

Key Management

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These slides are available at:

<http://www.csc.lsu.edu/~durresi/csc4601-07/>



- Distributions of Public Keys
- Public Key Authority
- Public Key Certificates
- Public-Key Distribution of Secret Keys

Key Management

- Public-key encryption helps address key distribution problems
- Have two aspects of this:
 - distribution of public keys
 - use of public-key encryption to distribute secret keys

Distribution of Public Keys

- Can be considered as using one of:
 - Public announcement
 - Publicly available directory
 - Public-key authority
 - Public-key certificates

Public Announcement

- Users distribute public keys to recipients or broadcast to community at large
 - eg. append PGP keys to email messages or post to news groups or email list
- Major weakness is forgery
 - anyone can create a key claiming to be someone else and broadcast it
 - until forgery is discovered can masquerade as claimed user

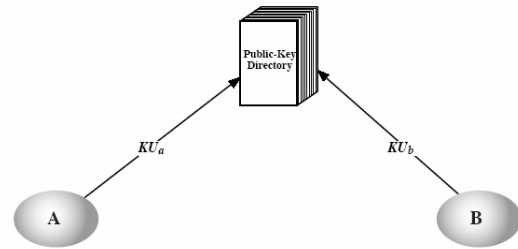
Uncontrolled Key Distribution



Publicly Available Directory

- ❑ Can obtain greater security by registering keys with a public directory
- ❑ Directory must be trusted with properties:
 - contains {name,public-key} entries
 - participants register securely with directory
 - participants can replace key at any time
 - directory is periodically published
 - directory can be accessed electronically
- ❑ Still vulnerable to tampering or forgery

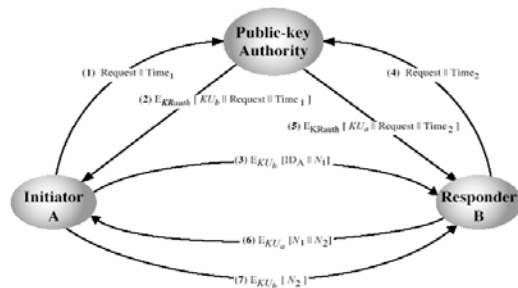
Public Key Publication



Public-Key Authority

- ❑ Improve security by tightening control over distribution of keys from directory
- ❑ Has properties of directory
- ❑ And requires users to know public key for the directory
- ❑ Then users interact with directory to obtain any desired public key securely
 - does require real-time access to directory when keys are needed

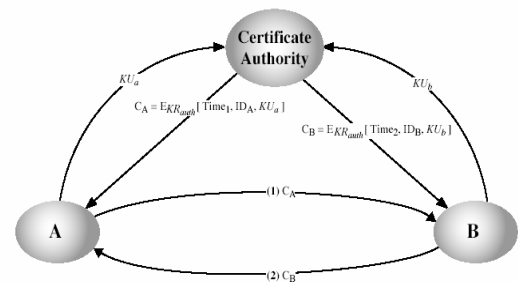
Public-Key Authority



Public-Key Certificates

- ❑ Certificates allow key exchange without real-time access to public-key authority
- ❑ A certificate binds **identity to public key**
 - usually with other info such as period of validity, rights of use etc
- ❑ With all contents **signed** by a trusted Public-Key or Certificate Authority (CA)
- ❑ Can be verified by anyone who knows the certificate authorities public-key

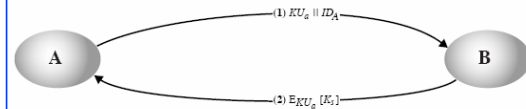
Public-Key Certificates



Public-Key Distribution of Secret Keys

- Use previous methods to obtain public-key
- Can use for secrecy or authentication
- But public-key algorithms are slow
- So usually want to use private-key encryption to protect message contents
- Hence need a session key
- Have several alternatives for negotiating a suitable session

Simple Use of Public Key Encryption to Establish a Session Key

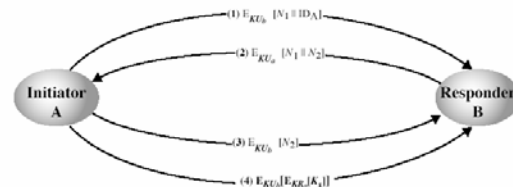


Simple Secret Key Distribution

- Proposed by Merkle in 1979
 - A generates a new temporary public key pair
 - A sends B the public key and their identity
 - B generates a session key K sends it to A encrypted using the supplied public key
 - A decrypts the session key and both use
- Problem is that an opponent can intercept and impersonate both halves of protocol

Public-Key Distribution of Secret Keys with Confidentiality and Authentication

- If have securely exchanged public-keys:



Hybrid Scheme

- KDC uses a public key scheme to distribute a secret master key
- KDC uses the secret master key to distribute session secret keys
- Performance: Distribution of session keys by public key encryption could degrade overall system. With a hybrid scheme public key is used only occasionally to update the master key
- When a single KDC serves a widely distributes set of users
- Used in IBM mainframes

Summary



- Distributions of Public Keys
- Public Key Authority
- Public Key Certificates
- Public-Key Distribution of Secret Keys
- Hybrid Schemes