

# SSL / TLS Case Study

---

John Mitchell

# Course organization (subject to revision)

---

## ◆ January

- Two written homeworks: first due next Thursday (9 days)
- Lectures on case studies (protocols and tools)
- Choose your project: we'll start giving examples Thursday

## ◆ February

- Project presentation #1: describe your system (5-10 min)
- Lectures on additional approaches
- Project presentation #2: describe security properties

## ◆ March

- Project presentation #3: results of study

Grading: 20% homework, 30% project presentations, 50% project results and final presentation

# Overview

---

## ◆ Introduction to the SSL / TLS protocol

- Widely deployed, “real-world” security protocol

## ◆ Protocol analysis case study

- Start with the RFC describing the protocol
- Create an abstract model and code it up in Mur $\phi$
- Specify security properties
- Run Mur $\phi$  to check whether security properties are satisfied

## ◆ This lecture is a compressed version of what you would do if SSL were your project!

# What is SSL / TLS?

---

- ◆ Transport Layer Security protocol, ver 1.0
  - De facto standard for Internet security
  - “The primary goal of the TLS protocol is to provide privacy and data integrity between two communicating applications”
  - In practice, used to protect information transmitted between browsers and Web servers
- ◆ Based on Secure Sockets Layers protocol, ver 3.0
  - Same protocol design, different algorithms
- ◆ Deployed in nearly every web browser

# SSL / TLS in the Real World


Wells Fargo Account Summary - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Favorites Print Home


Address [https://online.wellsfargo.com/mn1\\_aa1\\_on/cgi-bin/session.cgi?sessargs=coAn76ax52xltPX8uoCT8rRBfMMdJldx](https://online.wellsfargo.com/mn1_aa1_on/cgi-bin/session.cgi?sessargs=coAn76ax52xltPX8uoCT8rRBfMMdJldx) Go Links Yahoo maps Mapblast Dictionary

Home | Help Center | Contact Us | Locations | Site Map | Apply | **Sign Off**

**WELLS FARGO** 

**Account Summary** Last Log On: January 06, 2004

> Account Summary  
Brokerage  
Bill Pay  
Transfer  
Account Services  
My Message Center

Stay organized with FREE 24/7 access to Online Statements. Sign up today. 

Sign up for the Wells Fargo Rewards® program and get 2,500 points. Learn More.

Wells Fargo Accounts OneLook Accounts

**Tip:** Select an account's balance to access the Account History.

**NEW** [Enroll for Online Statements](#) [My Message Center](#)

**Cash Accounts**

Account	Account Number	Available Balance
Checking <a href="#">Add Bill Pay</a>		
<b>Total</b>		

To end your session, be sure to Sign Off.

Account Summary | Brokerage | Bill Pay | Transfer | My Message Center | Sign Off  
Home | Help Center | Contact Us | Locations | Site Map | Apply

© 1995 - 2003 Wells Fargo. All rights reserved.

Internet



# History of the Protocol

---

## ◆ SSL 1.0

- Internal Netscape design, early 1994?
- Lost in the mists of time

## ◆ SSL 2.0

- Published by Netscape, November 1994
- Several problems (next slide)

## ◆ SSL 3.0

- Designed by Netscape and Paul Kocher, November 1996

## ◆ TLS 1.0

- Internet standard based on SSL 3.0, January 1999
- Not interoperable with SSL 3.0

# SSL 2.0 Vulnerabilities

---

## ◆ Short key length

- In export-weakened modes, SSL 2.0 unnecessarily weakens the authentication keys to 40 bits.

## ◆ Weak MAC construction

## ◆ Message integrity vulnerability

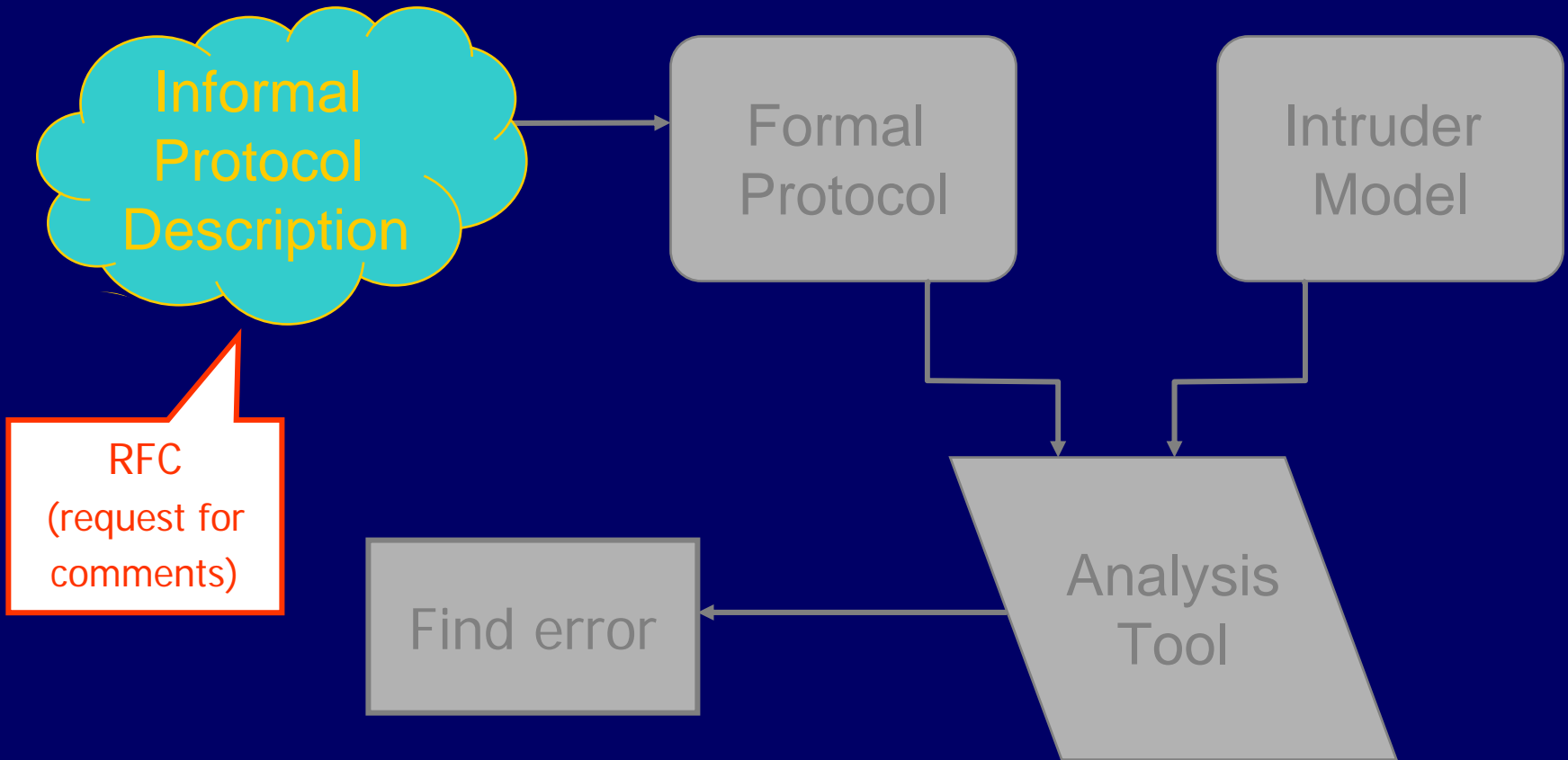
- SSL 2.0 feeds padding bytes into the MAC in block cipher modes, but leaves the padding-length unauthenticated, may allow active attackers to delete bytes from the end of messages

## ◆ Ciphersuite rollback attack

- An active attacker may edit the list of ciphersuite preferences in the hello messages to invisibly force both endpoints to use a weaker form of encryption
- "Least common denominator" security under active attack

# Let's get going with SSL/TLS ...

---





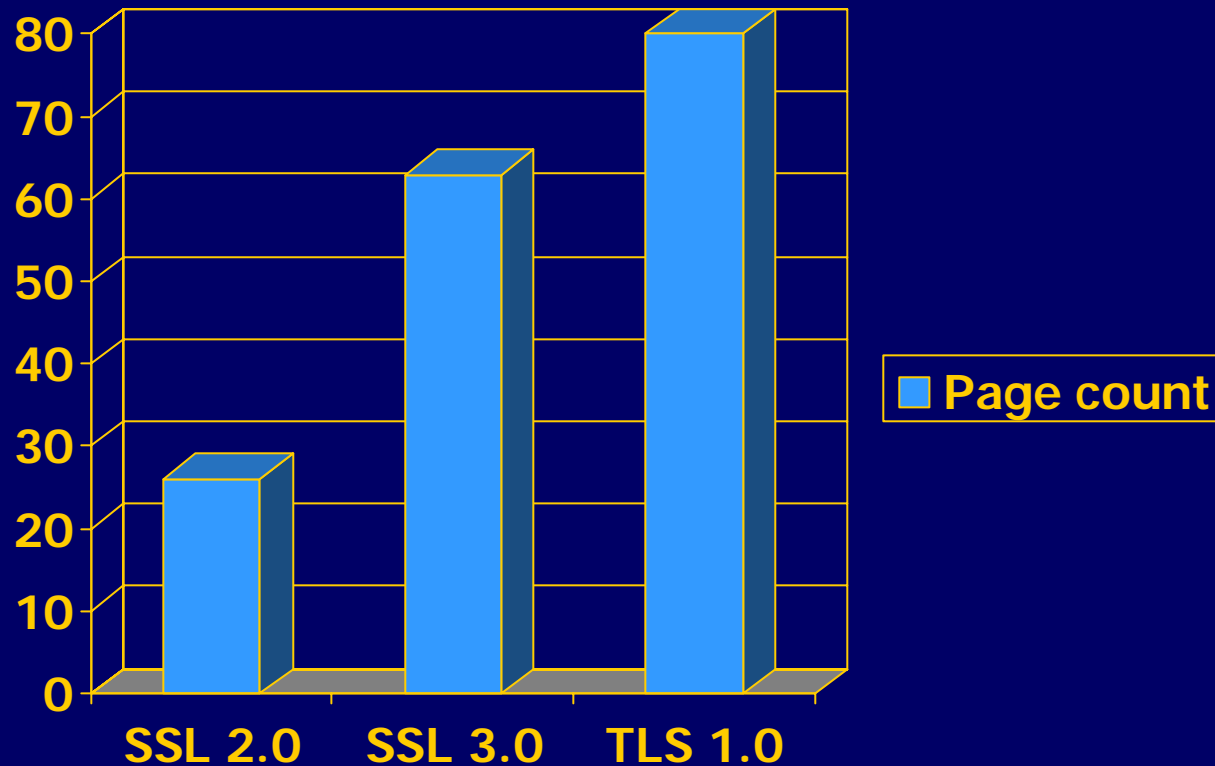
# Request for Comments

---

- ◆ Network protocols are defined in an RFC
- ◆ TLS version 1.0 is described in RFC 2246
- ◆ Intended to be a self-contained definition of the protocol
  - Describes the protocol in sufficient detail for readers who will be implementing it and those who will be doing protocol analysis (that's you!)
  - Mixture of informal prose and pseudo-code
- ◆ Read some RFCs to get a flavor of what protocols look like when they emerge from the committee

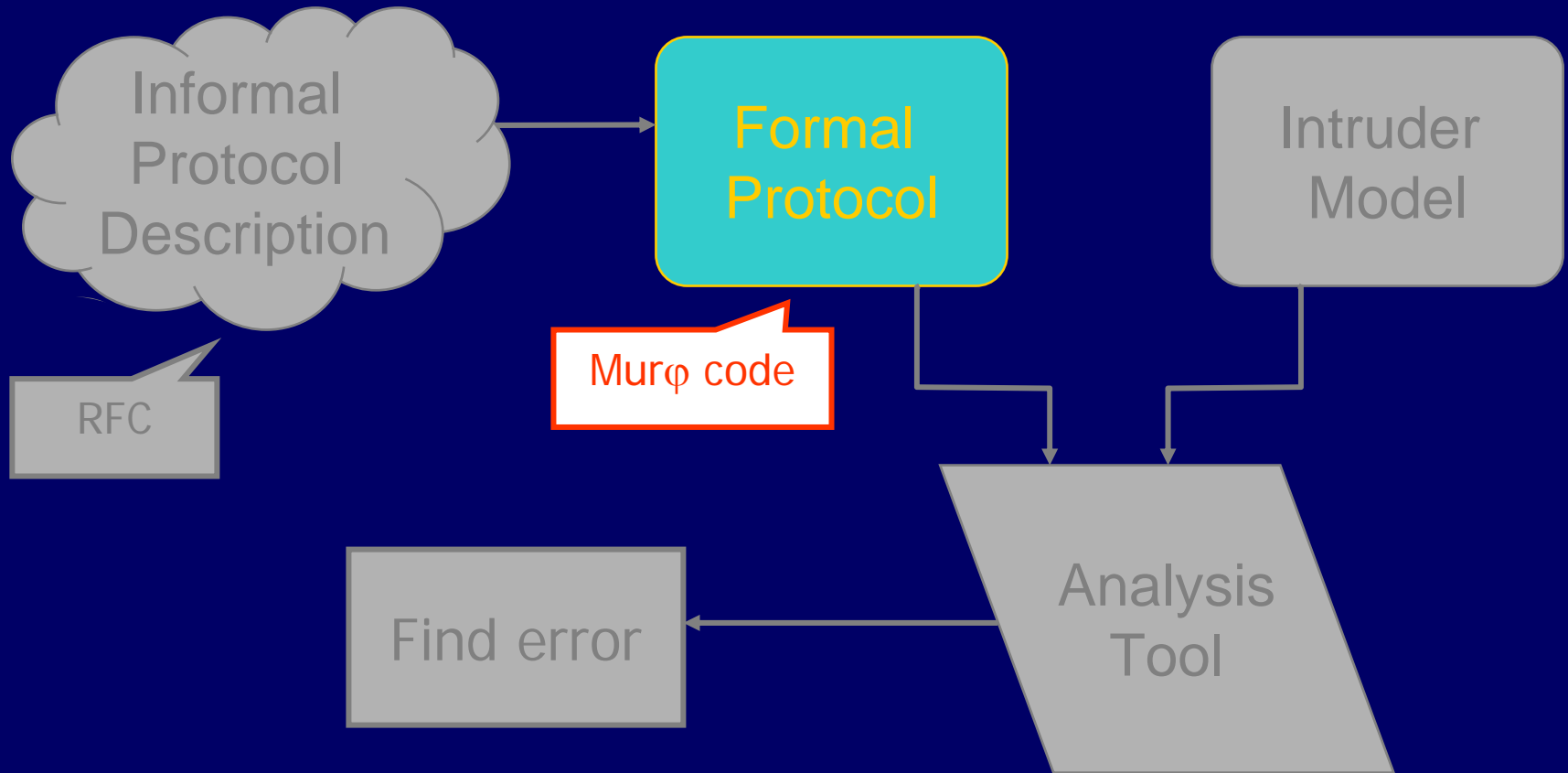
# Evolution of the SSL/TLS RFC

---



# From RFC to Murφ Model

---



# TLS Basics

---

◆ TLS consists of two protocols

◆ Handshake protocol

- Use public-key cryptography to establish a shared secret key between the client and the server

◆ Record protocol

- Use the secret key established in the handshake protocol to protect communication between the client and the server

◆ We will focus on the handshake protocol

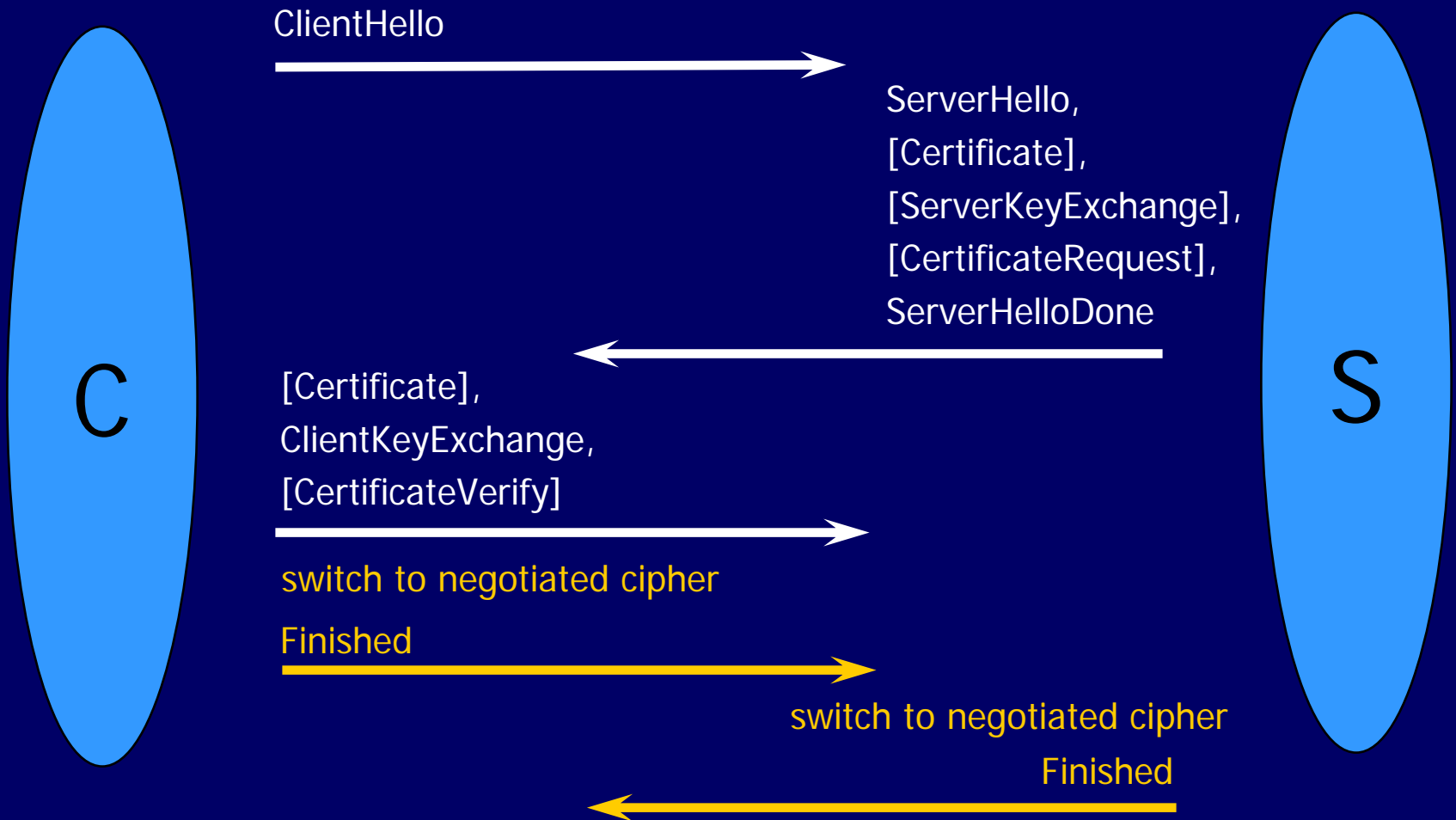
# TLS Handshake Protocol

---

- ◆ Two parties: client and server
- ◆ Negotiate version of the protocol and the set of cryptographic algorithms to be used
  - Interoperability between different implementations of the protocol
- ◆ Authenticate client and server (optional)
  - Use digital certificates to learn each other's public keys and verify each other's identity
- ◆ Use public keys to establish a shared secret

# Handshake Protocol Structure

---



# Recall: Basic Cryptographic Concepts

---

## ◆ Encryption scheme

- functions to encrypt, decrypt data
- key generation algorithm

## ◆ Secret key vs. public key

- Public key: publishing  $key$  does not reveal  $key^{-1}$
- Secret key: more efficient, generally  $key = key^{-1}$

## ◆ Hash function, MAC

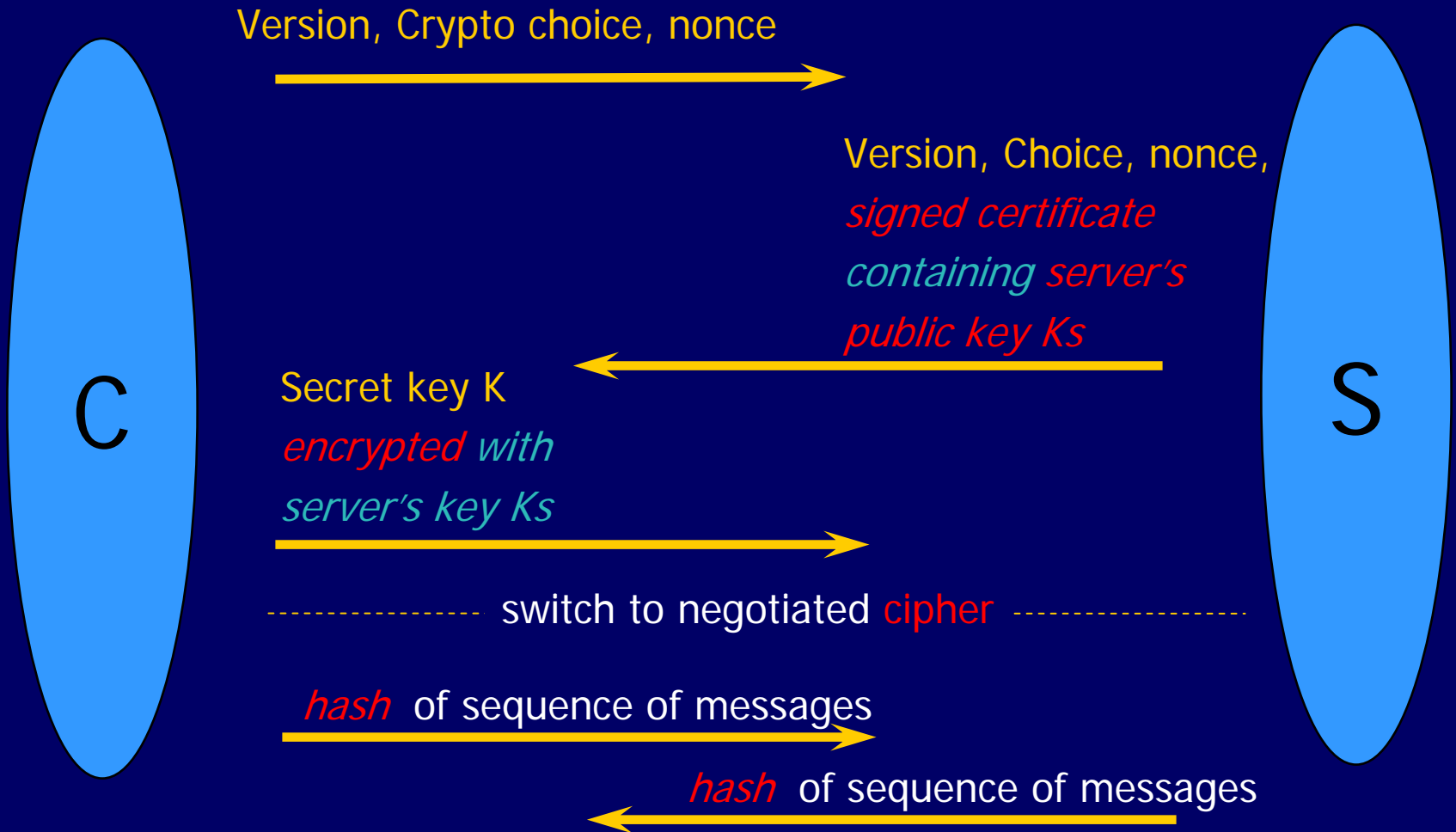
- Map input to short hash; ideally, no collisions
- MAC (keyed hash) used for message integrity

## ◆ Signature scheme

- Functions to sign data, verify signature

# Use of cryptography

---





# SSL/TLS Cryptography Summary

---

## ◆ Public-key encryption

- Key chosen secretly (handshake protocol)
- Key material sent encrypted with public key

## ◆ Symmetric encryption

- Shared (secret) key encryption of data packets

## ◆ Signature-based authentication

- Client can check signed server certificate
- And vice-versa, in principal

## ◆ Hash for integrity

- Client, server check hash of sequence of messages
- MAC used in data packets (record protocol)

# Public-Key Infrastructure

---



Server certificate can be verified by any client that has CA verification key  $K_a$

Certificate authority is "off line"

# Another general idea in SSL

---

## ◆ Client, server communicate



## ◆ Compare hash of all messages

- Compute hash(hi,hello,howareyou?) locally
- Exchange hash values under encryption

## ◆ Abort if intervention detected

# SSL/TLS in more detail ...

---

ClientHello     $C \rightarrow S$      $C, Ver_C, Suite_C, N_C$

ServerHello     $S \rightarrow C$      $Ver_S, Suite_S, N_S, \text{sign}_{CA}\{S, K_S\}$

ClientVerify     $C \rightarrow S$      $\text{sign}_{CA}\{C, V_C\}$   
                                  $\{Ver_C, Secret_C\}_{K_S}$   
                                  $\text{sign}_C\{ \text{Hash}(\text{Master}(N_C, N_S, Secret_C) + Pad_2 +$   
                                  $\text{Hash}(\text{Msgs} + C + \text{Master}(N_C, N_S, Secret_C) + Pad_1)) \}$

----- Change to negotiated cipher -----

ServerFinished  $S \rightarrow C$      $\{ \text{Hash}(\text{Master}(N_C, N_S, Secret_C) + Pad_2 +$   
                                  $\text{Hash}(\text{Msgs} + \textcircled{S} + \text{Master}(N_C, N_S, Secret_C) + Pad_1))$   
                                  $\}$   
                                  $\text{Master}(N_C, N_S, Secret_C)$

ClientFinished  $C \rightarrow S$      $\{ \text{Hash}(\text{Master}(N_C, N_S, Secret_C) + Pad_2 +$   
                                  $\text{Hash}(\text{Msgs} + \textcircled{C} + \text{Master}(N_C, N_S, Secret_C) + Pad_1))$   
                                  $\}$   
                                  $\text{Master}(N_C, N_S, Secret_C)$

# Abbreviated Handshake

---

- ◆ The handshake protocol may be executed in an abbreviated form to resume a previously established session
  - No authentication, key material not exchanged
  - Session resumed from an old state
- ◆ For complete analysis, have to model both full and abbreviated handshake protocol
  - This is a common situation: many protocols have several branches, subprotocols for error handling, etc.

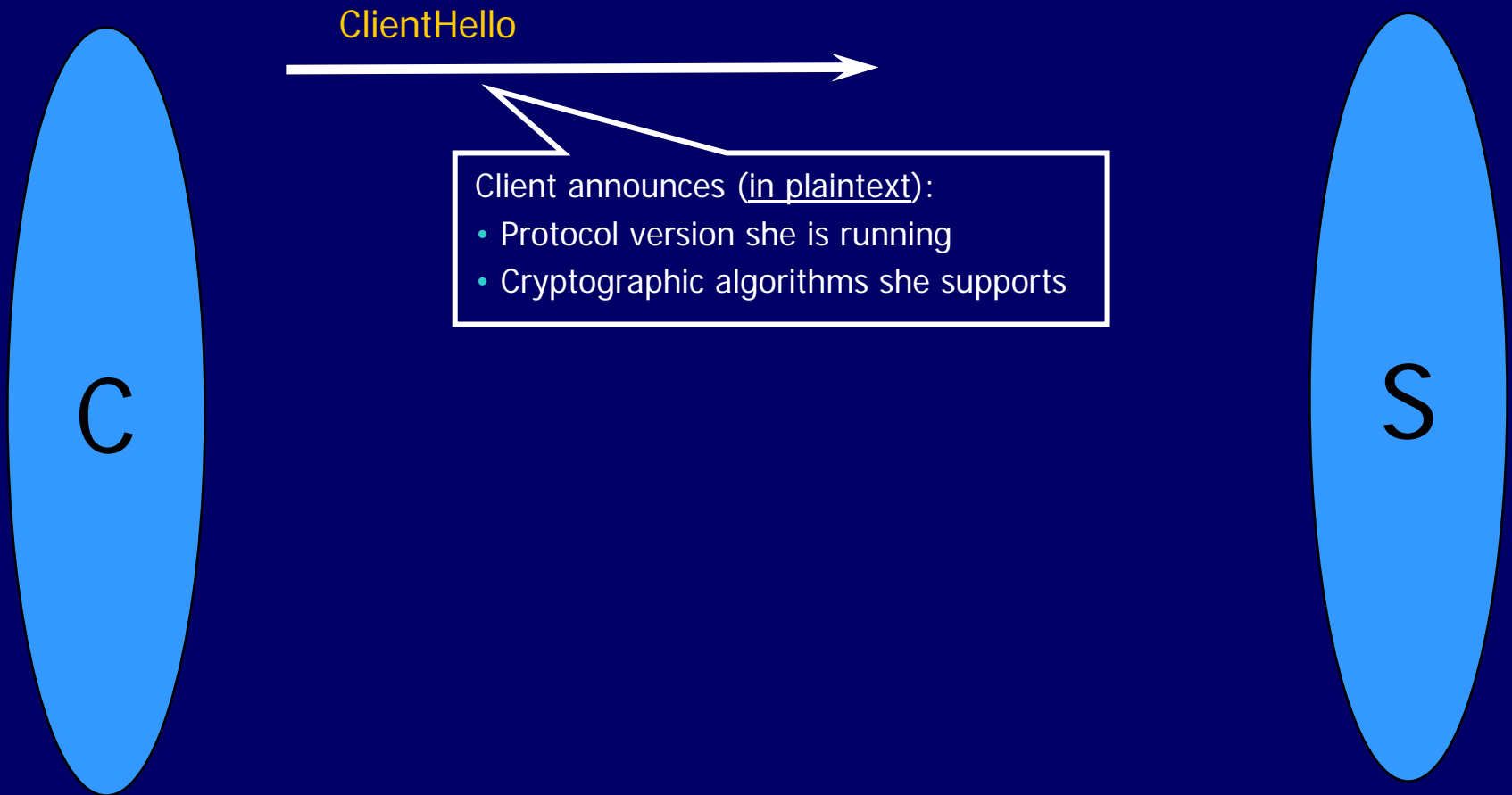
# Rational Reconstruction

---

- ◆ Begin with simple, intuitive protocol
  - Ignore client authentication
  - Ignore verification messages at the end of the handshake protocol
  - Model only essential parts of messages (e.g., ignore padding)
- ◆ Execute the model checker and find a bug
- ◆ Add a piece of TLS to fix the bug and repeat
  - Better understand the design of the protocol

# Protocol Step by Step: ClientHello

---



# ClientHello (RFC)

---

```
struct {
```

```
    ProtocolVersion client_version;
```

Highest version of the protocol  
supported by the client

```
    Random random;
```

```
    SessionID session_id;
```

Session id (if the client wants to  
resume an old session)

```
    CipherSuite cipher_suites;
```

Cryptographic algorithms  
supported by the client (e.g.,  
RSA or Diffie-Hellman)

```
    CompressionMethod compression_methods;
```

```
} ClientHello
```



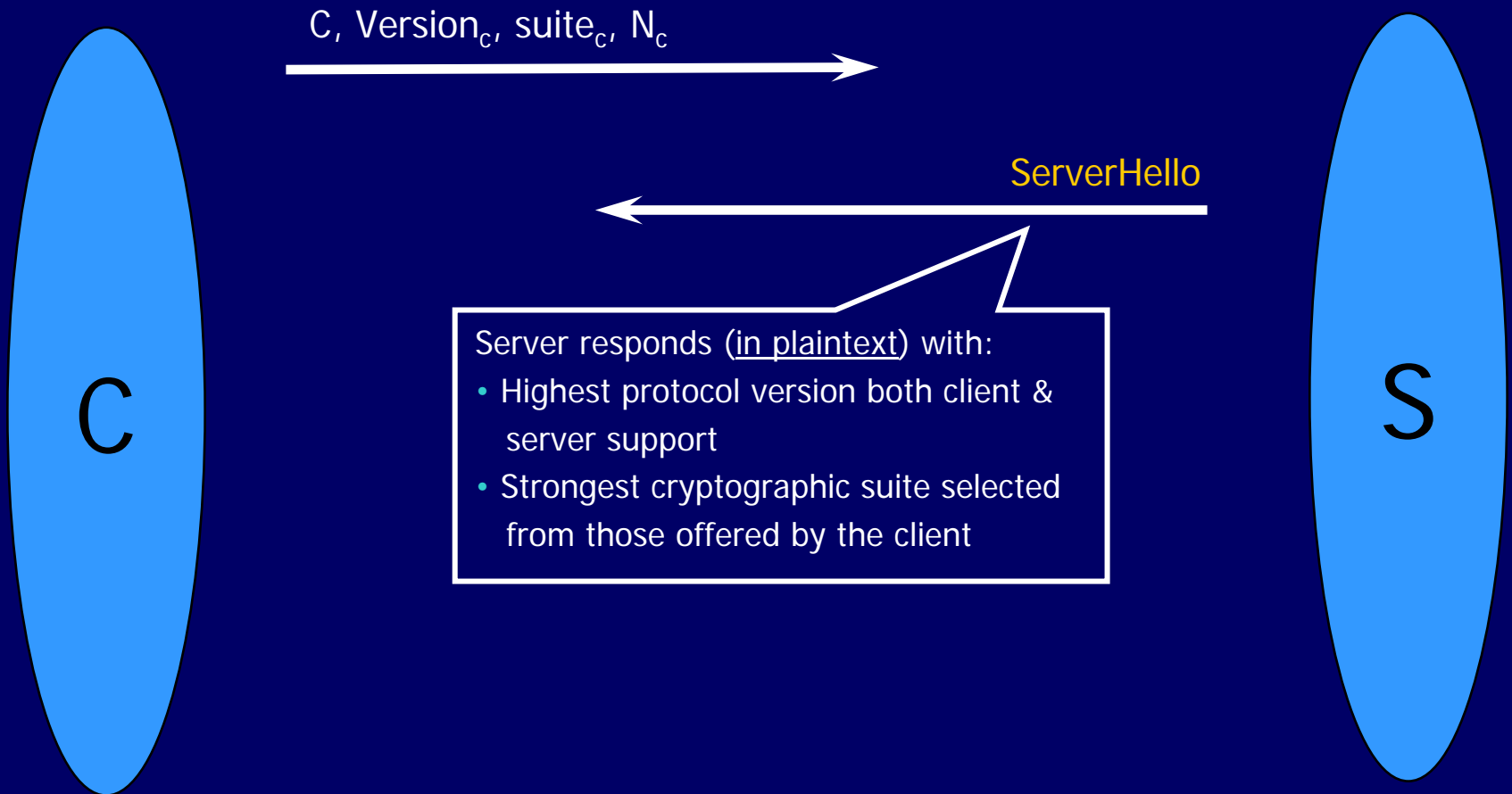
# ClientHello (Murφ)

---

```
ruleset i: ClientId do
  ruleset j: ServerId do
    rule "Client sends ClientHello to server (new session)"
      cli[i].state = M_SLEEP &
      cli[i].resumeSession = false
  ==>
  var
    outM: Message; -- outgoing message
  begin
    outM.source := i;
    outM.dest := j;
    outM.session := 0;
    outM.mType := M_CLIENT_HELLO;
    outM.version := cli[i].version;
    outM.suite := cli[i].suite;
    outM.random := freshNonce();
    multisetadd (outM, cliNet);
    cli[i].state := M_SERVER_HELLO;
  end; end; end;
```

# ServerHello

---



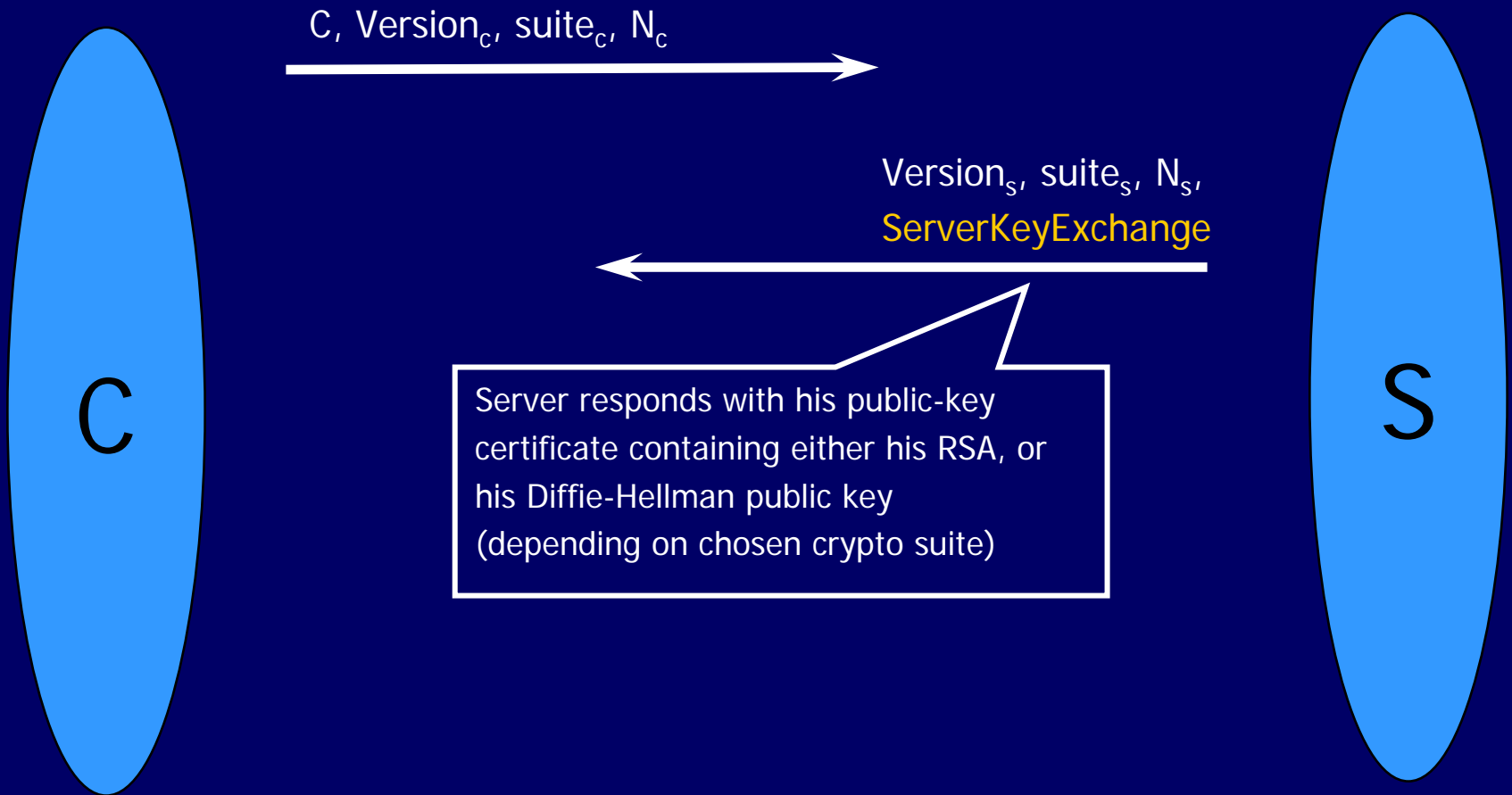
# ServerHello (Murφ)

---

```
ruleset i: ServerId do
  choose l: serNet do
    rule "Server receives ServerHello (new session)"
      ser[i].clients[0].state = M_CLIENT_HELLO &
      serNet[l].dest = i &
      serNet[l].session = 0
    ==>
    var
      inM: Message; -- incoming message
      outM: Message; -- outgoing message
    begin
      inM := serNet[l]; -- receive message
      if inM.mType = M_CLIENT_HELLO then
        outM.source := i;
        outM.dest := inM.source;
        outM.session := freshSessionId();
        outM.mType := M_SERVER_HELLO;
        outM.version := ser[i].version;
        outM.suite := ser[i].suite;
        outM.random := freshNonce();
        multisetadd (outM, serNet);
        ser[i].state := M_SERVER_SEND_KEY;
      end; end; end;
```

# ServerKeyExchange

---



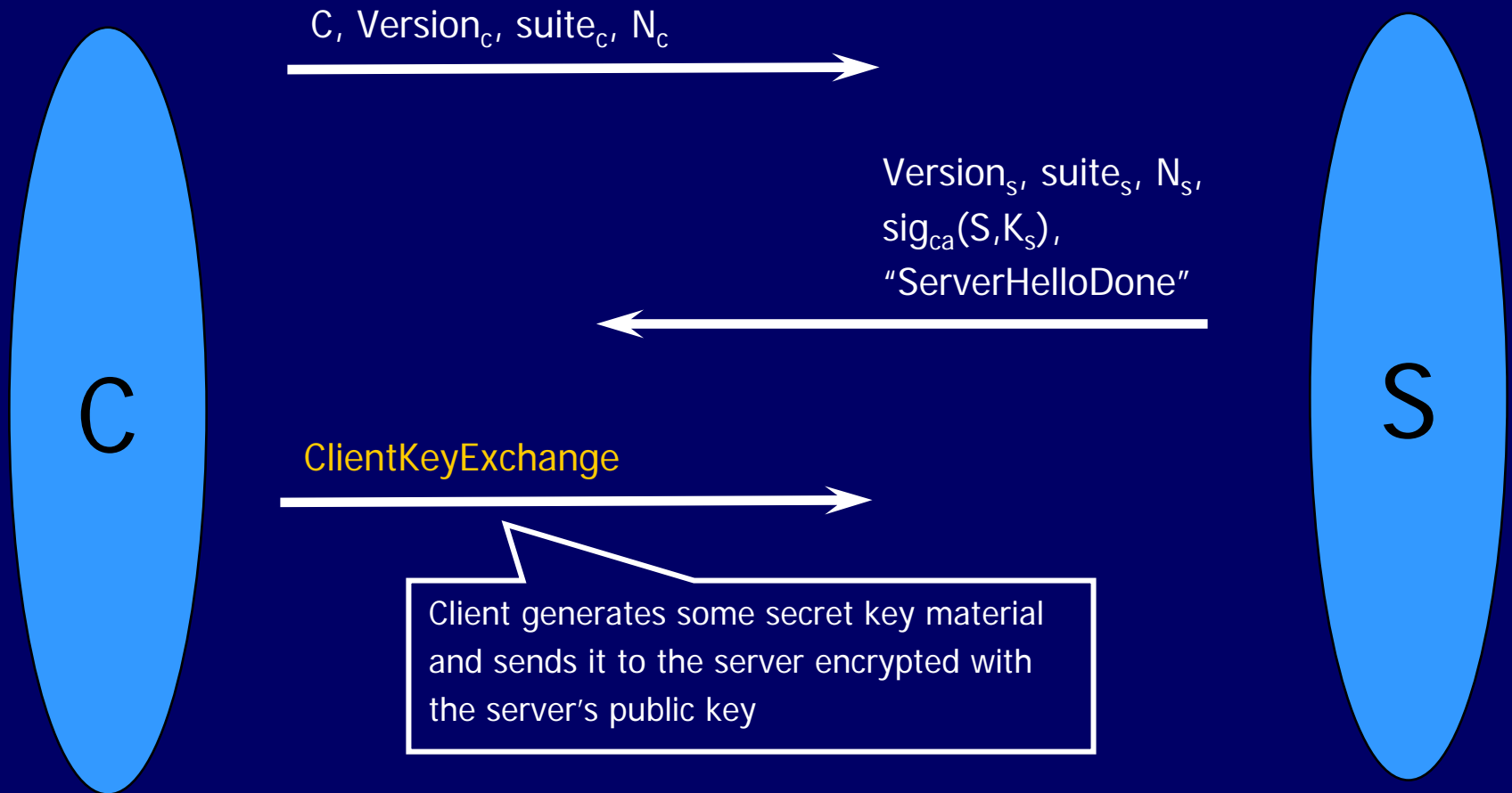
# "Abstract" Cryptography

---

- ◆ We will use abstract data types to model cryptographic operations
  - Assumes that cryptography is perfect
  - No details of the actual cryptographic schemes
  - Ignores bit length of keys, random numbers, etc.
- ◆ Simple notation for encryption, signatures, hashes
  - $\{M\}_k$  is message  $M$  encrypted with key  $k$
  - $\text{sig}_k(M)$  is message  $M$  digitally signed with key  $k$
  - $\text{hash}(M)$  for the result of hashing message  $M$  with a cryptographically strong hash function

# ClientKeyExchange

---



# ClientKeyExchange (RFC)

---

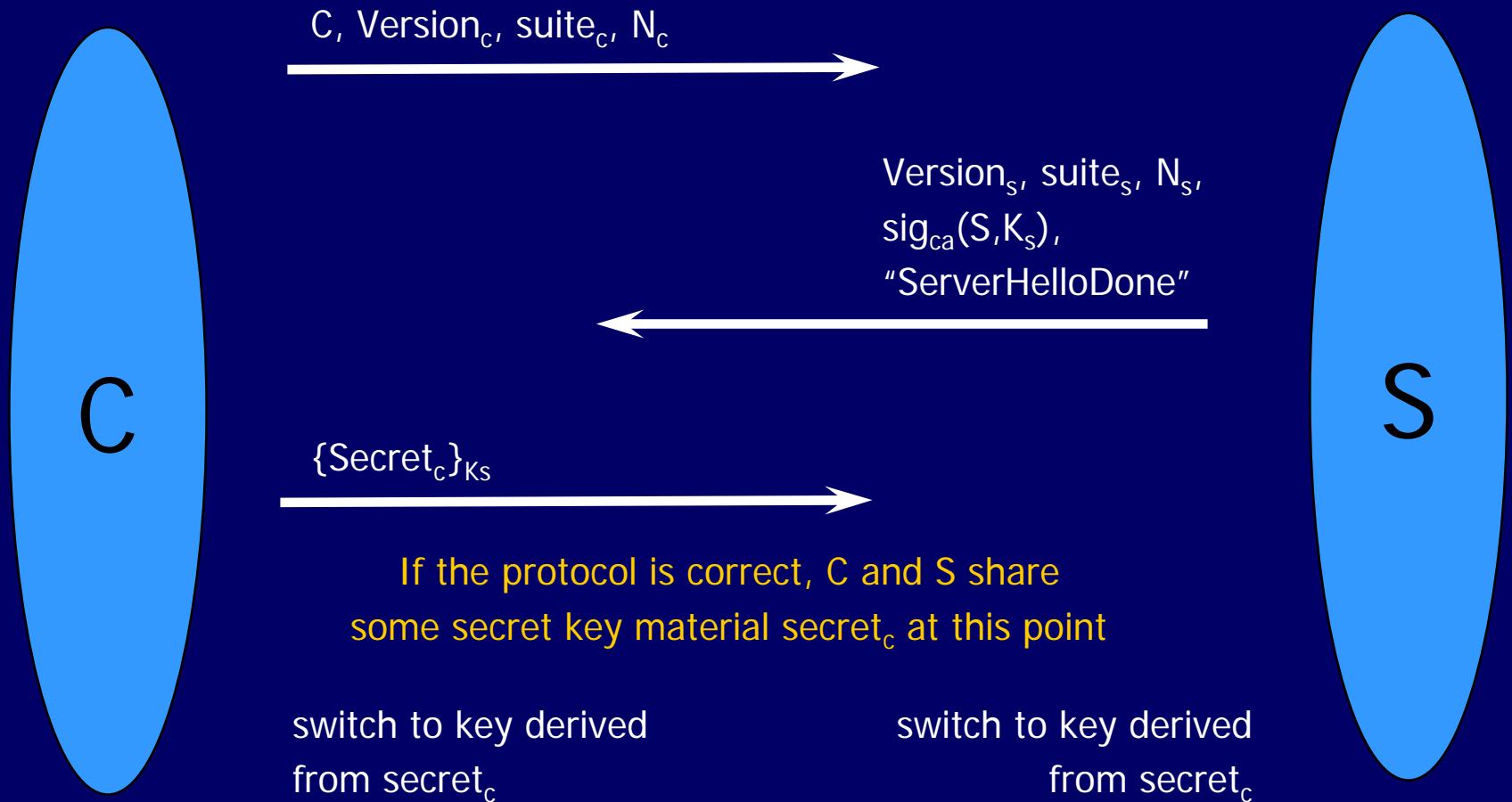
```
struct {  
    select (KeyExchangeAlgorithm) {  
        case rsa: EncryptedPreMasterSecret;  
        case diffie_hellman: ClientDiffieHellmanPublic;  
    } exchange_keys  
} ClientKeyExchange
```

Let's model this as  $\{\text{Secret}_c\}_{K_S}$

```
struct {  
    ProtocolVersion client_version;  
    opaque random[46];  
} PreMasterSecret
```

# "Core" SSL

---

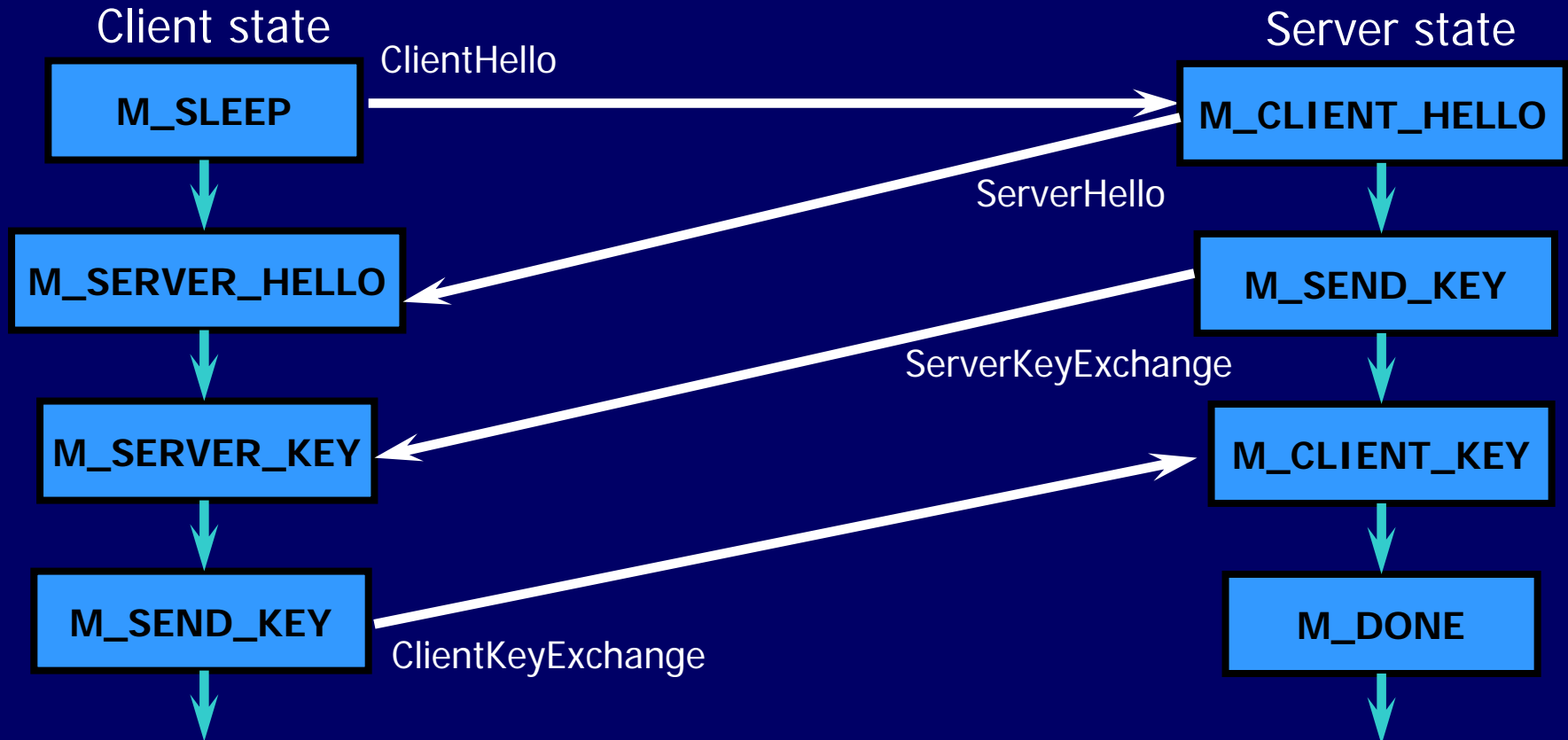




# Participants as Finite-State Machines

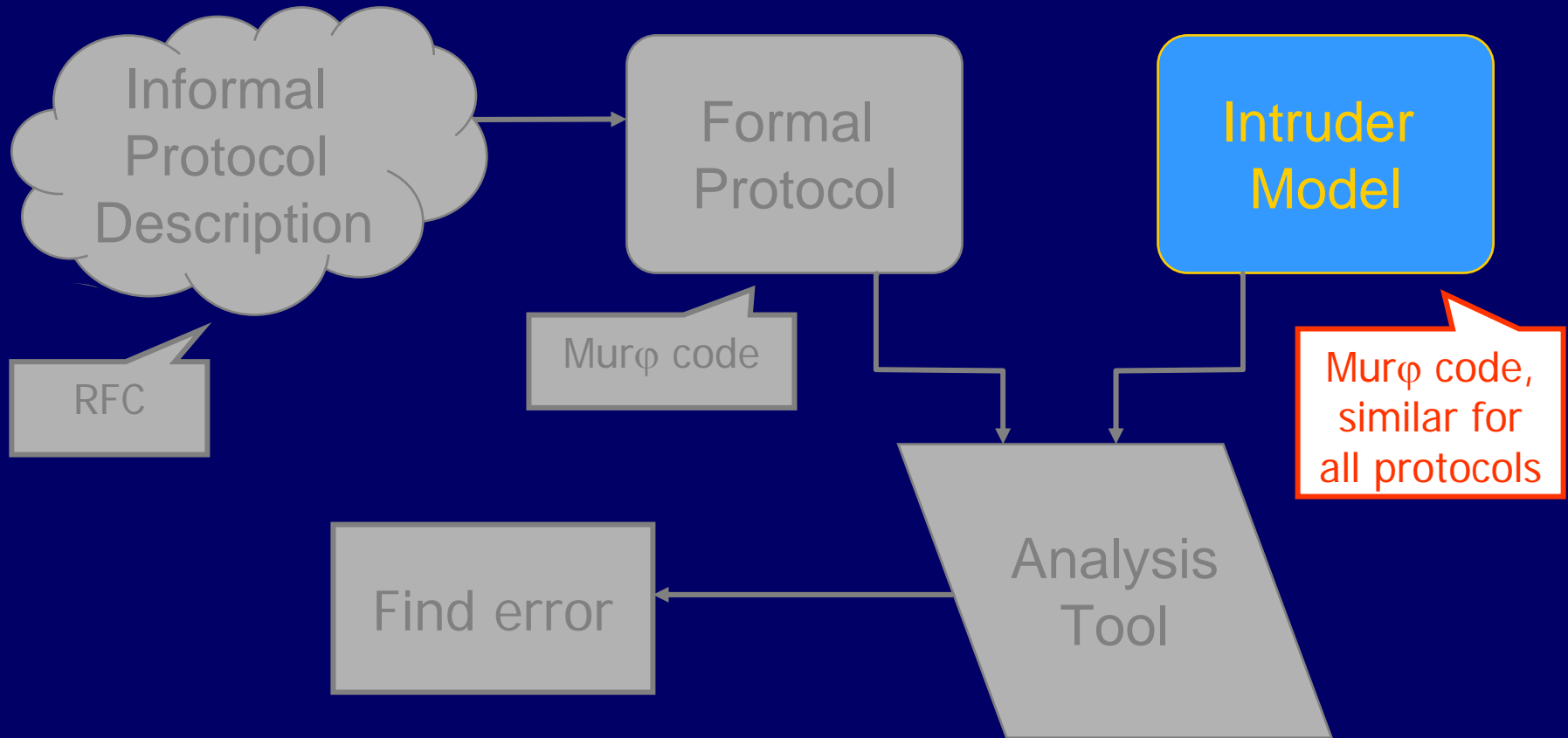
---

Mur $\phi$  rules define a finite-state machine for each protocol participant



# Intruder Model

---



# Intruder Can Intercept

---

- ◆ Store a message from the network in the data structure modeling intruder's "knowledge"

```
ruleset i: IntruderId do
  choose l: cliNet do
    rule "Intruder intercepts client's message"
      cliNet[l].fromIntruder = false
    ==>
    begin
      alias msg: cliNet[l] do -- message from the net
        ...
      alias known: int[i].messages do
        if multisetcount(m: known,
                          msgEqual(known[m], msg)) = 0 then
          multisetadd(msg, known);
        end;
      end;
    end;
  end;
end;
```

# Intruder Can Decrypt if Knows Key

---

- ◆ If the key is stored in the data structure modeling intruder's "knowledge", then read message

```
ruleset i: IntruderId do
  choose l: cliNet do
    rule "Intruder intercepts client's message"
      cliNet[l].fromIntruder = false
    ==>
  begin
    alias msg: cliNet[l] do -- message from the net
      ...
      if msg.mType = M_CLIENT_KEY_EXCHANGE then
        if keyEqual(msg.encKey, int[i].publicKey.key) then
          alias sKeys: int[i].secretKeys do
            if multisetcount(s: sKeys,
              keyEqual(sKeys[s], msg.secretKey)) = 0 then
              multisetadd(msg.secretKey, sKeys);
            end;
          end;
        end;
      end;
    end;
  end;
```

# Intruder Can Create New Messages

---

- ◆ Assemble pieces stored in the intruder's "knowledge" to form a message of the right format

```
ruleset i: IntruderId do
  ruleset d: ClientId do
    ruleset s: ValidSessionId do
      choose n: int[i].nonces do
        ruleset version: Versions do
          rule "Intruder generates fake ServerHello"
            cli[d].state = M_SERVER_HELLO
            ==>
            var
              outM: Message; -- outgoing message
            begin
              outM.source := i; outM.dest := d; outM.session := s;
              outM.mType := M_SERVER_HELLO;
              outM.version := version;
              outM.random := int[i].nonces[n];
              multisetadd (outM, cliNet);
            end; end; end; end;
```

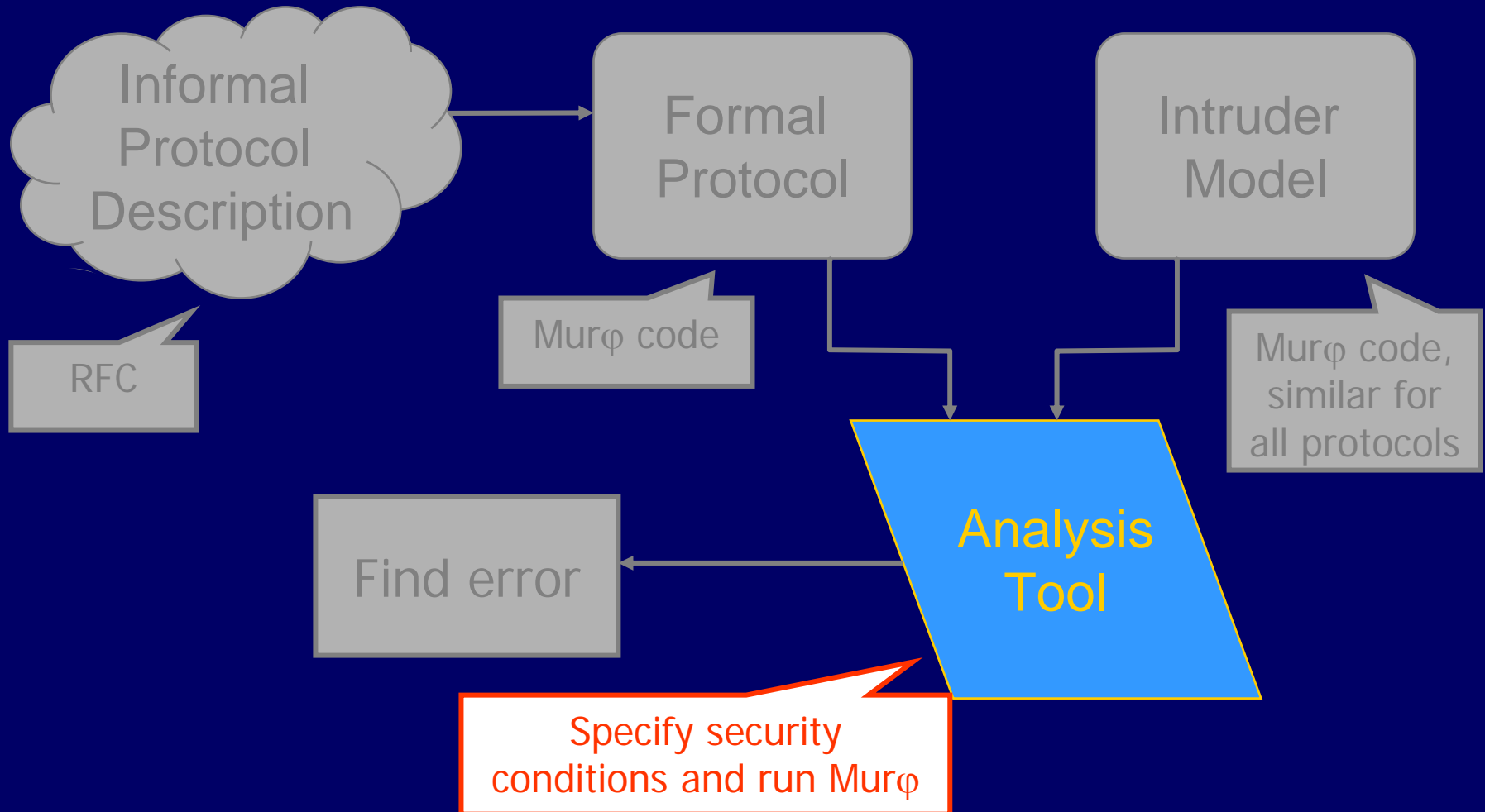
# Intruder Model and Cryptography

---

- ◆ There is no actual cryptography in our model
  - Messages are marked as “encrypted” or “signed”, and the intruder rules respect these markers
- ◆ Our assumption that cryptography is perfect is reflected in the absence of certain intruder rules
  - There is no rule for creating a digital signature with a key that is not known to the intruder
  - There is no rule for reading the contents of a message which is marked as “encrypted” with a certain key, when this key is not known to the intruder
  - There is no rule for reading the contents of a “hashed” message

# Running Murφ Analysis

---



# Secrecy

---

## ◆ Intruder should not be able to learn the secret generated by the client

```
ruleset i: ClientId do
  ruleset j: IntruderId do
    rule "Intruder has learned a client's secret"
      cli[i].state = M_DONE &
      multisetcount(s: int[j].secretKeys,
        keyEqual(int[j].secretKeys[s], cli[i].secretKey)) > 0
    ==>
    begin
      error "Intruder has learned a client's secret"
    end;
  end;
end;
end;
```



# Shared Secret Consistency

---

- ◆ After the protocol has finished, client and server should agree on their shared secret

```
ruleset i: ServerId do
  ruleset s: SessionId do
    rule "Server's shared secret is not the same as its client's"
      ismember(ser[i].clients[s].client, ClientId) &
      ser[i].clients[s].state = M_DONE &
      cli[ser[i].clients[s].client].state = M_DONE &
      !keyEqual(cli[ser[i].clients[s].client].secretKey,
                ser[i].clients[s].secretKey)

    ==>
    begin
      error "S's secret is not the same as C's"
    end;
  end;
end;
end;
```

# Version and Crypto Suite Consistency

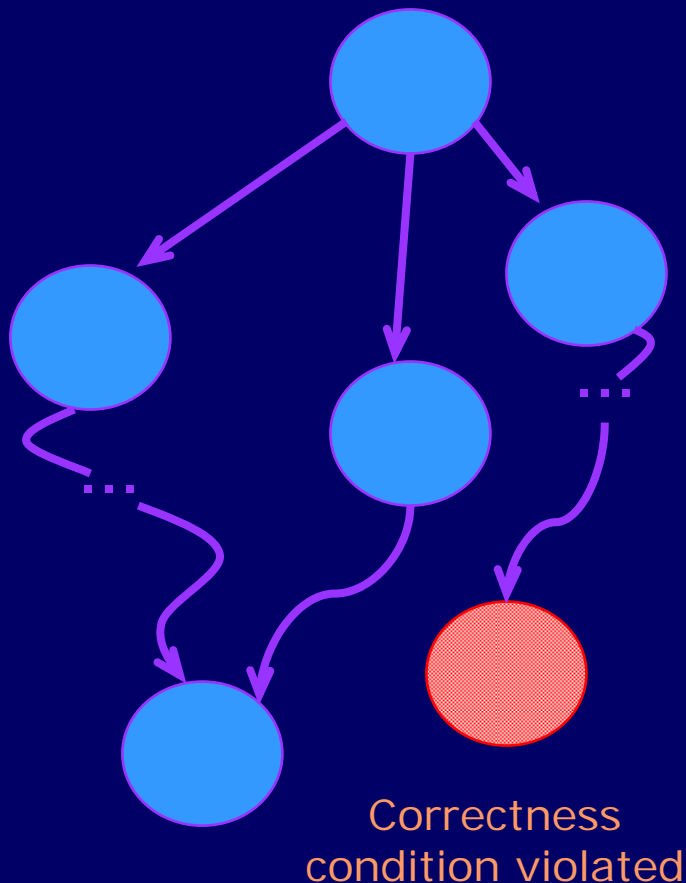
---

- ◆ Client and server should be running the highest version of the protocol they both support

```
ruleset i: ServerId do
  ruleset s: SessionId do
    rule "Server has not learned the client's version or suite correctly"
      !ismember(ser[i].clients[s].client, IntruderId) &
      ser[i].clients[s].state = M_DONE &
      cli[ser[i].clients[s].client].state = M_DONE &
      (ser[i].clients[s].clientVersion != MaxVersion |
       ser[i].clients[s].clientSuite.text != 0)
    ==>
    begin
      error "Server has not learned the client's version or suite correctly"
    end;
  end;
end;
end;
```

# Finite-State Verification

---



- Mur $\phi$  rules for protocol participants and the intruder define a nondeterministic state transition graph
- Mur $\phi$  will exhaustively enumerate all graph nodes
- Mur $\phi$  will verify whether specified security conditions hold in every reachable node
- If not, the path to the violating node will describe the attack

# When Does Mur $\phi$ Find a Violation?

---

## ◆ Bad abstraction

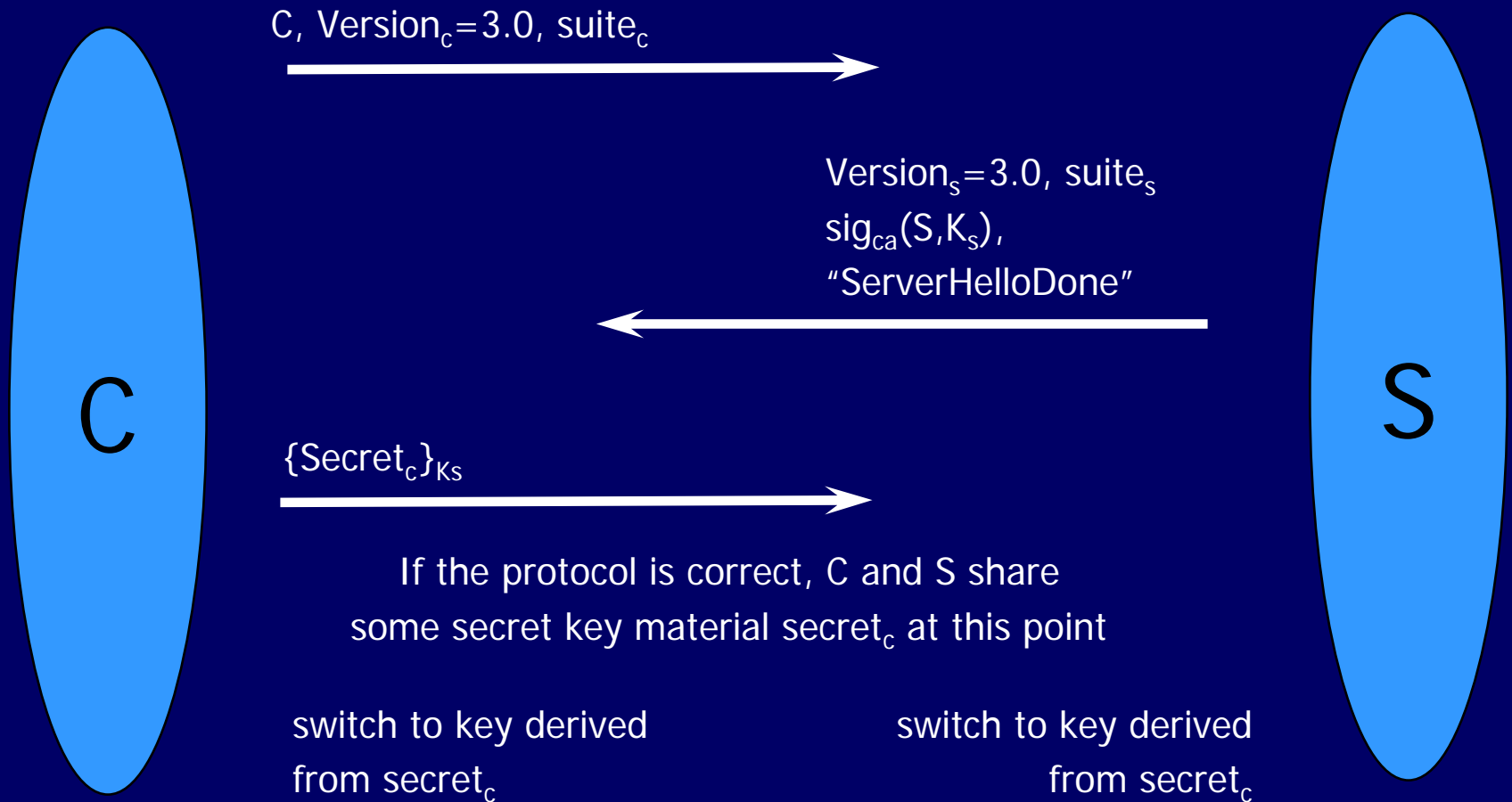
- Removed too much detail from the protocol when constructing the abstract model
- Add the piece that fixes the bug and repeat
- This is part of the rational reconstruction process

## ◆ Genuine attack

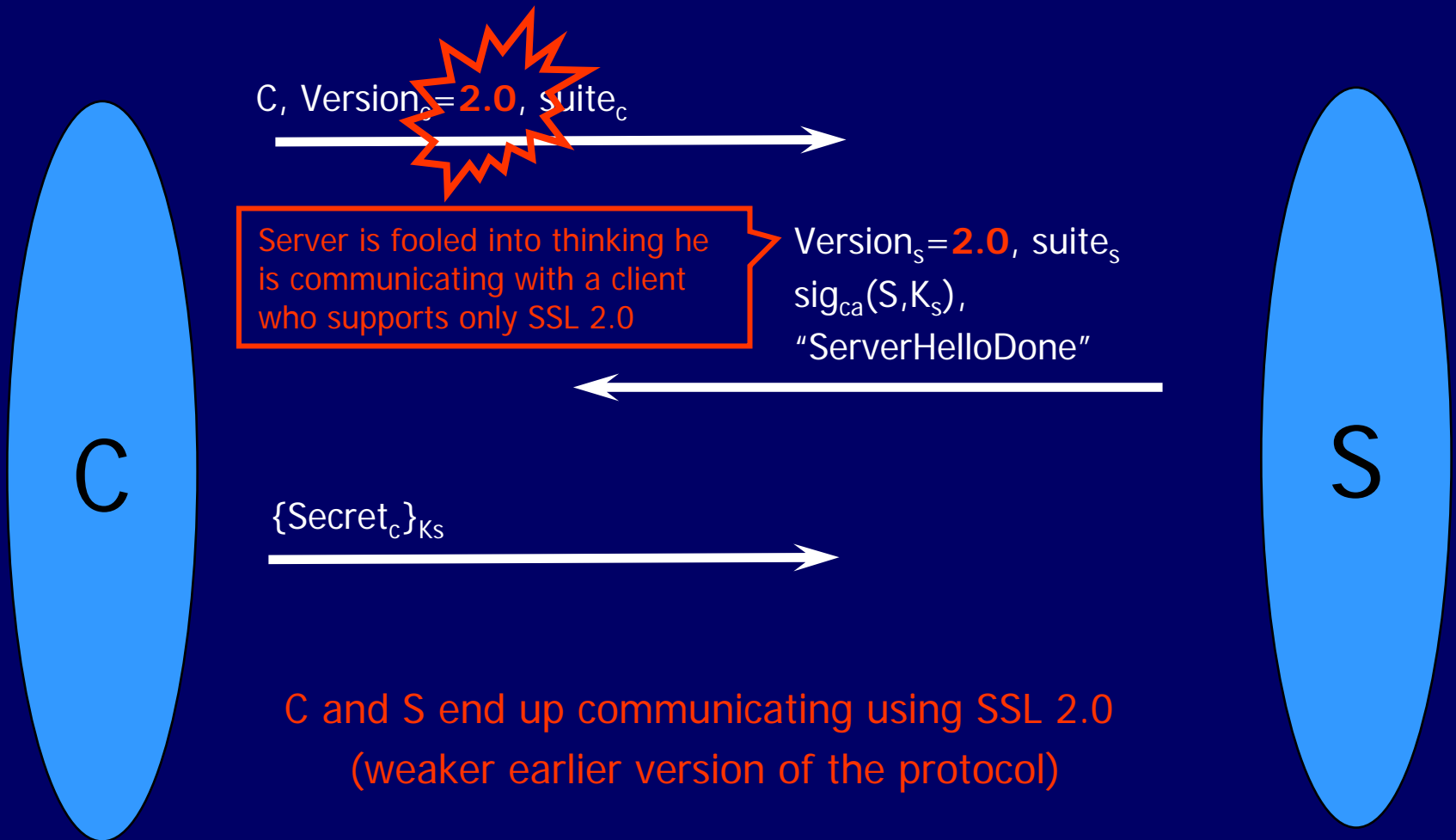
- Yay! Hooray!
- Attacks found by formal analysis are usually quite strong: independent of specific cryptographic schemes, OS implementation, etc.
- Test an implementation of the protocol, if available

# "Basic" SSL 3.0

---



# Version Consistency Fails!



# A Case of Bad Abstraction

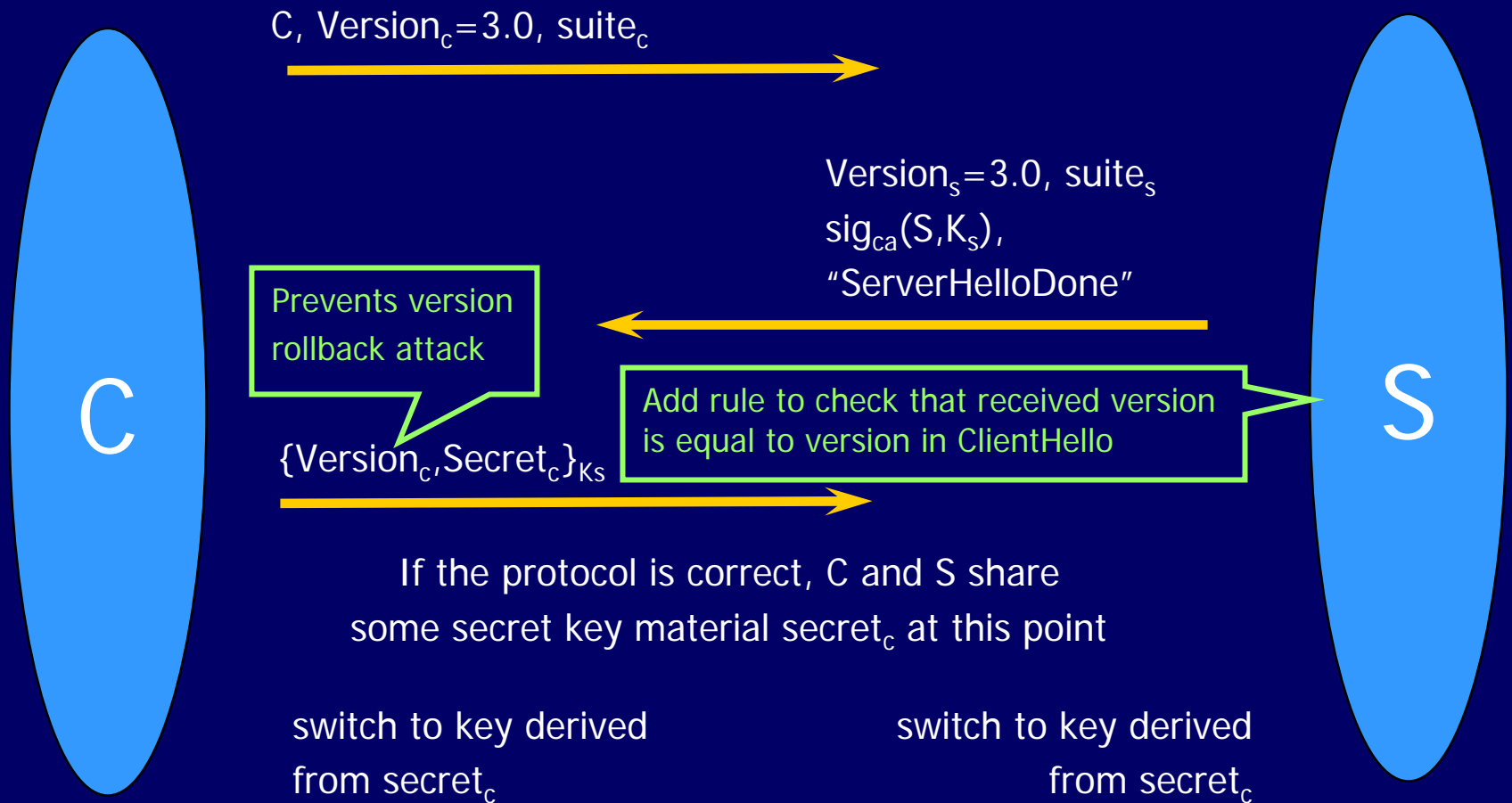
```
struct {  
    select (KeyExchangeAlgorithm) {  
        case rsa: EncryptedPreMasterSecret;  
        case diffie_hellman: ClientDiffieHellmanPublic;  
    } exchange_keys  
} ClientKeyExchange
```

Model this as  $\{Version_c, Secret_c\}_{K_S}$

```
struct {  
    ProtocolVersion client_version;  
    opaque random[46];  
} PreMasterSecret
```

This piece matters! Need to add it to the model.

# Better "basic" SSL





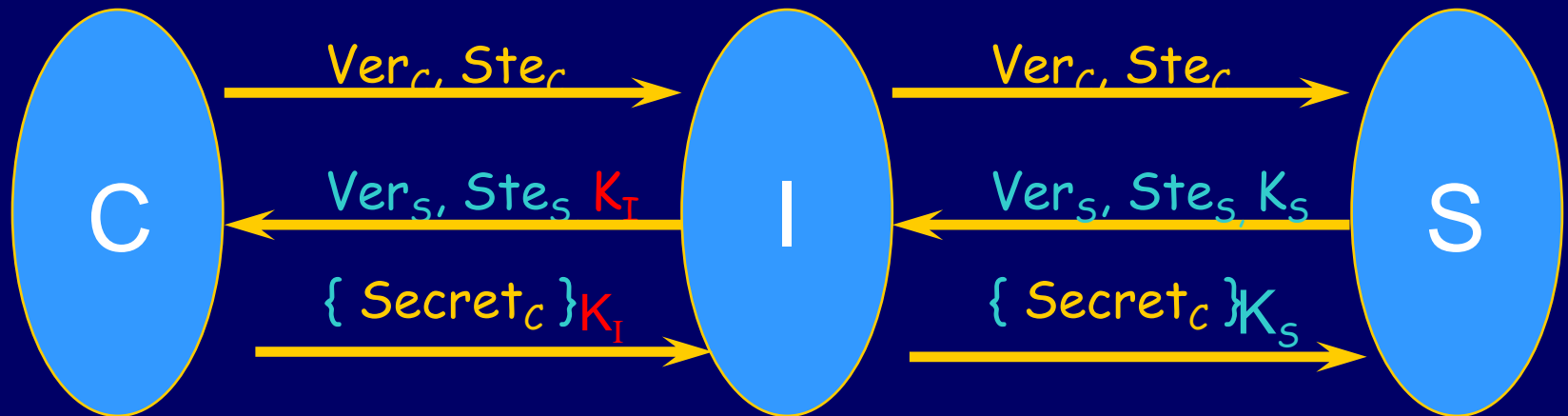
# Summary of Incremental Protocols

---

- ◆ A = Basic protocol
- ◆ B = A + version consistency check
- ◆ D = B + certificates for both public keys
  - Authentication for client + Authentication for server
- ◆ E = D + verification (Finished) messages
  - Prevention of version and crypto suite attacks
- ◆ F = E + nonces
  - Prevention of replay attacks
- ◆ G = “Correct” subset of SSL
  - Additional crypto considerations (black art) give SSL 3.0

# Attack on Protocol B

---

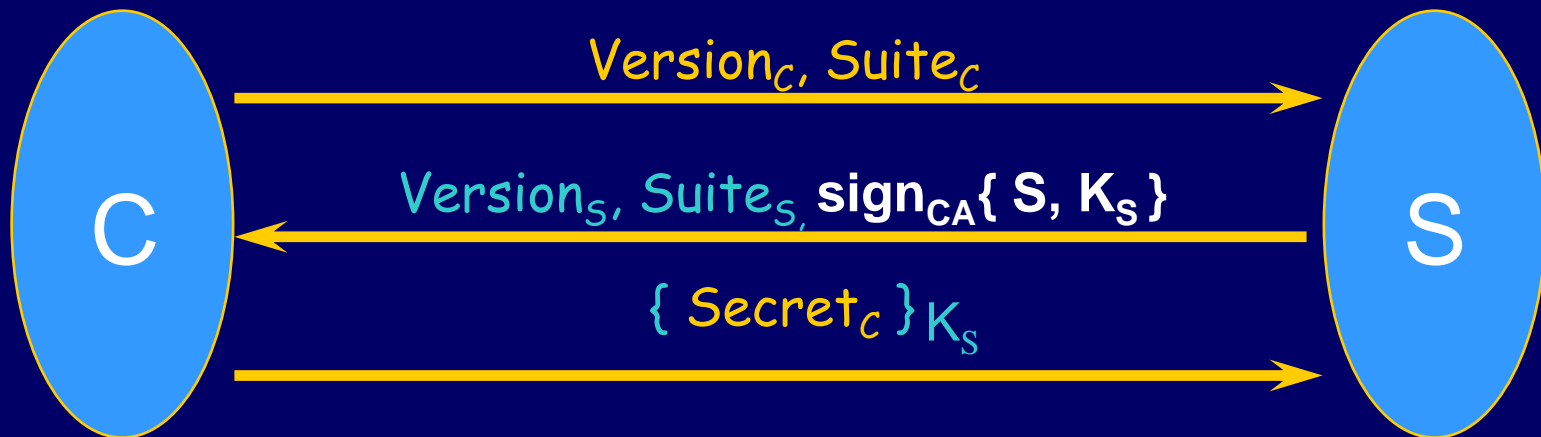


## ◆ Intruder in the middle

- Replaces server key by intruder's key
- Intercepts secret from client
- Simulates client to server, server to client

# Solution: Certificate Authority

---



## ◆ Defeats previous attack

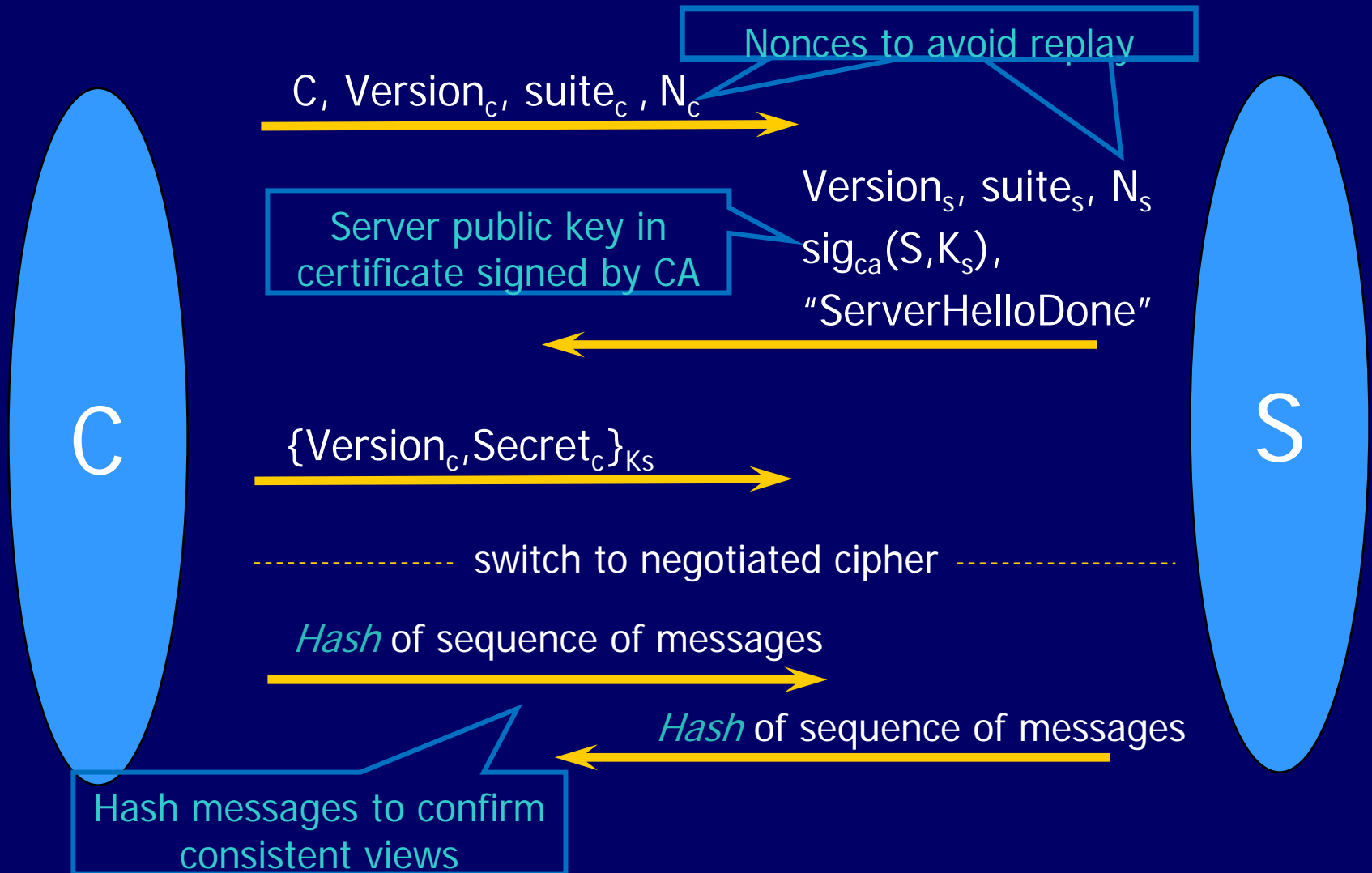
- But client is not authenticated to the server ...

# Replay Attacks

---

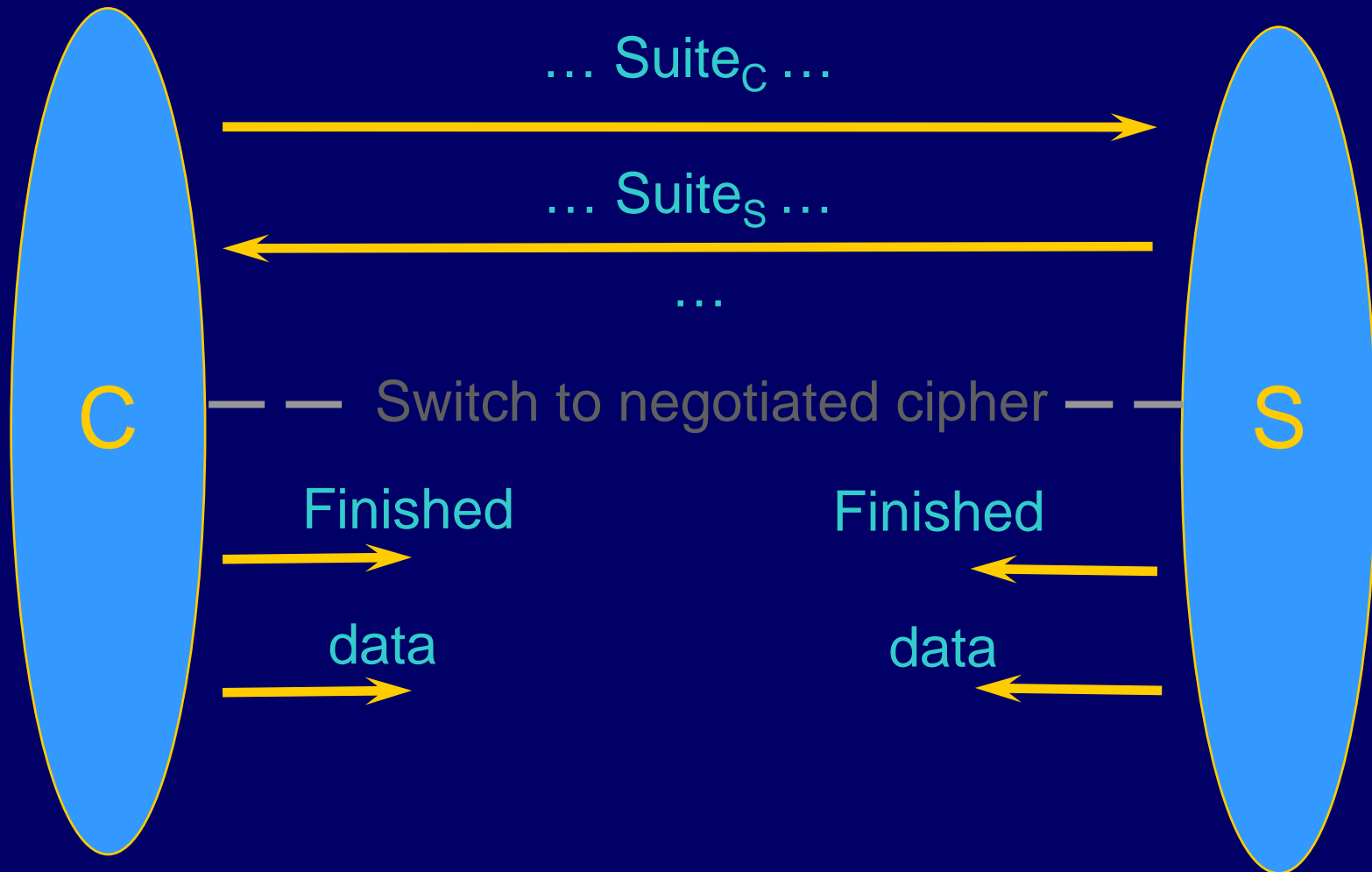
- ◆ Network eavesdropper can record messages
- ◆ If protocol is deterministic, then
  - Eavesdropper can replay client messages to server, OR
  - Eavesdropper can replay server message to client
- ◆ This is a problem
  - In each session, each party should be guaranteed that the other is a live participant in the session
- ◆ Solution
  - Each run of each protocol should contain at least one new value generated by each party, included in messages, and checked before session is considered done

# "Core" SSL Handshake with server auth (only)



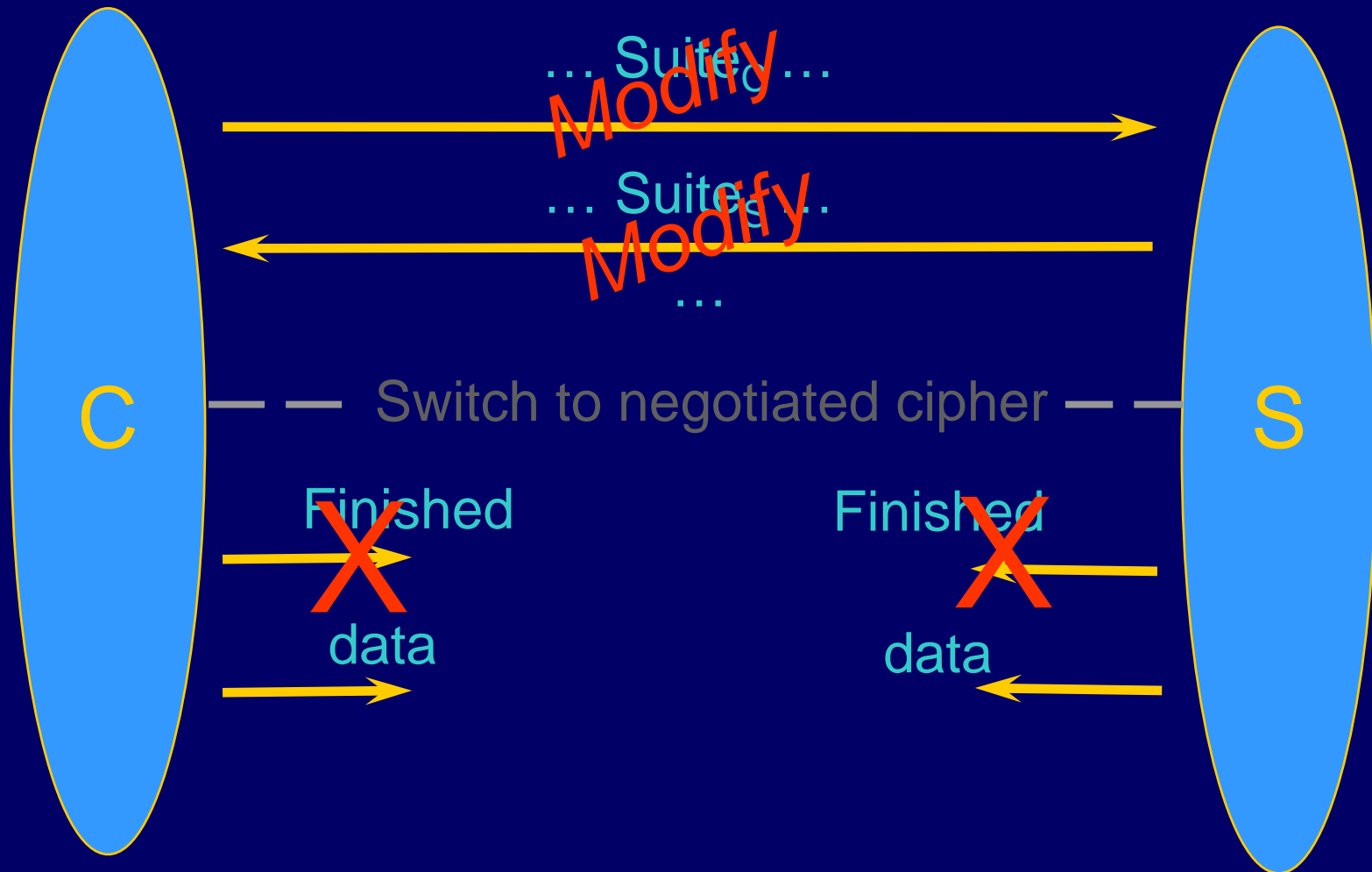
# Anomaly (Protocol F)

---



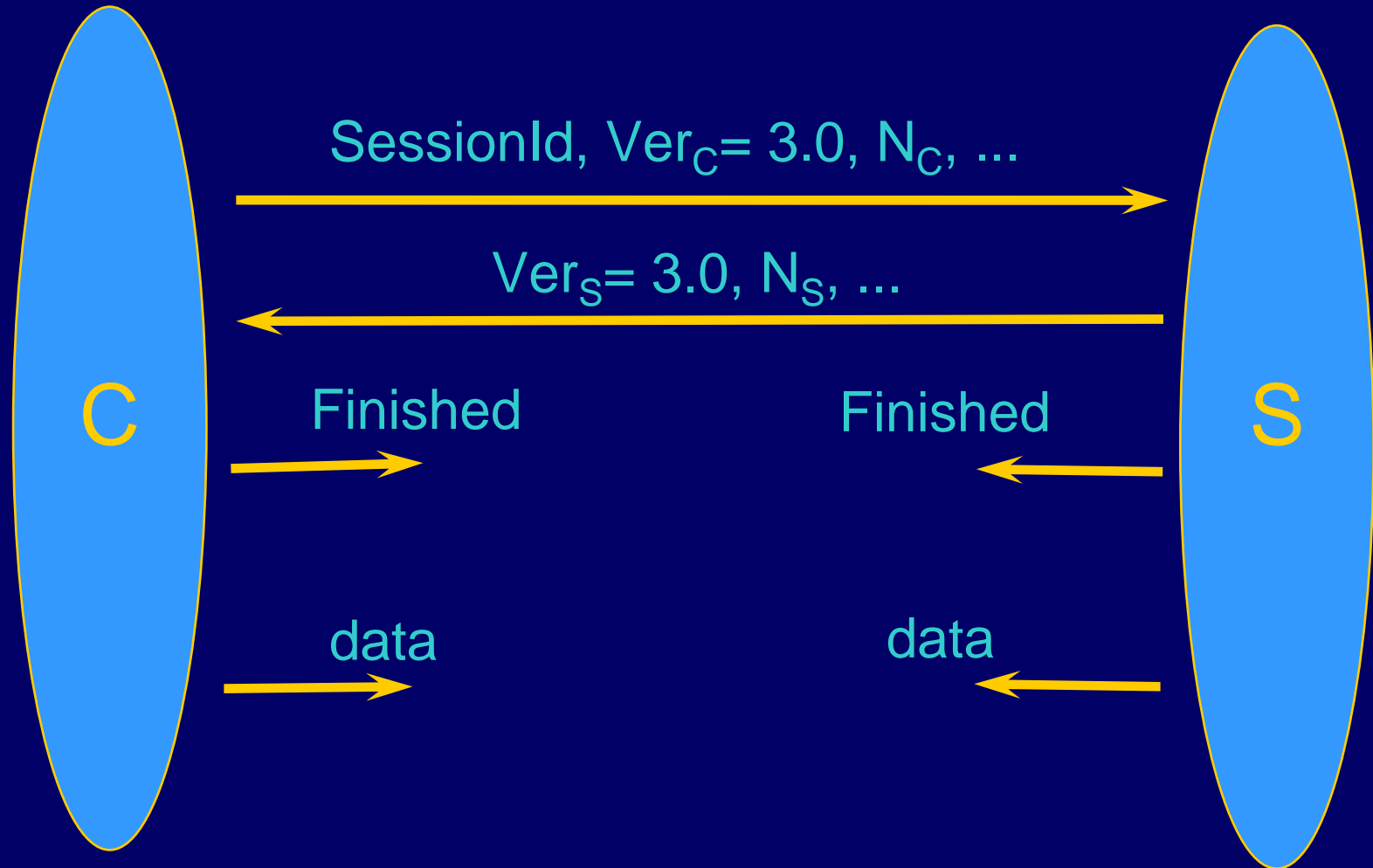
# Anomaly (Protocol F)

---



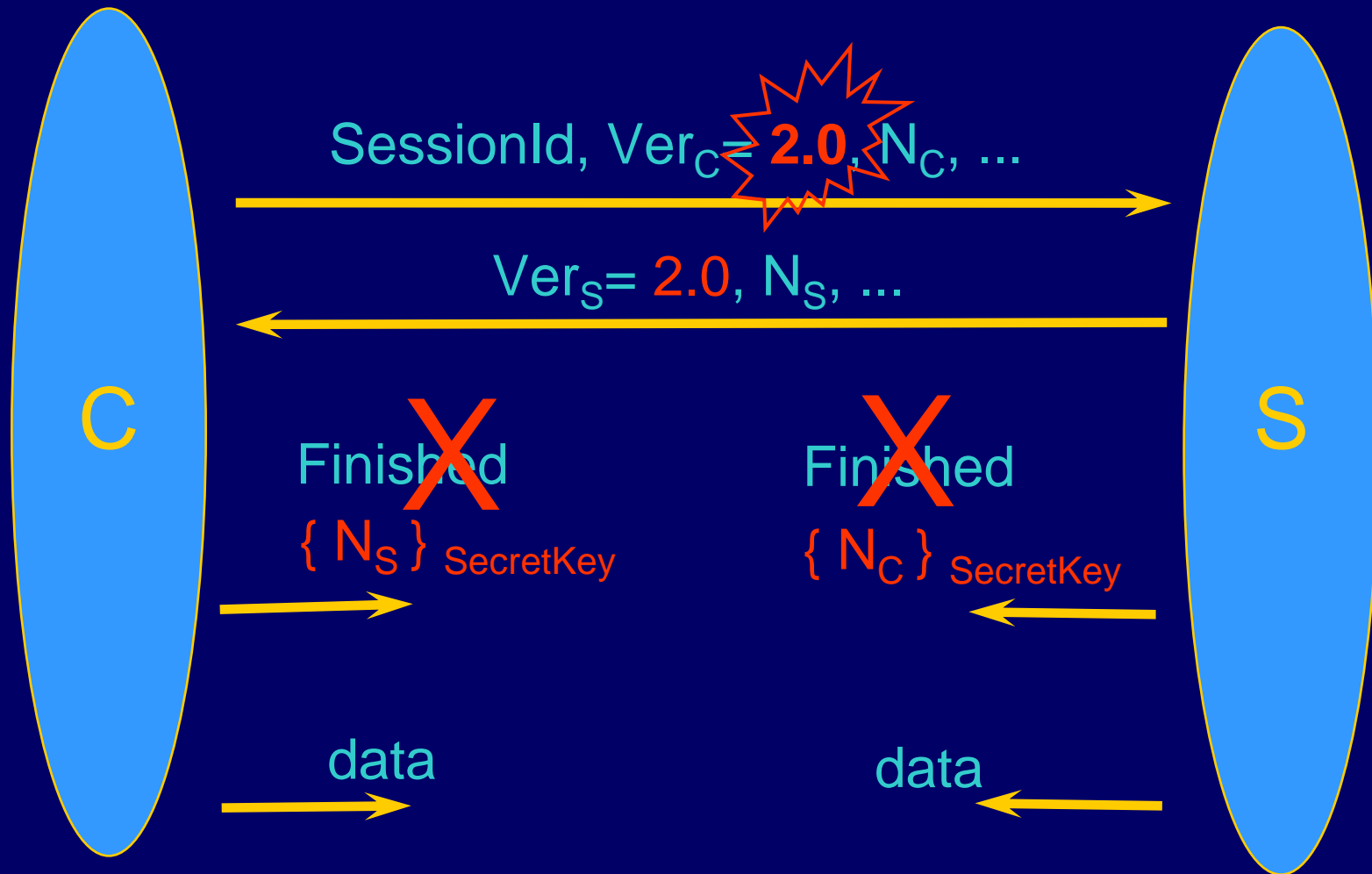
# Protocol Resumption

---





# Version Rollback Attack



SSL 2.0 Finished messages do not include version numbers or cryptosuites

# Basic Pattern for Doing Your Project

---

## ◆ Read and understand protocol specification

- Typically an RFC or a research paper
- We'll put a few on the website: take a look!

## ◆ Choose a tool

- Mur $\phi$  by default, but we'll describe many other tools
- Play with Mur $\phi$  now to get some experience (installing, running simple models, etc.)

## ◆ Start with a simple (possibly flawed) model

- Rational reconstruction is a good way to go

## ◆ Give careful thought to security conditions

# Background Reading on SSL 3.0

---

Optional, for deeper understanding of SSL / TLS

- ◆ D. Wagner and B. Schneier. "Analysis of the SSL 3.0 protocol." USENIX Electronic Commerce '96.
  - Nice study of an early proposal for SSL 3.0
- ◆ J.C. Mitchell, V. Shmatikov, U. Stern. "Finite-State Analysis of SSL 3.0". USENIX Security '98.
  - Murφ analysis of SSL 3.0 (similar to this lecture)
  - Actual Murφ model available
- ◆ D. Bleichenbacher. "Chosen Ciphertext Attacks against Protocols Based on RSA Encryption Standard PKCS #1". CRYPTO '98.
  - Cryptography is not perfect: this paper breaks SSL 3.0 by directly attacking underlying implementation of RSA