

# Secure Personal Content Networking over Untrusted Devices

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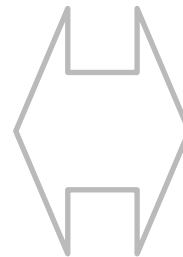
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# Motivation

# personal devices are increasing (so does the data in/generated by them)

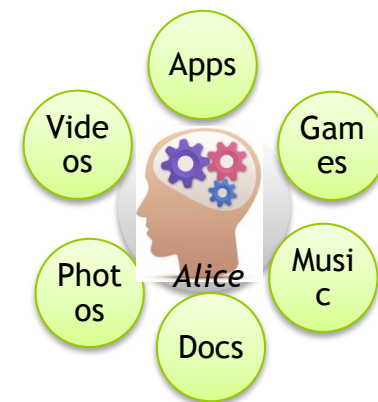
- Smartphones, cameras, smart-home devices (e.g., Internet fridges/TVs, etc)
- Often have Internet connection capability via different forms of communications: e.g., WiFi, Ethernet, Bluetooth, 3G/LTE



Digital information created, captured, replicated worldwide (IDC 2008)



Source: IDC Digital Universe White Paper, 2009

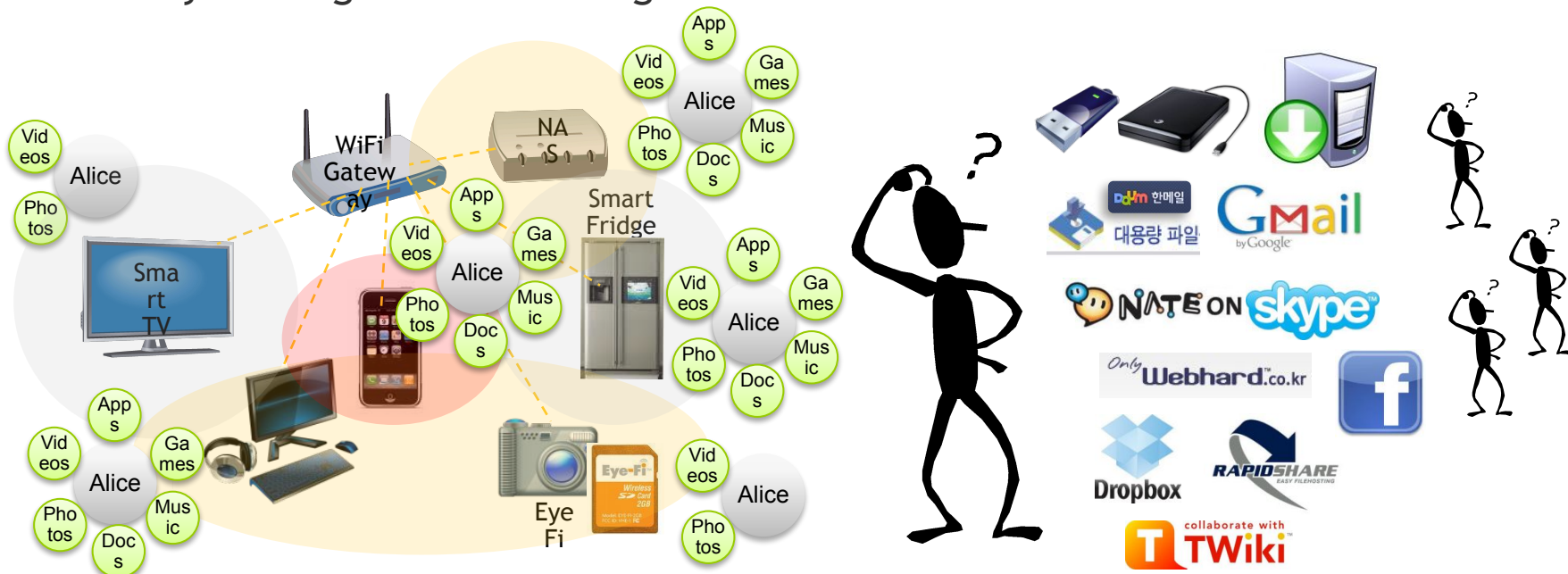


**Mental Model:**  
**Personal Document Space (PDS)\***

# Motivation

Yet, accessing/managing/sharing content over these devices is still challenging:

- Heterogeneous devices/vendors/protocols
  - Zero-configuration/unified content access platform is a must (for non-techy persons)
- Management of content over multiple devices is laborious
- Selectively sharing content among friends is still hard



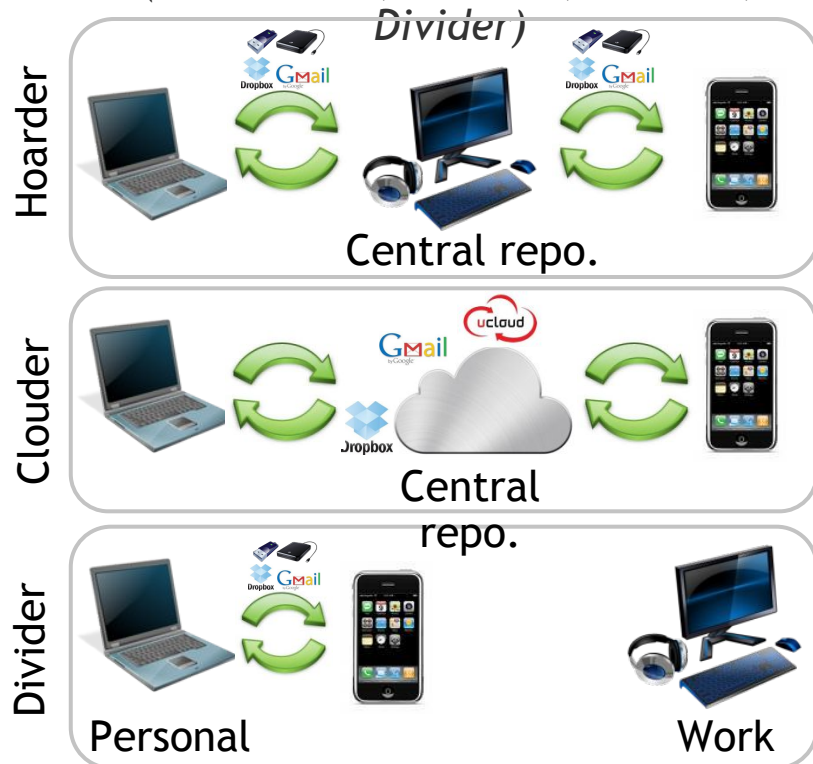
# Motivation: Content Management Practices

Interview study of 37 users (30 males, 7 females, mostly graduate students):

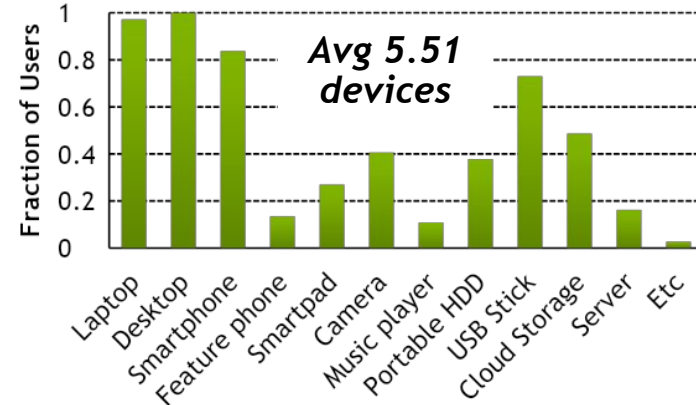
- (1) device collection?
- (2) content management practices?

## Content Management Patterns

(Don't-carer, Hoarder, Clouder, Divider)



## Device Collection

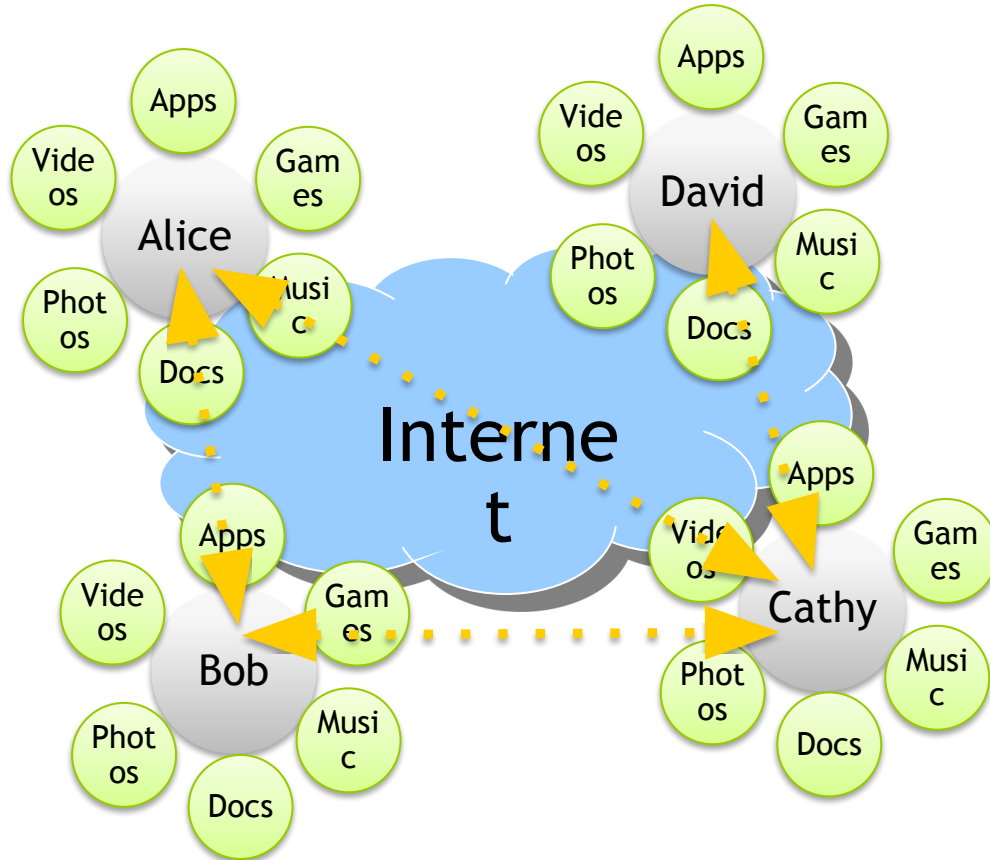


Sync is difficult: downloading/sharing content happens everywhere (including UCG content)

Cloud storage can't store all the user data (limited capacity; economically not feasible)

Personal/work boundary is not always crystal clear; often blurred over the period of time

# Towards Personal Content Networking (PCN)



## PCN Wish list

Single persistent, hierarchical namespace of personal content

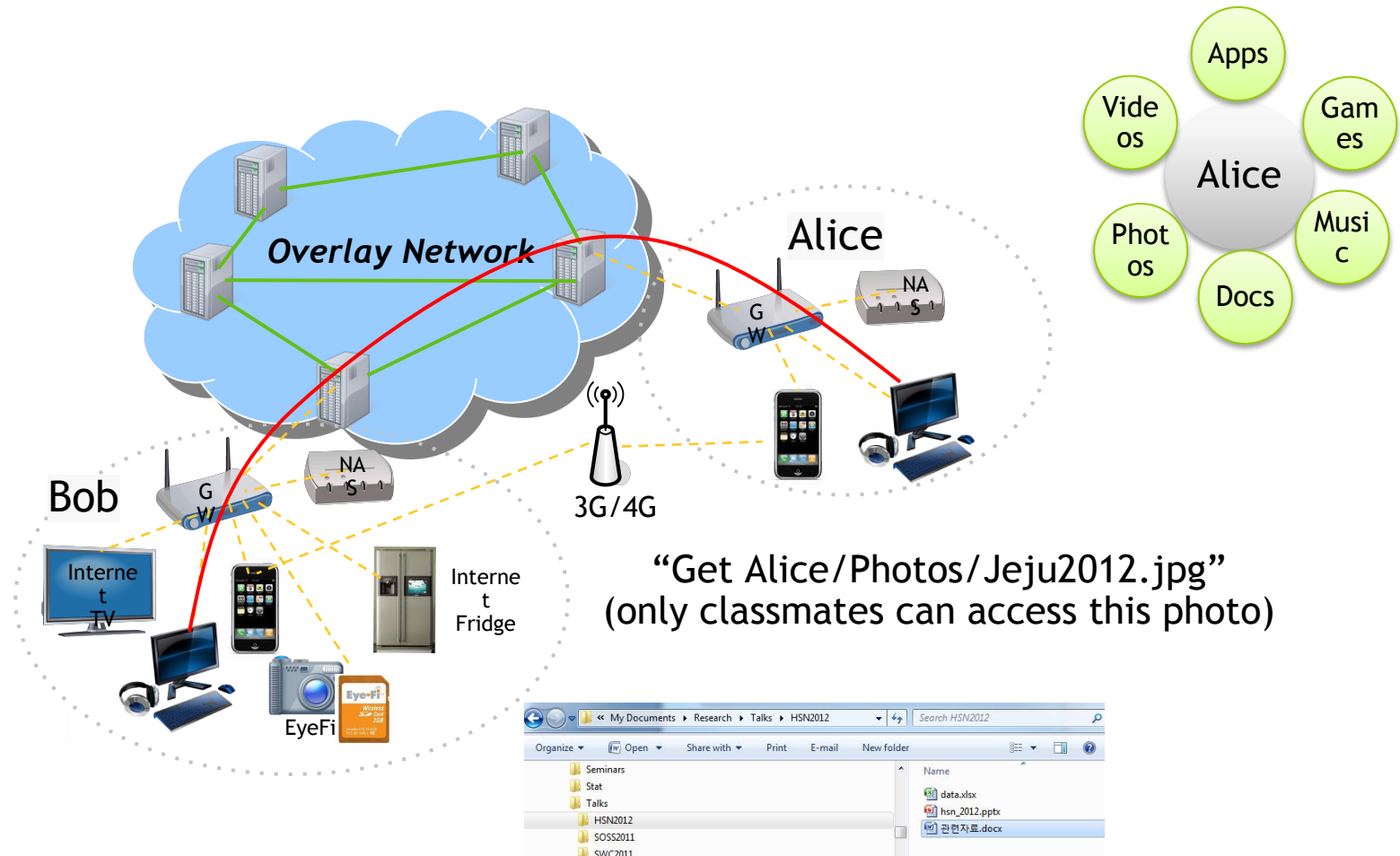
Full control of content management (control of every personal storage, including cloud storage)

Selective content sharing among friends (fine-grained access control)

Disrupted operations

Security/privacy guarantee

# Personal Content Networking (PCN)



PCN extends Content Centric Networking (CCN) platform to support selective content sharing and seamless distributed content management

# Related Work: Distributed File Systems and Beyond

	Naming	Disruption	Topology	Replica Unit	Update	Trust Mgt	Access Control	Secure Binding	
Mobile DFS	Ficus	SP+H	Yes	P2P	Volume	Yes	-	ACL	-
	Coda/BlueFS	SP+H	Yes	C/S	File	Yes	-	ACL	-
Pervasive FS	UIA/Eyo	DP+H	Yes	P2P	-	-	PKI	ACL	-
	PersonalRAID	SP+H	Yes	P2P	Volume	-	-	-	-
	Footlose	SP+F	Yes	P2P	File	-	-	-	-
Semantic FS	HomeView/ Perspective	Semantic	Yes	P2P	View	-	-	-	-
Crypto FS	Plutus/SiRiUS	SP-H	No	P2P	C/S	-	PKI	Certs/PKC	-
P2P FS	PAST/CFS	SP+F	No	P2P:DHT	File Bloc	+ Secure Binding + Content Caching			
Future Internet	CCN	SP+H	Yes	+ Consistency/Content Management (Read-Write) + Fined-grained content centric access control					
	<b>PCN</b>	<b>SP+H</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>P2P</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Certs/ABAC</b>	<b>Yes</b>

*SP/DP (single persistent/device persistent); F/H (flat/hierarchical) structure*

*IBAC (Identity-based Access Control; e.g., ACL); ABAC (Attribute Based Access Control; e.g., ABE)*

# Toward Secure Personal Content Networking

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1. **Naming convention:** single persistent namespace of personal content
  2. **Trust management:** SPKI/SDSI based principal introduction (key distribution)
  3. **Overlay network:** to facilitate data sharing among friends
  4. **Content centric networking (CCN):** content can be accessed by name
    - Any host that has the requested content will serve the content
  5. **Content centric access control for selective content sharing:**
    - Attributed Based Encryption (ABE) for decentralized access control
  6. **Content management:** managing content (e.g., replicating/removing/migrating content) over multiple devices
  7. **Content update and consistency management:** updating content and preserving consistency of content (eventual consistency)
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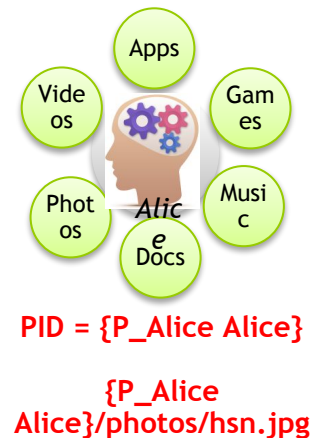
# Namespace of Personal Content

SPKI/SDSI style naming:

- Principal ID (PID): Alice names herself **PID = {P\_Alice Alice}** (P\_Alice = pub key)
- Hierarchical naming is possible
  - Example: “**K\_0** kaist hs\_eng cs uichin” (recursive definition a la DNS)

Personal address book (local name resolution)

- Introduction allows users to securely distribute public keys
- After introduction process, one can create a local mapping:
  - Human readable name to PID
  - Note that \*UIA is “host centric”: name is given to a device (not a principal)



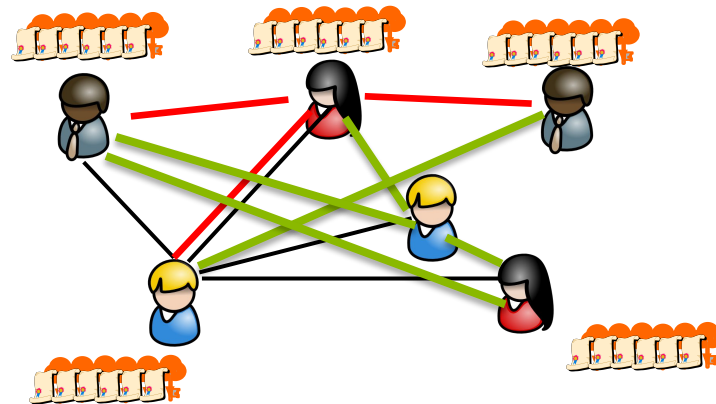
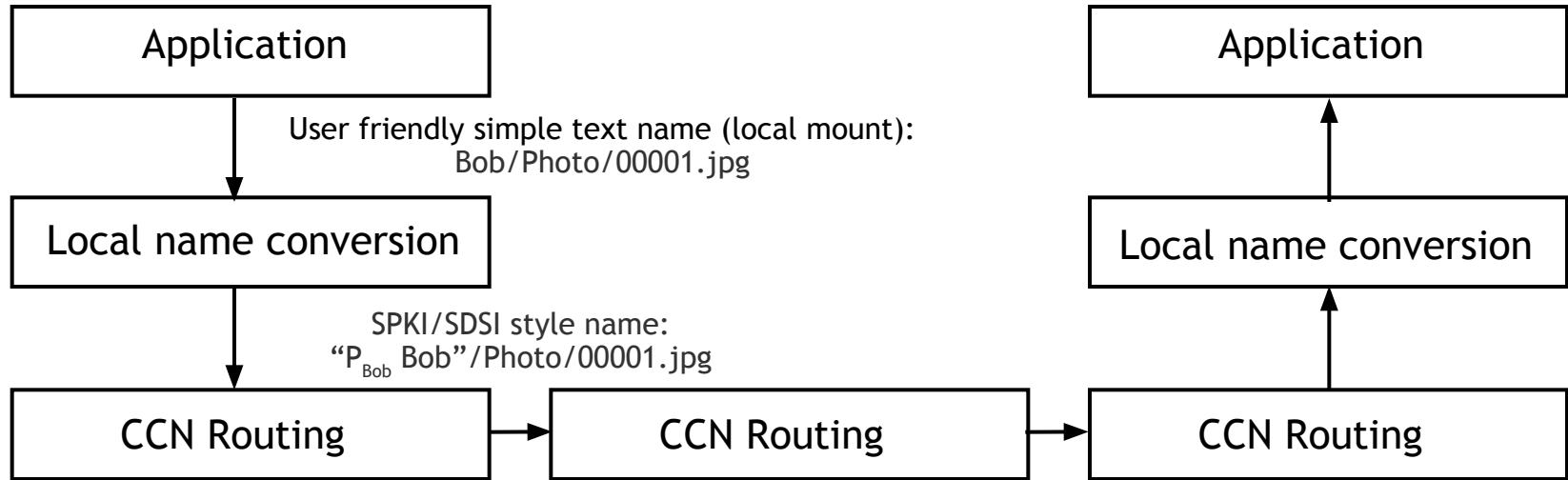
Content naming: **N = {PID + Label}**

- “Label” is personal content name space (DONA style)

- Secure binding of content **C** with name **N** as in CCN: **Sig(N, D)**

# Content Routing (Overlay)

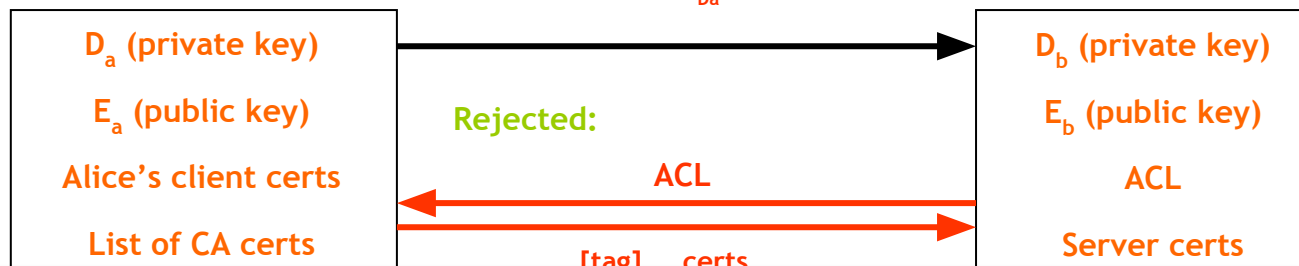
Overlay network based on social networks



# Content Centric Access Control

## Limitation of SPKI/SDSI's access control

- SPKI/SDSI only provides a host centric access control
  - Need to secure “channel” for secure access control
- How it works?
  - Initialization: set up SSL connection between two hosts (client and server)
  - if a requester's key is directly on the ACL of the server, granted!
  - if the key is indirectly on the ACL, rejects the request and return ACL (below)



Host-centric access control (trusted server)

□□

Not applicable to distributed CCN env. w/ content caching  
(any untrusted intermediate node can peek into cached content)

# Content Centric Access Control via CP-ABE

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Wish-list for PCN:

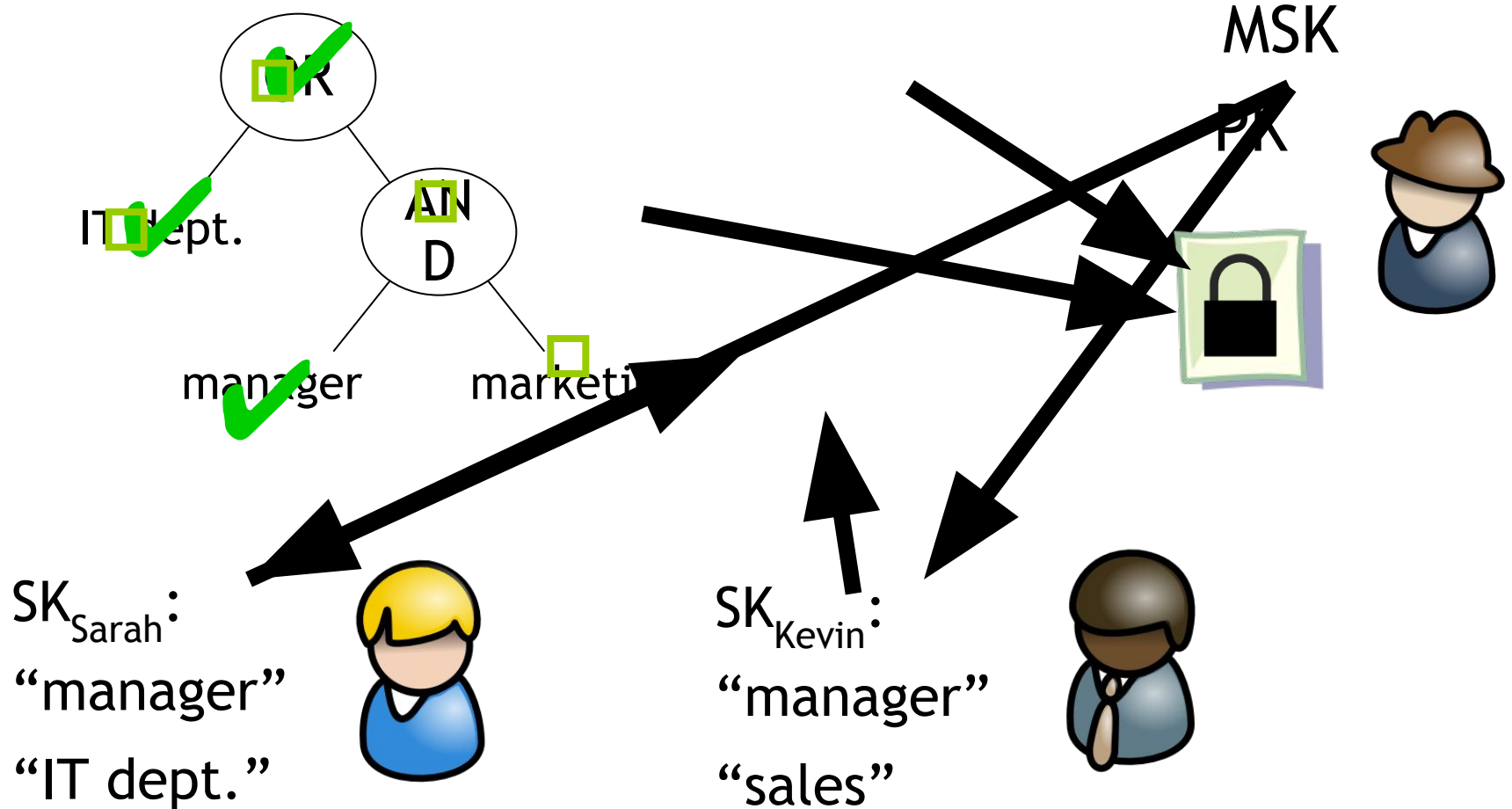
- Encrypted files for untrusted storage (*caching* in the intermediate routers)
- No online, trusted centralized third party mediating access to files or keys
- Highly expressive, fine grained access policies

Ciphertext-policy attribute-based encryption (CP-ABE) does this!

- User private keys given list of “attributes”
  - Files can be encrypted under “policy” over those attributes
  - Can only decrypt if attributes satisfy policy
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# Content Centric Access Control via CP-ABE

MSK: Master Secret Key  
SK: Secret Key (Private Key)  
PK: Public key



# Content Centric Access Control via CP-ABE

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## PCN File Header

(1) Read Policy	(2) Write Policy
(3) Write-Verify Key	(4) $ABE_{WRITE\ POLICY}$ (Write-Sign Key)
(5) $Enc_{ABE_{READ\ POLICY}}(Data)$	
(6) $Enc_{PK_{WRITE\ SIGN\ KEY}}(SHA-1(Enc_{ABE_{READ\ POLICY}}(Data)))$	

Users can define read and write policy (for each file)

Only users w/ valid write-access authorization can update files

# Replica Updates

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Our goal:

- Eventual consistency: all updates are eventually propagated to all replica
- File-level consistency (like FICUS)

Supporting “update” via augmented prefix announcement

- Updated replica contains extra metadata (version vector)
- Prefix announcement with “modification mark” and “updated location”
  - Say “Bob/mydoc/test.doc” was updated
  - **Announced prefix** is “Bob/mydoc” and **updated location** is “Bob/mydoc/test.doc”

PCN supports prefix protection (as in S-BGP)

Attribute based encryption support

- Modified content needs to be re-encrypted with ABE
- New version will be signed by the updater, and its prefix will be announced

# Distributed Content Management

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Device-to-device communication via reserved common name space (as in UNIX device files):

- Alice's iphone talks to ipad:
  - Alice: /dev/iphone, /dev/ipad/

Sending content management commands to specific devices

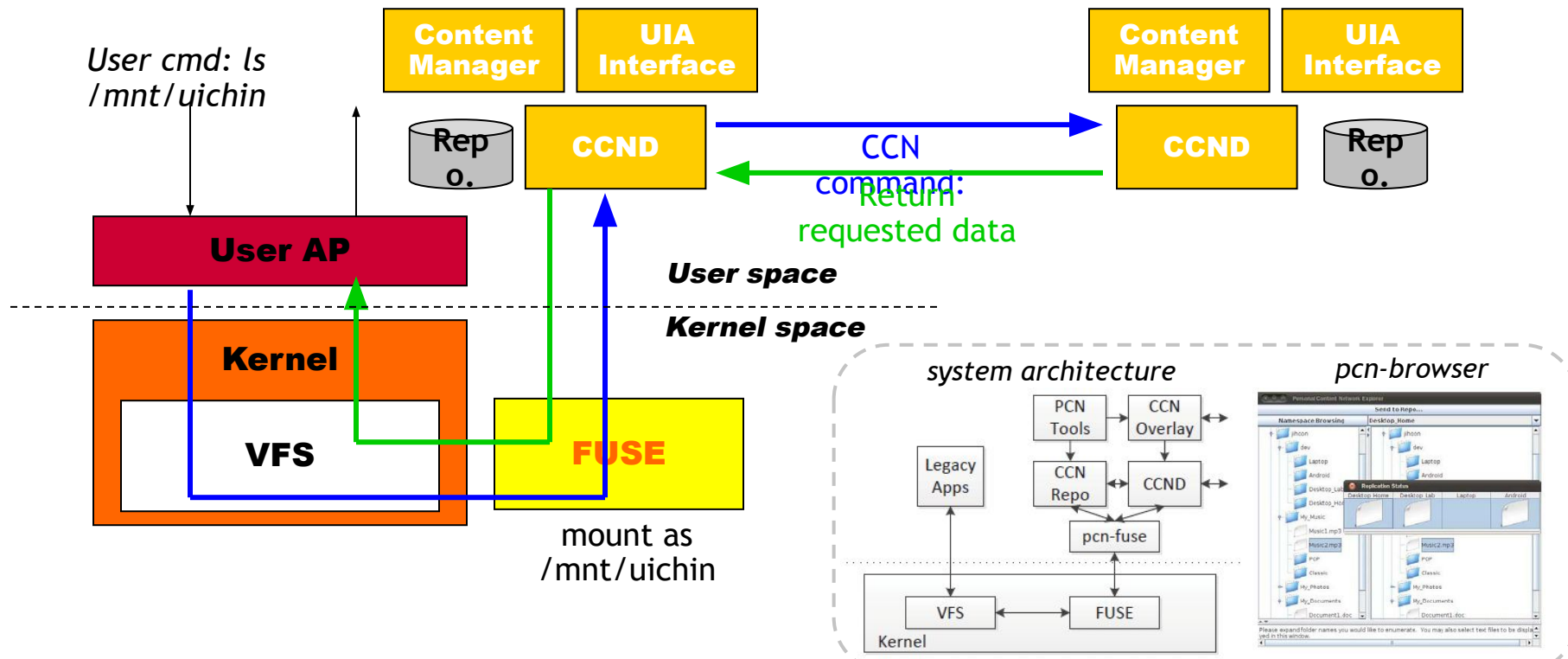
- Update a special script file (called .cmd) in the target device directory
    - Example: copying files to my iPad □ a list of files to be copied is placed in /dev/ipad/.cmd, and file update is notified via prefix announcement
    - My iPad will receive the announcement, and the command file will be fetched and executed
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# Prototype Design: FUSE + CCN

Providing a transparent view of the content available on the CCN network

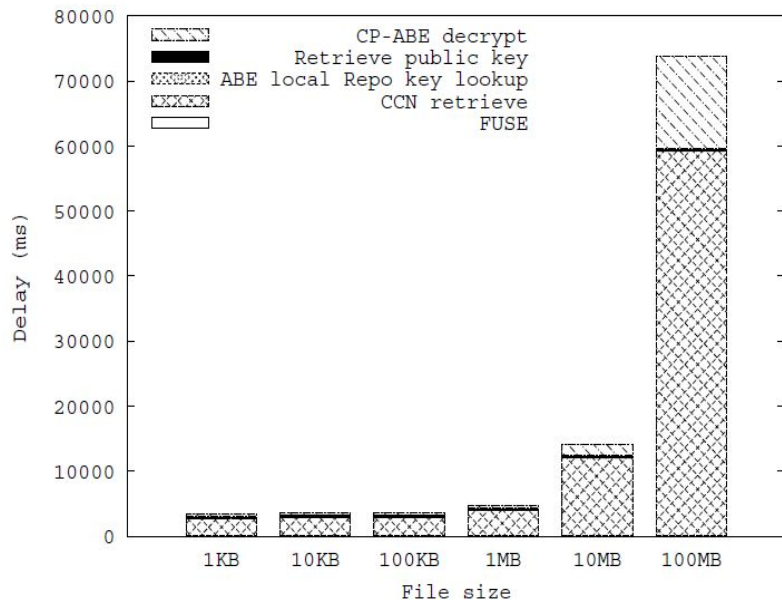
- FUSE: a user level file system
- CCND is augmented with FUSE VFS operations (e.g., open, write, etc.)
- Mounting person's namespace (e.g., /mnt/uichin)



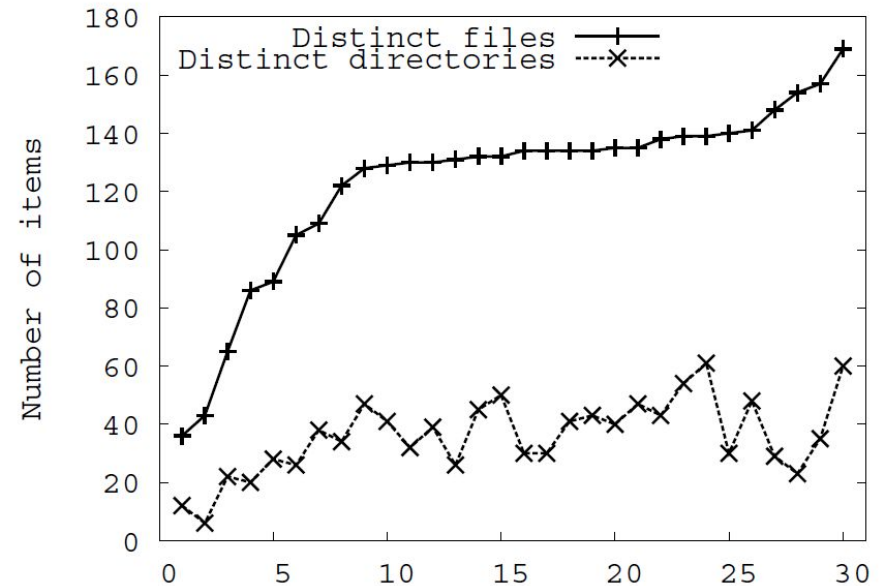
# Preliminary Evaluation

	MK setup	SK: 5	SK: 10	SK: 15
L	166( $\pm 0.2$ )	531( $\pm 0.4$ )	913( $\pm 0.2$ )	1343( $\pm 1.9$ )
M	354( $\pm 0.9$ )	2068( $\pm 0.5$ )	3981( $\pm 0.5$ )	5947( $\pm 0.3$ )

CP-ABE performance of Laptop (L) and Nexus One (M) in milliseconds: master key (MK) setup and secret key (SK) generation with  $k$  number of attributes  
 □ **attribute generation takes time, but it's one-time setup cost**



Remote file retrieval with ABE (Laptop)



Recently accessed files and directories (user traces) □ **small routing table size**

# Summary

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Extended CCN to realize personal content networking (PCN)

- Single persistent namespace of personal content
- Securely initialize devices and establish trust relationship among users
- Social network based overlay network for CCN content delivery
- Content centric access control via attribute-based encryption (ABE)
- Personal content management tool using persistent namespace
- Content update and consistency management
- Legacy application support via FUSE, a user level file system

Ongoing Work:

- Personal content management practice: longitudinal usage behavior monitoring
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- Large scale testbed experiments using Amazon EC2 servers