

# Today in Cryptography (5830)

Public-key encryption

The RSA permutation

PKCS#1 RSA encryption

## References:

RSA discussed in many textbooks. See Katz & Lindell Sec. 8.1, 8.2

PKCS#1 encryption defined in PKCS#1 v1.5 standard.

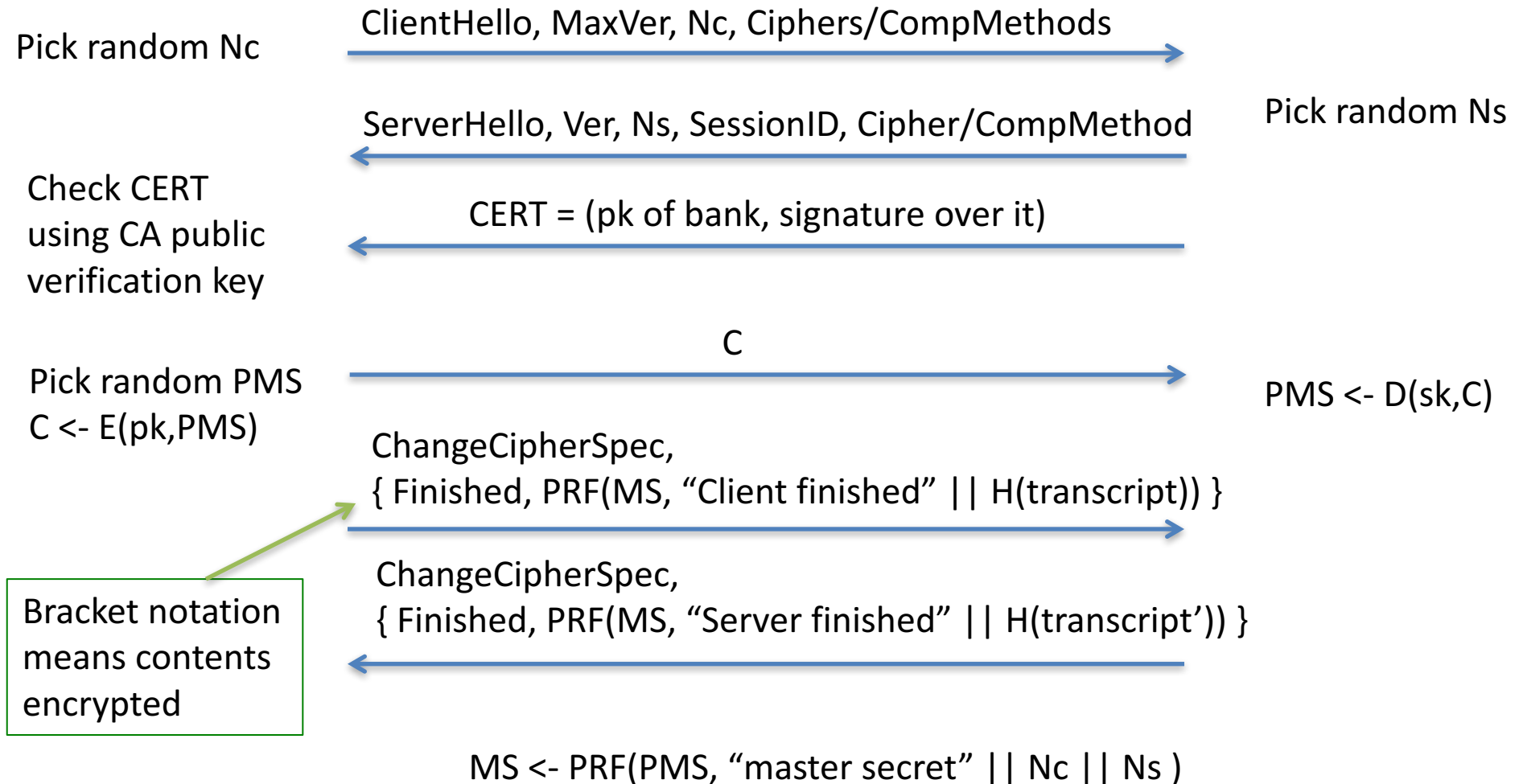


Client

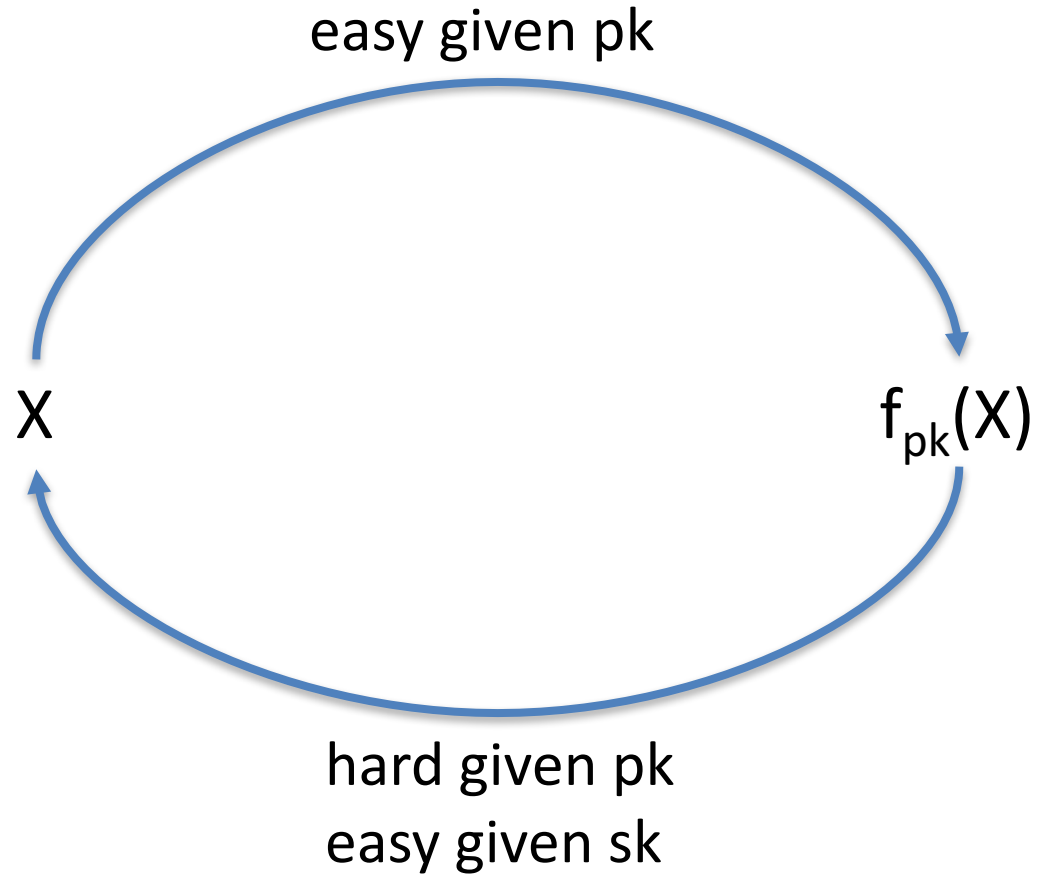
# TLS handshake for RSA transport



Server

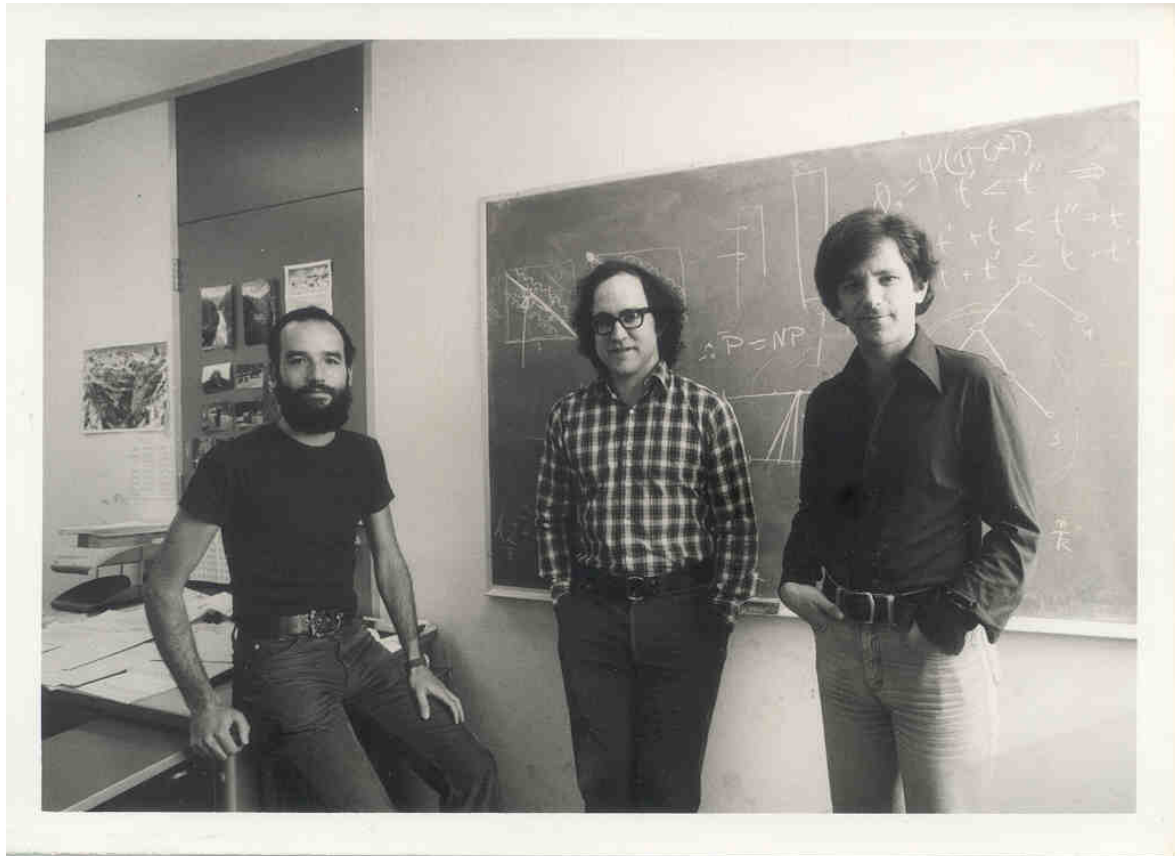


# Trapdoor functions



# The RSA trapdoor function

- Rivest, Shamir, Adleman 1978
- Garnered them a Turing award



# RSA math

Let  $N$  be a positive number

Looking ahead:  $N = pq$  for large primes  $p, q$

$N$  will be called the modulus

$$p = 7, q = 13, \text{ gives } N = 91$$

$$p = 17, q = 53, \text{ gives } N = 901$$

# RSA math

Let  $N$  be a positive number

Looking ahead:  $N = pq$  for large primes  $p, q$

$N$  will be called the modulus

$$\mathbf{Z}_N = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1\}$$

$$\mathbf{Z}_N^* = \{i \mid \gcd(i, N) = 1 \text{ and } i < N\}$$

$\gcd(X, Y) = 1$  if greatest common divisor of  $X, Y$  is 1

# RSA math

$$\mathbf{Z}_N^* = \{ i \mid \gcd(i, N) = 1 \}$$

$$N = 13 \qquad \mathbf{Z}_{13}^* = \{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 \}$$

$$N = 15 \qquad \mathbf{Z}_{15}^* = \{ 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14 \}$$

The size of a set  $S$  is denoted by  $|S|$

**Def.**  $\phi(N) = |\mathbf{Z}_N^*|$  (This is Euler's totient function)

$$\phi(13) = 12$$

$$\phi(15) = 8$$

$$\mathbf{Z}_{\phi(15)}^* = \mathbf{Z}_8^* = \{ 1, 3, 5, 7 \}$$

# RSA math

$$\mathbf{Z}_N^* = \{ i \mid \gcd(i, N) = 1 \}$$

**Fact.** For any  $a, N$  with  $N > 0$ , there exists unique  $q, r$  such that

$$a = Nq + r \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq r < N$$

$$17 \bmod 15 = 2$$

$$105 \bmod 15 = 0$$

**Def.**  $a \bmod N = r \in \mathbf{Z}_N$

**Def.**  $a \equiv b \pmod{N}$  iff  $(a \bmod N) = (b \bmod N)$

Operations work in natural way:

$$a \bullet b \bmod N$$

$$a+b \bmod N$$



# RSA math

$$\mathbf{Z}_N^* = \{ i \mid \gcd(i,N) = 1 \}$$

$(\mathbf{Z}_N^*, \bullet)$  is a **group**

Group is a set and operator  $(G, \bullet)$  that satisfy:

1. Closure: for all  $a, b \in G$  it holds that  $a \bullet b \in G$
2. Associativity: for all  $a, b, c \in G$  it holds that  $a \bullet (b \bullet c) = (a \bullet b) \bullet c$
3. Identity: Exists  $I \in G$  s.t. for all  $a \in G$   $a \bullet I = a$
4. Inverses: for  $a \in G$  there exists  $a^{-1} \in G$  s.t.  $a \bullet a^{-1} = I$

Abelian group is additionally commutative:

for all  $a, b \in G$  it holds that  $a \bullet b = b \bullet a$

# RSA math

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# RSA math

$$\mathbf{Z}_N^* = \{ i \mid \gcd(i, N) = 1 \}$$

$(\mathbf{Z}_N^*, \bullet)$  is a **group**

$$\mathbf{Z}_{15}^* = \{ 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14 \}$$

$$2 \bullet 7 \equiv 14 \pmod{15}$$

$$4 \bullet 8 \equiv 2 \pmod{15}$$

Closure: for any  $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}_N^*$   $a \bullet b \bmod N \in \mathbf{Z}_N^*$

**Def.**  $a^i \bmod N = \underbrace{a \bullet a \bullet a \bullet \dots \bullet a}_{i \text{ times}} \bmod N$

# Some needed algorithms

Algorithm	Running time ( $n = \log N$ )
Modular multiplication $ab \bmod N$	$O(n^2)$
Modular exponentiation $a^i \bmod N$	$O(n^3)$
Modular inverse $a^{-1} \bmod N$	$O(n^2)$

# Textbook exponentiation

Let  $G$  be a group.

How do we compute  $h^x$  for any  $h \in G$ ?

Exp(h,x)

$X' = h$

For  $i = 2$  to  $x$  do

$X' = X' * h$

Return  $X'$

Requires time  $O(|G|)$  in worst case.

SqrAndMulExp(h,x)

$b_k, \dots, b_0 = x$

$f = 1$

For  $i = k$  down to  $0$  do

$f = f^2$

If  $b_i = 1$  then

$f = f * h$

Return  $f$

Requires time  $O(k)$  multiplies and squares in worst case.

SqrAndMulExp(h,x)

$b_k, \dots, b_0 = x$

$f = 1$

For  $i = k$  down to 0 do

$f = f^2$

    If  $b_i = 1$  then

$f = f \cdot h$

Return  $f$

$$x = \sum_{b_i \neq 0} 2^i$$

$$h^x = h^{\sum_{b_i \neq 0} 2^i} = \prod_{b_i \neq 0} h^{2^i}$$

$$h^{11} = h^{8+2+1} = h^8 \cdot h^2 \cdot h$$

$$b_3 = 1 \quad f_3 = 1 \cdot h$$

$$b_2 = 0 \quad f_2 = h^2$$

$$b_1 = 1 \quad f_1 = (h^2)^2 \cdot h$$

$$b_0 = 1 \quad f_0 = (h^4 \cdot h)^2 \cdot h = h^8 \cdot h^2 \cdot h$$

Don't implement this  
algorithm:  
side-channel attacks

# RSA math

$$\mathbf{Z}_N^* = \{ i \mid \gcd(i, N) = 1 \}$$

Claim: Suppose  $e, d \in \mathbf{Z}_{\phi(N)}^*$  satisfying  $ed \bmod \phi(N) = 1$   
then for any  $x \in \mathbf{Z}_N^*$  we have that

$$(x^e)^d \bmod N = x$$

$$\begin{aligned}(x^e)^d \bmod N &= x^{(ed \bmod \phi(N))} \bmod N \\ &= x^1 \bmod N \\ &= x \bmod N\end{aligned}$$

First equality is  
by Euler's Theorem

# RSA math

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Claim: Suppose  $e, d \in \mathbf{Z}_{\phi(N)}^*$  satisfying  $ed \bmod \phi(N) = 1$   
then for any  $x \in \mathbf{Z}_N^*$  we have that

$$(x^e)^d \bmod N = x$$

$$\mathbf{Z}_{15}^* = \{ 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14 \} \quad \mathbf{Z}_{\phi(15)}^* = \{ 1, 3, 5, 7 \}$$

$e = 3$  ,  $d = 3$  gives  $ed \bmod 8 = 1$

x	1	2	4	7	8	11	13	14
$x^3 \bmod 15$	1	8	4	13	2	11	7	14
$y^3 \bmod 15$	1	2	4	7	8	11	13	14

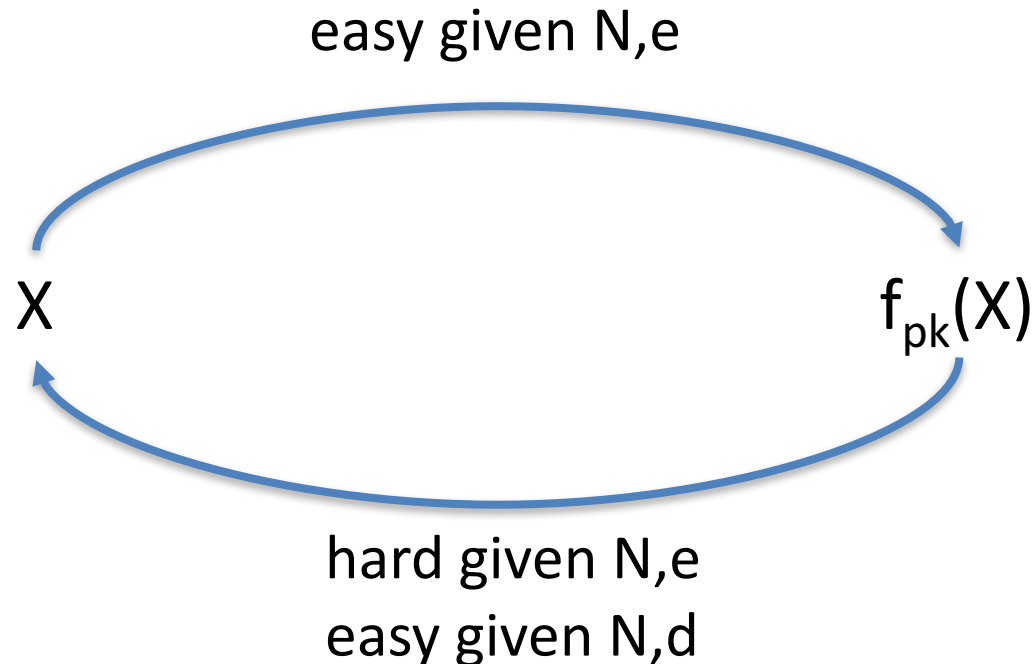


# The RSA trapdoor permutation

$pk = (N, e)$        $sk = (N, d)$       with  $ed \bmod \phi(N) = 1$

$$f_{N,e}(x) = x^e \bmod N$$

$$g_{N,d}(y) = y^d \bmod N$$



## The RSA trapdoor permutation

$$pk = (N, e) \quad sk = (N, d) \quad \text{with } ed \bmod \phi(N) = 1$$

$$f_{N,e}(x) = x^e \bmod N \quad g_{N,d}(y) = y^d \bmod N$$

But how do we find suitable  $N, e, d$  ?

If  $p, q$  distinct primes and  $N = pq$  then  $\phi(N) = (p-1)(q-1)$

Why?

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(N) &= |\{1, \dots, N-1\}| - |\{ip : 1 \leq i \leq q-1\}| - |\{iq : 1 \leq i \leq p-1\}| \\ &= N-1 - (q-1) - (p-1) \\ &= pq - p - q + 1 \\ &= (p-1)(q-1) \end{aligned}$$

## The RSA trapdoor permutation

$pk = (N, e)$        $sk = (N, d)$       with  $ed \bmod \phi(N) = 1$

$f_{N,e}(x) = x^e \bmod N$        $g_{N,d}(y) = y^d \bmod N$

But how do we find suitable  $N, e, d$  ?

If  $p, q$  distinct primes and  $N = pq$  then  $\phi(N) = (p-1)(q-1)$

Given  $\phi(N)$ , choose  $e \in \mathbf{Z}_{\phi(N)}^*$  and calculate  
 $d = e^{-1} \bmod \phi(N)$

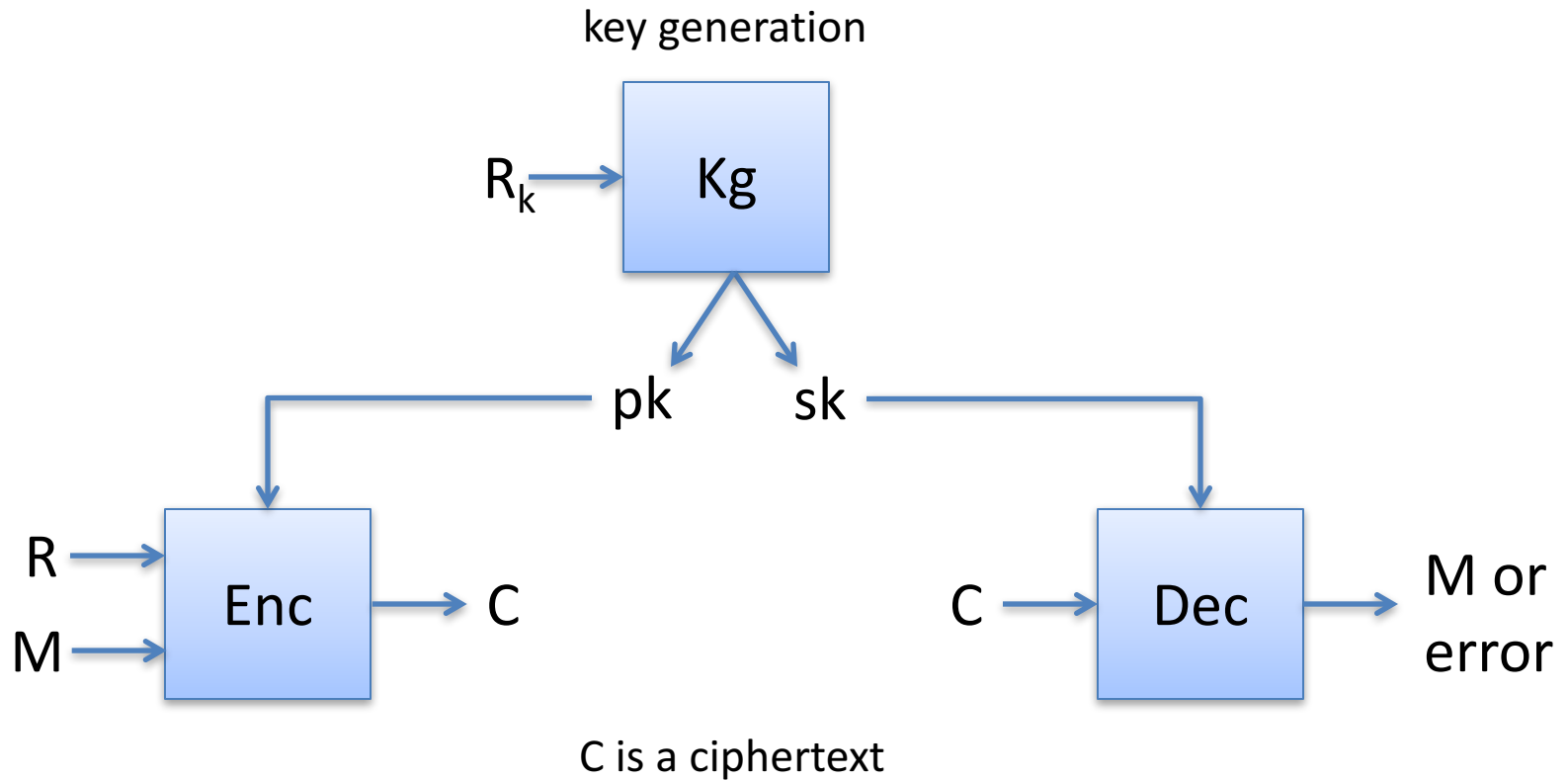
How to find suitable  $p, q$  prime?

Choose random numbers and test primality

# Summary

- Find 2 large primes  $p, q$  . Let  $N = pq$ 
  - random integers + primality testing
- Choose  $e$  (usually 65,537)
  - Compute  $d$  using  $\phi(N) = (p-1)(q-1)$
- $pk = (N, e)$  and  $sk = (N, d)$ 
  - Often store  $p, q$  with  $sk$  to use Chinese Remainder Theorem

# Public-key encryption



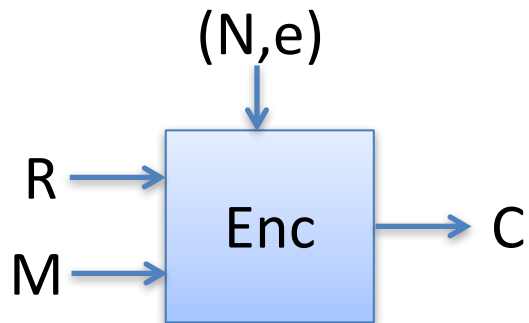
Correctness:  $D( sk , E(pk,M,R) ) = M$  with probability 1 over randomness used

# PKCS #1 RSA encryption

Kg outputs  $(N,e),(N,d)$  where  $|N|_8 = n$

Let  $B = \{0,1\}^8 / \{00\}$  be set of all bytes except 00

Want to encrypt messages of length  $|M|_8 = m$

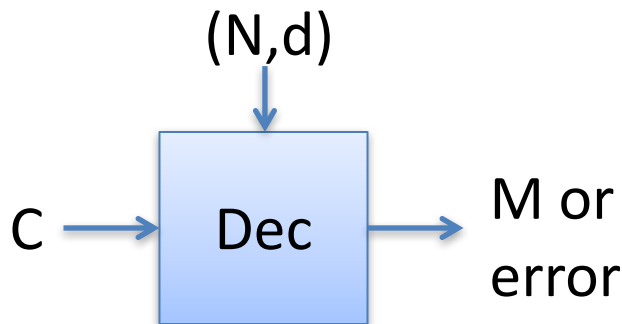


$Enc((N,e), M, R)$

pad = first  $n - m - 3$  bytes from  $R$  that  
are in  $B$

$X = 00 || 02 || \text{pad} || 00 || M$

Return  $X^e \bmod N$



$Dec((N,d), C)$

$X = C^d \bmod N$  ;  $aa || bb || w = X$

If  $(aa \neq 00)$  or  $(bb \neq 02)$  or  $(00 \notin w)$

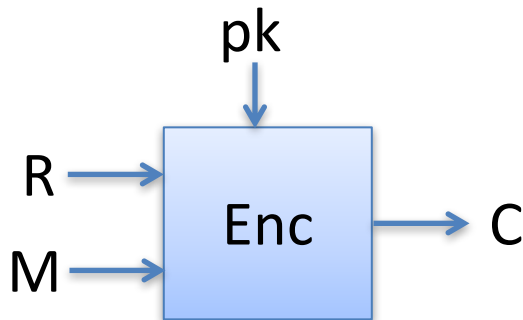
Return error

pad || 00 ||  $M = w$

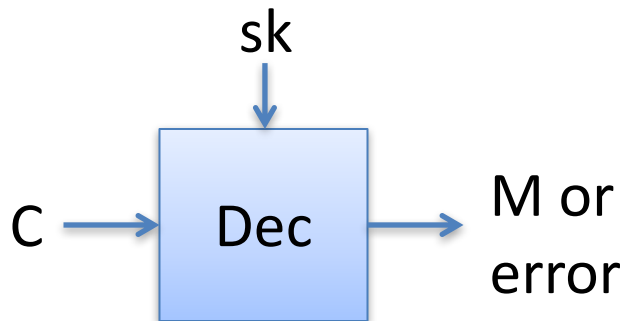
Return  $M$

# Hybrid encryption

Kg outputs (pk,sk)



```
Enc(pk, M, R)  
K || R1 || R2 = R  
C1 = Enc(pk, K, R1)  
C2 = Enc(K, M, R2)  
Return (C1, C2)
```



```
Dec(sk, (C1, C2))  
K = Dec(sk, C1)  
M = Dec(K, C2)  
Return M
```

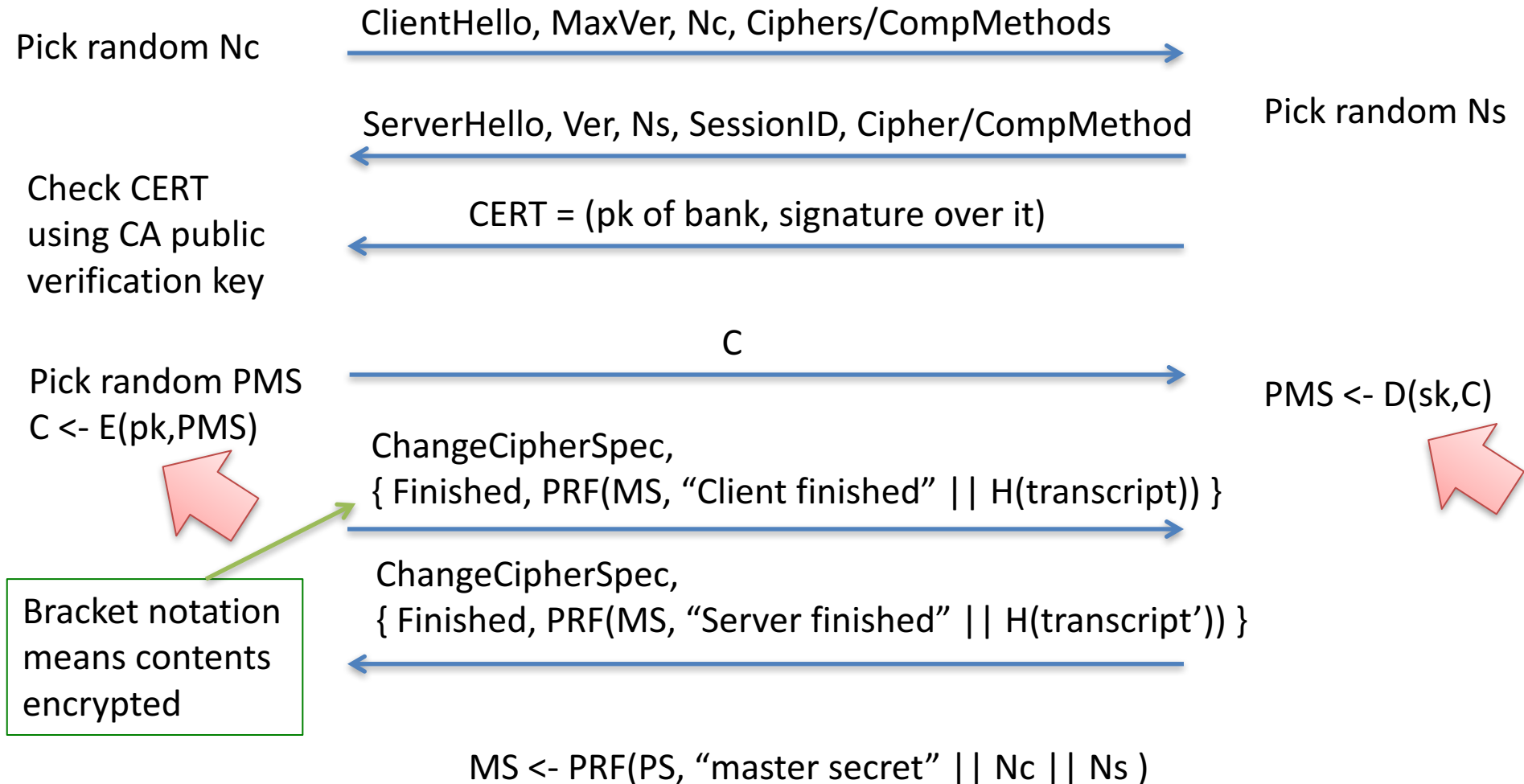


Bank customer

# TLS handshake for RSA transport



Bank





# Security of RSA PKCS#1

- Passive adversary sees  $(N, e), C$
- Attacker would like to invert  $C$
- Possible attacks?

Inverting RSA : given  $N, e, y$  find  $x$  such that  $x^e \equiv y \pmod{N}$



EASY

because  $f^{-1}(y) = y^d \pmod{N}$

Know  $d$



EASY

because  $d = e^{-1} \pmod{\varphi(N)}$

Know  $\varphi(N)$



EASY

because  $\varphi(N) = (p-1)(q-1)$

Know  $p, q$



?

Learning  $p, q$  from  $N$  is  
the factoring problem

Know  $N$



We don't know if inverse is true, whether inverting RSA  
implies ability to factor

# Factoring composites

- What is  $p, q$  for  $N = 901$ ?

Factor(N):

```
for i = 2 , ... , sqrt(N) do
  if N mod i = 0 then
    p = i
    q = N / p
  Return (p,q)
```

Woops... we can always factor

But not always efficiently:  
Run time is  $\sqrt{N}$

$$O(\sqrt{N}) = O(e^{0.5 \ln(N)})$$

# Factoring composites

Algorithm	Time to factor N
Naïve	$O(e^{0.5 \ln(N)})$
Quadratic sieve (QS)	$O(e^c)$ $c = d (\ln N)^{1/2} (\ln \ln N)^{1/2}$
Number Field Sieve (NFS)	$O(e^c)$ $c = 1.92 (\ln N)^{1/3} (\ln \ln N)^{2/3}$

# Factoring records

Challenge	Year	Algorithm	Time
RSA-400	1993	QS	830 MIPS years
RSA-478	1994	QS	5000 MIPS years
RSA-515	1999	NFS	8000 MIPS years
RSA-768	2009	NFS	~2.5 years
RSA-512	2015	NFS	\$75 on EC2 / 4 hours

RSA-x is an RSA challenge modulus of size x bits

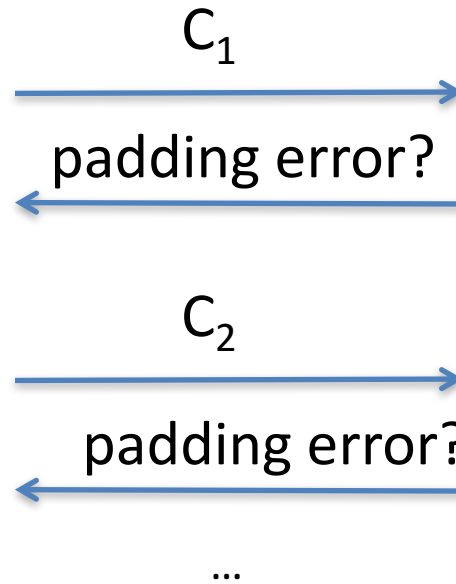
# Security of RSA PKCS#1

- Passive adversary sees  $(N,e),C$
- Attacker would like to invert  $C$
- Possible attacks?
  - Pick  $|N| > 1024$  and factoring will fail
  - Active attacks?

# Bleichenbacher attack



I've just learned  
some information  
about  $C_1^d \bmod N$



```

Dec((N,d), C)
X = C^d mod N ; aa || bb || w = X
If (aa ≠ 00) or (bb ≠ 02) or (00 ≠ w)
    Return error
pad || 00 || M = w
Return M
    
```

We can take a target  $C$  and decrypt it using  
a sequence of chosen ciphertexts  $C_1, \dots, C_q$   
where  $q \approx 1$  million

[Bardou et al. 2012]  $q = 9400$  ciphertexts on average

# Response to this attack

- Ad-hoc fix: Don't leak whether padding was wrong or not
  - This is harder than it looks (timing attacks, control-flow side channel attacks, etc.)
- Better:
  - use chosen-ciphertext secure encryption
  - OAEP is common choice



# Summary

- RSA is example of trapdoor one-way function
  - Security conjectured. Relies on factoring being hard
- RSA security scales somewhat poorly with size of primes
- RSA PKCS#1 v1.5 is insecure due to padding oracle attacks. Don't use it in new systems.
  - Use OAEP instead