Introduction

Michael Levin

Computer Science Department, Higher School of Economics

Sharing Secrets

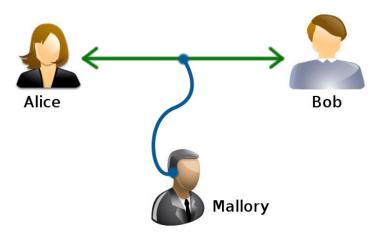


flickr.com

- Private communications via phone, e-mail, messengers
- Secure money transfer, online shopping
- Secure money transier, orinine snopping
 - Secure authorization for online services

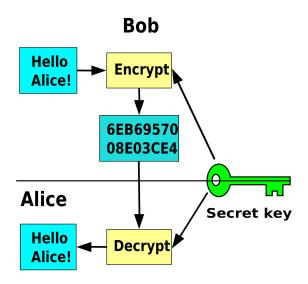
Secure software installation

Eavesdropping



wikipedia.org

Secret Code



Changing the Code

 If you use the same secret code many times, people around can guess what it is

Changing the Code

- If you use the same secret code many times, people around can guess what it is
- Changing words to their opposites, replacing some words with other special words, rearranging letters — all these can be broken using statistics if there are many examples of encrypted messages

Changing the Code

- If you use the same secret code many times, people around can guess what it is
- Changing words to their opposites, replacing some words with other special words, rearranging letters — all these can be broken using statistics if there are many examples of encrypted messages
- Need to change the code often

- The Nazis changed their code once a day during the war, but the Allies led by Alan Turing still broke the cipher
- One should use different code for each communication

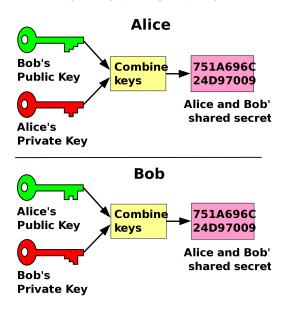


flickr.com

Sharing the Secret Code

- But how to share the secret code itself?
- Eavesdropper can get it
- What if you are communicating from different continents?
- And you need a new code for each communication

Public Key Cryptography



Cryptography

- Sharing secrets in such a way that noone can eavesdrop or change your messages
- Authorization and making sure a person cannot deny having sent the message
- Billions of money transactions use encryption everyday
- RSA encryption arguably the most used program in the world
- This module tools for cryptography
- Next module keys and secure ciphers, how to break them if used incorrectly