



# DNSSEC for Everybody: A Beginner's Guide

*Prague, Czech Republic*

*25 June 2012*



# PRAGUE

# The Schedule

Outline Concept	Segment	Duration	Speaker
<b>Welcome</b>	Welcome and	2 mins	Simon
	Caveman – DNSSEC	3 mins	Simon
<b>Basic Concepts</b>	DNS Basics	5 mins	Roy
	DNS Chain of Trust - Live	5 mins	Norm
<b>Core Concepts</b>	DNSSEC – How it works	10 mins	Roy
	DNSSEC – Chain of Trust	5 mins	Norm
<b>Real World Examples</b>	A sample DNSSEC implementation (what it looks like, s/w etc). A simple guide to deployment.	10 mins	Russ
	A guide to DNSSEC Deployment options: Technologies and vendors.	10 mins	Russ
<b>Summary</b>	Session Round up, hand out of materials, Thank you's	2 mins	Simon

THE ORIGINS

OF DNSSEC

5000 BC





This is Ugwina. She lives in a cave on the edge of the Grand Canyon...

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This is Og. He lives in a cave on the other side of the Grand Canyon...

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It's a long way down and a long way round. Ugwina and Og don't get to talk much...





On one of their rare visits, they notice the smoke coming from Og's fire  
nominet®





...and soon they are chatting regularly using smoke signals





until one day, mischievous caveman Kaminsky moves in next door to Ug and starts sending smoke signals too...

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Now Ugwina is really confused. She doesn't know which smoke to believe...

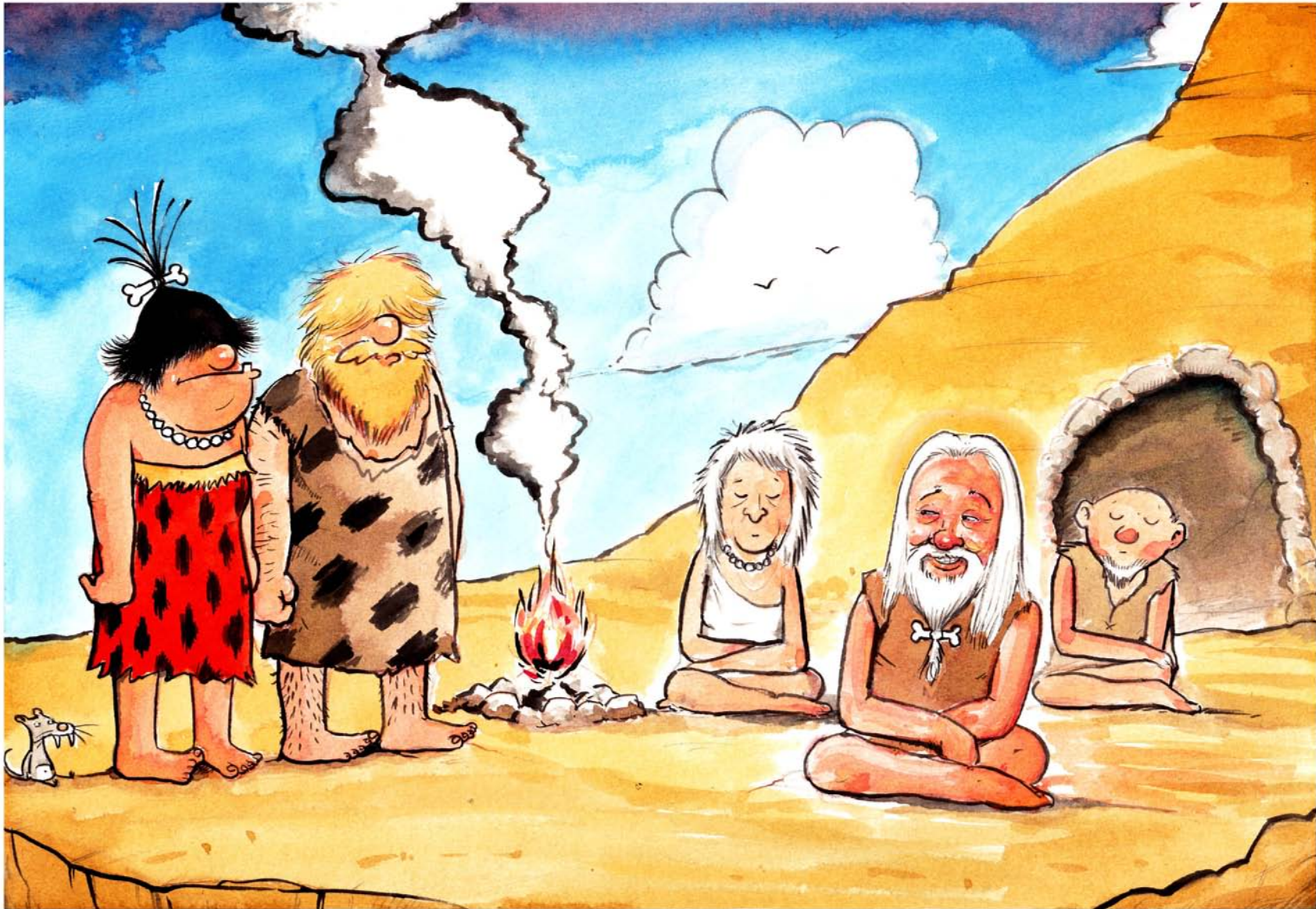




So Ugwina sets off down the canyon to try and sort out the mess...

[nominet](#)<sup>®</sup>

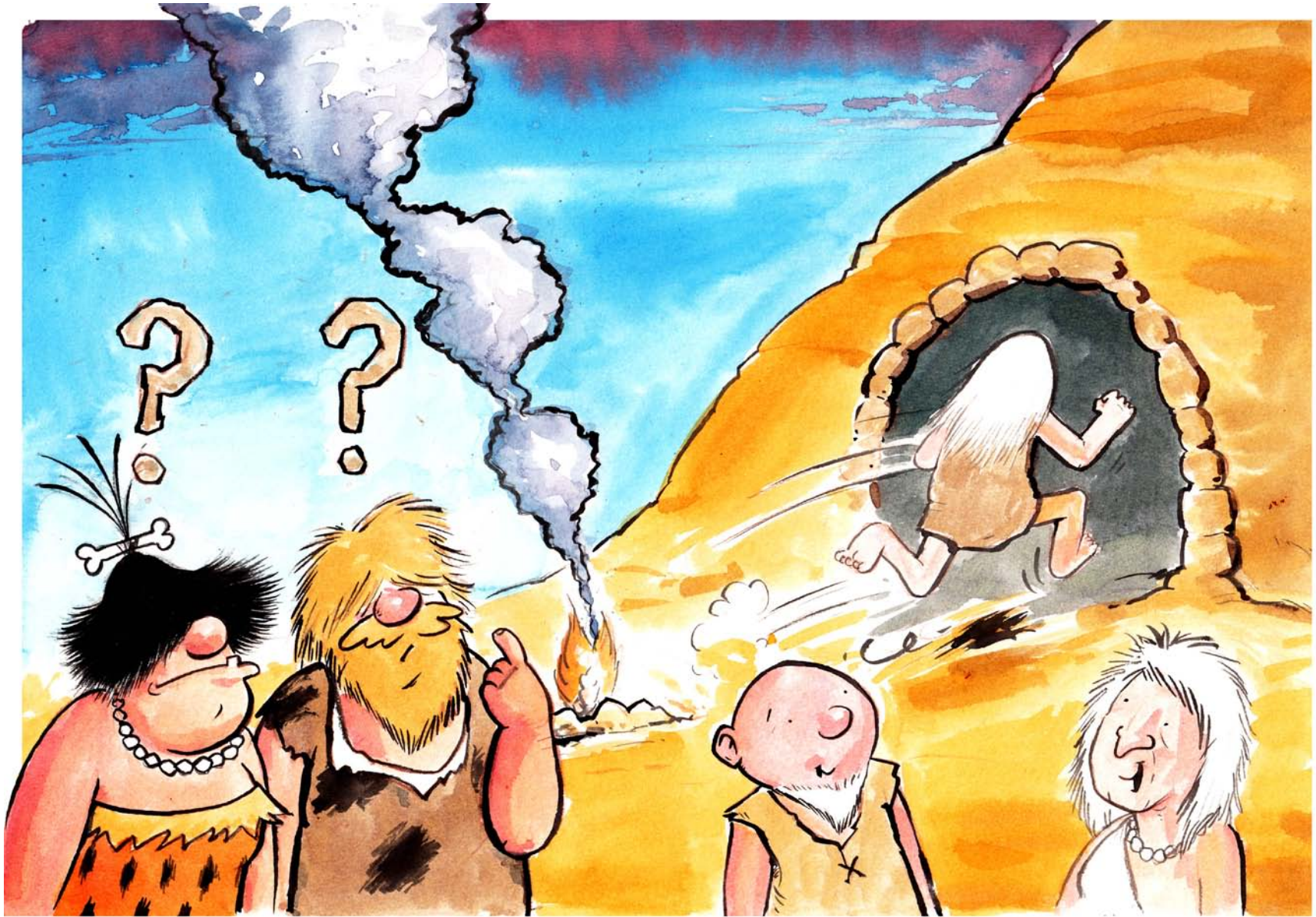




Ugwina and Og consult the wise village elders. Caveman Diffie thinks that he might have a cunning idea...

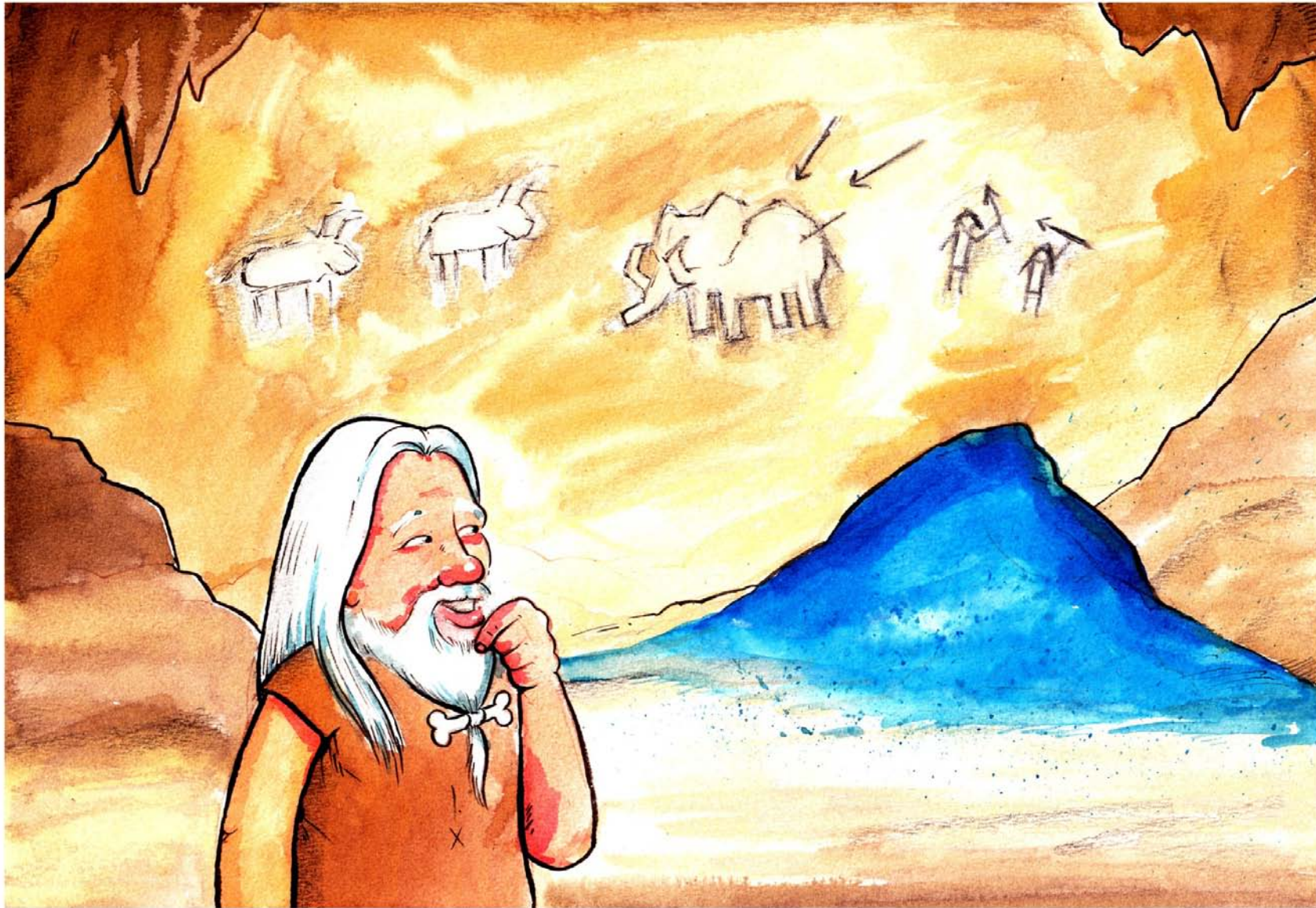
[nominet](#)<sup>®</sup>





And in a flash, jumps up and runs into Ug's cave...!





Right at the back, he finds a pile of strangely coloured sand that has only ever been found in Ug's cave...





And with a skip, he rushes out and throws some of the sand onto the fire. The smoke turns a magnificent blue...

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Now Ugwina and Og can chat happily again, safe in the knowledge that nobody can interfere with their conversation...

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# Introduction to DNSSEC

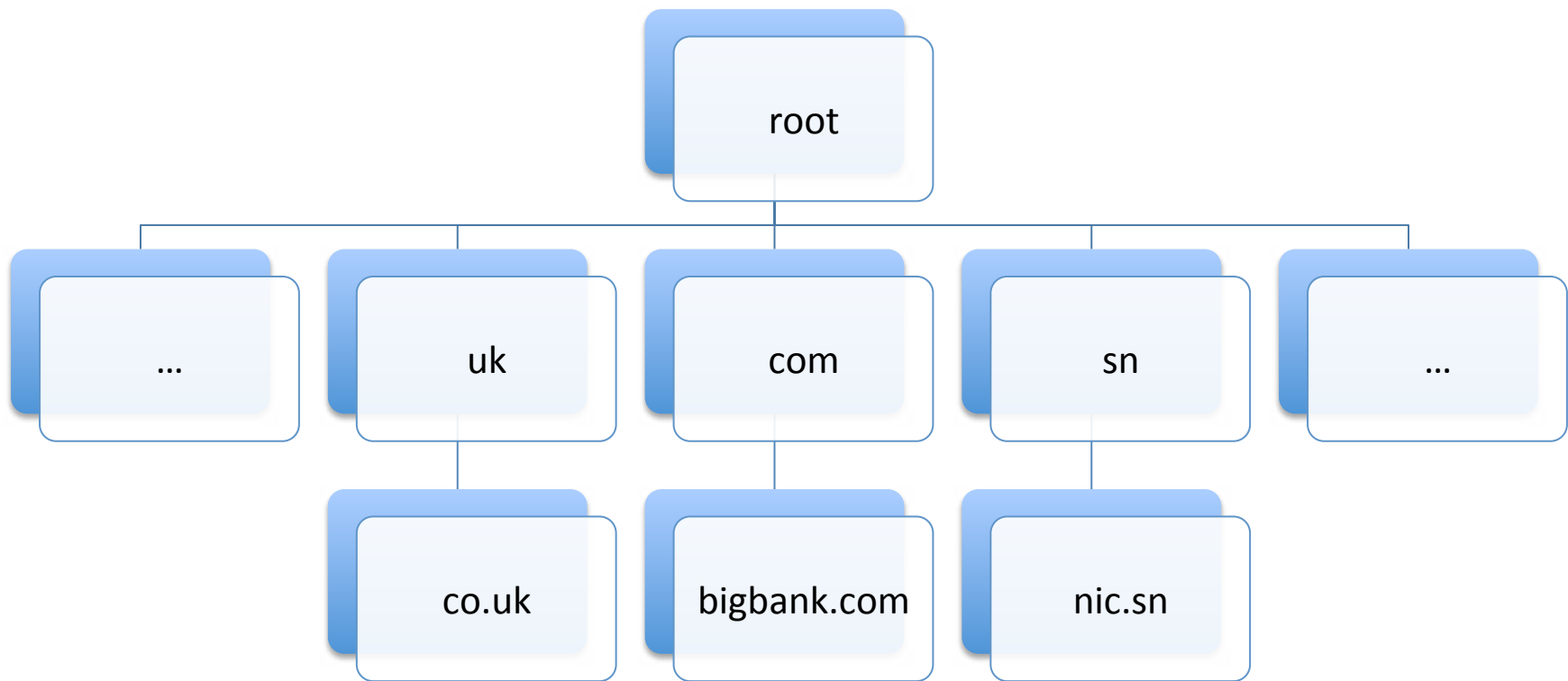
*Roy Arends, Nominet UK*



**Dakar**  
SÉNÉGAL  
N°42 23 - 28 October 2011



# High level concept of DNS



# High level concept of DNS

- A resolver knows where the root-zone is
- Traverses the DNS hierarchy
- Each level refers the resolver to the next level
- Until the question has been answered
- The resolver caches all that information for future use.

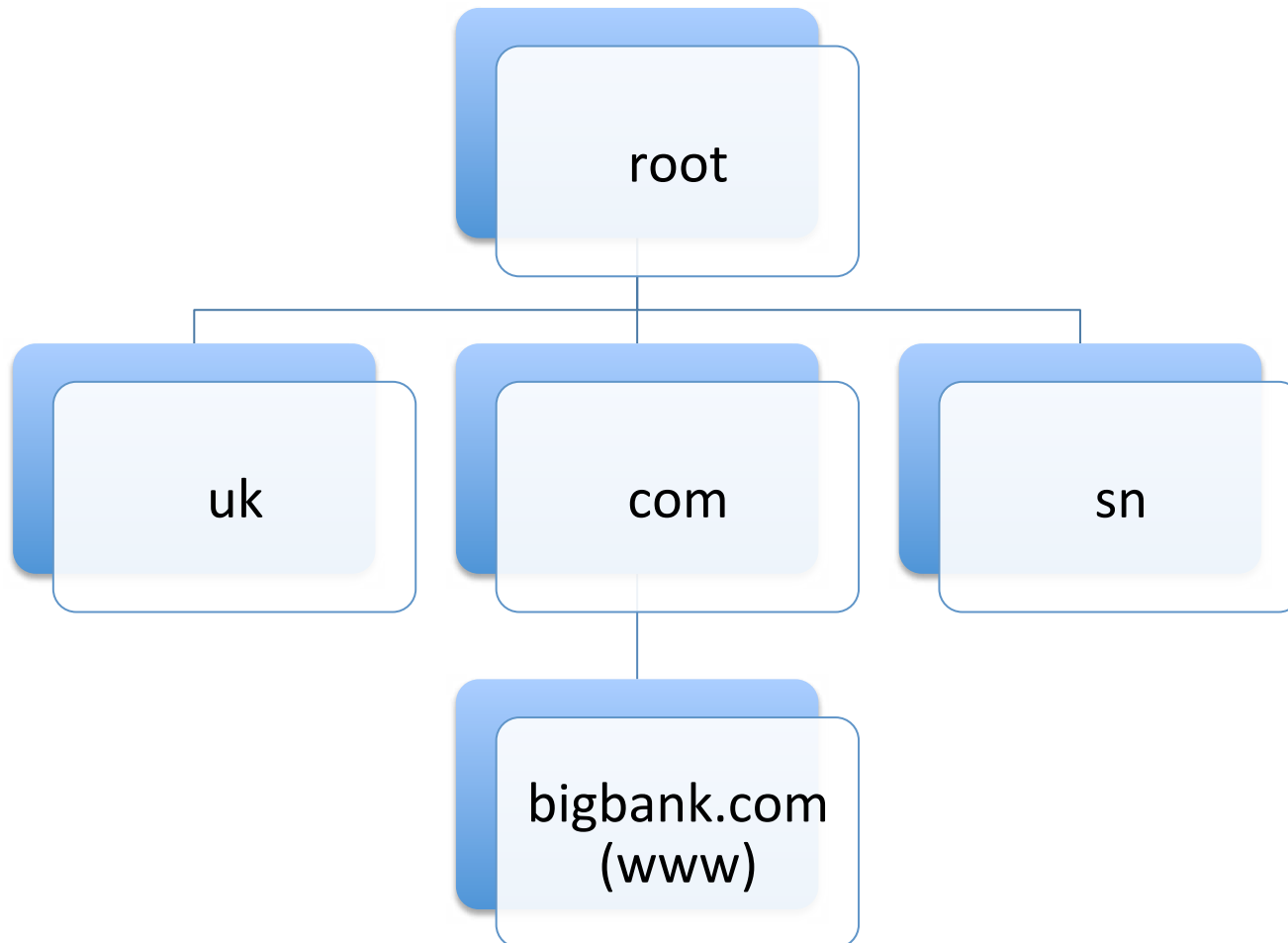




...Ugwina, the resolver, chatting with Og, the server...



# High level concept of DNS



# High level concept of DNS

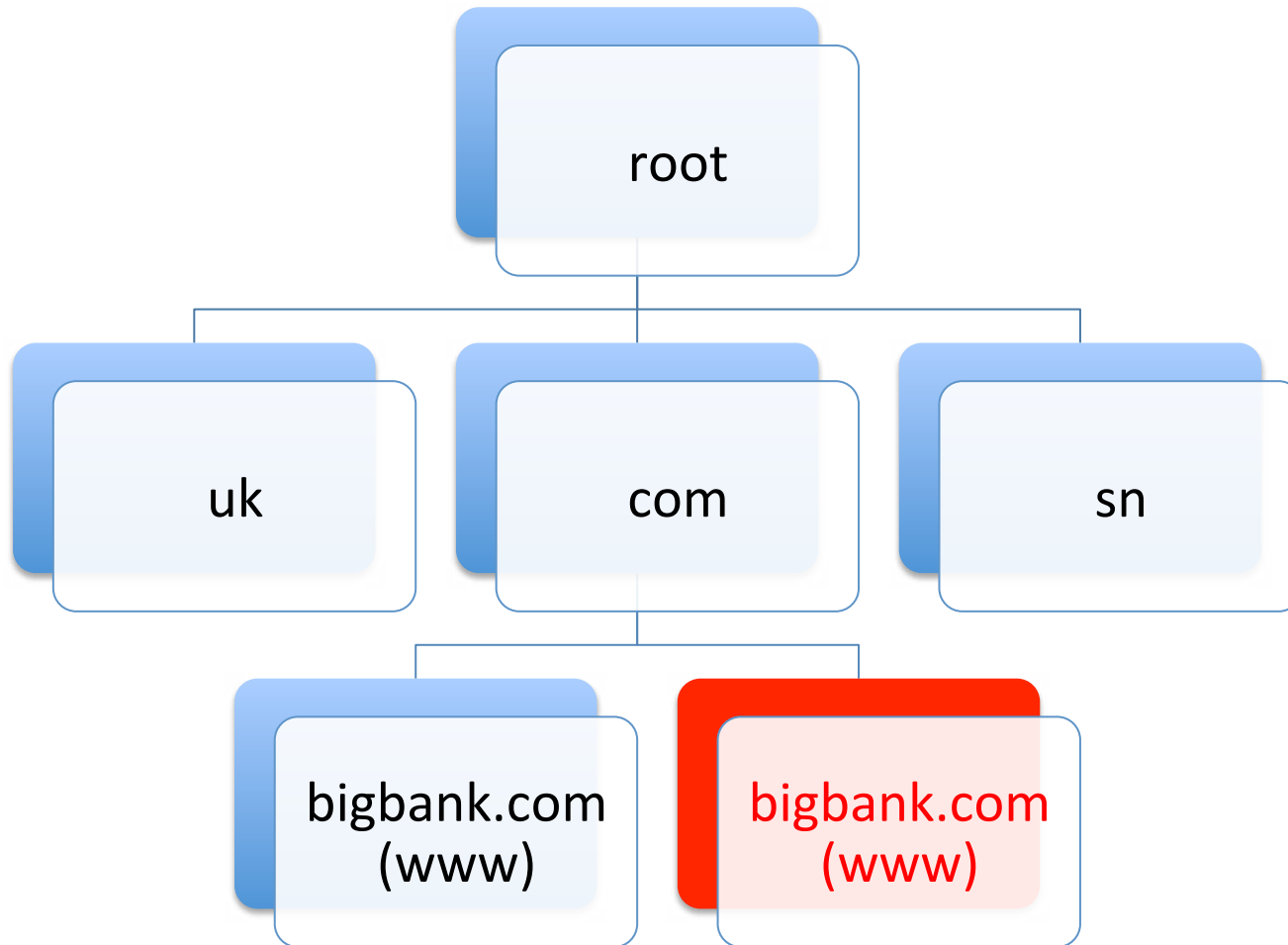
- There is no security
- Names are easily spoofed
- Caches are easily poisoned





...Ugwina, the resolver is confused. She doesn't know who the real Og is...

# High level concept of DNS





# DNSSEC is the solution

- DNSSEC uses **digital signatures** to assure that information is correct and came from the right place.
- The keys and signatures to verify the information, is stored in the DNS as well
- Since DNS is a lookup system, keys can simply be looked up, like any data.



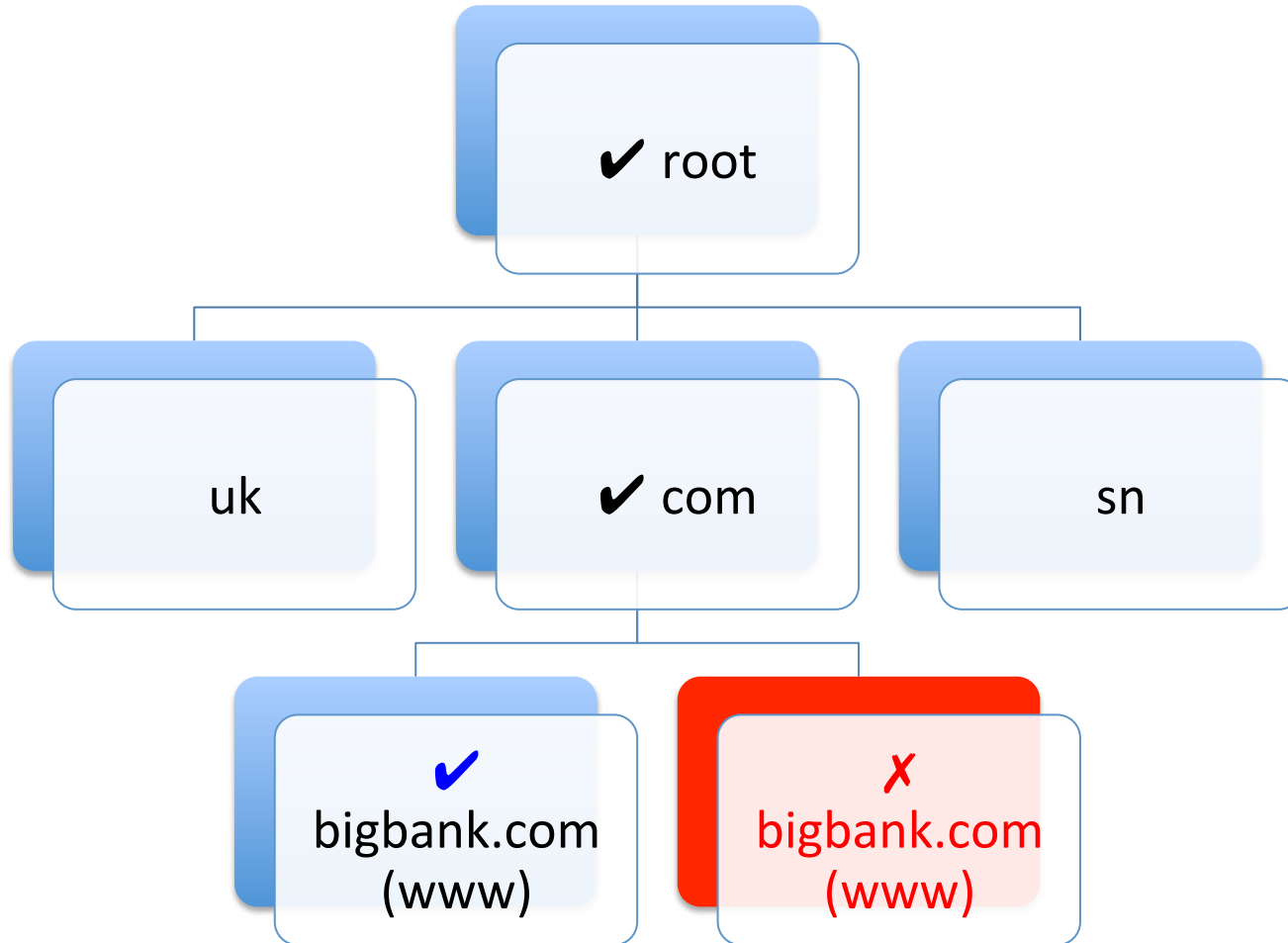
...Ugwina, the resolver, can verify that the real Og sends the message...



# High level concept of DNSSEC

- A resolver knows what the root-key is
- It builds a Chain of Trust:
  - Each level signs the key of the next level
  - Until the chain is complete

# High level concept of DNSSEC







# A Sample DNSSEC Implementation & Guide to Deployment Options

*Russ Mundy, SPARTA*

# DNSSEC Implementation Samples

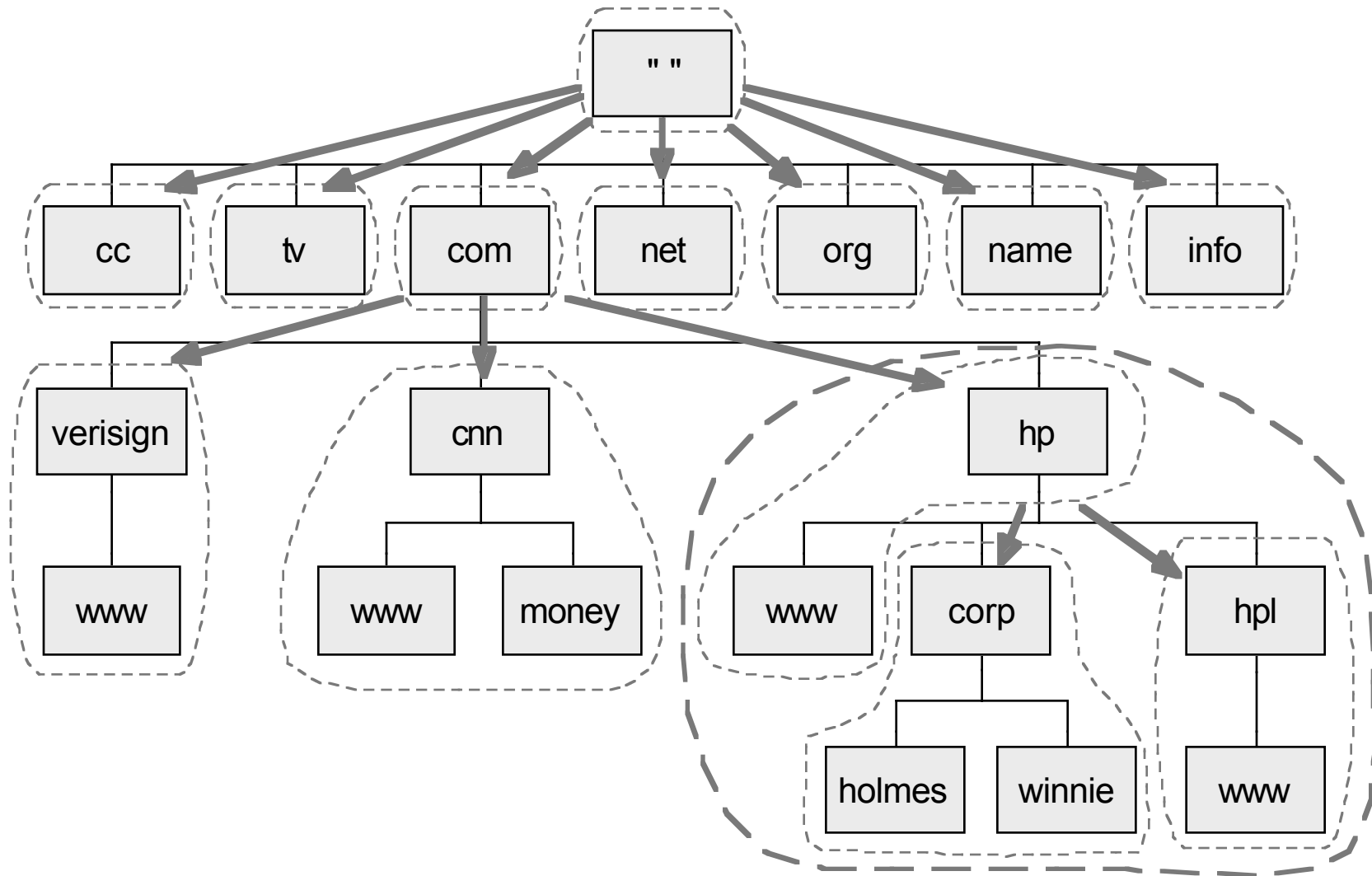
- DNSSEC implementation depends upon & is mostly driven by an activity's DNS functions
  - DNS is made up of many parts, e.g., name server operators, applications users, name holders (“owners”), DNS provisioning
  - Activities with large, complex DNS functions are more likely to have more complex DNSSEC implementation activities
    - Also more likely to have ‘DNS knowledgeable’ staff



# DNSSEC Implementation Samples, Continued

- DNS size and complexity examples:
  - Registry responsible for a large TLD operation, e.g., .com
  - Substantial enterprise with many components with many geographic locations, e.g., hp.com
  - Internet-based businesses with a number of business critical zones, e.g., www.verisign.com
  - Activities with non-critical DNS zones, e.g., net-snmp.org
  - Proverbial Internet end users (all of us here)

# Zones



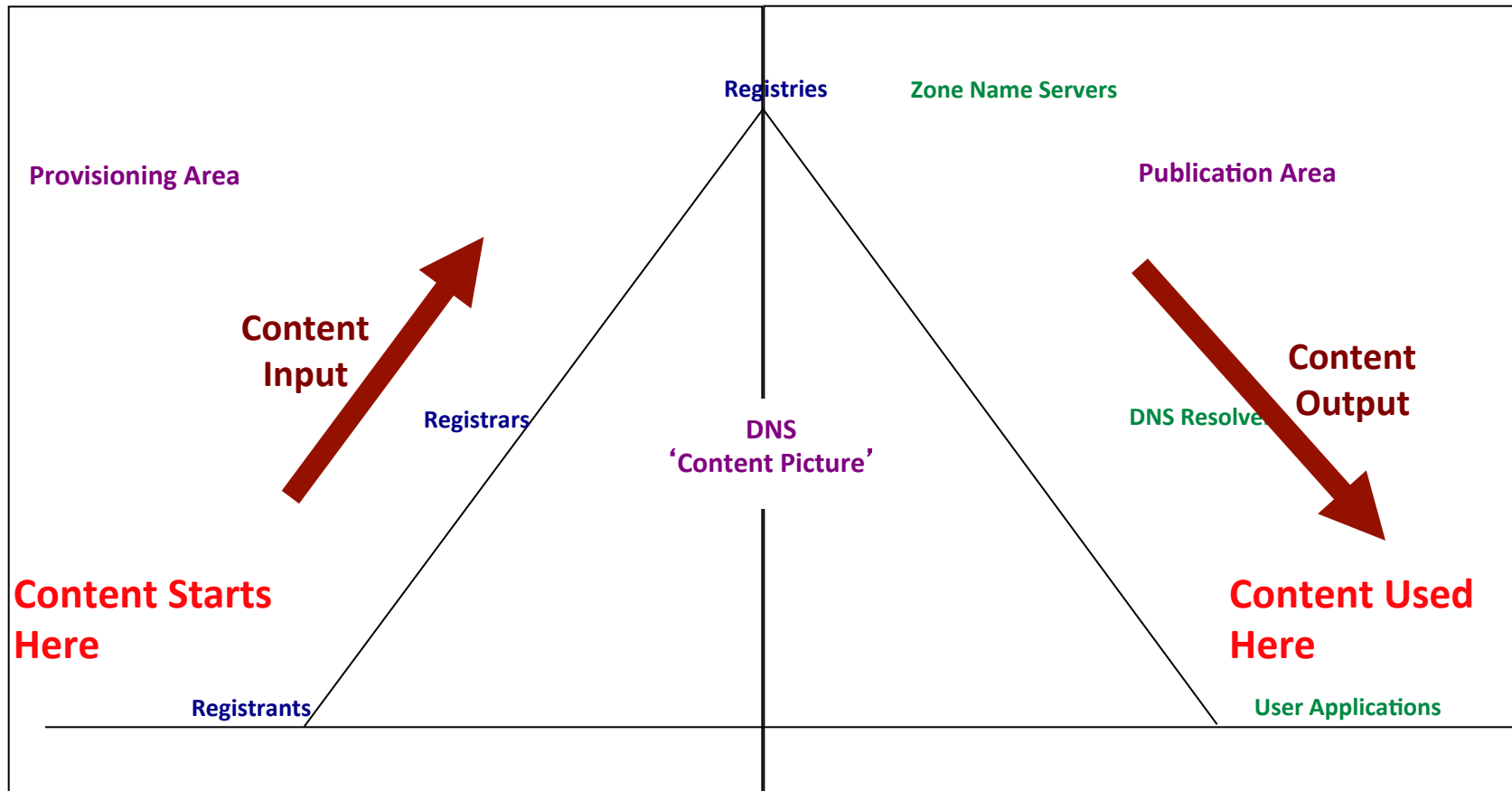


# General Principle:

- If an activity does a lot with their DNS functions and operations then they probably will want to do a lot with the associated DNSSEC pieces;
- If an activity does little or nothing with their DNS functions and operations then they probably will want to do little or nothing with the associated DNSSEC pieces.

# DNS Zone Content Flow

(for example, www.icann.org or www.cnn.com)

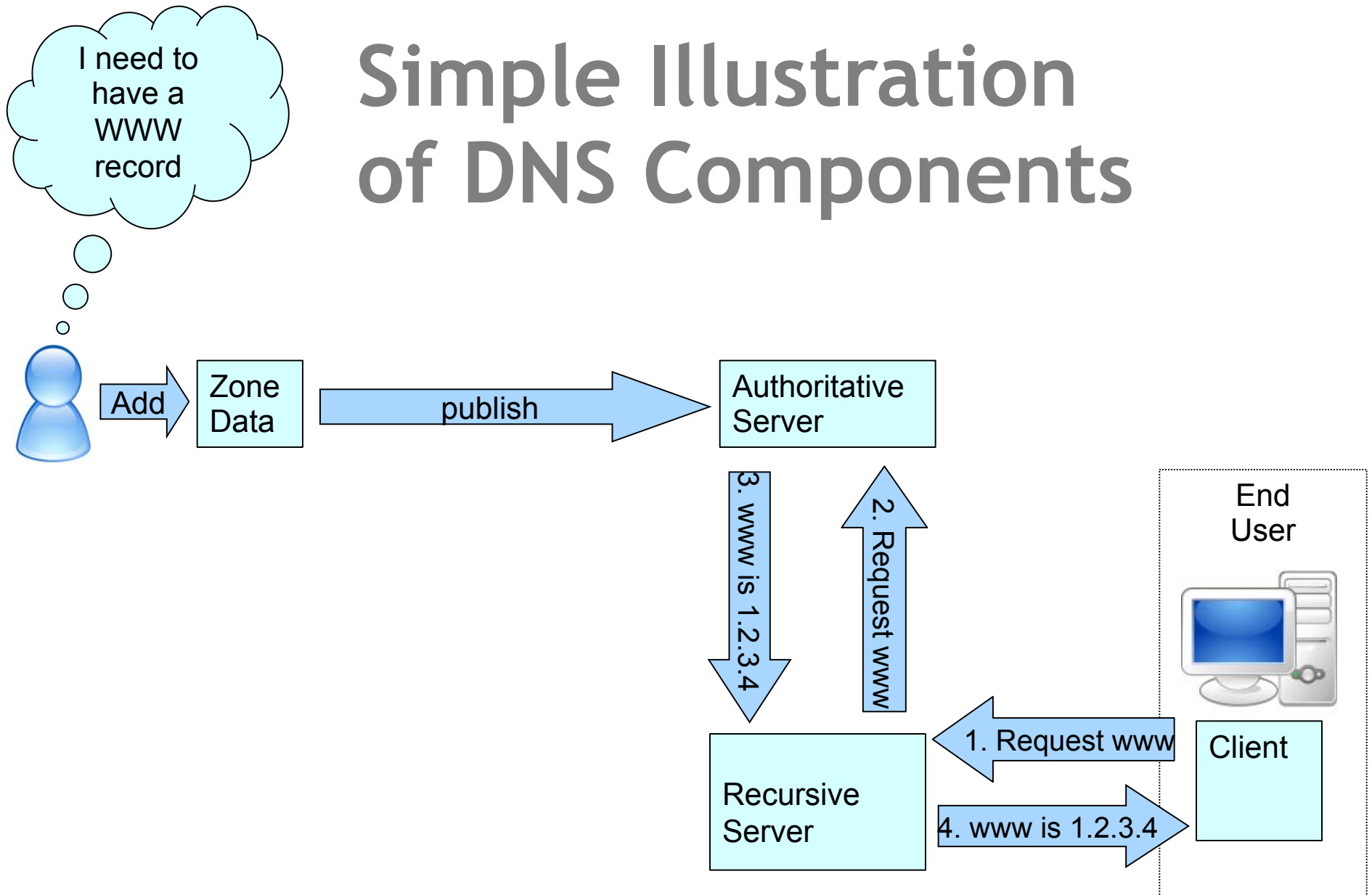




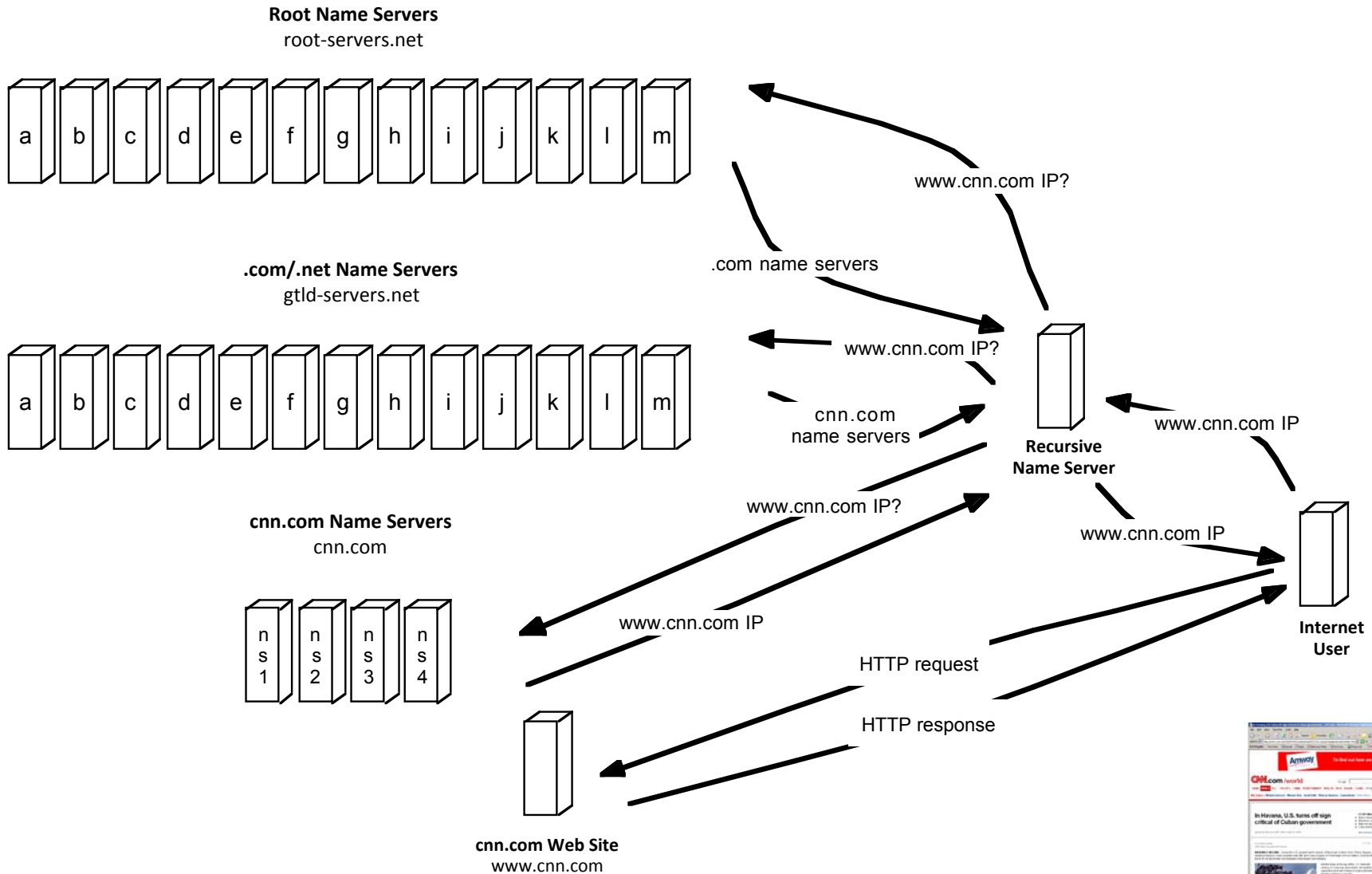
# Questions for Everyone ...

- Do you know **WHERE** you get your DNS name(s) from?
- Do you know **WHO** operates the DNS name servers for your name(s)?

# Simple Illustration of DNS Components

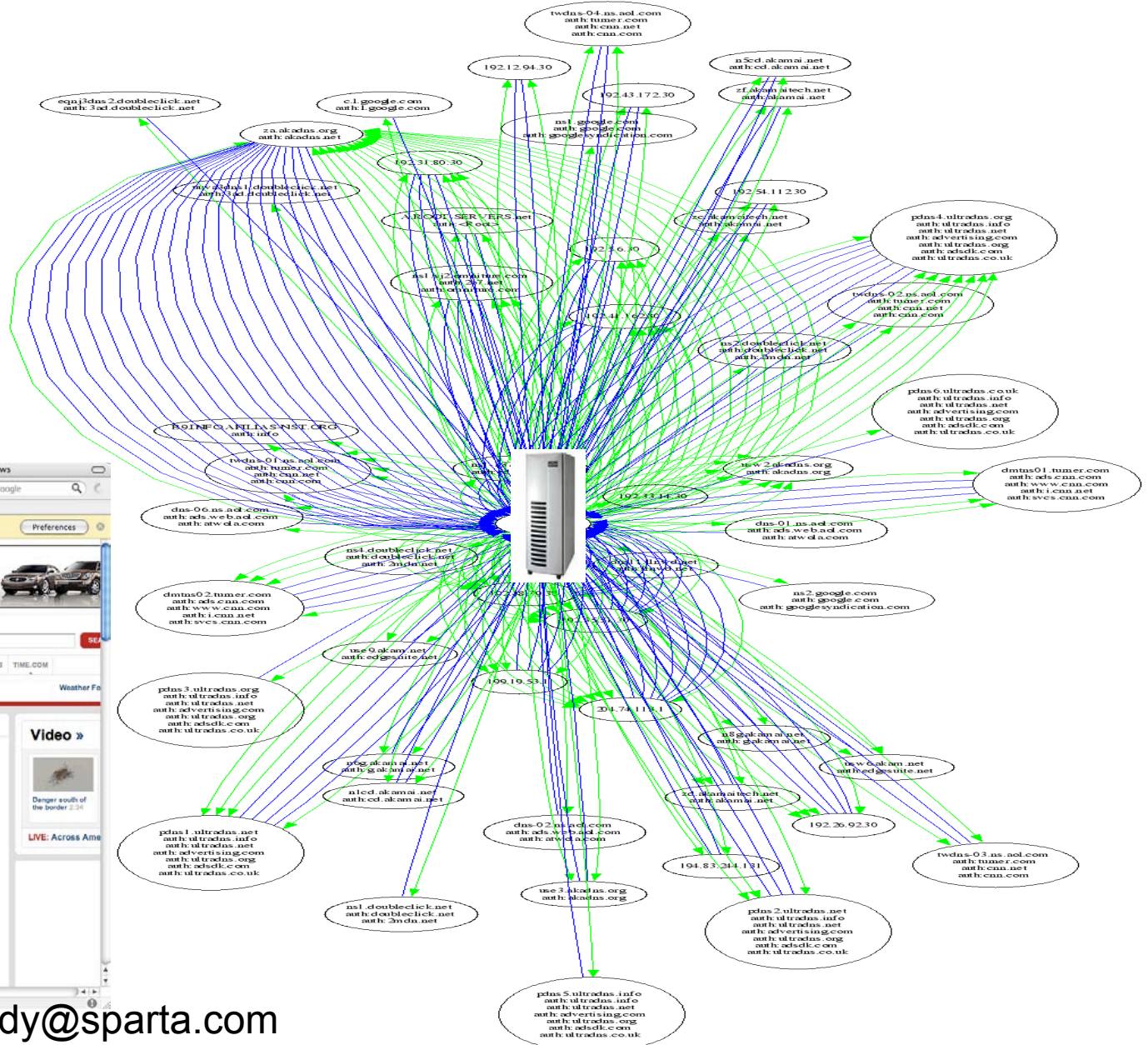
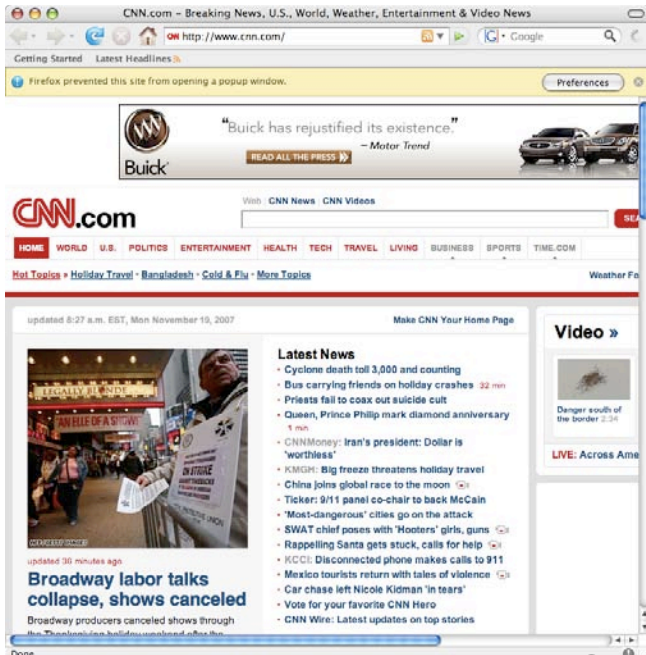


# Name Resolution





# 1 Webpage = Multiple DNS Name Resolutions





# DNS Basic Functions

- DNS provides the translation from names to network addresses
  - Get the right DNS content to Internet users
- IT'S DNS ZONE DATA THAT MATTERS!

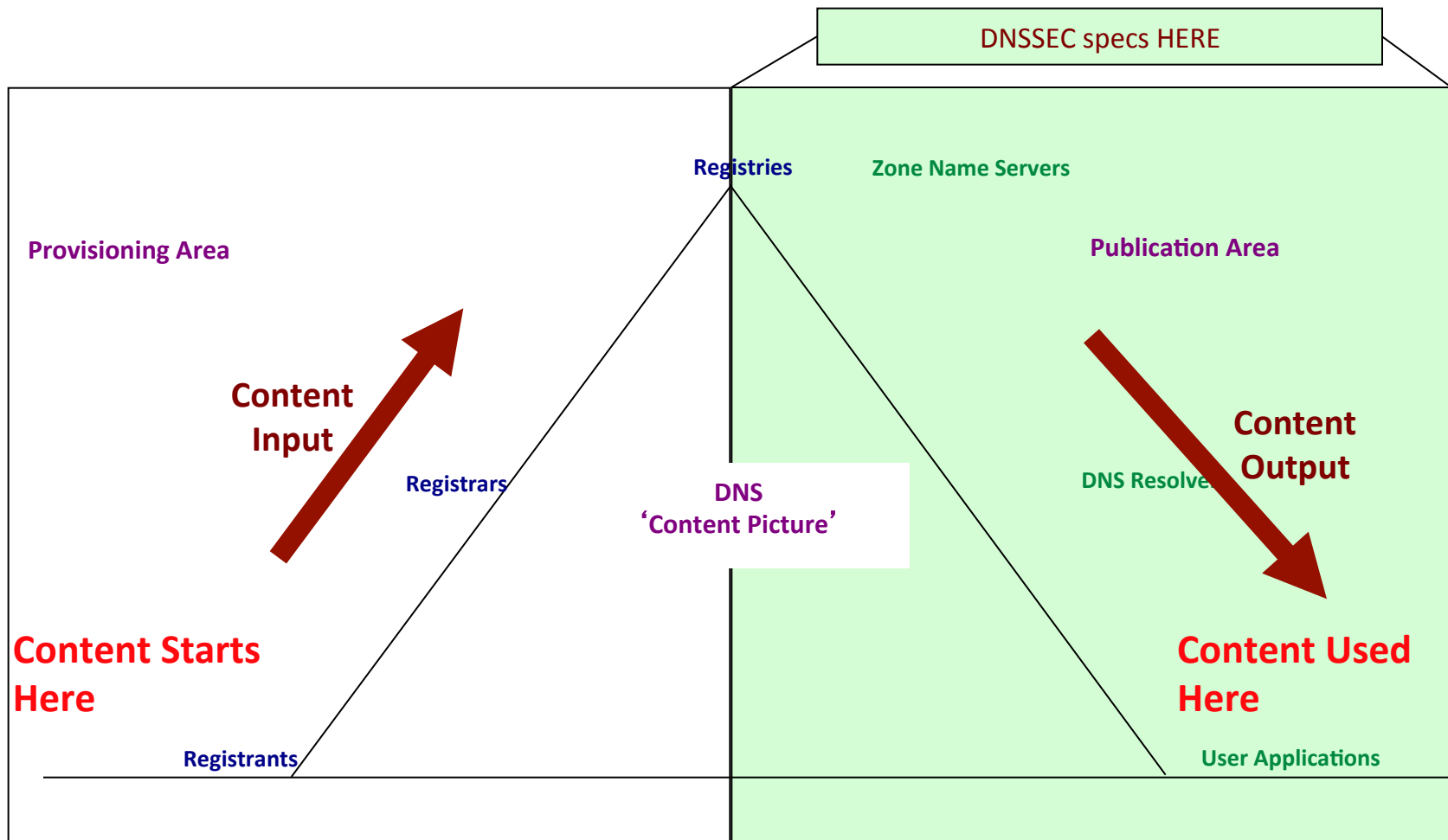


# How Does DNSSEC Fit?

- DNSSEC required to thwart attacks on DNS CONTENT
  - DNS attacks used to attack Internet users applications
- Protect **DNS ZONE DATA** as much as (or more than) any DNSSEC information
  - Including DNSSEC private keys!!

# DNS Zone Content Flow

(for example, www.icann.org or www.cnn.com)



# Implementation Samples

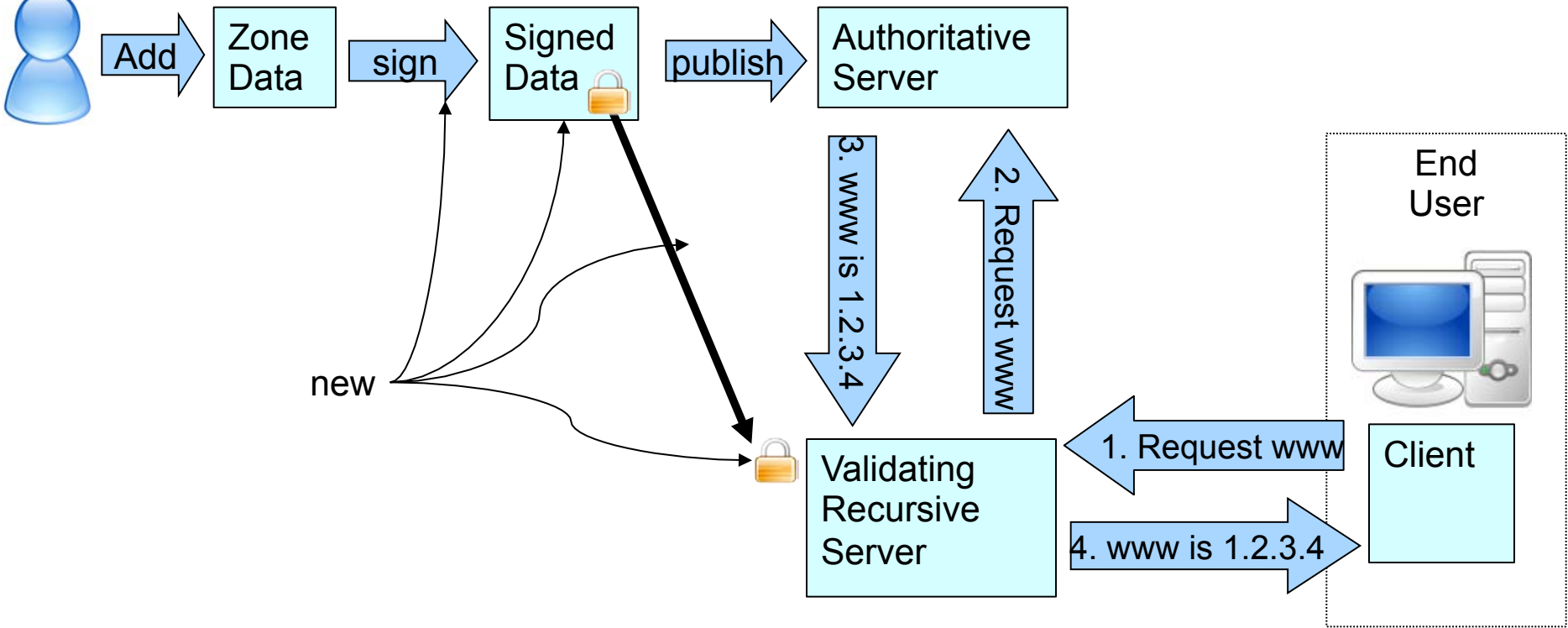
- In general, try to do DNSSEC in the same way that you are doing DNS



I need to have a signed WWW record

# Simple Addition of DNSSEC

(there are both much more and less complex setups than this)



# Implementation Samples

- If you're running much or all of your DNS functions and operations, DNSSEC implementation could be based on:
  - Extend DNS operation to incorporate DNSSEC;
  - Use open source DNSSEC tools (e.g., from [www.dnssec-tools.org](http://www.dnssec-tools.org) or [opendnssec.org](http://opendnssec.org));
  - Use commercial DNSSEC products;
  - Use DNSSEC signing services;
  - Mix elements from 'all of the above'

# Implementation Samples

- If DNS functions and operations are being done with one (or several) software & hardware products, find out if the product providers have (or will) incorporate DNSSEC to support your DNS functions and operations.
  - If not, push them for adding DNSSEC to their products; or
  - Examine additional or different products or services that will provide DNSSEC, e.g., DNSSEC signing services.



# Implementation Samples

- If you are the holder ( ‘owner’ ) of names but “out-source” DNS functions and operations, e.g., to your registrar, then determine if the “out-source” offers DNSSEC capability.
  - If not, push on them to develop and offer DNSSEC capability
  - Consider using a different “out-source” DNS service
  - Consider developing “in-house” DNS (and DNSSEC) capabilities



Thank You and Questions