

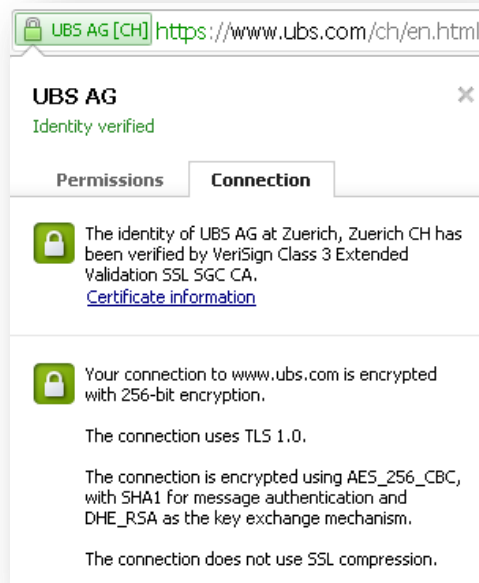


# Cryptography

## Myths and Reality

Jean-Philippe Aumasson

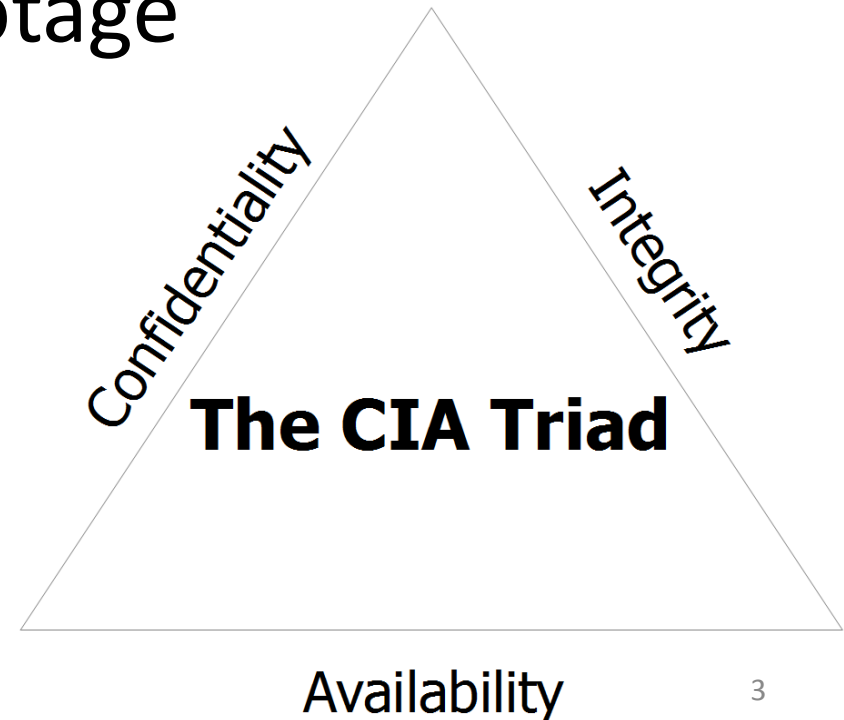
# Cryptography is everywhere



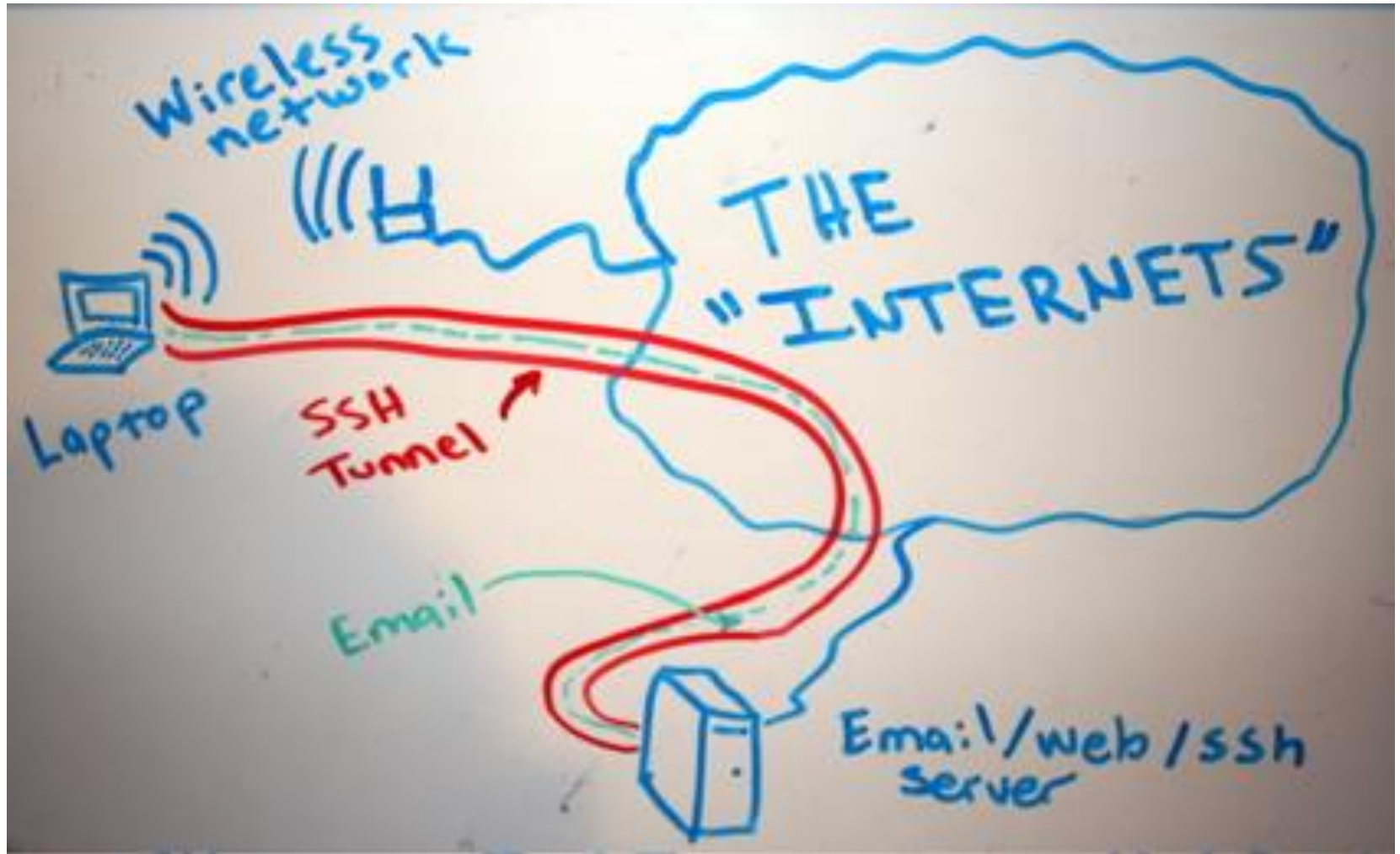
# Cryptography promises

Secure communications and data storage:

- **Confidentiality** despite espionage
- **Integrity** despite corruption
- **Availability** despite sabotage



# VPNs, SSH tunnels, etc.



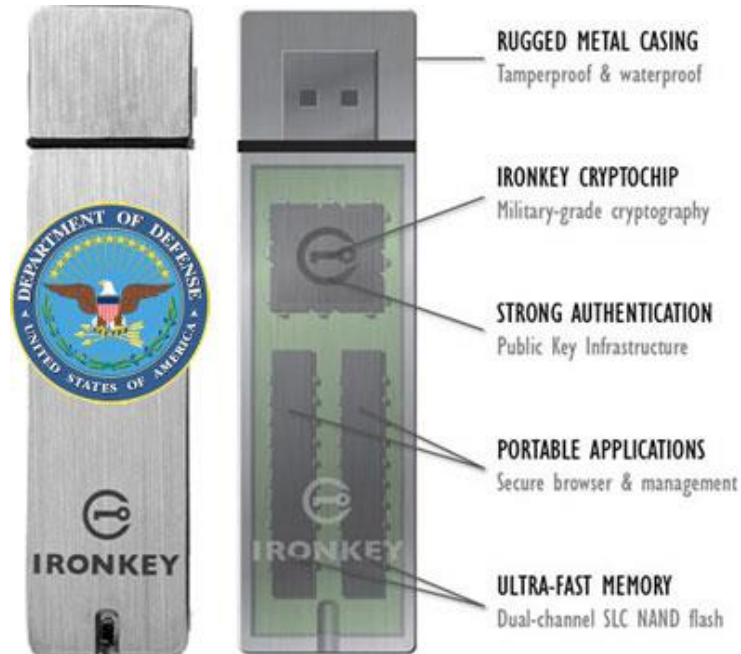
<http://code.google.com/p/sshtunnel/>



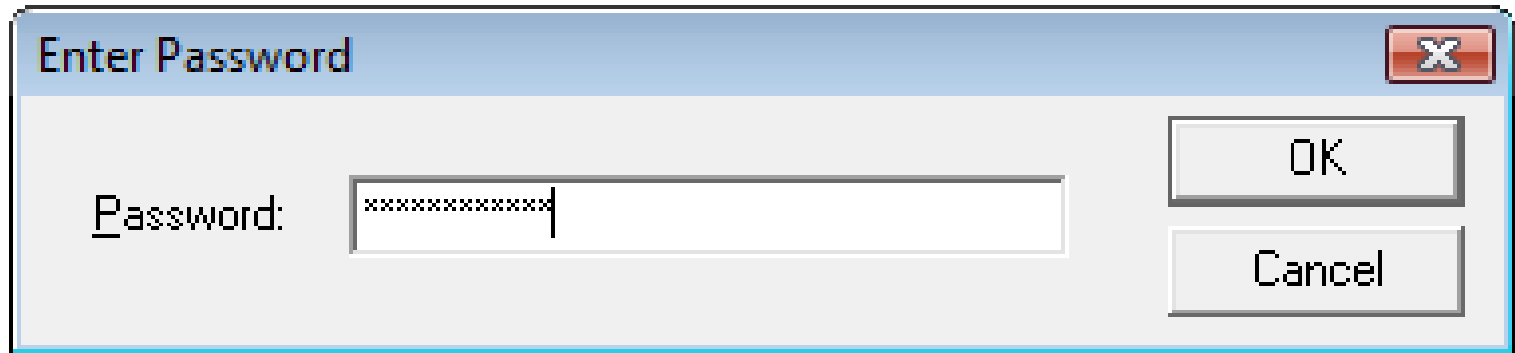
# Disk encryption, secure flash USB

TRUECRYPT

FREE OPEN-SOURCE ON-THE-FLY ENCRYPTION



# Crypto should be taken seriously,



## otherwise...

# Sony Pictures hacked by Lulz Security, 1,000,000 passwords claimed stolen (update)

By Zachary Lutz  posted Jun 2nd 2011 5:47PM

BREAKING



## 6.46 million LinkedIn passwords leaked online

**Summary:** More than 6.4 million LinkedIn passwords have leaked to the Web after an apparent hack. Though some login details are encrypted, all users are advised to change their passwords.

UPDATE: IEEE notifies users, confirming the breach.

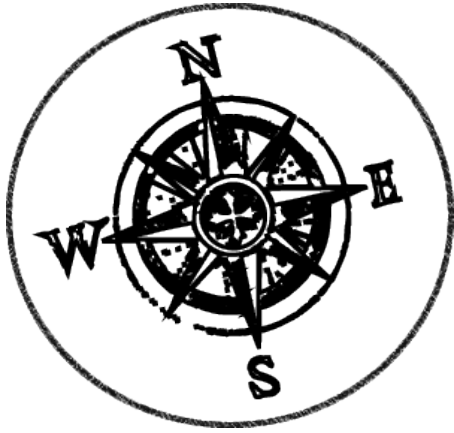
**Data breach at IEEE.org: 100k plaintext passwords.**

*Using the data to gain insights into the engineering and scientific community*



1. Cryptography in use today
2. Future technologies?
  - Homomorphic encryption
  - Leakage-resilient cryptography
  - Quantum cryptography
3. Forecast and conclusions





- 1. Cryptography in use today**
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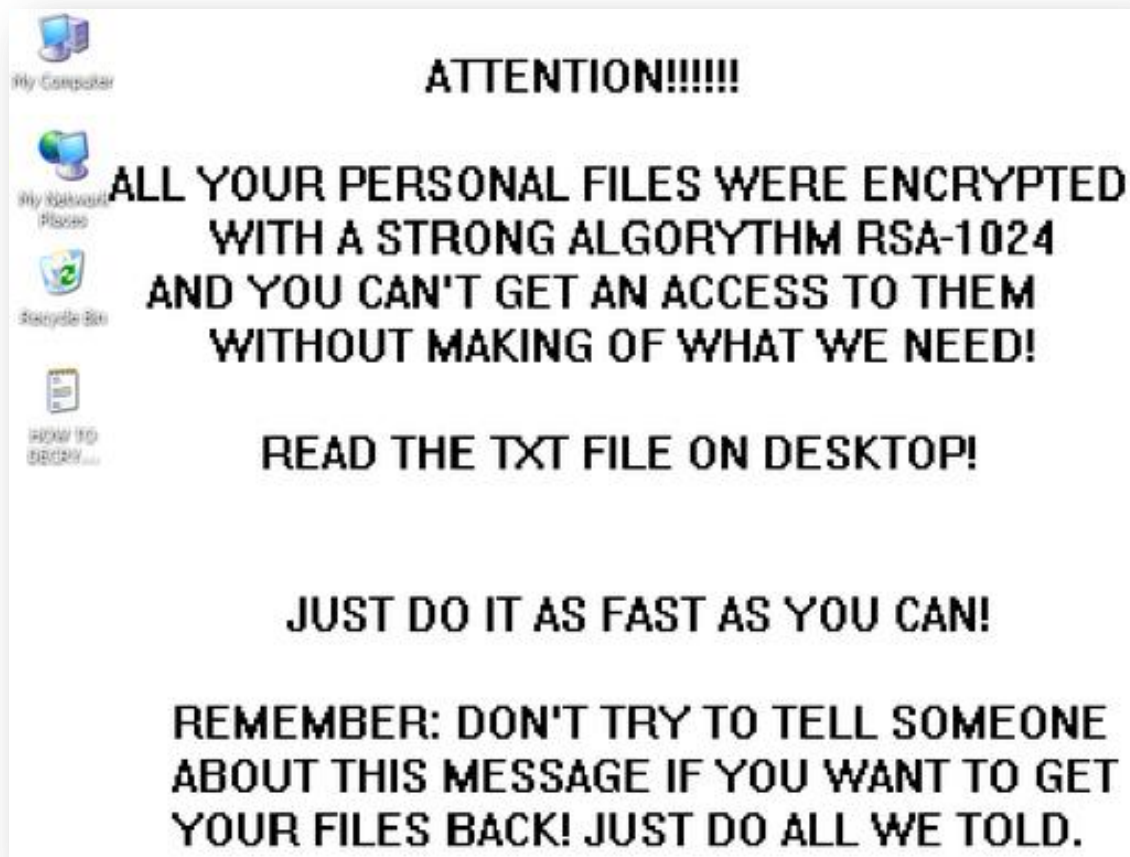
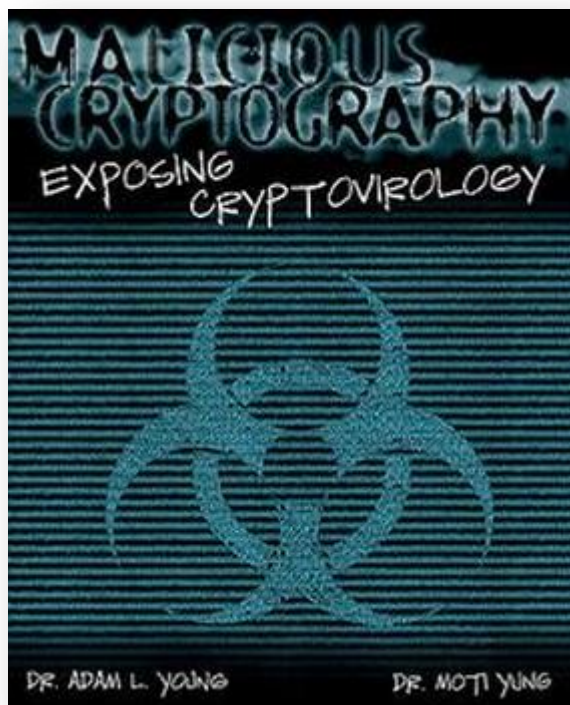
# Myth 1

Cryptography is only used for “good”

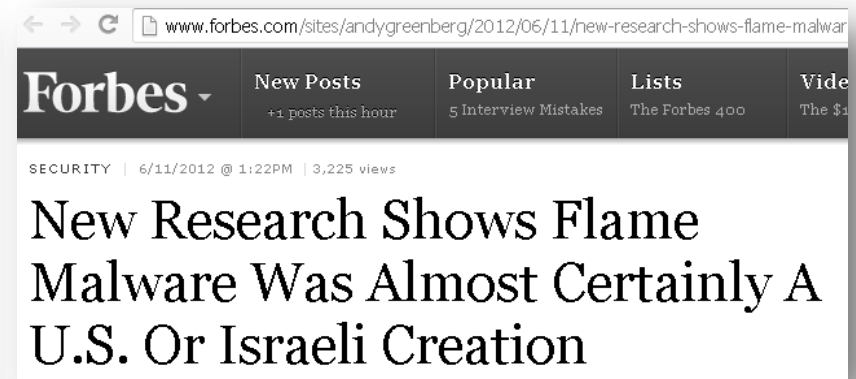




# Inventive applications of cryptography in malware....



# MD5 hash collisions exploited in the Flame malware to forge a fake Windows Update



# Myth 2

Encrypted VPN ensures strong anonymity



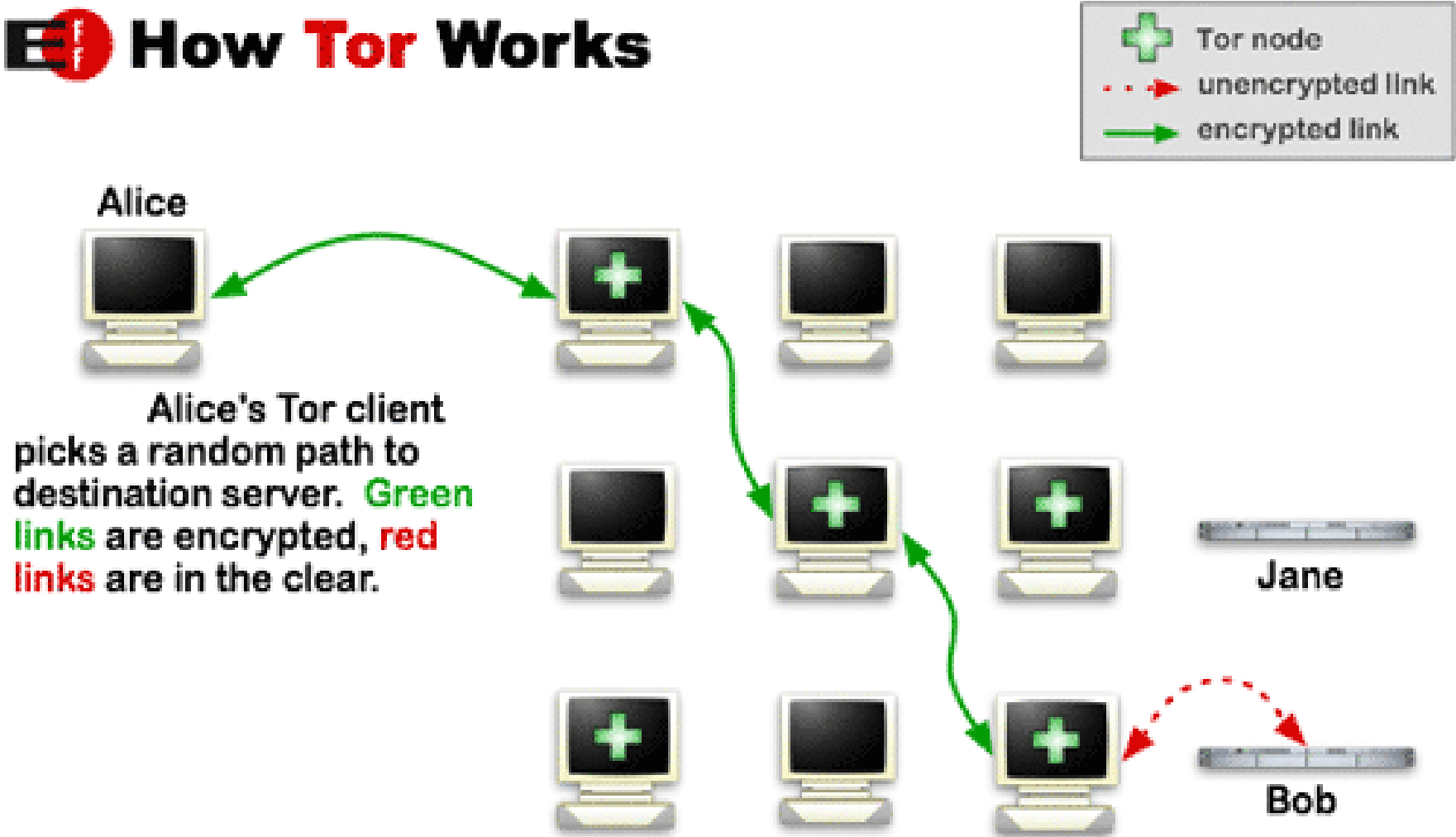


VPNs aim to provide confidentiality, not anonymity

- Single point of trust (logs often kept)
- Anonymity often compromised by user behavior, through profiling, etc.



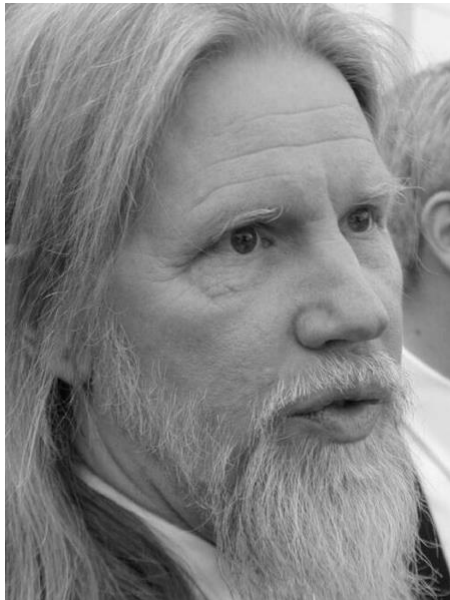
# How Tor Works



# Myth 3

Encryption hides all information





“Traffic analysis, not cryptanalysis,  
is the backbone of  
communications intelligence”  
Susan Landau and Whit Diffie

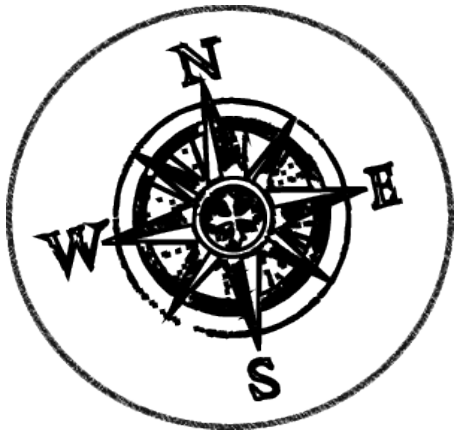
**Spot me if you can:**  
**Uncovering spoken phrases in encrypted VoIP conversations**

Charles V. Wright   Lucas Ballard   Scott E. Coull   Fabian Monroe   Gerald M. Masson

*Johns Hopkins University  
Department of Computer Science  
Baltimore, MD USA 21218*

*{cvwright,lucas,coulls,fabian,masson}@jhu.edu*





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# Homomorphic encryption

a.k.a. *computing on encrypted data*

2009 breakthrough by Gentry (IBM)

News room > News releases >

## **IBM Researcher Solves Longstanding Cryptographic Challenge**

Discovers Method to Fully Process Encrypted Data Without Knowing its Content; Could Greatly Further Data Privacy and Strengthen Cloud Computing Security

**Principle:** given encrypted data  $\text{Enc}(\mathbf{m})$ , produce  $\text{Enc}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{m}))$  for any transform  $\mathbf{f}()$ , without decrypting (thus  $\mathbf{m}$  remains secret)



Breakthroughs

## IBM's Blindfolded Calculator

Andy Greenberg, 06.24.09, 06:00 PM EDT

Forbes Magazine dated July 13, 2009

**A researcher's algorithm could teach computers a new privacy trick.**





# Myth 4

Homomorphic encryption solves  
the cloud privacy problem





Homomorphic encryption allows to offload computations to the cloud if data is read and written by a **single client**  
Ex: cloud storage, tax-preparation



When **multiple clients** are involved, homomorphic encryption is insufficient, (must rely on other mechanisms)  
Ex: social networks, shared documents

# Myth 5

Homomorphic encryption is practical





“We are not talking about a 10x slowdown here; rather, we are talking about **the whole Amazon EC2 cloud not being able**, in a day, to perform homomorphically a computation which would take **one second on a single iPhone.**”

<http://security.stackexchange.com/questions/3728/in-what-ways-does-full-or-partial-homomorphic-encryption-benefit-the-cloud>



# Homomorphic Evaluation of the AES Circuit

Craig Gentry  
IBM Research

Shai Halevi  
IBM Research

Nigel P. Smart  
University of Bristol

June 15, 2012

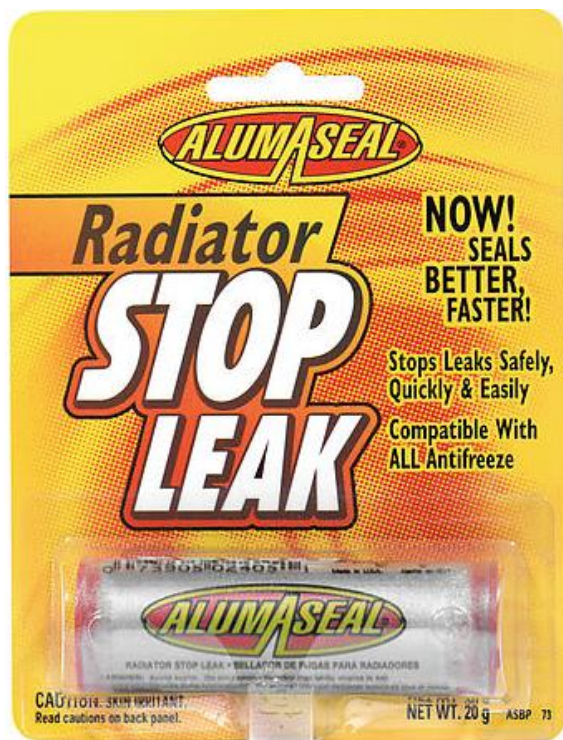
<http://eprint.iacr.org/2012/099.pdf>

1 AES block encryption in  $\approx 36$  hours  
(on a machine with 256GB RAM)

*More improvements are expected, but HE  
is unlikely to become practical soon*

# Myth 6

Cryptographers know how to deal with side-channel attacks



# Leakage-resilient cryptography

a.k.a. *secure even when secret data leaks*

Active research field since  $\approx$  2008



Aims to model attacks on the **hardware** exploiting side-channels, data remanence, etc.

# Leakage-resilient cryptography

**“Grey-box”** model: some information leaks from crypto operations (data, operations..)

- Hardware compromised
- Data-dependent execution time
- Etc.

*Traditional attacks assume tamper-resistant hardware (“black boxes”)*

# Leakage-resilient cryptography

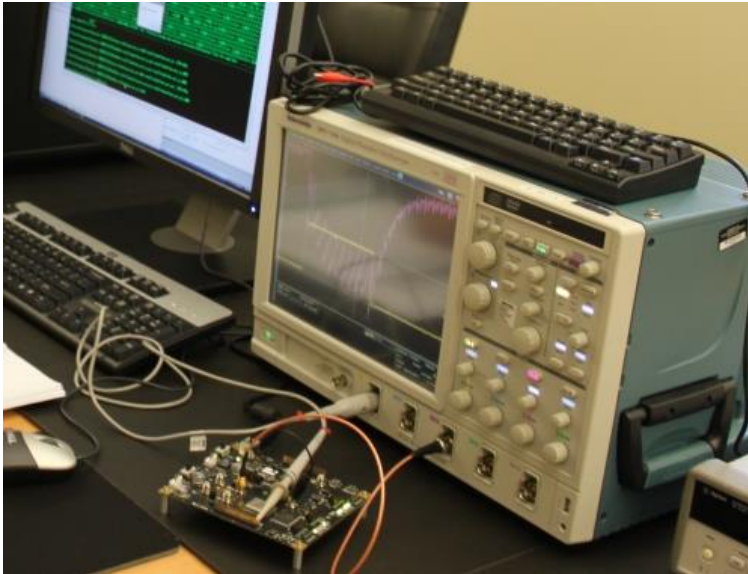
**Exposure-resilience:** security preserved even if a large part of the secret key leaks



Motivation: “cold boot” attacks reading RAM content from running computers

# Leakage-resilient cryptography

**Bounded leakage:** computations leak information on the data processed



Motivation: attacks based on **power or electromagnetic** analysis (DPA, TEMPEST, etc.)



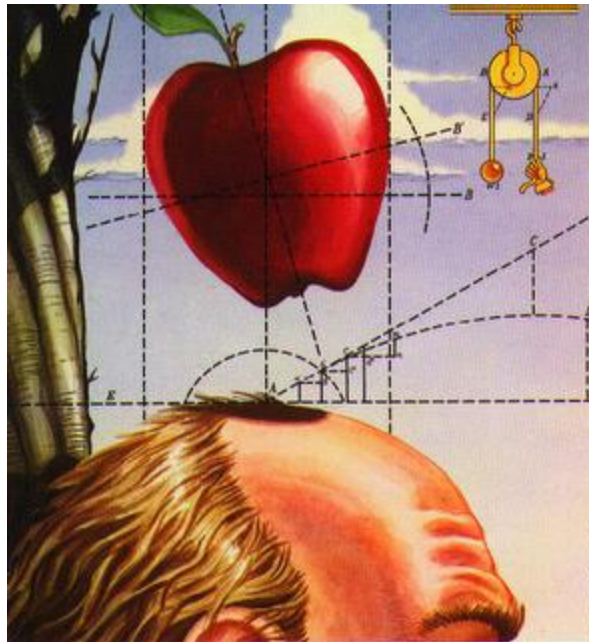


- In hardware, countermeasures remain necessary, as for classical schemes
- In software, some attacks will still work, some others won't
- Models often fail to model real attackers (how to bound leakage in practice?)

*Not the “silver bullet”, but promising*

# Myth 7

Quantum cryptography is as strong as the laws of physics



# Quantum cryptography

Use of quantum mechanics (entanglement, non-locality) to perform crypto tasks

$$|\phi^+\rangle_{AB} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|00\rangle_{AB} + |11\rangle_{AB}).$$

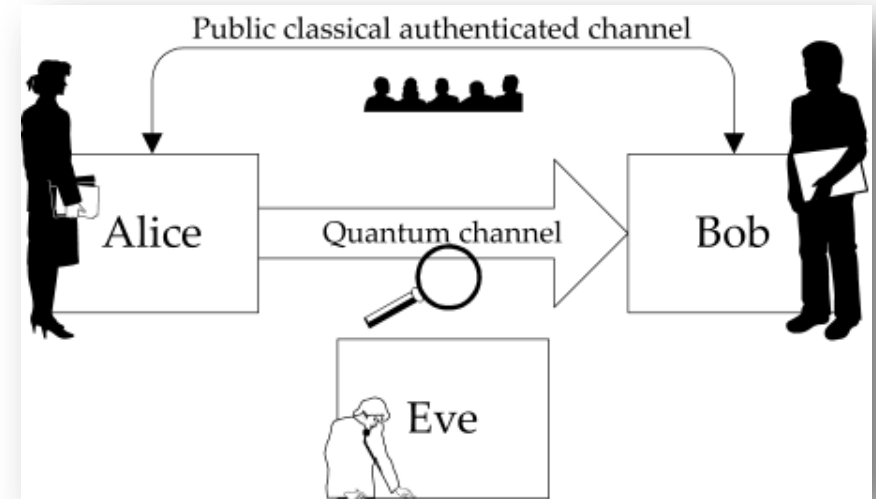
Mainly **quantum key distribution (QKD)**

Security related to physics laws...

# Quantum key distribution (QKD)

2-party protocol over a **quantum channel**

Purpose is **not to encrypt**, but establish a shared secret key



Security arguments:

- 1) By the laws of physics, any eavesdropping would be detected, thus attackers can't succeed
- 2) The key established is truly random

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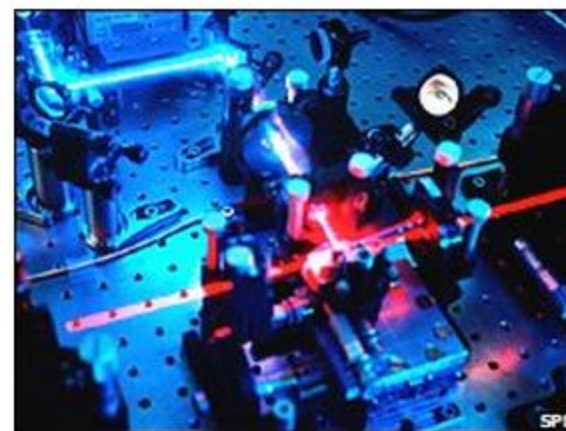
Printable version

## 'Unbreakable' encryption unveiled

By Roland Pease  
BBC Radio Science Unit

Perfect secrecy has come a step closer with the launch of the world's first computer network protected by unbreakable quantum encryption at a scientific conference in Vienna.

The network connects six locations across Vienna and in the nearby town of St Poelten, using 200 km of standard commercial fibre optic cables.



Quantum cryptography is touted as being "unbreakable"

Theory in the 1980's, commercial in late 2000's  
A world leader is the **Swiss IdQuantique**



Typical vendor claim (here Quintessence Labs):  
“Quantum physics provides a method of achieving an **absolutely secure** information exchange that is guaranteed to be **future proof**.”

<http://qlabsusa.com/technology/cryptography/quantum-cryptography/>





← → ↺ [www.nature.com/news/2010/100520/full/news.2010.256.html](http://www.nature.com/news/2010/100520/full/news.2010.256.html)

# nature

International weekly journal of science

[nature news home](#) [news archive](#) [specials](#) [opinion](#)

[nature journal](#)

[comments on this story](#)

Published online 20 May 2010 | Nature | doi:10.1038/news.2010.256

**News**

## Quantum crack in cryptographic armour

**A commercial quantum encryption system has been fully hacked for the first time.**

← → ↺ [hackshark.com/?p=325#axzz27egFExJM](http://hackshark.com/?p=325#axzz27egFExJM)

# HackShark

## Quantum Cryptography: Perfect Eavesdropper Illustrates Overlooked Loophole in Secure Communications Technology

Jul 11, 2011 // by Dr10n c45p4r // [Latest News, Web Threats](#) // [No Comments](#)

Quantum key distribution (QKD) is an advanced tool for secure computer-based interactions, providing confidential communication between two remote parties by enabling them to construct a shared secret key during the course of their conversation.

QKD is perfectly secure in principle, but researchers have long been aware that loopholes may arise when QKD is put into practice. Now, for the first time, a team of researchers at the Centre for Quantum Technologies (CQT) at the National University of Singapore, the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) and the University Graduate Center (UNIK) in Norway have created and operated a "perfect eavesdropper" for QKD that exploits just such a loophole in a typical QKD setup. As reported in the most recent



*No laws of physics were harmed in these attacks...*

“there are **security proofs by the laws of physics**, but of course, those **rely on the model**. On how exactly the photon source, detectors, etc. work. So, **if an adversary can exploit some properties of these devices** that are not captured by the theoretical model, then these schemes **still can be broken**”

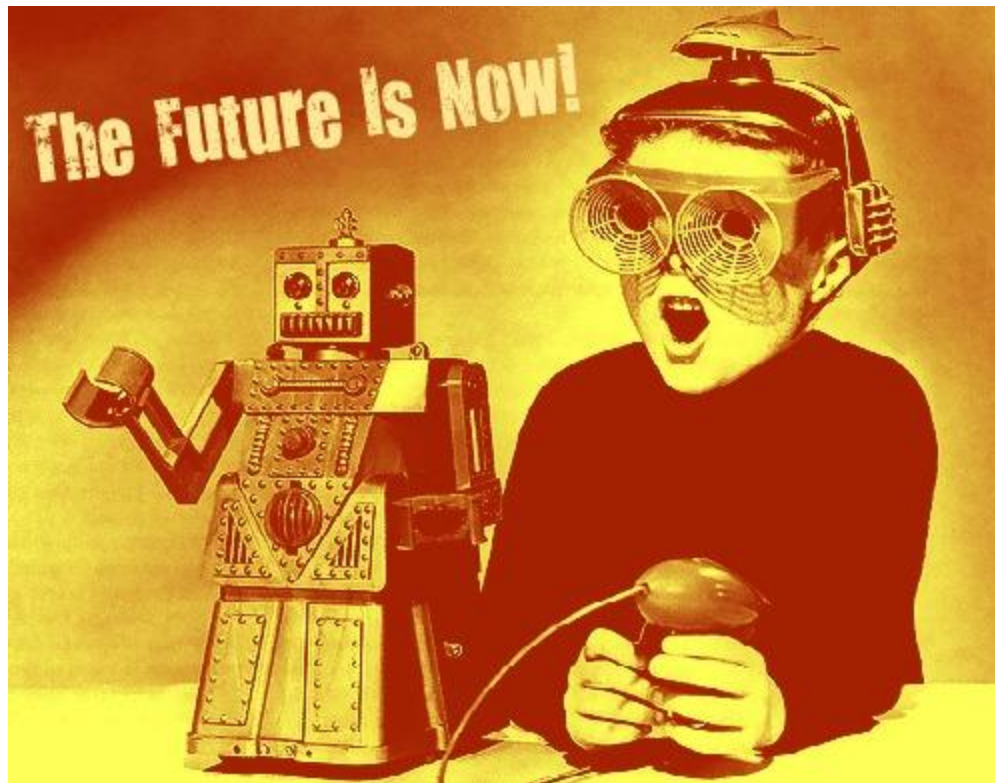
<http://arstechnica.com/security/2012/09/quantum-cryptography-yesterday-today-and-tomorrow/>





# Myth 8

Quantum cryptography is “future-proof”





Vendors claim that quantum crypto cannot ever be broken, unlike classical crypto, but...

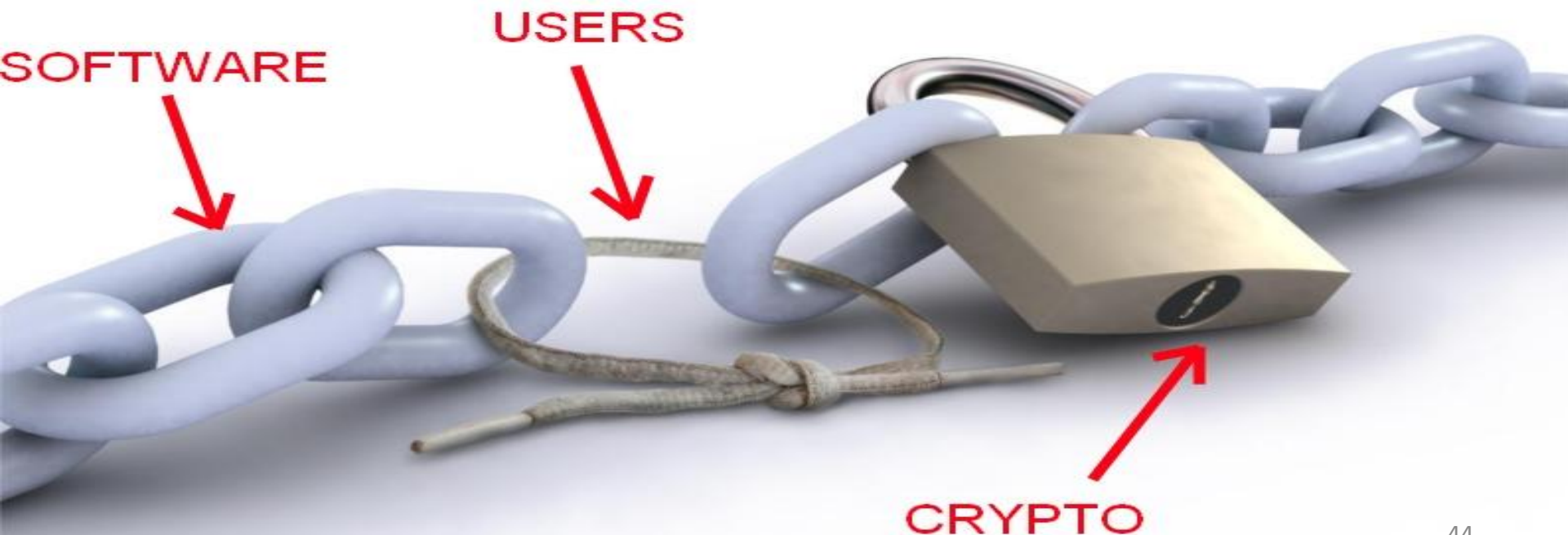
With QKD **data is still encrypted with classical crypto** (which is secure for the foreseeable future)

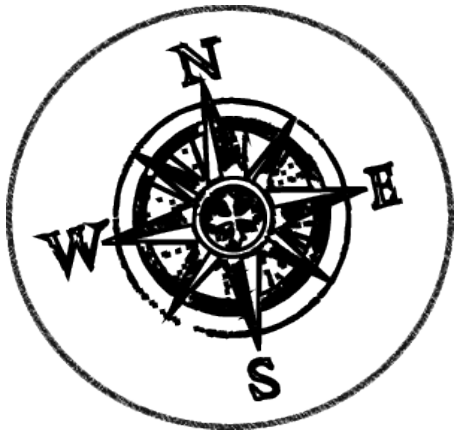
*“It could be broken...”* is **not** serious risk analysis

**Totally irrelevant and incorrect argument**

**“The encryption doesn’t even have to be very strong to be useful, it just **must be stronger than the other weak links** in the system. Using any standard commercial risk management model, cryptosystem failure is **orders of magnitude below any other risk**”**

*Ian Grigg, Peter Gutmann, IEEE Security & Privacy 9(3), 2011*





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**Homomorphic encryption is unlikely to secure cloud applications before 10 years**

*However...*

Existing crypto technologies can guarantee:

- Data stored is not modified by the cloud
- Search with keywords on encrypted data...
- ...such that cloud doesn't see the keywords






**Leakage-resilient cryptography may become a useful tool for smartcards security**

# Quantum crypto will remain in the headlines despite no security added value

← → ↻ [www.wired.com/politics/security/commentary/securitymatters/2008/10/securitymatters\\_1016](http://www.wired.com/politics/security/commentary/securitymatters/2008/10/securitymatters_1016)

**WIRED** GEAR SCIENCE ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS SECURITY DESIGN VIDEO [INSIDE](#)

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 **Security Matters** Commentary by Bruce Schneier [✉](#) [RSS](#)

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**POLITICS : SECURITY** [RSS](#)

## Quantum Cryptography: As Awesome As It Is Pointless

Bruce Schneier [✉](#) 10.16.08

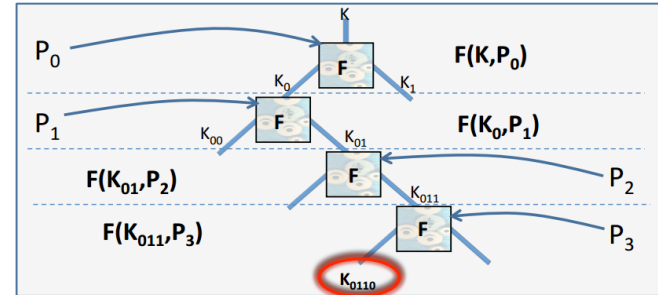
Quantum cryptography is back in the news, and the basic idea is still unbelievably cool, in theory, and nearly useless in real life.

The idea behind quantum crypto is that two people communicating using a quantum channel can be absolutely sure no one is eavesdropping. Heisenberg's uncertainty principle requires anyone measuring a quantum system to disturb it, and that disturbance alerts legitimate users as to the eavesdropper's presence. No disturbance, no eavesdropper — period.



# Research-stage technologies examples

## Leakage-resistant encryption (CHES 2012)



[https://www.cosic.esat.kuleuven.be/ches2012/slides/S1\\_talk2\\_Faust.pdf](https://www.cosic.esat.kuleuven.be/ches2012/slides/S1_talk2_Faust.pdf)

## CS2 searchable cloud storage system

<http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/um/people/senyk/slides/CS2.pdf>

## “Somewhat” homomorphic encryption

<http://research.microsoft.com/apps/pubs/default.aspx?id=148825>

# Fascinating technologies are emerging

But in any case:

Determine the real added value for your business

Run cost-benefit analyses

Seek vendor-neutral evaluations and opinions



# Crypto is powerful, but difficult

## Rely on trusted experts!



Thank you!

# Who am I

Cryptography expert at the Kudelski Group

- Crypto designs & reviews
- CAS security architecture
- Cybersecurity services



Active researcher in applied cryptography

- 40+ research articles in top conferences/journals
- Talks at security conferences (Black Hat, #days, etc.)

PhD cryptography, FHNW/EPFL, 2009

# Who am I

## Achievements

- Main designer of the SHA-3 finalist BLAKE
- Security vulnerabilities reported in Java and Ruby
- “SipHash” against DoS attacks (with D.J. Bernstein)
- Lightweight crypto “Quark” for RFID systems
- “Cube testers” cryptanalysis (with A. Shamir)
- Inventor of “zero-sum attacks” (best attack on SHA-3)
- Several awards and prizes...

[jeanphilippe.aumasson@gmail.com](mailto:jeanphilippe.aumasson@gmail.com)

<https://131002.net/> <https://twitter.com/aumasson>

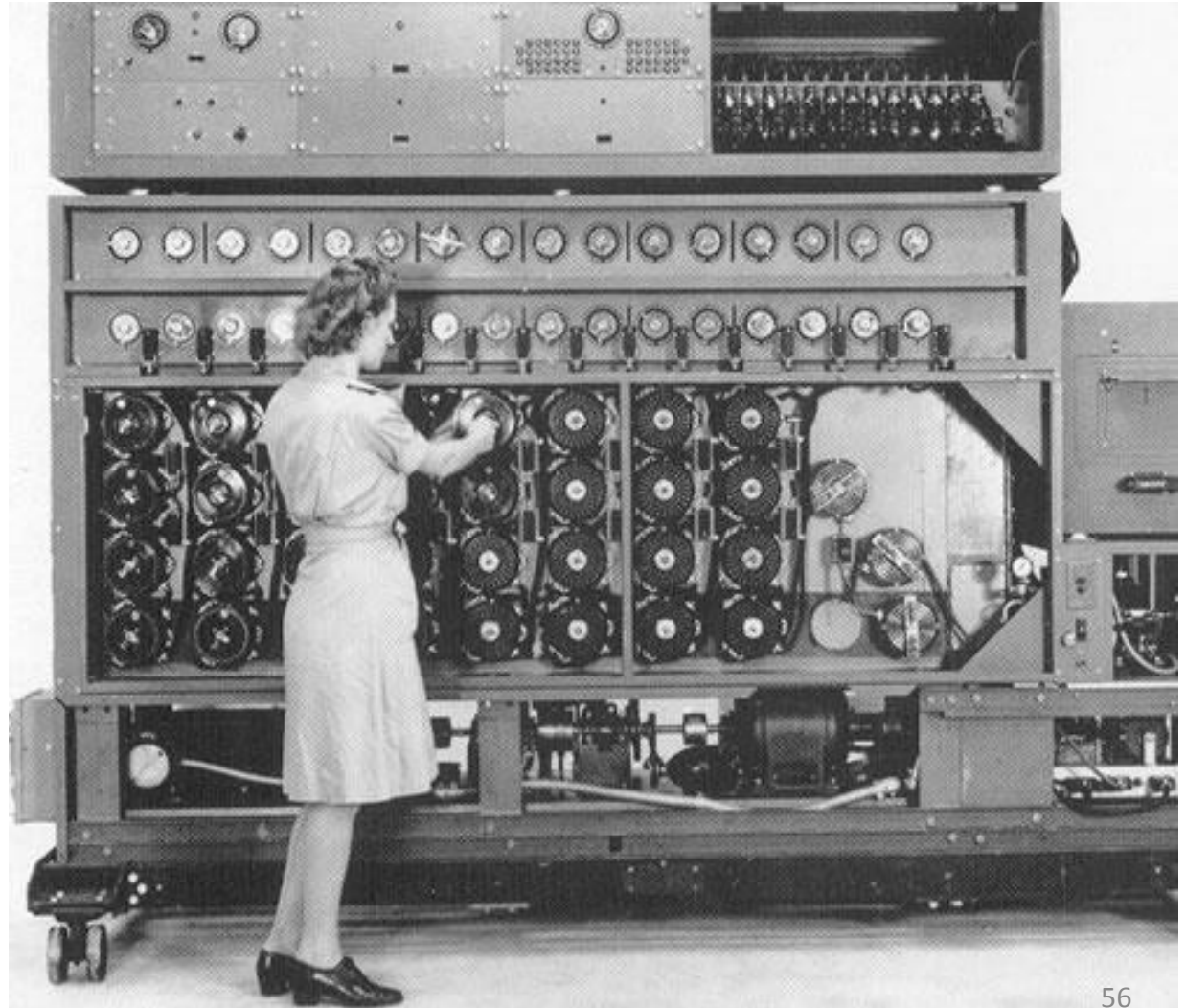


# Cryptography

From secret codes to  
cryptographic science  
and engineering

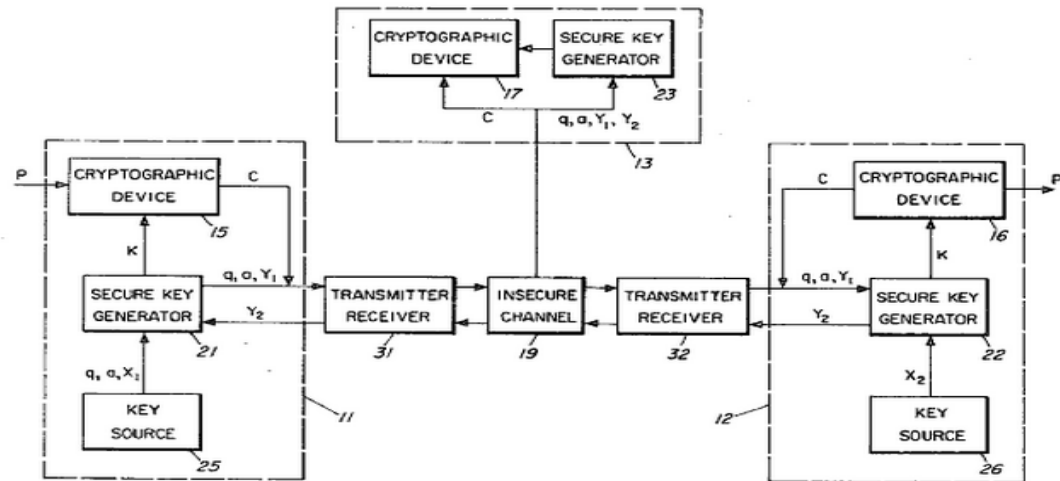


# 1939: British mathematician Alan Turing breaks Enigma encryption



# 1976-77: invention of public-key crypto (Diffie-Hellman key exchange, RSA)

RSA-768 = 3347807169895689878604416984821269081770479498371376856891  
2431388982883793878002287614711652531743087737814467999489 ·  
3674604366679959042824463379962795263227915816434308764267  
6032283815739666511279233373417143396810270092798736308917.



Enabled secure communications over insecure channels (for online commerce, etc.)

# 1980's: cryptography academic research (complexity theory and math communities)

## **Probabilistic Encryption & How To Play Mental Poker Keeping Secret All Partial Information**

Shafi Goldwasser \* and Silvio Micali \*\*  
Computer Science Department  
University of California - Berkeley

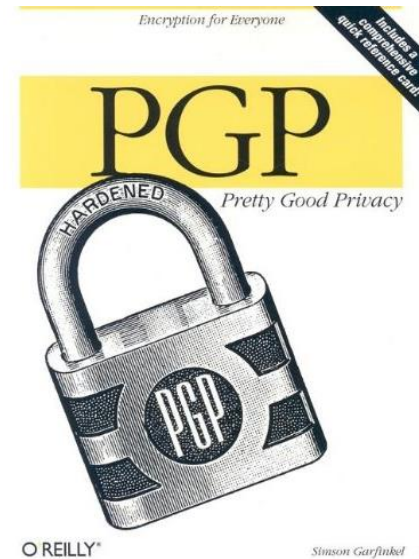
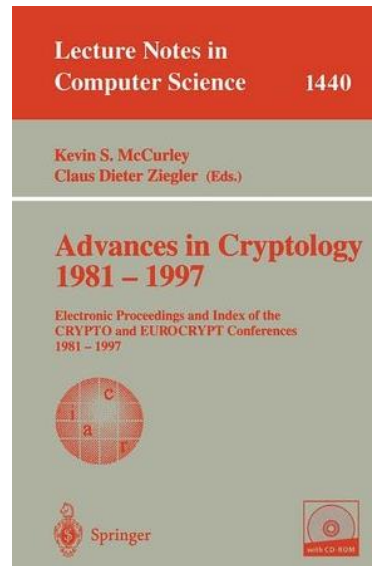
## **HOW TO GENERATE CRYPTOGRAPHICALLY STRONG SEQUENCES OF PSEUDO-RANDOM BITS\***

MANUEL BLUM† AND SILVIO MICALI‡

## **Elliptic Curve Cryptosystems**

By Neal Koblitz

# 1990's: more crypto labs, strong crypto software becomes available to civilians



TOP SECRET

December 23, 1992

## Director Sessions

Re: Use of the Clipper Chip in AT&T TSD 3600 During Phase II of Production

This document is classified "SECRET" in its entirety unless otherwise indicated.

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