

# Lecture 6b

# Introduction to Public Key Cryptography

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# Plan



1. Public key cryptography – an overview
2. The key management problem
  1. qualified signatures
  2. public key infrastructure
3. Identity-based cryptography

# Public-Key Cryptography

also called: **asymmetric  
cryptography**



Ralph Merkle (1974)

Whitfield Diffie and Martin Hellman (1976)

# A little bit of history

**Diffie and Hellman** were the first to publish a paper containing the idea of the public-key cryptography:

W.Diffie and M.E.Hellman,  
**New directions in cryptography**

IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory, IT-22, 6, 1976, pp.644-654.

A similar idea was described by **Ralph Merkle**:

in **1974** he described it in a project proposal for a Computer Security course at UC Berkeley

(it was rejected)

in **1975** he submitted it to the CACM journal (it was rejected)

(see [www.merkle.com/1974/](http://www.merkle.com/1974/) )

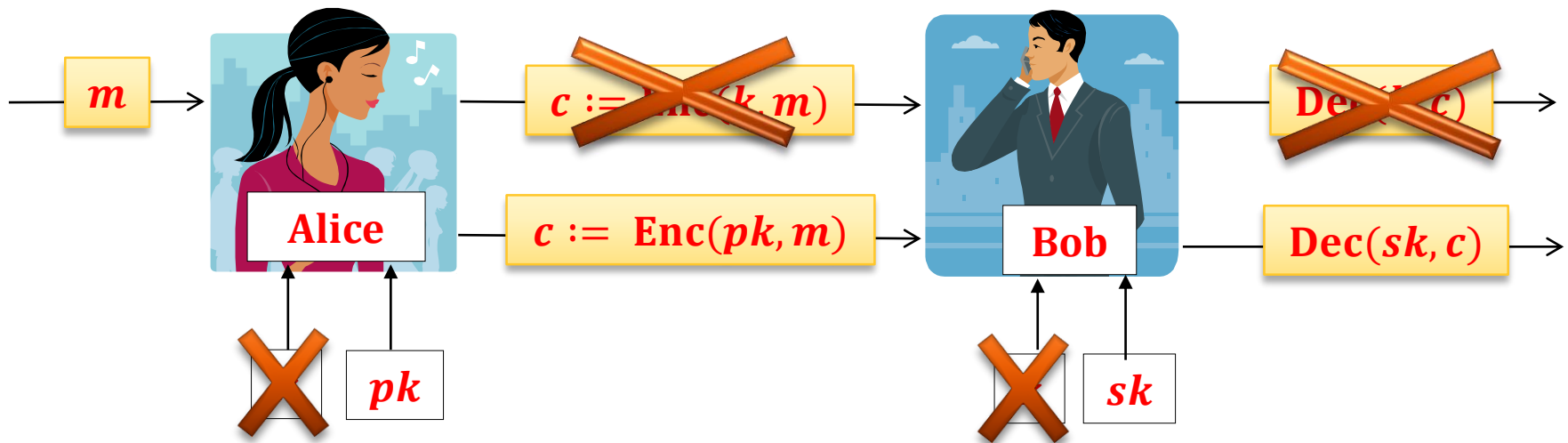
In **1997** the GCHQ (the British equivalent of the NSA) revealed that they knew it already in **1973**.

# The idea

Instead of using one key  $k$ ,  
use **2** keys ( $pk, sk$ ), where  
 $pk$  is used for **encryption**,  
 $sk$  is used for **decryption**.

$pk$  can be public,  
and only  $sk$  has to  
be kept secret!

That's why it's  
called: **public-key  
cryptography**

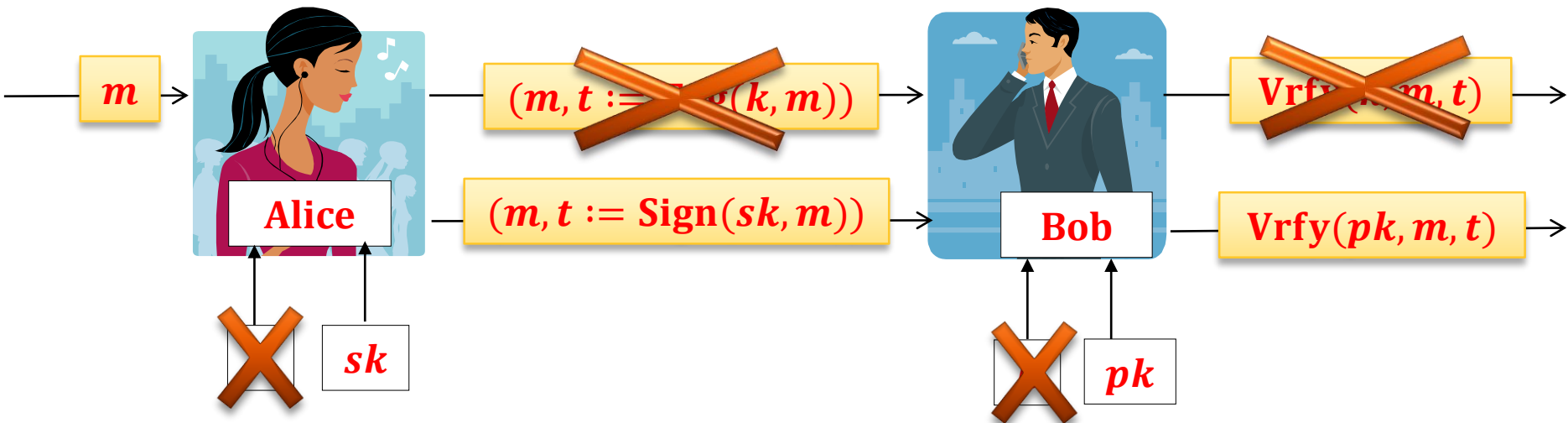


# The same thing works for authentication

- ***sk*** is used for **computing a tag**,
- ***pk*** is used for **verifying correctness of the tag**.

this will be called  
“**signatures**”

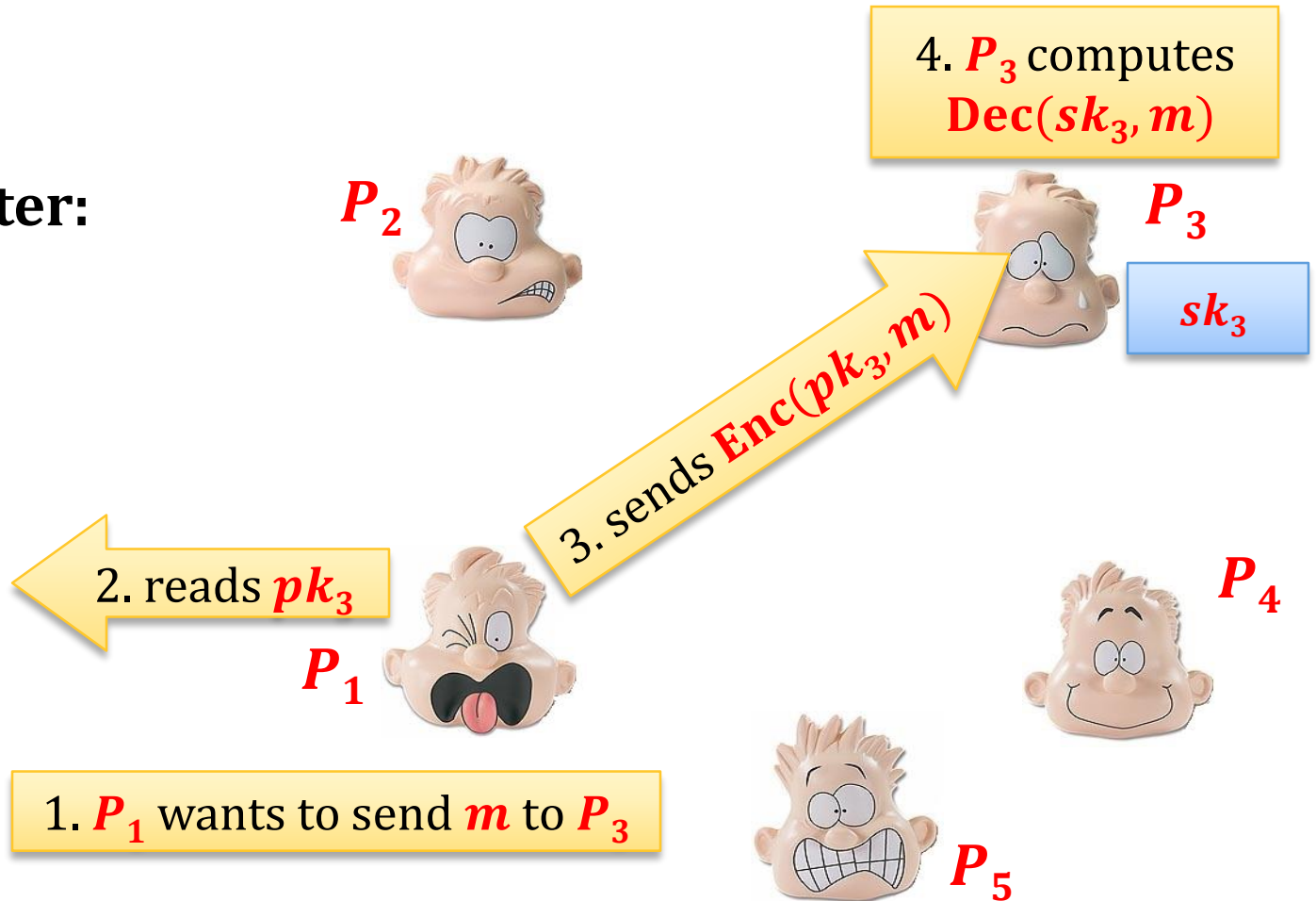
**Sign** – the signing algorithm



# Anyone can send encrypted messages to anyone else

public register:

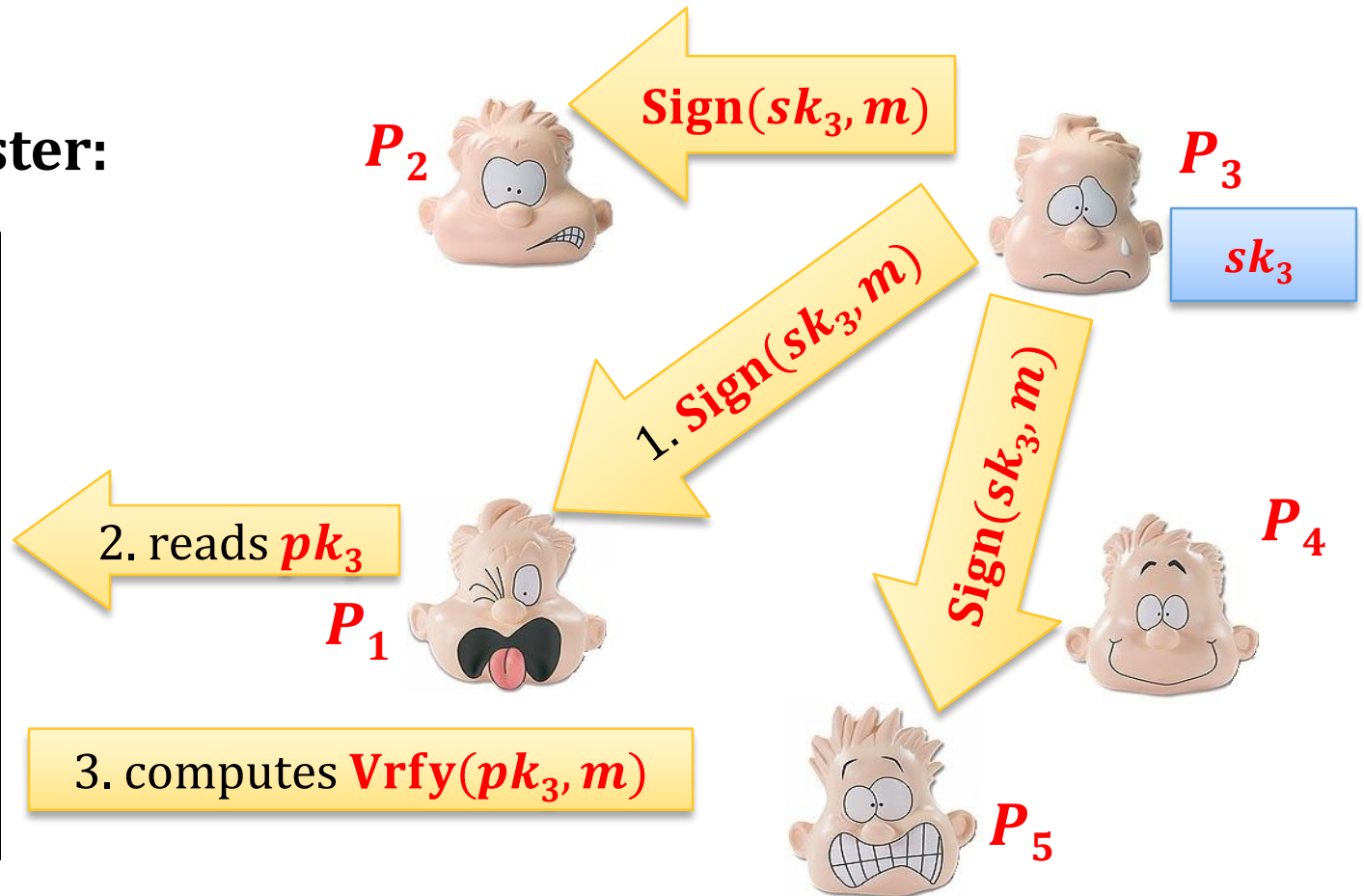
$pk_1$
$pk_2$
$pk_3$
$pk_4$
$pk_5$



# Anyone can verify the signatures

public register:

$pk_1$
$pk_2$
$pk_3$
$pk_4$
$pk_5$



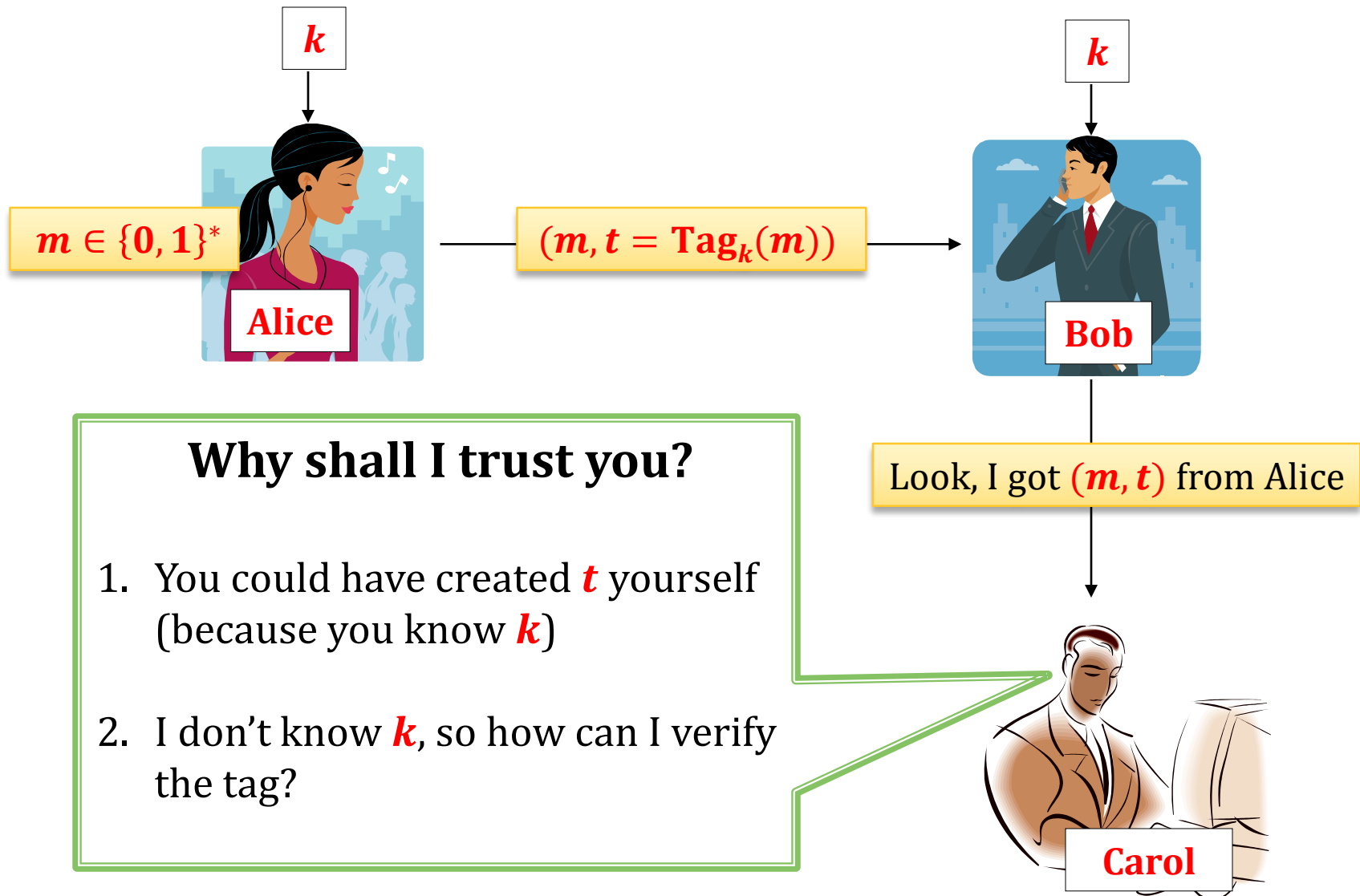
# Advantages of the signature schemes

Digital signatures are:

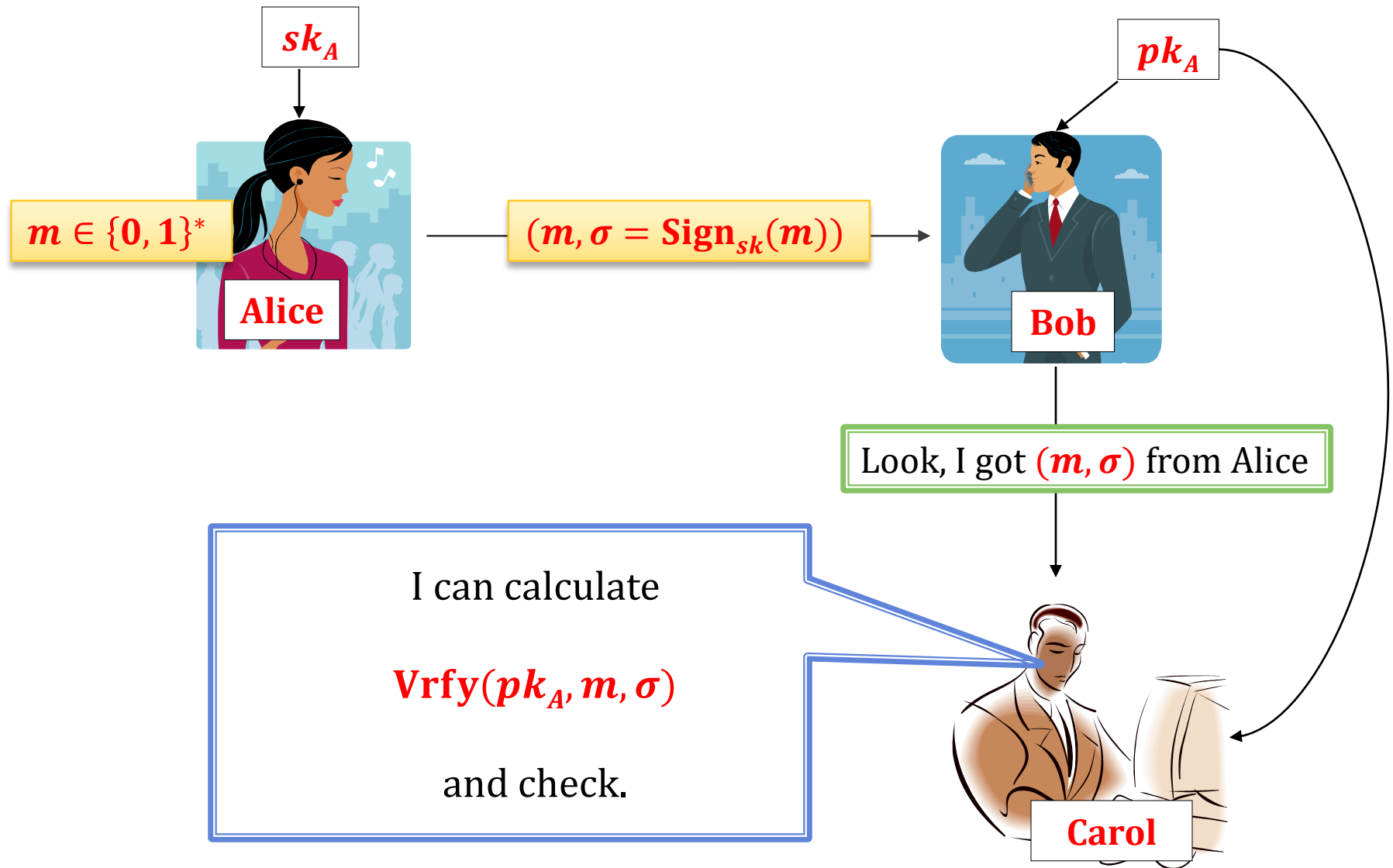
1. **publicly verifiable**,
2. **transferable**, and
3. provide **non-repudiation**

(we explain it on the next slides)

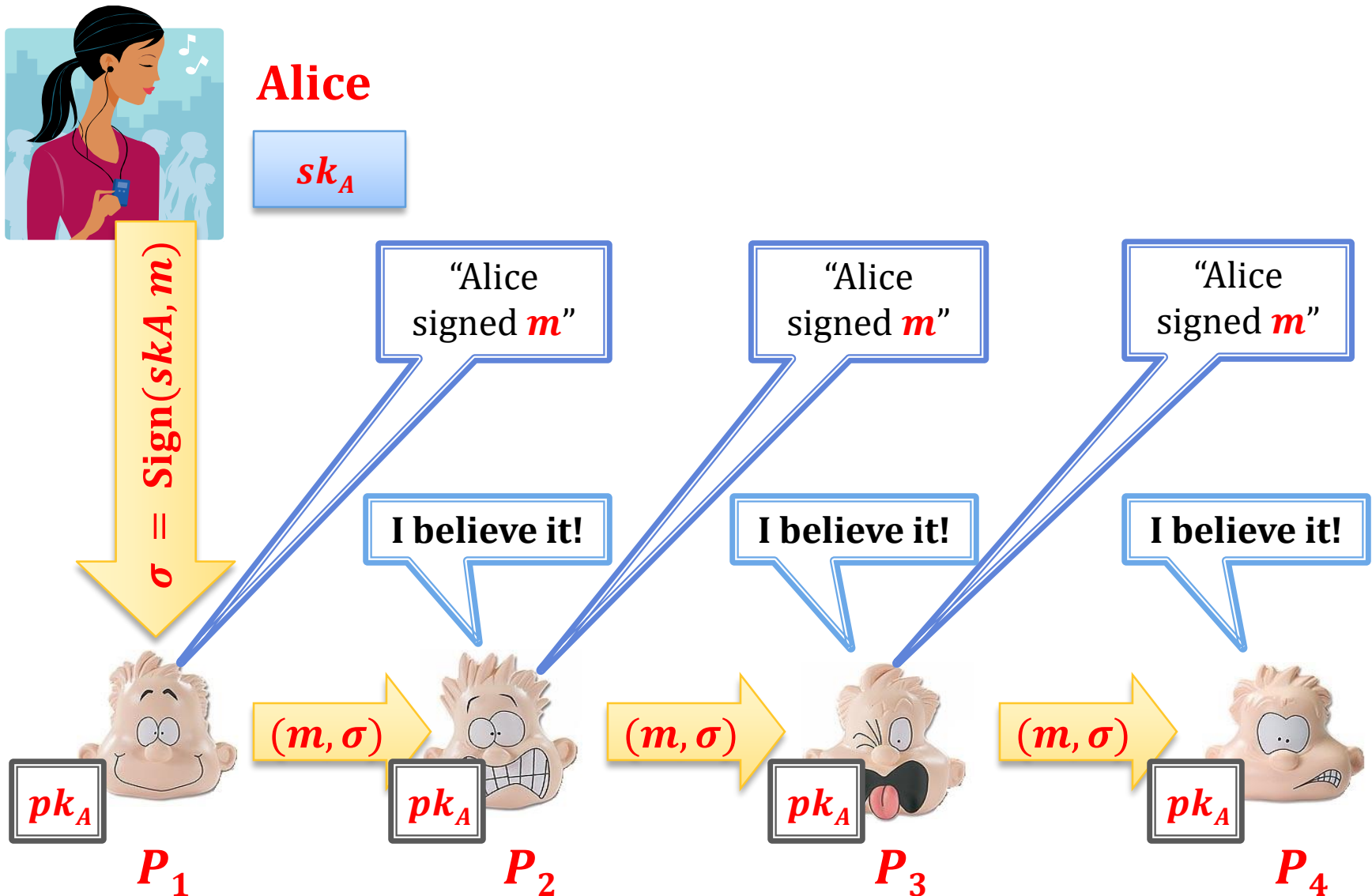
# Look at the MACs...



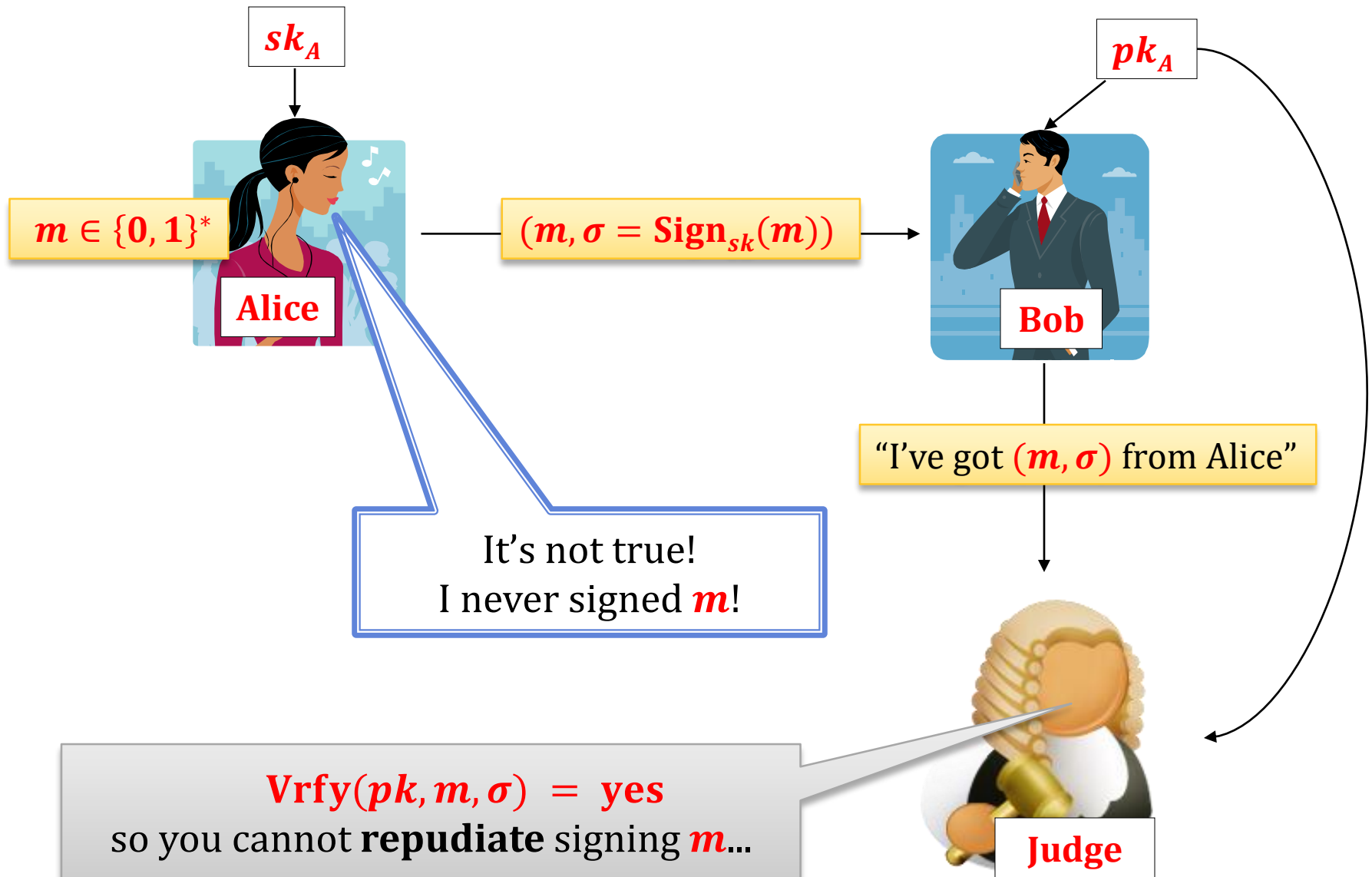
# Signatures are publicly-verifiable!



# So, the signatures are transferable




# Non-repudiation



# Things that need to be discussed

- Who **maintains “the register”**?
- How to **contact it securely**?
- How to **revoke the key** (if it is lost)?
- ...



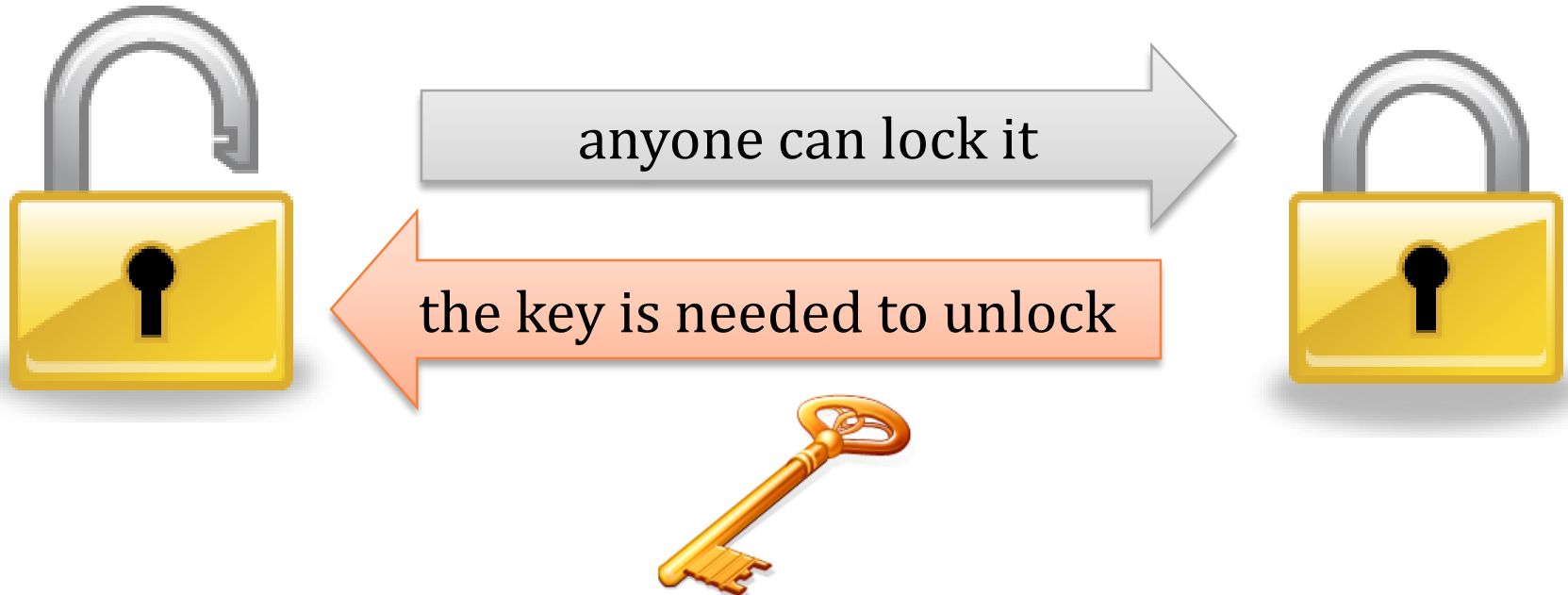
We will discuss these things  
later, when we will be talking  
about the  
**Public-Key Infrastructure**

# But is it possible?

In the “physical world”: **yes!**

**Examples:**

1. “normal” signatures
2. padlocks:



# Diffie and Hellman (1976)

Diffie and Hellman proposed the public key cryptography in **1976**.

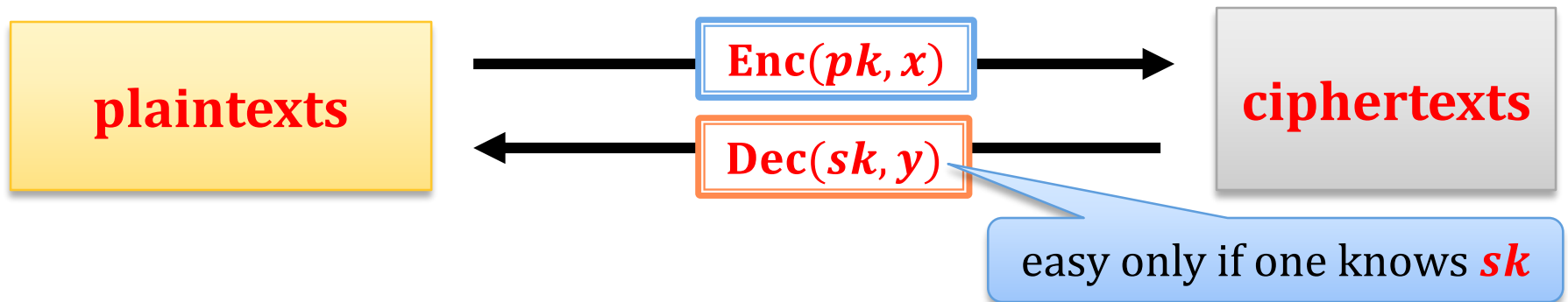
They just proposed the **concept**, not the **implementation**.

They have also shown a protocol for **key-exchange**.

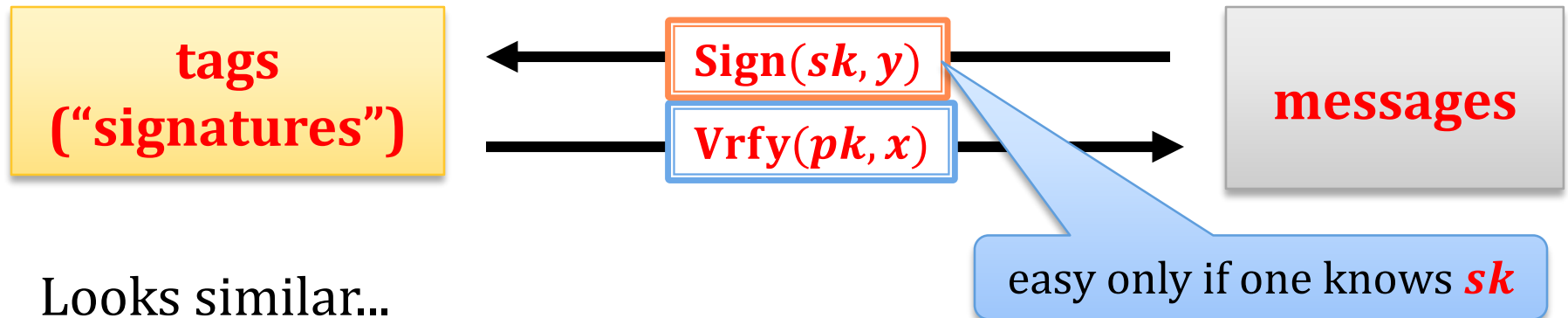
# The observation of Diffie and Hellman:

$(pk, sk)$  – the key pair

## public-key encryption:



## signature schemes:



Looks similar...

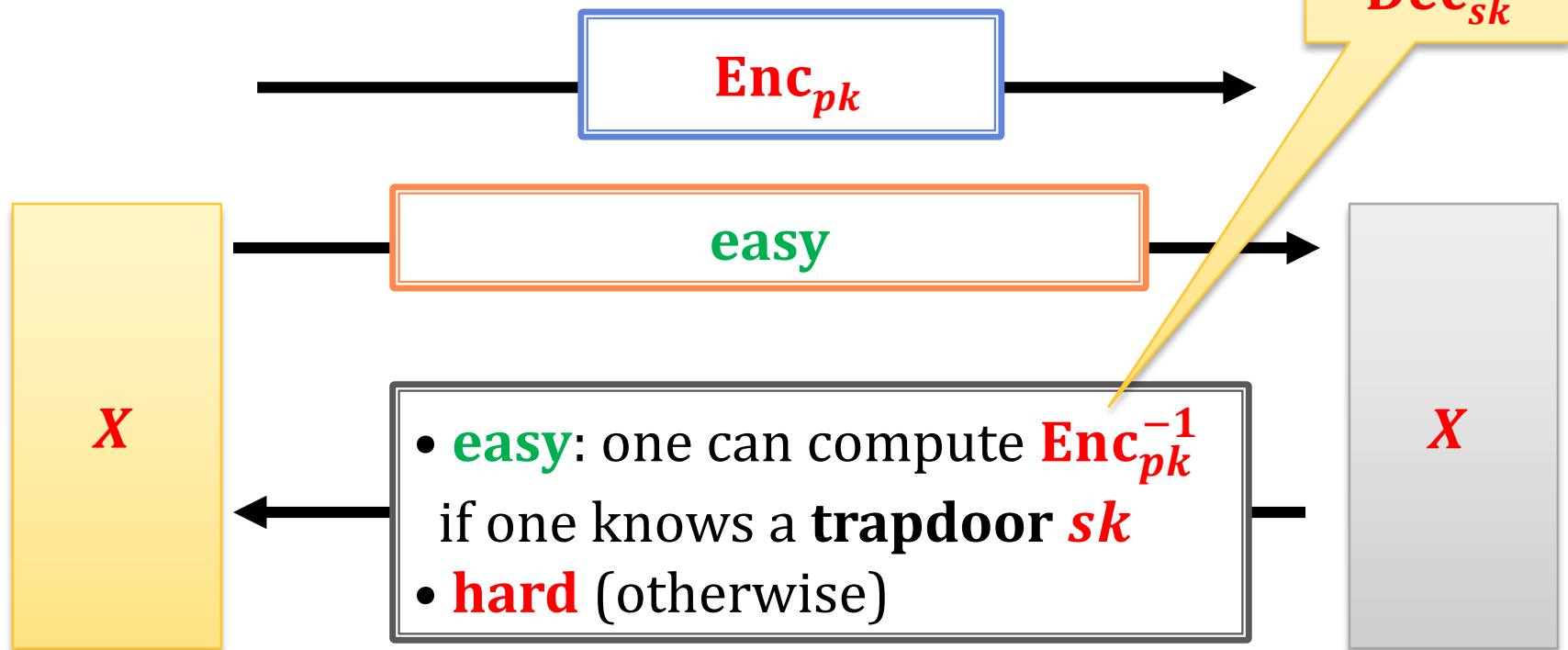
# Trapdoor permutations (informal definition)

A family of permutations indexed by  $pk \in \text{keys}$  :

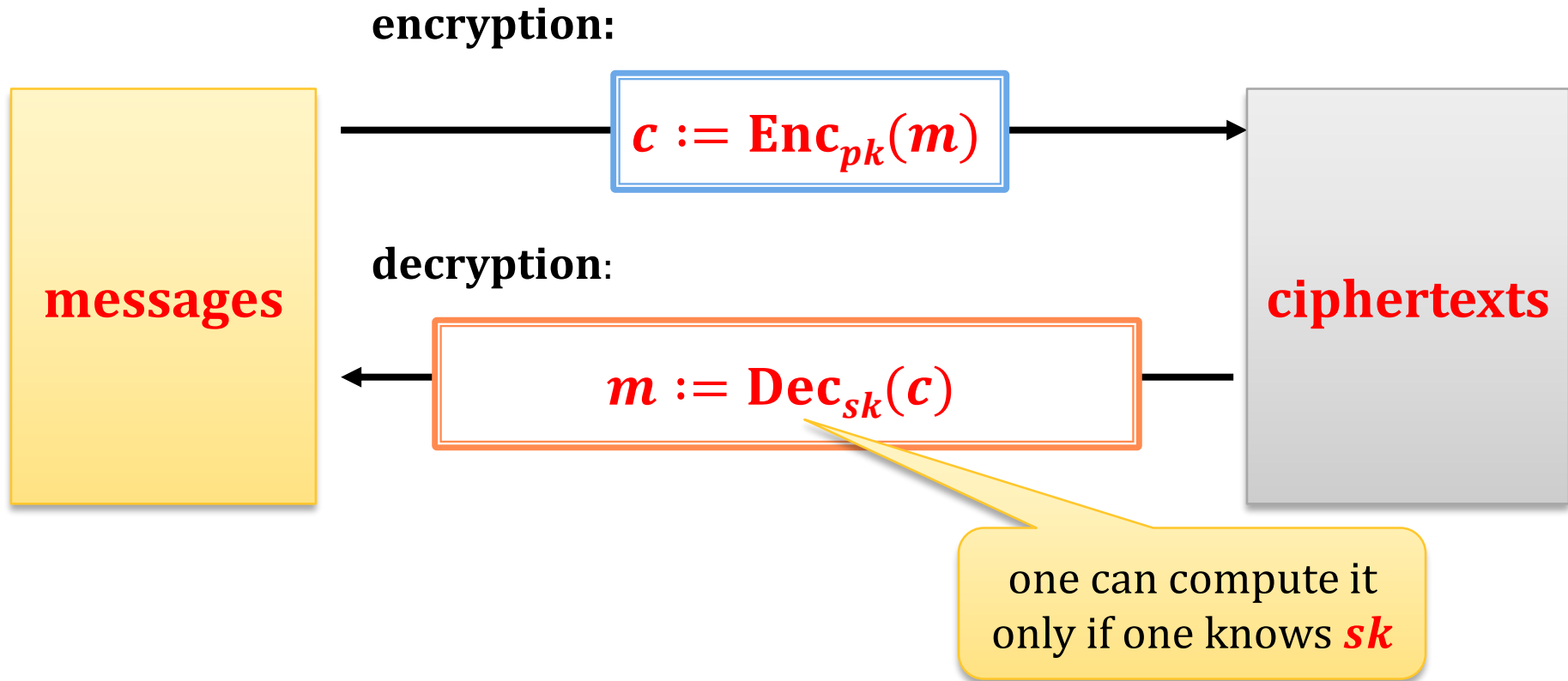
$$\{\text{Enc}_{pk} : X \rightarrow X\}_{pk \in \text{keys}}$$

such that for every key  $pk$  there exists a key  $sk$ , and:

this is  
denoted  
 $\text{Dec}_{sk}$

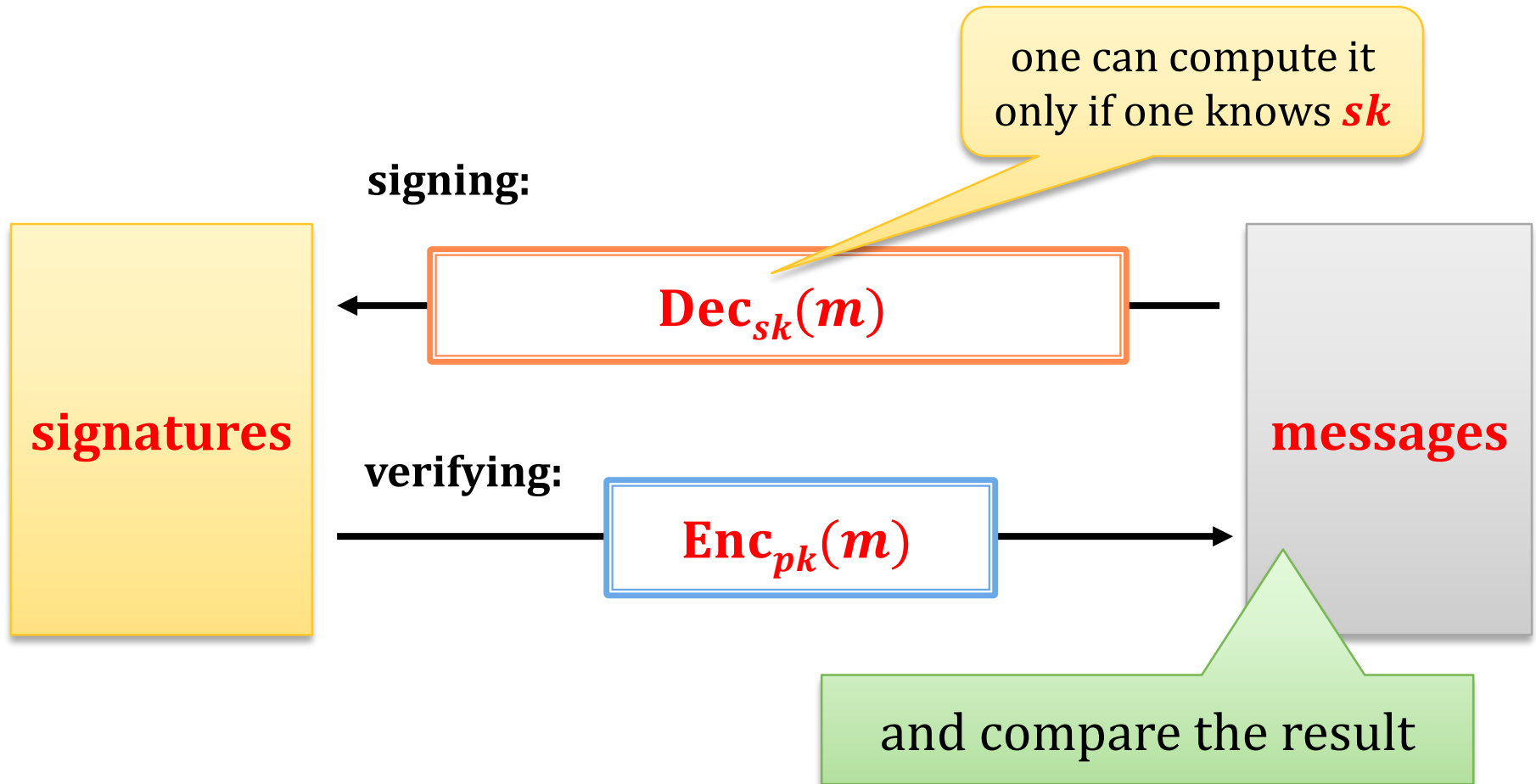


# How to encrypt a message $m$



**Warning:** In reality it's not that simple. We will explain it later.

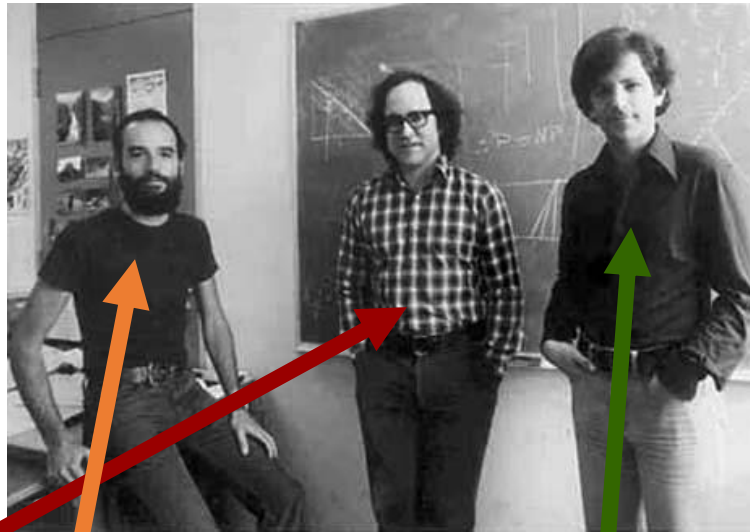
# How to sign a message $m$



**Warning:** In reality it's not that simple. We will explain it later.

# Do such functions exist?

**Yes:** exponentiation modulo  $N$ , where  $N$  is a product of two large primes.



Ron Rivest, Adi Shamir, and Leonard Adleman (1977)

**RSA** function is (conjectured to be) a trapdoor permutation!

# The RSA function

$N = pq$ , such that  $p$  and  $q$  are random primes,  
and  $|p| = |q|$

$e$  – random such that  $e \perp (p - 1)(q - 1)$

$d$  – random such that  $ed = 1 \pmod{(p - 1)(q - 1)}$

$pk := (N, e) \quad sk := (N, d)$

$\text{Enc}_{pk}: Z_N \rightarrow Z_N$  is defined as:

$$\text{Enc}_{pk}(m) = m^e \bmod N.$$

$\text{Dec}_{sk}: Z_N \rightarrow Z_N$  is defined as:

$$\text{Dec}_{sk}(c) = c^d \bmod N.$$

# Questions and doubts

$N = pq$ , such that  $p$  and  $q$  are random primes,  
and  $|p| = |q|$

$e$  – random such that  $e \perp (p-1)(q-1)$

$d$  – random such that  $ed = 1 \pmod{(p-1)(q-1)}$

$pk := (N, e)$   $sk := (N, d)$

$Enc_{pk}: Z_N \rightarrow Z_N$  is defined as:

$$Enc_{pk}(m) = m^e \bmod N.$$

$Dec_{sk}: Z_N \rightarrow Z_N$  is defined as:

$$Dec_{sk}(c) = c^d \bmod N.$$

encryption is  
**deterministic...**

How **large** these  
**primes** need to be?  
How to **sample** them?

where does this come  
from?

Can **exponentiation**  
be done **efficiently**?

$Enc_{pk}(1) = 1^e \bmod N = 1$   
Oops...

We will address them later...

$(N, e, d)$  – as on the previous slide

# “Handbook” RSA

Handbook RSA encryption scheme:

messages and ciphertexts:  $\mathbb{Z}_N$

- $\text{Enc}_{N,e}(m) = m^e \bmod N$
- $\text{Dec}_{N,d}(c) = c^d \bmod N$

Handbook RSA signature scheme:

messages and signatures:  $\mathbb{Z}_N$

- $\sigma := \text{Sign}_{N,d}(m) = m^d \bmod N$
- $\text{Vrfy}_{N,e}(m, \sigma) = \text{output yes iff } \sigma^e \bmod N = m$

# Is **RSA** secure?

Is **RSA** secure:

1. as an **encryption scheme**?
2. as a **signature scheme**?

The answer is not that simple.

**First, we would need to define security!**

**We will do it on the next lectures.**

# Symmetric vs asymmetric crypto

Symmetric cryptography (also called: private key cryptography) is **much more efficient!**

**Example** (Intel Core 2 1.83 GHz processor):

	MiB/Second	Cycles/Byte
AES/CTR (128-bit key)	<b>139</b>	<b>12.6</b>
HMAC(SHA-1)	<b>147</b>	<b>11.9</b>

	Operations/Second	Megacycles/Operation
RSA 2048 Encryption	<b>6,250</b>	<b>0.29</b>
RSA 2048 Signature	<b>165</b>	<b>11.06</b>

Source: <https://www.cryptopp.com/benchmarks.html>

# Practical solutions

Typically **asymmetric cryptography** is **combined** with the **symmetric one**.

**For example**: asymmetric cryptography is used only for **agreeing on a symmetric key**.

**Or**: one can combine it directly using a “**hybrid approach**”.

(we will discuss it later)

# Plan

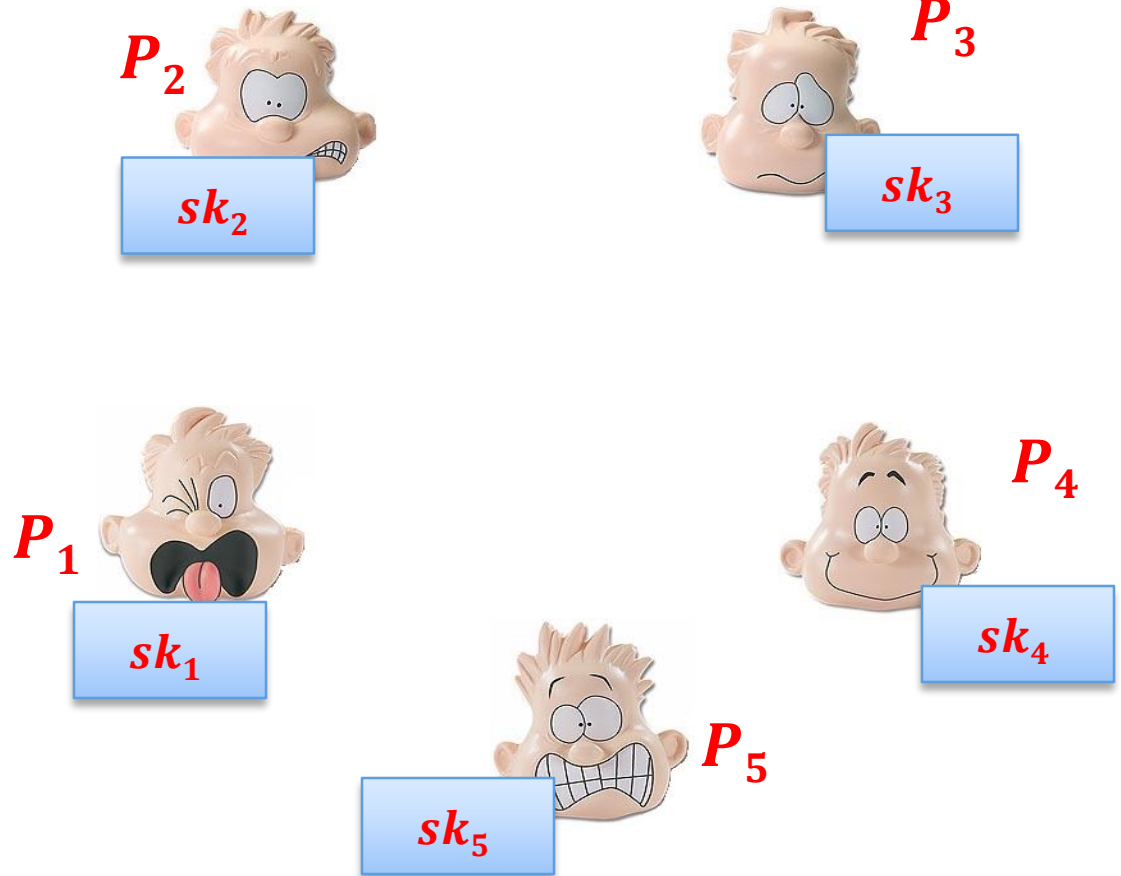
1. Public key cryptography – an overview
2. The key management problem
  1. qualified signatures
  2. public key infrastructure
3. Identity-based cryptography



# Remember this slide?

public register:

$pk_1$
$pk_2$
$pk_3$
$pk_4$
$pk_5$

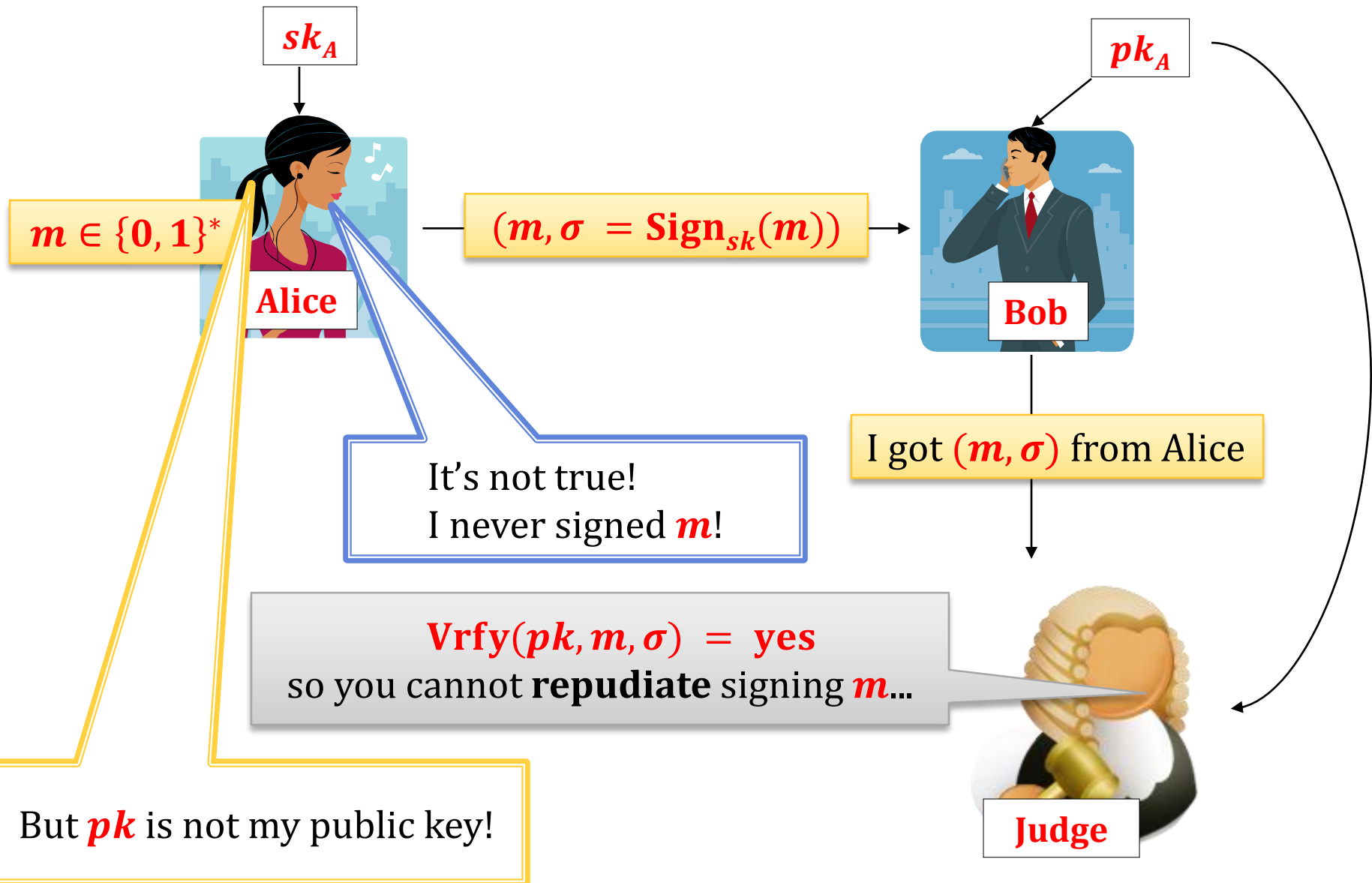


## Question:

How to maintain the public register?

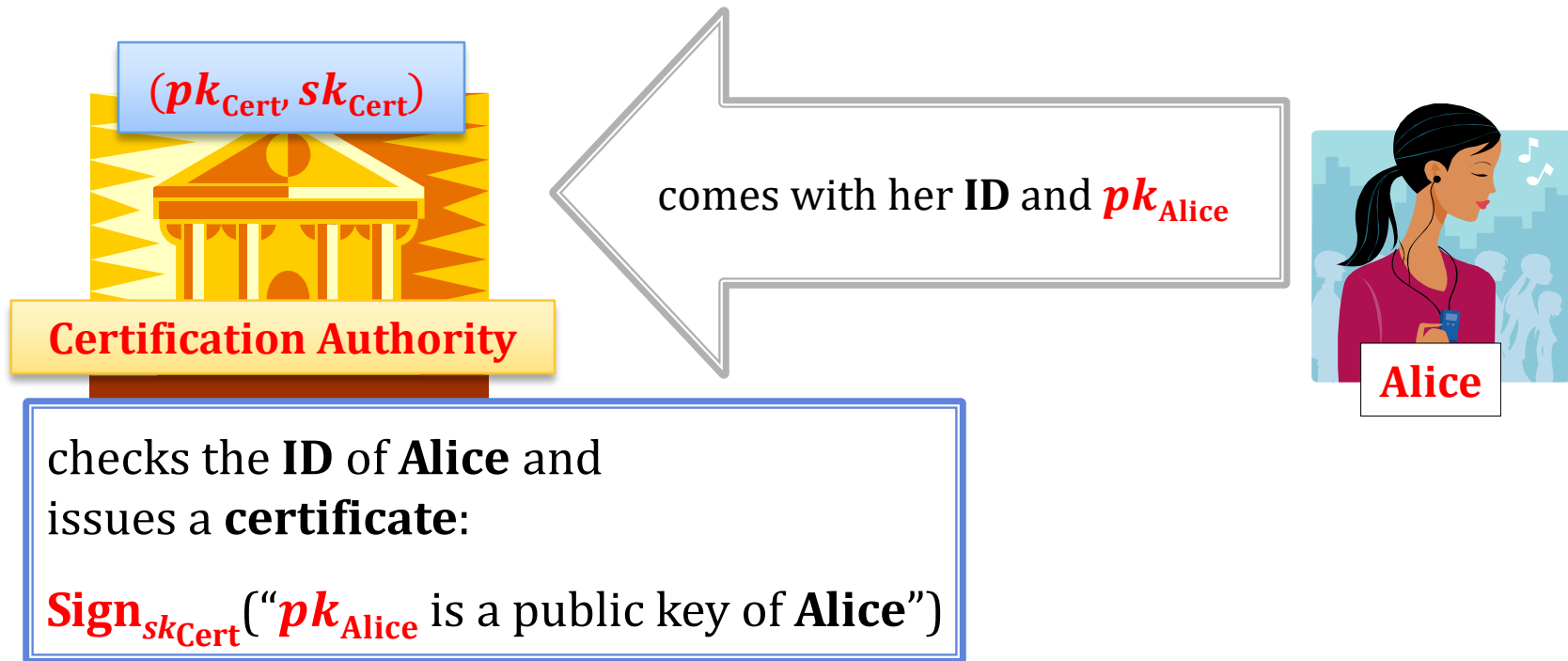
1. We start with the case when the public keys are used for **signing that is legally binding**.
2. Then we consider other cases.

# A problem



# Solution: certification authorities

A simplified view:



Now, **everyone** can verify that  $pk_{Alice}$  is a public key of **Alice**.  
So **Alice** can attach it to every signature

really everyone?

# What is needed to verify the certificate

To verify the certificate coming from **Cert** one needs:

1. to **know** the public key of the **Cert**
2. to **trust** **Cert**.

It is better if **Cert** also keeps a document:

*“I, **Alice** certify that  **$pk_{\text{Alice}}$**  is my public key”*  
with a **written** signature of **Alice**.

# How does it look from the legal point of view?

What matters at the end is if you can **convince the judge**.

Many countries have now a special law regulating these things.

In **Poland**:

[Ustawa o podpisie elektronicznym](#), z dnia 18 września 2001 r.

(Dz.U.01.130.1450) 28 str. ([ISIP](#)), na podst. dyrektywy EU [1999/93/EC](#)

This law defines the conditions to become an official **certification authority**.

A certificate issued by such an authority is called a **qualified certificate**.

A signature obtained this way is called a **qualified digital signature**.

The **qualified signature** is equivalent to the written one!

# Polish Certificate Authorities:

NCCERT | NBP

ENGLISH | ARCHIWUM | KONTAKT

NBP

Narodowy Bank Polski

Narodowe Centrum Certyfikacji (NCCert)

Strona główna

Dokumenty

Podmioty kwalifikowane

Zaświadczenia certyfikacyjne

Lista CRL

Lista TSL

Komunikaty

2015

2013

2012

2011

2010

2009

2008


2007

2006

2005

## REJESTR KWALIFIKOWANYCH PODMIOTÓW ŚWIADCZĄCYCH USŁUGI CERTYFIKACYJNE

Narodowy Bank Polski prowadzi rejestr podmiotów kwalifikowanych od dnia 1 października 2005r.

 Plik: [NCCert.crt](#) - zaświadczenie certyfikacyjne Narodowego Centrum Certyfikacji - (nowy root)

**Wpisy uszeregowane pod kątem czasu uzyskania wpisu do rejestru - w kolejności od najwcześniejszego**

Numer wpisu	Nazwa podmiotu	Rodzaj świadczonych usług	Czas dokonania wpisu
1.	<a href="#">UNIZETO TECHNOLOGIES</a> Spółka Akcyjna	Wydawanie kwalifikowanych certyfikatów	31 grudnia 2002 r., godz. 12:00:00
		Wydawanie kwalifikowanych certyfikatów atrybutów	13 września 2007 r., godz. 10:00:00
		Znakowanie czasem	24 stycznia 2003 r., godz. 12:00:00

# So, what to do if you want to issue the qualified signatures?

You have to go to one of these companies and **get a qualified certificate** (it costs!).

The certificate is **valid just for some period**.

# What if the secret key is lost?

In this case you have to **revoke** the certificate.

Every authority maintains a list of **revoked certificates**.

The certificates come with some **insurance**.

# In many case one doesn't want to use the qualified signatures

The certificates cost.

It's **risky** to use them:

How do you know what your computer is really signing?  
Computers have **viruses, Trojan horses**, etc.

You can use **external trusted hardware** but it should have a display (so you can see what is signed).

**Remember:** qualified signatures are equivalent to the written ones!

# Plan

1. Public key cryptography – an overview
2. The key management problem
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  2. public key infrastructure
3. Identity-based cryptography



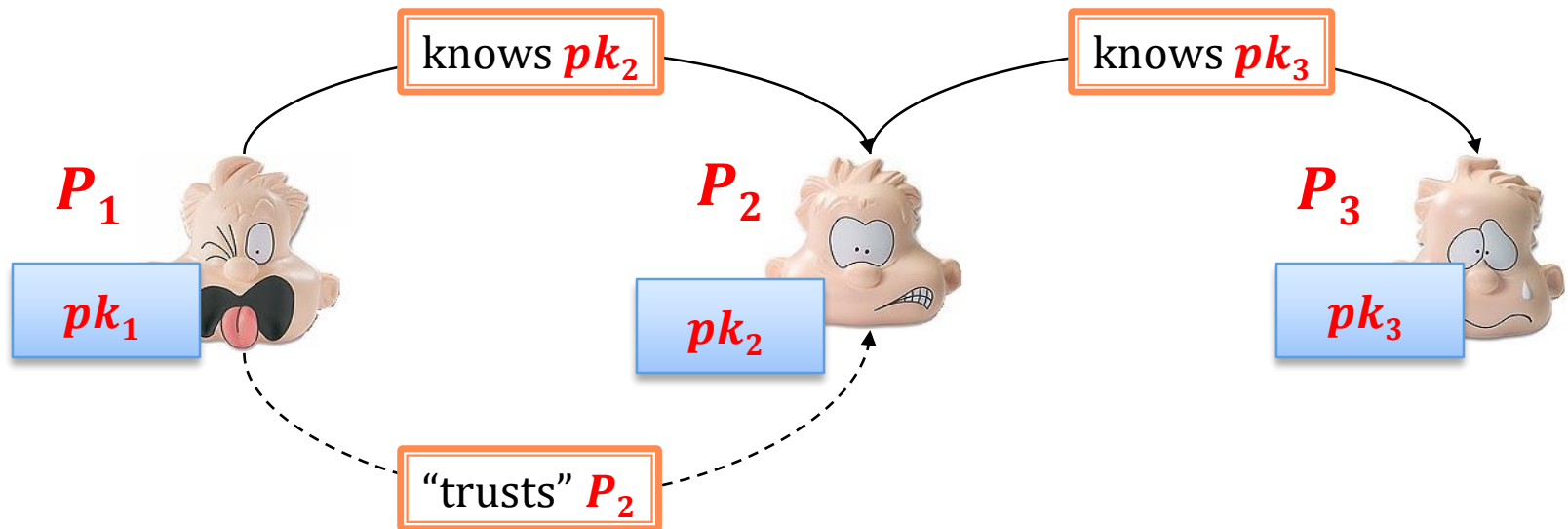
# Practical solution

In many cases the **qualified signatures** are an overkill.

Instead, people use **non**-qualified signatures.

The certificates are distributed using a **public-key infrastructure (PKI)**.

# Users can certify keys of the other users

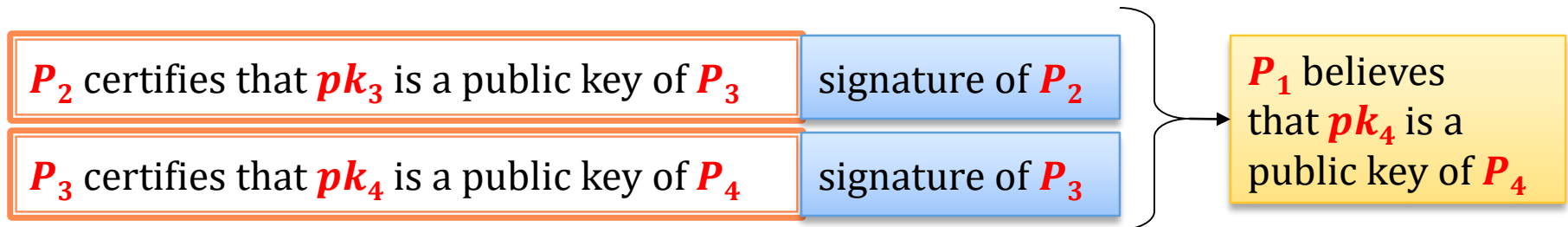
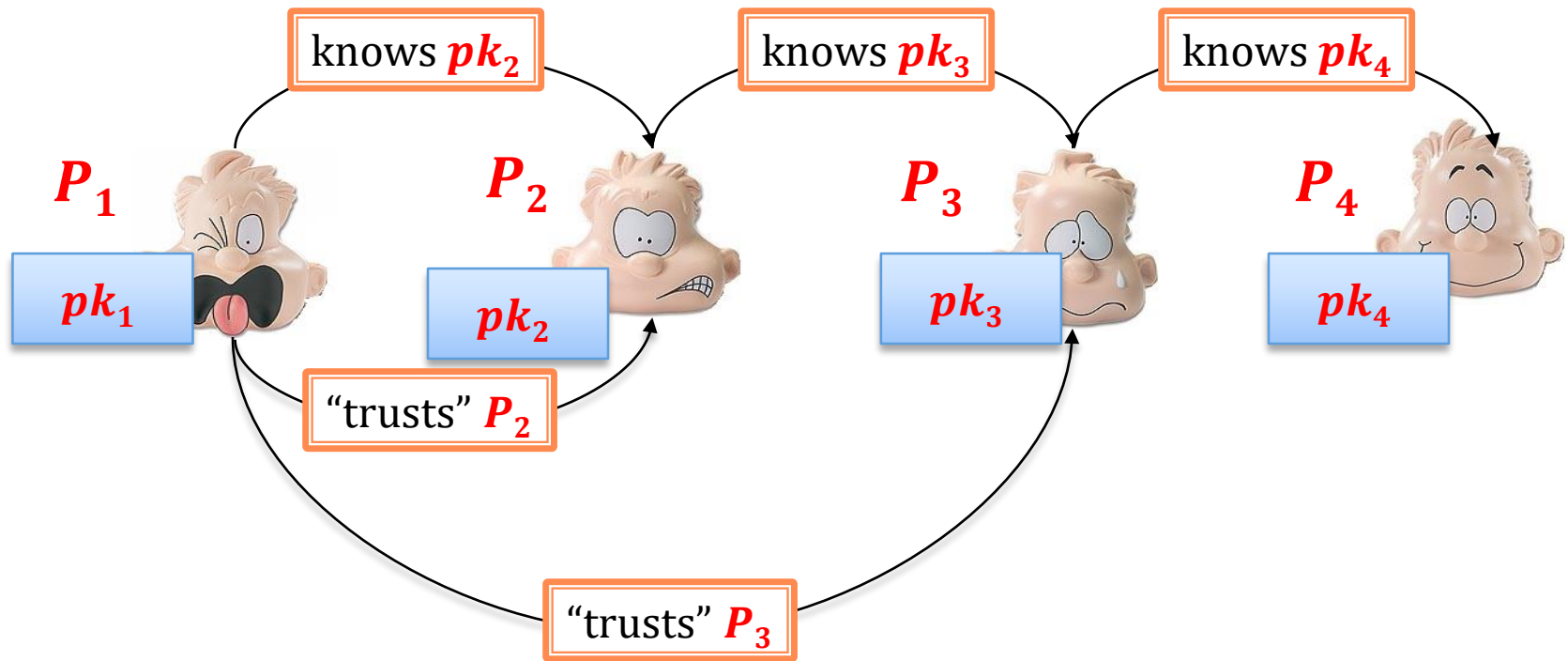


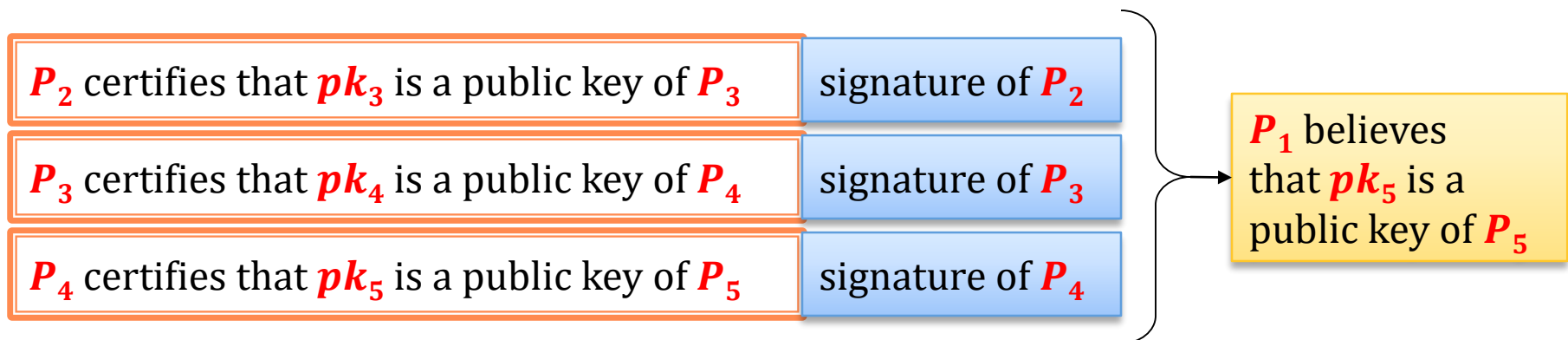
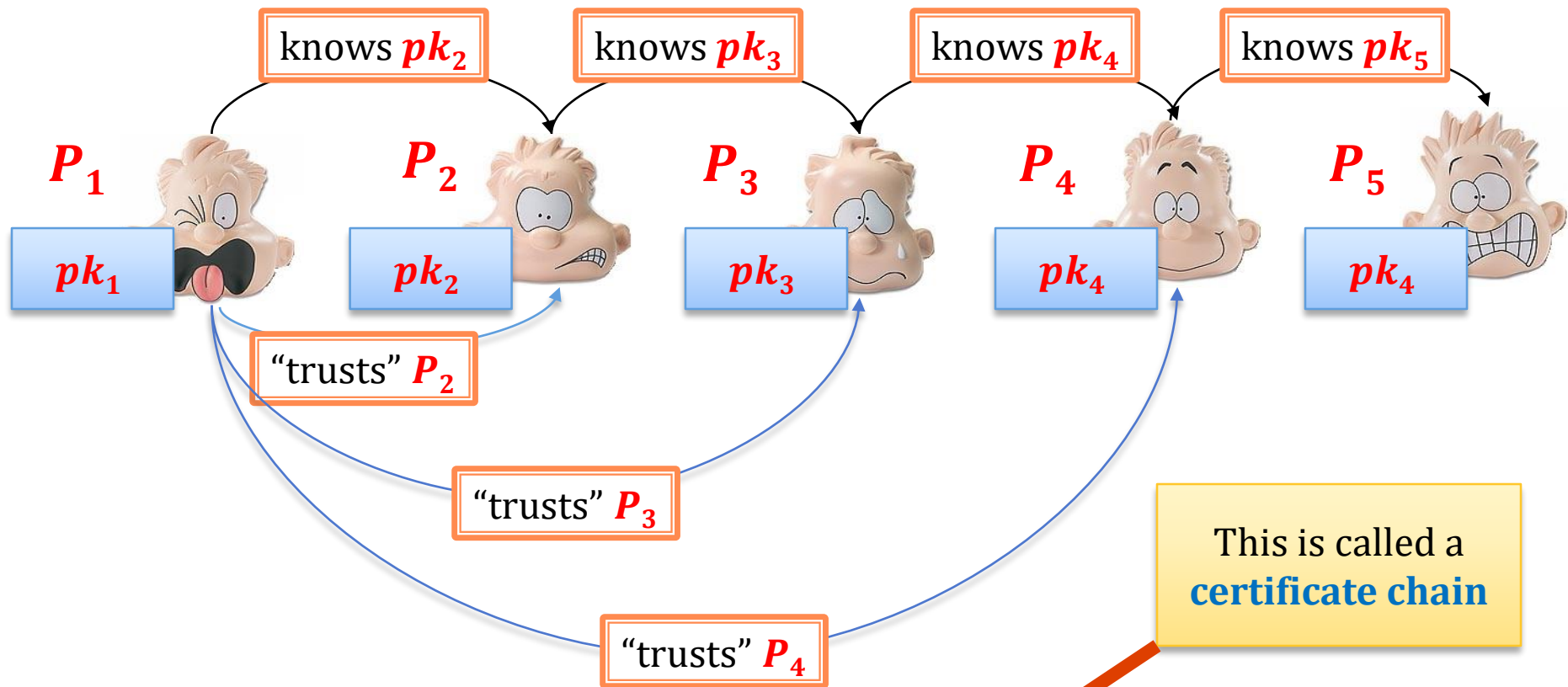
$P_2$  certifies that  $pk_3$  is a public key of  $P_3$

signature of  $P_2$

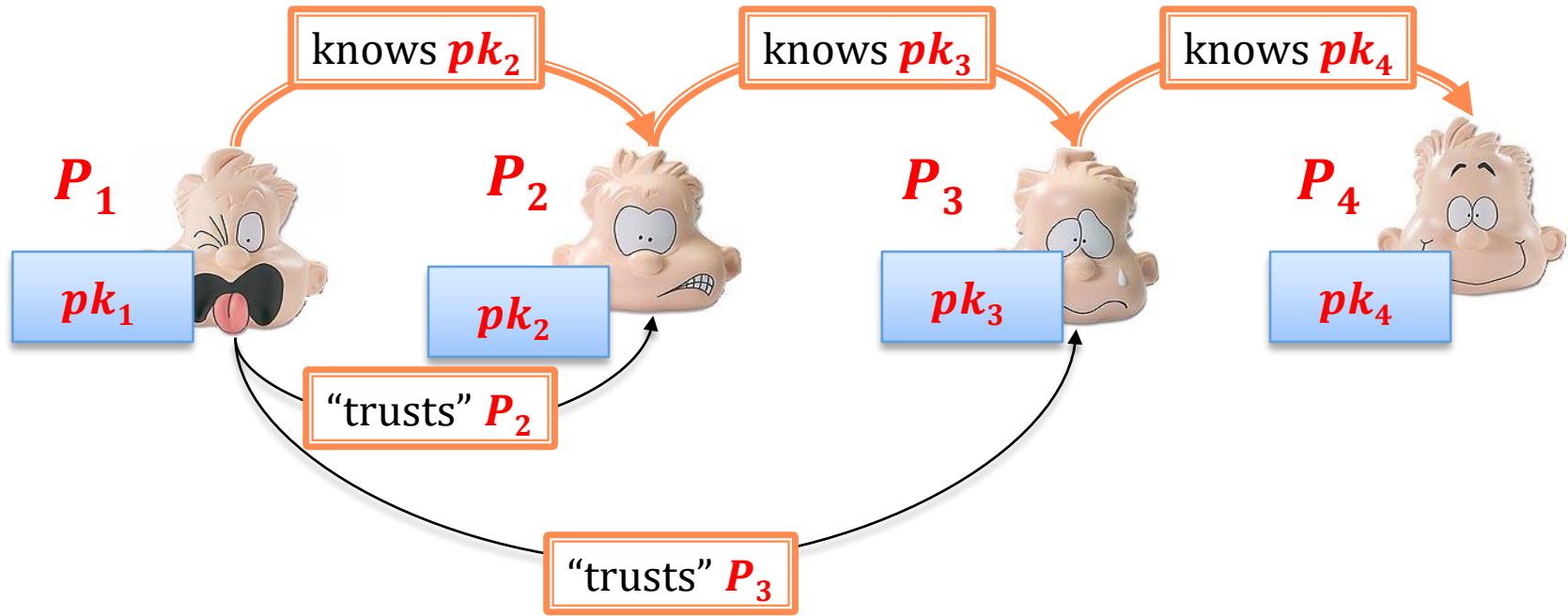
$P_1$  believes that  $pk_3$  is a public key of  $P_3$

this should be done only if  $P_2$  really met  $P_3$  in person and verified his identity





# A problem



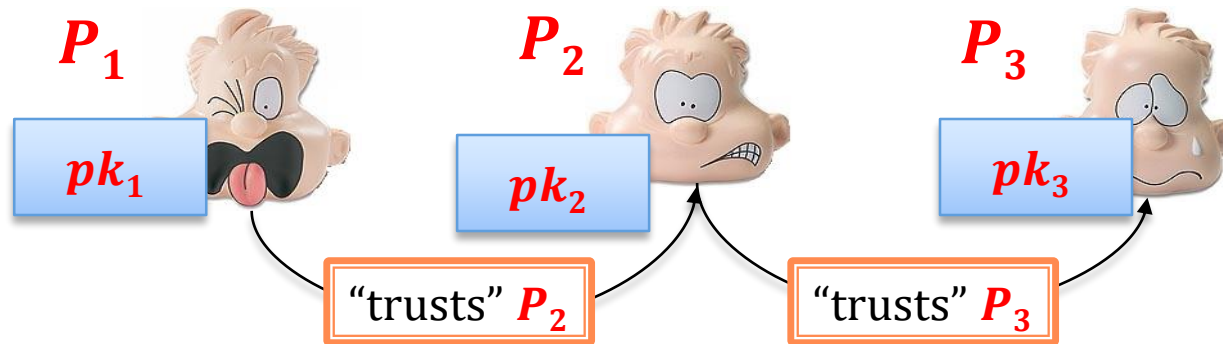
What if  $P_1$  does not know  $P_3$ ?

How can he trust him?

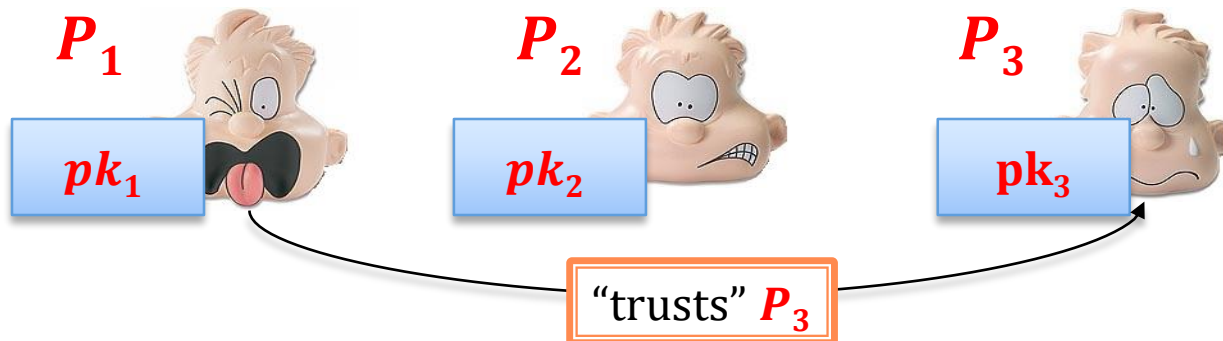
**Answer:**  $P_2$  can recommend  $P_3$  to  $P_1$ .

# A question: is trust transitive?

Does:

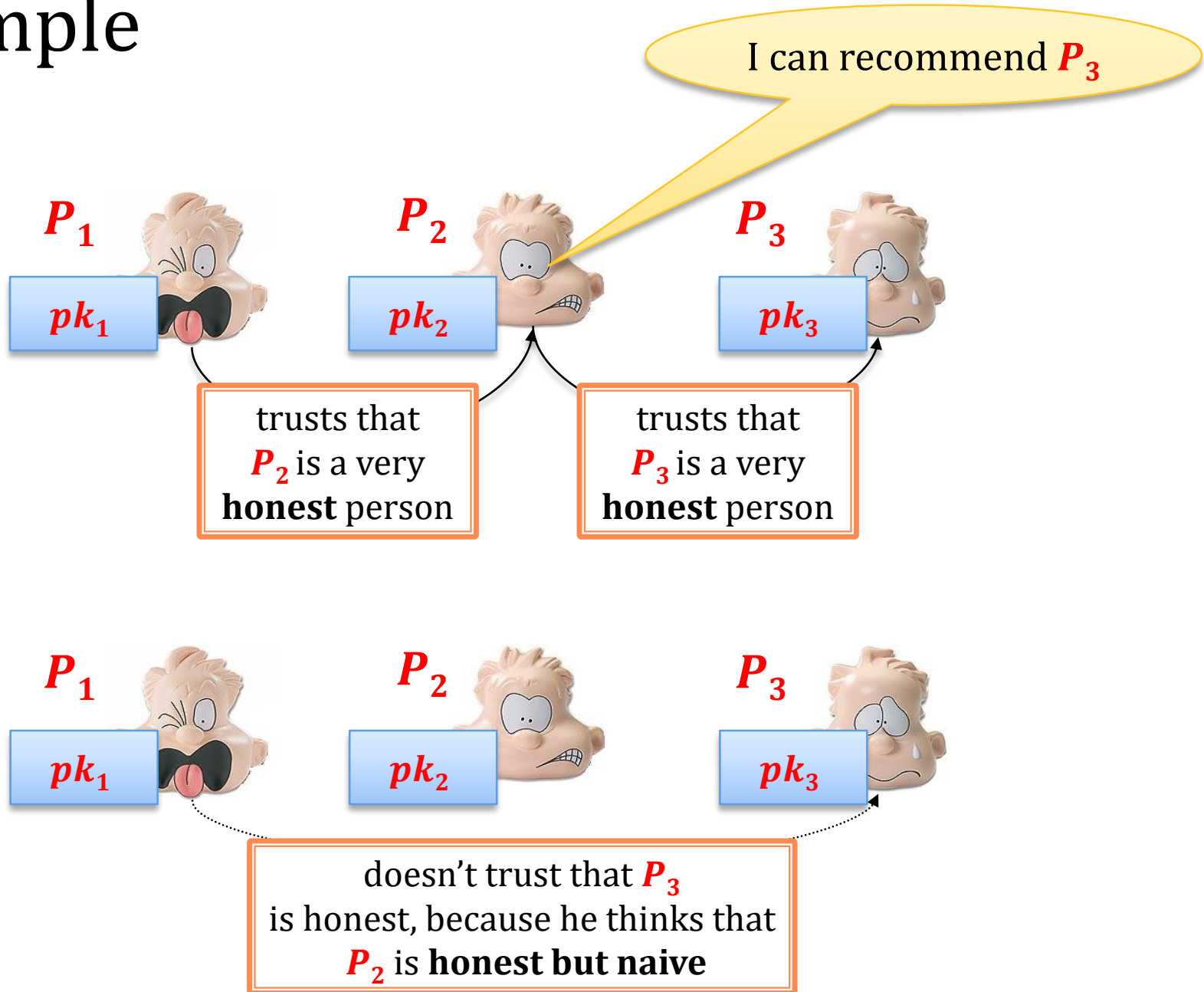


imply:



?

# Example



# Moral

**Trust is not transitive:**

“ $P_1$  trusts in the certificates issued by  $P_2$ ”

**is not the same as:**

“ $P_1$  trusts that

if

$P_2$  says: “you can trust the certificates issued by  $P_3$ ”

then

one can trust the certificates issued by  $P_3$ ”

# Recommendation levels

level **1** recommendation:

**A:** *"you can trusts in all the certificates issued by **B**"*

level **2** recommendation:

**A:** *"you can trust that **all the level 1** recommendations issued by **B**"*

level **3** recommendation:

**A:** *"you can trust that **all the level 2** recommendations issued by **B**"*

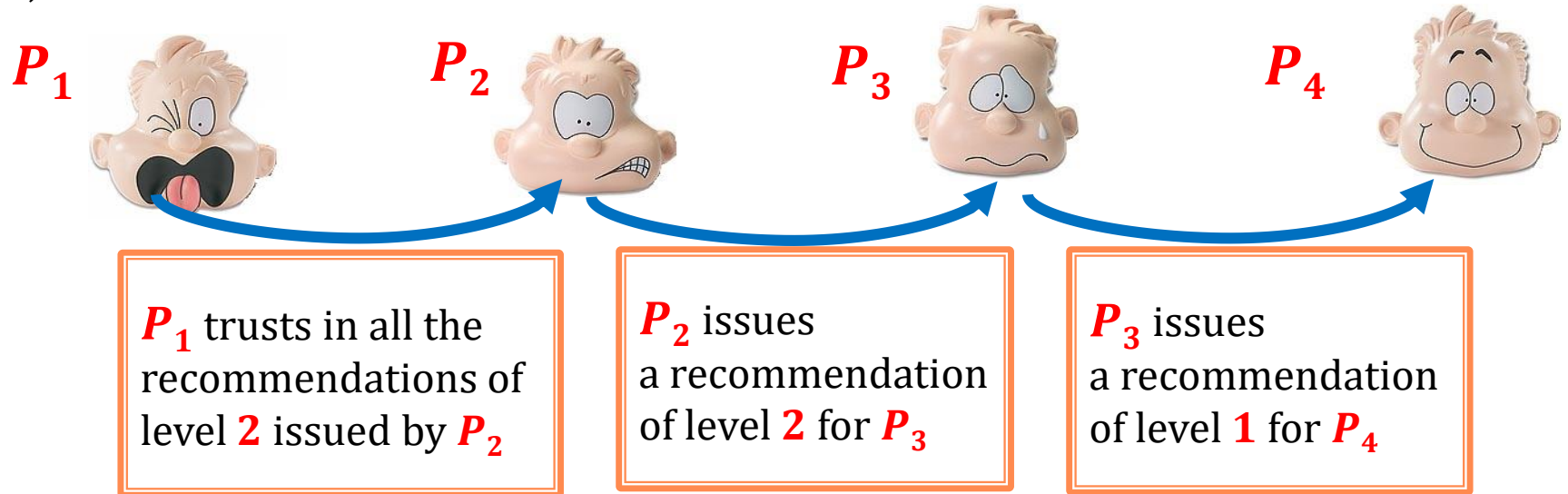
**and so on...**

**Recursively:**

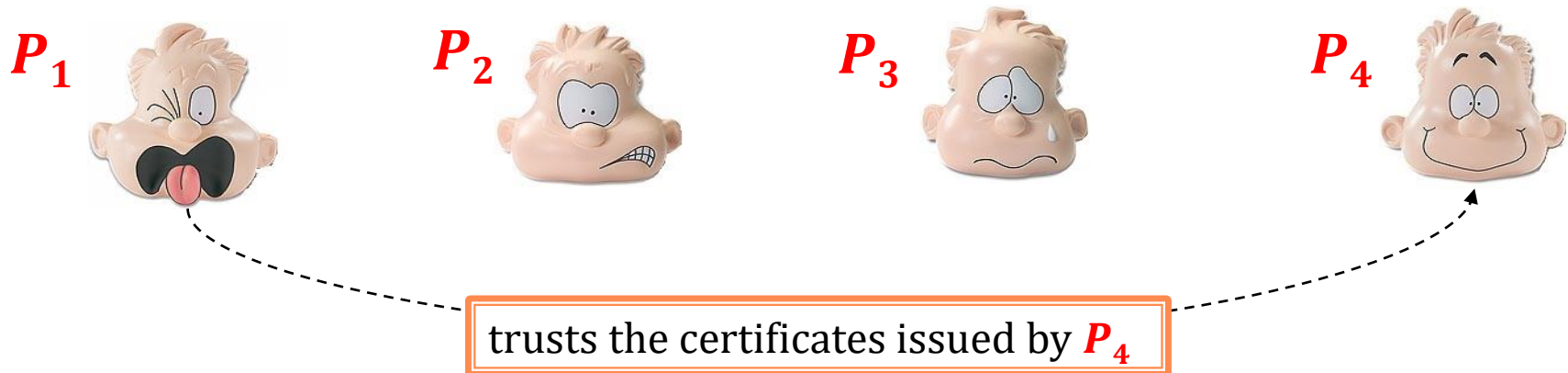
level  **$i + 1$**  recommendation:

**A:** *"you can trust that **all the level  $i$**  recommendations issued by **B**"*

Now, if:



then



Of course the recommendations also need to be signed.

Starts to look complicated...

# How is it solved in practice?

In popular standard is **X.509** the recommendation is included into a certificate.

Here the level of recommendations is bounded using a field called ***basic constraints***.

**X.509** is used for example in **SSL**.

**SSL** is implemented is implemented in every popular web-browser.

So, let's look at it.

# Certificate Manager

Your Certificates Other People's Web Sites Authorities

You have certificates on file that identify these certificate authorities:

Certificate Name	Security Device	
Baltimore CyberTrust Root	Builtin Object Token	⬆
[-] Certplus		
Class 2 Primary CA	Builtin Object Token	
[-] Comodo CA Limited		
AAA Certificate Services	Builtin Object Token	
Secure Certificate Services	Builtin Object Token	
Trusted Certificate Services	Builtin Object Token	
[-] DigiCert Inc		
DigiCert Assured ID Root CA	Builtin Object Token	
DigiCert Global Root CA	Builtin Object Token	
DigiCert High Assurance EV Root CA	Builtin Object Token	
[-] Digital Signature Trust		
DST ACES CA X6	Builtin Object Token	
[-] Digital Signature Trust Co.		
Digital Signature Trust Co. Global CA 1	Builtin Object Token	
Digital Signature Trust Co. Global CA 3	Builtin Object Token	⬇

View

Edit

Import

Delete

OK

Certificate Viewer: "Builtin Object Token:DigiCert Global Root CA"



General

Details

**This certificate has been verified for the following uses:**

Email Signer Certificate

SSL Certificate Authority

Status Responder Certificate

**Issued To**

Common Name (CN)	DigiCert Global Root CA
Organization (O)	DigiCert Inc
Organizational Unit (OU)	www.digicert.com
Serial Number	08:3B:E0:56:90:42:46:B1:A1:75:6A:C9:59:91:C7:4A

**Issued By**

Common Name (CN)	DigiCert Global Root CA
Organization (O)	DigiCert Inc
Organizational Unit (OU)	www.digicert.com

**Validity**

Issued On	11/10/2006
Expires On	11/10/2031

**Fingerprints**

SHA1 Fingerprint	A8:98:5D:3A:65:E5:E5:C4:B2:D7:D6:6D:40:C6:DD:2F:B1:9C:54:36
MD5 Fingerprint	79:E4:A9:84:0D:7D:3A:96:D7:C0:4F:E2:43:4C:89:2E

Close

Certificate Viewer: "Builtin Object Token:DigiCert Global Root CA"



General Details

### Certificate Hierarchy

DigiCert Global Root CA

### Certificate Fields

- Subject Public Key Algorithm
- Subject's Public Key
- ☐ Extensions
  - Certificate Key Usage
  - Certificate Basic Constraints
  - Certificate Subject Key ID
  - Certificate Authority Key Identifier
- Certificate Signature Algorithm**
- Certificate Signature Value

### Field Value

PKCS #1 SHA-1 With RSA Encryption

Close

Certificate Viewer: "Builtin Object Token:DigiCert Global Root CA"



General Details

**Certificate Hierarchy**

DigiCert Global Root CA

**Certificate Fields**

- Issuer
- [-] Validity
  - Not Before
  - Not After
- Subject
- [-] Subject Public Key Info
  - Subject Public Key Algorithm
  - Subject's Public Key
- [-] Extensions

**Field Value**

Size: 270 Bytes / 2160 Bits

```
30 82 01 0a 02 82 01 01 00 e2 3b e1 11 72 de a8
a4 d3 a3 57 aa 50 a2 8f 0b 77 90 c9 a2 a5 ee 12
ce 96 5b 01 09 20 cc 01 93 a7 4e 30 b7 53 f7 43
c4 69 00 57 9d e2 8d 22 dd 87 06 40 00 81 09 ce
ce 1b 83 bf df cd 3b 71 46 e2 d6 66 c7 05 b3 76
27 16 8f 7b 9e 1e 95 7d ee b7 48 a3 08 da d6 af
7a 0c 39 06 65 7f 4a 5d 1f bc 17 f8 ab be ee 28
d7 74 7f 7a 78 99 59 85 68 6e 5c 23 32 4b bf 4e
```

Close

Certificate Viewer: "Builtin Object Token:DigiCert Global Root CA"

General Details

Certificate Hierarchy

DigiCert Global Root CA

Certificate Fields

Not After  
Subject  
Subject Public Key Info  
Subject Public Key Algorithm  
Subject's Public Key  
Extensions  
Certificate Key Usage  
Certificate Basic Constraints  
Certificate Subject Key ID

Field Value

Critical  
Is a Certificate Authority  
Maximum number of intermediate CAs: unlimited

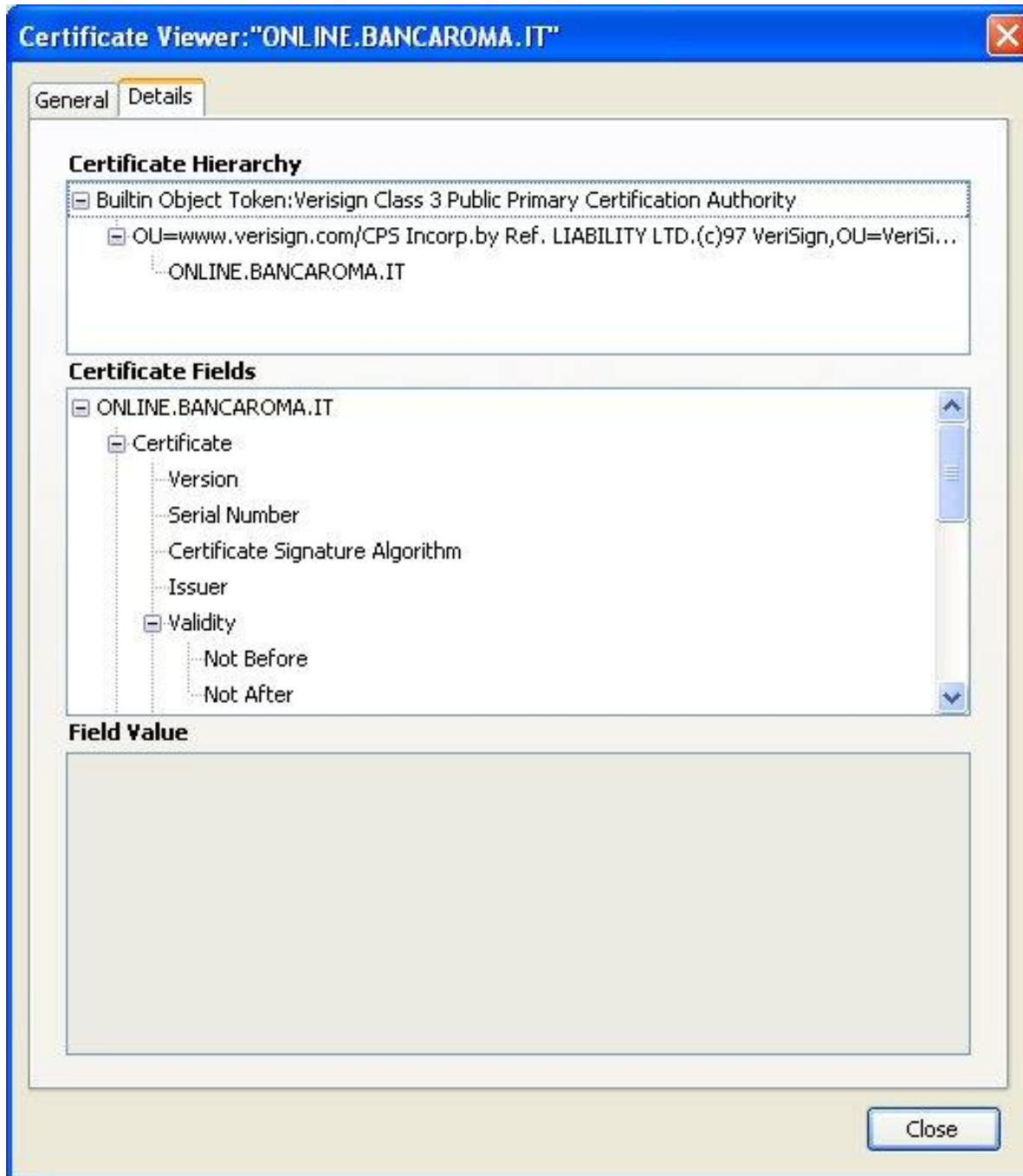
this field limits the  
recommendation  
depth  
(here it's unlimited)

Close

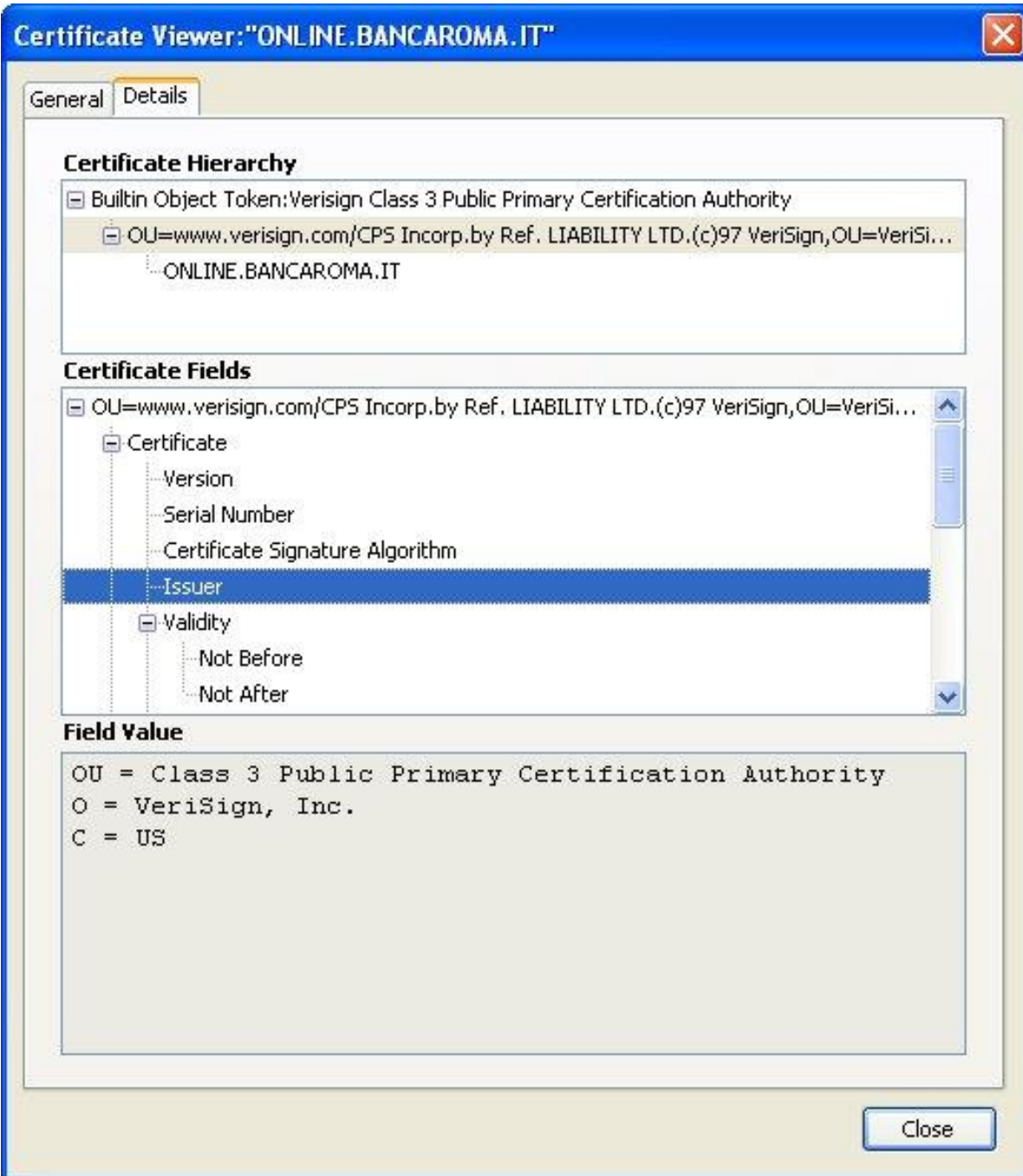
# Concrete example

Let's go to the **Banca Di Roma** website





} a certificate chain



the second certificate was signed by "**Verisign Primary Authority**" for "**Verisign Inc**".

(it's not strange, we will discuss it)



### Details

Built-in Object Token: Verisign Class 3 Public Primary Certification Authority

- OU=www.verisign.com/CPS Incorp.by Ref. LIABILITY LTD.(c)97 VeriSign, OU=VeriSi...
- ONLINE.BANCAROMA.IT

- Subject Public Key Algorithm
- Subject's Public Key
- [-] Extensions
  - Certificate Basic Constraints
  - Certificate Policies
  - Extended Key Usage
  - Certificate Key Usage
  - Netscape Certificate Type
  - CRL Distribution Points

```
Not Critical
Is a Certificate Authority
Maximum number of intermediate CAs: 0
```



Close

Look here

Certificate Viewer:"ONLINE.BANCAROMA.IT"

General Details

Certificate Hierarchy

- [-] Builtin Object Token:Verisign Class 3 Public Primary Certification Authority
  - [-] OU=www.verisign.com/CPS Incorp.by Ref. LIABILITY LTD.(c)97 VeriSign,OU=VeriSi...
    - ONLINE.BANCAROMA.IT

Certificate Fields

- Subject Public Key Algorithm
- Subject's Public Key
- [-] Extensions
  - Certificate Basic Constraints
  - Certificate Key Usage
  - CRL Distribution Points
  - Certificate Policies
  - Extended Key Usage
  - Authority Information Access

Field Value

Not Critical  
Is not a Certificate Authority

Close

The third certificate  
was issued by  
**Verisign Inc.**  
for  
**Banca di Roma**

# The typical picture

web browser knows these certificates

Verisign

DigiCert

Entrust

...

Implicit assumptions:

- the author of the browser is honest,
- the author of the browser is competent
- nobody manipulated the browser

is it  
always  
true?

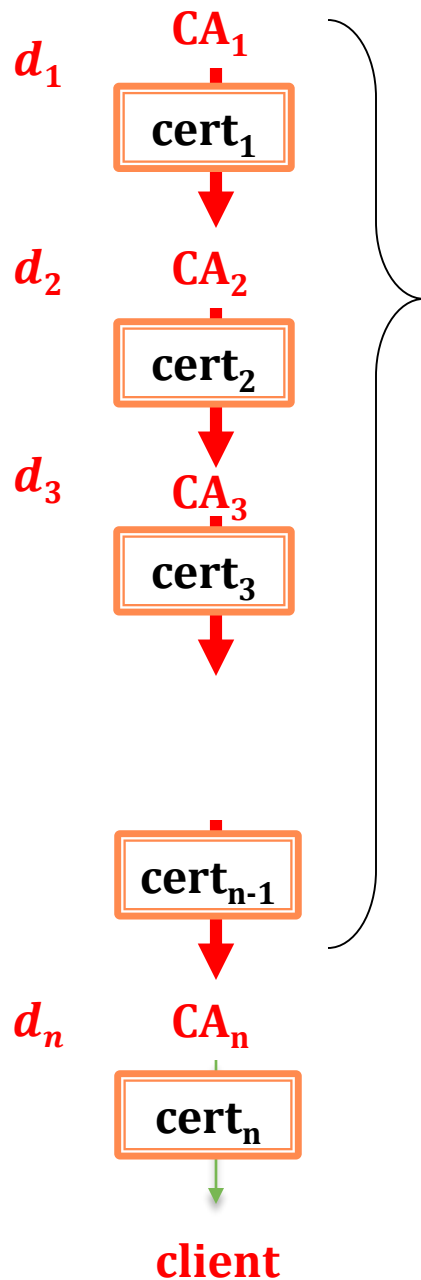
Verisign  
Europe

Verisign  
USA

Verisign  
Italy

Banca di Roma

a certificate path



All these certificates have to have a flag “**Is a Certification Authority**” switched on.

Moreover:

each  $cert_i$  has a number  $d_i$  denoting a maximal depth of certificate chain from this point (this limits the recommendation depth)

That is, we need to have:

$$d_i \geq n - i$$

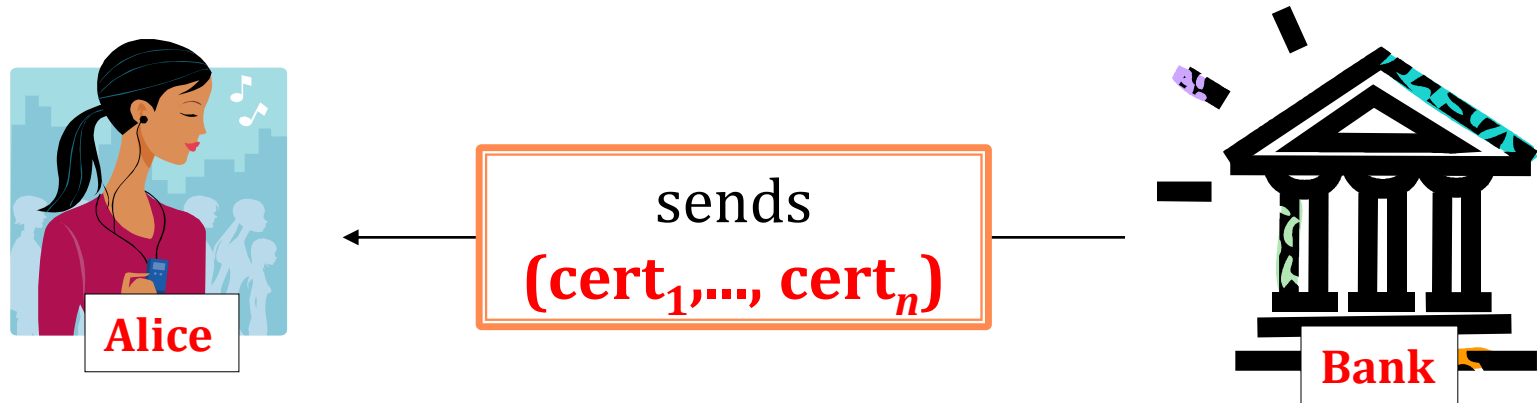
# Is it so important to check it?

**Yes!**

For example: the last element in the chain can be anybody (who paid to **Verising** for a certificate).

For sure we do not want to trust the certificates issued by **anyone**.

# So, what happens when a user contacts the bank?



If Alice's browser knows **cert<sub>1</sub>** it can verify the chain and read the public key of the bank from **cert<sub>n</sub>**.

# Other information that the certificates contain

- information about the **signature algorithm**
- **validity** (dates)
- address of the **certificate revocation list**

**Certificate Revocation List (CRL):**  
the list of revoked certificates  
(need to access it before accepting the  
certificate)

# Main problems with X.509

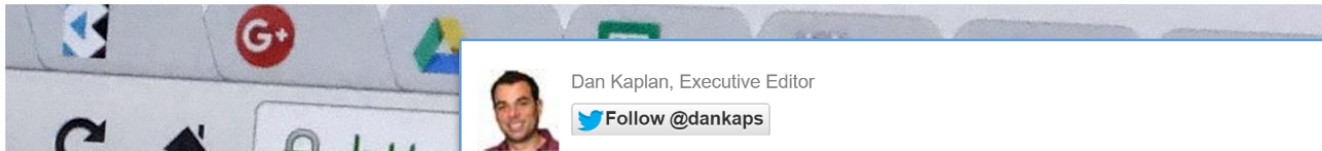
1. **Certificate revocation lists** work only **if you are online**.
2. **Revocation of root certificates** not addressed.
3. **CAs cannot restrict the domains** on which the subordinate CAs issue certificates.
4. It's enough into **hack one** of the popular CA's to impersonate any webpage.

# Not only theoretical problems

DigiNotar SSL certificate hack amounts to cyberwar, says expert

Google slaps Symantec for issuing fake web security certificates

by Jon Fingas | @jonfingas | October 29th 2015 At 8:22pm



Dan Kaplan, Executive Editor

Follow @dankaps

January 03, 2013

## Google, Microsoft respond to fraudulent certificate

Share this article:



A Turkish certificate authority (CA) accidentally issued two intermediate, or chained, digital certificates, one of which was used by the holder to mimic legitimate websites.

# A solution: “Public Key Pinning”:

- after the first connection **the web browser remembers the public keys on the certificate chain,**
- in each subsequent connection the browser **checks if the certificate chain is the same** as before.

# Another problem

**In practice:**

the certificate **issuers do not check the identity**  
of their customers carefully  
**(due to the economical reasons).**

# Solution:

## Extended Validation Certificates

Some certificates are issued after **a more careful check**.

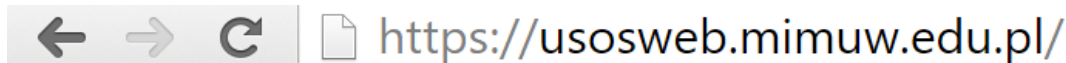
This is indicated in the web browser.

### Example from Chrome:

**EV certificate:**



**Non-EV certificate:**



# A different idea for a PKI

## **Namecoin**

use Bitcoin's "blockchain" as a distributed register.

# Another popular PKI (in the past)

**Pretty Good Privacy** (PGP) – every user can act as a certification authority.

Hence the name:

**Web of Trust**

# Plan

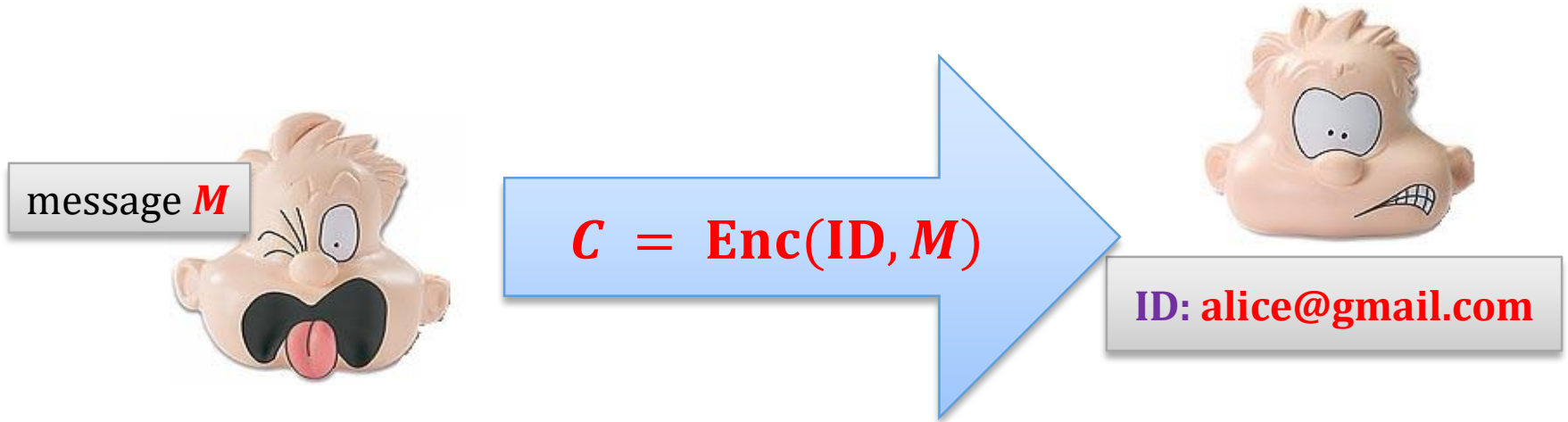
1. Public key cryptography – an overview
2. The key management problem
  1. qualified signatures
  2. public key infrastructure
3. Identity-based cryptography



# Identity based cryptography

## Main idea:

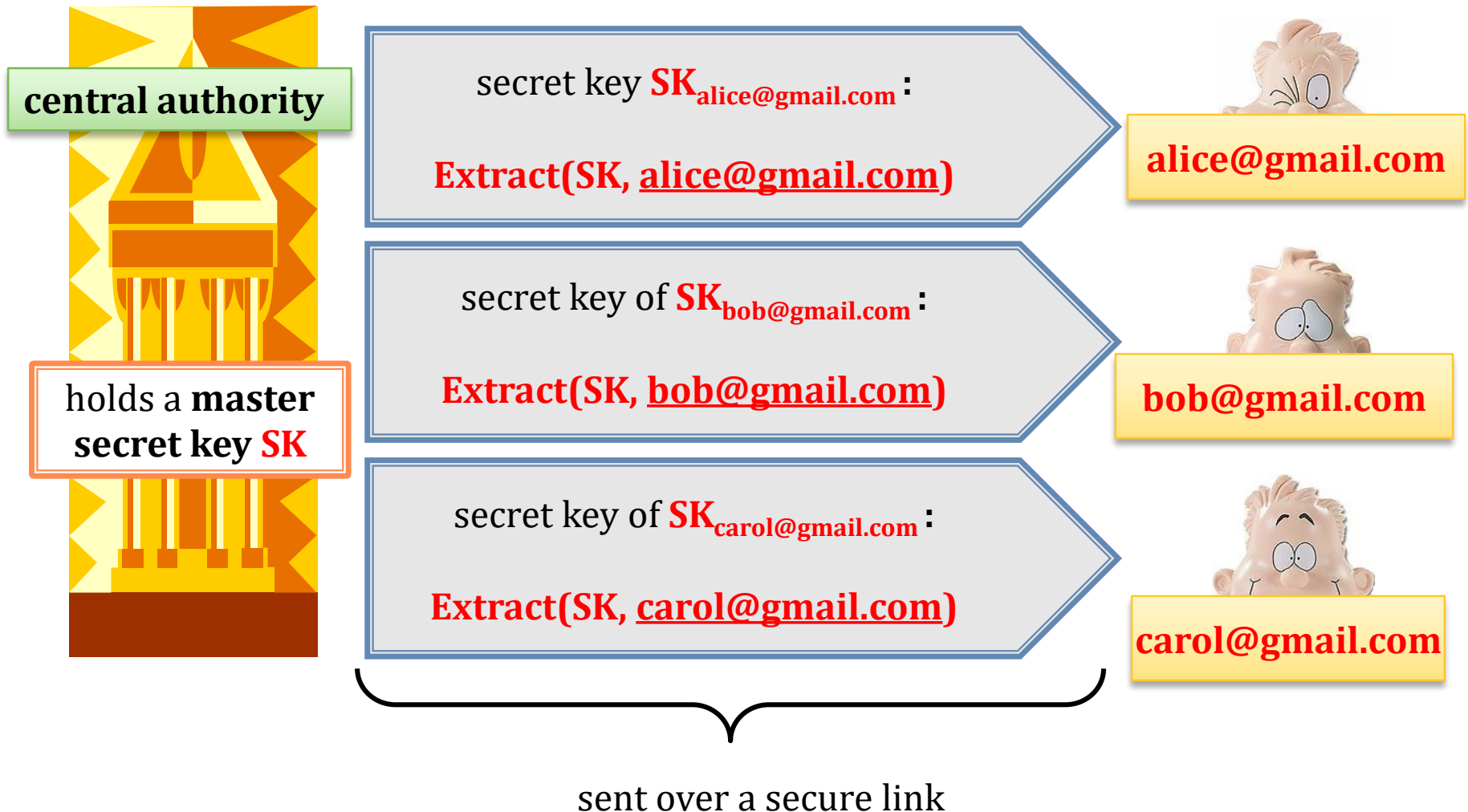
the identifier **ID** of the user is its public key.  
(e.g. **ID** = user's email address).



## question:

What is the private key?

# Solution



# How to decrypt

message  $M$



$C = \text{Enc}(\text{alice@gmail.com}, M)$



alice@gmail.com

knows

$SK_{\text{alice@gmail.com}}$

calculates

$M = \text{Dec}(SK_{\text{alice}}, C)$

# ID-based encryption

Main **advantage**:

- no need for an “infrastructure”

**Drawbacks**:

- users need to **trust an authority**,
- and they need to have a **secure link** to it,
- what about the **key revocation**?

# ID-based encryption

Proposed by **Adi Shamir** in **1984**.

(he only implemented the identity-based **signatures**)

First schemes were proposed by **Boneh** and **Franklin** (2001) and, independently **Cocks** (2001).

In **2002 Boneh** started a company

**Voltage Security**

that produces solutions based on his ID-based scheme.

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