

Post-Quantum Signatures from Secure Multiparty Computation

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PhD Defense

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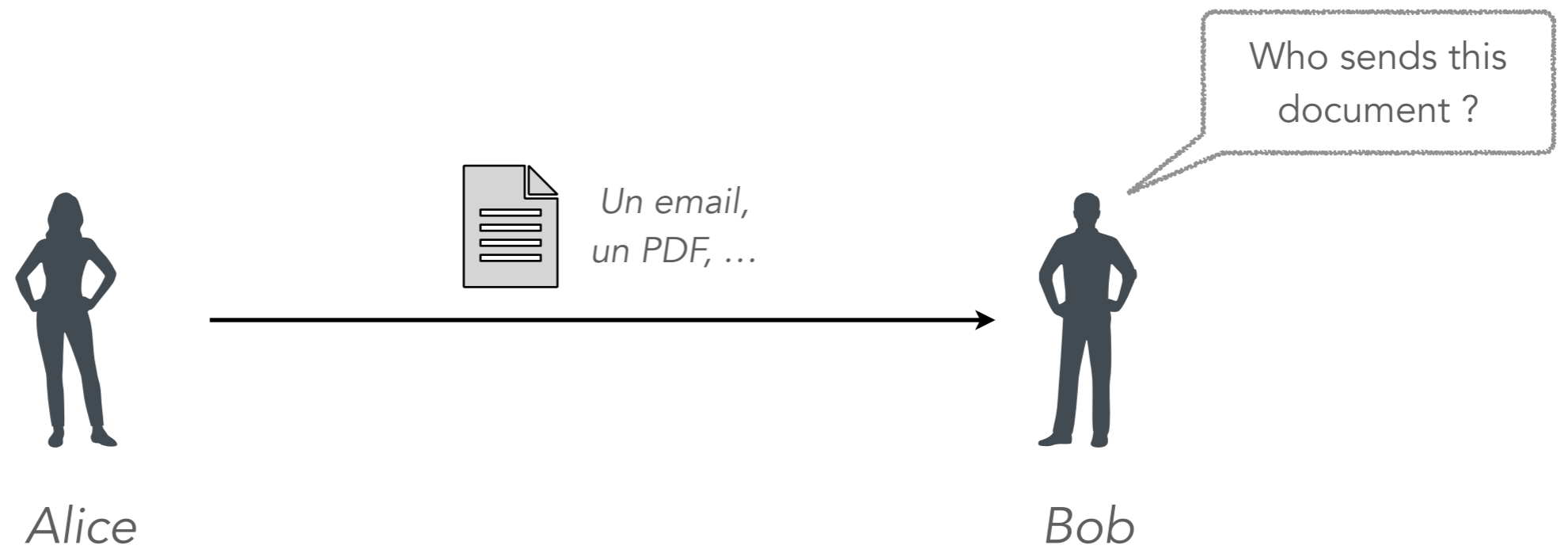


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 - ▶ Achieving fast running times
- Conclusion

Introduction

Digital signatures



Digital signatures

Alice's private key



Alice's public key

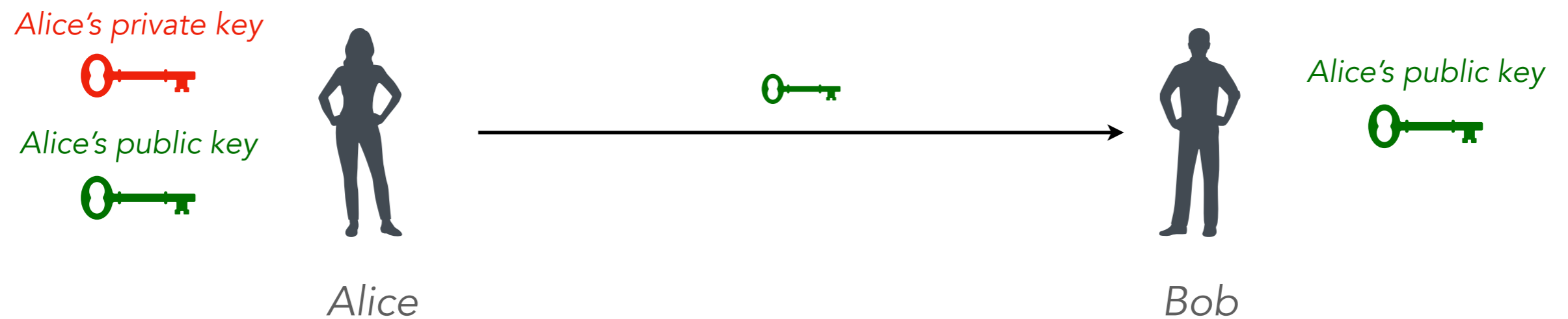


Alice



Bob

Digital signatures



Digital signatures

Alice's private key

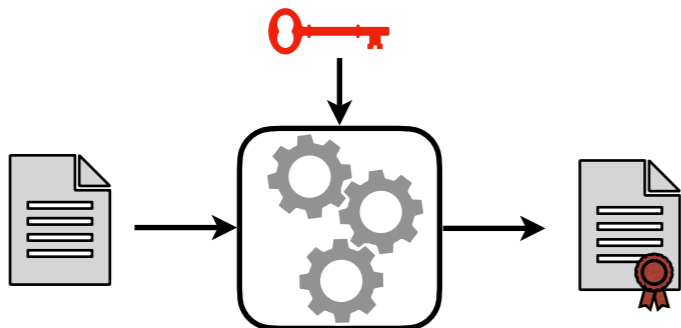


Alice's public key



Alice

*uses the private key
to **sign** the digital document.*

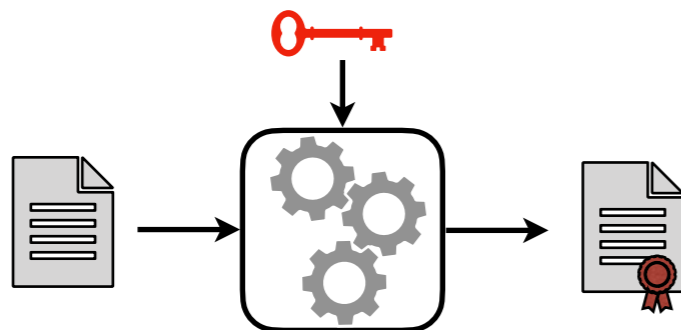
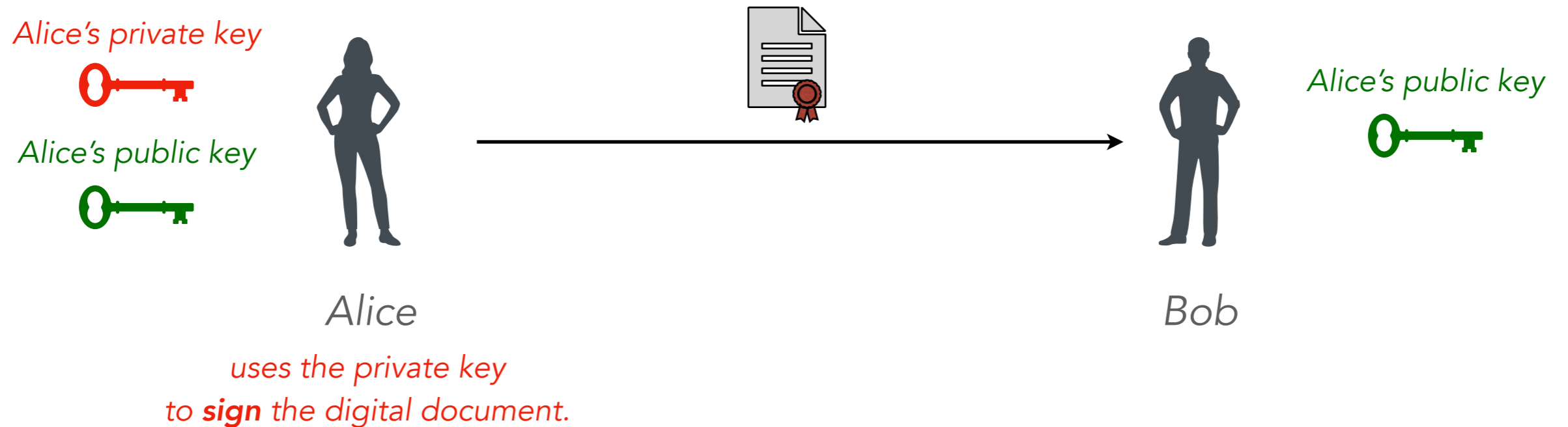


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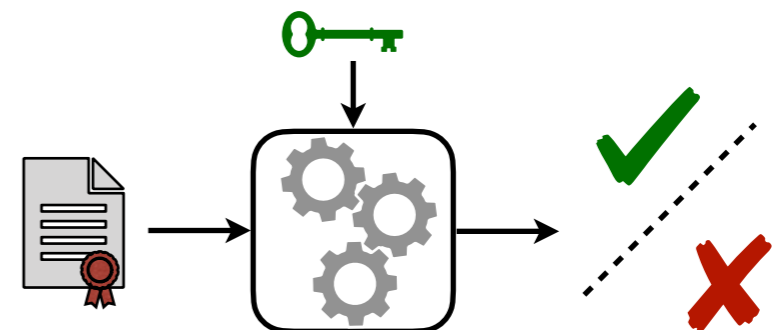
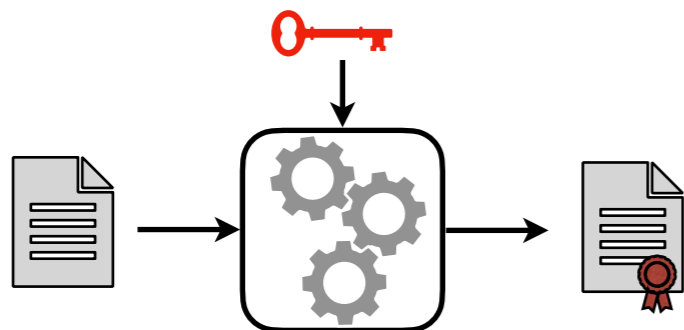
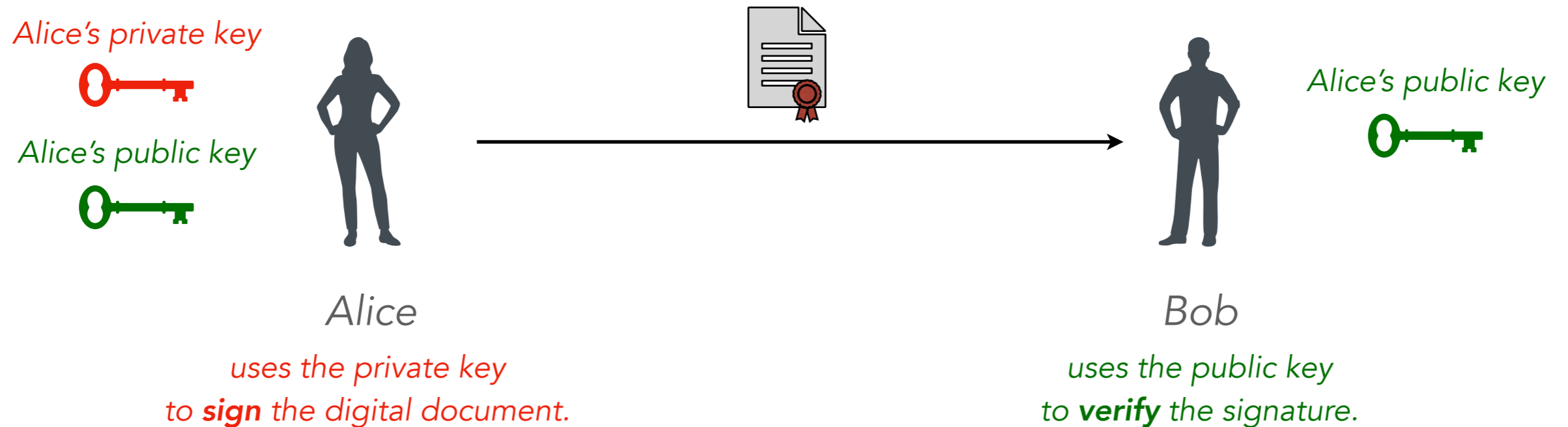


Bob

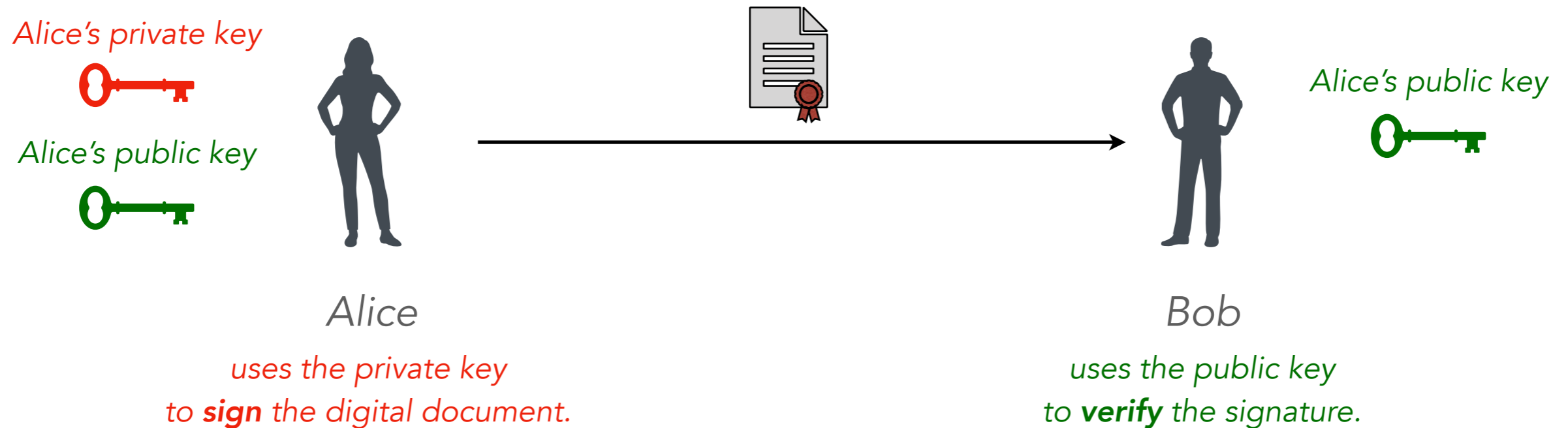
Digital signatures



Digital signatures



Digital signatures



Security Notion: Should be **impossible** to forge a valid signature **without** the corresponding private key.

Digital signatures

Example



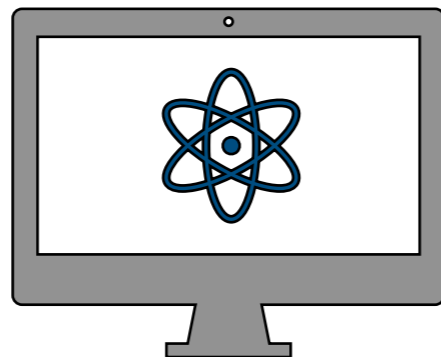
A problem which is very hard to solve



The solution of the above problem

Given N , find non-trivial (p, q)
such that $N = pq$.

(p, q)

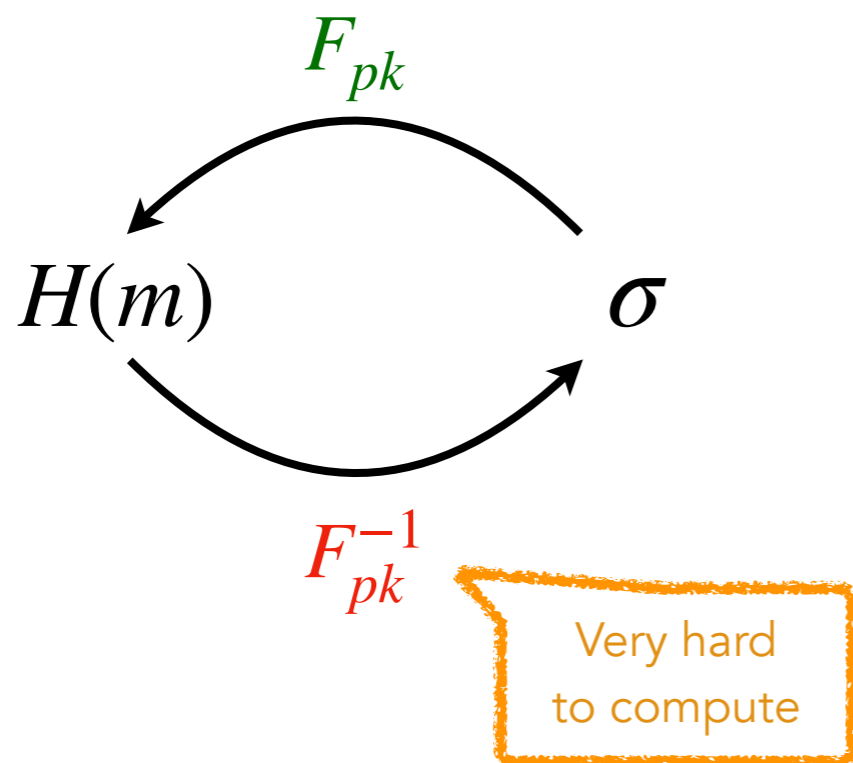


Existing signature schemes
will be **broken** by the future
quantum computers.

Problematic: build new signature schemes which would
be **secure** even **against quantum computers**.

How to build signature schemes?

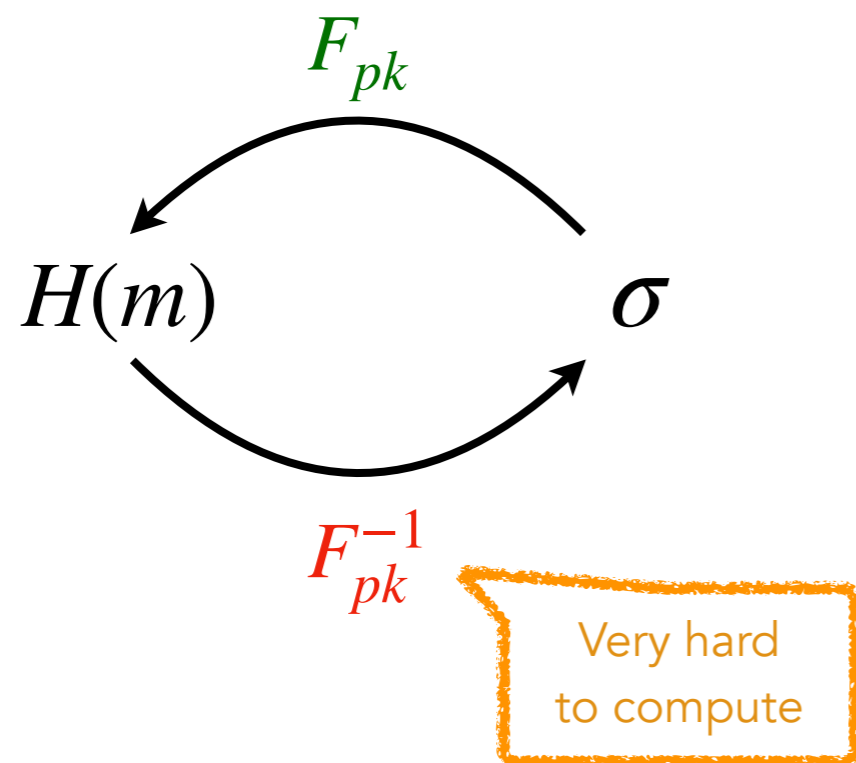
Hash & Sign



- Short signatures
- “Trapdoor” in the public key

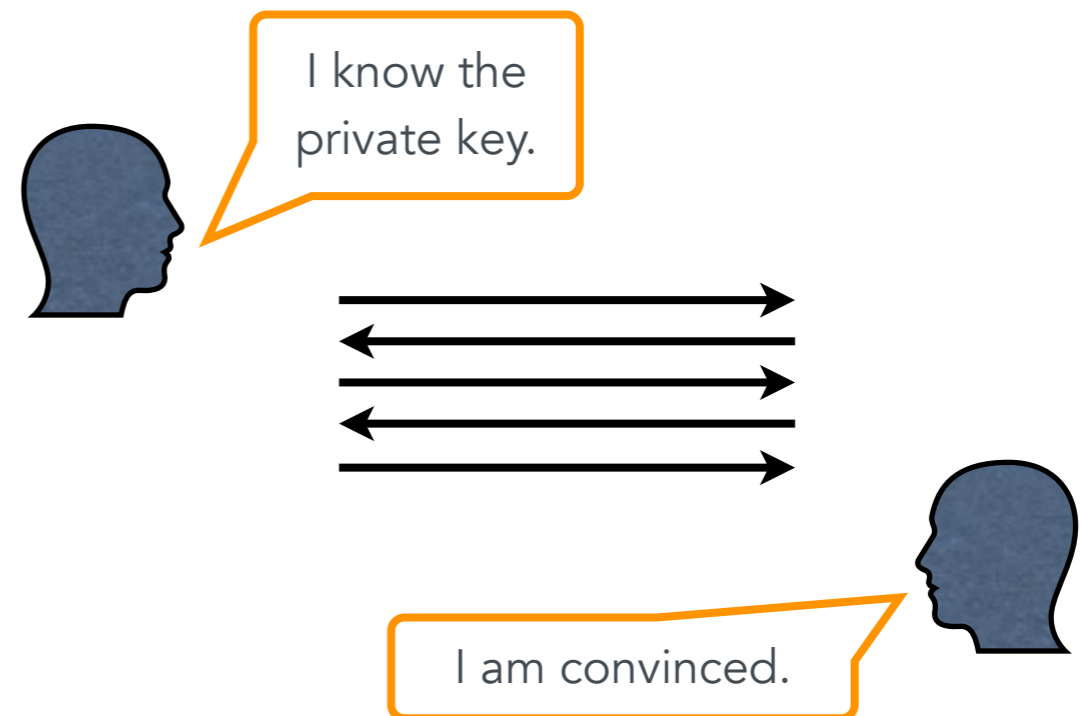
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Hash & Sign



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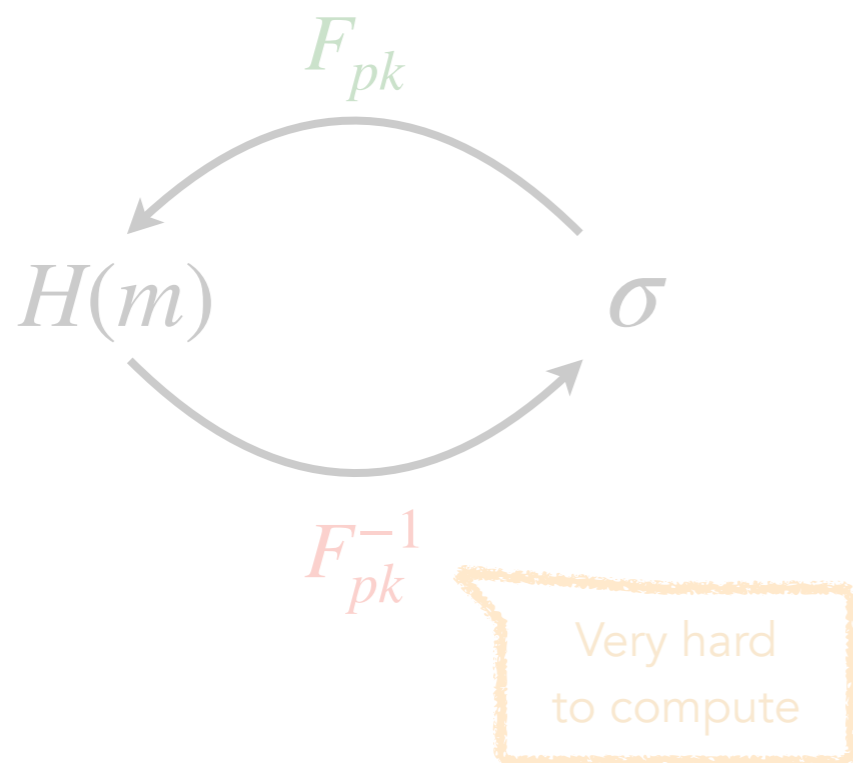
From an identification scheme



- Large(r) signatures
- Short public key

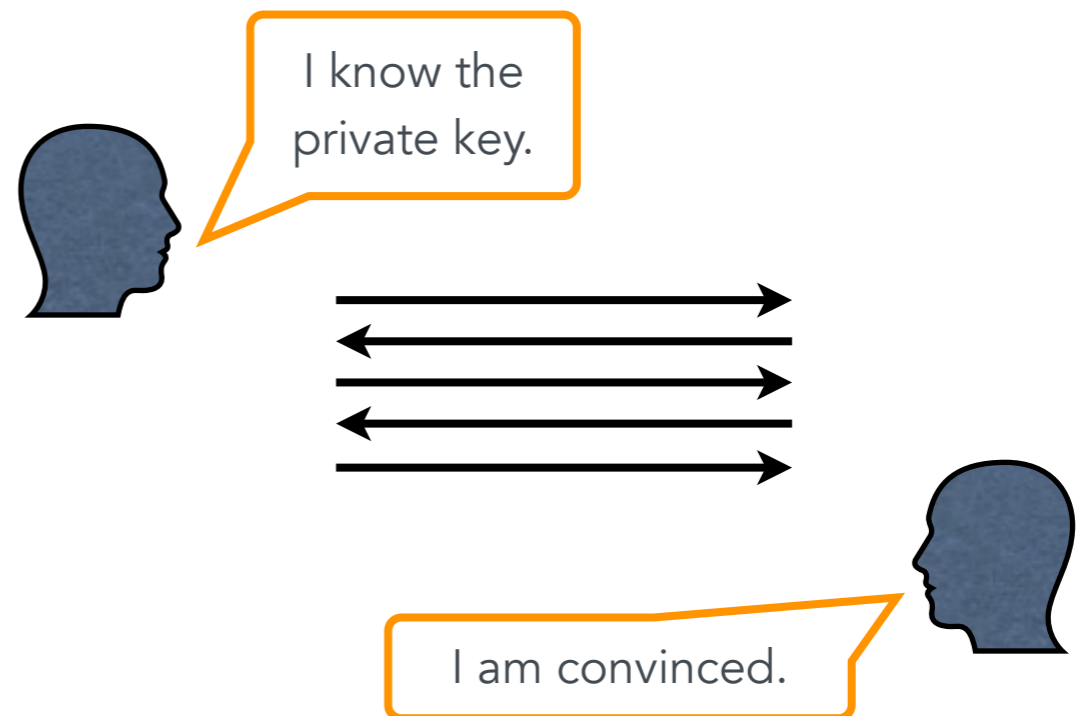
How to build signature schemes?

Hash & Sign



- Short signatures
- “Trapdoor” in the public key


From an identification scheme



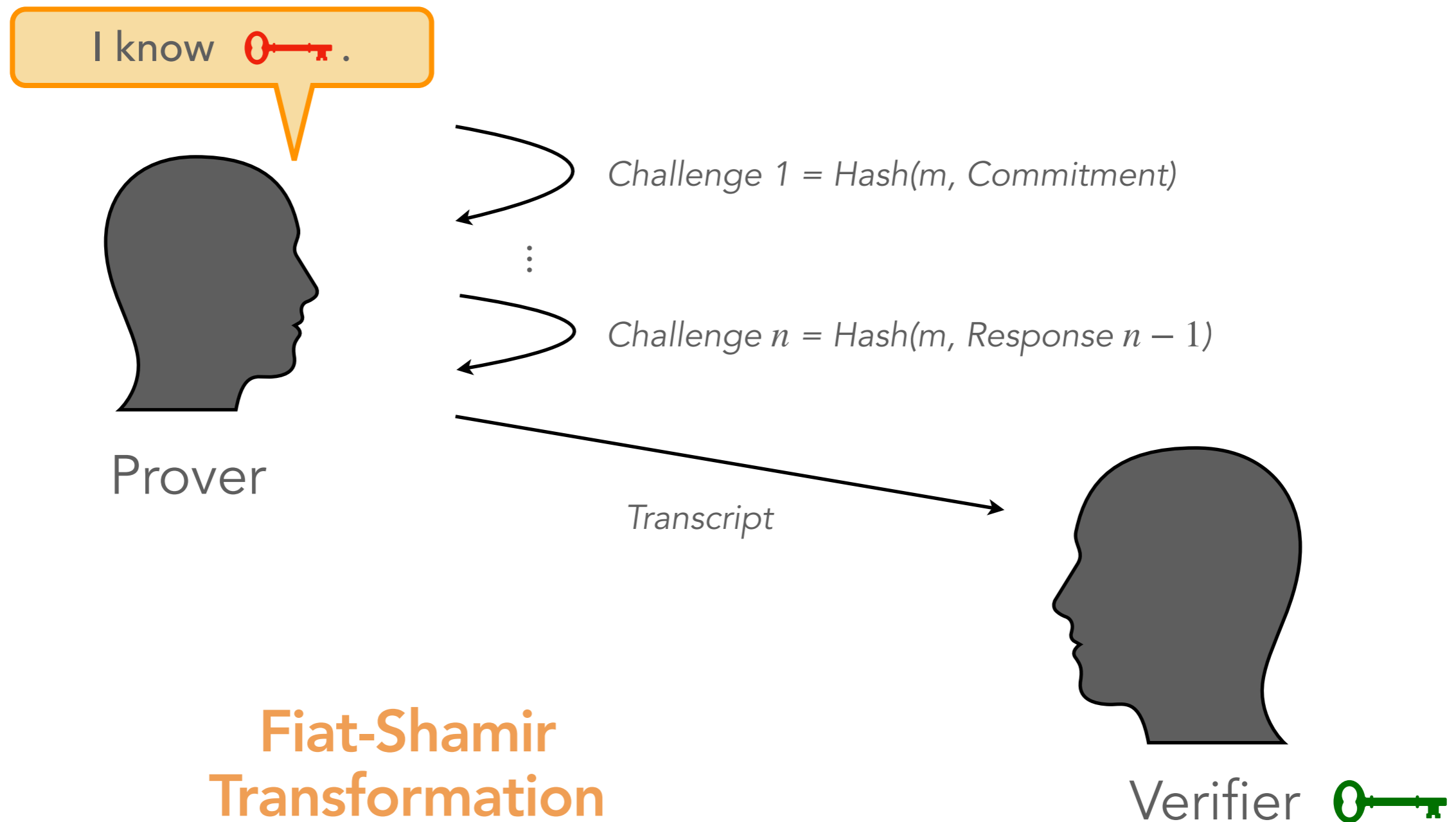
- Large(r) signatures
- Short public key

Identification Scheme



- **Completeness:** $\Pr[\text{verif } \checkmark \mid \text{honest prover}] = 1$
- **Soundness:** $\Pr[\text{verif } \checkmark \mid \text{malicious prover}] \leq \varepsilon$ (e.g. 2^{-128})
- **Zero-knowledge:** verifier learns nothing on .

Identification Scheme

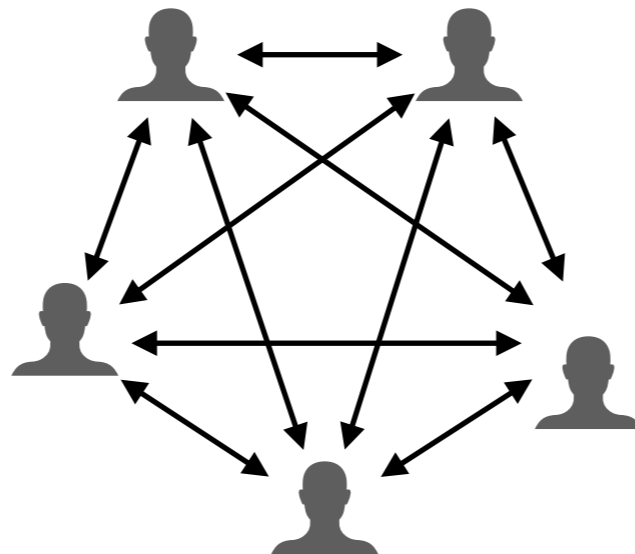


**Fiat-Shamir
Transformation**

m: message to sign

MPC in the Head

- **[IKOS07]** Yuval Ishai, Eyal Kushilevitz, Rafail Ostrovsky, Amit Sahai: "Zero-knowledge from secure multiparty computation" (STOC 2007)
- Turn a *multiparty computation* (MPC) into an identification scheme



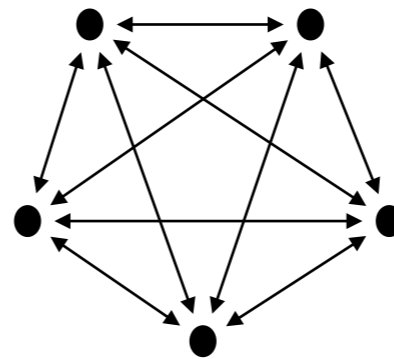
- **Generic:** can be apply to any cryptographic problem

One-way function

$$F : x \mapsto y$$

E.g. AES, MQ system,
Syndrome decoding

Multiparty computation (MPC)

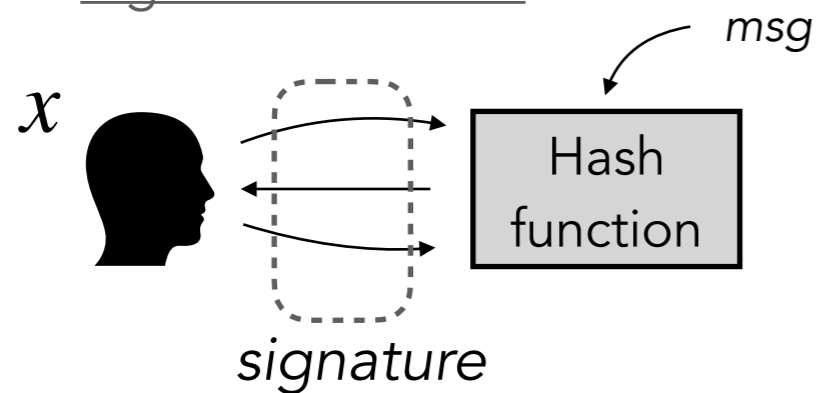


Input sharing $[[x]]$

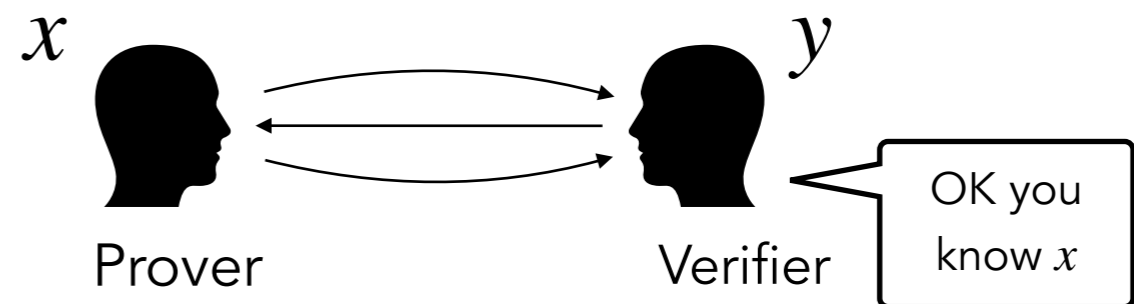
Joint evaluation of:

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \text{Accept} & \text{if } F(x) = y \\ \text{Reject} & \text{if } F(x) \neq y \end{cases}$$

Signature scheme



Zero-knowledge proof

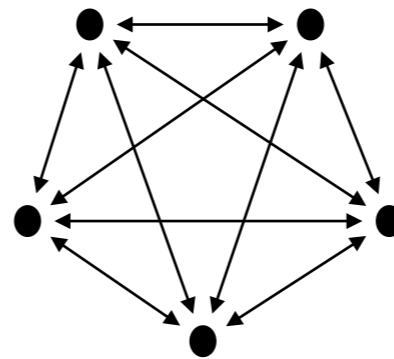


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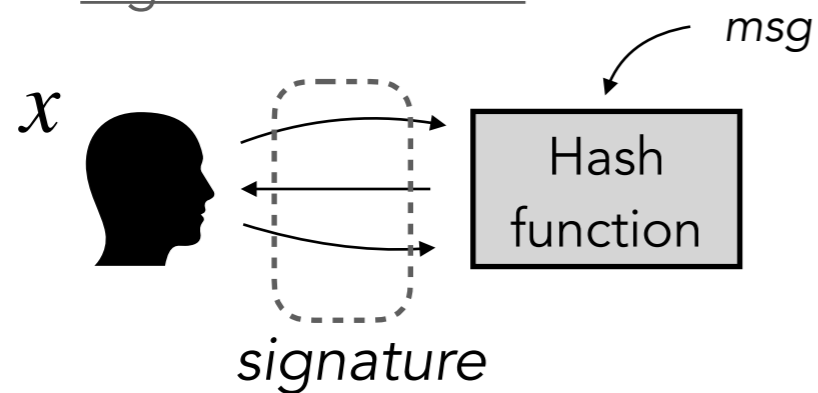


Input sharing $\llbracket x \rrbracket$

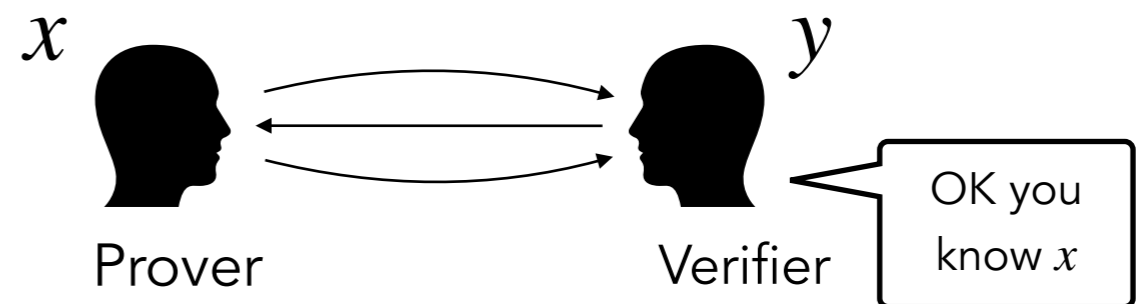
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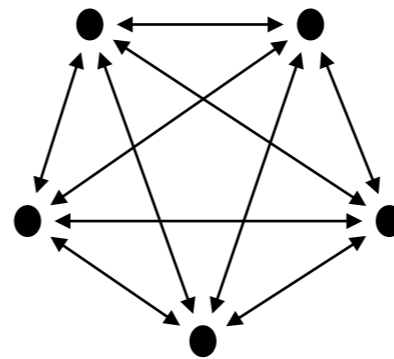
$$[[x]] = ([[x]]_1, \dots, [[x]]_N) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x = [[x]]_1 + \dots + [[x]]_N$$

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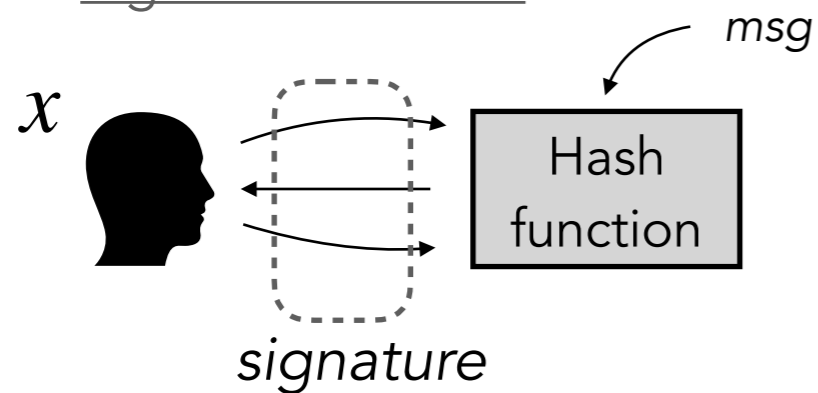


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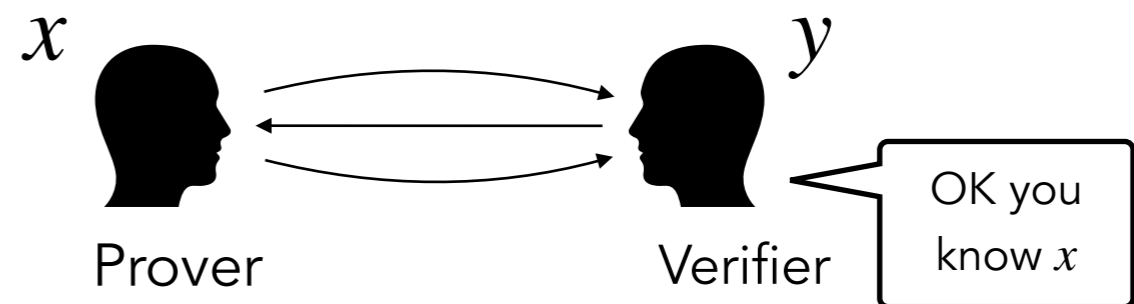
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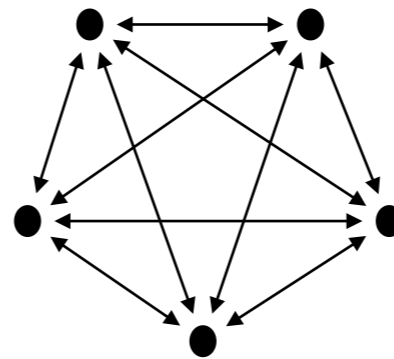


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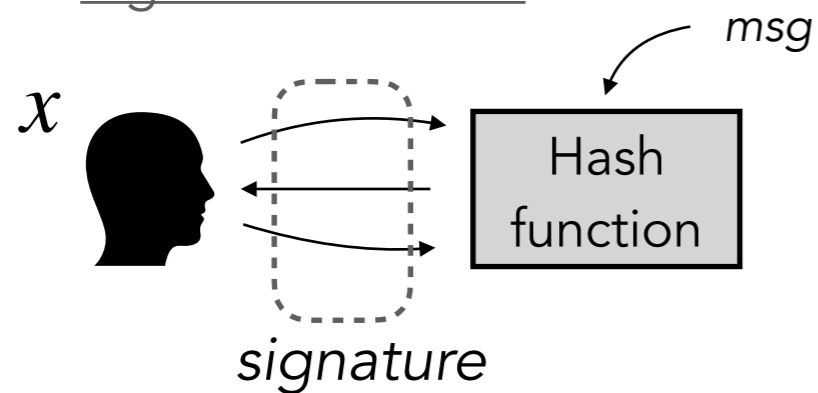


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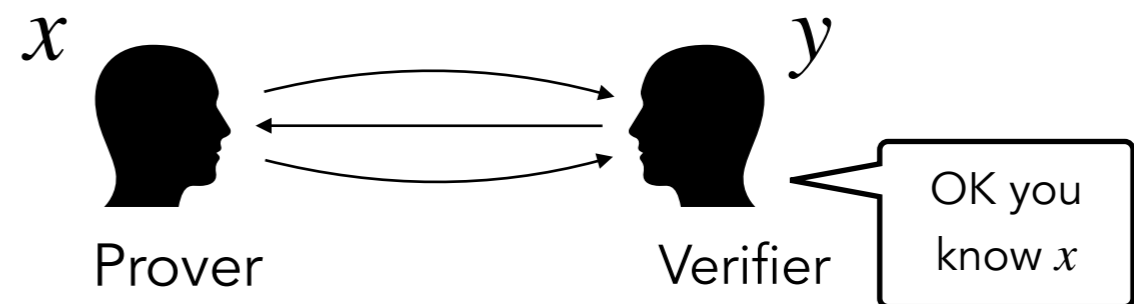
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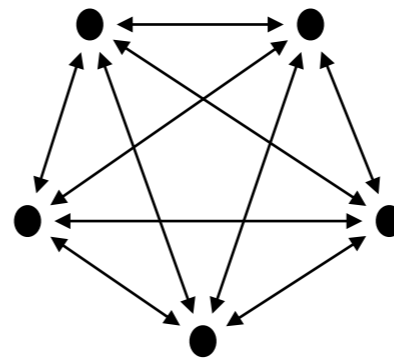


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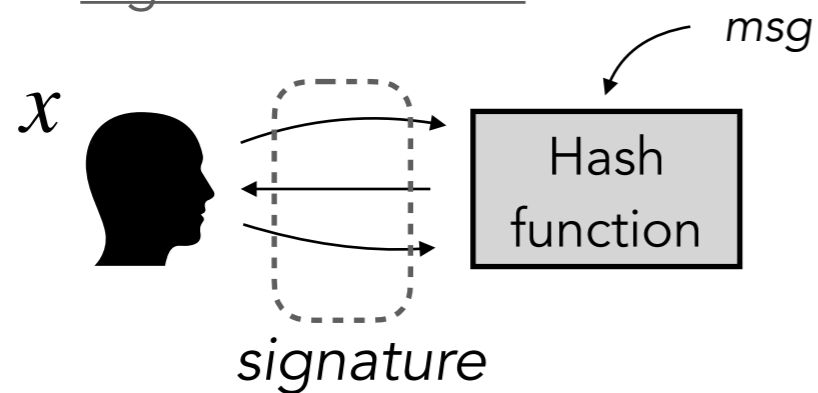
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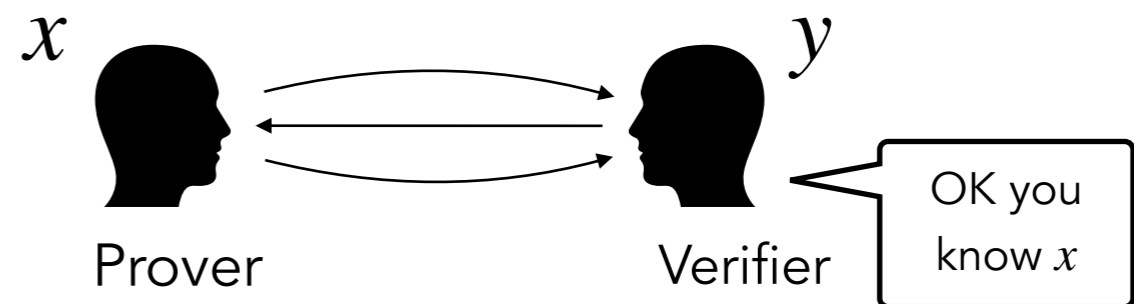
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Signature scheme



Zero-knowledge proof

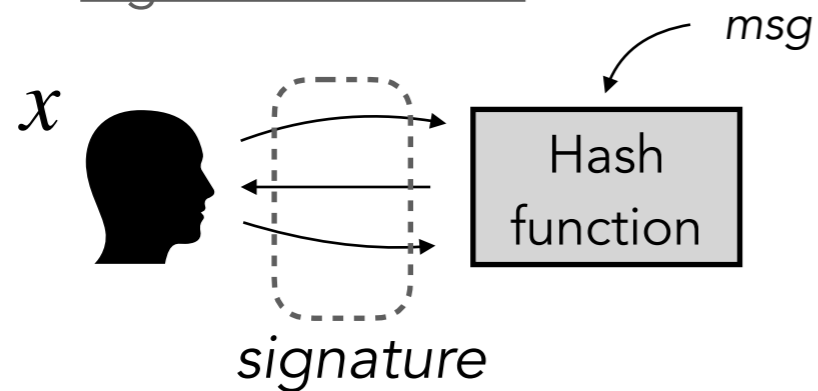


One-way function

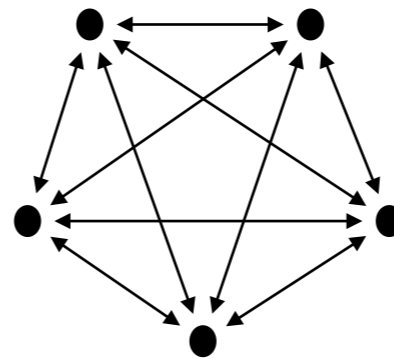
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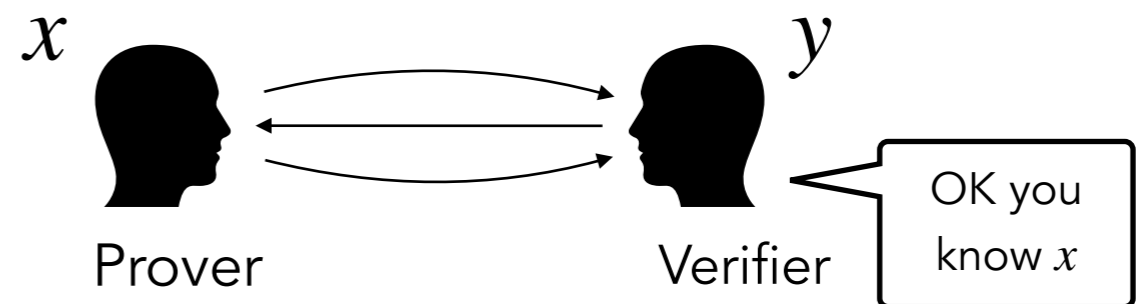


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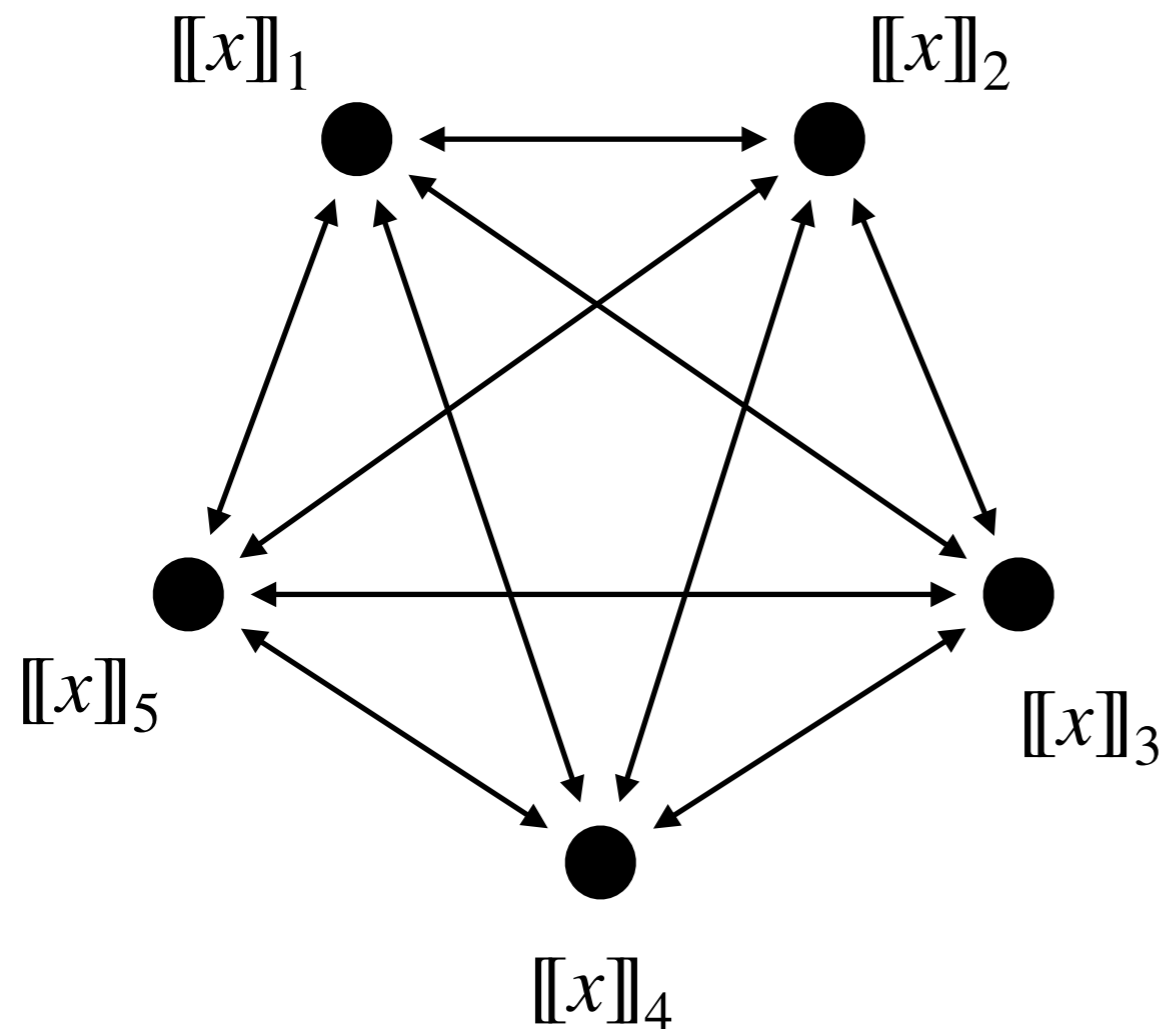
MPC-in-the-Head transform

Zero-knowledge proof



MPCitH: general principle

MPC model



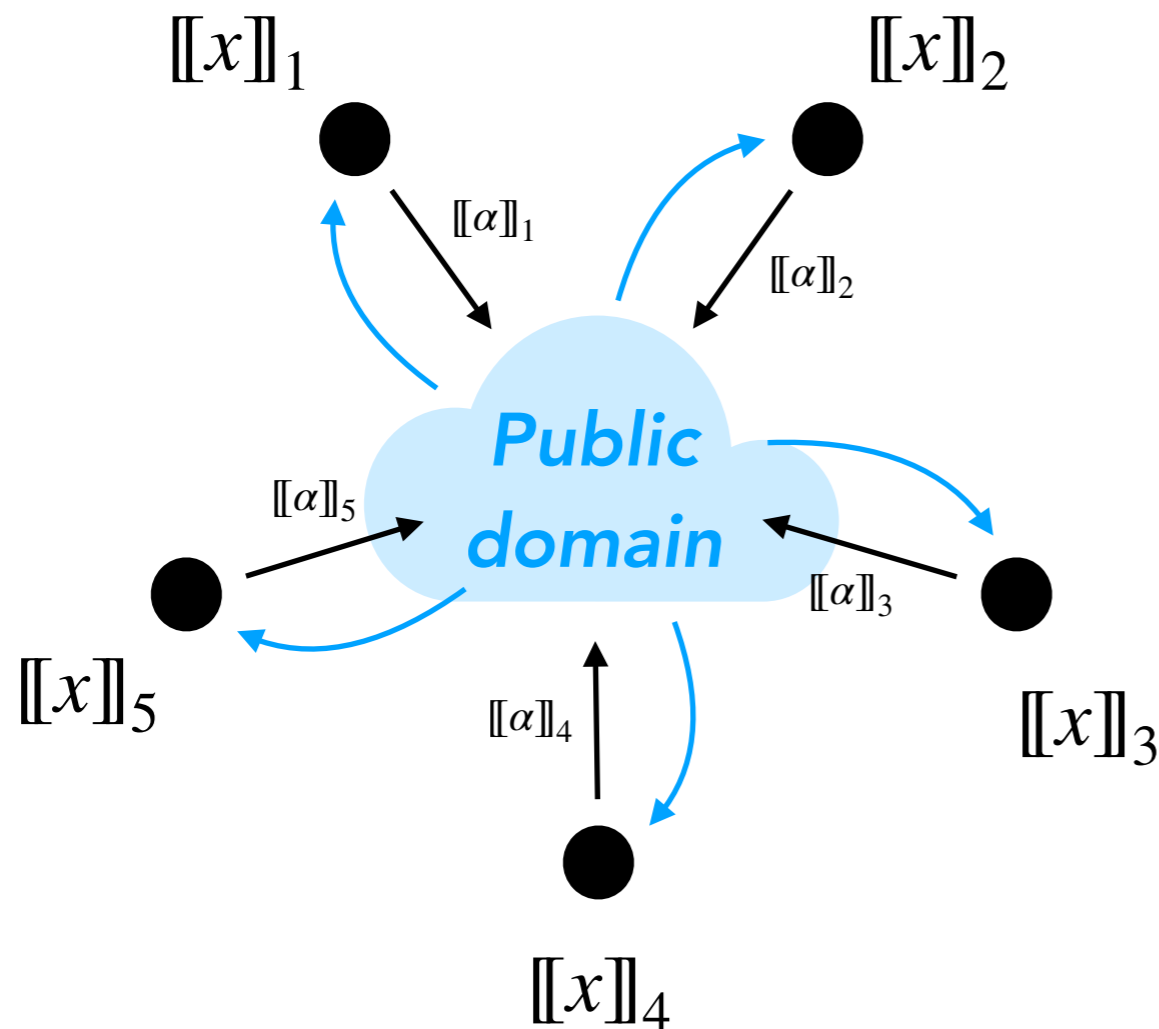
$$x = [[x]]_1 + [[x]]_2 + \dots + [[x]]_N$$

- **Jointly compute**

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \text{Accept} & \text{if } F(x) = y \\ \text{Reject} & \text{if } F(x) \neq y \end{cases}$$

- $(N - 1)$ **private**: the views of any $N - 1$ parties provide no information on x
- **Semi-honest model**: assuming that the parties follow the steps of the protocol

MPC model



$$x = [[x]]_1 + [[x]]_2 + \dots + [[x]]_N$$

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- $(N - 1)$ **private**: the views of any $N - 1$ parties provide no information on x
- **Semi-honest model**: assuming that the parties follow the steps of the protocol
- **Broadcast model**
 - Parties locally compute on their shares $[[x]] \mapsto [[\alpha]]$
 - Parties broadcast $[[\alpha]]$ and recompute α
 - Parties start again (now knowing α)

MPCitH transform

Prover

Verifier

MPCitH transform

- ① Generate and commit shares
 $\llbracket x \rrbracket = (\llbracket x \rrbracket_1, \dots, \llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_1)$
 \dots
 $\text{Com}^{\rho_N}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

Prover

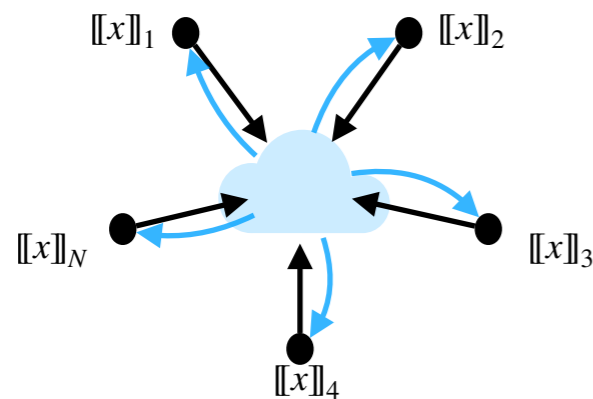
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MPCitH transform

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$$[[x]] = ([[x]]_1, \dots, [[x]]_N)$$

- ② Run MPC in their head



Prover

$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}([x]_1)$

\dots
 $\text{Com}^{\rho_N}([x]_N)$

send broadcast

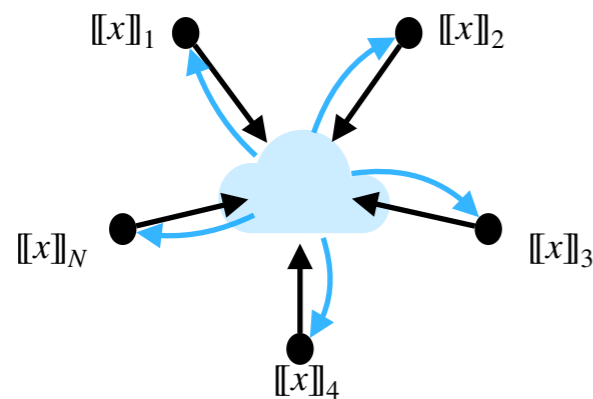
$[[a]]_1, \dots, [[a]]_N$

Verifier

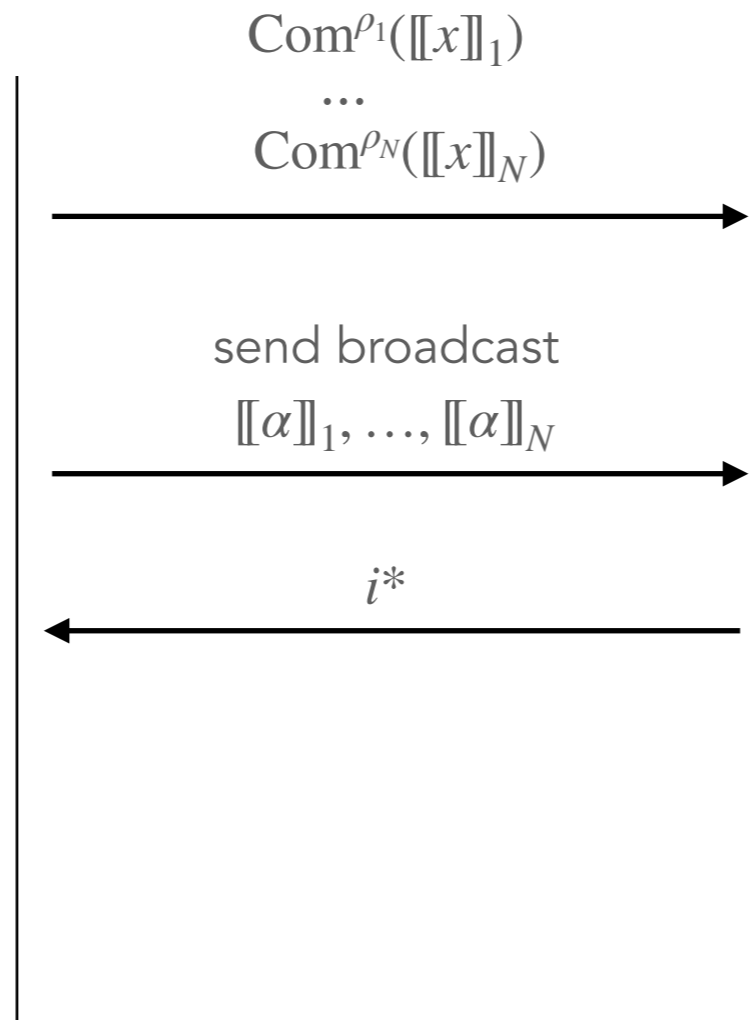
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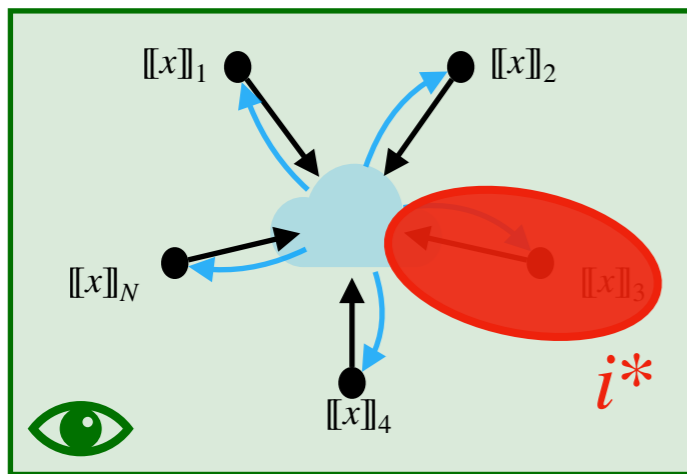
- ③ Choose a random party
 $i^* \leftarrow^{\$} \{1, \dots, N\}$

Verifier

MPCitH transform

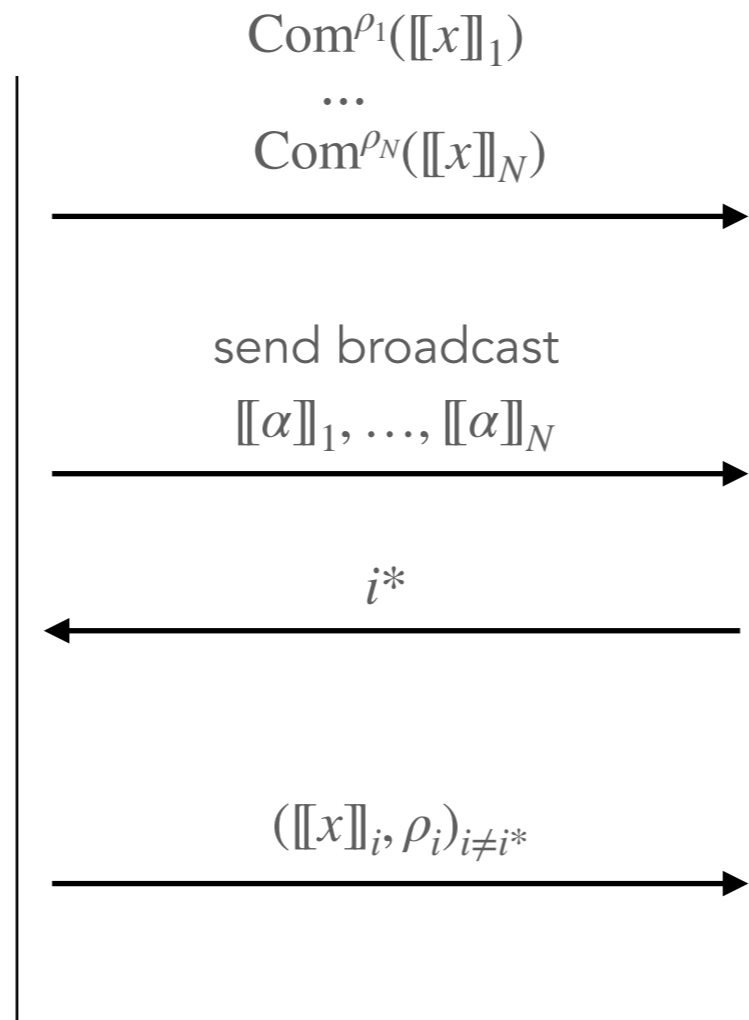
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② Run MPC in their head



④ Open parties $\{1, \dots, N\} \setminus \{i^*\}$

Prover



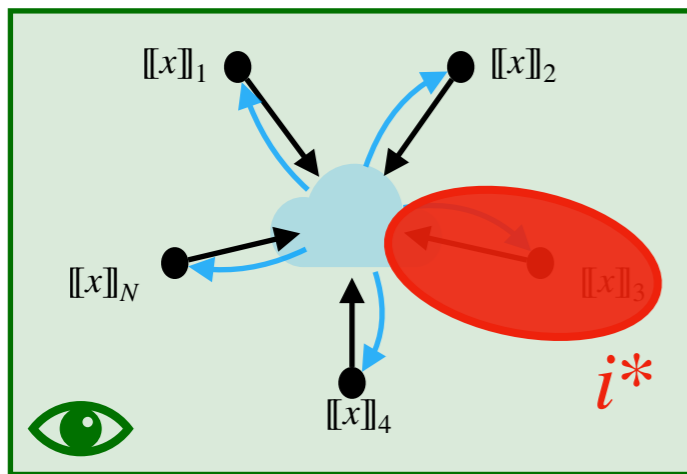
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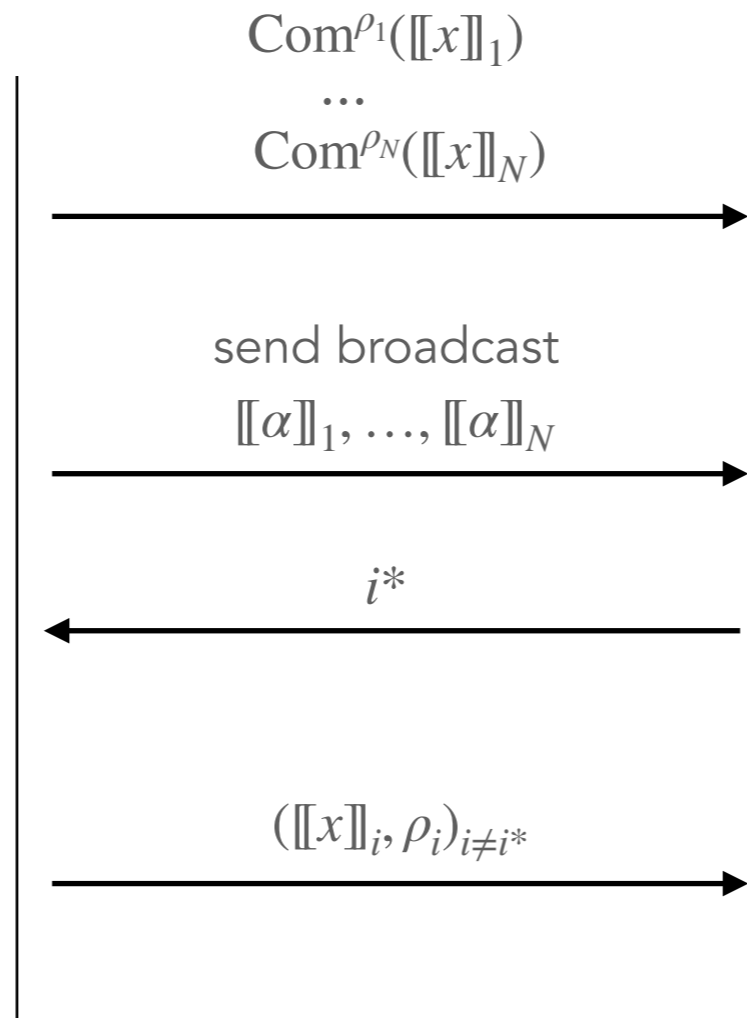
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Prover



- ③ Choose a random party
 $i^* \leftarrow^{\$} \{1, \dots, N\}$

- ⑤ Check $\forall i \neq i^*$
 - Commitments $\text{Com}^{\rho_i}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i)$
 - MPC computation $\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_i = \varphi(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i)$
 Check $g(y, \alpha) = \text{Accept}$

Verifier

MPCitH transform

- ① Generate and commit shares

$$[[x]] = ([x]_1, \dots, [x]_N)$$

*We have $F(x) \neq y$ where
 $x := [x]_1 + \dots + [x]_N$*

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Com}^{\rho_1}([x]_1) \\ \dots \\ \text{Com}^{\rho_N}([x]_N) \end{array}$$



Malicious Prover

Verifier

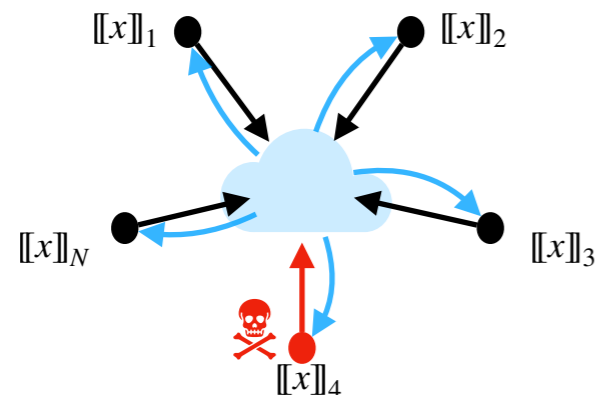
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- ② Run MPC in their head



$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}([x]_1)$

\dots

$\text{Com}^{\rho_N}([x]_N)$

send broadcast

$[[\alpha]]_1, \dots, [[\alpha]]_N$

Malicious Prover

Verifier

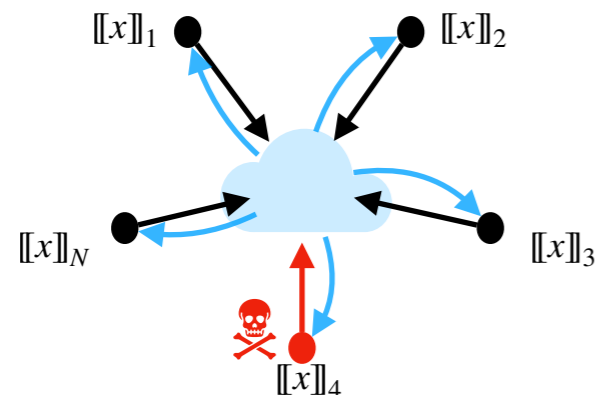
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$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}([x]_1)$

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$\text{Com}^{\rho_N}([x]_N)$

send broadcast

$[[\alpha]]_1, \dots, [[\alpha]]_N$

- ③ Choose a random party

$$i^* \leftarrow^{\$} \{1, \dots, N\}$$

i^*

Malicious Prover

Verifier

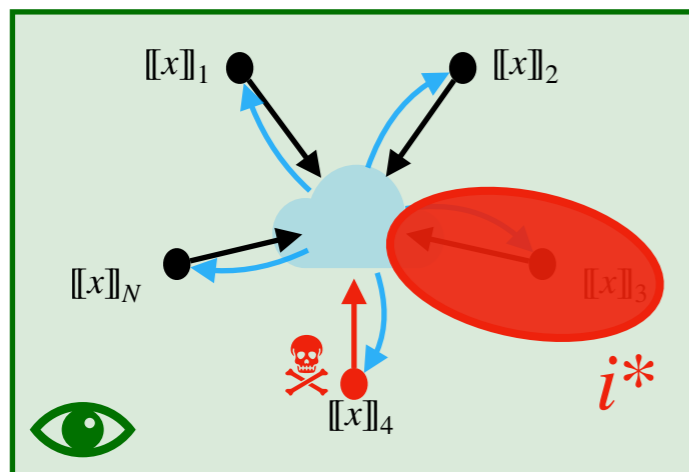
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- ② Run MPC in their head



- ④ Open parties $\{1, \dots, N\} \setminus \{i^*\}$

$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}([x]_1)$

\dots
 $\text{Com}^{\rho_N}([x]_N)$

send broadcast

$[[\alpha]]_1, \dots, [[\alpha]]_N$

i^*

$([x]_i, \rho_i)_{i \neq i^*}$

- ③ Choose a random party

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Malicious Prover

Verifier

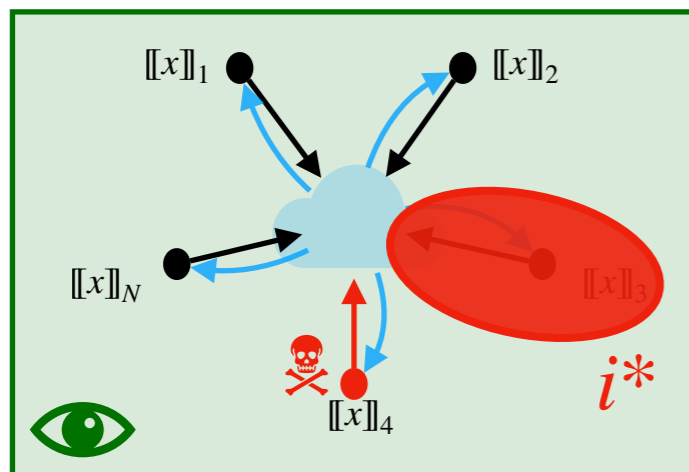
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send broadcast

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- ③ Choose a random party

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- ⑤ Check $\forall i \neq i^*$

- Commitments $\text{Com}^{\rho_i}([x]_i)$

- MPC computation $[[\alpha]]_i = \varphi([x]_i)$

Check $g(y, \alpha) = \text{Accept}$

Malicious Prover

Verifier



Cheating detected!

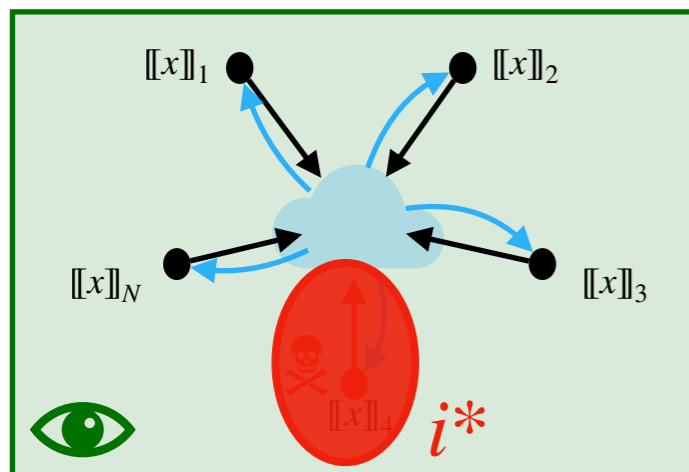
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- ① Generate and commit shares

$$[[x]] = ([x]_1, \dots, [x]_N)$$

*We have $F(x) \neq y$ where
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- ② Run MPC in their head



- ④ Open parties $\{1, \dots, N\} \setminus \{i^*\}$

$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}([x]_1)$

\dots
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send broadcast

$[\alpha]_1, \dots, [\alpha]_N$

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Malicious Prover

Verifier



Seems OK.

MPCitH transform

- **Zero-knowledge** \iff MPC protocol is $(N - 1)$ -private

MPCitH transform

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- **Soundness:**

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}(\text{malicious prover convinces the verifier}) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(\text{corrupted party remains hidden}) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \end{aligned}$$

MPCitH transform

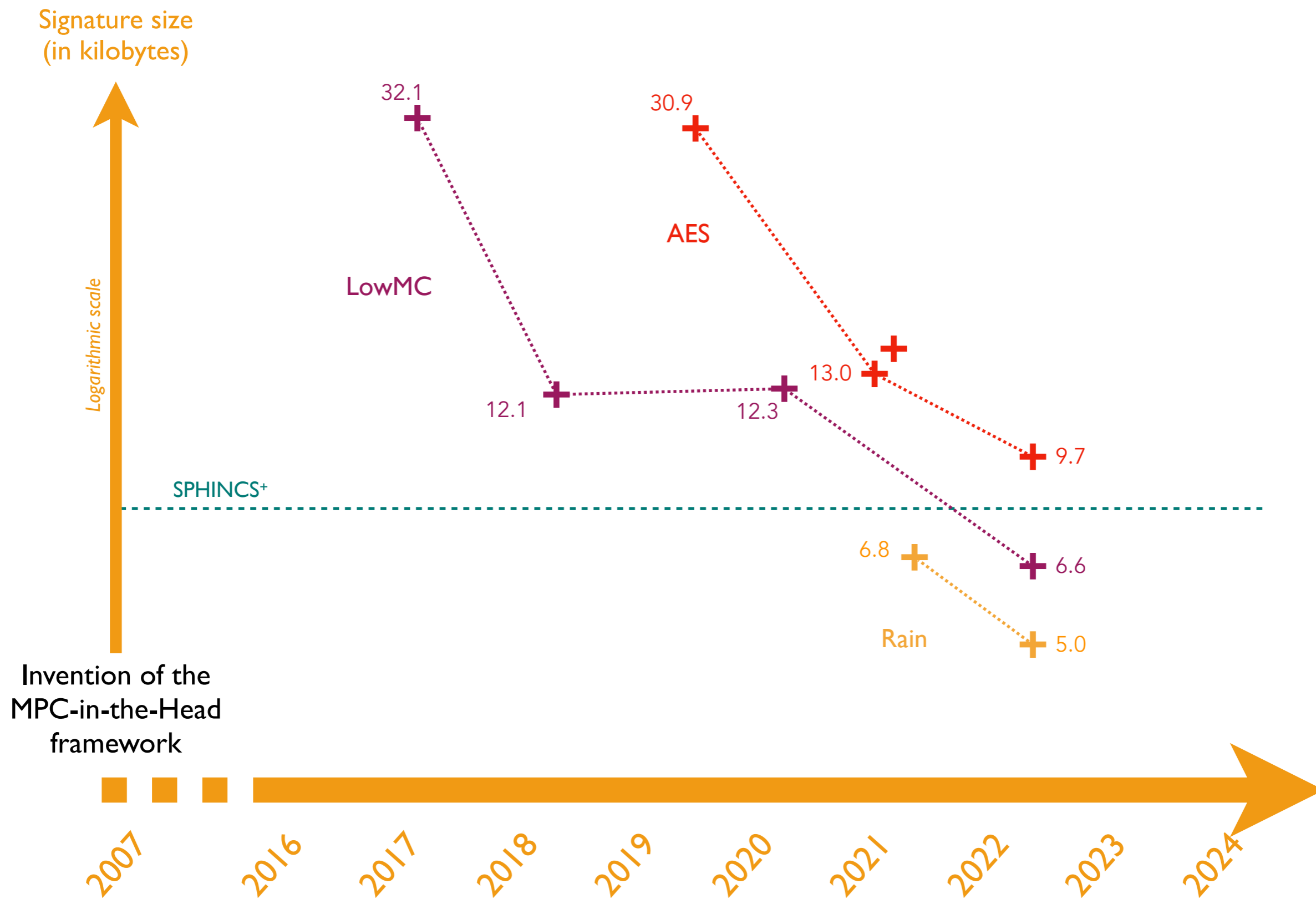
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- **Parallel repetition**

Protocol repeated τ times in parallel, soundness error $\left(\frac{1}{N}\right)^\tau$

From MPC-in-the-Head to signatures



Signature size
(in kilobytes)

Logarithmic scale

SPHINCS+

Syndrome Decoding Problem:

From a matrix H and a vector y , find x such that

- $y = Hx$,
- x has at most w non-zero coordinates.

1990

1995

2000

2005

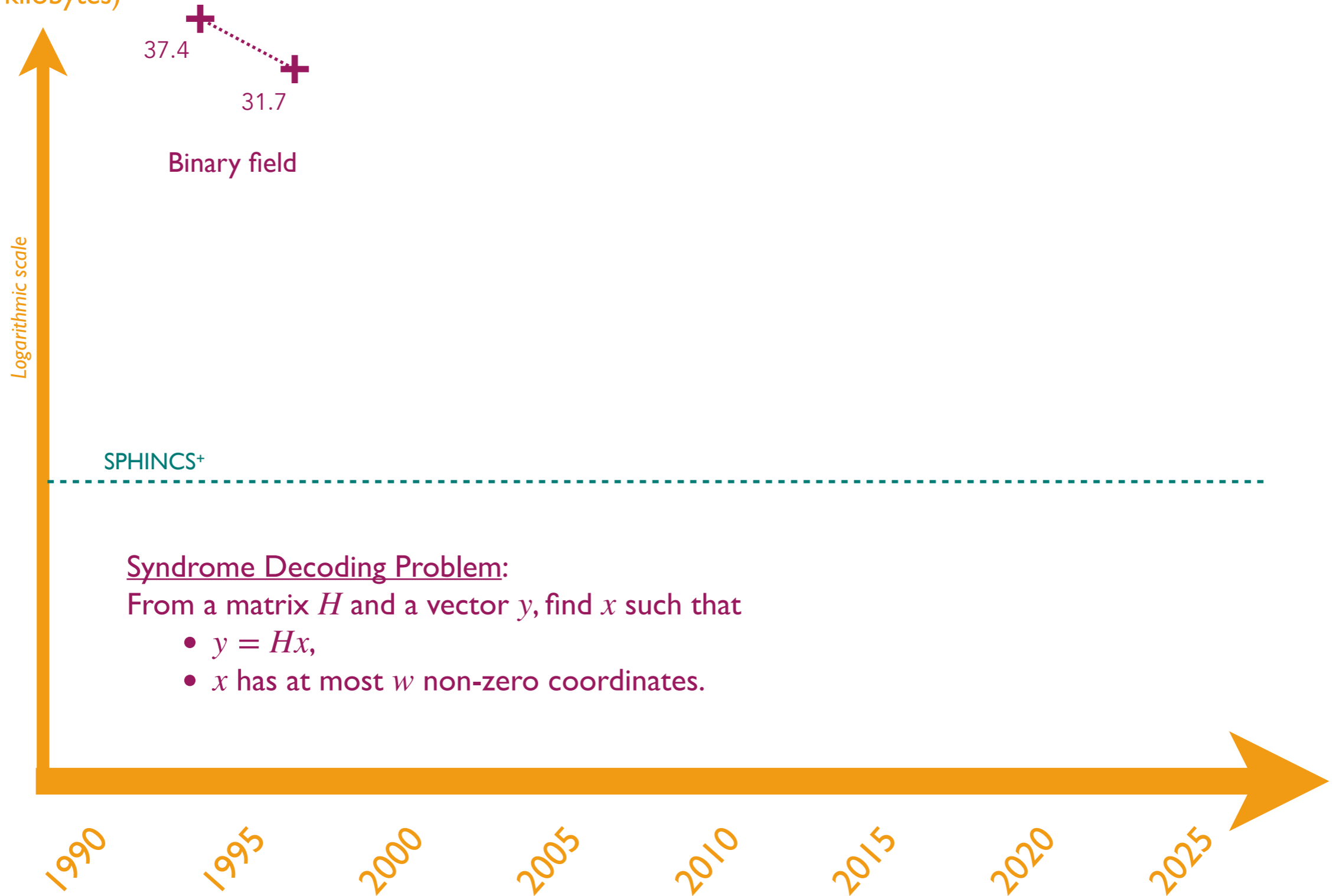
2010

2015

2020

2025

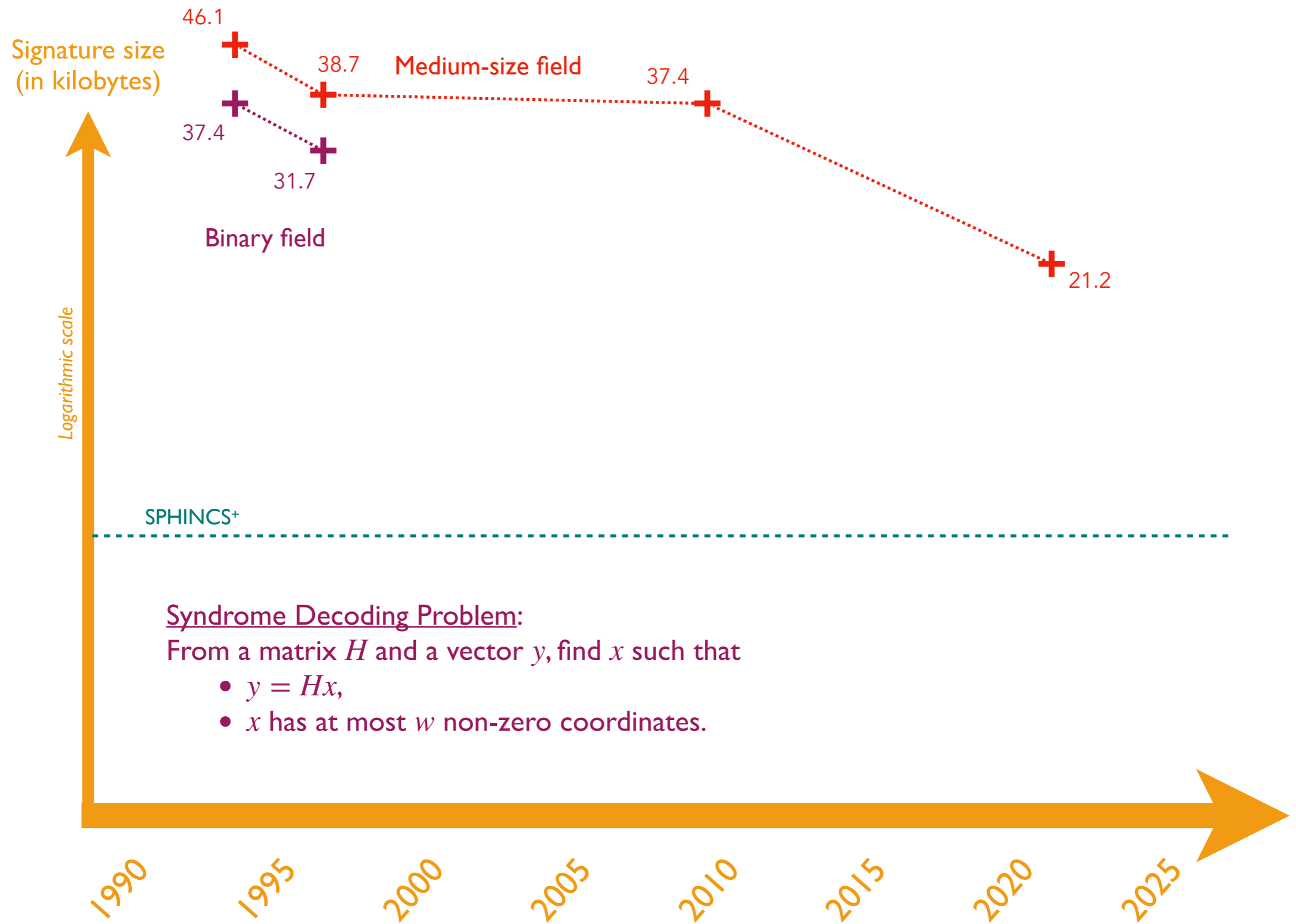
Signature size
(in kilobytes)

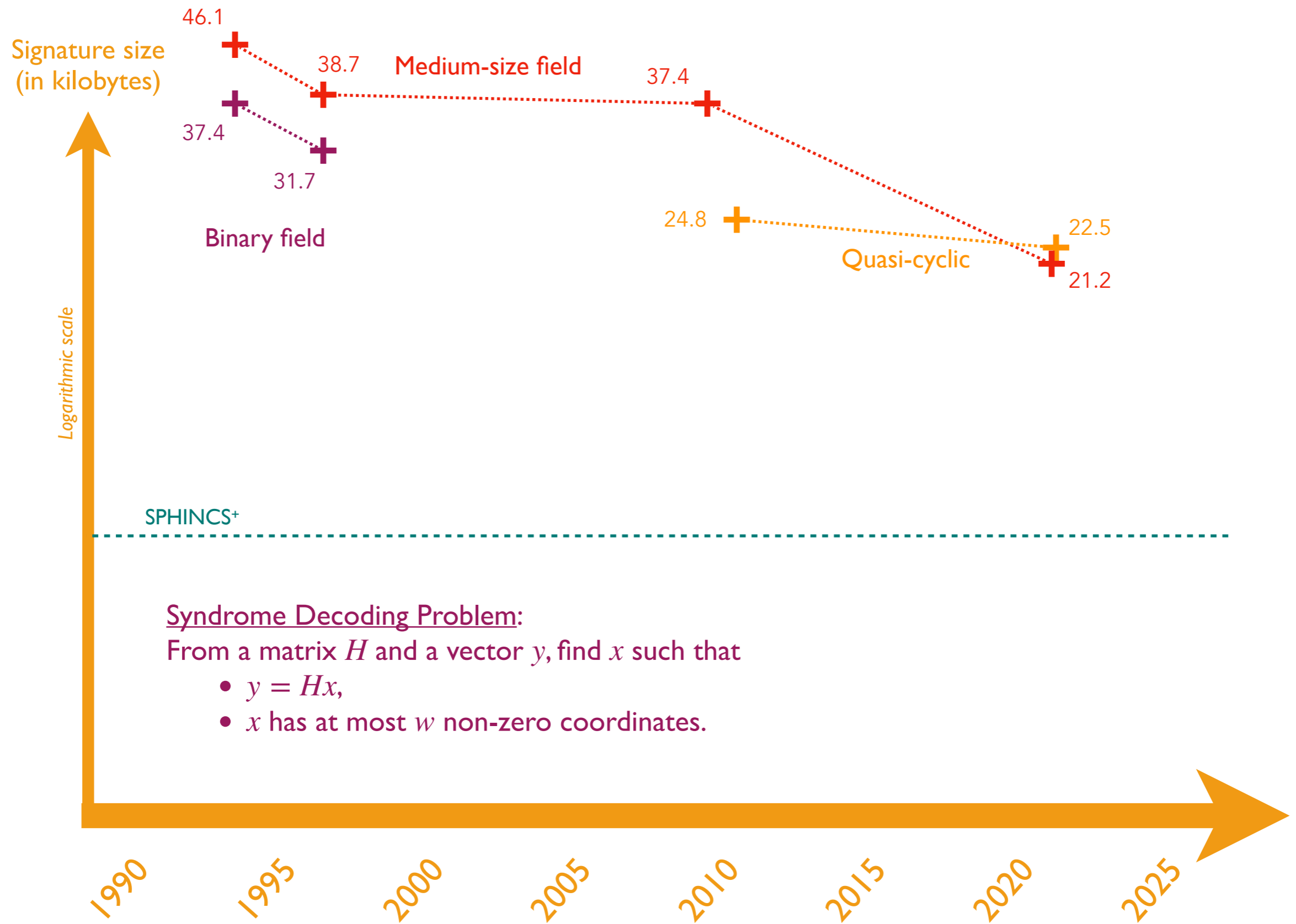


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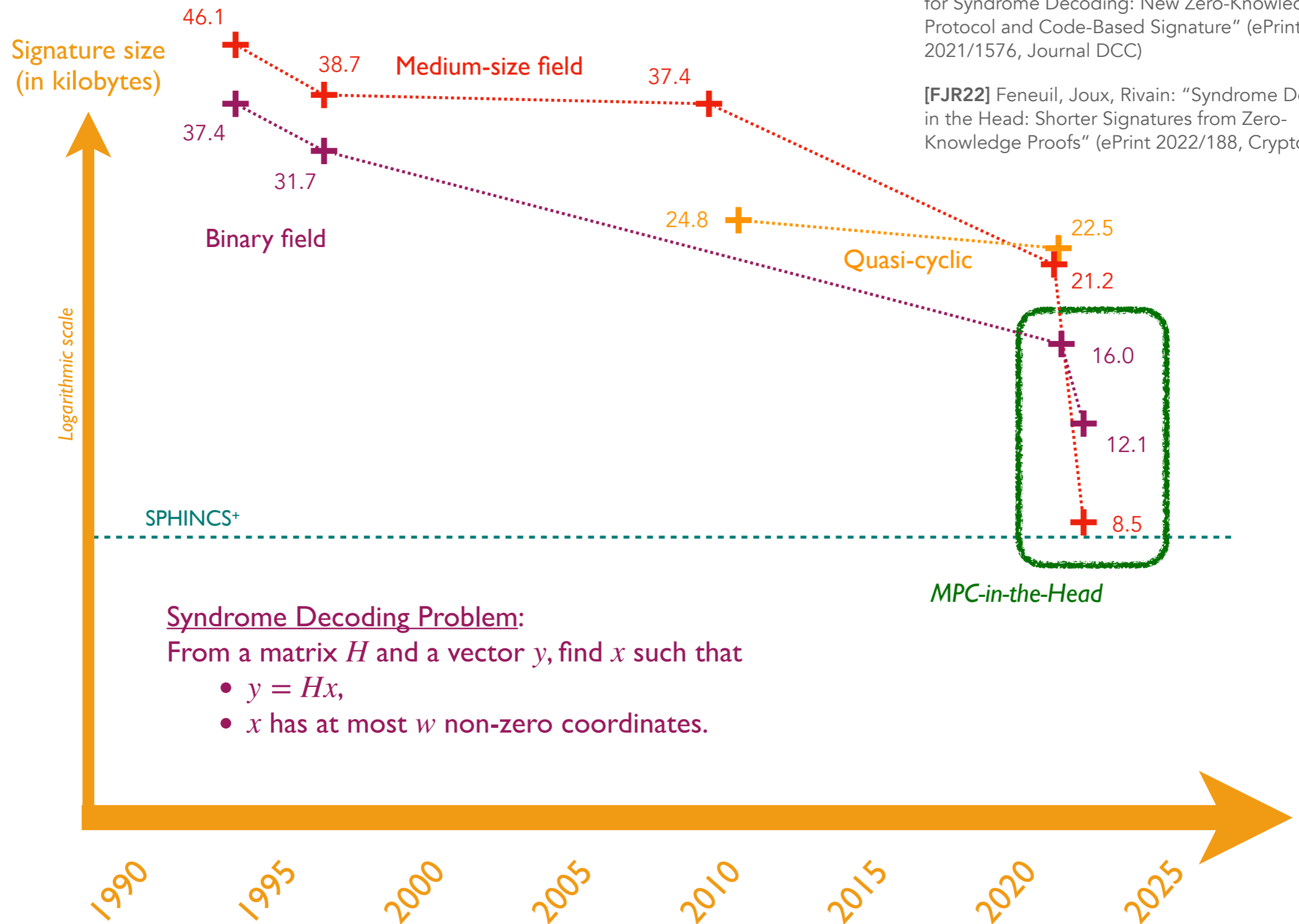
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[FJR23] Feneuil, Joux, Rivain: "Shared Permutation for Syndrome Decoding: New Zero-Knowledge Protocol and Code-Based Signature" (ePrint 2021/1576, Journal DCC)

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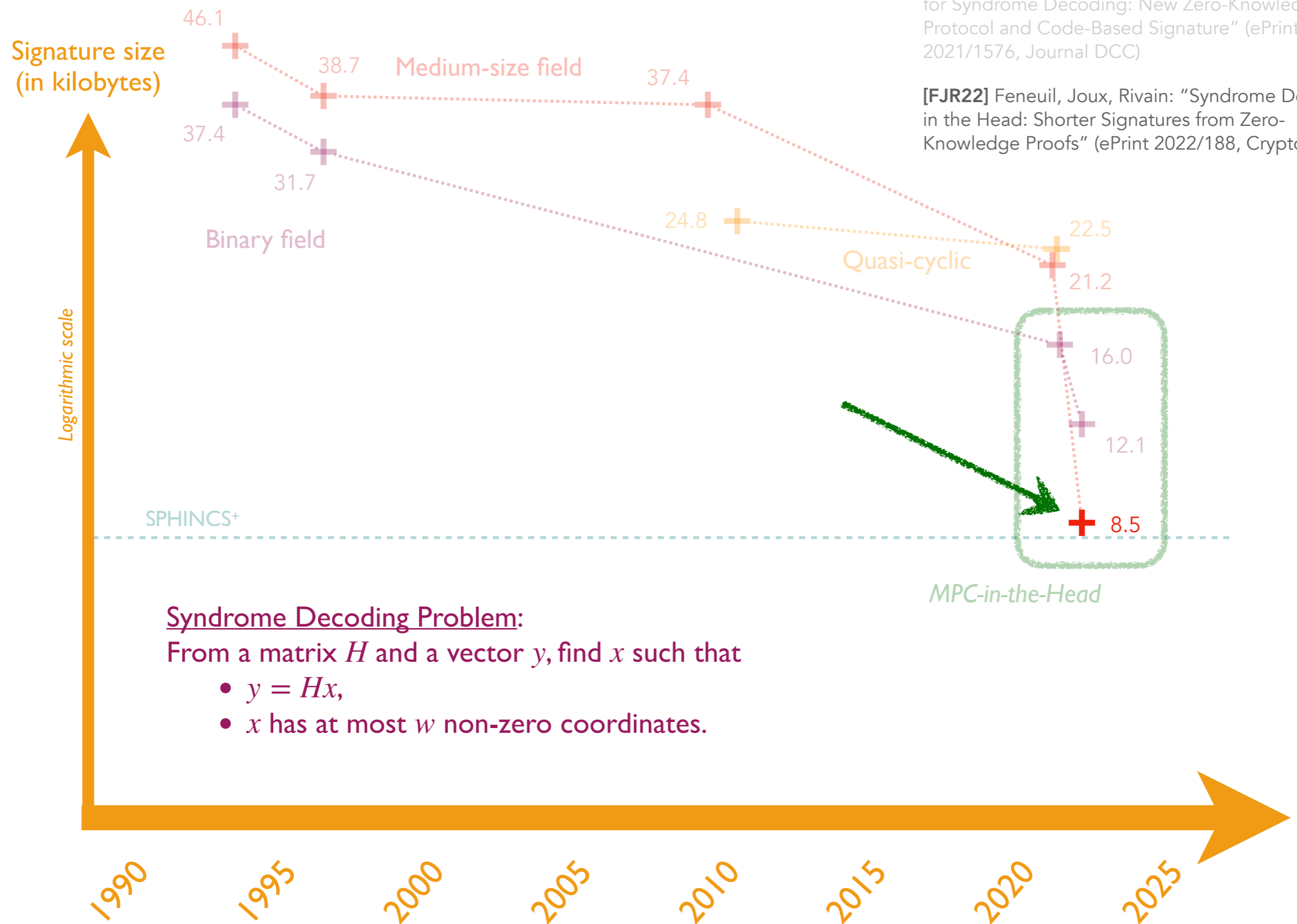
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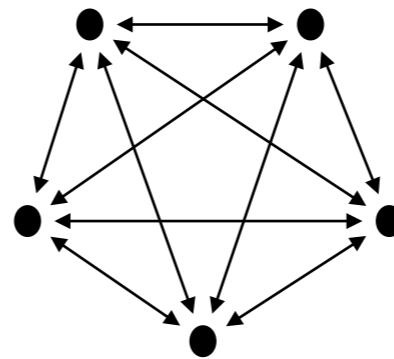
$$[[x]] = ([[x]]_1, \dots, [[x]]_N) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x = [[x]]_1 + \dots + [[x]]_N$$

One-way function

$$F : x \mapsto y$$

E.g. AES, MQ system,
Syndrome decoding

Multiparty computation (MPC)

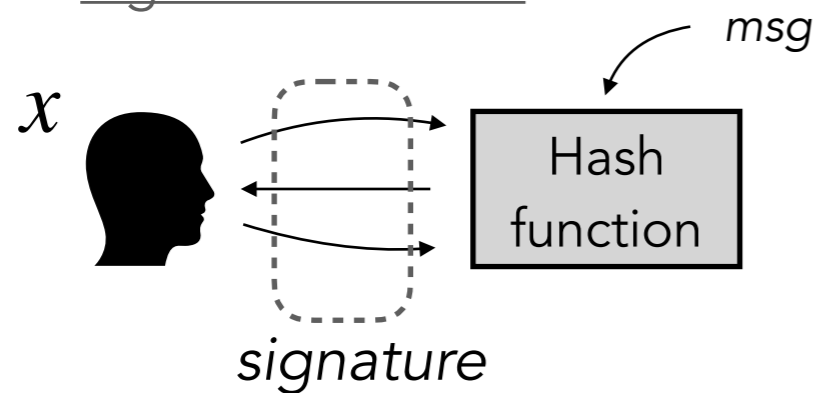


Input sharing $[[x]]$

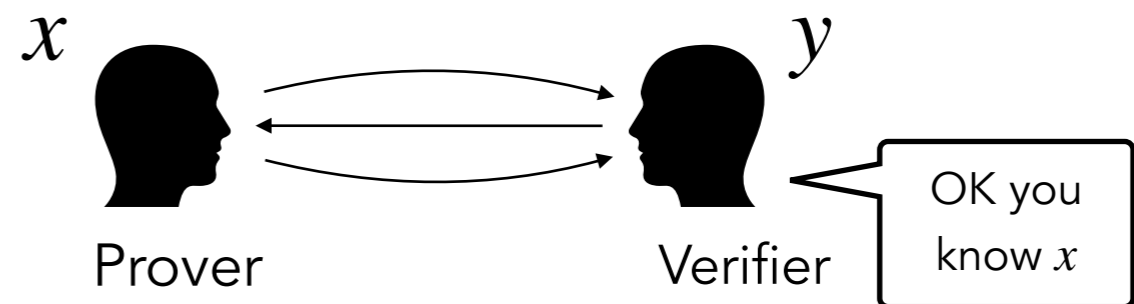
Joint evaluation of:

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \text{Accept} & \text{if } F(x) = y \\ \text{Reject} & \text{if } F(x) \neq y \end{cases}$$

Signature scheme





Zero-knowledge proof



A MPC protocol for the SD problem

The multiparty computation must check that the vector x satisfies

| | | |
|--|-----|---|
| $y = Hx$ | and | $w_H(x) \leq w.$ |
|  | |  |
| linear, easy to check | | non-linear, hard to check |

A MPC protocol for the SD problem

The multiparty computation must check that the vector x satisfies

$$y = Hx$$

and

$\exists Q, P$ two polynomials : $SQ = PF$ and $\deg Q = w$

where

S is defined by interpolation such that $\forall i, S(\gamma_i) = x_i$,

$$F := \prod_{i=1}^m (X - \gamma_i).$$

Let us assume that there exists $Q, P \in \mathbb{F}[X]$ such that

$$S \cdot Q = P \cdot F \quad \text{and} \quad \deg Q = w$$

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$$\forall i \leq m, (Q \cdot S)(\gamma_i) = P(\gamma_i) \cdot F(\gamma_i) = 0$$

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i.e.,

$$\text{wt}_H(x) = \#\{i : x_i \neq 0\} \leq w$$

Such polynomial Q can be built as

$$Q := Q' \cdot \prod_{i: x_i \neq 0} (X - \gamma_i)$$


The non-zero positions of x
are encoding as roots.

And $P := \frac{S \cdot Q}{F}$ since F divides $S \cdot Q$.

$$(\forall i, S(\gamma_i) = x_i)$$

A MPC protocol for the SD problem

We want to build a *MPC protocol* which checks if some vector is a syndrome decoding solution.

Let us assume that $H = (H' | I)$. We split x as $\begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ x_B \end{pmatrix}$.

We have $y = Hx$, so

$$x_B = y - H'x_A.$$

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Inputs of the MPC protocol: x_A, Q, P

Aim of the MPC protocol:

Check that x_A corresponds to a syndrome decoding solution.

A MPC protocol for the SD problem

Inputs of the MPC protocol: x_A , Q , P

1. Build $x_B := y - H'x_A$ and deduce $x := \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ x_B \end{pmatrix}$.

We have

$$y = Hx.$$

A MPC protocol for the SD problem

Inputs of the MPC protocol: x_A , Q , P

1. Build $x_B := y - H'x_A$ and deduce $x := \begin{pmatrix} x_A \\ x_B \end{pmatrix}$.
2. Build the polynomial S by interpolation such that

$$\forall i, S(\gamma_i) = x_i.$$

Interpolation Formula:

$$S(X) = \sum_i x_i \cdot \prod_{\ell \neq i} \frac{X - \gamma_\ell}{\gamma_i - \gamma_\ell}.$$

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2. Build the polynomial S by interpolation such that

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3. Get a random point r from a field extension \mathbb{F}_{points} .
4. Compute $S(r)$, $Q(r)$ and $P(r)$.
5. Using [BN20], check that $S(r) \cdot Q(r) = P(r) \cdot F(r)$.

[BN20] Carsten Baum and Ariel Nof. *Concretely-efficient zero-knowledge arguments for arithmetic circuits and their application to lattice-based cryptography*. PKC 2020.

A MPC protocol for the SD problem

Even if x_A does not describe a SD solution, implying that $S \cdot Q \neq P \cdot F$, the MPC protocol can output **Accept** if

Case 1:

$$S(r) \cdot Q(r) = P(r) \cdot F(r)$$

which occurs with probability (Schwartz-Zippel Lemma)

$$\Pr_{r \leftarrow \mathbb{F}_{points}} [S(r) \cdot Q(r) = P(r) \cdot F(r)] \leq \frac{m + w - 1}{|\mathbb{F}_{points}|}$$

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Case 2: the [BN20] protocol failed, which occurs with probability

$$\frac{1}{|\mathbb{F}_{points}|}.$$

A MPC protocol for the SD problem

The MPC protocol checks that (x_A, Q, P) describes a solution of the SD instance (H, y) .

| | <i>Protocol Output</i> | |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------|
| | Accept | Reject |
| A good witness | 1 | 0 |
| Not a good witness | p | $1 - p$ |

where

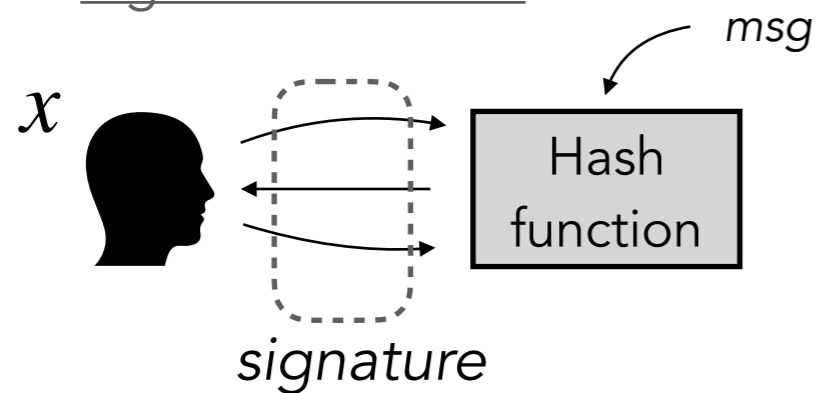
$$p = \underbrace{\frac{m + w - 1}{|\mathbb{F}_{points}|}}_{\text{False positive from Schwartz-Zippel}} + \left(1 - \frac{m + w - 1}{|\mathbb{F}_{points}|}\right) \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{|\mathbb{F}_{points}|}}_{\text{False positive from [BN20]}}$$

One-way function

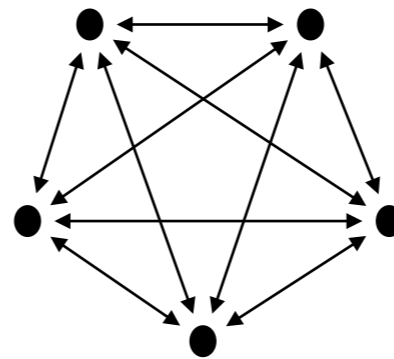
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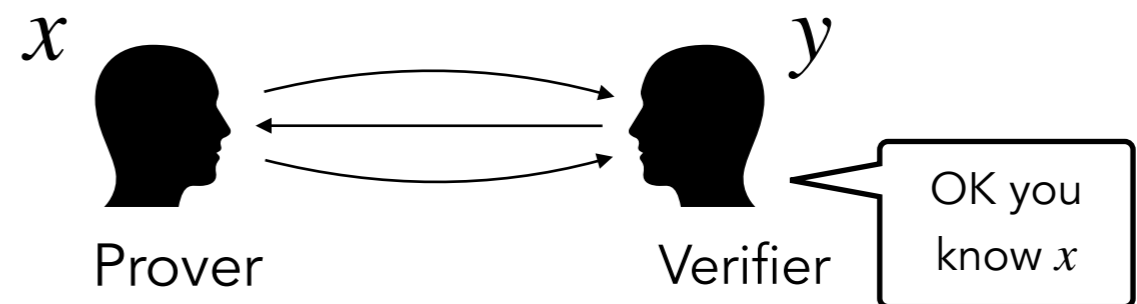


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MPC-in-the-Head transform

Zero-knowledge proof



Resulting Zero-Knowledge Proof for SD

Soundness error:

$$\epsilon := \frac{1}{N} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right) \cdot p$$

To achieve *negligible soundness error*, we repeat the zero-knowledge proof τ times such that $\epsilon^\tau < 2^{-\lambda}$.

Resulting Zero-Knowledge Proof for SD

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Signature scheme: to obtain the signature scheme, we just need to apply the

Fiat-Shamir transform.

Signature Scheme

Parameter Selection (128-bit security):

- Syndrome Decoding problem over \mathbb{F}_{256}
- The MPCitH parameters: $N = 256$, $\tau = 17$

Resulting size (short variant):

$\approx 8,5$ kilobytes

*Using few optimisations
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Notes:

- We can apply to *binary syndrome decoding problem*, but it requires a field lifting for the polynomials S, Q, P, F .
- In the thesis, we propose also another approach, namely
the *shared-permutation* framework,
but it leads to larger sizes for the SD problem.

Exploring other assumptions

- **Subset Sum Problem:** $\geq 100 \text{ KB} \Rightarrow 19.1 \text{ KB}$
 - Problem over a very large modulo $q \approx 2^{256}$
 - *Key Idea:* Sharing over integers, signature with aborts

[FMRV22] Feneuil, Maire, Rivain, Vergnaud. *Zero-Knowledge Protocols for the Subset Sum Problem from MPC-in-the-Head with Rejection*. Asiacrypt 2022.

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[Fen22] Feneuil. *Building MPCitH-based Signatures from MQ, MinRank, and Rank SD*. To appear to ACNS 2024.

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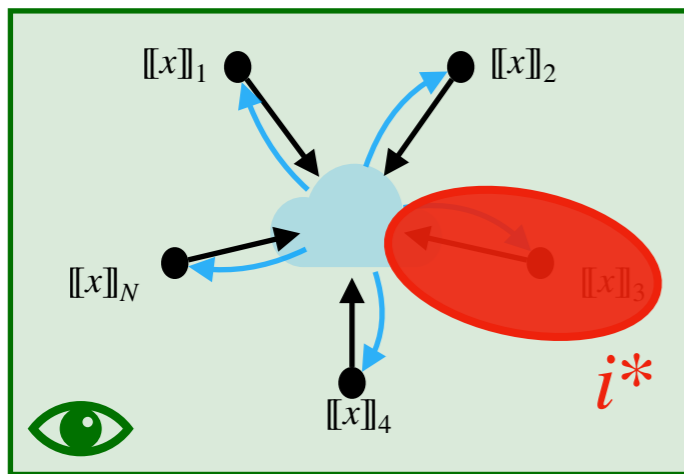


What about the computational cost ?

Computational Cost

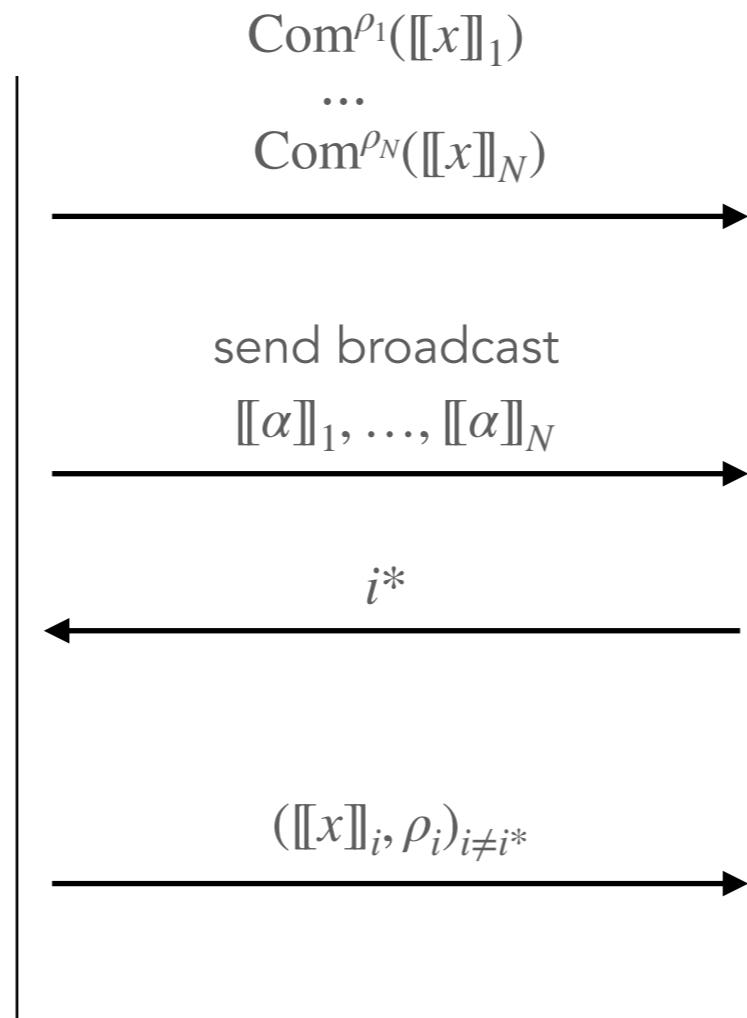
① Generate and commit shares
 $\llbracket x \rrbracket = (\llbracket x \rrbracket_1, \dots, \llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

② Run MPC in their head



④ Open parties $\{1, \dots, N\} \setminus \{i^*\}$

Prover



③ Choose a random party
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Verifier

Computational Cost

- Syndrome-Decoding-in-the-Head:

$$N = 256, \tau = 17$$

Number of party emulations: $\tau \cdot N = 4352$!

Signing Time: 78 ms, with emulation phase of around 75 ms

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- To deal with this issue, we propose the threshold approach:

[FR22] Feneuil, Rivain. *Threshold Linear Secret Sharing to the Rescue of MPC-in-the-Head*. To appear at Asiacrypt 2023.

The Threshold Approach

In the *threshold* approach, we use a **low-threshold** linear sharing scheme. For example, the Shamir's $(\ell + 1, N)$ -secret sharing scheme.

To share a value x ,

- sample r_1, r_2, \dots, r_ℓ uniformly at random,
- build the polynomial $P(X) = x + \sum_{k=0}^{\ell} r_k \cdot X^k$,
- Set the share $[[x]]_i \leftarrow P(e_i)$, where e_i is publicly known.

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Properties:

- Linearity: $[[x]] + [[y]] = [[x + y]]$
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Zero-Knowledge:

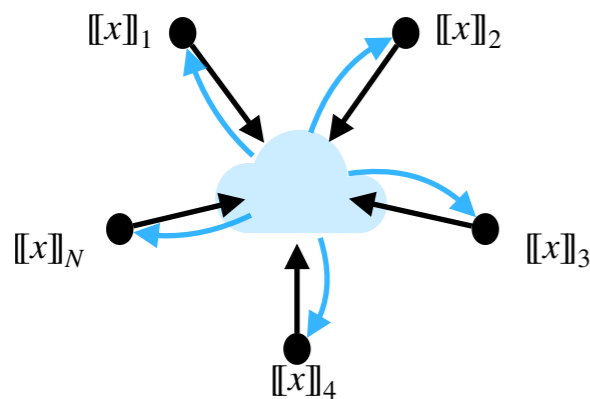
The prover opens only ℓ parties (instead of $N - 1$).

In practice, $\ell \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

MPCitH Transform with Threshold LSSS

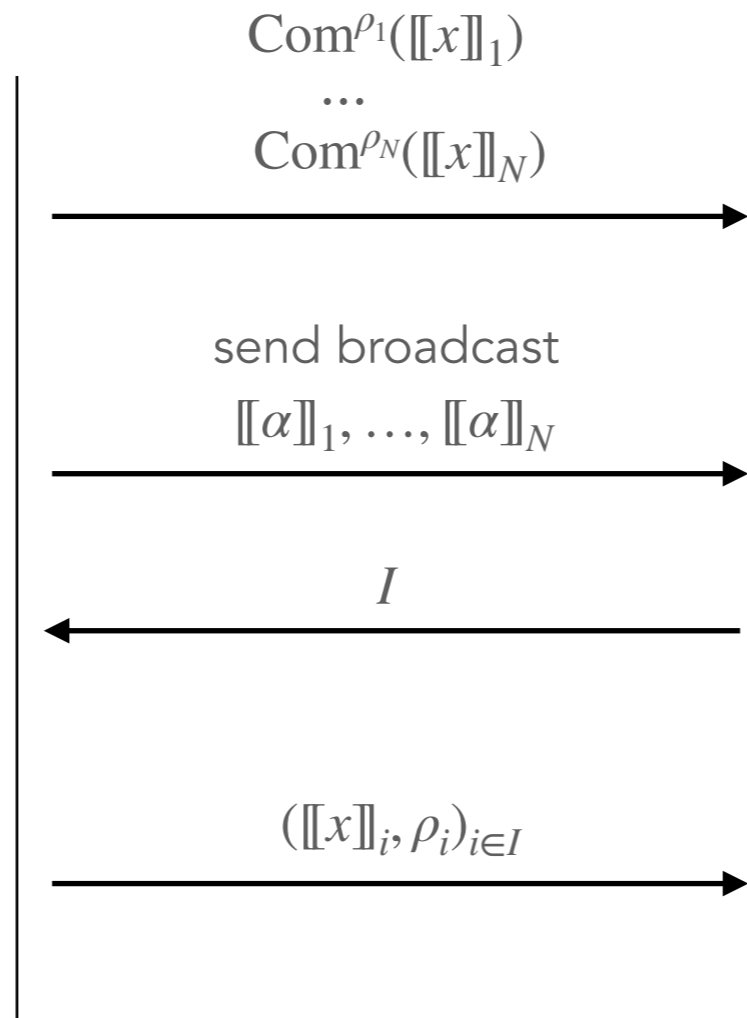
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- ④ Open parties in I

Prover



- ③ Choose a random set of parties
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Verifier

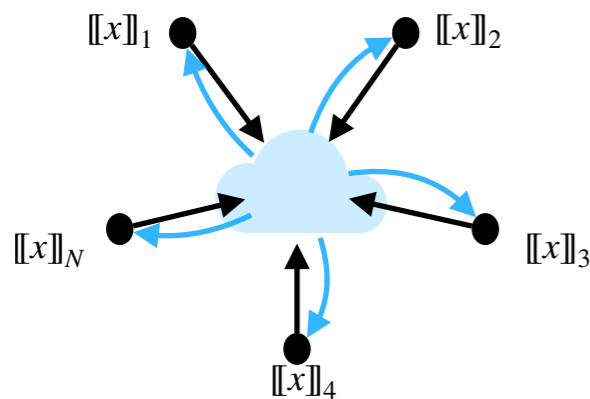
MPCitH Transform with Threshold LSSS

Threshold LSSS \Rightarrow cannot generate shares from seeds

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$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_1)$
 \dots
 $\text{Com}^{\rho_N}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

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send broadcast
 $\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_1, \dots, \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_N$

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$(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i, \rho_i)_{i \in I}$

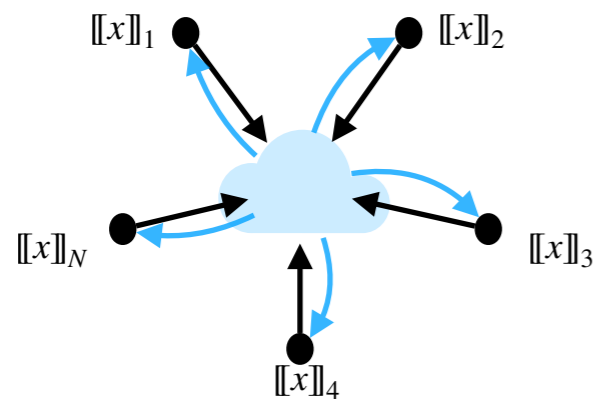
Prover

Verifier

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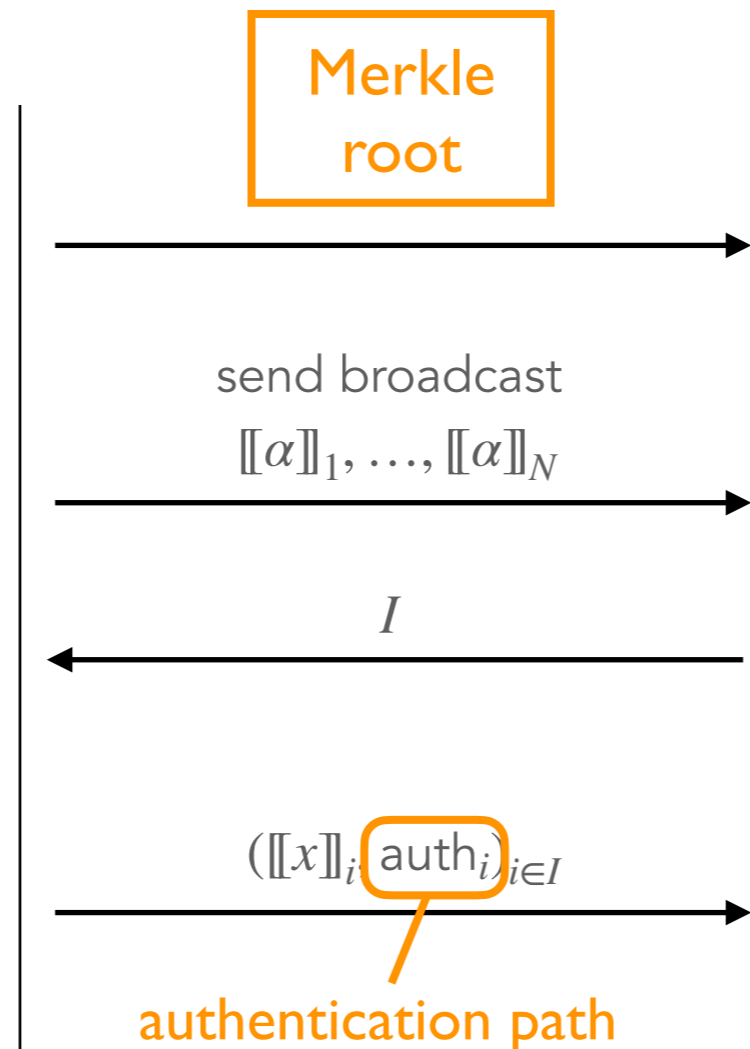
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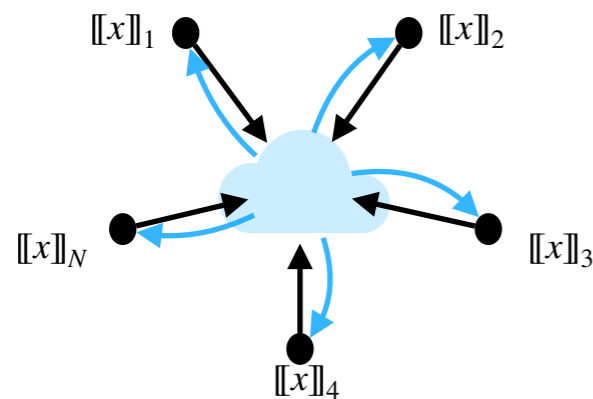
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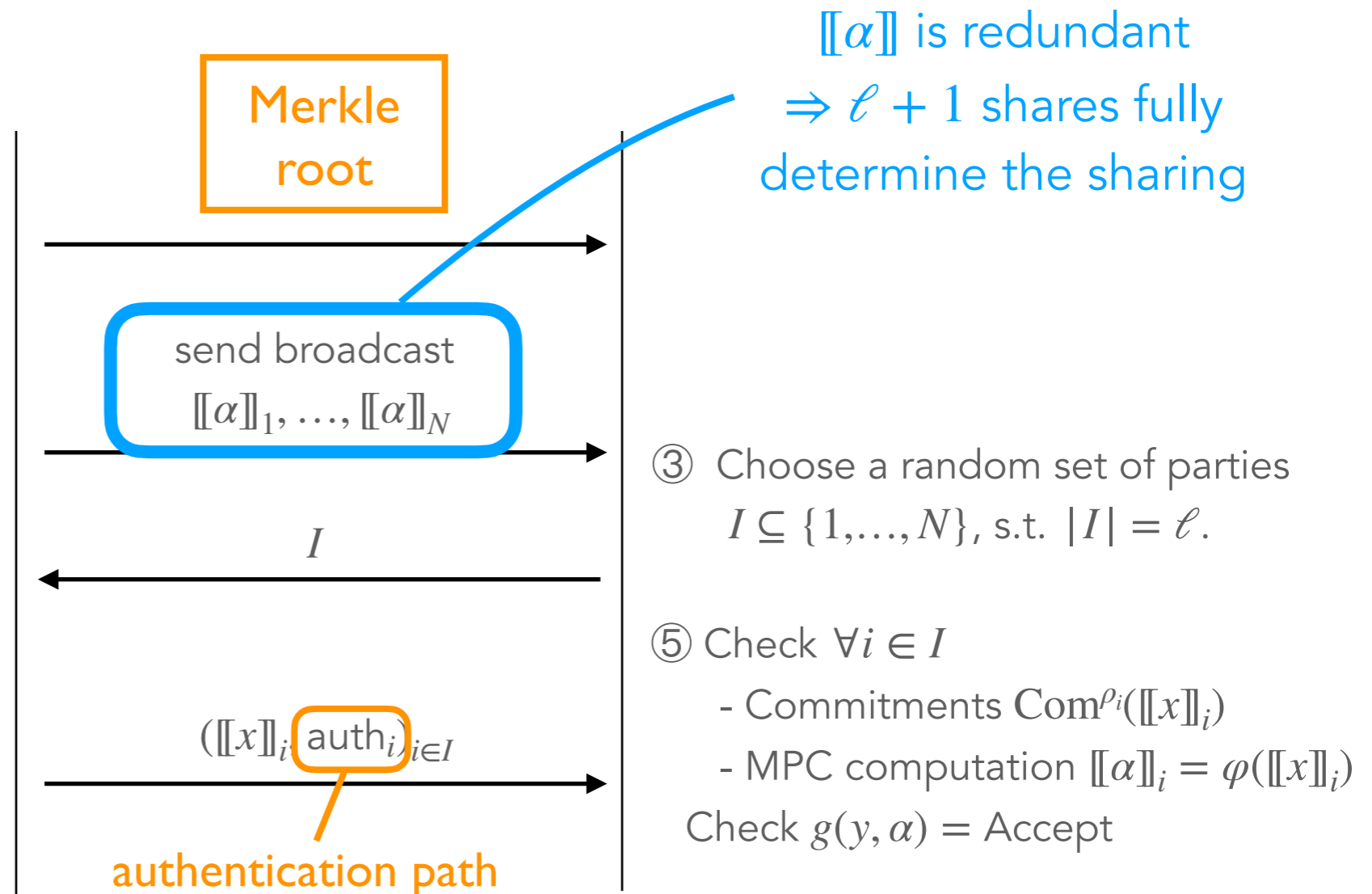
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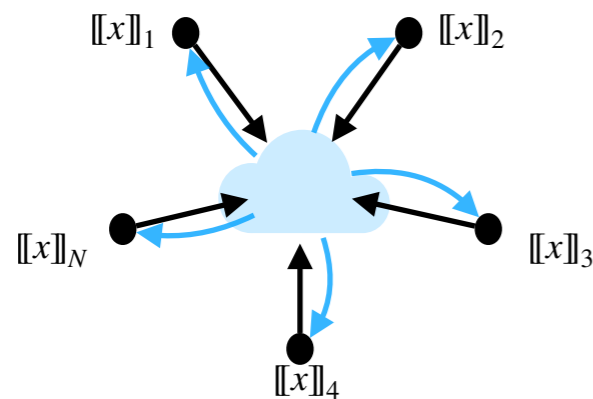


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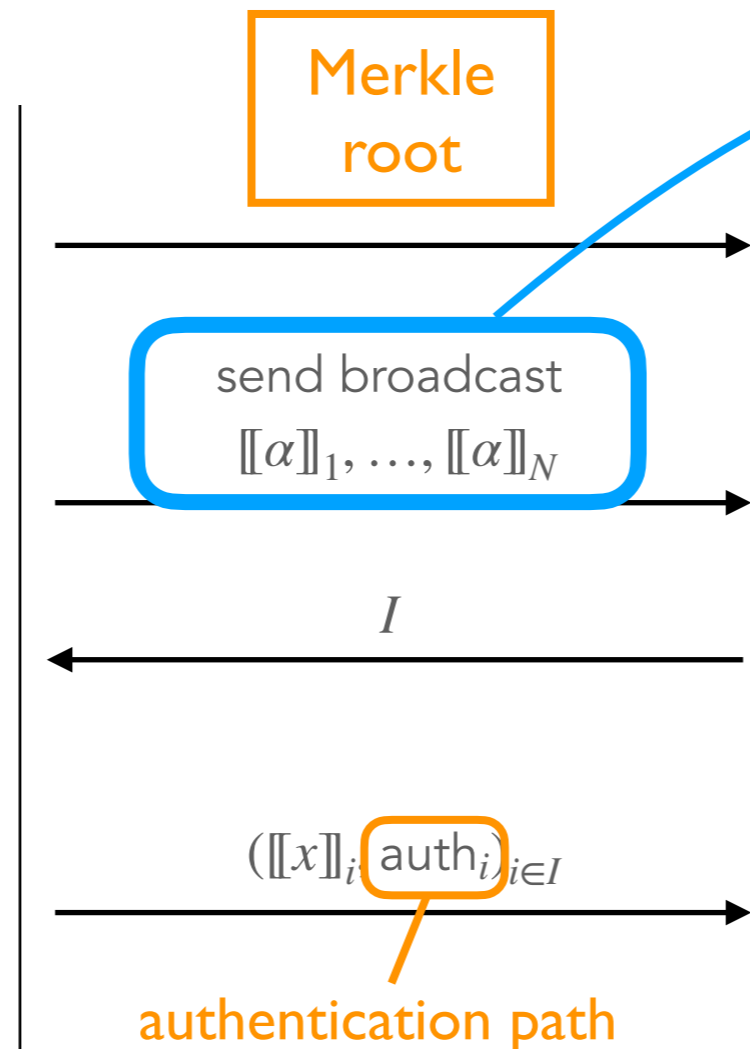
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$\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket$ is redundant

$\Rightarrow \ell + 1$ shares fully determine the sharing

\Rightarrow **only $\ell + 1$ party computations required**

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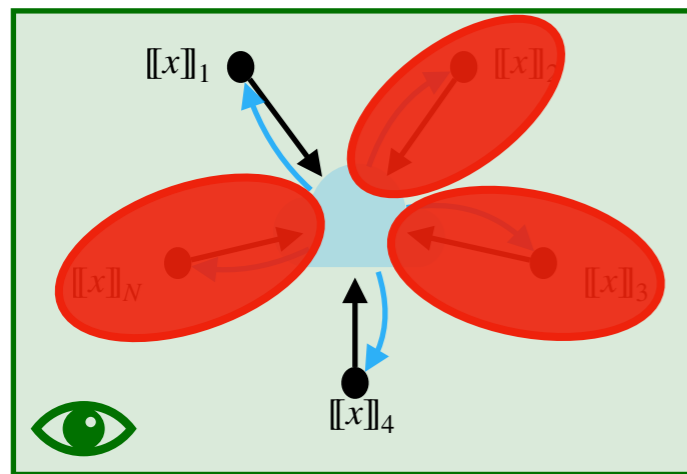
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④ Open parties in I

Prover

ℓ parties opened
 instead of $N - 1$

Merkle
 root

send broadcast
 $[[\alpha]]_1, \dots, [[\alpha]]_N$

I

$([x]_i, \text{auth}_i)_{i \in I}$

authentication path

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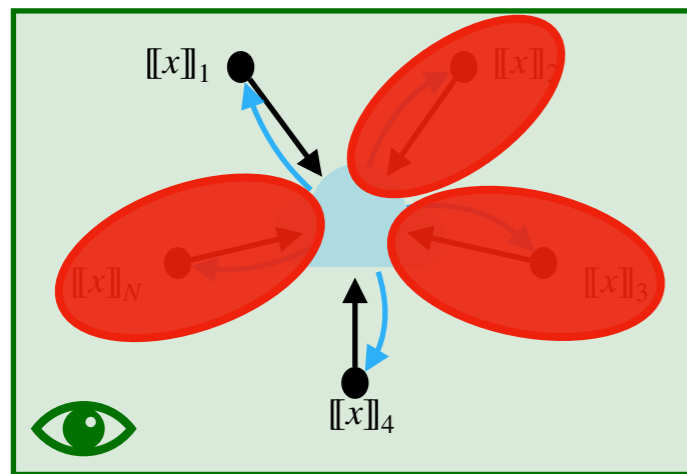
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② Run MPC in their head



④ Open parties in I

Prover

ℓ parties opened
 instead of $N - 1$

Merkle
 root

send broadcast
 $[[\alpha]]_1, \dots, [[\alpha]]_N$

I

$([[x]]_i, \text{auth}_i)_{i \in I}$

authentication path

$[[\alpha]]$ is redundant

$\Rightarrow \ell + 1$ shares fully
 determine the sharing

\Rightarrow **only $\ell + 1$ party
 computations required**

③ Choose a random set of parties
 $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$, s.t. $|I| = \ell$.

⑤ Check $\forall i \in I$

- Commitments $\text{Com}^{\rho_i}([x]_i)$

- MPC computation $[[\alpha]]_i = \varphi([x]_i)$

Check $g(y, \alpha) = \text{Accept}$

only ℓ party
 computations required

The Threshold Approach - Soundness

- *Soundness error (for any ℓ):*

$$\frac{1}{\binom{N}{\ell}} + p \cdot \frac{\ell(N - \ell)}{\ell + 1}$$

- *Soundness error (for $\ell = 1$):*

$$\frac{1}{N} + p \cdot \frac{(N - 1)}{2}$$

instead of $\frac{1}{N} + p \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right)$.

The Threshold Approach

| | Additive sharing + seed trees | Threshold LSSS with $\ell = 1$ |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| Soundness error | $\frac{1}{N} + p \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right)$ | $\frac{1}{N} + p \cdot \frac{(N-1)}{2}$ |
| Prover # party computations | N | 2 |
| Verifier # party computations | $N - 1$ | 1 |
| Sharing Generation and Commitment | Seed tree $\lambda \cdot \log N$ | Merkle tree $2\lambda \cdot \log N$ |

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Much cheaper
emulation

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Fast verification
algorithm

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Larger signature sizes

The Threshold Approach

Require $N \leq |\mathbb{F}|$

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| Prover # party computations | N $1 + \log_2 N$ | 2 |
| Verifier # party computations | $N-1$ $\log_2 N$ | 1 |
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[AGHHJY23] Aguilar-Melchor, Gama, Howe, Hülsing, Joseph, Yue: "The Return of the SDitH" (Eurocrypt 2023)

The Hypercube
technique

The Threshold Approach

Additive sharing
(with hypercube optimisation)

| | Size | Signing time | Verification time |
|----------------|----------|--------------|-------------------|
| SDitH-gf256-L1 | 8 260 B | 5.18 ms | 4.81 ms |
| SDitH-gf251-L1 | | 8.51 ms | 8.16 ms |
| SDitH-gf256-L1 | 10 424 B | 1.97 ms | 0.62 ms |
| SDitH-gf251-L1 | | 1.71 ms | 0.23 ms |

Threshold LSSS

Benchmark of the SDitH submission package of the NIST call

Conclusion

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- Many signature schemes using MPC-in-the-Head, for which the security relies on the hardness of

Syndrome decoding problem

Subset sum problem

Multivariate quadratic problem

MinRank problem

Rank syndrome decoding problem

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- A new technique to deal small secrets with large modulus in MPCitH:

MPCitH with rejection, with sharings over integers

- A new MPCitH transformation targeting fast running times:

the Threshold approach

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- NIST call for additional post-quantum signatures
 - 4 schemes directly rely on this thesis: MIRA, MQOM, RYDE, SDitH
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- A low-level library dedicated to the MPC-in-the-Head paradigm
 - Available at `https://github.com/CryptoExperts/libmpcith`

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- Some of the thesis results are not limited to the context of signatures
 - Can be applied to zero-knowledge proofs/arguments

Perspectives

- More efficient MPCitH transformations / more efficient MPC protocols
 - already some new works
 - Crypto 2023: the *VOLE-in-the-Head* construction
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Thank you for your attention !