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# Security levels and deliberate/indeliberate protocol attacks

Is the attacker the only trouble?



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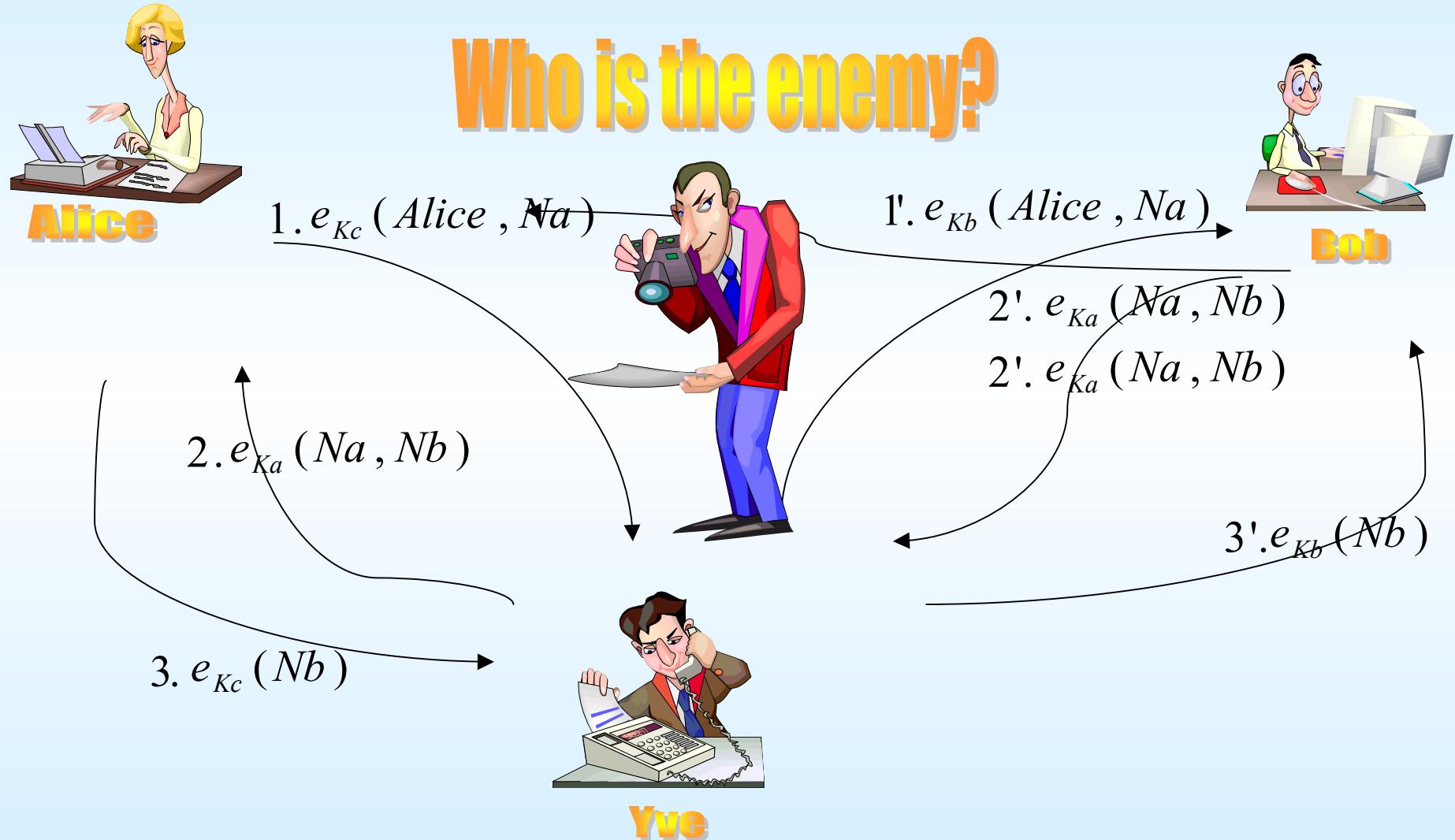
Giampaolo Bella



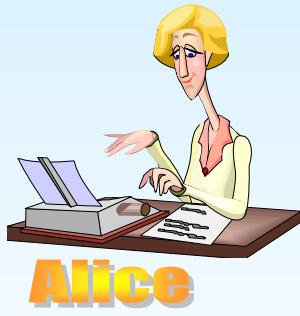
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## Lowe attack to the NSPK protocol



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$e_{Kb}(Na, Nb, \text{ Transfer } \$1000 \text{ from Alices account to Yve's})$



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## Lowe attack to the NSPK protocol



$e_{Ka}(Na, Nb, \text{Transfer \$1000 from Yves account to Bob})$



Yve

G. Bella and S. Bistarelli - Is the attacker  
the only trouble?

## Classical view

- The Spy is a specific agent with specific abilities implicitly/explicitely represented
- Tools/Methodologies
  - check the knowledge of the spy at the end of (all) possible protocol sessions
  - Equivalence between systems with/without a spy



## Our view



- All agents involved in the protocol are potential attackers
  - Matching **Imputable** network with the **Policy** Network



**Yve**

## Our view

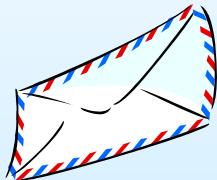
### Protocol goals with levels

#### - Confidentiality

- Nonces, Session keys, Private keys, shared keys, ...
  - each level represents the "cost of loss" of the information
    - Private-confidentiality vs traded-confidentiality
- #### - Authentication
- Usually performed by exchanging secrets
    - Private-authentication vs public-authentication



Alice



Yve



Bob

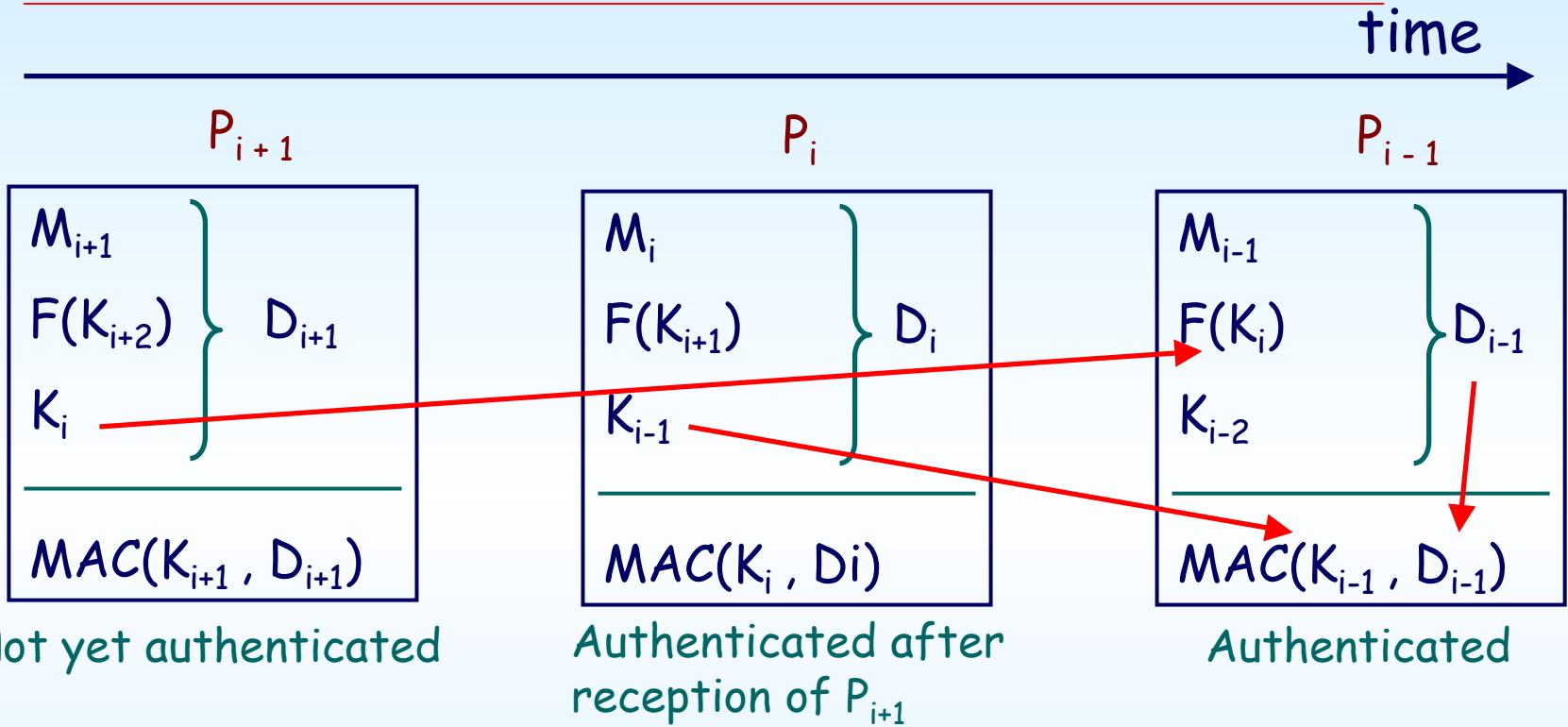


## Experience

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- Variable security-level encryption
  - Digital cellular telephone encryption  
(Alanara, Berson US Patent 1997)
- Chaining
  - Kerberos
  - Yahalom
  - TESLA (Multicast authentication over Lossy Channels - Perrig, Canetti, Song, Tygar - 2001)

## Basic TESLA



## Security levels history

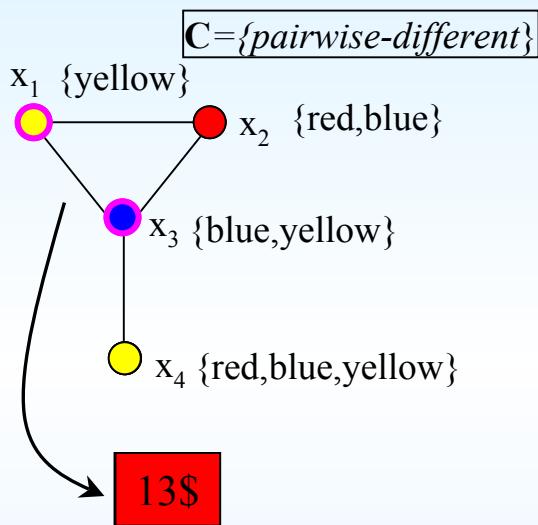
- Bell-LaPadula 1973
- Denning 1976
  - Information Flow (Confidentiality=improper disclosure)
- Biba 1977
  - Data Integrity (improper modification)
- Volpano 1996
  - Information Flow as type system

No explicit notion of cryptography



## Check configurations by SCSPs

- SCSP



$\textcolor{yellow}{\bullet} \rightarrow 5\$$   
 $\textcolor{red}{\bullet} \rightarrow 3\$$   
 $\textcolor{blue}{\bullet} \rightarrow 2\$$

**C-semiring  $\langle A, +, \times, 0, 1 \rangle$ :**  
 $P = \{V, D, C, \text{con}, \text{def}, a\}$

S CSP(FD)

$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	
●	●	●	●	13\$
●	●	●	●	15\$
●	●	●	●	
●	●	●	●	

Combination (+)

Projection (min)

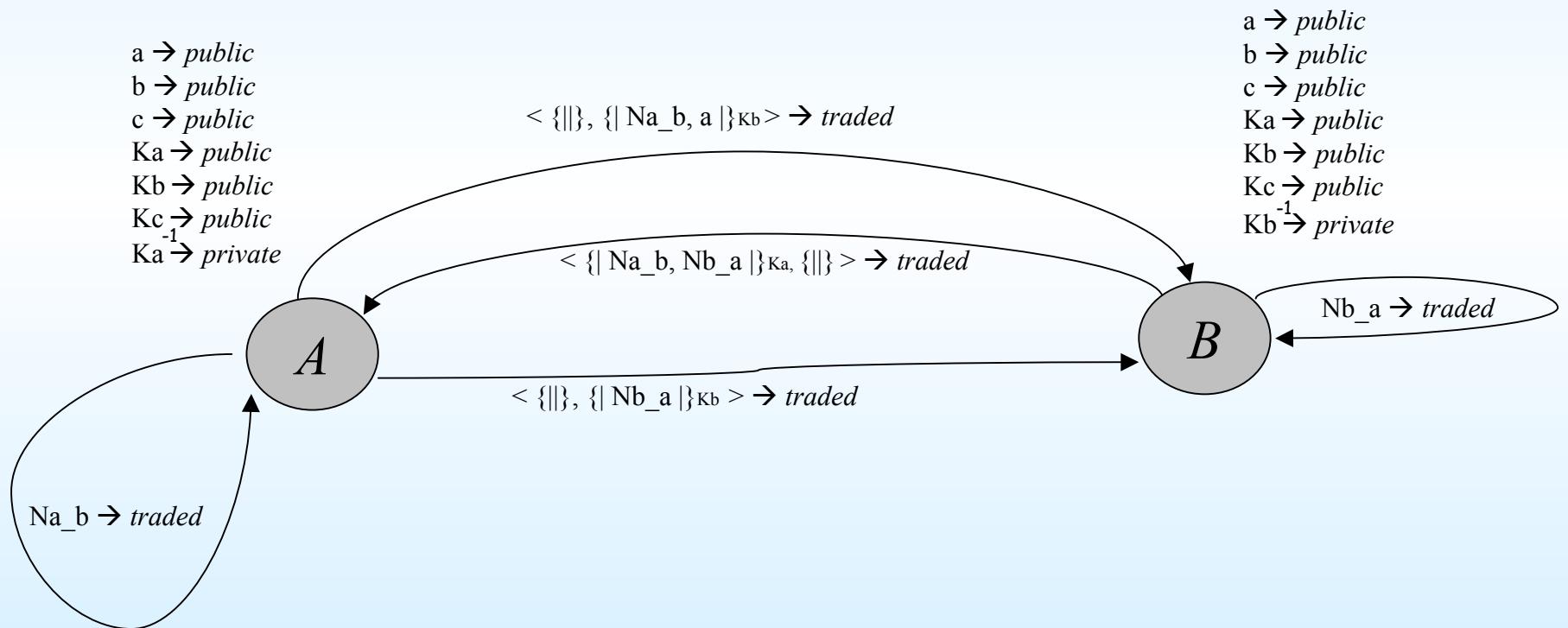
- Network-SCSP
  - $V$  variables (agents)
  - $D$  domain values (messages)
    - represents all agents' knowledge
  - $S_{sec} = \{L, +_{sec}, X_{sec}, public, unknown\}$  the security semiring
    - $L = \{unknown, private, traded, public\}$ , set of "security levels"
    - $+_{sec}$  yields the best and  $X_{sec}$  the worst element

## Check configurations by SCSPs

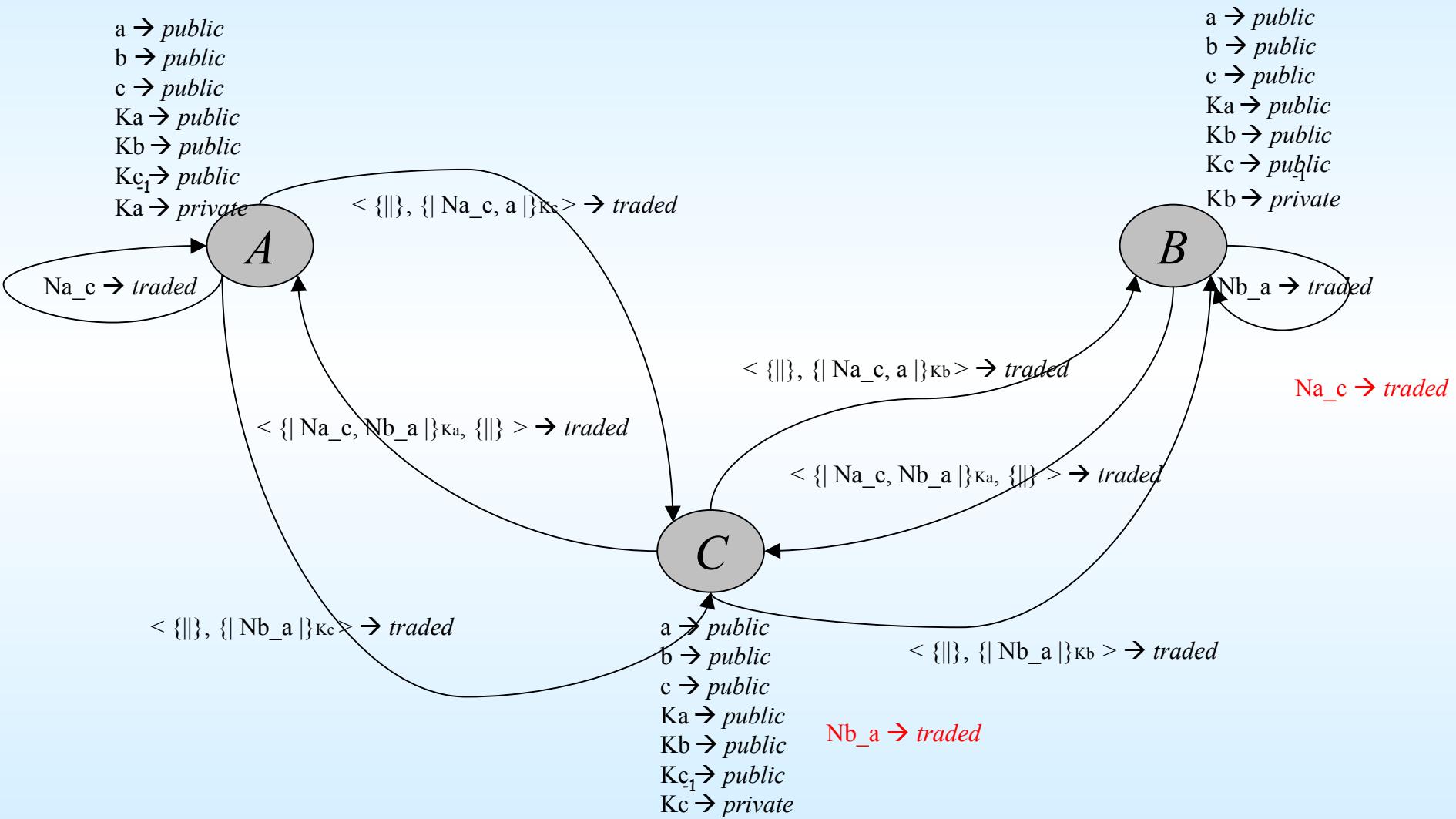
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- $C$  Set of constraints defining the
  - Policy CSP
- $C'$  Set of constraints defining the network configuration you want to analyze
  - Imputable CSP
- Attack if the solution of  $C$  and  $C'$  differ

# Encoding in SCSP

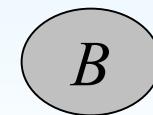


## The configuration corresponding to Lowe's attack



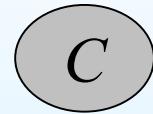
## The configuration corresponding to Lowe's attack

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$< \text{unknown}$

$\text{Na\_c} \rightarrow \text{traded}$



$< \text{unknown}$

$\text{Nb\_a} \rightarrow \text{traded}$

## "Soft goals" for each agent

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- *I-confidentiality*
  - Message  $m$  is *I-confidential* in  $p$  iff  $\text{def}_p(m) = I$ .
- *confidentiality attack*
  - There is a *confidentiality attack* on  $m$  in  $p$  iff  $\text{def}_p(m) < \text{def\_policy}(m)$ .
- *comparing attacks on m*
  - Configuration  $p$  bears a *worse confidentiality attack than configuration q on m* iff  $\text{def}_p(m) < \text{def}_q(m)$ .
- *comparing protocols with the same aims*

- A suitable *entailment relation* allows message encryption, decryption, concatenation and splitting.
  - Splitting
    - $\text{def}(m_1, m_2) = v \mid -\text{def}(m_1) = v$
  - Concatenation
    - $\text{def}(m_1) = v_1, \text{def}(m_2) = v_2 \mid -\text{def}(m_1, m_2) = \max(v_1, v_2)$
- relations among levels.
  - Can represent encryption chaining
  - Encryption
    - $\text{def}(k) = v_1, \text{def}(m) = v_2 \mid -\text{def}(e(k, m)) = \max(\text{next}(v_1), v_2)$





## A glimpse to Kerberos Analysis

- Must upgrade security semiring:  
 $L = \{unknown, private, traded_1, \dots, traded_n, public\}$
- Must upgrade rules for building Policy SCSP

Building the Policy SCSP shows that A knows *authK* as *traded<sub>1</sub>* and *servK* as *traded<sub>3</sub>*.

## Conclusions and future work

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- All the users can deliberately or indeliberately violate the policy
- The danger of each attack is represented as a level
  - Levels for a preliminary analysis
    - Match between protocols with the same aims
- Express more protocol goals
- Interface to model checker
- Improve the solver built in CHR



# Questions?

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