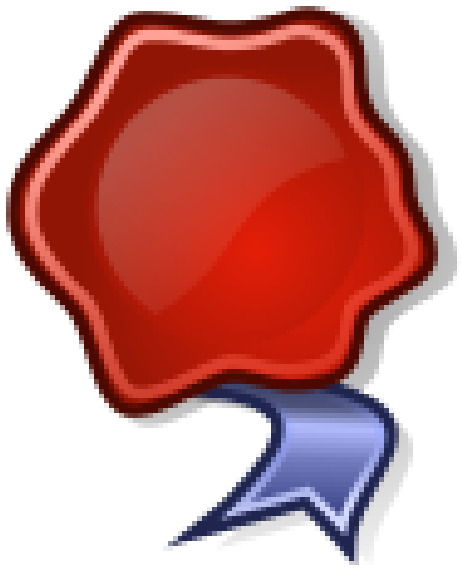
The many applications of digital certificates



Digital certificates appear in many unexpected places. This session discovers them, and explains their various functions in terms accessible to ordinary users. Added-value of encryption over mere log-ins, the future of passwords.

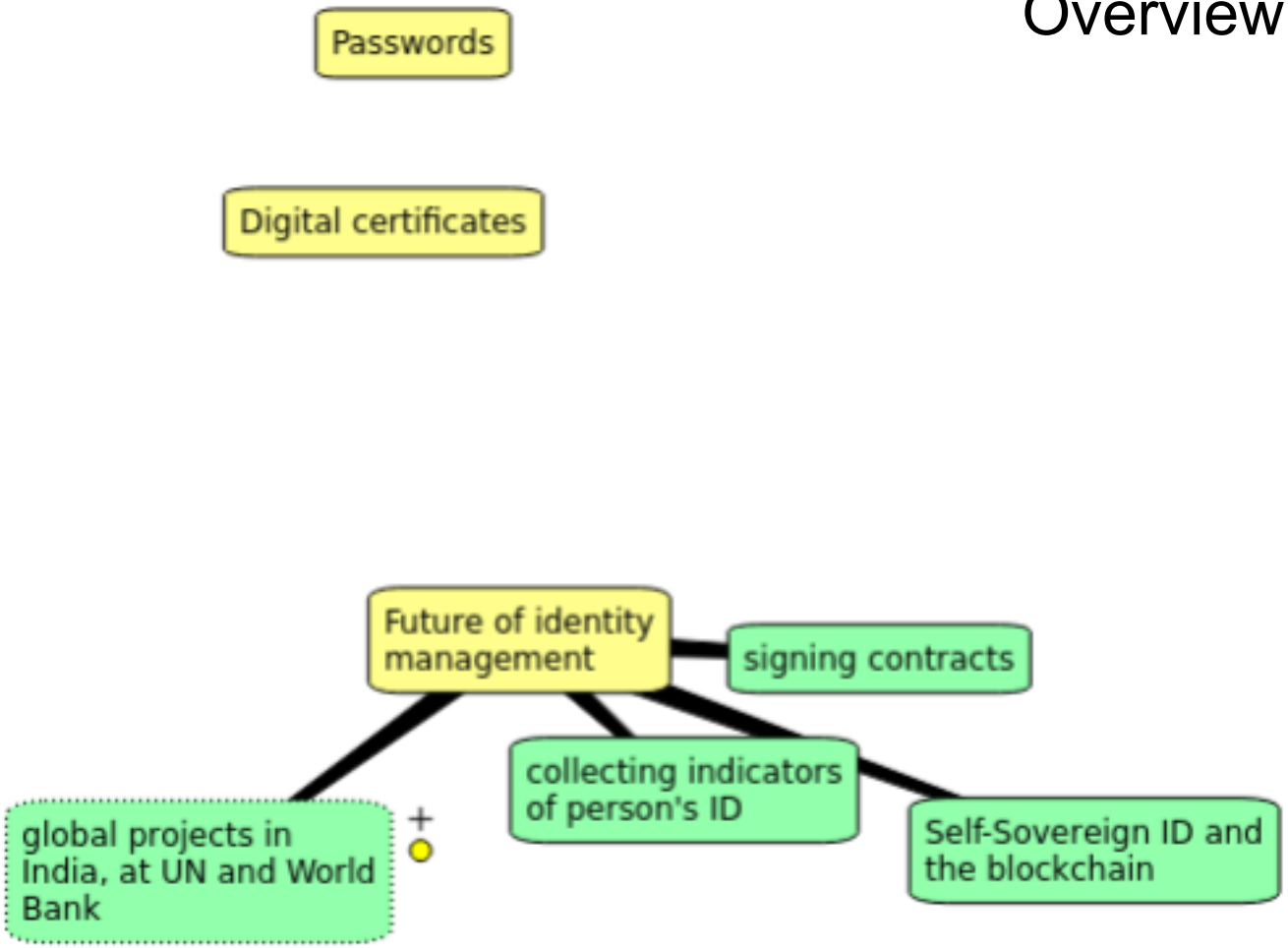
thomas@thomasruddy.org

Disclaimer

This presentation will be about technology from a socio-economic persepective. For mathematical details of cryptography, please see the recent German presentation of my colleague Guenter Waller, **http://www.pc-treff-bb.de/Vortraege/Zertifikate.pdf**

You will find clickable links to the current presentation on my **www.thomasruddy.eu**

Overview


Passwords
Digital certificates
Future of identity management
signing contracts
collecting indicators of person's ID
Self-Sovereign ID and the blockchain
global projects in India, at UN and World Bank

Theses

- Cryptography developed through *military* applications like Enigma encryption.
  - Encryption needs authentication.
- We live in states based on law and order.
- The integrity of society relies on ID management.
- ID mgmt can make contracts non-repudiable.
- Blockchain may make contracts self- executable.
- We are under threat from corporations taking over ID mgmt for a society that is valuing convenience over data security.

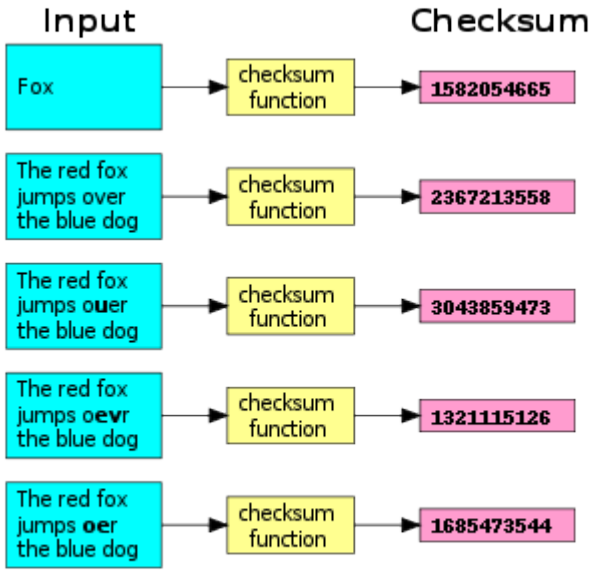
Identity is an assertion presented by a person.

Authentication is a statement (from a trust provider, typically working for a "rent"). TP signs person's public key.

Person "signs" document with her private key.

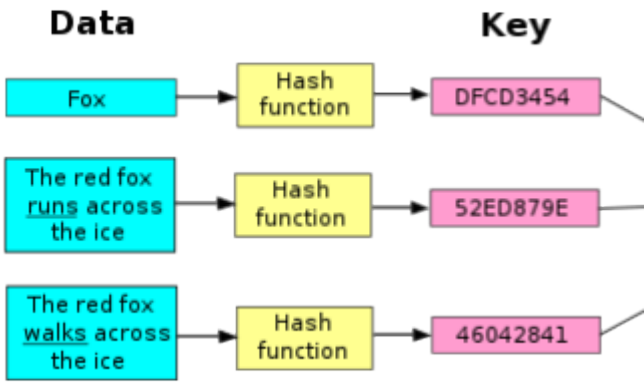
Relying party verifies doc. with sender's public key.

Authentication



Verifying authentic-ity of down-loaded software

Creating a CHF, source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crypto-graphic_hash_function

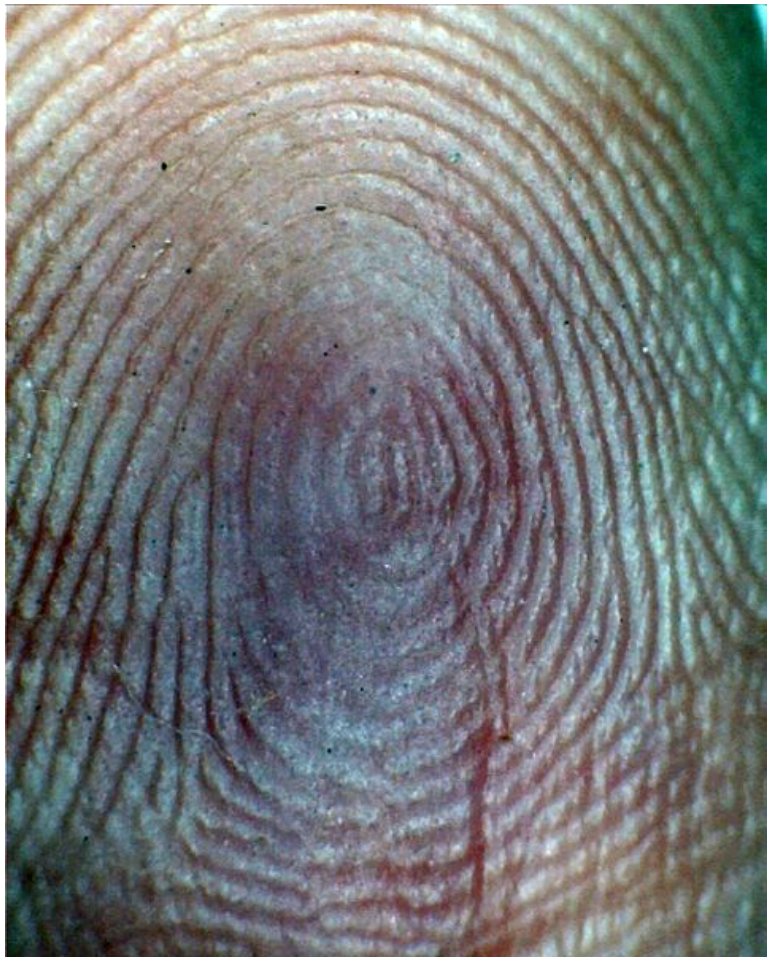


Digital fingerprint

“Fingerprints are created by applying a cryptographic hash function to a public key. ”

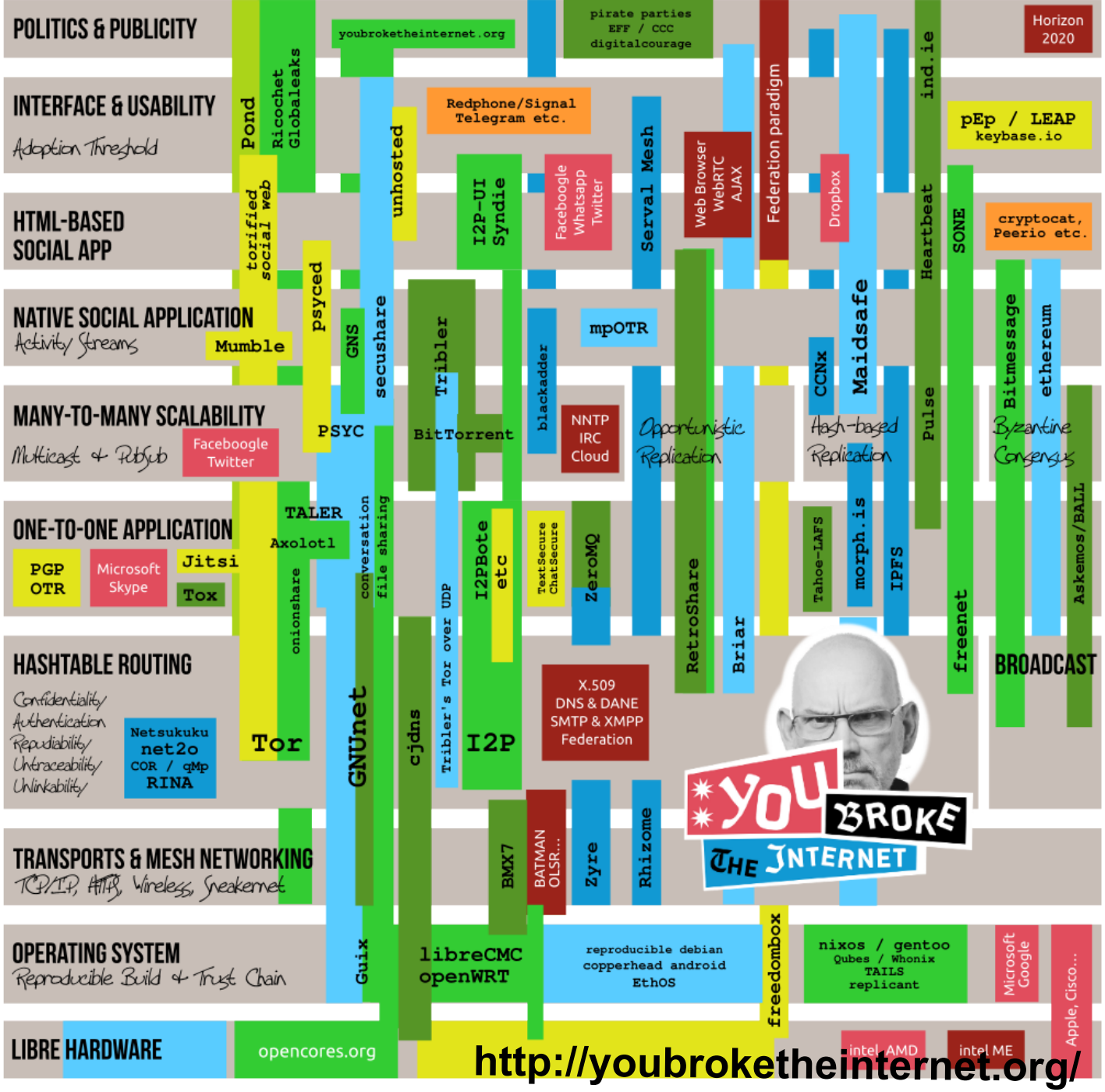
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_key_fingerprint

Photo credit: Author Saurabh R. Patilon Wikimedia



Basic uses of certificates

1. Logging-in to Websites
2. Securing one's own Websites
3. Downloading software
4. Sending email
5. Signing documents
6. Using certificates instead of passwords
7. Long-term document preservation (PDF/A, **https://www.pdfa.org/topics/**)



http://youbroketheinternet.org/

Samples of id. management initiatives listed in Wikipedia

- OASIS: The Security Services Technical Committee (SSTC) owns the specification of [SAML]
- SIF The Science Identity Federation, sponsored by the US Department of Energy for the Energy Sciences Network
- STORK is an EU pilot to make national eID systems interoperable
- US Federal Government IDM: Home page of government-related identity management initiatives

Pages in category "Identity management initiative"

The following 14 pages are in this category, out of 14 total. This list may not reflect recent changes (learn more).

G

- GOV.UK Verify

H

- Higgins project

I

- Identity Commons
- ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 37
- ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 27

K

- Kantara Initiative

L

- Liberty Alliance

M

- Mozilla Persona

N

- National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace

O

- Open Identity Exchange
- OpenID

S

- Security token service
- Shibboleth (Shibboleth Consortium)

W

- WebID

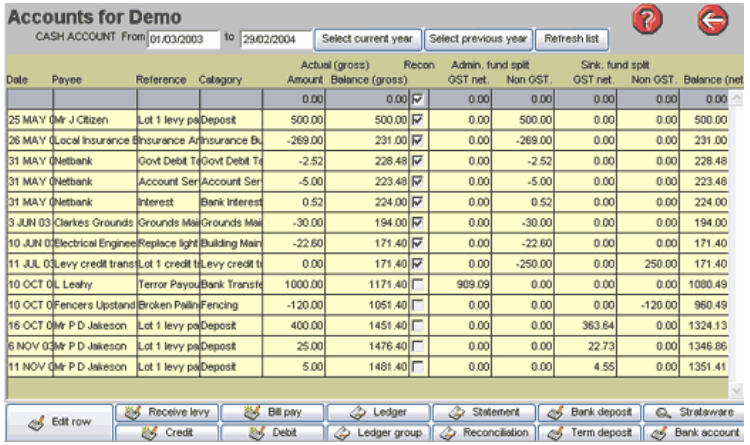
The Future of Digital Identity

- Getting beyond Google/Facebook passwords

- The MyData Global Network organized by Finns **mydata.org**

- **Mydex.org** and Qiy / Sovrin / blockchain ledger (recommend Vigna/Casey *Age of Cryptocurency*)

- Kupplinger-Cole



Document signing made convenient

- **www.signinghub.com** claim: “Expert in high-trust, Advanced & Qualified Electronic Signatures, Turnkey solution providing both local and remote signing plus a built-in complete PKI system”
- **docusign.com** is competitor offering fewer features
- Some solutions collect user profiles (via surveillance techniques) to secure IDs.
- Keybase.io is little project also centralizing indicators of one’s ID, but less invasively.

SaaS in the Cloud

- Currently 81 entries for identity-access-mgmt, **https://azuremarketplace.microsoft.com**

- Salesforce, SAP, Citrix
- Axciom -- recent breach!
- Adobe Document Cloud, Adobe Sign, **https://acrobat.adobe.com/us/en/sign.html**

Trust frameworks in law

Identity systems have their own rules, which fit into their respective trust frameworks. The later fall under general ID mgmt law, which in turn comprises part of general commercial law.

Source: Makaay, Esther / Tom Smedinghoff / Don Thibeau (2017): "Trust Frameworks: Their Critical Role in Critical Role in Governing Identity Systems", **http://www.openidentityexchange.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/OIX-White-Paper_Trust-Frameworks-for-Identity-Systems_Final.pdf**

Historical development of ID paradigms

- Phase One: **Centralized** Identity (administrative control by a single authority or hierarchy)
- Phase Two: **Federated** Identity (administrative control by multiple, federated authorities)
- Phase Three: **User-Centric** Identity (individual or administrative control across multiple authorities without requiring a federation, vs. *server*-centric)
- Phase Four: **Self-Sovereign** Identity (individual control across any number of authorities) - **the Blockchain**, e.g.

World's largest ID program

- India is registering one billion citizens
  - Supreme court has ruled in favour of citizen privacy
- World Bank has a program, **www.worldbank.org/en/programs/id4d**

- **Understanding digital certificates is useful, and applying them manually is possible. However, big companies are offering mainstream signing solutions with greater convenience for a larger public.**