

Provable security of advanced properties of TLS and SSH

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joint work with Ben Dowling (QUT),
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2014/07/18

Microsoft
Research



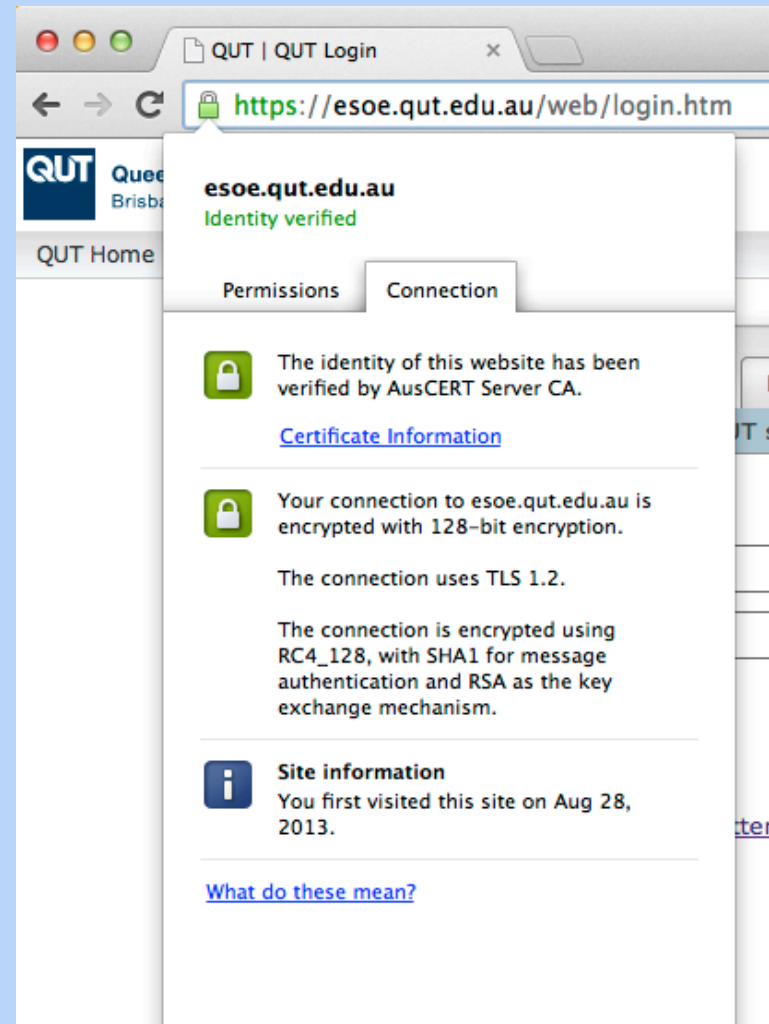
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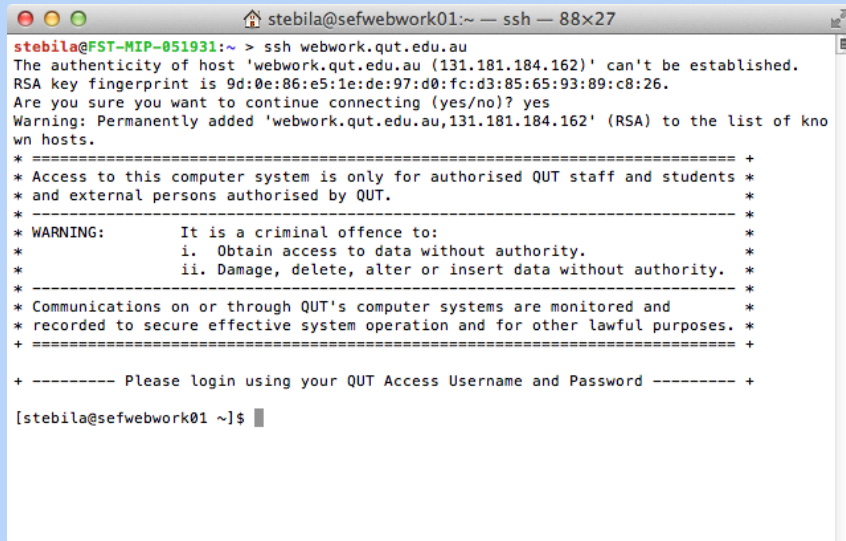
Australian Research Council
Discovery Project

TLS (Transport Layer Security) protocol a.k.a. SSL (Secure Sockets Layer)

- The “s” in “https”
- The most important cryptographic protocol on the Internet — used to secure billions of connections every day.



SSH (Secure Shell) protocol



```
stebila@sefwebwork01:~ — ssh — 88x27
stebila@FST-MIP-051931:~ > ssh webwork.qut.edu.au
The authenticity of host 'webwork.qut.edu.au (131.181.184.162)' can't be established.
RSA key fingerprint is 9d:0e:86:e5:1e:de:97:d0:fc:d3:85:65:93:89:c8:26.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
Warning: Permanently added 'webwork.qut.edu.au,131.181.184.162' (RSA) to the list of known hosts.
=====+
* Access to this computer system is only for authorised QUT staff and students *
* and external persons authorised by QUT. *
=====+
* WARNING:      It is a criminal offence to: *
*              i. Obtain access to data without authority. *
*              ii. Damage, delete, alter or insert data without authority. *
=====+
* Communications on or through QUT's computer systems are monitored and *
* recorded to secure effective system operation and for other lawful purposes. *
+ =====+
+ ----- Please login using your QUT Access Username and Password ----- +
[stebila@sefwebwork01 ~]$
```

- SSH used for secure remote access (like telnet, but secure)
- Provides public key authentication of servers and clients and encrypted communication

TLS vs. SSH

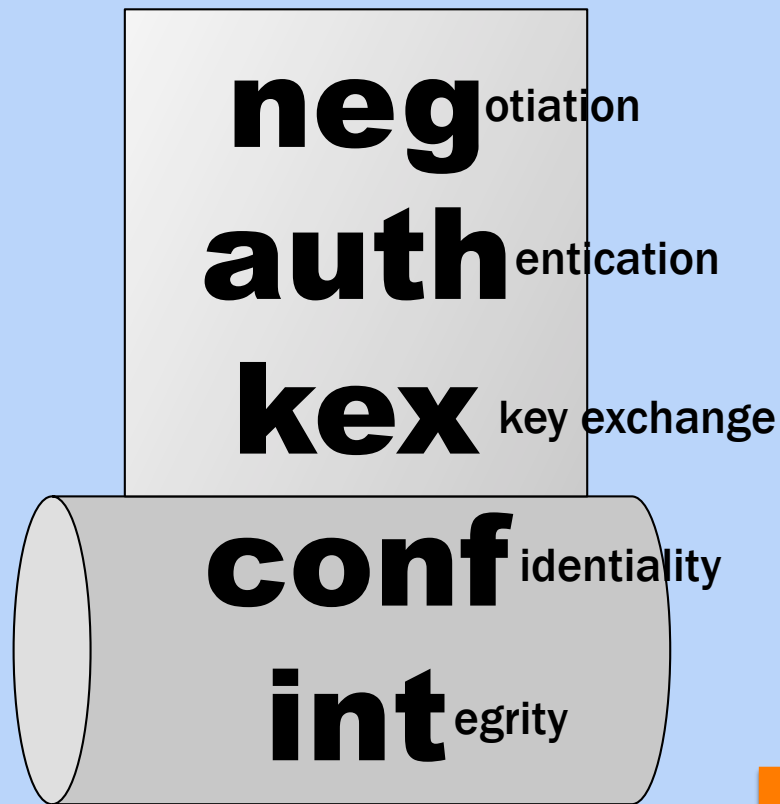
TLS

- provides secure transport for many applications
- entity authentication
- confidentiality & integrity of transmissions
- handshake establishes secure channel

SSH

- provides secure transport primarily for remote shell logins
- entity authentication
- confidentiality & integrity of transmissions
- handshake establishes secure channel

Security goals of TLS and SSH



From an application perspective, TLS and SSH provide:

- negotiation of parameters
 - **entity authentication**
 - key exchange
 - **confidentiality and integrity of messages**
- a lot more**



Outline

1. Provable security of TLS

2. TLS renegotiation

- Motivated by existing attack from 2009
- Extended security models to prove security of standardized countermeasures for TLS renegotiation

3. Multi-ciphersuite security and SSH

- Generic results on securely composing multiple protocols that share long-term keys
- First security results for full SSH protocol

Provable security

- Define a cryptographic scheme as a set of algorithms.
- Define security as an interactive game between a challenger and an adversary.
- Specify your scheme.
- Prove a theorem that any adversary that can win the security game can be used to break some hard problem (“reduction”).

Same type of reduction as
e.g. proving NP-
completeness of travelling
salesman problem

Security of TLS

Structure of TLS

HANDSHAKE PROTOCOL

Negotiation of cryptographic parameters

Authentication (one-way or mutual) using public key certificates

Establishment of a master secret key

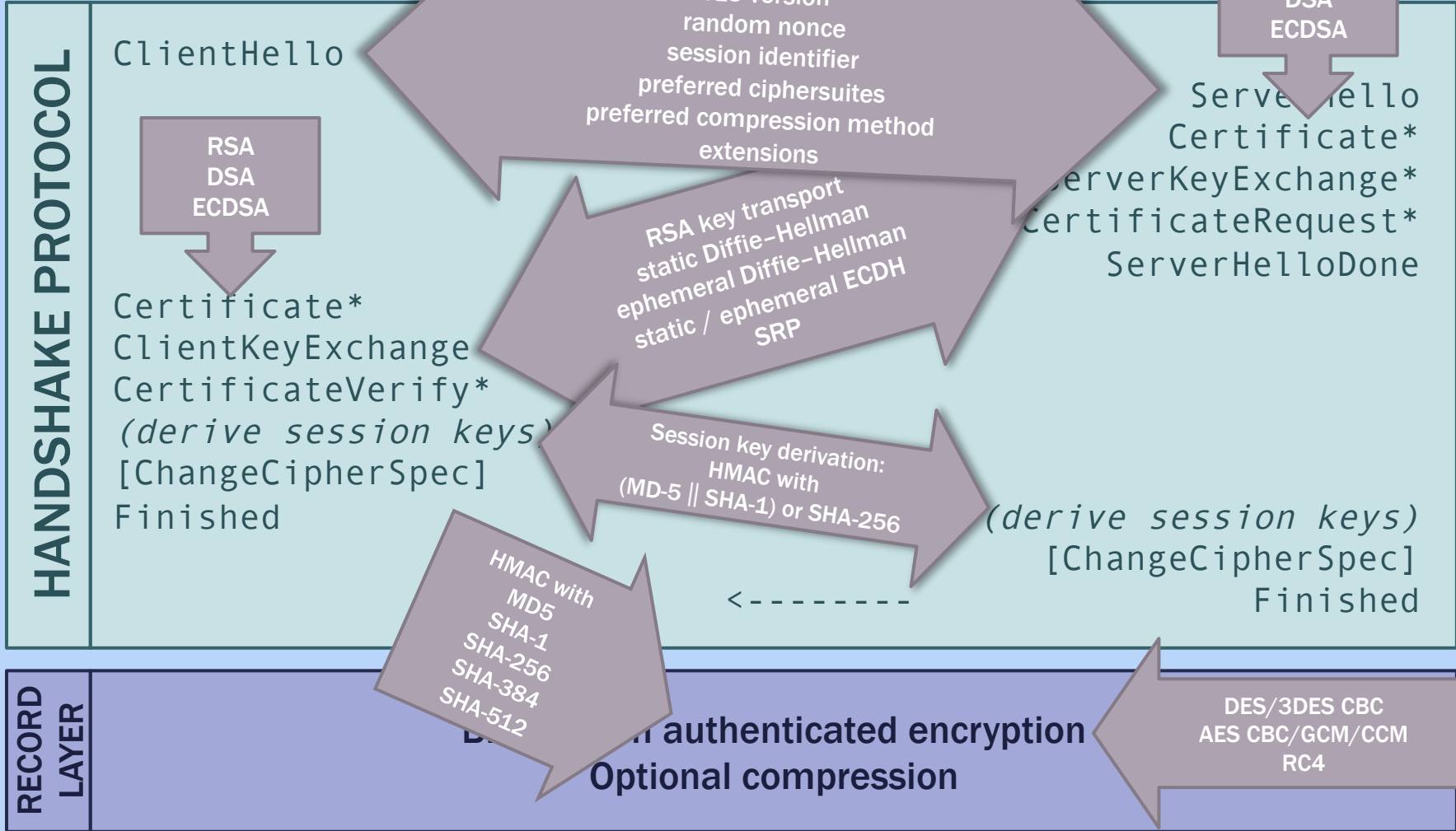
Derivation of encryption and authentication keys

Key confirmation

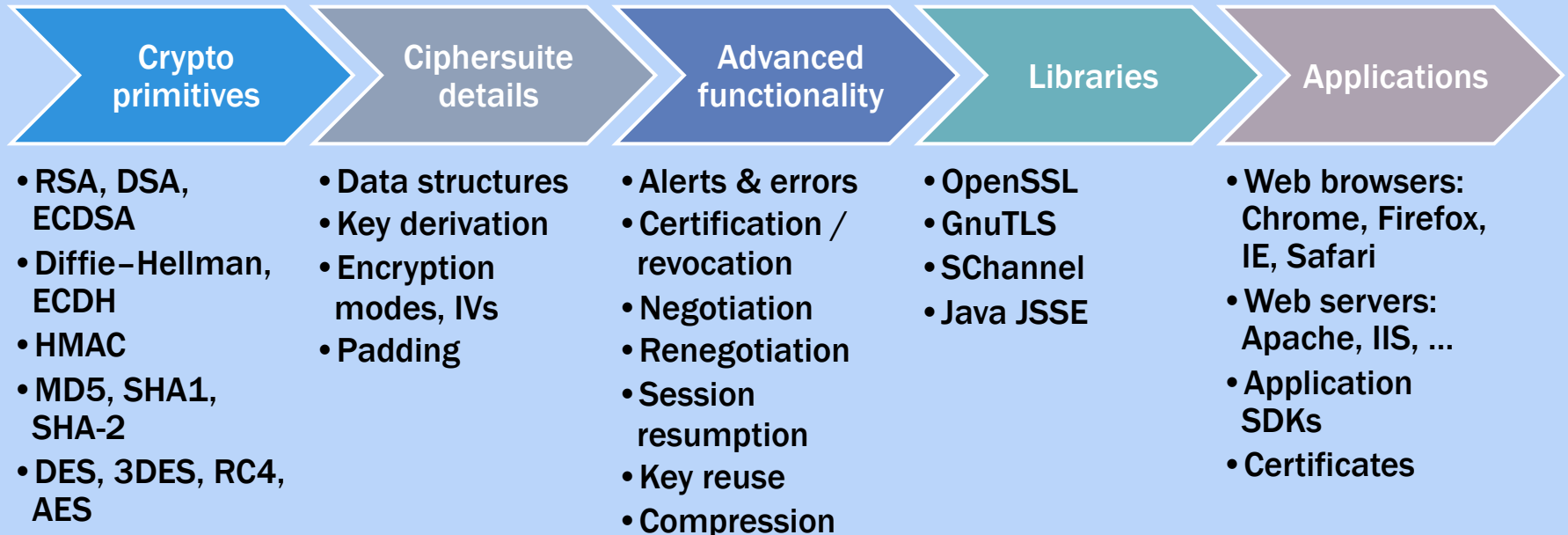
RECORD LAYER

Authenticated encryption of application data

Structure of TLS



Components of TLS



Is TLS secure?

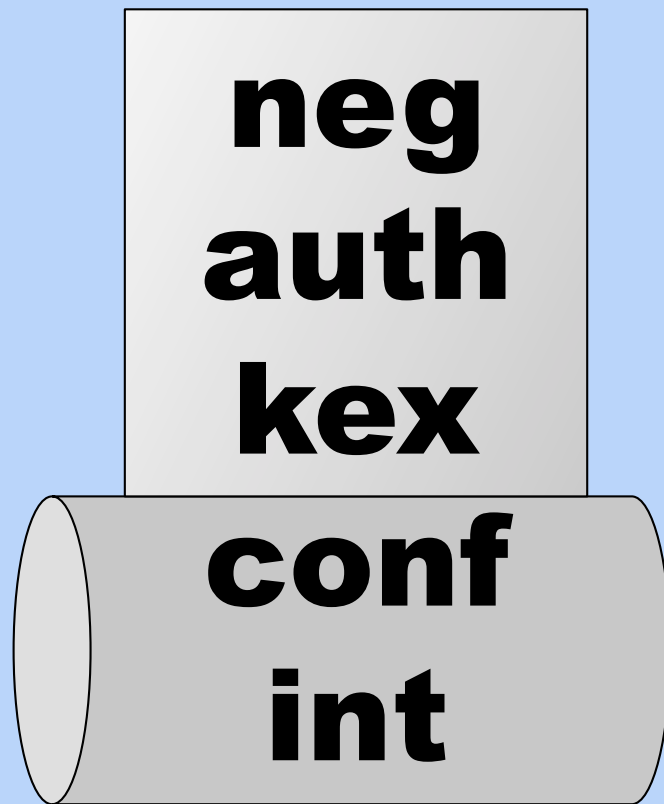
Core cryptographic components

- Handshake protocol
 - secure authenticated key exchange protocol?
- Record layer
 - secure authenticated encryption channel?

Additional protocol functionality

- Alerts & errors?
- Certification?
- Renegotiation?
- Session resumption?
- Long-term key re-use?

Security goals of TLS and SSH



From an application perspective, TLS and SSH provide:

- (negotiation of parameters)
- entity authentication
- (key exchange)
- confidentiality and integrity of messages

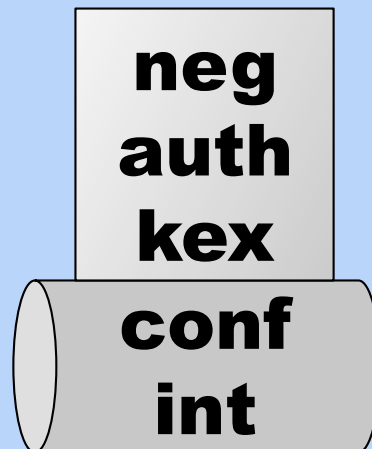
Is TLS secure?

Idea

Prove the TLS handshake is a secure authenticated key exchange protocol

- BR or CK or eCK model: adversary can't distinguish real session key from random session key

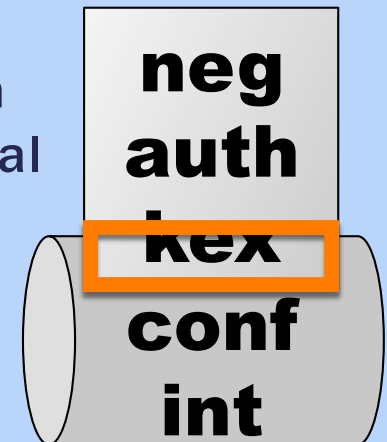
Prove the TLS record layer is a secure authenticated encryption scheme



Problem


TLS handshake sends messages encrypted under the session key

- => overlap between handshake and record layer
- Adversary can distinguish real session key from random



Is TLS secure?

1996
 SSL v3.0
standardized

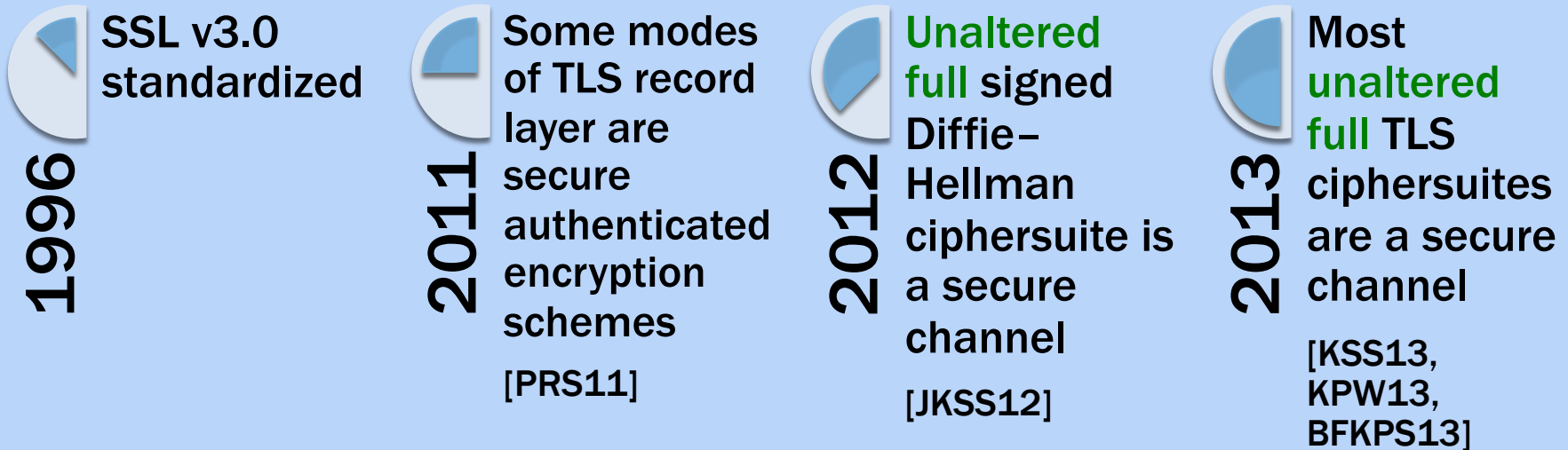
2001
 **Some
variant** of
one
ciphersuite
of the TLS
record layer
is a secure
encryption
scheme
[Kra01]

2002
 **Truncated**
TLS
handshake
using RSA
key transport
is a secure
authenticated
key exchange
protocol
[JK02]

2008
 **Truncated**
TLS
handshake
using RSA
key transport
or signed
Diffie-
Hellman is a
secure AKE
[MSW08]

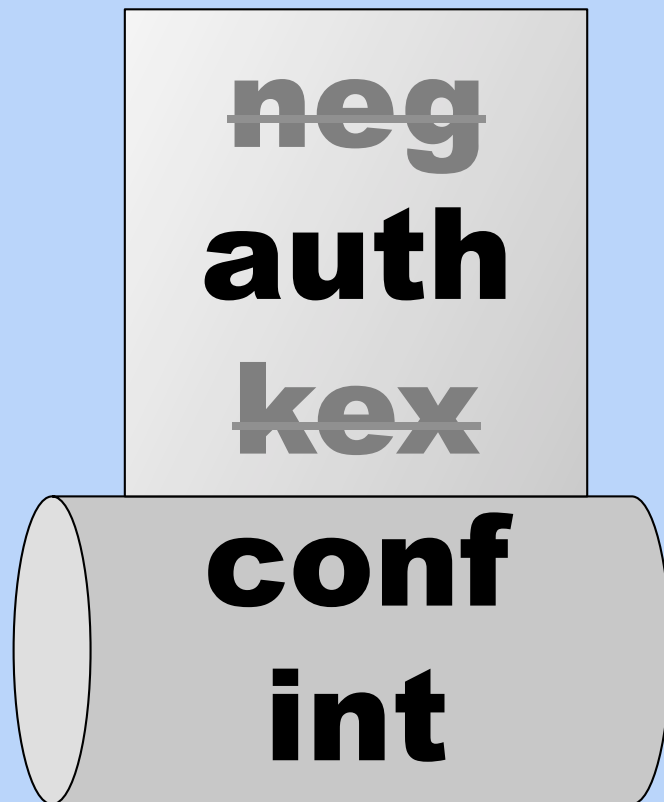
“some variant” ... “truncated TLS” ...
limited ciphersuites

Is TLS secure?



“unaltered” ... “full” ... “most ciphersuites”

Security goals of TLS and SSH



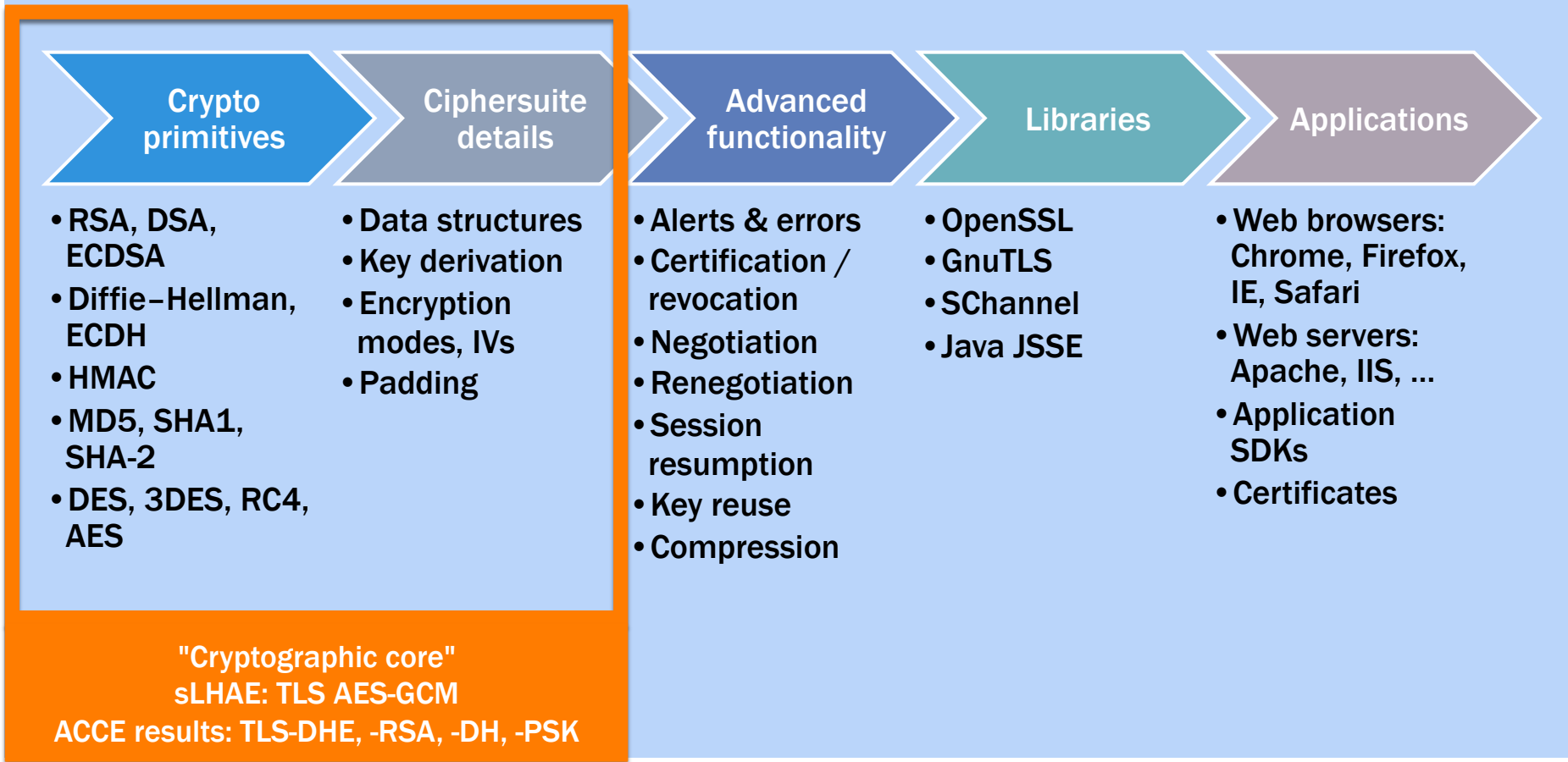
Authenticated and Confidential Channel Establishment (ACCE)

security definition

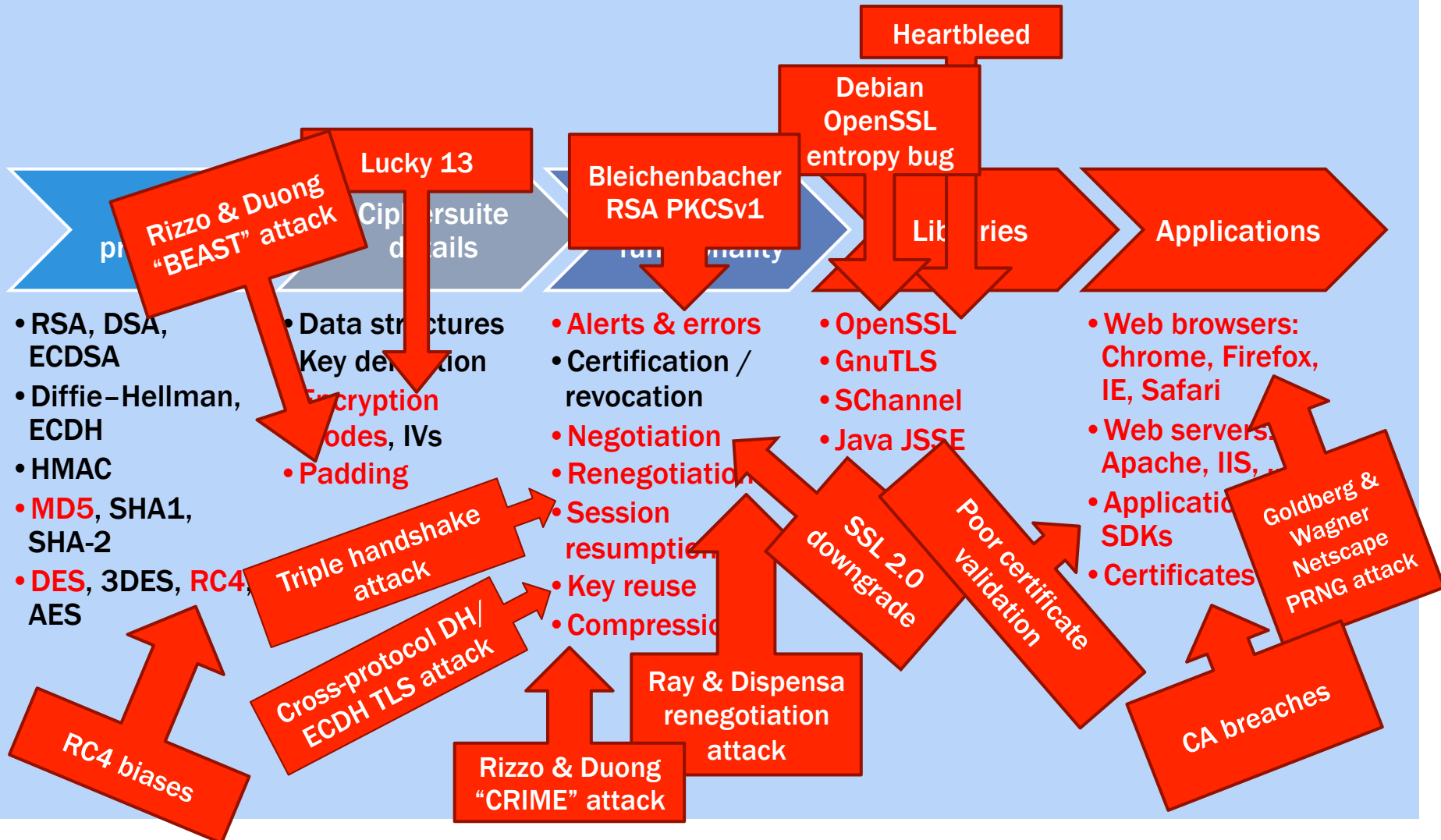
[JKSS12] captures:

- entity authentication
- confidentiality and integrity of messages

Results on the provable security of TLS



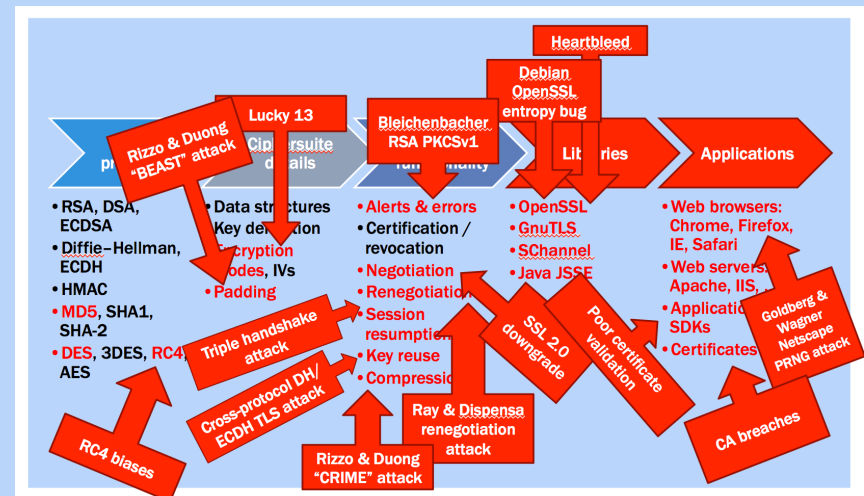
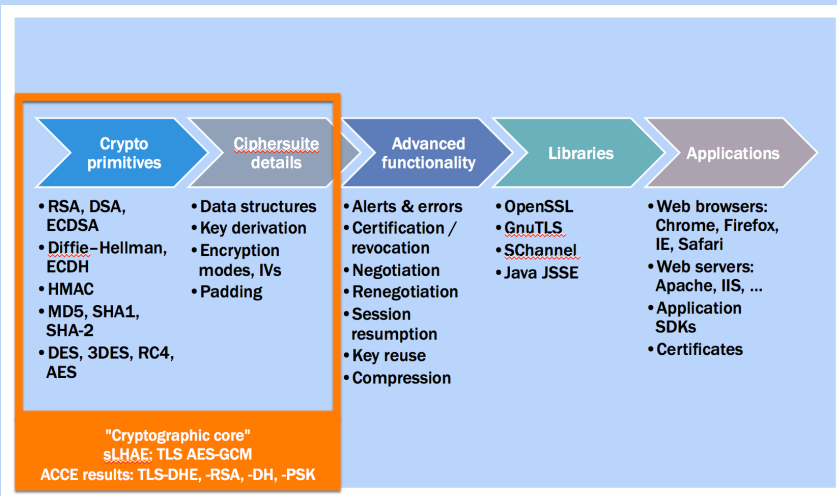
Real-world attacks on TLS



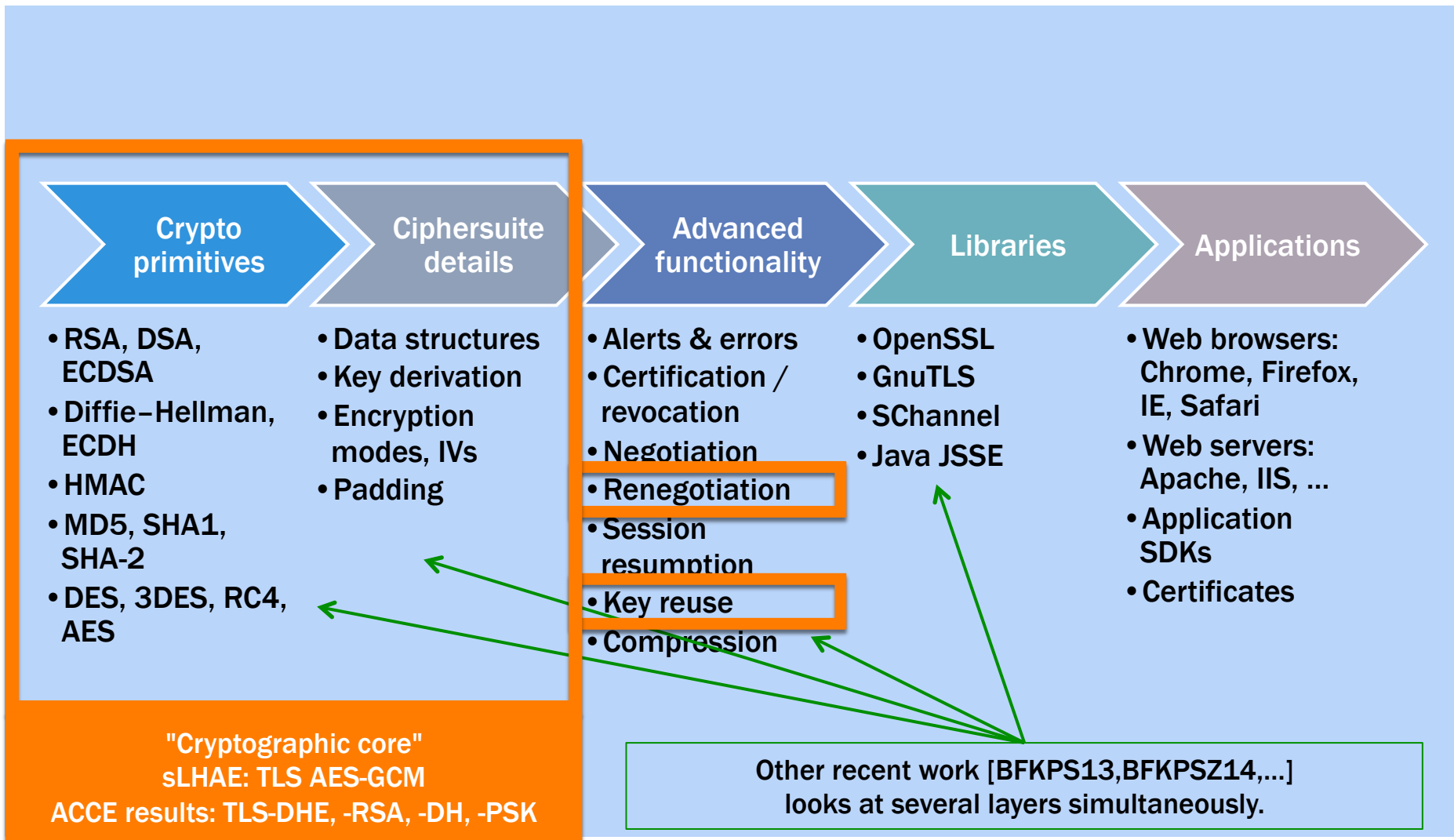
The gap between theory and practice

Provable security results

Real-world attacks



Components of TLS



TLS and renegotiation

joint work with
Florian Giesen & Florian Kohlar (Bochum)

ACM CCS
2013

IACR eprint
2012/630

Why renegotiate?

Renegotiation allows parties in an established TLS channel to create a new TLS channel that continues from the existing one.

Once you've established a TLS channel, why would you ever want to renegotiate it?

- Change cryptographic parameters
- Change authentication credentials
- Identity hiding for client
 - second handshake messages sent encrypted under first record layer
- Refresh encryption keys
 - more forward secrecy
 - record layer has maximum number of encryptions per session key

Renegotiation in TLS

(pre-November 2009)

Client

Server
(TLS)

TLS handshake₀

TLS recordlayer₀

m₀

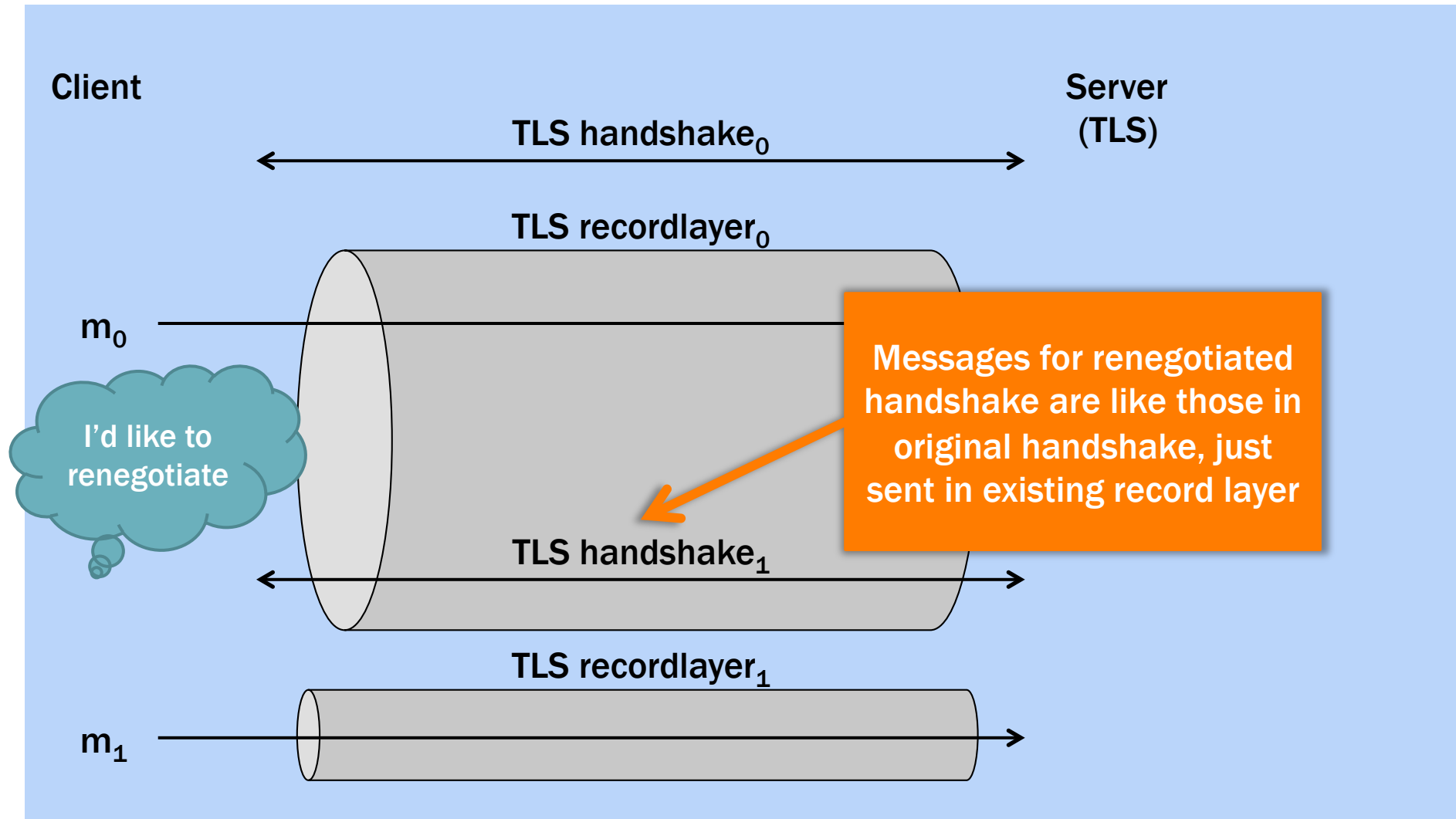
I'd like to renegotiate

Messages for renegotiated handshake are like those in original handshake, just sent in existing record layer

TLS handshake₁

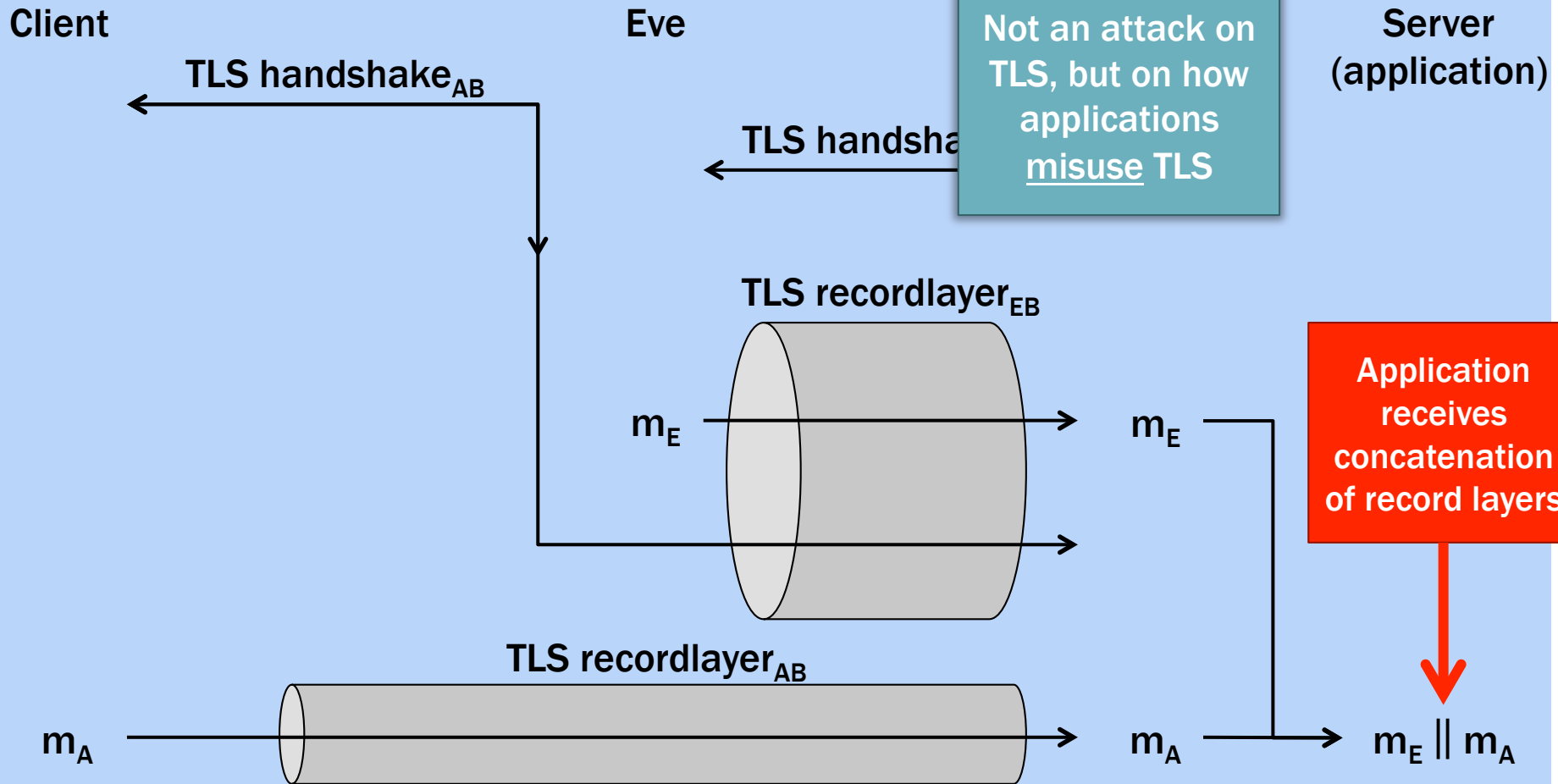
TLS recordlayer₁

m₁



TLS Renegotiation “Attack”

Ray & Dispensa, November 20



Example: HTTP Injection

- Attacker sends

- $m_E = \text{"GET /orderPizza?deliverTo=123-Fake-St}\leftarrow\rightleftharpoons\text{X-Ignore-This: "}$

- Client sends

- $m_A = \text{"GET /orderPizza?deliverTo=456-Real-St}\leftarrow\rightleftharpoons\text{Cookie: Account=1A2B"}$

- Server's web server receives

- $m_E \parallel m_A = \text{"GET /orderPizza?deliverTo=123-Fake-St}\leftarrow\rightleftharpoons\text{X-Ignore-This: GET /orderPizza?deliverTo=456-Real-St}\leftarrow\rightleftharpoons\text{Cookie: Account=1A2B"}$

X-Ignore-This: is an invalid header, so the rest of that line gets ignored.

The server's GET request is processed with the cookie supplied by the client.

Renegotiation security

Q: What property should a secure renegotiable protocol have?

A: Whenever two parties successfully renegotiate, they are assured they have the exact same view of everything that happened previously.

- **Every time we accept, we have a matching conversation of previous handshakes and record layers.**

TLS Renegotiation Countermeasures

Two related countermeasures standardized by IETF in RFC 5746:

1. Signalling Ciphersuite Value
2. Renegotiation Indication Extension

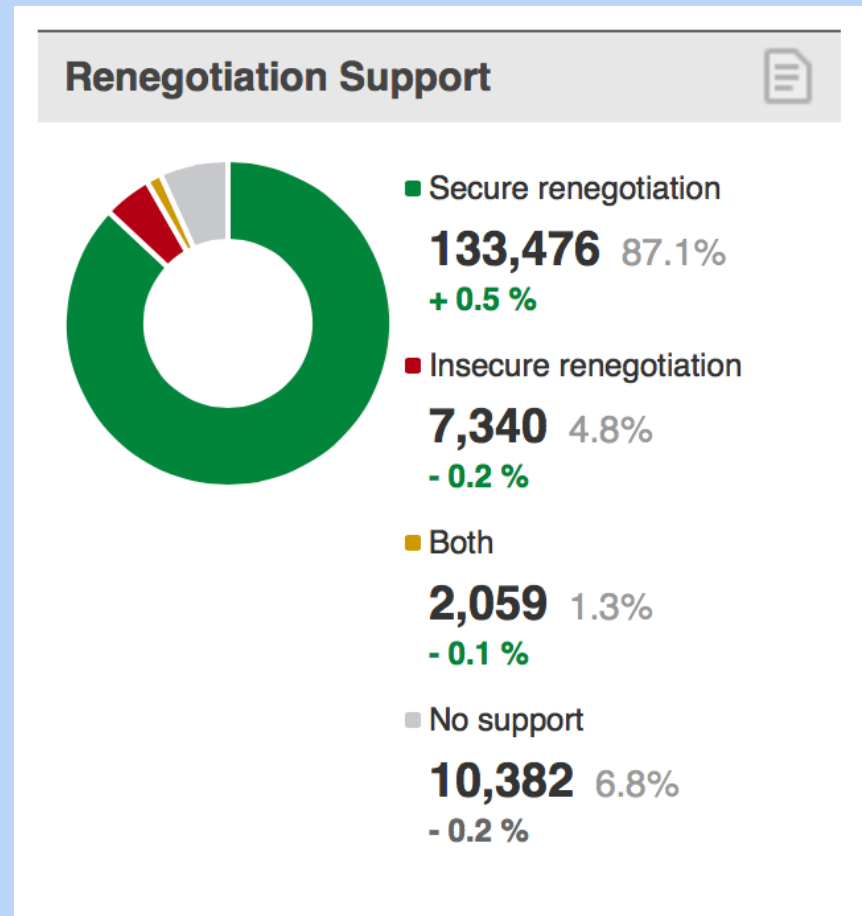
Basic idea: include fingerprint of previous handshake when renegotiating.

- Note: This is a "white-box" modification of TLS.

TLS Renegotiation Countermeasures

SCSV/RIE fairly quickly and widely adopted.

Currently 87% deployment
(SSL Pulse, July 2, 2014)



**Does this really fix the
problem?**

Does this really fix the problem?

Existing security definition (ACCE) isn't enough: these ciphersuites have been proven ACCE-secure yet are vulnerable to renegotiation attack.

To answer the question, need a security definition that includes renegotiation.

Technical approach

1. Define a secure renegotiable ACCE

2. See that unpatched TLS not a secure renegotiable ACCE

3. Slightly open up ACCE definition: "tagged-ACCE-fin"

5. Prove TLS-DHE satisfies tagged-ACCE-fin

4. Transformation Thm:
tagged-ACCE-fin
+ renegotiation countermeasure,
=>
secure renegotiable ACCE.

Secure renegotiable ACCE

Definition

When a party successfully renegotiates a new phase, its partner has a phase with a matching handshake and record layer transcript

- allowing maximal reveal of secrets

TLS

- TLS without RFC 5746 fixes is not a secure renegotiable ACCE.
- **TLS with RFC 5746 fixes is not a secure renegotiable ACCE.**

Weakly secure renegotiable ACCE

Definition

When a party successfully renegotiate a new phase, its partner has a phase with a matching handshake and record layer transcript, *provided no previous phase's session key was revealed.*

TLS

- TLS without fixes is not a weakly secure renegotiable ACCE.
- **TLS with RFC 5746 fixes is a weakly secure renegotiable ACCE.**
 - (This is probably good enough.)

TLS renegotiation conclusions

- Renegotiation not previously included in AKE/channel security definitions.
 - Different levels of renegotiation security
- Security of a protocol in isolation doesn't imply security with renegotiation.

- Need to “open up” ACCE security definitions in order to generically transform protocols.
- Confidence in standardized TLS renegotiation fixes.

Triple handshake attack

[BDFPS14]

- Man-in-the-middle attack on three consecutive handshakes
- Relies on session resumption and renegotiation
 - works even with RIE countermeasure
- Works due to lack of binding between sessions during session resumption

Multi-ciphersuite security, TLS and SSH

joint work with Ben Dowling (QUT),
Florian Bergsma, Florian Kohlar, Jörg Schwenk (Bochum)

IACR eprint
2013/813

List of SSH ciphersuites

■ Authentication:

- RSA signatures
- DSA-SHA1
- ECDSA-SHA2
- X509-RSA signatures
- X509-DSA-SHA1
- X509-ECDSA-SHA2

■ Key exchange:

- DH explicit group SHA1
- DH explicit group SHA2
- DH group 1 SHA1
- DH group 14 SHA1
- ECDH-nistp256-SHA2
- ECDH-nistp384-SHA2
- ECDH-nistp521-SHA2
- ECDH-*-SHA2
- GSS-group1-SHA1-*
- GSS-group14-SHA1-*
- GSS explicit group SHA1
- RSA1024-SHA1
- RSA2048-SHA2
- ECMQV-*-SHA2

■ Encryption:

- 3des-cbc
- blowfish-cbc
- twofish256-cbc
- twofish-cbc
- twofish192-cbc
- twofish128-cbc
- aes256-cbc
- aes192-cbc
- aes128-cbc

- serpent256-cbc
- serpent192-cbc
- serpent128-cbc
- arcfour
- idea-cbc
- cast128-cbc
- des-cbc
- arcfour128
- arcfour256
- aes128-ctr
- aes192-ctr
- aes256-ctr
- 3des-ctr
- blowfish-ctr
- twofish128-ctr
- twofish192-ctr
- twofish256-ctr
- serpent128-ctr
- serpent192-ctr
- serpent256-ctr
- idea-ctr
- cast128-ctr
- AEAD_AES_128_GCM
- AEAD_AES_256_GCM

■ MACs:

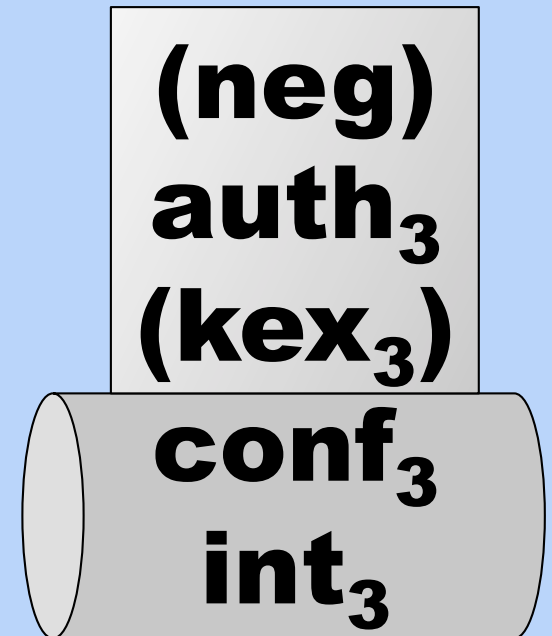
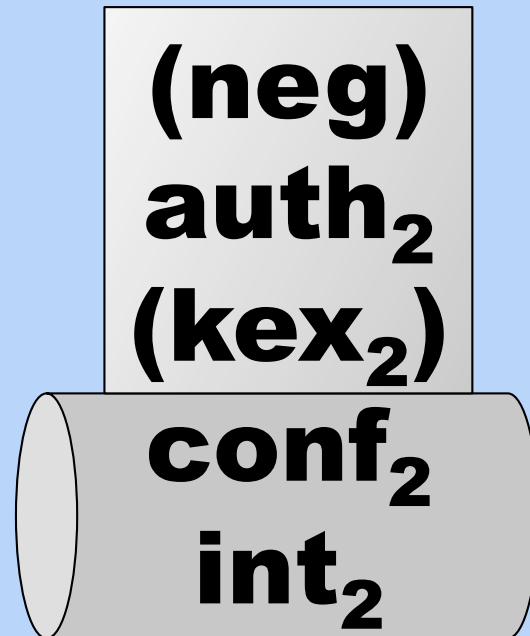
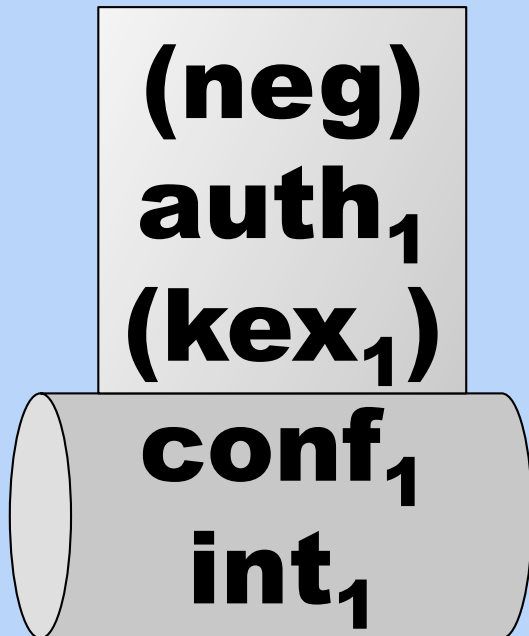
- hmac-sha1
- hmac-sha1-96
- hmac-md5
- hmac-md5-96
- AEAD_AES_128_GCM
- AEAD_AES_256_GCM
- hmac-sha2-256
- hmac-sha2-512

How we'd like to analyze ciphersuites

ciphersuite 1

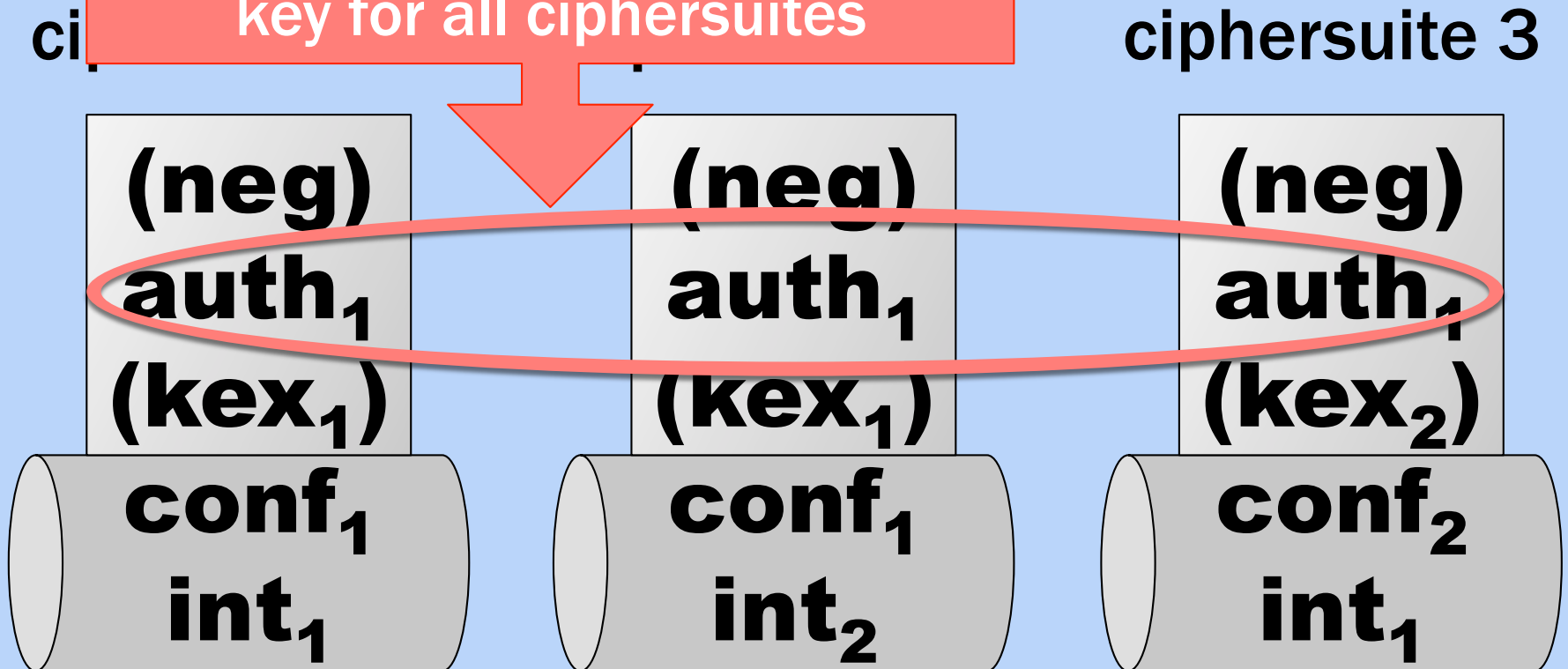
ciphersuite 2

ciphersuite 3



The reality of multi-ciphersuite usage

In practice, TLS and SSH servers use the same long-term key for all ciphersuites



Long-term key reuse across ciphersuites

Is this secure?

Even if a ciphersuite is provably secure on its own, it may not be secure if the long-term key is shared between two ciphersuites.

Long-term keys in TLS

Most TLS ciphersuites are provably secure channels (ACCE).

But this assumes that each ciphersuite uses its own distinct long-term key.

[MVVP12] Cross-ciphersuite attack

(built on observation of Wagner & Schneier 1996)

```
struct {
  select (KeyExchangeAlgorithm):
    case dhe_dss:
    case dhe_rsa:
      ServerDHParams params;
      digitally-signed struct {
        opaque client_random[32];
        opaque server_random[32];
        ServerDHParams params;
      } signed_params;
    case ec_diffie_hellman:
      ServerECDHParams params;
      digitally-signed struct {
        opaque client_random[32];
        opaque server_random[32];
        ServerECDHParams params;
      } signed_params;
  } ServerKeyExchange
```

1. No "type" information.

```
struct {
  opaque dh_p<1..216-1>;
  opaque dh_g<1..216-1>;
  opaque dh_Ys<1..216-1>;
} ServerDHParams;
```

```
struct {
  ECCurveType curve_type = explicit_prime(1);
  opaque prime_p <1..28-1>;
  ECCurve curve;
  ECPoint base;
  opaque order <1..28-1>;
  opaque cofactor <1..28-1>;
  opaque point <1..28-1>;
} ServerECDHParams;
```

2. Some valid ServerECDHParams binary strings are also valid WEAK ServerDHParams binary strings.

[MVVP12] Cross-ciphersuite attack

(built on observation of Wagner & Schneier 1996)

=> TLS not secure with long-term key reuse.

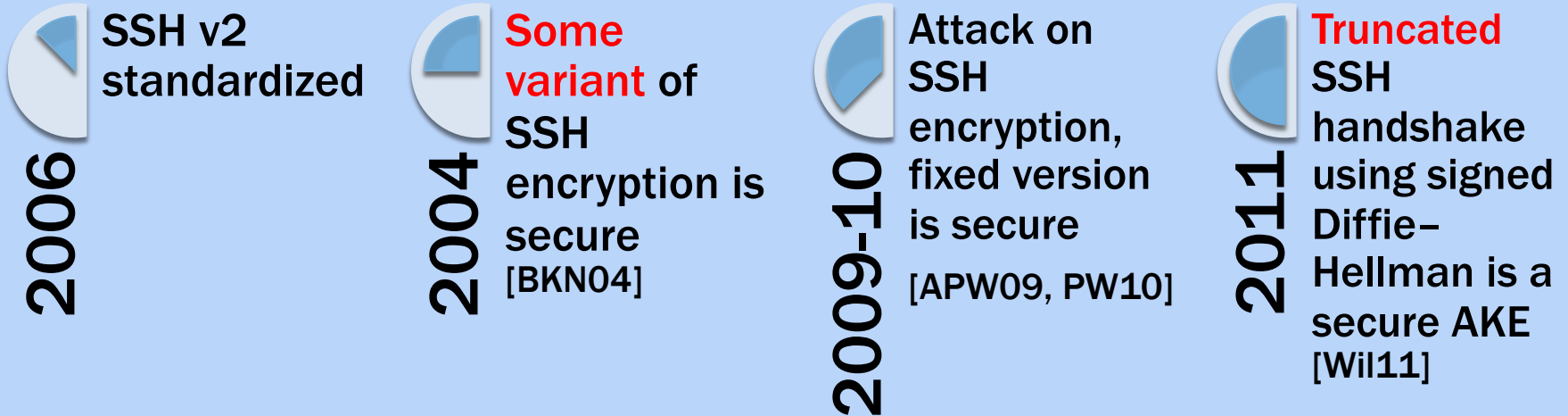
=> ACCE security of a ciphersuite in isolation does not imply security with long-term key reuse.

Long-term keys in SSH

In SSH, the thing that is signed contains an unambiguous identification of the intended ciphersuite.

We might hope to be able to prove SSH secure even with key reuse across ciphersuites.

Is SSH secure?



“some variant” ... “truncated SSH”

Signed-DH SSH is a secure ACCE

Theorem: Assuming

- the signature scheme is secure,
- the CDH problem is hard,
- the hash function is random,
- and the encryption scheme is a secure buffered stateful authenticated encryption scheme,

then signed-DH SSH is a secure ACCE protocol.

How can we prove it secure even with long-term key reuse across ciphersuites?

Provable security of long-term key reuse

Goal: Generic composition theorem:

If an individual ciphersuite is secure, then it is secure even if long-term keys are reused across ciphersuites.

- **Impossible: TLS cross-ciphersuite attack.**

Proof approach:

- Guess the target ciphersuite
- Use ACCE challenger for target ciphersuite
- Simulate all other ciphersuites
- Main problem: how to correctly simulate private key operations of other ciphersuites that re-use long terms key

Provable security of long-term key reuse

Revised goal: Generic composition theorem:
If an individual ciphersuite is secure under additional conditions, then it is secure even if long-term keys are reused across ciphersuites.

Technical approach

1. Define multi-ciphersuite ACCE security

2. Slightly open up individual ACCE definition: "ACCE with auxiliary oracle"

3. Thm: collection of ciphersuites that are individually ACCE-secure with compatible auxiliary oracles

=> multi-ciphersuite security.

Idea: adversary shouldn't be helped if he gets signatures on "unrelated" messages

4. Prove SSH signed-DH satisfies ACCE with auxiliary oracle

SSH multi-ciphersuite conclusions

Theory

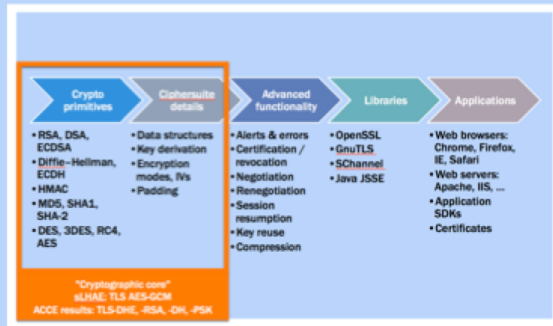
- Definition for security of multi-ciphersuite protocols.
- Generic theorem on when it is safe to reuse long-term keys across individually secure ciphersuites.

Practice

- Confidence in signed-DH SSH ciphersuites, even if the same long-term keys are reused across ciphersuites.
 - ... and even when reused with unambiguously independent protocols.

Conclusions

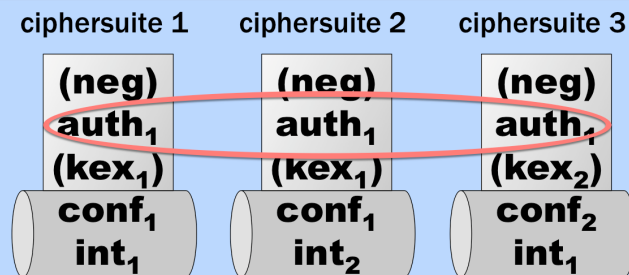
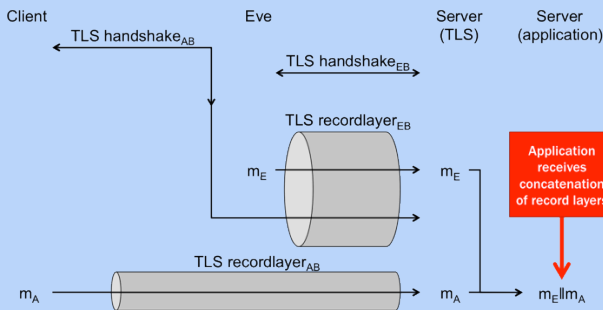
1. Gap between theory (provable security results) and practice (attacks).



Provable security of advanced properties of TLS and SSH

Douglas Stebila
 Queensland University of Technology

2. Extend provable security models and results to address TLS renegotiation and SSH multi-ciphersuite security.



Slides and papers

