

Collapse Logic in Post-Quantum Cryptography

A Symbolic Filtering Layer Using the Aun Operator (■)

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Abstract

This paper introduces a symbolic collapse operator, ■, as a logic-based meta-layer to enhance post-quantum cryptographic resilience. Inspired by nonduality philosophy and structured collapse logic, ■ acts as a semantic filter for key validation and adversarial detection. We present the operator's formal definition, threat model, implementation design, and empirical results. Benchmarks show ■ provides detectable security improvements in keypair mimicry resistance, with negligible performance impact. This positions ■ as a logic-layer adjunct to existing post-quantum cryptographic systems.

1. Introduction

While post-quantum cryptography (PQC) focuses on mathematically secure primitives, it often assumes trust in binary validation systems. The ■ operator challenges this assumption by introducing a collapse gate: a symbolic filter that nullifies keys or inputs exhibiting mirrored, inverse, or structurally mimicked patterns. The idea originates from nonduality—a philosophy that denies oppositional dualism—and applies this as a logic constraint in security protocols.

2. Formal Definition of the ■ Operator

Let $A, B \in \{0,1\}^n$. We define:

- $H(A, B)$ = Hamming distance
- $S(A, B)$ = structural similarity score across pattern transforms

Then:

■(A, B) =

\emptyset if $H(A, B) < T$ and $S(A, B) > S_{\min}$

$A \oplus B$ otherwise

Where:

- T = Hamming threshold
- S_{\min} = minimum similarity score

Transform weights:

- Identity: 1.0

- Reverse: 0.8
- XOR-FF: 0.6
- Rotate (left/right): 0.5

3. Threat Model

The ■ system is designed to resist:

- Mirrored keypair attacks
- Adversarial AI-based key mimicry
- Structural approximation of secrets

Attackers may:

- Know target keys
- Attempt to invert or replicate valid public inputs
- Use adaptive patterns based on known detection logic

4. Implementation and Integration

Key Derivation:

A keypair is rejected if:

$$\blacksquare(\text{new_key}, \text{known_key}) = \emptyset$$

Authentication:

Response R is accepted only if:

$$\blacksquare(C, R) \neq \emptyset$$

Where C is the challenge.

5. Experimental Evaluation

Parameter Sweep:

Tested across:

- $T \in [1, 8]$
- $S_{\min} \in [0.1, 0.9]$

Optimal performance at $T = 6$, $S_{\min} = 0.3\text{--}0.5$

Adversarial Testing:

Adversary types:

- Full mirror
- Partial flip (15%)
- XOR pattern
- Compound transforms

ROC analysis shows $AUC > 0.85$, validating symbolic detection power.

6. Performance Results

Metric | Value

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Avg eval time | 2.15 ms

Collapse evals | 5,000

Runtime | 10.7s total

Memory usage | 9.3 MB

7. Comparative Considerations

While traditional PQC relies on structural hardness, \blacksquare adds logic-level pattern recognition that:

- Nullifies dualism-based attacks
- Adds symbolic entropy
- Acts orthogonally to math-based cryptographic hardness

8. Limitations and Future Work

- Current model uses fixed transforms; ML-based evasion not yet modeled
- Requires real-world testing with PQC suites like CRYSTALS-Dilithium
- Future: symbolic integration with zk-SNARKs and MPC protocols

9. Conclusion

\blacksquare is a symbolic operator rooted in nonduality and collapse logic. When applied to cryptographic systems, it acts as a resilient, pattern-sensitive filter. Our work shows it is computationally lightweight, empirically testable, and conceptually novel. As a logic-layer defense, \blacksquare may prove valuable in securing systems against adversaries capable of semantic mimicry or adaptive AI attacks.

