# Lecture 31 – Public key Crypto

Stephen Checkoway Oberlin College Slides from Miller and Bailey's ECE 422

# **Review: Integrity**

Problem: Sending a message over an **untrusted channel** without being changed Provably-secure solution: Random function

Practical solution:



e.g. "Attack at dawn", 628369867...

### **Pseudorandom function (PRF)**

- *Input*: arbitrary-length **k**
- *Output*: fixed-length value

Secure if practically indistinguishable from a random function, unless know **k** 

*Real-world use:* Message authentication codes (MACs) built on cryptographic hash functions

Popular example: HMAC-SHA256<sub>k</sub>(m)

# **Review: Confidentiality**

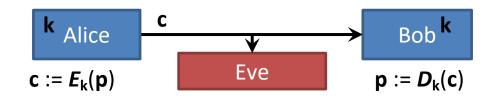
*Problem:* Sending message in the presence of an **eavesdropper** without revealing it

Provably-secure solution: One-time pad

Practical solution:

**Pseudorandom generator (PRG)** 

- Input: fixed-length **k**
- Output: arbitrary-length stream



Secure if practically indistinguishable from a random stream, unless know **k** 

Real-world use: Stream ciphers (can't reuse k)
Popular example: AES-128 + CTR mode
Block ciphers (need padding/IV) Popular example: AES-128 + CBC mode

## **Common theme: Key**

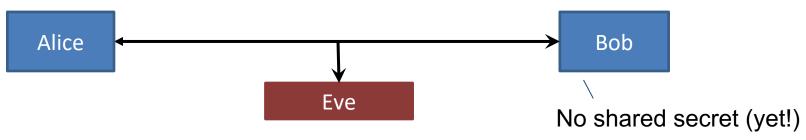
Requirements

- Must be known by both Alice and Bob
- Must be unknown by anyone else
- Must be infeasible to guess

We'd like Alice and Bob to agree on a key that satisfies those properties by sending public messages to each other

# Key Exchange

#### Issue: How do we get a shared key?



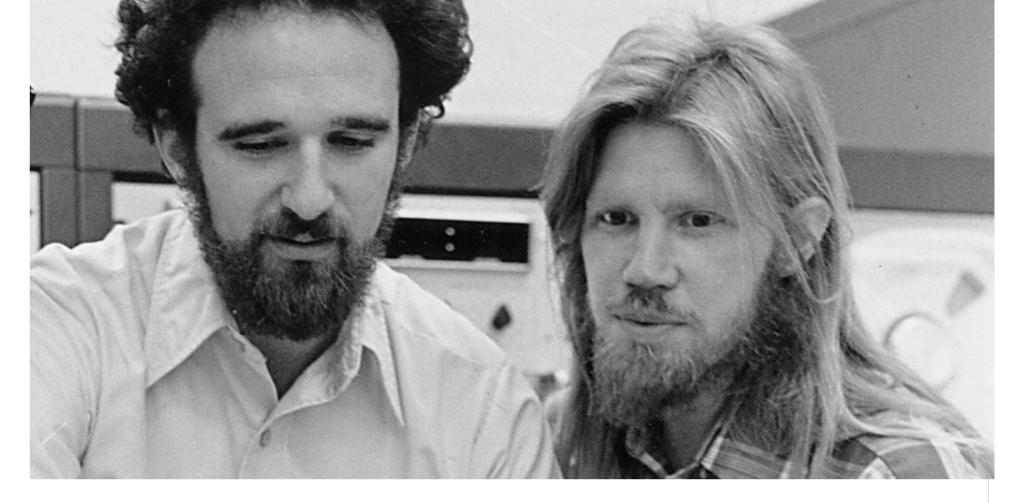
#### **Amazing fact:**

Alice and Bob can have a <u>public</u> conversation to derive a shared key!

#### Diffie-Hellman (D-H) key exchange

1976: Whit Diffie, Marty Hellman, improving partial solution from Ralph Merkle (earlier, in secret, by Malcolm Williamson of UK's GCHQ)

Relies on a mathematical hardness assumption called *discrete log problem* (a problem believed to be hard)



IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INFORMATION THEORY, VOL. IT-22, NO. 6, NOVEMBER 1976

### New Directions in Cryptography

Invited Paper

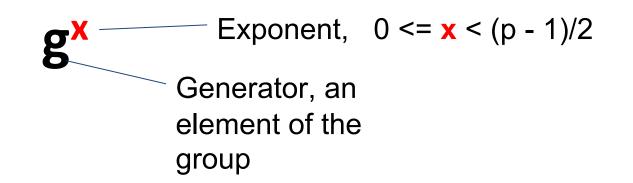
WHITFIELD DIFFIE AND MARTIN E. HELLMAN, MEMBER, IEEE

# **Group Theory Basics**

# Schnorr groups

A Schnorr group **G** is a subset of numbers, under **multiplication**, modulo a prime **p**. (a "safe prime")

- We can check if a number x is an element of the group
  If x and y are in the group, then x\*y is in the group too (x\*y means x times y mod p)
- **g** is a **generator** of the group if every element of the group can be written as  $\mathbf{g}^{\mathsf{x}}$  for some exponent  $\mathsf{x}$ .



# What is a Group?

A class of mathematical objects (it generalizes "numbers mod p") Definition: A group (G, \*) is a set of elements G, and a binary operation \*

- (Closed): for any  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{G}$ , we know  $\mathbf{x}^*\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{G}$
- (Identity): we know the identity **e** (often written 1) in **G** for any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{G}$ , we have  $\mathbf{e}^*\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^*\mathbf{e}$
- (Inverses): for any **x**, we can compute **x**<sup>-1\*</sup>**x** = **e**
- (Associative): For  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z} \in \mathbf{G}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^*(\mathbf{y}^*\mathbf{z}) = (\mathbf{x}^*\mathbf{y})^*\mathbf{z}$

# Schnorr Groups in more detail

To generate a Schnorr group:

1. Pick a random, large, (e.g. 2048 bits) "safe prime" **p** is a "safe prime" if (**p** - 1) / 2 is also prime

2. Pick a random number  $\mathbf{g}_0$  in the range 2 to  $(\mathbf{p} - 1)$ 

3. Let  $g = (g_0)^2 \mod p$ . If g = 1, goto step 2

This is the "generator" of the group.

- A number  $\mathbf{x} > 0$  is in the group if  $\mathbf{x}^2 \neq 1 \mod \mathbf{p}$
- The order of each element is (p 1) / 2.

 $g^{(p-1)/2} = 1 \mod p$ 

- We can compute inverses  $\mathbf{x}^{-1}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{x}^{-1}\mathbf{x} = 1 \mod \mathbf{p}$ 

## Problems assumed "hard" in Schnorr groups:

- Discrete logarithm problem

Given **g**<sup>x</sup> for some random **x**, find **x** 

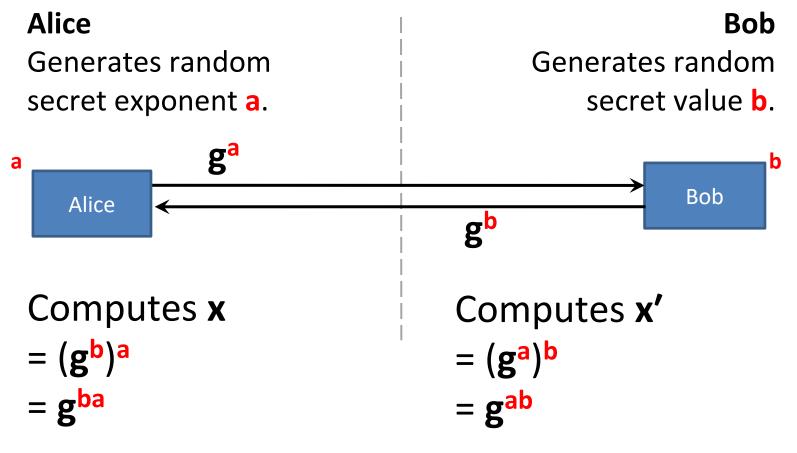
- Diffie Hellman problem (computational)
   Given g<sup>a</sup>, g<sup>b</sup> for random a,b compute g<sup>ab</sup>
- Diffie Hellman problem (decisional)

Flip a bit *c*, generate random exponents **a**,**b**,**r** Given  $(\mathbf{g}^{a}, \mathbf{g}^{b}, \mathbf{g}^{ab})$  if c=0, or  $(\mathbf{g}^{a}, \mathbf{g}^{b}, \mathbf{g}^{r})$  if c=1, Guess *c* 

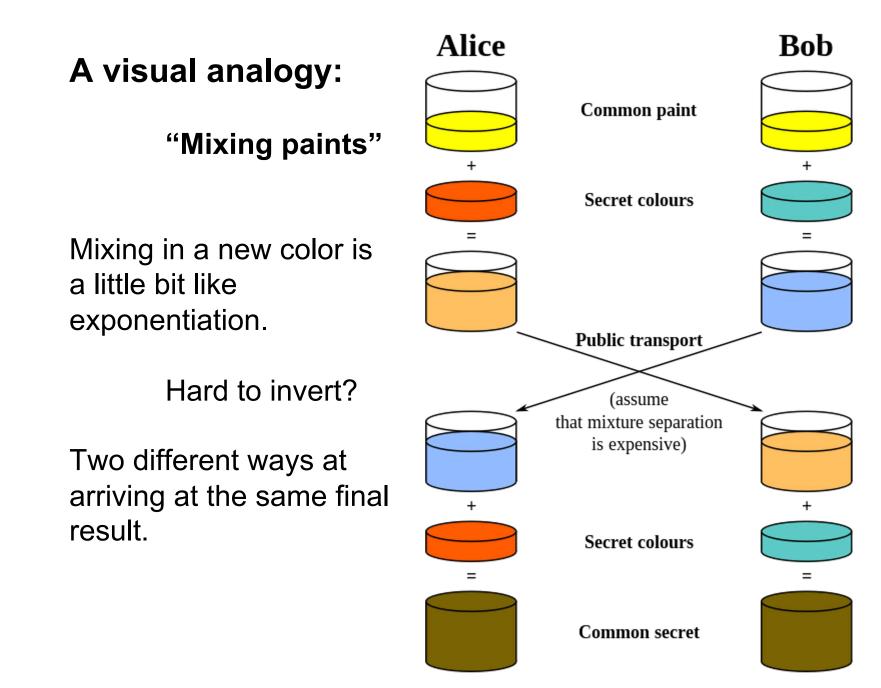
> \*These problems are thought to be hard in other groups too, e.g. some Elliptic Curves

#### **Diffie-Hellman protocol**

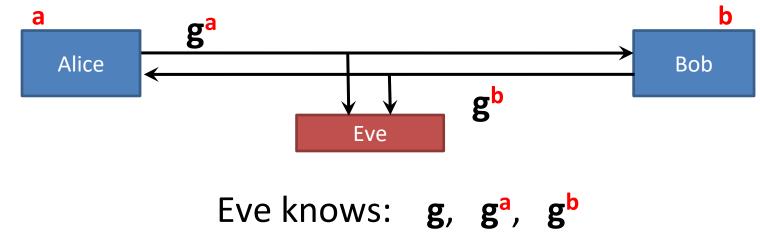
Alice and Bob agree on public parameters (maybe in standards doc)



(Notice that **x** = **x'**) Can use **k** = hash(**x**) as a shared key.



#### Passive eavesdropping attack



Eve wants to compute  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{g}^{ab}$ 

Best known approach: Find **a** or **b**, by solving **discrete log**, then compute **x** 

No known efficient algorithm.

[What's D-H's big weakness?]

## Man-in-the-middle (MITM) attack



Alice does D-H exchange, really with Mallory, ends up with g<sup>au</sup>
 Bob does D-H exchange, really with Mallory, ends up with g<sup>bv</sup>
 Alice and Bob each think they are talking with the other, but really Mallory is between them and knows both secrets

*Bottom line:* D-H gives you secure connection, but you don't know who's on the other end!

#### Defending D-H against MITM attacks:

- Cross your fingers and hope there isn't an active adversary.
- Rely on out-of-band communication between users. [Examples?]
- Rely on physical contact to make sure there's no MITM. [Examples?]
- Integrate D-H with user authentication.
  - If Alice is using a password to log in to Bob, leverage the password:
    - Instead of a fixed **g**, derive **g** from the password Mallory can't participate w/o knowing password.
- Use digital signatures. [More later.]

# **Public Key Encryption**

Suppose Bob wants to receive data from lots of people, confidentially...

Schemes we've discussed would require a separate key shared with each person

**Example:** a journalist who wishes to receive secret tips

# **Public Key Encryption**

- Key generation: Bob generates a keypair public key, k<sub>pub</sub> and private key, k<sub>priv</sub>
- *Encrypt:* Anyone can encrypt the message M, resulting in ciphertext C = Enc( $k_{pub}$ , M)
- **Decrypt:** Only Bob has the private key needed to decrypt the ciphertext: M=**Dec**(  $k_{priv}$ , C)
- Security: Infeasible to guess M or  $k_{\rm priv}$ , even knowing  $k_{\rm pub}$  and seeing ciphertexts

# Public Key Encryption w/ ephemeral key exchange

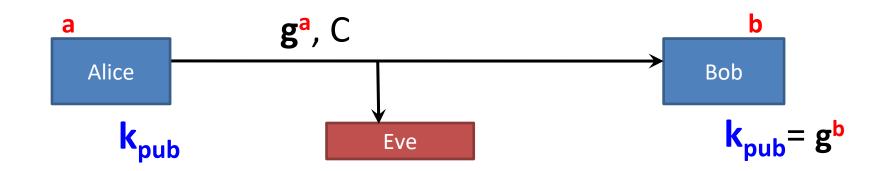
Key generation:

```
k<sub>priv</sub>:= b generated randomly, and k<sub>pub</sub>:= g<sup>b</sup>
```

# Encrypt(M):

Generate random a, set k := hash(k<sub>pub</sub><sup>a</sup>), encrypt C = AES-enc(k, M) Send (g<sup>a</sup>, C) as ciphertext

```
Decrypt(g<sup>a</sup>, C):
compute k = hash( (g<sup>a</sup>)<sup>b</sup> ),
decrypt M = AES-dec(k, C)
```



# Public Key Digital Signatures

Suppose Alice publishes data to lots of people, and they all want to verify integrity...

Can't share an integrity key with *everybody*, or else *anybody* could forge messages

**Example:** administrator of a source code repository

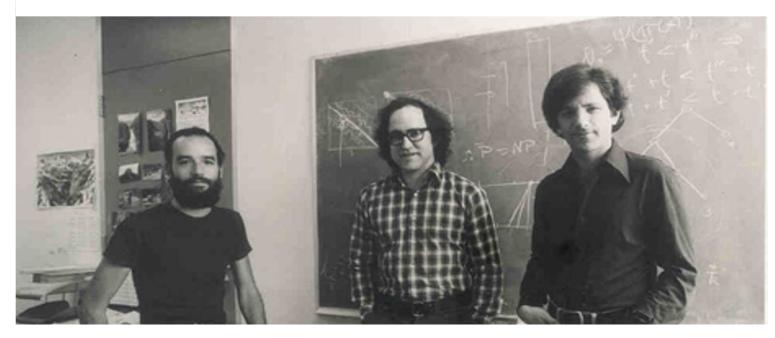
# **Public Key Digital Signature**

- Key generation: Bob generates a keypair public key, k<sub>pub</sub> and private key, k<sub>priv</sub>
- Bob can sign a message M, resulting in signature
   S = Sign( k<sub>priv</sub>, M)
- Anyone who knows  $k_{pub}$  can check the signature: Verify(  $k_{pub}$ , M, S)  $\stackrel{?}{=} 1$

 "Unforgeable": Computationally infeasible to guess S or k<sub>priv</sub>, even knowing k<sub>pub</sub> and seeing signatures on other messages

#### A Method for Obtaining Digital Signatures and Public-Key Cryptosystems

R.L. Rivest, A. Shamir, and L. Adleman<sup>\*</sup>



#### Best known, most common public-key algorithm: **RSA** Rivest, Shamir, and Adleman 1978 (earlier by Clifford Cocks of UK's GCHQ, in secret)

## How RSA signatures work

#### Key generation:

- 1. Pick large (say, 2048 bits) random primes **p** and **q**
- 2. Compute **N** = **pq** (RSA uses multiplication mod **N**)
- 3. Pick **e** to be relatively prime to (**p**-1)(**q**-1)
- 4. Find **d** so that **ed** mod (**p**-1)(**q**-1) = 1
- 5. Finally:

Public keyis (e,N)Private keyis (d,N)

To sign:	S = <i>Sign</i> (x)	= x <sup>d</sup> mod N	
To verify:	<b>Verif</b> (S)	= S <sup>e</sup> mod <b>N</b>	Check <i>Verif</i> (S) ≟ M

# Why RSA works

# "Completeness" theorem:

For all 0 < x < N (except x = p or x = q), we can show that Verif(Sign(x)) = x

Proof:

Verif(Sign(x))

- = (**x**<sup>d</sup> mod **pq**)<sup>e</sup> mod **pq**
- = **x**<sup>ed</sup> mod **pq**
- $= \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{p}-1)(\mathbf{q}-1)+1} \mod \mathbf{pq}$  for some **a** (because **ed** mod (**p**-1)(**q**-1) = 1)
- $= (x^{(p-1)(q-1)})^a x \mod pq$
- $= (\mathbf{x}^{(\mathbf{p}-1)(\mathbf{q}-1)} \mod \mathbf{pq})^{\mathbf{a}} \mathbf{x} \mod \mathbf{pq}$
- = 1ª**x** mod **pq**

```
(by Euler's theorem, \mathbf{x}^{(p-1)(q-1)} \mod pq = 1)
```

= **x** 

# Is RSA secure?

Best known way to compute **d** from **e** is factoring **N** into **p** and **q**.

<u>Best known</u> factoring algorithm:

**General number field sieve** 

Takes more than polynomial time but less than exponential time to factor **n**-bit number.

(Still takes way too long if **p**,**q** are large enough and random.)

Fingers crossed...

but can't rule out a breakthrough!

To generate an RSA keypair:

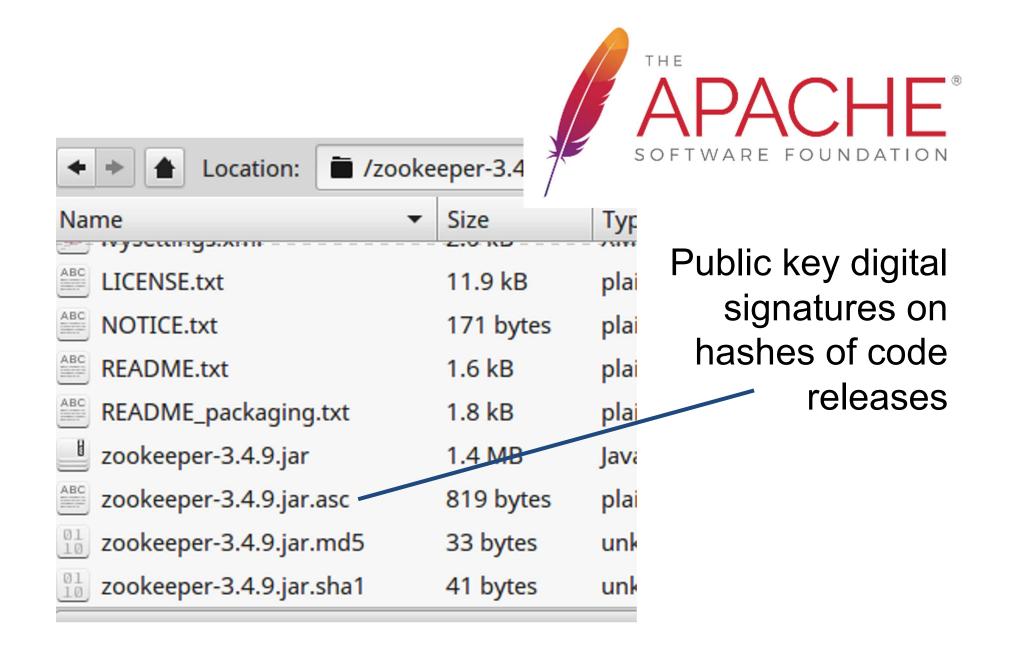
\$ openssl genrsa -out private.pem 1024
\$ openssl rsa -pubout -in private.pem > public.pem

To sign a message with RSA:

\$ openssl rsautl -sign -inkey private.pem -in a.txt > sig

To verify a signed message with RSA:

\$ openssl rsautl -verify -pubin -inkey public.pem -in sig



*Subtle fact:* RSA can be used for either confidentiality or integrity

# **RSA for confidentiality:**

Encrypt with public key, Decrypt with private key Public key is (e,N) Private key is (d,N) To encrypt:  $E(x) = x^e \mod N$ To decrypt:  $D(x) = x^d \mod N$ 

# **RSA for integrity:**

Encrypt ("sign") with private key Decrypt ("verify") with public key

### **RSA drawback: Performance**

Factor of 1000 or more slower than AES. Dominated by exponentiation – cost goes up (roughly) as cube of key size. Message must be shorter than **N**.

#### Use in practice:

#### *Hybrid Encryption (similar to key exchange):*

Use RSA to encrypt a random key **k < N**, then use AES

#### Signing:

```
Compute v := hash(m), use RSA to sign the hash
```

Should always use crypto libraries to get details right

The reality is more complicated

Can't just compute m<sup>e</sup> mod N (what if we know m < N<sup>1/e</sup>?)

Need to pad the message

Some schemes are good (PSS, OAEP)

Some schemes are bad (PKCS#1v1.5)

Different for signatures and encryption

What can go wrong with RSA?

### Twenty Years of Attacks on the RSA Cryptosystem

Dan Boneh dabo@cs.stanford.edu

## Hundreds of things!!

Many have a common theme: tweaking the protocol for efficiency (e.g., small exponents) leads to a compromise.

# One example of a failure: Common P's and Q's

Individually, N = pq is very hard to factor.

Turns out, due to poor entropy, many pairs of RSA keys are generated with same p

$$N_1 = pq_1$$
  
 $N_2 = pq_2$ 

Given two products with a common factor, easy to compute  $GCD(N_1, N_2) = p$  with Euclid's algorithm.

# Key Management

#### The hard part of crypto: Key-management

## **Principles:**

- 0. Always remember, key management is the hard part!
- 1. Each key should have only one purpose (in general, no guarantees when keys reused elsewhere)
- 1. Vulnerability of a key increases:
  - a. The more you use it.
  - b. The more places you store it.
  - c. The longer you have it.
- 2. Keep your keys far from the attacker.
- Protect yourself against compromise of old keys.
   Goal: forward secrecy learning old key shouldn't help adversary learn new key.

[How can we get this?]

# **Building a secure channel**

What if you want confidentiality and integrity at the same time?

Encrypt, then MAC

not the other way around

Use separate keys for confidentiality and integrity.

Need two shared keys, but only have one? That's what PRGs are for!

If there's a reverse (Bob to Alice) channel, use separate keys for that too

### Issue: How big should keys be?

Want prob. of guessing to be infinitesimal... but watch out for Moore's law – safe size gets 1 bit larger every 18 months

128 bits usually safe for ciphers/PRGs

### Need larger values for MACs/PRFs due to **birthday attack**

Often trouble if adversary can find <u>any two messages</u> with same MAC Attack: Generate random values, look for coincidence. Requires O(2<sup>|k|/2</sup>) time, O(2<sup>|k|/2</sup>) space. For 128-bit output, takes 2<sup>64</sup> steps: doable!

Upshot: Want output of MACs/PRFs to be twice as big as cipher keys e.g. use HMAC-SHA256 alongside AES-128

Кеу Туре	Cryptoperiod				
Move the cursor over a type for description	Originator Usage Period (OUP)	Recipient Usage Period			
Private Signature Key	1-3 years	-			
Public Signature Key	Several years (depends on key size)				
Symmetric Authentication Key	<= 2 years	<= OUP + 3 years			
Private Authentication Key	1-2 yea	ars			
Public Authentication Key	1-2 yea	ars			
Symmetric Data Encryption Key	<= 2 years	<= OUP + 3 years			
Symmetric Key Wrapping Key	<= 2 years	<= OUP + 3 years			
Symmetric RBG keys	Determined by design	-			
Symmetric Master Key	About 1 year	-			
Private Key Transport Key	<= 2 years (1)				
Public Key Transport Key	1-2 years				
Symmetric Key Agreement Key	1-2 years (2)				
Private Static Key Agreement Key	1-2 years (3)				
Public Static Key Agreement Key	1-2 years				
Private Ephemeral Key Agreement Key	One key agreement transaction				
Public Ephemeral Key Agreement Key	One key agreement transaction				
Symmetric Authorization Key	<= 2 years				
Private Authorization Key	<= 2 years				
Public Authorization Key	<= 2 ye	ars			

Date	Minimum of Strength	Symmetric Algorithms	Factoring Modulus		crete arithm Group	Elliptic Curve	Hash (A)	Hash (B)
(Legacy)	80	2TDEA*	1024	160	1024	160	SHA-1**	
2016 - 2030	112	3TDEA	2048	224	2048	224	SHA-224 SHA-512/224 SHA3-224	
2016 - 2030 & beyond	128	AES-128	3072	256	3072	256	SHA-256 SHA-512/256 SHA3-256	SHA-1
2016 - 2030 & beyond	192	AES-192	7680	384	7680	384	SHA-384 SHA3-384	SHA-224 SHA-512/224
2016 - 2030 & beyond	256	AES-256	15360	512	15360	512	SHA-512 SHA3-512	SHA-256 SHA-512/256 SHA-384 SHA-512 SHA3-512

#### **Attacks against Crypto**

- 1. Brute force: trying all possible private keys
- 2. Mathematical attacks: factoring
- 3. Timing attacks: using the running time of decryption
- 4. Hardware-based fault attack: induce faults in hardware to generate digital signatures
- 5. Chosen ciphertext attack
- 6. Architectural Changes

#### **Quantum Computers:**

What will be impacted?

Public key crypto: RSA Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECDSA) Finite Field Cryptography (DSA) Diffie Hellman key exchange

Symmetric key crypto: AES, Triple DES

Need Larger Keys

Hash functions: -SHA-1, SHA-2 and SHA-3

Use longer output

# So Far:

Message Integrity Confidentiality Key Exchange Public Key Crypto

### Next:

HTTPS and TLS: Secure channels for the web