

Masking-Friendly Signatures and the Design of Raccoon

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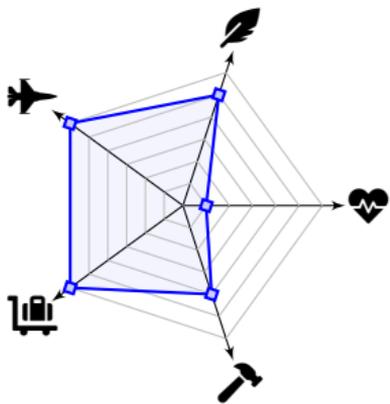
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Signature schemes strike a balance between:

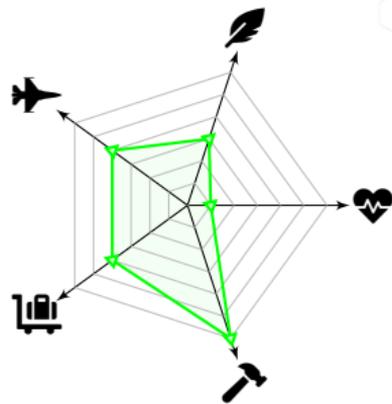
-  Sizes (verification key and signatures)
-  Speed (signing, verification)
-  Portability
-  Conservative assumptions
-  **Resistance against side-channel attacks**

And so on...

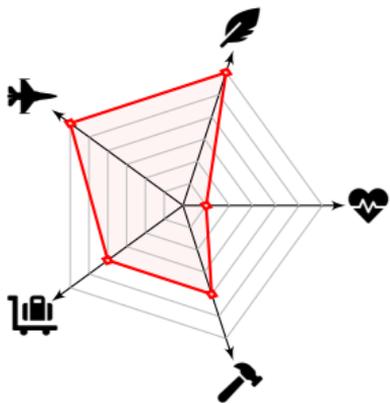
Dilithium



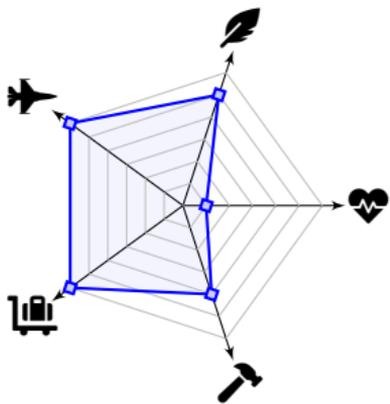
SPHINCS+



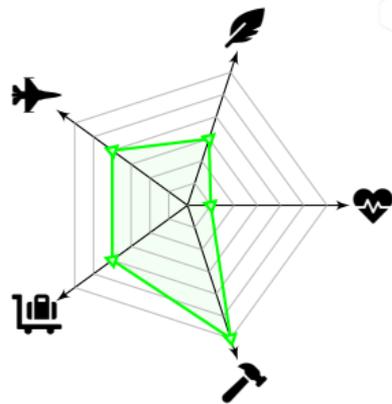
Falcon



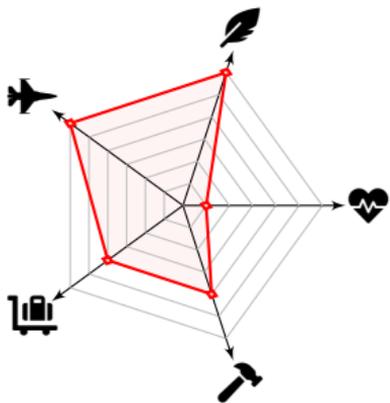
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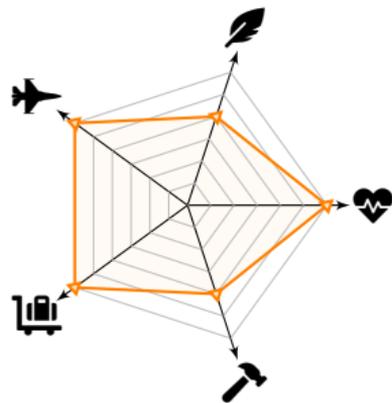
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Raccoon



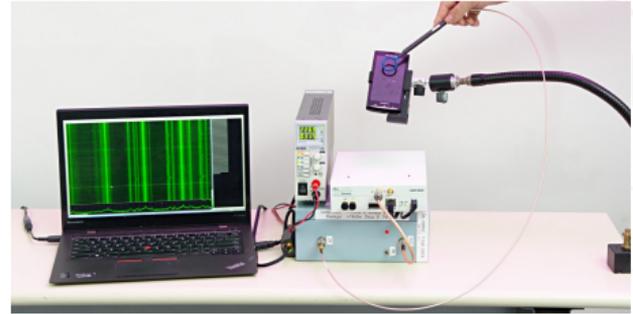
Side-Channel Attacks



Power consumption [KJJ99]



Electromagnetic emissions [Eck85]



Timing measurement [Koc96]



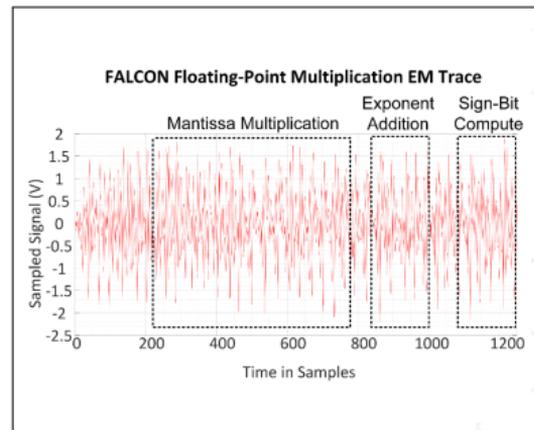
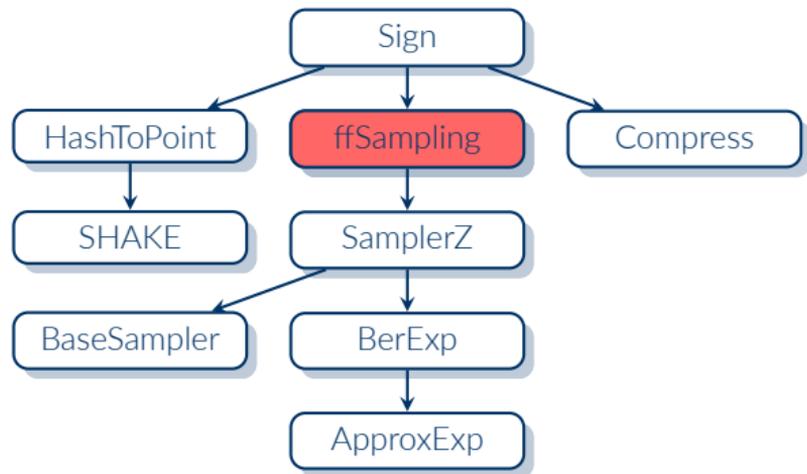
Acoustic emissions [AA04]



In Falcon, a signature **sig** is distributed as a Gaussian.

The signing key **sk** should remain private.

The power consumption leaks information about the dot product $\langle \mathbf{sig}, \mathbf{sk} \rangle$, or **sk** itself.



Learning **sk** directly

Figure 1: Flowchart of the signature

¹FALCON Down: Breaking FALCON Post-Quantum Signature Scheme through Side-Channel Attacks [KA21]

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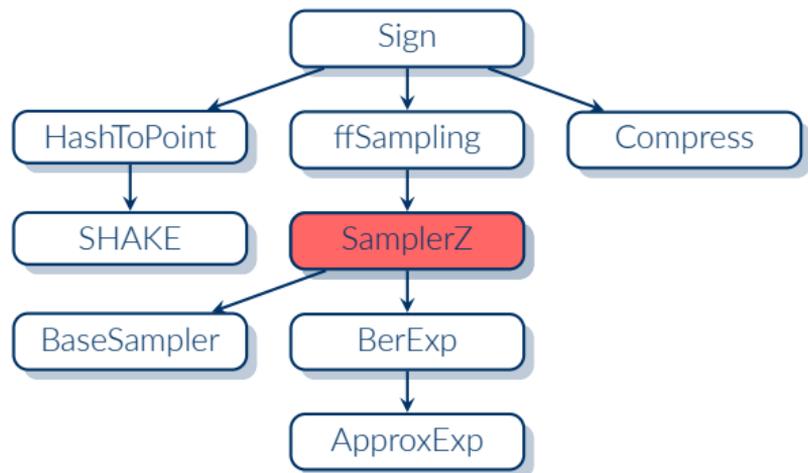
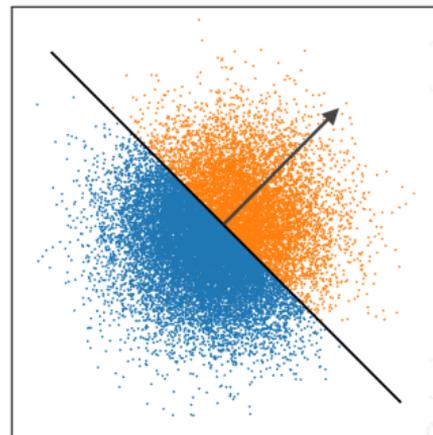


Figure 1: Flowchart of the signature



Filtering $\langle \mathbf{sig}, \mathbf{sk} \rangle > 0$

t -probing model

-  Adversary can probe t circuit values at runtime
-  Unrealistic but a good starting point

Masking

-  Each sensitive value x is split in d shares:

$$\llbracket x \rrbracket = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{d-1}) \quad (1)$$

such that

$$x_0 + x_1 + \dots + x_{d-1} = x \quad (2)$$

-  In t -probing model, ideally 0 leakage if $d > t$
-  In “real life”, security is exponential in d
-  What about computations?



Interlude: river-crossing puzzles

Remember this puzzle?

“ A farmer with a wolf, a goat, and a cabbage must cross a river by boat. The boat can carry only the farmer and a single item. If left unattended together, the wolf would eat the goat, or the goat would eat the cabbage. How can they cross the river without anything being eaten? ”



Now replace:

- 1 The set { farmer, wolf, goat, cabbage } by the shares (x_0, \dots, x_{d-1})
- 2 The operation “*everyone crosses the river*” by an arbitrary function $f(\llbracket x \rrbracket) \rightarrow \llbracket y \rrbracket$
- 3 The constraints “*never leave A alone with B*” by “*a probing adversary shall not learn anything*”

... and you obtain an inexhaustible source of headaches for cryptographers.

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How difficult are operations to mask?

😊 Addition ($\llbracket c \rrbracket = \llbracket a + b \rrbracket$)?

- Simple and fast: $\Theta(d)$ operations

😊 Refresh ($\llbracket a \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket a \rrbracket'$)?

- Protect against attacks **and** allows composition frameworks (SNI, PINI, IOS, etc.)
- Simple and fast: $\Theta(d \log d)$ operations

😞 Multiplication ($\llbracket c \rrbracket = \llbracket a \cdot b \rrbracket$)?

- Complex and slower: $\Theta(d^2)$ operations

😞 More complex operations?

- Use so-called *mask conversions*, very slow: $\Theta(d^2)$ operations **per bit to convert**

Masking Dilithium



Dilithium-Sign

- 1 Sample $\mathbf{r} \leftarrow \text{Uniform}(S)$
- 2 $\mathbf{w} := \mathbf{A}\mathbf{r}$
- 3 $\mathbf{w}_T := \lfloor \mathbf{w} \rfloor_k$
- 4 $c := H(\mathbf{w}_T, \text{msg})$
- 5 $\mathbf{z} := \mathbf{s}c + \mathbf{r}$
- 6 If \mathbf{z} not in S' , goto 1
- 7 $\mathbf{h} := \mathbf{w}_T - \lfloor \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{t}c \rfloor_k$
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1 How do we sample a uniform d -sharing $\llbracket r \rrbracket$ of $r \leftarrow \text{Uniform}(S)$ securely?

→ $S = \mathbb{Z}_q^n$ is easy, $S \subsetneq \mathbb{Z}_q$ is **hard**

→ Naive solutions do not work

→ Best known method:

1 Find a **boolean** circuit f that samples $(r_1, \dots, r_{\log q}) \leftarrow \text{Uniform}(S)$

2 Evaluate f in masked boolean form:

$$(\llbracket r_1 \rrbracket_b, \dots, \llbracket r_{\log q} \rrbracket_b) \leftarrow \llbracket f \rrbracket_b \quad (3)$$

3 Use mask conversion on each bit:

$$\llbracket r_i \rrbracket_b \rightarrow \llbracket r_i \rrbracket_a \quad (4)$$

4 Recombine the masked bits:

$$\llbracket r \rrbracket_a := \sum_i 2^i \llbracket r_i \rrbracket_a \quad (5)$$

Complexity: $O(d^2 (|f| + \log q))$

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- 2 Compute $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{r}$:

- Linear operation thus **easy**
- Complexity: $\tilde{O}(d)$

-
- 3 Bit dropping $\mathbf{w}_T := \lfloor \mathbf{w} \rfloor_k$:

- The lower bits of \mathbf{w} are sensitive:

$$\mathbf{w} - (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{t}\mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{e}\mathbf{c}$$

- Requires mask conversion (B2A + A2B)
- Complexity: $O(d^2 \log q)$

-
- 4 Challenge computation is unmasked:

- Previously: ad-hoc assumption [BBE⁺18]
- Now: everyone cites [DFPS23]

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- 5 Compute $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{s}c + \mathbf{r}$:

→ Linear thus fast

- 6 Rejection sampling:

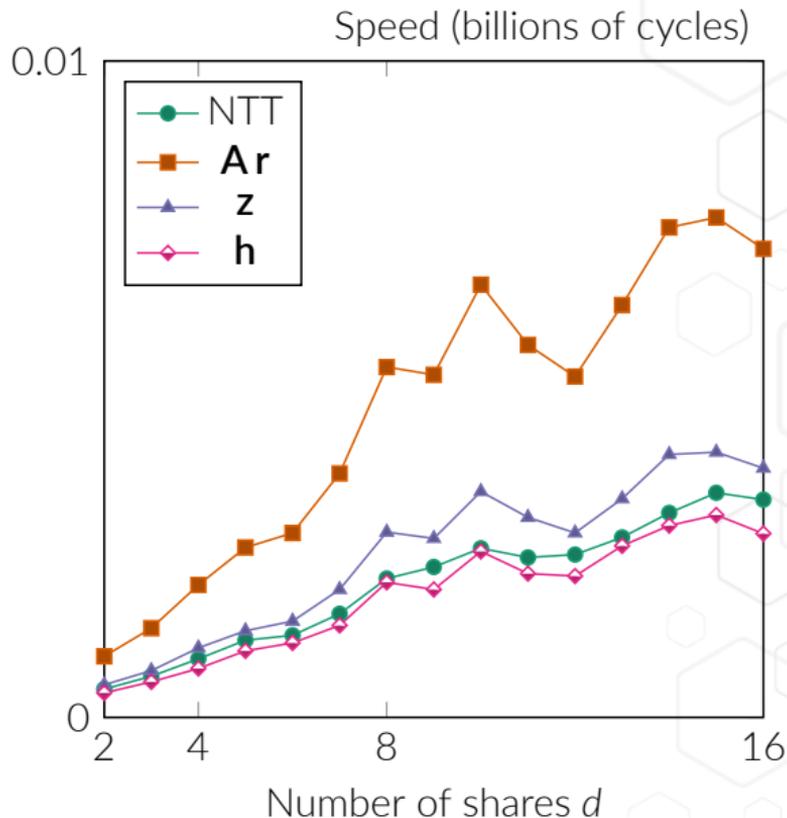
→ Requires mask conversion (A2B), slow

- 7 Compute \mathbf{h} :

→ Linear thus fast

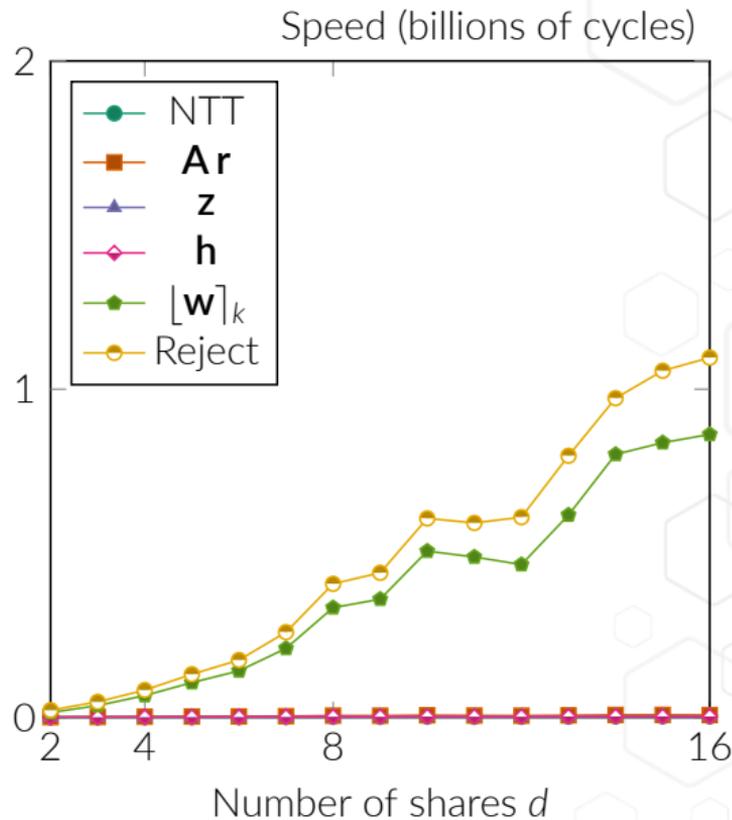
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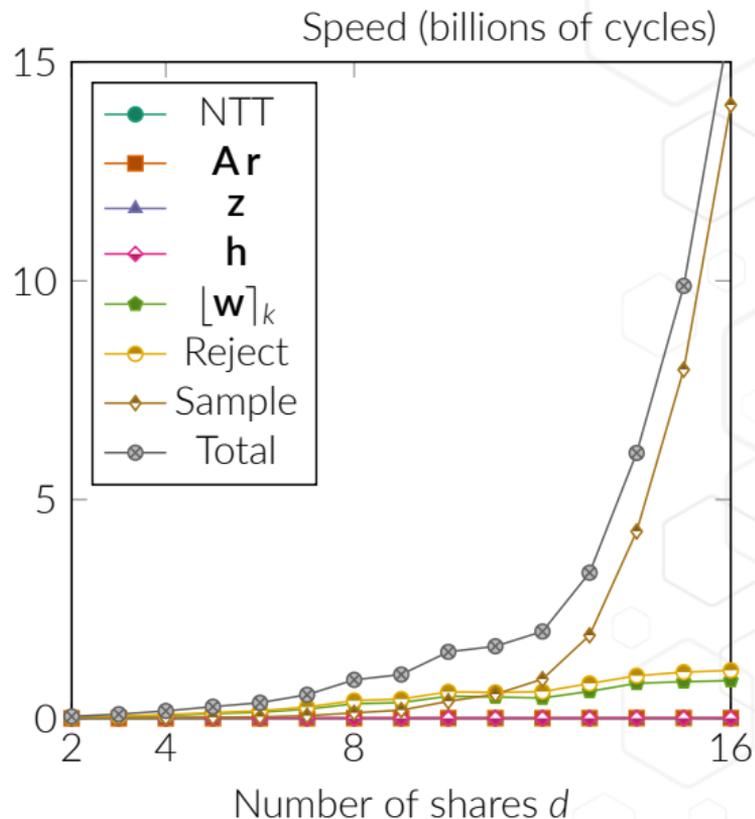
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Masking Dilithium efficiently remains difficult despite several years of works:

- *Masking the GLP lattice-based signature scheme at any order [BBE⁺18]*
- *Masking Dilithium - efficient implementation and side-channel evaluation [MGTF19]*
- *Protecting dilithium against leakage: Revisited sensitivity analysis and improved implementations [ABC⁺23]*
- *Improved Gadgets for the High-Order Masking of Dilithium [CGTZ23]*

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What about Mitaka?

- Last year: Mitaka: a simpler, parallelizable, maskable variant of Falcon [EFG⁺22]
- Now: A Key-Recovery Attack against Mitaka in the t -Probing Model [Pre23]
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Back to the drawing board!

Raccoon

We build a masking-friendly scheme from scratch:

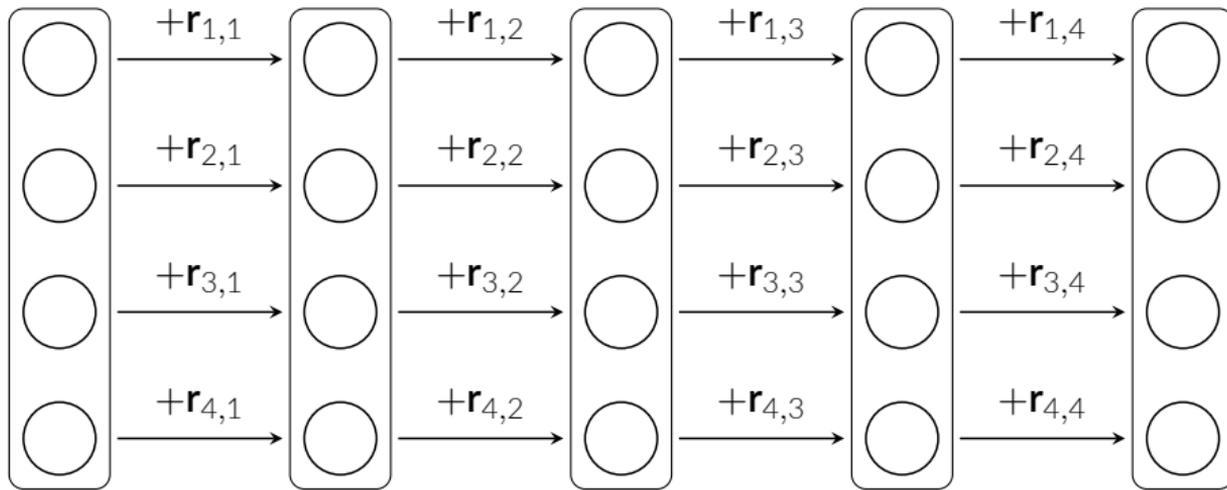
- We can completely deviate from existing schemes and frameworks
- Only hard constraints are security and masking-friendliness



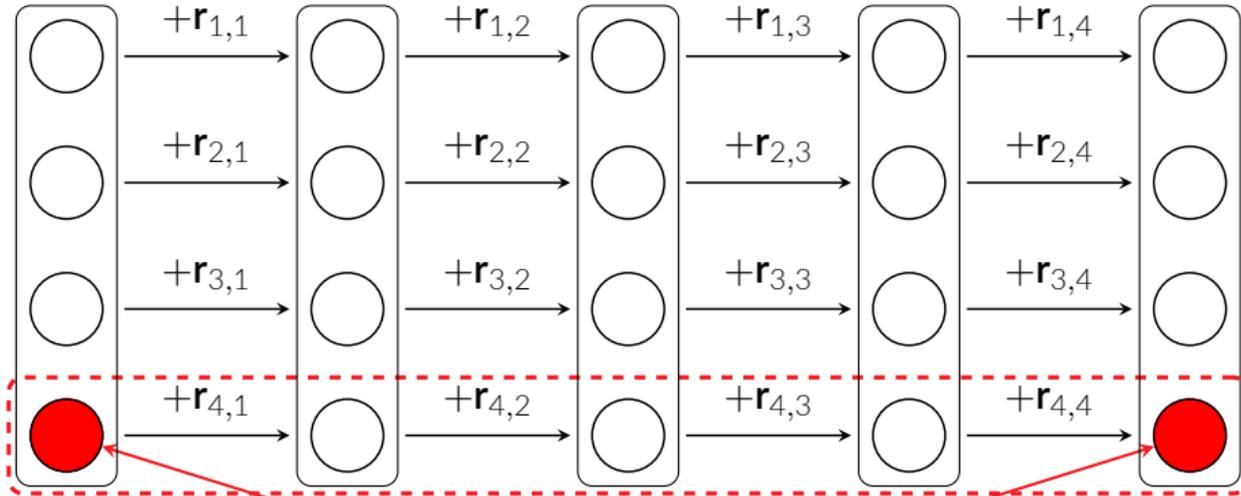
Keygen(1^λ) \rightarrow (sk, vk)

- ① Generate a large matrix $\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{I} \mid \bar{\mathbf{A}}] \in \mathcal{R}_q^{k \times (k+\ell)}$ ▷ No mask
- ② $[[\mathbf{s}]] = (\mathbf{0}, \dots, \mathbf{0})$ ▷ Fast
- ③ For $i \in [\text{rep}]$: ▷ We call this “AddRepNoise”
 - ① Sample short random shares in parallel: $[[\mathbf{r}]] = (\mathbf{r}_0, \dots, \mathbf{r}_{d-1})$ ▷ Fast
 - ② $[[\mathbf{s}]] := [[\mathbf{s}]] + [[\mathbf{r}]]$ ▷ Fast
 - ③ Refresh $[[\mathbf{s}]]$ ▷ Fast
- ④ Compute $\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{A} \cdot [\mathbf{s}]$ ▷ Fast
- ⑤ Unmask $[[\mathbf{t}]]$ to obtain \mathbf{t} ▷ Fast
- ⑥ Verification key is $\mathbf{vk} = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{t})$ ▷ No mask
- ⑦ Signing key is $\mathbf{sk} = [[\mathbf{s}]]$

What happens inside AddRepNoise?

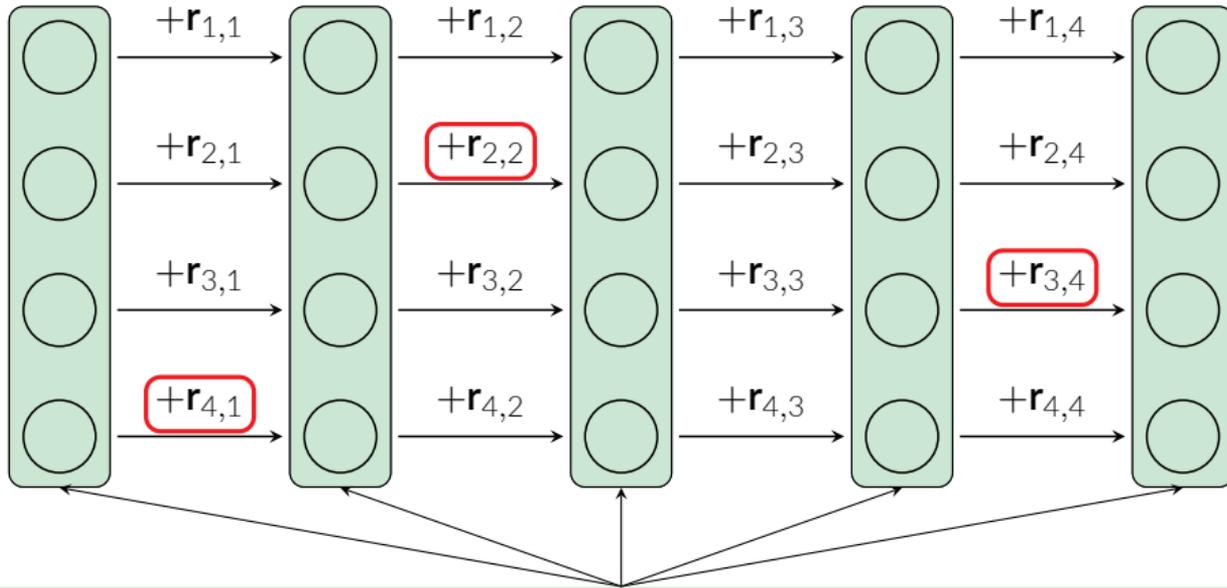


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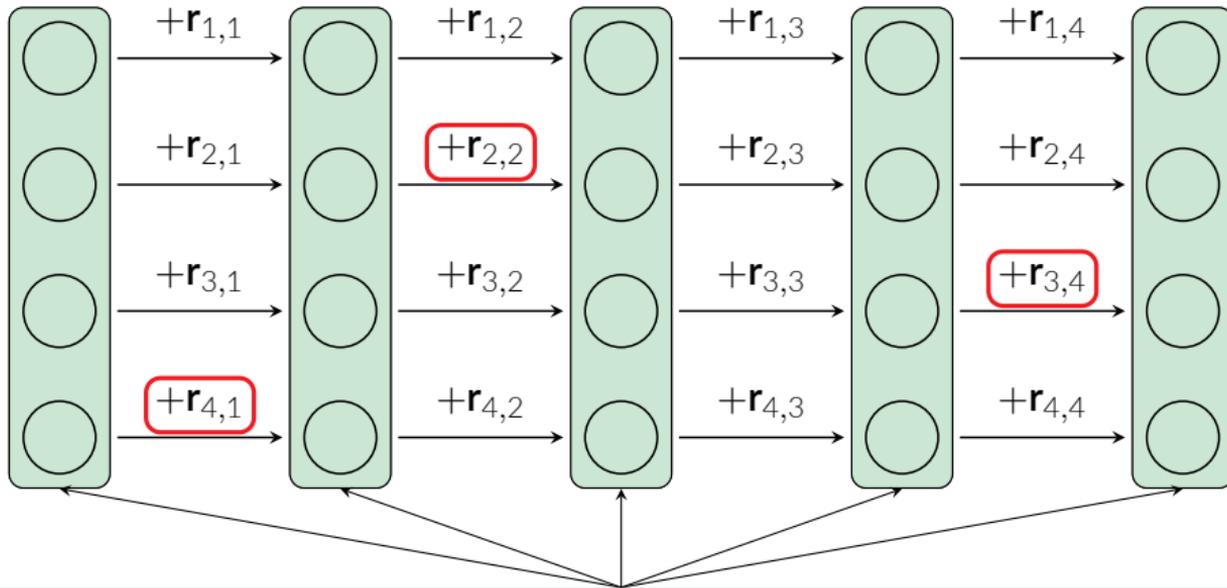
Problem: a probing adversary can learn the sum of T random in 2 probes.

What happens inside AddRepNoise?



Solution: add refresh gadgets to separate the algorithm in independent layers
Now a probing adversary learns at most (the sum of) t short noises.

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Now a probing adversary learns at most (the sum of) t short noises.

“Thomas, this is not a t -probing secure gadget!”

$\text{Keygen}(1^\lambda) \rightarrow (\text{sk}, \text{vk})$

- 1 Generate $\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{I} \mid \bar{\mathbf{A}}]$
- 2 Sample $[\![\mathbf{s}]\!]$ using AddRepNoise
- 3 Compute $\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{A} \cdot [\![\mathbf{s}]\!]$
- 4 Unmask $[\![\mathbf{t}]\!]$ to obtain \mathbf{t}
- 5 Verification key is $\text{vk} = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{t})$
- 6 Signing key is $\text{sk} = [\![\mathbf{s}]\!]$

$\text{LeakyKeygen}(1^\lambda) \rightarrow (\text{sk}, \text{vk}, \text{aux})$

- 1 Generate $\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{I} \mid \bar{\mathbf{A}}]$
- 2 $\mathbf{s}_0 \leftarrow \{\text{sum of } (\text{rep } d - t) \text{ short noises}\}$
- 3 Sample t short noises $(\bar{\mathbf{s}}_1, \dots, \bar{\mathbf{s}}_t)$
- 4 $\mathbf{s} := \mathbf{s}_0 + \sum_i \bar{\mathbf{s}}_i$
- 5 $\mathbf{t} := \mathbf{A} \mathbf{s}$
- 6 Return $\text{vk} = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{t})$, $\text{sk} = \mathbf{s}$, auxiliary information $\text{aux} = (\bar{\mathbf{s}}_1, \dots, \bar{\mathbf{s}}_t)$

Proof intuition:

- For any EUF-CMA t -probing adversary given access to **Keygen** (left alg.), we can construct an EUF-CMA adversary given access to **LeakyKeygen** (right alg.)
- **LeakyKeygen**() can be simulated given an LWE sample $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{t}_0 = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{s}_0)$

Dilithium follows the Fiat-Shamir **with aborts** paradigm.

$\text{Sign}(sk = \mathbf{s}, vk = (\mathbf{A}, t), msg) \rightarrow sig$

- 1 Generate a short ephemeral secret \mathbf{r} ▷ Slow
- 2 Compute the commitment $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{r}$ ▷ Fast
- 3 Compute the challenge $c = H(\mathbf{w}, msg, vk)$ ▷ No mask
- 4 Compute the response $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{s} \cdot c + \mathbf{r}$ ▷ Fast
- 5 Check that \mathbf{z} is in a given interval. If not, restart. ▷ Slow
- 6 Signature is $sig = (c, \mathbf{z})$

Masking bottlenecks:

- ⌘ Short secret generation (1) requires B2A.
- ⌘ Rejection sampling (5) requires A2B.

Total masking overhead: $\Theta(d^2 \log q)$

$\text{Sign}(\text{sk} = \llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket, \text{vk} = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{t}), \text{msg}) \rightarrow \text{sig}$

- 1 Generate a masked short ephemeral secret $\llbracket \mathbf{r} \rrbracket$ using “AddRepNoise” ▷ Fast
- 2 Compute the commitment $\llbracket \mathbf{w} \rrbracket = \mathbf{A} \cdot \llbracket \mathbf{r} \rrbracket$ ▷ Fast
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- 6 Unmask $\llbracket \mathbf{z} \rrbracket$ to obtain \mathbf{z} ▷ Fast
- 7 (No more rejection sampling!)
- 8 Signature is $\text{sig} = (c, \mathbf{z})$

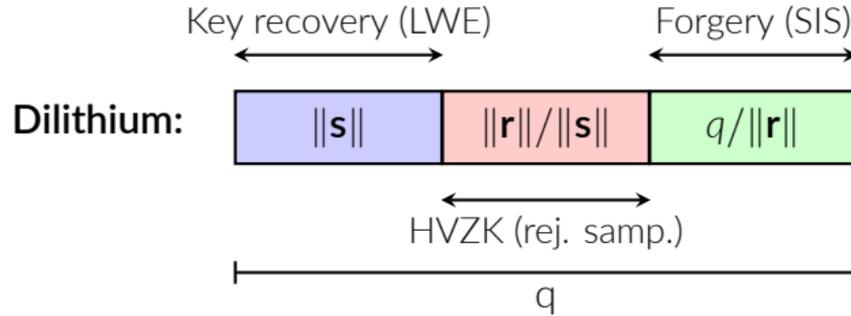
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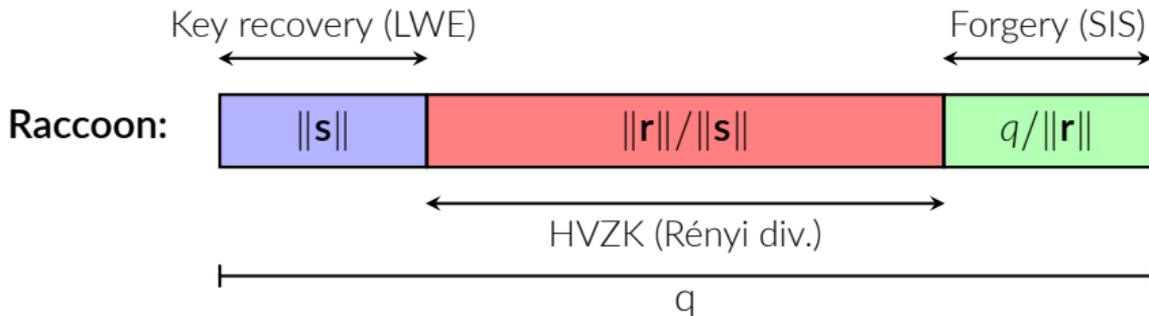
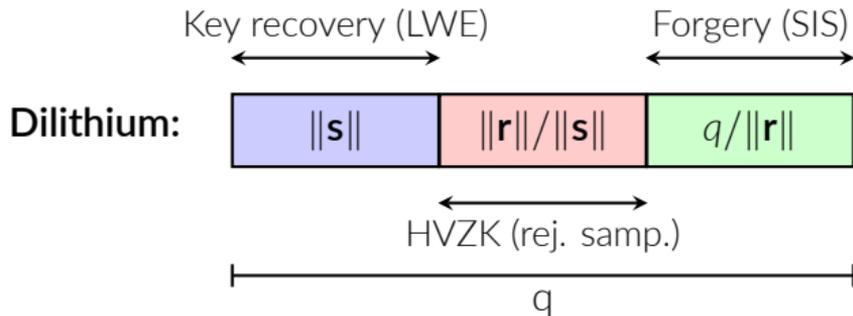
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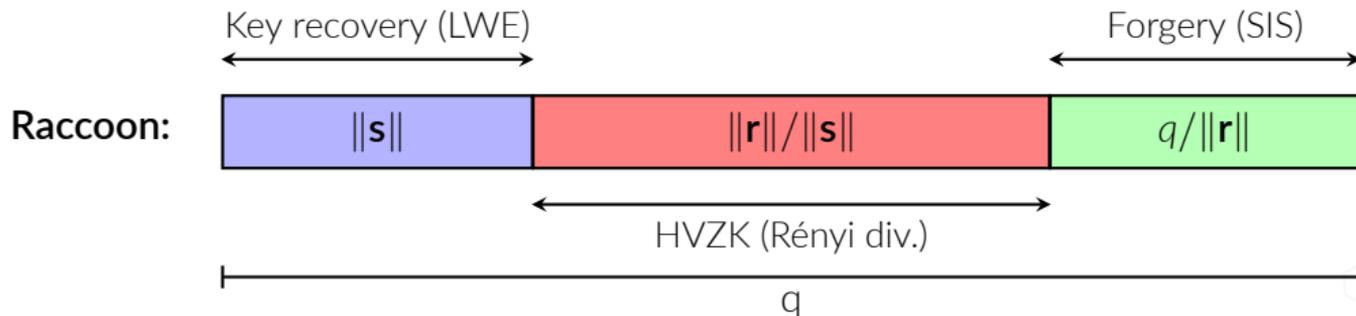
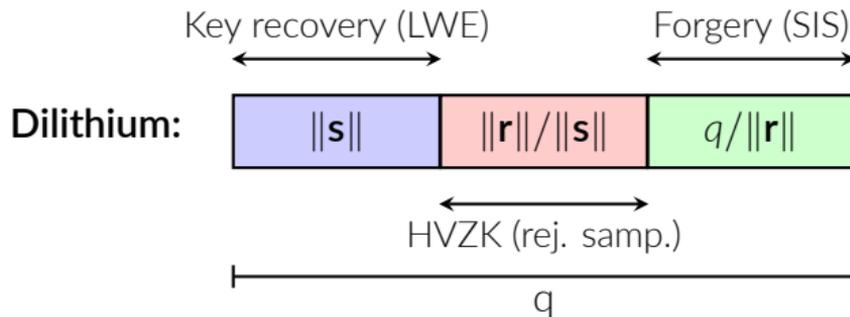
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But why would it even be secure?

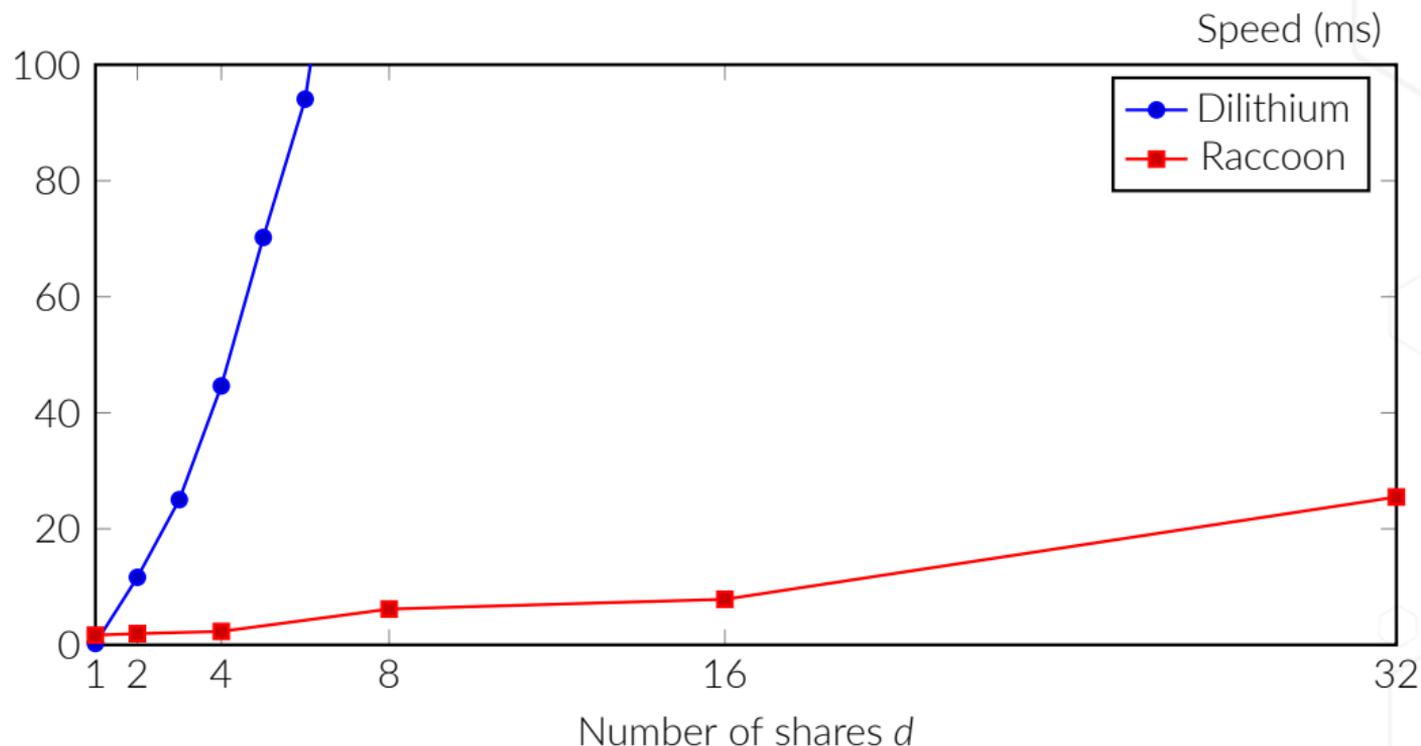




- 1 Removing rejection sampling increases $\|r\|/\|s\|$ from $\Theta(\dim s)$ to $\Theta(\|c\|\sqrt{\text{Queries}})$



- 1 Removing rejection sampling increases $\|\mathbf{r}\|/\|\mathbf{s}\|$ from $\Theta(\dim \mathbf{s})$ to $\Theta(\|\mathbf{c}\|\sqrt{\text{Queries}})$
- 2 The increased q in turn requires increasing $\|\mathbf{s}\|$, $q/\|\mathbf{r}\|$ and/or the dimensions.



💡 With some tricks [SR23], RAM consumption is < 128 kB

Raccoon is a specific-purpose scheme aimed at high side-channel resistance:

- 😊 Same assumptions as Dilithium
- 😊 Simpler
- 😊 Verification key size is similar
- 😞 Signature is 4x larger
- 😊 **When masked, orders of magnitude faster than other schemes are**

Questions?



- 
-  Dmitri Asonov and Rakesh Agrawal.
Keyboard acoustic emanations.
In *2004 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy*, pages 3–11. IEEE Computer Society Press, May 2004.
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