

# **RSA**Conference2018

San Francisco | April 16 – 20 | Moscone Center

SESSION ID: SP02-R14

## **ALICE IN POST-QUANTUM WONDERLAND; BOB THROUGH THE DIGITAL LOOKING-GLASS**

**Jon Geater**

Chief Technology Officer  
Thales eSecurity  
@jongeater



#RSAC

# Hold onto your hats!



- This is a very fast-paced presentation
- The idea is not to teach you everything in-depth, but to give you the right questions you can look up later
- Jumping-off points and resources will be posted to my Thales eSecurity blog and twitter after the talk – follow me @jongeater!
- Here we go...

# Hold onto your hats!



- Constantly hit with new stories claiming to change the world
- Much of it is just sensationalist
  - Or simply uninformed

In other words....



**BEWARE**



**FAKE NEWS**

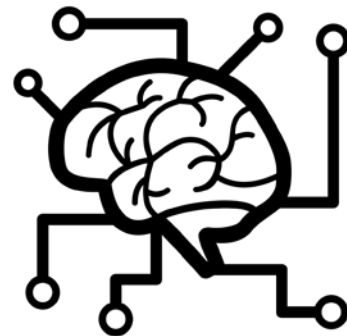
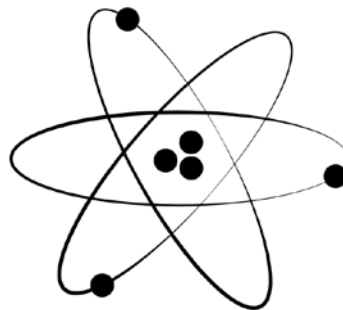
# Hold onto your hats!



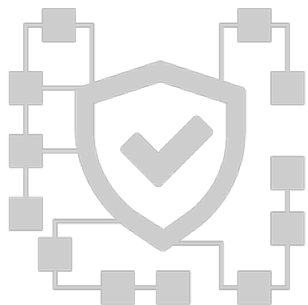
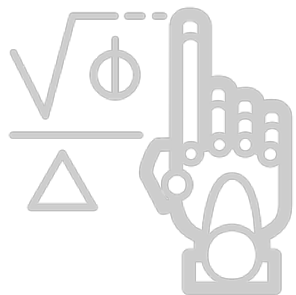
- Constantly hit with new stories claiming to change the world
- Much of it is just sensationalist
  - Or simply uninformed
- Nonetheless there are kernels of truth worth grabbing hold of

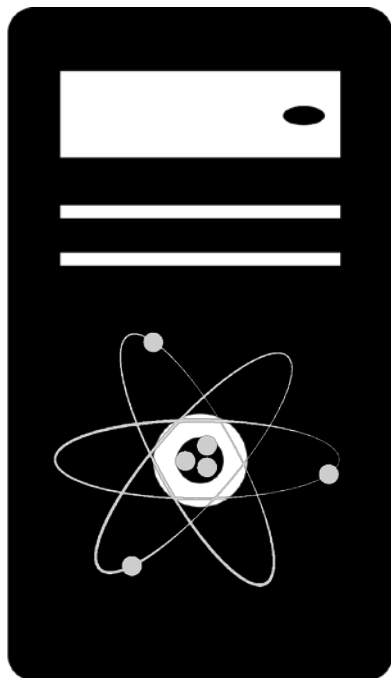


# Lions, Tigers and Bears. Oh my!



# First: Quantum...





## Quantum Computing

- To run quantum algorithms you need a quantum computer
- It's often suggested that quantum computers are on a path to directly replace existing computer systems, but this is not (necessarily) true.
  - Different types of quantum computing
    - Annealing vs Universal
    - Think valve machine vs semiconductors
  - Different machines are better specialised to different tasks
  - Don't forget the practical aspects
- There has been some notable progress
  - IBM's Quantum Experience
  - D-Wave





## Quantum Cryptography

- Quantum Cryptography is effectively “doing cryptography with quantum computers”
- There are several potential techniques
- One thing that is well established is Quantum Key Distribution
  - This has almost nothing to do with Quantum Computing!
  - Transmit keys from one place to another as quantum state in photons
  - Relies on the quantum mechanical phenomenon that you cannot observe a photon without disturbing its state
  - Theoretically extremely secure, but suffers practical issues
- Famously recently used by China in satellites



## Quantum Cryptanalysis

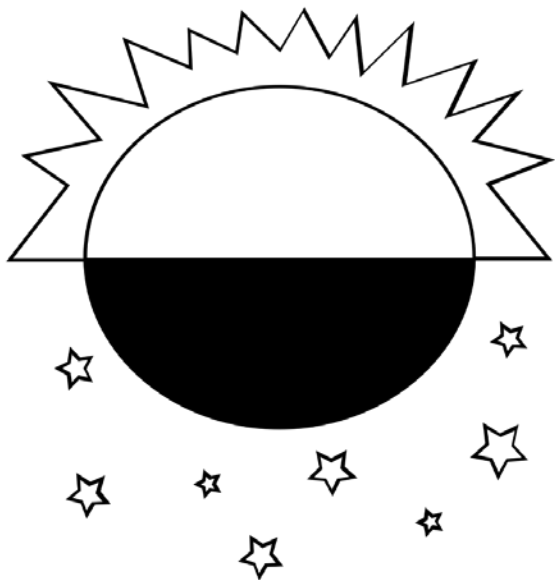
- Quantum Cryptanalysis is effectively “breaking cryptography with quantum computers”
- Grover’s algorithm
  - Given a functioning Universal Quantum Computer, Grover’s algorithm weakens the currently assumed strength of symmetric algorithms like AES
- Shor’s algorithm
  - Given a functioning Universal Quantum Computer, Shor’s algorithm weakens the currently assumed strength of asymmetric algorithms like RSA, ECC
- This is the big threat
  - If our cryptography is broken, then everything breaks!



## Quantum Cryptanalysis

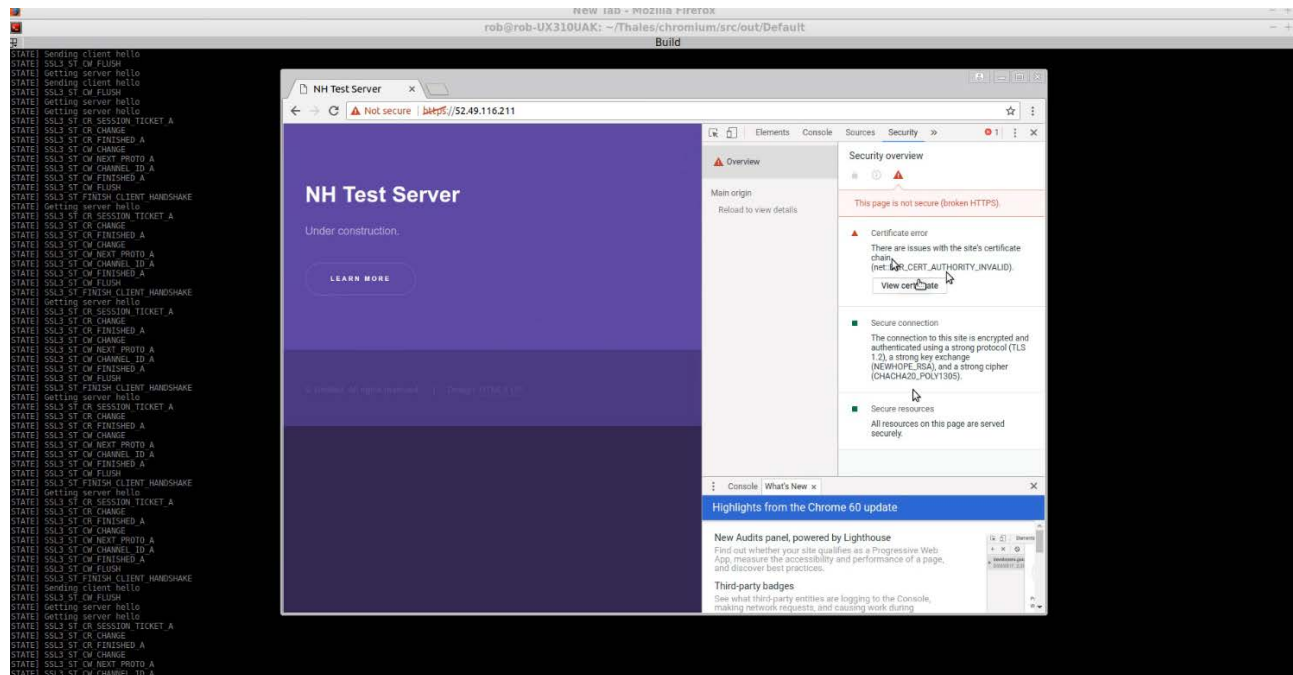
- Quantum Cryptanalysis is effectively “breaking cryptography with quantum computers”
- Grover’s algorithm
  - Given a functioning Universal Quantum Computer, Grover’s algorithm weakens the currently assumed strength of symmetric algorithms like AES
- Shor’s algorithm
  - Given a functioning Universal Quantum Computer, Shor’s algorithm weakens the currently assumed strength of asymmetric algorithms like RSA, ECC
- **This is the big threat**
  - **If our cryptography is broken, then everything breaks!**

## Don't let the Sun go down on me...



- This essentially puts a 'sunset' on current popular algorithms
- But this is business as usual!
  - Remember SHA-1? Single DES? DSA?
  - Remember what happened in 2010?
- But don't jump too soon
  - Work out what your exposure is
  - Work out how long it will take for you to move
  - Balance this risk against the possibility that the new algorithms might have classical weaknesses!
  - NIST 'competition' going on right now

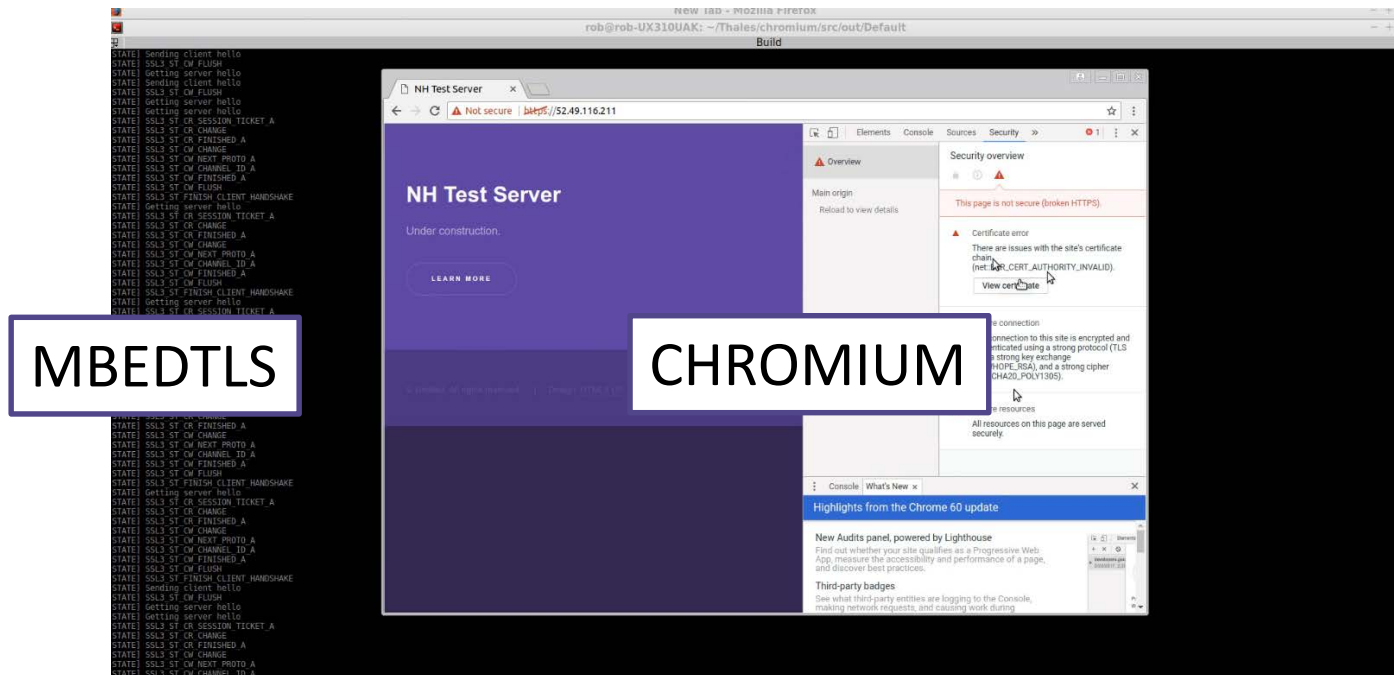
# Here's one we made earlier!



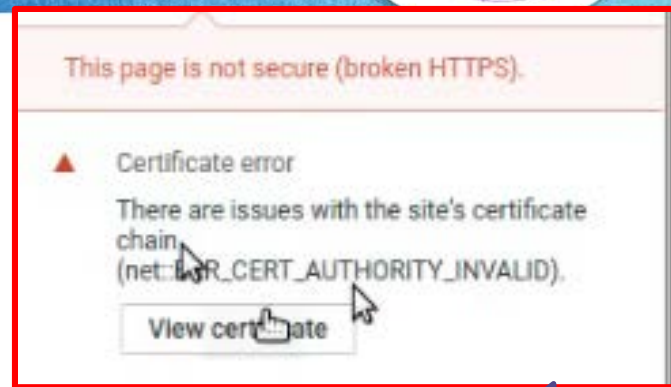
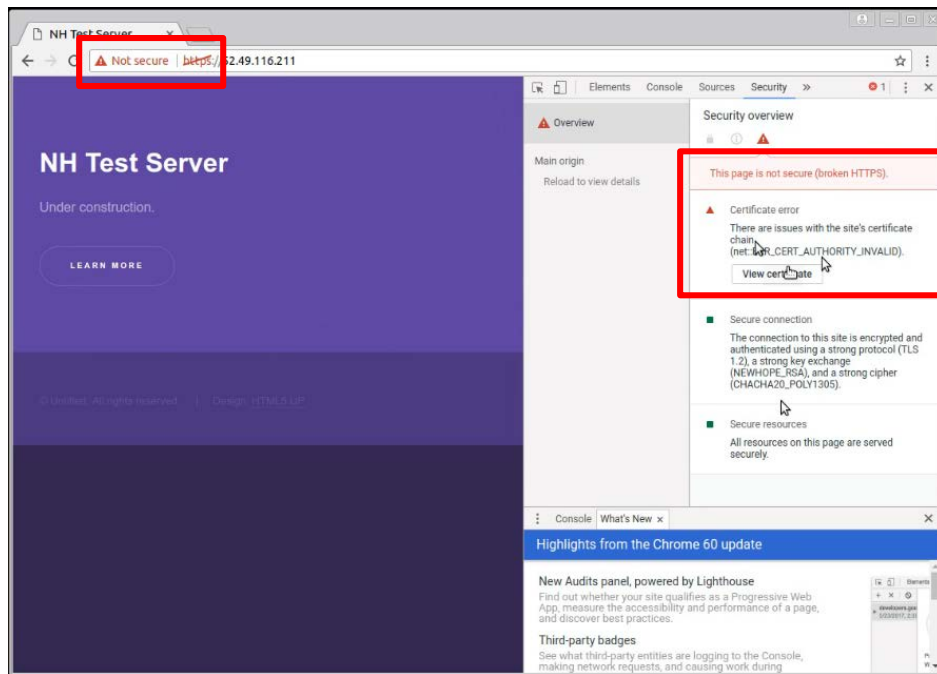




#RSAC

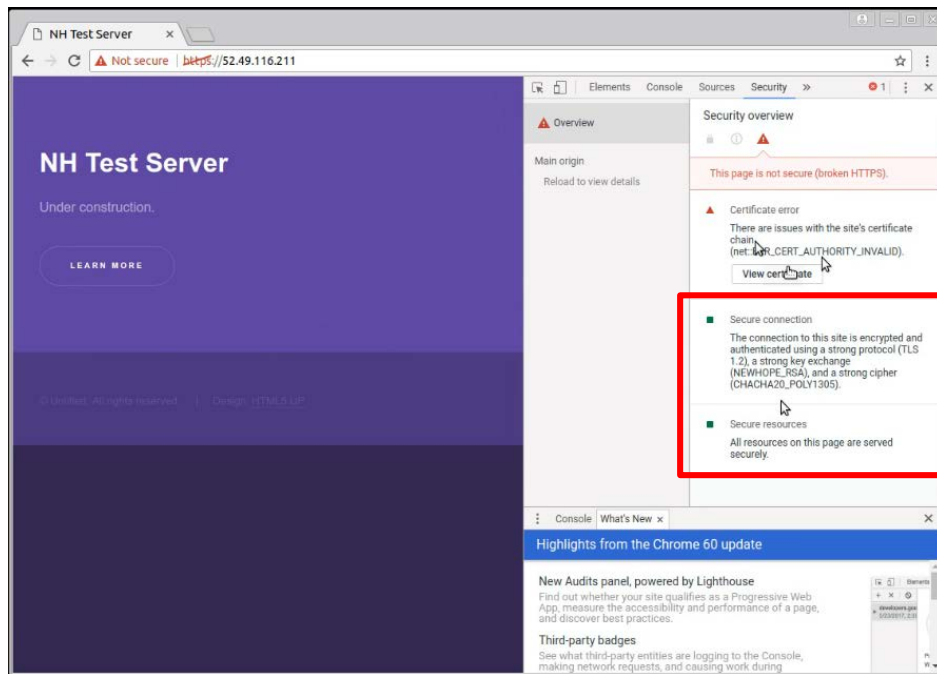


# Here's one we made earlier!



Don't worry about this: it's just a lack of root issuer certificate...part of the transition pain.

# Here's one we made earlier!



This is the important part: All resources served securely with NEWHOPE and CHACHA

**Secure connection**  
The connection to this site is encrypted and authenticated using a strong protocol (TLS 1.2), a strong key exchange (NEWHOPE\_RSA), and a strong cipher (CHACHA20\_POLY1305).

**Secure resources**  
All resources on this page are served securely.



## The fundamentals

- Several different quantum-related technologies are often reported together. They are NOT the same!
- RSA and ECC are the place to concentrate on replacements
- Chances of needing PQC by 2031 rated as high as 50%

## Why it matters to security

- Some of the technology is security-enhancing, some very much not
- I hope this is obvious!
- Data security lifetime is important! Remember adversaries can collect traffic NOW and break LATER





**RSA**Conference2018

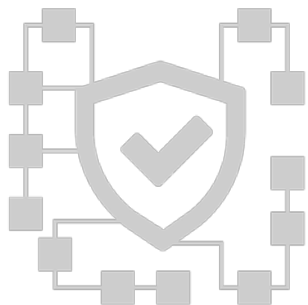
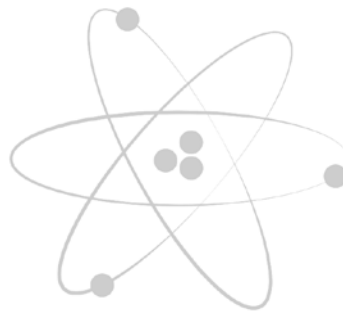
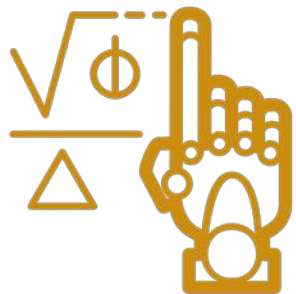


#RSAC

**NEXT UP...**



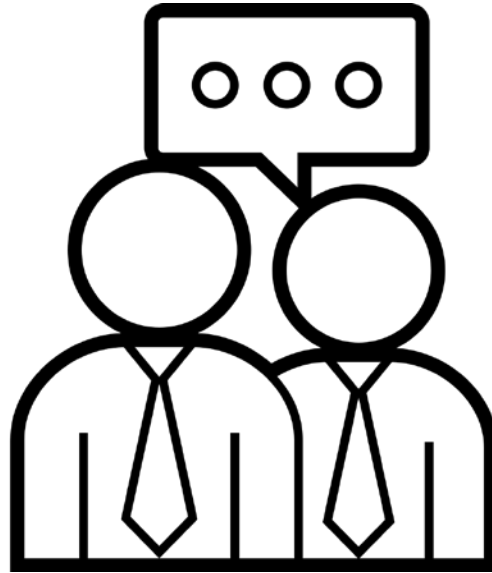
# Next: Machine Learning, AI, ...



# Relationship with Big Data



# All things to all men



# A favourite example: Connected Car



# A favourite example: Connected Car



<https://www.wired.com/2015/07/hackers-remotely-kill-jeep-highway/>

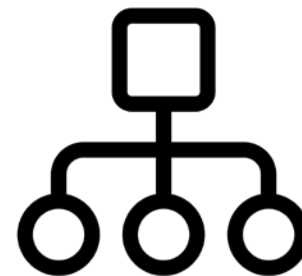




# A favourite example: Connected Car



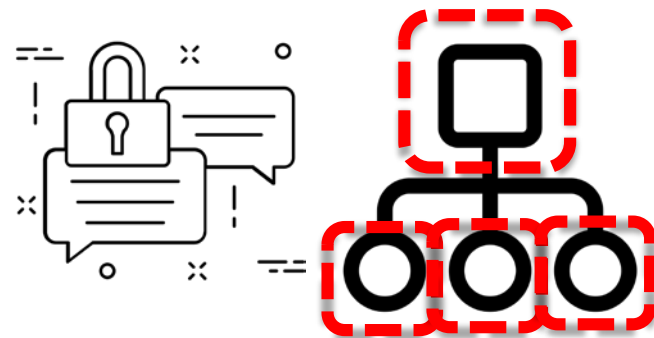
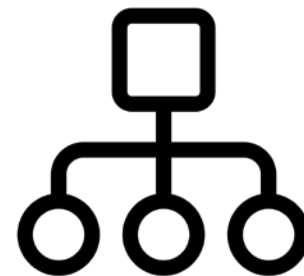
<https://www.wired.com/2015/07/hackers-remotely-kill-jEEP-highway/>



# A favourite example: Connected Car



<https://www.wired.com/2015/07/hackers-remotely-kill-jEEP-highway/>



# A favourite example: Connected car



# A favourite example: Connected car



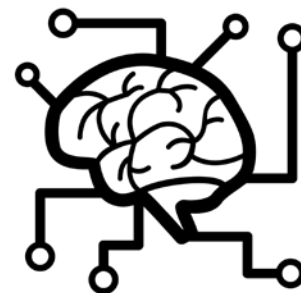
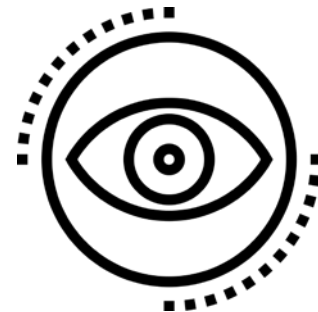
UKAutodrive



# A favourite example: Connected car



UKAutodrive

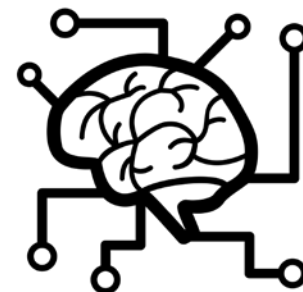
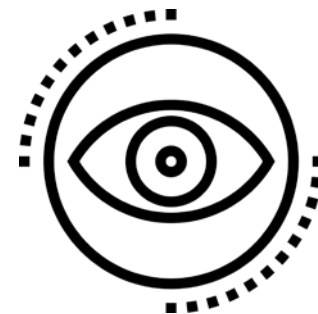
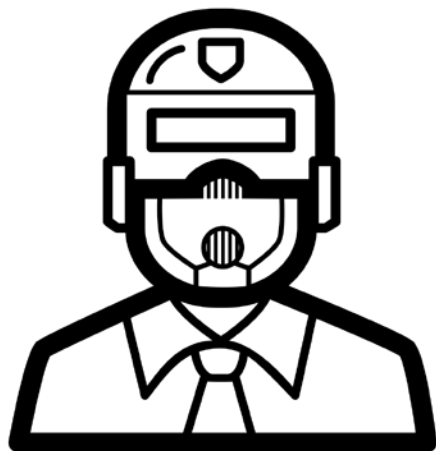




# A favourite example: Connected car



UKAutodrive



THALES



## The fundamentals

- This is another area where multiple very different technologies are often conflated
- Input and Training Data become more important than the program
- Overlaying with traditional systems is most effective for now

## Why it matters to security

- Risk of conferring benefits of all on one: systems will fail
- We don't know how to apply certification to this type of system
- Don't substitute out existing best practice just yet!



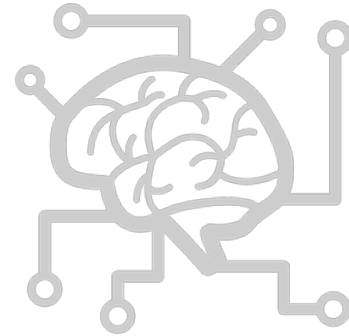
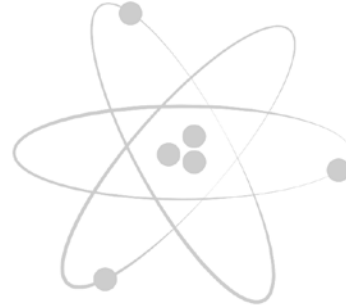
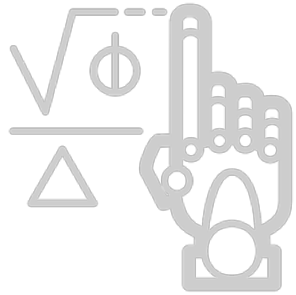
**RSA**Conference2018



#RSAC

**NEXT UP...**

# Last but not least: Blockchain...



# One of the biggest problems with blockchain





One of the biggest problems with blockchain



# FOMO



# Not Bitcoin



# Bitcoin hacks



# Bitcoin hacks



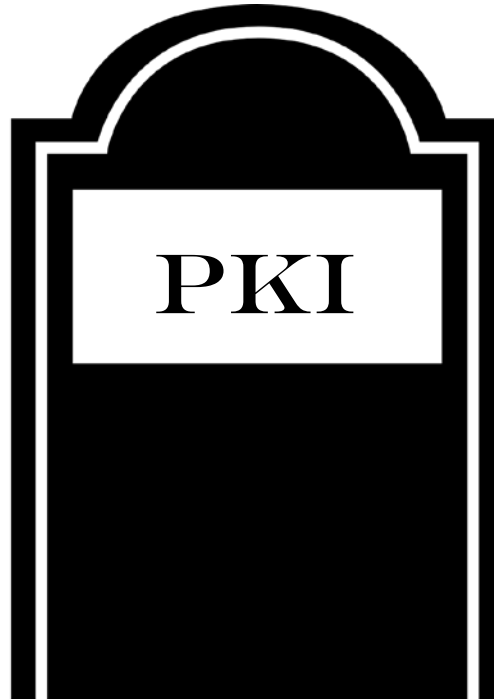


# Bitcoin hacks



<https://magoo.github.io/Blockchain-Graveyard/>

# The end of PKI?



# Blockchain security addressed



Gem



 LedgerX



 **accenture**

**THALES**

# Enterprise use



PUBLIC	ALL CAN VIEW WRITE RESTRICTED	ALL CAN VIEW ALL CAN WRITE
	VIEW RESTRICTED WRITE RESTRICTED	VIEW RESTRICTED ALL CAN WRITE
PRIVATE		
	PERMISSIONED	PERMISSIONLESS

# Enterprise use



PUBLIC



PRIVATE

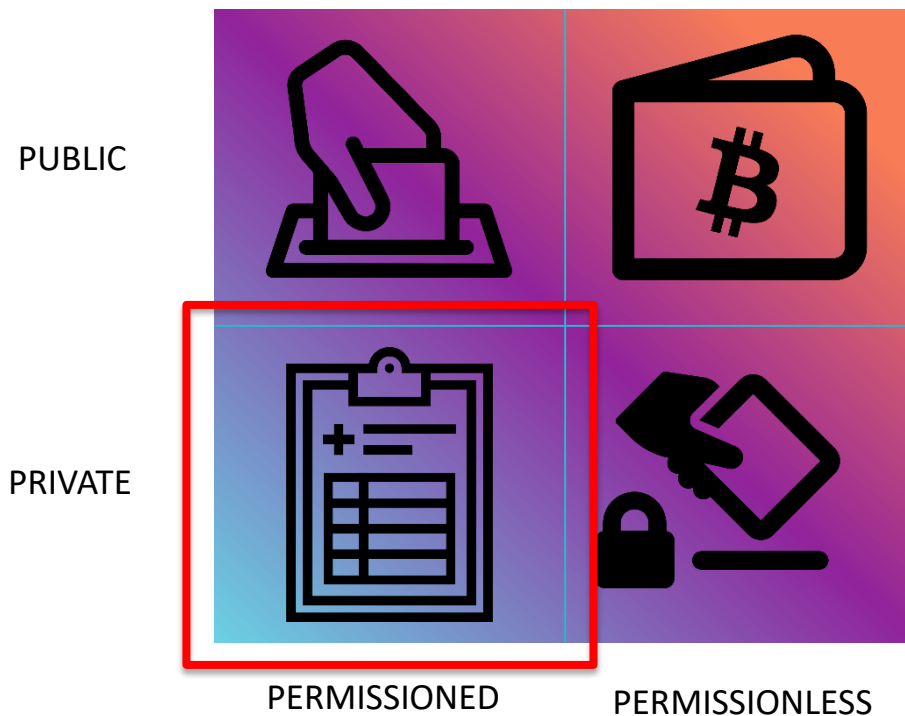


PERMISSIONED

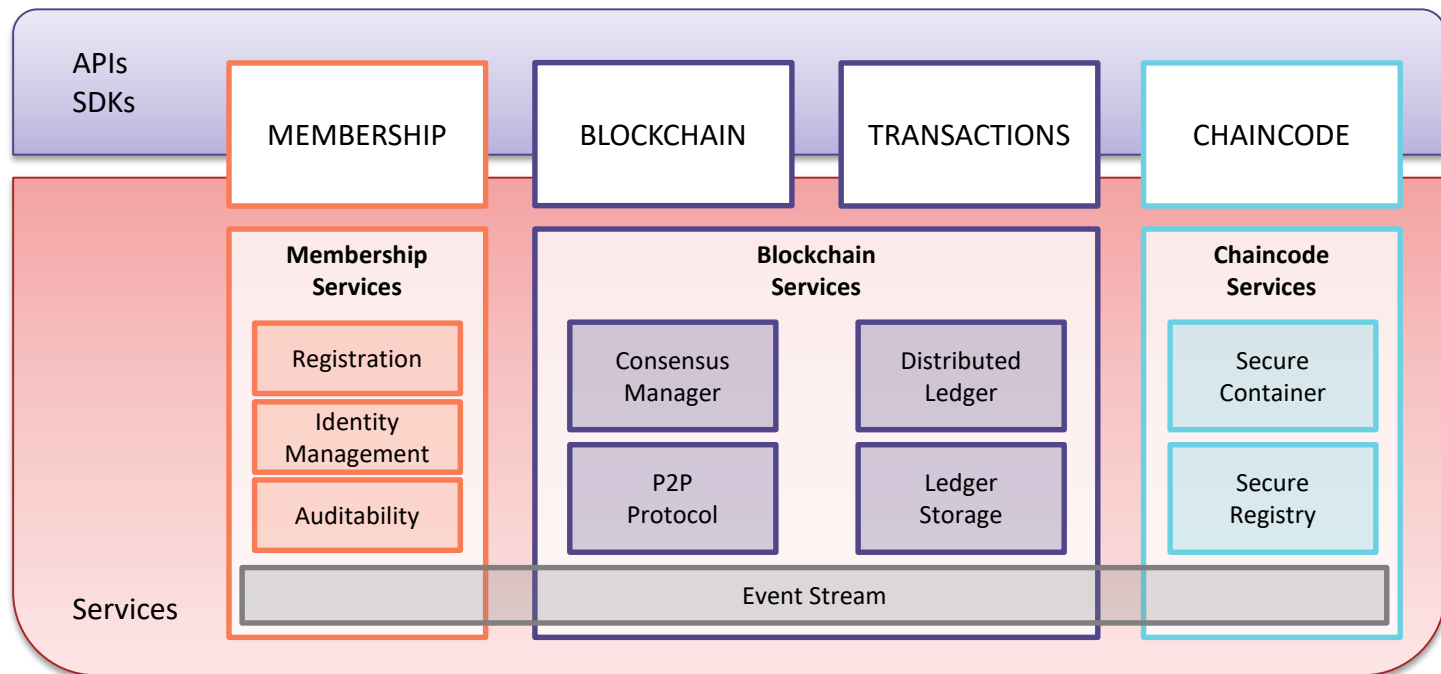
PERMISSIONLESS



# Enterprise use



# Example: Hyperledger Fabric Architecture





## The fundamentals

- Blockchain is not bitcoin
- Blockchain is not magic
- Just because it's on the ledger, doesn't make it true
- Crypto protection is *vital*

## Why it matters to security

- Focus on private/permissioned
- We still have to build system security just the same as we did before
- Data security is still vital: maybe more so than before because of non-repudiation. Blockchain does A, not CI
- As ever



**RSA**Conference2018



#RSAC

## TAKE-AWAYS



# HOW WE BUILD SYSTEMS IS FUNDAMENTALLY CHANGING





# EVERYTHING YOU KNOW IS WRONG



# EVERYTHING YOU KNOW IS ~~NOT~~ WRONG

# Key take-aways



- Quantum Crypto:
  - Remember the difference between the different technologies
  - Don't panic, but do plan! Take this as a nudge to do standard good transition planning
  - Existing best practice still applies. Remember PQC only brings you back up to 256-bit (ish)
- Machine learning & AI
  - This absolutely will change the world of safety and security...but there's a way to go yet
  - Whole system approach – including humans and classic apps – is essential
  - Attack focus shifts from the application to the data and/or training set
- Blockchain
  - Don't feel compelled to use it!
  - The difference between public and private ledgers is *huge*. Don't think about Bitcoin.
  - Crypto key protection is *even more sensitive* than it was before

# Apply What You Have Learned Today



- Don't forget the fundamentals
  - Identify your business problems before looking for solutions
  - Don't panic
- Look to deploy these techniques over the next few years
  - As part of larger systems. None of them is a Silver Bullet
- Always concentrate on the cryptographic data security
  - Whether training sets or big data for AI, or a shadow data store for a blockchain, the need for strong crypto is growing!
  - Invest in flexible and strong cryptographic key management systems

**RSA**Conference2018



#RSAC

**THANK YOU!**

**Questions? Comments?**