Introduction to Cryptography

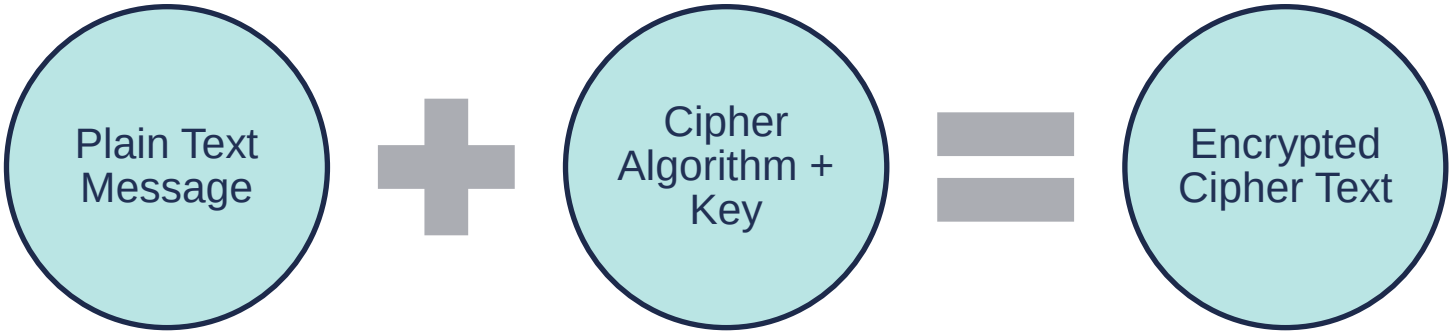
Cryptography

- **Greek Word**: “Krypto” = Hidden / Secret
- Core Features of Cryptography:
  - **Confidentiality**: Prevents unauthorized disclosure of data
  - **Integrity**: Ensure data isn’t modified
  - **Authentication**: Used to validate sender with digital signatures
  - **Non-repudiation**: Digital signatures also ensure non-repudiation

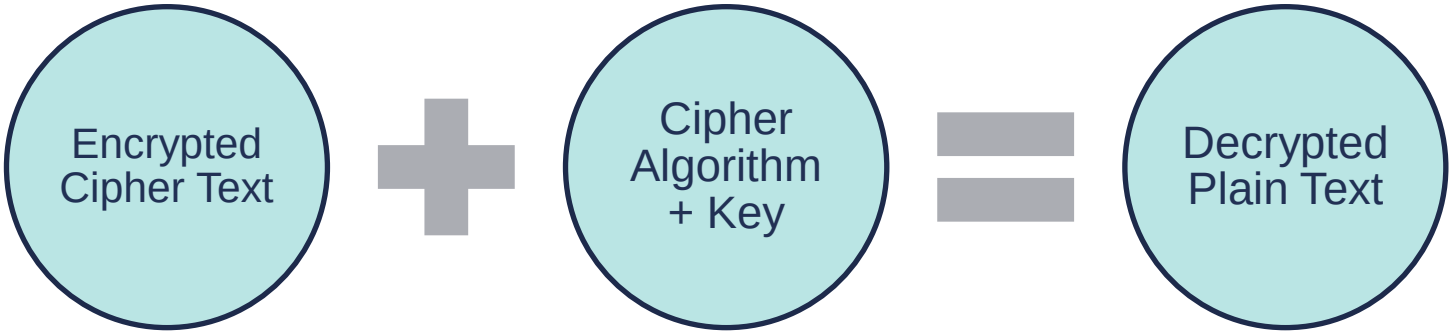
Cryptography Basics

- **Plain Text**
  - An unencrypted message
- **Cipher Text**
  - An encrypted message
- **Cipher**
  - The encryption algorithm used to encrypt & decrypt the message
- **Key**
  - Determines the output of the cipher algorithm and is needed to encrypt and decrypt a message

Encrypting a Message



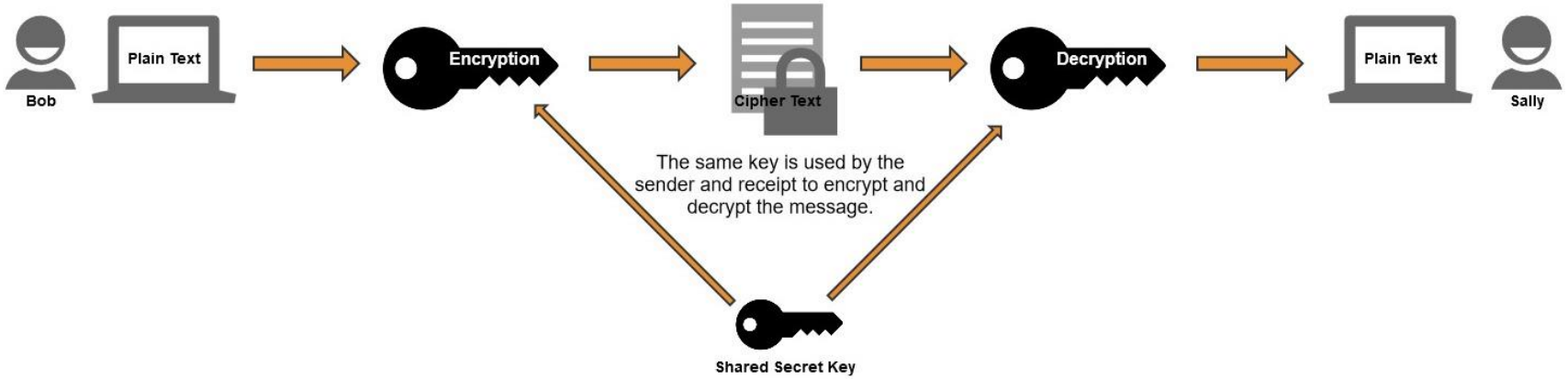
Decrypting a Message



Symmetric Encryption

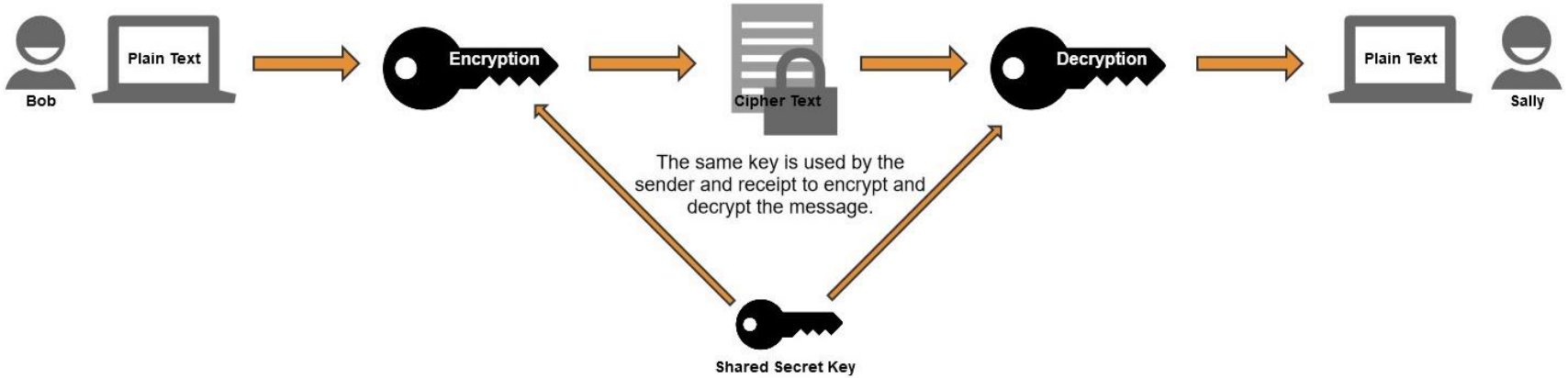
Symmetric (Private Key) Encryption

- Symmetric encryption uses a **single key** for **encryption** and **decryption**.
- Both the **sende**r and **receiver** have the **same key** and use it to encrypt and decrypt all messages.
- It's also known as **secret-key encryption** or **private-key** encryption.



Symmetric (Private Key) Encryption

- **Symmetric encryption** is much more efficient at encrypting large amounts of data than its counterpart, **asymmetric encryption**.
- The downside of symmetrical encryption is that it makes it hard to initiate communication the first time.
- How do you securely transmit the private key to each user?



Symmetric Encryption Algorithm: DES & 3DES

Data Encryption Standard (DES)

- DES is an older algorithm that widely used for a period of time dating back to the 1970's.
- It has been compromised and no longer secure.

Triple DES (3DES)

- 3DES was developed as an improvement over DES.
- It improved the encryption by encrypting the data with DES three times with two, or sometimes three keys.
- While 3DES is a significant improvement over DES, it consumes a lot of processer power and memory resources.
- AES is much less resource-intensive and has replaced 3DES as the current standard.

Symmetric Encryption Algorithm: AES

Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)

- AES is a very strong encryption algorithm that's commonly used worldwide.
- It's significantly faster than both DES and 3DES and also provides stronger encryption.
    - 128-Bit AES would take billion of years to brute force
- It's also the "official" encryption standard for the U.S. government (since 2002).

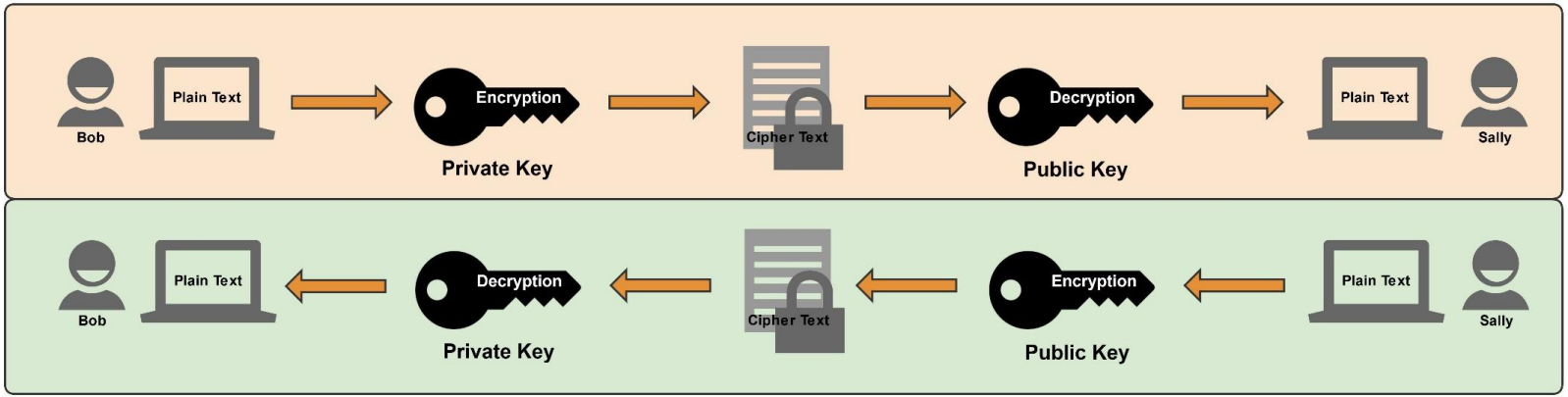
Asymmetric Encryption

Asymmetric (Public Key) Encryption

- Asymmetric encryption uses two keys, a public key and a private key created as a matched pair.
  - **Private Key**: Kept secret and never shared.
  - **Public Key**: Shared with others.
- Commonly referred to as:
  - Public Key Encryption
  - Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Encryption

How Public Key Encryption Works

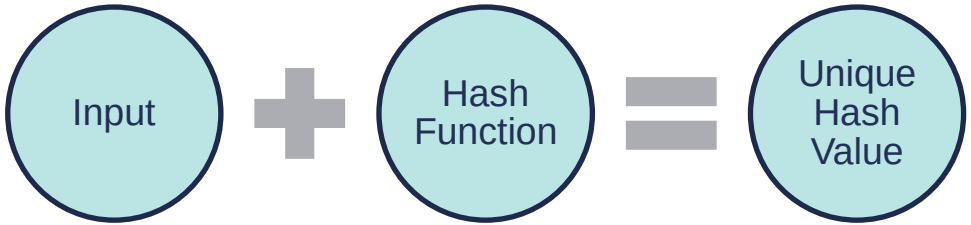
- Anything encrypted with the **private key** can only be decrypted with the matched **public key**.
- Anything encrypted with the **public key** can only be decrypted with the matched **private key**.



Hashing Algorithms

Hashing

- Hashing is the process of converting an input (data) into a fixed-size string of text.
- It's a one-way function, meaning you can't use a hash value to determine its input data.
- Hashing is used to provide data integrity because each unique input will have a unique output.
- We use hashing to verify that something has not been tampered with.
- MD5 and SHA are common hash algorithms.



Digital Certificates and Certificate Authorities

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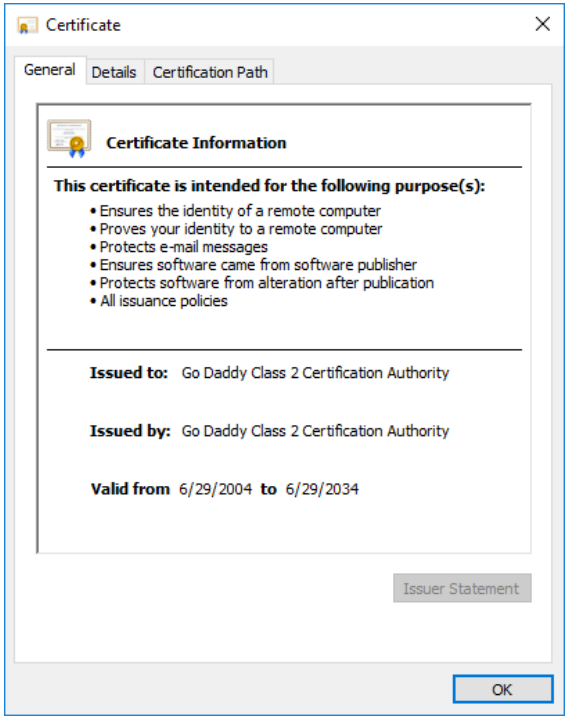
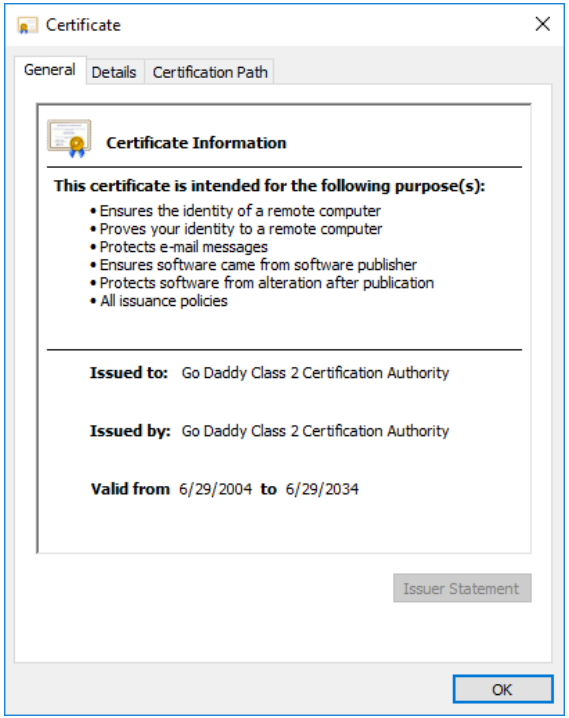
What Is a Digital Certificate?

- A **digital certificate** is an electronic document used to identify an individual, a server, an organization, or some other entity and associate that entity with a **public key**.
- Digital certificates are used in **public key infrastructure (PKI)** encryption.
- We can think of a digital certificate as our “online” **digital credential** that verifies our identity.



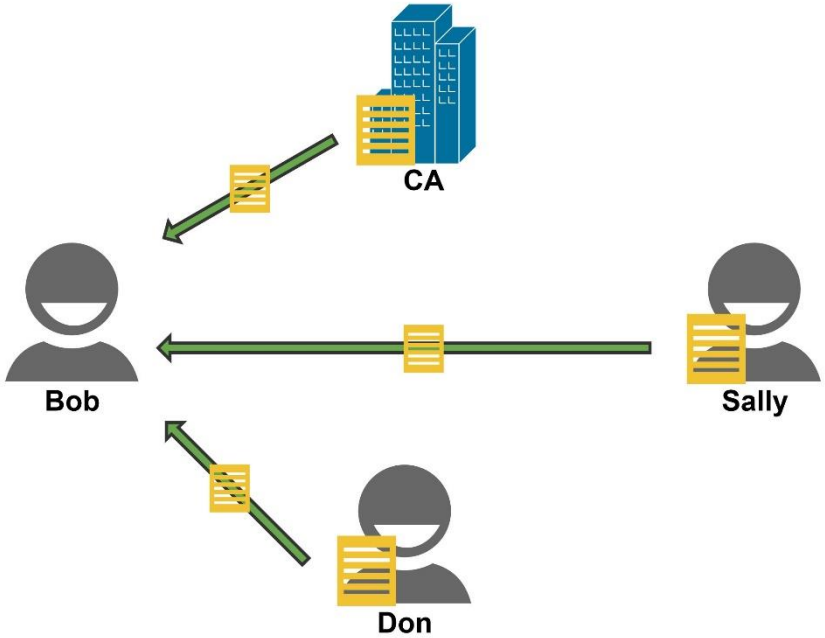
The Role of Certificate Authorities

- Digital certificates are issued by a **Certificate Authority (CA)**.
- **Certificate Authorities** are a trusted entity, typically an organization such as VeriSign, that verifies an entity's identity, issues, manages, and signs that entity's digital certificate.
- Just like we trusted the DMV to issue driver's licenses, we trust CAs to issue digital certificates.



How Are Digital Certificates Shared?

- The CA has verified Sally's identity and has issued a digital certificate on her behalf.
- How does Bob obtain Sally's digital certificate?
  - The CA
  - Sally
  - Someone else who has it (Don)



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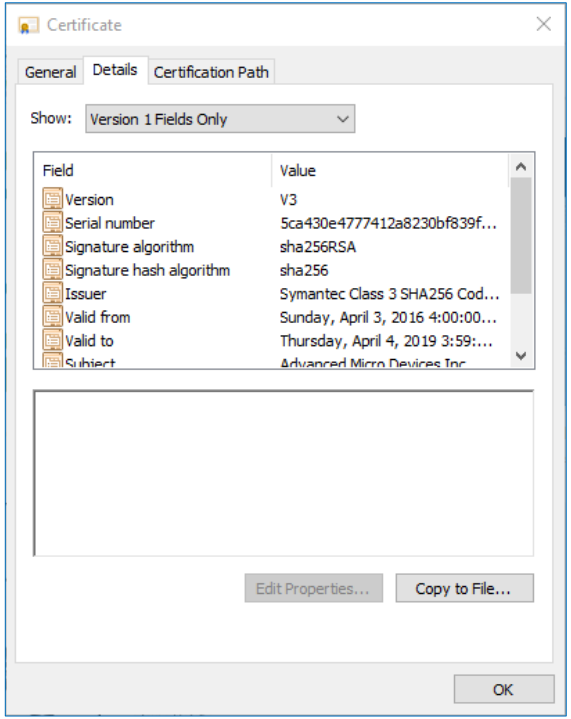
What's Included in a Digital Certificate?

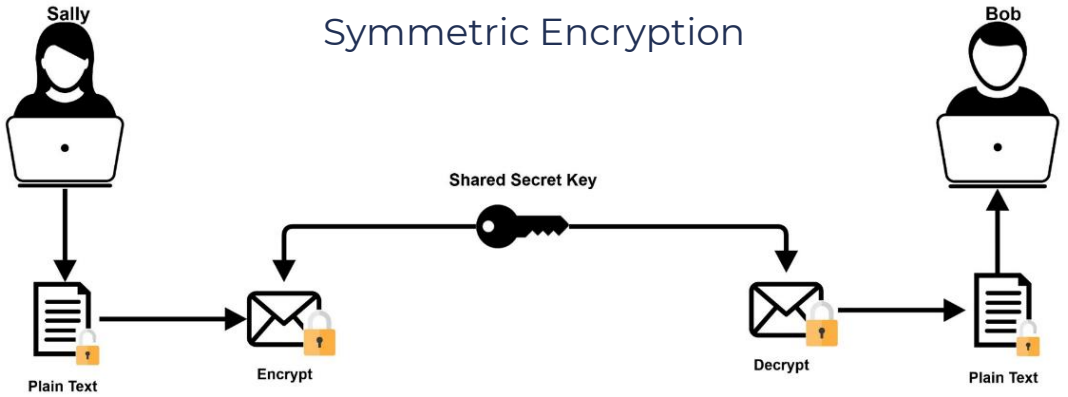
- **Serial Number**: Used to uniquely identify the certificate.
- **Signature Algorithm**: The algorithm used to create the signature.
- **Issuer**: The entity that verified the information and issued the certificate.
- **Valid-From**: The date the certificate is first valid from.
- **Valid-To**: The expiration date.
- **Public Key**: The public key.
- Plus Additional Information.



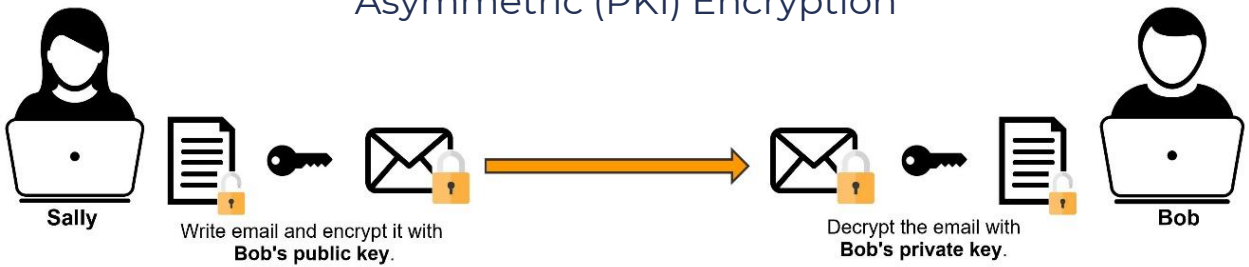
Email Encryption Use Cases

Email Confidentiality

Symmetric Encryption



Asymmetric (PKI) Encryption



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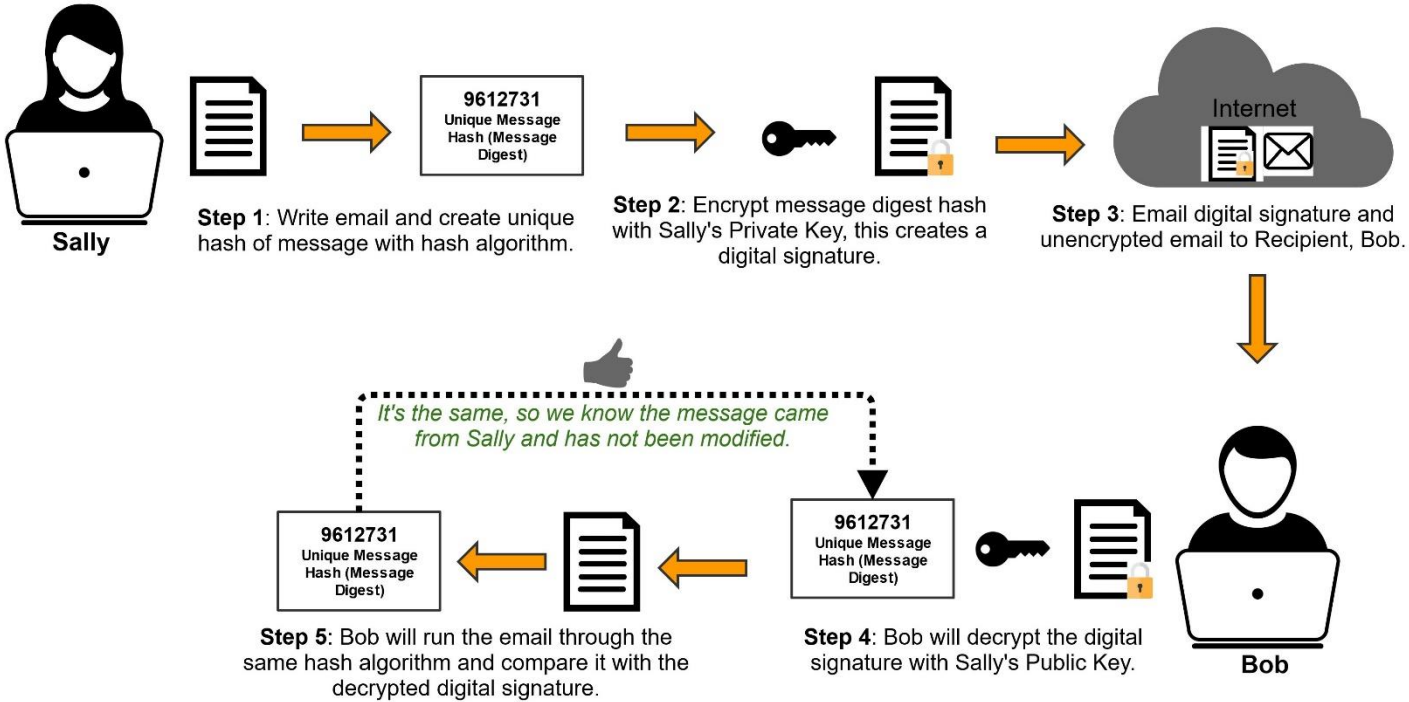
Email Integrity, Authentication & Non-Repudiation



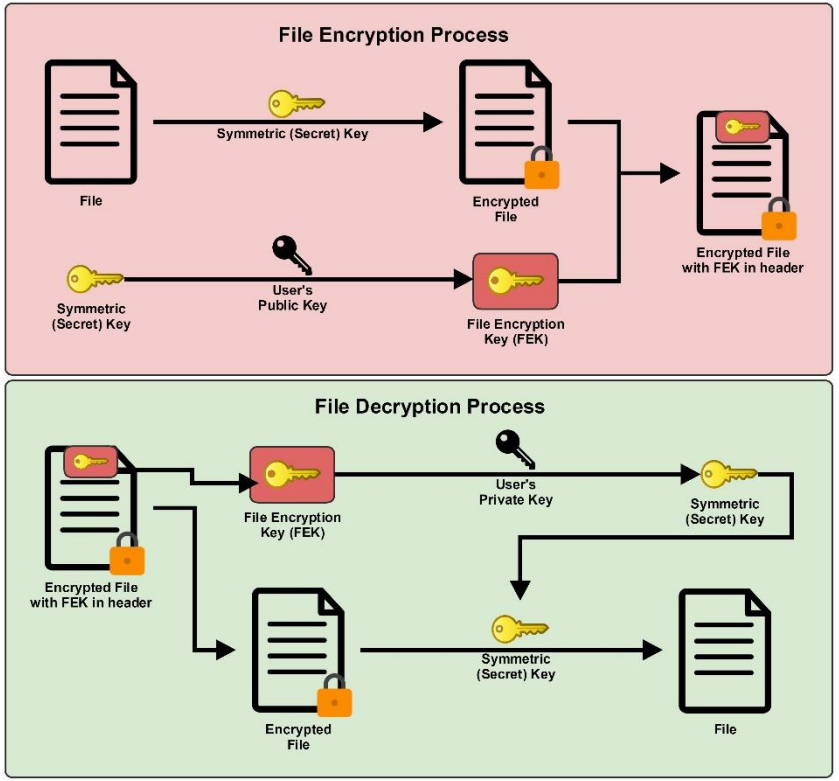
Achieving Confidentiality, Integrity, Authentication & Non-Repudiation

- We can achieve confidentiality, integrity, authentication, and non-repudiation by using a combination of symmetric and asymmetric encryption:
  - Use PKI to securely share symmetric encryption shared secret key.
  - Use our private key to create a digital signature and a public (or shared secret) key to encrypt an email.

Windows Encrypted File System Use Case

Windows Encrypted File System

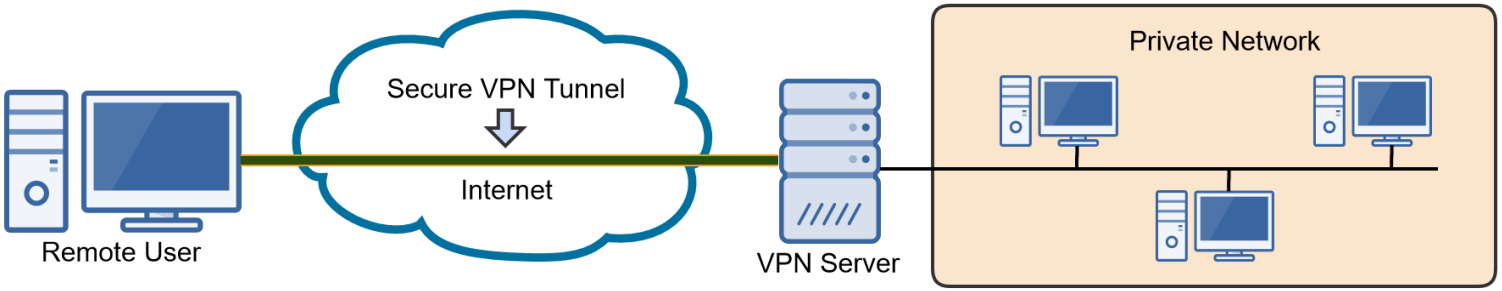
- Windows Encrypted File System (EFS) allows us to encrypt individual files and folders.
- Uses a combination of symmetric and asymmetric encryption:
  - A separate symmetric secret key is created for each file.
  - A digital certificate is created for the user, which holds the user's private and public key pair.
- If the user's digital certificate is deleted or lost, encrypted files and folders can only be decrypted with a Windows Recovery Agent.



Revisiting VPN

Virtual Private Network (VPN)

- **A virtual private network (VPN)** allows you to connect to a private network over a public network in a secure, encrypted manner.
- Once connected to the Internet with a public IP address, a tunneling protocol is used to create a protected tunnel through the Internet to the VPN server.
- Tunneling basically means encapsulating one protocol within another to ensure that a transmission is secure.



Internet Protocol Security (IPSec)

- IPSec is a protocol that authenticates and encrypts packets sent over an IP network.
- Two Primary Components:
  - **Authentication Header (AH)**
    - ✓ Provides a mechanism for authentication-only, not encryption.
  - **Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP)**
    - ✓ Provides a mechanism for both authentication and encryption.

IPSec Modes

- There are 2 Different IPSec Modes:
  - **Tunnel Mode**
    - The entire IP packet is encapsulated and encrypted by IPSec. This protects the internal routing information by encrypting the IP header of the original packet.
    - Commonly used for site-to-site VPNs.
    - NAT is supported with the tunnel mode.
  - **Transport Mode**
    - Only encrypts the payload (data) and ESP trailer. The IP header of the original packet is NOT encrypted.
    - Commonly used for client-to-site VPN connections.
    - NAT is NOT supported in Transport Mode.

Software versus Hardware-Based Encryption

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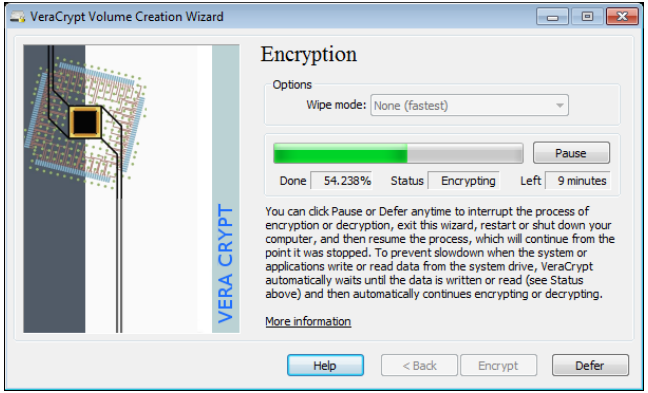
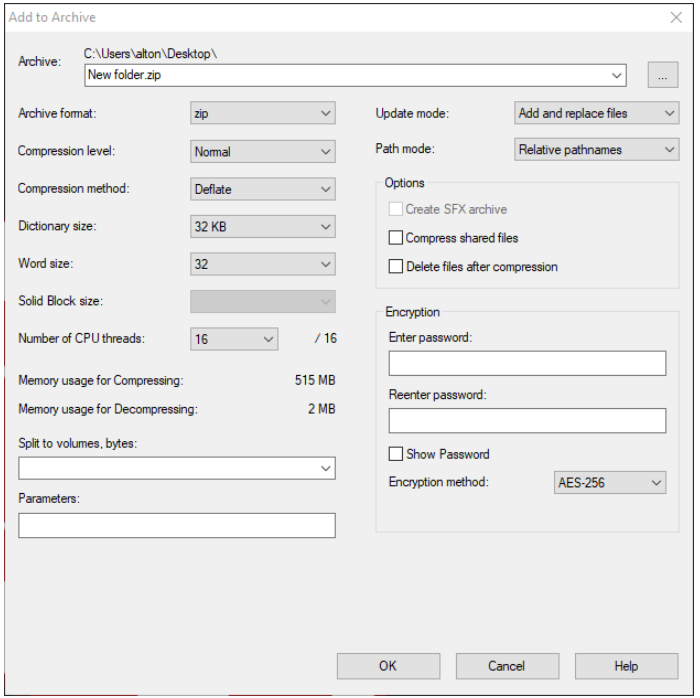
Software-Based Encryption

- Uses software tools to encrypt your data:
  - BitLocker, Windows EFS, VeraCrypt, 7zip
- Typically as secure as the Operating System.
- A vulnerability in the Operating System can compromise the encryption software.





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Hardware-Based Encryption

- Uses hardware to perform encryption:
  - TPM (Crypto Processor)
  - Processors with x86 Instruction Set (AES Encryption)
- Many times, stand alone USB hard drives.