# **Authentication**



CS5204 – Operating Systems

# **Authentication**

- Digital signature validation proves:
  message was not altered in transmission
  came from owner of the private key
- How does a "relying party" know to whom the private key belongs?
  - **Key Servers**
  - Certificates





- The key server stores [identity, public key] pairs
- The key request can be in plaintext
- The key server reply is encrypted using the private key of the key server
- The public key of key server is known to the relying party
- The key server can be a point of attack or performance bottleneck
- The key server must be trustworthy
- Observations:
  - •the relying party only cares about the reply
  - •the reply can be precomputed and distributed



# Authentication using a Key Server



• Message 3 can be compromised to allow some other party to masquerade as Alice.

#### **Needham-Schroeder Protocol**





# Certificates



- need not be trusted
- •is read-only
- •may be duplicated for performance
- the certificate can be "pushed" to the relying party



# **Chain of Trust**





#### X.509 Certificate Format





# **Example Certificate**

Data: Version: 3 (0x2) Serial Number: 1097588 (0x10bf74) Signature Algorithm: md5WithRSAEncryption Issuer: C=US, ST=Massachusetts, O=Massachusetts Institute of Technology, OU=Client CA v1 Validity Not Before: Jul 31 14:07:49 2000 GMT Not After : Jul 31 14:07:49 2001 GMT Subject: C=US, ST=Massachusetts, O=Massachusetts Institute of Technology, OU=Client CA v1, CN=Jeffrey I Schiller/Email=jis@MIT.EDU Subject Public Key Info: Public Key Algorithm: rsaEncryption RSA Public Key: (1024 bit) Modulus (1024 bit): 00:cf:01:0a:e5:f1:3c:60:c1:f2:c1:ca:99:96:1d: 7d:39:97:8c:72:cf:e8:7c:51:a1:84:a4:5b:b8:b3: 3a:dc:dd:c5:99:76:cb:5d:b1:24:86:67:46:52:45: 69:09:fb:01:b0:dd:41:02:de:27:c2:b7:cd:b1:cd: 47:9a:ae:55:bb:83:cd:bd:c1:aa:2b:23:3d:85:06: e0:4a:6c:a8:af:b4:cb:64:ea:c9:33:f7:ef:a9:8f: d9:7a:20:68:a1:09:c4:4e:62:20:00:d1:fd:a5:7c: 14:90:48:79:a9:7d:ef:f5:46:b6:fb:4e:c5:fc:94: 8f:11:bf:1a:ef:7b:2d:06:ef Exponent: 65537 (0x10001) X509v3 extensions: X509v3 Key Usage: 1.2.840.113554.1.3.1: 0....]/e.ii;....m.....j....Nr....\$wF..t...QZ... Signature Algorithm: md5WithRSAEncryption 30:4c:3b:a5:d8:11:e1:04:61:d2:39:ff:e1:74:c3:06:2f:3b: 52:59:9c:75:05:2e:31:cc:c3:99:5c:02:e5:67:bf:06:99:7f: c8:2a:5b:dd:bd:67:a5:a7:98:74:14:44:a7:db:76:19:9c:80: 0a:58:1d:53:35:d0:75:82:9d:2a:e7:12:53:3f:8b:60:cc:a3: c9:5b:dd:34:b6:a4:33:a9:a5:93:64:3e:50:0d:e4:ae:a8:5d: c9:8d:f9:96:68:22:cd:66:3d:eb:66:11:68:04:f6:3d:64:05: 62:64:01:41:af:23:f9:d2:a3:5b:be:e3:33:45:71:08:05:e2: 22.66



Certificate:

# **Revocation**

# Is a certificate still valid?

- Private key compromise
- CA compromise
- Affiliation changed
- Superseded
- CA ceased operation
- • •
- Certificate Revocation List (CRL) provides a list of the unexpired certificates that should no longer be used



#### **CRL Format**





#### **PKIX Architecture**





### **PKIX Elements**

C	OMPONENT	PRIMARY ROLE
•	End Entity	End Entity is a generic term used to denote end-users, devices (e.g., servers, routers), or any other entity that can be identified in the subject field of a public key certificate. End entities typically consume and/or support PKI-related services.
•	Certification Authority (CA)	The CA is the issuer of certificates and (usually) CRLs. It may also support a variety of administrative functions, although these are often delegated to one or more Registration Authorities.
•	Registration Authority (RA)	The RA is an optional component that can assume a number of administrative functions from the CA. The RA is often associated with the End Entity registration process, but can assist in a number of other areas as well.
•	Repository	A repository is a generic term used to denote any method for storing certificates and CRLs so that they can be retrieved by End Entities.
·	CRL Issuer	The CRL Issuer is an optional component that a CA can delegate to publish CRLs.



# **Role of the CA**

- Verifies certificate request information
- Generates and digitally signs the certificate
- Revokes certificate if information changes
- Revokes certificate if private key is disclosed
- Support certificate hierarchies
- Optional services
  - Key generation
  - Issue hardware token



# **CA** Topologies





### **Cross Certification**



