

A Brief Introduction to SSL/TLS X.509 Certificates

Wade Cline

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Outline

- 1 Primer
- 2 X.509
About
The PKI
- 3 OpenSSL
Basic Usage
irssi Example

1 Primer

2 X.509

About
The PKI

3 OpenSSL

Basic Usage
irssi Example

Public/Private Key Cryptography

- *Public* and *Private* key pairs.
- *Share* public keys. *Hide* private keys.
- Simple user: *Many* public keys, *one* private key.
- Public key to *send*, private key to *recieve*.

Network Layers

- Five¹ network *layers*.
 - Application Layer (HTTP, IRC, IMAP, SSH, Git, &c.)
 - **Transport Layer** (TCP/UDP).
 - **Network Layer** (IPv4/IPv6).
 - Link Layer (WiFi, Ethernet).
 - Physical Layer.

¹No one cares about OSI's 7-layer model.

- Naming sucks.
 - SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) – old.
 - TLS (Transport Layer Security) – new.
- Encrypt TCP/IP connections.
- Use *X.509* certificates for *authentication* and *authorization*.
- Various implementations:
 - openssl
 - gnutls
 - libressl

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What does X.509 mean?

Primer

X.509

About

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OpenSSL

- Created in association with X.500 standard.
- Based on ASN.1.
- Defined by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU-T).
- Artists depiction:



Overview

- The *public key* of TLS.
- Called *certificate*.
- *Share* the **certificate**. *Hide* the key.
- Certificate Authorities!
- Confusing terminology!

Certificate Authorities (CAs)

- *Hierarchy* of trust.
- *Root CA* at top, then *Intermediate CAs*.
- Root certificate (Root CA) → Intermediate certificate(s)²
(Intermediate CA(s)) → Leaf³ Certificate⁴ (You)
- Path is a certificate *chain of trust*.

²Zero or more.

³Do these even have a formal name?

⁴Or just use the root certificate as a leaf certificate. That's cool, too. ↻ 🔍 🔍 🔍

Artist's Depiction

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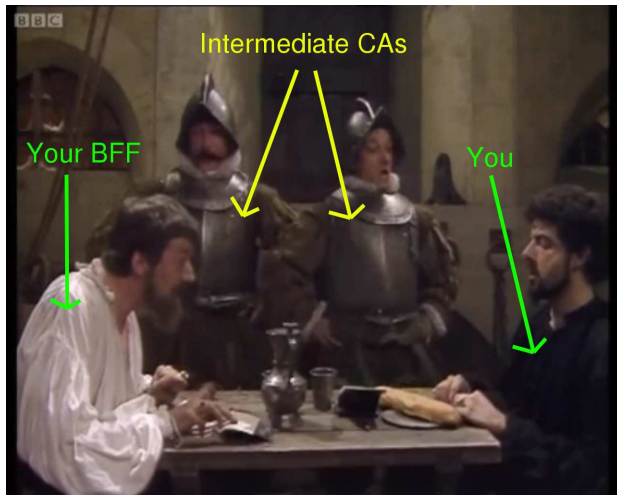
Artist's Depiction pt2

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Terminology

- Issuer & Subject.
 - Subject *receives* certificate from issuer.
 - Subject usually *you*.
 - **Bloated** fields consist of **beaurcratic crap**:
 - Country Name ← One world, man.
 - State or Provience Name ← Cascadia, obvs.
 - Locality Name ← wtf?
 - Organization Name ← "A Dude".
 - Organization Unit Name ← W.T.F.?
 - **Common Name** ← Only sane field (usually your FQDN).
 - E-mail Address ← For spambots.
 - CAs *may* omit fields.
- Client and Server certificates.
 - Client certificates rare, often not used on home browsers.

About

- PKI (Public Key Infrastructure).
- Manages certificates.
- Many PKIs.
- Usually browser's implementation.

Viewing

- `/usr/share/ca-certificates/`
- Subdirectories possible.
- Let's have a trust survey!
 - Unique **Organization** field.

- Subject: C=ES, CN=Autoridad de Certificacion Firmaprofesional CIF A62634068
- Subject: C=EU, L=Madrid (see current address at www.camerfirma.com/address)/serialNumber=A82743287, O=AC Camerfirma S.A., CN=Global Chambersign Root - 2008
- Subject: C=EU, O=AC Camerfirma SA CIF A82743287, OU=<http://www.chambersign.org>, CN=Chambers of Commerce Root
- Subject: CN=ACCVRAIZ1, OU=PKIACCV, O=ACCV, C=ES
- Subject: C=EE, O=AS Sertifitseerimiskeskus, CN=EE Certification Centre Root CA/emailAddress=pki@sk.ee

- Subject: C=IT, L=Milan, O=Actalis S.p.A./03358520967, CN=Actalis Authentication Root CA
- Subject: C=SE, O=AddTrust AB, OU=AddTrust TTP Network, CN=AddTrust Public CA Root
- Subject: C=US, O=AffirmTrust, CN=AffirmTrust Premium ECC
- Subject: C=ES, O=Agencia Catalana de Certificacio (NIF Q-0801176-I), OU=Serveis Publics de Certificacio, OU=Vegeu <https://www.catcert.net/verarrel> (c)03, OU=Jerarquia Entitats de Certificacio Catalanes, CN=EC-ACC
- Subject: CN=Atos TrustedRoot 2011, O=Atos, C=DE

- Subject: C=IE, O=Baltimore, OU=CyberTrust, CN=Baltimore CyberTrust Root
- Subject: C=NO, O=Buypass AS-983163327, CN=Buypass Class 2 Root CA
- Subject: C=CN, O=CNNIC, CN=CNNIC ROOT
- Subject: C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=COMODO CA Limited, CN=COMODO RSA Certification Authority
- Subject: C=FR, O=Certinomis, OU=0002 433998903, CN=Certinomis - Root CA

- Subject: C=FR, O=Certplus, CN=Class 2 Primary CA
- Subject: C=CN, O=China Financial Certification Authority, CN=CFCA EV ROOT
- Subject: C=CN, O=China Internet Network Information Center, CN=China Internet Network Information Center EV Certificates Root
- Subject: C=TW, O=Chunghwa Telecom Co., Ltd., OU=ePKI Root Certification Authority
- Subject: CN=ComSign CA, O=ComSign, C=IL

- Subject: C=GB, ST=Greater Manchester, L=Salford, O=Comodo CA Limited, CN=AAA Certificate Services
- Subject: O=Cybertrust, Inc, CN=Cybertrust Global Root
- Subject: C=DE, O=D-Trust GmbH, CN=D-TRUST Root Class 3 CA 2 2009
- Subject: C=DE, O=Deutsche Telekom AG, OU=T-TeleSec Trust Center, CN=Deutsche Telekom Root CA 2
- Subject: C=DE, O=Deutscher Sparkassen Verlag GmbH, OU=S-TRUST Certification Services, CN=S-TRUST Universal Root CA

- Subject: C=FR, O=Dhimyotis, CN=Certigna
- Subject: C=US, O=DigiCert Inc, OU=www.digicert.com, CN=DigiCert Assured ID Root G3
- Subject: C=US, O=Digital Signature Trust, OU=DST ACES, CN=DST ACES CA X6
- Subject: O=Digital Signature Trust Co., CN=DST Root CA X3
- Subject: C=SK, L=Bratislava, O=Disig a.s., CN=CA Disig Root R2

- Subject: C=TR, L=Ankara, O=E-Tu\xC4\x9Fra EBG Bili\xC5\x9Fim Teknolojileri ve Hizmetleri A.\xC5\x9E., OU=E-Tugra Sertifikasyon Merkezi, CN=E-Tugra Certification Authority
- Subject: CN=ACEDICOM Root, OU=PKI, O=EDICOM, C=ES
- Subject: C=US, O=Entrust, Inc., OU=See www.entrust.net/legal-terms, OU=(c) 2009 Entrust, Inc. - for authorized use only, CN=Entrust Root Certification Authority - G2
- Subject: O=Entrust.net, OU=www.entrust.net/CPS_2048 incorp. by ref. (limits liab.), OU=(c) 1999 Entrust.net Limited, CN=Entrust.net Certification Authority (2048)
- Subject: C=ES, O=Generalitat Valenciana, OU=PKIGVA, CN=Root CA Generalitat Valenciana

- Subject: C=US, O=GeoTrust Inc., CN=GeoTrust Primary Certification Authority
- Subject: OU=GlobalSign Root CA - R3, O=GlobalSign, CN=GlobalSign
- Subject: C=BE, O=GlobalSign nv-sa, OU=Root CA, CN=GlobalSign Root CA
- Subject: C=US, ST=Arizona, L=Scottsdale, O=GoDaddy.com, Inc., CN=Go Daddy Root Certificate Authority - G2
- Subject: C=TW, O=Government Root Certification Authority

- Subject: C=GR, L=Athens, O=Hellenic Academic and Research Institutions Cert. Authority, CN=Hellenic Academic and Research Institutions RootCA 2015
- Subject: C=HK, O=Hongkong Post, CN=Hongkong Post Root CA 1
- Subject: C=ES, O=IZENPE S.A., CN=lzenpe.com
- Subject: C=US, O=IdenTrust, CN=IdenTrust Public Sector Root CA 1
- Subject: C=US, O=Internet Security Research Group, CN=ISRG Root X1

- Subject: C=JP, O=Japan Certification Services, Inc., CN=SecureSign RootCA11
- Subject: C=JP, O=Japanese Government, OU=ApplicationCA
- Subject: C=PL, O=Krajowa Izba Rozliczeniowa S.A., CN=SZAFIR ROOT CA2
- Subject: C=HU, L=Budapest, O=Microsec Ltd., OU=e-Szigno CA, CN=Microsec e-Szigno Root CA
- Subject: C=HU, L=Budapest, O=NetLock Kft., OU=Tan\xC3\xBAs\xC3\xADtv\xC3\xA1nykiad\xC3\xB3k (Certification Services), CN=NetLock Arany (Class Gold) F\xC5\x91tan\xC3\xBAs\xC3\xADtv\xC3\xA1ny

- Subject: C=US, O=Network Solutions L.L.C., CN=Network Solutions Certificate Authority
- Subject: C=FR, O=OpenTrust, CN=OpenTrust Root CA G2
- Subject: C=BM, O=QuoVadis Limited, CN=QuoVadis Root CA 3 G3
- Subject: O=RSA Security Inc, OU=RSA Security 2048 V3
- Subject: C=JP, O=SECOM Trust Systems CO.,LTD., OU=Security Communication RootCA2

- Subject: C=JP, O=SECOM Trust.net, OU=Security Communication RootCA1
- Subject: C=US, O=SecureTrust Corporation, CN=Secure Global CA
- Subject: emailAddress=contacto@procert.net.ve, L=Chacao, ST=Miranda, OU=Proveedor de Certificados PROCERT, O=Sistema Nacional de Certificacion Electronica, C=VE, CN=PSCProcert
- Subject: C=CO, O=Sociedad Cameral de Certificaci\u00f3n Digital - Certic\u00c1mara S.A., CN=AC Ra\u00edz Certic\u00c1mara S.A.
- Subject: C=FI, O=Sonera, CN=Sonera Class2 CA

- Subject: C=NL, O=Staat der Nederlanden, CN=Staat der Nederlanden EV Root CA
- Subject: C=US, ST=Arizona, L=Scottsdale, O=Starfield Technologies, Inc., CN=Starfield Root Certificate Authority - G2
- Subject: C=CH, O=SwissSign AG, CN=SwissSign Platinum CA - G2
- Subject: C=ch, O=Swisscom, OU=Digital Certificate Services, CN=Swisscom Root CA 2
- Subject: C=DE, O=T-Systems Enterprise Services GmbH, OU=T-Systems Trust Center, CN=T-TeleSec GlobalRoot Class 2

- Subject: C=TW, O=TAIWAN-CA, OU=Root CA, CN=TWCA Global Root CA
- Subject: C=DE, O=TC TrustCenter GmbH, OU=TC TrustCenter Class 3 CA, CN=TC TrustCenter Class 3 CA II
- Subject: C=TR, L=Ankara, O=T\xC3\x9CRKTRUST Bilgi \xC4\xB0leti\xC5\x9Fim ve Bili\xC5\x9Fim G\xC3\xBCvenli\xC4\x9Fi Hizmetleri A.\xC5\x9E., CN=T\xC3\x9CRKTRUST Elektronik Sertifika Hizmet Sa\xC4\x9Flay\xC4\xB1c\xC4\xB1s\xC4\xB1 H5
- Subject: CN=T\xC3\x9CRKTRUST Elektronik Sertifika Hizmet Sa\xC4\x9Flay\xC4\xB1c\xC4\xB1s\xC4\xB1, C=TR, L=Ankara, O=T\xC3\x9CRKTRUST Bilgi \xC4\xB0leti\xC5\x9Fim ve Bili\xC5\x9Fim G\xC3\xBCvenli\xC4\x9Fi Hizmetleri A.\xC5\x9E. (c) Aral\xC4\xB1k 2007
- Subject: C=TR, L=Gebze - Kocaeli, O=T\xC3\xBCrkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Ara\xC5\x9Ft\xC4\xB1rma Kurumu - T\xC3\x9C\xC4\xB0TAK, OU=Ulusal Elektronik ve Kriptoloji Ara\xC5\x9Ft\xC4\xB1rma

- Subject: O=TeliaSonera, CN=TeliaSonera Root CA v1
- Subject: C=US, O=The Go Daddy Group, Inc., OU=Go Daddy Class 2 Certification Authority
- Subject: C=US, ST=New Jersey, L=Jersey City, O=The USERTRUST Network, CN=USERTrust ECC Certification Authority
- Subject: C=GB, O=Trustis Limited, OU=Trustis FPS Root CA
- Subject: C=PL, O=Unizeto Sp. z o.o., CN=Certum CA

- Subject: C=PL, O=Unizeto Technologies S.A., OU=Certum Certification Authority, CN=Certum Trusted Network CA 2
- Subject: C=US, O=VISA, OU=Visa International Service Association, CN=Visa eCommerce Root
- Subject: C=US, O=VeriSign, Inc., OU=VeriSign Trust Network, OU=(c) 1999 VeriSign, Inc. - For authorized use only, CN=VeriSign Class 3 Public Primary Certification Authority - G3
- Subject: C=CH, O=WiSeKey, OU=OISTE Foundation Endorsed, CN=OISTE WiSeKey Global Root GB CA
- Subject: C=US, O=Wells Fargo WellsSecure, OU=Wells Fargo Bank NA, CN=WellsSecure Public Root Certificate Authority

- Subject: C=CN, O=WoSign CA Limited, CN=Certification Authority of WoSign G2
- Subject: C=US, OU=www.xrampsecurity.com, O=XRamp Security Services Inc, CN=XRamp Global Certification Authority
- Subject: C=RO, O=certSIGN, OU=certSIGN ROOT CA
- Subject: C=US, O=thawte, Inc., OU=Certification Services Division, OU=(c) 2006 thawte, Inc. - For authorized use only, CN=thawte Primary Root CA

- Listed root CAs, not intermediate CAs.
- "I trust browser vendors".
 - Not unreasonable.
- Might not always trust.
- Why deal with PKI ha\$\$le?




**The Dark Net is a path to
many certificates**

Some consider to be unauthoritative



Is it possible to use these certs?



Not with the PKI

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Subcommands

- `s_client` – Connect to SSL/TLS service.
- `x509` – Mostly reading certificates.
- `genrsa` – Generate private RSA key.
- `req` – Generate Certificate Signing Requests (CSRs).
- `ca` – Sign CSRs.
- `verify` – Test certificate authentication.

- man pages no `openssl` prefix (ex: `man x509`).

Get Server Cert.


- Use `s_client`.
- Example for `google.com`: `'openssl s_client -showcerts -connect google.com:443'`.
 - `-showcerts` show intermediate certs (else only “leaf” cert).
 - `-connect <address>:<port>`.
 - SIGINT to close connection (`^C`).
 - Yank cert(s) via X clipboard (or ugly sed).

View Cert.

- Two formats: DER and PEM.
 - DER \approx GPG (binary)
 - PEM \approx ASC (text)
- Use x509.
- Example: `openssl x509 -in cert.pem -text`
 - `-in <file>` cert. to read.
 - `-text` output cert's text.
 - Use `-inform der` if DER format.
 - Use `-noout` to not print PEM cert.


```
frostsnow@localhost ~ ❖ openssl x509 -in the_googles.pem -text -noout
Certificate:
  Data:
    Version: 3 (0x2)
    Serial Number:
      44:a7:23:b8:b7:b1:f6:22
    Signature Algorithm: sha256WithRSAEncryption
    → Issuer: C=US, O=Google Inc, CN=Google Internet Authority G2
    Validity
      Not Before: Mar 22 16:54:19 2017 GMT
      Not After : Jun 14 16:17:00 2017 GMT
    → Subject: C=US, ST=California, L=Mountain View, O=Google Inc, CN=*.google.com
```

- Two steps⁵:
 - Generate key.
 - Generate self-signed cert.
- Pt. 1: use `genrsa`.
- `umask 0077; openssl genrsa -out key.pem 4096`
 - `umask 0077` – Unix DAC.
 - `-out key.pem` – Send to file `key.pem`.
 - `4096` – RSA key size.
 - Key is **unencrypted**.
 - Optional: `-aes256` to encrypt the key.

⁵May be combined into one step, but it's ugly. 

```
frostsnow@localhost ~ $ umask 0077; openssl genrsa -out key.pem 4096
Generating RSA private key, 4096 bit long modulus
+++++
+++++
e is 65537 (0x10001)
```

- Pt. 2: use req.
- `openssl req -x509 -key key.pem -out cert.pem -days 7200 -sha512`
 - `-x509` – Self-signed cert.
 - `-key key.pem` – Input private key.
 - `-out cert.pem` – Output to `cert.pem`.
 - `-days 7200` – Expiration time (default: one month, ick!).
 - `-sha512` – Stronger signature algorithm (default: SHA-256).

```
frostsnow@localhost ~ $ openssl req -x509 -key key.pem -out cert.pem -days 7200 -sha512
You are about to be asked to enter information that will be incorporated
into your certificate request.
What you are about to enter is what is called a Distinguished Name or a DN.
There are quite a few fields but you can leave some blank
For some fields there will be a default value,
If you enter '.', the field will be left blank.
-----
Country Name (2 letter code) [AU]:.
State or Province Name (full name) [Some-State]:.
Locality Name (eg, city) []:.
Organization Name (eg, company) [Internet Widgits Pty Ltd]:.
Organizational Unit Name (eg, section) []:.
Common Name (e.g. server FQDN or YOUR name) []:Dumbledrumpf
Email Address []:.
```

```
frusterow@localhost ~ * openssl x509 -in cert.pem -text -noout
Certificate:
  Data:
    Version: 3 (0x2)
    Serial Number:
      00:e5:b6:31:2e:c3:8f:11
    Signature Algorithm: sha512WithRSAEncryption
    Issuer: CN=DumleDrumpf
    Validity
      Not Before: Apr  7 02:04:05 2017 GMT
      Not After : Dec 23 02:04:05 2036 GMT
    Subject: CN=DumleDrumpf
    Subject Public Key Info:
      Public Key Algorithm: rsaEncryption
      Public-Key: (4096 bit)
      Modulus:
        00:e3:83:fc:e5:cc:00:ba:f5:81:8e:38:3f:69:46:
        49:39:04:07:04:09:7d:d0:8a:0a:0c:b7:4d:7b:0c:
        6f:5f:fd:72:02:a2:04:fd:be:08:71:5d:07:48:0c:
        ed:4c:b0:51:32:a6:70:4a:fc:44:56:65:82:a:1:d:
        23:10:0f:16:a9:14:4e:0:30:a9:7a:42:e3:8d:be:52:
        ac:9f:ff:9a:a1:57:e6:12:80:d9:16:8a:93:2f:91:
        0b:a3:f5:2d:0f:57:3d:50:c9:00:cd:ed:e6:04:73:
        a9:b6:01:0a:e4:83:21:44:9a:8d:b9:ea:b6:00:ef:
        aa:91:ed:20:0a:82:7f:de:15:d1:3:8:bd:4:18:
        d1:7b:63:6f:21:1f:78:1e:a:37:ad:3c:15:21:04:
        c6:d3:4b:23:c4:08:52:b0:cc:41:40:4e:2b:07:40:
        78:1f:c1:19:31:42:36:93:e4:ec:05:ff:f4:9b:d0:
        59:57:17:ad:2b:77:93:3d:88:8f:89:7a:54:58:03:
        bc:fe:4c:ce:3d:b6:91:20:bb:94:59:f4:9b:39:7a:
        4f:be:7b:4d:2c:31:a9:39:a6:51:ec:22:6d:43:0e:
        38:8a:0e:ee:93:16:93:d3:ca:d5:51:bf:16:83:2e:
        72:96:b5:d8:e9:b1:fe:0f:8e:0c:2e:0b:cb:e6:d5:
        b8:bc:34:5f:51:5a:6d:38:4a:60:6c:dd:ca:ee:3a:
        4f:0f:df:08:b5:5d:1d2be:f5:b0:88:b8:28:9f:a1:
        e2:47:40:24:fe:91:ef:1c:d2:2a:0b:70:b8:40:f1:
        ef:9a:24:4b:75:29:03:04:31:46:19:7b:ba:69:0e:
        be:40:cd:59:48:f2:4f:f0:00:29:96:4a:2b:11:c0:
        10:a3:b6:5c:de:3a:d3:7a:0b:53:db:48:d0:ee:ba:
        0c:ed:07:c6:29:f8:d0:69:c0:e8:14:1f:bd:85:c7:
        07:4a:59:73:f9:c4:70:f0:ec:7a:d4:36:d9:40:11:
        d6:2c:a4:2d:34:fa:ed:2b:85:0e:55:f7:e6:17:9d:
        a9:62:c1:e0:2c:69:49:5d:5d:a3:80:82:69:0a:17:
        2d:3f:9a:57:4d:44:a6:74:f7:f5:99:7d:a3:97:cb:
        59:f3:a1:c5:5f:b8:b2:8b:66:df:fb:3:fb:9c:83:8b:
        49:49:71:e7:97:7a:f3:8a:f1:c0:f1:12:be:3f:7f:
        3c7c:07:c6:1d:f4:e0:0e:42:b7:9b:c4:be:40:0c:
        f0:82:5d:04:af:2f:03:9a:17:0d:9c:0f:15:e:05:
        96:80:81:18:a5:70:18:39:a2:a1:1f:4d:08:96:37:
        34:dd:b6:0b:b3:2d:12:04:52:c8:df:26:0c:43:ee:
        03:83:b5
      Exponent: 65537 (0x10001)
    X509v3 extensions:
      X509v3 Subject Key Identifier:
        8C:F8:0F:98:7A:88:53:88:47:FC:CB:33:CD:3F:B4:79:52:A0:CD:75
      X509v3 Authority Key Identifier:
        keyid:8C:F8:0F:98:7A:88:53:88:47:FC:CB:33:CD:3F:B4:79:52:A0:CD:75
      X509v3 Basic Constraints:
        CA:TRUE
    Signature Algorithm: sha512WithRSAEncryption
      87:6b:0e:27:c8:90:65:d2:27:34:c8:e6:6c:ff:12:72:3c:3:
      11:9ad7:7a:f6:15:d5:b3:3d:a1:43:4e:46:91:23:a5:67:96:
      ba:ee:91:18:b8:15:4e:a6:a7:19:ea:59:ee:8f:aa:2a:a8:7c:
      34:3b:2e:2c:ef:31:42:ba:76:9d:1a:65:cb:ae:f5:0f:81:4c:
```

Server Certificate

- Use **your own** “PKI”.
- **WARNING: This example sucks.**
- `openssl s_client -showcerts -connect chat.freenode.net:6697`
- Place certs **and** Root CA (from `/usr/share/ca-certificates`) in `freenode.pem`.
- `/connect -ssl_cafile freenode.pem -ssl_verify chat.freenode.net 6697`
- ...and nothing of real value was gained :(.

Client Certificate

- Using your self-signed cert.
- `umask 0077; openssl genrsa -out key.pem 4096`
- `openssl req -x509 -key key.pem -out cert.pem -days 7200 -sha512`
- `/connect -ssl_cert cert.pem -ssl_pkey key.pem chat.freenode.net 6697`
- Client cert **not** validated.
- Uses fingerprint (hash) instead.
- Other networks vary.

- Both: `/connect -ssl_cafile freenode.pem -ssl_verify -ssl_cert cert.pem -ssl_pkey key.pem chat.freenode.net 6697`
- Verifies both client **and** server.

- Questions?