

# Decentralized Public Key Infrastructures

Christian Grothoff

Berner Fachhochschule

24.5.2024

# Learning Objectives

Introduction to GnuPG

Distributed Hash Tables

CAN

Chord

Kademlia

The GNU Name System

Key Revocation

Comparisson of Name Systems

Introduction to GNUnet

Advanced Cryptographic Primitives

## Part I: Introduction to GnuPG

# PGP

- ▶ PGP can be used to encrypt and digitally sign files and e-mails.
- ▶ Data is at rest or transmitted unidirectionally. ⇒ No secure channel!
- ▶ PGP was published by Philip R. Zimmermann<sup>1</sup> in the early 1990s.
- ▶ Got immediate NSA attention and encountered legal issues on its use of RSA cryptography patents.
- ▶ PGP certificates are public key certificates with one or more identity labels tied to it.

---

<sup>1</sup><http://www.philzimmermann.com/>

## GnuPG

- ▶ Free version of PGP, with library (libgcrypt)
- ▶ Provides common cryptographic primitives
- ▶ Provides implementation of OpenPGP ([4, 5, 3])
- ▶ Commonly used for:
  - ▶ secure E-mail (authentication, encryption)
  - ▶ encrypt files
  - ▶ sign files — i.e. sources and binaries in Free Software distributions

# PGP Certificate Overview

**PGP Version** identifies which version of PGP was used to create the key associated with the certificate

**Holder's public key** the public portion of your key pair, together with the algorithm of the key: RSA or DSA (Digital Signature Algorithm)

**Holder information** this consists of "identity" information about the user, such as their name, user ID, photograph, and so on...

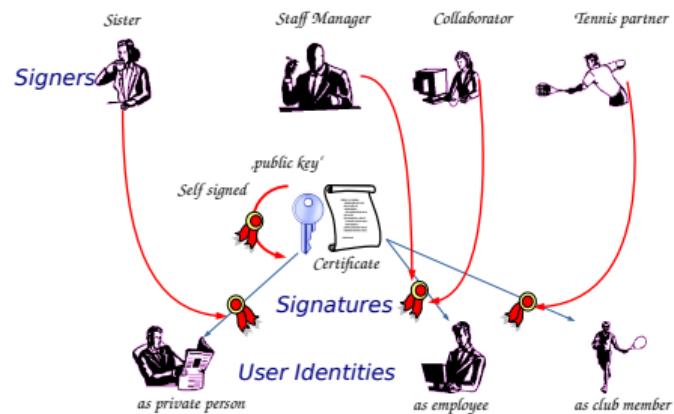
**Holder digital signature** also called a self-signature, this is the signature using the corresponding private key of the public key associated with the certificate

**Validity period** the certificate's start date/ time and expiration date/ time; indicates when the certificate will expire

**Preferred symmetric encryption algorithm** indicates the encryption algorithm to which the certificate owner prefers to have information encrypted. The supported algorithms are CAST, IDEA, Triple-DES, AES, ...

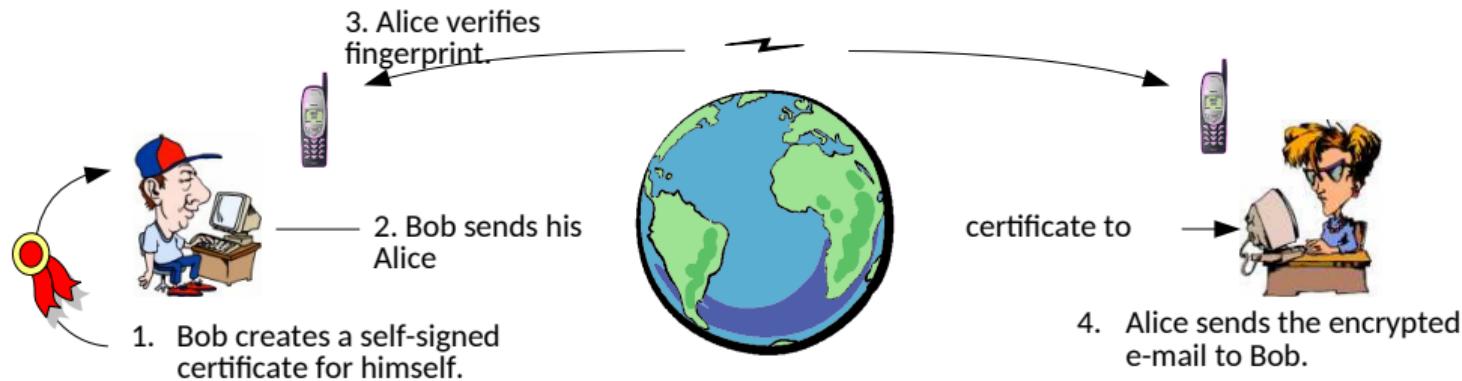
# PGP Certification

- ▶ One certificate may be signed by multiple entities (persons).
- ▶ Digital signatures may bind different user attributes to a certificate when verifying the authenticity of that user.



**People apply different methods to check authenticity before signing a key!**

# PGP Key Signing



## Trust on First Use (TOFU)

Another kind of direct trust security model:

- ▶ Client creates a trust relationship with a not-yet-trusted and unknown endpoint.
- ▶ The public key of the endpoint is not verified, but *subsequent* connections to the same peer require the public key paired with other information of the service to remain the same.

TOFU is typically used in SSH and in HTTP Public Key Pinning (HPKP).

# The Web of Trust

## Problem:

- ▶ Alice has certified many of her contacts and *flagged* some as *trusted* to check keys well.
- ▶ Bob has been certified by many of his contacts.
- ▶ Alice has **not** yet certified Bob, but wants to securely communicate with him.

---

<sup>2</sup>Simplified, details later.

# The Web of Trust

## Problem:

- ▶ Alice has certified many of her contacts and *flagged* some as *trusted* to check keys well.
- ▶ Bob has been certified by many of his contacts.
- ▶ Alice has **not** yet certified Bob, but wants to securely communicate with him.

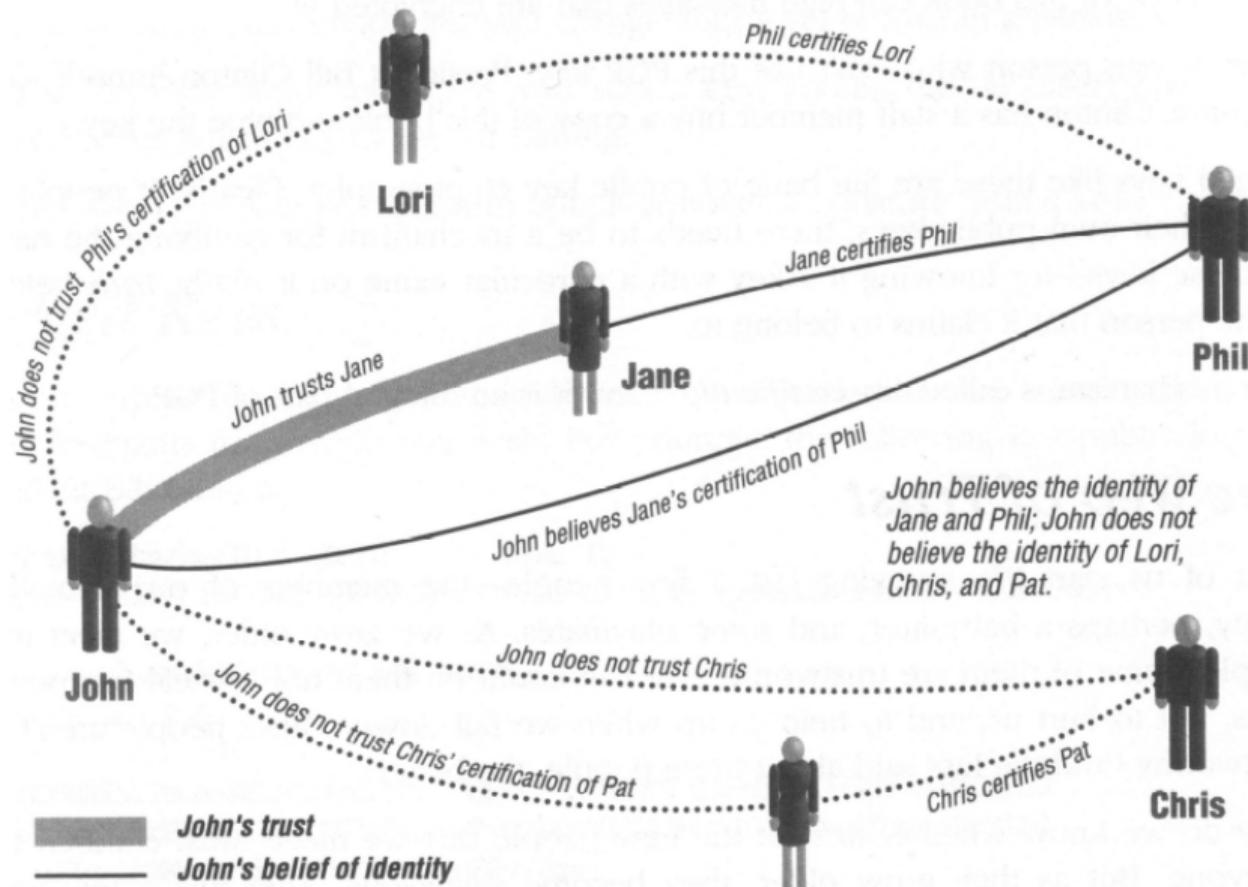
## Solution:

- ▶ Find paths in the certification graph from Alice to Bob.
- ▶ If sufficient number of short paths exist certifying the same key, trust it.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup>Simplified, details later.

# The Web of Trust



# The PGP Private Keyring

Stores private/public key pairs:

- ▶ timestamp
- ▶ key ID (indexed)
- ▶ public key
- ▶ encrypted private key (with passphrase)
- ▶ user ID (indexed)

# The PGP Public Keyring

Stores public key pairs, certificate and trust status:

- ▶ timestamp
- ▶ key ID (indexed)
- ▶ public key
- ▶ user ID (indexed)
- ▶ owner trust:
  - ▶ unknown user
  - ▶ usually not trusted to sign
  - ▶ usually trusted to sign
  - ▶ always trusted to sign
  - ▶ ultimately trusted (own key, only present in private key ring)
- ▶ signature(s)
- ▶ signature trust(s); copy of owner trust of the signer
- ▶ validity of public key

## Key validity calculation

- ▶ if at least one signature trust is ultimate, then the validity of the key is 1 (complete)
- ▶ otherwise, a weighted sum of the signature trust values is computed:
  - ▶ always trusted signatures has a weight of  $1/x$
  - ▶ usually trusted signatures has a weight of  $1/y$

$x, y$  are user-configurable parameters, default  $x = 1, y = 2$ .

## Certificate Trust Models (Summary)

**Direct Trust** One trusts in a relationship between “public key” and “identity”, which it has verified by itself only. The identity of the subject (owner) is proven directly (personally).

**Web of Trust** One accepts/applies “public keys”, where the identity binding is validated by others (persons or agents). One accepts other entities as trustworthy authorities (indirect trust or recommended trust).

**Hierarchical Trust** One accepts/applies “public keys”, where the identity binding is validated by a trustworthy authority.

See also: **individualism, anarchism, authoritarianism**.

# Certificate Trust Models (Summary)

Direct Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Zero-solution: public key must be exchanged over 2nd/private channel or remain non-verifiable.</li><li>▶ Usable in limited scope. Key management is complex, legal validity/liability not possible.</li></ul>
Web of Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Flexible solution: One applies public keys validated by other entities.</li><li>▶ Usable in bigger scope (e.g. community). Key management less complex using online key server. Legal validity/liability not possible.</li></ul>
Hierarchical Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Strict solution: One applies public keys only if validated by a “trustworthy” authority.</li><li>▶ Usable in national or even global scope. Key management still complex but mostly done by experts. Legal validity/liability possible.</li></ul>

See also: **individualism, anarchism, authoritarianism**.

## Using GnuPG

```
$ gpg --gen-key
$ gpg --export
$ gpg --import FILENAME
$ gpg --edit-key EMAIL
(gpg) fpr
(gpg) sign
(gpg) trust
$ gpg --clearsign FILENAME
```

## Excercise: Explore

<https://pgp.mit.edu>

## Part II: Distributed Hash Tables

## Distributed Hash Tables (DHTs)

- ▶ Distributed **index**
- ▶ GET and PUT operations like a hash table
- ▶ JOIN and LEAVE operations (internal)
- ▶ Trade-off between JOIN/LEAVE and GET/PUT costs
- ▶ Typically use exact match on cryptographic hash for lookup
- ▶ Typically require overlay to establish particular connections

## DHTs: Key Properties

To know a DHT, you must know (at least) its:

- ▶ routing table structure
- ▶ lookup procedure
- ▶ join operation process
- ▶ leave operation process

... including expected costs (complexity) for each of these operations.

## A trivial DHTs: The Clique

- ▶ routing table: hash map of all peers
- ▶ lookup: forward to closest peer in routing table
- ▶ join: ask initial contact for routing table, copy table, introduce us to all other peers, migrate data we're closest to to us
- ▶ leave: send local data to remaining closest peer, disconnect from all peers to remove us from their routing tables

Complexity?

## A trivial DHTs: The Circle

- ▶ routing table: left and right neighbour in cyclic identifier space
- ▶ lookup: forward to closest peer (left or right)
- ▶ join: lookup own peer identity to find join position, transfer data from neighbour for keys we are closer to
- ▶ leave: ask left and right neighbor connect directly, transfer data to respective neighbour

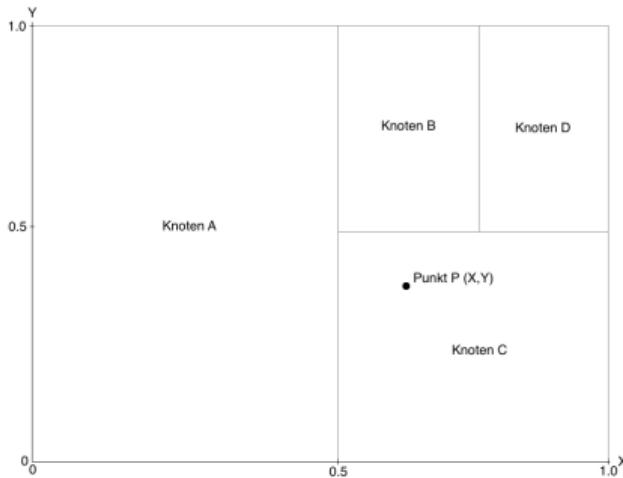
Complexity?

## Additional Questions to ask

- ▶ Security against Eclipse attack?
- ▶ Survivability of DoS attack?
- ▶ Maintenance operation cost & required frequency?
- ▶ Latency? ( $\neq$  number of hops!)
- ▶ Data persistence?

# Content Addressable Network: CAN

- ▶ routing table: neighbours in  $d$ -dimensional torus space
- ▶ lookup: forward to closest peer
- ▶ join: lookup own peer identity to find join position, split quadrant (data areas) with existing peer
- ▶ leave: assign quadrant space to neighbour (s)

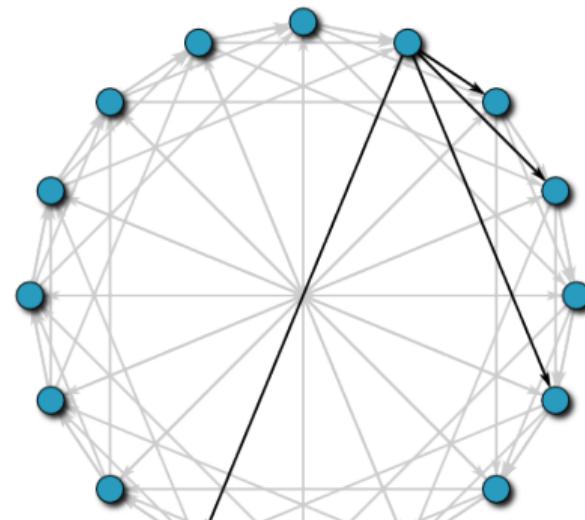


## Interesting CAN properties

- ▶ CAN can do range queries along  $\leq n$  dimensions
- ▶ CAN's peers have  $2d$  connections (independent of network size)
- ▶ CAN routes in  $O(d\sqrt[d]{n})$

# Chord

- ▶ routing table: predecessor in circle and at distance  $2^i$ , plus  $r$  successors
- ▶ lookup: forward to closest peer (peer ID after key ID)
- ▶ join: lookup own peer identity to find join position, use neighbor to establish finger table, migrate data from respective neighbour
- ▶ leave: join predecessor with successor, migrate data to respective neighbour, periodic stabilization protocol takes care of finger updates

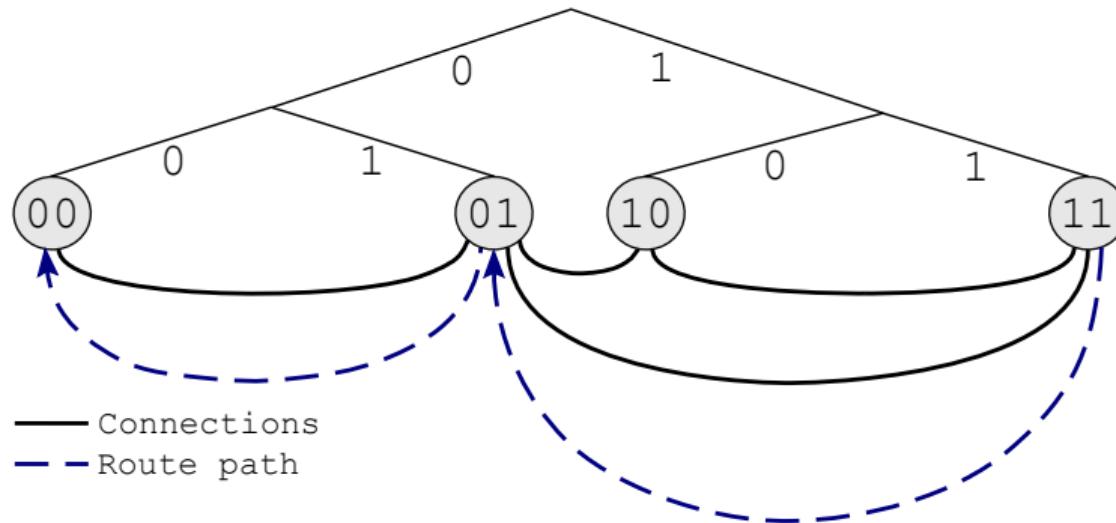


## Interesting Chord properties

- ▶ Simple design
- ▶  $\log_2 n$  routing table size
- ▶  $\log_2 n$  lookup cost
- ▶ Asymmetric, inflexible routing tables

# Kademlia

- ▶ routing table:  $2^{160}$  buckets with  $k$  peers at XOR distance  $2^i$
- ▶ lookup: iteratively forward to  $\alpha$  peers from the “best” bucket, selected by latency
- ▶ join: lookup own peer identity, populate table with peers from iteration
- ▶ maintenance: when interacting with a peer, add to bucket if not full; if bucket full, check if longest-not-seen peer is live first
- ▶ leave: just drop out

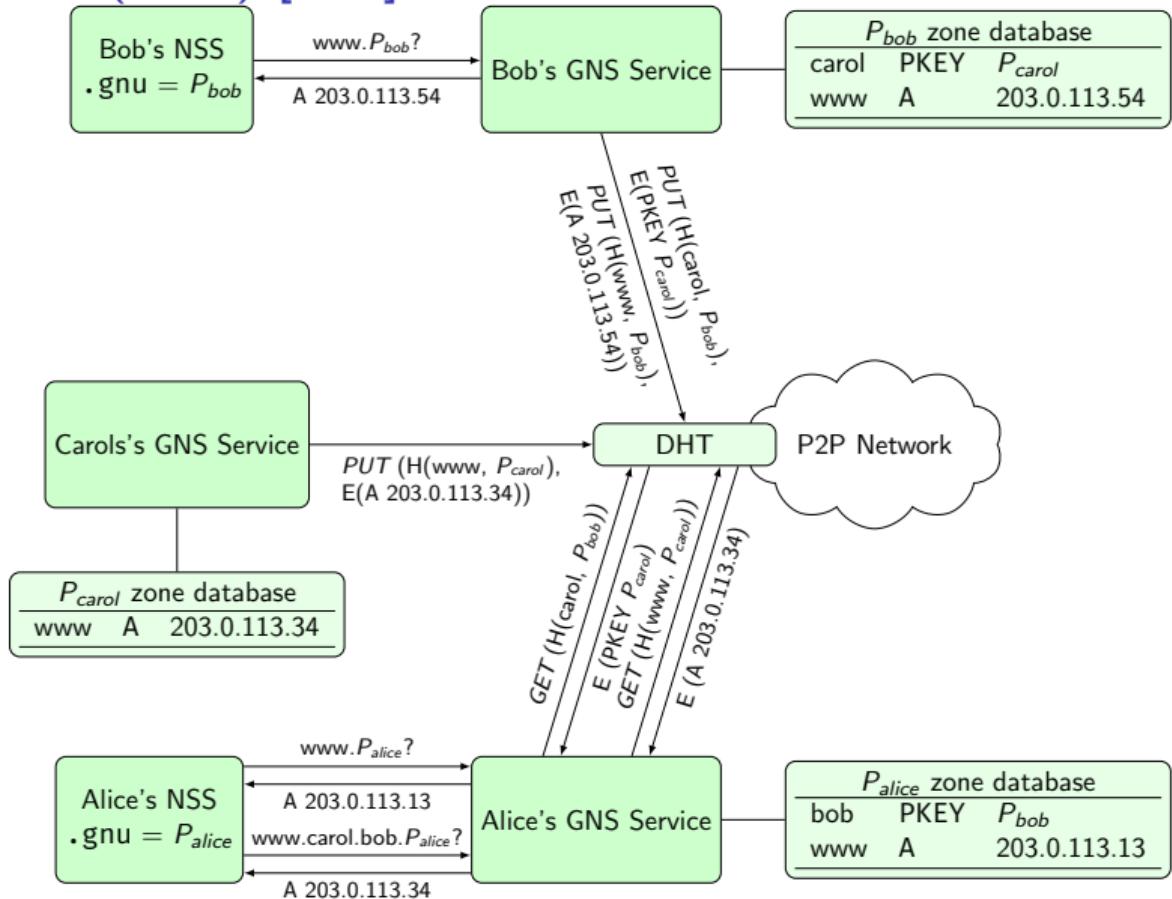


## Interesting Kademlia properties

- ▶ XOR is a symmetric metric: connections are used in both directions
- ▶  $\alpha$  replication helps with malicious peers and churn
- ▶ Iterative lookup gives initiator much control,
- ▶ Lookup helps with routing table maintenance
- ▶ Bucket size trade-off between routing speed and table size
- ▶ Iterative lookup is a trade-off:
  - ▶ good UDP (no connect cost, initiator in control)
  - ▶ bad with TCP (very large number of connections)

### Part III: The GNU Name System (RFC 9498)

# The GNU Name System (GNS) [8, 6]



# The GNU Name System<sup>3</sup>

## Properties of GNS

- ▶ Decentralized name system with secure memorable names
- ▶ Delegation used to achieve transitivity
- ▶ Also supports globally unique, secure identifiers
- ▶ Achieves query and response privacy
- ▶ Provides alternative public key infrastructure
- ▶ Interoperable with DNS

---

<sup>3</sup>Joint work with Martin Schanzenbach, Matthias Wachs and Bernd Fix

# Zone Management: like in DNS

gnunet-setup

General Network Transports File Sharing Namestore GNS

Editing zone API5QDP7A126P06VV60535PDT50B9L12NK6QP64IE8KNC6E807G0

Preferred zone name (PSEU): schanzen

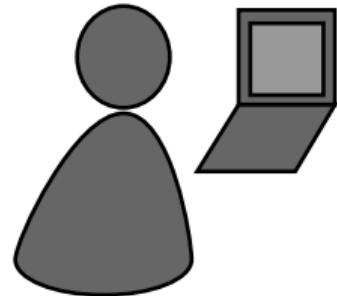
Master Zone  Private Zone  Shorten Zone

Expiration Public

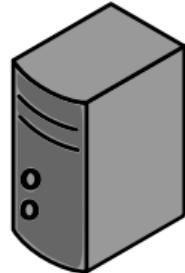
Name	Type	Value	Expiration	Public
<new name>				
+ MX	5.mail.+		end of time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
priv PKEY	3IQT1G601GUBV0S5C0J0870EFB8N3DBJQ4L9SBI8PFLR8UKCVGHG		end of time	<input type="checkbox"/>
heise LEHO	heise.de		end of time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	AAAA 2a02:2e0:3fe:100::8		end of time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	A 193.99.144.80		end of time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
home	<new record>			
大学	<new record>			
short	<new record>			
mail	<new record>			
homepage	<new record>			
fcfs	<new record>			
www	<new record>			

Welcome to gnunet-setup.

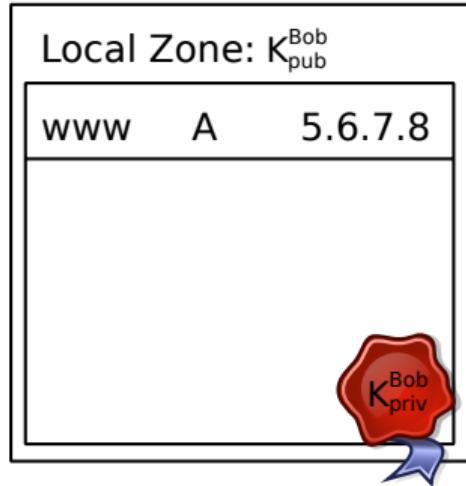
## Name resolution in GNS

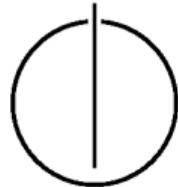


Bob



Bob's webserver





**Bob Builder, Ph.D.**

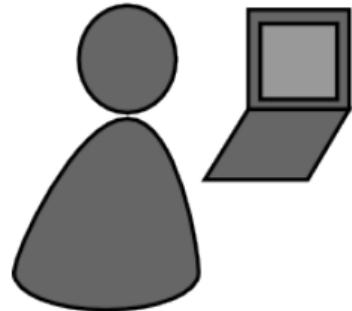
**Address: Country, Street Name 23**

**Phone: 555-12345**

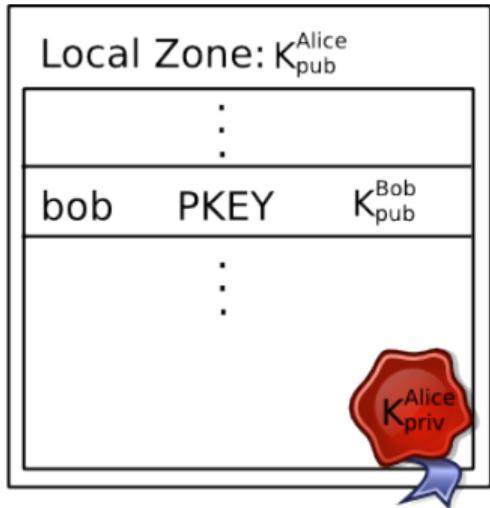
**Mobile: 666-54321**

**Mail: bob@H2R84L4JL3G5C**

# Delegation

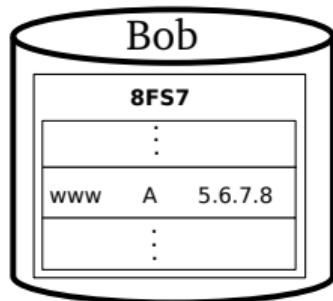
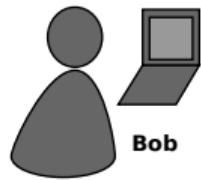


Alice

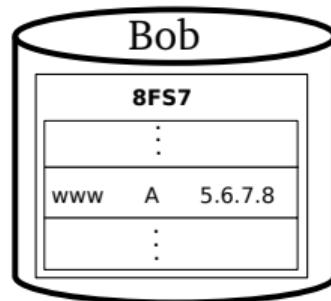


- ▶ Alice learns Bob's public key
- ▶ Alice creates delegation to zone  $K_{pub}^{Bob}$  under label **bob**
- ▶ Alice can reach Bob's webserver via **www.bob.gns.alt**

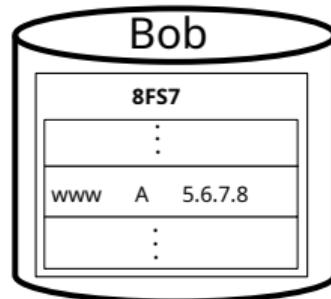
# Name Resolution



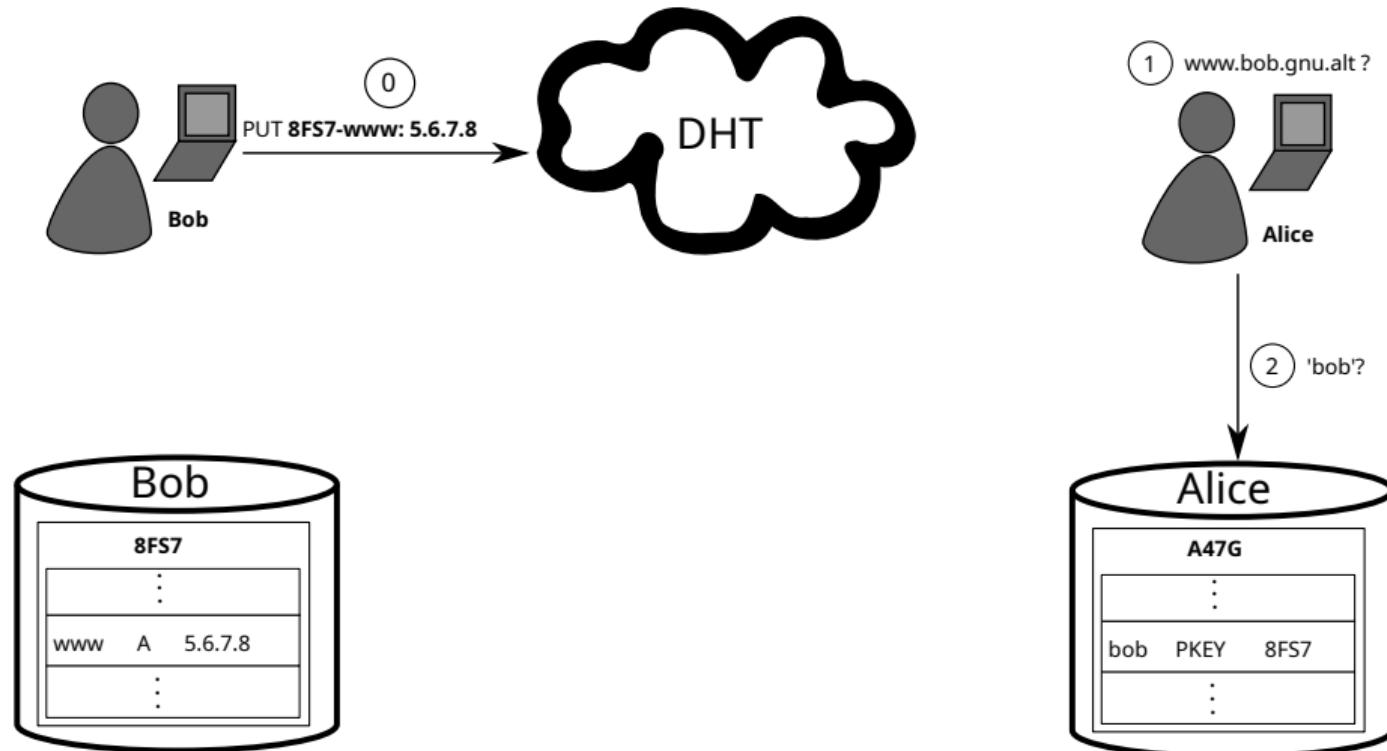
# Name Resolution



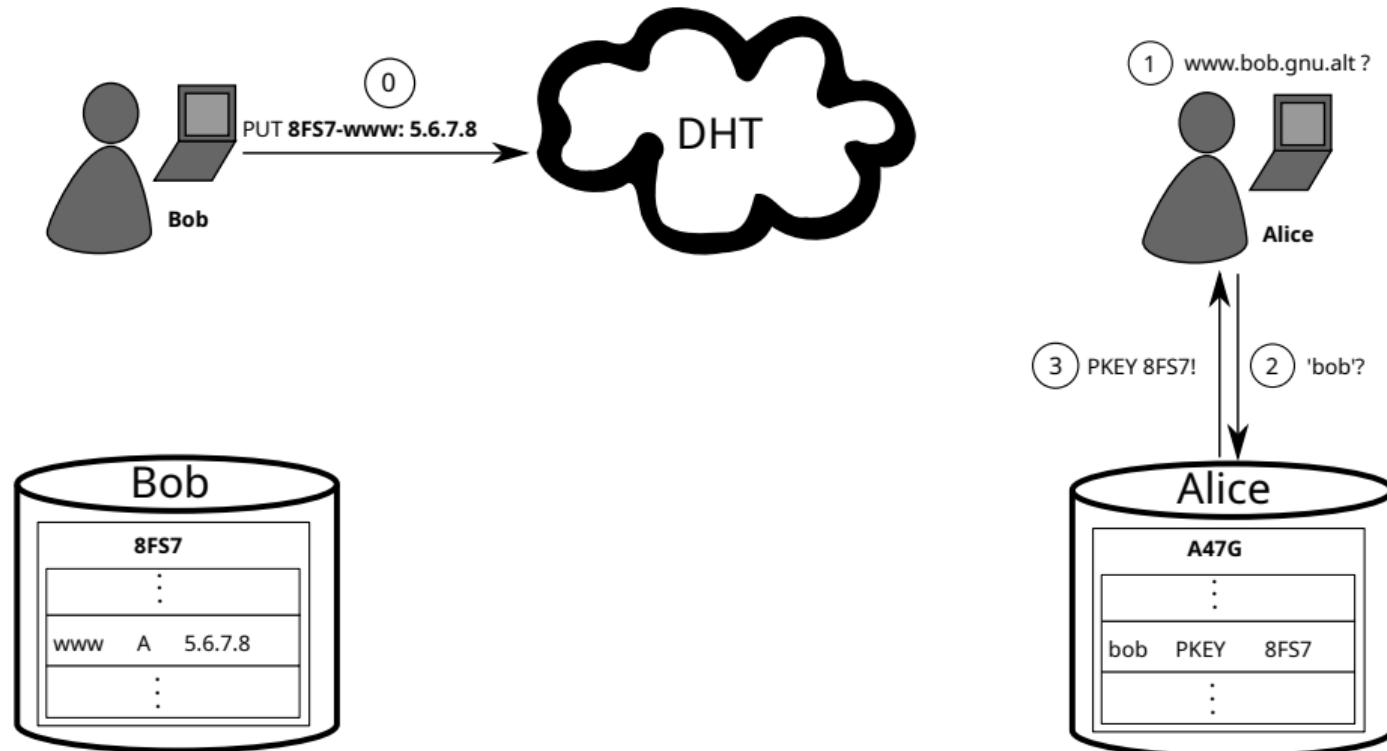
# Name Resolution



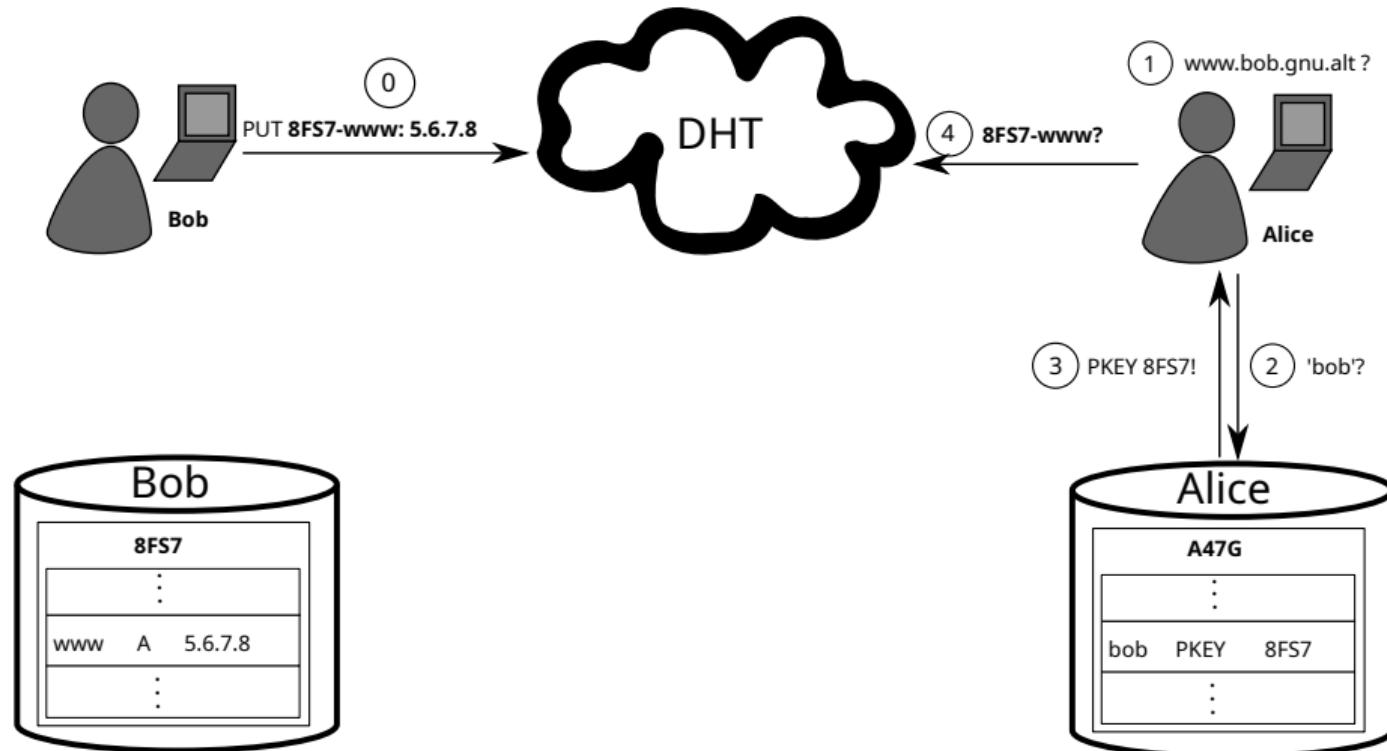
# Name Resolution



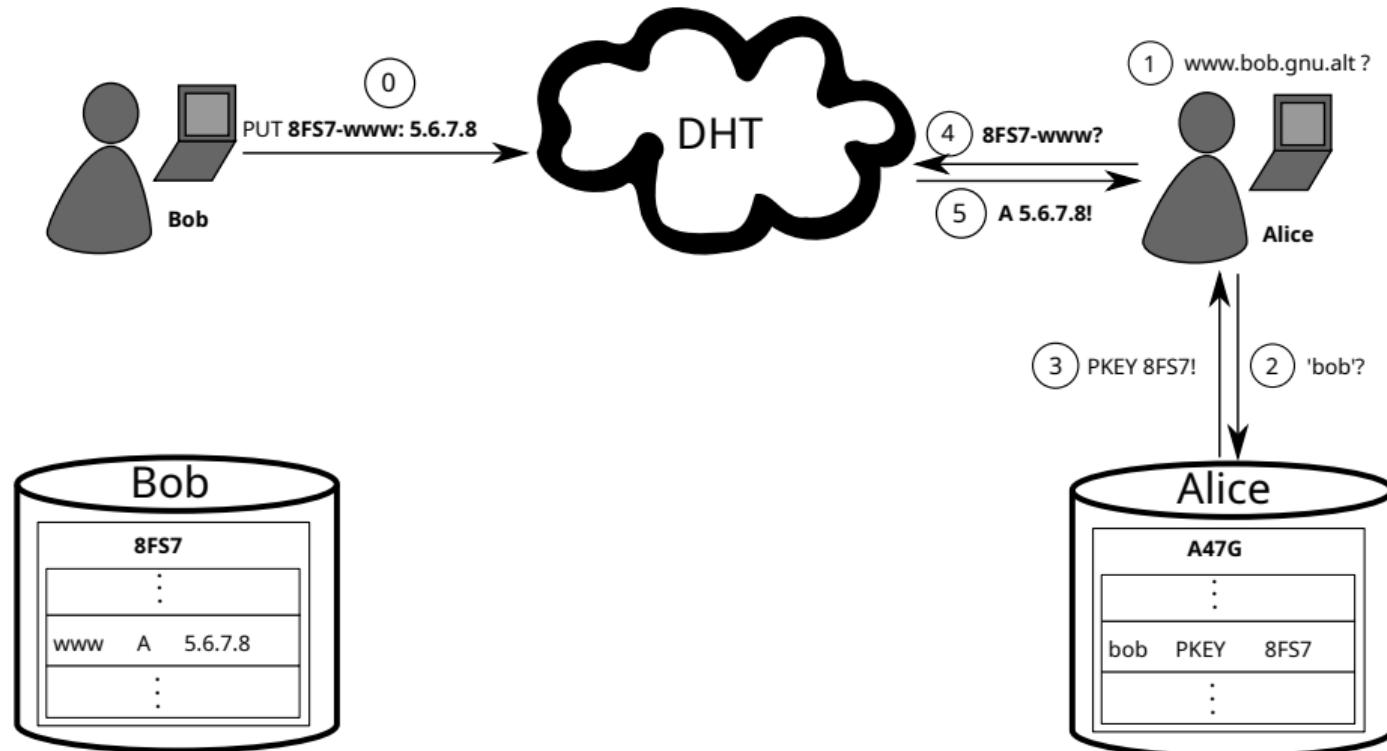
# Name Resolution



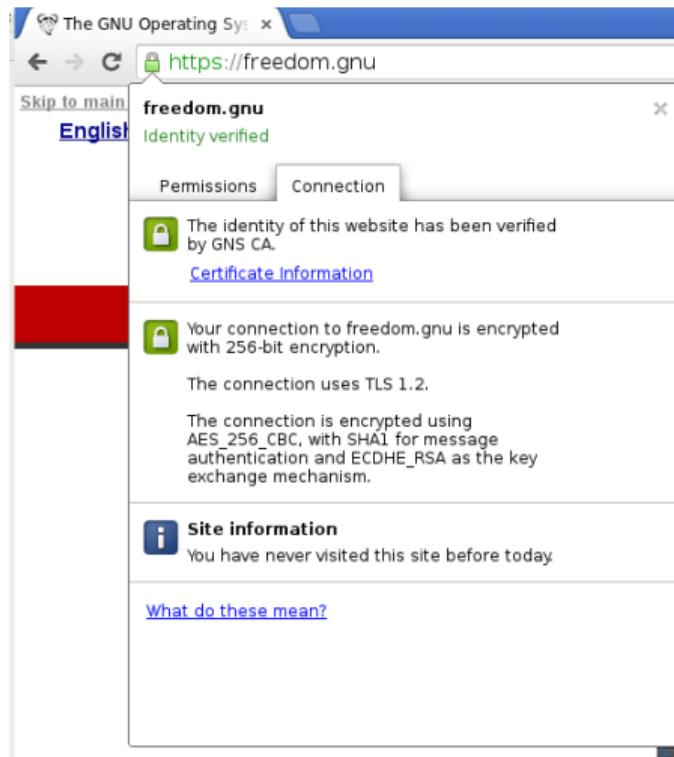
# Name Resolution



# Name Resolution



# GNS as PKI (via DANE/TLSA)

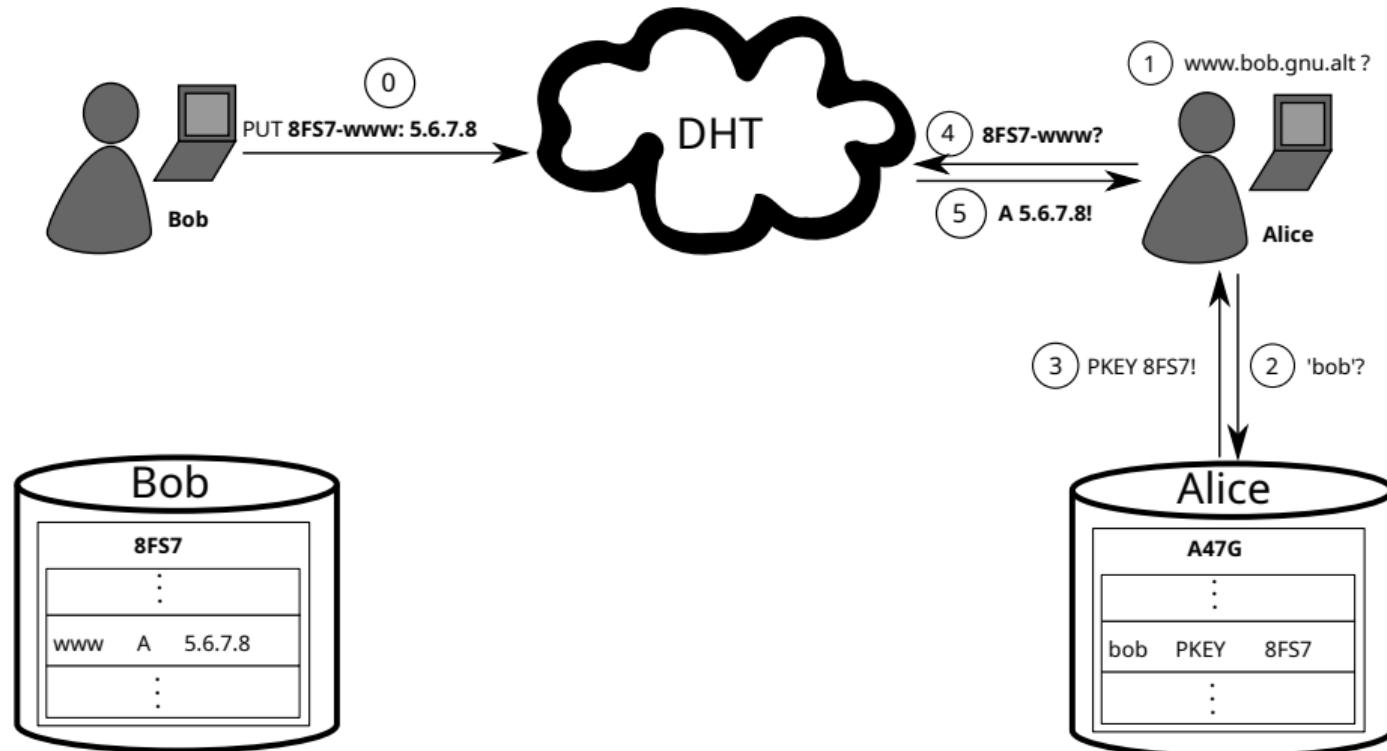


The screenshot shows a web browser window for 'The GNU Operating System' at <https://freedom.gnu>. A TLS certificate verification dialog is open on the left, titled 'freedom.gnu' with 'Identity verified'. It has tabs for 'Permissions' and 'Connection'. The 'Connection' tab is selected, showing that the website's identity has been verified by GNS CA and that the connection is encrypted with 256-bit encryption using TLS 1.2. It also states that the connection is encrypted using AES\_256\_CBC, SHA1 for message authentication, and ECDHE\_RSA as the key exchange mechanism. Below this, there's a 'Site information' section stating 'You have never visited this site before today' and a link to 'What do these mean?'. The main content area of the website shows the 'Operating System' logo and a navigation bar with 'Why', 'Licenses', 'Education', 'Software', 'Documentation', and 'Help'. The 'What is GNU?' page is displayed, featuring a cartoon ram logo and text about the Free Software Definition.

The [GNU Project](#) was launched in 1984 to develop the GNU system. The name "GNU" is a recursive acronym for "GNU's Not Unix!". ["GNU" is pronounced \*g'noo\*](#), as one syllable, like saying "grew" but replacing the *r* with *n*.

A Unix-like operating system is a [software collection](#) of applications, libraries, and developer tools, plus a program to allocate resources and talk to the hardware, known

# Privacy Issue: DHT



## Query Privacy: Terminology

$G$  generator in ECC curve, a point

$o$  size of ECC group,  $o := |G|$ ,  $o$  prime

$x$  private ECC key of zone ( $x \in \mathbb{Z}_o$ )

$P$  public key of zone, a point  $P := xG$

$l$  label for record in a zone ( $l \in \mathbb{Z}_o$ )

$R_{P,l}$  set of records for label  $l$  in zone  $P$

$q_{P,l}$  query hash (hash code for DHT lookup)

$B_{P,l}$  block with encrypted information for label  $l$   
in zone  $P$  published in the DHT under  $q_{P,l}$

## Query Privacy: Cryptography

Publishing records  $R_{P,I}$  as  $B_{P,I}$  under key  $q_{P,I}$

$$h := H(I, P) \tag{1}$$

$$d := h \cdot x \mod o \tag{2}$$

$$B_{P,I} := S_d(E_{HKDF(I,P)}(R_{P,I})), dG \tag{3}$$

$$q_{P,I} := H(dG) \tag{4}$$

## Query Privacy: Cryptography

Publishing records  $R_{P,I}$  as  $B_{P,I}$  under key  $q_{P,I}$

$$h := H(I, P) \quad (1)$$

$$d := h \cdot x \pmod{o} \quad (2)$$

$$B_{P,I} := S_d(E_{HKDF(I,P)}(R_{P,I})), dG \quad (3)$$

$$q_{P,I} := H(dG) \quad (4)$$

Searching for records under label  $I$  in zone  $P$

$$h := H(I, P) \quad (5)$$

$$q_{P,I} := H(hP) = H(hxG) = H(dG) \Rightarrow \text{obtain } B_{P,I} \quad (6)$$

$$R_{P,I} = D_{HKDF(I,P)}(B_{P,I}) \quad (7)$$

## Using cryptographic identifiers

- ▶ Zone are identified by a public key
- ▶ “alice.bob.*PUBLIC-KEY*” is perfectly legal in GNS!

⇒ Globally unique identifiers

**Break**

## Key Revocation

- ▶ Certificate Revocation Lists (X.509)
- ▶ Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP)
- ▶ OCSP stapling (TLS)
- ▶ Publish revocation in blockchain?

## Key Revocation

- ▶ Certificate Revocation Lists (X.509)
- ▶ Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP)
- ▶ OCSP stapling (TLS)
- ▶ Publish revocation in blockchain?
- ▶ Controlled flooding

## Key Revocation via Controlled Flooding

- ▶ Revocation message signed with private key that is to be revoked
- ▶ Flooded on all links in (P2P) overlay, stored forever
- ▶ Expensive **proof-of-work** used to limit DoS-potential
- ▶ Proof-of-work can be calculated ahead of time
- ▶ Revocation messages can be computed and stored off-line if desired
- ▶ Efficient set reconciliation used when peers connect

## Efficient Set Union

- ▶ Alice and Bob have sets  $A$  and  $B$
- ▶ The sets are very large
- ▶ ... but their symmetric difference  $\delta = |(A - B) \cup (B - A)|$  is small
- ▶ Now Alice wants to know  $B - A$  (the elements she's missing)
- ▶ ... and Bob  $A - B$  (the elements he's missing)
- ▶ How can Alice and Bob do this efficiently?
  - ▶ w.r.t. communication and computation

## Simplistic Solution

- ▶ Naive approach: Alice sends  $A$  to Bob, Bob sends  $B - A$  back to Alice
- ▶ ... and vice versa.

- ▶ Communication cost:  $O(|A| + |B|)$  :(
- ▶ Ideally, we want to do it in  $O(\delta)$ .
- ▶ First improvement: Don't send elements of  $A$  and  $B$ , but send/request hashes.  
Still does not improve complexity :(

- ▶ We need some more fancy data structure!

# Bloom Filters

**Constant size** data structure that “summarizes” a set.

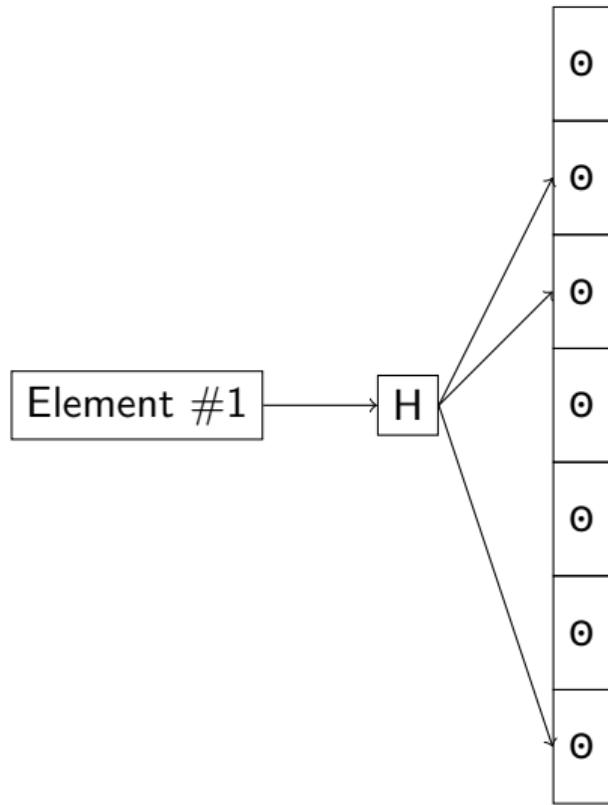
Operations:

$d = \text{NewBF}(\text{size})$  Create a new, empty bloom filter.

$\text{Insert}(d, e)$  Insert element  $e$  into the BF  $d$ .

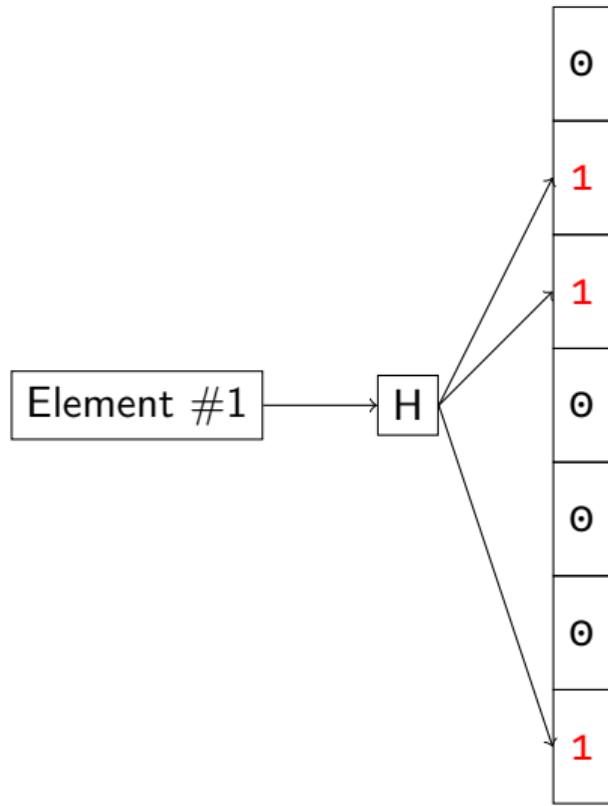
$b = \text{Contains}(d, e)$  Check if BF  $d$  contains element  $e$ .  
 $b \in \{ \text{“Definitely not in set”}, \text{“Probably in set”} \}$

## BF: Insert



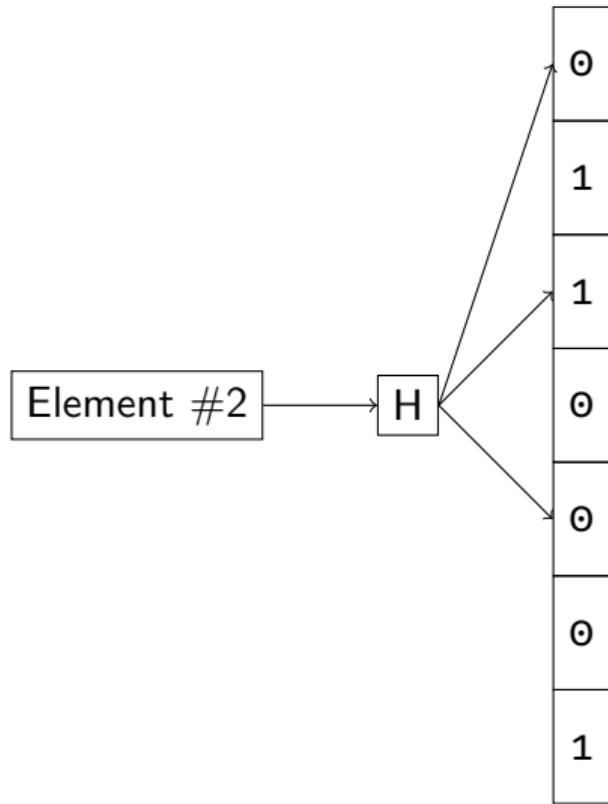
$$H(\text{Element } \#1) = (2, 3, 7)$$

## BF: Insert



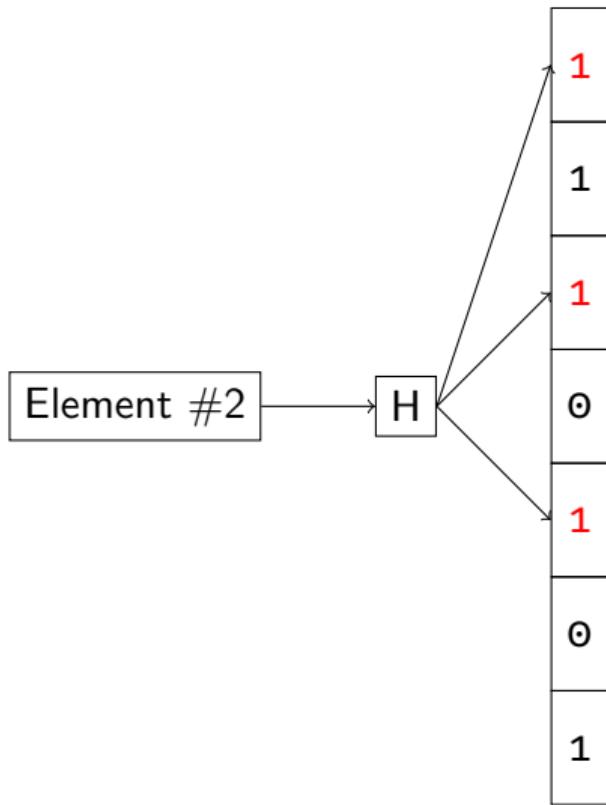
$$H(\text{Element } \#1) = (2, 3, 7)$$

## BF: Insert



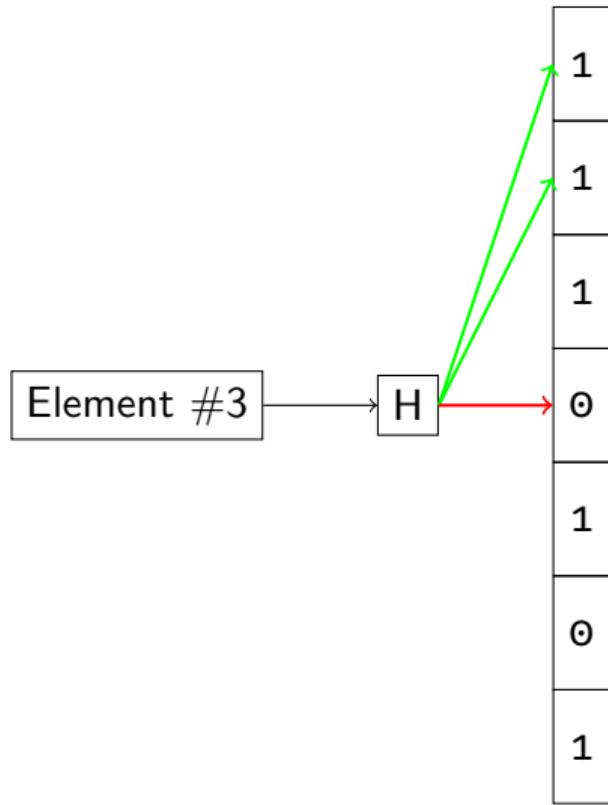
$$H(\text{Element } \#1) = (2, 3, 7)$$
$$H(\text{Element } \#2) = (1, 3, 5)$$

## BF: Insert



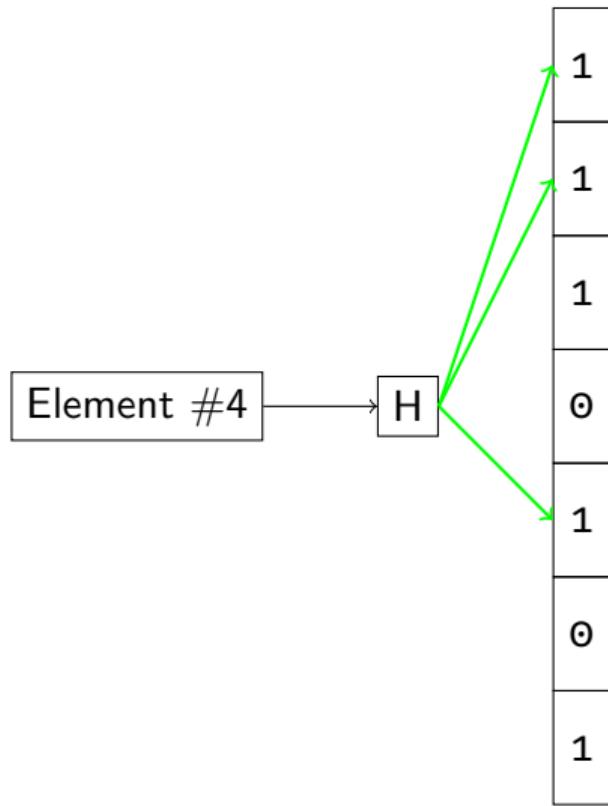
$$H(\text{Element } \#1) = (2, 3, 7)$$
$$H(\text{Element } \#2) = (1, 3, 5)$$

## BF: Membership Test



$$H(\text{Element } \#1) = (2, 3, 7)$$
$$H(\text{Element } \#2) = (1, 3, 5)$$

## BF: Membership Test (false positive)



$$H(\text{Element } \#1) = (2, 3, 7)$$
$$H(\text{Element } \#2) = (1, 3, 5)$$

## Counting Bloom Filters

BF where buckets hold a **positive integer**.

Additional Operation:

*Remove(d, e)* Remove element from the CBF  $d$ .

⇒ False negatives when removing a non-existing element.

## Invertible Bloom Filters

Similar to CBF, but

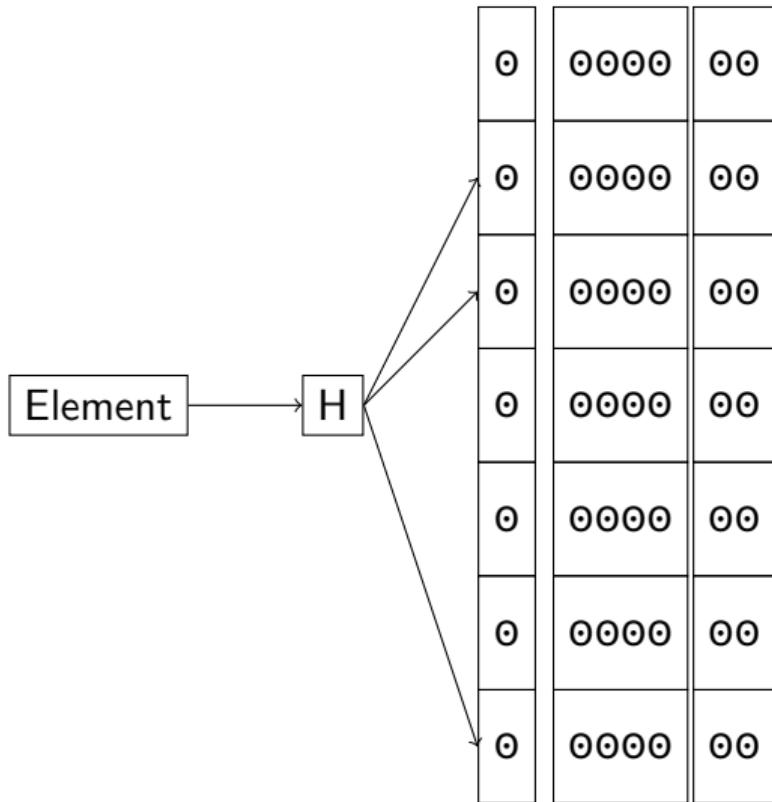
- ▶ Allow **negative counts**
- ▶ Additionally store **(XOR-)sum of IDs (IDSUM)** in each bucket.
- ▶ Additionally store **(XOR-)sum of hashes (XHASH)** in each bucket.

Additional Operations:

$(e, r) = \text{Extract}(d)$  Extract an element ID ( $e$ ) from the IBF  $d$ , with result code  
 $r \in \{\text{left}, \text{right}, \text{done}, \text{fail}\}$

$d' = \text{SymDiff}(d_1, d_2)$  Create an IBF that represents the symmetric difference of  $d_1$  and  $d_2$ .

## IBF: Insert Element #1

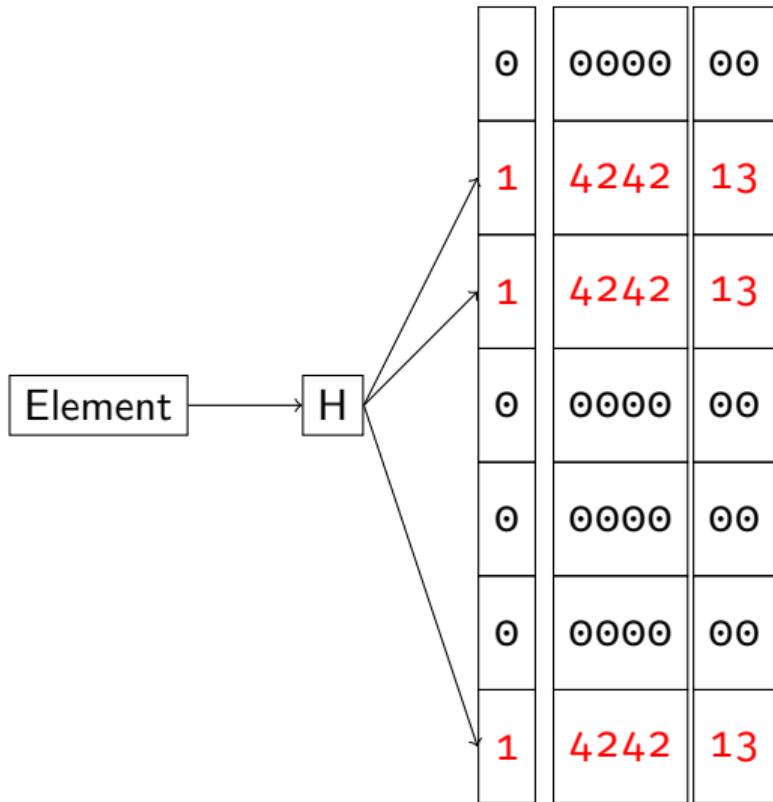


$$H(\text{Element } \#1) \mapsto (2, 3, 7)$$

$$H'(\text{Element } \#1) \mapsto 4242 \text{ (ID)}$$

$$H''(4242) \mapsto 13$$

## IBF: Insert Element #1

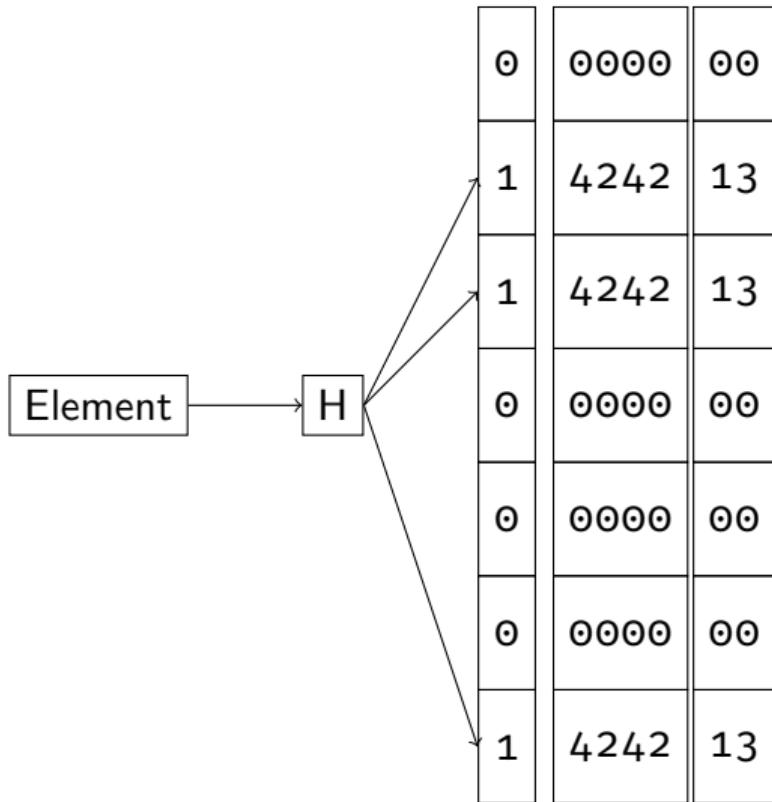


$$H(\text{Element } \#1) \mapsto (2, 3, 7)$$

$$H'(\text{Element } \#1) \mapsto 4242 \text{ (ID)}$$

$$H''(4242) \mapsto 13$$

## IBF: Insert Element #2

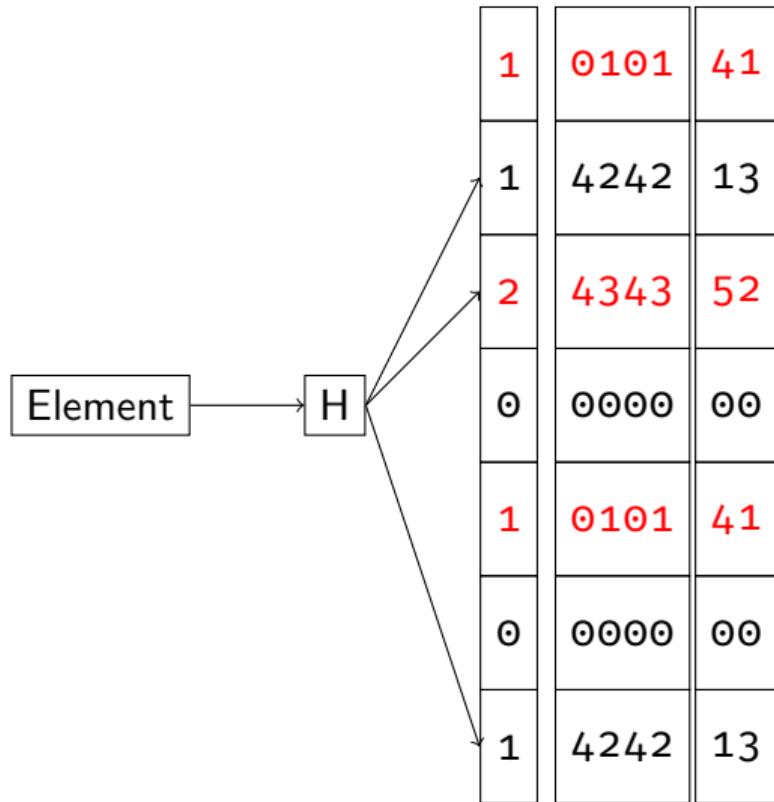


$$H(\text{Element } \#2) = (1, 3, 5)$$

$$H'(\text{Element } \#2) = 0101 \text{ (ID)}$$

$$H''(0101) \mapsto 41$$

## IBF: Insert Element #2



$$H(\text{Element } \#2) = (1, 3, 5)$$

$$H'(\text{Element } \#2) = 0101 \text{ (ID)}$$

$$H''(0101) \mapsto 41$$

## Symmetric Difference on IBFs

We can directly compute the symmetric difference without extraction.

- ▶ Subtract counters
- ▶ XOR of IDSUM and XHASH values

## IBF: Extract

1	0101	41	pure
1	4242	13	pure
2	4343	52	impure
0	0000	00	
1	0101	40	impure
0	0000	00	
-1	4242	13	pure

- ▶  $|counter| = 1 \wedge H''(IDSUM) = XHASH \Leftrightarrow$  pure
- ▶ Impure bucket  $\Rightarrow$  potential decoding failure
- ▶ Pure bucket  $\Rightarrow$  extractable element ID
- ▶ Extraction  $\Rightarrow$  more pure buckets (hopefully/probably)
- ▶ Less elements  $\Rightarrow$  more chance for pure buckets

## The Set Union Protocol [7]

1. Create IBFs
2. Compute SymDiff
3. Extract element IDs

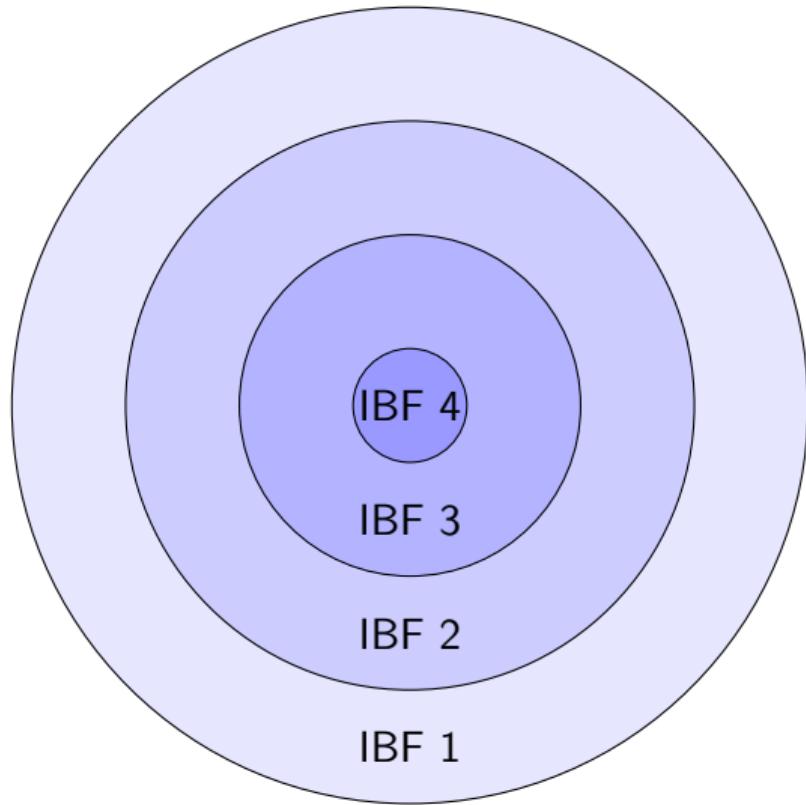
- ▶ Amount of communication and computation only depends on  $\delta$ , not  $|A| + |B|$  :)
- ▶ How do we choose the initial size of the IBF?
- ▶ ⇒ Do difference estimation first!

## Difference Estimation

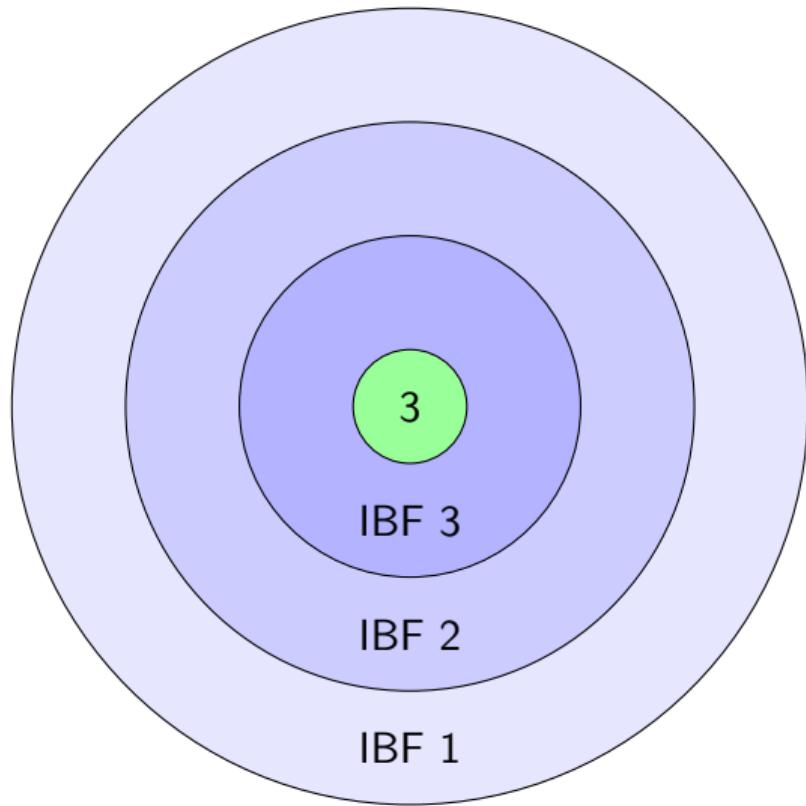
- ▶ We need an estimator that's accurate for small differences
- ▶ Turns out we can re-use IBFs for difference estimation:

1. Alice and Bob create fixed number of constant-size IBFs by sampling their set. The collection of IBFs is called a Strata Estimator (SE).
  - ▶ Stratum 1 contains  $1/2$  of all elements
  - ▶ Stratum 2 contains  $1/4$  of all elements
  - ▶ Stratum  $n$  contains  $1/(2^n)$  all elements
2. Alice receives Bob's strata estimator
3. Alice computes  $SE_{diff} = SymDiff(SE_{Alice}, SE_{Bob})$ 
  - ▶ by pair-wise  $SymDiff$  of all IBFs in the SE
4. Alice estimates the size of  $SE_{diff}$ .

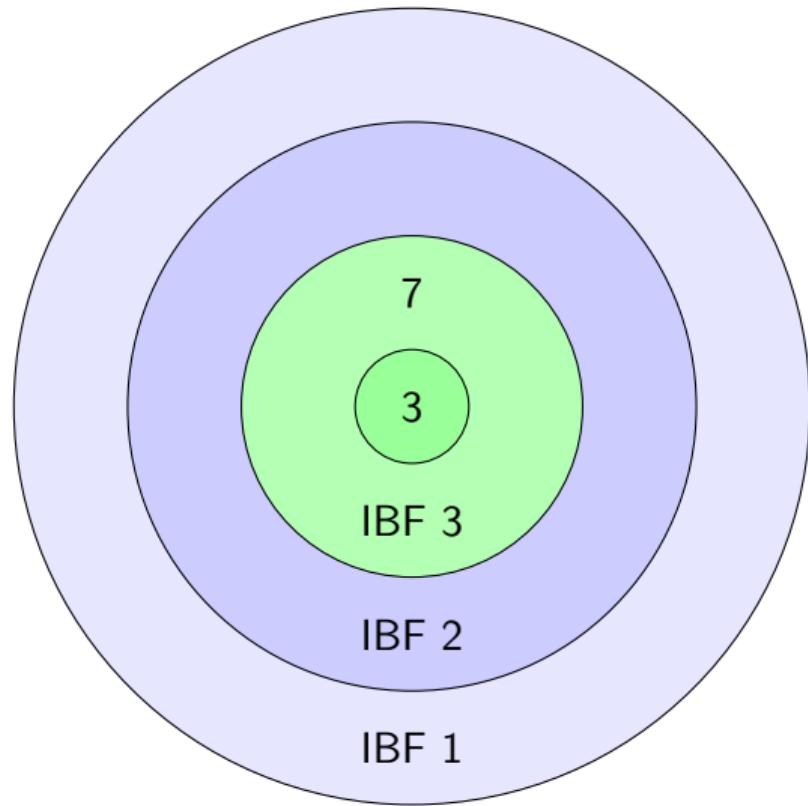
## Strata Estimator



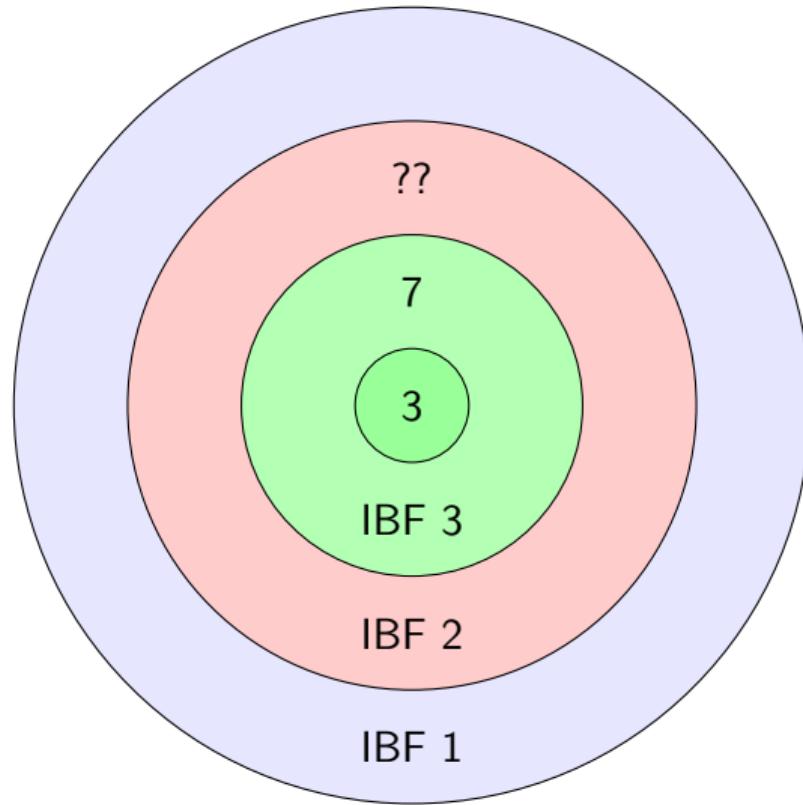
## Strata Estimator



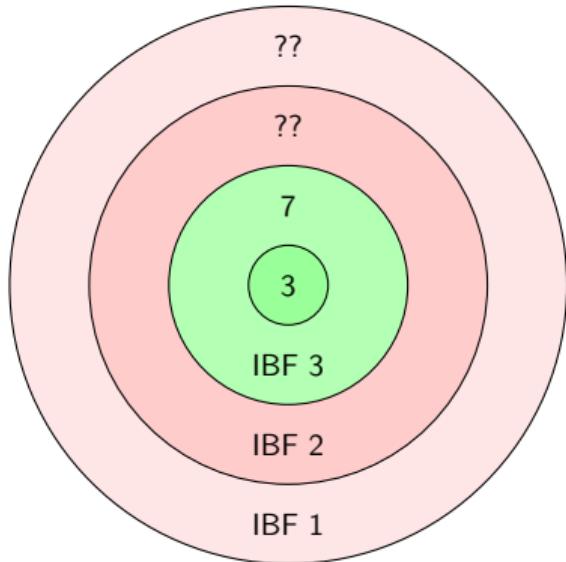
## Strata Estimator



## Strata Estimator



# Estimation

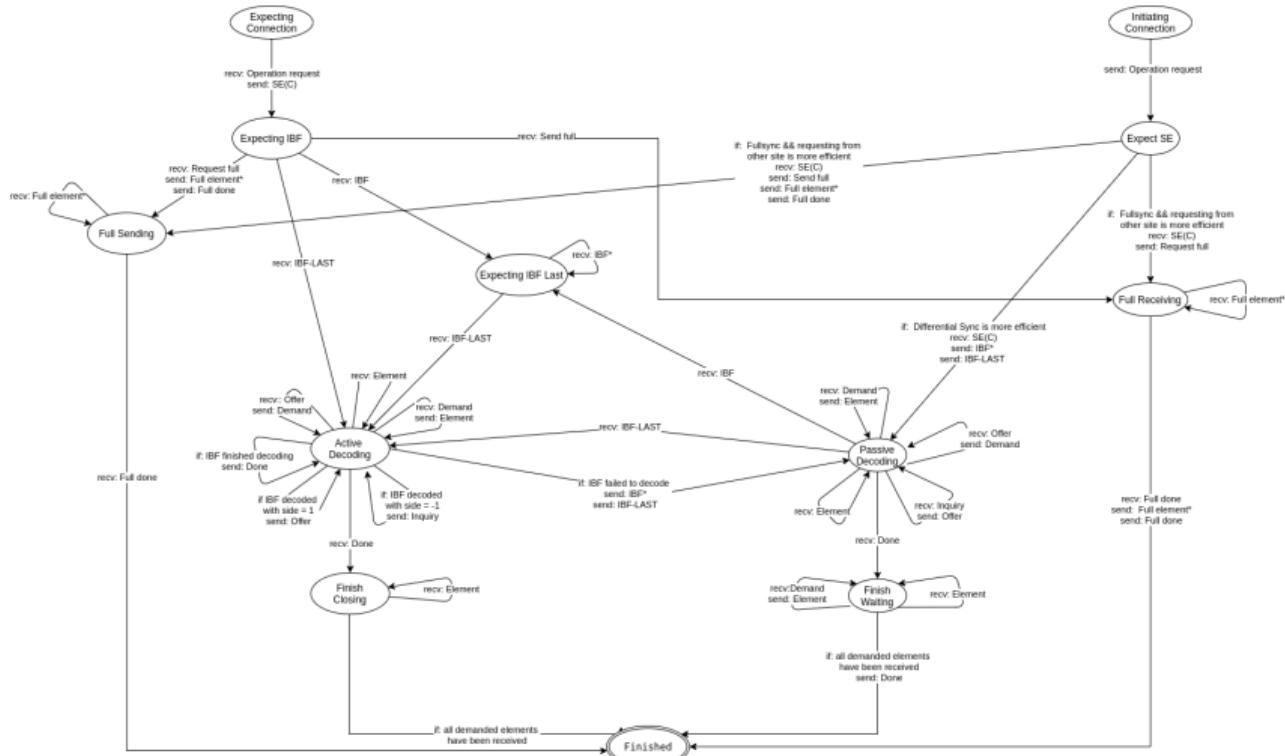


Estimate set size difference as  $\frac{2^4 \cdot 3 + 2^3 \cdot 7}{2}$ .

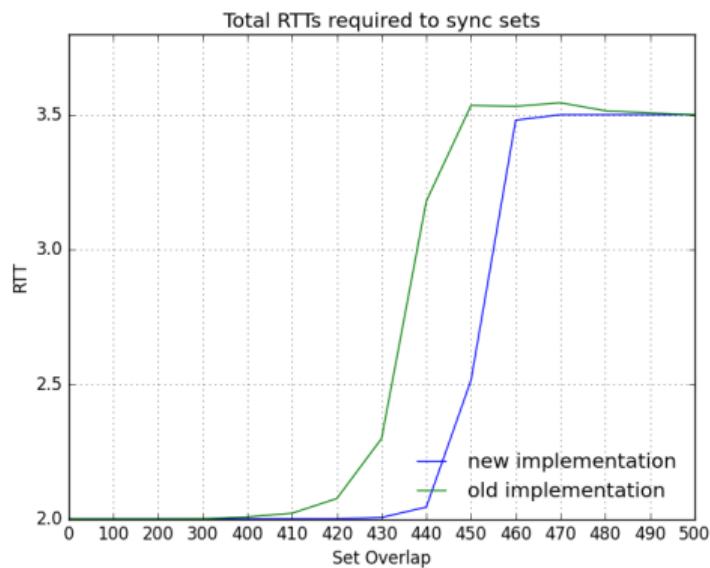
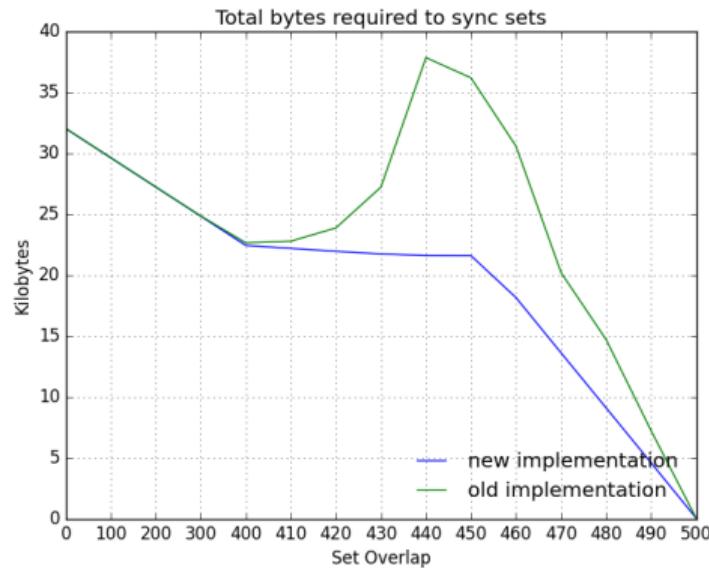
## The naïve IBF Protocol

1. Alice sends  $SE_{Alice}$  to Bob
2. Bob estimates the set difference  $\delta$
3. Bob computes  $IBF_{Bob}$  for size  $\delta$  and sends it to Alice
4. Alice computes  $IBF_{Alice}$
5. Alice computes  $IBF_{diff} = SymDiff(IBF_{Alice}, IBF_{Bob})$
6. Alice extracts element IDs from  $IBF_{diff}$ .
  - ▶  $b = left \Rightarrow$  Send element to Bob
  - ▶  $b = right \Rightarrow$  Send element request to Bob
  - ▶  $b = fail \Rightarrow$  Send larger IBF (double the size) to Bob, go to (3.) with switched roles
  - ▶  $b = done \Rightarrow$  We're done ...

# The Complete Protocol



# Implementation Performance: Tuning required!



## GNS Summary

- ▶ Interoperable with DNS
- ▶ Globally unique identifiers with “.PUBLIC-KEY”
- ▶ Delegation allows using zones of other users
- ▶ Trust paths explicit, trust agility
- ▶ Simplified key exchange compared to Web-of-Trust
- ▶ Privacy-enhanced queries, censorship-resistant
- ▶ Reliable revocation using flooding with proof-of-work

## Privacy summary

Method	Defense against MiTM	Zone privacy	Privacy vs. network	Privacy vs. operator	Traffic amplification resistance	Censorship resistance	Ease of migration
DNS	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
DNSSEC	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗*
DNSCurve	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
DNS-over-TLS	✓	n/a	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
Namecoin	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
RAINS	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
GNS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

\* EDNS0

## Key management summary

	Suitable for personal use	Memorable	Decentralised	Modern cryptography	Understandable	Exposes metadata	Transitive
DNS	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
DNSSEC	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
DNSCurve	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓
DNS-over-TLS	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
TLS-X.509	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Web of Trust	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
TOFU	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Namecoin	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
RAINS	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
GNS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Case study: GNS

DNS is known to suffer from a lack of end-to-end integrity protections. As a result, Chinese "great firewall" DNS manipulation has been shown to impact name resolution even in Europe.

*"The GNU Name System (GNS) establishes a new name system using cryptography where zone data, queries and replies are private. The use of a distributed hash table (DHT) implies that resolution costs are comparable to those of DNS. However, states and ISPs cannot monitor or block queries, limiting their ability to protect the public from malicious Web sites. Names are not globally unique, allowing multiple anonymous users to lay claim to the same name. However, the system includes some well-known mappings by default, which users are unlikely to change. Trademarks, copyrights anti-fraud or anti-terrorism judgments can only be enforced against those well-known mappings, which users are able to bypass."*

Discuss virtues and vices affected.

# Conclusion

DNS	globalist
DNSSEC	authoritarian
Namecoin	libertarian (US)
RAINS	nationalist
GNS	anarchist

In which world do you want to live?

## Part VI: Introduction to GNUnet

## Internet Design Goals, David Clark, 1988

1. **Internet communication must continue despite loss of networks or gateways.**
2. The Internet must support multiple types of communications service.
3. The Internet architecture must accommodate a variety of networks.
4. The Internet architecture must permit *distributed management* of its resources.
5. The Internet architecture must be cost effective.
6. The Internet architecture must permit host attachment with a low level of effort.
7. **The resources used in the internet architecture must be accountable.**

# Where We Are



Source: csmont



Source: gawand.org



Source: gawand.org

# Where We Are



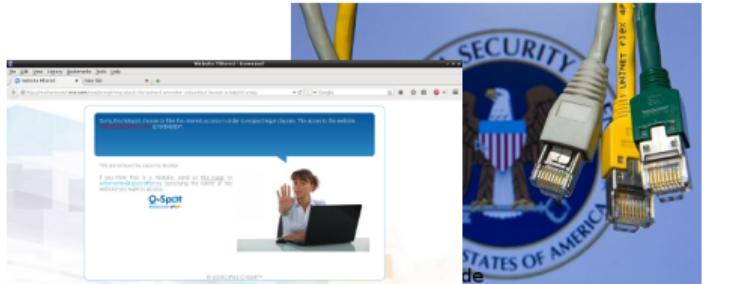
Source: csmonti



Source: gawarid.org



Source: flickr.com



## الموقع محظوظ

نأسف إن الموقع الذي أردت تصفحه قد أحجب وذلك بسبب إجراءات  
على نطاق واسع لقيم المجتمعية أو السياسية أو الشفافية أو  
الدينية لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة.

في حالة أردت فتح موقع قد أحجب، الرجاء قم ببعض  
الاستغراف المطلوبات الموجوبة على موقعنا.



Bundesnachrichtendienst

Source: wikicommons.org

**SITE BLOCKED** Source: wikileaks.org



Source: enturebeat.com

## Example 1: Collateral Damage

### What is HACIENDA?

- Data reconnaissance tool developed by the CITD team in JTRIG
- Port Scans entire countries
  - Uses nmap as port scanning tool
  - Uses GEOFUSION for IP Geolocation
  - Randomly scans every IP identified for that country

## Example 1: Collateral Damage

### How is it used?

- CNE
  - ORB Detection
  - Vulnerability Assessments
- SD
  - Network Analysis
  - Target Discovery

# Example 1: Collateral Damage

TOP SECRET//COMINT



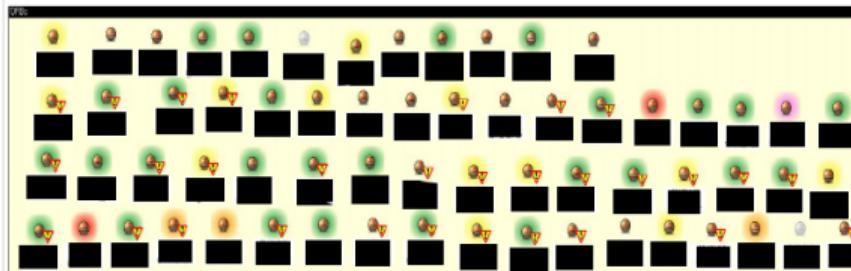
Communications Security  
Establishment

Centre de la sécurité  
des télécommunications



## LANDMARK

- ★ CSEC's Operational Relay Box (ORB) covert infrastructure used to provide an additional level of non-attribution; subsequently used for exploits and exfiltration
- ★ 2-3 times/year, 1 day focused effort to acquire as many new ORBs as possible in as many non 5-Eyes countries as possible



Canada

## Why should you care?

If you are ...

- ▶ ... of any importance in the world, or
- ▶ ... a system or network administrator, or
- ▶ ... a security researcher, or
- ▶ ... in this room, or
- ▶ ... mistaken for any of the above,

## Why should you care?

If you are ...

- ▶ ... of any importance in the world, or
- ▶ ... a system or network administrator, or
- ▶ ... a security researcher, or
- ▶ ... in this room, or
- ▶ ... mistaken for any of the above,

then you are probably a target.

## So what if they listen to my calls?

- ▶ Kompromat — and you do not get to decide what is bad!
- ▶ Self-censorship
- ▶ Loss of business
- ▶ No privacy ⇒ No free press ⇒ No liberal democracy

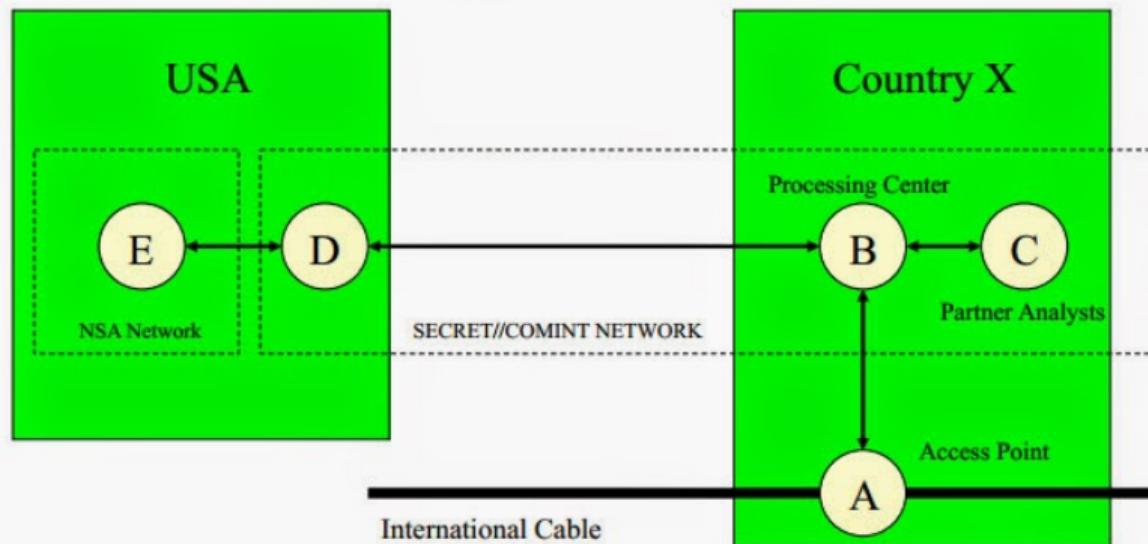
## So what if they listen to my calls?

- ▶ Kompromat — and you do not get to decide what is bad!
- ▶ Self-censorship
- ▶ Loss of business
- ▶ No privacy ⇒ No free press ⇒ No liberal democracy
- ▶ Security services also get you drunk, encourage you to drive, arrest you for drunken driving and then ask you for your customer data.

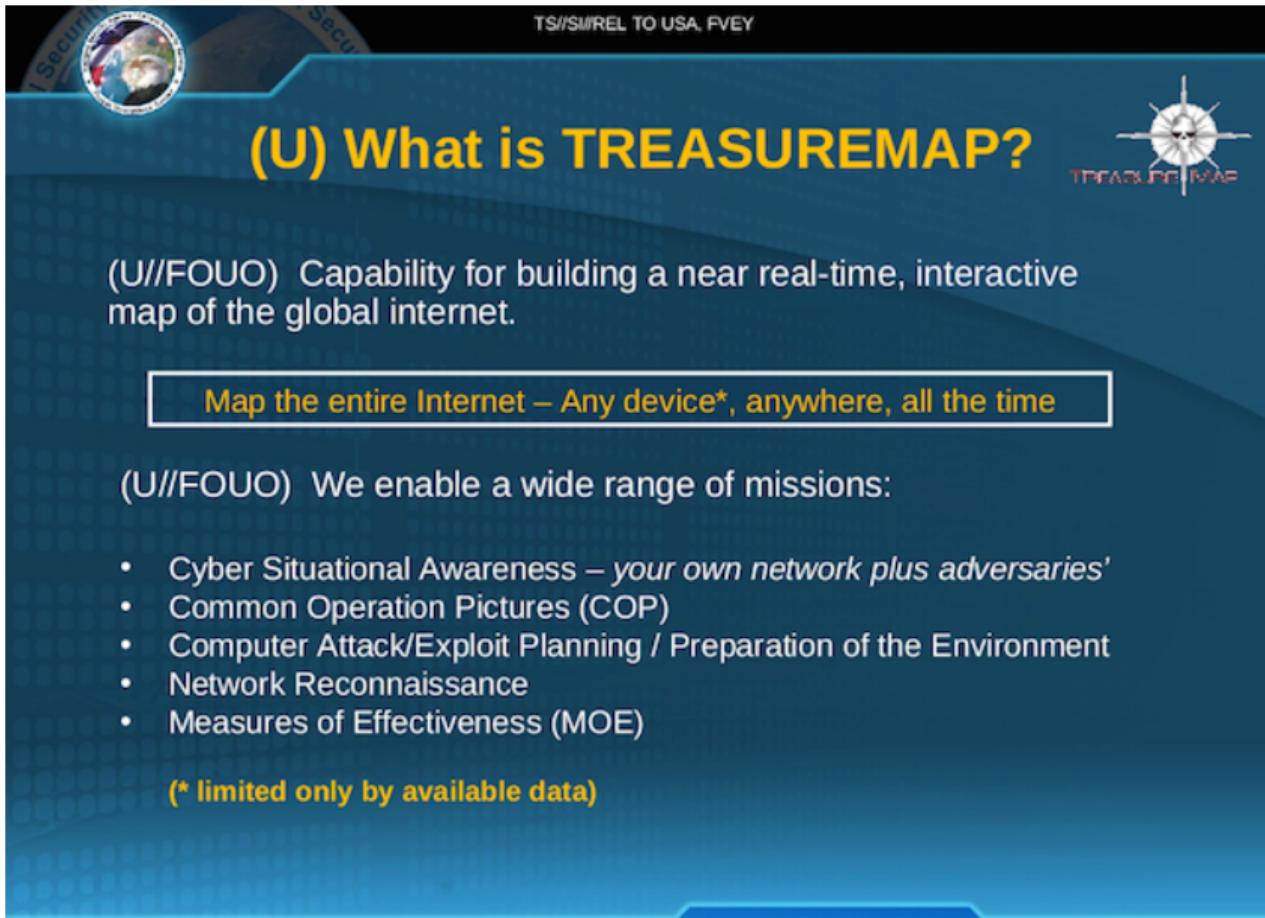
## Example 2: Owning the Network



### *RAMPART-A Typical Operation*



## Example 2: Owning the Network



The image shows a screenshot of the TreasureMap software interface. At the top, there is a circular seal with the text "1 Security" and "Securi" partially visible. To the right of the seal is the text "TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY". Below the seal, the title "(U) What is TREASUREMAP?" is displayed in large, bold, yellow capital letters. To the right of the title is a logo consisting of a compass rose with the words "TREASURE MAP" written below it. The main content area is a dark blue background with a grid pattern. On the left, there is a text box containing the definition of the capability. Below this, there is a list of missions. At the bottom, there is a note about data availability.

**(U) What is TREASUREMAP?**

(U//FOUO) Capability for building a near real-time, interactive map of the global internet.

Map the entire Internet – Any device\*, anywhere, all the time

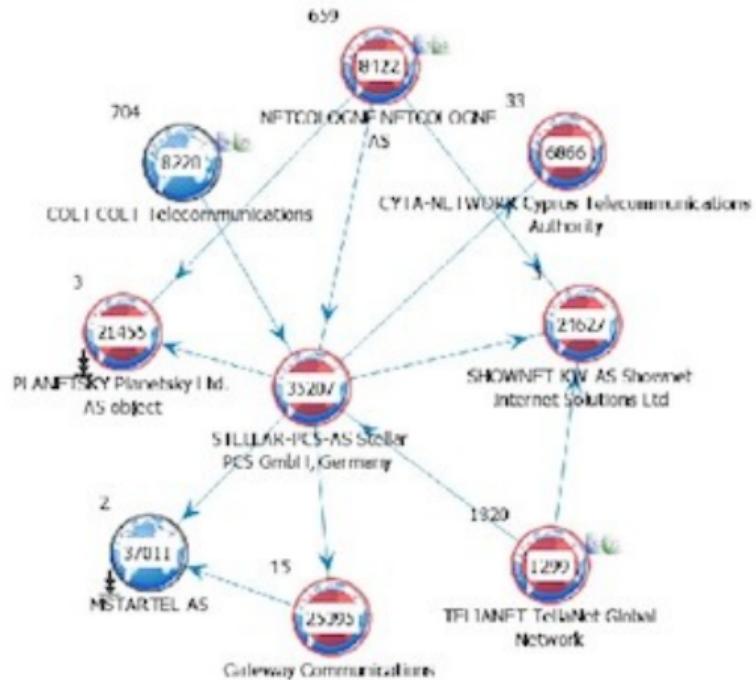
(U//FOUO) We enable a wide range of missions:

- Cyber Situational Awareness – *your own network plus adversaries'*
- Common Operation Pictures (COP)
- Computer Attack/Exploit Planning / Preparation of the Environment
- Network Reconnaissance
- Measures of Effectiveness (MOE)

(\* limited only by available data)

## Example 2: Owning the Network (Video)

TOP SECRET STRAP1



Generated via TreasureMap

# The Internet is Broken

Administrators have power.

Power attracts Mexican drug cartels.

## Adversary model: Mexican drug cartel

- ▶ They took your family, and will brutally kill them if you do not give them what they want.
- ▶ Under these circumstances, you must still not be able to assist, and the public system design must make that clear.
- ▶ Thus, the cartel has nothing to gain from abducting your family and will not bother with it.

System administrators are targets of such an adversary.

# Design Choices for a Civil Network!

## *Internet Design Goals (David Clark, 1988)*

1. Internet communication must continue despite loss of networks or gateways.
2. The Internet must support multiple types of communications service.
3. The Internet architecture must accommodate a variety of networks.
4. The Internet architecture must permit *distributed management* of its resources.
5. The Internet architecture must be cost effective.
6. The Internet architecture must permit host attachment with a low level of effort.
7. The resources used in the internet architecture must be accountable.

## *GNUnet Design Goals*

1. GNUnet must be implemented as free software.
2. The GNUnet must only disclose the minimal amount of information necessary.
3. The GNUnet must be decentralised and survive Byzantine failures in any position in the network.
4. The GNUnet must make it explicit to the user which entities must be trustworthy when establishing secured communications.
5. The GNUnet must use compartmentalization to protect sensitive information.
6. The GNUnet must be open and permit new peers to join.
7. The GNUnet must be self-organizing and not depend on administrators.
8. The GNUnet must support a diverse range of applications and devices.
9. The GNUnet architecture must be cost effective.
10. The GNUnet must provide incentives for peers to contribute more resources than they consume.

# Let's Implement It!

## *Internet*

Google
DNS/X.509
TCP/UDP
IP/BGP
Ethernet
Phys. Layer

## Let's Implement It!

## Internet

Google
DNS/X.509
TCP/UDP
IP/BGP
Ethernet
Phys. Layer

HTTPS/TCP/WLAN/...

# Let's Implement It!

## *Internet*

Google
DNS/X.509
TCP/UDP
IP/BGP
Ethernet
Phys. Layer

CORE (OTR)
HTTPS/TCP/WLAN/...

# Let's Implement It!

## *Internet*

Google
DNS/X.509
TCP/UDP
IP/BGP
Ethernet
Phys. Layer

$R^5 N$ DHT
CORE (OTR)
HTTPS/TCP/WLAN/...

# Let's Implement It!

## *Internet*

Google
DNS/X.509
TCP/UDP
IP/BGP
Ethernet
Phys. Layer

CADET (Axolotl+SCTP)
$R^5N$ DHT
CORE (OTR)
HTTPS/TCP/WLAN/...

# Let's Implement It!

## *Internet*

Google
DNS/X.509
TCP/UDP
IP/BGP
Ethernet
Phys. Layer

GNU Name System
CADET (Axolotl+SCTP)
$R^5N$ DHT
CORE (OTR)
HTTPS/TCP/WLAN/...

# Let's Implement It!

## *Internet*

Google
DNS/X.509
TCP/UDP
IP/BGP
Ethernet
Phys. Layer

Applications
GNU Name System
CADET (Axolotl+SCTP)
$R^5N$ DHT
CORE (OTR)
HTTPS/TCP/WLAN/...

# Let's Implement It!

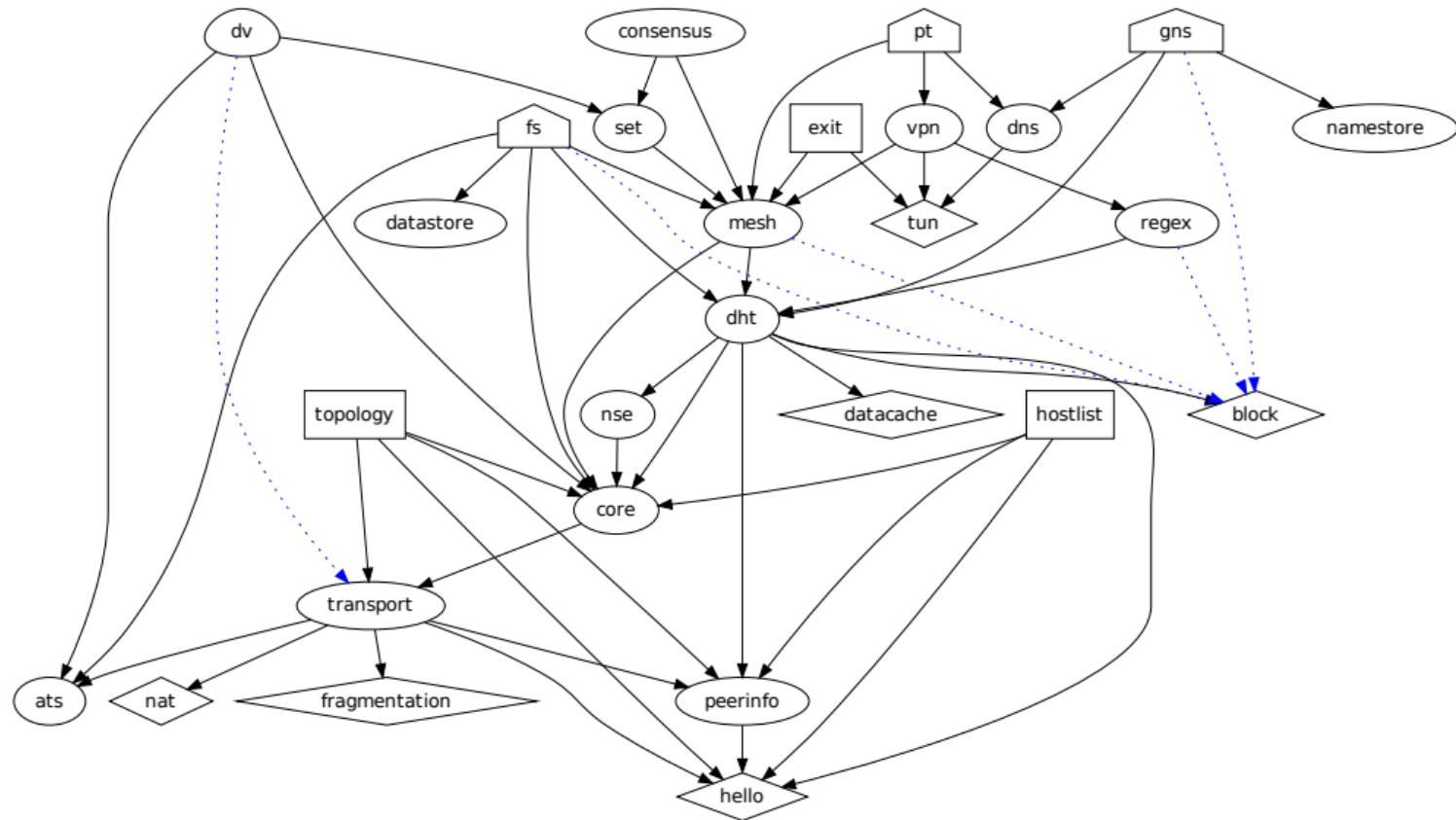
*Internet*

Google
DNS/X.509
TCP/UDP
IP/BGP
Ethernet
Phys. Layer

*GNUnet*

Applications
GNU Name System
CADET (Axolotl+SCTP)
$R^5N$ DHT
CORE (OTR)
HTTPS/TCP/WLAN/...

## A real peer: Dependencies



## A GNUnet Service is a Process

- ▶ If all subsystems are used, GNUnet would currently use  $\approx 40$  processes (services and daemons)
- ▶ user interfaces increase this number further
- ▶ systemd-like `gnunet-service-arm` starts them
- ▶ services are manipulated using the respective command-line tool

⇒ `gnunet-arm -s` starts GNUnet

## Applications (being) built using GNUnet

- ▶ Anonymous and non-anonymous file-sharing
- ▶ IPv6–IPv4 protocol translator and tunnel
- ▶ GNU Name System: censorship-resistant replacement for DNS
- ▶ Conversation: secure, decentralised VoIP
- ▶ SecuShare, a social networking application
- ▶ GNU Taler: privacy-preserving payments
- ▶ ...

# A Pattern of Hope

Spy Program	Target	Defense	Started
FTM/TRACFIN	SWIFT/VISA/etc.	DigiCash/GNU Taler	1990
TREASUREMAP	Internet (all)	Freenet/GNUnet/Tor	2000
HACIENDA	vuln. TCP service	Port Knocking	2000
BULLRUN/DUAL_EC_DRBG	PRNG (backdoor)	n/a	2004
BULLRUN/LONGHAUL	TLS/IPSEC (keys)	OTR/AXOLOTL	2004
MJOLNIR	Long-path in Tor	Tor 0.2.3.11	2007
PRISM	US big data corps	SecuShare	2009
MORECOWBELL	DNS	GNU Name System	2012
...	...	...	...

## Exercise

```
# apt-get install git autoconf automake autopoint gettext
# apt-get install libunistring-dev libgnutls28-dev
# apt-get install openssl gnutls-bin libtool libltdl-dev
# apt-get install libcurl-gnutls-dev libidn11-dev
# apt-get install libsqlite3-dev libjansson-dev libpq-dev
$ git clone git://git.gnunet.org/libmicrohttpd
$ git clone git://git.gnunet.org/gnunet
$ git clone git://git.gnunet.org/gnunet-gtk
$ for n in libmicrohttpd gnunet gnunet-gtk do;
    cd $n ; ./bootstrap ; ./configure --prefix=$HOME ...
    make install
    cd ..
done
```

## Exercise

```
$ gnutella-arm -s # launch peer
$ gnutella-namestore-gtk # configure your GNS zone
$ gnutella-gns # command-line resolution
$ gnutella-gns-proxy # launch SOCKS proxy
$ firefox # configure browser to use proxy
```

**Break**

## Part V: Advanced Cryptographic Primitives

# Homomorphic Encryption

$$E(x_1 \oplus x_2) = E(x_1) \otimes E(x_2) \quad (8)$$

## Multiplicative Homomorphism: RSA & ElGamal

- ▶ Unpadded RSA (multiplicative):

$$E(x_1) \cdot E(x_2) = x_1^e x_2^e = E(x_1 \cdot x_2) \quad (9)$$

- ▶ ElGamal:

$$E(x_1) \cdot E(x_2) = (g^{r_1}, x_1 \cdot h^{r_1})(g^{r_2}, x_2 \cdot h^{r_2}) \quad (10)$$

$$= (g^{r_1+r_2}), (x_1 \cdot x_2)h^{r_1+r_2}) \quad (11)$$

$$= E(x_1 \cdot x_2) \quad (12)$$

## Additive Homomorphism: Paillier

$$E_K(m) := g^m \cdot r^n \pmod{n^2}, \quad (13)$$

$$D_K(c) := \frac{(c^\lambda \pmod{n^2} - 1)}{n} \cdot \mu \pmod{n} \quad (14)$$

where the public key  $K = (n, g)$ ,  $m$  is the plaintext,  $c$  the ciphertext,  $n$  the product of  $p, q \in \mathbb{P}$  of equal length, and  $g \in \mathbb{Z}_{n^2}^*$ . In Paillier, the private key is  $(\lambda, \mu)$ , which is computed from  $p$  and  $q$  as follows:

$$\lambda := \text{lcm}(p - 1, q - 1), \quad (15)$$

$$\mu := \left( \frac{(g^\lambda \pmod{n^2} - 1)}{n} \right)^{-1} \pmod{n}. \quad (16)$$

Paillier offers additive homomorphic public-key encryption, that is:

$$E_K(a) \otimes E_K(b) \equiv E_K(a + b) \quad (17)$$

for any public key  $K$ .

## Fully homomorphic encryption

Additive:

$$E(A) \oplus E(B) = E(A + B) \quad (18)$$

**and** multiplicative:

$$E(A) \otimes E(B) = E(A \cdot B) \quad (19)$$

Known cryptosystems: Brakerski-Gentry-Vaikuntanathan (BGV), NTRU, Gentry-Sahai-Waters (GSW).

## Pairing-based cryptography

Let  $G_1, G_2$  be two additive cyclic groups of prime order  $q$ , and  $G_T$  another cyclic group of order  $q$  (written multiplicatively). A pairing is an efficiently computable map  $e$ :

$$e : G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow G_T \tag{20}$$

which satisfies  $e \neq 1$  and bilinearity:

$$\forall_{a,b \in F_q^*}, \forall_{P \in G_1, Q \in G_2} : e(aP, bQ) = e(P, Q)^{ab} \tag{21}$$

Examples: Weil pairing, Tate pairing.

## Hardness assumption

Computational Diffie Hellman:

$$g, g^x, g^y \Rightarrow g^{xy} \quad (22)$$

remains hard on  $G$  even given  $e$ .

## Boneh-Lynn-Sacham (BLS) signatures [2]

Key generation:

Pick random  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_q$

Signing:

$\sigma := h^x$  where  $h := H(m)$

Verification:

Given public key  $g^x$ :

$$e(\sigma, g) = e(h, g^x) \quad (23)$$

## Boneh-Lynn-Sacham (BLS) signatures [2]

Key generation:

Pick random  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_q$

Signing:

$\sigma := h^x$  where  $h := H(m)$

Verification:

Given public key  $g^x$ :

$$e(\sigma, g) = e(h, g^x) \tag{23}$$

Why:

$$e(\sigma, g) = e(h, g^x) = e(h, g^x) \tag{24}$$

due to bilinearity.

## Fun with BLS

Given signature  $\langle \sigma, g^x \rangle$  on message  $h$ , we can *blind* the signature and public key  $g^x$ :

$$e(\sigma^b, g) = e(h, g)^{xb} = e(h, g^{xb}) \quad (25)$$

Thus  $\sigma^b$  is a valid signature for the *derived* public key  $(g^x)^b$  with blinding value  $b \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ .

## References I

-  D. Atkins, W. Stallings, and P. Zimmermann.  
PGP Message Exchange Formats.  
RFC 1991 (Informational), August 1996.  
Obsoleted by RFC 4880.
-  Dan Boneh, Ben Lynn, and Hovav Shacham.  
Short signatures from the weil pairing.  
In *Advances in Cryptology – ASIACRYPT '01, LNCS*, pages 514–532. Springer, 2001.
-  J. Callas, L. Donnerhacke, H. Finney, D. Shaw, and R. Thayer.  
OpenPGP Message Format.  
RFC 4880 (Proposed Standard), November 2007.  
Updated by RFC 5581.

## References II

-  J. Callas, L. Donnerhacke, H. Finney, and R. Thayer.  
OpenPGP Message Format.  
RFC 2440 (Proposed Standard), November 1998.  
Obsoleted by RFC 4880.
-  M. Elkins, D. Del Torto, R. Levien, and T. Roessler.  
MIME Security with OpenPGP.  
RFC 3156 (Proposed Standard), August 2001.
-  M. Schanzenbach, C. Grothoff, and B. Fix.  
The gnu name system.  
RFC 9498, RFC Editor, November 2023.
-  Elias Summermatter and Christian Grothoff.  
Byzantine fault tolerant set reconciliation.  
<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/draft-summermatter-set-union>, 1 2021.

## References III

-  Matthias Wachs, Martin Schanzenbach, and Christian Grothoff.  
A censorship-resistant, privacy-enhancing and fully decentralized name system.  
In *13th International Conference on Cryptology and Network Security (CANS 2014)*, pages 127–142, 2014.