



# From Math to Society

# Numbers, Security and Culture

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# Mathematics

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- Algebraic Structures
- Modular arithmetic  $\mathbf{Z}/n\mathbf{Z}$ ;  $n = pq$ .
- Elliptic curves
- Multiplicative groups
- One-way functions:
  - Multiplication is easy; Factorization is difficult.

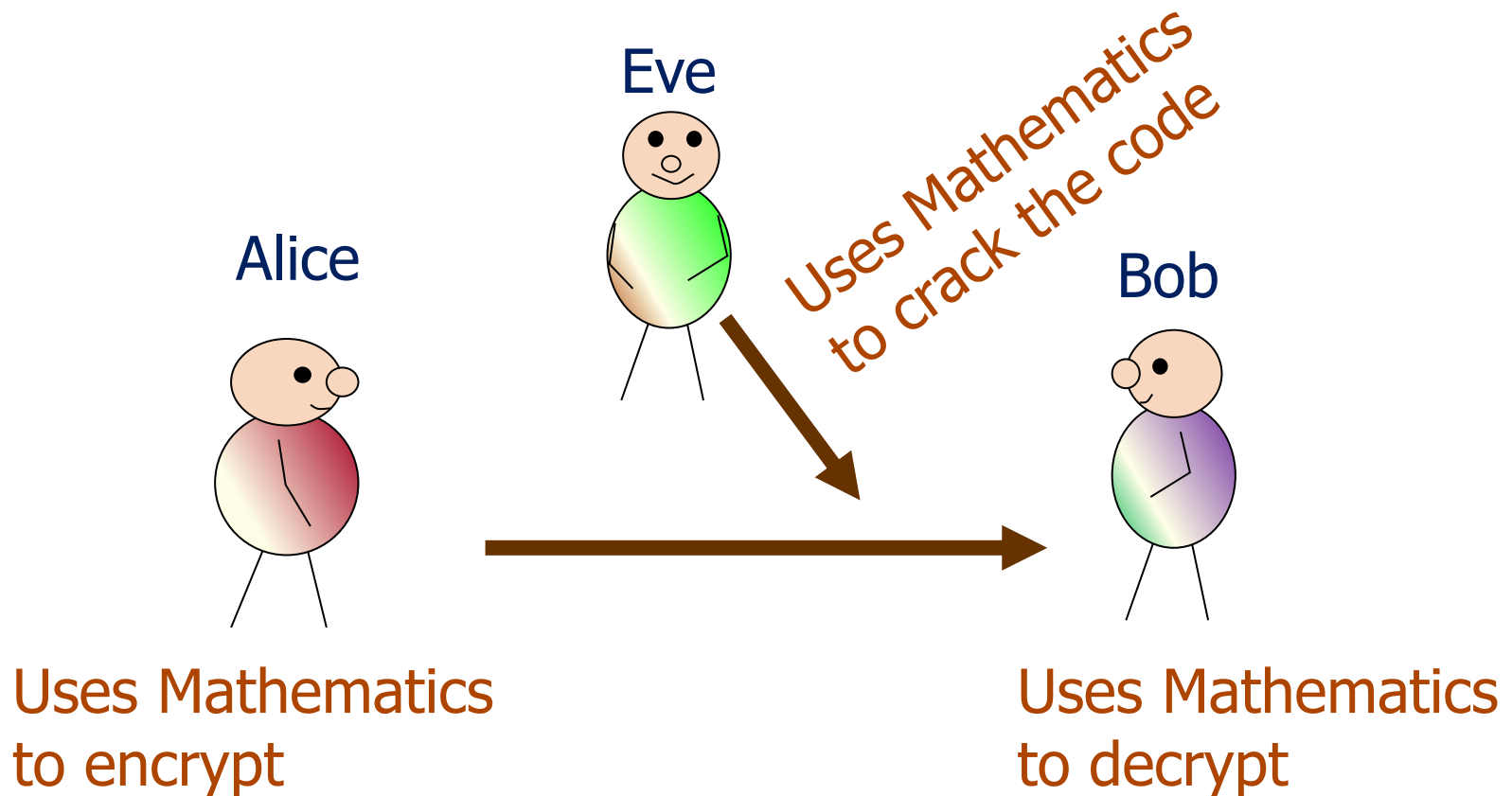
$$2,633 \times 3,697 = \dots \text{ (easy)}$$

$$9,744,731 = \dots \times \dots \text{ (difficult)}$$

# RSA

(Rivest–Shamir–Adleman)

- Use Mathematics to do encryption / decryption
- Public Key / Private Key





# Mathematics and Computing

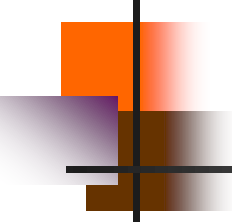
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- Encode the Mathematics to define your algorithms
  - Maple, C., Conrad, M., French, T., *A novel flexible approach to document encryption using an MathML extension to the W3C XML Digital Certificate Standard*, Procs. IADIS Conference eSociety 2003, Lisbon, Portugal.
- Later, on a more theoretical level – no longer in the context of security then:
  - Conrad, M., French, T. *Exploring the synergies between the object-oriented paradigm and mathematics: a java led approach*, International Journal of Mathematical Education in Science and Technology', Vol 35, No.5,733-742, 2004.

# However, Security today

- We are largely OK with the Mathematics
- Social Engineering is the most imminent problem.





# Focus e.g., on Authentication Systems

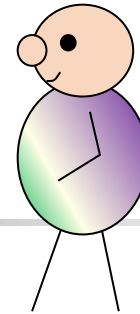
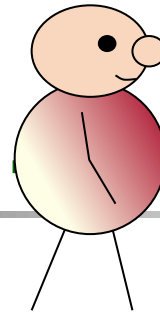
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- Alternative forms of authentication
  - Norrington, P., **Novel, robust and cost-effective authentication techniques for online services**, PhD, University of Bedfordshire 2009.
  - Al-Khateeb, H., **Flexible, reliable and secure authentication mechanisms for web applications**, PhD, University of Bedfordshire 2010.
  - Gibson, M., **Opening the web for all: Designing authentication for accessibility**, PhD, University of Bedfordshire 2012.

# Or on trust.

Alice

Bob



It's Alice!  
I trust  
her

- Conrad, M., French, T., Huang, W., Maple, C., **A lightweight model of trust propagation in a Multi-Client Network Environment. To what extent does Experience matter?** In: 1st International Conference on Availability, Reliability and Security (ARES), Vienna, 2006.
- Pasanajano, P., Bessis, N., Yue, Y., Conrad, M., Brown, A., **A Peer-to-Peer Trust Modelling Analysis for Decreasing B2B Monitoring Costs**, In: 15th International Conference on Automation and Computing (ICAC'09), September 19th, Luton, 2009 ISBN: 978-0-9555293-4-4, p.p.: 104-108.
- Koshy, L., Conrad, M., Shukla, M., French, T., **Trust Score System in Social Networks and Virtual Worlds Based on Digital Identity**. 15th International Conference on e-Society 2017, Budapest, Hungary.



# However, Security is localized and different between countries

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- For instance, there is a difference in Information Security between the United Kingdom and Zanzibar
  - Shabaan, H., *The state of information security in the developing countries: the case of Zanzibar, Tanzania*, PhD, University of Bedfordshire 2013.
- Culture became an issue; central to this is Hofstede's theory of cultural dimensions - <https://geerthofstede.com/>





# Cross-cultural research

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- In Web Design
  - Chessum, K., *A Conceptual Framework to Support Cross-cultural User Experience Design for Web Search*, PhD, University of Bedfordshire, 2021
- Within Cyberstalking, inspired by NCCR
  - Miftha, A., Conrad, M., Gibson, M., *Cyberstalking in India: Challenges on the Social Side and the Underlying Contradictions*, In: 20th International Conference e-Society 2022 (online).



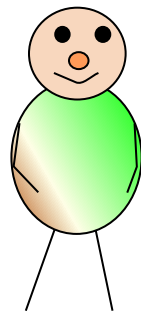
# More cross-cultural research

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- In e-Government
  - Chukwu, J., Conrad, M., Crosbie, T., **Data Protection and Privacy Determinants of e-Government Adoption in Nigeria**, 15<sup>th</sup> IADIS International Conference on Information Systems (IS 2022).
- And the Manufacturing Industry
  - Omoyajowo, O., **A Systematic Risk Management Approach for Small Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in Nigeria Manufacturing Sector**, PhD, University of Bedfordshire, 2022

# Summary

- Mathematics
- Security
- Trust
- Culture



Thanks.  
Any Questions?