

Quantum Cryptography

from basics of quantum mechanics to secure key distribution

Christoph Hamsen

Berlin Crypto Meetup



Who am I?

- Studied Physics @ TU Ilmenau, MIT, TU Munich and Harvard
- Researched on quantum optics for PhD @ MPQ
- Developed software for robots @ Magazino
- Bringing IT security to software @ SSE



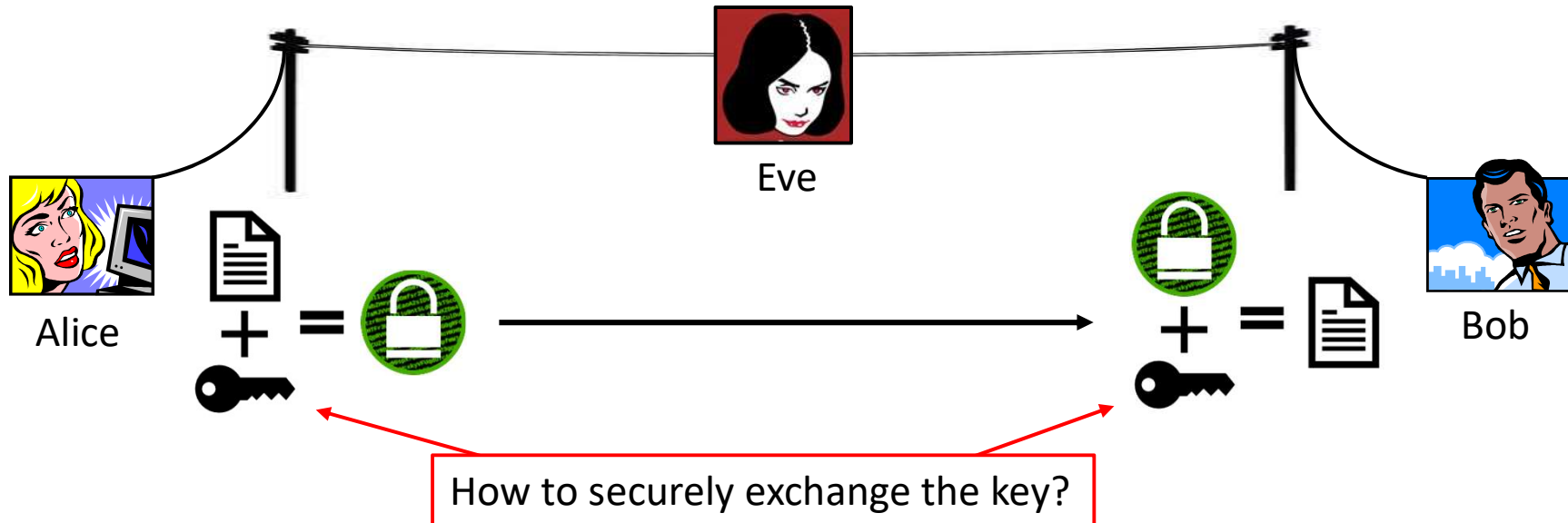
MPQ

SSE

Podcasts enthusiast (Logbuch Netzpolitik, Lage der Nation) and frequent visitor to c3!



Cryptography and Key Distribution



Communication should be secure!

- Authentic
- Confidential
- Integrity



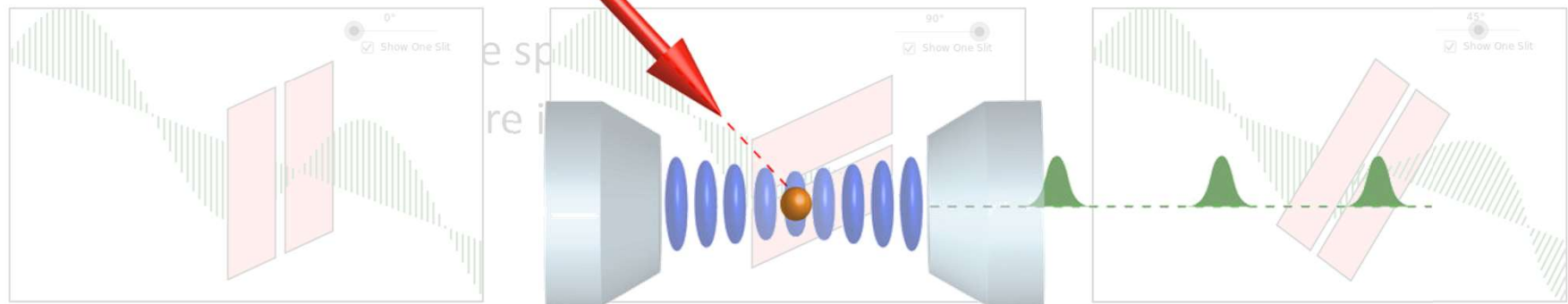
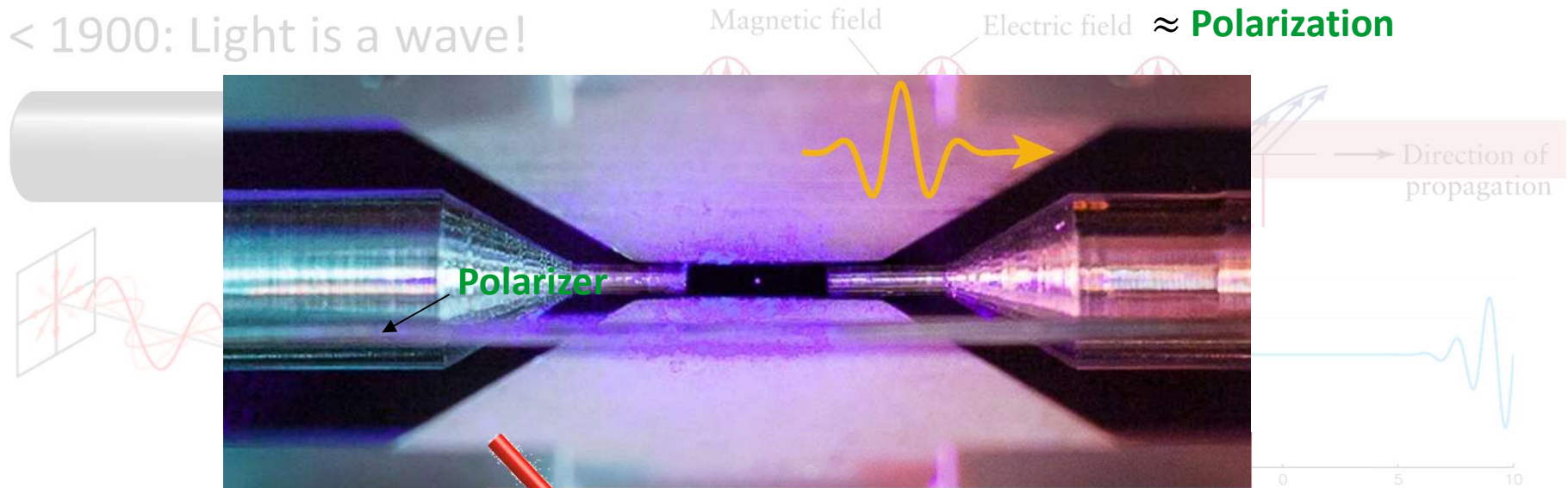
Choose Transport Layer Security (TLS)!

- v1.2 or higher!
- Select Cipher suite

Key Exchange **Encryption**
DHE – RSA – AES128 – SHA256
Authentication Message Authentication

Enter the photon!

< 1900: Light is a wave!



Probability: 100%

Image sources:

- [David Nadlinger @ Ion Trap Quantum Computing Group at University of Oxford](#)
- [Rempe Group @ Max Planck Institute of Quantum Optics](#)

Quantum Key Distribution à la "BB84"



Alice

RNG

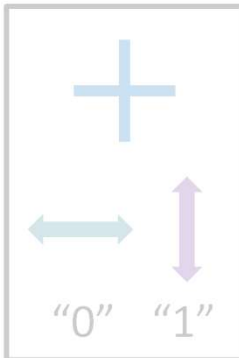
+ / ×

RNG

0 / 1

h/v basis

diag



5



Bob

NG

transmission media, e.g. communication channels, while it is impossible in principle to eavesdrop without a high probability of disturbing the transmission in such a way as to be detected. Such a quantum channel can be used in conjunction with ordinary insecure classical channels to distribute random key information between two users with the assurance that it remains unknown to anyone else, even when the users share no secret information initially. We also present a protocol for key distribution by exchange of quantum messages, which is secure against traditional kinds of eavesdropping. An opponent with unlimited computing power, but classically can be subverted by use of a still subtler quantum phenomenon, the BB84 quantum key distribution protocol.

Public key cryptographic techniques to yield several schemes for unforgeable subway tokens. Here we show that quantum coding by itself achieves one of the main advantages of public key cryptography by permitting secure distribution of random key information between parties who share no secret information. We also present a protocol for key distribution by exchange of quantum messages, which is secure against traditional kinds of eavesdropping. An opponent with unlimited computing power, but classically can be subverted by use of a still subtler quantum phenomenon, the BB84 quantum key distribution protocol.

Protocol

1. Alice sends random values in random bases
2. Bob measures in random bases
3. Alice communicates chosen bases in a classical channel
4. Both compare random subset of values

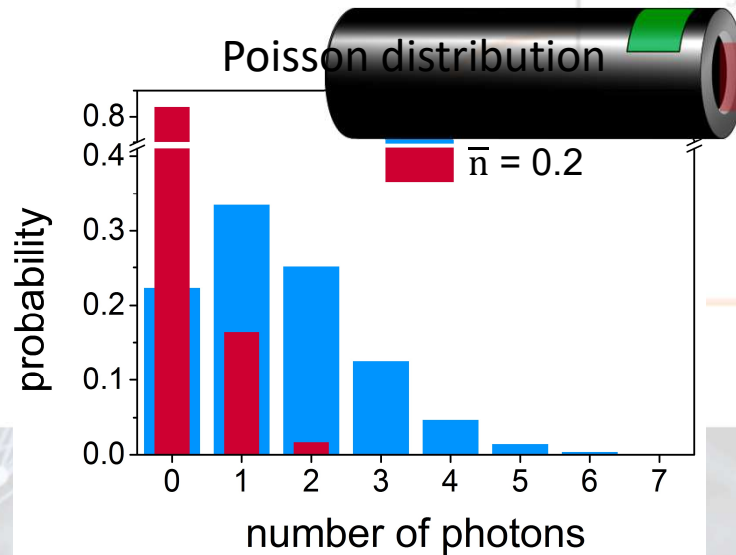
"No-cloning theorem"

2% error on eavesdropping

Provably secure!

Source: <http://www.vad1.com/>

Attacks & Vulnerabilities



$$P(k) = \frac{\bar{n}^k e^{-\bar{n}}}{k!}$$

with k – number of photons
 \bar{n} – mean photon number

→ single-photon sources

→ privacy amplification

→ other protocols, e.g. decoy state QKD

N. Jain, B. Stiller, I. Khan, V. Makarov, C. Marquardt and G. Leuchs, "Risk Analysis of Trojan-Horse Attacks on Practical Quantum Key Distribution Systems", *IEEE* 21 (3), 163-177 (2015)

Hardware/Implementation attacks

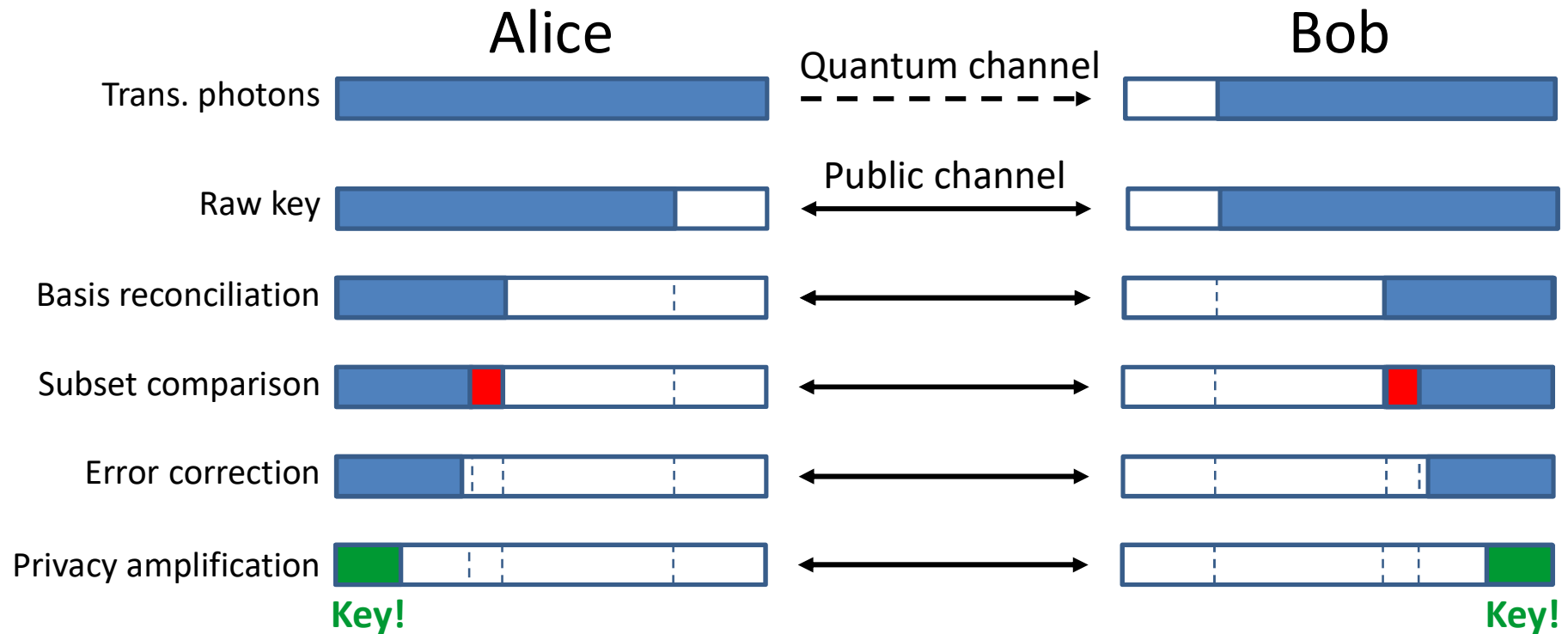
| Attack | Target component | Tested system |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Intersymbol interference <small>K. Yoshino et al., poster at QCrypt (2016)</small> | intensity modulator in Alice | research system |
| Laser damage <small>V. Makarov et al., Phys. Rev. A 94, 030302 (2016)</small> | any | ID Quantique, research system |
| Spatial efficiency mismatch <small>M. Rau et al., IEEE J. Quantum Electron. 21, 6600905 (2015); S. Sajeed et al., Phys. Rev. A 91, 062301 (2015)</small> | receiver optics | research system |
| Pulse energy calibration <small>S. Sajeed et al., Phys. Rev. A 91, 032326 (2015)</small> | classical watchdog detector | ID Quantique |
| Trojan-horse <small>I. Khan et al., presentation at QCrypt (2014)</small> | phase modulator in Alice | SeQureNet |
| Trojan-horse <small>N. Jain et al., New J. Phys. 16, 123030 (2014); S. Sajeed et al., arXiv:1704.07749</small> | phase modulator in Bob | ID Quantique |
| Detector saturation <small>H. Qin, R. Kumar, R. Alleaume, Proc. SPIE 88990N (2013)</small> | homodyne detector | SeQureNet |
| Shot-noise calibration <small>P. Jouguet, S. Kunz-Jacques, E. Diamanti, Phys. Rev. A 87, 062313 (2013)</small> | classical sync detector | SeQureNet |
| Wavelength-selected PNS <small>M.-S. Jiang, S.-H. Sun, C.-Y. Li, L.-M. Liang, Phys. Rev. A 86, 032310 (2012)</small> | intensity modulator | (theory) |
| Multi-wavelength <small>H.-W. Li et al., Phys. Rev. A 84, 062308 (2011)</small> | beamsplitter | research system |
| Deadtime <small>H. Weier et al., New J. Phys. 13, 073024 (2011)</small> | single-photon detector | research system |
| Channel calibration <small>N. Jain et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 110501 (2011)</small> | single-photon detector | ID Quantique |
| Faraday-mirror <small>S.-H. Sun, M.-S. Jiang, L.-M. Liang, Phys. Rev. A 83, 062331 (2011)</small> | Faraday mirror | (theory) |
| Detector control <small>I. Gerhardt et al., Nat. Commun. 2, 349 (2011); L. Lydersen et al., Nat. Photonics 4, 686 (2010)</small> | single-photon detector | ID Quantique, MagiQ, research system |

Table by V. Makarov: <http://www.vad1.com/>

Real world QKD

Handle losses due to e.g. sources, quantum channel, detector, Eve, ...

→ **Key Distillation**



→ Transmission losses ultimately limit QKD distance!

“Applications”

- Many research groups world-wide
 - Components
 - Theory
- Commercial systems
 - IDQuantique, MagiQ Technologies, QuintessenceLabs, SeQureNet, ...
- Several long-distance test networks...

Slide taken from V.Makarov (<http://www.vad1.com/>)

Classical encryptors:

L2, 2 Gbit/s

L2, 10 Gbit/s

L3 VPN, 100 Mbit/s

WDMs

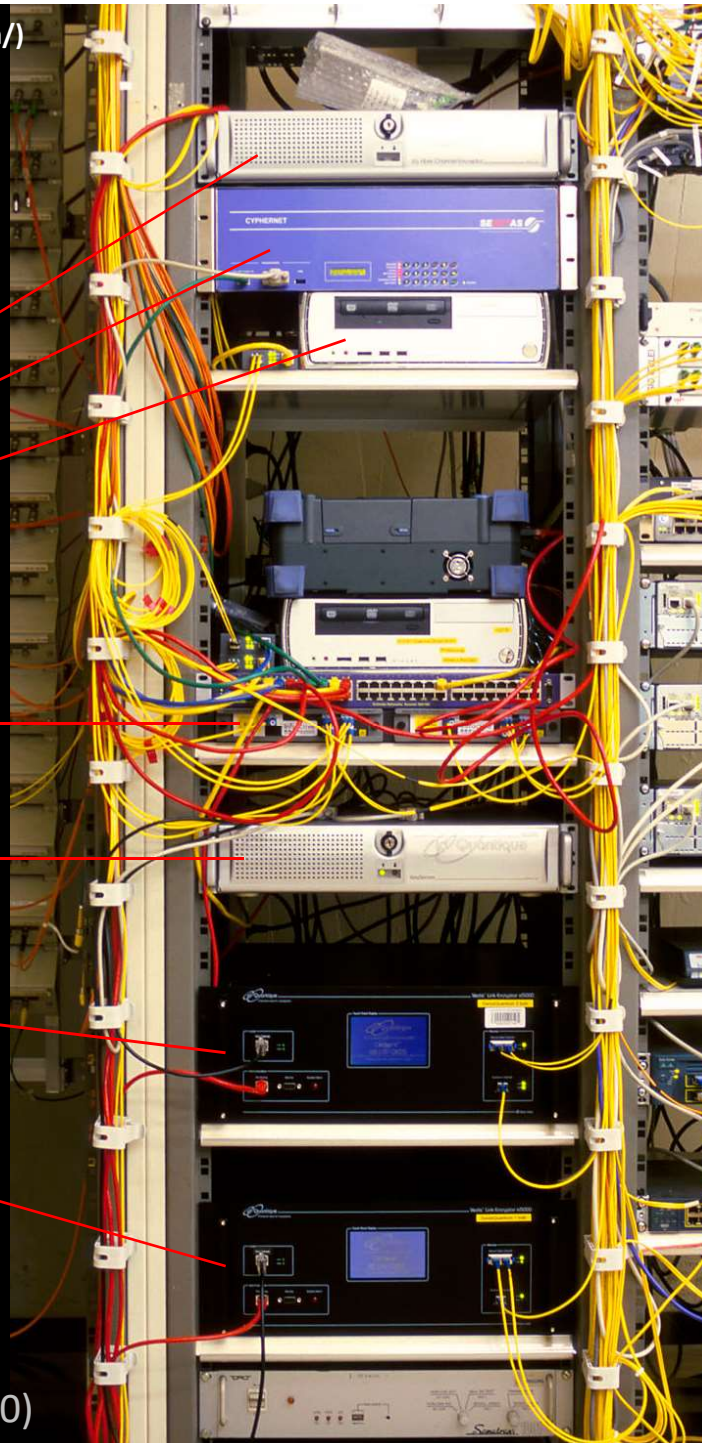
Key manager

QKD to another node
(4 km)

QKD to another node
(14 km)

www.swissquantum.com

ID Quantique *Cerberis* system (2010)



Quantum Backbone

- Total Length 2000 km
- 2013.6-2016.12
- 32 trustable relay nodes
31 fiber links
- Metropolitan networks
Existing: Hefei, Jinan
New: Beijing, Shanghai
- Customer: China Industrial
& Commercial Bank; Xinhua
News Agency; CBRC



Q. Zhang, talk at QCrypt 2014



Global quantum key distribution

Chinese quantum satellite (launched 2016)

Bell test over 1200 km

Satellite-to-ground QKD at 1 kbit/s

Quantum teleportation over 1400 km

J. Yin *et al.*, *Science* 356, 1140 (2017)

S.-K. Liao *et al.*, arXiv:1707.00542

J.-G. Ren *et al.*, arXiv:1707.00934

Slide taken from V.Makarov (<http://www.vad1.com/>)

Challenges & Developments



- ## Developments

- Quantum Relays and Repeaters
- Device-independent QKD (E91 protocol)
- Multi-mode, quantum signatures, quantum one-way functions, ...

the end



Alice

Bye

Thank you
for your
attention!



Bob

You're
welcome ;-)



Eve



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/hamsen/>