



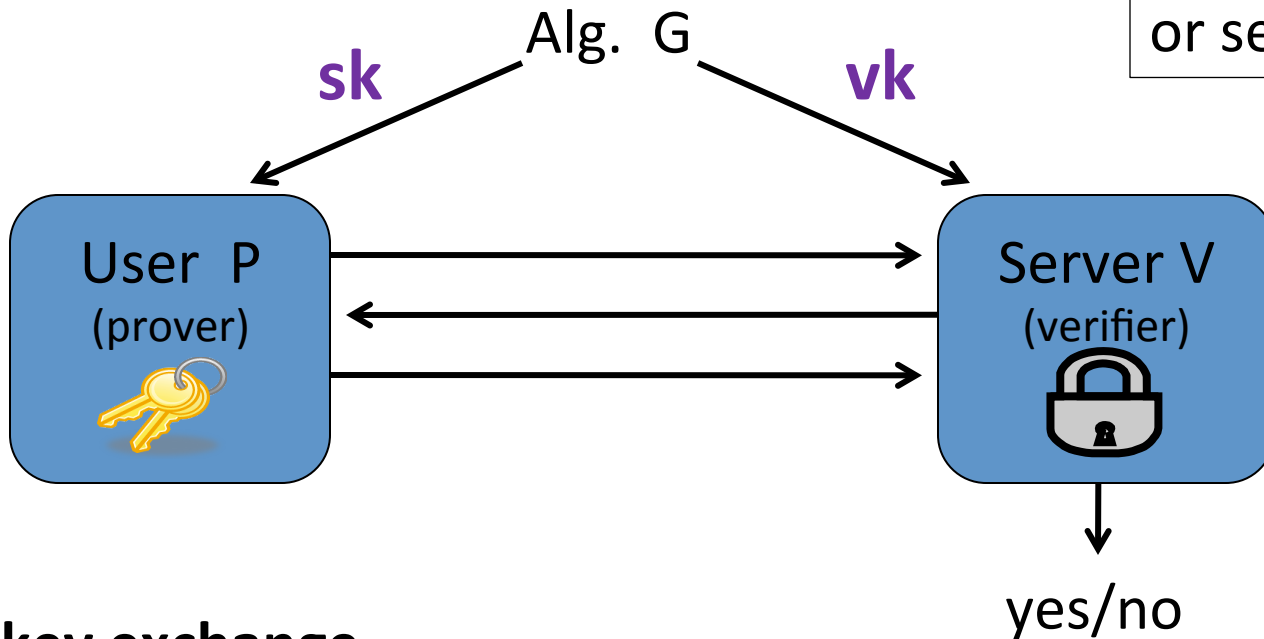
ID protocols

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Overview

# The Setup

vk either public  
or secret



no key exchange

# Applications: physical world

- Physical locks: (friend-or-foe)
  - Wireless car entry system
  - Opening an office door

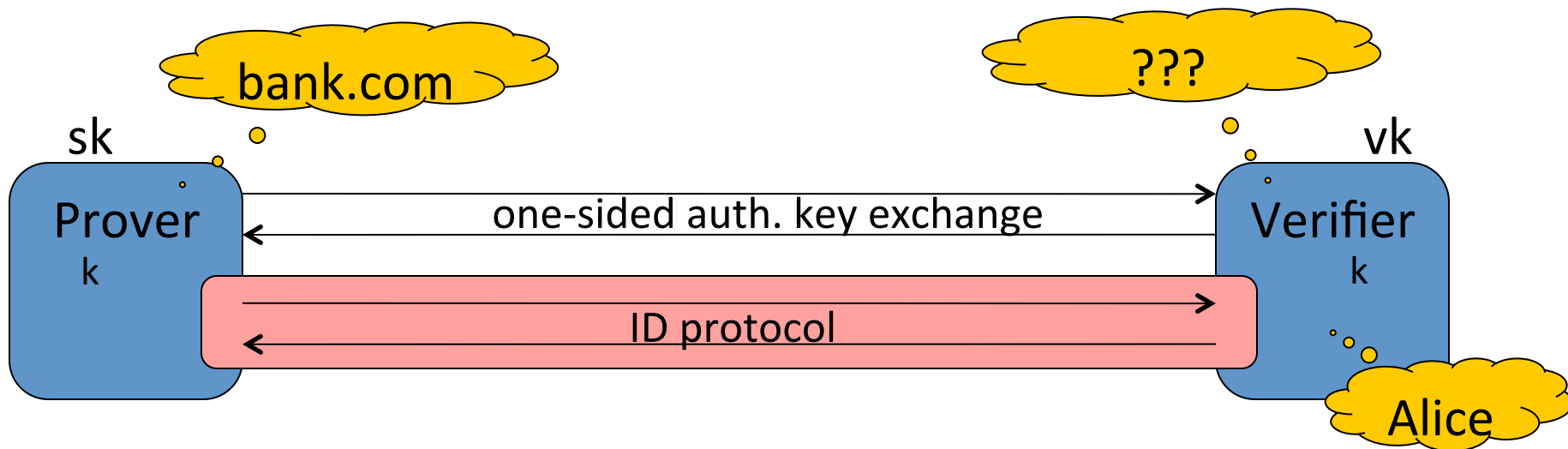


- Login at a bank ATM or a desktop computer



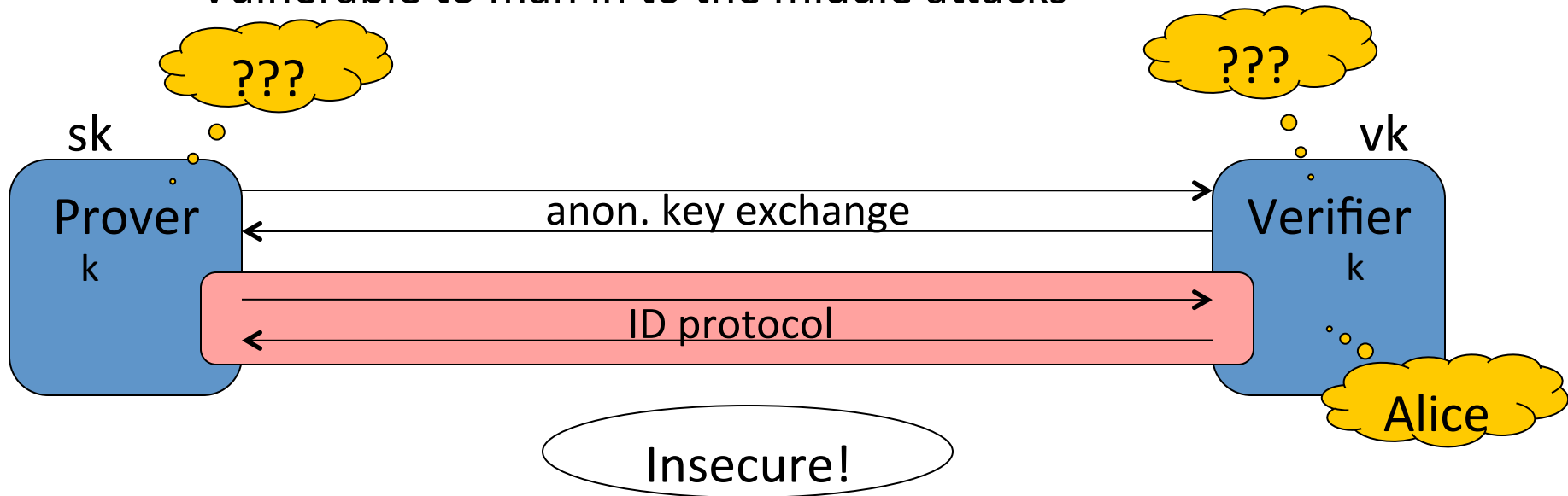
# Applications: Internet

Login to a remote web site after a key-exchange with one-sided authentication (e.g. HTTPS)



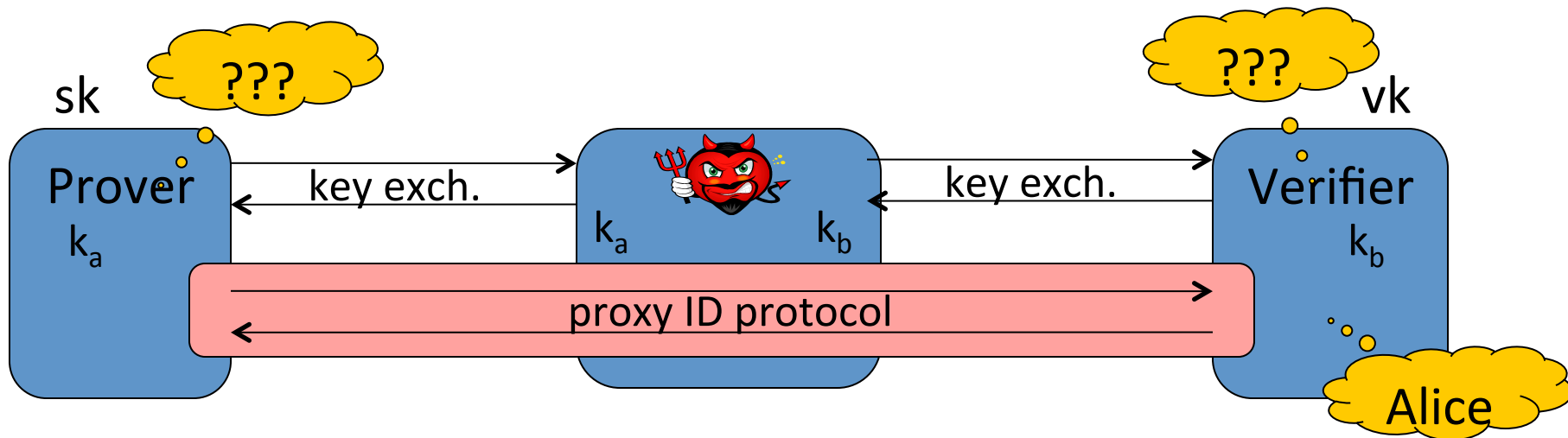
# ID Protocols: how not to use

- ID protocols do not establish a secure session between Alice and Bob !!
  - Not even when combined with anonymous key exchange.
  - Vulnerable to man in the middle attacks



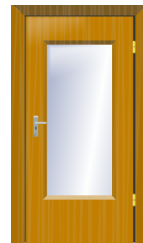
# ID Protocols: how not to use

- ID protocols do not set up a secure session between Alice and Bob !!
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# ID Protocols: Security Models

1. **Direct Attacker:** impersonates prover with no additional information (other than  $vk$ )
  - Door lock



2. **Eavesdropping attacker:** impersonates prover after eavesdropping on a few conversations between prover and verifier
  - Wireless car entry system



3. **Active attacker:** interrogates prover and then attempts to impersonate prover
  - Fake ATM in shopping mall





ID protocols

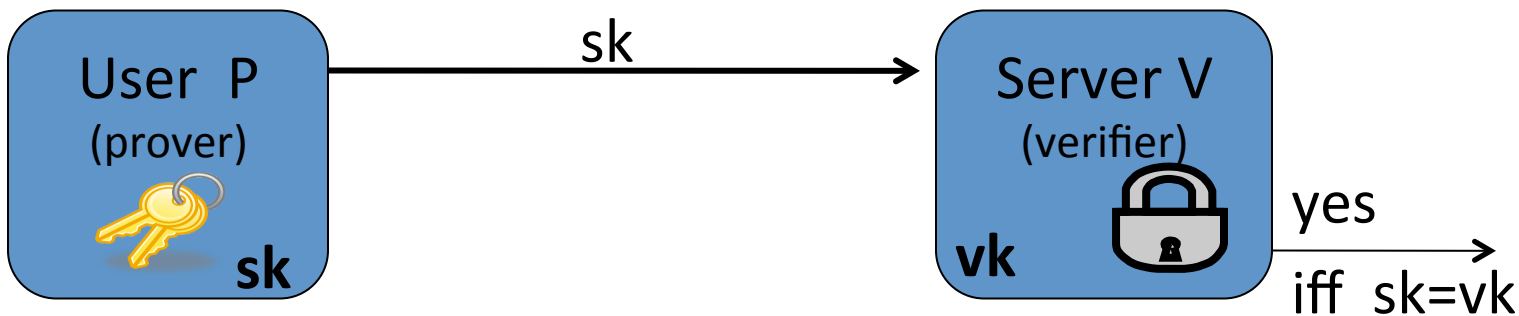
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Direct attacks



# Basic Password Protocol (incorrect version)

- **PWD**: finite set of passwords
- Algorithm  $G$  (KeyGen):
  - choose  $pw \leftarrow \text{PWD}$ . output  $sk = vk = pw$ .



# Basic Password Protocol (incorrect version)

Problem: vk must be kept secret

- Compromise of server exposes all passwords
- Never store passwords in the clear!

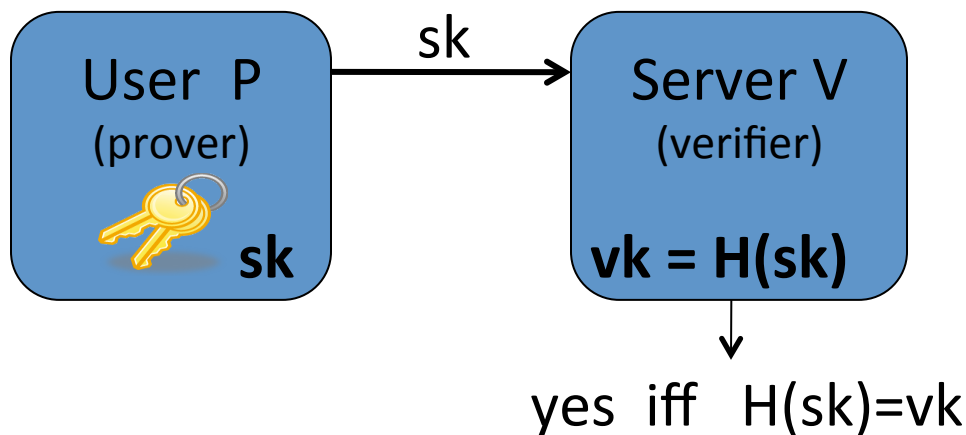
password file on server

Alice	$\text{pw}_{\text{alice}}$
Bob	$\text{pw}_{\text{bob}}$
...	...

# Basic Password Protocol: version 1

H: one-way hash function from PWD to X

- “Given  $H(x)$  it is difficult to find  $y$  such that  $H(y)=H(x)$ ”



password file on server

Alice	$H(\text{pw}_A)$
Bob	$H(\text{pw}_B)$
...	...

# Problem: Weak Password Choice

Users frequently choose weak passwords: (adobe list, 2013)

Password:	123456	123456789	password	adobe123	12345678	qwerty	1234567
Fraction of users:	5%	1.1%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%

Total: 8.8%

A common occurrence

- Example: the Rockyou password list, 2009 (6 most common pwds)

123456, 12345, Password, iloveyou, princess, abc123

Dictionary of 360,000,000 words covers about 25% of user passwords

Password:	123456	123456789	password	adobe123	12345678	qwerty	1234567
Fraction of users:	5%	1.1%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%

**Online dictionary attack:** Suppose an attacker obtains a list of usernames. For each username the attacker tries to login using the password '123456'.

Success after 20 tries on average

# Offline Dictionary Attacks

Suppose attacker obtains a **single**  $vk = H(pw)$  from server

- **Offline** attack: hash all words in Dict until a word  $w$  is found such that  $H(w) = vk$
- Time  $O(|Dict|)$  per password

Off the shelf tools (e.g. John the ripper):

- Scan through all 7-letter passwords in a few minutes
- Scan through 360,000,000 guesses in few seconds  
⇒ will recover 23% of passwords

# Batch Offline Dictionary Attacks

Suppose attacker steals **entire** pwd file  $F$

- Obtains hashed pwds for **all** users
- Example (2012): LinkedIn (6M: SHA1(pwd) )

Alice	$H(\text{pw}_A)$
Bob	$H(\text{pw}_B)$
...	...

Batch dict. attack:

- For each  $w \in \text{Dict}$ : test if  $H(w)$  appears in  $F$  (using fast look-up)

Total time:  $\mathbf{O( |Dict| + |F| )}$  [LinkedIn: 6 days, 90% of pwds. recovered]

Much better than attacking each password individually !

# Preventing Batch Dictionary Attacks

## Public salt:

- When setting password, pick a random n-bit salt  $S$
- When verifying pw for A, test if  $H(\text{pw}, S_A) = h_A$

id	S	h
Alice	$S_A$	$H(\text{pw}_A, S_A)$
Bob	$S_B$	$H(\text{pw}_B, S_B)$
...	...	...

Recommended salt length,  $n = 64$  bits

- Attacker must re-hash dictionary for each user

Batch attack time is now:  $O(|\text{Dict}| \times |F|)$



# Further Important Defenses

**Slow hash function H:** (say 0.1 sec. to hash pw)

- Example:  $H(\text{pw}) = \text{SHA1}(\text{SHA1}(\dots \text{SHA1}(\text{pw}, S_A) \dots))$
- Unnoticeable to user, but makes offline dictionary attack harder
- Use PBKDF2: tunable # iterations

## Secret salts:

- When setting pwd choose short random  $r$  (12 bits)
- When verifying pw for A, try all values of  $r_A$ . 2048 times slow down on average.
- 4096 times slow down for attacker

Alice	$S_A$	$H(\text{pw}_A, S_A, r_A)$
Bob	$S_B$	$H(\text{pw}_B, S_B, r_B)$
...	...	...



ID protocols

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Security against  
eavesdropping attacks

(one-time password systems)

# Eavesdropping Security Model

Adversary is given:

- Server's  $vk$ , and
- the transcript of several interactions between honest prover and verifier. (example: remote car unlock)



adv. goal is to impersonate prover to verifier

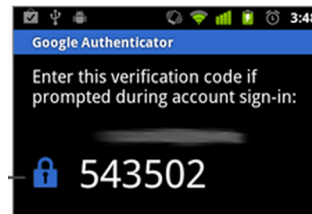
A protocol is “secure against eavesdropping” if no efficient adversary can win this game

The password protocol is clearly insecure !

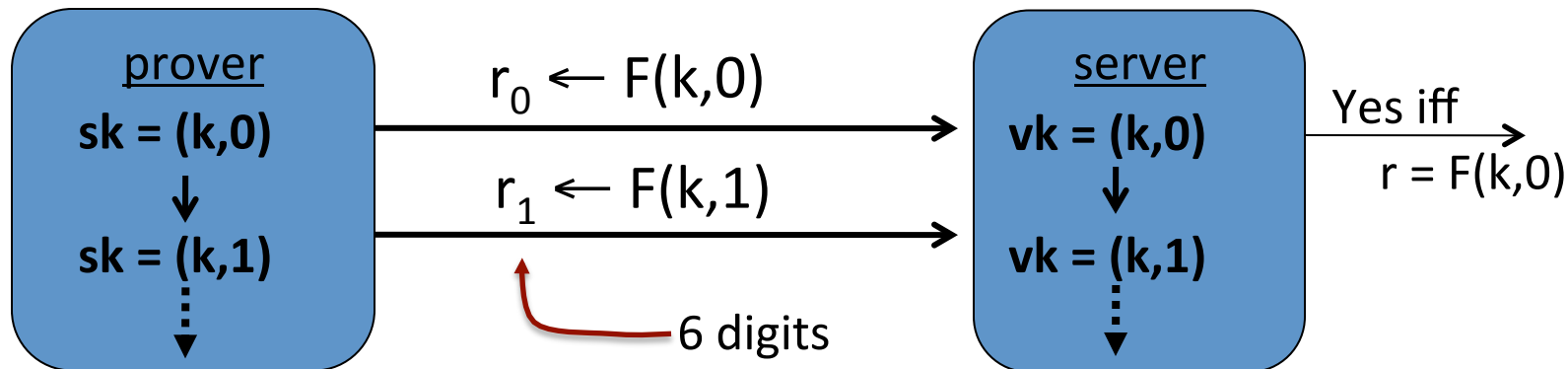
# One-time passwords (secret vk, stateful)

**Setup** (algorithm G):

- Choose random key  $k$
- Output  $sk = (k,0)$  ;  $vk = (k,0)$



Identification:



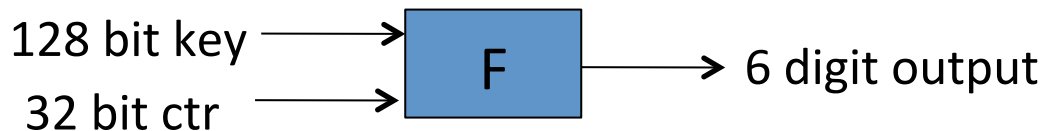
often, time-based updates:  $r \leftarrow F(k, \text{time})$  [stateless]

# The SecurID system

(secret vk, stateful)

“Thm”: if  $F$  is a secure PRF then protocol is secure against eavesdropping

RSA SecurID uses AES-128:

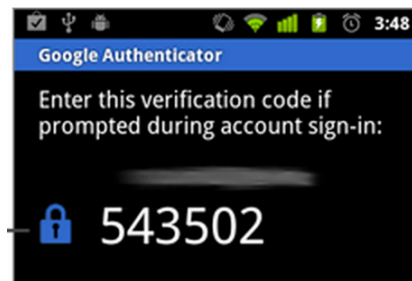


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Advancing state:  $sk \leftarrow (k, i+1)$

- Time based: every 60 seconds
- User action: every button press

Both systems allow for skew in the counter value



# Google authenticator

- 6-digit timed one-time passwords (TOTP) based on [RFC 6238]
- Wide web-site adoption:
  - Evernote, Dropbox, WordPress, outlook.com, ...

To enable TOTP for a user: web site presents QR code with embedded data:

```
otpauth://totp/Example:alice@dropbox.com?  
secret=JBSWY3DPEHPK3PXP & issuer=Example
```

(Subsequent user logins require user to present TOTP)

Danger: password reset upon user lockout

# Server compromise exposes secrets

March 2011:

- RSA announced servers attacked, secret keys stolen  
⇒ enabled SecurID user impersonation

Is there an ID protocol where server key  $vk$  is public?

# The S/Key system

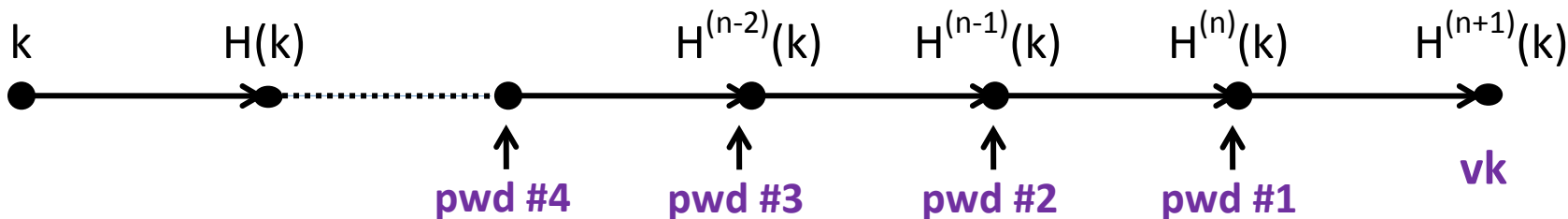
(public vk, stateful)

Notation:  $H^{(n)}(x) = \underbrace{H(H(\dots H(x)\dots))}_{n \text{ times}}$

Algorithm G: (setup)

- Choose random key  $k \leftarrow K$
- Output  $\mathbf{sk} = (k, n)$  ;  $\mathbf{vk} = H^{(n+1)}(k)$

Identification:





# The S/Key system

(public vk, stateful)

Identification (in detail):

- Prover ( $sk=(k,i)$ ): send  $t \leftarrow H^{(i)}(k)$  ; set  $sk \leftarrow (k,i-1)$
- Verifier(  $vk=H^{(i+1)}(k)$  ): if  $H(t)=vk$  then  $vk \leftarrow t$ , output “yes”

Notes: vk can be made public;  
but need to generate new sk after n logins ( $n \approx 10^6$ )

“Thm”:  $S/Key_n$  is secure against eavesdropping (public vk)  
provided H is one-way on n-iterates

# SecurID vs. S/Key

## S/Key:

- **public**  $vk$ , **limited** number of authentications
- Long authenticator  $t$  (e.g., 80 bits)

## SecurID:

- **secret**  $vk$ , **unlimited** number of authentications
- Short authenticator (6 digits)



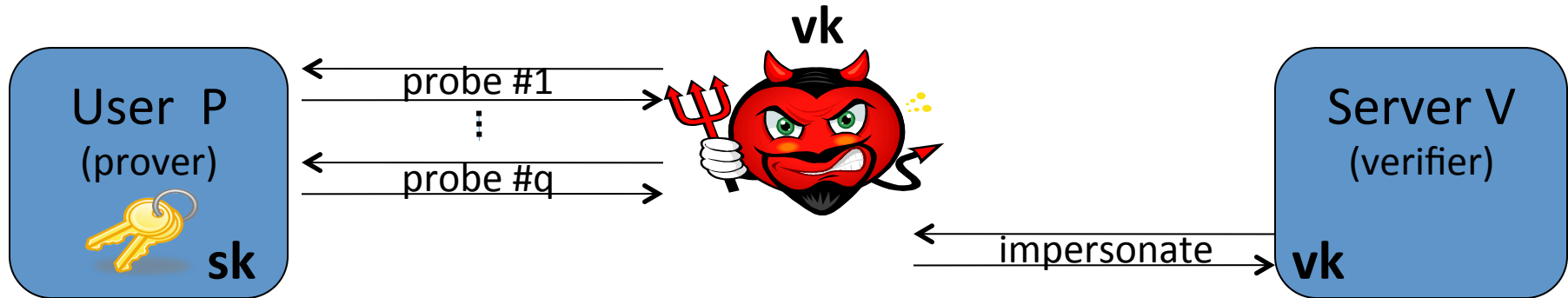
ID protocols

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Security against  
active attacks

(challenge-response protocols)

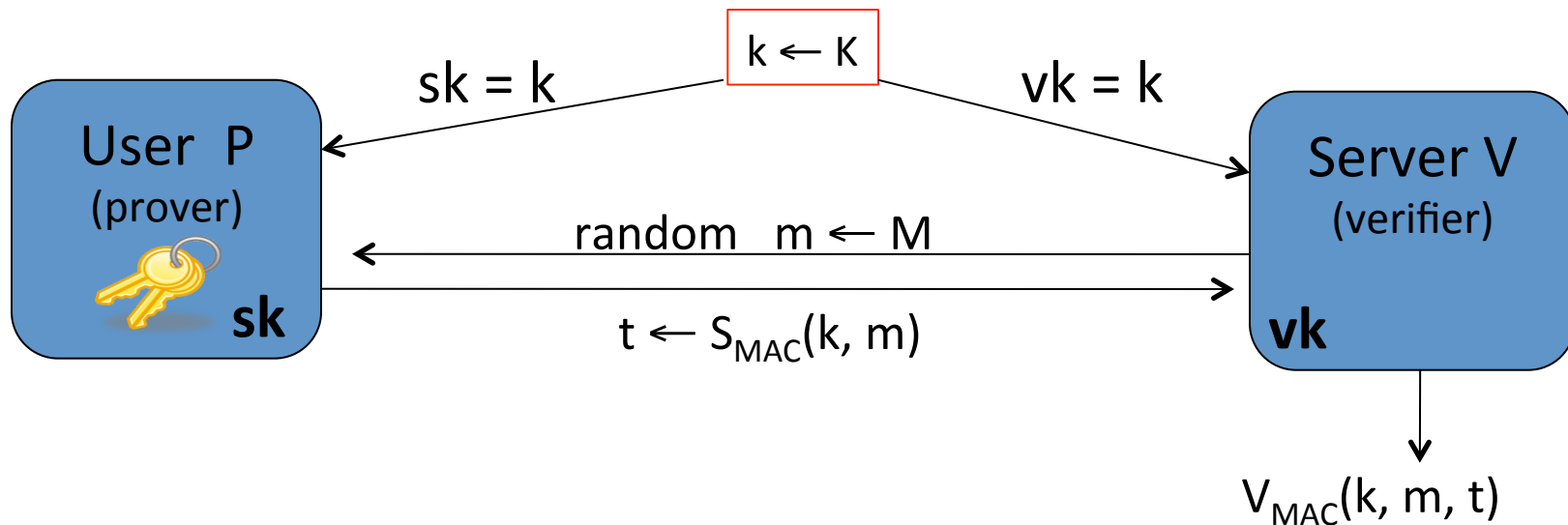
# Active Attacks



- Offline fake ATM: interacts with user; later tries to impersonate user to real ATM
- Offline phishing: phishing site interacts with user; later authenticates to real site

All protocols so far are vulnerable

# MAC-based Challenge Response (secret vk)



“Thm”: protocol is secure against active attacks (secret vk),  
provided  $(S_{MAC}, V_{MAC})$  is a secure MAC

# MAC-based Challenge Response

## Problems:

- $vk$  must be kept secret on server
- dictionary attack when  $k$  is a human pwd:

Given  $[ m , S_{MAC}(pw, m) ]$  eavesdropper can try all  $pw \in Dict$  to recover  $pw$

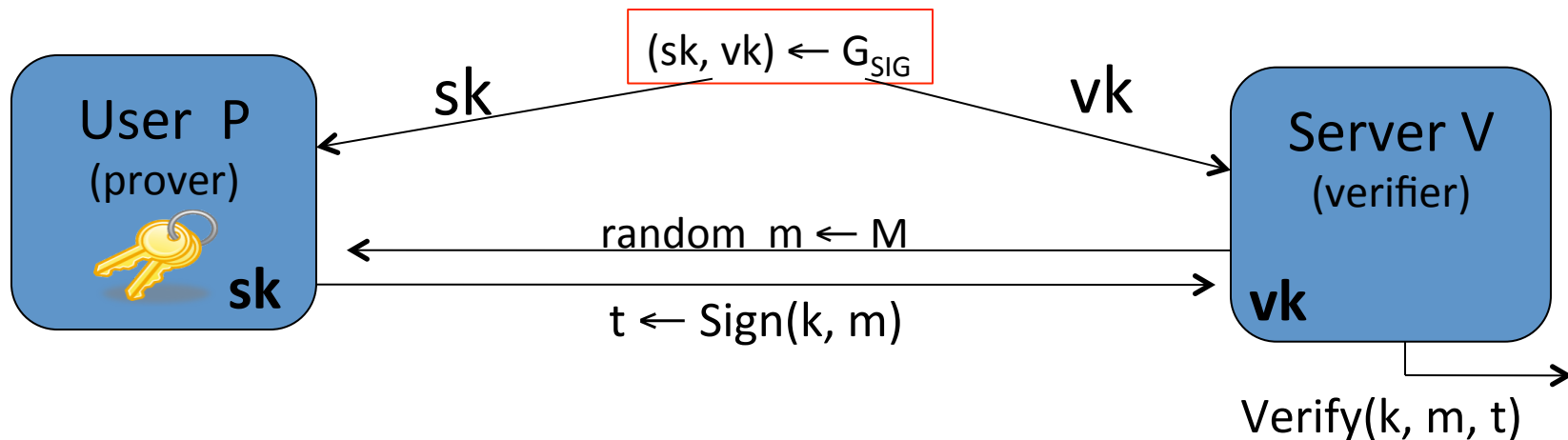
## Main benefit:

- Both  $m$  and  $t$  can be short
- CryptoCard: 8 chars each



# Sig-based Challenge Response (public vk)

Replace MAC with a digital signature:



“Thm”: Protocol is secure against active attacks (**public vk**), provided  $(G_{SIG}, \text{Sign}, \text{Verify})$  is a secure digital sig.

but  $t$  is long ( $\geq 20$  bytes)

# Summary

ID protocols: useful in settings where adversary cannot interact with prover during impersonation attempt

Three security models:

- **Direct:** passwords (properly salted and hashed)
- **Eavesdropping attacks:** One time passwords
  - SecurID: secret vk, unbounded logins
  - S/Key: public vk, bounded logins
- **Active attacks:** challenge-response



THE END