Information Security System
EC-615-F

Lecture No 4,5

Topics Covered

- Cryptographic algorithms
  - symmetric ciphers
  - asymmetric encryption
  - hash functions
- Mutual Trust
- Network Security
- Computer Security

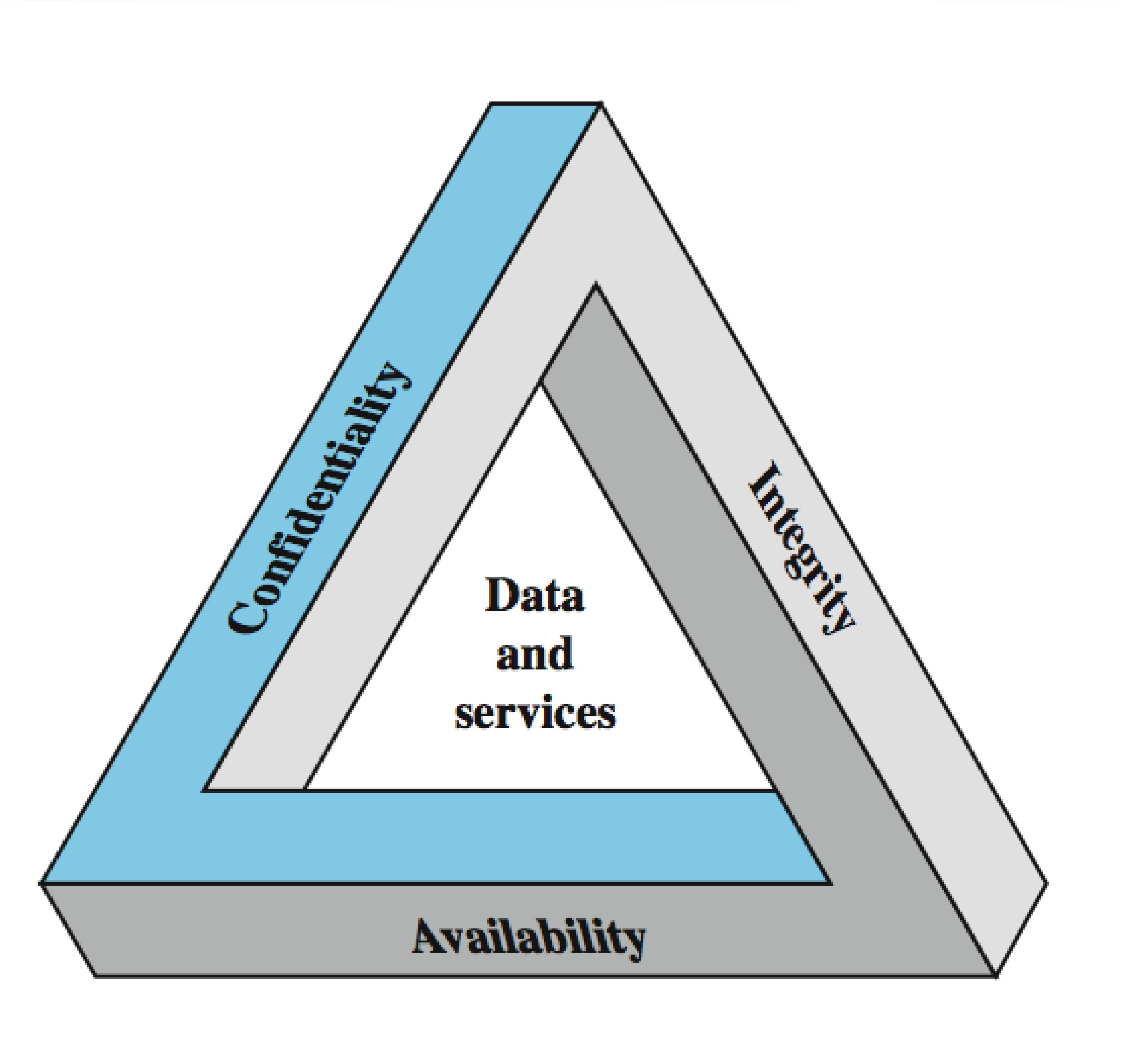
Standards Organizations

- National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)
- Internet Society (ISOC)
- International Telecommunication Union Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T)
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- RSA Labs (de facto)

Computer Security

- the protection afforded to an automated information system in order to attain the applicable objectives of preserving the integrity, availability and confidentiality of information system resources (includes hardware, software, firmware, information/data, and telecommunications)

Key Security Concepts



Levels of Impact

- can define 3 levels of impact from a security breach
  - Low
  - Moderate
  - High

Low Impact

- The loss could be expected to have a limited adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals.
- A limited adverse effect means that, for example, the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability might
  - (i) cause a degradation in mission capability to an extent and duration that the organization is able to perform its primary functions, but the effectiveness of the functions is noticeably reduced;
  - (ii) result in minor damage to organizational assets;
  - (iii) result in minor financial loss; or

  (iv) result in minor harm to individuals.

Moderate Impact

- The loss could be expected to have a serious adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals.
- A serious adverse effect means that, for example, the loss might
  - (i) cause a significant degradation in mission capability to an extent and duration that the organization is able to perform its primary functions, but the effectiveness of the functions is significantly reduced;
  - (ii) result in significant damage to organizational assets;
  - (iii) result in significant financial loss; or
  - (iv) result in significant harm to individuals that does

High Impact

- The loss could be expected to have a severe or catastrophic adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals.
- A severe or catastrophic adverse effect means that, for example, the loss might
  - (i) cause a severe degradation in or loss of mission capability to an extent and duration that the organization is not able to perform one or more of its primary functions;
  - (ii) result in major damage to organizational assets;
  - (iii) result in major financial loss; or
  - (iv) result in severe or catastrophic harm to individuals

Examples of Security Requirements

- confidentiality – student grades
- integrity – patient information
- availability – authentication service

Computer Security Challenges

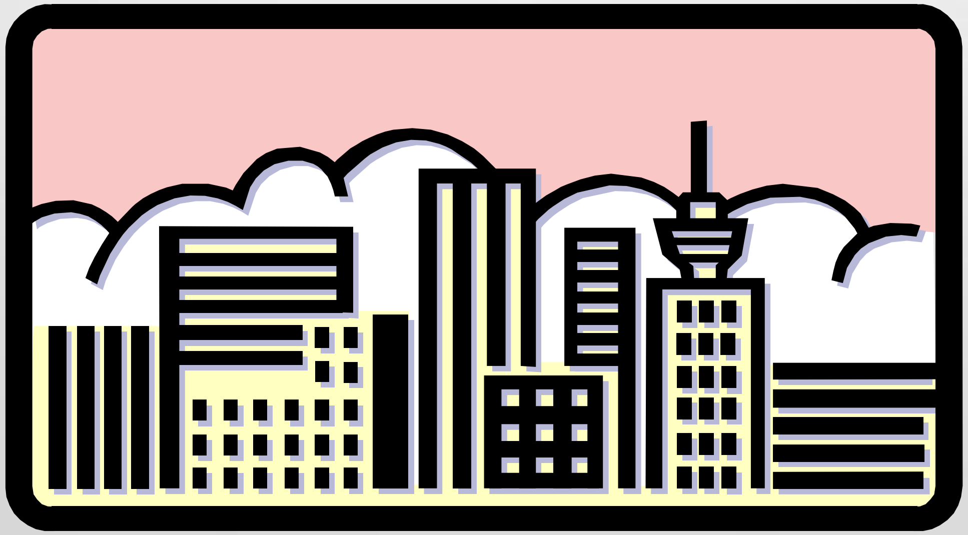
1. not simple – easy to get it wrong
2. must consider potential attacks
3. procedures used counter-intuitive
4. involve algorithms and secret info
5. must decide where to deploy mechanisms
6. battle of wits between attacker / admin
7. not perceived on benefit until fails
8. requires regular monitoring

   a process, not an event
9. too often an after-thought
10. regarded as impediment to using system

   "Unusable security is not secure"

OSI Security Architecture

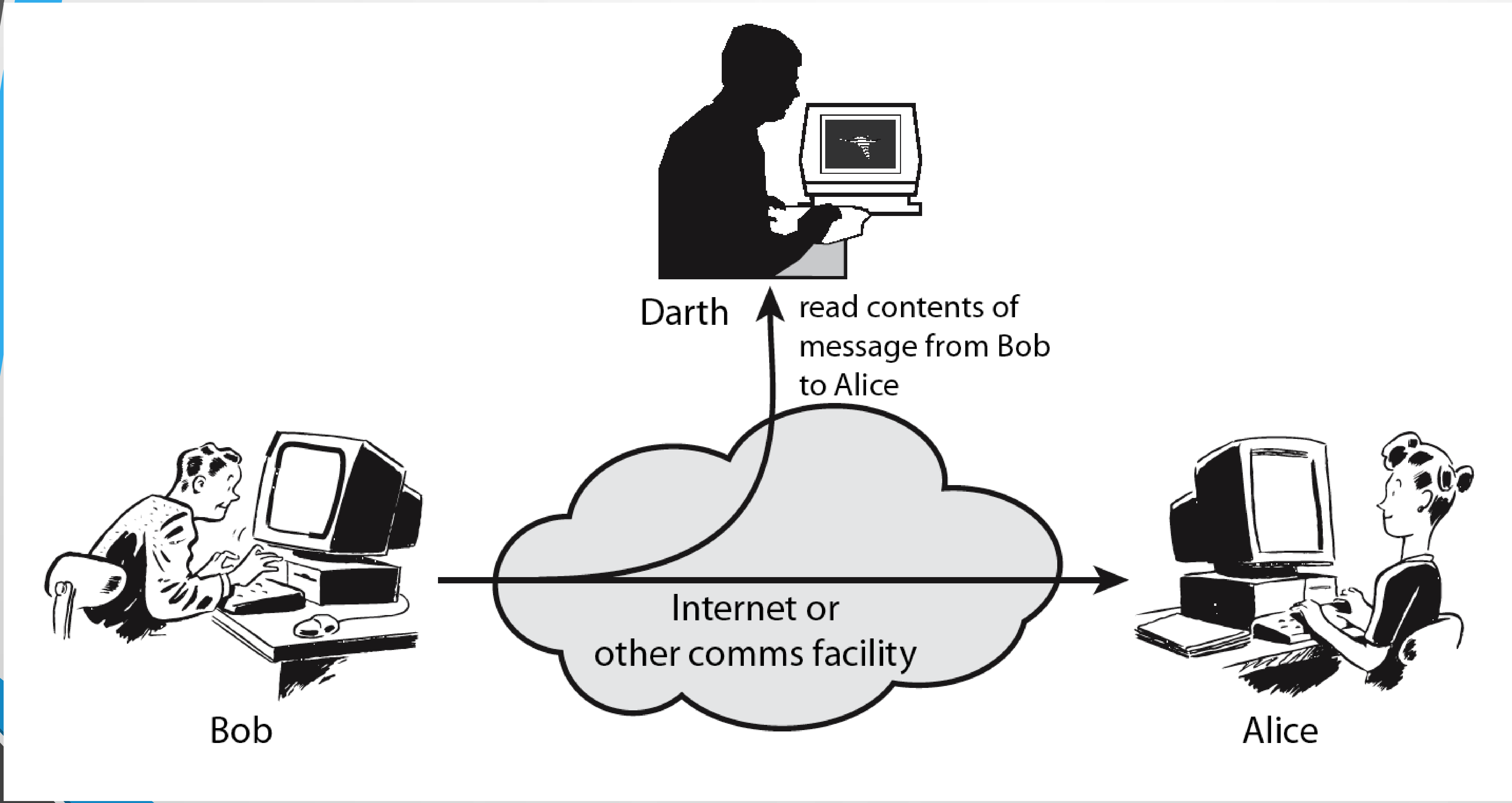
- ITU-T X.800 “Security Architecture for OSI”
- defines a systematic way of defining and providing security requirements
- for us it provides a useful, if abstract, overview of concepts we will study



Aspects of Security

- consider 3 aspects of information security:
  - **security attack**
  - **security mechanism (control)**
  - **security service**
- note terms
  - *threat* – a potential for violation of security
  - *vulnerability* – a way by which loss can happen
  - *attack* – an assault on system security, a deliberate attempt to evade security services

Passive Attack - Interception


Darth
read contents of message from Bob to Alice
Internet or other comms facility
Bob
Alice