

# On the Security of TLS 1.3 Against Weaknesses in PKCS#1 v1.5 Encryption

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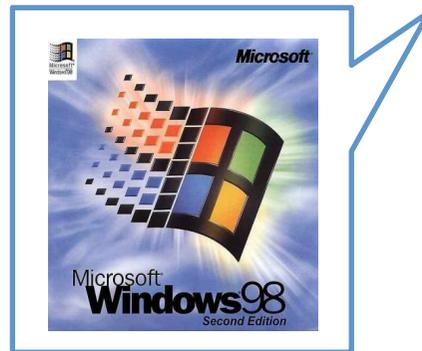
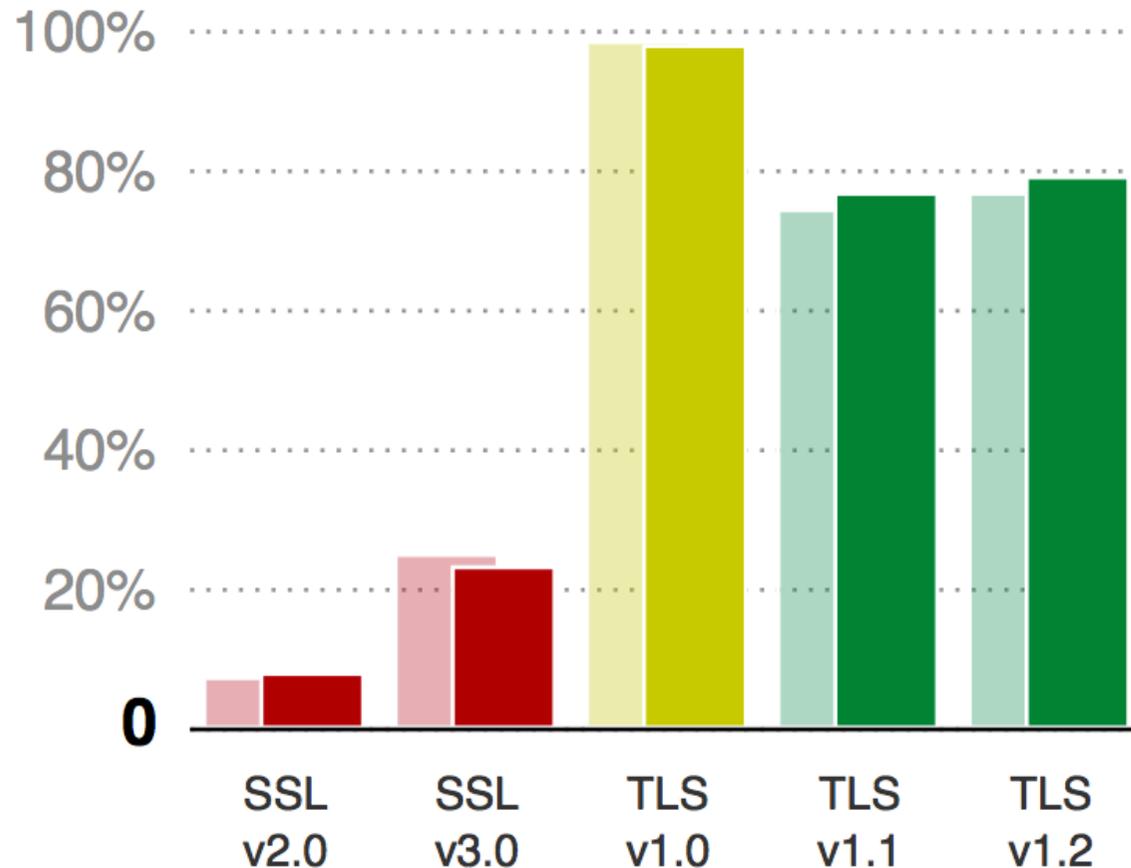
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# Support of TLS versions



# RSA-PKCS#1 v1.5 Encryption

[RFC 2313]

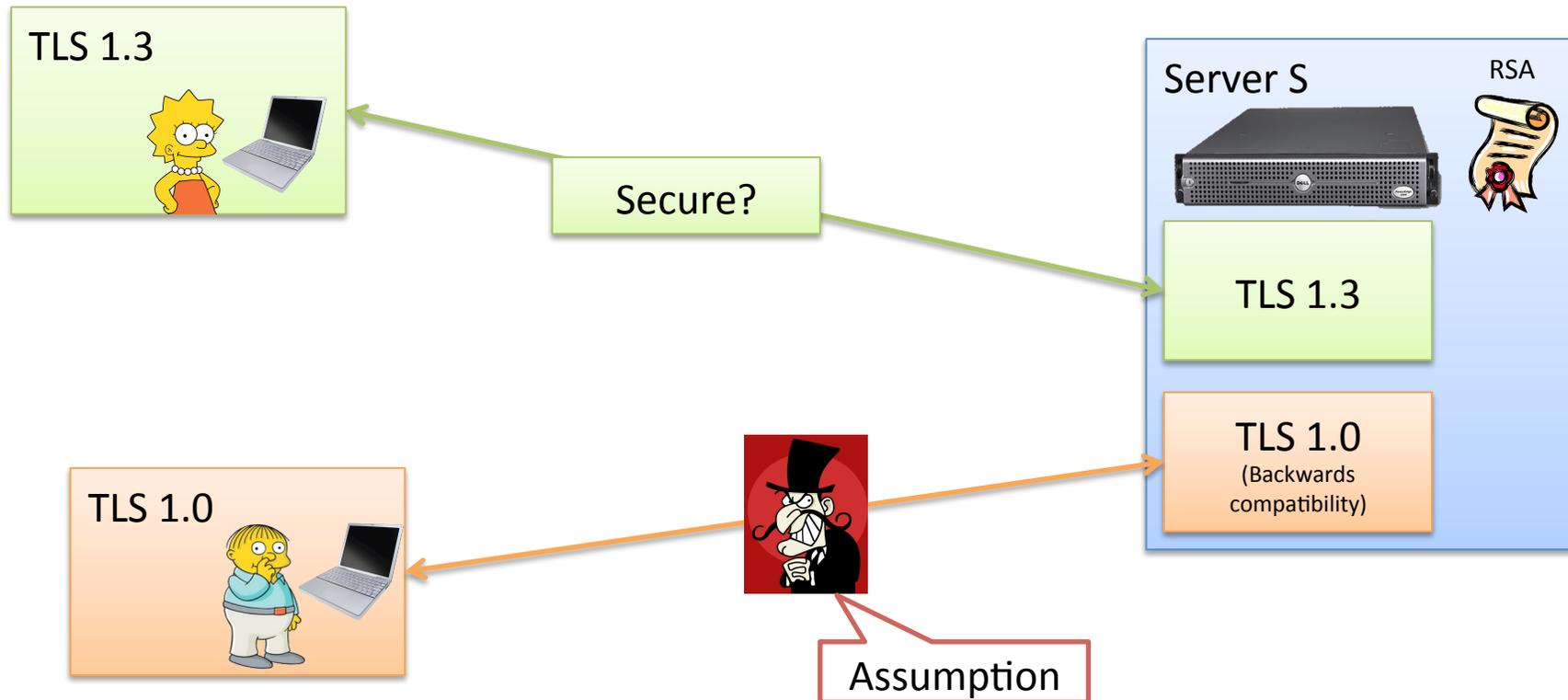
- **Most widely-used** key transport mechanism in all TLS versions **before 1.3**
- **Deprecated in TLS 1.3**
  - Vulnerable: **Bleichenbacher's attack** (CRYPTO '98)
  - Sufficient to protect against its weaknesses?

# Bleichenbacher attacks over and over

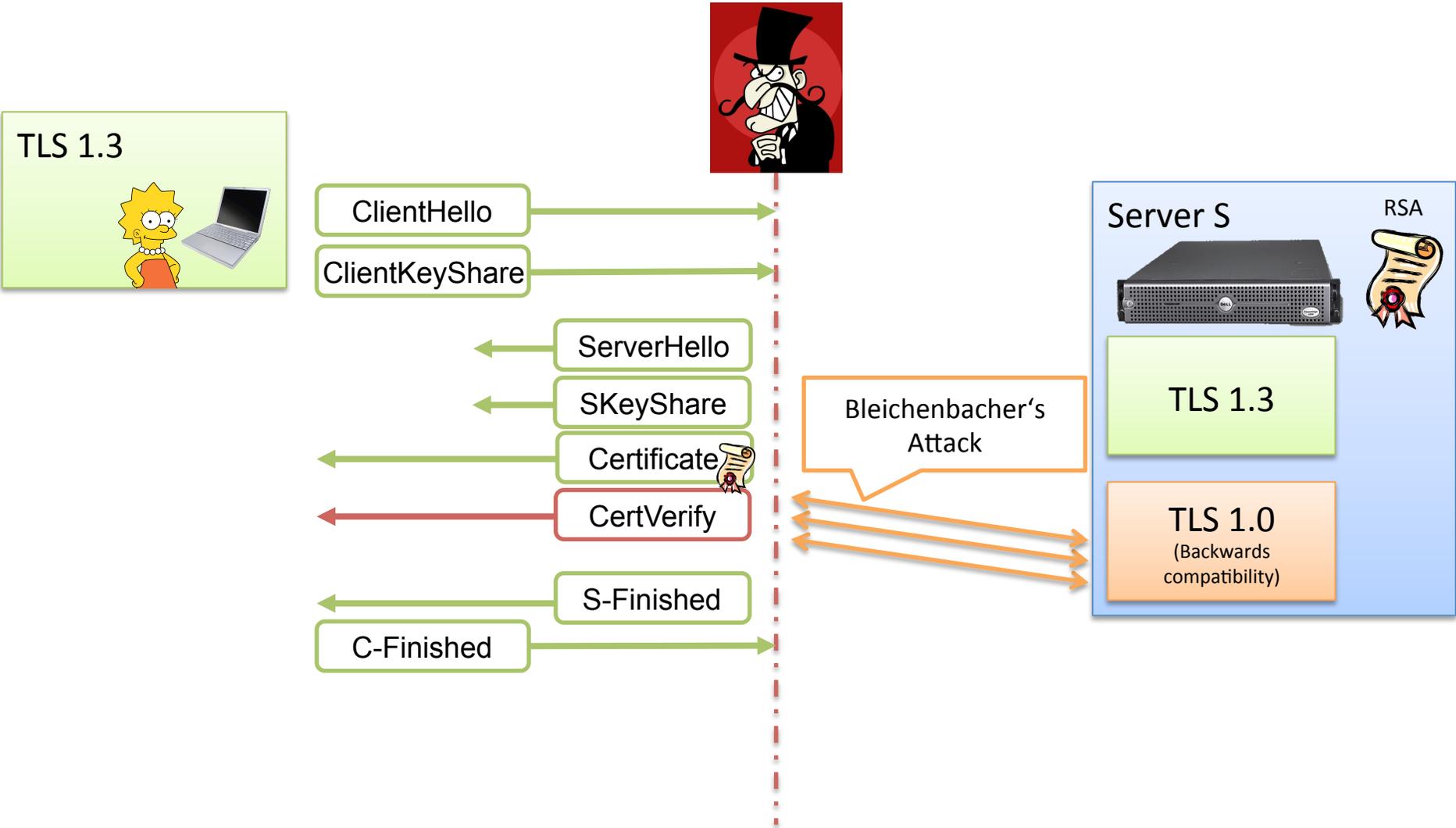
- Bleichenbacher (CRYPTO 1998)
- Klima et al. (CHES 2003)
- Jager et al. (ESORICS 2012)
- Degabriele et al. (CT-RSA 2012)
- Bardou et al. (CRYPTO 2012)
- Zhang et al. (ACM CCS 2014)
- Meyer et al. (USENIX Security 2014)
- **Aviram et al. (DROWN, USENIX Security 2016)**

**Assumption:** Bleichenbacher-like attacks remain  
a realistic threat

# Typical use of TLS 1.3 in practice



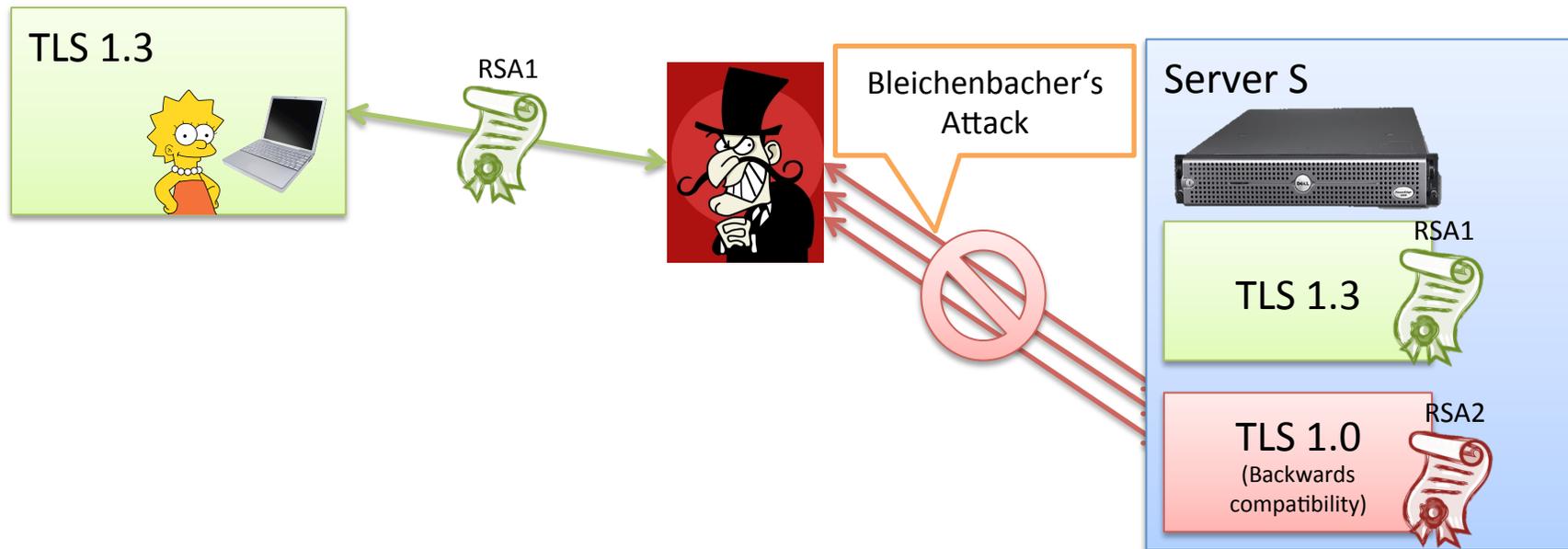
# High-level Attack Description



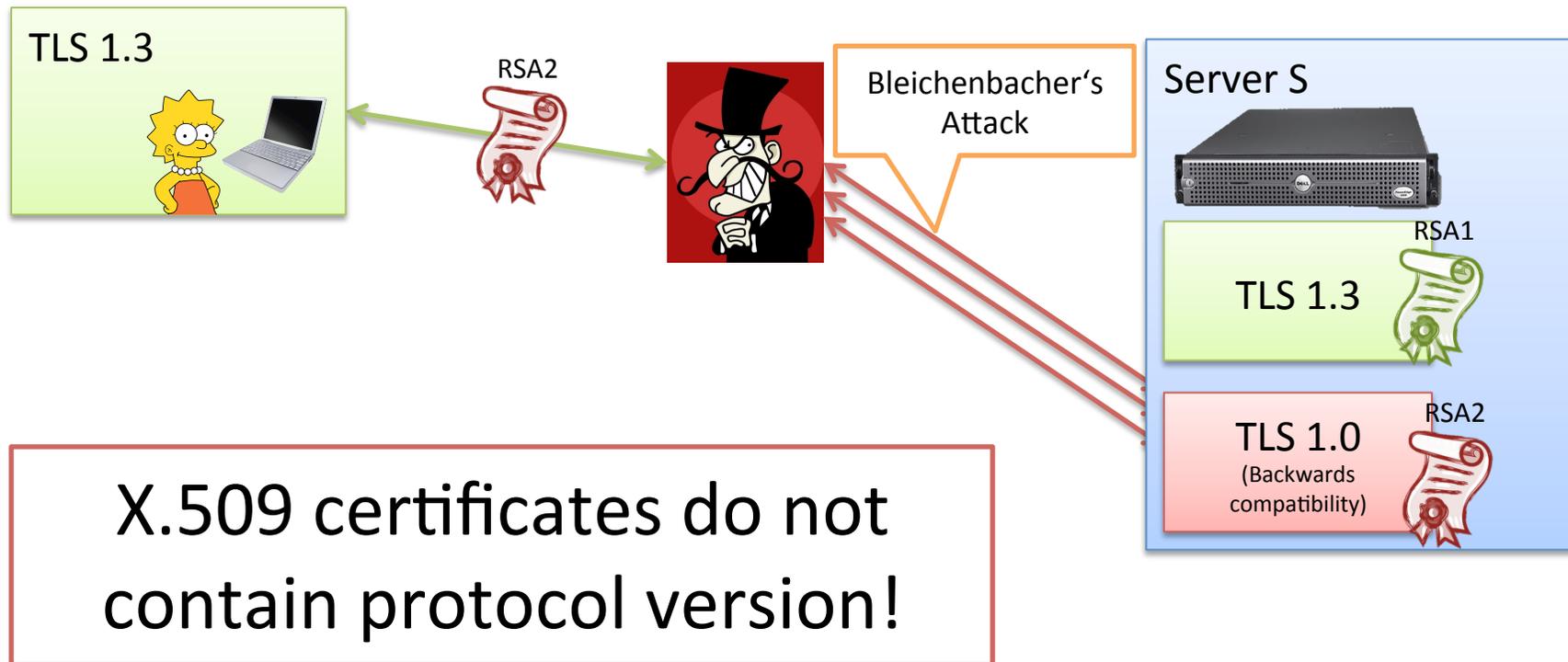
# Practical Impact

- Typical Bleichenbacher attacks take **hours or days**
- **DROWN** [Aviram et al. 2016]:  
**forge signature in one minute** on a single CPU
  - Leverages additional vulnerability in OpenSSL
  - All OpenSSL versions from 1998 to early 2015
  - 26% of HTTPS servers were vulnerable

# The difficulty of preventing such attacks (example)



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# Further difficulties

- Key separation **not supported** by major server implementations
- X.509 supports “sign/encrypt-only” certs
  - **Do browsers really check this?**
    - “No. And we have no intention to change this, because of usability/compatibility.”

# Summary and recommendations



- Removing RSA-PKCS#1 v1.5 from TLS is an **excellent decision**
  - Not sufficient to protect **completely** against weakness
- **Key separation** is important
  - DROWN 2.0?
  - **Future versions of X.509 should support key separation!**
  - Support by browsers is necessary!