# Hash Based Signatures

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2023

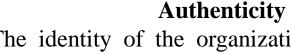


## Overview



- 1. Hash Functions and Security
- 2. Lamport One-Time Signiture
- 3. Merkle's tree-based signature
- 4. WOTS/WOTS+
- 5. XMSS
- 6. HORS/FORS
- 7. SPHINCS+





The identity of the organization that sent the message (the message signer) is confirmed.

Digital signatures assures

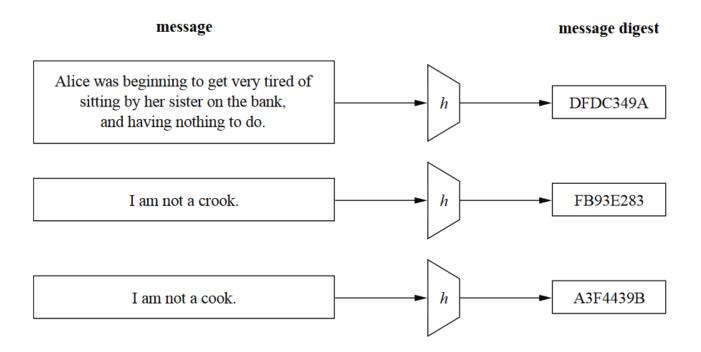
### **Integrity**

The message content was not changed or tampered with since it was digitally signed.

### Nonrepudiation

The origin of the signed content is verified to all parties so the message signer cannot deny association with the signed content.

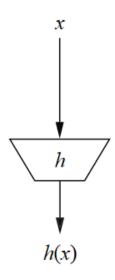






# **Preimage resistance:**

Given h(x) it should be infeasible to find x



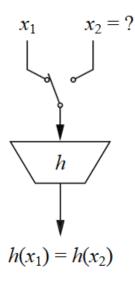
preimage resistance



### **Second-preimage resistance(weak collision):**

Given any first input  $x_1$ , it should be infeasible to find any distinct second input  $x_2$  such that

$$h(x_1) = h(x_2)$$



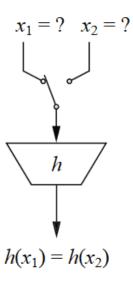
second preimage resistance



#### **Collision resistance:**

It should be infeasible to find any pair of distinct inputs  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , such that

$$h(x_1) = h(x_2).$$



collision resistance

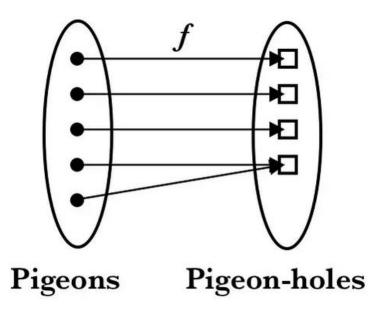


Alice Oscar Bob 
$$\xleftarrow{k_{pub,B}}$$
 
$$z = h(x_1)$$
 
$$s = \operatorname{sig}_{k_{pr,B}}(z)$$
 
$$z = h(x_2)$$
 
$$\operatorname{ver}_{k_{pub,B}}(s,z) = \operatorname{true}$$

Ideally, we would like to have a hash function for which weak collisions do not exist.

This is, unfortunately, impossible due to the pigeonhole principle





So we say infeasible



How common collisions for 80 bit hash output?

Expectation: Try 2<sup>80</sup> message

Reality: Try 2<sup>40</sup> message

Reason: Birthday paradox



How many people are needed such that there is a reasonable chance that at least two people have the same birthday?



$$P(\text{no collision among 2 people}) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{365}\right)$$

If a third person joins the party, he or she can collide with both of the people already there, hence:

$$P(\text{no collision among 3 people}) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{365}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{2}{365}\right)$$

Consequently, the probability for t people having no birthday collision is given by:

$$P(\text{no collision among } t \text{ people}) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{365}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{2}{365}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{t-1}{365}\right)$$

For t = 366 people we will have a collision with probability 1 since a year has only 365 days. We return now to our initial question: how many people are needed to have a 50% chance of two colliding birthdays? Surprisingly—following from the equations above—it only requires 23 people to obtain a probability of about 0.5 for a birthday collision since:

$$P(\text{at least one collision}) = 1 - P(\text{no collision})$$

$$= 1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{365}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{23 - 1}{365}\right)$$

$$= 0.507 \approx 50\%.$$



```
mport random
def generate_random_birthday(n):
   birthdays = []
   for i in range(n):
        day = random.choice(days)
       month = random.choice(months)
       birthday = (day, month)
       birthdays.append(birthday)
   return birthdays
def check_collision(birthdays):
   for i in range(len(birthdays)):
        for j in range(i + 1, len(birthdays)):
           if birthdays[i] == birthdays[j]:
   return collision
num_trials = 100
collision_count = 0
for trial in range(num_trials):
   birthdays = generate_random_birthday(n)
   collision = check_collision(birthdays)
       collision_count += 1
print(f"Total collisions in {num_trials} trials: {collision_count}")
```

```
Enter the number of people: 23
Total collisions in 100 trials: 54
Enter the number of people:
Total collisions in 100 trials: 50
 Enter the number of people:
 Total collisions in 100 trials: 52
 Enter the number of people:
 Total collisions in 100 trials: 88
 Enter the number of people:
 Total collisions in 100 trials: 91
Enter the number of people: 40
Total collisions in 100 trials: 90
```

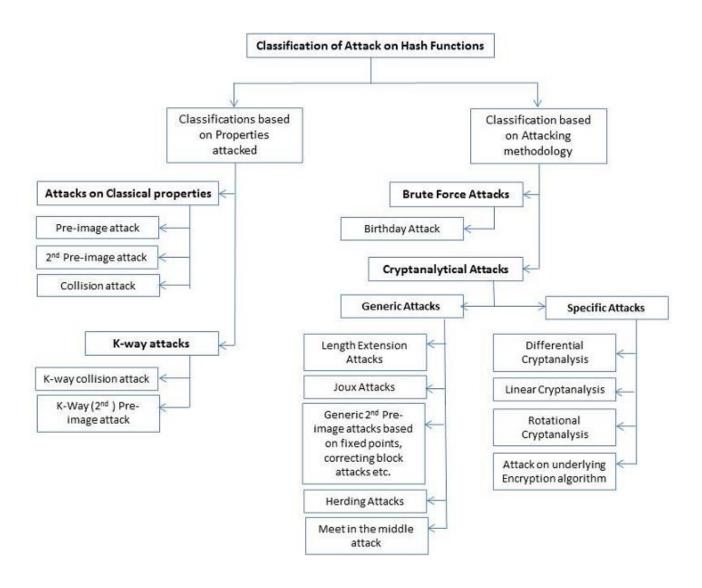


Number of messages we need to hash to find a collision is roughly equal to the

$$\sqrt{2^n} = 2^{\frac{n}{2}}$$

	Hash output length					
λ	128 bit	160 bit	256 bit	384 bit	512 bit	
0.5	$2^{65}$	$2^{81}$	$2^{129}$	$2^{193}$	$2^{257}$	
0.9	$2^{67}$	$2^{82}$	$2^{130}$	$2^{194}$	$2^{258}$	







## What about finding collision with Quantum Computer?

# Quantum Algorithm for the Collision Problem

Gilles Brassard \* Peter Université de Montréal  $^{\dagger}$  Odense

Peter Høyer <sup>‡</sup> Alain Tapp <sup>¶</sup>

Odense University <sup>§</sup> Université de Montréal <sup>†</sup>

1 May 1997

#### Abstract

In this note, we give a quantum algorithm that finds collisions in arbitrary r-to-one functions after only  $O(\sqrt[3]{N/r})$  expected evaluations of the function. Assuming the function is given by a black box, this is more effi-



#### What about finding collision with Quantum Computer?

# Cost analysis of hash collisions: Will quantum computers make SHARCS obsolete?

Daniel J. Bernstein \*

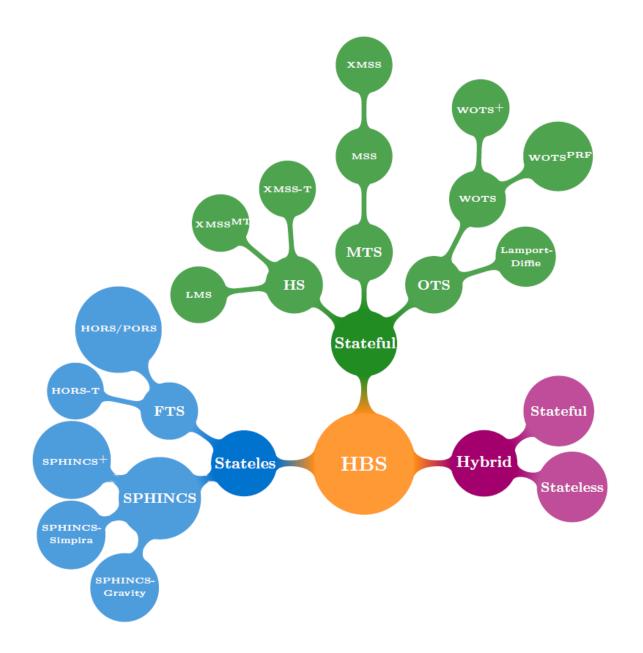
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**Abstract.** Current proposals for special-purpose factorization hardware will become obsolete if large quantum computers are built: the number-field sieve scales much more poorly than Shor's quantum algorithm for factorization. Will *all* special-purpose cryptanalytic hardware become obsolete in a post-quantum world?

A quantum algorithm by Brassard, Høyer, and Tapp has frequently been claimed to reduce the cost of b-bit hash collisions from  $2^{b/2}$  to  $2^{b/3}$ . This paper analyzes the Brassard–Høyer–Tapp algorithm and shows that it has fundamentally worse price-performance ratio than the classical van Oorschot–Wiener hash-collision circuits, even under optimistic assumptions regarding the speed of quantum computers.



Family		Output size			
name	Year	bitlength	bytes	Alternate names and notes	
SHA-3	2015	224, 256	28, 32	SHA3-224, SHA3-256	
		384, 512	48, 64	SHA3-384, SHA3-512 (NOTE 1)	
SHA-2	2001	256, 512	32, 64	SHA-256, SHA-512	
SHA-1	1995	160	20	Deprecated (2017) for browser certificates	
MD5	1992	128	16	Widely deprecated, for many applications	





Hash function: H(256 bits output)

Message : M=(256 bits) Signature : S=(256 bits)

- 1. Generate 512 seperate random bitstring, each of 256 bits of length
- 2. Index them:

$$sk_0 = sk_0^1, sk_0^2 \dots sk_0^{256}$$
  
 $sk_1 = sk_1^1, sk_1^2 \dots sk_1^{256}$ 



Hash function: H(256 bits output)

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 $sk_1 = sk_1^1, sk_1^2 \dots sk_1^{256}$ 

3. Generate public key:

$$pk_0 = H(sk_0^1), H(sk_0^2) \dots H(sk_0^{256})$$
  
 $pk_1 = H(sk_1^1), H(sk_1^2) \dots H(sk_1^{256})$ 



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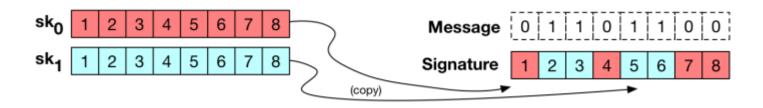
$$pk_0 = H(sk_0^1), H(sk_0^2) \dots H(sk_0^{256})$$
  
 $pk_1 = H(sk_1^1), H(sk_1^2) \dots H(sk_1^{256})$ 

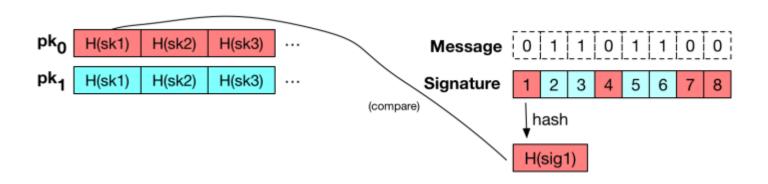
4. For each bit in message

if 
$$m_i = 0$$
 then  $s_i = sk_0^i$ 

if 
$$m_i = 1$$
 then  $s_i = sk_1^i$ 



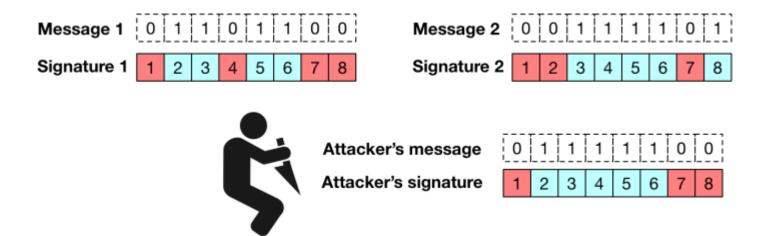






Each key can only be used to sign one message(OTP).

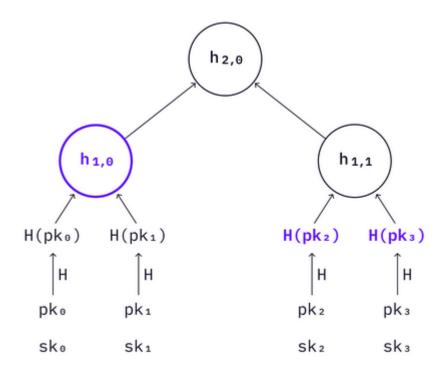
If not, mix and match forgery attack can be done.





Tranforms one-time signatures to many-time signatures.

1. Generate N separate Lamport keypairs. We can call those  $(sk_0), \ldots, (sk_N)$ .

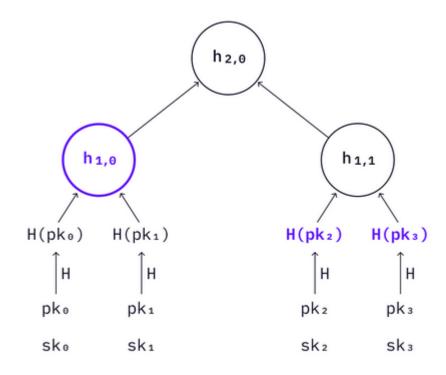


pk: Lamport public keys sk: Lamport secret keys



Tranforms one-time signatures to many-time signatures.

- 1. Generate N separate Lamport keypairs. We can call those  $(sk_0), \ldots, (sk_N)$ .
- 2. Place each public key at one leaf of a Merkle hash tree (see below), and compute the root of the tree. This root will become the "master" public key of the new Merkle signature scheme.

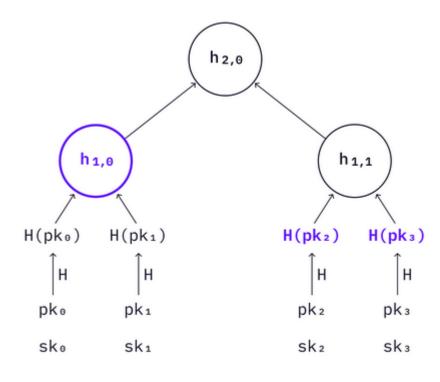


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- 1. Generate N separate Lamport keypairs. We can call those  $(sk_0), \ldots, (sk_N)$ .
- 2. Place each public key at one leaf of a Merkle hash tree (see below), and compute the root of the tree. This root will become the "master" public key of the new Merkle signature scheme.
- 3. The signer retains all of the Lamport public and secret keys for use in signing.



pk: Lamport public keys
sk: Lamport secret keys



- 1. To sign the  $i^{th}$  bit, select the  $i^{th}$  public key from the tree, and sign the message using the corresponding Lamport secret key.
- 2. Concatenate the resulting signature to the Lamport public key and tacks on a "Merkle proof" that shows that this specific Lamport public key is contained within the tree identified by the root (i.e., the public key of the entire scheme).
- 3. Transmit this whole collection as the signature of the message.



To verify a signature of this form,

- 1. Unpack this "signature" as a Lamport signature, Lamport public key, and Merkle Proof.
- 2. Verify the Lamport signature against the given Lamport public key
- 3. Use the Merkle Proof to verify that the Lamport public key is really in the tree.
- 4. If these three objectives achieved, Trust the signature as valid

Disadvantage: Signature size

Advantage: Public key is just 1 hash value

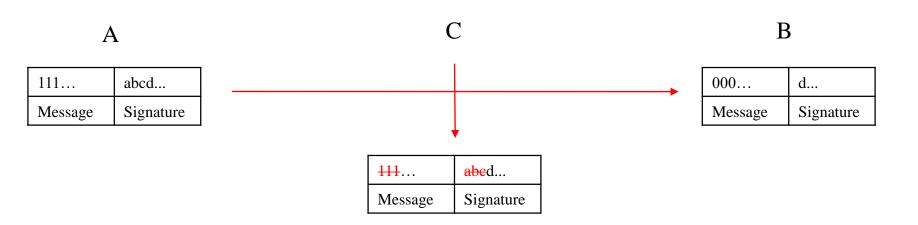


# IDEA: What if we don't sign all of the message bits

Let's say we sign only the message bits equal to one.

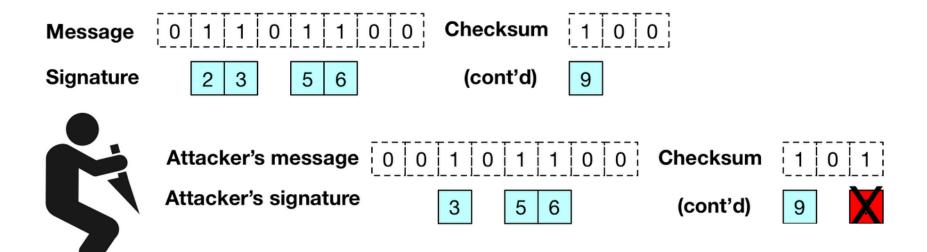
This would cut the public and secret key sizes in half.

#### **VERY INSECURE**





We need to add checksum and sign checksum with message

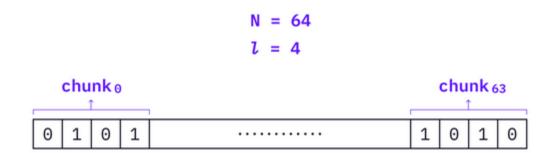


# **WOTS**



IDEA: Divide message into N pieces of length l and sign each piece

We need secret and public key (For each possible value of piece)





IDEA: Divide message into N pieces of length 1 and sign each piece

We need secret and public key (For each possible value of piece)

The size of the Reduces:

signature by a

factor of N

Increasing the public and Cost:

secret key size by a factor

of  $2^l$ 

What if we generated those key **NEW IDEA:** 

lists programatically only when

we needed them?

# WOTS



- Generate single list of random seeds for our initial secret key.
- Rather than generating additional lists randomly, he proposed to use the hash function H(.) on each element of that initial secret key.
- Public key could be derived by applying the hash function one more time to the final secret key list

A WOTS signature is generated as follows,

1. Compute the decimal values of each piece from the message digest. For example, the decimal value of the first piece is 5(m).

2. Compute signature of ith piece by hashing the corresponding private key  $2^{l} - 1 - m$  times. In the above example, will be hashed  $2^{4} - 1 - 5 = 10$  times.

$$sk_0 \rightarrow h(sk_0) \rightarrow h^2(sk_0) \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow h^{10}(sk_0)$$

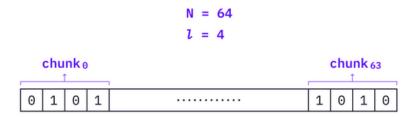
3. Apply (1) and (2) on N piece and produce signature.

$$\sigma = [h^{2^{l}-1-m_0}(sk_0), \dots, h^{2^{l}-1-m_{N-1}}(sk_{N-1})]$$



To verify the signature,

1. Hash the message and get digest m



- 2. Divide m into pieces, obtaining decimal values of each piece.
- 3. The verifier then hash each value the signature  $2^{m_i}$  times, get

$$Pk_v = (Pk_{v0}, Pk_{v1}, ..., Pk_{v(N-1)})$$

4. If it is identical to the public key set, signature is valid, otherwise the signature is rejected.

# WOTS+





- Adds randomization to WOTS
- There is additional random public key

$$Pk_N = \left(r_1, \dots, r_{2^l - 1}\right)$$

• There is new hash function c to replace h in WOTS s.t

$$c^i(x,PK_N) = egin{cases} x & ext{i=0} \ H(c^{i-1}(x,pk_N) \oplus pk_N^i) & ext{i}{>}0 \end{cases}$$



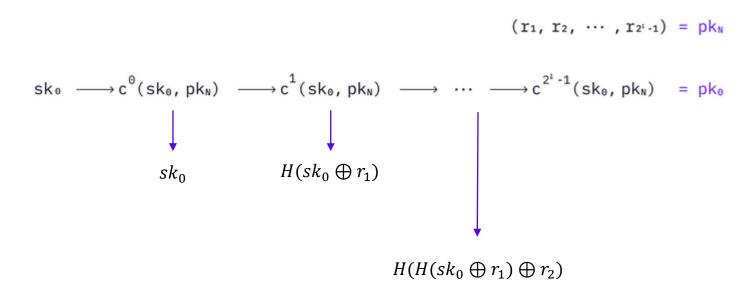


$$c^i(x,PK_N) = egin{cases} x & ext{i=0} \ H(c^{i-1}(x,pk_N) \oplus pk_N^i) & ext{i}{>}0 \end{cases}$$

$$(r_1,\,r_2,\,\cdots,\,r_{2^1\text{-}1}) = pk_N$$
 
$$sk_0 \longrightarrow c^\theta(sk_0,\,pk_N) \longrightarrow c^1(sk_0,\,pk_N) \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow c^{2^1\text{-}1}(sk_0,\,pk_N) = pk_0$$
 
$$sk_1 \longrightarrow c^\theta(sk_1,\,pk_N) \longrightarrow c^1(sk_1,\,pk_N) \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow c^{2^1\text{-}1}(sk_1,\,pk_N) = pk_1$$
 
$$\vdots \qquad \vdots \qquad \vdots \qquad \vdots$$
 
$$sk_{N\text{-}1} \longrightarrow c^\theta(sk_{N\text{-}1},\,pk_N) \longrightarrow c^1(sk_{N\text{-}1},\,pk_N) \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow c^{2^1\text{-}1}(sk_{N\text{-}1},\,pk_N) = pk_{N\text{-}1}$$



$$c^i(x,PK_N) = egin{cases} x & ext{i=0} \ H(c^{i-1}(x,pk_N) \oplus pk_N^i) & ext{i}{>}0 \end{cases}$$



A WOTS+ signature is generated as follows,

1. Divide message m into N pieces  $(m_0 \dots m_{N-1})$  and compute checksum

$$C = \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} (2^{l} - 1 - m_{i})$$

then produce  $b = m \parallel c$ 

2. Compute signature

$$\sigma = (\sigma_0 \dots \sigma_{N-1}) = [H^{b_0}(sk_0, pk_N), \dots, H^{b_{N-1}}(sk_{N-1}, pk_N)]$$

3. Send signature with random  $pk_N$  ( $pk_N$ ,  $\sigma$ ) to the verifier.

# **XMSS**

The eXtended Merkle Tree Signature Scheme

Internet Research Task Force (IRTF)

Request for Comments: 8391 Category: Informational

ISSN: 2070-1721

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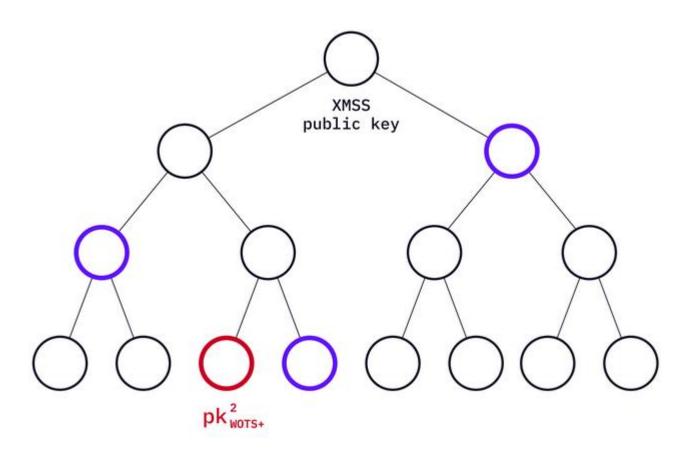
XMSS: eXtended Merkle Signature Scheme

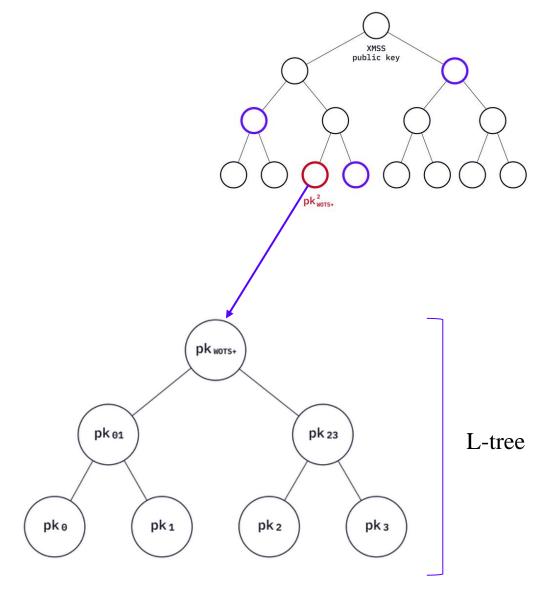
#### Abstract

This note describes the eXtended Merkle Signature Scheme (XMSS), a hash-based digital signature system that is based on existing descriptions in scientific literature. This note specifies Winternitz One-Time Signature Plus (WOTS+), a one-time signature scheme; XMSS, a single-tree scheme; and XMSS^MT, a multi-tree variant of XMSS. Both XMSS and XMSS^MT use WOTS+ as a main building block. XMSS provides cryptographic digital signatures without relying on the conjectured hardness of mathematical problems. Instead, it is proven that it only relies on the properties of cryptographic hash functions. XMSS provides strong security guarantees and is even secure when the collision resistance of the underlying hash function is broken. It is suitable for compact implementations, is relatively simple to implement, and naturally resists side-channel attacks. Unlike most other signature systems, hash-based signatures can so far withstand known attacks using quantum computers.



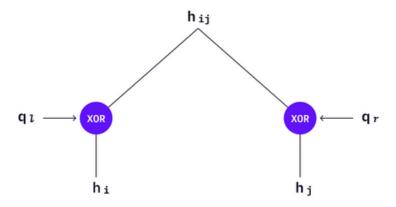
Uses Merkle tree to manage WOTS+ keys



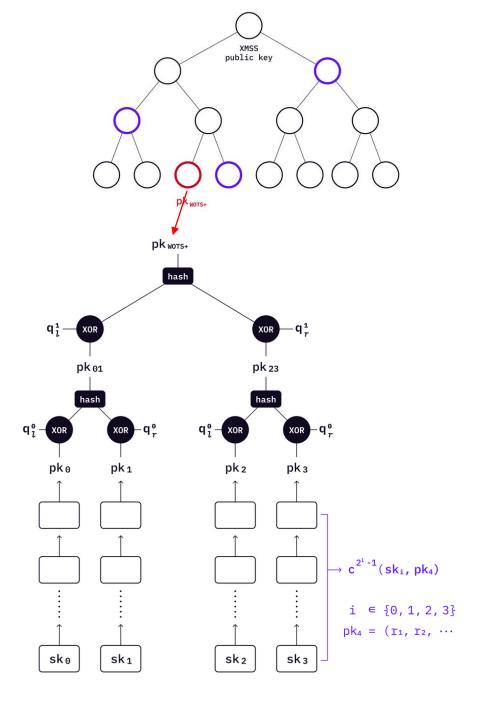




- Bitmasks are used in L-trees.
- Before applying the hash function to two nodes each time, two bottom values will XOR with their corresponding bitmasks.



• The leaves of a L-tree are WOTS+ public keys



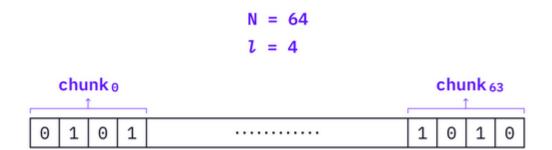
# **HORS - HORST**



IDEA: Divide message into N pieces of length l and sign each piece

Generate private keys with PRG

Hash sk and obtain

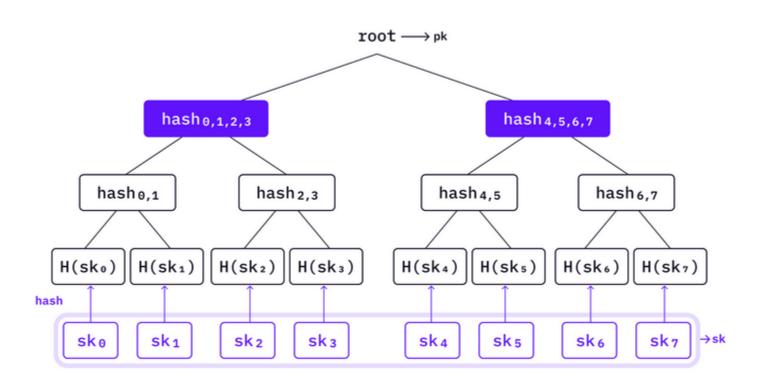




### Algorithm 3 HORS Algorithm

```
procedure Key Generation(t)
    Generate the secret key SK at random, SK = (sk_0, sk_1, \dots, sk_{t-1})
    Compute the public key PK = pk_0, pk_1, ..., pk_{t-1} = f(sk_0), f(sk_1), ..., f(sk_{t-1})
    Output (SK, PK)
end procedure
procedure Signing(m, \kappa, SK,k)
    Compute h = H_k(m), h = h_0 ||h_1|| \dots ||h_{\kappa-1}||
    ORS_{\kappa}(m) = \{h_0, h_1, \dots, h_{\kappa-1}\}.
    \sigma = (\sigma_0, \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{\kappa-1}) = (sk_{h_0}, sk_{h_1}, \dots, sk_{h_{\kappa-1}})
    Output (\sigma)
end procedure
procedure Verification(m, \kappa, \sigma, PK, k)
    Compute h = H_k(m), h = h_0 ||h_1|| \dots ||h_{\kappa-1}||
    ORS_{\kappa}(m) = \{h_0, h_1, \dots, h_{\kappa-1}\}\
    for 0 \le i \le \kappa - 1 do
        if f(\sigma_i) = pk_{h_i} then
            out = 1
        else
            out = 0
            break
        end if
    end for
    Output (out)
end procedure
```

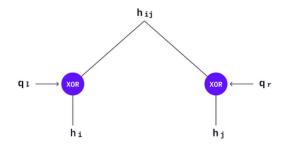




# **HORS - HORST**



#### Bitmasks are used in HORST

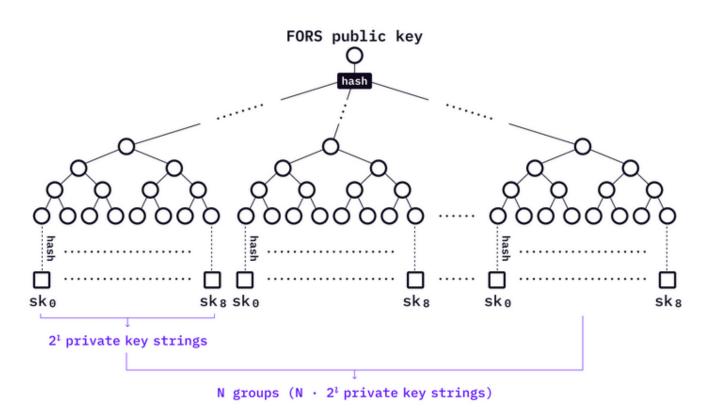


- To sign a message, HORST will select the corresponding private key based on the decimal value of each message chunk.
- Then an authentication path is generated according to the leaf
- For each message group, the signature is
- By doing this, the HORS tree root alone can be used as the public key

# **FORS**

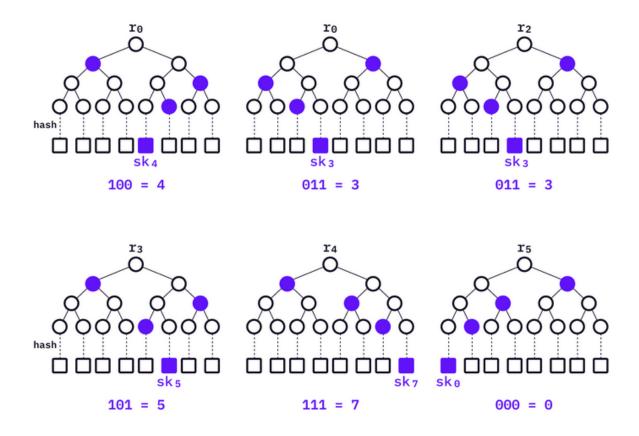
Forest of Random Subsets





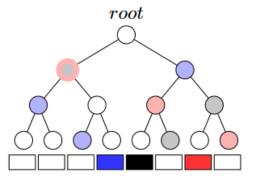


# $H(m)=100\ 011\ 011\ 101\ 111\ 000$

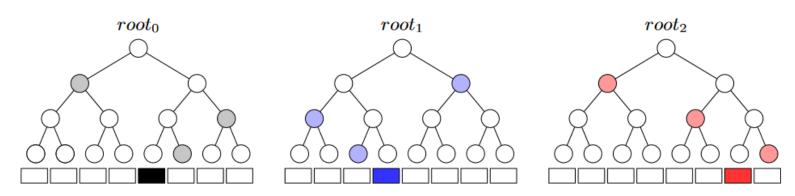




HORS and FORS signatures of the message 100 011 110 where  $\kappa = 3$  and t = 8.



(a) HORS signature within a binary tree construction



(b) FORS signature within  $\kappa$  binary trees construction

# **SPHINCS+**

# **Selected Algorithms: Digital Signature Algorithms**

Algorithm	Algorithm Information	Submitters	Comments
CRYSTALS-DILITHIUM	Zip File (11MB) IP Statements Website	Vadim Lyubashevsky Leo Ducas Eike Kiltz Tancrede Lepoint Peter Schwabe Gregor Seiler Damien Stehle Shi Bai	Submit Comment View Comments
FALCON	Zip File (4MB) IP Statements Website	Thomas Prest Pierre-Alain Fouque Jeffrey Hoffstein Paul Kirchner Vadim Lyubashevsky Thomas Pornin Thomas Ricosset Gregor Seiler William Whyte Zhenfei Zhang	Submit Comment View Comments
SPHINCS+	Zip File (230MB) IP Statements Website	Andreas Hulsing Daniel J. Bernstein Christoph Dobraunig Maria Eichlseder Scott Fluhrer Stefan-Lukas Gazdag Panos Kampanakis	Submit Comment View Comments

# Why eXtended Merkle Signature Scheme (XMSS) not candidates in the NIST Post-Quantum Cryptography Standardization process?

That is because NIST specifically stated that stateful schemes were not allowed in the NIST postquantum competition, because they could not be implemented using the API that NIST has defined (which does not allow any state).

That would appear to be reasonable, as stateful hash based signature methods do need extra care to implement safely; NIST 800-208 outlines what NIST believes are reasonable precautions - those precautions are not needed for other algorithms, and hence NIST kept those separate



### **Tweakable Hash Functions:**

To make each hash call independet we use tweakable hash functions

$$\mathbf{T}_{\ell}: \mathbb{B}^{n} \times \mathbb{B}^{32} \times \mathbb{B}^{\ell n} \to \mathbb{B}^{n}, \quad \text{(defined as } \mathbf{T}_{-1})$$
 $\mathrm{md} \leftarrow \mathbf{T}_{\ell}(\mathbf{PK}.\mathtt{seed}, \mathbf{ADRS}, M)$ 
 $\mathbf{F}: \mathbb{B}^{n} \times \mathbb{B}^{32} \times \mathbb{B}^{n} \to \mathbb{B}^{n},$ 
 $\mathbf{F} \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} \mathbf{T}_{1}$ 
 $\mathbf{H}: \mathbb{B}^{n} \times \mathbb{B}^{32} \times \mathbb{B}^{2n} \to \mathbb{B}^{n}$ 
 $\mathbf{H} \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} \mathbf{T}_{2}$ 



## **PRF** and Message Digest:

PRF for pseudorandom key generation:

$$\mathbf{PRF}: \mathbb{B}^n \times \mathbb{B}^{32} \to \mathbb{B}^n.$$

to generate randomness for the message compression:

$$\mathbf{PRF_{msg}}: \mathbb{B}^n \times \mathbb{B}^n \times \mathbb{B}^* \to \mathbb{B}^n.$$

Keyed hash function that can process arbitrary length messages:

$$\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{msg}}: \mathbb{B}^n \times \mathbb{B}^n \times \mathbb{B}^n \times \mathbb{B}^* \to \mathbb{B}^m$$
.

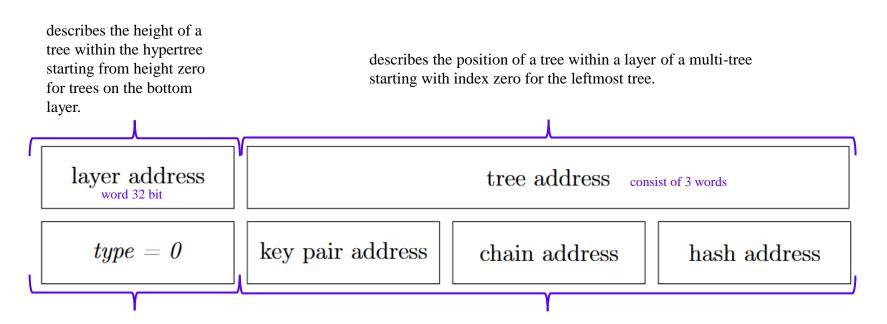
# SPHINCS+



#### **Address Scheme:**

- ADRS is a 32-byte value
- All functions have to keep track of the current context, updating the addresses after each hash call.
- There are 5 different types of addresses
  - 1. Hashes in WOTS+ scheme
  - 2. Compression of the WOTS+ public key
  - 3. Hashes within the main Merkle tree construction
  - 4. Hashes in the Merkle tree in FORS
  - 5. Compression of the tree roots of FORS





defines the type of the address.

- 0 for a WOTS+ hash address
- 1 for the compression of the WOTS+ public key
- 2 for a hash tree address
- 3 for a FORS address
- 4 for the compression of FORS tree roots.

changes for each type



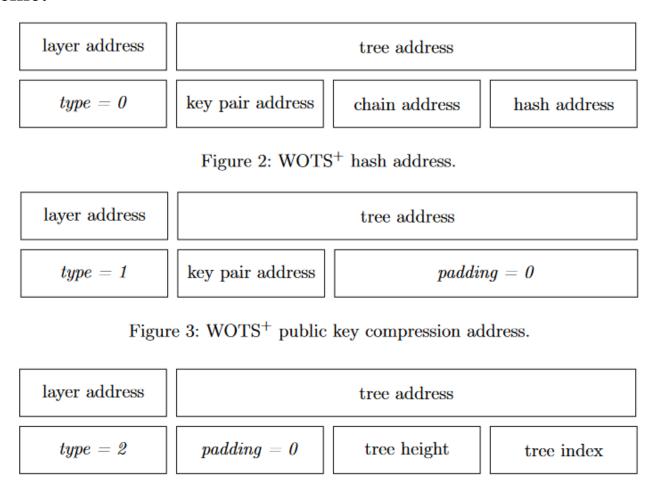


Figure 4: hash tree address.



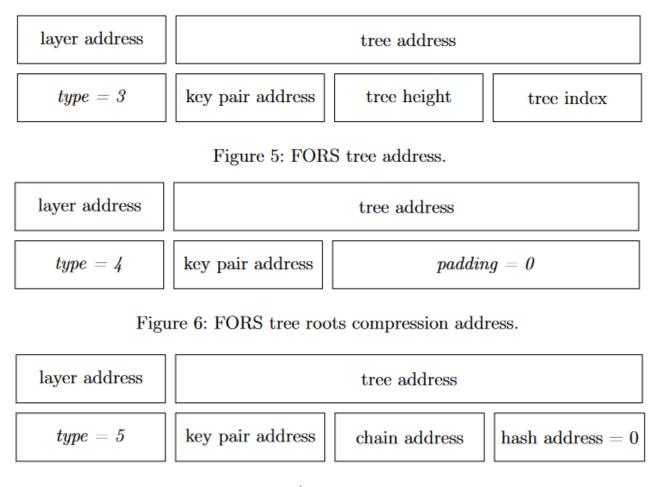


Figure 7: WOTS<sup>+</sup> key generation address.



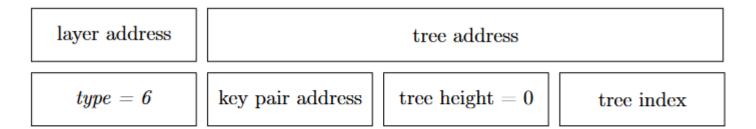


Figure 8: FORS key generation address.

we refer to them respectively using the constants

- 1. WOTS\_HASH
- 2. WOTS\_PK
- 3. TREE
- 4. FORS\_TREE
- 5. FORS\_ROOTS
- 6. WOTS\_PRF
- 7. FORS\_PRF

# SPHINCS+



### **WOTS**+

WOTS+ uses the parameters n and w; they both take positive integer values.

- n: the security parameter; it is the message length as well as the length of a private key, public key, or signature element in bytes.
- w: the Winternitz parameter; it is an element of the set {4, 16, 256}.
- len: the number of n-byte-string elements in a WOTS+ private key, public key, and signature

$$len = len_1 + len_2$$

$$len_1 = \left\lceil \frac{8n}{\log(w)} \right\rceil, \ len_2 = \left\lceil \frac{\log\left(len_1(w-1)\right)}{\log(w)} \right\rceil + 1$$

# SPHINCS+



### **WOTS**+

#### n determines

- The in-and output length of the tweakable hash function used for WOTS+
- The length of messages that can be processed by the WOTS+ signing algorithm.

w can be chosen from the set {4, 16, 256}

- Larger value of w results in shorter signatures but slower operations; it has no effect on security.
- Choices of w are limited since these values yield optimal trade-offs and easy implementation.



#### WOTS+

Algorithm 2: chain – Chaining function used in WOTS<sup>+</sup>.



## **WOTS+ Private Keys**

```
#Input: secret seed SK.seed, address ADRS
#Output: WOTS+ private key sk
wots_SKgen(SK.seed, ADRS) {
  skADRS = ADRS; // copy address to create key generation address
  skADRS.setType(WOTS_PRF);
  skADRS.setKeyPairAddress(ADRS.getKeyPairAddress());
  for ( i = 0; i < len; i++ ) {</pre>
    skADRS.setChainAddress(i):
  skADRS.setHashAddress(0);
  sk[i] = PRF(SK.seed, skADRS);
SkADRS changes the secret key for each chain
return sk;
         Algorithm 3: wots_SKgen - Generating a WOTS<sup>+</sup> private key.
```



## **WOTS+ Public Key Generation**

```
#Input: secret seed SK.seed, address ADRS, public seed PK.seed
#Output: WOTS+ public key pk
wots_PKgen(SK.seed, PK.seed, ADRS) {
  wotspkADRS = ADRS; // copy address to create OTS public key address
  skADRS = ADRS; // copy address to create key generation address
  skADRS.setType(WOTS_PRF);
  skADRS.setKeyPairAddress(ADRS.getKeyPairAddress());
  for ( i = 0; i < len; i++ ) {</pre>
    skADRS.setChainAddress(i);
                                          → Obtain sk from seed and address
    skADRS.setHashAddress(0);
    sk[i] = PRF(SK.seed, skADRS);
    ADRS.setChainAddress(i);
    ADRS.setHashAddress(0);
                                                            → Obtain tmp with taking w-1 times hash of sk
    tmp[i] = chain(sk[i], 0, w - 1, PK.seed, ADRS);
  wotspkADRS.setType(WOTS_PK);
  wotspkADRS.setKeyPairAddress(ADRS.getKeyPairAddress());
 pk = T_len(PK.seed, wotspkADRS, tmp); ———— Take hash of tmp values and obtain pk
 return pk;
            Algorithm 4: wots_PKgen - Generating a WOTS<sup>+</sup> public key.
```



## **WOTS+ Signature Generation**

```
#Input: Message M, secret seed SK.seed, public seed PK.seed, address ADRS
#Output: WOTS+ signature sig
wots_sign(M, SK.seed, PK.seed, ADRS) {
  csum = 0;
 // convert message to base w
 msg = base_w(M, w, len_1);
 // compute checksum
 for ( i = 0; i < len_1; i++ ) {
   csum = csum + w - 1 - msg[i];
  // convert csum to base w
 if( (lg(w) % 8) != 0) {
   csum = csum << (8 - ((len_2 * lg(w)) % 8));
 len_2_bytes = ceil( ( len_2 * lg(w) ) / 8 );
 skADRS = ADRS; // copy address to create key generation address
 skADRS.setType(WOTS_PRF);
 skADRS.setKeyPairAddress(ADRS.getKeyPairAddress());
 for ( i = 0; i < len; i++ ) {
   skADRS.setChainAddress(i);
   skADRS.setHashAddress(0);
   sk = PRF(SK.seed, skADRS); ———— Produces different sk by changing adress value
   ADRS.setChainAddress(i);
   ADRS.setHashAddress(0);
   sig[i] = chain(sk, 0, msg[i], PK.seed, ADRS);
Produces signature with hashing sk msg[i] times
 return sig;
    Algorithm 5: wots_sign - Generating a WOTS+ signature on a message M.
```



# **WOTS+ Signature Generation**

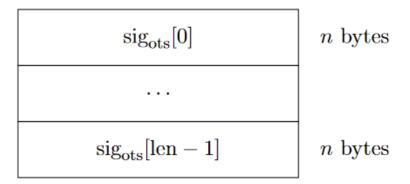


Figure 9: WOTS<sup>+</sup> Signature data format.



## **WOTS+ Public Key Computation from message and signature**

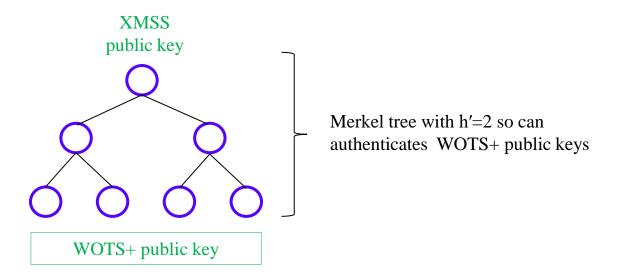
```
#Input: Message M, WOTS+ signature sig, address ADRS, public seed PK.seed
  #Output: WOTS+ public key pk_sig derived from sig
  wots_pkFromSig(sig, M, PK.seed, ADRS) {
    csum = 0;
    wotspkADRS = ADRS;
    // convert message to base w
    msg = base_w(M, w, len_1);
    // compute checksum
    for ( i = 0; i < len_1; i++ ) {</pre>
      csum = csum + w - 1 - msg[i];
    // convert csum to base w
    csum = csum << (8 - ((len_2 * lg(w)) % 8));
    len_2_bytes = ceil( ( len_2 * lg(w) ) / 8 );
    msg = msg || base_w(toByte(csum, len_2_bytes), w, len_2);
    for ( i = 0; i < len; i++ ) {
      ADRS.setChainAddress(i);
                                                                              Hash the signature w-1-msg[i] times
      tmp[i] = chain(sig[i], msg[i], w - 1 - msg[i], PK.seed, ADRS);
    wotspkADRS.setType(WOTS_PK);
    wotspkADRS.setKeyPairAddress(ADRS.getKeyPairAddress());
    pk_sig = T_len(PK.seed, wotspkADRS, tmp); Take final hash and obtain pk
    return pk_sig;
Algorithm 6: wots_pkFromSig - Computing a WOTS+ public key from a message and its
```

signature.



## XMSS has the following parameters:

- h': the height (number of levels 1) of the tree.
- n: the length in bytes of messages as well as of each node.
- w: the Winternitz parameter as defined for WOTS+





```
# Input: Secret seed SK.seed, start index s, target node height z, public seed
   PK.seed, address ADRS
# Output: n-byte root node - top node on Stack
treehash(SK.seed, s, z, PK.seed, ADRS) {
     if ( s % (1 << z) != 0 ) return -1; \longrightarrow Must have even number of leafs
    for (i = 0; i < 2^z; i++) {
       ADRS.setType(WOTS_HASH);
       ADRS.setKeyPairAddress(s + i);
       node = wots_PKgen(SK.seed, PK.seed, ADRS);
       ADRS.setType(TREE);
       ADRS.setTreeHeight(1);
       ADRS.setTreeIndex(s + i);
       while ( Top node on Stack has same height as node ) {
          ADRS.setTreeIndex((ADRS.getTreeIndex() - 1) / 2);
          node = H(PK.seed, ADRS, (Stack.pop() || node));
          ADRS.setTreeHeight(ADRS.getTreeHeight() + 1);
       }
       Stack.push(node);
    return Stack.pop();
}
```

Algorithm 7: treehash - The TreeHash algorithm.

```
i=0 Stack={N1}
                                                 N12
                                                              N34
    i = 1 \text{ Stack} = \{ N1, N12 \}
    i = 2 \text{ Stack} = \{ N1, N12, N3 \}
    i= 3 Stack={N1,N3,N12,N1234}
for (i = 0; i < 2^z; i++) {
  ADRS.setType(WOTS_HASH);
  ADRS.setKeyPairAddress(s + i);
  node = wots_PKgen(SK.seed, PK.seed, ADRS);
  ADRS.setType(TREE);
  ADRS.setTreeHeight(1);
  ADRS.setTreeIndex(s + i);
  while ( Top node on Stack has same height as node ) {
      ADRS.setTreeIndex((ADRS.getTreeIndex() - 1) / 2);
      node = H(PK.seed, ADRS, (Stack.pop() || node));
      ADRS.setTreeHeight(ADRS.getTreeHeight() + 1);
  Stack.push(node); --- Add node to the end of stack
}
return Stack.pop(); --- Return to the end of stack and delete it from stack
```

N1234



```
# Input: Secret seed SK.seed, public seed PK.seed, address ADRS
# Output: XMSS public key PK

xmss_PKgen(SK.seed, PK.seed, ADRS) {
    pk = treehash(SK.seed, 0, h', PK.seed, ADRS)
    return pk;
}

Algorithm 8: xmss_PKgen - Generating an XMSS public key.
```



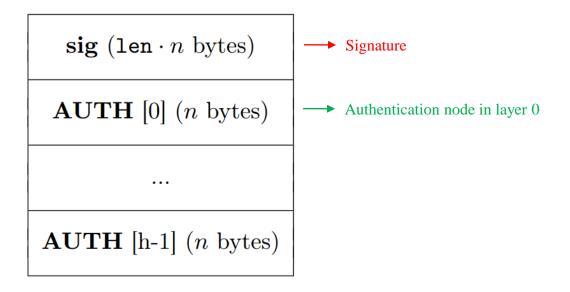
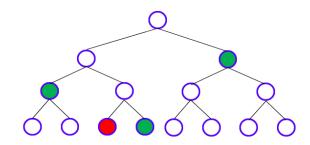


Figure 10: XMSS Signature





```
# Input: n-byte message M, secret seed SK.seed, index idx, public seed PK.seed,
   address ADRS
# Output: XMSS signature SIG_XMSS = (sig || AUTH)

xmss_sign(M, SK.seed, idx, PK.seed, ADRS)
   // build authentication path
   for ( j = 0; j < h'; j++ ) {
        k = floor(idx / (2^j)) XOR 1;
        AUTH[j] = treehash(SK.seed, k * 2^j, j, PK.seed, ADRS);
   }

ADRS.setType(WOTS_HASH);
   ADRS.setKeyPairAddress(idx);
   sig = wots_sign(M, SK.seed, PK.seed, ADRS);
   SIG_XMSS = sig || AUTH;
   return SIG_XMSS;
}</pre>
```

Algorithm 9: xmss\_sign - Generating an XMSS signature.



```
# Input: index idx, XMSS signature SIG_XMSS = (sig || AUTH), n-byte message M,
   public seed PK.seed, address ADRS
# Output: n-byte root value node[0]
xmss_pkFromSig(idx, SIG_XMSS, M, PK.seed, ADRS){
     // compute WOTS+ pk from WOTS+ sig
     ADRS.setType(WOTS_HASH);
     ADRS.setKeyPairAddress(idx);
     sig = SIG_XMSS.getWOTSSig();
     AUTH = SIG_XMSS.getXMSSAUTH();
     node[0] = wots_pkFromSig(sig, M, PK.seed, ADRS);
     // compute root from WOTS+ pk and AUTH
     ADRS.setType(TREE);
     ADRS.setTreeIndex(idx);
    for (k = 0; k < h'; k++) {
       ADRS.setTreeHeight(k+1);
       if ( (floor(idx / (2^k)) % 2) == 0 ) {
     ADRS.setTreeIndex(ADRS.getTreeIndex() / 2);
     node[1] = H(PK.seed, ADRS, (node[0] || AUTH[k]));
   } else {
                                                              → Changes according to position of node[0] in tree
     ADRS.setTreeIndex((ADRS.getTreeIndex() - 1) / 2);
     node[1] = H(PK.seed, ADRS, (AUTH[k] || node[0]));
   node[0] = node[1];
 return node[0];
```

Algorithm 10: xmss\_pkFromSig - Computing an XMSS public key from an XMSS signature.

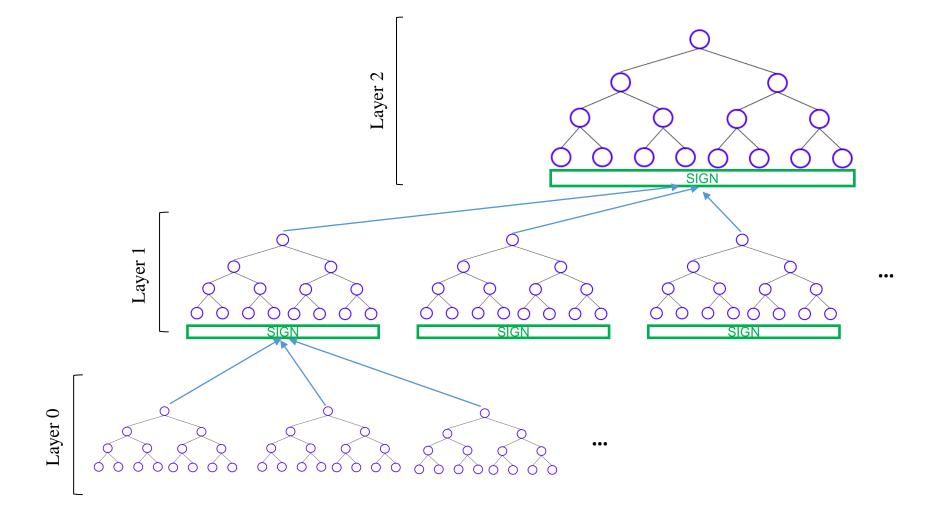
}

## **SPHINCS+**

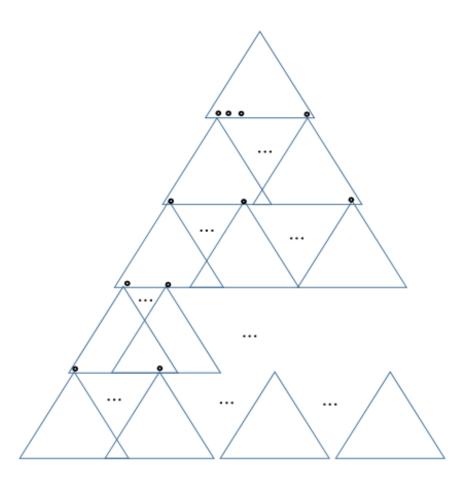


## The Hypertree

- A HT is a tree of several layers of XMSS trees
- All XMSS trees in HT have equal length
- Consider a HT of total height h that has d layers of XMSS trees of height h' = h/d.
- Then layer d-1 contains one XMSS tree, layer d-2 contains  $2^{h'}$  XMSS trees, and so on. Finally, layer 0 contains  $2^{h-h'}$  XMSS trees



The Hypertree of height 9 with 3 layers consist of XMSS trees with height 3





XMSS signature 
$$SIG_{XMSS}$$
 (layer 0)  $((h/d + len) \cdot n \text{ bytes})$ 

XMSS signature 
$$SIG_{XMSS}$$
 (layer 1)  $((h/d + len) \cdot n \text{ bytes})$ 

•••

XMSS signature  $SIG_{XMSS}$  (layer d-1)  $((h/d + len) \cdot n \text{ bytes})$ 

Figure 11: HT signature



```
# Input: Private seed SK.seed, public seed PK.seed
# Output: HT public key PK_HT

ht_PKgen(SK.seed, PK.seed){
    ADRS = toByte(0, 32); -> 32 byte consist of 0
    ADRS.setLayerAddress(d-1);
    ADRS.setTreeAddress(0);
    root = xmss_PKgen(SK.seed, PK.seed, ADRS);
    return root;
}

Algorithm 11: ht_PKgen - Generating an HT public key.
```



```
# Input: Message M, private seed SK.seed, public seed PK.seed, tree index
    idx_tree, leaf index idx_leaf
# Output: HT signature SIG_HT
ht_sign(M, SK.seed, PK.seed, idx_tree, idx_leaf) {
     // init
     ADRS = toByte(0, 32);
     // sign
     ADRS.setLayerAddress(0);
     ADRS.setTreeAddress(idx_tree);
     SIG_tmp = xmss_sign(M, SK.seed, idx_leaf, PK.seed, ADRS); --> Sign the message with the lower XMSS tree
     SIG_HT = SIG_HT || SIG_tmp;
     root = xmss_pkFromSig(idx_leaf, SIG_tmp, M, PK.seed, ADRS);
     for (j = 1; j < d; j++) {
        idx_leaf = (h / d) least significant bits of idx_tree;
        idx_tree = (h - (j + 1) * (h / d)) most significant bits of idx_tree;
        ADRS.setLayerAddress(j);
        ADRS.setTreeAddress(idx_tree);
                                                                                Continue signing in the hypertree up to
        SIG_tmp = xmss_sign(root, SK.seed, idx_leaf, PK.seed, ADRS);
        SIG_HT = SIG_HT || SIG_tmp;
                                                                               layer d-1
        if (j < d - 1) {
           root = xmss_pkFromSig(idx_leaf, SIG_tmp, root, PK.seed, ADRS);
        }
     return SIG_HT; — Return all signatures
}
               Algorithm 12: ht_sign - Generating an HT signature
```

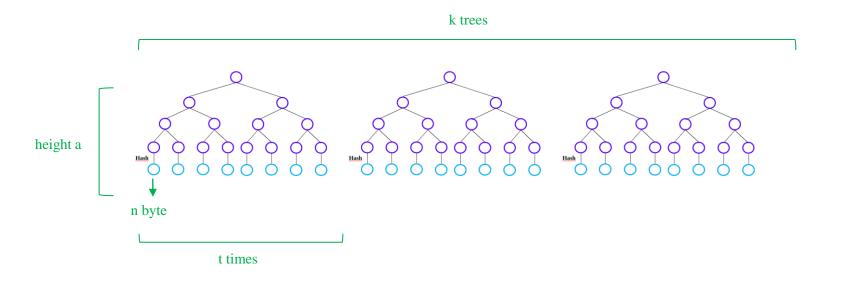


```
# Input: Message M, signature SIG_HT, public seed PK.seed, tree index idx_tree,
   leaf index idx_leaf, HT public key PK_HT.
# Output: Boolean
ht_verify(M, SIG_HT, PK.seed, idx_tree, idx_leaf, PK_HT){
     // init
     ADRS = toByte(0, 32);
    // verify
    SIG_tmp = SIG_HT.getXMSSSignature(0); --> Get signature of layer 0 XMSS
    ADRS.setLayerAddress(0);
     ADRS.setTreeAddress(idx_tree);
    node = xmss_pkFromSig(idx_leaf, SIG_tmp, M, PK.seed, ADRS); --> Compute pk of layer 0 XMSS
    for (j = 1; j < d; j++) {
       idx_leaf = (h / d) least significant bits of idx_tree;
       idx_tree = (h - (j + 1) * h / d) most significant bits of idx_tree;
       ADRS.setLayerAddress(j);
       ADRS.setTreeAddress(idx_tree);
       node = xmss_pkFromSig(idx_leaf, SIG_tmp, node, PK.seed, ADRS); --> Compute pk of layer i XMSS
     }
    if ( node == PK_HT ) { --- If final node is equal to PK HT, then signature is valid
      return true;
    } else {
      return false;
     }
}
```

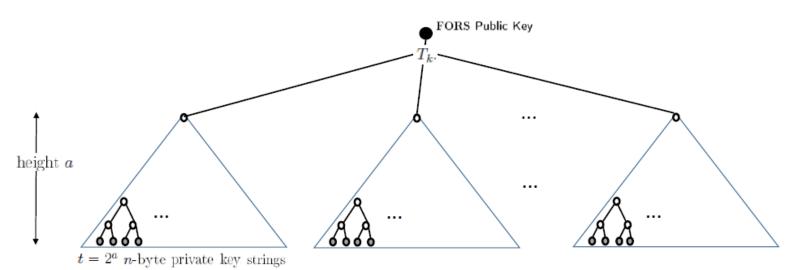
Algorithm 13:  $ht\_verify$  — Verifying a HT signature  $SIG_{HT}$  on a message M using a HT public key  $PK_{HT}$ 



- Uses parameters k and  $t = 2^a$
- Signs strings of length ka bits
- Privite key consist kt many random n byte strings
- Public key n byte value computed as a hash of root node of k hash trees







kt n-byte private key values k binary hash trees.





#### Almost same to treehash in XMSS

```
# Input: Secret seed SK.seed, start index s, target node height z, public seed
   PK.seed, address ADRS
# Output: n-byte root node - top node on Stack
fors_treehash(SK.seed, s, z, PK.seed, ADRS) {
     if( s % (1 << z) != 0 ) return -1;
     for (i = 0; i < 2^z; i++) {
       sk = fors_SKgen(SK.seed, ADRS, s+i)
       node = F(PK.seed, ADRS, sk);
       ADRS.setTreeHeight(1);
       ADRS.setTreeIndex(s + i);
       while ( Top node on Stack has same height as node ) {
          ADRS.setTreeIndex((ADRS.getTreeIndex() - 1) / 2);
          node = H(PK.seed, ADRS, (Stack.pop() || node));
          ADRS.setTreeHeight(ADRS.getTreeHeight() + 1);
       }
       Stack.push(node);
     return Stack.pop();
}
```

Algorithm 15: The fors\_treehash algorithm.





```
#Input: Bit string M, secret seed SK.seed, address ADRS, public seed PK.seed
#Output: FORS signature SIG_FORS
fors_sign(M, SK.seed, PK.seed, ADRS) {
  // compute signature elements
  for(i = 0; i < k; i++){
    // get next index
    unsigned int idx = bits i*log(t) to (i+1)*log(t) - 1 of M;
    // pick private key element
                                                                          Take corresponding sk of message
    SIG_FORS = SIG_FORS || fors_SKgen(SK.seed, ADRS, i*t + idx) ;
                                                                          chunk
    // compute auth path
    for ( j = 0; j < a; j++ ) {
      s = floor(idx / (2^j)) XOR 1;
      AUTH[j] = fors_treehash(SK.seed, i * t + s * 2^j, j, PK.seed, ADRS);
    SIG_FORS = SIG_FORS || AUTH;
  return SIG_FORS;
       Algorithm 17: fors_sign – Generating a FORS signature on string M.
```



Private key value (tree 0) (n bytes)

**AUTH** (tree 0)  $(\log t \cdot n \text{ bytes})$ 

. . .

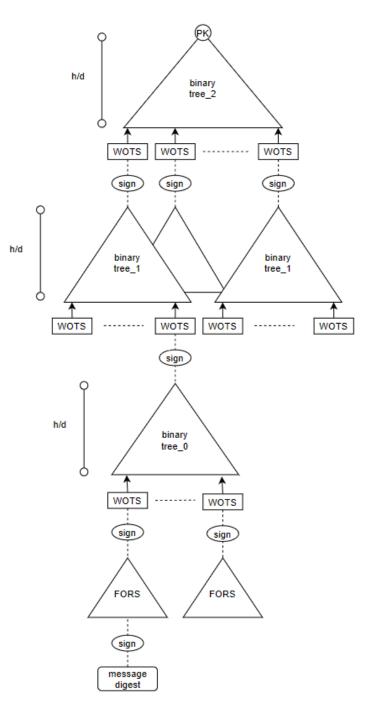
Private key value (tree k-1) (n bytes)

**AUTH** (tree k-1) (log  $t \cdot n$  bytes)

Figure 13: FORS signature

```
# Input: FORS signature SIG_FORS, (k lg t)-bit string M, public seed PK.seed,
   address ADRS
# Output: FORS public key
fors_pkFromSig(SIG_FORS, M, PK.seed, ADRS){
 // compute roots
 for (i = 0; i < k; i++) Do for all trees
   // get next index
   unsigned int idx = bits i*log(t) to (i+1)*log(t) - 1 of M;
   // compute leaf
   sk = SIG_FORS.getSK(i);
                              Get sk
   ADRS.setTreeHeight(0);
   ADRS.setTreeIndex(i*t + idx);
   // compute root from leaf and AUTH
   auth = SIG_FORS.getAUTH(i);
   ADRS.setTreeIndex(i*t + idx);
   for (j = 0; j < a; j++) {
     ADRS.setTreeHeight(j+1);
     if ((floor(idx / (2^j)) \% 2) == 0) {
      ADRS.setTreeIndex(ADRS.getTreeIndex() / 2);
      node[1] = H(PK.seed, ADRS, (node[0] || auth[j]));
     } else {
                                                    Hash sk with corresponding layer auth
      ADRS.setTreeIndex((ADRS.getTreeIndex() - 1) / 2);
      node[1] = H(PK.seed, ADRS, (auth[j] || node[0]));
     forspkADRS = ADRS; // copy address to create FTS public key address
 forspkADRS.setType(FORS_ROOTS);
 forspkADRS.setKeyPairAddress(ADRS.getKeyPairAddress());
 pk = T_k(PK.seed, forspkADRS, root); ———— Take hash of the root values
 return pk;
```

Algorithm 18: fors\_pkFromSig - Compute a FORS public key from a FORS signature.



# SPHINCS+



#### **PARAMETERS**

n: the security parameter in bytes.

w: the Winternitz parameter

h: the height of the hypertree

d: the number of layers in the hypertree

k: the number of trees in FORS

t: the number of leaves of a FORS tree



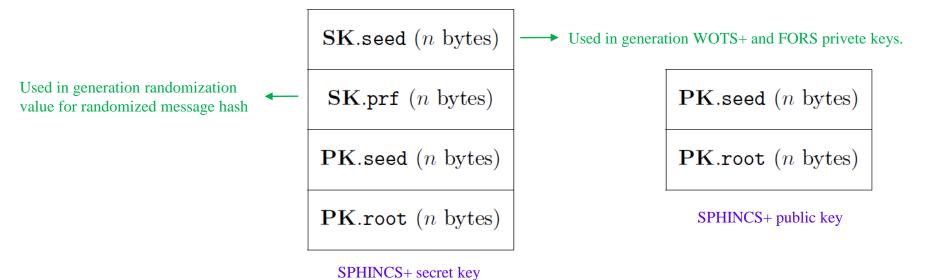
```
# Input: (none)
# Output: SPHINCS+ key pair (SK,PK)

spx_keygen(){
    SK.seed = sec_rand(n);
    SK.prf = sec_rand(n);
    PK.seed = sec_rand(n);
    PK.root = ht_PKgen(SK.seed, PK.seed);
    return ((SK.seed, SK.prf, PK.seed, PK.root), (PK.seed, PK.root));
}

Algorithm 19: spx_keygen - Generate a SPHINCS+ key pair.
```

# SPHINCS+







```
# Input: Message M, private key SK = (SK.seed, SK.prf, PK.seed, PK.root)
# Output: SPHINCS+ signature SIG
spx_sign(M, SK){
     // init
     ADRS = toByte(0, 32); \longrightarrow Give 0 to the adress
     // generate randomizer
     opt = PK.seed;
                                 Gives option so that signiture of same message will be different in each sign
     if (RANDOMIZE) {
       opt = rand(n);
     R = PRF_msg(SK.prf, opt, M); 			 Generate random number R
     SIG = SIG \mid \mid R;
     // compute message digest and index
     digest = H_msg(R, PK.seed, PK.root, M);
     tmp_md = first floor((ka +7)/ 8) bytes of digest;
     tmp_idx_tree = next floor((h - h/d +7)/8) bytes of digest;
                                                                         split digest into 3 parts
     tmp_idx_leaf = next floor((h/d +7)/8) bytes of digest;
     md = first ka bits of tmp_md;
     idx_tree = first h - h/d bits of tmp_idx_tree;
     idx_leaf = first h/d bits of tmp_idx_leaf;
```



```
// FORS sign
ADRS.setLayerAddress(0);
ADRS.setTreeAddress(idx_tree);
ADRS.setType(FORS_TREE);
ADRS.setKeyPairAddress(idx_leaf);
SIG_FORS = fors_sign(md, SK.seed, PK.seed, ADRS);
SIG = SIG || SIG_FORS;
// get FORS public key
PK_FORS = fors_pkFromSig(SIG_FORS, md, PK.seed, ADRS);
// sign FORS public key with HT
ADRS.setType(TREE);
SIG_HT = ht_sign(PK_FORS, SK.seed, PK.seed, idx_tree, idx_leaf);
SIG = SIG || SIG_HT;
return SIG;
      Algorithm 20: spx_sign - Generating a SPHINCS<sup>+</sup> signature
```



Randomness  $\mathbf{R}$  (n bytes)

FORS signature  $SIG_{FORS}$  ( $k(a+1) \cdot n$  bytes)

HT signature  $SIG_{HT}$  ((h + dlen)n bytes)

SPHINCS+ signature

# SPHINCS+



# SPHINCS+ signature verification:

- 1. recomputing message digest and index,
- 2. computing a candidate FORS public key
- 3. verifying the HT signature on that public key.

```
# Input: Message M, signature SIG, public key PK
  # Output: Boolean
  spx_verify(M, SIG, PK){
       // init
       ADRS = toByte(0, 32);
       R = SIG.getR();
       SIG_FORS = SIG.getSIG_FORS();
                                        Split signature
       SIG_HT = SIG.getSIG_HT();
       // compute message digest and index
       digest = H_msg(R, PK.seed, PK.root, M);
       tmp_md = first floor((ka +7)/ 8) bytes of digest;
       tmp_idx_tree = next floor((h - h/d +7)/ 8) bytes of digest;
       tmp_idx_leaf = next floor((h/d +7)/8) bytes of digest;
       md = first ka bits of tmp_md;
       idx_tree = first h - h/d bits of tmp_idx_tree;
       idx_leaf = first h/d bits of tmp_idx_leaf;
       // compute FORS public key
       ADRS.setLayerAddress(0);
       ADRS.setTreeAddress(idx_tree);
       ADRS.setType(FORS_TREE);
       ADRS.setKeyPairAddress(idx_leaf);
       PK_FORS = fors_pkFromSig(SIG_FORS, md, PK.seed, ADRS);
       // verify HT signature
       ADRS.setType(TREE);
       return ht_verify(PK_FORS, SIG_HT, PK.seed, idx_tree, idx_leaf, PK.root);
  }
Algorithm 21: spx_verify - Verify a SPHINCS<sup>+</sup> signature SIG on a message M using a
             SPHINCS<sup>+</sup> public key PK
```

NIST security level 1		Size(bytes)		Relative time		
		Public key	Signature	Verification	Signing	
Non PQ	NIST p-256 ECDSA	64	64	1(base)	1(base)	
	RSA-2048	256	256	0.2	25	
NIST selected algortihms	Dilithium2	1320	2420	0.3	2.5	
	Falcon512	897	666	0.3	5	
	SPHINC+-128s har.	32	7856	1.7	3000	
	SPHINC+-128f har.	32	17088	4	200	
Others,	XMSS- SHAKE_20_128 (can sign 1000000 messages)	32	900	2	10	

https://blog.cloudflare.com/sizing-up-post-quantum-signatures/

Table 1: Overview of the number of function calls we require for each operation. We omit the single calls to  $\mathbf{H_{msg}}$ ,  $\mathbf{PRF_{msg}}$ , and  $\mathbf{T}_k$  for signing and single calls to  $\mathbf{H_{msg}}$  and  $\mathbf{T}_k$  for verification as they are negligible when estimating speed.

	${f F}$	Н	PRF	$T_{\mathtt{len}}$
Key Generation	$2^{h/d}w\mathtt{len}$	$2^{h/d} - 1$	$2^{h/d} { m len}$	$2^{h/d}$
Signing	$kt + d(2^{h/d})w {\tt len}$	$k(t-1) + d(2^{h/d} - 1)$	$kt + d(2^{h/d})$ len	$d2^{h/d}$
Verification	$k+dw {\tt len}$	$k \log t + h$	_	d

Table 2: Key and signature sizes

	SK	PK	Sig
Size	4n	2n	$(h + k(\log t + 1) + d \cdot len + 1)n$

small	fast								
	<b>A</b>								
	n	h	d	$\log(t)$	k	w	$_{ m bitsec}$	sec level	sig bytes
SPHINCS <sup>+</sup> -128s	16	63	7	12	14	16	133	1	7856
SPHINCS <sup>+</sup> -128f	16	66	22	6	33	16	128	1	17088
$SPHINCS^+-192s$	24	63	7	14	17	16	193	3	16224
SPHINCS <sup>+</sup> -192f	24	66	22	8	33	16	194	3	35664
$SPHINCS^+-256s$	32	64	8	14	22	16	255	5	29792
SPHINCS <sup>+</sup> -256f	32	68	17	9	35	16	255	5	49856