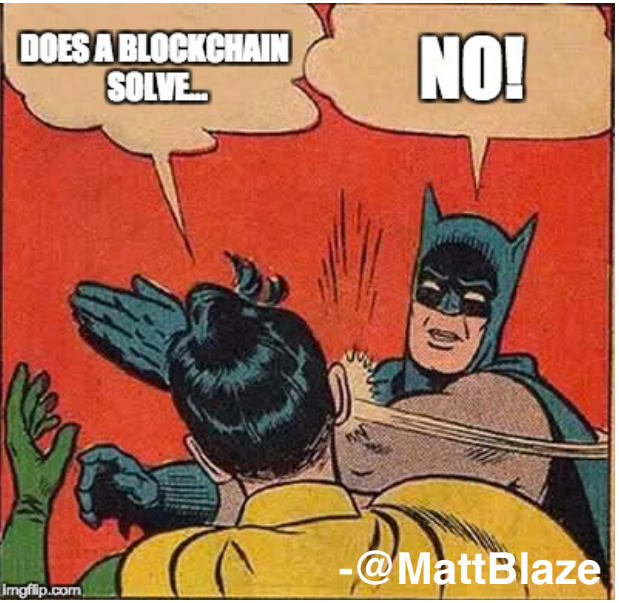
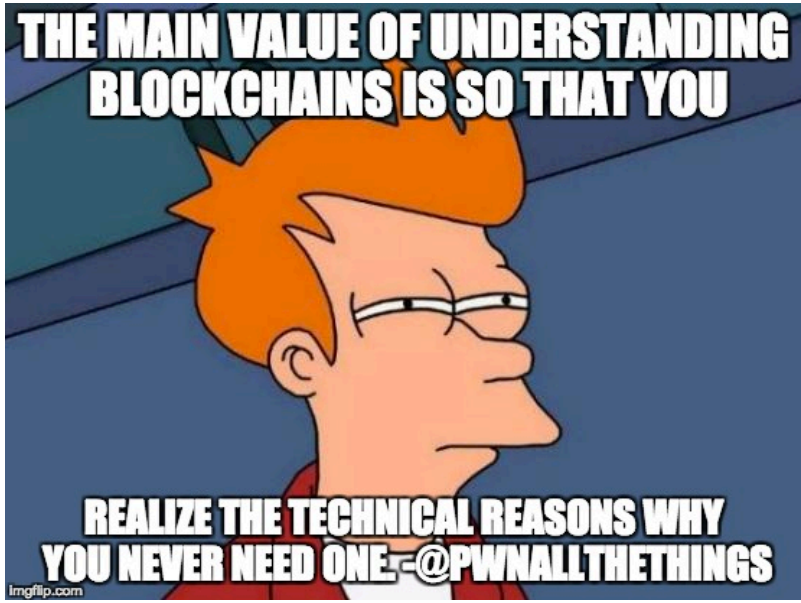
# RNG & Public Key



# Announcements:



- Midterm 1: Sept 25, 8pm-10pm
- Which room should you go to?
  - Take the last 2 digits of your student ID:
  - <22: 145 Dwinelle
  - >= 22 & < 44: 10 Evans
  - >= 44 & < 66: Hearst Field Annex A1
  - >= 66 & < 83: VLSB 2040
  - >= 83: VLSB 2060
- 1 page cheat-sheet, double sided, handwritten
- DSP students needing extra time, students with a conflicting midterm, use the exam coordination Piazza folder
  - Still working on arrangement for Grace Hopper midterm: Probably will be on the 26th after the keynote

# Combining Entropy



- The general procedure is to combine various sources of entropy
- The goal is to be able to take multiple crappy sources of entropy
  - Measured in how many bits:
    A single flip of a coin is 1 bit of entropy
  - And combine into a value where the entropy is the minimum of the sum of all entropy sources (maxed out by the # of bits in the hash function itself)
  - **N-1** bad sources and **1** good source -> good pRNG state

# Pseudo Random Number Generators (aka Deterministic Random Bit Generators)



- Unfortunately one needs a ***lot*** of random numbers in cryptography
  - More than one can generally get by just using the physical entropy source
- Enter the pRNG or DRBG
  - If one knows the state it is entirely predictable
  - If one doesn't know the state it should be indistinguishable from a random string
- Three operations
  - Instantiate: (aka Seed) Set the internal state based on the real entropy sources
  - Reseed: Update the internal state based on both the previous state and ***additional entropy***
    - The big different from a simple stream cipher
  - Generate: Generate a series of random bits based on the internal state
    - Generate can also optionally add in additional entropy
- **instantiate(entropy)**
  **reseed(entropy)**
  **generate(bits, {optional entropy})**

# Properties for the pRNG



- Can a pRNG be truly random?
  - No. For seed length **s**, it can only generate at most $\mathbf{2^s}$ distinct possible sequences.
- A cryptographically strong pRNG "looks" truly random to an attacker
  - Attacker ***cannot distinguish*** it from a random sequence

# Prediction and Rollback Resistance



- A pRNG should be predictable only if you know the internal state
  - It is this predictability which is why its called "pseudo"
- If the attacker does not know the internal state
  - The attacker should not be able to distinguish a truly random string from one generated by the pRNG
- It should also be rollback-resistant
  - Even if the attacker finds out the state at time T, they should not be able to determine what the state was at T-1
  - More precisely, if presented with two random strings, one truly random and one generated by the pRNG at time T-1, the attacker should not be able to distinguish between the two

# Why "Rollback Resistance" is Essential



- Assume attacker, at time T, is able to obtain all the internal state of the pRNG
  - How? E.g. the pRNG screwed up and instead of an IV, released the internal state, or the pRNG is bad...
- Attacker observes how the pRNG was used
  - $T_{-1}$ = Session key
    $T_0$ = Nonce
- Now if the pRNG doesn't resist rollback, and the attacker gets the state at $T_0$, attacker can know the session key! And we are back to...

# More on Seeding and Reseeding



- Seeding should take all the different physical entropy sources available
  - If one source has 0 entropy, it ***must not*** reduce the entropy of the seed
  - We can shove a whole bunch of low-entropy sources together and create a high-entropy seed
- Reseeding ***adds*** in even more entropy
  - **F(internal_state, new material)**
  - Again, even if reseeding with 0 entropy, it ***must not*** reduce the entropy of the seed
- Entropy (most of the time) needs to be confidential

# Probably the best pRNG/DRBG: HMAC_DRBG



- Generally believed to be the best
  - Accept no substitutes!
- Two internal state registers, ***V*** and ***K***
  - Each the same size as the hash function's output
- ***V*** is used as (part of) the data input into HMAC, while ***K*** is the key
- If you can break this pRNG you can ***either break the underlying hash function*** or ***break a significant assumption about how HMAC works***
  - Yes, security proofs sometimes are a very good thing and actually do work

# HMAC_DRBG Generate



- The basic generation function
- Remarks:
  - It requires one HMAC call per blocksize-bits of state
  - Then two more HMAC calls to update the internal state
- Prediction resistance:
  - If you can distinguish new **K** from random when you don't know old **K**:
    You've distinguished HMAC from a random function!
    Which means you've either broken the hash or the HMAC construction
- Rollback resistance:
  - If you can learn old **K** from new **K** and **V**:
    ***You've reversed the hash function***!

```
function hmac_drbg_generate (state, n) {
  tmp = ""
  while(len(tmp) < N){
     state.v = hmac(state.k,state.v)
     tmp = tmp || state.v
  }
  // Update state w no input
  state.k = hmac(state.k, state.v || 0x00)
  state.v = hmac(state.k, state.v)
  // Return the first N bits of tmp
  return tmp[0:N]
}
```

# HMAC_DRBG Update



- Used instead of the "no-input update" when you have additional entropy on the generate call
- Used standalone for both instantiate (**state.k = state.v = 0**) and reseed
- Designed so that even if the attacker controls the input but doesn't know **k**:
  - The attacker should not be able to predict the new **k**

```
function hmac_drbg_update (state, input) {
  state.k = hmac(state.k, state.v || 0x00
                          || input)
  state.v = hmac(state.k, state.v)
  state.k = hmac(state.k, state.v || 0x01
                          || input)
  state.v = hmac(state.k, state.v)
}
```

# Stream ciphers



- Block cipher: fixed-size, stateless, requires “modes” to securely process longer messages
- Stream cipher: keeps state from processing past message elements, can continually process new elements
- Common approach: “one-time pad on the cheap”:
  - XORs the plaintext with some “random” bits
- But: random bits ≠ the key (as in one-time pad)
  - Instead: output from cryptographically strong pseudorandom number generator (pRNG)
  - Anyone who actually calls this a "One Time Pad" is selling snake oil!

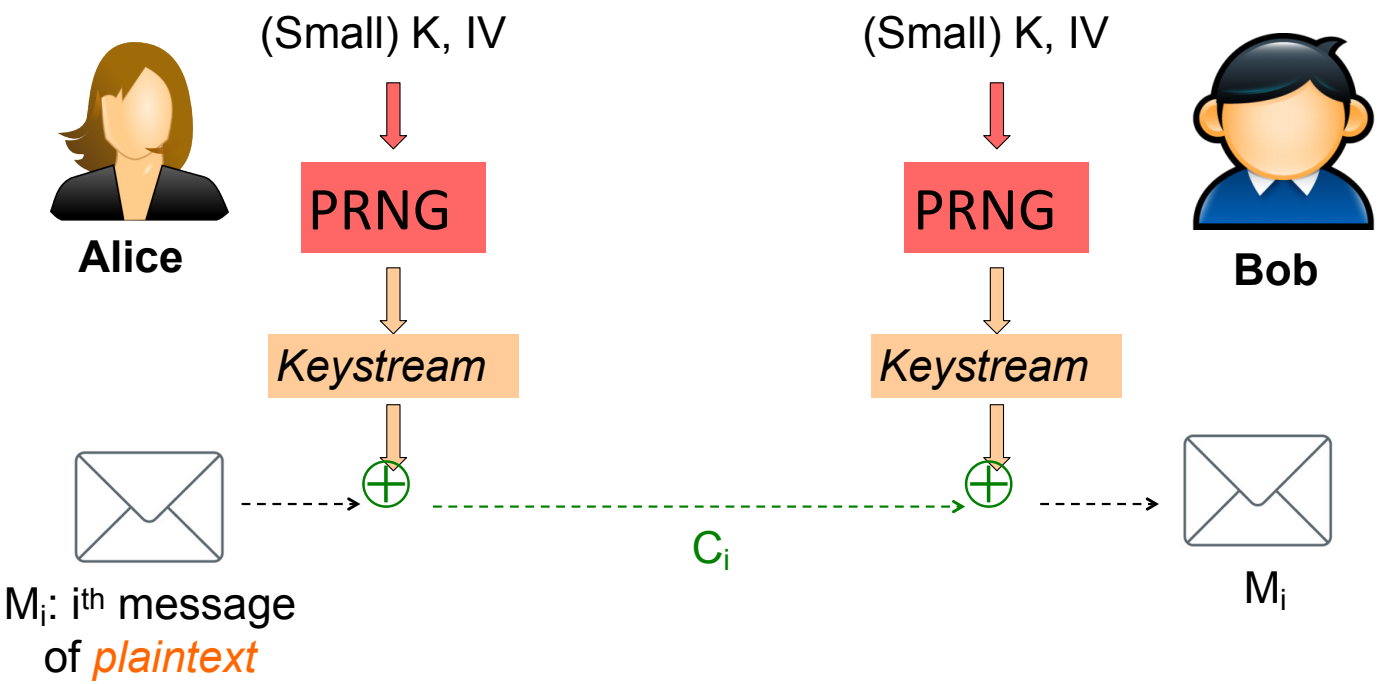
# Building Stream Ciphers



- Encryption, given key **K** and message **M**:
  - Choose a random value IV
  - **E(M, K)** = **pRNG(K, IV)** $\oplus$ **M**
- Decryption, given key **K**, ciphertext **C**, and initialization vector **IV**:
  - **D(C, K) = PRNG(K, IV)** $\oplus$ **C**
- Can encrypt message of any length because pRNG can produce any number of random bits...
  - But in practice, for an n-bit seed pRNG, stop at $\mathbf{2^{n/2}}$. Because, of course...

# Using a PRNG to Build a Stream Cipher





# CTR mode is (mostly) a stream cipher



- **E(ctr,K)** should look like a series of pseudo random numbers...
  - But after a large amount it is ***slightly*** distinguishable!
- Since it is actually a pseudo-random ***permutation***...
  - For a cipher using 128b blocks, you will never get the same 128b number until you go all the way through the $2^{128}$ possible entries on the counter
  - Reason why you want to stop after $2^{64}$
    - if you are foolish enough to use CTR mode in the first place
- Also very minor information leakage:
  - If $\mathbf{C_i = C_j}$, for **i != j**, it follows that $\mathbf{M_i \mathrel{!=} M_j}$

# UUID: Universally Unique Identifiers



- You got to have a "name" for something...
  - EG, to store a location in a filesystem
- Your name ***must*** be unique...
  - And your name ***must*** be unpredictable!
- Just chose a ***random*** value!
  - UUID: just chose a 128b random value
    - Well, it ends up being a 122b random value with some signaling information
  - A good UUID library uses a cryptographically-secure pRNG that is properly seeded
- Often written out in hex as:
  - 00112233-4455-6677-8899-aabbccddeeff

# What Happens When The Random Numbers Goes Wrong...



- Insufficient Entropy:
  - Random number generator is seeded without enough entropy
- Debian OpenSSL CVE-2008-0166
  - In "cleaning up" OpenSSL (Debian 'bug' #363516), the author 'fixed' how OpenSSL seeds random numbers
    - Because the code, as written, caused Purify and Valgrind to complain about reading uninitialized memory
  - Unfortunate cleanup reduced the pRNG's seed to be ***just*** the process ID
    - So the pRNG would only start at one of ~30,000 starting points
- This made it easy to find private keys
  - Simply set to each possible starting point and generate a few private keys
  - See if you then find the corresponding public keys anywhere on the Internet


http://blog.dieweltistgarnichtso.net/Caprica,-2-years-ago

# And Now Lets Add Some RNG Sabotage...



- The Dual_EC_DRBG
  - A pRNG pushed by the NSA behind the scenes based on Elliptic Curves
- It relies on two parameters, ***P*** and ***Q*** on an elliptic curve
  - The person who generates ***P*** and selects ***Q=eP*** can predict the random number generator, regardless of the internal state
- It also ***sucked!***
  - It was horribly slow and even had subtle biases that shouldn't exist in a pRNG: You could distinguish the upper bits from random!
- Now this was spotted fairly early on...
  - Why should anyone use such a horrible random number generator?

# Well, anyone not paid that is...



- RSA Data Security accepted ~~30 pieces of silver~~ $10M from the NSA to implement Dual_EC in their RSA BSAFE library
  - And silently make it the default pRNG
- Using RSA's support, it became a NIST standard
  - And inserted into other products...
- And then the Snowden revelations
  - The initial discussion of this sabotage in the NY Times just vaguely referred to a Crypto talk given by Microsoft people...
    - That everybody quickly realized referred to Dual_EC

# But this is insanely powerful...



- It isn't just forward prediction but being able to run the generator backwards!
  - Which is why Dual_EC is so nasty:
    Even if you know the internal state of HMAC_DRBG it has rollback resistance!
- In TLS (HTTPS) and Virtual Private Networks you have a motif of:
  - Generate a random session key
  - Generate some other random data that's ***public visible***
    - EG, the IV in the encrypted channel, or the "random" nonce in TLS
    - Oh, and an NSA sponsored "standard" to spit out even more "random" bits!
- If you can run the random number generator ***backwards***, you can find the session key

# It Got Worse: Sabotaging Juniper



- Juniper also used Dual_EC in their Virtual Private Networks
  - "But we did it safely, we used a different **Q**"
- Sometime later, someone else noticed this...
  - "Hmm, **P** and **Q** are the keys to the backdoor...
    Lets just hack Juniper and rekey the lock!"
    - And whoever put in the first Dual_EC then went "Oh crap, we got locked out but we can't do anything about it!"
- Sometime later, someone else goes...
  - "Hey, lets add an ssh backdoor"
- Sometime later, Juniper goes
  - "Whoops, someone added an ssh backdoor, lets see what else got F'ed with, oh, this # in the pRNG"
- And then everyone else went
  - "Ohh, patch for a backdoor. Lets see what got fixed. Oh, these look like Dual_EC parameters..."

# Sabotaging "Magic Numbers" In General



- Many cryptographic implementations depend on "magic" numbers
  - Parameters of an Elliptic curve
  - Magic points like ***P*** and ***Q***
  - Particular prime ***p*** for Diffie/Hellman
  - The content of S-boxes in block cyphers
- Good systems should cleanly describe how they are generated
  - In some sound manner (e.g. AES's S-boxes)
  - In some "random" manner defined by a pRNG with a specific seed
    - Eg, seeded with "Nicholas Weaver Deserves Perfect Student Reviews"... Needs to be very low entropy so the designer can't try a gazillion seeds

# Because Otherwise You Have Trouble...



- Not only Dual-EC's ***P*** and ***Q***
- Recent work: 1024b Diffie/Hellman moderately impractical...
  - But you can create a sabotaged prime that is 1/1,000,000 the work to crack! And the most often used "example" ***p***'s origin is lost in time!
- It can cast doubt ***even when a design is solid***:
  - The DES standard was developed by IBM but with input from the NSA
    - Everyone was suspicious about the NSA tampering with the S-boxes...
    - They did: The NSA made them ***stronger*** against an attack they knew but the public didn't
  - The NSA-defined elliptic curves P-256 and P-384
    - I trust them because they are in Suite-B/CNSA so the NSA uses them for TS communication: A backdoor here would be absolutely unacceptable... but ***only because I actually believe the NSA wouldn't go and try to shoot itself in the head!***

# So Far...



- We have ***symmetric*** key encryption...
  - But that requires Alice and Bob knowing a key in advance
- We have ***symmetric*** integrity with MACs...
  - But anyone who can ***verify*** the integrity can also modify the message
- Goal of public key is to change that
  - Allows creation of a symmetric key in the presence of an adversary
  - Allows creation of a message to Alice by anybody but only Alice can decrypt
  - Allows creation of a message exclusively by Alice than anybody can verify

# Our Roadmap...



- Public Key:
  - Something ***everyone*** can know
- Private Key:
  - The secret belonging to a specific person
- Diffie/Hellman:
  - Provides key exchange with no pre-shared secret
- ElGamal & RSA:
  - Provide a message to a recipient only knowing the recipient's ***public key***
- DSA & RSA signatures:
  - Provide a message that anyone can prove was generated with a ***private key***

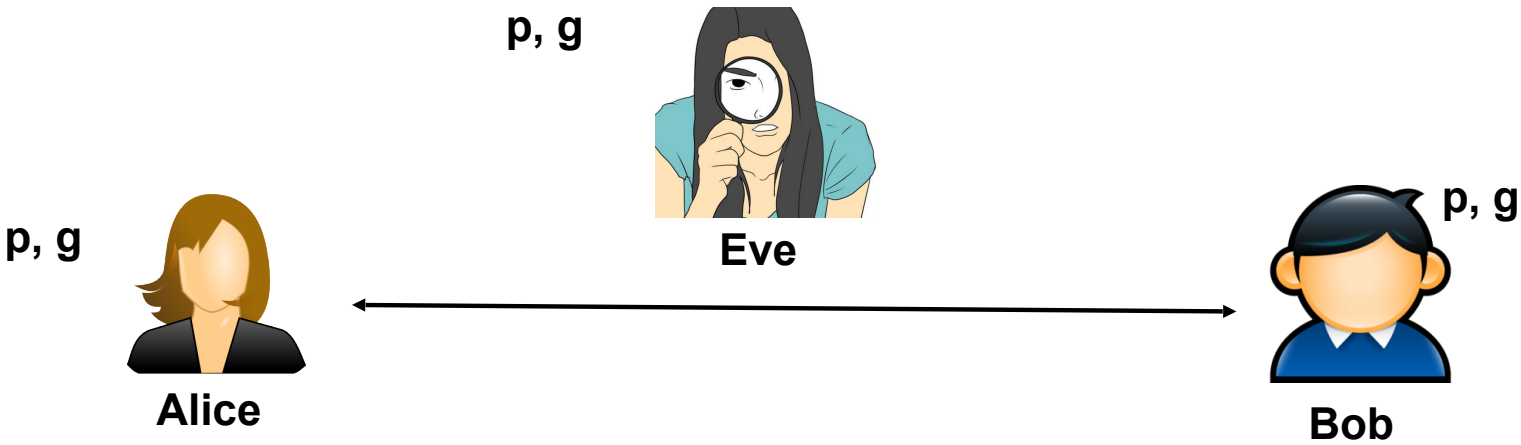
# Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange



- What if instead they can somehow generate a random key when needed?
- Seems impossible in the presence of Eve observing all of their communication …
  - How can they exchange a key without her learning it?
- But: actually is possible using public-key technology
  - Requires that Alice & Bob know that their messages will reach one another without any meddling
- Protocol: Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange (DHE)
  - The E is "Ephemeral", we use this to create a temporary key for other uses and then forget about it

# Diffie-Hellman Key Exchange

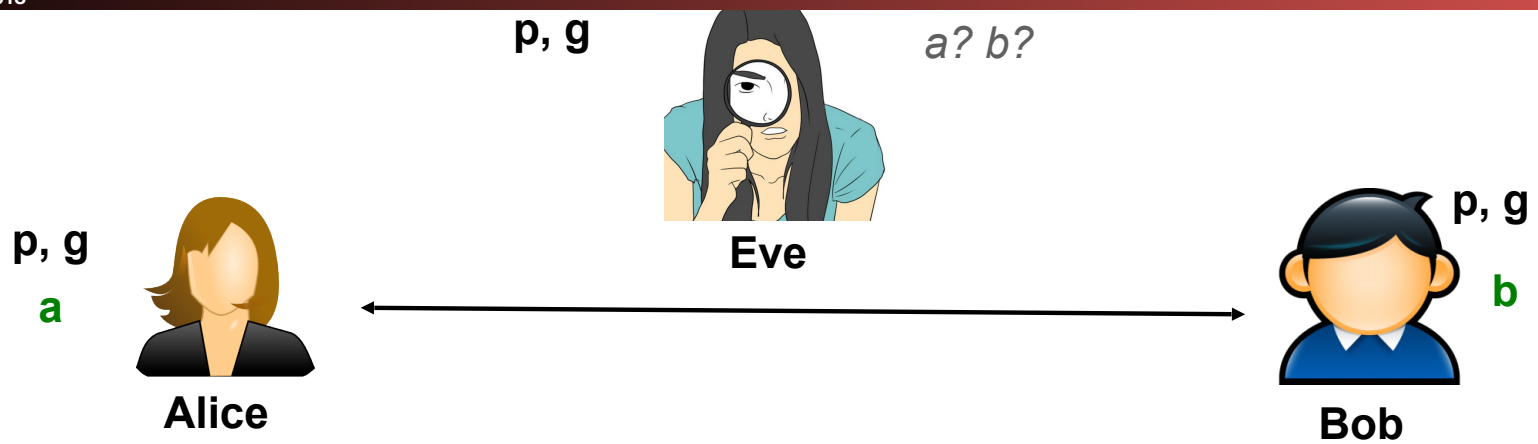





1. Everyone agrees in advance on a well-known (large) prime **p** and a corresponding **g**: $1 < g < p-1$

# DHE



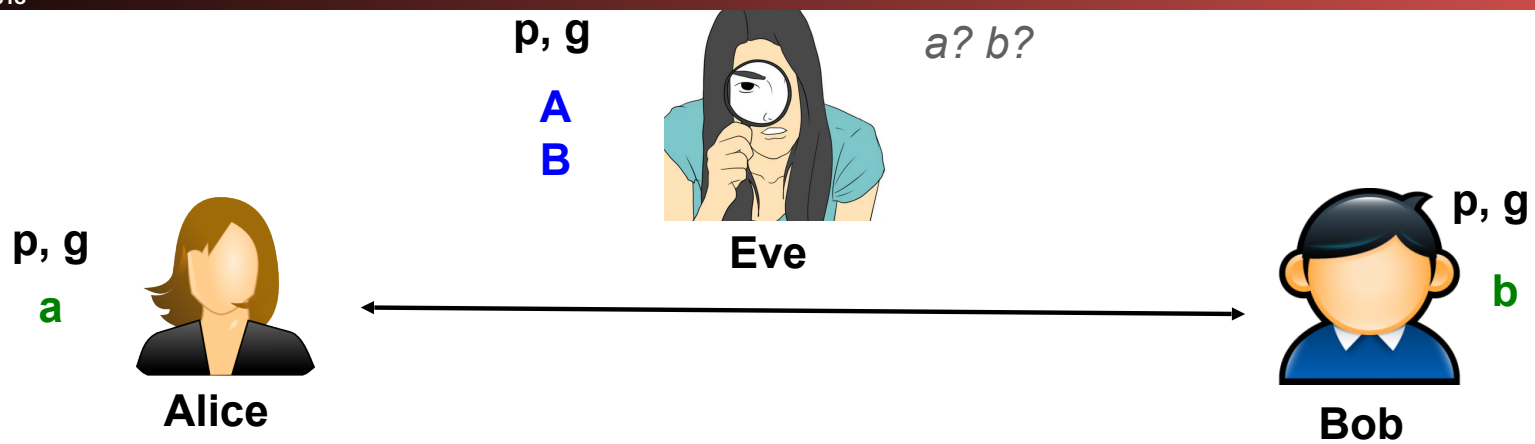



2. Alice picks random secret '**a**': 1 < a < p-1

3. Bob picks random secret '**b**': 1 < b < p-1

# DHE





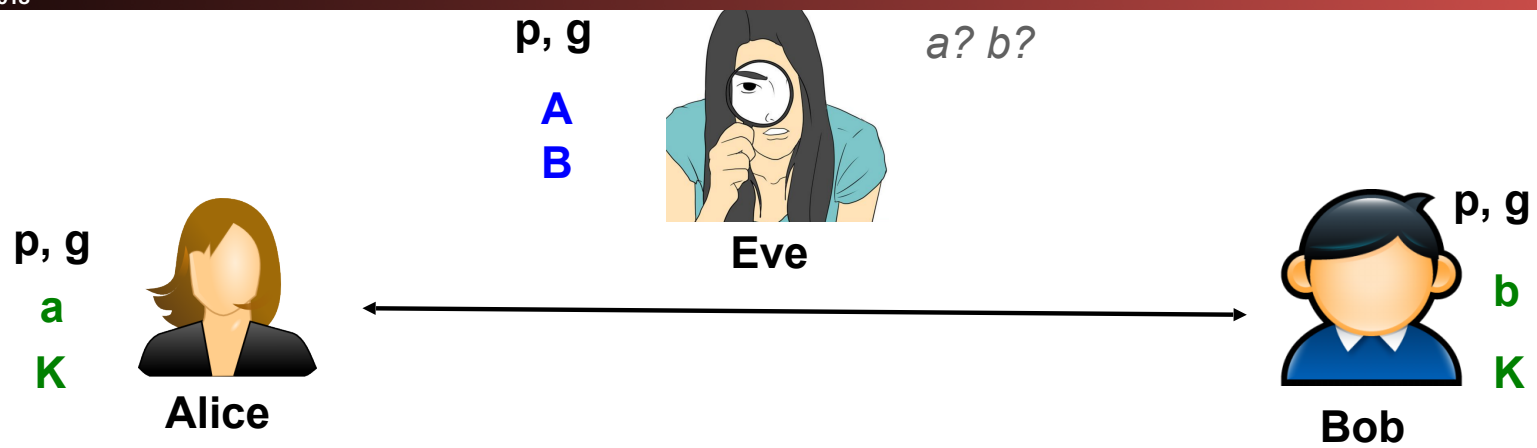

$A = g^a \bmod p$

4. Alice sends $A = g^a \bmod p$ to Bob
5. Bob sends $B = g^b \bmod p$ to Alice

$g^b \bmod p = B$

# DHE






$A = g^a \bmod p$

$B$

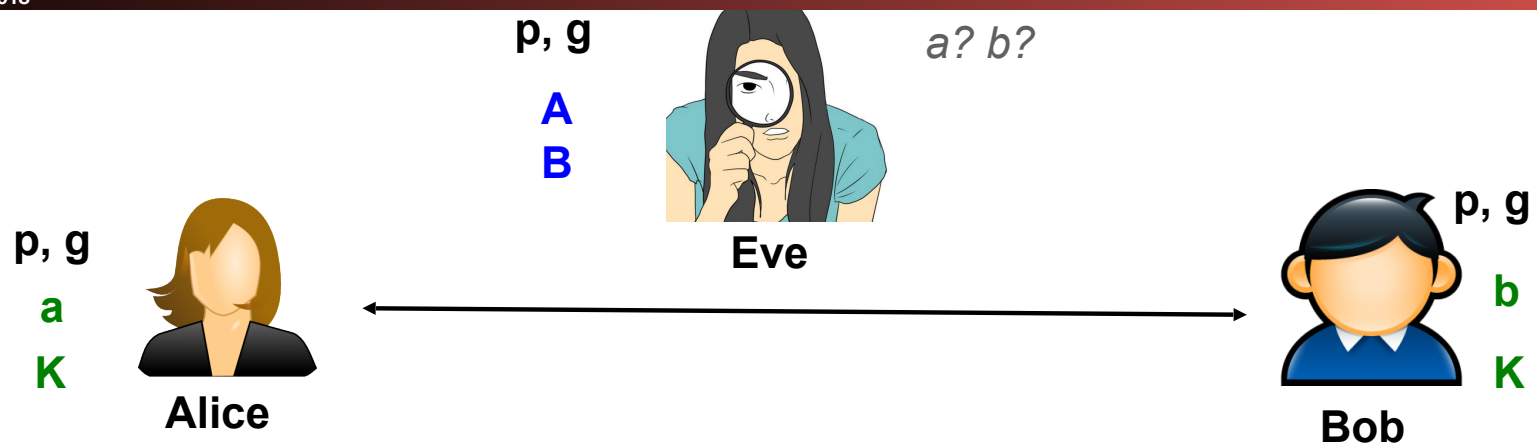
$A$

$g^b \bmod p = B$

6. Alice knows {a, A, B}, computes $K = B^a \bmod p = (g^b)^a = g^{ba} \bmod p$
7. Bob knows {b, A, B}, computes $K = A^b \bmod p = (g^a)^b = g^{ab} \bmod p$
8. K is now the shared secret key.

# DHE






While Eve knows {p, g, $g^a$ mod p, $g^b$ mod p}, believed to be ***computationally infeasible*** for her to then deduce K = $g^{ab}$ mod p.

She can easily construct A·B = $g^a \cdot g^b$ mod p = $g^{a+b}$ mod p.
But computing $g^{ab}$ requires ability to take *discrete logarithms* mod p.

# This is Ephemeral Diffie/Hellman



- **$K = g^{ab} \bmod p$** is used as the basis for a "session key"
  - A symmetric key used to protect subsequent communication between Alice and Bob
    - In general, public key operations are vastly more expensive than symmetric key, so it is mostly used just to agree on secret keys, transmit secret keys, or sign hashes
  - If either **a** or **b** is random, **K** is random
- When Alice and Bob are done, they discard **K**, **a**, **b**
  - This provides ***forward secrecy***: Alice and Bob don't retain any information that a later attacker who can compromise Alice or Bob's secrets could use to decrypt the messages exchanged with **K**.

# Diffie Hellman is part of more generic problem



- This involved deep mathematical voodoo called "Group Theory"
  - Its actually done under a group G
- Two main groups of note:
  - Numbers mod ***p*** with generator ***g***
  - Point addition in an elliptic curve C
    - Usually identified by number, eg. p256, p384 (NSA-developed curves) or Curve25519 (developed by Dan Bernstein, also 256b long)
- So EC (Elliptic Curve) == different group
  - Thought to be harder so fewer bits: 384b ECDHE ?= 3096b DHE
  - But otherwise, its "add EC to the name" for something built on discrete log

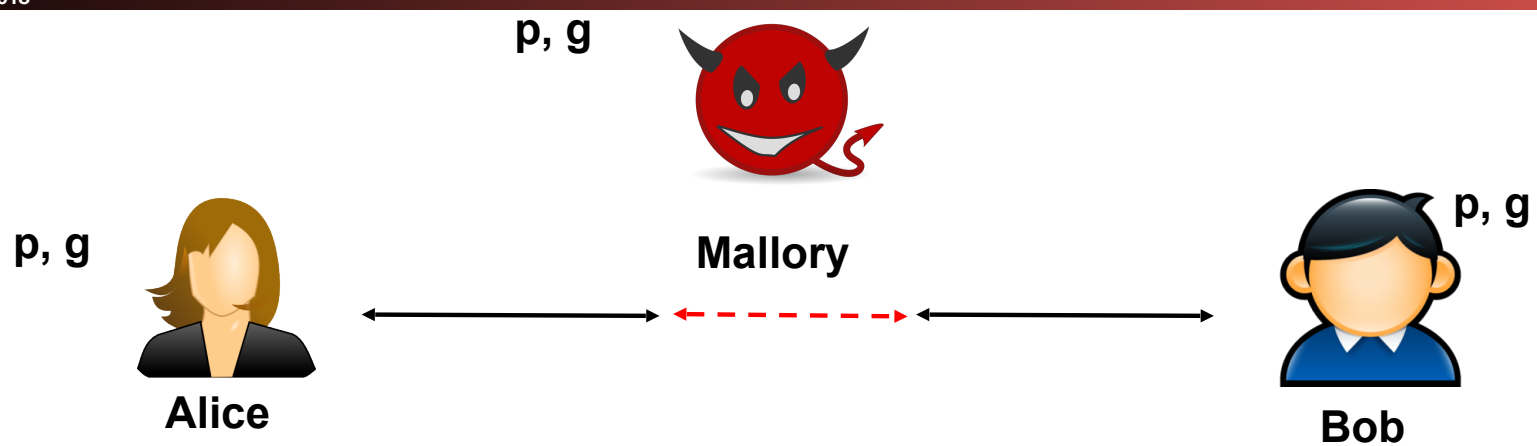
# But Its Not That Simple



- What if Alice and Bob aren't facing a passive eavesdropper
  - But instead are facing Mallory, an ***active*** Man-in-the-Middle
- Mallory has the ability to change messages:
  - Can remove messages and add his own
- Lets see... Do you think DHE will still work as-is?

# Attacking DHE as a MitM

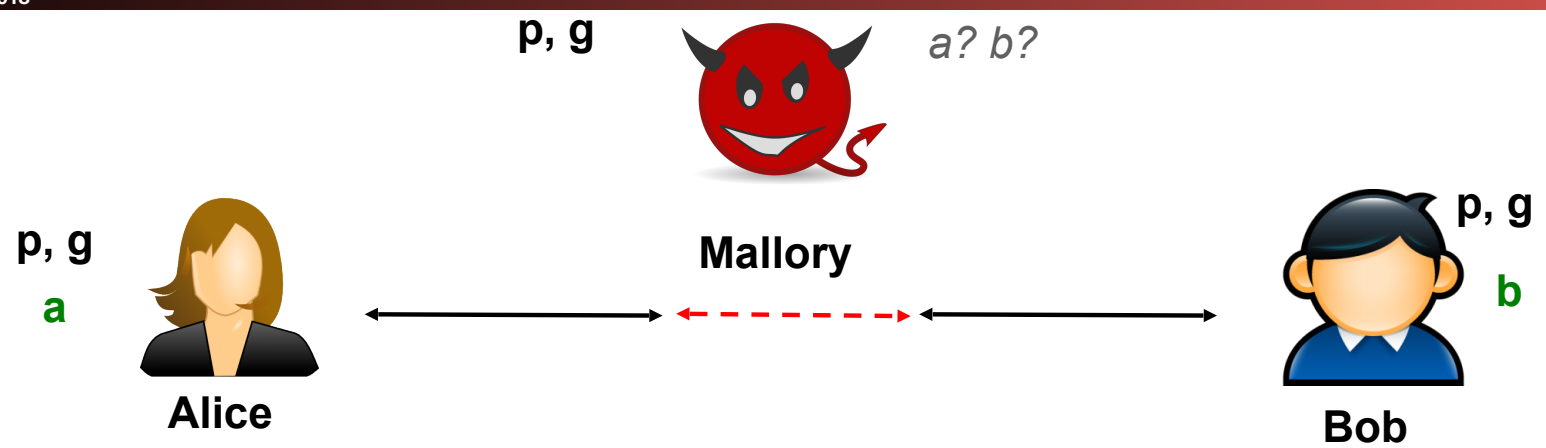





What happens if instead of Eve watching, Alice & Bob face the threat of a hidden Mallory (MITM)?

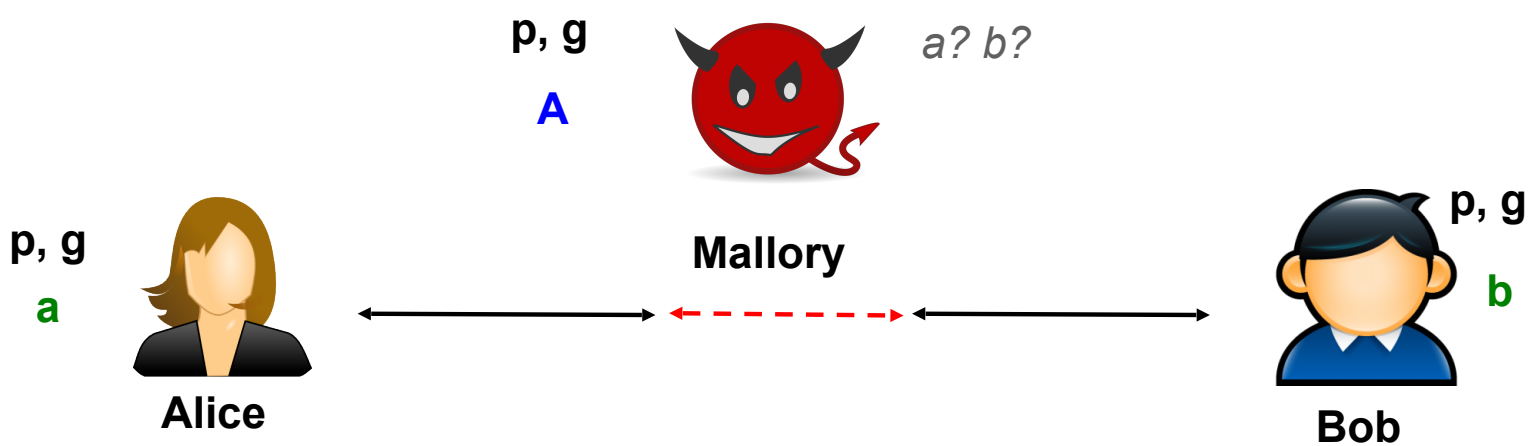
# The MitM Key Exchange





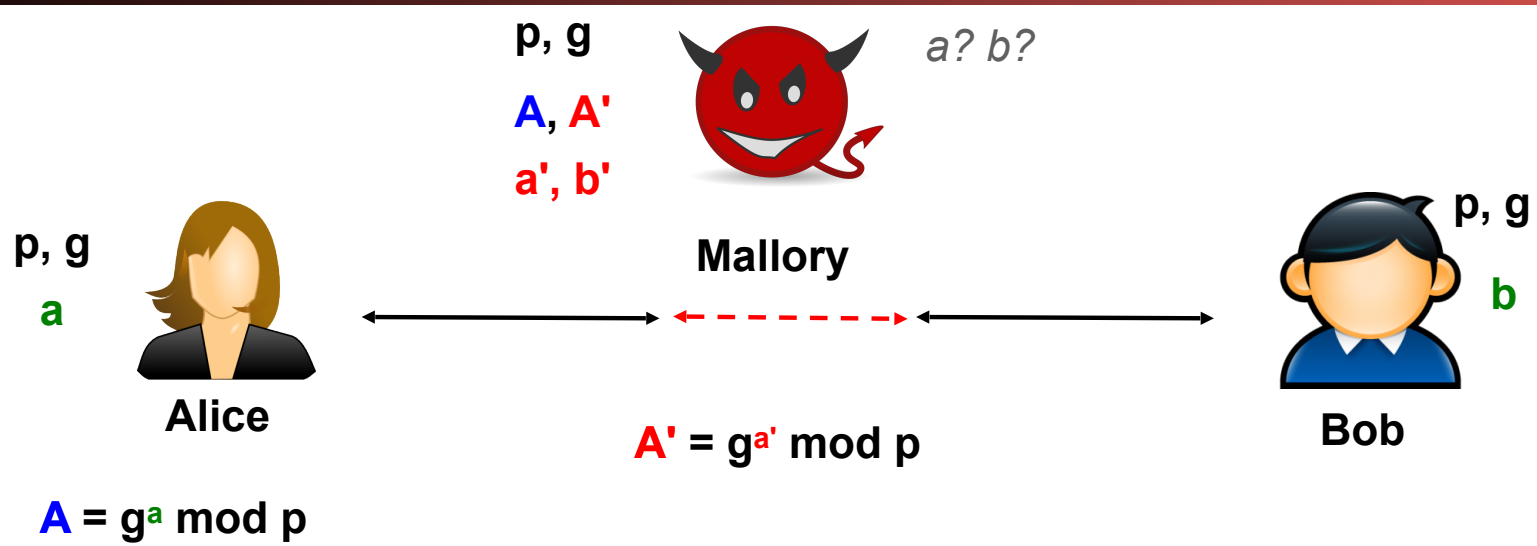

2. Alice picks random secret '**a**': 1 < a < p-1

3. Bob picks random secret '**b**': 1 < b < p-1

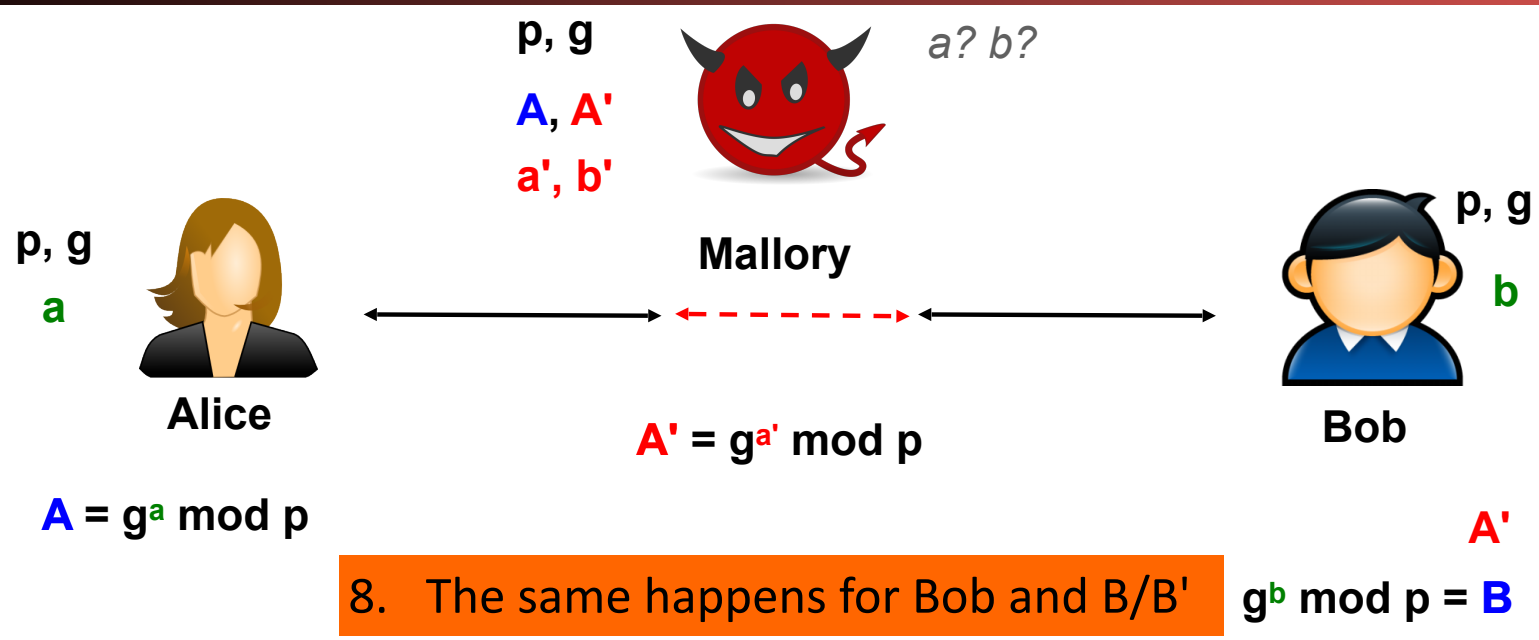



$A = g^a \bmod p$

4. Alice sends $A = g^a \bmod p$ to Bob
5. Mallory prevents Bob from receiving A




6. Mallory generates her own a', b'
7. Mallory sends A' = $g^{a'}$ mod p to Bob




8. The same happens for Bob and B/B'

p, g

A, B, A', B'

a', b'

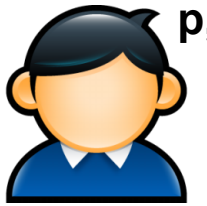
a? b?

Mallory

p, g

a

Alice



p, g

b

Bob

$A' = g^{a'} \bmod p$

$B' = g^{b'} \bmod p$

$A = g^{a} \bmod p$

A'

$g^{b} \bmod p = B$

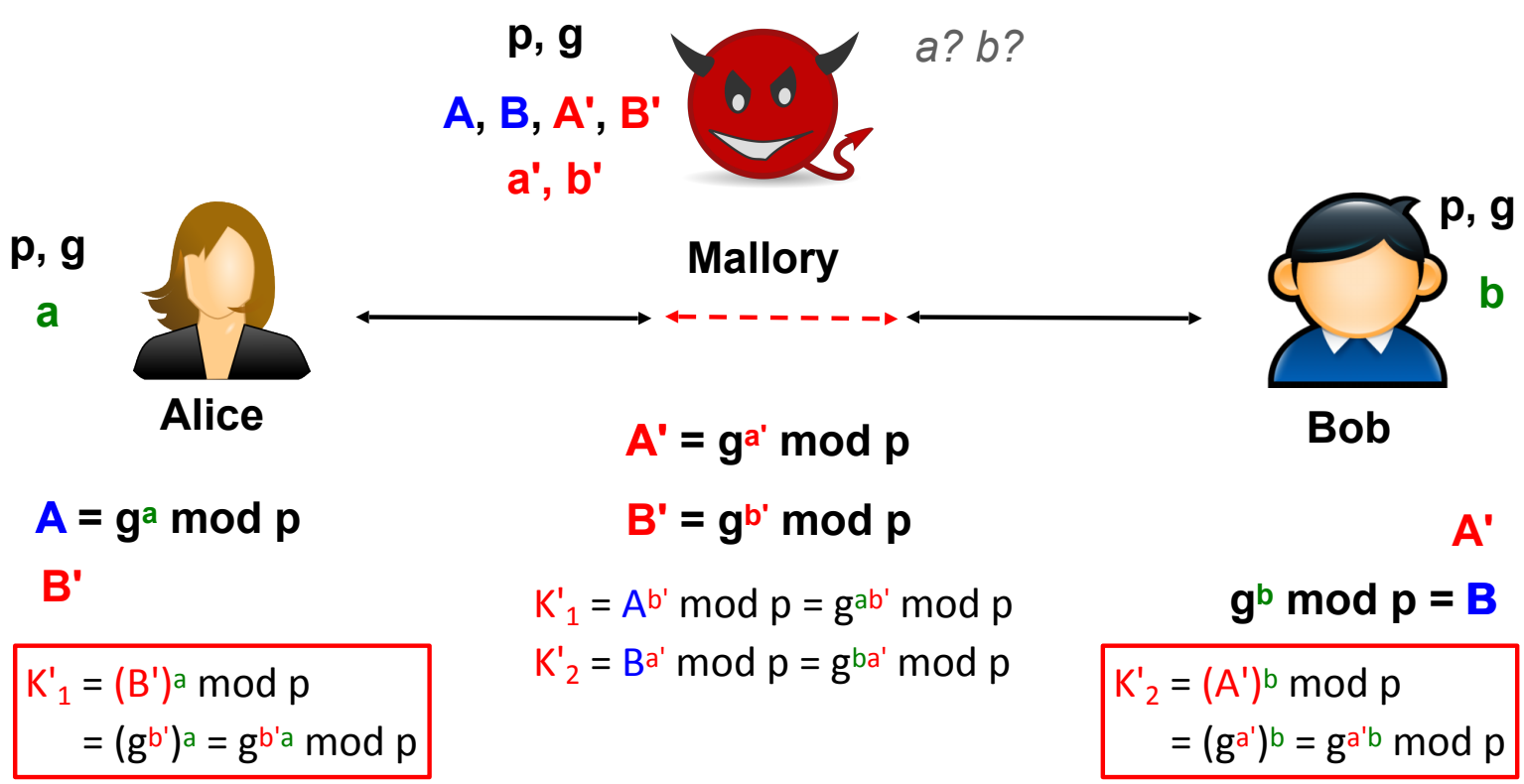
8. The same happens for Bob and B/B'

9. Alice and Bob now compute keys they share with … Mallory!

10. Mallory can relay encrypted traffic between the two …

10'. Modifying it or making stuff up *however she wishes*





# So We Will Want More...



- This is online:
  - Alice and Bob actually need to be active for this to work...
- So we want offline encryption:
  - Bob can send a message to Alice that Alice can read at a later date
- And authentication:
  - Alice can publish a message that Bob can verify was created by Alice later
  - Can also be used as a building-block for eliminating the MitM in the DHE key exchange:
    Alice authenticates **A**, Bob verifies that he receives **A** not **A'**.

# Public Key Cryptography #1: RSA



- Alice generates two ***large*** primes, **p** and **q**
  - They should be generated randomly:
    Generate a large random number and then use a "primality test":
    A ***probabilistic*** algorithm that checks if the number is prime
- Alice then computes $\mathbf{n = p*q}$ and $\boldsymbol{\varphi(n) = (p-1)(q-1)}$
  - $\boldsymbol{\varphi(n)}$ is Euler's totient function, in this case for a composite of two primes
- Chose random $\mathbf{2 < e < \varphi(n)}$
  - **e** also needs to be relatively prime to $\boldsymbol{\varphi(n)}$ but it can be small
- Solve for $\mathbf{d = e^{-1} \bmod \varphi(n)}$
  - You can't solve for **d** without knowing $\boldsymbol{\varphi(n)}$, which requires knowing **p** and **q**
- **n**, **e** are public, **d**, **p**, **q**, and $\boldsymbol{\varphi(n)}$ are secret

# RSA Encryption



- Bob can easily send a message m to Alice:
  - Bob computes $\mathbf{c = m^e \bmod n}$
  - Without knowing **d**, it is believed to be intractable to compute **m** given **c**, **e**, and **n**
    - But if you can get **p** and **q**, you can get **d**:
      It is ***not known*** if there is a way to compute **d** without also being able to factor **n**, but it is known that if you can factor **n**, you can get **d**.
    - And factoring is ***believed*** to be hard to do
- Alice computes $\mathbf{m = c^d \bmod n = m^{ed} \bmod n}$
- Time for some math magic...

# RSA Encryption/Decryption, con't



- So we have: $\mathbf{D(C, K_D) = (M^{e \cdot d}) \bmod n}$
- Now recall that **d** is the multiplicative inverse of **e**, modulo **φ(n)**, and thus:

  $\mathbf{e \cdot d = 1 \bmod \varphi(n)}$ (by definition)

  $\mathbf{e \cdot d - 1 = k \cdot \varphi(n)}$ for some **k**
- Therefore $\mathbf{D(C, K_D) = M^{e \cdot d} \bmod n = (M^{e \cdot d - 1}) \cdot M \bmod n}$

  $= \mathbf{(M^{k\varphi(n)}) \cdot M \bmod n}$

  $= \mathbf{[(M^{\varphi(n)})^k] \cdot M \bmod n}$

  $= \mathbf{(1^k) \cdot M \bmod n}$ *by Euler's Theorem: $a^{\varphi(n)} \bmod n = 1$*

  $= \mathbf{M \bmod n = M}$

(believed) Eve can recover M from C *iff* Eve can factor n=p·q

# But It Is Not That Simple...

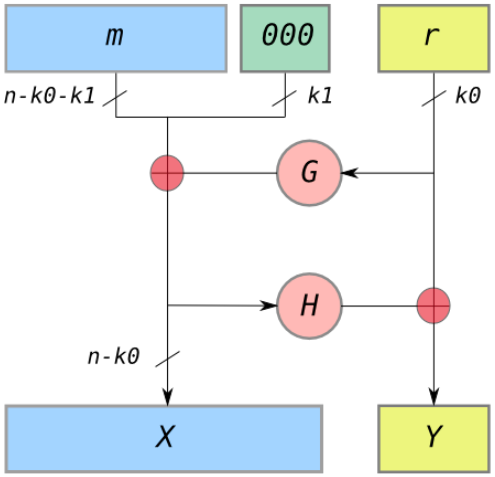


- What if Bob wants to send the same message to Alice twice?
  - Sends $\mathbf{m^{e_a} \bmod n_a}$ and then $\mathbf{m^{e_a} \bmod n_a}$
  - Oops, not IND-CPA!
- What if Bob wants to send a message to Alice, Carol, and Dave:
  - $\mathbf{m^{e_a} \bmod n_a}$
    $\mathbf{m^{e_b} \bmod n_b}$
    $\mathbf{m^{e_c} \bmod n_c}$
  - This ends up leaking information an eavesdropper can use ***especially*** if $3 = e_a = e_b = e_c$ !
- Oh, and problems if both **e** and **m** are small...
- As a result, you ***can not*** just use plain RSA:
  - You need to use a "padding" scheme that makes the input random but reversible

# RSA-OAEP
# (Optimal asymmetric encryption padding)



- A way of processing m with a hash function & random bits
  - Effectively "encrypts" **m** replacing it with **X = [m,0...]** $\oplus$ **G(r)**
    - **G** and **H** are hash functions (EG SHA-256)
      $\mathbf{k_0}$ = # of bits of randomness, **len(m)** + $\mathbf{k_1}$ + $\mathbf{k_0}$ = **n**
  - Then replaces r with **Y = H(G(r)** $\oplus$ **[m,0...])** $\oplus$ **R**
  - This structure is called a "Feistel network":
    - It is always designed to be reversible.
      Many block ciphers are based on this concept applied multiple times with **G** and **H** being functions of **k** rather than just fixed operations




- This is more than just block-cipher padding (which involves just adding simple patterns)
  - Instead it serves to both pad the bits and make the data to be encrypted "random"

# But Its Not That Simple... Timing Attacks



- Using normal math, the ***time*** it takes for Alice to decrypt **c** depends on **c** and **d**
  - Ruh roh, this can leak information...
  - More complex RSA implementations take advantage of knowing **p** and **q** directly...
    but also leak timing
- People have used this to guess and then check the bits of **q** on OpenSSL
  - http://crypto.stanford.edu/~dabo/papers/ssl-timing.pdf
- And even more subtle things are possible...

```
x = C
for j = 1 to n
    x = mod(x², N)
    if dⱼ == 1 then
        x = mod(xC, N)
    end if
next j
return x
```

# So How to Find Bob's Key?



- Lots of stuff later, but for now...
  The Leap of Faith!
- Alice wants to talk to Bob:
  - "Hey, Bob, tell me your public key!"
- Now on all subsequent times...
  - "Hey, Bob, tell me your public key", and check to see if it is different from what Alice remembers
- Works assuming the ***first time*** Alice talks to Bob there isn't a Man-in-the-Middle
  - ssh uses this

# RSA Signatures...



- Alice computes a hash of the message **H(m)**
  - Alice then computes $\mathbf{s = (H(m))^d \bmod n}$
- Anyone can then verify
  - $\mathbf{v = s^e \bmod m = ((H(m))^d)^e \bmod n = H(m)}$
- Once again, there are "F-U"s...
  - Have to use a proper encoding scheme to do this properly and all sort of other traps
  - One particular trap: a scenario where the attacker can get Alice to repeatedly sign things (an "oracle")

# But Signatures Are Super Valuable...



- They are how we can prevent a MitM!
- If Bob knows Alice's key, and Alice knows Bob's...
  - How will be "next time"
- Alice doesn't just send a message to Bob...
  - But creates a random key **k**...
  - Sends **E(M,$K_{sess}$)**, **E($K_{sess}$,$B_{pub}$)**, **S(H(M),$A_{priv}$)**
- Only Bob can decrypt the message, and Bob can verify the message came from Alice
  - So Mallory is SOL!

# RSA Isn't The Only Public Key Algorithm



- Isn't RSA enough?
  - RSA isn't particularly compact or efficient: dealing with 2000b (comfortably secure) or 3000b (NSA-paranoia) bit operations
  - Can we get away with fewer bits?
    - Well, Diffie-Hellman isn't any better...
    - But ***elliptic curve*** Diffie-Hellman is
- RSA also had some patent issues
  - So an attempt to build public key algorithms around the Diffie-Hellman problem

# El-Gamal



- Just like Diffie-Hellman...
  - Select **p** and **g**
    - These are public and can be shared:
      Note, they need to be carefully considered how to create p and g...
      Math beyond the level of this class
- Alice choses **x** randomly as her private key
  - And publishes $\mathbf{h = g^x \bmod p}$ as her public key
- Bob, to encrypt m to Alice...
  - Selects a *random* **y**, calculates $\mathbf{c_1 = g^y \bmod p}$, $\mathbf{s = h^y \bmod p = g^{xy} \bmod p}$
    - **s** becomes a shared secret between Alice and Bob
  - Maps message **m** to create **m'**, calculates $\mathbf{c_2 = m' * s \bmod p}$
- Bob then sends $\{\mathbf{c_1, c_2}\}$

# El-Gamal Decryption



- Alice first calculates $\mathbf{s = c_1^x \bmod p}$
  - Then Alice calculates $\mathbf{m' = c_2 * s^{-1} \bmod p}$
  - Then Alice calculates the inverse of the mapping to get **m**
- Of course, there are problems...
  - Attacker can always change **m'** to **2m'**
  - What if Bob screws up and reuses y?
  - $\mathbf{c_2 = m_1' * s \bmod p}$
    $\mathbf{c_2' = m_2' * s \bmod p}$
  - Ruh roh, this leaks information:
    $\mathbf{c_2 / c_2' = m_1' / m_2'}$
    - So if you know $\mathbf{m_1}$...

# In Practice: Session Keys...



- You use the public key algorithm to encrypt/agree on a session key..
  - And then encrypt the real message with the session key
  - You ***never*** actually encrypt the message itself with the public key algorithm
- Why?
  - Public key is ***slow***... Orders of magnitude slower than symmetric key
  - Public key may cause weird effects:
    - EG, El Gamal where an attacker can change the message to ***2m***...
      - If ***m*** had meaning, this would be a problem
      - But if it just changes the encryption and MAC keys, the main message won't decrypt

# DSA Signatures...



- Again, based on Diffie-Hellman
  - Two initial parameters, **L** and **N**, and a hash function **H**
    - **L** == key length, eg 2048
      **N <= len(H)**, e.g. 256
    - An N-bit prime **q**, an L-bit prime **p** such that **p - 1** is a multiple of **q**, and **g = h$^{(p-1)/q}$ mod p** for some arbitrary **h** (1 < h < p – 1)
    - {**p, q, g**} are public parameters
- Alice creates her own random private key **x < q**
  - Public key **y = g$^{x}$ mod p**

# Alice's Signature...



- Create a random value **k** < **q**
  - Calculate **r = ($g^k$ mod p) mod q**
    - If **r** = 0, start again
  - Calculate **s = $k^{-1}$ (H(m) + xr) mod q**
    - If **s** = 0, start again
  - Signature is {**r**, **s**} (Advantage over an El-Gamal signature variation: Smaller signatures)
- Verification
  - **w = $s^{-1}$ mod q**
  - **$u_1$ = H(m) * w mod q**
  - **$u_2$ = r * w mod q**
  - **v = ($g^{u_1} y^{u_2}$ mod p) mod q**
  - Validate that **v = r**

# But Easy To Screw Up...



- **k** is not just a nonce... It must be random and ***secret***
  - If you know **k**, you can calculate **x**
- And even if you just reuse a random **k**... for two signatures sa and sb
  - A bit of algebra proves that $\mathbf{k = (H_A - H_B) / (s_a - s_b)}$
- A good reference:
  - How knowing k tells you x: https://rdist.root.org/2009/05/17/the-debian-pgp-disaster-that-almost-was/
  - How two signatures tells you k: https://rdist.root.org/2010/11/19/dsa-requirements-for-random-k-value/

# And ***NOT*** theoretical: Sony Playstation 3 DRM



- The PS3 was designed to only run ***signed*** code
  - They used ECDSA as the signature algorithm
  - This prevents unauthorized code from running
  - They had an ***option*** to run alternate operating systems (Linux) that they then removed
- Of course this was catnip to reverse engineers
  - Best way to get people interested: ***remove*** Linux from a device...
- It turns for out one of the key authentication keys used to sign the firmware...
  - Ended up reusing the same k for multiple signatures!

# And ***NOT*** Theoretical: Android RNG Bug + Bitcoin



- OS Vulnerability in 2013
  Android "SecureRandom" wasn't actually secure!
  - Not only was it low entropy, it would occasionally return the ***same value multiple times***
- Multiple Bitcoin wallet apps on Android were affected
  - "Pay B Bitcoin to Bob" is signed by Alice's public key using ECDSA
    - Message is broadcast publicly for all to see
  - So you'd have cases where "Pay B to Bob" and "Pay C to Carol" were signed with the same **k**
- So ***of course*** someone scanned for ***all*** such Bitcoin transactions

# So What To Use?



- Paranoids like me:
  Good libraries and use the parameters from NSA's CNSA suite
  - Open algorithms approved for Top Secret communication
  - Better yet, libraries that implement full protocols that use these under the hood!
- Symmetric cipher: AES: 256b
  - CFB mode, thankyouverymuch. Counter mode and modes which include counter mode can DIAF...
- Hash function: SHA-384
  - Use HMAC for MAC
- RSA: 3072b
- Diffie/Hellman: 3072b
- ECDH/ECDSA: P-384
  - But really, this is extra paranoid, 2048b RSA/DH, 256b EC, 128b AES, SHA-256 excellent in practice