Biometrics: New Solutions for Privacy and Security

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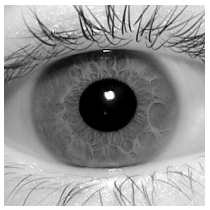
Ethics & Science

- Motivation
  - Biometrics, those methods that can be used to recognize a person based upon physiological features, have become commonplace in recent years.
  - Pros of Biometrics: efficiency, convenience, improved access, improved security
  - Cons of Biometrics: unique identifiers, support unwarranted surveillance, difficulty with storage, questionable security





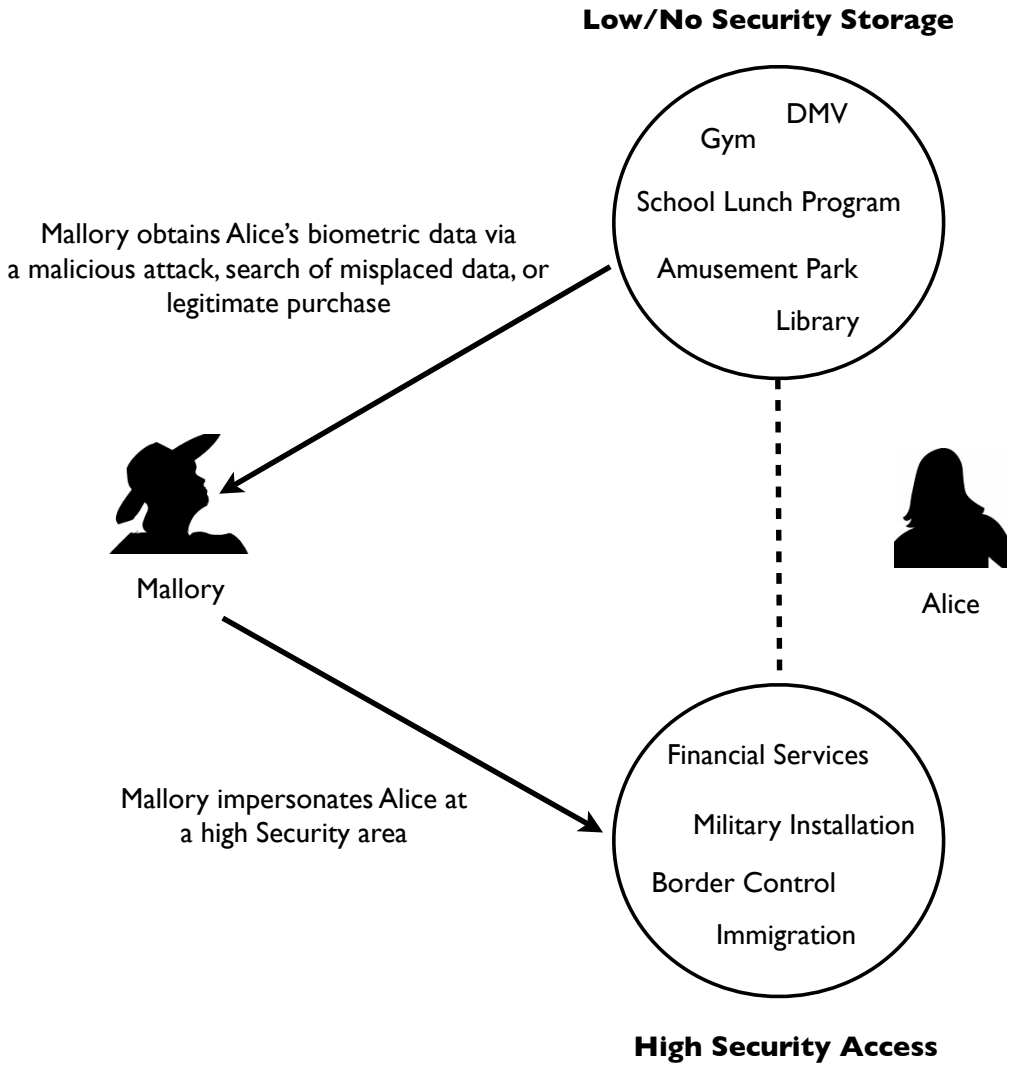
What must we be aware of?

Function Creep

"The expansion of a process or system, where data collected for one specific purpose are subsequently used for another unintended or unauthorized purpose"

- Most familiar example in the US: SSN
- Function Creep and Biometrics: in 2001, Colorado tried to sell face & fingerprint data collected by its DMV

The Biometric Dilemma



Biometrics, Body, and Identity*

- The same biometrics can be used in different ways
  - Identification, genetics research, medical monitoring, ethnic categorization
- Serious risk for discrimination based on what is measured from the human body

*E. Mordini, "Ethics and Policy of Biometrics," in M. Tistarelli et al. (eds.), Handbook of Remote Biometrics, 2009.

Informatization of the Body

- Baudrillard* describes a process of *dematerialization*:
  - Thing ➔ Commodity ➔ Sign ➔ Information

What does this say about the potential for biometrics to dehumanize the body and offend human dignity?

*J. Baudrillard, "Fatal Strategies: Revenge of the Crystal," 1990.

Security is a Two-way Street

- Biometrics can be incorporated into large security frameworks
  - Identity Assurance
    - Tokens risk a disassociation of the owner from the object
- Biometrics suffer from the same flaws as traditional software security systems (and more!)
  - Limitations of Pattern Recognition

The Doppelganger Threat

- If the FAR is 1 in *X*, then an attacker can try more than *X* different prints
- Lots of public data available!
  - Fingerprint: NIST DB 14, NIST DB 29, FVC 2002, FVC 2004 …
  - Face: MBGC, FRGC, FVT, FERET …
  - Think of this as a biometric dictionary attack

Biometrics as "Liberation"

- Most developing countries have weak and unreliable identification documents
- In 2003, UNICEF* calculated that 36% of all births worldwide were not registered in any way
  - Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal have not yet made child registration at birth mandatory

How does this impact food distribution, education, and disaster relief?

*http://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Birth_Registration.pdf

Case Study: India*

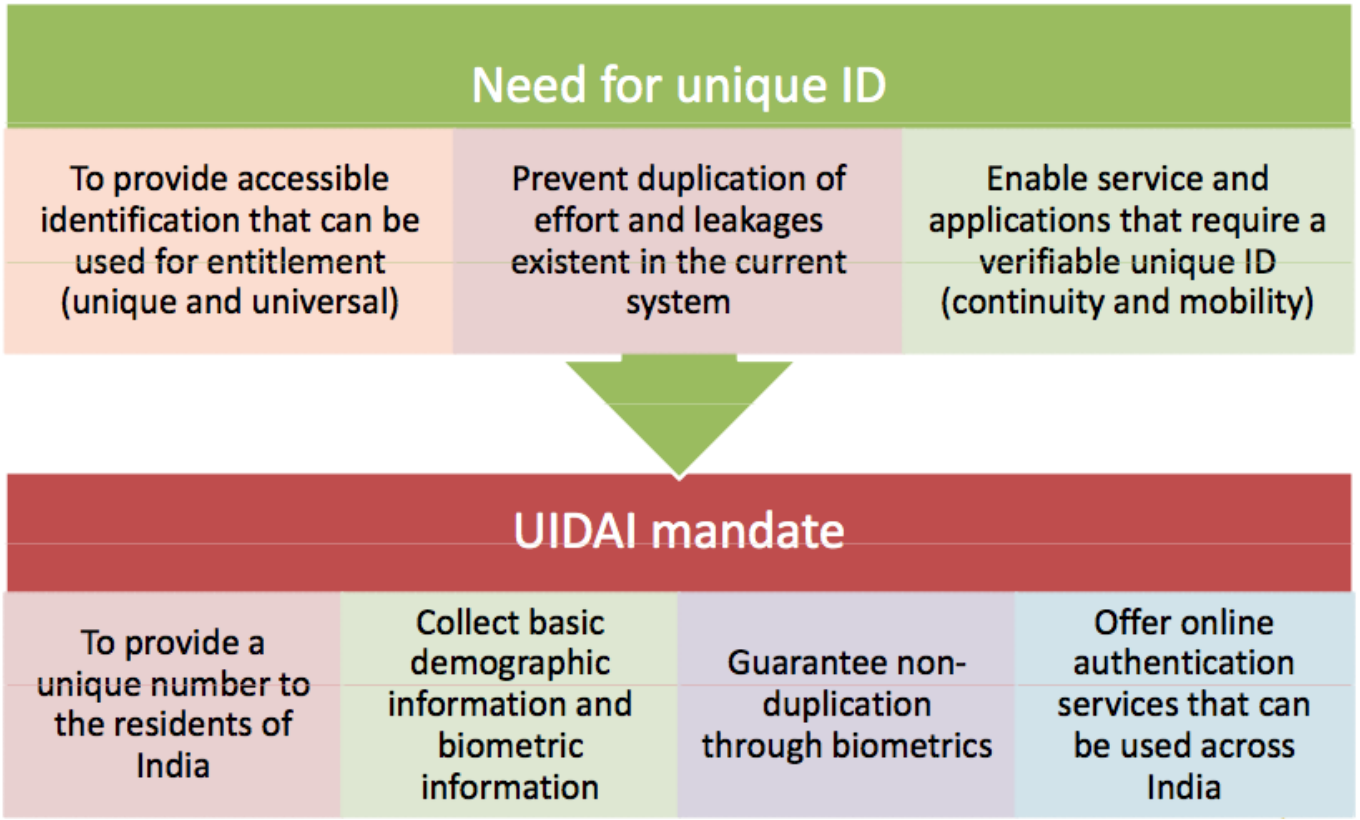
- World's 4th Largest Economy
- World's Largest Social Service Programs
  - Touches 150M Families at $30B per year
  - 20 – 40% "leakage"
- Middle Class Growth at 40M persons per year
- World's largest democracy
  - 714M Voters, 364 Political Parties
- And yet… *Over 600 Million People have no definitive identity*

*UID material courtesy of Salil Prabhakar, UIDAI, and the World Bank

The Need in India

- Poor do not have access to benefits and services due to inability to prove identity
- No universality of identity means reproving again and again
- No continuity of and mobility of identity
- Financial Exclusion
  - Only 18% of people have bank accounts and only 35% have savings
  - No Access to Credit
  - Savings “under the mattress”

The Unique ID Initiative



Information Collected for UID

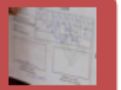
KYR Fields – Name, Address, Gender, DOB 

Photo & Address Verification 

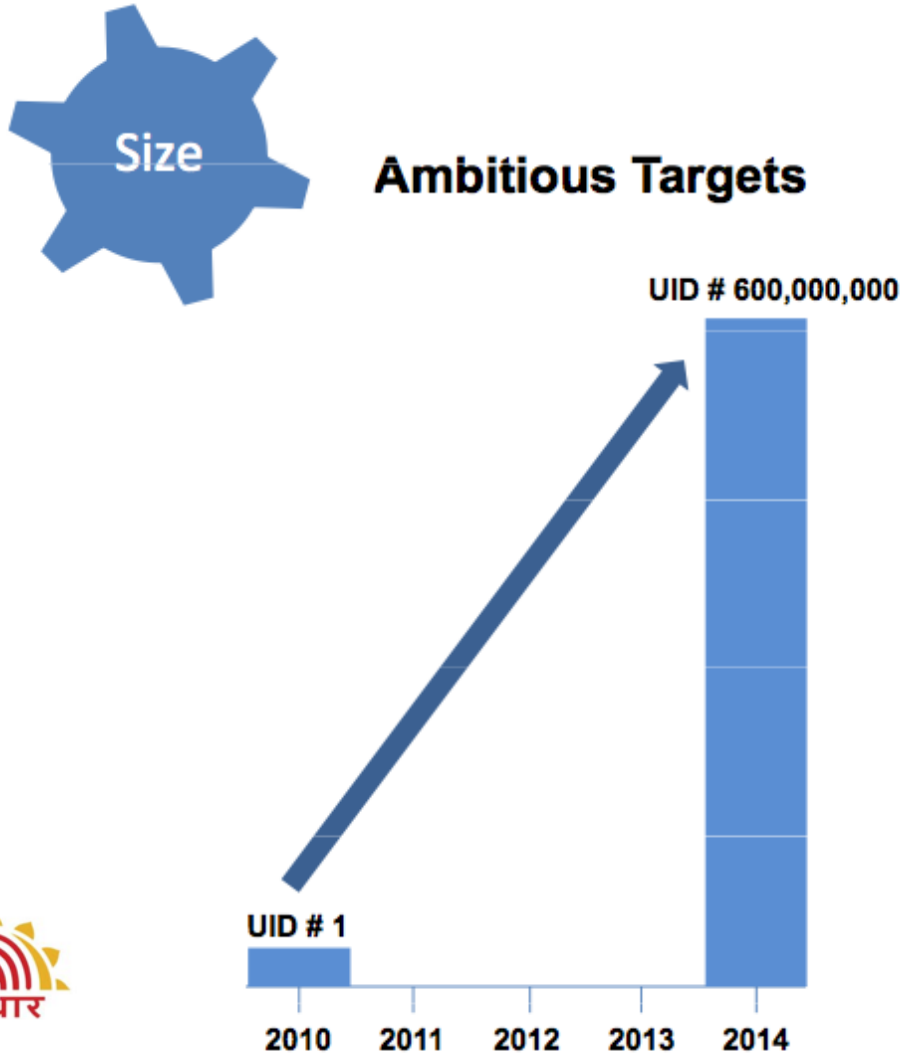
Photo 

10-fingerprints on Slap scanner 

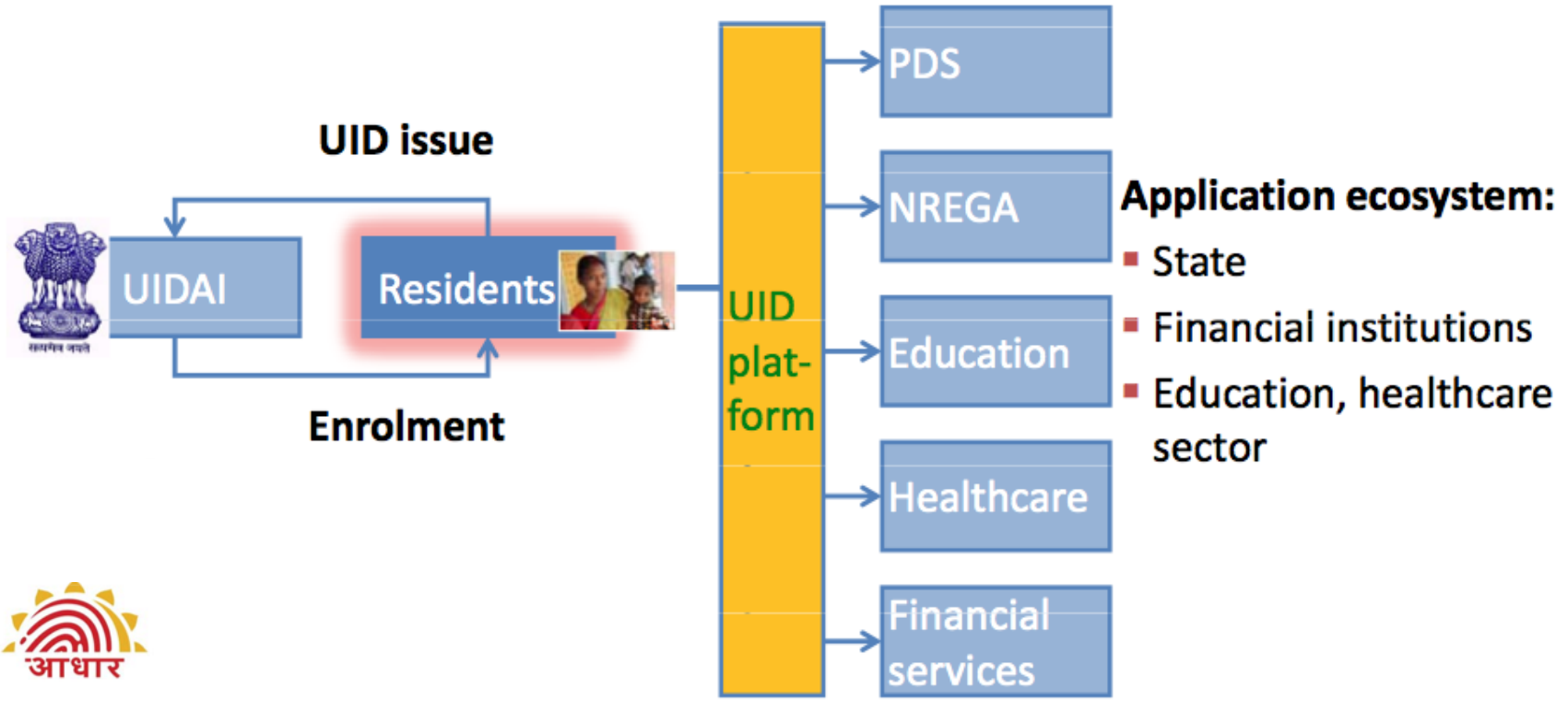
Iris Scan 

आधार

UID Enrollment Goal



UID From the User's Perspective



Potential Holes in UID

- Function Creep
  - One program and many target applications: Government, Healthcare, Finance, Education
  - Levels of security? Does the biometrics dilemma apply?
- Security of Biometric Data
  - Stolen identities mean food and money
  - 600,000,000 enrollments: Doppelganger Danger
- More disturbing concerns…
  - Ethnic discrimination and violence

Secure Templates as a Solution

- Protect the Privacy and Security of the Biometric Features
- Revoke and re-issue biometric templates like a password or credit card #
- Match in an encoded space
- Prevent linking across databases (solve the biometric dilemma)
- Prevent the doppelganger attack (multi-factors)

"Getting this right has been much more challenging than we first thought." – Fabian Monrose

Standard Cryptography as a Weak Solution

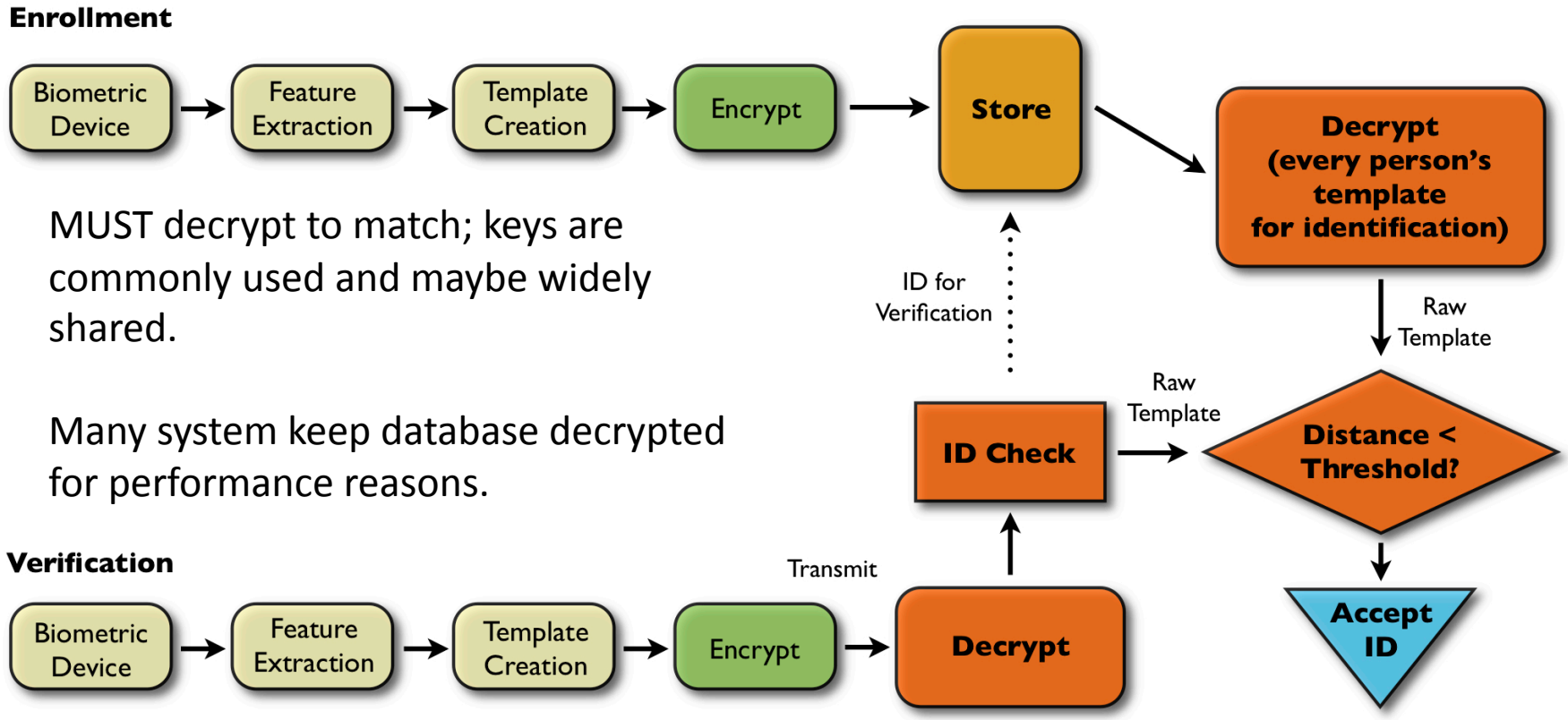
- Hashing/Crypto great for passwords.

Hire Only IEEE Members	1fc486d4b30dd490e044e40a35b6535c
Fire Only IEEE Members	53cc18345f93c390c7469e38c126a13f
Hire Only IEE Members	dfa9d634376d51d311ee55d40722950c

- Minor change results in radically different string (no match)

What does this suggest about potential for Biometrics?

Standard Cryptography as a Weak Solution



MUST decrypt to match; keys are commonly used and maybe widely shared.

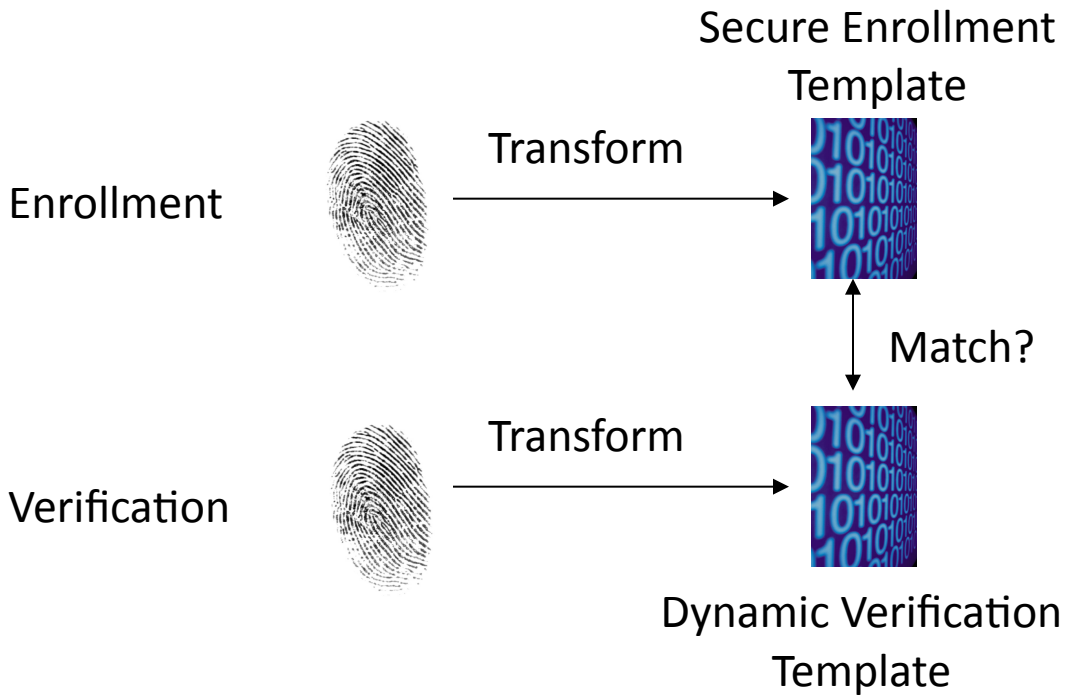
Many system keep database decrypted for performance reasons.

Secure Template Technology

- Transformation of features that can be revoked and re-issued like a password or PIN
- Additional factors (PINs, passwords) used in transformation improve security
- Two interesting classes for crypto protocols
  - Key-generating biometric cryptosystems
    - Derive key data from biometric data; Ex. Fuzzy Extractors
  - Key-binding biometric cryptosystems
    - Bind any key data with biometric data; Ex. Fuzzy Commitment, Fuzzy Vault, Revocable Biotokens

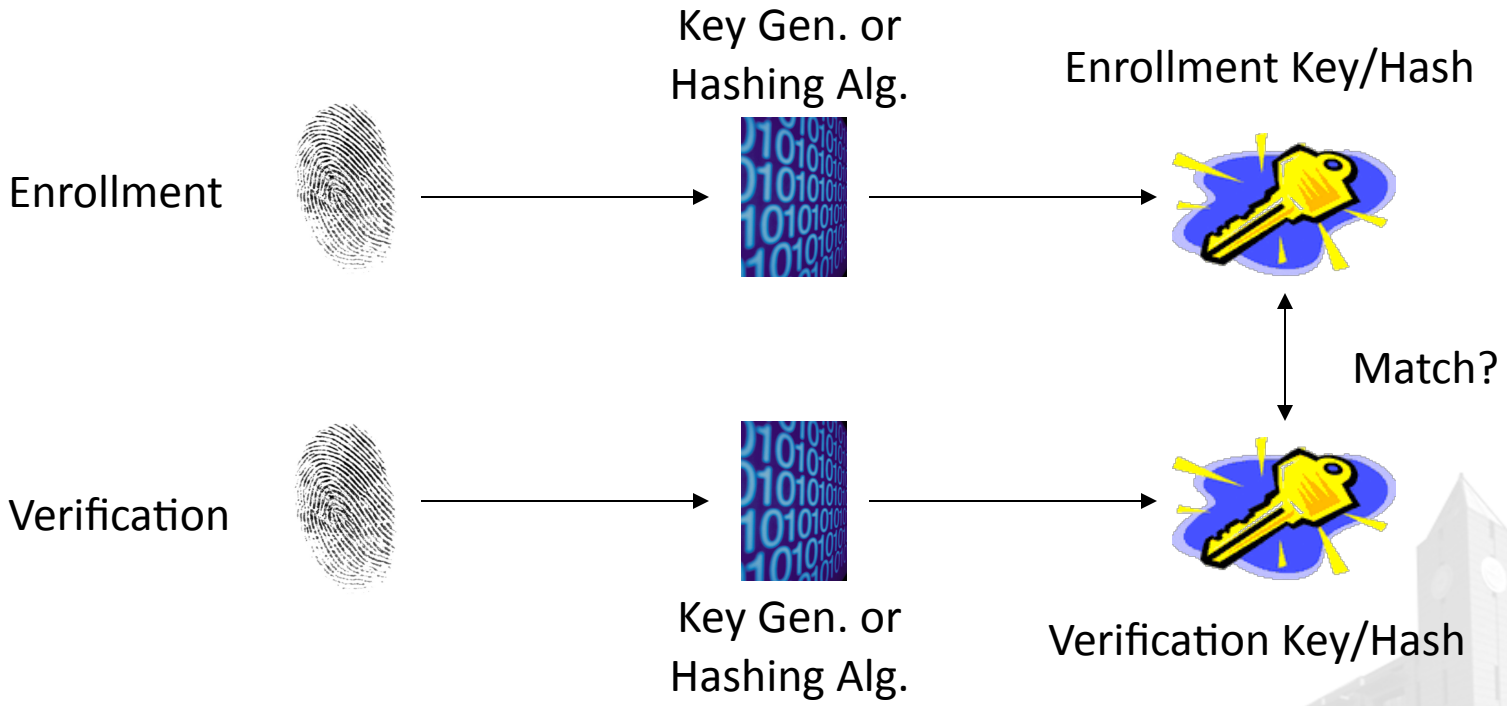
Secure Template Architectures

- Simply protect the original biometric features using some transformation that allows matching in encoded space



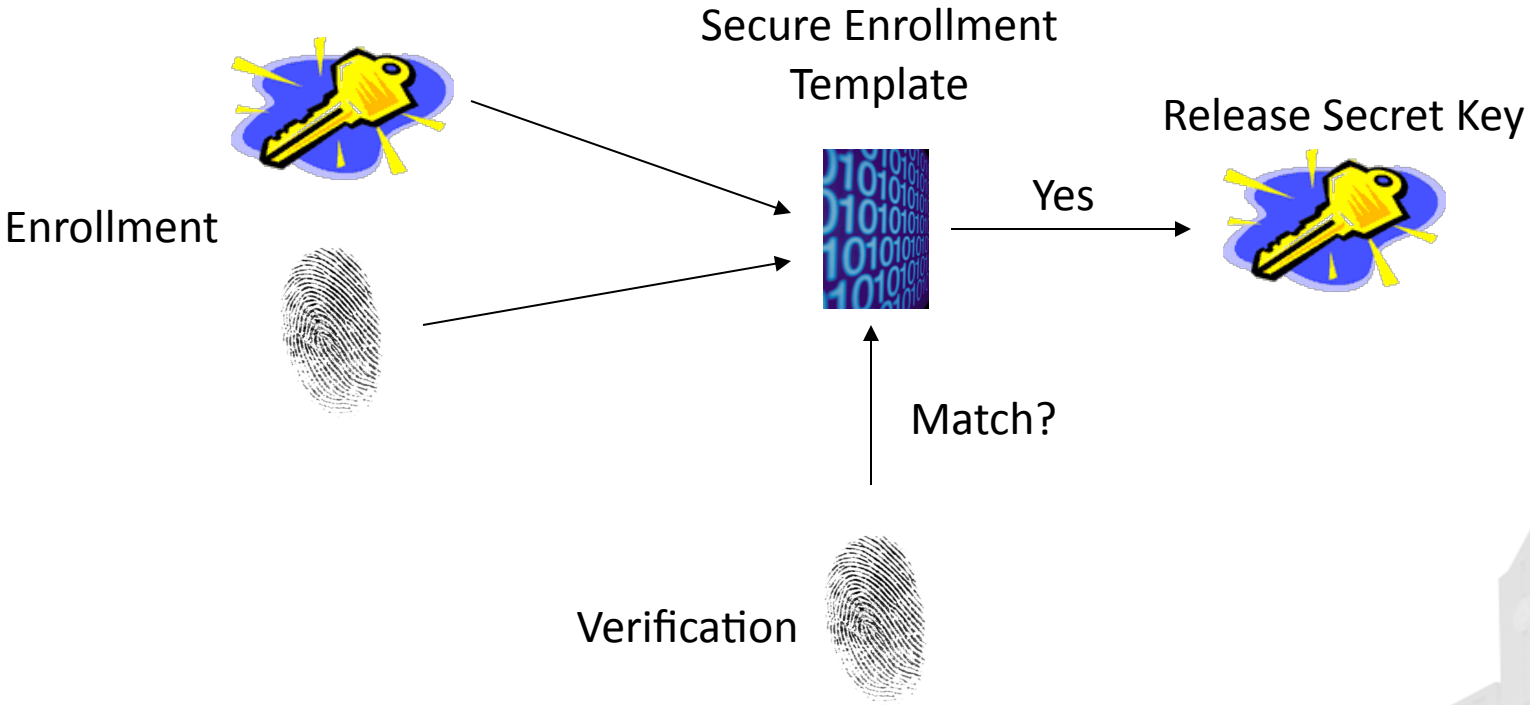
Secure Template Architectures

- Key-generating: Biometric cryptosystem that derives a key from the biometric data

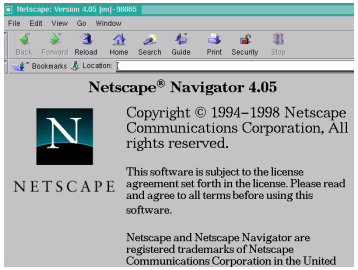


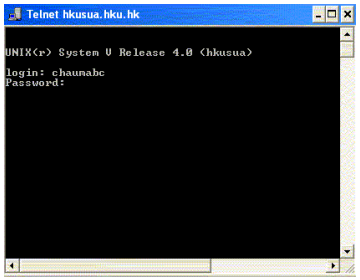
Secure Template Architectures

- Key-binding: Biometric cryptosystem that binds key data with the biometric data



Remember the 90s?



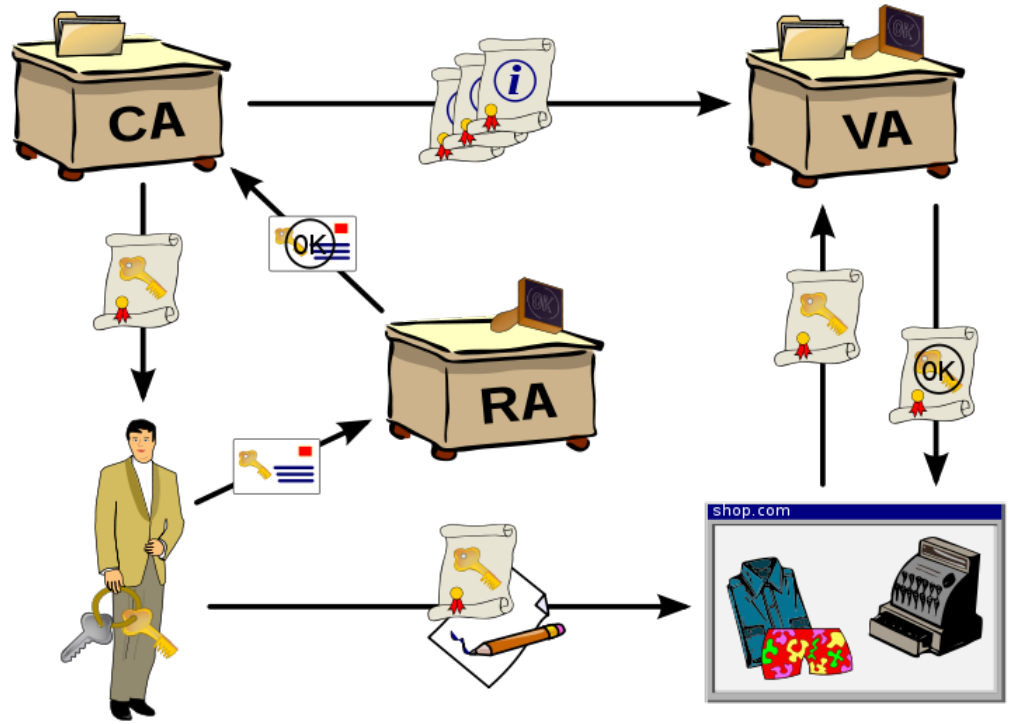


- Huge explosion in new network protocols for e-commerce, electronic record keeping, access control, etc.
- Security of these protocols was an afterthought!
  - We need cryptography to protect insecure channels
  - How can Alice verify a public key?

  Solution: Public Key Infrastructure

Public Key Infrastructure

- PKI is the infrastructure for handling the complete management of digital certificates (x.509 compliant)
  - Certificates contain trusted information: a public key



Problems with PKI

- Ellison and Schneier (2000)*
  - "Risk #1: Who do we trust, and for what?"
  - "Risk #2: Who is using my key?"
  - "Risk #4: Which John Robinson is he?"
  - "Risk #6: Is the user part of the security design?"
  - "Risk #8: How did the CA identify the certificate holder"?

*C. Ellison and B. Schneier, "Ten Risks of PKI: What You're Not Being Told About Public Key Infrastructure," *Computer Security Journal*, 16(1):1-7, 2000.

A Recent Attack: Chosen Prefix Collisions

- Stevens et al. (2009)*

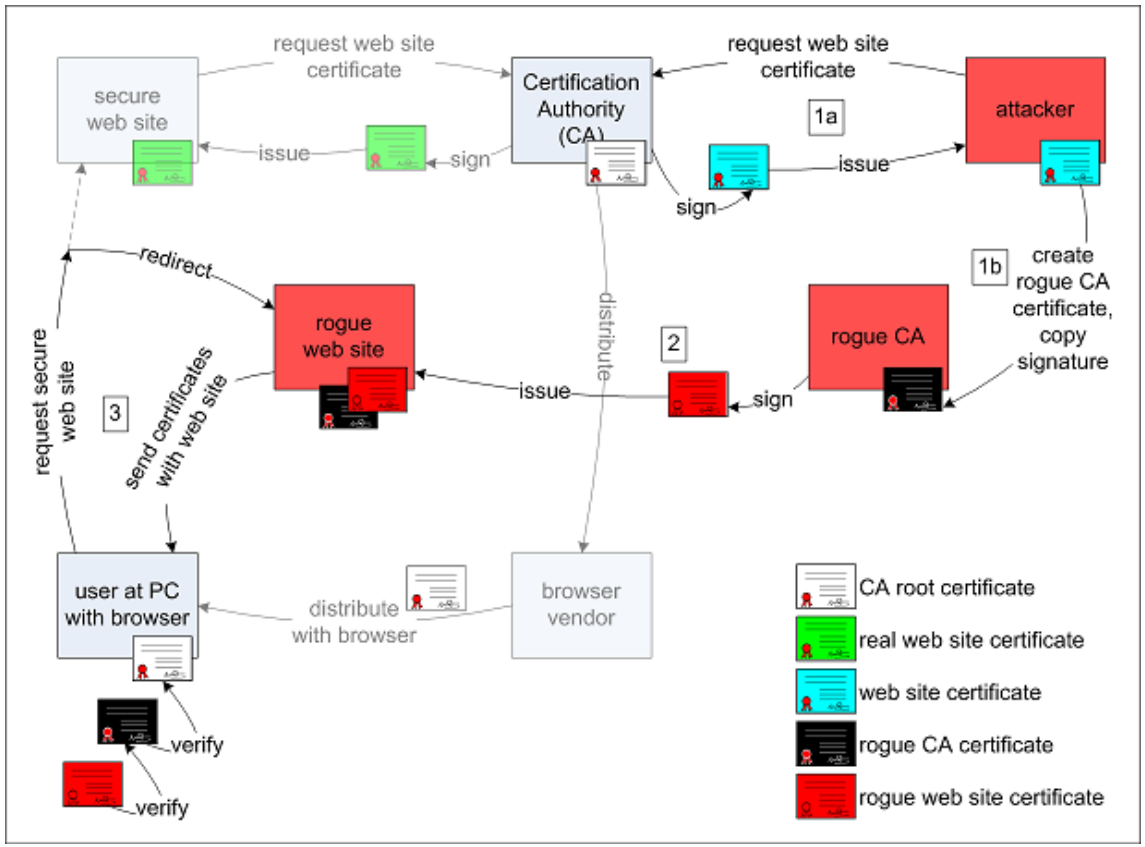


*image credit: http://www.win.tue.nl/hashclash/rogue-ca/

A Recent Attack: Chosen Prefix Collisions

- Why does this attack work?
  - MD5 hash collision against the digital signatures used for certificate validation
    - All trust is placed in expected messages derived from *legitimate* key
    - There is no way to tell the difference between a Man-in-the-Middle and a legitimate site
- The entire infrastructure is always susceptible to trust related attacks if any crypto component is flawed

Can we only trust an entity based on expected numbers?

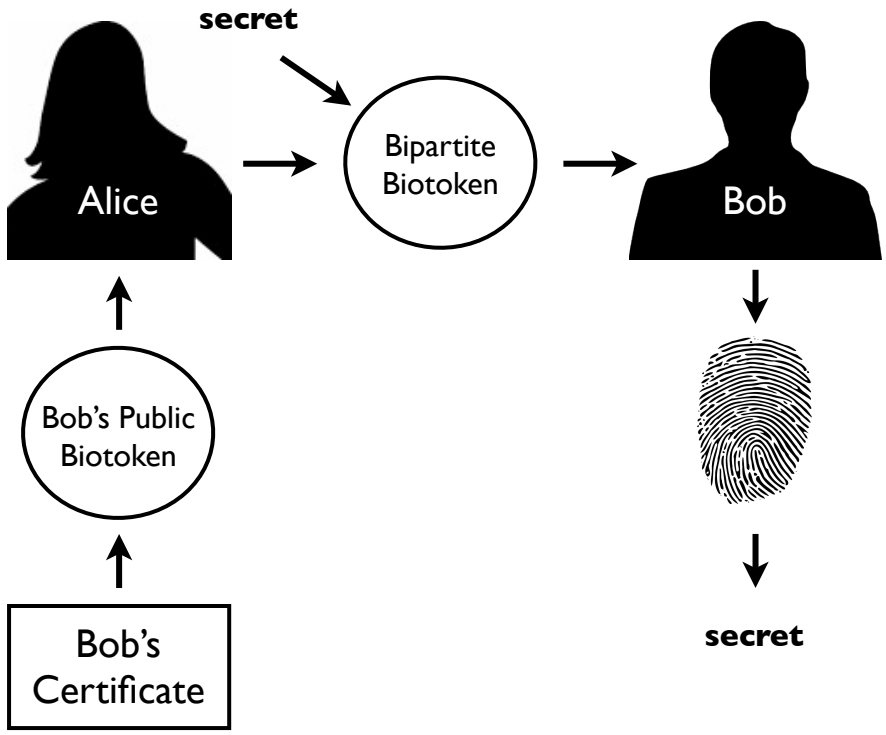
Biometric Solution?

- By adding a second factor, we can mitigate the inherent trust problems with PKI
- What about Biometrics?
  - Improved non-repudiation
  - Strong verification for actors in a transaction, certificate authority establishment, and general certificate issue

Address the trouble with Biometrics using Secure Templates

Benefit of a BKI

- Ability to store public biotokens in digital certificates
  - Any entity in the infrastructure can send secret data that only the owner of the biotoken can unlock



Requirements for a Biocryptographic Key Infrastructure

1. Cryptographically strong protection of the underlying biometric features
2. Ability to revoke and re-issue templates
3. Nested re-encoding, allowing a hierarchy of templates to be generated from a single base template
4. Support for public templates
5. Key-binding capability without the need of intervention by the person associated with the template

Case Study: Revocable Biotokens

- Boult et al. 2007*
  - Assume a biometric produces a value v that is transformed via scaling and translation
    - $v' = (v - t) * s$
  - Split v' into stable component q and residual component r
  - For user j, leave the residual un-encoded (base scheme)
    - $r_j(v')$
  - Encrypt q with public key P
    - $w_{j,1}(v', P)$

*T. Boult, W. Scheirer and R. Woodworth, "Revocable Fingerprint Biotokens: Accuracy and Security Analysis," CVPR 2007.

Nesting Property

- w_j is re-encoded using a transformation function T

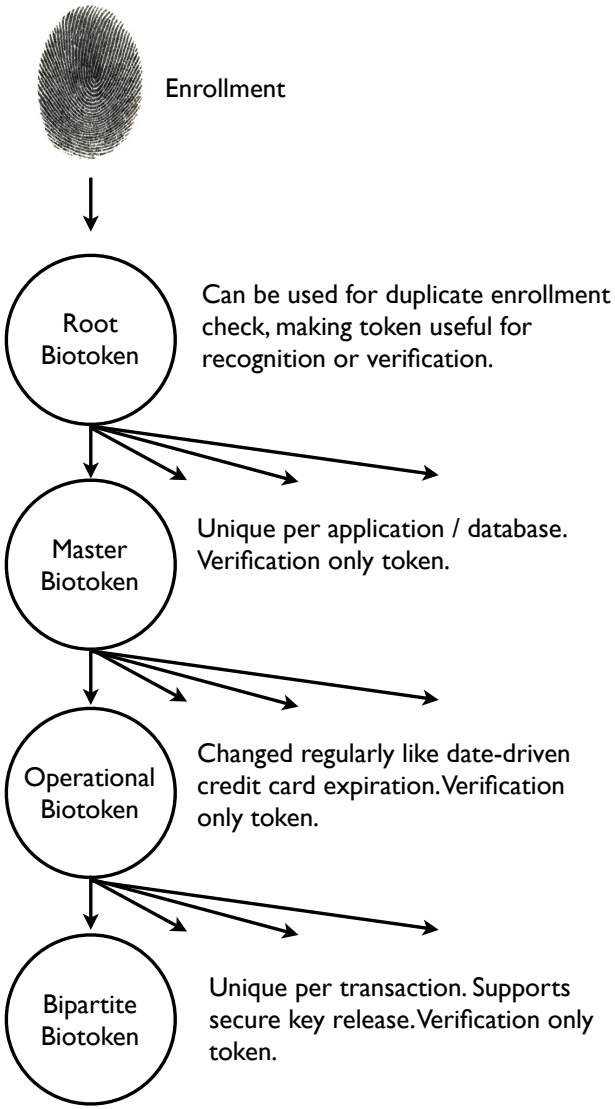
  1st encoding: $w_{j,1}(v', P)$

  2nd encoding: $w_{j,2}(w_{j,1}, T_2)$

  nth encoding: $w_{j,n}(w_{j,n\text{-}1}, T_n)$

- The nesting process is formally invertible via the keys, but cryptographically secure

Biotoken Issue/Re-Issue Tree

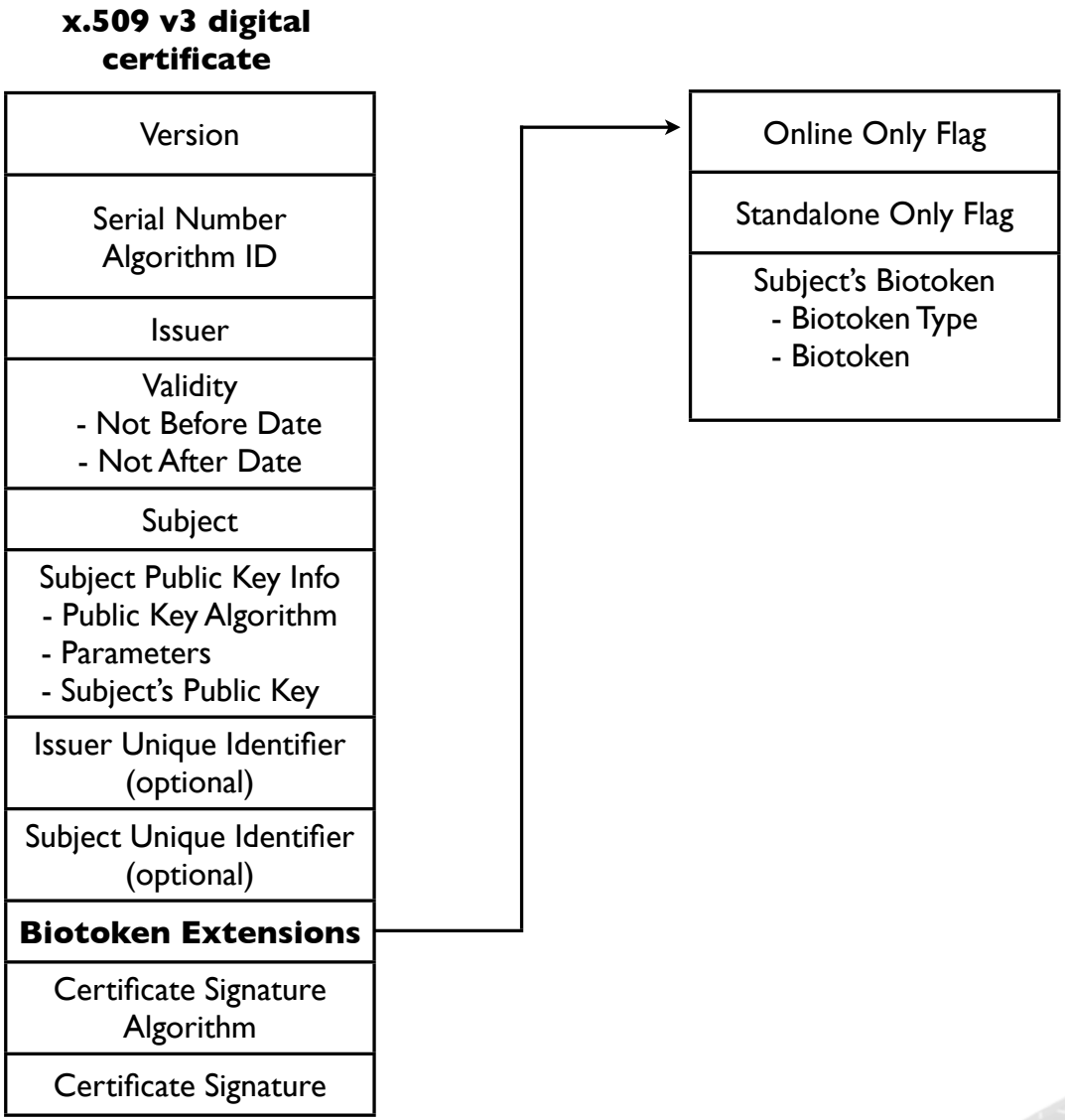


Bipartite Biotokens

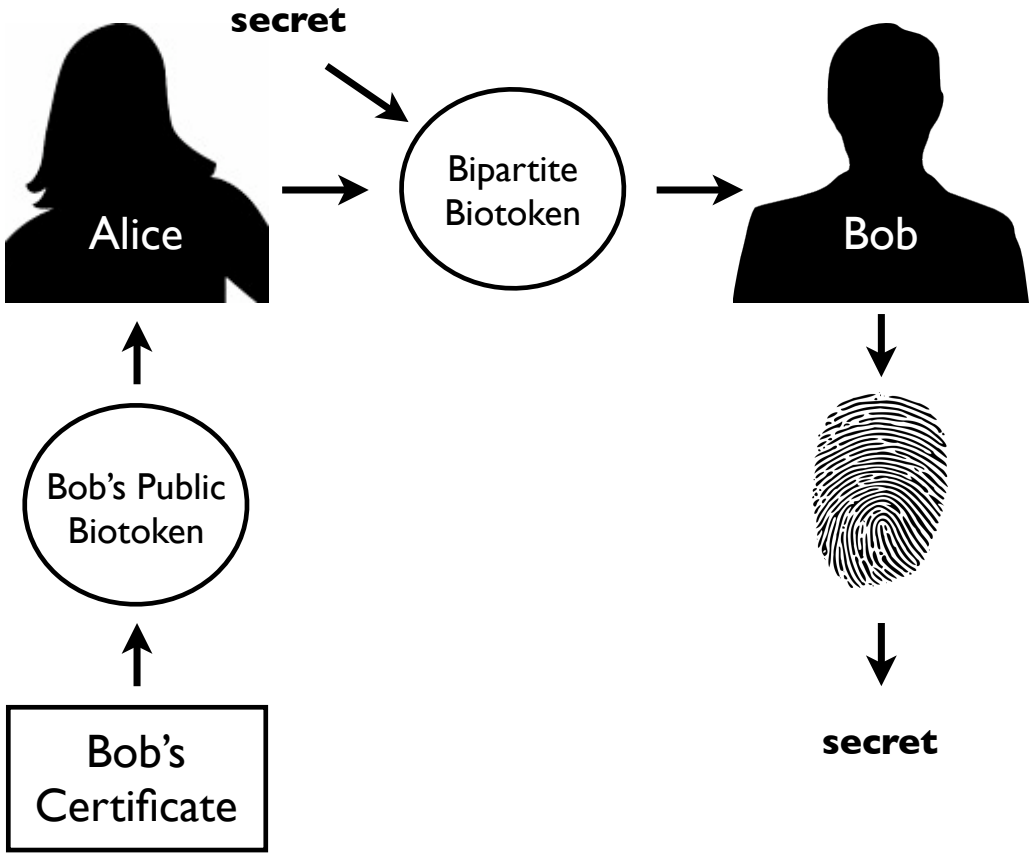
- Scheirer and Boult 2009*
  - Let B be a revocable biotoken. A bipartite biotoken B_p is a transformation $bb_{j,k}$ of user j's k^{th} instance of B. Any bipartite biotoken $B_{p,k}$ can match any revocable biotoken B_k for the same user.
  - $bb_{j,k}$ must allow the embedding of some data d into B_p
    - $bb_{j,k}(w_{j,k}, T_k, d)$
  - If $B_{p,k}$ and B_k match, d is released

* W. Scheirer and T. Boult, "Bipartite Biotokens: Definition, Implementation, and Analysis," ICB 2009.

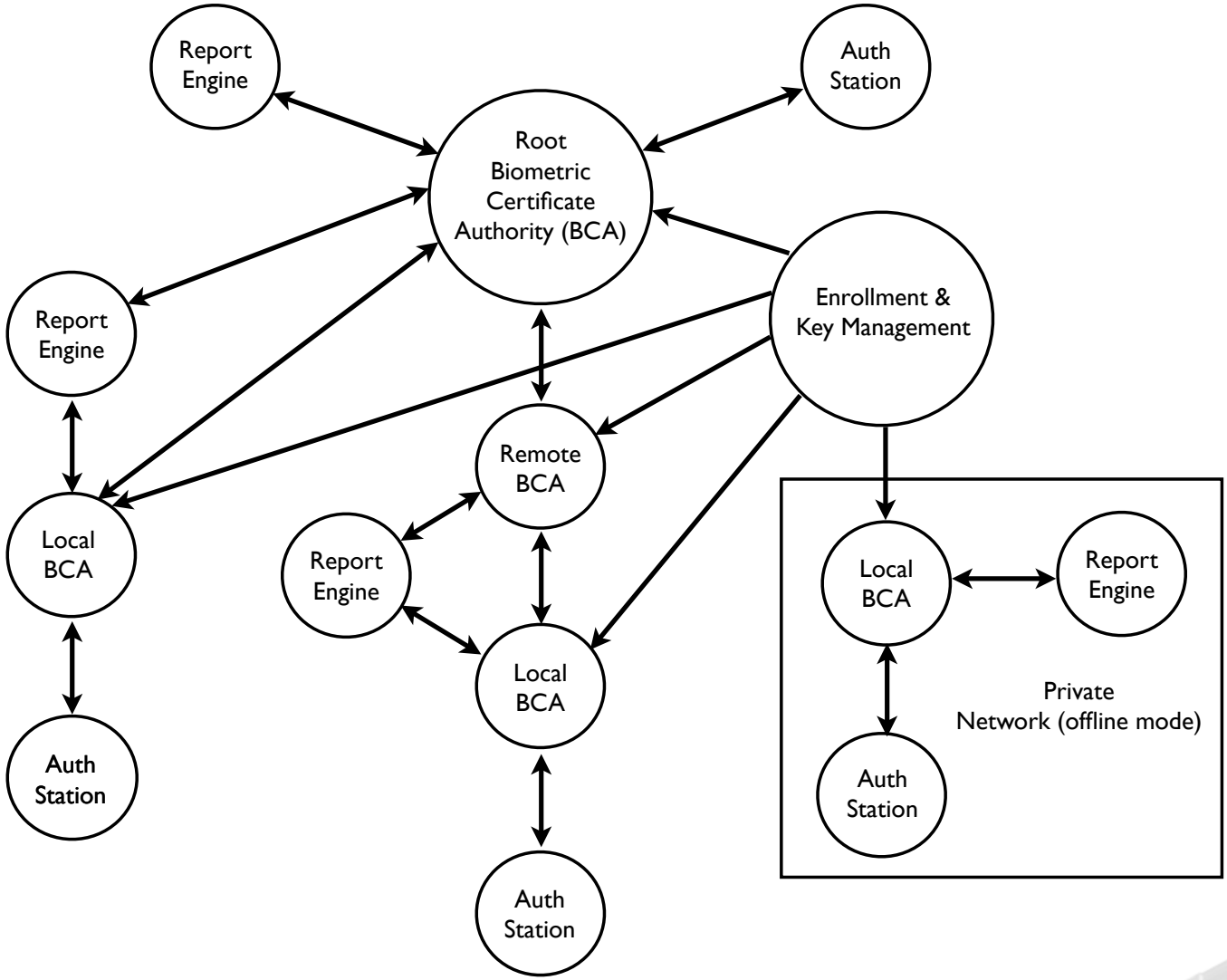
Digital Cert. Supporting Biotokens



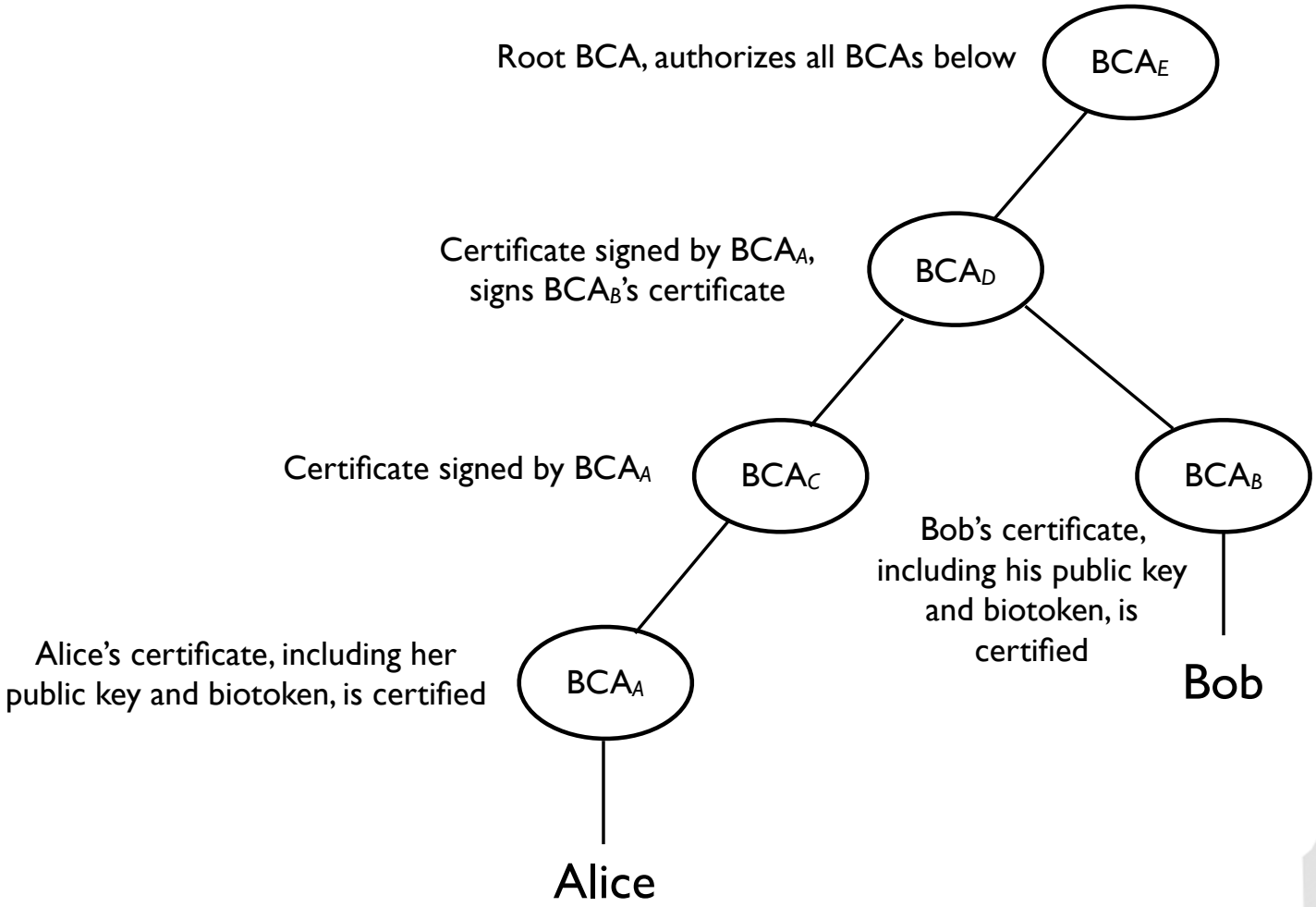
Benefit of a BKI



A Biocryptographic Key Infrastructure

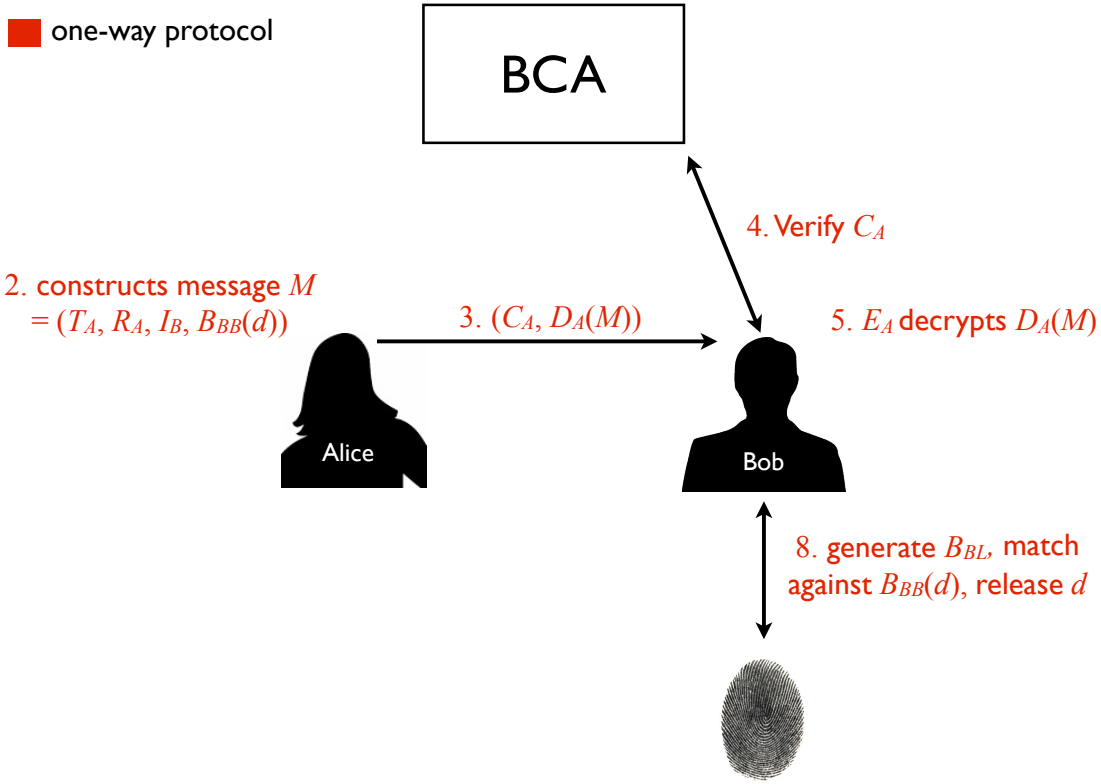


Certificate Retrieval Path



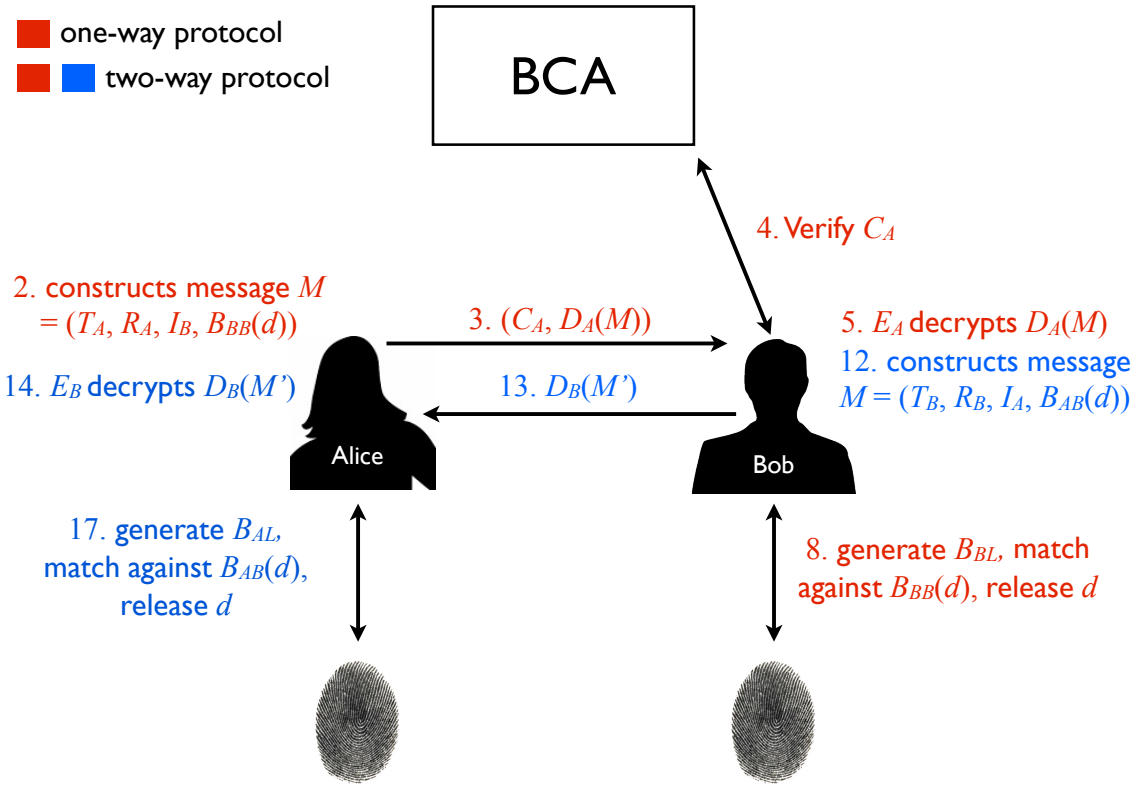
One-Way Protocol

- Sender creates bipartite biotoken using Receiver's public certificate
- Establishes identity & trust of message Receiver
- Provides secure one-way data channel



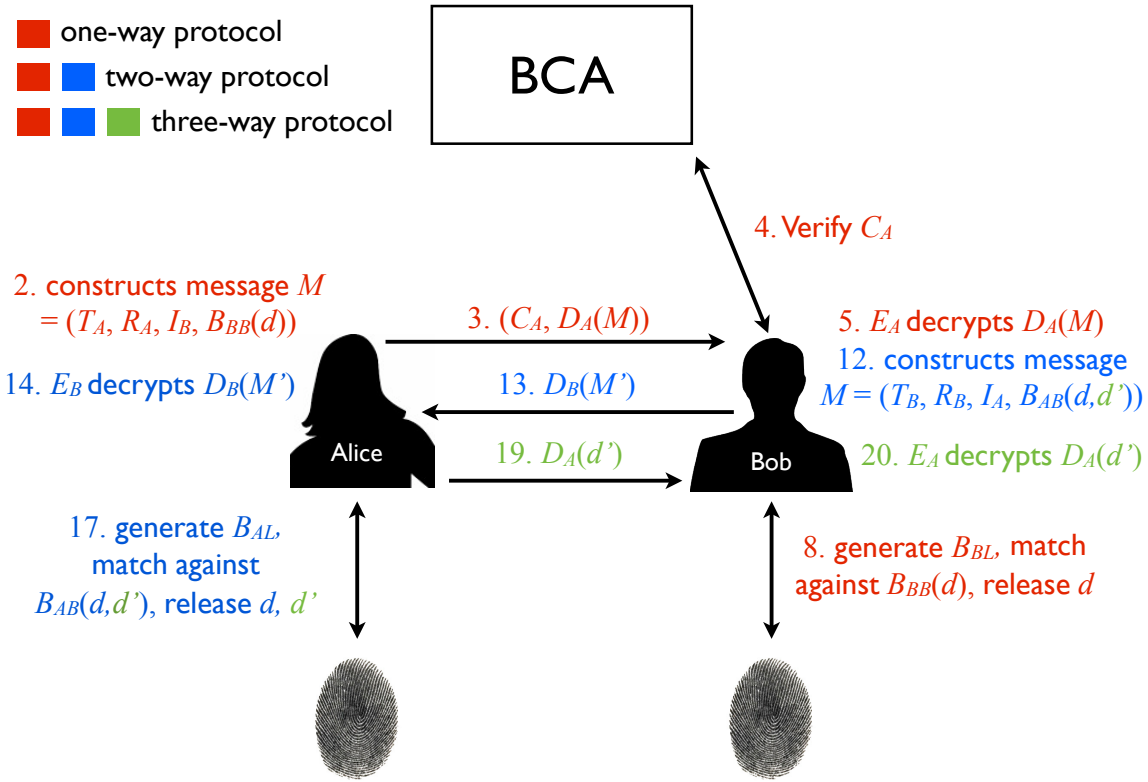
Two-Way Protocol

- Provides Sender assurance that the Receiver is not an impostor
- Validates one identity in the transaction



Three-Way Protocol

- Provides Receiver assurance that the Sender is not an impostor
- Validates both identities in the transaction



Certificate Revocation

- We must consider certificate *and* biometric re-issue
- Scenario 1: Manual re-issue
  - Certificate owner generates a new public-private key pair and a new biotoken
- Scenario 2: Automatic re-issue of biotoken
  - BCA retains transformation keys, reverts public biotoken to a lower level, issues new transformation keys and public biotoken
- Scenario 3: Automatic re-issue of key-pair
  - BCA issues new key-pair, transmits secret key to owner via bipartite biotoken

CRN Message

Certificate Re-issue Notification

Serial Number
New Serial Number
Biotoken Re-issued Flag
Key-pair Re-issued Flag
Biotoken and Key-pair Revoked Flag
*Keyring for Biotoken (Optional)
Biotoken Type (Optional)
Biotoken (Optional)
Signature

*Keyring is encrypted with the user's public key

New Applications

- Thwart Man-in-the-Middle and Phishing attacks!
- Bio-Kerberos
- Bio-S/Key
- BKI-enabled LDAP
- Biometric Digital Signatures

The BKI bring identity to crypto protocols!

What does this mean for a program like UID?

- Measures against Corruption
  - The user has control over their biometric data
  - Per application biotokens from a single base enrollment
  - If a biotoken is stolen, we have a process to revoke and re-issue credentials
- Secure framework for financial transactions
  - Microfinance

Thank You!

Questions?