Securing Internet Communication: TLS

CS 161: Computer Security
Prof. David Wagner

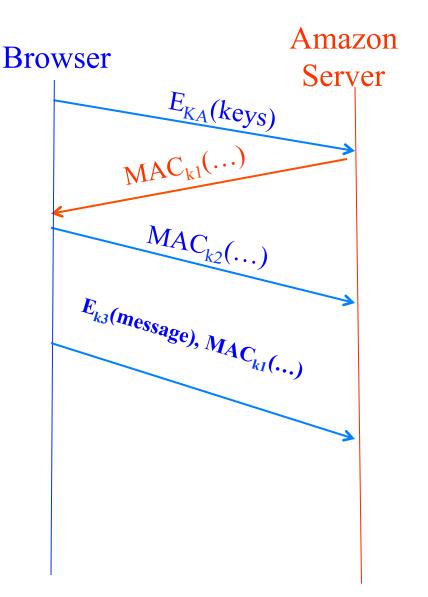
April 9, 2013

Today's Lecture

- Applying crypto technology in practice
- Two simple abstractions cover 80% of the use cases for crypto:
 - "Sealed blob": Data that is encrypted and authenticated under a particular key
 - Secure channel: Communication channel that can't be eavesdropped on or tampered with
- Today: How SSL provides a secure channel

Basic idea

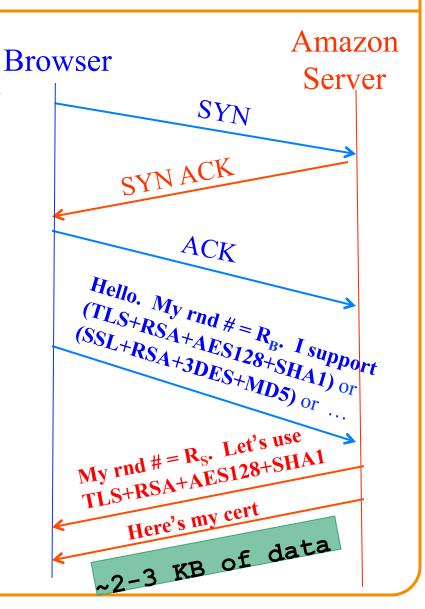
- Browser (client) picks some symmetric keys for encryption + authentication
- Client sends them to server, encrypted using RSA publickey encryption
- Both sides send MACs
- Now they use these keys to encrypt and authenticate all subsequent messages, using symmetric-key crypto



HTTPS Connection (SSL/TLS)

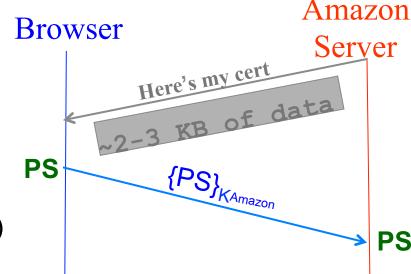
Browser (client) connects via
 TCP to Amazon's HTTPS server

- Client picks 256-bit random number R_B, sends over list of crypto protocols it supports
- Server picks 256-bit random number R_s, selects protocols to use for this session
- Server sends over its certificate
- (all of this is in the clear)
- Client now validates cert



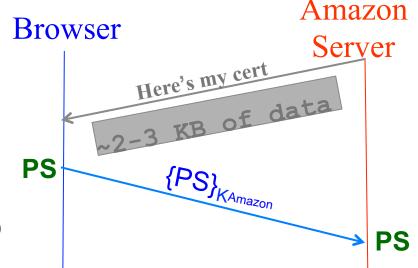
HTTPS Connection (SSL / TLS), cont.

- For RSA, browser constructs "Premaster Secret" PS
- Browser sends PS encrypted using Amazon's public RSA key K_{Amazon}
- Using PS, R_B, and R_S, browser & server derive symm. cipher keys
 (C_B, C_S) & MAC integrity keys (I_B, I_S)
 - One pair to use in each direction



HTTPS Connection (SSL / TLS), cont.

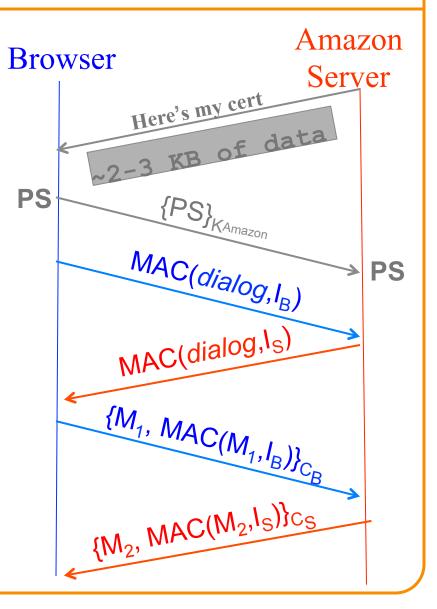
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These <u>seed</u> a cryptographically strong pseudo-random number generator (PRNG). Then browser & server produce C_B , C_S , *etc.*, by making repeated calls to the PRNG.

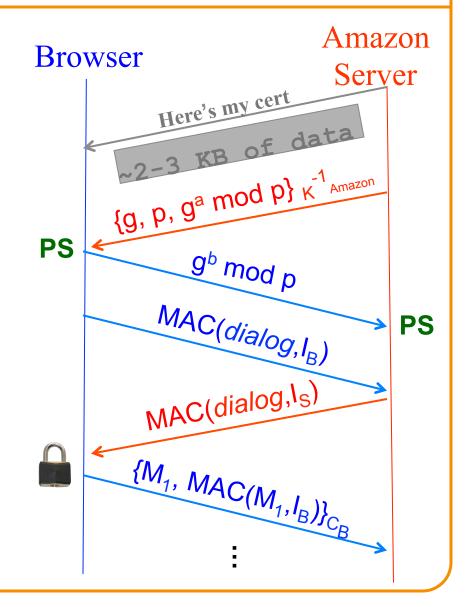
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 One pair to use in each direction
- Browser & server exchange MACs computed over entire dialog so far
- If good MAC, Browser displays
- All subsequent communication encrypted w/ symmetric cipher (e.g., AES128) cipher keys, MACs
 - Sequence #'s thwart replay attacks



Alternative: Key Exchange via Diffie-Hellman

- For Diffie-Hellman, server generates random a, sends public params and g^a mod p
 - Signed with server's private key
- Browser verifies signature
- Browser generates random b, computes PS = g^{ab} mod p, sends to server
- Server also computes
 PS = g^{ab} mod p
- Remainder is as before: from PS, R_B, and R_S, browser & server derive symm. *cipher keys* (C_B, C_S) and MAC *integrity keys* (I_B, I_S), etc...

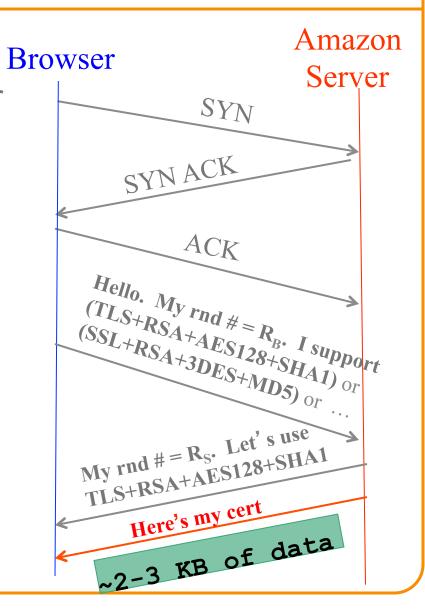


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Certificates

- Cert = signed statement about someone's public key
 - Note that a cert does not say anything about the identity of who gives you the cert
 - It simply states a given public key K_{Bob} belongs to Bob ...
 - ... and backs up this statement with a digital signature made using a different public/private key pair, say from Verisign
- Bob then can prove his identity to you by you sending him something encrypted with K_{Bob} ...
 - ... which he then demonstrates he can read
- ... or by signing something he demonstrably uses
- Works provided you trust that you have a valid copy of Verisign's public key ...
 - and you trust Verisign to use prudence when she signs other people's keys

Validating Amazon's Identity

- Browser compares domain name in cert w/ URL
 - Note: this provides an end-to-end property
 (as opposed to say a cert associated with an IP address)
- Browser accesses <u>separate</u> cert belonging to **issuer**
 - These are hardwired into the browser trusted!
 - -There could be a chain of these ...
- Browser applies issuer's public key to verify signature S, obtaining hash of what issuer signed
 - Compares with its own SHA-1 hash of Amazon's cert
- Assuming hashes match, now have high confidence it's indeed Amazon ...
 - assuming signatory is trustworthy

assuming didn't lose private key; assuming didn't sign thoughtlessly

End-to-End ⇒ **Powerful Protections**

- Attacker runs a sniffer to capture our WiFi session?
 - (maybe by breaking crummy WEP security)
 - But: encrypted communication is unreadable
 - No problem!
- DNS cache poisoning?
 - Client goes to wrong server
 - But: detects impersonation
 - No problem!
- Attacker hijacks our connection, injects new traffic
 - But: data receiver rejects it due to failed integrity check
 - No problem!

Powerful Protections, cont.

- DHCP spoofing?
 - Client goes to wrong server
 - But: detects impersonation
 - No problem!
- Attacker manipulates routing to run us by an eavesdropper or take us to the wrong server?
 - But: they can't read; we detect impersonation
 - No problem!
- Attacker slips in as a Man In The Middle?
 - But: they can't read, they can't inject
 - They can't even replay previous encrypted traffic
 - No problem!

Validating Amazon's Identity, cont.

- Browser retrieves cert belonging to the issuer
 - These are hardwired into the browser trusted!
- What if browser can't find a cert for the issuer?



This Connection is Untrusted

You have asked Firefox to connect securely to www.mikestoolbox.org, but we can't confirm that your connection is secure.

Normally, when you try to connect securely, sites will present trusted identification to prove that you are going to the right place. However, this site's identity can't be verified.

What Should I Do?

If you usually connect to this site without problems, this error could mean that someone is trying to impersonate the site, and you shouldn't continue.

Get me out of here!

Technical Details

www.mikestoolbox.org uses an invalid security certificate.

The certificate is not trusted because the issuer certificate is not trusted.

(Error code: sec_error_untrusted_issuer)

I Understand the Risks



Verify Certificate

Safari can't verify the identity of the website "www.mikestoolbox.org".

The certificate for this website was signed by an unknown certifying authority. You might be connecting to a website that is pretending to be "www.mikestoolbox.org", which could put your confidential information at risk. Would you like to connect to the website anyway?

?

Show Certificate

Cancel

Continue

Validating Amazon's Identity, cont.

- Browser retrieves cert belonging to the issuer
 - -These are hardwired into the browser trusted!
- What if browser can't find a cert for the issuer?
- If it can't find the cert, then warns the user that site has not been verified
 - Note, can still proceed, just without authentication
- Q: Which end-to-end security properties do we lose if we incorrectly trust that the site is whom we think?
- A: All of them!
 - Goodbye confidentiality, integrity, authentication
 - Active attacker can read everything, modify, impersonate

SSL / TLS Limitations

- Properly used, SSL / TLS provides powerful endto-end protections
- So why not use it for everything??
- Issues:
 - Cost of public-key crypto (fairly minor)
 - o Takes non-trivial CPU processing (but today a minor issue)
 - o Note: symmetric key crypto on modern hardware is non-issue
 - Hassle of buying/maintaining certs (fairly minor)

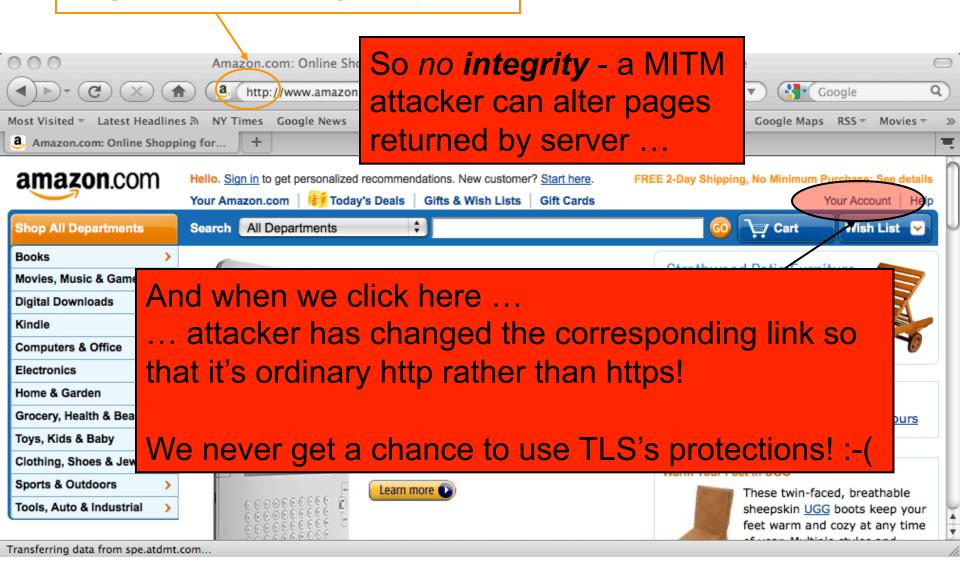
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 - Integrating with other sites that don't use HTTPS
 - Latency: extra round trips ⇒ 1st page slower to load

SSL / TLS Limitations, cont.

- Problems that SSL / TLS does not take care of?
- TCP-level denial of service
 - -SYN flooding
 - RST injectiono (but does protect against data injection!)
- SQL injection / XSS / server-side coding/logic flaws
- Vulnerabilities introduced by server inconsistencies

Regular web surfing - http: URL



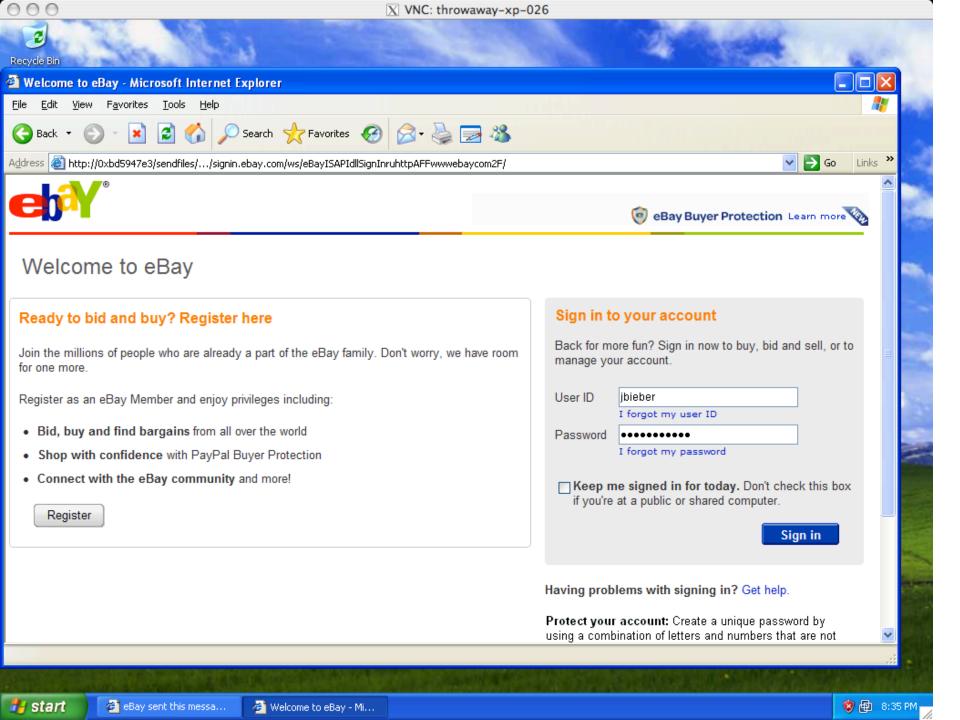
"sslstrip" attack

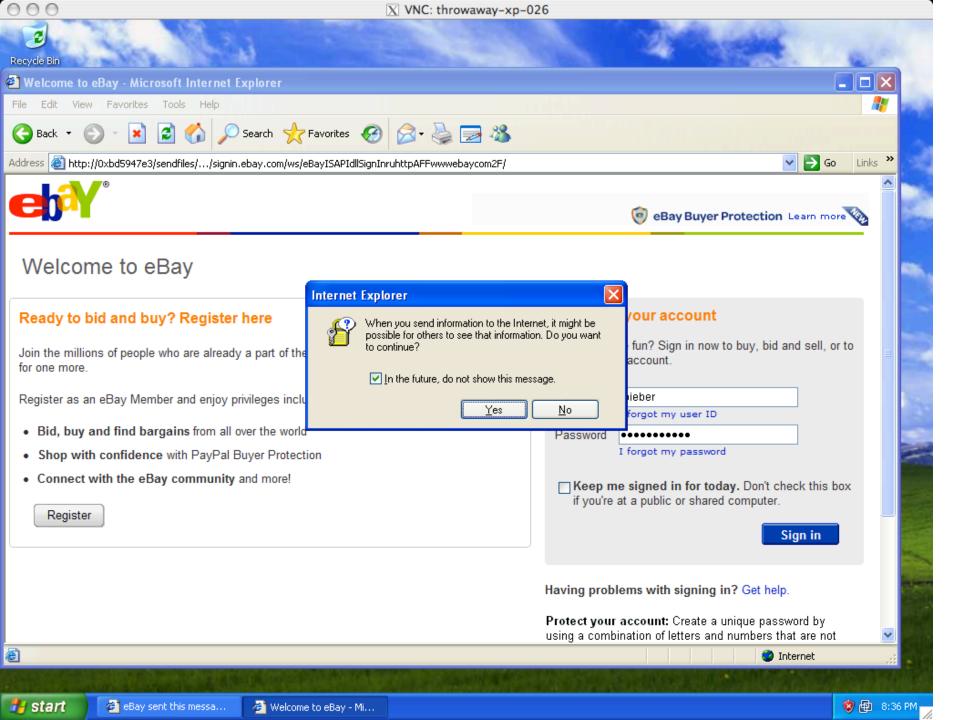
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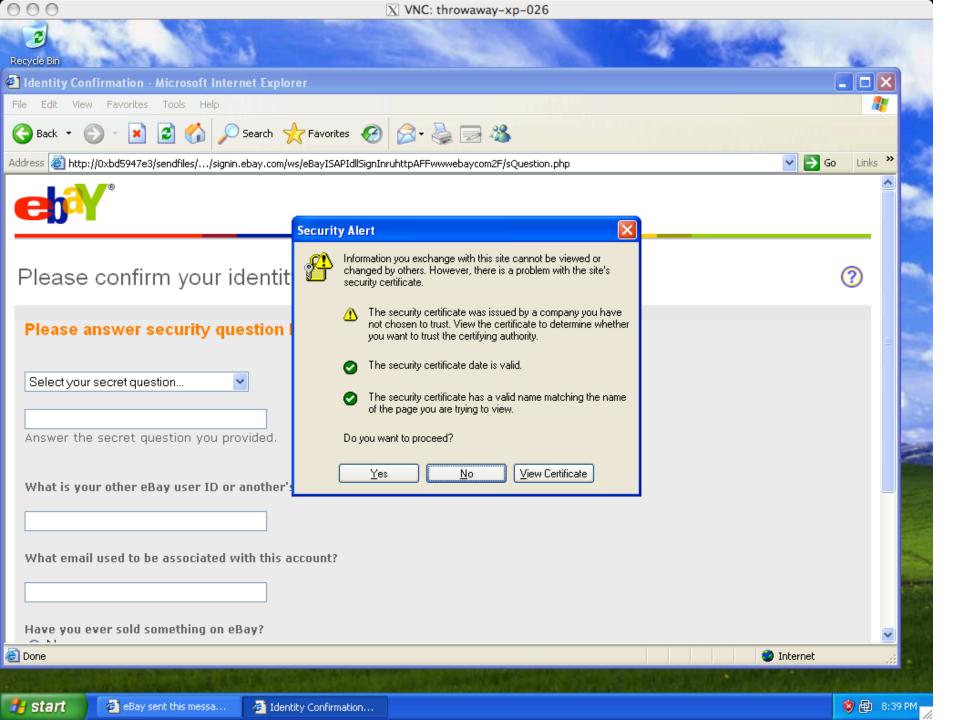
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- Vulnerabilities introduced by server inconsistencies
- Browser coding/logic flaws
- User flaws
 - Weak passwords
 - Phishing
- Issues of trust ...

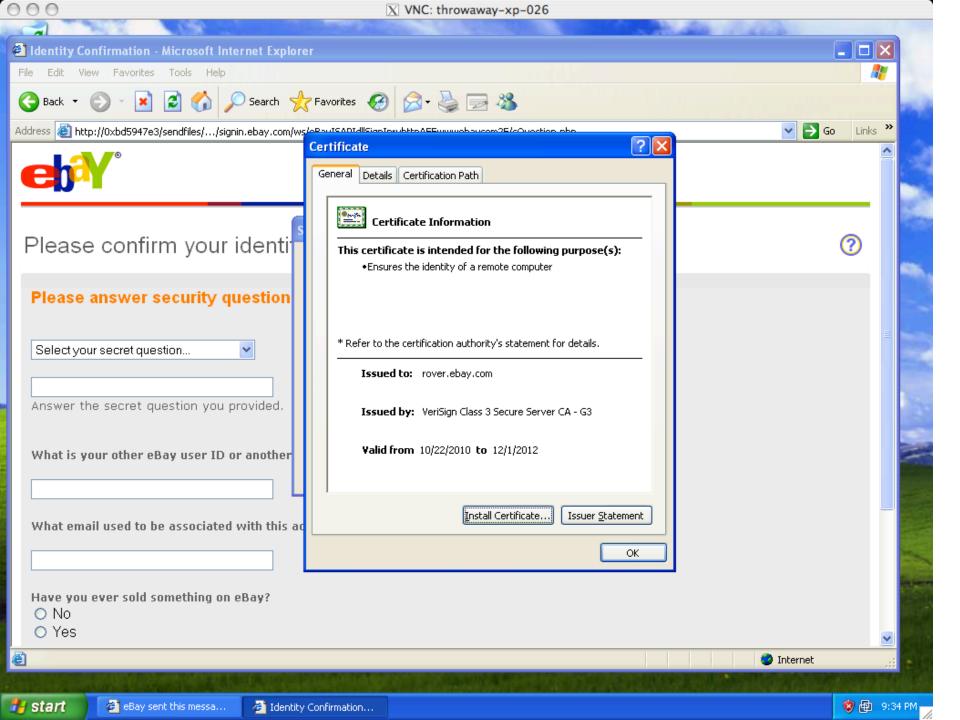
TLS/SSL Trust Issues

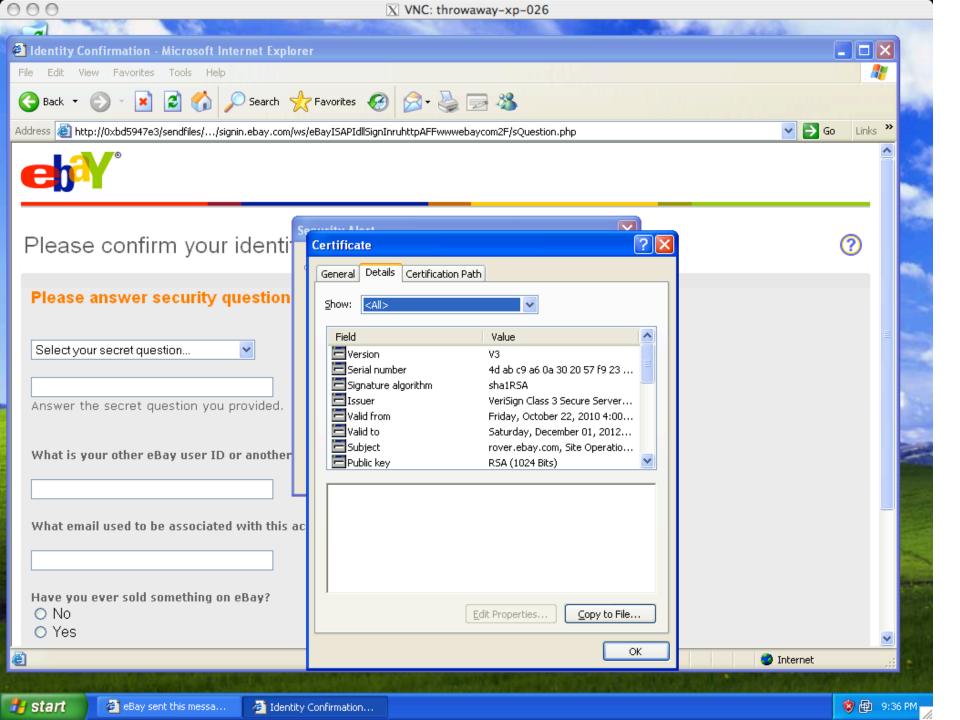
• User has to make correct trust decisions ...

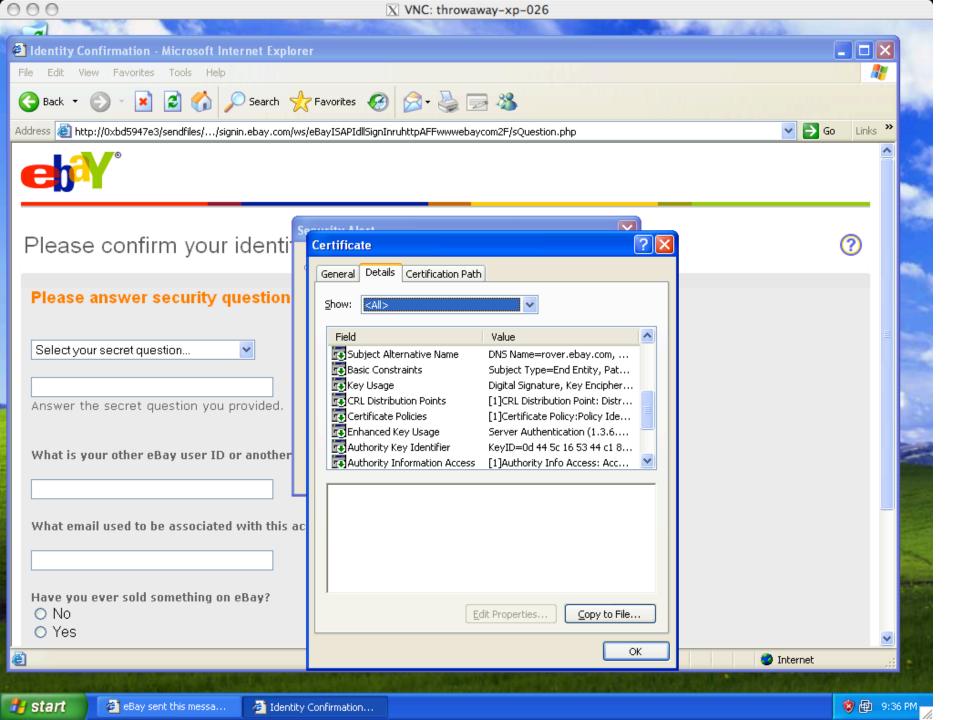


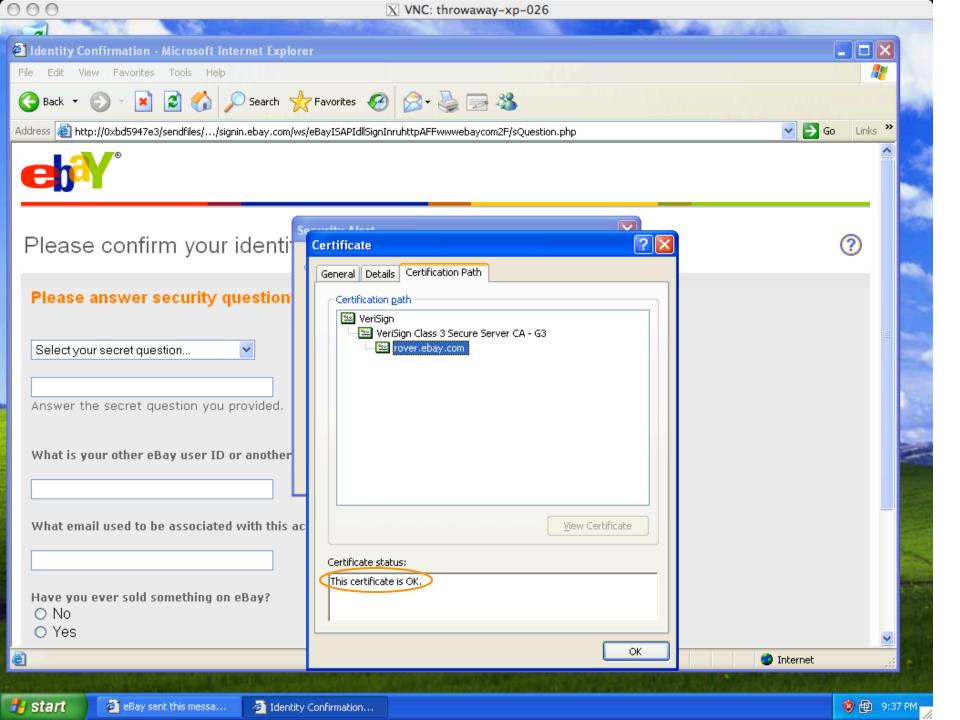




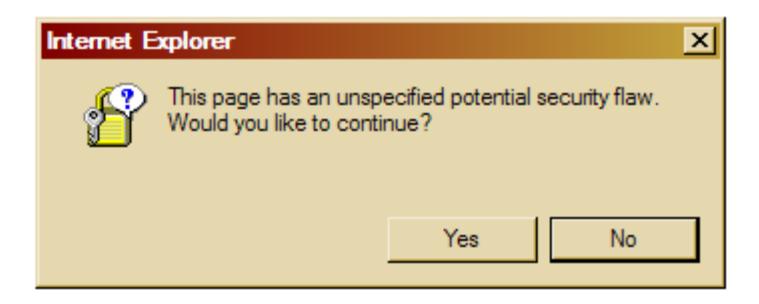








The equivalent as seen by most Internet users:



TLS/SSL Trust Issues, cont.

- "Commercial certificate authorities protect you from anyone from whom they are unwilling to take money."
 - Matt Blaze, circa 2001
- So how many CAs do we have to worry about, anyway?

Q



Click to lock the System Roots keychain.

Keychains login



Micr...ertificates



System Roots



A-Trust-Qual-02

Root certificate authority

Expires: Tuesday, December 2, 2014 3:00:00 PM PT

This certificate is valid

	Name	A	Kind	Expires	Keychain	
	-	A-CERT ADVANCED	certificate	Oct 23, 2011 7:14:14 AM	System Roots	
	-	A-Trust-nQual-01	certificate	Nov 30, 2014 3:00:00 PM	System Roots	П
	Comp.	A-Trust-nQual-03	certificate	Aug 17, 2015 3:00:00 PM	System Roots	П
	No.	A-Trust-Qual-01	certificate	Nov 30, 2014 3:00:00 PM	System Roots	U
	-	A-Trust-Qual-02	certificate	Dec 2, 2014 3:00:00 PM	System Roots	
Category		AAA Certificate Services	certificate	Dec 31, 2028 3:59:59 PM	System Roots	
All Items	Control of the Contro	AC Raíz Certicámara S.A.	certificate	Apr 2, 2030 2:42:02 PM	System Roots	
		AddTrust Class 1 CA Root	certificate	May 30, 2020 3:38:31 AM	System Roots	
Passwords		AddTrust External CA Root	certificate	May 30, 2020 3:48:38 AM	System Roots	
Secure Notes		AddTrust Public CA Root	certificate	May 30, 2020 3:41:50 AM	System Roots	
My Certificates		AddTrust Qualified CA Root	certificate	May 30, 2020 3:44:50 AM	System Roots	
		Admin-Root-CA	certificate	Nov 9, 2021 11:51:07 PM	System Roots	
Certificates		AdminCA-CD-T01	certificate	Jan 25, 2016 4:36:19 AM	System Roots	
		AffirmTrust Commercial	certificate	Dec 31, 2030 6:06:06 AM	System Roots	
		AffirmTrust Networking	certificate	Dec 31, 2030 6:08:24 AM	System Roots	
		AffirmTrust Premium	certificate	Dec 31, 2040 6:10:36 AM	System Roots	
		AffirmTrust Premium ECC	certificate	Dec 31, 2040 6:20:24 AM	System Roots	
		America Onliation Authority 1	certificate	Nov 19, 2037 12:43:00 PM	System Roots	
		America Onliation Authority 2	certificate	Sep 29, 2037 7:08:00 AM	System Roots	
		AOL Time Wcation Authority 1	certificate	Nov 20, 2037 7:03:00 AM	System Roots	
		AOL Time Wcation Authority 2	certificate	Sep 28, 2037 4:43:00 PM	System Roots	
		Apple Root CA	certificate	Feb 9, 2035 1:40:36 PM	System Roots	
		Apple Root Certificate Authority	certificate	Feb 9, 2025 4:18:14 PM	System Roots	
	-	Application CA G2	certificate	Mar 31, 2016 7:59:59 AM	System Roots	¥
	E CONTROL OF THE CONT	ApplicationCA	certificate	Dec 12, 2017 7:00:00 AM	System Roots	۳
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TLS/SSL Trust Issues

- "Commercial certificate authorities protect you from anyone from whom they are unwilling to take money."
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- So how many CAs do we have to worry about, anyway?
- Of course, it's not just their greed that matters ...

News

Solo Iranian hacker takes credit for Comodo certificate attack

Security researchers split on whether 'ComodoHacker' is the real deal

By Gregg Keizer

March 27, 2011 08:39 PM ET



Comments (5) Pecommended (37)





Computerworld - A solo Iranian hacker on Saturday claimed responsibility for stealing multiple SSL certificates belonging to some of the Web's biggest sites, including Google, Microsoft, Skype and Yahoo.

Early reaction from security experts was mixed, with some believing the hacker's claim, while others were dubious.

Last week, conjecture had focused on a state-sponsored attack, perhaps funded or conducted by the Iranian government, that hacked a certificate reseller affiliated with U.S.-based Comodo.

On March 23, Comodo acknowledged the attack, saying that eight days earlier, hackers had obtained nine bogus certificates for the log-on sites of Microsoft's Hotmail, Google's Gmail, the Internet phone and chat service Skype and Yahoo Mail. A certificate for Mozilla's Firefox add-on site was also acquired.

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Where did you learn about cryptography and hacking. Are there books in Persian? English books? Or are you self-taught, learning from the Internet?

d) I'm self taught, books in Persian and English, but mostly papers in internet, short papers from experts like Bruce Schneier, RSA people (Ron, Adi and Leonard) and specially David Wagner. I learned programming in Qbasic when I was 9, I started learning cryptography when I was 13

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Fraudulent Google certificate points to Internet attack

Is Iran behind a fraudulent Google.com digital certificate? The situation is similar to one that happened in March in which spoofed certificates were traced back to Iran.



by Elinor Mills | August 29, 2011 1:22 PM PDT



A Dutch company appears to have issued a digital certificate for Google.com to someone other than Google, who may be using it to try to re-direct traffic of users based in Iran.

Yesterday, someone reported on a Google support site that when attempting to log in to Gmail the browser issued a warning for the digital certificate used as proof that the site is legitimate, according to this thread on a Google support forum site.



This appears to be a fully valid cert using normal browser validation rules.

Only detected by Chrome due to its recent introduction of cert "pinning" requiring that certs for certain domains must be signed by specific CAs rather than any generally trusted CA

Final Report on DigiNotar Hack Shows Total Compromise of CA Servers

The attacker who penetrated the Dutch CA DigiNotar last year had complete control of all eight of the company's certificate-issuing servers during the operation and he may also have issued some rogue certificates that have not yet been identified. The final report from a

Evidence Suggests DigiNotar, Who Issued Fraudulent Google Certificate, Was Hacked *Years* Ago

from the diginot dept

The big news in the security world, obviously, is the fact that a **fraudulent Google certificate made its way out into the wild**, apparently targeting internet users in Iran. The Dutch company DigiNotar has put out a statement saying that **it discovered a breach** back on July 19th during a security audit, and that fraudulent certificates were generated for "several dozen" websites. The only one known to have gotten out into the wild is the Google one.

TLS/SSL Trust Issues

- "Commercial certificate authorities protect you from anyone from whom they are unwilling to take money."
 - Matt Blaze, circa 2001
- So how many CAs do we have to worry about, anyway?
- · Of course, it's not just their greed that matters ...
- ... and it's not just their diligence & security that matters ...
 - "A decade ago, I observed that commercial certificate authorities protect you from anyone from whom they are unwilling to take money. That turns out to be wrong; they don't even do that much." Matt Blaze, circa 2010

Law Enforcement Appliance Subverts SSL

By Ryan Singel March 24, 2010 | 1:55 pm | Categories: Surveillance, Threats



That little lock on your browser window indicating you are communicating securely with your bank or email account may not always mean what you think its means.

Normally when a user visits a secure website, such as Bank of America, Gmail, PayPal or eBay, the browser examines the website's certificate to verify its authenticity.

At a recent wiretapping convention, however, security researcher Chris Soghoian discovered that a small company was marketing internet spying boxes to the feds. The boxes were designed to intercept those communications — without breaking the encryption — by using forged security certificates, instead of the real ones that websites use to verify secure connections. To use the appliance, the government would need to acquire a forged certificate from any one of more than 100 trusted Certificate Authorities.

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That little lock o mail account ma

Normally when browser examin Note: the cert is "forged" in the sense that it doesn't really belong to Gmail, PayPal, or whomever. But it does not appear forged because it includes a legitimate signature from a trusted CA.

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Security Warning: Do you trust the Russian government?

Firefox has detected that your connection to this website is probably not secure. If you are attempting to access or transmit sensitive data, you should **stop** this task, and try again using a **different Internet connection**.

Firefox has detected a potential security problem while trying to access www.bankofamerica.com, a website visited at least 131 times in the past by persons using this computer.

In these previous browsing sessions, www.bankofamerica.com provided a security certificiate verified by a company in the **United States**.

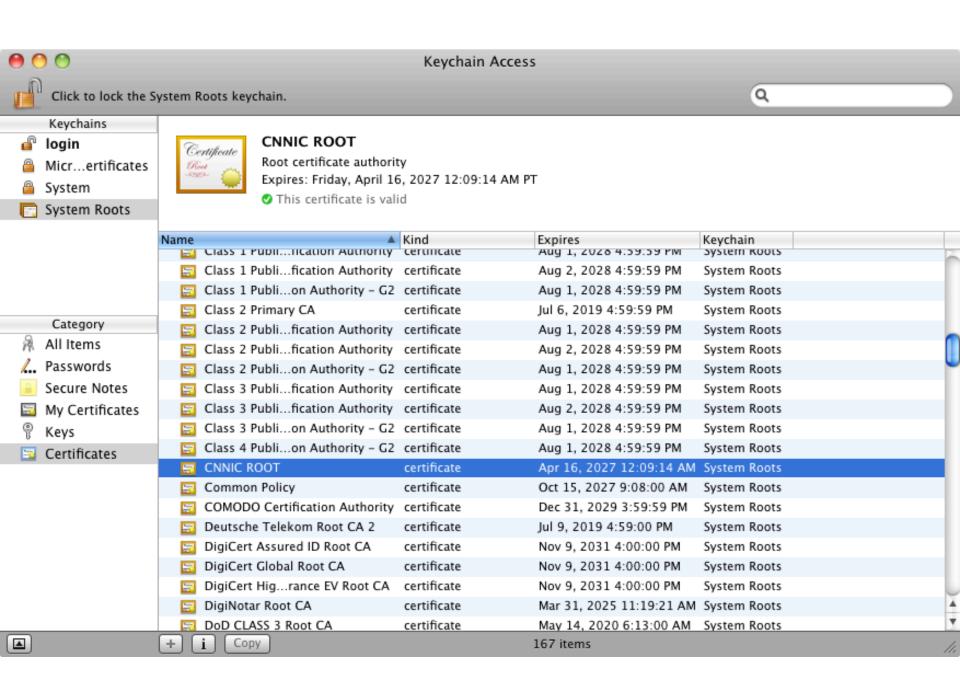
However, this website is now presenting a different security certificate verified by a company based in Russia.

If you do not trust the government of Russia with your private data, or think it unlikely that Bank of America would obtain a security certificate from a company based there, this could be a sign that someone is attempting to intercept your secure communications.

Click here to learn more about security certificiates and this potentially risky situation.

If you trust the government of Russia and companies located there to protect your privacy and security, <u>click here</u> to accept this new certificate and continue with your visit to the site.

Get me out of here!



000

CNNIC ROOT



CNNIC ROOT

Root certificate authority

Expires: Friday, April 16, 2027 12:09:14 AM PT

This certificate is valid

▶ Trust

▼ Details

Subject Name

Country CN

Organization CNNIC

Common Name CNNIC ROOT

Issuer Name

Country CN

Organization CNNIC

Common Name CNNIC ROOT

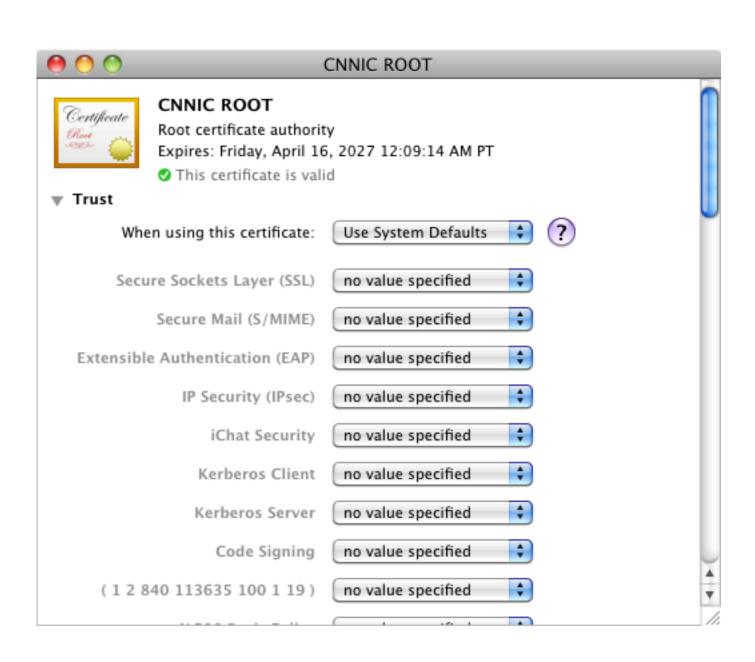
Serial Number 1228079105

Version 3

Signature Algorithm SHA-1 with RSA Encryption (12840113549115)

Parameters none

Not Valid Before Monday, April 16, 2007 12:09:14 AM PT





CNNIC ROOT



CNNIC ROOT

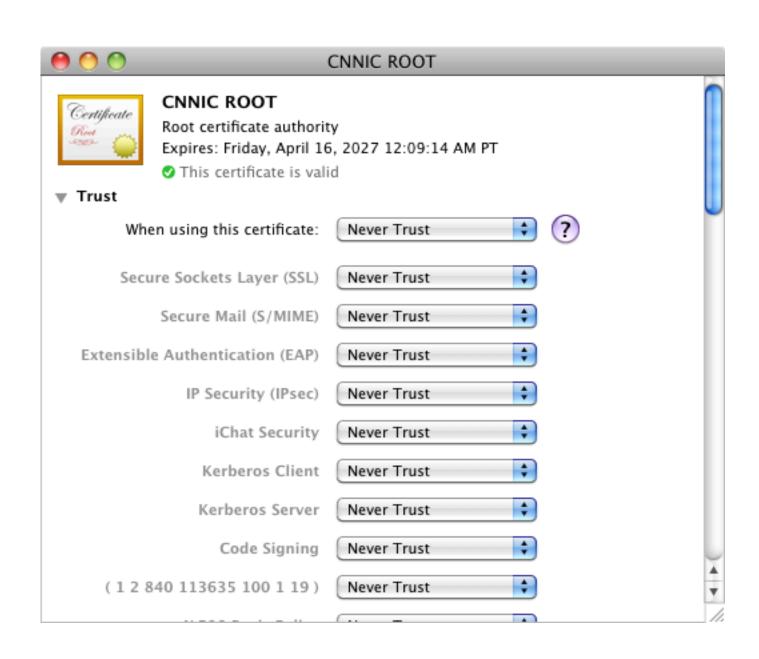
Root certificate authority

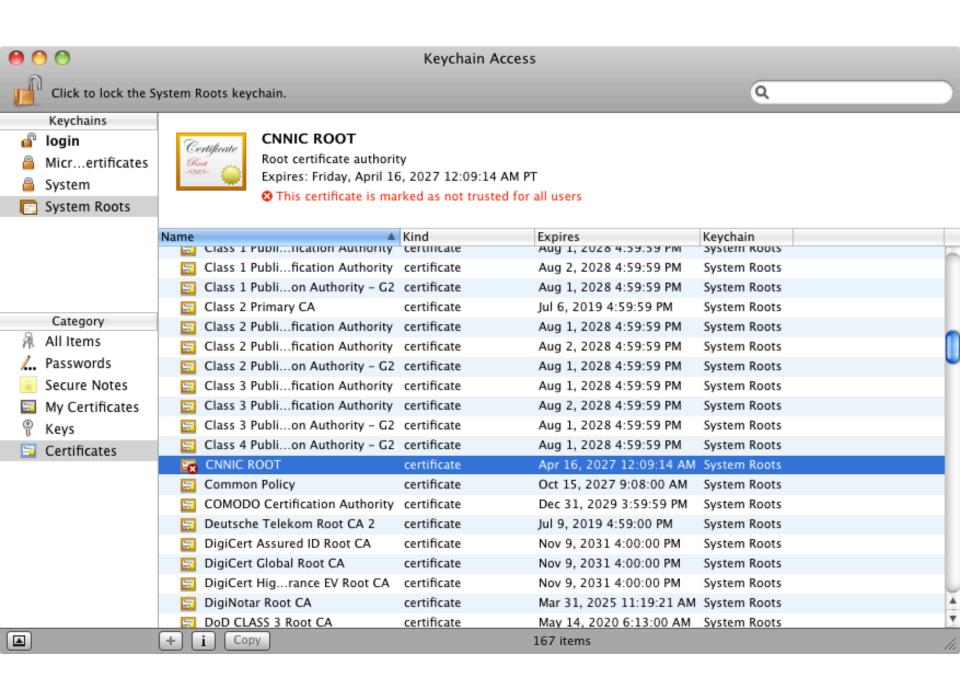
Expires: Friday, April 16, 2027 12:09:14 AM PT

This certificate is valid

▼ Trust







Securing DNS Lookups

Topic for next time:
 How can we ensure that when clients look up
 names with DNS, they can trust the answers they
 receive?

Think about these before Friday

- **Problem 1.** We have a database $D = \{d_1, d_2, ..., d_n\}$ of strings. A client anywhere in the world wants to be able to query it with a string s and determine whether $s \in D$; if the answer is "yes", client should get a proof of this fact. We want to store copies of D on untrusted mirror servers. How do we do it securely?
- **Problem 2.** Same as Problem 1, but now if the answer is "no", we also want a proof of that fact. How do we do it securely?