

# Anonymity in information processing, storage and transmission

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# Anonymity

**Anonymity** is derived from the Greek word **ἀνωυμία** - *anonymia*, meaning "without a name" or "namelessness".

General meaning: personal identity, or personally identifiable information of that person is not known.

# Anonymity

- Who?
- Where?
- What?

Microsoft : “10 Immutable Laws of Security”

- **Law #9: Absolute anonymity isn't practical, in real life or on the Web**

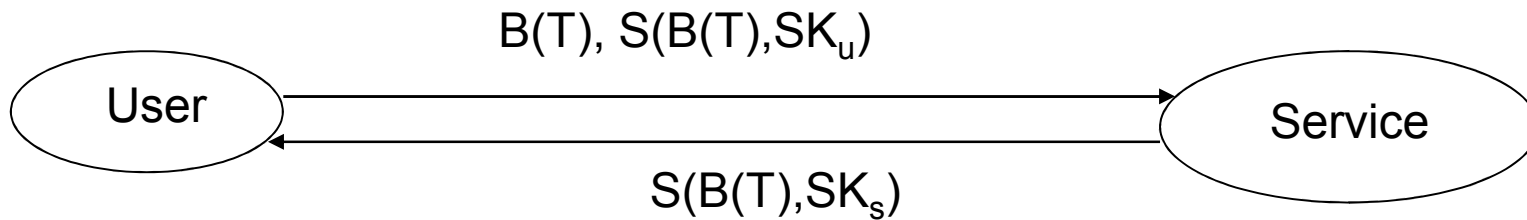
# Instruments

- Blind signature
- Onion functions—  $F(k_i, F(k_{i-1}, \dots F(k_1, x) \dots))$
- Error correcting codes
- Locally decodable codes

# Problem “WHO?”

- E-voting
- E-commerce
- E-libraries

# Blind ticket



Secret key  $SK_u$  ,  
Ticket  $T$  ,  
Blind ticket  $B(T)$  ,  
Signature  
 $S(B(T), SK_u)$

Public key  $PK_u$  ,  
Secret key  $SK_s$  ,  
Verification ,  
Signature  
 $S(B(T), SK_s)$

# Blind ticket

## *Service*

Verification

$V(B(T), S(B(T), SK_u), PK_u) = \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$

Sign

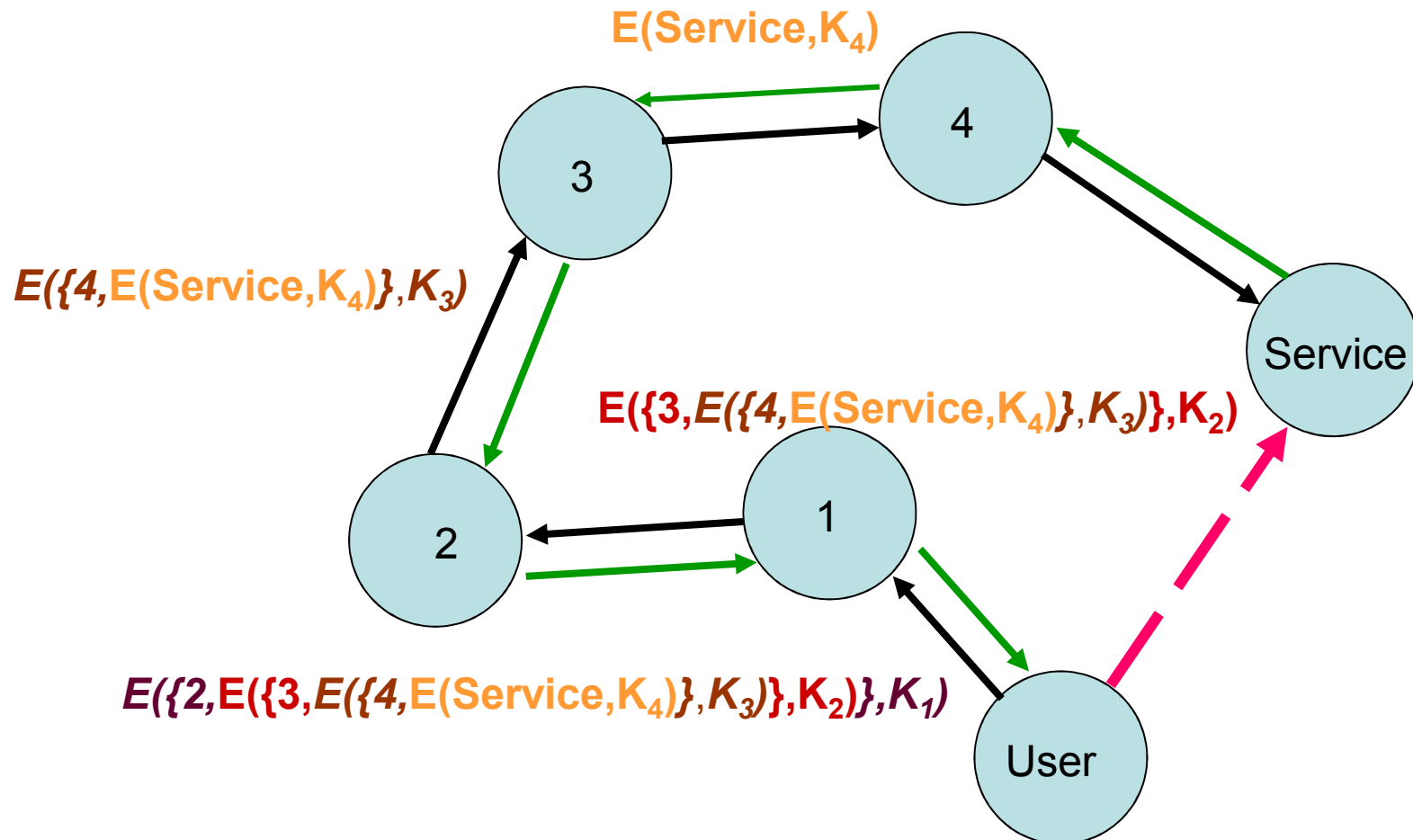
$S(B(T), SK_s)$

## *User*

Obtain ticket with signature

$T, S(T, SK_s)$

# Problem “WHERE?”

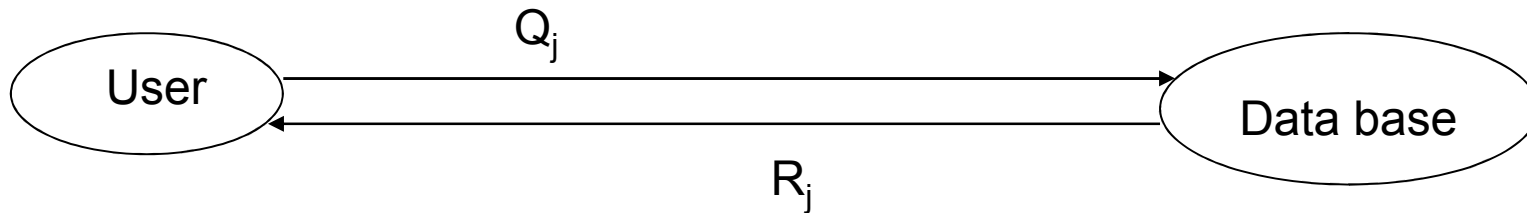




# Problem “WHAT?”

- E-voting
- Hiding calculations ( in cloud computers)
  - Hiding data
  - Hiding functions
- Hiding querying to databases

# Computational Private Information Retrieval(PIR) Protocol



Decryption key  $D_{PIR}$  ,  
Choose position  $j$   
in database,  
Query  $Q_j$

$R_j = Q_j(x)$  ,  
 $x$  – database  
or message ,  
 $R_j$  - response

# Error correcting codes in the PIR protocol

Decryption key –  $(L, G)$  and  $(L, g)$  – codes.

Message -

$$x = [(a_1 + b_1) \cdot P_1, (a_2 + b_2) \cdot P_2, \dots, (a_n + b_n) \cdot P_n],$$

where

$a_i$  - any code word from  $(L, G)$ -code with minimal distance  $D$ ,

$b_i$  – information code word from  $(L, g)$ -code ,  
 $\text{wt}(b_i) = d \leq (D-1)/2$ ,

$P_i$  – permutation matrix,

$(L, G)$ -code is subcode of  $(L, g)$ -code.

# Error correcting codes in the PIR protocol

Query –  $Q_j = [h_1^*, h_2^*, \dots, H_j^*, \dots, h_n^*]$

where  $h_i^* = A_i \cdot h \cdot P_i$ ,  $h$ - parity check matrix

for  $(L, g)$  code,  $A_i$  – random  $r \times r^*$  -matrix ,

$H_j^* = A_j \cdot H \cdot P_j$ ,  $H$ - parity check matrix for  $(L, G)$  code,

$A_j$  – nonsingular  $r \times r$  – matrix,

$r^*, r$  – redundancy of  $(L, g)$  and  $(L, G)$ - codes.

$R_j = Q_j(x) = x \cdot Q_j^T = b_j \cdot H^T \cdot A_j^T$  ,

By using  $A_j^{-1}$  and decoding algorithm for  $(L, G)$ -code it is easy to restore  $b_j$

THANK YOU!

Questions ???