The web's public-key infrastructure

November 14, 2022

Rasmus Dahlberg

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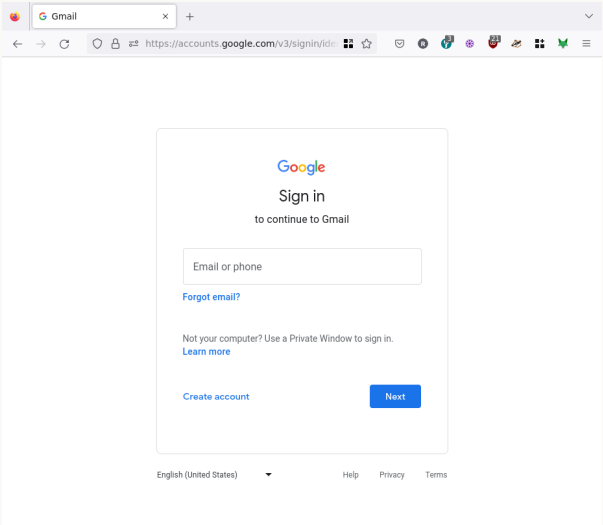
Are we really connected to the real Google?



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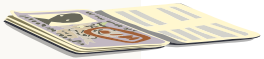

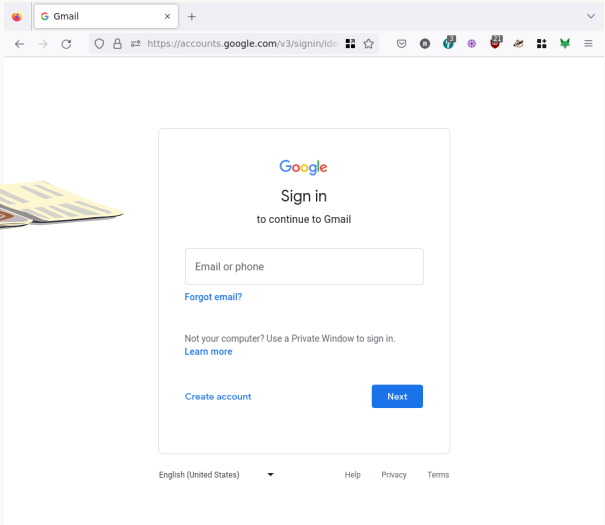

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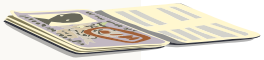

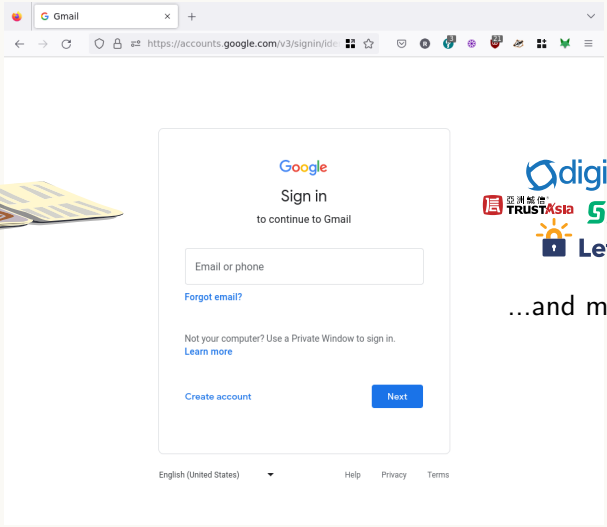

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...and many more

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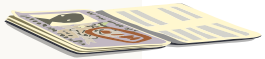

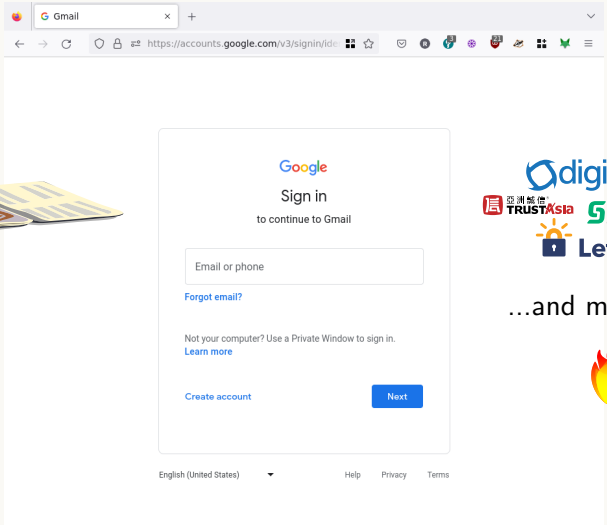

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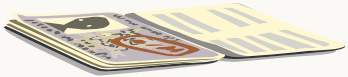
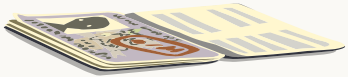
[1] Summary of the DigiNotar incidence: https://www.enisa.europa.eu/media/news-items/operation-black-tulip/ (2011)

Learning outcomes



X.509 certificates
Format, fields, ...

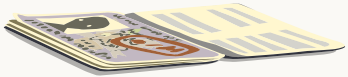
Learning outcomes



X.509 certificates
Format, fields, ...

Certificate Authorities
Ecosystem, validation, ...

Learning outcomes



X.509 certificates
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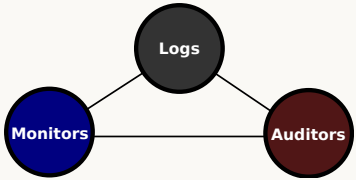
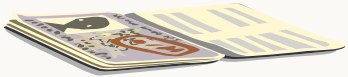
Certificate Authorities
Ecosystem, validation, ...



Certificate Transparency
Theory, practise, ...

Learning outcomes



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Certificate Authorities
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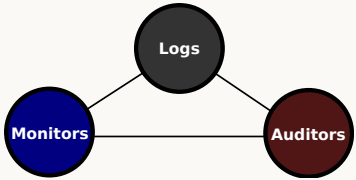
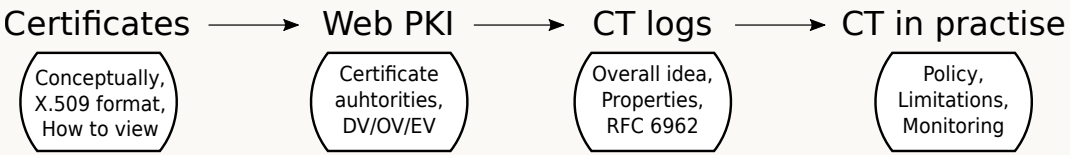


Certificate Transparency
Theory, practise, ...

Why is this useful for me?

Middle part—Cronological



Middle part—Segway to the end

CT logs and monitoring $\rightarrow$ no undeteted DigiNotar-style attacks

Middle part—Example of engagement

Select all statements that are true:

- ☐ An X.509 certificate proves ownership of a website
- ☐ An EV certificate is more secure than a DV certificate
- ☐ Only Swedish CAs can issue `.se` certificates
- ☐ There are hundreds of CAs across the globe

Take away

- X.509 certificates
  - "Driver's licence for websites"
  - Am I connected to the right site?
- Certificate Authorities (CAs)
  - "Transportstyrelsen for websites"
  - DV/OV/EV validated certificates
  - Weakest-link security
- Certificate Transparency (CT)
  - Holds CAs accountable (detection)
  - Enforced by Chrome, Safari, Edge
  - Monitor your own websites