

Lessons Learned from Protecting CRYSTALS-DILITHIUM

Melissa Azouaoui, Joppe Bos, Olivier Bronchain, Joost Renes, Markus Schönauer, **Tobias Schneider**, and Christine van Vredendaal

contact: pqc@nxp.com

RWC 2023

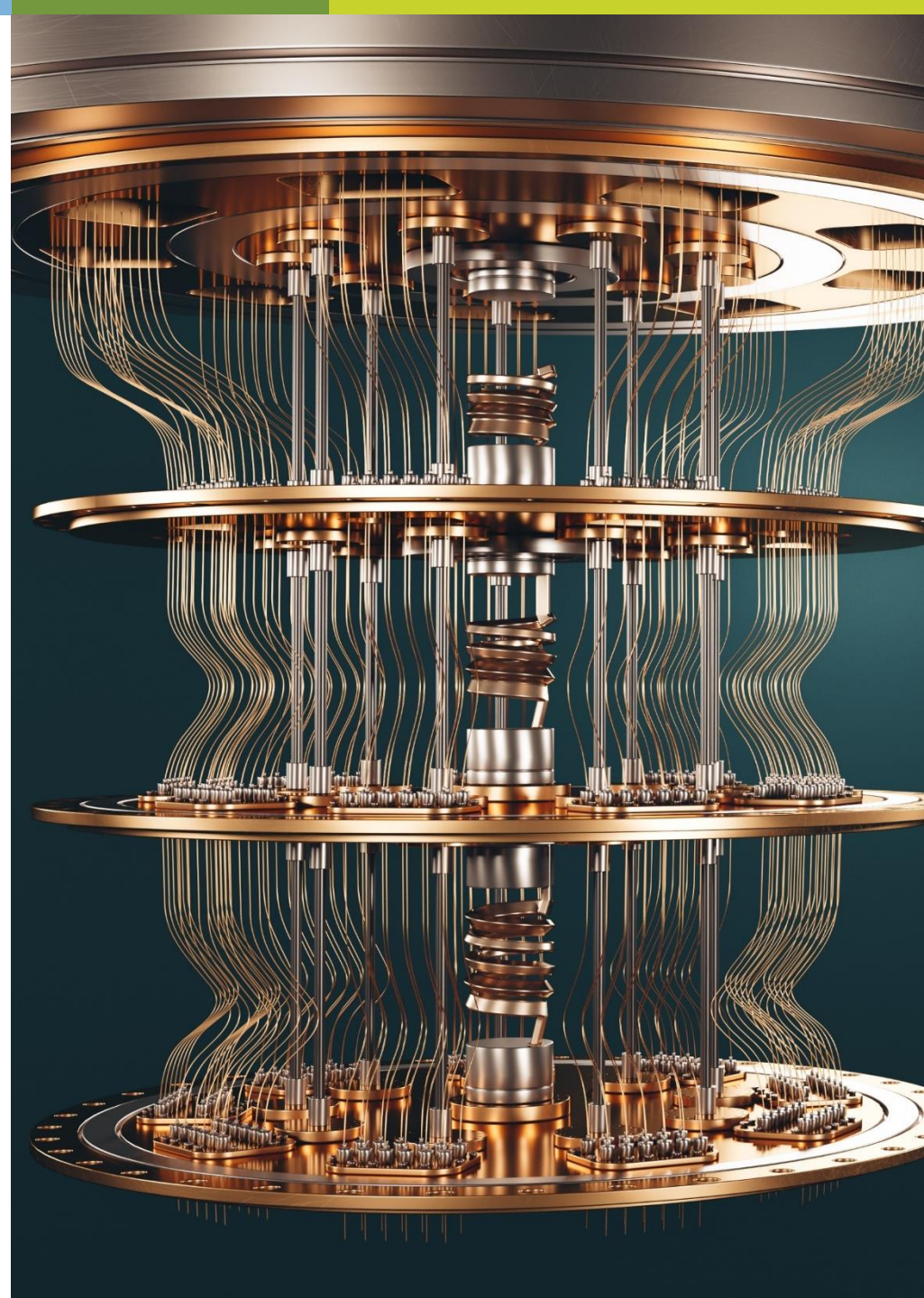
March 27, 2023



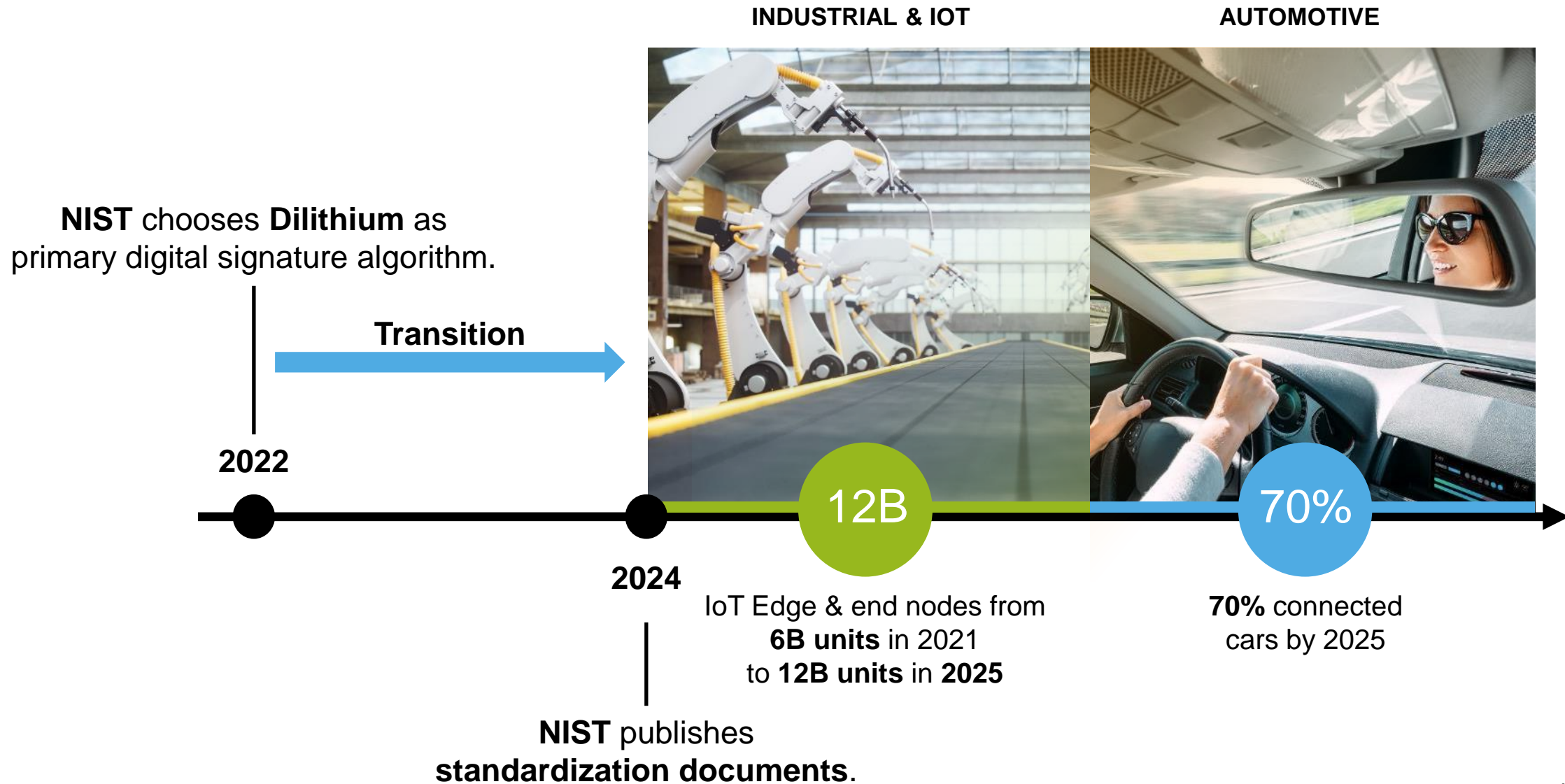
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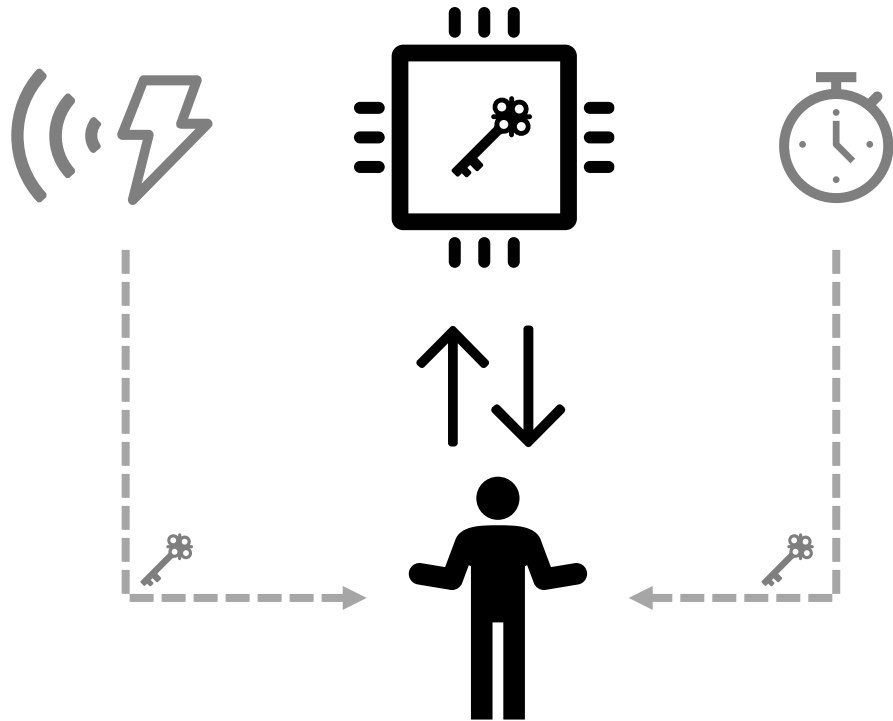


WHY DO WE WANT TO PROTECT DILITHIUM?



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Embedded devices are vulnerable to **physical attacks**.

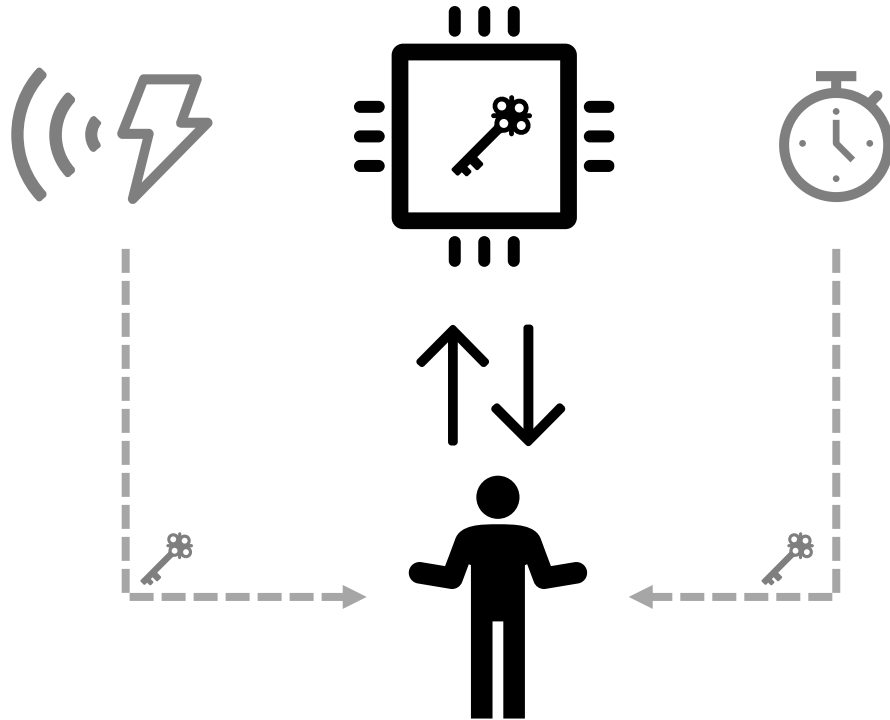


Protection could require **significant effort**.

Potential to **delay** deployment of **secure PQC**.

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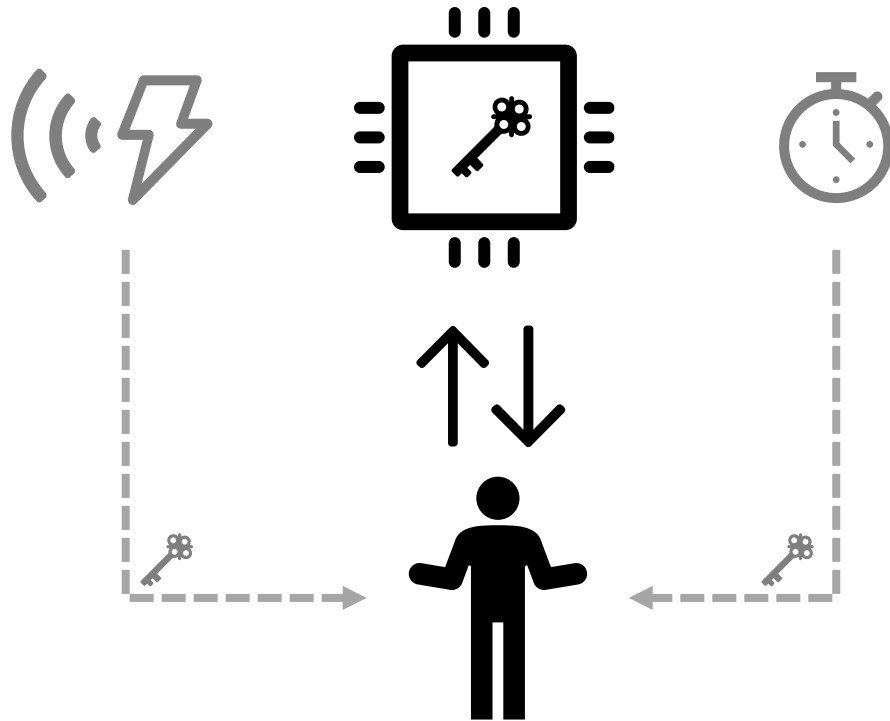
Found to be extremely vulnerable.

RWC 2022: FO-CALYPSE

RWC 2023: Breaking 5th order masking

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RWC 2022: FO-CALYPSE

RWC 2023: Breaking 5th order masking



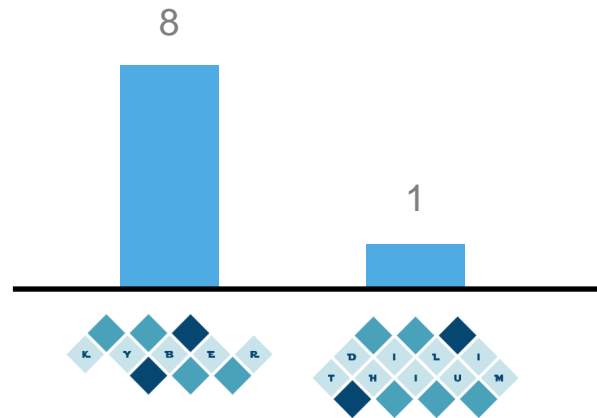
Less investigated.

RWC 2023: Lessons learned



DO WE KNOW HOW TO PROTECT DILITHIUM?

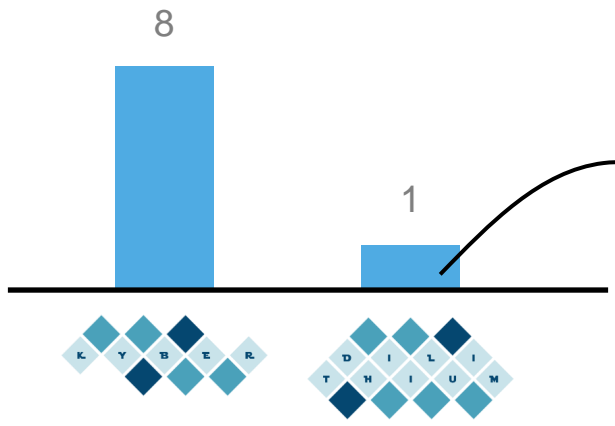
Masking Publications until October'22





DO WE KNOW HOW TO PROTECT DILITHIUM?

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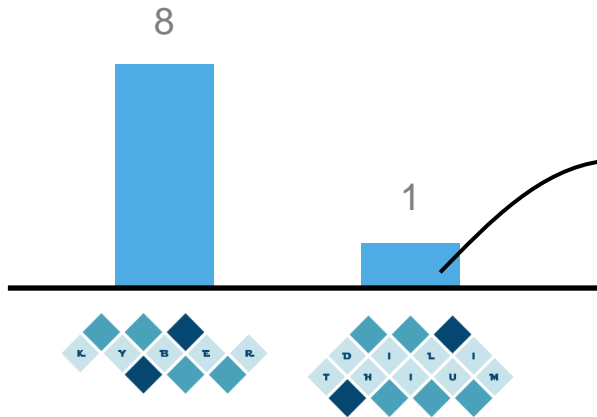
Prior Work [MGTF19]

Masking Dilithium: Efficient Implementation and Side-Channel Evaluation
Vincent Migliore¹, Benoit Gérard^{2,3}, Mehdi Tibouchi⁴ and Pierre-Alain Fouque²



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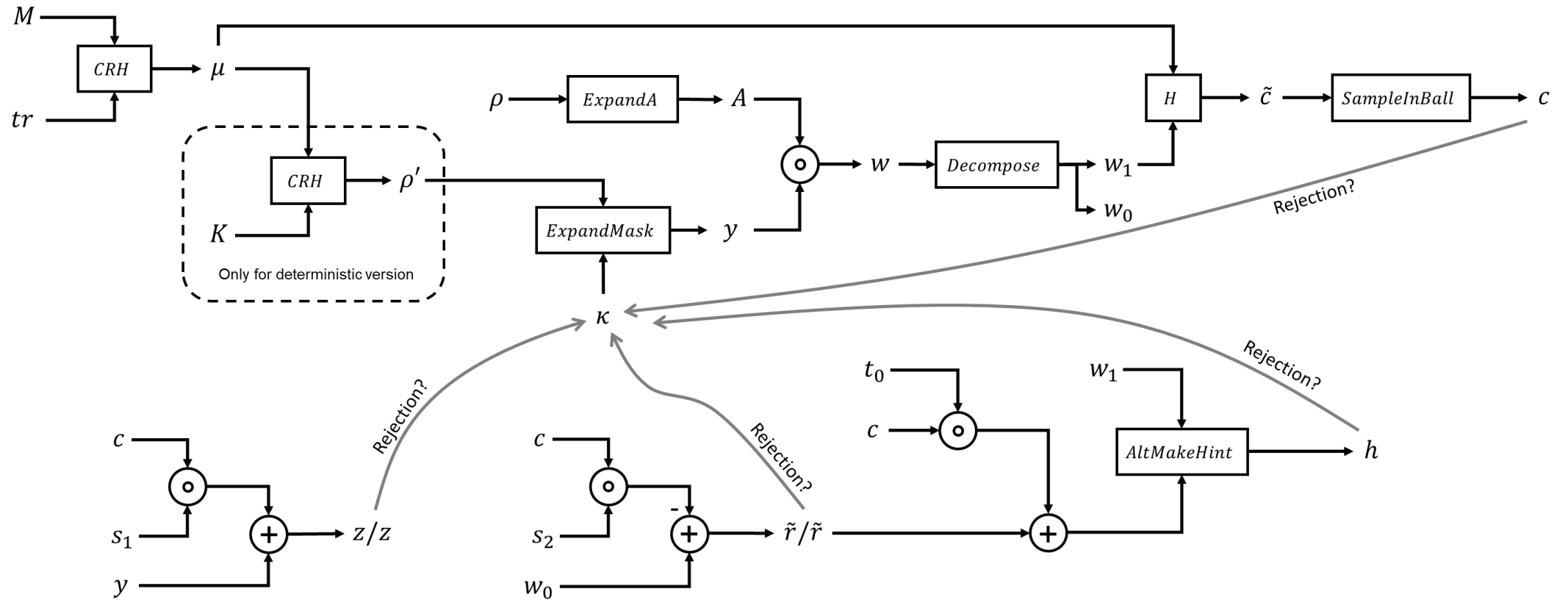


 **What needs to be protected?**
How should it be protected?
What are the bottlenecks?
How can it be fixed?

ePrint 2022/1406

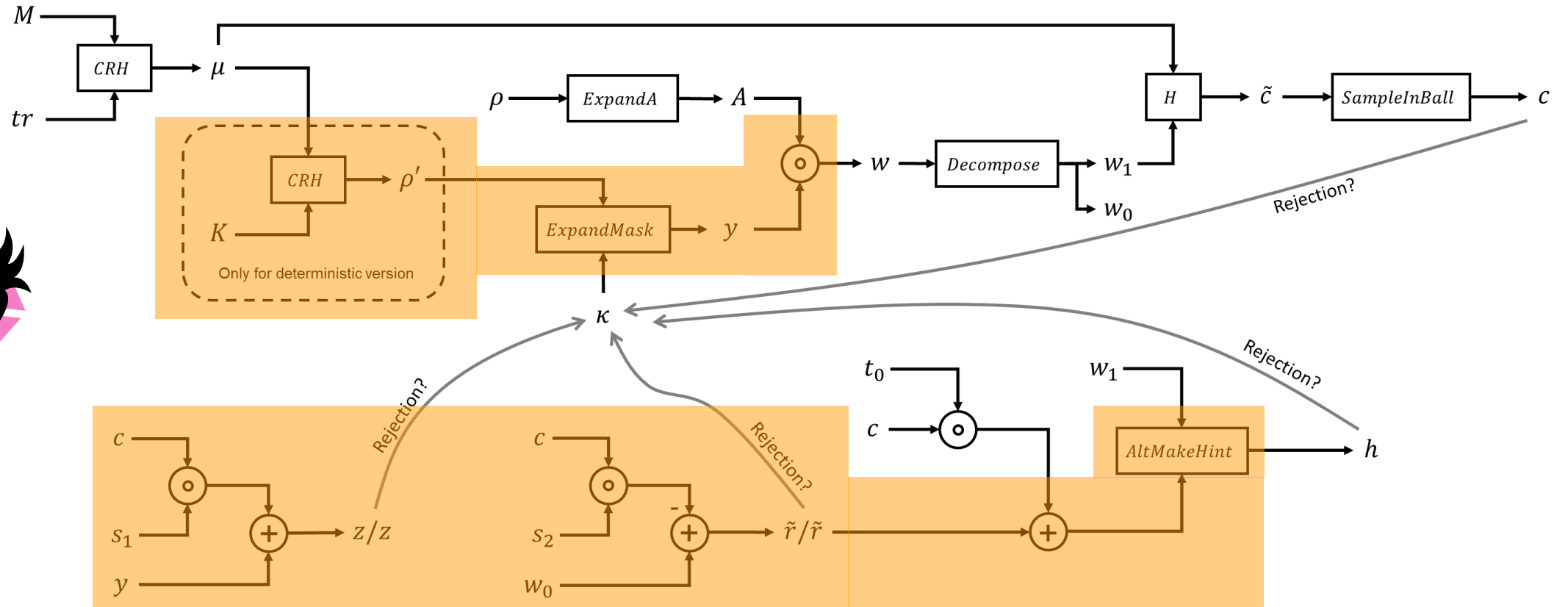
Leveling Dilithium against Leakage
Revisited Sensitivity Analysis and Improved Implementations
Melissa Azouaoui¹, Olivier Bronchain^{1,2}, Gaëtan Cassiers^{2,3,4}, Clément Hoffmann², Yulia Kuzovkova¹, Joost Renes¹, Tobias Schneider¹, Markus Schönauer¹, François-Xavier Standaert² and Christine van Vredendaal¹

WHAT NEEDS TO BE PROTECTED?



Signature Generation

PRIOR WORK [MGTF19]



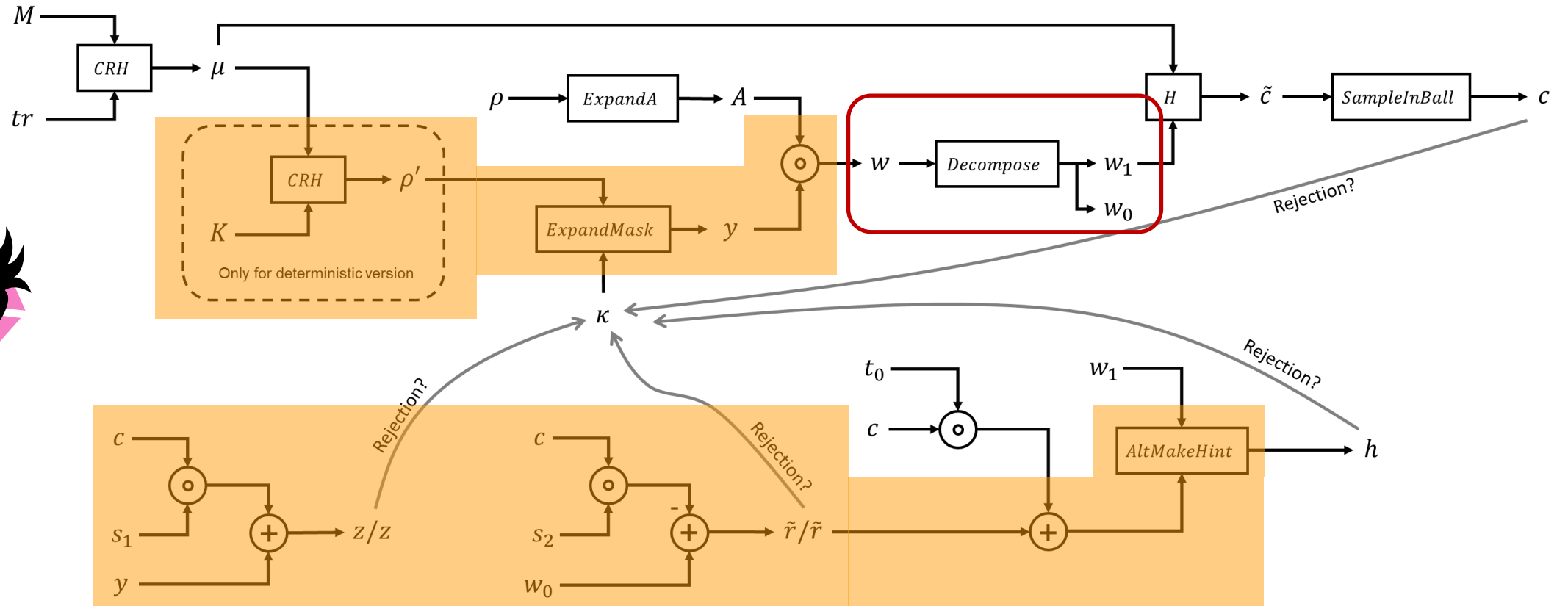
Signature Generation

PRIOR WORK [MGTF19]



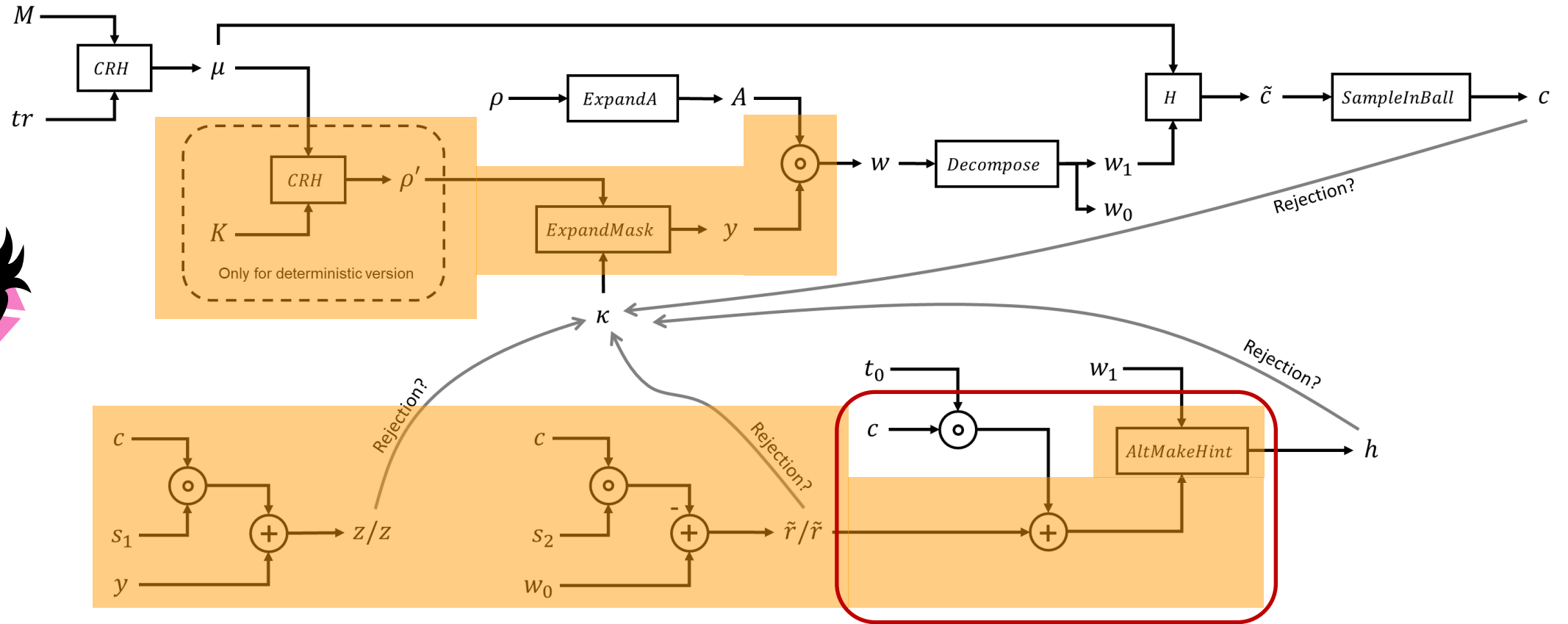
Protecting w

$$w = A \cdot y \Rightarrow y \text{ can be computed from } w$$



Signature Generation

PRIOR WORK [MGTF19]

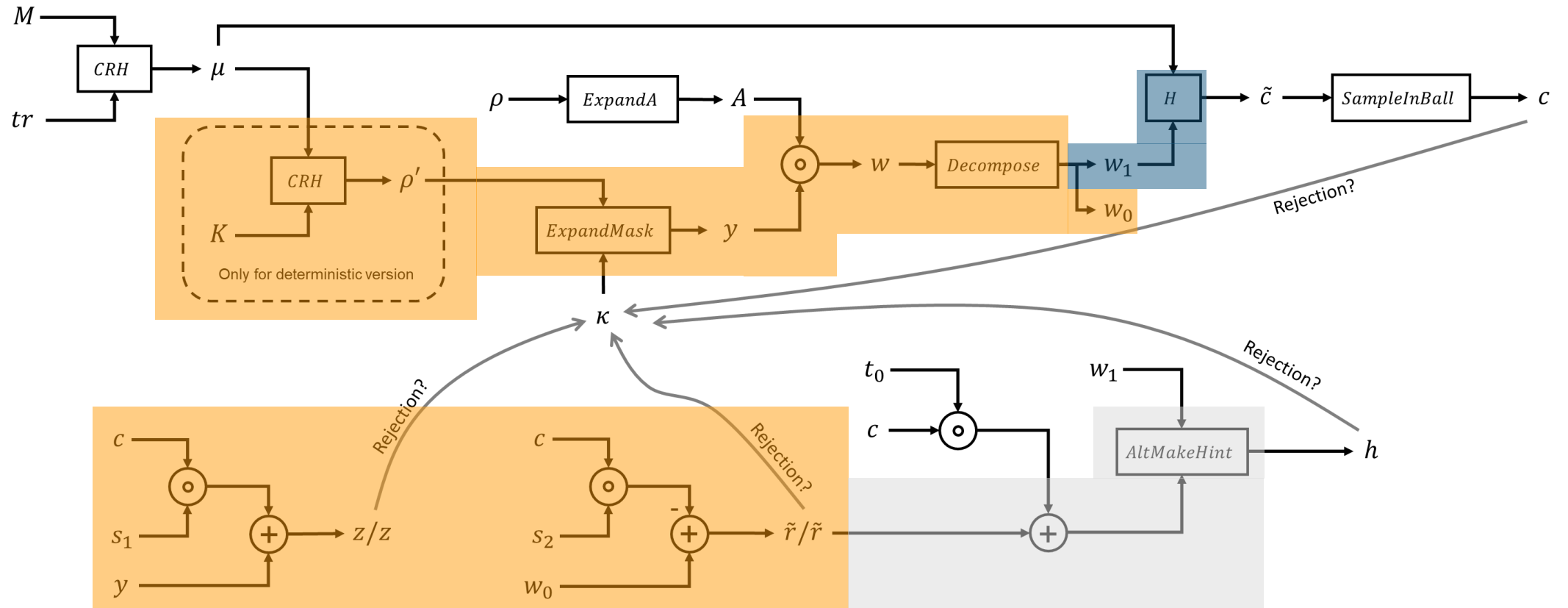


Signature Generation

Unmasking \tilde{r}

$Az - ct = \alpha \cdot w_1 + \tilde{r} \Rightarrow \tilde{r}$
 can be computed from public values only

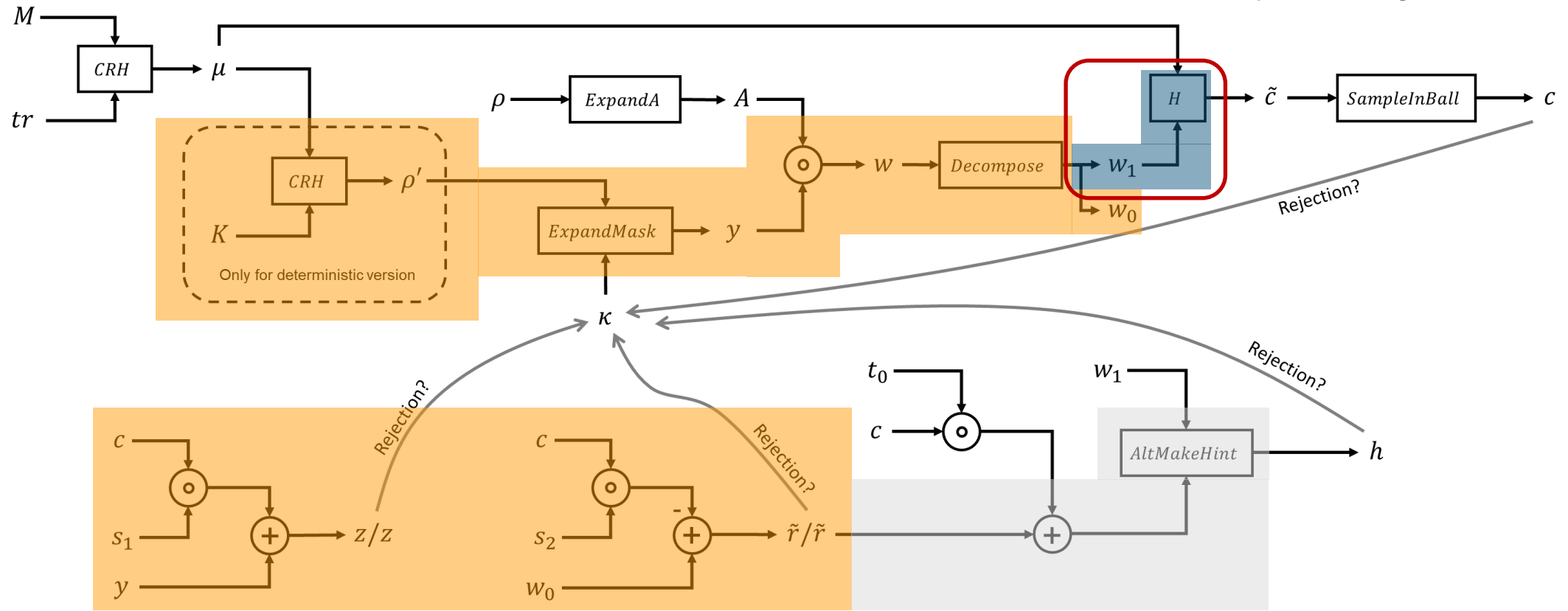
UPDATED SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS



Signature Generation

UPDATED SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

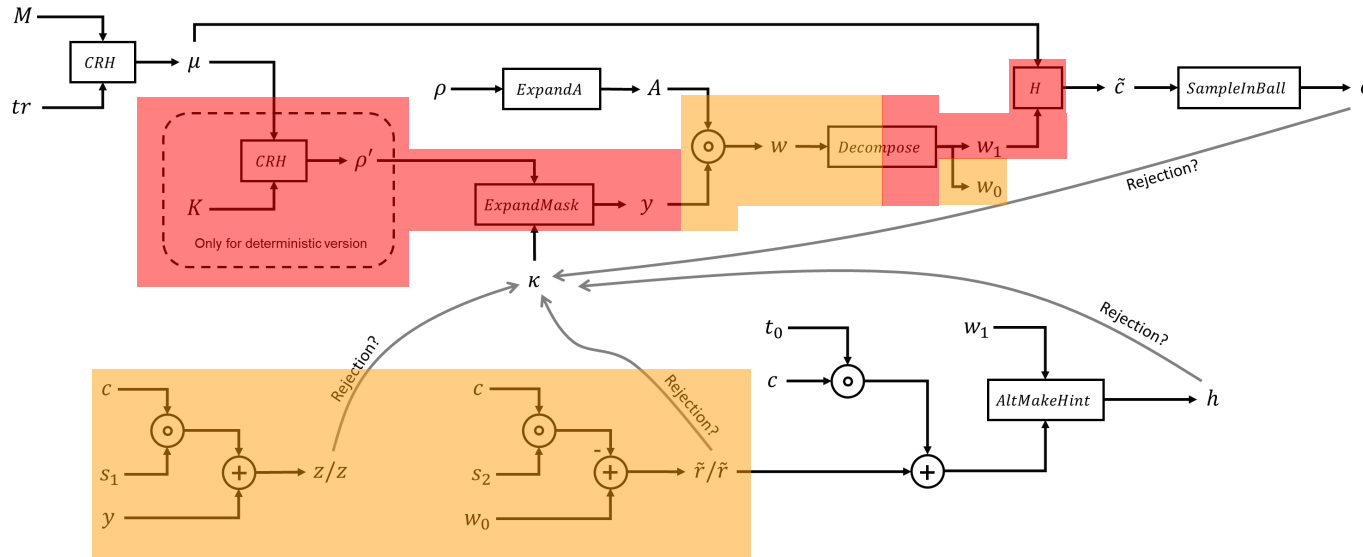
Protecting w_1
Public for **valid** signatures,
 unclear for **rejected** signatures



Signature Generation

HOW SHOULD IT BE PROTECTED?

Standard Approach: Masking

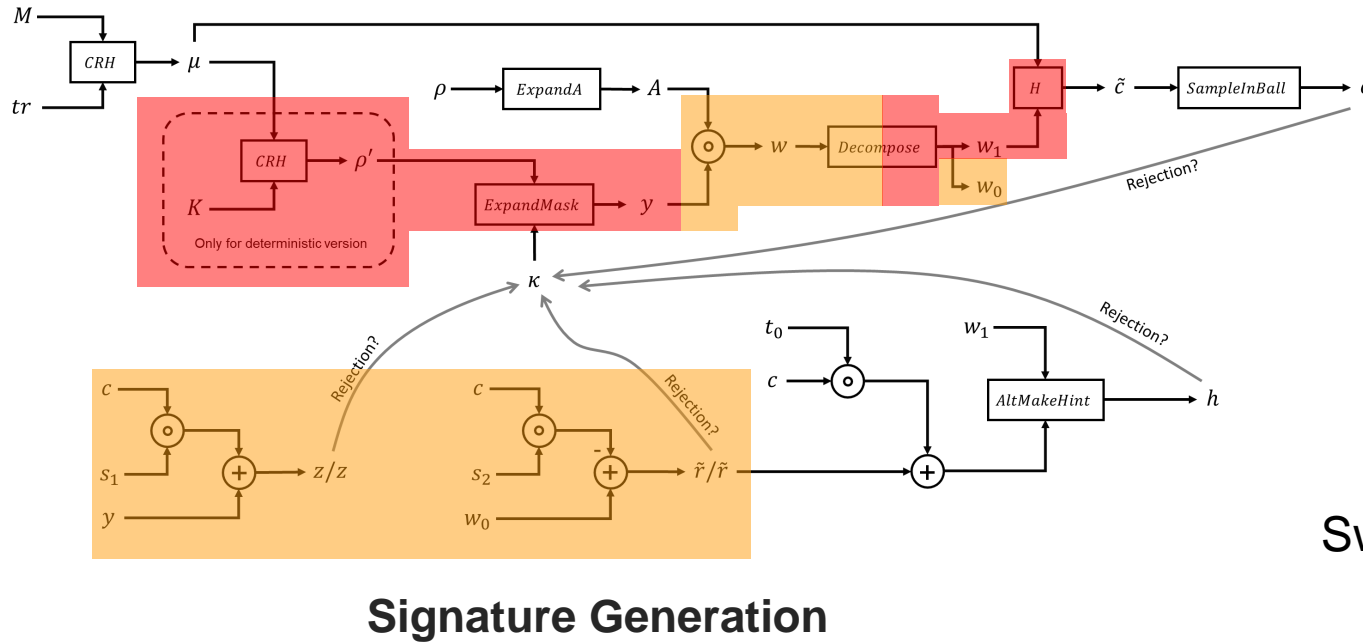


Signature Generation

Observation 1:
Requires a mixture of **Boolean** and **arithmetic** masking with a **prime modulus**

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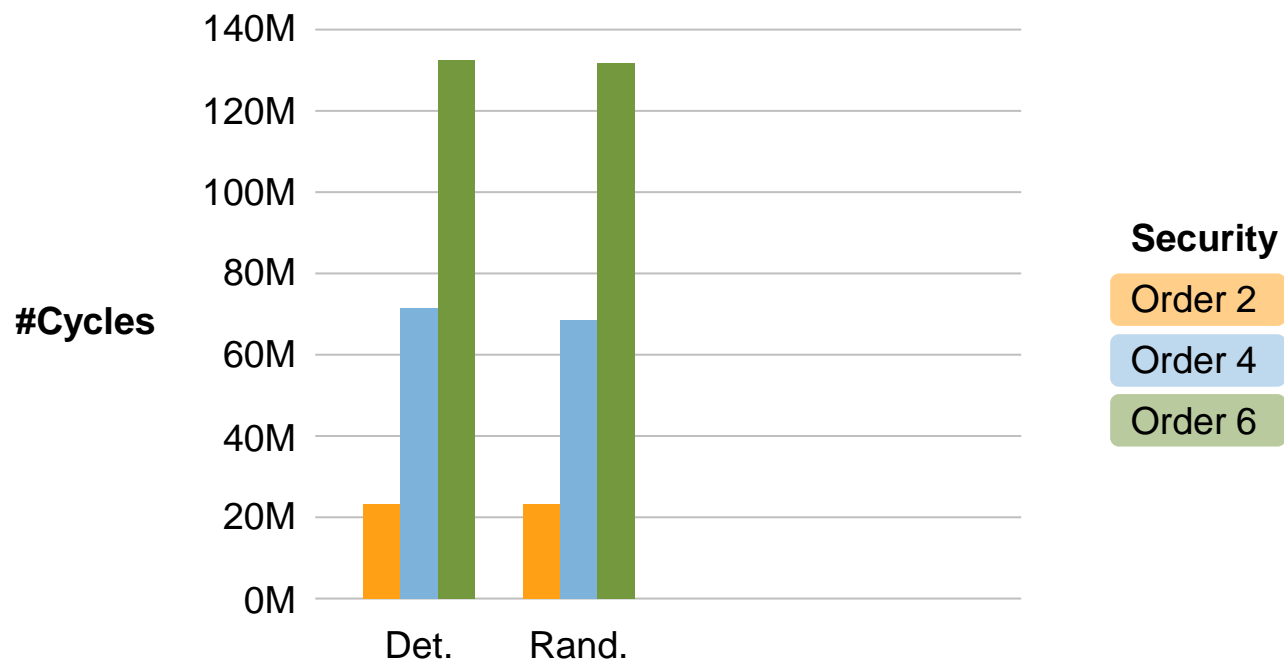
Proposal from [MGTF19]:
Switch from prime to **power-of-two modulus** results in **7x – 9x speed-up**





WHAT ARE THE BOTTLENECKS?

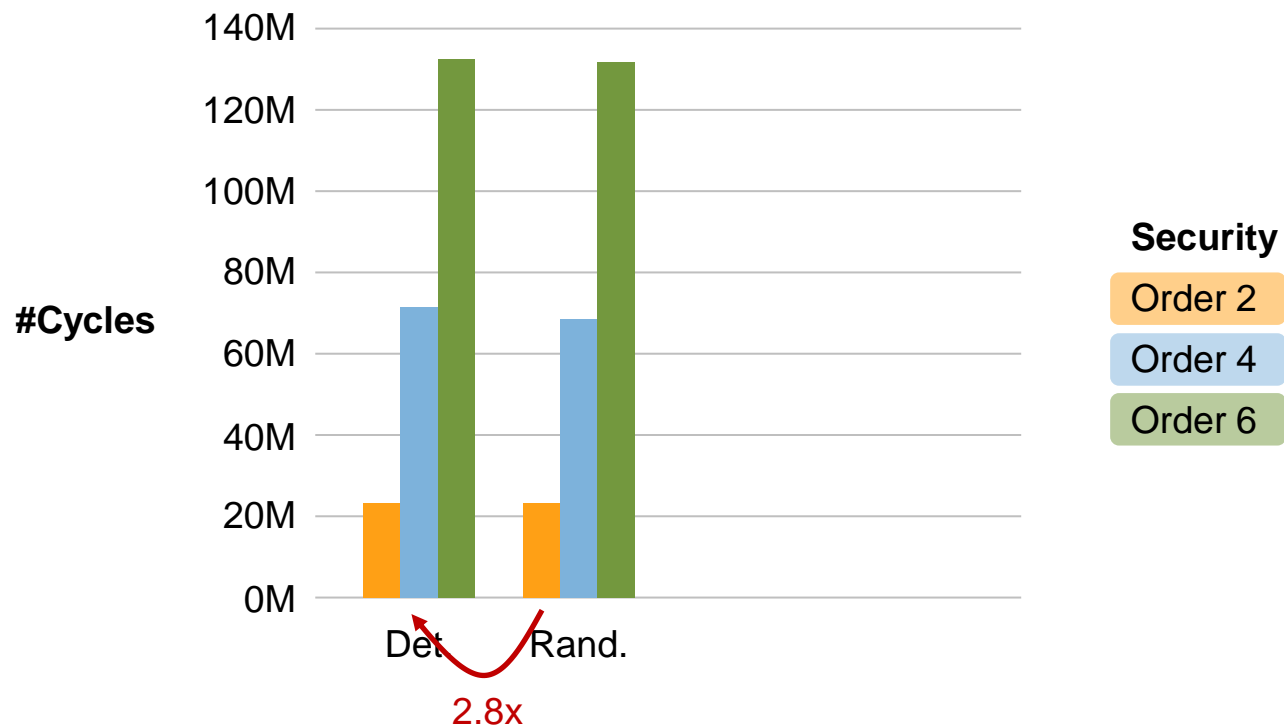
Benchmark Masked Dilithium-3 (M4):





WHAT ARE THE BOTTLENECKS?

Benchmark Masked Dilithium-3 (M4):



Observation 1:

Deterministic has comparable performance to randomized for **same** security order.

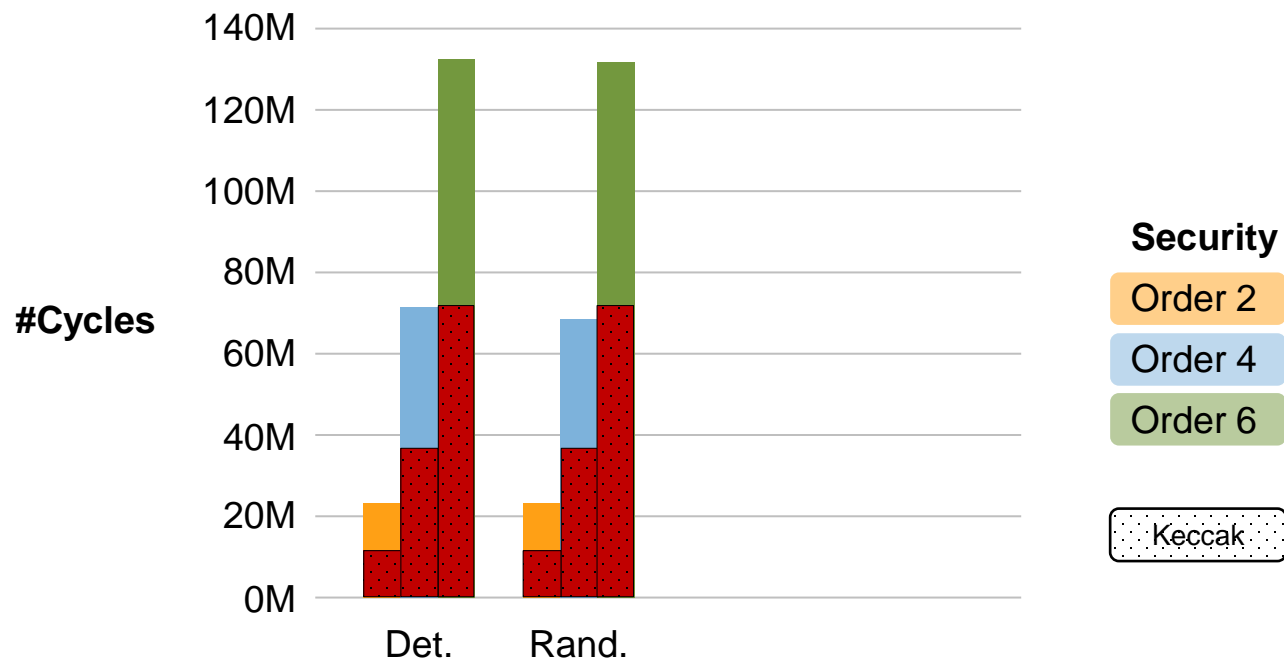
Deterministic requires increased order.

Note: Impacts memory requirements as well.



WHAT ARE THE BOTTLENECKS?

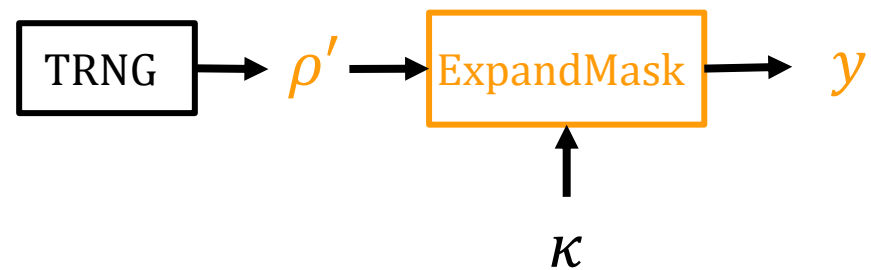
Benchmark Masked Dilithium-3 (M4):



Observation 2:
Protected Keccak for sampling y
takes up **50%** of runtime.

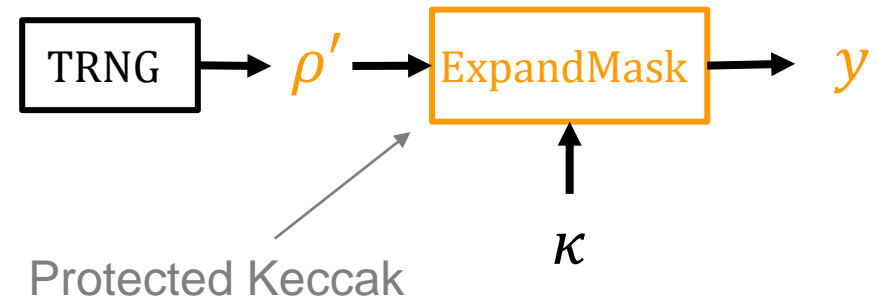
HOW COULD IT BE FIXED?

Randomized:



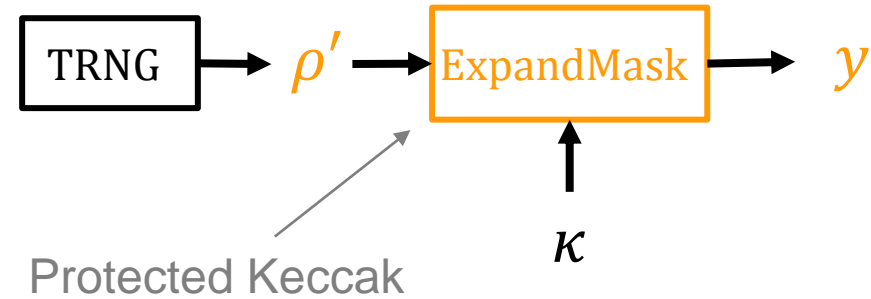
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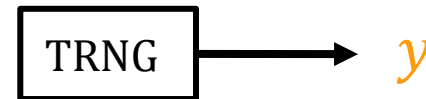
HOW COULD IT BE FIXED?

Randomized:



Flexible-Sampling:

- Does not specify how y is sampled
- Option: Generate shares of y via TRNG

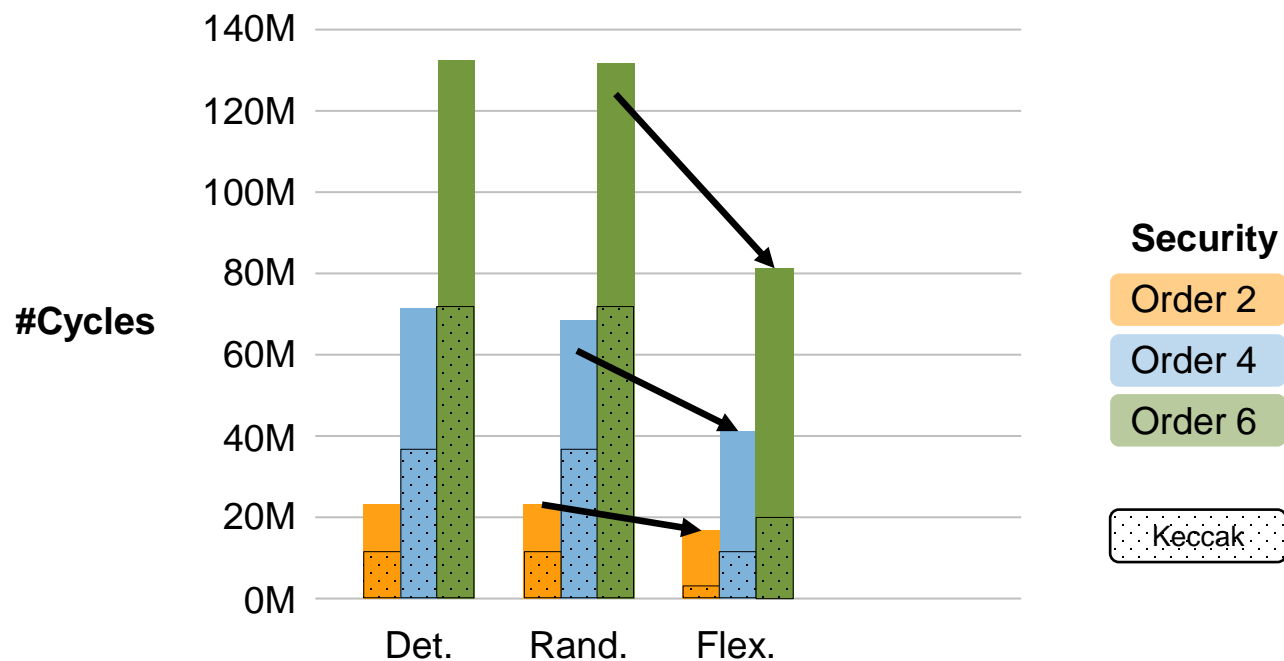


Note: Requires proper TRNG or post-processing



WHAT ARE THE BOTTLENECKS?

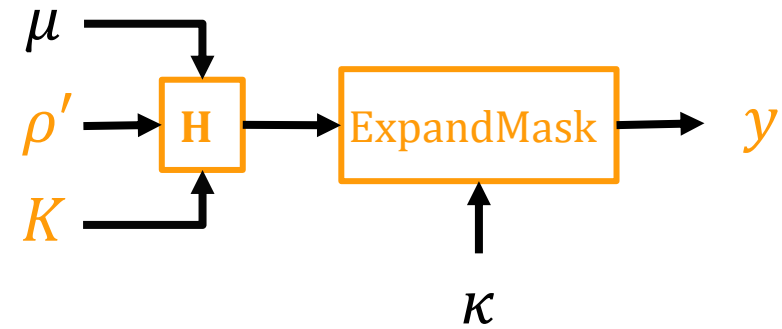
Benchmark Masked Dilithium-3 (M4):



Observation 3:
Flexible-Sampling provides significant speed-up over **randomized**.

WHAT WILL BE DONE?

Hedged:



Combined deterministic and randomized Dilithium into one

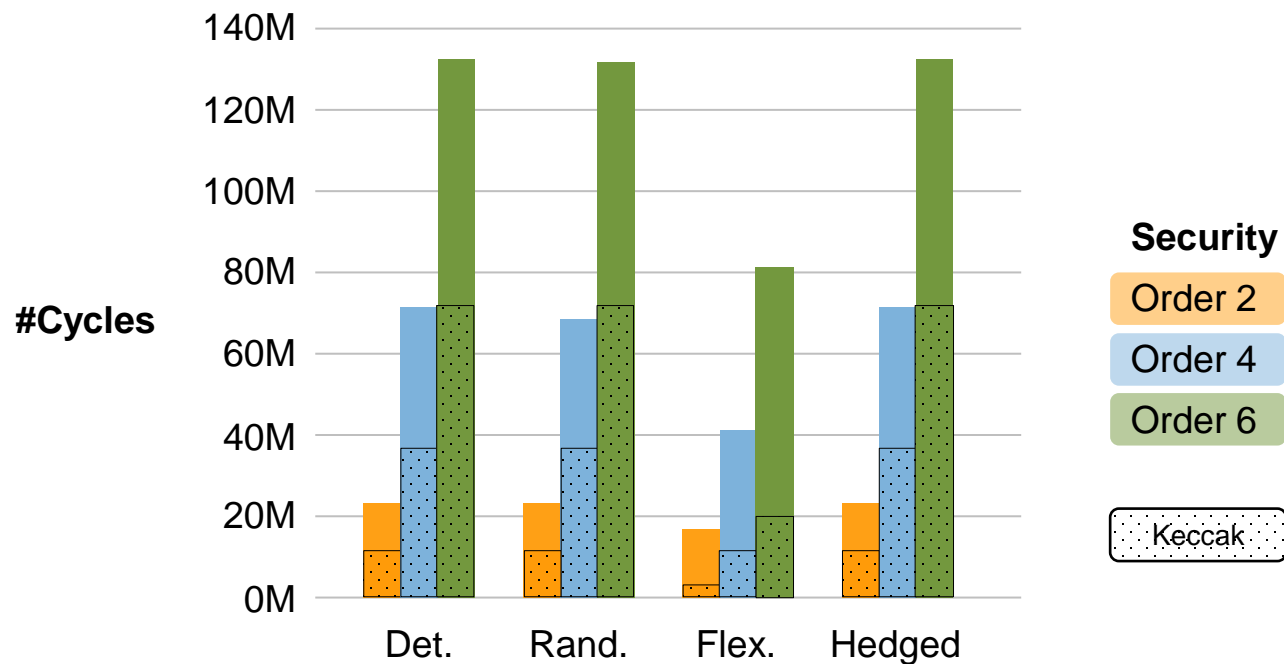
$\rho' = \text{random string}$ if randomized Dilithium

$\rho' = ""$ if deterministic Dilithium



WHAT ARE THE BOTTLENECKS?

Benchmark Masked Dilithium-3 (M4):



Observation 4:
Hedged (Randomized) provides comparable performance as **randomized**.

LESSONS LEARNED





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Randomized should be the default for embedded.

Hedged has negligible impact on runtime.



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Hardening Dilithium still not mature.

Much less studied than Kyber.

THANK YOU.
QUESTIONS?



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