

Post-Quantum Signatures from Symmetric Key Primitives

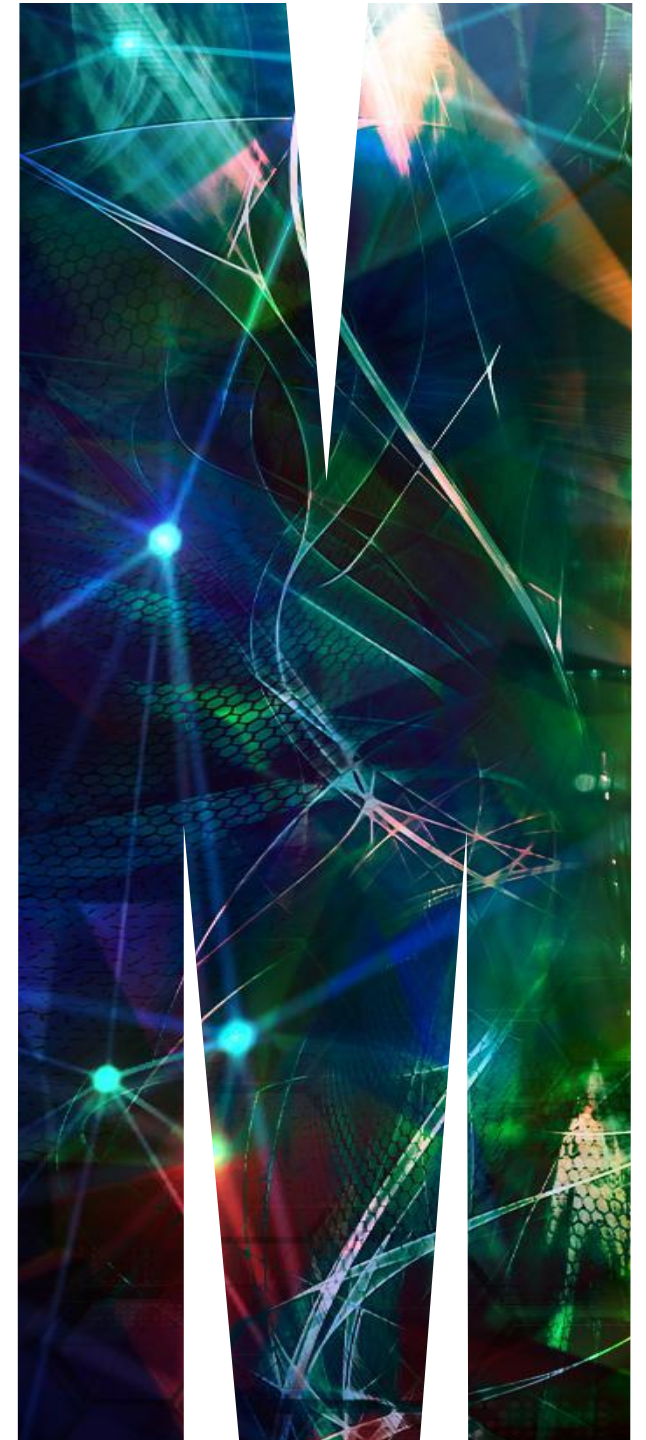
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Agenda

□ Post-Quantum Signatures from Symmetric Key Primitives

❖ One-time

Lamport Signature [Lam79]

❖ Stateful Many-Time

XMSS [BDH11]

SPHINCS+ [BHK+19]

} Hash Tree

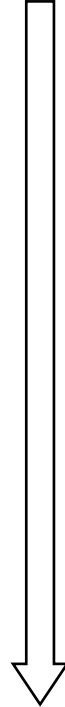
❖ Stateless Many-Time

Picnic [CDG+17]

Zero-Knowledge Proof

Loquat [ZSE+24]

zkSNARK



OTS: Lamport Signature [Lam79]

- ❑ **One-Time Signature:** Each key pair can only be used to produce **ONE** signature.
 - ❑ Example: Lamport Signature, WOTS [Hül13]

Setup

Let λ be security parameter,
and $F: K \rightarrow V$ be any one-way
function

Sign

Let $m = (m_1, \dots, m_\lambda) \in \{0,1\}^\lambda$. For $i \in [\lambda]$:

- ❑ If $m_i = 0$, then $\sigma_i = k_{i,0}$.
- ❑ If $m_i = 1$, then $\sigma_i = k_{i,1}$.
- ❑ Output $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_\lambda)$.

KeyGen

For $i \in [\lambda], j \in \{0,1\}$ choose
 $k_{i,j} \in K$ and compute $v_{i,j} =$
 $F(k_{i,j})$. Output sk consists of 2λ
values of $k_{i,j}$ and pk consists of
 2λ values of $v_{i,j}$.

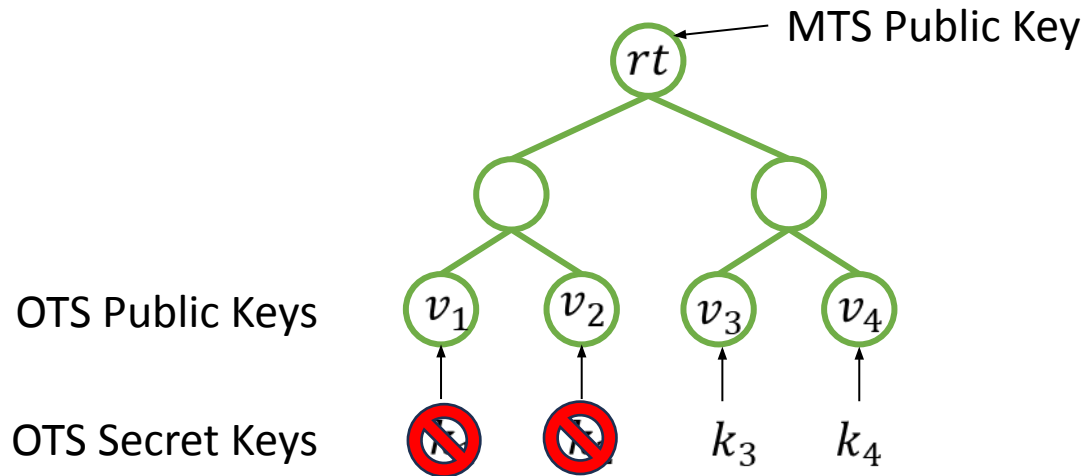
Verify

Let $m = (m_1, \dots, m_\lambda) \in \{0,1\}^\lambda$. For $i \in [\lambda]$:

- ❑ If $m_i = 0$, check $F(\sigma_i) = v_{i,0}$.
- ❑ If $m_i = 1$, check $F(\sigma_i) = v_{i,1}$.

MTS: XMSS [BDH11]

- ❑ **(Stateful) Many-Time Signature:** Each key pair can be used to sign many messages, but the signer must make sure that the secret key is not used twice.
 - ❑ Example: XMSS [BDH11]
- ❑ High-level Idea: Combine OTS with a Merkle tree



Signing Key: (k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4)

Verification Key: rt

Message: m_1

one-time signature
generated with k_1

Signature: $(\sigma_1, \text{auth_path}(v_1))$

Message: m_2

one-time signature
generated with k_2

Signature: $(\sigma_2, \text{auth_path}(v_2))$

MTS: SPHINCS+ [BHK+19]

- ❑ **(Stateless) Many-Time Signature:** Each key pair can be used to sign any message as a normal signature scheme.
 - ❑ Example: SPHINCS and SPHINCS+ [BHK+19]
- ❑ **High-level Idea:**
 - ❑ Replace leaf OTS with FTS (Few Time Signature)
 - ❑ Use hyper trees (trees of Merkle tree) that are connected by OTS
 - ❑ See details in next slide...

MTS: SPHINCS+ [BHK+19]

FORS

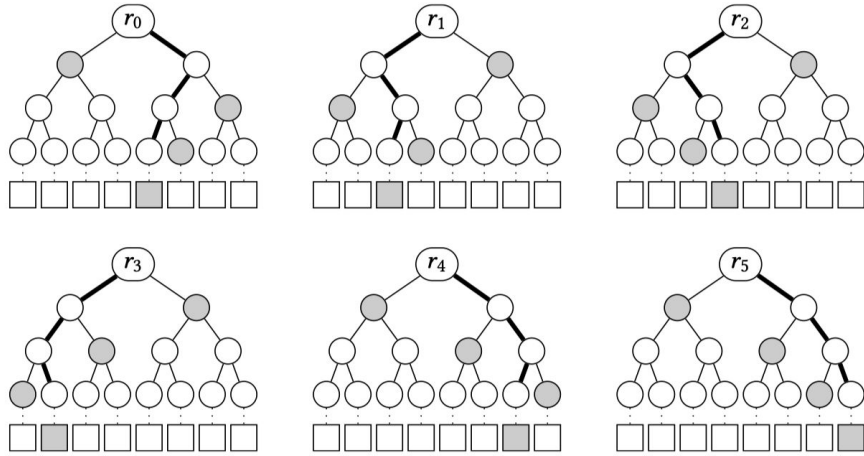


Figure 3: An illustration of a FORS signature with $k = 6$ and $a = 3$, for the message 100 010 011 001 110 111.

- FORS has k trees, each with height a
- Break n bits message to k blocks, each block contains a bits.
- Each block $i \in [k]$ defines the index of a tree
- Each a -bits string defines a unique leaf in tree i

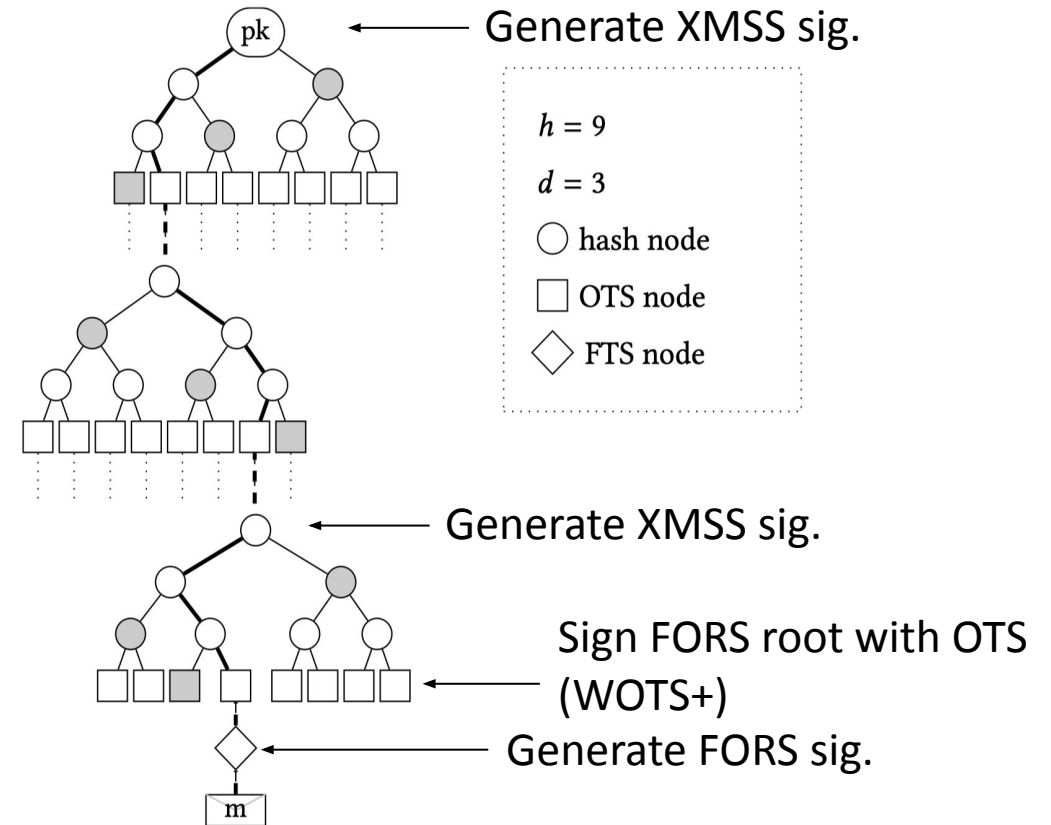


Figure 1: An illustration of a (small) SPHINCS structure.

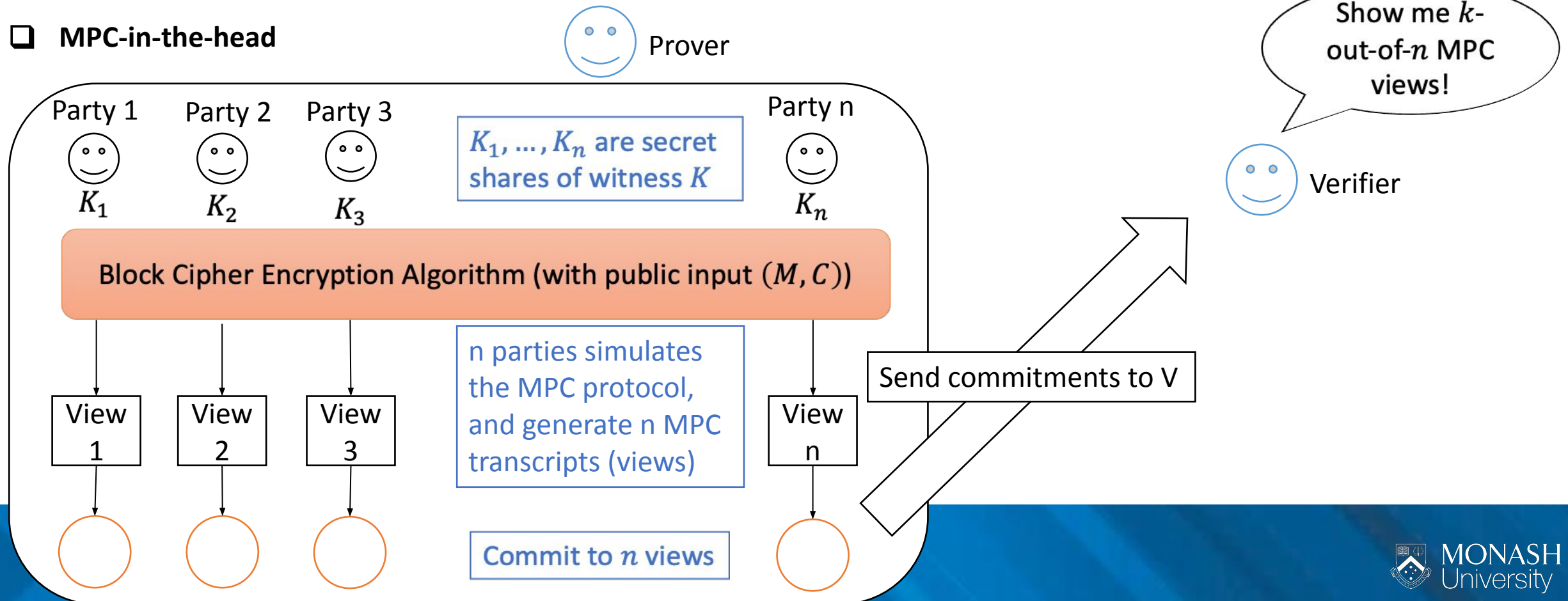
Images from: [BHK+19]

ZKP: Picnic [CDG+17]

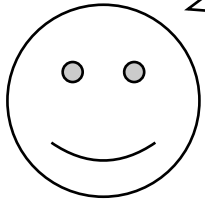
❑ High-level Idea:

- ❑ Given a block cipher encryption algorithm $\text{Enc}(K, M) \rightarrow C$, where K is the key, M is the message and C is the ciphertext, using a **generic zero-knowledge proof** (MPC-in-the-head [IKOS07]) to prove the knowledge of K , with respect to public input (M, C) .

❑ MPC-in-the-head



zkSNARK: Loquat [ZSE+24]

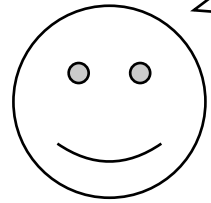


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Why do we need
Loquat?

In some scenario, we need to prove the
validity of signatures using a
zero-knowledge proof.

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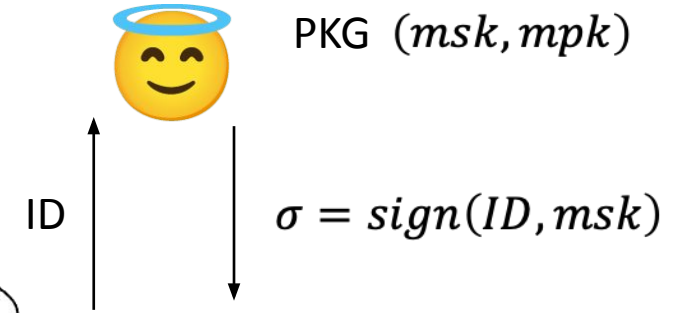


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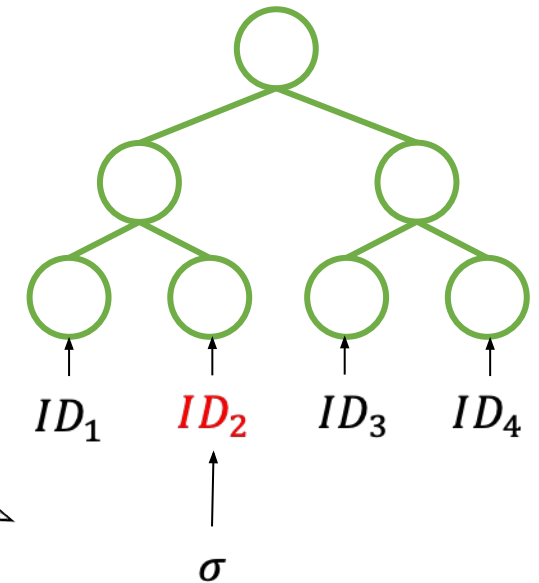
For instance?

- More efficient **post-quantum ring signature** and aggregate signature from symmetric key primitives!

My signing key is σ

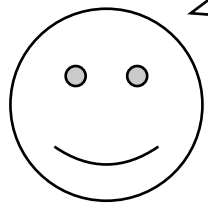


Ring signature is the zero-knowledge proof which shows that $\exists ID_i$ such that $\text{Verify}(\sigma, ID_i, mpk) = 1$



zkSNARK: Loquat [ZSE+24]

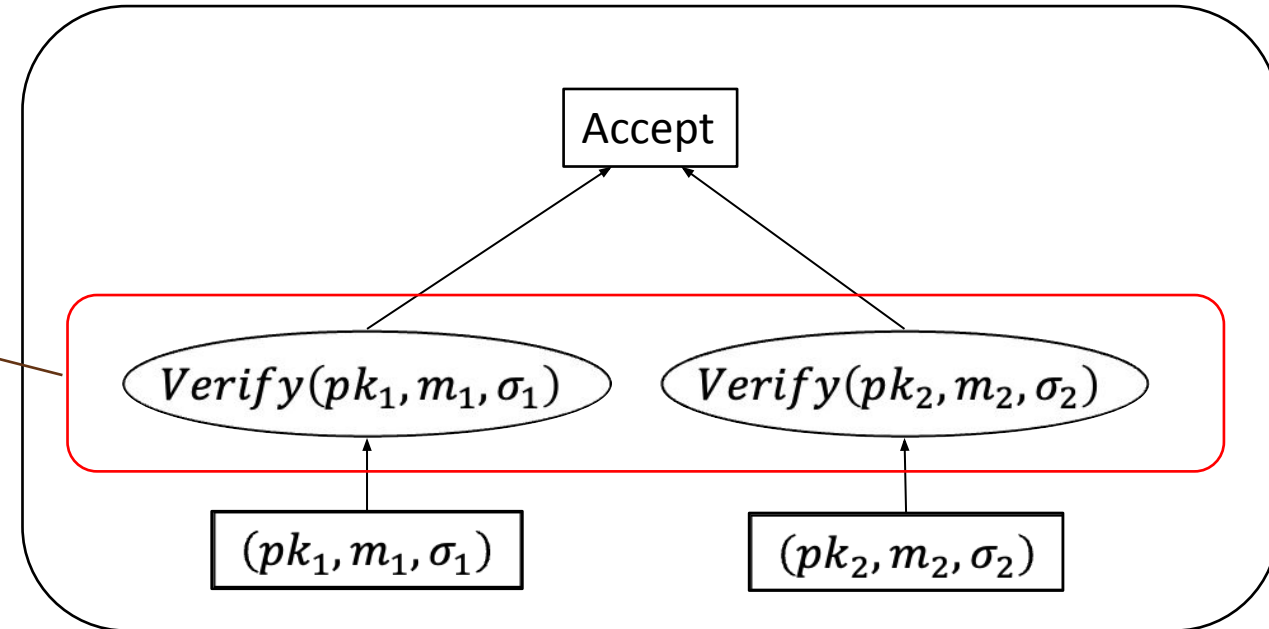
- More efficient **post-quantum** ring signature and **aggregate signature** from symmetric key primitives!



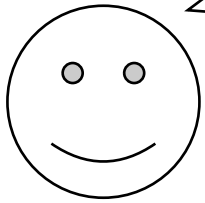
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For instance?

Translate to a circuit, then prove the circuit output is 1 using a generic SNARK.



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Why not use
aforementioned
signatures?

- OTS and stateful MTS have limited use cases.
- MPCitH-based signatures have extremely large verification circuits.
- SPHINCS+ has a lot of hash functions in KeyGen and Sign.

zkSNARK: Loquat [ZSE+24]



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I know there are PQ zkSNARK protocols that have small verification circuit. Why not replacing MPCitH with these zkSNARKs?

- Generic PQ zk-SNARKs have very large proof size in comparison with MPCitH-based proofs.
- Generic zkSNARKs are quite slow as well.
- And their verification circuits are not small enough.

zkSNARK: Loquat [ZSE+24]



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Cool, tell me more
about Loquat.

- Loquat is a signature which let the signer prove its knowledge about the witness of the ***Legendre PRF***.
- A balanced choice between signature performance and SNARK friendliness

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Wait, what is the Legendre PRF??

- Legendre PRF is the PRF based on the pseudo-randomness of the Legendre symbol.

Legendre Symbol: $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } a = b^2 \pmod{p} \text{ for some } b \in \mathbb{F}_p^* \\ 0, & \text{if } a = 0 \pmod{p} \\ -1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

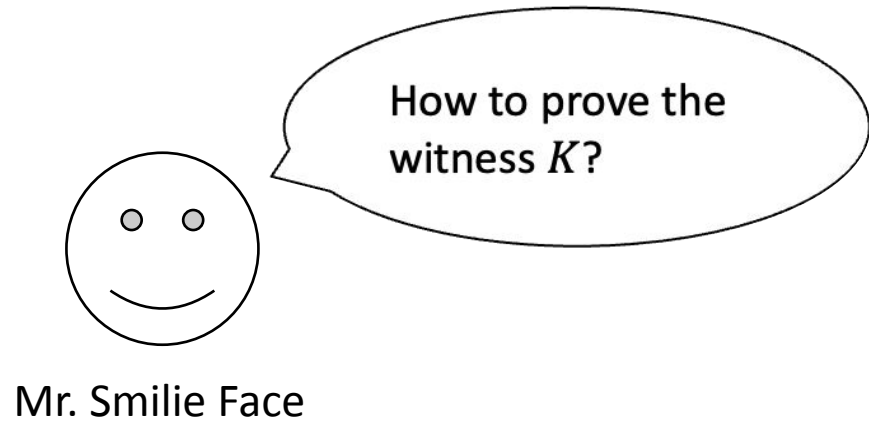
Legendre PRF: $\mathcal{L}_0(a) = \left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \right) \right\rfloor \in \{0, 1\}$

Keyed Legendre PRF: $\mathcal{L} : \mathbb{F}_p \times \mathbb{F}_p \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$
 $\mathcal{L} : (K, a) \mapsto \mathcal{L}_0(K + a)$

Legendre PRF based key pair:

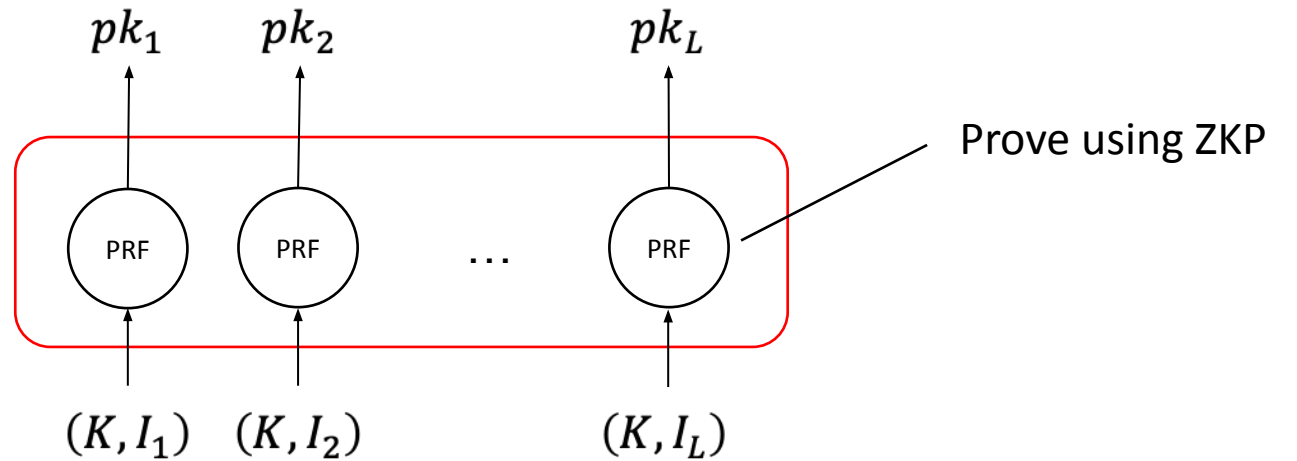
- $pk = (pk_1, \dots, pk_L) = \mathcal{L}_K(I_1), \dots, \mathcal{L}_K(I_L)$
- $sk = K$

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Naively

...



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$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_0(o_b) &= \mathcal{L}_0((K + I_b) \times r_b) \\ &= \mathcal{L}_0(K + I_b) + \mathcal{L}_0(r_b) \\ &= pk_{I_b} + \mathcal{L}_0(r_b)\end{aligned}$$

- Relax the computation to a random subset of symbols!
- exploit the multiplicative homomorphism of the PRF:
$$\mathcal{L}_0(a) + \mathcal{L}_0(b) = \mathcal{L}_0(a \times b)$$
- Prove the random linear computation instead of individual symbols

Commit to $(K, r_1, \dots, r_B)$

$B \ll L$

Send the commitment and $\mathcal{L}_0(r_b)$ for all $b \in [B]$ to V

Compute and send $o_b = (K + I_b)r_b$ for all $b \in [B]$

Randomly pick B elements from $(I_1, \dots, I_L)$ and send to P

Randomly pick B field elements $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_B)$ and send to P

Prove $\sum_{b \in [B]} \lambda_b o_b = \sum_{b \in [B]} \lambda_b (K + I_b) r_b$ using ZKP

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What ZKP to
use for proving
 $(o_1, \dots, o_B)$?

Instead of MPCitH, we use univariate sumcheck to enable SNARK-friendliness!

- Univariate sumcheck is the core protocol used in Aurora [BCR+19].
- Let H be an additive or multiplicative coset of $\mathbb{F}$, given a polynomial $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}(X)$, it allows the prover to prove that $\mu = \sum_{a \in H} f(a)$.
- Verification complexity is polylog in the size of H .

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How to use univariate sumcheck to prove this?



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Our key observation is that proving $\sum_{b \in [B]} \lambda_b o_b = \lambda_b (K + I_b) r_b$ can be seen as evaluating a multivariate polynomial!

Define $f(x_1, \dots, x_B, y_1, \dots, y_B) = \sum_{b \in [B]} K r_b y_b + r_b x_b y_b$.

Commit to coefficients of $f(x_1, \dots, x_B, y_1, \dots, y_B)$ and send the commitment along with $T_b = \mathcal{L}_0(r_b)$ for all $b \in [B]$ to V.

Randomly pick B elements from $(I_1, \dots, I_L)$ and send to P

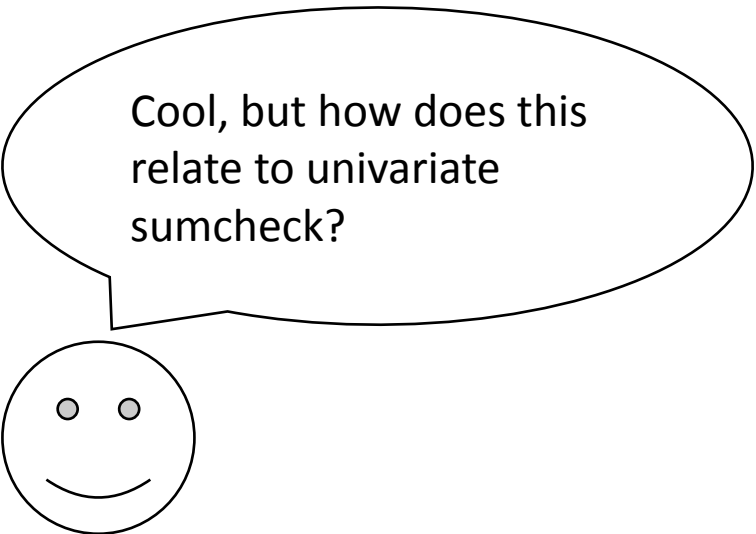
Compute and send $o_b = (K + I_b) r_b$ for all $b \in [B]$

Randomly pick B field elements $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_B)$ and send to P

Send to V the polynomial evaluation $\mu = f(I_1, \dots, I_B, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_B)$ and the proof of the evaluation.

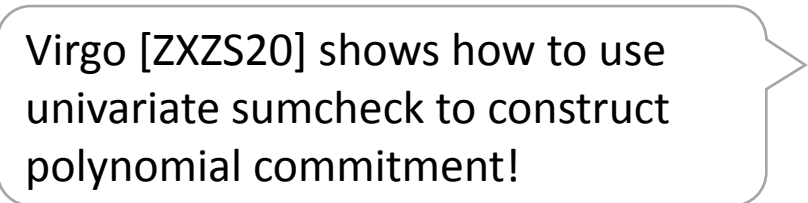
Check if $\mu = \sum_{b \in [B]} \lambda_b o_b$ and the polynomial commitment proof.

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Cool, but how does this relate to univariate sumcheck?

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Virgo [ZXZS20] shows how to use univariate sumcheck to construct polynomial commitment!

- $f(I_1, \dots, I_B, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_B) = \sum_{b \in [B]} Kr_b \lambda_b + r_b I_b \lambda_b$ can be seen as an inner-product between two vectors:
 - Coefficient vector: $\vec{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_{2B}) = (Kr_1, \dots, Kr_B, r_1, \dots, r_B)$;
 - Evaluation vector: $\vec{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_{2B}) = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_B, \lambda_1 I_1, \dots, \lambda_B I_B)$.
- We can interpolate two univariate polynomials from these two xsvectors:
 - Let us define a univariate polynomial $c(x)$ such that $c(h_i) = c_i$ for some predefined set H where $h_i \in H$ and $c_i \in \vec{c}$.
 - Similarly, define a univariate polynomial $t(x)$ such that $t(h_i) = t_i$ for predefined set H where $h_i \in H$ and $t_i \in \vec{t}$.
- Then, define a polynomial for univariate sumcheck $g(x) = c(x) \times t(x)$. Let the prover to show that $\mu = \sum_{b \in [B]} \lambda_b o_b = \sum_{h_i \in H} g(h_i) = \sum_{h_i \in H} c(h_i) \times t(h_i) = \sum_{i \in [2B]} c_i \times t_i$.

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What's the performance
of Loquat?



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Scheme	$ \sigma $ (KB)	# R1CS	# Hash (KG)	# Hash (Sign)
Picnic1 [25]	32	3,451,440	0	7,008
Picnic3 [64]	12	21,598,340	0	1,679,784
LegRoast [16]	16	1,143,351	0	10,152
Banquet [6]	12	11,804,560	0	4,147
Rainer [30]	8	26,130,303	0	3,337
SPHINCS+s [14]	7.8	458,920	305,663	2,397,129
SPHINCS+f [14]	16	1,390,209	4,775	111,353
LOQUAT-128	57	148,825	0	8,434

Table 1. Comparison of Post-Quantum Signature Schemes based on Symmetric-Key Primitives. $|\sigma|$ = signature size, # R1CS = number of R1CS constraints for verifying one signature, # Hash (KG)/# Hash (Sign) = the number of hash invocations in key generation/signing, respectively.

PQRS and PQAS based on Loquat

What's the performance of Loquat-based PQRS?



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KeyGen for Loquat is significantly more efficient than XMSS!!

Sig	$t_{KG}(s)$	$ SID (KB)$	R1CS	Max N	$ \sigma $ (MB) (est.)		
					$N = 2^6$	$N = 2^{12}$	$N = 2^{20}$
Picnic [64]	≈ 0	167	6.88M	unli.	1.898	1.899	1.900
XMSS [22]	3355	4.899	431,480	2^{20}	0.885	0.889	0.893
Loquat-100	0.1	46	648,549	unli.	0.973	0.977	0.982

Table 4. Instantiate IDRS [23] with Various Signatures. t_{KG} = Master Key Generation Time, $|SID|$ = User Signing Key Size, N = ring size, $|\sigma|$ = ID-based Ring Signature Size.

PQRS and PQAS based on Loquat

What's the performance
of Loquat-based PQAS?



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Better PQAS performance
if use more efficient
SNARKs

	Aurora					Fractal			Fractal-R (est.)			
	$n = 4$	8	16	32	64	4	8	16	4	8	16	32
t_I (s)	-	-	-	-	-	33	88	218	5K	13K	32K	32K
t_P (s)	14	33	67	160	553	119	251	556	3K	6K	14K	14K
t_V (s)	2.4	4.3	10	20	62	0.2	0.47	0.78	2.4	5.64	9.6	9.6
$ \sigma $ (KB)	126	137	182	197	207	131	140	145	131	140	145	145

Table 5. Performance of Aggregating LOQUAT Using Aurora, Fractal, and Recursive Fractal (Fractal-R). t_I = indexer time, t_P = proving time, t_V = verification time, n = the number of signatures being aggregated.

Conclusion

- Post-quantum signatures based on symmetric key primitives.
- Loquat: SNARK-friendly post-quantum signature from the Legendre PRF
 - More efficient ID-based ring signature.
 - Post-quantum aggregate signature from symmetric key primitives.

THANK YOU!

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