

Chapter 14

Key Management and Distribution

Key Distribution Problem

- Problem: Deliver a key to two parties who wish to exchange data without allowing others to see the key
- Some techniques
 - If using symmetric encryption, the two parties must share the same key, and that key must be protected from access by others
 - If using public key system, it is easier, but key authentication is required
 - Frequent key changes are desirable to limit the amount of data compromised if an attacker learns the key

Symmetric Key Distribution

- A selects a key and physically deliver it to B
- A third party selects the key and physically deliver it to A and B
- If A and B have previously used a key, one party transmits the new key to the other by encrypting the new key with the old key
- If A and B each has an encrypted connection to a third party C, C can deliver a key on the encrypted links to A and B



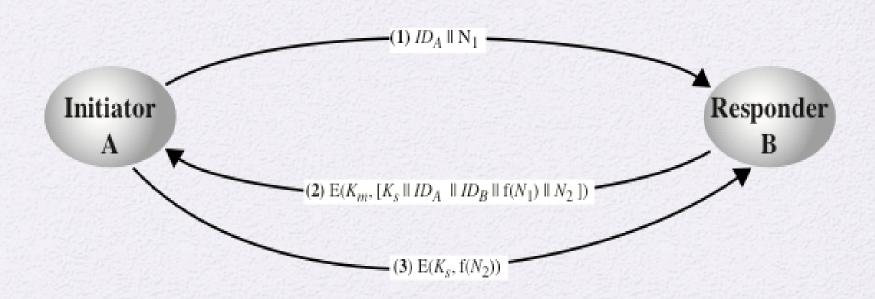
Master and Session Keys

- It is hard for two parties to establish a shared key.
- Therefore, these keys are considered as "master" keys
- These master keys are used for establishing session keys for communication when needed.



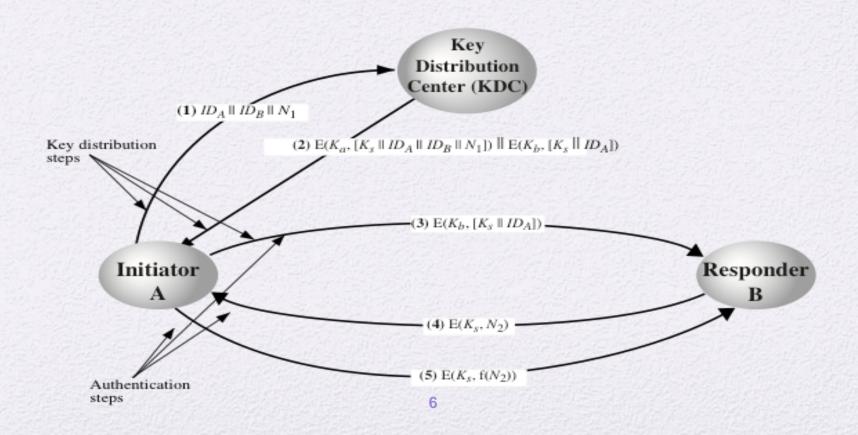
Session Key Distribution with Master Keys

K_m: shared master key between A and B



Session Key Distribution with KDC

 Each use X shares with a master key K_X with the key distribution center (KDC)



Session Distribution with PK System

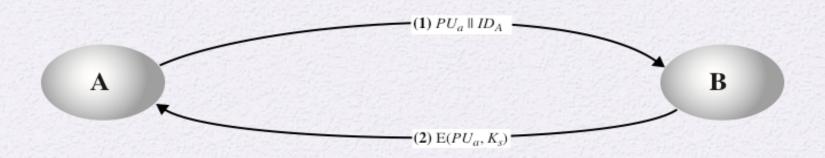


Figure 14.7 Simple Use of Public-Key Encryption to Establish a Session Key

Problem: How does B know that PU_a is A's public key?

→ Need to authenticate PU_a

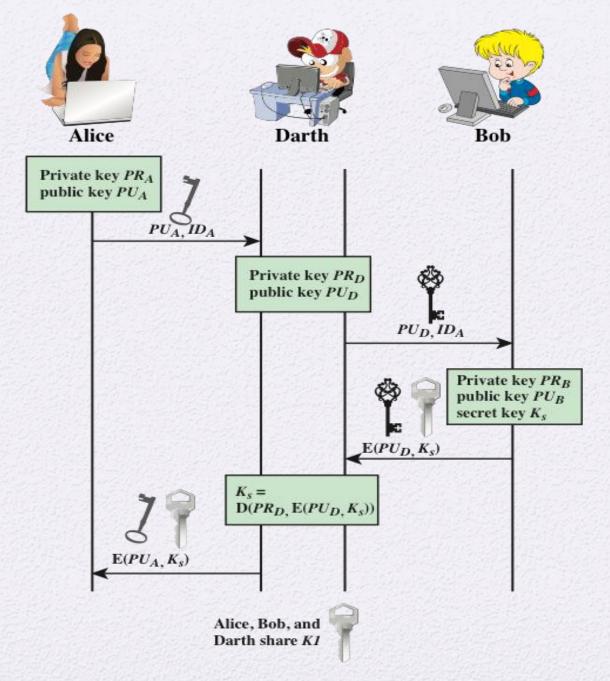
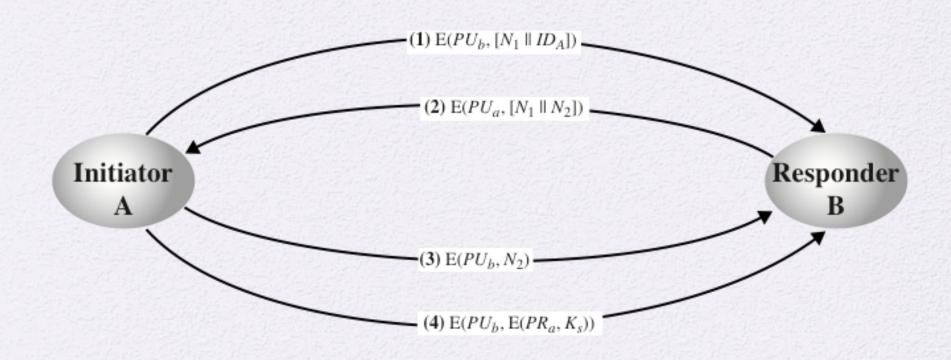


Figure 14.8 Another Man-in-the-Middle Attack

Another Key Distribution with Public Keys

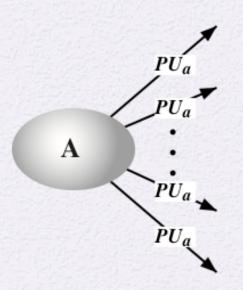


Still have the problem of man-in-the-middle attack.

Distribution of Public Keys

- Some ways for the distribution of public keys
 - Public announcement
 - Publicly available directory
 - Public-key authority
 - Public-key certificate

Public announcement



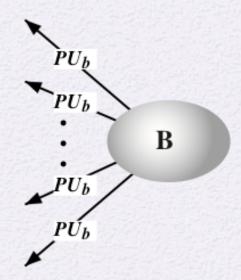
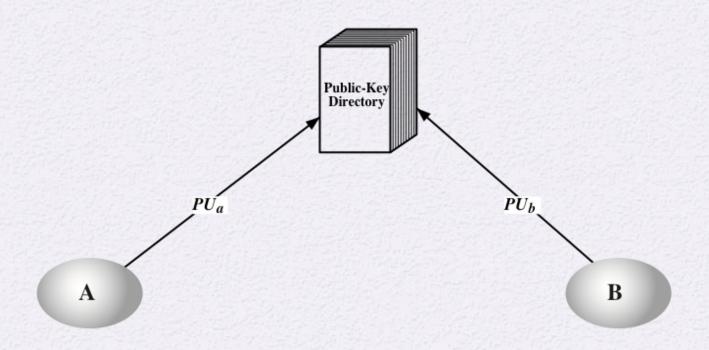


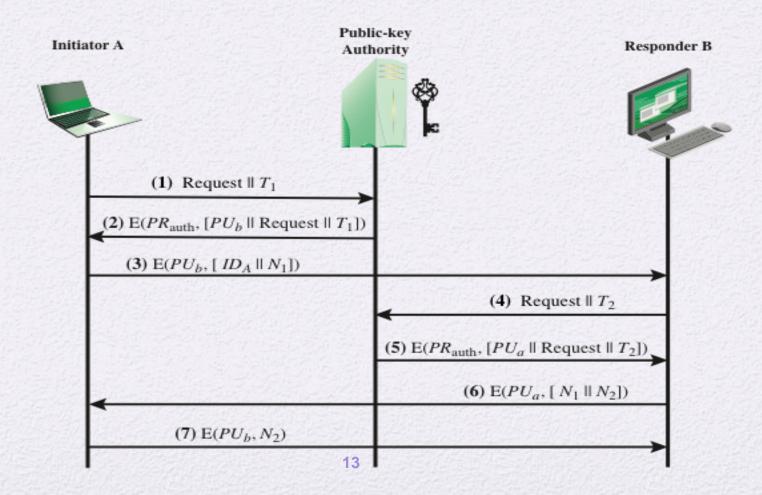
Figure 14.10 Uncontrolled Public Key Distribution

Public Directory



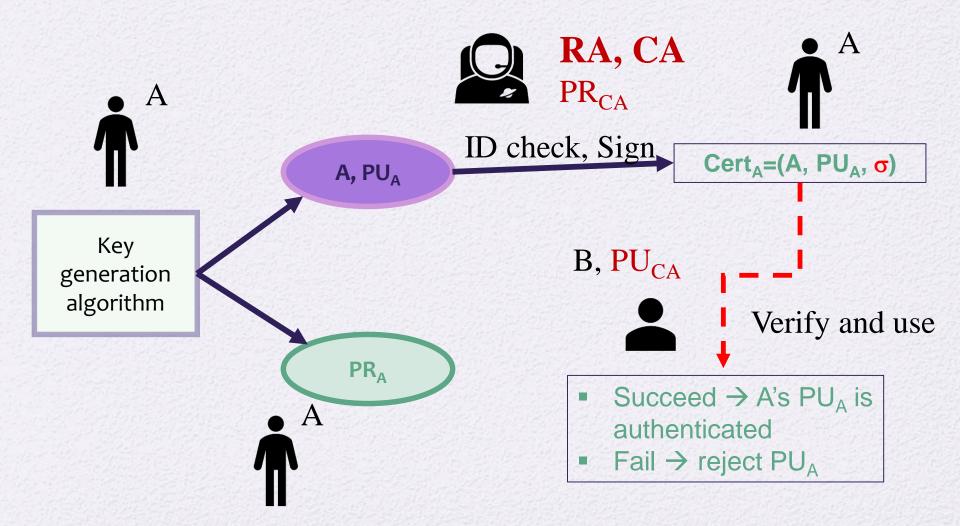
Public-Key Authority

On-line authentication of public keys



Public-Key Certificate

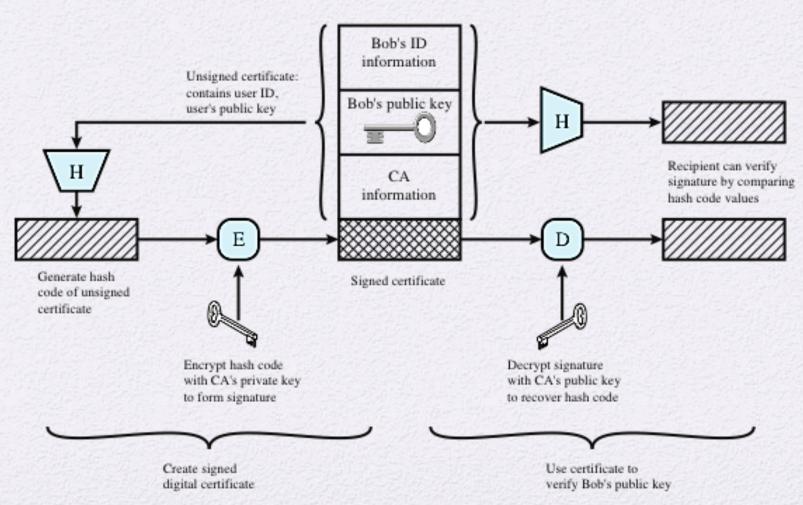
- Off-line authentication of public keys
- Trust starts from Certificate Authorities (CA)
 - Everyone trusts CA's, either direct or indirect
 - CA: authenticate A's public key PU_a with its private key
 - Signing the assertion of A's public key being PU_a
 - This assertion is called "certificate"
 - Another one with CA's public key PU_{CA} can verify the certificates issued by CA
 - The whole system is called Public-Key Infrastructure (PKI)



X.509 Certificates

- Part of the X.500 series of a directory service
 - The directory is a server or distributed set of servers that maintains a database of information about users
- X.509 defines a framework for authentication services by the X.500 directory to its users
 - Use of public-key cryptography and digital signatures
- Each certificate contains the public key of a user and is signed with the private key of a trusted CA
- X.509 also defines authentication protocols by using public-key certificates

Use of Public-Key Certificates

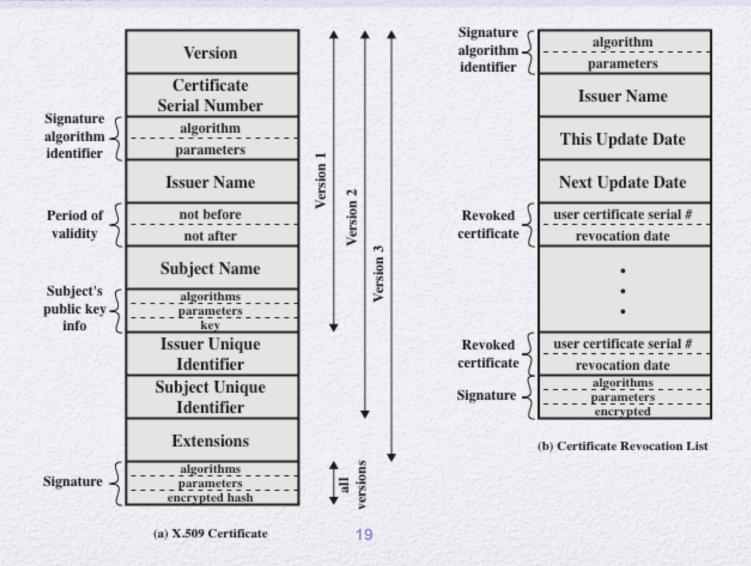


Certificates

Created by a trusted Certification Authority (CA) and have the following elements:

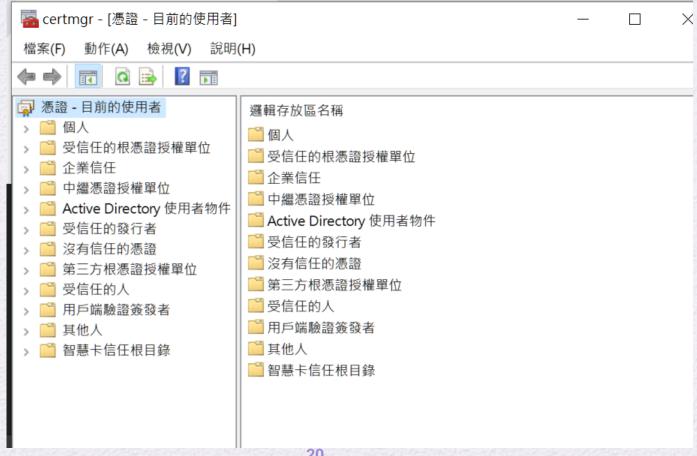
- Version
- Serial number
- Signature algorithm identifier
- Issuer name
- Period of validity
- Subject name
- Subject's public-key information
- Issuer unique identifier
- Subject unique identifier
- Extensions
- Signature

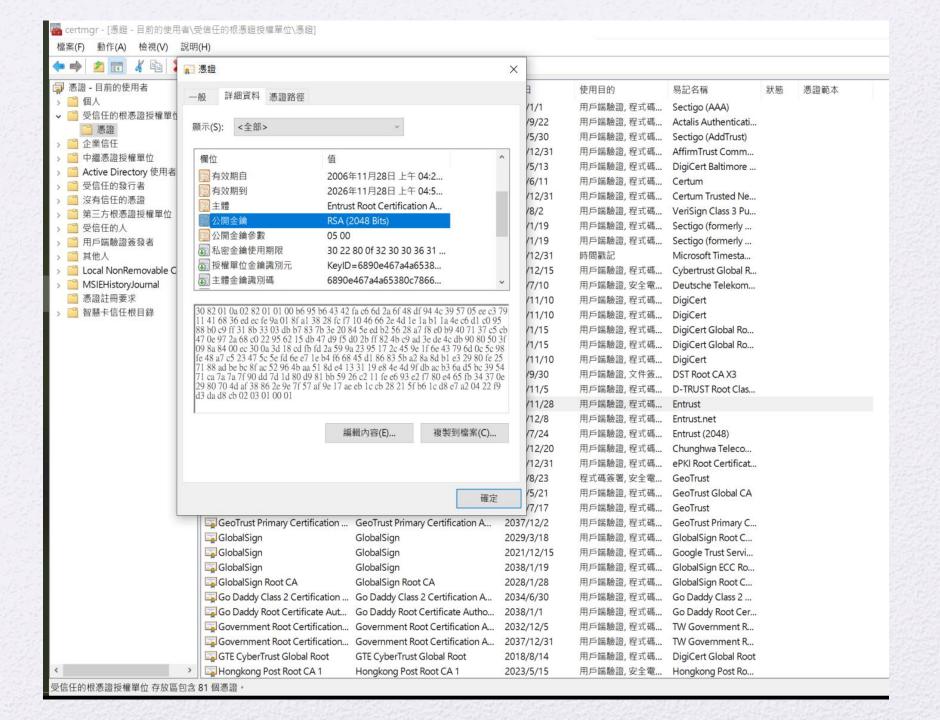
X.509 Certificate Format



Installed Certificates in Windows

Run: certmgr.msc

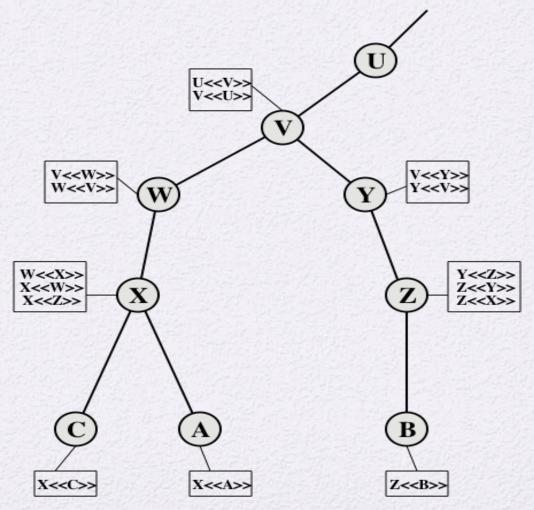




A Trust Hierarchy of CA's

The certificate of C issued by CA X:

 $X << C>> = X\{V, SN, AI, CA, UCA, A, UA, A_T, T^A\}$



Verify a Certificate

Certificate: $X << C>> = X\{V, SN, AI, CA, UCA, A, UA, A_T, T^A\}$

- Obtain X's public key PU_X
 - Either pre-installed or obtained on-line
- Use's PU_X to verify X<<C>>
 - digital signature verification
- If CA X's public key PU_X is not trusted yet,
 - Go to find some X's certificate W<<X>> issued by another CA W
 - Verify W<<X>> by W's public key PU_w
- If CA W's public key PU_W is not trusted yet, ...
 - Until you find a CA that can be trusted by you

Certificate Revocation

- Each certificate includes a period of validity
 - A new certificate is issued before expiration of the old one
- In some occasions, we need to revoke a certificate before it expires
 - The user's private key is assumed to be compromised
 - The user is no longer certified by this CA
 - The CA's certificate is assumed to be compromised
- Each CA maintains a list of all revoked but not expired certificates issued by the CA
 - These lists should be posted on the directory

Summary

- Symmetric key distribution using symmetric encryption
 - Key distribution scenario
 - Hierarchical key control
 - Session key lifetime
 - Transparent key control scheme
 - Decentralized key control
 - Controlling key usage
- Symmetric key distribution using asymmetric encryption
 - Simple secret key distribution
 - Secret key distribution with confidentiality and authentication

- Distribution of public keys
 - Public announcement of public keys
 - Publicly available directory
 - Public-key authority
 - Public-key certificates
- X.509 Certificates
 - X.509 Version 3