



An Introduction to Post-Quantum Cryptography

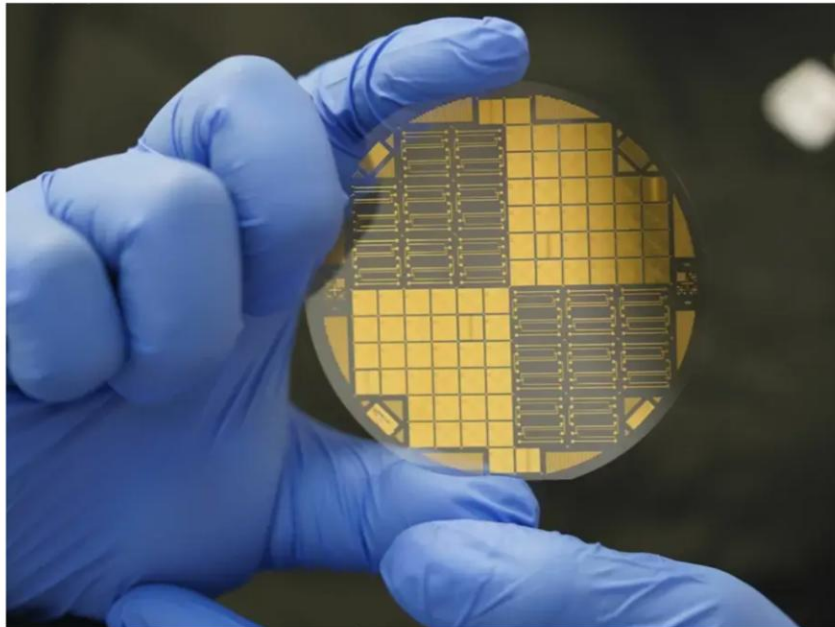
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27.05.2025

Startschuss für Hamburg Quantencomputing

Gemeinschaftsprojekt der Universität Hamburg und TU Hamburg zur Entwicklung zukünftiger Quantencomputer

01.07.2024



Source: QUDORA Technologies

XAPHIRO – Prototype trapped-ion quantum computer with at least 50 qubits

A project of



NXP, eleQtron and ParityQC Reveal their First Quantum Computing Demonstrator for the DLR Quantum Computing Initiative

May 30, 2024 2:00 PM CEST (UTC+2) by NXP Semiconductors Press Release

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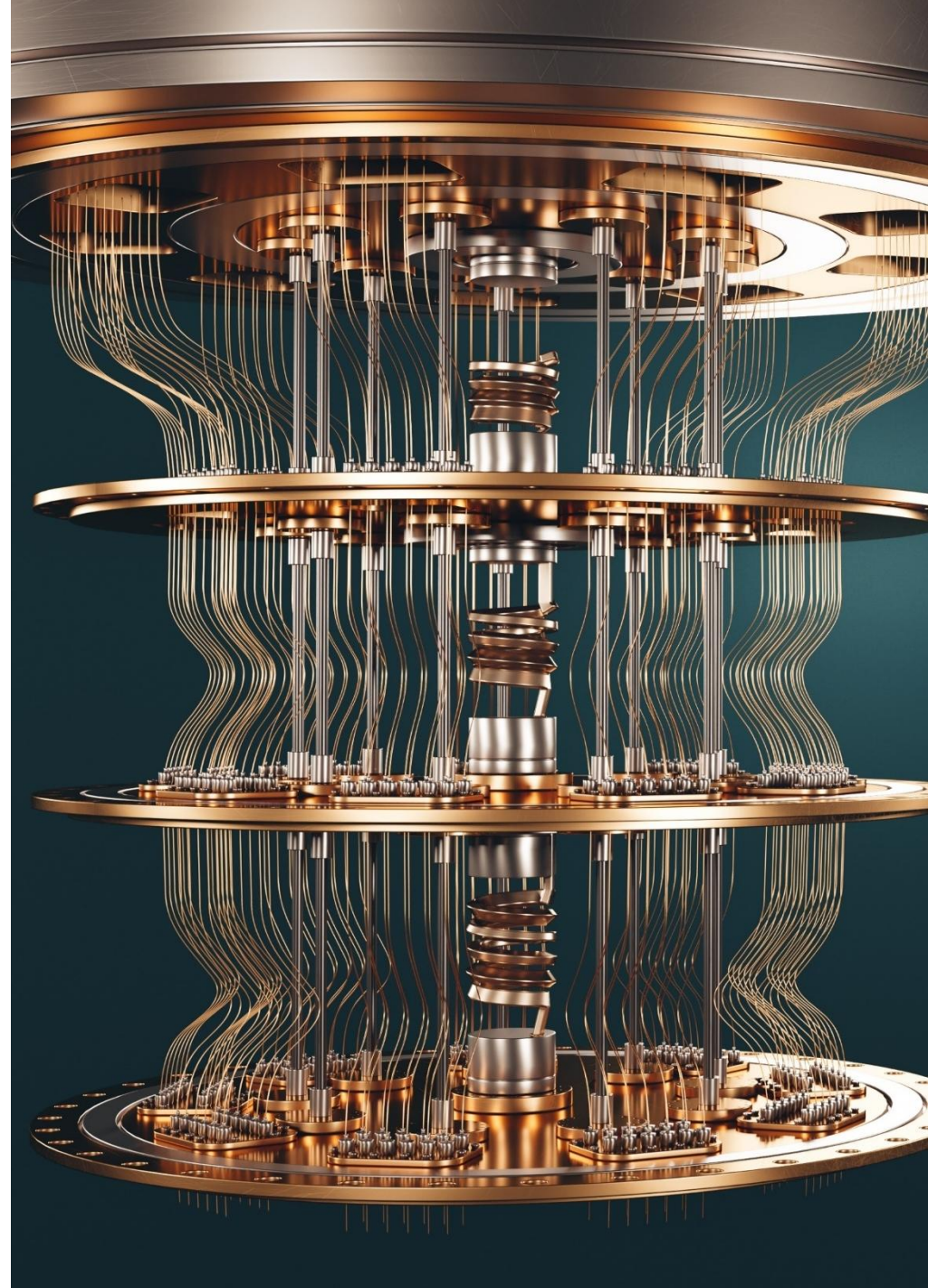


- NXP, eleQtron and ParityQC present the first full-stack, ion-trap based quantum computer demonstrator made entirely in Germany
- It was commissioned by the DLR Quantum Computing Initiative (DLR QCI) to expand the quantum expertise of its partners from research and industry
- DLR will make the demonstrator accessible to industry players and academia to strengthen the quantum ecosystem and boost knowledge around quantum computing



Quantum computers

- Use quantum mechanical effects for computation
- Promise to solve problems not feasible for classical computers
- Shor 1994: Algorithm that computes integer factorization & discrete logarithms in polynomial time on a QC
- Would break RSA and ECC schemes!
- Would break our digital infrastructure ☹️

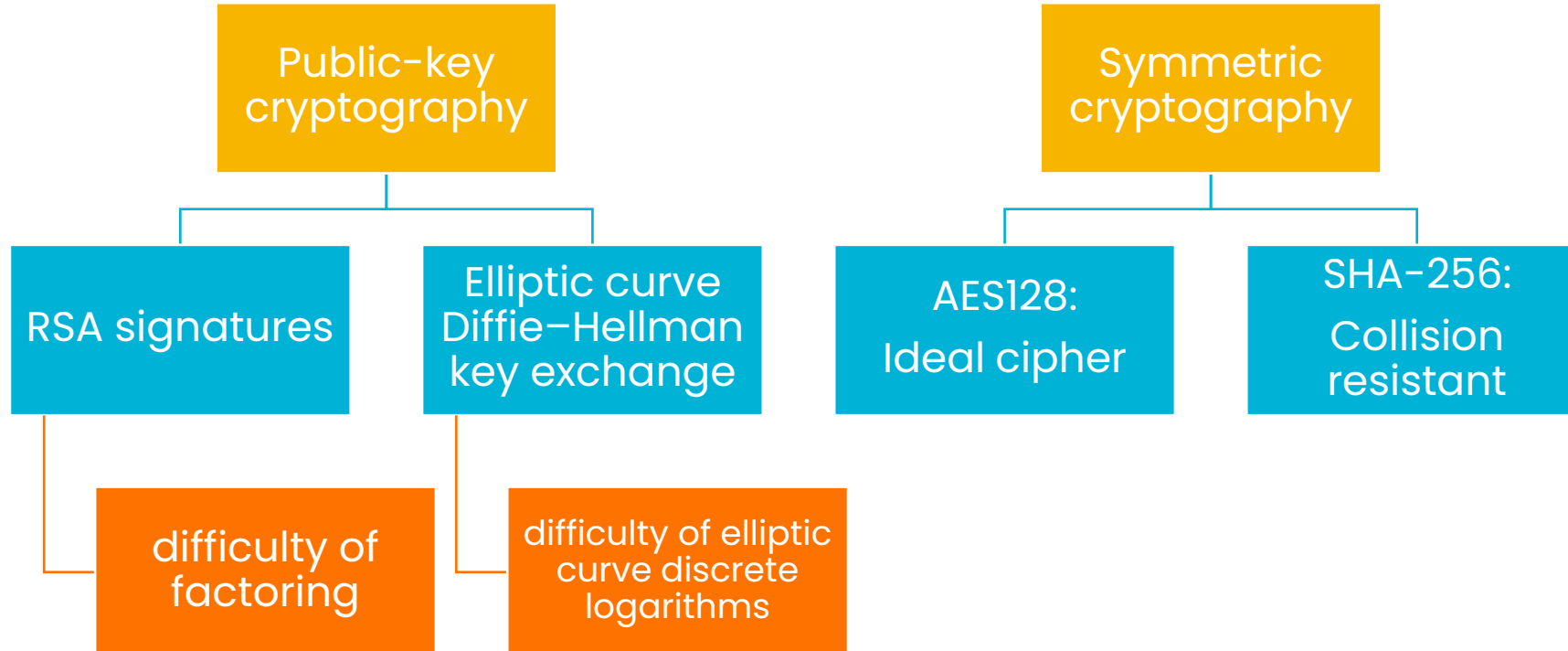


Shor's & Grover's Algorithm

- Shor 1994: Solves factoring & discrete logarithms in polynomial time on a QC
 - ~ 6000 logical (“perfect”) qubits
 - ~ 20 million physical qubits (2019) [1]
 - ~ 1 million physical qubits (2025) [2]
- Grover 1996: Unstructured search accelerated by square root
 - Brute force key search can be modeled as unstructured search

Contemporary cryptography

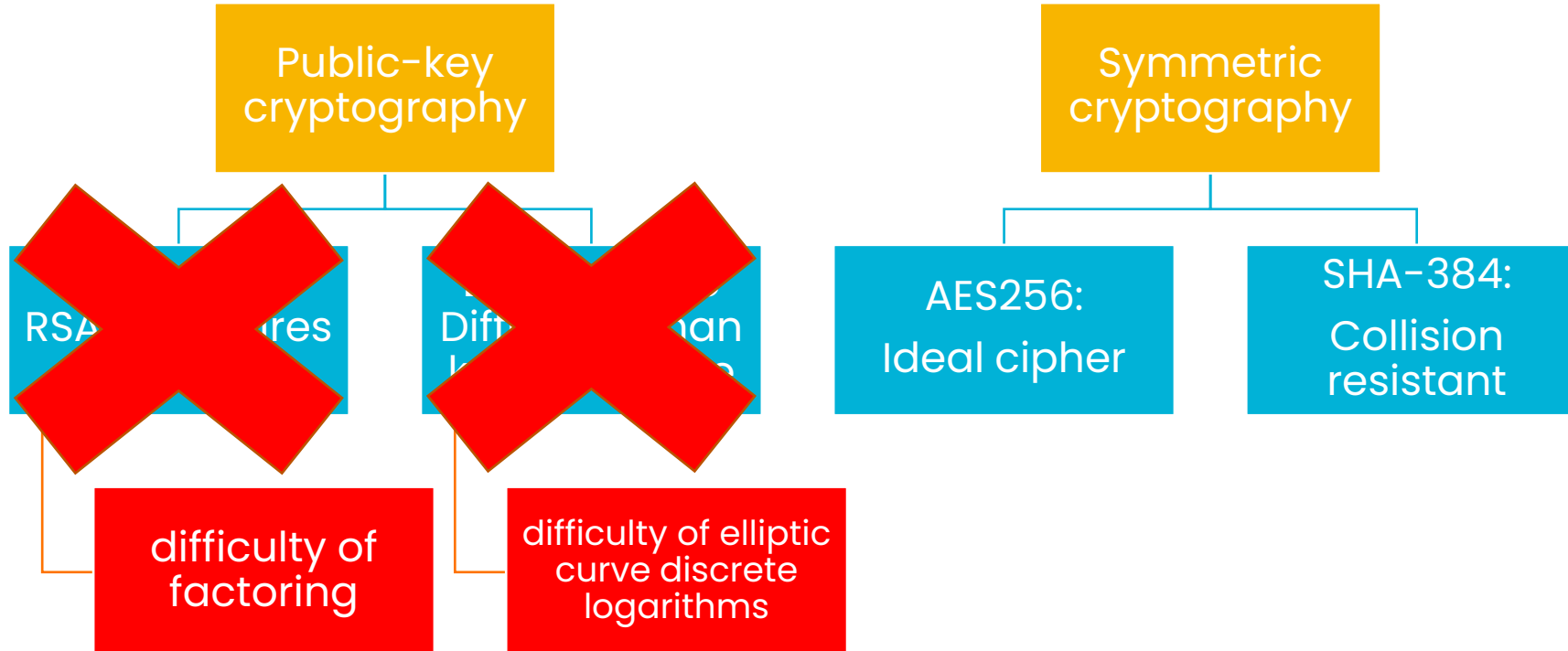
TLS - ECDHE - RSA - AES128 - GCM - SHA256



Contemporary cryptography

TLS - ~~ECDHE~~ - ~~RSA~~ - AES256 - GCM - SHA384

“Double” the key sizes



So when is it going to be here ?

“I estimate a $1/7$ chance of breaking RSA-2048 by 2026 and a $1/2$ chance by 2031.”

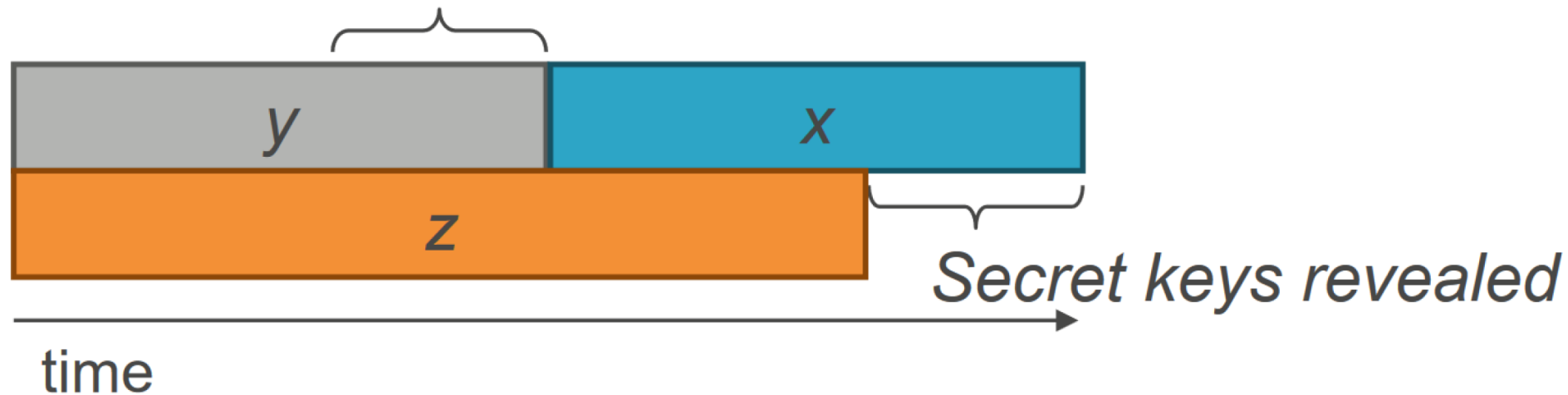
— Michele Mosca, November 2015
<https://eprint.iacr.org/2015/1075>

It is difficult to make predictions, especially about the future. (Danish proverb)

We have to be ready: Store now, decrypt later attack

Theorem 1: If $x + y > z$, then worry.

What do we do here??

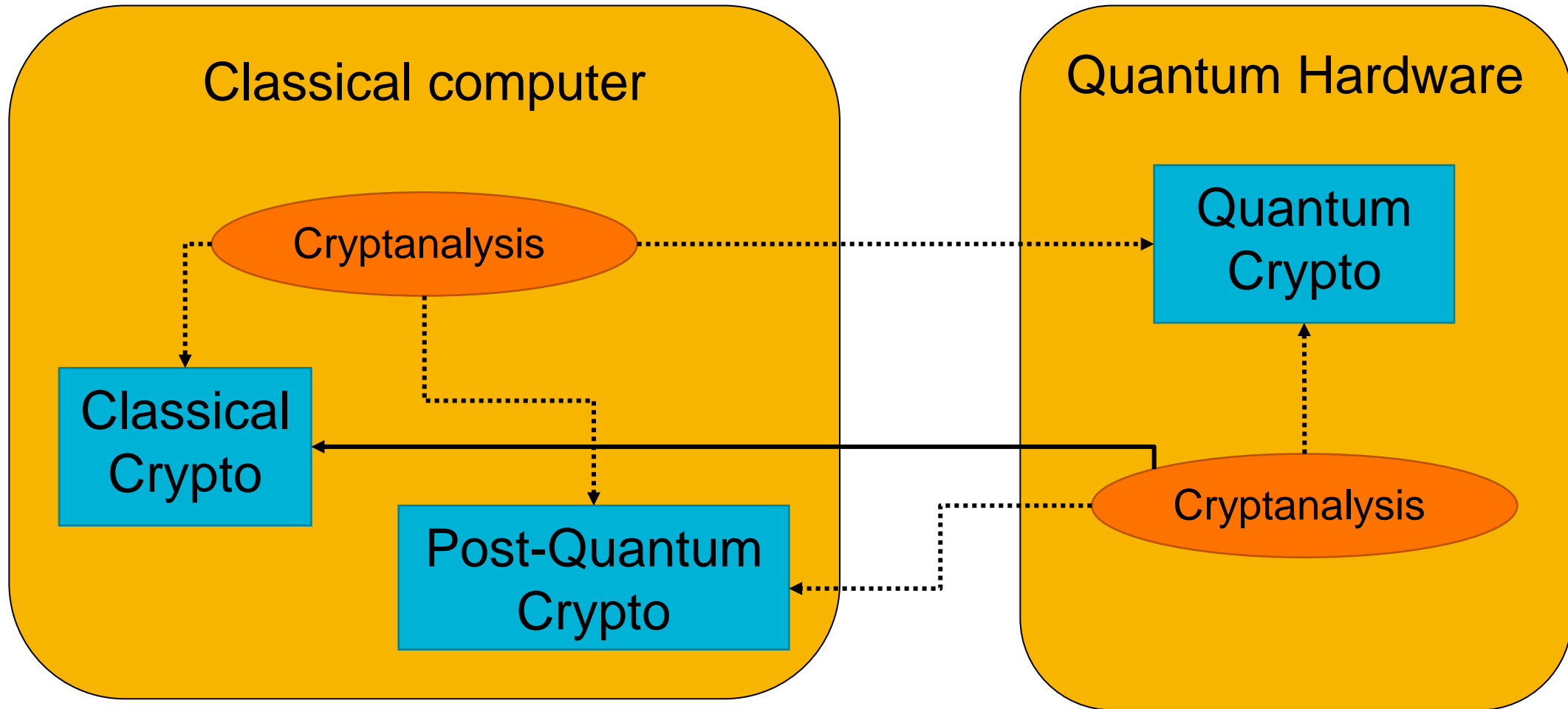


- z is the time until a CRQC becomes reality
- y is the time to migrate to PQC
- x is the time that sensitive information must remain secret

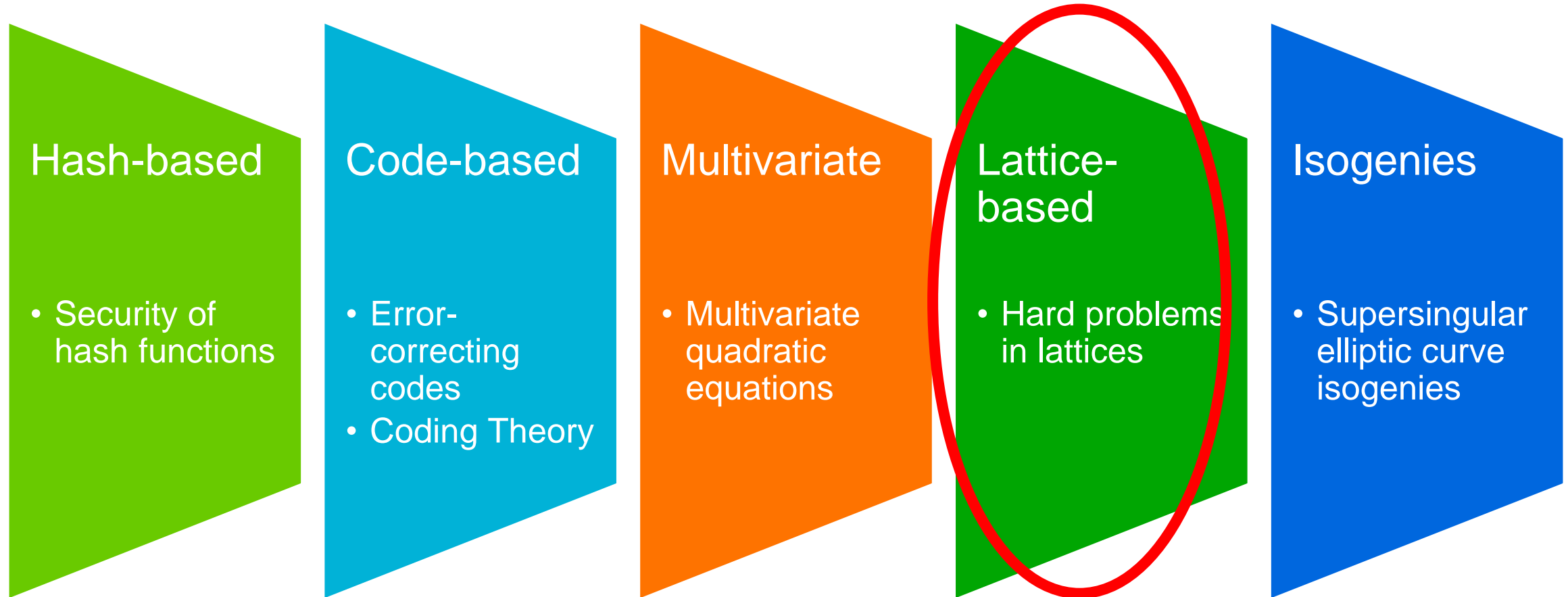
Post-quantum / quantum-safe cryptography

- Post-quantum cryptography emerged ~ 2006
- Academic research have since proposed many schemes designed to withstand a quantum computer
 - No known exponential quantum speedup
- Governments & standardization bodies are active since ~ 2015

Post-quantum versus quantum crypto

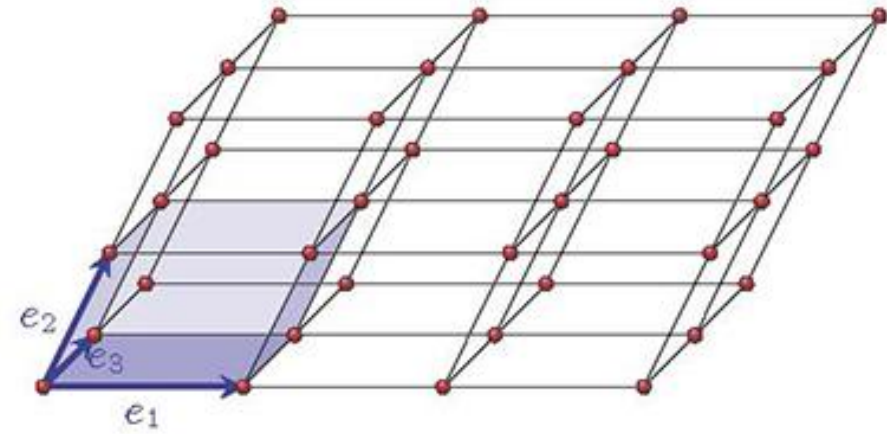
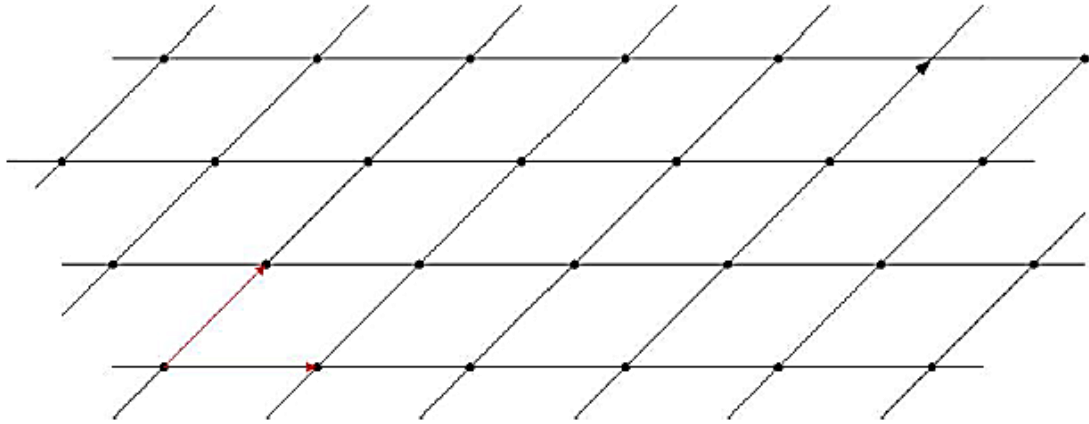


Post-quantum / quantum-safe cryptography



Lattice-based crypto

- Integer multiples of independent (basis) objects



Lattice-based crypto

- Mathematicians have their own notion of beautiful or „good“ and „bad“



- Public key is a „bad“ basis for the lattice
- Secret key is a „good“ basis for the lattice
- For high dimensions, there is no way to go from a bad to a good one
- Core problems: Shortest Vector Problem, Closest Vector Problem

Lattice-based crypto

The Good:

- Lattice-based systems can be fast and small
- Can achieve reasonable key sizes ~ 1 KB
- Re-use of arithmetic copros used for RSA/ECC

The Bad:

- Relatively new (~ 10 to 20 years), is security well enough understood?
- Secure implementations?
 - Side-channel attacks

The summary:

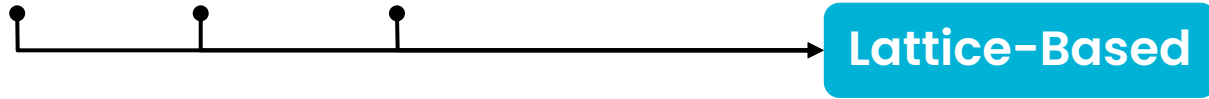
- Lattice algorithms
Kyber, Dilithium are standardized
- Already being deployed
- Hardware is available

NIST, BSI & Standardization

- 2016 Call for proposals for PQC by NIST

- 69 submissions

- 2022: First four winners: Kyber, Dilithium, Falcon, Sphincs+



- Standards published in 2024

- Currently plan to deprecate RSA by 2030

- BSI currently recommends the use of the NIST algorithms, in addition to:

- Classic McEliece

- FrodoKEM 

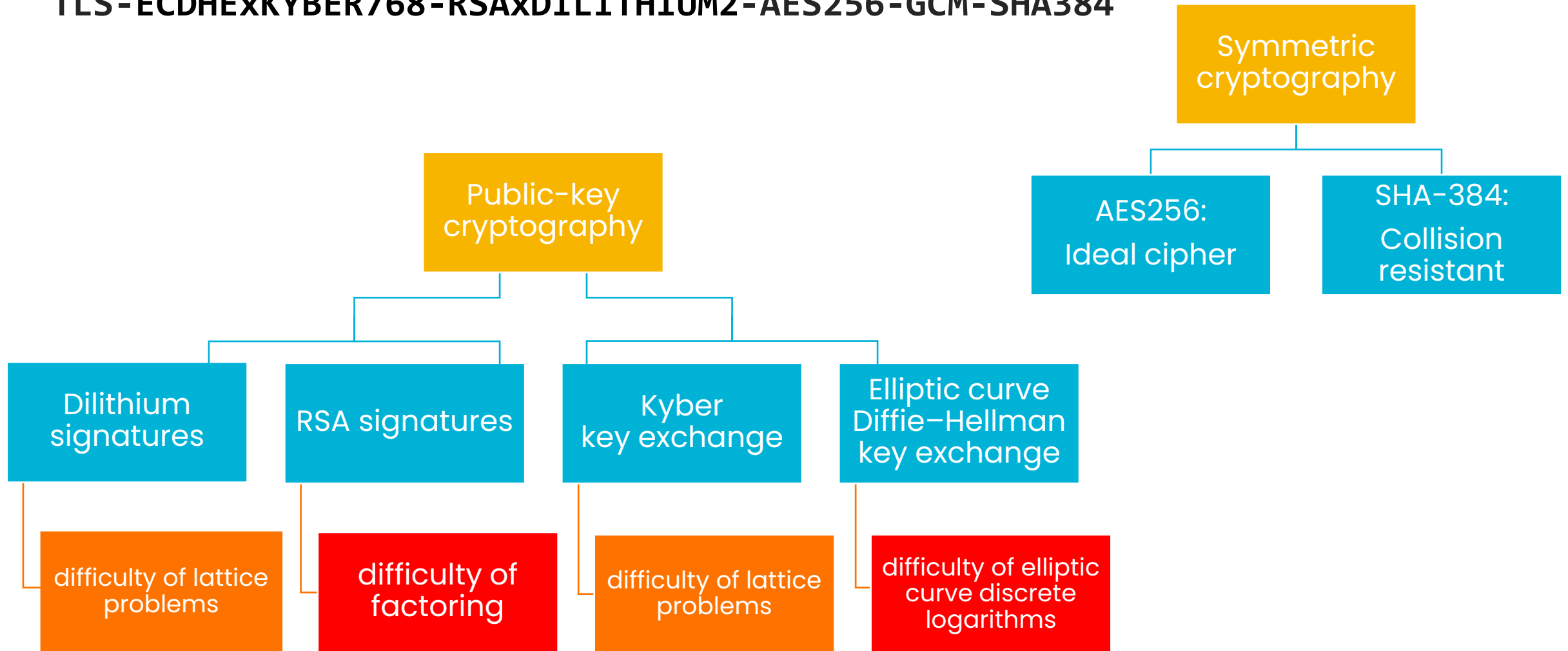


Hybrid Crypto

- PQC algorithms are relatively new
- Always use in combination with classic crypto
- Guarantees pre-quantum security vs total security break
- Example: Total break of 3rd round algorithm Rainbow and 4th round cipher SIKE
 - Broken on a laptop in a few minutes

Future cryptography

TLS - ECDHE x KYBER768 - RSAXDILITHIUM2 - AES256 - GCM - SHA384



NXP & PQC

- NXP has been (and is) very active in PQC research & standardization
- PQC-capable products with hardware support such as i.MX95, i.MX94 and S32K5
- More info on www.nxp.com/pqc and pqc@nxp.com



Thanks for listening!

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