Authentication, Authorisation and Security

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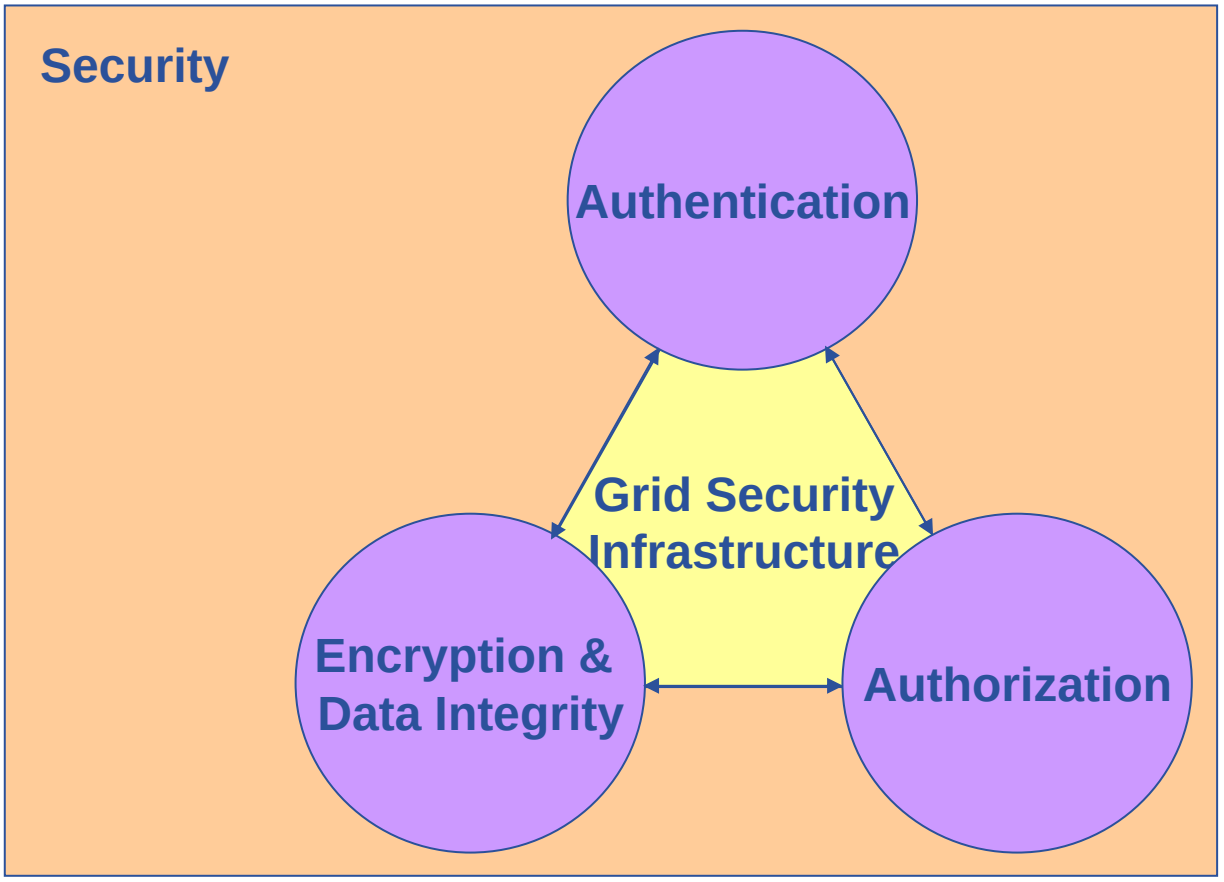
Grid security and trust -1

- **Providers of resources (computers, databases,..) need risks to be controlled: they are asked to trust users they do not know**
  - They trust a VO
  - The VO trusts its members
- **User's need**
  - single sign-on: to be able to logon to a machine that can pass the user's identity to other resources
  - To trust owners of the resources they are using
- **Build middleware on layer providing:**
  - *Authentication:* know who wants to use resource
  - *Authorisation:* know what the user is allowed to do
  - *Security:* reduce vulnerability, e.g. from outside the firewall
  - *Non-repudiation:* knowing who did what
- **The "Grid Security Infrastructure" middleware is the basis of (most) production grids**

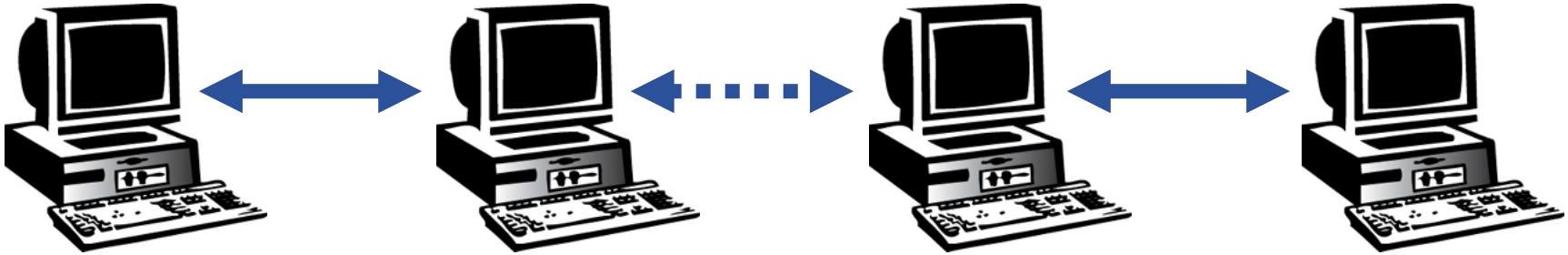
Grid security and trust -2

- **Achieved by Certification:**
  - User's identity has to be certified by one of the national *Certification Authorities* (CAs)
    - mutually recognized http://www.gridpma.org/
  - In UK go to http://www.grid-support.ac.uk/ca/ralist.htm to find CA's local "Registration Authorities"
  - Resources are also certified by CAs
- **User**
  - User joins a VO
  - Digital certificate is basis of AA
  - Identity passed to resources you use, where it is mapped to a local account
- **Virtual Organization negotiates rights to use resources**

Security Overview



The Problems - 1



User **Resource**

- **How does a user securely access the Resource without having an account on the machines in between or even on the Resource?**

- **How does the Resource know who a user is?**
- **How are rights and that they are allowed access?**

Authentication: how is identity of user/site communicated?

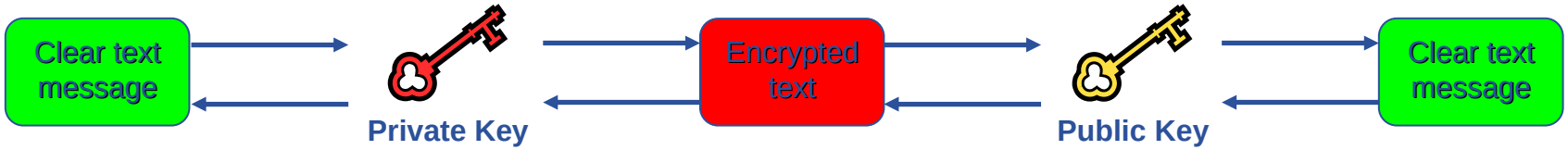
Authorisation: what can a user do?

The Problems -2: reducing vulnerability

- **Launch attacks to other sites**
  - Large distributed farms of machines, perfect for launching a Distributed Denial of Service attack.
- **Illegal or inappropriate data distribution and access sensitive information**
  - Massive distributed storage capacity ideal for example, for swapping movies.
  - Growing number of users have data that must be private – biomedical imaging for example
- **Damage caused by viruses, worms etc.**
  - Highly connected infrastructure means worms could spread faster than on the internet in general.

Basis of security & authentication

- **Asymmetric encryption…**

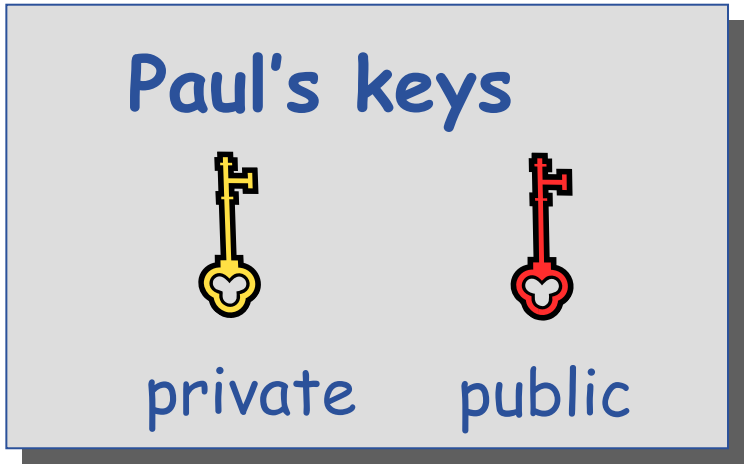


- **…. and Digital signatures …**
  - A hash derived from the message and encrypted with the signer's private key
  - Signature is checked by decrypting with the signer's public key

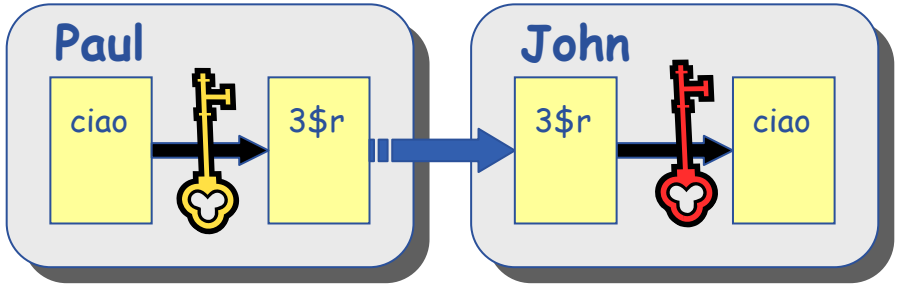
- **Are used to build trust**
  - That a user / site is who they say they are
  - And can be trusted to act in accord with agreed policies

Public Key Algorithms

- **Every user has two keys: one *private* and one *public*:**
  - it is *impossible* to derive the private key from the public one;
  - a message encrypted by one key can be decrypted **only** by the other one.

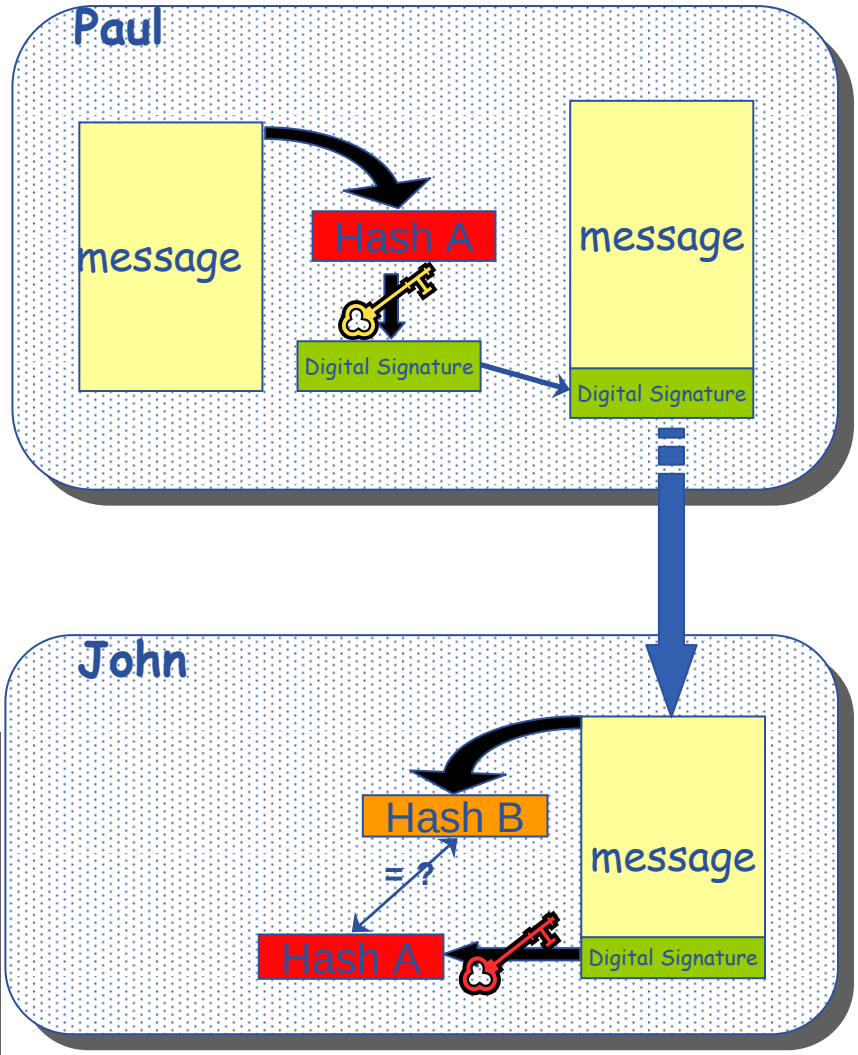


- **Public keys are exchanged**
- **The sender encrypts using his private key**
- **The receiver decrypts using senders public key;**
- **The number of keys is O(n)**



Digital Signature

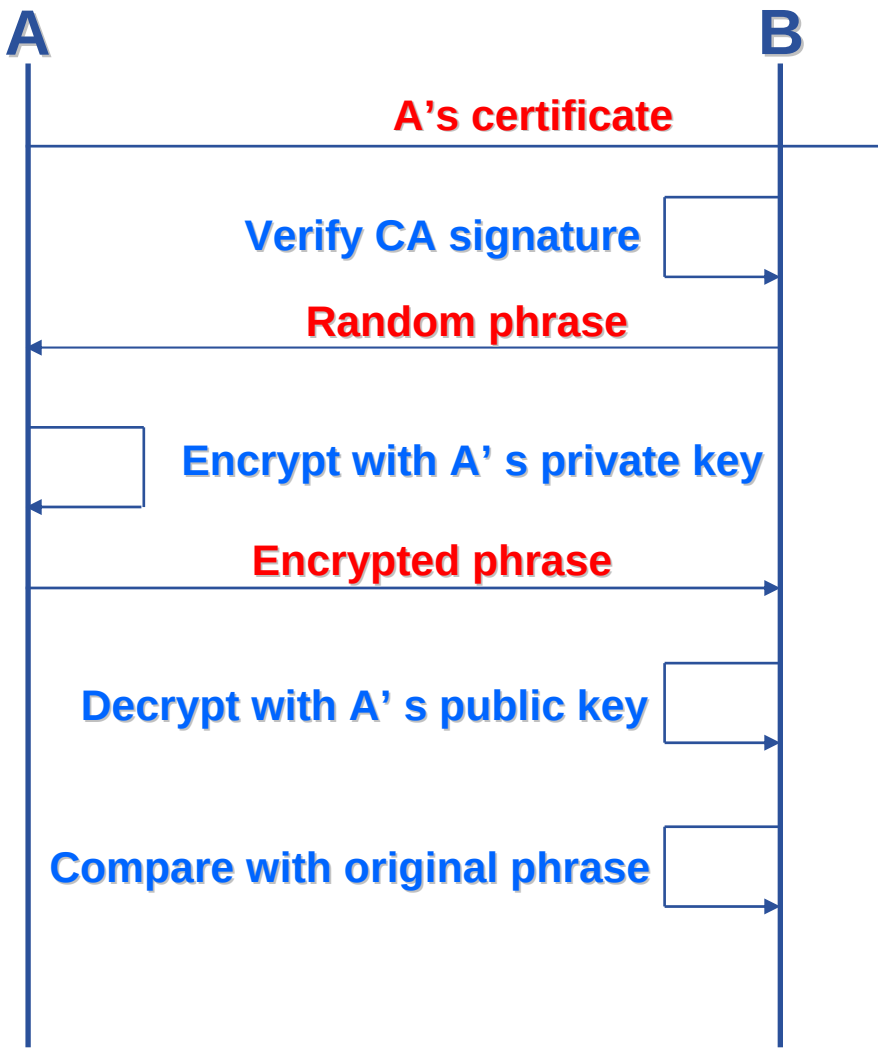
- Paul **calculates the *hash* of the message**
- Paul **encrypts the hash using his *private* key: the encrypted hash is the *digital signature*.**
- Paul **sends the signed message to** John.
- John **calculates the hash of the message**
- **Decrypts signature, to get A, using Paul's *public* key.**
- **If hashes equal:**
  1. message wasn't modified;
  2. hash A is from Paul's private key



The Grid Security Infrastructure (GSI)

Based on X.509 PKI:

- **every Grid transaction is mutually authenticated:**
  1. A sends his certificate;
  2. B verifies signature in A's certificate using CA public certificate;
  3. B sends to A a challenge string;
  4. A encrypts the challenge string with his private key;
  5. A sends encrypted challenge to B
  6. B uses A's public key to decrypt the challenge.
  7. B compares the decrypted string with the original challenge
  8. If they match, B verified A's identity and A can not repudiate it.
  9. Repeat for A to verify B's identity



The Grid Security Infrastructure (GSI) - continued

After A and B authenticated each other,
for A to send a message to B:

- **Default: message integrity checking**
  - Not private – a test for tampering

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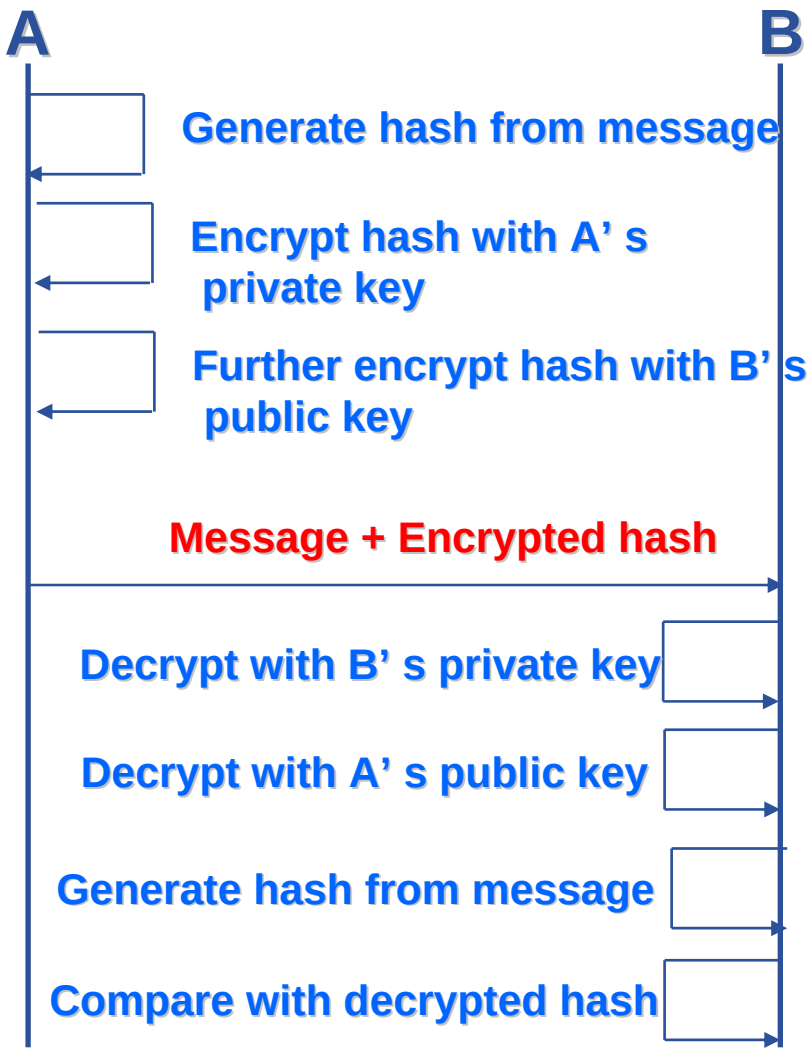
- **For private communication:**
  - Encrypt all the message (not just hash) - Slower



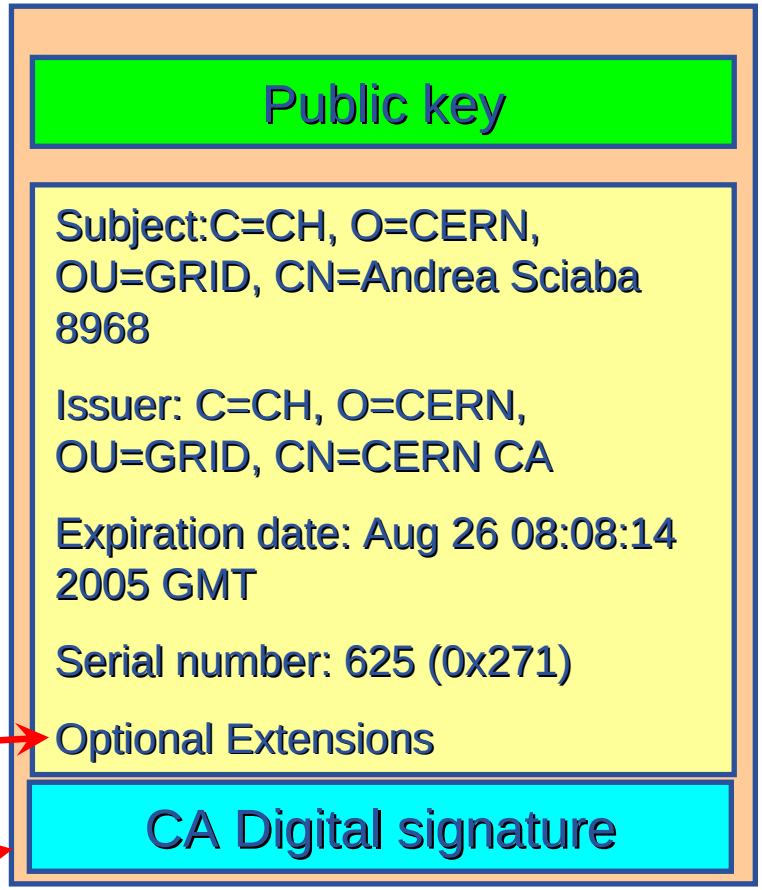
Digital Certificates

- **How can John be sure that Paul's public key is really Paul's public key and not someone else's?**
  - A *third party* certifies correspondence between the public key and Paul's identity.
  - Both John and Paul trust this third party

The "third party" is called a *Certification Authority* (CA).

X.509 Certificates

- **An X.509 Certificate contains:**
  - owner's public key;
  - identity of the owner;
  - info on the CA;
  - time of validity;
  - Serial number;
  - Optional extensions
  - digital signature of the CA

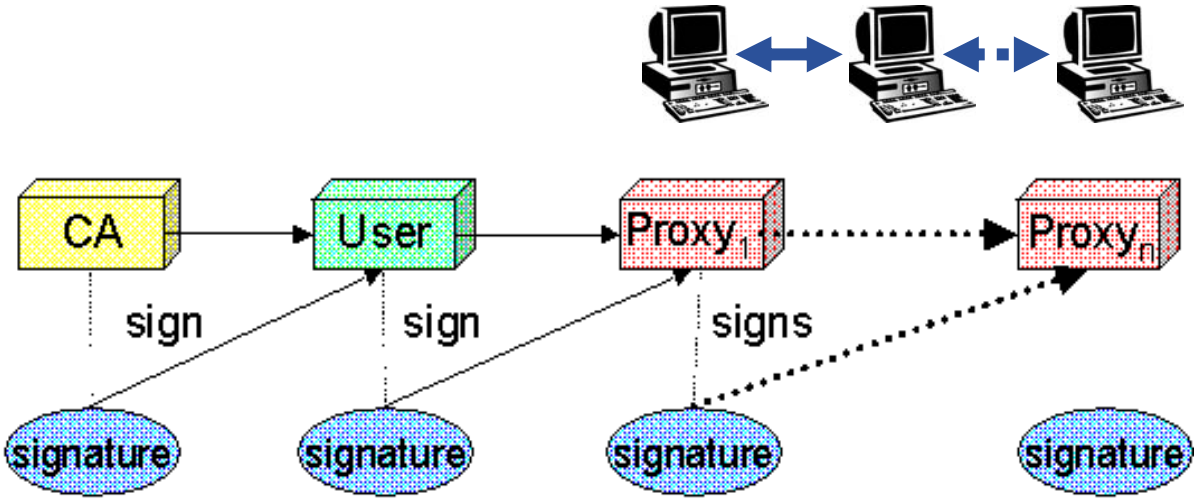


Certification Authorities

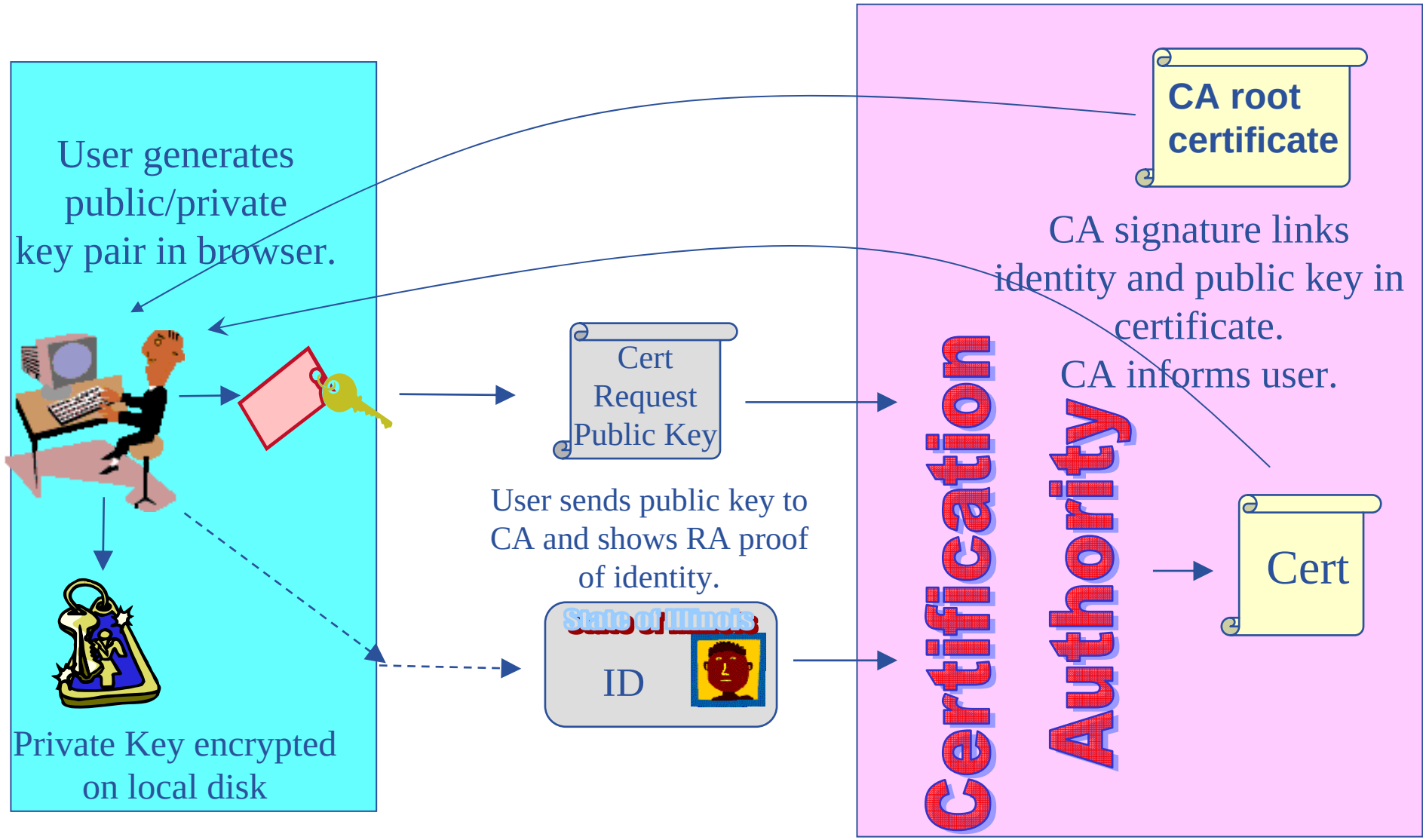
- **User's identity has to be certified by one of the national *Certification Authorities* (CAs)**
- **Resources are also certified by CAs**
- **CAs are mutually recognized http://www.gridpma.org/**
- **CAs each establish a number of people "registration authorities" RAs**

Grid Security Infrastructure - proxies

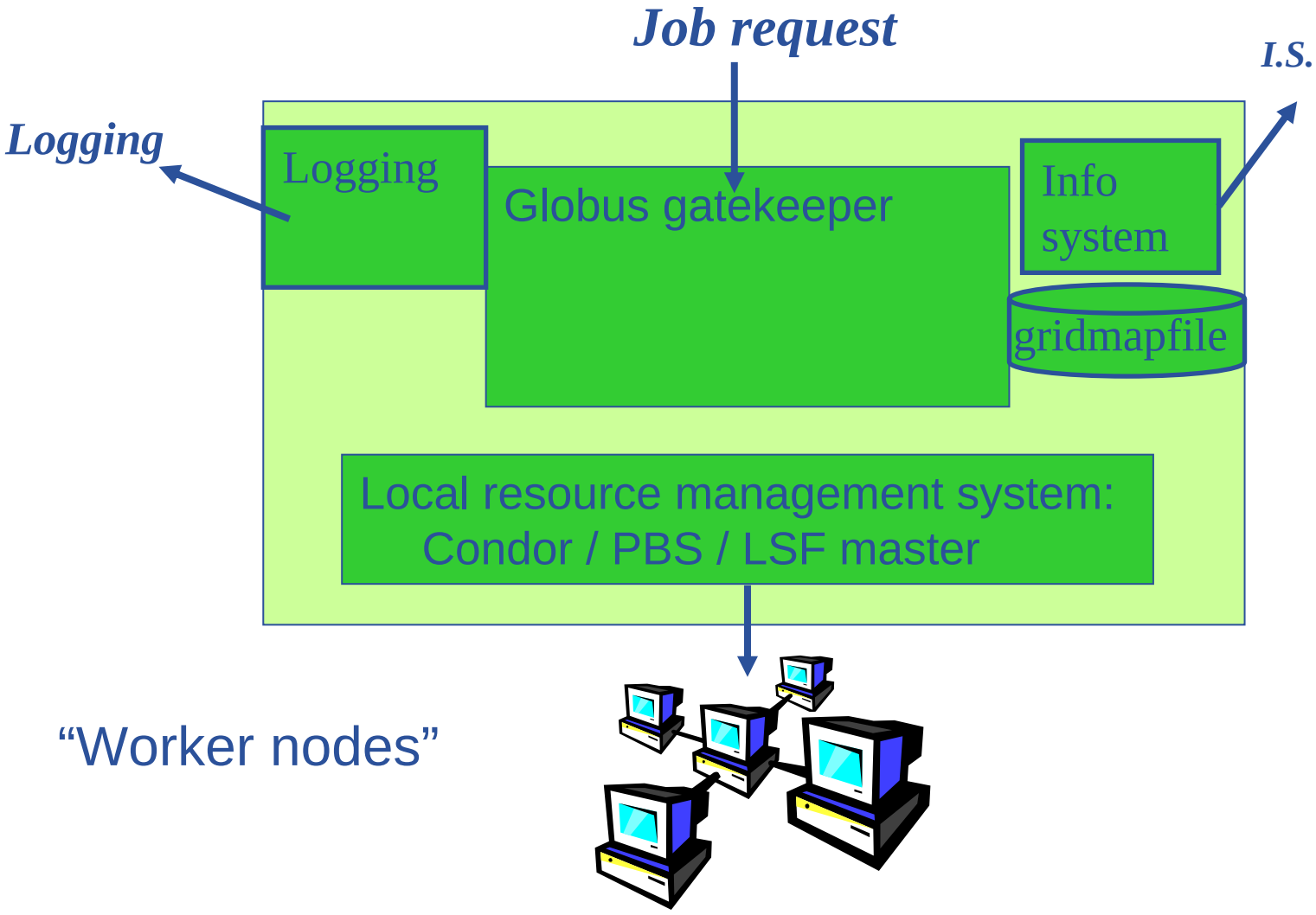
- **To support delegation: A delegates to B the right to act on behalf of A**
- **proxy certificates *extend X.509 certificates***
  - Short-lived certificates signed by the user's certificate or a proxy
  - Reduces security risk, enables delegation



Certificate Request



“Compute element”: a local job queue



User Responsibilities

- **Keep your private key secure – *on USB drive only***
- **Do not loan your certificate to anyone.**
- **Report to your local/regional contact if your certificate has been compromised.**
- **Do not launch a delegation service for longer than your current task needs.**

If your certificate or delegated service is used by someone other than you, it cannot be proven that it was not you.

Evolution of VO management

Before VOMS

- **User is authorised as a member of a single VO**
- **All VO members have same rights**
- **Gridmapfiles are updated by VO management software: map the user's DN to a local account**
- **grid-proxy-init**

VOMS

- **User can be in multiple VOs**
  - Aggregate rights
- **VO can have groups**
  - Different rights for each
    - Different groups of experimentalists
    - …
  - Nested groups
- **VO has roles**
  - Assigned to specific purposes
    - E,g. system admin
    - When assume this role
- **Proxy certificate carries the additional attributes**
- **voms-proxy-init**

VOMS – now in use on EGEE grid

Summary of AA - 1

- **Authentication based on X.509 PKI infrastructure**
  - Trust between Certificate Authorities (CA) and sites, CAs and users is established (offline)
  - CAs issue (long lived) certificates identifying sites and individuals (much like a passport)
    - Commonly used in web browsers to authenticate to sites
  - In order to reduce vulnerability, on the Grid user identification is done by using (short lived) proxies of their certificates
- **Proxies can**
  - Be delegated to a service such that it can act on the user's behalf
  - Include additional attributes (like VO information via the VO Membership Service VOMS)
  - Be stored in an external proxy store (myProxy)
  - Be renewed (in case they are about to expire)

Summary of AA - 2

- **Authentication**
  - User obtains certificate from Certificate Authority
  - Connects to UI by ssh (UI is the user's interface to Grid)
  - Uploads certificate to UI
  - Single logon – to UI - create proxy
  - **Grid Security Infrastructure**

- **Authorisation**
  - User joins Virtual Organisation
  - VO negotiates access to Grid nodes and resources
  - Authorisation tested by resource:

Credentials in proxy determine user's rights