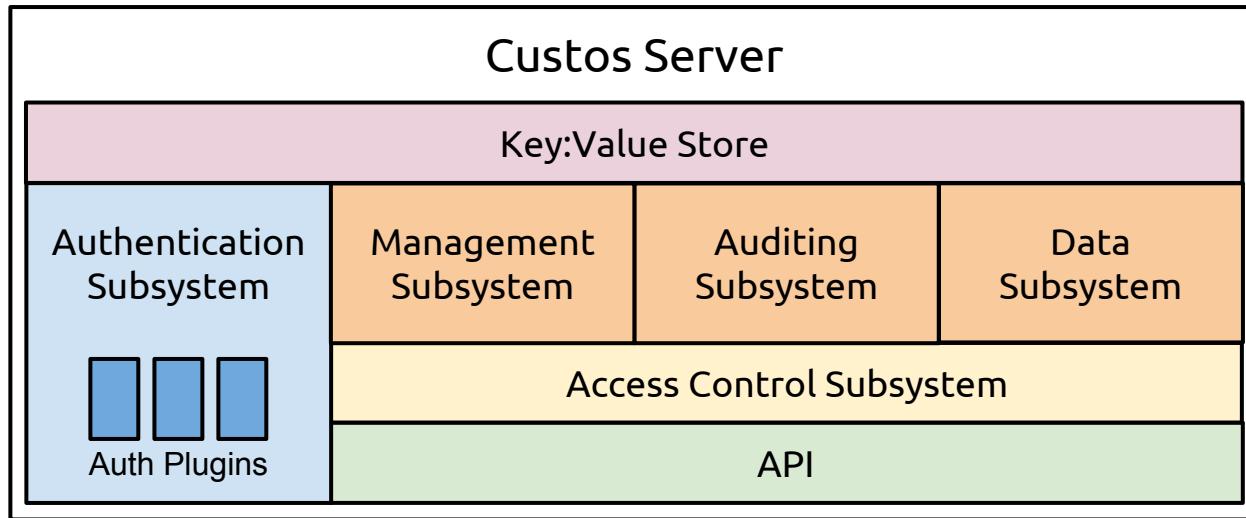


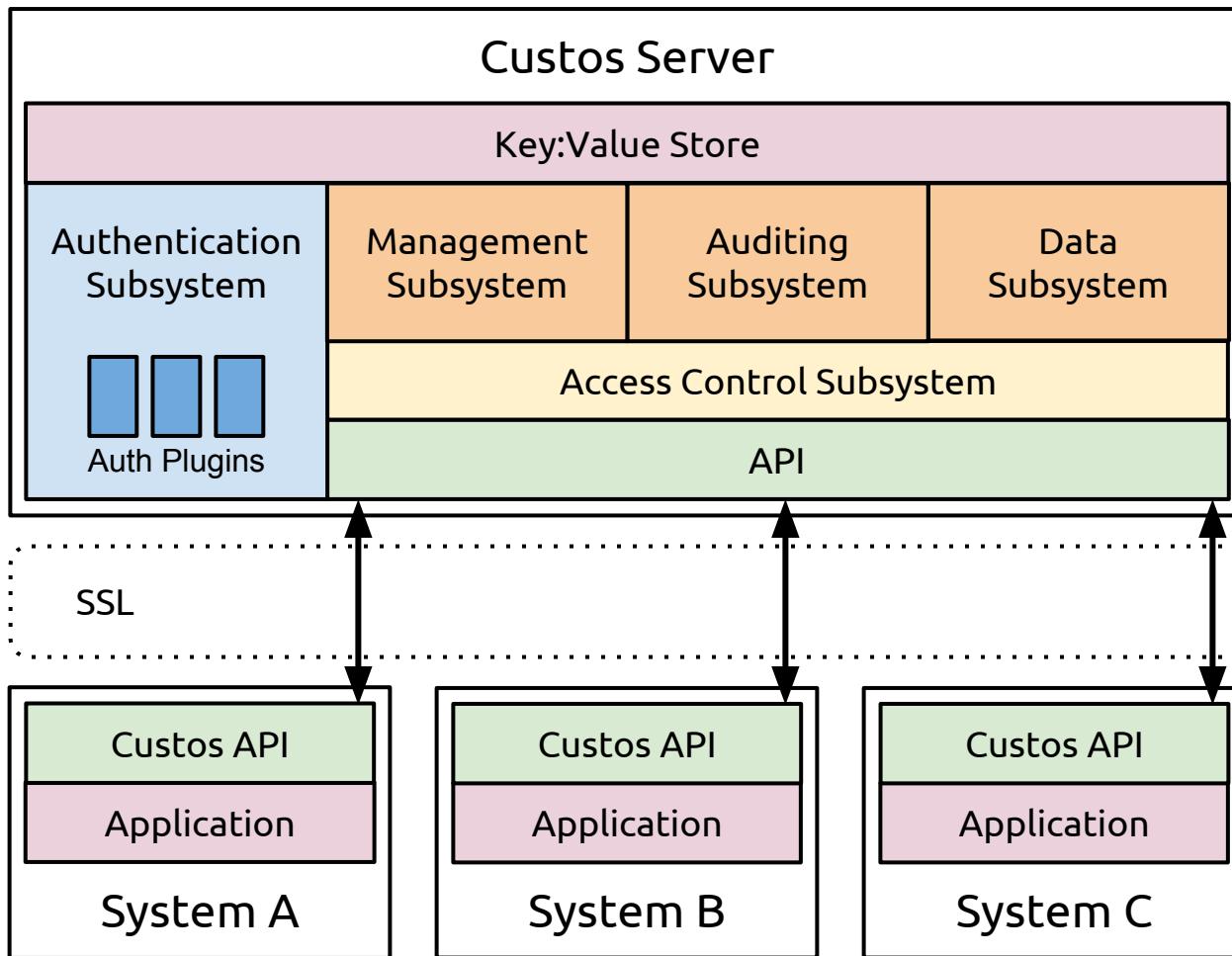
API

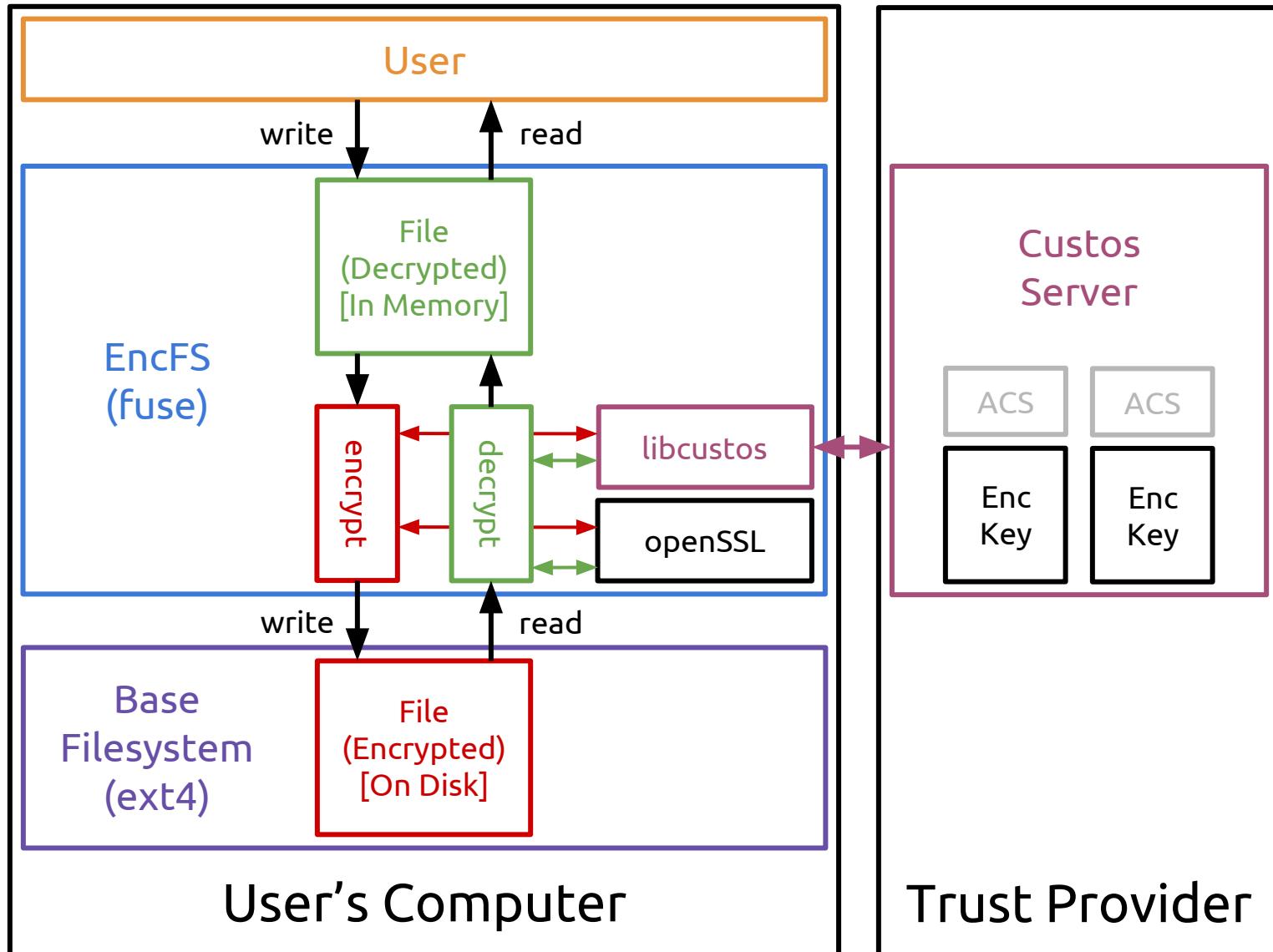
RESTful

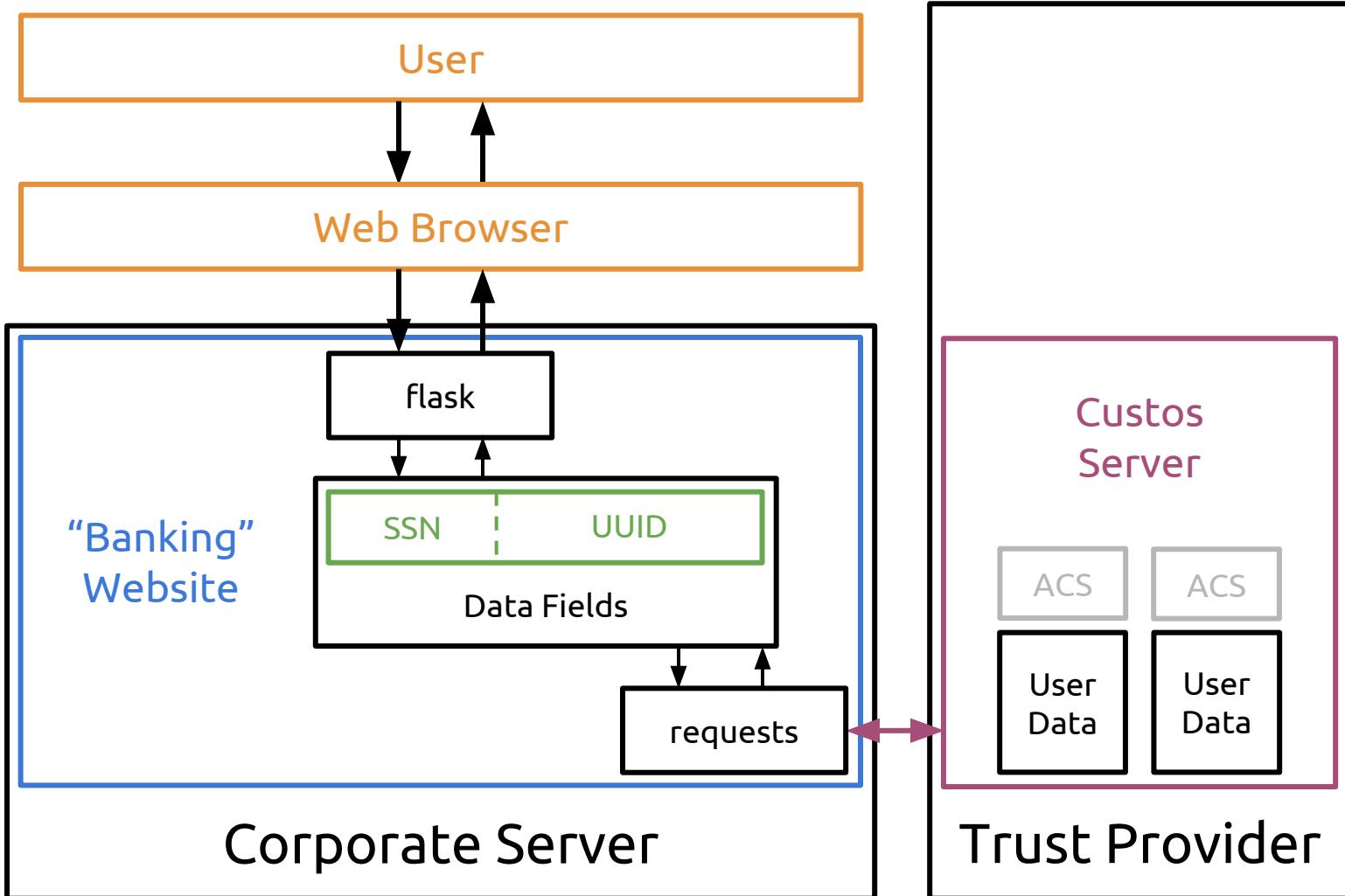
Endpoint	Verb	Required Permission	Purpose
/grp	POST	srv_grp_create	create a new group, returning the group's UUID
/grp	GET	srv_grp_list	return the list of all groups
/grp/<grp_uuid>	DELETE	grp_delete	remove a group
/grp/<grp_uuid>/obj	POST	grp_obj_create	create a new key:value object, returning the object's UUID
/grp/<grp_uuid>/obj	GET	grp_obj_list	return a list of all key:value objects
/grp/<grp_uuid>/obj/<obj_uuid>	PUT	obj_update	update an existing key:value object
/grp/<grp_uuid>/obj/<obj_uuid>	GET	obj_read	return a key:value object*
/grp/<grp_uuid>/obj/<obj_uuid>	DELETE	obj_delete	delete a key:value object

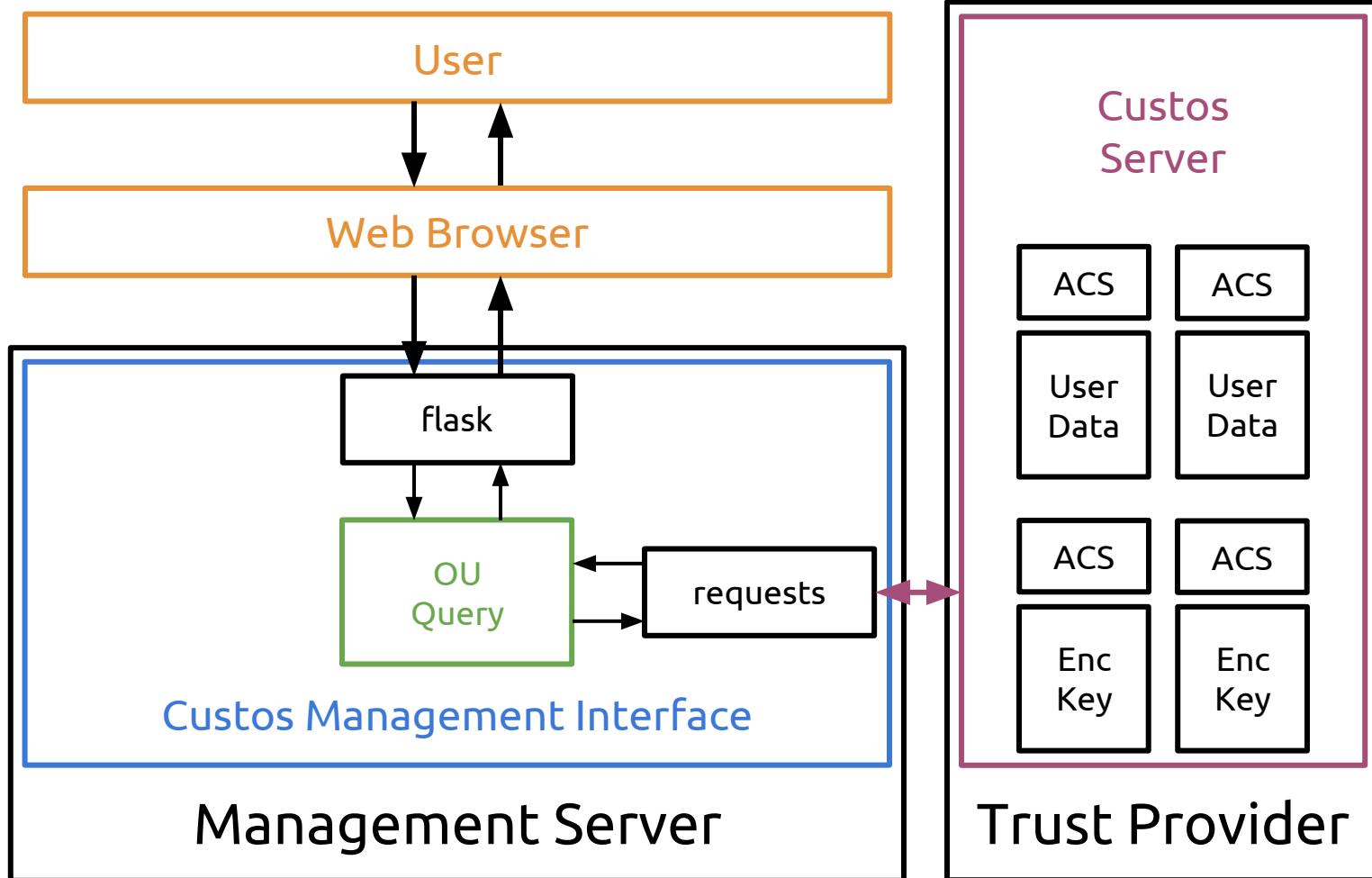
Prototype











Future Work

Expand Prototypes

Usability Studies

Distributed Usage

...

Conclusion

Attempt to solve the
Key Storage Problem

Provides a
Secret Storage Service

With...

Flexible Authentication

Powerful Access Control

Standardized Interface

Making Encryption...

Tolerant of Modern Use Cases

Easier to Use

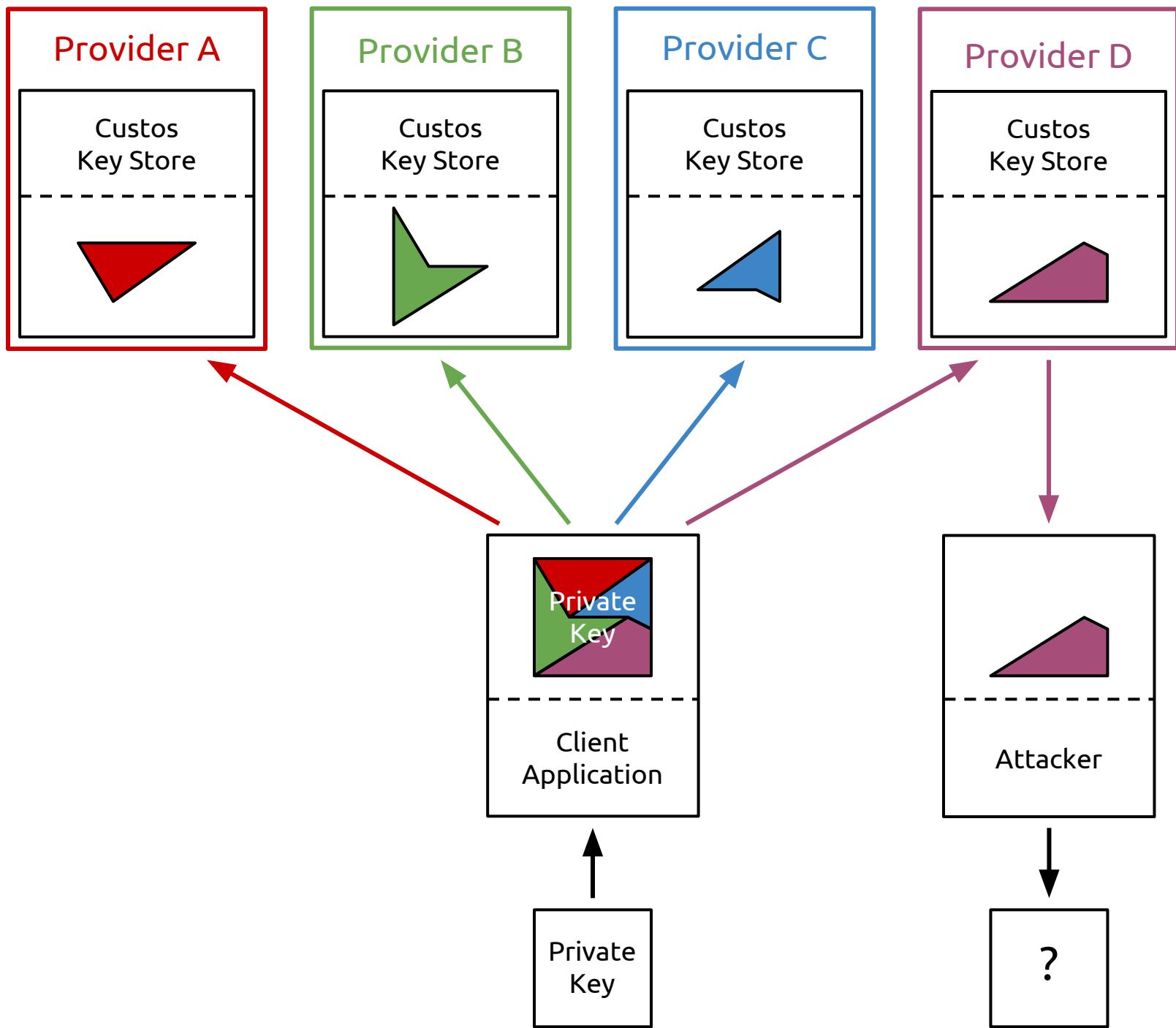
Better at Protecting Our Data

Questions

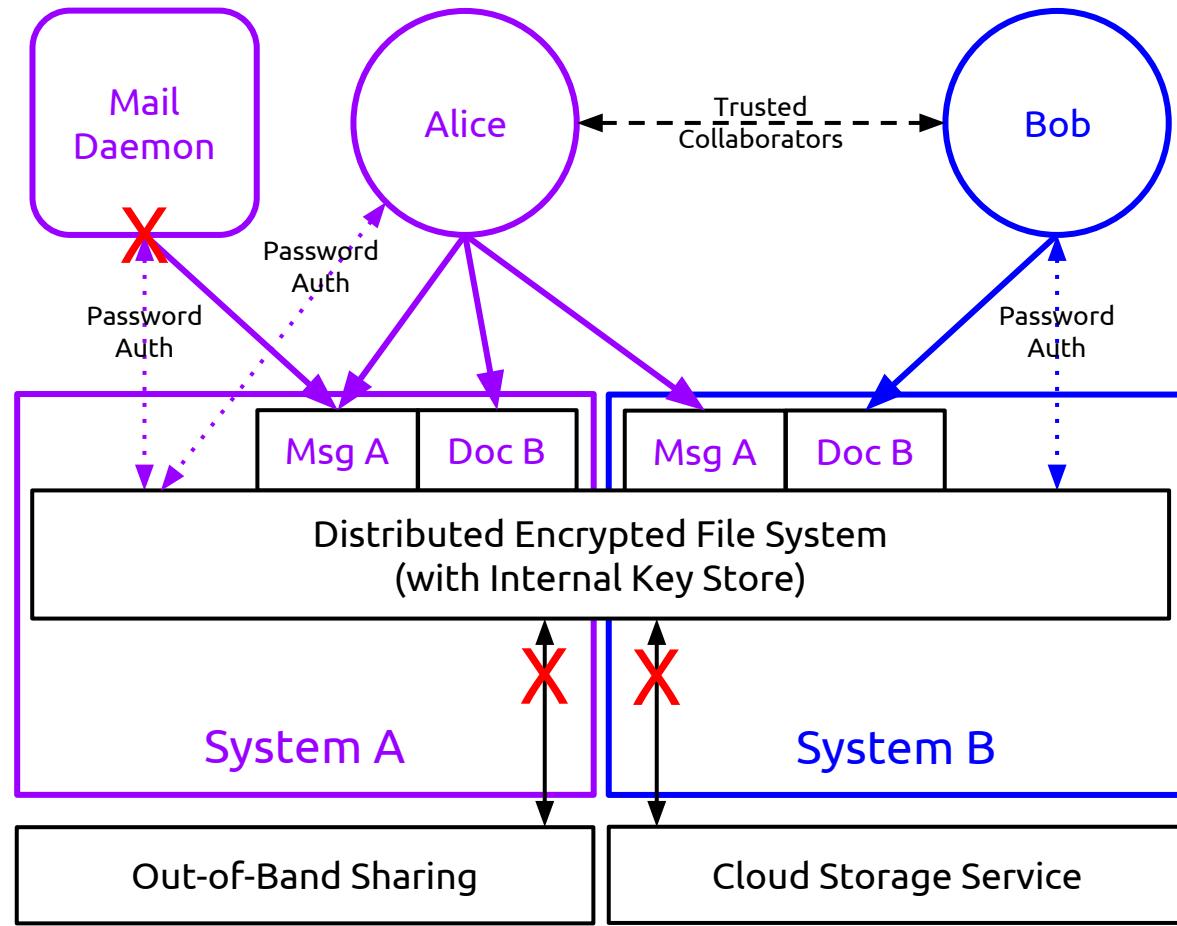
Extra Slides

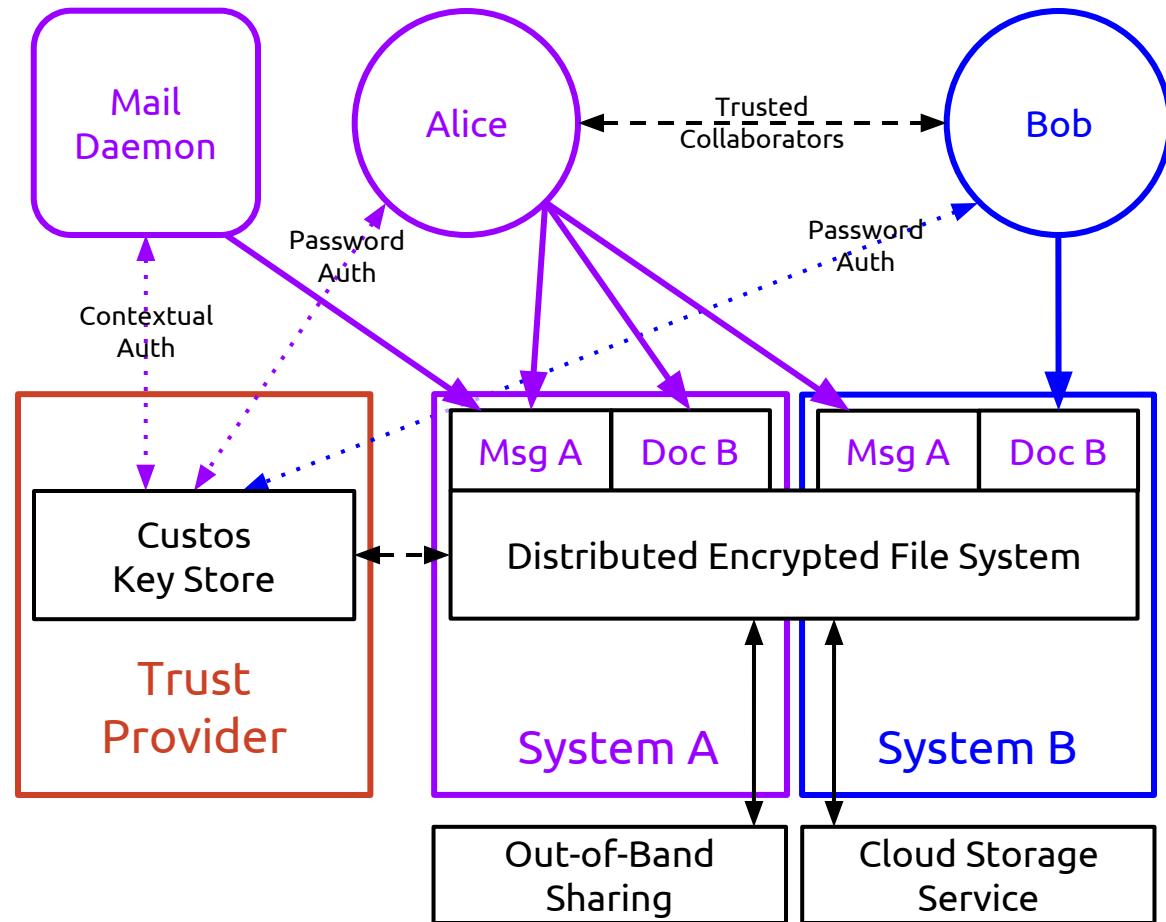
Avoiding a Trusted Third Party

Shamir's Secret Sharing



Full Stack File Systems





Example “Create” API Call

Authentication Attributes (JSON)

```
[  
  {  
    "Class": "explicit",  
    "Type": "user_id",  
    "Value": "YXNheWxlcgA=",  
    "Echo": true  
  },  
  {  
    "Class": "explicit",  
    "Type": "psk",  
    "Value": "TX1PYmplY3RDcmVhdGlvb1Bhc3N3b3JkA  
              A==",  
    "Echo": false  
  }]  
]
```

Request URL

POST https://custos.net/grp/cc4273ae-4e1e-11e3-90d4-10bf487b3e94/obj?aa=%5B%20%7B%20%22Class%22%3A%20%22explicit%22%2C%20%22Type%22%3A%20%22user_id%22%2C%20%22Value%22%3A%20%22YXNheWxlcgA%3D%22%2C%20%22Echo%22%3A%20true%20%7D%2C%20%7B%20%22Class%22%3A%20%22explicit%22%2C%20%22Type%22%3A%20%22psk%22%2C%20%22Value%22%3A%20%22TX1PYmp1Y3RDcmVhdG1vb1Bhc3N3b3JkAA%3D%3D%22%2C%20%22Echo%22%3A%20false%20%7D%20%5D

Request Body (JSON)

```
{  
  "Keys": [  
    {  
      "Value": "VHdhcyBicmlsbGlnLC  
                BhbmQgdGh1IHNsaxRo  
                eSB0b3ZlczsgRG1kIG  
                d5cmUgYW5kIGdpbWJs  
                ZSBpbib0aGUgd2FizQ  
                A=",  
      "Echo": true  
    }  
  ...
```

Request Body (JSON) - Continued

...

```
"ACSS": [  
  {  
    "Permissions":  
    {  
      "obj_delete": null,  
      "obj_read": [  
        [  
          {  
            "Class": "explicit",  
            "Type": "user_id",  
            "Value": "YXNheWxlcgA=",  
            "Echo": true  
          }  
        ]  
      ]  
    }  
  }  
]
```

Response (JSON)

```
{
```

```
  "Status": "okay",
  "Keys": [
    {
      "Value": "VHdhcyBicmlsbGlnLC
                BhbmQgdGhlIHNsXRo
                eSB0b3ZlczsgRG1kIG
                d5cmUgYW5kIGdpbWJs
                ZSBpbib0aGUgd2FizQ
                A=",
      "Echo": true,
      "Revision": 0,
      "UUID": "7af8c95d-479a...",
      "Status": "accepted"
    }
  ],
  ...
}
```

Response (JSON) - Continued

...

```
"ACSS": [  
  {  
    "Permissions":  
    {  
      "obj_delete": null,  
      "obj_read": [  
        [  
          ...  
        ]  
        ...  
      ],  
      ...  
    },  
    "Echo": true,  
    "Status": "accepted"  
  }  
,  
...  
]
```

Response (JSON) - Continued

```
...
"Attrs": [
  {
    "Class": "explicit",
    "Type": "user_id",
    "Value": "YXNheWxlcgA=",
    "Echo": true,
    "Status": "accepted",
    "ResValue": null
  },
  ...
]
```

Filesystem References

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Kallahalla, et. al. Platus. FST 2003.

Wilcox-O'Hearn, et. al. Tahoe. SSS 2008.

Mahajan, et. al. Depot. TCS 2011.

Geambasu, et. al. Keypad. EuroSys 2011.

Usability References

Whitten & Tygar. Why Johnny Can't Encrypt. USENIX Security. 1999

Anderson. Why information security is hard.
CSAC. 2001

Furnell. Usability versus Complexity.
Network Security. 2010

Crypto References

Diffie & Hellman. New directions in cryptography. IEEE Trans. on IT. 1976

*Shamir. How to share a secret.
Comm ACM. 1979.*

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Denning & Branstad. A Taxonomy for Key Escrow Encryption Sys. Comm ACM. 1996