#### **Information security**

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# **Certification Authorities**

- Certificates allow key exchange without realtime access to public-key authority
- Certification authority (CA): binds public key to particular entity, E.

# **E registers its public key with CA:**

- E provides "proof of identity" to CA.
- CA creates certificate binding E to its public key.
- Certificate containing E's public key digitally signed by CA
- CA says "this is E's public key"



### **Requirement on Certificates:**

- 1.Any participant can read a certificate to determine the name and public key of the certificates owner
- 2.Any participant can verify that the certificate originated from the authority
- 3.Only the certificate authority can create and update certificate

# **Certification Authorities**

# When Alice wants Bob's public key: Gets Bob's certificate (Bob or elsewhere).

 Apply CA's public key to Bob's certificate, get Bob's public key



# **Public-Key Certificates**



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# **Simple Secret Key Distribution**

(1)  $KU_a | ID_A$ 



(2)  $E_{KUa}[K_s]$ 

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# **Needham Secret Key Distribution**

# if A and B have securely exchanged publickeys:



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# **Certificate Contents**

Serial number (unique to issuer)

# info about certificate owner, including algorithm and key value itself (not shown) about

OK

Cancel

#### 滋 Edit A Certification Authority - Netscape

 This Certificate belongs to:
 This Certificate was issued by:

 Class 1 Public Primary Certification
 Class 1 Public Primary Certification

 Authority
 Class 1 Public Primary Certification

 VeriSign, Inc.
 VeriSign, Inc.

 US
 US

 Serial Number: 00:CD:BA:7F:56:F0:DF:E4:BC:54:FE:22:AC:B3:72:AA:55

 This Certificate is valid from Sun Jan 28, 1996 to Tue Aug 01, 2028

Certificate Fingerprint:

97:60:E8:57:5F:D3:50:47:E5:43:0C:94:36:8A:B0:62

This Certificate belongs to a Certifying Authority

- Accept this Certificate Authority for Certifying network sites
- Accept this Certificate Authority for Certifying e-mail users
- Accept this Certificate Authority for Certifying software developers

Warn before sending data to sites certified by this authority

certificate issuer Valid dates Digital signature by issuer

